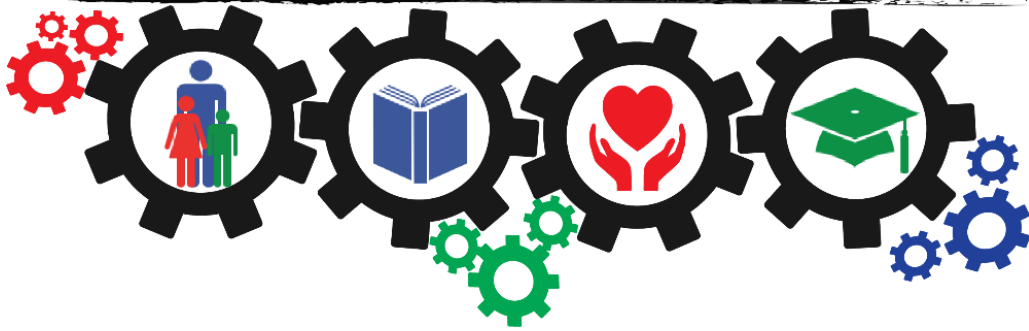


Albina-Rockwood
Promise Neighborhood



2021 Community Survey Results

Survey Overview

The 2021 ARPNI Community survey was conducted over the Summer and Fall of 2021 to collect surveys from parents/guardians of school age children in the Albina-Rockwood Promise Neighborhood Initiative (ARPNI) footprint. The survey was collected during the COVID-19 pandemic and as a result was collected online with respondents engaged through emails, phone calls, and text messages.

The survey was developed and refined through conversations with community members, the ARPNI partners, and parents. The survey will hopefully give a picture of the economic and social realities of the parents/guardians in the ARPNI footprint area while also shedding light on their connection to the community, their children's educational institutions, and the community-based organizations serving the APRNI area.

The ARPNI encompasses two distinct and geographically divided neighborhoods. The neighborhoods and some of the residents are linked by an accelerated process of gentrification. Residents feel "pushed out" of one community and "pulled" to the other. This dynamic may influence the extent to which residents feel a sense of belonging and ownership of their communities.

As a result of the divide, most of the results of this survey are presented by splitting the two neighborhoods for comparison. Some of the results are also split based upon the respondent's status as either a renter or homeowner. The decision to look at this division is in recognition of the different needs, vulnerabilities, and access to resources of those who rent versus own their residences.

The ARPNI is a partnership between community-based organizations, residents, local schools, colleges, and government agencies. Led by Self Enhancement, Inc (SEI) the ARPNI partners include Latino Network, the Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), Metropolitan Family Service (MFS), Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), and United Way of the Columbia-Willamette along with the Reynolds School District and Portland Public Schools.

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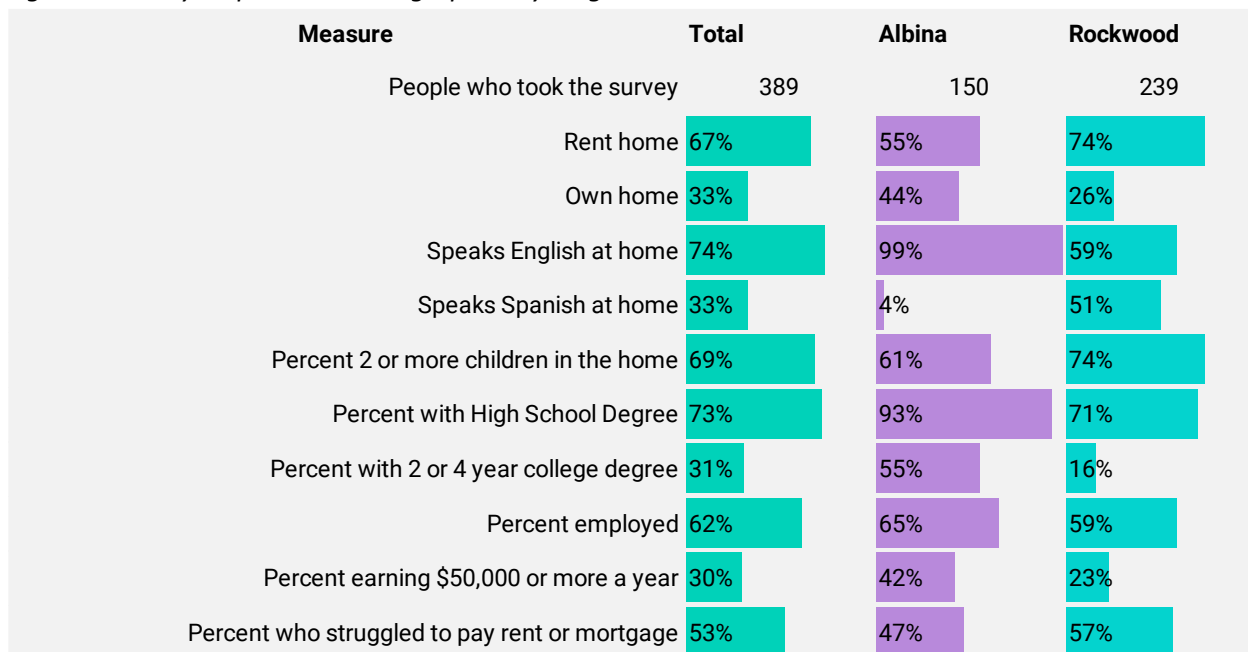
Survey Demographics:

Who responded to the 2021 Community Survey?

There were 389 total respondents to the 2021 Community Survey with 239 responses coming from Rockwood and 150 from Albina. The households surveyed in the two neighborhoods were quite different with far more Rockwood residents speaking Spanish at home and fewer owning their home. Income and education are also two areas where differences between the two neighborhoods stood out with over half of the Albina residents having at least a two year college degree compared to only 16 percent of Rockwood residents. For income, 42 percent of the Albina residents earned \$50,000 a year or more compared to only 23 percent of the Rockwood residents.

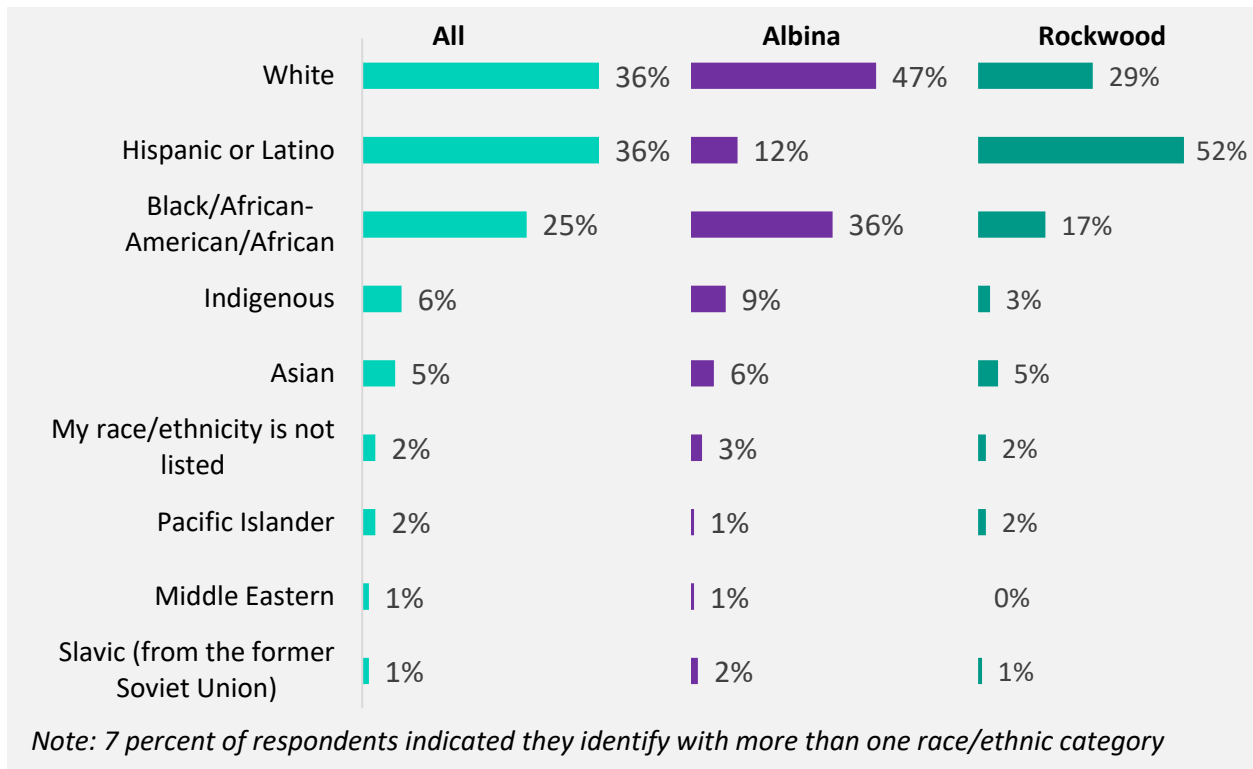
There were some similarities between the two neighborhoods with a majority employed in each neighborhood and more than 45 percent of the households reported struggling to pay their rent/mortgage in the past year.

