

YONKERS COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

2025 Community Needs Assessment



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Yonkers Community Action Program (“YCAP”) undertook a comprehensive assessment of the needs of low-income residents in the City of Yonkers. Drafted by Kevin Dwarka LLC, the assessment is based upon extensive data analysis, stakeholder input, and direct resident feedback. While YCAP’s service area includes all of Yonkers, the majority of its client base resides within Southwest Yonkers. As such, the assessment includes data for Southwest Yonkers, the entire City of Yonkers, and Westchester County.

The document was prepared in close coordination with the New York Department of State and New York State Community Action Agency, whose technical support and guidance materials informed the methodological basis for the assessment and also helped link key findings to the broader ROMA community planning process.

Presented below is a summary of the needs identified by the assessment process as being most critical to the diminishment of poverty in Yonkers. These needs were formulated on the basis of a detailed review of the demographic and socio-economic trends in Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers, and Westchester County. These trends are presented in Section III of this report. Supplementing these trends is a comprehensive analysis of existing resources for low-income residents including employment; education; jobs; transportation; and wellness, health, and safety. These resources are evaluated in Section IV of this document. Besides quantitative analysis, the needs presented below were also shaped by a robust engagement process that include a wide cross-section of residents, community leaders, service providers, YCAP’s Board of Directors, and YCAP Programmatic Staff.

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY NEEDS

▪ Employment Needs

- ✓ Increased dissemination of information about available jobs.
- ✓ More funding for ESL programs that help make immigrants more competitive on the job market.
- ✓ Adoption of minimum livable wage laws that are commensurate with the cost of living in Yonkers.
- ✓ Financial assistance for transportation services to job sites.
- ✓ Provision of affordable childcare programs that make it easier and financially practicable for parents to secure full-time employment.
- ✓ More vocational and career building programs including computer skills; resume writing; networking skills; and provision of clothing for interviews and jobs.

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▪ **Education Needs**

- ✓ Expanded financial assistance to help low-income resident pay for college education.
- ✓ More partnerships with the business sector that offer vocational training linked to high wage jobs.

▪ **Housing Needs**

- ✓ An increased supply of housing units priced for households earning less than 60% AMI.
- ✓ Increased production of transitional housing options that enable low-income residents to transition out of public housing units as their income levels increase.
- ✓ More supportive housing options for all special needs populations including the formerly incarcerated individuals.
- ✓ More permanent housing solutions for formerly homeless individuals or households at risk of homelessness.
- ✓ More financial support for rental arrears and ongoing rental assistance

▪ **Transportation Needs**

- ✓ Financial assistance for transportation services to job sites.

▪ **Wellness, Health, and Safety Needs**

- ✓ Enhanced access to healthy foods including expansion of food pantry programs.
- ✓ Expanded youth programming including mentorship programs; after school professional/vocational training for high school students; tutoring services; summer enrichment programs; and interventions on cyber bullying.
- ✓ Mental health services and wellness activities including direct therapeutic care for seniors, parents, adults, and teenagers.
- ✓ Family planning programs for prospective parents.
- ✓ More legal and social services for immigrants.
- ✓ More social services for housing homeless and housing insecure population.
- ✓ Provision of housing counselors to help people navigate listings and available units.
- ✓ Facilitation of life skill workshops on topics such as personal finance/financial literacy, nutrition, and stress management for adults and also for teenagers.

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- ✓ More support for program participants to help them reach program completion including mental health kits, wellness programs, and cell phones.
- ✓ Better training for program administrators and educators in the school system on community needs, poverty conditions, and the value of programs and services.
- ✓ Better communication between service providers, government agencies, and the police department.
- ✓ Creation of a one-stop, wrap around service approach that would enable low-income residents navigate multiple bureaucratic systems at one location.
- ✓ Expanded provision of household essentials including personal hygiene products.
- ✓ Protection from adverse environmental conditions such as shading from extreme heat conditions and sun exposure; reduction of water and air pollution caused by transportation and infrastructure operation; and installation of storm-water management systems to protect residents from flooding impacts.
- ✓ Enhanced access to open space, public parks, forested areas, and the waterfront.

SECTION I: PURPOSE OF THE CNA AND TECHNICAL APPROACH

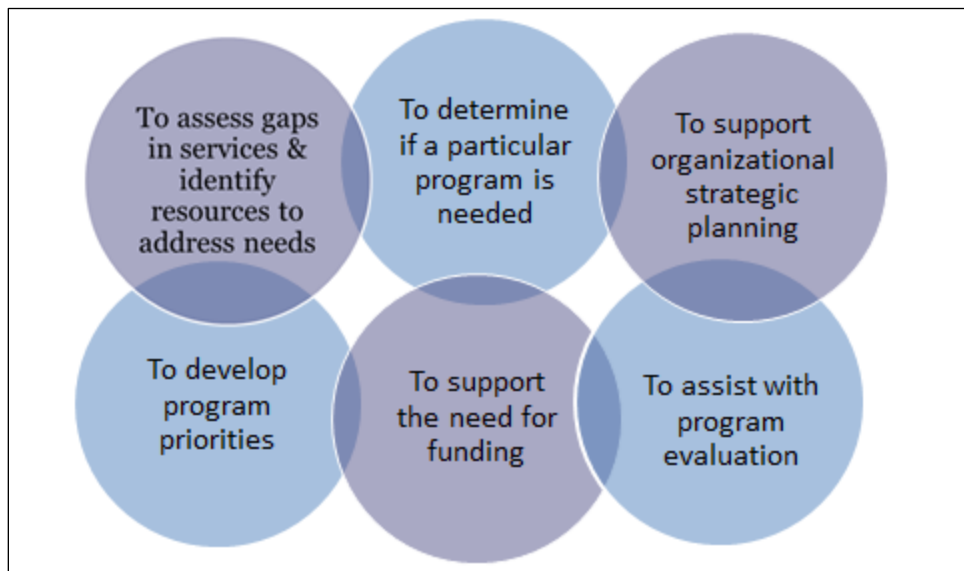
As a Community Action Agency (“CAA”) receiving federal monies through the Community Services Block Grant program (“CSBG”), Yonkers Community Action Program (“YCAP”) is required to complete a Community Needs Assessment (“CAN”) every three years. YCAP’s last CNA was published in January 2022.

In fulfillment of CDBG regulations, this assessment reviews the breadth of community needs within the agency’s service area while also assessing the availability of partners and resources to meet those needs. The document has been developed in close coordination with guidance from New York State Community Action Association (“NYSCAA”) and New York State Department of State (“NYSDOS”). YCAP has undertaken the production of this needs assessment in relation to broader best practices in community planning including the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (“ROMA”) cycle.

GOALS OF THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

NYSCAA has identified six interlocking goals of a community needs assessment. These six goals, displayed in the diagram below, have been used throughout the assessment process and have shaped YCAP’s approach to data collection, outreach, and analysis.

NYSCAA Goals for a Community Needs Assessment



APPLYING THE ROMA FRAMEWORK TO YCAP’S COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS

Based upon principles contained in the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, ROMA provides a framework for continuous growth and improvement among local CAAs and a basis for state leadership and assistance. While there are many ways in which ROMA principles may be adopted by community agencies, a core ROMA concept relates to a five-step process in which the agency ensures

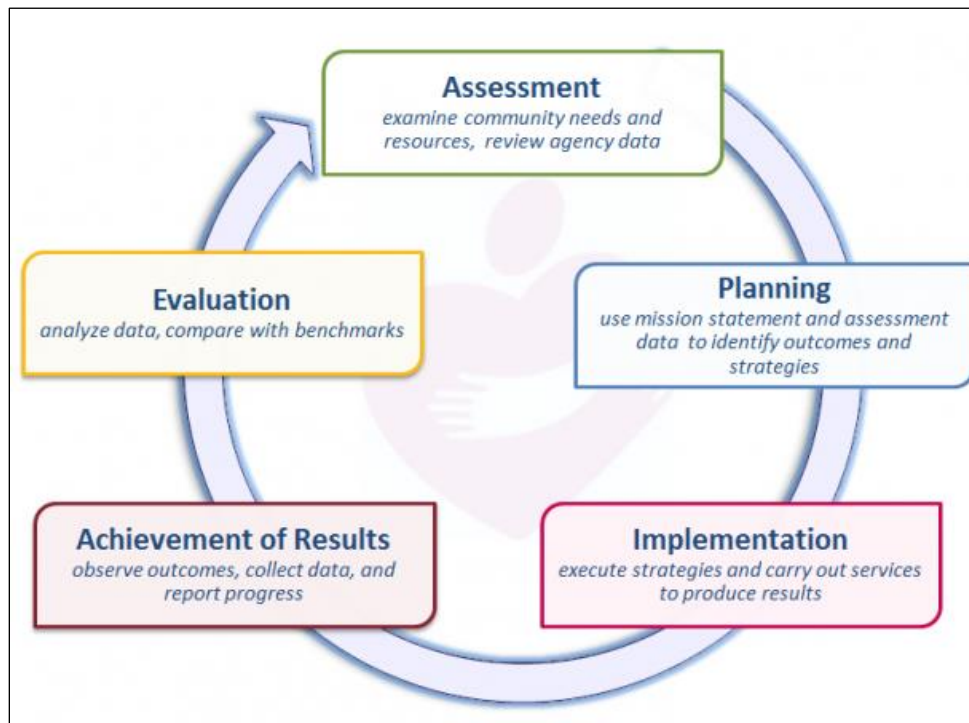
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positive community outcomes through (i) assessment; (ii) planning; (iii) implementation; (iv) achievement of results; and (v) evaluation.

YCAP's production of the community needs assessment represents the initial stage of this cycle. Once the document is formally adopted and approved, YCAP will then proceed to the second stage of the cycle by undertaking strategic planning; implementing programs in accordance with its strategic plan; observing the outcomes of these programs; and analyzing the outcomes against performance measures.

Even though another update to the Yonkers Community Needs Assessment will not be required for another three years, YCAP plans to continually monitor community needs and collect agency data by refreshing the data presented within this document and annually administering periodic client surveys. In this way, the application of ROMA principles will be continuous and cyclical without one defined endpoint.

The ROMA Five-Stage Cycle for Community Planning



CSBG ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS

In accordance with federal regulations related to the Community Services Block Grant program (CSBG), a Community Action Agency's (CAA) production of a Community Needs Assessment must meet five core organizational standards. Additionally, there are five other CSBG standards that relate primarily to other aspects of a CAA's activities but are still relevant to the production of an assessment and so merit consideration throughout the process. YCAP has carefully prepared its assessment to ensure full compliance with these standards. For an evaluation of YCAP's conformity with these standards, see Appendix G.

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CSBG Organizational Standards for Community Needs Assessments	
Core Standards	
Standard 3.1	The organization conducted a community assessment and issued a report within the past 3 years.
Standard 3.2	As part of the community assessment, the organization collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).
Standard 3.3	The organization collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.
Standard 3.4	The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.
Standard 3.5	The governing board formally accepts the completed community assessment.
Related Standards	
Standard 1.1	The organization demonstrates low-income individuals' participation in its activities.
Standard 1.2	The organization analyzes information collected directly from low-income individuals as part of the community assessment.
Standard 2.2	The organization utilizes information gathered from key sectors of the community in assessing needs and resources, during the community assessment process or other times. These sectors would include at minimum: community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, private sector, public sector, and educational institutions.
Standard 2.4	The organization documents the number of volunteers and hours mobilized in support of its activities.
Standard 6.4	Customer satisfaction data and customer input, collected as part of the community assessment, is included in the strategic planning process.

RESPONSIBILITIES & TEAM ORGANIZATION

The Community Needs Assessment was managed by YCAP's Executive Director and Deputy Director. Kevin Dwarka LLC, a land use and economic consultancy, led the technical production of the report. For a firm description of Kevin Dwarka LLC's, see Appendix A. YCAP's Board of Directors contributed to the report's technical approach and methodology. Board members and YCAP Staff members were also enlisted to review the preliminary data findings, collaboratively determine the causes of poverty and evaluate the needs in relation to the organization's programmatic priorities.

COORDINATION WITH NYSDOS AND NYSCAA

At early stages in the production of the Community Needs Assessment, YCAP's consultant contacted representatives from NYSDOS and NYSCAA in order to ensure the assessment's alignment with the standards and expectation of both organizations. Guidance materials suggested and provided by both organizations were carefully reviewed by the consultant in order to develop a seamless approach to data collection, stakeholder outreach, and data analysis.

DATA COLLECTION APPROACH

In order to understand community conditions, data was collected on the demographic and socio-economic composition of the population residing within YCAP's service area as well as five topic areas: employment opportunities; housing security; educational resources; transportation access; and wellness, health & safety.

Most data sets were collected directly from the US Census as well as other sources such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and New York State. The reason for undertaking original data collection was to ensure that data could be pulled at the correct geographic and sub-geographic scale while also observing variations in data outcomes on the basis of age, race/ethnicity, and sex. Another reason for custom data collection was to ensure that the data could be formatted in a way that would make it easier for YCAP and its partners to use in its ongoing community planning process.

YCAP BOARD AND PROGRAM STAFF OUTREACH

YCAP's board of 12 members represent a broad cross-section of community leaders representing elected officials, educational institutions, faith-based organizations, private sector businesses, and community based organizations. Board members participated actively throughout the process. All board members participated in a survey aimed at collecting their thoughts about the causations of poverty and identifying the most critical community needs. The Board survey can be found in Appendix E. YCAP staff members also participated in the process in the form of an in-person training session followed by an online survey. The YCAP Program Staff Survey can be found in Appendix F.

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

While data was used to establish an empirical baseline for community conditions, more qualitative information was gathered in order to understand community needs. To that end, we reached out to stakeholders representing the public sector, private sector, community organizations, faith-based institutions, and educational institutions. Outreach was gathered via a survey, email communication, and telephone conversations. See Appendix B for a detailed record of all the contributors to YCAP's needs assessment. See Appendix E for the survey that was administered to community leaders and service providers.

YCAP CLIENT SURVEYS

To ensure that YCAP fully understands the barriers that residents experience when attempting to secure their needs, a robust Client Needs Survey as well as a Community Satisfaction Survey were jointly administered as part of the update to the Community Needs Assessment.

Client Needs Survey

The Client Needs Survey was conducted by YCAP volunteers during the period between November 1st and December 6th. The survey instrument was drafted in accordance with best practice guides and templates from NYSCAA and the National Community Action Partnership. All surveys were administered in hard copy format to participants in YCAP's programs. Surveys were handed out during the delivery of food to YCAP clients as part of its food pantry program and also distributed to YCAP clients when they

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visited the organization's office in Southwest Yonkers. During the two-month period when the surveys were distributed, YCAP received 85 completed surveys. The surveys were manually entered by YCAP volunteers into Google Forms. The results of the analysis were integrated into Sections III and IV of this document. A full presentation of the survey results is available in Appendix D. The raw results of the survey are presented in Appendix E.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

YCAP annually administers a customer satisfaction survey that has been historically aimed at understanding the degree to which YCAP clients are satisfied with the organization's food pantry program. The new survey is included as part of the Customer Needs Survey within Appendix D of this document. The raw results of the client satisfaction survey are presented in Appendix E.


DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS DETERMINATION

The data collection and outreach process included three different kinds of information sources:

- (1) quantitative data collected from the US Census and other proprietary data sources;
- (2) responses from the Customer Needs Survey and the Customer Satisfaction Survey; and
- (3) observations recorded during stakeholder interviews and email exchanges with organizational and agency representatives.

Instead of presenting each information source in isolation, all of the various kinds of information were synthesized in a fully integrated record of community conditions as presented in Section IV of this document. By using both census and survey data to describe resource conditions, the divergences between municipal trends and YCAP's client population could be better discerned. Another rationale for the synthesizing approach was to ensure incorporation of the unique nuances and community experiences that are not easily discerned from data analysis but that are revealed through conversations and personal anecdotes. Lastly, the synthesis approach was elected to make it easier for YCAP's Board and Staff to identify conditions of poverty, causations of poverty, and community needs.

Don Brown
Executive Director



Yonkers
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

Helping People.
Changing Lives.

BERNARD STACHEL
Board President

YCAP 2021 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Name (Optional): _____

1. What is your Home Address?

Street and Building/Apt. Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

2. Please circle the appropriate response under each demographic heading.

AGE	MARITAL STATUS	RACE / ETHNICITY	GENDER	NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD
Under 20	Single	Black/African American	Male	1
20-23	Married	White/ Caucasian	Female	2
25-39	Divorced	Asian	Other	3
40-59	Widowed	Bi-Racial/Multi-Racial		4
60-64	Separated	American Indian		5
65-79		Other		6
Over 80		Hispanic? <u>Yes / No</u>		7+

3. What is the primary language spoken in your home?

English Other (Please Specify): _____

Spanish

Arabic

4. How many children do you have? _____ Are Children Living In Your Household? YES / NO

5. Are you a single parent/guardian? YES / NO

Mother _____ Father _____ Sibling _____ Grandparent _____ Other _____

6. Check the Highest Level of Education Completed.

<input type="checkbox"/> Grade School	<input type="checkbox"/> Some College
<input type="checkbox"/> Some High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree
<input type="checkbox"/> High School Diploma	<input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree
<input type="checkbox"/> GED	<input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate or Other Professional Degree
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical or Vocational Training	

YCAP COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY (2021)PAGE 1

SECTION II: PROFILE OF YCAP

YCAP'S GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Yonkers Community Action Program, Inc. ("YCAP") is a private nonprofit corporation designated as an anti-poverty agency under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. YCAP was founded in 1965 as the community action agency in Yonkers, New York. YCAP has nine staff members including an Executive Director and a Deputy Director. The organization is led by a 12-member Board of Directors. Each year more than 20 volunteers contribute more than 400 hours to helping the organization fulfill its mission and administer its programs.

YCAP'S MISSION

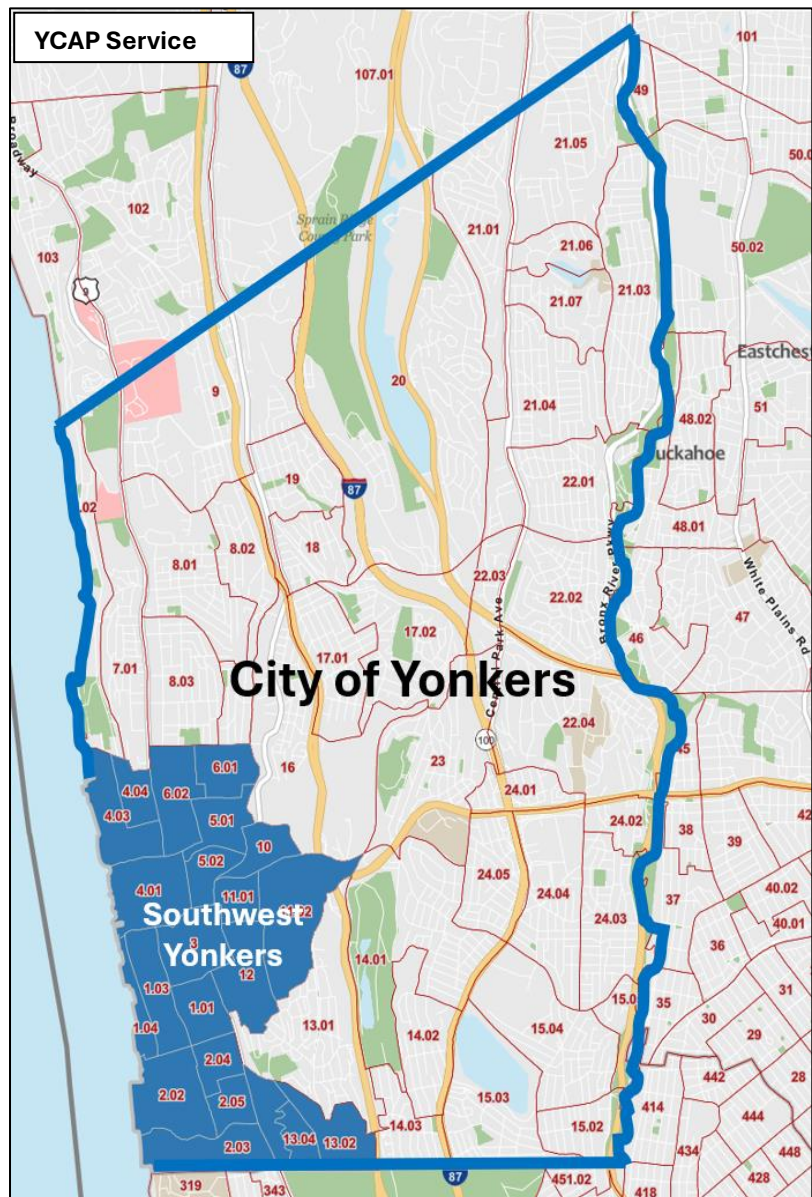
The mission of YCAP is to engage and empower the residents of Yonkers by providing resources and services that improve health, education, and employment outcomes as well as support economic self-sufficiency and poverty reduction.

