LCHIZ Community Survey Results

2023





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¹ **Process Overview**

The Licking County Health Department (LCHD) used the funds provided in the Ohio Health Improvement Zones (OHIZ) grant to conduct a community assessment of specific census tracts within Licking County. Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county, generally with a population size between 1,200 and



8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people.

Five total census tracts were selected for LCHD's community assessment using the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). The SVI ranks census tracts on 14 social factors which are then categorized into 4 themes. This information is then used to provide rankings for each category, as well as an overall ranking.

The social factors used in the SVI to determine the rankings provided to county census tracts. Image from CDC



¹ **Process Overview**

The five census tracts selected using the SVI data were: 7507, 7519, 7525, 7531, and 7590. The below table displays the rankings provided by the SVI for each census tract.

Census Tract	Overall SVI Score	Level of Vulnerability
7507	.7304	Medium to High
7519	.6107	Medium to High
7525	.8424	High
7531	.7924	High
7590	.8494	High

*The level of vulnerability is determined by the overall SVI score. This scale goes from 0 (lowest vulnerability) to 1 (highest vulnerability).



The Overall Social Vulnerability Map of Licking County, by census tract. Image from CDC

² Data Overview

Data was collected during late January and the entirety of February in 2023. A total of 1,043 residents participated, though only 649 were considered eligible, as the others did not live within one of the selected census tracts. The following demographic information is based on the 649 eligible participants.

PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPANTS FROM 77% of **M**M **EACH CENSUS TRACT** participants identified as **CENSUS 7590 CENSUS 7507** 10.6% 11.1% female. 55 - 64 years **CENSUS 7531** 18.6% This age range had the highest number of selections. Making up 22% of participants. CENSUS 7519 46.2% CENSUS 7525 13.4% 93% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian. **Education Level:** 31% graduated Majority of respondents from college. (38.5%) earned a 49% of participants Followed by 28% combined household reported they were receiving some income of \$20K - 50K employed full-time. college education. Licking County Health Department

² Data Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at all five census tracts together.



Housing

Affordability of housing and utilities was second, after health, in the number of participants that selected concerns at 34.7%. Though just over a third selected affordability as a housing concern, over two thirds (67.3%) of participants reported being moderately or very concerned about affordability.

When looking at the number of participants concerned about an issue, though more selected Neighborhood Safety overall, participants had higher levels of concern for affordability (67.1% vs 66.1%).

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Transportation

Cost of gasoline was easily identifiable as the biggest concern among survey respondents. A total of 79% of respondents reported being moderately or very concerned about the cost of gasoline.

The second biggest concern was the safety conditions for walking and bicycling, with 49% of respondents saying they were moderately or very concerned.



Health

The largest concern among participants in regards to health was their physical health status. A total of 66% of participants were moderately or very concerned about their physical health.

35% of participants reported no barriers when seeking medical care and only 5% of participants reported not having health insurance.

Food Security

95% of participants purchase their household groceries at the grocery store, and the overall average ratings for available food quality were 'good' and very good', making up 79% of responses.

32% of participants stated they were worried about having enough food for their household in the last month. With 44% of those reporting this worry occured between 3-10 times during that month.

Census Tract 7507 Overview

A total of 72 respondents of the 649 reported living in the 7507 census tract.

71% of participants identified as female.

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55 - 64 years

This age range had the highest number of selections. Making up 26% of participants.



94% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian.



Education Level: 28% reported receiving some

college education.





Majority of respondents (28%) earned a combined household income of \$20K - 35K



53% of participants reported they were employed full-time.

³ Census Tract 7507 Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at the responses of the 72 participants from 7507.



Housing

Though 50% of respondents reported neighborhood safety as a concern, which includes lack of sidewalk access, hazardous conditions, litter, crime, etc., 72% stated they were moderately to very concerned about this issue.

Cost of housing and utilities came second in terms of concern with 30.6% of participants selecting this and 51.4% being moderately to very concerned

Transportation

For participating residents in this census tract, 90.3% reported having reliable transportation, with a total of 87.5% of respondents stating that they have a personal or shared vehicle.

