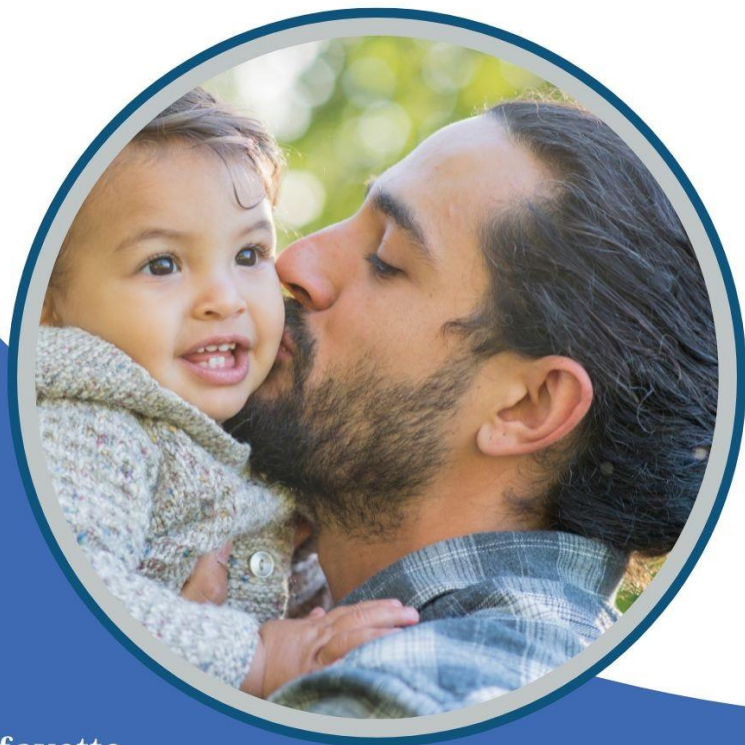




Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program, Inc.

Head Start and Early Head Start

Community Needs Assessment Update



2023

Grant, Iowa, Lafayette,
and Richland Counties, Wisconsin

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY

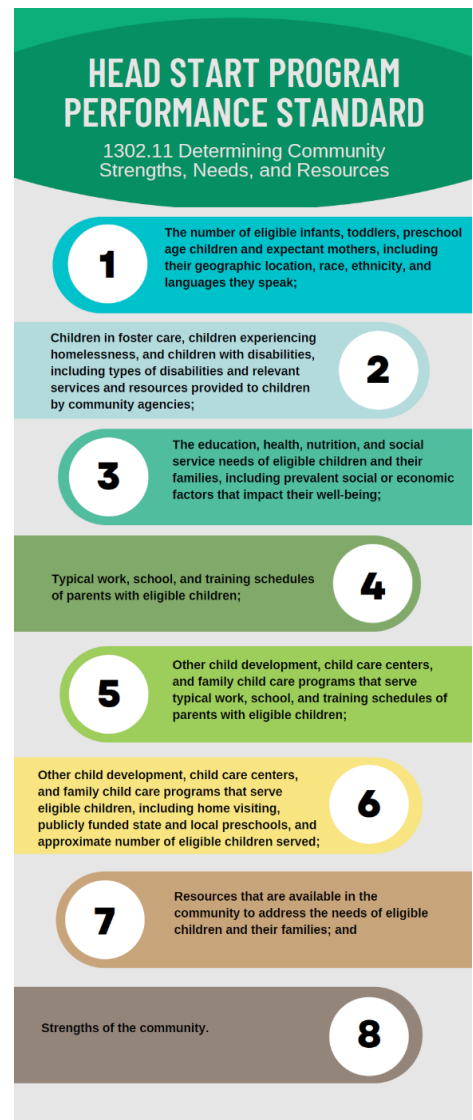
Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program (SWCAP) in Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, and Richland counties, Wisconsin, previously conducted a Community Assessment per Head Start Standard 1302.11 and highlighted strengths, resources, needs, and barriers to self-sufficiency of at-risk children and families in poverty. The 2023 Community Assessment Update serves as an addendum and reflects the following: 1) significant changes to demographics and health, economic, and social conditions; 2) changed early childhood and child care information; 3) notable data trends; and 4) COVID-19 pandemic impacts on children and families. Spiridis Consulting LLC used local, state, and federal data for this report, including 2021 Five-Year American Community Survey (ACS) Estimates* and Program Information Reports (PIR).

