

EARLY HEAD START AND HEAD START 2014-2015 COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT UPDATE

INTRODUCTION

This document is an addendum to JCPS Head Start's 2012-2013 Community Assessment, reflecting changes in the program for the 2014-2015 school year. It also includes a new version of the previous assessment's Community Partners survey and a new survey of Early Head Start parents.

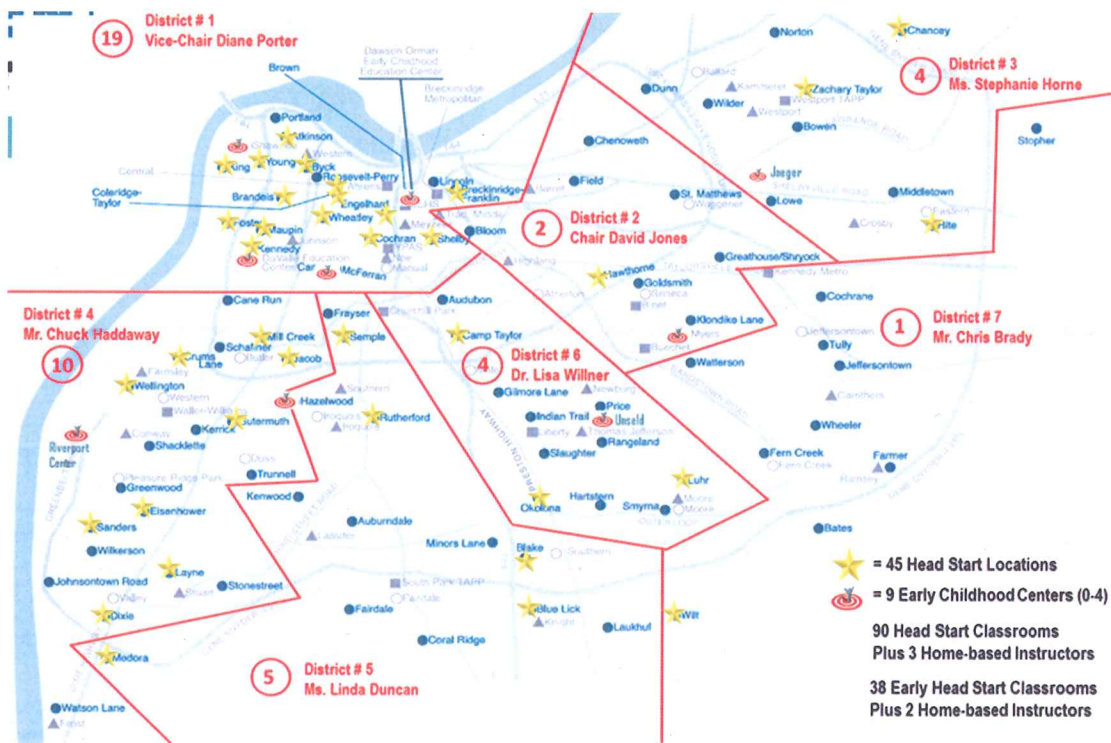
Page numbers cited refer to the final version of the Community Assessment approved by the JCPS Head Start Policy Council on March 21, 2013.

UPDATES

1. Updating the program enrollment numbers on pp. 11-12, JCPS Head Start serves 1,741 students; Early Head Start serves 172. (Enrollment figures are as of March 4, 2015.)
2. Regarding the figures for the Pre-Kindergarten program funded by the Kentucky Department of Education on p. 27, JCPS now serves 2,048 children in this program. This number represents a decline of 588 students from last school year. (Enrollment figures are as of March 4, 2015.) This is primarily a result of HB 234 which changed the eligibility date for 3 and 4 year old children entering preschool from October 1st to August 1st thus eliminating two months of prior eligibility.

3. P. 5 and pp. 32-33 referred to changes to Kentucky's childcare subsidies. The proposed budget Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear submitted to the 2014 General Assembly would restore funding for these subsidies to the previous year's levels. This bill was passed and implemented in August 2014. The funding has slowly returned. (Lexington Herald Leader 2014).

