



Inland SoCal United Way

LIFT TO RISE



# UNITED LIFT

## DATA ANALYSIS & PROGRESS REPORT OF CDBG-FUNDED HOUSEHOLDS

June 1, 2021

Prepared by Lift To Rise  
In collaboration with Inland SoCal United Way  
Made possible by the County of Riverside

Photo: Noé Montes for Lift To Rise

## Key Takeaways

- United Lift has assisted **1,185 households** across Riverside County with a combined **\$5,789,989 in CDBG-funded emergency rental assistance**.
- The CDBG funding has primarily served low-income Riverside County renters – **40% of approved applicants are considered Extremely Low-Income, 33% are Very Low-Income, and 20% are Low-Income**.
- CDBG-funded households are **disproportionately Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and female**.
- **More than half (51%)** of CDBG-funded applicants report being **single parents**, with **86% of single parents identifying as female**.
- Among CDBG-funded applicants, **61% report being out of work due to COVID-19, yet only 49% are receiving Unemployment Insurance** benefits.
- At the time of application, **79%** of CDBG-funded applicants stated that they would **not be able to pay the following month's rent**.
- The **most common employment occupation** categories of CDBG-funded applicants countywide are **food preparation and food service (13%), healthcare (10%), personal care and service (9%), sales and retail (8%), hospitality, hotel, and casino (7%)** occupations.
- The **average unpaid rent balance** among households assisted with CDBG funding is **\$1,441** and **19%** of the approved households were **three or more months behind on rent** when they applied for assistance.
- The five cities/communities with the **most households assisted** with CDBG funding are **Riverside (170), Indio (126), Desert Hot Springs (118), Palm Desert (102), and Palm Springs (90)**.
- The five cities/communities with the **most CDBG funding per capita** are **Thermal (\$166.63/resident), Desert Hot Springs (\$16.03/resident), Whitewater (\$11.27/resident), Mecca (\$10.86/resident), and Bermuda Dunes (\$8.33/resident)**.

## Introduction & Background

The United Lift Rental Assistance Program is a coordinated effort between Riverside County, Lift To Rise, and Inland SoCal United Way to keep Riverside County families and residents housed by providing one-time direct rental assistance to households that are unable to pay rent due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The program began in June with an initial goal to assist 10,000 households. Riverside County originally allocated \$31 million of federal funds for this program – \$22 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and \$9 million from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program – making it one of the most generous emergency rental assistance programs in the state in terms of funding per capita. To date, nearly 7,000 Riverside County households have received rental relief under the United Lift program.

This report will serve as a progress report on United Lift’s rental assistance approvals **funded by the CDBG allocation, which went into effect in December after CARES funding was depleted.**<sup>1 2</sup> As defined by the granting agency, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), CDBG funding carried different guidelines than the CARES funding. Eligibility for CDBG-funded assistance was **limited to households earning at or below 80% of area median income, while the CARES funding carried no income-level eligibility requirements.** Additionally, each CARES-funded household received assistance in the amount of \$3,500, regardless of household size or back rent, whereas CDBG-funded households could receive up to six months’ worth of back rent (maximum \$7,500), or \$3,500 if they were not behind on rent.

The data presented in this report shows that the pandemic has taken a severe economic toll on Riverside County renters, especially impacting Black and Hispanic/Latinx households, women with young children, and workers in the food service and hospitality, health care, sales and retail, and personal care and service industries. As an emergency response strategy, United Lift has helped thousands of Riverside County households stay housed.

