

Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) 2015



***Helping Families,
Strengthening Communities***



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Causes of Poverty

One of the purposes of the Community Strengths and Needs Assessment is to determine mitigating factors that cause poverty in our geographic area. Many of the causes of poverty are universal. Lack of education, unemployment or under-employment, the wealth gap, affordable childcare, single-parent families, cost of transportation, lack of health insurance, housing and foods cost all, or even singularity, can contribute to poverty for a family. In Hinds County we see disparaging data that mirrors these causes. We have an under-educated populace that lack higher education or have not obtained a GED. Per capita income in Hinds County is below the Mississippi and United States averages. Hinds County is seeing an increase in the percent of persons below the poverty level over the last five years. Almost half of our children live in poverty and the trend is only getting worse year by year. This is even more relevant when data shows our youth population has declined since 2006.

Almost 50 percent of households in Hinds County who have children are female only. And 12 percent less children are enrolled in pre-school or a nursery than they were in 2006. Also, only 15 percent of non-white mothers have four years or more of college and 18% lack a high school diploma. Many of our customers cite a lack of health insurance as a concern and almost 43 percent do not have health insurance.

Our community partners cite a lack of full time jobs without benefits and a lack of living wage jobs as a major concern in Hinds County. Further, data shows that we lack a robust public transportation service in Hinds County and that most workers are dependent on automobiles to get to work. Yet, both HCHRA customers and community partners cite the cost of owning and maintaining an automobile as prohibitive factors for a family.

A majority of our customers rent their homes by a rate of two to one. And, many report that even with SNAP benefits they lack enough funds to cover food costs each month.

Conditions of Poverty

In Hinds County, people living in poverty tend to be clustered in certain streets, communities, and neighborhoods rather than being spread evenly across the county. Research has shown that the poor living in areas where poverty is prevalent face impediments beyond those of their individual circumstances. Additionally, an important dimension of poverty is time. An area that has a high level of poverty this year, but not next year, is likely better off than an area that has a high level of poverty in both years. To shed light on this aspect of poverty, the USDA Economic Research Service defined counties as being persistently poor if 20 percent or more of their populations were living in poverty over the last 30 years (measured by the 1980, 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-year estimates). Using this definition, there are currently 353 persistently poor counties in the United States (comprising 11.2 percent of all U.S. counties). Hinds County is one of those.

Concentrated and persistent poverty in Hinds County contributes to five major conditions including poor housing and health conditions, higher crime and school dropout rates, as well as employment dislocations. As a result, economic conditions in our very poor areas can create limited opportunities for poor residents that become self-perpetuating.

A robust dataset links poverty to both lower life expectancies from chronic diseases (especially cancer and heart disease) and increased infant and child mortality (Braveman, 2007¹; Bloche,

¹ Braveman P. The unsolved mystery of racial disparities in infant health: Do we know enough to act? [conference paper]. Health Status Disparities in the United States. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Conference; 4 April 2007; 2007. [12 January 2008]. Available: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/docs/Braveman.pdf>.

2007²; Kaplan, 2007³; Murray et al., 2005⁴). The term “feminization of poverty” refers to the observation that in the US and elsewhere women often have fewer economic resources than do men and are more likely to be heads of single-parent families (Starrels et al., 1994⁵). Poverty is particularly feminized among black women (Starrels et al., 1994). As shown in their research, almost one-half of black female heads of single-parent households live below the poverty level, and black mothers are twice as likely to have premature or low birth weight infants or to have infants that die in infancy than white mothers (Braveman, 2007).

Poverty’s effects on crime can be explained through a variety of reasons. “There is a higher rate of mental illness in the poor than in the rich” (Brill 40⁶). Poverty can lead to high levels of stress that in turn may lead individuals to commit theft, robbery, or other violent acts. Moreover, poverty may lead to an actual or perceived inferior education, which would cause youth to count on less access to quality schools, jobs, and role models, decreasing the opportunity costs of crime and increasing the probability of youth spending time on the street associating with gangs, etc. (Ludwig 1⁷).

² Bloche G. Opening presentation. Health Status Disparities in the United States [conference paper]. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Conference; 4 April 2007; 2007. [12 January 2008]. Available: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/docs/Bloche.pdf>. [Reference list]

³ Kaplan G. Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health: What they look like and what can be done about them [conference paper]. Health Status Disparities in the United States. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Conference; 4 April 2007; 2007. [12 January 2008]. Available: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/docs/Kaplan.pdf>.

⁴ Murray CJL, Kulkarni S, Ezzati M. Eight Americas. New perspectives on U.S. health disparities. *Am J Prev Med.* 2005;29:4–10.

⁵ Starrels M, Bould S, Nicholas LJ. The feminization of poverty in the United States. *J Family Issues.* 1994;15:590–607.

⁶ Brill, Norman Q. *America’s Psychic Malignancy.* Springfield, IL: Charles C Thomas Publisher, 1993.

⁷ Ludwig, Jens, Greg J. Duncan, and Paul Hirschfield. *Urban Poverty and Juvenile Crime: Evidence From a Randomized Housing-Mobility Experiment.* 20 April 2000. <<http://www.jcpr.org/wpfiles/duncan.ludwig.revise4-25.PDF>>

Crime offers a way in which impoverished people can obtain material goods that they cannot attain through legitimate means. Often threat or force can help them acquire even more goods, this induces them to commit violent acts such as robbery, which is the second most common violent crime. For many impoverished people, the prize that crime yields may outweigh the risk of being caught, especially given that their opportunity cost is lower than that of a wealthier person. Thus, poverty can increase crime rates.

However, many other factors influence crime and are correlated with poverty as well. Higher unemployment would certainly increase poverty and at the same time lead to more crime due to depression associated with being unemployed. Personal income per capita, which is inversely correlated with the poverty level, still may increase crime since greater wealth means greater benefits to thieves and robbers. Furthermore, because of social class gaps, personal income per capita rates may not affect poverty to a great extent (because the income may be concentrated in a small percentage of the population). It might even accentuate the difference between the upper and lower classes, thereby inducing more crime.

Variations in the composition of population can affect crime in different ways. First, adolescents are often responsible for crimes committed. “The poor delinquent child... is more apt to be expelled from school or have a police record than a well-to-do delinquent...” (Brill 40). A higher percentage of inhabitants under the age of twenty-five may lead to higher crime rates. On the other hand, the elderly, because of their possessions and vulnerability, are believed to be the most frequent victims of crime.

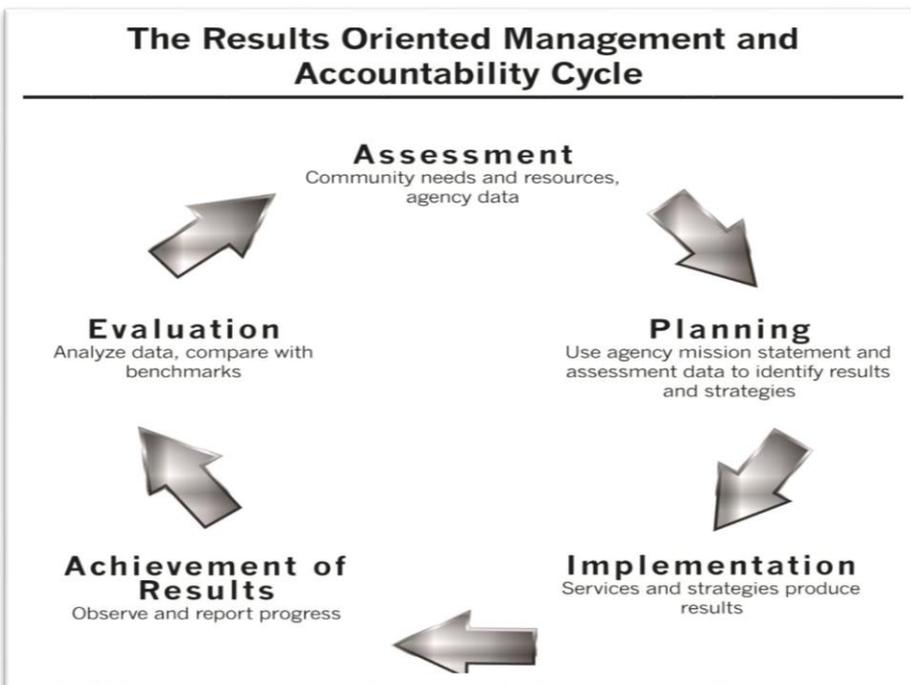
Again, HCHRA notes these four conditions of poverty that affect people in poverty in Hinds County. HCHRA is dedicated to services to overcome the causes of poverty in order to change these conditions of poverty.

Background

HCHRA has a carefully developed structure and operating procedures in order to be effective at fulfilling its purpose. The strategic planning process helps HCHRA express a vision of the organization's potential and outline the steps necessary to work toward that potential, and determine the staffing needed to implement the plan. HCHRA uses the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Cycle developed by Julie Jakopic, Creating the Vision, and Barbara Mooney, Community Action Association of Pennsylvania. The cycle was created in “Planning for Results” in 2006 as a guide for a results oriented planning process. They developed the ROMA Cycle to help contextualize the planning process within the full range of ROMA activities identified in the Administration for Children and Families Office of Community Services Information Memorandum 49.

The community services plan development cycle includes:

Diagram 1: ROMA Cycle



Outline

The annual community assessment process was conducted by the Hinds County Human Resource Agency from August 2014 through July 2015. HCHRA uses a bilateral two-pronged approach to assessing the community. Needs emphasis was placed on making decisions and setting priorities based on both quantitative and qualitative data using both primary and secondary sources.

Diagram 2: Assessment Process

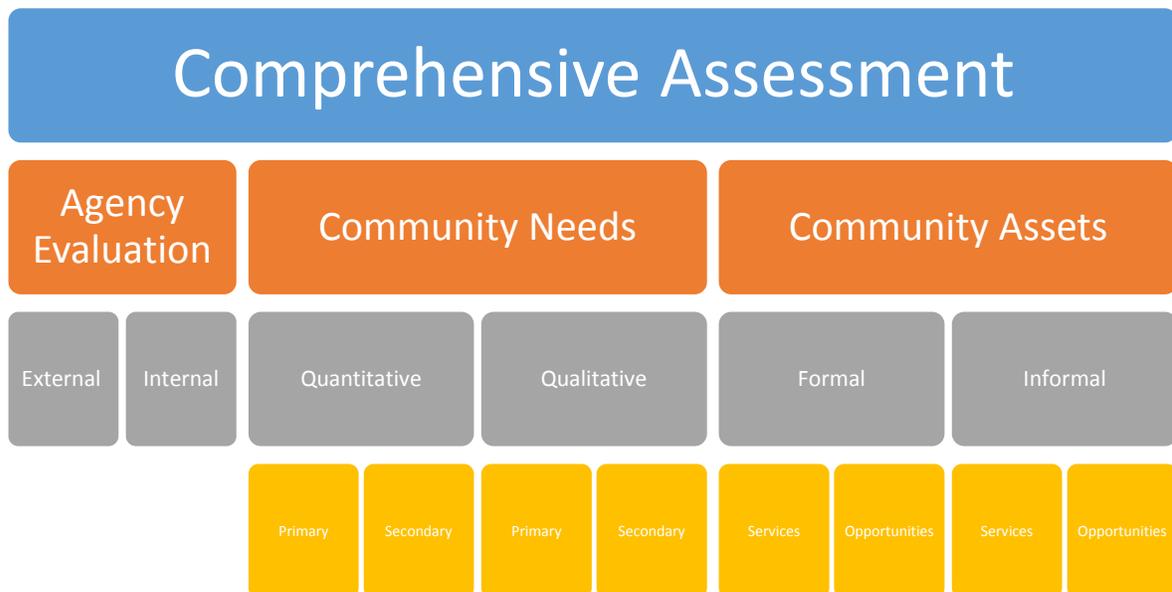
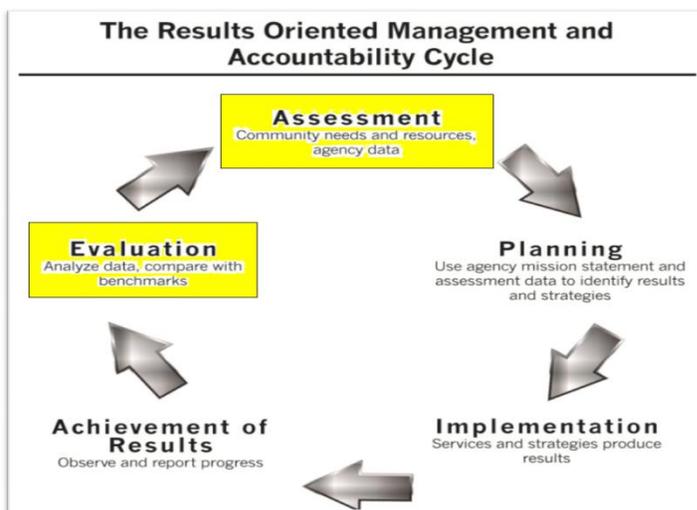


Diagram 3: ROMA Cycle, Evaluation and Assessment



Comprehensive assessment information was researched and gathered from:

- i. Agency Evaluation
- ii. Community Needs
 - o Quantitative
 - Primary – Customer research using agency intake and assessment forms and stored in HCHRA’s data system – Virtual ROMA
 - Secondary – Community research through multiple federal and other national data sources including the CAP community assessment tool Community Commons
 - o Qualitative
 - Primary – Public opinion through distributed surveys and public forums.
 - Secondary – Public opinion through partnership meetings and surveys
- iii. Community Assets
 - o Formal Partnerships – signed agreements and MOUs
 - Services – community organizations that provide actual services to persons of low income (assistance, vouchers, projects or programs)
 - Opportunities – community businesses or organizations that are accessible to persons of low income (jobs, housing, transportation, childcare)
 - o Informal Partnerships – community assets that appear in the community but do not have formal agreements or MOUs with HCHRA
 - Services – community organizations that provide actual services to persons of low income (assistance, projects or programs)

- Opportunities – community businesses or organizations that are accessible to persons of low income (Jobs, housing, transportation, childcare)

Comprehensive Assessment

Agency Evaluation

HCHRA uses a multi-method approach that involves (1) pre-assessment, which includes gathering baseline information via service scales; (2) data collection, which is done via the standard CSNA questionnaire, Virtual ROMA and the Head Start Family Partnership Agreement; (3) outcome projections, which involves transforming current status into projected outcomes via case management and family partnership agreements; and (4) implementation or carrying multiple strategies for using the collected data to accomplish desired results. Additional input is provided from various stakeholders, including agency clients, public officials, Head Start families, Policy Council, and Board of Directors.

HCHRA uses innovative ways and remains customer-based and outcome-focused by furthering development in three core levels of service: Family, Agency and Community. HCHRA focuses on assessing needs and developing opportunities and outcomes for persons of low-income to become more self-sufficient and for vulnerable populations to achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems (Family); so the conditions in which persons of low-income live are improved and so persons of low-income own a stake in their community (Community); and for developing Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to persons of low-income so that HCHRA increases our capacity to achieve results (Agency).

Family

The following is a snapshot of 2014's outputs at the family level:

5,027 families received home energy assistance;

640 seniors were served more than 8,000 pre-plated lunches through congregate meals program;

29,485 meals were delivered to 1,268 homes in Hinds County;

2,356 children enrolled in Head Start and Early Head Start; 28 pregnant women were enrolled in Early Head Start;

37,188 trips covering 244,180 miles were made via the Rural Transportation Program for citizens including the elderly and disabled; and

732 citizens received tax services.

Last year's outcomes at the family level include:

Over 5,000 individuals were prevented from being homeless;

Over 600 elderly nutritional needs were met;

Over 1,900 household nutritional needs were met;

Over 2,000 infants and children obtain age-appropriate immunizations, medical, and dental care;

Over 2,000 infant and child health and physical development are improved as a result of adequate nutrition;

Over 1000 children who participate in pre-school activities are developmentally ready to enter kindergarten;

173 clients gained employment;

204 clients obtained skills/competencies required for employment;

Over 37,000 transportation needs were met; and

Over \$1.4 million returned to the Hinds County economy through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Community

Two thousand and five accessible safe and affordable child care or child development placement opportunities for low-income families in seventeen 17 centers were saved from reduction or elimination throughout Hinds County. Three neighborhood service areas were able to remain accessible in Hinds County. Transportation services, including 15 buses with a total of 236 seats, were saved from elimination. Over 396,000 hours of volunteer time was donated to the agency with over 380,000 of those hours coming from individuals of low income.

Agency

HCHRA continued to develop its ability to produce outcomes throughout the 2014 year. The agency showed a partnership with 156 organizations. Three hundred ninety-two staff attended trainings in 2014, totaling to 3,980 hours of training. Fifteen Board Members also attended training to account for 139 hours of training time. HCHRA hired a Nationally Certified ROMA Master Trainer in 2014, while also having an executive level staff member in training to become a Certified ROMA Trainer in 2015.

Community Needs

Quantitative Assessment Data

Primary

Moving forward, it is important to HCHRA that we not only study the demographics of communities as a whole, but also continue to develop understanding of our populations from within their own defined communities, counties, neighborhoods and regions. Furthermore, it is important to use local data of individuals that are currently accessing our services through multiple projects and programs.

The raw materials of our customers' demography are records of the persons who comprise our populations – records that tell of the various demographic events these persons experienced and the various characteristics that described them at different times in their lives. When assembling this raw material, we are concerned with particular persons. Demography is not about persons as such, but about populations and about persons as members of a population. Populations have an existence and identity in time beyond the existence and identity of their members. Persons are born, live out their lives, and die. Populations endure, often for scores or hundreds of generations. This raw data has been pulled from the HCHRA case management system and the Head Start COPA system and is presented here as demographic information of persons as a community population. Also, using our data systems, we are able to compile the needs of each of our customers and compile them into real community needs assessment.

The Program Participant Data (Chart 1 – Chart 10) are the characteristics from participants that received services through Head Start, CSBG and LIHEAP programs and only contain a percentage of individuals for whom data was documented and collected throughout the 2014 fiscal year.

These demographics show that primarily the customers that apply for services are black or African-American female adults, aged 18 to 54, and of those, 34% are single mothers. A majority of our customers (54%) are single individuals. While over 50% of the families are employed, 92% of the families' income is below 100% the Federal Poverty Level. Also, our customers tend to either not have a high school diploma (20%) or have received one and have not obtained any further education (41%). Only 9% of our customers have a 2- or 4-year college degree. It is also extremely important to note that majority of customers are renters (76%).

The following are charts and graphs for the demographic data captured for FY 2014 and reported in the CSBG Information Systems Survey Report – Section G (see Table 1) to the National Association for State Community Services Programs.

