

Inter-County Community Council Community Needs Assessment

Counties of Clearwater, east Polk,
Pennington, and Red Lake

2014

Agency Community Needs Assessment Survey
conducted in 2014.

Prepared by

Inter-County Community Council

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Inter-County Community Council

Community Assessment Purpose

As a Community Action Agency, Inter-County Community Council (ICCC) is responsible for analyzing the needs of low income households in our service area. To meet this responsibility, the agency conducted a community survey. The information gathered is used to set priorities and make decisions about the overall direction and types of services offered by ICCC. Our primary goal is to ensure that services provided by ICCC address the needs of low income households in our service area. By reviewing this data, ICCC is able to assess strengths and needs of residents living in the areas of Clearwater, Pennington, east Polk and Red Lake counties. Agency staff work to effectively plan for service development and delivery to respond to the needs of the area residents.

Community Assessment Process:

A survey was developed by ICCC and distributed during the months of April through October 2014 throughout our service area. The survey included questions in the following topic areas:

Basic demographics	Employment and education
Children (ages 0-13)	Housing
Transportation	Financial / legal
Youth (ages 14-21)	Health
Seniors	Food and nutrition

The survey was available on paper or online through an online survey tool.

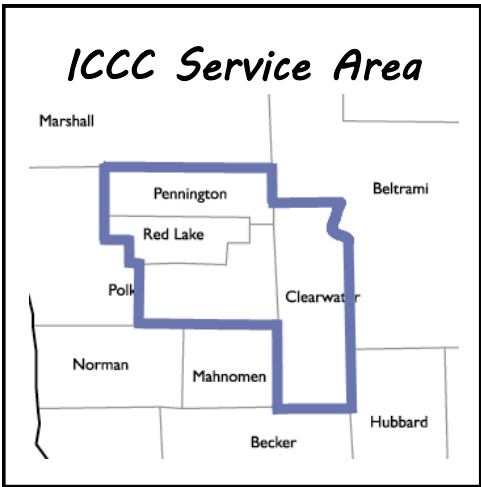
This survey was made available to current participants within the service area of all ICCC programs, including Head Start / Early Head Start, Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Family Service programs, Employment & Training participants, Food Shelf recipients, those receiving MNSure application assistance, as well as all walk-in clients. Staff attended local county fairs throughout the summer months and distributed copies of the survey with return envelopes / links to the online survey. The survey was disseminated by the following community partners to the families they serve.

- ◇ Area school districts sent it home with families in backpacks or through e-mails
- ◇ Social Service agencies
- ◇ Public Health departments
- ◇ Employers
- ◇ Posted on local cable channels
- ◇ Other area food shelves
- ◇ Violence Intervention Project
- ◇ Our local HUD office

We received 280 general community responses to the survey.

A separate community partner survey was sent to 120 agencies, organizations, and businesses requesting assessment of needs based on their work with low-income families, 30 responses were returned for a 25% return rate. Community partners responses provided a validation of the needs identified on our general population survey.

Demographic and county data has also been collected. In some areas of the report, data for Polk county includes the entire county, not just the eastern half that ICCC serves.



County Population (US Census, 2010 data)

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
Under 5 years	606	946	2,095	283
5-19 years	1,763	2,752	6,445	804
20-29 years	824	1,745	4,069	408
30-54 years	2,733	4,556	9,794	1,341
55-64 years	1,148	1,719	3,977	552
65 & over	1,621	2,212	5,220	701
TOTALS	8,695	13,930	31,600	4,089
Average Household size	2.43	2.33	2.38	2.33
Median Age	41.9	40.4	41.6	42.8

*ICCC Section G Report
Data October 2013-
September 2014*

Ages of Clients served

0-5 years	484
6-17 years	1,116
18-44 years	1,681
45-69 years	920
70+ years	518
Total	4,716

Household Size

1	642
2	420
3	206
4	192
5	144
6	71
7	39
8 +	49
Total	1,763

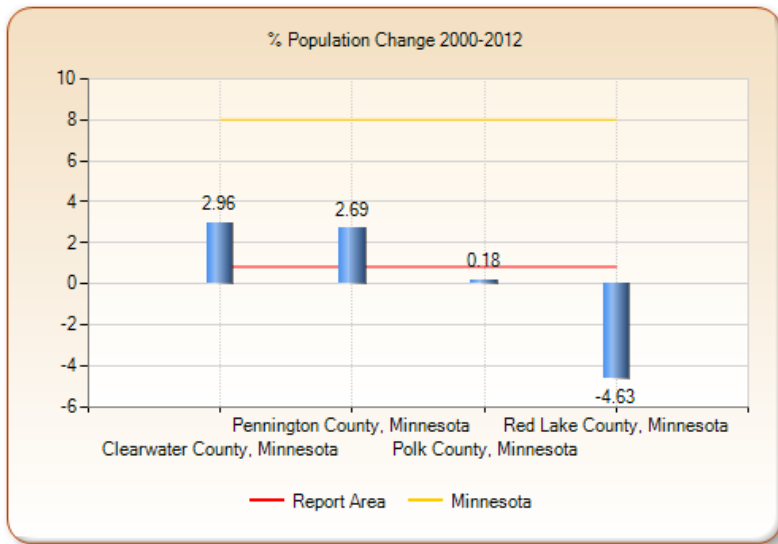
Data Sources:

- American Fact Finder, 2010 US Census
- US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012 Data Release
- www.quickfacts.census.gov
- ICCC Section G, USBG Report 2013-14

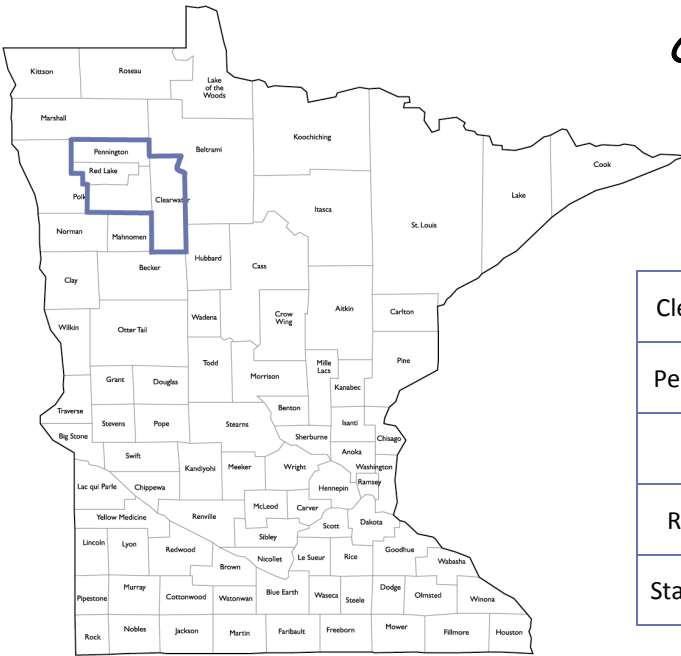
Population by Race / Ethnicity (US Census, 2010 data)

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake	2013-14 ICCC Clients
White	87.2%	93.8%	93.3%	96.2%	89.3%
Black / African Am	.3%	1.4%	.9%	.2%	1.7%
Am Indian / Alaskan Native	9%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	7.3%
Asian	.2%	.6%	.7%	.1%	.4%
Multi-Race	3%	1.8%	2.1%	1.5%	.2%
Hispanic or Latino	1.4%	2.7%	5.4%	2.5%	4.7%

Population change within the 4 county report area from 2000-2012. Total population estimates for the report area grew by 0.82%, increasing from 57,675 persons (2000) to 58,148 persons (2012). The greatest growth (9.96%) occurred in Clearwater County, whereas Red Lake County, experienced a -4.63% change.