66.7% of respondents were moderately to very concerned about the cost of gasoline and 47.2% were moderately to very concerned about unsafe walking and bicycling conditions in their area.



Health

When asked which aspect of their health was of the most concern, 69% of 7507 participants reported being moderately to very concerned about their mental health status, closely followed by physical health status at 68%.

Only 6% of participants reported NOT having health insurance, though 24% were moderately to very concerned about not being able to see a primary care physician in the next year.



Food Security

100% of respondents purchased their household groceries at a grocery store and the average quality of food across all food groups was Good to Very Good.

35% of participants (25 people) did report being concerned about not having enough food in the past month. Of these 25 people, nearly half stated not having enough food was a concern between 3 and 10 times that month.

4 Census Tract 7519 Overview

A total of 300 respondents of the 649 reported living in the 7519 census tract.

77% of participants identified as female.



55 - 64 years

This age range had the highest number of selections. Making up 24% of participants.



88% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian.



Education Level: 31% reported graduating High School.





Majority of respondents (19%) earned a combined household income of \$35K - 49K



47% of participants reported they were employed full-time.

4 Census Tract 7519 Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at the responses of the 300 participants from 7519.



Housing

70.7% of individuals stated they are moderately to very concerned about the affordability of housing and utilities.

A close second was the level of concern for neighborhood safety, with 69% of the individuals stating they are moderately to very concerned about.

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Transportation

For participating residents in this census tract, 93% reported having reliable transportation, with a total of 94% of respondents stating that they have a personal or shared vehicle.

79% were moderately to very concerned about the cost of gasoline 52% stated they were neutral to very concerned about the condition their vehicle was in.



Health

65% of participants in 7519 were moderately to very concerned about their physical health, with mental health being moderate to very concerning for 52%.

28% of participants were concerned about insurance not covering the services and medication they needed, and 23.6% were concerned about their out of pocket cost due to their lack of insurance.

Food Security

95.7% of the participants said their main source of groceries were from grocery stores.

32% of the respondents are concerned about not having enough food on a regular basis. Of those 95 individuals, 17 stated they lacked food 10 or more times in the past month.

⁵ Census Tract 7525 Overview

A total of 87 respondents of the 649 reported living in the 7525 census tract.

80% of participants identified as female.

24.1 %

A tie at 24.1% occurred between the age groups 35-44 and 45-54 years.



95% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian.



Education Level: 40% reported receiving some college.





Majority of respondents (19.5%) earned a combined household income of \$50K - 74K



59% of participants reported they were employed full-time.

⁵ Census Tract 7525 Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at the responses of the 87 participants from 7519.



Housing

42.5% of participants stated safety at their current living situation was their biggest concern, with 66.6% of them being moderately to very concerned with their neighborhood safety.

Cost of housing and utilities came in at a close second in terms of concern with 63.2% of participants being moderately to very concerned.

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Transportation

100% of the respondents in 7525, 100% of them have a shared or personal car as their primary mode of transportation.



Health

When asked which aspect of their health was of the most concern, 63% of participants were moderately to very concerned about chronic and genetic conditions, with 21% of them stating it impacts their daily life.

Even though only 8% of participants said they were not concerned about their physical activity, 20% said the lack of physical activity impacted their daily life.

Food

95.4% of the individuals living in 7525 said they purchase their groceries from a grocery store, with 46% stating they purchase unhealthy food more than 10 times per month.

⁶ Census Tract 7531 Overview

A total of 121 respondents of the 649 reported living in the 7531 census tract.

78% of participants identified as female.



55 - 64 years

This age range had the highest number of selections. Making up 26% of participants.



95% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian.



Education Level: 42% reported graduating from college.





Majority of respondents (19%) earned a combined household income of \$35K - 49K



53% of participants reported they were employed full-time.

⁶ Census Tract 7531 Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at the responses of the 121 participants from 7531.



Housing

The largest concern for living situations was affordability in 7531, with 39.7% of participants choosing the cost of living over their safety. housing conditions, and the lack of permanent housing.

71.1% of respondents stated they are moderately to very concerned about the affordability of housing and utilities in their area.



