



**Head Start of Yamhill County
2026 Community Assessment**

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Sources

- American Community Survey Data
- Child Trends Research
- HSYC Community Assessment Family Needs Survey 2025
- HSYC Enrollment Data
- Kaiser Family Foundation, 2024 Release
- Oregon By the Numbers, Ford Family Foundation 2025 Release
- Oregon Department of Education
- Oregon Department of Health & Human Services
- Oregon Health Authority
- Oregon Child Care Research Partnership
- Population Research Center, College of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University
- U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Labor Force Data by County Annual Averages
- U.S. Census Data
- US Dept of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research, Fair Market Rents, 2023, updated annually. Released 2025
- Willamette Education Service District
- Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (WIC) McMinnville
- Yamhill Community Action Partnership 2023-2024 Community Needs Assessment
- Yamhill Community Action Partnership 2025 Point in Time Homeless Count Data
- Yamhill County Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) completed collaboratively with Yamhill County Public Health, the Yamhill Community Care Organization, and Providence Health
- Yamhill County McKinney-Vento School Liaisons

Purpose

The Office of Head Start mandates that programs complete a comprehensive community assessment every five years. This assessment and the subsequent annual updates are the foundation for program planning to ensure service provision is responsive to community needs, and that potential gaps are identified and addressed.

Service Area

Head Start of Yamhill County (HSYC) operates a prenatal-to-five Head Start-Early Head Start program in Yamhill County, Oregon. Yamhill County is an area of 718 miles. Within the county there are seven school districts including: Amity, Dayton, McMinnville, Newberg, Sheridan, Willamina, and Yamhill Carlton. HSYC shares geographic service areas with the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA) Head Start-Early Head Start programs in Polk County, the Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) Early Head Start Migrant-Seasonal program in Yamhill County, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) Head Start- Early Head Start Programs in Polk and Yamhill Counties. HSYC's funded enrollment includes 130 Early Head Start slots and 184 Head Start slots. The largest number of enrolled children reside in the county seat of McMinnville.

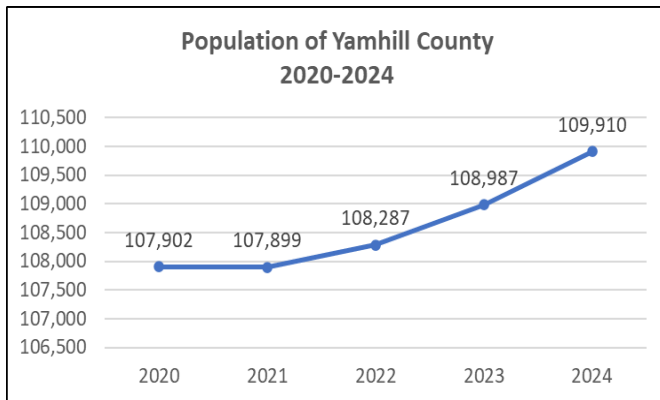
Methodology

In completing this Community Assessment multiple resources were used including, but not limited to, U.S. Census information, YCAP's 2023-2024 Community Needs Assessment, Yamhill County's 2022 Community Health Assessment and 2023-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan, and the HSYC Community Assessment Family Needs Survey conducted by HSYC in Fall 2025.

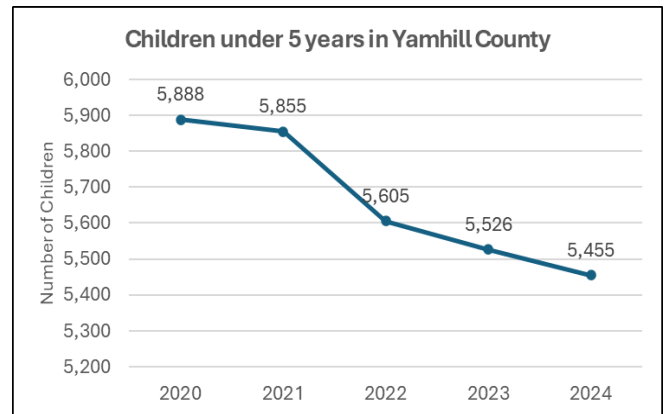
Demographics

Population

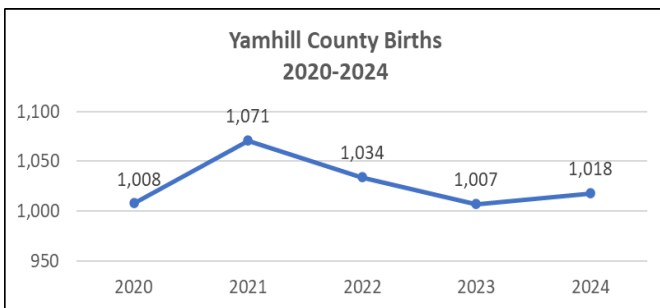
The population of Yamhill County has been steadily growing since the HSYC 2020-2021 Community Assessment. With an approximate 25-mile commute to downtown Portland, Yamhill County has become a bedroom community to Portland that offers individuals and families a more affordable yet sophisticated lifestyle. While the population has been increasing, the number of children under 5 years and birth rates have been slowly declining. One possible reason behind this is the increase in the median age in Yamhill County from 34 years in 2010 to 39.5 years in 2023-2024. (U.S. Census Bureau)



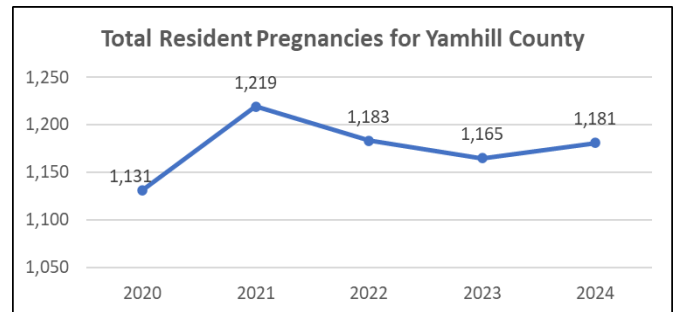
Source: Population Research Center, College of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University



Source: U.S. Census ACS S0101 5-Year Estimates



Source: Oregon Health Authority

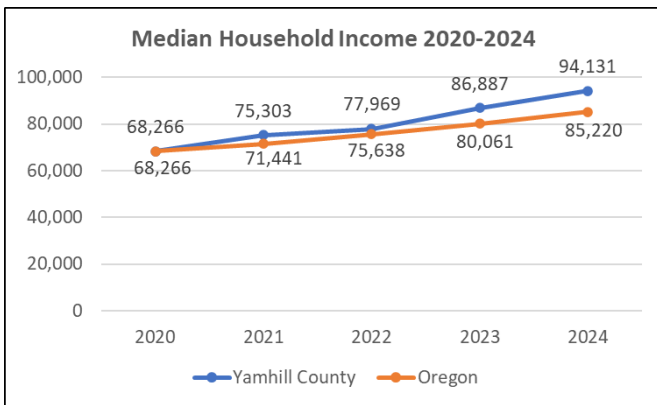


Source: Oregon Health Authority

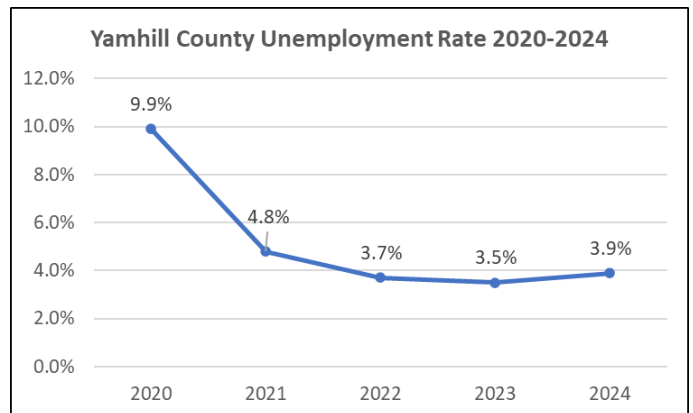


Economic Indicators

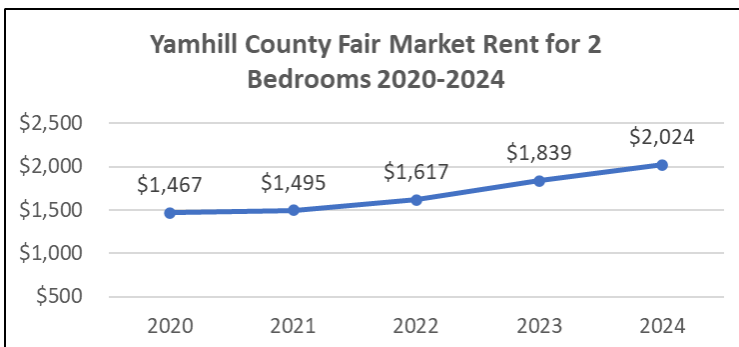
Yamhill County out paces many Oregon counties in median income due, in part, to its high wage manufacturing, strong agricultural sector, educational and medical institutions, and growing tourism industry. Over the last 5 years, Yamhill County has experienced a 31% increase in its minimum wage, and the unemployment rate ranks in the middle to lower-middle range among Oregon counties. While these are positive economic indicators, according to a Child Trends Research report conducted in 2023, Oregon has a severe shortage of affordable and appropriately sized housing units for renters with children and the lowest incomes. With an estimated 21 units per 100 renters, Yamhill County ranks among the most expensive rental markets in Oregon. While median income may be strong, according to the United Way ALICE Project, and reported in Oregon by the Numbers, Yamhill County ranked 17th in the state with 43.8% of households experiencing financial hardship. According to United Way, ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) was created to reflect the growing number of individuals and families above the Federal Poverty Level who are working but unable to afford basic necessities including housing, child care, food, transportation, technology, and health care.



