



EDUCATIONAL **SERVICE** DISTRICT 112

2024 Community Assessment Annual Update

Prepared by

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Prepared for

Educational Service District 112

2500 NE 65th Avenue

Vancouver, WA 98661

April 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EARLY HEAD START, ECEAP, AND EARLY ECEAP

Educational Service District 112 (ESD 112) is a statutory regional service agency created by Washington's legislature in 1969 to ensure equitable educational opportunities for children.

ESD 112's early learning opportunities are offered to eligible 3- and 4-year-old children through the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), state-funded preschool. Eligible children aged birth up to 3 years old and pregnant women may participate in Early Head Start or Early ECEAP. ESD 112 continues to operate both Early Head Start and Early ECEAP in Clark County. ESD 112 operates ECEAP in Clark, Klickitat, and Pacific counties. When the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted, the ECEAP service area also included Cowlitz County. For consistency with data from the *2022 Community Assessment*, Cowlitz County was included with service area data for the *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*. As of the *2024 Community Assessment Annual Update*, Cowlitz County has been removed from data tables.

After the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted, ESD 112 initially redistributed its Early Head Start funded slots to a greater number of home-based slots and fewer center-based slots. To continue to refine its program, while serving eligible children and increasing compensation for staff, the agency was approved (February 2024) by the Office of Head Start for a Change in Scope to serve fewer Early Head Start children. Early Head Start funded enrollment was reduced from 139 to 88. Reductions were made in the home-based and center-based program options.

ESD 112's funded enrollment for ECEAP remains 544, while Early ECEAP funded enrollment remains 28. In the past year, ESD 112 ended its partnership with Children's Village (two sites) and no longer provides services at ESD 112's Hudson's Bay ELC.

SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

Updated data show the total population in ESD 112's service area is 550,285 (2018-2022). This is an increase of approximately 10% from the last non-overlapping ACS 5-year estimate (2013-2017), a rate that exceeds population growth statewide. Despite population increases, birth rate has been fluctuating/decreasing in all counties in the service area in recent years.

Residents in ESD 112's service area are predominantly White, Non-Hispanic, and the primary language is English. Racial and ethnic diversity continues to be more varied in some communities within the service area. Data continue to show that in Vancouver (Clark County) and White Salmon and Horse Heaven Hills Plateau (Klickitat County), the percent of the population that is Hispanic or Latino is greater than the statewide rate. ESD 112 continues to serve a more diverse population of children in its Early Head Start, ECEAP, and Early ECEAP programs than is represented in the general population.

Among the counties in ESD 112's service area, poverty rates are greatest in Klickitat and Pacific counties. Data also show county-level decreases in poverty rates in recent years; this is true in almost every local community within the service area as well. Across the service area, data continue to show disparity with regard to poverty rates by race and ethnicity. For example, in Clark and Pacific counties, the poverty rate among individuals of Hispanic or Latino origin is greater than that of individuals who are White alone. There are also continued disparities with regard to single-parent and two-parent families with young children. In

families with a female head of household (no spouse present), poverty rates remain substantially higher than married-couple families.

In ESD 112's service area, most children live with their biological, step, or adopted parents. In Pacific County, updated data continue to show high percentages of children who live with a grandparent or other relative. A majority of children enrolled in ESD 112's Early Head Start program live in single-parent families, as do a high percent of ECEAP/Early ECEAP children (approximately 43%); proportionally, early learning program rates of single-parent families continue to be well above the county levels.

NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET NEEDS

There remains wide range of need in ESD 112's service area. Some families may have few needs, while other families experience many of the factors that contribute to the cycle of poverty within their communities.

In school districts in the service area, four-year on-time high school graduation rates continue to fluctuate. The most current data, 2022-2023, also show the challenging graduation rates (below the statewide rate) in Battle Ground School District and La Center School District (Clark County), Trout Lake School District (Klickitat County), and Pe Ell School District and Raymond School District (Pacific County) Updated data also show a wide range in the percent of English language learners in school districts in the service area. Rates range from 0.0% to as high as 84.0% in Roosevelt School District in Klickitat County, more than double the rate from the previous school year. Kindergarten readiness data continue to show concerning trends in many school districts in the service area, with readiness rates well below the statewide rate of 46.6%. The educational attainment among families served by ESD 112's early learning programs continues to trend toward a high school degree or GED.

Updated data on health benchmarks show small improvements in the percent of adults who are diabetic, which ranges from 8-9%, a decrease from 10-14% two years prior. However, obesity rates remain high (31-27%), as do the percent of adults who are smokers (14-18%). The most up-to-date data on drug overdose mortality continue to show rates in Klickitat and Pacific counties that are higher than the statewide rate. An increase in drug overdose mortality is most pronounced in Pacific County. Throughout the service area, there is also continued concern for methamphetamine use and its impact on the communities; drug deaths involving methamphetamine have increased substantially in recent years.

Updated data continue to show challenging access to primary care providers, dentists, and mental health providers across the service area. In Pacific County, the ratios for dentists and primary care are more than double and triple the statewide rates, respectively, and in Klickitat County the ratio for dentists is more than triple the statewide rate. Limited access to mental health providers, including bilingual service providers, remains widespread.

Most infant and maternal health data remains consistent with that reported in the *2022 Community Assessment*. Teen pregnancy rates are highest in Clark County. New data show the percent of babies born at low birth weight in the service area is less than the statewide rate (7.0%), though was elevated in recent years, particularly in Klickitat County. Infant mortality rate is low across the service area.

Maintaining an up-to-date status of preventative and primary care for children remains a challenge for families in the service area. ESD 112 leadership team members report a significant need for pediatric dental care providers in the service area. Updated data on the percent of kindergarten students with complete

vaccinations show the lowest rates of vaccination in Klickitat County. Data also show that many school districts in the service area have a vaccination exemption rate that is well above the statewide rate (4.0%).

Updated data show that counties in the service area continue to have elevated rates of food insecurity. New data highlight even greater rates of food insecurity among children, as high as 18.7% in Pacific County. Food desert data has not changed since the *2022 Community Assessment*; there are a total of 11 low-income and low access census tracts (food deserts) in ESD 112's service area. Updated data on the rates of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch show increases in many districts in the service area. Consistent with the findings in the *2022 Community Assessment*, rates are highest in Klickitat County and Pacific County.

In all counties in the service area, median home value, owner costs, and median rent have continued to increase since the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted. Rental cost burden remains high, and new data on fair market rent show that, in all counties in the service area, the rental cost of a two-bedroom apartment has increased substantially in recent years. Median household income remains highest in Clark County, \$90,115, consistent with the statewide median. Median income is still well below the statewide rate in Klickitat and Pacific counties.

Updated data show that the crime rates in ESD 112's service area continue to vary significantly among and within counties. Crime rates remain highest in Vancouver in Clark County. In certain communities in the service area, there are a high percent of offenses involving domestic violence.

In ESD 112's service area, the percent of the population in the labor force ranges from 53.8% (Pacific County) to 63.9% (Clark County), continuing a trend of labor force participation rates that are below the statewide rate. Data also continue to show that many young children have all parents in the labor force, particularly in Pacific County, where the rate is 72.2%. The top industry in the service area remains educational services, and health care and social assistance. According to updated data on unemployment, rates in the counties in the service area continue to trend higher than the statewide rate. Unemployment is also higher among families enrolled in ESD 112's early learning programs.

In ESD 112's service area, there are many social services available to meet families' needs, including subsidized child care, cash assistance, and WIC. Workforce training and education opportunities remain available to service area residents. Public transportation is only available in Clark County.

ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

In ESD 112's service area, updated data show an estimated 3,735 children under age 5 living in poverty who are income-eligible for participation in Head Start/Early Head Start, 2,241 of whom are birth to age 3. More than 90% of income-eligible children in the service area reside in Clark County. In recent years, the number of income-eligible children has decreased in every county in the service area. Additionally, there are an estimated 727 pregnant women in the service area who are eligible for Early Head Start.

Updated data on homelessness show an overall increase in homelessness in the service area, and a continued high number in Clark County. July 2023 data show there are an estimated 9,816 unstably housed individuals in the service area, many of whom are single-parent or two-parent families with minors. Compared to the 2020 estimates reported in the *2022 Community Assessment*, this is a 27.8% increase for unstably housed individuals. Data on the percent of students experiencing homelessness continue to show high rates in Pacific

County public schools. ESD 112 has continued to serve a high number of families that qualify for early learning services based on the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness.

Updated data on the number of children in foster care in ESD 112's service area is not available. New statewide data show an overall decrease in the number of children in foster care in recent years. Based on data from Clark County on the number of children in out-of-home placements, it is estimated there are more than 177 children birth to age 5 in foster care in ESD 112's service area.

There are many children birth to age 18 in the service area living in households that receive public assistance. In Pacific County, the percent of children living in households that receive public assistance remains far greater than the statewide rate. Data show an estimated 6,734 children birth to age 5 in the service area who are eligible for Head Start/Early Head Start services based on receipt of public assistance.

Further, Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) require that at least 10% of program enrollment is allocated to children eligible for services under IDEA (i.e., early intervention and preschool special education); children with a disability are eligible for enrollment in ECEAP. In ESD 112's service area, many school districts continue to have a higher percent of students with disabilities (of total enrollment) than the statewide rate (14.8%). The Early Head Start and ECEAP/Early ECEAP programs also continue to serve high rates of children with disabilities. In the service area, there are an estimated 4,145 children birth to age 5 with disabilities, and 2,487 of whom are birth to age 3.

AGENCIES SERVING ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

March 2024 data from the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) show there are 202 licensed child care programs (child care centers and family child care homes) in the service area. The total capacity of licensed programs is 8,458 children birth to school age. Total capacity includes school age care, and is available for families of all income levels, reducing the number of slots available for children birth to age 5 from low-income families.

The number and rate of programs licensed to serve infants and toddlers was relatively steady in recent years, with some fluctuations. Across the service area, approximately 75% of programs are licensed to serve infants and toddlers. Participation in Early Achievers has continued to increase since the *2022 Community Assessment*, from 65.7% (2022) to 76.5% (2024). From 2021 to 2023, in Pacific County, there was an increase in child providers that accept subsidy for all ages; the rate is now 78%. In Clark County and Klickitat County, only 50% of child care providers accept subsidy for all ages.

When comparing the number of children under 5 years old in the service area to total child care capacity, which includes school age, the number of children under 5 (30,038 children) continues to far exceed total child care capacity (8,458 slots). This does not necessarily reflect unmet need, as children may be served in other settings (such as public pre-kindergarten) and not all families with young children will need or want care.

As reported in the *2022 Community Assessment*, Washington's home visiting services are coordinated by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families through the Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA), a public and private partnership. Home visiting programs and slots available in ESD 112's service area have not changed since the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted. Nurse-Family Partnership is offered in Clark County and Early Steps to School Success is offered in Pacific County. Other home visiting

services offered in the service area include Early Head Start home-based (Clark County), First Steps (Clark County and Klickitat County), and Parent-Child Assistance Program (Clark County and Pacific County).

Updated data on publicly-funded preschool in ESD 112's service area show that 35.1% (Klickitat County) to 85.8% (Pacific County) of eligible children are served in Head Start and ECEAP. Across the service area, rates of eligible children served have fluctuated in many school districts in recent years. Transition to Kindergarten (TK) continues to grow in Washington, and nine school districts offer TK in ESD 112's service area. ESD 112 also continues to implement Early ECEAP, providing services to children birth to age 3. Updated data show that school districts with the highest priority for ECEAP expansion include Battle Ground School District and Evergreen School District in Clark County, both rated in the highest priority group.

REFLECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With the integration of data from the *2024 Community Assessment Annual Update*, the needs highlighted and key reflections in the *2022 Community Assessment* and *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update* are confirmed through the significant consistency in data across these years. New data also shows growing needs (e.g., affordable housing) and a changing landscape of services available to children and families (e.g., Transition to Kindergarten). ESD 112 continues to show a high level of responsiveness to community needs, observing changes, monitoring data, and refining its approaches and services.

Reflection 1: Program Design, 2024 update. Data continue to show that a majority of income-eligible children reside in more densely populated parts of the service area, and the estimated number of income-eligible pregnant women remains steady. Looking at changes over time (2013-2017 compared to 2018-2020), data show notable decreases in the estimated number of income-eligible children in the service area.

ESD 112 maintains an active waiting list for its early learning programs and has increased its Early Head Start enrollment of children living in families receiving public assistance substantially in the last program year. Further, data continue to show that overall child care capacity is limited, with fewer options available for families with infants and toddlers. The child care staffing crisis persists within Washington, as well as nationwide, and is having an impact on capacity.

Reflection 2: Parent Training and Employment, 2024 update: Updated data continue to show rates of unemployment in the service area that are near consistent or slightly elevated from the statewide rate. Unemployment among families served by ESD 112 Early Head Start remains high and is substantially elevated compared to community-wide rates. ESD 112 leadership team members report that a need for continued collaboration and resource sharing to meet families' needs remains evident.

Reflection 3: Health Services, 2024 update: Many adult health factor and outcomes data continue to show challenging rates in communities served by ESD 112. Across the service area, and particularly in the less populated communities served by ESD 112, the number of health providers remains limited. ESD 112 leadership report ongoing challenges with families accessing dental care and mental health care. This is echoed in community data that continue to suggest families face challenges maintaining their children's preventative and primary care schedule, including immunizations.

Reflection 4: Affordable Housing and Homelessness, 2024 update: The most recent community assessment data shows high rental cost burden, rising housing costs, and a lack of affordable housing. Coupled with limited eviction protections or rental assistance, particularly for undocumented families, these factors lead to

persistent housing instability. Data show ESD 112 continues to serve a high number of families experiencing homelessness.

Reflection 5: Bilingual Support, 2024 update: Consistent with the findings of the 2022 Community Assessment and 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update, the need for bilingual service providers remains a barrier to accessing services for some individuals in ESD 112's service area. ESD 112's early learning programs continue to serve diverse families, including a more recent increase in Ukrainian refugees. The agency actively recruits staff to meet families' needs, including hiring Ukrainian personnel, who can share language and cultural experiences with families served.

Reflection 6. Public School District Relationship-Building, 2024 update: Data continue to show disparity in quality and student outcomes among children enrolled in public school districts in the service area, including kindergarten readiness levels. Further, with the expansion of Transition to Kindergarten, ESD 112 is exploring opportunities for greater coordination with public school districts regarding the enrollment of eligible children.

Reflection 7: Impact of COVID-19, 2024 update: Another year removed from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic shows further stabilization. However, other factors, such as the child care staffing crisis, noted above, continue to have widespread impact on ESD 112's services to meet families' needs. ESD 112 early learning program data continue to show that the agency serves families with diverse needs that tend to be greater than those in the community, as a whole. The ongoing need for ESD 112's early learning programs is evident, further underscoring the importance of the agency's role in the service area.

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

The *2024 Community Assessment Annual Update* serves as an update to the *2022 ESD 112 Community Assessment (2022 Community Assessment)* and builds upon the *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*. The purpose of this report is to update data provided in the 2022 and 2023 reports and to provide new and enhanced data to ensure ESD 112 has the most current and comprehensive information for program planning and grant writing.

Per Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS), Section 1302.11ⁱ, community assessment requirements include:

- 1) The number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool age children, and expectant mothers, including their geographic location, race, ethnicity, and languages they speak, including:
 - a) Children experiencing homelessness in collaboration with, to the extent possible, McKinney-Vento Local Education Agency Liaisons (42 U.S.C. 11432 (6)(A));
 - b) Children in foster care;
 - c) Children with disabilities, including types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies;
- 2) The education, health, nutrition, and social service needs of eligible children and their families, including prevalent social or economic factors that impact their well-being;
- 3) Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children;
- 4) Other child development, child care centers, and family child care programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local preschools, and the approximate number of eligible children served;
- 5) Resources that are available in the community to address the needs of eligible children and their families; and,
- 6) Strengths of the community.

Information in this report is organized according to the community assessment requirements noted above and is aligned to ESD 112's *2022 Community Assessment* report and *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update* report.

Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP Program

ESD 112's early learning programs continue to serve children in Clark, Klickitat, and Pacific counties in southwest Washington. Early Head Start and the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (Early ECEAP) operate in Clark County. ECEAP operates in Clark, Klickitat, and Pacific counties. When the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted, the early learning service area also included Cowlitz County. For consistency with data from the *2022 Community Assessment*, Cowlitz County was included with service area data for the *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*, despite services no longer being provided there. For this update, Cowlitz County has been removed from data tables.

Based on findings in the *2022 Community Assessment*, ESD 112 redistributed Early Head Start slots from center-based services to home-based services to better meet the needs of the community. In February 2024, ESD 112 further reduced Early Head Start enrollment, from 139 slots to 88. This was completed through a Change in Scope application approved by the Office of Head Start. The reductions in home-based and

center-based programs allowed ESD 112 to increase compensation for staff while continuing to deliver high-quality services throughout Clark, Klickitat, and Pacific counties.

ESD 112’s funded enrollment for ECEAP remains 544, while Early ECEAP funded enrollment remains 28. In the past year, ESD 112 ended its partnership with Children’s Village (two sites) and no longer provides services at ESD 112’s Hudson’s Bay ELC.

A summary of ESD 112’s Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP funded slots by program type and location is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP Enrollment by Location/Program Type as of February 2024ⁱⁱ

Centers by County	Early Head Start Funded Enrollment	Early ECEAP Enrollment	ECEAP Enrollment	Operated by ESD 112 or Subcontractor
Clark County				
49 th St. 14619 NE 49 th St. B, Vancouver, WA 98682	n/a	n/a	90, school day	ESD 112
Captain Strong 1026 NW 6 th Avenue Battle Ground, WA 98604	n/a	n/a	36, school day	ESD 112
Central Park 2115 East McLoughlin Vancouver, WA 98661	8, full day	4, full day	33, school day 15, working day	ESD 112
Fruit Valley 3410 Fruit Valley Rd. Vancouver, WA 98660	n/a	8, full day	15, working day	ESD 112
Hough ELC 1801 Esther St. Vancouver, WA 98660	16, full day	8, full day	36, school day 15, working day	ESD 112
Minnehaha ELC 4517 NE St. Johns Road Vancouver, WA 98661	n/a	n/a	34, part day 36, school day	ESD 112
Patricia Nierenberg (PNC) 105 S. Lieser Road Vancouver, WA 98664	8, full day	8, full day	70, part day 18, school day	ESD 112
Park Crest ELC 712 Parkcrest Avenue Vancouver, WA 98683	16, full day	n/a	66, part day 15, school day 15, working day	ESD 112
Home-based Services (Vancouver, Evergreen, Camas, Washougal, Battle Ground, Hockinson, Ridgefield, La Center school districts)	40	n/a	n/a	ESD 112
Klickitat County				
Lyle School District PO Box 368 Lyle, WA 98635	n/a	n/a	14, school day	Subcontractor
White Salmon 520 Loop Road White Salmon, 98672	n/a	n/a	16, part day	ESD 112
Pacific County				
Ocean Beach ELC 305 5 th Street SE Long Beach, WA 98634	n/a	n/a	20, part day	ESD 112
Total	88 (48 center, 40 home)	28	544	

METHODOLOGY

Limitations of 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update

ESD 112's geographic service area is defined as multiple counties; therefore, a substantial amount of data at the county level was used to inform the agency's community assessment. State level data are provided when county level data is not available, for comparison to counties within the service area, or to set the context for Washington within the national landscape.

School district, zip code, city/town, and census tract-level information are provided for key data points and to illustrate unique and specific needs in local communities. Data is also defined by census county subdivisions (CCDs). CCDs do not serve a legal function, but are rather created for statistical purposes.ⁱⁱⁱ

Throughout the report, when relevant or required data points could not be obtained to inform the community assessment, this is indicated in the text. Anecdotal information is provided, where possible, to balance state, county, and local data with observations and reflections about the experiences of children and families in ESD 112's service area.

Census data used in this report is collected from the American Community Survey (ACS), conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.^{iv} Data is provided to help communities understand changes taking place in the local population, and includes information such as family structure, poverty status, educational attainment, housing trends, employment, and occupations. The ACS collects data daily and releases compiled results annually, as 1-year estimates and 5-year estimates.

This report relies primarily on the ACS 2018-2022 5-year estimates. Data from daily responses to the ACS survey are pooled together, weighted, and processed as a whole data set to take advantage of the larger number of records. Notably, the annual ACS 1-year estimates are only provided for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more. Also, while 1-year estimates reflect the most current data, because they are based on a smaller sample size, they have larger margins of error than the 5-year estimates. When examining U.S. Census data tables, the margins of error for data on communities with small populations may be higher than communities with large populations.