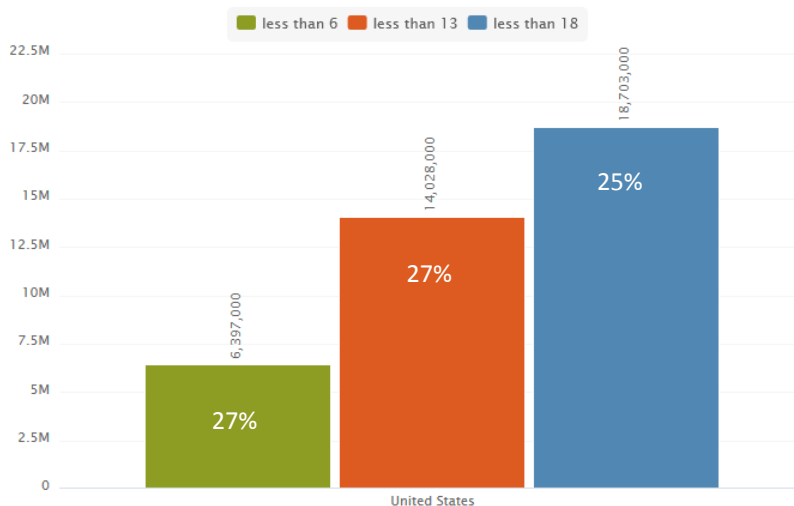
Geography



	Land / square miles	People per square mile
Clearwater	998.94	8.7
Pennington	616.57	22.6
Polk	1971.13	16
Red Lake	432.41	9.5
State of MN	—	66.6

Poverty Rates, ACS 2012 estimates

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake	MN
Population	8,523	13,601	30,292	4,041	5,191,097
Poverty / All ages	15.1%	10.6%	12.2%	11.2%	11.2%
Poverty / 0-17 yrs	24.7%	15.1%	17.6%	14.7%	14.6%
Poverty / 0-4 yrs	30.8%	17.5%	21.3%	18.3%	18.5%
Seniors	14.2%	11.8%	10%	10.6%	8.3%



CHILDREN IN LOW-INCOME WORKING FAMILIES BY AGE GROUP: ALL (NUMBER) - 2013

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Poverty Rate Changes

According to the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012, the poverty rate for the 4 county area increased by 4.2% with Clearwater county experiencing the greatest change of +5.3% from 2000-2012. Clearwater county also saw the greatest increase of poverty rates for children ages 0-4 years, with a 3.8% increase. However, Polk county showed the greatest increase of school aged children (5-17 years) of 5.6%.

Data Sources:

- Kids Count: (www.datacenter.kidscount.org/data)
- US Census Bureau American Community Survey
- www.communityactionna.org

ICCC continually updates its **Resource Directory**, which is available to assist low incomes families.

Enrolled Head Start families and Family Services clients are given a contact list that includes resources in the following major categories:

- ICCC resources
- Social Services
- Substance Abuse
- Children’s Services
- Consumer / Financial Services
- Emergency Services
- Education
- Employment
- Family Services
- Health
- Housing
- Law Enforcement
- Legal Services
- Transportation
- Used Clothing / Thrift Stores
- Helpful Websites

ICCC Client Characteristics

ICCC provides a range of services designed to meet the needs of low income residents of the service area. During FY 2013 (October 2013-September 2014), ICCC provided services including Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Family Services (deposit assistance, rental & mortgage assistance, foreclosure prevention counseling, vehicle repair assistance, Head Start and Early Head Start, Employment & Training for youth and seniors, Computer 4 Our Communities, emergency food shelf, and health insurance enrollment assistance.

People Served:	4,716 individuals	1,763 households / families
Family Income Sources:	96.7% reported one or more sources of income	
	3.3% reported zero income	
Health Insurance:	88.1% reported having some form of health insurance	
	4.7% reported having no health insurance	
Housing:	65% of families reported owning their home	
	34.8% of families reported renting their housing	
	.2% of families reported being homeless or in temporary / other housing	
Household Income Levels:	100% of poverty & below	43.9% of families
	101-150% of poverty	28.8% of families
	151% + of poverty	27.2% of families
Family Type:	Single Parent Female	14.1%
	Single Parent Male	1.7%
	Two Parent	21.3%
	Single Person	43.3%
	Two Adults / No Children	18.6%
	Disabled person in home	12.5%
Education Level of Adults:	0-8th grade	3.5%
	Some High School	6.8%
	High School Grad / GED	30.4%
	Some Post Secondary	11.8%
	2 or 4 yr College Grad	3.7%
Types of Income:	Employment Only	40.2%
	Unemployment Insurance	5.6%
	Pension / Retirement	7.2%
	Disability (SSDI)	10%
	Social Security	29%
	TANF	2.9%
	General Assistance	1.9%

Survey Respondent Characteristics

Responses Received	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
General Survey	23.53%	27.21%	21.32%	27.94%
Community Partner	33.33%	13.33%	30%	23.33%

Family Income:	\$0-9,999	5.58%
	\$10,000-19,9099	7.43%
	\$20,000-29,999	8.18%
	\$30,000-39,999	11.52%
	\$40,000-49,999	10.04%
	\$50,000 +	57.25%
Health Insurance:	94.85% reported having some form of health insurance	
	5.15% reported having no health insurance	
Housing:	90.09% reported owning their home	
	15.06% reported renting their housing	
	25% reported being homeless or in temporary / other housing	
Family Type:	Single Parent Female	13.38%
	Single Parent Male	1.86%
	Two Parent	53.16%
	Single Person	9.67%
	Two Adults / No Children	27.51%
	Veteran	4.09%
	Non-Parent raising child	.37%
	Disabled	7.43%
Education Level of Adults:	Some High School	5.7%
	High School Grad / GED	28.5%
	Some Post Secondary	16.1%
	2 or 4 yr College Grad	40.6%
	Masters Degree +	10.2%
Types of Income Reported:	Employment of some type	80.88%
	Unemployment Insurance	5.88%
	Child Support	11.03%
	Pension / Retirement	5.15%
	Disability (SSDI)	7.35%
	Social Security (SSI)	8.46%
	MFIP	2.94%

Other Respondent Demographics

Race / Ethnicity

White

85.87%

Black / African Am

.72%

Am Indian / Alaskan Native

8.7%

Asian

.72%

Hispanic or Latino

14.13%

Data Source:

2013-14 ICCS CSBG Report,
Section G

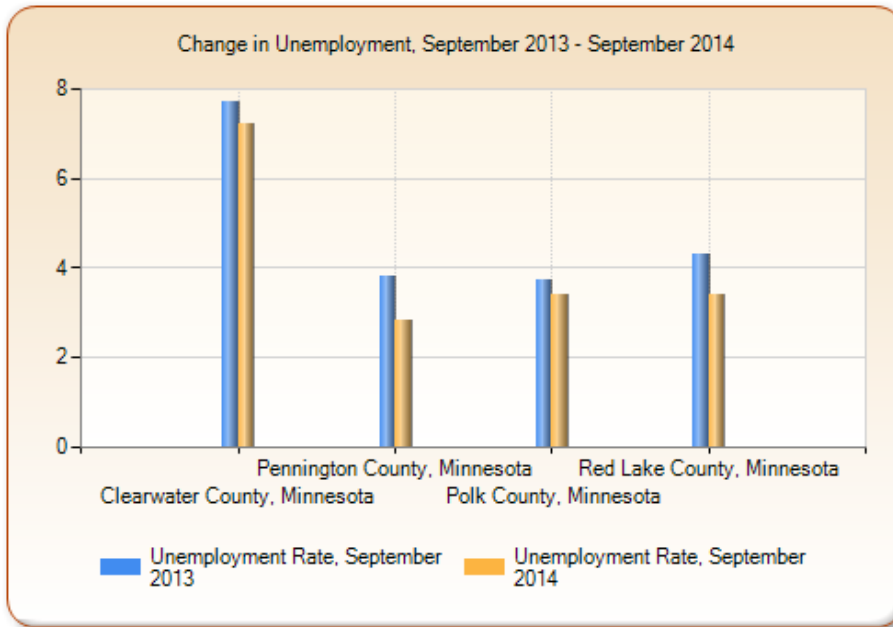
Some of the categories total more than 100% depending upon responses from survey participants selecting several categories.

Employment / Unemployment Rates September 2014

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake	MN
Labor Force	4,231	9,778	17,898	2,304	2,991,007
Employment	3,925	9,504	17,296	2,226	2,881,975
Unemployment Rate	7.2	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.6



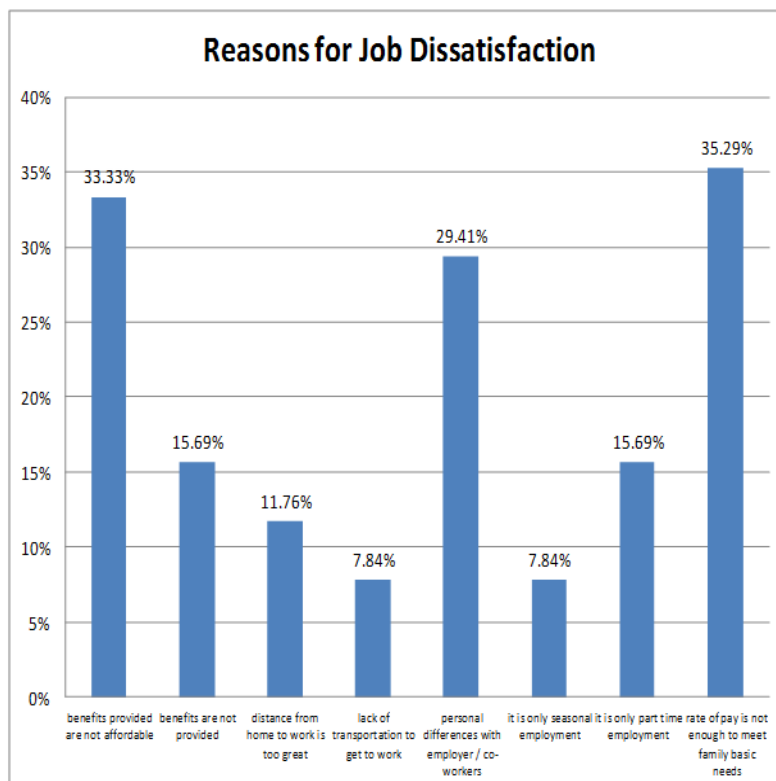
US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, October 29, 2014



US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, October 29, 2014

	Family Cost of Living (family of 3)	Actual Per Capita Income
Clearwater	\$45,884	\$21,466
Pennington	\$38,317	\$23,142
Polk	\$39,921	\$27,274
Red Lake	\$44,931	\$22,408

2011 Regional Labor Market Information, MN DEED



According to our General Community survey, 29.3% of respondents were not satisfied with their current employment.