Source: U.S. Census Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates 2020-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Labor Force Data by County Annual Averages

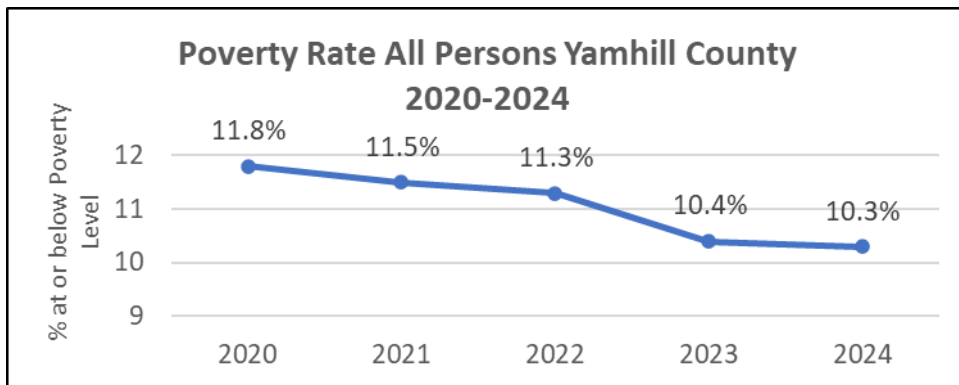


Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research

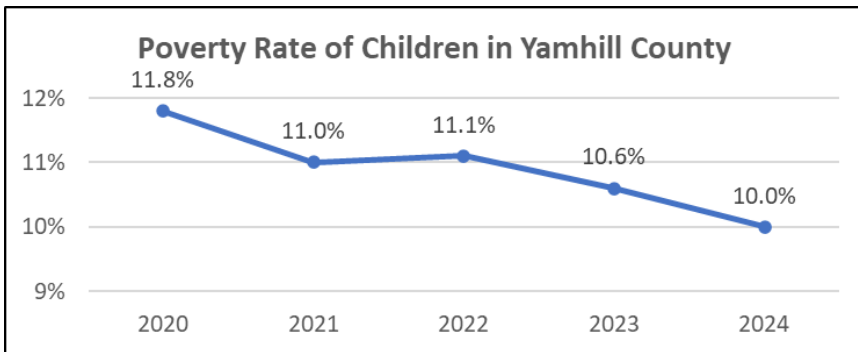


Poverty

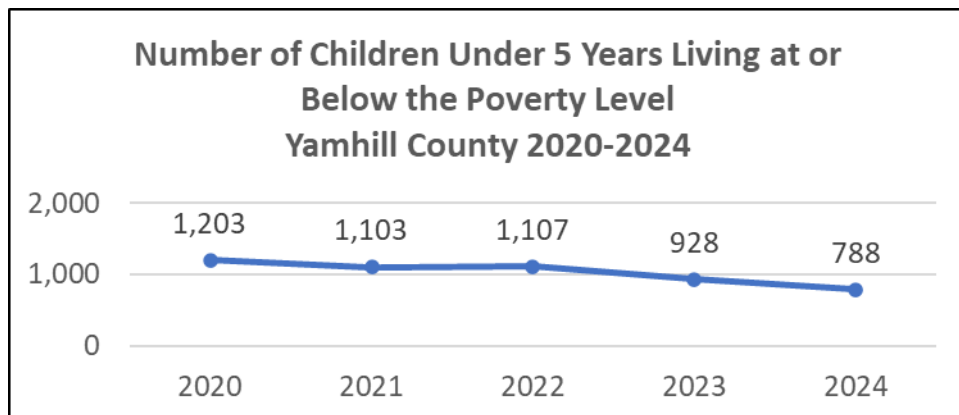
Poverty rates in Oregon have remained fairly stable since our 2020-2021 Community Assessment, hovering between 11-12%. During that same time period, Yamhill County poverty rates, including those for children, have been on the decline. While the poverty rate may be decreasing in Yamhill County, households spending more than 30% of their income on essential costs of living (ALICE) has increased. Poverty is the primary factor in eligibility for Head Start programs. Based on these poverty rates, the number of children eligible for HSYC services in 2024 was 788 children and the number of eligible expectant mothers was 122.



Source: U.S. Census ACS 2023 5-year estimates



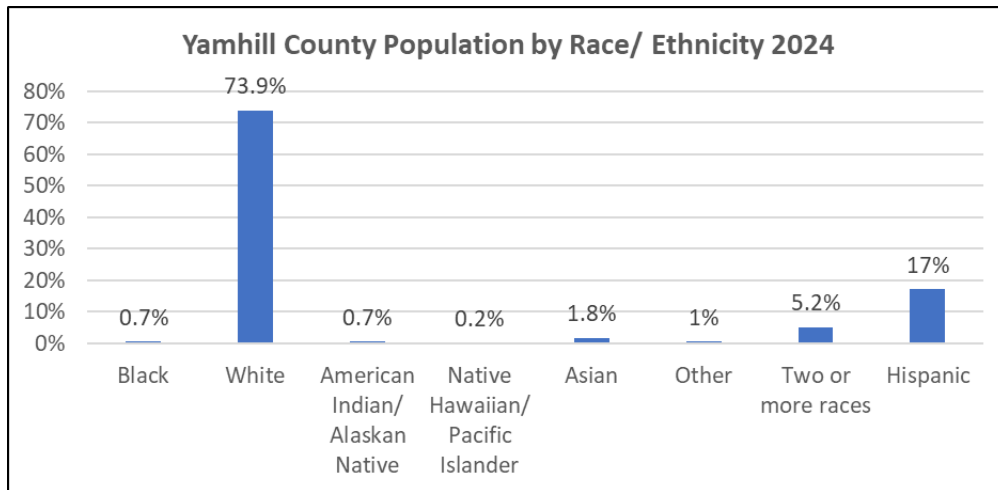
Source: Oregon by the Numbers, Ford Family Foundation, 2025 Release



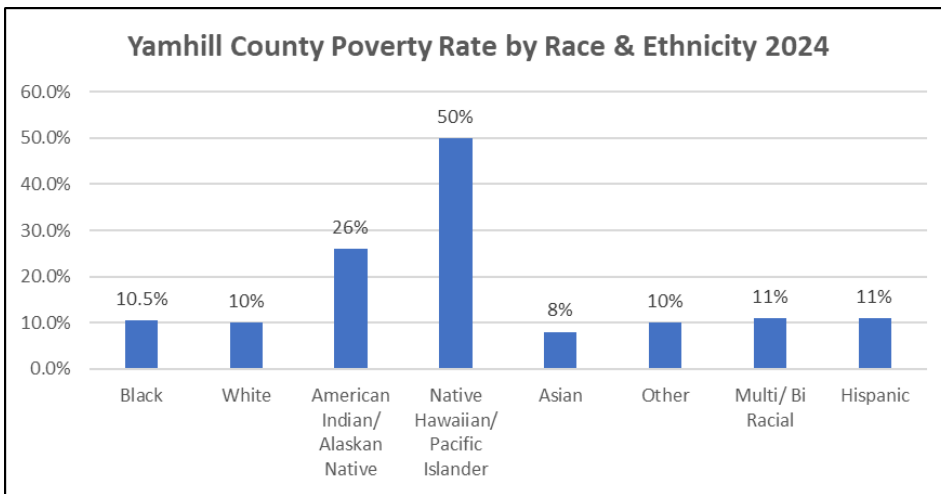
Source: U.S. Census Table B17024 Age by Ration of Income to Poverty Level in the pas 12 moths

Race & Ethnicity

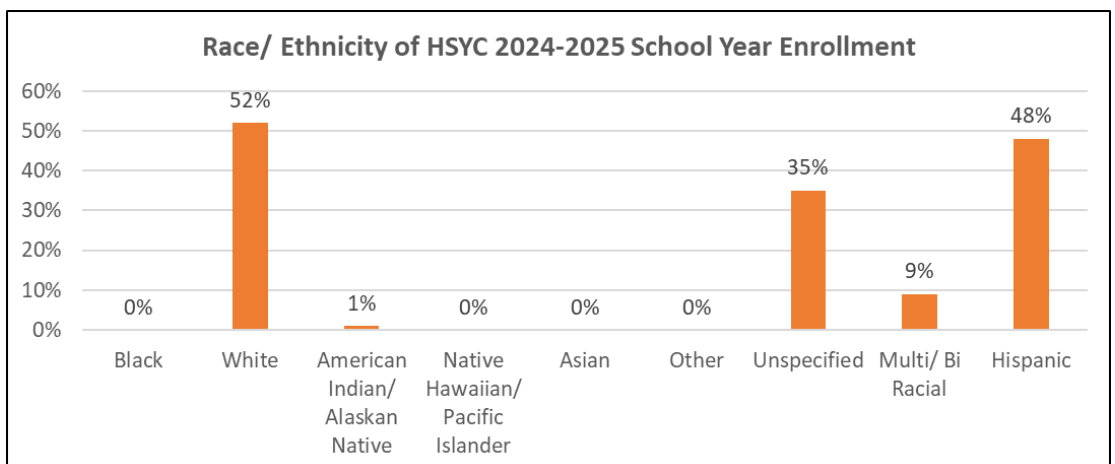
Head Start of Yamhill County is committed to serving children and families from all races and ethnicities. We have historically exceeded relative percentages of these populations.



Source: Oregon by the Numbers, For Family Foundation, 2025 Release



Source: U.S. Census B17001A-1, ACS 2024 5-Year Estimates

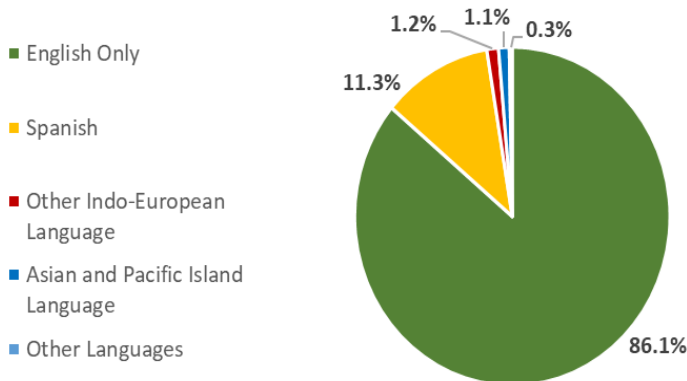


Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

Language

Head Start of Yamhill County strives to ensure staff and participant languages mirror one another as closely as possible. We provide language translation assistance at meetings to support the needs of participating families, and share written communication in both English and Spanish. When a language or other auditory need is identified that we cannot provide internally, we seek community partner assistance or other technical aids.

