

# PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND SHUTDOWN

Survey conducted by Disability Voices United April/May, 2020

#### NUMBER OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS



- \* 435 people with disabilities and family members responded to the survey
- \* 13% are people with disabilities
- \* 87% are family members of people with disabilities

#### DISABILITIES OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS



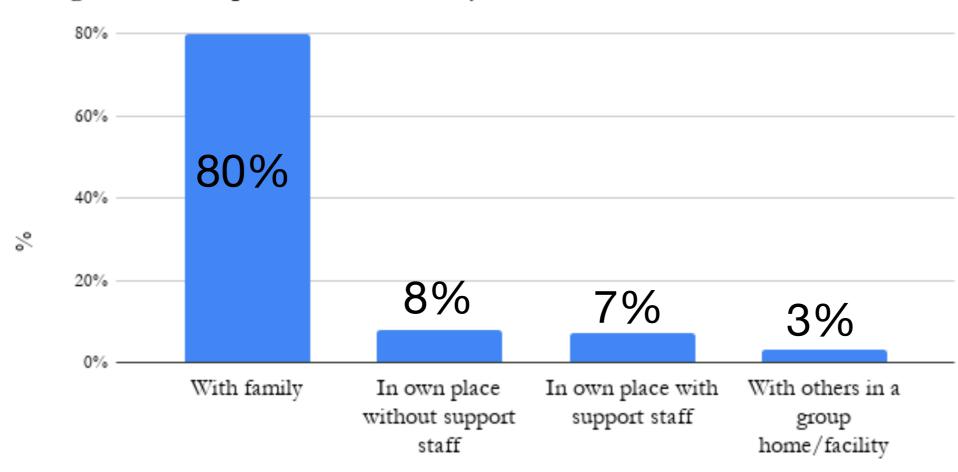
- \* Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Cerebral Palsy
- Intellectual disability
- Down syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Other development disability
- \* Blind or Low Vision
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing

- Physical disability
- Mental health disability
- \* Chronic illness
- Medically fragile
- \* Brain injury
- \* Genetic disorders
- Learning disabilities
- Apraxia

#### MOST RESPONDENTS LIVE WITH FAMILY



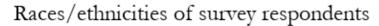
Living situation of person with disability

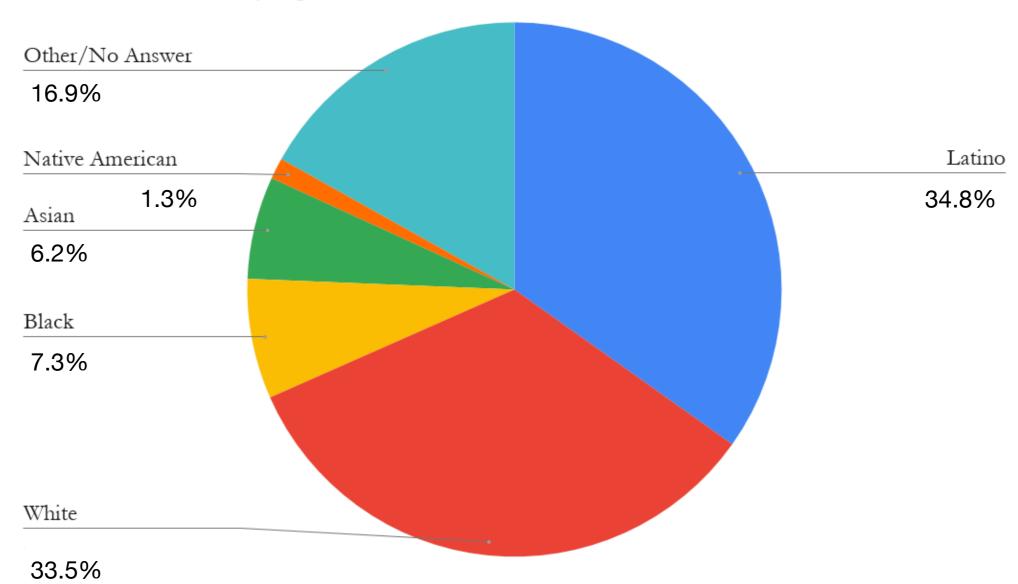


Living situations reported by respondents

#### RACIAL/ETHNIC MAKEUP OF RESPONDENTS







#### MOST RESPONDENTS ARE REGIONAL CENTER CLIENTS



- \* 84% have a developmental disability and qualify for regional center services
- \* Represented all 21 regional centers throughout California

Regional centers are non-profits contracted with the California Department of Developmental Services to arrange and pay for services people with autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, epilepsy, and other developmental disabilities

