

COVID-19 Health Equity Assessment

COVID-19 hurts some groups in Pierce County more than others.

What the numbers tell us

COVID-19 disease risk is higher for people:

Who make less money.

With limited ability to speak English.

With lower education attainment.

Of color.

What community members told us

All Groups: Effects of COVID-19



Economic

- Urgent need for financial support for medical care, unemployment, and basic needs.



Health

- Urgent need for medical care, insurance coverage, supplies and PPE, culturally grounded communications.
- Essential workers risk health to continue working.
- Barriers to accessing care include distrust in providers and public health due to a lack of culturally grounded information and a history of structural violence and systemic racism.

"We have to choose between 'do I want to pay rent or do I want to die trying to pay rent?'"

"As an older family member, I haven't been able to see my grandkids and it hurts."

"Sometimes our community is afraid to give our information..."

"...a lot of people are not seeking care. A lot of people might put off going to the hospital. People might be going in there for one thing trying to get help and end up coming home with COVID."

"Feels like a reoccurring trauma, along with (the killing of) black and brown folks by police."

"...her daughter was having a lot of mood swings... until one day she broke down saying how she missed her friends."



Social/Cultural

- Disruption of important social and cultural practices.
- Challenges with remote learning.
- Youth not feeling heard.



Emotional

- Stress/anxiety, depression and fatigue due to decrease in social connections, increase in workload, homeschooling, and general fear of illness.

Everyone deserves a fair chance to be healthy.

Disease prevention strategies should improve social, economic and environmental conditions. This includes efforts to reduce structural racism. We're focused on meaningful community engagement, and working across agencies, systems, and sectors to foster change.

For more information visit tpchd.org/healthequity or sign up for Equity Action Network emails at tpchd.org/notify.