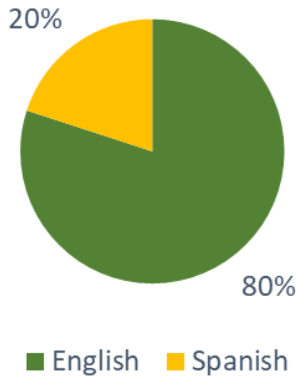
Yamhill County Languages Spoken at Home



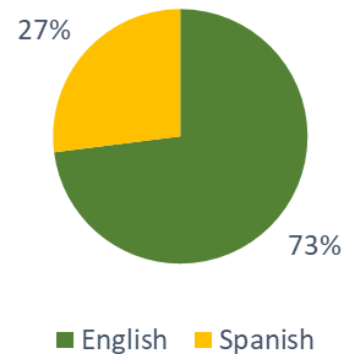
U.S. Census, ACS S1601, 2024 5-Year Estimates



Primary Language of HSYC Participants 2024-2025



Primary Language of HSYC Child Development Staff 2024-2025



Eligibility

Experiencing Homelessness

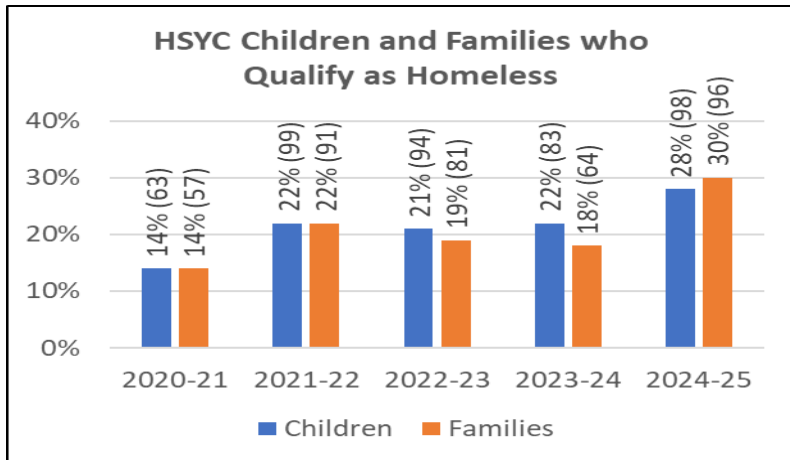
Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP) conducts the annual Point in Time Homeless Count each January as per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements for our community. The HUD definition of homeless is “individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence which includes living in a place not meant for human habitation (tents, sidewalks, bus stops, parks) or those staying in a homeless shelter program”. Historically, YCAP has contacted HSYC when conducting their PIT Homeless Count. In 2025, we were not contacted by this agency. Additionally, YCAP does not break out their “sheltered” data by age groups under the age of 18, and HSYC follows the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless when qualifying children and families for our program. This includes families who are “doubled-up”; children who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; or children/ families -living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations. As a result, we determined that five of the 2024- 2025 applicants to HSYC who considered themselves as homeless for categorical eligibility were either living in transitional housing, or in homeless or domestic abuse shelters.

YCAP Data

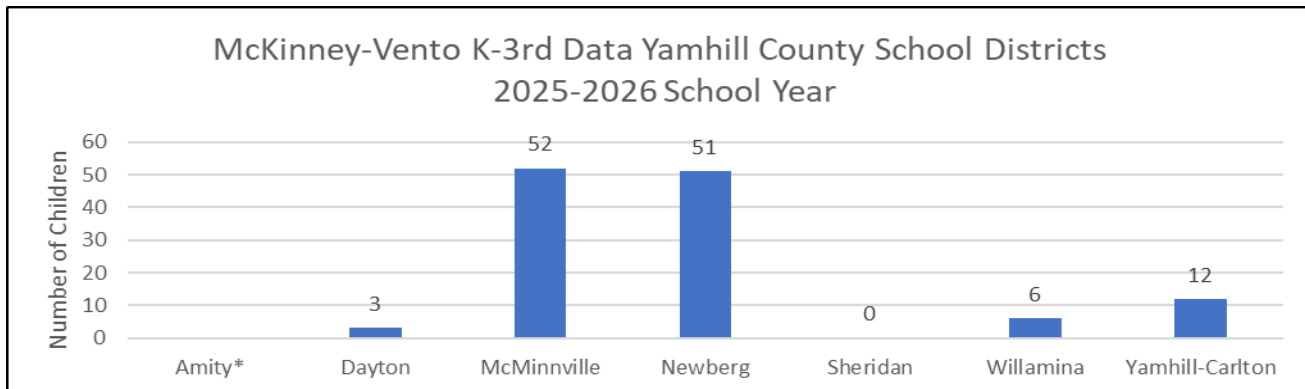
Yamhill County	PIT 2023	PIT 2024	PIT 2025
Total Homeless (sheltered and unsheltered)	280	381	178
Total Sheltered	98 (35%)	223 (59%)	154 (87%)
Total Unsheltered	182 (65%)	158 (41%)	24 (13%)

Unsheltered Data Detail			
Age			
	PIT 2023	PIT 2024	PIT 2025
Under 18	31 (17%)	7 (4%)	0 (0%)
Under 19-24	11 (6%)	11 (7%)	1 (4%)
Under 25-34	28 (15%)	27 (17%)	4 (17%)
Under 35-44	30 (17%)	42 (27%)	5 (21%)
Under 45-54	40 (22%)	40 (25%)	11 (46%)
Under 55-64	31 (17%)	24 (15%)	2 (8%)
Over 65+	11 (6%)	7 (4%)	1 (4%)

HSYC is mandated to work with local McKinney-Vento Liaisons whenever possible to determine the number of homeless children and families in the community. The chart below depicts the increasing number of children grades K-3 experiencing homelessness in Yamhill County as of January 2026. Amity School District did not reply to our request for this information. A historical look at K-12 children qualifying as homeless based on the McKinney-Vento definition is shown below. The chart indicates that there has been a 71% increase between 2020 and 2024 in the number of children qualifying as homeless in Yamhill County under this definition.