4. Replacing the map on p. 11, the following map shows the locations of all JCPS Head Start and preschool centers for the 2014-2015 school year:



5. Policy Council Members by Zip Code

Zip Code	
40201	1
40203	4
40218	1

40210	3
40215	3
40258	1
40214	1
40211	5
40220	2
40206	1
40201	1

7. The following table should replace the table on p. 14 showing the Zip Codes where Head Start students reside; it also includes the Zip Codes where families of Early Head Start students reside.

Families by Zip Code 2013-14

Zip Code	Head Start	Early Head Start
40023		
40059	1	2
40118	17	1
40177		
40201	1	
40202	17	1
40203	182	19
40204	16	1
40205	3	
40206	24	5
40207	8	
40208	45	2
40209	1	
40210	135	19
40211	204	34
40212	99	15
40213	42	2
40214	93	7
40215	96	5
40216	147	27
40217	12	3
40218	103	3
40219	115	7
40220	31	3
40221	2	
40222	9	

40223	10	
40228	25	1
40229	17	2
40241	13	
40242	17	
40243	11	1
40245	18	2
40258	59	1
40272	61	5
40291	28	4
40299	37	

It should be emphasized that this table cannot be compared directly with the similar one in the Community Assessment, because, as stated above, this table shows *families* served per Zip Code, while the Community Assessment table shows *children* served per Zip Code.

8. On p. 16, these numbers should be added to the 2013-2014 disability numbers.

Disabilities of JCPS Head Start students, 2014-2015

	Head Start	Early Head Start
Autism	6	-
Health Impairment	0	—
Hearing Impairment	1	—
Developmental Delay	148	7
Speech/Language Impairment	76	—
Visual Impairment	1	—
Orthopedic Impairment	0	—
Other (Not Categorized)	0	

Source: JCPS

9. The following table updates the figures on child care enrollment and capacity found on p. 29 of the Community Assessment.

Child Care in Jefferson County

2015		
Type of Care	Number of programs	Total capacity

Licensed centers	432	41,639
Certified	123	738

10. In the list of community resources on pp. 43-45, add the following information:

Social Services

Organization	Address	Phone/website	Description
Louisville Linked	VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Rd., Louisville, 40218	(502) 485-3703 http://louisvillelinked.jefferson.kyschools.us/	Supplements the work of JCPS Family Resource Service Centers (see p. 43) by partnering with Metro United Way and other community partner to address a variety of issues that present students with obstacles to learning

NEW TO COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

1. Jefferson County Public Schools Early Childhood, which includes Jefferson County Board of Education entered into a collaborative partnerships with Metro United Way of Louisville, Metro Government and other community partners in the Cradle to Career initiative. The ultimate goal is to create 55,000 college degrees by 2020. The partners have held a press

conference to inform the community of the importance of Kindergarten Ready, collaborated on Kindergarten Readiness events, and the sub-committees are working to help with recruitment and sharing of information with Child Cares in targeted zip codes.

2. As of March 1, 2014, the program demographics reflect the following:

Race of JCPS Head Start students

	African American	White	Other	Total
Head Start	1240	433	210	1883
Early Head Start	183	10	13	206

Source: JCPS

Ethnicity of JCPS Head Start students

	Head Start	Early Head Start
Hispanic ethnicity	195	4
Non-Hispanic ethnicity	1,688	202

Source: JCPS

Family Structure of JCPS Head Start students

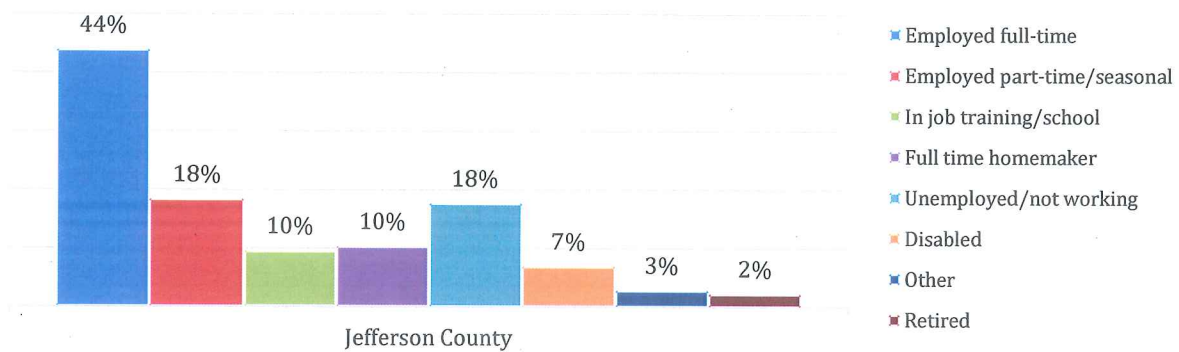
	Head Start	Early Head Start	Total
Single-parent families	1506	175	1,681
Two-parent families	377	31	408