YCAP'S SERVICE AREA

As shown in the map below, YCAP's service area includes the entire City of Yonkers. However, the majority of YCAP's clients are located in Southwest Yonkers, which includes the lowest-income neighborhoods and most impoverished census tracts within Yonkers.

YCAP'S PROGRAMS

As summarized in the table below, YCAP provides direct service programs in five areas: Housing; Youth Education and Empowerment, Food Access; Healthcare, Social Service, and Support; and Community Activities.



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DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS OFFERED BY YCAP IN 2024	
Program	Program Description
Housing Programs	
Housing Rental Arrears Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP provides a one-time offer up to \$2,000 of rental assistance to clients that are in arrears with their rent.
Housing Utility Arrears Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP provides a one-time offer up to \$500 of utility assistance to clients that are in arrears with their utilities.
Furniture Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP provides furniture referral services to a furniture bank for clients in need of furniture.
Youth Education and Empowerment	
Summer Leadership Program for Middle School Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP hosts a special summer enrichment program focused on helping middle school students develop skills in leadership, communication, and life management.
Back-to-School Clothing Program for Students (Pre-school – 8 th Grade)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP facilitates an annual Back to School Initiative. This program focuses on providing low-income children entering preschool through 6th grade, ages 4-11 with vouchers to purchase new clothing for the start of the school year.
WIOA Youth Workforce Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP provides services to youth between the ages of 14 to 24 which includes work readiness, vocational and occupational skills training as well as paid internships and referral services.
Books for College Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP helps purchase books for college students.
Youth Empowerment Programs (Social Events, Too Good for Violence, SPORT, Botvin LifeSkills Training (LST))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP delivers evidence-based youth empowerment programs to middle and high school students throughout the City of Yonkers. Too Good for Violence (“TGFV”) is designed to help students learn the necessary skills to prevent violence. Delivered with Fidelity, the TGFV program consists of ten 45-minute lessons which can be delivered once or twice a week. The Substance Use Prevention Optimizing Robust Teens (“SPORT”) Plus Wellness program teaches the importance of staying away from vaping, e-cigarettes, hookah, alcohol, and all other drugs. Botvin LifeSkills Training (“LST”) is a research-validated substance abuse prevention program proven to reduce the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. Delivered with Fidelity, the Botvin LifeSkills program consists of 45-minute lessons which can be delivered once or twice a week.
Food Access Programs	
On-site Food Pantry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For over 50 years, YCAP has provided a Food Pantry program for the residents of Yonkers.

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Food Delivery (Site Specific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP delivers food to seniors and disabled persons at three different buildings in the City of Yonkers.
Food Delivery (Home)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP delivers food to the homes of low-income homebound seniors and physically disabled persons.
Emergency or Prepared Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP provides emergency food from its pantry. An emergency food package consists of 3-5 bags of food.
Healthcare, Social Service, and Support Programs	
Referral Services to Social Service or Health Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referrals are made to multiple community-based organizations based on client need.
Invisible Wounds / Victim Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCAP offers services to victims and others affected by crime. Services include victim centered care through advocacy, therapy, support, and other victim related resources.
Personal Protection (Masks/Hygiene Kits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal protection equipment and hygiene kits are distributed by YCAP throughout the community.
Community Activity Programs	
Community Gardening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The YMCA and YCAP offer residents safe and productive green gardening spaces in the dense urban neighborhoods of Southwest Yonkers.

OTHER PROGRAMS IN YCAP'S SERVICE AREA

YCAP works closely with a wide cross section of other community-based organizations and public agencies in Yonkers who also provide programs that serve the city's low-income population. A selection of these programs is presented below.

Current Resources & Programs in Yonkers for Low-Income Residents by Other Organizations	
Housing Programs	
Westhab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing
Municipal Housing Authority for City of Yonkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing
Employment Programs	
Yonkers Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce development services Training for SNAP Recipients Monitoring of employment opportunities Referrals to service providers and school district
Westchester Jewish Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online GED Program Digital Equity Program (Access to Computers and Wi-Fi to adults)
Greyston Bakery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open hiring programs

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Current Resources & Programs in Yonkers for Low-Income Residents by Other Organizations	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employee assistance programs
Westhab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Job training
Yonkers Board of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult education program ▪ Pathway to Success program ▪ ESL Programs
Education Programs	
Westchester Jewish Community Services / Mary J. Blige Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weiner Girls Academy ▪ Early Childhood Education ▪ GED Programs ▪ Computer training (in partnership with Stem Alliance) and hotspots.
Yonkers Public Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literacy programs for young children and continuing literacy with educational and cultural programs. ▪ Events to help children advance in reading and tutoring. ▪ ESL Courses ▪ Citizenship classes
Vive Schools Pathways to Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational assistance
Westchester Community College / Westchester Educational Opportunity Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDL Training program ▪ Home Health Aide Training Program
Transportation Programs	
Westchester Bee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduced fare for seniors, disabled persons, Medicare card holders
Healthcare, Nutrition, Wellness, and Public Safety	
Westchester County Department of Health (WIC Program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vaccine, immunization and STD clinic ▪ Women, Infant and Children Nutrition Services (WIC) including health and nutrition education; financial assistance for food purchases (e-WIC cards); Infant formula and breastfeeding support program; farmers market nutrition program; healthcare and social service referrals ▪ Health Insurance Access Program

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Current Resources & Programs in Yonkers for Low-Income Residents by Other Organizations	
Westchester Jewish Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Case management services for teenagers, pregnant teenagers, teen parents ▪ Programs for migrant children ▪ LGBTQ Youth Support Program ▪ Infant toddler learning center ▪ Substance use programs for teenagers ▪ Food pantry
Westhab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supportive services
Catholic Charities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wrap-around services including legal assistance
St. Joseph Medical Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Healthcare services, emergency healthcare services
Yonkers Public Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food pantry in partnership with Feeding Westchester
Ayfa Foundation (Community Safety Net)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribution of personal hygiene and health supplies
Queen's Daughter Daycare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Childcare services
Yonkers Coalition for Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Substance abuse prevention

SECTION III: PROFILE OF YONKERS

This section describes the demographic and socio-economic composition of Yonkers while also presenting variations that emerge on the basis of gender, age, race, and ethnicity. The information in this section is drawn primarily from the US Census American Community Survey (ACS). However, data from the YCAP Client Survey is also presented for comparative purposes.

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION

Population Trends

The population in Southwest Yonkers increased by 10% during the ten year period between 2012 and 2022. This increase is higher than that of Yonkers (7%) and Westchester County (5%). The most likely explanation for the increased population size in Southwest Yonkers is the considerable increase in new housing production that has occurred over the last decade in this quadrant of Yonkers.

Population Shifts (2012 - 2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
2012	74,928	196,459	950,227
2022	82,222	209,780	997,904
# Change	7,294	13,321	47,677
% Change	10%	7%	5%

Gender Distribution

Based upon 2022 ACS data, the population of Yonkers is comprised of 49% male and 51% female, the same split found in Southwest Yonkers and Westchester County. It is notable, however, that 70% of the respondents to YCAP’s Client Survey identified as female. Additional research is required in order to determine the degree to which this higher female representation reflects willingness to participate in the organization’s survey versus a higher representation of females in YCAP’s client community.

Racial and Ethnic Distribution

While over 50% of Yonkers and 65% of Westchester County identify as White, only 33% of residents in Southwest Yonkers identify as White. More than 1/3rd of Southwest Yonkers identifies as Black/African American while 44% identify as some other race.

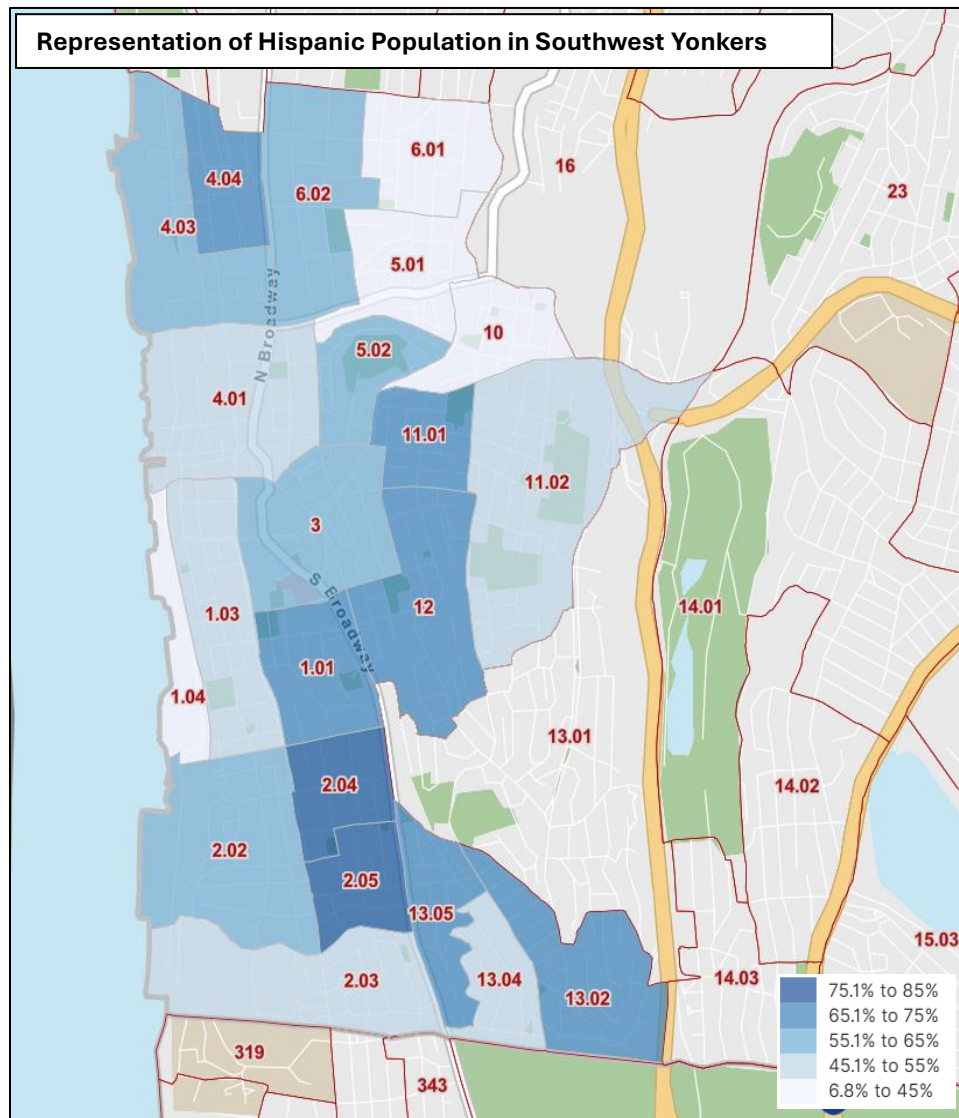
Racial Distribution (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
White	33%	51%	65%
Black or African American	34%	23%	17%
Native American	2%	2%	1%
Asian	3%	6%	7%
Some Other Race	44%	30%	19%

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Many of the residents who identify as “Some Other Race” identify as Hispanic, which the consensus classifies as an ethnicity rather than a racial category. More than half (58%) of the Southwest community identifies as Hispanic, an increase of 4 percentage points since 2012 and more than double than the Hispanic share (26%) of Westchester County’s population. It is possible that YCAP’s client base has an even higher representation of Hispanic residents than the general population in Southwest Yonkers. The vast majority (72%) of respondents to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey identified as Hispanic and 73% of respondents said that Spanish was the primary language spoken at home.

Share of Population Identifying as Hispanic (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
2012	54%	34%	22%
2022	58%	42%	26%

Within Southwest Yonkers, the Hispanic population is more spatially concentrated in Census Tracts 2.04 and 2.05, which are located within the more southern and central part of the quadrant.



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Age Distribution

As shown below, the distribution of ages in Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers, and Westchester County are not notably different. One exception, however, is that the percentage of seniors in Southwest Yonkers is only 13% compared to 17% for Yonkers and 18% for Westchester County.

Age Distribution (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Under 15	20%	17%	18%
15 to 19 years	7%	7%	7%
20 to 24 years	8%	7%	6%
25 to 34 years	17%	14%	11%
35 to 44 years	13%	13%	13%
45 to 54 years	11%	13%	14%
55 to 59 years	6%	7%	7%
60 to 64 years	6%	6%	7%
65 and Over	13%	17%	18%

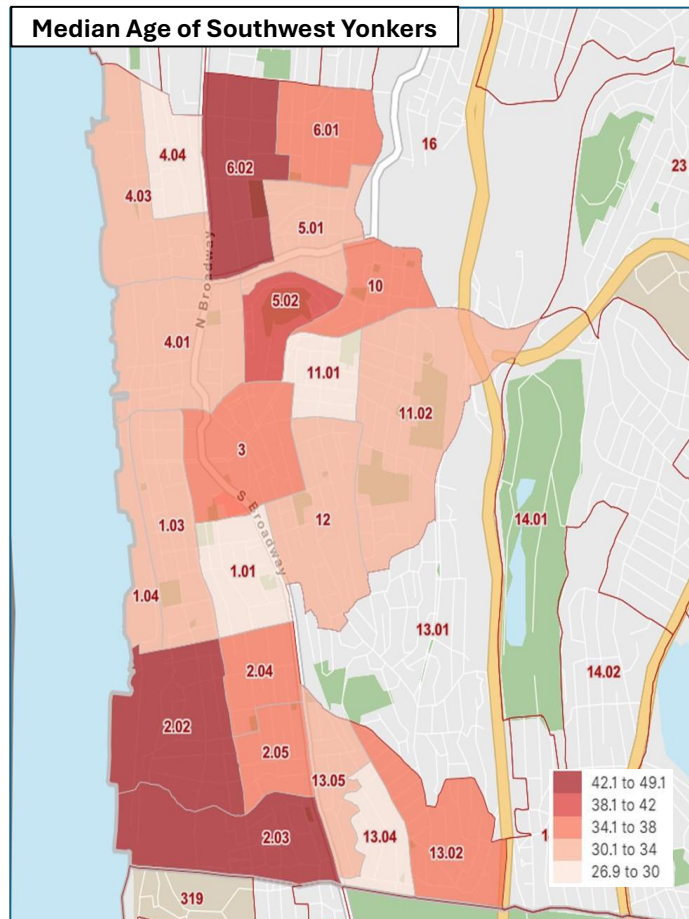
Also notable is that the median age of residents in Southwest Yonkers is not evenly distributed. Some of the southern census tracts, such as 2.02 and 2.04, have higher median ages, 43 years and 49 years respectively. In contrast, census tract 1.01 in the center of Southwest Yonkers has a median age of 30 years.

Household Composition

According to the YCAP Client Survey, the majority of YCAP clients have children with 32% of respondents identifying as single parents and 27% identifying as either being married or partnered with a child. Almost a quarter (23%) of YCAP survey respondents describe themselves as single without children.

Citizenship

More than 1/3rd of the population residing in Southwest Yonkers was born outside of the United States while almost 1/5th of the population lacks citizenship.

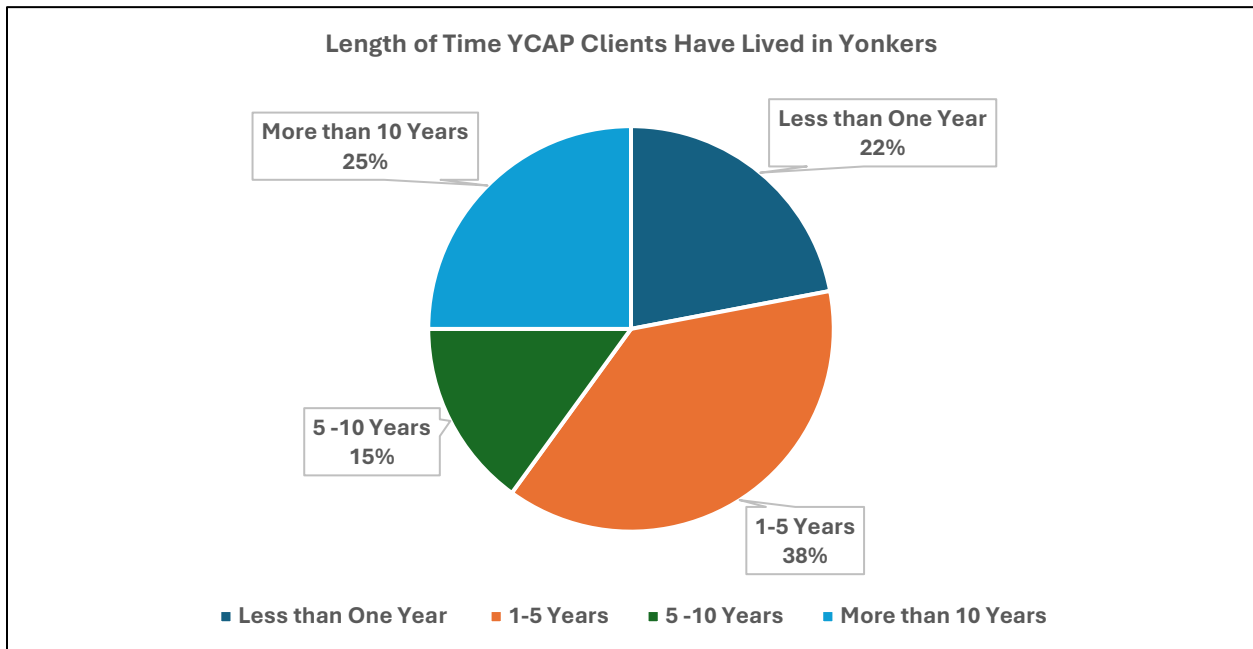


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Citizenship Status (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Born in the United States	57%	64%	72%
Born in US Territory	3%	2%	1%
Born Abroad to American Parents	2%	2%	2%
Naturalized Citizen	20%	20%	16%
Not a US Citizen	18%	12%	10%

Length of Residency in Yonkers

While census data does not document a resident's exact year of arrival in their place of residence, the 2024 YCAP Client Survey asked respondents how long they have lived in Yonkers. The majority of respondents (53%) have lived in Yonkers for 5 years or less.



SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMPOSITION

Median Household Income

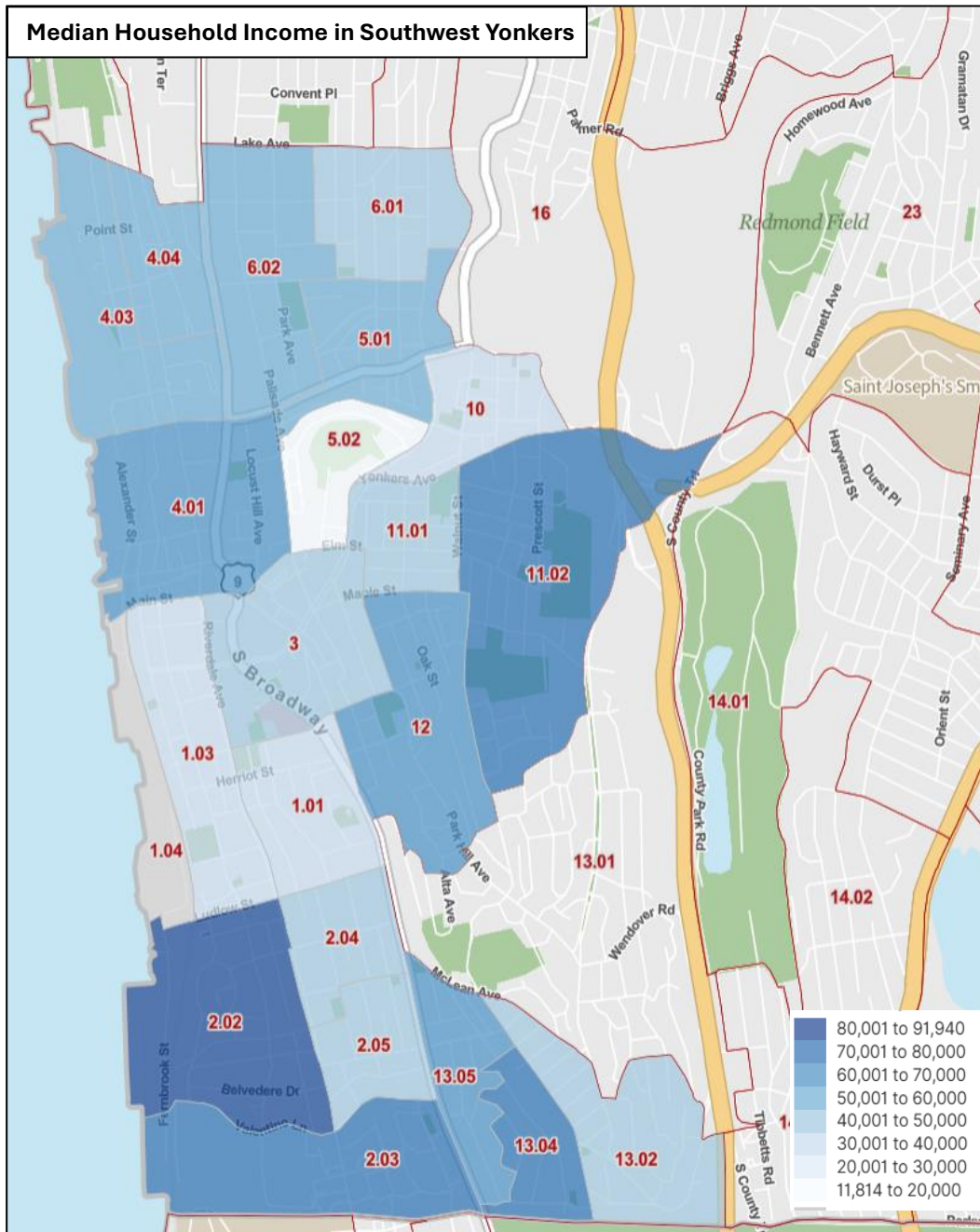
Relative to Yonkers and Westchester County, the median income levels in Southwest Yonkers are notably lower at \$53,061. The median income of the county (\$114,651) is more than double that of Southwest Yonkers. However, the rate of income change (56%) in Southwest Yonkers between 2012 and 2022 is significantly higher than that of Yonkers (38%) and Westchester County (41%).

The household income of YCAP residents is notably lower than the data reported by the census for Yonkers. Based on the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, 68% of survey respondents report a household income

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that is below 20K a year. The map below shows how the more central census tracts within Southwest Yonkers have lower median incomes.

Median Household Income Shifts (2012 - 2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
2012	\$ 33,915	\$ 56,782	\$ 81,093
2022	\$ 53,061	\$ 78,208	\$ 114,651
# Change	\$ 19,146	\$ 21,426	\$ 33,558
% Change	56%	38%	41%



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Sources of Income

The percentage (74%) of residents in Southwest Yonkers earning money from employment is not dramatically different from that of Yonkers (77%). However, the share of residents receiving food stamps or Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (“SNAP”) benefits is 34% in Southwest Yonkers compared to 17% in Yonkers and 9% in Westchester County.

Percentage of Population Drawing Income from Different Sources (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Earnings from Work	74%	77%	80%
Social Security	26%	32%	32%
Retirement income	16%	24%	25%
Supplemental Security Income	11%	7%	4%
Public assistance	8%	5%	3%
Food Stamp/SNAP benefits	34%	17%	9%

The 2024 YCAP Client Survey also gathered data on the collection of governmental assistance. Survey results reveal that 40% of YCAP residents receive Section 8 housing vouchers or some type of rental assistance while 29% receive Supplemental Security Income.

Poverty

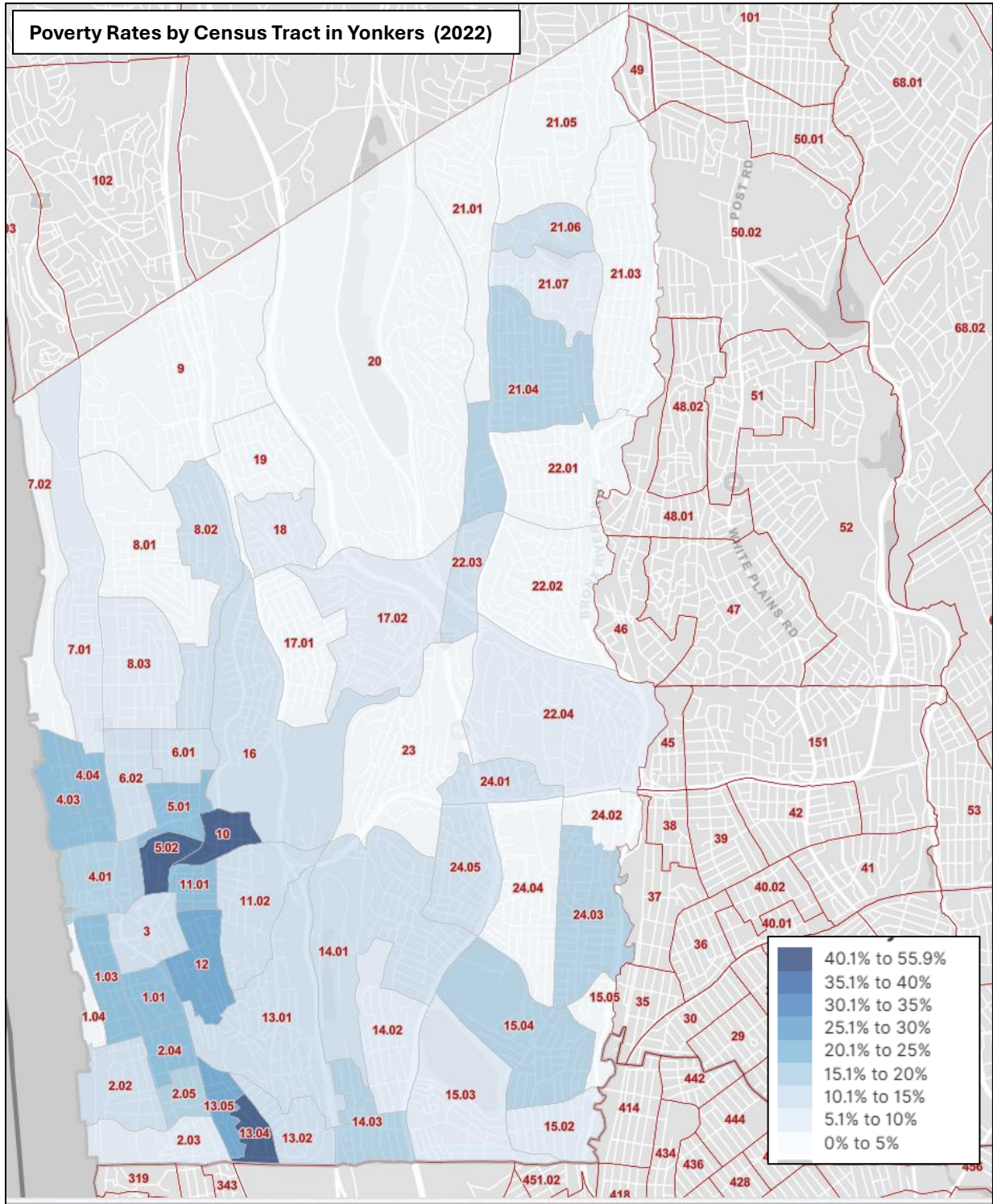
More than 1/5th of the Population in Southwest Yonkers is impoverished compared to 13% of the population in Yonkers and 9% of the county population. Within Southwest Yonkers, 24% of seniors and 25% of children are impoverished. In Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers and Westchester County, a greater share of women are impoverished than men.

Residents Living Below Poverty Levels (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Total Number of Impoverished Residents	16,949	27,341	83,412
Percentage of Population	21%	13%	9%
Seniors			
Total Number of Impoverished Seniors	9,891	34,898	169,308
Percentage of Senior Population	24%	12%	9%
Children			
Total Number of Impoverished Children Under 18	19,851	43,308	211,458
Percentage of Children Population	25%	17%	10%
Gender			
Percentage of Men Impoverished	20%	12%	7%
Percentage of Women Impoverished	23%	14%	10%

As shown in the map below, higher rates of poverty are concentrated in the census tracts located within southwest Yonkers, where there are several census tracts with poverty rates over 20%. Conversely, on the

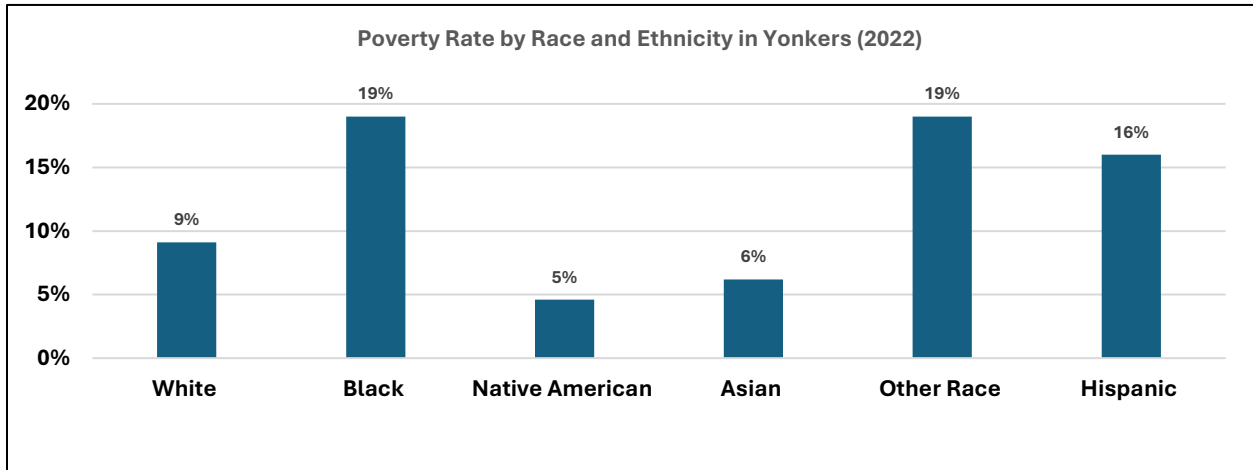
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east side of Yonkers, there is not a single census tract where more than 20% of the population is impoverished.



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A significant disparity exists with regards to poverty rates across different racial and ethnic groups. Within Yonkers, the poverty rate for Black residents is 19%, more than double that of White residents, and the poverty rate for Hispanics is 16%.



SECTION IV: COMMUNITY RESOURCES

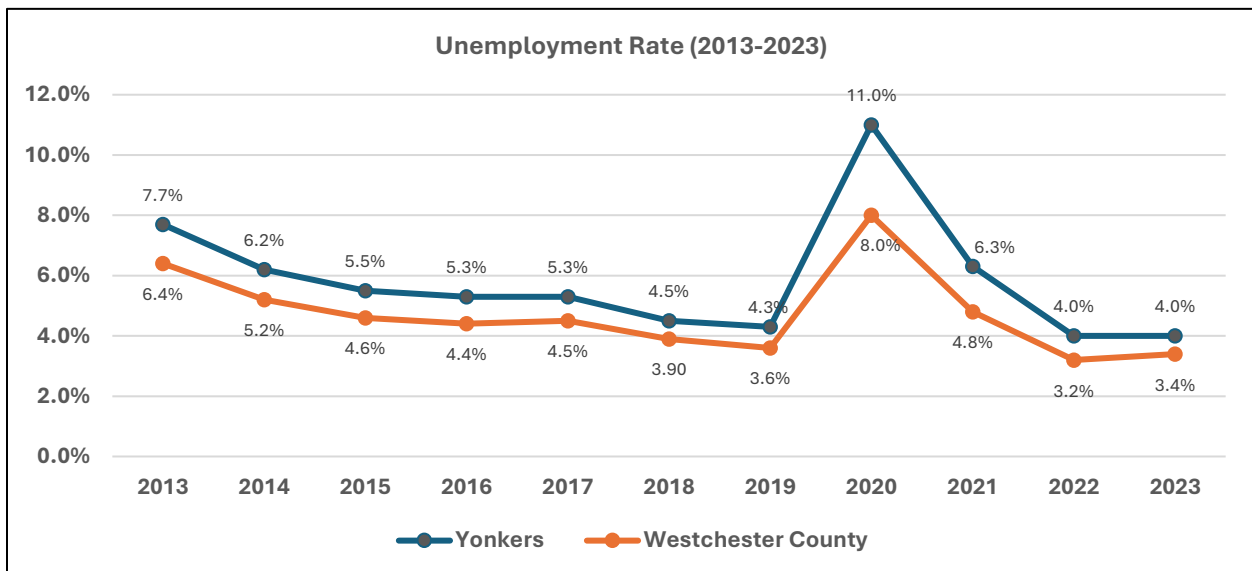
This section documents community conditions in five resources areas: employment opportunities; housing security; educational resources; transportation access; and wellness, health & safety. Data is sourced from the US Census American Community Survey (ACS) unless otherwise noted. In addition, results from the YCAP Client Survey, YCAP Board Survey, YCAP Staff Survey, and YCAP Stakeholder Survey have been enfolded into the analysis of each resource area.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As shown in the table below, there is not a significant difference in the level of participation in the workforce in Southwest Yonkers (62%); Yonkers (64%); and Westchester County (65%). The share of the working age population that is employed is also relatively low for all three geographies.

Levels of Participation in the Workforce (2022)						
Population	Southwest Yonkers		Yonkers		Westchester County	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Population 16 years and over	64,509		171,659	171,659	809,847	809,847
In labor force	39,736	62%	109,592	64%	528,318	65%
Civilian labor force	39,736	62%	109,565	64%	528,032	65%
Employed	36,368	56%	102,288	60%	496,164	61%
Unemployed	3,368	5%	7,277	4%	31,868	4%
Not in labor force	24,773	38%	62,067	36%	281,529	35%

As shown in the line graph below, unemployment in Yonkers reached 11% in 2020 during the onset of the pandemic, but since recovered and reached a ten year low of 4% in 2023. Unemployment data has been sourced from the New York State Department of Labor.



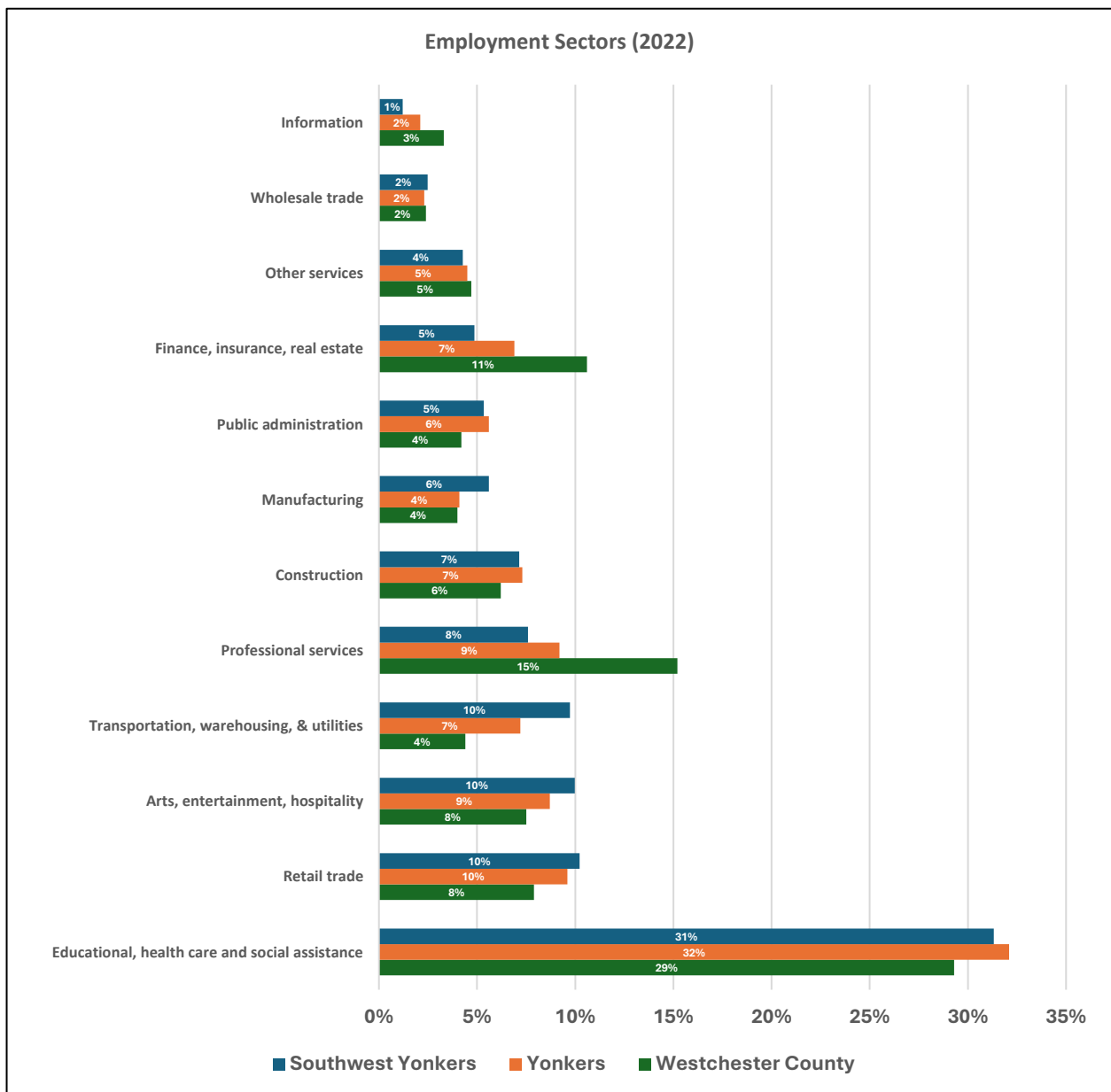
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In spite of the data showing high levels of employment in Southwest Yonkers, the 2024 YCAP Client Survey reveals that only 20% of survey respondents are employed full-time while 56% report being unemployed.

The employment barriers reported by the greatest share of respondents include lack of nearby jobs in the field of the respondent (31%); lack of experience (29%); lack of required skills (19%); and low wage levels of available jobs (17%).

Employment Sectors

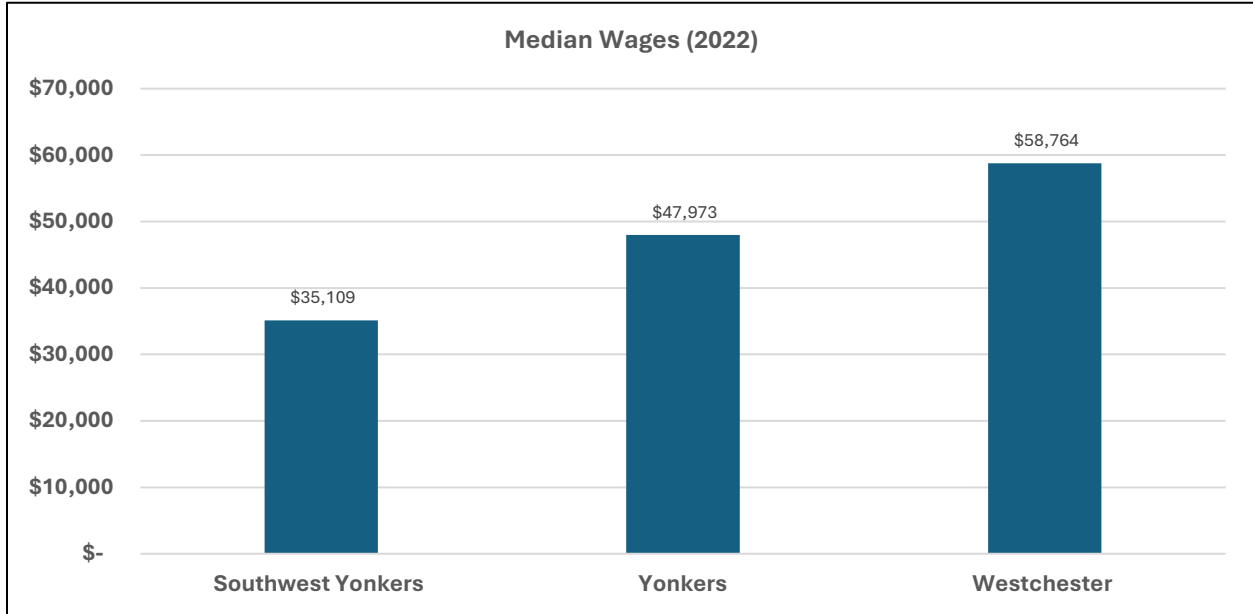
Overall, there is not a striking dissimilarity in the representation of different employment sectors in Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers, and Yonkers. The education and healthcare sectors is the largest source of employment in all three areas.