Transportation

Although 93% of respondents in 7531 have reliable transportation, 77.7% of them were concerned about the current cost of gasoline.

A little over half of the participants at 50.4% are moderately to very concerned about unsafe walking and biking conditions.



Health

When asked which aspect of their health was of the most concern, 65% of the individuals said they are moderately to very concerned about their physical health, specifically, chronic and genetic conditions.

47% of participants are concerned about their nutrition, even though 37% purchase unhealthy food options 10 or more times per month at the grocery store.

Food Security

95% of respondents purchased their household groceries at a grocery store and 86% said the quality of food across all food groups was good to very good.

31% said they are worried about not having enough food, and 52% of these individuals said they lacked food at least 3 times per month or more.

7 Census Tract 7590 Overview

A total of 69 respondents of the 649 reported living in the 7590 census tract.

81% of participants identified as female.



35 - 44 years

This age range had the highest number of selections. Making up 32% of participants.



94% of participants reported their race as White/Caucasian.



Education Level: 32% reported receiving some college.





Majority of respondents (28%) earned a combined household income of Less than \$20K



38% of participants reported they were employed full-time.

7 Census Tract 7590 Overview

Participants were asked a variety of questions about their concerns regarding housing, transportation, health, and food security. The below points are the results when looking at the responses of the 69 participants from 7590.



Housing

Affordability and safety were very close as being the largest concern in 7590, with affordability affecting 44.6% and safety affecting 46.2%.

The level of concern for safety is moderately to very high with 78.5% of participants stating they feel their neighborhood is unsafe. A close second was 72.3% of people stating they are concerned about the cost of living and utilities in their area.

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Transportation

Although 94% stated they have access to reliable transportation, 66.1% of them are neutral to very concerned about the condition of their vehicle.

60% of participants are concerned about the unsafe safe walking and biking conditions in their area.



Health

Physical and mental health are both concerning for participants in 7590, with 63% stating they are moderately to very concerned about both.

Of the 63% concerned about their mental and physical health, 49% said physical and mental health impact their loves daily.

Food Security

Even though 91.3% of participants purchased their groceries from a grocery store, 48% worry about not having enough food for the month. 57% of these individuals stated they lack food at least 3 times per month.

8 Next Steps

Action or commitment

In an effort to sustain progress made during the OHIZ grant year, LCHD, and LCHD's Health Improvement Partners will utilize data gathered and analyzed from the OHIZ census tract survey to identify opportunities for improvement within each unique census tract by December 31, 2023. Additionally, LCHD will continue to enhance existing partnerships and form new partnerships with community organizations and stakeholders who have shared experience, engage with, and/or serve the target populations within the identified OHIZ census tract zones through December 31, 2023.

Action or commitment

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LCHD coordinates numerous coalition and community groups throughout the county including the Licking County Drug Overdose Prevention Coalition, the Licking County Wellness Coalition, the Licking County Tobacco Use Reduction Network Coalition, and the Community Health Improvement Committee, as well as its three subcommittees: Behavioral Health, Access to Care, and Health and Wellness. LCHD will leverage partnerships with community organizations and stakeholders through these established community groups to advocate for and collaborate with target populations within OHIZ census tracts in an effort to improve community wellbeing. Capacity permitting, LCHD may also explore additional funding opportunities to serve the identified Licking County OHIZ census tract communities.

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Action or commitment

LCHD and LCHD Health Improvement Partners will share OHIZ survey results with the identified census tract zones and collaborate with community organizations and stakeholders who have shared experience, engage with, and/or serve the target populations within the identified OHIZ census tract zones to identify and address perceived needs.

9 Appendix



Household Income in 7590

- 28% of the participants living in 7590 reported making a combined household income of less than \$20K, even with 38% of them working full-time.
- This census tract also had the highest overall SVI score with a 'high' 'level of vulnerability



Female Participants

• At least 71% of the participants in each census tract identified as females



Physical Health in Licking County

• With 66% of the participants stating they are concerned about their physical health, 47% say they purchase unhealthy food more than 10 times per month.

Contact

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