### SOME REGIONAL CENTER CLIENTS STILL WAITING FOR A CALL

Despite regional centers' claims they have reached out to <u>all</u> of their clients:

- \* 42% of respondents reported they had never been contacted
- \* 60% reported that they had recently tried to reach their regional center to get help during the crisis
- \* Almost ¼ of those hadn't gotten a response
- Individuals run risk of falling through the cracks

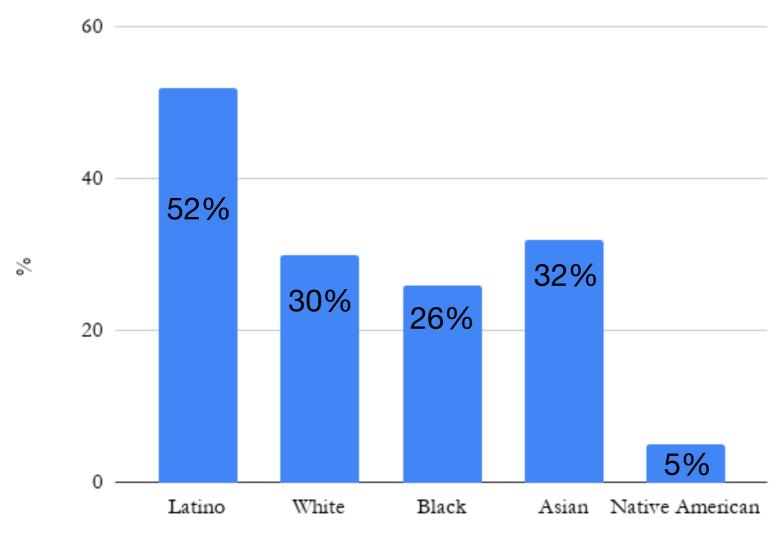
### PEOPLE NEED MORE SERVICES, BUT DON'T GET THEM

- \* 40% asked for more services or supports from regional center to help them during pandemic
- \* 47% of those had <u>not</u> receive the services they requested
  - \* Reasons: No response, told they had enough services, couldn't find staff

#### LATINOS HAVE MUCH GREATER NEED FOR SERVICES



Percentages of respondents who asked for additional regional center services or support by ethnicity



#### PEOPLE NEED SUPPORT, BUT ARE AFRAID



- \* 54% expressed concerns about having support workers in their home
  - Fear of being exposed to virus
  - Person is medically fragile
  - No personal protective equipment
  - Person with disability won't wear mask
  - \* Staff not knowledgable

### PROGRAMS STILL BILLING, BUT ALMOST HALF GET NO SERVICES

California has agreed to continue to pay for programs experiencing absences due to COVID-19; however, they must continue to provide services in person or remotely

- \* 45% report they attends a congregate group day program
- \* Of those, 93% said their day program was closed due to the coronavirus outbreak
- \* Only 51% said they were continuing to receive services

#### ALMOST HALF OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES NOT ACCESSING EDUCATION

Half of respondents reported their family member was a student with an IEP (Individualized Education Program)

#### Of those:

- \* 49% were <u>not</u> receiving education services since schools closed
- \* 16% did not have access to a computer or device to receive special education services





- No direct teaching, even remotely
- Speech therapy through telehealth still not approved
- Took over a month for teacher to contact family
- Student can't sit for online learning
- Teacher only provides weekly worksheets
- ❖ No school work provided just referral to websites
- \* Student is non-speaking and can't participate without communication support

#### BARRIERS WORSEN FOR SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM

- \* 14% of respondents were part of the Self-Determination Program
- \* Barriers mentioned include:
  - \* No response from regional center
  - Can't get budget certified after months of trying
  - Dangerous to get staff fingerprinted
  - \* Afraid to have virtual person-centered plan
  - Independent facilitator not getting paid

