



Jefferson Franklin
COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION

Community Needs Assessment 2020



September 2020

Thank you for taking the time to read the Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation (JFCAC) 2020 Community Needs Assessment (CNA).

2020 has proven to be a challenging year for everyone. We have learned to use technology to host focus groups, to discuss important issues with community partners, to provide services to those in need, and maintain contact with our staff from a distance.

This assessment is a tool that helps us communicate the needs, barriers, gaps in services, and resources that exist in our two counties.

JFCAC is committed to making our community a better place to live!

If you would like to learn more about our agency, please visit our website at www.jfcac.org or like us on Facebook.

Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation

Table of Contents

Vision, Mission, and Values	4
Board of Directors	5
Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council	
Executive Leadership Team	6
Program Directors	
Executive Summary	7
<i>Agency History</i>	
<i>Agency Services</i>	8
<i>Community Services (CSBG)</i>	
<i>Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS)</i>	9
<i>Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV)</i>	
<i>Weatherization (WAP)</i>	
<i>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</i>	
<i>Women, Infant, and Children (WIC)</i>	
Purpose	10
Overview	11
<i>Framework/Needs Indicators</i>	
<i>Assessment Methodology</i>	
<i>Analysis Process</i>	
<i>Need Priorities</i>	
<i>Limitations to the Assessment</i>	
<i>Sharing of the Assessment</i>	
Data Sources	14
Demographics	15
Pillars of Poverty	
<i>Food</i>	21
<i>Health</i>	25
<i>Education</i>	30
<i>Energy & Housing</i>	34
<i>Family & Economic Security</i>	38
Disclosures	45
Appendix	47

VISION:

JFCAC envisions communities with increased opportunities and an improved quality of life for families living in the crisis of poverty.



MISSION:

The mission of Jefferson Franklin Community Action is to serve individuals and families through partnerships, empowerment, and education in order to strengthen and improve the entire community.

VALUES:

Dedication-We are dedicated to our mission

Accountability-We are accountable to those we serve and to each other

Integrity-We do what is right at all times

Service-We provide a service to the community

Hope-We embrace the spirit of hope

JFCAC Board of Directors

2019-2020

Lesley Deason, President
Jefferson/Community Representative

Dr. Julia Hampton, Vice President
Jefferson/Private Sector Representative
Early Childhood Education Representative

Carol Cameron, Secretary
Jefferson/Public Sector Representative

Cynthia Eckelkamp, Treasurer
Franklin/Private Sector Representative
Legal/Attorney Representative

Rev. Curtis Crumpecker
Franklin/Private Sector Representative

Rick Pica
Jefferson/Private Sector Representative
Fiscal Representative

Wayne Goyea
Jefferson/Private Sector Representative

Paula Crewse (Alternate)
Jefferson/Community Representative

Emmaline Tubbs
Jefferson/Community Representative

Rosie Buchanan (Alternate)
Jefferson/Community Representative

Becki Gilihan
Franklin/Community Representative

Theresa Wolf (Alternate)
Franklin/Community Representative

Shirley Wilson
Jefferson/Community Representative

Jane Kost (Alternate)
Jefferson/Community Representative

Earlaine Sandoval
Franklin/Public Representative

Ryan Jones
Jefferson/Public Representative

Jenny Wallach
Franklin/Public Representative

Mikelyn Stacey
Jefferson/Public Representative

Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council Officers 2019-2020

Angel Williams, Chair

Lesley Deason, Vice Chair

Amanda Longgear, Board Rep

Executive Leadership Team

Jill Lombardo	Chief Executive Officer
Diana Hayes	Chief Administrative Officer
Stephanie Kerth	Chief Innovation Officer
Paulette Hensley	Chief Community Development Officer

Program Directors

Janna Bittle	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)
Tammie Benton	Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS)
Paulette Hensley	Community Services (CSBG) & Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
David Rose	Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
Tracy Williams	Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Ashley Mosier	Quality Improvement (QI)

Executive Summary

Agency History

The history of the Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation (JFCAC) dates back to 1964 when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and declared a “War on Poverty.” As a result of this act, anti-poverty programs were created, which were aimed at advancing, elevating, and promoting the economic, educational, civic, and recreational conditions of the poor. *Community Action* was one such program that was developed to identify community-based solutions to poverty.

On April 9, 1965, the Jefferson County Community Opportunity Corporation was incorporated to begin providing local Community Action programming to the residents of Jefferson County, Missouri. On February 19, 1969, the Jefferson County Community Opportunity Corporation expanded service provision into Franklin County, Missouri, and amended its name to the Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation (JFCAC).

The two-county region of Jefferson and Franklin continues to be JFCAC’s service community, with the residents of the counties being the agency’s customer and stakeholder. The community is located directly south and west of the Metro-St. Louis area. The two-county community has distinct areas of wealth, contrasted with pockets of poverty. Parts of the community are very developed, and “suburban,” while others are very rural, and underdeveloped. The developed areas are rich with resources, while the rural parts have less resources available.

The Community Action that began in 1964 remains very strong and vibrant. JFCAC is a part of a national poverty-fighting network of over one thousand Community Action Agencies (CAAs) that are committed to the same promise:

“Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.”

Agency Services

Since its creation, JFCAC has delivered programming aimed at eliminating the conditions that cause poverty. Having originally operated three programs that focused on community outreach, the agency has grown to offer six funded core programs that encompass numerous services. JFCAC offers the community the following programs:

Community Services (CSBG):

Community Services forms the backbone of JFCAC's activities and it funds projects that directly empower individuals, impact the community, and build agency capacity. Programs include:

- *Empowerment Coaching*
- *Tax Assistance*
- *Asthma Education*
- *Cyber Seniors*
- *Summer Feeding*
- *Read from the Start*
- *Emergency Assistance and Disaster Relief*

Head Start and Early Head Start (HS/EHS):

- *Head Start* is a comprehensive child development program for children ages three to five years old. The emphasis is on school readiness, using intentional planning and strategies for increasing child and family outcomes.
- *Early Head Start* is a comprehensive program for low-income pregnant women and low-income families with infants and toddlers birth-three years old. It is designed to promote healthy family functioning, with emphasis placed on foundational attachment and relationship competencies.

Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV):

- *Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program* offers rental assistance in existing houses, mobile homes, and apartments so safe, decent, and sanitary housing is affordable. It is known as the Section 8 Program in the community.
- *Homeownership Voucher Program* Families can become first-time home buyers and will continue receiving assistance with mortgage payments instead of rental assistance.
- *Family Self-Sufficiency* encourages families to set attainable goals and rewards working families. As a household's income increases, money is placed in a savings account for the family to purchase an asset.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP):

- The *Weatherization Assistance Program* is designed to lessen the impact of the high cost of energy on low-income families. Homes are made more energy efficient by caulking, weather-stripping, wall/floor/attic insulation and other cost-effective measures.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):

- *LIHEAP* helps households to lessen the burden of home energy costs. It supports two components to address the high cost of utility bills for low-income households.
- *Energy Assistance (EA)* assists households with paying on their primary heat source once a year.
- *Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP)* helps households avoid disconnection of their utility services or to restore services. Winter ECIP can pay on primary and secondary heating bills such as those for natural gas and electricity. Summer ECIP only pays electric bills.

Women, Infant and Children (WIC):

- The *WIC program* provides nutritious food supplements as well as education to pregnant women, nursing mothers, women with babies under six months, infants, and children up to age five. Breastfeeding support is offered to all expectant mothers and those nursing their infants. WIC is only offered in Jefferson County. The Health Department operates the program in Franklin County.

In addition, JFCAC now offers **Behavioral Health** services. As an approved Medicaid Provider of outpatient mental health services, we work with individuals that suffer from depression, anxiety, mood disorders, as well as grief, trauma and more complex problems. Our professional counselors are compassionate, non-judgmental and experienced in helping people resolve mental health problems that are affecting their everyday lives.

Purpose

A Community Needs Assessment (CNA) seeks to gather accurate information representing the needs of a community and is used as the foundation for strategic planning. A needs assessment leads to intentional action that will improve programs, lead to the creation of new services, and/or improve organizational structure.

JFCAC's 2020 CNA is a report of the current demographics, individual and community needs, identified causes, gaps in services, and available resources/assets of the two counties of Jefferson and Franklin served by the agency.

The report is designed for the entire agency. It is not an assessment for one program or funding stream, but rather is a comprehensive agency community needs assessment. It is designed to satisfy the regulations of the agency's Head Start (HS), Early Head Start (EHS), and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding streams, provide data-insight to improve all programs and organizational structure of the agency, and determine strategic areas of growth to satisfy the unmet needs of the community. This report will serve as the basis for future strategic investment decisions; it is not a final statement of specific strategies to create change.

The CNA identifies issues and trends within JFCAC's service area that directly impact vulnerable families and is used by programs to determine long-term goals and short-term objectives. The report is in accordance with Community Services' Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) management framework and Section 1302.11 of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPSS).



Community Needs Assessment Overview

The 2020 assessment provides the most recent data available regarding demographics on population, age, gender, early learning programs, disabilities, health, nutrition, employment, education, and housing for residents in the Missouri Counties of Jefferson and Franklin. The assessment provides a portrait of JFCAC's programs and activities, identifies gaps in community services, and identifies available resources.

Ultimately, the community assessment is used to make decisions for program development, outreach strategies, enrollment opportunities, and service delivery. It is a valuable resource for staff, parents/customers, management, community partners, and stakeholders to collectively analyze population shifts and equitable distribution of services.

The data was gathered by JFCAC staff which included the Chief Community Development Officer, WIC Director, CSBG Assistant Director/Energy Director, Community Services Coordinator, Head Start Data Coordinator, and Weatherization Auditor. Board members, community partners, and low-income customers participated in surveys, informal interviews, and community conversations. After approval by the Head Start Policy Council and full Board of Directors the final report will be distributed to the agency, community, customers, and other stakeholders.

Framework/Need Indicators:

The framework/need indicators used to organize this assessment are the Five Pillars of Poverty. The Five Pillars of Poverty, as identified by research, are: Education, Food, Health, Housing, and Family & Economic Security. These cornerstones indicate what individuals need to be self-sufficient. All methods of data collection and analysis were structured around these pillars.