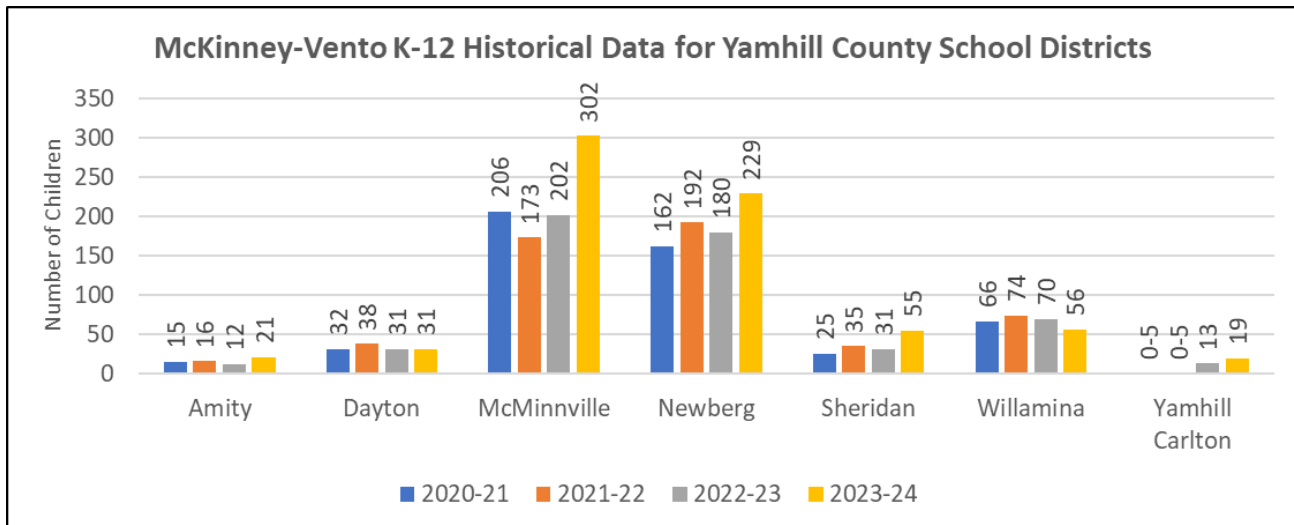


Source: HSYC Enrollment Data



*No data received from this district

Source: Yamhill County McKinney-Vento School Liaisons

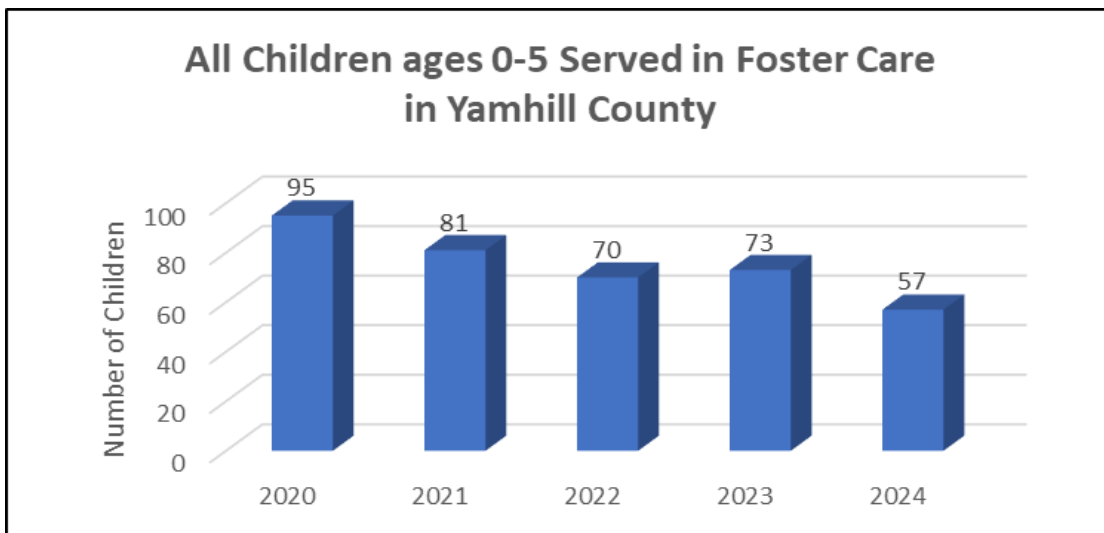


Source: Oregon Department of Education

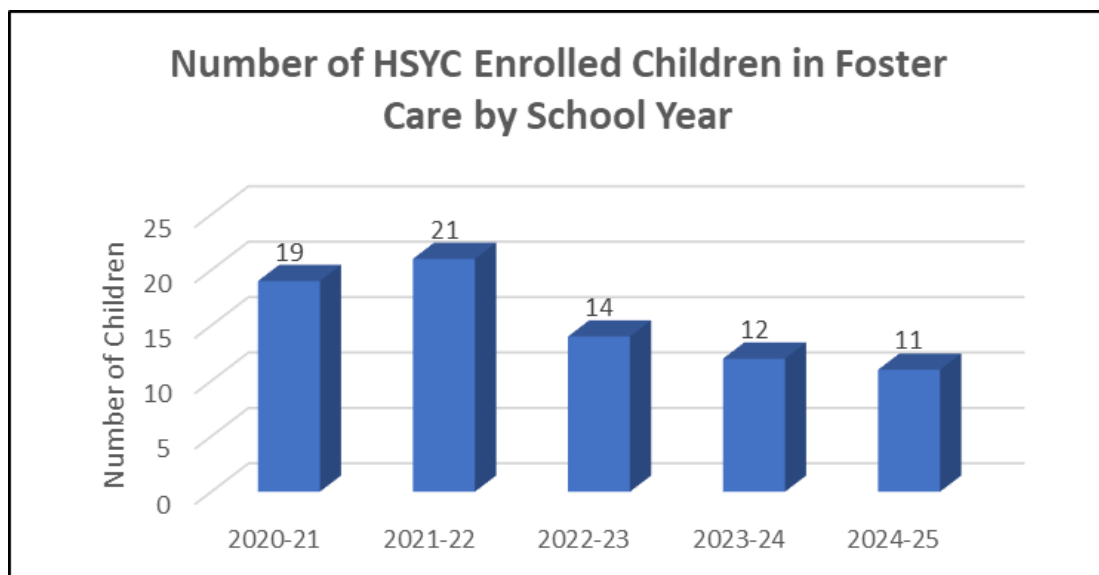
Foster Care

The number of children ages of 0-5 experiencing foster care in Yamhill County has been on the decline since 2020 due, in part, to state and local efforts to keep children with family and individualizing supports as quickly and extensively as possible. In 2024, Yamhill County ranked 29th out of 36 counties for children under 18 years residing in foster care.

HSYC prioritizes our relationships with Oregon DHS Child Welfare case workers and supervisors to ensure children experiencing foster care are enrolled and remain with us for continuity of services regardless of their (foster care) placement. We also come alongside the birth parent when possible to support their parenting success.

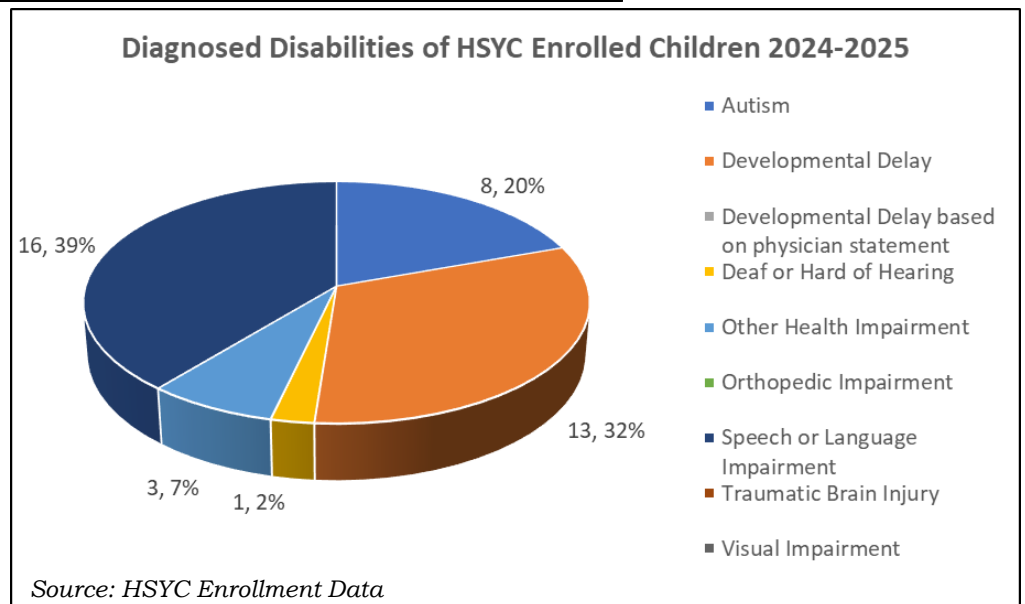
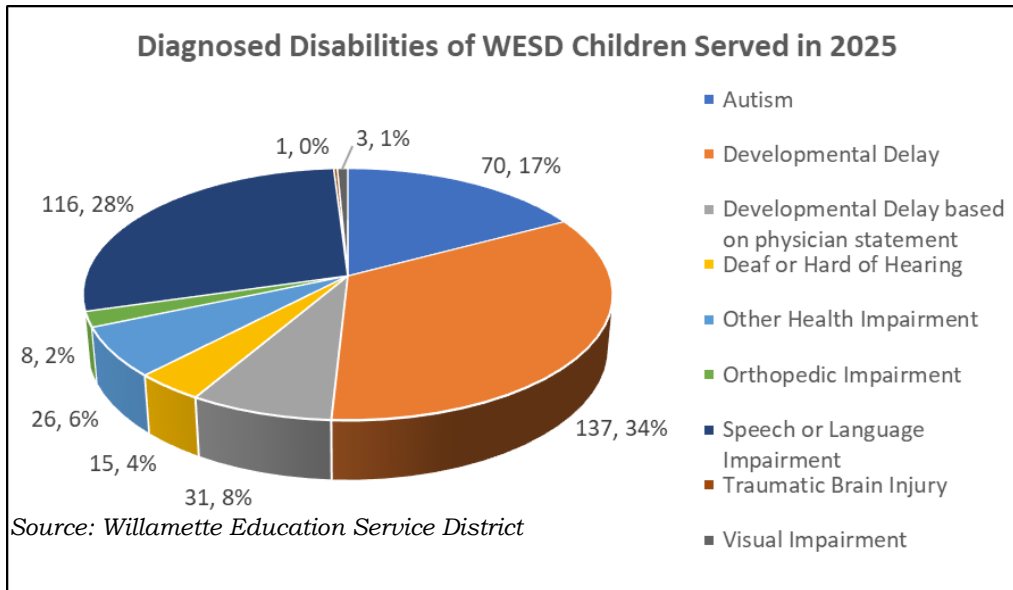


Source: Oregon Department of Health & Human Services



Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

Disabilities



Willamette Education Service District (WESD) provides Early Intervention- Early Childhood Special Education evaluations and services to children in Yamhill County. In 2025, their EI-ECSE program served 378 children ages 0-5 in Yamhill County. In addition, they provided Preschool Promise services in McMinnville to 25 children (funded by DELC) in a general education setting.

In the 2024-2025 school year, 20% (41) of HSYC enrolled preschoolers and 9% (13) of our infants and toddlers experienced documented disabilities. This number constituted 14% of WESD's EI-ECSE Yamhill County caseload.

Based on Oregon Department of Education data, the average percentage of elementary school children in Yamhill County with a diagnosed disability in the 2024-2025 school year was 16%.

Health

Overview

Yamhill County Public Health, the Yamhill Community Care Organization, and Providence Health conducted a Community Health Assessment in 2022. In it, Houselessness & Housing Instability; Recreation and Community-Building Activities; Economic Insecurity; Early Childhood, Youth, and Education; Access to Health Care Services; Access to Transportation; Food Insecurity; Mental Health; and Substance Abuse were identified as the primary social determinants of health in Yamhill County. The 10 highest stressors identified in the HSYC Family Needs Survey reveal similarities with these identified social determinants of health.

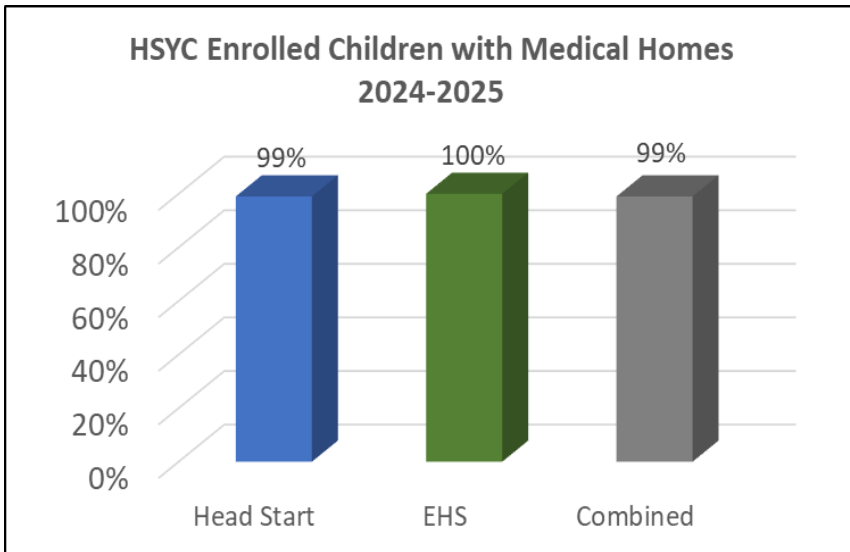
The resulting 2023-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) set forth the following priorities: Access to Healthcare; Emergency Preparedness; Food & Nutrition; Housing; Infants & Toddlers; Mental Health & Substance Abuse; and Transportation.

In December of 2025, HSYC conducted a Family Needs survey which was sent to enrolled families. We shared the survey with partner organizations serving similar populations who collected feedback from their enrolled families. Ninety-seven surveys in total were completed, and responses paralleled the CHIP priorities in the areas of Food & Nutrition (38%); Housing (26%); Mental Health (16%); Health Insurance Coverage (13%); and Transportation (12%).