#### FAMILIES NOT PREPARED FOR COVID-19

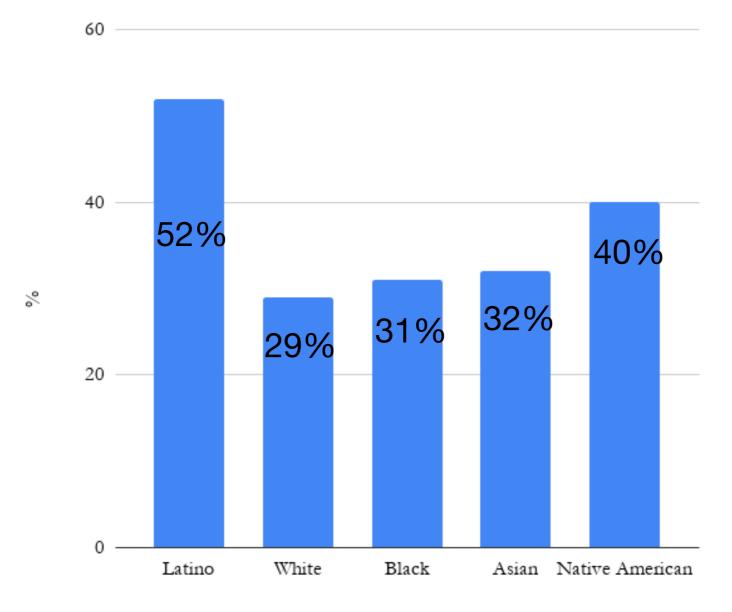


- \* 39% don't know what to do if someone in their household gets infected with coronavirus
- \* 44% have no one to care for them or their family member if they get sick
- \* 35% have no access to personal protective equipment, like gloves and masks, in their home
- \* Biggest concerns in the Latino community

#### More Latinos Not Prepared for COVID-19



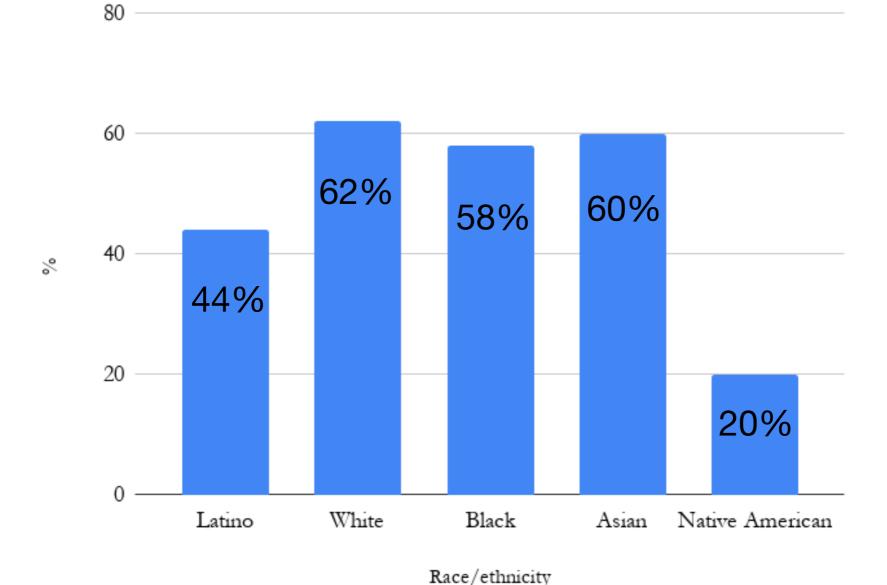
Percentage of respondents who reported they don't know what to do if someone in their household contracts coronavirus



#### LATINOS LESS LIKELY TO HAVE SOMEONE TO CARE FOR THEM IF THEY GET SICK



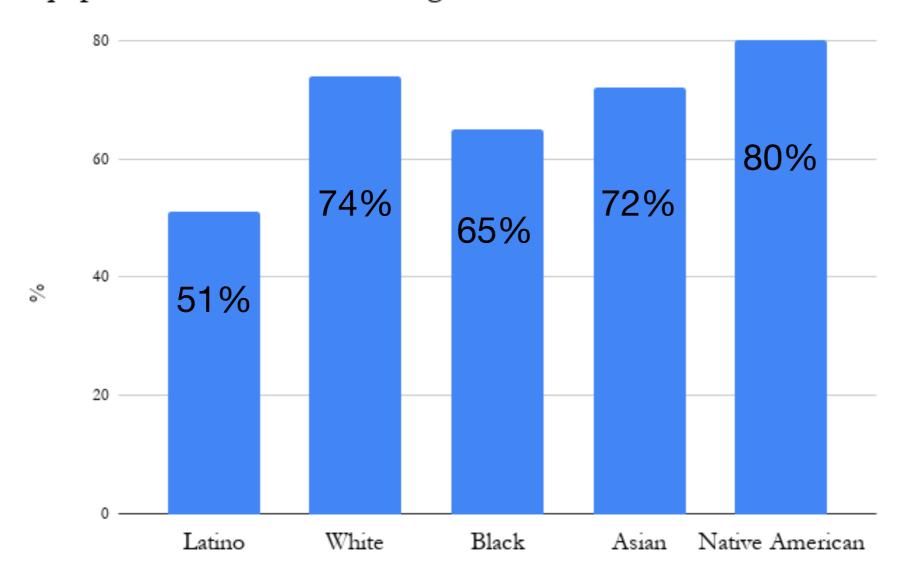
Percentage of respondents who have somebody to take care of them/their family member in case their main caregiver gets sick