Respondents need assistance finding employment that is:

- 68.18% full-time
- 29.55% part-time
- 13.64% a second part-time position
- 9.84% accepting of applicants with criminal history

72% of Community Partner respondents stated that their clients need assistance finding employment that accepts applicants with a **criminal history**

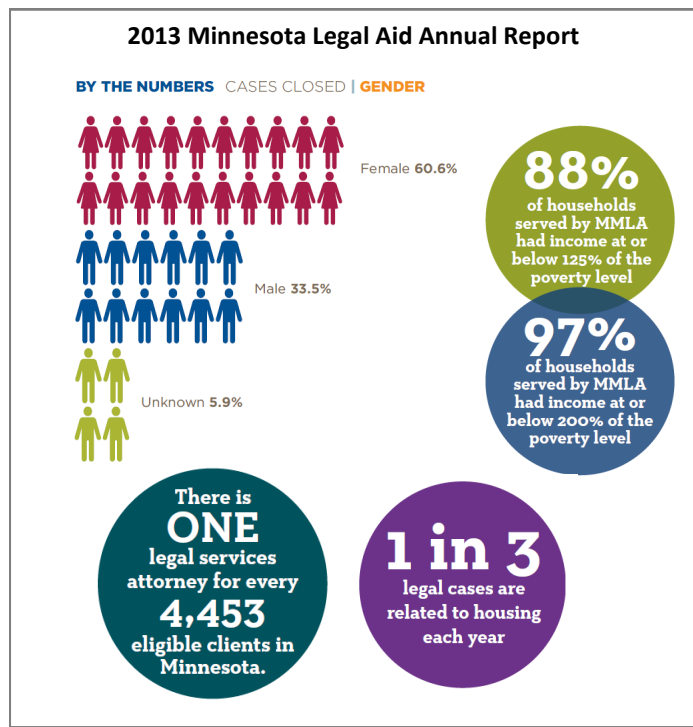
Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Help with gas in own vehicle	57.58%	42.86%
Help with gas money for ride-sharing	9.09%	28.57%
Help with car insurance costs	42.42%	42.86%
Help with bus tokens to use public transportation	0	28.57%
Help with transportation to work	6.06%	76.19%
Help with transportation to health care appointments	18.18%	61.90%
Help with repairs for an owned car	36.36%	57.14%
Financial help to purchase a vehicle	36.36%	23.81%
Help to get car seats for young children	3.03%	42.86%

With **19.6%** of our survey respondents stating **transportation was an issue**, our rural area struggles to maintain employment due to these causes.

	Travel Time to Work	% that travel outside county for work
Clearwater	25	38.1%
Pennington	15	10.2%
Polk	17	34.2%
Red Lake	25	52.6%

2011 Regional Labor Market Information, MN DEED



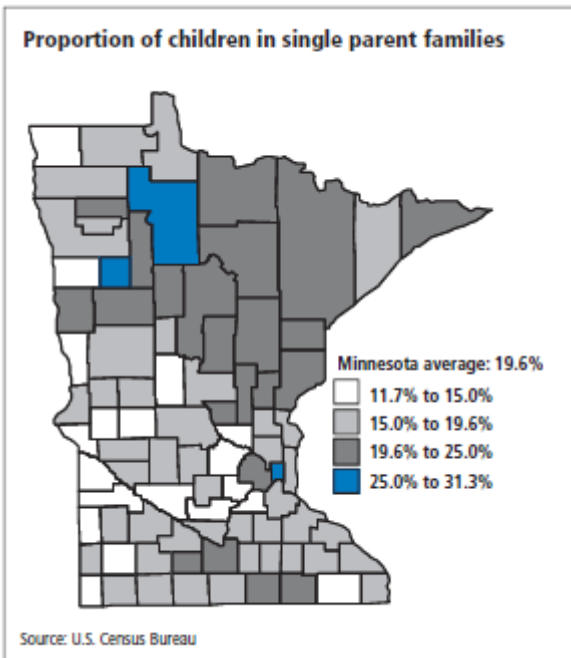
Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Help starting a savings plan to buy a home, pay for education or start a small business	25.68%	31.03%
Help understanding and filling out tax forms	6.76%	20.69%
Help to budget and manage money	41.89%	82.76%
Help to take care of bad debt	37.84%	44.83%
Help making out a will / health directives	47.3%	27.59%
Help understanding Social Security Disability and how to apply or appeal a decision	9.46%	20.69%
Information on custody, guardianship and visitation rights	16.22%	27.59%
Help establishing or collecting child support	5.41%	17.24%
Help with getting out of a domestic violence situation	0	37.93%



Transportation, Financial & Legal Issues





2013-14 ECIPS Demographic Profile

MN State Demographic Center Census 2000 Report

Not surprisingly, most children in Minnesota lived with one or both of their parents according to the 2000 Census, but the percentage has declined slightly since 1990. Most children who live in a single parent household live with their mother; less than 5 percent of all children live with a single father. American Indian children are most likely to live with non-parents. Only 3.7 percent of children live with relatives other than their parents, including grandparents. However, American Indian children are far more likely (15.4 percent) to live with other relatives.

Less than three percent of Minnesota children lived with a grandparent, but American Indian children were more than four times as likely to live with grandparents. Black and multi-race children were more than twice as likely to live with grandparents. In Minnesota, of the grandparents living with grandchildren, 39 percent were responsible for their care.

Children:

- 70,524 children under age 18 live in homes where the householders are grandparents or other relatives (5.5% of children in the state). US Census 2010
- Of these, 50,654 live with grandparents (4%) and 20,281 of these homes the grandparents are the responsible parent for the child.
- Of these children, 6,775 have no parents present in the home.

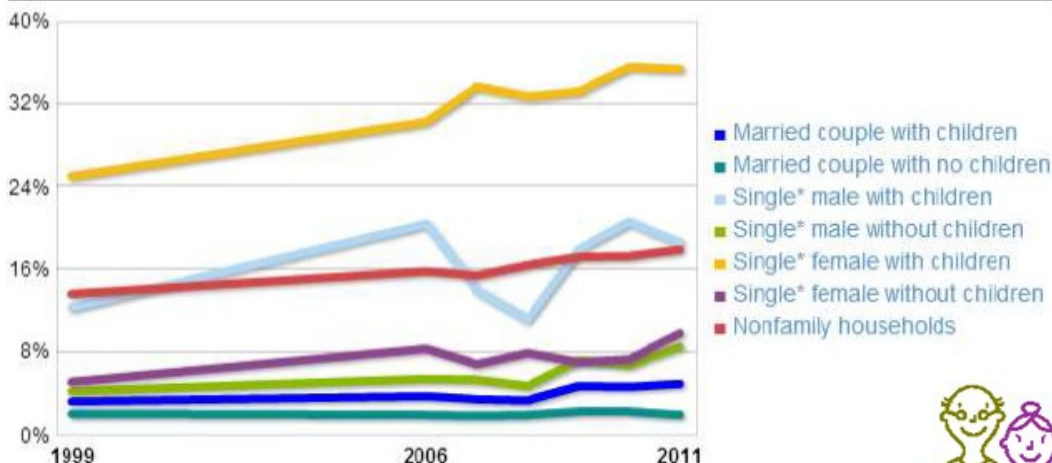
Grandparents:

- 21,744 grandparents are the householders and are responsible for their grandchildren living with them. Of these:
 - 67% of the grandparents are White and not Hispanic, 13% are Black/African American, 5% are Asian, 7% are American Indian and Alaska Native, and 7% are Hispanic/Latino, and may be of any race.
 - 33% have no parents of the children present in the home.
 - 74% are under age 60.
 - 15% live in poverty (at 100% or less than the federal poverty level).

