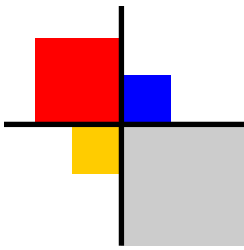


Head Start of Yamhill County Community Assessment 2020-2021



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Introduction

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.

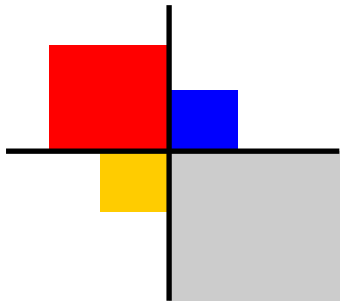
Service Area:

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 110 Early Head Start slots and 320 Head Start slots. The largest number of enrolled children reside in the county seat of McMinnville.

Sources:

- Children First for Oregon County Data Book
- Federal Housing Finance Agency
- Glasmeier, Amy K. Living Wage Calculator. 2020. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. livingwage.mit.edu
- Head Start of Yamhill County Data*
- Head Start of Yamhill County 2019-2020 Parent Surveys
- McKenny-Vento School District Liaisons
- Oregon Department of Education (ODE)
- Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
- U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Willamette Education Service District (WESD)
- Yakima Valley Farmer Workers' Women Infants & Children (WIC) in McMinnville
- Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP) Community Needs Assessment and Point in Time Homeless Counts
- Yamhill Community Care Organization (YCC)
- Yamhill County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
- Yamhill County School Districts
- Yamhill Early Learning Hub Early Childhood Education Sector Plan
- Yamhill Early Learning Hub 2020 Child Care Needs Assessment

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, not all HSYC data was available for this report. Therefore, in some cases, the most recent information will be from the 2018-2019 school year. Although the data years may be inconsistent, we felt it important to include 2019-2020 data whenever possible.



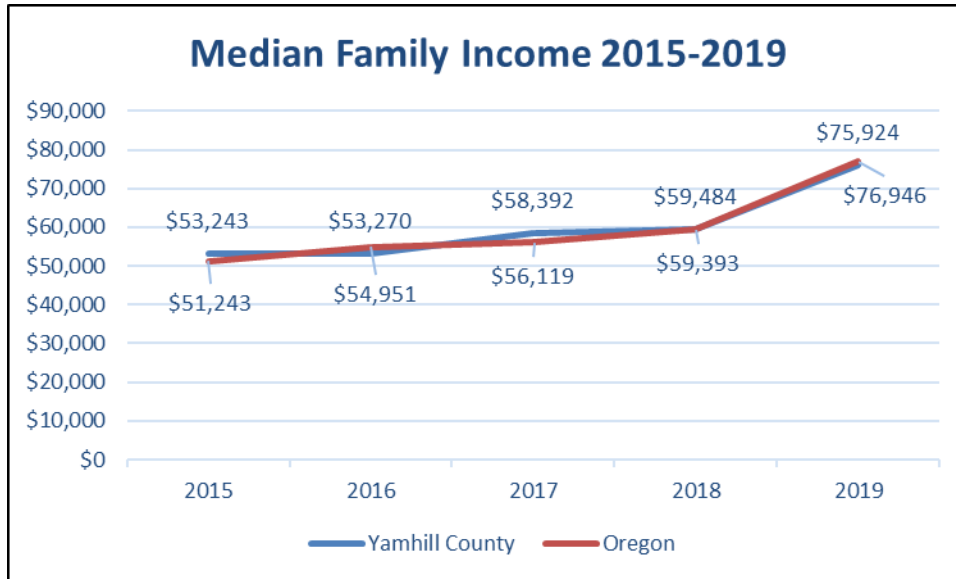
Demographics

Population & Income

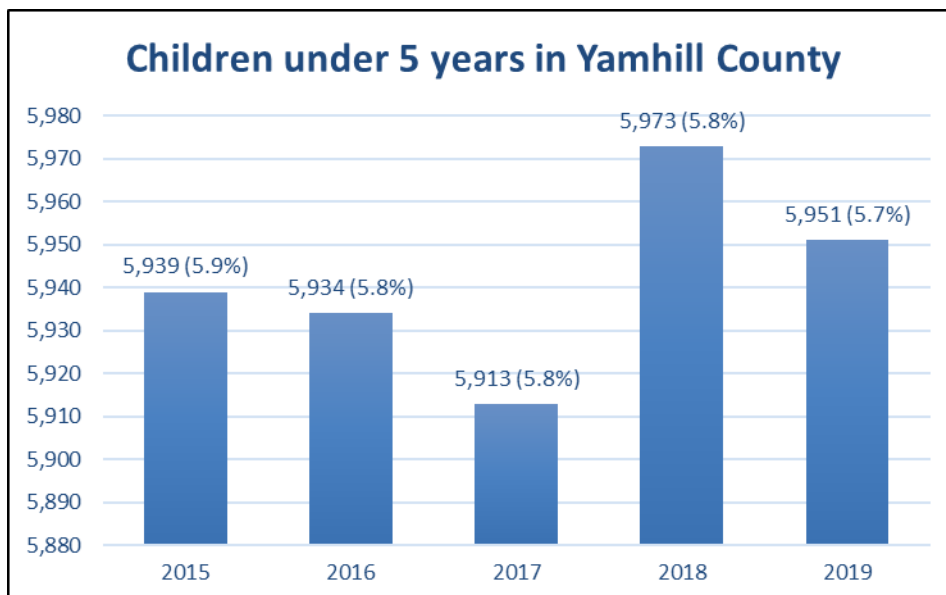
During the period of 2015-2019, the overall population of Yamhill County has grown from 101,119 to 104,832.

Median family income rose steadily between the years of 2015 and 2018, increasing from \$54,243 to \$59,484. If American Community Survey 2019 5-Year Estimates reflect accurate trends, there has been a dramatic increase in family income in 2019 both in the county and across Oregon. This aligns with a series of annual minimum wage rate increases enacted by the Oregon Legislature in 2016.

The percentage of children under the age of 5 remained fairly steady between 2015 and 2017. The 2018 jump appears to be an anomaly, with the downward trend continuing in 2019. This mirrors Yamhill County school districts' actual and forecasted decreases in kindergarten enrollment and would appear to be the result of families moving into the area as opposed to births in the county.



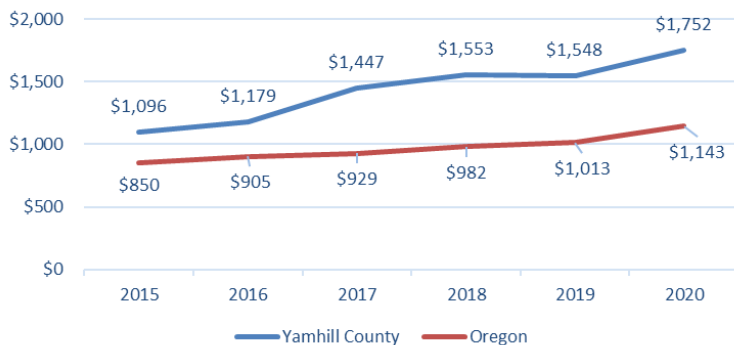
Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates: 2015 through 2019



Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates: 2015 through 2019

Poverty

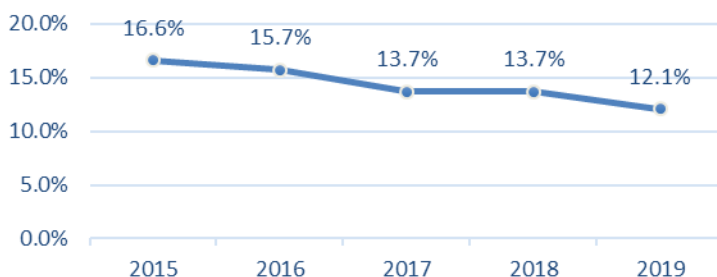
**Median Fair Market Rent
Yamhill County vs. Oregon**