Figure 1. Survey respondent demographics by neighborhood



The race and ethnicity of the respondents in the two neighborhoods were distinct. With a majority of the respondents in Rockwood identifying as Hispanic or Latino and nearly half of the respondents in Albina identifying as White. The three largest race/ethnicity groups in each neighborhood were the respondents who identified as Black/African American/African, Hispanic or Latino, or White. Overall about 7 percent of the respondents selected multiple race/ethnicity categories when filling out the survey.

Figure 2. Race and ethnicity of respondents by neighborhood

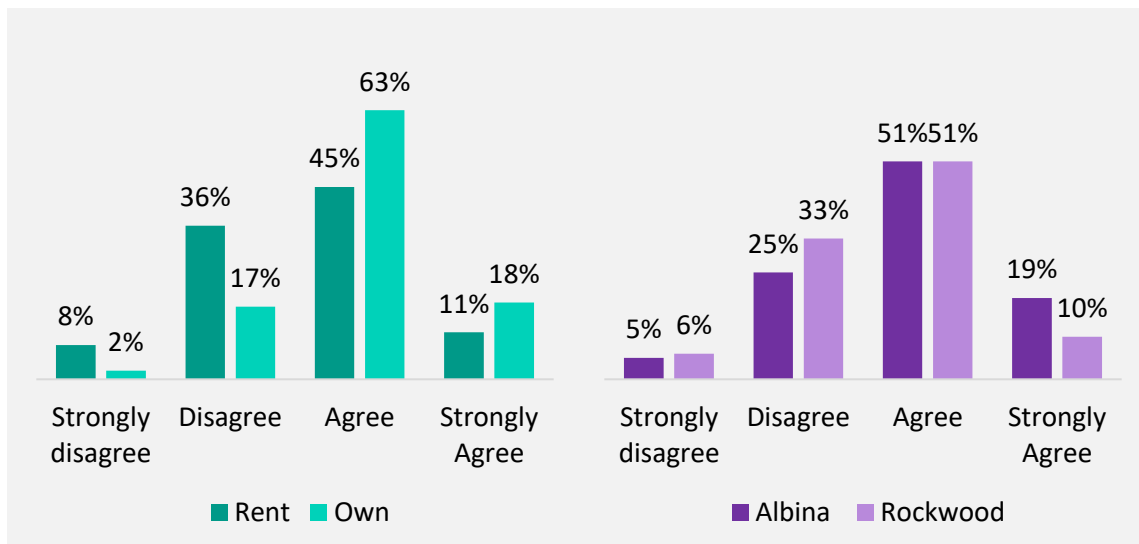


Nighborhood connections and concerns

Nighborhood cohesion and trust

Survey respondents were asked how connected they were to their neighborhood and how much they trusted their neighbors. Overall, 64 percent of the respondents believed their neighbors could be trusted and 74 percent were proud to live in their neighborhood.

Figure 3. People in my neighborhood can be trusted, by home ownership and neighborhood



