South Central Human Resource Agency

2024 Community Needs Assessment

Prepared By:
TRIBECCA SYSTEMS

1 TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 ABOUT SOUTH CENTRAL HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY (SCHRA)

2.1 SCHRA MISSION

South Central Human Resource Agency's mission is to provide low-income individuals and communities access to education, economic, nutritional, and social services that promote and encourage self-reliance through our partnership with local, state, and federal resources.

2.2 SCHRA VISION

South Central Human Resources Agency's vision is to broaden the image of the Agency and strengthen its internal and external collaborations in order to increase the community's awareness of its value and deepen its impact.
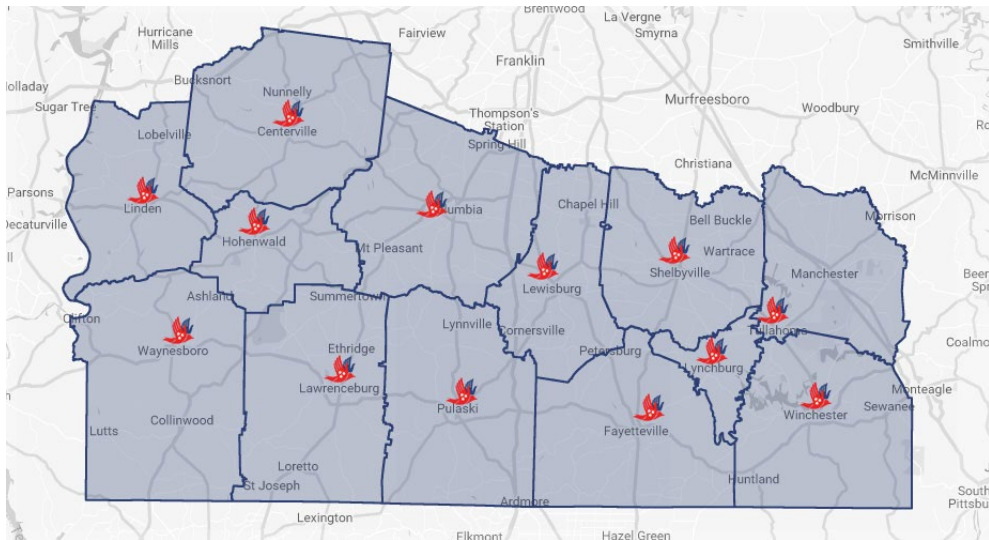
3   PURPOSE & METHODOLOGY

3.1   PURPOSE

The Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) §1302.11 (US Adminisration of Children and Families, 2024) requires a program must identify a specified service area and must conduct a Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment once per 5-year grant period and conduct an annual review and update. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Organizational Standards 3.1-3.5 require every three years the agency conducts or takes part in a community assessment that reviews the needs of the community and the availability of resources within the community it serves.

The comprehensive needs assessment must identify the strengths and areas of needs throughout the program's service area and should be designed with the intention of informing strategic planning decisions for the provision of quality services to the children and families served throughout the community.

The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) should, at minimum, review the most recent data pertaining to the following services in the community:

1. Demographic data for community members, eligible children including race and ethnicity, children in poverty, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, children with disabilities, language and geographic location.
2. Needs of eligible children and families including health services, nutrition services, social services and socioeconomic conditions.
3. Conditions of poverty throughout the service area.
4. Challenges and barriers to obtaining services including social and economic factors, transportation needs, availability & hours of operation of child care centers, employment & training opportunities, housing, transportation and additional resources available throughout the community.
5. Strengths throughout the service area.

This community assessment will serve as SCHRA's comprehensive community needs assessment and will be utilized during the strategic planning process. Highlighted throughout the document are the growing needs of the children and families served throughout SCHRA's 13 counties making up the large service area. The available data will highlight the growing needs of the community and the currently available assistance. The analysis of the available data will inform the agency and program strategic planning for short term & long term goals and implementation of services. It will be used as guidance for best practices pertaining to outreach, enrollment and selection in order to ensure the most eligible children are served and in meeting the needs of the community at large.

3.2 METHODOLOGY

The CNA was designed utilizing a variety of data inputs to inform the current service area landscape. Data was collected from several sources including but not limited to: KidsCount, United States Census Bureau, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Tennessee Department of Health, Tennessee Department of Housing, Urban Institute, Feeding America and more.

Additionally, South Central Human Resource Agency surveyed community partners, program participants and community members. The findings of the CNA will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Once reviewed and analyzed, necessary program changes can be developed and implemented to best serve the children and families throughout SCHRA's service area.

4 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

South Central Human Resource Agency conducted the 2024 Community Needs Assessment from January 2024 to March 2024. This consisted of collection, aggregation and analysis of stakeholder and community data, program data, survey-based data and focus group discussions. The purpose of the Community Needs Assessment is to identify needs throughout the community and use available data to strategically plan to meet those needs as a provider organization. The Community Needs Assessment focused on the 13 service area counties across the south-central region of Middle Tennessee. The following are the type of needs identified through this process for service area:

1. Affordable Housing – Increased housing costs, inability to afford basic needs such as utilities and rent/mortgage and high housing burdens.
2. Public Assistance Benefits – Increased need for public assistance benefits in order to meet basic needs.
3. Affordable and reliable Transportation – Lack of direct routes, long commute times to work, inability to safely access affordable transportation and general lack of bus stops within the vicinity prevent children and families from accessing public transportation.
4. Employment Supports – Lack of high paying jobs to fulfil the cost of living burden, lack of jobs matching experience and/or skillset and lack of jobs that align with educational attainment of the community prevent families for gaining meaningful employment.
5. Affordable quality child care – Lack of slots to meet the number of age-eligible children in the service area as well as contributing factors like lack of transportation or employment continue to make accessing affordable quality child care difficult for families in the community.
6. Education Supports for Children with Disabilities - Long waitlists for formal evaluations along with service delays due to availability of providers continues to make accessing services in preparation for school readiness difficult for children and families across the service area.

5 GRANTEE PROFILE

SCHRA Early Childhood Program provides quality child care services to children and families utilizing a multigenerational approach through the Early Head Start and Heard Start grant. SCHRA is currently funded to serve 168 children and families through Early Head Start and 539 children through the Head Start grant. SCHRA Community Action Programs include American Jobs Center/WIOA, Commodities, CSBG Program, Foster Grandparent, Homemaker and Protective Services, LIHEAP, Recovery Court, Representative Payee, SCSEP, Senior Nutrition and Weatherization.

SCHRA services children and families throughout the 13 county service area which includes: Bedford County, Coffee County, Franklin County, Giles County, Hickman County, Lawrence County, Lewis County, Lincoln County, Marshall County, Maury County, Moore County, Perry County and Wayne County covering around 6,462 square miles throughout Tennessee.

With quality at the forefront, SCHRA's Early Childhood Program and Community Action Programs are governed by a tripartite board and policy council who both oversee, monitor and approve all decisions related to program operations. SCHRA has been in operation since 1973. Since its inception, SCHRA has worked diligently in the community to provide services to children and families through its community partnerships. Focused on meeting the needs of those throughout the service area, SCHRA has focused efforts in supporting children and families through disabilities supports, food assistance, social services support, mental and physical health services, nutrition services, employment supports, education and training supports, and more.

5.1 2023-2024 PROGRAM DATA

5.1.1 Head Start & Early Head Start

5.1.1.1 Enrollment

During the 2023-2024 school year South Central Human Resource Agency served a total of 653 Head Start children, 224 Early Head Start children and 54 Pregnant Women. Children enrolled at SCHRA were determined to be eligible as follows:

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start Eligibility Determinations		
Eligibility Factors	**Head Start (HS)**	**Early Head Start (EHS)**
Income Eligible (below Federal Poverty Guidelines)	24%	26%

Public Assistance
   1. TANF
   2. SSI
   3. SNAP
	64%
	   1. 2%
	   2. 3%
	   3. 59%
		56%
		   1. 2%
		   2. 4%
		   3. 50%

Foster Care	2%	2%
Homeless	3%	10%

5.1.1.2 Transitions

During the 2023-2024 school year there were 243 Early Head Start and Head Start children that left the program during the school year. 170 Head Start and 21 Early Head Start children aged-out of their program model and moved onto the next school setting – either EHS to Head Start or Head Start to Kindergarten. 33 Pregnant Mothers transitioned out of the Early Head Start Pregnant Mothers services and subsequently enrolled their infant in the program.

5.1.1.3 Child Demographics

Enrollment by Age

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start		
Age groups	Head Start (HS)	Early Head Start (EHS)
Under 1	0	69
1 year old	0	56
2 years old	23	99
3 years old	395	0
4 years old	225	0
5 years & older	0	0
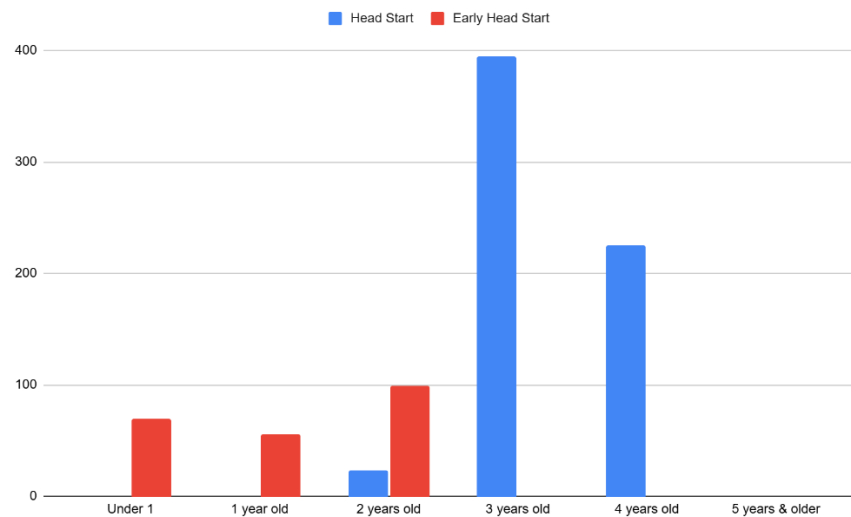
Of the children served during the 2023-2024 school year, 25% of EHS children were under 1, 20% of EHS children were 1 years old and 36% of EHS children were 2 years old; 4% of HS children enrolled at 2 years old, 46% of HS children were 3 years old and 35 % of HS children were 4 years old.

Enrollment by Race, Ethnicity & Language

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start				
	Head Start (HS)		**Early Head Start (EHS)**	
Race & Ethnicity	**Hispanic/Latino**	**Non-Hispanic**	**Hispanic/Latino**	**Non-Hispanic**
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	1	0	0
Asian	1	3	0	0
Black or African American	9	104	4	71
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	0	0	0
White	72	352	24	123
Biracial/Multi-racial	15	85	8	47
Other	0	0	0	1
Unspecified	-	0	-	0
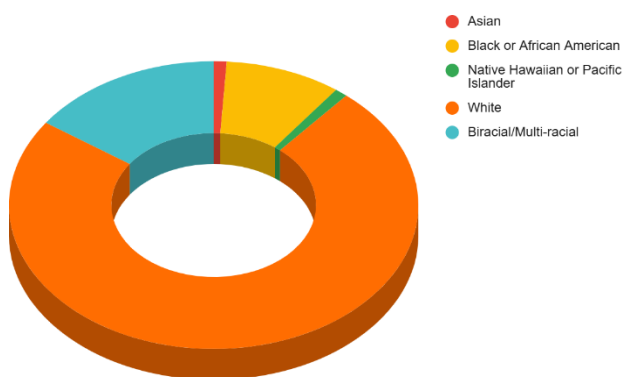
495 (54%) children enrolled during the 2023-2024 school year identified as White, Non-Hispanic while 175 (19%) children identified as Black, Non-Hispanic.

847 children enrolled (92%) spoke English as their primary language and 109 children spoke Spanish as their primary language and/or are considered Dual Language Learners.

5.1.1.4 Head Start Staff

During the 2023-2024 school year there were a total of 151 Head Start and 67 Early Head Start staff at SCHRA. Of these staff, 24% are current or former Head Start parents.

Child Development Staff & Educational Attainment

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start		
Child Development Position	**Head Start (HS)**	**Early Head Start (EHS)**
Teacher	34	34
Assistant Teacher	34	-

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start			
	Head Start (HS)		**Early Head Start (EHS)**
Education Level	**Teacher**	**Assistant Teacher**	**Teacher**
Advanced Degree	2	0	2
Bachelor's Degree	22	3	17
Associate's degree	8	4	4
CDA	1	10	9
None	1	7	2

Child Development Staff Race & Ethnicity

2023-2024 Head Start & Early Head Start				
	Head Start (HS)		**Early Head Start (EHS)**	
Staff Race & Ethnicity	**Hispanic/Latino**	**Non-Hispanic**	**Hispanic/Latino**	**Non-Hispanic**
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	1	0	0
Black or African American	0	10	0	6
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	2	55	1	26
Biracial/Multi-racial	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	0	0
Unspecified	-	0	-	0
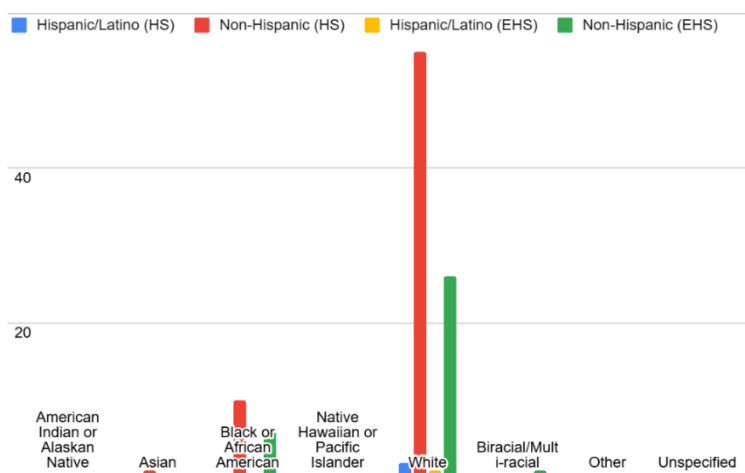
Staff Languages

2 SCHRA Child Development staff are proficient in a language other than English and 2 staff identified being proficient in more than one language other than English. 100% of staff proficient in a language other than English speak Spanish. 1 staff member speaks Middle Easter or South Asian languages and 1 staff member speaks an East Asian language.

5.1.1.5 Child Health Services

Of the children enrolled during the 2023-2024 school year, 858 children entered the program with Health Insurance and 859 children had Health Insurance at the end of the program year which indicates that throughout the year 1 child was successfully connected to Health Insurance through SCHRA Health Services. 859 children entered the program with a Medical Home (ongoing source of medical care) and 864 children had a Medical Home at the end of the program year which indicates 5 children were successfully connected to an ongoing source of medical care throughout the program year. 209 children entered the program as Up-to-date on the state-mandated EPSDT schedule and 525 children at the end of the program year were considered Up-to-date showing an increase of 34%. 736 children entered the program as Up-to-date on all immunizations and 757 children at the end of the program year were considered Up-to-date on all immunizations. 831 children entered the program with a Dental Home (ongoing source of dental care) and 848 children had a Dental Home at the end of the program year showing a 2% increase. 454 children received preventative oral care during the program year and 100% of children who received preventative oral care completed a professional oral examination.

5.1.1.6 Disabilities Services

During the 2023-2024 program year there were 30 Early Head Start children enrolled with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and 68 Head Start children enrolled with an Individualized Education Program (IEP). 30 Early Head Start children were determined eligible to received special education services during the program year.

111 children during the program year were referred for a formal evaluation to determine eligibility under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Of the 111 children referred, 62 received a formal evaluation and 74% of the children referred were diagnosed with a disability – 49 of the children did not receive an evaluation due to parent refusal, pending evaluation from responsible agency and/or child was assigned to RTI.

5.1.1.7 Education & Developmental Screenings

SCHRA Early Childhood Programs use both the Brigance Infant and Toddler and Brigance Early Childhood Screen III to assess the developmental and emotional progress of a child. During the 2023-2024 school year there were 599 new children enrolled in the program – 75% of new enrollees were assessed within the first 45 days of enrollment in the program.

5.1.1.8 Family Services

During the 2023-2024 program year, SCHRA Early Childhood Programs served a total of 805 families of which 61% identified as a single-parent family and 91% of the single parent families identified as a Single Mother. There were 102 fathers/father figures engaged in the Family Assessment process, 108 fathers/father figures engaged in Family Goal Setting, 318 fathers/father figures engaged in the child's Head Start development experiences, 21 father/father figure engaged in Head Start governance and 87 father/father figures engaged in Parenting workshops.

The following are service connections to families enrolled in the Head Start & Early Head Start Program during the 2023-2024 program year:

Legend:
- Emergency/crisis intervention
- Housing assistance
- Asset building services
- Mental health services
- Substance misuse treatment
- English as a second language (ESL) training
- Assistance in enrolling into an education or job training program
- Research-based parenting curriculum
- Involvement in discussing their child's screening and assessment results and their child's progress
- Supporting transitions between programs
- Education on preventative medical and oral health
- Education on health and developmental consequences of tobacco product use
- Education on nutrition
- Education on postpartum care
- Education on relationship/marriage
- Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals

5.1.2   Community Action Programs (CAP)

5.1.2.1 Service Demographics

Individuals & Households Served

During the 2024 reporting year, SCHRA Community Action Programs served a total of 20,524 individuals and 10,764 households with one or more FNPI (Individual and Family National Performance Indicator) and/or service.

