

Direct Relief Questionnaire Results - Final Report

Data and Evaluation Work Group

6/12/2021

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General Notes

Questionnaires were collected via Google Forms beginning on the morning of May 5th. This report reflects data as of the afternoon of June 2nd. At that point, all digital questionnaire forms were closed and data entry for paper-based questionnaires had been completed. A total of 2590 respondents are reported here, including 2051 self-identified residents of the City of St. Louis.

Not all respondents answered all questions, and the abbreviation NA appears in many tables to identify missing data.

In addition to frequency tables, this report uses the median value for ordinal measures. The median represents the “midpoint” of a given variable - half of respondents had a value above, and half had a value below.

Overview

Among those who responded, there is widespread support reported for the direct relief categories described in the questionnaire. The categories with the highest levels of support, where the median response was **Very Important** were:

- “Meeting Critical Health Needs”
- “Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance”
- “Support for the Unhoused”

Stimulus Advisory Board members should note, however, that the demographics of those responding differ in important ways from the demographic make-up of the City of St. Louis itself.

Demographic Information About Respondents

Relationship to the City

Prompt: “Which of these describe you best? (check all that apply, or use the ‘none of these apply’ option to none of these describe your relationship with the City of St. Louis)”

Live

Response 1: “I live in the City of St. Louis”

Table 1: Relationship, Live

Values	n	%	Valid %
No	532	20.54%	20.60%
Yes, City Resident	2051	79.19%	79.40%
NA	7	0.27%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Work

Response 2: “I work or own a business in the City of St. Louis”

Table 2: Relationship, Work

Values	n	%	Valid %
No	1447	55.87%	56.02%
Yes, Work in City	1136	43.86%	43.98%
NA	7	0.27%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Education

Response 3: “I go to school in the City of St. Louis”

Table 3: Relationship, School

Values	n	%	Valid %
No	2493	96.25%	96.52%
Yes, Attend School in City	90	3.47%	3.48%
NA	7	0.27%	-
Total	2590	-	-

None

Response 4: “None of these apply”

Notes: This is only given a value of **No Relationship** when a respondent checked **None of these apply** *and* they had not checked another box.

Table 4: Relationship, None

Values	n	%	Valid %
No Relationship	167	6.45%	6.47%
Some Relationship	2416	93.28%	93.53%
NA	7	0.27%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Respondent Zip Code

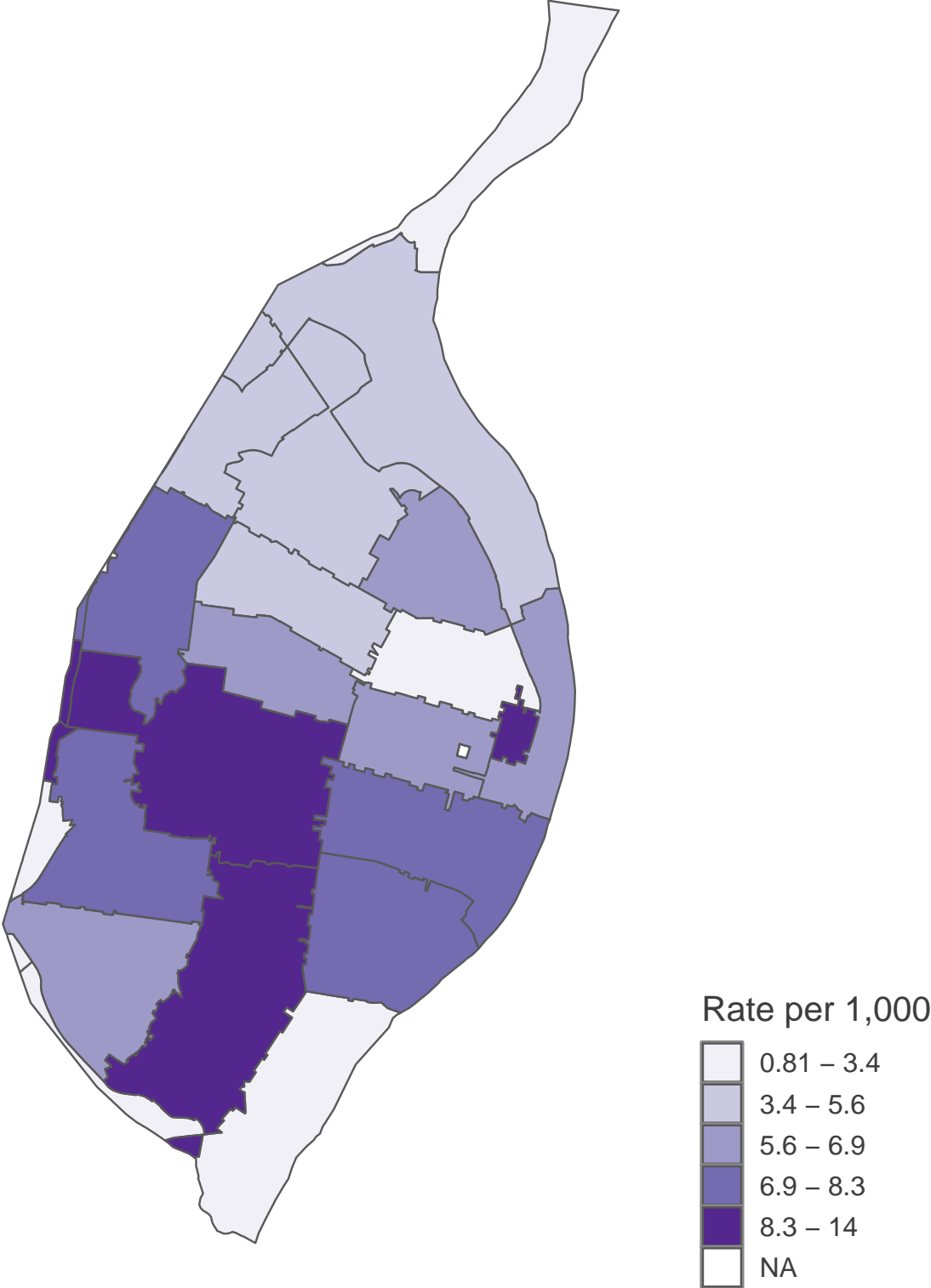
Overall, 77.64% indicated that they lived in the City of St. Louis and provided a home ZIP code that overlaps with the City.