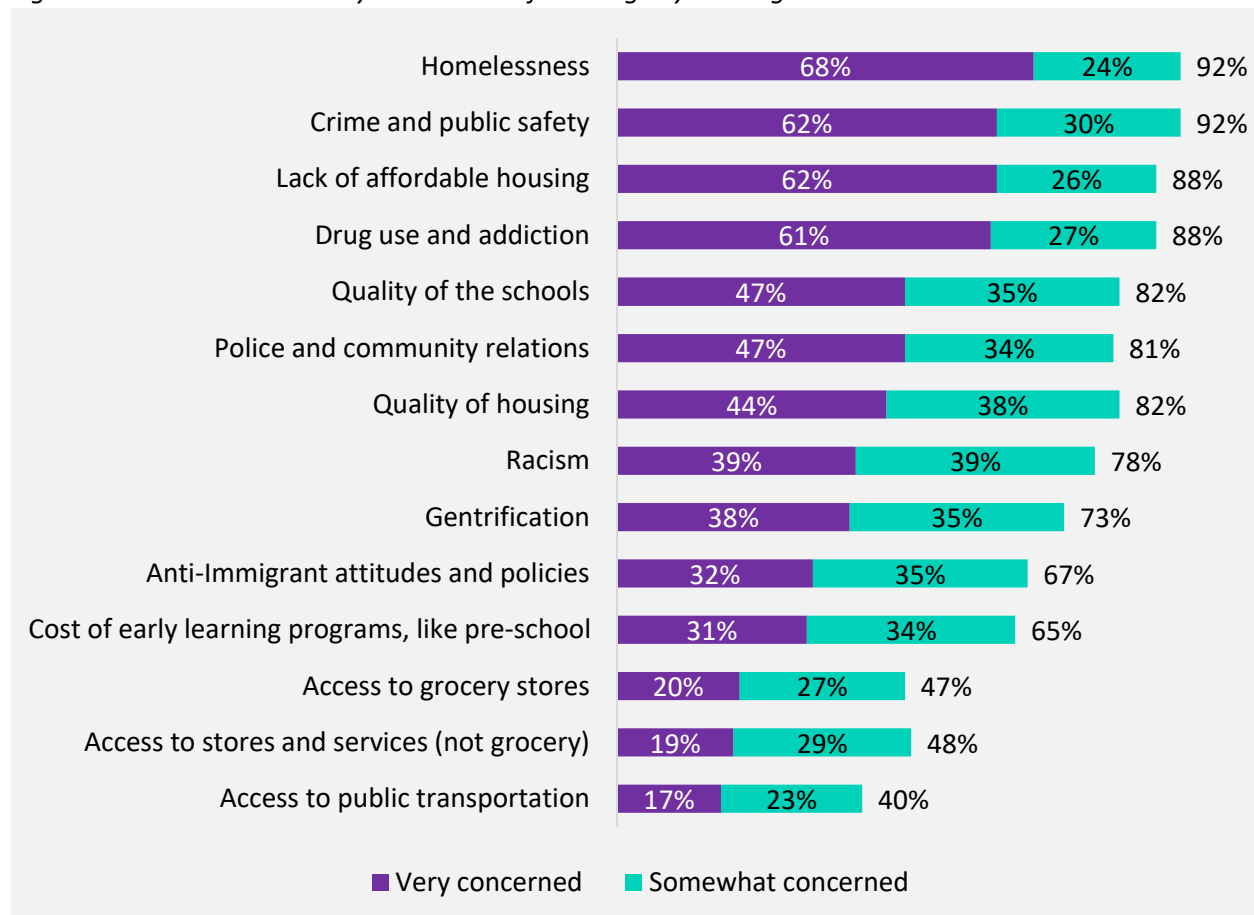
Homeowners were more trusting of their neighbors than renters with 81 percent of homeowners agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement compared to 56 percent of renters. The differences between the two neighborhoods was nine percentage points with Albina residents being more trusting of their neighbors than Rockwood residents (70 percent compared to 61 percent).

Other questions of neighborhood cohesion and trust produced similar results when comparing homeowners and renters. Where 73 percent of homeowners said they are connected to their neighborhood compared to 58 percent of renters.

Neighborhood concerns

Respondents were asked to rate their level of concern with a list fourteen possible concerns in their neighborhood and asked to rate their level of concern as either very or somewhat concerned. The households were most concerned about homelessness with 68 percent of all households saying they were very concerned, the difference between the two neighborhoods was less than two percentage points. The next three biggest concerns were crime and public safety, lack of affordable housing, and drug use and addiction. For all three of those concerns at least 60 percent of the households were very concerned.

Figure 4. How concerned are you about the following in your neighborhood?



The only items where less than half of the respondents were concerned were access to grocery stores, access to other stores and services, and access to public transportation. The percentage of respondents very concerned about those three items were 20 percent or less.

