

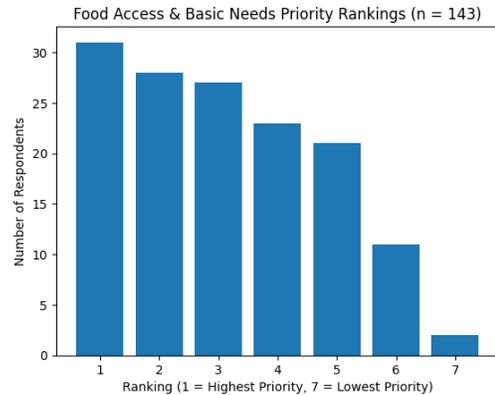
# Community Priorities Survey Results Detailed Summary

## I. Priority Categories

### Food Access & Basic Needs

#### Ranking distribution (n = 143)

- Rank 1: **21.7% (31)**
- Rank 2: **19.6% (28)**
- Rank 3: **18.9% (27)**
- Rank 4: **16.1% (23)**
- Rank 5: **14.7% (21)**
- Rank 6: **7.7% (11)**
- Rank 7: **1.4% (2)**



#### What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)

- **Community gardens / garden plots: 10** respondents explicitly mentioned gardens/plots
- **Community fridges: 5**
- **Free food pantries / pantry network: 5**
- **Gleaning / surplus recovery: 2**
- **Groceries and food affordability pressures: 3**
- **Meals, hunger, basic needs framing: 5**

**Qualitative throughline:** People frame food access as a *stability and dignity* issue, and several pair it with resilience language (systems that keep neighbors okay when costs spike or crises hit in Olympia).

**Key Demographic Highlights:** Food Access & Basic Needs emerged as a top priority across **all age groups**, with particularly strong emphasis among respondents with **long-term ties to Olympia and homeowners**, who often framed food access as a shared community responsibility rather than an individual need.

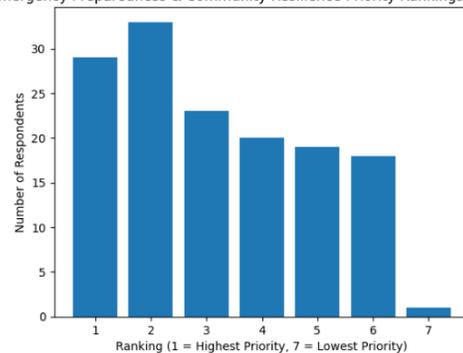
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### Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience

#### Ranking distribution (n = 143)

- Rank 1: **20.3% (29)**
- Rank 2: **23.1% (33)**
- Rank 3: **16.1% (23)**
- Rank 4: **14.0% (20)**
- Rank 5: **13.3% (19)**
- Rank 6: **12.6% (18)**
- Rank 7: **0.7% (1)**

Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience Priority Rankings (n = 143)



## What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)

- **Immigration enforcement / U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement concerns: 27** respondents explicitly referenced ICE/immigration/deportation themes
- **Know-your-rights or legal support: 6**
- **CERT/first aid/Stop the Bleed type trainings: 6**
- **Surveillance tech concerns (ex: Flock Safety, Ring, cameras/LPR): 5**
- **Mesh or radio communications (mesh/GMRS/ham): 2**
- **Natural-disaster readiness (outages, earthquakes, smoke, storms): 3**

**Qualitative throughline:** Emergency preparedness here is not only “earthquake kits.” A substantial share of respondents define resilience as **protecting community members under enforcement and surveillance pressure**, and building coordinated response capacity (education, comms, protocols, training).

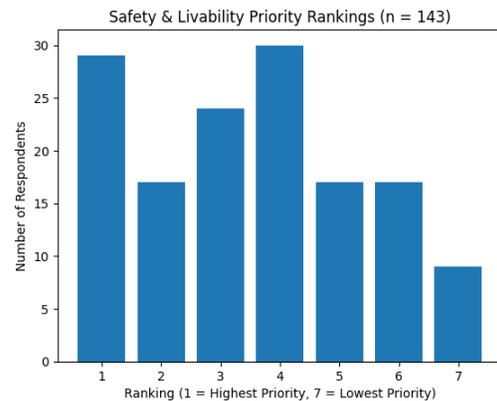
**Key Demographic Highlights:** Emergency Preparedness was most frequently prioritized by **respondents ages 18–29** and **30–44**, as well as by **long-term residents and homeowners**, reflecting concerns about climate-related risks, emergency coordination, and protections for vulnerable populations.