Geographic areas used in the ACS are based on legal definitions for state, local, and tribal governments. Examples of legally defined areas include states, counties, cities, school districts, and congressional districts. For the purposes of presenting data, some geographic areas are also based on statistical areas defined by the Census Bureau and state, regional, or local authorities. Examples of statistically defined areas include census tracts, census designated places, and metropolitan statistical areas. Notably, ZIP Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) are a geographic product of the U.S. Census Bureau created to allow mapping, display, and geographic analyses of the United States Postal Service ZIP Code dataset.^v Since ZIP codes are used by the Postal Service for mail delivery routes, these boundaries may cross county, school district, or other geographic boundaries. A sum of zip code level or municipal data for a county will not necessarily total the county level data because of these overlapping boundaries.

OVERVIEW OF SERVICE AREA

Geographic Boundaries

ESD 112's service area for Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP is unchanged and includes Clark County, Klickitat County, and Pacific County in southwest Washington.

Service Area Demographics

Population

The total population in the counties served by ESD 112 is 550,285 (2018-2022), an increase of approximately 10% from the last non-overlapping ACS 5-year estimate (2013-2017) from the U.S. Census Bureau. Data show increasing populations in nearly every community in ESD 112's service area (Table 2).

Table 2. Population by Geographic Area and Year (2018-2022)^{vi, vii}

Geographic Area	2013-2017	2018-2022	Change from 2013-2017 to 2018-2022
Battle Ground CCD	61,639	72,320	+17.3%
Camas CCD	57,699	62,714	+8.7%
La Center CCD	15,171	16,857	+11.1%
Orchards CCD	67,386	74,463	+10.5%
Ridgefield CCD	10,220	14,314	+40.1%
Vancouver CCD	236,948	254,724	+7.5%
Yacolt CCD	8,681	8,699	+0.2%
Clark County	457,474	504,091	+10.2%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	4,623	4,548	-1.6%
Goldendale CCD	7,353	7,593	+3.3%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	886	971	+9.6%
White Salmon CCD	7,902	9,027	+14.2%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	408	659	+61.5%
Klickitat County	21,172	22,798	+7.7%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	9,279	10,479	+12.9%
Naselle CCD	2,000	2,326	+16.3%
Raymond CCD	8,036	8,960	+11.5%
Willapa Valley CCD	1,625	1,631	+0.4%
Pacific County	20,940	23,396	+11.7%
Service Area Total	499,586	550,285	+10.1%
Washington	7,169,967	7,688,549	+7.2%

Updated data on the birth rate by county in the service continue to show a decrease in the birth rate statewide and in the counties in the service area (Table 3). This is despite overall increases in population in recent years, as noted above.

Table 3. Births Rate per 1,000 by Geographic Area and Year (2019-2022)^{viii, 1}

Geographic Area	2019	2020	2021	2022	Four-Year Trend
Clark County	11.4	10.7	10.9	10.6	Decreasing
Klickitat County	9.5	8.9	8.3	8.3	Decreasing
Pacific County	7.5	8.1	6.6	6.1	Fluctuating/Decreasing
Washington	11.3	10.9	10.8	10.6	Decreasing

¹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

In ESD 112’s service area, the median age continues to be greater than the statewide rate in all counties; the percentage of the population that is over age 65 also remains high, particularly in Klickitat and Pacific counties. The percent of the population that is under age 5 is highest in Clark County and equal to the statewide rate, 5.7% (Table 4).

Table 4. Median Age and Distribution of the Population by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{ix, 2}

Geographic Area	Median Age	Percent of Population Under Age 5	Percent of Population Over Age 65
Battle Ground CCD	38.5	6.7%	16.5%
Camas CCD	40.5	4.7%	14.8%
La Center CCD	38.7	6.6%	19.9%
Orchards CCD	36.3	5.3%	13.2%
Ridgefield CCD	37.3	7.4%	15.0%
Vancouver CCD	39.4	5.5%	16.9%
Yacolt CCD	34.5	11.3%	16.5%
Clark County	38.8	5.7%	16.1%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	48.0	7.1%	24.2%
Goldendale CCD	45.4	4.2%	27.2%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	48.7	5.3%	27.3%
White Salmon CCD	45.8	3.9%	21.2%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	53.7	1.2%	32.2%
Klickitat County	47.0	4.6%	24.4%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	61.8	2.1%	42.2%
Naselle CCD	42.4	4.1%	22.1%
Raymond CCD	45.2	4.9%	23.6%
Willapa Valley CCD	56.5	3.5%	34.3%
Pacific County	54.7	3.5%	32.5%
Washington	38.0	5.7%	16.0%

² Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Table 5 describes the population by race in the service area compared to the State of Washington. Table 6 describes ethnicity as a percentage of the population. Data continue to show that residents are primarily White, non-Hispanic. Counties in the service area are less diverse than Washington, as a whole; however, there are areas with greater diversity within the counties. Communities with the highest rates of Hispanic or Latino individuals are located in Klickitat County as well as Vancouver, in Clark County.

Table 5. Population (and Percentage of Population) by Race and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{x, 3}

Geographic Area	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	Two or more races
Battle Ground CCD	63,113 (87.3%)	1,043 (1.4%)	184 (0.3%)	2,452 (3.4%)	22 (0.0%)	661 (0.9%)	4,845 (6.7%)
Camas CCD	51,338 (81.9%)	855 (1.4%)	353 (0.6%)	3,778 (6.0%)	112 (0.2%)	894 (1.4%)	5,384 (8.6%)
La Center CCD	15,450 (91.7%)	25 (0.1%)	68 (0.4%)	489 (2.9%)	11 (0.1%)	139 (0.8%)	675 (4.0%)
Orchards CCD	55,088 (74.0%)	2,173 (2.9%)	652 (0.9%)	4,567 (6.1%)	850 (1.1%)	2,240 (3.0%)	8,893 (11.9%)
Ridgefield CCD	12,592 (88.0%)	166 (1.2%)	192 (1.3%)	208 (1.5%)	4 (0.0%)	181 (1.3%)	971 (6.8%)
Vancouver CCD	194,950 (76.5%)	5,779 (2.3%)	1,824 (0.7%)	11,927 (4.7%)	2,836 (1.1%)	11,515 (4.5%)	25,893 (10.2%)
Yacolt CCD	8,061 (92.7%)	81 (0.9%)	7 (0.1%)	44 (0.5%)	0 (0.0%)	250 (2.9%)	256 (2.9%)
Clark County	400,592 (79.5%)	10,122 (2.0%)	3,280 (0.7%)	23,465 (4.7%)	3,835 (0.8%)	15,880 (3.2%)	46,917 (9.3%)
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	3,946 (86.8%)	34 (0.7%)	10 (0.2%)	68 (1.5%)	0 (0.0%)	15 (0.3%)	475 (10.4%)
Goldendale CCD	6,947 (91.5%)	85 (1.1%)	177 (2.3%)	26 (0.3%)	56 (0.7%)	16 (0.2%)	286 (3.8%)
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	754 (77.7%)	3 (0.3%)	11 (1.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	66 (6.8%)	137 (14.1%)
White Salmon CCD	7,492 (83.0%)	50 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	47 (0.5%)	0 (0.0%)	634 (7.0%)	804 (8.9%)
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	577 (87.6%)	0 (0.0%)	26 (3.9%)	2 (0.3%)	8 (1.2%)	1 (0.2%)	45 (6.8%)
Klickitat County	19,716 (86.5%)	172 (0.8%)	224 (1.0%)	143 (0.6%)	64 (0.3%)	732 (3.2%)	1,747 (7.7%)
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	9,021 (86.1%)	25 (0.2%)	93 (0.9%)	172 (1.6%)	7 (0.1%)	594 (5.7%)	567 (5.4%)
Naselle CCD	2,114 (90.9%)	23 (1.0%)	0 (0.0%)	29 (1.2%)	0 (0.0%)	84 (3.6%)	76 (3.3%)
Raymond CCD	6,607 (73.7%)	55 (0.6%)	403 (4.5%)	196 (2.2%)	32 (0.4%)	878 (9.8%)	789 (8.8%)
Willapa Valley CCD	1,494 (91.6%)	20 (1.2%)	0 (0.0%)	10 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	107 (6.6%)
Pacific County	19,236 (82.2%)	123 (0.5%)	496 (2.1%)	407 (1.7%)	39 (0.2%)	1,556 (6.7%)	1,539 (6.6%)
Washington	5,374,874 (69.9%)	301,477 (3.9%)	91,698 (1.2%)	708,647 (9.2%)	53,003 (0.7%)	399,571 (5.2%)	759,279 (9.9%)

³ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Table 6. Ethnicity as a Percentage of the Population by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xi, 4}

Geographic Area	Hispanic or Latino Origin (of any race)	Hispanic or Latino Origin: Mexican	Hispanic or Latino Origin: Puerto Rican	Hispanic or Latino Origin: Cuban	Hispanic or Latino Origin: Other
Battle Ground CCD	6.3%	4.1%	0.4%	0.2%	1.6%
Camas CCD	5.4%	3.2%	0.5%	0.0%	1.7%
La Center CCD	2.8%	1.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.3%
Orchards CCD	11.7%	9.2%	0.1%	0.1%	2.3%
Ridgefield CCD	7.4%	3.3%	0.2%	0.0%	4.0%
Vancouver CCD	14.0%	10.9%	0.5%	0.2%	2.4%
Yacolt CCD	5.2%	3.4%	0.1%	0.0%	1.7%
Clark County	10.7%	8.0%	0.4%	0.2%	2.2%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	5.6%	4.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.8%
Goldendale CCD	4.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.3%	3.1%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	24.9%	23.4%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%
White Salmon CCD	22.3%	21.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	8.3%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%
Klickitat County	12.6%	10.7%	0.1%	0.1%	1.7%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	10.3%	7.4%	0.2%	0.3%	2.4%
Naselle CCD	6.1%	3.2%	0.5%	0.0%	2.5%
Raymond CCD	12.1%	10.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Willapa Valley CCD	5.3%	4.6%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%
Pacific County	10.2%	8.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1.8%
Washington	13.5%	10.3%	0.5%	0.2%	2.5%

⁴ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Poverty

Among the counties in ESD 112's service area, poverty rates are greatest in Klickitat and Pacific counties. Within counties, there are communities with high rates of poverty such as Orchards and Vancouver in Clark County; Dallesport-Klickitat and Goldendale in Klickitat County; and Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula and Raymond in Pacific County (Table 7). Also described in Table 7, data show decreases in poverty rates in almost all parts of the service area in recent years.

Table 7. Poverty Rate by Geographic Area and Year^{xii, xiii, 5}

Geographic Area	2013-2017	2018-2022	Change from 2013-2017 to 2018-2022
Battle Ground CCD	7.2%	6.0%	-1.2%
Camas CCD	6.6%	6.9%	0.3%
La Center CCD	6.7%	4.9%	-1.8%
Orchards CCD	11.9%	10.6%	-1.3%
Ridgefield CCD	5.3%	4.7%	-0.6%
Vancouver CCD	11.9%	10.2%	-1.7%
Yacolt CCD	11.1%	8.8%	-2.3%
Clark County	10.3%	8.9%	-1.4%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	17.5%	17.7%	0.2%
Goldendale CCD	19.3%	18.1%	-1.2%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	19.2%	7.4%	-11.8%
White Salmon CCD	9.1%	9.4%	0.3%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	8.8%	6.5%	-2.3%
Klickitat County	14.9%	13.8%	-1.1%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	16.8%	14.4%	-2.4%
Naselle CCD	13.8%	4.1%	-9.7%
Raymond CCD	22.5%	15.6%	-6.9%
Willapa Valley CCD	14.0%	4.4%	-9.6%
Pacific County	18.6%	13.2%	-5.4%
Washington	12.2%	9.9%	-2.3%

Across the service area, data continues to show disparity with regard to poverty rates by race. Expanding on county-level data provided in the *2022 Community Assessment* and *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*, local data was added to Table 8. As described in Table 9, in Clark and Pacific counties, the poverty rate among individuals of Hispanic or Latino origin continues to be greater than that of individuals who are White alone, more than double the rate.

Table 8. Number (and Percent) of Individuals Below Poverty Level by Race and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xiv, 6}

Geographic Area	White	Black or African American	American Indian & Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	Two or more races
Battle Ground CCD	3,465 (5.5%)	55 (5.8%)	8 (4.8%)	182 (7.4%)	3 (18.8%)	92 (14.7%)	453 (9.5%)
Camas CCD	3,261 (6.4%)	24 (2.8%)	5 (1.5%)	328 (8.7%)	0 (0.0%)	170 (19.0%)	511 (9.5%)
La Center CCD	781 (5.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)	29 (20.9%)	4 (0.6%)
Orchards CCD	5,446 (9.9%)	392 (18.1%)	91 (14.0%)	391 (8.6%)	73 (8.6%)	428 (19.2%)	1,027 (11.6%)
Ridgefield CCD	593 (4.7%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	63 (30.3%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (6.1%)	11 (1.1%)

⁵ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

⁶ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Geographic Area	White	Black or African American	American Indian & Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	Two or more races
Vancouver CCD	17,322 (9.0%)	1,197 (21.3%)	202 (11.3%)	888 (7.5%)	1,037 (36.8%)	1,635 (14.5%)	3,367 (13.2%)
Yacolt CCD	751 (9.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)	11 (4.3%)
Clark County	31,619 (8.0%)	1,669 (16.9%)	306 (9.5%)	1,859 (8.0%)	1,113 (29.2%)	2,365 (15.2%)	5,384 (11.6%)
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	791 (20.0%)	5 (14.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)	8 (1.7%)
Goldendale CCD	1,151 (16.6%)	0 (0.0%)	122 (68.9%)	10 (38.5%)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	85 (29.7%)
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	49 (6.5%)	3 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	n/a	5 (7.6%)	15 (10.9%)
White Salmon CCD	761 (10.2%)	20 (42.6%)	n/a	9 (19.1%)	n/a	32 (5.0%)	23 (2.9%)
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	41 (7.1%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)	2 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Klickitat County	2,793 (14.2%)	28 (16.7%)	122 (54.5%)	21 (14.7%)	0 (0.0%)	37 (5.2%)	131 (7.5%)
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	1,125 (12.5%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (7.6%)	17 (9.9%)	0 (0.0%)	244 (41.1%)	114 (20.1%)
Naselle CCD	86 (4.1%)	n/a	n/a	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)	5 (6.6%)
Raymond CCD	830 (12.8%)	50 (100.0%)	55 (15.7%)	129 (65.8%)	0 (0.0%)	208 (25.2%)	81 (11.5%)
Willapa Valley CCD	71 (4.8%)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)	n/a	n/a	0 (0.0%)
Pacific County	2,112 (11.1%)	50 (52.6%)	62 (14.0%)	146 (35.9%)	0 (0.0%)	452 (30.9%)	200 (13.7%)
Washington	455,418 (8.6%)	49,537 (17.0%)	16,972 (19.3%)	59,912 (8.6%)	7,871 (15.2%)	68,136 (17.4%)	89,692 (12.1%)

Table 9. Number (and Percent) of Individuals Below Poverty Level by Ethnicity and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xv, 7}

Geographic Area	Hispanic or Latino Origin	Non-Hispanic or Latino Origin, White Alone
Battle Ground CCD	318 (7.2%)	3,376 (5.6%)
Camas CCD	372 (10.9%)	3,261 (6.5%)
La Center CCD	77 (16.5%)	736 (4.8%)
Orchards CCD	1,370 (15.9%)	4,828 (9.4%)
Ridgefield CCD	106 (10.0%)	498 (4.1%)
Vancouver CCD	5,490 (15.7%)	15,241 (8.5%)
Yacolt CCD	0 (0.0%)	751 (9.5%)
Clark County	7,733 (14.5%)	28,691 (7.6%)
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	6 (2.4%)	787 (20.1%)
Goldendale CCD	29 (9.7%)	1,122 (16.7%)
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	23 (9.5%)	46 (6.8%)
White Salmon CCD	44 (2.2%)	737 (11.6%)
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	0 (0.0%)	41 (7.3%)
Klickitat County	102 (3.6%)	2,733 (15.0%)
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	258 (23.9%)	1,125 (13.0%)
Naselle CCD	0 (0.0%)	86 (4.2%)
Raymond CCD	246 (25.8%)	823 (12.9%)
Willapa Valley CCD	14 (16.3%)	57 (4.0%)
Pacific County	518 (23.5%)	2,091 (11.3%)
Washington	159,170 (15.7%)	406,390 (8.2%)

⁷ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Updated data on the poverty rate of single-parent and two-parent families with young children also continue to show disparities. In families with a female head of household (no spouse present), the poverty rate is substantially higher than married-couple families (Table 10).

Table 10. Poverty Status of Families in the Past 12 Months by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xvi, 8}

Geographic Area	All Families with Related Children Under Age 5	Married-couple Families with Related Children Under Age 5	Families with Female Householder, No Spouse Present, with Related Children Under Age 5
Battle Ground CCD	13.0%	4.8%	50.6%
Camas CCD	4.9%	0.0%	49.1%
La Center CCD	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Orchards CCD	13.7%	5.5%	40.5%
Ridgefield CCD	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Vancouver CCD	13.0%	4.3%	39.6%
Yacolt CCD	13.0%	5.4%	67.6%
Clark County	11.4%	3.7%	41.6%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	32.1%	0.0%	100.0%
Goldendale CCD	24.6%	0.0%	n/a
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
White Salmon CCD	4.5%	1.6%	23.3%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	0.0%	n/a	0.0%
Klickitat County	14.9%	1.0%	63.2%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	33.0%	0.0%	23.5%
Naselle CCD	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
Raymond CCD	26.4%	0.0%	31.7%
Willapa Valley CCD	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
Pacific County	20.8%	0.0%	29.9%
Washington	8.4%	3.2%	31.9%

Household Composition and Family Characteristics

In ESD 112's service area, updated data continue to show most children live with their biological, step, or adopted parents. Table 11 describes the percentage of children by relationship to householder for each county in the service area; percentages have not changed significantly since the 2022 *Community Assessment* was conducted. Pacific County continues to stand out with a high percent of children who live with their grandparents.

Table 11. Percent of Children (ages 0 to 18-years-old) by Relationship to Householder and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xvii, 9}

Geographic Area	Own child (biological, step, or adopted)	Grandchild	Other relatives	Foster child or other unrelated child
Battle Ground CCD	90.6%	5.8%	1.9%	1.8%
Camas CCD	91.7%	5.0%	2.4%	0.9%
La Center CCD	92.3%	4.8%	1.3%	1.6%
Orchards CCD	88.4%	7.2%	1.9%	2.5%
Ridgefield CCD	96.2%	2.4%	1.1%	0.3%
Vancouver CCD	90.3%	4.4%	2.3%	3.0%
Yacolt CCD	87.5%	7.8%	0.4%	4.3%
Clark County	90.5%	5.1%	2.1%	2.3%

⁸ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

⁹ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Geographic Area	Own child (biological, step, or adopted)	Grandchild	Other relatives	Foster child or other unrelated child
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	97.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Goldendale CCD	97.5%	0.0%	2.4%	0.1%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	84.2%	15.4%	0.5%	0.0%
White Salmon CCD	92.9%	5.3%	1.8%	0.0%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	95.8%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%
Klickitat County	95.2%	3.2%	1.6%	0.0%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	80.3%	15.0%	1.6%	3.1%
Naselle CCD	98.5%	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%
Raymond CCD	75.3%	7.9%	2.6%	14.3%
Willapa Valley CCD	77.4%	15.4%	5.3%	1.9%
Pacific County	79.5%	9.5%	2.2%	8.8%
Washington	90.3%	5.7%	1.9%	2.0%

In ESD 112’s Early Head Start program, there were two families in which a grandparent was the primary caregiver during the 2022-2023 program year; this is consistent with 3-4 children reported in recent program years. A relative other than a grandparent was the primary caregiver in one family served; this is also consistent with 1-2 families in the prior program years.^{xviii, xix, xx}

Updated data show high rates of many single-parent households in ESD 112’s service area, particularly in Pacific County (Table 12).

