

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

June 2024

**Powhatan
Community
Action Agency**

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

The Powhatan Community Action Agency (PCAA) is a nonprofit organization in Powhatan County, Virginia with the mission “To stabilize low-income individuals and families through advocacy, financial support, and collaboration with local service providers”. Each year, PCAA receives Community Services Block Grant (CSGB) funds to support community action activities and other appropriate measures designed to identify and deal with the causes of poverty in Powhatan County. In FY 2025, PCAA received \$161,679 from CSGB funds. In an effort to ensure that the PCAA is supporting the needs of individuals and families in its service area, a community needs assessment was conducted in 2024 to facilitate proactive, internally-driven improvement of services.

The areas of need and their relative importance were assessed through a review of objective secondary data in six primary areas: 1) Economic, 2) Housing, 3) Transportation, 4) Education, 5) Health, and 6) Nutrition. This information was supplemented by community feedback from a survey of PCAA community partner clients, a focus group of PCAA community partners, and a focus group of residents to better understand challenges within the community. Other issues explored in this assessment include awareness of community resources, perceived quality of community resources, and barriers to obtaining community resources.

Key Findings and Recommendations

Powhatan County residents are generally lower need compared to residents in other localities across Virginia according to economic indicators and other published data reviewed for this assessment, but 12.6% of the population have an income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), which makes them eligible for and in need of PCAA services. Community partners identified housing as a priority need in the county, while community partner clients indicated that financial management, transportation, and mental health care were the areas in which they experienced the biggest challenges over the past year. Better awareness of community resources was also identified as a significant need by community partners and their clients. Below is a description of these priority needs as well as recommendations to address them, taking into account the limited amount of funding available to the PCAA.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Priority Need 1: Housing- Focus group participants reported that *Housing* is a primary concern because housing costs are beyond what most people can afford, with new home prices in the range of \$500,000-\$600,000 and rental costs of \$1500-\$2000 per month. Several focus group participants indicated that there is a perception that Powhatan County does not want to build affordable housing because it will attract an undesirable population. Community partners noted that the lack of affordable housing is likely responsible for the decline in young families and lack of population growth in the County, which could deter any potential new businesses from moving to this locality. Community partners also noted that changes to current zoning requirements, which limits the number of houses per acre, will be needed to establish more affordable housing.

Recommendation 1- *Raise awareness about the impact of limited affordable housing on community growth and potential strategies to address this issue. Increasing the supply of affordable housing is beyond the scope of PCAA's mission and budget, but PCAA can help by raising awareness of this issue and its impact on the community among local government officials. PCAA could also advocate for solutions to address the lack of affordable housing such as changes to zoning requirements that currently limit housing development in the county. In addition, Goal 1 from PCAA's 2023-2028 strategic plan is "Increase funding to expand services for PCAA clients", and they have already begun working on strategies to address this goal such as partnering with churches for fundraising. Some of the extra funding generated through these efforts could be used to increase funding for Habitat for Humanity or other organizations that address housing needs among low-income residents.*



I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Priority Need 2: Transportation- *Transportation* was identified as one of the top challenges experienced by PCAA client survey respondents during the past year. When asked to identify the specific transportation challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited concerns were ‘*Ongoing cost of owning a car*’, ‘*Cost of buying/down payment on a car*’, ‘*No public transportation available to me*’, ‘*Current car is not dependable/reliable*’, and ‘*Cannot purchase a car because of my credit rating*’. Focus group participants noted that the lack of transportation impacts access to healthcare services and makes it difficult to perform daily activities, such as grocery shopping. They also noted that bus services are not well-advertised, the bus radius only covers a portion of the County, and bus stops are not convenient for many people who need them. One community partner mentioned that using the bus is difficult for many residents because it requires them to download an app on their phones which is not user friendly.

Recommendation 2- Explore strategies for improving transportation options. *Most of the transportation challenges will require considerable funding to address, but one possibility to consider is a reduced cost car repair program, which could be structured like the critical home repair program offered through Habitat for Humanity. The PCAA may also wish to advocate for bus routes that serve the low-income residents who need them the most. The PCAA could also work with community partners to provide user friendly instructions on how to download and use the bus riding phone app so that more of their low-income clients can take advantage of this service.*



I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Priority Need 3: Financial Management- *Financial Management* was also selected as one of the top challenges experienced by PCAA client survey respondents during the past year. When asked to identify the specific financial management challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited concerns were ‘*Difficulty with managing expenses*’, ‘*Little knowledge about how to save money*’, and ‘*Little knowledge of how to complete taxes.*’

Recommendation 3- Enhance knowledge and skills related to financial management. *The PCAA could offer more opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills related to financial management through low-cost initiatives, such as inviting current and former clients of PCAA community partners to events with guest speakers on budgeting and other financial management topics. If sufficient funding becomes available, the PCAA could also expand its services to provide one-on-one financial management assistance for clients such as budget counseling and tax preparation assistance.*



I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Priority Need 4: Mental Health Care- Mental Health Care was another top challenge during the past year, according to PCAA client survey respondents. When asked to identify the specific mental health care challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited concerns were ‘*Not enough income to pay for medical appointments*’, ‘*No/limited health insurance coverage*’, ‘*Cannot find the resources for mental health treatment*’, ‘*Doctors will not accept Medicaid*’, ‘*Not enough income to pay for medical emergencies*’, and ‘*No clinics or doctor offices that are close enough for me or my family*’. Focus group participants noted that mental health support and combating social isolation are both needs for residents in the County. In addition, published data on the low ratio of residents to mental health providers in Powhatan County indicates that access to mental health services is likely to be very difficult in this locality.

Recommendation 4- Expand opportunities for social connectedness. To address mental health concerns, the PCAA should continue to provide funding to the Free Clinic, which offers behavioral health services, but the organization could also improve the well-being of its clients by partnering with Parks and Recreation and other organizations to offer more opportunities for community events and social activities. Given the relatively older population of Powhatan County, it may be particularly important to consider services which reduce the social isolation experienced by seniors. One example offered by a focus group participant is a Friendly Visitor program which coordinates visits between community volunteers and older adults.



I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Awareness of Community Resources- In addition to focusing on the four priority areas of need noted above, the PCAA may also wish to address the lack of awareness about programs offered by community partners among residents who may benefit from them. Survey respondents cited the lack of awareness about the resources that are available as one of the top reasons they had problems getting help in their communities. About 43% of survey respondents were not aware of Community Life Church/Coalition of Churches, which provides emergency financial assistance, and about half or more were unaware of school supplies available through the Powhatan YMCA, services for senior offered by TRIAD, and before/after school sport programs offered by Fast Feet Sports Academy

It should be noted that Goal 2 from PCAA’s 2023-2028 strategic plan is to “Increase awareness of PCAA in the community” and they have already identified strategies to inform potential clients about the services available through PCAA such as improving their social media presence and providing written information about PCAA to community partners and the Department of Social Services (DSS) to distribute to potential clients. They have also identified strategies to inform public officials, local government agencies, board members, and community partners about PCAA’s mission and services, which will help to raise awareness overall. PCAA has already begun to implement some of these strategies, including a new Facebook account, a speaking engagement at the Lions Club, and participation on a school resource committee.



II. ABOUT POWHATAN COUNTY

Service Area and Population

The Powhatan Community Action Agency (PCAA) serves the residents of Powhatan County, Virginia. Located in central Virginia, Powhatan County spans 260.20 square miles and is bordered by Goochland County, Chesterfield County, Amelia County, Cumberland County, and Henrico County. The 2018-2022 American Community Survey population estimate for Powhatan County is 30,503 people. Population estimates on race, ethnicity, age, sex, other languages spoken, violent crime rates, veteran status, and household composition are provided below.

Race

The vast majority of people within the service area are White (86%), which is higher than the Virginia average of 63.5%. The percentage of Black/African American individuals in Powhatan County (8.8%), is less than half the percentage of Black/African Americans statewide (18.9%), while the Asian population makes up only .2% of Powhatan County and 6.9% of Virginia. The percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native individuals is .3% in both Powhatan County and statewide. In addition, the percentage of individuals of Hispanic or Latino Origin is smaller in Powhatan County (2.5%) when compared to Virginia (10%).

Population by Race (2018-2022)				
RACE	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Total population	8,624,511	100.0%	30,503	100.0%
One Race	8,028,213	93.1%	29,339	96.2%
White	5,473,610	63.5%	26,240	86.0%
Black or African American	1,630,355	18.9%	2,685	8.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	23,728	0.3%	106	0.3%
Asian	591,088	6.9%	47	0.2%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	6,185	0.1%	0	0.0%
Some other race	303,247	3.5%	261	0.9%
Two or more races	596,298	6.9%	1,164	3.8%
Population by Hispanic or Latino Origin				
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	865,015	10.0%	754	2.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	7,759,496	90.0%	29,749	97.5%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/tables//ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSDP5Y2021.DP05). 2017-21. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/tables//ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSDP5Y2021.DP05

II. ABOUT POWHATAN COUNTY

Age

Powhatan residents are older than residents in Virginia overall. The percentage of residents in the three youngest age groups (under 15 years, 15 to 19 years and 20 to 34 years) is slightly lower in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall. The percentage of residents in the three older age groups (35 to 44 years, 55 to 64 years, and 65 years or older) is slightly higher in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall.

Population by Age (2018-2022)				
AGE	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percentage	Estimate	Percentage
Under 15 years	1,551,708	17.9%	4,440	14.6%
15 to 19 years	573,642	6.7%	1,612	5.3%
20 to 34 years	1,750,132	20.3%	4,790	15.7%
35 to 54 years	2,248,095	26.1%	8,840	29.0%
55 to 64 years	1,119,928	13.0%	4,946	16.2%
65 years and older	1,381,006	16.1%	5,875	19.2%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2017-21. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

Note: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Sex

In Powhatan County, the proportion of males in Powhatan County (52.5%) is about 3% higher than the proportion of males in Virginia overall (49.5%). The proportion of females in Powhatan County (47.5%) is about 3% lower than the proportion of females in Virginia overall (50.5%)

Population by Sex (2018-2022)				
SEX	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Total Population	8,624,511	100.0%	30,503	100.0%
Male	4,268,775	49.5%	16,003	52.5%
Female	4,355,736	50.5%	14,500	47.5%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSDP5Y2021.DP05). 2017-21. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05?q=population&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSDP5Y2021.DP05

Note: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

II. ABOUT POWHATAN COUNTY

Language Proficiency/Other Languages Spoken

The percentage of residents who speak English “Very Well” is 13% higher in Powhatan County (96.3%), compared to Virginia overall (83.3%).

Language Proficiency (Ages 5 years and older) (2018-2022)				
Language Group	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
% of population who speak English “Very Well”	6,775,305	83.3%	28,109	96.3%
% of population who speak English Less than “Very Well”	477,552	5.9%	240	0.8%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2017-21. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP02?q=dp02&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

Note: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

In Powhatan County, 1.3% of the population speaks Spanish, which is the most common language spoken, other than English. The percentage of Powhatan County residents who speak Spanish or any other language (not including English) is less than half the percentage of residents who speak other languages across the state overall.

Other Languages Spoken (Ages 5 years and older) (2018-2022)				
Language Group	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Spanish	605,710	7.4%	373	1.3%
Other Indo-European languages	297,894	3.7%	358	1.2%
Asian and Pacific Island Languages	308,470	3.8%	2	0.0%
Other languages	142,984	1.8%	348	1.2%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2017-21. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP02?q=dp02&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

Note: Total percentages do not equal 100% because some residents do not speak any other languages.

II. ABOUT POWHATAN COUNTY

Violence

As shown in the table below, the violent crime rate (per 100,000 of the total population) was about 20% lower in Powhatan County (184.9) compared to Virginia overall (241.0).

Violent Crimes Committed and Rate (2022)			
Virginia		Powhatan	
Estimate	Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)	Estimate	Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)
20,957	241.0	58	184.9

Data Source: https://va.beyond2020.com/va_public/View/dispview.aspx

Type of Household

The table below displays information on household composition in Powhatan County and Virginia. The percentage of married-couple family households is about 17% higher in Powhatan County (66.4%) compared to Virginia overall (49.4%). The percentage of nonfamily households (i.e., one or more people living in a private dwelling who are unrelated) was about 14% lower in Powhatan County (20.3%), compared to the statewide rate (34.7%). The percentage of family households with a male householder (but no spouse present) and the percentage of family households with a female householder (but no spouse present) was similar in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall.

Type of Household (2018-2022)				
Household	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Married-couple family household	1,624,155	49.4%	7,350	66.4%
Male householder, no spouse present, family household	147,751	4.5%	678	6.1%
Female householder, no spouse present, family household	376,557	11.4%	799	7.2%
Nonfamily household	1,141,313	34.7%	2,250	20.3%
Total	3,289,776	100.0%	11,077	100.0%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1101?q=family%20types&q=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-2022. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1101?q=family%20types&q=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

II. ABOUT POWHATAN COUNTY

Veterans

The percentage of individuals who are Veterans is similar in Powhatan County (10.3%) compared to Virginia overall (9.9%). Among the Veteran population, the percentage with a disability is nearly 7% lower in Powhatan County (15.4%) compared to Virginia overall (22.3%).