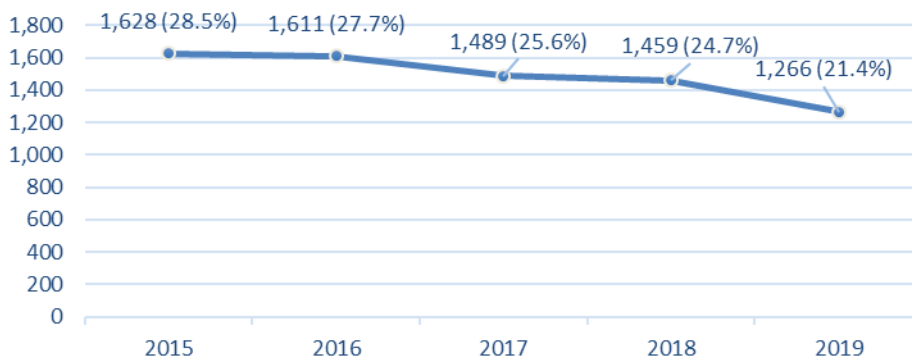
Fair Market Rent is determined each fiscal year by the HUD and is used to set payment standards for federal housing assistance programs in Oregon. Fair Market Rent is the 40th-percentile of typical rentals in a given region.

As median rent prices have been on the rise in Yamhill County since 2015, according to the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Housing Price Index (HPI) gains have seen a similar dramatic increase. Between 2000 and 2020, the HPI for Yamhill County has risen by 119%.

**Poverty Rate Yamhill County -
All Persons**

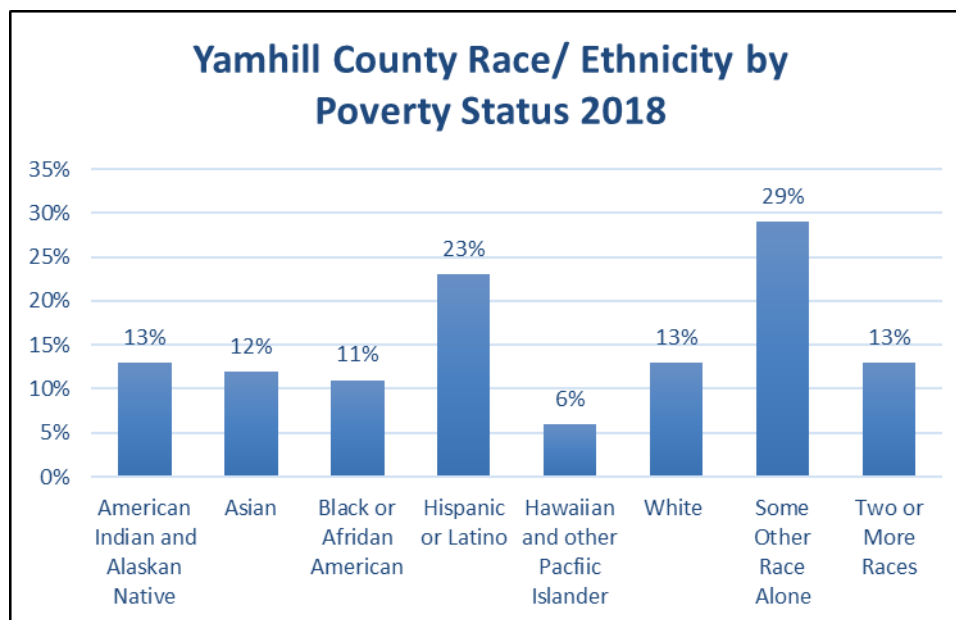
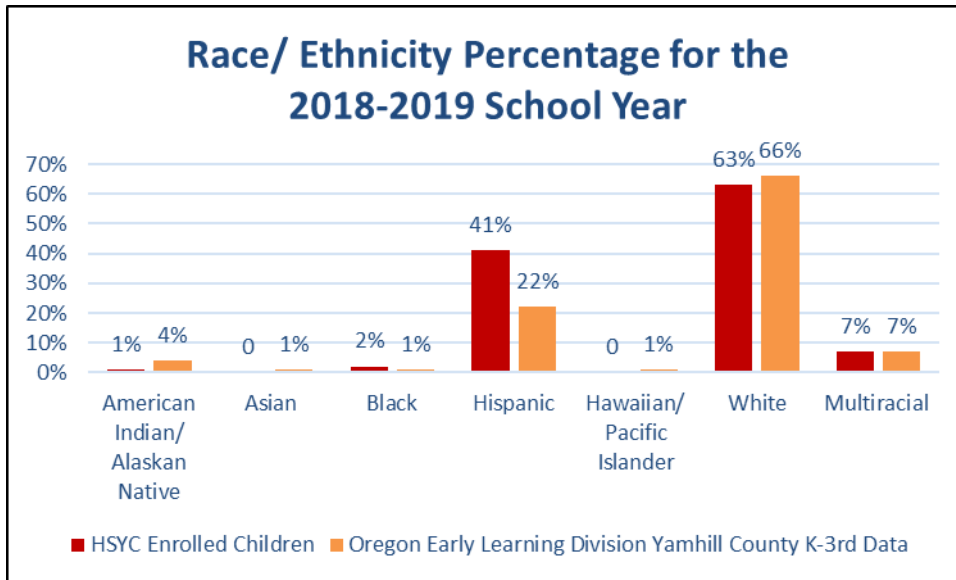


**Number and Percentage of Children under
5 years living below poverty level in
Yamhill County**



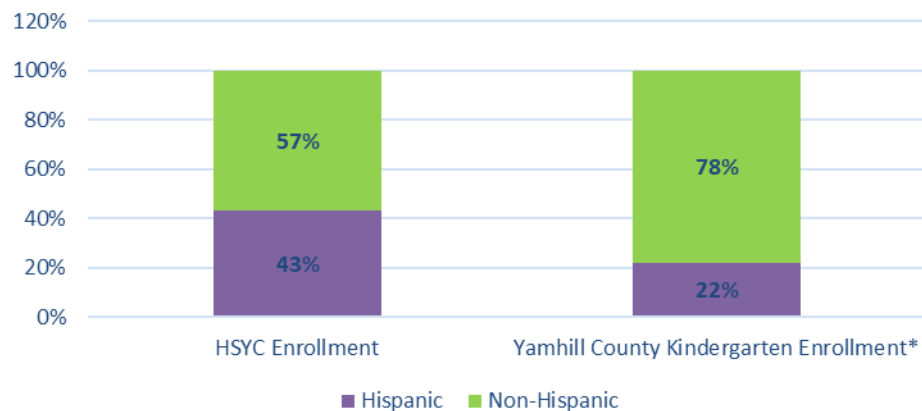
Overall, poverty rates have been steadily decreasing in Yamhill County. As housing prices increase, lower income families are moving toward the West Valley of the county. When these families are unable to obtain affordable housing in this area, they often move out of the county.

Race & Ethnicity



The Oregon Early Learning Division, in conjunction with the regional Early Learning Hubs, has required equity work by early childhood programs since 2016. Each year since 2016, HSYC has exceeded expectations relative to the percentage of the population served in the areas of race and ethnicity.

