

Butler County Community Needs Assessment

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Methodology – The Community Assessment Process: The Community Assessment is information related to the trends, available resources, and challenges facing Head Start eligible children and their families. This report utilized a variety of sources (e.g. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ChildStats.gov, Child Trends Data Bank, Data USA, Feeding America, Kids Count Data Center, Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Development Services Agency, PCSAO Factbook 2020, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Census Bureau State and County Quickfacts). The assessment followed the requirements set forth in 1305.3(c)(1)-(6) and 13.05.3 (d)(1)-(6).

Executive Summary

A review of the data overall reflects continuing concerns (e.g., mental health, access to childcare) as well as positive trends occurring within the two counties. The report findings also reflect issues about the Butler County communities that have either improved, maintained, or declined over several years: since the last community needs assessment was conducted for this area. Below we highlight key concerns and positive attributes gleaned from the report.

Concerns/Challenges

- Almost half of students living in Butler County receive free/reduced lunches, despite data projections of improved food insecurity.
- The number of households enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) have increased annually since 2018.
 - As of December 2021, Butler County has 18,836 households enrolled in the SNAP, serving 41,018 individuals, of which 19,486 are children.
- Butler County has also experienced a decrease in the number of certified/licensed available childcare providers in the past few years.
 - This shortage may impact parental employment/career opportunities in the future, should the need for affordable and quality childcare rise higher than the fewer resources that are currently available, compared to the past few years.

Positive Attributes¹

- The level of Bachelor's degrees or higher was higher in Butler County (31.3%) compared to the state of Ohio (28.9%).¹
- Data from 2015-2019 compares Butler County to the state of Ohio in different performance categories. Home ownership is slightly higher in Butler County (68.1%) when compared to Ohio (66.1%).¹
- Butler County has a higher percentage of homes with a computer and internet connection (92.1% and 86.8%), compared to Ohio (89.1% and 82% respectively).¹
- The median household income was higher in Butler County compared to the state. Butler County had an income of \$66,117, while Ohio had an income of \$56,602.¹
- Butler County had lower poverty rates (10.1%) compared to Ohio (12.6%).¹
- Food insecurity in Butler County seems to have improved between the 2019 data and the 2021 projections (e.g., 2019 food insecurity rates were 11.8% in Butler County and; compared to 2021 projections of 5.4% in Butler)²
- In Butler County, data from 2018, 2019 and 2020 indicate a decrease in the percentage of children below the age of 18 living in poverty³.

Utilizing the Community Assessment

Information from the community assessment will be presented to the Head Start Policy Council and the BCESC Governing Board during the Spring, 2022. The Policy Council will review this document and identify significant data.

The Community Assessment will serve as a guide for program staff and the Policy Council in identifying both the needs of children and families in poverty and the available resources in the community. The assessment helps us understand present conditions, community trends, construct justification for funding and budgets, and is a foundation to support continuous program improvement. These findings will impact program planning, development, and evaluation. The assessment will guide the implementation of strategic agency goals and objectives, helping the BCESC Head Start/Early Head Start programs continue to be leaders in early education and care; increase our organizational and community capacity to support school readiness; and align our operational processes with community partners.

As part of our program grant requirement, the Butler County Educational Service Center Head Start/Early Head Start conducts a community assessment according to requirements set forth in (1305.3(c)(1)-(6)). These data points are used to set program goals and objectives, develop comprehensive services, determine recruitment strategies, reallocate program slots, and set recruitment and enrollment priorities (1305.3 (d)(1)-(6)).

Introduction

Head Start programs provide comprehensive developmental services for children ages three through five⁴. The program promotes school readiness by enhancing the cognitive, social, health, mental health, nutrition, and other educational development of children. Head Start recognizes the important role of primary caregivers (e.g., parents, grandparents, foster parents) as children's first and most influential teachers. The program supports the social service needs of families and asset building to achieve life balance. Head Start partners with multiple stakeholders (families, schools, social service agencies and other entities) to foster a smooth transition to kindergarten for each child.

Early Head Start programs provide early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services for families from birth through age three when they are ready to transition to Head Start or other pre-kindergarten programs⁴. The program promotes the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of infants and toddlers from birth to three, and pregnant women. The program is designed to support parents' efforts to fulfill their parental roles and move toward self-sufficiency.

Butler County Educational Service Center (BCESC) is a private, non-profit agency serving the entire area of Butler County and nearby counties, including Preble County in Ohio. The BCESC

is dedicated to providing school districts in these counties with professional development, technology, support, planning, and administrative services that help improve student learning, enhance the quality of instruction, expand equitable access to resources and maximize operating and fiscal efficiencies. The BCESC has provided Head Start services in the community since 1991, and Early Head Start Services since 2009.

Overall, Butler County ranks 7th in population in the state among the state's 88 counties⁵. Butler county has a total area of 470.13 square miles (1,217.6 km), of which 467.06 square miles (1,209.7 km) (or 99.35%) is land and 3.08 square miles (8.0 km) (or 0.66%) is water. Butler County is located in geographical Southwest Ohio, approximately twenty-five miles north of Cincinnati and 25 miles south of Dayton. Butler County shares its southern border with Hamilton County. To the North are Montgomery and Preble Counties; to the south, Hamilton County; to the east Warren County; to the west is the State of Indiana. Hamilton, Ohio serves as the county seat. The County maintains a variety of social, artistic, and educational establishments and programs as well as a major public university, the Miami University (campus locations: Oxford, Hamilton, Middletown, and West Chester). Served by rail lines, interstate highways, and two nearby international airports, Butler County continues to attract businesses.

BCESC Head Start/Early Head Start Demographics

Head Start in Butler County currently operates 12 different sites and serves 595 children in the county. Butler County Early Head Start currently serves 127 children, with a YTD enrollment of 217.

Program Services

Program services are provided to residents in all ten Butler County school districts (i.e., Edgewood City, Hamilton City, Lakota Local, Madison Local, Middletown City, Monroe Local, New Miami Local, Ross Local, and Talawanda City). Program services target the county population whose income is 100% of poverty level.

Services are designed to meet the needs of eligible children, taking into consideration the estimated number of eligible children served by the State of Ohio in other licensed preschool options by our local school districts.

BCES Head Start/Early Head Start recognizes that school districts and other early education/intervention agencies each have unique roles and responsibilities. At the same time, they share similar mandates. They frequently serve the same children and families either through collaborative services or as transition conduits as children and families move from one agency to another.

The purpose of this section is to meet the requirement of 1305.31.3(1): The demographic make-up of Head Start Eligible children and families including their estimated number, geographic locations, and racial and ethnic composition.

Populations¹

Estimates from 2021 indicate the total population of Butler County is 390,267, which represents a 6.0% increase in population from 2010. The percent change is higher than the change between 2010 and 2021 in Ohio (2.3%), and lower than the change in the United States (7.4%). As of 2010, the Butler County population density is 788.2 people per square mile, which is much higher than the state average density of 282.3 people per square mile and is much higher than the national average density of 87.4 people per square mile.

Race and Ethnicity

Based on 2021 Census estimates, the population of Butler county is 84% White, 9.2% African-American, 5% Hispanic/Latino, 3.9% Asian, 2.5% other (e.g., bi-racial/multiracial), 0.3% Native American, and 0.1% Pacific Islander. The table below also provides 2019 Census data for comparisons, as well as data from Head Start and Early Head Start for multiple years.