Table 12. Percent of Children Living in Single-Parent Households by Geographic Area (2022)^{xxi, 10}

Geographic Area	2022
Clark County	27.4%
Klickitat County	31.6%
Pacific County	43.9%

A majority of children enrolled in ESD 112’s Early Head Start program live in single-parent families; proportionally, this rate of single-parent families continues to be well above the county levels. During the 2022-2023 program year, 55.7% of enrolled children lived in single-parent families; this is a decrease from approximately 70% of children in the two prior program years.^{xxii,xxiii,xxiv} ECEAP/Early ECEAP data show a similar trend, with 42.3% of enrolled children living in single-parent families (2023-2024).^{xxv}

¹⁰ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted. Year-to-year comparison data is not provided, as the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update uses data from a different and more current source than the 2022 and 2023 reports.

NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The needs of children and families in communities served by ESD 112 remain multi-faceted and interconnected. In an area where there is great diversity of need, some families experience many of the factors that contribute to the cycle of poverty within their communities. Together with other agencies, ESD 112 works to meet the needs of the area's most vulnerable families.

Education

In school districts in the service area, four-year on-time high school graduation rates continue to fluctuate. Since the 2022 Community Assessment was conducted, Battle Ground School District stands out with graduation rates that are consistently low. The most current data, 2022-2023, also show challenging graduation rates (below the statewide rate) in La Center School District (Clark County), Trout Lake School District (Klickitat County), and Pe Ell School District and Raymond School District (Pacific County) (Table 13).

Table 13. Four-Year On-Time Graduation Rate by School District and School Year^{xxvi, 11}

Geographic Area	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Four-Year Trend
Clark County					
Battle Ground	75.2%	80.9%	79.2%	78.4%	Fluctuating
Camas	93.1%	90.2%	91.5%	91.0%	Fluctuating
Evergreen	93.8%	92.8%	92.9%	90.8%	Decreasing
Green Mountain	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hockinson	95.0%	98.0%	93.8%	98.1%	Fluctuating
La Center	88.9%	81.9%	83.3%	76.9%	Fluctuating
Ridgefield	94.0%	87.0%	90.0%	89.0%	Fluctuating
Vancouver	89.4%	87.1%	86.1%	86.0%	Decreasing
Washougal	88.1%	87.2%	85.5%	89.0%	Fluctuating
Klickitat County					
Bickleton	*	*	*	*	*
Centerville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Glenwood	*	*	*	*	*
Goldendale	91.2%	88.1%	87.5%	85.0%	Fluctuating
Klickitat	*	*	*	*	*
Lyle	<10.0%	70.6%	55.6%	86.0%	Fluctuating
Roosevelt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trout Lake	>90.0%	>90.0%	>90.0%	>76.9%	Steady/Decreasing
White Salmon Valley	95.2%	95.5%	84.8%	85.0%	Fluctuating
Wishram	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific County					
Naselle-Grays River Valley	>90.0%	83.3%	>90.0%	>87.0%	Fluctuating
North River	*	*	*	*	*
Ocean Beach	82.8%	71.6%	70.7%	85.1%	Fluctuating
Pe Ell	>90.0%	89.5%	90.9%	>72.7%	Fluctuating
Raymond	85.4%	81.4%	87.8%	83.0%	Fluctuating
South Bend	>91.0%	>92.0%	>90.0%	90.0%	Decreasing/Steady
Willapa Valley	90.0%	>90.0%	>92.0%	>89.3%	Fluctuating
Washington	82.9%	82.5%	82.3%	83.6%	Fluctuating

* Data suppressed for student privacy when class population is less than 10.

Data listed as "n/a" represent school districts that do not offer high school.

¹¹ Rates less than the statewide rate are highlighted.

As described in Table 14, there continues to be a wide range in the percent of English language learners in school districts in the service area. During the 2022-2023 school year, rates are highest and greater than the statewide rate in Evergreen and Vancouver school districts in Clark County; Roosevelt and White Salmon Valley school districts in Klickitat County; and South Bend School District in Pacific County. This is unchanged from the two school years prior. Notably, the rate of English language learners in Roosevelt School District more than doubled from the 2022-2023 to 2023-2024 school year.

Table 14. Percent of Enrolled Students who are English Language Learners by School District and School Year^{xxvii, 12}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Clark County			
Battle Ground	6.8%	7.9%	10.1%
Camas	2.6%	3.6%	3.8%
Evergreen	14.8%	16.5%	17.8%
Green Mountain	2.0%	1.7%	0.0%
Hockinson	3.8%	3.4%	0.6%
La Center	2.5%	2.1%	2.9%
Ridgefield	3.0%	3.8%	4.2%
Vancouver	13.9%	15.4%	16.0%
Washougal	3.4%	4.3%	4.5%
Klickitat County			
Bickleton	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Centerville	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Glenwood	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Goldendale	3.3%	4.0%	4.4%
Klickitat	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Lyle	2.5%	5.2%	4.3%
Roosevelt	43.8%	40.0%	84.0%
Trout Lake	2.1%	1.0%	0.5%
White Salmon Valley	17.2%	16.8%	16.3%
Wishram	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Pacific County			
Naselle-Grays River Valley	4.5%	3.4%	3.7%
North River	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Ocean Beach	4.6%	5.5%	6.7%
Pe Ell	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Raymond	9.7%	11.0%	9.3%
South Bend	14.0%	13.9%	15.1%
Willapa Valley	2.0%	1.3%	1.3%
Washington	12.4%	13.1	14.0%

¹² Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Data on the percent of students whose families are low income is also consistent with prior school years. During the 2022-2023 school year, the rate of students whose families are low income continues to be greater than the statewide rate in nearly every school district in Pacific County and many school districts in the rest of the service area (Table 15).

Table 15. Percent of Enrolled Students Whose Families are Low Income by School District and School Year^{xxviii, 13}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Clark County			
Battle Ground	37.6%	39.5%	42.0%
Camas	15.3%	16.9%	18.7%
Evergreen	54.5%	54.7%	52.8%
Green Mountain	36.8%	36.0%	33.7%
Hockinson	21.7%	24.4%	26.1%
La Center	28.1%	26.3%	30.7%
Ridgefield	25.2%	25.9%	26.9%
Vancouver	50.5%	54.4%	48.9%
Washougal	36.5%	40.0%	38.6%
Klickitat County			
Bickleton	21.1%	30.2%	0.0%
Centerville	32.2%	38.1%	33.7%
Glenwood	53.4%	46.3%	49.3%
Goldendale	51.8%	47.8%	51.9%
Klickitat	41.5%	0.0%	54.2%
Lyle	81.3%	78.3%	62.4%
Roosevelt	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Trout Lake	0.0%	0.0%	27.4%
White Salmon Valley	46.9%	48.3%	47.0%
Wishram	91.5%	91.0%	91.9%
Pacific County			
Naselle-Grays River Valley	53.1%	52.8%	56.2%
North River	50.5%	80.0%	86.7%
Ocean Beach	64.6%	70.2%	69.6%
Pe Ell	58.0%	66.1%	59.1%
Raymond	70.7%	72.8%	68.0%
South Bend	73.7%	72.2%	75.5%
Willapa Valley	40.5%	44.2%	39.9%
Washington	44.5%	47.4%	46.6%

¹³ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Updated data on kindergarten readiness – defined as the percent of students who entered kindergarten ready in all six areas of development and learning – show fluctuating trends in recent years. While most school districts in the service area show readiness rates greater than the statewide rate (52.5%), five school districts fall below this benchmark, including Raymond (18.2%) and Pe Ell (34.9%) in Pacific County, and La Center (40.9%), Hockinson (41.4%), and Evergreen (50.2%) in Clark County. Across the service area, readiness rates have been fluctuating in recent years (Table 16).

Table 16. Percent of Students Who Entered Kindergarten Ready in All Six Areas of Development and Learning by School District and School Year^{xxix, 14}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	Three-Year Trend
Clark County				
Battle Ground	59.4%	63.4%	61.1%	Fluctuating
Camas	71.3%	74.0%	72.1%	Fluctuating
Evergreen	46.6%	41.3%	50.2%	Fluctuating
Green Mountain	46.7%	63.6%	73.7%	Increasing
Hockinson	45.2%	56.1%	41.4%	Fluctuating
La Center	41.4%	46.6%	40.9%	Fluctuating
Ridgefield	53.7%	63.3%	53.2%	Fluctuating
Vancouver	60.9%	58.7%	59.5%	Fluctuating
Washougal	39.1%	52.1%	62.3%	Increasing
Klickitat County				
Bickleton	*	*	*	n/a
Centerville	54.5%	50.6%	63.6%	Fluctuating
Glenwood	*	*	*	n/a
Goldendale	66.7%	43.6%	59.8%	Fluctuating
Klickitat	*	27.3%	*	n/a
Lyle	26.7%	71.4%	70.0%	Fluctuating
Roosevelt	*	*	*	n/a
Trout Lake	18.8%	45.5%	17.6%	Fluctuating
White Salmon Valley	80.5%	68.3%	72.1%	Fluctuating
Wishram	*	*	81.8%	n/a
Pacific County				
Naselle-Grays River Valley	94.7%	87.5%	72.7%	Decreasing
North River	*	*	*	n/a
Ocean Beach	47.2%	55.3%	57.5%	Fluctuating
Pe Ell	46.7%	46.7%	34.9%	Steady/Decreasing
Raymond	47.5%	31.8%	18.2%	Decreasing
South Bend	70.7%	34.2%	73.2%	Fluctuating
Willapa Valley	80.0%	88.9%	100.0%	Increasing
Washington	50.8%	48.4%	52.5%	Fluctuating

* Data not available (kindergarten enrollment of 12 or less).

¹⁴ Rates less than the statewide rate are highlighted.

The highest level of education of the adult population (age 25 and over) is described in Table 17; percentages have not changed significantly from that reported in the 2022 Community Assessment. All counties in the service area continue to have a rate of adults with a Bachelor’s or advanced degree that is lower than the statewide rate.

Table 17. Education Attainment (Ages 25 and Over) by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xxx, 15}

Geographic Area	Less Than 9 th Grade	9 th to 12 th Grade, no diploma	High school graduate	Some college, no degree	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
Battle Ground CCD	1.3%	3.9%	25.8%	26.0%	10.8%	20.7%	11.5%
Camas CCD	1.1%	3.7%	23.7%	21.1%	9.9%	25.0%	15.6%
La Center CCD	1.7%	4.2%	32.5%	26.5%	10.8%	15.7%	8.5%
Orchards CCD	3.3%	5.7%	29.7%	27.4%	11.0%	15.6%	7.3%
Ridgefield CCD	0.6%	2.9%	19.9%	27.1%	13.8%	23.2%	12.5%
Vancouver CCD	2.8%	5.0%	23.0%	24.9%	10.8%	21.1%	12.3%
Yacolt CCD	2.9%	3.7%	38.1%	24.6%	10.4%	15.2%	5.0%
Clark County	2.3%	4.7%	24.9%	25.1%	10.8%	20.5%	11.7%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	1.5%	7.6%	25.8%	26.2%	14.3%	15.1%	9.4%
Goldendale CCD	0.4%	8.4%	31.6%	25.2%	11.1%	13.6%	9.5%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	7.1%	2.3%	35.8%	11.4%	9.8%	24.1%	9.4%
White Salmon CCD	7.8%	5.2%	20.6%	18.4%	7.2%	21.0%	19.9%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	5.5%	3.3%	48.7%	18.9%	7.6%	10.7%	5.3%
Klickitat County	4.0%	6.6%	26.7%	21.9%	10.0%	17.2%	13.6%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	3.2%	5.6%	24.9%	30.0%	8.0%	19.3%	9.0%
Naselle CCD	1.1%	2.2%	28.9%	29.9%	19.8%	13.0%	5.1%
Raymond CCD	3.9%	6.5%	36.0%	26.5%	7.6%	14.7%	4.8%
Willapa Valley CCD	2.4%	4.2%	30.4%	27.0%	15.8%	16.2%	4.1%
Pacific County	3.2%	5.5%	29.5%	28.6%	9.5%	16.9%	6.8%
Washington	3.4%	4.5%	21.8%	22.2%	10.1%	23.3%	14.7%

Educational attainment among families served by ESD 112’s Early Head Start program continues to trend toward a high school degree or GED (Table 18). ECEAP/Early ECEAP show a similar trend, with approximately 21% of enrolled children having a parent/guardian whose highest level of education is less than a high school diploma.^{xxxii}

Table 18. Highest Level of Education Attainment of Families Served by ESD 112 Early Head Start by Program

Year^{xxxii, xxxiii, xxxiv}

Education Level	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Less than high school graduate	23.0% (37 families)	23.9% (39 families)	14.5% (19 families)
High school graduate or GED	56.5% (91 families)	51.5% (84 families)	56.5% (74 families)
Associate degree, vocational school, or some college	11.2% (18 families)	16.0% (26 families)	19.8% (26 families)
Bachelor’s degree or advanced degree	9.3% (15 families)	8.6% (14 families)	9.2% (12 families)
Total	100% (161 families)	100% (163 families)	100% (131 families)

¹⁵ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Health

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, ranks communities across health and wellness factors. The overall rankings in health outcomes represent how healthy counties are within the state. The healthiest county is ranked #1.

According to the 2023 rankings, Clark County continues to rank toward the top for Health Outcomes and Health Factors out of 39 counties in Washington. Rankings are more challenging in other counties in the service area. Pacific County has continued to see some improvement in its Health Outcomes rank – improving from 37 (2021) to 32 (2023), however the Health Factors ranking decreased during the same time period (Table 19).

Table 19. Health Outcomes and Health Factors Rankings by Geographic Area (out of 39 Counties in Washington) and Year^{xxxv, xxxvi, xxxvii}

Geographic Area	Health Outcomes Rank			Health Factors Rank		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Clark County	10	11	9	10	7	9
Klickitat County	28	25	28	21	20	22
Pacific County	37	34	32	32	30	33

As seen in Table 20, factors related to poor health, as well as the number of physically and mentally unhealthy days, remain high in a majority of the service area.

Table 20. Health Outcomes Data by Geographic Area^{xxxviii, 16}

Geographic Area	Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 per 100,000 Population (2018-2020) ¹⁷	% Poor or Fair Health (2020)	Physically Unhealthy Days ¹⁸ (2020)	Mentally Unhealthy Days ¹⁹ (2020)
Clark County	5,900	12%	3.3	4.8
Klickitat County	6,600	15%	3.8	5.0
Pacific County	7,600	15%	3.6	5.1
Washington	5,800	12%	2.9	4.5
United States	7,300	12%	3.0	4.4

Residents in the service area continue to experience challenges with other health-related factors. Rates of smokers, obesity, and adults who are diabetic are described in Table 21. Rates in most counties remain greater than the statewide rate. Data continue to show small improvements in the percent of adults who are diabetic, which ranges from 8-9%, a decrease from 10-14% two years prior. However, obesity rates remain high (31-27%), as do the percent of adults who are smokers (14-18%).

Table 21. Adult Health Factors by Geographic Area and Year^{xxxix, xl, xli, 20}

Geographic Area	% Diabetic			% Obese			% Smokers		
	2017	2019	2020	2017	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Clark County	10%	9%	8%	32%	33%	34%	14%	13%	14%
Klickitat County	12%	10%	9%	37%	33%	31%	16%	17%	17%
Pacific County	14%	10%	9%	38%	34%	37%	19%	18%	18%
Washington	9%	9%	8%	29%	28%	28%	12%	13%	12%
United States	n/a	9%	9%	n/a	32%	32%	n/a	16%	16%

¹⁶ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

¹⁷ Updated data is not available and data reflects that reported in the 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update.

¹⁸ Average number of physically unhealthy days reported in past 30 days

¹⁹ Average number of mentally unhealthy days reported in past 30 days

²⁰ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Substance Misuse

The most up-to-date data on drug overdose mortality continue to show rates in Klickitat and Pacific counties that are higher than the statewide rate. An increase in drug overdose mortality is most pronounced in Pacific County, which continues to have the highest rates of drug overdose mortality in the service area, for both all drugs and opioids (Table 22).

Table 22. Drug Overdose Mortality Rate per 100,000 Individuals (Ages 15-64) by Geographic Area (2018-2021)^{xlii, 21}

Geographic Area	All Drugs		Opioids	
	Drug Overdose Mortality Rate (2018-2021)	Change Since (2014-2017)	Drug Overdose Mortality Rate (2018-2021)	Change Since (2014-2017)
Clark County	26.0	+6.1	15.6	+3.3
Klickitat County	33.4	+10.5	20.4	*
Pacific County	37.7	+13.0	23.8	*
Washington	29.2	+8.4	20.2	+6.6
United States	36.8	+10.8	27.3	+10.2

* Insufficient data

Throughout the service area, there is also continued concern for methamphetamine use and its impact on the communities. The most up-to-date data on methamphetamine use show it continues to rise in Washington. Rates of drug deaths involving methamphetamine increased in all counties in the service area from 2019-2020 to 2021-2022, with the most significant increases in Klickitat County and Pacific County (Table 23).

Table 23. Drug Deaths Involving Methamphetamines, per 100,000 Residents, by County and Year^{xliii, 22}

Geographic Area	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent Change from 2019-2020 to 2021-2022
Clark County	9.31	11.22	12.77	37%
Klickitat County	6.64	13.12	23.84	259%
Pacific County	11.50	23.51	25.52	122%
Washington	9.50	13.23	17.29	82%

Since the 2022 Community Assessment was conducted, there has been little improvement to rates of excessive drinking and the percent of driving deaths with alcohol involvement. Rates remain high in a majority of the service area. Pacific County continues to stand out, as 50% of driving deaths involve alcohol (Table 24).

Table 24. Excessive Drinking (Percentage of Adults Reporting Binge or Heavy Drinking) by Geographic Area and Year^{xliv, xlv, xlvii, 23}

Geographic Area	% Excessive Drinking			% Driving Deaths with Alcohol Involvement	
	2018	2019	2020	2015-2019	2016-2020 ²⁴
Clark County	19%	15%	17%	35%	34%
Klickitat County	20%	18%	20%	25%	25%
Pacific County	21%	18%	20%	50%	50%
Washington	17%	16%	18%	33%	33%
United States	n/a	20%	19%	n/a	27%

²¹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

²² Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

²³ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

²⁴ Updated data is not available and data reflects that reported in the 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update.

ESD 112 leadership team members note that its program staff have observed a widespread increase in drug use in communities served, which aligns with increases noted above. Home visitors also report greater concerns for their safety when visiting families' homes. Domestic violence and safety training has been provided to staff to help ensure their well-being when conducting home visits. ECEAP/Early ECEAP data echo these observations, as approximately 12% of families self-reported at enrollment (2023-2024) that substance abuse was a factor for their family, and nearly 16% reported domestic violence (current or previous involvement).^{xlvii}

Healthcare and Clinical Care

The rate of uninsured individuals under age 65 is moderately high in counties in the service area, ranging from 9-13%; it continues to be above the statewide rate in Klickitat County and Pacific County. The rate of uninsured children is generally low, although it has continued to increase in Klickitat County, where the rate is now 6% (Table 25).

Table 25. Percent of the Population that is Uninsured by Geographic Area^{xlviii, xlix, l, 25}

Geographic Area	Adults (Under Age 65)			Children (Under Age 19)		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Clark County	7%	9%	9%	3%	3%	3%
Klickitat County	11%	13%	13%	4%	5%	6%
Pacific County	11%	13%	13%	4%	5%	5%
Washington	7%	9%	9%	3%	3%	3%
United States	12%	13%	12%	5%	6%	5%

Updated data continue to show challenging access to primary care providers, dentists, and mental health providers across the service area (Table 26). In Pacific County, the ratios for dentists and primary care providers are more than double and triple the statewide rates, respectively, and in Klickitat County the ratio for dentists is more than triple the statewide rate. These findings are consistent with the findings of the 2022 *Community Assessment* and 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update*.

In addition to updating data in Table 26 as presented in the 2022 *Community Assessment* and 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update* report (primary care physicians, dentists, mental health providers), the ratio of individuals to “other primary care providers” was added. Other primary care providers includes nurse practitioners, physicians assistants, and clinical nurse specialists who often provide preventative and primary care services. Data show that individuals in all counties in the service area may have difficulty accessing these other care providers.

²⁵ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 26. Ratio of Health Care Providers by Geographic Area^{li, lii, liii, 26}

Geographic Area	Primary Care Provider Ratio (2020)	Other Primary Care Providers* (2022)	Dentist Ratio (2021)	Mental Health Provider Ratio (2022)
Clark County	1,320:1	1,420:1	1,420:1	250:1
Klickitat County	1,620:1	1,280:1	3,300:1	530:1
Pacific County	4,600:1	1,330:1	2,990:1	210:1
Washington	1,180:1	920:1	1,170:1	220:1
United States	1,310:1	810:1	1,380:1	340:1

* This includes nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), and clinical nurse specialists who can provide routine and preventative care.