The Community Assessment and annual updates inform decisions by leadership and governing bodies including, but not limited to:

- ◆ Determination of long- and short-range program goals, objectives, and priorities;
- ◆ Types of services most needed for pregnant women, children, and families living in poverty;
- ◆ Gaps in service and geographic areas to be served, if additional funding is available, or if limitations in resources make it impossible to serve the entire service area;
- ◆ Locations of Early Head Start and Head Start services;
- ◆ Criteria to define and prioritize special populations for recruitment and selection for services;
- ◆ Community collaborations to develop, strengthen, and provide responsive programming; and
- ◆ Identification of and reduction of inequities within communities.

* The ACS is an official Census Bureau survey that is part of the decennial census program. Every year, the Census Bureau contacts over 3.5 million households nationwide to take part in the ACS, sending the survey to a percentage of households monthly. The ACS survey collects and produces information on social, economic, housing, and demographic characteristics about the U.S. population. The Census Bureau uses these data sets to track shifting demographics and learn about local communities.¹ Spiridis Consulting uses 5-Year ACS estimates rather than 1-Year Estimates, due to smaller margins of error.

Community data may occasionally be missing or skewed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



KEY FINDINGS SUMMARY

Following are Key Findings from the 2023 Community Assessment Update. For details about any statistic, refer to the full narrative. Not all Community Assessment Update data are in this summary. All areas (e.g., demographics, poverty, early education, disabilities, health, housing, birth outcomes, transportation, etc.) have been reviewed for significant, updated data. If an area is not included, there is no significant or updated information to report; in such case, the most recent data can be found in Update 2022.

Notes: Unless stated otherwise, a referenced year refers to a calendar year. A Program Year (PY) is reflective of 12-month data collected on the Program Information Report (PIR) that is submitted to the Office of Head Start annually in August. A School Year (SY) refers to the public school year. Fiscal Year (FY) and Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) may also be utilized.

INEQUITY

Following is one example of racial and ethnic inequity among children and families. Further data throughout the Community Assessment Update may highlight inequities.

Massive public and private response to hunger during the pandemic helped mitigate food insecurity. While overall food insecurity improved for some sub-populations in 2020, it worsened for others—causing a greater gap across racial and ethnic lines.²

- Food insecurity among the White, non-Hispanic population in 2020 was 4%-9% in the four-county area, *decreasing* by 1%-3% from 2019.
- Food insecurity among the Hispanic population in 2020 was 21% in Grant County, a *decrease* of 2% from 2019. While data is unavailable for the Black population in 2020, food insecurity in Grant County was 51% in 2019.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

In PY 2021-22, Four-Year-Old Kindergarten enrollment was as follows: Grant County (412); Iowa County (195); Lafayette County (171); and Richland County (84). While there were 862 slots compared to 946 slots during PY 2020-21, five PreK programs converted from half day to full day sessions.

Following are the licensed family child care and center-based child care slots by county: Grant County (1,075); Iowa County (349); Lafayette County (194); and Richland County (43).

There is significant need for infant care across the service area. Of Grant County child care centers, 71.4% provide infant care. In Iowa, Lafayette, and Richland counties, only 50% of centers provide infant care. SWCAP itself enrolls 169 EHS and 139 HS children in these counties. The cost of infant care in Wisconsin averages \$1,047/month or 18.5% of a median family's income. An estimated 6.5% of WI families can afford infant care. A typical family would have to spend 33.6% of its income on care for an infant and a 4-year-old.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

While the intent of rising wages is positive, it also precludes low-income, working families from automatically qualifying for some assistance programs—such as Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS). Wisconsin’s minimum wage is \$7.25/hour. Post-pandemic, employers have struggled to hire and retain employees. In response, many employers have increased entry-level pay to \$9-\$14/hour or more.

- The 2023 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of two is \$19,720/year; therefore, a single parent with one child who is working full time at minimum wage falls below the FPL. A single parent earning \$9.30/hour (\$19,344) or more is above the FPL.
- The FPL for a family of four is \$30,000/year; therefore, a household with one full-time working adult earning \$14.45/hour (\$30,056) or more is above the FPL.

Families are struggling with rising costs, including food (+10.1%), electricity (+11.9%), and shelter (7.9%). The annual U.S. inflation rate is 6.4% for the 12 months ended January 2023. The 2022 average monthly inflation was 8%—a 40 year high. In contrast, the 2021 average monthly inflation was 4.7%.