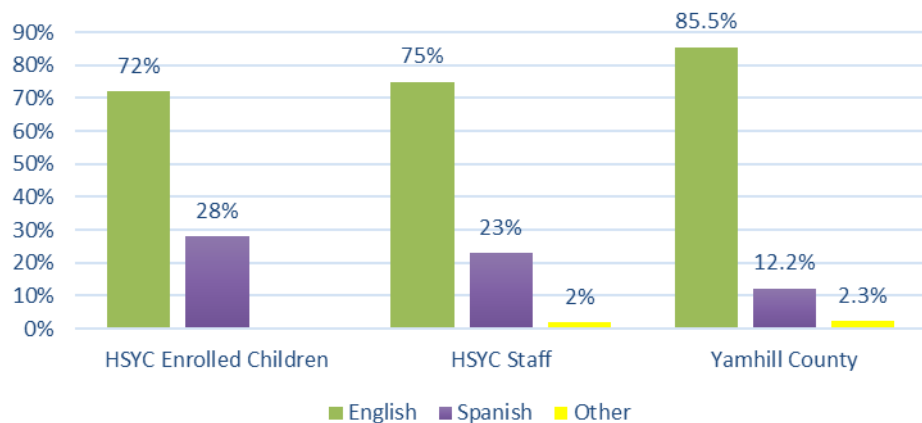
Hispanic Population as a Percentage of Enrollment (2018-2019)



*Source: Oregon Early Learning Division

Language

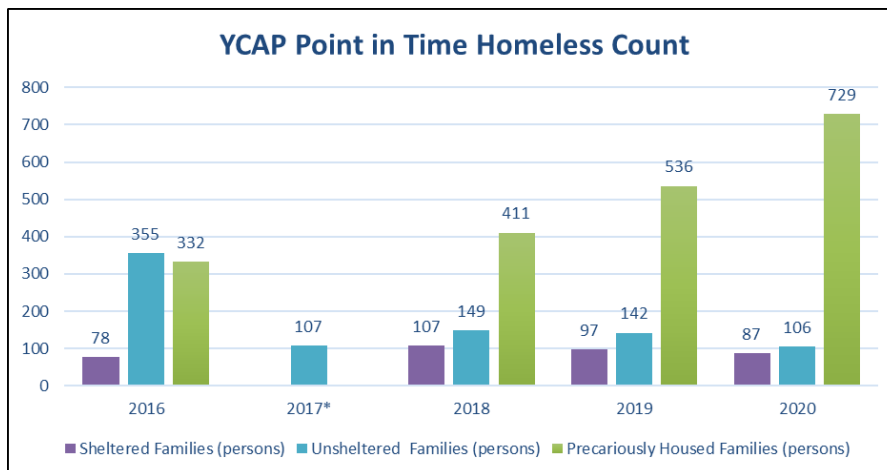
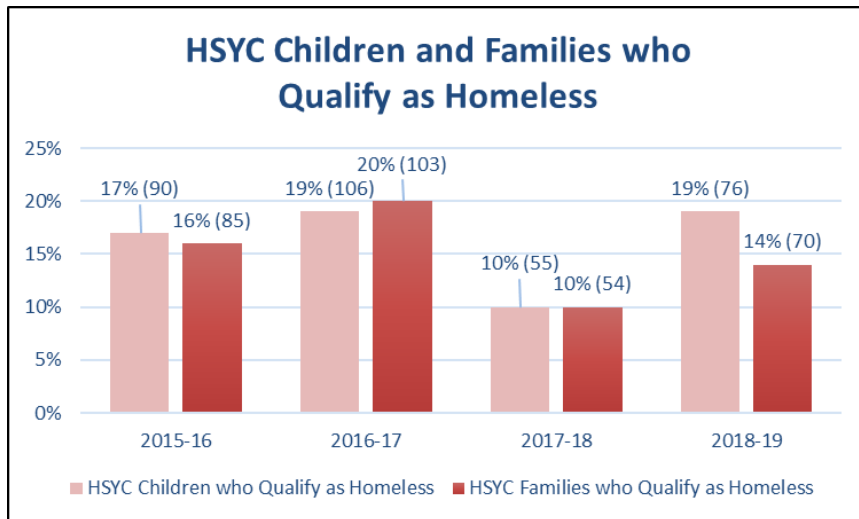
Primary Language Spoken in the Home HSYC Enrollment 2018-2019



Early learning providers throughout Yamhill County have struggled to employ qualified bilingual staff. Community early care and education partners continue to work with local colleges to create pathways to the field, and to recruit graduates to Yamhill County.



Homelessness

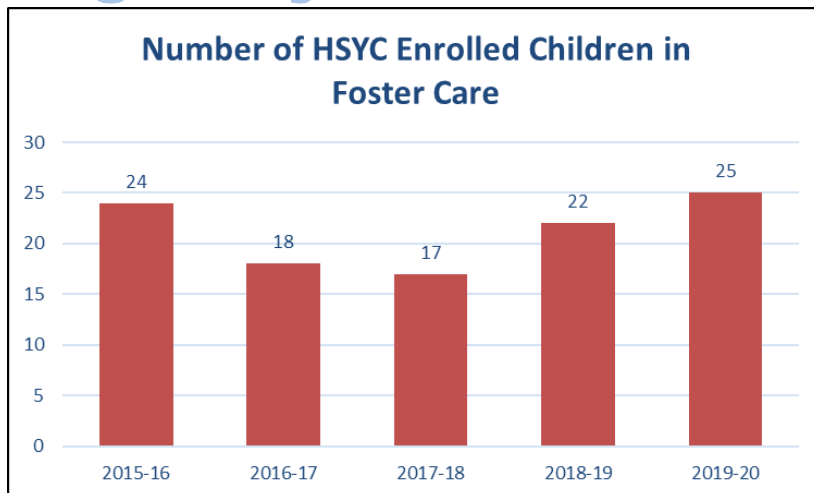


*YCAP did not track Sheltered and Precariously House Families in 2017.

HSYC adheres to the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness, which defines homeless children and youth as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence”. HSYC has experienced an increase in our child and family homeless population between the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years. In comparison, Yamhill Community Action Partnership’s (YCAP) Point in Time Homeless Count shows a dramatically increasing number of families who identify as precariously housed or “couch surfing”.

Information from McKinney-Vento Local Education Agency Liaisons in Yamhill County indicate that elementary school age student/ family homeless numbers were low throughout Yamhill County at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. One liaison shared that families aren’t readily identifying as homeless and, without children in the school buildings due to COVID-19, it is difficult for staff to assess their homeless situations. According to the information from liaisons, it is estimated that there are approximately 160 homeless children ages 0-5 as of December 9, 2020. This calculation is derived by dividing the number of K-5th children eligible for McKinney Vento in Yamhill County as of December 9, 2020 (193 total), by 6 years (kindergarten through 5th grade) and multiplying by 5 years (ages 0-5).

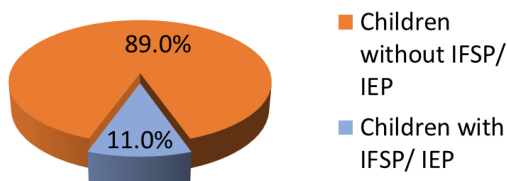
Eligibility - Foster Care



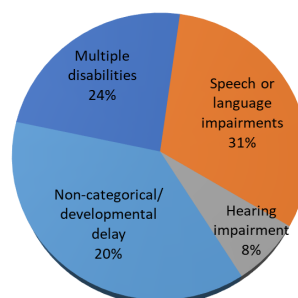
According to Children First for Oregon County Data Book, the number of children (under 18 years of age) in foster care in Yamhill County has gone from a high of 231 children in 2015 to 150 children in 2019, with a dip to 110 children in 2017. We know that this decrease is due to state and local efforts to address child abuse and neglect, keep families together, encourage extended family care (versus out-of-family placements), and to create more community and family supports before children are removed. HSYC prioritizes our relationships with Oregon DHS Child Welfare case workers and supervisors to ensure children in foster care are enrolled and remain with us for continuity of services regardless of their (foster) placement.