Veteran Status (2018-2022)				
	Virginia		Powhatan	
Status	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Veterans	654,068	9.9%	2,580	10.3%
With any Disability	144,161	22.3%	391	15.4%
Without a Disability	502,832	77.7%	2,150	84.6%
Nonveterans	5,965,360	90.1%	22,432	89.7%
With any Disability	781,439	13.5%	2,693	12.9%
Without a Disability	5,003,715	86.5%	18,251	87.1%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S2101?q=veterans&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-2022. Retrieved from:
https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S2101?q=veterans&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Overview

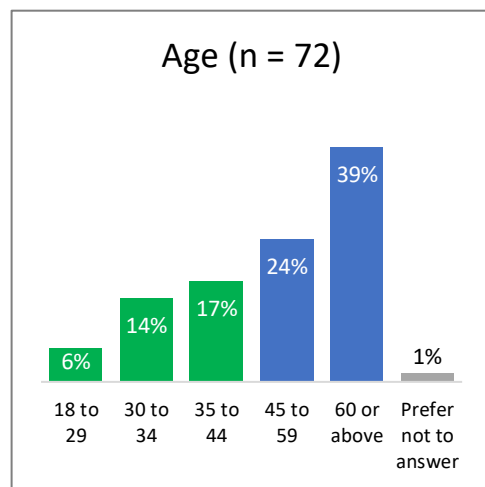
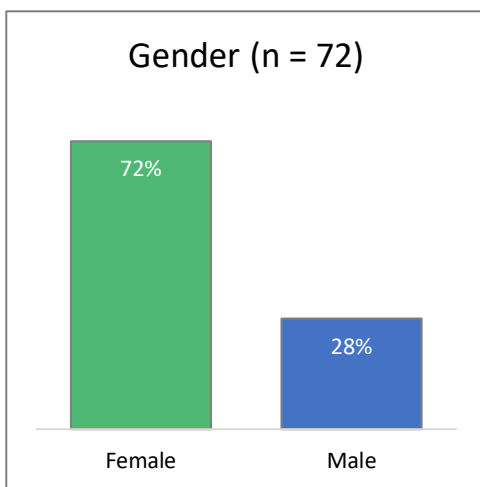
In March 2024, a survey was administered to identify the needs of residents in the PCAA service area. PCAA sent paper surveys and flyers with electronic survey links to community partners who were asked to distribute that information to clients. The survey tool consisted of 22 questions covering community needs, including: housing, jobs/employment, health, adult education, transportation, nutrition, and financial management. Other survey topics included awareness of PCAA services, perceived quality of PCAA services, barriers to obtaining services, and several demographic questions. A total of 73 clients completed the survey.

Demographic Profile of Survey Respondents

Below is a summary of demographic information collected from survey respondents.

Nearly three quarters of the survey respondents identified themselves as female (72%), and 28% identified as male.

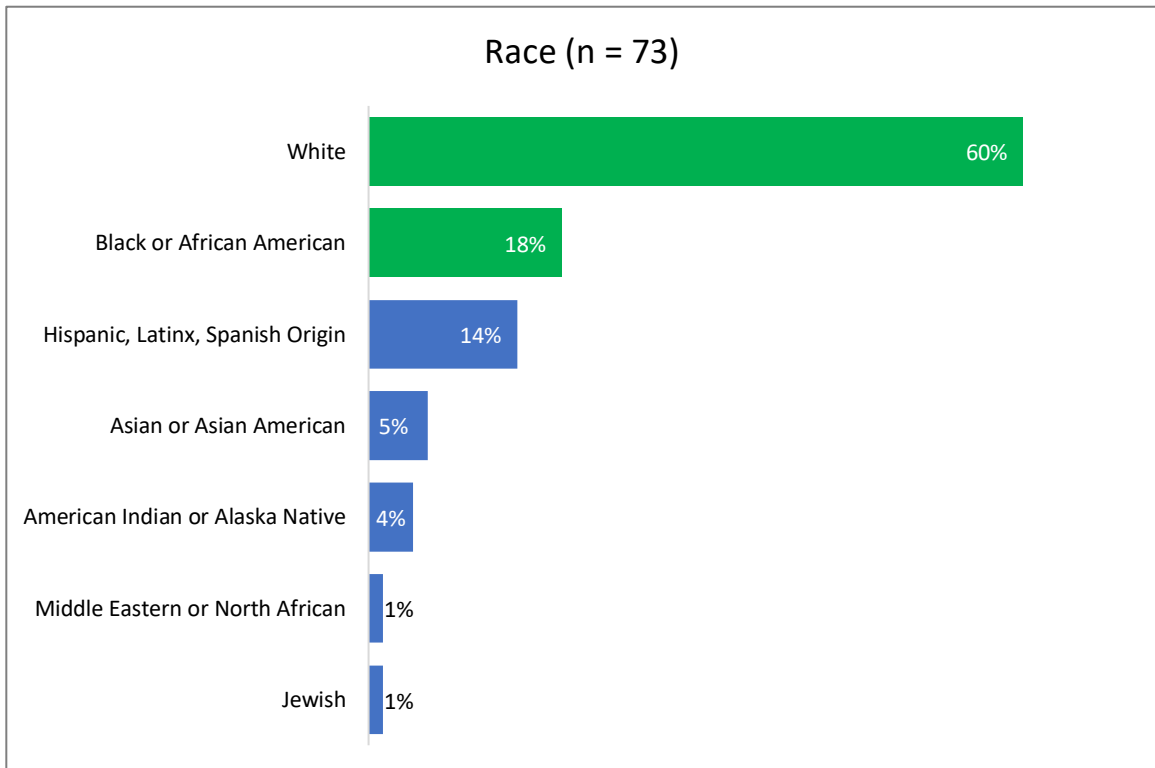
Nearly two-thirds of the respondents were either ages 45-59 (24%) or age 60 or older (39%). Only 6% of the respondents were between the ages of 18 - 29 years old, 14% were between the ages of 30 - 34 years old, and 17% were between the ages of 35 - 44 years old.



Note: The total percentages for gender and age may not equal 100% due to rounding.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

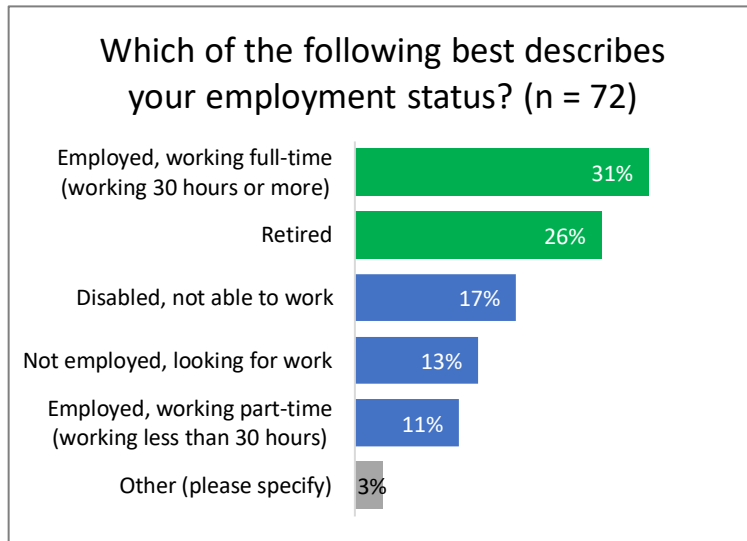
About 60% of the respondents described themselves as White, while the remaining respondents described themselves as Black/African American (18%), Hispanic/Latinx/Spanish Origin (14%), Asian (5%), American Indian/Alaska Native (4%), Middle Eastern/North African (1%), or Jewish (1%).



Note: The total percentage for race exceeds 100% because some respondents selected more than 1 response.

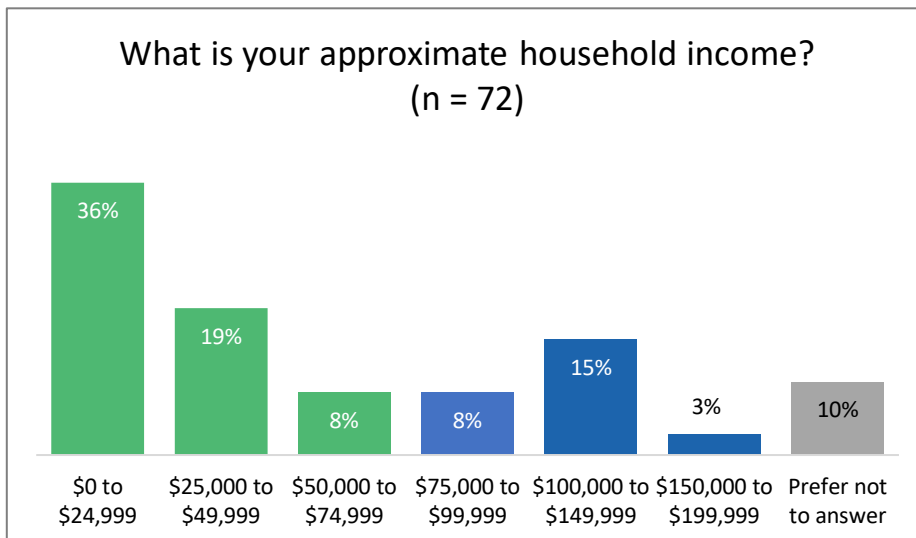
III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

About 31% of the survey respondents are employed full-time, while another 26% are retired. The remaining survey respondents indicated they were disabled/unable to work (17%), unemployed and looking for work (13%), or employed part-time (11%).



Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Over one-third of the survey respondents have a household income below \$25,000 per year. The remaining survey respondents reported a household income of \$25,000-\$49,999 (19%), \$50,000-\$74,999 (8%), \$75,000-\$99,999 (8%), \$100,000-\$149,999 (15%), or \$150,000-\$199,999 (3%). An additional 10% did not provide information on household income.



Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

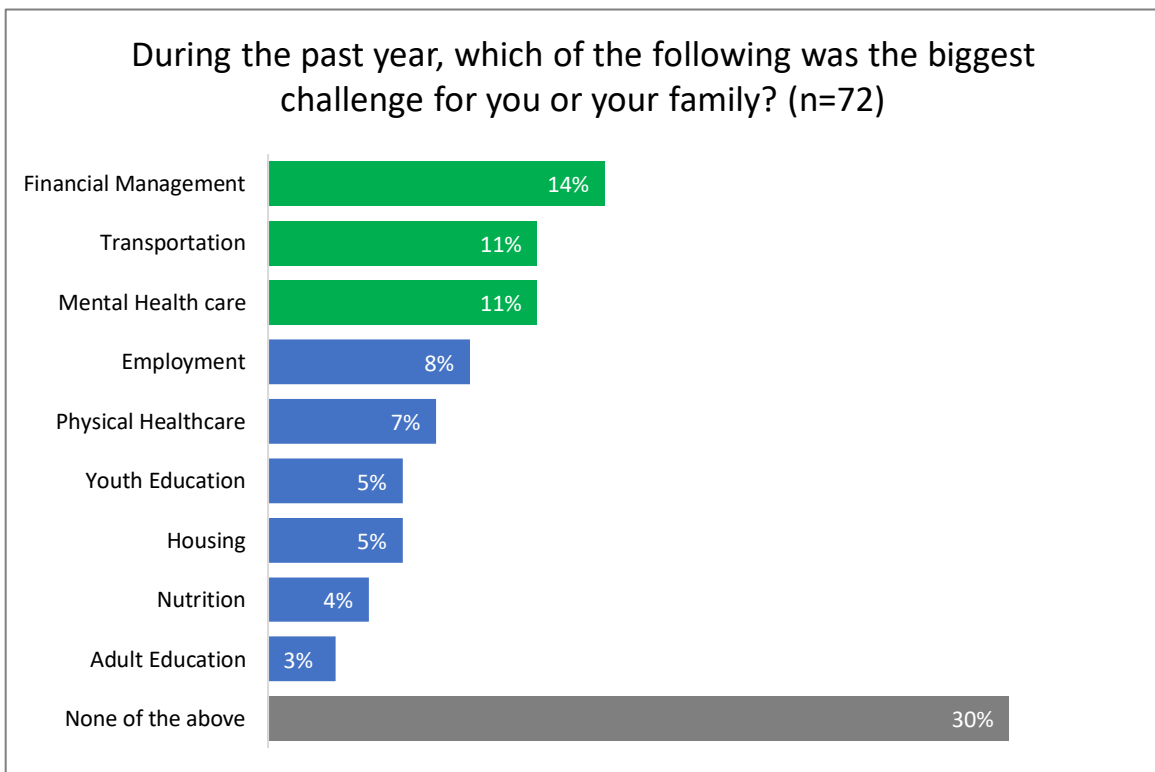
III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Community Needs

To better understand how to support residents in the PCAA service area, survey respondents were asked about challenges or barriers related to Adult Education, Employment, Financial Management, Housing, Mental Healthcare, Nutrition, Physical Healthcare, Transportation, and Youth Education.

Primary Challenges

When survey respondents were asked to identify the biggest challenge for themselves or their families, *Financial Management (14%)* was selected most frequently, followed by *Transportation (11%)*, *Mental Health Care (11%)*, *Employment (8%)*, *Physical Healthcare (7%)*, *Youth Education (5%)*, *Housing (5%)*, *Nutrition (4%)*, and lastly, *Adult Education (3%)*. It should be noted that about 30% of the respondents indicated that none of those areas had been a challenge for them over the past year.



Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Financial Management

When asked to identify any financial management challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘*Difficulty with managing expenses*’ (27%) and ‘*Little knowledge about how to save money*’ (11%), followed by ‘*Little knowledge of how to complete taxes*’ (10%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘*Little knowledge of how to create a budget*’, ‘*Do not have access to credit*’, and ‘*Do not have a bank account*’.