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Wages

Although employment levels and sectoral patterns are similar between Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers, and Westchester County, there is a dramatic difference in the wage levels across these three geographies. As shown below, the median wage of an employed person is about 35K in Southwest Yonkers compared to almost 59K for County worker. Wages refers strictly the income generated from income as distinct from the median household income data presented in Section III that includes income from a variety of sources and represents the contributions of all members within the household.



Occupational Sectors

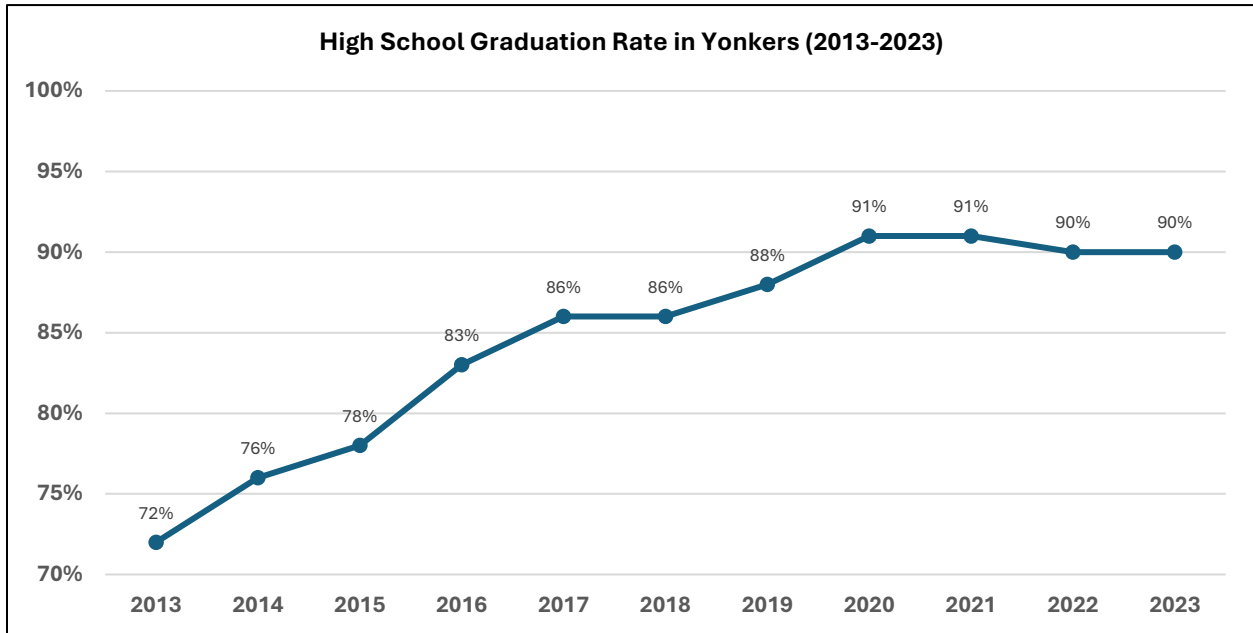
One factor in wage level differences is the type of job held by the worker. As shown in the table below, less than 1/3rd of workers in Southwest Yonkers work at the managerial levels compared to more than 50% of County workers.

Occupations of Residential Population (2022)			
Occupation	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	30%	40%	52%
Service occupations	27%	20%	16%
Sales and office occupations	19%	21%	19%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	8%	8%	7%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	16%	10%	7%

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

High School Graduation Rates

As shown in the line chart below, the level of high school graduation in Yonkers was as low as 72% in 2013 but has steadily increased over the past decade to 90%.



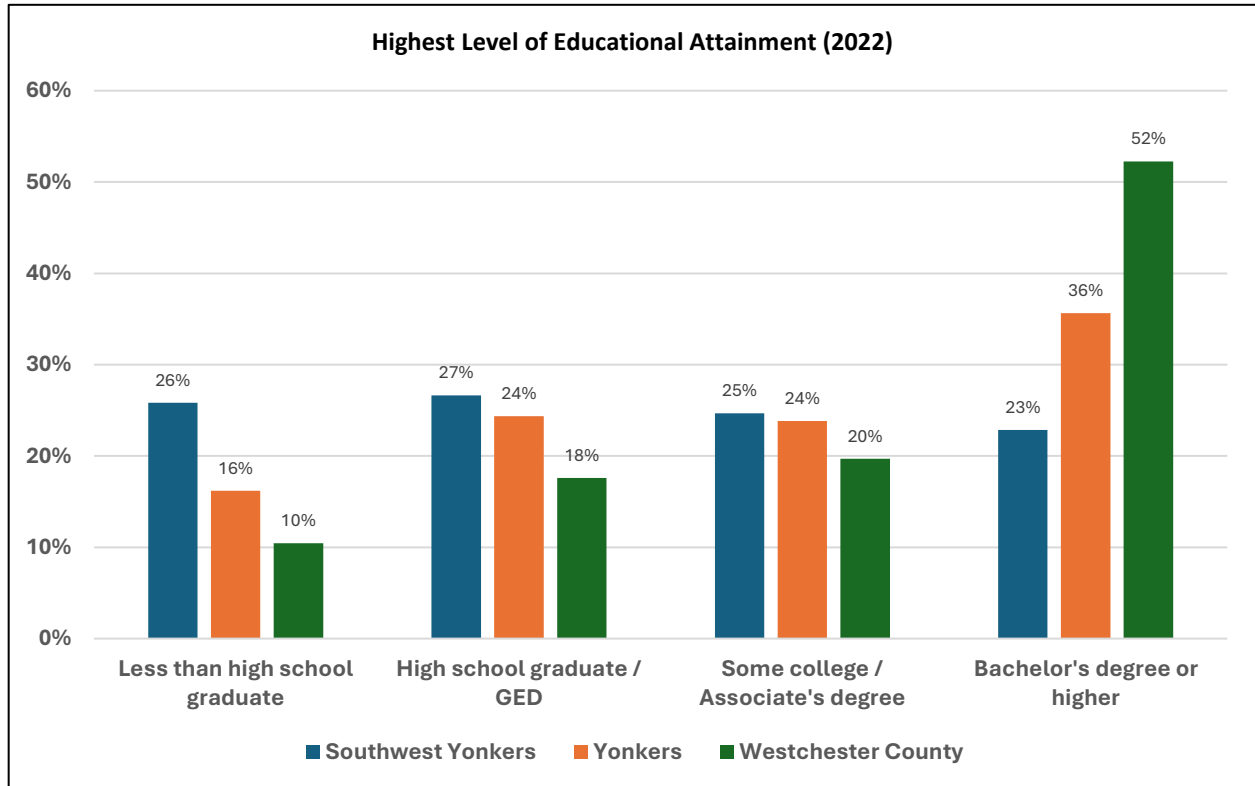
Based upon the most recently available data from New York State Department of Education, there are not significant racial disparities in the graduation rates of Yonkers high school students. However, there is a notably lower rate of graduation rate for students for students with disabilities (70%); for students whom English is not their first language (78%); and for homeless students (68%).

Yonkers High School Graduation Outcomes (2023)						
	Total Enrolled	Graduation Rate	Regents Diploma (Advanced)	Regents Diploma	Continued Enrollment	Dropout
All Students	1,737	90%	17%	72%	7%	2%
Students with Disabilities	338	70%	1%	68%	21%	3%
Asian	102	98%	54%	44%	2%	0%
Black	295	88%	11%	78%	8%	2%
Hispanic	1,068	90%	14%	76%	7%	2%
White	226	89%	27%	62%	8%	2%
Multiracial	39	90%	13%	77%	8%	3%
Economically Disadvantaged	1,446	90%	15%	75%	7%	2%
English Language Learner	148	78%	1%	77%	16%	5%
Homeless	28	68%	0%	68%	21%	4%

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Higher Education

A more pronounced divergence between Southwest Yonkers and Westchester County exists with regards to higher education. As shown below, less than 1/4 of Southwest residents over age 26 have earned a Bachelor's degree compared to 36% of Yonkers residents and 52% of Westchester County residents. According to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, less than 12% of respondents hold a college degree.



HOUSING SECURITY

Housing Inventory

As shown below, the number of housing units in Southwest Yonkers increased by 12% from 29,788 units in 2012 to 33,312 units in 2022. Many of these housing units were offered at prices significantly higher than the prevailing rents charged for older units in Yonkers, thereby explaining the 56% increase in median income that occurred during this same period on Southwest Yonkers.

Number of Housing Units (2012 - 2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
2012	29,788	80,615	370,133
2022	33,312	85,352	389,146
# Change	3,524	4,737	19,013
% Change	12%	6%	5%

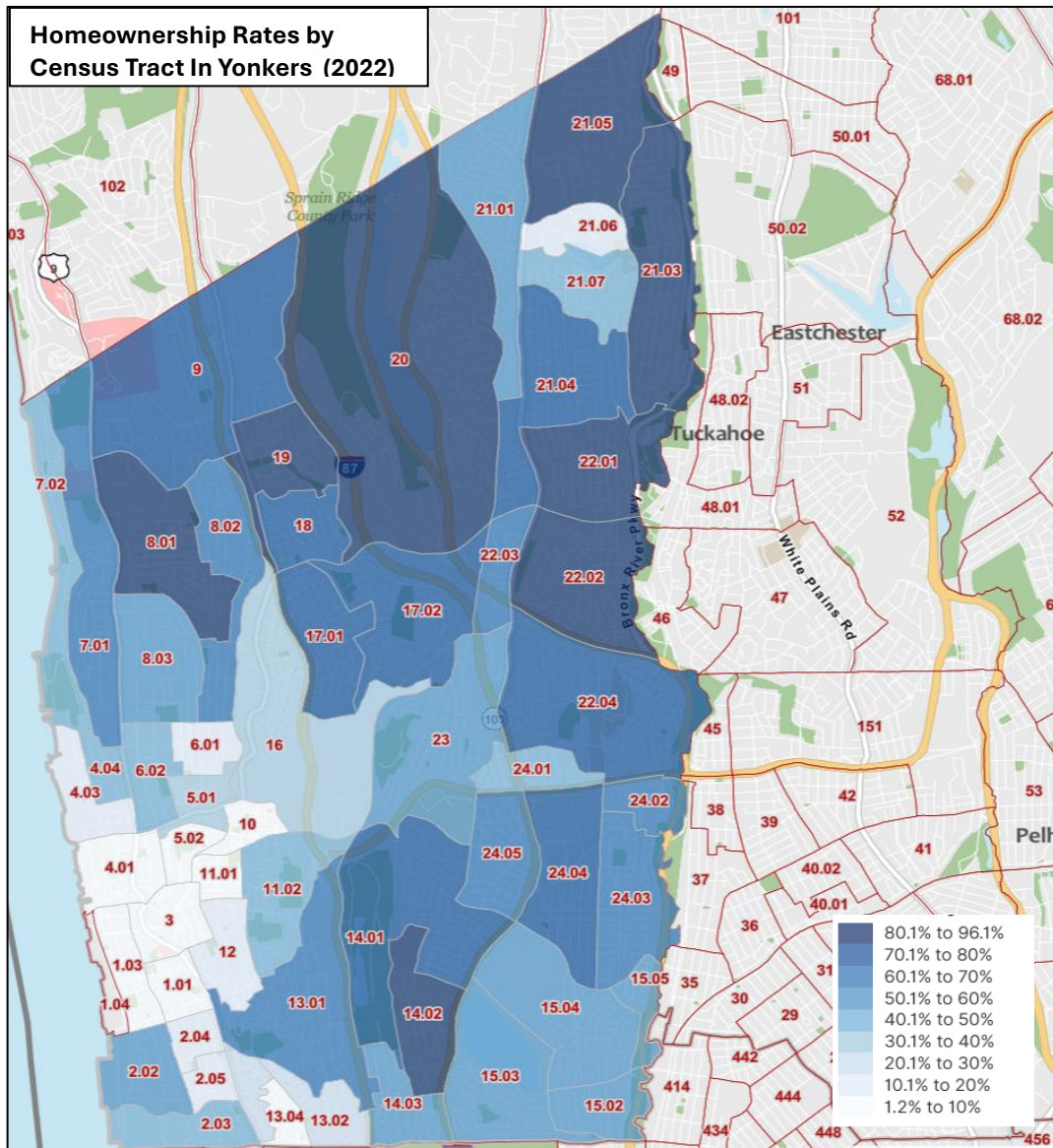
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Housing Tenure

Homeownership, which can facilitate housing security and wealth accumulation, is significantly lower in Southwest Yonkers (20%) than in Yonkers (48%) and Westchester County (65%).

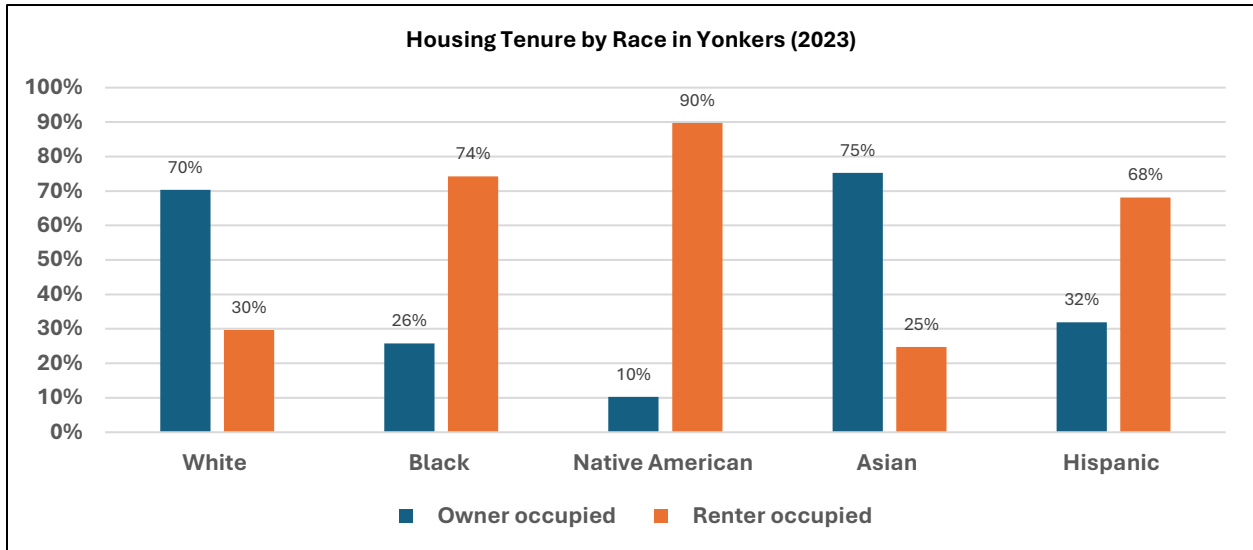
Housing Tenure (2022)						
	Southwest Yonkers		Yonkers		Westchester County	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Population	80,937		206,358		972,653	
Homeowners	16,123	20%	100,074	48%	636,146	65%
Renters	64,814	80%	106,284	52%	336,507	35%

As shown in the map below, homeownership rates are very low in the heart of Southwest Yonkers while very high in northeast Yonkers.



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Besides location within Yonkers, housing tenure also varies on the basis of race and ethnicity. Homeownership rates are high for residents identifying as White (70%) and Asian (75%) but very low for residents identifying as Black (26%), Native American (10%), or Hispanic (32%).

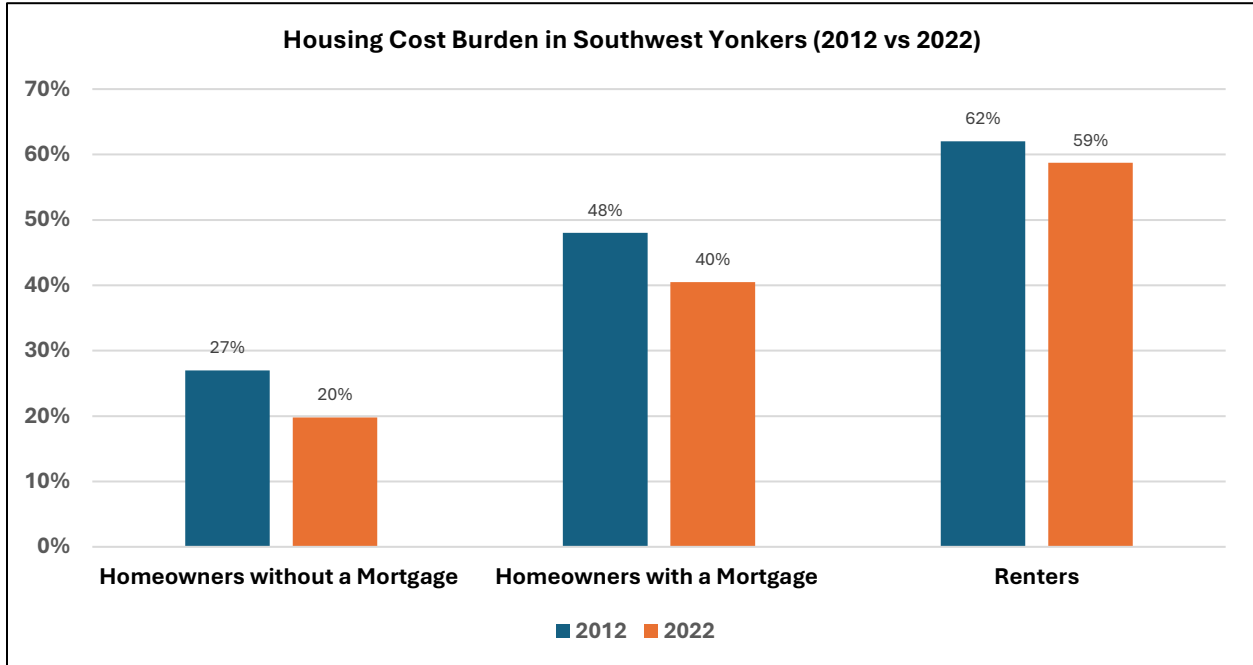


Housing Cost Burden

A household is considered cost burdened if it pays more than 30% of its household income toward housing costs. As shown below, the percentage of households who are cost burdened is significantly higher for renters than for homeowners. Almost 60% of Southwest renters are cost burdened compared to 55% of Yonkers residents and 53% of Westchester residents.

Housing Cost Burden Levels (2022)						
	Cost Burdened Households in Southwest Yonkers		Cost Burdened Households in Yonkers		Cost Burdened Households in Westchester County	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Homeowners without a Mortgage	455	20%	4,201	25%	21,405	25%
Homeowners with a Mortgage	1,691	40%	7,733	35%	49,551	35%
Renters	13,994	59%	22,098	55%	69,734	53%

As shown below, the share of cost burdened renters in Southwest Yonkers is slightly lower in 2022 (59%) than it was in 2012 (62%). This reduction may seem counter-intuitive given the significant increase in asking rents for many of the new apartments in Yonkers. However, many of these apartments are rented to higher-earning tenants for whom cost burden levels are lower as they are for homeowners.

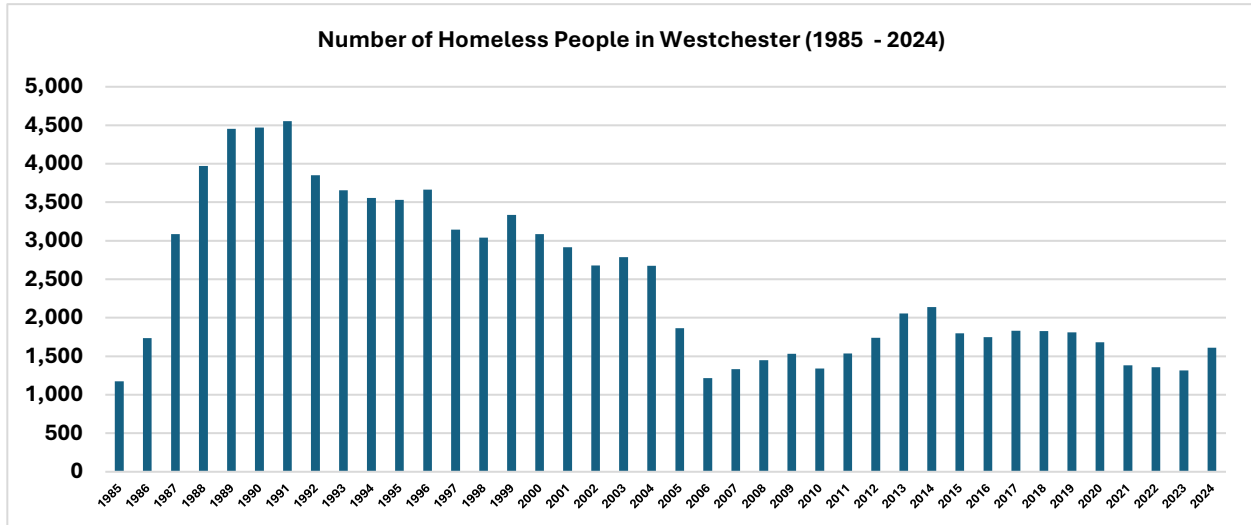


The YCAP 2024 Client Survey also reveals housing costs as a significant challenge. Almost 64% of respondents noted that the cost of rent is beyond their means while 23% of respondents noted the high cost of utilities.