MN Grand Facts

www.grandfactsheets.org

5.8 Households Below Poverty Level by Type, 1999-2011



ICCC survey response	
Married couple with children	53.16%
Married couple with no children	27.51%
Single* male with children	1.86%
Single* male without children	
Single* female with children	13.38%
Single* female without children	
Nonfamily households	.37%

• <http://www.mncompass.org/economy/key-measures.php?km=Poverty&mShow=9#1-7163-g>



Service Area Educational Statistics

	Bagley	Clearbrook-Gonvick	Foston	Win-E-Mac	Fertile-Beltrami	Red Lake Falls	Red Lake County Central	Thief River Falls	Goodridge	State of MN
2014 # of Students	1013	439	654	423	438	366	370	1978	188	—
2013 Graduation Rate	84%	60.5%	93%	82.6%	93.8%	100%	—	88.5%	90%	79.8%
Free & Reduced Lunch %	54.8%	53.3%	41.4%	45.1%	32.7%	30.5%	51.2%	35.3%	48.1%	38.5%
% Special Ed students	18.8%	17.2%	14.4%	14.2%	14%	12.1%	14.5%	16.9%	15.3%	14.9%
# English Language Learners	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	8.1%

Minnesota Department of Education, MN Report Card 2013-14

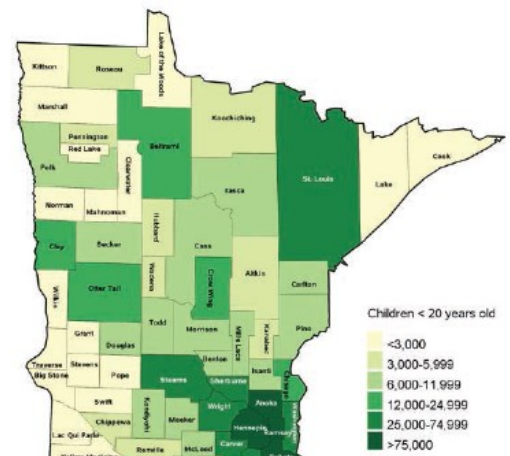
Table 9. Reasons for Entering Out-of-home Care

Reasons for Entry	Unique Children (N = 11,510)	Percent of Reasons
Abandonment	421	3.7
Alleged neglect	4,032	35.0
Alleged physical abuse	1,282	11.1
Alleged sexual abuse	507	4.4
Caretaker's inability to cope (illness or other)	1,562	12.8
Child alcohol abuse	233	2.0
Child drug abuse	391	3.4
Child's behavior problem	3,427	27.7
Child's disability	773	6.7
Child's mental health issues	77	0.7
Death of parent(s)	59	0.5
Inadequate housing	538	4.7
Incarceration of parents	569	4.9
Parental alcohol abuse	930	8.1
Parental drug abuse	2,762	24.0
Relinquishment or termination of parental rights	107	0.9
Relinquishment—Safe Place for Newborns	4	0.0

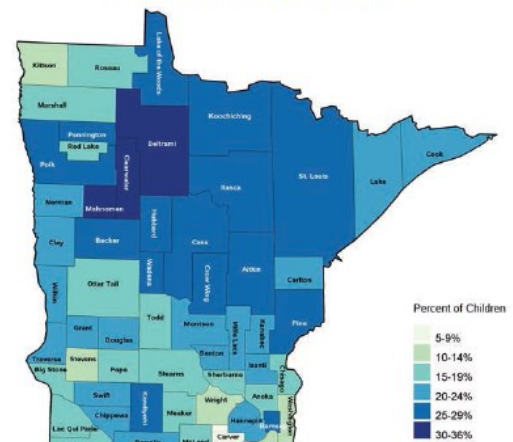
* A child may have been placed for more than one reason; therefore, the sum of the reasons for entry exceeds the number of children in placement.

Minnesota Department of Human Services, County Child Welfare Report 2013

Children in Minnesota Under 20 Years Old



Percent of Minnesota Children Receiving Child Support Services



Minnesota Department of Human Services, MN Child Support Performance Report, 2013.

Child Welfare—2013 statistics

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
# of children in county (estimated)	2188	3318	7389	973
# of reports of child maltreatment	124	44	305	3
Investigation determined services needed	17	11	27	0
Out of home placements - end of 2013	22	35	56	2

Minnesota Department of Human Services, County Child Welfare Report 2013

Child Support in MN –2013 statistics

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
# of open cases in 2013	645	835	1942	151
Support Distributed in 2013	\$915,014	\$1,603,202	\$4,001,238	\$440,518
Support Due in 2013	\$1,322,472	\$2,115,029	\$5,055,986	\$531,482
Child Only MFIP cases (2011) [Kids Count]	26	18	58	2

Child Support Facts:

- Fewer than 12% of child participants at the end of FY2013 were receiving public assistance.
- Most parents who owe child support pay their obligations regularly & on time.

Minnesota Department of Human Services, MN Child Support Performance Report, 2013.

Cost of Full Time Child Care

	Center Based—INFANTS	Center Based—TODDLERS	Center Based—TODDLERS	Family Based—INFANTS	Family Based—TODDLERS	Family Based—PRESCHOOL
Clearwater	Na	Na	Na	\$5,460	\$5,200	\$5,200
Pennington	\$7,800	\$6,100	\$5,850	\$5,690	\$5,420	\$5,314
Polk	Na	\$6,760	Na	\$6,178	\$5,958	\$5,858
Red Lake	Na	Na	Na	\$5,330	\$5,330	\$5,200

Data—Kids Count Data Book

** Center Based not available in all areas

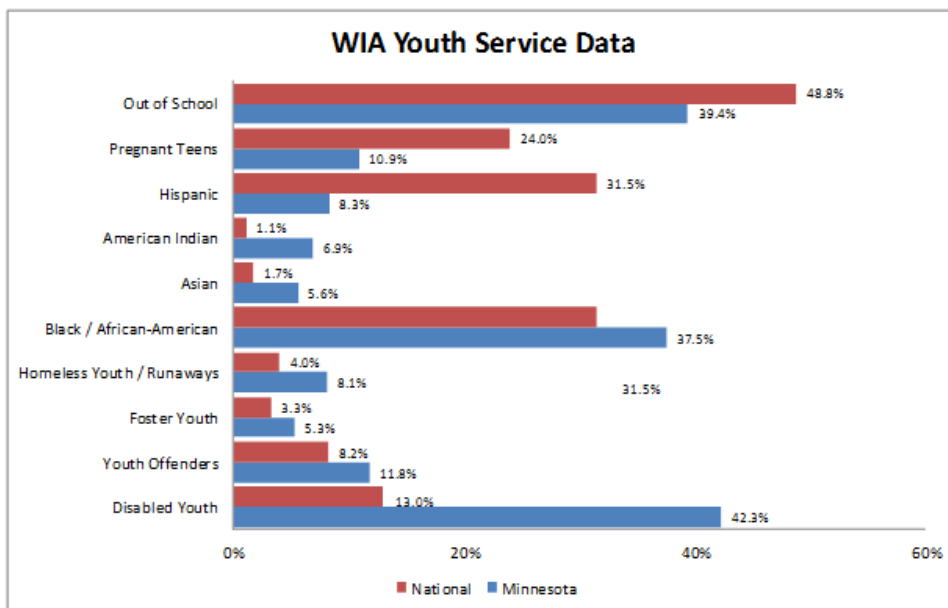


Respondent Survey—Child Care / Young Child Needs

	General Responses	Community Partner		General Responses	Community Partner
Help with school work / tutoring	36.84%	45.45%	Care for special needs children	2.63%	32%
Matched with an adult mentor	7.89%	68.18%	Emergency / drop in care	39.47%	52%
Transportation home after school activities	36.84%	59.09%	Part time / changing hours care	10.53%	48%
Help raising grandchildren	2.63%	40.91%	Care that can take all siblings	7.89%	24%
Help with blended family issues	15.79%	63.64%	Evening / weekend childcare	7.89%	64%
Learning about growth, development	26.32%	45.45%	High quality care	21.05%	28%
Learning about social / emotional development / discipline	23.68%	59.09%	Sick child care	18.42%	36%
More childcare providers in community	42.11%	68%	Infant care	21.05%	36%
Help covering costs of childcare	21.05%	60%	Afterschool only care	34.21%	56%
			Summer / holiday childcare	23.68%	20%

Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Youth needs help with school work / tutoring	26.09%	46.15%
Youth needs help getting mental health services	8.7%	61.54%
Youth needs help with employment opportunities	39.13%	42.31%
Youth needs an opportunity to be matched with an adult mentor	4.35%	61.54%
Youth needs help preventing teen pregnancy	4.35%	50%
Youth needs parenting education and health services for teen parents	0	46.15%
Youth needs help with job interest testing and career planning assistance	52.17%	26.92%
Youth needs help with completing tech school or college financial assistance applications	39.13%	46.15%
Youth needs help with drug or alcohol problems	4.35%	38.46%
Youth needs help with gambling problems	0	7.69%
Youth needs help with moving out or transitioning into their own household	4.35%	42.31%
Youth needs help learning budgeting skills	—	61.54%
Youth needs help with emergency housing for homelessness	—	34.62%



US Dept of Labor, PY 2012 WIASRD Data Book, MN Workforce One 2012.