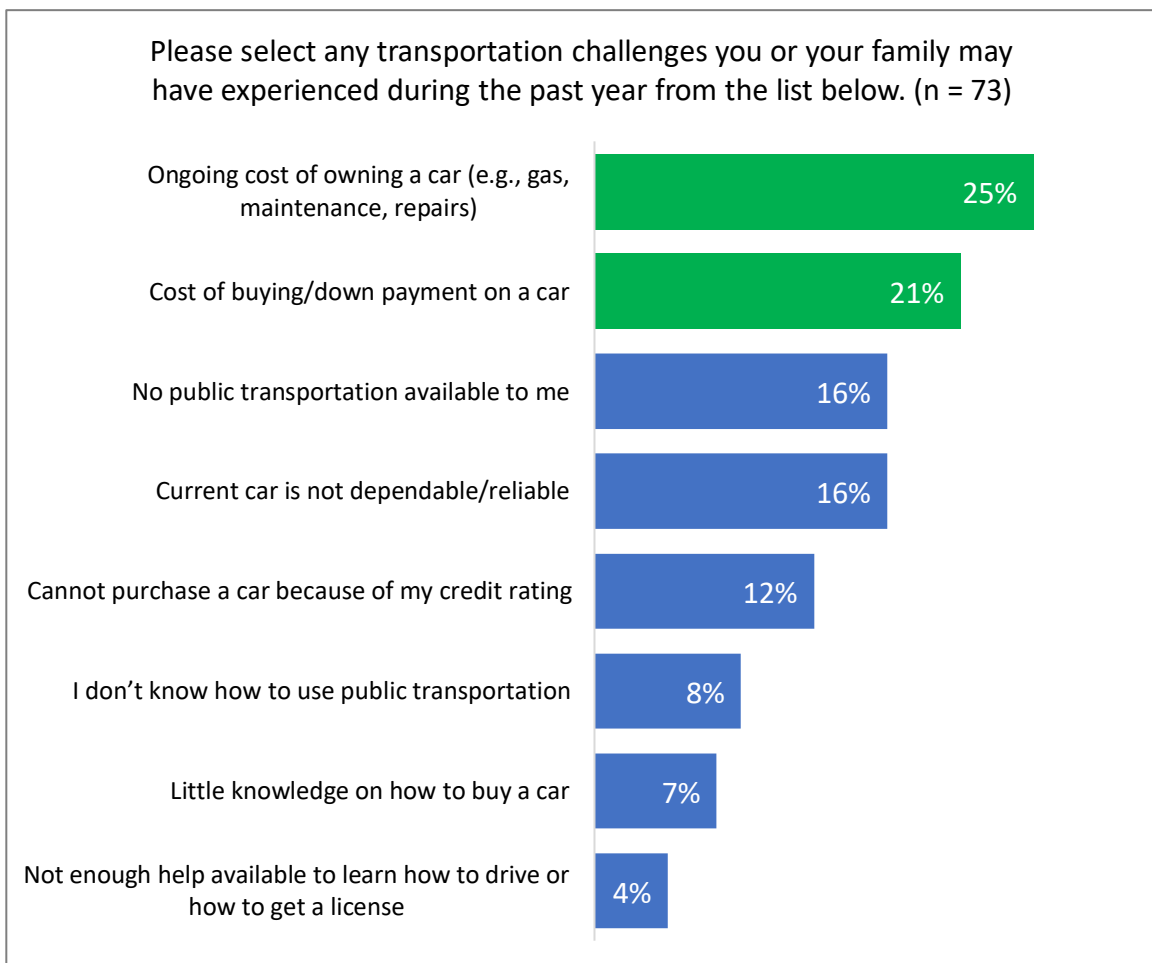


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Transportation

When asked to identify any transportation challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Ongoing cost of owning a car’ (25%) and ‘Cost of buying/down payment on a car’ (21%), followed by ‘No public transportation available to me’ (16%), ‘Current car is not dependable/reliable’ (16%), and ‘Cannot purchase a car because of my credit rating’ (12%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘I don’t know how to use public transportation’, ‘Little knowledge on how to buy a car’, and ‘Not enough help available to learn how to drive or how to get a license’.

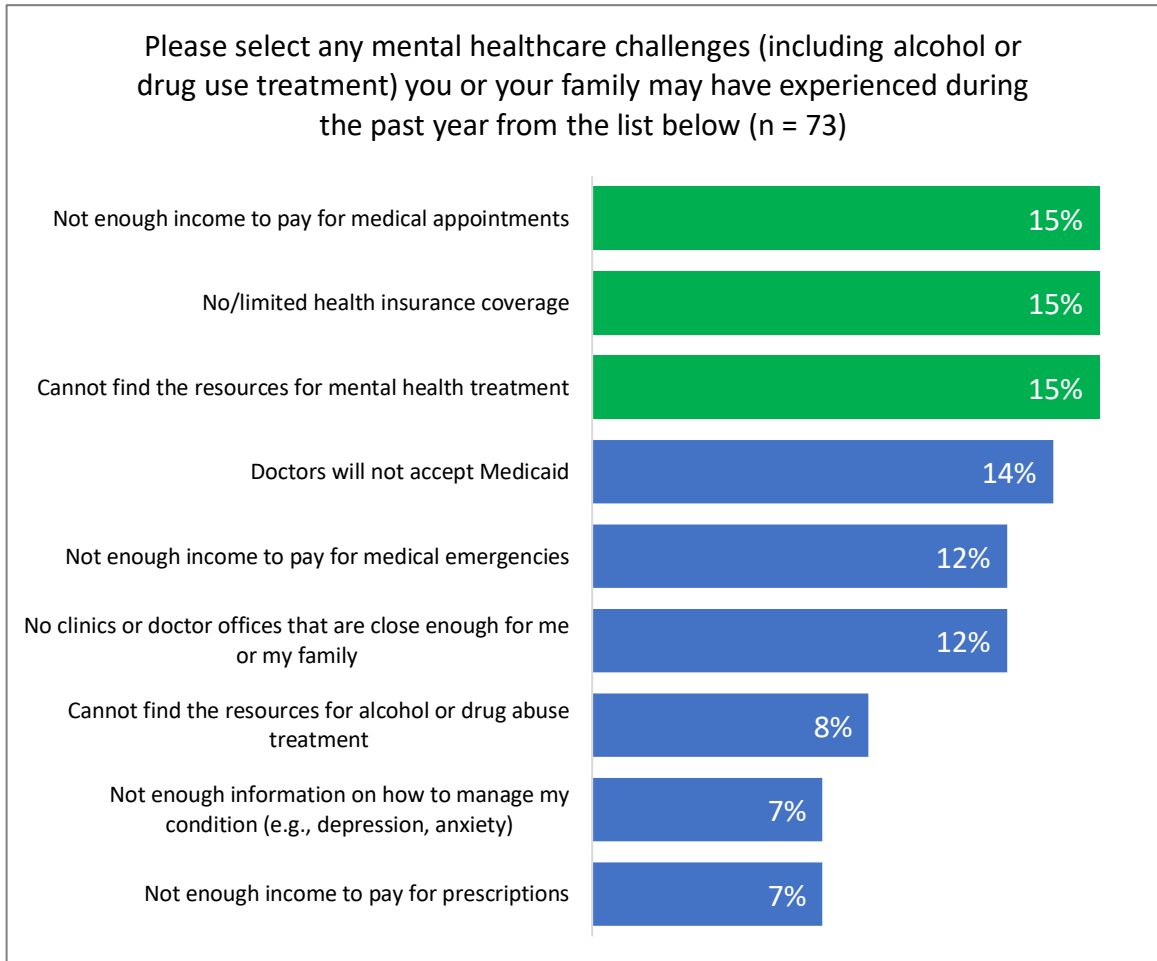


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Mental Healthcare

When asked to identify any mental healthcare challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Not enough income to pay for medical appointments’ (15%), ‘No/limited health insurance coverage’ (15%) and ‘Cannot find the resources for mental health treatment’ (15%), followed by ‘Doctors will not accept Medicaid’ (14%), ‘Not enough income to pay for medical emergencies’ (12%), and ‘No clinics or doctor offices that are close enough for me or my family’ (12%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘Cannot find the resources for alcohol or drug abuse treatment’, ‘Not enough information on how to manage my condition’, and ‘Not enough income to pay for prescriptions’.

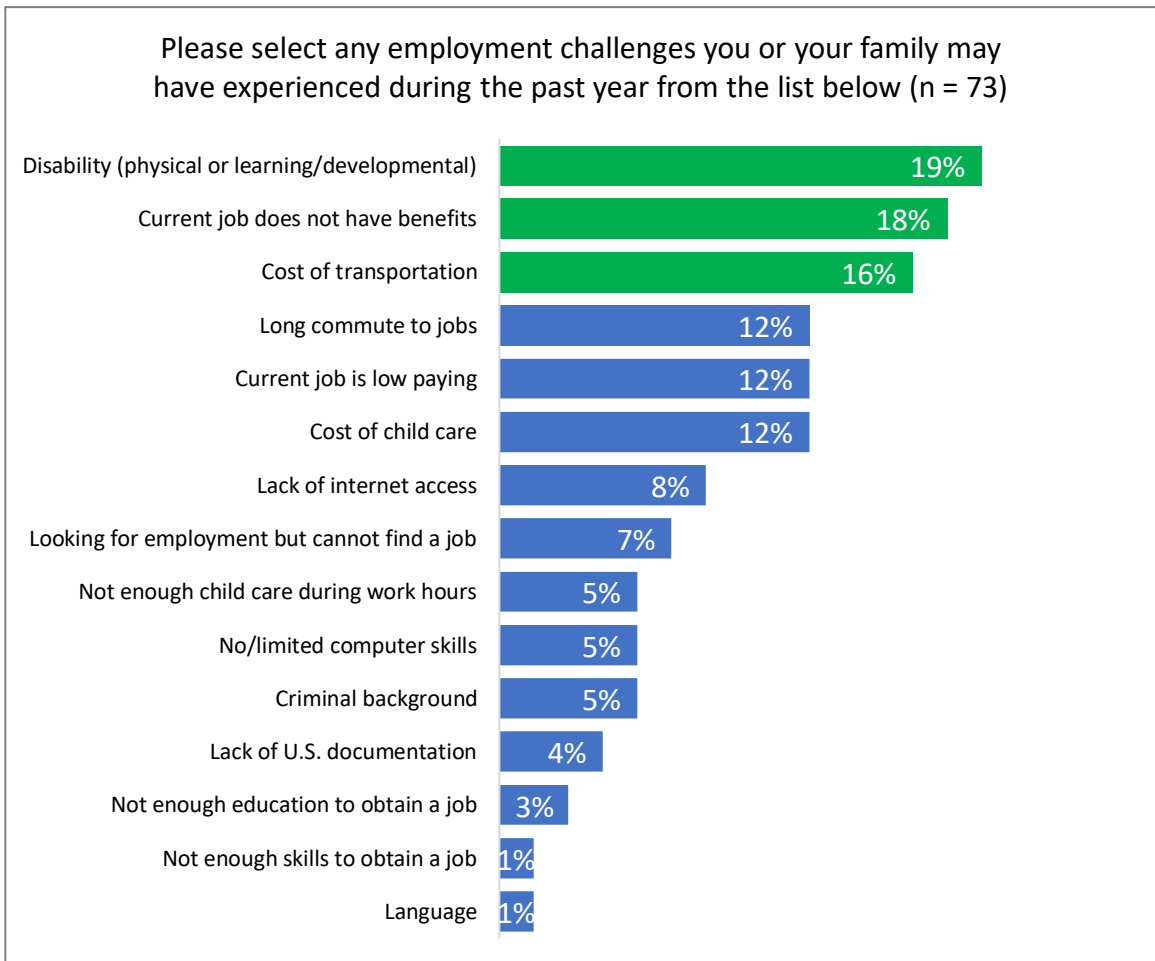


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Employment

When asked to identify any employment challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Disability’ (19%), ‘Current job does not have benefits’ (18%), and ‘Cost of Transportation’ (16%), followed by ‘Long commute to jobs’ (12%), ‘Current job is low paying’ (12%), and ‘Cost of childcare’ (12%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘Lack of internet access’, ‘Looking for employment but cannot find a job’, ‘Not enough childcare during work hours’, ‘No/limited computer skills’, ‘Criminal background’, ‘Lack of U.S. documentation’, ‘Not enough education to obtain a job’, ‘Not enough skills to obtain a job’, and ‘Language’.