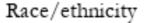


#### FEWER LATINOS HAVE PPE IN THEIR HOMES



Percentage of respondents who report having personal protective equipment, such as masks and gloves, in their homes





#### EXTREME WORRIES ABOUT ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE



- \* 67% are worried that they or their family member won't get appropriate medical care during this time
- ❖ 54% are concerned about having staff in their homes
- \* Specific concerns include:
  - Not being allowed in hospital with family member
  - \* Staff not trained, won't take time needed
  - No communication support
  - \* "Doctors won't talk to me as adult"

## MOST EXPERIENCING MENTAL VOICES HEALTH EFFECTS FROM ISOLATION

- \* 59% report experiencing effects on their mental health from isolation and the coronavirus pandemic
- \* Effects mentioned:
  - Loneliness, anxiety, depression
  - Increased challenges with coping
  - Overwhelmed with worry and uncertainty
  - Want routine to come back
  - \* "Sad that I missed my prom"

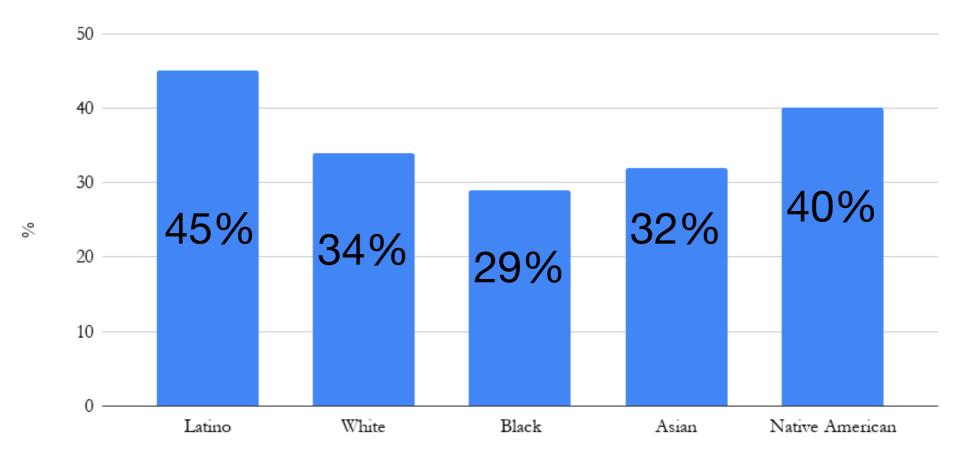
### CONCERNS EXTEND TO LOSS OF INCOME FOR DISABILITY FAMILIES

- \* 38% of households have experienced job loss in their household due to the coronavirus
- \* 38% are concerned about having enough money to pay rent or their mortgage
- \* 34% are concerned about having enough money to pay for food

#### LATINOS MORE LIKELY TO HAVE LOST JOBS



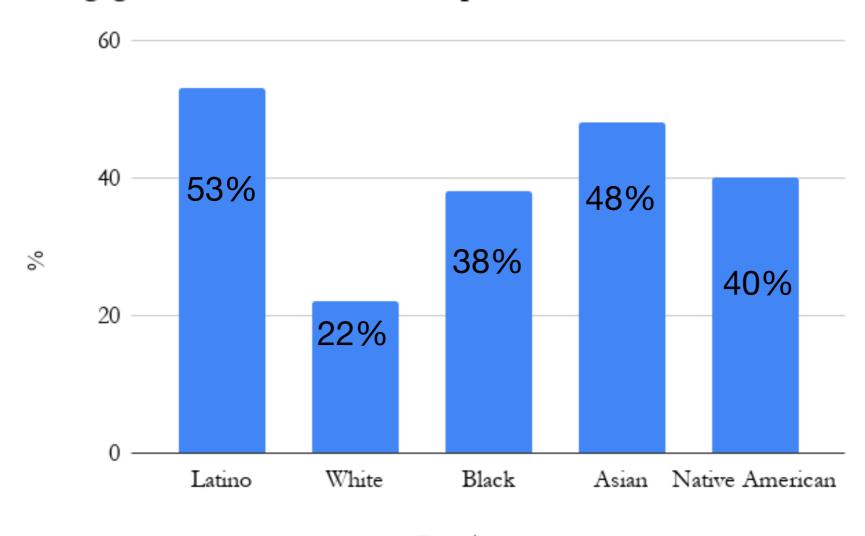
Percentage of respondents who have experienced job loss in their household due to coronavirus