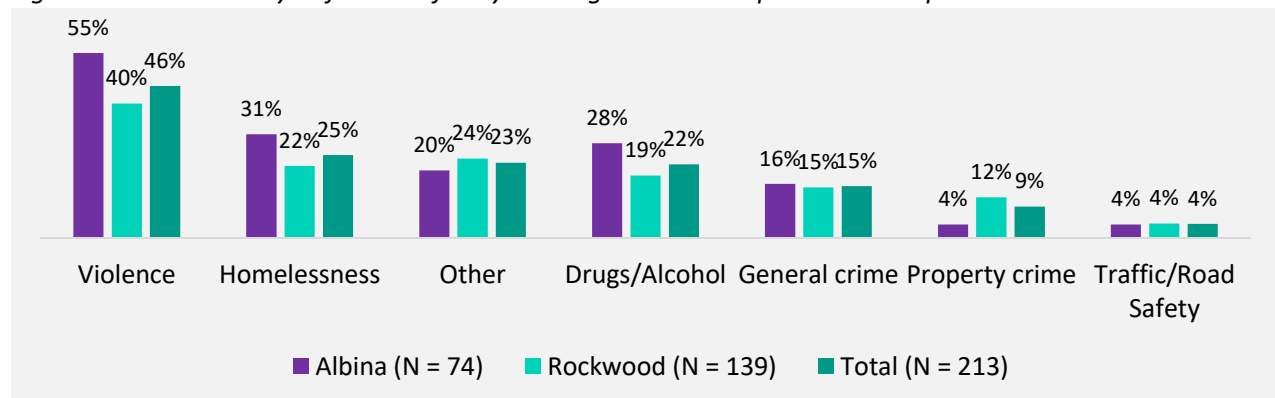
If the results are broken down by neighborhood, we find that there are only small differences between the things that concern the households surveyed. In general, residents of Albina rated more of the items as somewhat concerning or very concerning. Only two concern categories were more concerning to Rockwood residents: access to grocery stores and access to public transportation. Albina residents had notably higher concerns over gentrification, police and community relations, racism, lack of affordable housing, and the cost of early learning programs.

“I do think there are a lot of great people in these neighborhoods. Most of the attention goes to negative things which is all we see or hear but I like to think that really is not the majority and that there are a lot of good people out there.”
- Rockwood resident

The households in the neighborhoods were also asked if they felt safe walking in their neighborhood during the day and during the night. Overall, 79 percent of the respondents felt safe walking in their neighborhood during the day and 41 percent felt safe walking in their neighborhood at night. The difference between the neighborhoods was about 10 percentage points for each question with more respondents feeling safe in Albina than Rockwood.

Households that said they felt unsafe in their neighborhood, night or day, were asked an open-ended follow up question about what made them feel unsafe. Those responses were then coded into broad categories. The results match up with the neighborhood concerns over public safety and homelessness. Some responses didn't clearly fall into a major category and were marked as “other,” 23 percent of the responses included an element that was categorized as “other.”

Figure 5. What makes you feel unsafe in your neighborhood? Open-ended responses



Community Feedback

In reviewing the results of the survey, community members noted that they felt they did not have a clear place to go to address community concerns and issues.

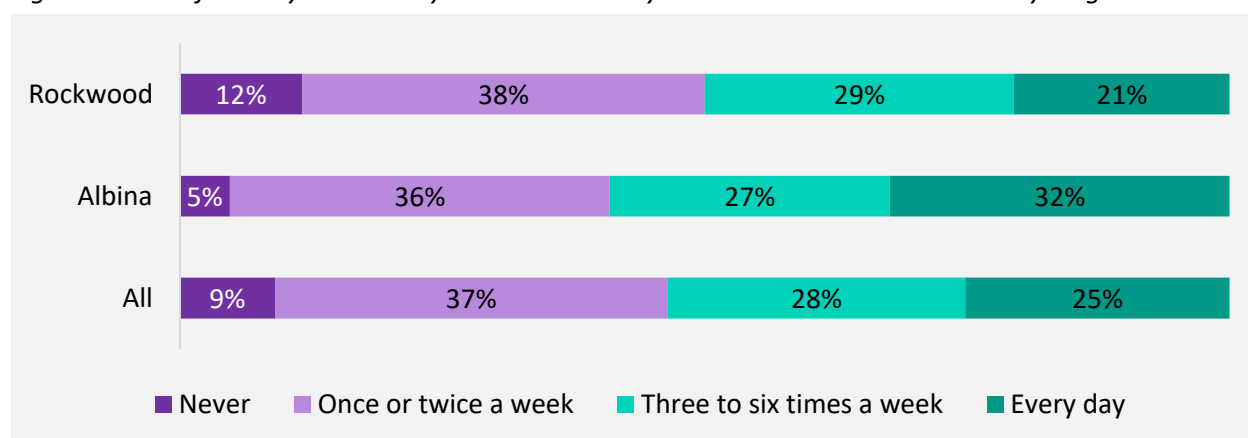
The next round of a survey will include questions about civic efficacy and engagement to assess if these feelings are widespread.

Education and children

ARPNI programming and services are centered on the children and their families. Questions about education, children, and the relationship between schools and families make up a significant part of the survey. The survey seeks to understand how families are working to educate their children, interacting with their children’s school(s), and what they hope for their children’s future.

