

CAO of Scioto Co., Inc. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Community Action Organization of Scioto County (CAO) has been a local leader in the fight against poverty since 1965. It is part of the national community action network established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. CAO serves the community with a comprehensive range of federal, state, local, and privately funded programs that focus on building communities, providing services to individuals and families, and advocating for opportunities for lower income people. CAO strives to maintain a sustainable and coordinated system of programs and services to meet the needs of individuals and families within the local region. To continue developing, sustaining, and expanding these programs and services the organization completed a needs assessment in 2025. The needs assessment process is an ongoing activity conducted by the Executive Director and Program Division Directors as they review program progress and changing needs as evidenced by customer requests for service; coordination with community partners; a portrait of poverty in the area; client satisfaction; perceptual needs, strengths, and gaps in services; and goals and objective measures identified in our Strategic Planning process. This assessment, a follow-up to studies conducted in previous years, is a systematic, data driven approach to determining what assets and needs exist within Scioto County. The 2025-2028 Needs Assessment process consisted of review and analysis of the following national, state, and local resources:

1. Demographics: Scioto County Population Profile
2. Employment: Current Unemployment and Labor Market Information statistics
3. Education
4. Housing
5. Health and Social/Behavioral Development
6. Needs Assessment survey information
7. Past and current client file information
8. Results Oriented Management and Accountability data
9. Program Division Directors assessments on customer requests and referrals

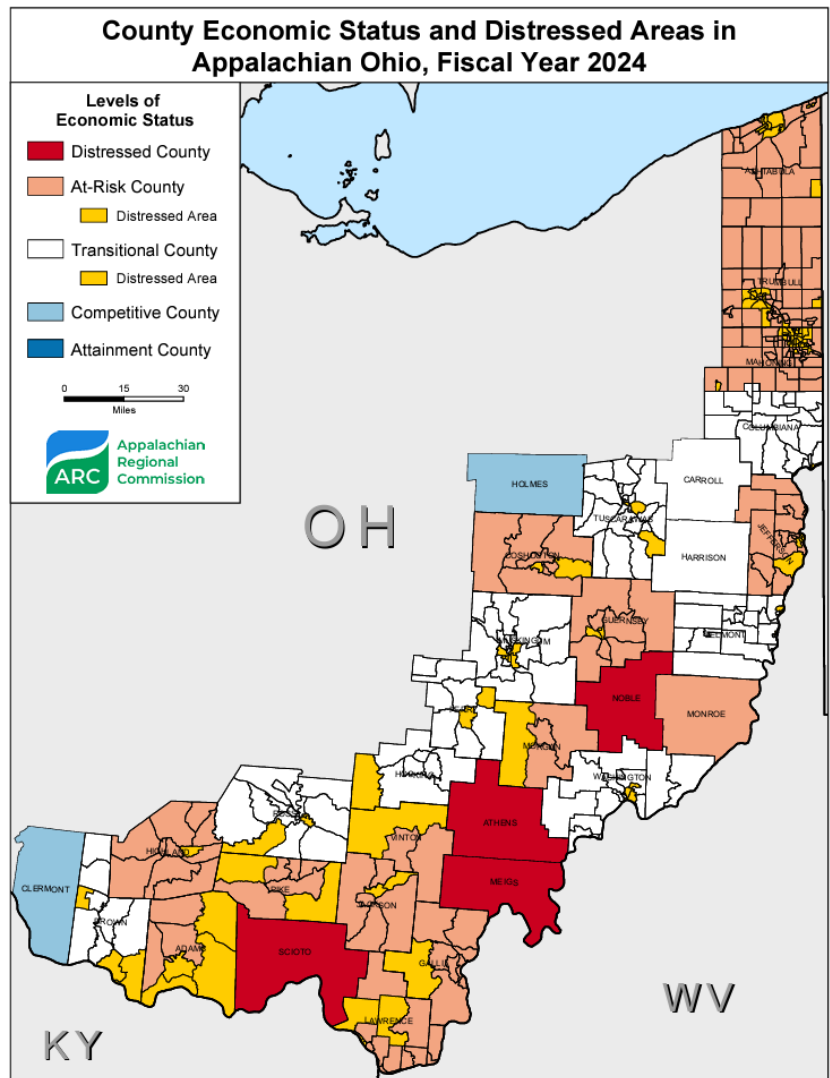
Methodology

Multiple methods were used to collect data for this report. This report utilized quantitative data from a variety of sources including the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates, Ohio Department of Medicaid, Appalachian Regional Commission, US Department of Labor, Ohio Department of Development and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. To determine perceptual needs, we collected qualitative data from participants, community members, staff, faith based leaders, and partner agencies. We used an online survey for individuals, community partners, board members, staff, and others; we surveyed faith-based organizations; we surveyed Head Start and Early Head Start parents, and we surveyed food pantries in the area. Survey results are included as part of this assessment.

DEMOGRAPHICS/POPULATION PROFILE

The demographic profile for Scioto County that follows is based upon the information gathered from US Census Bureau and American Community Survey, 2017-2021 5-year estimates. Scioto County’s total population estimate is 74,392. The estimated total population for 2010 was 79,499. This reflects a -6.91% population change from 2010-2020. The total number of persons below the national poverty level according to 2000 estimates was 13,980 compared to 2021 estimates of 16,891. The percentage of the population below poverty is 23.82%. 29.72% of all occupied households in Scioto County are family households with one or more children under the age of 18. Of the total population, an estimated 4,146 are children under the age of 5. 31.57% or 5,077 children aged 0-17 are living in households with income below the federal poverty level. Of the total population, an estimated 13,477 persons are age 65 and older. Of those over the age of 65, 14.3% are living below the federal poverty level. This is higher than the percentage reported with 2010 estimates. The median household income for Scioto County, based on 5-year estimates is \$43,266.

Scioto County’s population continues to decrease due to several factors. One of the primary factors that contribute to the county’s population decrease is the lack of sustainable, living wage, jobs. Scioto County has been hit hard by decades of economic decline. The Detroit Steel Mill closed in the 1980’s, the New Boston Coke Plant closed in 2002, and the Ohio River Valley Juvenile Correctional Facility in Franklin Furnace was closed in 2011. The county has moved from a community heavily dependent on manufacturing to one in which services play a prominent role. The Appalachian Regional Commission lists Scioto County as being a “Distressed Area” in the Appalachian Region. According to the ARC, distressed counties are the most economically depressed counties and are ranked in the worst 10 percent of the nation’s counties. Scioto County is listed as one of four distressed areas in the State of Ohio Appalachian region.



Source: Appalachian Regional Commission, *County Economic Status and Number of Distressed Areas in Appalachian Ohio, Fiscal Year 2024*

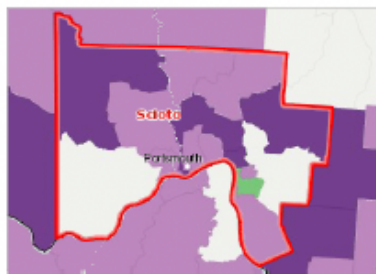
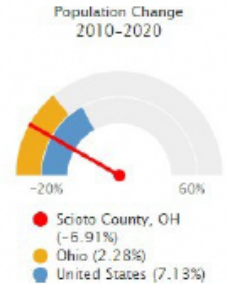
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Population Profile: Population Change 2010-2020

According to the United States Census Bureau Decennial Census, between 2010 and 2020 the population in the report area fell by -5,491 persons, a change of -6.91%. A significant positive or negative shift in total population over time impacts healthcare providers and the utilization of community resources.

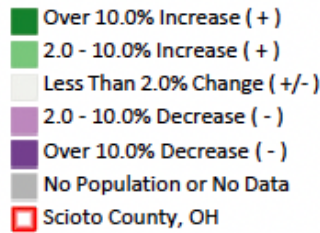
Report Area	Total Population, 2010 Census	Total Population, 2020 Census	Population Change, 2010-2020	Population Change, 2010-2020, Percent
Scioto County, OH	79,499	74,008	-5,491	-6.91%
Ohio	11,536,505	11,799,448	262,943	2.28%
United States	312,471,161	334,735,155	22,263,994	7.13%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 2020. Source geography: Tract*



[View larger map](#)

Population Change, Percent by Tract, US Census Bureau 2010 - 2020



Age and Gender Demographics

Population by gender within the report area is shown below. According to the US Census, American Community Survey 2017-2021 report, the female population is 50.5% in Scioto County, while the male population is 49.4%. This is virtually unchanged from the previous 2010-2017 period. Changes in the total population by age groups from 2017 to 2021 is shown below.