Assessment Methodology:

Various methods were used to collect data for the assessment. Data collection methods included focus groups called community conversations, surveys, MIS intake data, informal interviews and the collection of quantitative datasets.

The first method used was Community Conversations. Community conversations were held with current organizations/groups which included members of the community, agency customers (Head Start Policy Council), service providers, and other community stakeholders. A total of five (5) community conversations were held with the following groups:

6/29/2020	Franklin County Back to School Committee
7/02/2020	Franklin County United Way Emergency Service Providers
7/10/2020	Bright Futures Advisory Board
7/12/2020	Jefferson County Homeless Youth Initiative
7/21/2020	JFCAC Head Start Policy Council

*See Appendix A for Community Conversation Questions

The second data collection method used was a survey. The survey was distributed electronically to current agency customers, local service providers, community members, and Head Start Policy Council members on issues impacting families in our counties. A total of 96 surveys were completed. Also, QI staff contacted agency customers to complete client satisfaction surveys.

*See Appendix B for Survey Questions

The third data collection method used was that of collecting secondary quantitative datasets. The intent of this method was to collect state and local datasets to be compared to the data collected from the community conversations, surveys, and informal interviews.

*See page 14 for data sources.

Analysis:

A four step analysis process, similar to the “5 Whys” method, was used to analyze the datasets. Following are the implemented steps:

- 1) The Pillar of Poverty was identified (Food, Health, Education, Energy & Housing, Economic Security)
- 2) Next, the conditions of the pillar were identified. This was done by asking questions such as “How does the pillar present in the community?” and “What does this pillar look like in the community?” The answers to these questions were then compared to the collected datasets.
- 3) Once the condition(s) was identified, the barrier/obstacles of that symptom(s) were explored by asking questions such as “What allows this to occur?” and “What would need to change for this to cease?” The collected data was reviewed to answer the questions and determine the pillar’s barrier/obstacle.
- 4) Once the barrier/obstacles were known, the root cause(s) were identified. Questions such as “What allows this barrier to occur?” and “What were the circumstances surrounding the barrier/obstacle when it occurred?” were asked. The answers to these questions were compared to the datasets to determine the pillar’s root cause.

*See Appendix C for Analysis Process

Strategic Priorities

In accordance with the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) management framework, each of the identified needs were prioritized. The levels of need were identified as individual/family, agency, and/or community. The identified level of need will guide the creation of strategies and services implemented to satisfy the identified need.

The Strategic Priorities are identified as follows:

- Transportation: Individual/Family and Community Level
- Housing Expansion: Individual/Family, Agency, and Community Level

- Parent Programs: Individual/Family Level
- Entrepreneurial Opportunities (specifically related to food & employment): Individual/Family Level
- Education Training: Individual/Family Level
- Mental Health Services: Individual/Family and Community Level
- Youth Programs: Individual/Family and Community Level

Limitations to Assessment:

The pandemic changed the way we typically hold focus groups and administer surveys. The Community Conversations were held virtually instead of in person. Surveys were done by email and over the phone. Informal interviews were also conducted via phone.

Sharing of the Assessment:

The Community Needs Assessment will be shared with stakeholders, community partners, agency customers, staff, and Board Members. It will be posted on the agency website.

DATA SOURCES

Secondary Quantitative Datasets:

- American Community Survey
- Center for Disease Control (CDC)
- Child Care Aware 2020
- Community Commons
- Countyhealthrankings.org
- Feeding America
- fosteringcourtimprovement.org
- JFCAC Child Plus Database
- MERIC.mo.gov
- Missouri Child Care Licensing
- Missouri Department of Economic Development
- Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
- Missouri Department of Social Services
- Missouri Housing Development Commission
- Missouri Kids Count
- National Center for Education Statistics
- National Low Income Housing Coalition
- Realtytrac
- Prosperity Now
- Scorecard.prosperitynow.org/methodology
- Social Security Administration
- stateofobesity.org
- U Glasmeier, Amy K. Living Wage Calculator. 2020. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. livingwage.mit.edu.
- U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts

Other Assessments/Reports/Resources:

- Head Start/Early Head Start Program Information Report
- Mercy Hospital (Jefferson County) Community Health Needs Assessment, 2019
- Mercy Hospital (Franklin County) Community Health Needs Assessment, 2019
- Missouri Balance of State Sheltered and Unsheltered Point-in-Time Count of Homelessness
- 2020 Missouri Poverty Report
- Title 1 Workforce and Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) for the Jefferson/Franklin Consortium Five Year Plan 2016-2020

DEMOGRAPHICS

In order to understand the causes and conditions of poverty in the community, first the demographics must be reviewed. Listed below are various demographic datasets that illustrate Jefferson and Franklin County. Additional demographic datasets can be found within each pillar that further describe the community.

- Population
- Age
- Gender
- Veterans
- Race
- Poverty by Race/Age/Gender
- Poverty Rate Change
- Child Poverty Rate
- Seniors in Poverty

Population

Population change within the report area from 2000-2018 is shown below. During the sixteen- year period, total population estimates for the report area grew by 11.71 %, increasing from 291,906 persons in 2000 to 326,083 persons in 2018.

Report Area	Total Population 2018 ACS	Total Population, 2000 Census	Population Change from 2000-2018 Census/ACS	Percent Change from 2000-2018 Census/ACS
Report Area	326,083	291,906	34,177	11.71%
Franklin County, MO	102,7812	93,807	8,974	9.57%
Jefferson County, MO	223,302	198,099	25,203	12.72%
Missouri	6,090,062	5,595,211	494,851	8.84%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Age/Gender

Population by age/gender within the report area is shown below. According to ACS 2014-2018 5 year population estimates for the report area, the female population comprised 50.49% of the report area, while the male population represented 49.51%

Report Area	0 to 4 Male	0 to 4 Female	5 to 17 Male	5 to 17 Female	18 to 64 Male	18 to 64 Female	Over 64 Male	Over 64 Female
Report Location	9,932	9,684	29,528	27,507	100,860	100,139	20,328	26,527
Franklin County, MO	3,176	3,028	9,297	8,362	31,239	30,680	7,058	9,372
Jefferson County, MO	6,756	6,656	20,231	19,145	69,621	69,459	13,270	17,155
Missouri	191,209	181,723	518,264	493,867	1,847,883	1,875,424	389,583	550,276
United States	10,146,960	9,689,890	27,438,613	26,277,777	99,617,317	100,493,892	19,630,586	27,457,281

Veterans

Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics

Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics show the number of veterans living in the report area. According to the American Community Survey (ACS), 9.50% of the adult population in the report area are veterans, which is more than the national average of 7.49%.

Report Area	Veterans Total	Veterans Male	Veterans Female	% Pop over 18 Total	% Pop over 18 Males	% Pop over 18 Females
Report Location	23,693	21,826	1,867	9.50%	17.79%	1.47%
Franklin County, MO	7,716	7,090	626	9.78%	18.26%	1.56%
Jefferson County, MO	15,977	14,736	1,241	9.37%	17.58%	1.43%
Missouri	413,189	382,481	30,708	8.82%	16.89%	1.27%
United States	18,611,432	17,003,235	1,608,197	7.49%	14.11%	1.26%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Race

Population by race within the report area is shown below. According to ACS 2014-2018 5 year population estimates, the white population comprised 96.37% of the report area, black population represented 0.84%, and other races combined were 2.79%. Persons identifying themselves as mixed race made up 1.82% of the population.

Report Area	White Total	Black Total	American Indian Total	Asian Total	Native Hawaiian Total	Mixed Race Total
Report Location	313,207	2,732	856	2,208	81	5,923
Franklin County, MO	98,768	698	204	562	38	1,974
Jefferson County, MO	214,439	2,034	652	1,646	43	3,949
Missouri	5,008,342	704,896	26,952	116,720	6,662	155,328
United States	234,904,818	40,916,113	2,699,073	17,574,550	582,718	10,435,797

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-2018. Source geography: County

Poverty Rate Change

Poverty rate change in the report area from 2000 to 2018 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for the area increased by 2.16%, compared to a national increase of 2.1%.

Report Area	Persons in Poverty	Poverty Rate	Persons in Poverty	Poverty Rate	Change in Poverty Rate
	2000	2000	2018	2018	2000-2018
Report Location	19,811	6.70%	28,710	8.86%	2.16%
Franklin County, MO	6,526	6.9%	9,383	9.2%	2.3%
Jefferson County, MO					
Missouri	13,285	6.6%	19,327	8.7%	2.1%
United States	581,207	10.6%	785,343	13.2%	2.6%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates](#). 2018. Source geography: county

Poverty Rate 125% (ACS)

In the report area 13.86% or 44,644 individuals are living in households with income below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This indicator is relevant because poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

Report Area	Population, Total	Population with Income at or Below 125% FPL	Population with Income at or Below 125% FPL, Percent
Report Location	322,036	44,644	13.86%
Franklin County, MO	101,479	14,491	14.28%
Jefferson County, MO	220,557	30,153	13.67%
Missouri	5,907,190	1,114,481	18.87%
United States	314,943,184	58,418,702	18.55%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-2018. Source geography: Tract

Child Poverty Rates

Child Poverty Rate (ACS) Ages 0-4

Population and poverty estimates for children age 0-4 are shown for the report area. According to the American Community Survey 5 year data, an average of 17.5% percent of children lived in a state of poverty during the survey calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in the report area is less than the national average of 21.5%.

Report Area	Ages 0-4 Total Population	Ages 0-4 In Poverty	Ages 0-4 Poverty Rate
Report Location	19,182	3,352	17.5%
Franklin County, MO	6,065	1,139	18.8%
Jefferson County, MO	13,117	2,213	16.9%
Missouri	365,442	81,690	22.4%
United States	19,514,070	4,193,998	21.5%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Child Poverty Rate (ACS) Ages 5-17

Population and poverty estimates for children age 5-17 are shown for the report area. According to the American Community Survey 5 year data, an average of 13.6% percent of children lived in a state of poverty during the survey calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in the report area is less than the national average of 18.8%.