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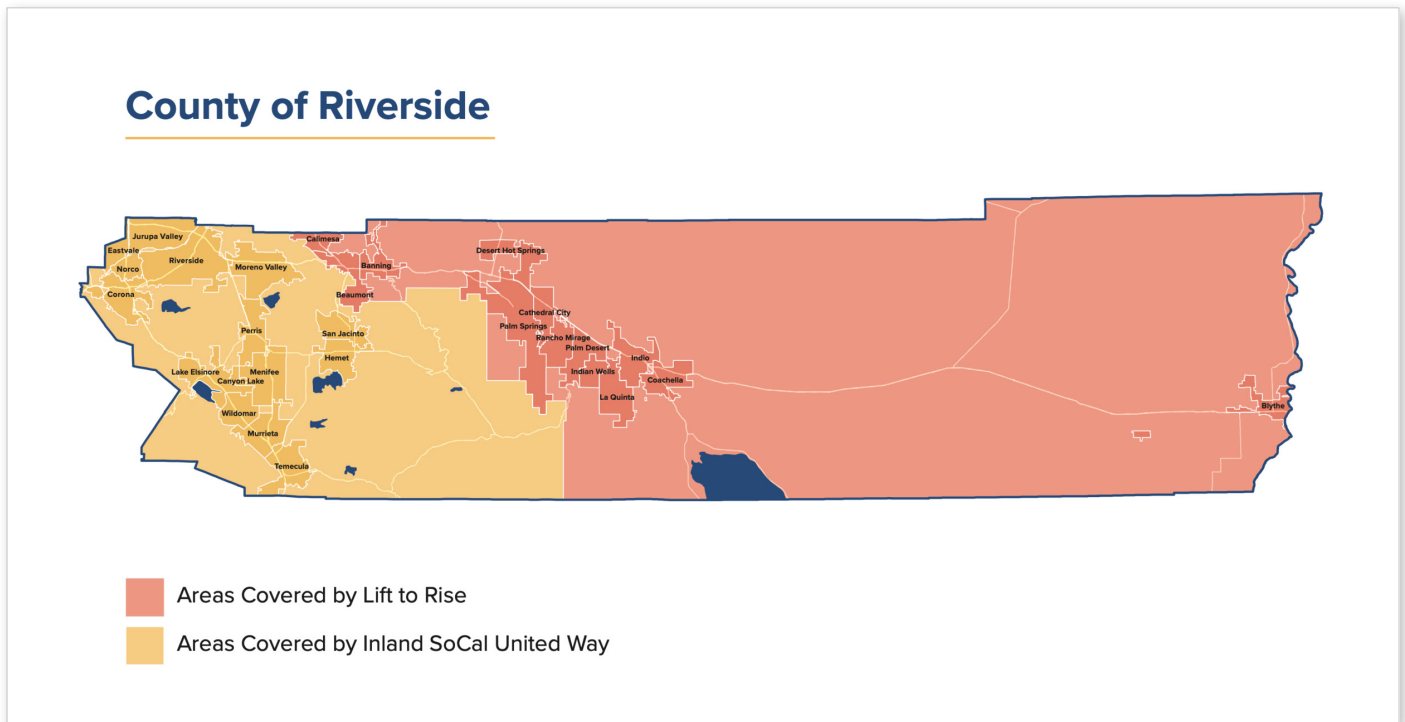
<sup>1</sup> United Lift has since transitioned to a third federal funding source: Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funding from the United States Treasury, authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act coronavirus stimulus bill signed into law in December 2020. At the time of the launch of ERAP all funding was required to be spent by December 31, 2021. For this reason, United Lift did not use its full allocation of CDBG funding (approximately \$9 million) before transitioning to ERAP funding; the program may resume assisting applicants with CDBG funding after fully disbursing its time sensitive ERAP funding allocation." Note that the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 extended this date until September 30, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> This report uses the terms “CDBG-funded applicants/households” and “approved applicants/households” interchangeably.

## Program Implementation

Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way are the program’s implementing organizations, with Lift To Rise responsible for processing applications from eastern Riverside County and Inland SoCal United Way covering the western portion of the county. See Figure 1 below for the service boundaries.

**Figure 1.** Lift To Rise Zone vs. Inland SoCal United Way Zone



The division of implementation responsibility resulted in numerous avenues by which households could apply for rental assistance. The majority of applications from both catchment zones came through the centralized United Lift online rental assistance application, administered via the Qualtrics survey platform. An additional subset of applications came from a series of in-person application pop-ups that both Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way deployed in cities across their respective catchment zones to accommodate residents without internet access.

After application submission, program staff from Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way processed the applications. Program staff communicated over email and/or the phone with applicants to obtain and verify their required eligibility documentation, income eligibility, and landlord information to ultimately reach a determination. In cases of approved applications, Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way disbursed payments to the landlords/property managers of the approved applicants to cover past due, if any, and some future rent. Funding directly to landlords/property managers instead of to tenants ensured that the CARES and CDBG rental assistance allocations went towards rental assistance as opposed to other expenses that applicants may have had.

## Data & Methodology

The data analyzed in this report comes directly from the various application avenues described in the previous section.<sup>3</sup> Regardless of the application format, United Lift offered the application in both English and Spanish and asked applicants about household composition, rent details and landlord information, income, employment, housing quality, demographic information, contact information, and the extent to which COVID-19 has impacted them. Data on population counts for per capita measurements comes from the United States Census Bureau.

To facilitate application processing on a rolling basis, United Lift set up an automated system using Zapier automation software that sends some application information from the online application and the in-person pop-up applications to the Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way implementation teams immediately upon submission.<sup>4</sup> Additionally, United Lift cleaned and organized the accumulated application data using both STATA and Microsoft Excel software. Data cleaning included removing duplicate applications from the same address and reformatting the data for analysis purposes. The program coordinators from the respective implementation teams kept records of which applicants were approved and the amount of funding disbursed for each approved applicant. United Lift then matched the records of approved applicants to the pool of all applicants in order to analyze the demographic profiles of approved applicants.<sup>5</sup> After cleaning, organizing, and merging the data, United Lift used ArcGIS and Tableau software to create the maps and other data visualizations included in this report.

## Key Findings & Implications

The following section will detail notable findings and trends that appeared in the data. These findings fit into the following categories: applications and approvals, geographical distribution, COVID-19 financial impact, income, employment, rent and housing characteristics, and demographics and household composition.

### APPLICATIONS AND APPROVALS

As of April 27, 2021, 1,185 households in Riverside County received a combined \$5,789,989 in CDBG-funded rental assistance. This represents an average funding amount of \$5,336.40 per household, 52% higher than the capped \$3,500 per household assistance amount under the CARES funding.<sup>6</sup> When United Lift depleted its CARES allocation at the end of November, 2020, 14,220 households had applied. Of those applicants, 5,639 households ultimately received assistance from United Lift's CARES allocation, with thousands more being waitlisted after that funding ran out. Starting in December 2021, United Lift began funding those waitlisted households using its CDBG allocation.