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Scioto County, OH	36,782	37,610	49.44%	50.56%
Ohio	5,800,004	5,969,919	49.28%	50.72%
United States	163,206,615	166,518,866	49.50%	50.50%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

Report Area	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 64		Over 64	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Scioto County, OH	2,079	2,147	6,670	5,981	23,637	23,228	5,146	7,547
Ohio	356,198	339,506	988,122	943,342	3,540,236	3,597,710	717,456	1,043,117
United States	10,151,822	9,701,693	27,458,617	26,289,147	99,353,006	100,317,733	18,945,773	26,677,081

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013-17. Source geography: County

Report Area	Age 0-4	Age 5-17	Age 18-24	Age 25-34	Age 35-44	Age 45-54	Age 55-64	Age 65+
Scioto County, OH	4,146	12,136	6,336	9,540	8,966	9,470	10,321	13,477
Ohio	689,126	1,940,863	1,062,481	1,543,258	1,430,057	1,478,888	1,620,448	2,004,802
United States	19,423,121	54,810,954	30,339,089	45,360,942	42,441,883	41,631,458	42,829,413	52,888,621

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

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Race Demographics

Population by race alone within the report area is shown below. According to the indicator below, the white population comprised 93.57% of the report area, black population represented 2.81%, and other races combined were 3.62%. Persons identifying as multiple races made up 2.63% of the population.

Report Area	White	Black	Asian	Native American / Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Multiple Races
Scioto County, OH	69,612	2,087	314	222	5	193	1,959
Ohio	9,374,538	1,452,530	276,828	18,416	3,899	141,320	502,392
United States	224,789,109	41,393,012	18,782,924	2,722,661	615,557	18,382,796	23,039,422

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

Total Population by Ethnicity Alone

This indicator reports the total population of the report area by ethnicity alone.

Report Area	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino Population	Hispanic or Latino Population, Percent	Non-Hispanic Population	Non-Hispanic Population, Percent
Scioto County, OH	74,392	1,106	1.49%	73,286	98.51%
Ohio	11,769,923	480,347	4.08%	11,289,576	95.92%
United States	329,725,481	60,806,969	18.44%	268,918,512	81.56%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

Veterans Population

This indicator reports the percentage of the population age 18 and older that served (even for a short time), but is not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or that served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. Of the 58,100 population of the report area, 4,573 or 7.87% are veterans.

Report Area	Total Population Age 18+	Total Veterans	Veterans, Percent of Total Population
Scioto County, OH	58,100	4,573	7.87%
Ohio	9,129,159	666,320	7.30%
United States	254,296,179	17,431,290	6.85%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Scioto County, OH	4,223	350	14.85%	1.18%
Ohio	614,283	52,037	13.82%	1.11%
United States	15,794,025	1,637,265	12.72%	1.26%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

Report Area	Age 18-34	Age 35-54	Age 55-64	Age 65-74	Age 75+
Scioto County, OH	259	1,025	963	1,380	946
Ohio	50,688	149,119	125,474	185,120	155,919
United States	1,508,193	4,151,603	3,189,141	4,513,992	4,068,361

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

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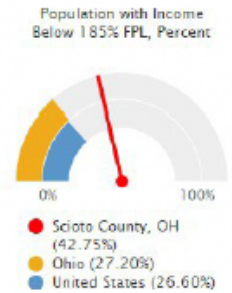
Population Profile: Poverty/Public Assistance Data

In Scioto County, 42.75% or 30,314 individuals for whom poverty status is determined are living in households with income below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). 16,891 individuals for whom poverty status is determined are living in households with income below 100% Federal Poverty Level. These indicators are relevant because poverty creates barriers or limits opportunities for quality housing, safe neighborhoods, healthy food, living wage jobs, and quality education. As poverty remains the same, or increases, health worsens.

Note: The total population measurements for poverty reports are lower, as poverty data collection does not include people in group quarters. See Methodology for more details.

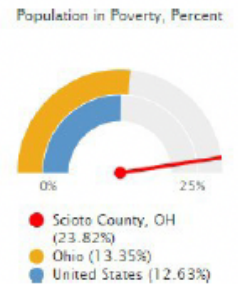
Report Area	Total Population	Population with Income Below 185% FPL	Population with Income Below 185% FPL, Percent
Scioto County, OH	70,905	30,314	42.75%
Ohio	11,451,346	3,114,934	27.20%
United States	321,897,703	85,630,280	26.60%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract



Report Area	Total Population	Population in Poverty	Population in Poverty, Percent
Scioto County, OH	70,905	16,891	23.82%
Ohio	11,451,346	1,528,963	13.35%
United States	321,897,703	40,661,636	12.63%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract



Family Poverty Rate by Family Type

The percentage of households in poverty by household type are shown for the report area. It is estimated that 18.0% of all households were living in poverty within the report area, compared to the national average of 8.9%. Of the households in poverty, female headed households represented 49.9% of all households in poverty, compared to 34.8% and 15.3% of households headed by males and married couples, respectively.

Report Area	Poverty Rate All Types	Percent of Poverty Married Couples	Percent of Poverty Male Householder	Percent of Poverty Female Householder
Scioto County, OH	18.0%	34.8%	15.3%	49.9%
Ohio	9.3%	28.4%	11.5%	60.1%
United States	8.9%	37.0%	10.8%	52.2%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: County

Report Area	Total Families	Families in Poverty Total	Families in Poverty Married Couples	Families in Poverty Male Householder	Families in Poverty Female Householder
Scioto County, OH	18,403	3,311	1,152	508	1,651
Ohio	2,964,953	275,595	78,328	31,696	165,571
United States	80,755,759	7,181,779	2,658,265	774,828	3,748,686

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: County

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Child Poverty Rate Ages 0-17

In Scioto County, 31.57% or 5,077 children aged 0-17 are living in households with income below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. This indicator is relevant because poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

Report Area	Total Population	Population < Age 18	Population < Age 18 in Poverty	Population < Age 18 in Poverty, Percent
Scioto County, OH	70,905	16,084	5,077	31.57%
Ohio	11,451,346	2,580,842	480,341	18.61%
United States	321,897,703	72,996,065	12,443,424	17.05%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract*

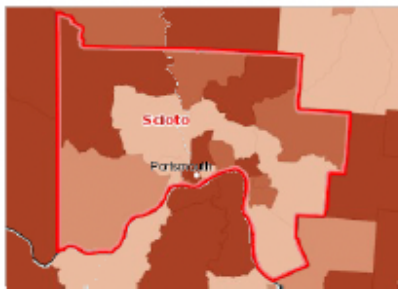
Child Poverty Rate (ACS) Ages 0-4

Population and poverty estimates for children age 0-4 are shown for Scioto County. According to the American Community Survey 5-year data, an average of 36.3% percent of children lived in a state of poverty during the survey calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in the report area is greater than the national average of 18.5%.

Report Area	Ages 0-4 Total Population	Ages 0-4 In Poverty	Ages 0-4 Poverty Rate
Scioto County, OH	4,083	1,481	36.3%
Ohio	675,153	144,327	21.4%
United States	19,064,128	3,535,591	18.5%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: County*

Population Below the Poverty Level, Children (Age 0-4), Percent by Tract, ACS 2017-2021



Population Below the Poverty Level, Children (Age 0-4), Percent by Tract, ACS 2017-21

- Over 37.0%
- 27.1 - 37.0%
- 17.1 - 27.0%
- Under 17.1%
- No Population Age 0-4 Reported
- No Data or Data Suppressed
- Scioto County, OH

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Seniors in Poverty

Population and poverty estimates for persons age 65 and up are shown for the report area. According to the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year data, an average of 14.3% of people lived in a state of poverty during the survey calendar year. The percentage of seniors living in poverty in Scioto County is higher than the national average of 9.6%.

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up In Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Scioto County, OH	12,818	1,838	14.3%
Ohio	1,940,447	165,480	8.5%
United States	51,705,664	4,938,116	9.6%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: County

Poverty by Gender: Age 65 and Up

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Scioto County, OH	636	1,202	11.25%	16.78%
Ohio	60,067	105,413	6.91%	9.84%
United States	1,841,561	3,096,555	7.90%	10.91%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

Poverty Rate Change

Poverty rate change in the report area from 2000 to 2017 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for the area increased by 2.9%, compared to a national increase of 2.1%.

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2000	Poverty Rate 2000	Persons in Poverty 2017	Poverty Rate 2017	Change in Poverty Rate 2000-2017
Scioto County, OH	13,980	18.5%	15,481	21.4%	2.9%
Ohio	1,088,381	9.8%	1,575,401	13.9%	4.1%
United States	31,581,086	11.3%	42,583,651	13.4%	2.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates, 2017. Source geography: county

Poverty rate change in the report area from 2011 to 2021 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for the area decreased by -2.2%, compared to a national change of -3.1%.