Individual Demographics

Sex

2024 Community Action Program	
Male	7,496
Female	12,266
Unknown/not reported	762

Age

2024 Community Action Program	
0-5 years old	1704
6-13 years old	2870
14-17 years old	1483
18-24 years old	1192
25-44 years old	3385
45-54 years old	1865
55-59 years old	1300
60-64 years old	1534
65-74 years old	2658
75+ years old	1872
Unknown/not reported	661

Education Levels

2024 Community Action Program	
Grades 0-8	869
Grades 9-12/non-graduate	1284
High School grad	418
High School Equivalency diploma	16
12 grade + Some Post-Secondary	44
2 or 4 year College Graduate	8
Graduate or other post-secondary school	0
Unknown/not reported	36
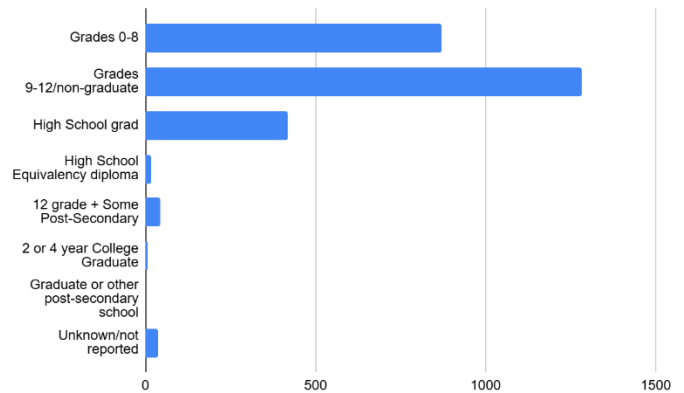
Health Insurance & Disabilities

During the 2024 reporting year, SCHRA served 4,849 individuals who identified being insured with health insurance. There were 2,530 individuals that were reported as not insured. 9,599 of the individuals served identified having a disabling condition.

Ethnicity & Race

2024 Community Action Program	
Hispanic, Latino, Spanish Origins	474
Not Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origins	19,140
Unknown/not reported	910
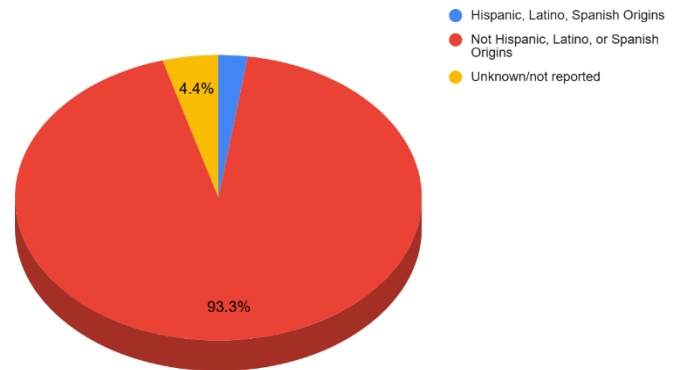
2024 Community Action Program	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	19
Asian	13
Black or African American	3,930
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	4
White	15,103
Other	201
Multi-race (two or more of the above)	475
Unknown/not reported	780
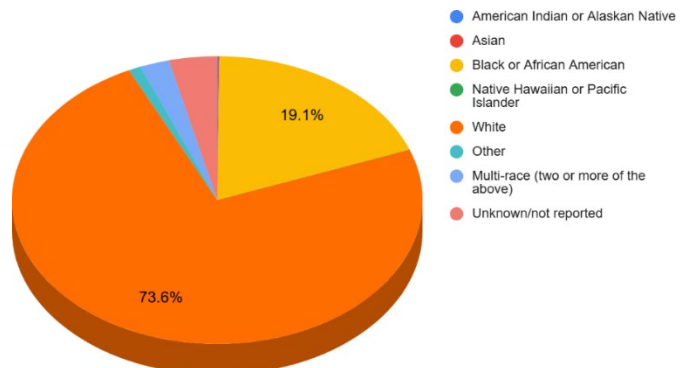
Employment & Military Status

During the 2024 reporting year, SCHRA served 255 United States Military Veterans of which, 3 individuals identified as active members of the military.

2024 Community Action Program	
Employed full-time	919
Employed part-time	605
Migrant Seasonal Farm Worker	1
Unemployed (short-term; >6 months)	799
Unemployed (long-term; <6 months)	878
Unemployed (not in the labor force)	7,721
Retired	2,412
Unknown/not reported	471

Housing Type

2024 Community Action Program	
Own	4,174
Rent	4,694
Other permanent housing	72
Homeless	51
Other	18
Unknown/not reported	1,833

Income Status

2024 Community Action Program	
Up to 50% Federal Poverty Guidelines	3,442
51-75% Federal Poverty Guidelines	1,234
16-100% Federal Poverty Guidelines	2,701
101-125% Federal Poverty Guidelines	1,681
126-150% Federal Poverty Guidelines	1,072
151-175% Federal Poverty Guidelines	481
176-200% Federal Poverty Guidelines	130
201-250% Federal Poverty Guidelines	23

176-200%
1.2%
151-175%
4.5%
126-150%
10.0%

101-125%
15.6%

76-100%
25.1%

Up to 50%
32.0%

51-75%
11.5%
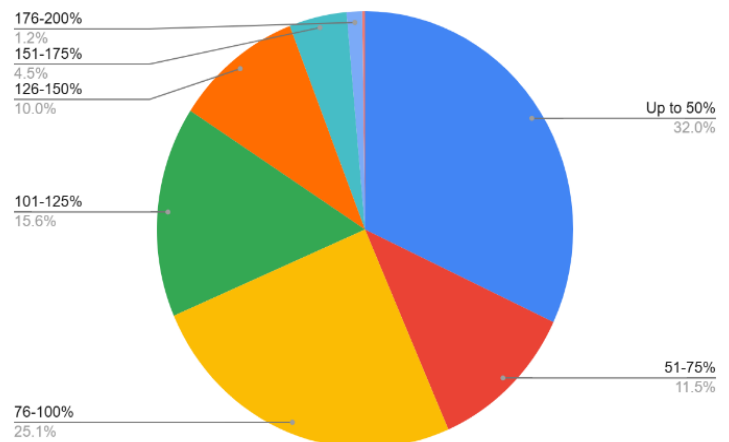
5.1.2.2 Employment Supports

Across the SCHRA Community Action Programs offering employment supports, there were 437 youth supported to obtain employment to gain skills or income, 877 unemployed adults supported to obtained employment and 739 participants supported through a career-advancement related program who entered or transitioned into a position that provided increased income and/or benefits.

5.1.2.3 Education & Cognitive Development Supports

Across the SCHRA Community Action Programs offering education supports, there were 1,271 children who demonstrated improved literacy skills, skills for school readiness and improved positive approached towards learning, including improved attention skills. There were 958 parents/caregivers who improved their home environments.

5.1.2.4 Housing Supports

Across the SCHRA Community Action Programs offering housing supports, 14 individuals experiencing homelessness obtained safe and temporary shelter, 198 individuals avoided evictions, 17 individuals experienced improved health and safety due to home improvements and 17 individuals improved energy efficiency and/or energy burden reduction in their homes.

5.1.2.5 Health & Social/Behavioral Development Supports

Across the SCHRA Community Action Programs offering health and social-behavioral development supports, 1,896 individuals demonstrated improved physical health and well-being, 193 individuals improved mental and behavioral health and well-being, 3,611 seniors and 131 individuals with disabilities maintained independent living situations. 92 individuals had no recidivating event for 6 months.

5.1.2.6 Civic Engagement & Community Involvement Supports

Across the SCHRA Community Action Programs, 83 individuals increased skills, knowledge and abilities to enable them to work with Community Action to improve conditions in the community all of whom improved their leadership skills, social networks and engagement.

5.1.2.7 Individual Services Provided
Employment Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Vocational Training	529
On-the-job and other work experience	210
Youth summer work placements	534
Job readiness training	135
Coaching	1,087
Resume development	702
Job referrals	344
Job placements	569
Interactions with employers	1,138

Education & Cognitive Development Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Early Head Start	168
Head Start	539
Literacy/English Language education	1,271
Parenting Supports	921
Home Visits	1,024

Income & Asset Building Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Financial capability skills training	311
Financial coaching/counseling	311
Financial Management Programs	311

Housing Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Rent payments	594
Utility payments	8,943
Home repairs	17
Independent living home improvements	17
Healthy home services	17
Energy efficiency improvements	17

Health & Social/Behavioral Development Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Developmental Delay Screening	1,271
Vision Screening	1,271
In-home affordable senior/disabled care sessions	158
Substance abuse screenings	92
Substance abuse counseling	92
Mental Health assessments	92
Mental Health counseling	92
Prepared Meals	1,280
Food Distribution	4,789

Multiple Domain Services

2024 Community Action Program	
Case Management	7,111
Eligibility determinations	15,731
Referrals	15,973
Transportation services	7

6 SERVICE AREA PROFILES

6.1 BEDFORD COUNTY

6.1.1 Geographic Boundaries

Bedford County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Bedford County has a geographic area of 475 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.1.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Bedford County had a total population of 53,055 persons of which, 6.7% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 15.1% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 1.1 Bedford County - Population by Race

Table 1.2 Bedford County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 1.1 illustrates that the majority of Bedford County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 1.2 illustrates that 16.3% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 88% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.1.3 Education, Employment & Income

Table 1.3 Educational Attainment - Bedford County

Table 1.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Bedford County with the majority attaining a high school diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 62.9% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 57.7% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Bedford County as of 2023 was $62,197.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.1.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 13.3% (US Census Bureau, 2024) of the population of Bedford County fall below the federal poverty guidelines. Of the 13.3% of the population, 6% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 8% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.2 COFFEE COUNTY

6.2.1 Geographic Boundaries

Coffee County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Coffee County has a geographic area of 435 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).
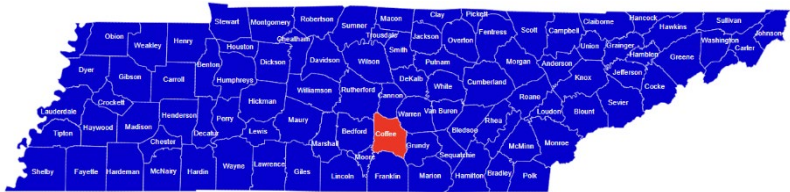
6.2.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Coffee County had a total population of 60,633 persons of which, 6.2% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 24% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 2.1 Coffee County - Population by Race
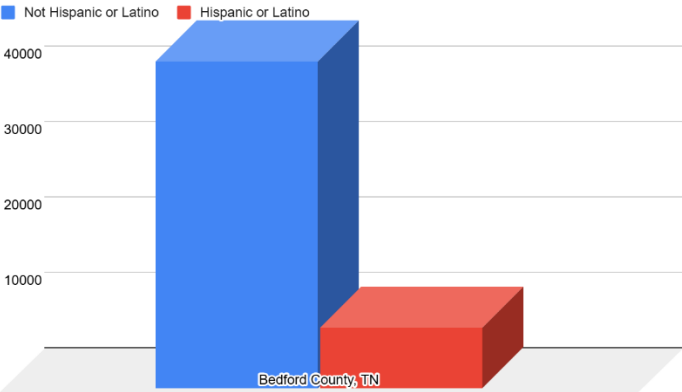

Table 2.2 Coffee County - Population by Ethnicity
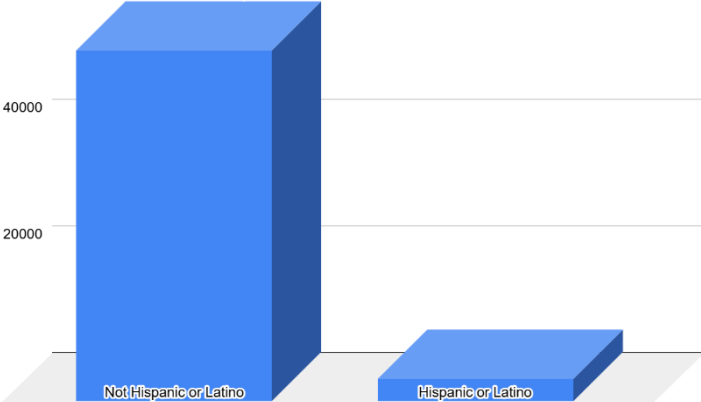
Table 2.1 illustrates that the majority of Coffee County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 2.2 illustrates that 6.0% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 95% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

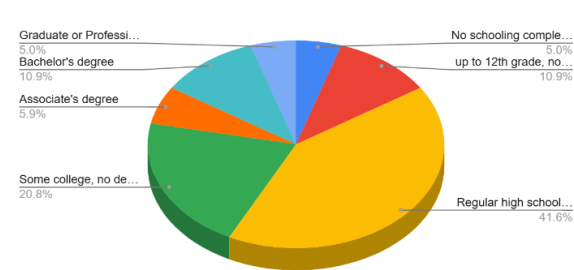### 6.2.3 Education, Employment & Income

Table 2.3 Educational Attainment - Coffee County

Table 2.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Coffee County with the majority attaining a bachelor's degree (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 58.5% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 53.6% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Coffee County as of 2023 was $60,656.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.2.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 14.5% of the population of Coffee County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 14.5% of the population, 8% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 10% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.3 FRANKLIN COUNTY

6.3.1 Geographic Boundaries

Franklin County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Franklin County has a geographic area of 576 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.3.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Franklin County had a total population of 44,654 persons of which, 5.1% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 21.1% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 3.1 Franklin County - Population by Race

Table 3.2 Franklin County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 3.1 illustrates that the majority of Franklin County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 3.2 illustrates that 3.6% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 96% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.3.3 Education, Employment & Income

Table 3.3 Educational Attainment - Franklin County

Table 3.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Franklin County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 57.2% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 54.2% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Franklin County as of 2023 was $61,553.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).
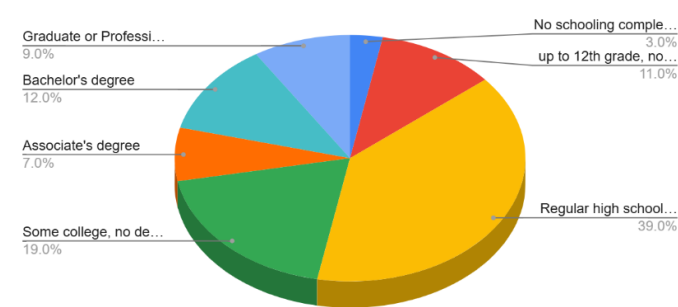
6.3.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 12.9% of the population of Franklin County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 12.9% of the population, 5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 13% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.4 GILES COUNTY

6.4.1 Geographic Boundaries

Giles County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Giles County has a geographic area of 611 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.4.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Giles County had a total population of 30,721 persons of which, 5.1% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 21.3% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 4.1 Giles County - Population by Race
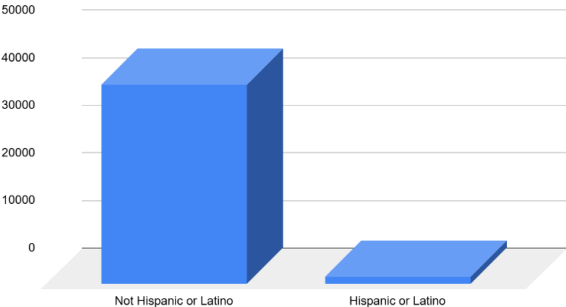

Table 4.2 Giles County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 4.1 illustrates that most Giles County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 4.2 illustrates that 2.7% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 97% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.4.3 Education, Employment & Income

Table 4.3 Educational Attainment - Giles County

Table 4.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Giles County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey,57.0% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 53.6% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Giles County as of 2022 was $61,476.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.4.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 15.3% of the population of Giles County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 15.3% of the population, 5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start program and 12% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.5   HICKMAN COUNTY

6.5.1   Geographic Boundaries

Hickman County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Hickman County has a geographic area of 613 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.5.2   Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Hickman County had a total population of 25,826 persons of which, 5.7% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 18.4% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 5.1 Hickman County - Population by Race

Table 5.2 Hickman County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 5.1 illustrates that most Hickman County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 5.2 illustrates that 3% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 98% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.5.3   Education, Employment & Income