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<sup>3</sup> All data collected was self-reported by the applicants via the application, which means that applicant responses are subject to misreporting.

<sup>4</sup> Program coordinators from implementation teams received only enough information necessary to approve or deny an application. The remaining demographic information was matched to approved applicants after they were approved.

<sup>5</sup> United Lift was unable to match 38 approved households to application data from the Inland SoCal United Way catchment zone. Inland SoCal United Way has records of the amount disbursed on behalf of these applicants, but was unable to locate the remaining application data for them. This report excludes these 38 approved households from its analysis, except when reporting on the number of households assisted, the amount of funding disbursed, and the geographical distribution of assistance.

<sup>6</sup> For a year-end report, which provides a countywide overview of households served between June - December 2020 with CARES Act funding visit [www.unitedlift.org/data-reports](http://www.unitedlift.org/data-reports).

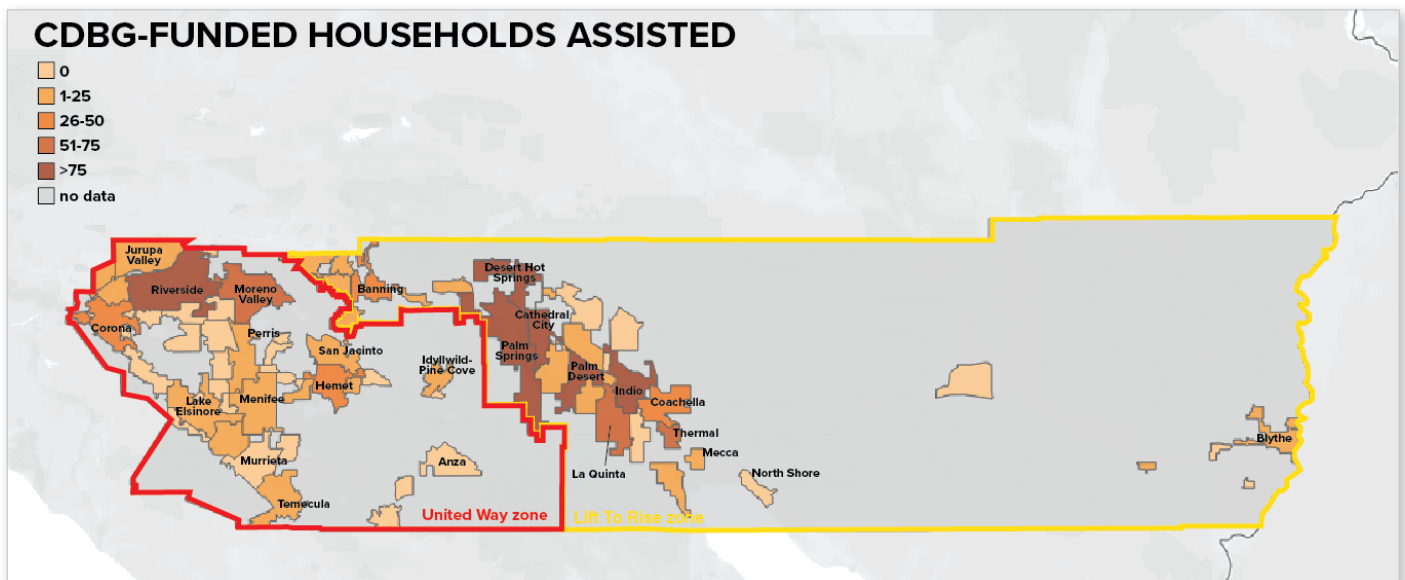
Applicant approval depended on several factors including meeting the income eligibility requirement and providing the proper documentation to verify Riverside County residence, lease agreement, and COVID-19 impact. In some cases, applicants who applied were ultimately not approved because United Lift program staff were unable to determine eligibility and/or make contact with their landlords to obtain the required payment information.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION**

The five cities/communities with the highest number of households assisted were Indio (126), Desert Hot Springs (118), Palm Desert (102), Riverside (97), and Palm Springs (90).<sup>7</sup> United Lift disbursed a combined \$2,362,749.10 in CDBG funding on behalf of approved applicants in these five cities, representing 46% of the total disbursed funding.

In Figure 2, below, it is evident that the cities/communities with the highest number of households assisted (and, thus, CDBG funding disbursed) are concentrated in the Northwest County and the Coachella Valley regions of Riverside County. The City of Riverside is the most populous city in the county with a large number of low-income renter households. It is likely for this reason that the City of Riverside has consistently received both the highest number of applications for assistance and the highest number of approved households throughout the lifetime of the United Lift program. Additionally, the high concentration of households assisted in the Coachella Valley region speaks to a particularly high need for rental assistance in that area of the county.

**Figure 2.** Households Assisted, Riverside County



<sup>7</sup> This report uses the term “cities/communities” because the maps in this section show both the cities and the unincorporated Census-Designated Places in Riverside County.

See Figures 3 and 4, below, for the total amount of households assisted and funding disbursed by city and Census-Designated Place.