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2011	Poverty Rate 2011	Persons in Poverty 2021	Poverty Rate 2021	Change in Poverty Rate 2011-2021
Scioto County, OH	19,671	26.1%	16,807	23.9%	-2.2%
Ohio	1,836,098	16.3%	1,523,366	13.3%	-3.0%
United States	48,452,035	15.9%	41,393,176	12.8%	-3.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2021. Source geography: County

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Income Levels

This indicator reports median household income based on the latest 5-year American Community Survey estimates. This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income. There are 28,152 households in the report area, with an average income of \$60,872 and a median income of \$43,266.

Report Area	Total Households	Average Household Income	Median Household Income
Scioto County, OH	28,152	\$60,872	\$43,266
Ohio	4,754,161	\$83,820	\$61,938
United States	124,010,992	\$97,196	\$69,021

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract

Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)

The below table shows that according to the American Community Survey (ACS), 7,485 households (or 26.59%) received SNAP payments during 2017-2021. During this same period there were 1,963 households with income levels below the poverty level that were not receiving SNAP payments.

Report Area	Households Receiving SNAP Total	Households Receiving SNAP Percent	Households Receiving SNAP Income Below Poverty	Households Receiving SNAP Income Above Poverty	Households Not Receiving SNAP Total	Households Not Receiving SNAP Percent	Households Not Receiving SNAP Income Below Poverty	Households Not Receiving SNAP Income Above Poverty
Scioto County, OH	7,485	26.59%	4,611	2,874	20,667	73.41%	1,963	18,704
Ohio	587,542	12.36%	302,282	285,260	4,166,619	87.64%	323,604	3,843,015
United States	14,105,231	11.37%	6,300,621	7,804,610	109,905,761	88.63%	9,081,147	100,824,614

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: County

Employment

Our organization offers a wide variety of job and career services free of charge. Our Resource Center has experienced staff and computers to conduct an internet job search, write a resume, review current job postings, get the latest information on the labor market, make copies of resumes and important employment documents, fax resumes to potential employers, use the telephone service for job prospecting, and research available financial aid. Workshops are available for those searching for employment. Specialists are available to assist with special needs.

Current Unemployment

Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for each county in the report area is provided in the table below. Overall, the report area experienced an average 4.5% unemployment rate in April 2023.

Report Area	Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Scioto County, OH	30,032	28,670	1,362	4.5%
Ohio	5,805,755	5,622,356	183,399	3.2%
United States	167,398,153	162,185,614	5,212,540	3.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2023 - April. Source geography: County

Unemployment Change

Unemployment change within the report area from April 2022 to April 2023 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this one year period grew from 4.4% to 4.5%.

Report Area	Unemployment April 2022	Unemployment April 2023	Unemployment Rate April 2022	Unemployment Rate April 2023	Rate Change
Scioto County, OH	1,280	1,362	4.4%	4.5%	0.1%
Ohio	214,429	183,399	3.7%	3.2%	-0.6%
United States	5,543,125	5,212,540	3.4%	3.1%	-0.2%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2023 - April. Source geography: County

Travel Time to Work

Travel time for workers who travel to work (do not work at home) is shown for the report area. The average commute time, according to the American Community Survey (ACS), for the report area is on average 27.12 minutes compared to the national average commute time of 26.79 minutes.

Report Area	Workers that Commute Age 16 and Up	% Workers Travelling < 10 mins	% Workers Travelling between 10 and 30 mins	% Workers Travelling between 30 and 60 mins	% Workers Travelling > 60 mins	Average Commute Time (mins)
Scioto County, OH	24,080	18.41%	48.59%	24.13%	8.87%	27.12
Ohio	5,099,813	14.49%	54.75%	25.59%	5.17%	23.66
United States	140,223,271	12.38%	49.47%	29.09%	9.06%	26.79

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2017-21. Source geography: County

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Five-year Unemployment Rates

Unemployment change within the report area from April 2019 to April 2023 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this five year period fell from 5.3% to 4.5%.

Report Area	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021	April 2022	April 2023
Scioto County, OH	5.3%	13.4%	6.6%	4.4%	4.5%
Ohio	3.6%	15.9%	5.5%	3.7%	3.2%
United States	3.4%	14.0%	5.8%	3.4%	3.1%

Data Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2023 - April. Source geography: County

The table to the right shows how jobs are distributed throughout the county by industry. The higher the percentage, the more workers there are in the industry. Multiple years are shown to demonstrate how employment in the industries may have shifted over time. However, percent change across years does not necessarily indicate growth or decline in employment by industry.

1a. Employment Percent by Industry

Industry Name	Percent Annual Employment in Industry		
	2004	2010	2019
Health Care and Social Assistance	25.7%	27.9%	31.7%
Educational Services	12.7%	13.8%	13.4%
Retail Trade	12.5%	12.2%	11.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	8.8%	9.9%	10.1%
Public Administration	9.6%	9.5%	8.4%
Manufacturing	9.5%	7.4%	6.6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1.9%	3.0%	3.1%
Construction	4.4%	3.1%	2.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1.9%	2.3%	2.2%
Administrative and Support Services	3.2%	1.2%	2.0%
Wholesale Trade	1.3%	1.4%	1.7%
Finance and Insurance	2.1%	2.0%	1.5%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%
Information	1.2%	1.3%	0.8%
Utilities	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0.1%	N/A*	N/A*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, excludes federal government.

*Data non-disclosable as it does not meet U.S. Census Bureau publication standards. Columns may not sum to 100 percent due to both U.S. Census Bureau methodology and the effects of rounding. The difference between summed percentages (<100%) and 100 is not the employment share of the non-disclosed industry.

Education

Our organization is currently administering both Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Scioto County. We provide a high quality early childhood program, which serves economically disadvantaged and special needs children and their families. We use a team approach to form partnerships with families and community resources, which enable us to provide holistic, compassionate, family-oriented services. Our goal is to prepare children so that education will be a positive experience and to empower parents to make decisions that would affect positive change in their lives. Head Start and Early Head Start provides services to pregnant women, newborns, and toddlers to age 3 as well as preschoolers through age 5 through both home visiting and center based options. Head Start is a comprehensive child development program offering preschool children a program of education, medical, dental and nutrition services. Children and families are also offered social services through our program. All services are offered as a means to enhance the ability of low-income children to successfully compete in the public school system. We collaborate with local public school systems and operate from the following locations within the county:

- *Highland, Portsmouth*
- *Miller Manor in Wheelersburg*
- *Northwest Center, Lucasville*
- *Farley Square in Portsmouth*
- *Carousel Center, Portsmouth*
- *West Portsmouth Center*
- *Sciotoville Center*
- *Kendall Heights Center*

Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved in the report area and helps schools and businesses to understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 years old, and is an estimated average for the period from 2017 to 2021.

For the selected area, 9.5% have at least a college bachelor’s degree, while 43.1% stopped their formal educational attainment after high school.

Report Area	No High School Diploma	High School Only	Some College	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
Scioto County, OH	14.0%	43.1%	19.1%	7.4%	9.5%	6.9%
Ohio	8.9%	32.6%	20.0%	8.8%	18.4%	11.3%
United States	11.1%	26.5%	20.0%	8.7%	20.6%	13.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract

Youth Not Working and Not in School

This indicator reports the percentage of youth age 16-19 who are not currently enrolled in school and who are not employed. The report area has a total population of 3,894 between the ages, of which 335 are not in school and not employed.

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Report Area	Population Age 16-19	Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed	Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed, Percent
Scioto County, OH	3,894	335	8.60%
Ohio	623,423	38,604	6.19%
United States	17,360,900	1,189,520	6.85%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract*

Adult Literacy

Literacy data published by the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIACC) breaks adult literacy into different "Levels". Those reported as Level 1 are at risk for being able to understand printed material. Those at the upper end of Level 1 can read and understand the text well enough to be able to perform small task, but might have difficulty understanding or drawing inferences from multiple forms of text. Those at the lower end may struggle with basic vocabulary or even be functionally illiterate.

The percentage at or below Level 1 for literacy in the report area is estimated at 23.5%, with a 95% probability that the actual (true, unknown) percentage is between 19.2% and 27.9%.

Report Area	Population Ages 16-74	Total At or Below Level 1	At or Below Level 1	Total Lower Credible Interval	Lower Credible Interval	Total Upper Credible Interval	Upper Credible Interval
Scioto County, OH	56,162	13,198	23.5%	10,783	19.2%	15,669	27.9%
Ohio	8,490,881	1,504,134	17.7%	1,188,005	14%	1,810,850	21.3%
United States	235,567,157	51,401,095	21.8%	42,569,858	18.1%	60,378,678	25.6%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NCES - Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, 2017.*

Those reported at Level 2 still struggle to perform text based informational tasks, but are considered to be nearing reading proficiency. People in this literacy level can usually be able to read printed words and digital print, as well as being able to relate and make inferences from multiple pieces of information that can be pulled from more than one document. Complex evaluation and inferencing may still be too difficult. The percentage at or below Level 2 for literacy in the report area is estimated at 41.5%, with a 95% probability that the actual (true, unknown) percentage is between 35.4% and 47.3%.