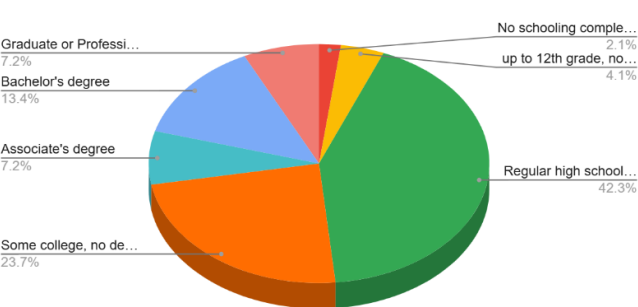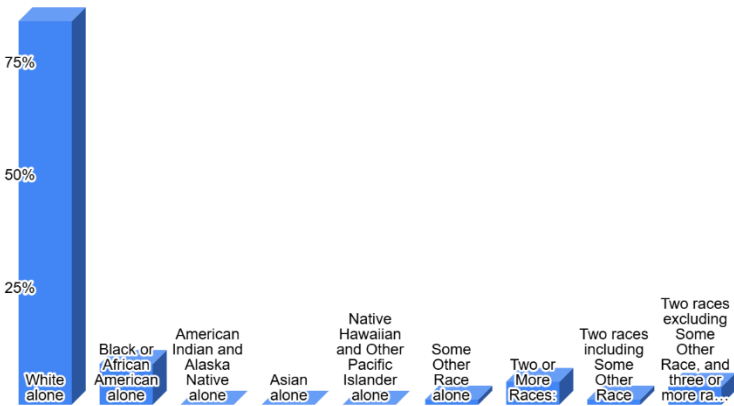Table 5.3 Educational Attainment - Hickman County

Table 5.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Hickman County with the majority attaining a bachelor's degree (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 53.9% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 54.6% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Hickman County as of 2023 was $57,223.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.5.4   Poverty Status

The 2022 American Community Survey identified 15.9% of the population of Hickman County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 15.9% of the population,5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 13% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.6 LAWRENCE COUNTY

6.6.1 Geographic Boundaries

Lawrence County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Lawrence County has a geographic area of 618 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.6.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Lawrence County had a total population of 46,114 persons of which, 6.4% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 17.7% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 6.1 Lawrence County - Population by Race
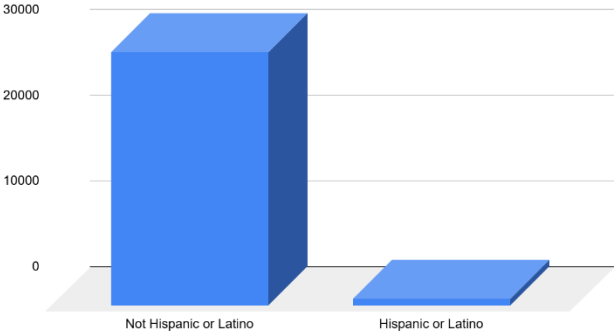

Table 6.2 Lawrence County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 6.1 illustrates that most Lawrence County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 6.2 illustrates that 2.7% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 95% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.6.3 Education, Employment & Income

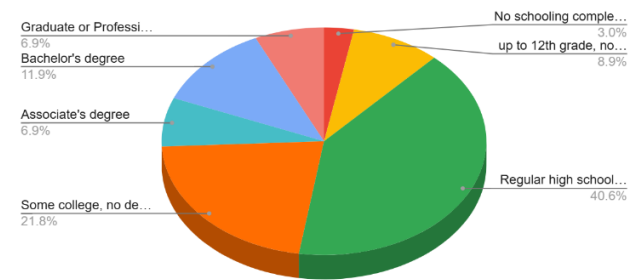Table 6.3 Educational Attainment - Lawrence County

Table 6.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Lawrence County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 58.3% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 55.1% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Lawrence County as of 2023 was $53,233.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.6.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 14.9% of the population of Lawrence County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 14.9% of the population, 7% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 11% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.7 LEWIS COUNTY

6.7.1 Geographic Boundaries

Lewis County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Lewis County has a geographic area of 282 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.7.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Lewis County had a total population of 13,066 persons of which, 5.2% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 21.5% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).
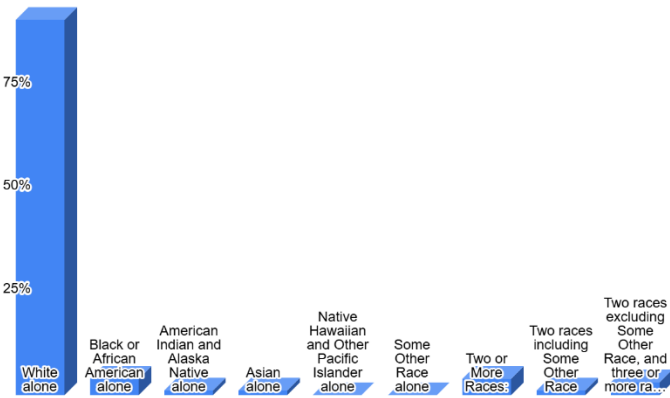

Table 7.1 Lewis County - Population by Race
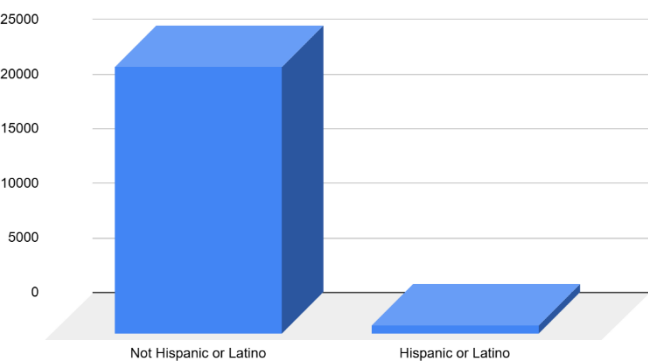

Table 7.2 Lewis County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 7.1 illustrates that most Lewis County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 7.2 illustrates that 2.9% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 98% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.7.3 Education, Employment & Income

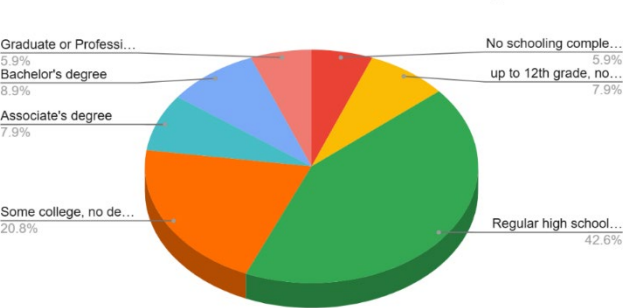Table 7.3 Educational Attainment - Lewis County

Table 7.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Lewis County with the majority attaining a high school diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 55.4% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 47.6% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Lewis County as of 2023 was $49,477.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.7.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 16.1% of the population of Lewis County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 16.1% of the population, 6% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 12% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.8 LINCOLN COUNTY

6.8.1 Geographic Boundaries

Lincoln County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Lincoln County has a geographic area of 571 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.8.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Lincoln County had a total population of 36,169 persons of which, 5.6% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 20.5% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).
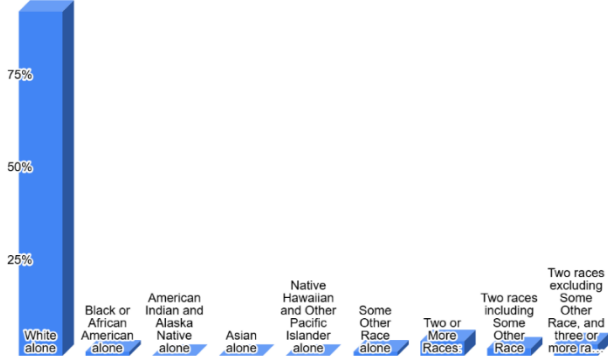

Table 8.1 Lincoln County - Population by Race
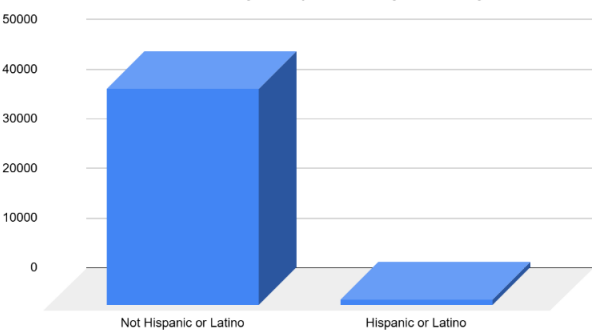

Table 8.2 Lincoln County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 8.1 illustrates that most Lincoln County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 8.2 illustrates that 3.9% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 97% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.8.3 Education, Employment & Income

Table 8.3 Educational Attainment - Lincoln County

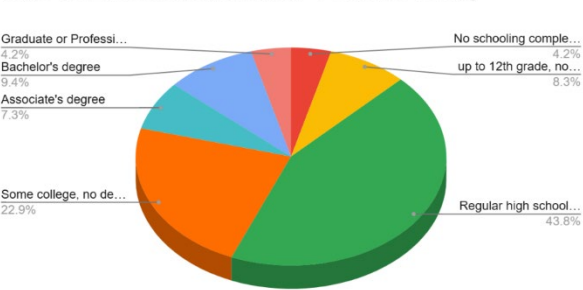Table 8.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Lincoln County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 58.5% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 53.2% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Lincoln County as of 2023 was $63,115.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.8.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 14.5% of the population of Lincoln County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 14.5% of the population, 6% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 12% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.9 MARSHALL COUNTY

6.9.1   Geographic Boundaries

Marshall County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Marshall County has a geographic area of 376 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).
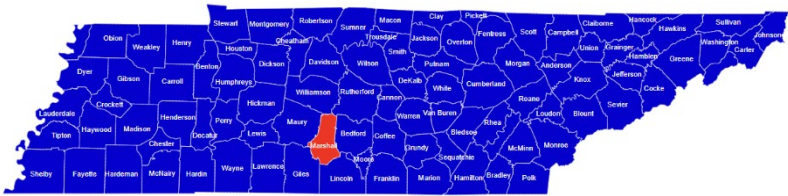
6.9.2   Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Marshall County had a total population of 36,961 persons of which, 6.1% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 16.6% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 9.1 Marshall County - Population by Race

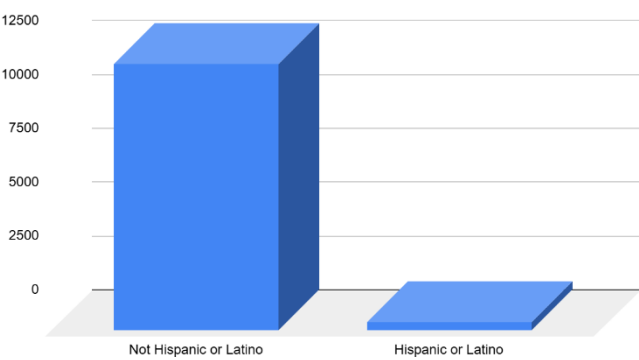Table 9.2 Marshall County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 9.1 illustrates that most Marshall County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 9.2 illustrates that 6.8% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 93% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.9.3   Education, Employment & Income

Table 9.3 Educational Attainment - Marshall County

Table 9.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Marshall County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 62.9% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 57.7% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Marshall County as of 2023 was $70,829.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.9.4   Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 10.7% of the population of Marshall County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 10.7% of the population, 5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 10% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.10 MAURY COUNTY

6.10.1 Geographic Boundaries

Maury County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Maury County has a geographic area of 616 sq. (US Census Bureau, 2024).

mi

6.10.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Maury County had a total population of 110,760 persons of which, 6.2% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 17.8% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 10.1 Maury County - Population by Race

Table 10.2 Maury County - Population by Ethnicity

Table 10.1 illustrates that most Maury County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 10.2 illustrates that 7.8% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 95% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.10.3 Education, Employment & Income

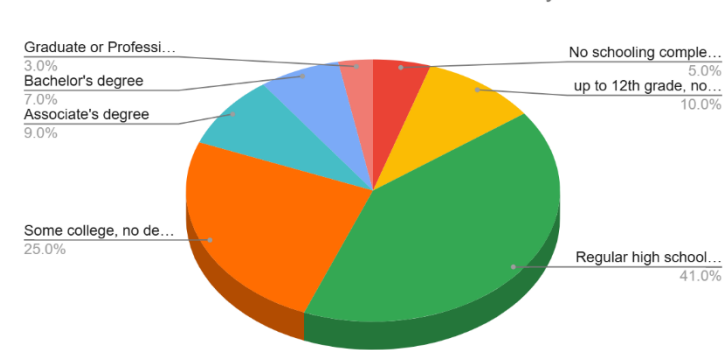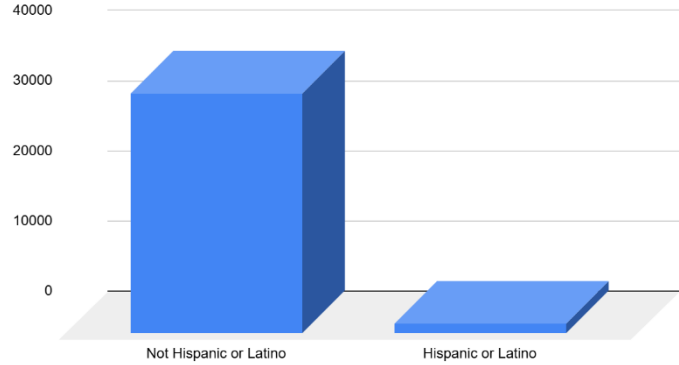
Table 10.3 Educational Attainment - Maury County

Table 10.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Maury County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 64.4% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 57.9% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Maury County as of 2022 was $74,162.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.10.4 Poverty Status

The 2022 American Community Survey identified 10.7% of the population of Maury County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 10.7% of the population, 7% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 10% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.11 MOORE COUNTY

6.11.1 Geographic Boundaries

Moore County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Moore County has a geographic area of 130 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).
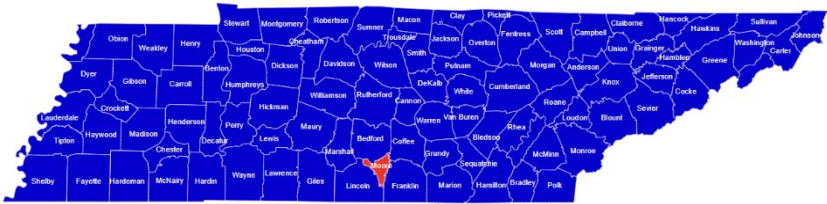
6.11.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Moore County had a total population of 6,748 persons of which, 4.7% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 22.6% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 11.1 Moore County - Population by Race
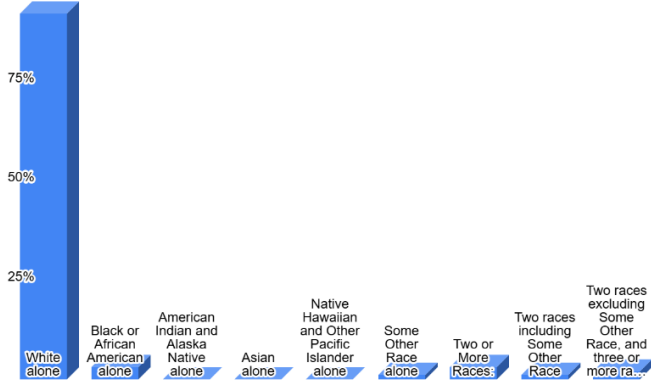
Table 11.2 Moore County - Population by Ethnicity
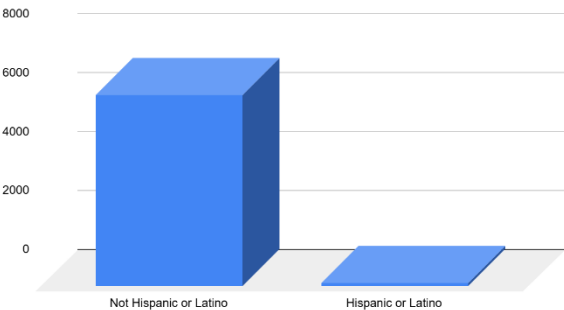
Table 11.1 illustrates that most Moore County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 11.2 illustrates that 1.6% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 99% of the population speaks only English at home (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.11.3 Education, Employment & Income
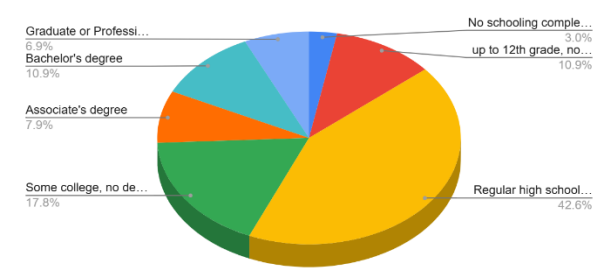

Table 11.3 Educational Attainment - Moore County
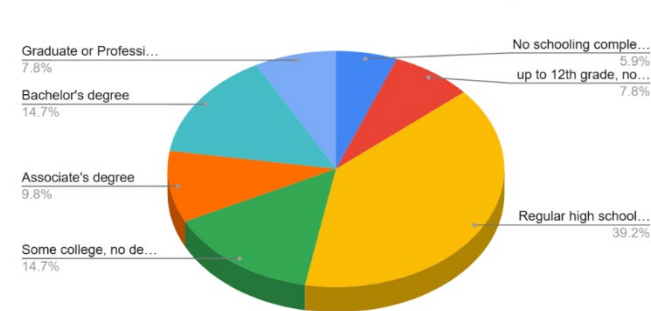
Table 11.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Moore County with the majority attaining a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 57.8% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 51.2% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Maury County as of 2023 was $66,687.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.11.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 9.9% of the population of Moore County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 9.9% of the population, 5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 13% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.12 PERRY COUNTY