Eligibility - Disabilities

HSYC Children on IFSPs/ IEPs eligible to receive special education & related services (2018-2019)



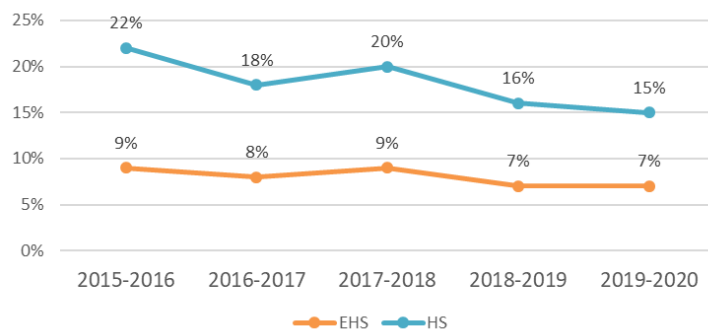
HSYC Primary Disability 2018-2019 (Head Start only)



As of December 2020 WESD was serving 213 children 0-5 years of age in Yamhill County. Thirty-one percent of these children were being served through Early Intervention and sixty-nine percent of through Early Childhood Special Education services.

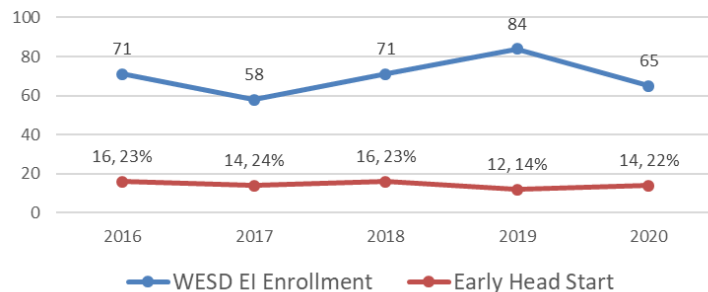
Based on the Oregon Department of Education Kindergarten Data Report from January 2020, the average percentage of children with a diagnosed disability (when averaging the 2016-17 & 2017-18 school years) was 11% county-wide.

HSYC Percentage of Children with Diagnosed Disabilities 2016-2020 by Program Model



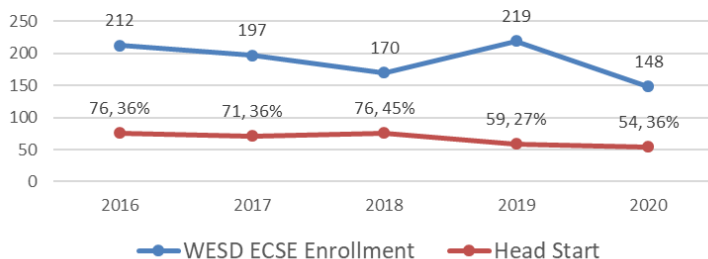
Between 2016 and 2020 HSYC, on average, cared for 14.78% of WESD's Yamhill area population of children ages 0-5 who experience diagnosed disabilities. During this same time frame, HSYC EHS was the primary placement for 21% of infants and toddlers for whom WESD is responsible for providing Early Intervention services. Also during this same time frame, HSYC was the primary placement for 36% of the preschoolers for whom WESD is responsible for providing Early Childhood Special Education services.

Comparison of WESD Early Intervention Enrollment to HSYC Early Head Start Diagnosed Disabilities and % of WESD EI Enrollment



Effective in 2016, WESD moved from a direct-service model to a consultation model of service delivery primarily due to state funding that did not fully fund Oregon EI/ECSE programs. This lack of funding was a state-wide issue. In the 2020 Oregon Legislative session, EI/ECSE was provided a historical increase to be fully funded beginning July 2020.

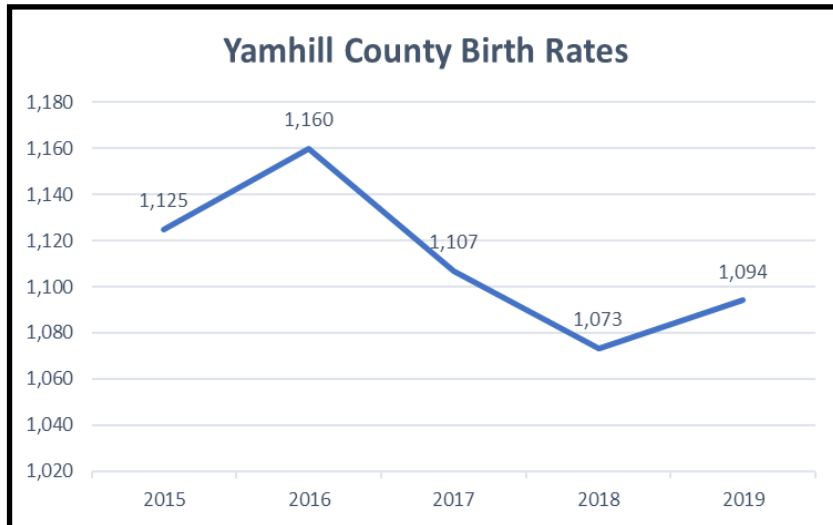
Comparison of WESD Early Childhood Special Education Enrollment and HSYC Preschool Program Diagnosed Disabilities and % of WESD ECSE Enrollment



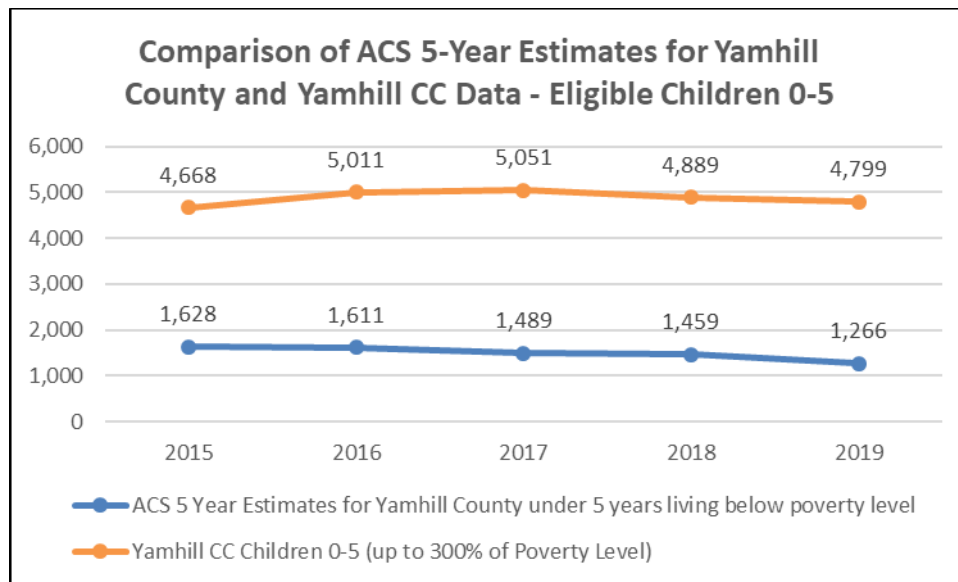
As a result of the funding increase, EI/ECSE programs were provided opportunities to strengthen their service provision beginning September 2020. HSYC, who serves an average of 21% and 36% of the county's EI and ECSE children, continues to receive consultation services from WESD. HSYC staff's educational and experiential backgrounds are in child and early childhood care and development, not in the specialized areas of special education.

Head Start Performance Standards require 10% of EHS and HS enrollment to be filled with children experiencing diagnosed disabilities

Birth Rates - HSYC Eligible Children



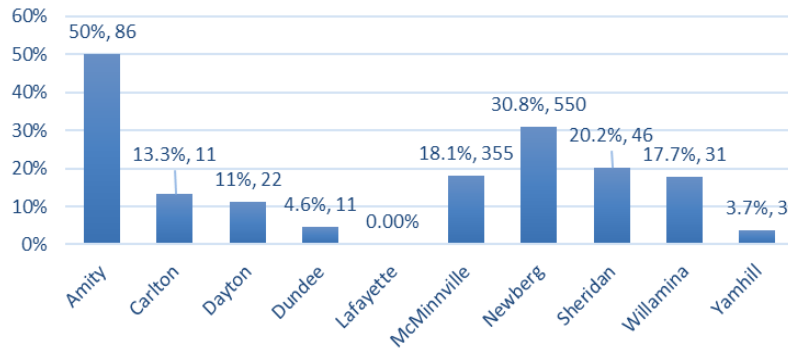
With birth rates generally trending downward and the number of children age 5 and under living in poverty decreasing throughout the county, the number of HSYC eligible children is also decreasing. Utilizing ACS data and adjusting for birth rates across the county over the past 5 years, it is estimated that there are 747 children eligible for Early Head Start and 519 for Head Start. That is a significant decrease from the identified eligible population in our 2015-2016 Community Assessment, which indicated 839 eligible for EHS and 557 for Head Start.