Chart 1: Gender of Individuals Served in FY 2014

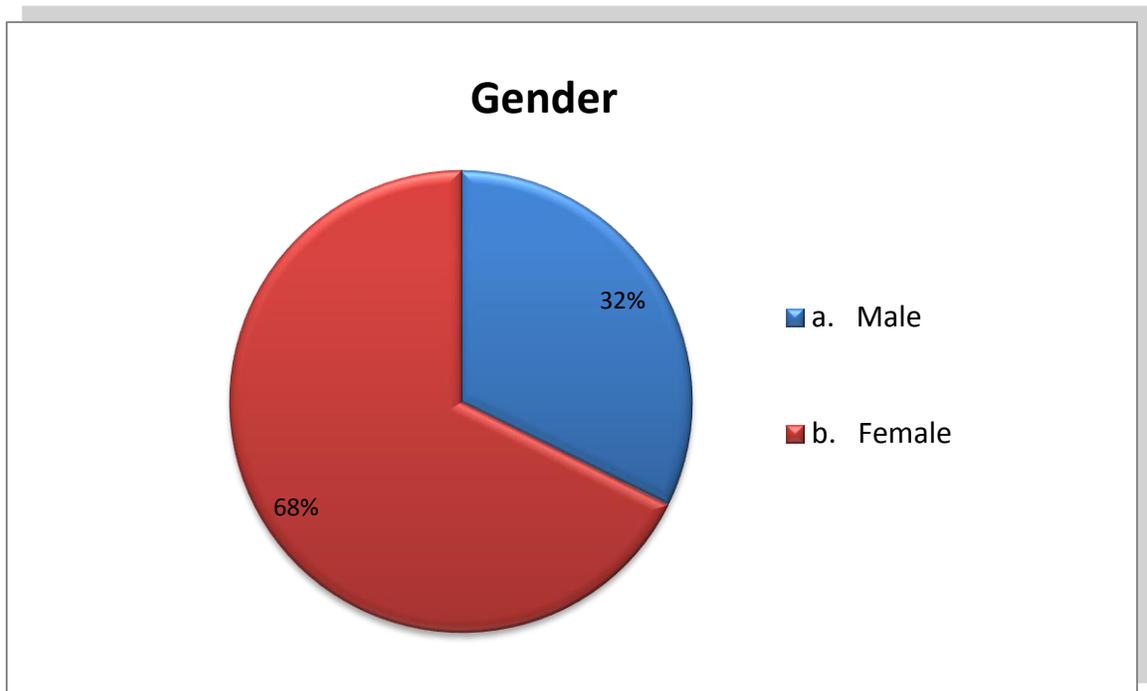


Chart 2: Race of Individuals Served in FY 2014

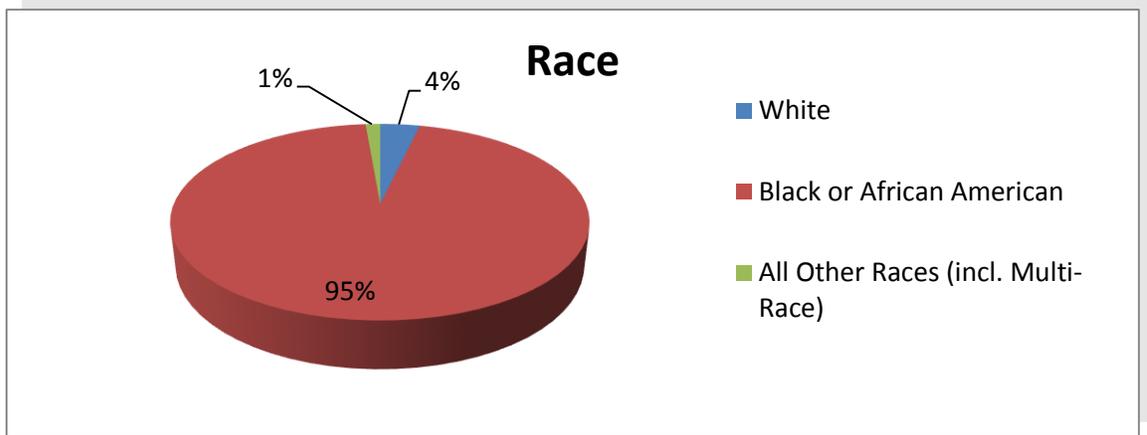


Chart 3: Age of Individuals Served in FY 2014

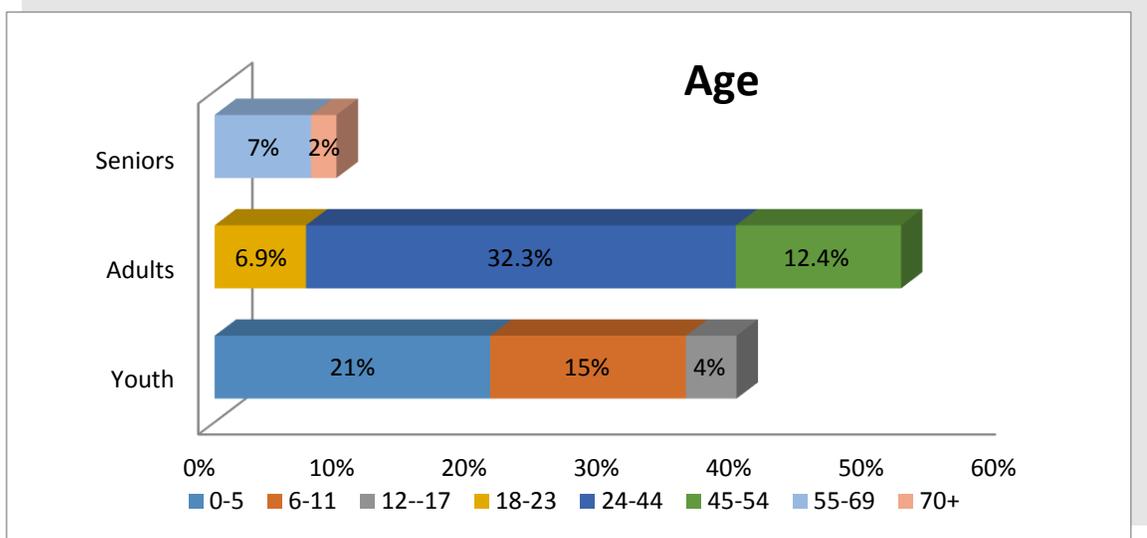


Chart 4: Other Characteristics of Individual Served in FY 2014

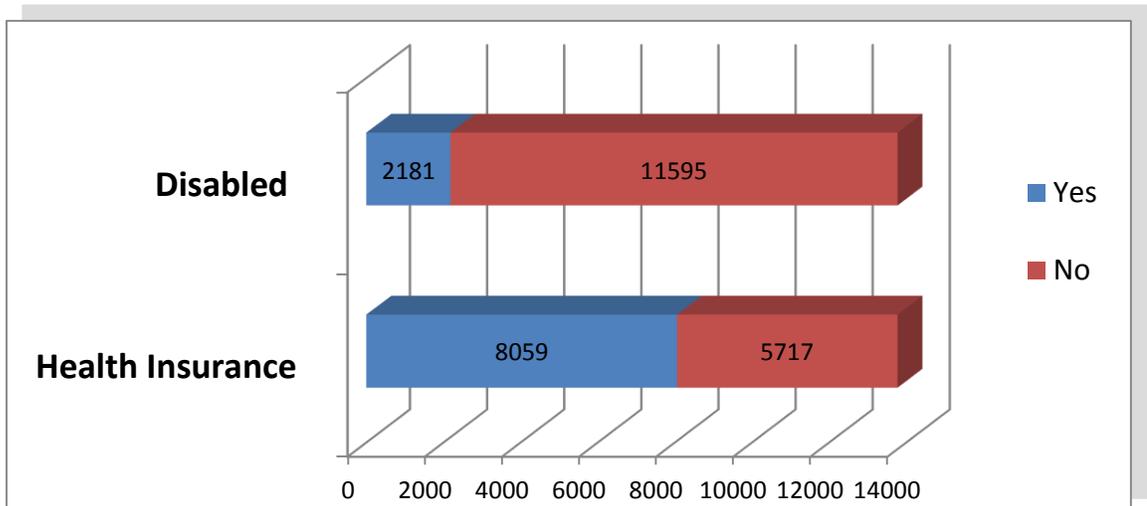


Chart 5: Family Type Who Received Services in FY 2014

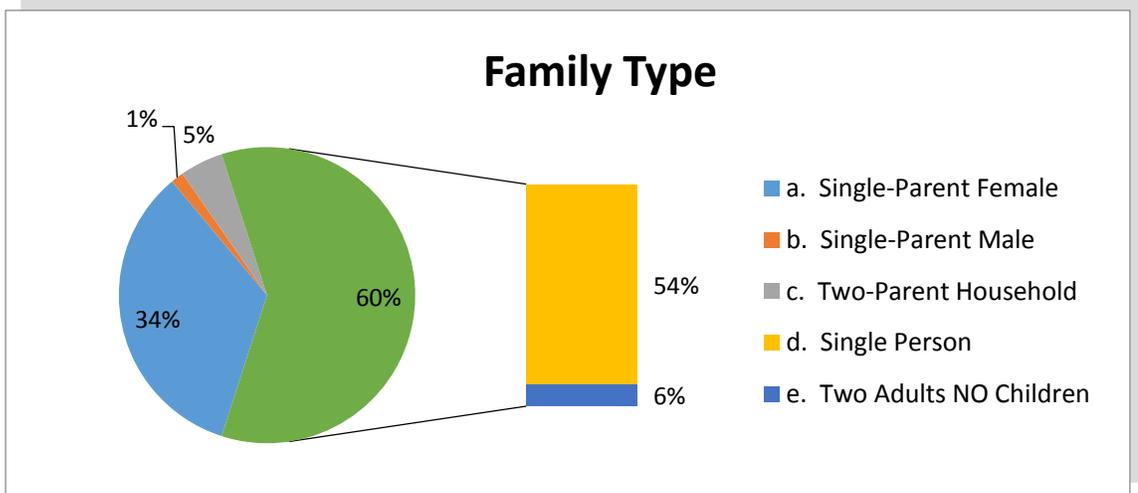


Chart 6: Family Size Who Received Services in FY 2014

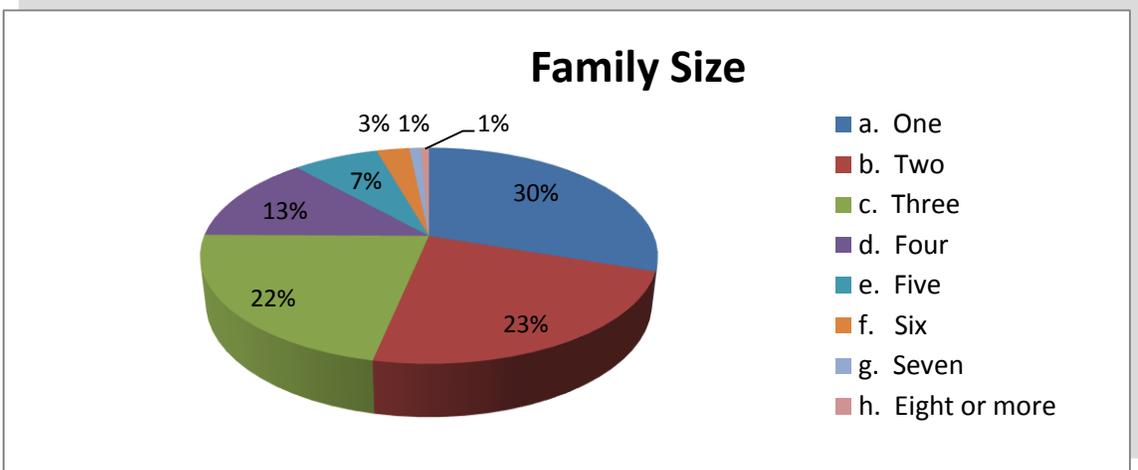


Chart 7: Family Housing – Own vs Rent

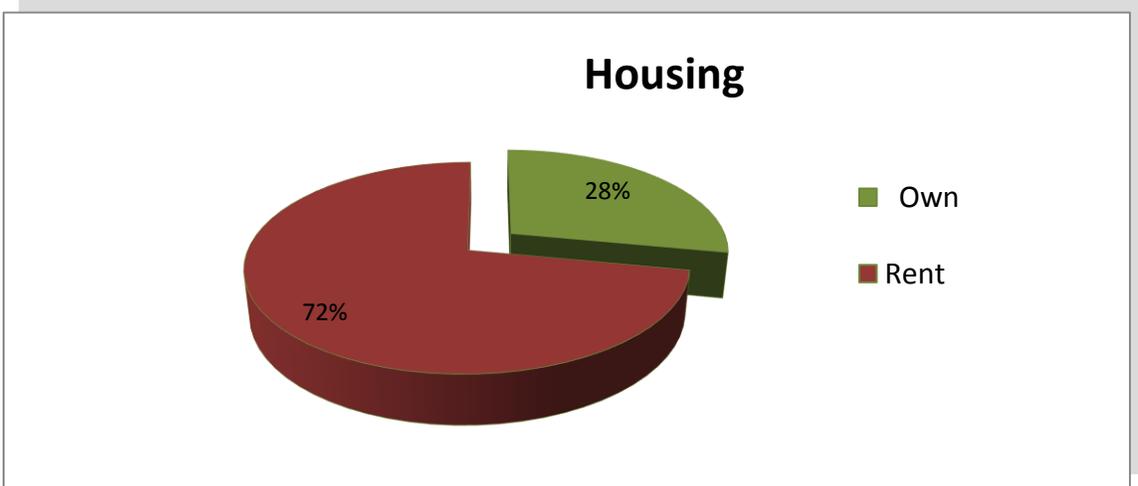


Chart 8: All Income Sources for Families Who Received Services in FY 2014

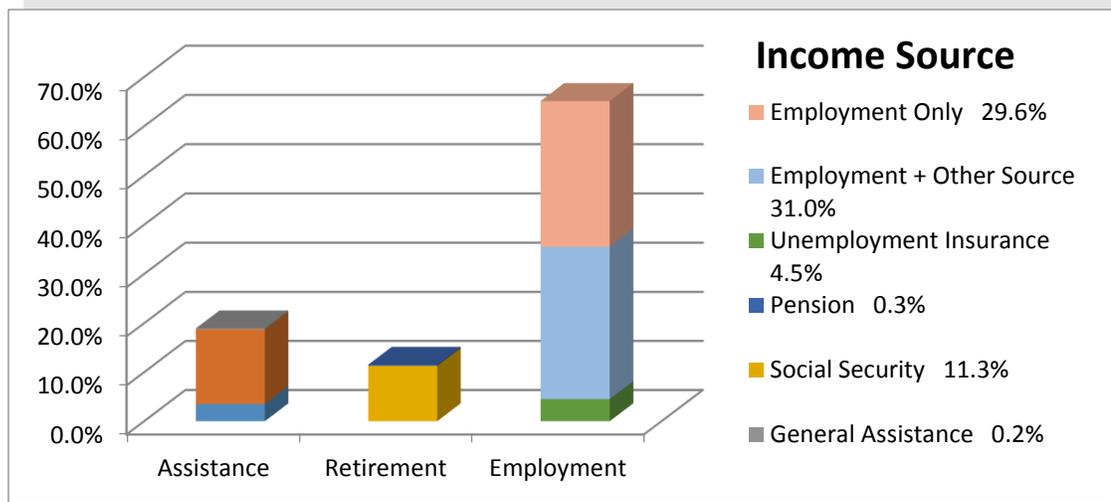


Chart 9: Household Level of Income in FY 2014

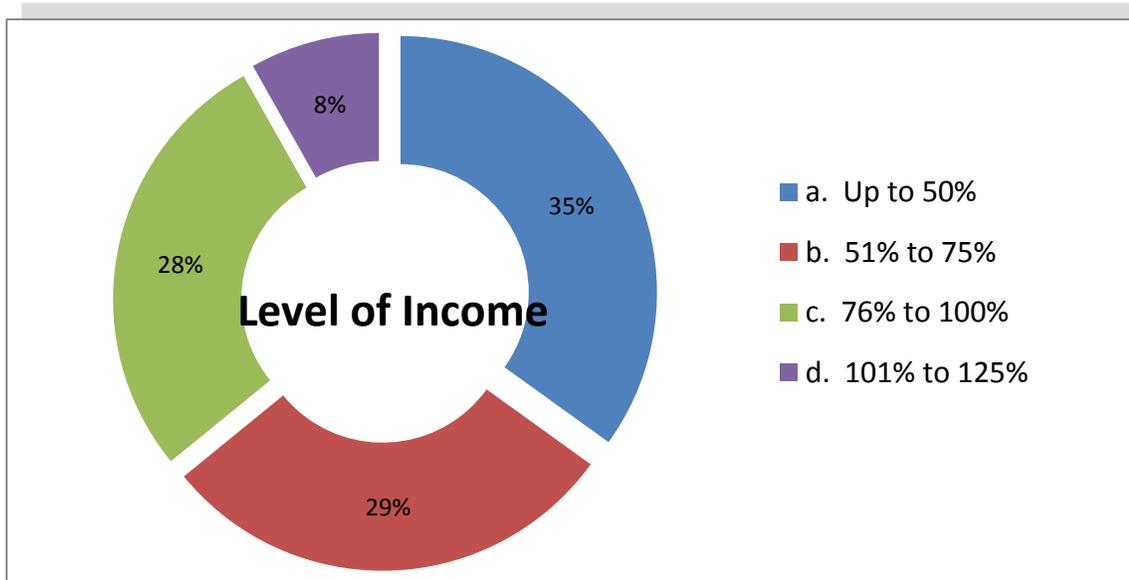


Chart 10: Education Levels (Adults 24 Years or Older) FY 2014

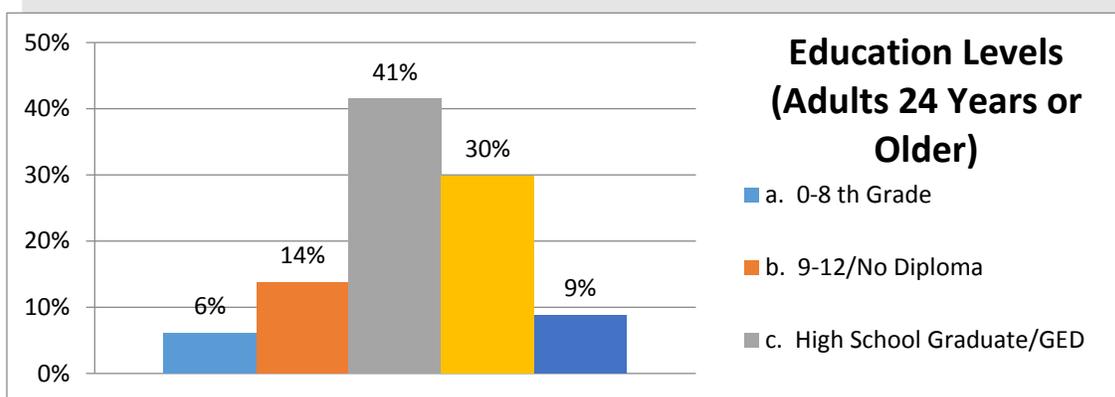


Table 1: FY 2014 Section G – IS Report

7. Gender	Number of Persons*			13. Family Size	Number of Families***	
a. Male	4,349	32.3%		a. One	1,485	30.2%
b. Female	9,106	67.7%		b. Two	1,137	23.1%
TOTAL*	13,455			c. Three	1,077	21.9%
				d. Four	648	13.2%
8. Age	Number of Persons*			e. Five	355	7.2%
a. 0 - 5	2,571	20.7%		f. Six	137	2.8%
b. 6 - 11	1,826	14.7%		g. Seven	48	1.0%
c. 12 - 17	471	3.8%		h. Eight or more	34	0.7%
d. 18 - 23	852	6.9%		TOTAL***	4,921	
e. 24 - 44	4,010	32.3%				
f. 45 - 54	1,544	12.4%		14. Source of Family Income	Number of Families	
g. 55 - 69	899	7.2%		a. Unduplicated # Families Reporting		
h. 70 +	238	1.9%		One or More Sources of Income	2,177	71.5%
TOTAL*	12,411			b. Unduplicated # Families Reporting		
				Zero Income	869	28.5%
9. Ethnicity/Race	Number of Persons*			TOTAL Unduplicated # Families Reporting One or More Sources of Income or Zero Income.***	3,046	
I. Ethnicity				Below please report the total # of families identifying the applicable sources of income		
a. Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	111	0.8%		c. TANF	215	3.5%
b. Not Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin	13,562	99.2%		d. SSI	942	15.2%
TOTAL*	13,673			e. Social Security	697	11.3%
				f. Pension	16	0.3%
II. Race				g. General Assistance	14	0.2%
a. White	498	3.6%		h. Unemployment Insurance	278	4.5%
b. Black or African American	12,991	95.0%		i. Employment + Other Source	1,917	31.0%
c. American Indian and Alaska Native	7	0.1%		j. Employment Only	1,830	29.6%
d. Asian	4	0.0%		k. Other	272	4.4%
e. Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	0.0%		l. Total (Items c-k)	6,181	
f. Other	91	0.7%				
g. Multi-Race (any two or more of the above)	81	0.6%		15. Level of Family Income		
TOTAL*	13,673			(% Of HHS Guideline)	Number of Families***	
				a. Up to 50%	1,967	40.0%
10. Education Levels of Adults #	Number of Persons**			b. 51% to 75%	1,288	26.2%
(# For Adults 24 Years Or Older Only)				c. 76% to 100%	1,033	21.0%
a. 0-8 th Grade	449	6%		d. 101% to 125%	488	9.9%
b. 9-12/No Diploma	1,009	14%		e. 126% to 150%	69	1.4%
c. High School Graduate/GED	3,033	41%		f. 151% to 175%	40	0.8%
d. 12+ Some Post Secondary	2,179	30%		g. 176% to 200%	13	0.3%
e. 2 or 4 years College Graduate	641	9%		h. 201% and over	24	0.5%
TOTAL**	7,311			TOTAL***	4,922	
11. Other Characteristics	Number of Persons*			16. Housing	Number of Families***	
	Yes	No	TOTAL*	a. Own	667	23.1%
Health Insurance	8059	5,717	13,776	b. Rent	2,191	75.8%
Disabled	2181	11,595	13,776	c. Homeless	33	1.1%
				d. Other†	0	0.0%
				TOTAL***	2,891	
12. Family Type	Number of Families***					
a. Single-Parent Female	929	34%				
b. Single-Parent Male	38	1%				
c. Two-Parent Household	129	5%				
d. Single Person	1,481	54%				
e. Two Adults NO Children	158	6%				
f. Other	0	0%				
TOTAL***	2,735					

The following Program Information Report is a compilation of data from HCHRA’s Head Start and Early Head Start programs for the 2014-2015 school year. When broken out from the combined Head Start, CSBG and LIHEAP programs detailed in Charts 1 – 10, we still find that a majority of our Head Start families are single-parents, with incomes below the 100% Federal Poverty Line. Also, a higher percentage of families are unemployed – especially in Early Head Start where almost twice as many families are unemployed than employed. There are still a low number of advanced degree or baccalaureate degreed family members, but more families have an associate degree, attended vocational school or have some college education.

Table 2: 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head Start Program Information Report

Program Information Report (FY 2014-2015)	Number of Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) Persons/Families
Funded Enrollment	2,022 (HS) / 104 (EHS)
Cumulative Enrollment	2,240 (HS) / 116 (EHS)
Number Projected to Be Entering Kindergarten in the Following School Year	1,057 (HS)
Number of Children for Whom Transportation is Provided	178 (HS)
Race	
Black or African American	2,152 (HS) / 113 (EHS)
White	15 (HS)
Multi-Race	41 (HS) / 3 (EHS)
Other	20 (HS)
American Indian	0 (HS)
Family Type	
Total Families	2,062 (HS) / 103 (EHS)
Two-Parent Families	292 (HS) / 5 (EHS)
Single-Parent Families	1,780 (HS) / 99 (EHS)
Employment	
Employed (total families)	1,137 (HS) / 37 (EHS)
Unemployed (total families)	939 (HS) / 67 (EHS)
Job Training/School	
Job Training or School (total families)	85 (HS) / 12 (EHS)
Not in Job Training or School (total families)	1986 (HS) / 92 (EHS)
Education	
Advanced Degree or Baccalaureate Degree	27 (HS) / 1 (EHS)
Associate Degree, Vocational School, or Some College	1,015 (HS) / 59 (EHS)
High School Graduate/GED	604 (HS) / 25 (EHS)
Less than High School graduate	415 (HS) / 21 (HS)
Types of Eligibility	
Income Below 100% of Federal Poverty Line	1,507 (HS) / 89 (EHS)
Income Between 100% and 130% Federal Poverty Line	155 (HS) / 3 (EHS)

In 2014-2015 Head Start and Early Head Start school year, Family Services Workers implemented a Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Family Scales Assessment to assess each Head Start family across key categories of household characteristics. These categories are indicators of assessment that can show improvement within the household due to outcomes in the primary family supports (Core Scales 1) of Employment, Education, Housing, Health, Childcare, Transportation, Food/Nutrition and the secondary supports (Core Scales 2) Finances, Parental/Guardian Involvement, Community, Behavioral Health/Disabilities and Supportive Social Networks. Together, these scales form a Family Matrix where Family Service Workers and Head Start families can chart movement among the individual categories for an overall assessment of the family. The scales for these categories range along a ten-point scale from In-Crisis (1-3), to Vulnerable (3-4), Stable (5-6), Safe (7-8), and Thriving (9-10). While the goal is for a family to be Thriving in all categories, realistically, taking a family from In-Crisis and Vulnerable to above the prevention line to Stable or Safe positively affects the overall well-being of the family.

Each family is assessed at the beginning of the school year and then once again later in the school year after interaction with Family Services staff. The following charts and tables show the average results of both the first assessment and the follow-up assessment, along with documenting the growth of our families during the school year. This data, when properly and consistently collected and studied, paints a vivid picture of our family's progress. The total number of families assessed was 2,040. The greatest gains were in Employment, Asset Building, Household Budgeting and Health. Overall, there are significant improvements in the Thriving (10) scale. Also, overall, the assessments show decreases between the average of Assessment 1 and Assessment 2

for In Crisis and Vulnerable which means families moved above the prevention line to Stable, Safe or Thriving.