Report Area	Population Ages 16-74	Total At or Below Level 2	At or Below Level 2	Total Lower Credible Interval	Lower Credible Interval	Total Upper Credible Interval	Upper Credible Interval
Scioto County, OH	56,162	23,307	41.5%	19,881	35.4%	26,565	47.3%
Ohio	8,490,881	3,102,025	36.5%	2,669,276	31.4%	3,525,211	41.5%
United States	235,567,157	76,178,529	32.3%	64,300,451	27.3%	88,084,541	37.4%

Housing

Housing Age

This indicator reports the number and percentage of owner- and renter-occupied housing units having at least one of the following conditions: 1) lacking complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacking complete kitchen facilities, 3) with 1 or more occupants per room, 4) selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30%, and 5) gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30%. Selected conditions provide information in assessing the quality of the housing inventory and its occupants. This data is used to easily identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. Of the 28,152 total occupied housing units in the report area, 7,368 or 26.17% have one or more substandard conditions.

Report Area	Total Occupied Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions	Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions, Percent
Scioto County, OH	28,152	7,368	26.17%
Ohio	4,754,161	1,196,375	25.16%
United States	124,010,992	39,049,569	31.49%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21. Source geography: Tract*

Substandard Households that lack complete plumbing facilities. Complete plumbing facilities include: (a) hot and cold running water, (b) a flush toilet, and (c) a bathtub or shower. All three facilities must be located inside the house, apartment, or mobile home, but not necessarily in the same room. Housing units are classified as lacking complete plumbing facilities when any of the three facilities is not present.

Report Area	Occupied Housing Units	Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities	Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities, Percent
Scioto County, OH	28,152	92	0.33%
Ohio	4,754,161	15,497	0.33%
United States	124,010,992	474,563	0.38%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-21.

The number and percentage of occupied housing units without plumbing are shown for the report area. U.S. Census data shows 263 housing units in the report area were without plumbing in 2000 and ACS 5 year estimates show 92 housing units in the report area were without plumbing in 2021.

Report Area	Occupied Housing Units 2000	Housing Units without Plumbing 2000	Percent without Plumbing 2000	Occupied Housing Units 2021	Housing Units without Plumbing 2021	Percent without Plumbing 2021
Scioto County, OH	30,871	263	0.77%	28,152	92	0.33%

Evictions

This indicator reports information about formal evictions based on court records from 48 states and the District

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of Columbia, compiled by the Eviction Lab. The number evictions and eviction filings within the report area is shown below. The “filing rate” is the ratio of the number of evictions filed in an area over the number of renter-occupied homes in that area. An “eviction rate” is the subset of those homes that received an eviction judgment in which renters were ordered to leave. For the year 2016, the Eviction Lab reports that, of 10,571 rental homes in the report area, there were 316 eviction filings, for an eviction filing rate of 2.99%. 297 of the eviction filings ended in an eviction, for an eviction rate of 2.81%.

Note: Not all counties have data that has been provided. Indicator data do not include information about "informal evictions", or those that happen outside of the courtroom.

Report Area	Renter Occupied Households	Eviction Filings	Evictions	Eviction Filing Rate	Eviction Rate
Scioto County, OH	10,571	316	297	2.99%	2.81%
Ohio	1,663,340	103,027	57,980	6.19%	3.49%
United States	38,372,860	2,350,042	898,479	6.12%	2.34%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average. Data Source: [Eviction Lab](#), 2016. Source geography: County

Housing is central to people’s opportunities for living a long, healthy life. In Scioto County, there is a shortage of rental homes affordable and available to low-income households. Housing costs far exceed affordability given the income opportunities available. As housing costs have exceeded local incomes, households not only struggle to acquire and maintain adequate shelter, but also face difficult trade-offs in meeting other basic needs. Several years ago, our organization entered into a joint venture with the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, Peoples Bank, and the Finance Fund to provide low and moderate-income families with modern, energy efficient rental homes located in a safe and attractive environment in Green Township. Our organization has partnered on another housing project within the City of Portsmouth at Scioto Valley Garden Apartments. We have also partnered with St. Mary’s Development Corporation, to bring a 53 unit housing community to seniors in Portsmouth. In 2023, two other projects have been approved for funding in Scioto County. One project will provide 57 units for seniors in the West Portsmouth area. The other project will be located in the Lucasville area.

The County Commissioners, through their Land Reutilization Program, has been acquiring blighted properties to return them to productive use and improve the quality of life for Scioto County residents. Through this program, some homes have been renovated but others have been demolished. The goal of the program is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of all occupants in all dwellings in Scioto County. In the future, we hope to be able to work with the County to either renovate several of these properties or build low-income housing for those in need.

Our agency is able to help families in Scioto County stay in their homes, in a healthy safe environment by providing several different services. Our organization has been working closely with the County and the City of Portsmouth to improve homes through the Community Housing Improvement Program. Our Energy Conservation Program is able to help reduce the heating cost burden by providing attic and sidewall insulation and stopping cold air infiltration, as well as heating unit repair and replacement when necessary. Our Heat Program provides families help with heating and cooling their homes through the Winter Crisis and Summer Crisis Programs. Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus (PIPP Plus) helps families with their monthly natural gas and electric bills by making their payments affordable based on their income. We will continue to offer emergency housing payment assistance, emergency repairs, and other support services to meet the ongoing needs of the county residents and help them remain in their homes and avoid homelessness. People should not have to face difficult trade-offs in meeting their basic needs while attempting to maintain a household. There are more than half a million homeless in the U.S., about a third of them unsheltered or living on streets, under bridges, or in abandoned properties. Many homeless individuals lack the means or ability to acquire

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housing and almost always involves people facing desperate situations and extreme hardship. Severe mental illness, substance abuse problems, histories of incarceration, low-incomes, and weak social connections each increase an individual’s risk of homelessness. Our agency participates in the Scioto County Continuum of Care (COC) which is responsible for HUD’s Point in Time Count for the Homeless in the area in conjunction with the Scioto County Homeless Shelter. The count found people living under bridges, in abandoned properties, behind the floodwall in makeshift huts, in storage units and buildings, and many other areas not suitable for human habitation. Individuals, much more than families, are usually unsheltered but some families with children are also in these living conditions. The COC held their annual “Stand Down to End Homelessness” in September 2025. Each year since 2018, the Stand Down, has registered more than 100 homeless families or individuals and more than 50 at risk of becoming homeless. The local shelter reports there is such a demand on housing for the homeless that they must turn away people at the door or place them on a waiting list to get into the shelter. Many families have been couch surfing for years, staying with family or friends, and have no place to call their own. It has almost become their way of life. There are many reasons why we have a homeless population in Scioto County and several agencies, including our agency, are trying to address this issue.

Ohio 2nd District
Representative: Brad Wenstrup

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT HOUSING PROFILE



DISTRICT-LEVEL RENTER STATISTICS

	Total Renter Households	Severely Burdened Households*	% with Severe Burden		Affordable and Available Rental Units Per 100	Surplus/ (Deficit) of Affordable and Available Rental Units
Income at or below 30% of AMI	26,176	16,054	61%	Income at or below 30% of AMI	45	-14,383
Income between 31% and 50% of AMI	17,900	2,362	13%	Income at or below 50% of AMI	84	-6,927
Income between 51% and 80% of AMI	17,451	119	1%	Income at or below 80% of AMI	100	-126
All Renter Households	85,671	18,621	22%			

Renters make up 28% of all households in the District

Source: 2015-2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data

STATE-LEVEL RENTER STATISTICS

	Total Renter Households	Severely Burdened Households*	% with Severe Burden		Affordable and Available Rental Units Per 100	Surplus/ (Deficit) of Affordable and Available Rental Units
Income at or below 30%** of AMI	447,717	306,049	68%	Income at or below 30%** of AMI	40	-270,399
Income between 31%** and 50% of AMI	260,284	45,032	17%	Income at or below 50% of AMI	79	-146,747
Income between 51% and 80% of AMI	349,189	7,892	2%	Income at or below 80% of AMI	101	10,664
All Renter Households	1,584,114	361,233	23%			

Renters make up 33% of all households in the state

Source: 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)

REGIONAL RENTAL AFFORDABILITY STATISTICS

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and Counties in Districts	Total Renter Households	AMI	30% of AMI	Rent Affordable at 30% of AMI	One Bdrm Fair Market Rent	One Bdrm Housing Wage	Two Bdrm Fair Market Rent	Two Bdrm Housing Wage	Hours at Minimum Wage for Two Bdrm	Avg Renter Wage
Columbus HMFA	297,921	\$96,100	\$28,830	\$721	\$829	\$15.94	\$1,032	\$19.85	85	\$20.16
Cincinnati HMFA	226,054	\$99,100	\$29,730	\$743	\$742	\$14.27	\$968	\$18.62	80	\$19.14
Scioto County	9,637	\$67,100	\$20,130	\$503	\$648	\$12.46	\$738	\$14.19	61	\$10.83
Ross County	8,410	\$75,800	\$22,740	\$569	\$617	\$11.87	\$784	\$15.08	65	\$13.56
Huntington-Ashland HMFA	6,441	\$65,400	\$19,620	\$491	\$659	\$12.67	\$791	\$15.21	65	\$13.25
Clinton County	5,529	\$70,600	\$21,180	\$530	\$629	\$12.10	\$772	\$14.85	64	\$16.21
Highland County	5,015	\$63,200	\$18,960	\$474	\$594	\$11.42	\$738	\$14.19	61	\$11.66

Source: Out of Reach 2022. This congressional district includes at least a portion of the Fair Market Rent (FMR) areas listed above. For FMR areas that span more than one state, the data reflect this state's geography. For districts covering more than seven FMR areas, only the seven largest are shown.