Families were asked where their children attend school. Nine percent of the households surveyed had children aged birth to pre-K and were not attending a school at the time of the survey. That left 90 percent of the households with school aged children and of those 76 percent attended a school that receives ARPNI services while 19 percent attended another public school and 6 percent attended either a private school or were home schooled.

Figure 6. How often do you read to your child or does your child read to themselves? By neighborhood

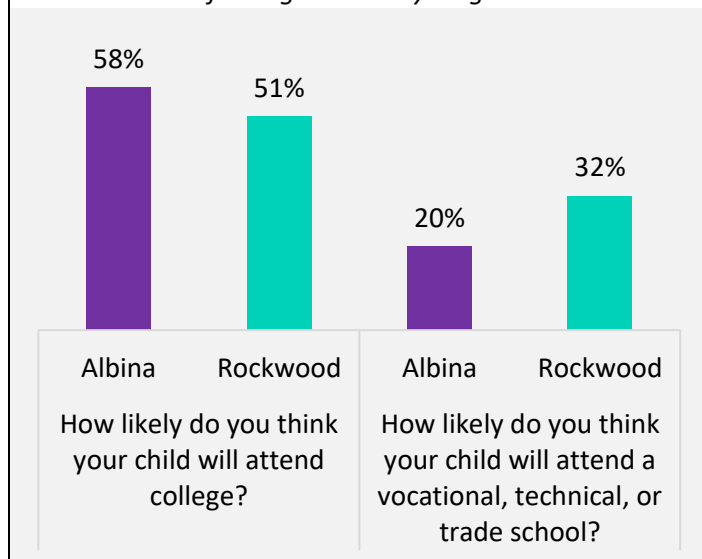


Family beliefs and actions around education

Families were asked to describe how often they read to their children (ages birth to pre-K) or how often their children read independently. Fifty-four percent of the families said their child read or was read to 3 or more times per week with 25 percent saying they read every day.

Families were also asked what they expected of their child after they graduated from high school regarding attending college and attending vocational, technical, or trade schools. A higher percentage of families living in Albina said their child was very likely going to attend college than the families in Rockwood (58 percent compared to 51 percent). The percentage of families saying their child would very likely attend

Figure 7. Percent of parents saying their child is very likely to attend college or vocational, technical, or trade schools after high school by neighborhood.

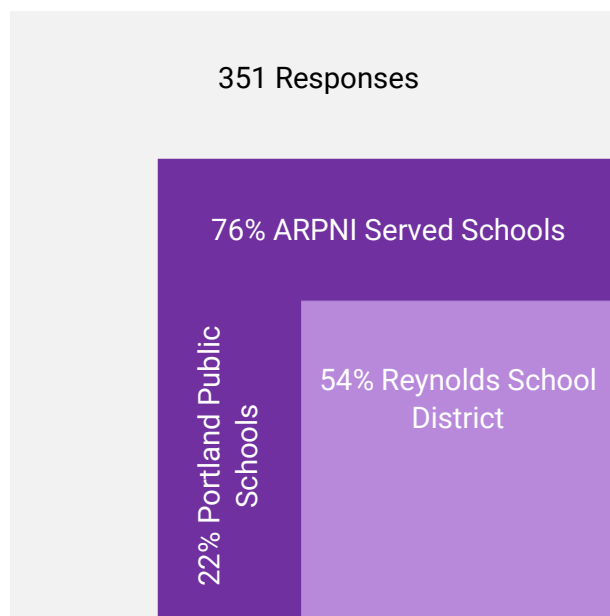


a vocational, technical, or trade school was higher in Rockwood than Albina (32 percent in Rockwood compared to 20 percent in Albina).

This result suggests that most families in both neighborhoods see their child as very likely to engage in post-secondary education with a premium placed on college. However, the residents of Rockwood have a greater acceptance of vocational, technical, and trade school pathways for their children.