**Figure 3. Households Assisted and CDBG Funding Disbursed, by City**

City	Households Assisted	CDBG Funding Disbursed
Riverside	170	\$1,130,348.00
Indio	126	\$478,402.77
Desert Hot Springs	118	\$462,921.72
Palm Desert	102	\$421,792.00
Palm Springs	90	\$373,584.60
Cathedral City	83	\$345,301.00
Moreno Valley	61	\$420,500.00
La Quinta	53	\$206,067.25
Coachella	40	\$161,908.00
Hemet	36	\$231,900.00
Banning	26	\$115,431.00
Corona	23	\$157,700.00
Murrieta	16	\$112,900.00
Perris	12	\$80,000.00
San Jacinto	12	\$75,000.00
Lake Elsinore	11	\$67,900.00
Rancho Mirage	10	\$43,091.06
Temecula	9	\$63,900.00
Menifee	9	\$58,700.00
Jurupa Valley	6	\$39,300.00
Blythe	6	\$25,460.24
Beaumont	3	\$14,021.75
Eastvale	2	\$15,000.00
Norco	1	\$7,500.00
Wildomar	1	\$7,000.00
Indian Wells	1	\$4,800.00
Calimesa	1	\$3,500.00

**Figure 4. Households Assisted and CDBG Funding Disbursed by, Census-Designated Place<sup>8</sup>**

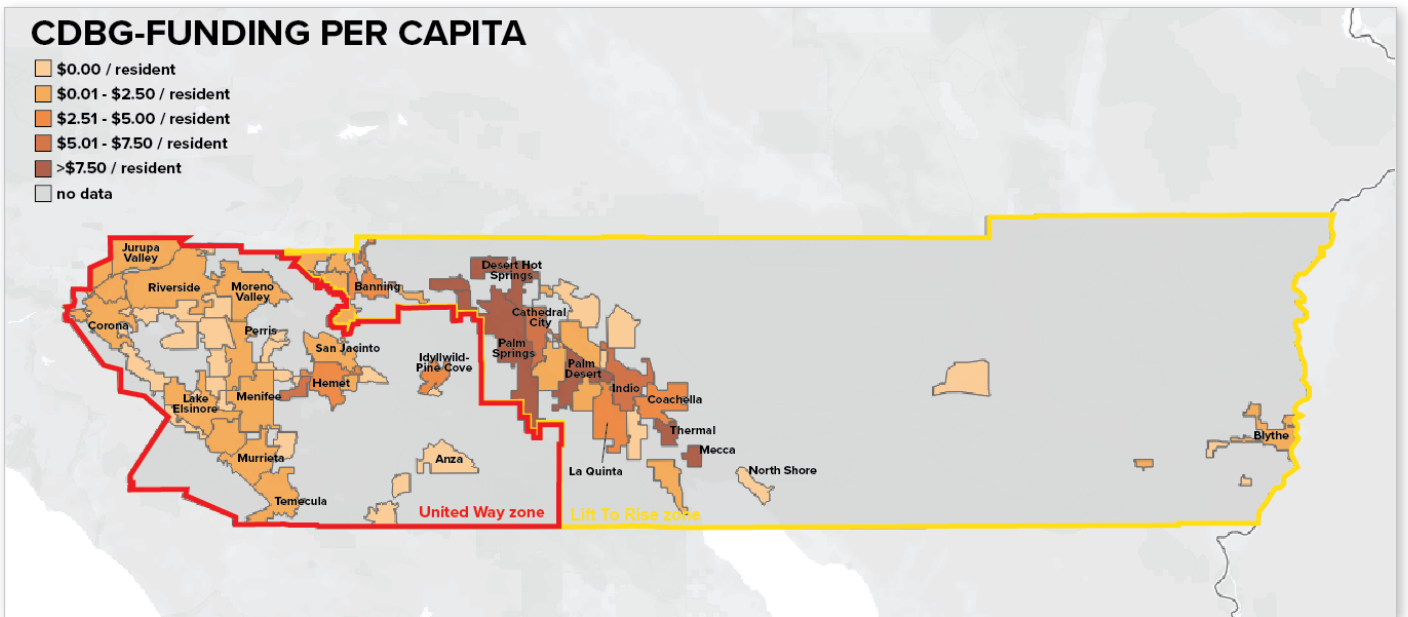
Census-Designated Place	Households Assisted	CDBG Funding Disbursed
Thermal	63	\$226,448.75
Mecca	21	\$77,900.00
Bermuda Dunes	16	\$56,804.00
Thousand Palms	5	\$17,500.00
Winchester	2	\$15,000.00
Idyllwild-Pine Cove	2	\$11,000.00
Whitewater	2	\$11,000.00
Cherry Valley	2	\$8,500.00
Oasis	2	\$7,157.00
Highgrove	1	\$7,000.00
East Hemet	1	\$6,600.00
Desert Edge	1	\$5,250.00
Cabazon	1	\$3,500.00

<sup>8</sup> Figures 3, 4, 6, and 7 do not include the following cities/communities that had no approved applicants: Aguanga, Anza, Canyon Lake, Coronita, Crestmore Heights, Desert Center, Desert Palms, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, French Valley, Good Hope, Green Acres, Home Gardens, Homeland, Indio Hills, Lake Mathews, Lake Riverside, Lakeland Village, Lakeview, March ARB, Mead Valley, Meadowbrook, Mesa Verde, Mountain Center, North Shore, Nuevo, Ripley, Romoland, Sky Valley, Temescal Valley, Valle Vista, Vista Santa Rosa, Warm Springs, and Woodcrest.