ESD 112 leadership team members report that access to health and dental health care continues to be challenging for some families. Limited access to mental health providers, including bilingual service providers, remains widespread. ESD 112 leadership team members report consistent challenges in this area, both for children and families served and for the broader community.

Infant and Maternal Health

Prenatal Care. Updated data on prenatal care in ESD 112’s service area is not yet available. As reported in the 2022 *Community Assessment*, a majority of pregnant women received prenatal care in the counties in the service area in 2017-2019. The percent of births to mothers who received late or no prenatal care is low (Table 27).

Table 27. Percent of Mothers with First Trimester Prenatal Care and Late or No Prenatal Care by Geographic Area (2017-2019)^{liv}

Geographic Area	First Trimester Prenatal Care		Late or No Prenatal Care	
	Percent of Mothers	Three-Year Trend	Percent of Mothers	Three-Year Trend
Clark County	76%	Increasing	5%	Steady
Klickitat County	83%	Fluctuating	0%	Steady
Pacific County	77%	Fluctuating	0%	Steady
Washington	75%	Steady	7%	Steady

Teen Pregnancy. In ESD 112’s service area, data on teen pregnancy is limited. The most up-to-date data is available from the Washington Department of Health and show a consistently high rate of teen births among 18-19 year olds in Clark County (Table 28a). Statewide data continue to show significant disparity by race and ethnicity; the rates among Hispanic and AIAN mothers is significantly higher than the rates among mothers of other races and ethnicities (Table 28b).

Table 28a. Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 Women Ages 15-19 by Geographic Area^{lv, 27}

Geographic Area	2020		2021		2022	
	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19
Clark County	3.0	23.6	2.5	20.9	2.0	16.7
Klickitat County	0.0	*	*	*	0.0	*
Pacific County	*	*	*	*	*	*
Washington	4.3	20.4	3.6	19.6	3.2	17.8

* Rate suppressed due to counts between 1-9.

²⁶ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

²⁷ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 28b. Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 Women Ages 15-19 by Race and Ethnicity and Age Group (2022)^{vi}

Geographic Area	AIAN		Asian		Black		Hispanic		Pacific Islander		White		Multi-race	
	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19	15-17	18-19
Washington	5.2	36.2	0.0	2.9	2.3	12.3	6.8	38.8	8.1	45.2	1.8	12.8	2.7	9.8

Low Birth Weight and Infant Mortality. The 2022 Community Assessment and 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update presented data on low birth weight and infant mortality from County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, however that data is now outdated and more current data is not available. Tables 29 and 30 have been replaced with new, more current, data from the Washington Department of Health. Data show the percent of babies born at low birth weight in the service area is less than the statewide rate (7.0%), though was elevated in recent years, particularly in Klickitat County (Table 29). Infant mortality rate is low across the service area (Table 30).

Table 29. Percent of Babies Born at Low Birthweight by Geographic Area and Year^{vii, 28}

Geographic Area	2019	2020	2021
Clark County	6.3%	7.1%	6.7%
Klickitat County	10.3%	9.0%	6.4%
Pacific County	*	7.9%	6.5%
Washington	6.4%	6.7%	7.0%

* Rate suppressed due to counts between 1-9.

Table 30. Infant Mortality (per 100,000 Live Births) by Geographic Area and Year^{viii, 29}

Geographic Area	2020	2021	2022
Clark County	500	432	323
Klickitat County	*	*	0
Pacific County	0	0	0
Washington	417	406	410

* Rate suppressed due to counts between 1-9.

Data from March of Dimes (2022) show that some communities served by ESD 112 are maternity care deserts, areas in which there are no hospitals or birth centers offering obstetric care and no obstetric providers. According to this definition, Pacific County is a maternity care desert. Clark County and Klickitat County have full access to maternity care.^{lix}

Child Health and Wellbeing

Primary and Preventative Health. In ESD 112’s Early Head Start program, during the 2022-2023 program year, approximately 38% of children were up to date on primary and preventative health care at enrollment. During this time period, and consistent with data reported the prior two program years, the percent of children increased by the end of the program year (71.7%) (Table 31). ECEAP/Early ECEAP data also point to challenges with families maintaining up-to-date preventative and primary care for their children, as nearly 20% of enrolled children do not have a medical home, and more than 33% do not have a dental home (2023-2024).^{lx}

²⁸ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

²⁹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 31. Percent of Early Head Start Children Up-to-Date on Age-Appropriate Preventative and Primary Health Care (EPSDT) by Program Year^{lx, lxii, lxiii}

Program Year	At Enrollment	End of Enrollment Year
2020-2021	44.0% (81 out of 184)	68.5% (126 out of 184)
2021-2022	30.2% (57 out of 189)	65.1% (123 out of 189)
2022-2023	37.5% (57 out of 152)	71.7% (109 out of 152)

Updated data on the percent of kindergarten students with complete vaccinations now show the lowest rates in Klickitat County. Among school districts, the rate of kindergarten students with complete vaccinations varies widely. Close to half of school districts have a rate of 90% or more. Table 32 was also updated to include the exemption, conditional, and out of compliance rates for each school district. The statewide exemptions rate is 4.0%, however every school district in Clark County has a rate that is much higher (Table 32).

Table 32. Percent of Kindergarten Students with Complete Vaccinations by School District and School Year^{lxiv, 30}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023			
	Percent of Kindergarten Students with Complete Vaccinations ³¹	Percent of Kindergarten Students with Complete Vaccinations ³²	Exemptions Rate	Conditional Rate	Out of Compliance
Clark County	88.0%	85.6%	8.6%	2.4%	3.3%
Battle Ground	88.2%	81.4%	13.2%	2.5%	2.8%
Camas	90.2%	90.6%	6.9%	1.3%	1.3%
Evergreen	88.7%	84.5%	8.2%	2.3%	4.1%
Green Mountain	88.2%	90.9%	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Hockinson	87.9%	79.1%	7.5%	1.5%	11.9%
La Center	86.1%	93.8%	5.5%	0.8%	0.0%
Ridgefield	90.1%	91.1%	7.8%	0.7%	0.4%
Vancouver	86.4%	85.3%	7.6%	3.5%	3.6%
Washougal	87.0%	90.2%	6.5%	2.2%	1.1%
Klickitat County	82.8%	88.6%	7.7%	1.8%	1.8%
Bickleton	83.3%	*	*	*	*
Centerville	100.0%	90.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%
Glenwood	*	*	*	*	*
Goldendale	80.8%	84.8%	10.7%	1.8%	2.7%
Klickitat	*	90.9%	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Lyle	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Roosevelt	*	*	*	*	*
Trout Lake	65.6%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
White Salmon Valley	83.7%	85.3%	10.7%	4.0%	0.0%
Wishram	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific County	89.2%	83.3%	6.7%	3.9%	6.1%
Naselle-Grays River Valley	89.5%	56.3%	18.8%	25.0%	0.0%
North River	*	*	*	*	*
Ocean Beach	88.9%	91.2%	4.4%	2.9%	1.5%
Pe Ell	85.7%	93.3%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%
Raymond	92.3%	81.8%	4.5%	4.5%	9.1%
South Bend	*	78.0%	2.4%	0.0%	19.5%
Willapa Valley	92.0%	92.6%	7.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Washington	89.0%	87.6%	4.0%	1.6%	6.8%

* Data not available.

³⁰ Per the Washington State Department of Health “Complete” is defined as a count of students with a signed Certificate of Immunization Status form showing they have all required vaccinations for their grade level or showing a proof of immunity.

³¹ Rates less than the countywide rate are highlighted.

³² Rates less than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Obesity and Chronic Diseases. Updated data on childhood obesity in Washington show that, compared to other states, in Washington, rates of childhood obesity are relatively low among young children (ages 2-4) who are participating in the WIC program and children ages 10-17 (Table 33). Among children ages 10-17, Washington ranks 3rd out of out of 51 states and Washington, D.C. for the lowest obesity rate.^{lxv}

Table 33. Childhood Obesity in Washington by Subgroup and Year^{lxvi}

Age Group	2019	2020
Children Ages 2-4 Participating in WIC	13.8%	14.8%
Children Ages 10-17	13.2%	12.9%

Consistent with recent program years, during the 2022-2023 program year, the primary chronic health conditions experienced by Early Head Start children were vision problems (5 children), and hearing problems (7 children).^{lxvii, lxviii, lxix}

Nutrition

Food Insecurity and Access. Updated data on food access and insecurity, from the source reported in the 2022 Community Assessment and 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update, is not available. Data from Feeding America show elevated rates of food insecurity for the total population, and children specifically, in a majority of the service area. Rates are highest in Pacific County, while data show food insecurity may be less of a challenge in Clark County (Table 34).

Table 34. Food Insecurity Rate by Age Group and Geographic Area (2021)^{lxx, 33}

Geographic Area	Total Population	Children (0-18)	Seniors (60+)
Clark County	8.4%	11.4%	No data
Klickitat County	10.8%	14.7%	No data
Pacific County	12.5%	18.7%	No data
Washington	8.9%	11.8%	3.7%
United States	10.4%	12.8%	7.1%

Food desert data has not changed since the 2022 Community Assessment. There are a total of 11 low-income and low access census tracts (food deserts) in ESD 112’s service area (Table 35). A food desert is defined as low-income census tracts where a significant number or share of residents lives more than 1 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural) from the nearest supermarket.^{lxxi}

Table 35. Food Deserts in ESD 112’s Service Area (2019)^{lxxii}

Geographic Area	Census Tract
Clark County (north/northwest of Vancouver)	53011041010 53011040808 53011041104 53011040711
Klickitat County (majority of county; excludes western portion of county)	53039950100
Pacific County (southeastern part of county and north of Long Beach)	53049950400 53049950800

³³ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

ESD 112 leadership team members report that food insecurity continues to be a challenge for low-income families in the community. Because of rising food costs, even families who receive public assistance have difficulty accessing what they need. Additionally, some community providers have lost funding for programs and resources to address food insecurity are more limited.

Free and Reduced Lunch. Updated rates of free and reduced-price lunch in the service area show consistency compared to the last two school years. Rates of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch are high in most school districts in Klickitat and Pacific counties (Table 36).

Table 36. Free and Reduced Lunch Rate by School District and School Year^{lxxiii, lxxiv, 34}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	Three-Year Trend
Clark County				
Battle Ground	34.6%	34.8%	36.9%	Increasing
Camas	11.6%	14.8%	16.0%	Increasing
Evergreen	51.3%	66.8%	66.9%	Increasing
Green Mountain	32.5%	37.2%	28.6%	Fluctuating
Hockinson	19.7%	20.5%	21.9%	Increasing
La Center	28.3%	24.3%	28.1%	Fluctuating
Ridgefield	24.0%	20.5%	21.6%	Fluctuating
Vancouver	48.0%	63.7%	64.1%	Increasing
Washougal	34.8%	34.0%	33.5%	Decreasing
Klickitat County				
Bickleton	*	*	*	n/a
Centerville	31.4%	38.5%	29.2%	Fluctuating
Glenwood	49.1%	74.6%	74.6%	Increasing/Steady
Goldendale	58.7%	72.2%	72.1%	Increasing/Steady
Klickitat	59.8%	78.4%	78.3%	Increasing/Steady
Lyle	88.4%	90.0%	89.1%	Fluctuating
Roosevelt	*	*	*	n/a
Trout Lake	*	*	*	n/a
White Salmon Valley	43.5%	43.3%	41.2%	Decreasing
Wishram	96.7%	97.0%	100.0%	Fluctuating
Pacific County				
Naselle-Grays River Valley	55.7%	74.4%	74.3%	Increasing/Steady
North River	82.6%	82.5%	82.5%	Steady
Ocean Beach	53.4%	84.9%	84.9%	Increasing/Steady
Pe Ell	*	*	*	n/a
Raymond	64.2%	64.0%	77.5%	Fluctuating
South Bend	78.0%	78.6%	75.3%	Fluctuating
Willapa Valley	37.2%	41.0%	36.9%	Fluctuating
Washington	46.7%	52.0%	45.9%	Fluctuating

* Data not available.

SNAP and WIC. The 2022 Community Assessment reported that the number of individuals participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was decreasing statewide in recent years, a trend reflected in ESD 112's service area. Updated data show more recent fluctuations, as numbers of recipients increased from 2019 to 2020 and then decreased in every county in the service area from 2020 to 2021. A vast majority of SNAP recipients in the service area reside in Clark County (Table 37).

³⁴ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 37. Number of SNAP Benefits Recipients by Geographic Area and Year (2018-2021)^{lxxv}

Geographic Area	2018	2019	2020	2021	Four-Year Trend
Clark County	51,670	51,480	60,160	54,473	Fluctuating
Klickitat County	3,322	3,380	3,636	3,244	Fluctuating
Pacific County	3,942	4,022	4,406	3,922	Fluctuating
Washington	864,784	813,505	949,361	864,380	Fluctuating

Updated data on the number of WIC recipients in the service area is not yet available. As reported in the 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update*, the greatest portion of individuals receiving WIC benefits reside in Clark County. Across the service area, there was a decrease in WIC recipients from FY2020-2021 to FY2021-2022. The greatest decrease was in Pacific County, 27% (Table 38).

Table 38. Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Participants in by Geographic Area (FFY2021-2022)^{lxxvi, lxxvii}

Geographic Area	Infants/Children	Women	Total Participating	Change in Total Recipients from FFY2020-2021
Clark County	6,887	2,485	9,372	-9%
Klickitat County	413	165	578	-15%
Pacific County	268	98	366	-27%
Service Area Total	10,319	3,748	14,067	-10%

Social and Economic Factors Impacting Wellbeing

Home Value and Affordability

In all counties in the service area, median home value, owner costs, and median rent have continued to increase since the 2022 *Community Assessment* was conducted. Home value and affordability continue to vary, with median home values ranging from \$252,100 in Pacific County to \$453,200 in Clark County. Overall, within the service area, owner and rental costs are highest in Clark County (Table 39).

Table 39. Median Home Value and Costs by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{lxxviii, 35}

Geographic Area	Median Home Value ³⁶	Median Owner Costs	Median Rent
Battle Ground CCD	\$496,800	\$2,215	\$1,610
Camas CCD	\$555,600	\$2,452	\$1,622
La Center CCD	\$545,400	\$2,248	\$1,772
Orchards CCD	\$379,700	\$1,817	\$1,685
Ridgefield CCD	\$580,800	\$2,375	\$2,179
Vancouver CCD	\$434,900	\$1,992	\$1,520
Yacolt CCD	\$479,900	\$2,243	\$1,520
Clark County	\$453,200	\$2,089	\$1,572
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	\$348,600	\$1,580	\$1,092
Goldendale CCD	\$218,800	\$1,425	\$876
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	No data	\$1,204	\$750
White Salmon CCD	\$491,000	\$2,090	\$1,276
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	\$267,600	\$1,783	\$722
Klickitat County	\$352,500	\$1,744	\$986
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	\$281,800	\$1,573	\$928
Naselle CCD	\$242,900	\$1,683	\$1,101
Raymond CCD	\$208,200	\$1,294	\$958
Willapa Valley CCD	\$245,900	\$1,609	\$1,275
Pacific County	\$252,100	\$1,483	\$955
Washington	\$473,400	\$2,249	\$1,592

³⁵ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

³⁶ Values less than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Updated data show the vacant housing rate in ESD 112's service area remains low (Table 40). Data continue to suggest that, in many local communities, there is limited housing available to renters.

Also described in Table 40, the rental cost burden in the service area remains high. In many communities, more than 50% of households are spending 30% or more of their monthly income on rent. Consistent with the findings of the 2022 *Community Assessment* and 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update*, Klickitat County has the highest rental cost burden rate in the service area, 57.1% (2022).

Table 40. Housing Characteristics by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xxx, 37}

Geographic Area	Rental Vacancy Rate ³⁸	Households Spending 30% or More of Monthly Income on Rent ³⁹
Battle Ground CCD	4.3%	45.0%
Camas CCD	2.7%	42.2%
La Center CCD	10.0%	34.3%
Orchards CCD	2.7%	49.5%
Ridgefield CCD	10.0%	44.8%
Vancouver CCD	2.5%	51.7%
Yacolt CCD	0.0%	22.7%
Clark County	2.9%	49.8%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	4.7%	57.6%
Goldendale CCD	0.0%	67.2%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	0.0%	49.0%
White Salmon CCD	1.8%	43.8%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	0.0%	34.0%
Klickitat County	1.5%	57.1%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	6.1%	52.4%
Naselle CCD	0.0%	40.5%
Raymond CCD	2.4%	49.3%
Willapa Valley CCD	0.0%	69.4%
Pacific County	4.1%	50.7%
Washington	4.0%	48.9%

Affordable housing data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition show that 17-33% of individuals in ESD 112's service area are renting their home, nearly unchanged from the rates reported in the 2022 *Community Assessment* and 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update*. The hourly wage necessary to afford a two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent remains highest in Clark County (\$35.37), where an individual would need to work 2.2 full time jobs at minimum wage to afford two-bedroom housing. As described in Table 41, data continue to show that the wages required to afford two-bedroom housing are well above the state minimum wage.

Table 41a. Affordable Housing Data by Geographic Area (2023)^{xxx}

	Clark County	Klickitat County	Pacific County	Washington
Percent Renters	33%	27%	17%	36%
Minimum Wage*	\$15.74	\$15.74	\$15.74	\$15.74
Two-bedroom Housing Wage	\$35.37	\$21.90	\$20.19	\$36.33
Two-bedroom Fair Market Rent	\$1,839	\$1,139	\$1,050	\$1,889
# of Full-Time Jobs at Minimum Wage to Afford Two-bedroom Housing	2.2	1.4	1.3	2.3

*Data is based on 2023 minimum wage. 2024 minimum wage is \$16.24.

³⁷ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

³⁸ Rates less than the countywide rate are highlighted.

³⁹ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

New data on fair market rent show that, in all counties in the service area, the rental cost of a two-bedroom apartment has increased substantially in recent years. From FY2022 to FY2024, the cost increased 17-20% (Table 41b). This data aligns with observations from ESD 112 leadership team members who note that families continue to experience rising rental costs, and many are on the verge of being unhoused. A lack of affordable housing continues to be one of the most pressing concerns in the service area.

Table 41b. Two-Bedroom Apartment Fair Market Rent by Geographic Area and Year^{lxxxix, 40}

Geographic Area	FY2022	FY2023 (% change from FY2022)	FY2024 (% change from FY2023)
Clark County	\$1,735	\$1,839 (+6.0%)	\$2,024 (+10.0%)
Klickitat County	\$1,027	\$1,139 (+11.0%)	\$1,234 (+8.0%)
Pacific County	\$949	\$1,050 (+11.0%)	\$1,112 (+5.9%)

Other factors impact housing stability and affordability in Washington, and the state and service area continue to have a high percent of households that are experiencing severe housing problems (overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities) (Table 42).

Table 42. Percentage of Households with at Least 1 of 4 Housing Problems⁴¹ by Geographic Area and Year^{lxxxii, lxxxiii, lxxxiv, 42}

Geographic Area	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Clark County	15%	15%	15%
Klickitat County	16%	17%	16%
Pacific County	14%	12%	12%
Washington	17%	17%	17%

Income Inequality

Updated data show that, in every county in ESD 112’s service area, estimated median household income has increased over time. Median household income remains highest in Clark County (\$90,115), where it is also consistent with the statewide median income. Median income remains substantially lower, and well below the statewide median, in Klickitat and Pacific counties (Table 43).

⁴⁰ Fair Market Rent is generally calculated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as the 40th percentile of gross rents for regular, standard-quality units in a local housing market, excluding public housing units, rental units built in the last 2 years, rental units considered substandard in quality, seasonal rentals, and rental units on 10 or more acres.