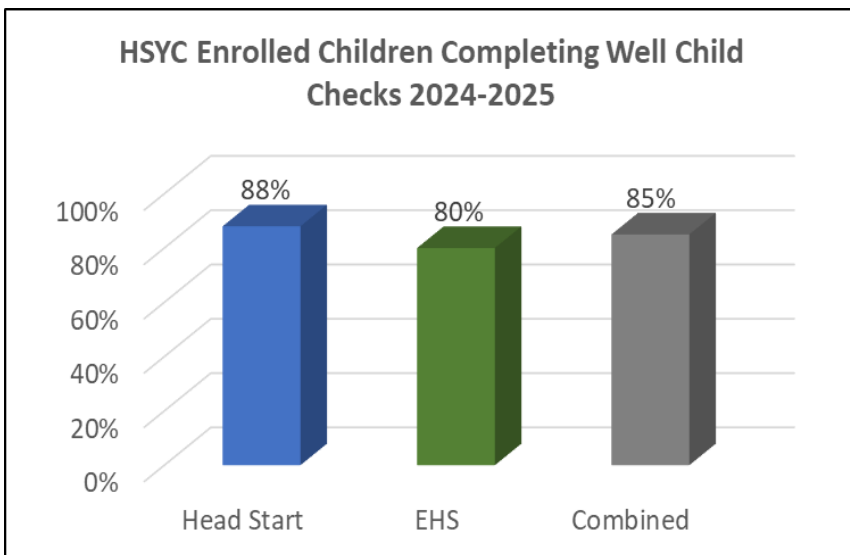
HSYC Community Assessment Family Survey Highest Stressors	
Finances	57.30%
Food assistance	38.20%
Child Care cost	29.21%
Housing	25.84%
Child Care access	22.47%
Employment	19.10%
Mental Health	15.73%
Immigration status	14.61%
Education for child	14.61%
Health insurance coverage	13.48%



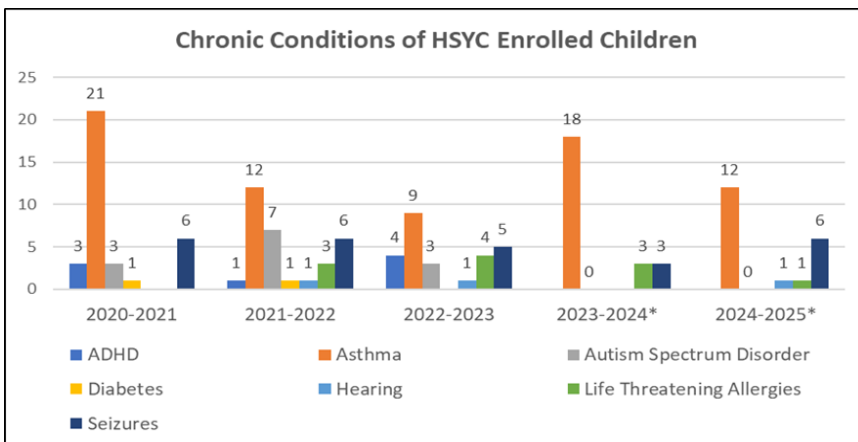
Medical



Source: HSYC Enrollment Data



Source: HSYC Enrollment Data



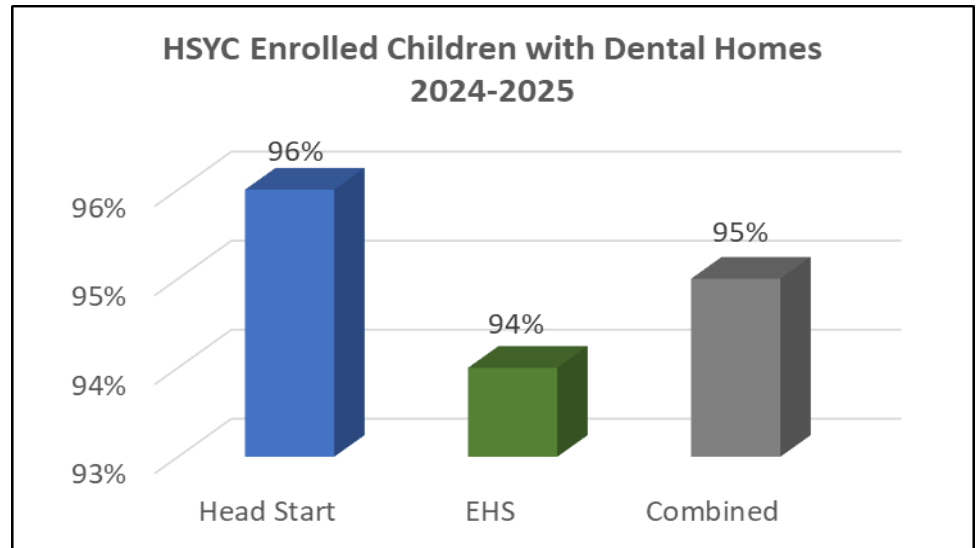
*Note: HSYC participants often secure an educational diagnosis for ASD due to medical provider shortages and wait time for diagnosis.

HSYC recognizes the importance of medical homes for each child for better health outcomes. A consistent practitioner provides comprehensive care tailored to each child, facilitates regular check-ups, and monitors growth and development while promoting trusting relationships. Most HSYC families are enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan through the Yamhill Community Care Organization, with whom we partner closely to ensure families are connected to their primary care providers and other holistic wellness services.

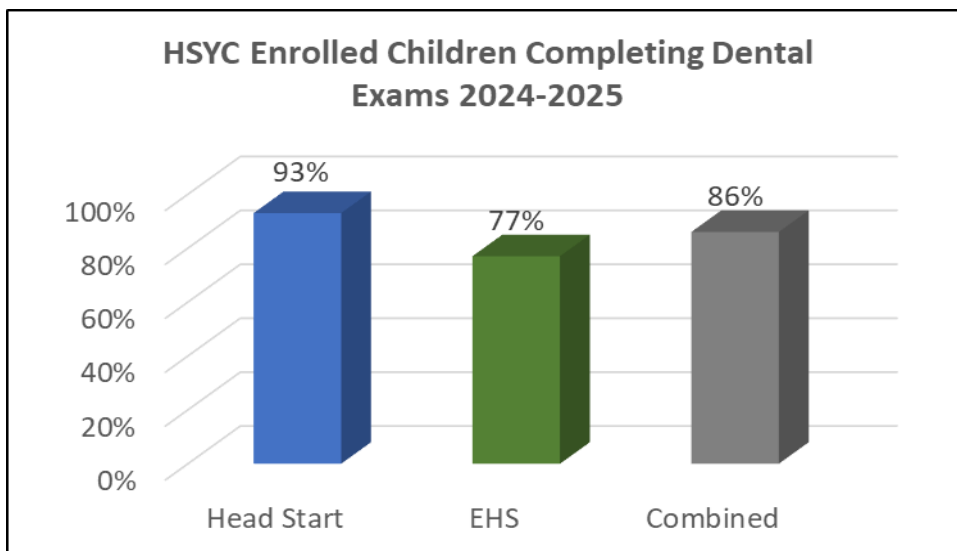
HSYC is mandated to ensure that all enrolled children are up-to-date on schedules of age appropriate preventative care, including immunization recommendations issued by the Oregon Health Authority.

Since the pandemic, medical and dental providers have struggled to keep sufficient staffing to meet HSYC's data sharing needs. We work individually with clinics to find creative and agency-specific solutions for obtaining the documentation we require related to well child checks and dental exams. Though communication from provider offices is still lagging, we continue to develop new ways to partner for results and information.

Dental



Source: HSYC Enrollment Data



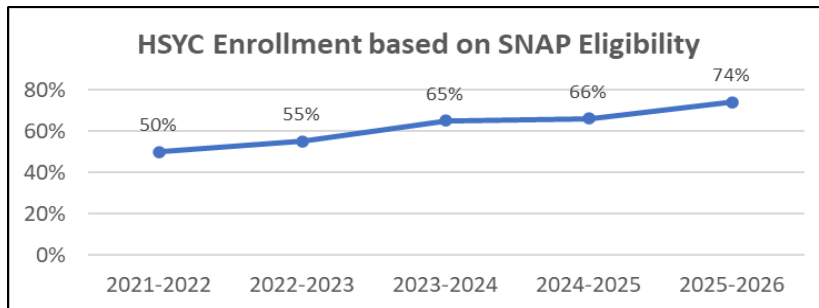
Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

HSYC works with families to help connect them with their dental homes. Unfortunately, the number of pediatric dentists in Yamhill County has declined since the 2020-2021 Community Assessment, making it difficult for children to get the timely care they need without being referred out of the area for follow-up treatments. HSYC believes so strongly in the importance of early, preventative dental care, that we partner with Gentle Dental for their hygienist to visit our preschool classes three times annually and our toddler classes twice a year to complete oral exams, and apply fluoride, and sealants (when authorized by their parent/ guardian). Due to the shortage of dental providers, the State of Oregon passed legislation last year authorizing “qualified professionals” to complete dental screenings. As a result, the hygienists’ visits to our classrooms satisfy our federal funders’ requirements.

Nutrition

HSYC receives USDA funds which support our provision of healthy meals and snacks to enrolled children.

In April of 2022, the Office of Head Start officially included the receipt of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits as a criterion for categorical eligibility for Head Start programs. Since that time, the percentage of enrolled families qualifying for HSYC as a result of SNAP participation has increased by 19%.



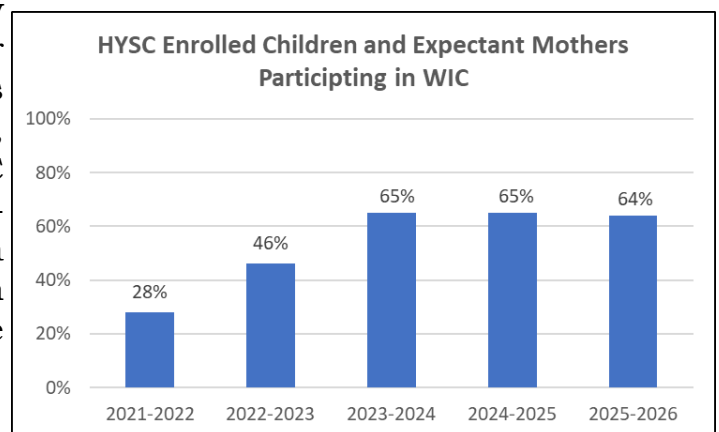
Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

In November of 2025, eligibility for SNAP benefits were curtailed by the federal government with the requirement that able-bodied adults ages 18-64 with no children under age 14 are required to meet work, training, or volunteer criteria. Yamhill County did not qualify for a waiver for these new mandates regarding work requirements due to stronger labor markets compared to other areas. In addition to these requirements, the legislation removed SNAP benefits for refugees and asylum seekers.