Source: JCPS

Primary language of family at home

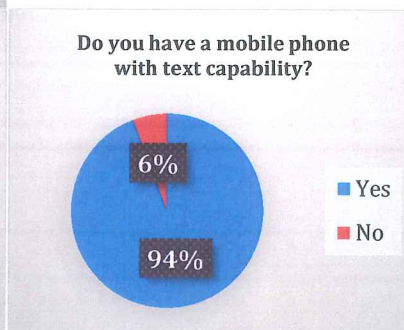
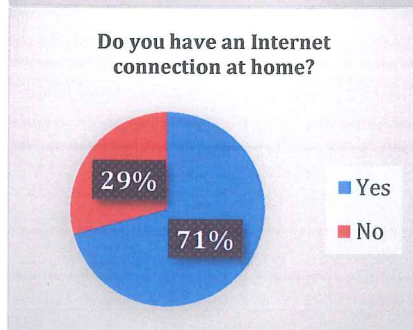
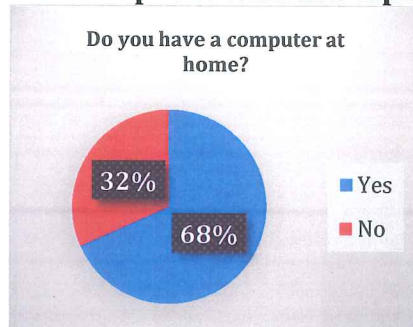
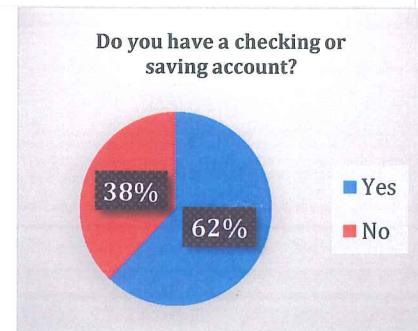
Primary language of family at home	Head Start children	Early Head Start children/pregnant women
English	1,619	200
Spanish	112	0
Caribbean languages	0	0
Middle Eastern and South Asian languages	47	3
East Asian languages	18	
European and Slavic languages	0	
African languages	56	3

What is your current employment status? Jefferson County



Although more than 60 percent respondents indicated having a checking or savings account, **approximately 4 out of 10 parents/guardians in do not have a checking or savings account.**

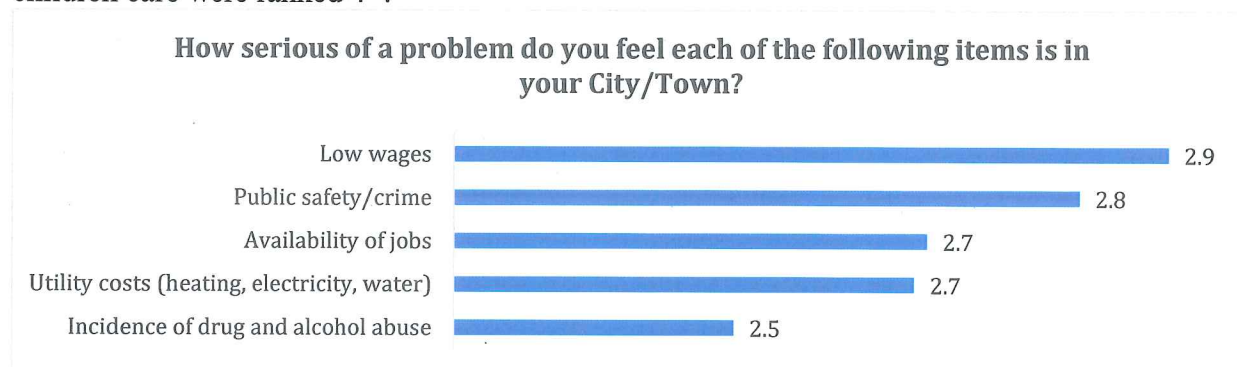
Although approximately two thirds of respondents indicated having a computer at home with an Internet connection, **more than nine out of ten Head Start parents or guardians have a mobile phone with text capability.**