Butler County¹

<i>Persons by Race</i>	<i>2021 Census estimates in numbers and (%)</i>	<i>2019 Census Estimates in numbers and (%)²</i>	<i>2021-2022 Butler Head Start data in numbers and (%)</i>	<i>2021-2022 Butler Early Head Start data in numbers and (%)</i>	<i>2017-2018 Butler Head Start data in numbers and (%)</i>	<i>2016-2017 Butler Head Start data in numbers and (%)</i>	<i>2016-2017 Butler Early Head Start data in numbers and (%)</i>
<i>White</i>	327,810 (84.0%)	321,832 (84%)	293 (35.91%)	81 (63.78%)	335 (41.46%)	376 (46.36%)	83 (35.47%)
<i>African-American</i>	35,913 (9.2%)	35,248 (9.2%)	210 (25.74%)	24 (18.9%)	194 (24.01%)	167 (20.59%)	54 (23.08%)
<i>American Indian</i>	1,171 (0.3%)	1,149 (0.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.79%)	1 (0.12%)	1 (0.12%)	0 (0%)
<i>Asian</i>	15,224 (3.9%)	14,942 (3.9%)	67 (8.21%)	9 (7.09%)	27 (3.34%)	5 (0.62%)	0 (0%)
<i>Pacific Islander</i>	390 (0.1%)	383 (0.1%)	4 (0.49%)	1 (0.79%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

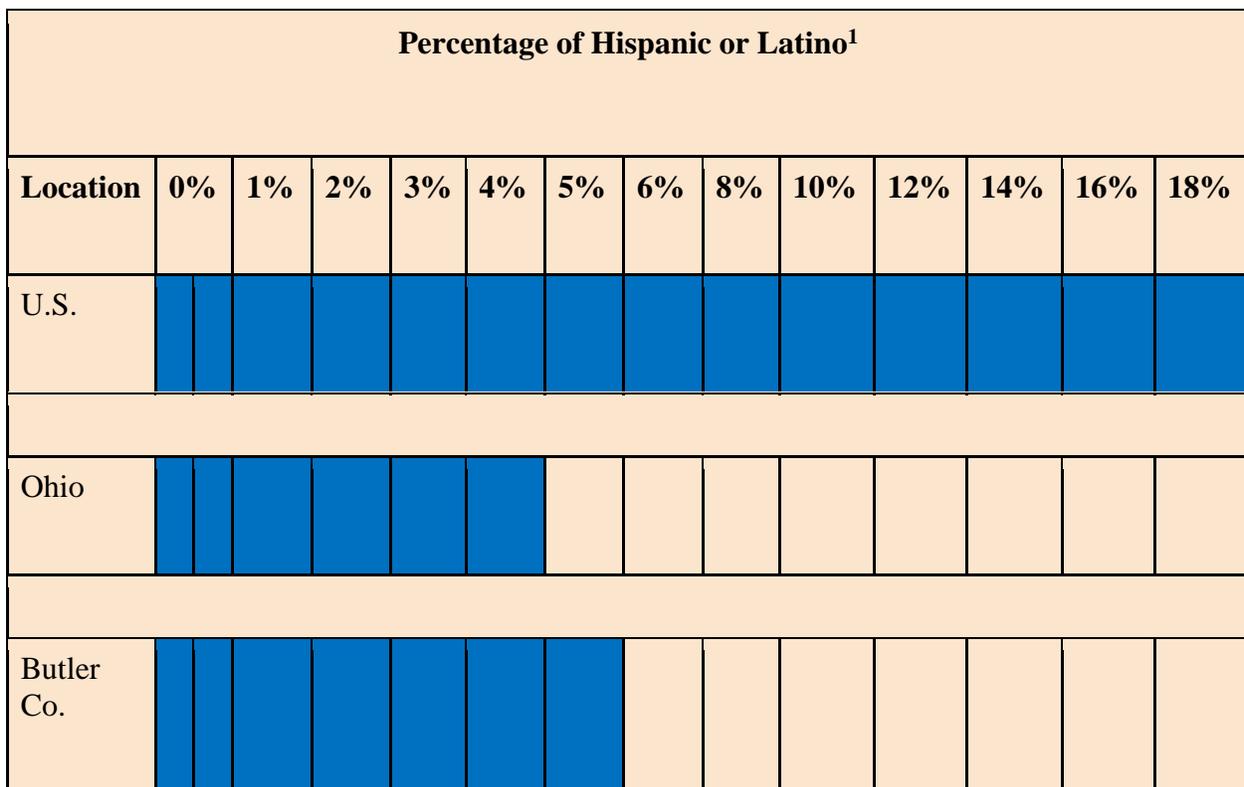
Other (bi-racial/multi-racial)	9,759 (2.5%)	9,578 (2.5%)	110 (13.48%)	11 8.66%	99 (12.25%)	97 (11.96%)	27 (11.54%)
Hispanic/Latino	19,513 (5.0%)	-	132 (16.18%)	50 n/a	152 (18.81%)	165 (20.35%)	70 (29.91 %)
Total numbers	390,267	383,134	816	127	808	811	234

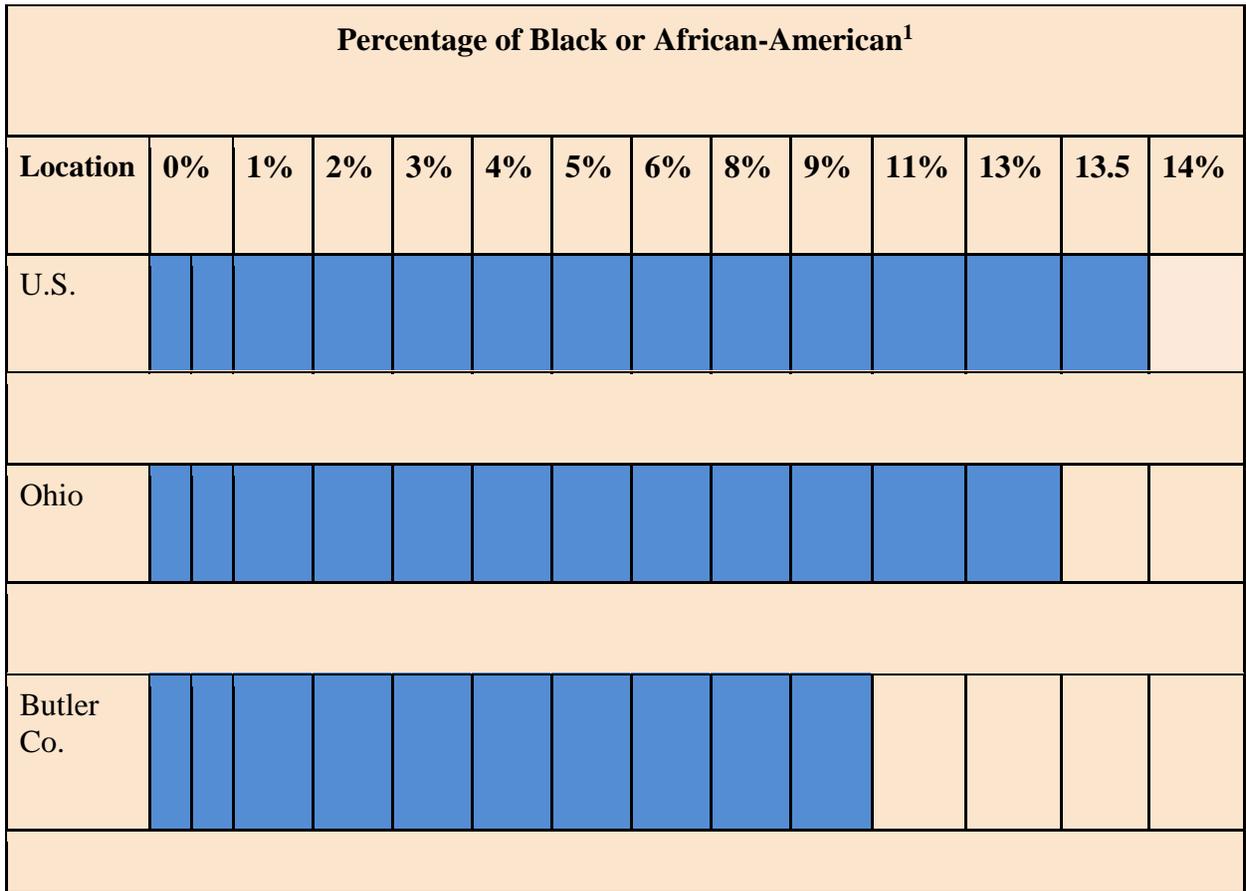
*Early Head Start column refers to number of children/pregnant women and the Hispanic category are not additional people.

Ethnicity

The Hispanic/Latino ethnicity has been growing steadily in the United States, and this ethnicity has surpassed African-Americans as the largest minority (18.3%) in America¹. Additionally, the percentage of Hispanic/Latino children has grown from 9% in 1980 to 25% in 2015⁶. The most common Hispanic migration points currently include Mexico (61.93%), Puerto Rico (9.3%), and Cuba, El Salvador, Colombia, Dominican Republic, and Guatemala (> 1.75% combined).

In 2021, 5.0% of the population in Butler County was of Hispanic/Latino heritage, which is about 19,513 people.





Minority Median Income Levels⁷

Household income averages in the state of Ohio vary greatly depending on race and ethnicity. For households with children in Ohio, in 2019 African Americans and Hispanics were significantly lower than those of Asian Americans and non-Hispanic Whites. The median income of African American households with children in 2019 was \$33,300, and the median income of Hispanic households with children was \$45,800. Non-Hispanic White households had an average income of \$81,700, and the highest were Asian households with a median household income of \$105,100.