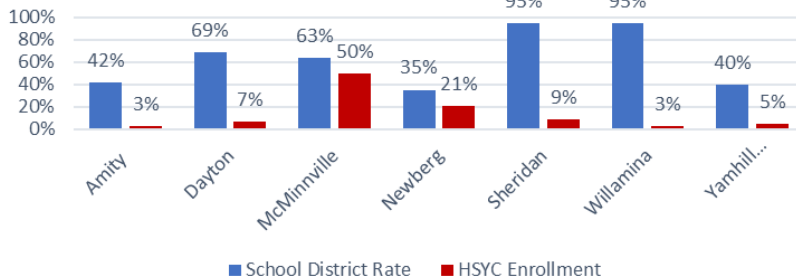
Yamhill Community Care (YCC) administers the Oregon Health Plan in Yamhill County. While their eligibility is up to 300% of federal poverty guidelines and HSYC utilizes 130% of federal poverty guidelines, YCC data for enrolled children ages 0-5 is included to show a similar trend in the decreasing number of children in poverty eligible for services. YCC data by age breakdowns were also utilized to substantiate the number of EHS- and HS- eligible children.

Eligibility by Area

Yamhill County Poverty Rate for Children under 5 Years and Estimated Number and Percentage of Children by Community (ACS 2019 5-Year Estimates)



Free and Reduced Lunch Percentages and HSYC Enrollment by School District Catchment Area (2019-2020)



As the median income of families in Yamhill County has risen, the number of children eligible for USDA Free and Reduced School meals in much of the county has decreased, with the exception of those residing in the Sheridan and Willamina School District catchment areas. While the poverty rates in these communities remain high, American Community Surveys 2019 5-year Estimates indicate that the number of children under age 5 living in poverty in these areas is also decreasing. This may be reflective of the lack of low-income family housing in the West Valley and potentially make recruitment more difficult.

HSYC partners with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde programs, allowing tribal children outside of Grand Ronde community to attend our program if parents so choose. Our enrollment may not be reflective of all children below the age of 5 currently enrolled in HS or EHS programs.

| School District | Elementary Schools Free and Reduced % 2019-2020 | Number of Children under 5 who are below the poverty level, ACS 2019 5-year Estimates | HSYC Enrollment by School District Catchment Area 2019-2020 |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Amity | 42.4% | 86 children or 50% | 14 children or 3% |
| Dayton | 68.6% | 11 children or 22% | 38 children or 7% |
| McMinnville | 63.4% | 355 children or 18.1% | 258 children or 50% |
| Newberg | 35.2% | 550 children or 30.8% | 107 children or 21% |
| Sheridan | 94.5% | 46 children or 20.2% | 47 children or 9% |
| Willamina | 94.5% | 31 children or 17.7% | 16 children or 3% |
| Yamhill Carlton | 39.8% | 14 children or 8.5% | 24 children or 5% |



Identified Needs:

In 2018, Yamhill County Public Health completed a Community Health Assessment. The resulting 2018-2022 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) identified four priority health areas: behavioral health, with a focus on suicide prevention and substance abuse prevention; trauma reduction and community resiliency; tobacco and vaping use; and preconception health.



As a community, Yamhill County is working collaboratively to address these concerns. One such innovative solution is the establishment of four Transitional Treatment Recovery Services homes in McMinnville to provide a clean and sober environment for parents and their children, with access to social service 'wrap' supports as a component of the programming. Substance abuse is a common issue many area families face, and HSYC actively participates in community work groups to address this concern.

In 2016, the YCC began a series of Family Resiliency Community Conversations. The aim of the series was to bring community members together to learn about trauma and consider how to support the development of resiliency to strengthen family wellbeing. The CHIP's focus is on reducing the significant lasting impacts that can be caused by trauma, toxic stress, and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and strengthening family supports and capabilities. HSYC is seeing the impact of trauma on the lives of enrolled children and families in larger numbers than ever before. HSYC structured two of its 5-year goals on the effects of trauma and resiliency in our participants, and is active in community conversations and planning to address this issue. Parents have identified the need for parent education specific to challenging behaviors that might be contributed to trauma and toxic stress.

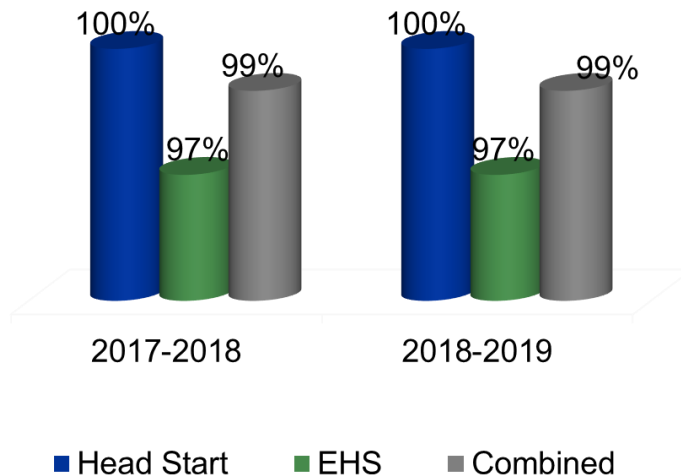
Health Care Resources:

Within Yamhill County there are two medical centers: Providence Newberg Hospital and Willamette Valley Medical Center. Additionally, there are numerous medical clinics. The majority of these clinics, however, are clustered in the McMinnville and Newberg areas with the exception of Adventist Health located in Sheridan, the Western Yamhill Medical Center and the Virginia Garcia School-Based Health Center located in Willamina, and the Yamhill Carlton School-Based Health Clinic located in Yamhill.

In their 2018 Community Needs Assessment, YCAP recommended pursuing creative strategies to increase the availability of healthcare providers in Yamhill County, especially those who will accept Medicare and Medicaid. The YCC has partnered with existing community healthcare providers to expand the number of Medicare/ Medicaid patients they will accept.

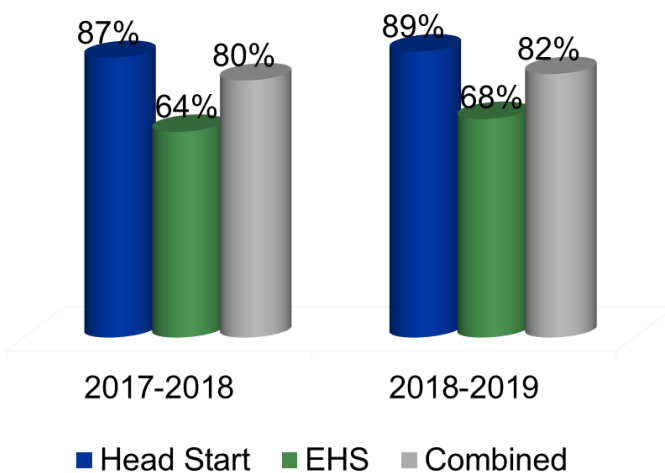
Dental

HSYC Children with Dental Homes



Since the 2015-2016 Community Assessment, Yamhill County has seen an increase in availability of pediatric dental practices, especially those who will accept the Oregon Health Plan. This has included expansion of services to the West Valley, an area which historically has not had these services. Pediatric Dental Surgery services are now available in the county to OHP patients. These opportunities, coupled with the YCC's community education strategies about the importance of having a dental home and early, consistent dental exams, have improved the overall oral health of HSYC-enrolled children.