*Severely cost-burdened households spend more than 50% of income on housing costs, including utilities. **Or poverty guideline, if higher. AMI = Area Median Income. Last updated in March 2023. Please Contact NLIHC research staff at research@nlihc.org or (202) 662-1530 to request additional

Health and Social/Behavioral Development

Medicare and Medicaid Providers

Total institutional Medicare and Medicaid providers, including hospitals, nursing facilities, Federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics and community mental health centers for the report area are shown.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were 40 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in the report area in the third quarter of 2020.

Report Area	Total Institutional Providers	Hospitals	Nursing Facilities	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics	Community Mental Health Centers
Scioto County, OH	40	2	11	5	2	0
Ohio	3,680	269	953	407	60	3
United States	77,398	7,292	15,269	10,382	4,894	129

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, September 2020. Source geography: County

Federally Qualified Health Centers

This indicator reports the number of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in the community. This indicator is relevant because FQHCs are community assets that provide health care to vulnerable populations; they receive extra funding from the federal government to promote access to ambulatory care in areas designated as medically underserved. Within the report area, there are 5 Federally Qualified Health Centers. This means there is a rate of 6.76 Federally Qualified Health Centers per 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rate of Federally Qualified Health Centers per 100,000 Population
Scioto County, OH	74,008	5	6.76
Ohio	11,799,448	407	3.45
United States	334,735,149	10,363	3.10

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, September 2020. Source geography: Address

Persons Receiving Medicare

The total number of persons receiving Medicare is shown, broken down by number over 65 and number of disabled persons receiving Medicare for the report area. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that a total of 16,846 persons were receiving Medicare benefits in the report area in 2022. A large number of individuals in our society are aware that persons over 65 years of age receive Medicare; however, many of them are unaware that disabled persons also receive Medicare benefits. A total of 3,442 disabled persons in the report area received Medicare benefits in 2022.

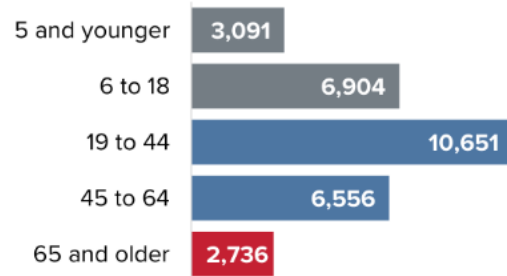
Report Area	Persons Over 65 Receiving Medicare	Disabled Persons Receiving Medicare	Total Persons Receiving Medicare
Scioto County, OH	13,404	3,442	16,846
Ohio	2,122,310	316,277	2,438,587
United States	57,284,076	7,723,275	65,007,351

Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - Geographic Variation Public Use File, 2022. Source geography: County

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Medicaid Enrolled Population For April, 2025

According to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Medicaid enrollment in Scioto County for the period of April 2025 showed 29,939 enrollees. This number represents 40.9% of the county’s population. 8,603 adults are enrolled in Medicaid Expansion. Nearly half of all Ohioans with Medicaid Expansion work, are students, Caretakers, or dealing with a chronic health Condition. The uninsured rate is half of what it was before Medicaid expansion. Preventive care and treating conditions early reduce the need for high-cost emergency room visits, long hospital stays, and additional public spending.



Data sources: Ohio Department of Medicaid, Enrolled Population for month of March 2025, U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey

Uninsured Population

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 to 64 without health insurance coverage. This indicator is relevant because lack of insurance is a primary barrier to healthcare access including regular primary care, specialty care, and other health services that contributes to poor health status.

Report Area	Total Population Age 18-64	Pop. Age 18-64 w/ Insurance	Pop. Age 18-64 w/ Insurance, Percent	Pop. Age 18-64 w/o Insurance	Pop. Age 18-64 w/o Insurance, Percent
Scioto County, OH	41,831	37,912	90.63%	3,919	9.37%
Ohio	6,810,867	6,172,189	90.62%	638,678	9.38%
United States	195,681,336	171,462,530	87.62%	24,218,806	12.38%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. 2020. Source geography: County

Uninsured Population Age 18 - 64, Percent by Year, 2011 through 2019

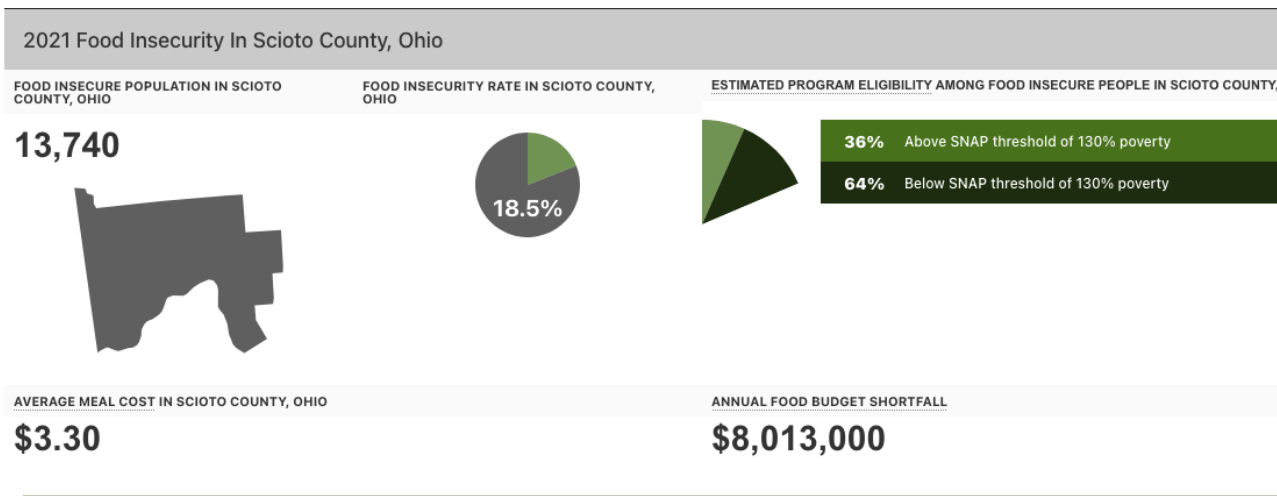
Report Area	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Scioto County, OH	18.50%	19.00%	17.90%	13.10%	9.50%	7.60%	8.00%	9.60%	9.70%	9.40%
Ohio	16.90%	16.60%	15.90%	11.80%	9.00%	7.80%	8.10%	8.90%	9.10%	9.40%
United States	21.11%	20.76%	20.44%	16.37%	13.21%	12.08%	12.25%	12.45%	12.84%	12.38%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. 2020.

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Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (DJFS) report in the month of July 2025, there were 465 households with 710 individuals receiving Ohio Works First benefits. Ohio Works First is the financial portion of Ohio’s Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program which provides cash benefits to needy families up to 36 months. Compared to September 2013, there were 1,585 people receiving a cash benefit from their office monthly. At that time, the amount of the benefit could be as low as \$115 a month for one person that would be awaiting disability approval. Cash assistance for families in 2013 started at \$253 a month. In October 2018, those numbers changed to show 749 households, with 1,174 active members, received cash assistance averaging \$210 monthly. In September 2019, those numbers changed to show 858 households, with 1,369 individuals that received cash assistance with the average cash assistance amount of \$210 unchanged. In 2025 the average monthly issuance is \$267.00. This gives a perspective as to how low these monthly dollar amounts are for someone living on cash assistance from DJFS.