Report Area	Ages 5-17 Total Population	Ages 5-17 In Poverty	Ages 5-17 Poverty Rate
Report Location	55,896	7,607	13.6%
Franklin County, MO	17,303	2,760	16.0%
Jefferson County, MO	38,593	4,847	12.6%
Missouri	988,895	181,804	18.4%
United States	52,868,571	9,923,016	18.8%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Seniors in Poverty

Population and poverty estimates for persons age 65 and up are shown for the report area. According to the American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year data, an average of 7.3% of people lived in a state of poverty during the survey calendar year. The poverty rate for people living in the report area is less than the national average of 9.3%.

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up In Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Report Location	47,009	3,416	7.3%
Franklin County, MO	16,614	1,261	7.6%
Jefferson County, MO	30,395	2,155	7.1%
Missouri	943,932	81,248	8.6%
United States	47,940,937	4,448,892	9.3%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: county

Pillar of Poverty: Food/Nutrition

Pillar	Conditions	Qualitative Data/Barriers	Root Cause/Underlying Issue	Missouri Quantitative Data	Community Data	Agency's Data	Assets/Resources
Food	<p>Impact on Physical and Emotional Health</p> <p>Obesity</p> <p>Diabetes</p> <p>Heart Disease</p> <p>Hypertension</p>	<p>Cost of obtaining Healthy Food</p> <p>Time and Effort Required to prepare nutritious meals</p>	<p>Lack of Income to purchase healthy foods</p> <p>High cost of nutritious foods</p>	<p>13.% receive SNAP</p> <p>51% are eligible for free/reduced lunch</p> <p>14.2% are food insecure</p> <p>31 % are obese</p> <p>11.5% have diabetes</p> <p>10.81% participate in WIC</p> <p>486 per 100,000 died of cardiovascular disease</p> <p>176.6 per 100,000 died of hypertension</p>	<p>11.9% receive SNAP (Jefferson)</p> <p>11.2% receive SNAP (Franklin)</p> <p>38.10% are eligible for free/reduced lunch</p> <p>11.09% are food insecure</p> <p>30% are obese</p> <p>8.5% have diabetes</p> <p>11.36% participate in WIC</p> <p>609.0 per 100,000 died of cardiovascular disease (Jefferson/Franklin average)</p> <p>236.1 per 100,000 died of hypertension</p>	<p>30,315 Annually participate in WIC (Jefferson County)</p> <p>15.16% Child Obesity Rate in WIC aged children (Jefferson County)</p>	<p>Farmers Markets</p> <p>WIC Program</p> <p>Community Gardens</p> <p>Food Pantries</p> <p>University Extension</p> <p>Jefferson County Health Dept.</p> <p>Franklin County Health Dept.</p>

According to the American Community Survey (ACS), a total of 13,276 Households in the community (or 10.6%) received SNAP during 2018. There was a decrease of 1% in households receiving SNAP from the previous assessment. The survey showed there were 6,350 households below the poverty level that were not receiving SNAP benefits. The agency plans to further investigate the impact of the pandemic on the number of households participating in SNAP. Based on informal client interviews there was a significant increase within the last few months of households participating in SNAP.

Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)

Report Area	Households Receiving SNAP Total	Households Receiving SNAP Percent	Households Receiving SNAP Income Below Poverty	Households Receiving SNAP Income Above Poverty	Households Not Receiving SNAP Total	Households Not Receiving SNAP Percent	Households Not Receiving SNAP Income Below Poverty	Households Not Receiving SNAP Income Above Poverty
Report Location	13,276	10.6%	6,517	6,759	111,897	89.4%	6,350	105,547
Franklin County, MO	4,008	9.83%	2,092	1,916	36,772	90.17%	2,205	34,567
Jefferson County, MO	9,268	10.98%	4,425	4,843	75,125	89.02%	4,145	70,980
Missouri	278,848	11.64%	147,622	131,226	2,117,423	88.36%	181,222	1,936,201
United States	14,635,287	12.22%	7,090,216	7,545,071	105,094,841	87.78%	8,937,265	96,157,576

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

The following report shows that 19,654 students (or 39.12 percent) were eligible for free or reduced price lunches during the 2016 - 2017 school year, which is less than the national average of 49.5%.

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

Report Area	Total Students	Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch	Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch, Percent
Report Location	50,246	19,654	39.1%
Franklin County, MO	15,974	7,187	45.0%
Jefferson County, MO	34,272	12,467	36.4%
Missouri	908,331	456,320	50.2%
United States	50,744,629	25,124,175	49.5%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics, [NCES - Common Core of Data](#). 2018-19. Source geography: Address

Women, Infant & Children's (WIC) participation caseload has dropped in both counties. The USDA reports WIC participation is declining nationwide. In the community, 11.36% are eligible for WIC, while the state average eligibility is 10.81%. With WIC's intent being to provide and ensure proper nutrition for mothers and children, it is assumed from this data the community has a higher than average need for access to healthy food. Women and children can receive milk; soy milk; eggs; cheese and yogurt; cold and hot cereal; juice; peanut butter; dried beans, peas and lentils; canned beans; infant cereal; infant formula; infant fruit, vegetables and meats; tofu; tuna; sardines and salmon; whole grain breads; brown rice; tortillas; whole wheat pasta; and fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables.

Food Insecurity

This indicator reports the estimated percentage of the population that experienced food insecurity at some point during the report year. Food insecurity is the household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food.

Report Area	Total Population	Food Insecure Population, Total	Food Insecurity Rate
Report Location	324,646	36,000.00	11.09%
Franklin County, MO	102,261	11,760.00	11.50%
Jefferson County, MO	222,385	24,240.00	10.90%

*Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Feeding America. 2017. Source geography: County*

Food Insecurity - Food Insecure Population Ineligible for Assistance

This indicator reports the estimated percentage of the total population and the population under age 18 that experienced food insecurity at some point during the report year, but are ineligible for State or Federal nutrition assistance. Food insecurity is the household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. Assistance eligibility is determined based on household income of the food insecure households relative to the maximum income-to-poverty ratio for assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, school meals, CSFP and TEFAP).

Report Area	Food Insecure Population	Food Insecure Population Ineligible for Assistance, Percent	Food Insecure Children	Food Insecure Children Ineligible for Assistance, Percent
Report Location	36,000.00	40.00%	12,470.00	40.00%
Franklin County, MO	11,760.00	38.00%	3,950.00	41.00%
Jefferson County, MO	24,240.00	41.00%	8,520.00	40.00%
Missouri	865,400.00	36.00%	243,110.00	35.00%
United States	41,133,950.00	33.00%	13,411,620.00	35.00%

The United Way of Greater St. Louis received a total of 4,267 calls from Jefferson County residents in calendar year 2018, with 206 (5%) of calls relating to food insecurity (211 Counts Data – 2018).

While both Franklin and Jefferson Counties are below the state and national averages regarding food insecurity, SNAP participation, and the Free or reduced lunch program, the community feels that they face challenges to healthy eating. According to the qualitative data, participants surveyed reported the top two challenges they face to eating healthy were: cost of healthy foods and time and effort to prepare healthy foods.

Adult obesity is a concern in Franklin and Jefferson counties. The obesity rates in the community rank above the national average and only slightly below than the state average. This is especially alarming since Missouri ranked 10th in the nation in having the highest obesity rates. Missouri also ranked 17th with the highest Type 2 Diabetes rates, with both counties having only slightly lower rates than the state and national averages. In addition, Missouri is ranked 9th in the nation regarding the lowest fruit and vegetable consumption.

According to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and hypertension were listed in the top five causes of death in each county.

Causes of Death

Total deaths broken down by cause for the report area are shown in the table below. According to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in 2014, there were 2,911 deaths in the report area.

[Download Data](#)

Report Area	All Deaths	Heart Disease	Cancer	Stroke	Accidents	Diabetes	Alzheimer's Disease	Pneumonia and Influenza	Kidney Disease	Other Causes
Report Area	2,911	701	645	120	230	80	92	69	62	912
Franklin County, MO	957	229	230	40	76	31	39	19	20	273
Jefferson County, MO	1,954	472	415	80	154	49	53	50	42	639
Missouri	58,141	14,210	13,009	3,010	3,156	1,413	2,047	1,317	1,446	18,533

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services. 2014. Source geography: County

Data Source: Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services

While the agency realizes there are several risk factors that contribute to these diseases (additional factors will be discussed in the health section), nutrition certainly plays a significant role.

According to the American Diabetes Association, in 2010, poverty rates and diabetes were reviewed across 3,139 counties in the US. They found that Americans who live in the most poverty dense counties were the most prone to obesity. Another article from diabetesincontrol.com stated that living in poverty can double or even triple the likelihood of developing Type 2 Diabetes. The findings are even more striking for women in the lowest income category, which is more than triple that of women in the highest income category. For both datasets, several contributing factors have been cited, such as: lack of access to healthy foods, lack of knowledge in nutrition/preparation/shopping, stress and isolation, lack of physical activity, and the cost of healthcare and equipment. This information aligns with the quantitative data for Jefferson and Franklin Counties, as well as with the qualitative data that was gathered from the community.

Assumptions:

Although the community of Jefferson and Franklin Counties only has a 11.09% Food Insecurity Rate, the information presented in the above narrative leads the agency to believe that the community is *healthy* food insecure. It is assumed that the lack of access to healthy foods is a root cause of many physical and mental health issues. This leads the agency to believe it must strategically plan around nutrition; specifically, in the following areas: access to *healthy* foods, education on obtaining and preparing *healthy* foods, and the promotion of *healthy* lifestyle choices. Based on the data, at this time, this is a Family/Individual level need.