POVERTY

Children under Five in Poverty by Age Group

Location	Children Under Age 5	Children Under Age 5 in Poverty		Infants/Toddlers in Poverty	3 and 4 Year Olds in Poverty
		Count	Percent		
Grant County	2,902	529	18.2%	317	212
Iowa County	1,330	130	9.8%	78	52
Lafayette County	1,043	157	15.1%	130	87
Richland County	867	180	20.8%	108	72

*Based on estimated breakdown by age in 0-4 age group: infants/toddlers = 60%; 3- and 4-Year-olds = 40% of total children under 5
Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

In March 2020, Congress increased Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits via Emergency Allotments during the pandemic. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 passed by Congress ends these allotments. By March 2023, SNAP benefits will return to standard benefit amounts.

Of SWCAP HS/EHS families during PY 2021-22, 200 families or 73.8% were receiving SNAP upon enrollment, compared to 58.1% during PY 2018-2019.

HOMELESSNESS

During PY 2021-22, 4.6% or 14 SWCAP HS/EHS children were identified as homeless per the McKinney-Vento Act, compared to 2.3% of HS/EHS children in 2021-22 and 4.1% in PY 2018-19.

HOUSING

Fair Market Rent (FMR) is set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as a basis for paying federal housing programs. FMR prices include utility costs.

- The 2023 monthly FMR for a two-bedroom rental in Grant, Lafayette, and Richland counties is \$826, a 9.1% increase from 2022. The housing wage for Grant, Lafayette, and Richland counties is \$15.09/hour. Wisconsin's minimum wage (\$7.25) is just 48.1% of the hourly housing wage.
- The 2023 monthly FMR for a two-bedroom rental in Iowa County is \$969, a 10.9% increase from 2022. The housing wage for Iowa County is \$18.63/hour. Wisconsin's minimum wage is just 38.9% of the hourly housing wage in Iowa County.

FOOD INSECURITY

Child food insecurity in 2020 was 13.1% in Grant County, 10.9% in Iowa County, 12.4% in Lafayette County, and 15% in Richland County, compared to Wisconsin (12.6%) and the U.S. (16.1%). From 2019 (pre-pandemic) to 2020, child food insecurity *decreased* by 2% in each county. Massive public and private response to hunger during the pandemic helped lessen increases in food insecurity.

DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION

The most recent population estimates in the service area are as follows: Grant County (52,210); Iowa County (23,715); Lafayette County (16,662); and Richland County (17,353).³

Following are county population changes between 2010 and 2020: Grant (1.4% increase, +730 people); Iowa (.1% increase, +30 people); Lafayette (1.3% decrease, -222 people); and Richland (4% decrease, -717 people), compared to Wisconsin (3.6% increase).⁴

Population

Location	2010 Population	2020 Population	Population Change 2010-2020	Population Estimates 2021
Wisconsin	5,687,000	5,893,718	3.6%	5,871,661
Grant County	51,208	51,938	1.4%	52,210
Iowa County	23,689	23,709	0.1%	23,715
Lafayette County	16,836	16,611	-1.3%	16,662
Richland County	18,021	17,304	-4.0%	17,353

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 2021 5-Year Estimates

LANGUAGE

During PY 2021-22, 93.1% of SWCAP Head Start/Early Head Start families spoke English as the primary language in the home and 6.9% spoke Spanish.⁵

The majority of children in the four-county service area speak English. The highest percentages of English Language Learners (grades K4-12) by school district are as follows: Iowa-Grant (3.4%); Belmont Community (5.5%); Darlington Community (19.7%); Shullsburg (6.4%); and Richland (3.1%).⁶

RACE AND ETHNICITY

The racial composition of each county is 97% White. The African American population is less than 2% in all counties. All other races make up less than 2% of the population in all counties.⁷

Between 2010 and 2020:⁸

- Hispanic populations grew by 90.5% (+587 people) in Grant County, 35.4% (+119 people) in Iowa County, 108.6% (+567 people) in Lafayette County, and 46.1% (+166 people) in Richland County.
- The White population changed as follows: Grant County (-2%, -971 people); Iowa County (-3.1%, -703 people); Lafayette County (-6.3%, -1,021 people); and Richland County (-7.5%, -1,301 people).
- The “Multiple Races” population changed as follows: Grant County (+291%, +838 people); Iowa County (+262.7%, +486 people); Lafayette County (+318.8%, +255 people); and Richland County (+322.3%, +390 people).