In addition to examining the absolute numbers of households assisted, United Lift also looked at approved applicants and disbursed funding per capita.<sup>9</sup> This allows for a comparison in which approved applicants from each city/community are measured accounting for their different population sizes.

The five cities/communities with the highest number of households assisted per 10,000 residents are: Thermal (463.6), Desert Hot Springs (40.9), Mecca (29.3), Bermuda Dunes (23.5), and Whitewater (20.5). In terms of funding per capita, those five cities/communities received \$166.63, \$16.03, \$10.86, \$8.33, and \$11.27 per resident, respectively. High per capita rates of households assisted coming from these less populous communities could suggest a particularly high need for rental assistance and/or robust United Lift outreach in these communities. Figure 5, below, show that the cities/communities with the highest per capita rates of households assisted are clustered in Coachella Valley, which could suggests a particularly severe impact from the COVID-19 pandemic in that area of Riverside County.

Figure 5. CDBG Funding Disbursed Per Capita, Riverside County



<sup>9</sup> Per capita measures are based on the US Census Bureau’s July 1, 2019 population estimates for cities, and the American Community Survey 2018 5-Year Estimates for Census-Designated Places that are not incorporated cities.



See Figures 6 and 7, below, for the per capita rates of households assisted and funding disbursed in each city/community.

**Figure 6. Households Assisted and CDBG Funding Disbursed Per Capita, by City**

City	Households Assisted Per 10,000 Residents	CDBG Funding Disbursed Per Resident
Desert Hot Springs	40.9	\$16.03
Palm Desert	19.1	\$7.92
Palm Springs	18.5	\$7.70
Cathedral City	15.1	\$6.28
Indio	13.7	\$5.21
La Quinta	12.7	\$4.94
Coachella	8.7	\$3.54
Banning	8.3	\$3.70
Rancho Mirage	5.4	\$2.33
Riverside	5.1	\$3.41
Hemet	4.2	\$2.72
Blythe	3.0	\$1.29
Moreno Valley	2.9	\$1.97
San Jacinto	2.4	\$1.52
Indian Wells	1.8	\$0.88
Lake Elsinore	1.6	\$0.98
Perris	1.5	\$1.01
Murrieta	1.4	\$0.97
Corona	1.4	\$0.93
Calimesa	1.1	\$0.38
Menifee	0.9	\$0.62
Temecula	0.8	\$0.56
Beaumont	0.6	\$0.27
Jurupa Valley	0.5	\$0.36
Norco	0.4	\$0.28
Eastvale	0.3	\$0.23
Wildomar	0.3	\$0.19

**Figure 7. Households Assisted and CDBG Funding Disbursed Per Capita, by Census-Designated Place**

Census-Designated Place	Households Assisted Per 10,000 Residents	CDBG Funding Disbursed Per Resident
Thermal	463.6	\$166.63
Mecca	29.3	\$10.86
Bermuda Dunes	23.5	\$8.33
Whitewater	20.5	\$11.27
Idyllwild-Pine Cove	8.1	\$4.47
Winchester	6.8	\$5.12
Oasis	6.6	\$2.37
Thousand Palms	6.4	\$2.24
Desert Edge	3.0	\$1.57
Cabazon	3.0	\$1.04
Cherry Valley	2.6	\$1.10
Highgrove	2.0	\$1.40
East Hemet	0.5	\$0.32

## COVID-19 FINANCIAL IMPACT

When asked about how the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively financially impacted them, nearly a quarter (24%) of CDBG-funded applicants stated that their hours or wages had been cut, 19% cited a temporary layoff or suspension, 17% cited a business closure, and 13% said they had been permanently laid off. Figure 8, below, shows the breakdown of approved applicants’ financial impact due to COVID-19.

**Figure 8. Most Common COVID-19 Financial Impacts Among Approved Applicants**

Primary Financial Impact Due to COVID-19	Percentage of Approved Applicants
Cut wages / hours	24%
Temporary layoff / suspension	19%
Business closure	17%
Other reason attributed to COVID-19	13%
Permanent layoff	13%

Because these responses reflect approved applicants’ financial impact at the time they applied for assistance, and, given that the pandemic has continued longer than expected and forced business closures, it is likely that employers have since permanently laid off some approved applicants who originally stated that they had been only temporarily laid off or had hours cut. This is noteworthy because it suggests that these applicants who have permanently lost their jobs could continue to struggle to afford rent, even after having received rental assistance towards their balance.

## INCOME

The data shows that the vast majority of approved applicants were considered low-income even before the pandemic began. Based on their self-report 2019 incomes and household sizes, 40% of approved applicants are considered Extremely Low-Income, 33% are Very Low-Income, and 20% are Low-Income.<sup>10</sup> This suggests that the United Lift program primarily served low-income renters, with nearly three-quarters (73%) earning less than 50% of area median income (see Figure 9, below).

