

## Pierce County Collaboration

*“We have been able to serve 42k last month and have over 52 covid 19 delivery routes.” -  
Eloise's Cooking Pot Food Bank*

*“Fact that we have provided families nearly 1,000,000 meals during the COVID school closure,  
while simultaneously reinventing, and implementing, four different operational models,  
between March and June. – School District in Puyallup*

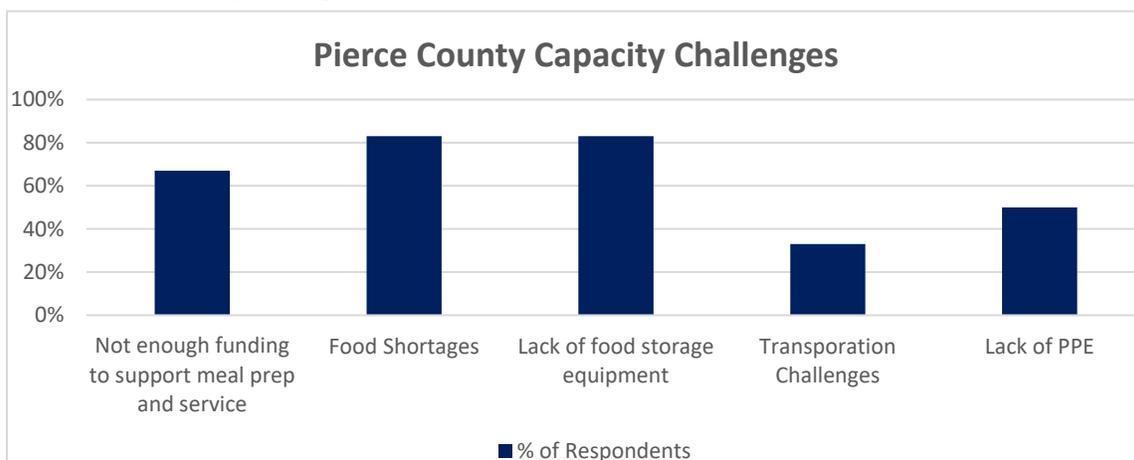
## County Highlights

Pierce County has had a coordinated approach in response to COVID-19 which has led to cross-sector partnerships. Partnerships between food banks, schools, and churches have led to an increased number of distribution locations. Additionally, many programs report doing more than food distribution and partnering to hand out census materials, recipes, voter registration, and much needed PPE items.

## Coordination Opportunities

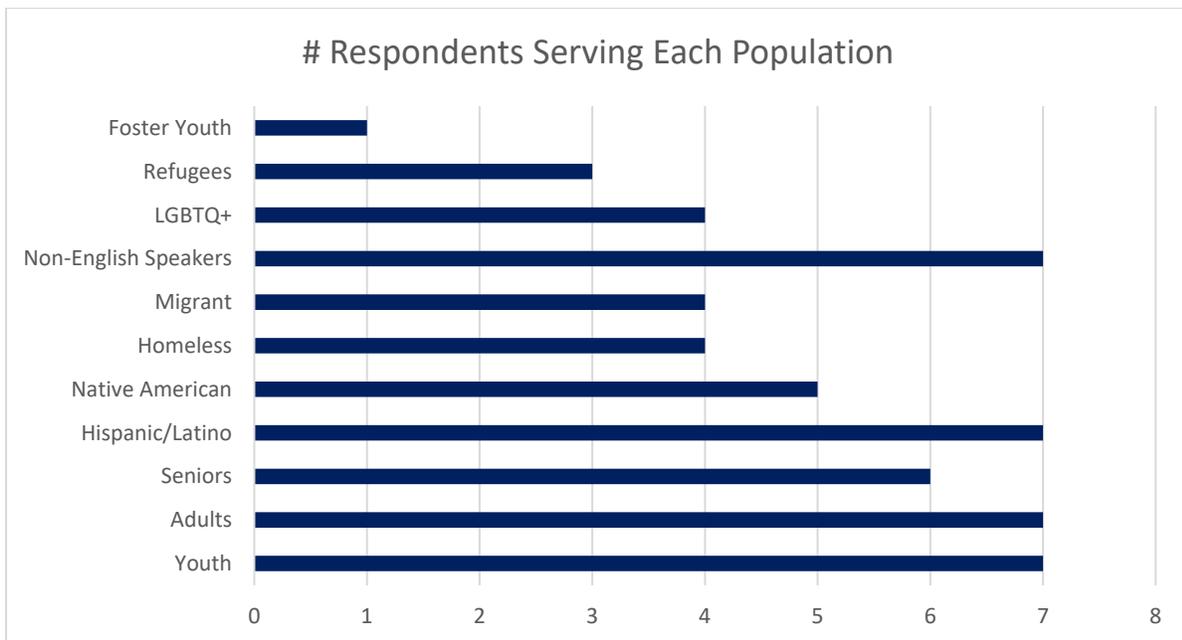
Pierce County programs consistently shared their need for increased capacity for their programs and many programs referenced concerns with being able to cover the high costs of running their programs.

1. Funding for Physical Capacity: More than **80% of the programs do not have enough food** to support their food services and over **80% lack the necessary food storage equipment**. Respondents specifically noted the need for funding to cover refrigeration, storage, transportation, and infrastructure.
2. Support for Staffing and Volunteers: Survey respondents from schools, food banks, and community organizations all reported **challenges and concerns with not having enough staff or volunteers** to run their programs. While many programs referenced this anecdotally, the fact that over **60% do not have enough funding for meal prep and service** is very telling.



## About The Data

11 organizations responded to the Coordinated Community Food Insecurity Survey. Five of the eleven respondents were food banks, four were schools or the school district, one was a community organization, and one was a local WSU Extension office working on SNAP-ED. Unlike some other areas of the state, there were no government officials from the local, county, or state level which may be an opportunity for future coordination. When asked to rate the level of support needed by organizations at this time with 1 being no support needed and 5 being a lot of support needed, the Pierce County reported an average of 2.78.



## Contact Information for Coordination

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