Also in 2025, funding for Oregon State University’s Food Hero program was cut. HSYC has partnered with OSU Extension Office for many years to provide nutrition education for our families. Recently, this partnership provided ingredients and tutorials for our virtual cooking classes.

According to Oregon by the Numbers and a Feeding America report released in 2024, Yamhill County ranks 28th out of 36 counties in Oregon for food insecurity with 12.6% of the population feeling the strain of inadequate access to safe and nutritional foods. Yamhill County noted food insecurity as one of the identified social determinates of health in the 2022 Community Health Assessment. The HSYC 2025 Community Assessment Family Needs Survey identified food assistance as the second highest family stressor.

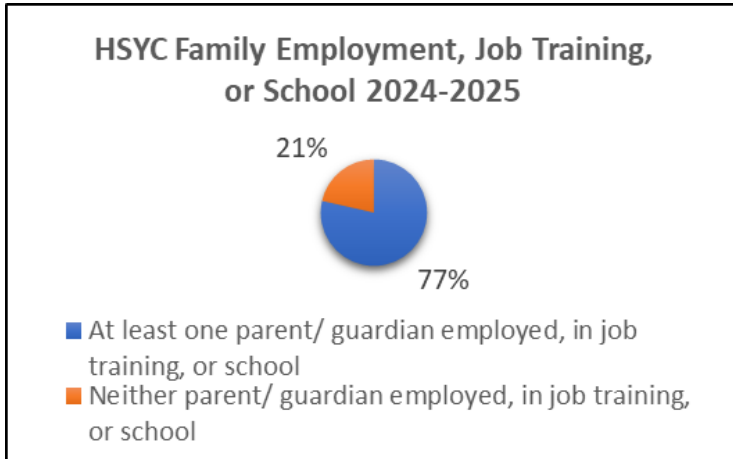
WIC, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, provides nutrition services to Yamhill County expectant mothers and children until their 5th birthday. In December 2025, WIC was serving 187 expectant moms, 424 infants, and 1,439 children in Yamhill County. WIC participation has increased since the 2020-2021 Community Assessment with a consistent 65% of HSYC enrolled children and expectant mothers participating over the past three years.



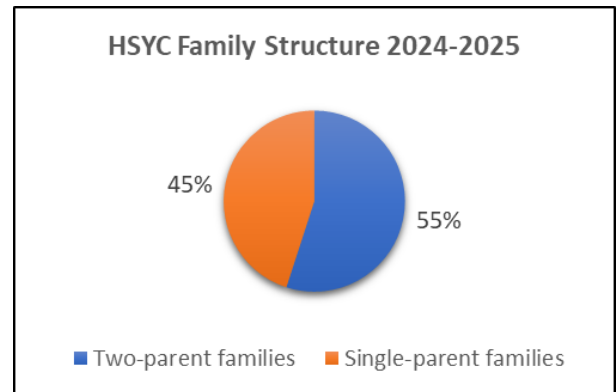
Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

Family Data

Employment & Schedules

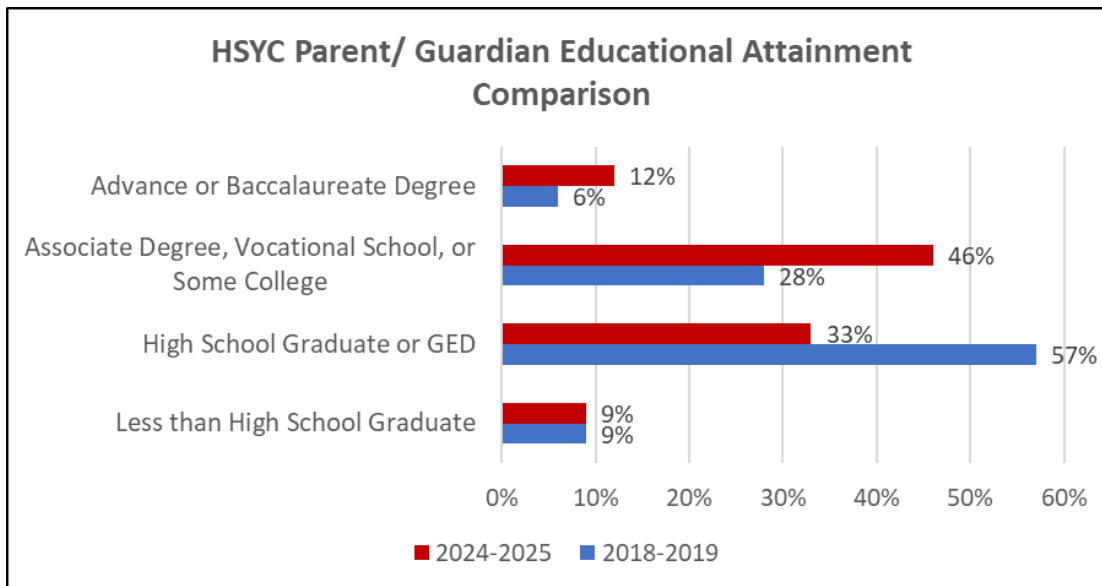


Source: HSYC Enrollment Data



Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

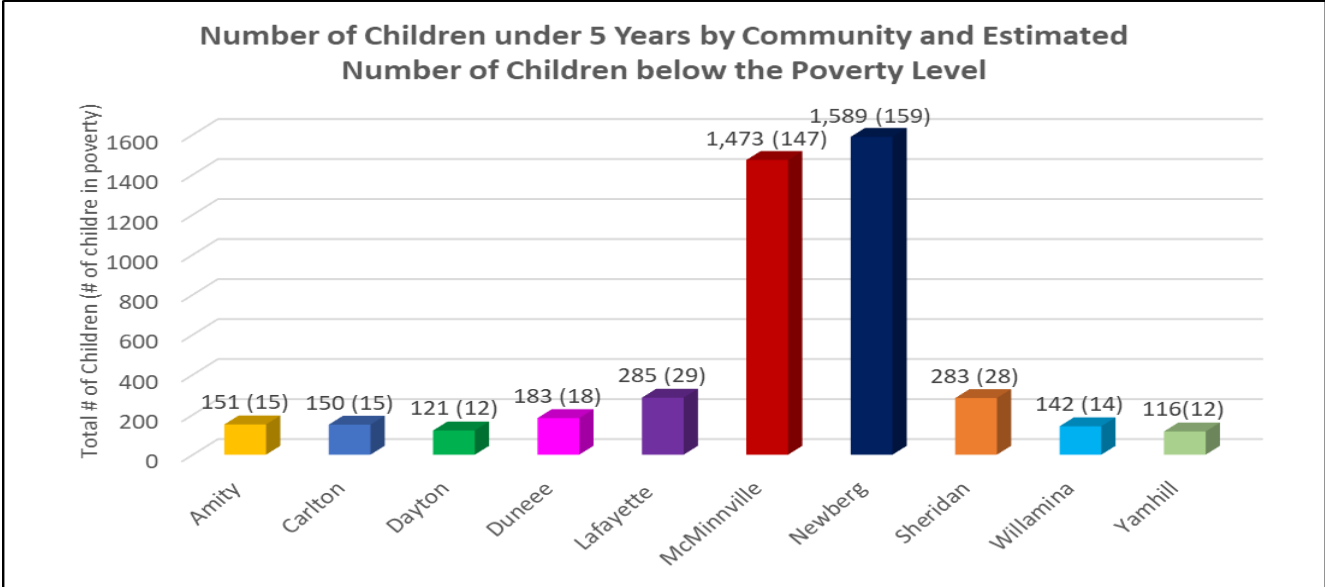
Education



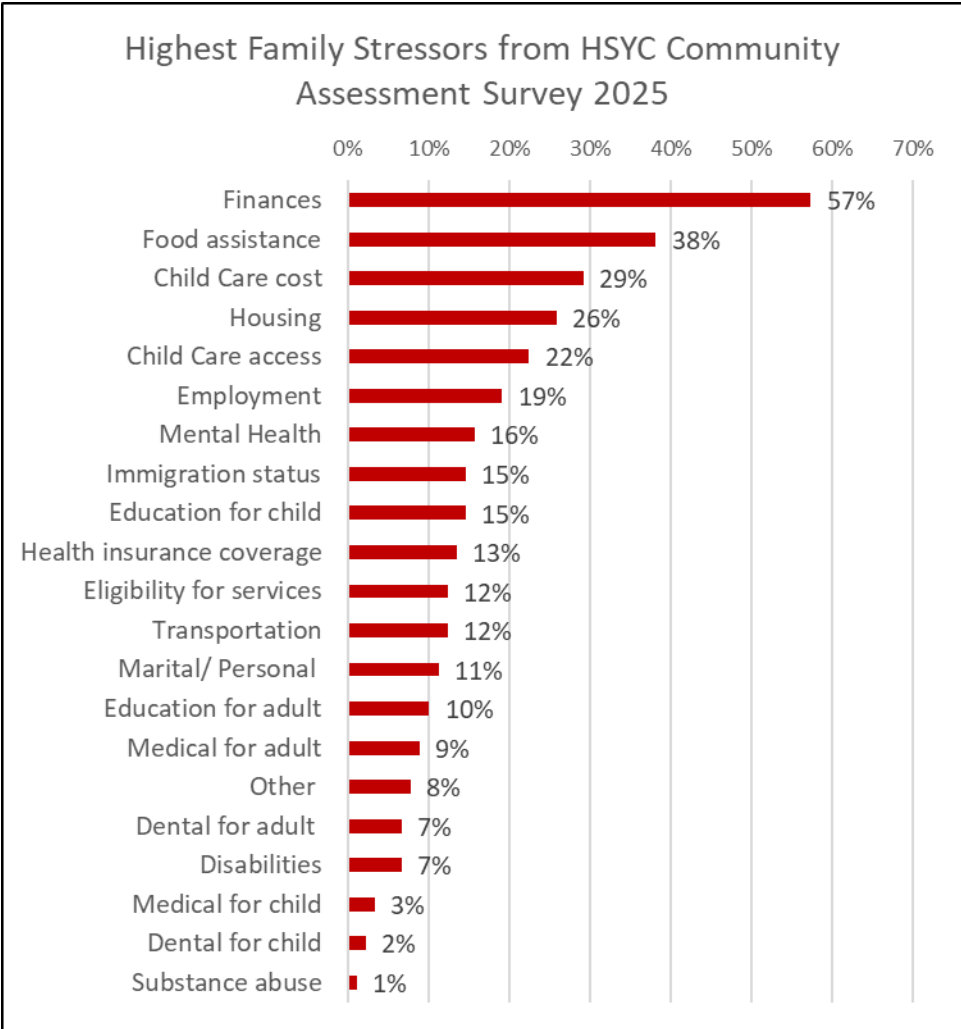
Source: HSYC Enrollment Data

Since the 2020-2021 Community Assessment, parent/ guardian educational attainment to higher levels of education has increased significantly.