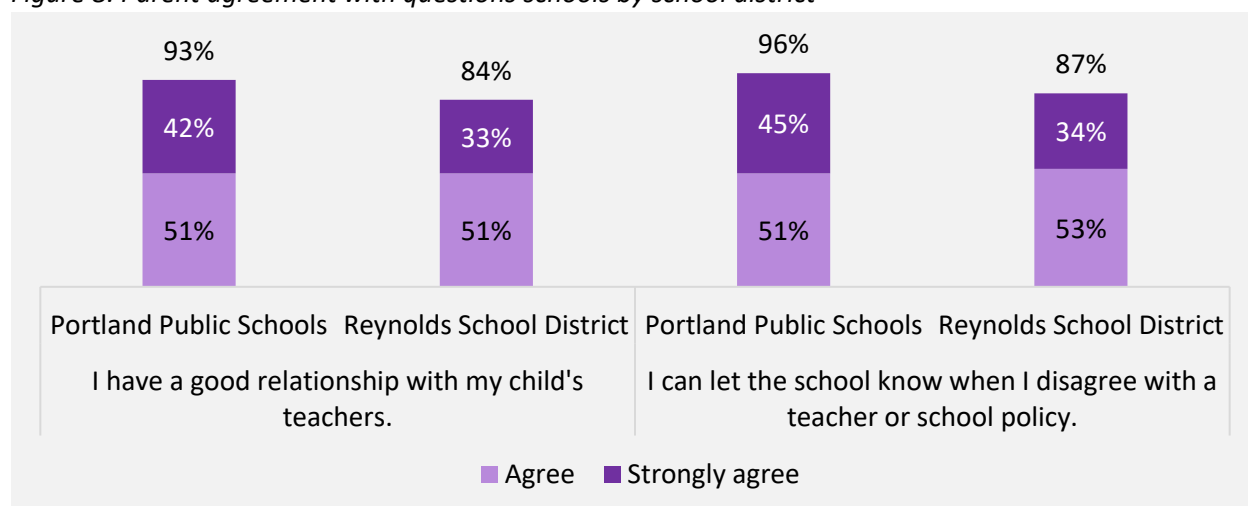
Experiences with schools

The parents responding to the survey were asked about their experiences with the school one of their children attend. The respondents indicated that 76 percent had a student attending an ARPNI school with 54 percent having a student in a Reynolds School District school served by ARPNI and 22 percent with a student in Portland Public Schools served by ARPNI.



Families were asked how much they agreed with a series of statements about their experiences with the school their child attends. They indicated that overall they had positive experiences with the schools with 87 to 90 percent of families responding with agree or strongly agree to each school experience question. There was also little variation across school district or racial/ethnic identity. This included questions about feeling welcome at school, the schools treating students of color and immigrant students with respect, and that the schools encourage their children to do their best.

Figure 8. Parent agreement with questions schools by school district



Two questions where there were differences between the two school districts were about having a strong connection to teachers and ability to speak up about school or classroom

policies. On these two questions, the parents with students in Portland Public Schools had higher agreement ratings than the parents of students in Reynolds School District with a 9 percentage point difference on each question.

When asked about what is the “one thing that would help you be more involved in your child’s school?” the parents frequently responded with a variation on: time to meet with teachers and communicate with the school. This was connected often with the incompatibility of work schedules and school schedules. Families said they need more time and more flexibility to be able to engage with their child’s school.

Community Feedback

When community members were shown the results of the survey, they offered a more complicated story around the schools. Most of the community members suggested they had positive feelings toward the schools overall but were often frustrated by their interactions with the schools.

Communication with families: A common item of frustration was around communication especially around incidents of violence near and within the schools. The community members noted that they did not hear from the school in a timely manner and that they often heard about incidents through other parents, social media, or their children before they heard from the school.

Services and Needs

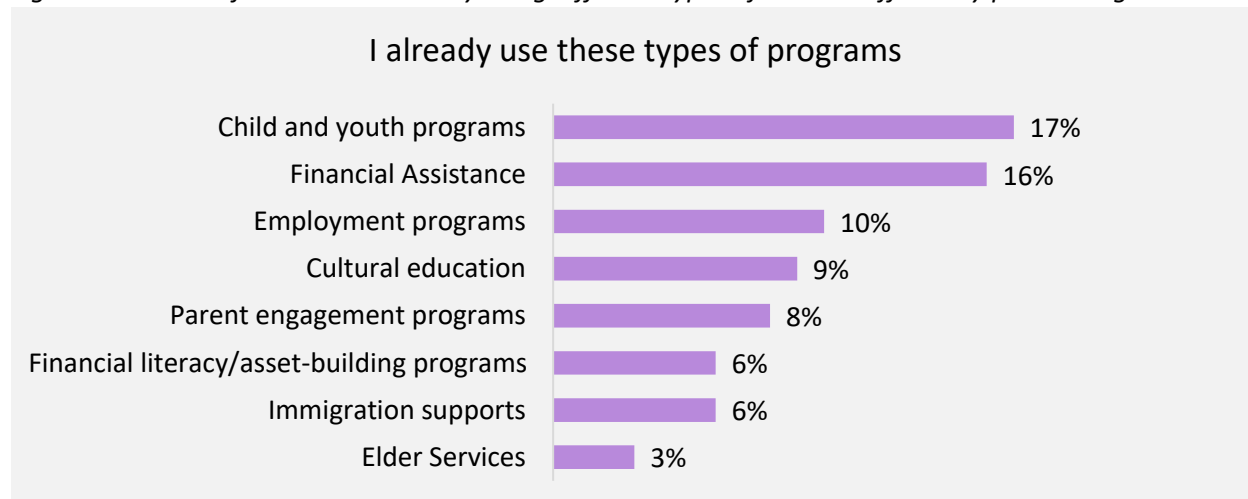
The households that were surveyed were asked about the programs and services they participated in and what programs and services they would like to receive. Overall, 55 percent of the respondents said they or their child had participated in a program/activity offered by the ARPNI partners.