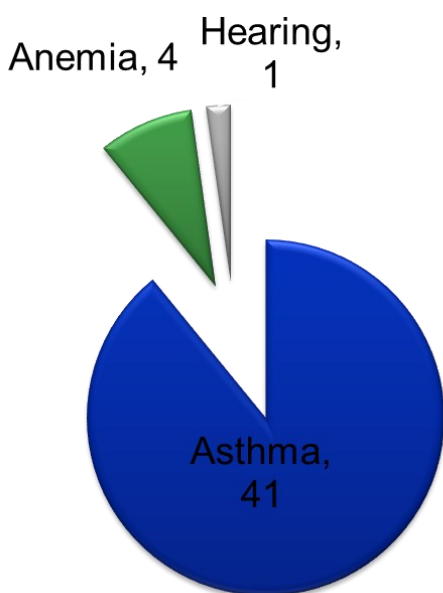
HSYC Preschool Children Completing Dental Exams



Head Start Performance Standards mandate that all participating children and expectant mothers are up-to-date in preventative and primary oral health care within the first 90 days after enrollment, and that recommended schedules, treatment and follow-up are maintained. HSYC has partnered with Capital Dental for a dental hygienist to visit each of our classrooms to provide screenings, fluoride, and referrals for follow-up care to help ensure children are receiving quality preventative care.

Medical

HSYC Chronic Medical Conditions 2018-2019

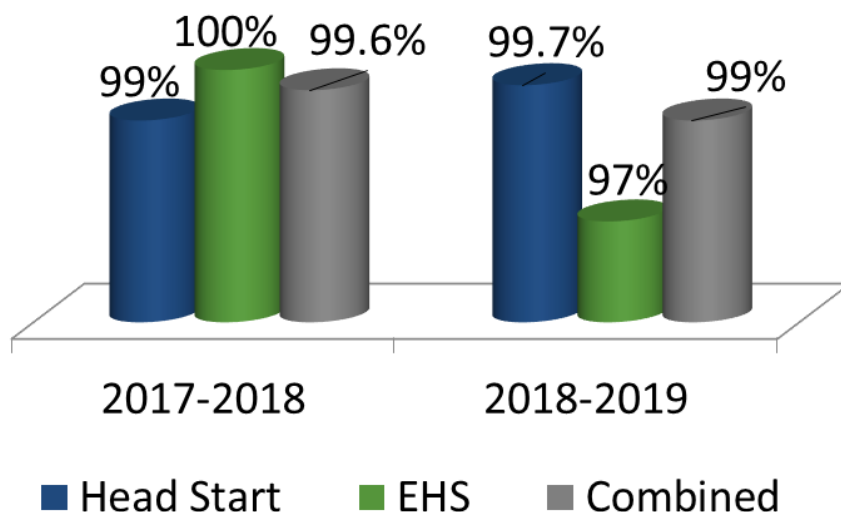


Head Start Performance Standards mandate that all participating children must be up-to-date on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary medical care, including immunization recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Oregon Department of Education mandates our children to be up-to-date on age appropriate immunizations before the state-wide annual exclusion date. HSYC supports expanding family knowledge regarding the importance of staying up-to-date on childhood immunizations and had an immunization rate of 99.9% in February 2020.

Similar education is provided relative to the importance of regular medical check-ups. During the 2018-2019 school year, 90% of HSYC children were up-to-date on their annual well child checks.

HSYC Children with Medical Homes





Nutrition



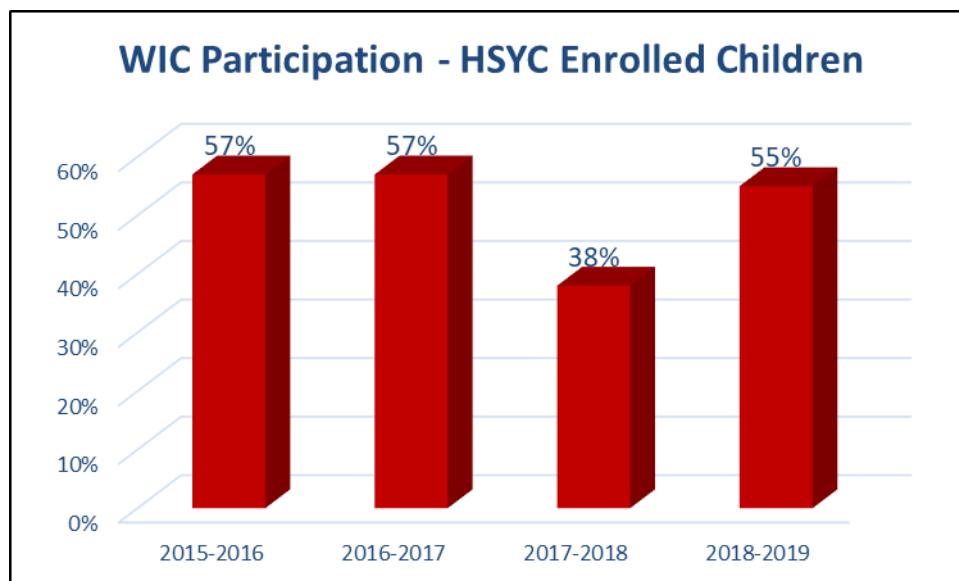
HSYC receives funds from the USDA which allow us to provide healthy meals and snacks to enrolled children.

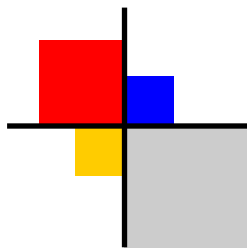
Approximately half of HSYC families are enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) which provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budgets of eligible families to purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

WIC is a nutrition services program available to Yamhill County families which is designed to support the nutritional needs of expectant mothers and children ages 0-5. According to the local WIC agency, they are currently serving 1,104 children through their McMinnville office and 465 through their Newberg office. These numbers represent 89% of their potential annual caseload, which is based on prior year participation. In the last two years, WIC has begun offering farmers market vouchers to participants, improving client access to healthy/ nutritional food during the summer months.

HSYC has struggled to maintain and increase WIC participation among our enrolled families. As a result, in fall 2020 HSYC started partnering with WIC in a pilot grant to provide rural satellite WIC clinics at our Dayton and Sheridan Centers to support participation and retention of WIC clients.

We have discovered that the hesitancy of HSYC families to enroll in government subsidized program may be due in part to concerns related to immigration status, or that the resources should be reserved for persons who need them the most.

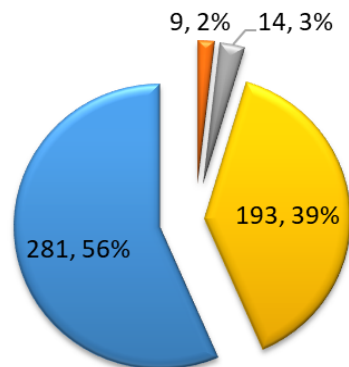




Parent and Family Data

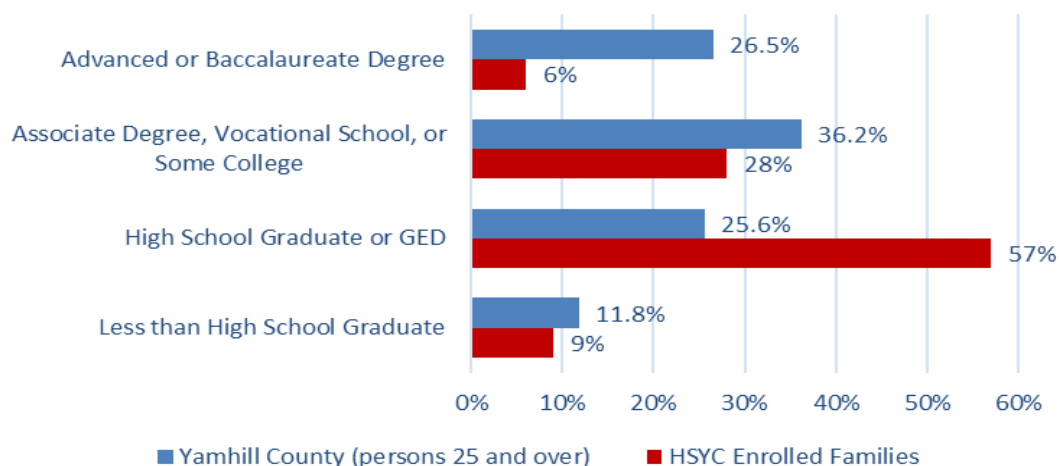
Family Schedules

HSYC Families Enrolled in Job Training or School (2018-2019)