6.12.1 Geographic Boundaries

Perry County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Perry County has a geographic area of 423 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.12.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Perry County had a total population of 8,891 persons of which, 6.2% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 21.4% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Table 12.1 Perry County - Population by Race
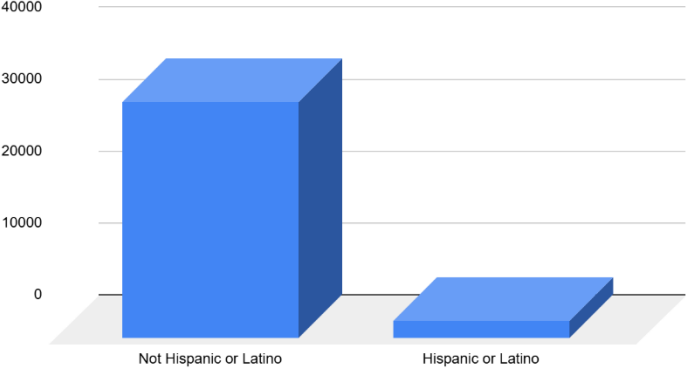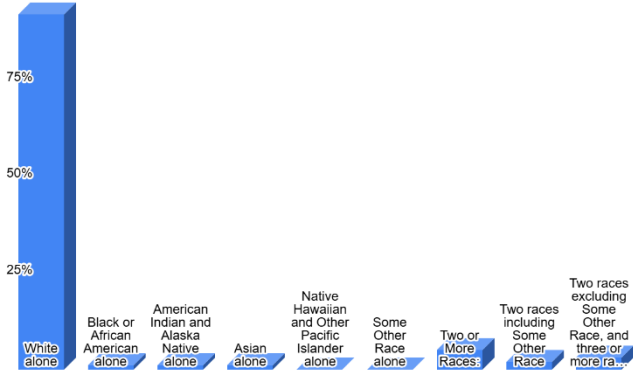

Table 12.2 Perry County - Population by Ethnicity
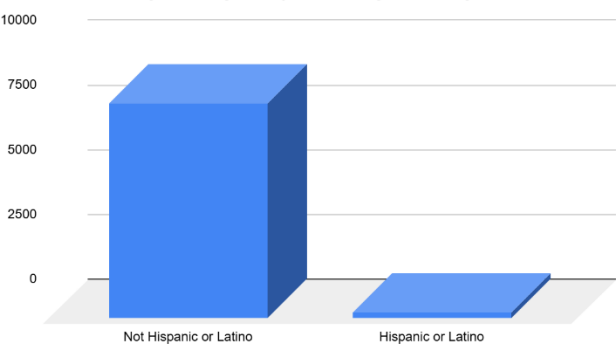
Table 12.1 illustrates that most Perry County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 12.2 illustrates that 2.8% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 94% of the population speaks only English at home.

6.12.3 Education, Employment & Income
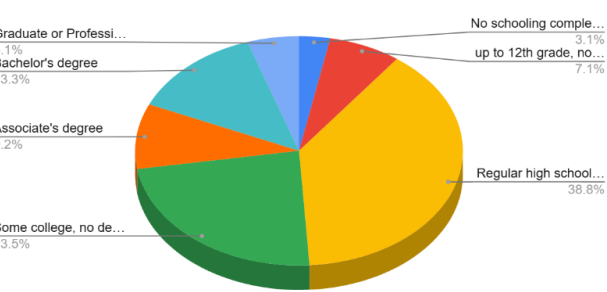

Table 12.3 Educational Attainment - Perry County
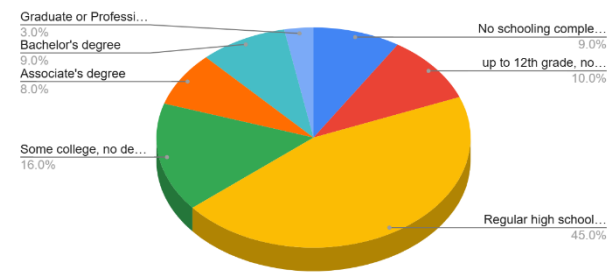
Table 12.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Perry County with the majority attaining a high school diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 51.8% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 48.1% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Perry County as of 2023 was $50,489.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.12.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 17.5% of the population of Perry County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 17.5% of the population, 7% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 11% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.13 WAYNE COUNTY

6.13.1 Geographic Boundaries

Wayne County, TN is located in the Middle region of South Central Tennessee. Wayne County has a geographic area of 736 sq. mi (US Census Bureau, 2024).

6.13.2 Population Demographics

As of July 2023, Wayne County had a total population of 16,066 persons of which, 4.3% of the population are children under the age of 5 years old and 20.1% of the population are adults 65+ years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).
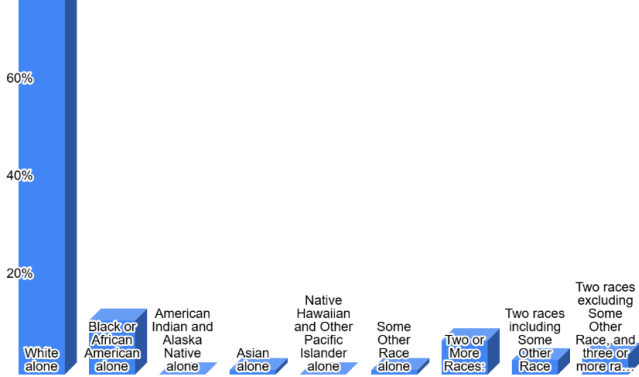

Table 13.1 Wayne County - Population by Race

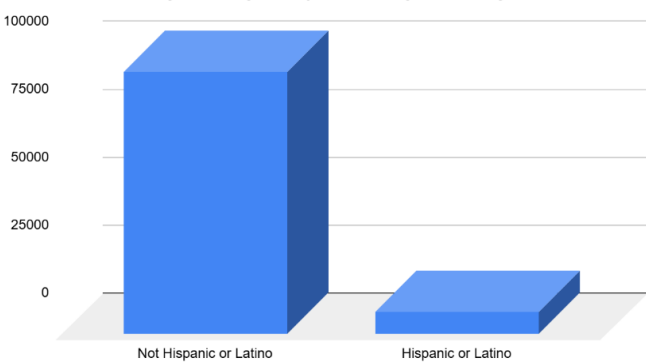Table 13.2 Wayne County - Population by Ethnicity
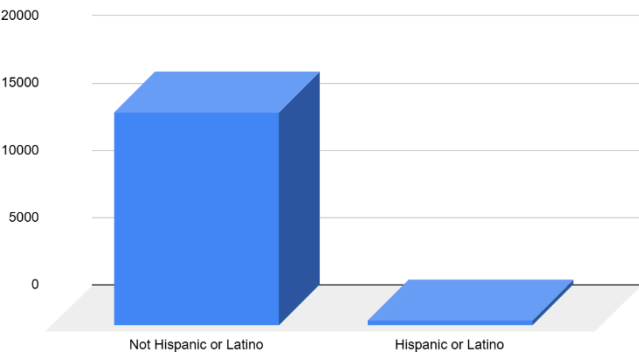
Table 13.1 illustrates that most Wayne County's population identify as White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024). Table 13.2 illustrates that 2.5% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 97% of the population speaks only English at home.

6.13.3 Education, Employment & Income
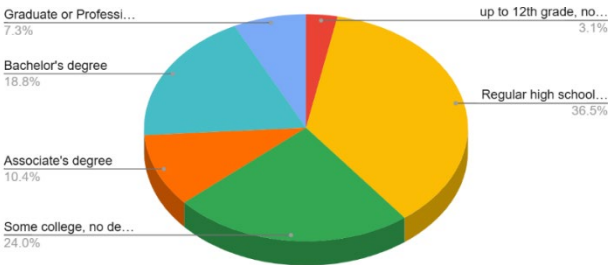

Table 13.3 Educational Attainment - Wayne County
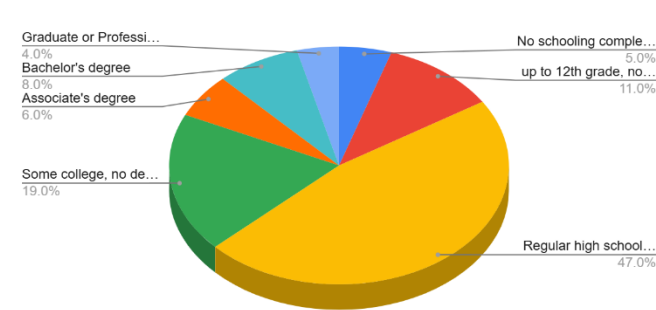
Table 13.3 illustrates the educational attainment of those living in Wayne County with the majority attaining a bachelor's degree (US Census Bureau, 2023).

According to the 2023 American Community Survey, 48.4% of the individuals 16+ years old are currently in the workforce of which, 48.9% are represented by individuals identified as Female (US Census Bureau, 2024).

The median household income in Wayne County as of 2023 was $52,824.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023).

6.13.4 Poverty Status

The 2023 American Community Survey identified 18% of the population of Wayne County fall below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Of the 18% of the population, 5% are children under the age of 5 and therefore eligible to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start programs and 12% of the population living in poverty are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2023).

7 DATA ANALYSIS

7.1 SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

Eligibility for Head Start and Early Head Start children and families is governed by the Head Start Program Performance Standards §1302.12 Determining, verifying and documenting eligibility (US Adminisration of Children and Families, 2024). Eligibility is determined by meeting requirements that fall under "income eligible" or "categorically eligible". For an individual to be determined income-eligible, the household must fall below the Federal Poverty Guidelines; agencies have the ability to serve up to 130% Federal Poverty Guideline circumstantially. For an individual to be determined categorically eligible, they must fall into one of the following categories:

1. Public Assistance recipients (i.e. TANF, SSI, SNAP/Food Stamps)
2. Experiencing Homelessness as defined by the McKiney-Vento Act
3. Child is in Foster Care

Additionally, all Head Start and Early Head Start programs must have existing policies and procedures for verifying eligibility and maintain a waitlist which prioritizes those that are "most in need".

For Community Action Programs, eligibility may depend on several different factors such as income, employment status, age and household status among other factors.

Analysis of the data available for the service areas 13 counties lends to a broader understanding of the socio -economic landscape which can be used to identify gaps in service as well as existing community assets.

7.1.1 Population Demographics

Population by Age

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, the following represents the percentage of children under 5 years old across the services area: Bedford County (6.7%), Coffee County (6.2%), Franklin County (5.1%), Giles County (5.1%), Hickman County (5.7%), Lawrence County (6.4%), Lewis County (5.2%), Lincoln Cunty (5.6%), Marshall County (6.1%), Maury County (6.2%), Moore County (4.7%), Perry County (6.2%) and Wayne County (4.3%). The percentage of the population under 18 years old across the service area are as follows: Bedford County (25.2%), Coffee County (24%), Franklin County (19.3%), Giles County (20.5%), Hickman County (21.0%), Lawrence County (25.1%), Lewis County (21.8%), Lincoln Cunty (22.4%), Marshall County (23.4%), Maury County (22.8%), Moore County (19.5%), Perry County (22.4%) and Wayne County (16.6%). The percentage of the population over 65 years old across the service area are as follows: Bedford County (15.1%), Coffee County (17.8%), Franklin County (21.1%), Giles County (21.3%), Hickman County (18.4%), Lawrence County (17.7%), Lewis County (21.5%), Lincoln Cunty (20.5%), Marshall County (16.6%), Maury County (17.8%), Moore County (22.6%), Perry County (21.4%) and Wayne County (20.1%). (US Census Bureau, 2024).

Age	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
0 to 5 years	3,387	3,741	2,192	1,727	1,307	2,863	747	2,121	2,032	6,644	319	537	619
5 to 9 years	3,142	3,821	2,207	1,342	1,488	3,444	700	1,977	2,458	6,217	425	647	642
10 to 14 years	4,234	4,298	2,533	2,176	1,560	2,966	795	2,443	2,334	7,223	279	391	875
15 to 17 years	2,324	2,465	1,609	1,068	918	1,995	485	1,381	1,439	4,191	261	350	663
18 and 19 years	1,106	1,214	1,515	988	429	1,055	370	797	1,061	1,978	200	385	106
20 years	467	854	870	612	361	447	171	356	171	1,268	162	102	199
21 years	594	595	960	260	178	522	-	426	436	631	51	113	146
22 to 24 years	1,890	1,944	1,619	769	944	1,401	541	1,247	1,259	3,612	146	145	674
25 to 29 years	3,904	3,576	2,413	1,701	1,821	2,654	801	2,036	2,069	7,233	280	452	1,012
30 to 34 years	3,192	3,974	2,362	1,716	1,491	3,029	769	2,077	2,452	7,652	361	462	1,215
35 to 39 years	3,006	3,696	2,578	1,619	1,580	2,716	718	1,687	2,184	6,996	268	519	1,008
40 to 44 years	3,709	3,450	2,032	1,697	1,699	2,476	690	2,230	2,356	7,582	496	435	1,222
45 to 49 years	3,116	3,401	2,684	1,759	1,609	2,571	740	2,119	2,106	5,893	457	493	1,131
50 to 54 years	3,356	3,735	2,791	1,997	1,809	2,893	925	2,393	2,358	6,242	453	490	1,269
55 to 59 years	2,857	3,785	3,036	2,530	1,778	3,209	764	2,716	2,021	6,735	410	498	955
60 and 61 years	1,502	1,383	1,474	874	932	1,310	454	959	1,019	3,044	179	166	503
62 to 64 years	2,047	2,701	1,691	1,281	815	1,409	491	1,662	1,749	4,110	448	482	882
65 and 66 years	699	1,397	1,085	582	566	937	348	883	655	2,252	273	171	339
67 to 69 years	1,551	2,246	1,789	1,431	882	1,424	489	1,412	1,351	3,477	279	240	711
70 to 74 years	2,164	2,336	2,437	1,749	1,416	2,281	761	1,832	1,667	5,399	260	635	802
75 to 79 years	1,431	2,215	1,727	1,174	688	1,403	563	1,298	1,134	2,845	305	361	579
80 to 84 years	1,003	978	958	859	537	1,143	253	835	510	2,354	143	211	442
85 years and over	610	1,135	916	531	421	753	209	730	455	1,277	156	276	257

Population by Race

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, all 13 counties across the service area show a majority of the population identifying as White and the second largest group identifying as Two or more races. (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024)

Race	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
White alone	80%	88%	89%	85%	91%	93%	93%	87%	88%	80%	92%	92%	89%
Black or African American alone	7%	4%	5%	9%	4%	1%	1%	6%	4%	11%	3%	1%	4%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Asian alone	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Some Other Race alone	3%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Two or More Races:	8%	5%	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%	5%	7%	3%	5%	5%
Two races including Some Other Race	5%	3%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	1%
Two races excluding Some Other Race, and three or more races	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%

Population by Ethnicity

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, all 13 counties across the service area reported majority of the population Not Hispanic or Latino. In the service area, Bedford County had the largest population identifying as Hispanic or Latino (16%) followed by Maury County (8%) and Marshall County (7%). (US Census Bureau, 2023)

Ethnicity	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Not Hispanic or Latino	43,323	55,413	41,874	29,598	24,447	43,699	12,412	34,224	32,874	96,677	6,502	8,318	15,836
Hispanic or Latino	7,968	3,527	1,604	844	782	1,202	372	1,393	2,402	8,178	109	243	415

Population by Sex

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, across the service area there is a rather even distribution of male to female identified individuals. (US Census Bureau, 2023)

Sex	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Female:	25,204	29,922	22,033	15,687	12,127	22,822	6,416	18,065	17,648	53,449	3,340	4,293	7,037
Male:	26,087	29,018	21,445	14,755	13,102	22,079	6,368	17,552	17,628	51,406	3,271	4,268	9,214

Population by Language Spoken

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, across the service area the majority of individuals speak English as their primary language. The largest percentage of individuals speaking a language other than English is 11% in Bedford County speaking Spanish. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2023)

Language Spoken at Home	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Speak only English	88%	95%	96%	97%	98%	95%	98%	97%	93%	95%	99%	94%	97%
Speak Spanish:	11%	4%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	6%	4%	1%	1%	2%
Speak other languages:	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	6%	1%

Household Type

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, majority of households across the 13 county service area are Family households with the largest number represented as Married-couple households. (US Census Bureau, 2023)

Household Type	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Family households:	73%	66%	63%	66%	72%	68%	67%	67%	70%	69%	71%	72%	65%
Married-couple family	48%	48%	49%	48%	50%	50%	52%	51%	53%	52%	57%	61%	47%
Other family:	24%	18%	15%	18%	21%	19%	15%	16%	16%	17%	14%	11%	18%
Male householder, no spouse present	7%	7%	4%	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	5%	8%
Female householder, no spouse present	18%	12%	11%	12%	15%	14%	9%	10%	12%	12%	10%	6%	10%
Nonfamily households:	27%	34%	37%	34%	28%	32%	33%	33%	30%	31%	29%	28%	35%
Householder living alone	23%	28%	31%	28%	23%	28%	30%	30%	26%	26%	25%	25%	28%
Householder not living alone	4%	6%	5%	5%	6%	4%	3%	3%	5%	5%	4%	3%	7%

Household Size

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, majority of households across the 13 county service area are Family Households comprising 2 people and the majority of Non-family Households are 1-person households. (US Census Bureau, 2023)

Household Size	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Family households:	73%	66%	63%	66%	72%	68%	67%	67%	70%	69%	71%	72%	65%
2-person household	31%	31%	31%	36%	36%	30%	33%	33%	31%	31%	36%	40%	31%
3-person household	17%	15%	15%	14%	17%	16%	15%	15%	15%	17%	17%	12%	15%
4-person household	13%	12%	12%	10%	12%	12%	10%	10%	13%	12%	12%	8%	12%
5-person household	6%	6%	3%	4%	5%	6%	6%	5%	7%	6%	3%	9%	7%
6-person household	4%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%
7-or-more person household	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Nonfamily households:	27%	34%	37%	34%	28%	32%	33%	33%	30%	31%	29%	28%	35%
1-person household	23%	28%	31%	28%	23%	28%	30%	30%	26%	26%	25%	25%	28%
2-person household	3%	5%	4%	5%	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%	4%	3%	2%	7%
3-person household	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
4-person household	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
5-person household	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
6-person household	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
7-or-more person household	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Veteran Status

Across the 13 county service area, Maury County had the largest number of military veterans (US Census Bureau, 2024).