Table 5: Summary

Region	Count
City of St. Louis ZIP	2011
non-City Metro St. Louis ZIP	511
non-Metro St. Louis ZIP	32
No ZIP Code Provided	36
Total	2590

Response Rate per ZCTA

City of St. Louis Residents only



Racial Identity

Prompt: “Which of these categories describes your racial identity? (check all that apply)”

Notes: Respondents who identified with more than one category are included here as “Multi-Racial.” To align our data with Census data, the categories used here reflect the Census racial identity categories. Additionally, in order to align our questionnaire data with Census data, ethnic identity for Latinos was collected in a separate question (see next section).

Table 6: Racial Identity

Values	n	%	Valid %
African American	678	26.18%	26.59%
Asian	39	1.51%	1.53%
Multi-Racial	78	3.01%	3.06%
Native American	9	0.35%	0.35%
Other	89	3.44%	3.49%
Pacific Islander	3	0.12%	0.12%
White	1654	63.86%	64.86%
NA	40	1.54%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Compared to city demographic breakdowns, African American and Asian residents are under-represented among our respondents. We have slightly higher levels of representation among multi-racial and indigenous residents. *The following table includes rates only for respondents who indicated that they lived in the City of St. Louis.*

Table 7: Response Rate per 1,000 Residents

Values	Rate
African American	3.76
Asian	2.99
Multi-Racial	8.77
Native American	8.89
Other	23.83
Pacific Islander	9.43
White	9.12

Ethnicity

Prompt: “Do you identify as Hispanic, Latino/a, or Latinx?”

Table 8: Latino Identity

Values	n	%	Valid %
No, Not Latino	2425	93.63%	95.47%
Yes, Latino	115	4.44%	4.53%
NA	50	1.93%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Individuals who identified as Latino/a, Hispanic, or Latinx responded at higher per capita rates than those

who answered ‘no’ to that question. *The following table includes rates only for respondents who indicated that they lived in the City of St. Louis.*

Table 9: Response Rate per 1,000 Residents

Values	Rate
No, Not Latino	6.53
Yes, Latino	6.86

Age

Prompt: “What is your age in years?”

The median age among questionnaire respondents was 43 years old.

Note: There were only a handful of respondents below 20 years old, or over 79 years old.

