EnAct
community action

2014 Community Needs Assessment

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Table of Contents

Introduction 3

Executive Summary 3

EnAct: Agency Profile and Services 12

Develop the Plan 16

Collect Data 24

County Profiles 37

Survey Respondent Profile and Overall Results 42

Poverty Indicators

Employment 49
Education 64
Housing 80
Health 92
Nutrition 104
Use of Income 115
Transportation 128
Emergency Situations 138
Children's Needs 154

Analyze Data 163

Boone County 165
Clay County 166
Fayette County 167
Kanawha County 168
Putnam County 169
Regional 170

Take Action 171

Appendices:
A –EnAct Community Needs Survey
B - Resources

INTRODUCTION

Community Action Agencies have been key players in the war on poverty since their inception in the 1960s. Because they work directly with low-income individuals and families in dealing with the problems of poverty on a daily basis, Community Action Agencies are uniquely qualified to examine the needs of communities and individuals as they strive to eliminate poverty. In most cases, Community Action Agencies provide a wide range of services that address a variety of poverty problems.

Why, then, does poverty continue to affect so many Americans? How can EnAct develop and improve strategies to be more effective in helping people move out of poverty? Before answering these questions and deciding upon an approach, EnAct must determine what NEEDS exist in Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putman. Before determining a plan of action, EnAct Community Action must develop a deep understanding of the current conditions, likely future trends, and issues of greatest concern within the county.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2014, EnAct Community Action enlisted the assistance of Kingery and Company, LLC, to conduct a needs assessment in Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putnam Counties. The project included surveying residents, interviewing community stakeholders, conducting secondary data research, facilitating an analysis retreat, and providing a summary report with key findings and recommendations.

Goal:
Plan and conduct an all-inclusive Community Needs Assessment for EnAct, ensuring compliance with the Community Services Block Grant program requirements.

Objectives:

- Provide a broad view of demographic and economic changes, region and county infrastructure, and community-wide changes.
- Focus on providing a localized assessment of needs by reporting county level data.
- Collect *primary* data by gathering external community feedback through surveys and interviews with key stakeholders, etc.
- Collect *secondary* data by researching national, state and local data resources, and utilizing EnAct's customer outcome tracking system.
- Facilitate an analysis process that identifies potential causes of poverty.
- Mobilize EnAct and community resources in action plans that address priority needs.

Coverage Area: Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties, West Virginia

EnAct Agency Overview:
EnAct Community Action is a West Virginia Community Action Agency serving as the engine for action in offering a wide variety services to the low income residents of Clay, Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties.

EnAct Mission: EnAct Community Action will focus on the unique social planning responsibility of community action agencies by identifying the causes of poverty in the communities we serve, developing solutions, building active partnerships, and lifting low-income individuals and families to their fullest potential.

EnAct Community Action Programs:

- Education
- Emergency Assistance
- Comforts of Home
- Case Management
- Right from the Start
- Employment
- Nutrition

Community needs assessments can and should be more than just a gathering and analyzing of data; they can also be a basis for **creating change**. A comprehensive community-based needs assessment can help an agency address community and family needs by providing a snapshot of the community and families within that community, including their economic well-being, educational status, health, and welfare. A comprehensive assessment can provide important community information regarding the work of other agencies, or what organizations may be working on, to address particular issues, and where gaps in community services lie. It **provides a mechanism to meet and develop partnerships** with other community groups interested in strengthening services to citizens in the area. Finally, a comprehensive community needs assessment can help an agency in its planning process by providing the foundation for strategic and operational planning, assessing the agency's impact on meeting the needs of the community, determining what programs or strategies may have become obsolete, and deciding what strategies may provide new opportunities for the agency and the community.

A multi-level community needs assessment approach was used to provide guidance in the planning process for improving services and programs to **combat poverty** in Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County. The comprehensive needs assessment can be used for a variety of situations, including the following:

- Guide board governance in sound decision-making
- Create opportunities for community buy-in to the agency's planning process
- Create opportunities for new alliances and connections with new partners
- Form successful strategies
- Ensure services meet the current needs of the community
- Build credibility
- Provide a foundation for pursuing new/different funding
- Guide staff training and educational planning
- Enhance EnAct's capacity to respond to change
- Generate authentic input from stakeholders
- Indicate causes as well as conditions of poverty

Assessing Needs - The Four Step Process

Step One: Develop a Plan

The first step with any project begins with development of a plan, a plan that maintains focus on the big picture all the while accounting for every detail. A **work plan** comprised of tasks, timelines, responsible persons, and progress updates served to guide the needs assessment process.

As with any quality planning process, it was critical to bring the right people to the table. Thinking beyond EnAct staff, it was important to engage members of the community in the

needs assessment process. This took place in the formation of a **Needs Assessment Steering Committee** comprised of internal staff (management and staff) and external community stakeholders. External stakeholders included representatives of Regional Family Resource Network, Fayette County FRN, UKVEC, Madison/Danville Jaycees, United Food Operations, Workforce Investment Board, Thomas Health Systems, First Baptist Church, Agape Cloak, Charleston Police Department, Prestera Center, City of Hurricane, United Way of Central WV, Charleston-Kanawha Housing, and Southern Appalachian Labor School. The Steering Committee served to set direction, assist with the collection of primary data, monitor progress, and analyze results.

Step Two: Collect Data

Since EnAct is an anti-poverty organization, it was important to use the community action areas as the foundation on which to build the needs assessment. They include the following:

To remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency, the statewide needs assessment explores the eight community action poverty indicators.

1. To secure and retain meaningful employment.
2. To obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment.
3. To benefit from accessible and affordable healthcare.
4. To attain an adequate education, with particular attention toward improving literacy skills of the low-income families.
5. To ensure proper nutrition by encouraging healthy eating habits.
6. To make better use of available income.
7. To utilize available transportation options.
8. To obtain emergency assistance to meet immediate and urgent family and individual basic living needs.

With guidance from the WV Community Action Partnership, the state association representing 16 community action agencies, and the WV Office of Economic Opportunity, the following poverty indicators served as our primary and secondary data collection issue areas.

Poverty Indicators:

- Health
- Employment
- Transportation
- Education
- Use of Income
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Emergency Situations

Primary and Secondary Data Collection

After determining the poverty indicators, our focus shifted to the identification of primary data collection sources. Primary sources included gathering quantitative and qualitative feedback through surveys and interviews.

Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Steering Committee identified survey distribution partners throughout Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putnam Counties. As a result, there were 1,459 needs assessment survey respondents, with the largest segment of respondents ages 24-44. The majority were female (73.8%), White (89.2%), with a monthly household income of $2,001+ (41.1%) listing high school/G.E.D. as the highest level of education

completed 29.5%). Survey respondents were asked whether a key area or poverty indicator was an issue for them and/or their family.

The overall ranking of the eight key poverty indicators along with the top three reasons identified for each was as follows:

1. Health – 28.8%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

2. Employment – 30.6%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of reliable transportation

3. Use of Income – 21.1%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues

4. Housing – 23.0%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Affordability of rent/house payments
2. Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3. Lack of affordable/suitable housing

5. Transportation – 25.0%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of public transportation
3. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle

6. Education – 16.9%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of vocational skills or training
2. Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors
3. Availability and/or location of classes

7. Nutrition – 26.5%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

8. Emergency Situations*

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food

*(NOTE: The format of the Emergency Situations did not allow for a ranking or percentage; rather it asked respondents to *choose the three most important **emergency situations** that may be problems in the area.)*

Community Stakeholder Feedback

The second form of primary data collection came from interviewing community stakeholder representatives from a variety of social service agencies in the region including Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston, Fayette County Family Resource Network, Charleston Police Department, WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Regional Family Resource Network, Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center and Parents as Teachers, EnAct, and United Way of Central WV. The purpose of these interviews was to identify how other agencies might be addressing the key poverty indicators.

Open-ended questions about each of the key poverty indicators encouraged expression of qualitative feedback. Questions such as, "Is your agency addressing EMPLOYMENT issues in your community and if so, how? The responses in detail are included at the end of each poverty issue as part of the county reports. Overall questions and responses included the following feedback.

What one thing do you like most about your community?

- There is a wide variety of free cultural events available to segments of the community.
- The friendly children & families in my neighborhood.
- The fantastic natural resources - opportunities to hike, bike, walk. Summersville Lake to swim or stand up paddle board (SUP). Okay, you asked the ONE thing - the natural resources available to transform your life.
- Even though drugs touch everyone somehow, the community in a whole believes in the success possible and the potential here.
- Still being mostly rural.
- Communities have a desire to want to work on their problems. All it takes is finding those people and bringing them to the table.
- People care about each other and come together to help those in need.
- The caring community that continues to help others, year after year.
- The strong interaction and communication between agencies dealing with the poverty population.
- Close knit neighborhoods, friendly people
- The people.

What is ONE thing you would change to improve your community?

- Make more youth oriented activities available, i.e. after school programs, weekend events, etc.
- Stop drug use.
- Get folks off the couch and get moving.
- Figure out how to motivate the persons with low self-esteem to fight to better their situations.

- To get the more community resources with the amount of wealth in Hurricane and Winfield I am not sure why we do not have as many resources available to assist those in need.
- Increase funding opportunities for community organizations.
- I would change or improve the community by creating opportunities for children and families. We need good paying jobs and children need adequate child care and after school programs.
- The cost of higher education. I would love to see every high school student have the opportunity to get a college education.
- Increasing knowledge of available services and outreach.
- Improved employment opportunities
- More industry to create jobs.

In your opinion, what would your community look like without poverty?

- From a physical view point the community would be more attractive with the elimination of the deteriorating neighborhoods. Attitudes would be more positive and you would see more people smiling.
- Thriving small city full of kids.
- Children are safe in their homes and communities; caring adults that support productive engagement and citizenship; volunteerism; environmental appreciation; natural resource conservation; defying corporations that use/abuse workers; defying the prevalence of substance abuse for economic gain; appreciation for natural resources; healthy communities (no food insecurities); opportunities for physical activity acted upon; hope for a brighter future.
- Well-functioning families with food, cloths, and a little extra cash for church, school and vacation extras. Not hooked on drugs. Eating with the family and friends not depending on someone else.
- It would be great.
- All 3 counties (Boone, Kanawha, and Putnam) would look different, but would function much more effectively and have resources available to make good, positive choices.
- Children and families would have things they need such as money to pay utility bills, adequate housing, clothing, jobs, etc.
- I feel the crime rate in our community would be less if poverty did not exist. In turn, children could have a much safer and happier childhood. This better start in their lives could transform the next generation into productive citizens in our community.
- Our community would flourish.
- Cleaner neighborhoods, less crime, children playing in parks, safety concerns not an issue, reduced substance use.
- Enriched.

In your opinion, what keeps families in poverty in your community?

- The sense of helplessness and the overabundance of "free" services which make getting out of poverty a less attractive option.
- Lack of motivation from those to get off the social well-fare system once they have received aide. Lack of education. Drug abuse.
- Lack of hope; substance abuse; relying on someone to give them a job instead of creating a job; circumstances that I don't understand - is it laziness? Over reliance on welfare? Disability as a way out of working? Low minimum wage? Generational cultures?

- Drugs have allowed families not to be trained in a good family life. Drugs causes low self-esteem whether the individual using or in the family member. Searching for good paying jobs and getting the education with low self-esteem is very difficult.
- The lack of public transportation to the far reaches of the county can be connect to Huntington and Charleston to increase job opportunities outside fast food or min wage jobs. Also and lack of available community resources to aid families.
- There are so many factors: lack of public transportation, too rural, few resources available to meet needs, lack of employment opportunities, etc.
- Our community is the heart of the coalfields. We need jobs.
- Poor choices such as drugs, lack of education, generational poverty thinking, etc.
- Lack of knowledge of available programs, ineligibility for programs in the area (due to slightly over income, drug use, etc.).
- Lack of education, lack of opportunities.
- Jobs and education.

Secondary Data Collection

Secondary data collection included gathering relevant and current statistics and research from reliable sources such as other social agencies and government entities in an effort to supplement the survey results and community stakeholder feedback. Research on each of the poverty indicators was compiled and is presented in detail as part of the Poverty Indicators sections of this report.

Data sources included:

- Center for Budget & Policy. West Virginia Federal Rental Assistant Facts
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- CFED – Assets & Opportunities Scorecard
- County Health Rankings
- Social Security Administration
- United States Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey
- United States Department of Labor
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- West Virginia Division of Local Health
- Wikipedia-Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County, West Virginia
- WV Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities
- WV Department of Health and Human Resources
- WV Department of Education
- WV Department of Education, Office of Special Programs
- WV KIDS COUNT FUND
- WV State Police Department
- Zero to Three – National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families

Step Three: Analyze Data

As part of a one-day debriefing retreat with the Needs Assessment Steering Committee that took place on October 28, 2014, Kingery & Company presented primary and secondary data of each key poverty issue. Using a paired comparison technique, county representatives (EnAct staff and external stakeholder representatives) analyzed the information presented and prioritized the issues that are in **most** need in their community. The top issues per county are as follows:

Boone County

1. Emergency Situations
2. Employment
3. Health

Clay County

1. Employment
2. Transportation
3. Use of Income

Fayette County

1. Emergency Situations
2. Use of Income
3. Health

Kanawha County

1. Employment
2. Use of Income
3. Housing

Putnam County

1. Emergency Situations
2. Transportation
3. Housing

The top issues in the region as a whole are as follows:

Region

1. Health
2. Employment
3. Use of Income
4. Nutrition
5. Housing
6. Emergency Situations

Step Four: Take Action

The report is where it all comes together to tell the needs assessment story that **captures the process, results, and action plans**. The report that you are reading now provides a succinct record of the four step process: 1-Develop a plan; 2-Collect data; 3-Analyze results; and 4-Take action.

The final report was shared with the Needs Assessment Steering Committee in advance of the public release. Steering Committee members were asked to share the report with their own organizations and other groups in an effort to mobilize community resources to address needs beyond that of EnAct. Although EnAct spearheaded the needs assessment project, the agency considers the report as the '**community's report'**. Results will be shared in a news release and

electronic copies will be made available upon request. In addition, the report will be incorporated into the next agency-wide strategic planning process.

"Great presentation! Truthfully, it's always refreshing to get out from behind the desk and have the opportunity to engage with other agencies to see how we all relate to 'the big picture' and how we can work together to address local issues."

Amy Farley
Youth Coordinator/Program Assistant
Region III Workforce Investment Board of Kanawha County

"Participating in the EnAct Community Needs Assessment has been a great process of collaborating with other agencies to identify community resources and the needs that still exist in our region. This collaborative effort has bridged gaps and helped to network needed contacts and resources in both the rural and urban counties served. My agency, Prestera Center, serves four of the five counties, and this has been a great opportunity to share with others all of the many services we provide throughout this region."

Dana L. Petroff
Director of Addiction Services, Prestera Center

"I was asked to help work on the EnAct community needs assessment with Brent Pauley, CEO, EnAct. I really didn't' know what to think other than I thought this was going to be a lot of extra work, but I was wrong. We were brought together to brainstorm, help out with surveys and give our opinions from our work experience. It didn't feel like work, but you tell the work was getting done, and we enjoyed each meeting. I think we can thank the facilitator for her great work and her team for pulling it all together, Tricia Kingery and Company. Great job to all."

Captain Kim Mitchell
Charleston Police Department

"I am honored to have been part of the EnAct community needs assessment group. The data that will come out of this assessment will be vital to many different agencies and non-profits. As a partner agency with WV 211 this data will help us see where the unmet needs in our communities are and drive us to find resources for those needs to share with our callers. United Way of Central WV and other non-profits will share this data with their Boards of Directors to help them make decisions about services and funding which will improve lives in our communities."

Barbara Mallory, CIRS
Information & Referral Director
United Way of Central WV

ENACT AGENCY PROFILE & SERVICES

EnAct Mission:
EnAct Community Action will focus on the unique social planning responsibility of community action agencies by identifying the causes of poverty in the communities we serve, developing solutions, building active partnerships, and lifting low-income individuals and families to their fullest potential.

EnAct Community Action is a West Virginia Community Action Agency that offers a variety of specific programs and services to assist low-income individuals and families towards self-sufficiency. EnAct Community Action administers emergency, maintenance and developmental programs that are a critical service in developing the framework for individuals and families to achieve self-sufficiency. EnAct Community Action serves the residents of Clay, Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties.

EnAct Community Action offers the following programs:

- ***Education*** - EnAct offers the opportunity to receive training in high-demand vocational fields and assistance in overcoming the barriers to obtaining high quality employment through our "Avenues to Employment" programs. All "Avenues to Employment" programs are completely free to low income participants. "Avenues to Employment" Programs include Nursing Assistance classes, Mining classes, Chemical Operator Classes programs not only assist with education funding, but also in many other areas that affect education such as child care, transportation, emergency support, and any other conditions that would destabilize the families of participants. EnAct partners with other community-based organizations to provide GED and ABE classroom instruction. EnAct can provide school supplies to low-income children whose families are unable to afford them.
- ***Emergency Assistance*** - EnAct provides assistance to low-income, disabled and elderly persons through the Community Services Block Grant. EnAct can provide direct payments on qualified, eligible customers' utility bills, housing bills, and in some of our sites eyeglass and prescriptions costs. EnAct offices also have, when funds and donations are available, baby items for qualified customers. These items can include diapers, baby food, and formula.
- ***Comforts of Home*** – This program provides in-home personal care services for the Aged & Disabled Waiver program which includes meal preparation, light house-keeping, transportation for essential and community errands, and social & emotional support. Case management services are also available for assessment, service planning and client advocacy. COH also offers personal care services for private pay individuals.
- ***Case Management*** – EnAct is committed to assisting clients achieve their goals more effectively and efficiently using best practice service planning and delivery. Case Management Services include: Referral and access, Assessment and service planning,

Implementation of services, Coordination and maintenance, Client advocacy including linkage to services, appeals and conflict resolution.

- ***Right from the Start*** - Right from the Start (RFTS) is a home visitation program that provides education, service coordination, and support for low-income pregnant women and children up to age one in Kanawha County. Home visits and telephone calls are made by EnAct staff to maintain contact and support. Service coordination is provided by making sure families have the things they need and linking them to community agencies in their area. Education is provided through the Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum and DVDs. All education materials are provided from the program.
- ***Employment -*** EnAct offices in Chesapeake and Clendenin serve as Work Force West Virginia satellite sites where representatives from the Regional Workforce Investment Boards, Bureau of Employment Programs, and the Work Force West Virginia Centers work with EnAct staff to schedule clients for needs assessments, job referrals, job training and job placement.
- ***Nutrition*** - EnAct operates emergency food pantries throughout its entire service area. Staff distributes USDA commodities and supplemental foodstuffs to qualified clients to assist clients in meeting their daily nutritional requirements. Garden seeds are available in growing season to qualified individuals in the spring to supplement their nutritional needs. Staff partner with local agencies to instruct and provide informational pamphlets on how to can and freeze vegetables.

Assessing Needs: The Four Step Process

STEP ONE: Develop a Plan

Kingery & Company along with EnAct management established a Needs Assessment Steering Committee to develop a plan that included setting direction, assisting with the collection of primary data, monitoring progress, and reviewing results.

Needs Assessment Steering Committee Members:

- Brent Pauley, CEO, EnAct
- Aletha Stolar, Director, Fayette County FRN
- Damron Bradshaw, Executive Director, UKVEC
- Joyce VanDale Hill, Boone County Service Coordinator and EnAct FACs Pro Admin
- Lori Tompkins, Vice President, Madison/Danville Jaycee
- Julia Elmore, Family Support Coordinator, EnAct
- Vicki Hudson, Family Support Coordinator, EnAct
- Kay Moffatt, Treasurer, United Food Operation
- Amy Farley, Program Coordinator. Region 3 WIB-KC
- Becky Brannon, VP of Nursing/CNO, Thomas Health System
- Judy Ballard, First Baptist Church Food Bank
- Mary Browning, Coordinator, Agape Cloak
- Captain Kim Mitchell, Charleston Police Dept.
- Dana Petroff, Director of Addiction Services, Prestera Center
- Barbie Spade, Family Service Coordinator, EnAct
- Ben Newhouse, City Manager, City of Hurricane
- Helen Estep, CSBG Program Supervisor, EnAct
- Dottie Davila, Family Service Coordinator, EnAct
- Lisa Hudnall, Community Services Director, United Way of Central WV
- Mark Taylor, CEO, Charleston-Kanawha Housing
- John David, Director, Southern Appalachian Labor School
- Lisa Holcomb, Family Support Coordinator, EnAct
- Michele Bowles, Director, RFRN
- Michael Farmer, Program Coordinator of Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston
- Melanie Hirst, Director Medicaid Waiver Comforts of Home
- Diane Hughes, UKVEC- Starting Points FRC- Program Director
- Connie Keiffer, Coordinator of Retention and Freshman Advising. Bridge Valley Community & Technical College
- Connie Lupardus (CAEZ of WV) Central Appalachia Empowerment Zone of WV Executive Director
- Barbara Mallory, Information and Referral Director, United Way of Central WV
- Morgan Morris, Registered Nurse, Comforts of Home
- Tamara Rizk, Director Right From The Start, EnAct Inc.
- Krystal Stollings, Director of School Psychological Services Boone County Schools

At organizational and planning meetings, the Needs Assessment Steering Committee focused on conducting a situational analysis that included the following:

1. Orienting the Needs Assessment Steering Committee to the purpose, process and roles.
2. Conducting a media analysis by reviewing newspaper articles that reported on unmet needs.
3. Identifying target participant individuals/groups for surveying.
4. Reviewing **work plan** including tasks, responsibilities and deadlines.

The responsibilities of the Needs Assessment Steering Committee included:

- Attend three meetings (beginning, middle, and end of project).
- Assist in identifying places where the Community Needs Assessments survey might be distributed.
- Assist in providing access to secondary research information (research or data developed by other organizations that already exist).
- Play a key role in reviewing the data collected, determining priority community needs and identifying ways that EnAct and other community organizations might meet the needs. (This took place at the third meeting in the form of a retreat.)
- Be recognized in the report, provided a draft copy of the report in advance of the public release and receive a final electronic PDF version so that they too can share the report with their stakeholders and colleagues.

EnAct Community Needs Assessment
Work Plan

Task	Responsible *Primary Responsibility	By When
Approve Community Needs Assessment Planning Process Work Plan	**EnAct CEO* EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**April 2014**
Work with Executive Director and Community Needs Assessment Liaison to identify members of the Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee (internal and external representatives)	**Kingery & Company Consultants* EnAct CEO EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**April 2014**
Meet with EnAct management to: • **Review work plan** • **Clarify roles, responsibilities and timelines** • **Prepare for the first Steering Committee meeting**	**Kingery & Company Consultants* EnAct CEO EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**April 2014**
Begin work on the county profiles (Clay, Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties) • **Define content needed** • **Determine process for capturing content** • **Review deadlines**	**Kingery & Company Consultants* EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**April 2014**
Begin collecting Secondary Data Collection of national, state and local data resources for each county	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**April 2014**
Conduct organizational meeting of the Community	**Kingery & Company**	**June 2014**

Needs Assessment Steering Committee • **Articulate the project goal, determine oversight responsibilities and establish a development process** • **Informally identify unmet needs already known or talked about in the community by conducting a media analysis and reviewing previous needs assessments** • **Discuss data collection methods (possible survey subjects, method of delivery, locations, etc.).** • **Steering committee to identify potential external survey distribution partners** • **Review survey questions**	**Consultants*** **EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison** **Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee**	
Distribute electronic survey link to the Steering Committee asking them to complete it and forward to their contacts	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee**	**June – August 2014**
Contact survey distribution partners to make plans for them to complete the online survey or hard copy version	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**June – August 2014**
Send link and/or mail hard copies of the survey	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**June – August 2014**
EnAct clients to complete survey	**EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**June – August 2014**
Assess status of county profiles	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**July 2014**
Continue collecting Secondary Data Collection of national, state and local data resources	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**July 2014**
Monitor progress of survey completion	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**July 2014**
Email EnAct management to review progress and next steps	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**July 2014**

Conduct second meeting of the Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee • **Review status of Steering Committee members completing the survey and if they have distributed it to their contacts** • **Review status of EnAct clients completing the survey** • **Collect/Finalize contact information for external Survey Distribution Partners** • **Review Secondary Data Collection Plan**	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison** **Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee**	**August 2014**
Assess status of county profiles.	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**August 2014**
Continue collecting Secondary Data of national, state and local data resources	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**August 2014**
Finalize any remaining online surveys or collect any remaining hard copy surveys	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**August 2014**
Compile Survey Results - prepare graphs and insert them into draft report	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**August - September 2014**
Begin preparing PowerPoint for retreat by inserting all of the survey results/graphs into slides	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**August 2014**
Round table discussion/Focus Group (one per county) - Clay, Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam counties	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**August - September 2014**
Finalize County Profiles and place it in draft report	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**September 2014**
Finalize Secondary Data Collection and place it in draft report and in the retreat PowerPoint	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**September 2014**
Finalize PowerPoint for retreat including primary and secondary data, prepare agenda, handouts, door prizes	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**September - October 2014**
Conduct final meeting of the Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee **(NOTE: This would be a one day retreat where internal and external reps would attend.)** • **Present primary and secondary data collection**	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**October 2014**

results • **Facilitate an analysis process that identifies potential causes of poverty and mobilizes EnAct and community resources in a plan to address the issues.**	**Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee**	
Write draft report	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**September - October 2014**
Review draft report	**Kingery & Company Consultants*** **EnAct CEO** **EnAct Community Needs Assessment Liaison**	**October 2014**
Final Report	**Kingery & Company Consultants***	**November 2014**

Needs Assessment Steering Committee Meetings

The committee met three times over a period of six months. The following information includes the meeting agendas with presentation topics, activities and assignments.

Meeting One: June 3, 2014
AGENDA

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Networking Lunch**
- Complete Survey

12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Welcome and Introductions**
- Agenda Review
- About EnAct

12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **What is a Community Needs Assessment?**
- Goals and Objectives
- Your Experience
- People Bingo
- Following the Rules and Guidelines
- Introduction of the Four Assessment Steps

1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **Step 1: Develop a Plan**
- Community Action Key Areas
- Steering Committee Roles and Responsibilities
- Media Analysis Activity

1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Step 2: Collect Data**
- **Quantitative Surveys**
  - Target Audience: Broad Community
  - Identify Survey Distribution Partners
- **Resource Assessment**

- Target Audience: Steering Committee
- **Secondary Research**
- **Focus Groups**
  - Determine Location

2:30 p.m. – 2:40 p.m. **Step 3: Data Analysis Process - A Preview**
- Three Steps

2:40 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. **Step 4: Take Action - A Preview**
- Report Outline

2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Wrap Up & Next Steps**

Meeting Two: August 5, 2014
AGENDA

11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. **Welcome & Agenda Review**

11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Survey Update**
- Total surveys in each county
- Small Groups – Identify additional survey partners

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH**

12:30 p.m. – 12:55 p.m. **Community Stakeholder Resource Assessment**

12:55 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Wrap Up and Next Steps**

Meeting Three: October 28, 2014
AGENDA

1. **Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review** **11:00 a.m.**
2. **This or That?** **11:10 a.m.**
3. **Needs Assessment Process** **11:20 a.m.**
4. **Presentation of Primary and Secondary Data** **11:30 a.m.**
   What Did You Hear?, Trivia Questions and SWOT Analysis
   Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, & Putnam Counties
   - Demographics
   - Employment
   - Education

5. **Lunch** **12:00 p.m.**

6. **Presentation of Primary and Secondary Data** **12:30 p.m.**
   What Did You Hear?, Trivia Questions and SWOT Analysis
   Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, & Putnam Counties

   - Housing
   - Health
   - Nutrition
   - Use of Income
   - Transportation
   - Emergency Situations
   - Children's Issues

7. **Prioritization Exercise** **2:30 p.m.**
   - *Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, & Putnam Counties*

8. **Break** **3:00 p.m.**

9. **Issues, Challenges, Barriers and Goals Worksheet** **3:15 p.m.**
   - *Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, & Putnam Counties*

10. **Wrap Up and Next Steps** **4:30 p.m.**

STEP TWO: Collect Data

Primary and secondary data sources were identified. Primary sources included quantitative surveys, focus groups and qualitative feedback from community stakeholders.

Primary Data Collection

Survey Methodology

A needs assessment survey was developed to garner the opinion of Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County residents on the **indicators of poverty.** The Needs Assessment Steering Committee identified a variety of methods to distribute the survey to county residents.

- Survey areas explored the eight community action key areas that are indicators of poverty. They include employment, education, housing, health, nutrition, use of income, transportation, and emergency situations. The survey also explored the area of children's needs.
- The Needs Assessment Steering Committee identified survey distribution partners in each county including services providers and community leaders, and the community at-large for survey delivery and developed an outreach plan that identified the method of survey delivery for each target audience, i.e. mail, electronic.
- In addition, EnAct clients were asked to complete the while receiving services with staff available to answer any questions.
- By utilizing Survey Monkey, an electronic online survey tool, EnAct was able to effectively reach the majority of the target audiences. However, some hard copy surveys were distributed using strategic outreach partners. The process included Kingery & Company preparing hard copy versions of the survey and mailing packets directly to the survey distribution partners. EnAct staff manually entered hard copy survey feedback into the Survey Monkey system.

Below you will find the survey data collection plan that identifies by county the target populations surveyed, the method of delivery and survey distribution partner by county.

Boone County

Parents of Young Children

- Kids R Us
- Appalachian Council

Teens (High School Students)

- Sherman High School
- WVU Extension

Adults (Clients of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations)

- Boone County Community Organization
- YWCA Family Resolve

Adult (Community Members)

- Racine Volunteer Fire Department
- Whitesville Fire Department
- Boone County Ambulance Authority

- Madison/Danville Jaycee's

Seniors
- Black Diamond Arbors

Various Ages
- Prestera Center
- Regional Family Resource Network
- Agape Cloak
- Racine Baptist Church

Clay County

Parents of Young Children
- YWCA
- Clay County Head Start
- Clay County WIC/Right From the Start

Teens (High School Students)
- Clay County High School
- Adolescent Health Initiative Director (Teen Institute)

Adults (Clients of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations)
- YWCA
- WV DHHR
- Clay County Services Unlimited
- Family Resource Network
- Workforce

Adult (Community Members)
- Golden Delicious Festival
- Clay County Health Department

Seniors
- Clay County Senior Center
- Clay County Development Corporation

Various Ages
- Central Appalachian Empowerment Zone of WV
- RESA III SPOKES/ABE
- Lifebridge Americorps
- Prestera Center
- United Way of Central WV

Fayette County

Parents of Young Children
- Fayette Co. Head Start
- Fayette County Starting Points

Teens (High School Students)
- Upward Bound @ WVU Tech
- WVU Extension 4-H
- Girl Scouts of America

Adults (Clients of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations)
- Fayette Co. DHHR
- United Way of Southern WV
- Fayette County Emergency Food Center
- Food Pantry

Adult (Community Members)
- Fayette County Public Library
- Fayette County Health Department

Seniors
- Fayette County Senior Services Program

Various Ages
- Fayette County FRN
- Prestera Center

Kanawha County

Parents of Young Children
- Connect Child Care Resource and Referral
- PAC Partnership African Community Churches
- DHHR-"Parents As Teachers"
- Charleston Child Care & Learning Center- Cross Lanes YMCA
- Charleston YWCA
- Right from the Start- Enact, Inc.
- Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points

Teens (High School Students)
- EPIC Program-Juvenile Offenders
- Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club
- Daymark/New Connections
- Community Development Outreach Ministries
- Job Corps

Adults (Clients of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations)
- The Counseling Connection
- KV Collective

- Goodwill
- KISRA
- Job Corps/ WV Career Transition Services
- United Way Partner Agencies
  - Alzheimer's Association
  - American Red Cross
  - Catholic Charities West Virginia
  - Children's Therapy Clinic
  - Daymark
  - Family Counseling Connection
  - Heart and Hand
  - Hospice Care
  - Kanawha County Dental Health Council
  - Kanawha County Schools Shoe Fund
  - Kanawha Valley Fellowship Home
  - Legal Aid of West Virginia
  - Mountain Mission
  - Nitro Food Pantry and Assistance
  - Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center
  - TEAM for West Virginia Children - Western Regional CASA
  - The Salvation Army - Boys & Girls Club of Charleston & St. Albans
  - West Virginia Health Right
  - YWCA of Charleston

Adult (Community Members)

- Kanawha County Public Libraries
- Emmanuel Baptist Church
- Charleston Fire Department
- Cross Lanes YWCA

Seniors

- Kanawha Valley Senior Services
- Hansford Senior Services Center

Various Ages

- Charleston Police Dept. - all ages
- DMI Drug Market Intervention Committee -
- Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF)
- Prestera Center
- Regional Family Resource Network

Putnam County

Parents of Young Children

- Putnam County WIC Office
- Teays Valley Child Development Center
- Almost Home Day Care
- Stepping Stones Academy
- My Family Day Care and PreSchool

Teens (High School Students)

- WVU Extension 4-H

Adults (Clients of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations)

- Mission WV
- Putnam County DHHR

Adult (Community Members)

- Putnam County Commission
- Putnam County Fireman's Association
- Putnam County EMS

Seniors

- Putnam County Aging

Various Ages

- Prestera Center
- Regional Family Resource Network

Survey Results Summary

The Needs Assessment Steering Committee identified survey distribution partners throughout Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putnam Counties. As a result, there were 1,459 needs assessment survey respondents, with the largest segment of respondents ages 24-44. The majority were female (73.8%), White (89.2%), with a monthly household income of $2,001+ (41.1%) listing high school/G.E.D. as the highest level of education completed 29.5%). Survey respondents were asked whether a key area or poverty indicator was an issue for them and/or their family.

The overall ranking of the eight key poverty indicators along with the top three reasons identified for each was as follows:

1. Health – 28.8%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

2. Employment – 30.6%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of reliable transportation

3. Use of Income – 21.1%

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.

3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues

4. Housing – 23.0%
The top three reasons identified were:
1. Affordability of rent/house payments
2. Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3. Lack of affordable/suitable housing

5. Transportation – 25.0%
The top three reasons identified were:
1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of public transportation
3. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle

6. Education – 16.9%
The top three reasons identified were:
1. Lack of vocational skills or training
2. Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors
3. Availability and/or location of classes

7. Nutrition – 26.5%
The top three reasons identified were:
1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

8. Emergency Situations*
The top three reasons identified were:
1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food

*(NOTE: The format of the Emergency Situations did not allow for a ranking or percentage; rather it asked respondents to *choose the three most important **emergency situations** that may be problems in the area.)*

Community Stakeholder Feedback
The second form of primary data collection came from interviewing community stakeholder representatives from a variety of social service agencies in the region including Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston, Fayette County Family Resource Network, Charleston Police Department, WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Regional Family Resource Network, Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center and Parents as Teachers, EnAct, and United Way of Central WV. The purpose of these interviews was to identify how other agencies might be addressing the key poverty indicators.

Open-ended questions about each of the key poverty indicators encouraged expression of qualitative feedback. Questions such as, "Is your agency addressing EMPLOYMENT issues in your community and if so, how? The responses in detail are included at the end of each poverty issue as part of the county reports. Overall questions and responses included the following feedback.

What one thing do you like most about your community?

- The friendly children & families in my neighborhood.
- The fantastic natural resources - opportunities to hike, bike, walk. Summersville Lake to swim or stand up paddle board (SUP). Okay, you asked the ONE thing - the natural resources available to transform your life.
- Even though drugs touch everyone somehow, the community in a whole believes in the success possible and the potential here.
- Still being mostly rural.
- Communities have a desire to want to work on their problems. All it takes is finding those people and bringing them to the table.
- People care about each other and come together to help those in need.
- The caring community that continues to help others, year after year.
- The strong interaction and communication between agencies dealing with the poverty population.
- Close knit neighborhoods, friendly people
- The people.

What is ONE thing you would change to improve your community?

- Stop drug use.
- Get folks off the couch and get moving.
- Figure out how to motivate the persons with low self esteem to fight to better their situations.
- To get the more community resources with the amount of wealth in Hurricane and Winfield I am not sure why we do not have as many resources available to assist those in need.
- Increase funding opportunities for community organizations.
- I would change or improve the community by creating opportunities for children and families. We need good paying jobs and children need adequate child care and after school programs.
- The cost of higher education. I would love to see every high school student have the opportunity to get a college education.
- Increasing knowledge of available services and outreach.
- Improved employment opportunities
- More industry to create jobs.

In your opinion, what would your community look like without poverty?

- Thriving small city full of kids.
- Children are safe in their homes and communities; caring adults that support productive engagement and citizenship; volunteerism; environmental appreciation; natural resource conservation; defying corporations that use/abuse workers; defying the prevalence of substance abuse for economic gain; appreciation for natural resources; healthy communities (no food insecurities); opportunities for physical activity acted upon; hope for a brighter future.
- Well functioning families with food, cloths, and a little extra cash for church, school and vacation extras. Not hooked on drugs. Eating with the family and friends not depending on someone else.
- It would be great.
- All 3 counties (Boone, Kanawha, and Putnam) would look different, but would function much more effectively and have resources available to make good, positive choices.

- Children and families would have things they need such as money to pay utility bills, adequate housing, clothing, jobs, etc.
- I feel the crime rate in our community would be less if poverty did not exist. In turn, children could have a much safer and happier childhood. This better start in their lives could transform the next generation into productive citizens in our community.
- Our community would flourish.
- Cleaner neighborhoods, less crime, children playing in parks, safety concerns not an issue, reduced substance use.
- Enriched.

In your opinion, what keeps families in poverty in your community?

- Lack of motivation from those to get off the social well-fare system once they have received aide. Lack of education. Drug abuse.
- Lack of hope; substance abuse; relying on someone to give them a job instead of creating a job; circumstances that I don't understand - is it laziness? Over reliance on welfare? Disability as a way out of working? Low minimum wage? Generational cultures?
- Drugs have allowed families not to be trained in a good family life. Drugs causes low self esteem whether the individual using or in the family member. Searching for good paying jobs and getting the education with low self esteem is very difficult.
- The lack of public transportation to the far reaches of the county can be connect to Huntington and Charleston to increase job opportunities out side fast food or min wage jobs. Also and lack of available community resources to aid families.
- There are so many factors: lack of public transportation, too rural, few resources available to meet needs, lack of employment opportunities, etc.
- Our community is the heart of the coalfields. We need jobs.
- Poor choices such as drugs, lack of education, generational poverty thinking, etc.
- Lack of knowledge of available programs, ineligibility for programs in the area (due to slightly over income, drug use, etc.).
- Lack of education, lack of opportunities.
- Jobs and education.

Focus Groups

The third form of primary data collection came from focus groups conducted throughout the region. United Way of Central WV (Boone, Clay, Kanawha and Putnam) and United Way of Southern WV (Fayette County) and their partner agencies invited attendees to the focus group each county. A flyer was distributed to the partner agencies to get the word out about the focus groups.
The focus groups were limited to the first 10 people who signed up in each county. Each participant was paid $20 to participate.

Eligibility:

Participants had to meet the following guidelines.

- Be over the age of 18.
- Receive SNAP, WIC or Senior voucher benefits.
- Live in one of the counties where the group discussions are being held.

Dates and Locations

- Boone County – August 25 at the Danville Community Center
- Clay County – September 29 at the Board of Education Office
- Fayette County – August 20 at the WIC Office
- Kanawha County – August 25 at the United Way of Central West Virginia

- Putnam County – Two different dates and locations were set and partner agencies were not able to secure participants.

Focus Group Summaries

The same questions were asked at each focus group, and a summary of each county's responses are below the questions.

ISSUES

1. What do you like about your community?

- Boone County: There is a strong sense of family and community in Boone County.
- Clay County: It is a quiet, friendly place to live.
- Fayette County: It is a small, family-friendly place to live.
- Kanawha County: There are good people and resources available in the communities.

2. What would you change to improve the community?

- Boone County: Transportation is a recurring issue.
- Clay County: There are many issues that need addressed, from employment to crime, education and transportation.
- Fayette County: Drugs are a recurring issue in Fayette County.
- Kanawha County: The economy and job availability are an issue for many families.

BARRIERS

1. Is EMPLOYMENT an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Public assistance and resources are available for employment training, but participants have difficulty accessing those.
- Clay County: Employment seems to be a major issue in Clay County.
- Fayette: Finding good-paying jobs and transportation are issues related to employment in Fayette County.
- Kanawha County: Personal or health issues keep many from working, and those that want to work have difficulty finding jobs that allow for self-sufficiency.

2. Is EDUCATION an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Education for children and opportunities for adults are not a perceived issue.
- Clay County: Education seems to be a major issue in Clay County.
- Fayette County: Education could be improved in Fayette County.
- Kanawha County: Daily pressures and perceived lack of opportunity affect educational pursuits.

3. Is HOUSING an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Public and private healthcare are available, but transportation to access these services is a problem.
- Clay County: Adequate and affordable housing is an issue in Clay County.
- Fayette County: Adequate and affordable housing can be difficult to find.
- Kanawha County: There are opportunities for government-subsidized housing, but living independently has barriers.

4. Is HEALTH an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Public and private healthcare are available, but transportation to access these services is a problem.
- Clay County: Both access to and ability to afford healthcare is an issue.
- Fayette County: Access to health care is an issue, particularly secondary health (dental and vision).
- Kanawha County: Many residents' basic health care needs are met, but tertiary care is still an issue.

5. Is NUTRITION an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Public assistance and local churches provide food, but transportation is a major obstacle to access.
- Clay County: Nutrition is expensive and healthier foods are of poor quality in Clay County.
- Fayette County: Access to and affordability of health foods are an issue.
- Kanawha County: Access to food is plentiful, but the community doesn't necessarily consume nutrient-dense foods.

6. Is USE OF INCOME an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Income is a big issue for all participants.
- Clay County: Income is a big issue for all participants.
- Fayette County: Income is used to cover basic expenses, with nothing left for saving or extraneous purchases.
- Kanawha County: Both the amount of income and type of jobs have impact on participants' daily lives.