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## **Safety & Livability**

### **Ranking distribution (n = 143)**

- Rank 1: **20.3% (29)**
- Rank 2: **11.9% (17)**
- Rank 3: **16.8% (24)**
- Rank 4: **21.0% (30)**
- Rank 5: **11.9% (17)**
- Rank 6: **11.9% (17)**
- Rank 7: **6.3% (9)**



## What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)

- **Bike and pedestrian safety / walkability: 21**
- **Sidewalks / accessibility / ADA: 19**
- **Traffic calming / speeding: 12**
- **Crosswalks / crossings: 10**
- **Lighting / visibility: 5**

**Qualitative throughline:** This category is still one of the most “buildable” in one year. Many responses name concrete infrastructure interventions (sidewalk continuity, safer crossings, speed management) rather than abstract goals.

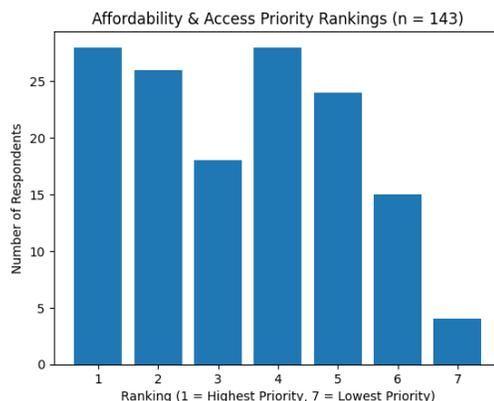
**Key Demographic Highlights:** Safety & Livability was disproportionately ranked as a top priority by **respondents ages 60–74** and by **long-term residents**, particularly in neighborhoods with known sidewalk, crossing, and traffic safety gaps, underscoring how physical infrastructure needs vary by age and place.

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## Affordability & Access

### Ranking distribution (n = 143)

- Rank 1: **19.6% (28)**
- Rank 2: **18.2% (26)**
- Rank 3: **12.6% (18)**
- Rank 4: **19.6% (28)**
- Rank 5: **16.8% (24)**
- Rank 6: **10.5% (15)**
- Rank 7: **2.8% (4)**



### What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)

- **Affordable housing / housing supply (incl. ADU-style mentions): 21**
- **Rent pressure / cost of living: 20**
- **Transportation access / transit: 10**
- **Access to services, seniors, disability supports: 13**
- **Unhoused / homelessness / shelter: 14**
- **Childcare: 2**

**Qualitative throughline:** Affordability is described as a system problem - housing costs, service access, and transportation barriers stack. Many responses tie this directly to stability for seniors, disabled neighbors, and unhoused community members.

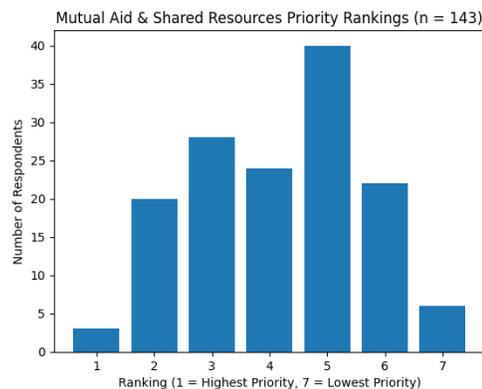
**Key Demographic Highlights:** Affordability & Access was most strongly emphasized by **respondents ages 30–44, renters, and newer residents**, who consistently cited housing costs, transportation barriers, and access to services as immediate pressures shaping day-to-day stability.

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## Mutual Aid & Shared Resources

### Ranking distribution (n = 143)

- Rank 1: **2.1% (3)**
- Rank 2: **14.0% (20)**
- Rank 3: **19.6% (28)**
- Rank 4: **16.8% (24)**
- Rank 5: **28.0% (40)**
- Rank 6: **15.4% (22)**
- Rank 7: **4.2% (6)**



### What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)

- **Mutual aid networks / neighbors-helping-neighbors framing: 14**
- **Repair or skill sharing (repair cafes, workshops): 7**