Perception of Problems in the Community

Survey takers were given a list of 20 items and asked to rate each on a scale of 1 to 5 to indicate how serious of a problem they found each item to be in their city or town. The scale provided was as follows: (1) Not a Problem (2) Somewhat (3) Problem (4) Serious Problem (5) Very Serious Problem.

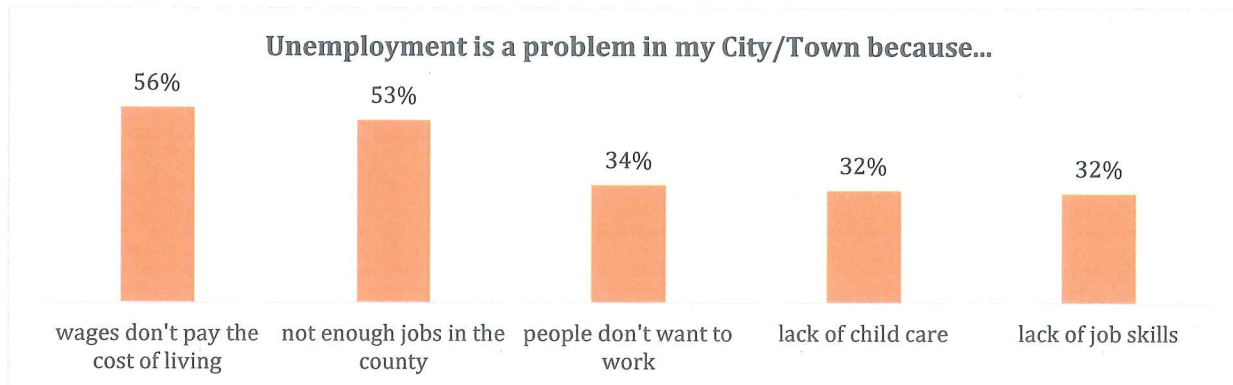
According to those who responded to the survey **low wages** and **public safety/crime** were the most significant problems in their community, rating each a 2.9 and 2.8 respectively. Availability of jobs and utility costs were ranked 3rd and incidences of drug and alcohol abuse and affordable children care were ranked 4th.



Note: Incidence of low wages was rated a 5 (very serious problem) by 1 out of 4 respondents (25 percent) and public safety/crime was rated a 5 (very serious problem) by 1 out of 5 respondents (20 percent).

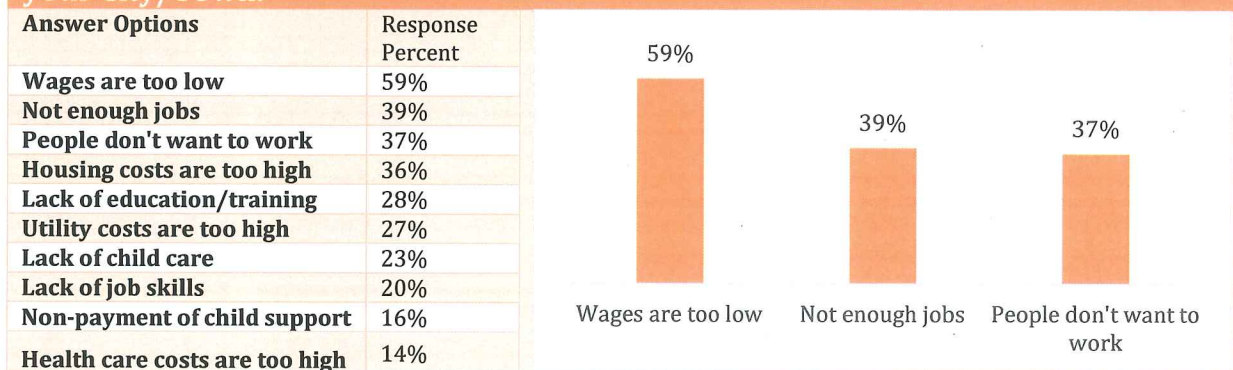
Answer Options (Listed in order of those who rated the item a 5)	Rating	Percent Who Rated Item a 5 "Very Serious Problem"
Low wages	2.9	25%
Public safety/crime	2.8	20%
Incidence of drug and alcohol abuse	2.5	19%
Utility costs (heating, electricity, water)	2.7	18%
Availability of jobs	2.7	17%
Child abuse and neglect	2.3	16%
Affordable child care during before and after school hours	2.5	16%
Incarceration of parents	2.3	14%
Gang activity	2.3	13%
Domestic Violence	2.3	12%
Availability of affordable housing	2.4	12%
Availability of recreation for families (parks, church programs, membership organizations)	1.9	8%
Child health issues (obesity, exposure to lead, asthma)	2.2	8%
Availability of job training	2.1	8%
Services for disabled children	2.0	7%
Quality of public education in your city or town	1.9	6%
Availability and access to public transportation	1.8	6%
Availability of adult education (GED, ESL, etc)	1.8	6%
Access to public assistance (WIC, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Work First)	1.8	4%
Access to health care	1.6	3%