7. Is TRANSPORTATION an issue for you and/or your family? If so, why?

- Boone County: Transportation is a recurring issue that impacts all other issues (education, health care, nutrition).
- Clay County: Affordability of private transportation is an issue in Clay County, and public transportation is nonexistent.
- Fayette County: Public transportation is lacking in Fayette County.
- Kanawha County: Participants have access to either personal or public transportation to meet their needs.

8. Have you and/or your family found yourself in crisis and needed help with basic needs? If so, please explain?

- Boone County: Limited resources available for when help is needed.
- Clay County: The need for crises services is great in Clay County.
- Fayette County: Participants rely on family or creative means to get by in a crisis.
- Kanawha County: Resources are available, but often people are unaware or unwilling to use them.

9. What do you consider to be the top EMERGENCY SITUATIONS in your community?

- Boone County: Joblessness and drug abuse are recurring problems.
- Clay County: Lack of income and drug abuse are issues.
- Fayette County: Education improvements and emergency housing are needed.
- Kanawha County: Drug abuse and job availability are pervasive community issues.

10. What do children in your community need?

- Boone County: Extracurricular activities are the biggest need for children.
- Clay County: A safe place with structured activities for children is needed.
- Fayette County: Education and structured after-school care are needed for children.
- Kanawha County: Structured activities and child care outside of school hours are the primary needs.

SOLUTIONS

1. **What do you think your community needs most to make it a better place to live?**
   - Boone County: Jobs, transportation, and addressing drug abuse.
   - Clay County: Jobs, access to food, public transportation and after school activities for children are great needs in Clay County.
   - Fayette County: Economic and housing issues are a recurring theme.
   - Kanawha County: Education and economic opportunities for residents that provide long-lasting improvement.

2. **What services are needed in your community for young children, teens, adults and seniors?**
   - Boone County: After school structured activities for children and teens seem to be the greatest need.
   - Clay County: Structured activities for children and better healthcare for all ages is needed.
   - Fayette County: Structured activities for children, substance abuse prevention for students, and better healthcare for adults is needed.
   - Kanawha County: Childcare and structured activities for younger populations, education and assistance for older citizens are needed.

3. **Who needs to be involved in improving the community? And how?**
   - Boone County: Participants are looking to government for assistance.
   - Clay County: Participants see the need for all to be involved in community improvement.
   - Fayette County: Participants see the need for all to be involved in community improvement.
   - Kanawha County: Increased community participation in general, and involving churches and senior citizens.

Secondary Data Collection

Secondary data included collecting relevant and current statistics and research from reliable sources such as other non-profit agencies and government entities in an effort to complement the survey results and community stakeholder feedback. Research on each of the eight poverty indicators was compiled and are presented in detail as part of the Poverty Indicator sections.

SOURCES OF DATA
Center for Budget & Policy. *West Virgina Federal Rental Assistant Facts*
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CFED – Assets & Opportunities Scorecard
County Health Rankings
Social Security Administration
United States Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey
United States Department of Labor
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
West Virginia Division of Local Health
Wikipedia. *Boone County, West Virginia*
Wikipedia. *Clay County, West Virginia*
Wikipedia. *Fayette County, West Virginia*
Wikipedia. *Kanawha County, West Virginia*
Wikipedia. *Putnam County, West Virginia*
Workforce West Virginia
WV Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities
WV Department of Health and Human Resources
WV Department of Education
WV Department of Education, Office of Special Programs
WV KIDS COUNT FUND
WV State Police Department

COUNTY PROFILES

BOONE COUNTY

History & Geography

Boone County is located in the southwestern part of West Virginia. In 1847 the county was formed by taking parts of Kanawha, Cabell, and Logan Counties. The county is named for Daniel Boone, who from 1789 to 1795 was a noted hunter and explorer, whose home was in the Great Kanawha Valley (Wikipedia, 2014).

Boone County is considered a part of the Charleston, WV metropolitan area. The county seat is Madison. According to the 2010 US Census the county is 503 square miles, 501.3 square miles of which is land and the remaining 1.7 is water (US Census, 2010).

Population Facts - 2013 US Census

BOONE COUNTY	2012-2013
Total Population	**24,224**
White	98.5%
Black or African American	0.6%
Asian	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino	0.4%
Two or more races	0.6%
Median Age	39.0
Population Under 5 Years	6.1%

CLAY COUNTY

History & Geography

Clay County was founded in 1858. It is also considered a part of the capitol city, Charleston, WV's metropolitan area. Clay county derives its name from Henry Clay, who was a famous American statesman, known for being a member of the United States Senate from Kentucky and United States Secretary of State in the 19th century According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 344 square miles, of which 342 square miles is land and 1.9 square miles (0.5%) is water. It borders Roane, Kanawha, Nicholas, and Braxton Counties (Wikipedia, 2014).

Population Facts - 2013 US Census

CLAY COUNTY	2012-2013
Total Population	**9,244**
White	98.6%
Black or African American	0.2%
Asian	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	0.5%
Two or more races	1.0%
Median Age	37.0
Population Under 5 Years	1,200

FAYETTE COUNTY

History & Geography

Fayette County was founded in 1831 and has a rich history of divides. The state of Virginia previously had a Fayette County, which was lost to form the new state of Kentucky. A substantial portion was subdivided from Fayette to form Raleigh County in 1850. Fayette was one of 50 counties that broke off from the rest of Virginia and formed the new state of West Virginia during the American Civil War. In 1871, an Act of the West Virginia Legislature severed a small portion to form part of Summers County Fayetteville, the county seat of Fayette County, West Virginia, was originally named Vandalia for its founder, Abraham Vandal. Before 1837, the name was changed to Fayetteville, after the name of the county, and in honor of Marquis de Lafayette, the French nobleman, who helped this country during the dark days of the Revolutionary War (WV Division of Culture & History, 2014).

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 668 square miles, of which 662 square miles is land and 7 square miles is water.

Population Facts - 2013 US Census

FAYETTE COUNTY	2012-2013
Total Population	**45,599**
White	93.5%
Black or African American	4.7%
Asian	0.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%
Hispanic or Latino	0.9%
Two or more races	1.3%
Median Age	40.1
Population Under 5 Years	5.9

KANAWHA COUNTY

History & Geography

Kanawha County, named for the Great Kanawha River which was named after a prolific Native American tribe that has lived in the area. The county seat of Kanawha is Charleston, which is also the state's largest city and capitol. The first permanent settlement for the area was Fort Lee was built in 1788,and in 1791 Daniel Boone was a member of the Kanawha Assembly. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 911 square miles, of which 902 square miles is land and 9 square miles is water.(Wikipedia, 2014).

Population Facts - 2013 US Census

KANAWHA COUNTY	2012-2013
Total Population	**191,275**
White	89.0%
Black or African American	7.5%
Asian	1.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	1.1%
Two or more races	2.1%
Median Age	40.0
Population Under 5 Years	5.6

PUTNAM COUNTY

History & Geography

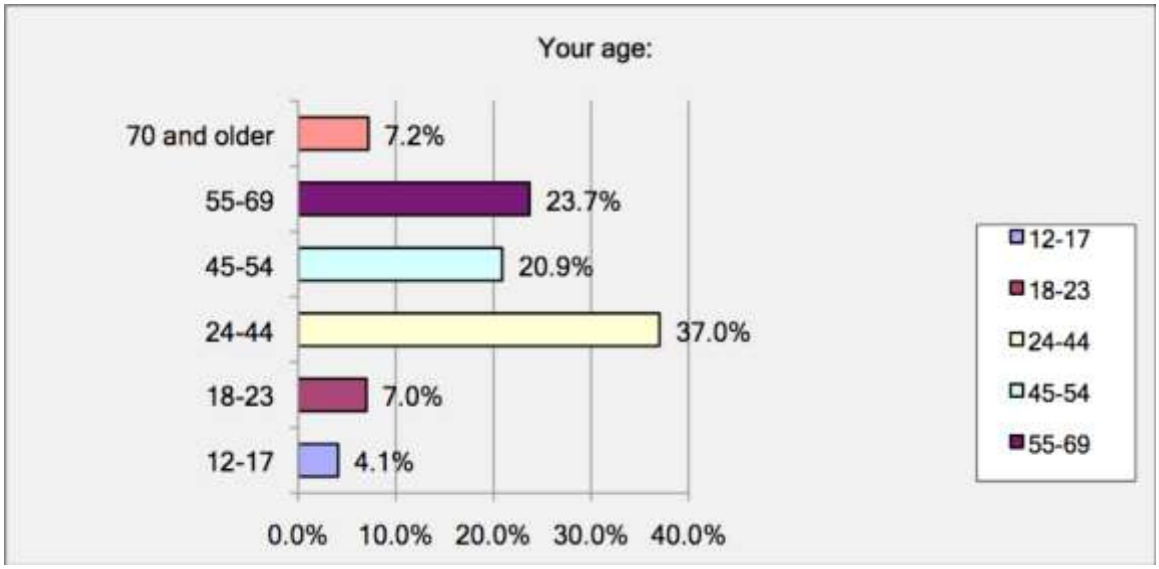
Putnam County is located on the western side of the state, bordering Mason, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, and Cabell County. Putnam County is part of the Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is also included in the Charleston-Huntington-Ashland, WV-OH-KY Combined Statistical Area. The name Putnam is derived from Israel Putnam, a hero of the French and Indian War who also was a General in the Revolutionary War. The county seat is Winfield. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 350 square miles, of which 346 square miles is land and 4.7 square miles is water. (Wikipedia, 2014)

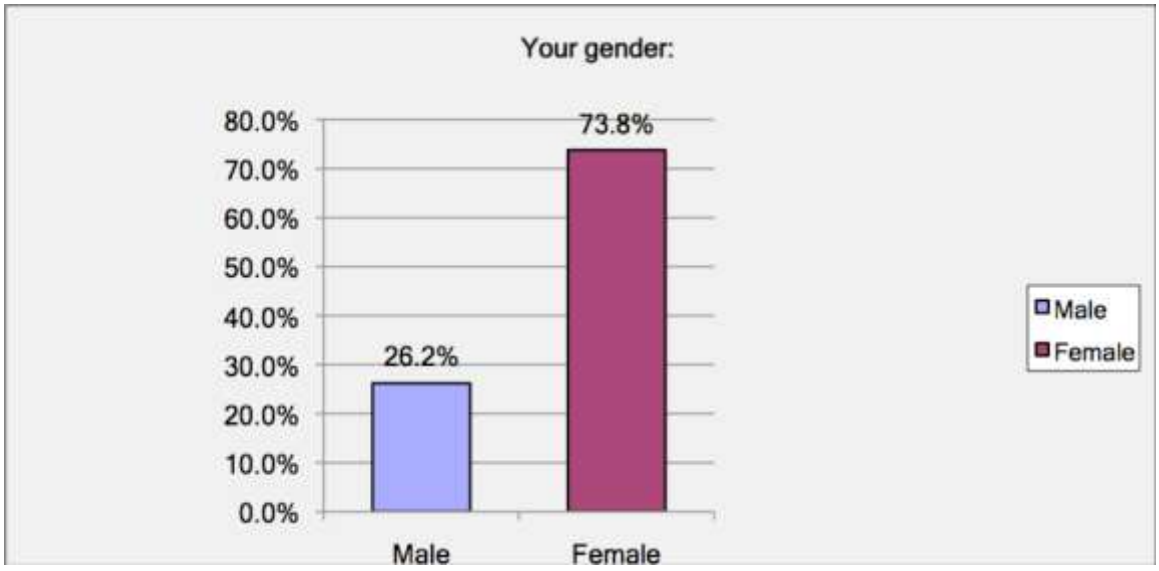
Population Facts - 2013 US Census

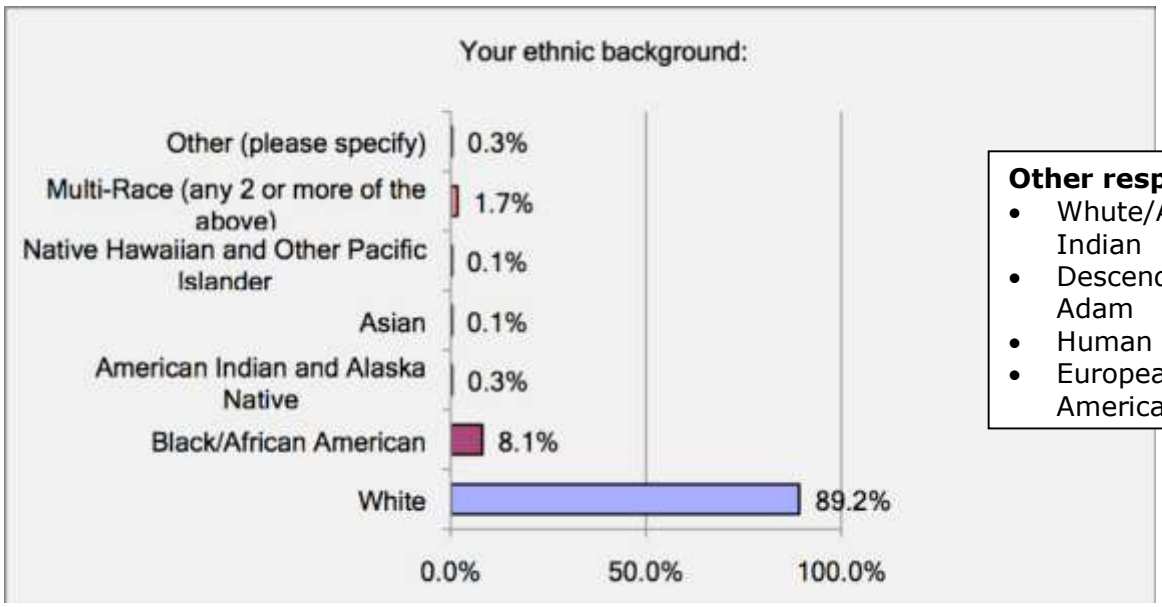
PUTNAM COUNTY	2012-2013
Total Population	**56, 650**
White	96.8%
Black or African American	1.0%
Asian	0.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	0.9%
Two or more races	1.1%
Median Age	38.0
Population Under 5 Years	5.6%

SURVEY RESPONDENTS
Profile and Overall Results

Throughout the survey process, **1,459** individuals who live and/or work in Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County completed the Needs Assessment Survey. Participants included educators, senior citizens, elected officials, high school seniors, employees and board members of various local non-profit organizations, and clients served by non-profit social service agencies. Below is a demographic synopsis of the individuals who took part in the process:

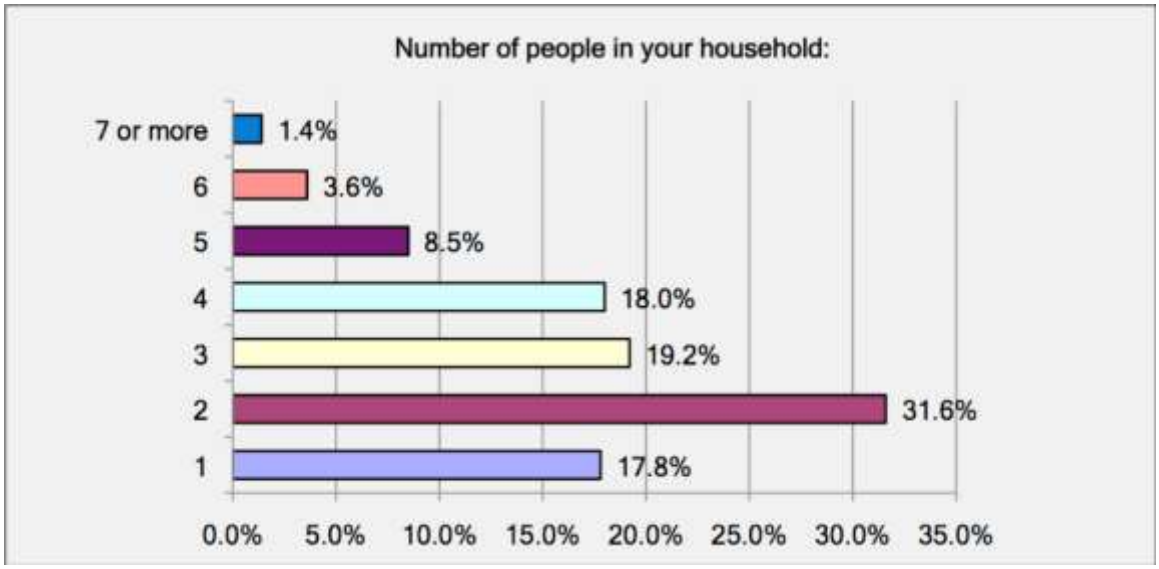


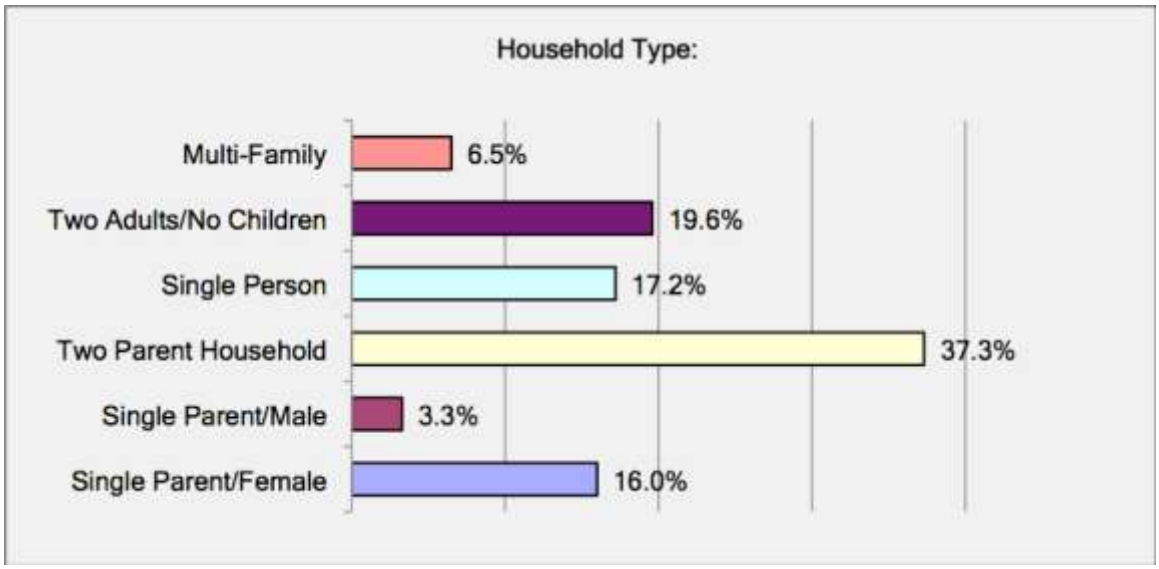


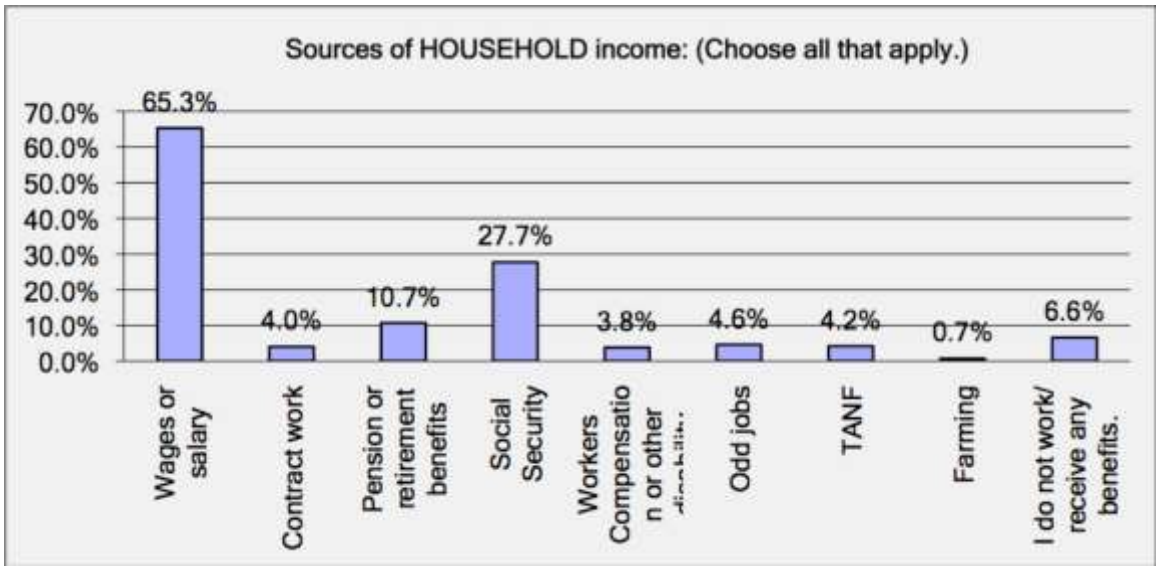


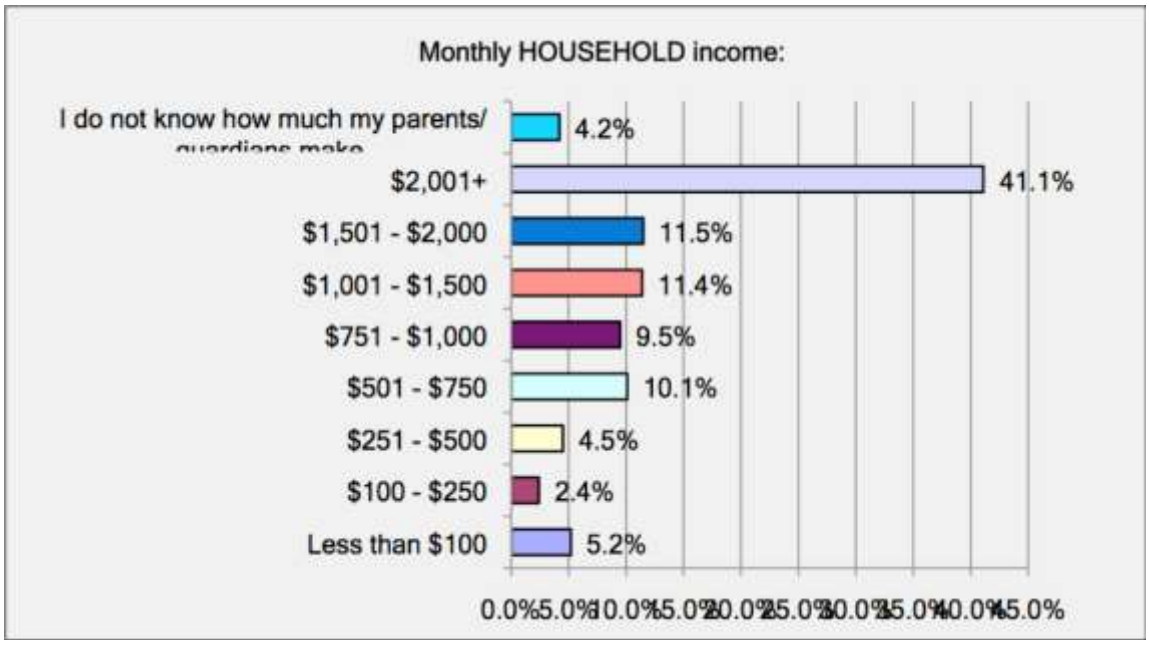
Other responses:

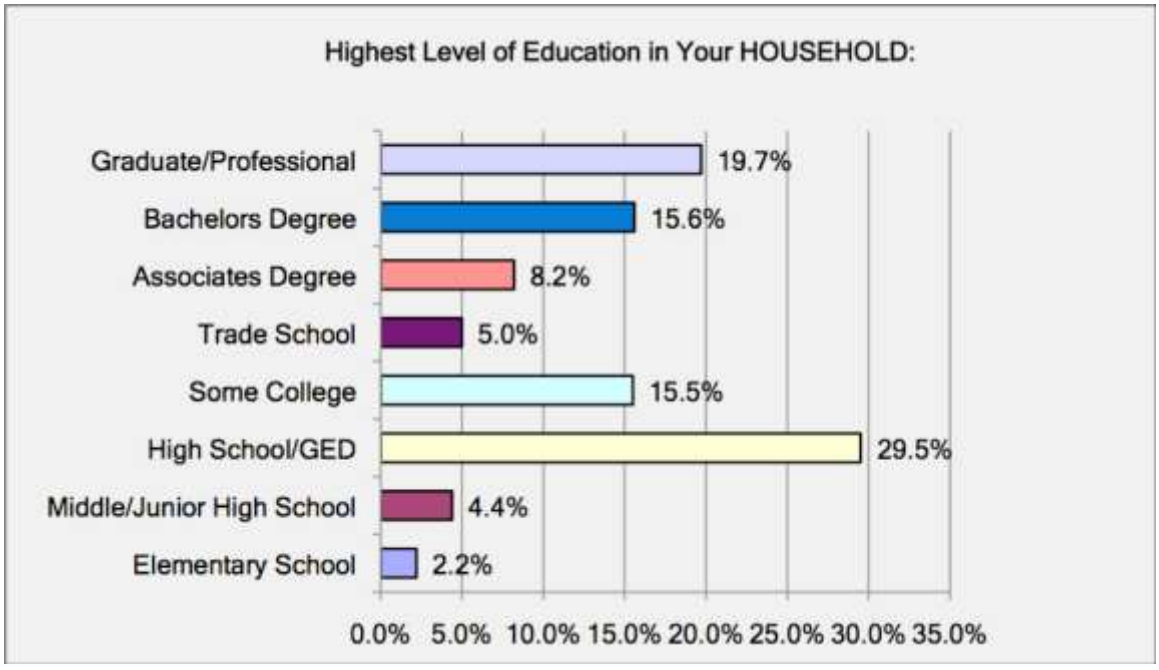
- Whute/American Indian
- Descendant of Adam
- Human
- European American

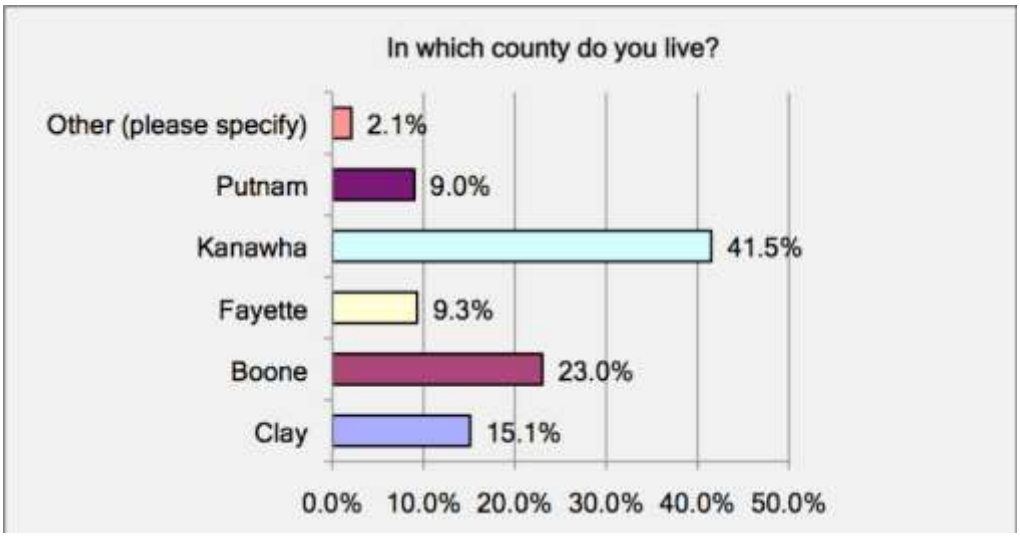



Household Type:
Multi-Family
6.5%
Two Adults/No Children
19.6%
Single Person
17.2%
Two Parent Household
37.3%
Single Parent/Male
3.3%
Single Parent/Female
16.0%


Sources of HOUSEHOLD income: (Choose all that apply.)
70.0%
60.0%
50.0%
40.0%
30.0%
20.0%
10.0%
0.0%
65.3%
4.0%
10.7%
27.7%
3.8%
4.6%
4.2%
0.7%
6.6%
Wages or salary
Contract work
Pension or retirement benefits
Social Security
Workers Compensation or other
Odd jobs
TANF
Farming
I do not work/ receive any benefits.


Monthly HOUSEHOLD income:
I do not know how much my parents/ guardians make
4.2%
$2,001+
41.1%
$1,501 - $2,000
11.5%
$1,001 - $1,500
11.4%
$751 - $1,000
9.5%
$501 - $750
10.1%
$251 - $500
4.5%
$100 - $250
2.4%
Less than $100
5.2%
0.0% 5.0% 10.0% 15.0% 20.0% 25.0% 30.0% 35.0% 40.0% 45.0%


Highest Level of Education in Your HOUSEHOLD:
Graduate/Professional
19.7%
Bachelors Degree
15.6%
Associates Degree
8.2%
Trade School
5.0%
Some College
15.5%
High School/GED
29.5%
Middle/Junior High School
4.4%
Elementary School
2.2%
0.0% 5.0% 10.0% 15.0% 20.0% 25.0% 30.0% 35.0%



Other:

- USA
- Logan
- Calhoun
- York
- America
- Mason - XX
- Jackson - XX
- Braxton
- Roane – XXX
- Lincoln -XX
- Raleigh -XX
- Cabell-XXXX
- Mingo
- Monongalia
- Mercer

Overall SURVEY RESULTS

The top three needs identified by the survey respondents were as follows:

1. Employment

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of reliable transportation

2. Health

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

3. Nutrition

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

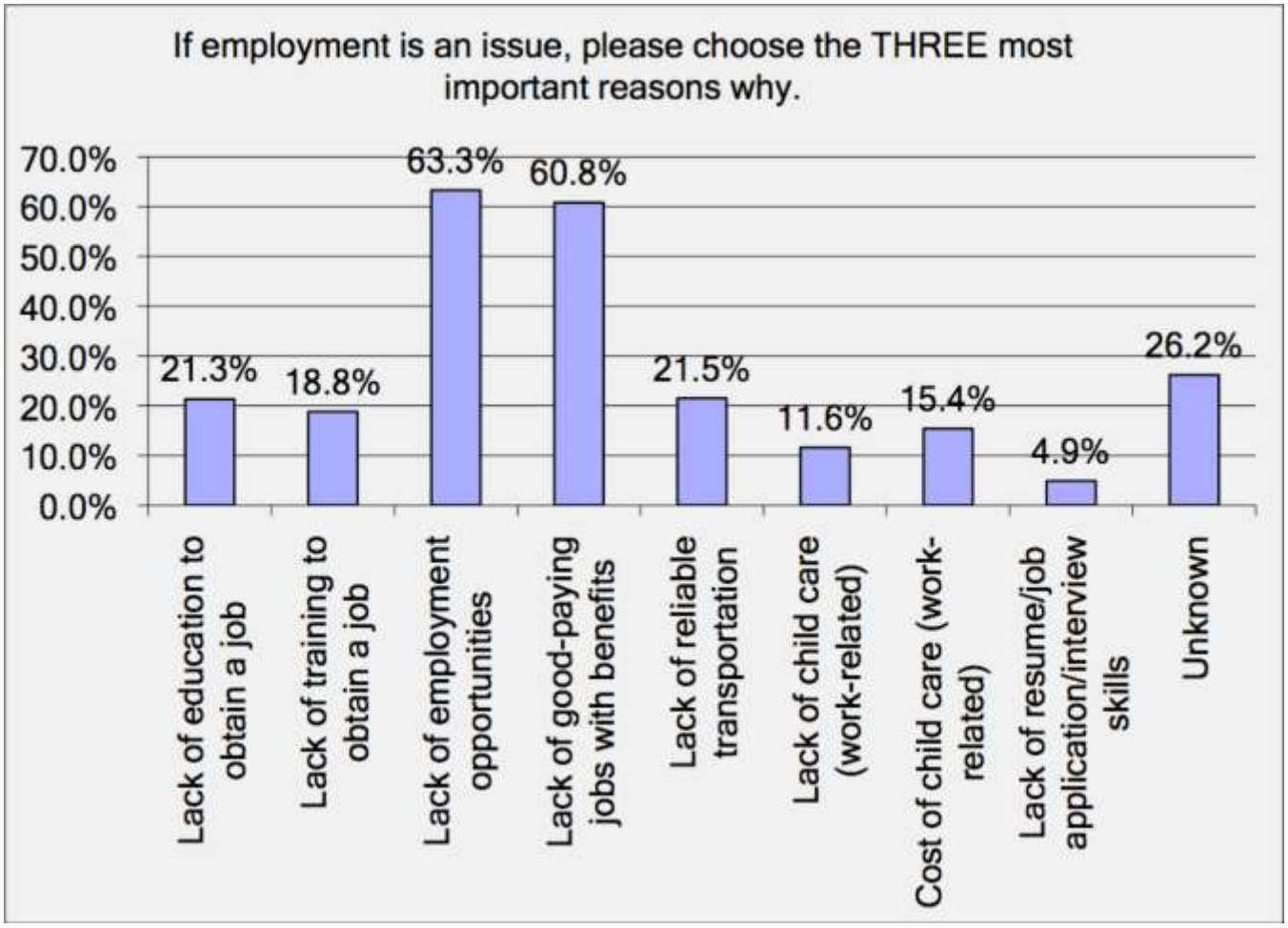
POVERTY INDICATOR: EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results

- The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family?*
- Of the 1,407 individuals who answered the question, **30.6%** felt that employment was in fact an issue.

The top 3 reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of reliable transportation

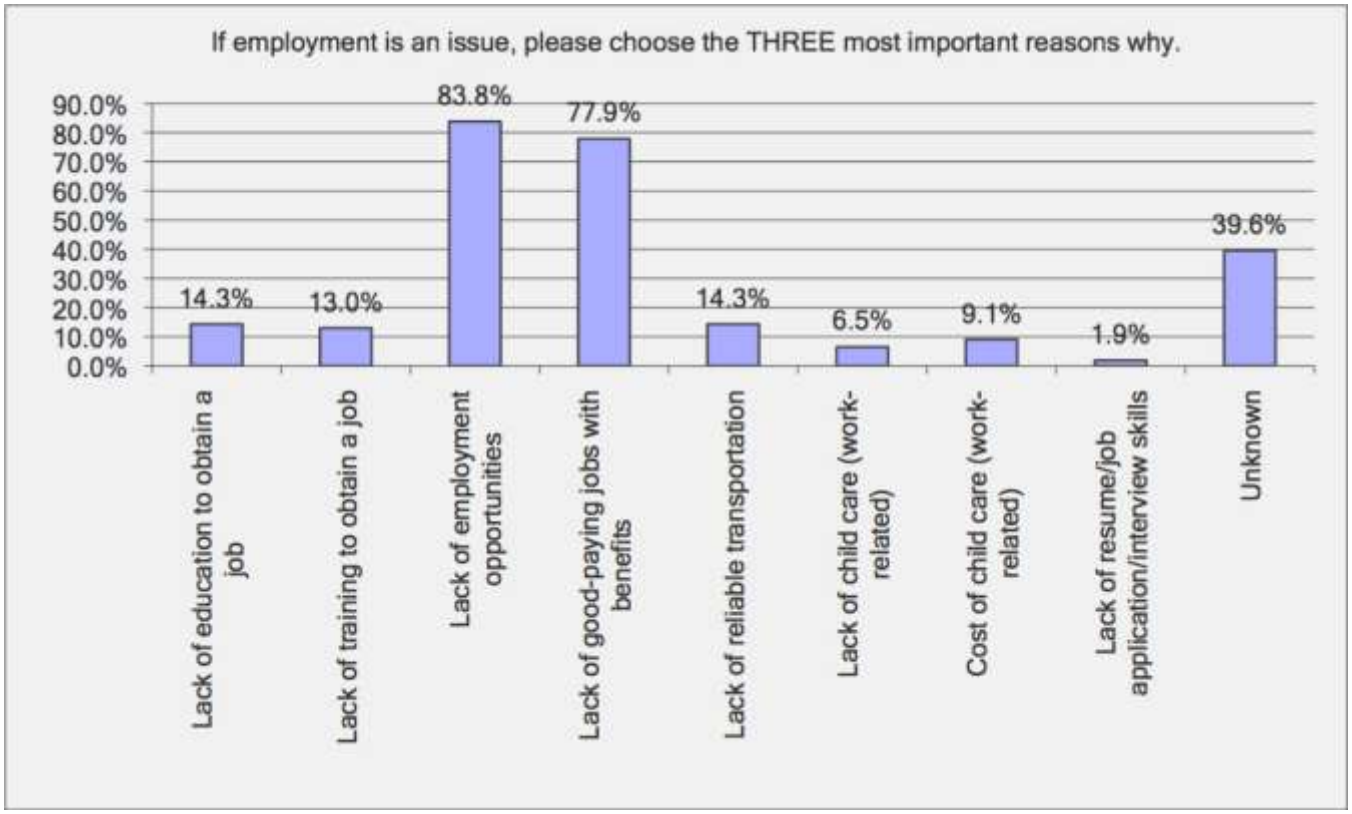


EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family*. **45.7%** of respondents in Boone County felt that employment was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of education to obtain a job

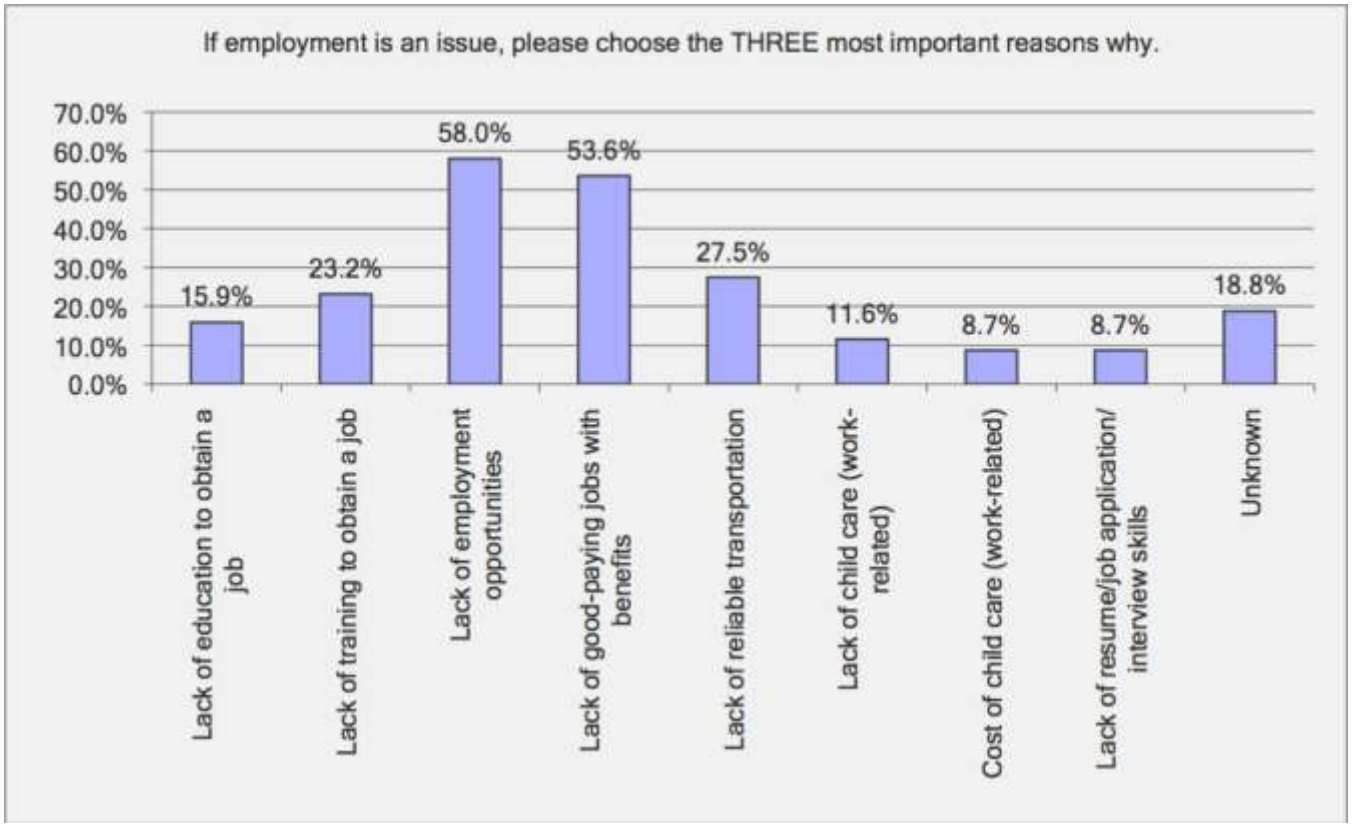


EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family*. **29.1%** of respondents in Clay County felt that employment was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of reliable transportation