- **Tool or lending library: 5**
- **Supply closets / caches: 5**

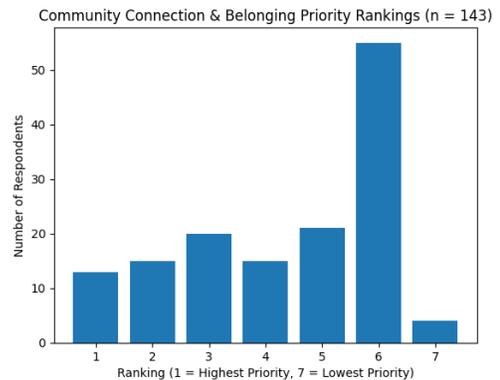
**Qualitative throughline:** Like before, Mutual Aid is less commonly ranked #1, but respondents repeatedly describe it as a **multiplier** that makes food distribution, emergency response, and affordability strategies more achievable.

**Key Demographic Highlights:** Mutual Aid & Shared Resources did not strongly cluster around a specific age group, but was somewhat more frequently emphasized by respondents ages **30–44** and **45–59** with established neighborhood connections, often as a way to support other priorities such as food access or emergency preparedness.

## **Community Connection & Belonging**

### **Ranking distribution (n = 143)**

- Rank 1: **9.1% (13)**
- Rank 2: **10.5% (15)**
- Rank 3: **14.0% (20)**
- Rank 4: **10.5% (15)**
- Rank 5: **14.7% (21)**
- Rank 6: **38.5% (55)**
- Rank 7: **2.8% (4)**



### **What people are asking for (from respondents who ranked this in their top 2)**

- **Events / meeting neighbors: 11**
- **Belonging / inclusion / polarization: 11**
- **Community spaces / third places: 4**

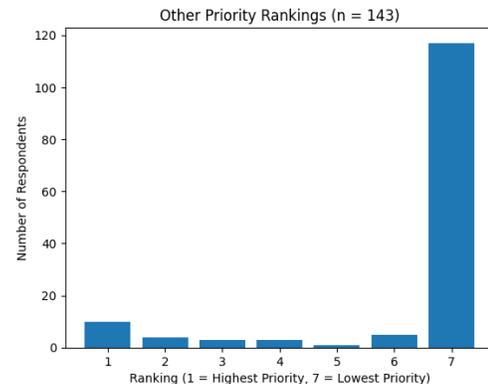
**Qualitative throughline:** Connection is often framed as repairing fragmentation and rebuilding social trust, but many respondents still rank it behind immediate material needs (food, housing, safety).

**Key Demographic Highlights:** Community Connection & Belonging was more commonly prioritized by respondents ages **18–29** and **30–44**, especially newer residents, and was often framed as important but secondary to immediate material needs.

## **Other**

### **Ranking distribution (n = 143)**

- Rank 1: **7.0% (10)**
- Rank 2: **2.8% (4)**
- Rank 3: **2.1% (3)**
- Rank 4: **2.1% (3)**
- Rank 5: **0.7% (1)**
- Rank 6: **3.5% (5)**
- Rank 7: **81.8% (117)**



### **“Other” review and unofficial reassignment**

There were **26 respondents** who ranked “Other” anywhere other than 7. Based on what they described in Columns K–M, every one of those “Other” entries could be **unofficially mapped to an existing category** (no truly new category emerged in this dataset).

### **Unofficial reassignment totals (all ranks combined)**

- **Safety & Livability: 8**
- **Food Access & Basic Needs: 6**
- **Affordability & Access: 6**
- **Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience: 5**
- **Mutual Aid & Shared Resources: 1**

### **Reassignment by “Other” rank**

- **Other ranked #1 (10 respondents):**
  - Safety & Livability: **4**
  - Affordability & Access: **4**
  - Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience: **2**
- **Other ranked #2 (4 respondents):**
  - Safety & Livability: **2**
  - Food Access & Basic Needs: **1**
  - Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience: **1**
- **Other ranked #3 (3 respondents):**
  - Food Access & Basic Needs: **2**
  - Affordability & Access: **1**
- **Other ranked #4 (3 respondents):**
  - Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience: **1**
  - Food Access & Basic Needs: **1**
  - Safety & Livability: **1**
- **Other ranked #5 (1 respondent):**
  - Affordability & Access: **1**
- **Other ranked #6 (5 respondents):**
  - Food Access & Basic Needs: **2**
  - Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience: **1**
  - Safety & Livability: **1**

- Mutual Aid & Shared Resources: 1

**Qualitative throughline:** A subset of respondents used ‘Other’ to enter concerns that were already covered by existing categories (especially safety, affordability, food access, and immigration-related preparedness). For interpretation purposes, those ‘Other’ rankings should be read as aligning with the relevant category rather than as separate priorities.