Pillar of Poverty: Health

Pillar	Conditions	Qualitative Data Barrier/Obstacles	Root Cause/Underlying Issue	Missouri Quantitative Data	Community Data	Agency's Data	Assets/Resources
Health Including: Physical Dental Vision Women's Health Mental	Mental Health Issues Substance Abuse Opioid Crisis Care Coordination Asthma	Lack of health insurance Lack of preventative measures (including preventative care and healthy habits) Community Awareness Lack of reliable transportation	Shortage of providers in Franklin (especially those that accept Medicaid) Lack of income High cost of treatment Long wait lists for mental health and substance abuse services	15% enrolled in Medicaid 2,454,799 enrolled in Medicare 9.4% of the population is uninsured 1,850 total medical institutions 57,000 annual preventable hospital stays (Medicare) 26.17 births per 1,000 teens Mortality Rate is 44.1 951 fatal opioid overdoses	10.4% enrolled in Medicaid in Jefferson County 10.2% enrolled in Medicaid in Franklin County 66,256 enrolled in Medicare 9.27% of the population (9.11% for Franklin and 9.34% for Jefferson) are uninsured 59 total medical institutions (19 in Franklin and 40 in Jefferson) 72,000 annual preventable hospital stays (Medicare) 27.47 per 1,000 live births to teens in Franklin and 19.65 in Jefferson Mortality Rate is 60.83 (55.74 in Franklin and 63.18 in Jefferson) 73 fatal opioid overdoses in 2017 Jefferson 24 fatal overdoses in 2017 Franklin	45% Community Service customers do not have health insurance	COMTREA Chestnut Health Jeffco Express Compass Health Rural Parish Clinic Disability Resource Association Hope Coalition Drug Prevention Task Force Jefferson County Health Department

In 2019, the average cost of health care for a family of four covered by an employer sponsored health insurance plan was \$20,576 according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. For a single mother working part time hours, health insurance is not even offered by many employers. Low income families depend on Medicaid, Medicare, and CHIP to cover the costs of health care.

Persons Receiving Medicaid

In the community, there are 40,736 people receiving MO Healthnet (Medicaid) benefits. Statewide there are 907,809 on the MO Healthnet (Medicaid) program. This is a decrease from the last assessment completed which may be a result of changes made by the state regarding eligibility.

Persons Receiving Medicare

The total number of persons receiving Medicare is shown, broken down by number over 65 and number of disabled persons receiving Medicare for the report area. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that a total of 66,256 persons were receiving Medicare benefits in the report area in 2019. A large number of individuals in our society are aware that persons over 65 years of age receive Medicare; however, many of them are unaware that disabled persons also receive Medicare benefits. A total of 12,160 disabled persons in the report area received Medicare benefits in 2019.

Report Area	Persons Over 65 Receiving Medicare	Disabled Persons Receiving Medicare	Total Persons Receiving Medicare
Report Location	54,095	12,160	66,256
Franklin County, MO	18,642	3,984	22,627
Jefferson County, MO	35,453	8,176	43,629
Missouri	2,046,411	408,393	2,454,799
United States	52,987,966	8,519,960	61,507,926

Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, [CMS Geographic Variation Public Use File](#). Source geography: County

Franklin and Jefferson counties as a total have a higher percentage of uninsured persons than Missouri and the United States. The qualitative data collected for this assessment, indicates two barriers that could contribute to the higher rate of uninsured persons. First, community members believe the cost of accessing healthcare, such as co-pays, insurance premiums, deductibles, and sliding scale-fees is too high. Second, community members believe there is a general lack of access to insurance, such as difficulty in obtaining/completing an application and long waiting during periods of enrollment.

The uninsured population of 2018 is calculated by estimating the number of persons eligible for insurance (generally those under 65) minus the estimated number of insured persons.

Report Area	Insurance Population (2018 Estimate)	Number Insured	Number Uninsured	Percent Uninsured
Report Location	326,083	244,990	30,224	9.27%
Franklin County, MO	102,781	75,987	9,360	9.11%
Jefferson County, MO	223,302	169,003	20,864	9.34%
Missouri	6,090,062	4,387,099	562,414	9.23%
United States	322,903,030	240,092,386	27,954,329	8.66%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average, Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). US Census Bureau, [Small Area Health Insurance Estimates](#). 2018. Source geography: County

Federally Qualified Health Centers

Federally Qualified Health Centers in this selected area serve those without insurance on a sliding fee scale. Below are the FQHCs in each county.

County	Provider Number	FQHC Name	Address	City	Phone
Franklin County	PN: 261037	COMPASS HEALTH	1780 OLD HIGHWAY 50 EAST, SUITE 102	UNION	(636) 584-0859
Franklin County	PN: 261088	CONFLUENCE PREP ACADEMY	310 N 15TH ST	BEAUFORT	(314) 367-7848
Jefferson County	PN: 261021	GREAT MINES HEALTH CENTER-DESOTO	123 WEST PRATT STREET	DE SOTO	(573) 586-2522
Jefferson County	PN: 261062	HICKORY PLAZA	#4 HICKORY RIDGE ROAD, SUITE 600	HILLSBORO	(636) 677-9977
Jefferson County	PN: 261063	COMTREA	324 EMERSON RD	HIGH RIDGE	(636) 677-9977
Jefferson County	PN: 261083	COMTREA	21 MUNICIPAL DRIVE	ARNOLD	(636) 296-6206
Jefferson County	PN: 261084	COMTREA	1817 GRAVOIS ROAD	HIGH RIDGE	(636) 376-0079
Jefferson County	PN: 261093	COMMUNITY TREATMENT, INC - FESTUS	110 N MILL STREET	FESTUS	(636) 931-2700
Jefferson County	PN: 261095	COMMUNITY TREATMENT INC - THE VALLEY	4300 GRAVIOS ROAD	HOUSE SPRINGS	(636) 931-2700
Jefferson County	PN: 261118	FOX COMPRENSIVE HEALTH CENTER	849 JEFFCO BLVD	ARNOLD	(636) 287-0440
Jefferson County	PN: 261165	RICHWOODS R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT	10788 STATE HIGHWAY A, RM 128	HORINE	(314) 968-0076
Jefferson County	PN: 261170	COMMUNITY TREATMENT, INC	200 SENN THOMAS DR	HERCULANEUM	(636) 931-2700

Each county has far fewer providers per capita than the state of Missouri and the United States. This shortage encompasses primary care, dental/oral care, and mental health services (County Health Rankings, 2018). This data aligns with the qualitative data collected which indicates community members believe there is a lack of access to clinics, hospitals, and doctors.

Following are the ratio of people to healthcare professionals in Franklin and Jefferson Counties compared to the rankings in Missouri.

Healthcare Provider Type	Franklin County Ratio	Jefferson County Ratio	Missouri State Ratio
Physician	1,510:1	4230:1	1420:1
Dentist	2290:1	2870:1	1810:1
Mental Health	1170:1	1310:1	590:1

(2018 County Health Rankings)

To add to the healthcare professional shortage issue, there are also a limited number of providers that accept MO Healthnet or Medicare in Jefferson and Franklin Counties. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were only 59 active Medicare and Medicaid Institutional service providers in Jefferson and Franklin Counties. The below chart further depicts the communities' limited access to medical professionals.

Medicare and Medicaid Providers

Total institutional Medicare and Medicaid providers, including hospitals, nursing facilities, Federally Qualified Health Centers, rural health clinics and community mental health centers for the report area are shown. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were 59 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in the report area in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Report Area	Total Institutional Providers	Hospitals	Nursing Facilities	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics	Community Mental Health Centers
Report Location	59	3	20	12	3	0
Franklin County, MO	19	1	9	2	1	0
Jefferson County, MO	40	2	11	10	2	0
Missouri	1,850	152	524	215	351	0
United States	74,721	7,072	15,491	9,215	4,455	125

It also must be noted that Jefferson County was higher than state averages in preventable hospital stays. Per the Center for Disease Control (CDC), a preventable hospital stay is a hospital stay for an acute illness, such as dehydration, or a worsening chronic condition, such as diabetes, that might not have required hospitalization had these conditions been managed successfully by a primary care physician (<https://www.cdc.gov>). It can be assumed this data occurred as a result of Jefferson County having a higher than state and national average for uninsured persons, as people who are uninsured are more likely to not access primary or preventative care.

Health Behaviors

The opioid and substance abuse crisis is one of the greatest public health threats facing Missouri. Overdose deaths now exceed traffic-related fatalities in Missouri according to the Missouri Hospital Association. In 2017, there were 73 fatal opioid overdoses in Jefferson County and 24 in Franklin County.

Deaths of Despair

This indicator reports the rate of death due to intentional self-harm (suicide), alcohol-related disease, and drug overdoses per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as rates age-adjusted to year 2000 standard. Rates are summarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because suicide is an indicator of poor mental health.

Report Area	Total Population	Avg. Annual Deaths, 2011-2017	Mortality Rate, 2001-2007	Mortality Rate, 2011-2017
Report Location	324,544	197	30.70	60.83
Franklin County, MO	102,263	57	32.4	55.74
Jefferson County, MO	222,280	140	29.9	63.18
Missouri	6,061,520	2,673	28.6	44.1
United States	318,679,623	129,605	28.9	40.67

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [National Vital Statistics System](#). Accessed via [CDC WONDER](#). Source geography: County

Asthma Prevalence

This indicator reports the percentage of adults aged 18 and older who self-report that they have ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they had asthma. This indicator is relevant because asthma is a prevalent problem in the U.S. that is often exacerbated by poor environmental conditions.

Report Area	Survey Population (Adults Age 18+)	Total Adults with Asthma	Percent Adults with Asthma
Report Location	229,234	30,714	13.4%
Franklin County, MO	83,529	5,856	7.00%
Jefferson County, MO	145,705	24,858	17.10%
Missouri	4,553,696	644,403	14.20%
United States	237,197,465	31,697,608	13.40%

Jefferson County has a significantly higher rate than Franklin County. JFCAC recognizes this is a concern that requires partnerships with local health providers in Jefferson County.

Physical inactivity rates for Franklin and Jefferson Counties are higher than the state and national averages, according to MO Department of Health and Senior Services. The percentage of adults age 20 and over reporting no leisure-time physical activity is 29% in Franklin and 25% in Jefferson. In comparison, 32% of the residents in both Jefferson and Franklin Counties are considered obese, which means having a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or greater. It can be assumed the physical inactivity rates can be a contributing factor to the community's obesity rates and corresponding health issues.