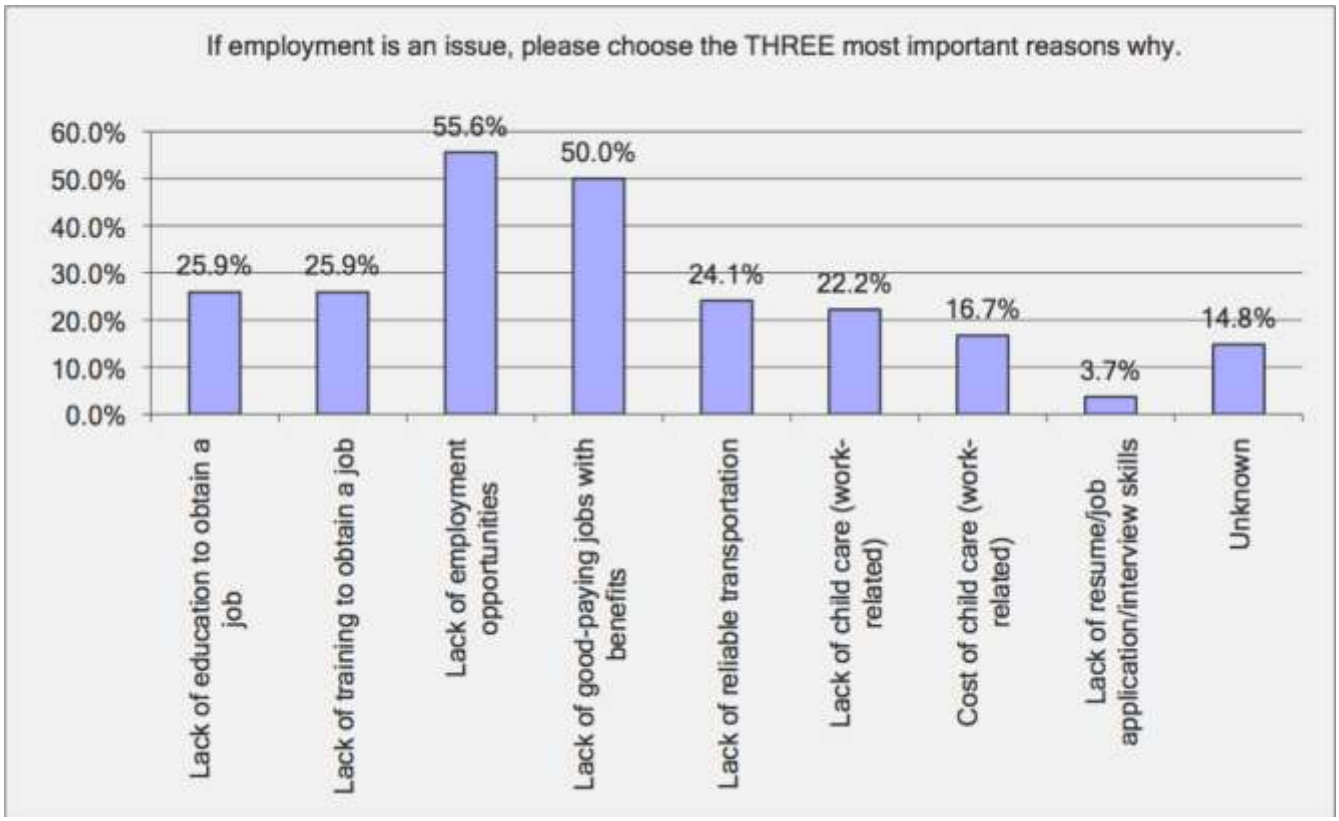


EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family*. **37.4%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that employment was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of education to obtain a job/Lack of training to obtain a job

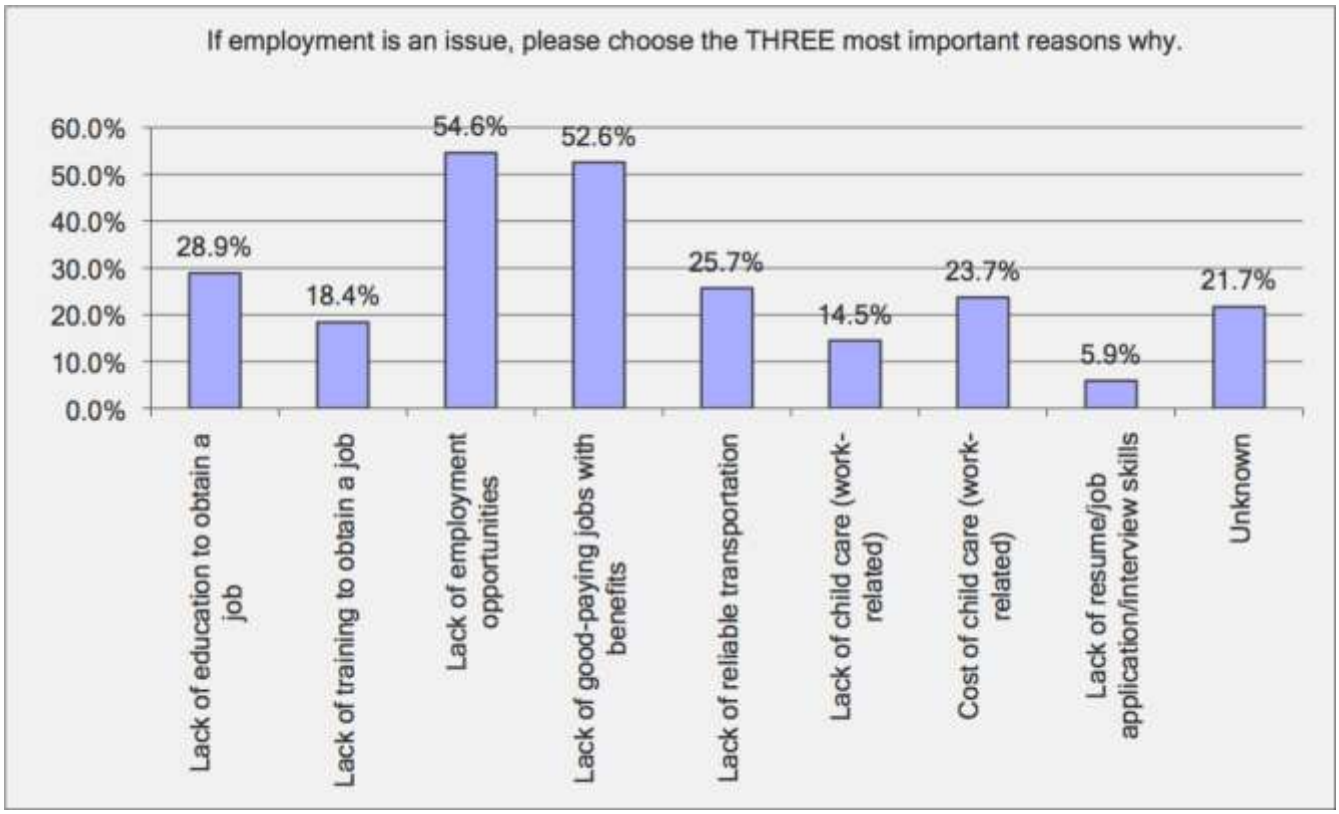


EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family*. **23.3%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that employment was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of education to obtain a job

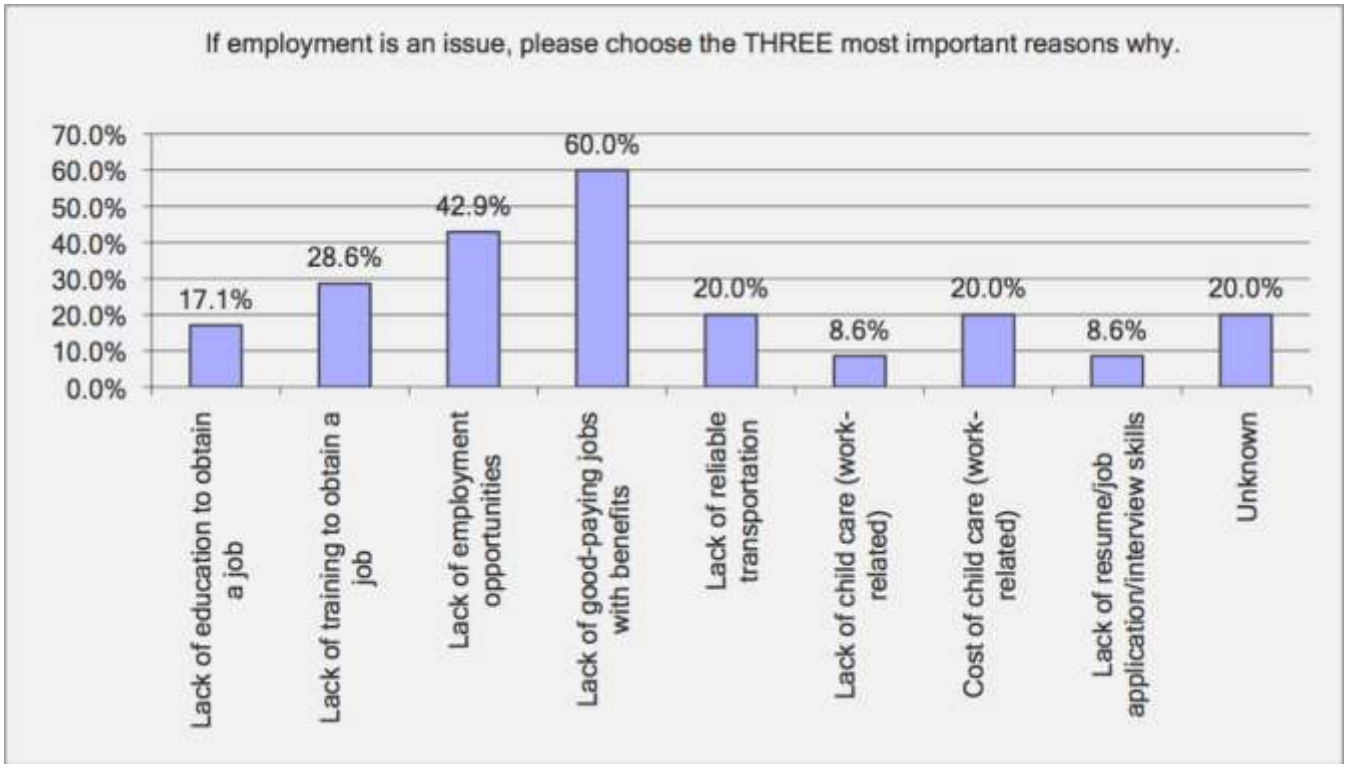


EMPLOYMENT Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **employment** an issue for you and/or your family*. **23.6%** of respondents in Putnam County felt that employment was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of employment opportunities
2. Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
3. Lack of education to obtain a job



Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing EMPLOYMENT issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct –** We offer employment training assistance, purchase of needed specialty clothing, resume preparation, assistance in completing job applications, and interviewing training.
- **Charleston Police Dept.** – With the Drug Marketing Program, helping the B Listers get what they need to get a job, if they let us.
- **WV DHHR** - For the SNAP program a large portion are referred to Job Services as part of the program to receive SNAP. Also West Virginia Works is a work first program that requires recipients to obtain a skill set or education to obtain better employment.
- **Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center** - We provide information about job opportunities to families looking for jobs. We will also assist with writing a resume or make referrals to agencies that help with ABE, GED, or other classes such as resume writing.
- **Region III Workforce Investment Board of Kanawha County** - We provide training dollars for low-income Adults and Dislocated Workers. We also provide Job Readiness workshops, Occupational Exploration experiences and Work Experience for Disadvantaged Youth in Kanawha County through Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF).
- **United Way of Central WV -** United Way of Central WV works to ensure children, adults and youth achieve their potential through enrichment programs, mentoring, leadership development, career exploration, and other activities designed to help them become productive members of our community by funding agencies that provide these opportunities. LifeBridge Vet Corps engages military veterans in service to provide comprehensive services to individuals in their communities who are transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing so that they can support themselves and avoid becoming homeless again in the future. Members support military veterans and other adults in the community through peer mentoring, employment and skills training, information and referral service and financial literacy services. Vet Corps members receive extensive training to meet the community needs and to meet their own personal and professional goals.

Secondary Data: Research

Understanding the employment situation in the community provides the background necessary for determining what types of jobs are available, what skills business and industry heed and what it takes for a family to become self-sufficient. Amidst falling home equity, the rising cost of food, health care and housing along with national unemployment rates, employment plays a tremendous role in a community's ability to overcome a recession.

National Poverty Guidelines:

Persons in Family or Household	Yearly Income
1	$11,490
2	15,510
3	19,530
4	23,550
5	27,570
6	31,590
7	35,610
8	39,630
For each additional person, add	4,020

Poverty Rate

According to 2012 estimate, Clay County has the highest percentage of people living in poverty at 23.2%. Putnam County has the lowest poverty rate at 10.8%.

Geographic Area	**All Ages**		**Children Age 0-17**		**Seniors (Age 65 & over)**	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate
Boone County	4,947	**20.4%**	1,387	**25.5%**	3,457	14.0%
Clay County	2,132	**23.2%**	739	**34.3%**	1,449	20.6%
Fayette County	9,382	**21.4%**	2,879	**30.9%**	7,541	11.5%
Kanawha County	27,244	**14.4%**	8,689	**22.6%**	31,859	6.7%
Putnam County	6,051	**10.8%**	1,846	**14.4%**	7,888	6.3%
West Virginia	323,978	**18.0%**	93,742	**25.1%**	290,314	9.9%

2012 American Community Survey

Change in Poverty Rate 2000-2012

Geographic Area	Poverty Rate 2000	Poverty Rate, 2012	Change in Poverty Rate, 2000 - 2012
Boone County	18.4%	20.4%	2.0
Clay County	24.2%	23.2%	-1.0
Fayette County	20.6%	21.4%	0.8
Kanawha County	13.0%	14.4%	1.4
Putnam County	8.6%	10.8%	2.2
West Virginia	15.5%	18%	2.5

Median Household Income

The following chart shows the national, state and county level median household income. Boone, Clay and Fayette County are below the state average of $40,188 while Kanawha and Putnam are above it. Putnam is also above the national average of $51,371.

Median Household Income	
Area	**Amount**
United States	**$51,371**
West Virginia	**$40,188**
Boone County	$39,194
Clay County	$32,885
Fayette County	$33,445
Kanawha County	$45,813
Putnam County	$55,172

*U.S. Census Bureau, 2013

Unemployment Rates

The unemployment rate is the number in the civilian labor force divided by the number of unemployed. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines unemployment as people who do not have a job, have actively looked for work in the past four weeks, and are currently available for work. It also includes people who were temporarily laid off and are waiting to be called back to that job. It doesn't count the jobless who:

- Didn't look for a job in the past four weeks.
- Are so discouraged that they have stopped looking for a job.

The unemployment rate is important as a gauge of joblessness. For this reason, it is also a gauge of the economy's growth rate. However, the unemployment rate is a lagging indicator. This means it measures the *effect* of a recession and so occurs after one has already started.

Employers are reluctant to lay people off when the economy turns bad, and even more reluctant to hire them when the economy improves. For that reason, the unemployment rate can only confirm what the other indicators are showing. For example, if the other indicators show a quickening economy and the unemployment rate is declining, then we know businesses are confident enough to start hiring again. Since it is a lagging indicator, unemployment can worsen even after the economy starts to improve. For example, unemployment went from 5.6% in 2002 to 6% in 2003 even though the recession ended in 2002.

Employment– Secondary Data

Unemployment Rate - US Dept. of Labor, May 2014

Geographic Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Boone County	8,986	8,310	676	7.5%
Clay County	3,109	2,840	269	8.7%
Fayette County	17,681	16,307	1,374	7.8%
Kanawha County	89,644	84,316	5,328	5.9%
Putnam County	27,178	25,776	1,402	5.2%
West Virginia	809,846	757,428	52,418	6.5%
United States	156,987,069	147,385,695	9,601,374	6.1%

United States Department of Labor, 2014

Employment– Secondary Data

Unemployment Rate - US Dept. of Labor, May 2014

Geographic Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Boone County	8,986	8,310	676	7.5%
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Putnam County	27,178	25,776	1,402	5.2%
West Virginia	809,846	757,428	52,418	6.5%
United States	156,987,069	147,385,695	9,601,374	6.1%

Employers

In many communities across America, local officials and leaders wrestle with the role of providing enough local jobs and income to maintain the economic viability of their communities. National and international events and trends can have a major impact on the rate and type of income and the employment growth communities can achieve. But communities that take an active role in attracting and retaining jobs, in addition to having a skilled and educated workforce, have an advantage over those communities that allow external events to exclusively dictate the pace of local economic growth.

According to the CFED's 2013, Assets and Opportunities Scorecard, 33.3% of jobs in West Virginia are considered low-wage jobs. This is defined as the percentage of jobs in occupations with median annual pay below 100% poverty threshold for a family of four ($22,314), 2010. (CFED, Assets & Opportunities Scorecard, 2013).

According to the WV Employment & Wage Report, the top Employers in <u>Boone County</u>:

1. Elk Run Coal Company, Inc. (Black Castle Mining)
2. Boone County Board of Education
3. Hobet Mining, LLC
4. Independence Coal Company, Inc.
5. Spartan Mining Company
6. Eastern Associated Coal Company
7. Boone Memorial Hospital
8. Panhandle Support Services, Inc.
9. Boone County Commission
10. Gateway Eagle Coal Company, LLC

According to the WV Employment & Wage Report, the top Employers in <u>Clay County</u>:

1. Clay County Board of Education
2. Clay County Development Corporation
3. Amvest West Virginia Coal, LLC
4. Diversicare Leasing Corporation (Laurel Nursing and Rehab Center)
5. Oasis Outsourcing V, Inc.
6. Clay County Commission
7. Community Care of West Virginia, Inc.
8. Gino's Distributing, Inc.
9. Advantage Home Care, LLC
10. Mountaineer Investication

According to the WV Employment & Wage Report, the top Employers in <u>Fayette County</u>:

1. Fayette County Board of Education
2. Mount Olive Correctional Complex
3. Kingston Mining, Inc.
4. West Virginia University
5. Wal-Mart Store, Inc.
6. WVA Manufacturing, LLC
7. Oak Hill Hospital Corporation (Plateau Medical Center)
8. Montgomery General Hospital
9. Maple Coal Company
10. New River Health Association, Inc.

According to the WV Employment & Wage Report, the top Employers in <u>Kanawha County</u>:

1. Charleston Area Medical Center
2. Kanawha County Board of Education
3. Herbert J. Thomas Medical Hospital Association
4. Wal-Mart Store, Inc.
5. US Department of Highways
6. Kroger
7. City of Charleston Municipality
8. WV DHHR
9. US Postal Service
10. Charleston Hospital, Inc. (Saint Francis)

According to the WV Employment & Wage Report, the top Employers in <u>Putnam County</u>:

1. Putnam County Board of Education
2. Toyota Motor Manufacturing, WV, Inc
3. Charleston Area Medical Center
4. Diamond Electric Manufacturing Company
5. Appalachian Power Company Corps
6. Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.
7. APEX Pipeline Services, Inc.
8. Rite Aid of West Virginia, Inc.
9. Work Force, Inc.
10. America Electric Power Service

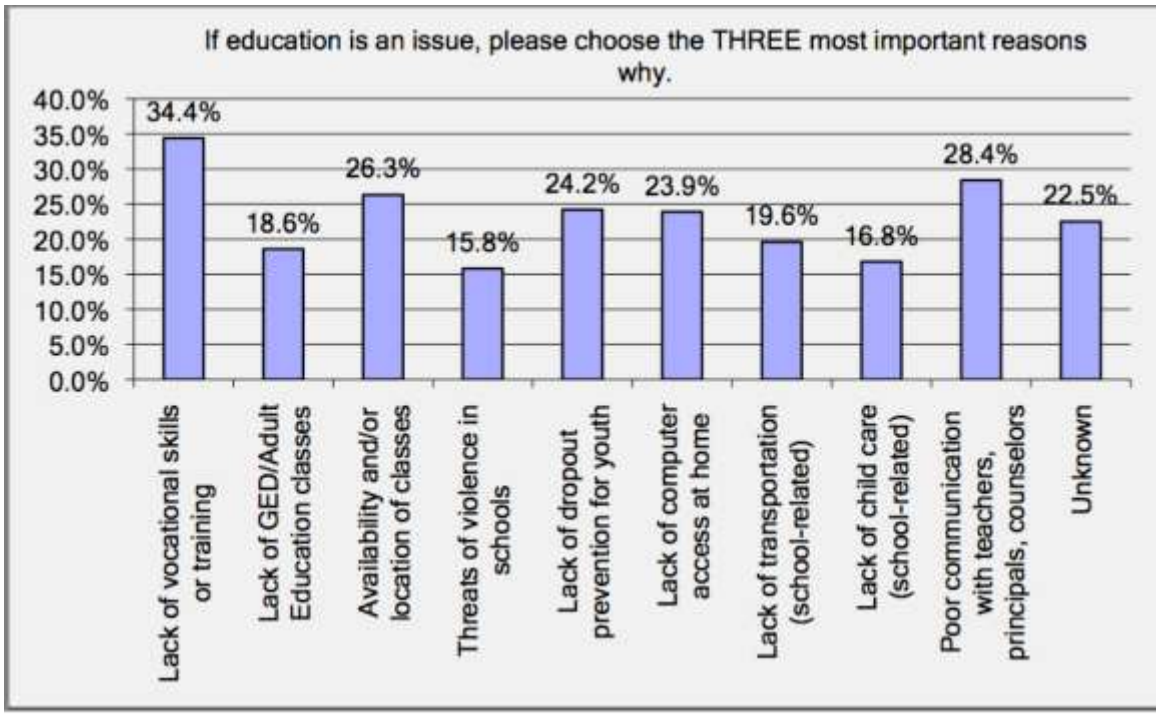
POVERTY INDICATOR: EDUCATION

EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1,046 individuals who answered the question, **16.9%** of respondents felt that education was an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of the education issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY they felt education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Lack of vocational skills or training
2) Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors
3) Availability and/or location of classes

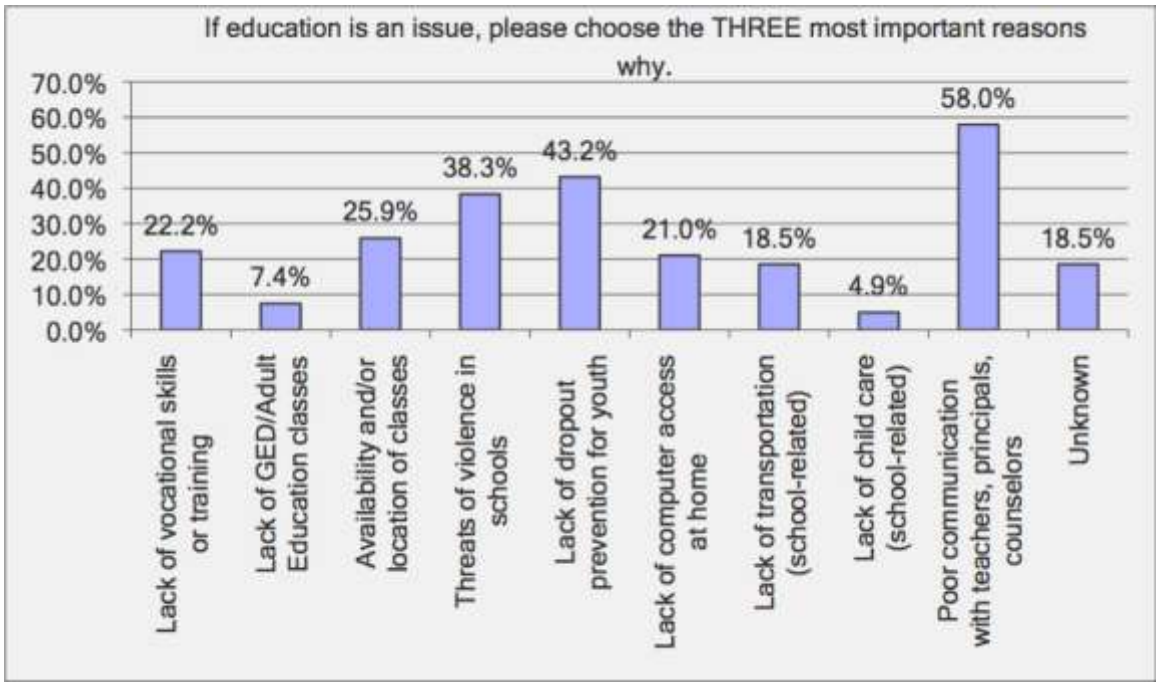


EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. **23.6%** of respondents in Boone County felt that education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors
2) Lack of dropout prevention in youth
3) Threats of violence in schools

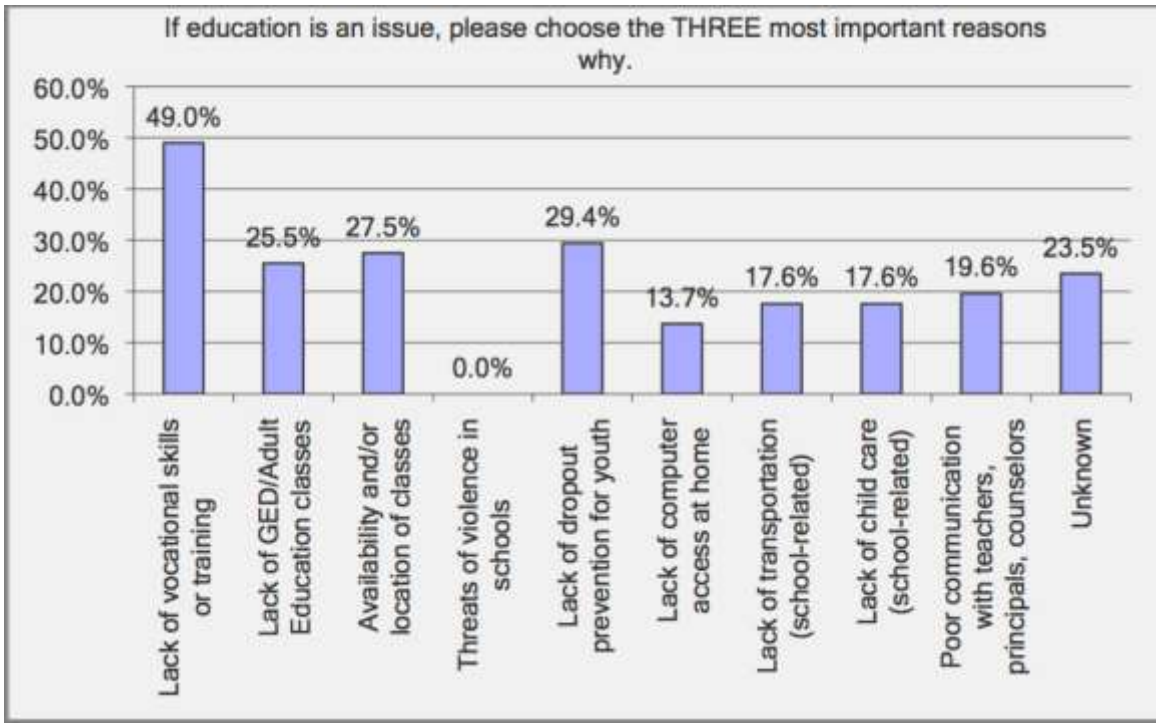


EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. **20.3%** of respondents in Clay County felt that education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Lack of vocational skills or training
2) Lack of dropout prevention in youth
3) Availability and/or location of classes

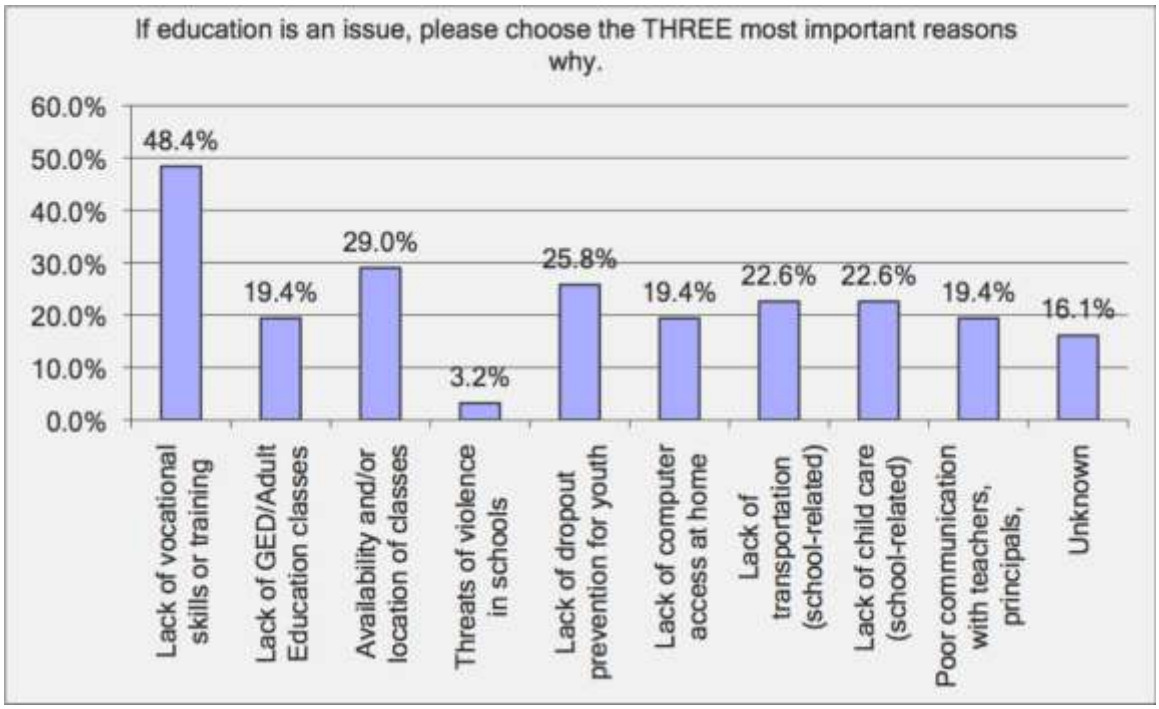


EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. **21.1%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Lack of vocational skills or training
2) Availability and/or location of classes
3) Lack of dropout prevention in youth

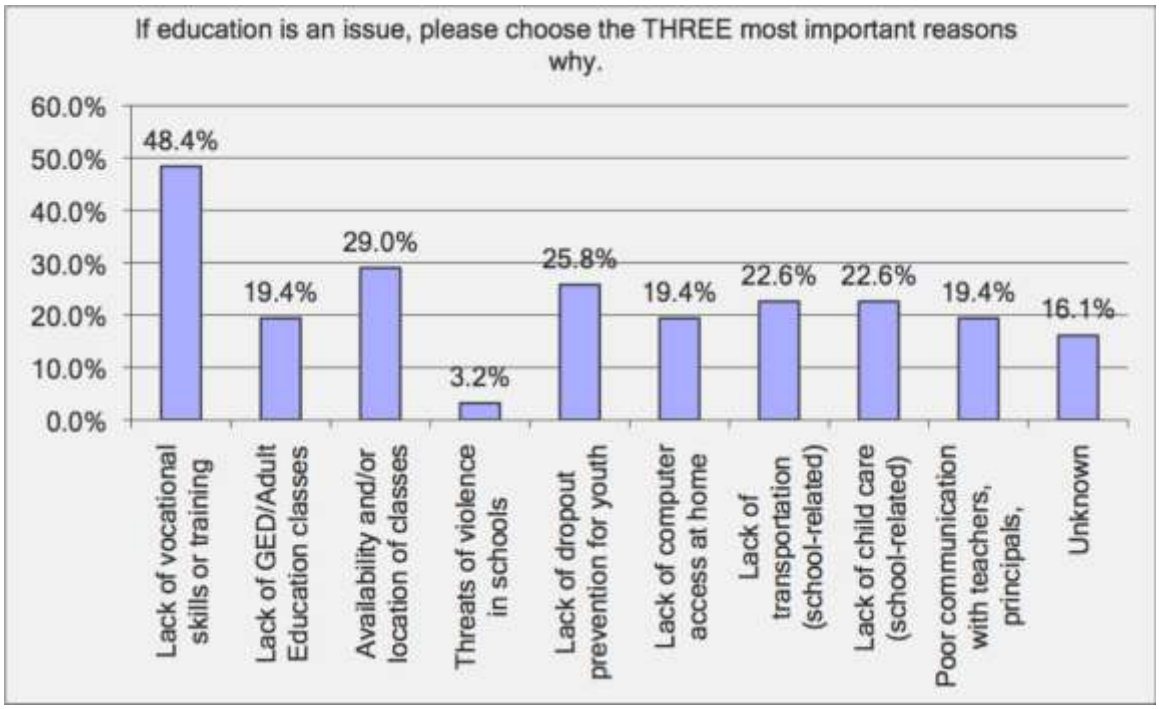


EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. **13.6%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Lack of vocational skills or training
2) Lack of computer access at home
3) Availability and/or location of classes

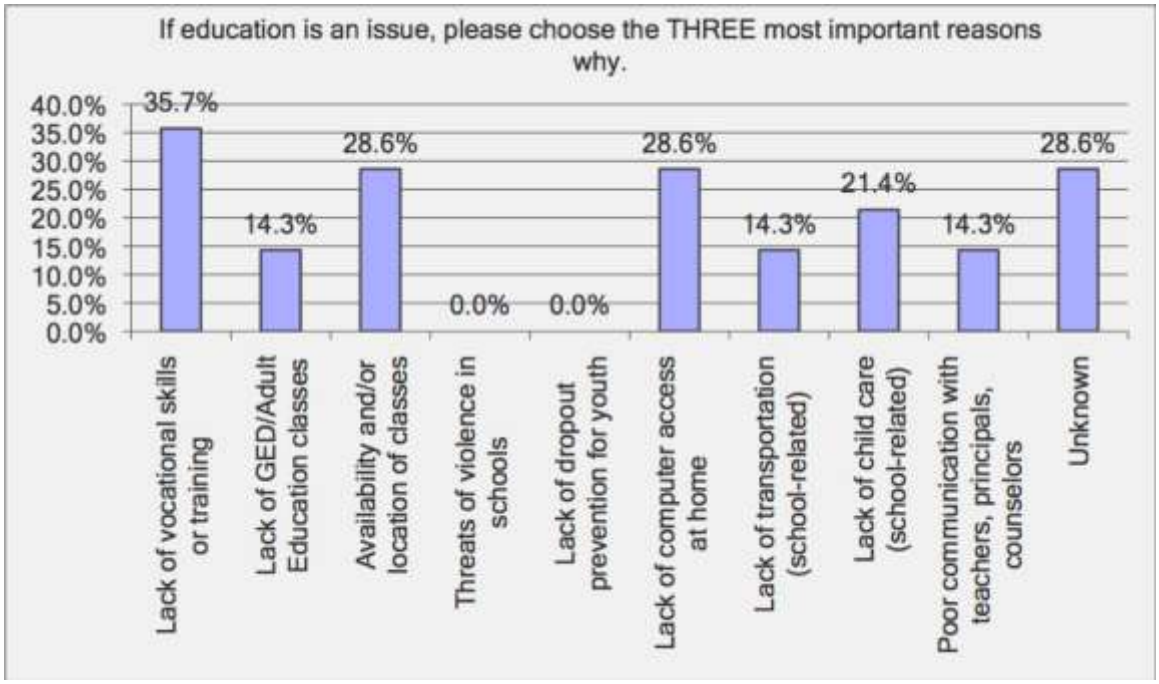


EDUCATION Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **education** an issue for you and/or your family*. **8.3%** of respondents in Putnam County felt that education was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Lack of vocational skills or training
2) Availability and/or location of classes
3) Lack of computer access at home



Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing EDUCATION issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct –** We offer educational assistance such as tuition assistance, program costs assistance, materials and/or books assistance, and assistance in finding educational/program opportunities.
- **Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston, WV-** We offer our after school students free tutoring, homework help, incentives for completing assignments & getting good grades.
- **Fayette County FRN –** We have ongoing efforts to connect education with community service and business. However, our success depends on involvement of the school board leadership, which often changes.
- **Charleston Police Department -** With the Drug Marketing Intervention Program the B Listers are sent to educational classes to help them better their situation.
- WV DHHR - Youth Services are often working truancy cases to ensure that the children are going to school and obtaining an education.
- **Regional Family Resource Network -** We work with various organizations to educate a range of community members on various topics – such as substance abuse prevention for elementary school children, or how young pregnant students can have a healthy pregnancy.
- **Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center-** We provide in-home family education services through our Parents as Teachers program. This is an evidence-based program that shows that children that have participated start to school ready to learn and ahead of their peers. We work with the entire family and provide information to parents or other caregivers about education opportunities through resource and referrals.
- **United Way of Central WV** - United Way of Central WV works to ensure children and youth achieve their potential through enrichment programs, mentoring, leadership development, career exploration, and other activities designed to help them become productive members of our community by funding agencies that provide these opportunities. United Way of Central WV also has sponsored programs that address education issues. AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service to America), located in 12 counties in West Virginia, is part of a tradition of service and represents America at its best: making a sustainable impact, while promoting values of community, responsibility, and opportunity. Members recruit community volunteers to provide sustained reading opportunities for children, provide parent/child enrichment activities, and provide educational information for families in the areas of health, fitness, and nutrition. Members also support literacy programs through grant writing and soliciting donations, and build organizational infrastructure to support literacy programs.

Secondary Data: Research

Data and information on the educational levels of clients as well as the issues surrounding access to education provide a framework for helping to move people from poverty into self-sufficiency. It has been shown that low income children who attend Head Start are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college (National Center for Children in Poverty).

Schools

Boone County

The enrollment in Boone County Schools for the 2012-2013 school year was **4,547** students. This is a decrease from the previous year's enrollment of 4,553 students. Of the students currently enrolled, 50.67% are considered low income. This is lower than the state average of 51.38%. The average class size is 18.8 students with an attendance rate of 97.61% and a dropout rate of 3.1%. (WV Department of Education, 2014). Private schooling can be found at the Christina Faith Academy.

Post-secondary education is available at Boone County Technical Center and Southern WV Community & Technical College.

The Boone County public school system has includes the following schools. (WV Dept. of Education, 2014)

School Name	Grades Served
ASHFORD-RUMBLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06
BROOKVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
JEFFREY-SPENCER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
NELLIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06
SCOTT HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
RAMAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
SHERMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06
SHERMAN HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
SHERMAN JUNION HIGH SCHOOL	07-08
VAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-05
VAN JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	06-12
WHARTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
WHITESVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06

Clay County

Clay County Schools maintained a graduation rate of 78.57% for the 2012-2013 school year. The average class size was 23 students with an attendance rate of 94.50%. The dropout rate for that year was 2.3%. The current enrollment in Clay County Schools for the 2013-2014 school year is 2,071 students. This is an increase from the previous year's enrollment of 2,047 students. Of the students currently enrolled, 67.17% are considered low income. This is higher than the state

average of 51.38% (WV Department of Education, 2014). Private schooling can be found at Clay Christian Academy. There is no post-secondary education available in the county.

The Clay County public school system has includes the following schools. (WV Dept. of Education, 2014)

School Name	Grades Served
BIG OTTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CLAY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
CLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CLAY MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
H.E. WHITE ELEMENRATY SCHOOL	PK-05
LIZEMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05

Fayette County

Fayette County Schools maintained a graduation rate of 95.31% for the 2012-2013 school year. The average class size is 19.7 students with an attendance rate of 95.31%. The dropout rate for that year was 3.6%. The current enrollment in Fayette County Schools for the 2013-2014 school year is **6,827** students. This is a decrease from the previous year's enrollment of 6,875 students. Of the students currently enrolled, **62.84% are considered low income**. This is higher than the state average of 51.38% (WV Department of Education, 2013). Private schooling can be found at Booner Christian Academy, Danese Christian School, Mountain View Christian School, and Saint Peter and Paul Elementary School.

Post-secondary schooling can be found at the Fayette Institute of Technology.

The Fayette County public school system has includes the following schools. (WV Dept. of Education, 2014)

School Name	Grades Served
ANSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
COLLINS MIDDLE SCHOOL	05-08
DANESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
DIVIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
FAYETTEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06
FAYETTEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	07-12
GATEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-04
GAULEY BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MEADOW BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-06
MEADOW BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	07-12
MIDLAND TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
MOUNT HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
NEW RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-04
OAK HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
ROSEDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-04
VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	06-12

Kanawha County

Kanawha County Schools maintained a graduation rate of 80.86% for the 2012-2013 school year. The average class size in Kanawha County Schools is 21 students with an attendance rate of 96.27%. The dropout rate for that year was 4.4%. The current enrollment in Kanawha County Schools for the 2013-2014 school year is **28,458** students. This is an increase from the previous year's enrollment of 28,429 students. Of the students currently enrolled, **50.32% are considered low income.** This is lower than the state average of 51.38%. (WV Department of Education, 2013)

Private schooling can be found at Bible Baptist Christian School, Bible Center School, Blue Creek Academy, Brookside Children's Home, Charleston Catholic High School, Cross Lanes Christian School, Dollie Hill Christian Academy, Elk Valley Christian School, Fairhaven Christian School, Freedom Christian Academy, King's Way Christian Academy, Mountaineer Montessori, Scared Heart Elementary, Saint Agnes School, Saint Anthony School, Saint Frances of Assisi, South Charleston Christian Academy, Twin City Christian Academy, and Upper Kanawha Valley Christian School. .

Post-secondary schools include Ben Franklin Vocational Center, Carver Career Center, Garnett Career Center, West Virginia Junior College, Marshall University, West Virginia State University, West Virginia University, WVU Tech and the University of Charleston.