Following are the Hispanic populations in the service area: Grant County (2.4%); Iowa County (1.9%); Lafayette County (6.6%); and Richland County (3%), compared to Wisconsin (7.4%) and the U.S. (18.7%).⁹

2020 Population by Race (Percent)

	White	Black/ African American	Native American/ Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Multiple Races
Grant Co.	97.0%	1.1%	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.6%
Iowa Co.	97.6%	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%	0.8%
Lafayette Co.	97.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	1.8%
Richland Co.	97.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census

Population By Hispanic Origin

Location	Hispanic Population		Non-Hispanic Population	
	Absolute	Percent	Absolute	Percent
Grant County	1,236	2.4%	50,702	97.6%
Iowa County	455	1.9%	23,254	98.1%
Lafayette County	1,089	6.6%	15,522	93.4%
Richland County	526	3.0%	16,778	97.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

In PY 2021-22, Four-Year-Old Kindergarten enrollment was as follows: Grant County (412); Iowa County (195); Lafayette County (171); and Richland County (84). While there were 862 slots compared to 946 slots during PY 2020-21, five PreK programs converted from half day to full day sessions.¹⁰

Four-Year-Old Kindergarten Enrollment

School District	4K Enrollment by Program Year*			Current K-4 Setting
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	
Grant County	465	432	412	
Boscobel Area	56	51	41	Full day: 5 days/week**
Cassville	16	11	10	Full day: 2 or 3 days/week
Cuba City	29	36	39	Full day: 5 days/week
Fennimore Community	47	45	51	Full day: 2 or 3 days/week
Lancaster Community	64	62	62	Full day: 5 days/week**
Platteville	102	109	95	Full day: 5 days/week
Potosi	19	21	16	Full day: 5 days/week
River Ridge	29	38	25	Full day: 5 days/week
Riverdale	58	29	38	Half day: 5 days/week & Outreach
Southwestern Wisconsin	45	30	35	Full day: 2 or 3 days/week
Iowa County	201	226	195	
Barneveld	29	42	37	Full day: 5 days/week**
Dodgeville	64	63	55	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Highland	18	16	23	Full day: 5 days/week
Iowa-Grant	50	50	36	Full day: 5 days/week**
Mineral Point Unified	40	55	44	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Lafayette County	190	189	171	
Argyle	27	23	17	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Belmont Community	25	18	27	Half day: 5 days/week
Benton	13	23	15	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Black Hawk	29	19	23	Full day: 5 days/week**
Darlington Community	64	69	48	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Pecatonica Area	23	17	23	Full day: 5 days/week
Shullsburg	9	20	18	Full day: 2 or 3 days/week
Richland County	97	99	84	
Ithaca	21	25	24	Half day: 4 days/week & Outreach
Richland	76	74	60	Full day: 2 or 3 days/week

*Independent charter schools are not included. **Changed from Half Day to Full Day

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

CHILD CARE

Cost of Child Care

According to the Economic Policy Institute:¹¹

- The average annual cost of infant care in Wisconsin is \$12,567, or \$1,047 per month. Wisconsin ranks 20th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia for most expensive infant care.
- Infant care for one child would assume 18.5% of a median family's income in Wisconsin. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, child care is affordable if it costs no more than 7% of a family's income. By this standard, only 6.5% of WI families can afford infant care.
- Child care for a 4-year-old in Wisconsin averages \$10,197, or \$850 each month.
- Child care for an infant and a 4-year-old costs \$22,764 or 56.1% more than average WI rent. A typical family would have to spend 33.6% of its income on child care for an infant and a 4-year-old.
- A minimum wage worker in Wisconsin would need to work full time for 43 weeks, or from January to October, just to pay for child care for one infant.

Regulated Care

Following are the licensed family child care and center-based child care slots by county, as of December 2021: Grant County (1,075); Iowa County (349); Lafayette County (194); and Richland County (43). Grant County (decrease of 5.5%, -61 slots) and Richland County (decrease of 48.8%, -41 slots) experienced the most significant changes in licensed child care slots between 2019 and 2021.¹²

Licensed Child Care Slots

	2019	2020	2021
Grant County	1,137	1,099	1,075
Iowa County	353	340	349
Lafayette County	193	177	194
Richland County	84	56	43

Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Of child care centers in Grant County, 71.4% provide infant care. In Iowa, Lafayette, and Richland counties, only 50% of centers provide infant care.

Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers

Location	Family Child Care Homes	Child Care Centers	Centers with the Following Programs*			
			Infant Care	4K	Head Start	EHS
Grant County						
Total	16	21	15	1	7	7
Boscobel	1	3	2	1	2	2
Cassville	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cuba City	1	3	3	0	1	1
Fennimore	4	2	1	0	1	1
Glen Haven	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kieler	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lancaster	0	5	3	0	1	1
Livingston	1	0	0	0	0	0
Muscoda	1	1	1	0	1	1
Platteville	5	7	5	0	1	1
Iowa County						
Total	8	8	4	0	1	1
Barneveld	0	1	1	0	0	0
Cobb	0	1	1	0	0	0
Dodgeville	5	3	1	0	1	1
Highland	0	2	1	0	0	0
Mineral Pt.	3	1	0	0	0	0
Lafayette County						
Total	7	6	3	0	1	1
Argyle	3	0	0	0	0	0
Belmont	0	1	1	0	0	0
Benton	2	1	0	0	0	0
Darlington	2	2	2	0	0	0
Shullsburg	0	2	0	0	1	1
Richland County						
Total	3	4	2	0	1	1
Richland Ctr.	3	4	2	0	1	1

* Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, March 2023 *A center may have multiple programs

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

LABOR FORCE

Between November 2019 and 2022, the civilian labor force declined (-.2% to -6.3%) in all four counties.¹³

Civilian Labor Force

County	November 2019	November 2020	November 2021	November 2022	2019-2022 Change
Grant County	27,934	27,715	28,042	26,853	-3.9%
Iowa County	13,668	13,386	13,535	13,365	-2.2%
Lafayette County	9,996	9,776	9,842	9,972	-.2%
Richland County	9,166	8,987	9,064	8,589	-6.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

WAGES AND INCOME

Minimum Wage

Wisconsin's 2023 state minimum wage is still \$7.25/hour. A full time (2,080 hours) minimum wage worker earns a gross pay of \$15,080/year. Post-pandemic, employers have struggled to hire and retain employees. In response, many employers have increased entry-level pay to \$9-\$14/hour or more.

- The 2023 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of two is \$19,720/year; therefore, a single parent with one child who is working full time at minimum wage falls *below* the FPL. A single parent earning \$9.30/hour (\$19,344) or more is *above* the FPL.
- The FPL for a family of four is \$30,000/year; therefore, a household with one full-time working adult earning \$14.45/hour (\$30,056) or more is *above* the FPL.

Median Household Income

The median household income is estimated at \$58,289 in Grant County, \$73,316 in Iowa County, \$65,009 in Lafayette County, and \$56,089 in Richland County, compared to \$69,021 in Wisconsin.¹⁴

INFLATION

The annual U.S. inflation rate is 6.4% for the 12 months ended January 2023 after rising 6.5% previously. The 2022 average monthly inflation was 8%—a 40 year high. In contrast, the 2021 average monthly inflation was 4.7%.¹⁵

U.S. Inflation Rate

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2023	6.4												
2022	7.5	7.9	8.5	8.2	8.6	9.1	8.5	8.3	8.2	7.7	7.1	6.5	8.0
2021	1.4	1.7	2.6	4.2	5.0	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.4	6.2	6.8	7.0	4.7
2020	2.5	2.3	1.5	.3	.1	.6	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2
2019	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.8

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the average change in prices paid by consumers for goods and services needed for daily living (e.g., food, shelter, gas). Prices are collected monthly in 75 urban areas nationwide from approximately 6,000 housing units and 22,000 retail establishments (e.g., retail stores, grocery stores, gas stations). The annual inflation rate is 6.4% for the 12 months ended January 2023. Between December 2022 and January 2023, there was a .5% increase in “all items.”¹⁶

Consumer Price Index—January 2023

	1-Month Percent Change (from December 2022)	12 Month Percent Change (from January 2022)
All Items	0.5	6.4
Food	0.5	10.1
Food at home	0.4	11.3
Food away from home	0.6	8.2
Energy	2.0	8.7
Gasoline (all types)	2.4	1.5
Fuel oil	-1.2	27.7
Electricity	0.5	11.9
Utility (piped) gas service	6.7	26.7
All Items Less Food and Energy	0.4	5.6
New vehicles	0.2	5.8
Used cars and trucks	-1.9	-11.6
Apparel	0.8	3.1
Shelter	0.7	7.9
Transportation services	0.9	14.6
Medical care services	-0.7	3.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

POVERTY

The estimated numbers of children under age 5 in poverty are as follows: Grant County (317, 18.2% poverty); Iowa County (130, 9.8%); Lafayette County (157, 15.1% poverty); and Richland County (180, 20.8% poverty).¹⁷