Minority Median Income Levels			
Location	Race Group	Data Type	2019
Ohio	American Indian	Currency	No data

	Asian & Pacific Islander	Currency	\$105,100
	Black or African American	Currency	\$33,330
	Hispanic or Latino	Currency	\$45,800
	Non-Hispanic White	Currency	\$81,700
	Two or more races	Currency	\$45,600
	Total	Currency	\$72,100

Languages¹

According to data from 2015-2019, 8.3% of families in Butler County reported speaking a native language other than English at home, while 91.7% spoke English as their primary language. These are slightly higher than data from the previous year.

Currently (2021-2022 school year) there are 215 dual language learner children being served by Head Start in Butler County. The largest language group is Spanish (42.33%, n=91), followed by Nepali (21.4%, n=46), Middle Eastern (12.09%, n=26), French (10.23%, n=22), other language not listed (7.9%, n=17), Twi (4.65%, n=10) and Punjabi (1.4%, n=3). Butler County Early Head Start currently serves 49 dual language learners. The largest language group is Spanish (78.26%, n=36), followed by Nepali (15.22%, n=7), Middle Eastern (4.35%, n=2), French (4.35%, n=2) and other language not listed (4.35%, n=2).

At the state level, the number of school-aged children (age 5-17) who spoke a language other than English at home is around 8%, which represents about 152,000 children. In the United States, this number is around 23%, which represents over 12,000,000 children. The predominant language other than English is Spanish, accounting for 71.0% of the other languages other than English⁸.

Gender

The break-down of gender in Butler County is fairly equal. According to data from 2021, in Butler County male residents accounted for 49.0% of the population, and females represented 51.0% of the population.

Age

According to data from 2019, the median age in Butler County was 37.1. The medians in Ohio and the United States fall slightly above this, with the median age in the state of Ohio in 2019 being 39.6 and in the United States was 38.5⁹. In Butler County, the population aged 65 years and over is consistently larger than the population of children age 5 and under. In 2020, there were 58,943 adults age 65 and over in Butler County, which represents 15.1% of the total Butler

county population. This figure is an 8.3% increase since 2017 (54,426) and is projected to continue increasing to over 20% of the county’s population by 2030. In 2020, 6% (23,421) of Butler County’s population was age 5 or under.

Households and Families¹

In Butler County, there were 153,241 households in 2019. The majority of these were family households (67.6%), while 32.4% were non-family. On average, there were 2.65 persons per household, as compared to the state average of 2.43 and the United States average of 2.62. The median household income was \$66,117.

Economic Activities

The surrounding areas in Butler County are booming with economic growth. The metropolitan area of Southwest Ohio has easy access to large networks of interstate highways and rail lines, with additional close access to Dayton in Montgomery County and Cincinnati in Hamilton County with two international airports. Butler County has seven cities, five villages, and thirteen civil townships¹¹.

In 2019, Butler County employed 184,893⁹. This number has been steadily increasing over the past decade. As of 2019, there were 7,259 total employer establishments in Butler County who employed 141,966 employees. This represents a 0.5% change in total employment from 2018 to 2019 alone¹. The economy in Butler County specializes in the management of companies and enterprise, manufacturing, arts, entertainment, and recreation. The largest employing industries are manufacturing (17%), health care and social assistance (14.6%), retail trade (12.2%), educational services (9.5%), and accommodation and food services (7.1%).

Future Trends for Butler County Economy

Between 2018 and 2019, there was a 5% increase in total employment in Butler County. The chart below shows the full break-down percentage of employees in various industries in the county.

Industry	% of people employed
Manufacturing	17.0%
Health care and social assistance	14.6%
Retail trade	12.2%
Educational services	9.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	7.1%
Construction	6.1%
Finance and Insurance	5.1%
Transportation and Warehousing	4.9%

Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	5.1%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management Services	4.4%
Other Services, Except Public Administration	4.2%
Public Administration	2.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1.7%
Real Estate and Rental	1.5%
Information	1.1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	0.2%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & gas Extraction	0.03%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0.03%

Data USA: Butler County, Ohio

As for specific employers, Butler County has several companies that account for a large proportion of the county's employees. In 2020, the largest employers in Butler County were Miami University, Cincinnati Financial Corporation, GE Aviation, and AK Steel; all of whom were in the industry of education, insurance, or manufacturing. The chart below shows the full break-down percentage of the largest employers in the county¹³.

COMPANY NAME	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	INDUSTRY
Miami University	4,250	Education
Cincinnati Financial Corp	3,234	Insurance
GE Aviation	2,500	Manufacturing
AK Steel	2,421	Manufacturing
Butler County Government	2,044	Government
Lakota School District	1,827	Education
Mercy Regional Hospital	1,400	Healthcare
Liberty Mutual	1,400	Insurance
Koch Foods	1,200	Food Service

UC Health West Chester Hospital	1,045	Healthcare
Ft. Hamilton Hospital	1,028	Healthcare
Hamilton City Schools	1,000	Education
Tyson Foods	901	Manufacturing
Fairfield City Schools	900	Education
Cornerstone Brands	896	Consumer Goods
Baker Concrete (Monroe)	804	Manufacturing
ThyssenKrupp Bilstein of America	800	Manufacturing
Express Scripts	750	Healthcare
Pacific Manufacturing, Inc.	700	Manufacturing
Cincinnati Children's Hospital (Liberty Campus)	700	Healthcare
Veritiv Corporation	675	Distribution
City of Hamilton	650	Government
Community First Solutions	620	Healthcare
Procter & Gamble	558	Manufacturing
Deceuninck North America	550	Manufacturing
Miller Coors	548	Food/Beverage
Takumi Stamping	500	Manufacturing
Barclaycard	500	Communication
Totes Isotoner	450	Manufacturing
Martin Brower	450	Food Service/ Manufacturing
Edgewood Board of Education	420	Education
Tri-County Extended Care	405	Healthcare
Square D (Schneider Electric)	398	Manufacturing

Poverty

The NCCP has reported that children’s poverty has continued to climb, with 15% of Ohio’s children living below the poverty line in 2019 (NCCP)⁶². The burden of poverty is highest among Black children, with 43% of Black children living in poor families (Census Reporter)⁶³.

According to 2021 estimates, in Butler County 10.1% of the population is below the poverty line, which equates to about 39,400 people. As noted in the table below, the population in Butler County has trended in varying directions over time, but the percentages of children below poverty have remained below statewide and nationwide estimates between 2016-2020. However, the estimates for the state of Ohio are slightly but consistently higher than national averages during this five-year time period. Moreover, the data from 2016-2020 indicate that poverty estimates at the state of Ohio level have consistently decreased during this time period. Similarly, examination of the last three years of available data (2018, 2019 and 2020) indicate a decrease in the percentage of children below the age of 18 living in poverty in Butler county. Given that poverty data is not available post the Covid-19 pandemic, it is important to keep in mind that the pandemic greatly impacted employment and poverty levels. For example, some research has concluded that marginalized populations experienced a disproportionate economic impact during the Covid-19 pandemic¹⁴.

Percentage of Children Below the Age of 18 Living in Poverty³					
Location	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
U.S.	19.5%	18.4%	18.0%	16.8%	15.7%
Ohio	20.4%	19.8%	19.2%	18.1%	16.6%
Butler Co.	15.8%	13.1%	15.4%	14.1%	11.8%

1305.3(B)(2) Other Child development and child care programs that are serving EHS and HS eligible children, including publicly funded State and local preschool programs, and the approximate number of Head Start eligible children served by each.

Early Child Care Options

BCESC Head Start/Early Head Start eligible children receive early childhood services through one of four primary venues in Butler County.

- BCESC Head Start preschool centers
- State Pre-Kindergarten programs in local elementary schools
- Tuition or voucher child care centers or child care homes
- Friends and family care

Subsidized Child Care

According to the *Ohio Department of Job and Family Services* Fact Sheet from September of 2021, 285,000 children are cared for in settings licensed by the state¹⁵. Of these 285,000 children in licensed child care settings, over 116,000 of them receive monthly financial assistance for child care. Making affordable child care available to parents addresses a common barrier to employment. It also enhances parents' ability to participate in workforce training activities. To receive subsidized child care, parents must be employed or participating in training or education activities leading to employment. As of 2021, Butler County has 1,418 families with 2,897 children using publicly funded child care¹⁶.

Another important piece of information related to the need for childcare is the number of women in the labor force. As of 2019, there were 587,090 working married women and 275,766 working single mothers in Ohio¹⁹.