The Kanawha County public school system has includes the following schools. (WV Dept. of Education, 2014)

School Name	Grades Served
ALUM CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
ANDREW JACKSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
ANDREW HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
ANNE BAILEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
BELLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
BONHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
BRIDGEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CAPITOL HIGH SCHOOL	PK-12
CEDAR GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CEDAR GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CHAMBERLAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CHANDLER ACADEMY	06-12
CHANDLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CHESAPEAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CLENDENIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CROSS LANES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
DUNBAR INTERMEDIATE CENTER	PK-05
DUNBAR MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
DUNBAR PRIMARY CENTER	PK-02
EAST BANK MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
ELK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
ELKVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08

FLINN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-04
GEORGE C. WEIMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
GRANDVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
HAYES MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
HERBERT HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
HOLTZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL	09-12
JOHN ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
KANAWHA CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
KENNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MALDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MARMET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MARY C. SNOW WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MARY INGLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MCKINELY MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
MIDLAND TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MONTROSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-05
NITRO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
NITRO HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
OVERBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
PIEDMONT YEAR ROUND ELEMENTARY	PK-05
PINCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
POINT HARMONY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
PRATT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
RUFFNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
RUTHLAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
SAINT ALBANS HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
SHARON DAWES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
SHAWNEE COMMUNITY CENTER	PK-SPECIAL NEEDS
SHOALS ELEMETARY SCHOOLS	PK-05
SISSONVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-04
SISSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
SISSONVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	05-08
SOUTH CHARLESTON HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
SOUTH CHARLESTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
STONEWALL JACKSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
TYLER MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-09

Putnam County

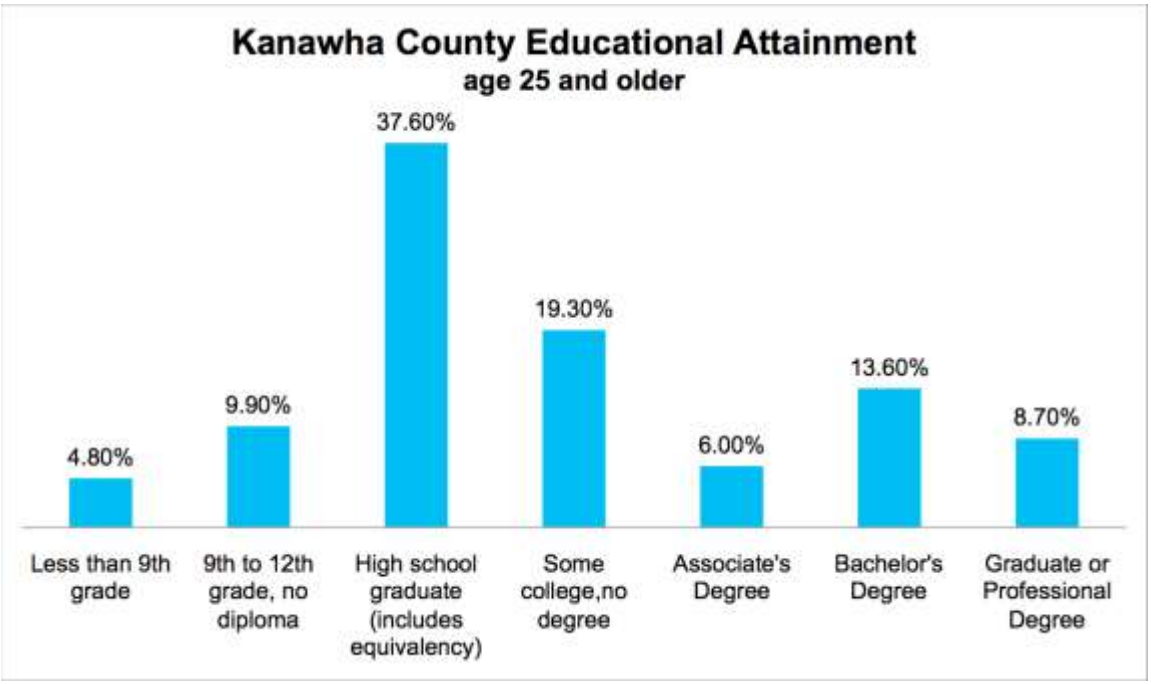
Putnam County Schools maintained a graduation rate of 88.51% for the 2012-2013 school year. The average class size in Putnam County is 20.6 students with an attendance rate of 97.93%. The dropout rate for that year was 1.5%. The current enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year is 9,631 students. This is a decrease from the previous year's enrollment of 9,779 students. Of the students currently enrolled, 34.40% are considered low income. This is much lower than the state average of 51.38% (WV Department of Education, 2013). Private schooling can be found at Calvary Baptist Academy, Lighthouse Christian Academy, Teays Valley Christian School, and Truth & Liberty Christian School.

Post-secondary education can be obtained at Putnam Career and Technical Center.

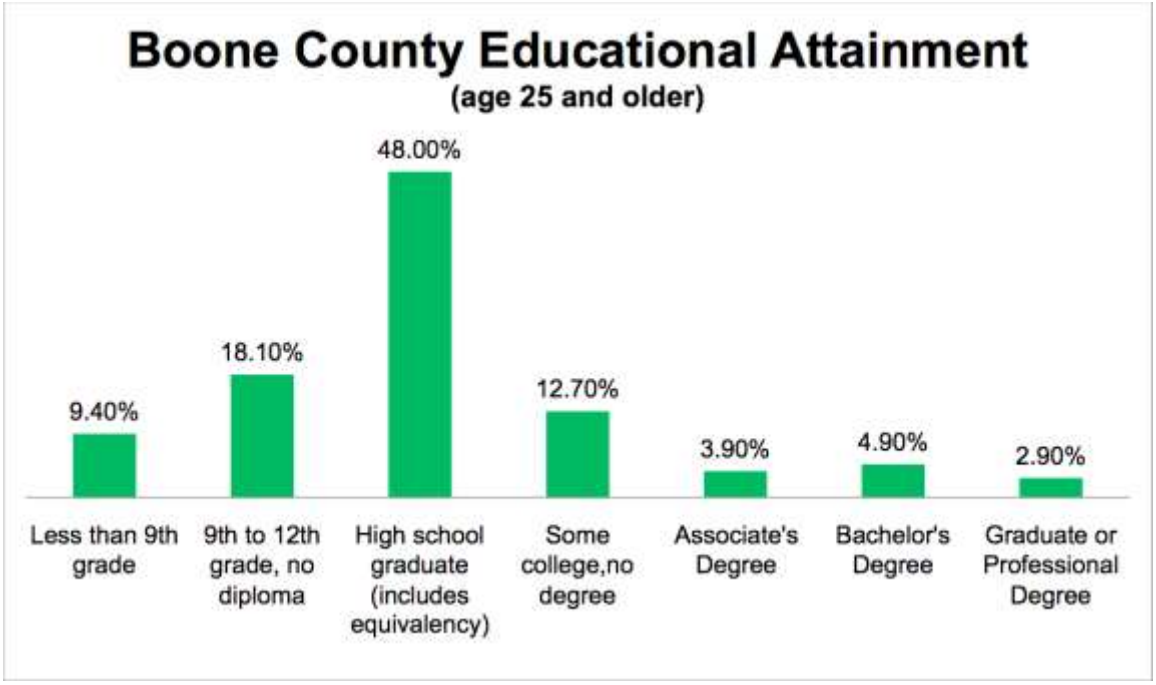
The Putnam County public school system has includes the following schools. (WV Dept. of Education, 2014)

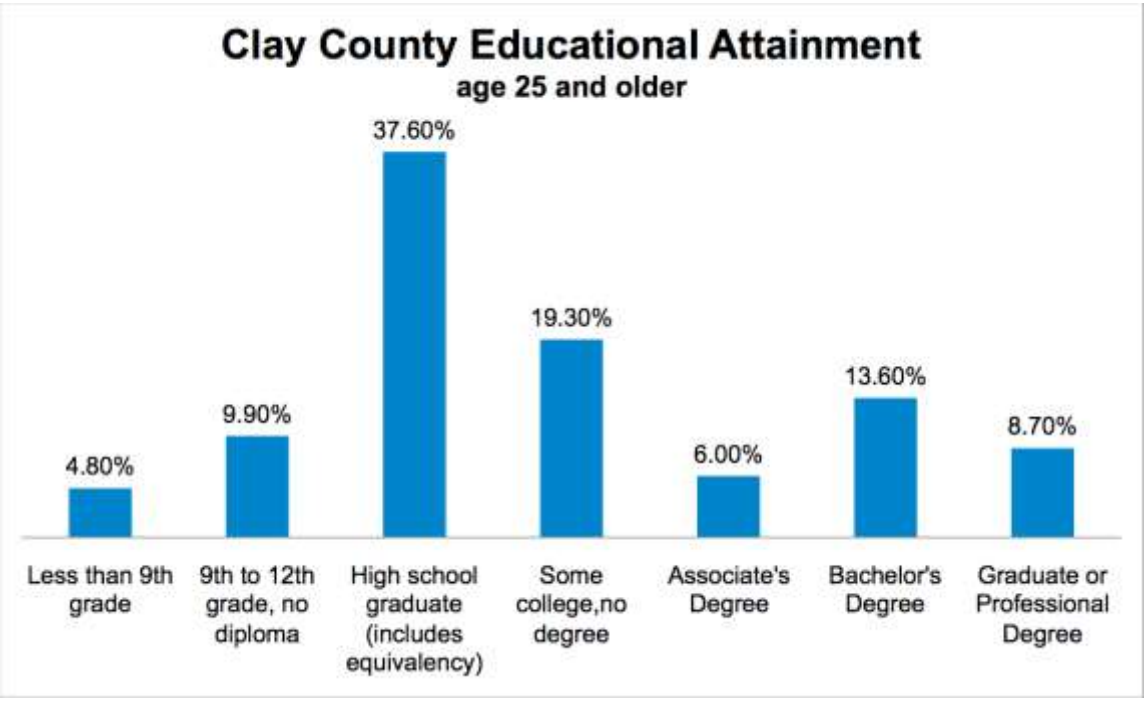
School Name	Grades Served
BUFFALO ELEMENTARY	PK-05
BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
CONFIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
CONNER STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
EAST BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
GEORGE WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
HOMETOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
HURRICANE HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
HURRICANE MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
HURRICANE TOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-05
LAKESIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
POCA HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
POCA HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
POCA MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08
ROCK BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Pk-05
SCOTT TEAYS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
WEST TEAYS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
WINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PK-05
WINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	09-12
WINFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL	06-08

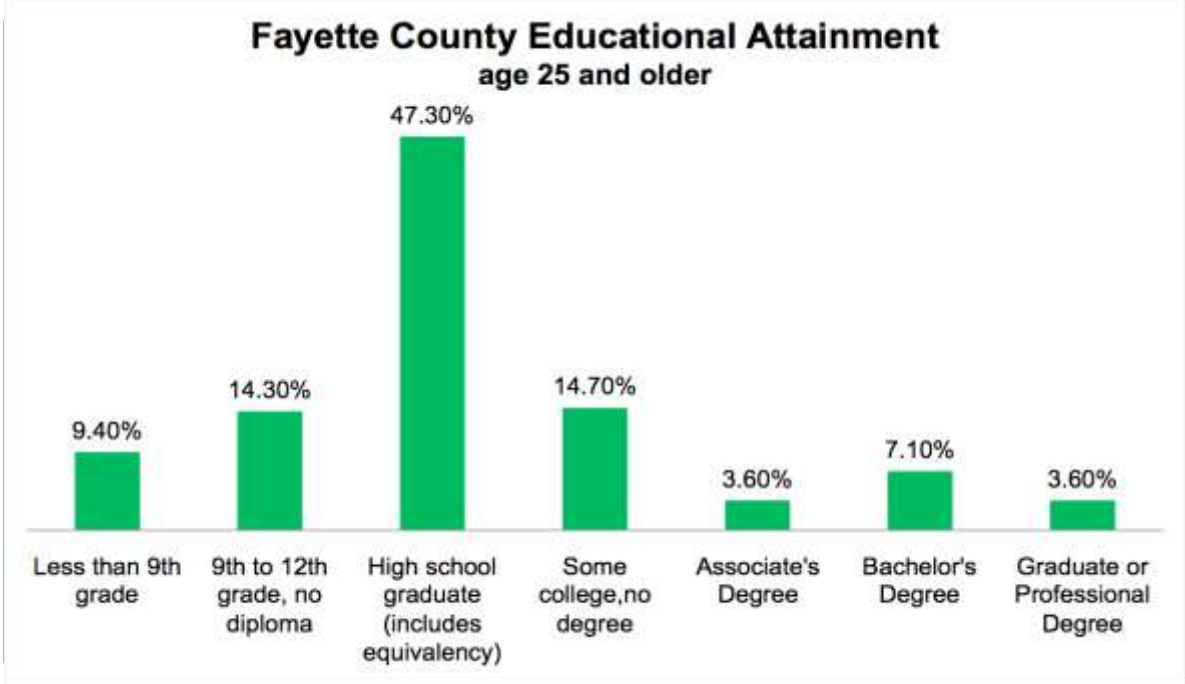
Educational Attainment

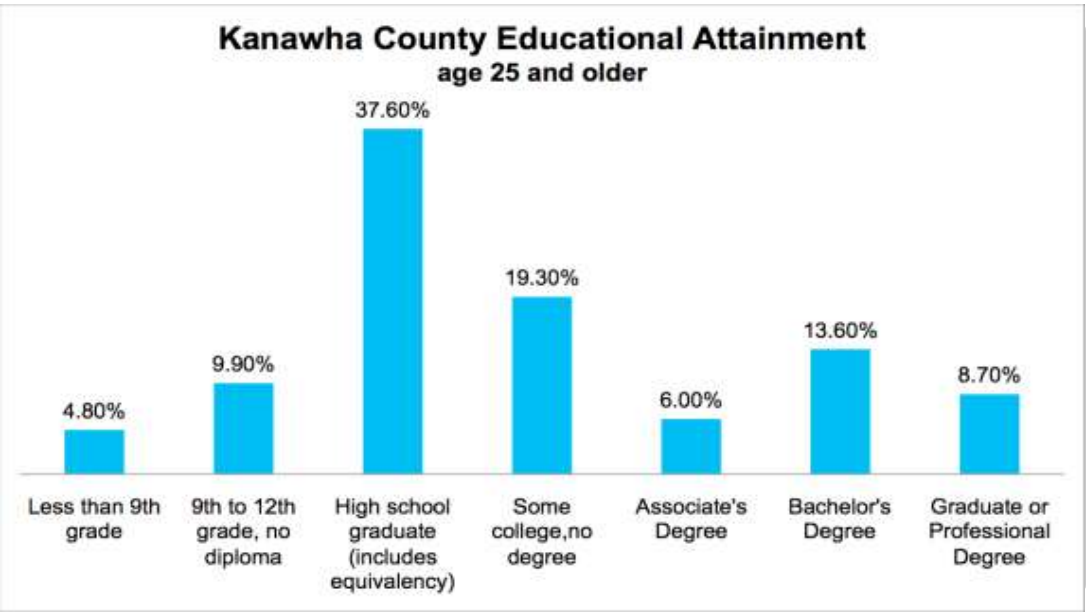


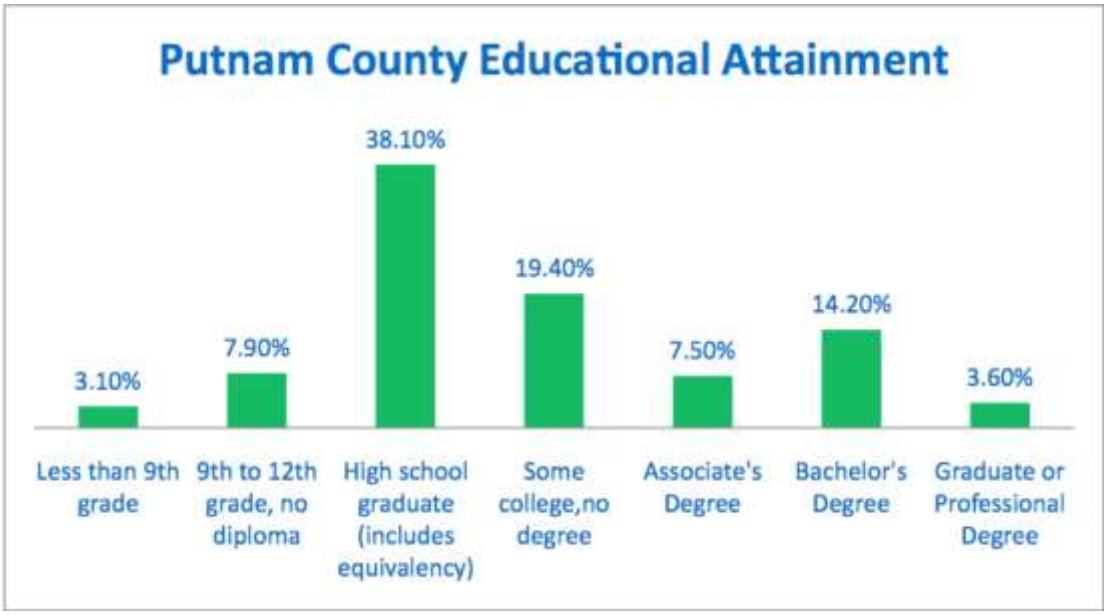
**U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2006-2010*




Clay County Educational Attainment
age 25 and older
4.80%
9.90%
37.60%
19.30%
6.00%
13.60%
8.70%
Less than 9th grade
9th to 12th grade, no diploma
High school graduate (includes equivalency)
Some college,no degree
Associate's Degree
Bachelor's Degree
Graduate or Professional Degree


Fayette County Educational Attainment
age 25 and older
9.40%
14.30%
47.30%
14.70%
3.60%
7.10%
3.60%
Less than 9th grade
9th to 12th grade, no diploma
High school graduate (includes equivalency)
Some college,no degree
Associate's Degree
Bachelor's Degree
Graduate or Professional Degree


Kanawha County Educational Attainment
age 25 and older
4.80%
9.90%
37.60%
19.30%
6.00%
13.60%
8.70%
Less than 9th grade
9th to 12th grade, no diploma
High school graduate (includes equivalency)
Some college,no degree
Associate's Degree
Bachelor's Degree
Graduate or Professional Degree


Putnam County Educational Attainment
3.10%
7.90%
38.10%
19.40%
7.50%
14.20%
3.60%
Less than 9th grade
9th to 12th grade, no diploma
High school graduate (includes equivalency)
Some college,no degree
Associate's Degree
Bachelor's Degree
Graduate or Professional Degree

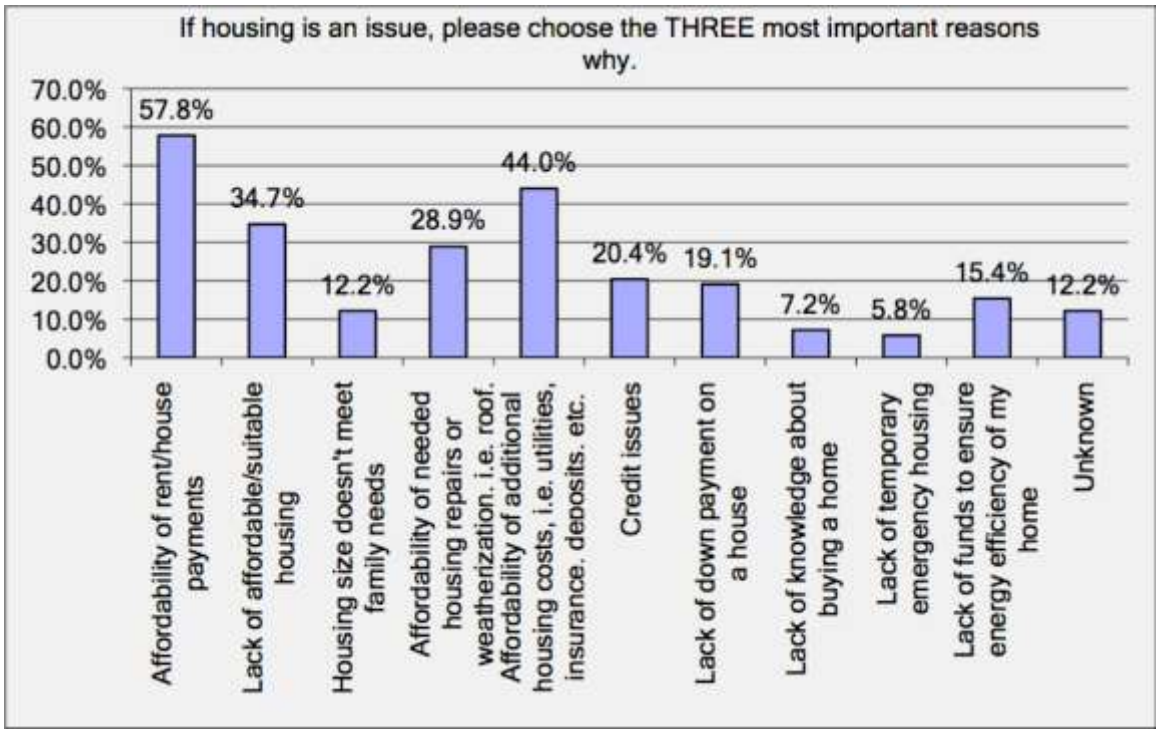
POVERTY INDICATOR: HOUSING

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1,400 individuals who answered the question, **23.0%** felt that housing was in fact an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of housing issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Affordability of rent/house payments
2) Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3) Lack of affordable/suitable housing

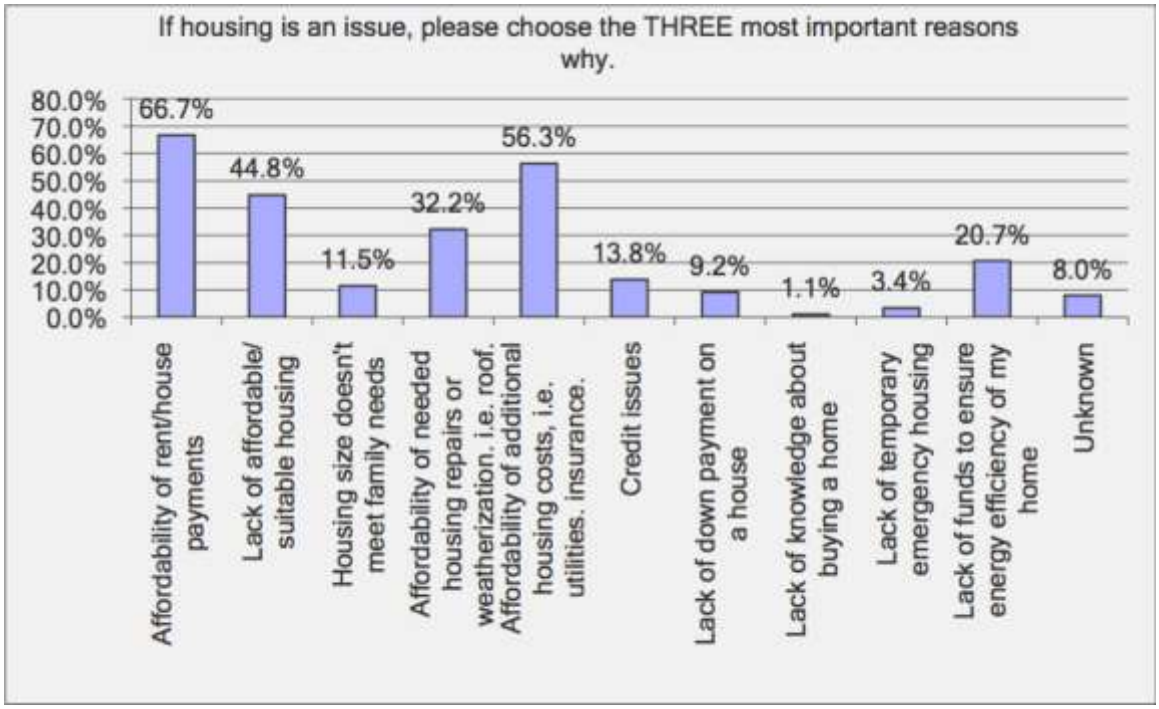


HOUSING Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. **24.4%** of respondents in Boone County felt that housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Affordability of rent/house payments
2. Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3. Lack of affordable/suitable housing

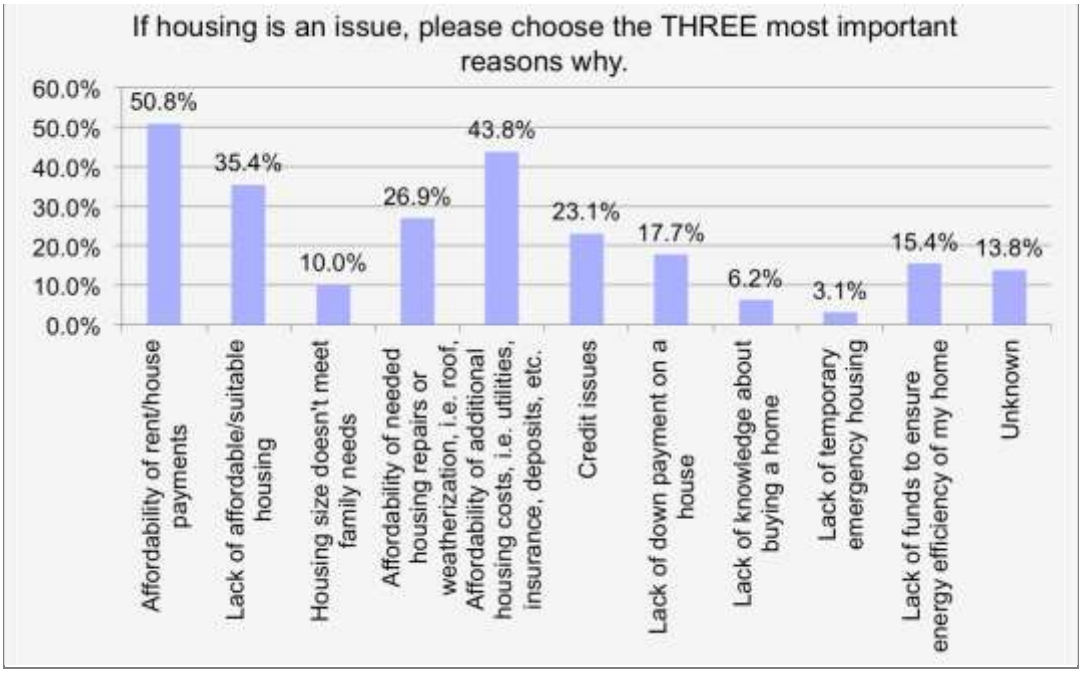


HOUSING Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. **20.4 %** of respondents in Clay County felt that housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Affordability of needed housing repairs or weatherization, i.e. roof, foundation, insulation, etc.
2. Lack of down payment on a house
3. Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.

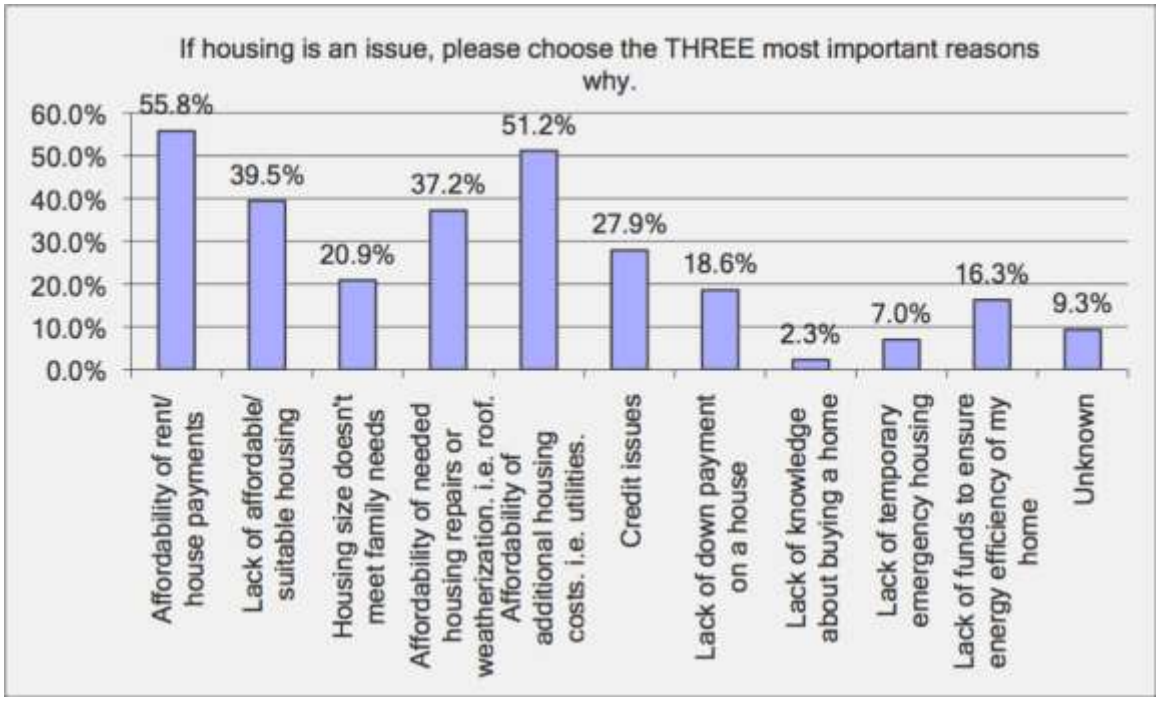


HOUSING Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. **28.6%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Affordability of rent/house payments
2) Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3) Lack of affordable/suitable housing

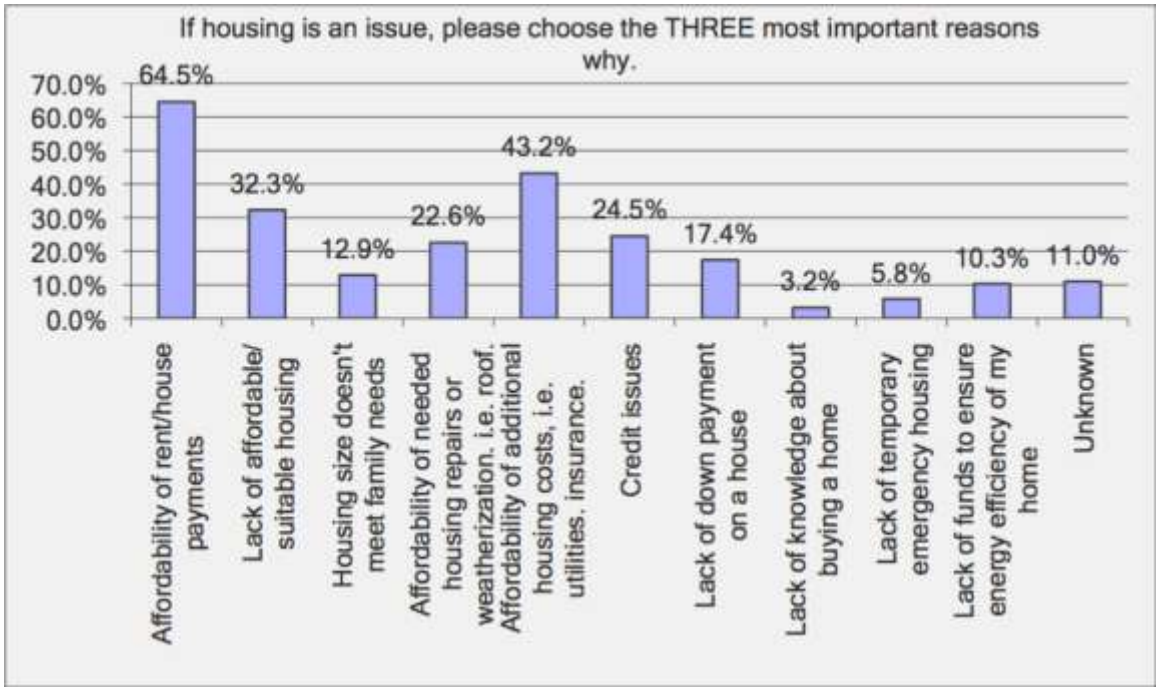


HOUSING Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. **23.5%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Affordability of rent/house payments
2) Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits, etc.
3) Lack of affordable/suitable housing

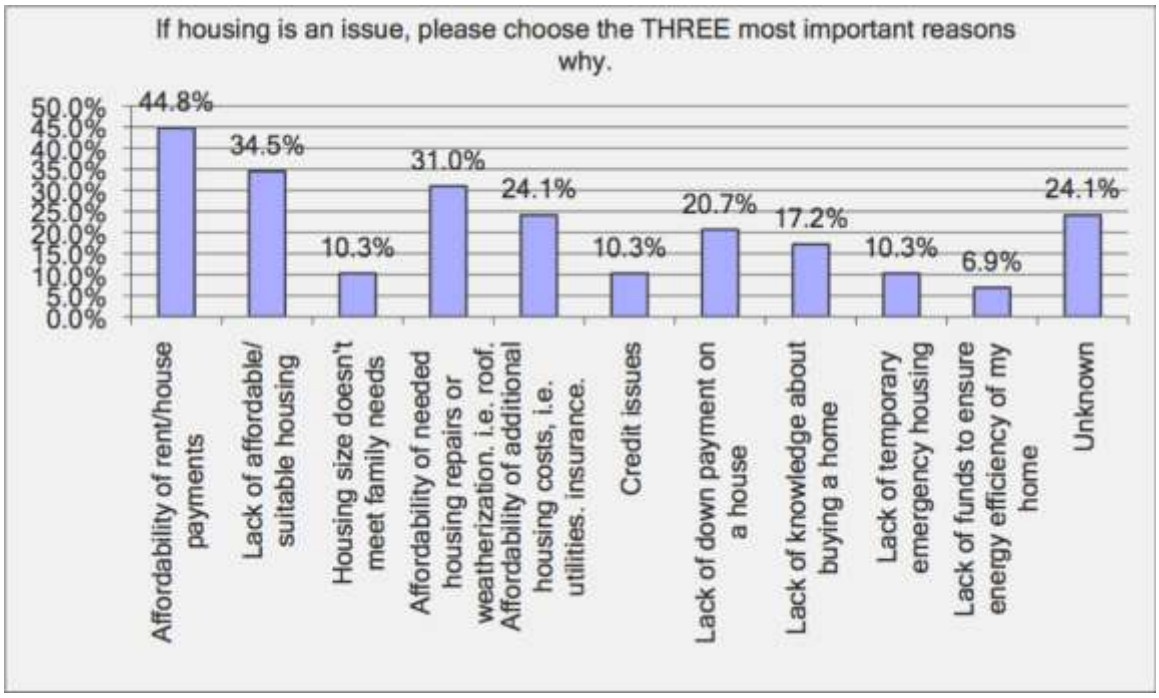


HOUSING Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **housing** an issue for you and/or your family*. **17.6 %** of respondents in Putnam County felt that housing was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1) Affordability of rent/house payments
2) Lack of affordable/suitable housing
3) Affordability of needed housing repairs or weatherization, i.e. roof, foundation, insulation, storm windows, etc.



Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing HOUSING issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct –** We offer rent and utility assistance if the qualified individual or family has an eviction notice or termination of service notice. We are not able to pay the full amount, but can work with the individual or family in getting the past due amount paid.
- **Fayette County FRN -** We work with organizations that address housing issues. However, there are so many needs that organizations are often overwhelmed.
- **Charleston Police Dept. –** We are developing a new program to address housing issues.
- **Prestera Center -** We have a homeless outreach program, short term shelter housing, and aftercare hosuing for recovering addicts.
- **United Way of Central WV -** Provides fuel assistance; budget counseling; rental assistance; housing for homeless women and children; and emergency food, clothing and shelter by funding agencies that provide these services. These programs help to give our area residents basic needs and to keep families together in times of economic crisis. LifeBridge Vet Corps engages military veterans in service to provide comprehensive services to individuals in their communities who are transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing so that they can support themselves and avoid becoming homeless again in the future. Members support military veterans and other adults in the community through peer mentoring, employment and skills training, information and referral service and financial literacy services. Vet Corps members receive extensive training to meet the community needs and to meet their own personal and professional goals.

Secondary Data: Research

Finding affordable housing (both rental and available for homeownership) continues to be a challenge for many Americans. Safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing provides not only shelter for families, but stabilization for children, and in cases of homeownership—the ability for individuals and families to build and retain an asset for the future.

Occupancy and Home Value

Attainable housing is defined as housing that is in a safe and acceptable condition and does not financially burden a family. Federal government guidelines, primarily those developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), define attainable housing as housing that costs a homeowner or renter no more than 30% of the household's gross monthly income. This figure includes mortgage payments, home insurance, taxes, homeowner association and/or condominium fees, and utilities.

Geographic Area	Total Housing Units	Median Year Built	Median Age (in 2012)
Boone County	11,125	1979	33
Clay County	4,599	1981	31
Fayette County	21,647	1965	47
Kanawha County	92,679	1965	47
Putnam County	23,426	1983	29
West Virginia	882,240	1973	39
United States	131,642,456	1975	37

Geographic Area	Occupied Housing Units	Housing Units without Plumbing	Percent without Plumbing
Clay County	11,125	109	1.12
Boone County	4,599	27	0.78
Fayette County	21,647	90	0.51
Kanawha County	92,679	414	0.50
Putnam County	23,426	82	0.39
West Virginia	882,240	5,019	0.68
United States	2,172,647	9,528	0.52

US CENSUS, 2014

Putnam County has the highest median home value at $141,900. This is higher than the state average of $97,300. Fayette County has the lowest median home value at $70,900.

	Median Home Value
Boone County	$78,100
Clay County	$81,900
Fayette County	$70,900
Kanawha County	$100,100
Putnam County	$141,900
West Virginia	$97,300

US Census, 2014

Rentals

About 27% of all West Virginia households – or 201,500 households – are renters. Federal rental assistance programs enable more than 36,300 low-income households in West Virginia to rent modest housing at an affordable cost. About 58% of these households are headed by people who are elderly or have disabilities; approximately 31% are families with children. (Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, 2013)

Federal programs reach only a small share of the low-income West Virginia households that pay unaffordable rental housing costs and are therefore at increased risk of homelessness and other types of housing instability:

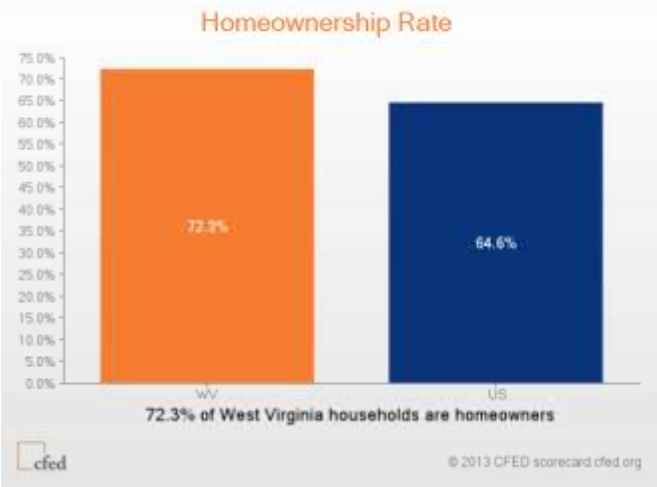
- In West Virginia, 41,000 low-income renter households pay more than half their monthly cash income for housing costs. On average, these households have incomes of $790 and pay housing costs of $710, leaving only $80 to pay for other necessities. About 41% of these cost-burdened renters are elderly or people with disabilities, while 27% are families with children.
- When housing costs consume more than half of household income, low-income families are at greater risk of becoming homeless. Point-in-time surveys suggest that at least 2,200 people are homeless in West Virginia.(Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, 2013)

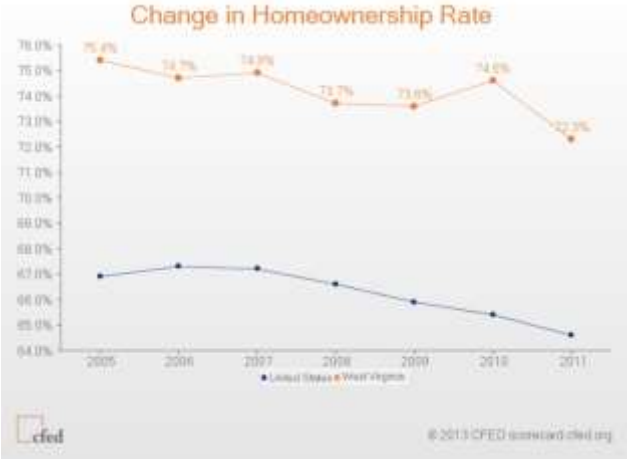
The following charts contain the Fair Market Rents for Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties. Fair Market Rents (FMRs) are estimates of rental housing costs in local housing markets that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) prepares using rent survey data to serve as the basis for determining the maximum subsidy levels in the Housing Choice Voucher program. In general, FMRs are set at the 40th percentile rent i.e., the dollar amount which allows voucher-holders access to 40 percent of standard quality rental units. Adjustments are made

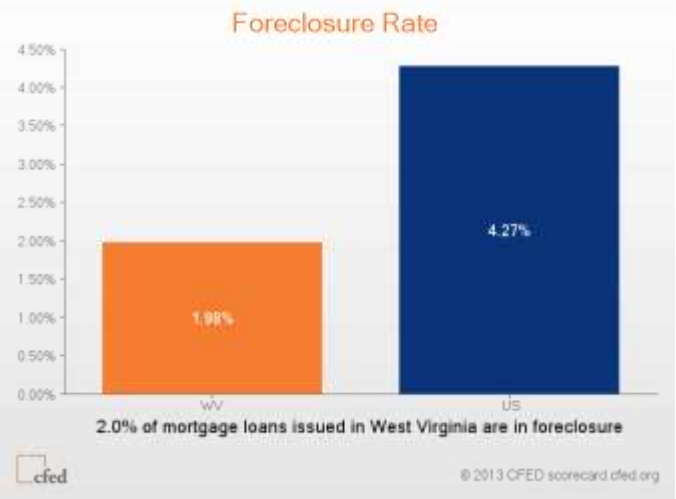
to exclude public housing units, newly built units and substandard units. (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013)

County	2014 FAIR MARKET RENT ($/month)				
	0 BR	1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	4 BR
Boone County	423	426	573	714	854
Clay County	539	605	721	949	1075
Fayette County	398	443	573	768	795
Kanawha County	539	605	721	949	1075
Putnam County	539	605	721	949	1075

According to the 2013 Assets & Opportunities Scorecard, 72.3% of West Virginia households are homeowners.