The number of individuals receiving the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in October 2018 was reported to be 18,076; October 2019 was reported to be 17,239; July 2023 was 17,013; and July 2025 was 16,742 which represents twenty-three percent of the county population. The average monthly issuance for SNAP benefits in Ohio is \$190 monthly. SNAP benefits typically run out before the end of the month and kids go hungry in the summer without the benefit of school lunches. Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is associated with numerous adverse social and health outcomes and is increasingly considered a critical public health issue. Key drivers of food insecurity include unemployment, poverty, and income shocks, which can prevent adequate access to food. The following illustrates the food insecurity in Scioto County. The illustration was provided by Feeding America: Map the Meal Gap.



Access to Care - Mental Health Providers

This indicator reports the number of providers with a CMS National Provider Identifier (NPI) that specialize in mental health. Mental health providers include licensed clinical social workers and other credentialed professionals specializing in psychiatry, psychology, counseling, or child, adolescent, or adult mental health. The number of facilities that specialize in mental health are also listed (but are not included in the calculated rate). Data are from the latest Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Provider Identifier (NPI) downloadable file. Within Scioto County there are 421 mental health providers with a CMS National Provider Identifier (NPI). This represents 568.86 providers per 100,000 total population

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Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Facilities	Number of Providers	Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population
Scioto County, OH	74,008	11	421	568.86
Ohio	11,799,448	1,873	24,614	208.60
United States	334,735,155	66,134	514,228	153.62

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPDES), June 2023. Source geography: Address

Federally Qualified Health Centers

This indicator reports the number of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in the community. This indicator is relevant because FQHCs are community assets that provide health care to vulnerable populations; they receive extra funding from the federal government to promote access to ambulatory care in areas designated as medically underserved. Within the report area, there are 5 Federally Qualified Health Centers. This means there is a rate of 6.76 Federally Qualified Health Centers per 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rate of Federally Qualified Health Centers per 100,000 Population
Scioto County, OH	74,008	5	6.76
Ohio	11,799,448	407	3.45
United States	334,735,149	10,363	3.10

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, September 2020. Source geography: Address

People are unique and therefore treatment should be tailored to best meet their needs. Our agency's Health and Wellness program serves the person and the family. They work with children, teens, adults, and their families who are struggling with anxiety, depression, trauma, ADHD, and other mental health/behavioral concerns. They assist children and adolescents, and family members to utilize their strengths to overcome difficulties, so they can be the best healthy version of themselves they can be.

Surveys

Online surveys were conducted in 2019, 2023, and again in 2025. The decision was made to ask the very same questions in 2025 as was asked in prior years so results from all surveys could be compared for changes in needs within the community. The following results were obtained.

Question 1: Please share what area of the community you best represent.

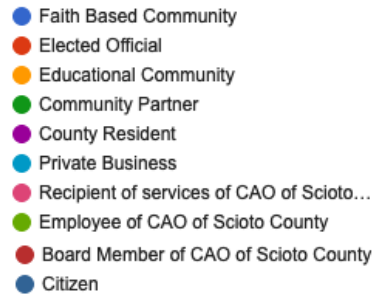
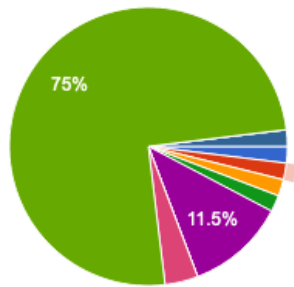
2019

Faith Based Community	2.74%	2
Elected Official	1.37%	1
Educational Community	5.48%	4
Community Partner	0.00%	0
County Resident	6.85%	5
Private Business	0.00%	0
Recipient of services of CAO of Scioto County	0.00%	0
Employee of CAO of Scioto County	82.19%	60
Board Member of CAO of Scioto County	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	1.37%	1
Total Respondents: 73		

Please share what area of the community you best represent.

2023

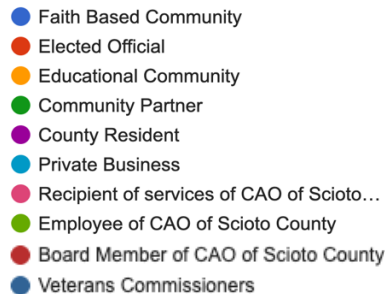
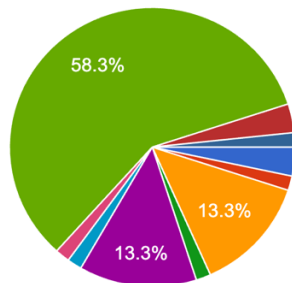
52 responses



Please share what area of the community you best represent.

60 responses

2025



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Question 2: What are the most significant needs within the county? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Lack of affordable, quality housing for purchase		35.62%	48.10%	56.70%
Lack of affordable, quality rental housing		60.27%	75.00%	75.00%
Dilapidated Housing		34.25%	30.80%	43.30%
Foreclosures		12.33%	3.80%	5.00%
Homelessness		68.49%	71.20%	70.00%
Lack of Metropolitan Housing Authority Vouchers		15.07%	13.50%	8.30%
Lack of money for 1st month rent and other deposits		36.99%	32.70%	40.00%
Utility Assistance (Water, Trash, Gas, Electric)		32.88%	36.50%	41.70%
Lack of funding to address pest control concerns within homes (Bed Bugs, Roaches, Rats)		38.36%	25.00%	40.00%
Overcrowded Housing		6.85%	13.50%	5.00%
Individuals and families relocating from place to place (No consistent place they call home)		36.99%	23.10%	30.00%
Independent living for individuals with developmental disabilities		15.07%	21.20%	13.30%
Inability for individuals to obtain rental housing due to previous past due rent or damages to other properties		12.33%	13.50%	15.00%
Inability for individuals to obtain rental housing due to criminal backgrounds		27.40%	26.90%	15.00%
Inability for individuals/families to obtain rental or purchase housing due to past credit issues.		35.62%	26.90%	25.00%
Mobile Home Repairs		5.48%	13.50%	15.00%
Transitional housing for those returning from treatment		24.66%	19.20%	3.30%
Transitional housing for those returning from prison		21.92%	11.50%	8.30%
Lack of funding for minor home repairs		20.55%	40.40%	43.30%
Lack of funding for major home repairs		34.25%	36.50%	13.30%
New Housing Construction		5.48%	5.80%	20.00%
Mold, Lead, Asbestos		6.84%	13.50%	23.30%
Need for minor home repair training for homeowners		19.18%	15.40%	1.70%
Other		8.22%	8.00%	6.80%

According to survey responses, lack of affordable, quality rental housing and homelessness continues to be the most significant needs within our community. Other needs identified are lack of affordable quality housing for purchase, utility assistance, and funding for minor home repairs.

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Question 3: What are the most significant needs regarding obtaining and maintaining employment? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Lack of 1st shift childcare		13.70%	11.50%	36.70%
Lack of 2nd shift childcare		21.92%	28.80%	43.30%
Lack of 3rd shift childcare		27.40%	30.80%	45.00%
Lack of transportation to get to 1st shift employment		26.03%	15.40%	15.00%
Lack of transportation to get to 2nd shift employment		20.55%	17.30%	18.30%
Lack of transportation to get to 3rd shift employment		21.92%	25.00%	16.70%
Inadequate healthcare coverage requiring individuals to choose between work and public assistance		43.84%	53.80%	53.30%
Jobs that do not pay a living wage		75.34%	65.40%	76.70%
Positions that underpay for the position in comparison to other state and national rates		27.40%	20.80%	38.30%
Precarious nature of working through temp agencies		0.00%	1.90%	3.30%
Lack of employment opportunities		45.21%	25.00%	45.00%
Employers not hiring individuals with a criminal background		30.14%	25.00%	16.70%
Generational situations (Work ethic of family or close friends)		34.25%	40.40%	31.70%
Distance from home to workplace		10.96%	11.50%	11.70%
Lack of job training		15.07%	11.50%	16.70%
Lack of formal education required for position		13.70%	13.50%	25.00%
Lack of funds to purchase necessary work clothes, shoes, tools and other items		30.14%	21.20%	18.30%
Vehicles which are unreliable or lack of money for fuel		58.90%	57.70%	43.30%
Unreliable childcare		36.99%	50.00%	48.30%
When childcare is available, it is too expensive		39.73%	48.10%	50.00%
Lack of experience		15.07%	21.20%	20.00%
Inability to be able to read and complete a job application and interview effectively		6.85%	44.50%	10.00%
Other		4.11%	4.00%	1.70%

Responses to the most significant needs regarding employment were jobs that do not pay a living wage; having to choose between work and public assistance for healthcare coverage; lack of employment opportunities; cost for vehicles for work; and childcare issues.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