Articles in Local Papers Highlighting Community Needs

- “Dentists Not Smiling Over Payments” GF Herald, February 27, 2015
- “Child Care Challenge: A shortage of day care centers” GF Herald, June 7, 2014
- May 31, 2014 Northern Watch publication demonstrates Digi-Key efforts to identify child care providers
- “Parents In An Instant” GF Herald, February 24, 2014
- “More Foster Parents Needed” TRF Times, March 19, 2014
- “Housing Remains a Concern” Northern Watch February 22, 2014
- “Fosston Giving Tree” 13 Towns, December 2014
- “Who Owns this Café: Taxpayers” GF Herald, April 21, 2014
- “Use of Food Stamps Rises in Red Lake County” RLF Gazette, May 21, 2014
- “Apartment Complex to Be Built” TRF Times, June 11, 2014
- “LHS Students Bring Attention to Homelessness & Hunger” Northern Watch, November 15, 2014

Youth (14-21 yrs) & Family Issues



Resources available to address the needs of Head Start eligible families:

This area of NW Minnesota is very rural in nature, few resources exist to adequately address all of the needs of Head Start eligible families. The service providers in the area work cooperatively to share resources in a way that offers the most comprehensive service possible to families. Major resources are outlined below.

Head Start / Early Head Start

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
Health	<p>Clearwater County Nursing Service: provides EPSDT to eligible children; assists local schools in completing preschool screenings. Available to any HS eligible children. Essentia Clinic, Sanford Clinic, hospital??. All accept MA & MN Care.</p>	<p>Inter-County Nursing Service, Sanford Clinic / Hospital, Altru Clinic, Riverview Clinic, private clinics. All accept MA & MN Care.</p>	<p>Polk County Public Health: provides EPSDT to eligible children without a medical home; assists local schools in completing preschool screenings. Available to any HS eligible children. Essentia Clinic / Hospital, Sanford Clinic, Altru Clinic, Riverview Clinic / Hospital. All accept MA & MN Care.</p>	<p>Inter-County Nursing Service, Altru Clinic, Essentia Clinic, Riverview Clinic. All accept MA & MN Care.</p>
Dental	<p>Various Dental Clinics. Most will take MA/MN Care, however, they limit the number of patients they will see. Northern Dental Access—located in Bemidji, but will do mobile community dental clinics for a fee.</p>	<p>Various Dental Clinics. Most will take MA/MN Care, however, they limit the number of patients they will see. Northern Dental Access—located in Bemidji, but will do mobile community dental clinics for a fee. UCare Dental Van. <i>One time per year, this van comes to TRF and will serve approximately 12-15 HS</i></p>	<p>Various Dental Clinics. Most will take MA/MN Care, however, they limit the number of patients they will see. Northern Dental Access—located in Bemidji, but will do mobile community dental clinics for a fee.</p>	<p>Various Dental Clinics. Most will take MA/MN Care, however, they limit the number of patients they will see. Northern Dental Access—located in Bemidji, but will do mobile community dental clinics for a fee.</p>
Nutrition	<p>WIC: nutrition tips, advice, supplemental food for income qualifying women, infants & children Food Support: nutrition assistance for eligible low-income families U of M Extension Service. Parent and child education. Food Shelves: Bagley</p>	<p>WIC: nutrition tips, advice, supplemental food for income qualifying women, infants & children Food Support: nutrition assistance for eligible low-income families U of M Extension Service. Parent and child education. Food Shelves: Thief River Falls, Goodridge</p>	<p>WIC: nutrition tips, advice, supplemental food for income qualifying women, infants & children Food Support: nutrition assistance for eligible low-income families U of M Extension Service. Parent and child education. Food Shelves: Fosston, Erskine, Crookston, White Earth / Mahnomen</p>	<p>WIC: nutrition tips, advice, supplemental food for income qualifying women, infants & children Food Support: nutrition assistance for eligible low-income families U of M Extension Service. Parent and child education. Food Shelves: Red Lake Falls, Oklee</p>
Education	<p>ECFE: limited enrollment, 40 children served School Readiness: serving 4 year olds in Clearbrook-Gonvick (30) & Bagley (60) Head Start: 176 children 0-4 yrs, 20 in Bagley Center classroom 212 Family Childcare Provider slots</p>	<p>ECFE: limited enrollment, 50 children served School Readiness: serving 4 year olds in Thief River Falls(120) & Goodridge (15) Head Start: 176 children 0-4 yrs, 40 in TRF Center classroom 692 Family Childcare Provider slots 144 Child Care Center slots</p>	<p>ECFE: limited enrollment, 75 children served School Readiness: serving 4 year olds in Win-E-Mac (30), Fertile (25), and (60) Fosston. Serving 3 year olds in Fosston (20) . Head Start: 176 children 0-4 yrs, 8 in WEM Combination, 10 in Fosston Combination classrooms 276 Family Childcare Provider slots</p>	<p>ECFE: limited enrollment, 25 children served School Readiness: serving 4 year olds in Red Lake Falls(20) , Oklee (20) and Plummer(15) . Serving 3 year olds in Oklee (10) & Plummer(10) . Head Start: 176 children 0-4 yrs, 5 in the Oklee combination classroom 182 Family Childcare Provider slots 41 Childcare Center in RLF slots</p>
Social Services	<p>Clearwater County Human Services: administers food support, MA, TANF, Child Care sliding fee assistance, energy assistance. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council: administers rural transportation collaborative and THE Bus transit. Stellher Human Services: provides mental health services.</p>	<p>Pennington County Human Services: administers food support, MA, TANF, Child Care sliding fee assistance. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council: administers rural transportation collaborative and THE Bus transit. Sanford Medical Services / Mental Health Division: provides mental health services.</p>	<p>Polk County Social Services: administers food support, MA, TANF, Child Care sliding fee assistance. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council: administers rural transportation collaborative and THE Bus transit. Northwestern Mental Health Center: provides mental health services.</p>	<p>Red Lake County Social Services: administers food support, MA, TANF, Child Care sliding fee assistance. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council: administers rural transportation collaborative and THE Bus transit. Northwestern Mental Health Center: provides mental health services.</p>
Family Support / Crisis	<p>Salvation Army Emergency Support Life Center Evergreen Homeless Shelter (Bemidji)</p>	<p>Violence Intervention Project: provides domestic violence advocacy, family support, safe parent visits, shelter for homeless families. Salvation Army Emergency Support Communities Caring for Children Life Care Center</p>	<p>Care & Share Center: homeless shelter and advocacy services, family support, thrift store for needy families. Polk County Parents Helping Parents Communities Caring for Children</p>	<p>Salvation Army Emergency Support Violence Intervention Project: provides domestic violence advocacy, family support, safe parent visits, shelter for homeless families.</p>
Demo-graphics	<p>No. Children B-4 yrs: 606 Child Poverty Rate (0-4): 30.8% Per Capita Income: \$22,157 Race / Ethnicity found on pg 3</p>	<p>No. Children B-4 yrs: 946 Child Poverty Rate (0-17): 17.5% Per Capita Income: \$22,554 Race / Ethnicity found on pg 3</p>	<p>No. Children B-4 yrs: 2,095 Child Poverty Rate (0-17): 21.3% Per Capita Income: \$25,790 Race / Ethnicity found on pg 3</p>	<p>No. Children B-4 yrs: 283 Child Poverty Rate (0-17): 18.3% Per Capita Income: \$23,257 Race / Ethnicity found on pg 3</p>



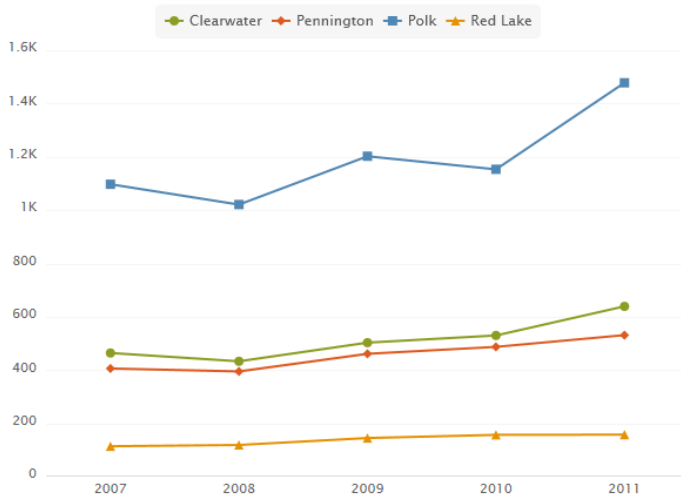
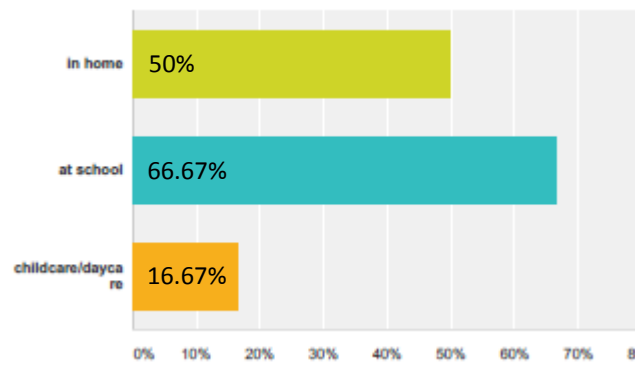
Disabilities Services