Butler County has a total of 182 certified/licensed available providers, this is down about 12% from the 207 providers reported in the 2020 BCESC Community Needs Assessment. According to the website childcaresearch.ohio.gov, there are 101 licensed childcare centers (decrease of 23 from 2020), 39 ODE licensed preschools (increase of 3 from 2020), 7 ODE licensed school-age childcare (decrease of 1 from 2020), 1 registered day camp (decrease of 3 from 2020), and 34 licensed Type B home providers (increase of 3 since 2020)²⁰.

General Disabilities Information

As of 2017, 3,600 people with developmental disabilities in Butler County received services. 1,200 were 5 or younger, 1,100 were 6-21, 1,300 were 22 and older³⁴. According to a recent report by the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2019 there were 3,145,000 children under the age of 18 (4.3% of all children below 18 in the U.S.) with a disability. In Ohio there were 130,000 children with disabilities (5% of all children below 18 in Ohio)³⁵. Between 2008 and 2019 the percentage of children with a disability increased from 3.9% in 2008 to 4.35% in 2019. During this same time period the prevalence of disability significantly increased for children regardless of socioeconomic or poverty status. In 2019, consistent with 2008, children living in poverty were more likely to have a disability³⁵.

Related Support Agencies

BCESC Help Me Grow

The BCESC Help Me Grow supports Butler County, as it serves children from infancy through age 3 with developmental delays or disabilities. BCESC Help Me Grow provides case management and home visitation services for children who are “at risk”, and the program assists families with early identification, specialized services, and resources. The services are used in a home setting or setting designed for children.

Butler County DD

Butler County DD provides services to children in the county through partnership with Help Me Grow, and aids children once they have been deemed eligible under the Help Me Grow Part C System (under the *Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Early Intervention Services*). Butler County DD provides services such as a developmental specialist, OT, PT, and SLT at no cost.

Butler County estimates the number of children with disabilities above the national average. Area elementary schools and the local education agencies are currently operating on an assumption of 5% of children with disabilities. BCESC Head Start makes at least 10% of its enrollment opportunities available to children with disabilities. Disabilities range from low occurrence (autism spectrum disorder) to higher incidence (speech).

The Butler County Educational Service Center (BCESC) takes extraordinary measures to recruit and enroll children with documented or suspected disabilities. Recruitment efforts include: interagency agreements with local school districts, Help Me Grow, Family and Children First Council, Butler County DD, informal referral agreements with hospitals, physicians, dentists, psychologists, psychiatrists, social services agencies, and charitable foundations. The BCESC makes dynamic efforts to participate in multi-agency advisory committees, including Early Childhood Collaborative, BC United Way Success by Six, and WIC.

Additional recruitment efforts by Family Service Workers (FSW) include door-to-door canvassing in neighborhoods identified by the community assessment as high-risk populations. FSWs also work closely with school personnel at strategically located classrooms in elementary school buildings to increase the awareness of Head Start program services among staff, parents, and other early education partners.

The BCESC has multiple interagency agreements with school districts and partnering educational agencies to promote recruitment at transition periods. Agency staff members attend transition conferences for children and families leaving Prenatal – 3 services. They also attend transition conferences for those leaving preschool for kindergarten.

BCESC Head Start recognizes that early education/intervention agencies each have unique roles and responsibilities, and share similar mandates. They frequently serve the same children and families either through collaborative services or as children and families move from one agency to another. Our strong relationship with school district special education personnel supports the ***Child Find*** process, and the placement of children with Local Education Agency (LEA) IEP's (Individualized Education Program) in the most appropriate, least restrictive environment available within the school district community.

Child Find

Child Find is a framework used by school districts in order to locate and evaluate children ages 3 to 21. Child Find provides services such as early intervention and special education services to these identified children. From infancy to age 2, children receive services from Help Me Grow or Early Head Start, once they turn 3, children receive services from local education agencies who often partner with Head Start.

Transition from Part C Early intervention

Schools and Help Me Grow (HMG) or Early Head Start are required to have an interagency agreement that spells out how the agencies will address the needs of children transitioning from the 0-2 program to preschool special education. This agreement addresses suspected disability, referrals and provides information to families in relationship to Child Find. Other agencies, such as Head Start and MR/DD may be involved with the agreement to ensure a seamless transition to preschool. Based on the variety of sources of information, a group of qualified professionals and the parent of the child determine if the child has a disability and is eligible for special education and related services as a preschool child with a disability.

Eligibility

For each child who transitions from Part C Early Intervention Services and qualifies for special education and related services, an IEP must be in effect by the child's third birthday and at the beginning of each subsequent school year. Each school district of residence must conduct a full and individual evaluation in accordance with rule 3301-51-06 of the Administrative Code before the initial provision of special education and related services to a preschool child with a disability residing in the district.

No single source of information is used to determine if a preschool child is eligible or not eligible for special education and related services. Eligibility for special education and related services as a preschool child shall be determined on the basis of multiple sources of information, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Information from Part C for children transitioning from early intervention services;
- (b) Structured observations in more than one setting and in multiple activities;
- (c) Information provided by the parent or caregiver; and
- (d) Criterion-referenced and norm-referenced evaluations.

A preschool child with a disability is a child who has one of the following disabilities, as defined in rule 3301-51-01 of the Administrative Code, based upon the evidence required in paragraph (C)(1) to (C)(3) of this rule, and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services:

- (a) Autism;
- (b) Cognitive disability;
- (c) Deaf-blindness;
- (d) Deafness;
- (e) Emotional disturbance;
- (f) Hearing impairment;
- (g) Multiple disabilities;
- (h) Orthopedic impairment;
- (i) Other health impairment;
- (j) Specific learning impairment;
- (k) Speech or language impairment;
- (l) Traumatic brain injury;
- (m) Visual impairment; or
- (n) Developmental delay, as defined

Kindergarten Transition

A reevaluation is required when a preschool child with a disability is transitioning from preschool to kindergarten. If, however, the annual IEP review occurs before the required reevaluation and the IEP team does not suspect a school-age disability, data describing why the child is no longer a preschool child with a disability must be documented. This includes a review of existing information and progress-monitoring data, as well as a conversation regarding the child’s age-eligibility for kindergarten (the only requirement for kindergarten entry). Children transitioning from preschool special education to kindergarten are required to have a reevaluation and not an initial evaluation.

1305.3 (B)(4) Data regarding education, health, nutrition and social service needs of Head Start eligible children and their families.

Education for the 25 years and over

Educational attainment is a critical indicator of the well-being of a community, with low levels of educational attainment usually reflecting lower wages and higher levels of poverty. In contrast, families that attain a higher level of education usually have better earnings and overall higher well-being. As displayed in the table below, based on 2016-2020 census data, Butler county has more adults aged 25 years and older who have earned a Bachelor Degree or higher, with 31.3%; which is a slightly higher percentage compared to the state of Ohio at 28.9%. Additionally, in Butler County, 91.6% of the population of individuals 25 and older hold a high school degree or higher, which is slightly higher than the state level of 90.8%¹.

	Butler County	%	Ohio	%
Total 25 Years and Over Population	390,234	100%	11,780,017	100%
High School Degree or higher	357,454	91.6 %	10,696,255	90.8%
Bachelor Degree or higher	122,143	31.3 %	3,404,425	28.9%

Participants of the 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey were asked to respond to the question “What is the highest level of education you have completed? Of the 388 respondents, 21.91% said high school/GED, 21.65% said bachelor degree, 19.07% said some college, 13.92% said associate degree, 9.54% said graduate degree, 9.28% said technical school, and 4.64% said less than high school. Participants were also asked “Do you need any of the following education services?”. Of the 380 participants who answered, 69.47% selected N/A,

6.05% said tech school, 5.26% said grant/financial aid, 4.74% said high school diploma/GED classes, 3.95% said specialized skills training, 3.68% said one-on-one support achieving goals, 3.42% said vocational rehabilitation, 2.63% said community college/university, and 0.79% selected literacy/reading tutoring²¹.

School Enrollment

School enrollment data for the Fall of 2021 are provided below for Butler County and Ohio²².

	Butler County	Ohio
Preschool, Kindergarten	3,928	176,472
Elementary School (Grades 1-8)	23,929	1,005,326
High School (Grades 9-12)	11,582	575,116

Drop Out Rates

On average, the number of high school graduates in Butler County has been on the rise since 2010. There are only 3 districts in Butler County that reported a lower graduation rate compared to the 2010-2011 school year (i.e., Hamilton, New Miami, and Talawanda). Most of the Butler County school districts reported a higher graduation rate than the state average in 2017-2018. The Ohio Department of Education’s website indicated that the Ohio School Report Cards will not be reporting the letter grades or ratings for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years²³.

