

# **2017 Community Needs Assessment**

---

## Results



Community Resources and Development

May 2017

Prepared By: Katherine Fife

philanthropy  
**matters**

# BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

---

## BACKGROUND

Salt Lake County is committed to utilize data and a variety of methods to gather information to identify the most critical need(s) facing our communities. As part of the effort to use resources efficiently and through partnership, the Community Resources & Development (CRD) division conducted a community needs assessment in 2017.

CRD aims to strengthen families and neighborhoods by helping fund organizations that provide essential programs and services to individuals and areas of the county that need them most.

## PURPOSE

1. To seek input from individual community members, with a focus on those who may have the greatest needs.
2. To better understand the needs of the communities throughout Salt Lake County.
3. To help inform the allocation of resources to best address the needs of Salt Lake County residents

## Past CRD Funding Allocations

During the past five years, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Community and Support Services (SSBG & ESG) funding has been allocated to organizations addressing the following issues:

- Housing – 64%
- Infrastructure / Neighborhood Revitalization – 16%
- Safety and Stability - 7%
- Economic Development – 6%
- Access to Crisis Services – 4%
- Legal Services – 2%
- Education – 1%
- Healthcare - 0.2%

## Funding Decision Process

### Historic:

CRD has incorporated several factors in the decision making process, including:

- Literature review of prior needs assessments
- Public needs hearing
- Responses to request for proposals (RFP) from providers
- RFP review committee input

### 2017 Additions to the Process:

The following steps were added to the process to make a more comprehensive and informed approach to understand and address community needs:

- Expanded literature review of 13 assessments, reports, and research
- Created on-line survey (feedback collected February – April 2017)
  - Designed questions specific to top needs identified in literature review
    - Transportation

- Safety/Stability
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Mapping of underserved communities and members of protected classes
- Identified priority communities based upon mapping results
  - Kearns
  - Midvale
  - Salt Lake City
  - South Salt Lake
- Implemented additional strategies to seek input from priority communities:
  - Kearns
    - Religious leaders
  - Midvale
    - Seniors
  - Salt Lake City
    - Community councils & other organizations
  - South Salt Lake
    - Youth & families

## Survey Responses

---

Total # of survey participants: 870

- # of surveys taken in English: 800
- # of surveys taken in Spanish: 70

Of the 870 participants from around the county that took the survey, the breakdown of participants based on residency was as follows:

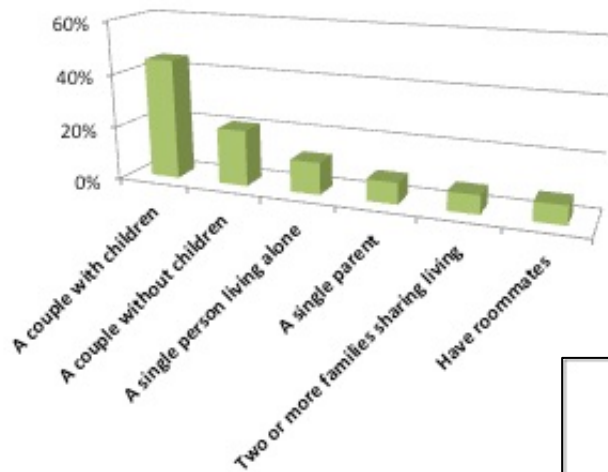
- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Salt Lake City - 34%   | • Murray - 2%             |
| • West Valley City - 10% | • Midvale - 2%            |
| • West Jordan - 7%       | • Riverton - 2%           |
| • South Salt Lake - 6%   | • Copperton - 1%          |
| • Magna - 6%             | • Cottonwood Heights - 1% |
| • Kearns - 6 %           | • Draper - 1%             |
| • Taylorsville - 5%      | • Herriman - 1%           |
| • Sandy - 5%             | • Bluffdale - 0.5%        |
| • South Jordan - 4%      | • White City - 0.12%      |
| • Millcreek - 4%         | • Emigration - 0%         |
| • Holladay - 2%          | • Alta - 0%               |

The majority of survey respondents (82%) of the 851 who answered, indicated that they have wanted to change something or address a problem in their community.