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake
School Districts / ECSE Providers	Bagley Clearbrook-Gonvick BRIC Special Ed Coop Help Me Grow / IEIC	Thief River Falls (own program) Goodridge NW RIC Special Ed Coop Help Me Grow / IEIC	Win-E-Mac Fertile-Beltrami Fosston ASEC Special Ed Coop Help Me Grow / IEIC	Red Lake Falls Red Lake County Central ASEC Special Ed Coop Help Me Grow / IEIC
Services Provided	OT, PT, Education & Remediation, Speech / Language, EBD, TMI hearing, CPI training	OT, PT, Education & Remediation, Speech / Language, EBD, TMI hearing, CPI training	OT, PT, Education & Remediation, Speech / Language, EBD, TMI hearing, CPI training	OT, PT, Education & Remediation, Speech / Language, EBD, TMI hearing, CPI training
# of ECSE children served	40	65	15	14

Respondents Surveys

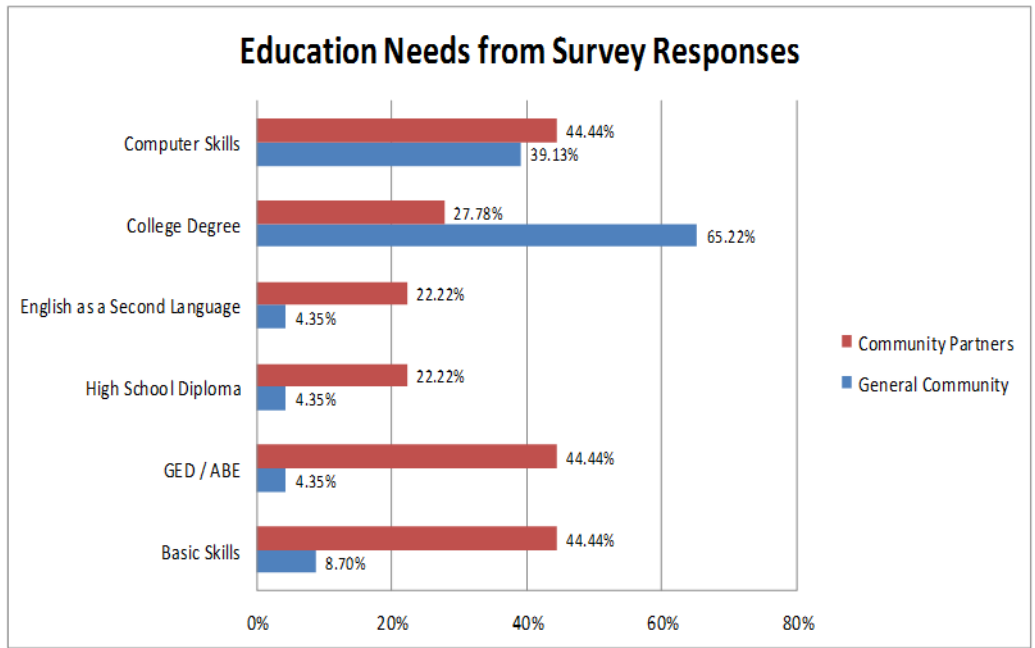
	General Community	Partner Community
Need help finding a dentist nearby who accepts MA / MN Care as payment	41.3%	40.91%
Help finding or paying for mental health services	13%	68.18%
Help with treatment for depression or other mental health concerns	57.69%	86.67%

Of those who stated they needed assistance getting their child ready for school, they preferred their services:



CHILDREN IN POVERTY (NUMBER)

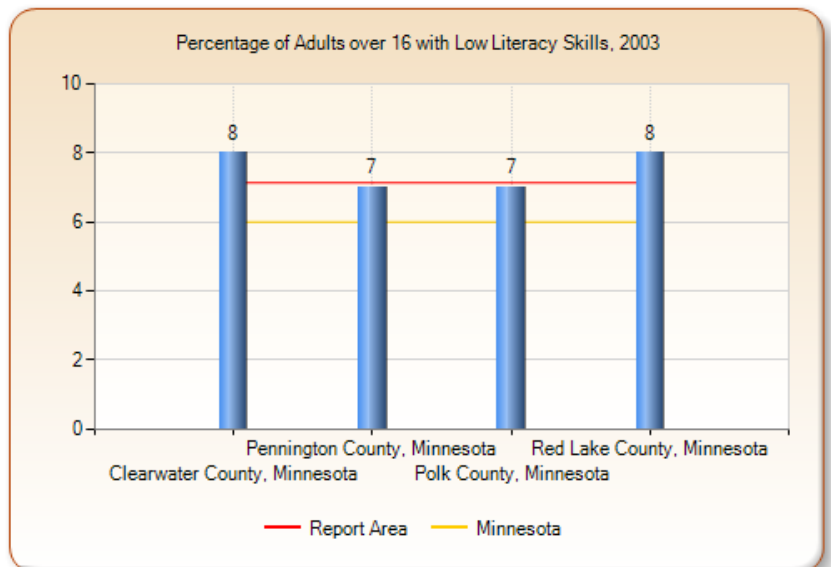
Minnesota KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation



Education Level

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake	MN
Some High School / HS Diploma	53.33%	44%	41.9%	51.58%	35.21%
Some College	21%	25.5%	22.9%	22.7%	22.5%
Associate Degree	11.6%	14.4%	12.3%	11.4%	10%
Bachelor Degree	10.6%	10.5%	15.5%	11.6%	21.8%
Grad / Professional	3.5%	5.6%	7.4%	2.8%	10.5%

US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release



US Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, State and County Estimates of Low Literacy, 2003.

Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Help paying for medical bills	0	43.48%
Help reminding me to take my medication	12.5%	30.43%
Help getting personal care assistance so I can stay at home	12.5%	47.83%
Help applying for health insurance	—	34.78%
Help understanding Medicare paperwork and / or apply for Medicare Part-D Rx coverage	25%	52.17%
Access to senior meals / dining sites	0	17.39%
Home delivered meals for the homebound	0	17.39%
Help finding transportation to medical appointments or shopping	0	47.83%
Help with basic household chores	12.5%	43.48%
Help with yard maintenance and snow removal	62.5%	69.57%
Help caring for an aging adult in my home	0	34.78%
Help finding employment	—	30.43%

MN Women's Consortium

MN is on the brink of a population shift. In 2011, the large baby boom generation began to turn 65 and, for the next 50 years, the aging of our society will dominate the demographic landscape. The MN Woman's Consortium recognizes that many MN elders age 65 and over struggle to make ends meet. Living costs are high, especially for housing and health care. In the face of rising expenses, many elders receive only a modest cost of living adjustment each year; thus, they are spending down retirement savings, and/or face growing debt. AT the same time older people face a challenging future if their life circumstances change due to illness, loss of a spouse or partner, and/or growing needs for help with daily tasks. Further, we must recognize that again issues are women's issues. Women often earn a smaller income, are absent from the workforce for a period of time or are more likely to work part-time, save less for retirement, and outlive men, and thus deal with issues of aging alone.

Women are 60% more likely to live below the poverty line in their senior years as are men.



Elder Economic Security Standard Index of 2011

The Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Elder Index) was developed as a measure of the cost of basic expenses of elder households (those with household heads who are age 65 or older) in the community. The Elder Index defines economic security as the financial status where elders have sufficient income (from Social Security, pensions, retirement savings, and other sources) to cover basic and necessary living expenses.

Key Findings

1. Throughout the United States, neither income at the federal poverty level nor the average Social Security benefit provides enough income to cover basic living expenses. The Elder Index suggests that basic living expenses are considerably higher than the poverty guideline or the average Social Security benefit. The national Elder Index shows that single individuals need \$19,104 to \$28,860 annually, depending on whether they live in an owned, rented, or mortgaged home. Couples need between \$29,448 and \$39,204 to meet expenses.
2. Housing costs (mortgage or rent, taxes, utilities, and insurance) are the greatest expense for most elder households, representing as much as half of their total expenses.
3. The Elder Index shows the significance of health care costs for elders who purchase supplemental health and prescription drug coverage through Medicare. Retired couples are unable to purchase supplemental health insurance through a "family plan"; rather, they must each buy coverage as an individual. Thus, combined health care costs are doubled for elder couples, totaling \$762 per month.
4. Elders' changing circumstances may create a situation where the elder was once meeting their expenses but can no longer do so. This may be caused by either the loss of income (e.g., death of a spouse) or an increase in expenses (e.g., decline in health). Older adults often face a rise in health care expenses when their health declines. While adding supplemental health and prescription drug coverage to Medicare provides protection against unanticipated health care expenses, average out-of-pocket expenses are \$1,560 a year more for an individual in fair to poor health than for an individual in good health.