Levels of Homelessness

The exact number of homeless people in Yonkers is not known. As part of HUD managed record keeping, point in time homeless counts are made in January of each year. This information is collected by each region’s Continuum of Care entity. The Westchester Continuum of Care records data throughout the County including the cities of Yonkers, Mt. Vernon, and New Rochelle. As shown in the line graph below, there is a long-term trend of homeless counts falling in Westchester from more than 4,500 in 1991 to under 1,500 in recent years. It should be noted, however, that these counts may be missing many homeless individuals who were not encountered on the day of observation. In addition, Yonkers has recently absorbed an influx of new migrants who have been housed in a hotel as well as other temporary housing situations. The exact number of migrants without permanent housing in Yonkers is not known.

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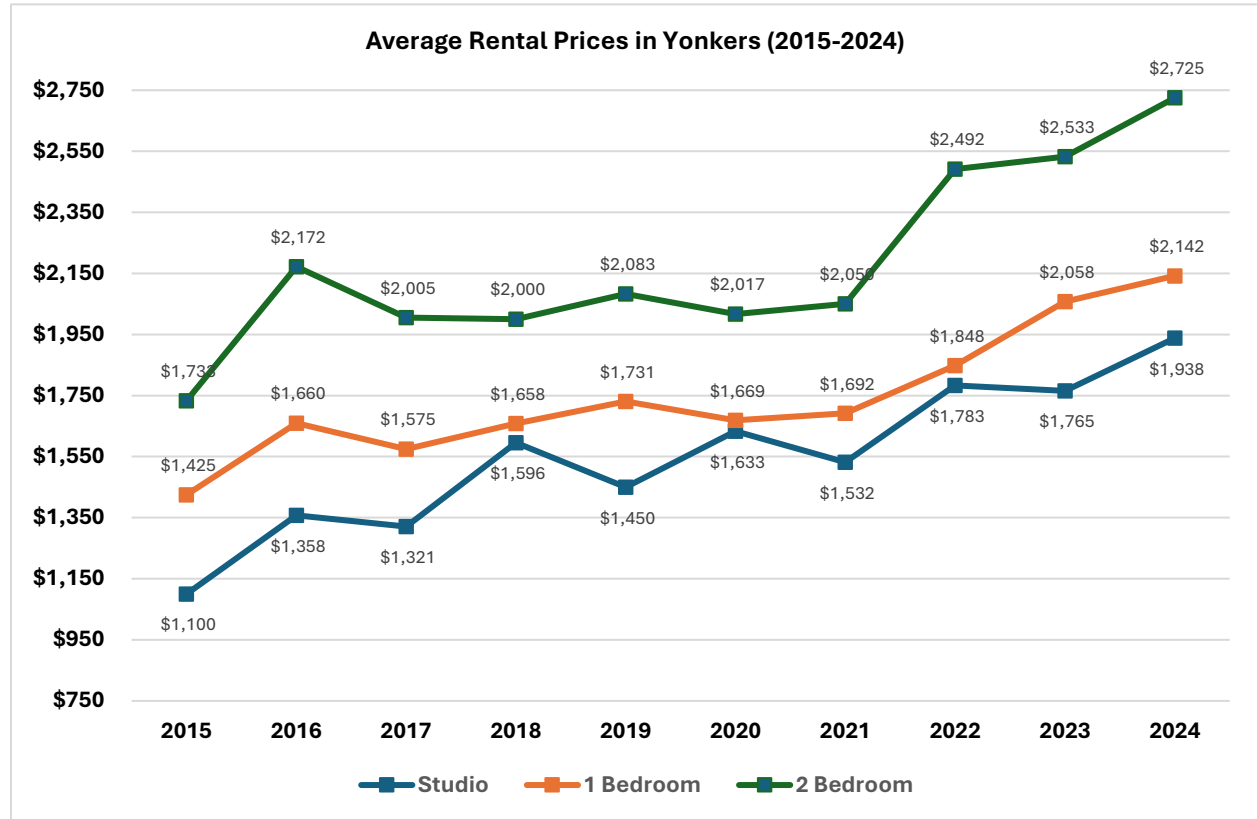
In contrast to the overall long-term downward trend, the number of homeless people in Westchester increased in 2024, rising to 1,611 individuals of whom 584 are children under the age of 18. Part of the reason for this increase may be connected to the expiration COVID-specific funding streams from Federal and New York State sources for homelessness prevention. These streams included Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), eRAP, and ESG-CV. Other factors included the suspension of Covid-specific eviction moratoriums as well as the enduring shortage of affordable housing for very low and low income households.

Homeless Counts in Yonkers / Mount Vernon / Westchester Continuum of Care								
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Homeless Persons	1832	1827	1812	1,683	1,383	1,356	1,317	1,611
Unsheltered	47	44	32	67	96	50	57	50
Sheltered	1785	1783	1780	1,616	1,287	1,306	1,260	1,561
Single adults and youth	669	608	607	643	581	543	619	623
People in Families	1163	1219	1205	1,040	802	813	698	988
Veterans	121	45	42	37	29	25	34	20
Unsheltered veterans	5	3	1	1	n/a	1	1	2
Chronic Homeless	149	164	130	130	118	119	97	88
Single Chronic Homeless	131	140	84	111	100	107	88	78
Family Chronic Homeless	18	24	46	19	18	12	9	0

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Rental Housing Market

As shown below, the asking rents in Yonkers have increased significantly over the last decade. Average listing prices in Yonkers have increased 76% for studios; 50% for 1-bedroom apartments; and 57% for 2-bedroom apartments. Meanwhile, the supply of apartments that are affordable to households earning less than 60% of Area Median Income is very limited. In July 2022, the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers opened up its waiting list for Section 8 vouchers for the first time in 10 years and received more than 14,500 applications of which 3,000 were selected by lottery for inclusion on the waiting list.



TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

Mode of Transportation

A higher share of residents in Southwest Yonkers (33%) use mass transit to reach work compared to all residents of Yonkers (24%) and Westchester County (19%).

Mode of Transportation for Work Trips (2022)			
Mode	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Drove alone	41%	51%	53%
Carpool	9%	10%	7%
Transit	33%	24%	19%
Walk	6%	5%	4%
Other Mode	3%	2%	2%
Work from Home	7%	9%	15%

Travel Times

Residents from Southwest Yonkers commute for a slightly longer time (38 minutes) to their places of work than do residents from Yonkers (35 minutes) and Westchester County (35 minutes).

Travel Time		
Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
38	35	35

Transportation Access

According to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, transportation issues are the primary barrier that YCAP clients face in attempting to secure services or meet their basic needs. More than a third (38%) of respondents report transportation access as a barrier to services including childcare services. The transportation barriers most cited by survey respondents are its cost (35%); travel distances (29%); and lack of access to an automobile (27%).

According to census data, as shown in the table below, the share of households without a vehicle is 44% for residents in Southwest Yonkers compared to 24% in Yonkers and 14% in Westchester County.

Vehicles Per Household (2022)			
Vehicular Access	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
No vehicle available	44%	24%	14%
1 vehicle available	40%	42%	36%
2 vehicles available	13%	24%	34%
3 or more vehicles available	4%	10%	16%

WELLNESS, HEALTH, & SAFETY

Healthcare

According to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, more YCAP residents identified healthcare as a primary need compared to any other need. The needs ranked as important include medical healthcare (53%); dental treatment (49%); and vision care (43%).

Mental Health

According to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, only 16% of respondents listed mental health support as a critical need. However, it is important to note that the low share may be more attributable to the fact that Yonkers residents may be pursuing mental health services outside of YCAP and did not participate in the survey.

Healthcare Insurance

Overall, the mass majority of residents in Southwest Yonkers and Yonkers generally are insured. However, there are some sub-populations that are less likely to be insured. The uninsured share is much higher for

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residents who are Hispanic (12%); foreign born (14%); non-citizens (22%); unemployed (10%); not in the labor force (12%); or earning between 25K and 75K (11% - 12%).

The census data does not align with the results from the 2024 Client Survey. Whereas census data suggests that only 9% of the population in Southwest Yonkers lacks insurance, 27% of YCAP survey respondents report that they do not have healthcare. Similarly, 27% of surveyed parents reported that their children do not have insurance.

The health insurance barriers identified by the greatest share of survey respondents include healthcare costs (39%); lack of transportation (27%); lack of insurance (22%); and lack of childcare (20%).

Percentage of Population that lacks Health Insurance (2022)			
	Southwest Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester County
Total Population	9%	6%	5%
Children (18 and under)	5%	4%	2%
Seniors (65 and over)	1%	1%	1%
Black	4%	6%	5%
Asian	8%	4%	4%
Hispanic	12%	9%	11%
White (Non-Hispanic)	3%	3%	2%
Foreign Born	14%	10%	11%
Not Citizen	22%	18%	21%
Unemployed	10%	10%	13%
Not in Labor Force	12%	11%	8%
Earn Under \$25,000	7%	8%	8%
Earn \$25,000 to \$49,999	12%	10%	10%
Earn \$50,000 to \$74,999	11%	8%	8%
Earn \$75,000 to \$99,999	6%	7%	8%
Earn \$100,000 and over	8%	4%	3%

Technology Access

According to the 2024 YCAP Client Survey, 93% of respondents have access to a cell phone. However, only 26% of respondents reported having internet service or an email address. Less than 4% of respondents reported having a computer at home.

Childcare

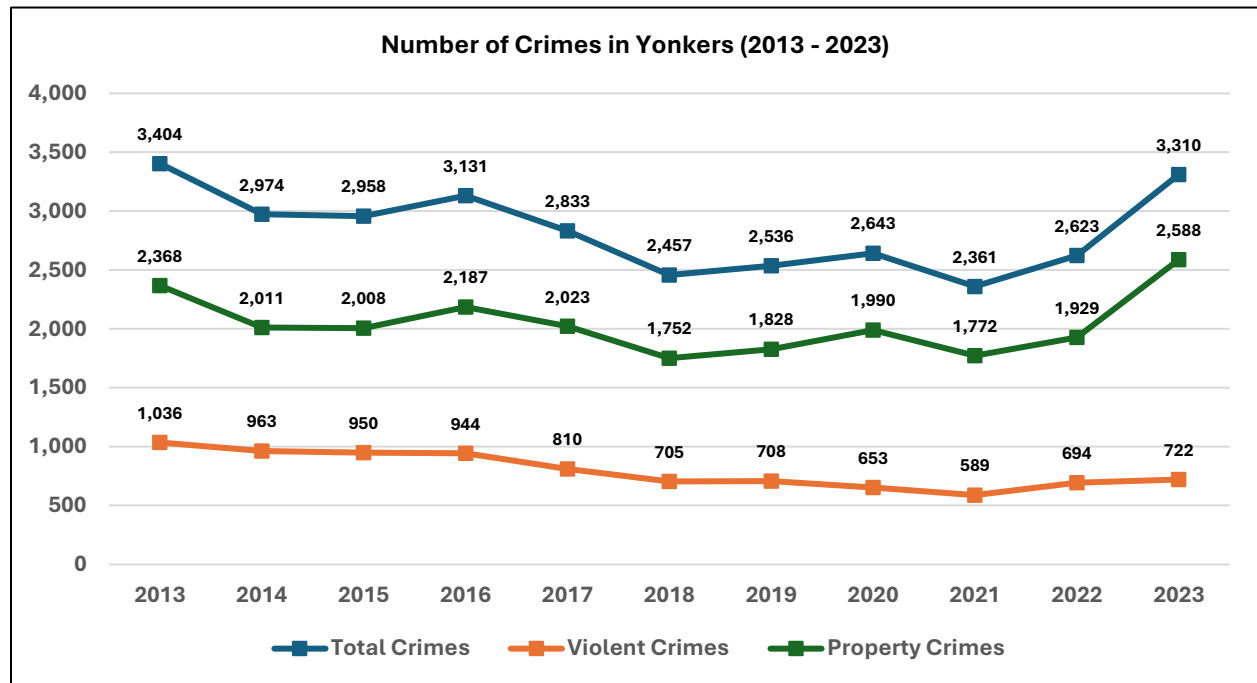
The 2024 YCAP Client Survey suggests that many YCAP clients are confronting significant barriers to childcare services. The specific barriers identified by high shares of respondents include the cost of

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childcare services (32%); location of childcare providers (29%); language barriers (29%); transportation access (27%), and the unique requirements of special needs children (27%).

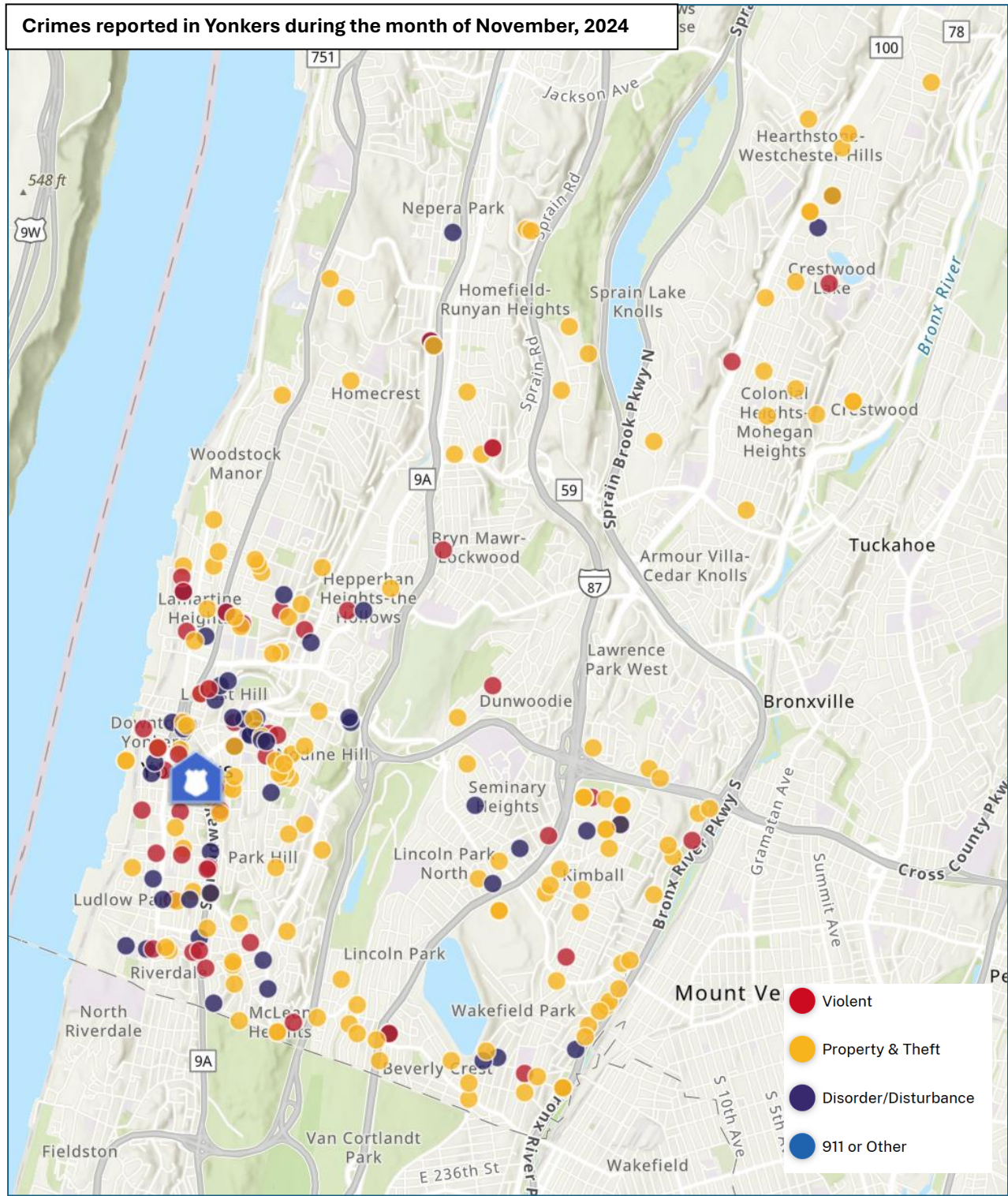
Crime

Over the last 30 years, crime rates in Yonkers has generally fallen. However, since 2021, there has been an upward trend for both violent crimes and property crimes. Violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and assault. Property crimes include burglary, larceny and automobile theft. In 2023, the total number of crimes in Yonkers reached 3,310 crimes, the highest it has been since 2013. These crime statistics have been sourced by the Yonkers Police Department and reported to New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.



Crime in Yonkers is more spatially concentrated in the southern parts of Yonkers with a particularly strong concentration of violent crime incidents in Southwest Yonkers.

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SECTION V: KEY FINDINGS

Presented below is a summary of the conditions of poverty, the causes of poverty, and the community needs that have been identified as critical to the diminishment of poverty in Yonkers.

The findings in this section were derived from several sources include a detailed review of the demographic and socio-economic trends in Southwest Yonkers, Yonkers, and Westchester County. These trends are presented in Section III of this report. Also informing this section was an assessment of existing resources for low-income residents including employment; education; jobs; transportation; and wellness, health, and safety. These resources are evaluated in Section IV of his document. Besides quantitative analysis, this section was shaped by input from a wide cross-section of residents, community leaders, service providers, YCAP's Board of Directors, and YCAP Programmatic Staff.

CONDITIONS OF POVERTY

- **Economic Distress:** The research presented in Section IV reveals that households in Yonkers with zero to little income experience significant challenges paying for their core needs including housing, food, clothing, healthcare services, household and hygiene products, transportation services, technology (internet service) and childcare.
- **Housing Insecurity:** The lack of financial resources to pay the cost of housing in turn leads to housing insecurity that may manifest in onerous payment arrears, threat of eviction or homelessness.
- **Poor Health Conditions:** The inability to pay for food and health insurance in tandem with environmental pollution in Southwest Yonkers elevates the health risks of impoverished residents. Specifically, healthcare practitioners note that low-income Yonkers residents are vulnerable to a broad range of health problems including undernourishment, diabetes, and asthma. Although the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic has diminished, the enduring lack of preventative care for low-income residents makes them vulnerable to infections with narrower treatment options. Compounding physical health challenges are mental health challenges that result in part from the continuing stress of poverty in tandem with untreated situations of trauma, substance abuse, and family conflict.
- **Lack of Diversions:** The allocation of limited funds to high housing prices leave low-income households with few resources available for other expenditures. While the loss of shelter or lack of food are especially severe manifestations of poverty in Yonkers, impoverished residents also confront the lack of resources for culture and entertainment that in turn compromises individual, household, and community wellness.

CAUSES OF POVERTY

- **Systemic Racial and Class Barriers:** Many stakeholders note that poverty in Yonkers reflects longstanding racial and class disparities regarding access to resources. These disparities,

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anchored in historical patterns of racial segregation and income inequality, have led to cyclical poverty in which under resourced families invariably have children who invariably confront limited pathways toward educational advancement and economic mobility. Section III documents the enduring disparities in income and poverty levels that occur across racial and ethnic lines within Yonkers.