- **25%** wanted to address infrastructure and neighborhood revitalization issues.
- **15%** wanted to address crime, safety, stability, and enforcement issues

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

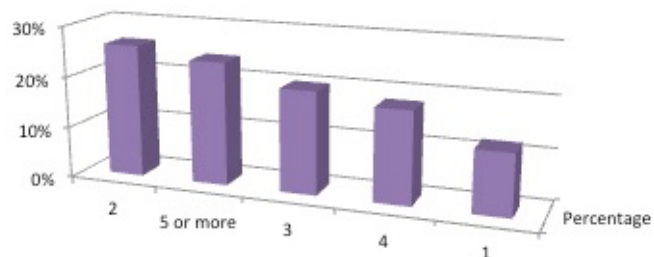
## Household Type



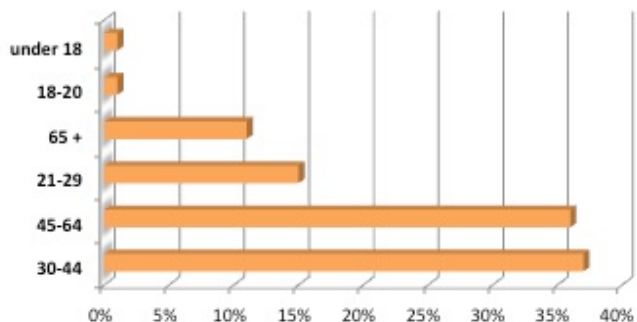
**Veteran – 7%**



## Number of People in Household



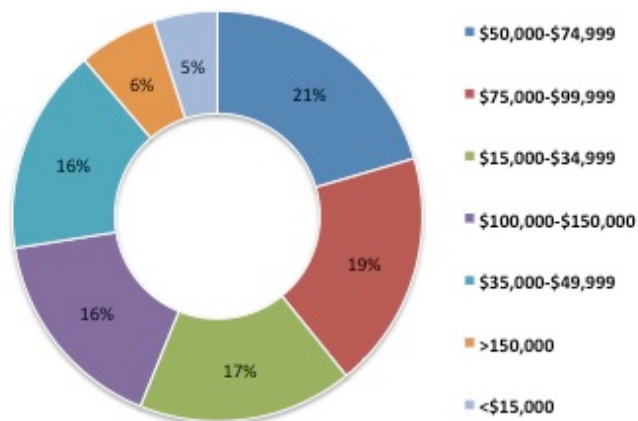
## Age of Respondents



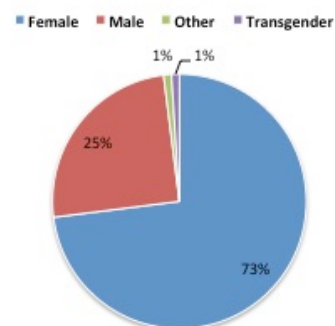
**Disabled – 11%**



## Household Income of Respondents



## Gender of Respondents



# SURVEY RESULTS – HIGHLIGHTS N=870

**Top Issues Identified as Needing The MOST Improvement** - The percentage of 869 survey respondents who identified these issues as one of the top needing the most improvement in their community. Respondents selected up to five issues.