Children under Five in Poverty by Age Group

Location	Children Under Age 5	Children Under Age 5 in Poverty		Infants/Toddlers*	Infants/Toddlers in Poverty	3 and 4 Year Olds*	3 and 4 Year Olds in Poverty
		Count	Percent				
Grant County	2,902	529	18.2%	1,741	317	1,161	212
Iowa County	1,330	130	9.8%	798	78	532	52
Lafayette Co.	1,043	157	15.1%	626	130	417	87
Richland Co.	867	180	20.8%	520	108	347	72

*Based on estimated breakdown by age in 0-4 age group: infants/toddlers = 60%; 3- and 4-Year-olds = 40% of total children under 5
Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

Children Under Age 5 in Poverty, Grant County

Location	Children Under Age 5	# Children In Poverty	% Children in Poverty
Grant County	2,902	529	18.2%
Boscobel	138	22	15.9%
Cuba City*	58	5	8.6%
Fennimore	200	5	2.5%
Jamestown	117	0	0.0%
Lancaster	281	12	4.1%
Muscoda	86	13	15.1%
Platteville	315	77	24.4%

*Location in Grant and Iowa counties Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

Children Under Age 5 in Poverty, Iowa County

Location	Children Under Age 5	# Children In Poverty	% Children in Poverty
Iowa County	1,330	130	9.8%
Arena	30	6	20.0%
Barneveld	80	2	3.0%
Dodgeville	297	25	8.4%
Highland	54	8	14.8%
Linden	56	6	10.7%
Mineral Point	176	23	13.1%
Pulaski	396	47	11.9%

Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

Children Under Age 5 in Poverty, Lafayette County

Location	Children Under Age 5	# Children In Poverty	% Children in Poverty
Lafayette County	1,043	157	15.1%
Argyle	28	7	25.0%
Belmont	65	6	9.2%
Benton	54	10	18.5%
Darlington	191	20	10.6%
Shullsburg	49	11	22.4%
Willow Springs	35	4	11.4%
Wiota	12	2	16.7%

Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

Children Under Age 5 in Poverty, Richland County

Location	Children Under Age 5	# Children In Poverty	% Children in Poverty
Richland County	867	180	20.8%
Buena Vista	102	9	8.5%
Dayton	116	32	27.6%
Ithaca	32	6	20.0%
Lone Rock	44	7	14.9%
Richland	65	14	21.5%
Richland Center	277	59	21.3%
Rockbridge	29	7	24.1%

Source: American Community Survey, 2021 Five Year Estimates

HOUSING

Cost burdened households have costs exceeding 30% of household income. Of housing units, 20% - 23% in the four-county area are cost burdened, lower than Wisconsin (25.2%). Rental households in the service area have cost-burdened rates between 25% and 37% (Grant County).¹⁸

Cost Burdened Households

	Cost Burdened Households	Rentals	Owner Occupied w/ Mortgages	Owner Occupied w/o Mortgages
Wisconsin	25.2%	40.2%	21.7%	11.8%
Grant County	21.3%	36.8%	19.2%	9.2%
Iowa County	21.5%	31.3%	20.8%	14.4%
Lafayette County	20.1%	24.6%	23.3%	13.2%
Richland County	23.1%	29.5%	27.8%	13.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community, 2021 Five-Year Estimates

Fair Market Rent (FMR) is set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and used as a basis for paying federal housing assistance programs like the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8). FMR prices are gross rent prices, meaning they include utilities.

- The 2023 monthly FMR for a two-bedroom rental in Grant, Lafayette, and Richland counties is \$826, a 9.1% increase from 2022. The 2023 housing wage for Grant, Lafayette, and Richland counties is \$15.09/hour. Wisconsin's minimum wage (\$7.25) is just 48.1% of the hourly housing wage.
- The 2023 monthly FMR for a two-bedroom rental in Iowa County is \$969, a 10.9% increase from 2022. The 2023 housing wage for Iowa County is \$18.63/hour. Wisconsin's minimum wage (\$7.25) is just 38.9% of the hourly housing wage in Iowa County.¹⁹

Fair Market Rent

County	Efficiency	One-Bedroom	Two-Bedroom	Three-Bedroom	Housing Wage for 2-Bedroom
Grant County					
2022 FMR	\$583	\$587	\$757	\$986	\$14.56
2023 FMR	\$635	\$639	\$826	\$1,065	\$15.09
Iowa County					
2022 FMR	\$663	\$664	\$874	\$1,144	\$16.81
2023 FMR	\$730	\$736	\$969	\$1,256	\$18.63
Lafayette County					
2022 FMR	\$522	\$615	\$757	\$1,044	\$14.56
2023 FMR	\$579	\$684	\$826	\$1,174	\$15.09
Richland County					
2022 FMR	\$522	\$640	\$757	\$1,016	\$14.56
2023 FMR	\$554	\$725	\$826	\$1,104	\$15.09