⁴¹ Overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities

⁴² Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 43. Median Household Income by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{lxxxv, 43}

Geographic Area	Median Household Income
Battle Ground CCD	\$104,648
Camas CCD	\$115,954
La Center CCD	\$104,679
Orchards CCD	\$80,933
Ridgefield CCD	\$107,009
Vancouver CCD	\$82,467
Yacolt CCD	\$93,153
Clark County	\$90,115
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	\$56,136
Goldendale CCD	\$55,136
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	\$55,625
White Salmon CCD	\$83,871
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	\$71,429
Klickitat County	\$66,581
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	\$54,097
Naselle CCD	\$66,700
Raymond CCD	\$62,898
Willapa Valley CCD	\$66,204
Pacific County	\$58,889
Washington	\$90,325

Income inequality is further described in Table 44. Updated data show that, across the service area, incomes at the upper and lower limits have increased. However, income ratios have also increased in Klickitat County and Pacific County since the 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update* was conducted; the wealth gap between the top and bottom ends of the income spectrum has widened in these communities.

Table 44. Income Inequality by Geographic Area (2016-2020)^{lxxxvi, lxxxvii}

Geographic Area	2016-2020			2017-2021		
	80 th percentile income	20 th percentile income	Income Ratio ⁴⁴	80 th percentile income	20 th percentile income	Income Ratio ⁴⁵
Clark County	\$139,634	\$37,164	3.8	\$147,252	\$39,029	3.8
Klickitat County	\$103,965	\$25,346	4.1	\$114,024	\$25,196	4.5
Pacific County	\$97,292	\$21,405	4.5	\$105,279	\$22,941	4.6
Washington	\$147,813	\$33,777	4.4	\$158,711	\$36,110	4.4
United States	n/a	n/a	4.9	n/a	n/a	4.9

Community Safety

The most current data on crime rates in ESD 112's service area continue to vary significantly among and within counties. Since the 2022 *Community Assessment* was conducted, data has shown crime rates are highest in Vancouver in Clark County. The greatest increase in crime rate from 2021 to 2022 took place in Long Beach (Pacific County), where the rate increased more than 40% (Table 45). Crime rates remain much lower in less densely populated parts of the service area, particularly Klickitat and Pacific counties. Also described in

⁴³ Values less than the countywide value are highlighted.

⁴⁴ A higher inequality ratio indicates greater division between the top and bottom ends of the income spectrum. Rates higher than the statewide rate are highlighted.

⁴⁵ A higher inequality ratio indicates greater division between the top and bottom ends of the income spectrum. Rates higher than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 45, in certain communities in the service area, there are a high percent of offenses involving domestic violence.

Table 45. Crime Rate, per 1,000, by Geographic Area (2022)^{lxxxviii}

Geographic Area	Number of Offenses (Percent Involving Domestic Violence)	Crime Rate	Percent Change in Crime Rate Since 2021
Clark County			
Clark County SO	8,298 (13.8%)	34.7	+17.7%
Battle Ground PD	680 (18.0%)	31.2	-16.6%
Camas PD	696 (11.0%)	25.5	-0.9%
La Center PD	169 (16.0%)	44.1	+15.8%
Ridgefield PD	422 (18.0%)	30.9	-16.3%
Vancouver PD	24,471 (15.0%)	123.8	+13.2%
Washougal PD	837 (20.0%)	48.1	+11.5%
WSU PD - Vancouver	0 (0)	0.0	0.0%
Klickitat County			
Klickitat County SO	1 (100.0%)	0.1	No data
Bingen PD	36 (19.4%)	46.2	+16.1%
White Salmon PD	63 (34.9%)	25.3	-13.7%
Goldendale PD	281 (16.0%)	80.9	+26.1%
Pacific County			
Pacific SO	231 (12.0%)	14.5	No data
Ilwaco PD	37 (29.7%)	33.6	No data
Long Beach PD	89 (29.2%)	51.9	+41.3%
Raymond PD	69 (26.1%)	22.3	-17.9%
Shoalwater Bay Tribal PD	*	*	n/a
South Bend PD	46 (23.9%)	26.5	+206.7%

* No data

EMPLOYMENT, WORKFORCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Labor Force, Industries, and Occupations

In the counties in ESD 112’s service area, updated data show the percent of the population in the labor force continues to be less than the statewide rate (64.6%) (Table 46), a consistent trend since the 2022 *Community Assessment* was conducted. At the local level, labor force participation rates have been relatively stable over the past two years. Also as described in Table 46, Pacific County continues to have a very high percent of households with young children in which all parents are in the labor force (72.2%). In many parts of the service area, approximately three-quarters or more of families with young children have all parents are in the workforce.

Table 46. Percent of the Population in Labor Force (Age 16+) by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xxxix, 46}

Geographic Area	Population Age 16+	Households with Children Under Age 6, All Parents in the Family in the Labor Force
Battle Ground CCD	61.6%	47.5%
Camas CCD	63.6%	56.5%
La Center CCD	55.6%	29.5%
Orchards CCD	67.0%	59.0%
Ridgefield CCD	62.9%	74.0%
Vancouver CCD	64.6%	63.2%
Yacolt CCD	55.5%	34.5%
Clark County	63.9%	57.6%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	46.0%	38.5%
Goldendale CCD	50.3%	81.0%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	44.9%	55.4%
White Salmon CCD	61.5%	55.0%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	48.8%	100.0%
Klickitat County	53.8%	56.4%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	39.1%	63.3%
Naselle CCD	55.8%	37.1%
Raymond CCD	52.1%	86.4%
Willapa Valley CCD	46.2%	75.9%
Pacific County	45.8%	72.2%
Washington	64.6%	62.0%

According to the most recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau (2018-2022), using Census-defined occupation categories, the top occupations in the service area continue to be management, business, science, and arts occupations; sales and office occupations; and service occupations (Table 47). The top industry in the service area remains educational services, and health care and social assistance (Table 48).

Table 47. Percentage of the Employed Workforce (Age 16+) by Occupation and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xc, 47}

Occupation	Clark County	Klickitat County	Pacific County	Washington
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	39.2%	44.1%	31.3%	44.4%
Service occupations	16.0%	14.4%	20.1%	15.9%
Sales and office occupations	20.5%	14.6%	20.8%	18.6%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	9.4%	15.5%	14.2%	9.4%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	14.9%	11.5%	13.6%	11.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

⁴⁶ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

⁴⁷ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Table 48. Percentage of the Employed Workforce (Age 16+) by Industry and Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xcii, 48}

Industry	Clark County	Klickitat County	Pacific County	Washington
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0.8%	10.6%	9.8%	2.5%
Construction	9.2%	6.6%	6.4%	7.2%
Manufacturing	11.3%	9.6%	9.1%	9.2%
Wholesale trade	3.0%	2.6%	2.9%	2.5%
Retail trade	11.3%	10.2%	9.8%	11.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	8.0%	5.5%	4.7%	5.7%
Information	1.4%	1.8%	0.9%	2.4%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	5.8%	3.1%	4.0%	5.3%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	11.9%	11.4%	7.3%	14.3%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	20.9%	22.9%	21.3%	21.3%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	7.7%	6.8%	8.6%	8.6%
Other services, except public administration	4.4%	2.3%	5.0%	4.4%
Public administration	4.4%	6.5%	10.1%	5.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Employment

With the addition of 2023 data, unemployment trends point to rates higher in the counties in the service area than the statewide rate, as highlighted in Table 49. Pacific County continues to experience the highest unemployment rate in the service area. Most recent data (October 2023) show rates in Clark County and Klickitat County that are relatively consistent with the statewide unemployment rate (4.2%).

Table 49. Unemployment Rate by Month and Geographic Area and Month (2020-2023)^{xcii, 49}

Month/Year	Clark County	Klickitat County	Pacific County	Washington
January 2020	4.8%	7.2%	7.2%	4.6%
April 2020	14.8%	12.7%	19.5%	16.3%
July 2020	12.0%	10.4%	13.1%	10.7%
October 2020	6.3%	5.8%	7.5%	6.3%
January 2021	6.4%	7.1%	9.3%	6.8%
April 2021	5.8%	6.2%	8.4%	5.6%
July 2021	4.6%	5.1%	6.3%	5.0%
October 2021	4.1%	4.4%	5.9%	4.6%
January 2022	5.1%	6.9%	7.3%	4.4%
April 2022	4.3%	5.3%	6.5%	3.9%
July 2022	3.8%	4.5%	5.8%	4.1%
October 2022	3.9%	4.5%	7.0%	4.6%
January 2023	5.9%	7.7%	8.2%	4.6%
April 2023	3.9%	4.6%	5.3%	3.5%
July 2023	3.5%	3.6%	4.6%	3.8%
October 2023	4.0%	4.4%	5.8%	4.2%

⁴⁸ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

⁴⁹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Data from ESD 112 show a majority of Early Head Start families had at least one parent who was employed at the start and at the end of the 2022-2023 program year (Table 50). Rates of employment show improvement from the last two program years. However, unemployment among families served by the Early Head Start program continues to trend substantially higher than the general population in counties in the service area.

Table 50. ESD 112 Early Head Start Families Employment Status by Program Year^{xciii,xciv,xcv}

Employment Status	2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023	
	At Enrollment	End of Enrollment	At Enrollment	End of Enrollment	At Enrollment	End of Enrollment
At least one parent/guardian is employed, in job training, or in school	99 (61.5%)	113 (70.2%)	103 (61.2%)	120 (73.6%)	96 (73.3%)	104 (79.4%)
Neither/No parent/guardian is employed, in job training, or in school	62 (38.5%)	48 (29.8%)	60 (38.8%)	43 (26.4%)	35 (26.7%)	27 (20.6%)
Total	161 (100.0%)	161 (100.0%)	163 (100%)	163 (100%)	131 (100%)	131 (100%)

Education and Training

There are no changes to education and training opportunities in ESD 112’s service area. As reported in the *2022 Community Assessment* and *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*, there are educational opportunities within and outside the service area that are accessible to residents. Community and technical schools provide trades training to students in the service area, and professional programs are available for certifications and licenses. However, access to these opportunities may be limited for some individuals due to factors such as scheduling, child care, language, and transportation.

Transportation

Public Transportation. The availability of public transportation in ESD 112’s service area has not changed since the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted. Public transportation continues to be most available in Clark County and is limited in Klickitat and Pacific counties.

Access to Vehicles. As described in Table 51, the percent of households with no vehicle in the service area is elevated in many local areas. Local areas with the highest rates include the Raymond area of Pacific County (10.2%), the Dallesport area of Klickitat County (8.7%).

Table 51. Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xcvi, 50}

Geographic Area	Percent of Households with no Vehicle Available
Battle Ground CCD	2.5%
Camas CCD	2.6%
La Center CCD	2.3%
Orchards CCD	5.3%
Ridgefield CCD	3.7%
Vancouver CCD	5.8%
Yacolt CCD	5.0%
Clark County	4.8%

⁵⁰ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Geographic Area	Percent of Households with no Vehicle Available
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	8.7%
Goldendale CCD	5.8%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	2.6%
White Salmon CCD	3.4%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	2.2%
Klickitat County	5.2%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	7.3%
Naselle CCD	2.1%
Raymond CCD	10.2%
Willapa Valley CCD	2.5%
Pacific County	7.5%
Washington	6.9%

Updated data continue to show that most residents in the service area drive themselves to work in their own cars. Data also show increasingly elevated estimates for the percent of residents that work from home, which now ranges from 13.8% (Pacific County) to 17.4% (Klickitat County). Data also continue to show that a very small percent of the population commutes using public transportation (Table 52). Commute times in the counties in ESD 112’s service area are stable and have not changed substantially since the 2022 Community Assessment; mean travel time to work ranges from 22.9 minutes in Klickitat County to 25.8 in Clark County (Table 53).

Table 52. Transportation to Work by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xvii, 51}

Geographic Area	Car, truck, or van: drove alone	Car, truck, or van: carpooled	Public transportation	Walked	Other means	Worked from home
Battle Ground CCD	75.0%	6.6%	0.3%	1.9%	1.7%	14.4%
Camas CCD	71.2%	5.8%	1.0%	1.0%	2.4%	18.6%
La Center CCD	79.2%	7.5%	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	11.2%
Orchards CCD	74.1%	11.0%	1.1%	0.6%	1.9%	11.3%
Ridgefield CCD	76.7%	5.4%	0.6%	1.4%	0.5%	15.5%
Vancouver CCD	70.3%	8.4%	2.0%	1.9%	1.5%	15.8%
Yacolt CCD	78.5%	4.6%	0.6%	1.1%	2.7%	12.5%
Clark County	72.2%	8.1%	1.4%	1.5%	1.7%	15.1%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	77.0%	3.0%	0.4%	2.3%	4.8%	12.6%
Goldendale CCD	78.4%	5.3%	0.0%	2.6%	0.9%	12.7%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	52.8%	13.1%	10.6%	2.2%	0.8%	20.6%
White Salmon CCD	56.8%	2.8%	4.7%	10.5%	3.6%	21.6%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	66.5%	7.8%	0.0%	6.3%	7.8%	11.5%
Klickitat County	66.1%	4.1%	2.8%	6.6%	3.0%	17.4%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	64.8%	12.1%	0.4%	9.9%	0.6%	12.2%
Naselle CCD	69.5%	14.4%	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	14.8%
Raymond CCD	69.9%	8.2%	0.2%	2.5%	2.1%	17.2%
Willapa Valley CCD	81.5%	9.1%	0.0%	8.1%	0.0%	1.3%
Pacific County	68.6%	10.6%	0.2%	5.6%	1.2%	13.8%
Washington	65.9%	8.9%	4.6%	3.2%	1.9%	15.5%

⁵¹ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Table 53. Mean Travel Time to Work by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{xviii, 52}

Geographic Area	Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes)
Battle Ground CCD	28.6
Camas CCD	27.2
La Center CCD	34.1
Orchards CCD	24.4
Ridgefield CCD	25
Vancouver CCD	24.4
Yacolt CCD	42.6
Clark County	25.8
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	26.5
Goldendale CCD	26.1
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	30.8
White Salmon CCD	18.5
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	30.9
Klickitat County	22.9
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	17.6
Naselle CCD	34.8
Raymond CCD	23.7
Willapa Valley CCD	31.2
Pacific County	23.2
Washington	27.3

ESD 112 leadership team members note an increase in transportation challenges among families served. With limited public transportation, families must find their own transportation alternatives. ESD 112 transportation services are limited, and further challenged by a shortage of bus drivers. Without sufficient transportation services, some families are not able to enroll in ESD 112's programs.

Work and Training Schedules

Data continue to show that the top industries in the service area suggest a variety of work and training schedules. With a mix of service occupations, self-employment, and education options, it can be assumed that some individuals work traditional business hours while others work second or third shift. Some work, particularly that of day laborers, may also be seasonal.

ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

Children must meet an age requirement to participate in Early Head Start or Head Start. The age requirement is birth to 2 years old (up to age 3) for Early Head Start and 3 to 5 years old for Head Start. Children are eligible to receive services if they meet one or more of the Head Start/Early Head Start eligibility requirements: their family has an income at or below the federal poverty level, the family is eligible for public assistance (i.e., TANF, SSI, SNAP), the child is experiencing homelessness, or the child is in foster care. At least 10% of program enrollment must be children eligible for services under IDEA (children with disabilities).

Children are eligible for ECEAP if their family has an income at or below 36% of state median income (SMI) or 100% SMI for children affiliated with a tribe, or if the child has a diagnosed disability (regardless of family income level). Children are also prioritized for enrollment in ECEAP based on environmental factors

⁵² Values greater than the countywide value are highlighted.

(e.g., homelessness, family violence, chemical dependency, foster care, or incarcerated parents) or developmental factors.^{xcix}

Table 54 provides updated estimated numbers of children in the service area by primary eligibility type for Head Start/Early Head Start, compared to the current number of children served by ESD 112 Early Head Start. Primary eligibility captures only one factor by which a child is eligible for services, and many children have needs that fall into multiple categories. The number of children eligible for ECEAP or Head Start, and currently unserved, is described more fully in the Agencies Serving Eligible Children section of the report.

Table 54. Estimated Number of Children Eligible for Head Start/Early Head Start Compared to Number of Eligible Children Served by ESD 112 Early Head Start⁵³

Eligibility Criteria	Estimated Number of Children Eligible for Head Start/Early Head Start		Number of Children Served by ESD 112 Early Head Start (based on Primary Eligibility) (2022-2023)
	Age 0-3	Age 0-5	Age 0-3
Income-eligible children	2,241	3,735	52
Income-eligible pregnant women	727	n/a	0
Children experiencing homelessness	>24	>24	20
Children in foster care	>177	>177	16
Children receiving public assistance	4,041	6,734	52
Over income (family incomes between 100% and 130% of federal poverty line)	n/a	n/a	6
Other need	n/a	n/a	0
Children with disabilities 10% program enrollment requirement)	2,487	4,145	33

ESD 112 plays a vital role in services to income-eligible children and children who are categorically eligible for Early Head Start. The agency currently maintains an active waiting list. Additionally, from the 2021-2022 to 2022-2023 program year, ESD 112 increased enrollment of children receiving public assistance by nearly 70%. This increase coincides with a change in eligibility requirements (April 2023), which were expanded to include children who are recipients of SNAP benefits.

Child Poverty and Geographic Location

In ESD 112’s service area, the child (0-18) poverty rate ranges from 10.9% in Clark County to 15.3% in Klickitat County. The poverty rate among children birth to age 5 is even higher; it is highest in Klickitat County (17.2%). Within counties, data continues to show a wide range of rates. A majority of the highest poverty rates among children birth to age 5 are in Vancouver zip codes. There are also high rates in Goldendale, Trout Lake, and Wishram in Klickitat County as well as South Bend, Ilwaco, and Long Beach in Pacific County (Table 55a).

Also described in Table 55a, updated data show an estimated 3,735 children under age 5 living in poverty who are income-eligible for participation in Head Start/Early Head Start; 2,241 of these children are birth to age 3. More than 90% of income-eligible children reside in Clark County.

⁵³ The source for each of the data points in this table will be described throughout the report.

Table 55a. Child Poverty and Young Children Living in Poverty by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{c, 54}

Geographic Area	Child Poverty Rate (0-18)	Poverty Rate for Children < Age 5	Number of Children < Age 5	Number of Children < Age 5 Living in Poverty	Number of Children < Age 3 Living in Poverty ⁵⁵
98601 (Amboy)	5.3%	7.5%	173	13	8
98604 (Battle Ground)	5.7%	8.4%	2,296	194	116
98606 (Brush Prairie)	0.0%	0.0%	452	0	0
98607 (Camas)	4.6%	8.2%	1,657	136	82
98629 (La Center)	5.5%	0.0%	552	0	0
98642 (Ridgefield)	4.1%	0.2%	1,849	3	2
98660 (Vancouver)	36.7%	23.5%	637	150	90
98661 (Vancouver)	20.2%	24.4%	2,936	717	430
98662 (Vancouver)	16.0%	17.1%	1,984	340	204
98663 (Vancouver)	11.2%	13.0%	822	107	64
98664 (Vancouver)	7.7%	8.9%	1,328	118	71
98665 (Vancouver)	7.9%	11.3%	1,487	168	101
98671 (Washougal)	13.0%	15.4%	1,089	168	101
98674 (Woodland)	12.0%	22.5%	1,296	292	175
98675 (Yacolt)	3.7%	4.0%	816	33	20
98682 (Vancouver)	13.1%	13.3%	3,656	485	291
98683 (Vancouver)	16.6%	18.0%	1,398	251	151
98684 (Vancouver)	15.5%	16.5%	2,203	364	218
98685 (Vancouver)	4.2%	8.3%	1,497	124	74
98686 (Vancouver)	4.7%	4.9%	1,113	54	32
Clark County	10.9%	12.1%	28,269	3,432	2,059
98602 (Appleton)	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
99322 (Bickleton)	5.4%	0.0%	8	0	0
98605 (Bingen)	6.8%	6.5%	77	5	3
98613 (Centerville)	12.0%	0.0%	19	0	0
98617 (Dallesport)	22.2%	0.0%	46	0	0
98619 (Glenwood)	4.2%	12.5%	8	1	1
98620 (Goldendale)	25.0%	40.8%	304	124	74
98628 (Klickitat)	16.4%	0.0%	13	0	0
98635 (Lyle)	9.2%	9.1%	232	21	13
99350 (Prosser)	11.7%	4.5%	754	34	20
99356 (Roosevelt)	5.5%	0.0%	33	0	0
98650 (Trout Lake)	33.2%	41.5%	53	22	13
98670 (Wahkiacus)	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
98672 (White Salmon)	4.1%	0.0%	236	0	0
98673 (Wishram)	11.9%	54.2%	24	13	8
Klickitat County	15.3%	17.2%	1,053	181	109
98527 (Bay Center)	0.0%	0.0%	4	0	0
98537 (Cosmopolis)	5.6%	3.0%	132	4	2
98547 (Grayland)	0.0%	0.0%	43	0	0
98577 (Raymond)	9.1%	6.1%	296	18	11
98586 (South Bend)	31.9%	53.4%	73	39	23
98590 (Tokeland)	37.8%	n/a	0	0	0
98614 (Chinook)	0.0%	0.0%	52	0	0
98621 (Grays River)	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
98624 (Ilwaco)	16.0%	25.0%	64	16	10
98631 (Long Beach)	28.7%	42.6%	115	49	29
98638 (Naselle)	0.0%	0.0%	41	0	0
98640 (Ocean Park)	19.0%	0.0%	46	0	0
98641 (Oysterville)	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
98644 (Seaview)	0.0%	n/a	0	0	0
Pacific County	14.6%	17.0%	716	122	73
Service Area Total	n/a	n/a	30,038	3,735	2,241
Washington	11.9%	12.6%	431,325	54,426	32,656

⁵⁴ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.⁵⁵ Calculated by estimating 3/5 of the number of children birth to age 5 living in poverty.