Race/ethnicity

### FAMILIES OF COLOR MORE CONCERNED ABOUT PAYING RENT

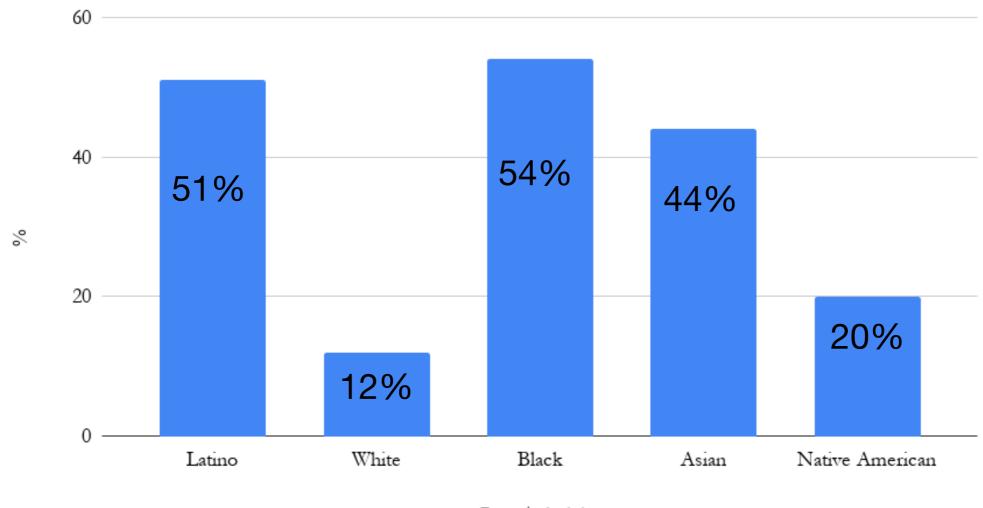
Percentage of respondents concerned about paying rent or mortgage due to the coronavirus epidemic



Race/ethnicity

### FAMILIES OF COLOR MORE CONCERNED ABOUT PAYING FOR FOOD

Percentage of respondents concerned about paying for food due to the coronavirus

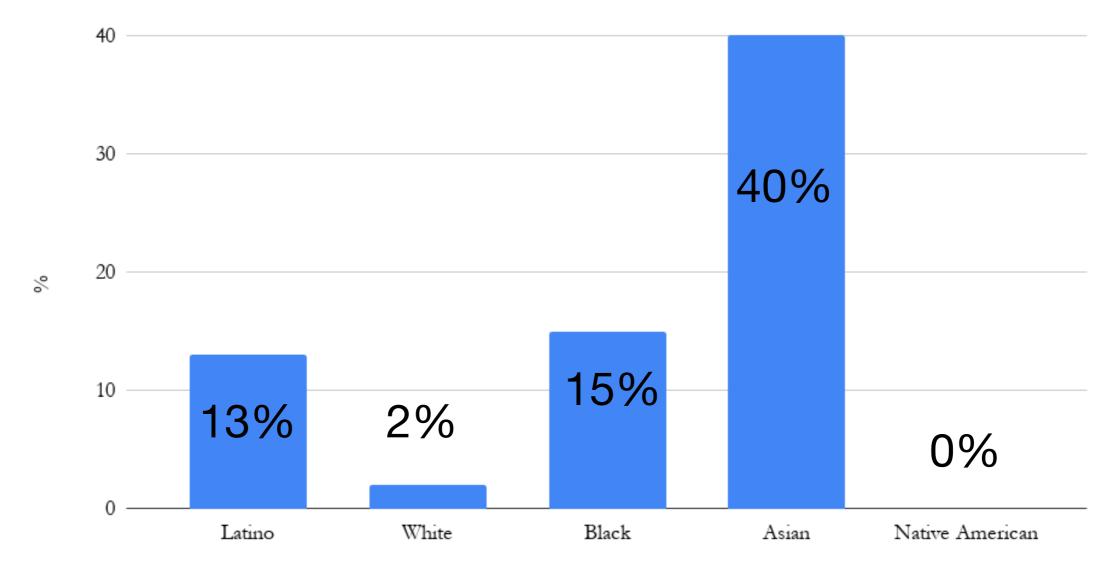


Race/ethnicity

#### 40% OF ASIANS REPORT RACIAL DISCRIMINATION



Percentage of respondents reporting experiencing racial discrimination since the coronavirus outbreak began



Race/ethnicity