Education - 42%



Neighborhood Revitalization - 32%



Environment - 33%



Mental Health Services - 32%



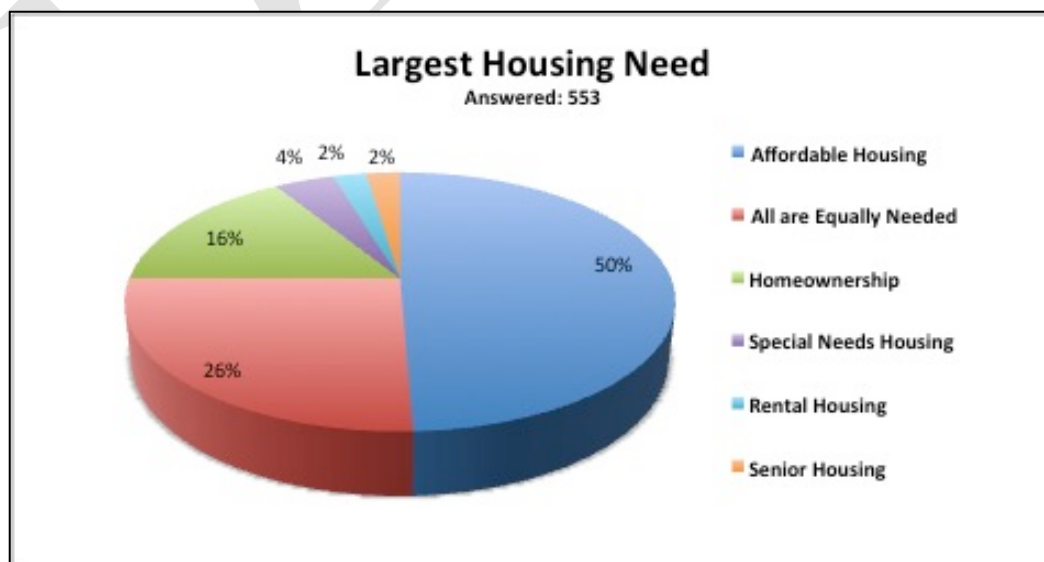
Safety - 32%



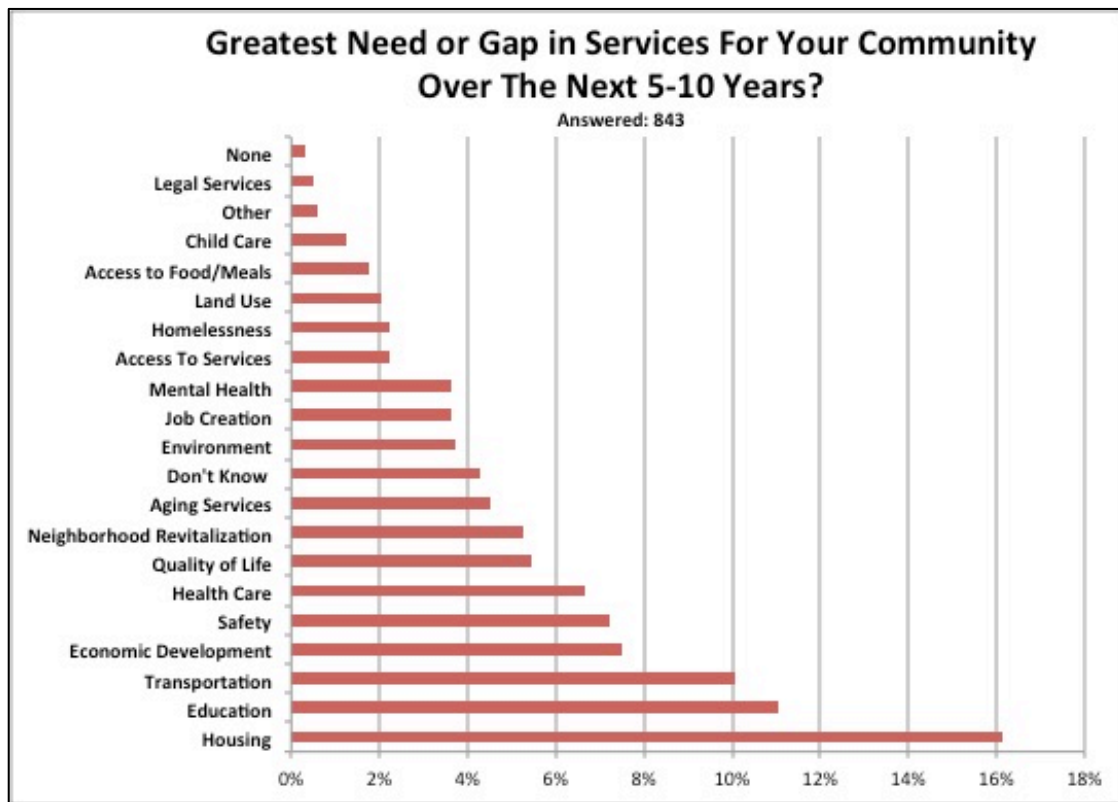
Housing - 29%



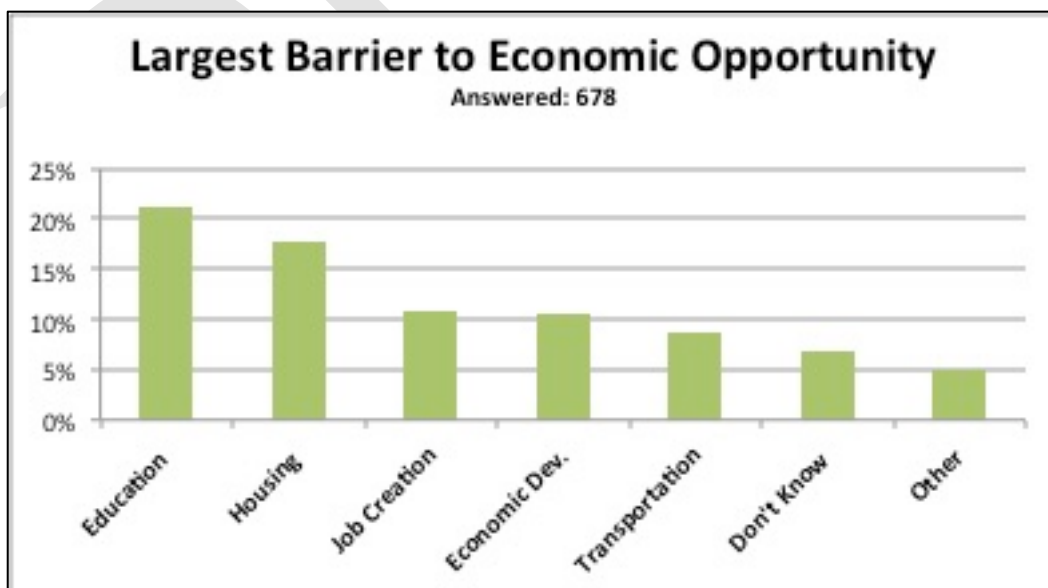
**Housing Needs** - 54% of 859 survey respondents indicated they thought there **IS A NEED** for more housing opportunities in their neighborhood. Additionally, respondents indicated the **single largest housing need** in their area as affordable housing.



**Greatest Community Need in 5-10 Years – 16%** of survey respondents identified housing as the greatest need in their community over the next 5-10 years. Education was identified by 11% as the second largest need.



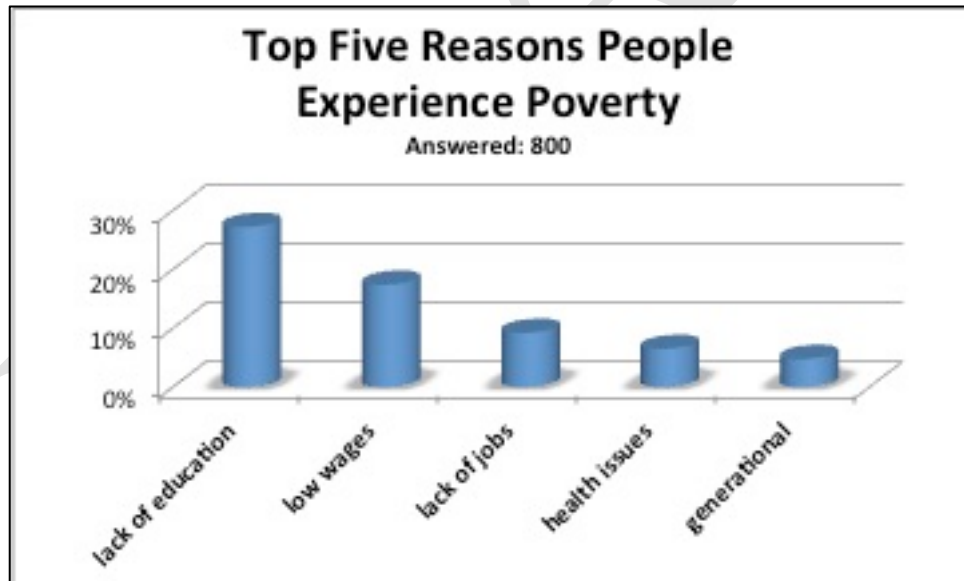
**Barrier to Economic Opportunity –** Of the 678 respondents that answered this question, **21%** indicated that education is the largest barrier to economic opportunity for residents in their community. **18%** feel that housing is the largest barrier to economic opportunity.



**Barrier to Safety and Stability** – Of the 668 respondents who answered, **22% felt indicted** that crime is the largest barrier to residents feeling stable and safe in their community.

<b>Top Responses: Barriers to Safety &amp; Stability</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Crime	169	22%
Lack of Enforcement	86	11%
Homelessness	68	9%
Infrastructure	59	8%
Lack of Housing	48	6%
Not Enough Community Policing	34	4%
None	34	4%
Unsure	24	3%
Education	20	3%
Jobs/Income	28	4%

**Reason People Experience Poverty** – 27 % of respondents indicated that a lack of education is the single most common reason people experience poverty.



# RESULTS: PRIORITY COMMUNITIES

To best align with federal funding requirements, four priority communities were identified based upon population of underserved and under represented populations, including protected classes. The communities, and the survey highlights for each are listed below.