Chart 11: 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head ROMA Assessment (Average)

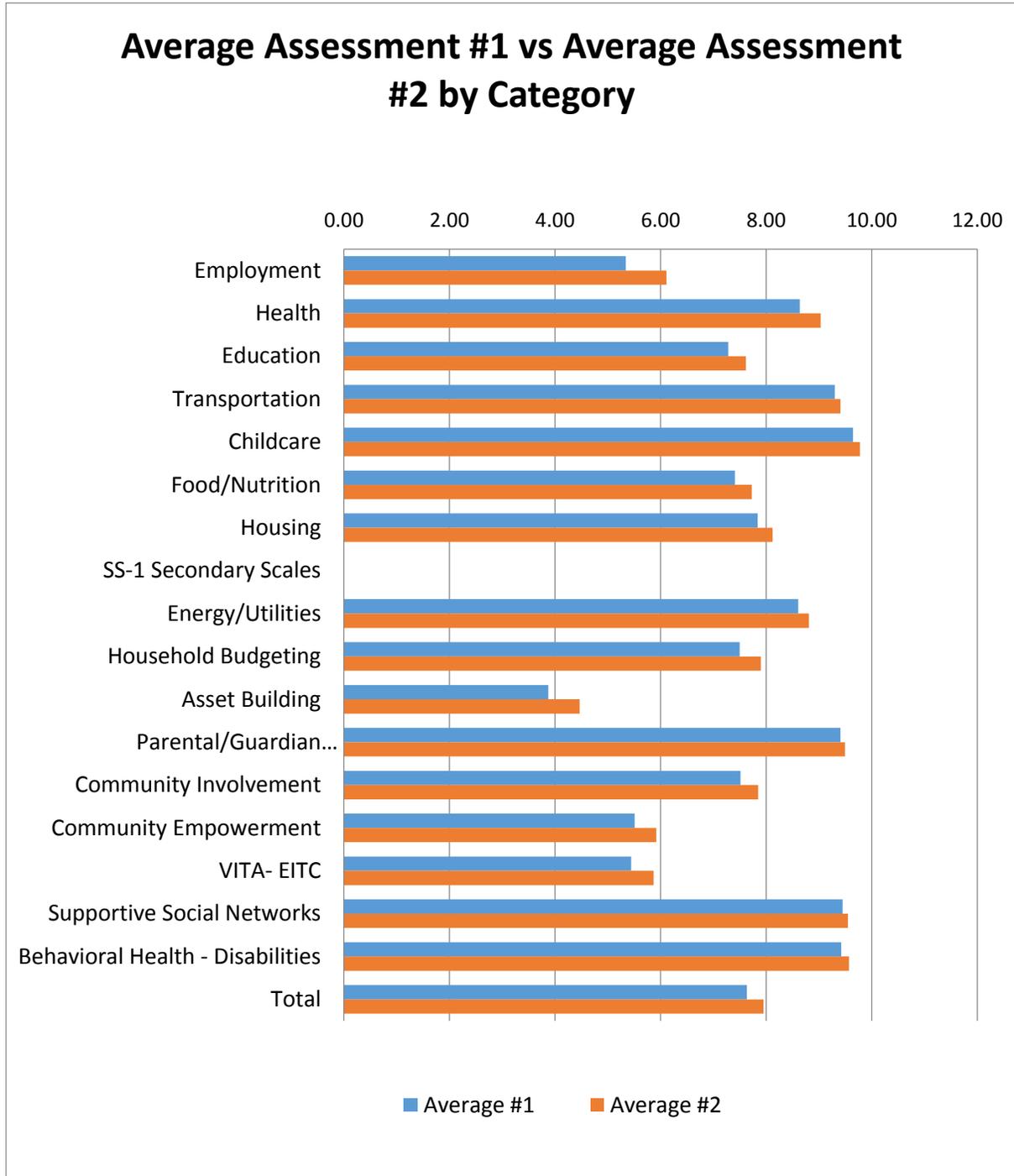


Chart 12: 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head ROMA Assessment 1 vs Assessment 2

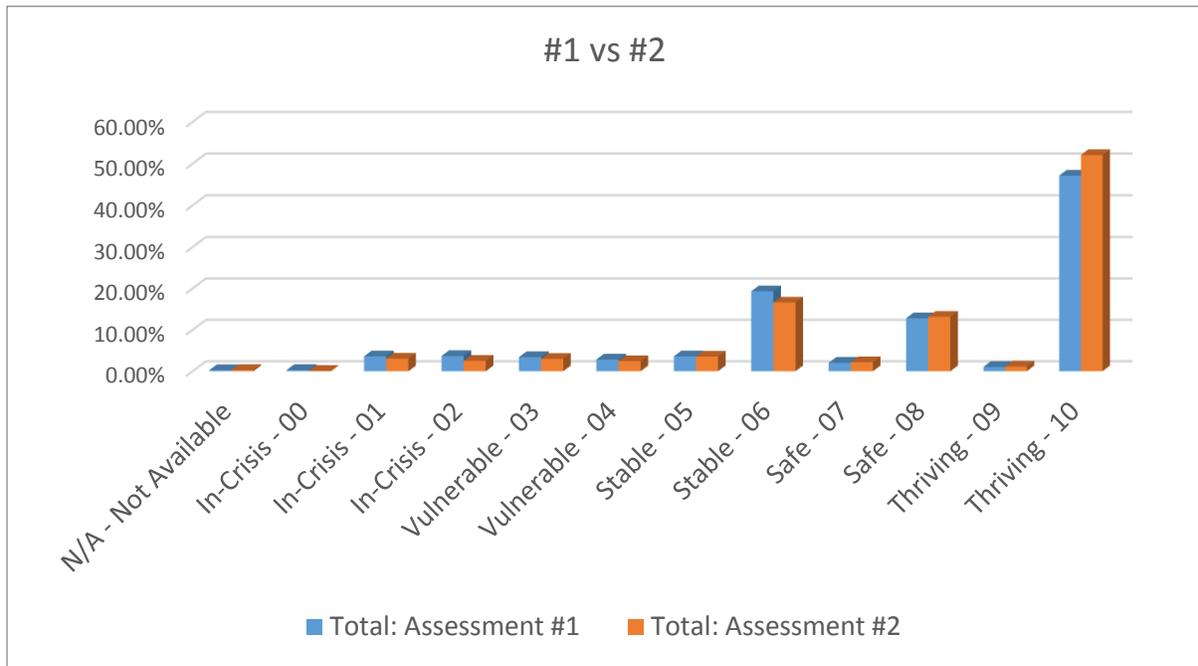
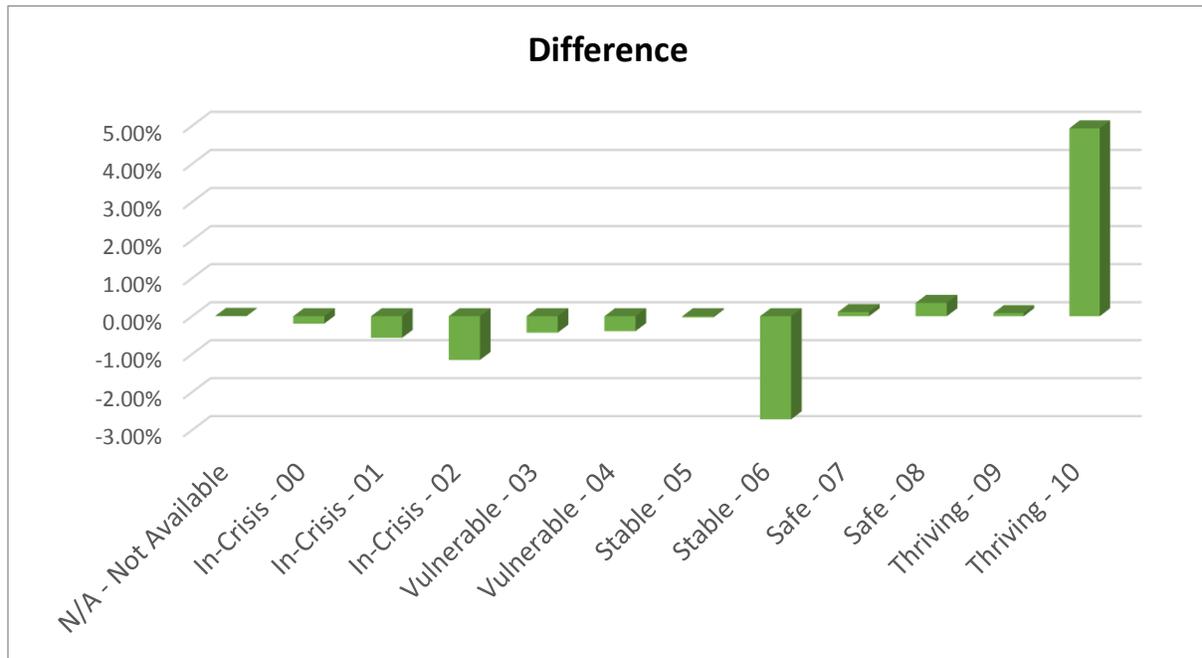


Table 3: 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head ROMA Assessment 1 & 2 - Difference

CS-1 Core Scales	Average #1	Average #2	Difference
Employment	5.34	6.11	0.77
Health	8.64	9.03	0.39
Education	7.28	7.62	0.34
Transportation	9.30	9.41	0.10
Childcare	9.65	9.78	0.13
Food/Nutrition	7.41	7.73	0.32
Housing	7.84	8.12	0.28
SS-1 Secondary Scales	Average #1	Average #2	Difference
Energy/Utilities	8.61	8.81	0.20
Household Budgeting	7.50	7.90	0.40
Asset Building	3.87	4.47	0.60
Parental/Guardian Involvement	9.41	9.49	0.08
Community Involvement	7.52	7.85	0.33
Community Empowerment	5.51	5.92	0.41
VITA- EITC	5.44	5.87	0.42
Supportive Social Networks	9.45	9.55	0.10
Behavioral Health - Disabilities	9.43	9.57	0.14
Total	7.64	7.95	0.31

Chart 13: 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head ROMA Assessment 1 & 2 Difference



Secondary

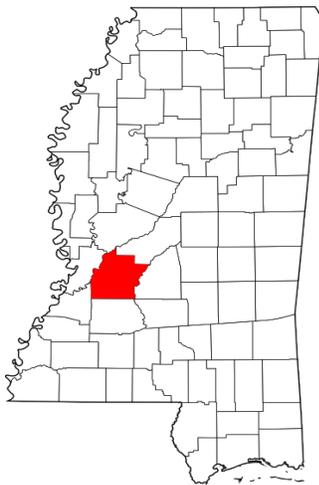
The following information allows for a more in-depth look at HCHRA’s service area. Much of this information is captured by the Community Action Partnerships – Community Needs Assessment Tool and the Community Commons Hub, and is summarized using easy to read tables and charts. The resulting report also includes interpretive statements and linked data sources for better understanding and research of the information.

This report includes information derived from national sources compiled on:

- Population Change
- Age and Gender Demographics
- Race Demographics
- Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics
- Poverty, 2013
- Poverty Rate Change, 2000 - 2013
- Households in Poverty
- Poverty Rate (ACS)
- Households in Poverty by Family Type
- Household Poverty Rate by Family Type
- Child (0-17) Poverty Rate Change, 2000 - 2013
- Child (0-4) Poverty Rate Change, 2000 - 2013
- Child (5-17) Poverty Rate Change, 2000 – 2013
- Seniors in Poverty
- Child (0-17) Poverty Rate (ACS)
- Child (0-4) Poverty Rate (ACS)
- Child (5-17) Poverty Rate (ACS)

According to the 2014 QuickFacts from the US Census, the population of Mississippi is 2,994,079, which represents a 0.9% increase from 2010 to 2014. Jackson, the capital of the state, is located on the west bank of the Pearl River in the heart of Hinds County and is the main population center of Hinds County. Hinds County has a population of 243,729 residents with 87,844 total households. Of this number, 22.9% of households live below the poverty level. During the past three decades, the city of Jackson and Hinds County have experienced a dramatic shift in their racial make-up. These thirty years have seen a dramatic growth in the other two counties that comprise Jackson's Greater Metropolitan Area – Madison and Rankin Counties. Hinds has experienced a -0.7% change in Population from 2010-2014 (Census/ACS). Much like this has happened in other highly urban areas, the population seems to migrate out of the city into suburban areas that have been developed to meet the apparent demand of the local residents. This urban flight has resulted in concentrated areas of poverty in Jackson and Hinds County that has created challenges to the local governments as well as community service providers.

Out of the 243,279 residents of Hinds County, 53% of the population was females compared to 47% males. The racial composition at time of the 2013 census was: Black - 70%; White - 28%; Hispanic - 2%.



About Hinds County Cities

- [Clinton](#)
- [Jackson](#)
- [Raymond](#)
- [Byram](#)

Towns

- Bolton, Edwards
- Learned, Terry,
- Utica

School Districts

- Clinton
- Hinds County
- Jackson

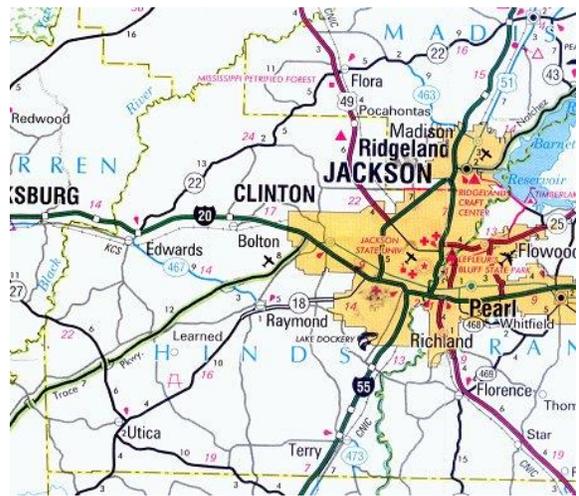


Table 4: Hinds County QuickFacts

People QuickFacts	Hinds County	Mississippi	United States
Population (2014 Estimate)	243,729	2,994,079	311,536,591
Persons under 5 (2013 Percent)	7.0%	6.6%	6.4%
Persons 65 years and over (2013 Percent)	11.7%	13.9%	12.8%
Persons below poverty level (2009-2013 percent)	29.7%	24.0%	15.8%
Per capita money income in the past 12 months (2013 dollars)	\$20,448	\$20,618	\$28,155
Median household income	\$34,826	\$38,191	\$52,250
Bachelor's degree or higher (2013 percent)	27.4%	20.1%	27.4%

Source: U.S. Census, 2014 QuickFacts

Table 5: Population Summary

City	Total Population		Total Households		Population by Age (Percent)		Median Household Income (\$) (2011 estimate)
	Annual (%)	Rate	Annual (%)	Rate	0-4	Over 65	
Bolton	567	-0.79%	220	-0.57%	44 (7.76%)	73 (12.87%)	34,368
Byram	11,489	6.87%	4,402	7.07%	968 (8.43%)	832 (7.24%)	59,751
Clinton	25,216	0.11%	9,766	0.99%	1,608 (6.38%)	3,447 (13.67%)	55,332
Edwards	1,034	-1.59%	406	-0.36%	62 (62.00%)	139 (13.44%)	27,518
Learned	94	1.25%	30	1.84%	12 (12.77%)	15 (15.96%)	40,083
Jackson	173,514	-0.78%	64,523	-0.66%	13,498 (7.78%)	17,328 (9.99%)	35,831
Raymond	1,933	-0.42%	448	-0.16%	56 (2.90%)	190 (9.83%)	44,525
Terry	1,063	1.37%	407	1.97%	88 (8.28%)	107 (10.07%)	38,781
Utica	820	-1.04%	297	-0.17%	71 (8.66%)	108 (13.17%)	35,147

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1

The following Tables (6a – 7) show the stark reality of poverty in Hinds County. Overall, we are seeing an increase of all ages of persons in poverty; but even more telling is that almost half of our children ages 0-17 are in poverty. Over the 5-year period of 2009 to 2013, poverty in all populations has increased. Contrast that with Mississippi where all ages of poverty are getting worse; yet the increases are slower than in Hinds County. Also, compared to the 5-year period of 2009 to 2013 for the United States, Hinds County realizes a poverty rate almost 10% higher. And twice as many of our youths are in poverty compared to the United States average. (Table 7)

Table 6a: Population Profile - Poverty, 2013

Geographic Area	All Ages		Age 0-17		Age 0-4		Age 5-17	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate						
Hinds County, Mississippi	70,594	29.7%	24,766	40.3%	6,947	44.3%	17,794	40.0%
Mississippi	692,058	23.9%	246,458	34.0%	72,742	37.4%	170,629	32.4%
United States	48,810,868	15.8%	16,086,960	22.2%	4,811,689	24.8%	11,055,935	20.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2013. Estimates for 2013 were released in January 2015

Table 6b: Population Profile - Poverty, 2009–2013

Location	Age Group	Data Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Mississippi	5 to 17	Number	153,333	160,282	161,086	171,183	170,629
		Percent	28.9%	30.2%	30.4%	32.1%	32.4%
	Under18	Number	230,409	240,782	239,159	249,060	246,458
		Percent	30.7%	32.4%	32.4%	33.9%	34.0%
	All Ages	Number	620,446	644,156	658,232	689,116	692,058
		Percent	21.8%	22.4%	22.8%	23.8%	23.9%
Hinds	5 to 17	Number	14,553	15,100	15,683	17,100	17,794
		Percent	31.4%	32.9%	34.4%	37.8%	40.0%
	Under18	Number	21,502	21,813	23,267	24,224	24,766
		Percent	32.9%	34.1%	36.7%	38.7%	40.3%
	All Ages	Number	55,442	54,448	62,970	67,539	70,594
		Percent	23.3%	22.9%	26.2%	28.0%	29.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). Estimates for Mississippi Counties. All ages in poverty, [2013].

Table 7: Poverty Rate (ACS), 2009–2013

Geographic Area	Poverty Rate for All Persons		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Hinds County, Mississippi	237,941	60,184	25.29%
Mississippi	2,880,870	653,321	22.68%
United States	303,692,064	46,663,432	15.37%

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-13 Data Release, January 2015.*

Youth/Children

The following tables (8 – 10) for Youth/Children show that we have fewer children under the age of five in 2009-2013 compared to prior five year averages; yet more are in poverty as shown in Table 6b. Compared to all of Mississippi, in Hinds County less children live in married couple households by almost 15%. We do have a slightly higher percentage of male only households as compared to Mississippi overall, but female only households are almost 50% of our child population by household type. Hinds County does show that we have a higher percentage of children enrolled in pre-schools or nursery schools than the state average. However, that rate has dropped over the last five year average by almost 12% since the five year average of 2006–2010.

Table 8: Youth Population Change (ACS), 2006–2013

Location	Category	Data Type	2006–2010	2007–2011	2008–2012	2009–2013
Hinds	Under 5 years	Number	19,280	18,162	17,926	17,619
		Percent	7.7%	7.4%	7.3%	7.9%

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Updated January 2015.*

Table 9: Child population by household type (percent & number)

Location	Household Type	Data Type	2009 - 2013
Mississippi	married-couple households	Percent	55.2%
		Number	411,416
	male only households	Percent	7.0%
		Number	51,868
	female only households	Percent	37.8%
		Number	281,825
Hinds	married-couple households	Percent	40.7%
		Number	25,920
	male only households	Percent	8.9%
		Number	5,706
	female only households	Percent	49.4%
		Number	31,433

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Updated January 2015.

Table 10: Enrolled in Pre-School or Nursery School

Location	Data Type	2006 - 2010	2007 - 2011	2008 - 2012	2009 - 2013
Mississippi	Percent	50.9%	52.7%	52.5%	51.4%
Hinds	Percent	69.5%	67.2%	62.9%	57.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Updated January 2015.

Seniors

Hinds County still has an above average percent of seniors living in poverty than the United States, but less than the Mississippi average.

Table 11: Seniors in Poverty, 2009–2013

Geographic Area	Seniors	Seniors in Poverty	Senior Poverty Rate
Hinds County, Mississippi	26,204	3,427	13.1%
Mississippi	379,201	53,182	14.0%
United States	40,544,638	3,793,577	9.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 5 Year American Community Survey, 2009-2013 Data Release, January 2015.

Employment

While Mississippi and Hinds County are seeing a decrease in the unemployment rate over the last 13 months, per capita and median income levels still lag far below the United States average. As Table 15 shows, we have a high number of families with income that is still below the Federal Poverty Line, especially for female households with no husband present. Further, when you take into account the Living Wage (Table 16) required for a single adult with one or more children in Hinds County, we find that the average yearly salary needed is over \$40,000 (1 adult, 1 child).

Table 12: Current Employment/Unemployment Information, June 2015

Geographic Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Hinds County, Mississippi	113,158	105,844	7,314	6.5%
Mississippi	1,278,072	1,188,800	89,272	7%
United States	159,411,056	150,631,474	8,779,582	5.5%

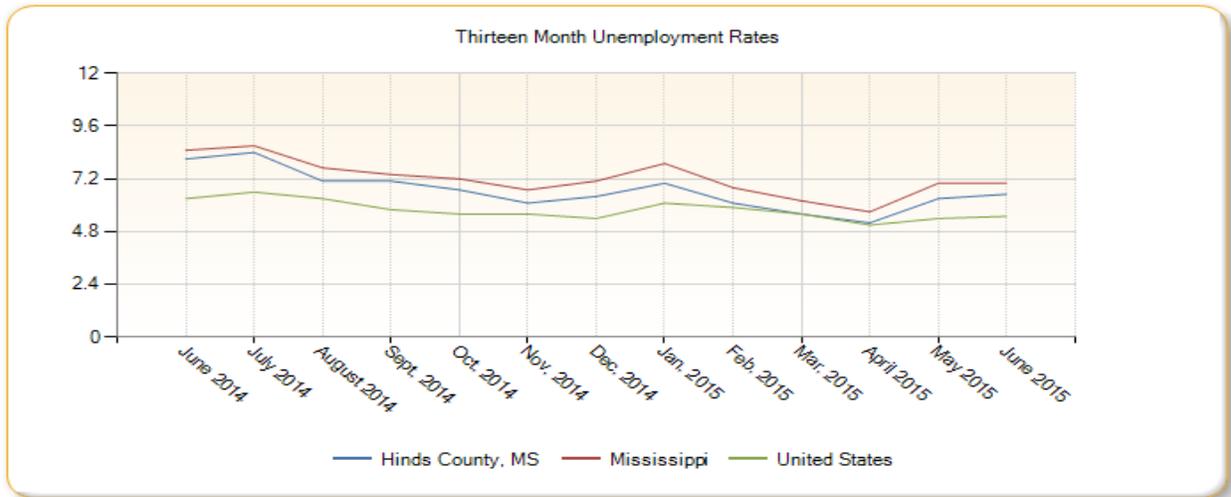
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, June 2015.

Table 13: Change in Unemployment, June 2014–June 2015

Report Area	Unemployment June 2014	Unemployment June 2015	Unemployment Rate June 2014	Unemployment Rate June 2015
Hinds County, MS	8,835	7,314	8.07%	6.46%
Mississippi	106,032	89,272	8.48%	6.98%
United States	10,058,282	8,779,582	6.35%	5.51%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, June 2015.