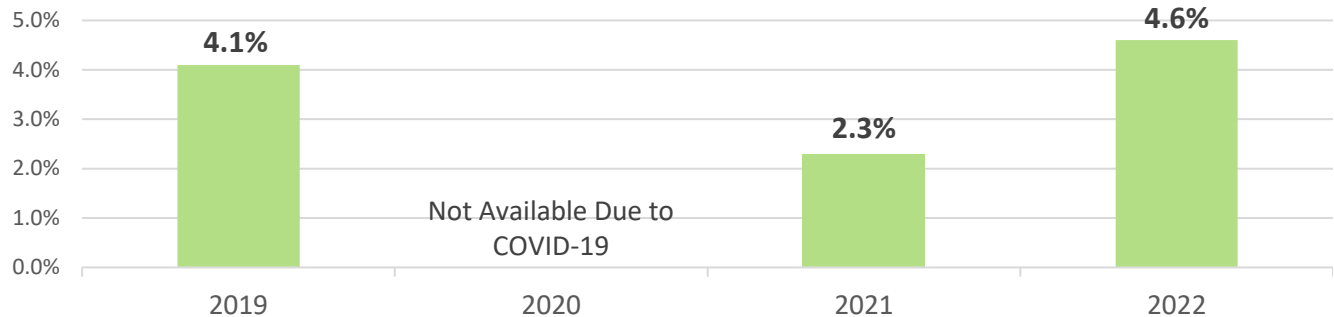
Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Development and Research

HOMELESSNESS

During PY 2021-22, 4.6% or 14 SWCAP HS/EHS children were identified as homeless per the McKinney-Vento Act, compared to 2.3% of HS/EHS children in 2021-22 and 4.1% in PY 2018-19.²⁰

SWCAP Head Start/Early Head Start Children Experiencing Homelessness

Source: Program Information Reports



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Between 2019 and 2020, reports of suspected abuse or neglect to Child Protective Services decreased by 19.6% (-129 reports) across the four-county service area, due in part to school closures and fewer medical visits to pediatricians. Between 2020 and 2021, reports of suspected abuse or neglect increased by 5.1% (27 reports) across the service area.

Between 2020 and 2021, substantiated child victims in Lafayette County increased by 250% (+20 child victims), while substantiated child victims in Grant County decreased by 25.4% (-16 child victims). The number of substantiated child victims in Iowa and Richland counties remained consistent with data from previous years.²¹

Child Abuse and Neglect

County of Residence	Reports to Child Protective Services		Child Victims		Child Victims Per 1,000 Population	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
Grant	281	294	63	47	5.9	4.4
Iowa	109	98	9	9	1.7	1.7
Lafayette	68	87	8	28	2.0	7.0
Richland	73	79	14	11	3.8	3.0

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT

Out-of-home care (OHC) placement is the temporary removal of children from their homes due to abuse, neglect or dependency and can include foster care, home-of-relative care, group home or institution.

The 2020 numbers of children in foster care under age five were as follows: 13 in Grant County; 1 in Iowa County; 2 in Lafayette County; and 9 in Richland County, for a total of 25 children.²²

During PY 2021-22, SWCAP enrolled 22 HS/EHS children that were in foster care at some point during the year.

Out of Home Placement

County	0-1 Years		2-4 Years		Total 0-4	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Grant	4	7	8	6	12	13
Iowa	1	1	0	0	1	1
Lafayette	2	0	1	2	3	2
Richland	1	2	5	7	6	9

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity refers to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) measure of lack of access to sufficient food for an active, healthy life for household members, and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.

Child food insecurity in 2020 was 13.1% in Grant County, 10.9% in Iowa County, 12.4% in Lafayette County, and 15% in Richland County, compared to Wisconsin (12.6%) and the U.S. (16.1%). From 2019 (pre-pandemic) to 2020, child food insecurity *decreased* by 2% in each county.²³

Massive public and private response to hunger during the pandemic helped mitigate food insecurity. While overall food insecurity improved for some sub-populations in 2020, it worsened for others—causing a greater gap across racial and ethnic lines.²⁴

- Food insecurity among the White, non-Hispanic population in 2020 was 4%-9% in the four-county area, *decreasing* by 1%-3% from 2019.
- Food insecurity among the Hispanic population in 2020 was 21% in Grant County, a *decrease* of 2% from 2019. While data is unavailable for the Black population in 2020, food insecurity in Grant County was 51% in 2019.