Question 4: What are the greatest needs of senior citizens? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Transportation to medical appointments		60.27%	63.50%	61.70%
Transportation to the grocery		47.95%	51.90%	50.00%
Volunteer Activities		2.74%	9.60%	8.30%
Adult Day Care		20.55%	13.50%	31.70%
Assistance with the cost of prescriptions		60.27%	53.80%	45.00%
Home Delivered Meals		24.66%	28.80%	36.70%
Community meal sites where seniors can eat together and participate in activities		19.18%	9.60%	26.70%
Home Health Care		19.18%	23.10%	28.30%
Affordable Health Care		38.36%	36.50%	36.70%
Inability to meet their financial needs		47.95%	65.40%	55.00%
Inability to leave their homes		32.88%	17.30%	26.70%
Struggle with income just being over the limit to receive assistance		63.01%	61.50%	45.00%
Need for meals available on the weekends		15.07%	21.20%	16.70%
Payees (To assist them to pay their bills in a timely fashion)		4.11%	11.50%	13.30%
Lack of familial support		27.40%	21.20%	33.30%
Assistance for veterans		28.77%	25.00%	28.30%
Need for Assisted Living		10.96%	9.60%	25.00%
Housing in need of repair		43.84%	61.50%	45.00%
Senior Apartments		5.48%	13.50%	15.00%
Isolation		32.88%	42.30%	35.00%
Need for home visiting to assure they are ok		31.51%	40.40%	30.00%
Opportunities to volunteer		1.37%	5.80%	6.70%
Other		0.00%	0.00%	1.70%

Survey results for the greatest needs of seniors shows the change from 2019 to 2025 for their inability to meet financial needs. Transportation remains a strong need along with the struggle with income just being over the income limit to receive help. Those that are just over the income limit struggle to meet prescription costs and food costs. Many seniors must make the decision to do without food or their prescriptions each month. They should not have to make that choice. The need for help with housing repairs, although increased in 2023, is now, in 2025, basically equal to 2019 needs. Although the survey change in needs decreased, Social Service staff report increased requests for assistance with home repairs.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

Question 5: What are the greatest needs of individuals and families in regards to nutrition? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Affordable food to purchase		63.01%	88.50%	86.70%
Infant and toddler nutrition services		31.51%	26.90%	23.30%
Obesity in children		43.84%	44.20%	55.00%
Transportation to the grocery store		47.95%	34.60%	33.30%
Obesity in Adults		45.21%	42.30%	58.30%
Distance to grocery stores which have a variety of food options		30.14%	17.30%	26.70%
Inability to qualify for SNAP benefits (previously known as food stamps)		54.79%	63.50%	58.30%
Cooking and nutrition classes		38.36%	26.90%	35.00%
Emergency food pantries		45.21%	34.60%	31.70%
Summer feeding programs for children		34.25%	30.80%	30.00%
Farmers Markets		19.18%	17.30%	20.00%
Lack of cooking appliances within homes		20.55%	25.00%	26.70%
Children being left alone to cook for themselves.		47.95%	53.80%	48.30%
Childhood Hunger		53.42%	61.50%	51.70%
Senior Hunger		41.10%	53.80%	41.70%

Many families are struggling with increased costs of food at the grocery stores. This survey question reflects that struggle with the greatest need being “affordable food to purchase” and the “inability to qualify for SNAP benefits.” The struggle remains for most families that are at that threshold. They want to increase their income to help their families survive but when that happens, their benefits are cut.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

Question 6: What are the greatest health needs? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Lack of medical providers		10.96%	19.20%	21.70%
Lack of medical providers which provide health care to low income individuals		34.25%	50.00%	45.00%
Obesity		36.99%	36.50%	48.30%
Lack of mental health services that individuals can easily access		43.84%	57.70%	60.00%
Hunger		26.03%	30.80%	18.30%
Lack of funds to pay for copays and deductibles		57.53%	50.00%	50.00%
Adolescent pregnancy		16.44%	13.50%	13.30%
Sexually Transmitted Diseases		10.96%	7.70%	11.70%
Suicide Prevention		39.73%	32.70%	28.30%
Illegal Drug Usage		69.86%	65.40%	58.30%
Lack of adequate or no health insurance		41.10%	34.60%	43.30%
Lack of affordable health insurance		53.42%	48.10%	45.00%
Lack of dental providers		20.55%	32.70%	46.70%
Lack of dentists taking low income individuals		46.58%	42.30%	51.70%
High cost of prescriptions		43.84%	50.00%	40.00%
Urgent Care centers open on weekends and evenings		2.74%	3.80%	8.30%
Need for reproductive health services (obstetrics and family planning)		6.85%	7.70%	10.00%
Home health care providers		6.85%	9.60%	8.30%
Addressing habits (Smoking, Drinking, Vaping, Overeating)		26.03%	13.50%	18.30%
Failure to receive dental care due to seeing it as insignificant due to overall health		15.07%	19.20%	25.00%
Increased opportunity for exercise		8.22%	15.40%	11.70%
Failure to obtain or take required prescription medication due to limited funds		35.62%	40.40%	31.70%

The greatest health needs per our survey seem to be illegal drug use and lack of mental health services that individuals can easily access. Other areas of concern are lack of medical providers for low-income individuals, obesity, lack of dentists taking low-income individuals, and lack of funds to pay for co-pays and deductibles.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

Question 7: What are the most significant needs of children? Please check 7.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Lack of before and after school care		43.84%	46.20%	58.30%
Being home alone frequently		28.77%	32.70%	43.30%
Homework assistance		30.14%	34.60%	23.30%
Peer pressure		34.25%	32.70%	41.70%
Lack of summer meals		6.85%	9.60%	13.30%
Lack of role models		42.47%	44.20%	53.30%
Lack of weekend meals		17.81%	23.10%	15.00%
Substance abuse within their homes		72.60%	82.70%	65.00%
Moving from place to place frequently		41.10%	44.20%	36.70%
Outdoor play space		15.07%	9.60%	26.70%
Physical abuse		27.40%	44.20%	36.70%
Mental Abuse		35.62%	55.80%	48.30%
Inadequate/Unsafe Housing		39.73%	50.00%	30.00%
No real place to call home		12.33%	17.30%	16.70%
Lack of parental support		50.68%	53.80%	50.00%
Single parent households		23.29%	23.10%	41.70%
Having to care for younger siblings		9.59%	23.10%	25.00%
Lack of funding to participate in extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, 4-H, field trips)		10.96%	38.50%	31.70%
Lack of school supplies		4.11%	9.60%	15.00%
Lack of transportation for children to participate in activities away from home		21.92%	26.90%	28.30%
Bullying		28.77%	36.50%	43.30%
Lack of adequate clothing including shoes and coats		28.77%	25.00%	28.30%
Seclusion		8.22%	11.50%	16.70%
Decreased use of video games, social media and other distractors		19.18%	32.70%	26.70%
Lack of foster care providers		15.07%	13.50%	21.70%

The results for the most significant needs of children from the survey are substance abuse within their home, mental abuse, and lack of before and after school care. Lack of parental support and single parent households also seem to be significant needs. Bullying and lack of role models show an increase over previous years as a significant need within the survey. Our Head Start, Early Head Start, and schools within Scioto County deal with these issues daily. Issues within the home may result in behavioral issues at school. These challenges can impact the child’s ability to learn and develop.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

Question 8: What are the greatest education needs of individuals and families? Please check 5.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Early childhood education		50.68%	46.20%	50.00%
Vocational education		30.14%	40.40%	40.00%
Career guidance		45.21%	57.70%	58.30%
Basic skill classes within High School (Home Economics, Minor Repairs, Budgeting)		75.34%	75.00%	70.00%
College preparatory guidance		4.11%	11.50%	18.30%
GED Classes		27.40%	26.90%	31.70%
Affordable higher education		47.95%	44.20%	48.30%
Technical training (skilled trades, applied sciences)		52.05%	46.20%	33.30%
Literacy		23.29%	25.00%	45.00%
Mentoring programs for children		24.66%	42.30%	33.30%
High cost of supplies and books		16.44%	32.70%	36.70%
Ongoing high costs of student loans		46.58%	48.10%	60.00%
Lack of transportation to get to secondary education classes		34.25%	21.20%	25.00%

Survey results above show most respondents felt the greatest education need is basic skill classes. Most schools don't teach basic life skills anymore because they are pressured to make their students succeed in their testing. Life skills are essential for a successful life and teaching them in school can help prepare students for the challenges they will face in the future.