- Two-parent: Both parents/guardians in job training/school
- One-parent: in job training/school
- Two-parent: one parent/guardian in job training/school
- One-parent: not in job training/school
- Two-parent: not in job training/school

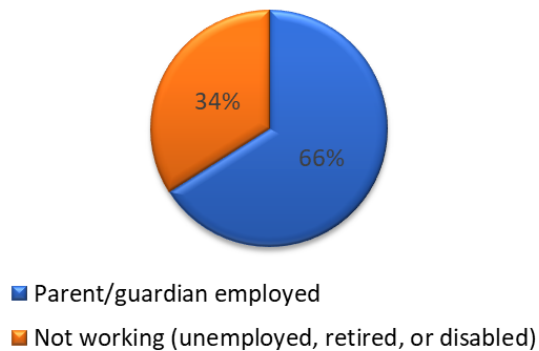
Educational Attainment 2018-2019



Higher levels of educational attainment has been a trend with HSYC enrolled families over the past 5 years.

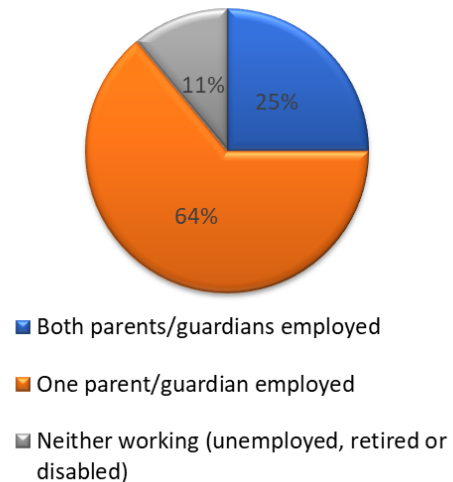
Family Economic Data

**HSYC Single-parent Families Employment
2018-2019**



Employment rates for both single parent and two parent HSYC families have been on the rise since 2015 creating an increased need for child care. Recognizing this need for many of our families, HSYC began offering 6 hour class day options in the 2017-2018 school year to help meet this need.

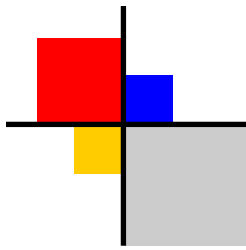
**HSYC Two-parent Families
Employment (2018-2019)**



2019 Living Wage for Yamhill County

| | One Adult Working | | | 2 Adults (1 Working) | | | 2 Adults (Both Working) | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 1 Child | 2 Children | 3 Children | 1 Child | 2 Children | 3 Children | 1 Child | 2 Children | 3 Children |
| Living Wage | \$29.22 | \$35.53 | \$46.43 | \$28.12 | \$30.85 | \$36.97 | \$16.07 | \$19.20 | \$24.03 |
| Poverty Wage | \$8.13 | \$10.25 | \$12.38 | \$10.25 | \$12.38 | \$14.50 | \$5.13 | \$6.19 | \$7.25 |
| Minimum Wage | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 | \$11.25 |

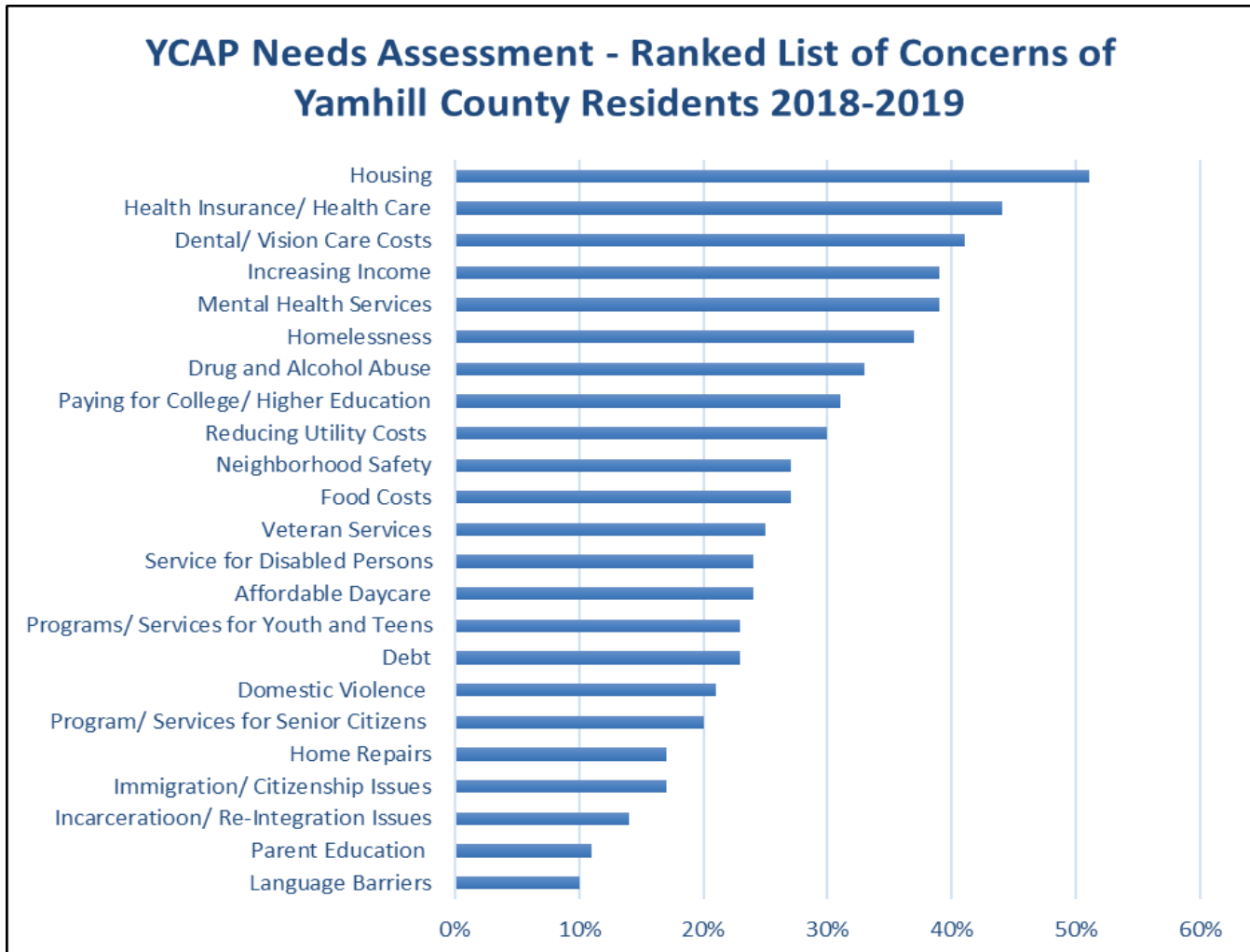
While HSYC family education levels have increased, the availability of living wage jobs in Yamhill County have not. In the 2018-2019 school year, 80% of our families are employed and continue to qualify for our services based on their income. Reviewing the 2019 MIT Living Wage calculator for Yamhill County, the disparity between minimum wage and a living wage is significant.