Butler County

School District	2010-2011 4- Year Graduation Rate	2016-2017 4- Year Graduation Rate	2017-2018 4-Year Graduation Rate	2018-2019 ODE School District Report Card Performance Indicator Rating	2018-2019 ODE School District Report Card Indicators “Met” Rating
Edgewood	89.8%	90.7%	93.9%	73.2% (C)	16.7% (F)
Fairfield	91%	92.8%	91.4%	72.1% (C)	16.7% (F)
Hamilton	81.4%	76.4%	78.8%	65.8% (D)	12.5% (F)
Lakota	92.4%	94%	94.4%	80.9% (B)	54.2% (D)
Madison	90.9%	94.2%	93.5%	76.7% (C)	29.2% (F)
Middletown	74.3%	90%	91%	57.8% (D)	4.2% (F)
Monroe	95%	95.6%	94.9%	81% (B)	58.3% (D)

New Miami	95.9%	75.4%	86%	64.2% (D)	8.3% (F)
Ross	97.2%	98.1%	99.5%	82% (B)	66.7% (D)
Talawanda	96.9%	91.2%	93.5%	78% (C)	41.7% (F)
Ohio	80%³⁰	83.4%³¹	85.3%	84.1 (B)³¹	

Ohio Department of Education School District Report Cards

**updated spreadsheets reporting the letter grades or ratings will not be available for the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school years*

Aspire

Aspire is a program funded by the State of Ohio through the Board of Regents and the United States Department of Education. Aspire classes are free to adults who want to improve their math and English skills in order to obtain a GED, prepare for college, or improve their employment opportunities. There is one location in Butler County at Hamilton City Schools.

Housing

There is significant demand in Butler County for housing and rental assistance services. In Butler County, 26.0% of housing units have substandard conditions, meaning they have poor quality or are unaffordable, have issues with plumbing, kitchen appliances, or more than one person living per room. In this regard, Butler County is below the state average of 27.39%²⁴.

According to the 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey, 50% of survey participants responded “strongly disagree, disagree, or neutral” to the statement “I can find affordable, quality housing that meets my family’s needs.” Speaking to the specific housing barriers they encounter, 18.7% reported spending more than 30% of their monthly income on mortgage or rent, 9.09% reported not having enough space, and 8.83% reported having housing that needs significant maintenance or improvements they cannot afford. Affordability was frequently mentioned as a barrier. When asked about barriers to purchasing a home, 29.45% of respondents reported having no down payment, 28.11% reported low credit score, and 15.95% reported not having enough education on how to buy a home²¹.

Rental Assistance Resources

Availability of housing and rental assistance resources appears to not be as big of a problem as eligible recipients being knowledgeable about the services that are available. According to the 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey, 56.76% of respondents reported they are not knowledgeable about funds available in the community or from an agency to help with rent emergencies²¹. For the families who do need assistance, priority is usually given to qualified low-income families with children, and those who are facing imminent eviction. Families can call to get more information on their resources and funding opportunities available.

Butler County Resources

- Hamilton and Butler County Salvation Army
 - Address is 235 Ludlow Street Hamilton, OH 45011
 - Phone number is (513) 863-1445
 - <https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/southwest-ohio/hamilton/>

- Provides limited emergency assistance on a case by case basis, including rental payment assistance, eviction prevention, and homeless support to eligible residents of the city of Hamilton and the entire Butler County community.
- Family Resource Center
 - Address is 5445 College Corner Pike Oxford, OH 45056
 - Phone number is (513) 523-5859
 - Provides emergency financial assistance, benefit assistance, and financial coaching to families in the Oxford/Talawanda School District. The location can also provide referrals to other assistance programs that can assist low-income households.
- Butler Metropolitan Housing Authority
 - Address is 4110 Hamilton-Middletown Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011-6218
 - Phone number is (513) 896-4411
 - <https://www.butlermetro.org/>
 - The main program they administer is the federal government and State of Ohio Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. This federal government HUD-created resource provides assistance and rental vouchers for very low-income households (single or family), the disabled, and the elderly. It can help them afford to rent decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market.
- SELF (Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families)
 - Address is 415 S. Monument Ave. Hamilton, Ohio 45011
 - Address is 930 9th Ave, Middletown, OH 45044.
 - Phone number is (513) 868-9300
 - <https://selfhelps.org/>
 - Offers services related to utility assistance, emergency assistance, and home repairs for individuals and families in Butler County.
- Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio
 - Address is 4601 Malsbary Road, Blue Ash, OH 45246
 - Call (513) 721-1025, (513) 868-9281 or dial toll-free 1-800-215-5305 for information on applications.
 - <https://www.help4seniors.org/contact-us>
 - Housing resources, health and wellness programs, caregiver support, and other aid is offered for senior citizens and the elderly in the Ohio community. Many have information on low-income private and public senior housing.
- Salvation Army of Middletown
 - Address is 1914 1st Ave. Middletown, Ohio 45042
 - Phone number (513) 423-9452
 - This location offers utility assistance for families and individuals in Middletown, Trenton, and Monroe.
- Dublin House
 - Address is 1425 Central Avenue Middletown, Ohio 45042
 - Phone number is (513) 424-4828
 - Opportunities for affordable senior housing.
- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati
 - Address is 4910 Para Drive Cincinnati, OH 45237
 - Phone number is (513) 621-4147

- <https://www.habitatcincinnati.org/>
- Opportunities for housing and home repair support.
- Haven House
 - Address is 550 High St, Hamilton, OH 45011
 - Phone number is (513) 863-8866
 - <https://havenhouseshelter.org/>
 - Services include providing temporary emergency shelter and food to single parents with children and families.
- Hope House Missions
 - Address is 1001 Grove Street, Middletown, OH 45044
 - Phone number (513) 424-4673
 - Phone number is (513) 217-5056
 - <https://hhmission.org/us/>
 - Hope House Missions is a 501(c)(3) faith-based ministry, serving homeless men, women and children in Butler, Warren, and surrounding counties.
- Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton
 - Address is 100 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Hamilton, Ohio 45011
 - Phone number is (513) 737-9301
 - <http://www.butlercounty-nhs.org/>
 - Seeks to revitalize and rebuild communities. Some services include foreclosure prevention housing, homeowner education workshop, and down payment/closing cost assistance.
- Serve City
 - Address is 622 East Ave, Hamilton, OH 45011
 - Phone number is (513) 737-9701
 - <https://www.serve-city.org/>
 - Offers food, clothing, shelter, case management, and referrals to homeless individuals.
- Faith Community United Methodist Church
 - Address is 8230 Cox Rd West Chester OH 45069
 - <https://www.faithcommunityumc.org/community-outreach/stepping-forward/>
 - <https://www.faithcommunityumc.org/community-outreach/food-pantry/>
 - Offers food pantry and financial counseling, see website for details. Cover Lakota school district only. The church will only offer rent help, in the form of loans or other support, to residents facing homelessness, as funding allows

Homelessness

As of January 2020, Ohio had an estimated 10,655 experiencing homelessness on any given day, as reported by Continuums of Care to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)²⁵. Of that total, 906 were family households, 730 were Veterans, 736 were unaccompanied young adults (aged 18-24), and 753 were individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Public school data reported to the U.S. Department of Education during the 2018-2019 school year shows that an estimated 32,780 public school students experienced homelessness over the course of the year. Of that total, 359 students were unsheltered, 4,800 were in shelters, 1,731 were in hotels/motels, and 25,890 were doubled up. In 2021, 3% (about

506 people) of the nation’s count of sheltered unaccompanied homeless youth were in the state of Ohio²⁶.

Homelessness in Butler County²⁷

The Point-in-Time count takes place annually to count the number of people who are experiencing homelessness, sheltered and unsheltered, in a given community or county. These counts are typically carried out by staff or volunteers who also provide surveys to individuals experiencing homelessness, in order to better assess their needs and housing status. However, due to the pandemic, the annual headcount was not completed in 2020 nor 2021. In January of 2020, 70 people were found living on the streets in Butler County but the full count was never tabulated. In 2019, the Point-in-Time headcount was 298.