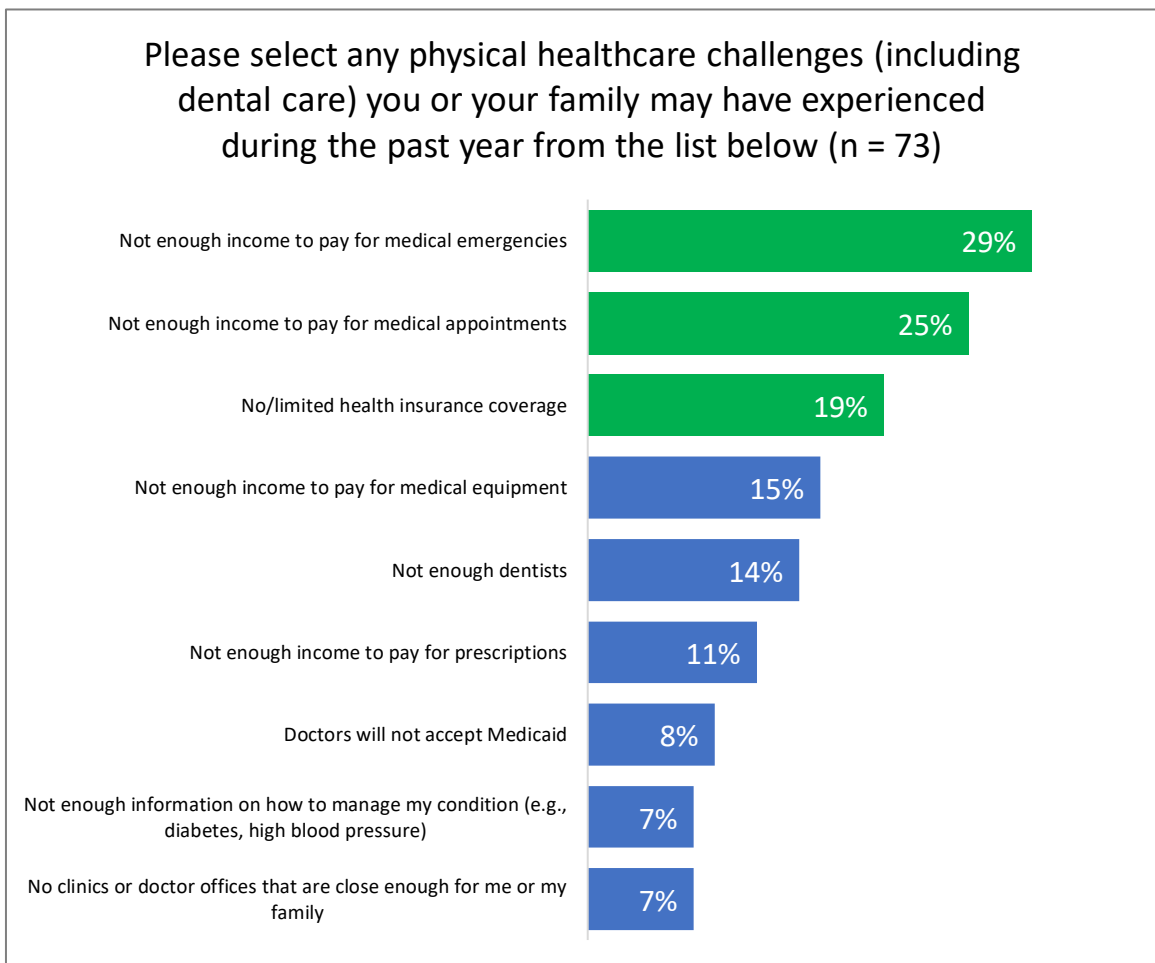


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Physical Healthcare

When asked to identify any physical healthcare challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Not enough income to pay for medical emergencies’ (29%) and ‘Not enough income to pay for medical appointments’ (25%), followed by ‘No/limited health insurance coverage’ (19%), ‘Not enough income to pay for medical equipment’ (15%), and ‘Not enough dentists’ (14%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘Not enough income to pay for prescriptions’, ‘Doctors will not accept Medicaid’, ‘Not enough information on how to manage my condition’, and ‘No clinics or doctor offices that are close enough for me or my family’.

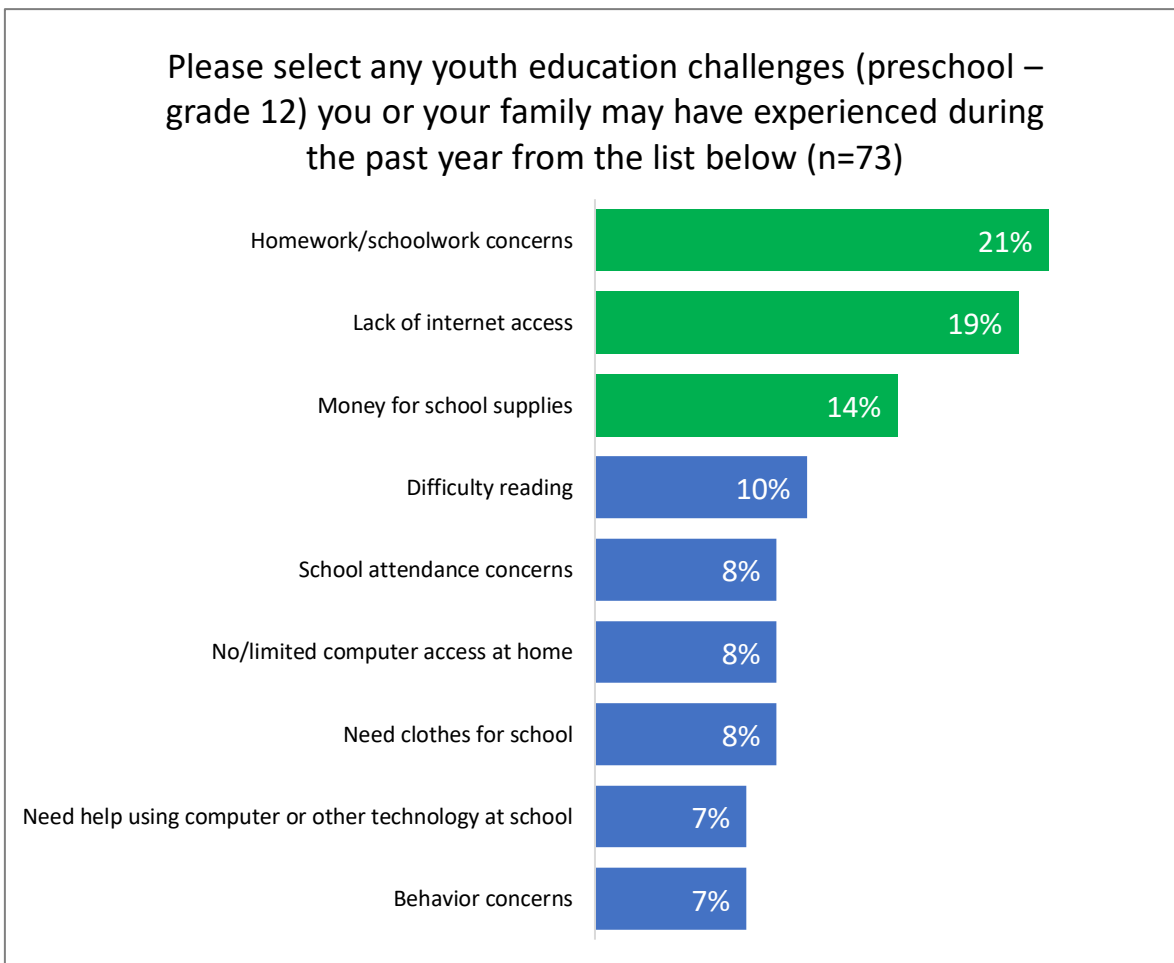


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Youth Education

When asked to identify any youth education challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Homework/schoolwork concerns’ (21%) and ‘Lack of internet access’ (19%), followed by ‘Money for school supplies’ (14%) and ‘Difficulty reading’ (10%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘School attendance concerns’, ‘No/limited computer access at home’, ‘Need clothes for school’, ‘Need help using computer or other technology at school’ and ‘Behavior concerns.’

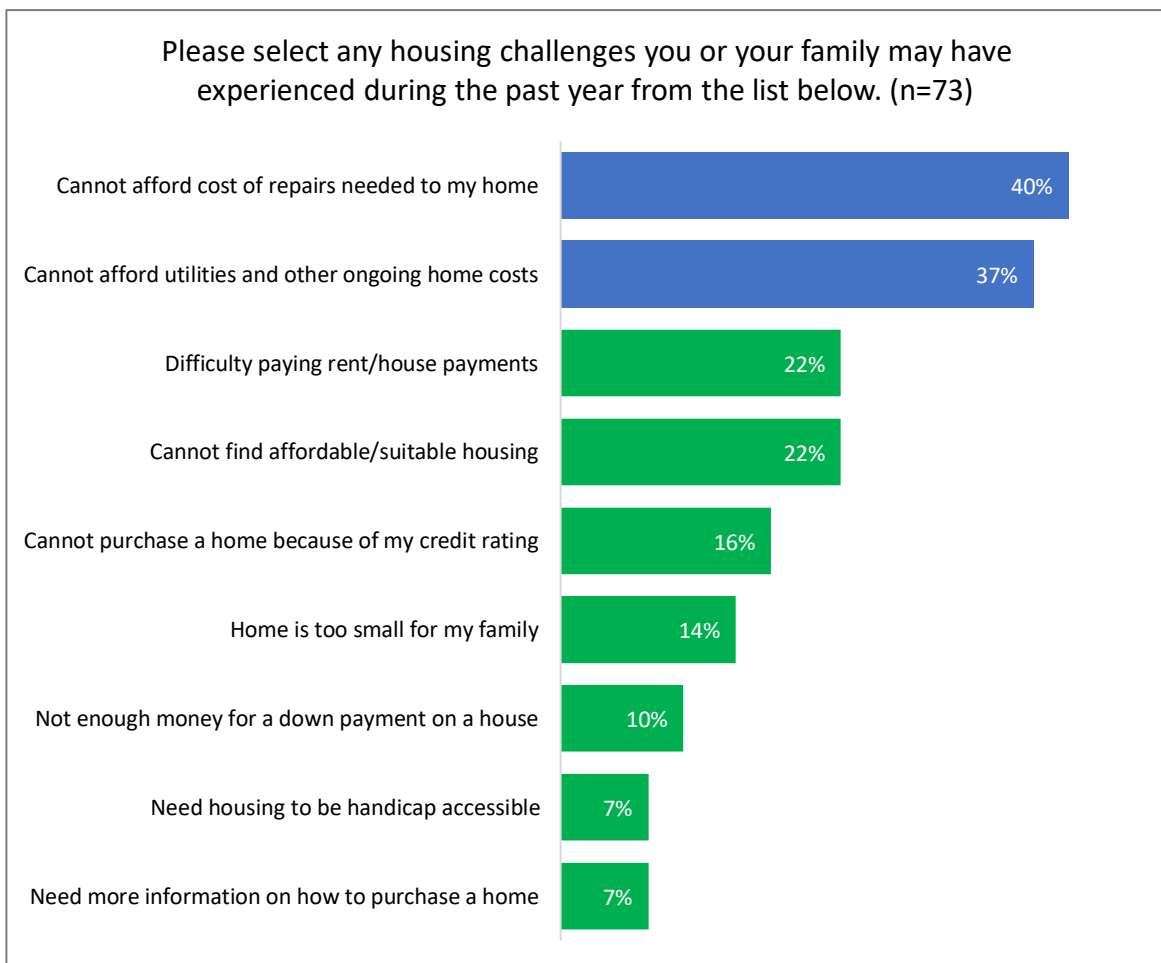


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Housing

When asked to identify any housing challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Cannot afford cost of repairs needed to my home’ (40%) and ‘Cannot afford utilities and other ongoing home costs’ (37%), followed by ‘Difficulty paying rent/house payments’ (22%), ‘Cannot find affordable/suitable housing’ (22%), ‘Cannot purchase a home because of my credit rating’ (16%), ‘Home is too small for my family’ (14%), and ‘Not enough money for a down payment on a house’ (10%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘Need housing to be handicap accessible’ and ‘Need more information on how to purchase a home’.

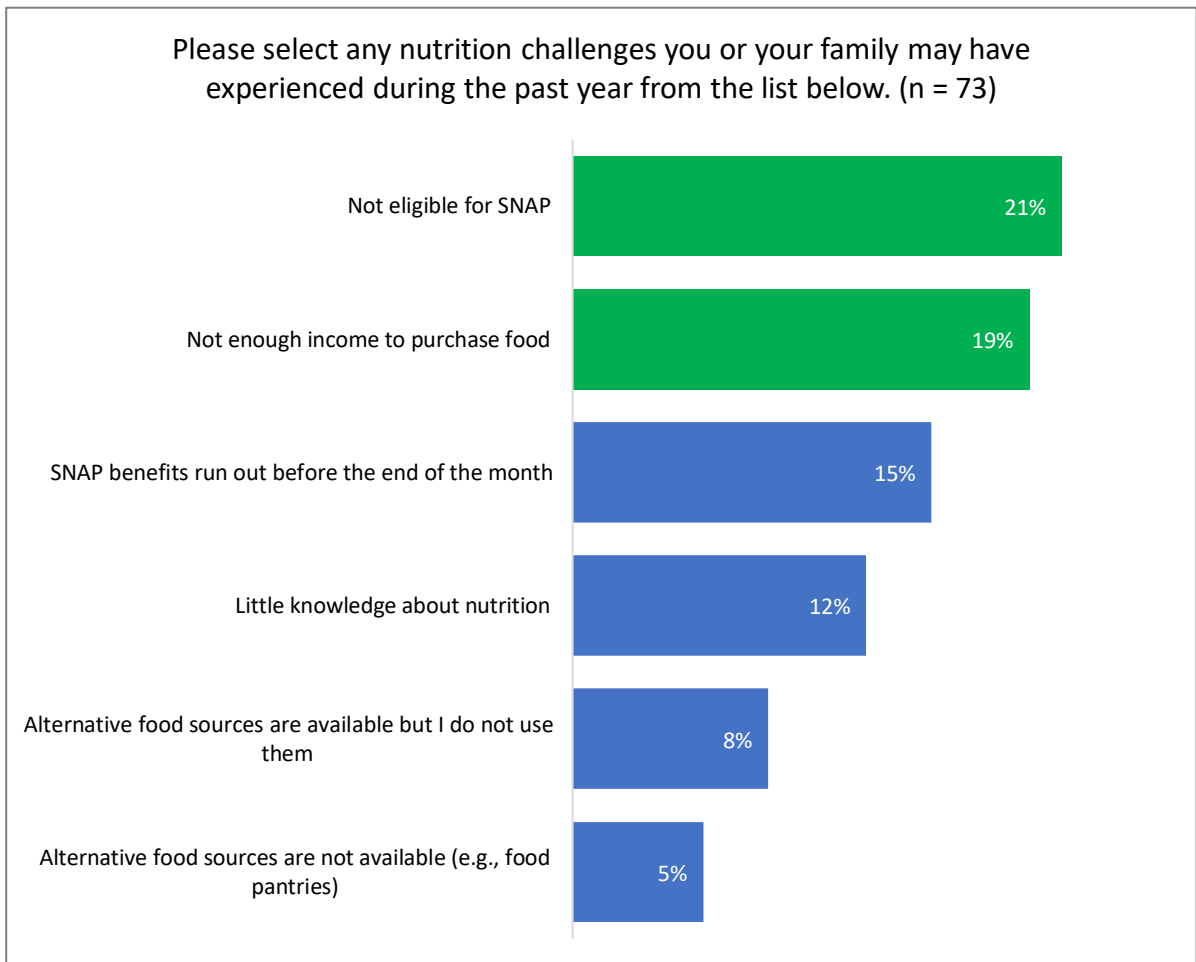


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Nutrition

When asked to identify any nutrition challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were *'Not eligible for SNAP'* (21%) and *'Not enough income to purchase food'* (19%), followed by *'SNAP benefits run out before the end of the month'* (15%) and *'Little knowledge about nutrition'* (12%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including *'Alternative food sources are available, but I do not use them'* and *'Alternative food sources are not available'*.