Overall Food Insecurity by Race/Ethnicity

Location	Black (All Ethnicities)		Latino (Hispanic)		White (Non-Hispanic)	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Wisconsin	27%	27%	21%	22%	7%	5%
Grant County	51%	*	23%	21%	9%	7%
Iowa County	*	*	*	*	7%	4%
Lafayette County	*	*	20%	*	4%	3%
Richland County	*	*	*	*	8%	6%

* Not Available Source: Feeding America Note: Information unavailable for other races and ethnicities

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

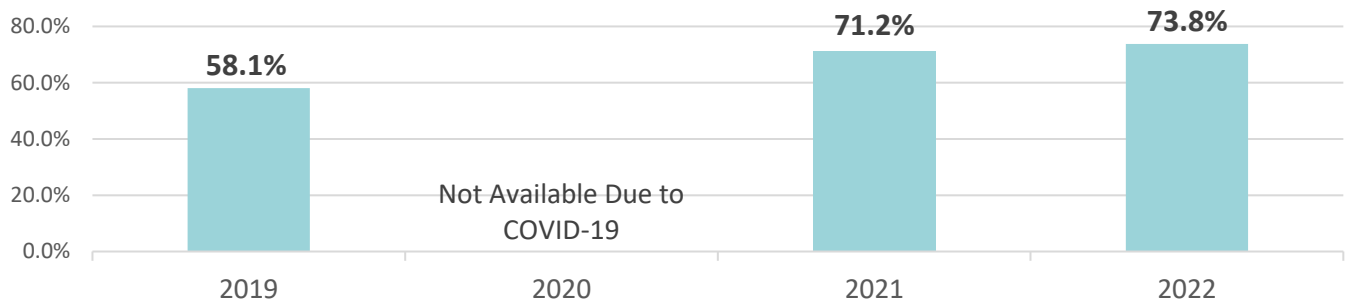
No updated community data are available.

FoodShare Wisconsin (SNAP) is intended to supplement the monthly food budgets of eligible, low income households and raise nutritional levels, causing an improvement in general health.

Of SWCAP HS/EHS families during PY 2021-22, 200 families or 73.8% were receiving SNAP upon enrollment, compared to 58.1% during PY 2018-2019.

SWCAP Head Start/Early Head Start Families Receiving SNAP upon Enrollment

Source: Program Information Reports



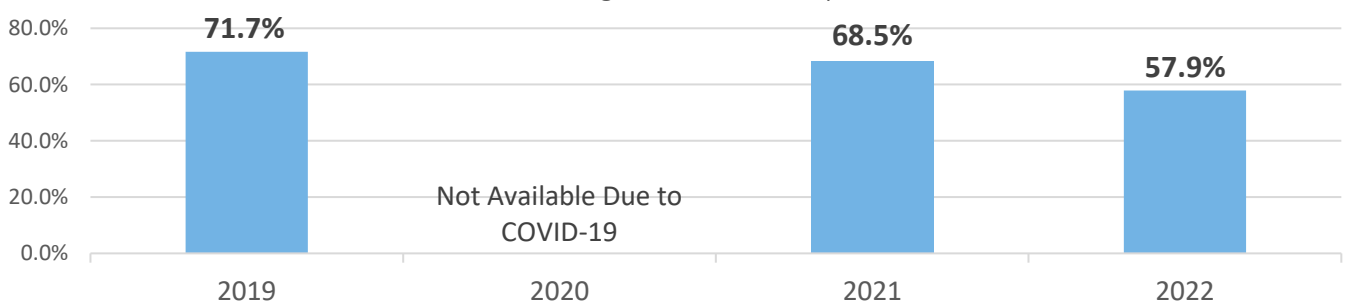
WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

No updated community data are available.

WIC is a supplemental nutrition program serving infants to children 5 years of age, pregnant women, breastfeeding women who had a baby in the past 12 months, and women who have had a baby in the last 6 months. Of SWCAP HS/EHS families during PY 2021-22, 57.9% were receiving WIC upon enrollment, compared to 71.7% during PY 2018-2019 (pre-pandemic).

SWCAP Head Start/Early Head Start Families Receiving WIC upon Enrollment

Source: Program Information Reports



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