County	Number of Veterans
Bedford	2,494
Coffee	4,439
Franklin	3,474
Giles	2,264
Hickman	1,896
Lawrence	1,916
Lewis	780
Lincoln	2,190
Marshall	2,208
Maury	6,001
Moore	634
Perry	490
Wayne	1,054

7.1.2 Service Area Eligible Children & Families
Age-Eligible Children across service area

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, across the service area there are a total of 28,025 children living across the service area under the age of 5 years old (US Census Bureau, 2024).

County	Total Population	% of Population under 5 years old	Number of Children under 5
Bedford	51,291	6.7%	3,436
Coffee	58,940	6%	3,654
Franklin	43,478	5.1%	2,217
Giles	30,442	5.1%	1,553
Hickman	25,229	5.7%	1,438
Lawrence	44,901	6%	2,874
Lewis	12,784	5.2%	665
Lincoln	35,617	5.6%	1,995
Marshall	35,276	6.1%	2,152
Maury	104,855	6.2%	6,501
Moore	6,611	4.7%	311
Perry	8,561	6.2%	531
Wayne	16,251	4.3%	699

Income-eligible Children

According to the 2023 US Census Bureau American Community Survey, across the service area, Maury County had the highest instance of children (260) that fell below the Federal Poverty Line (US Census Bureau, 2024).

County	Number of Children under 5	% of children under 5 in poverty	Number of children under 5 in poverty
Bedford	3,436	3%	103
Coffee	3,654	4%	146
Franklin	2,217	2%	44
Giles	1,553	3%	47
Hickman	1,438	3%	43
Lawrence	2,874	4%	115
Lewis	665	3%	20
Lincoln	1,995	3%	60
Marshall	2,152	2%	43
Maury	6,501	4%	260
Moore	311	1%	3
Perry	531	4%	21
Wayne	699	2%	14

Number of Children in Foster Care

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, across the state of Tennessee, there are 33,300 children under the age of 18 in Foster Care (US Census Bureau, 2023). In 2023, Maury County had the largest number of placements in foster care at 396 placements.

County	Number of Children in Foster Care Placement
Bedford	281
Coffee	335
Franklin	186
Giles	158
Hickman	189
Lawrence	205
Lewis	131
Lincoln	112
Marshall	306
Maury	396
Moore	26
Perry	52
Wayne	25

Number of Children under 5 with a certified disability

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, across the 13 county service area, there were a total of 188 children under 5 reported to have a certified disability (US Census Bureau, 2023) – Giles county represented 21% of that number reporting 40 children with a certified disability.

County	Number of children with a certified disability
Bedford	14
Coffee	-
Franklin	10
Giles	40
Hickman	26
Lawrence	8
Lewis	-
Lincoln	21
Marshall	3
Maury	33
Moore	19
Perry	9
Wayne	5

Child Race & Ethnicity

Majority of families across the service area with children under the age of 18 identified as Non-Hispanic/Latino & White (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024).

Child Race	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
White alone	82%	87%	88%	83%	92%	93%	91%	85%	88%	79%	93%	93%	93%
Black or African American alone	9%	4%	4%	9%	2%	2%	2%	8%	6%	12%	2%	2%	4%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Other/Unknown	5%	6%	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	7%	3%	4%	3%

Child Ethnicity	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Not Hispanic or Latino	73%	89%	94%	94%	94%	95%	95%	94%	87%	87%	97%	97%	95%
Hispanic or Latino	28%	11%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	7%	13%	13%	3%	3%	5%

Number of Reported Cases of Abuse or Neglect

According to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024), across the service area in FY23 there were a total of 4,960 reported cases of child abuse or neglect – the highest number of cases were reported in Maury county representing 17% of the reported cases.

County	Number of Reported Cases of Child Abuse or Neglect
Bedford	673
Coffee	752
Franklin	388
Giles	356
Hickman	310
Lawrence	493
Lewis	131
Lincoln	373
Marshall	345
Maury	835
Moore	34
Perry	118
Wayne	152

Children receiving SNAP

According to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024), across the service area in FY23 there were a total of 22,881 children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance.

County	Number of children receiving SNAP
Bedford	3,280
Coffee	3,340
Franklin	1,659
Giles	1,485
Hickman	1,336
Lawrence	2,445
Lewis	705
Lincoln	1,805
Marshall	1,534
Maury	4,016
Moore	168
Perry	445
Wayne	663

Children who are Food Insecure

According to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, 2024), in 2022 across the service area in there were a total of 17,420 children that were reported to be food insecure – Maury County represented 18% of children followed by Coffee County (15%) and Bedford County (12%).

County	Number of children who are Food Insecure
Bedford	2,140
Coffee	2,660
Franklin	1,570
Giles	1,070
Hickman	910
Lawrence	1,880
Lewis	530
Lincoln	1,160
Marshall	1,260
Maury	3,130
Moore	140
Perry	390
Wayne	580

7.1.3 Poverty & Income

Population Poverty Status

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, in 2023, the state of Tennessee reported 14% of the population had income in the last 12 months that fell below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Across the 13 county service area, only 4 counties – Franklin, Lincoln, Maury and Moore – fell below the state average. Coffee, Lawrence, Lewis, Perry and Wayne counties all reported higher percentages of the population with income below the federal poverty guidelines than that of the state.

County	Income at or below federal poverty level
Bedford	14%
Coffee	16%
Franklin	13%
Giles	14%
Hickman	14%
Lawrence	15%
Lewis	16%
Lincoln	12%
Marshall	14%
Maury	10%
Moore	11%
Perry	18%
Wayne	19%

Poverty Status by Sex

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, in 2023, the state of Tennessee reported 6% of males and 8% of female population had income in the last 12 months that fell below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2024). Across the 13 county service area, only 3 counties – Franklin, Maury and Moore – fell below the state average for males and 3 counties – Coffee, Perry and Wayne – reported above the state average for females.

Poverty Status by Sex	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Male	7%	7%	5%	6%	6%	7%	8%	6%	7%	4%	5%	8%	9%
Female	7%	9%	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	6%	7%	10%	9%

Poverty Status by Age

In 2023, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, across the 13 county service area there were 62,259 individuals reported to have income below the federal poverty line (US Census Bureau, 2023). Of the individuals reported, 19,695 were children under the age of 18 years old and 12,434 were individuals 60 years or older. Across the service area, these two age groups comprise 52% of all individuals in poverty.

Poverty Status by Age Group	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Under 6 years	533	956	672	364	254	757	111	465	473	1,528	52	190	177
6 to 11 years	1,140	1,199	470	574	392	825	106	351	690	914	6	273	153
12 to 17 years	1,241	779	524	318	309	404	97	421	664	913	25	170	205
18 to 59 years	3,194	4,781	2,184	2,177	1,679	3,482	1,263	1,976	2,209	4,864	411	611	1,299
60 to 74 years	553	1,283	991	500	534	936	274	840	617	1,460	127	169	479
75 to 84 years	164	318	182	172	115	258	111	260	191	473	78	70	311
85 years and over	37	75	207	127	47	86	24	46	99	142	33	-	45

Poverty Status by Educational Attainment

Across the service area, those that have an educational attainment of high school graduate or less are more likely to have a higher instance of income below the federal poverty guidelines (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Income in the past 12 months below poverty line	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Less than high school graduate	3%	4%	2%	2%	6%	3%	3%	4%	4%	1%	3%	3%	6%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	5%	7%	5%	6%	6%	7%	7%	5%	3%	4%	5%	9%	9%
Some college, associate's degree	1%	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%	3%	3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%

Poverty Status by Employment Status

Across the service area, those that are not in the labor force are more likely to have a higher instance of income below the federal poverty guideline (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Poverty Status by Employment Type	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Employed	5%	5%	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%
Unemployed	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%
Not in labor force	7%	9%	8%	9%	9%	9%	13%	8%	7%	5%	7%	9%	14%

Poverty Status by Receipt of Food Stamps/SNAP

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, in 2023 across the 13 county service area, more households that had income below the federal poverty guidelines did not receive Food Stamps/SNAP benefits than those that did (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Household Poverty Status by reciept of SNAP/Food Stamps	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Households below poverty level who received Food Stamps/SNAP	4%	7%	5%	6%	6%	8%	9%	5%	4%	3%	3%	9%	9%
Households below poverty level who did not receive Food Stamps/SNAP	9%	8%	9%	9%	8%	10%	10%	9%	8%	7%	9%	7%	10%

Poverty Status by Households with Public Assistance

Across the 13 county service area, in 2023, those that received Social Security Income and/or a combination of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and cash benefits had a lower instance of poverty than those that did not receive any benefits (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Poverty Status by Reciept of Public Assistance	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
With Social Security income in the past 12 months:	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	7%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	5%
With SSI and/or cash public assistance income in the past 12 months	0%	3%	1%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Without Social Security income in the past 12 months:	11%	9%	5%	8%	6%	12%	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%	8%	8%
Without SSI or cash public assistance income in the past 12 months	12%	9%	8%	8%	6%	13%	13%	8%	9%	6%	7%	8%	12%

Median Household Income

In 2023, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in the state of Tennessee was $67,097.00 (US Census Bureau, 2023). Across the 13 county service area, the average household income was above the state household income in only 2 counties – Marshall and Maury. The remaining counties fell below the state average of median household income by 10-25%.

County	Median Household Income
Tennessee	$ 67,097.00
Bedford	$ 62,197.00
Coffee	$ 60,656.00
Franklin	$ 61,553.00
Giles	$ 61,476.00
Hickman	$ 57,223.00
Lawrence	$ 53,233.00
Lewis	$ 49,477.00
Lincoln	$ 63,115.00
Marshall	$ 70,829.00
Maury	$ 74,162.00
Moore	$ 66,687.00
Perry	$ 50,489.00
Wayne	$ 52,824.00

Per Capita Income

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, the average per capita income across the United States was $40,722.00. Across the 13 county service area, majority of the counties fall below the national average by 10-15% (US Census Bureau, 2024).

County	Per Capita Income
Bedford	$29,468
Coffee	$29,543
Franklin	$32,926
Giles	$34,348
Hickman	$29,512
Lawrence	$27,208
Lewis	$29,149
Lincoln	$34,761
Marshall	$35,984
Maury	$37,158
Moore	$37,193
Perry	$25,563
Wayne	$29,526

7.1.4 Employment & Education

Employment Status of Population

In 2022, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 124,246 individuals employed across the 13 county service area (US Census Bureau, 2024). In all counties across the service area over 50% of the population is employed except for Wayne county with 48% of the population in the labor force.

County	Number of Individuals Employed
Bedford	14,143
Coffee	20,041
Franklin	12,764
Giles	8,122
Hickman	2,838
Lawrence	9,485
Lewis	2,676
Lincoln	7,524
Marshall	8,048
Maury	33,256
Moore	1,352
Perry	1,398
Wayne	2,599

County	% of population employed
Bedford	63%
Coffee	59%
Franklin	57%
Giles	57%
Hickman	54%
Lawrence	58%
Lewis	55%
Lincoln	59%
Marshall	63%
Maury	64%
Moore	58%
Perry	52%
Wayne	48%

Percentage Change of Population Employed

In 2022, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, there was an increase in reported percentage of the population employed across all counties except Bedford, Perry and Wayne (US Census Bureau, 2024). The highest percentage increase in population employed was observed in Moore county with Lincoln county as the second highest percentage increase at 15.5%.

County	% change of population employed
Bedford	-1.2%
Coffee	1.4%
Franklin	2.8%
Giles	2.0%
Hickman	6.3%
Lawrence	6.5%
Lewis	1.9%
Lincoln	15.5%
Marshall	3.7%
Maury	5.7%
Moore	31.9%
Perry	-4.4%
Wayne	-6.1%

Employment Status by Age

Across the 13 county service area, majority of the workforce is under 65 years old (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Number of Individuals Employed by Age Group	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
16 - 19 years old	978	1,120	1,012	590	296	894	349	582	646	2,039	101	218	175
20 - 21 years old	537	1,034	1,169	543	334	595	131	590	397	1,511	107	136	247
22 - 29 years old	4,636	4,382	3,119	1,910	2,077	2,928	956	2,366	2,626	8,779	280	378	1,223
30 - 44 years old	7,938	8,450	5,490	4,049	2,807	6,210	1,538	4,822	5,604	17,934	937	930	2,146
45 - 59 years old	6,698	7,633	6,308	4,248	3,627	5,820	1,401	5,160	4,924	15,065	976	983	1,698
60 - 64 years old	1,919	1,934	1,670	1,257	954	1,356	606	1,265	1,536	4,017	316	399	666
65 + years old	1,402	1,451	1,202	869	604	1,328	584	1,278	1,137	3,070	298	209	328

Established Employers Across Service Area

In 2022, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, across the service area, Maury County had the largest number of established employers followed by Coffee County (US Census Bureau, 2024).

County	Number of Employers
Bedford	868
Coffee	1,291
Franklin	739
Giles	553
Hickman	297
Lawrence	779
Lewis	233
Lincoln	602
Marshall	562
Maury	1,992
Moore	79
Perry	118
Wayne	213

Unemployment Rate

According to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, in 2024 across all 95 counties in Tennessee the unemployment rate decreased (Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, 2024). Across the service area, the highest unemployment rate was seen in Perry.

County	Unemployment Rate
Bedford	2.6
Coffee	2.7
Franklin	2.8
Giles	2.6
Hickman	2.3
Lawrence	2.7
Lewis	2.7
Lincoln	2.6
Marshall	2.7
Maury	2.3
Moore	2.2
Perry	3.7
Wayne	2.8

Unemployed Individuals in the Labor Force

According to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Maury County had the highest instance of individuals in the labor force that are unemployed (Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, 2024).

County	Number of Unemployed Individuals in the Labor Force
Bedford	579
Coffee	706
Franklin	555
Giles	380
Hickman	272
Lawrence	534
Lewis	151
Lincoln	438
Marshall	434
Maury	1,267
Moore	80
Perry	104
Wayne	185

Employment Status by Educational Attainment

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, in 2023 majority of the individuals in the workforce were high school diploma or equivalency holders (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Educational Attainment	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Less than high school graduate:	8%	5%	3%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%	6%	5%	3%
High school graduate (includes equivalency):	26%	22%	22%	24%	20%	22%	19%	24%	24%	19%	20%	23%	20%
Some college or associate's degree:	17%	17%	17%	16%	18%	19%	23%	17%	21%	22%	17%	15%	15%
Bachelor's degree or higher:	12%	14%	15%	13%	10%	11%	6%	13%	16%	19%	16%	10%	9%

Population Education Attainment

Across the service area, as identified in the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, the majority of individuals across the service area attained a High School Diploma (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Education Level	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
No schooling completed	557	397	276	213	143	434	159	201	219	756	41	124	281
Nursery school	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	38	-	-	-
Kindergarten	28	-	-	-	8	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1st grade	49	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	21	32	-	-	-
2nd grade	86	-	5	11	-	3	-	104	-	-	3	44	15
3rd grade	26	61	6	-	-	32	-	5	10	27	10	-	-
4th grade	42	-	39	2	88	22	72	16	-	27	-	9	-
5th grade	42	31	21	-	13	58	-	45	1	39	-	6	6
6th grade	332	236	60	68	146	84	27	66	76	644	71	32	39
7th grade	91	140	92	167	315	292	-	133	100	221	11	29	63
8th grade	646	532	524	311	415	1,065	279	290	459	347	58	247	285
9th grade	1,160	612	321	267	242	435	120	371	199	755	19	247	314
10th grade	756	861	431	512	651	741	168	785	305	913	107	79	395
11th grade	832	1,291	580	650	339	617	150	764	535	1,090	122	68	359
12th grade, no diploma	556	865	391	467	420	553	336	459	359	571	76	152	276
Regular high school diploma	11,540	12,380	9,844	7,175	5,813	9,961	2,785	9,070	7,746	21,197	1,487	2,206	4,514
GED or alternative credential	2,529	2,778	2,292	1,948	1,836	2,793	791	1,694	1,190	3,633	266	583	1,168
Some college, less than 1 year	2,881	2,552	2,132	1,710	1,405	2,488	956	1,258	2,065	4,754	292	184	889
Some college, 1 or more years, no degree	4,333	5,014	3,644	2,159	2,184	3,797	1,283	2,833	3,390	11,285	522	609	1,442
Associate's degree	1,887	3,082	2,406	1,704	1,577	2,121	868	1,981	2,355	7,414	507	524	736
Bachelor's degree	4,027	5,200	4,298	2,706	1,702	2,862	690	2,850	3,576	13,590	775	569	1,037
Master's degree	1,325	3,014	1,939	1,018	634	1,424	209	1,585	1,208	4,368	145	144	454
Professional school degree	292	420	354	271	83	258	59	232	203	907	97	24	29
Doctorate degree	130	542	318	141	30	138	23	127	69	483	159	11	25

Top Industries

According to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, in 2024 Manufacturing and Government were amongst the top industries in all 13 counties of the service area (Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, 2024).

Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis
1. Manufacturing	1. Manufacturing	1. Manufacturing	1. Manufacturing		1. Manufacturing	1. Manufacturing
2. Government	2.Government	2.Government	2. Government	1. Government	2. Government	2. Government
3. Retail Trade	3. Health Care & Social Assistance	3. Health Care & Social Assistance	3. Retail Trade	2.Health Care & Social Assistance	3. Retail Trade	3. Retail Trade
4. Transportation & Warehousing	4. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4. Retail Trade	4. Health Care & Social Assistance	3.Manufacturing	4. Health Care & Social Assistance	4. Health Care & Social Assistance
5. Administrative, Support, Waste Management &	5.Retail Trade	5.Accomodations & Food Service	5. Accomodations & Food Service	4.Retail Trade	5. Accomodations & Food Service	5. Accomodations & Food Service
				5. Construction		

Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne	
					1. Health Care & Social Services	
1. Manufacturing			1. Government		2. Government	
2. Government	1. Manufacturing	1. Government	2.Manufacturing	1. Government	3.Retail Trade	
3. Retail Trade	2. Government	2.Manufacturing	3.Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	2.Manufacturing	4.Administrative, Support, Waste Management & Remediation	
4. Administrative, Support, Waste Management & Remediation	3. Retail Trade	3. Retail Trade	4.Administrative, Support, Waste Management & Remediation	3. Retail Trade	5.Accomodations & Food Services	
5. Health Care & Social Assistance	4. Health Care & Social Assistance	4.Accomodations & Food Service	5.Retail Trade	4.Accomodations & Food Service		
	5. Accomodations & Food Service	5.Health Care & Social Assistance		5.Health Care & Social Assistance		

7.1.5 Housing

Number of Housing Units

According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, there were a total of 204,785 housing units across the 13 county service area (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Number of Housing Units	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Total	20,129	25,187	19,815	14,104	10,588	18,699	5,746	16,124	14,521	44,841	2,996	4,830	7,205

Low-Income Housing Units

Across the 13 county service area, in 2024 there were 2,906 low-income housing tax credit (chapter 14) housing units (US Department of Housing & Urban Development, 2024).

Low Income Housing Units	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Total	282	514	75	141	48	134	-	264	316	907	33	56	136

Median Monthly Housing Costs

In 2023, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median housing cost in Tennessee was $1,055.00. Across the service area, Maury County had the highest median housing cost at $1,148.00 which is higher than that of the state (US Census Bureau, 2023).

Housing Costs	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Median monthly housing costs	$ 967.00	$ 839.00	$ 844.00	$814.00	$ 828.00	$ 707.00	$ 716.00	$ 776.00	$ 898.00	$ 1,148.00	$ 853.00	$ 628.00	$ 560.00

Median Rent

According to the Tennessee Comptroller, in 2022, the average rent across the service area was $599.00 (Tennessee Comptroller of Treasury, 2024).

County	Median Rent Contract
Bedford	$ 687
Coffee	$ 673
Franklin	$ 603
Giles	$ 576
Hickman	$ 601
Lawrence	$ 502
Lewis	$ 536
Lincoln	$ 541
Marshall	$ 705
Maury	$ 925
Moore	$ 544
Perry	$ 491
Wayne	$ 400

Housing Burden

According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 7% or more of all rented housing units across the service area experience a 30% or greater housing burden (US Census Bureau, 2023). Across the service area, 6% or more of owned units with a mortgage experience a 30% or greater housing burden.

Housing Burden	Tennessee	Bedford	Coffee	Franklin	Giles	Hickman	Lawrence	Lewis	Lincoln	Marshall	Maury	Moore	Perry	Wayne
Owned Units with a Mortgage	39%	43%	37%	40%	38%	40%	37%	42%	38%	45%	44%	42%	26%	35%
Over 30 Percent	9%	11%	9%	9%	7%	9%	9%	11%	7%	11%	12%	15%	5%	5%
Over 50 Percent	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	6%	3%	4%	4%	4%	1%	2%
Owned Units without a Mortgage	28%	27%	34%	37%	36%	38%	39%	39%	39%	33%	27%	40%	49%	46%
Over 30 Percent	3%	4%	2%	4%	4%	3%	3%	5%	4%	3%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Over 50 Percent	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%
Rented	33%	30%	30%	24%	26%	22%	24%	20%	23%	23%	29%	18%	25%	18%
Over 30 Percent	14%	13%	10%	8%	7%	9%	8%	6%	8%	7%	11%	4%	8%	8%
Over 50 Percent	7%	7%	5%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%

Energy Costs

In 2020 according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average annual energy expenditure for the state of Tennessee is $1,847.00 – all counties across the service area other than Bedford, Maury and Wayne counties have an energy cost higher than the state average (ThinkTennessee, 2020).

County	Average Annual Cost
Bedford	$ 1,823.00
Coffee	$ 1,927.00
Franklin	$ 1,945.00
Giles	$ 1,906.00
Hickman	$ 1,896.00
Lawrence	$ 1,961.00
Lewis	$ 1,932.00
Lincoln	$ 2,087.00
Marshall	$ 2,130.00
Maury	$ 1,837.00
Moore	$ 2,094.00
Perry	$ 2,029.00
Wayne	$ 1,798.00

Energy Burden

In 2020 according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average annual energy burden for the state of Tennessee is 2.9% – Lawrence, Lewis, Marshall, Perry and Wayne counties all experience a higher energy burden than that of the state of Tennessee (ThinkTennessee, 2020).

County	Average Annual Energy Burden
Bedford	2.6%
Coffee	2.9%
Franklin	2.9%
Giles	2.8%
Hickman	2.9%
Lawrence	3.4%
Lewis	3.5%
Lincoln	2.9%
Marshall	3.0%
Maury	2.4%
Moore	2.7%
Perry	3.3%
Wayne	3.1%

7.1.6 Health & Mental Health

Teen Birth Rates

In 2020, according to the Tennessee Department of Health, across the state of Tennessee there were 5,678 births to teen women (Tennessee Department of Health, 2020). Pregnancies to women 15-19 years old across the service area represented 6% of the states 5,678 births.

County	Number of Teen Pregnancies (15-19 years old)
Bedford	62
Coffee	56
Franklin	37
Giles	24
Hickman	22
Lawrence	4
Lewis	0
Lincoln	29
Marshall	22
Maury	74
Moore	0
Perry	0
Wayne	11

Birth Rates

In 2022, according to the Tennessee Department of Health, across the state of Tennessee there were 82,266 live births (Tennessee Department of Health, 2022). Live births across the service area represented 7% of the states 82,266 births.

County	Birth Statistics
Bedford	718
Coffee	683
Franklin	439
Giles	340
Hickman	287
Lawrence	588
Lewis	147
Lincoln	408
Marshall	457
Maury	1,334
Moore	63
Perry	104
Wayne	119

Low Birthweight

In 2022, according to the Tennessee Department of Health, across the state of Tennessee there were 7,366 live births with a low birthweight (Tennessee Department of Health, 2022). Live births with a low birthweight across the service area represented 6% of the states 7,366 births.

County	Number of births with Low Birthweight
Bedford	69
Coffee	61
Franklin	33
Giles	34
Hickman	18
Lawrence	52
Lewis	11
Lincoln	34
Marshall	38
Maury	91
Moore	-
Perry	-
Wayne	11

Deaths

In 2022, according to the Tennessee Department of Health, across the state of Tennessee there were 84,997 deaths (Tennessee Department of Health, 2022). Deaths across the service area represented 8% of the states 84,997 births.

County	Number of deaths
Bedford	582
Coffee	906
Franklin	639
Giles	476
Hickman	414
Lawrence	705
Lewis	197
Lincoln	537
Marshall	410
Maury	1,207
Moore	83
Perry	121
Wayne	261

Overall Health Characteristics

Across the service area, 30% or more of adults in the population are considered to be obese. In 2020 more than 20% of adults in all 13 counties smoked cigarettes. Bedford, Coffee, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Marshall and Maury counties all experience fatal drug overdoses in 2020. Across the service area, there were 85,465 opioid prescriptions provided to individuals (ThinkTennessee, 2020).

County	Adult Obesity	Adults who smoke	Fatal Drug overdoses per 100,000	Life Expectancy (years)	Opiod Perscriptions
Bedford	37%	23%	50	74	8,687
Coffee	38%	24%	45	74	11,622
Franklin	40%	23%	0	74	8,642
Giles	38%	24%	35	75	5,577
Hickman	37%	26%	93	73	4,604
Lawrence	38%	26%	39	74	7,576
Lewis	39%	27%	0	73	2,530
Lincoln	37%	23%	0	74	5,844
Marshall	36%	23%	55	75	6,105
Maury	39%	21%	53	76	18,089
Moore	35%	23%	0	79	1,393
Perry	38%	29%	0	74	1,766
Wayne	39%	27%	0	75	3,030

Mental Health

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2020, 19.7% of Tennessee adults 18 years or older reported poor mental health. Across the service area, Lawrence, Lewis, Perry and Wayne counties reported a higher average than that of the state (ThinkTennessee, 2020).

County	Poor Mental Health Reported
Bedford	19.2%
Coffee	19.1%
Franklin	19.2%
Giles	19.6%
Hickman	19.6%
Lawrence	20.3%
Lewis	21.5%
Lincoln	19.1%
Marshall	19.6%
Maury	17.9%
Moore	19.1%
Perry	21.1%
Wayne	19.8%

Available Mental Health Providers

Across the service area, in 2020, ThinkTennessee reports there were a total of 557 mental health providers (ThinkTennessee, 2020).

County	Number of Mental Health Providers
Bedford	37
Coffee	129
Franklin	23
Giles	20
Hickman	16
Lawrence	44
Lewis	5
Lincoln	11
Marshall	19
Maury	233
Moore	1
Perry	6
Wayne	13

Food Insecurity in Children

In 2020, Feeding America reported that across the state of Tennessee, 13.5% of children under 18 reside in a food insecure household (ThinkTennessee, 2020). Across the service area Franklin, Lewis and Perry counties reported higher percentages of children in food insecure household than that of the state.

County	% of children in Food Insecure Households
Bedford	11.5%
Coffee	12.8%
Franklin	13.6%
Giles	11.5%
Hickman	10.2%
Lawrence	11.6%
Lewis	14.2%
Lincoln	10.1%
Marshall	11.4%
Maury	8.9%
Moore	4.0%
Perry	17.7%
Wayne	13.2%

8 SURVEY ANALYSIS

8.1 SURVEY RESULTS

During the Community Needs Assessment process, South Central Human Resource Agency surveyed three separate groups – SCHRA Community Action, Head Start & Early Head Start participants, Community Members and Partner Organizations – to understand the current services available in the community, the needs of the community and the gaps in services that are currently present throughout the service area. The surveys were sent via email to SCHRA's listserv and were posted throughout SCHRA's sites and in the community available through scan of a QR code. Surveys were available in both English and Spanish and all responses are anonymous. *Please see Appendix I: Survey for copies of surveys distributed*

8.1.1 Client & Community Member Needs Survey
The Client & Community Member Needs survey was available for a 3-month period.

Of the respondents, 23% live in Bedford County, 35% live in Coffee County, 8% live in Franklin County, 4% live in Hickman County, 23% live in Lincoln County, 4% live in Marshall County and 4% live in Maury County. 88% of respondents live in a household with at minimum 2 occupants. 15% of respondents live in a multigenerational household, 46% live in a Single Parent household, 12% live in a single-person household (no children), 23% live in a Two Parent household and 4% live in a two person household. Of the respondents, 88% identified as Female. and 69% identified as a Single Parent – Female household. 62% of respondents identified as White/Caucasian, 4% identified as American Indian or Alaska Native, 4% identified as Asian, 19% identified as Black or African American and 4% identified as bi-racial. 92% of all respondents identified as not Hispanic or Latino and 92% spoke English as their primary language.

65% of respondents were identified as gainfully employed while 23% identified as unemployed. 85% of respondents identified having an income less than $50,000.00. 35% of respondents received SNAP/Food Stamps, 12% receive WIC, 4% receive a Housing Choice Voucher and 12% receive child support.

50% of respondents currently rent their home and 8% of respondents identified as homeless.

Survey respondents were asked to identify reasons in which there are problems in their community and to identify barriers to those problems related to employment, housing, child care, transportation, mental health and disabilities/special education services. Below are the top responses for each of the categories that were assessed:

8.1.1.1 Employment

32% of survey respondents identified "Lack of good paying jobs" as the reason in which employment/workforce development is an issue in their community.

Why do you believe employment/workforce development and/or employment retention are a problem in your community?
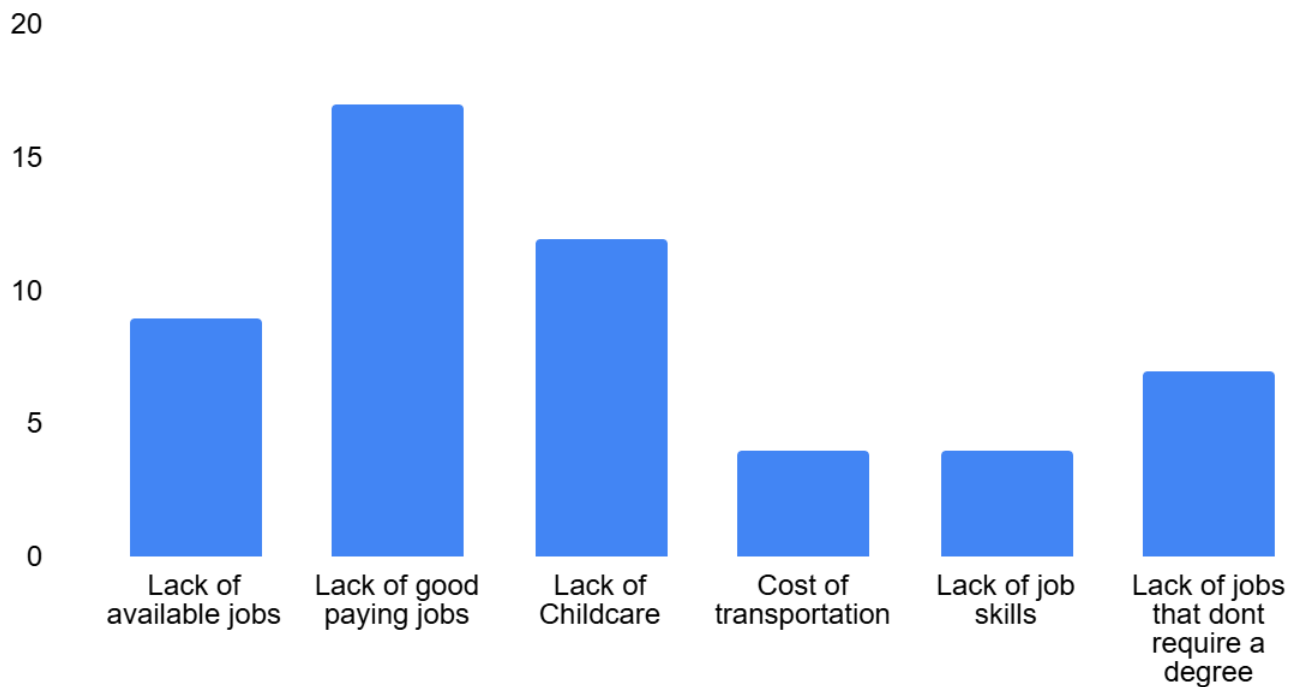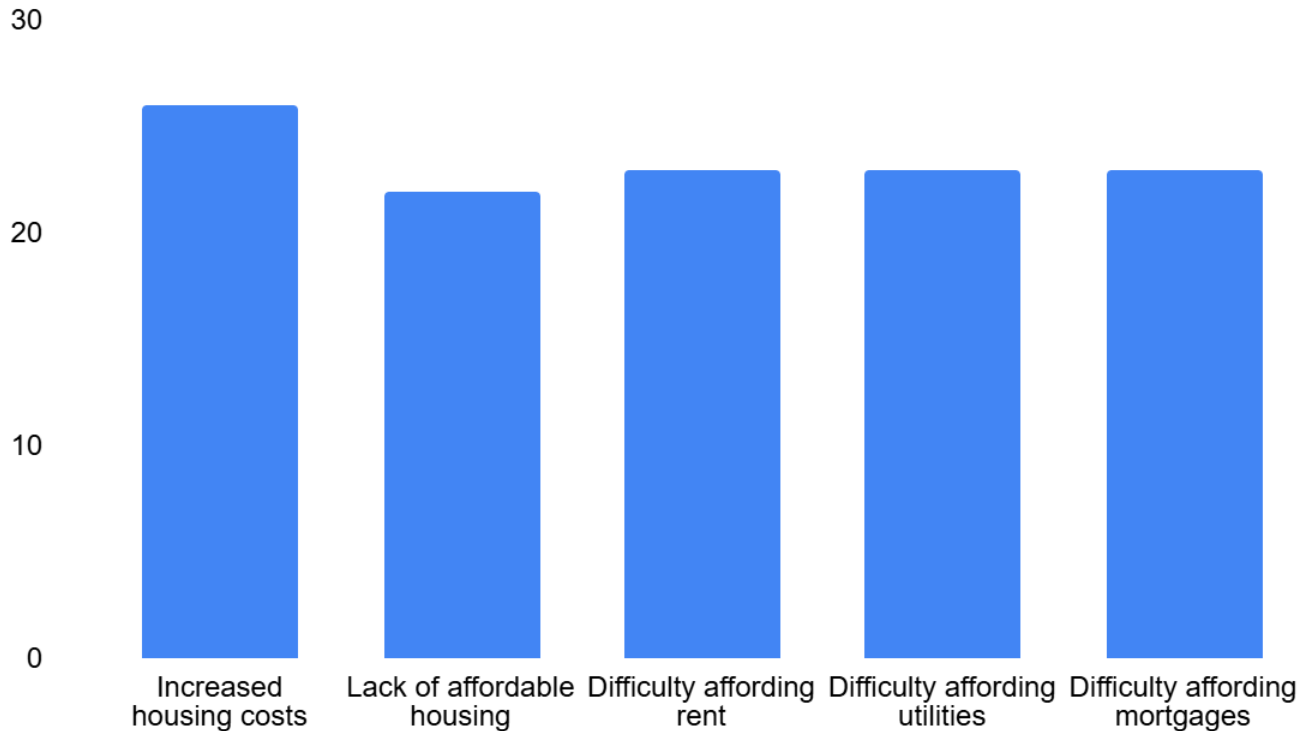

The following were identified as the top 5 barriers to employment in the community:

1. Incarceration/Probation – 35%
2. Negative work history – 42%
3. Lack of experience – 42%
4. Lack of affordable child care – 81%
5. Lack of education – 22%

8.1.1.2 Housing

100% of survey respondents identified "Increased housing costs" as the reason in which housing is an issue in their community.