Social Service

Needs

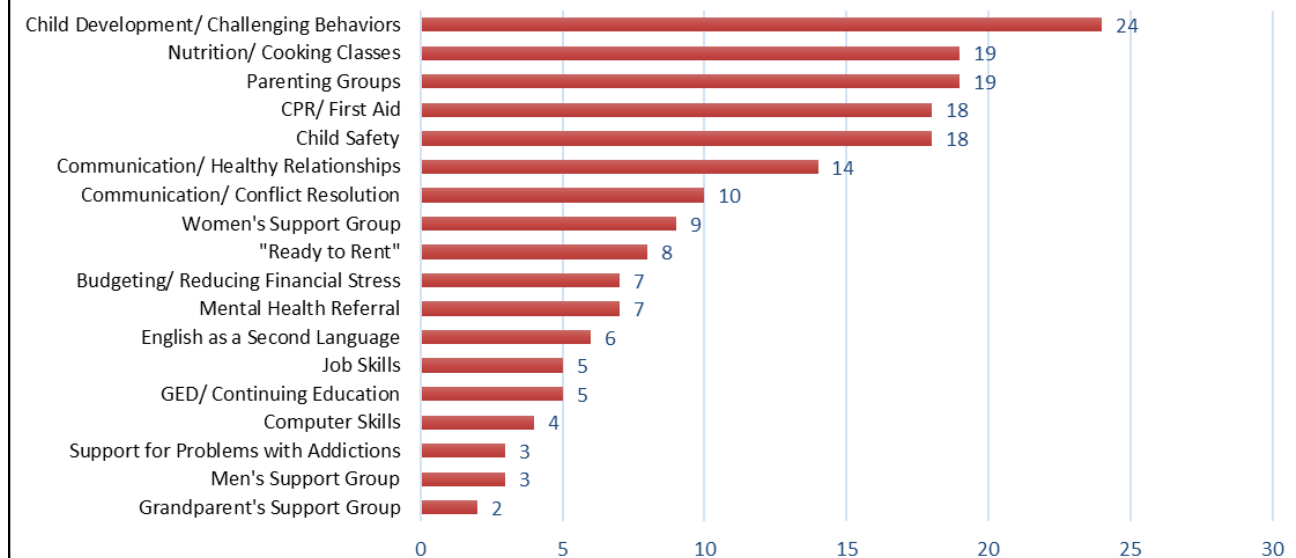
Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP) conducted a comprehensive community needs assessment in 2018-2019. The need for affordable housing rose to the top of the list.



The Yamhill Early Learning Hub's December 2019 Early Care & Education Draft Sector Plan for Yamhill County identified the following priority populations for expansion of services: Latinx children, emerging bilingual children, geographically isolated children, and children with diagnosed developmental delays.

HSYC saw a drop in our Hispanic/ Latinx population from 51% in 2017-2018 to 41% in 2018-2019 and a drop in the number of Spanish speaking participants from 33% to 28% in the same period, but continues to focus on recruitment for this population. Further responding to these identified priority populations, HSYC has consistently prioritized transportation for the children in the West Valley and McMinnville's NE Three Mile Lane areas for whom our services might not otherwise be possible.

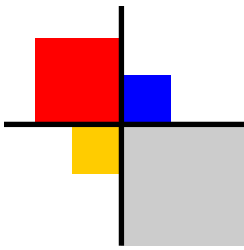
HSYC Family Identified Supports Needed 2019-2020 Parent Survey



In response to the 2019-2020 parent survey, HSYC Trauma Informed Specialist is offering the following groups in the 2020-2021 school year:

- ◆ Changing Challenging Behaviors
- ◆ Parent Cafes
- ◆ Simple Solutions for Parenting





Community Resources

Yamhill County has a wide array of resources to meet the need of the community, although the majority of these resources are clustered in the McMinnville and Newberg areas. Transportation has improved since the 2015-2016 Community Assessment with Yamhill County Transit adding additional routes, however access remains limited in the more rural, outlying communities.

Service Agencies:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Department of Human Services | Yamhill Community Action Partnership |
| Love INC. | Yamhill Community Care Organization |
| Lutheran Community Services | Yamhill County Health and Human Services |
| WIC Salud | Yamhill Early Learning Hub |
| WorkSource Oregon | Yamhill Service Integration Teams (county-wide) |
| Unidos Bridging Community | |

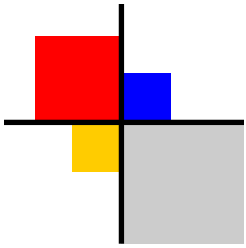
Early Learning Programs

Yamhill County has a total of 217 licensed child care slots. HSYC has a funded enrollment of 430 slots, including 320 Head Start and 110 Early Head Start slots. The following table shows other early learning programs in Yamhill County and their number and type of slots.

In October of 2020 Yamhill CCO Early Learning Hub contracted with Pacific Research and Evaluation, LLC to assess child care needs in Yamhill County. The research stated that “the lack of affordable child care options is families’ highest reported barrier to securing child care.” The assessment further noted that families report “a lack of available spots in programs with extensive waitlists and the need for more programs with flexible scheduling to accommodate for families’ varied work schedules.”

| Provider | Number of Early Learning/ Care Slots |
|--|--|
| A Family Place Relief Nursery | 78 (20 home visiting) |
| Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde | 89 (40 home based) |
| Dayton School District Preschool Promise* | 36 (18 Preschool Promise and 18 tuition based) |
| McMinnville School District | 96 |
| OCDC | 16 |
| Sheridan School District Preschool Promise* | 50 (40 Preschool Promise and 10 tuition based) |
| Willamette Education Service District | 333 (93 birth to 3) |

*In fall 2020, the Dayton and Sheridan School Districts started providing Oregon Early Learning Division-funded Preschool Promise services to children whose family income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.



Summary of Findings/ Opportunities

Head Start of Yamhill County utilized census and local data to compile the information contained in this report. The information was shared with members of governance, staff, and community partners for review and input relative to possible opportunities for future service provision.

Since the last comprehensive Community Assessment completed in 2016, trends noted throughout this report indicate dramatic increases in the cost of living for families in Yamhill County, and a significant differential between minimum and living wages. In addition, the lack of affordable housing has negatively impacted the number of Head Start-eligible children as many families are forced to move out of Yamhill to Marion County and other more affordable areas.

There has been a shift in the geographical location of families living in poverty in Yamhill County. Amity and Newberg have shown significant increases in children under 5 years of age living at or below federal poverty levels.

The YCAP Point in Time Homeless Count indicates a significant increase in the number of precariously housed (or doubling up) families since 2016. Many of these families do not consider themselves homeless and therefore may not realize they qualify for Head Start services. Focusing recruitment efforts on these families is a key opportunity for increasing enrollment numbers in the future.

Possible Opportunities for Consideration:

1. Apply for Preschool Promise when expansion is available through the Oregon Early Learning Division in order to serve preschool-age children up 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
2. Provide an EHS Locally Designed Option model to provide classroom and parent support services to toddlers/ younger three-year-old children who will transition to the Head Start program the following school year.
3. Consider a classroom in the community of Amity.
4. Determine how to secure additional classroom space in Newberg.
5. HSYC would greatly benefit from WESD staff regularly assigned to our classrooms to support the teachers' and students' needs particularly in the areas of speech/ language development and children experiencing developmental delays.
6. Stable housing will positively impact our HSYC community. Seek partnerships with new housing development projects that could providing sliding scale rental support and/ or secure co-location of an HSYC class on their campus.
7. Focus recruitment of families identified as precariously housed who are eligible for our program based on HSYC definition of homeless.
8. Encourage and support degree achievement with our Latinx staff to support bilingual bicultural instruction.