Chart 14: Change in Unemployment, June 2014–June 2015



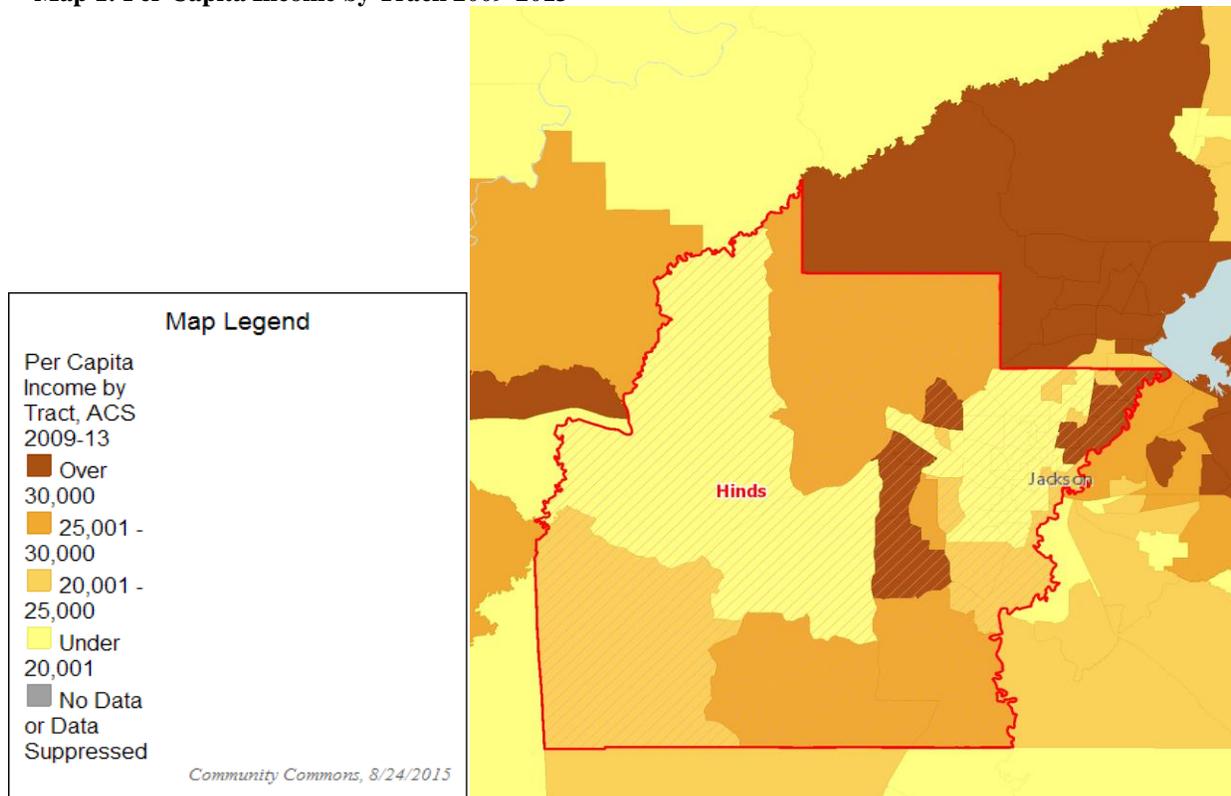
Source: *U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, June 2015.*

Table 14: Median and Per Capita Income

Report Area	Median Household Income	Per Capita Income
Hinds County, MS	\$37,626	\$20,448
Mississippi	\$39,031	\$20,618
United States	\$53,046	\$28,155

Data Source: *US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-13. Source geography: County*

Map 1: Per Capita Income by Tract 2009-2013



Data Source: *US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-13. Source geography: County*

Table 15: Family Income in the Past 12 Months Below the Poverty Line

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE WHOSE INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS IS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL	Hinds County
All families	20.2%
With related children under 18 years	29.7%
With related children under 5 years only	25.7%
Married couple families	6.1%
With related children under 18 years	8.9%
With related children under 5 years only	1.9%
Families with female householder, no husband present	39.5%
With related children under 18 years	48.7%
With related children under 5 years only	43.3%
18 to 64 years	22.9%
65 years and over	13.1%
People in families	23.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey Education

Table 16: Living Wage Calculation for Hinds County, Mississippi

Hourly Wages	1 Adult	1 Adult 1 Child	1 Adult 2 Children	1 Adult 3 Children
Living Wage	\$9.77	\$20.43	\$24.31	\$30.07
Poverty Wage	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$9.00	\$11.00
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25

Source: MIT Living Wage Calculator – 2014 Update

Education

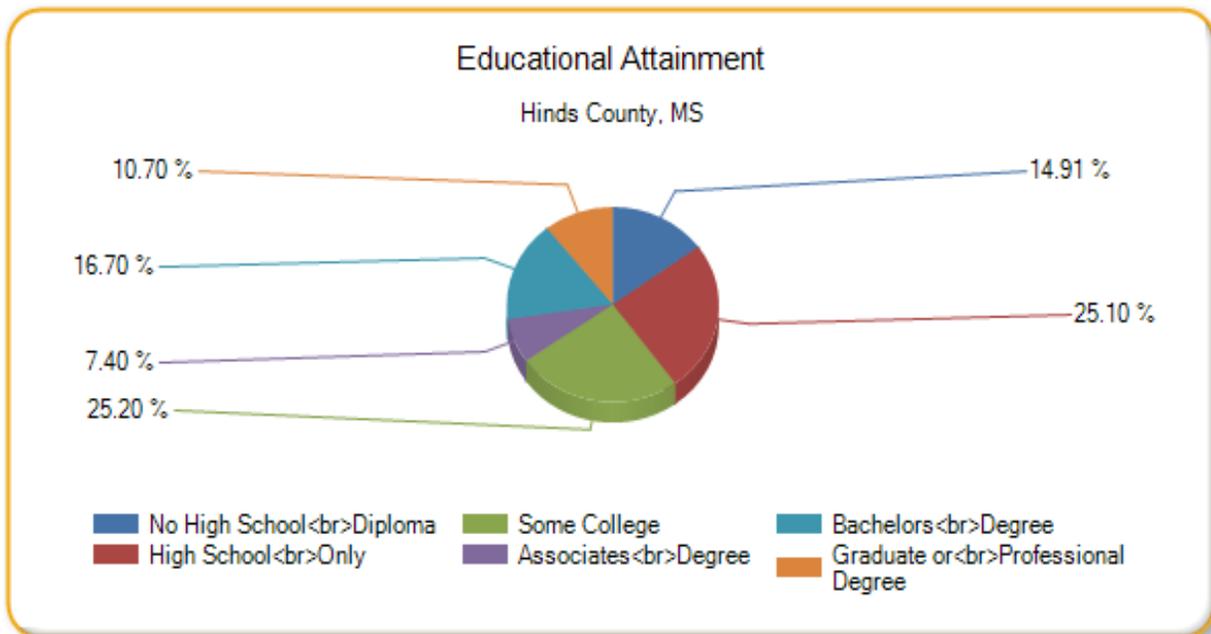
Educational attainment in Hinds County is only slightly better than the state average. Yet, over 50% of Hinds County population only has a high school diploma or GED and some college. And, almost 15% lack a high school education. We are seeing a decrease in mothers without a high school diploma over the last 5 years in both White and Non-White populations (Table 18). But, fewer mothers are going on to attain four-year college degrees or better. Overall, less than 50% of 20- to 24-year-olds are enrolled in school in Hinds County and less than 14% of 18 years or older of the population are even enrolled in college (Table 20). We can also see another gap in necessary educational attendance in the 3- and 4-year-olds where only 57% are enrolled in an educational setting (Table 20).

Table 17: Educational Attainment for Hinds County, Mississippi

Report Area	Percent No High School Diploma	Percent High School Only	Percent Some College	Percent Associates Degree	Percent Bachelor's Degree	Percent Graduate or Professional Degree
Hinds County, MS	14.91	25.1	25.2	7.4	16.7	10.7
Mississippi	18.53	30.5	22.7	8.1	12.8	7.3
United States	13.98	28.1	21.3	7.8	18.1	10.8

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13. Source geography: County

Chart 15: Educational Attainment for Hinds County, Mississippi



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13. Source geography: County

Table 18: Number of Mothers without a High School Diploma

Location	Race	Data Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Hinds	Total	Number	851	785	727	610	569
		Percent	23.0%	22.2%	21.1%	18.3%	17.2%
	White	Number	105	109	100	100	93
		Percent	13.9%	13.5%	14.1%	13.4%	12.7%
	Non-White	Number	746	676	627	510	471
		Percent	25.3%	24.8%	23.0%	19.5%	18.5%

Source: Mississippi State Department of Health. Public Health Statistics. Summary Statistics by County.

Table 19: Mothers with Four Years of College or More

Location	Race	Data Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Hinds	Total	Number	871	861	808	842	770
		Percent	23.5%	24.4%	23.5%	25.2%	23.2%
	White	Number	349	381	359	371	366
		Percent	46.6%	47.3%	50.8%	49.9%	49.9%
	Non-White	Number	522	480	449	471	385
		Percent	17.7%	17.6%	16.5%	18.1%	15.1%

Source: Mississippi State Department of Health. Public Health Statistics. Summary Statistics by County.

Table 20: Hinds County Educational Attendance

	Hinds County, Mississippi					
	Total		Percent of enrolled population			
			In public school		In private school	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	77,678	+/-957	83.4%	+/-1.2	16.6%	+/-1.2
Nursery school, preschool	4,598	+/-440	72.4%	+/-5.0	27.6%	+/-5.0
Kindergarten to 12th grade	47,837	+/-513	88.5%	+/-1.1	11.5%	+/-1.1
Kindergarten	4,258	+/-492	87.1%	+/-4.5	12.9%	+/-4.5
Elementary: grade 1 to grade 4	14,970	+/-681	89.2%	+/-1.9	10.8%	+/-1.9
Elementary: grade 5 to grade 8	14,397	+/-686	88.7%	+/-1.8	11.3%	+/-1.8
High school: grade 9 to grade 12	14,212	+/-576	88.0%	+/-2.0	12.0%	+/-2.0
College, undergraduate	20,804	+/-914	77.7%	+/-2.7	22.3%	+/-2.7
Graduate, professional school	4,439	+/-426	66.1%	+/-5.7	33.9%	+/-5.7
Percent of age group enrolled in school						
3 and 4 years	57.5%	+/-4.7	72.5%	+/-5.2	27.5%	+/-5.2
5 to 9 years	96.4%	+/-1.1	88.6%	+/-2.1	11.4%	+/-2.1
10 to 14 years	98.5%	+/-0.8	88.1%	+/-1.8	11.9%	+/-1.8
15 to 17 years	96.6%	+/-1.1	87.9%	+/-2.2	12.1%	+/-2.2
18 and 19 years	80.2%	+/-3.2	84.3%	+/-3.2	15.7%	+/-3.2
20 to 24 years	48.6%	+/-3.0	77.3%	+/-4.0	22.7%	+/-4.0
Population 18 years and over	181,999	+/-67	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Enrolled in college or graduate school	13.8%	+/-0.5	75.6%	+/-2.6	24.4%	+/-2.6
Males 18 years and over	82,997	+/-97	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Enrolled in college or graduate school	11.8%	+/-0.8	76.1%	+/-4.0	23.9%	+/-4.0
Females 18 years and over	99,002	+/-72	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Enrolled in college or graduate school	15.4%	+/-0.8	75.2%	+/-3.2	24.8%	+/-3.2
Population 18 years and over	185,284	+/-287	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey American

Transportation

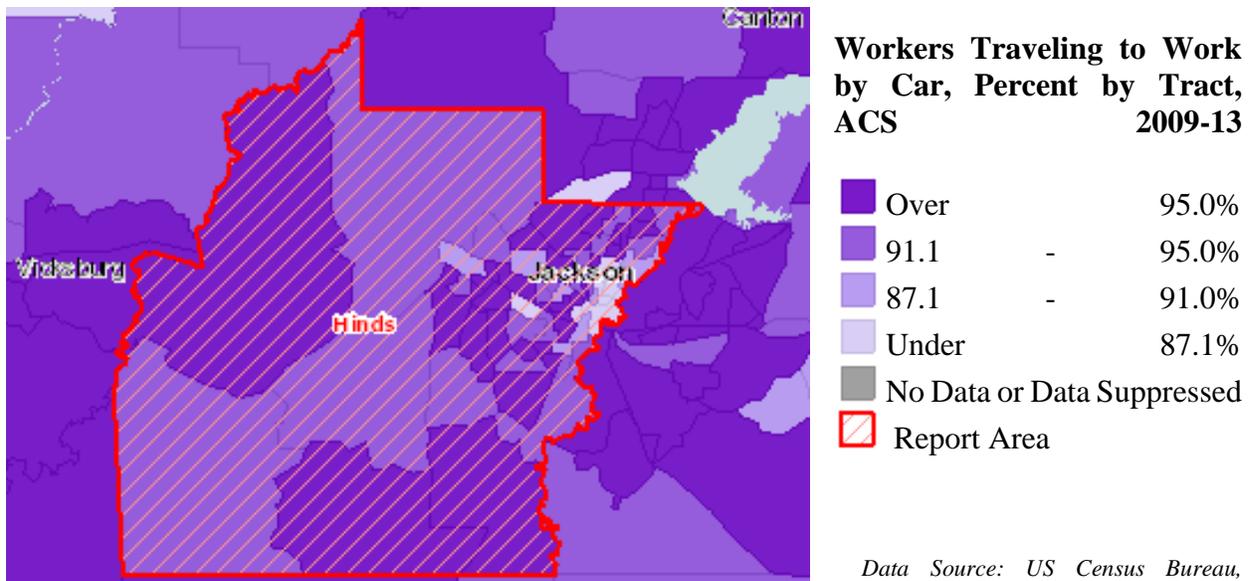
Hinds County is a very car-centric locale. Workers in Hinds County travel alone and very rarely use public transportation. Less than 1% use public transportation and only in the central and downtown areas of Jackson do we see less than 87% of the workers using a car to travel to work.

Table 21: Hinds County Commuter Travel Patterns – Travel to Work

Workers	16 and Up	Drive Alone	Carpool	Public Transportation	Bicycle or Walk	Taxi or Other	Work at Home
Hinds County, MS	102,499	84.50%	9.70%	0.60%	1.30%	1.10%	2.90%
Mississippi	1,179,917	83.60%	10.70%	0.50%	1.70%	1.20%	2.30%
United States	139,786,640	76.40%	9.80%	5%	3.40%	1.20%	4.30%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13. Source geography: County

Map 2: Workers Travelling to Work by Car – ACS 2009-13



Source geography: County

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13.

Housing

Total housing units, median year built and median age in 2013 for the report area are shown below.

Housing units used in housing age include only those where the year built is known.

Table 22: Housing Age

Report Area	Total Housing Units	Median Year Built	Median Age (from 2013)
Hinds County, MS	103,606	1973	40
Mississippi	1,277,522	1981	32

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13. Source geography: County

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 58,131 homeowners in the report area in 2000, and 63.86% owner-occupied homes in the report area for the 5-year estimated period from 2009.

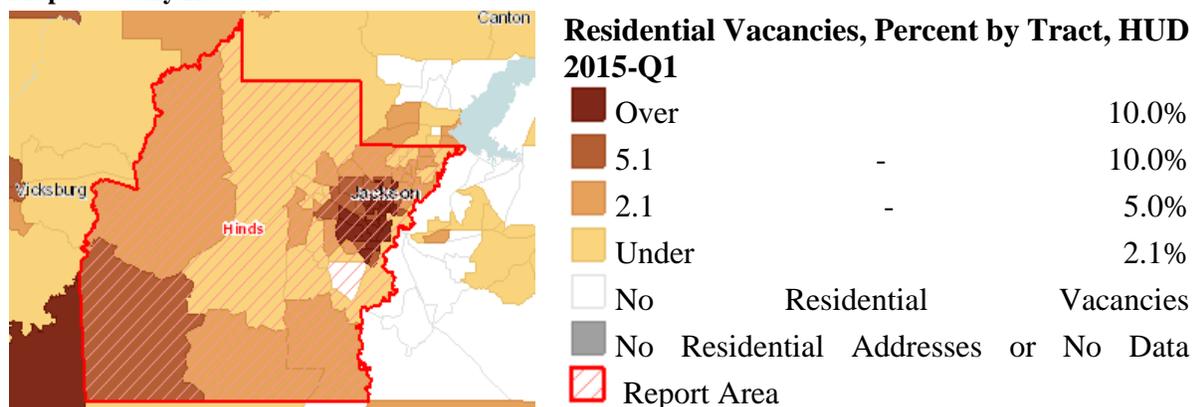
Table 23: Home Ownership

Report Area	Owner	Owner	Owner Occupied	Owner Occupied
Hinds County, MS	58,131	63.86%	52,049	50.25%
Mississippi	756,967	72.34%	755,132	59.26%
United States	69,815,753	66.19%	75,075,700	56.85%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-13. Source geography: County

The U.S. Postal Service provided information quarterly to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on addresses identified as vacant in the previous quarter. For this reporting period, a total of 7,711 residential addresses were identified as vacant in the report area, a vacancy rate of 6.5%.

Map 3: Vacany Rates



The following report shows that 34,091 students (or 83.85%) were eligible for free or reduced-price lunches during the 2012–2013 school year; the national average is 51.7%.

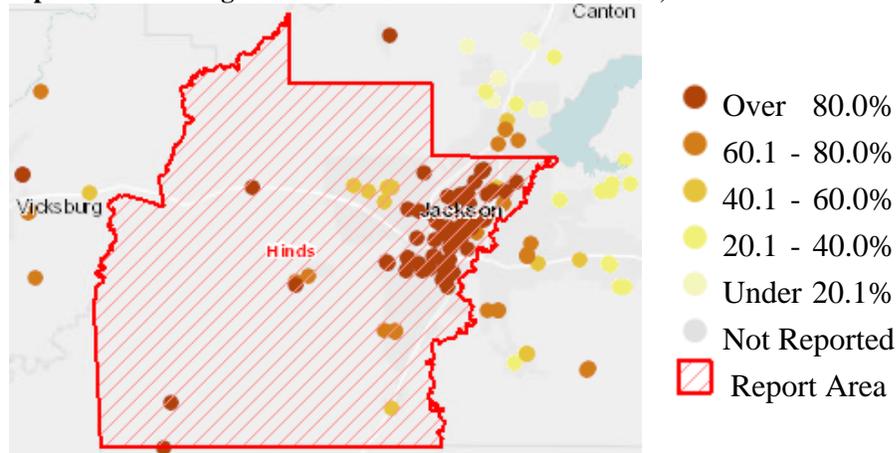
Nutrition

Table 24: Percent Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

Report Area	Total Students	Number Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	Percent Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible
Hinds County, MS	40,655	34,091	83.85%
Mississippi	492,586	355,484	72.17%
United States	50,195,195	26,012,902	52.35%

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NCES - Common Core of Data, 2013-14. Source geography: Address

Map 4: Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, NCEC CCD 2013-14



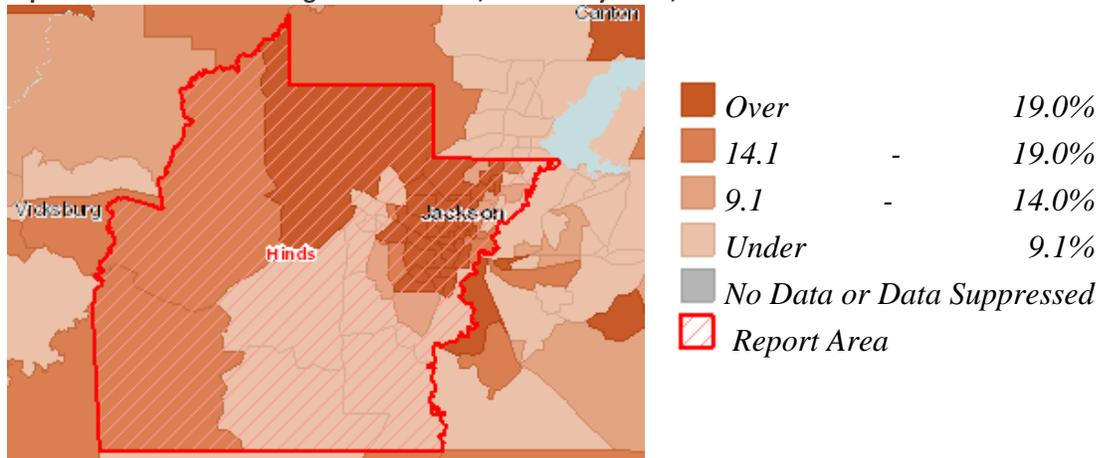
The table below shows that 17,220 households (or 19.6% percent) received SNAP payments during 2013. During this same period, there were 9,788 households with income levels below the poverty level that were not receiving SNAP payments. The national average is 7.7%.

Table 25: SNAP Recipients

Report Area	SNAP Total	SNAP Percent	SNAP Income Below Poverty	SNAP Income Above Poverty	Not Receiving SNAP	Not Receiving SNAP	Not Receiving SNAP Below Poverty	Not Receiving SNAP Above Poverty
Hinds County	17,220	19.6%	10,355	6,865	70,624	80.4%	9,788	60,836
Mississippi	189,165	17.39%	115,216	73,949	898,908	82.61%	116,073	782,835

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-13. Source geography: County

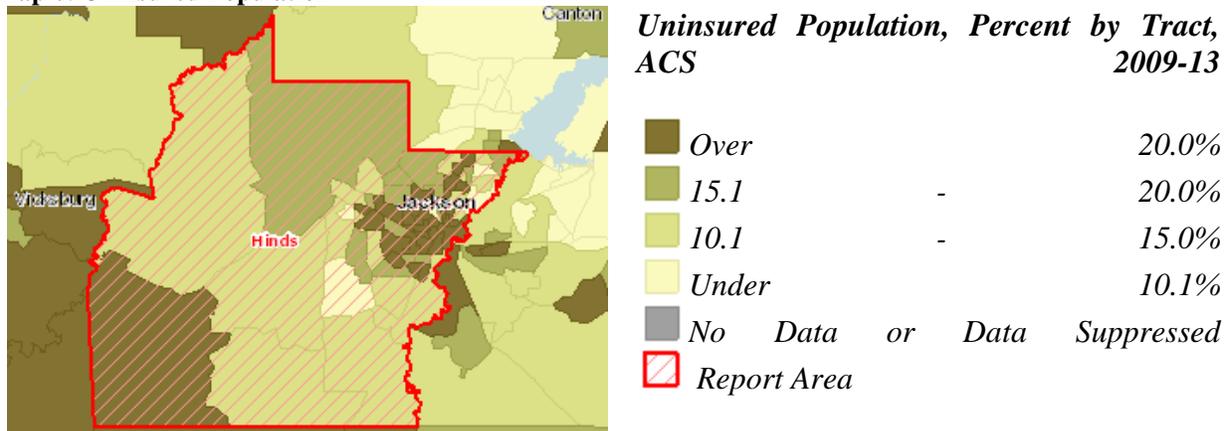
Map 5: Households Receiving SNAP Benefits, Percent by Tract, ACS 2009-13



Health

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 84 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in the report area in the second quarter of 2014.

Map 6: Uninsured Population



Children in Special Populations

For children with special needs, we embrace the philosophy that children can develop to their fullest potential when provided with developmentally appropriate activities including early childhood intervention tailored to meet their needs. Within this basic framework, growth and development cannot occur without creative, positive, inclusive learning experiences among typically developing peers, and involving the child’s family throughout the developmental process. The chart below tracks child abuse and neglect statistics by county, category of abuse, and total number of evidenced allegations for all categories. The Division of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) operates within the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) to protect "children and youth from abuse, neglect and exploitation by providing services to promote safe and stable families." In 2013, the MDHS began reporting the category of abuse based on *all allegations*, instead of only *evidenced allegations*, as had been done in the 2012 and earlier annual reports.

Table 26: Child Abuse Reports by County

Location	Abuse Type	Data Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Hinds	Evidenced Reports	Number	390	313	384	335	452
	Reports	Number	1,806	1,582	82	1,909	1,966

Data Source: Mississippi Department of Human Services, Annual Report

The following data represents the total number of children in custody by county for the state fiscal year.

Table 27: Children in State Custody Including Foster Care.

Location	Data Type	2014
Hinds	Number	812

Data Source: Mississippi Department of Human Services, Annual Report

For English Language Learners we strive to provide a dual language experience so that children can develop in both English and their family language. We hire staff members that reflect those languages and cultures of the children we serve, ensure that classrooms are literacy rich and materials are available in as many languages as are practiced by our children and families. Only statewide totals are available. The chart below shows that Mississippi still has a rather low population of children with immigrant parents and has stayed steady for five years.

Table 28: Children in Immigrant Families

Location	Data Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Mississippi	Number	25,000	26,000	27,000	26,000	30,000
	Percent	3%	3%	4%	3%	4%

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2013 American Community Survey.

HCHRA measures the percent of young children (under age 6) who have no parent currently in the labor force. These figures are based on five-year estimates from the American Community Survey. Calculated by adding neither parent in labor force (for children under age 6 with two parents) with parent not in labor force (for children under age 6 with a single-parent) and divided by the total number of children (under age 6).