Shelter Listings for Emergency Housing/Transitional Housing²⁹

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Sojourner Recovery Services Halfway House</u> Hamilton, OH 45011 (513) 868-7654
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Neighborhood Housing Services Of Hamilton Inc Hamilton</u> Hamilton, OH 45011 (513) 737-9301• <u>Lifespan, Inc.</u> Hamilton, OH 45011 (513) 868-9220
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Hope House Rescue Mission - Emergency Shelter</u> Middletown, OH 45044 (513) 424-4673
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Heart And Soul Mission Day Shelter</u> Middletown, OH 45042 (513) 464-6383

Nutrition Needs

The 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment asked participants to select the best multiple choice answer that applied to their situation when asked “Food is a problem for me because”. Of the 372 participants who responded, 15.59% said there is not enough money to buy food, 9.41% said their food benefits run out before end of month, 4.84% said that emergency food is not accessible (food bank), 4.03% don’t know how to cook, 1.88% don’t want to go to food pantries, 1.61% said fresh fruits/vegetables are not available, and 1.34% don’t have a working stove/refrigerator. When participants were asked “How often do you skip meals so your children/other family members have enough to eat”, 22.43% participants stated rarely, 10% said occasionally, and 1.89% said frequently²¹.

General Assistance Stats¹⁶

As of 2021, Butler County has 1,337 households with 2,297 individuals, of which 2,262 are children receiving Ohio Works First assistance. Overall, Ohio offers 75,271 individuals the Ohio Works First benefit and 1,509,716 individuals receive SNAP benefits.

WIC

The Women Infant and Children (WIC) program provides nutrition education, approved supplemental food and formula, breastfeeding education and support to families with incomes at 185% of the Federal Poverty level or below⁴⁵. Head Start and Early Head Start eligible families

meet the financial criteria to qualify for WIC. During program enrollment, each participating family is informed about the WIC program and referred for services, as appropriate.

Ohio WIC Program Profile Caseload: Fiscal Year 2020 Monthly Average 182,176

- Number of Women: 43,081
- Number of Infants: 61,589
- Number of Children: 77,505

Food Insecurity

Feeding America categorizes food insecurity as the most broadly-used measure of food deprivation in the United States⁴⁶. In 2019, Butler County had 45,020 food insecure individuals, and a food insecurity rate of 11.8%. The average meal cost \$3.13 and the average food budget shortfall was \$24,118,000. In 2021, Butler County had a projected overall very low food security rate of 5.4%.

Free and Reduced Lunch⁴⁷

The data used are from 2019-2020 given that COVID-19 affected the accuracy of the statistics in 2020 and 2021. Butler County reports showed that 86 schools reported on free and reduced lunch for youth in their schools, and that on average about 46% of the students in BC received free or reduced lunch. The report shows that 63,114 youth were enrolled across the county.

National Breakfast Program⁴⁸

While there is a national school breakfast program, it is not clear what schools participate in it within Butler County school districts. Enrollment is possible within the county and it is done by each individual school. The DoE of OH has instructions on enrollment.

Mobility

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic either directly influenced or caused about 22% of US adults to relocate, according to a Pew Research Center survey³⁰. However, in Butler County any COVID-related movement largely subsided in the year 2021. According to the table below, the vast majority of the population in Butler County (84%) lived in the same house in 2021 as they did in 2020. In Butler County, 8.5% of the population moved within the same county, and 4.6% moved to another county in the state of Ohio. Much smaller percentages of the population in Butler County moved to a different state (2.4%) or abroad (0.6%)³¹.

Geographical Mobility	Butler County	%
Population aged 1 year and older	375,699	100%
Same house as previous year	315,432	84.0%
Different house same county	31,943	8.5%
Different county, same state	17,101	4.6%
Different state	9,039	2.4%
Abroad	2,184	.6%

2021 Butler County, Ohio County Profile

Transportation

In Butler County, the average number of cars per household is 2, which represents 41.2% of households. There was also a 40.4% decrease from 2018 to 2019 related to no vehicle ownership in Butler County. The chart below shows the breakdown of vehicle availability in Butler County, with the state and national averages for comparison⁹.

Vehicles Available in 2019

	Butler County #	Butler County %	Ohio %	U.S. %
No Vehicles Available	2,485	1.4%	3.0%	4.3%
1 Vehicles Available	32,524	18.2%	19.8%	20.1%
2 Vehicles Available	73,975	41.2%	42.4%	40.0%
3 Vehicles Available	41,495	23.2%	21.6%	21.4%
4 Vehicles Available	18,471	10.3%	8.7%	9.49%
5 or More Vehicles Available	69,894	5.5%	4.6%	4.75%

Data USA, 2019

Commuting to Work

Based on 2019 data, Butler County residents spend on average 25.2 minutes commuting to work. This is slightly lower than the US average of 26 minutes; however, 1.84% of Butler County residents are considered “super-commuters” with commute times of over 90 minutes⁹.

	Butler County	%	Ohio	U.S.
Number of Employees	184,893	100%	5,460,000	152,000,000
Car, Truck, or Van—Drove Alone	150,660	82.9%	82.4%	75.9%
Car, Truck, or Van—Carpooled	14,504	8.0%	8.0%	8.9%
Public Transportation	926	0.5%	1.5%	5.0%
Walked	3,880	2.1%	2.3%	2.6%
Other Means	588	0.3%	0.8%	1.0%
Worked at Home	10,580	5.8%	4.6%	5.7%
Bicycle	301	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%
Taxi	98	0.01%	0.2%	0.2%
Motorcycle	130	0.01%	0.06%	0.1%

Data USA, 2019

There are several factors that have influenced commute times in the past several years. First, the COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtedly affected how and where individuals work, with a dramatic surge in working from home. In Ohio, public transportation and work commute trips dropped 11-19% and social visits dropped 49-61% during COVID. It is suggested that working from home will be increasingly popular among workers, which will continue to affect commute

times⁴². On the other hand, high housing costs and urban sprawl threaten to increase commuting times⁴³.

The 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment survey with a sample of 373 Butler County residents inquired about the biggest barriers experienced related to transportation; 12.03% of respondents mentioned the cost of buying a car, 11.76% mentioned the cost of gasoline, and 10.7% mentioned the cost of maintaining the car²¹.

Technology Utilization

The 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey inquired about technology utilization and internet use. The majority of respondents (60%) reported having high speed internet at home, while about 4% of respondents had no internet access. According to the 2020 ALICE Report, low-income adults are more likely to use their phones to search and apply for jobs. While only 7% of smartphone users with an annual income over \$75,000 have used their phone to apply for a job, 32% of those with an annual income below \$30,000 have applied for a job using their phone²¹. This is why it is particularly important to ensure reliable internet access across socioeconomic levels.

Individual and Community Factors Affecting Health

Mental Health

According to the responses from participants in the 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey, 186 out of 361 participants (51.52%) reported their mental health as healthy/very healthy. In the same question, 12.4% participants responded that their mental health was unhealthy/very unhealthy. Additionally, 26.90% of participants reported that they have a mental health condition. Another 8.71% of participants stated that they need mental health services when asked which of the following was true about their health²¹. In 2016, 5.13% of Ohio adults stated that they had serious mental illness. In regards to access and quality of health services, 10.7% of Ohio adults reported that they have not seen a doctor in the past 12 months due to cost. In 2015, 47.1% of Ohio adults reported using mental health services for mental illness⁹.

Obesity

Based on 2021 data, 35% of adults in the state of Ohio are obese, compared to a rate of 32% of adults across the United States⁴⁴. For children in Ohio, 2020 data indicate that 12.6% of children aged 2-4 participating in WIC; 17.2% of children aged 10-17; and 16.8% of high school students were obese⁶⁸. Although recent county level data was not available at the time of this report, these national data show that Ohio is ranked in the top 20 of states with the highest obesity levels in several categories, including obesity rates for adults (14 of 51), children aged 10-17 (17 of 51) and high school students (12 of 51).⁶⁸ According to the 2017 Butler County Community Health Assessment, 17.5% of young children age 2-5 years are overweight, and about 14.6% are obese, which is higher than the Healthy People 2020 target for childhood obesity.⁶⁶

Rates of Drug and Alcohol Use/Addiction and Substance Abuse

In the last 30 days (2021), there have been 112 Butler County residents who have visited emergency departments due to overdose³⁶, 3 of which were youth under 17. Approximately 5,111 deaths were recorded as drug overdoses in 2017. As of 2019, the drug overdose rate in OH

is 38.3 per 100,000. Butler County reported a prevalence of 28.4% alcohol-impaired driving deaths.

Crime

In general, as of 2017, Ohio outpaces the U.S. in firearm deaths (13.7% vs. 12%), homicides (7.5% vs. 6.2%), and drug overdoses (46.3% vs. 21.7%). Butler County has a rate of 270 violent crimes per 100,000, and reported 408 homicides⁹.