Percent participating in a program/activity offered by an ARPNI partner.

55%

The respondents were also asked what types of programs they participated in with the partner organizations or would like to use in the future. Of those that households already use, the most common were child and youth programs and financial assistance programs.

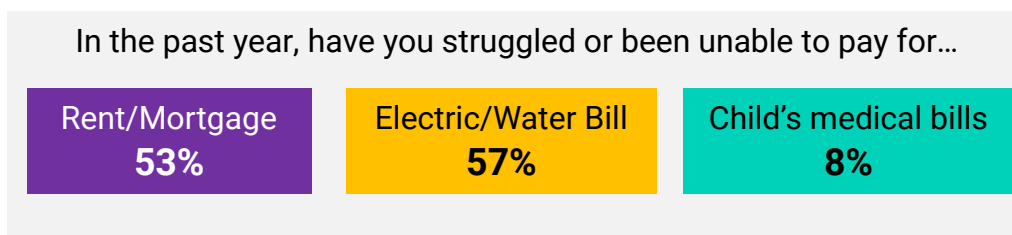
Figure 9. Percent of households already using different types of services offered by partner organizations.



Over 60 percent of the households indicated they would like to use child and youth programs, financial assistance programs, and financial literacy/asset-building programs. When comparing renters and homeowners it was notable that renters are already using and would like to use all program types more than homeowners except for child and youth programs and cultural education programs.

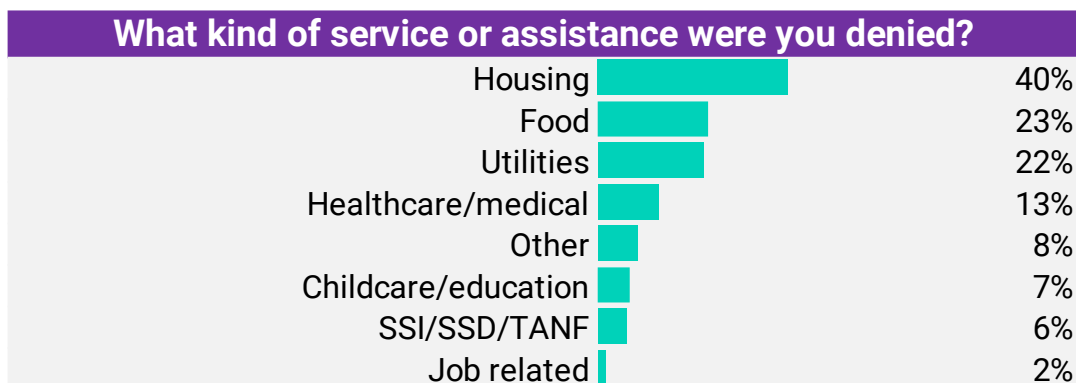
Service and assistance needs

The households were asked about their financial challenges over the past year and the types of services they have been denied. Over half of the families had struggled to pay for their rent/mortgage and electric/water bill in the past year.



The families were also asked if they had been denied a service or assistance they needed in the past three years and 33 percent indicated that yes they had been denied. If they answered yes, they were then asked what type of service they were denied most indicated they were denied services around housing, food, and utilities.

Figure 10. Types of services/assistance denied for those denied in the past three years.



In a follow-up question, the households were also asked why they were denied the service. The most common response (43 percent) said they were denied because the assistance program had run out of funds and the second most common reason (28 percent) was that they made too much money to be eligible for the assistance. These results suggest that there is greater need for some assistance programs than the existing funding and that current eligibility cut-offs may be too low.

“We want to have trustworthy and reliable resources no matter what their situations are.”

- Albina resident