## Kearns: n= 48

### Top Five Greatest Needs –

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

Education – 49%



Neighborhood Revitalization – 47%



Safety – 43%



Mental Health – 24%



Economic Development – 24%



### Greatest Need Over The Next 5-10 Years -

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

Transportation – 16%



Education – 12%



Safety – 12%



Neighborhood Revitalization – 12%



Housing – 10%



**Housing Need** – 35% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 45% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 20% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, 48% feel **affordable housing** is the largest housing need in their community.

*"I think the greatest gap will continue to be in school and making more ways for the school to become a place for families to feel comfortable in going and being involved." – Kearns Resident*



## Midvale: n= 20

### Top Five Greatest Needs –

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

Education – 45%



Health Care – 35%



Safety – 35%



Environment – 30%



Housing – 25%



### Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years -

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

Housing – 22%



Education – 16%



Quality of Life – 11%



Environment – 1%



Health Care – 1%



**Housing Need** – 50% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 10% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 40% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, 62% feel **all types of housing are equally needed** in their community.

*"Neighborhood revitalization, especially helping our elderly population in our neighborhood." – Midvale Resident*

## Salt Lake City: n= 291

### Top Five Greatest Needs –

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

Housing – 42%



Environment – 42%



Mental Health Care – 38%



Education – 34%



Neighborhood Revitalization – 34%



### Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years -

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

Housing – 22%



Safety – 11%



Health Care – 7%



Transportation – 7%



Education – 6%



**Housing Need – 70% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 18% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 12% were unsure.**

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, **52% feel affordable housing is the top housing need in their community.**

*"Mental health services have been woefully underfunded for years and years. If this doesn't improve then this will be the continued greatest gap and the fall-out from that is tremendous and manifested in many negative effects."  
– SLC Resident*

*"Keeping housing affordable and creating employment opportunities with living wages for people of all education levels, even as SLC's population continues to grow." – SLC Resident*

*"Needs more commercial space, more walkability/bikeability and more emphasis on arts and environmental health."  
– SLC Resident*

## South Salt Lake: n= 56

### Top Five Greatest Needs –

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

**Neighborhood Revitalization – 55%**



**Environment – 50%**



**Economic Development – 48%**



**Safety – 43%**



**Education – 39%**



### Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years -

Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

**Housing – 22%**



**Economic Development – 15%**



**Neighborhood Revitalization – 10%**



**Land Use – 10%**



**Safety – 8%**



**Housing Need** – 59% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 20% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 21% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, 40% feel **home ownership** is the top housing need in their community.

*"Affordable housing as our population is growing " – South Salt Lake Resident*

# CONCLUSIONS

## SURVEY RESPONDENTS

The goal of this survey was to reach Salt Lake County residents. While the percentage of countywide residents reached is low, we anticipated this due to the outreach efforts being focused towards underserved and under represented populations.

Overall, we were pleased to receive responses from a diverse set of individuals, representing a variety of populations throughout Salt Lake County.

## NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

- **Education** and **Environment** were identified as the top current need of the survey respondents.
- **Housing** and **Education** were identified as the greatest needs in the next 5-10 years.

### Literature Review Compared to Survey Results

While the survey findings reflected some of the findings identified in the literature review, there were also some additional issues identified.

- **Housing** was one of the top needs identified by the literature and survey respondents.
- **Safety and Stability** was identified as a need by the literature review and survey respondents.

Ranking	Literature Review	Survey Results – Current	Survey Results 5-10 years
1	Housing	Education	Housing
2	Economic Development	Environment	Education
3	Stability and Safety	Safety & Stability	Transportation
4	Transportation	Neighborhood Revitalization	Economic Development
5	Economic Independence	Mental Health	Safety & Stability
6	Job Creation	Housing	Health Care

### Past CRD Funding Compared to Survey Results

Over the past five years, Salt Lake County has awarded over half of federal funding (CDBG, HOME, Community & Support Services) towards housing issues. This is in line with the needs that were identified by survey respondents; addressing BOTH current needs as well as future needs.

Ranking	Past County Funding	Survey Results Now	Survey Results 5-10 years
1	Housing	Education	Housing
2	Neighborhood Revitalization	Environment	Education
3	Stability and Safety	Safety & Stability	Transportation
4	Economic Development	Neighborhood Revitalization	Economic Development
5	Access to Crisis Services	Mental Health	Safety & Stability
6	Legal Services	Housing	Health Care