When examining U.S. Census data tables, it is important to note that the margins of error for data on communities with small populations may be higher than communities with large populations. The number of income-eligible children at the local level should be understood as an estimate that may be more or less than what is reported. In addition, the true number of children eligible for enrollment in Head Start/Early Head Start may be underreported due to the presence of undocumented families.

To illustrate how the estimated number of young children living in poverty has changed over time, Table 55b has been added to supplement data provided in the 2022 Community Assessment. This county level comparison of non-overlapping ACS 5-year estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau is the most accurate data set to see change over time and shows a decrease in the number of young children living in poverty in every county in the service area. It is important to note that the service area subtotals are not comparable to the 2022 Community Assessment and 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update due to the exclusion of Cowlitz County in the 2024 report.

Table 55b. Number of Young Children Living in Poverty by Geographic Area and Year^{ci, cii}

Geographic Area	2013-2017	2018-2022	Change from 2013-2017 to 2018-2022
Clark County	3,830	3,432	-10.4%
Klickitat County	302	181	-40.1%
Pacific County	202	122	-39.6%
Service Area Total	4,334	3,735	-13.8%

There were 5,866 live births in the service area in 2022.^{ciii} An updated estimate on the number of pregnant women who would be income-eligible for Early Head Start can be estimated by applying the most recent county poverty rate for children birth to age 5 to the number of live births annually (Table 56). There are an estimated 727 pregnant women in the service area who are eligible for Early Head Start.

Table 56. Estimated Number of Income-Eligible Pregnant Women by Geographic Area (2022)

Geographic Area	Number of Births (2022) ^{civ}	Poverty Rate for Children < Age 5 ^{cv} (2018-2022)	Estimated Number of Income-Eligible Pregnant Women
Clark County	5,524	12.1%	668
Klickitat County	193	17.2%	33
Pacific County	149	17.0%	25
Service Area Total	5,866		727

Race and Ethnicity of Eligible Children in Poverty

Data for the number of young children living in poverty by race is not readily accessible from public sources. As described in the Overview of Service Area section, within the service area, there continue to be disparities with regard to poverty rate and race.

ESD 112 continues to serve a more diverse population of children in its Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP programs than is represented in the general population.

Language of Eligible Children

The primary language of individuals in ESD 112’s service area is English. Table 57 provides the most current data on the percent of people over the age of 5 in the service area, by language spoken at home and county of residence. The largest portion of individuals who speak Spanish within the service area is in Klickitat County. There are also high rates at the local level in each of the counties. For example, in the Vancouver

area of Clark County, 8.7% of the population speaks Spanish; in the Raymond area of Pacific County, the rate is 8.1%. Also notable, communities in Clark County have the highest rates of individuals who speak other Indo-European languages. The rate is as high as 7.4% in the Battle Ground area. These findings are consistent with that reported in the *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*.

Table 57. Language Spoken at Home (Age 5 and Over) by Geographic Area and Percentage of Population (2018-2022)^{cvi, 56}

Geographic Area	English	Spanish	Other Indo-European	Asian and Pacific Island	Other
Battle Ground CCD	86.9%	3.4%	7.4%	1.9%	0.5%
Camas CCD	89.7%	2.3%	4.2%	3.3%	0.5%
La Center CCD	95.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.8%	0.0%
Orchards CCD	83.0%	5.8%	6.3%	4.1%	0.8%
Ridgefield CCD	93.8%	3.6%	1.7%	0.9%	0.0%
Vancouver CCD	81.1%	8.7%	5.7%	3.9%	0.6%
Yacolt CCD	95.1%	3.2%	1.6%	0.1%	0.1%
Clark County	84.3%	6.3%	5.5%	3.4%	0.6%
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	95.2%	3.6%	0.9%	0.3%	0.0%
Goldendale CCD	97.5%	1.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	78.6%	18.5%	2.6%	0.0%	0.3%
White Salmon CCD	75.3%	21.6%	1.9%	0.2%	0.9%
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	97.5%	0.6%	0.0%	0.3%	1.5%
Klickitat County	87.4%	10.7%	1.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	89.8%	7.1%	2.3%	0.9%	0.0%
Naselle CCD	93.9%	3.5%	0.5%	2.0%	0.0%
Raymond CCD	89.2%	8.1%	1.2%	1.5%	0.0%
Willapa Valley CCD	91.6%	6.3%	0.3%	1.8%	0.0%
Pacific County	90.1%	7.1%	1.6%	1.3%	0.0%
Washington	79.5%	8.7%	4.2%	6.3%	1.4%

In ESD 112's EHS program, data from the most recent program year, 2022-2023, show that the majority of enrolled families spoke English as their primary language at home. The program also continued to serve a high percent of families who speak Spanish (28.2%) during the 2022-2023 program year. This represents an increase from the prior two program years - 22.2% in 2021-2022 and 19.6% in 2020-2021.^{cvi, cviii, cix} Data also aligns with ECEAP/Early ECEAP demographics, which show approximately 18% of enrolled families speak Spanish as their primary home language.^{cx}

Cultural Trends

When examining data on the foreign-born population in ESD 112's service area, the most up-to-date information show only slight increases from the year prior. The percent of the population in ESD 112's service area that is foreign born ranges from 7.2% in Pacific County to 10.8% in Clark County. Countywide rates remain less than the statewide rate. The highest percent of foreign-born population that is not a U.S. citizen is located in Klickitat County (57.6%). The greatest number of foreign-born individuals who are not U.S. citizens reside in Clark County (23,516) (Table 58). These findings are consistent with that reported in the *2022 Community Assessment* and *2023 Community Assessment Annual Update*.

⁵⁶ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Table 58. Foreign-Born Population by Geographic Area (2018-2022)^{cx1, 57}

Geographic Area	Number and Percent Foreign-Born	Number and Percent of Foreign-Born Population that is non-US Citizen
Battle Ground CCD	6,403 (8.9%)	1,726 (27.0%)
Camas CCD	5,008 (8.0%)	1,689 (33.7%)
La Center CCD	402 (2.4%)	126 (31.3%)
Orchards CCD	8,091 (10.9%)	3,039 (37.6%)
Ridgefield CCD	732 (5.1%)	140 (19.1%)
Vancouver CCD	33,315 (13.1%)	16,614 (49.9%)
Yacolt CCD	365 (4.2%)	182 (49.9%)
Clark County	54,316 (10.8%)	23,516 (43.3%)
Dallesport-Klickitat CCD	244 (5.4%)	114 (46.7%)
Goldendale CCD	273 (3.6%)	16 (5.9%)
Horse Heaven Hills Plateau CCD	128 (13.2%)	117 (91.4%)
White Salmon CCD	1,652 (18.3%)	1,076 (65.1%)
Yakama Nation Reservation CCD	7 (1.1%)	5 (71.4%)
Klickitat County	2,304 (10.1%)	1,328 (57.6%)
Long Beach-North Beach Peninsula CCD	836 (8.0%)	418 (50.0%)
Naselle CCD	71 (3.1%)	44 (62.0%)
Raymond CCD	709 (7.9%)	389 (54.9%)
Willapa Valley CCD	57 (3.5%)	17 (29.8%)
Pacific County	1,673 (7.2%)	868 (51.9%)
Washington	1,143,428 (14.9%)	590,748 (51.7%)

Children Experiencing Homelessness

The most recent Point-in-Time (PIT) count of persons experiencing homelessness in the counties in the service area took place in January 2023, after a hiatus in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resuming counts in 2022. The 2023 Point-in Time Count data reveals a continued high number of homeless individuals in Clark County, though fluctuating numbers service area wide (Table 59).

Table 59. Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness (Point-in-Time Count) by Geographic Area and Year^{cxii}

Geographic Area	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Five-Year Trend
Clark County	958	916	n/a	1,438	1,300	Fluctuating
Klickitat County	14	33	n/a	13	27	Fluctuating
Pacific County	42	60	n/a	108	*	Increasing
Service Area Total	1,014	1,009	n/a	1,559	1,327	Fluctuating
Washington	15,752	22,923	n/a	25,452	20,299**	Fluctuating

*Data suppressed

**Excludes King County

Given that the Point-in-Time count may not reflect the full extent of homelessness (e.g., excluding individuals living with extended families or friends), the Washington State Department of Commerce uses Medicaid, economic service, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to provide supplemental estimates of homelessness.^{cxiii} As described in Table 60, 2023 data show there were an estimated 9,816 unstably housed individuals in the service area, many of whom are single-parent or two-parent families with minors. Compared to that reported in the 2022 *Community Assessment*, this is a 27.8% increase over 2020 estimates for unstably housed individuals.

⁵⁷ Rates greater than the countywide rate are highlighted.

Table 60. Number of Individuals Who Are Homeless or Unstably Housed by Geographic Area^{cxiv}

Geographic Area	2020			2023		
	Total Unstably Housed Individuals	Single Parent with Minors	Two Parents with Minors	Total Unstably Housed Individuals	Single Parent with Minors	Two Parents with Minors
Clark County	6,688	1,463	909	8,456	1,619	1,234
Klickitat County	413	120	55	470	97	59
Pacific County	578	99	82	890	130	89
Service Area Total	7,679	1,682	1,046	9,816	1,846	1,382

Data on the percent of students experiencing homelessness by school district show that many districts had a high rate during the 2021-2022 school year. These districts have continued to have a high rate in subsequent school years. Most of the school districts with the highest rates of students experiencing homelessness are located in Pacific County (Table 61).

Table 61. Percent of Public School Students Experiencing Homelessness by School District and School Year^{cxv, 58}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Clark County			
Battle Ground	1.0%	1.5%	1.1%
Camas	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%
Evergreen	3.0%	3.8%	4.2%
Green Mountain	3.3%	3.4%	2.4%
Hockinson	0.1%	0.8%	1.4%
La Center	1.4%	2.2%	2.5%
Ridgefield	1.3%	1.9%	2.6%
Vancouver	3.2%	3.8%	3.9%
Washougal	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%
Klickitat County			
Bickleton	0.0%	4.7%	2.8%
Centerville	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Glenwood	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%
Goldendale	0.2%	0.9%	0.8%
Klickitat	3.2%	3.8%	2.4%
Lyle	3.9%	9.6%	12.4%
Roosevelt	3.1%	0.0%	28.0%*
Trout Lake	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%
White Salmon Valley	0.7%	0.8%	1.0%
Wishram	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Pacific County			
Naselle-Grays River Valley	6.8%	9.0%	12.0%
North River	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Ocean Beach	7.3%	13.7%	17.4%
Pe Ell	9.1%	8.5%	8.2%
Raymond	11.1%	8.8	11.1%
South Bend	2.2%	0.2%	9.1%
Willapa Valley	3.0%	1.9%	3.0%
Washington	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%

* Represents 7 out of 25 students.

⁵⁸ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Updated data on the housing status of public school students experiencing show that approximately 75% of students are living doubled up. Data on homeless students' housing status is consistent with that reported in the 2022 Community Assessment (Table 62).

Table 62. Public School Students Experiencing Homelessness Housing Status in Washington by Type (2021-2022)^{cxvi}

Housing Type	Number of Homeless Students	Percent of Homeless Students
Unsheltered	2,669	7.2%
Sheltered	4,115	11.0%
Hotels/motels	2,638	7.1%
Doubled up	27,830	74.7%
Total	37,252	100.0%

To date, during the 2023-2024 program year (as of March 2024), Sunbeam has served 63 children enrolled in ECEAP/Early ECEAP who have experienced homelessness at any point during the program year.^{cxvii} During the 2022-2023 program year, ESD 112 served 24 Early Head Start children who experienced homelessness at some point during the program year, continuing an increasing trend from prior program years (Table 63). Based on this data, it is estimated there are more than 24 children in the service area who would be categorically eligible for Head Start/Early Head Start services based on homelessness.

Table 63. ESD 112 Early Head Start Homelessness Data by Program Year^{cxviii, cxix, cxx}

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Total number of children experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year	15	19	24
Total number of families experiencing homelessness that were served during the enrollment year	15	21	22
Total number of families experiencing homelessness that acquired housing during the enrollment year	6	9	6

ESD 112 leadership team members note that its early learning programs to continue to identify and enroll families based on the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness. While an increasing number of children have been enrolled based on homelessness, there are even more families served who are experiencing homelessness that may have revealed their housing status at the time of application.

Children in Foster Care

Updated data on the number of children in foster care in ESD 112's service area has not been made publicly available since the 2022 Community Assessment was conducted. Table 64, which previously showed the number of children entering out-of-home placements by county (2016-2018) has been replaced with more current state-level data that shows a decreasing number of children in foster care in recent years.

Table 64. Number of Children (0-18) in Foster Care in Washington by Year (2019-2021)^{cxxi}

Geographic Area	2019	2020	2021	Three-Year Trend
Washington	10,909	9,616	8,894	Decreasing

Tables 65 and 66 are provided from the 2022 Community Assessment. Table 65 describes Clark County data which show a decrease in the number of children in out-of-home placements from October 2019 to October 2020.

Table 65. Number of Children in Out-of-Home Placements by Geographic Area and Year (2019-2020)^{cxxii}

Geographic Area	October 2019	October 2020	Percent Change
Clark County	501	466	-7.0%

Table 66 provides an estimate for the number of children birth to age 5 in out-of-home placements. Using data on the number of children birth to age 18 in out-of-home placements in Clark County, and the percent of children in out-of-home placements who are birth to age 5 (38%), it is estimated there are more than 177 children in foster care in the service area who are categorically eligible for enrollment in Head Start/Early Head Start.

Table 66. Number of Children (0-18) in Out-of-Home Placements; Percent and Number of Out-of-Home Placements for Children Under Age 5 by Geographic Area (2020)^{cxxiii}

Geographic Area	Number of Children (0-18) in Out-of-Home Placements	Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Placements < Age 5	Estimated Number of Children < Age 5 in Out-of-Home Placements
Clark County	466	38%	177
Service Area Total			>177

During the 2022-2023 program year, ESD 112's Early Head Start served 19 children who were in foster care at some point during the program year. This is consistent with the two program years prior (Table 67). In the ECEAP/Early ECEAP program, data show similarities, as 7 children were in foster care and 10 children were in kinship care at enrollment for the 2023-2024 program year.^{cxxiv}

Table 67. ESD 112 Early Head Start Foster Care Data by Program Year^{cxxv, cxxvi, cxxvii}

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Total number of enrolled children who were in foster care at any point during the program year	19	18	19
Total number of enrolled children who were referred to Head Start/Early Head Start services by a child welfare agency	14	10	8

Updated county-level data on the number of reports of suspected child abuse and neglect (birth to age 18) is not available. New data is provided in Table 68 that describes the number and rate of victims of child abuse and neglect in accepted referrals. A vast majority of victims of child abuse and neglect reside in Clark County, though the rates of accepted referrals are much higher in Klickitat and Pacific counties.

Table 68. Number and Rate (per 1,000 Children Birth to Age 17) of Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect in Accepted Referrals by Geographic Area (2022)^{cxxviii}

	Number	Rate ⁵⁹
Clark County	4,100	34.67
Klickitat County	210	47.90
Pacific County	238	65.29
Service Area Total	4,548	n/a
Washington	n/a	35.35

⁵⁹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Children Receiving Public Assistance

Updated data show that Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) continue to be the most common types of public assistance utilized by ESD 112 Early Head Start families (Table 69). The number and percentage of families receiving each type of public assistance remained relatively stable from enrollment to the end of the 2022-2023 program year.

Table 69. Number (and Percent) of ESD 112 Early Head Start Families Receiving Public Assistance by Type (2022-2023)^{cxix}

Type of Public Assistance	At Enrollment	End of Enrollment Year
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	31 (23.7%)	30 (22.9%)
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	5 (3.8%)	8 (6.1%)
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	90 (68.7%)	93 (71.0%)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	79 (60.3%)	77 (58.8%)

County level data on TANF continue to show that, within the service area, the greatest number of clients reside in Clark County. The number of TANF clients has steadily increased in Clark County in recent years, while it has remained more stable in Klickitat County and Pacific County (Table 70).

Table 70. TANF/State Family Assistance (SFA) Caseload by County of Residence and Year^{cxix}

Geographic Area	June 2021		June 2022		June 2023	
	Number of Clients	Percent of Statewide Total	Number of Clients	Percent of Statewide Total	Number of Clients	Percent of Statewide Total
Clark County	3,953	6.2%	5,542	7.1%	5,992	7.2%
Klickitat County	285	0.4%	330	0.4%	313	0.4%
Pacific County	257	0.4%	290	0.4%	237	0.3%
Service Area Total	4,495	n/a	6,162	n/a	6,542	n/a

Further, many children birth to age 18 in the service area live in households that receive public assistance. In Pacific County, the percent of children living in households that receive public assistance remains far greater than the statewide rate (Table 71).

Table 71. Percent of Children (0-18) Living in Households that Receive Public Assistance⁶⁰ by Year and Geographic Area (2015-2019 to 2018-2022)^{cxix,61}

Geographic Area	2015-2019	2016-2020	2017-2021	2018-2022	Four-Year Trend
Clark County	22.6%	20.6%	21.7%	21.8%	Fluctuating
Klickitat County	24.6%	23.3%	27.1%	28.6%	Fluctuating
Pacific County	28.0%	33.5%	36.5%	37.8%	Increasing
Washington	19.3%	21.3%	22.0%	22.1%	Increasing

The number of children birth to age 5 living in households that receive public assistance can be estimated by applying the percent of children (0-18) living in households that receive public assistance to the number of children birth to age 5 in the service area (Table 72). Data aligns with Head Start/Early Head Start eligibility based on public assistance, which is dependent on receipt of TANF, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or SNAP benefits. Updated data show there are an estimated 6,734 children birth to age 5 eligible for Head

⁶⁰ SSI, cash public assistance, food stamps/SNAP

⁶¹ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Start/Early Head in the service area based on receipt of public assistance. Of these children, 4,041 are birth to age 3.

Table 72. Estimated Number of Children Birth to Age 5 Eligible for Head Start/Early Head Start Based on Receipt of Public Assistance by Geographic Area (2021)

Geographic Area	Percent of Children (0-18) Receiving Public Assistance (SSI, Cash Public Assistance, SNAP) ^{cxxxii}	Number of Children Birth to Age 5 ^{cxxxiii}	Number of Children 0-3 Living in Households Receiving Public Assistance ⁶²	Number of Children 0-5 Living in Households Receiving Public Assistance ⁶³
Clark County	21.8%	28,269	3,698	6,163
Klickitat County	28.6%	1,053	181	301
Pacific County	37.8%	716	162	271
Service Area Total		30,038	4,041	6,734

Children with Disabilities

Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) require that at least 10% of program enrollment be children eligible for services under IDEA (i.e., early intervention and preschool special education). In ECEAP, children may enroll if they have a diagnosed disability or may receive priority for enrollment if other developmental concerns are present.

As described in Table 73, many school districts in ESD 112's service area continue to have a greater percentage of public school students with disabilities than the statewide rate (14.8%). School districts with the highest rates in the service area, more than 20%, include Ocean Peach and Pe Ell in Pacific County.