Assumptions:

From the data for this section, multiple needs have been identified, each with a different level of need. While the qualitative data suggests that individuals and families would benefit from initiatives addressing how to access insurance and health services in the community, the quantitative data leads the agency to believe that the greater strategic priority is the need to develop more resources within the community for individuals and families to access. Based on the data, at this time, this is a Community Level need.

In addition, the qualitative data suggests that the main barrier individuals do not access health services is based on the cost of copayments, deductibles, etc. There is a need for initiatives from which individuals and families would benefit from no cost health services. Based on the data, at this time, this is a Family/Individual Level need.

Pillar of Poverty: Education

Pillar	Conditions	Qualitative Data Barrier/Obstacles	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)	Missouri Quantitative Data	Community Data	Agency's Data	Assets/Resources
Education	<p>Early childhood literacy</p> <p>Not Continuing education past high school</p> <p>Enrollment/ Absenteeism in early childhood education programs (Head Start)</p> <p>Number of children in Foster Care</p>	<p>Lack of knowledge or post high school options (e.g. college vs. trade school) and access financial aid</p> <p>Lack of knowledge of programs available, transportation issues, housing instability, etc.</p>	<p>Income</p> <p>Cost</p> <p>Education</p>	<p>44.9% Early childhood enrollment rate</p> <p>61% in-home literacy rate</p> <p>95.0% school attendance rate</p> <p>2.10% high school dropout rate</p> <p>11.59% do not have a high school diploma</p> <p>7% illiteracy rate</p>	<p>43.13% Early Childhood enrollment Rate in Jefferson</p> <p>42.7% Early Childhood enrollment Rate in Franklin</p> <p>95.5% attendance rate <i>(95.1% for Jefferson County & 95.9% for Franklin County)</i></p> <p>89% high school graduation rate</p> <p>12.93% do not have a high school diploma</p> <p>5.86% illiteracy rate <i>(6% Jefferson & 6% Franklin)</i></p>	<p>Funded to enroll 349 children in Head Start</p> <p>Funded to enroll 94 children in Early Head Start</p> <p>Funded to enroll 44 children in Missouri Early Head Start</p>	<p>Jefferson College</p> <p>East Central College</p> <p>Head Start</p> <p>Skill Up Program</p>

Both Jefferson and Franklin Counties had dramatic increases in early childhood enrollment since the last assessment. Early childhood education is defined as the percentage of three- and four-year olds enrolled in preschool (public or private).

Enrollment Age 3-4

This indicator reports the percentage of the population age 3-4 that is enrolled in school. This indicator helps identify places where pre-school opportunities are either abundant or lacking in the educational system.

Report Area	Population Age 3-4	Population Age 3-4 Enrolled in School	Population Age 3-4 Enrolled in School, Percent
Report Location	8,478	3,645	42.99%
Franklin County, MO	2,651	1,132	42.70%
Jefferson County, MO	5,827	2,513	43.13%
Missouri	151,829	69,125	45.53%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average. Tract

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography:

Head Start

Head Start is a program designed to help children from birth to age five who come from families at or below poverty level. The program's goal is to help children become ready for kindergarten while also providing the needed requirements to thrive, including health care and food support.

This indicator reports the number and rate of Head Start program facilities per 10,000 children under age 5. Head Start facility data is acquired from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 2018 Head Start locator. Population data is from the 2010 US Decennial Census. The report area has a total 17 Head Start programs with a rate of 7.91% per 10,000 children under 5 years old.

Report Area	Children Under Age 5	Total Head Start Programs	Head Start Programs, Rate (Per 10,000 Children)
Report Location	21,495	17	7.91%
Franklin County, MO	6,524	7	10.73%
Jefferson County, MO	14,971	10	6.68%
Missouri	390,237	459	11.76%
United States	20,426,118	21,511	10.53%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, [Administration for Children and Families](#). 2019. Source geography: Point

According to the DESE (2020), for Jefferson and Franklin Counties combined, 888 children with disabilities between the ages of three to five years received services. Franklin County provides early childhood special education services to 374 and Jefferson served 514. Missouri First Steps, the program serving the 0-3 population with disabilities, reported that 45 percent of children received an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) as a result of total referrals placed in both counties.

Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved in the report area, and helps schools and businesses to understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25, and is an estimated average for the period from 2014 to 2018.

For the selected area, 13.3% have at least a college bachelor's degree, while 32.1% stopped their formal educational attainment after high school.

Report Area	No High School Diploma	High School Only	Some College	Associates Degree	Bachelors Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
Report Location	11.4%	32.1%	25.1%	11.3%	13.3%	6.8%
Franklin County, MO	11.96%	32.8%	24.9%	10.3%	12.7%	7.4%
Jefferson County, MO	11.17%	31.8%	25.2%	11.7%	13.6%	6.6%
Missouri	10.44%	30.7%	22.4%	7.9%	17.7%	11.0%
United States	12.34%	27.1%	20.6%	8.4%	19.4%	12.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Youth Not Working and Not in School

This indicator reports the percentage of youth age 16-19 who are not currently enrolled in school and who are not employed. The report area has a total population of 15,765 between the ages, of which 4.55% are not in school and not employed.

Report Area	Population Age 16-19	Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed, Percent
Report Location	15,765	4.55%
Franklin County, MO	5,020	5.02%
Jefferson County, MO	10,745	4.33%
Missouri	317,972	6.25%
United States	17,021,831	6.78%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: Tract

Adult Literacy

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) produces estimates for adult literacy based on educational attainment, poverty, and other factors in each county.

Report Area	Estimated Population over 16	Percent Lacking Literacy Skills
Report Location	230,764	5.86%
Franklin County, MO	73,830	6%
Jefferson County, MO	156,934	6%
Missouri	4,321,763	7%
United States	219,016,209	14.64%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics, [NCES - Estimates of Low Literacy](#). 2003. Source geography: County

Broadband Access

This indicator reports the percentage of population with access to high-speed internet. Data are based on the reported service area of providers offering download speeds of 25 MBPS or more and upload speeds of 3 MBPS or more. This data represents both wireline and fixed/terrestrial wireless internet providers. Cellular internet providers are not included.

Report Area	Total Population (2010)	Access to DL Speeds > 25MBPS (2019)
Report Location	320,225	96%
Franklin County, MO	101,492	91.34%
Jefferson County, MO	218,733	98.17%
Missouri	5,988,927	91.25%
United States	312,471,327	95.31%

Based on all of this information, it is assumed the older generations in the community are lacking a high school diploma. Due to the potential employment barriers in relation to not having a high school diploma, coupled with the qualitative data indicating a lack of adequate income is a top barrier for each of the pillars of poverty, the agency believes this warrants further examination.

For those in the community seeking to improve their education there are three institutions of higher education in Franklin County (East Central College, Central Methodist University, Satellite Campus, and Missouri Baptist University's Regional Learning Center); and two in Jefferson County (Jefferson College and Missouri Baptist University's Regional Learning Centers).

Assumptions:

Although the community has opportunities readily available for higher learning, the qualitative and quantitative data suggests these institutions do not satisfy all the needs of the community. The US Census Bureau indicates that Franklin and Jefferson Counties both have a lower number of Bachelor's Degrees and Graduate/Professional Degrees than both the state and national averages. This aligns with the qualitative data collected which indicates the community believes higher education is difficult to access. Community members reported the top challenges to improving their education are: they do not have enough income to access higher education (that a choice must be made between living expenses and education), that the general costs of higher education are a barrier, and that community members do not have the life skills, such as knowing how to apply for school/financial aid, knowing educational options (such as dual degree programs in which a bachelor and master's degree can be obtained at the same time), or knowing how to choose a career path, to pursue higher education. Additionally, community members believe there is a lack of knowledge about post-high school continuing education options such as trade schools, professional certifications, and certificates for those not seeking degrees.

Pillar of Poverty: Energy & Housing

Pillar	Conditions	Qualitative Data Barrier/ Obstacles	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)	Missouri Quantitative Data	Community Data	Agency's Data	Assets/Resources
<p>Energy & Housing</p> <p>Including: Lack of Housing</p> <p>Environmental Health (Housing related illnesses)</p> <p>Energy Costs</p> <p>Homelessness including youth homelessness</p>	<p>Homelessness</p> <p>Frequently moving from place to place</p> <p>Asthma & other chronic respiratory issues</p> <p>Frequent Disconnection notices or disruption of services</p> <p>Employment instability</p>	<p>Lack of safe & affordable housing</p> <p>High energy costs</p> <p>Lack of income</p> <p>Inability to pass background check</p>	<p>Housing shortage in both counties</p> <p>Substandard housing conditions</p> <p>Lack of income</p> <p>High costs (deposits, down payments, utilities, fees)</p> <p>Education (how to obtain housing including budgeting, establishing credit, and saving for housing goals)</p>	<p>25,021 homeless youth</p> <p>Vacant rental units: 2.51%</p> <p>Median Housing Cost: \$883</p> <p>Rent Paid >50% of household income: 22.48%</p> <p>15% of housing stock is qualified as having severe problems</p> <p>6.3% of housing stock is mobile homes</p> <p>10 micrograms per cubic meter of particulate matter found in air</p> <p>8% Adult Asthma rate</p>	<p>1549 homeless youth</p> <p>Vacant rental units: 1.83%</p> <p>Median Housing Cost: \$944.50 (\$878 in Franklin and \$1,011 in Jefferson)</p> <p>Rent Paid >50% of household income: 18.98%</p> <p>13% of housing stock is qualified as having severe problems (12% in Jefferson and 14% in Franklin)</p> <p>10.4% of housing stock is mobile homes (11.2% in Jefferson County and 9.6 in Franklin County)</p> <p>11 micrograms per cubic meter of particulate matter found in air</p> <p>9.7% Adult Asthma rate (9.6 for Franklin and 9.8 for Jefferson)</p>	<p>Community Services helped 7 households avoid eviction (<i>COVID Relief Funding</i>)</p> <p>Missouri Housing Development Commission had 19 homeless families</p> <p>1600 households received Emergency Crisis Funding for utilities</p>	<p>Homeless Youth Initiative</p> <p>JFCAC Housing Choice Voucher</p> <p>Missouri Housing Development Commission</p> <p>JFCAC Weatherization</p> <p>Jefferson County Economic Development</p>

Through the qualitative data collected from the community, the top housing barriers are: lack of income, initial costs (such as deposits, first and last month's rent, down payments on homes, moving expenses, utility connection fees, etc.) lack of safe affordable housing. This aligns with national data which suggests housing barriers can be grouped into four main categories: housing quality, systems barriers, needs barriers, and economic security (Christensen, S., Meyer, J., & Picket, J. (2013). Barriers to Safe and Affordable Housing).