JOB'S NOW Coalition <http://www.jobsnowcoalition.org/>

	Pennington, Polk & Red Lake Counties	Clearwater County
Avg Annual cost of meeting basic needs (family of 4 with 2 workers)	\$50,300	\$51,500
Supporting Wage / Hour	\$12.10	\$12.37
Share of Jobs below Supporting Wage	37%	46%
Number of jobs in this region that pay less than \$9.95 per hour	22%	29%

Job Vacancies in Region 2 of NW MN

Almost half of all openings are part-time, compared to less than one-third a year ago. With 3,100 job seekers competing for 700 full time openings, job seekers outnumber full-time openings by more than 4 to 1. Job openings in the two largest occupations—sales, and food preparation and serving—have increased dramatically, rising from 32 openings in 2009 to 455 openings in 2013. Put another way, these low-wage occupations have fourteen times more openings than they had four years ago. Other major findings for NW MN include:

- Only 39% of all openings offer health care.
- Only a quarter of all openings require education or training beyond high school.
- Only 11% of all openings require a four year degree.
- For part-time openings, the median wage is \$9.40 per hour.



MN Fair Market Rent

For a 2 bedroom apartment is \$836. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities—without paying more than 30% of income on housing—a household must earn \$2,786 monthly or \$33,438 annually.

Hourly Housing Wage

Needed to afford a 2 bedroom FMR apartment \$16.08
 A minimum wage earner (\$7.25 / hr) must work 89 hours a week / 52 weeks a year

Cost of Housing

The cost of housing now consumes more than 1/2 of the income for 1 in 7 Minnesota households.

In 97% of counties (84 of 87), there is a shortage of affordable and available rental housing units for extremely low-income renters. Working full time at the median income for their occupation, food prep workers and retail sales-people cannot afford to rent a 2 bedroom apartment in any county across MN.

Out of Reach 2013 Report: National Low Income Housing Coalition

Housing Units—2010 US Census Data

	Clearwater	Pennington	Polk	Red Lake	Survey Respondents
OWNER Occupied Units	80.2% / 2,828	73.3% / 4,276	72.7% / 9,239	80.3% / 1,394	90.9% / 209
RENTER Occupied Units	19.8% / 699	26.7% / 1,560	27.3% / 3,465	19.7% / 343	10.8% / 25
Total Occupied Units	3,527	5,836	12,704	1,737	—
Vacant Housing Units	1,246	461	1,906	211	—

Foreclosure Rates—www.housinglink.org (2013 Annual Foreclosures in MN)

Foreclosures in 2012	15	13	29	1	—
Foreclosures 2013	10	7	25	2	—



Energy Burden

Home energy is a crippling financial burden for low-income MN households. MN households with incomes of below 50% of the Federal Poverty Level pay 33% of their annual income simply for their home energy bills.

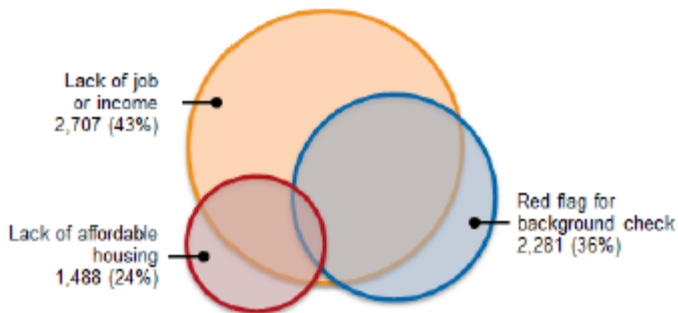
Fisher, Sheeham & Colton, The Home Energy Affordability Gap 2012, published May 2013.

Respondent Survey		
	General Responses	Community Partner
Help with damage or security deposits to allow rental of housing	8.33%	42.31%
Help with loan and/or down payment & closing costs for purchase of housing	10.71%	15.38%
Help with payments for home heating expenses	60.71%	65.38%
Help making home more energy efficient to lower heating costs	60.71%	57.69%
Help making home safer or more fit to live in	13.10%	26.92%
Hands on training about home maintenance	37.78%	57.69%
Loans to fix up existing home (including wells and septic systems)	75.56%	46.15%
Help to prevent mortgage foreclosure	17.78%	26.92%
Help to prevent eviction	0%	34.62%
Help getting landlords to make repairs	100%	34.62%
Housing Needs in our Communities		
More subsidized rental housing	63.64%	62.07%
Homeless / Transitional / emergency housing	18.18%	58.62%
Efficiency / one room rentals	27.27%	20.69%
Housing which accepts people with chemical dependency issues	9.09%	20.69%
Housing which accepts people with mental health concerns	36.36%	27.59%
Housing which accepts people with a criminal history	9.09%	41.38%
Housing for victims of domestic violence		34.48%
More rental housing in general		58.62%
Single family homes		27.59%
Assisted living		24.14%

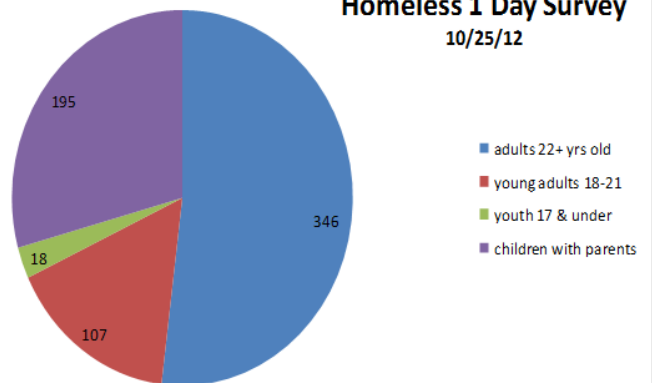
Homelessness in NW MN—Wilder Foundation Report on Homelessness in 2012

Overlapping barriers to housing

Total homeless adults represented by survey: 6,273 (100%)
 Proportion with none of these three barriers: 2,522 (40%)



Homeless 1 Day Survey 10/25/12



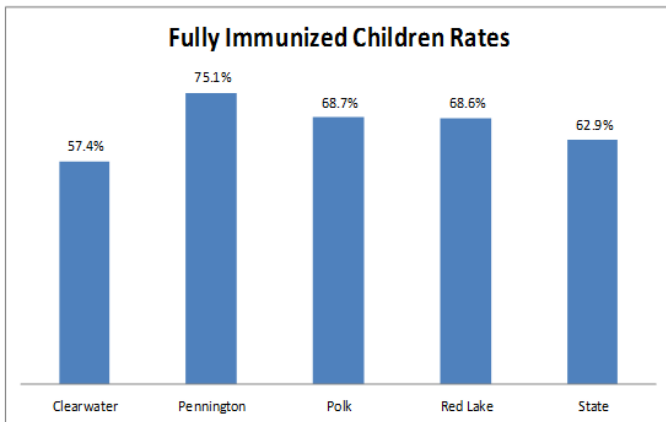
To supplement, the following appear to be among the most prevalent issues that are likely to require assistance in order to help those now homeless re-enter the mainstream:

- * 76% are currently unemployed
- * 68% have been homeless before
- * 50% have been homeless for at least a year
- * 55% have serious mental illness
- * 50% have criminal history
- * 36% could afford to pay less than \$200 per month for rent

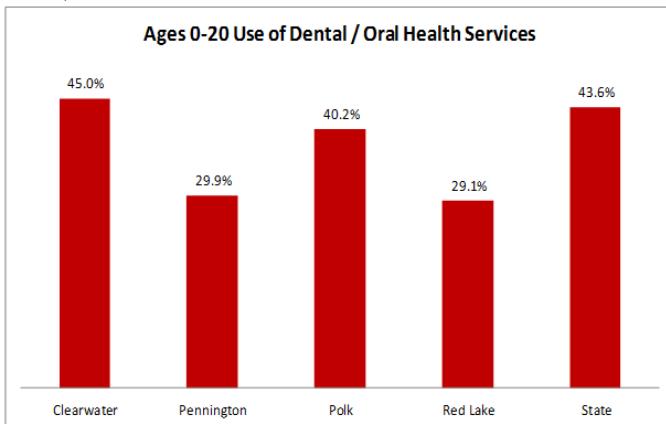
Virtually all study participants (97%) report at least one of the housing barriers above.

Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Help finding or applying for affordable health insurance	36.96%	63.64%
Help finding a dentist nearby who accepts Medical Assistance / Minnesota Care as payment	41.3%	40.91%
Help paying for prescription medicine	13.04%	36.36%
Help understanding Medicare Part-D	8.7%	22.73%
Help obtaining birth control or family planning services	0	27.27%
Help finding or paying for mental health services	13.04%	68.18%
Information on long term care planning	10.87%	22.73%
Help to get a break from caring for the elderly or disabled person/child in my care	10.87%	22.73%
Help with drug or alcohol problems	7.69%	60%
Help with stress reduction	73.08%	40%
Help with depression or other mental health concerns	57.69%	86.67%
Help getting rid of bed bugs in my home	0	13.33%
More access to whole / natural / more nutritious foods	37.31%	46.15%
Access to nutrition education	20.9%	61.54%
Access to exercise facilities	37.31%	69.23%
Help with weight loss	70.15%	61.54%



Rates of children ages 24-35 months that received the full series of the immunizations; DTaP, Polio, MMR, Hib, Hep B, Varicella, PCV. MN Public Health Data Access County Profiles, 2013.



Rates of children ages 0-20 years receiving MN health care program assistance that used dental or oral health services. MN Public Health Data Access County Profiles, 2013.



	General Community	Community Partner
Need help finding a dentist nearby who accepts MA / MN Care as payment	41.3%	40.91%
Help finding or paying for mental health services	13%	68.18%
Help with treatment for depression or other mental health concerns	57.69%	86.67%

Obesity in U-S

More than two-thirds of US adults & almost one-third of children and adolescents are overweight or obese, and since 1980 obesity rates have doubled for adults and tripled for children. This epidemic appears across gender, racial and ethnic groups. This has serious health consequences for individuals and a major impact on communities.

Overweight & Obesity

Overweight refers to increased body weight in relation to height which may or may not be due to increases in body fat. Obesity refers to an excessively high body weight in relation to height.

National:

- ◇ In 2013, 29.4% of US adults were obese, 35.4% were overweight
- ◇ In 2011, 15% of high school students were overweight, 13% were obese

Minnesota:

- ◇ In 2013, 25.5% of adults were obese, 35.6% were overweight
- ◇ In 2012, 12.7% of children 2-5 years old enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants & Children (WIC) were obese

MN Department of Health, Overweight & Obesity Fact Sheet 2014.

ICCC MNSure Community Assistance

	Dec '13- Apr '14	May '14- Sept '14
Outreach to # people	65,697	6,064
# outreach events	53	43
# people successfully enrolled in MA, MN Care, QHP	103	43
# people assisted in enrollment	181	86

According to a study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, nearly every county in the US was ranked based on criteria surrounding the health of the state.

Health Outcomes included length and quality of life. Health Factors included clinical care, health behaviors, social & economic factors and physical environment.

Minnesota's 2014 rankings for our service area include:

	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Clearwater	74	86
Pennington	69	26
Polk	57	72
Red Lake	31	62

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Childhood obesity prevalence remains high. Overall, obesity among our nation's young people, aged 2 to 19 years, has not changed significantly since 2003-2004 and remains at about 17 percent. However among 2-5 years old, obesity has declined based on CDC's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data. [Journal of American Medical Association \(JAMA\)](#)

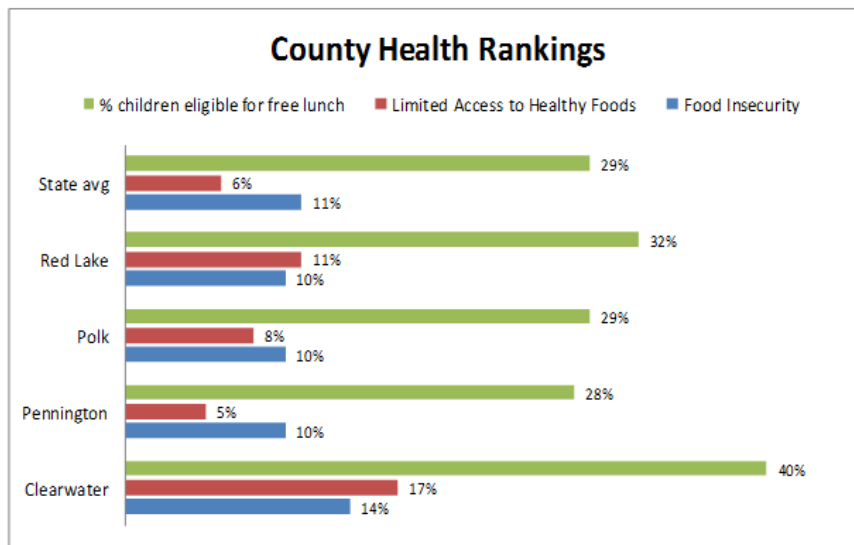
- Approximately 17% (or 12.7 million) of children and adolescents aged 2—19 years had obesity.
- The prevalence of obesity among children aged 2 to 5 years decreased significantly from 13.9% in 2003-2004 to 8.4% in 2011-2012.
- There are significant racial and age disparities in obesity prevalence among children and adolescents. In 2011-2012, obesity prevalence was higher among Hispanics (22.4%) and non-Hispanic black youth (20.2%) than non-Hispanic white youth (14.1%). The prevalence of obesity was lower in non-Hispanic Asian youth (8.6%) than in youth who were non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black or Hispanic.
- In 2011-2012, 8.4% of 2- to 5-year-olds had obesity compared with 17.7% of 6- to 11-year-olds and 20.5% of 12- to 19-year-olds.
Note: In children and adolescents aged 2 to 19 years, obesity was defined as a body mass index (BMI) at or above the 95th percentile of the sex-specific CDC BMI-for-age growth charts.

Childhood obesity among preschoolers is more prevalent among those from lower-income families

- Obesity prevalence was the highest among children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 100% or less (household income that is at or below the poverty threshold), followed by those in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 101%–130%, and then found to be lower in children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 131% or larger (greater household income).
 - Obesity prevalence on the basis of family income among children from low-income households in Minnesota was:
 - 12.9% among children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of less than or equal to 50%.
 - 13.5 among children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 51–100%.
 - 12% among children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 101–130%.
 - 10.6% among children in families with an income-to-poverty ratio of 131–150%.

Respondent Survey

	General Responses	Community Partner
Information and tips on best ways to shop / cook for well-balanced, nutritious meals while stretching food budget	82.05%	75%
Help applying for SNAP / food support programs	5.13%	50%
Help applying for WIC (Women, Infants & Children)	2.56%	50%
Help applying for free and reduced meals for children at school	15.38%	30%
Help using emergency food shelves	7.69%	40%
Increase the number of times you can use food shelf each month	6.67%	70%
More personal items available at the food shelf	17.58%	40%
Food shelves should be open more hours	20%	70%
General Community respondents that have used a local food shelf	14.35%	



Food Insecurity is the % of population that did not have access to a secure source of food.

Limited access to healthy food is the % of low income people that, in rural areas, live more than 10 miles from a grocery store.

www.countyhealthrankings.org/Minnesota—2011 data

Table 5. December 2013 SNAP Eligible People by County: Unduplicated Total Counts and by Overlapping Case Types

	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	
STATE	464,567	100.0%	106,599 22.9%	47,298 10.2%	95,871 20.6%	62,246 13.4%	189,315 40.8%
CLEARWATER	989	0.2%	257 26.0%	96 9.7%	180 18.2%	100 10.1%	423 42.8%
PENNINGTON	1,089	0.2%	274 0.3%	122 0.3%	238 0.2%	135 0.2%	417 0.2%
POLK	3,332	0.7%	845 0.8%	312 0.7%	751 0.8%	299 0.5%	1,417 0.7%
RED LAKE	319	0.1%	92 0.1%	48 0.1%	45 0.0%	25 0.0%	135 0.1%

Executive Summary

Following the community survey process, ICCC management staff analyzed the responses from the general population, the community partners and data from other sources to identify areas of need from across our service area.

Priority Areas

ICCC identified the following 3 priority areas that demonstrated the highest need.

1. **Job Dissatisfaction.** For a variety of reasons, our population is in need of assistance in identifying employment that:
 - Provides benefits, as well as benefit packages that are affordable
 - Is closer to their residence, due to cost of transportation and lack of transportation
 - Is year round
 - Is full time
 - That pays a living wage
2. **Assistance with home heating, making homes more fuel efficient and fixing up homes.**
3. **Wellness.** Assistance with stress reduction, weight loss, access to exercise facilities, and training on shopping and cooking for well balanced and nutritious meals.

Additional Needs

With a high number of needs identified, the following are needs that are supported by survey data, as well as anecdotal information obtained through agency efforts in the communities.

4. **Transportation.** Lack of vehicles, reliable transportation or funds to fix / repair vehicles that are already owned.
5. **Dental Service Providers.** Lack of dental service providers willing to accept MA / MN Care within driving distance for families.
6. **Child Care Providers.** Lack of child care providers that provides evening / weekend hours, after school care for older children, emergency or drop in care.
7. **Homeless Services / Housing.** A need for more rental housing and lack of emergency / transitional / shelters for homeless youth and families.