Domestic Violence

In 2020, according to the Ohio Attorney General, there were 850 domestic violence incidence charges in Butler County³², with 1,527 victims in Butler County³³. Overall, Ohio had 31,800 domestic violence incidents, with 59,599 victims.

Child Abuse and Neglect

In 2020, according to the Kidscount.org, there were 396 substantiated cases of child abuse in Butler County. Overall, Ohio had 17,608 cases of child abuse that were substantiated⁷.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Kids Count repository, in Ohio, 4% of children are in the care of their grandparents, and this rate is equal to the national average. Approximately 98,000 children were in the care of the grandparents in 2019, which is lower than the number in 2018 (110,000). According to the 2020 PCSAO Fact Book for Butler County, in July of 2020, 366 children were placed in care outside of home, with 9% of children being placed with family members (kinship care)³⁷.

Effects of Family Violence on Child Behavior and Development

Witnessing and experiencing family violence has detrimental short and long-term effects for children (Kemp, 2017). According to the CDC⁴⁰, some of the impacts of experiencing child abuse and neglect are "risks of injury, future violence victimization and perpetration, substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections, delayed brain development, lower educational attainment, and limited employment opportunities." Also, witnessing and experiencing family violence is a type of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) which has been linked to toxic stress⁴¹. Children who grow up with toxic stress due to ACEs such as exposure to violence, exposure to a suicide or suicide attempt by a loved one, growing up in a violent community, having a household member suffering from substance abuse, mental health concerns, or separation, divorce, death, or imprisonment have a higher rate of chronic illness and substance abuse and mental health concerns as they get older. ACEs have also been tied to unstable and unhealthy relationships, systemic poverty, negative educational experiences, and job instability in later life.

Overall Health

In 2021, Butler County ranked 47th in the state for health outcomes (out of 88 counties) and 27th in the state for health factors⁴⁴.

According to the 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment Survey, 184 out of 360 (51.11%) participants stated that they were healthy/very healthy when asked about their physical health. 10.83% of participants responded to the same question reporting unhealthy/very unhealthy

physical health. When participants were asked about their overall health, 167 out of 288 (68.4%) responded that they have good overall health. The remaining 31.6% who responded stated that they needed health services.

Examining the Butler County Needs Assessment responses (2021), the most common barriers in accessing health care are the cost (14.68%), being unable to schedule an appointment in a timely manner or having too busy of a schedule (9.42% for both), having previous negative experiences or negative attitudes from medical staff (8.86%), having no time off of work (8.59%), and the overall lack of insurance (8.03%).

Additional data reported that 29.31% participants have asthma, 12.07% have an autoimmune condition, 7.59% have cancer, 6.55% have a chronic lung, 6.55% have a chronic kidney disease, 16.90% have diabetes, 11.38% have heart disease/had a stroke, 0.34% have HIV/AIDS, 24.14% have hypertension, and 30.69% have obesity²¹.

Prenatal and Infant Health

Data shows that 68.9% of mothers received early prenatal care in OH compared to 76.1% in the general US⁴⁹. Data was not available for Butler County. The infant mortality rate is 6.7% (2019), down from 8.41 (2018)⁵⁰. For Black women, the rate is 14%, versus 5.9% for White women. In general, Ohio has an infant mortality rate of 7.0.

As of 2021, in OH, 8.6% of infants are born with low birth weights, while in Butler County the rate is 7.7%⁵¹. Relatedly, in 2017, the U.S. rate of infants with low birth weights was 8.3% and at the time Ohio ranked 18th in the U.S. in low birth weight⁵².

According to the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, 9.3 out of every 1,000 babies born in OH are substance addicted compared to 6.8 out of every 1,000 babies born nationally⁵⁸. Consistent with other substance abuse trends, Ohioans have a higher rate of drug use and infants are born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome at a higher rate as well.

Child mortality rates from 2017-2019 in Ohio are higher than national averages for all child age groups⁵³. For example, child mortality rates per 100,000 are 28.5 compared to the national rate of 25.4. Among 1-4 year olds the rate is 27.6 compared to 23.8; in ages 5-14 the rate is 14.4 compared to 13.4; and among 15-19 year olds the rate is 55.7 compared to 49.8. The rates are highest among Black children (46.5), then White (25.3), followed by Hispanic (21.9) and Asian (17.2). Male children are also dying at higher rates (36.3) than female children (20.3)

Teen Pregnancy

Teen pregnancy (ages 15-19) rates from 2019 in the U.S. are 16.7 per 1,000 females, while in Ohio, the rate is 17.6 per 1,000 females. The rates are 13.6-16.4 in Butler County⁵⁴. Overall, Ohio ranked 22nd in the U.S. for teen pregnancy⁵².

Health Insurance or Uninsured

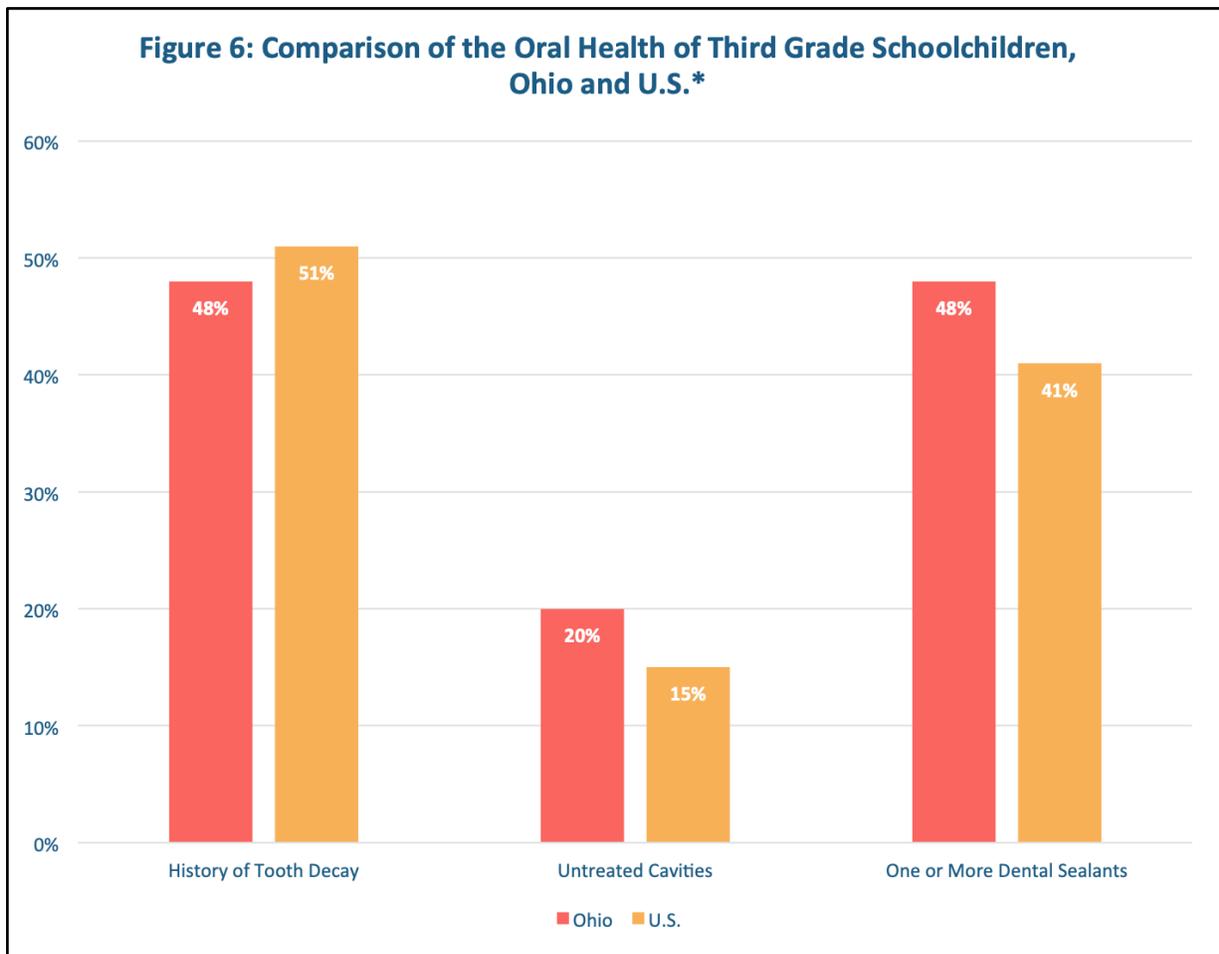
Medical costs in the United States are extremely high, thus people without health coverage may not be able to afford medical treatment or prescription drugs. They are also less likely to get routine checkups and screenings, so if they do become ill they may not seek treatment until the

condition is more advanced and therefore more difficult and costly to treat. In 2019, Ohio had an uninsured rate of 6.7%, lower than the U.S. who had an uninsured rate of 9.2%⁵⁵. The rate of insured individuals in Butler County is 93.5%. In Ohio, as of 2016, 10.7% of adults have not seen a doctor in the past year due to cost.