- **Educational Barriers:** Although a high percentage of Yonkers youth are graduating from high school, an overwhelming majority of low-income young people do not secure a college degree that would position them for higher paying skilled jobs that would place them on a track toward financial stability and building wealth. Compounding the high costs to higher education is the relative shortage of vocational programs for young adults which could lead to high wage jobs with long-term job security and benefits.
- **Inflationary Impacts:** The increased cost of food, housing, healthcare, and transportation has resulted in low-income residents spending more money on essential needs while not having any money left over for other important yet ancillary needs.
- **Housing Demand and Supply:** Throughout the NY Metro Region, there is an undersupply of affordable housing, especially for households earning less than 60% of Area Median Income. Meanwhile, there are not enough subsidized housing units available through any type of development including public housing, non-profit housing developments, or market-rate buildings with workforce units. As a result, many lower-income Yonkers residents are cost burdened as measured by them paying more than 30% of their income on housing.
- **Housing Development Patterns:** As documented in Section IV, there has been a considerable increase in the housing supply in Southwest Yonkers. However, community stakeholders note that much of the new housing is beyond the reach of many low-income residents while a combination of federal and state housing financing terms in tandem with local zoning regulations limit the amount of new affordable housing that can be constructed in Yonkers to house its residents earning less than 60% AMI.
- **Affordable Housing Regulations:** Although many stakeholders focus on market trends and undersupply of affordable housing as the cause of housing insecurity in Yonkers, others point out the disincentives that federal housing eligibility requirements create for low income residents earning more money. These requirements also serve result in the lack of fluidity in the affordable housing supply with impoverished residents staying in these units for a long period of time or even across generations. Other stakeholders note that financial assistance is often available only for impoverished residents, thereby penalizing residents whose incomes increase but then lose all benefits even though they still need some level of assistance.
- **Transportation Costs:** Although Yonkers is located in a walkable urban environment served by rail and bus service, many educational and employment opportunities are available in more auto-oriented parts of the Lower Hudson Valley. A high share of low-income residents cannot afford an automobile and so their employment prospects are narrower.

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- **Social Service Challenges:** Low-income residents, community leaders, and service providers identified a broad range of barriers to social services offered by public agencies and non-profit organizations to redress the conditions of poverty. Some of the most frequently cited challenges include lack of information, administratively complex application processes, onerous eligibility requirements for certain programs, and limited funding for programs. Another major issue is the language barrier, especially for newer immigrants for whom English is not their first language. Although many programs provide information in English and Spanish, not all residents find it easy to navigate governmental bureaucracies as they seek out financial assistance, counseling, or vocational training.
- **Healthcare Access:** The high costs of healthcare insurance in tandem with the healthcare barriers faced by undocumented residents result in many uninsured residents. The lack of insurance in turn precludes access to both physical and mental health services, which then in turn makes it harder to secure gainful employment.
- **Communication Challenges:** As noted in Section IV, most Yonkers residents have a cell phone but many low-income residents lack a personal computer, internet service at home, and basic digital skills. This lack of digital fluency in turn makes it harder to secure employment, find housing, and tap into social services.
- **Childcare Costs:** Low-income residents in Yonkers and community stakeholders observe the detrimental impact that high child care costs have on access to jobs, education, and healthcare.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- **Employment Needs:** In order to increase the income levels of impoverished residents, low-income residents and community stakeholders suggest:
 - ✓ Increased dissemination of information about available jobs.
 - ✓ More funding for ESL programs that help make immigrants more competitive on the job market.
 - ✓ Adoption of minimum livable wage laws that are commensurate with the cost of living in Yonkers.
 - ✓ Financial assistance for transportation services to job sites.
 - ✓ Provision of affordable childcare programs that make it easier and financially practicable for parents to secure full-time employment.
 - ✓ More vocational and career building programs including computer skills; resume writing; networking skills; and provision of clothing for interviews and jobs.
- **Education Needs:**

YONKERS 2025 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- ✓ Expanded financial assistance to help low-income resident pay for college education.
- ✓ More partnerships with the business sector that offer vocational training linked to high wage jobs.
- **Housing Needs**
 - ✓ An increased supply of housing units priced for households earning less than 60% AMI.
 - ✓ Increased production of transitional housing options that enable low-income residents to transition out of public housing units as their income levels increase.
 - ✓ More supportive housing options for all special needs populations including formerly incarcerated individuals.
 - ✓ More permanent housing solutions for formerly homeless individuals or households at risk of homelessness.
 - ✓ More financial support for rental arrears and ongoing rental assistance.
- **Enhanced Transportation Services**
 - ✓ Financial assistance for transportation services to job sites.
- **Wellness, Health, and Safety Investments**
 - ✓ Enhanced access to healthy foods including expansion of food pantry programs.
 - ✓ Expanded youth programming including mentorship programs; after school professional/vocational training for high school students; tutoring services; summer enrichment programs; and interventions on cyber bullying.
 - ✓ Mental health services and wellness activities including direct therapeutic care for seniors, parents, adults, and teenagers.
 - ✓ Family planning programs for prospective parents.
 - ✓ More legal and social services for immigrants.
 - ✓ More social services for housing insecure and homeless population.
 - ✓ Provision of housing counselors to help people navigate listings and available units.
 - ✓ Life skills including workshops on personal finance/financial literacy, nutrition, stress management for adults and also for teenagers.
 - ✓ More support for program participants to help them reach program completion including mental health kits, wellness programs, and cell phones.
 - ✓ Better training for program administrators and educators in the school system on community needs, poverty conditions, and the value of programs and services.

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- ✓ Better communication between service providers, governmental agencies, and the police department.
- ✓ One-stop, wrap around service approach that helps low-income navigate multiple bureaucratic systems at one location.
- ✓ Expanded provision of household essentials including personal hygiene products.
- ✓ Protection from adverse environmental conditions such as shading from extreme heat conditions and sun exposure; reduction of water and air pollution caused by transportation and infrastructure operation; and installation of storm-water management systems to protect residents from flooding impacts.
- ✓ Enhanced access to open space, public parks, forested areas, and the waterfront.

APPENDICES



APPENDIX A: QUALIFICATIONS OF YCAP'S CONSULTANT

Kevin Dwarka is a land use and economic consultant specializing in the revitalization of New York State's downtowns, neighborhoods, waterfronts, main streets, and transportation infrastructure. In practice since 1998, Kevin provides public agencies and real estate developers with economic analysis, land use guidance, and litigation support. Offering a wide variety of consulting services, Kevin has served as the key economic development advisor for a broad range of revitalization initiatives throughout New York State.

- Economic consulting services include market analysis, real estate demand analysis, cost benefit analysis, real estate financial modelling (pro-formas), retail leakage studies, feasibility analysis, fiscal impact analysis, and infrastructure finance.
- Land use services include zoning analysis, area planning, comprehensive planning, TOD planning, housing needs assessment, site selection assistance, brownfield redevelopment guidance, parking studies, complete streets policy design, and historic preservation analysis.
- Litigation support services include regulatory review, expert testimony, real property valuation, and technical analysis of land use, traffic, and environmental impact documents.

Kevin has conducted needs assessments for a broad range of localities throughout the Metropolitan New York Area. These communities include Yonkers, Philmont, Newburgh, Ossining, Mamaroneck, Poughkeepsie, Kingston, Albany, and Norwalk.

Prior to forming his own firm, Kevin held senior positions at the MTA, Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates, and the Israel Union for Environmental Defense. He is admitted to practice before the New York State Bar and serves on the New York City Bar Association's Housing and Urban Development Committee. He also serves as a Senior Fellow at Pace Land Use Law Center and on the board of the New York chapter of the Congress for New Urbanism.

Kevin received his BA from Columbia University, JD from Pace Law School, MCP from UC Berkeley, and PhD from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's School of Public Policy. His doctoral dissertation comparatively analyzed the use of private finance for light rail projects in Israel, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

APPENDIX B: CONTRIBUTORS TO THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Technical Advisors	
Advisor	Affiliation
Jacqueline Orr, NCRMT	New York State Community Action Association, CEO
Jessica Lowell, NCRT	New York State Department of State, Supervising Analyst
Victor Carrera	New York State Department of State, Program Analyst

YCAP Staff Members	
YCAP Staff Members	Title
Don Brown	Executive Director
Larry Johnson, Ed.D	Deputy Director
Adriene Dent Holmes	CSBG Coordinator
Naila Vasquez	Workforce Innovation Opportunities Act Bilingual Case Manager; Summer Leadership Program;
Kevyn Aguirre	Family Services and Program Support Manager; Nutrition Support, Food, Emergency Food Bags
Jacqueline Agossa	OASAS Youth and Family Engagement Specialist; Drug and Alcohol Prevention in Schools
Princess Agossa	Finance Associate; Fiscal Associate
Lloyd Richards, Jr.	WIOA Case Manager; Office of Victim Services - Invisible Wounds; workforce development, therapy, sexual harassment intervention
Mercedes Gonzalez	Witness Advocate (OVS); Case Manager

YCAP Board Members		
Board Member	Affiliation	Sectors
Latasha Jones, M.Ed., YCAP Board President	New York City Department of Education, Educator and Dean	Educational institution
Lucy Moreno-Casanova, YCAP Board Vice President	Community Garden Project Coordinator; Coordinator at Greyston Foundation;	Community-based Organization
Nadia-Marie Matthie, CPA, YCAP Treasurer	Withum, Partner	Private sector
Bernard Stachel	Tamerlain Realty Corp, Associate Broker and Partner	Private sector
Symra Brandon	Director of Community Affairs for NY State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins	Public sector
Hope Hollingsworth-Coaxum (Secretary, alternate to Mayor Mike Spano)	City of Yonkers Office of Constituent Services, Special Assistant to the Mayor	Public sector
John Savage, Esq.	Savage Law Office, Principal	Private sector Faith-based sector
Justin Tolbert, Esq.	U.S. Dept of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration & Custom Enforcement Office of Chief Counsel, Lawyer	Public Sector
Shanae Williams	County Legislator for District 16, Chair of Housing Committee	Public Sector
Josephine Cianciulli	Representative for David Tubiolo	Public Sector
Marcus H. Knight	Hand Up Paid Forward, CEO and Founder	Community-based organization; private sector; Faith-based organization
Akilah Radcliff, M.Ed.	Family Opportunity Center, Program Director	Community-based organization

YONKERS 2025 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Yonkers Community Stakeholders		
Contributor	Affiliations	Sector
Fatima Bala	Greater Mental Health of New York, Clinician	Healthcare Sector
Cynthia Nwizu, PhD, MDiv, MBA	SUNY Westchester Educational Opportunity Center, Program Administrator for Academic Affairs	Educational institution
Kevin McGahren	Greyston Bakery, General Manager and President	Community-based organization
Oded Holzinger	Goundwork Hudson Valley, Executive Director	Environmental Organization
Wilson Kimball	Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, President and CEO	Public sector
Richard Nightingale	Westhab, President and CEO	Community-based organization
Katrina Schermerhorn, MPA	Westchester Jewish Community Services, Assistant Executive Director, Children, Youth & Family Services; Mary J. Blige Center, Manager	Community-based organization
Nancy Marcojohn	Hudson Valley Justice Center, Office Manager/Arrears Coordinator	Community-based organization
Ivan Newfield	Center for Career Freedom; American Red Cross	Community-based organization
Greg Arcaro	Yonkers Community Planning Council, Executive Director; Rotary Club of Yonkers; Yonkers Chamber of Commerce	Community-based Organization
Bob Morrow, MD	Beczak Environmental Education Center, Secretary; Ludlow Park Residents Association; Yonkers Paddling and Rowing Club; NYS Academy of Family Physician; Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Associate Professor	Healthcare Sector, Community-based Organization; Educational institution
McCauley Gibbons	Ayfa Foundation, Program Manager of Community Safety Net Program	Community-based Organization
Stacy Larson	Westchester Community College & Westchester Educational Opportunity Center, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs	Educational institution
Shardé Alderson	Shades by Shar LLC, Owner	Private sector
Elena Tateo	Westchester County Department of Health - Women Infant Children (WIC) Program, Program Administrator	Health sector
Michelle Koross	Westchester County Department of Health - Women Infant Children (WIC) Program, Staff Nutritionist	Health sector
Oswaldo Coto-Chang	Yonkers Public Library, Head of Children's Services,	Community-based Organization

APPENDIX C: CLIENT SURVEY FORM

The mission of the Yonkers Community Action Program (YCAP) is to engage and empower the residents of Yonkers by providing resources and services that improve health, education, and employment outcomes as well as support economic self-sufficiency and poverty reduction. To help YCAP better serve the needs of Yonkers residents, we are asking you to complete the following survey. It should take no more than 10 minutes of your time. Your participation will help YCAP make sure that its programs and services are truly responsive to your needs. Thank you!

1. Name

2. Street Address and Building / Apartment Number

3. In what part of Yonkers do you live?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast | <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast |

4. How long have you lived in Yonkers?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 - 10 Years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 5 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 Years |

5. Age

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 40 - 64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 - 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 - 79 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24 - 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 - 39 | |

6. Personal Status (Check any options that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single without Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Married or Partnered with Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single with Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Married or Partnered without Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

7. Race / Ethnicity (Check any options that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black / African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Racial / Multi-Racial | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White / Caucasian | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic | |

8. Gender

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Binary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender | |

YONKERS 2025 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

9. What is the total number of people living in your household

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 or more people |

10. What is the primary language spoken in your home?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> English | <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

11. Who lives in your household?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live alone | <input type="checkbox"/> Roommates (not family) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse / partner | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or More Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your parent(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> At least one senior (over age 65) in the household |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Family Member | |

12. Check the highest level of education that you have completed.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade School | <input type="checkbox"/> Some College |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some High School | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School Diploma | <input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GED | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate or Other Professional Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical or Vocational Training | |

13. Check all the needs which have been the most important to you over the last year.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Repairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vision Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Support / Trauma Relief | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Education / Job Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing | <input type="checkbox"/> Childcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Empowerment Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Help | <input type="checkbox"/> Afterschool Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Services for Special Needs Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Education | |

14. Check all the barriers that make it hard for you to meet your household's needs or access services?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costs of Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Pride (Don't Want To Ask For Help) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility Requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Programs or Services Near Me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Information or Direct Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Childcare |

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- Prior Bad Experiences With Service/Program
- Employment Responsibilities
- Physical Disabilities
- Mental Health Challenges or Trauma
- Language Barrier
- Other Barriers
- No Barriers to Services

15. If you are a parent, check any and all obstacles you experience in trying to obtain childcare services? If not a parent, skip to Question 16.

- Cost of Childcare Services
- Hours of Services Not Sufficient
- Children Have Special Needs
- Location of Childcare Providers
- Lack of Transportation to Providers
- Quality of Childcare
- Not Enough Childcare Providers
- Language Barriers
- I am a parent but encounter no obstacles to childcare services
- Other Barriers
- No Barriers to Childcare

16. Do you have health insurance?

- Yes
- No

17. If you have children living in your household, do they have health insurance. Skip to Question 18 if there are no children in your household.

- Yes
- No

18. Please check any and all obstacles you experience in trying to access healthcare?

- Cost of healthcare
- Lack of insurance
- Lack of transportation to healthcare providers
- Lack of healthcare services in my area
- Lack of childcare during appointment
- Unavailability of healthcare provider or long waiting times
- Not sure where or how to find a healthcare provider
- Other Barriers to Healthcare
- No Barriers to Healthcare

19. What is your employment status. Check all that apply.

- Own Business
- Full-time
- Retired
- Part-time
- Freelancer or Independent Contractor
- Unemployed/Job Searching
- Unemployed/Not Searching

20. Please check any and all barriers you experience in trying to access employment opportunities.

- No jobs nearby that are in my field
- Lack of required skills, training or education
- Lack of experience
- Wages offered are too low
- Available jobs do not offer benefits
- Lack of access to an automobile
- Cost of transportation
- Lack of childcare
- Mental disability
- Physical disability
- Other employment barriers
- No barriers to employment opportunities.

21. What is your household's total income including all members of the household?

- No Income
- Less than 10K
- 10K - 19K
- 20K - 39K
- 40K - 49K
- 50K - 59K
- 60K - 69K
- 70K or more

YONKERS 2025 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Prefer not to say

22. Please check any and all forms of financial assistance you have received in the past year.

- Section 8 / Rental Assistance
- Utility Assistance / HEAP Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
- Family Assistance
- Safety Net Assistance
- Emergency Assistance
- SNAP / Food Stamps
- Medicaid or Medicare
- Other form of financial assistance

23. Please check any and all barriers you experience in trying to access reliable transportation.

- Cost of Transportation
- Distance Between Home and Job Sites
- Lack of Access to Automobile
- Price of Gas
- No Transit Routes Near Home
- No Transit Routes Near Work
- Other Transportation Barriers
- No Barriers to Transportation

24. Type of residence?

- Own my home free and clear without a mortgage
- Home With Mortgage
- Rent a Housing Unit
- Rent a Room in a Housing Unit
- Shelter
- Hotel
- Homeless

25. Check any and all housing challenges that you experience in trying to secure housing.

- Rent is too high
- Housing unit needs major repairs
- Cost of utilities is too high
- Cannot afford home payments
- Cannot find home in price range
- Housing unit is too small
- Crime and security issues
- Other Housing Challenges
- No Housing Challenges

26. Check if you have any of the following communication devices:

- Cell Phone
- Land Line
- Home Computer
- Internet Access
- Email Address

27. Please list any services or programs that you have used over the past year that were NOT offered by YCAP:

28. Please note below if over the past year, you have participated in any of the YCAP sponsored programs and services listed below. If you have used any of these services, please complete the rest of the questions in the survey. If you have NOT used any YCAP services in the past year, then you have completed the survey

YONKERS 2025 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Rental Arrears | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Back-to-School Clothing Program for Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Services to Social Service or Health Providers | <input type="checkbox"/> WIOA Youth Workforce Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Utility Arrears Financial Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Invisible Wounds / Victim Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Books for College Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Protection (Masks/Hygiene Kits) | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Empowerment Programs (Social Events, Too Good for Violence, SPORT, Botvin LifeSkills, Training (LST)) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site Food Pantry | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardening | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Delivery (Site Specific) | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Leadership Program for Middle School Students | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Delivery (Home) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Prepared Meals | | |

29. Note any barriers to receiving the service from YCAP?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Information about Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Childcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard to Reach Location of Service or Lack of Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Language of Service Providers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day or Time of Service Offered | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Barriers |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Barriers |

30. Do you agree that the services that you receive from YCAP meet your needs?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral / No Opinion | |

31. Do you agree that the YCAP facility where you receive services is safe, clean and comfortable?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral / No Opinion | |

32. Do you agree that YCAP's service providers are informed, helpful, and caring?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral / No Opinion | |

33. How can YCAP improve the service you received, better meet your needs, or help you overcome barriers to service?

APPENDIX D: CLIENT SURVEY RESULTS

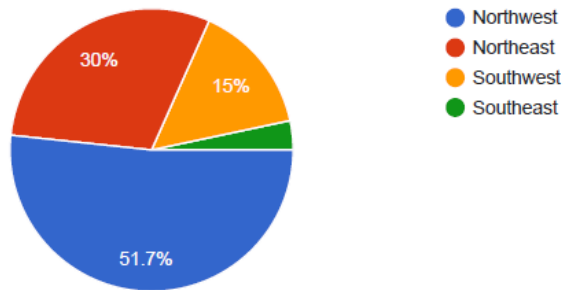
1. Name

81 responses

2. Street Address and Building / Apartment Number

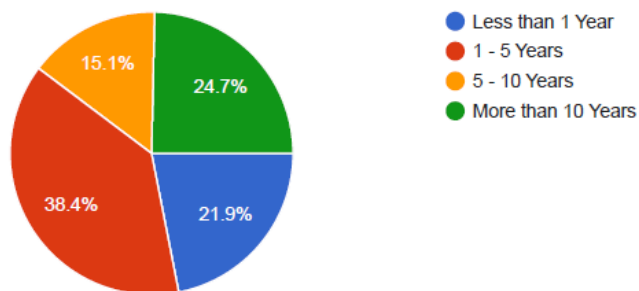
3. In what part of Yonkers do you live?

60 responses



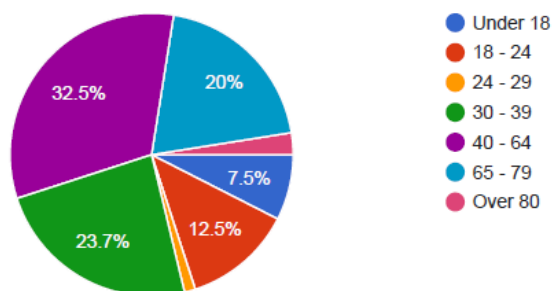
4. How long have you lived in Yonkers?