Table 29: Children under Age 6 with No Parent in the Labor Force

Location	Data Type	2005 - 2009	2006 - 2010	2007 - 2011	2008 - 2012	2009 - 2013
Hinds	Percent	14.4%	14.9%	17.2%	15.2%	14.6%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [Year] American Community Survey

Disabilities

Table 30: Disability Status by Age by Poverty

	Hinds County, Mississippi	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	235,881	+/-1,288
Under 5 years:	16,332	+/-463
With a disability:	110	+/-110
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	29	+/-53
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	81	+/-94
No disability:	16,222	+/-446
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	5,557	+/-1,404
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	10,665	+/-1,399
5 to 17 years:	43,760	+/-639
With a disability:	2,268	+/-779
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	869	+/-517
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	1,399	+/-612
No disability:	41,492	+/-995
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	13,823	+/-2,244
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	27,669	+/-2,385
18 to 34 years:	58,625	+/-1,152
With a disability:	2,416	+/-865
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	636	+/-331
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	1,780	+/-760
No disability:	56,209	+/-1,388
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	13,444	+/-2,039
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	42,765	+/-2,341
35 to 64 years:	88,481	+/-808
With a disability:	14,152	+/-1,767
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	4,953	+/-1,351
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	9,199	+/-1,507
No disability:	74,329	+/-2,095
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	9,813	+/-1,599
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	64,516	+/-2,194
65 to 74 years:	16,727	+/-477
With a disability:	4,549	+/-917
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	898	+/-499
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	3,651	+/-749
No disability:	12,178	+/-1,001
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	1,384	+/-579
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	10,794	+/-1,109
75 years and over:	11,956	+/-395
With a disability:	6,535	+/-876
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	1,010	+/-413
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	5,525	+/-896
No disability:	5,421	+/-960
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	1,010	+/-482
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	4,411	+/-892

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Qualitative Assessment Data

It is not enough to simply evaluate the demographics of our customers. HCHRA must research what our customers view as important. Yet, the questions, 'What do customers value? What satisfies their perceived needs, wants, and aspirations?' are so complicated they can only be answered by the customers themselves. So, in order to compile a comprehensive and accurate community cross section, assessment surveys were directly distributed and completed by community members throughout the service region. In order to study secondary qualitative data already obtained, information was requested from members of civic organizations, elected officials, other organizations that serve persons of low-income, HCHRA Board of Directors, and other memberships throughout the cities in the service area.

Primary

Throughout 2014-2015, HCHRA's Department of Community Programs and Services hosted several public functions at the Agency's Neighborhood Service Centers. Customers representing various constituencies, including low-income, elderly, and persons with disabilities, offered comments and suggestions that addressed needs in their respective communities. Head Start staff and CSBG case managers provided Head Start families and Agency clients opportunities to complete the CSNA survey. Head Start families were also assessed using the Family Scale Assessment that was administered by HCHRA Family & Community Services Division staff. This tool not only provided crucial information for the Agency, but also served introspectively for families.

Also, an analysis of the opinions from the community needs assessment survey indicates that the Agency needs to continue working in each of its planning areas: employment, education, health, nutrition, linkages, income management, self-sufficiency, emergency services and housing.

Specifically, the analysis revealed that the top three areas of concern are employment, education and emergency services. Programs to promote housing and nutrition also ranked high on the list of most needed services.

In order to ensure adequate community and consumer representation in the needs assessment process, the following methods were used:

- Made needs assessment available online at agency website and mobile
- Solicited community members, elected officials and consumers
- Sought input from all sectors of the community through HCHRA Board of Directors meetings
- Distributed and collected assessment forms from community civic organizations and HCHRA agency staff
- Distributed and collected assessment forms one on one in local high traffic areas at public events and gathering areas

Each surveyor was to rank the nine CSBG service categories from highest priority to lowest priority, with 9 being the highest priority and 1 being the lowest. During the August 2014–July 2015 period, 318 surveys were completed.

Once the surveys were collected, entered and compiled, the data was computed to give the best possible indications of need. Individual numbers were calculated for strike for each mark of choice. One question asked surveyors to rank the nine service categories by importance to taker. Surveyors were allowed to rank the categories from 9 (highest priority) to 1 (lowest priority). A point system was established as follows: All points were totaled to account for all votes given by surveyors. These were then ranked by least average points. The results from these questions were compared to results from question asking surveyors to mark any area that is needed in their region.

Chart 16: CSBG Category Rankings

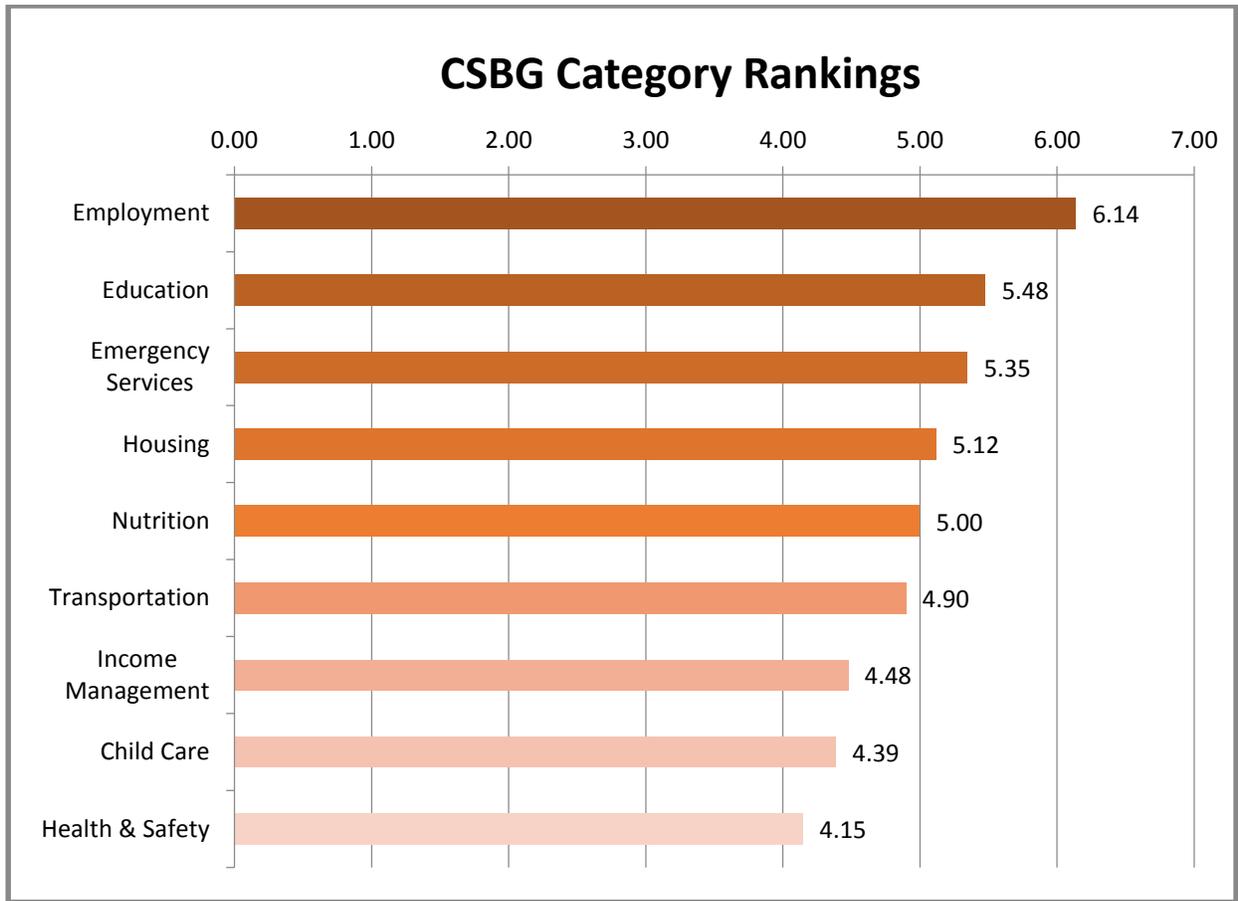


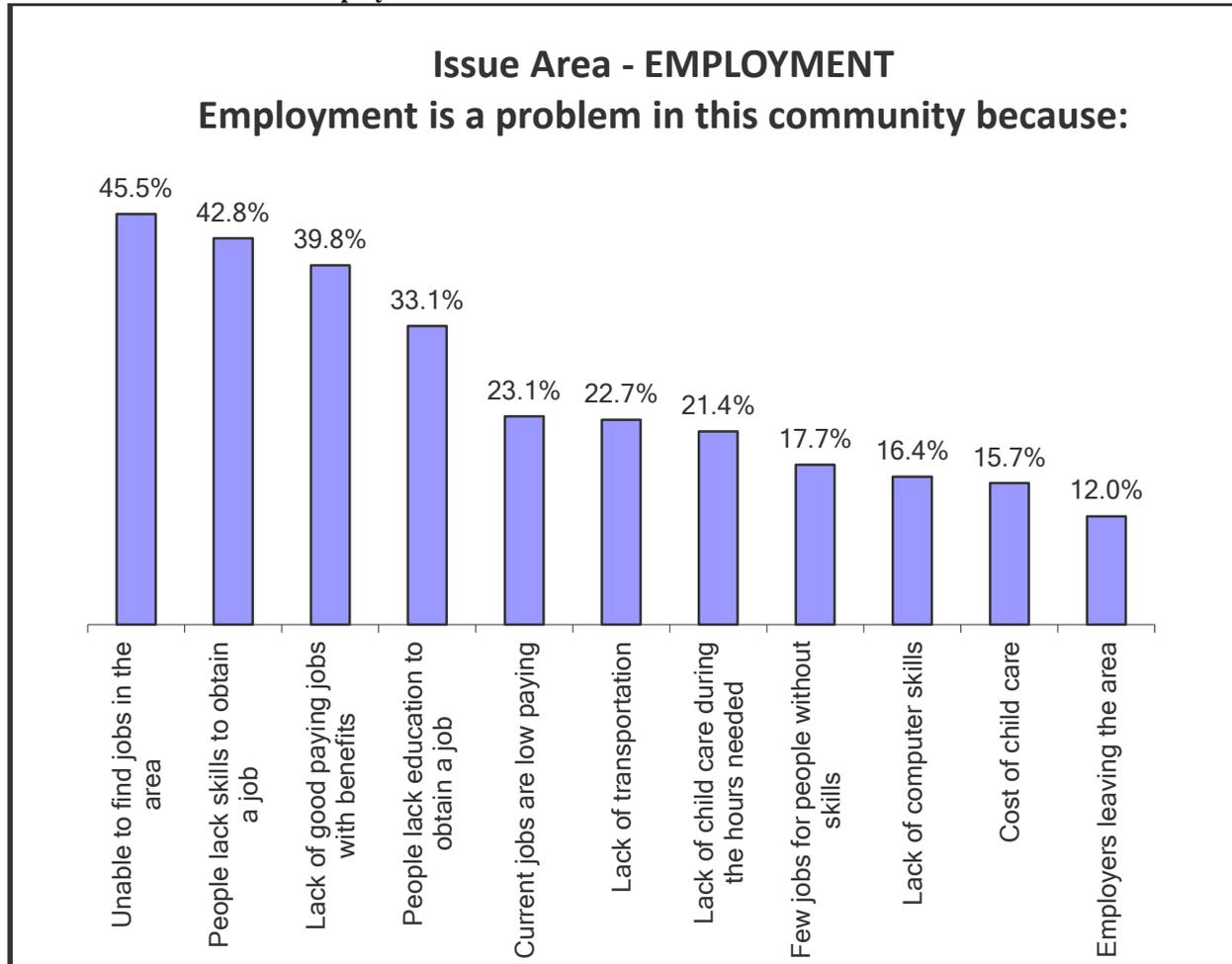
Table 31: Rating Average of CSBG Categories – Greatest to Least Need

Using the above understanding of the issue areas, please rate the following categories from greatest (9) to least (1) need for resources, services and programs in order for your household to become more self-sufficient. (Example: 9 = highest need, 1 = lowest need). Only 1 number per category.

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Rating Average	Response Count
Employment	41	22	15	17	12	16	16	40	109	6.14	288
Education	49	35	20	8	13	17	18	77	51	5.48	288
Emergency Services	50	18	18	26	33	22	30	34	58	5.35	289
Housing	30	32	32	21	26	29	70	29	20	5.12	289
Nutrition	15	43	38	35	31	30	33	51	13	5.00	289
Transportation	17	21	50	38	39	43	54	16	10	4.90	288
Income Management	11	37	46	62	46	46	18	11	11	4.48	288
Child Care	37	37	40	42	23	53	28	20	9	4.39	289
Health & Safety	39	43	29	40	66	33	21	10	8	4.15	289
<i>answered question</i>											289
<i>skipped question</i>											29

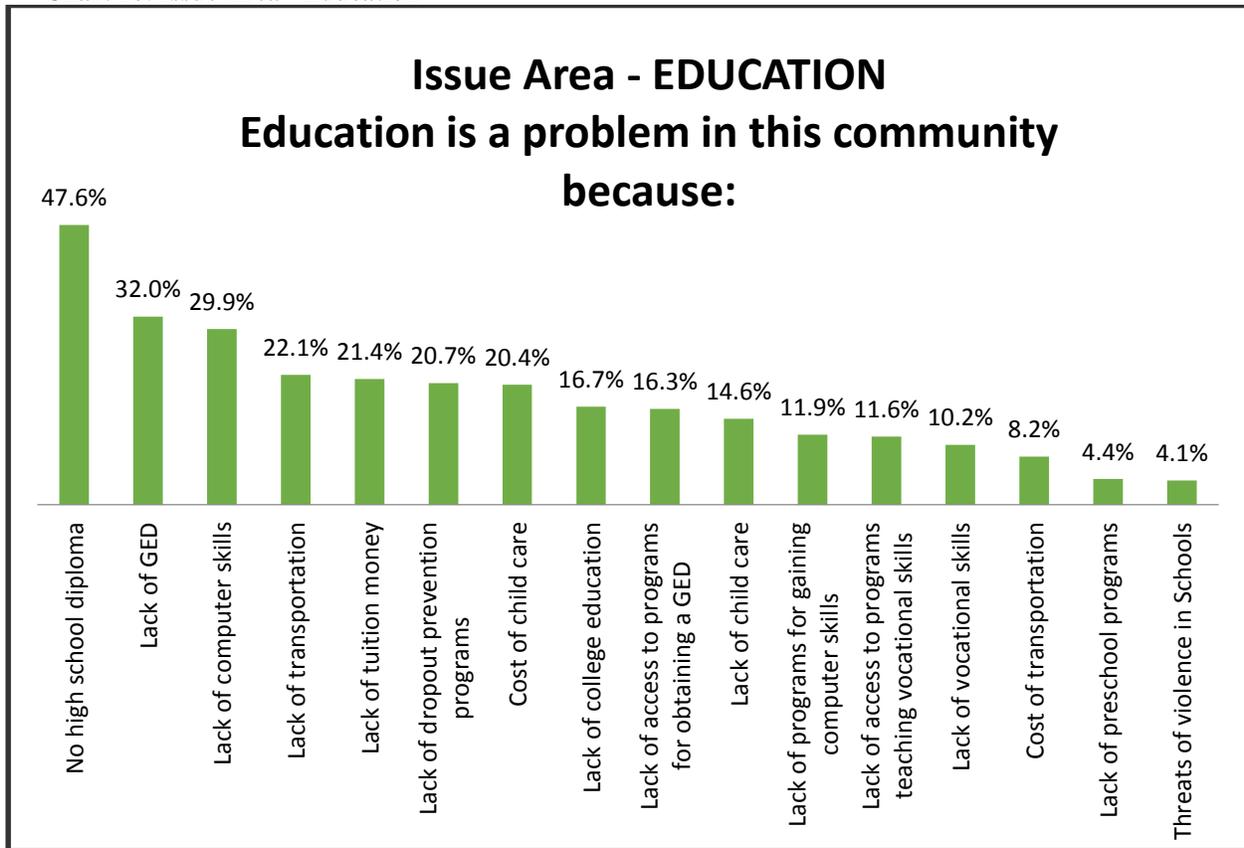
Next, we looked at the specific issue areas for each CSBG category (listed per ranking).

Chart 17: Issue Area - Employment



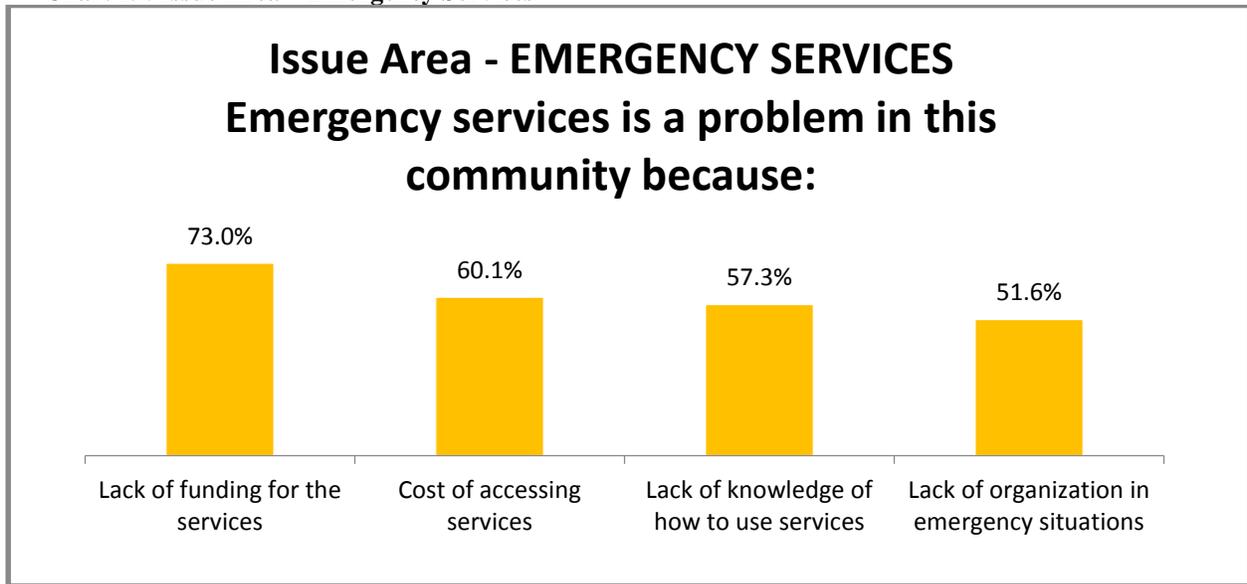
Even though Hinds County experienced a lower unemployment rate over the last 13 months, 45.5% of our respondents rank ‘Unable to find jobs in the area’ as the greatest issue. When your labor force is under-educated and lacks skills to obtain a job as our secondary data for Hinds County shows, it does become difficult to find a job – much less a living wage job with benefits.

Chart 18: Issue Area - Education



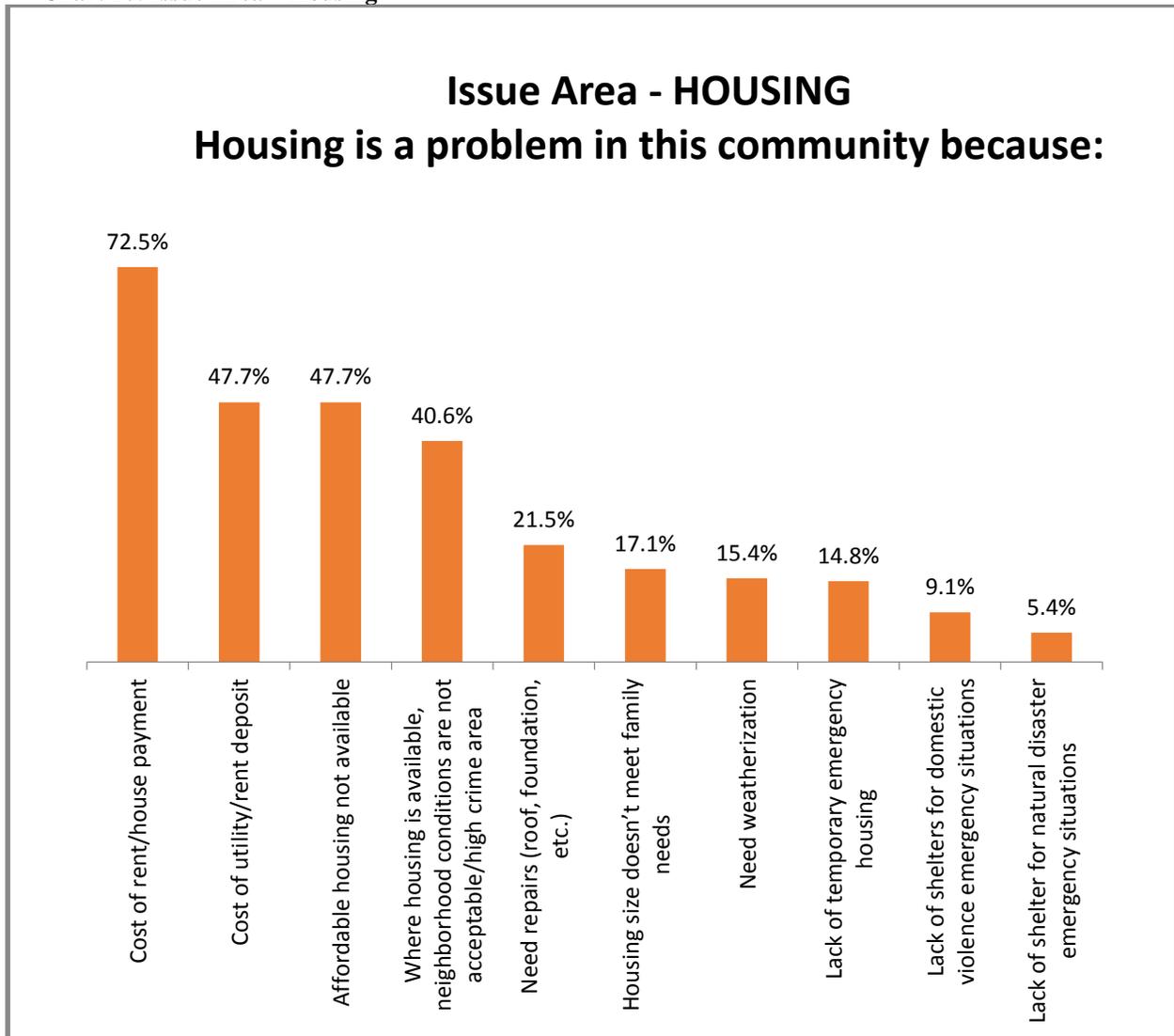
Our respondents state that Education is second largest issue in this community due to a high number of individuals who lack a high school education, a GED or computers skills. When a person lacks the basic education foundation from our primary schools, obtaining further secondary education is that much harder. Hinds County data shows that too many people are not completing their high school education and of those that are, they are not perusing a college degree.