Unemployment. The issues of low wages, insufficient jobs, lack of childcare and lack of job skills were seen when respondents were asked why they felt unemployment is a problem in their community. A perception that people do not want to work was also seen as a reason for unemployment by 34 percent of respondents.

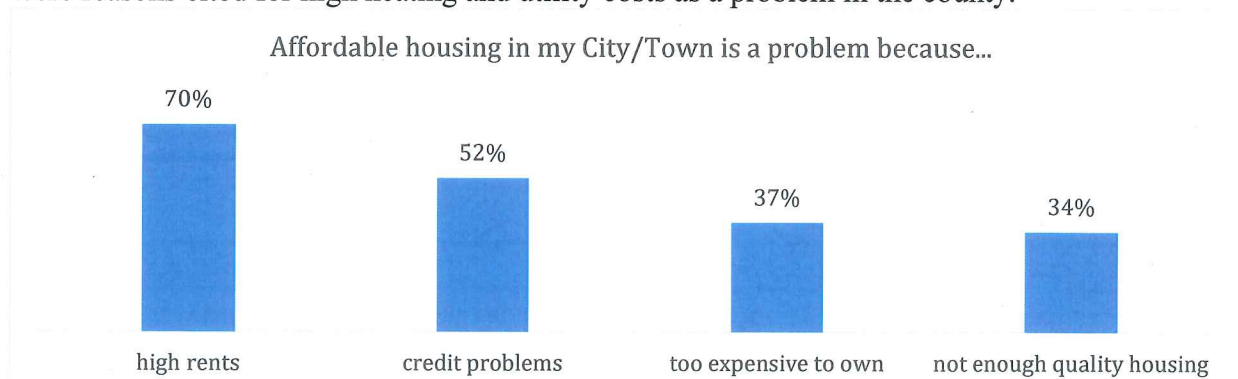


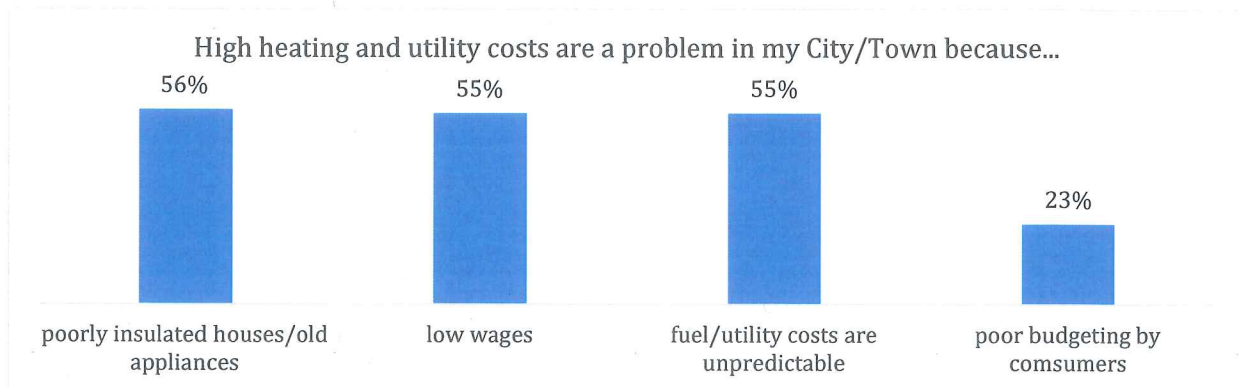
Poverty. The top three reasons for poverty in the community according to survey respondents were low wages, insufficient jobs and the perception that people do not want to work.