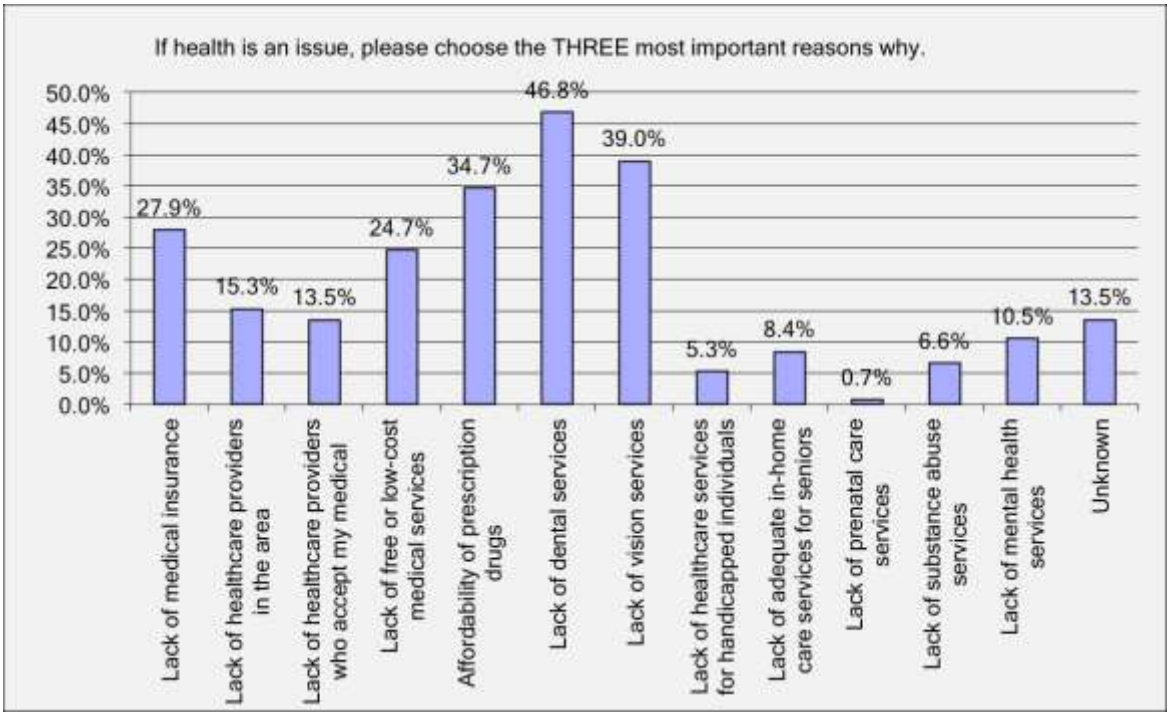
POVERTY INDICATOR: HEALTH

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1,050 individuals who answered the question, **28.8%** felt that health was in fact an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of health issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

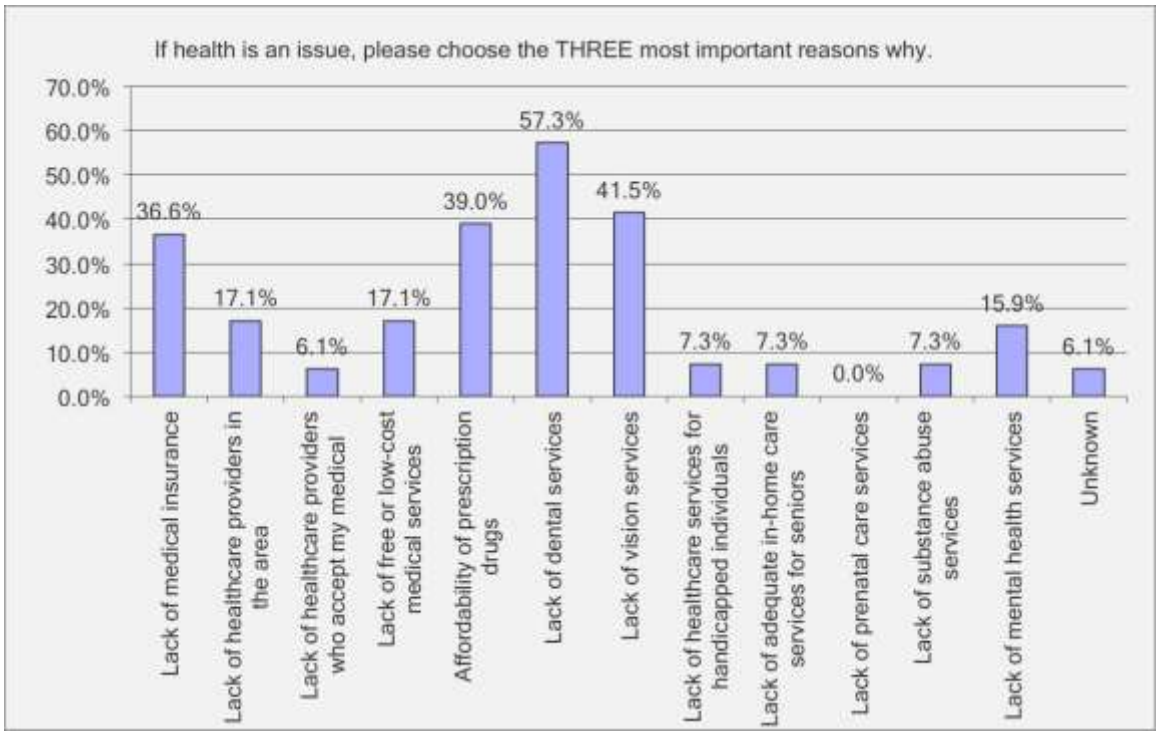


HEALTH Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. **24.2%** of respondents in Boone County felt that health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

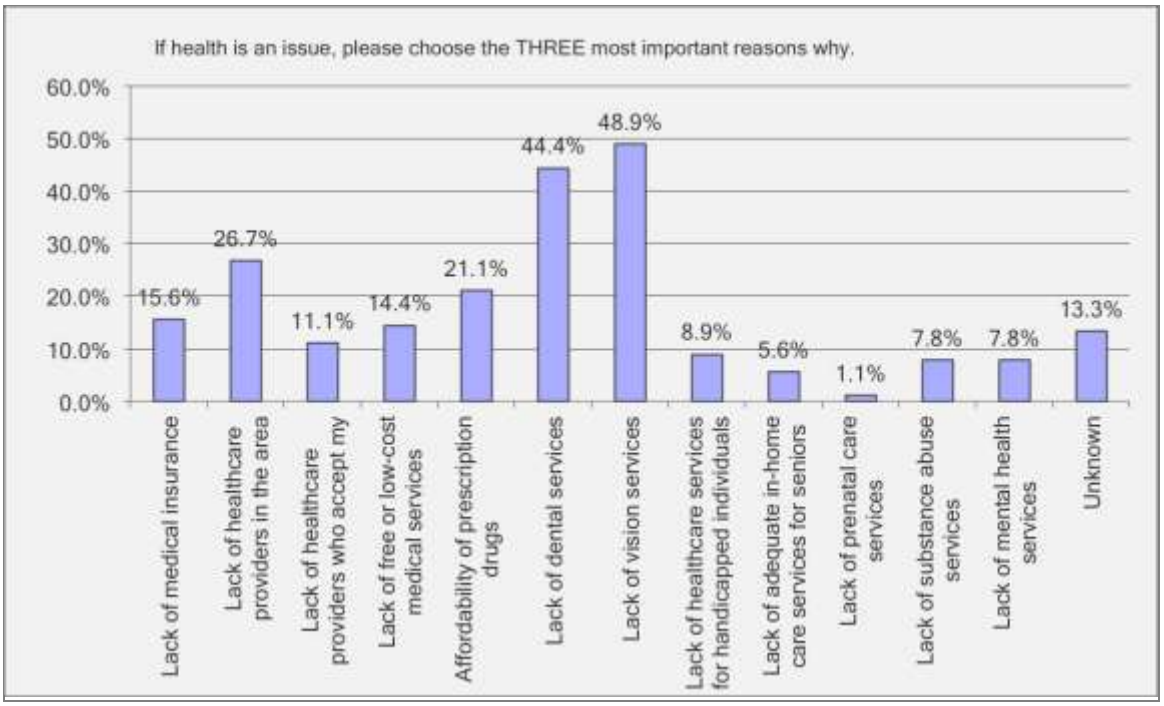


HEALTH Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. **39.4 %** of respondents in Clay County felt that health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of vision services
2. Lack of dental services
3. Lack of healthcare providers in the

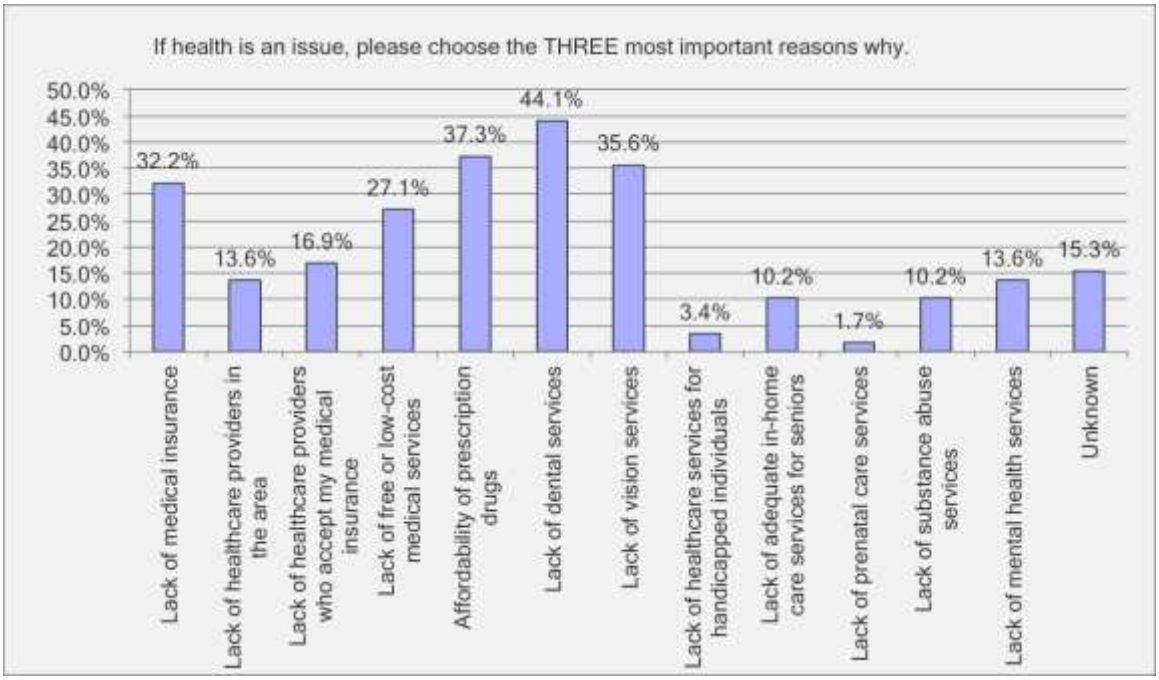


HEALTH Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. **41.8%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

4. Lack of dental services
5. Lack of vision services
6. Affordability of prescription drugs

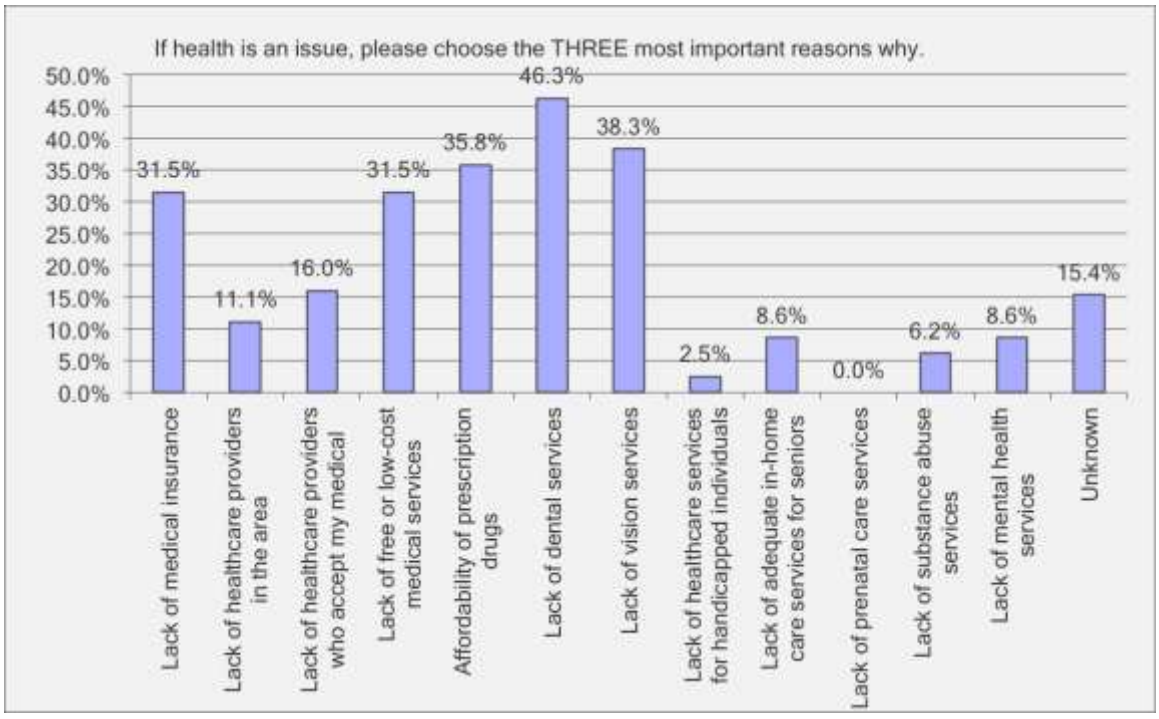


HEALTH Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. **26.0%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of dental services
2. Lack of vision services
3. Affordability of prescription drugs

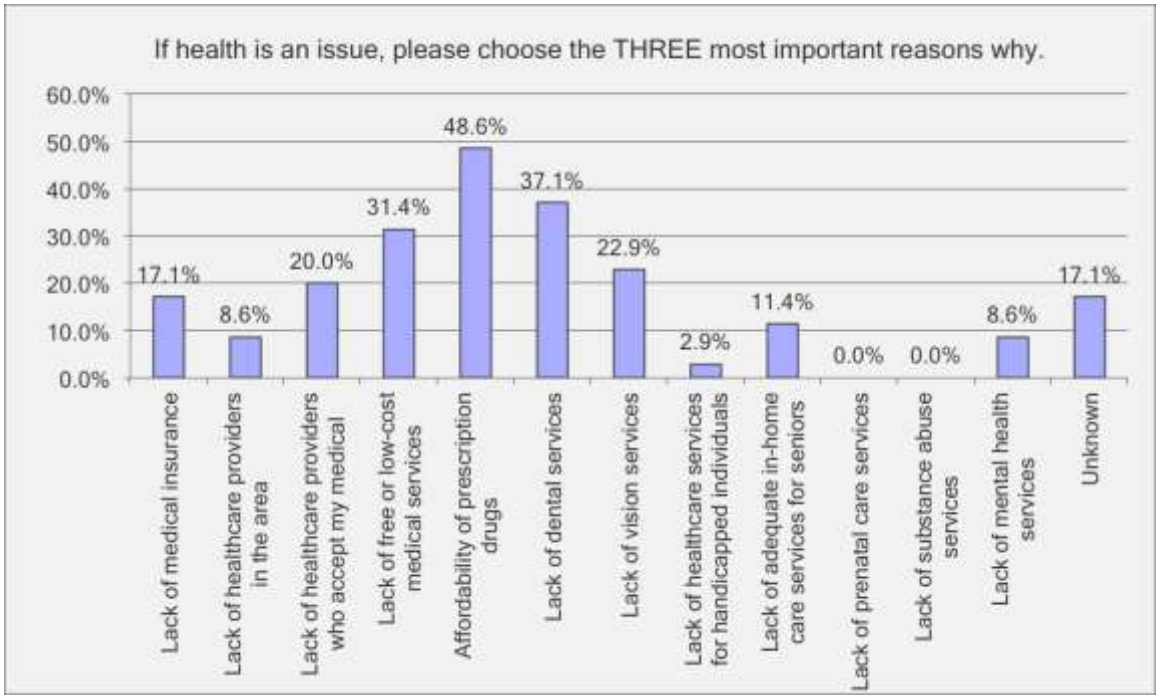


HEALTH Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **health** an issue for you and/or your family*. **26.0 %** of respondents in Putnam County felt that health was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Affordability of prescription drugs
2. Lack of dental services
3. Lack of free or low-cost medical services



Participants Speak Out - Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing HEALTH issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct –** We routinely offer free blood pressure screens throughout the year.
- **Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston WV** - We have a social services department which directs those with health issues to service providers in the city. We also teach many mental & physical health education classes for our students.
- **Fayette County Family Resource Network** - On a very local level, we have formed a Living Well Workgroup - initiatives include walking groups, lunch and learns (healthy eating, stress reduction), diabetes classes (Dining with Diabetes, Chronic Disease Self Management Program). Most of these programs are offered to county employees, health department staff, and board of education central office staff. Mount Hope has a Mt Hope on the Move initiative; Fayetteville has a Girls on the Run initiative.
- **Charleston Police Department** - With the Drug Marketing Intervention Program the B Listers are going to be given resources with a new partner.
- **WV DHHR** - We provide Medical card, CHIP or other health insurance options to provide access to medical care.
- **Regional Family Resource Network** - We work with various organizations to address a range of health topics, from substance abuse prevention to healthy pregnancy for young soon-to-be mothers.
- **Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center** - We track immunization and healthy child check up information. Also, with our prenatal clients we track doctors appointments and provide reminders about when check ups are due. We also provide information to reduce ER visits through educational materials and other resources.
- **Prestera Center** - Mental health and substance abuse services are provided, and now a focus on wellness is incorporated throughout all programs.
- **United Way of Central WV -** Helps provide programs that address the needs for mental health services to adults and youth, substance abuse prevention and support services, dental and health care for the uninsured, counseling and education for victims of sexual and domestic violence, as well as those facing end-of-life issues by funding agencies that provides these services. United Way of Central WV also has sponsored programs that address health issues. AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service to America), located in 12 counties in West Virginia, is part of a tradition of service and represents America at its best: making a sustainable impact, while promoting values of community, responsibility, and opportunity. Members recruit community volunteers to provide sustained reading opportunities for children, provide parent/child enrichment activities, and provide educational information for families in the areas of health, fitness, and nutrition.

Secondary Data: Research

Those struggling in poverty, as well as many families moving out of poverty, find it difficult at times to find available and affordable healthcare options.

County Health Rankings

Many health factors shape our communities' health outcomes. We know that much of what influences our health happens outside of the doctor's office—in our workplaces, schools and neighborhoods. The following information is from the ***County Health Rankings & Roadmaps*** program. This programs looks at health statistics across the nation to help communities create solutions that make it easier for people to be healthy in their own communities, focusing on specific factors that we know affect health, such as education and income. Rankings illustrate what we know when it comes to what's making people sick or healthy *(County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2012).*

The chart below focuses on **health behaviors, clinical care,** and the **physical environment**. It also measures two types of health outcomes to show how healthy the county is: how long people live (mortality) and how healthy people feel (morbidity). Below are the results for Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putnam Counties in the state of West Virginia.

	Boone County	Clay County	Fayette County	Kanawha County	Putnam County	West Virginia
Health Outcomes						
Mortality						
Premature Death	12,529	10,118	12,349	10,125	7,626	9,351
Morbidity						
Poor or fair health	30%	27%	23%	21%	17%	22%
Poor physical health days	6.6	5.6	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.9
Poor mental health days	5.5	4.1	5.1	4.3	3.6	4.4
Low birth weight	10.1%	9.2%	10.6%	9.7%	8.4	9.4%
Health Factors						
Health Behaviors						
Adult smoking	30%	22%	26%	23%	20%	26%
Adult obesity	34%	38%	33%	32%	29%	33%
Physical inactivity	42%	38%	37%	32%	31%	33%
Excessive drinking`	9%	30%	15%	32%	9%	10%
Alcohol Impaired Driving Deaths	37%	46%	42%	33%	40%	20%
Sexually transmitted infections	115	86	267	401	145	209
Teen birth rate	69	67	68	51	31	45
Clinical Care						

Uninsured	16%	19%	21%	17%	14%	17%
Primary care physicians	2,444:1	4,679:1	1,523:1	805:1	1,018:1	1,310:1
Dentists	6,152:1	3,124:1	2,385:1	1,376:1	2,266:1	2,305:1
Preventable hospital stays	108	138	121	83	90	99
Diabetic screening	81%	88%	84%	84%	84%	83%
Mammography screening	55%	53%	54%	59%	63%	61%

Statistics on Children and Teens - Healthcare and Related Issues

Percent low birth-weight babies			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**9.2%**	**9.3%**	**-1.1%**
Boone County	9.3%	7.6%	-18.3%
Clay County	8.6%	8.5%	+1.2%
Fayette County	9.3%	11.3%	21.5%
Kanawha County	9.7%	9.2%	+5.2%
Putnam County	7.8%	8.1%	-3.8%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**7.9**	**7.4**	**+6.3%**
Boone County	6.8	8.7	-27.7%
Clay County	2.9	9.0	-206.3%
Fayette County	5.6	7.1	+26.5%
Kanawha County	7.1	7.8	-9.8%
Putnam County	9.0	4.9	+45.3%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**24.6**	**22.3**	**+17.7%**
Boone County	17.9	22.7	+27.2%
Clay County	20.9	11.5	+45.1%
Fayette County	31.6	21.9	+30.7%
Kanawha County	22.6	20.3	+10.1%
Putnam County	24.7	19.6	+20.8%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Teen Birth Rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**43.4**	**45.3**	**-4.5%**
Boone County	56.8	69.4	-22.2%
Clay County	42.4	60.6	-42.9%
Fayette County	47.5	71.8	-51.3%
Kanawha County	49.1	51.3	-4.4%
Putnam County	30.7	32.7	-6.5%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Percent Births to Unmarried Teens (ages 10-19)			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**9.2%**	**10.5%**	**-14.1%**
Boone County	9.5%	12.6%	-32.6%
Clay County	8.6%	10.6%	-23.3%
Fayette County	8.5%	11.8%	-38.8%
Kanawha County	9.5%	10.7%	-12.6%
Putnam County	5.7%	7.2%	-26.3%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Teen Injury Death Rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)			
County	**2005**	**2012**	**% Change (+Better, -Worse)**
West Virginia	**70.1**	**50.2**	**+28.4%**
Boone County	76.7	53.5	+30.2%
Clay County	79.9	0.0	+100.0%
Fayette County	105.0	87.8	+16.4%
Kanawha County	78.1	50.8	+34.9%
Putnam County	79.8	41.1	+48.5%

**West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund 2013 Data Book*

Public Health

The County Health Departments in each county provides a variety of services including health information, immunizations, family planning, prenatal clinics, environmental services, TB testing, HIV testing, and health related information. The following chart summarizes the services offered by the county health departments.

Services Provided	Boone County	Clay County	Fayette County	Kanawha County	Putnam County
Adult Services					
Breast & Cervical Cancer Services	X	X	X	X	
Cancer Detection				X	
Community Education	X		X		
Community Health Services	X				
Diabetes					
Environmental	X		X	X	X
Epidemiology	X	X	X	X	X
Family Planning	X		X	X	
Fluoride					
General Health		X		X	
HIV/Aids	X		X		
Hypertension	X		X		
Immunization	X	X	X	X	X
Lead			X		
Provider Education	X		X		
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	X	X	X	X	
Threat Preparedness	X	X			X
Tuberculosis	X	X	X	X	

Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County Health Departments, 2014

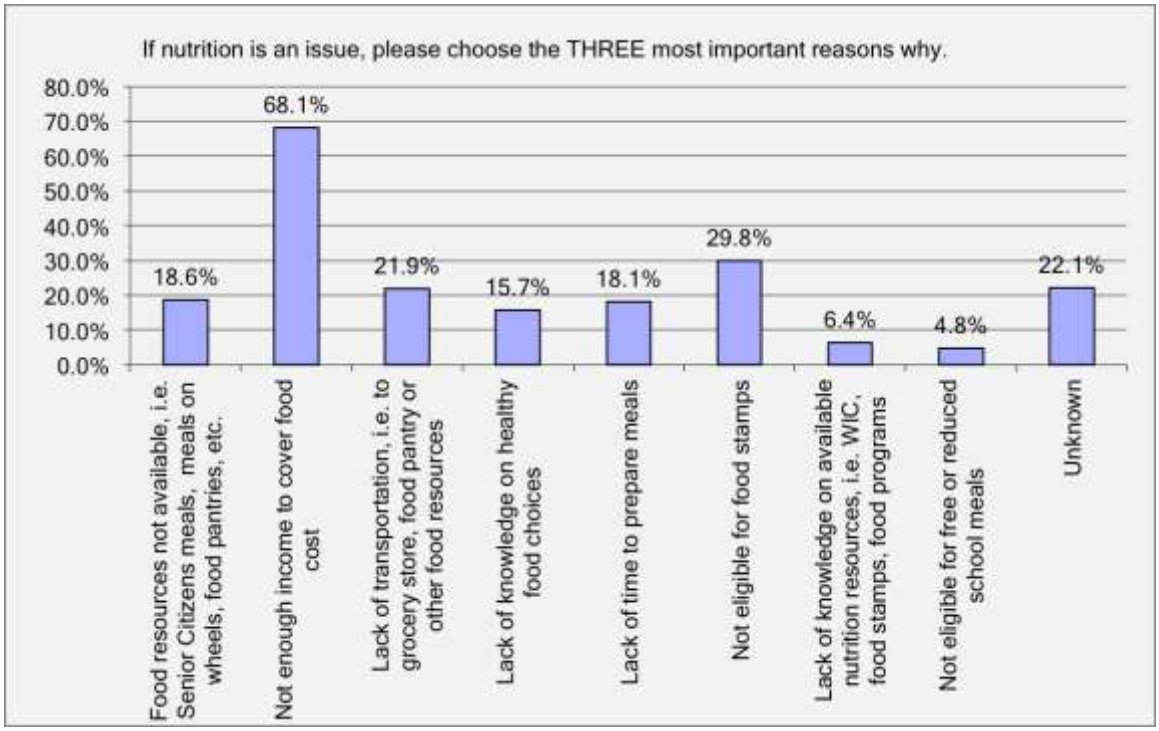
POVERTY INDICATOR: NUTRITION

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1372 individuals who answered the question, **26.5%** felt that nutrition was in fact an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of nutrition issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

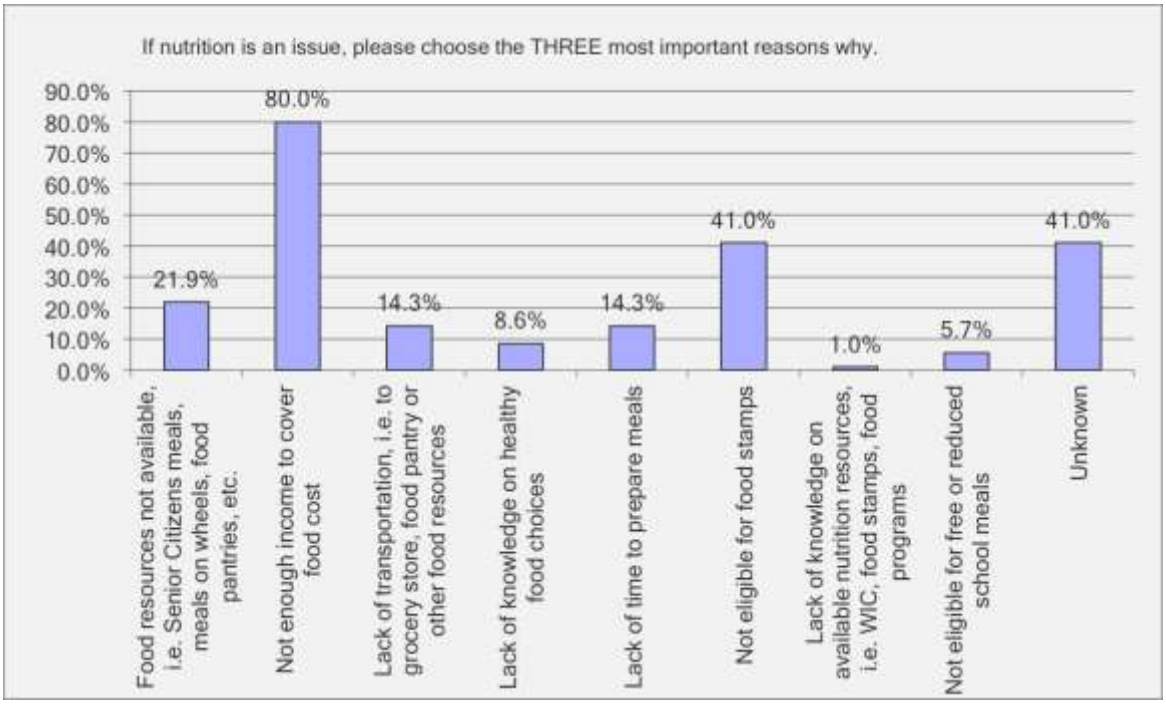


NUTRITION Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. **30.7%** of respondents in Boone County felt that nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Unknown

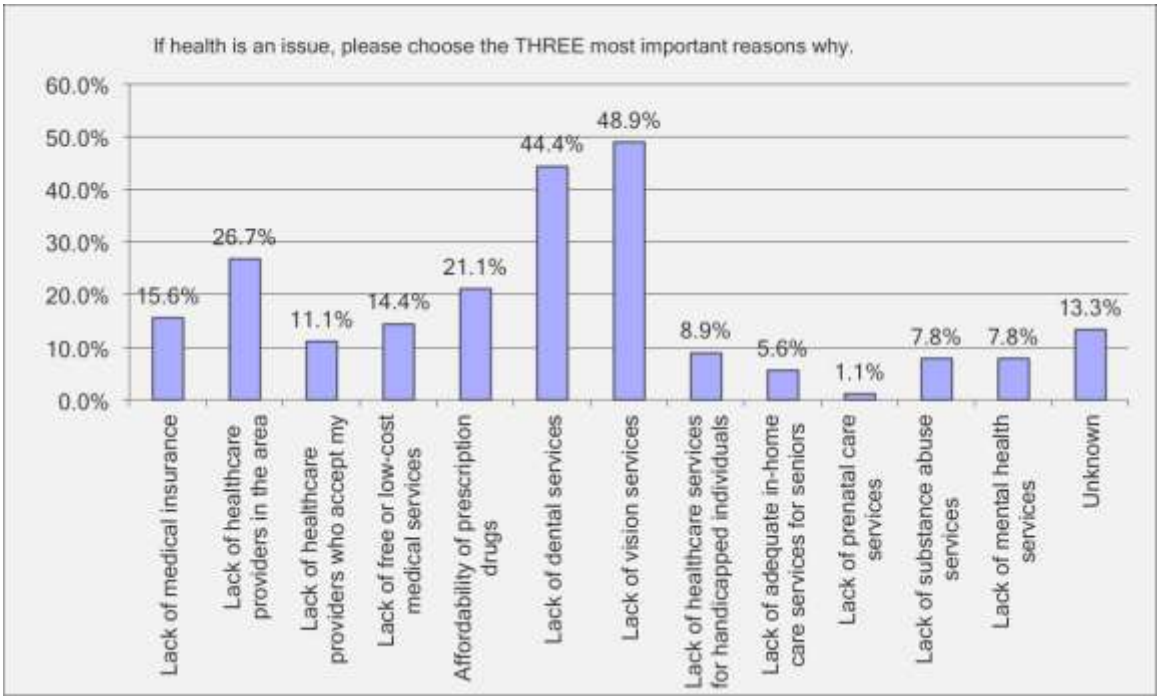


Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. **28.3%** of respondents in Clay County felt that nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Lack of knowledge on healthy food choices
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

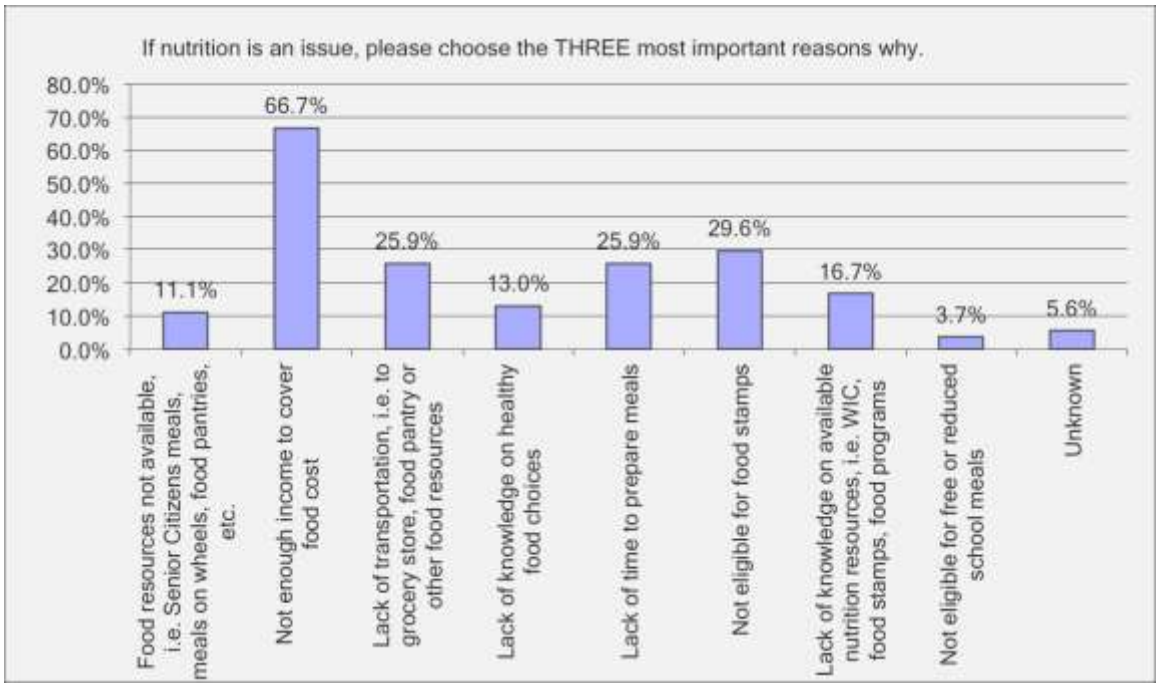


NUTRITION Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. **38.9%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

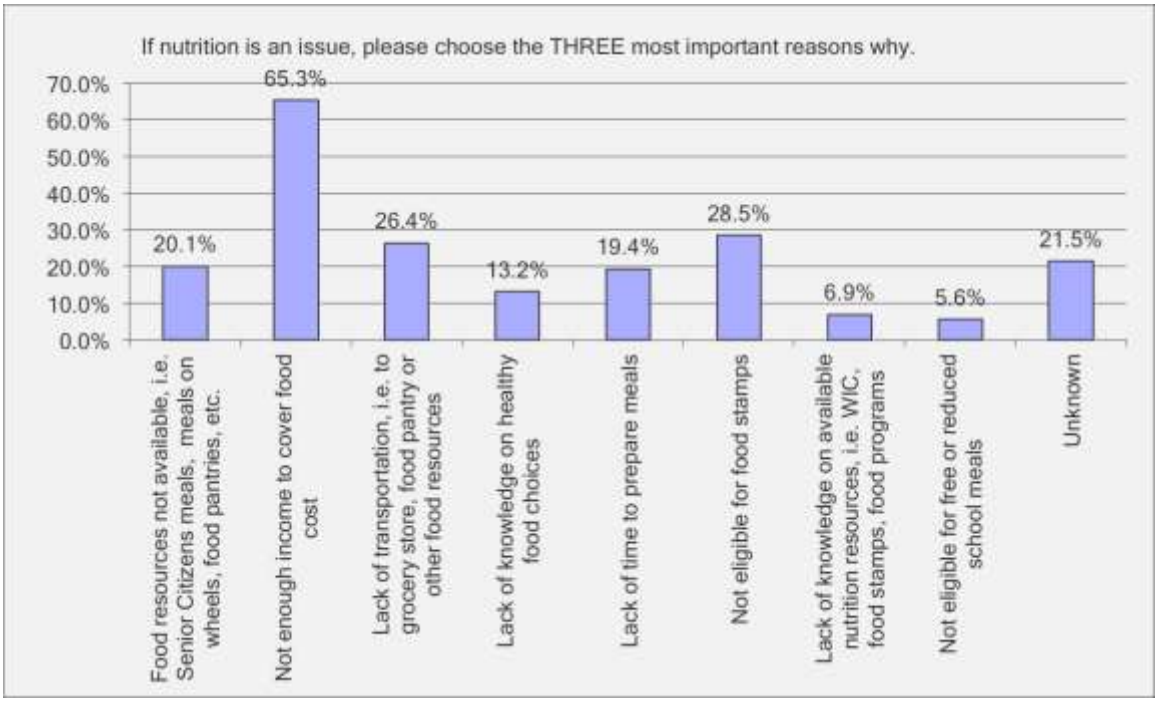


NUTRITION Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. **22.6%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Not eligible for food stamps
3. Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources

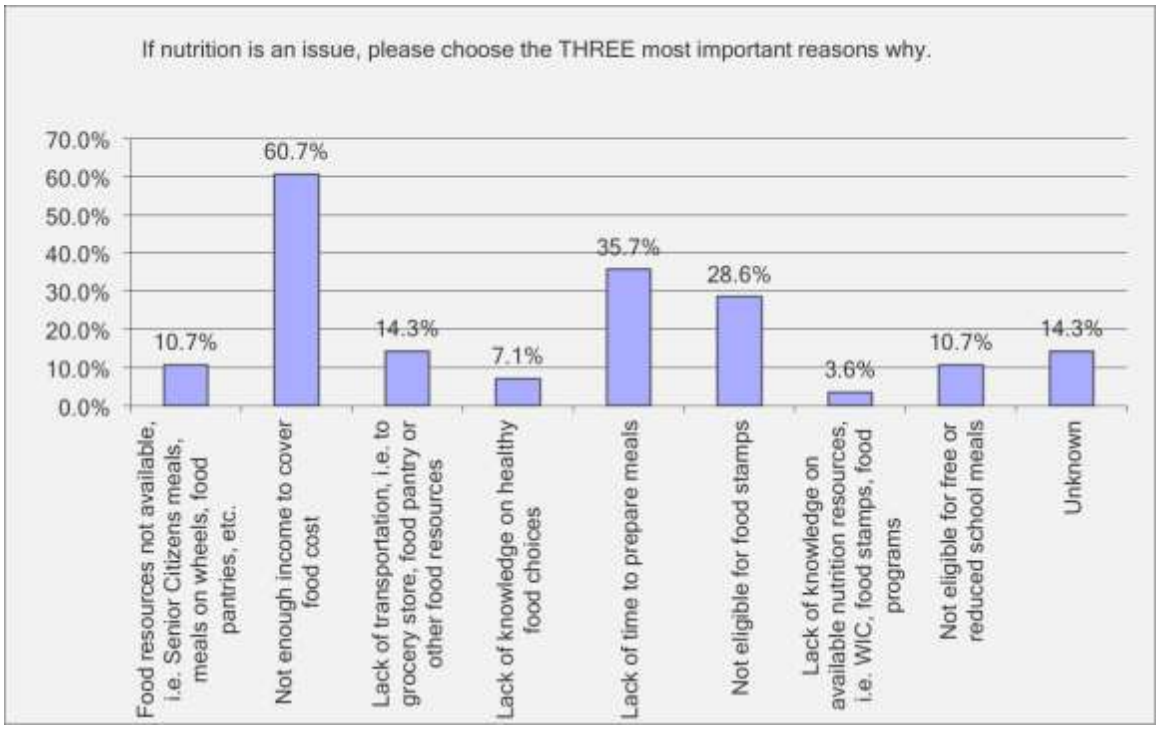


NUTRITION Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **nutrition** an issue for you and/or your family*. **19.2%** of respondents in Putnam County felt that nutrition was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Not enough income to cover food cost
2. Lack of time to prepare meals
3. Not eligible for food stamps



Participants Speak Out - Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing NUTRITION issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct –** We operate food pantries which include USDA Commodity foods. Distributions are made on a monthly basis and emergency situations are addressed on a case by case basis.
- **Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston WV** - We serve dinners each night for our students, which consist of low fat, healthy entrees. We are trying to promote healthy foods in our club in hopes the students will go home & encourage their parents to eat healthy also.
- **Fayette County FRN -** On a very local level, we have formed a Living Well Workgroup - initiatives include walking groups, lunch and learns (healthy eating, stress reduction), diabetes classes (Dining with Diabetes, Chronic Disease Self Management Program). Most of these programs are offered to county employees, health department staff, and board of education central office staff. Mount Hope has a Mt Hope on the Move initiative; Fayetteville has a Girls on the Run initiative.
- **Charleston Police Department** - Some of the B Listers work with a community garden.
- **Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center-** This is ongoing through home visits that provide educational materials. However, we also utilize the Healthy Lifestyle Curriculum and partner with the WVU Extension Service. Currently, we are holding eight weekly session on adult nutrition and will follow up with four weekly classes regarding child nutrition.
- **Prestera Center** – This is being addressed through new wellness initiatives incorporated through out all programs.
- **United Way of Central WV - ** Provides fuel assistance; budget counseling; rental assistance; housing for homeless women and children; and emergency food, clothing and shelter by funding agencies that provide these services. These programs help to give our area residents basic needs and to keep families together in times of economic crisis. United Way of Central WV also has sponsored programs that address nutrition issues. AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service to America), located in 12 counties in West Virginia, is part of a tradition of service and represents America at its best: making a sustainable impact, while promoting values of community, responsibility, and opportunity. Members recruit community volunteers to provide sustained reading opportunities for children, provide parent/child enrichment activities, and provide educational information for families in the areas of health, fitness, and nutrition.

Secondary Data: Research

Nutrition Secondary Data

Good nutrition, physical activity, and a healthy body weight are essential parts of a person's overall health and well-being. Together, these factors can help decrease a person's risk of developing serious health conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, high cholesterol, stroke, and cancer. A healthful diet, regular physical activity, and achieving

and maintaining a healthy weight also are important to managing health conditions so they do not worsen over time. (Healthy People, 2013)

Most Americans do not eat a healthful diet and are not physically active at levels needed to maintain proper health. Fewer than 1 in 3 adults and an even lower proportion of adolescents eat the recommended amount of vegetables each day. The majority of adults (81.6%) and adolescents (81.8%) do not get the recommended amount of physical activity. As a result of these behaviors, the country has experienced a dramatic increase in obesity. Today, approximately 1 in 3 adults (34.0%) and 1 in 6 children and adolescents (16.2%) are obese. (Healthy People, 2013)

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), during the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States and rates remain high. In 2011, no state had an obesity rate of less than 20%. Twelve states had a rate higher than 30% and West Virginia was one of those states with an obesity rate of 32.4%. West Virginia has the 3rd highest obesity rate in the United States. (Centers for Disease Control, 2013)

Boone County
The obesity rate in Boone County is 37.4%. This is higher than the state average of 32.5%. According to the 2013 County Health Rankings, Boone county is ranked 47th in regards to their Diet and Exercise rates of WV Counties.