2025-2028 Needs Assessment

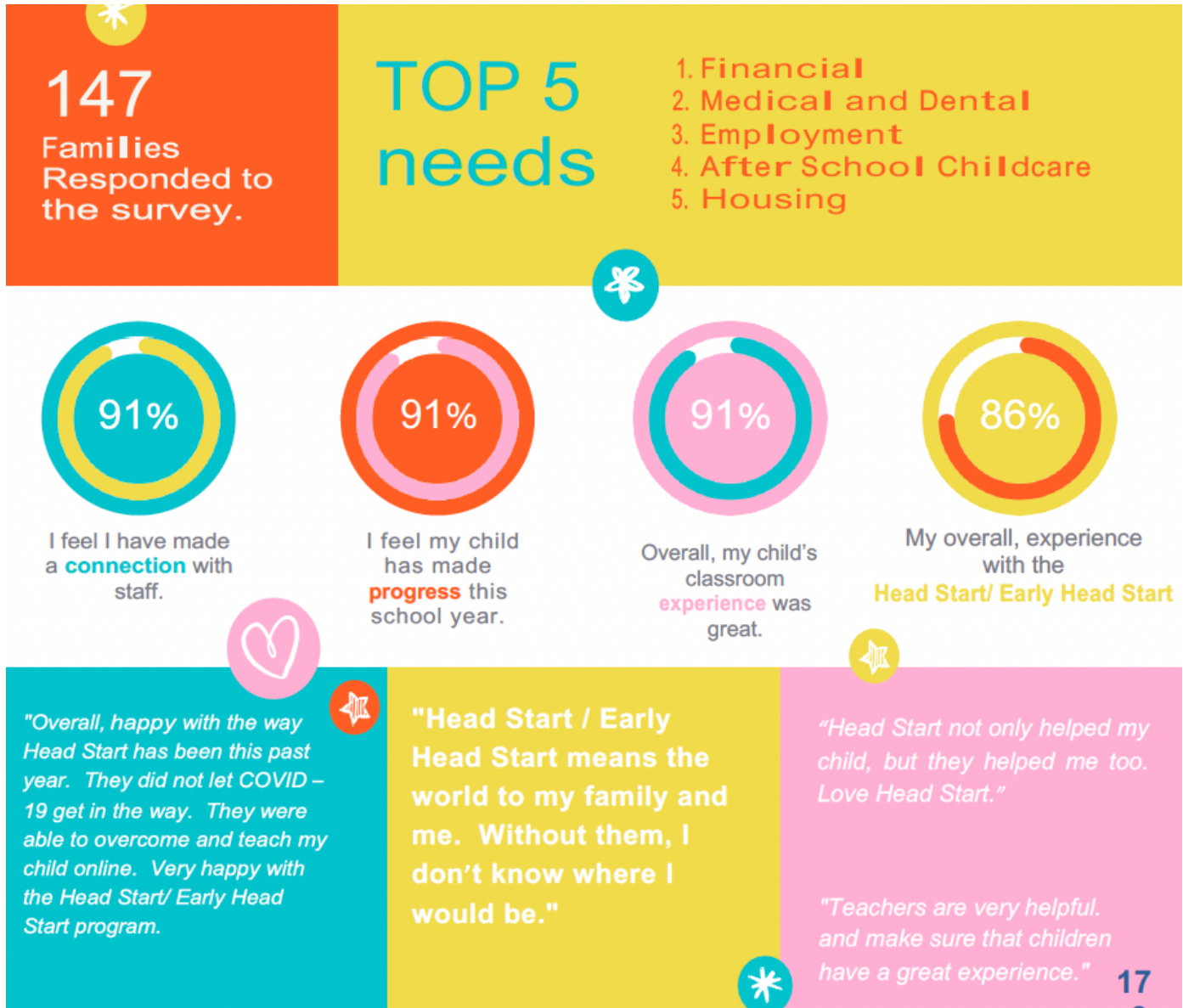
Question 9: Please choose 7 additional needs which extra focus should be further addressed within the county.

Answers	Responses	2019	2023	2025
Foster Care Providers		45.21%	44.20%	51.70%
Generational Poverty		58.90%	73.10%	65.00%
Recycling		17.81%	13.50%	16.70%
Clothing		23.29%	34.60%	28.30%
Extended hours for social services and services provided in outlying areas of the county. (Community Action, OMJ, JFS,		39.73%	30.80%	25.00%
Narcan Distribution		19.18%	59.60%	60.00%
Domestic Violence		28.77%	46.20%	43.30%
Kinship care and support services		41.10%	34.60%	31.70%
Crime prevention		41.10%	40.40%	43.30%
Residential Drug/Alcohol Treatment Centers		24.66%	11.50%	10.00%
Family & Community Navigators to assist residents in need with obtaining services, completing paperwork and appropriate follow-up		41.10%	32.70%	38.30%
Needle Exchange Programs		16.44%	3.80%	3.30%
Small business assistance		19.18%	28.80%	30.00%
Economic Development		36.99%	34.60%	38.30%
Drug Overdoses		65.75%	53.80%	43.30%
Community Activities		35.62%	38.50%	56.70%
Sex trafficking		52.05%	38.50%	18.30%
Suicide		41.10%	40.40%	31.70%
CPR/First Aid		9.59%	28.80%	26.70%

Generational poverty and Narcan distribution are two additional needs that respondents felt should be addressed within our community. Law enforcement, legal systems, drug rehabilitation centers, and others are dealing with the drug issue but how do we help with the generational poverty? How can our agency help break the cycle of poverty or the self-reinforcing mechanisms that cause poverty? The consequences of generational poverty include food insecurity, birth and developmental issues, unsafe living conditions, increased risk of violence, incarceration, and victimization. Areas with the strongest evidence of to help with generational poverty are education and skills; child health; and parental employment (income and wealth).

Head Start Survey

Head Start and Early Head Start families have opportunities to answer questionnaires each month in their Head Start newsletters to help staff get a better understanding of the family’s needs and help to improve services. The questionnaires are designed to generate a detailed picture of each family’s needs and concerns. The opportunity allowed parents or guardians to share thoughts and give input to make improvements in their child’s education and childcare needs. In 2021-2022, 271 questionnaires were completed. In 2022-2023, 580 questionnaires were completed. In 2023 CAO Head Start also completed their Parent Survey. The following information comes from their surveys.

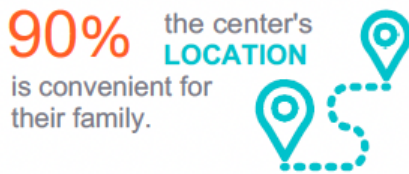


SOME IDEAS GIVEN to improve parent engagement

- offer activities after 5pm
- offer the activity at more than one time
- continue to offer activities virtually.
- increase the number of fun activities with parents
- give people more notice before the event.
- send notices out in different ways and more frequently.
- more one-on-one communication with teachers



"My children have attended the CAO Head Start/ Early Head Start program and love it! The staff are all wonderful and helpful. I would recommend it to everyone."



9 out of 10 Parents felt the program was helpful in preparing their child to start kindergarten.



Senior Nutrition Survey

The Senior Nutrition Program (SNP) reports their waiting list has grown from 50-60 seniors in 2017 to over 160 in September 2023 for their Meals at Home program. 35-40% of home delivered meal recipients report the meal delivery person is the only person they see on most days. They suffer from loneliness and social isolation. The SNP program also reports an increase in the number of seniors attending their congregate site. In a survey conducted at the site, it was reported that transportation to the site was becoming an issue due to cuts in public transportation and parking issues at the site. The Summer Food Program for youth reported a steady increase in the number of meals delivered since its inception. They currently provide over 60,000 meals during the program year. The rising cost of a household's basic needs continues to rise.

Conclusions

Census data shows that the population in Scioto County is aging, that many in the community have significant health problems, and that the number of children growing up poor is increasing. The community lacks adequate affordable rental housing and much of the rental housing is substandard. We have many in the local community that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Quality childcare is needed to meet the needs of the low and moderate income population because they should not have to choose between work or staying home because they cannot afford childcare. Transportation is a major issue for seniors in our community and those not able to afford a vehicle or vehicle costs. The community lacks available living wage jobs. Less individuals are receiving SNAP benefits and/or Medicaid because they no longer qualify because they are just over the eligibility threshold. Food insecurity among children and seniors continues to be a need within the community.

CAO staff are well regarded by participants, board members, and community partners. This is documented in satisfaction surveys and survey comments. The prevalent response from community partners and customers was to continue the work that we do.

After a review of the social indicator data, survey results, and a meaningful discussion about the perceptions of needs in the community, the CAO directors identified the top needs to be addressed in the agency’s future programs.

The Needs Assessment exercise has resulted in adoption of the following priorities to guide activities for CAO of Scioto County during program years 2026-2028:

- Housing Development (Homelessness) and Energy Conservation
- Transportation
- Employment and Training Activities
- Nutrition/Seniors and Children
- Emergency Services
- Education /Day Care
- Economic Development / Job Creation
- Information and Referral.

Please note that not all priorities will be addressed with CSBG dollars.

This is a living document and with the help of agency staff and our partners, we will implement our strategies and plan over the next three years. Through this process, we commit to rigorously measuring our progress and outcomes to evaluate and improve our planning efforts.