**Figure 9. Income Breakdown of Approved Applicants<sup>11</sup>**

Income Level	Percentage of Approved Applicants
Extremely Low-Income	40%
Very Low-Income	32%
Low-Income	20%

<sup>10</sup> Extremely Low-Income is defined as earning at or below 30% of Area Median Income (AMI), Very Low-Income is defined as earning between 30% and 50% of AMI, and Low-Income is defined as earning between 50% and 80% of AMI. These statistics presented here are based on applicants’ reported 2019 household income and the federal government’s 2020 AMI limits for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Area (<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2020/2020summary.odn>). In the United Lift applications, applicants selected their income range (intervals of \$5,000) for 2019 instead of providing an exact number. For this analysis, United Lift generated a random number within the stated range for each applicant, which, in addition to household size, it used to determine income level compared to AMI.

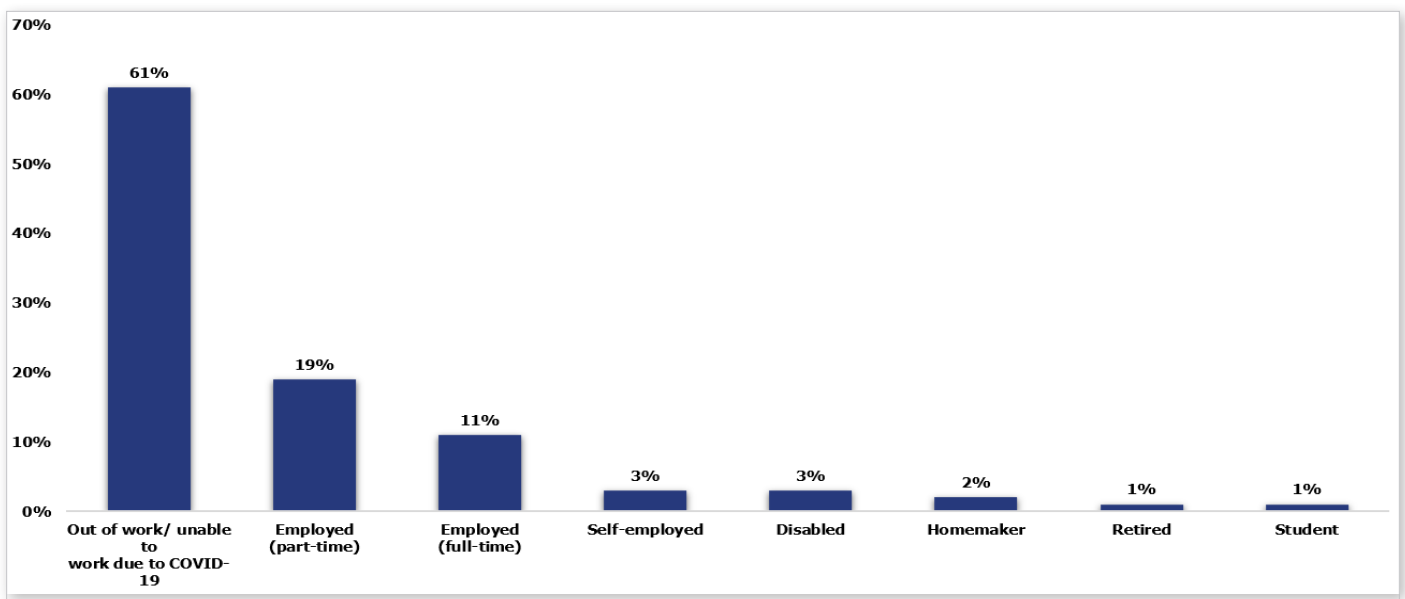
<sup>11</sup> Income data was self-reported on the application and then verified by program coordinators to determine eligibility. However, United Lift did not record data on each household’s verified income, only on their self-reported income. The percentages reflected in Figure 9 represent the self-reported incomes from the application data. On the application, approximately 7% of the ultimately approved applicants initially reported incomes that were higher than 80% of AMI based on their household size. However, during the review process, program coordinators determined that these applicants’ incomes was actually below 80% AMI, making them eligible for CDBG funding.

These figures are important to note because rent is only one of many monthly expenses for households, which must also pay for healthcare, groceries, utilities and other bills. Low-income households are forced to pick and choose how they spend their limited resources, which are becoming even more limited as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The high share of low-income renters receiving rental assistance also points to their precarious pre-COVID-19 financial situation which left them unprepared for the economic shock that came with the pandemic.

**EMPLOYMENT**

More than three in five (61%) approved applicants reported being out of work or unable to work due to COVID-19. Figure 10 below reveals that while 33% of approved applicants were working in some capacity (including full-time, part-time, and self-employed) when they applied for rental assistance, only 11% were working full-time. With more than 70% of approved applicants either unemployed or underemployed and ongoing workplace closures as a result of stay-at-home orders and safety concerns across California, paying rent will likely remain difficult as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