Please select the top THREE reasons you feel are the primary causes of poverty in your City/Town.



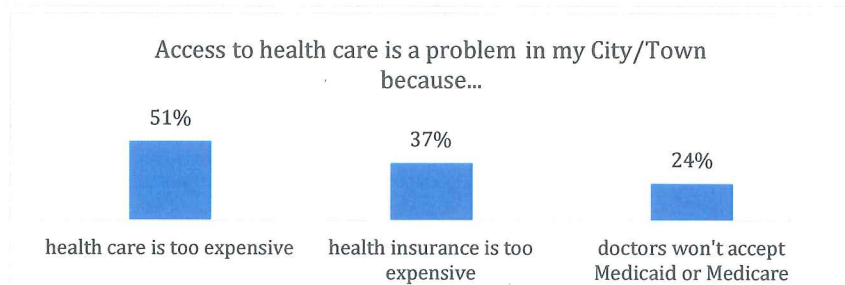
Housing. The top reasons why affordable housing is a problem were high rents, personal credit problems, homes are too expensive to own and the lack of quality housing available. Poorly insulated homes/old appliances, low wages, fuel/utility costs, and poor budgeting by consumers were reasons cited for high heating and utility costs as a problem in the county.





Health Care. Although access to health care was not rated in the top fifteen list of twenty by any of the program respondents, for those who found health care to be a problem cited the following reasons: (1)

health care is too expensive, (2) health insurance is too expensive, and (3) doctors will not accept Medicaid or Medicare.

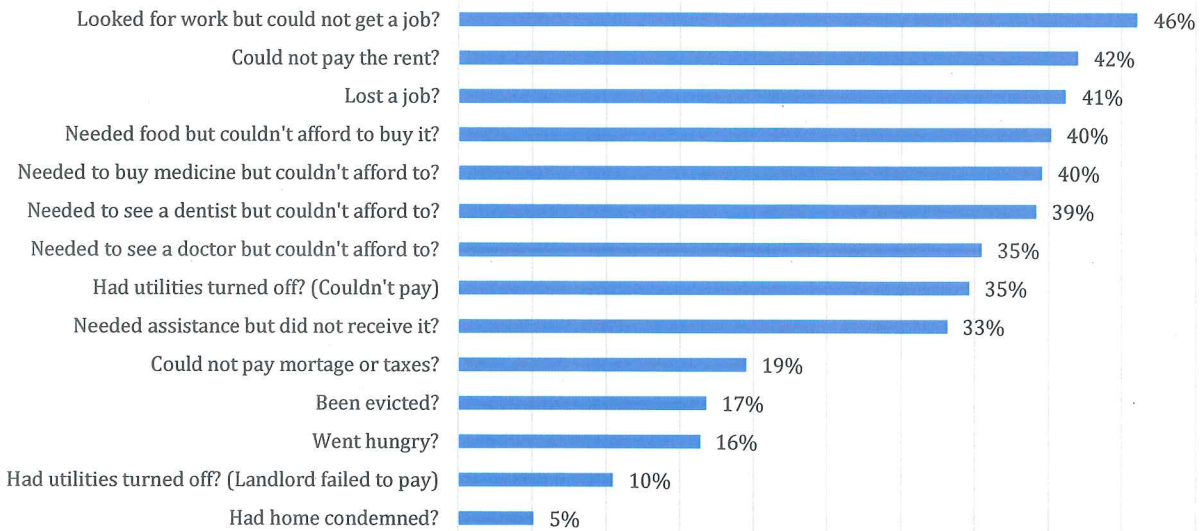


Family Needs

Of the Jefferson County Head Start parents or guardian who completed the survey, 46 percent indicated that they or someone in their family had at one point within the last year **looked for work but could not get a job**, 42 percent stated that they or someone in their family had been **unable to pay rent**, 41 percent **lost a job**.