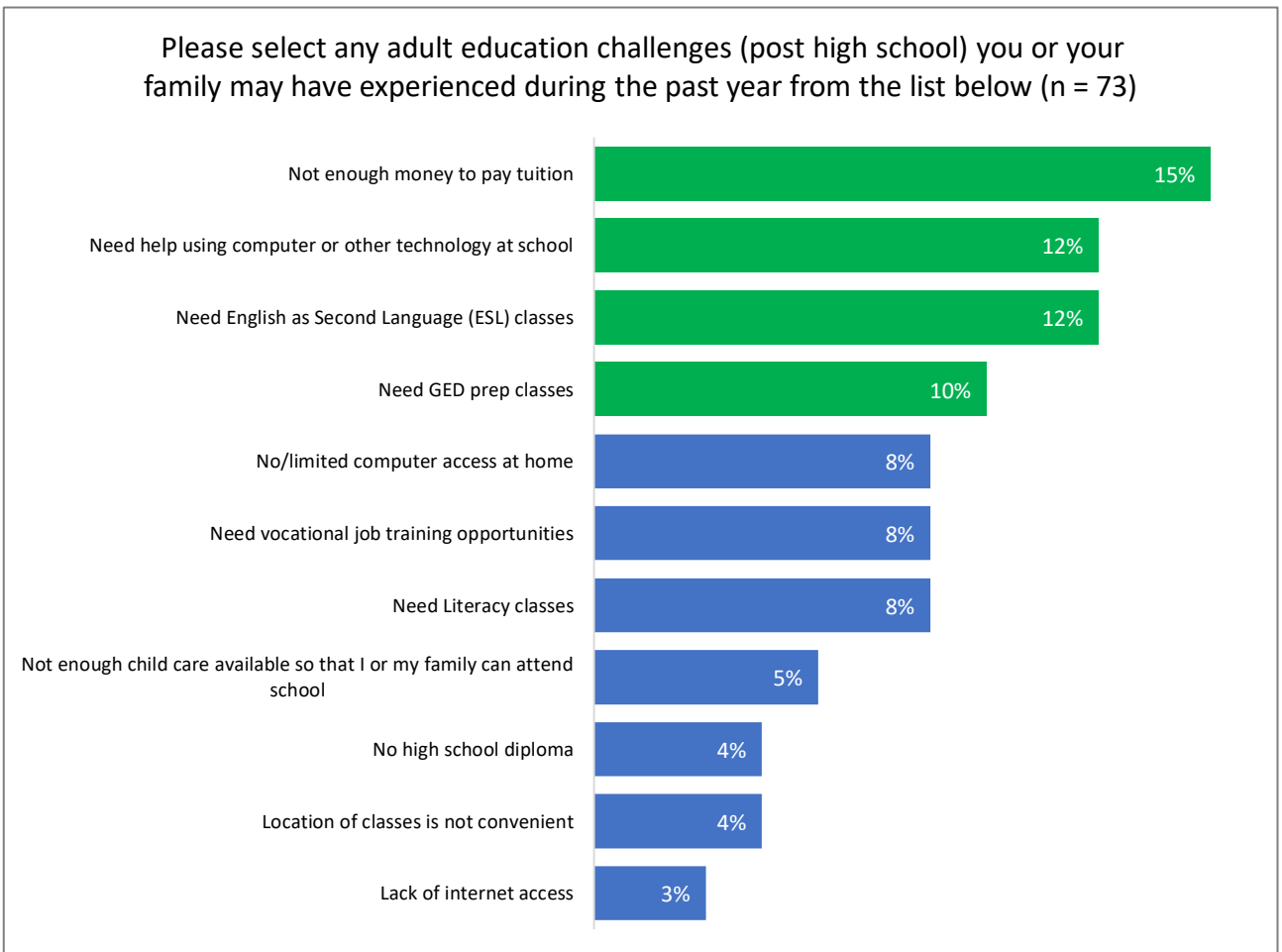


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Adult Education

When asked to identify any adult education challenges experienced by themselves or their family, the most frequently cited issues were ‘Not enough money to pay tuition’ (15%), ‘Need help using computer or other technology at school’ (12%), and ‘Need English as a Second Language (ESL) classes’ (12%), followed by ‘Need GED prep classes’ (10%). Less than 10% of the respondents identified the remaining options as a challenge, including ‘No/limited computer access at home’, ‘Need vocational job training opportunities’, ‘Need literacy classes’, ‘Not enough childcare so that I or my family can attend school’, ‘No high school diploma’, ‘Location of classes is not convenient’, and ‘Lack of internet access’.

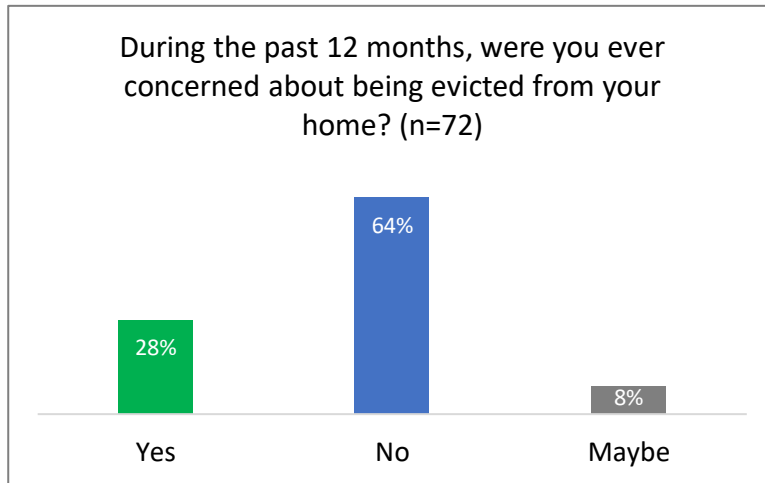


Note: The total percentage may exceed 100% because respondents were permitted to select more than 1 response to this question.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Evictions

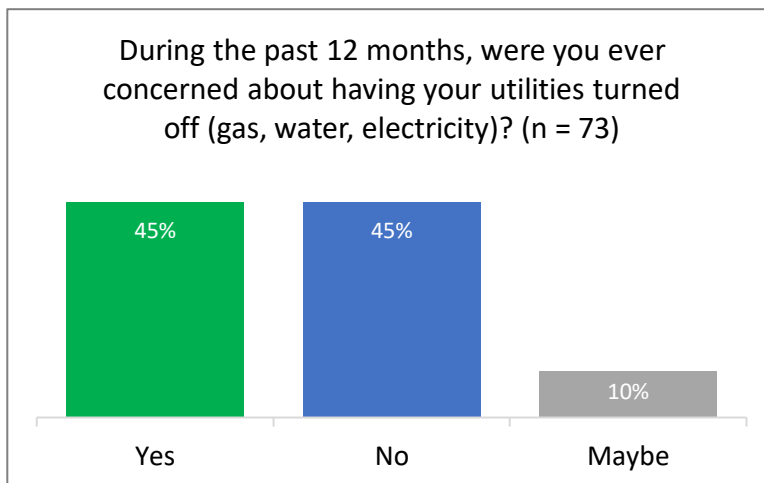
About 28% of the survey respondents reported they had been concerned about an eviction during the past 12 months, while 64% indicated that eviction was not a concern.



Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Utilities

About 45% of the survey respondents reported they had been concerned about losing access to utilities during the past 12 months, while 45% indicated that utilities were not a concern.

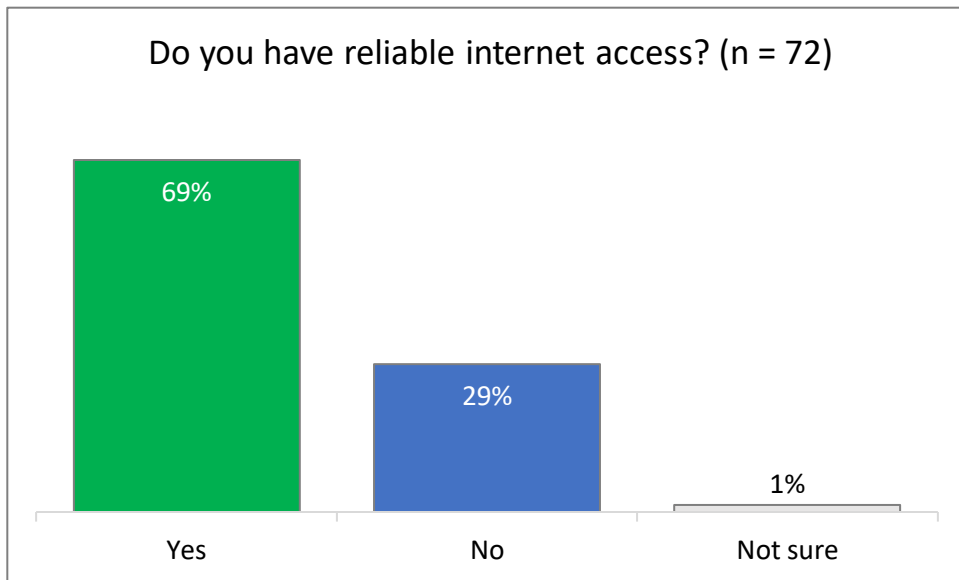


Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Internet Access

In addition to questions about the needs noted above, survey respondents were also asked about their ability to access the internet, as this is a critical tool for communication and obtaining information. About 69% of the survey respondents indicated they have reliable internet access, while 29% indicated they do not.



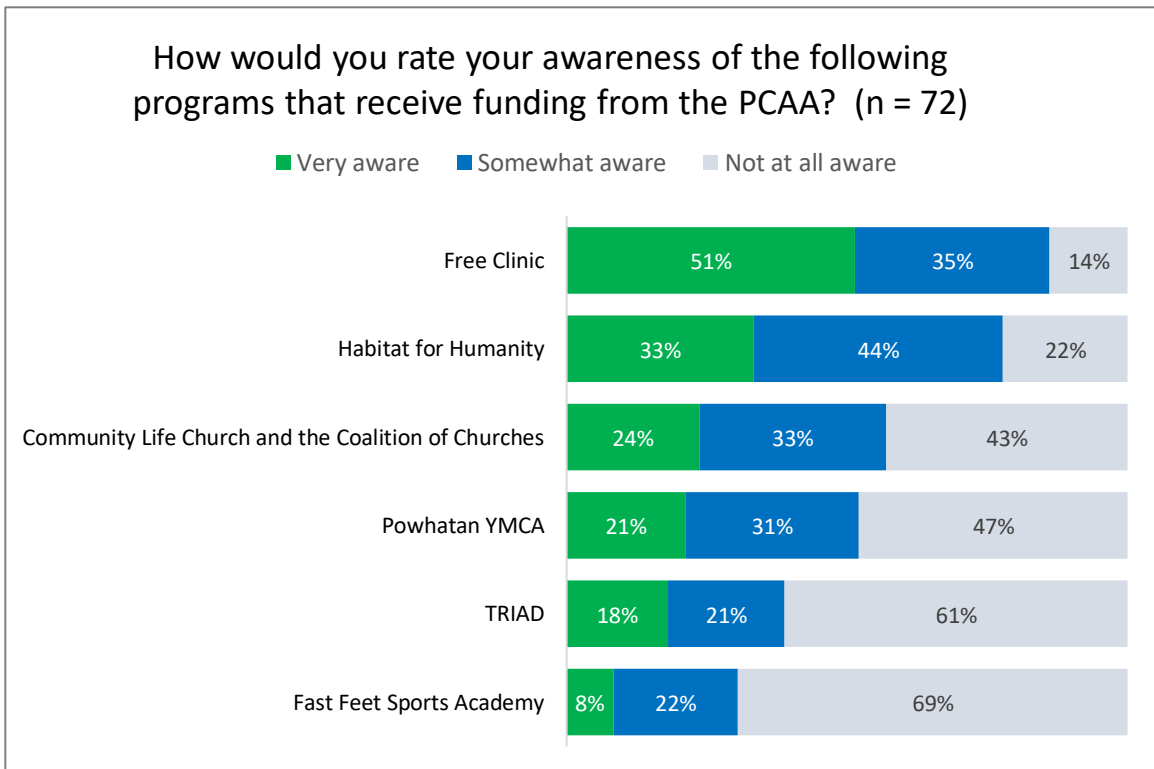
Note: The total percentage may not equal 100% due to rounding.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Resources and Information