Missouri has the 54th highest rent in the country out of 56 states and territories. Fair Market Rent is the rent amount, including utilities (except telephone), to rent privately owned, existing, decent, safe and sanitary rental housing of modest (non-luxury) nature with suitable amenities.

The Fair Market Rent rate established by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be used as a basis for paying federal housing assistance programs like the Housing Choice Voucher Program (often called "Section 8") [24 CFR Part 888](#).

Housing Age

Total housing units, median year built and median age in 2018 for the report area are shown below. Housing units used in housing age include only those where the year built is known.

Report Area	Total Housing Units	Median Year Built	Median Age (from 2018)
Report Location	135,283	No data	No data
Franklin County, MO	44,794	1982	36
Jefferson County, MO	90,489	1984	34
Missouri	2,775,635	1976	42
United States	136,384,292	1977	41

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Homeowners

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 97,137 owner occupied homeowners of the estimated 135,283 housing units in the report area in 2018. This 71.80% is a decrease over the 81.64% owner occupied homes in 2000.

Report Area	Total Housing Units 2000	Owner Occupied Homes 2000	Owner Occupied Homes 2000	Total Housing Units 2018	Owner Occupied Homes 2018	Owner Occupied Homes 2018
Report Location	106,444	86,899	81.64%	135,283	97,137	71.80%
Franklin County, MO	34,945	27,275	78.05%	44,794	29,916	66.79%
Jefferson County, MO	71,499	59,624	83.39%	90,489	67,221	74.29%
Missouri	2,194,594	1,542,149	70.27%	2,775,635	1,601,845	57.71%
United States	105,480,101	69,815,753	66.19%	136,384,292	76,444,810	56.05%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). US Census Bureau, [Decennial Census](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Number of Unsafe, Unsanitary Homes

The number and percentage of occupied housing units without plumbing are shown for the report area. U.S. Census data shows 366 housing units in the report area were without plumbing in 2000 and ACS 5 year estimates show 386 housing units in the report area were without plumbing in 2018.

In addition to the community’s low number of vacant housing units, that are too costly for the average renter to afford, the community also lacks safe and adequate housing. According to Countyhealthrankings.org, Severe Housing Problems, to be considered to have a server housing problem, a community must meet the classification of one or more of the following issues: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of proper kitchen facilities or inadequate plumbing. In Franklin County, 14% of the housing stock qualified as having severe housing problems. In Jefferson County, 12% met this classification. Both of these percentages are slightly below Missouri’s average of 15% (which includes very dilapidated areas in St. Louis and very rural areas). This data aligns with the qualitative data collected by the agency, which indicates the community believes there is a lack of safe options, which are affordable. The agency believes it is imperative to develop/engage in initiatives that will increase the stock of affordable housing which is decent and sanitary.

Evictions

This indicator reports information about formal evictions based on court records from 48 states and the District of Columbia, compiled by the Eviction Lab. The number evictions and eviction filings within the report area is shown in below. The “filing rate” is the ratio of the number of evictions filed in an area over the number of renter-occupied homes in that area. An “eviction rate” is the subset of those homes that received an eviction judgment in which renters were ordered to leave. The Eviction Lab reports that of 26,559 homes in the report area, there were 1,788 eviction filings, for an eviction filing rate of 6.73%. 1,069 of the eviction filings ended in an eviction, for an eviction rate of 4.03%.

Note: Indicator data do not include information about "informal evictions", or those that happen outside of the courtroom.

Report Area	Renter Occupied Households	Eviction Filings	Evictions	Eviction Filing Rate	Eviction Rate
Report Location	26,559	1,788	1,069	6.73%	4.03%
Franklin County, MO	10,273	567	402	5.52%	3.91%
Jefferson County, MO	16,286	1,221	667	7.5%	4.1%
Missouri	725,712	35,106	20,651	4.84%	2.85%
United States	38,372,860	2,350,042	898,479	6.12%	2.34%

Per the qualitative data collected by the agency, the community members surveyed recognized there are homeless people in the community. Over the last year, Community Services staff have assisted 7 homeless individuals. This is an increase from the previous year. It is very difficult to locate all of the homeless people in the community; the agency assumes these numbers may be even higher.

A report by the U.S. Department of Education Early Childhood State Homelessness Profiles 2018 indicated that in Missouri, 1 out of 13 children under six years old experience homelessness. Based on the under six population figures for Jefferson County, approximately 141 children and 71 children in Franklin County, experienced homelessness in 2018. This equates to approximately an eight percent homelessness rate in each county for children under the age of six.

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, in Franklin County, to rent a one bedroom unit based on Fair Market Rent, a renter will need to earn \$12.40 an hour to be within the accepted limit of 30% income for housing costs. On average, renters in our community do not earn enough money to rent a one bedroom unit. This data is particularly alarming for single parents of multiple children who earn the average renter's hourly wage. This data aligns with the qualitative data collected by the agency which indicates community members believe they not only do not earn enough money to afford a housing unit, but that the housing available in the community is too costly. When strategically planning around the issue of housing, rent disparity.

In addition to the community's low number of vacant housing units, that are too costly for the average renter to afford, the community also lacks safe and adequate housing. According to Countyhealthrankings.org, Severe Housing Problems, to be considered to have a server housing problem, a community must meet the classification of one or more of the following issues: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of proper kitchen facilities or inadequate plumbing. In Franklin County, 14% of the housing stock qualified as having severe housing problems. In Jefferson County, 12% met this classification. Both of these percentages are slightly below Missouri's average of 15% (which includes very dilapidated areas in St. Louis and very rural areas). This data aligns with the qualitative data collected by the agency, which indicates the community believes there is a lack of safe options, which are affordable. The agency believes it is imperative to develop/engage in initiatives that will increase the stock of affordable housing which is decent and sanitary.

In addition to mobile homes being an inadequate choice financially, mobile homes can also be a poor choice in terms of health. A Preventative Medicine report (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles) published data in 2017 indicates a correlation between housing structures and respiratory issues. People living in mobile homes showed a higher prevalence of respiratory symptoms and diseases such as wheezing, coughing, asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and COPD. From this data, the agency assumes that mobile home options are not the best for its customers.

Assumptions:

Based on the qualitative and quantitative data the agency has identified housing as a strategic priority with multiple factors to be addressed on both the family/individual level and the community level.

The agency believes families/ individuals could benefit from educational opportunities regarding how to access housing opportunities available in the community; understanding tenant/landlord rights and responsibilities; how to save money for deposits, first/last month's rent, moving costs, utility costs, and how to become a homeowner, etc. In addition, the agency believes that individuals/families could benefit from home revitalization initiatives to address environmental health and safety issues that could potentially improve the residents' quality of life by eliminating factors contributing to chronic health issues. In addition, the home revitalization initiatives could improve the energy efficiency of the home, thereby decreasing heating and cooling costs which could lead to significant cost savings. At the community level, the agency believes that the community needs more housing options that are both safe and affordable. This potentially includes creating immediate shelter, as wells as, transitional housing and supportive services for those that are experiencing homelessness.

Pillar of Poverty: Family & Economic Security

Pillar	Conditions	Qualitative Data Barrier/Obstacles	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Unde	Missouri Quantitative Data	Community Data	Agency's Data	Assets/Resources
Family & Economic Security Including: Transportation Employment Childcare After school care Parents' Needs	Unemployed Unable to maintain employment Unsupervised children Low wages/income	Lack of accessible and affordable transportation Lack of affordable quality childcare and after school care Lack of livable wage jobs Pay day loan lending	Lack of training, education, professional certifications Lack of income High cost Lack of livable wage jobs with benefits and insurance in close proximity to their homes Lack of social support (social economy/ personal resources)	Average Household Size: 2.48 persons Average Family Size: 3.07 persons 20.81% % of population receiving SSA benefits Median Income: \$54,412 Average hourly wage: \$21.95 Required Living wage: \$27.27 Unemployment rate: 9.8% 23.64 minute average commute time to work	Average Household Size: 2.61 persons (2.53 Franklin/2.68 Jefferson) Average Family Size: 3.06 persons (3.02 Franklin 3.10 Jefferson) 21.11% of population receiving SSA benefits (22.75% Franklin and 20.35% Jefferson) Median Income: \$65,150 Jefferson and \$58,738 Franklin Average hourly wage: (\$20.67 for Franklin and \$18.53 for Jefferson) Required Living wage: \$27.91 Unemployment rate for Franklin: 10.9% and Jefferson: 10.2% 30.35 minute average commute time to work (31.26 for Jefferson and 28.37 for Franklin)	231 Households that applied for CSBG services have income from employment (MIS Report) 350 Households have no income (MIS Report)	Missouri Job Centers Head Start/Early Head Start Jefferson College East Central College

The pandemic has impacted this pillar of poverty the most. The unemployment rate increased from 4.6% (2017 Community Needs Assessment) to 7.2% in Jefferson County and 4.8% to 7.3% in Franklin County.

Current Unemployment

Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for each county in the report area is provided in the table below. Overall, the report area experienced an average 7.2% percent unemployment rate in July 2020.

Report Area	Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Report Location	171,238	158,904	12,334	7.2%
Franklin County, MO	53,171	49,286	3,885	7.3%
Jefferson County, MO	118,067	109,618	8,449	7.2%
Missouri	3,104,813	2,880,929	223,884	7.2%
United States	162,416,604	145,458,574	16,958,029	10.4%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2020 - July. Source geography: County

Income Levels

Two common measures of income are Median Household Income and Per Capita Income based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates. Both measures are shown for the report area below.