There are 7 grocery stores located in or near Boone County.

There are 5 food pantries located in Boone County.

- Boone Mission
- Catholic Charities of Boone County
- Madison Baptist Church
- Prayer Connection
- Racine Baptist Church

According to the 2013 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund data book, the number of children approved for free and reduced-priced school meals has remained the same. In 2005, 58.8% of children were eligible and in 2012 the percentage was 61.4%.

Clay County
The obesity rate in Clay County is 32.8%. This is slightly higher than the state average of 32.5%. According to the 2013 County Health Rankings, Clay county is ranked 52th in regards to their Diet and Exercise rates of WV Counties.

There is one grocery store located in Clay County. There are two food pantries located in the county: Risen Lord Catholic Church and Clay Christian Center.
According to the 2013 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund data book, the number of children approved for free and reduced-priced school meals has decreased. In 2005, 74.4% of children were eligible and in 2012 the percentage was 94.1%.

Fayette County
The obesity rate in Fayette County is 30.9%. This is lower than the state average of 32.5%. According to the 2013 County Health Rankings, Fayette county is ranked 31stin regards to their Diet and Exercise rates of WV Counties.

There are 12 grocery stores located in or near Fayette County.

There are 7 food pantries located in Fayette County.

- Fayetteville Baptist Church
- Good News Outreach Mission
- Heart N Hand
- Meadow Bridge United Methodist Church
- Montgomery Presbyterian Church
- Oak Hill United Methodist Church
- Page Baptist Church

According to the 2013 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund data book, the number of children approved for free and reduced-priced school meals has remained the same. In 2005, 63.4% of children were eligible and in 2012 the percentage was 68.5%.

Kanawha County

The obesity rate in Kanawha County is 28.3%. This is lower than the state average of 32.5%. According to the 2013 County Health Rankings, Kanawha County is ranked 12^{h} in regards to their Diet and Exercise rates of WV Counties.

There are 12 grocery stores located in or near Kanawha County.

There are 17 food pantries located in Kanawha County.

- Mountaineer Food Bank
- Union Mission, Charleston WV
- Salvation Army, Charleston WV
- Covenant House, Charleston WV
- Common House, Charleston WV
- Catholic Charities, Charleston WV
- Cannan United Methodist Church, Charleston WV
- Mountain Mission, Charleston WV
- Campbells Creek Church of the Nazarene, Charleston WV
- Manna Meal, Charleston WV
- Heart and Hand House, South Charleston WV
- Capital Resource Agency, South Charleston WV, Elkins WV
- Dunbar Institute Samaritan Center, Dunbar WV
- Tyler Mountain Cross Lanes Community Center, Cross Lanes WV
- St. Peter United Methodist Church, St Albans WV
- Christ's Kitchen, St. Albans WV

According to the 2013 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund data book, the number of children approved for free and reduced-priced school meals has remained the same. In 2005, 53.0% of children were eligible and in 2012 the percentage was 57.1%.

Putnam County

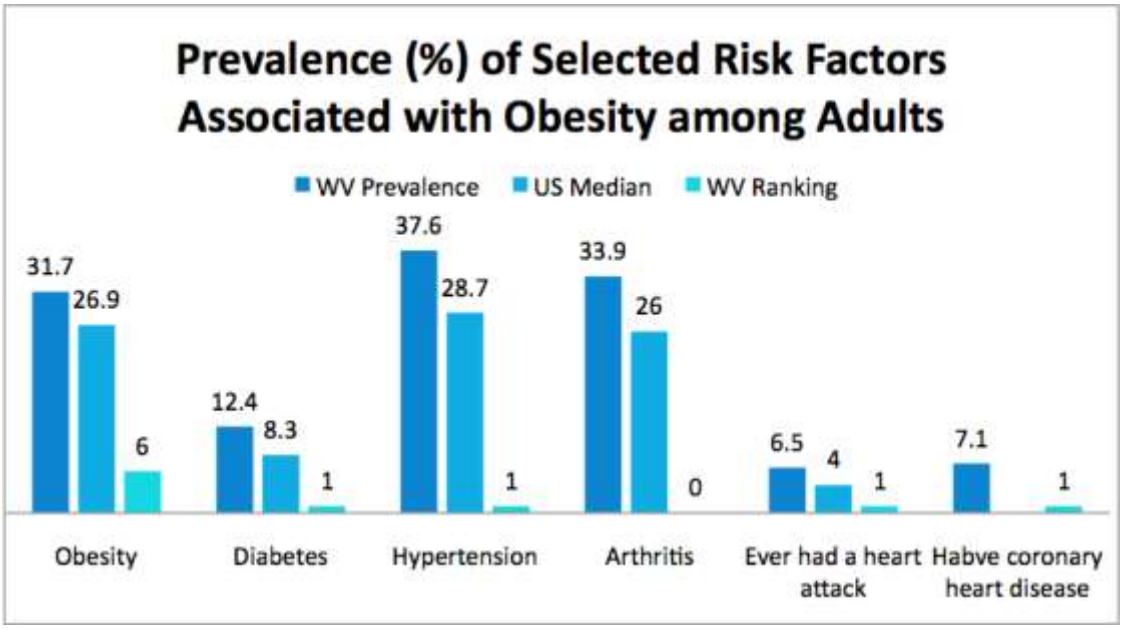
The obesity rate in Putnam County is 27.4%. This is lower than the state average of 32.5%. According to the 2013 County Health Rankings, Putnam county is ranked 3rd in regards to their Diet and Exercise rates of WV Counties.

There are 12 grocery stores located in or near Putnam County.

There are 8 food pantries located in Putnam County.

- Calvary Baptist Church
- Christian Community Cupboard
- Forest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church
- Good Shepherd Baptist Church
- Poca United Methodist Church
- Scott Depot Christ Fellowship
- Vineyard Church
- Winfield Church of the Nazarene

According to the 2013 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund data book, the number of children approved for free and reduced-priced school meals has remained the same. In 2005, 40.1% of children were eligible and in 2012 the percentage was 40.4%.



WVDHHR Obesity Report, 2013

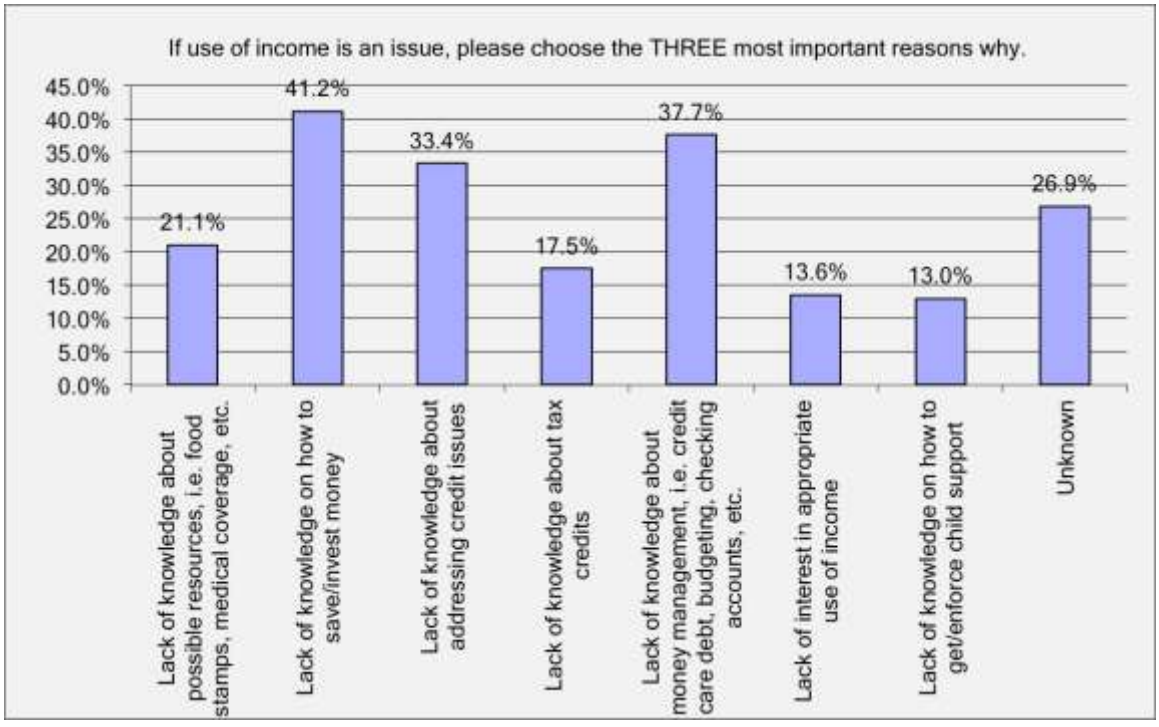
POVERTY INDICATOR: USE OF INCOME

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, ***is use of income*** *an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1,372 individuals who answered the question, **31.1%** felt that use of income was in fact an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of use of income issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues.

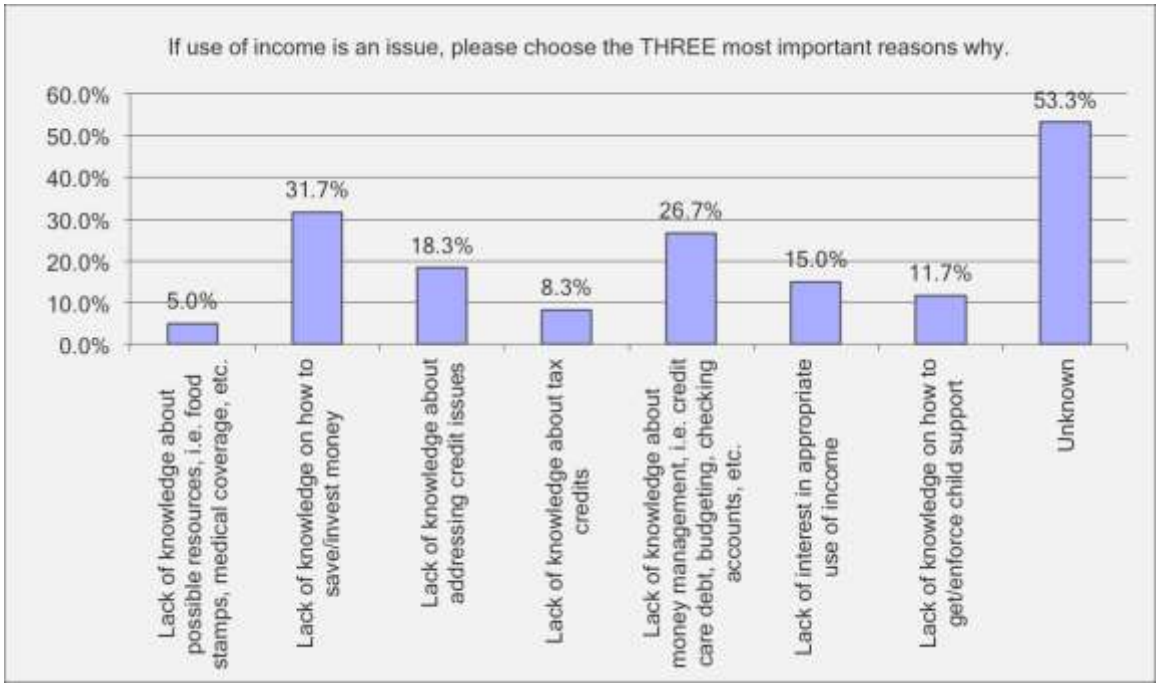


USE OF INCOME Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **use of income** an issue for you and/or your family*. **18.6%** of respondents in Boone County felt that use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Unknown
2. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
3. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.

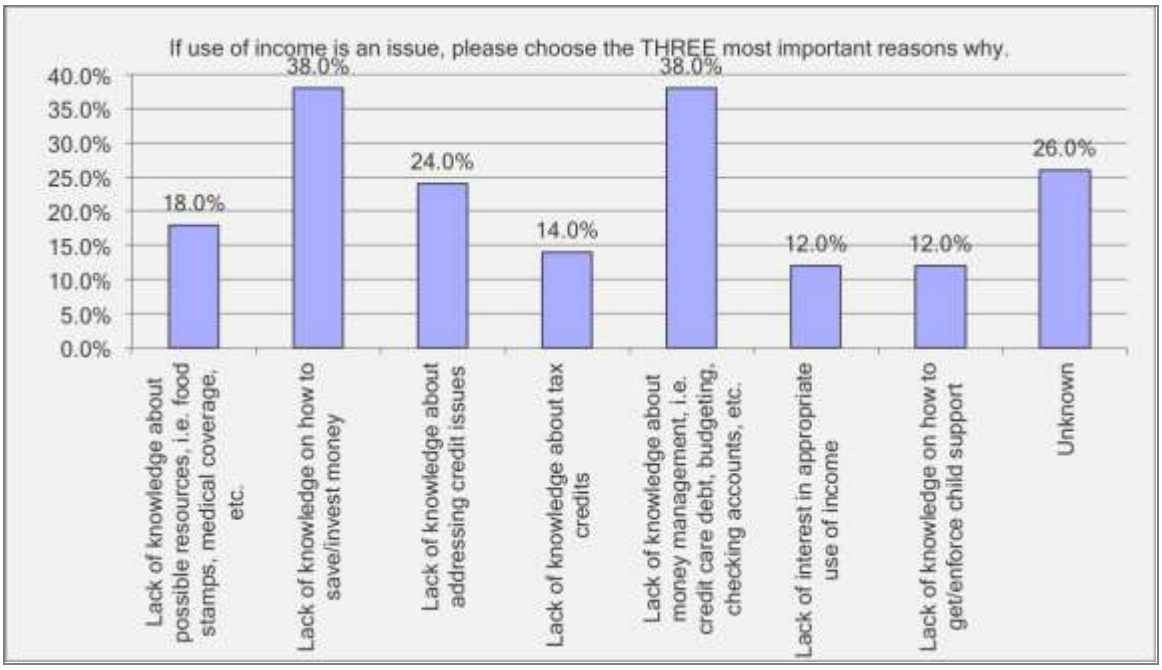


USE OF INCOME Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **use of income** an issue for you and/or your family*. **21.9%** of respondents in Clay County felt that use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues

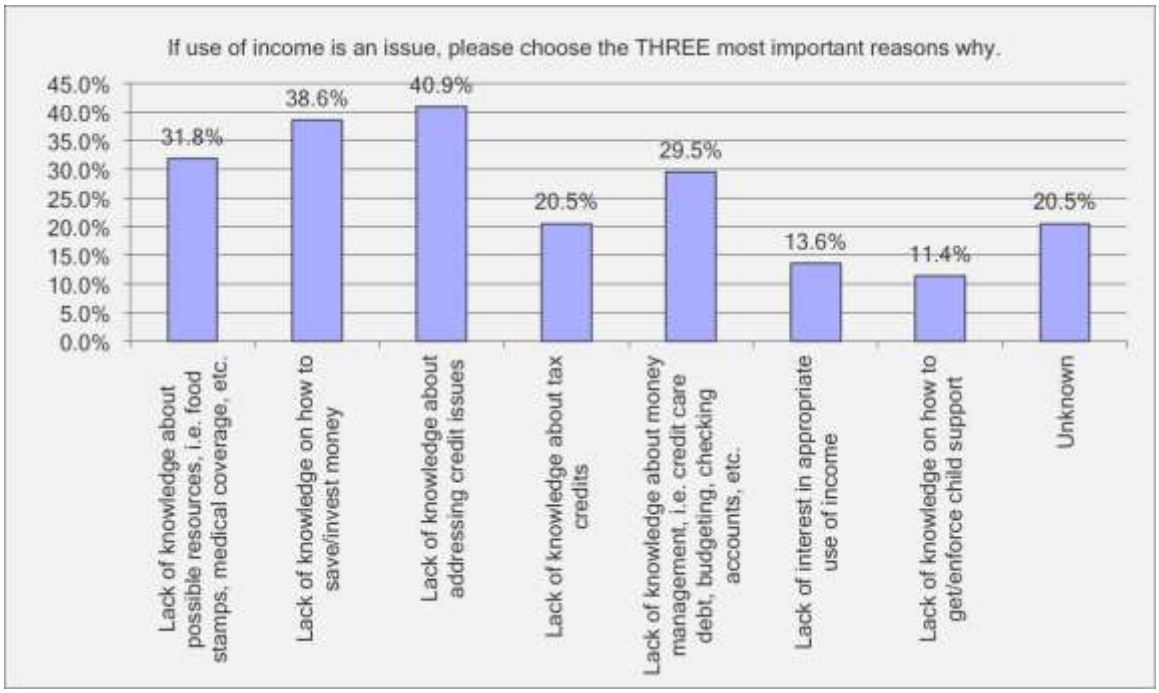


USE OF INCOME Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **use of income** an issue for you and/or your family*. **31.3%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues
2. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
3. Lack of knowledge about possible resources, i.e. food stamps, medical coverage, etc.

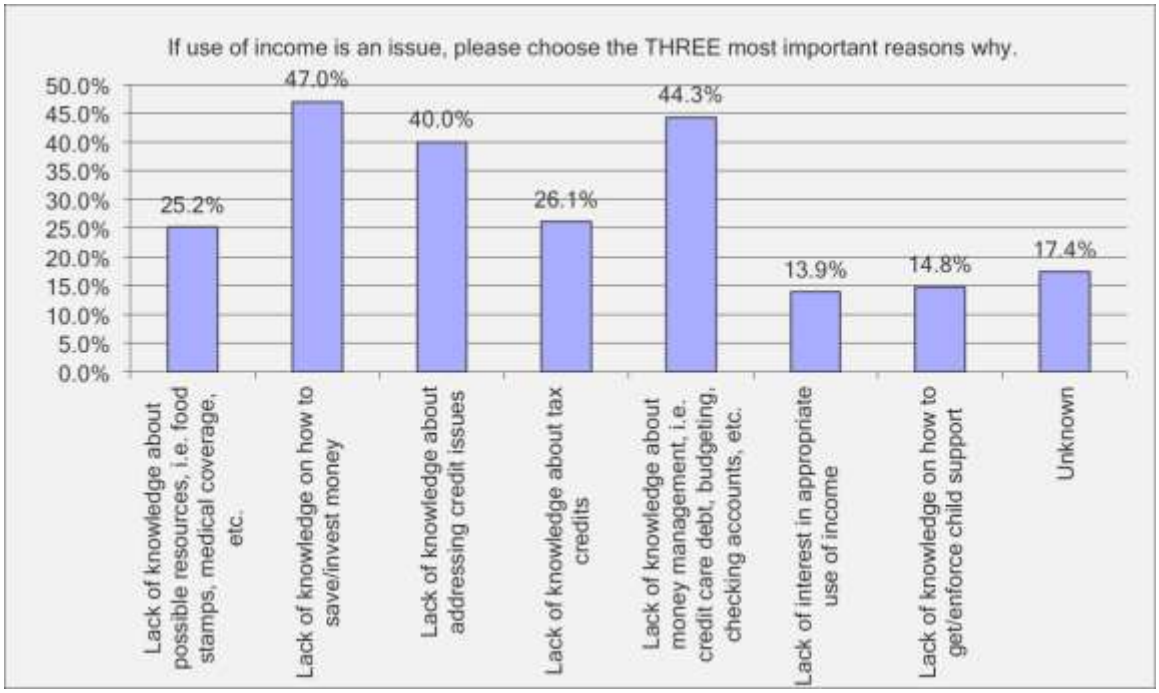


USE OF INCOME Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **use of income** an issue for you and/or your family*. **20.0%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues

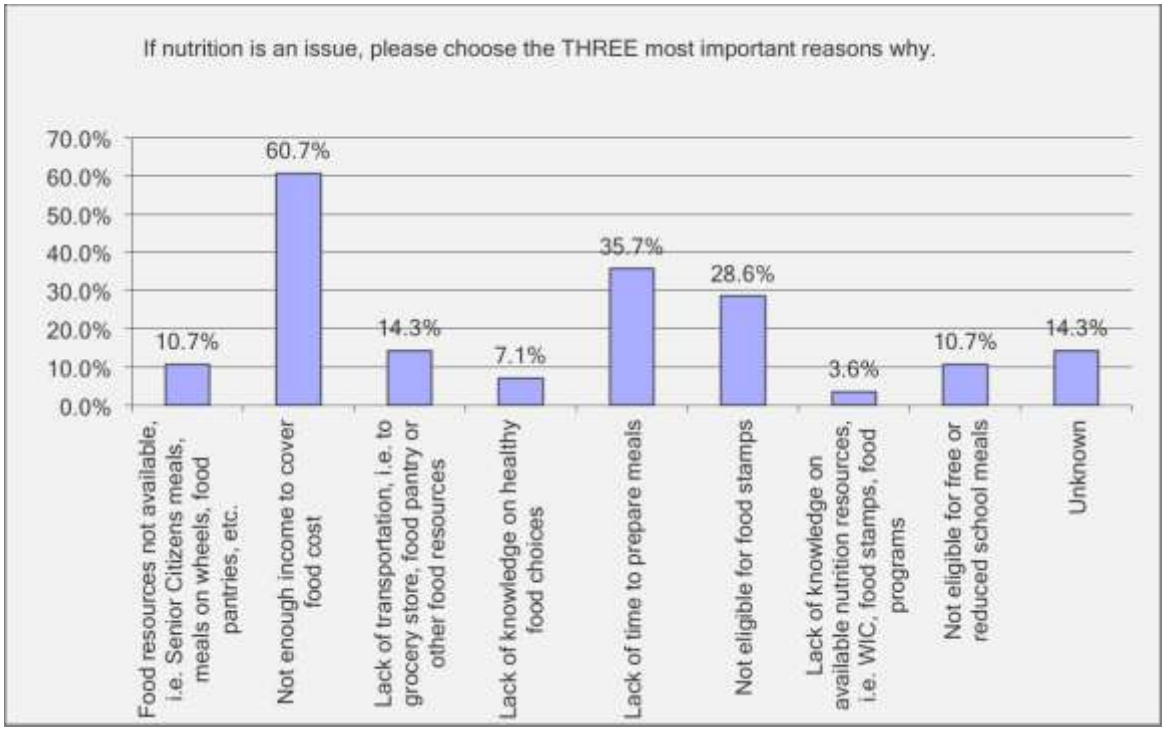


USE OF INCOME Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **use of income** an issue for you and/or your family*. **13.6%** of respondents in Putnam County felt that use of income was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
2. Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
3. Lack of knowledge about addressing credit issues



Participants Speak Out - Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing USE OF INCOME issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct -** We offer free budgeting counseling and Money Matters classes.
- **Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston WV**- We have financial literacy classes for our teenagers a couple times a year. Many of these classes are taught by local bankers.
- **Fayette County FRN** - The FRN supports and participates in the Reality Store - a WVU Extension program that introduces middle and high school students into the real life of economics through a simulation - participants are given randomly chosen jobs and family formulations and then must navigate taxes, housing, transportation, utilities, clothing, food, child care, banking, insurance, etc.
- **Charleston Police Dept.** - With the Drug Marketing Intervention Program the B Listers attend money management classes through KISRA.
- **United Way of Central WV -** Provides fuel assistance; budget counseling; rental assistance; housing for homeless women and children; and emergency food, clothing and shelter by funding agencies that provide these services. These programs help to give our area residents basic needs and to keep families together in times of economic crisis.

Secondary Data: Research

All Americans face challenges relative to use of income. As a society, we are constantly bombarded with commercials wanting to sell us the latest and greatest. Those with low incomes are not the only persons facing a crisis in money management with debt spiraling and costs of health care and other items rising. In fact, many Americans are living one paycheck away from financial crisis. The foundation for reaching the American Dream rests on two pillars: first, a family's ability to build assets that can be used to invest for the future, send children to college, and weather unexpected financial storms; and second, safety nets and safeguards that provide financial security in the event of a job loss, medical emergency, or other life events that could otherwise put a family in a tailspin. The information a community can gather on use of income can help an agency think about services which can lead individuals to build their safety net and eventually achieve many goals.

There are no credit counseling services located in Boone County. There are 7 financial institutions located throughout Boone County. They include:

- Boone County Bank, Inc.
- Whitesville State Bank
- Premier Bank Van Branch
- BB&T, Danville WV

There are 2 credit counseling services located in Clay County. There are 2 financial institutions located throughout Clay County. It includes:

- Clay County Bank
- Premier Bank

There is 1 credit counseling services located in Fayette County. There are 6 financial institutions located throughout Fayette County. They include:

- Fayette County National Bank – Oak Hill, Fayetteville, Ansted
- United Bank – Ansted, Montgomery, Fayetteville WV
- Chase Bank, Oak Hill WV
- Bank of Mount Hope, Inc. - Oak Hill, Mount Hope
- City National Bank, Gauley Bridge WV
- BB&T, Oak Hill

There are 6 credit counseling services available in Kanawha County. There are 17 financial institutions located throughout Kanawha County. They include:

- Fifth Third Bank, Charleston WV
- City National Bank, Charleston WV
- Chase Bank, Charleston WV
- United Bank, Charleston WV
- BB&T, Charleston WV
- Huntington Bank, Charleston WV
- SunTrust Bank, Charleston WV
- Summit Bank, Charleston WV
- First Bank of Charleston, Charleston WV
- Wesbanco, Charleston WV
- Woodforest National Bank, Nitro, Belle, Charleston WV
- Poca Valley Bank, Elkview, WV
- People's Bank, Charleston WV
- Member's Choice Credit Union, Charleston, WV
- Pioneer Credit Union, Charleston, WV
- Star USA Credit Union, Charleston, WV
- Kemba Credit Union, Dunbar, WV

There is 1 credit counseling service located in Putnam County. There are 12 financial institutions located throughout Putnam County. They include:

- Putnam County Bank, Hurricane, WV
- City National Bank – Winfield, Scott Depot, WV
- Huntington National Bank, Hurricane, WV
- SunTrust Bank, Scott Depot, WV
- Fifth Third Bank, Hurricane, WV
- First State Bank, Hurricane, WV
- Poca Valley Bank, Winfield, WV
- Rock Branch Community Bank, Nitro, WV
- Pioneer Credit Union
- Star USA Credit Union
- People's Credit Union
- Woodforest National Bank, Hurricane, WV

The following charts contain the estimated number of people receiving Social Security Income, retirement income, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), public cash assistance and Food Stamps/Supplemental Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and the average amount of income paid to those recipients. The following information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey.

Boone County	Number	Percentage
Total Households	**9,755**	
With Social Security	4,336	44.4%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	$15,851	
With retirement income	2,818	28.9%
Mean Retirement Income (dollars)	$14,893	
With Supplemental Security Income	986	10.1%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	$8,036	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	1,639	16.8%

US Census, 2014

Clay County	Number	Percentage
Total Households	**3,441**	
With Social Security	1,378	40.0%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	$15,481	
With retirement income	852	24.8%
Mean Retirement Income (dollars)	$15,556	
With Supplemental Security Income	466	13.5%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	$8,886	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	790	23.0%

US Census, 2014

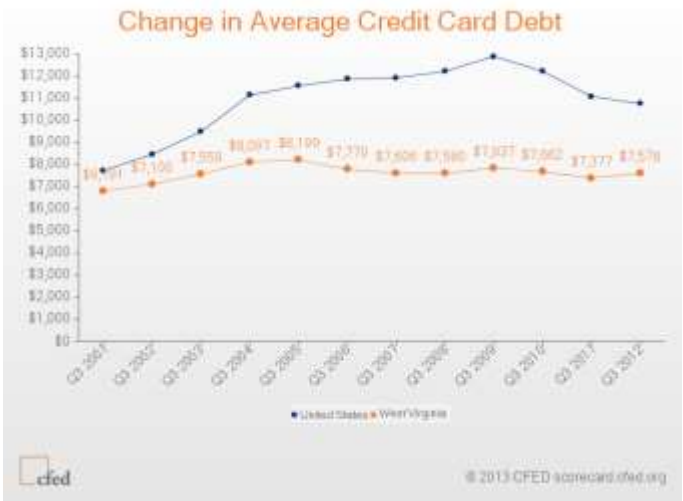
Fayette County	Number	Percentage
Total Households	**17,733**	
With Social Security	7,869	44.4%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	$15,652	
With retirement income	4,610	26.0%
Mean Retirement Income (dollars)	$16,143	
With Supplemental Security Income	1,882	10.6%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	$8,293	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	3,385	19.1%

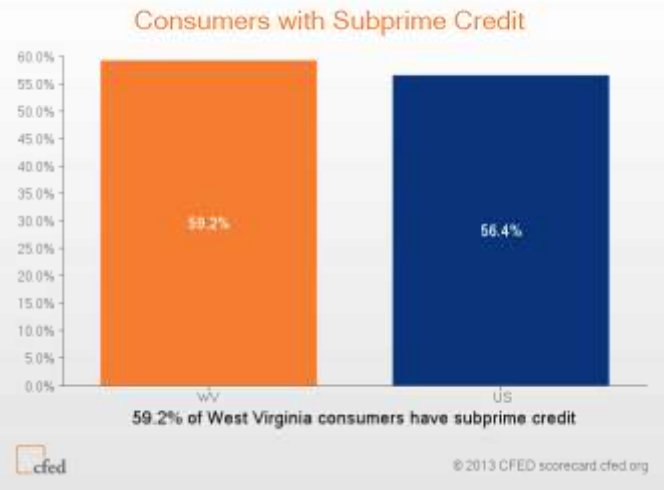
Kanawha County	Number	Percentage
Total Households	**82,961**	
With Social Security	30,492	36.8%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	$16,997	
With retirement income	19,745	23.8%
Mean Retirement Income (dollars)	$18,152	
With Supplemental Security Income	4,883	5.9%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	$8,657	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	11,128	13.4%

Putnam County	Number	Percentage
Total Households	**21,130**	
With Social Security	7,001	33.1%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	$17,794	
With retirement income	4,960	23.5%
Mean Retirement Income (dollars)	$17,746	
With Supplemental Security Income	802	3.8%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	$9,080	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	1,805	8.5%

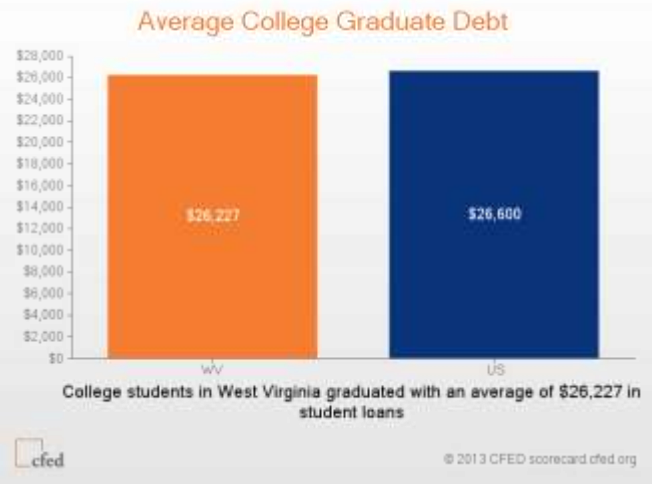
Credit Conditions

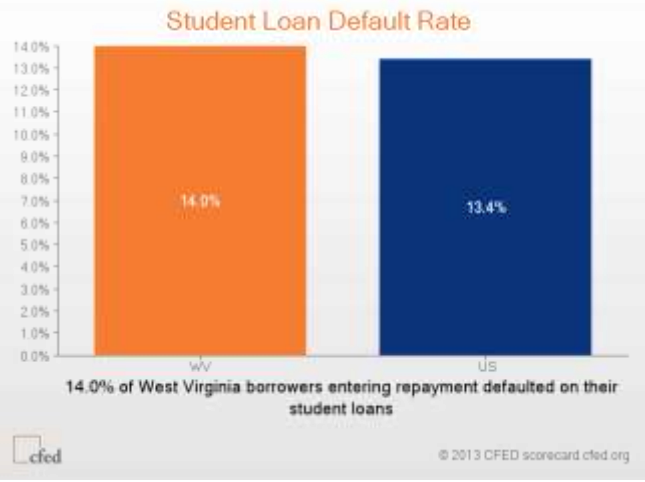
The following information was obtained from the CFED's Assets & Opportunities Scorecard. The average credit card debt of West Virginia borrowers is $7,578. This number has increased over the past ten years.



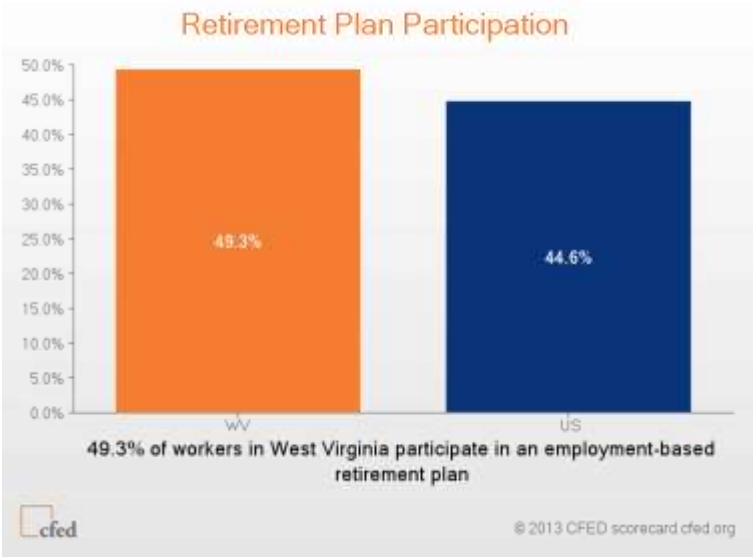

Consumers with Subprime Credit
59.2%
56.4%
WV
US
59.2% of West Virginia consumers have subprime credit
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org

Change in Consumers with Subprime Credit
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org


Average College Graduate Debt
$26,227
$26,600
WV
US
College students in West Virginia graduated with an average of $26,227 in student loans
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org


Student Loan Default Rate
14.0%
13.4%
WV
US
14.0% of West Virginia borrowers entering repayment defaulted on their student loans
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org

Households with Savings Accounts
70.0%
65.0%
60.0%
55.0%
50.0%
45.0%
40.0%
35.0%
30.0%
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
52.1%
69.2%
WV
US
52.1% of West Virginia households have savings accounts
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org


Retirement Plan Participation
50.0%
45.0%
40.0%
35.0%
30.0%
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
49.3%
44.6%
WV
US
49.3% of workers in West Virginia participate in an employment-based retirement plan
cfed
© 2013 CFED scorecard.cfed.org

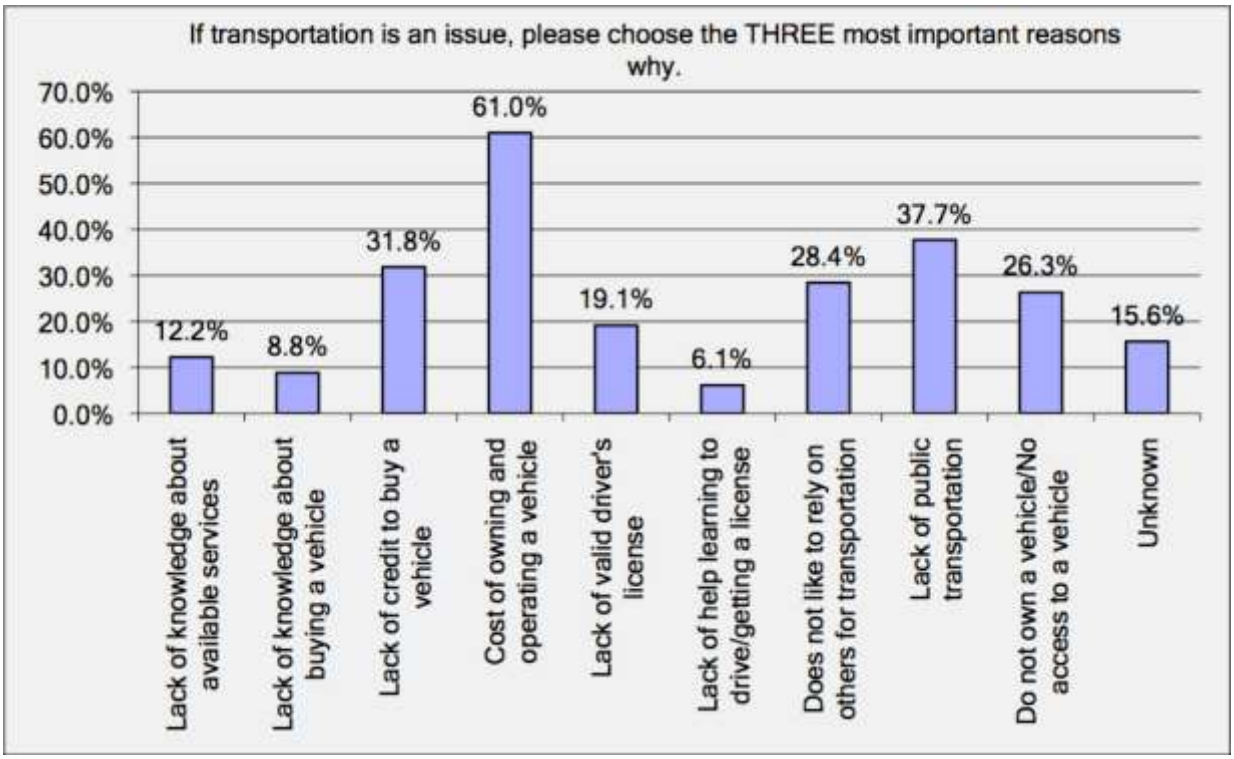
POVERTY INDICATOR: TRANSPORTATION

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. Of the 1,382 individuals who answered the question, **25.0%** felt that transportation was in fact an issue. In order to gain an understanding of the root causes of use of transportation issues in the community, the Needs Assessment Survey provided the opportunity for respondents to identify WHY transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of public transportation
3. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle

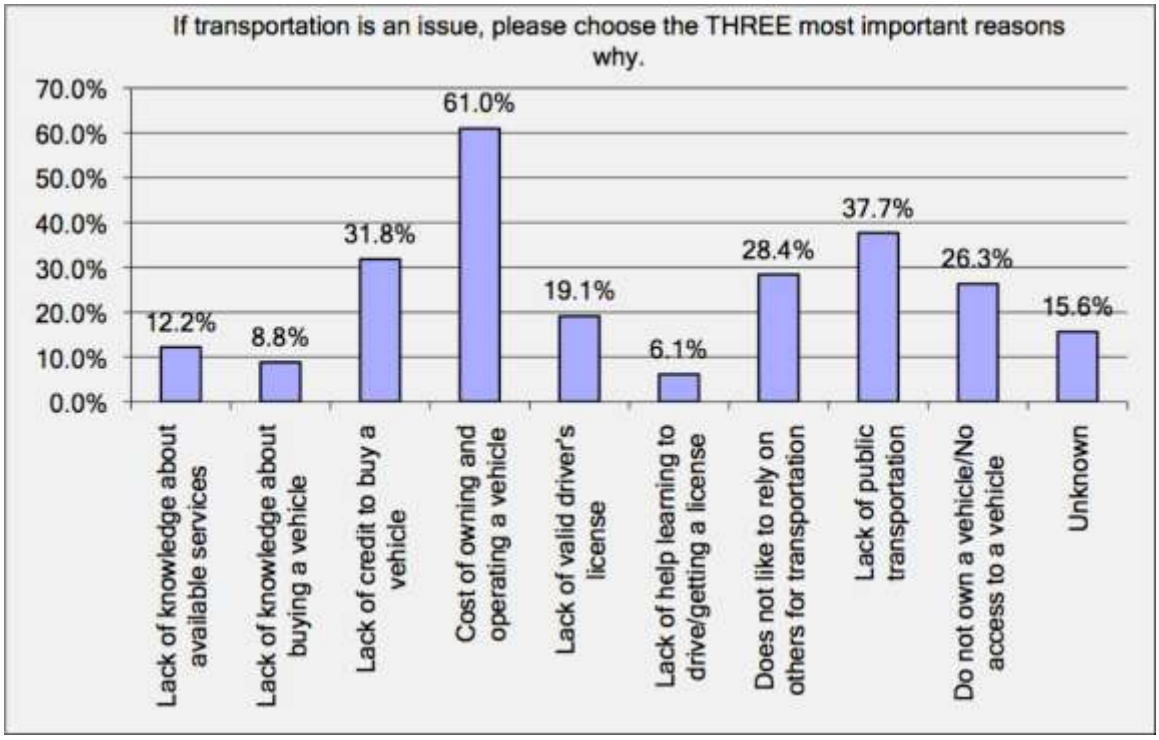


TRANSPORTATION Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. **31.4%** of respondents in Boone County felt that transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of public transportation
3. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle

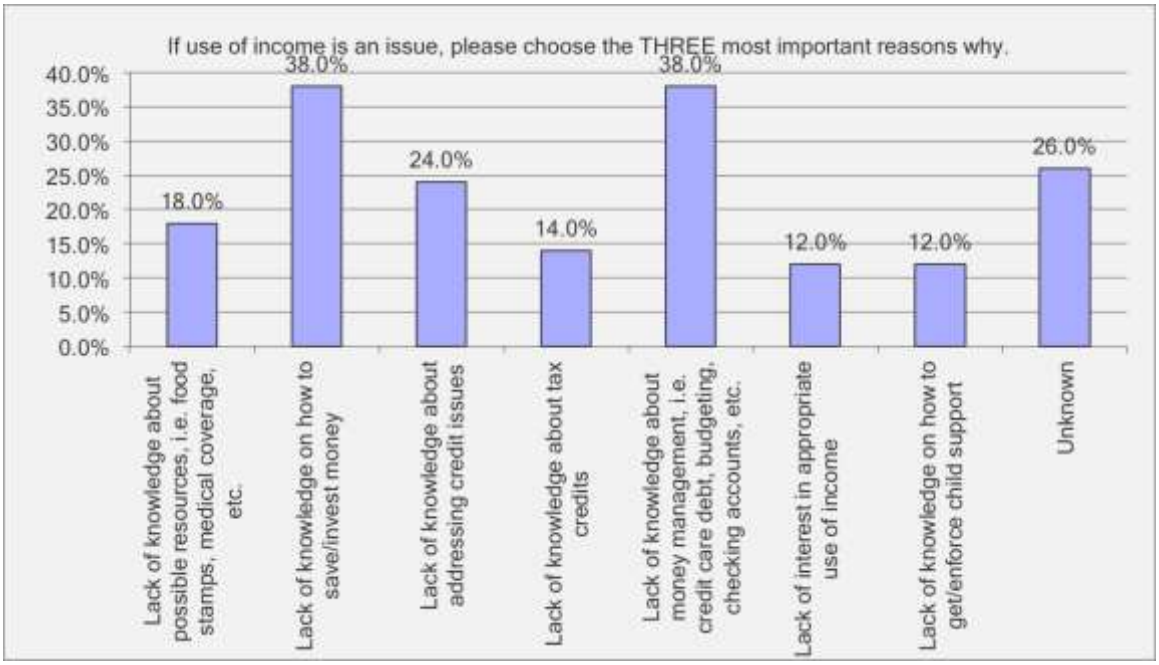


TRANSPORTATION Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. **27.5%** of respondents in Clay County felt that transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Does not like to rely on others for transportation
3. Lack of public transportation

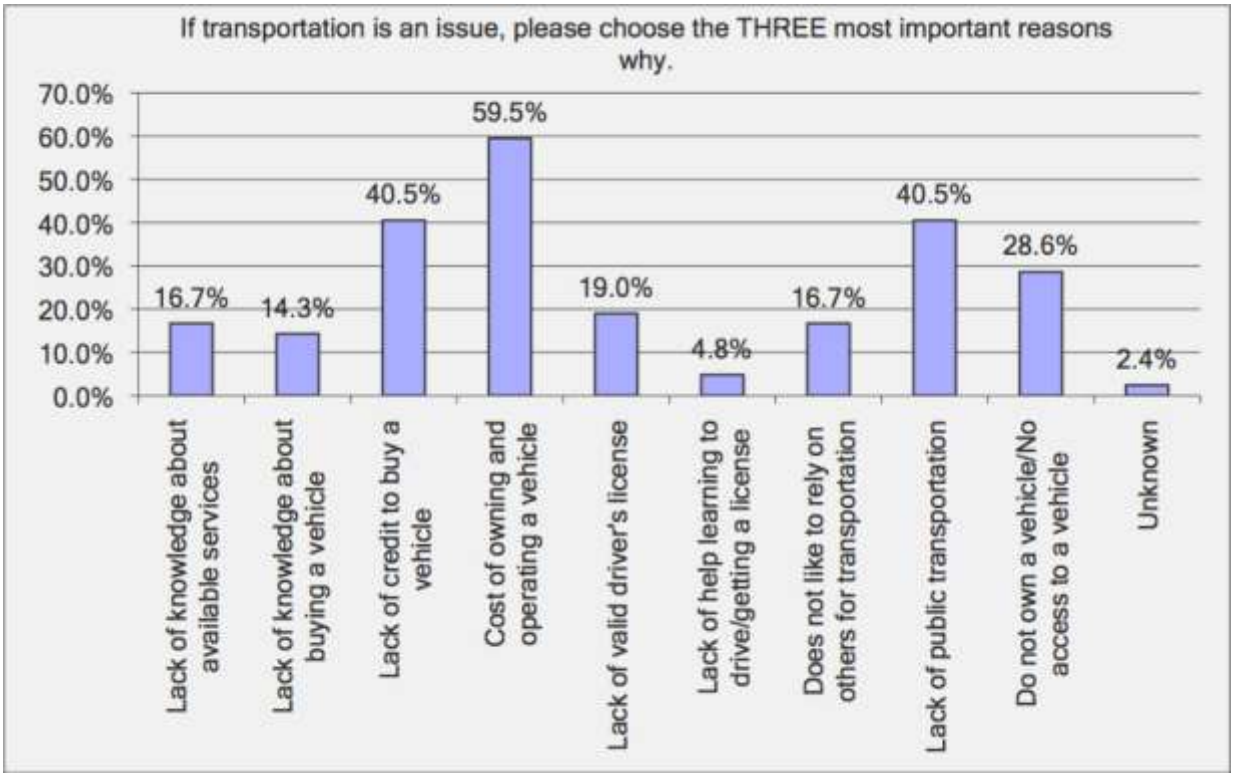


TRANSPORTATION Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. **32.1%** of respondents in Fayette County felt that transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle
3. Lack of public transportation

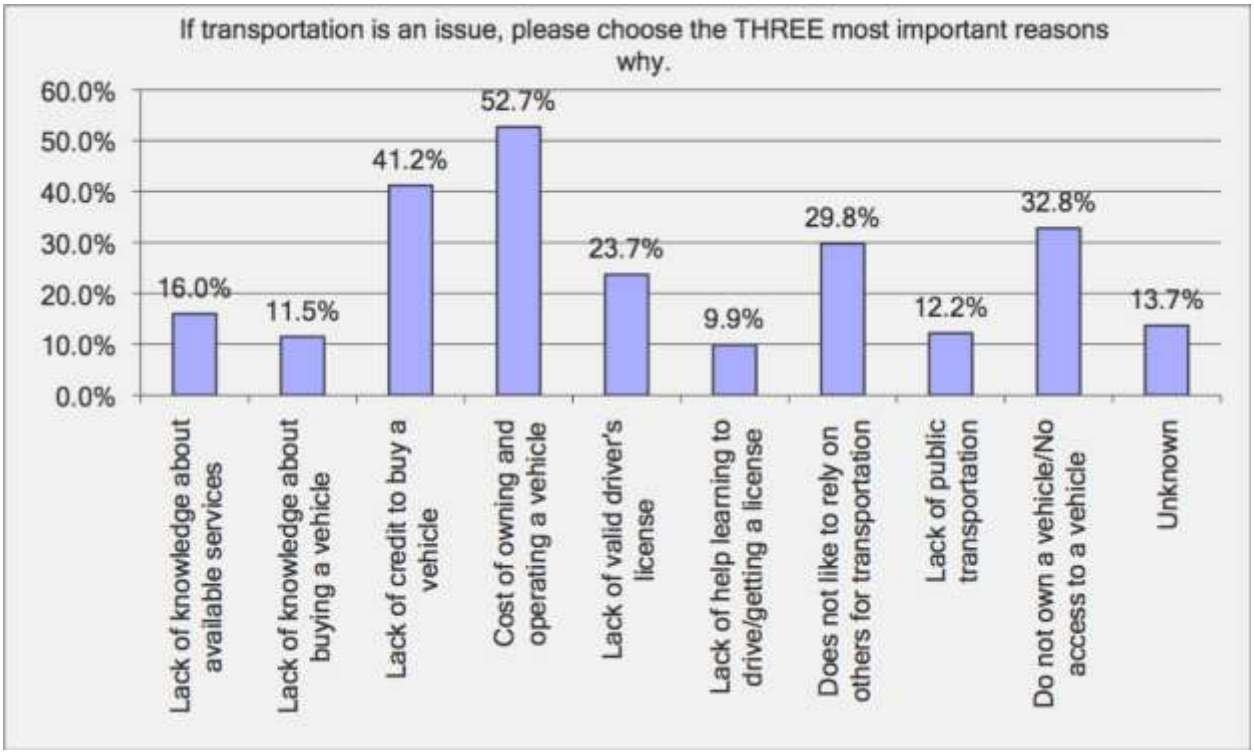


TRANSPORTATION Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. **21.1%** of respondents in Kanawha County felt that transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle
3. Do not own a vehicle/no access to a vehicle

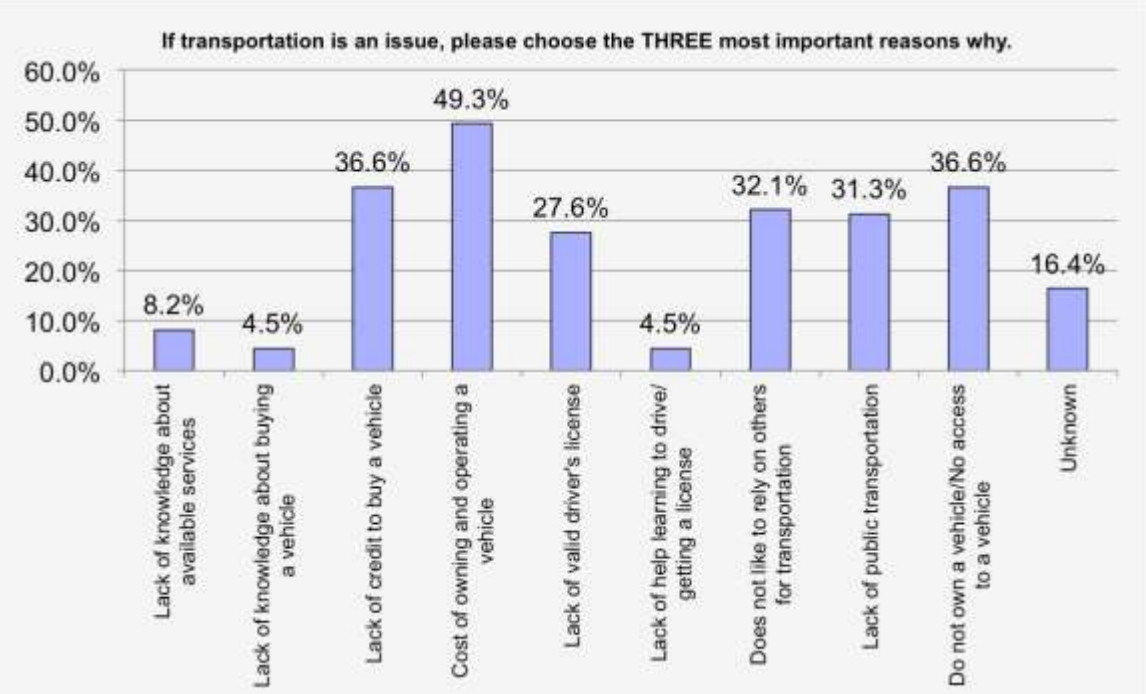


TRANSPORTATION Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The Needs Assessment Survey asked the basic question, *is **transportation** an issue for you and/or your family*. **18.6%** of respondents in Putnam County felt that transportation was an issue.

The top three reasons identified were:

1. Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
2. Lack of credit to buy a vehicle
3. Do not own a vehicle/no access to a vehicle



Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing TRANSPORTATION issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct -** We are a provider for MTM transporting Non-Emergency Medical transportation customers.
- **WV DHHR -** I am presenting to the commission of Putnam county to see if we can get a mass transit bus system started in Putnam county, as we often hear form our clients that transportation is their biggest barrier.
- **Prestera Center -** Transporting Prestera clients to appointments, assisting with bus passes.

Secondary Data: Research

Transportation is a key component to a person's ability to obtain employment, an education and access to medical treatment.

Transportation Overview

Boone County

U.S. Highway 119, WV Routes 3, 17, 85, 94 and 99 serve as the main transportation arteries in Boone County. The only public transportation available in Boone County is through Tri-River Transit.

Commuting to Work – BOONE COUNTY	Total Number	Percentage
Workers 16 years and over	**7,982**	
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	6,892	86.3%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	724	9.1%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	2	0.0%
Walked	200	2.8%
Other means	24	0.3%
Worked at home	120	1.5%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	28.0	

US Census 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Clay County

Transportation is often a challenge in Clay county due to narrow, curvy roads and the mountainous geography of the county. Public transportation is available through the Clay County Development Corporation.

Commuting to Work – CLAY COUNTY	Total Number	Percentage
Workers 16 years and over	**3,145**	
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	2,445	77.7%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	527	16.8%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	9	0.3%
Walked	51	1.6%
Other means	35	1.1%
Worked at home	78	2.5%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	35.7	

US Census 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Fayette County
Interstate 64 and 79; U.S. Highway 119 and 60; WV Routes 16, 39, 41, 61 and 612 serve as the main transportation arteries in Fayette County.

Public transportation is available through the following:

- Mountain Transit Authority (MTA)
- Fayette County Senior Program (for seniors)
- Ready Transportation Services (non-emergency Medicaid transportation provider)
- DHHR TRIP Program (low-income to assist with transportation to grocery stores and non-medical apts.)
- City Cab Company (provides transportation to doctors apts., can bill Medicaid)

Commuting to Work – FAYETTE COUNTY	Total Number	Percentage
Workers 16 years and over	**15,574**	
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	12,487	80.2%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	1,754	11.3%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	35	0.2%
Walked	638	4.1%
Other means	232	1.5%
Worked at home	468	2.7%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.8	

US Census 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Kanawha County
Interstate 64, 77, and 79; U.S. Highway 60 and 119; WV Routes 4, 25, 34, 61, 62, 94, 114, 214, 501, 601, 622 and 817 serve as the main transportation arteries in Kanawha County.

Public transportation is available through the following:

- KRT (Kanawha Valley Regional Transportation Authority)
- Kanawha Valley Senior Services (seniors)
- Hansford Senior Center (seniors and disabled individuals)
- Appalachian Center for Independent Living (Non-emergency medical transportation for individuals with disabilities)
- Metropolitan Community Development Corp., Inc. (Non-emergency medical transportation provider transportation for clients to medical and mental health sites)
- C&H Taxi

Commuting to Work – KANAWHA COUNTY	Total Number	Percentage
Workers 16 years and over	**85,126**	
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	68,583	80.6%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	9,541	11.2%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	1,597	1.9%
Walked	2,434	2.9%
Other means	583	0.7%
Worked at home	2,388	2.8%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	21.3	

Putnam County
Interstate 64, U.S. Highway 35 and 60, WV Routes 25, 34, 62, 817 and 869 serve as the main transportation arteries in Putnam County.

Public transportation is only available through Teays Valley Taxi and Putnam Again (senios and disabled individuals).

Commuting to Work – PUTNAM COUNTY	Total Number	Percentage
Workers 16 years and over	**24,661**	
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	21,596	87.6%
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	1,856	7.5%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	40	0.2%
Walked	160	0.6%
Other means	34	0.1%
Worked at home	975	2.8%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.5	

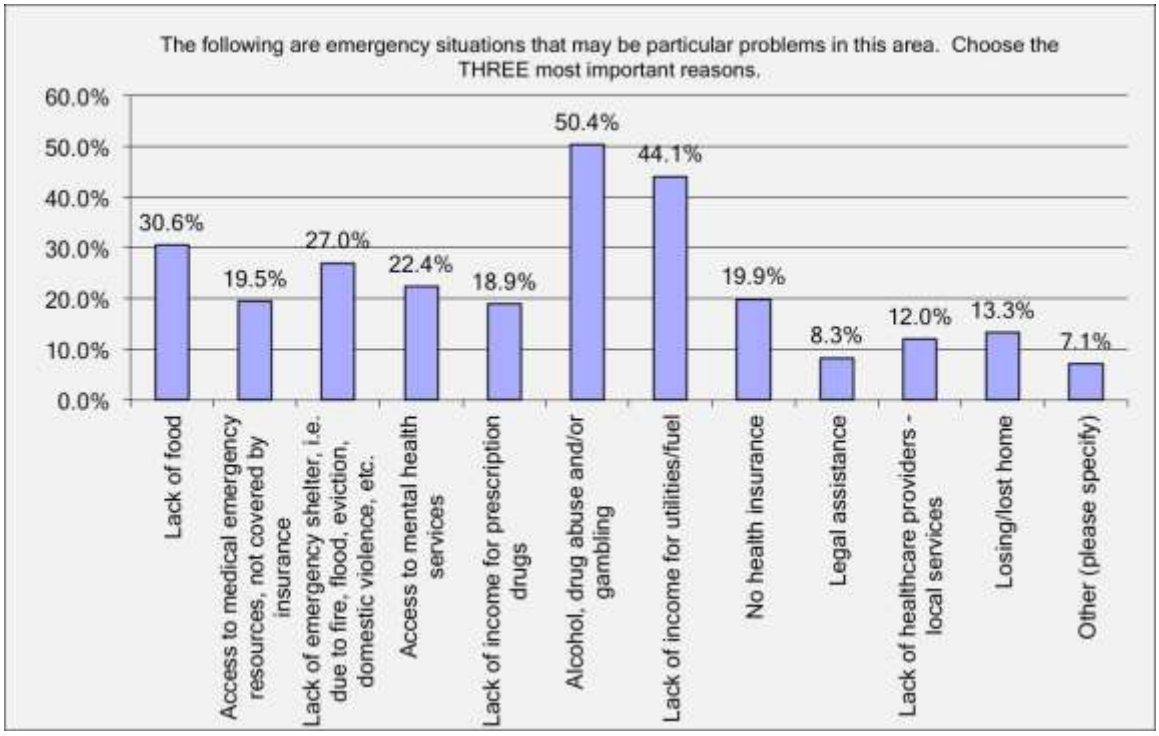
POVERTY INDICATOR: EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Primary Data: Survey Results

The Needs Assessment Survey asked respondents to *choose the 3 most important* ***emergency situations*** *that seem to be particular problems in this area.* 1,243 individuals answered the question and selected the following as the top three problems.

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food



Other, please specify:

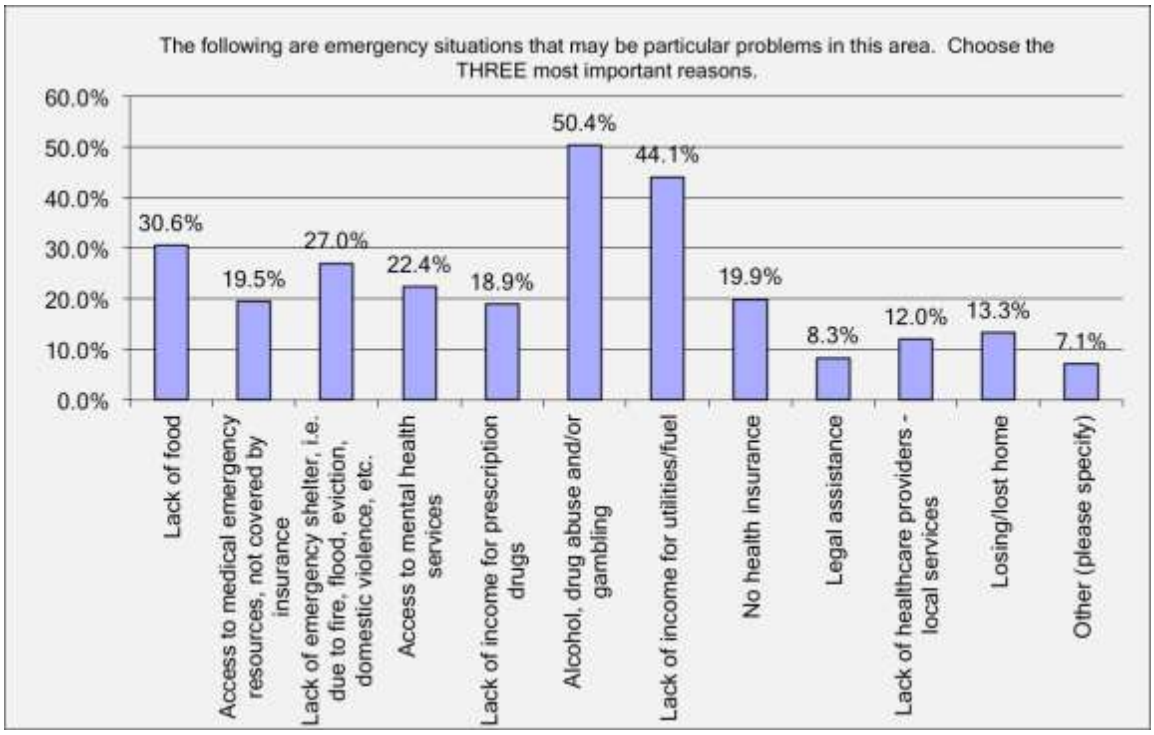
- Unknown-X
- Constant flooding in the area we live
- Recover center
- Lost jobs-XXXXXXXXX
- Dental
- Availability of complimentary healthcare providers-X
- No driver's license due to previous fines
- Lack of substance abuse for families need rehabilitation services
- Drug effects on children
- Education/teachers
- People don't want to help other people! They only care for themselves! We all need to work together to help other and better out community!

- Need to move due to house repair problems and landlord won't fix that is a year old that are hazardous problems. And no money to move because of deposit and paying people to move furniture.
- Rehab services for people with addictions
- Auto insurance is so high that I cannot afford to pay rent for a place of my own! Based on my income where my husband is. Currently receiving unemployment benefits I can only afford to pay my car payment and insurance and help the household we share with another with bills and food which is very hard to make it from week to week
- Lack of employment opportunities-XX
- Lack of decent housing (rental)
- Too many people that can work receive assistance and when people that work and pay into the system for years cannot receive help due to their assets, which the person has worked to pay for.
- Teens in our area have nothing to do and are found w/too much time on their hands especially when the single parent works 12-14 hours daily.
- Not being able to get credit to buy a home that is handicapped accessible for my child and also our car we have, we are having a hard time getting her wheel chair in it.
- All of the above
- Lack of incentive to work
- Transportation
- Afraid of being out of a job at my age
- Lack of funds to fix up housing, roof, floors, ramps, etc.
- Lack of facilities for youth, lack of or non-existing educational daycare facilities.

Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of emergency shelter, i.e. due to fire, flood, eviction, domestic violence, etc.



Other, please specify:

- People don't want to work.
- There is a lack of recreation, like a YMCA for our youth.
- Unemployment
- No local emergency rooms
- Our County Commission , won't let anyone come in to this county that could benefit us.
- Lack of initiative

- Lack of public transportation
- On question #8... It is due to a lack of income not a lack of knowledge!
- Question #7... The choice selections are bad
- Lack of police enforcement –XX
- Use of income question does not have the proper answer options
- Need more options on Use of income question answer: lack of income to cover expenses of everyday living
- Doctors writing prescription medications and patients abusing them. Leaving their children with family members to care for
- Lack of jobs (for those who chose to work) especially as the coal industry

continues to suffer. Abuse of the system is another huge problem in our area. Many receive food stamps, WIC, etc. who are not truly in need or qualified, just see it as ""free money"" and a reason to not strive to do better.

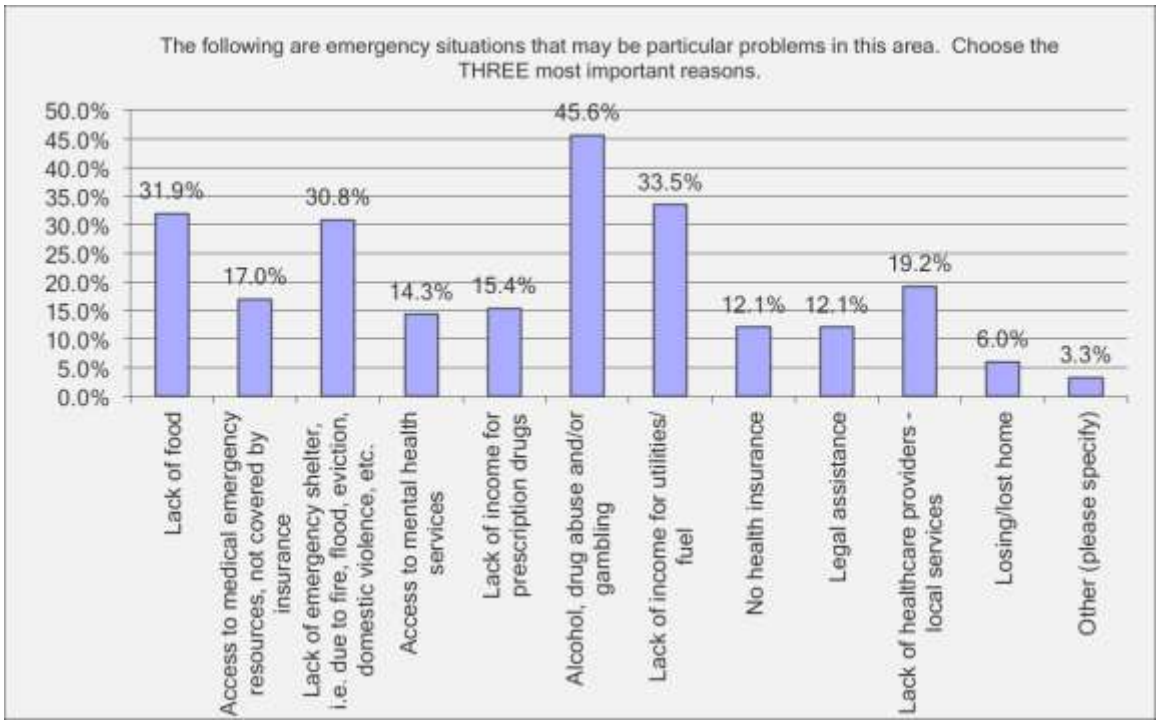
- The sheer number of lazy, do-less people that won't get off of their rear
- Lack of education
- Drugs
- Education- the children need more resources to prepare them for life after graduation and the skills to be able to go to college or trade school. Too many kids in our county see parents who get welfare and social security checks and grow up to be the same. We need to teach these kids that education is the right way to lead oneself to a wonderful productive life that let's them contribute to the betterment of our communities and country. Let's teach these kids about how hard work is best.
- Transportation for disabled
- Layoffs
- Lack of jobs that pay a living wage

ends to get a job or would rather stay stoned on drugs all the time and their unwillingness to contribute in any meaningful way to society in general will attempt to steal everything and anything they can get their hands on.

Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food



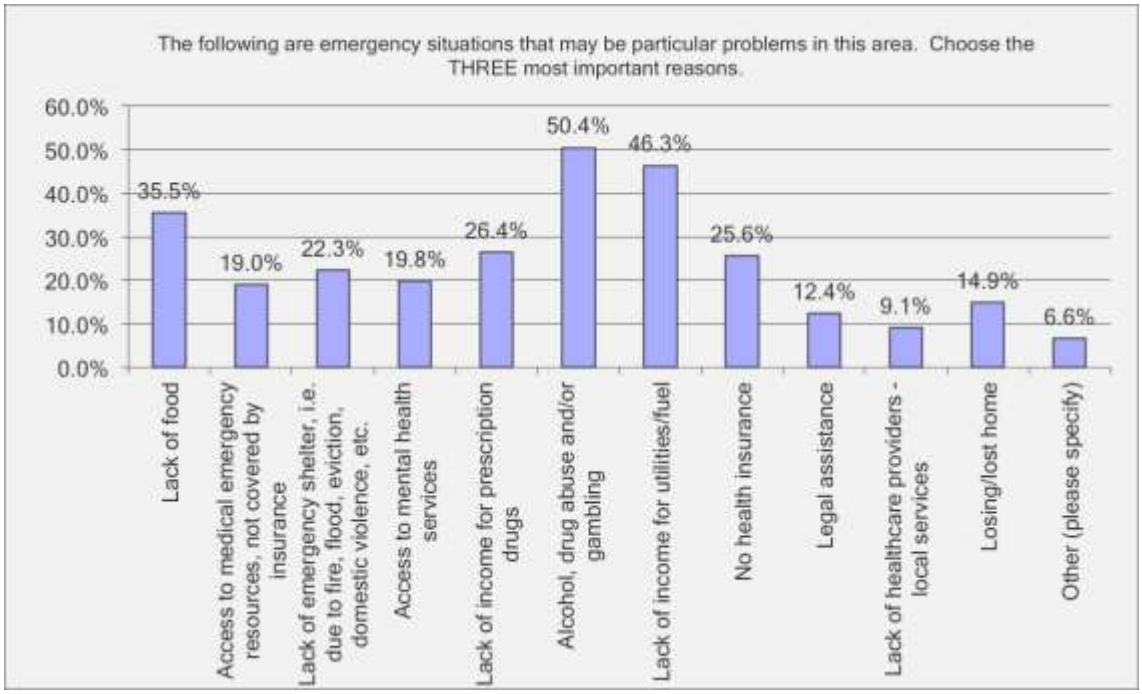
Other, please specify:

- People don't want to work.
- There is a lack of recreation, like a YMCA for our youth.
- Unemployment
- No local emergency rooms
- Our County Commission , won't let anyone come in to this county that could benefit us.
- Lack of initiative

Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food



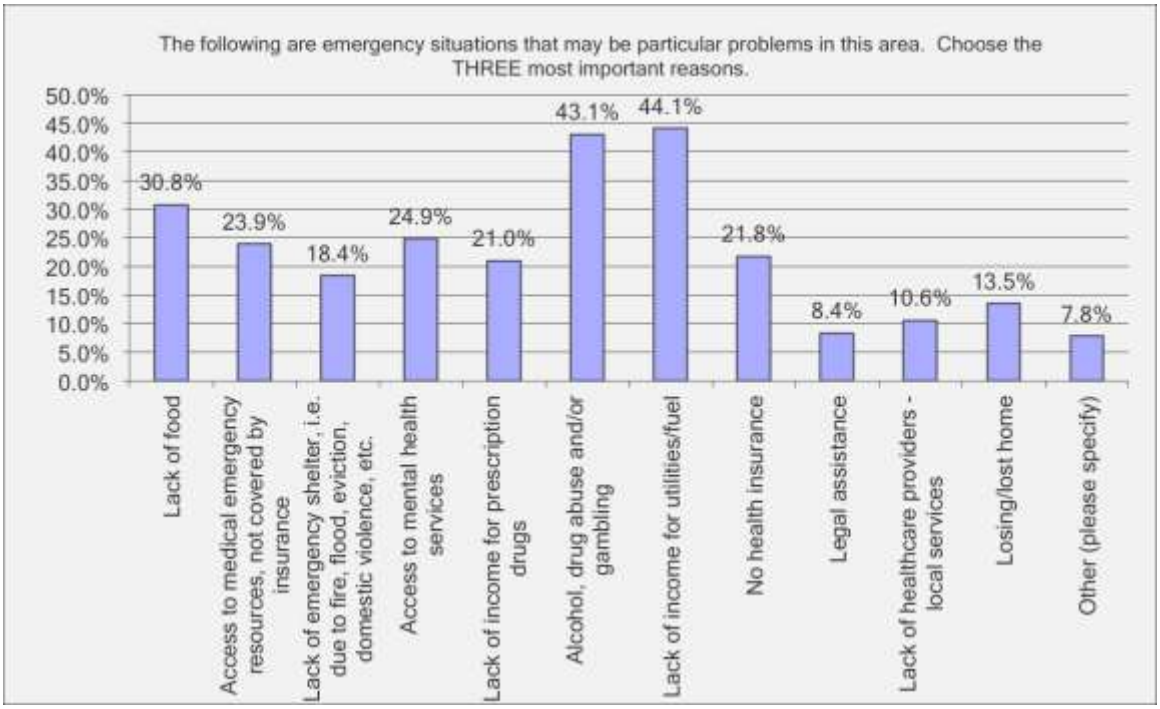
Other, please specify:

- Vehicle problems
- #9 is a joke" Need responsive police
- Lack of children's services. Teaching parents to be responsible parents.
- Lack of Nutritious Food
- People are lazy and want to live off the system.
- Lack of education - Poor education system in Fayette County - no one seems to want to change.
- Infrastructure: Water, sewer, roads, and access to broad band providers.
- Significant lack of childcare

Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food



Other, please specify:

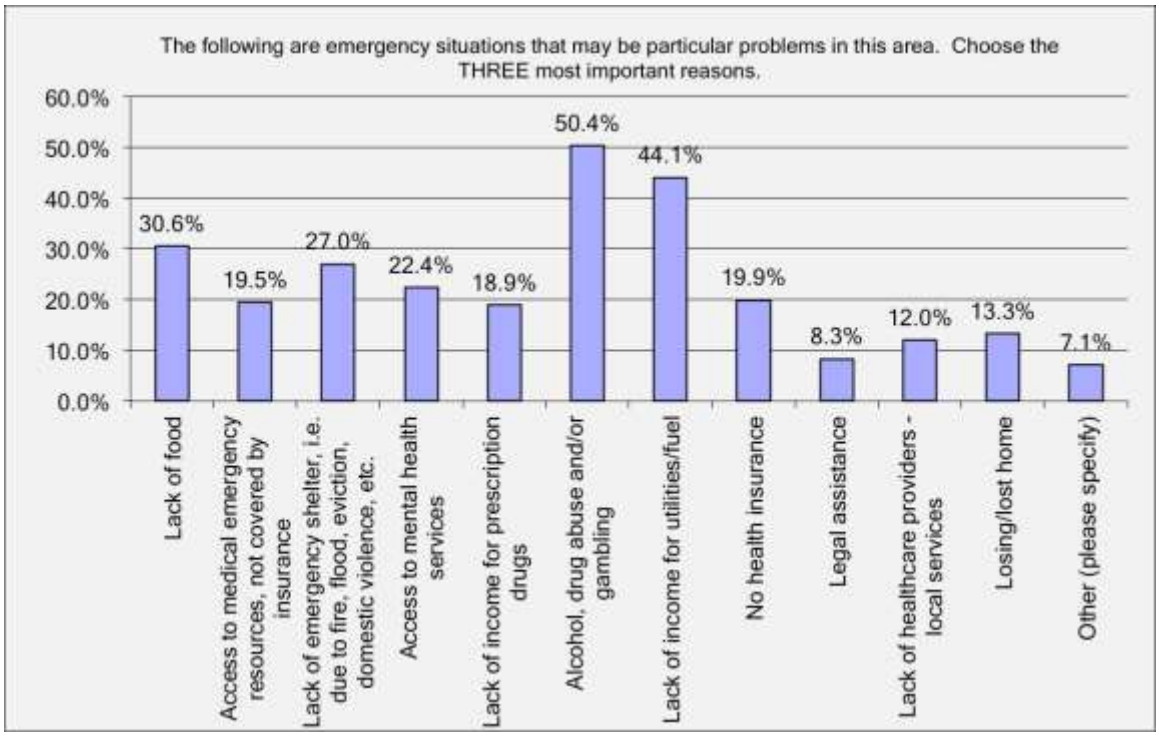
- Lack of funds for housing repairs
- I live alone. Would like some kind of check in to see if I'm Still alive.
- Retired
- Don’t know – XX
- Lack of jobs and job training
- Unknown - new to area
- Violence
- Lack of job opportunities – X
- Young adults are have a sense of entitlement and are not motivated to get a job. Drug use, alcohol, gambling all are contributors.
- I got a Master's degree and all its debt and was promptly demoted so I quit. State hired me back for less money than I made. Defaulted on loan. Loan sharks don't care if I eat or have money for Christmas gifts for others and seem to prefer me dead.
- Lack of Jesus Christ
- Prostitution
- Jobs with income adequate for families
- No issues

- Industrial chemicals in our water, Local responders ill prepared and uninformed, Uncoordinated, dishonest responses from state and federal gov't officials.
- Truthfully all of the above effect most people in some way
- Lack of water
- None apply – X
- This statement doesn't make sense.
- Weakening of families
- People who just do not want to work for a living. Know several personally.
- Industrial threats to our water supply
- Too many people with disabilities - epilepsy, drugs, retardation, and lack of good work habits.
- People unwilling to work and make their own opportunity.
- Lack of maintenance of industrial and transportation systems (like Freedom Industries)
- Job offerings that pay reasonable living wages.
- Kids in peril from inadequate parenting, drugs & alcohol, no boundaries
- Lack of clean water
- Safe drinking water and timely response to emergency issues. i.e. the recent water crisis
- Issues with paying nursing home costs and losing personal property to pay for it.
- Education/awareness
- Crime
- Utilities

Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The top three problems identified were:

1. Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
2. Lack of income for utilities/fuel
3. Lack of food



Other, please specify:

- No good doctors here
- Dysfunctional social security office
- Knowledge of community services available
- Abuse of welfare system
- **Transportation**
- Too many people on public assistance that don't want to work even if it were available to them.
- Nothing
- **Jobs**
- Inadequate financial resources for teenagers who are having children creating an emergency situation for the child or children being born.
- **Activities for children**

Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing EMERGENCY SITUATION issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct -** We offer rent and utility assistance if the qualified individual or family has an eviction notice or termination of service notice. We are not able to pay the full amount, but can work with the individual or family in getting the past due amount paid.
- **Fayette County FRN -** The FRN constantly receives requests for utility assistance. Unfortunately, resources are limited. DHHR is the first line of contact for referral to assistance (cut off/termination notices) - many folks have exhausted their eligibility by the time they call.
- **United Way of Central WV -** Provides fuel assistance; budget counseling; rental assistance; housing for homeless women and children; and emergency food, clothing and shelter by funding agencies that provide these services. These programs help to give our area residents basic needs and to keep families together in times of economic crisis. Information and Referral at United Way of Central WV is a resource you want to remember if you are looking for affordable housing, quality day care, utility assistance, or if you are dealing with a personal crisis, struggling with addiction, or seeking help with an aging parent. Information and Referral maintains a database of community resources for Boone, Clay, Kanawha, and Putnam counties. While the office does not provide direct assistance, the staff will assist you in finding the best services available to meet your needs. The service is free, fast, and confidential. Information and Referral also oversees the annual Christmas Bureau, which was established to coordinate the efforts of the community in its holiday giving, assists with the Charleston Daily Mail's "Neediest Cases" and is a partner with WV 211, the statewide Information and Referral.