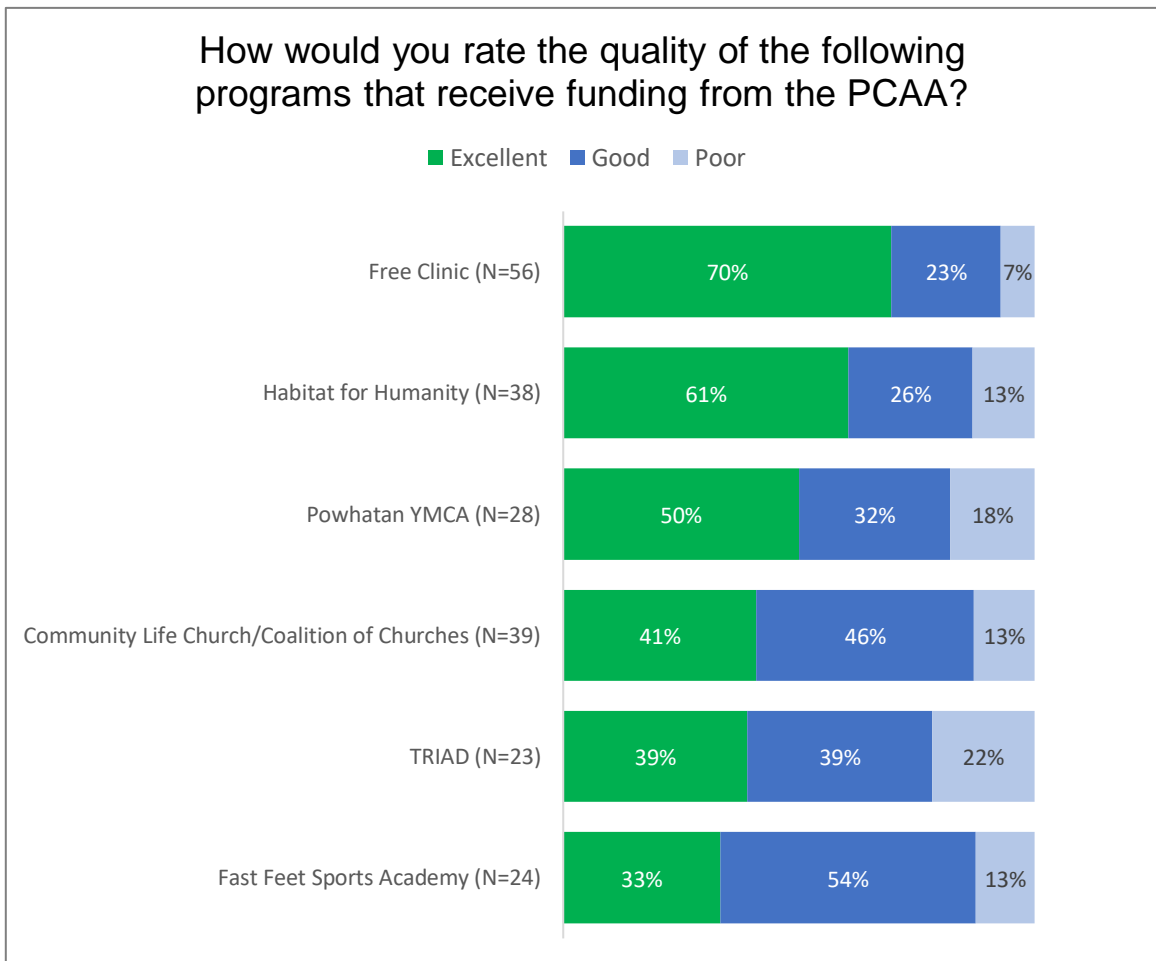
Survey respondents also provided information on their awareness and perceived quality of resources provided by PCAA community partners, as well as barriers to obtaining services in their communities. (See Appendix A for a description of programs offered by PCAA community partners.)

Awareness of PCAA Resources- Awareness was greatest for the Free Clinic, compared to all other PCAA programs, with 51% of the survey respondents reporting they are *Very Aware* of this program and 35% reporting they are *Somewhat Aware* of it. The vast majority of survey respondents also reported some level of awareness of Habitat for Humanity, with 33% indicating they are *Very Aware* of this program and 44% indicating they are *Somewhat Aware* of it. More than half of all survey respondents were also *Very Aware* or *Somewhat Aware* of Community Life Church/Coalition of Churches and the Powhatan YMCA. However, more than half of the survey respondents indicated they were *Not at all Aware* of TRIAD and Fast Feet Sports Academy.



III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

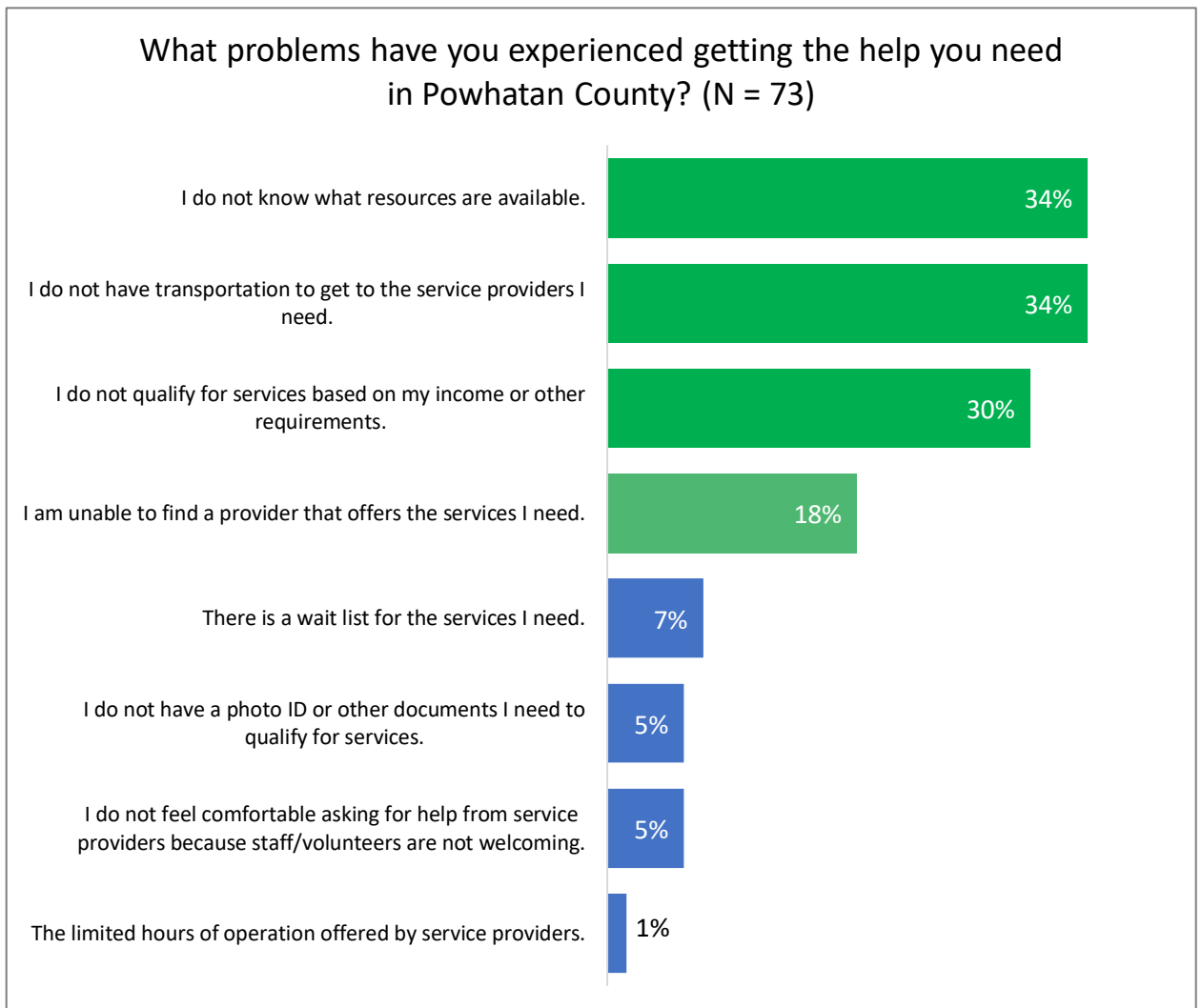
Perceived Quality of PCAA Resources- Ratings of program quality were more positive for the Free Clinic, compared to all other PCAA programs, with 70% of the survey respondents reporting it is *Excellent* and 23% reporting it is *Good*. The majority of respondents also rated Habitat for Humanity as *Excellent* (61%), while 26% rated this program as *Good* and 13% rated it as *Poor*. About half of the respondents rated the Powhatan YMCA as *Excellent*, while 32% rated it as *Good* and 13% rated it as *Poor*. Less than half of the respondents rated the remaining programs (Community Life Church/Coalition of Churches, TRIAD, and Fast Feet Sports Academy) as *Excellent*. Survey respondents were more likely to rate these three programs as *Good*, but more than 10% rated each of those programs as *Poor*.



Note: The total percentage for each program may not equal 100% due to rounding.

III. PCAA CLIENT SURVEYS

Barriers to Services- When asked about problems getting help in their communities, the most commonly cited response were ‘I don’t know what *resources are available*’ (34%) and ‘I do not have *transportation to get to the service providers I need*’ (34%), followed by ‘I do not qualify for services based on my *income or other requirements*’ (30%), and ‘I am unable to *find a provider that offers the services they need*’ (18%). Less than 10% of the survey respondents identified any of the following as a problem such as ‘*There is a wait list for services I need*’, ‘*I do not have a photo ID or other documents I need to qualify for services*’, ‘*I do not feel comfortable asking for help from service providers because staff/volunteers are not welcoming*’, and ‘*The limited hours of operation offered by service providers.*’



Note: The total percentage exceeds 100% because some respondents selected more than one response to this question.

IV. PCAA FOCUS GROUPS

Overview

To supplement the survey findings on the needs of underserved residents and the barriers they face to accessing services, focus groups were held with interested residents from Powhatan County, as well as community partners throughout the PCAA service area.

Client Focus Group

Residents from Powhatan County were invited to participate in focus groups via online surveys and recruitment through community partners. A \$20 gift card was offered as a participation incentive. A focus group was held in May 2024, with two residents in attendance, to collect information on the following:

- Recommendations for addressing needs such as housing, transportation, nutrition, and employment.
- Recommendations for addressing barriers to obtaining services, such as lack of awareness about programs and lack of transportation.

Focus group participants generated the following comments and recommendations, based on their own experience and focus group discussions.

Housing- Housing costs were raised as the primary concern, as well as a lack of understanding by public officials that low-income and homeless residents are an important population in need of services within the county. Comments are shown below.

Cost of Housing

- *Housing and rental property is beyond what people can afford.*
- *County tends to build large homes in the \$500,000-\$600,000 range.*
- *Rental costs are about \$1500-\$2500 per month.*
- *I can't find anything to rent on my social security income.*
- *I know a couple who lived in their car for 1-2 years.*

County Attitudes Toward Housing

- *Powhatan may not want to build affordable housing.*
- *I have heard they are trying to get more apartments here, but the County doesn't want them.*
- *Attitude is that renters will bring in roaches and other problems.*

Transportation -In addition to transportation issues that impact healthcare services, as noted above, other transportation comments included:

- *Lack of transportation is an issue for grocery shopping.*
- *Bus services are not well-advertised.*
- *The bus radius only covers a portion of the County.*
- *Must be able to get to a bus stop, which is not convenient for many.*

IV. PCAA FOCUS GROUPS

Jobs/Employment- Employment-related concerns focused on limited employment options and awareness of job opportunities in the County, as noted in the comments below.

- *Largest employers are schools, government, and the prison. There are not a lot of other jobs.*
- *There are no job fairs or other outreach.*
- *Most small businesses put up signs because Powhatan doesn't deliver a paper anymore.*
- *Most jobs are minimum wage.*
- *I looked for part-time work and could not find anything.*
- *I helped my nephew get a job at Food Lion, but it was difficult.*

Healthcare/Mental Health- Residents indicated that access to healthcare is limited, but they see the Powhatan Free Clinic as a valuable resource. Comments included:

Availability of Providers

- *Getting healthcare is a problem.*
- *There is a Bon Secours and Virginia Physicians practice in Powhatan, but that is it.*
- *You have to go to Chesterfield for emergency care.*
- *The Free Clinic is good. I use them and don't know what I would do without them.*

Barriers to Access

- *We lack transportation to get to an office.*
- *All providers are located on the Eastern end of the county.*

Nutrition- Residents expressed needs in the community with regards to nutrition support, as follows:

- *Powhatan is like a food desert.*
- *The Coalition of Churches has a food pantry.*
- *There are also several churches that do food distribution a few days per week.*
- *Lower income families tend not to eat very healthy because they cannot afford healthier food.*
- *There is also a lack of education about what foods to eat.*

Barriers to Obtaining Services- Finally, lack of awareness was noted as a service barrier by residents, as noted in the comments below.

- *We need to make service more visible to residents.*
- *Open eyes of the Board of Supervisors that we have people with these needs.*
- *If we want a healthy community that thrives, you have to pay attention to those needs.*
- *Powhatan is like two communities: the eastern side and the other side.*

IV. PCAA FOCUS GROUPS

Community Partner Focus Groups

Representatives from PCAA community partners and government agencies were also invited to provide input on the needs of Powhatan County residents. A total of 6 community partners, representing 5 organizations, participated in an online focus groups held in April 2024 to collect information on the following:

- Recommendations for addressing needs such as housing, transportation, nutrition, and employment.
- Recommendations for addressing barriers to obtaining services, such as lack of awareness about programs and lack of transportation.

Participating organizations included the Coalition of Powhatan Churches; Fast Feet Sports Academy; Habitat for Humanity - Powhatan; Powhatan Sheriff's Office, Triad; and Powhatan YMCA. Focus group participants generated the following comments and recommendations.

Housing- Most of the comments related to housing focused primarily on the lack of affordable housing and the issues this presents for Powhatan County.