Table 73. Percent of Public School Students with Disabilities by School District and School Year^{cxxxiv,64}

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Clark County			
Battle Ground	14.5%	14.2%	14.6%
Camas	11.4%	12.3%	12.7%
Evergreen	14.8%	15.0%	15.8%
Green Mountain	13.2%	12.0%	10.7%
Hockinson	10.5%	10.5%	10.9%
La Center	15.4%	15.7%	15.3%
Ridgefield	11.8%	12.9%	13.1%
Vancouver	14.7%	15.6%	16.4%
Washougal	16.3%	16.9%	17.6%
Klickitat County			
Bickleton	19.1%	20.8%	16.0%
Centerville	9.2%	9.3%	7.9%
Glenwood	22.4%	16.4%	6.0%
Goldendale	14.6%	16.2%	14.7%
Klickitat	16.0%	16.3%	12.0%
Lyle	20.9%	20.9%	15.7%
Roosevelt	15.6%	8.0%	0.0%
Trout Lake	9.8%	10.9%	9.6%
White Salmon Valley	14.7%	13.9%	14.8%
Wishram	13.6%	9.0%	15.2%

⁶² Estimated by applying the percent of children 0-18 living in households receiving public assistance to the population of children birth to 3

⁶³ Estimated by applying the percent of children 0-18 living in households receiving public assistance to the population of children birth to 5

⁶⁴ Rates greater than the statewide rate are highlighted.

Geographic Area	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Pacific County			
Naselle-Grays River Valley	17.2%	14.6%	13.6%
North River	9.7%	10.7%	10.0%
Ocean Beach	23.4%	21.9%	20.4%
Pe Ell	19.2%	21.4%	22.6%
Raymond	15.5%	16.2%	16.6%
South Bend	14.6%	14.5%	15.6%
Willapa Valley	12.2%	12.3%	13.5%
Washington	14.3%	14.5%	14.8%

During the 2022-2023 program year, ESD 112’s Early Head Start program served a high percent of enrolled children with a disability, 21.7% (33 out of 152 children).^{cxxxv} A high percent of children enrolled in ESD 112’s ECEAP/Early ECEAP program also have a disability, 13.2% (50 out of 379 children served to date during the 2023-2024 program year).^{cxxxvi}

The most up-to-date data on the number of children birth to age 5 receiving early intervention and preschool special education services in the service area is not publicly available. Applying the rate of students with disabilities in Washington (14.8%) to the number of children birth to age 5 in the service area, it can be estimated that there are 4,145 children birth to age 5 with disabilities, 2,487 of whom are birth to age 3 (Table 74).

Table 74. Estimated Number of Children Birth to Age 5 with a Disability by Geographic Area (2020)

Geographic Area	Estimated Percent of Students with a Disability ^{cxxxvii}	Number of Children Birth to Age 5 ^{cxxxviii}	Estimated Number of Children Birth to Age 3 with a Disability	Estimated Number of Children Birth to Age 5 with a Disability
Clark County	14.8%	28,269	2,341	3,901
Klickitat County	14.8%	1,053	87	145
Pacific County	14.8%	716	59	99
Service Area Total		30,038	2,487	4,145

AGENCIES SERVING ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

Child Care Centers and Family Child Care

The child care staffing crisis continues to present challenges for programs enroll and serve eligible children in their community. NAEYC recently reported survey data in February 2024 which shows that in Washington, 45% of center directors and family child care owners are experiencing a staffing shortage. Additionally, 43%, reported underenrollment relative to capacity within the past six months. The end of pandemic relief funding has exacerbated the situation, and nationwide survey data show 48% of center directors and family child care owners have increased tuition over the last six months.^{cxxxix}

ESD 112 leadership team members echo these challenges and note that lack of staff continues to impact the program’s ability to enroll children to full capacity. Recruitment, retention, and compensation are a continued focus for the agency’s early childhood programs, and the agency has taken steps (e.g., increased salaries) to address staffing challenges.

March 2024 data from the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) show there are 202 licensed child care programs (child care centers and family child care homes) in the service area. The total capacity of licensed programs is 8,458 birth to school age (Table 75). Total capacity includes school age care, and is available for families of all income levels, reducing the number of slots available for children birth to age 5 from low-income families.

Table 75. Number and Capacity of DCYF Licensed Child Care Programs (Serving Children Birth to School Age) by Type and Geographic Area (March 2024)^{exl}

Geographic Area	Child Care Centers		Family Child Care Homes		Total	
	Number of Centers	Capacity	Number of Homes	Capacity	Number of Centers/Homes	Capacity
98601 (Amboy)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98604 (Battle Ground) ⁶⁵	7	259	4	32	11	291
98606 (Brush Prairie)	1	79	1	12	2	91
98607 (Camas)	2	184	0	0	2	184
98629 (La Center)	1	49	3	28	4	77
98642 (Ridgefield)	1	83	3	26	4	109
98660 (Vancouver) ⁶⁶	5	268	1	12	6	280
98661 (Vancouver) ⁶⁷	10	766	10	77	20	843
98662 (Vancouver)	11	1,008	11	98	22	1,106
98663 (Vancouver) ⁶⁸	5	247	3	30	8	277
98664 (Vancouver)	4	352	4	48	8	400
98665 (Vancouver) ⁶⁹	5	472	4	24	9	496
98666 (Vancouver) ⁷⁰	1	23	0	0	1	23
98668 (Vancouver) ⁷¹	1	22	0	0	1	22
98671 (Washougal) ⁷²	6	160	3	22	9	182
98674 (Woodland) ⁷³	3	140	1	10	4	150
98675 (Yacolt)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98682 (Vancouver) ⁷⁴	4	413	25	265	29	678
98683 (Vancouver)	10	1,088	2	14	12	1,102
98684 (Vancouver) ⁷⁵	6	378	5	52	11	430
98685 (Vancouver)	3	358	3	36	6	394
98686 (Vancouver) ⁷⁶	9	806	3	27	12	833
Clark County	95	7,155	86	813	181	7,968
98602 (Appleton)	0	0	0	0	0	0
99322 (Bickleton)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98605 (Bingen)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98613 (Centerville)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98617 (Dallesport)	0	0	1	6	1	6
98619 (Glenwood)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98620 (Goldendale) ⁷⁷	1	88	0	0	1	88
98628 (Klickitat) ⁷⁸	1	12	0	0	1	12
98635 (Lyle) ⁷⁹	1	15	0	0	1	15
99350 (Prosser)	0	0	0	0	0	0

⁶⁵ 98604 includes 1 HS/EHS center and 1 ECEAP center.

⁶⁶ 98660 includes 1 HS center and 1 ECEAP center.

⁶⁷ 98661 includes 3 ECEAP centers.

⁶⁸ 98663 includes 1 HS/ECEAP center.

⁶⁹ 98665 includes 1 HS/ECEAP center.

⁷⁰ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

⁷¹ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update. Includes 1 EHS center.

⁷² 98671 includes 1 ECEAP center.

⁷³ 98674 includes 1 HS center.

⁷⁴ 98682 includes 1 ECEAP center.

⁷⁵ 98684 includes 1 HS/ECEAP center and 2 ECEAP centers.

⁷⁶ 98686 includes 1 HS/EHS/ECEAP center.

⁷⁷ 98620 includes 1 ECEAP center.

⁷⁸ 98628 includes 1 HS center.

⁷⁹ 98635 includes 1 ECEAP center.

Geographic Area	Child Care Centers		Family Child Care Homes		Total	
	Number of Centers	Capacity	Number of Homes	Capacity	Number of Centers/ Homes	Capacity
99356 (Roosevelt)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98650 (Trout Lake)	0	0	1	6	1	6
98670 (Wahkiacus)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98672 (White Salmon) ⁸⁰	2	36	2	18	4	54
98673 (Wishram)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Klickitat County	5	151	4	30	9	181
98527 (Bay Center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98537 (Cosmopolis)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98547 (Grayland)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98577 (Raymond) ⁸¹	1	20	3	32	4	52
98586 (South Bend) ⁸²	3	105	0	0	3	105
98590 (Tokeland)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98614 (Chinook)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98621 (Grays River)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98624 (Ilwaco)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98631 (Long Beach) ⁸³	1	18	0	0	1	18
98638 (Naselle)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98640 (Ocean Park) ⁸⁴	1	40	1	12	2	52
98641 (Oysterville)	0	0	0	0	0	0
98644 (Seaview)	2	82	0	0	2	82
Pacific County	8	265	4	44	12	309
Service Area Total	108	7,571	94	887	202	8,458

Table 76 describes the number and percentage of programs licensed to serve infants and toddlers. Numbers have remained relatively steady from year to year, with small fluctuations within counties. Across the service area, approximately 75% of programs are licensed to serve infants and toddlers. However, it is important to note that licensure to serve infants and toddlers does not mean that these programs are actively serving this age group. Also, licensed capacity does not necessarily reflect the number of children that a program would typically have enrolled, as other factors, such as class size limits and staffing, may impact the number of children served at any given time.

Table 76. Number and Percent of Child Care Programs Licensed to Serve Infants and/or Toddlers by Geographic Area and Month/Year^{exli}

Geographic Area	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024
98601 (Amboy)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98604 (Battle Ground)	5 (45.5%)	6 (46.2%)	7 (63.6%)
98606 (Brush Prairie)	2 (100.0%)	2 (100.0%)	2 (100.0%)
98607 (Camas)	1 (25.0%)	2 (40.0%)	1 (50.0%)
98629 (La Center)	4 (100.0%)	3 (75.0%)	4 (100.0%)
98642 (Ridgefield)	3 (75.0%)	3 (75.0%)	3 (75.0%)
98660 (Vancouver)	3 (60.0%)	3 (60.0%)	4 (66.7%)
98661 (Vancouver)	12 (66.7%)	14 (70.0%)	15 (75.0%)
98662 (Vancouver)	15 (83.3%)	17 (94.4%)	19 (86.4%)
98663 (Vancouver)	4 (50.0%)	5 (55.6%)	4 (50.0%)
98664 (Vancouver)	8 (80.0%)	7 (87.5%)	7 (87.5%)
98665 (Vancouver)	5 (55.6%)	7 (77.8%)	8 (88.9%)
98666 (Vancouver) ⁸⁵	n/a	n/a	1 (100.0%)
98668 (Vancouver) ⁸⁶	n/a	n/a	1 (100.0%)

⁸⁰ 98672 includes 1 HS center and 1 EHS center.

⁸¹ 98577 includes 1 ECEAP center.

⁸² 98586 includes 2 ECEAP centers.

⁸³ 98631 includes 1 ECEAP center.

⁸⁴ 98640 includes 1 HS center.

⁸⁵ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

⁸⁶ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

Geographic Area	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024
98671 (Washougal)	5 (71.4%)	4 (44.4%)	5 (55.6%)
98674 (Woodland)	n/a	n/a	3 (75.0%)
98675 (Yacolt)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98682 (Vancouver)	28 (80.0%)	31 (81.6%)	25 (86.2%)
98683 (Vancouver)	8 (80.0%)	9 (81.8%)	10 (83.3%)
98684 (Vancouver)	9 (75.0%)	9 (69.2%)	5 (45.5%)
98685 (Vancouver)	6 (85.7%)	6 (75.0%)	6 (100.0%)
98686 (Vancouver)	9 (75.0%)	8 (66.7%)	10 (83.3%)
Clark County	127 (72.2%)	136 (73.1%)	140 (69.3%)
98602 (Appleton)	n/a	n/a	n/a
99322 (Bickleton)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98605 (Bingen)	1 (100.0%)	n/a	n/a
98613 (Centerville)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98617 (Dallesport)	n/a	1 (100.0%)	1 (100.0%)
98619 (Glenwood)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98620 (Goldendale)	n/a	1 (100.0%)	1 (100.0%)
98628 (Klickitat)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)
98635 (Lyle)	0 (0.0%)	n/a	0 (0.0%)
99350 (Prosser)	n/a	n/a	n/a
99356 (Roosevelt)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98650 (Trout Lake)	1 (100.0%)	1 (100.0%)	1 (100.0%)
98670 (Wahkiacus)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98672 (White Salmon)	3 (60.0%)	4 (100.0%)	3 (75.0%)
98673 (Wishram)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Klickitat County	5 (55.6%)	7 (100.0%)	6 (66.7%)
98527 (Bay Center)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98537 (Cosmopolis)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98547 (Grayland)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98577 (Raymond)	2 (66.7%)	3 (100.0%)	3 (100.0%)
98586 (South Bend)	1 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
98590 (Tokeland)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98614 (Chinook)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98621 (Grays River)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98624 (Ilwaco)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98631 (Long Beach)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
98638 (Naselle)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98640 (Ocean Park)	1 (50.0%)	1 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)
98641 (Oysterville)	n/a	n/a	n/a
98644 (Seaview)	1 (100.0%)	1 (50.0%)	1 (50.0%)
Pacific County	5 (55.6%)	5 (50.0%)	5 (41.7%)
Service Area Total	182 (76.1%)	148 (60.2%)	151 (74.8%)

Table 77 describes the number and percent of programs participating in Early Achievers, Washington's quality rating and improvement system (QRIS). Across the service area, participation is 76.5%, an increase from 65.7% reported in the 2022 *Community Assessment*.

Table 77. Percent of Licensed Child Care Programs Participating in Early Achievers by Quality Rating (March 2024)^{cxlii}

Geographic Area	Participating, Not Yet Rated	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3+	Level 4	Level 5	Number and Percent of Licensed Programs Participating in Early Achievers
98601 (Amboy)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98604 (Battle Ground)	5	0	0	1	2	0	8 (72.7%)
98606 (Brush Prairie)	1	0	0	1	0	0	2 (100.0%)
98607 (Camas)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (50.0%)
98629 (La Center)	1	0	0	1	0	0	2 (50.0%)
98642 (Ridgefield)	2	0	1	0	0	0	3 (75.0%)
98660 (Vancouver)	1	0	0	3	2	0	6 (100.0%)
98661 (Vancouver)	5	0	4	4	5	0	18 (90.0%)
98662 (Vancouver)	8	0	4	1	3	0	16 (72.7%)
98663 (Vancouver)	2	0	2	1	2	0	7 (87.5%)
98664 (Vancouver)	3	0	2	1	0	0	6 (75.0%)
98665 (Vancouver)	1	0	4	0	1	0	6 (66.7%)
98666 (Vancouver) ⁸⁷	0	0	1	0	0	0	1 (100.0%)
98668 (Vancouver) ⁸⁸	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (100.0%)
98671 (Washougal)	4	0	2	1	1	0	8 (88.9%)
98674 (Woodland)	1	0	1	1	1	0	4 (100.0%)
98675 (Yacolt)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98682 (Vancouver)	10	1	4	2	0	0	17 (58.6%)
98683 (Vancouver)	2	0	4	2	2	0	10 (83.3%)
98684 (Vancouver)	4	0	3	0	1	0	8 (72.7%)
98685 (Vancouver)	2	0	3	0	0	0	5 (83.3%)
98686 (Vancouver)	3	0	0	2	2	0	7 (58.3%)
Clark County	57	1	35	21	22	0	136 (75.1%)
98602 (Appleton)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
99322 (Bickleton)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98605 (Bingen)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98613 (Centerville)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98617 (Dallesport)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (100.0%)
98619 (Glenwood)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98620 (Goldendale)	0	0	0	0	1	0	1 (100.0%)
98628 (Klickitat)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0%)
98635 (Lyle)	0	0	0	0	1	0	1 (100.0%)
99350 (Prosser)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
99356 (Roosevelt)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98650 (Trout Lake)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1 (100.0%)
98670 (Wahkiacus)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98672 (White Salmon)	1	0	0	1	1	0	3 (75.0%)
98673 (Wishram)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Klickitat County	2	0	1	1	3	0	7 (77.8%)
98527 (Bay Center)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98537 (Cosmopolis)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98547 (Grayland)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98577 (Raymond)	0	0	1	2	1	0	4 (100.0%)
98586 (South Bend)	1	0	0	0	2	0	3 (100.0%)
98590 (Tokeland)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98614 (Chinook)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98621 (Grays River)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98624 (Ilwaco)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98631 (Long Beach)	0	0	0	0	1	0	1 (100.0%)
98638 (Naselle)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98640 (Ocean Park)	1	0	0	0	1	0	2 (100.0%)
98641 (Oysterville)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
98644 (Seaview)	1	0	0	1	0	0	2 (100.0%)
Pacific County	3	0	1	3	5	0	12 (100.0%)
Service Area Total	62	1	36	26	30	0	155 (76.7%)

⁸⁷ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

⁸⁸ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

When comparing the number of children under 5 years old in the service area to total child care capacity, which includes school age, the number of children under 5 (30,038 children) continues to far exceed total child care capacity (8,458 slots) (Table 78). This does not necessarily reflect unmet need, as children may be served in other settings, such as public pre-kindergarten, and not all families with young children will need or want care.

Table 78. Number of Children Birth to Age 5 and Number of Children Birth to Age 5 Living in Poverty Compared to Licensed Child Care Capacity by Geographic Area

Geographic Area	Number of Children < Age 5 (2022) ^{exliii}	Number of Children < Age 5 Living in Poverty (2022) ^{exliv}	Licensed Child Care Capacity (2024) ^{exlv}
98601 (Amboy)	173	13	0
98604 (Battle Ground)	2,296	194	291
98606 (Brush Prairie)	452	0	91
98607 (Camas)	1,657	136	184
98629 (La Center)	552	0	77
98642 (Ridgefield)	1,849	3	109
98660 (Vancouver)	637	150	280
98661 (Vancouver)	2,936	717	843
98662 (Vancouver)	1,984	340	1,106
98663 (Vancouver)	822	107	277
98664 (Vancouver)	1,328	118	400
98665 (Vancouver)	1,487	168	496
98666 (Vancouver) ⁸⁹	n/a	n/a	23
98668 (Vancouver) ⁹⁰	n/a	n/a	22
98671 (Washougal)	1,089	168	182
98674 (Woodland)	1,296	292	150
98675 (Yacolt)	816	33	0
98682 (Vancouver)	3,656	485	678
98683 (Vancouver)	1,398	251	1,102
98684 (Vancouver)	2,203	364	430
98685 (Vancouver)	1,497	124	394
98686 (Vancouver)	1,113	54	833
Clark County	28,269	3,432	7,968
98602 (Appleton)	0	0	0
99322 (Bickleton)	8	0	0
98605 (Bingen)	77	5	0
98613 (Centerville)	19	0	0
98617 (Dallesport)	46	0	6
98619 (Glenwood)	8	1	0
98620 (Goldendale)	304	124	88
98628 (Klickitat)	13	0	12
98635 (Lyle)	232	21	15
99350 (Prosser)	754	34	0
99356 (Roosevelt)	33	0	0
98650 (Trout Lake)	53	22	6
98670 (Wahkiacus)	0	0	0
98672 (White Salmon)	236	0	54
98673 (Wishram)	24	13	0
Klickitat County	1,053	181	181
98527 (Bay Center)	4	0	0
98537 (Cosmopolis)	132	4	0
98547 (Grayland)	43	0	0
98577 (Raymond)	296	18	52
98586 (South Bend)	73	39	105
98590 (Tokeland)	0	0	0
98614 (Chinook)	52	0	0

⁸⁹ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

⁹⁰ This is a P.O. Box zip code and was added to the 2024 Community Assessment Annual Update.

Geographic Area	Number of Children < Age 5 (2022) ^{cxliii}	Number of Children < Age 5 Living in Poverty (2022) ^{cxliv}	Licensed Child Care Capacity (2024) ^{cxlv}
98621 (Grays River)	0	0	0
98624 (Ilwaco)	64	16	0
98631 (Long Beach)	115	49	18
98638 (Naselle)	41	0	0
98640 (Ocean Park)	46	0	52
98641 (Oysterville)	0	0	0
98644 (Seaview)	0	0	82
Pacific County	716	122	309
Service Area Total	30,038	3,735	8,458

Updated data on providers’ acceptance of child care subsidy is provided in Table 79. From 2021 to 2023, in Pacific County, there was an increase in child providers that accept subsidy for all ages; the rate is now 78%. In Clark County and Klickitat County, only 50% of child care providers accept subsidy for all ages.

Table 79. Subsidy Status of Child Care Providers by Geographic Area and Year^{cxlvi,cxlvii,cxlviii}

Geographic Area	Accept All Ages			Do Not Accept			Accept School Age Only		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Clark County	48%	49%	50%	37%	37%	35%	15%	14%	15%
Klickitat County	33%	56%	50%	67%	44%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Pacific County	33%	67%	78%	67%	33%	22%	0%	0%	0%
Washington	58%	64%	66%	30%	24%	22%	12%	12%	12%

Table 80 describes referral demand by age. New data from 2023 show that 100% of referral demand in Klickitat County was for preschoolers, while in Pacific County a majority of referrals were for school age care. In Clark County, referral demand was more evenly spread across infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school age children.