**Figure 10.** Employment Status of Approved Applicants

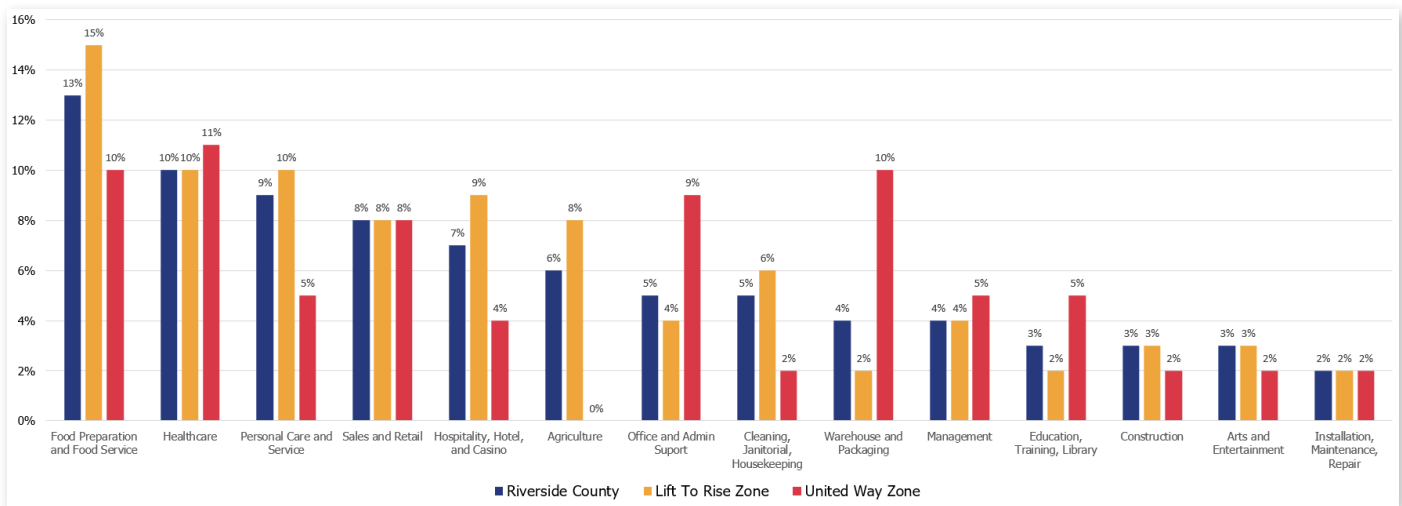


The data also reveals that even though 61% of approved applicants reported being out of work due to COVID-19, only 49% say they are receiving Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. This relatively low rate of UI benefits receipt could suggest a few things – that there is a share of undocumented approved applicants who are thus ineligible for UI, that many approved applicants are ineligible for UI for other reasons, or that many approved applicants are not aware that they are eligible for UI benefits.

Figure 11, below, shows that food preparation and service, healthcare, personal care and service, sales and retail, and hospitality/hotel/casino are the most common occupations that approved applicants work or worked in before they lost their jobs, which suggests that the pandemic has especially impacted employees from these industries.

However, when looking at the Lift To Rise and Inland SoCal United Way catchment zones separately, the data shows the most impacted occupations differ by region. For example, approved applicants in the Lift To Rise zone were much more likely to work in food preparation/food service, hospitality/resort/casino, personal care and service, and agricultural roles than approved applicants in the Inland SoCal United Way zone. Conversely, approved applicants from the Inland SoCal United Way zone were much more likely to work in warehouse/packaging and office/administrative support occupations than approved applicants from the Lift To Rise zone. These differences highlight the variation in economic drivers across the county and call attention to the industries that are most impacted in each zone.

**Figure 11. Top 10 Occupations of Approved Applicants, Countywide vs. LTR and UW Zones**



## RENT AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Among CDBG-funded applicants, nearly two thirds (63%) reported being at least one month behind on rent payments, with nearly one in five (19%) three or more months behind (see Figure 12, below). Just over 30% of approved applicants reported that they were current on rent payments at the time they applied, which reflects the relaxation of eligibility requirements that occurred in August in an effort to expand program access. However, even though 37% of approved applicants stated they were current on rent payments, more than three-quarters (79%) stated that they would not be able to pay the following month’s rent, putting them in a vulnerable position by risking eviction. In fact, over 11% of approved applicants stated that they had already received an eviction notice from their landlord at the time of application.

It is also possible that some approved applicants may have borrowed money to make rent payments, which means that they were technically current on rent but only achieved this by incurring debt and thus still faced housing insecurity. The average approved applicant reported that they were in \$5,570.68 worth of unsecured debt, however the application did not ask if applicants had borrowed money or used a credit card to pay for rent.

**Figure 12.** Distribution of the Number of Months Behind on Rent Among Approved Applicants

Number of Months Behind on Rent	Percentage of Approved Applicants
1 Month	26%
2 Months	17%
3 Months	10%
More than 3 Months	9%
Not Behind	37%

Countywide, the average unpaid rent balance among CDBG-funded applicants was \$1,440.79. This average unpaid balance is more than \$300 more than the average rent price of \$1,130.55 reported by approved applicants, highlighting the persistence of rent-related debt during the pandemic. Figure 13 below shows that the average unpaid rent balance in the Inland SoCal United Way catchment zone is nearly \$600 higher than in the Lift To Rise, reflecting the higher cost of living in the western portion of Riverside County.