Secondary Data: Research

There are nine total fire departments located throughout **Boone County**. They include:

- Boone County Ambulance Authority
- Danville Volunteer Fire Department
- Madison Volunteer Fire Department
- Morrisvale Volunteer Fire Department
- Racine Volunteer Fire Department
- Spruce River Volunteer Fire Department
- Van Vol Volunteer Department
- Wharton-Barett Volunteer Fire Department
- Whitesville Fire Department

There are four total fire departments located throughout **Clay County**. They include:

- Clay County Ambulance Authority
- Clay Volunteer Fire Department
- Big Otter Volunteer Fire Department
- Lizemore Volunteer Fire Department

There are 14 total fire departments located throughout **Fayette County**. They include:

- Danese Volunteer Fire Department
- Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department
- Meadow Bridge Volunteer Fire Department
- Mount Hope Volunteer Fire Department
- Smithers Volunteer Fire Department
- Boomer Volunteer Fire Department

- Gauley Bridge Volunteer Department
- Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department
- Anstead Volunteer Fire Department
- Pax Volunteer Fire Department
- Loup Creek Volunteer Fire Department
- Armstrong Creek Volunteer Fire Department
- Nuttall Volunteer Fire Department
- Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department

There are 33 total fire department located throughout **Kanawha County**. They include:

- Clendenin Volunteer Fire Department
- Pinch Volunteer Fire Department
- Malden Volunteer Fire Department
- Rand Volunteer Fire Department
- Belle Volunteer Fire Department
- Cedar Grove Volunteer Fire Department
- Glasglow Volunteer Fire Department
- Smithers Volunteer Department
- Handley Volunteer Fire Department
- Montgomery Fire Department
- East Bank Volunteer Fire Department
- Pratt Community Volunteer Fire Department
- Cabin Creek Volunteer Fire Department
- Marmet Volunteer Fire Department
- Chesapeake Volunteer Fire Department
- Loundendale Volunteer Fire Department
- Alum Creek Volunteer Fire Department
- Davis Creek Volunteer Fire Department
- Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department
- Lakewood Volunteer Fire Department
- Tornado Volunteer Fire Department
- West Side Volunteer Fire Department
- Tyler Mountain Volunteer Fire Department
- Institute Volunteer Fire Department
- Dunbar Fire Department
- Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department
- 130th Airlift Wing Fire Department
- St. Albans Fire Department
- Frame Volunteer Fire Department
- Charleston Fire Department
- Kanawha County Emergency Ambulance Authority
- Nitro Fire Department

There are nine total fire departments located throughout **Putnam County**. They include:

- Putnam County EMS
- Buffalo Volunteer Fire Department
- Eleanor Volunteer Fire Department
- Winfield Volunteer Fire Department
- Route 34 Volunteer Fire Department
- Bancroft Volunteer Fire Department
- Poca Volunteer Fire Department
- Teays Valley Volunteer Department
- Hurricane Fire Department

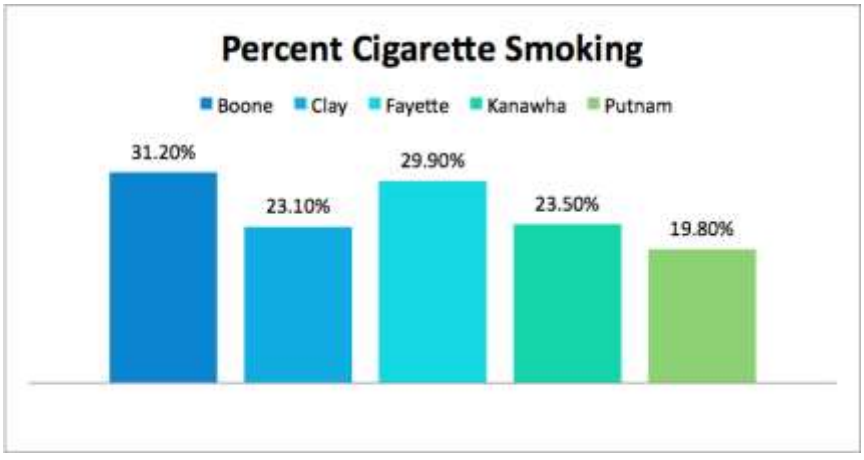
The West Virginia State Police Department reports the following crime statistics in the following in their 2011 Annual Report:

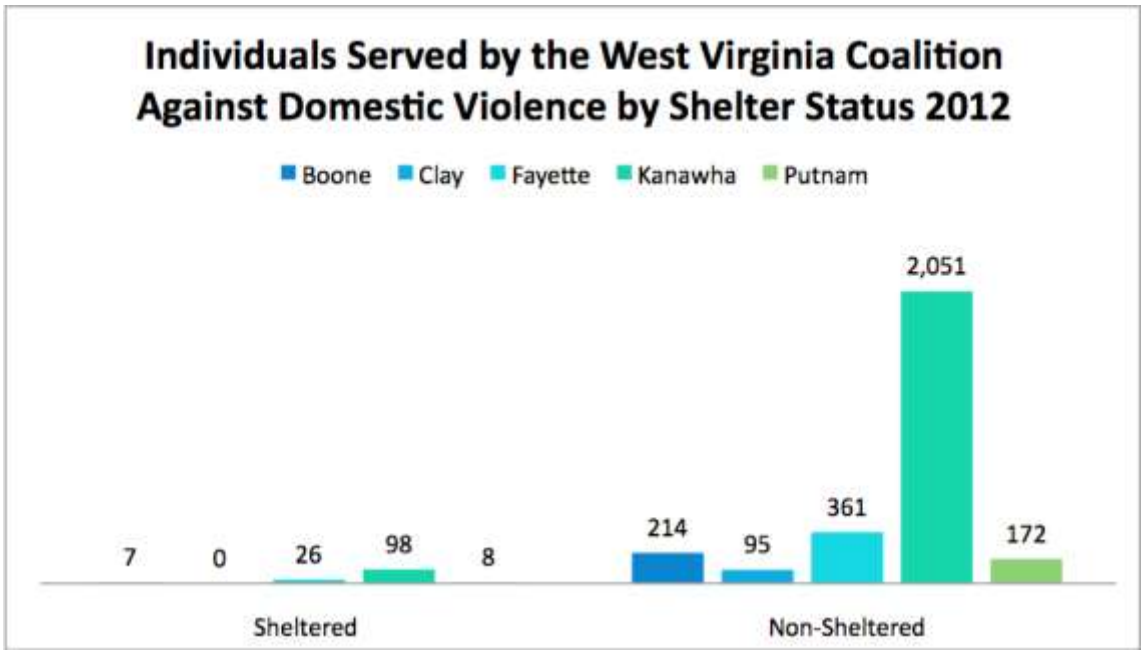
Type of Call	Boone County (Madison)	Clay County (Clay)	Fayette County (Gauley Bridge)	Kanawha County (South Charleston)	Putnam County (Winfield)
Calls for Service	2,985	1,665	610	8,522	2,218
Felony Arrests	680	109	20	773	368
Misdemeanor Arrests	881	253	46	1,024	454
Hazardous Moving Violations (HMV) Citations	1,566	1,425	320	4,211	1,810
HMV Warnings	3,908	1,769	856	9,891	2,666
DUI	21	32	2	61	43
Motorist Assists	232	357	66	1,378	284
Crash Reports	146	77	25	201	82
Major Incidents	1,006	350	173	2,344	669
Investigation Offenses	1,915	607	219	4,343	1,386

(WV State Police, 2013)

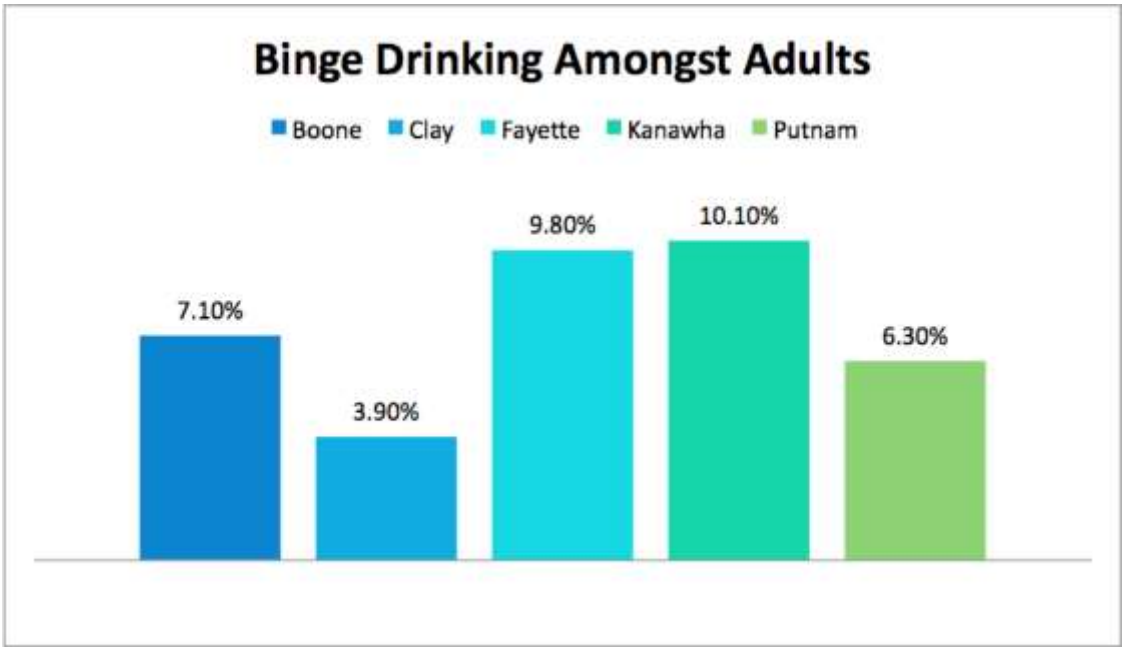
The West Virginia **Bureau of Behavioral Health and Health Facilities** (BHHF) is the designated host agency for the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW), a project funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The SEOW was assembled to lead the statewide systematic process to gather, review, analyze, translate, and disseminate information about substance use and abuse and mental health in West Virginia. The following data has been developed based upon the most current and available data on substance use and its related consequences (Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County Behavioral Health Profiles, 2013).

- Boone County ranks 10th in the state by the prevalence of cigarette smoking.
- Clay County ranks 42nd in the state by the prevalence of cigarette smoking.
- Fayette County ranks 12th in the state by the prevalence of cigarette smoking.
- Kanawha County ranks 34th in the state by the prevalence of cigarette smoking.
- Putnam County ranks 51st in the state by the prevalence of cigarette smoking.



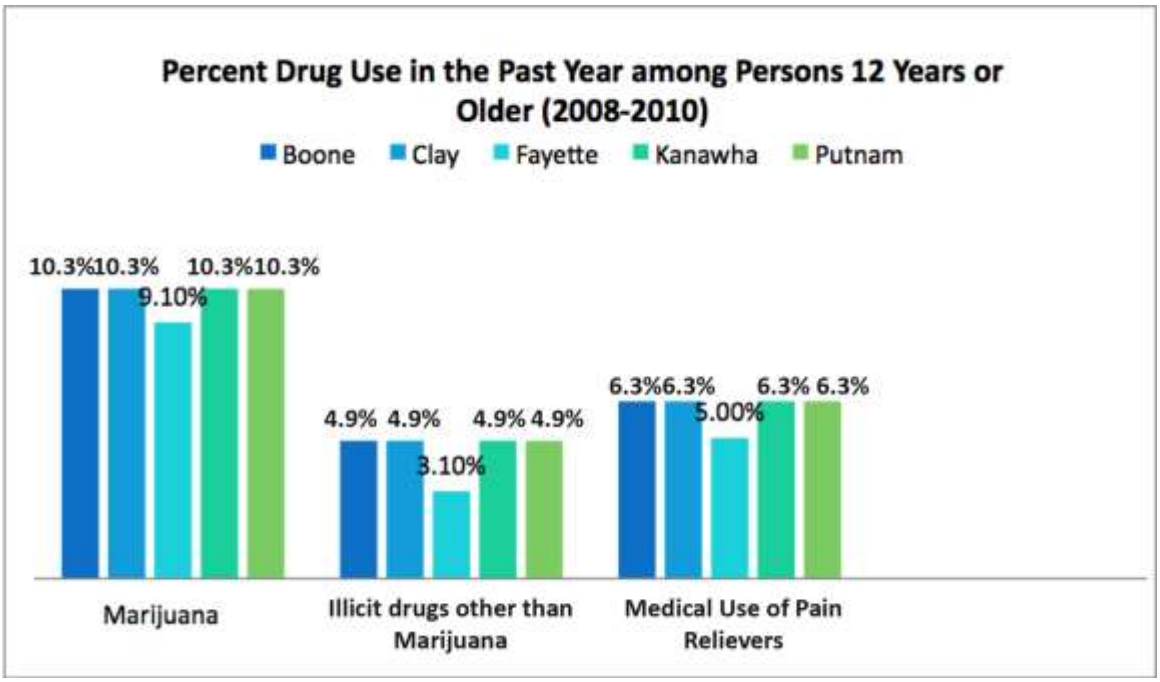


- Boone County ranks 40th in the state by the prevalence of binge drinking.
- Clay County ranks 53rd in the state by the prevalence of binge drinking.
- Fayette County ranks 20th in the state by the prevalence of binge drinking.
- Kanawha County ranks 19th in the state by the prevalence of binge drinking.
- Putnam County ranks 43rd in the state by the prevalence of binge drinking.

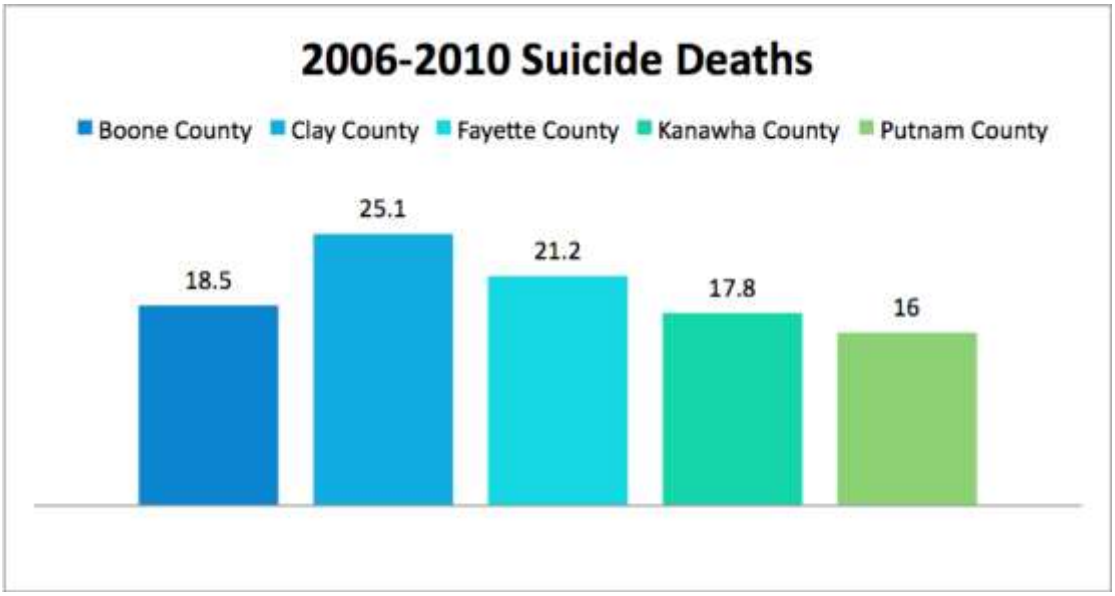


Many types of prescription drugs are abused. Currently there is a growing, deadly epidemic of prescription painkiller abuse in West Virginia and across the country. In the US, nearly three out of four prescription drug overdoses are caused by prescription painkillers also called opioid painkillers. West Virginia has seen a **rise in prescription drug overdose deaths of nearly 230% since 2001**.

More than 12 million people reported using prescription painkillers non-medically across the US in 2010, that is, using them without a prescription or for the feeling they cause.



- Boone County ranks 21st in the state by the prevalence of suicides.
- Clay County ranks 3rd in the state by the prevalence of suicides.
- Fayette County ranks 9th in the state by the prevalence of suicides.
- Kanawha County ranks 22nd in the state by the prevalence of suicides.
- Putnam County ranks 28st in the state by the prevalence of suicides.

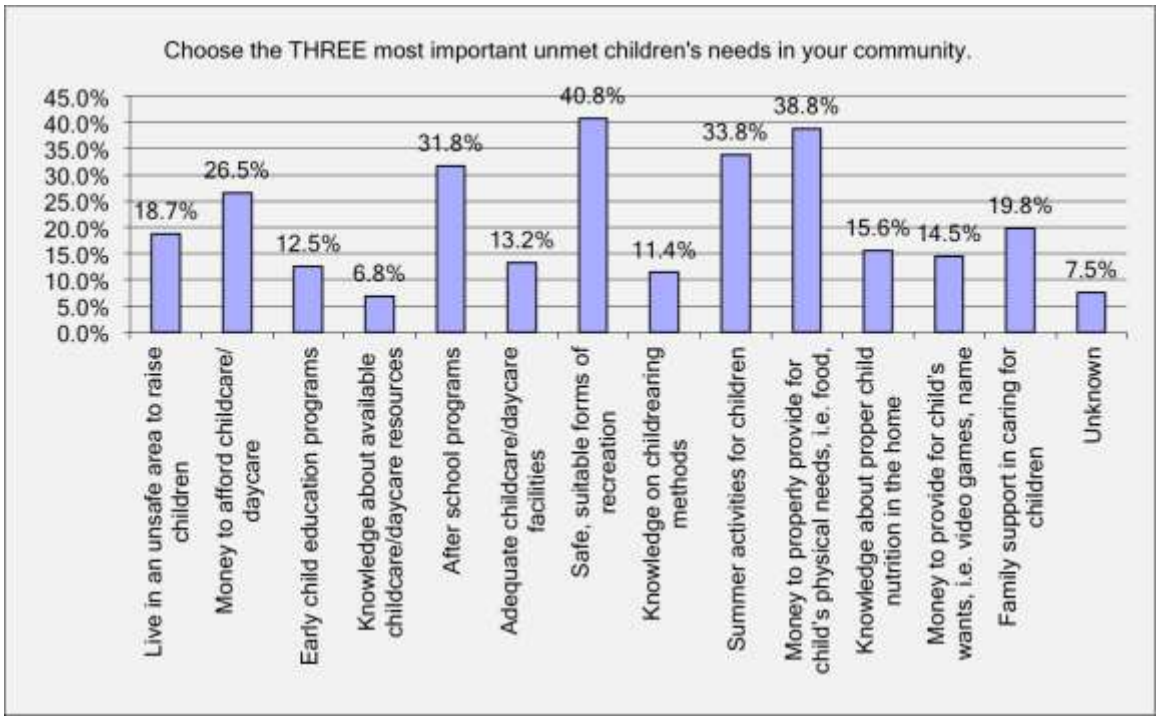


ADDITIONAL KEY INDICATORS: Children's Needs

Primary Data: Survey Results

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

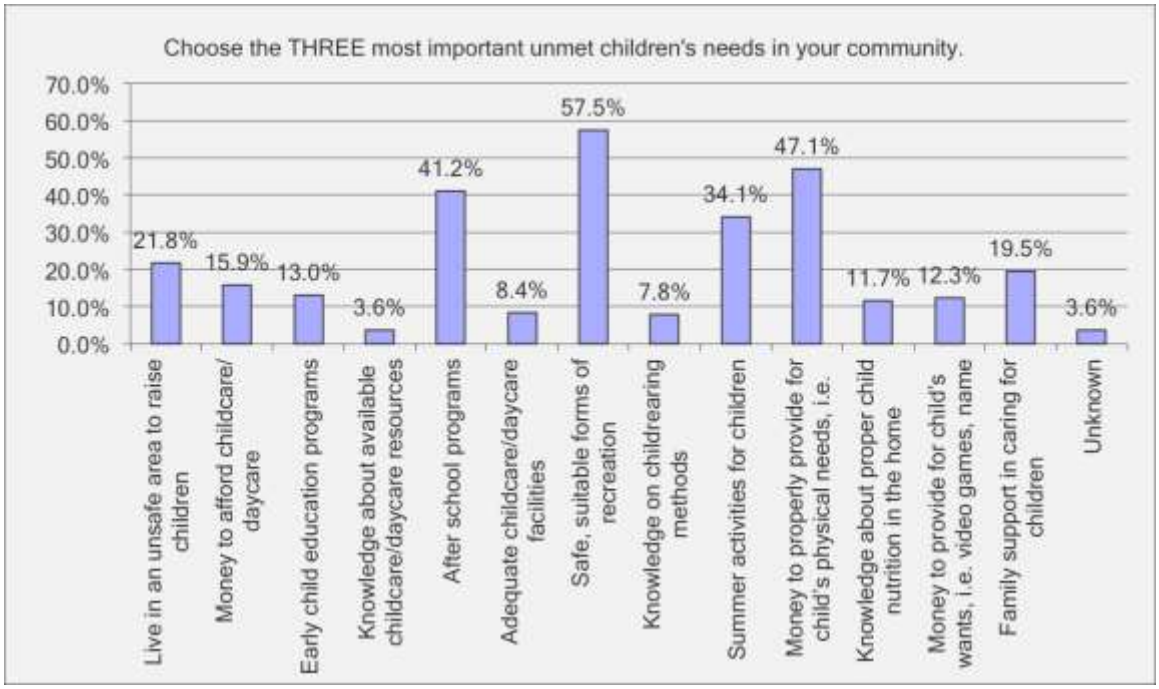
1. Safe, suitable forms of recreation
2. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
3. Summer activities for children



Primary Data: Survey Results – BOONE COUNTY

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

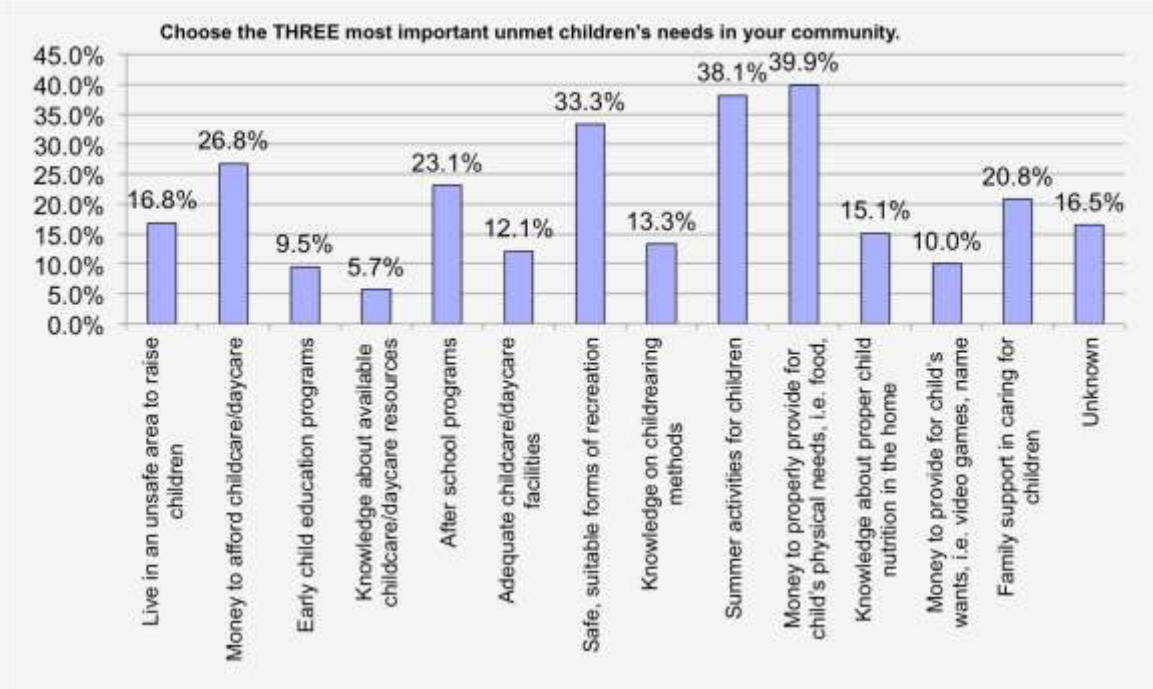
1. Safe, suitable forms of recreation
2. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
3. After school programs



Primary Data: Survey Results – CLAY COUNTY

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

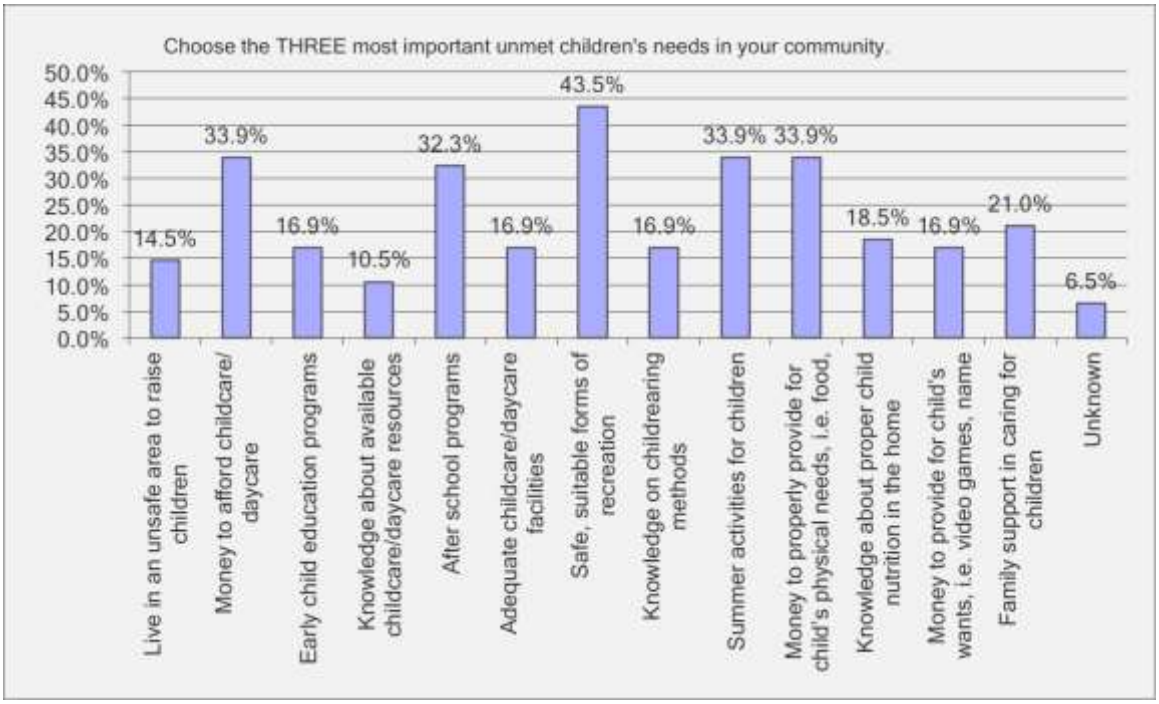
1. Safe, suitable forms of recreation
2. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
3. Summer activities for children
4. Money to afford childcare/daycare



Primary Data: Survey Results – FAYETTE COUNTY

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

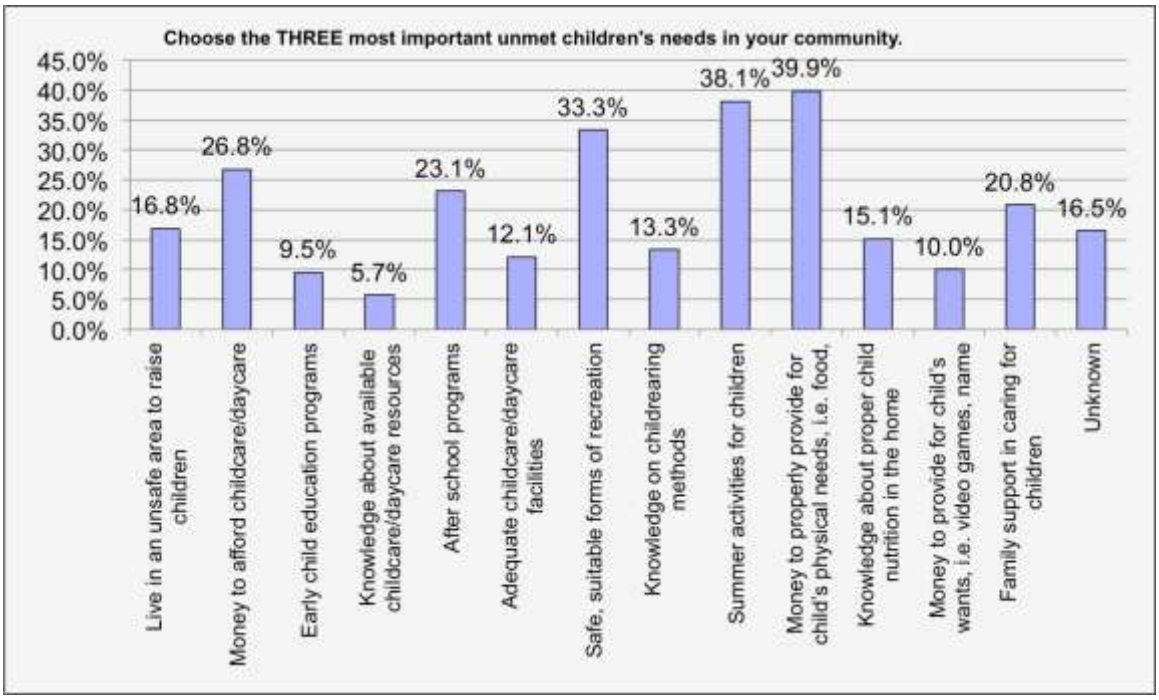
1. Safe, suitable forms of recreation
2. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
3. Summer activities for children
4. Money to afford childcare/daycare



Primary Data: Survey Results – KANAWHA COUNTY

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

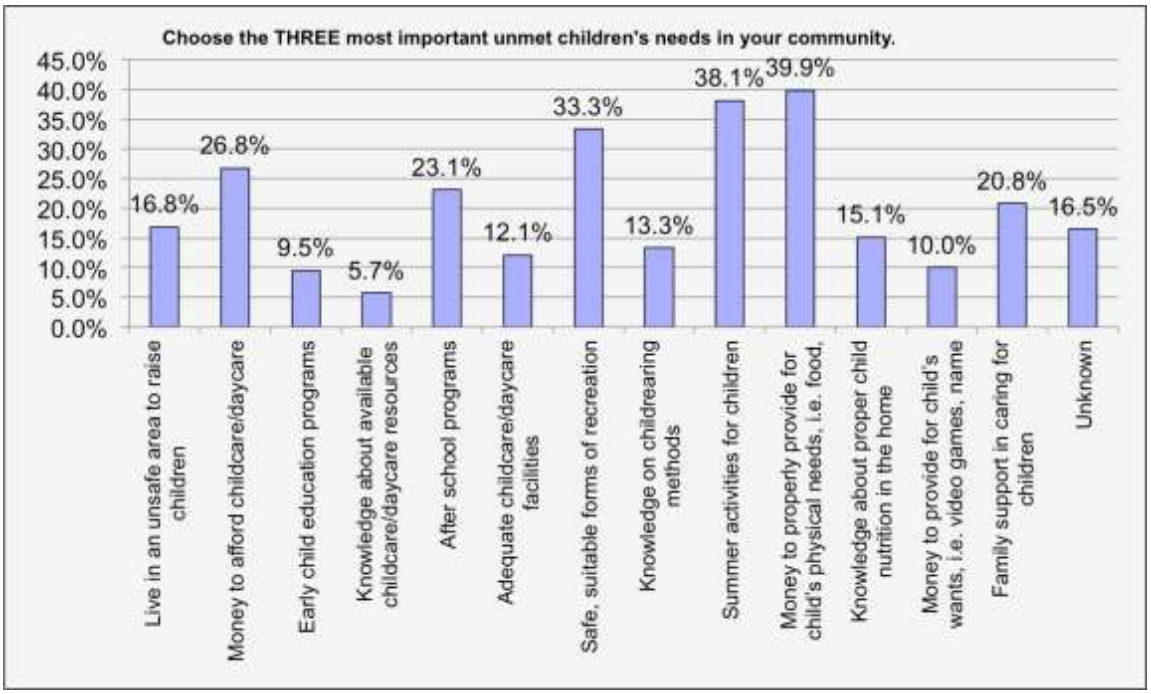
1. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
2. Safe, suitable forms of recreation
3. Money to afford childcare/daycare



Primary Data: Survey Results – PUTNAM COUNTY

The top three unmet children's needs identified were:

1. Money to properly provide for children's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
2. Summer activities for children
3. Safe, suitable forms of recreation



Participants Speak Out – Community Stakeholder Feedback

Is your agency addressing CHILDREN'S NEEDS issues in your community and if so, how?

- **EnAct** - We offer the Right From The Start program throughout our service area. Right From The Start is a home visitation program that provides education, service coordination, and support for low-income pregnant women and children up to age one in Kanawha County. Home visits and telephone calls are made by EnAct staff to maintain contact and support. Service coordination is provided by making sure families have the things they need and linking them to community agencies in their area. Education is provided through the Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum and DVDs. All education materials are provided from the program.
- **Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Charleston WV** - Our Boys & Girls club exists to help children needs in our city.
- **Fayette County FRN** - The FRN works in collaboration with DHHR and Just for Kids - a Child Advocacy Center, and the Women's Resource Network.
- **Charleston Police Dept.-** We are working on a new program with the juvenile curfew laws. We will partner to get the children and families necessary resources.
- **WV DHHR** - Everything we do is geared with the children's needs in mind form Social Services to SNAP and Medicaid.
- **Regional FRN** - We receive a Partners in Prevention Grant in Putnam County in order to address child abuse. Through that grant, the RFRN provide a program called Brain Under Construction Zone to new mothers on how to promote healthy brain development. Elements of this program are also taught in other existing programs, such as Kindermusik. Additionally, the RFRN has created a Young Child Collaborative that meets every 2-3 months in order to work together and learn from other organization that deal with young children.
- **Upper Kanawha Valley Starting Points Family Resource Center** - We provide this service at our baby pantry located at Chesapeake City Hall. We have clothing sizes NB to 5, diapers, food, books, toys, etc.
- **Prestera Center** - Prestera is providing services to children and families through out the catchment area.
- **United Way of Central WV** - The foundation for the Adolescent Health Initiative(AHI) is the fundamental and scientific principle that the more Developmental Assets young people experience and the more Developmental Relationships they have, the less likely they are to engage in a wide range of risky behaviors. The more they experience these assets and relationships the more likely they are to engage in positive behaviors. The Adolescent Health Initiative sees young men and women as vital resources in our community. AHI is proactive about building strengths, encouraging personal responsibility, respecting youth as actors in their own development, offering a consistent message about what is important and offering hope. The Regional Teen Institute (TI) is held each summer in June at Camp Rippling Waters. (near Sissonville) TI is for students currently in grades 6 and 8 from Boone, Clay, Kanawha, and Putnam counties. Students participate in the week-long event, with students in grades 9-12 serving as youth staff. The goal of TI is capacity building by encouraging teens to build leadership skills, make healthy decisions and develop Action Plans to take back to their

community. This is accomplished through developing a supportive environment to help youth make these decisions, through a lot of fun activities and making new friends.

STEP THREE: Analyze Data

As part of a one-day debriefing retreat with the Needs Assessment Steering Committee that took place on October 28, 2014, Kingery & Company presented primary and secondary data of each key poverty issue. Using a paired comparison technique, county representatives (EnAct staff and external stakeholder representatives) analyzed the information presented and prioritized the issues that are in **most** need in their community.

Boone County
1. Emergency Situations
2. Employment
3. Health

Clay County
1. Employment
2. Transportation
3. Use of Income

Fayette County
1. Emergency Situations
2. Use of Income
3. Health

Kanawha County
1. Employment
2. Use of Income
3. Housing

Putnam County
1. Emergency Situations
2. Transportation
3. Housing

Entire Region
1. Health
2. Employment
3. Use of Income

After the retreat, the steering committee continued to focus on the priority issues per county by discussing how EnAct could improve current programs, add programs or partner with other organizations to better meet the needs of Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County residents. County representatives were then tasked with developing a **Plan of Action** that included identification of the **Greatest Challenge, Barriers** and **Goals** for the priority issues for Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha, and Putnam County.

County Action Plans

BOONE COUNTY ACTION PLAN
Issue #1: EMERGENCY SITUATIONS
What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue. a. Increase or build recovery/rehabilitation facilities. b. Build recovery/rehabilitation facilities. **c.** Establish job retraining opportunities for out of work miners.
Issue #2: EMPLOYMENT
What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue. a. Provide job retraining opportunities for out of work miners. b. Offer incentives from county level for businesses to come to/build in the county. c. Refocus growth outside of the mining industry.
Issue #3: HEALTH
What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue. a. Offer incentives for dental practices to locate within the county. b. Offer incentives for vision practices to locate within the county. c. Offer prescription drug assistance programs.

CLAY COUNTY ACTION PLAN

Issue #1: EMPLOYMENT

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Assist with starting small businesses in the area.
b. Train families or individuals to work from home.
c. Provide incentives to businesses to locate in distressed communities and hire local people.

Issue #2: TRANSPORTATION

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Work with KRT to establish a daily route on Rt. 4 from Charleston to Clay.
b. Assist Clay Development in purchasing a third van and hire a driver for additional routes.
c. Work with the judicial system with individuals that have lost their license for unpaid tickets.

Issue #3: USE OF INCOME

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Teach money and credit management in the classroom, and provide incentives for students to save.
b. Partner with banks to lower starting balances for setting up savings accounts. Provide incentives for saving.
c. Increase the number of participants enrolled in financial management and home buyer education classes.

FAYETTE COUNTY ACTION PLAN

Issue #1: EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Provide intensive case management for wrap-around services: credit, budgeting, parenting, cooking, etc.
b. Develop substance abuse prevention programs for the community.
c. Increase the tobacco tax to fund other programs, such as above.

Issue #2: USE OF INCOME

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Provide intensive case management for wrap-around services: credit, budgeting, parenting, cooking, etc.
b. Coordinate savings/credit workshops through local banks and financial institutions.
c. Provide savings/credit education in high schools – could be provided by local banks.

Issue #3: HEALTH

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Promote use of dental cleaning facilities at Bridge Valley CTC.
b. Increase awareness of services and resources available within the communities, such as school-based health centers.
c. Increase the availability of vision services.

KANAWHA COUNTY ACTION PLAN

Issue #1: EMPLOYMENT

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Bring in plants and big businesses. Offer tax incentives to bring them in, and attract them by marketing to big businesses.
b. Case management to help find open jobs and follow up with the client for one year.
c. Encourage apprenticeships and internships.

Issue #2: USE OF INCOME

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Develop financial education class in all high schools, freshmen at college or community classes.
b. Enact penalties for predatory lenders and unrealistic contracts.
c. Help citizen distinguish between and prioritize basic needs and wants.

Issue #3: HOUSING

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

d. Renovate or build senior housing. Give a tax break for people who give older buildings.
a. Increase safety in local neighborhoods.
b. Incorporate youth programs, community programs and senior housing. Example: community gardens.

PUTNAM COUNTY ACTION PLAN

Issue #1: EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Build rehabilitation facilities.
b. Provide addiction support classes.
c. Increase awareness of local resources.

Issue #2: TRANSPORTATION

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Develop public transportation – particularly bus services.
b. Provide credit counseling services for purchasing automobiles.
c. Develop an income-based repair service.

Issue #3: HOUSING

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Build more affordable housing on the southern end of the count for rental or ownership.
c. Develop low-incoming housing or HUD approved homes.
d. Provide an income-based handyman service.

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

Issue #1: HEALTH

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Establish additional adult dental clinics in rural communities.
b. Increase incentives for providers to accept Medicaid to recruit additional providers.
c. Work with higher education programs to provide services (including dentures) for free.
d. Educate the communities about additional resources such as HealthRight, and the prescription card Family Wise.

Issue #2: EMPLOYMENT

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Increase agencies who will provide free or low-cost job training, such as Goodwill.
b. Expand WV Works to ensure more people are in the workforce, which may become permanent.
c. Implement a governmental mechanism to identify and attract new businesses to WV to have a sustainable income level.

Issue #3: USE OF INCOME

What's our goal? Three strategies that could be taken to make a positive impact on this issue.

a. Incorporate money management into middle and high school curriculums.
b. Incorporate financial education into programs provided by emergency services.

STEP FOUR: Take Action

A Community Needs Assessment report explains the process, identifies the people involved, succinctly presents primary and secondary data, includes an analysis of the results and concludes with overall recommendations on how best EnAct can meet the needs of Boone, Clay, Fayette, Kanawha and Putnam Counties. This report serves as the final written report.

The report is where it all comes together to tell the needs assessment story that **captures the process, results and action plans**. The report that you are reading now provides a succinct record of the four step process: 1-Develop a plan; 2-Collect data; 3-Analyze results; and 4-Take action.

The final report was shared with the Needs Assessment Steering Committee in advance of the public release. Steering Committee members were asked to share the report with their own organizations and other groups in an effort mobilize community resources to address needs beyond that of EnAct. Although EnAct spearheaded the needs assessment project, the agency considers the report the `**community's report'**. Results will be shared in a news release and electronic copies will be made available upon request. In addition, the report will be incorporated into the next agency-wide strategic planning process.

APPENDIX A: EnAct Community Needs Assessment Survey

1. Please circle the appropriate response under each demographic heading.

AGE	GENDER	ETHNIC BACKGROUND	NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD
12 – 17	Male	White	1
18 – 23	Female	Black/African American	2
24 – 44		American Indian and Alaska Native	3
45 – 54		Asian	4
55 – 69		Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	5
70 & older		Other	6
		Multi-Race (any 2 or more of the above)	7 or more

HOUSEHOLD TYPE	SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Choose all that apply.)	MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME
Single Parent/Female	Wages or Salary	Less than $100
Single Parent/Male	Contract Work	$100 - $250
Two Parent Household	Pension or retirement benefits	$251 - $500
Single Person	Social Security	$501 - $750
Two Adults/No children	Workers' Compensation or other disability	$751 - $1,000
Mulit-Family	Odd jobs	$1,001 - $1,500
	TANF	$1,501 - $2,000
	Farming	$2,001 +
	I do not work/receive any benefits.	I do not know how much my parents/guardians make.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD. (Choose ONE)

_____ Elementary School
_____ Middle/Junior High School
_____ High School/GED
_____ Some College
_____ Trade School
_____ Associates Degree
_____ Bachelor's Degree
_____ Graduate/Professional

WHAT COUNTY DO YOU LIVE IN?

_____

2. Is Employment an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Lack of education to obtain a job
_____Lack of employment opportunities
_____Lack of reliable transportation
_____Lack of resume/job application/interview skills
_____Unknown
_____Lack of training to obtain a job
_____Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
_____Lack of child care (work-related)
_____Cost of child care (work-related)

3. Is Education an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Lack of vocational skills or training
_____Lack of GED/Adult Education Classes
_____Availability and/or location of classes
_____Threats of violence in schools
_____Lack of dropout prevention for youth
_____Lack of computer access at home
_____Lack of transportation (school-related)
_____Lack of child care (school-related)
_____Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors
_____Unknown

4. **Is Housing an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO**
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Affordability of rent/house payments
_____Lack of affordable/suitable housing
_____Housing size doesn't meet family needs
_____Affordability of needed housing repairs, i.e. roof, foundation, insulation, storm windows, etc.
_____Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits
_____Credit issues
_____Lack of down payment on a house
_____Lack of knowledge about buying a home
_____Lack of temporary emergency housing
_____Lack of funds to ensure energy efficiency of my home
_____Unknown

5. **Is Health an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO**
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Lack of medical insurance
_____Lack of healthcare providers in the area
_____Lack of healthcare providers who accept my medical insurance
_____Lack of free or low-cost medical services
_____Affordability of prescription drugs
_____Lack of dental services
_____Lack of vision services
_____Lack of healthcare services for handicapped individuals
_____Lack of adequate in-home care services for seniors
_____Lack of prenatal care services
_____Lack of substance abuse services
_____Lack of mental health services
_____Unknown

6. **Is Nutrition an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO**
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Food resources not available, i.e. Senior Citizens meals, meals on wheels, food pantries, etc.
_____Not enough income to cover food cost
_____Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources
_____Lack of knowledge on healthy food choices
_____Lack of time to prepare meals
_____Not eligible for food stamps
_____Lack of knowledge on available nutrition resources, i.e. WIC, food stamps, food programs
_____Not eligible for free or reduced school meals
_____Unknown

7. **Is Use of Income an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO**
If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

_____Lack of knowledge about possible resources, i.e. food stamps, medical coverage, etc.
_____Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest money
_____Lack of knowledge about addressing credit Issues
_____Lack of knowledge about tax credits
_____Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc.
_____Lack of interest in making appropriate use of income
_____Lack of knowledge on how to get/enforce child support
_____Unknown

8. **Is Transportation an issue for you and/or your family? _____YES _____NO**
   If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:
   - _____Lack of knowledge about available services
   - _____Lack of knowledge about buying a vehicle
   - _____Lack of credit to buy a vehicle
   - _____Cost of owning and operating a vehicle
   - _____Lack of valid driver's license
   - _____Lack of help learning to drive/getting a license
   - _____Does not like to rely on others for transportation
   - _____Lack of public transportation
   - _____Do not own a vehicle/No access to a vehicle
   - _____Unknown

9. **The following are Emergency Situations that may be particular problems in this area.**
   Choose the THREE most important reasons:
   - _____Lack of food
   - _____Access to medical emergency resources, not covered by insurance
   - _____Lack of emergency shelter, i.e. due to fire, flood, eviction, domestic violence, etc.
   - _____Access to mental health services
   - _____Lack of income for prescription drugs
   - _____Alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling
   - _____Lack of income for utilities/fuel
   - _____No health insurance
   - _____Legal Assistance
   - _____Lack of health care providers- local services
   - _____Losing/Lost Home
   - _____Other: _____

10. **Choose the three most important unmet children's needs in your community.**
    - _____Live in an unsafe area to raise children
    - _____Money to afford childcare/daycare
    - _____Early child education programs
    - _____Knowledge about available childcare/ daycare resources
    - _____After school programs
    - _____Adequate childcare/daycare facilities
    - _____Safe, suitable forms of recreation
    - _____Knowledge on childrearing methods
    - _____Summer activities for children
    - _____Money to properly provide for child's physical needs, i.e. food, clothing, shelter
    - _____Knowledge about proper child nutrition in the home
    - _____Money to provide for child's wants, i.e. video games, name brand clothing, activities with friends
    - _____Family support in caring for children
    - _____Unknown

THANK YOU!!!!!

APPENDIX B: Resources

Available upon request.

For more information or clarification about this report, please contact:

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