Table 10: Age Categories

Values	n	%	Valid %
younger than 30	346	13.36%	13.64%
30 to 39	732	28.26%	28.86%
40 to 49	508	19.61%	20.03%
50 to 59	413	15.95%	16.29%
60 to 69	364	14.05%	14.35%
70 or older	173	6.68%	6.82%
NA	54	2.08%	-
Total	2590	-	-

The highest response rates were among those who were between the ages of 30 and 49, with lower rates among those between 50 and 69 years. The lowest response rates were among those younger than 30 and those who were 70 or older. *The following table includes rates only for respondents who indicated that they lived in the City of St. Louis.*

Table 11: Response Rate per 1,000 Residents

Values	Rate
younger than 30	2.53
30 to 39	11.89
40 to 49	11.44
50 to 59	7.72
60 to 69	7.59
70 or older	5.02

Gender

Prompt: “What is your gender identity? (check all that apply)”

Notes: The values **Female** and **Male** were selected to align with Census categories. For gender identities not represented by the Census Bureau, there are no standard questions or values used in social science research. Since multiple categories could be selected, we do not provide a total below. Instead, we provide counts and percentages of each available category, which will not sum to our full sample size.

Table 12: Gender Identity

Values	n	%	Valid %
Female	1552	59.92%	60.58%
Male	900	34.75%	35.13%
Non-Binary	92	3.55%	3.59%
Transgender	33	1.27%	1.29%
Other	21	0.81%	0.82%
NA	28	1.08%	-

Women had a higher per capita response rate. Unfortunately, the Census Bureau does not report population data for the other gender identity categories we used, and so our ability to report comparisons is limited here. *The following table includes rates only for respondents who indicated that they lived in the City of St. Louis.*

Table 13: Response Rate per 1,000 Residents

Values	Rate
Female	7.47
Male	4.92

Socioeconomic Status

Prompt: “Is your household’s income greater than \$44,000 per year?”

Notes: The value of \$44,000 per year was selected because it is very close to the City of St. Louis’s median income. This question therefore identifies whether a respondent has an income above or below the median income.

Table 14: Median Income > \$44,000

Values	n	%	Valid %
No	666	25.71%	26.77%
Yes	1822	70.35%	73.23%
NA	102	3.94%	-
Total	2590	-	-

Direct Relief Priorities

Overall Questionnaire Responses

Prompt: “In your opinion, which forms of direct relief are most important for the short-term needs of City residents?”

Notes: We have reversed the scale so that higher values represent greater importance. These are presented based on the mean.

Table 15: Direct Relief Categories

Category	Median	Mean
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	4.47
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	4.38
Support for the Unhoused	5	4.33
Small and Distressed Business	4	4.19
Summer Youth Programming	4	3.92
Expanding Internet Access	4	3.71
Free Public Transportation	4	3.66
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	4	3.64

Priorities by Demographic Categories

Relationship with the City, Live

Respondents who live in the City of St. Louis gave higher median scores to targeted direct cash assistance.

Notes: Table ordered based on overall direct relief scores (see Table 15).

Table 16: Median Scores, Live in St. Louis

Category	No	Yes, City Resident
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	5
Small and Distressed Business	4	4
Summer Youth Programming	4	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	3	4

Relationship with the City, Work

We found no variation based on whether or not a respondent worked in the City.

Relationship with the City, Education

We found no variation based on whether or not a respondent went to school in the City.

Racial Identity

We found minimal variation by race, with overall high levels of support for priorities across most racial categories. Two scores do stand out on the high end, with African American respondents having higher median scores for “Small and Distressed Businesses” as well as “Summer Youth Programming” than other groups.

Notes: Since there were only three **Pacific Islander** respondents, we included them in the **Asian** column for this table. To allow the table to fit on the page, **Native American** is abbreviated as **Native**. Table ordered based on overall direct relief scores (see Table 15).

Table 17: Median Scores, Racial Identity

Category	African American	Asian	Multi-Racial	Native	Other	White
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5	5	5	4	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	5	5	5	4	5
Small and Distressed Business	5	4	4	4	5	4
Summer Youth Programming	5	3	4	4	4	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4	4	3	3	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4	4	4	3	4
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	4	4	4	4	3	4

Latino Identity

Latino respondents had lower median relatively lower support for a number of categories, though the median scores align with the **Important** category. They had the same scores as all other respondents for the top two priorities, however.

Notes: Table ordered based on overall direct relief scores (see Table 15).

Table 18: Median Scores, Latino Identity

Category	No, Not Latino	Yes, Latino
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	4
Small and Distressed Business	4	4
Summer Youth Programming	4	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	4	4

Age

There was minimal variation in median scores by age. Those over 50 but younger than 70 had higher median scores for small and distressed business support. Respondents who were 70 and older had lower median responses for free public transportation.

Notes: Table ordered based on overall direct relief scores (see Table 15).