**Key Demographic Highlights:** High-ranking “Other” responses did not cluster around a specific demographic group and most often reflected differing interpretations of the listed categories rather than distinct unmet priorities, reinforcing the overall relevance of the predefined priority areas.

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### Cross-category signals worth calling out

- **Food access and affordability are linked in people’s minds.** Many respondents describe food insecurity and high costs as part of the same stability problem.
  - **Emergency preparedness is heavily shaped by civic stressors** (immigration enforcement, surveillance, coordination), not only natural disasters.
  - **Safety & Livability remains the most infrastructure-specific category** with many “one concrete change” requests.
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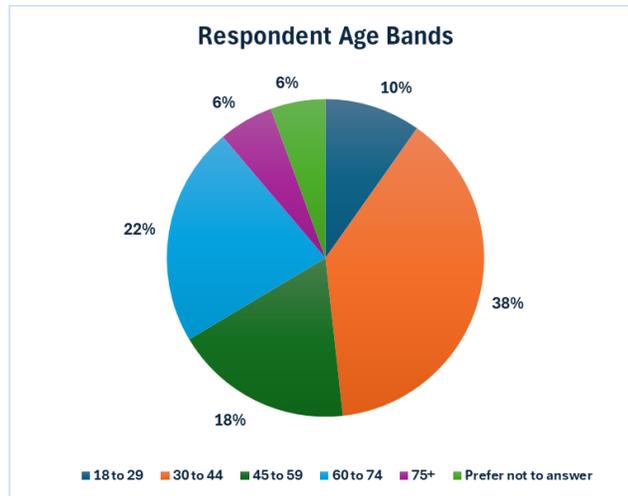
## II. Demographic Highlights Summary

### Community Priorities Forum Survey (n = 143)

This summary highlights **notable patterns** observed when comparing respondents’ **priority rankings** with their **age group, connection to Olympia, and neighborhood of residence**. Only **clear, meaningful, and defensible trends** are included.

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### Age-Based Patterns



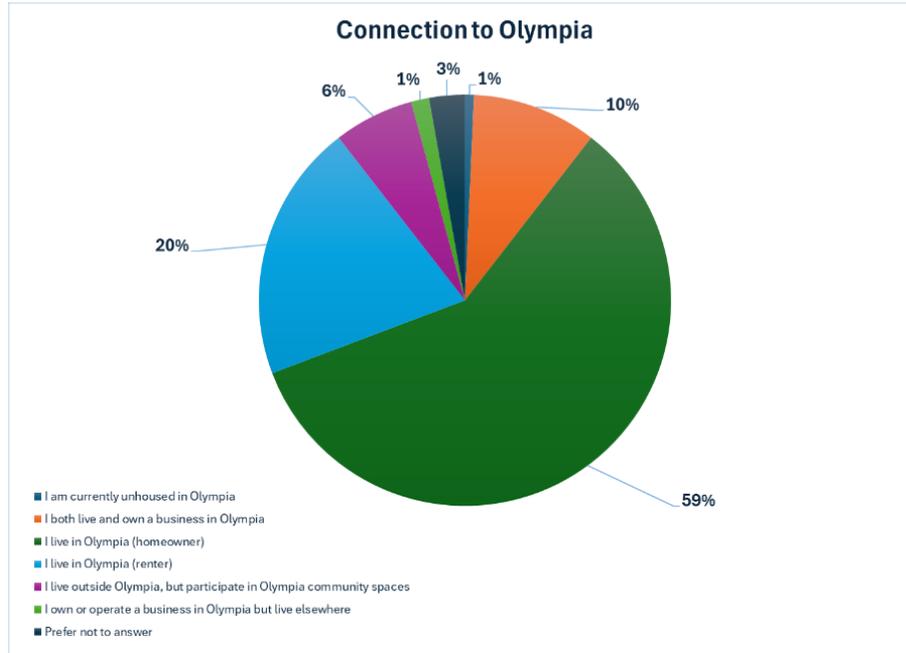
- **Respondents ages 60–74** were **overrepresented among those ranking *Safety & Livability* as their top priority.**
  - This age group accounted for the **largest share of Rank 1 selections for *Safety & Livability***, despite representing a smaller share of total respondents than the 30–44 age group.
  - Qualitative responses from this group frequently referenced **sidewalk conditions, crossings, lighting, accessibility, and pedestrian safety.**
  
- **Respondents ages 30–44** showed the **strongest emphasis on *Affordability & Access*.**
  - This age group contributed the **highest number of Rank 1 selections for *Affordability & Access*.**
  - Housing costs, rent pressure, childcare, transportation, and access to services were recurring themes in their open-ended responses.
  