Why do you believe housing is a problem in your community?

The following were identified as the top 5 barriers to housing in the community:

1. Need for safe and affordable housing – 100%
2. Need for housing assistance programs – 100%
3. Availability of mortgage/rent assistance programs – 100%
4. Need for utility assistance programs – 100%
5. Availability of income-based housing – 100%

92% of survey respondents identified "Lack of affordable childcare programs" as the reason in which child care is an issue in their community.

Why do you believe childcare is a problem in your community?
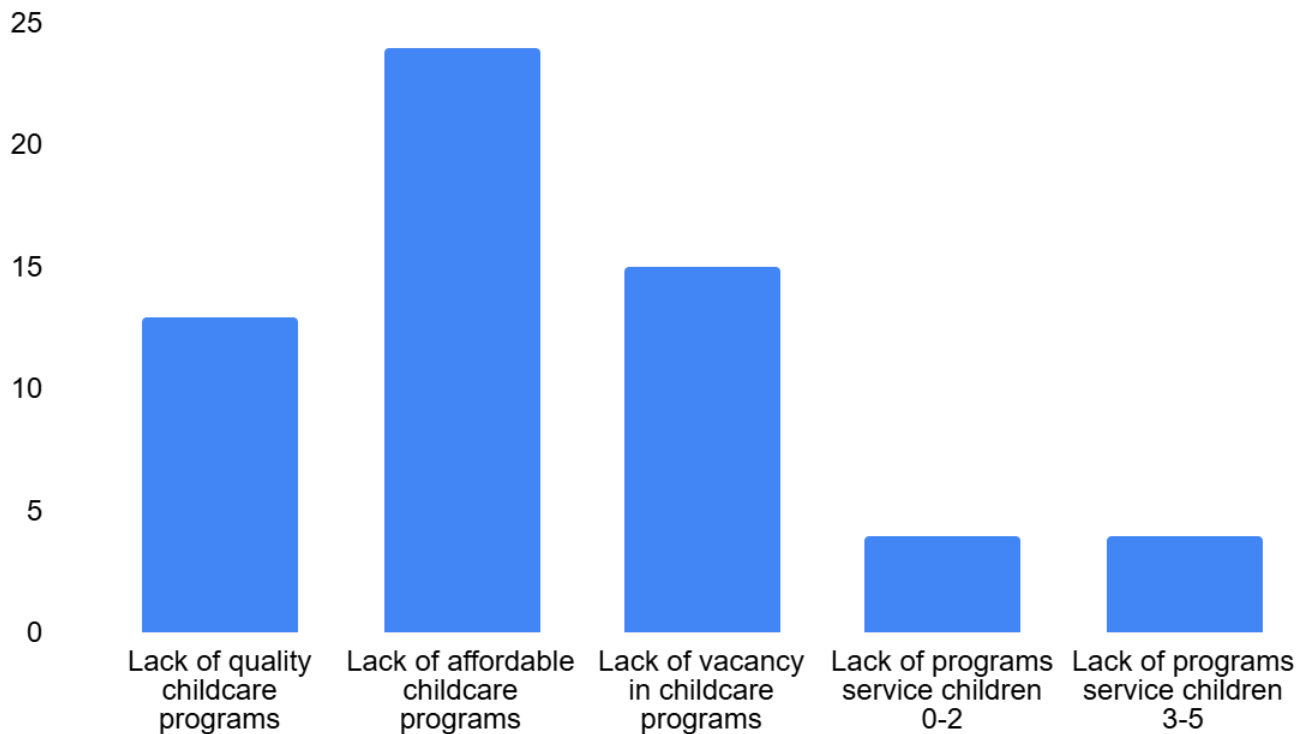
The following were identified as the top 5 barriers to child care in the community:

1. Cost of child care – 93%
2. Extended/unconventional hours of operation needed – 38%
3. Days of operation – 30%
4. Lack of transportation – 23%
5. Lack of transportation provided by the childcare program - 19%

8.1.1.4 Community Services

When assessing the needs of the community, it is important to understand the "most important" services for the community and identify those services as top priorities. The respondents to the survey identified the following as the most important needs throughout their communities:

Top Community Services
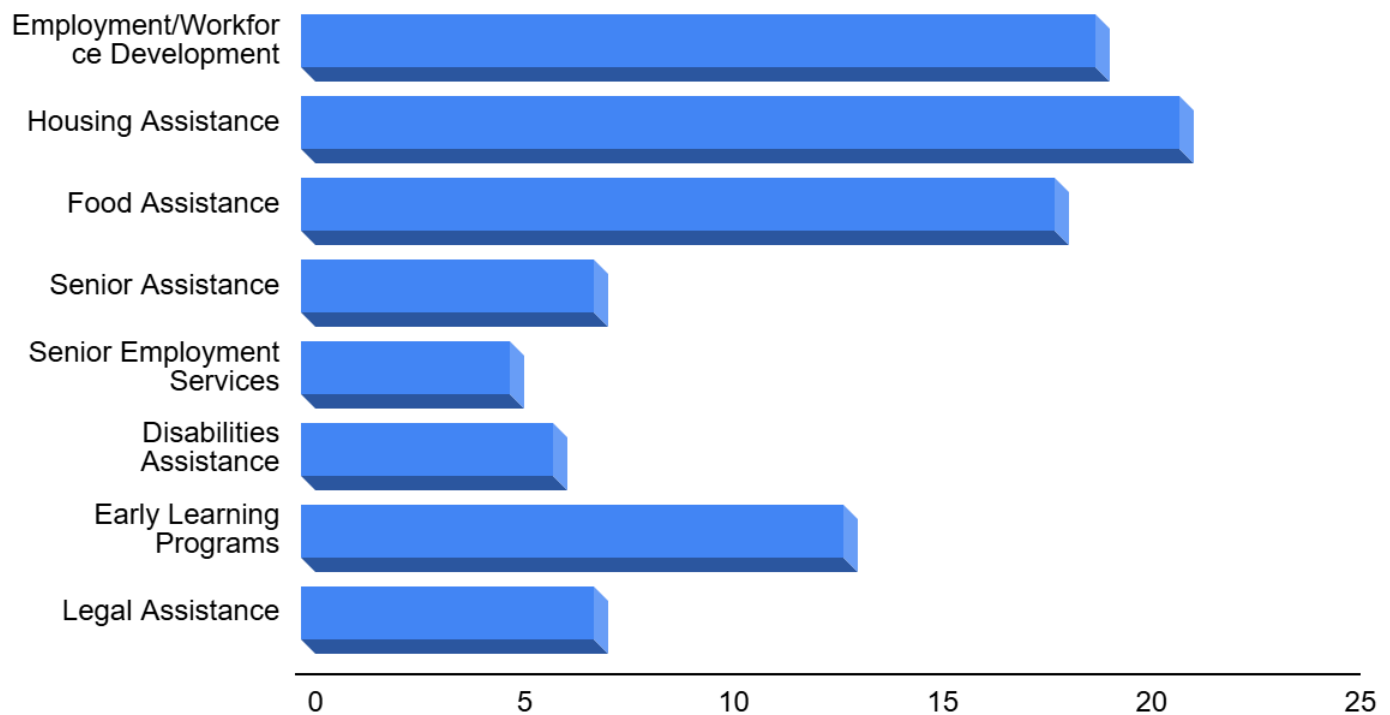
8.1.2 Community Partner Survey Results

The Community Partner Survey had a total of 11 responses over a 3 month period. Dental Staff School of Tennessee, TCAT Shelbyville, City of Lobelville, Lincoln County Family Resource Center, Family Center, Tyson Foods Shelbyville, Town of Linden, Adult Protective Services and Lincoln Early Head Start all participated in the SCHRA Community Partner Survey.

SCHRA's Community Partners serve the community through various services such as: Education Services, Disabilities & Special Education services, Employment Assistance, Senior Services, Food Assistance, Housing Assistance, Legal Assistance, and Case Management.

The top 5 service provision areas identified by the respondents were: Bedford County, Coffee County, Franklin County, Giles County and Lincoln County.

36% of the respondents identified serving households with an average of 4 people per house and 73% combined serve households with an average income under $30,000.00.

Of the 14 Community Partners:

- ✓ 79% serve Hispanic or Latino populations
- ✓ 100% serve low-income households
- ✓ 55% serve homeless individuals

- ✓ 43% serve children with disabilities
- ✓ 57% serve adults 18+ with disabilities
- ✓ 73 % serve veterans

63.6% of the Community Partners offer services in Spanish.

55% of Community Partners provide clients with service connection to Food Stamps/SNAP and 36% connect clients to Housing Choice Vouchers/Rental Assistance programs. Below are other service connections offered by Community Partners:
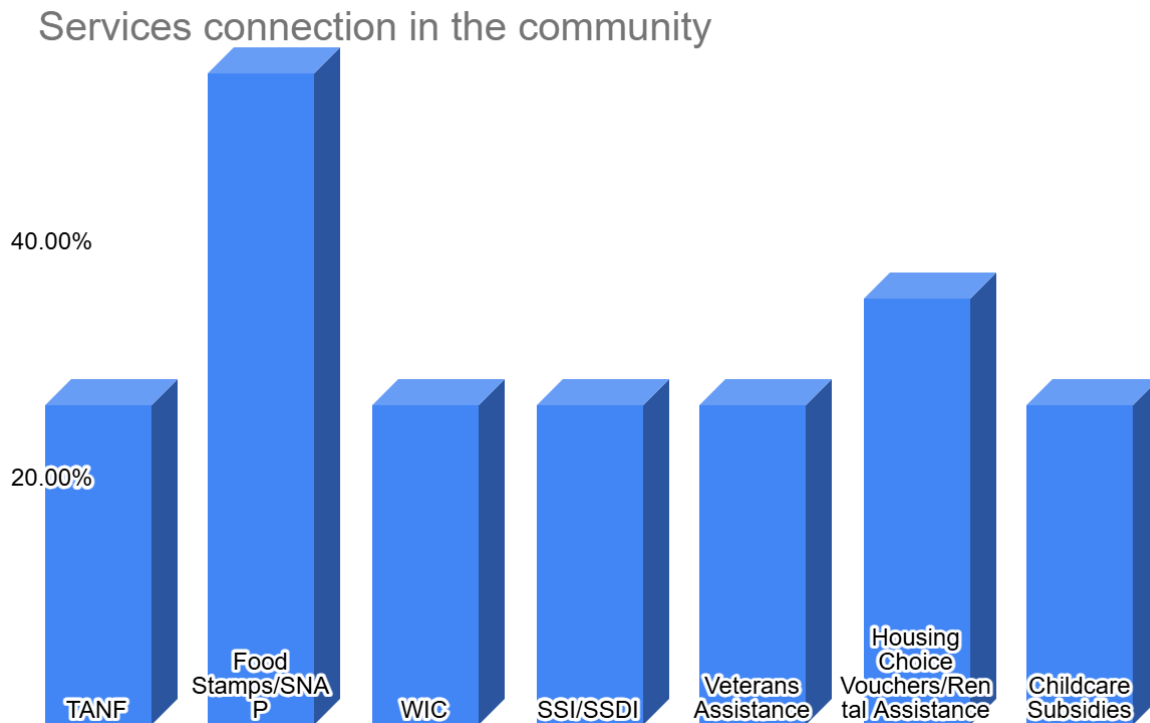
When asked which services are most needed in the community, Housing Assistance ranked highest with 82% of respondents identifying it as a prevalent need in the community. Other needs identified were: Employment & Workforce Development Assistance, Senior Assistance, Disabilities Assistance, Food Assistance and Early Learning Programs.

Respondents of the Community Partner Survey were asked to identify changes throughout the community landscape. The following are the results:
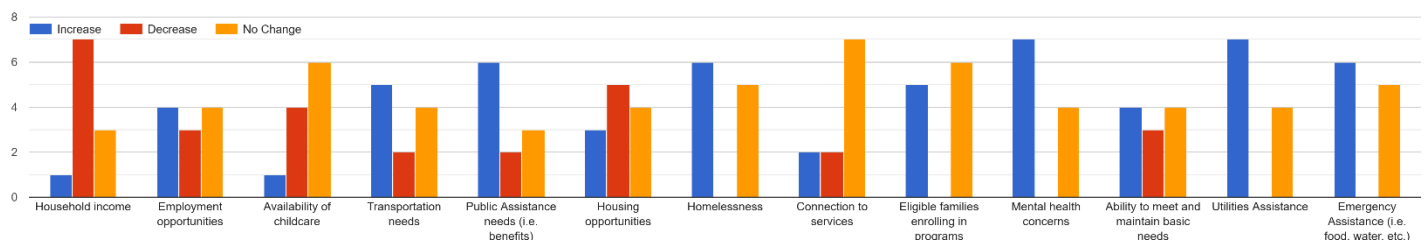
When asked to identify the strengths and needs for the community, the following responses were provided:

Strengths

- ✓ Community Partnership
- ✓ Utilities Assistance Programs
- ✓ Food Assistance Programs
- ✓ Employment Services
- ✓ Homemaker Programs

Needs

- o Housing stability
- o Food stability
- o Employment Supports
- o Public Transportation
- o Quality child care
- o Financial Assistance

9 ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

9.1 GAPS AND LIMITATIONS

The following is a discussion regarding the gaps and limitation in service provision across the SCHRA service area. The discussion will address key findings of the Community Needs Assessment by analyzing all available data and survey responses. In identifying these gaps and limitations, SCHRA will utilize the information for strategic planning, program goal setting and provision of services to the children and families throughout the community.

9.1.1 Income & Poverty Status

According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, Tennessee's Median Household income is $67,097.00 which is $13,513.00 lower than the Median Household Income for the United States. Of the counties in the service area, only 2 counties are above the state's median household income – all others fall below the state by at least 10%. Considering the Federal Poverty Guidelines, 14 % of Tennessee's population is considered to be in poverty – all counties within the service are at or above the states average.

Due to the low income earnings of individuals across the service area along and high costs of living in comparison to household income, many of the individuals in the service area are considered to be in poverty.

9.1.2 Affordable Housing

As has been evidenced throughout this report, there is very clearly a housing crisis in the 13 county SCHRA service area. According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, in Tennessee, 12% of homeowners with a mortgage experience housing burden over 30% and 20% of renters experience a housing burden over 30%. Across SCHRA's service area, these numbers are as high as 19% of owners and 17% of renters experiencing housing burden of over 30%. 30% up to 50% of household income going to rent or a mortgage can often times leave little access to money for maintaining basic needs such as utilities and food.

Coupled with the issue of high housing costs, there is also a deficit in affordable housing units throughout the service area. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, across the service area there are only 2,906 affordable housing units – Maury County with 32% affordable housing units in the area, Coffee County with 18% affordable housing units in the area and Marshall County with 11% affordable housing units in the area. The remaining 9 counties have "single digit" percentages of available affordable housing units on the market.