More specifically, according to information from DataUSA, “93.4% of the population of Ohio has health coverage, with 51.2% on employee plans, 17.3% on Medicaid, 13.6% on Medicare, 9.96% on non-group plans, and 1.27% on military or VA plans.”⁹

Dental Needs

The Oral Health of Adults in Ohio (2016-17) report concludes that 39% of adults 65+ have lost 6+ teeth, and 17% have lost all their teeth. Additionally, of preschool aged children (2016-17), 23% children were found to have a history of tooth decay, and 14% had untreated cavities, compared to the 9% average in the U.S. of preschool age children. Looking at the oral health of third grade children (2017-18), 48% of children had a history of tooth decay, 1 in 5 had untreated cavities, and about 48% had 1 or more dental sealants⁶⁴. Additionally, responses from the 2021 Community Needs Assessment Report found that 57 out of 356 (16.01%) participants need dental services²¹.



*Ohio data from Oral Health Screening Survey of Third Grade Schoolchildren, 2017-18. U.S. data on history of tooth decay and untreated cavities based on children ages 6-11, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES),

2015-16. <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/53470> . U.S. data on dental sealants based on 2011-2012 NHANES. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25932891> . Nationaldata accessed 7.18.19.

Preventative Health Care and Immunizations⁵⁶

According to the CDC, vaccination coverage among kindergarteners in Ohio demonstrates rates between 91.9% - 94.9% for 2-dose varicella, DTP/DTaP/DT, Hepatitis B, MMR and Polio. These rates are slightly below national averages which demonstrate a rate between 94.1% - 96.1%.

In 2019, the Ohio Department of Health reported that there was a rate of 219.9 out of 100,000 individuals (N=26,204) who had an infectious disease, with children ages 0-4 experiencing the highest rate of contraction (371.1 out of 100,000). Butler County had a rate of infection of 202 per 100,000⁵⁷.

Reports from the Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System in 2019 demonstrated that Ohioans outpace the U.S. in multiple negative health and behavioral outcomes, namely, arthritis, heart disease, cancer, COPD, poor mental health, depression, high blood pressure, obesity, insufficient fruit consumption, no physical activity, smoking, and lack of HIV testing. The most common chronic diseases are arthritis, diabetes, and asthma. Children in Ohio (7.7%) have higher rates of asthma than in the U.S. (7.2%), with Black children in Ohio reporting higher rates (17%) compared to White children (8.7%)⁵⁹.

As of 2020, according to the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, the air quality in Butler County demonstrates that there were no days above regulatory standards, meaning the air quality is good⁶⁰. Butler County Water and Sewer also reports their water quality is within regulatory limits⁶¹.

1305.3 (B)(5) The education, health, nutrition and social service needs of Head Start eligible children and their families as defined by families of Head Start eligible children and institutions in the community that serve young children.

Head Start and Early Head Start Enrolled Families

BCESC Head Start currently operates 12 different sites and serves 595 children in Butler County.

As noted in the tables below, in Butler County, BCESC Head Start currently serves (a) 133 three-year olds; (b) 270 four-year olds; and (c) 210 children aged five years and older. Collectively, across both counties, the population served is fairly diverse in terms in race/ethnicity, with the largest group being White (47.79%, n=293), followed by African-American (34.25%, n=210), Hispanic/Latino (21.53%, n=132), Asian (10.92%, n=67), Multi-racial (10.44%, n=64), Other racial/ethnic category not listed (7.50%, n=46), Pacific Islander (0.65%, n=4), and Native American (0%, n=0). Additionally, at the time of assessment 7% of

enrolled children (n=50) lived in foster care, while 3% (n=22) lived in families experiencing homelessness.

Ages of Enrolled Children

<u>Age</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
3 years old	133
4 years old	270
5+ years old	210
TOTAL	613

Tribal/Racial/Ethnic Composition of Enrolled Children

	<u>African American</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Native American</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Pacific Islander</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Multi-Racial</u>	<u>Hispanic /Latinos</u>
Total:	210	293	0	67	4	46	64	132

Number of Enrolled Children who are DLLs

	<u>French</u>	<u>Middle Eastern</u>	<u>Nepali</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Punjabi</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Twi</u>
Total:	22	26	46	17	3	91	10

Attendance/Waiting Lists/Over Income Children

	<u>Attendance %</u>	<u>Waiting List</u>	<u>Over Income 101-130</u>	<u>> 130</u>
Total:	77.99%	62	91	17

The number of current Head Start children in Butler County with an identified disability is 62, at the time of this writing in March of 2022. The types of disabilities include (a) speech or language impairment (N=40); (b) non-categorical/developmental delay (n=16), autism (n=4), intellectual disability (n=1), and multiple disabilities excluding deaf-blind (n=1).

Types of Disabilities (by diagnostic category) of Enrolled Children

<u>Type of Disability</u>	<u>Number</u>
Speech / Language Impairment	40
Intellectual Disability	1
Autism	4

Non-Categorical / Developmental Delay	16
Multiple Disabilities (excluding deaf-blind)	1

BCESC Early Head Start currently serves 127 children, with a YTD enrollment of 217. As noted in the tables below, the program currently serves (a) thirty-six, 0-1 year olds; (b) fifty-six, 2 year olds; (c) thirty-two, 3 year olds; and (d) three pregnant mothers.

Ages of Enrolled Children

<u>Age</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
0-1 year old	36
2 years old	56
3 years old	32
Pregnant Mothers	3

Food-Related Needs

Earlier in this document, overall food-related needs are described. The 2021 BCESC Community Needs Assessment reports that participants express needs related to food/nutrition. Specifically, 15.59% felt they do not have enough money to buy food, while 9.41% stated their food benefits do not last until the end of the month. A smaller proportion of the participants expressed that emergency food is not accessible (food bank) (4.84%) or that they did not know how to cook (4.03%), while a very small percentage expressed they did not visit food pantries (1.88%), did not find fresh fruits/vegetables readily available (1.61%), or they did not have a working stove/refrigerator (1.34%). While not a majority, some participants also described occasionally (10%) or frequently (1.89%) skipping their own meals so others in the family would have more to eat²¹.

Social Service and Health Care Needs

A. Economic security:

Once again, according to NCCP, poverty among children continues to climb, with 15% of Ohio’s children living below the poverty line in 2019 (NCCP)⁶². In Butler County, the rate of children living in poverty is 14%⁶³. Poverty rates continue to be highest among Black children, with 43% of Black children living in poor families (Census Reporter)⁶³.

B. Health Care Barriers

The Butler County Needs Assessment (2021) also reported on barriers to healthcare access. The cost of healthcare continues to be the leading barrier to accessing healthcare (14.68%), followed by an inability to promptly schedule appointments or that participants were too busy to schedule medical care (9.42% for both). Some respondents also expressed they had previous negative experiences or attitudes from medical staff (8.86%), could not take time off work (8.59%), or lacked medical insurance (8.03%) as barriers to accessing healthcare.

C. Health Insurance

Generally, according to DataUSA, Ohioans have medical insurance coverage (93.4% of OH population). The most common source of medical coverage is an employee plan (51.2%), followed by Medicaid (17.3%), Medicare (13.6%), non-group plans (9.96%) or military or VA plans (1.27%).⁹ Butler County has an uninsured percentage of 7.7%¹.

D. Dental Care

Responses from the 2021 Community Needs Assessment Report found that 57 out of 356 (16.01%) participants need dental services²¹. Further review of oral health in Ohio reports that 39% adults 65+ have lost 6+ teeth and 17% have lost all their teeth⁶⁴. Meanwhile 23% of preschool aged children (2016-17) have a history of tooth decay and 14% had untreated cavities. Nearly half of all third grade children (48%) also had a history of tooth decay or had 1 or more dental sealants, while 20% had untreated cavities⁶⁴.

Final Statement

The Governing Board, Policy Council, and agency staff are committed to the proactive use of this assessment as we plan for future implementation of our services.

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