Table 80. Referral Demand by Child Age and Geographic and Year^{cxlix,cl,cli}

Geographic Area	Infants			Toddlers			Preschoolers			School Age		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Clark County	15%	18%	16%	29%	32%	31%	23%	24%	27%	33%	26%	26%
Klickitat County	18%	31%	0%	18%	13%	0%	46%	50%	100%	18%	6%	0%
Pacific County	9%	12%	0%	37%	29%	37%	27%	6%	0%	27%	53%	63%
Washington	19%	19%	19%	30%	33%	31%	23%	24%	24%	28%	24%	26%

Further, ESD 112 continues to share its service area with three grantees. Head Start and/or Early Head Start services are provided by Educational Opportunities for Children and Families (ECOF) (Clark County and Pacific County) and Mid-Columbia Children’s Council (Klickitat County). Innovative Services NW provides ECEAP in Clark County.

Home Visiting

As reported in the *2022 Community Assessment*, Washington’s home visiting services are coordinated by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families through the Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA), a public and private partnership. Home visiting programs and slots available in ESD 112’s service area, and administered through HSVA, are listed in Table 81; these have not changed since the *2022 Community Assessment* was conducted.

Table 81. HVSA Home Visiting Services by Geographic Area^{clii,cliii}

Geographic Area	Implementing Organization	Home Visiting Model	Type of Model	Number of Family Slots (2021)
Clark County	Clark County Public Health	Nurse-Family Partnership	Evidence based	17
Klickitat County	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
Pacific County	Save the Children	Early Steps to School Success	Promising practice	20

In addition to the services provided through HVSA, the Parent-Child Assistance Program (PCAP) also remains as reported in the *2022 Community Assessment*. PCAP is coordinated by the University of Washington School of Medicine and implemented in Clark and Pacific Counties within the service area. PCAP is also implemented by Connections, A Center for Healthy Families in Pacific County. PCAP is an evidence-informed home visitation case-management program specifically for pregnant and parenting women with substance use disorders.^{cliv,clv}

Through First Steps (a Washington Medicaid program), low-income pregnant individuals may also access Maternity Support Services (MSS). MSS is available to families in Clark County and Klickitat County and offers screening, counseling, information, and referrals. Services may be provided in-home, community, or clinic settings.^{clvi}

Lastly, families in Clark County continue to also have access to home visiting services though ESD 112’s Early Head Start home-based program option. ESD 112 is funded to serve 40 pregnant women and children in its home-based program. ESD 112’s home-based services continue to be available in Vancouver, Evergreen, Camas, Washougal, Battle Ground, Hockinson, Ridgefield, and La Center school districts.

Publicly Funded Preschool

Table 82 describes Head Start and ECEAP slots as a percent of estimated eligible children (“Percent Served”), estimated eligible 3- and 4-year-olds not served by ECEAP or Head Start (“Unserved Eligible Children”), and priority group for districts to expand ECEAP slots (lower numbers indicate higher priority). The source of this information is a report from the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families, *2022-2023 ECEAP and Head Start Saturation Study*.

Data from the *2022 Community Assessment* did not show any school districts in Priority Group 1, and only school district in Priority Group 2. The most recent data show that Battle Ground School District and Evergreen School District in Clark County are in Priority Group 1, while Ridgefield School District (Clark County) and Trout Lake School District (Pacific County) are Priority Group 2. Other school districts in the service area have lower priority for expansion (Table 82a).

Table 82a. Head Start and ECEAP Saturation by School District (2022-2023)^{clvii}

School District	ECEAP and Head Start Slots	Estimated Eligible Children	Percent Served ⁹¹	Unserved Eligible Children	Priority Group
Battle Ground*	170	473	36%	303	1
Camas*	35	65	54%	30	5
Evergreen	631	1,105	57%	474	1
Green Mountain	1	5	20%	4	6
Hockinson	8	51	16%	43	6
La Center	9	24	38%	15	3
Ridgefield*	38	68	56%	30	2
Vancouver	734	1,431	51%	697	5
Washougal	64	149	43%	85	6
Clark County	1,690	3,371	50.1%	1,681	n/a
Bickleton	0	3	0%	3	6
Centerville	1	9	11%	8	4
Glenwood	1	5	20%	4	5
Goldendale*	31	68	46%	37	4
Klickitat*	3	4	75%	1	5
Lyle*	13	27	48%	14	3
Roosevelt*	0	0	n/a	0	5
Trout Lake	0	1	0%	1	2
White Salmon Valley	12	55	22%	43	5
Wishram	0	2	0%	2	6
Klickitat County	61	174	35.1%	113	n/a
Naselle-Grays River Valley	0	7	0%	7	5
North River	0	1	0%	1	4
Ocean Beach	23	41	56%	18	3
Pe Ell*	4	11	36%	7	4
Raymond*	34	26	100%	0	3
South Bend	37	32	100%	0	4
Willapa Valley*	5	2	100%	0	6
Pacific County**	103	120	85.8%	33	n/a
Service Area Total**	1,854	3,665	50.5%	1,827	n/a

* Transition to Kindergarten is available in this district.

** In Pacific County and for the service area total, the slots and unserved eligible children do not add up to estimated eligible children because Pacific County has more slots than there are children.

To help illustrate how the percent of eligible children served by Head Start and ECEAP has been changing since the 2022 *Community Assessment*, Table 82b was added to the report. Data from the last three school years do not show much consistency between counties or within school districts. A higher percentage of eligible children are served in Pacific County than other parts of the service area, though across the board rates have fluctuated in many school districts.

⁹¹ Percentages greater than 100% indicate there are more slots available than estimated eligible children. Whereas 0% indicates there are no slots for the children estimated to be eligible.

Table 82b. Percent of Eligible Children Served by Head Start and ECEAP by Geographic Area and School Year^{clviii,clix,clx}

School District	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Three-Year Trend
Battle Ground	28%	21%	36%	Fluctuating
Camas	92%	100%	54%	Fluctuating
Evergreen	66%	46%	57%	Fluctuating
Green Mountain	0%	0%	20%	Increasing
Hockinson	0%	0%	16%	Increasing
La Center	0%	0%	38%	Increasing
Ridgefield	0%	46%	56%	Increasing
Vancouver	78%	48%	51%	Fluctuating
Washougal	35%	19%	43%	Fluctuating
Clark County	62%	42%	50%	
Bickleton	0%	0%	0%	n/a
Centerville	0%	0%	11%	Increasing
Glenwood	0%	0%	20%	Increasing
Goldendale	59%	95%	46%	Fluctuating
Klickitat	100%	100%	75%	Increasing
Lyle	43%	38%	48%	Fluctuating
Roosevelt	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a
Trout Lake	0%	0%	0%	n/a
White Salmon Valley	100%	56%	22%	Decreasing
Wishram	0%	0%	0%	n/a
Klickitat County	67%	61%	35%	
Naselle-Grays River Valley	n/a	0%	0%	Steady
North River	n/a	0%	0%	Steady
Ocean Beach	100%	100%	56%	Decreasing
Pe Ell	100%	64%	36%	Decreasing
Raymond	90%	100%	100%	Increasing
South Bend	94%	100%	100%	Increasing
Willapa Valley	100%	0%	100%	Fluctuating
Pacific County	92%	100%	86%	Fluctuating
Service Area Total	63%	46%	51%	Fluctuating

ESD 112 continues to implement Early ECEAP, which serves children birth to age 3. Additionally, the state offers Transition to Kindergarten (TK) (formerly called Transitional Kindergarten) to children who are at least 4-years-old by August 31 and have an identified need.^{clxi} Transition to Kindergarten continues to grow in Washington, and some unserved eligible children for Head Start and ECEAP may be served in TK. In ESD 112's service area, nine school districts offer TK: Battle Ground, Camas, and Ridgefield school districts in Clark County; Goldendale, Lyle, and Roosevelt school districts in Klickitat County; and Pe Ell, Raymond, and Willapa Valley school districts in Pacific County.^{clxii}

ESD 112 leadership team members note that, in some parts of the service area TK opportunities have grown since the 2022 *Community Assessment* was conducted. With multiple options, there may be competition to enroll children into specific programs. ESD 112 collaborates with local school districts and families to help them identify which program is the best setting for their child.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

In ESD 112's service area, there continue to be social services resources available to families in addition to those offered by the program. ESD 112 leadership team members report resource strengths and needs are relatively unchanged since the 2022 *Community Assessment*. There are few updates to resource availability in the counties in the service area. Some service providers have either temporarily or permanently lost funding, which impacts the availability of resources in the community.

Leadership team members confirmed that some of the most pressing needs in the county remain the need for bilingual resource providers; health, dental health, and mental health services; as well as affordable housing. Individuals' access to services may be impacted by factors such as distance, transportation, language, lack of bilingual service providers, and insurance status.

A notable change to services and resources available to families is ESD 112 offering the ECLIPSE (Early Childhood Intervention Prevention Services) program to enrolled children and families enrolled in Early ECEAP or ECEAP. ECLIPSE provides trauma-informed intervention and treatment services to families with current or a recent history of trauma or those who have been referred from a child welfare agency. Services are layered on top of existing Early ECEAP and ECEAP services so that mental health support is integrated into classroom experiences and family support. ESD 112 is contracted with the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families to serve up to 36 children in the ECLIPSE program.

REFLECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The integration of findings from the 2024 *Community Assessment Annual Update* and reflections from ESD 112 leadership team members are described in "**2024 update**," following each reflection from the 2022 *Community Assessment* and updates from the 2023 *Community Assessment Annual Update*.

With the integration of data from the 2024 *Community Assessment Annual Update*, the needs highlighted and key reflections in the 2021 *Community Assessment* are confirmed. There is significant consistency in data. There is also new data that shows growing needs (e.g., affordable housing) and a changing landscape of services available to children and families (e.g., Transitional Kindergarten expansion). ESD 112 continues to show a high level of responsiveness to community needs, observing changes, monitoring data, and refining its approaches and services.

Reflection 1: Program Design. ESD 112 regularly engages in the best practice of reviewing slot allocations and program schedules in the context of community-wide trends (e.g., demand for child care, expansion of transitional kindergarten, wait list data) to support full enrollment across programs. ESD 112 will continue this practice in order to respond to changes in community needs when they arise and to explore updates to program design to ensure the needs of families are met.

With regard to early childhood program staffing, national and state data show significant workforce challenges. Community Assessment survey data echo these trends and also highlight work/life balance and financial concerns as staff members' top personal stressors. ESD 112 will continue to support staff with job-embedded professional development and coaching to support them in their role. The agency will also stay abreast of new state and

federal funding opportunities to enhance staff recruitment, compensation, and retention to be responsive to opportunities for funding when they arise.

2023 update: Since the 2022 Community Assessment was conducted, ESD 112 made adjustments to its allocation of funded Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and ECEAP slots to meet the needs of children and families and offer services where staffing and facilities support the fullest enrollment. Further, ESD 112 program data and leadership team reflections continue to highlight the significant challenges with the early childhood workforce crisis. Staffing shortages impact ESD 112's programs and thus the programs' abilities to meet families' needs. National data show that this is a widespread issue and compensation is a critical factor in individuals leaving the early care and education workforce.

2024 update: Data continue to show that a majority of income-eligible children reside in more densely populated parts of the service area, and the estimated number of income-eligible pregnant women remains steady. Looking at changes over time (2013-2017 compared to 2018-2020), data show notable decreases in the estimated number of income-eligible children in the service area.

ESD 112 maintains an active waiting list for its early learning programs and has increased its Early Head Start enrollment of children living in families receiving public assistance substantially in the last program year. Further, data continue to show that overall child care capacity is limited, with fewer options available for families with infants and toddlers. The child care staffing crisis persists within Washington, as well as nationwide, and is having an impact on capacity.

Reflection 2: Parent Training and Employment. *Community Assessment data show rates of unemployment higher than the countywide rate among families served by ESD 112. In addition, survey data point to financial and employment concerns for low-income families. ESD 112 may continue to leverage internal resources and collaboration with community partners to provide educational counseling, job training, and resources to families related to employment skill building and job search. Collaboration with community partners and local employers may help to address specific barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment (e.g., child care, transportation, immigration status).*

2023 update: Data show steady rates of employment among families served by ESD 112, though unemployment remains higher than the general population. Unemployment rates in the broader service area continue to trend higher than the statewide rate, pointing to an ongoing need for educational counseling, job training, and resources to families related to employment skill building and job search.

2024 update: Updated data continue to show rates of unemployment in the service area that are near consistent or slightly elevated from the statewide rate. Unemployment among families served by ESD 112 Early Head Start remains high and is substantially elevated compared to community-wide rates. ESD 112 leadership team members report that a need for continued collaboration and resource sharing to meet families' needs remains evident.

Reflection 3: Health Services. *Community data suggest challenges with regard to children and families' access to preventative, primary, and specialty care. Additional challenges may exist for individuals who are uninsured, underinsured, or who may not have access to health services due to other factors (e.g., undocumented, transportation). ESD 112 may consider continued and enhanced collaboration with local health services providers, including dental health providers, to promote the importance of preventative and primary care and address*

barriers to maintaining an on-time health schedule, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic. Particular attention will be paid to the unique access challenges in more rural parts of the service area.

Adult health data show high rates of chronic health conditions in the counties in the service area. Survey data reveal a need for increased availability of and access to mental health services and suggest further exploration may be helpful. ESD 112 may collaborate with community-based mental health providers to develop a shared understanding of needs within communities and to identify strategies to address the needs (e.g., mental health resources and counseling services). Advocacy for the availability and accessibility of family-centered, culturally sensitive care and services will help to ensure resources meet the needs of families with young children.

2023 update: Updated data continue to show challenging health outcomes for adults in ESD 112's service area as well as factors impacting infant and child health and well-being. Access to primary care providers, dentists, and mental health providers across the service area remains difficult as the numbers of providers are limited and other factors such as location, insurance, language, and availability impact access. While there has been some improvement in the ratio of mental health providers to individuals in the service area, there is also unprecedented demand for mental health services for both children and adults. ESD 112's ongoing focus to connect, refer, and provide health and mental health services to families is in direct response to data and evident needs.

2024 update: Many adult health factor and outcomes data continue to show challenging rates in communities served by ESD 112. Across the service area, and particularly in the less populated communities served by ESD 112, the number of health providers remains limited. ESD 112 leadership report ongoing challenges with families accessing dental care and mental health care. This is echoed in community data that continue to suggest families face challenges maintaining their children's preventative and primary care schedule, including immunizations.

Reflection 4: Affordable Housing and Homelessness. *There is great disparity in housing costs and affordability in the service, as well as high rental cost burden in communities. Housing support and affordable housing were identified among the top needs in Community Assessment surveys. Advocating for and continuing to serve families experiencing homelessness and those on the brink of homelessness, particularly in the absence of eviction protections and with limited availability of rental assistance, will help to support families with housing challenges.*

2023 update: Updated data show that affordable housing and homelessness are ongoing critical issues in ESD 112's service area. Data continue to show disparity in housing costs and affordability in ESD 112's service area as well as a high rental cost burden. Homelessness has increased in the service area, with the greatest numbers of individuals experiencing homelessness or unstably housed residing in Clark County and Cowlitz County. ESD 112 has increased the number of children that it serves in its programs who are experiencing homelessness and has observed that more than 30% of families qualify for services based on the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness.

2024 update: The most recent community assessment data shows high rental cost burden, rising housing costs, and a lack of affordable housing. Coupled with limited eviction protections or rental assistance, particularly for undocumented families, these factors lead to persistent housing instability. Data show ESD 112 continues to serve a high number of families experiencing homelessness.

Reflection 5: Bilingual Support. *ESD 112 program leadership team members reflect on the need for bilingual service providers in the service area, particularly related to health care services (e.g., mental health). This data is*

confirmed in Community Assessment survey results. Language is an identified barrier to accessing services, as is lack of bilingual staff at point of service. ESD 112 may seek to help expand families' awareness of and access to bilingual, culturally sensitive resource providers in the community, and collaborate with community agencies to address language barriers families may face when accessing resources and support.

ESD 112's continued focus on providing bilingual services to families is a strength of the program and is essential to meet enrolled children and families' needs. The agency will continue its efforts to recruit bilingual/bicultural staff and identify translation supports for families speaking languages other than English and Spanish.

2023 update: The need for bilingual service providers remains a barrier to accessing services for some individuals in ESD 112's service area. The need for bilingual service providers is integral to all other recommendations in the report, as ESD 112 continues to serve a diverse population of children and families.

2024 update: Consistent with the findings of the 2022 Community Assessment and 2023 Community Assessment Annual Update, the need for bilingual service providers remains a barrier to accessing services for some individuals in ESD 112's service area. ESD 112's early learning programs continue to serve diverse families, including a more recent increase in Ukrainian refugees. The agency actively recruits staff to meet families' needs, including hiring Ukrainian personnel, who can share language and cultural experiences with families served.

Reflection 6. Public School District Relationship-Building. Public school data show disparities in quality and student outcomes within the service area. As an educational service district, ESD 112 will continue to leverage and enhance relationships with local school districts across the service area to support a coordinated approach to serving eligible children, aid in smooth transitions between programs, and leverage community resources. Coordination will also support increased access to services for children with disabilities and a more intentional focus on inclusion in the variety of early childhood setting classrooms.

2023 update: Disparities in quality and student outcomes remain evident in public school districts within ESD 112's service area. Challenges remain with regard to kindergarten readiness; in a majority of school districts in the service area, rates of kindergarteners who entered school ready in all areas of development and learning are less than 50%. Further, reflections from ESD 112 leadership team members highlight challenges with long waitlists for evaluation referrals for children with a suspected disability and for early intervention and preschool special education services. Data and reflections point to the value in continuing to partner with school districts to enhance services to families.

2024 update: Data continue to show disparity in quality and student outcomes among children enrolled in public school districts in the service area, including kindergarten readiness levels. Further, with the expansion of Transition to Kindergarten, ESD 112 is exploring opportunities for greater coordination with public school districts regarding the enrollment of eligible children.

Reflection 7: Impact of COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic has had an extended impact on communities in ESD 112's service area. Regularly reviewing community data to adapt to the impact of COVID-19 will continue to benefit families served by ESD 112. Data such as unemployment, child welfare, food insecurity, substance abuse, and housing and homelessness may be considered. Continuing to leverage partnerships and community resources will help ESD 112 programs support vulnerable families, including undocumented immigrants, those on the verge of homelessness, single parents, and grandparents (and other relatives) raising young children.

2023 update: The COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized in ESD 112's service area, though its impact continues to be seen in community data from the last several years. Data also show some economic recovery from the pandemic, as unemployment returned to pre-pandemic levels and communities are no longer impacted by program shut downs to the same extent as in 2020 and 2021. Other pressing factors, some of which may be linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, have taken a central focus on impacting need in ESD 112's service area. This includes factors such as inflation and the staffing crisis taking place in the child care sector.

2024 update: Another year removed from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic shows further stabilization. However, other factors, such as the child care staffing crisis, noted above, continue to have widespread impact on ESD 112's services to meet families' needs. ESD 112 early learning program data continue to show that the agency serves families with diverse needs that tend to be greater than those in the community, as a whole. The ongoing need for ESD 112's early learning programs is evident, further underscoring the importance of the agency's role in the service area.

LOOKING AHEAD

ESD 112 will use the data and information from the *2024 Community Assessment Annual Update* to support program planning in the agency's continued efforts to meet children and families' needs, in partnership with community resource providers.

The HSPPS requirement to annually review and update the Community Assessment will provide ESD 112 with further opportunities to monitor new data and trends and reflect upon the impact on families served by the Head Start/Early Head Start program.

Non-Discrimination Statement

ESD 112 does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a disabled person. The following individuals have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

- Civil Rights compliance Officer: Melissa Kreuder, 360.952.3328, melissa.kreuder@esd112.org
- Title IX Compliance Officer: Wendy Niehaus, 350.952.952,3574, wendy.niehaus@esd112.org
- ADA/504 Compliance Officer: Jeffrey Niess, 360.952.3529, jeffrey.niess@esd112.org

The above information will be provided in the appropriate language for persons with limited English language skills by contacting the ESD at 360-750-7500.

- ⁱ Head Start ECLKC. *Head Start Policy and Regulations, 1302.11 Determining community strengths, needs, and resources*. Retrieved from <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-11-determining-community-strengths-needs-resources>
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