73 responses



5. Age

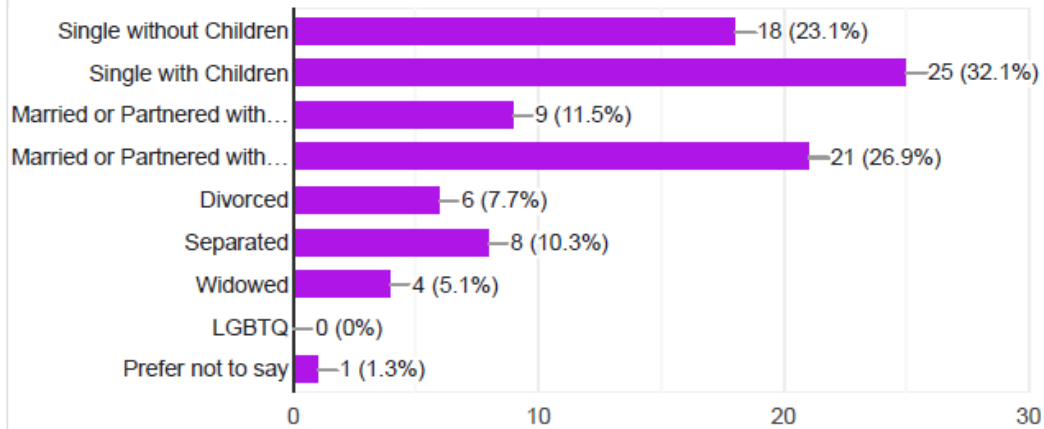
80 responses



6. Personal Status (Check any options that apply)



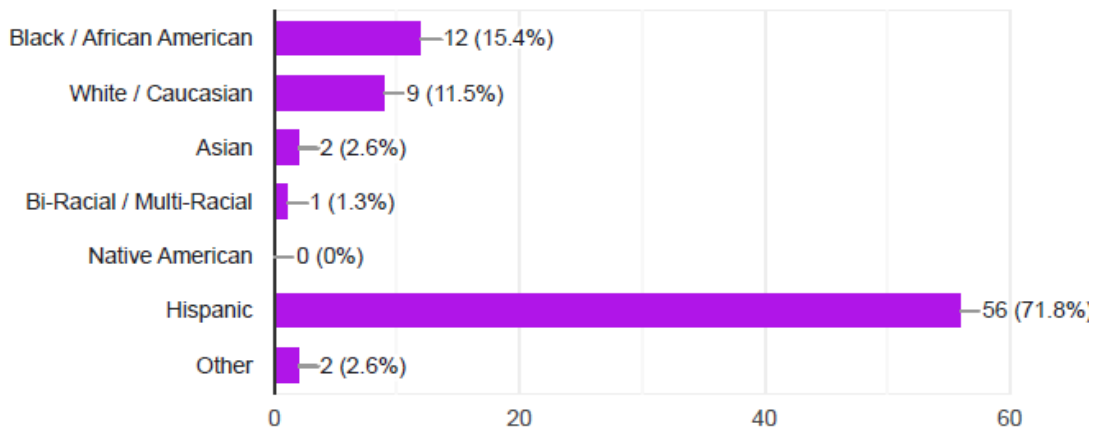
78 responses



7. Race / Ethnicity: Check all that Apply.



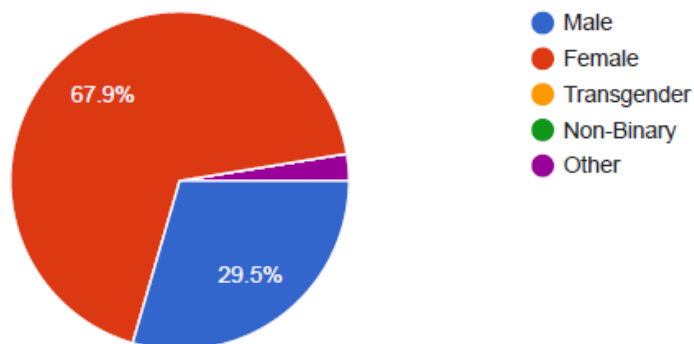
78 responses



8. Gender



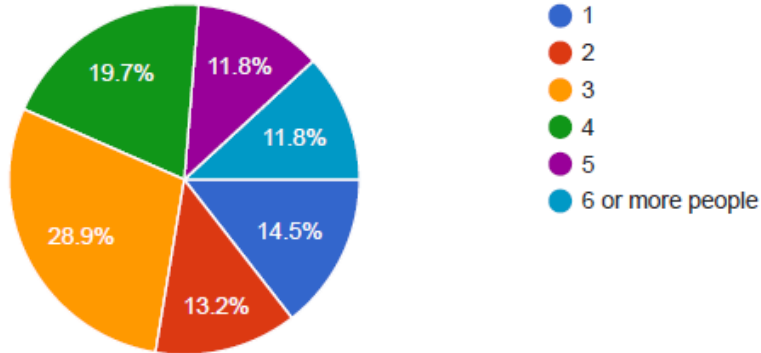
78 responses



9. What is the total number of people living in your household

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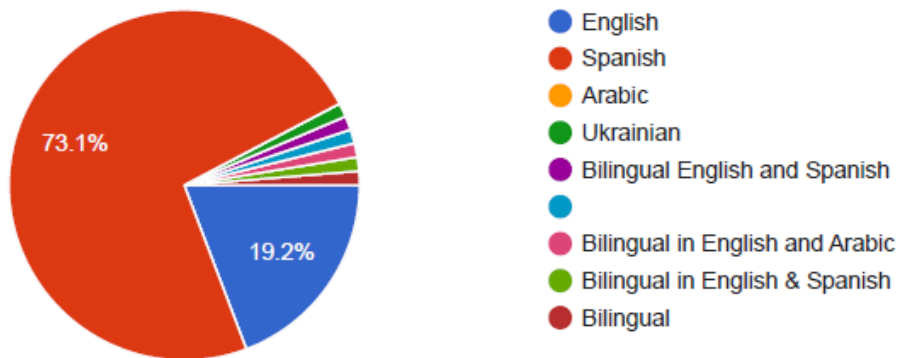
76 responses



10. What is the primary language spoken in your home?

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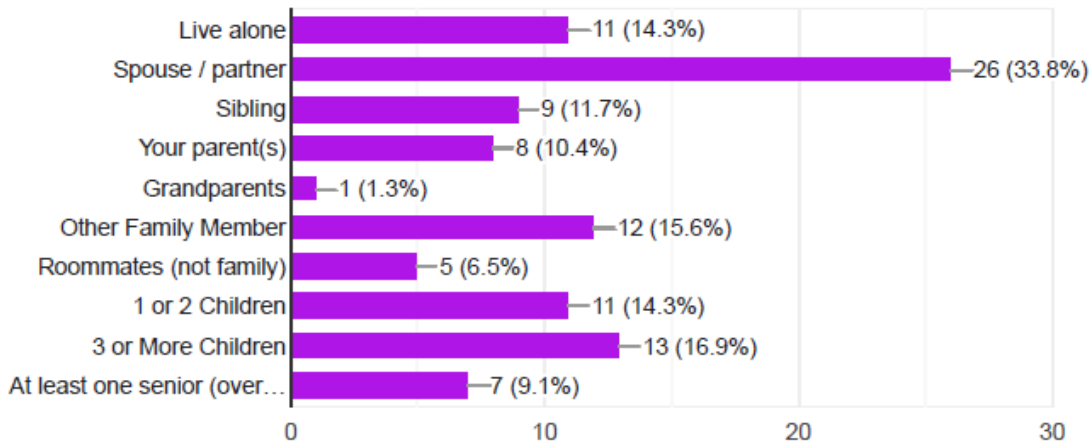
78 responses



11. Who lives in your household?

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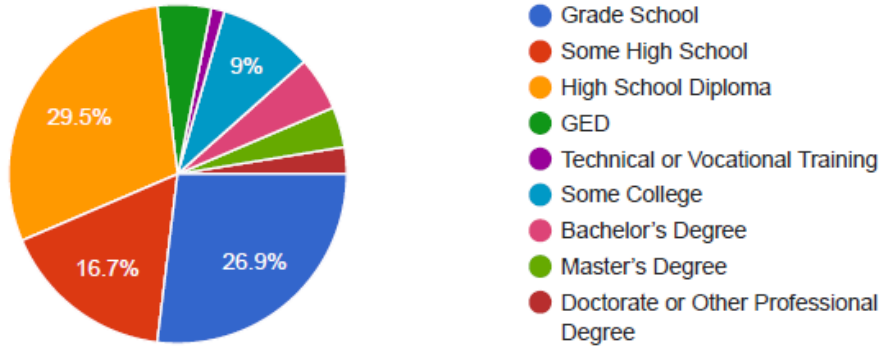
77 responses



12. Check the highest level of education that you have completed.



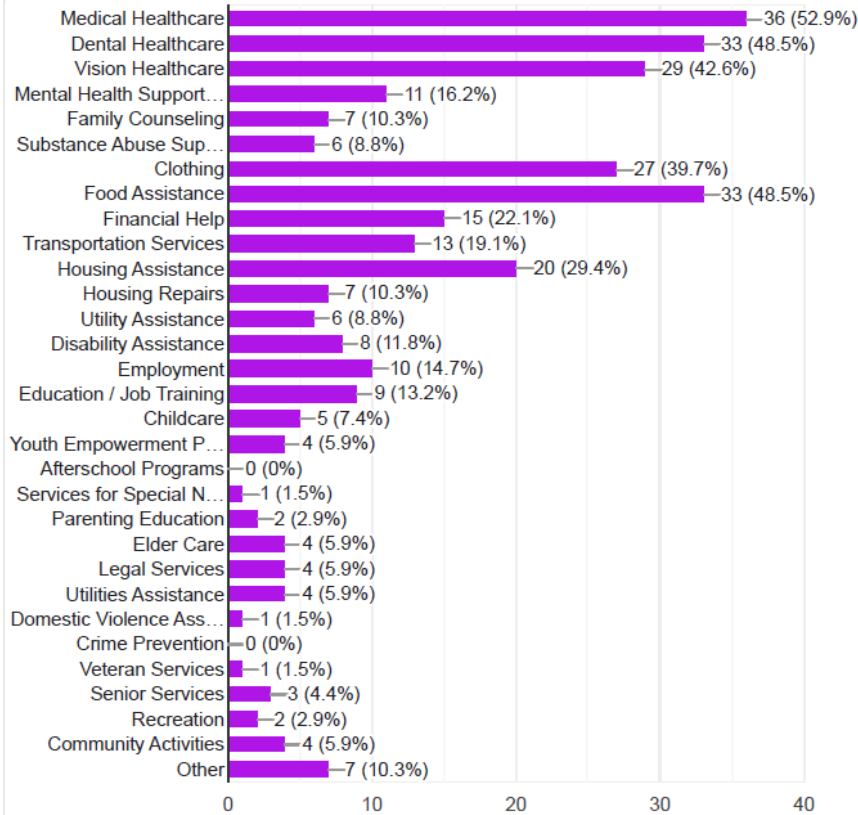
78 responses



13. Check all the needs which have been the most important to you over the last year.

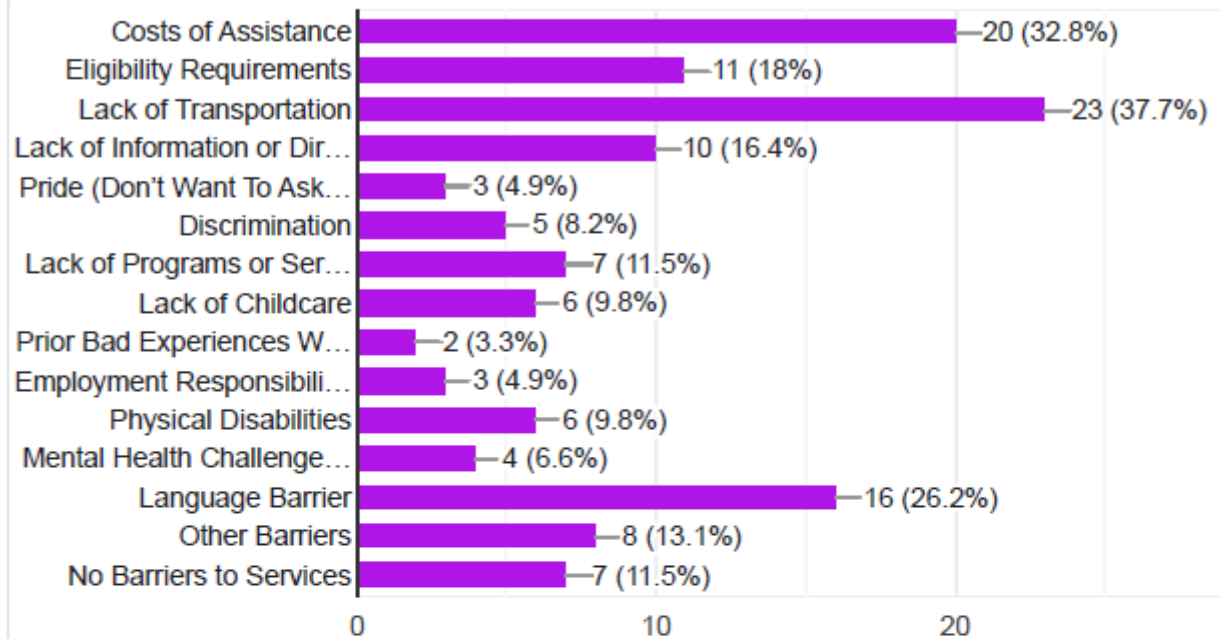


68 responses



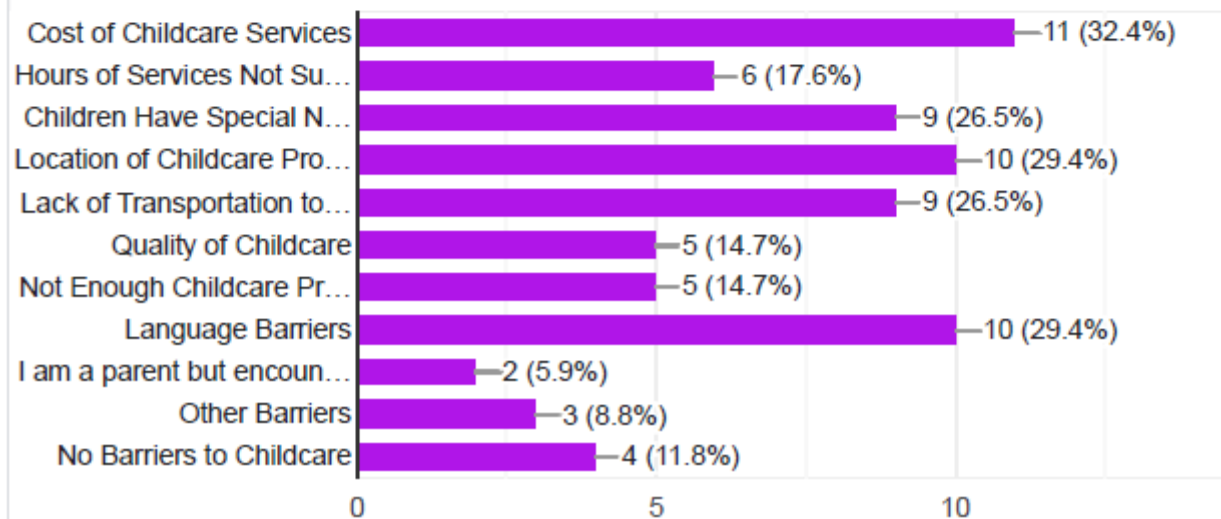
14. Check all the barriers that make it hard for you to meet your household's needs or access services?

61 responses



15. If you are a parent, check any and all obstacles in trying to obtain childcare services? If not a parent, skip to Question 16.

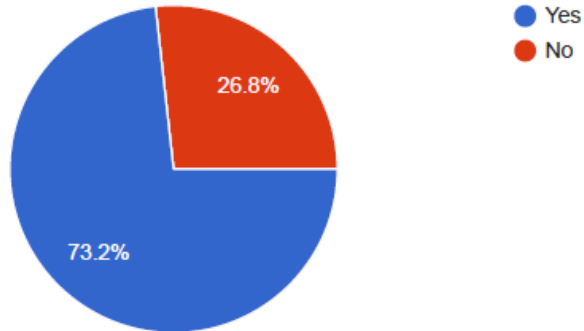
34 responses



16. Do you have health insurance?

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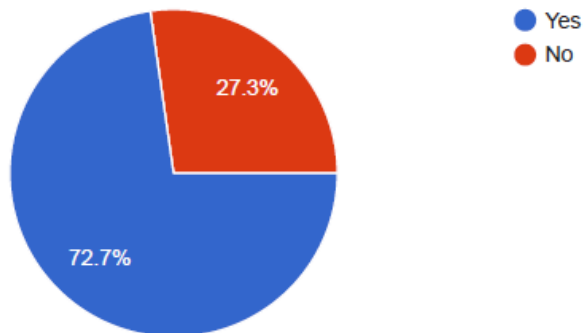
71 responses



17. If you have children living in your household, do they have health insurance. Skip to Question 18 if there are no children in your household.

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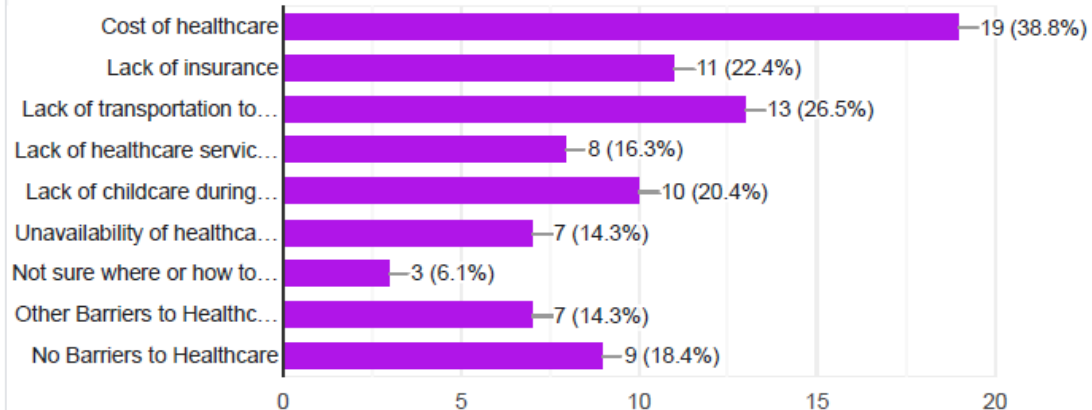
55 responses



18. Please check any and all obstacles you experience in trying to access healthcare?

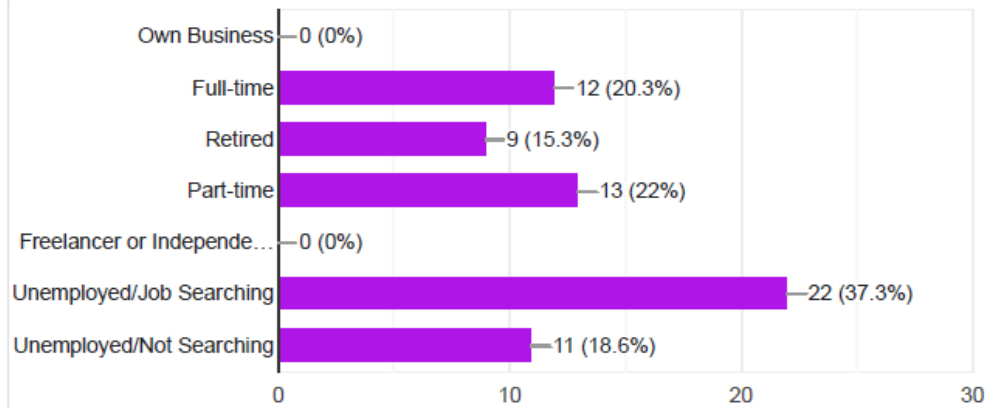
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49 responses



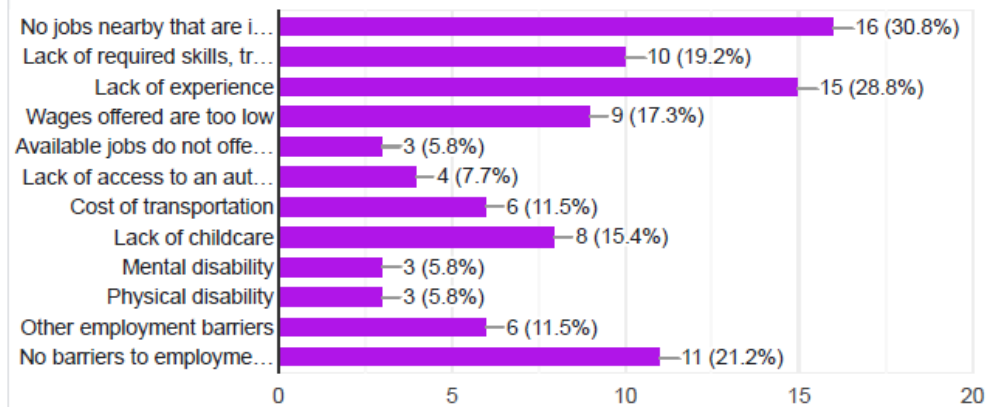
19. What is your employment status. Check all that apply.