Report Area	Median Household Income	Per Capita Income
Report Location	No data	\$28,821.33
Franklin County, MO	\$55,312	\$28,773
Jefferson County, MO	\$63,030	\$28,844
Missouri	\$53,560	\$29,537
United States	\$60,293	\$32,621

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2013-17. Source geography: County

Unemployment Change

Unemployment change within the report area from July 2019 to July 2020 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this thirteen-month period grew from 3.4% to 7.2%.

Report Area	Unemployment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Rate
	July 2019	July 2020	July 2019	July 2020	Change
Report Location	5,951	12,334	3.4%	7.2%	-3.8%
Franklin County, MO	1,903	3,885	3.5%	7.3%	-3.8%
Jefferson County, MO	4,048	8,449	3.4%	7.2%	-3.8%
Missouri	117,030	223,884	3.8%	7.2%	-3.5%
United States	6,625,372	16,958,029	4.0%	10.4%	-6.4%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2020 - July. Source geography: County

Commuter Travel Patterns

This table shows the method of transportation workers used to travel to work for the report area. Of the 158,227 workers in the report area, 86.4% drove to work alone while 8.3% carpooled. 0.2% of all workers reported that they used some form of public transportation, while others used some optional means including 0.9% walking or riding bicycles, and 0.6% used taxicabs to travel to work.

Report Area	Workers 16 and Up	Percent Drive Alone	Percent Carpool	Percent Public Transportation	Percent Bicycle or Walk	Percent Taxi or Other	Percent Work at Home
Report Location	158,227	86.4%	8.3%	0.2%	0.9%	0.6%	3.6%
Franklin County, MO	49,677	84.9%	9.2%	0.3%	1.5%	0.6%	3.6%
Jefferson County, MO	108,550	87.2%	7.8%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	3.6%
Missouri	2,855,663	81.9%	8.8%	1.4%	2.2%	1.0%	4.8%
United States	150,571,044	76.4%	9.1%	5.1%	3.3%	1.2%	4.9%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

Travel Time to Work

Travel times for workers who travel (do not work at home) to work is shown for the report area. The median commute time, according to the American Community Survey (ACS), for the report area is 30.35 minutes longer than the national median commute time of 26.64 minutes.

Report Area	Workers that Commute Age 16 and Up	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) Less than 10	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) 10 to 30	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) 30 to 60	Travel Time in Minutes (Percent of Workers) More than 60	Average Commute Time (mins)
Report Location	152,520	11.00	37.99	40.11	10.91	30.35
Franklin County, MO	47,912.00	16.00	42.15	28.92	12.93	28.37
Jefferson County, MO	104,608.00	8.71	36.08	45.23	9.98	31.26
Missouri	2,717,913.00	15.10	52.72	26.95	5.23	23.64
United States	143,148,111.00	12.45	49.55	28.89	9.11	26.64

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2014-18. Source geography: County

The qualitative data collected indicates that transportation is another community need. In addition to high commute times, community members lack access to multiple modes of transportation. The community currently has public transportation options, although they are very limited. It is assumed that in order to traverse the community and/or leave the community for activities such as shopping, employment, or leisure, one must have access to a car. This assumption is derived from the data above, which strongly indicates the majority of community residents drive alone.

The average hourly and annual wages for the community are lower than both the state and national averages. Franklin County's data is \$20.67 an hour. Jefferson County's data is \$18.53 an hour. The benchmark data is as follows: Missouri's data is \$21.95 hourly.

The living wage for the community \$27.91 is slightly higher than the Missouri average of \$27.27. The living wage data, in comparison to the hourly wage data, is remarkable to the agency. The community's living wage data, compared to Missouri's data, indicates one must earn more per hour to live in the community. However, when this data is compared to the hourly wage date, the community's residents earn less per hour than the Missouri average. This quantitative data is consistence with the qualitative data collected by the agency. From community conversations and surveys the main barrier for individuals in

obtaining/maintaining employment is the ability to secure a livable wage. There is a lack of livable wage employment opportunities for residents. From this data, the agency plans to strategically plan around increasing the stock of living wage jobs.

The ACS compared Franklin and Jefferson Counties to the state and national workers by industry. The data indicates both counties have a higher number of people in the construction and manufacturing fields than the state of Missouri and the United States.

Further, the community fell behind the state and national averages in industry categories such as Professional, Education, Entertainment and Public Administration. Again, it is assumed that this is due in part to the data which indicates both counties have a lower number of Bachelors and Graduate degrees.

Both aforementioned datasets align with the qualitative data collected from the community which states education is a barrier to employment; the community believes there is a lack of knowledge pertaining to career pathways and the corresponding level of job training/education requirements.

The agency believes it is necessary to strategically plan around increasing opportunities for community members to access education and/or training that correspond to industries other than manufacturing and education, as well inventorying the current stock of employment opportunities in the community and create initiatives to bring new industries to the community.

Jobs and Earnings by Sector

The number of jobs and total wage and salary earnings from employment in the report area are broken down by economic sector in the table below. These figures include both private and government employment. The sectors listed below represent private employment except for the last line which includes all the earnings from jobs with local, state and federal government. A negative number means that overall business in that sector lost money for the year in the report area.

Notes:

(D) - Not shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information, but the estimates for this item are included in the totals

(L) - Less than \$50,000, but the estimates for this item are

included in the totals (no data) - Data not available for this year.

Report Area	Farm Jobs	Farm Earnings (\$1,000)	Farm Average	Nonfarm Jobs	Nonfarm Earnings (\$1,000)	Nonfarm Average	Private Nonfarm Jobs	Private Nonfarm Earnings (\$1,000)	Private Nonfarm Average
Franklin County, MO	1,715	\$-3,443	\$-2,008.0	53,954	\$2,461,876	\$45,629.0	49,084	\$2,194,751	\$44,714.0
Jefferson County, MO	653	\$55	\$84.0	74,044	\$3,057,965	\$41,299.0	64,639	\$2,520,667	\$38,996.0
Missouri	93,918	\$266,645	\$2,839.0	3,685,918	\$205,165,197	\$55,662.0	3,216,528	\$174,646,491	\$54,297.0
United States	2,604,000	\$67,932,000	\$26,088.0	198,142,000	\$12,442,723,000	\$62,797.0	173,599,000	\$10,458,009,000	\$60,242.0

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, US Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2018. Source geography: County

Report Area	Forestry, Fishing, and Related Activities Jobs	Forestry, Fishing, and Related Activities Earnings (\$1,000)	Forestry, Fishing, and Related Activities Average	Mining Jobs	Mining Earnings (\$1,000)	Mining Average	Utilities Jobs	Utilities Earnings (\$1,000)	Utilities Average
Franklin County, MO	No data	No data	\$1,000.0	No data	No data	\$1,000.0	358	\$49,315	\$137,751.0
Jefferson County, MO	No data	No data	\$1,000.0	230	\$14,069	\$61,170.0	242	\$33,672	\$139,140.0
Missouri	14,418	\$482,308	\$33,452.0	8,762	\$336,767	\$38,435.0	12,236	\$1,697,843	\$138,758.0

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Report Area	Construction Jobs	Construction Earnings (\$1,000)	Construction Average	Manufacturing Jobs	Manufacturing Earnings (\$1,000)	Manufacturing Average
Franklin County, MO	4,158	\$211,627	\$50,896.0	10,225	\$683,635	\$66,859.0
Jefferson County, MO	7,095	\$398,375	\$56,149.0	4,541	\$321,007	\$70,691.0
Missouri	196,223	\$12,537,532	\$63,894.0	288,323	\$22,730,105	\$78,836.0

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).

Report Area	Wholesale Trade Jobs	Wholesale Trade Earnings (\$1,000)	Wholesale Trade Average	Retail Trade Jobs	Retail Trade Earnings (\$1,000)	Retail Trade Average	Transportation and Warehousing Jobs	Transportation and Warehousing Earnings (\$1,000)	Transportation and Warehousing Average
Franklin County, MO	1,213	\$82,034	\$67,629	6,705	\$189,209	\$28,219	1,997	\$99,382	\$49,766
Jefferson County, MO	1,959	\$126,543	\$64,596	9,965	\$269,236	\$27,018	3,040	\$114,070	\$37,523
Missouri	129,406	\$11,056,910	\$85,444	383,835	\$11,993,104	\$31,245	152,786	\$7,511,308	\$49,162

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).

Report Area	Information Jobs	Information Earnings (\$1,000)	Information Average	Finance and Insurance Jobs	Finance and Insurance Earnings (\$1,000)	Finance and Insurance Average	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Jobs	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Earnings (\$1,000)	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Average
Franklin County, MO	680	\$32,486	\$47,774	1,999	\$82,027	\$41,034	2,902	\$48,949	\$16,867
Jefferson County, MO	648	\$29,169	\$45,014	2,801	\$99,131	\$35,391	3,593	\$68,432	\$19,046
Missouri	57,370	\$4,765,343	\$83,063	195,440	\$15,861,333	\$81,157	164,140	\$3,632,297	\$22,129

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).

Report Area	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Jobs	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Earnings (\$1,000)	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Average	Management of Companies and Enterprises Jobs	Management of Companies and Enterprises Earnings (\$1,000)	Management of Companies and Enterprises Average
Franklin County, MO	2,443	\$108,926	\$44,587	398	\$33,308	\$83,688
Jefferson County, MO	2,925	\$115,761	\$39,576	142	\$9,931	\$69,937
Missouri	229,509	\$19,011,274	\$82,835	69,414	\$8,702,637	\$125,373

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).

Although the Missouri Department of Social Services does provide childcare financial assistance for those who qualify, the reimbursement rate does not necessarily cover the full childcare cost, forcing the parent to either cover some cost, or choose a less expensive provider, that may be of lesser quality. Additionally, for some, household income may be just above the income level for childcare assistance, but not enough to help pay the costs for most child care businesses.