Community Information



Source: U.S. Census Tables S0101 and B17006, 2024: ACS 5-Year Estimates



HSYC surveyed enrolled parents/ guardians and families of community partners serving similar populations in early December of 2025. The survey was intended to ascertain demographic information, family stressors, and thoughts on resources and services in their community. We received 94 surveys from across Yamhill County. The chart to the left is an overview of the reported highest stressors for families over the past year. Respondents were able to choose all that applied.

Source: HSYC Community Assessment Needs Survey 2025

Amity



Total Amity Surveys		7
Role		
Parent		7
Race/ Ethnicity		
White		6
Hispanic/ Latino		1
Education Level		
Less than High School Graduate		
High School Graduate or GED		2
Associate’s degree, Vocational School, or Some College		3
Advance or Baccalaureate Degree		2
Current Housing Situation		
Renting		2
Own Home		4
Living with Friends or Family		1

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

Not so effective—2, comment: “I’ve never been able to contact YCAP other than to request the energy pay program and all they did was send me the application. It would be nice if someone there would answer or call you back to help direct you where you need to go”

Somewhat effective—1

Very effective—4

Highest Stressors in the past year	Number of Responses
Finances	4
Employment	2
Child Care Cost	2
Food Assistance	1
Health Insurance	1
Marital/ Personal	1
Housing	1
Transportation	1
Child Care Access	1
Education for Child	1
Dental for Adult	1
Other: Managing Schedules	1

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ Property tax assistance—”Maybe free public events where you can sit down with realtors, Oregon Health Marketplace etc. and talk through different options of how to proceed in finding things”
- ⇒ A recreation center
- ⇒ Child care programs
- ⇒ Affordable child care with later hours
- ⇒ More affordable housing, electricity, and water

Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Resources are available only during working hours, making it harder for workers to access help.
- ⇒ I work during the time food pantries are open. And if I leave to go get food, I lose part of my pay.

Carlton

Total Carlton Surveys		1
Role		
Parent		1
Race/ Ethnicity		
Asian/ White		1
Education Level		
High School Graduate or GED		1
Current Housing Situation		
Living with Friends or Family		1
Effectiveness of Community Programs		
Somewhat Effective		1



Highest Stressors in the past year
Immigration Status
Medical for Child
Child Care Cost
Child Care Access
Health Insurance
Mental Health
Medical for Adult
Education for Child

(In no particular order)

Dayton

Total Dayton Surveys		2
Role		
Parent		1
Resource Parent		1
Race/ Ethnicity		
Hispanic/ Latino		1
Hispanic/ Latino/ White		1
Education Level		
High School Graduate or GED		1
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College		1
Current Housing Situation		
Living with Friends or Family		1
Transitional Housing		1
Effectiveness of Community Programs		
Extremely Effective		2



Highest Stressors in the past year	Number of Responses
Food Assistance	2
Finances	2
Child Care Access	1
Child Care Cost	1

Community resources respondents would like to see:
 ⇒ Affordable child care

Dundee



Total Dundee Surveys		6
Role		
Parent		6
Race/ Ethnicity		
American Indian/ Alaska Native		1
Hispanic/ Latino		5
Education Level		
Less than High School Graduate		1
High School Graduate or GED		4
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College		1
Current Housing Situation		
Renting		3
Own Home		3

Highest Stressor in the past year	Number of Responses
Immigration Status	4
Eligibility for Services	2
Housing	2
Food Assistance	1
Finances	1
Marital/ Personal	1
Employment	1
Education for Child	1

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ "I think our community has always had excellent community services within our reach. I've experienced this since I arrived here a few years ago."
- ⇒ Counseling for new moms
- ⇒ Children's events

Barriers to accessing community services:

None of the respondents had experienced barriers to accessing community services.

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

- Somewhat effective – 1
- Very effective – 3
- Extremely effective – 2

Lafayette



Total Lafayette Surveys		9
Role		
Parent		7
Grandparent		2
Race/ Ethnicity		
White		4
Hispanic/ Latino		4
Hispanic/ Latino/ White		1
Education Level		
Less than High School Graduate		3
High School Graduate or GED		1
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College		3
Advance or Baccalaureate		2
Current Housing Situation		
Living with Friends or Family		5
Own Home		4

Highest Stressor in the past year	Number of Responses
Finances	8
Housing	3
Child Care Cost	3
Disabilities	3
Mental Health	3
Food Assistance	2
Child Care Access	2
Medical for Adult	2
Eligibility for Services	1
Marital/ Personal	1
Employment	1
Education for Child	1
Dental for Adult	1

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ Affordable housing and assistance finding it
- ⇒ Affordable, culturally sensitive, accessible mental health services. Affordable child care. Affordable medical care.
- ⇒ Help paying for mortgage
- ⇒ Free child care programs for low-income families

Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Specialized mental health care providers and prescribers are difficult to find or get into.
- ⇒ Stuck in between making too much for services like Head Start/ SNAP/ Medicaid for adults etc., but making too little to afford affordable quality medical insurance, quality child care, and still have enough leftover to have an emergency fund, vacation once in a while, pay down debt, invest, etc.
- ⇒ Our county mental health services are overwhelmed and provide very little service. Our county DD services basically check boxes on paperwork but provide very little actual service.

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

- ⇒ Not so effective - 1
- ⇒ Somewhat effective - 6
- ⇒ Very effective - 1
- ⇒ Extremely effective - 1

Comments:

- ⇒ Some are much more effective than others, so it is difficult to answer when they are all bundled together, but usually they need more funding.
- ⇒ There is just so much need and not enough resources. Most jobs around here don't pay enough to be a livable wage or keep up with inflation. A Bachelor's/Master's degree doesn't assure you a stable high income. Most people are struggling just to get by and the community is becoming more and more expensive...Waitlists are so long or closed. Our large population of Spanish speaking families do not feel included or accepted in this town, which makes it even more difficult to access resources.

McMinnville

Total McMinnville Surveys		37
Role		
Parent		34
Resource Parent		1
No response		2
Race/ Ethnicity		
White		14
Hispanic/ Latino		15
Hispanic/ Latino/ White		4
American Indian/ Alaska Native/ White		3
No response		1
Education Level		
Less than High School Graduate		7
High School Graduate or GED		14
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College		7
Advance or Baccalaureate		5
Current Housing Situation		
Renting		24
Living with Friends or Family		7
Own Home		6

Highest Stressor in the past year	Number of Responses
Food Assistance	17
Finances	17
Child Care Access	12
Child Care Cost	12
Transportation	8
Employment	7
Housing	7
Health Insurance	6
Education for Child	6
Education for Adult	6
Mental Health	6
Disabilities*	5
Marital/ Personal	4
Medical for Adult	4
Eligibility for Services	3
Dental for Adult	2
Dental for Child	1
Substance Abuse	1

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ Affordable health care/ Access to health insurance
- ⇒ Parent support
- ⇒ Trauma informed organizations like city, chamber, especially school district
- ⇒ Housing services/ Housing support/ Help with housing for community/ Low income housing
- ⇒ More places to help with rental assistance and help with paying other bills
- ⇒ Services that help low-income families
- ⇒ Shorter wait list for kids OT, affordable child care
- ⇒ Available free services resource fair/ Job fairs
- ⇒ Affordable child care
- ⇒ More cooking classes
- ⇒ Access physical, occupational, speech therapy services more locally
- ⇒ More diaper banks for help with emergency times in need (open evenings) and resources on getting help with baby essentials
- ⇒ Help with household supplies, toiletries, cleaning supplies
- ⇒ Mother/ baby groups where you can bring kids – opportunity to play/ learn – community building/ socialization
- ⇒ Help with substance abuse (alcohol)
- ⇒ More activities to do with kids/ socializing
- ⇒ Food pantries with more fruits and vegetables and more whole foods. Having more local things for special needs kids to do.
- ⇒ Translation

Comments on Highest Stressors:

- ⇒ No accommodations being offered or respected for my child's disability. Its been more of “my way or the highway”
- ⇒ Lack of services to support I/DD, school system failure to support students with IEPs
- ⇒ Specialized child care for kids with autism.

McMinnville cont.



Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Lack of knowledge of programs available
- ⇒ Limited services and excessive wait lists
- ⇒ My family qualifies for SNAP but with a benefit amount of \$0. Making it hard some months, especially when jobs are slow.
- ⇒ Transportation or being available during times of services
- ⇒ Want to join parenting groups but there are conflicts with work or nap times
- ⇒ More of a lack of knowledge as to what's available and difficulty knowing if eligible for any thing
- ⇒ Just time barriers
- ⇒ Often find ourselves in the grey area with resources where we make too much to qualify but not enough to be able to have our needs met
- ⇒ I don't drive due to a disability
- ⇒ Not making enough income or making too much
- ⇒ Not being able to go to a service at a particular time
- ⇒ Struggle getting primary doctor
- ⇒ Sometimes Well Ride decides it's not medically necessary. I tried to go to an IEP workshop, and they wouldn't provide a ride for me to attend. Transportation has been a barrier.