Chart 19: Issue Area – Emergency Services



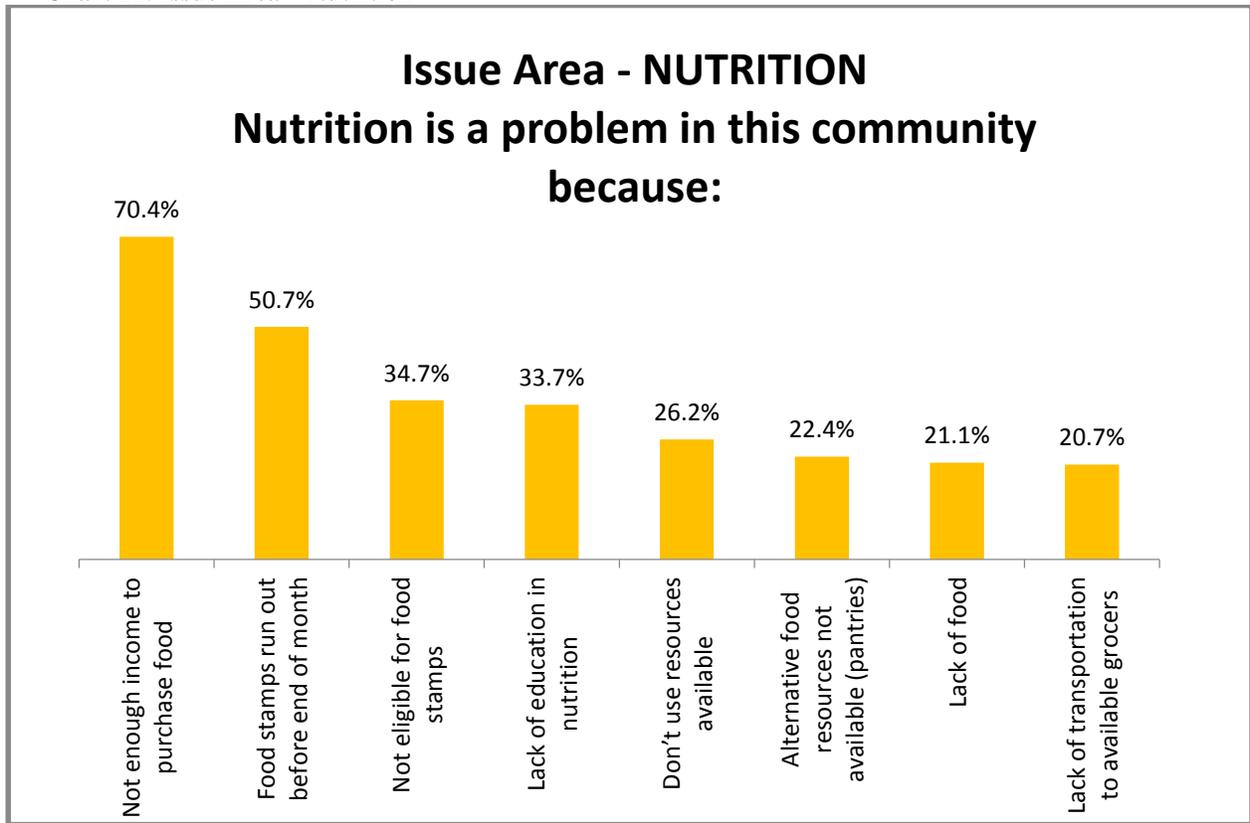
The third highest issue per the survey is Emergency Services. Our customers come to HCHRA to obtain assistance with a variety of programs and services due to an unmet need within their family or the community. Many times when a customer reaches us they are about to lose their housing, face utility disconnection, or may have to leave work due to a lack of childcare. They are in an emergency situation for one reason or another. The Corporation for Enterprise Development, a Washington, D.C., advocacy group reported in 2013 that 43% of households in America are liquid asset poor. They are a sudden loss of income or unexpected crisis from being within the poverty threshold within three months. (Assets & Opportunities Scorecard 2013 - Liquid Asset Poverty Households). With 26% of Hinds County already in poverty, even meeting your basic needs is cause for worry. Then when your social safety net programs, such as CSBG and LIHEAP, are limited in funding, costly to access, and at times confusing to applicants, then emergency services are issues. This issue ranked last in the 2014 CSNA; yet as more people fall into poverty, we have to look at improving the delivery of our programs and improve on educating the public on how to access our programs.

Chart 20: Issue Area – Housing



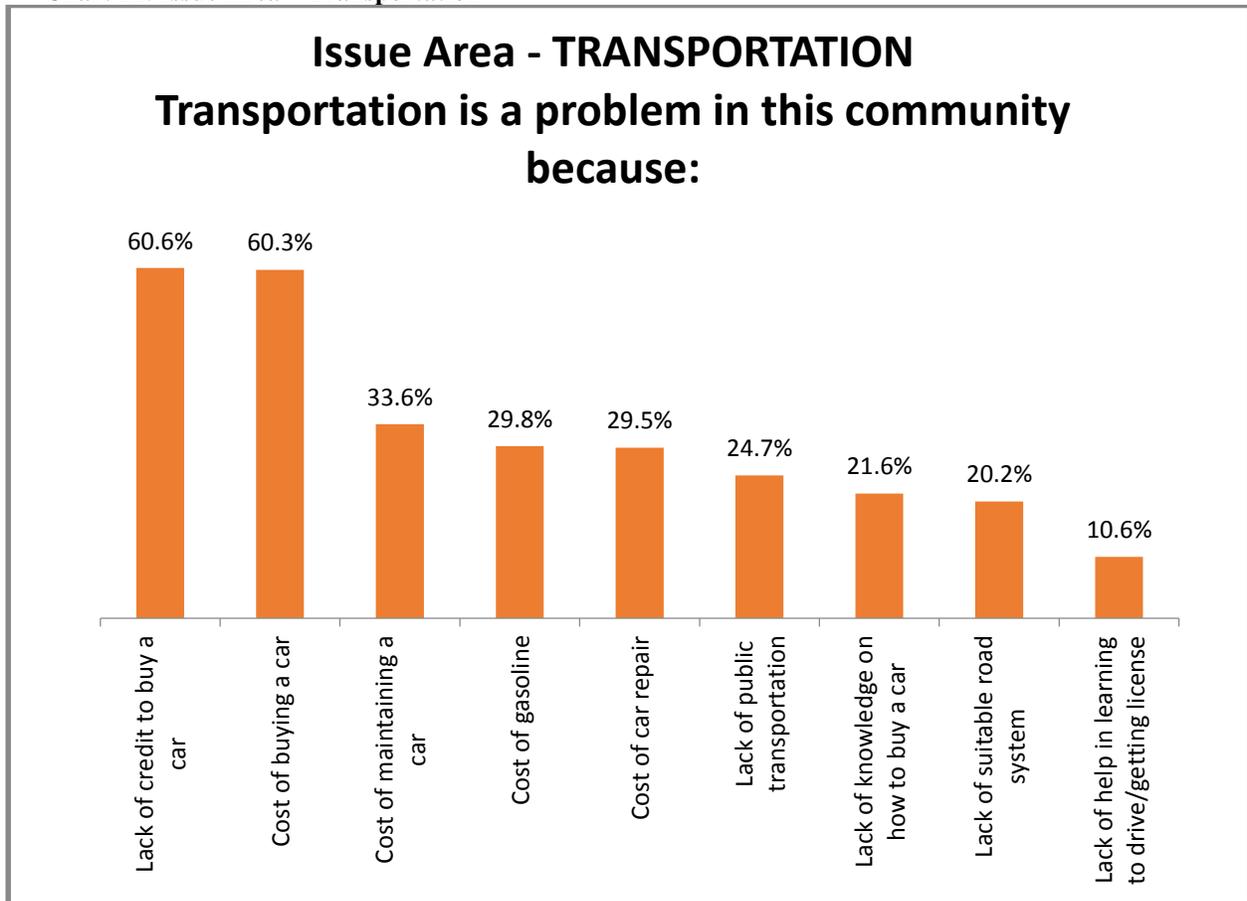
Respondents rank Housing as the fourth most important issue area – especially the cost of rent/house payments as compared to other housing concerns. Again, with a below average per capita income and an under-educated population that is unable to find jobs, housing costs are going to be a burden on the households in poverty. Our survey also shows that affordable housing is not readily available, that utility and rent deposits are prohibitive, and when the housing is available, the neighborhoods are not acceptable or in high-crime areas.

Chart 21: Issue Area – Nutrition



Falling in the middle of the ranking is Nutrition. What should be noted is that not enough income to purchase food far outpaces the other problem areas within this issue. Secondary data for Hinds County supports our respondents' rankings.

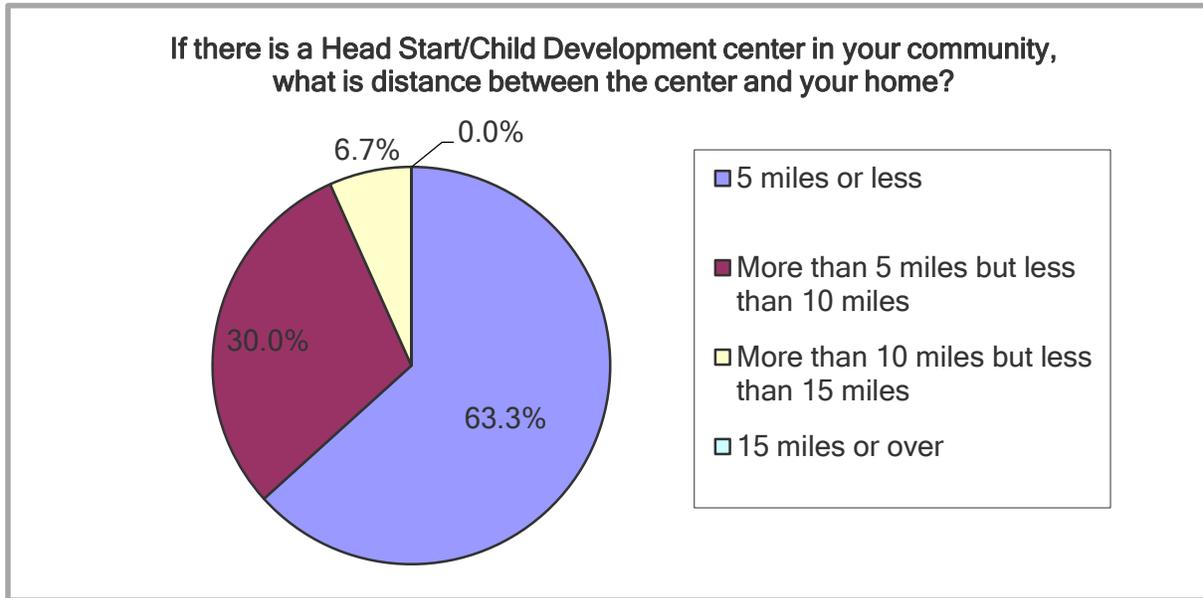
Chart 22: Issue Area – Transportation



Secondary data showed that Hinds County is heavily reliant on having a car to commute to and from work. The top three problems within the issue area for Transportation – lack of credit to buy a car, cost of buying a car and cost of maintaining a car – are issues that track back to a lack of income, jobs, and the educational attainment to obtain higher paying employment.

We also asked if there is a Head Start center in your community and the distance between it and your home. We found that a majority of our respondents live within five miles or less of a Head Start center and less than 7% live more than 10 miles from a center.

Chart 23: Head Start Distance from Home



Taking this distance into account, we looked at the enrollment by zip code in Hinds County for our Head Start families. HCHRA is undergoing a facilities assessment to plan for future locations of Head Start centers and community programs to help narrow the gap in under-served areas and to minimize travel distance for customers.

Enrollment by Zip Code (Current)

Zip Code	# Enrolled
Zip 39041	16
Zip 39056	82
Zip 39066	55
Zip 39154	23
Zip 39170	42
Zip 39175	32
Zip 39202	40
Zip 39203	46
Zip 39204	233
Zip 39206	178
Zip 39209	318
Zip 39211	62
Zip 39212	342
Zip 39213	204
Zip 39216	10
Zip 39272	82

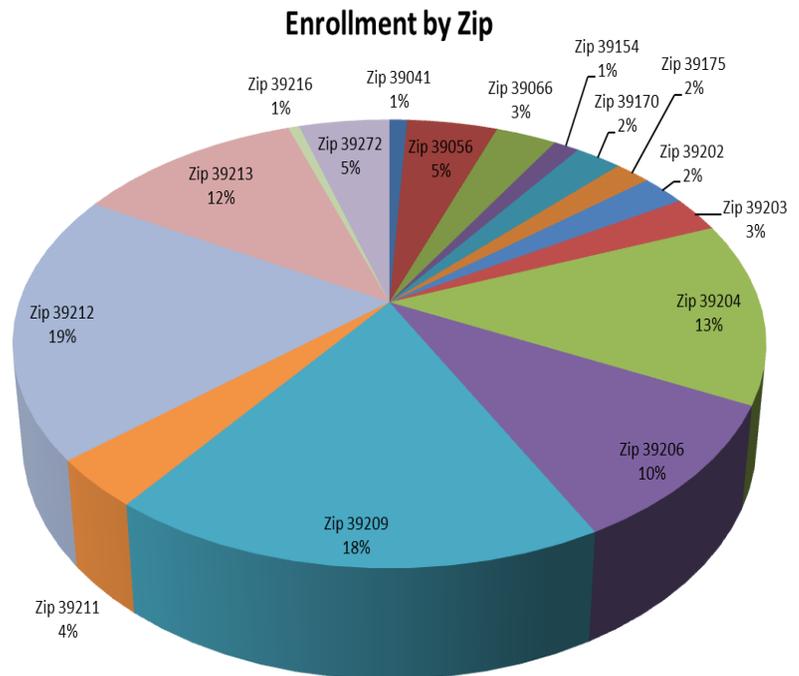
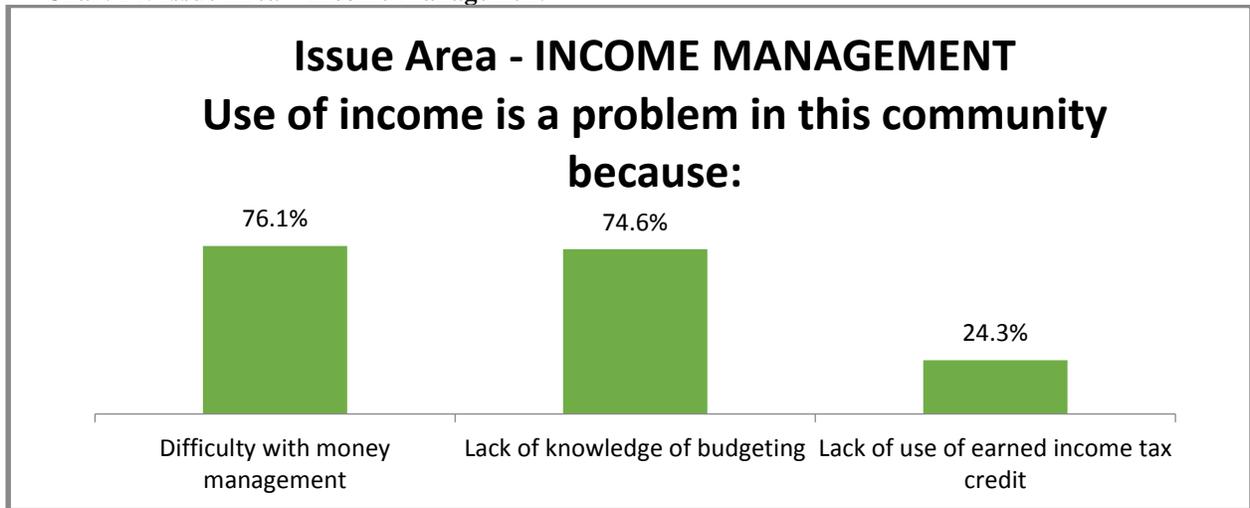
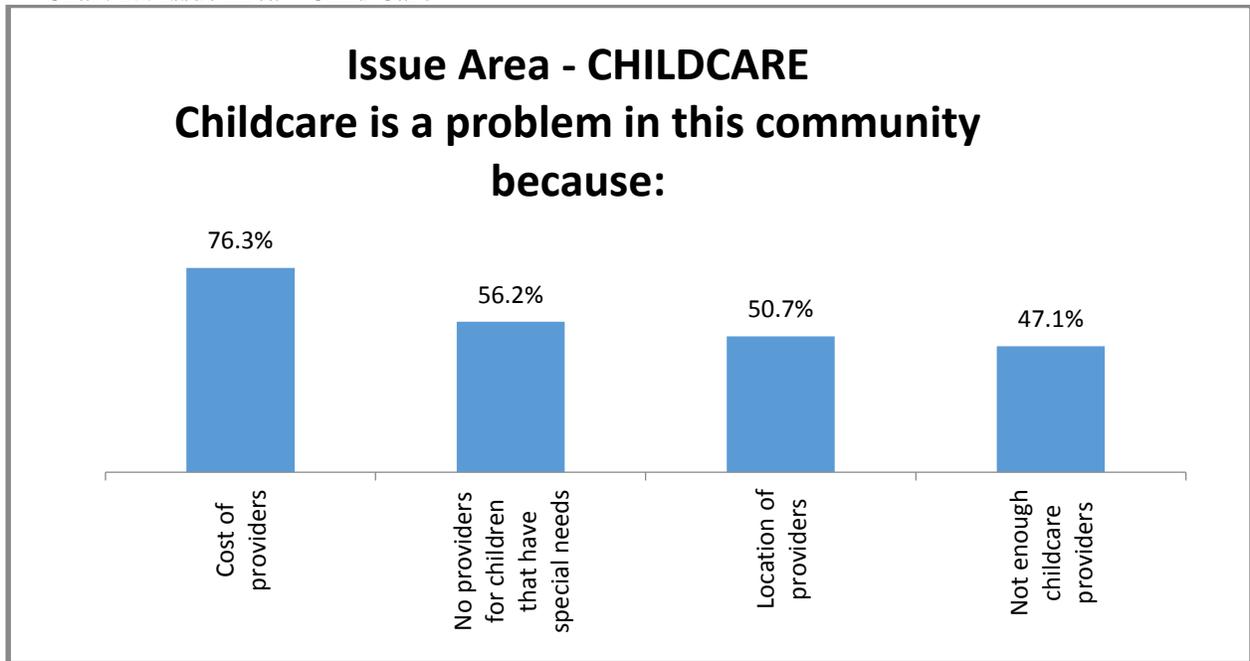


Chart 24: Issue Area – Income Management



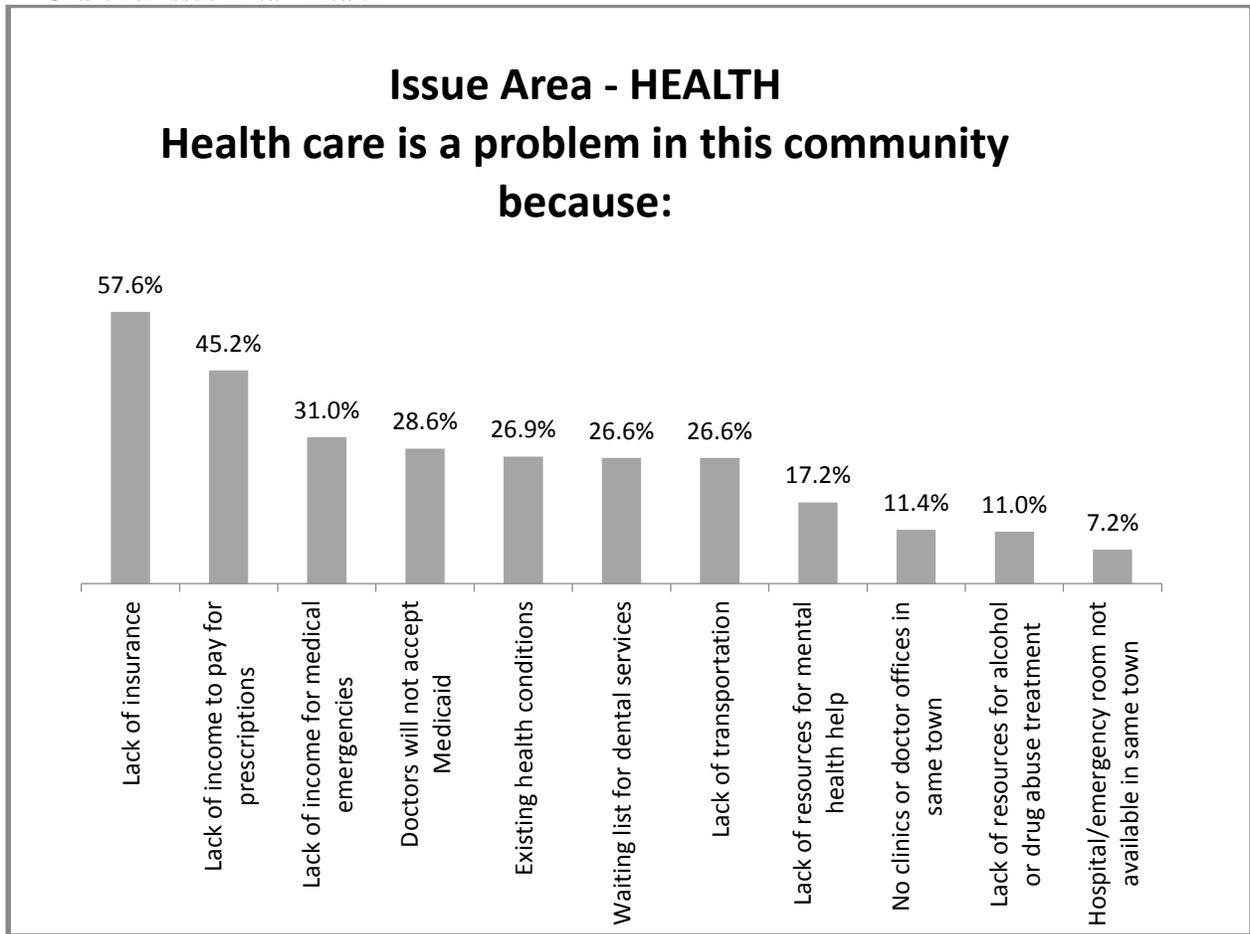
Though income management ranks on the bottom half of the nine issue areas, we must note that difficulty with money management and a lack of knowledge of budgeting are problems our customers face. Also, with the availability of free tax preparation in Hinds County, we must educate our customers on programs that maximize tax refunds and earned income tax credit.

Chart 25: Issue Area – Child Care



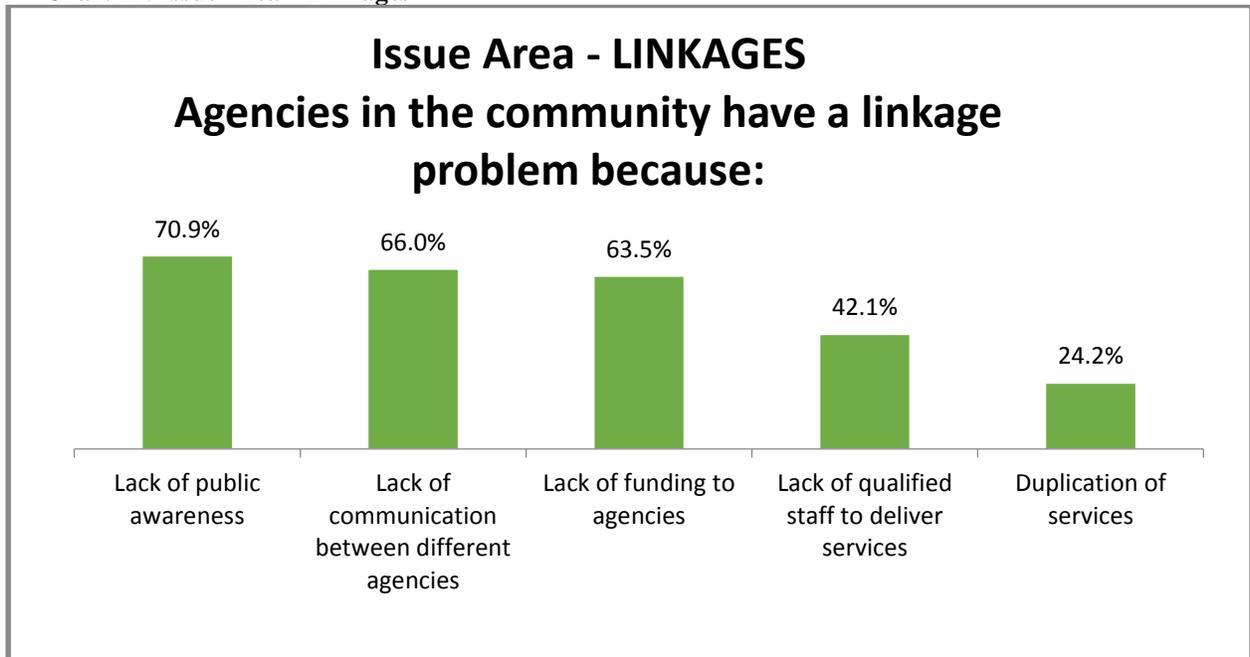
While Childcare as an issue ranked 8th on our survey, again we see that the cost of childcare is prohibitive for our customers. Having access to affordable childcare is imperative for working families to maintain employment and to provide an educational foundation of basic development skills for children as they enter kindergarten or elementary school. As shown earlier in Table 20: Hinds County Educational Attendance, 42% of 3- and 4-year-olds are not enrolled in a preschool. Determining if this is a barrier to employment for some families is an area HCHRA should explore in future CSNAs.