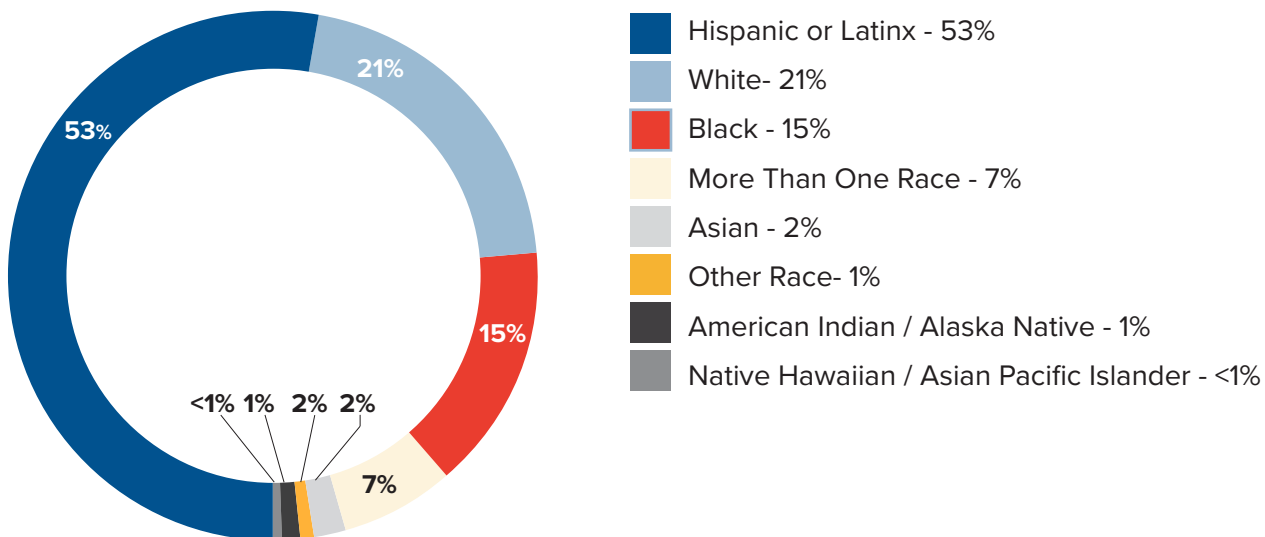
**Figure 13.** Average Monthly Rent Price and Average Unpaid Rent Balance, Countywide vs. LTR vs. UW

	Riverside County	Lift To Rise Zone	United Way Zone
Average Monthly Rent Price	\$1,130.55	\$969.52	\$1,462.06
Average Unpaid Rent Balance	\$1,440.79	\$1,248.67	\$1,836.31

## DEMOGRAPHICS AND HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

The data shows that approved applicants disproportionately identified as Black, as Hispanic/Latinx, as women, and as parents with school-aged children. According to the US Census Bureau, about 7% of the Riverside County population is Black, yet 15% of CDBG-funded applicants identify as Black. Similarly, 50% of the Riverside County population identifies as Hispanic/Latinx, yet more than 53% of CDBG-funded applicants identified as such. Conversely, 34% of the county population is White but only 21% of approved applicants are White.<sup>12</sup> These disproportionalities suggest that Black and Hispanic/Latinx households are more at risk of housing instability as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic than White households. Figure 14, below, shows the racial/ethnic breakdown of the approved applicants.

**Figure 14.** Approved Applicants by Race/Ethnicity



In addition to racial disparities, the data also revealed that 70% of approved applicants identify as female. Additionally, approximately 35% of approved applicants report having at least one child under the age of five in their household, and approximately 62% report having at least one school-aged child (K-12) in their household. The data also shows that nearly half (51%) of approved applicants who were asked if they were single parents said yes, and among single parents 86% were women. A majority of both Black (57%), Native American (70%), and Hispanic/Latinx (53%) approved applicants identified as single parents, suggesting that the COVID-19 pandemic is disproportionately impacting Black, Native American, and Hispanic/Latinx women, many of them single mothers with young children.

<sup>12</sup> US Census Bureau Quick Facts (2019). <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/riversidecountycalifornia>

## Conclusion & Next Steps

Based on the data on assisted households, it appears that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a particularly devastating impact on low-income Riverside County renters, especially those who identify as Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and as female. The data also shows that families led by single parents, especially single mothers, are overrepresented among approved applicants, as well as workers from the food service and healthcare industries. The pandemic has resulted in unprecedented job losses, with more than 60% of approved applicants out of work. Debt to landlords continues to pile up as the pandemic rages on, leaving renters vulnerable to eviction, bankruptcy, and trauma associated with housing insecurity.

CDBG funding allowed United Lift to assist over one thousand households who were on the program waitlist due to the depletion of CARES Act funding. Beginning in March 2021, United Lift began processing applications to disburse its \$57 million allocation of ERAP funding, which not only provides rental assistance but also assistance with utility bills. As previously mentioned, the ERAP funding is time sensitive while the CDBG funding is not, which led to United Lift suspending use of CDBG funding before depleting its allocation.

With the addition of funding allocated through the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and the potential of additional rental assistance from the State of California, it is not anticipated that United Lift will utilize CDBG funding in the near future. The County is working to obligate 100% of ERAP Round 1 funding by June 30, 2021. United Lift has kept thousands of Riverside County households housed during the pandemic, and though the program is temporary the partners within United Lift (Riverside County, Lift to Rise, United Way, Fair Housing Council, Riverside Legal Aid, and others) are working to solve long term solutions to support renter households, expand the supply of affordable housing, and improve economic mobility of county residents.