Lack of Affordable Housing

- *We continue to do quick fixes with repairs, but we need advocacy from County government for zoning changes to establish more permanent housing.*
- *Need to look at the spectrum of housing a partner/collaborate with agencies to address critical needs.*
- *Need affordable rental housing and permanent housing.*
- *There is rental housing, but it is so expensive. Most go to Midlothian.*
- *Finding staff for nonprofits in Powhatan is hard.*
- *Need to hold local government accountable for what is in the housing plan.*
- *If we want more workers in Powhatan, they need somewhere to live.*
- *I see so many families who are struggling to find housing, including new families and seniors.*
- *Many YMCA members are moving to Cumberland and Amelia because it is more affordable.*

Repercussions If Housing Not Addressed

- *If these issues are not addressed, the County will stay stagnant.*
- *Lack of affordable housing will keep families out of Powhatan.*
- *We are not attracting the best workers for education, public safety, etc. On Friday, there was only one house on the MLS under \$375,000, which would be a mortgage payment of nearly \$2000 per month.*
- *There is a decline in young families in the county.*
- *Senior houses are in declining condition, and they can't afford to fix houses. Insurance companies are cracking down on claims and dropping people from their policies.*
- *They are looking for more businesses here, but there is no population growth to attract them.*

IV. PCAA FOCUS GROUPS

Jobs/Employment- Most of the comments related to employment focused on workforce development and awareness of employment opportunities. Specific comments are shown below.

Workforce Development

- *We need better workforce development programs.*
- *The YMCA is dabbling in workforce development but needs other partners.*

Awareness of Employment Opportunities

- *People are in low-paying jobs and don't know how to get out of them. Is there a way to steer them into better jobs? How can we get them into a community college for training or an apprenticeship?*
- *Can we ask small businesses what jobs they need filled and advertise them to Powhatan residents?*
- *We have homeowners with children who have special needs and want jobs.*
- *We need to talk to businesses to see what they need.*

Healthcare/Mental Health- Most of the comments related to health were related to mental health services. Comments included the following:

- *Mental health support comes up a lot.*
- *We talk about combating social isolation and the need for community.*
- *Residents need to be able to connect with each other.*
- *Prince William County had a Friendly Visitor program where someone visited older citizens. Banks and other businesses could allow employees to volunteer during work hours.*
- *We need to be able to talk about mental health in terms that residents will be open to. They don't recognize they have mental health issues.*

Adult Education- Community partners also noted challenges with Adult Education in Powhatan, as follows:

- *Adult Education is a problem. People don't know what's available.*
- *The high school does adult continuing education, but it may not be frequent enough or well-known. Could the PCAA partner with the schools for more skills and trade training?*
- *Schools and Department of Social Services say that there are special needs populations who need jobs. Seniors are also looking for a second career sometimes.*

Financial Management- Service providers shared thoughts on financial management services for residents as well, such as:

- *Financial literacy education is difficult to offer.*
- *People don't want help on how to spend their money, but they need help with budgeting.*
- *There are lots of tools we could offer, such as budget counseling.*

IV. PCAA FOCUS GROUPS

Barriers to Obtaining Services- Finally, lack of awareness was noted as a service barrier by residents. Comments that describe this challenge, as well as specific strategies to improve awareness, are shown below.

Lack of Awareness

- *People don't know what's available.*
- *Meals on Wheels is available, but many people don't know about it.*
- *Residents need education on what is available to them.*
- *Once people know about services, they will use them.*

Current Ways Information is Shared

- *Ways that people find out about services: DSS, social media, nonprofit partners, church congregations, word-of-mouth (others who have used their services).*
- *The Coalition of Powhatan Churches does not advertise currently.*
- *The YMCA has a bigger footprint in the region, but they try to attend community events to make their presence known.*

Recommendations to Improve Awareness

- *Service providers all need a resource sheet we can provide to applicants when they come in for services (e.g., a resource guide). This should explain "who does what" as well as qualification criteria. This would be something easy we can put into people's hands. This would be a great way to know what's available and where to send people.*
- *Community Matters is a resource, which is funded by the Department of Senior Services for seniors. They have a container of information for people to review.*
- *Could service providers have a section in the Powhatan Monthly?*
- *People may be more likely to call a service provider if they can contact them directly.*
- *Could the grocery store pass out flyers about resources?*

Other General Feedback - Additional miscellaneous comments from service providers about service needs and access include:

- *People do need to understand the eligibility criteria better. They don't always understand things like 200% below the Federal Poverty Level. There may be other language we can use such as in the ALICE report.*
- *A special report to the Board of Supervisors may be helpful to communicate needs to them.*
- *Things have changed a lot since COVID. It has to be a collaborative movement for organizations to help each other, and the right people need to be at the table.*
- *We need to identify the gaps and determine who can jump in.*

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Overview

In addition to focus groups and surveys, secondary data sources were reviewed to obtain objective information on economics, housing, transportation, education, health, and nutrition for localities within Powhatan County.

Economic

Economic information includes community data related to income and employment.

The table below provides information on poverty rates for children under age 18, adults ages 18-64, and adults 65 years or older. In Powhatan County, poverty rates are highest among children under age 18 (6%), followed by adults ages 18-64 (4.1%) and adults ages 65 or older (4.7%).

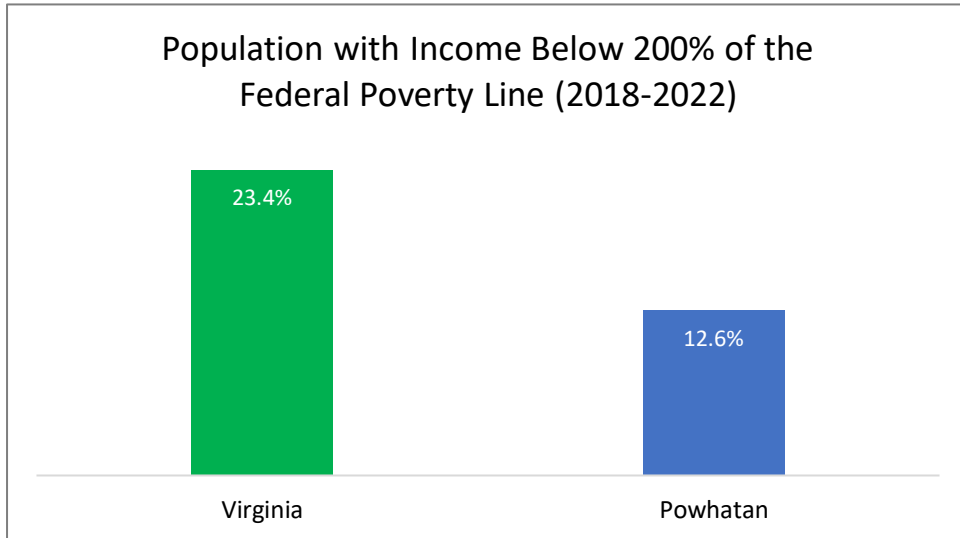
Among all age groups, poverty rates are lower in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall. Among children under age 18, the poverty rate in Powhatan County (6%) is less than half the statewide poverty rate (12.8%). The poverty rate for adults ages 18-64 in Powhatan County (4.1%) is likewise less than half the statewide poverty rate (9.5%), while the poverty rate for adults ages 65 or older in Powhatan County (4.7%) is about 3% lower than the statewide rate (8.0%).

Percent Below Poverty Level by Age (2018-2022)				
Age	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Under 18 years	236,926	12.8%	314	6.0%
18 to 64 years	491,713	9.5%	722	4.1%
Ages 65 or older	108,047	8.0%	269	4.7%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/tables/ACSST5Y2022.S1701?q=s1701&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2017-21. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/tables/ACSST5Y2022.S1701?q=s1701&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

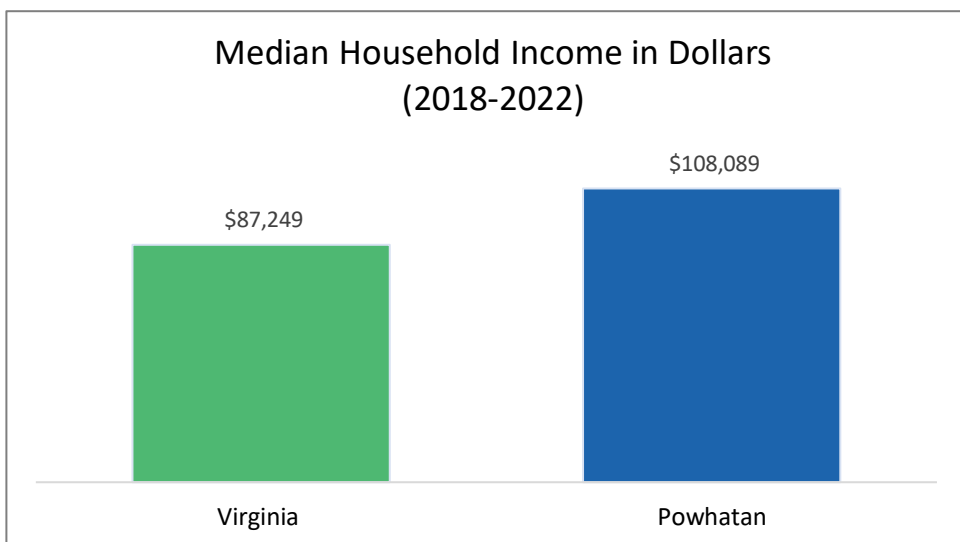
V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The figure below shows the percentage of residents with an income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), which makes them eligible for PCAA services. The percentage of residents with an income at or below 200% of the FPL in Powhatan County (12.6%) is nearly half the statewide rate (23%).



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1701?q=s1701&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-22. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1701?q=s1701&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

As shown in the figure below, the median household income in Powhatan County (\$108,089) is nearly 20% higher than the statewide median income (\$87,249).



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1903?q=s1903&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false5). 2018-22. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1903?q=s1903&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false5

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Powhatan County residents can apply for income-based benefit programs through the Powhatan County Department of Social Services. The table below provides information on the number of individuals and households served through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF) and Medicaid, a medical assistance program. The number of individuals served by SNAP and Medicaid has increased each year from 2019 to 2023, while the number of individuals served by TANF programs has decreased slightly during this timeframe. The COVID-19 pandemic could explain some of the increased usage of these benefit programs. The increase in the number of Medicaid recipients is also likely a result of Virginia’s expansion of Medicaid benefits for ages 18-64 in 2019.

SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid Benefit Programs- Powhatan County

State of Virginia Fiscal Year	SNAP Individuals Served (Households Served)	TANF Individuals Served (Households Served)	Medicaid Individuals Served (Households Served)	Received SNAP, TANF, and/or Medicaid Individuals Served
2019	1533 (736)	98 (50)	3285 (1961)	3472
2020	1641 (808)	78 (39)	4302 (3012)	4504
2021	1716 (823)	72 (36)	4618 (3063)	4839
2022	1782 (883)	65 (34)	4868 (3225)	5112
2023	1933 (1000)	72 (37)	5313 (3461)	5535

Data Source: Virginia Department of Social Services.

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below provides information on unemployment rates from 2018 to 2022. In Powhatan County, the unemployment rate was highest in 2020 at 5%, but it was below 3% for all other years during this time period. Unemployment rates were slightly lower in Powhatan County, compared to Virginia overall, from 2018 to 2022.

Unemployment Rates (2018-2022)				
Year	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
2018	130,779	3.0%	379	2.7%
2019	122,471	2.8%	361	2.5%
2020	280,533	6.5%	705	5.0%
2021	168,742	3.9%	411	2.9%
2022	127,053	2.9%	373	2.5%

Data Source: Virginia Employment Commission. Retrieved from:
<https://www.virginiaworks.com/Local-Area-Unemployment-Statistics-LAUS>

The table below provides information on the number of employees that live and work in Powhatan County, as well as the number of employees that commute in and out of Powhatan County. The majority of employees that work in Powhatan County live in another locality.

Inflow/Outflow Job Counts (2021)- Powhatan County	
Inflow/Outflow	Estimate
Employed and Live in Area	2,284
Employed in Area, Live Outside	5,055
Live in Area, Employed Outside	12,178

Data Source: Virginia Employment Commission. Retrieved from:
<https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below displays the methods that residents of Powhatan County use to commute to work. The percentage of residents who commute alone by car, truck, or van is slightly higher among Powhatan County residents compared to residents across the state overall.

Means for Commuting to Work (16 Years and Over) 2018-2022				
Means	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Car, truck, or van - drove alone	3,022,468	71%	11,784	78%
Car, truck, or van - carpooled	352,236	8%	828	5%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	125,141	3%	13	<1%
Walked	65,915	2%	72	<1%
Other means	71,291	2%	45	<1%
Worked from home	591,635	14%	2,377	16%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2022.B08141?q=transportation&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-22. Retrieved from:
https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2022.B08141?q=transportation&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

Note 1: Public transportation includes any mode of travel (with the exception of taxicabs) associated with the area's transit agency. Other means of transportation may include motorcycle, bicycle, boat, scooter, etc.

Note 2: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Housing

This section provides information on housing inventory and cost-burdened households.

The percentage of occupied versus vacant housing units in Powhatan County remained steady between 2018 and 2022. Of the 11,077 occupied housing units in 2022, 91.2% (10,099) are owner occupied, while 8.8% (978) are renter occupied.

Housing Inventory- Powhatan County				
	2018		2022	
Status	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Percent Occupied	10,178	94.9%	11,077	95.3%
Percent Owners	9,119	89.6%	10,099	91.2%
Percent Renters	1,059	10.4%	978	8.8%
Percent Vacant	546	5.1%	542	4.7%

Data Sources:

US Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*. 2014-2018. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2018.DP04?q=dp04&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

US Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*. 2018-2022. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP04?q=dp04&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

The table below shows housing inventory in Powhatan County and Virginia in 2022. The percentage of owner-occupied housing units is about 24% higher in Powhatan County (95.3%) compared to Virginia overall (66.9%). The percentage of vacant housing units available for sale or rent in Powhatan County (4.7%) is about half the percentage of vacant housing units available for sale or rent in Virginia overall (9.3%).