More than 30 percent stated they needed to buy food but could not afford it, needed to buy medicine but could not afford it, needed to see a dentist or doctor but could not afford it, had their utilities cut off and needed assistance but did not get it. Seventeen (17) percent of Head Start families have been evicted and 16 percent have gone hungry within the past year and as per survey responses.

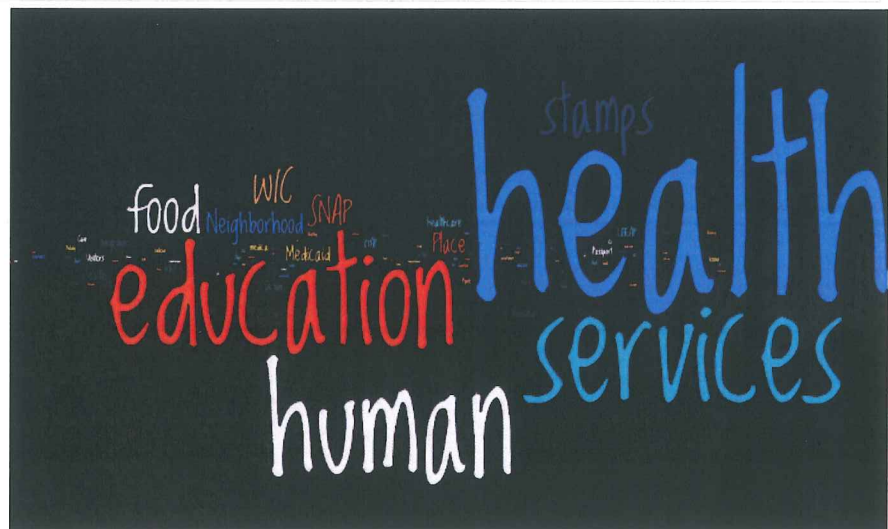
Has there been a time in the last year when you or someone in your immediate family...



Other Programs Used the Most. When asked, besides Head Start, what other agencies are used most often the majority of respondents stated using the Department of Health and Human Services and the Education Department the most. Other services listed were food stamps, WIC and Medicaid.

NEED and CAN DO.

Survey takers were asked what two or three things they needed and/or could do to improve their household's quality of life, the word clouds below illustrate that better and higher paying employment as well as education were among the top responses.



A. Parent Community Needs Survey

Your local Head Start Program is interested in your opinion about programs and services for families in the city or town you currently reside. Your ideas and experience help us serve our families better. This survey will take about 20 minutes to complete. **This survey is confidential.** All of your answers will be grouped together. We will use this information to understand or address the top problems facing families that live in counties serviced by the Head Start Program.

Part A: (1) How serious of a problem do you feel each of the following items is in your City/Town? (Please circle your response.)

Scale: (1) **Not a Problem** (2) **Somewhat** (3) **Problem** (4) **Serious Problem** (5) **Very Serious Problem**

ITEM	RATING	Circle ONE				
1.	Access to health care	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Availability of Affordable housing	1	2	3	4	5
3.	Affordable child care during before and after school hours	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Availability of recreation for families (parks, church programs, membership organizations)	1	2	3	4	5
5.	Quality of public education in your city or town	1	2	3	4	5
6.	Availability of adult education (GED, ESL, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
7.	Availability of job training	1	2	3	4	5
8.	Utility costs (heating, electricity, water)	1	2	3	4	5
9.	Services for disabled children	1	2	3	4	5
10.	Low wages	1	2	3	4	5
11.	Availability of jobs	1	2	3	4	5
12.	Public safety/crime	1	2	3	4	5
13.	Availability and access to public transportation	1	2	3	4	5
14.	Incidence of drug and alcohol abuse	1	2	3	4	5
15.	Gang activity	1	2	3	4	5
16.	Child health issues (obesity, exposure to lead, asthma)	1	2	3	4	5
17.	Incarceration of parents	1	2	3	4	5
18.	Access to public assistance (WIC, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Work First)	1	2	3	4	5
19.	Domestic violence	1	2	3	4	5
20.	Child abuse and neglect	1	2	3	4	5

(2) Please mark (X) the top **THREE** reasons you feel are the primary causes of poverty in your City/Town.