- **Respondents ages 30–44 and 18–29** were **prominently represented among Rank 1 selections for *Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience*.**
  - This suggests preparedness concerns cut across younger and mid-career age groups, often framed around **community coordination, training, and protection of vulnerable neighbors.**
  
- **Respondents ages 45–59** showed a **more distributed pattern**, with Rank 1 selections spread across ***Safety & Livability, Food Access & Basic Needs, and Affordability & Access***, indicating overlapping concerns rather than a single dominant priority.
  
- **Respondents ages 75+** appeared in the dataset in smaller numbers and showed **no dominant priority**, with Rank 1 selections spread across safety, preparedness, affordability, and connection. Results for this group should be interpreted cautiously due to sample size.
  
- **Food Access & Basic Needs** appeared as a **top priority across all age groups**, with no single age band dominating, reinforcing its broad, cross-generational relevance.

**Key takeaway:**

Corrected age-band analysis reinforces that **life stage matters:**

- older respondents are more likely to prioritize **physical safety and accessibility**,
  - respondents in the 30–44 range are more likely to prioritize **affordability and access pressures**, and
  - **Emergency preparedness & community resilience** concerns span multiple age groups rather than concentrating in one.
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## Connection to Olympia



- **Long-term residents and homeowners** were **more likely** to rank **Safety & Livability** and **Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience** among their top priorities.
  - These respondents frequently referenced **long-standing infrastructure gaps, neighborhood-level safety concerns**, and the need for **preparedness and coordination**.
- **Renters, newer residents, and respondents with looser ties to Olympia** were **more likely** to rank **Affordability & Access** as their top priority.
  - Housing costs, rent pressure, transportation access, and access to services were recurring themes in their qualitative responses.
- **Respondents who identified strong community ties** (such as long-term residency or neighborhood involvement) were **more likely to rank Food Access & Basic Needs higher**, often framing it as a **community-wide responsibility** rather than an individual hardship.

### Key takeaway:

The **length and nature of one's connection to Olympia** shapes whether respondents prioritize **stability and system maintenance** (safety, preparedness) versus **access and affordability pressures**.

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## Neighborhood-Level Patterns

- **Safety & Livability concerns** showed **clear geographic concentration** in certain neighborhoods, particularly where respondents repeatedly cited:
  - missing or damaged sidewalks,
  - unsafe crossings,
  - traffic speed and visibility issues.These neighborhoods were **disproportionately represented among Rank 1 selections** for Safety & Livability.
- **Affordability & Access** and **Food Access & Basic Needs** appeared more frequently as top priorities among respondents living in:
  - denser neighborhoods,
  - areas closer to downtown or major service corridors, and
  - neighborhoods where respondents referenced **visible unhoused populations** or **service access gaps**.
- **Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience** showed **less neighborhood clustering** and appeared consistently across respondents from multiple neighborhoods, indicating this priority is **broadly shared citywide** rather than location-specific.

### Key takeaway:

Some priorities - especially **Safety & Livability** - are strongly shaped by **neighborhood conditions**, while others (notably **Emergency Preparedness**) reflect **citywide concerns**.

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## Cross-Cutting Observations

- **No single demographic group dominated all priority rankings.** Different groups elevated different needs, reinforcing that community priorities are **contextual and interconnected**, not monolithic.
  - Several priorities - particularly **Food Access & Basic Needs** and **Emergency Preparedness & Community Resilience** - cut across **age, housing status, and neighborhood boundaries**, indicating strong potential for **broad-based initiatives with wide support**.
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## Summary Insight

Demographic patterns suggest that **lived-experience matters**:

- **Age** influences physical safety and infrastructure concerns,
- **Housing status and tenure** influence affordability priorities, and
- **Neighborhood conditions** influence livability rankings.

These differences do not conflict with one another. Instead, they point to **complementary needs** that can inform **targeted, equitable, and layered community investments**.