Table 19: Median Scores, Age Categories

Category	younger than 30	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 or older
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5	5	5	5	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	5	5	5	5	5
Small and Distressed Business	4	4	4	5	5	4
Summer Youth Programming	4	4	4	4	4	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4	4	4	4	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4	4	4	4	3
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	4	4	4	4	4	4

Gender Identity

There is some variation based on gender identity. Men who responded gave lower median scores to targeted direct cash assistance. Those who selected the **Other** gender category had systematically lower scores.

Notes: Table ordered based on overall direct relief scores (see Table 15).

Table 20: Median Scores, Gender Identity

Category	Female	Male	Non-Binary	Other	Transgender
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5	5	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5	5	3	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	4	5	3	5
Small and Distressed Business	4	4	4	5	4
Summer Youth Programming	4	4	4	2	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4	4	3	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4	5	2	4
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	4	3	4	1	5

Socioeconomic Status

Individuals who reported incomes less than the median income for St. Louis had identical median scores to individuals who reported making more than the median income for all priorities with one exception. Those making less than the median income had a higher median score (**Very Important**) for Targeted Direct Cash Assistance.

Table 21: Median Scores, Median Income

Category	No	Yes
Meeting Critical Health Needs	5	5
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	5	5
Support for the Unhoused	5	5
Small and Distressed Business	4	4
Summer Youth Programming	4	4
Expanding Internet Access	4	4
Free Public Transportation	4	4
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	5	4

Supplemental Data

Requests for Assistance

In addition to responses from the questionnaire, we have data on 2-1-1, mutual aid, and CARES Act requests. The 2-1-1 and mutual aid data are from March 1st, 2020 through April 30th, 2021. The CARES Act requests are from August 1st through December 2nd, 2020.

Notes: Mutual aid calls for “Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance” also included requests for “Wrap Around Support for the Unhoused” and “Targeted Direct Cash Assistance”.

Table 22: Requests for Assistance Crosswalk

Category	211 Requests	Mutual Aid Requests	CARES Act Requests
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	36339	1579	5718
Wrap Around Support for the Unhoused	14371		
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	1838		
Feeding the Hungry	6932	1534	
Meeting Critical Health Needs	3675	102	
Free Public Transportation	1176	275	
Bridging the Digital Divide	1019		
Small & Distressed Business Assistance	392		
Summer Youth Jobs & Programming	356	137	
Other	6512	411	
Total	72610	4038	5718

The following ZIP codes had the most 2-1-1 requests: 63111, 63115, and 63118. Two of these ZIP codes, 63111 and 63118, also had the most CARES Act Requests along with 63116.

Equity Indicators

We also compared data on St. Louis’s equity indicators to the proposed direct relief categories. These scores were produced as part of a 2018 report, and so the underlying data are several years out-of-date. Nevertheless, they point to deep inequities in many of the direct relief categories, including the three top priorities identified by questionnaire respondents (housing assistance for the unhoused, renters, and homeowners plus meeting critical health needs). Readers unfamiliar with the equity indicators project should note that lower scores point to greater inequity.

Table 23: Equity Indicators Crosswalk

Direct Relief Priority	Total Average Equity Score
Rental, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance	23
Targeted Direct Cash Assistance	28
Wrap Around Support for the Unhoused	29
Meeting Critical Health Needs	31
Feeding the Hungry	31
Bridging the Digital Divide	37
Summer Youth Jobs & Programming	48
Free Public Transportation	63
Small & Distressed Business Assistance	68

Additional Information on Questionnaire Administration

Administration

The vast majority of survey responses were collected using Google Forms. A small number of responses were collected during a several hour period of in-person outreach focused on neighborhoods in North St. Louis City. These paper-based forms were then manually entered into Google Forms.

Table 24: Questionnaire Format

Values	n	%
Google	2548	98.38%
Paper	42	1.62%
Total	2590	-

Duplicates

Duplicate entries have been removed based on email and timestamp, with the most recent submission per email retained while older submissions from duplicate emails have been removed. This impacted fewer than five respondents.

An additional sixty-five respondents were removed based on duplicate comments. We found that certain phrases were entered in identical fashion into the open-ended qualitative question at the end of the form. These phrases were sometimes entered in back-to-back fashion - several submissions in a row had the same, identical comments. These phrases were a red flag for us, and we removed all observations that contained them.

Languages

With the help of a Data and Evaluation Work Group lead, Cristina Garmendia, and the International Institute of St. Louis, the original questionnaire was translated from English into a number of other languages, including Arabic, Dari, French, Kinyarwanda, Mandarin, Nepalese, Spanish, and Swahili. Non-English questionnaires were translated to English after their submission, and then combined with our English responses.

Table 25: Questionnaire Language

Values	n	%
English	2577	99.50%
Other	13	0.50%
Total	2590	-