X	Reason	X	Reason
	1. Not enough jobs		10. Low social security/SSI payments
	2. Wages are too low		11. Unemployment benefits are too low
	3. Lack of job skills		12. Housing costs are too high
	4. Lack of education/training		13. Health care costs are too high
	5. Lack of child care		14. Utility costs are too high
	6. Lack of transportation		15. Non-payment of child support
	7. People can't work (too old, ill, disabled)		16. Immigration status
	8. People don't want to work		17. Other (specify)
	9. Lack of public assistance payments		

Please respond to the following questions (3-6) by selecting the reasons that you feel are the cause of these issues:

(3) Affordable housing in my City/Town is a problem because: (**check ALL that apply**)

- ☐ high rents
- ☐ credit problems
- ☐ previous evictions
- ☐ not enough rentals
- ☐ not enough quality housing
- ☐ too expensive to own
- ☐ other _____
- ☐ affordable housing is not a problem in my City/Town

(4) Unemployment is a problem in my City/Town because: (**check ALL that apply**)

- ☐ lack of childcare
- ☐ not enough jobs in the county
- ☐ lack of job skills
- ☐ people don't want to work
- ☐ wages don't pay the cost of living
- ☐ lack of transportation to good jobs
- ☐ other _____
- ☐ unemployment is not a problem in my City/Town

(5) Access to health care is a problem in my City/Town because: (check ALL that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> health care is too expensive | <input type="checkbox"/> lack of doctors in the area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doctors won't accept Medicaid or Medicare | <input type="checkbox"/> lack of dentists in the area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> health insurance is too expensive | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> people can't get insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> access to health care is not a problem in my City/Town |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of dentists that accept Medicaid | |

(6) High heating and utility costs are a problem in my City/Town because: (check ALL that apply)

- ☐ low wages
- ☐ landlord not paying
- ☐ poor budgeting by consumers
- ☐ fuel/utility costs are unpredictable
- ☐ poorly insulated houses/old appliances
- ☐ other _____
- ☐ high heating and utility costs are not a problem in my City/Town

(7) Has there been a time in the last year when you or someone in your immediate family: (Mark X to answer: YES/NO)

Y	N		Y	N	
		1. Needed to see a dentist but couldn't afford to?			8. Had utilities turned off? (Landlord failed to pay)
		2. Needed to see a doctor but couldn't afford to?			9. Could not pay mortgage or taxes?
		3. Needed to buy medicine but couldn't afford to?			10. Been evicted?
		4. Needed food but couldn't afford to buy it?			11. Had home condemned?
		5. Went hungry?			12. Looked for work but could not get a job?
		6. Could not pay the rent?			13. Lost a job?
		7. Had utilities turned off? (Couldn't pay)			14. Needed assistance but did not receive it?
					If yes, what type of assistance: _____

(8) Besides the Head Start, list the top 2 service agencies (health, education, human services) that your neighbors use the most?

(9) We would like to ask you for suggestions on how we can improve the quality of life in your household.

- What are the 2 or 3 most important things you **NEED** to improve your household's quality of life?

- What 2 or 3 things you **CAN DO** to improve your household's quality of life?

- What 2 or 3 things that the Head Start Program and other community organizations can do to help you improve your household's quality of life?

Part B: We would like to know some general information that will help us use the results of this survey. Your identity and answers will be **CONFIDENTIAL** and we are not asking for your name. (Mark your answers with X)

- Ethnicity/Race: (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American
<input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
- What is your current employment status? (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Employed full-time	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed/not working	<input type="checkbox"/> Employed part-time/seasonal
<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	<input type="checkbox"/> Full time homemaker
<input type="checkbox"/> In job training/school	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
- Do you have a bank/credit union account (checking or savings)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you have a computer at home? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you have an Internet connection at home? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you have a mobile phone with text capability? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- What is the total number of people living in your household? _____
- What city or town do you live in? _____ zip code: _____

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY!
Please return survey to staff

REFERENCES

Community Coordinated Child Care. (2014). Enrollment in private child care facilities.

Loftus, T. (2014, January 22). Fiscal plan gives, takes. *The Courier-Journal*, p. A1.