Effectiveness of Community Programs in addressing community needs:

- ⇒ Not so effective - 1
- ⇒ Somewhat effective - 14
- ⇒ Very effective - 11
- ⇒ Extremely effective - 8
- ⇒ No response - 2

Comments on Effectiveness of Community Programs:

- ⇒ Community programs are only effective if people know about them. There's not enough communication for them to be considered extremely effective in my personal opinion.
- ⇒ Being on the Parent Advisory Council with the YCCO has helped the family know what other community resources are available.
- ⇒ I think they're doing the best they can in the world we live in.
- ⇒ Community programs need to be advertised more. A lot of people don't know what resources are available because they are embarrassed asking for help when it is needed and if it was more common knowledge people wouldn't feel as uncomfortable asking about those programs because they already would have a base knowledge.

Newberg



Total Newberg Surveys		16
Role		
Parent		16
Race/ Ethnicity		
White		5
Hispanic/ Latino		7
Hispanic/ Latino/ White		2
Black or African American/ Hispanic/ Latino/ White		2
Education Level		
Less than High School Graduate		5
High School Graduate or GED		8
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College		1
Advance or Baccalaureate		2
Current Housing Situation		
Renting		9
Own Home		6
Other: Living in a Hotel		1

Highest Stressors in the past year	Number of Responses
Finances	8
Food Assistance	5
Immigration Status	4
Mental Health	4
Eligibility for Services	3
Housing	3
Child Care Cost	3
Marital/ Personal	2
Dental for Adult	2
Medical for Child	2
Other*	2
Health Insurance	1
Child Care Access	1
Education for Child	1
Dental for Child	1
Medical for Adult	1
Disabilities	1
Substance Abuse	1

*Economy: prices are expensive

*New baby with lots of medical issues

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ Housing and easier access
- ⇒ Mental health
- ⇒ Child care
- ⇒ Diaper bank—currently have a Family Place on Thursdays
- ⇒ Family Activity Center
- ⇒ Adult education
- ⇒ Child care that is slightly less expensive
- ⇒ Legal advice that doesn't cost a lot

Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Food for those who are gluten-free, also the food provided is very expired, 2-5 years old
- ⇒ There is a number for housing, but no one answers the phone in the building

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

- ⇒ Somewhat effective - 4
- ⇒ Very effective - 9
- ⇒ Extremely effective - 2
- ⇒ No response - 1

Comment:

- ⇒ I don't really know because I am new to this area and I really do not go out.

Sheridan



Total Sheridan Surveys	11
Role	
Parent	11
Race/ Ethnicity	
White	10
Hispanic/ Latino	1
Education Level	
High School Graduate or GED	7
Associate's degree, Vocational School, or Some College	4
Current Housing Situation	
Renting	4
Own Home	2
Living with Friends or Family	5

Biggest Stressors in the past year	Number of Responses
Finances	7
Food Assistance	4
Employment	3
Education for Adult	3
Health Insurance	1
Eligibility for Services	1
Marital/ Personal	1
Transportation	1
Child Care Cost	1
Education for Child	1
Other – Cost of Food*	1

*Comment: Once both parents start working it gets really hard to afford life.

Community resources respondents would like to available:

- ⇒ More rental assistance
- ⇒ Medical service
- ⇒ Job board, housing, child care, more activities for kids, parent groups
- ⇒ Transportation services, more affordable groceries locally
- ⇒ Housing for low income, resources to get a job or go back to school to either better career or change careers (grants and scholarships for low-income families), better assistance for single parent

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

- ⇒ Not at all effective - 2
- ⇒ Not so effective - 1
- ⇒ Somewhat effective - 2
- ⇒ Very effective - 2
- ⇒ Extremely effective - 2
- ⇒ No response - 1

Comments:

- ⇒ Too many resources don't care about situations, wait lists too long, they make you jump through hoops just to say they can't help.
- ⇒ Beyond Backpacks didn't contact us this year and they did the last 2 years, so we missed it.
- ⇒ I am low income and a single family income, also fled a DV situation yet I was denied housing (HUD, YCAP, Section 8). I'm still baffled by that when I know of other families who make more who were granted housing.

Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Schedule conflicts with only one car
- ⇒ Yes, there aren't any. Wait lists way too long, too much red tape to navigate.
- ⇒ The cost of most things
- ⇒ We make just a little too much money to qualify for services but can't afford to live independently.
- ⇒ We are technically making too much money to qualify for services but not enough to live.
- ⇒ Services are hard to find and when asked about them, receive vague answers and no guidance on how to go about applying for them.

Willamina



Total Willamina Surveys		5
Role		
Parent		5
Race/ Ethnicity		
White		2
Hispanic/ Latino/ White		1
American Indian/ Alaska Na- tive		1
Black or African American/ White		1
Education Level		
Less than High School Gradu- ate		1
High School Graduate or GED		1
Associate’s degree, Vocation- al School, or Some College		2
Current Housing Situation		
Renting		3
Own Home		1
Houseless		1

Biggest Stressor in the past year	Number of Responses
Finances	4
Employment	3
Child Care Cost	3
Food Assistance	2
Child Care Access	2
Health Insurance	1
Eligibility for Services	1
Housing	1
Transportation	1
Education for Child	1

Comments on barriers to accessing community services:

- ⇒ Finances cause us not to meet “need” but we still struggle.
- ⇒ I struggle with making appointments due to finances and transportation.
- ⇒ Lack of employment, transportation, and affordable housing

Community resources respondents would like to see:

- ⇒ Safe places, free of drugs and homelessness, for my family to play
- ⇒ Dress for Success
- ⇒ Housing placement help
- ⇒ Better transportation (bus) services

Effectiveness of community programs in addressing community needs:

- ⇒ Somewhat effective – 4
- ⇒ Extremely effective – 1

Community Resources

Early Learning & Care Programs

Head Start of Yamhill County serves 314 children in a variety of options to meet the needs of families and the community. We offer full-day/ full-year and part-day/ part year classrooms, home based, and a combination of home based and classroom services. All of our families receive family visits focused on parenting and self-sufficiency skills development and, as needed, crisis support.

Total number of publicly-funded available Early Learning and Care slots (see the chart below) in Yamhill County has increased by 58 since our 2020-2021 Community Assessment.

In addition to the home visiting slots noted in the table below, Yamhill County Public Health offers Nurse Home Visiting services through Babies First, CaCoon, Nurse-Family Partnership, and Family Connects. WESD provides Early Intervention (ages 0- 2) home visiting services in addition to their 25 Preschool Promise classroom slots. These home visiting slots are not capped, and are currently serving 113 children and families.

Publicly Funded Provider	Number of Early Learning / Care Slots
A Family Place	100 (65 classroom, 35 home visiting)
Dayton School District Preschool Promise	22
Grand Ronde Head Start	20
Grand Ronde Early Head Start	44 (home visiting)
Little Bird Child Care	20
McMinnville School District	108
Mi Escuelita	16
Newberg School District	40
Oregon Child Development Coalition	28
Willamette Education Service District	25

Available Child Care

According to the Oregon Department of Early Learning Child Care Licensing Division, there are currently 90 licensed care facilities in Yamhill County (including HSYC centers) with a capacity of 2,393 (248 of which are HSYC slots).

The supply of child care for Yamhill County includes regulated (licensed) slots in certified centers, certified family homes, and registered family homes as well as license-exempt and recorded facilities that receive public funding. The Oregon Child Care Research Partnership release of “Oregon’s Child Care Deserts 2024” showed that Yamhill County had 62 providers and 643 slots for children ages 0-2 in all types of child care and early learning programs. HSYC accounts for 130 of those slots. They further reported that there were 80 providers and 1,345 slots for children ages 3-5. HSYC accounts for 184 of those slots.

Experts define a child care desert as a community with more than three children for every regulated child care slot. Like most counties in Oregon, Yamhill County has been a child care desert for years. While the number of available, regulated slots is steadily increasing for children ages 0-5 in Yamhill County, only 19% of children ages 0-2, and 27% of children ages 3-5 have access to a regulated slot. Between December of 2020 and December of 2024, the percentage of slots for children ages 0-2 increased by 7% percentage points, and by 4% percentage points for children ages 3-5.

Strengths of the Community

Service Agencies	
Chehalem Youth & Family Services	Provoking Hope
Child Care Resource & Referral	Unidos Bridging Community
Churches	WIC Salud
Department of Human Services	WorkSource Oregon
Henderson House	Yamhill Community Action Partnership
Housing Authority of Yamhill County	Yamhill Community Care Organization
Juliette’s House	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
Love, INC.	Yamhill Early Learning Hub
Lutheran Community Services	Yamhill County Public Libraries

Yamhill County has a wide array of resources to meet the needs of community members, although most are concentrated in the McMinnville and Newberg areas. Based on feedback from our 2025 Community Assessment Family Needs survey, offering more opportunities for community members to learn about and enrollment in these services may be something to work toward.



Summary of Findings/ Opportunities

- ⇒ Ensuring that community resources are visible and accessible in Yamhill County is crucial for low-income families. A recurring theme from individuals in communities across the county is the lack of knowledge and/ or lack of ability to easily navigate and access the services available.
- ⇒ Another theme echoed across communities is household income slightly above thresholds to access services, but not enough to sustain the household. Determining how community and community agencies can address this growing number of families could support their journeys toward self-sufficiency.
- ⇒ The lack of pediatric dentists is a hardship for families in Yamhill County. Recruitment of new dentists to the area is crucial.
- ⇒ The lack of available affordable housing continues to be an issue in Yamhill County. While great strides in infrastructure have been made, the need for additional units remains.
- ⇒ There has been a 16% increase in the number of early learning and care slots available in Yamhill County over the past 5 years. In order to meet the changing needs of children and families in poverty, HSYC reduced the number of PreK slots, transitioning them to slots for children ages 2-3 years, and longer days, weeks, and school year for most PreK slots, thereby filling an unmet early learning and child care need.
- ⇒ The number of families identified as homeless by the McKinney-Vento Act has been on the rise not only with HSYC families but across most school districts in the county. With 44% of Yamhill County households qualifying as ALICE, it correlates that more families may need to be doubling up to meet their housing needs.
- ⇒ 15% of families responding to the Community Assessment Family Needs survey indicated that immigration status was one of the highest stressors in the past year. In the current political climate, the presence of ICE in Yamhill County is impacting family mental health and well-being. We are fortunate to have UNIDOS Bridging Community as a leading resource and structure for community connections and support.