59 responses



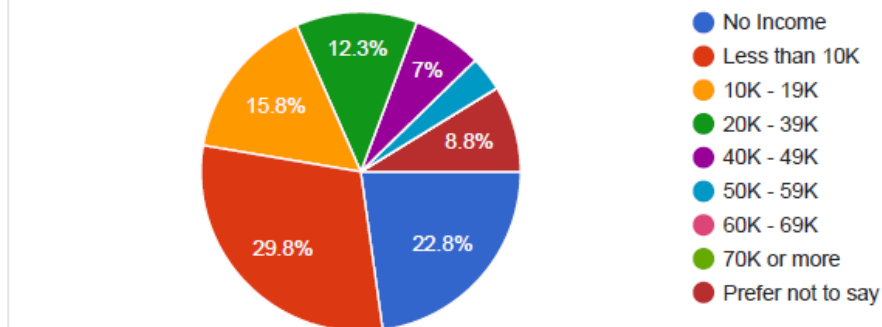
20. Please check any and all barriers you experience in trying to access employment opportunities.

52 responses



21. What is your household's total income including all members of the household?

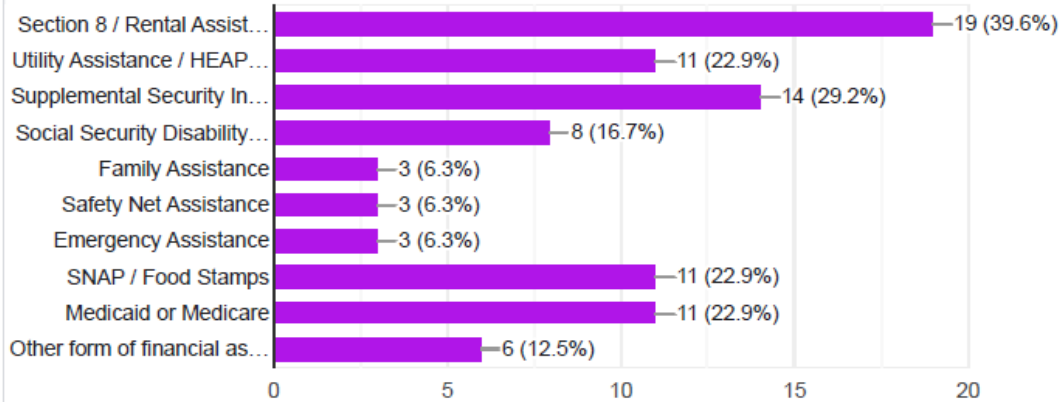
57 responses



22. Please check any and all forms of financial assistance you have received in the past year.

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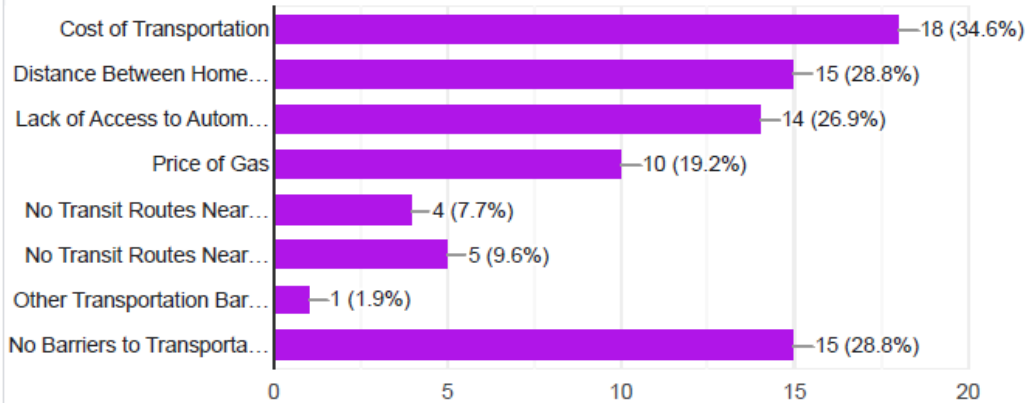
48 responses



23. Please check any and all barriers you experience in trying to access reliable transportation.

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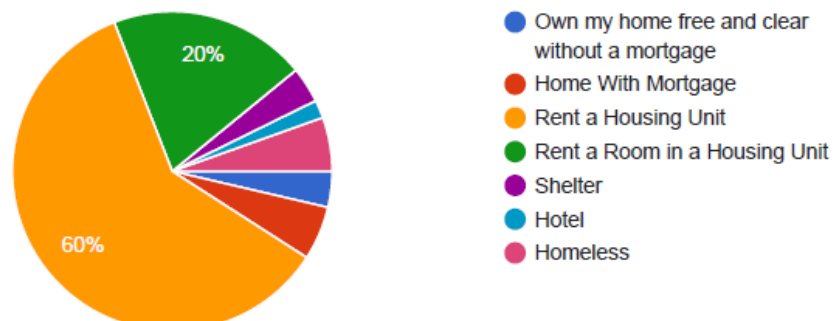
52 responses



24. Type of residence?

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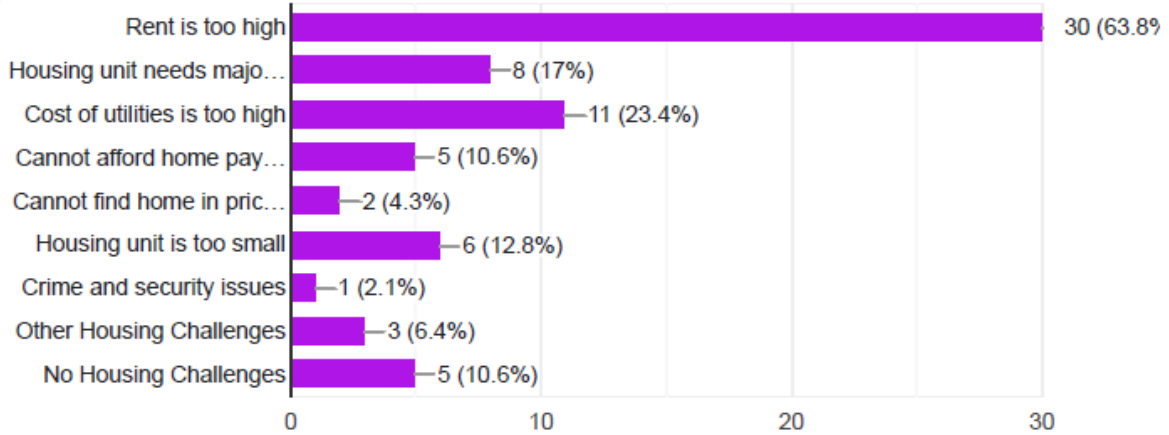
55 responses



25. Check any and all housing challenges that you experience in trying to secure housing.



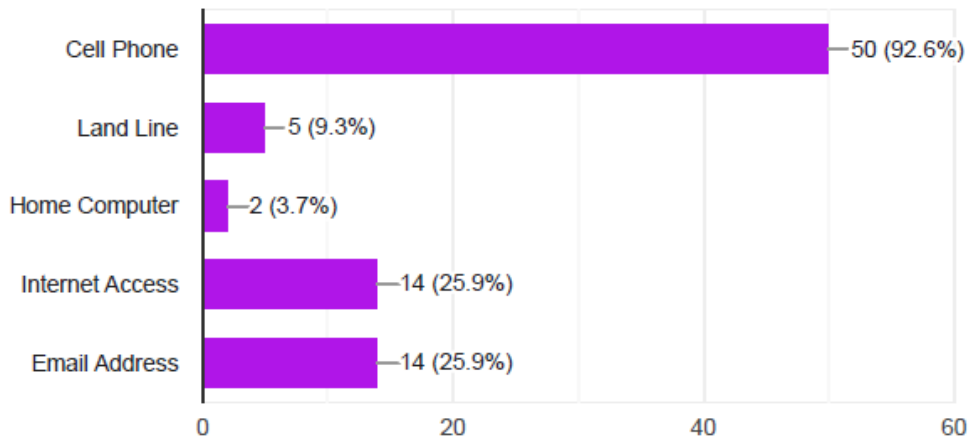
47 responses



26. Check if you have any of the following communication devices:



54 responses



27. Please list any services or programs that you have used over the past year that were NOT offered by YCAP:

8 responses

n/a

no problems

Food Pantries, help with con-ed bill and help with children's clothes

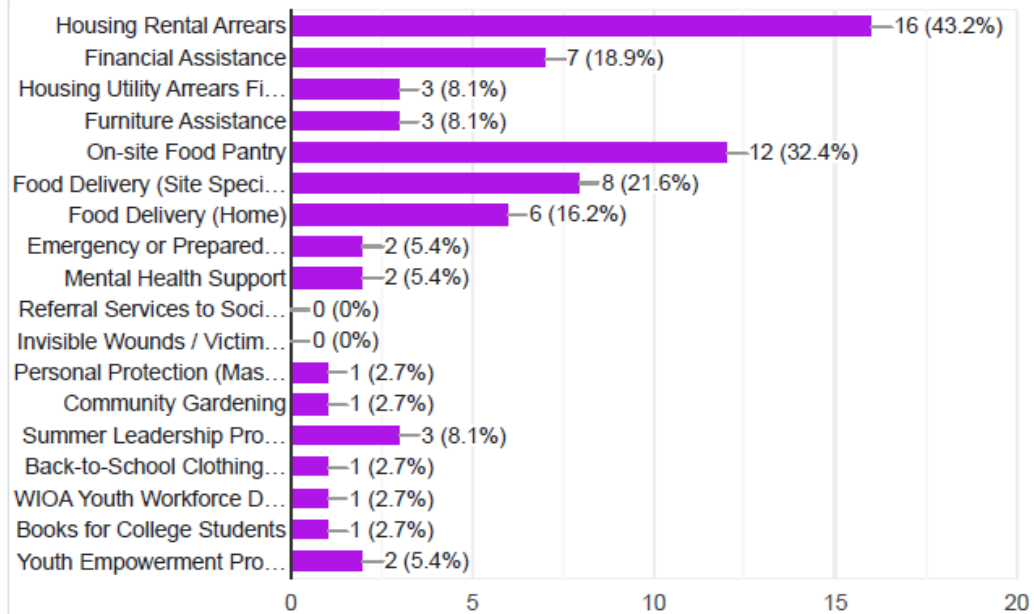
pantry

disability

28. Please note below if over the past year, you have participated in any of the YCAP sponsored programs and services listed below. If you have used any of these services, please complete the rest of the questions in the survey. If you have NOT used any YCAP services in the past year, then you have completed the survey and please click SUBMIT at the bottom of the page.

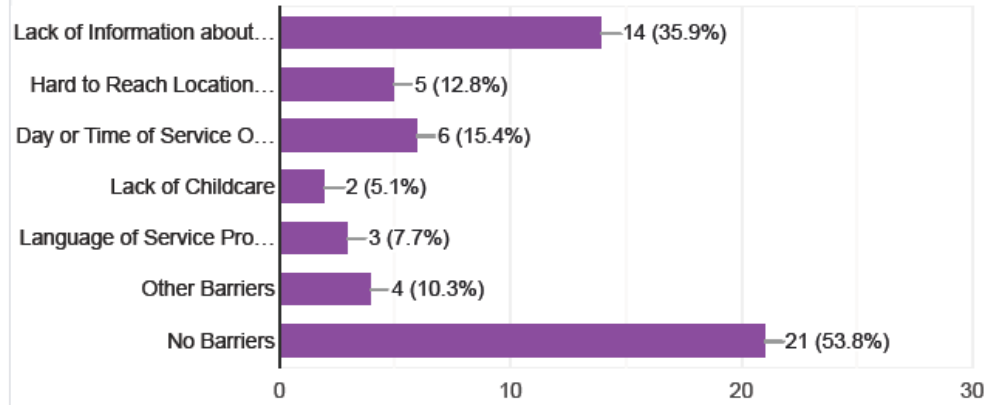


37 responses



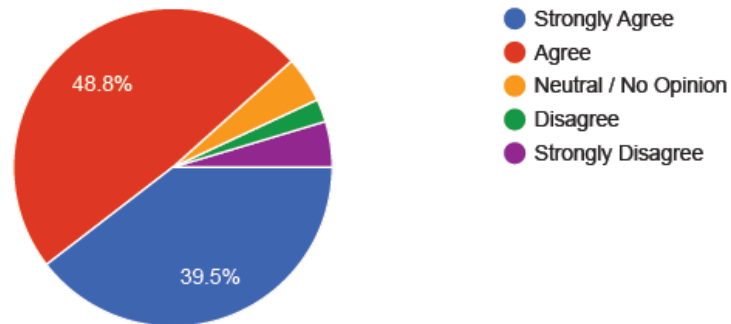
29. Note any barriers to receiving the service from YCAP?

39 responses



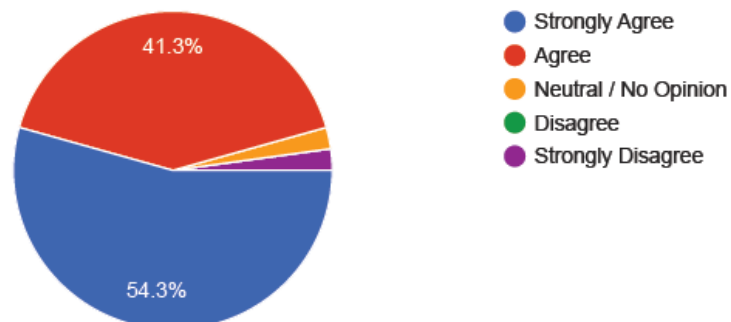
30. Do you agree that the services that you receive from YCAP meet your needs?

43 responses



31. Do you agree that the YCAP facility where you receive services is safe, clean and comfortable?

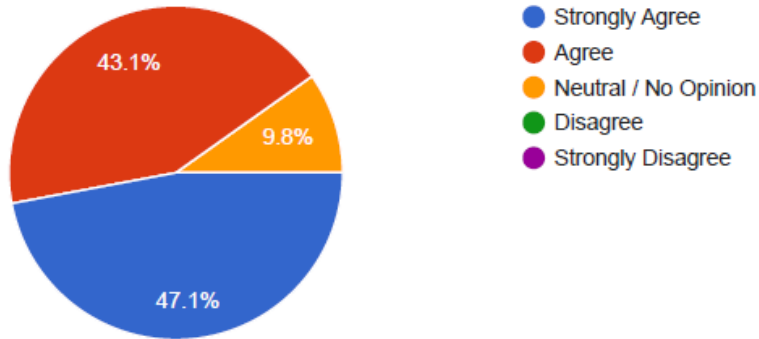
46 responses



32. Do you agree that YCAP's service providers are informed, helpful, and caring?



51 responses



33. How can YCAP improve the service you received, better meet your needs, or help you overcome barriers to service?

11 responses

more money

n/a

everything is fine the way it is

I think the service is great

More Money

more food

Get more information to the public

Keep up the great work, thanks for all the help

APPENDIX E: SURVEY FORM FOR YCAP BOARD MEMBERS, COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Don Brown
Executive Director



Dr. Latasha Jones
Board President

YCAP 2024 COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER POVERTY REDUCTION SURVEY

As a Community Action Agency receiving federal monies through the Community Services Block Grant program, Yonkers Community Action Program (YCAP) is required to complete a Community Needs Assessment every three years.

In fulfillment of this federal requirement, this assessment inventories community needs in the City of Yonkers while also identifying pathways for eliminating poverty and expanding economic opportunities for low-income residents.

In order to help YCAP better understand community needs and define anti-poverty strategies, we are inviting a broad cross-section of community organizations, service providers, businesses and public agencies to complete a short survey. Thank you for your participation.

Name: _____

Organization(s): _____

Title (s): _____

Years with Organization(s): _____

Phone: _____ Email Address _____

Question 1: Please describe your specific involvement with community, social-service, or economic opportunity programs in the City of Yonkers. Share your role and any notable programmatic successes and accomplishments that had a palpable impact on low-income residents in Yonkers.

Question 2: Based on your professional experience, what would describe as the greatest needs currently met by low-income residents in the City of Yonkers? Feel free to comment on any sector including housing, employment, youth programs, childcare, healthcare, public safety, food, community activities, etc.)

Question 3: What, in your opinion, are the greatest challenges that low-income residents confront when trying to access essential services and programs? Be as specific as possible in describing barriers to service.

Question 4: Please share your thoughts on the root causes of poverty in Yonkers?

Question 5: What changes or innovations would most help Yonkers eliminate poverty. Feel free to identify new programs, funding allocations, partnerships, regulatory or legal changes, or any other type of initiatives that you think would have positive impacts on low-income residents in Yonkers?

APPENDIX F: SURVEY FORM FOR YCAP PROGRAM STAFF

Program Evaluation Survey for YCAP Staff

As a Community Action Agency receiving federal monies through the Community Services Block Grant program, Yonkers Community Action Program (YCAP) is required to complete a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) every three years. In fulfillment of this federal requirement, this assessment inventories community needs in the City of Yonkers while also identifying pathways for eliminating poverty and expanding economic opportunities for low-income residents.

In order to help YCAP better understand community needs and define anti-poverty strategies, YCAP's CNA consultant, Kevin Dwarka, is reaching out to a broad cross-section of community stakeholders.

As the first step of this outreach process, YCAP Staff Members are requested to complete this survey no later than Friday, November 8th. Thank you for your participation.

1. Name

2. Please list the programs at YCAP that you manage or support.

3. Based on your direct experience with YCAP's clients, which needs or challenges are the most difficult ones for YCAP clients to overcome?

4. Please share any successes or milestones achieved in your programs over the past three years. Be as specific as possible in describing positive outcomes.

5. Are there any changes in your programs or ideas you have for other programs that would directly address some of the unmet needs of the clients participating in your programs and services?

APPENDIX G: COMPLIANCE WITH CSBG ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS

In accordance with federal regulations, the production of a Community Needs Assessment must be shaped by five core organizational standards. Additionally, there are five other standards that relate primarily to other aspects of a CAA's activities but are still relevant to the production of an assessment and so merit consideration throughout the process. As shown in the tables below, the assessment was carefully prepared to ensure full compliance with these standards.

Organizational Standards for Community Needs Assessments		
Core Standards		Means of Compliance
Standard 3.1	The organization conducted a community assessment and issued a report within the past 3 years.	The last Yonkers CNA was published in January 2022. The 2025 CNA represents the timely completion of an updated CNA within the three-year period.
Standard 3.2	As part of the community assessment, the organization collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).	Section III of this document presents robust data on poverty within YCAP's service area and analyzes its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity.
Standard 3.3	The organization collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.	Section IV of this document documents the current community conditions within the YCAP Service Area. This documentation reflects a synthesis of qualitative data gathered through stakeholder interviews, surveys, and email correspondence with robust quantitative metrics gathered from a broad range of data sources including the latest indicators published by the US Census.
Standard 3.4	The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.	Section V of this document uses the qualitative and quantitative data gathered in Section 3 to describe the conditions of poverty, theorize on the causations of poverty, and inventory the critical community needs that should be addressed by YCAP and its partners.
Standard 3.5	The governing board formally accepts the completed community assessment.	The YCAP Board of Directors voted to accept this assessment in December 2024.
Related Standards		Means of Compliance
Standard 1.1	The organization demonstrates low-income individuals' participation in its activities.	All of YCAP's programs are targeted to low-income households by focusing outreach

Organizational Standards for Community Needs Assessments		
		and programmatic efforts in the most economically challenged section of Yonkers, the city’s southwest neighborhoods.
Standard 1.2	The organization analyzes information collected directly from low-income individuals as part of the community assessment.	YCAP directly collects information from low-income individuals by surveying clients using its food delivery program.
Standard 2.2	The organization utilizes information gathered from key sectors of the community in assessing needs and resources, during the community assessment process or other times. These sectors would include at minimum: community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, private sector, public sector, and educational institutions.	This document includes outreach from a broad range of representatives including community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, the private sector, the public sector, and educational institutions.
Standard 2.4	The organization documents the number of volunteers and hours mobilized in support of its activities.	YCAP tracks the total number of volunteers and the total number of volunteer hours in support of its activities. This accounting is presented in Section II of this report.
Standard 6.4	Customer satisfaction data and customer input, collected as part of the community assessment, is included in the strategic planning process.	Each year, YCAP collects customer satisfaction data through an online survey. As part of the Community Needs Assessment, the organization drafted a new Customer Satisfaction Survey that drew upon best practices and templates from other community action agencies.