



NeighborWorks@Work



April 2015

Share with your network [t](#) [in](#) [f](#)

Feature

Results are in from our 2015 Consumer Finance Survey

Our second annual Consumer Finance Survey results are in, and they show consumers facing serious financial challenges.

An alarming 34 percent of adults in America have no emergency savings in place—whether that's to pay for the repair of a car that's required to get to work, or to fix a major household necessity such as a roof or furnace. Another 25 percent of adults have only enough money saved to get by for less than one month if they were to suddenly lose their jobs or face some other financial emergency. The highest percentages of households without any savings at all are African-Americans, adults with lower incomes and those with a high school education or less.

Compared to results from last year's survey, there has been an increase in the number of people willing to go to a nonprofit for financial coaching and education, but not much change in the number who are aware of its availability.

Read the [full survey results](#) on our website and see our survey infographic comparing 2014 and 2015 results. You can also read the [USA Today article](#) featuring our survey and one from BankRate.com.

During Financial Capability Month, we encourage you to share these survey results on social media and through your emails. You may also be interested in our "What is financial capability?" [video and accompanying infographic](#), as well as our [financial tips webpage](#). Contact editor@nw.org if you have any questions or feedback about the materials.



SMARI.LLC conducted the blended telephone and web-based email survey among 1,035 U.S. adults from March 10-19 with a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.

NeighborWorks News

Comeback Communities summit and day of service in New Orleans, June 18-19

In the last decade, communities nationwide have been hit hard by foreclosure, job loss, natural disasters and other challenges that have brought them to points of crisis. On the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, NeighborWorks America is hosting "Comeback Communities," a summit where we will address the factors that make communities most resilient. The summit will feature keynote speakers:



- [Michele Norris](#), NPR host and special correspondent, founder of the [Race Card Project](#)
- [Thomas Curry](#), Comptroller of the Currency and board chair of NeighborWorks America
- [Scott Cowen](#), president emeritus of Tulane University and author [The Inevitable City: The Resurgence of New Orleans and the Future of Urban America](#)

Learn more about the event, the mobile tours and the day of service at [NeighborWorks.org/ComebackCommunities](#). [Register now](#) for this free event. The NeighborWorks special hotel rate is guaranteed through May 18.

Why NeighborWorks Works

Community development and affordable housing span many issues, and we are highlighting one each week in our NeighborWorks Works emails. Test yourself with topical [quizzes](#), read the stories, watch videos and stay informed by [subscribing](#). You can also join the conversation on Twitter using #NeighborWorksWorks.

Paul Weech addresses foreclosure response initiative in Atlanta

In the aftermath of the foreclosure crisis, metro Atlanta leads the country with 35 percent of homeowners underwater on their mortgage loans (Haas Institute, 2014). NeighborWorks America CEO Paul Weech was the keynote speaker at Underwater Atlanta, a half-day event that focused on solutions. The event was hosted by Piece by Piece Initiative, a collaborative that includes member organization Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc. [Read more about the initiative](#).

Blog: Why the return of the low-down-payment mortgage is a good thing

Are low-down-payment mortgages, now hitting the market, good or bad for the industry, the economy and homebuyers? Marietta Rodriguez, our vice president of homeownership programs says they are good. [Read our repost of her HousingWire editorial](#).

In The Headlines

- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has released its latest County Health Rankings project results. Watch the [animated video](#) for an overview of the project and [see how your county is faring](#).
- Bloomberg Business writes that high rent costs are forcing millennials into homeownership. [Read the article](#).
- A recent report by the Brookings Institute reveals that Atlanta is a city with a serious income inequality problem. [MarketPlace](#) aired a radio piece on inequality featuring John Callahan of NeighborWorks network member Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

New NeighborWorks Virtual Classroom offerings open for registration

- [April 7](#): "Advanced Topics in HECM Counseling" (HO365vc)

This virtual classroom course is designed for reverse-mortgage counselors who have passed the HUD HECM exam and who have been providing HECM counseling for at least six months. Familiarity with HECM concepts and counseling practices will be assumed. Scholarships are available. [Learn more and register](#).

- [April 9-30](#): "Building a Property Deal Book as a Component of your Asset Management Plan" (AM210vc)

This four-week online virtual class will assist participants in developing a basic property deal book for one of their own properties. Participants can select one of their own properties or use a sample property provided in the course. Over the course of four live online sessions held each week, participants will sequentially build the foundation of

their deal book. [Learn more and register.](#)

[Learn more about Virtual Classroom.](#)

May 4-8: NeighborWorks Training Institute in Kansas City, MO

Registration is open. Visit www.neighborworks.org/KansasCity2015. Take advantage of a wide array of learning and networking opportunities:

- “Planning Today, Thriving Tomorrow: Housing and Community Innovations for an Aging America” (AH916) - May 6 symposium.
- New and updated courses, with many site visits that allow you to see innovative work firsthand.

Reserve your seats in your preferred courses today! Online registration ends April 13.

eClassroom Express: webinar training

Courses take place at 1 p.m. ET

- April 7: [HO010WT Understanding the Skills needed to be a Successful Financial Coach](#). Registration is open.
- April 14: HO013WT [Explaining the Basics of the Financial Assessment to Your HECM Clients](#). Registration opens: April 2
- April 21: HO001WT [Foreclosure Tune-Up](#). Registration opens: April 9

[Learn more and register.](#)

May 19-21: Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference in Detroit

The Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference convenes leaders from across the country to explore solutions for vacant, abandoned and problem properties. This year's conference is themed “Beyond Blight: Building a Bold Movement.” It will explore the latest tools to combat vacancy and move beyond neighborhood blight, as well as how government officials, community leaders and others in the field can join forces across departments, cities and even states to achieve wide-scale positive change. [Learn more.](#)

LEARN MORE:
NeighborWorks.org

SUBSCRIBE:
NeighborWorks.org/Subscribe

COMMENTS:
editor@nw.org

NeighborWorks Alert. Public Relations Division
of Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, dba NeighborWorks® America.
999 North Capitol Street, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005-3100