Following are the Missouri Department of Social Services' reimbursement rates:

Jump to another county:

NOTE: Child care rates are slightly higher in some areas for children who receive child care through the Children's Division, referred to as Protective Services child care. Boxes with a indicate a different rate for Protective Services child care. Click on the box with the and you will be taken to another rate table. **If the rate displayed does not have a there is no difference in rates and the rate shown is the only rate for this area.**

Daytime Rates

	Licensed & Regulated Faith Based Facilities								
	Infant			Preschool			School Age		
	Full	Half	Part	Full	Half	Part	Full	Half	Part
Center	\$31.56	\$22.15	\$18.68	\$18.76	\$12.13	\$8.46	\$18.38	\$12.13	\$8.46
Group	\$23.29	\$18.38	\$18.38	\$15.93	\$9.80	\$7.41	\$14.71	\$9.80	\$6.13
Family Home	\$18.38	\$12.85	\$12.66	\$15.93	\$9.80	\$8.03	\$14.71	\$9.80	\$6.13

dss.mo.gov

Jump to another county:

NOTE: Child care rates are slightly higher in some areas for children who receive child care through the Children's Division, referred to as Protective Services child care. Boxes with a indicate a different rate for Protective Services child care. Click on the box with the and you will be taken to another rate table. **If the rate displayed does not have a there is no difference in rates and the rate shown is the only rate for this area.**

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Family Home	\$18.38	\$12.85	\$12.66	\$15.93	\$9.80	\$8.03	\$14.71	\$9.80	\$6.13

dss.mo.gov

As illustrated, the reimbursement rates do not cover the full cost of childcare in the community. This information aligns with the qualitative data collected from the community, which indicates a top barrier that individuals face in obtaining/maintaining employment is child care. The Child Care Aware Needs Assessment 2020 documents a total of 12,125 children in Jefferson County and 5,413 in Franklin County under the age of six who have working families. The total licensed capacity of centers in Jefferson County is 3,341, meeting only 28 percent of the child care need. Franklin County's licensed capacity is 1,494, meeting only 45 percent of the need.

Additionally, the community reported access to safe and affordable childcare, which is close to home, as a significant need. The agency believes this warrants further exploration.

Another important factor to consider is the number of children removed to foster care for drug/alcohol or neglect in the program's service area. The average time a child in Missouri spends in foster care, prior to reunification or another permanency placement, is 28 months, compared to the national average of 19 months. From April 2019-March 2020 there were 890 children served in foster care in Jefferson County and 422 served in Franklin County. In Jefferson County, 64% were removed for caregiver drug or alcohol abuse and in Franklin County 83% were removed for that reason.

(<https://fosteringcourtimprovement.org>) Based on these statistics, it is no surprise that the foster care system in both counties is overwhelmed. The average monthly cost for foster care was \$67,800 per county or a total for the service area of \$1,627,200 for the reporting period April 2019 to March 2020. There are long term impacts that need to be considered too. Only 48 percent of children in Missouri who enter care are expected to be successfully reunited with their biological family. If reunification is not successful, 14 percent of foster children without a permanent family become homeless adults and 18-26 percent of foster children without permanent family end up in the prison system, thus sustaining the cycle.

Assumptions:

From the data mined for this section, multiple strategic priorities have been identified, each with a different level of need.

The data collected overwhelming indicates that transportation and employment are both significant needs in the community. Due to the complicated nature of both needs, the agency has classified them as both a Community Level and Individual/Family Level Need. The agency intends to strategically plan initiatives that address these issues from both levels.

Childcare has been determined to be a Community Level Need. From the data collected, it is assumed the largest barrier to childcare is the lack of safe and affordable childcare providers in the community. The agency intends to strategically plan to address the quality of affordable childcare providers in the community.

Disclosures

- This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. JFCAC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identify, and/or marital status, and operates in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law.
- The agency ensures that person with disabilities and/or language barriers have access to programs and services. The agency will provide alternative forms of communication, if requested.
- This project/program is funded 100% with federal funds received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HSS) provided by the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division.

Appendix

Appendix A Focus Group Questions
(Community Conversations)

Appendix B Survey Questions

Appendix C Analysis Process

Appendix A

Focus Groups called Community Conversations were held on the following dates:

- 06/29/2020 Franklin County Back to School Committee
- 7/2/2020 Franklin County United Way Emergency Services Committee
- 7/10/2020 Jefferson County Bright Futures Advisory Board
- 7/13/2020 Jefferson County Homeless Youth Board
- 7/21/2020 JFCAC Head Start Policy Council

The following questions were asked of each group:

1. What are the county's three biggest challenges related to poverty?
2. What are the county's three biggest strengths related to prosperity?
3. What local resources/assets are available to address the challenges families face?
4. What local resources/assets are not available in the county to overcome these challenges?

2020 JFCAC Community Needs Assessment

Required

1. Which county do you live in?

- Jefferson
- Franklin
- Neither, but I work/volunteer in Jefferson
- Neither, but I work/volunteer in Franklin

2. How many people live in your household (including yourself)?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more
- Currently Homeless

3. Do you have internet access at your home?

- Yes
- Yes, only on a cell phone
- No, access not available where I live
- No, cost is not affordable

4. What do you think is the main reason individuals and families do not eat healthy?

- Cost of healthy foods
- Access to grocery stores and farmers' markets (limited option close to home)
- Transportation
- Education (how to prepare/cook food; how to read nutrition labels, etc)
- Time and effort (budgeting, planning ahead, shopping, meal prep, cleaning, etc.)

5. What do you think is the main barrier individuals and families have in obtaining health services (medical, dental, vision, mental health)

- Cost (insurance, deductibles, co-pays, sliding scale fees, etc)
- Access to insurance (difficulty obtaining/completing applications, long wait periods)

- Access to clinics, hospitals, doctors.
- Fear (of doctors, dentists, diagnosis, treatment, being labeled)
- Transportation

6.What do you think is the reason women do not access women's healthcare related to childbirth (breastfeeding, nutrition education, birthing classes, doula services)

- Cost
- Access (not enough options in the community)
- Understanding the importance/value of these services
- Understanding of how to access these services

7.What do you think is the main reason students (preschool through high school) miss school?

- Homelessness
- Drug and/or alcohol abuse (parent or teenager)
- Foster Care placement
- Transportation
- Teenage Pregnancy
- Bullying or problems at school (poor grades, low self-esteem, fear, peer pressure, etc.)
- Poor mental health
- Must help with family/babysitting of younger siblings

8.What do you think is the main reason adults (18 or Older) do not improve their education?

- Income (not enough money to cover all of their expenses -forced to choose work over education)
- General Cost (GED testing fee, tuition, supplies, childcare, etc.)
- Life skills (do not know what their options are, how to apply, how to choose career path, etc.)
- Learning disabilities
- Transportation

9.What do you think the top three needs are of parents?

- Court ordered Parenting classes
- Respite care (emergency childcare)
- Child development information

- Information on how to address challenging behavior
- Basic supplies (diapers, clothes, hygiene products, school supplies, etc.)

10. What do you think the main barrier is for individuals in obtaining/maintaining employment?

- Securing a livable wage
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Education (lack of education/job training)
- Drug and/or alcohol addiction
- Health Issues
- Mental health issues

11. What do you think is the main barrier families are facing in obtaining/maintaining childcare?

- Cost
- Access to childcare (not available evenings/overnight/weekends/holiday)
- Health and safety concerns of available providers

12. What do you think is the main barrier individuals and families face with transportation?

- Costs
- Public transportation (limited options/ not on bus route/long wait)
- Lack of personal car
- No valid driver's license

13. What do you think is the main barrier individuals and families are facing in our area with housing?

- Income (not enough money to cover all expenses-forced to choose between necessities)
- Lack of safe and affordable housing options
- High cost of moving (deposits, moving expense, utilities)
- Cannot pass background/credit screenings

14. Do you know anyone that is homeless in Jefferson or Franklin Counties?

- Yes, homeless youth
- Yes, homeless adult
- No

15. Which of our services have you heard of (select all that apply)

- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Empowerment Coaching
- Skill Up
- Recovery Support Services (RSS)
- Energy Assistance
- Housing Assistance (HUD/Section 8)
- Weatherization
- Women, Infant, Children (WIC)

Appendix C:

Pillar	Conditions (What presents?)	Barrier/Obstacle	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)
Food	Obesity	Obtaining Nutritious Food	Lack of Income
	Diabetes	Time and Effort Required	High cost of Nutritious Food
	Impact on Physical Health		Lack of Education
	Impact on Emotional Health		

Pillar	Conditions (What presents?)	Barrier/Obstacle	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)
Health	Health issues	Access to Clinical Care	Shortage of Providers (especially that accept Medicaid)
	Increased ER visits	Lack of Health Insurance	Income/Cost
INCLUDING:		Lack of Preventative Measures (including preventative care and healthy habits)	Education
Physical		Community Awareness	How to Access Services
Dental			Healthy Lifestyle Choices
Mental		Long wait lists for services	
Substance Abuse	Opioid Crisis		
Women's Health			

Pillar	Conditions (What presents?)	Barrier/Obstacle	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)
Education	Not continuing education past High School	Lack of Knowledge or post high school options (e.g. college vs. trade school) and how to	Income
	Absenteeism in early childhood education programs	Lack of Knowledge of programs available, transportation issues, housing instability	Cost
	Drop-out Rates		Education
	Number of children in foster care		

Pillar	Conditions (What presents?)	Barrier/Obstacle	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)
Energy & Housing	Homelessness	Lack of safe & affordable housing	Housing shortage in both counties
	Frequently moving from place to place	High Energy Costs	Substandard Housing Conditions
INCLUDING:	Asthma & other chronic respiratory issues		Income
Lack of Housing	Frequent ER visits		Cost (deposits, down payments, utilities fees)
Environmental Health (Housing related illnesses)	Frequent Disconnection Notices/Disruption of Services		Education (how to obtain housing including budgeting, establish credit, and save for housing goals)
Energy Costs	Employment Instability		
Homeless Youth			

Pillar	Conditions (What presents?)	Barrier/Obstacle	Risk Factor (Root Cause/Underlying Issue)
Family & Economic Security	Unemployed	No transportation (accessible/affordable)	Lack of training/education/professional certifications
	Unable to maintain employment	Lack of affordable quality childcare/after school care	Income/cost
INCLUDING:	Unsupervised Children	Payday loan lending	Lack of livable wage jobs with benefits/insurance in close proximity to their homes
Transportation	Low wages/income		Lack of social support/social capital
Employment			
Childcare			
After School Care			
Parents' Needs			