Chart 26: Issue Area – Health



Ranking last as an issue is Health & Safety. As an issue area, a majority of respondents say that a lack of insurance is a problem for healthcare in this community. When a family does not have access to affordable health insurance or does not have health insurance, they are at risk of falling even further behind with bills, losing time from work, or entering into costly debt should a medical emergency arise within the family.

Chart 27: Issue Area – Linkages



We also asked our respondents how they viewed linkages within the community between our agency and other community partners. It should be highlighted that a high number of respondents say that there is a lack of public awareness by agencies for linkages, agencies lack communication, and that funding is a barrier to better linkages. HCHRA seeks out agencies in the community to provide referrals for services we are unable to provide. Both Head Start and the Department of Community Programs have a Community Resources Directory that we regularly update and provide to customers of our agency.

Head Start

As part of the primary data we collected in our CSNA survey, we asked about the services provided for both Head Start families and customers of the Department of Community Programs. The following are the results of these survey questions: Questions 2 through 4 gauged whether the customer received services, were their needs met and are they more stable. We found that a

majority of our customers received services, 59% said their immediate need was met and just over half say their family is more stable.

Chart 28: Question 3 – Immediate Need

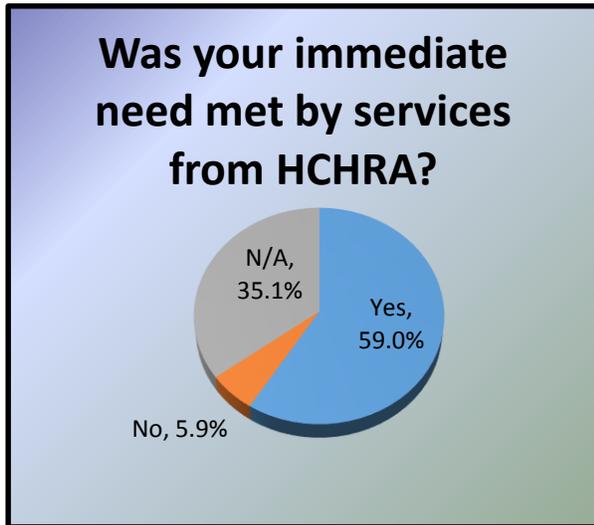
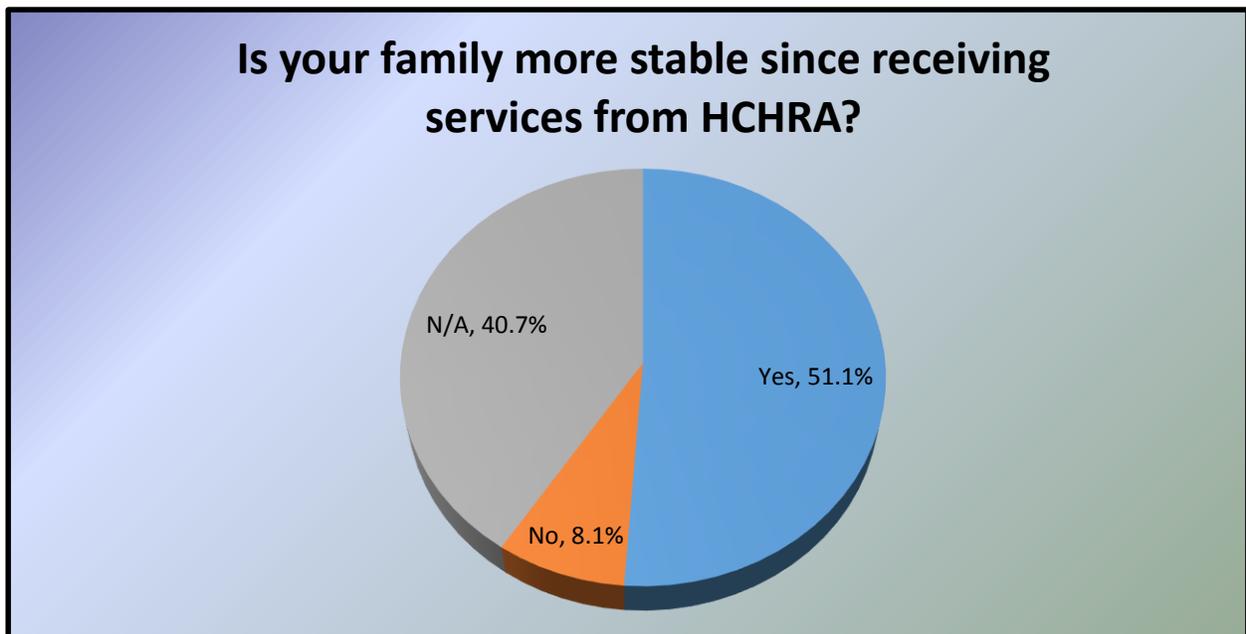


Chart 29: Question 2 – Received Services



Chart 30: Question 4 – Family More Stable



Head Start respondents reported that overall a majority were satisfied with the Head Start Program and have an excellent or good overall knowledge of the Head Start Program in Hinds County.

Table 23: Question 34 – Overall Satisfaction with Head Start

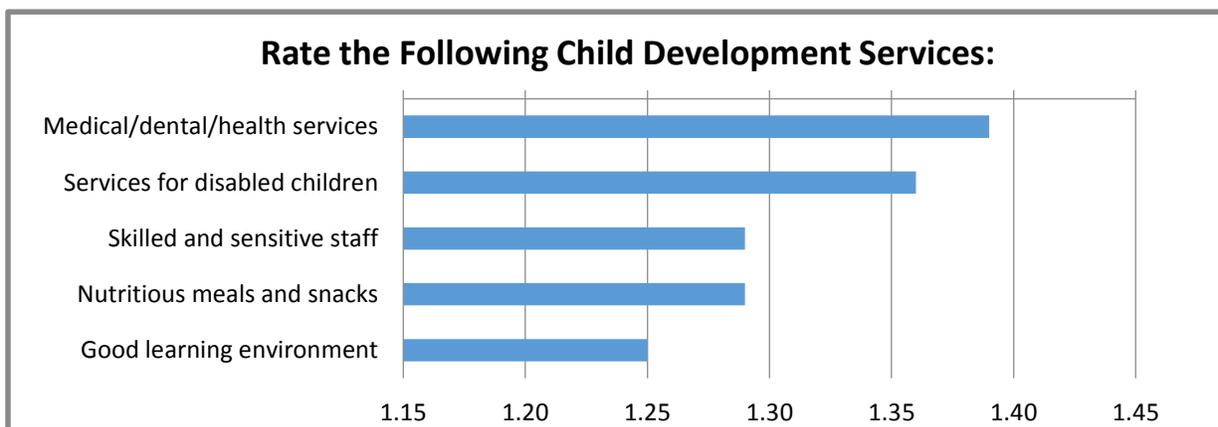
Rate your overall satisfaction with the Head Start Program in Hinds County:						
Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Rating Average	Response Count
	16	10	5	1	1.72	32
<i>answered question</i>						32
<i>skipped question</i>						286

Table 24: Question 34 – Overall knowledge of Head Start

What is your overall knowledge of the Head Start Program in Hinds County?						
Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Rating Average	Response Count
	10	17	4	0	1.81	31
<i>answered question</i>						31
<i>skipped question</i>						287

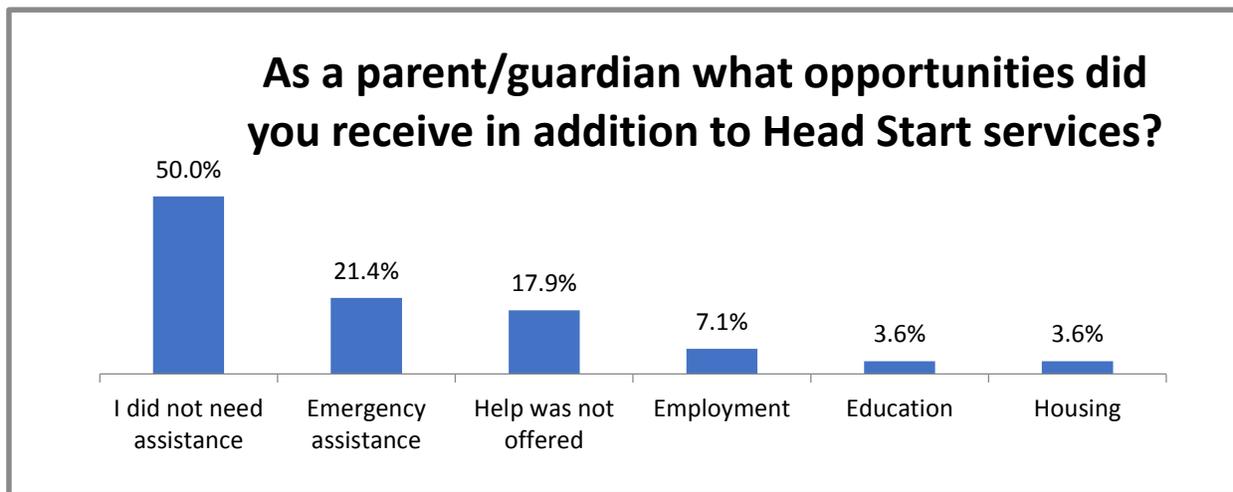
We then asked respondents to rank the Child Development Services from Essential to Not Important within the Head Start Program. A point system was established as the following: All points were totaled to account for all votes given by surveyors. While a ‘Good learning environment’ received the most essential strikes, overall medical/dental/health services scaled higher with ‘services for disabled children’ second. All five services received a majority of strikes as essential.

Chart 31: Question 36 – Family More Stable



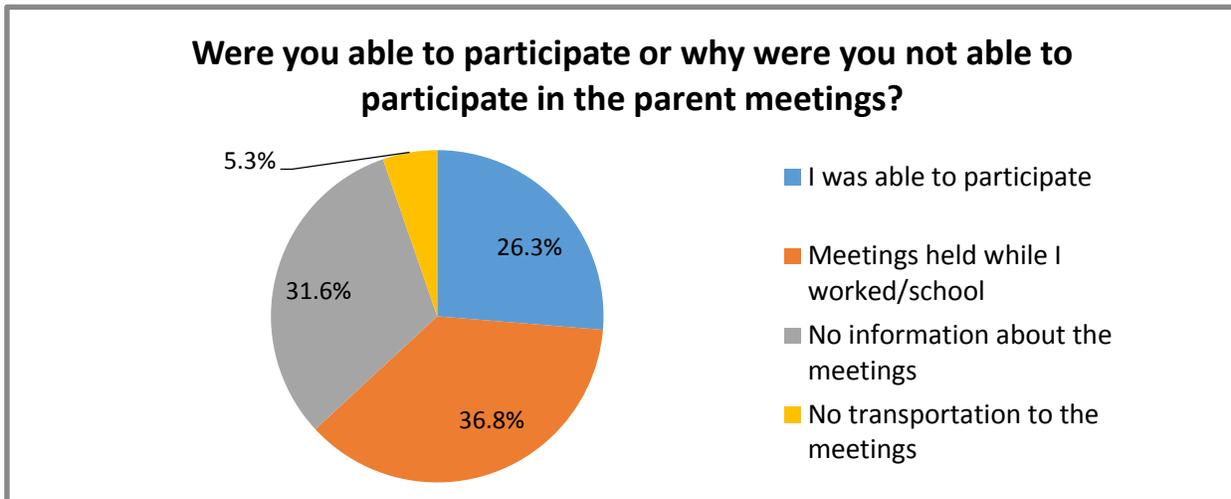
Then we wanted to look at whether our Head Start Families were utilizing other services and programs within HCHRA. While 50% stated they did not need assistance, almost 18% stated they were not offered additional services. The Department of Community Programs and Head Start Family Services must plan to make sure we are linking the services needed to ensure Head Start families are supported. Primary data shows that a majority of Head Start families are below the Poverty Line. Programs should be developed in Community Programs to serve as many Head Start families as possible.

Chart 32: Question 40 – Opportunities Received in Addition to Head Start



Lastly, Head Start is successful when parents are more involved in the program. Our centers hold several parent meetings to discuss the Head Start program, other services provided by HCHRA, and linkages to other community programs. Unfortunately, only 26% of parents were able to participate in the meetings. Furthermore, over 30% say they did not receive information about the meetings or that the meetings were held when work or school conflicted with their attending. Head Start should engage more communication between Center Administrators, teachers, and the parents to ensure that parent meetings are communicated timely and effectively.

Chart 33: Question 41 – Able to Participate in Head Start Parent Meetings



Secondary

The strength of HCHRA’s collaboration with sister agencies, funders and community-based organizations enables the Agency to better achieve its goals. The collaboration is particularly important when conducting the annual needs assessment, as it allows the Agency to obtain a more comprehensive representation of community needs. Several members of the HCHRA management staff are actively involved on the boards and committees of many area community organizations.

Since its inception in 1976, HCHRA has developed strong partnerships with various community, state, and federal agencies and organizations to provide services to the low-income residents of the HCHRA area. Throughout its 37-year history, the Agency has successfully operated many major projects and programs through partnerships with other agencies. The Agency recognizes the vital importance of maintaining a close working relationship with all social service and civic organizations within the service area and realizes that more people in the community can be helped when all are striving toward the common goal. CSBG staff work diligently to develop and maintain relationships that are conducive for all involved, with the realization that a better

understanding of sister agencies eliminates duplicative services; consequently, funds may be utilized more efficiently and effectively within the communities served.

In order to better coordinate services, ensure the most effective collaboration, and prevent duplicative services, HCHRA surveyed the opinions of partners from a variety of social service organizations, including the public, private, non-profit, community colleges, faith-based and ecclesiastical sectors. An inclusion of all representative bodies dedicated to the elimination of poverty ensures that the maximum number of persons is reached and that all available community resources are utilized to the fullest extent.

This Agency believes that many Hinds County citizens, whether children, adults, elderly, or people with disabilities, need a range of services that are designed to meet their needs. HCHRA provides services directed toward low-income individuals and to the coordination of and linkages with services more widely directed in the community. The questions and responses from partners include:

Chart 34: Partner Survey – What Needs Does Your Organization Meet



Chart 35: Partner Survey – Whom Does Your Organization Serve

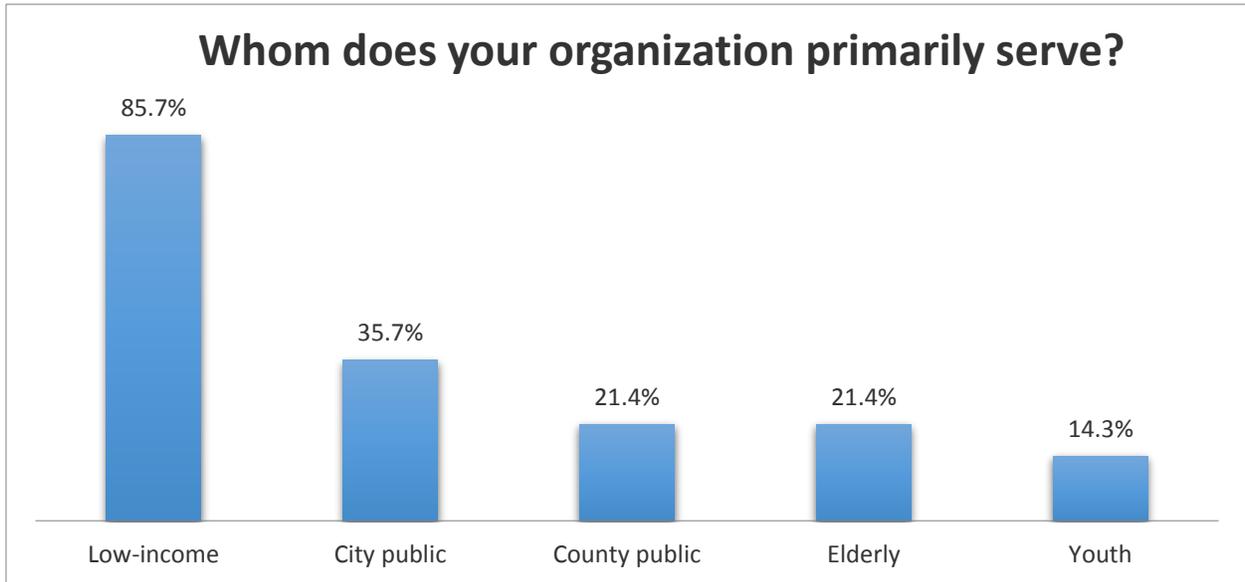


Chart 36: Partner Survey – Company Type

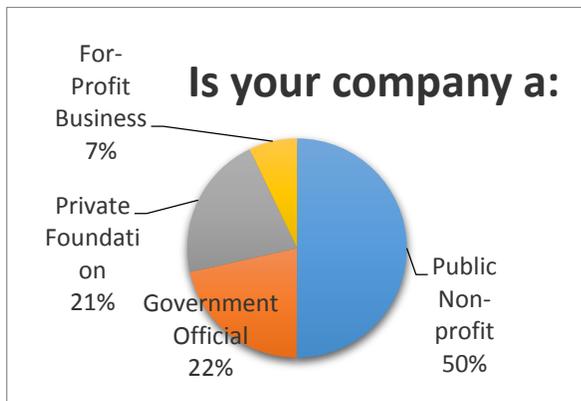


Chart 37: Partner Survey – Visit HCHRA

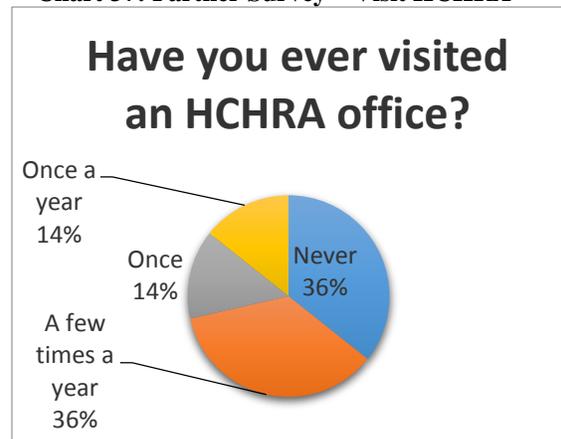


Chart 38: Partner Survey – Referral to HCHRA



Chart 39: Partner Survey – Referral Beneficial

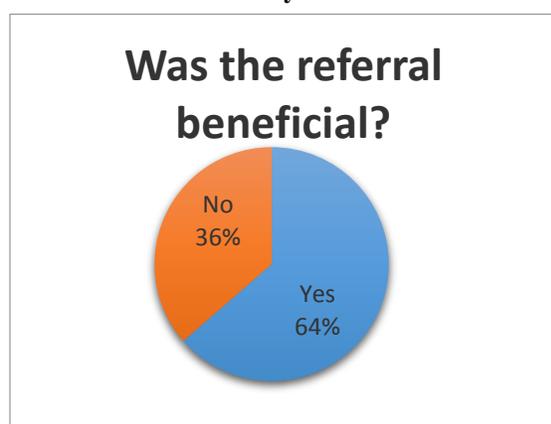


Chart 40: Partner Survey – What Employment Options Does Hinds County Lack

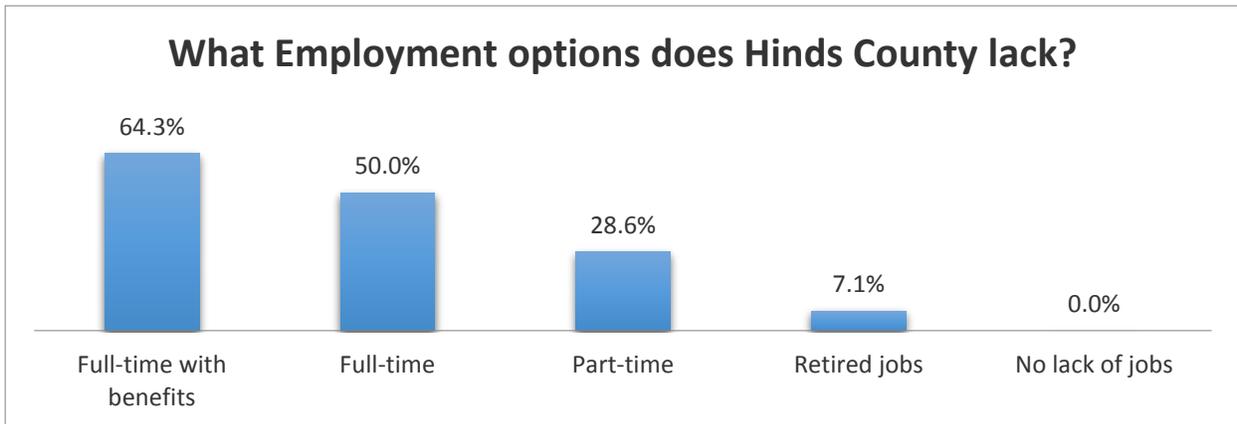


Chart 41 Partner Survey – Employment Barriers

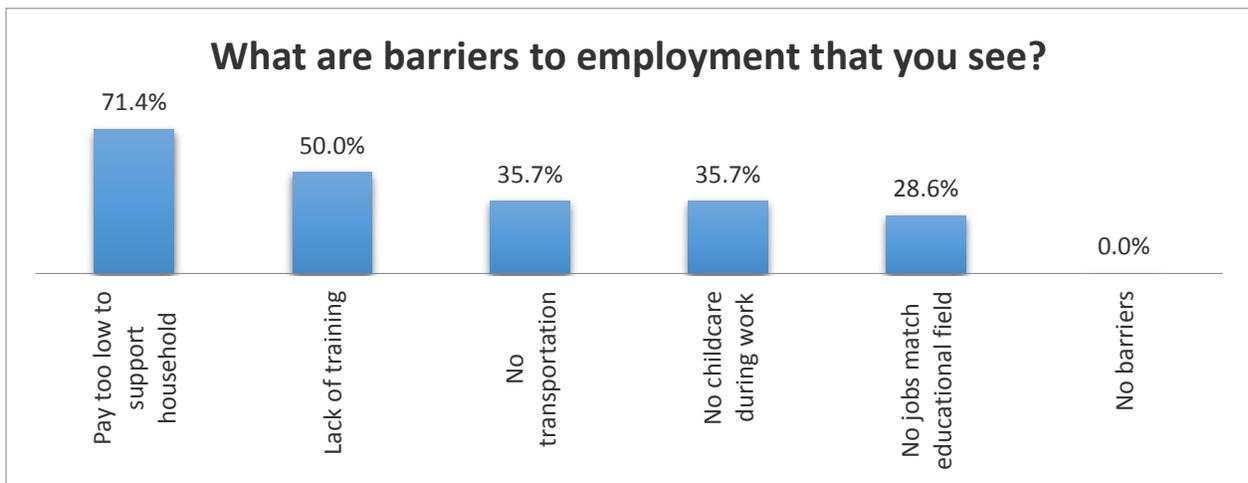


Chart 42: Partner Survey – Transportation Status

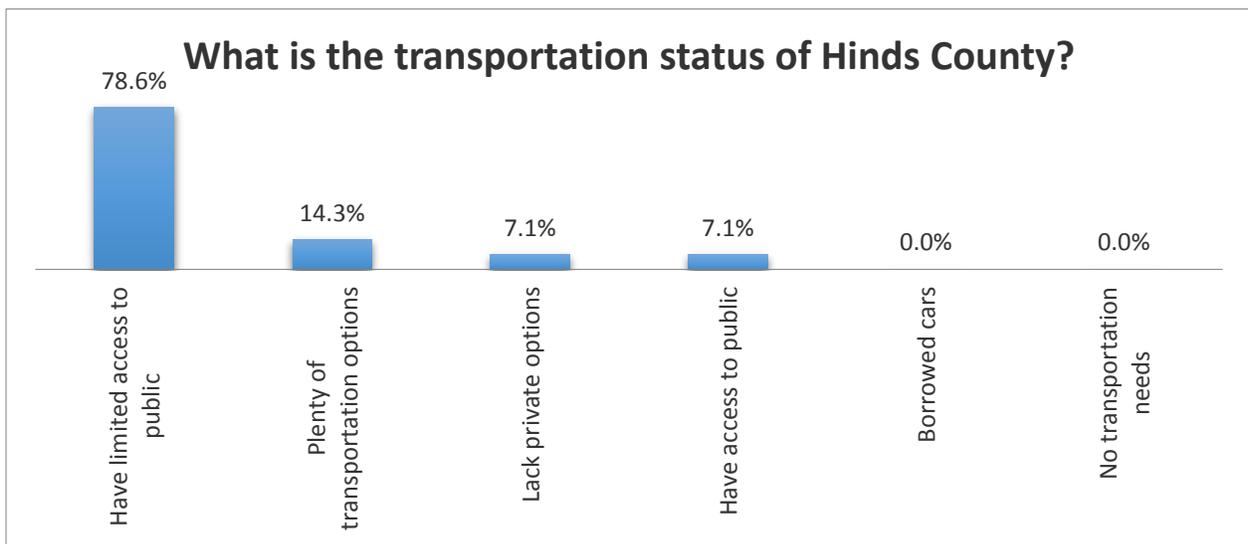


Chart 43: Partner Survey – Transportation Barriers

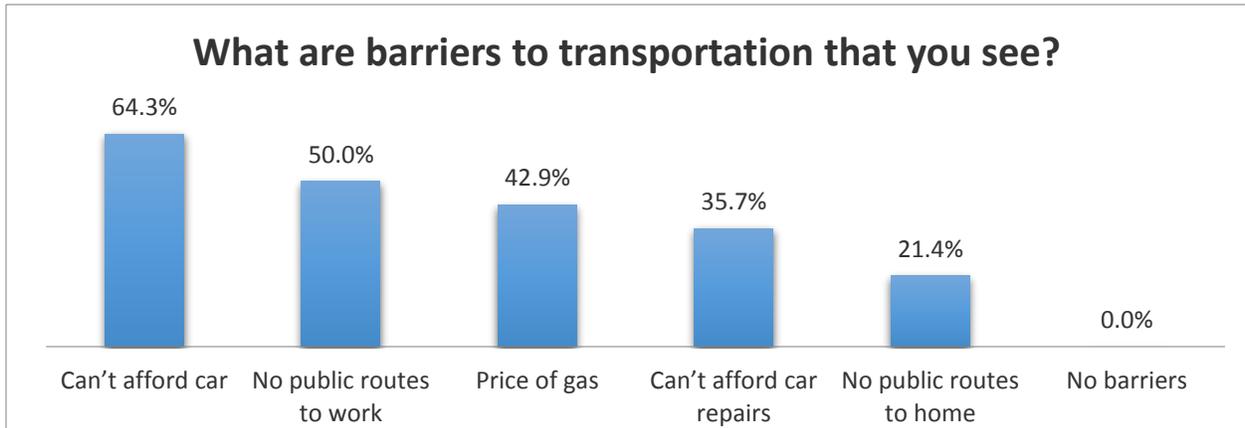


Chart 44: Partner Survey – Housing Concerns

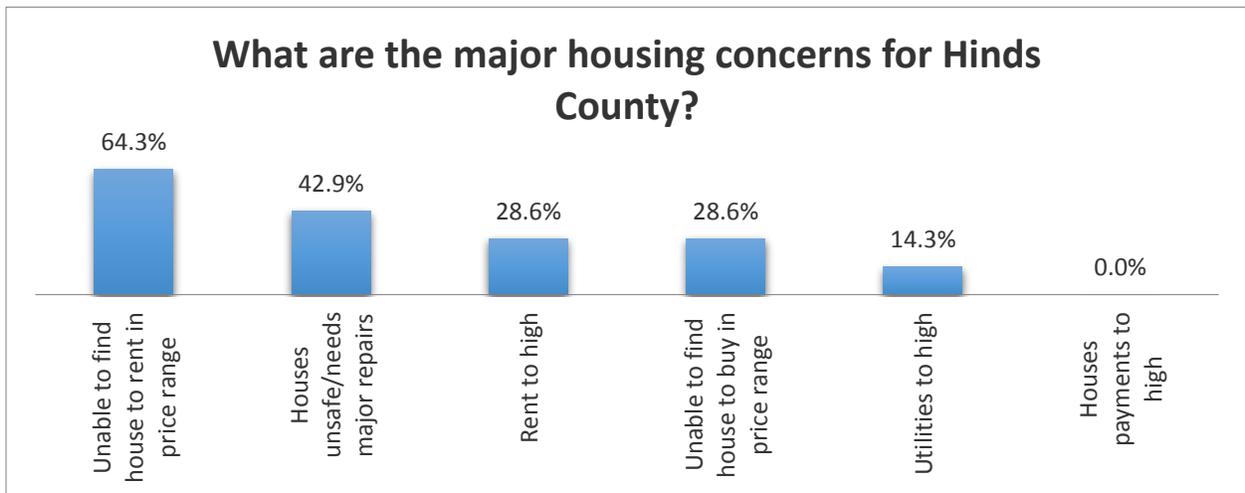


Chart 45: Partner Survey – Lack of Housing Options

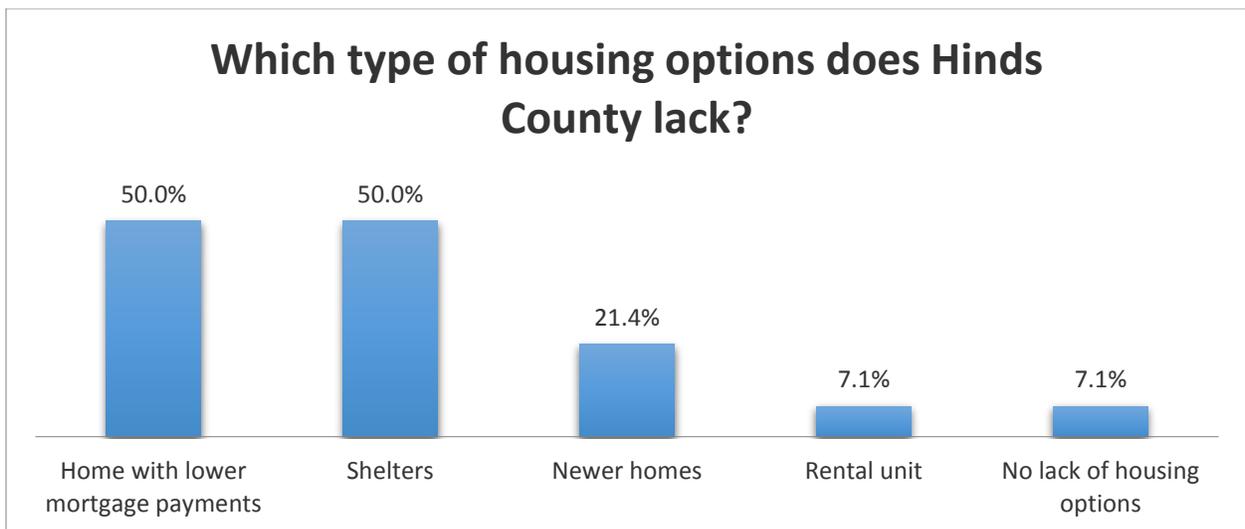


Chart 46: Partner Survey – Barriers to Gaining More Education

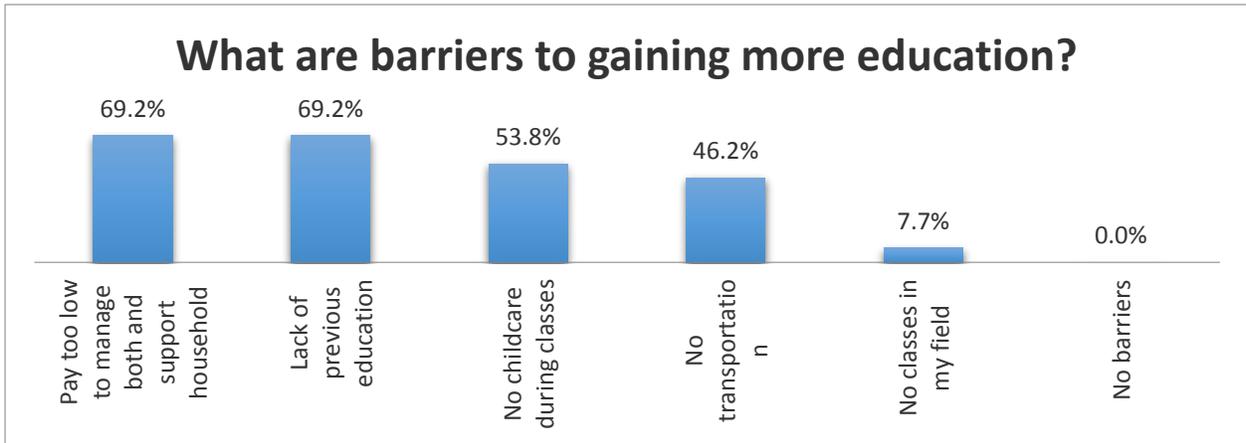


Chart 47: Partner Survey – Barriers to Health Care

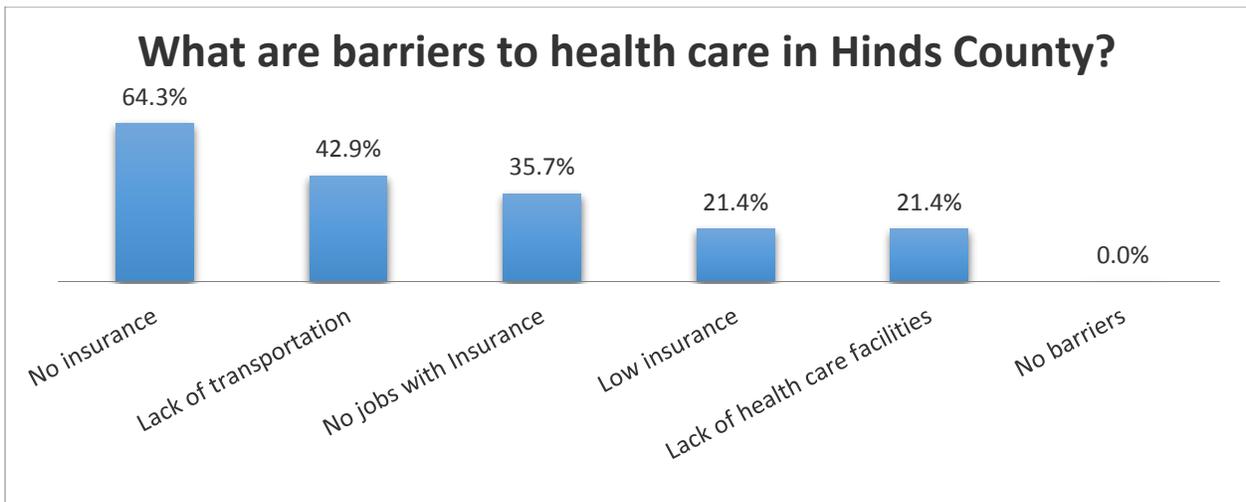


Chart 48: Partner Survey – Barriers to Childcare Services

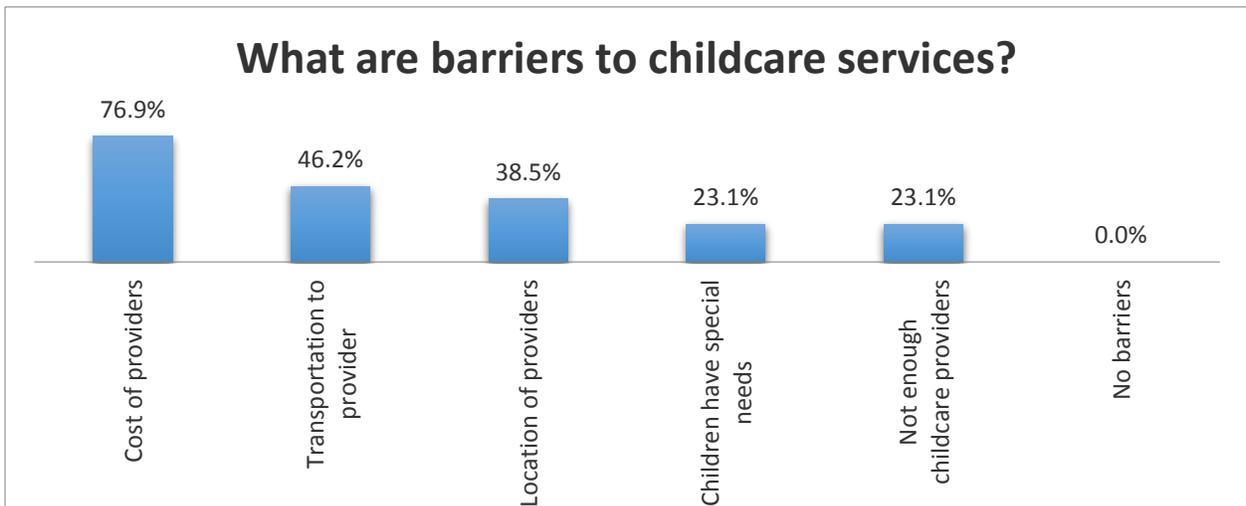


Chart 49: Partner Survey – Scale of Barriers for Consumers Seeking Services

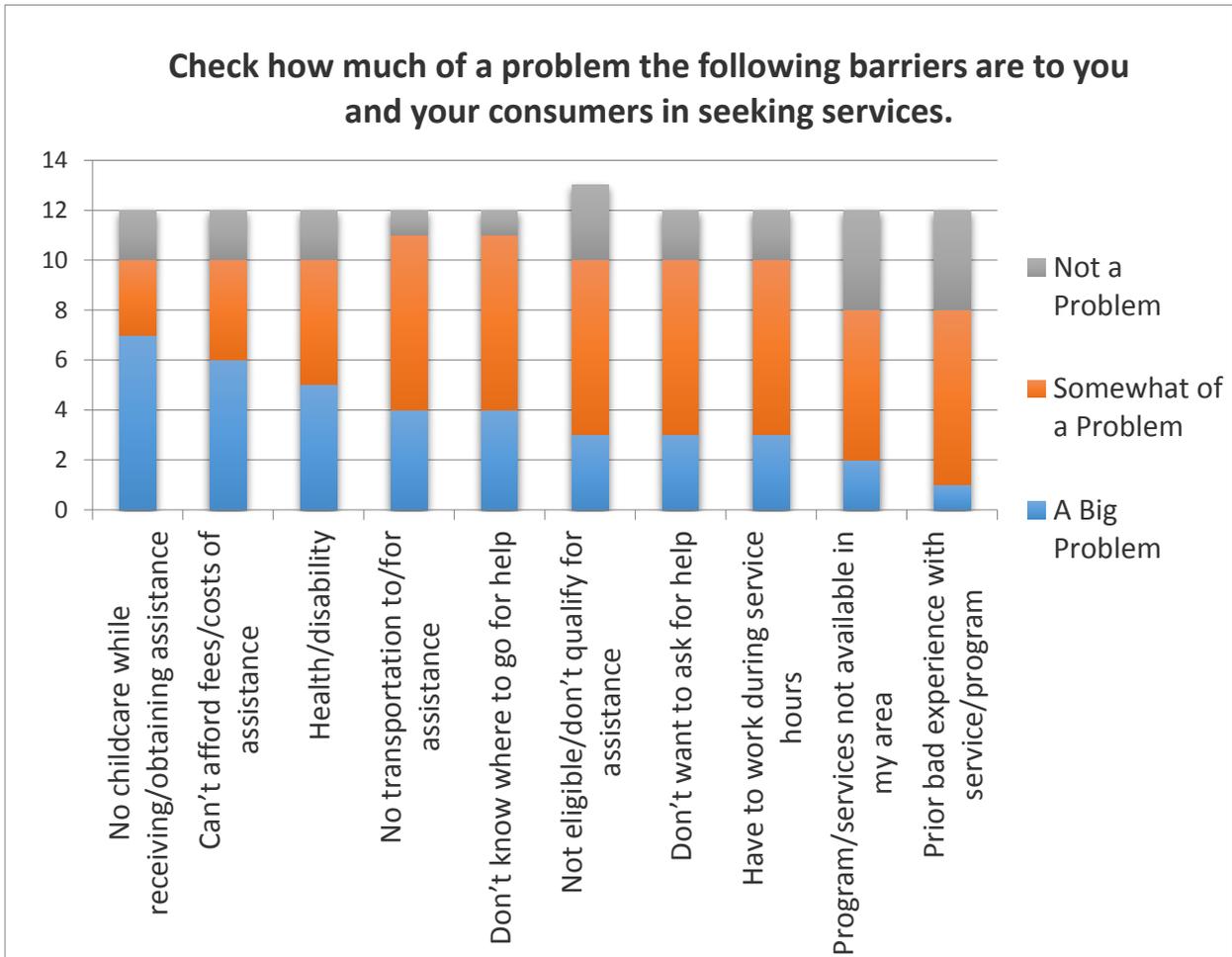
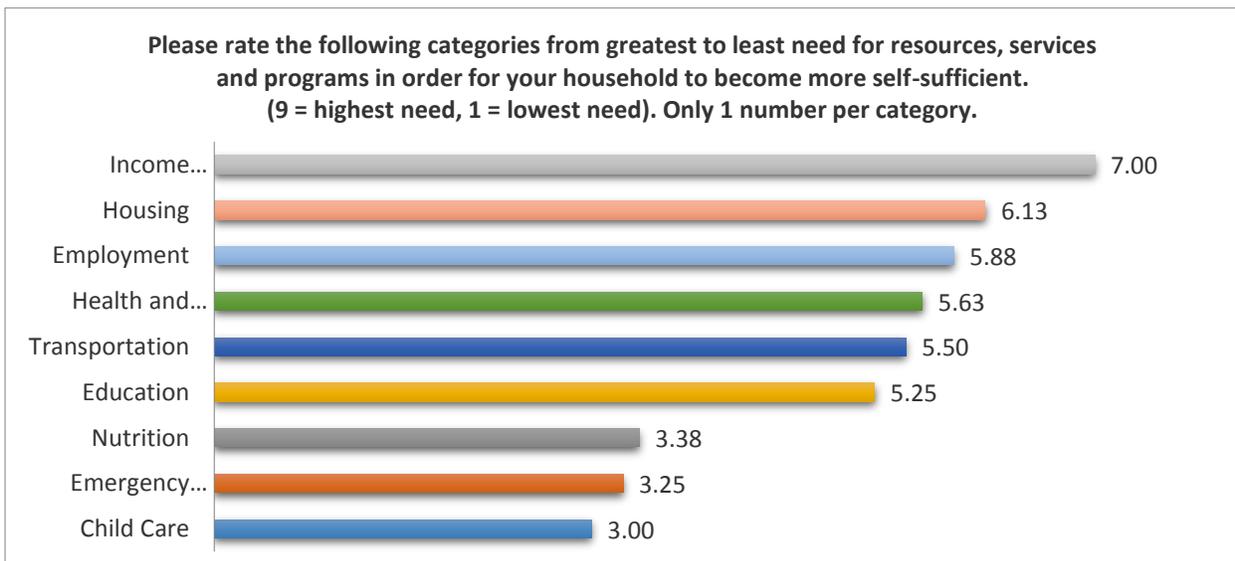


Chart 50: Partner Survey – CSBG Service Categories Ranked by Community Partners



Community Assets

Our goal is to cultivate multi-stakeholder collaboration and coordination in order to even better serve Hinds County. To this end, our community partnerships will remain in place for 2015 and others will be identified. Current partnerships for which HCHRA has a Memoranda of Understanding are listed as formal, and resources in the community not formalized are listed as informal. The services and opportunities include:

Childcare

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Mississippi Department of Human Services – Hinds County
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Hinds County School District Pre-K Program
 - Jackson Public School District Pre-K Program
 - Clinton Public School District Pre-K Program
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Children’s Defense Fund
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Boys and Girls Clubs
 - Daycares
 - City of Jackson daycare programs

Education

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Hinds Community College
 - Voice of Calvary Center – GED Preparation
 - Tougaloo College Educational Opportunity Center
 - ACE Training Center

- **Community Opportunities**
 - Hinds County School District
 - Jackson Public School District
 - Clinton Public School District
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Clinton Community Christian Corporation – GED Training
 - Job Corps
 - JSU Continuing Education Learning Center
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Jackson-Hinds Library System
 - Jackson State University
 - Hinds Community College

Employment

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Dress for Success Metro Jackson
 - Jackson WIN Job Center
 - New Way Mississippi
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - N/A
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Career Development Center
 - City of Jackson Department of Human and Cultural Services
 - Job Corp
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Capitol Staffing
 - TempStaff/Execustaff
 - AAP Staffing

Emergency Services and Linkages

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Atmos Energy
 - Catholic Charities
 - Entergy Mississippi
 - Gateway Rescue Mission
 - Operation Shoestring
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Hinds County Rural Transportation Program
 - Mississippi Center for Legal Services
 - Shady Grove Baptist Church
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Salvation Army
 - American Red Cross
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Clinton Community Christian Center (4C's)
 - JATRAN Transportation Services
 - American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), MS
 - Mission First Legal Clinic

Health and Safety

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Hinds County Sheriff's Department – Crime Prevention, SALT Council
 - Voice of Calvary Ministries
 - South Central Community Action Agency – Weatherization
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center

- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Merit Health
 - University of MS Medical Center
 - Baptist Medical Center
 - St. Dominic Hospital
 - Hinds County Health Department
 - Mission First

Housing

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - N/A
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - N/A
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Housing Authorities
 - Housing Education & Economic Development (HEED)
 - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Azalea Christian Manor Apartments
 - Christian Brotherhood Homes
 - Madonna Manor for Seniors

Income Management

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - United Way of the Capital Area

- **Community Opportunities**
 - N/A
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Jackson
 - First Baptist Church of Jackson – Credit Counseling Program
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Local Banks – Bank Plus, Regions, Trustmark, Hope Credit Union, etc.

Nutrition

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Central MS Planning and Development District (CMPDD) – Senior Meals Programs
 - HCHRA’s Congregate Meals – Senior Meals Program
 - HCHRA’s Home Delivered Meals Program – Senior Meals Program
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - N/A
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services**
 - MS Department of Human Services – Hinds County
 - City of Jackson Department of Human and Cultural Services
 - **Community Opportunities**
 - Food Banks – Mississippi Food Network, Iona House, etc.
 - Grocery Stores

Transportation

- **Formal**
 - **Family Services**
 - Willowood Development Center
 - HCHRA’s Project Head Start Program
 - HCHRA’s Home Delivered Meals Program – Senior Meals Program

- **Community Opportunities**
 - HCHRA's Central Office
- **Informal**
 - **Family Services/Community Opportunities**
 - City of Jackson, MS Transit System-JATRAN
 - **Community Opportunities**