According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the average median monthly housing cost across the service area is $813.00; the average median rent is $600.00 and the average monthly energy costs are $163.00. 8 of the 13 counties in the service area have higher monthly housing costs than the average, 6 of the 13 counties have higher median rent contracts than the average and 15 of the 13 counties have higher energy costs than the average.

9.1.3 Social Service & Public Assistance

Similarly to the issues of eligibility based on income with Head Start and Early Head Start enrollment, there is a low number of participants accessing public assistance programs which often determine eligibility utilizing the same Federal Poverty Guidelines as Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

In 2023, more households across the service area that fell below the federal poverty guidelines were not receiving Food Stamps/SNAP than those that were. Across the service area, there were less households receiving Social Security, SSI and/or Cash public assistance living in poverty than those that were receiving the benefits. According to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, the majority of the households living in poverty in the service area are not receiving public assistance of any form.

9.1.4 Transportation

While majority of the households across the service area have access to a vehicle according to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, SCHRA families, staff and community partners indicated a great need for public transportation in survey responses. It was noted that bus routes, safety in accessing public transportation and lack of affordable transportation options prevent children and families across the service area from accessing reliable transportation.

9.1.5 Employment

Directly correlated to the need for available means of affordable and reliable transportation and poverty status is Employment. SCHRA families and staff expressed identified the lack of good paying jobs that matched the experience and skillset of the community. AS is evidenced by the available data, incomes across the service area remain low and there is a significant lack of good paying jobs.

9.1.6 Child care Availability

In 2023 the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey identified 28,025 age-eligible children living across the SCHRA Early Childhood Program service area. Currently, ThinkTennessee reports only 226 childcare centers across the service area – Coffee County, Franklin County, Hickman County, Lawrence County, Marshall County and Perry County are all considered to be in "Child Care Deserts" as of 2024. Across the service area, there are not enough childcare slots to serve the number of eligible children.

9.1.7 Conclusion

Quality child care provides a safe haven for children during the day with guaranteed access to food and development experiences, but it also ensures parents are able to go to work and work towards self-sufficiency. Without access to affordable child care, coupled with accessible transportation issues,

families across the service area are experiencing situations in which they have little ability to change their circumstances and work towards self-sufficiency.

With lack of high paying jobs and jobs that match their education or skillsets, individuals and families are not able to meet basic needs. Even those individuals that are successfully in the workforce with adequate paying jobs, experience high housing costs and burden throughout the service area makes meting basic needs merely impossible. Continued need for public assistance programs like those offered by South Central Human Resource Agency only strengthen the communities they are serving by meeting the needs of the community and assisting individuals and families in their efforts to move towards self-sufficiency.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

SCHRA must continue to utilize every available option to engage children and families in the services they need.

For income-eligible determination for enrollment into the Head Start and Early Head Start Program, SCHRA should utilize the 30% adjustment for housing costs when verifying household income. SCHRA should also continue to work hard to connect eligible children and families to SNAP/Food Stamps and other forms of Public Assistance.

As mentioned previously, affordable housing is a growing problem across SCHRA's service area and in the greater state of Tennessee. As a Community Action Agency, SCHRA should continue to address supports to assist with making housing more affordable in the community through programs like LIHEAP and housing assistance. Seeking additional funding support for programs providing housing assistance would be beneficial in addressing those needs across the service area.

Public Transportation and access to reliable transportation are clearly evidenced as crucial needs throughout the community that have a direct effect on individuals, parents and families gaining self-sufficiency. Continuing to advocate for safer, more accessible and direct routes across the service area will greatly assist those families seeking self-sufficiency through the ability to have reliable transportation to/from work.

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Community Needs Assessment 2024 Survey

SCHRA is an Early Learning and Community Action Program committed to providing high-quality services to the communities it serves. SCHRA's mission is to help people of all ages find social services and resources in their area.

Currently, SCHRA serves the community through assistance programs such as LIHEAP & Weatherization, Employment, Senior Nutrition & Services, Food & Commodities, Recovery Court, Representative Payee and Head Start/Early Head Start.

Your participation in this survey will assist SCHRA in understanding the growing needs of the community and in meeting those needs through high-quality service provisions.

This survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Please respond to all questions below.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

_____

2. What is your affiliation with SCHRA? *

   Mark only one oval.

   ◯ Early Learning Program Participant (Prenatal Services, Early Head Start or Head Start)

   ◯ Community Action Program Participant (Weatherization, LIHEAP, Food Assistance, Senior Service, etc.)

   ◯ Community Member - (no affiliation)

Demographics Questions

3. Which county are you a resident of? *

   Check all that apply.

   ☐ Bedford
   ☐ Coffee
   ☐ Franklin
   ☐ Giles
   ☐ Hickman
   ☐ Lawrence
   ☐ Lewis
   ☐ Lincoln
   ☐ Marshall
   ☐ Maury
   ☐ Moore
   ☐ Perry
   ☐ Wayne

4. How many individuals live in your household? *

   _____

5. What is the best descriptor for your household type? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Single Person - no children
- ◯ Single Parent - children
- ◯ Two Parent Household
- ◯ Two Parent Household (unmarried)
- ◯ Two Person Household (unmarried)
- ◯ Two Person Household (no children)
- ◯ Non-related Adults with children (Foster/Guardians)
- ◯ Multigenerational Household

6. What is your gender? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ Transgender
- ◯ Non-binary/Non-conforming
- ◯ Prefer not to respond

7. What are the ages of the individuals in your household?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ 0-5 years old
- ☐ 6-13 years old
- ☐ 14-17 years old
- ☐ 18-24 years old
- ☐ 25-44 years old
- ☐ 45-54 years old
- ☐ 55-59 years old
- ☐ 60-64 years old
- ☐ 65-74 years old
- ☐ 75+ years old

8. What is your race? (if you identify as bi-racial or multi-racial, please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ America Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Middle Eastern or North African
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White/Caucasian or European
- ☐ Prefer not to respond
- ☐ Other: _____

9. What is your ethnicity? *

   Mark only one oval.

   ◯ Hispanic or Latino(a)

   ◯ Not Hispanic or Latino(a)

   ◯ Prefer not to respond

10. What is your primary language? (if you are bilingual or multilingual, please select all that apply) *

    Check all that apply.

    ☐ English
    ☐ Spanish
    ☐ Arabic
    ☐ African
    ☐ Alaskan Native
    ☐ American Sign Language (ASL)
    ☐ European
    ☐ Far East
    ☐ Indic
    ☐ Native Central American
    ☐ Pacific Island
    ☐ Slavic
    ☐ Other: _____

11. What is your current employment status? *

    Mark only one oval.

    ◯ Unemployed (short term)

    ◯ Unemployed (long term)

    ◯ Employed

    ◯ Self-Employed

    ◯ Retired

    ◯ Currently enrolled in continued education

    ◯ Currently enrolled in a job training program

12. What is your current income status? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ less than $10,000.00
- ◯ $10,000.00 - $19,999.99
- ◯ $20,000.00 - $29,999.99
- ◯ $30,000.00 - $39,999.99
- ◯ $40,000.00 - $49,999.99
- ◯ $50,000.00 - $59,999.99
- ◯ $60,000.00 - $69,999.99
- ◯ $70,000.00 - $79,999.99
- ◯ $80,000.00 - $89,999.99
- ◯ $90,000.00 - $99,999.99
- ◯ $100,000.00 or more

13. Which benefits are you currently receiving? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ TANF
- ☐ Food Stamps/SNAP
- ☐ WIC
- ☐ SSI/SSDI
- ☐ Veterans Assistance
- ☐ Housing Voucher/Rental Assistance
- ☐ Childcare Subsidy
- ☐ Workers Compenstation
- ☐ Child Support
- ☐ Alimony/Spousal Support
- ☐ EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)
- ☐ None of the above

14. What is your highest level of education? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Grades 0-8
- ◯ Grades 9-12 (non-graduate)
- ◯ High School Gradudate/Diploma
- ◯ GED/Equivalency Diploma
- ◯ 12th grade + some post-secondary
- ◯ Associates Degree
- ◯ Bachelors Degree
- ◯ Masters Degree

15. What is your current housing status? *

Mark only one oval.

- ○ Rent
- ○ Own
- ○ Section 8/Affordable Housing
- ○ Multigenerational Household
- ○ Multiple Family Dwelling
- ○ Homeless
- ○ Shelter
- ○ Other: _____

Employment & Workforce Development Questions

16. Why do you believe employment/workforce development and/or employment retention are a problem in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Lack of jobs that do not require a degree or certification
- ☐ Lack of available jobs in the area
- ☐ Lack of workforce development opportunities
- ☐ Lack of education opportunities
- ☐ Lack of value in entering the workforce
- ☐ Lack of job skills
- ☐ Lack of computer skills
- ☐ Lack of employers in the area
- ☐ Lack of public transportation
- ☐ Long commutes
- ☐ Cost of transportation
- ☐ Lack of good paying jobs with benefits
- ☐ Lack of childcare during the hours needed
- ☐ There are NO employment problems
- ☐ Other: _____

17. What do you believe are the barriers to obtaining/retaining employment in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Negative work history
- ☐ Incarceration/Probation
- ☐ Lack of experience
- ☐ Lack of education
- ☐ Discrimination - age, race, gender, etc.
- ☐ Lack of childcare
- ☐ Health/Mental Health concerns or disability
- ☐ Lack of jobs matching the skillset of the community
- ☐ Lack of reliable transportation
- ☐ There are NO barriers to employment
- ☐ Other: _____

Housing Questions

18. Why do you believe housing is a problem in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Lack of affordable housing
- [ ] Lack of safe housing
- [ ] Increased housing costs
- [ ] Security Deposit requirements
- [ ] Evictions
- [ ] Homelessness
- [ ] Difficulty affording rent
- [ ] Difficulty affording mortgages
- [ ] Difficulty affording utilities
- [ ] Housing size does not meet family's need
- [ ] Houses with repairs needed and no ability to have repairs completed
- [ ] Lack of shelters
- [ ] Lack of acceptable living conditions
- [ ] Houses need Weatherization
- [ ] Lack of emergency housing
- [ ] Lack of temporary housing
- [ ] There is NO housing problem
- [ ] Other: _____

19. What do you believe are the barriers to housing in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Need for housing assistance programs
- [ ] Need for weatherization programs
- [ ] Need for safe and affordable housing options
- [ ] Need of counseling resources for homeowners
- [ ] Availability of mortgage/rent assistance programs
- [ ] Availability of utility assistance programs
- [ ] Availability of housing vouchers
- [ ] Availability of income-based housing
- [ ] There is NO barrier to housing
- [ ] Other: _____

Childcare Questions

20. Why do you believe childcare is a problem in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Lack of quality childcare programs
- [ ] Lack of affordable childcare programs
- [ ] Lack of childcare programs within my immediate vicinity
- [ ] Lack of vacancy in childcare programs
- [ ] Lack of childcare programs serving pregnant people
- [ ] Lack of childcare programs serving children 0 - 2
- [ ] Lack of childcare programs serving children 3 - 5
- [ ] Lack of childcare programs serving children with disabilities
- [ ] Other: _____

21. What do you believe are the barriers to childcare in your community? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Cost of childcare
- [ ] Days of operation
- [ ] Extended/unconventional hours of operation
- [ ] Connection between disabilities service providers and childcare programs
- [ ] Lack of transportation provided by childcare programs
- [ ] Lack of Public Transportation near childcare program
- [ ] Travel time to childcare program
- [ ] Childcare program policies (i.e. sick children, attendance, etc.)
- [ ] Unreliable due to staff - staff turnover, lack of staffing, etc.
- [ ] Other: _____

Community Services

22. Please select the community services that are most important to you (please select all that apply): *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Employment and Workforce Development
- [ ] Housing Assistance (i.e. utilities assistance, weatherization, etc.)
- [ ] Food Asssistance (i.e. congregate meals, home-delivered meals, commodities, etc.)
- [ ] Senior Assistance (i.e. in-home care, semior protective services, etc.)
- [ ] Senior Employment Services (i.e. Foster Grandparent, SCSEP, etc.)
- [ ] Disabilities Assistance (i.e. in-home care, representative payee, protective services, tc.)
- [ ] Early Learning Programs (i.e. Early Head Start, Head Start, etc.)
- [ ] Legal Assistance (i.e. recovery court)
- [ ] Other: _____

23. Are there additional areas of need in your community?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

24. Are there additional barriers to services in your community?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

25. Are there additional programs or resources needed in your community?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

26. Additional Comments

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Community Needs Assessment 2024 Survey

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Currently, SCHRA serves the community through assistance programs such as LIHEAP & Weatherization, Employment, Senior Nutrition & Services, Food & Commodities, Recovery Court, Representative Payee and Head Start/Early Head Start.

Your participation in this survey will assist SCHRA in understanding the growing needs of the community and in meeting those needs through high-quality service provisions.

This survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Please respond to all questions below.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

   _____

2. What is your name? *

   _____

3. What organization are you responding on behalf of? *

   _____

4. What services does your organization provide? (Please select all that apply) *

   Check all that apply.

   ☐ Head Start
   ☐ Early Head Start
   ☐ Universal Pre-K
   ☐ Employment Assistance
   ☐ Adult Education
   ☐ Financial Education
   ☐ Food Assistance
   ☐ Housing Assistance
   ☐ Legal Assistance
   ☐ Other: _____

5. Which counties do you serve? *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Bedford
- ☐ Coffee
- ☐ Franklin
- ☐ Giles
- ☐ Hickman
- ☐ Lawrence
- ☐ Lewis
- ☐ Lincoln
- ☐ Marshall
- ☐ Maury
- ☐ Moore
- ☐ Perry
- ☐ Wayne

6. What is the average household size you serve? *

_____

7. What is the average household income you serve? *

Mark only one oval.

- ○ less than $10,000.00
- ○ $10,000.00 - $19,999.99
- ○ $20,000.00 - $29,999.99
- ○ $30,000.00 - $39,999.99
- ○ $40,000.00 - $49,999.99
- ○ $50,000.00 - $59,999.99
- ○ $60,000.00 - $69,999.99
- ○ $70,000.00 - $79,999.99
- ○ $80,000.00 - $89,999.99
- ○ $90,000.00 - $99,999.99
- ○ $100,000.00 or more

8. Rank the population you service (1 - highest % served, 6 - lowest % served) *

Check all that apply.

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
American Indian or Alaska Native	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Asian or Asian American	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Black or African American	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Middle Eastern or North African	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
White/Caucasian or European	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

9. Do you serve the following populations? *

Check all that apply.

☐ Hispanic or Latino(a)
☐ Children with disabilities
☐ Adults 18 - 64 with diabilities
☐ Seniors 65+ with disabilities
☐ Veterans
☐ Low-income individuals
☐ Homeless individuals
☐ Teen Parents

☐ Other: _____

10. What languages do you offer services in? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

☐ English
☐ Spanish
☐ Arabic
☐ African
☐ Alaskan Native
☐ American Sign Language (ASL)
☐ European
☐ Far East
☐ Indic
☐ Native Central American
☐ Pacific Island
☐ Slavic

☐ Other: _____

11. Which benefits do you connect clients to? (Please select all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] TANF
- [ ] Food Stamps/SNAP
- [ ] WIC
- [ ] SSI/SSDI
- [ ] Veterans Assistance
- [ ] Housing Voucher/Rental Assistance
- [ ] Childcare Subsidy
- [ ] Workers Compenstation
- [ ] Child Support
- [ ] Alimony/Spousal Support
- [ ] EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)
- [ ] None of the above

Community Services

12. Which services are most in need in the community you serve? *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Employment and Workforce Development
- [ ] Housing Assistance (i.e. utilities assistance, weatherization, etc.)
- [ ] Food Asssistance (i.e. congregate meals, home-delivered meals, commodities, etc.)
- [ ] Senior Assistance (i.e. in-home care, sernior protective services, etc.)
- [ ] Senior Employment Services (i.e. Foster Grandparent, SCSEP, etc.)
- [ ] Disabilities Assistance (i.e. in-home care, representative payee, protective services, tc.)
- [ ] Early Learning Programs (i.e. Early Head Start, Head Start, etc.)
- [ ] Legal Assistance (i.e. recovery court)
- [ ] Other: _____

13. What has the community you serve experienced? (Please identify all applicable) *

Check all that apply.

	Increase	Decrease	No Change
Household income	☐	☐	☐
Employment opportunities	☐	☐	☐
Availability of childcare	☐	☐	☐
Transportation needs	☐	☐	☐
Public Assistance needs (i.e. benefits)	☐	☐	☐
Housing opportunities	☐	☐	☐
Homelessness	☐	☐	☐
Connection to services	☐	☐	☐
Eligible families enrolling in programs	☐	☐	☐
Mental health concerns	☐	☐	☐
Ability to meet and maintain basic needs	☐	☐	☐
Utilities Assistance	☐	☐	☐
Emergency Assistance (i.e. food, water, etc.)	☐	☐	☐

14. What are the areas of strength for the community you serve? (i.e. transportation, community partnerships, etc.) *

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

15. What are the areas of need for the community you services *

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

16. What are the barriers to service in the community you serve? *

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

17. What additional programs does the community you serve need? *

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

18. Additional Comments

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____