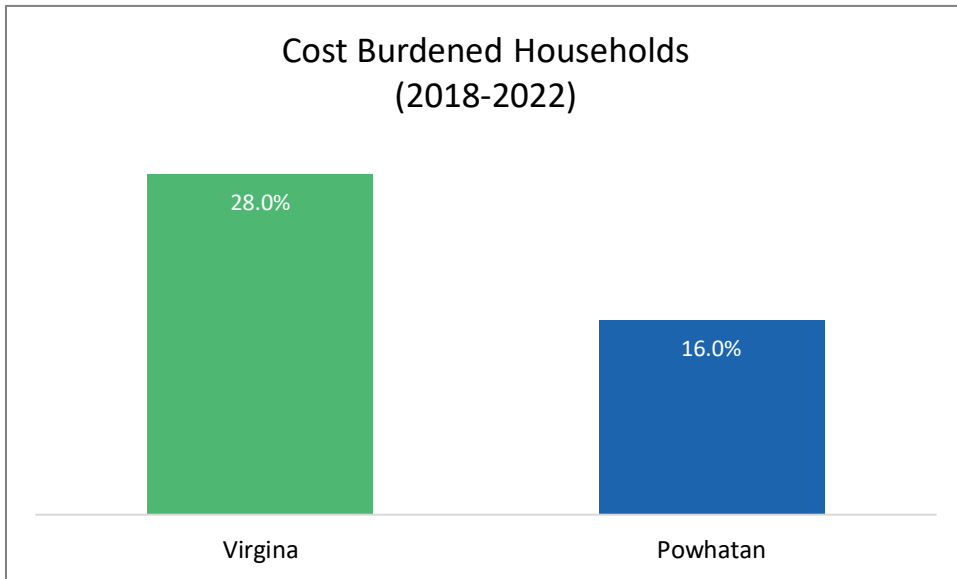
Housing Inventory (2018-2022)				
	Virginia		Powhatan	
Status	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Percent Occupied	3,289,776	90.7%	11,077	95.3%
Percent Owners	2,199,299	66.9%	10,099	91.2%
Percent Renters	1,090,477	33.1%	978	8.8%
Percent Vacant	335,509	9.3%	542	4.7%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*. 2018-2022. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP04?q=dp04&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The figure below shows the percentage of cost burdened households, which means that housing costs are more than 30% of total household income. The percentage of cost-burdened households in Powhatan County (16%) was 12% lower than the statewide rate (28%).



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/tables/ACSST5Y2022.S2503?q=s2503&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSST1Y2022.S2503). 2018-2022.
https://data.census.gov/tables/ACSST5Y2022.S2503?q=s2503&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSST1Y2022.S2503

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Transportation

The table below shows the percentage of vehicles available per occupied housing unit. The percentage of households with *No vehicles available* was slightly lower in Powhatan County (1.6%), compared to the state overall (6.1%). The percentage of households with only 1 vehicle available was 16% lower in Powhatan County (13.9%) compared to the statewide rate (30.3%). The percentage of households with 2 vehicles available was similar in Powhatan County compared to the statewide rate, while the percentage of households with 3 or more vehicles available was 18% higher in Powhatan County compared to the statewide rate.

Vehicles Available (2018-2022)				
Vehicles Available	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
No vehicles available	199,566	6.1%	174	1.6%
1 vehicle available	996,723	30.3%	1,538	13.9%
2 vehicle available	1,236,632	37.6%	4,449	40.2%
3 or more vehicles available	856,855	26.0%	4,916	44.4%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*. 2018-22. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP04?q=DP04&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSDP1Y2022.DP04

Note: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Education

This section provides community data related to both Adult Education (post high school), Youth Education (pre-school through high school), access to computers, and availability of childcare.

The table below displays educational attainment for adults ages 25 and over. The percentage of individuals in this age range who did not graduate from high school is similar in Powhatan County, compared to Virginia overall. However, the percentage of individuals ages 25 years or older who have attained a high school degree is slightly higher in Powhatan County (27.6%), compared to Virginia overall (23.9%).

The percentage of individuals ages 25 years or older who have some college education (but no degree) or an Associate degree is slightly higher in Powhatan County, compared to Virginia overall, while the percentage of individuals who have attained a Bachelor's degree was very similar to Virginia overall. However, the percentage who attained a graduate or professional degree was much lower in Powhatan County (9.3%) compared to Virginia overall (17.9%).

Educational Attainment (Population 25 Years and Over) (2018-2022)				
Education Level	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Less than 9th Grade	212,554	3.6%	459	2.0%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	313,263	5.3%	1,485	6.5%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	1,411,884	23.9%	6,339	27.6%
Some College, No Degree	1,094,753	18.5%	5,009	21.8%
Associate Degree	461,866	7.8%	2,158	9.4%
Bachelor's Degree	1,366,160	23.1%	5,397	23.5%
Graduate or Professional Degree	1,058,662	17.9%	2,129	9.3%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1501?q=S1501&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-2022. Retrieved from:
https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1501?q=S1501&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

The table below displays educational attainment for adults ages 18-24. The percentage of individuals in this age range who did not graduate from high school is similar in Powhatan County (9.8%), compared to Virginia overall (10%). While the percentage of individuals with a high school degree was slightly higher in Powhatan County (38.2%) compared to Virginia overall (34.4%), the percentage with some college, an Associate Degree, or a Bachelor's Degree (or advanced degree) was slightly lower in Powhatan County compared to the statewide rate.

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Educational Attainment (Population 18-24 Years) (2018-2022)				
Education Level	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Less than High School Graduate	81,377	9.8%	45,971	10.8%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	285,246	34.4%	162,590	38.2%
Some College or Associate Degree	344,427	41.6%	168,008	39.5%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	117,493	14.2%	49,070	11.5%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1501?q=S1501&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-2022. Retrieved from:
https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1501?q=S1501&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

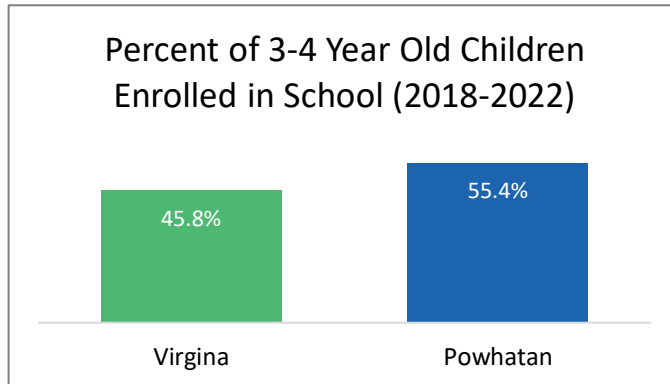
As shown in the table below, the on-time high school graduation rate was about the same in Powhatan County compared to the state of Virginia overall from 2019 to 2023. In 2023, for example, the on-time graduation rate was 91.5% for Powhatan County and 91.9% for the state of Virginia.

On-Time High School Graduation		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Year	Percent	Percent
2019	91.5%	93.4%
2020	92.5%	95.4%
2021	93.0%	92.3%
2022	92.2%	94.5%
2023	91.9%	91.5%

Data Source: Virginia Department of Education. Retrieved from:
[APEX Captcha: Home Page \(virginia.gov\)](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/)

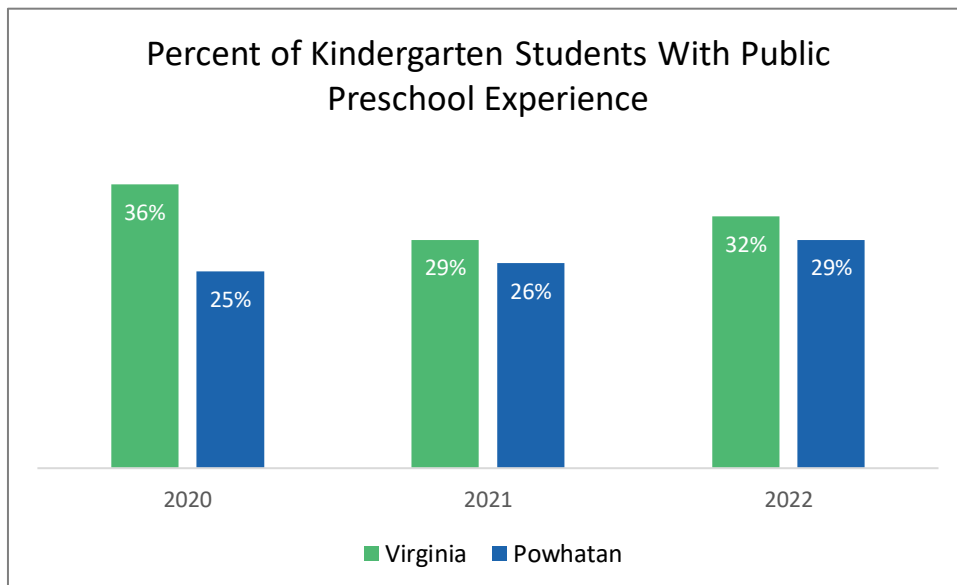
V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

As shown in the figure below, the percentage of children ages 3 or 4 who are enrolled in school is nearly 10% higher in Powhatan County (55.4%) compared to the state of Virginia overall (45.8%).



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-2022. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1401?q=S1401&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSST1Y2022.S1401

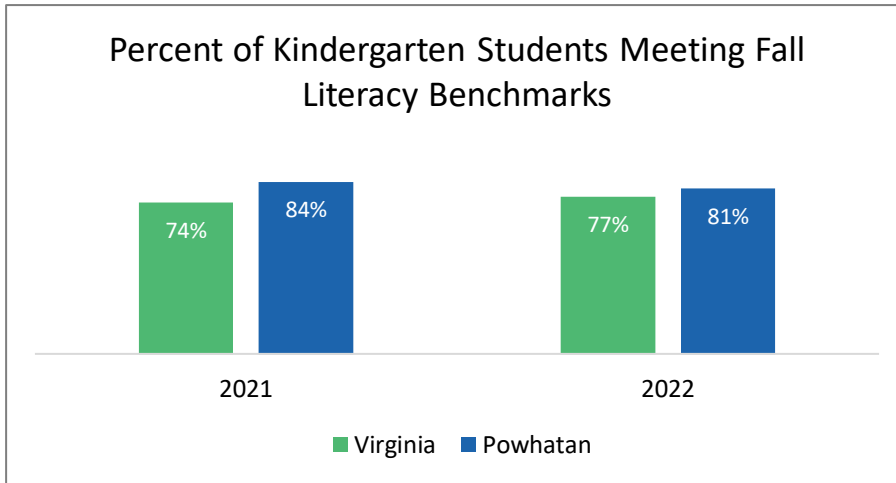
The figure below displays the percentage of kindergarten students who attended preschool in Powhatan County and Virginia. The statewide rate of public preschool enrollment exceeded the rate in Powhatan County by over 10% in 2020, but rates of preschool attendance for Powhatan County were more similar to the statewide rates in 2021 and 2022.



Data Source: Virginia Department of Education. Retrieved from: <https://schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/powhatan-county-public-schools#desktopTabs-9>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

As shown in the figure below, the percentage of kindergarten students who achieved literacy benchmarks in Powhatan County was 84% in 2021 and 81% in 2022. These results are 10% higher than the statewide rate in 2021 and 4% higher than the statewide rate in 2022.



Data Source: Virginia Department of Education. Retrieved from: <https://schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/powhatan-county-public-schools#desktopTabs-9>

The table below shows adult literacy rates for Powhatan County and Virginia. According to the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), “Literacy is understanding, evaluating, using and engaging with written texts to participate in society, to achieve one’s goals, and to develop one’s knowledge and potential.” The PIAAC has created a literacy assessment which may be used to categorize individuals from Level 1 (Basic reading and writing skills) to Level 5 (Highest reading proficiency Level). The percentage of adults at or below Level 1 of reading proficiency is slightly lower in Powhatan County (15%) compared to the statewide rate (19%), while the percentage of adults assessed at Level 2 of reading proficiency is slightly higher in Powhatan County (35%) relative to the statewide rate (31%). The percentage of adults assessed at Level 3 or higher is the same in Powhatan County as the state overall (50%).

Adult Literacy by Proficiency Level (2013-2017)		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Literacy Level	Percent	Percent
<= Level 1	19.0%	15.0%
Level 2	31.0%	35.0%
>= Level 3	50.0%	50.0%

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved from: <https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/skillsmap/>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below provides estimates on the presence of a computer and the type of internet subscription in households. The percentage of households with a computing device is similar in Powhatan County (96.3%) compared to Virginia overall (94.0%). The percentage of households with an internet connection is also similar in Powhatan County (91.8%) compared to Virginia overall (88.9%).

Type of Computer in Household (2018-2022)				
Computer Availability	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Has one or more types of computing devices:	3,093,201	94.0%	10,662	96.3%
Desktop or laptop	2,684,468	81.6%	9,143	82.5%
Smartphone	2,911,852	88.5%	10,280	92.8%
Tablet or other portable wireless computer	2,161,820	65.7%	8,049	72.7%
Other computer	88,460	2.7%	283	2.6%
No computer	196,575	6.0%	415	3.7%
Type of Internet Subscription in Household (2018-2022)				
Type of Internet	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Has internet:	2,923,674	88.9%	10,172	91.8%
With dial-up Internet subscription alone	6,070	0.2%	80	0.7%
With a broadband Internet subscription	2,917,604	88.7%	10,092	91.1%
Without an Internet subscription	366,102	11.1%	905	8.2%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*. 2018-2022. Retrieved from:

https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S2801?q=computer&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false&tid=ACSST1Y2022.S2801

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

There were 12 child care programs in Powhatan County in 2024. Of those, the most common types of programs were Child Care Centers (not in a private home) (58.3%), followed by Preschools for ages 3-5 years old (25%) and Family Child Care Homes (17.7%). There were no childcare programs for school age children only.

Child Care Programs in Powhatan (2024)		
Type	Estimate	Percent
Child Care Centers	7	58.3%
Preschools	3	25.0%
Family Child Care Homes	2	16.7%
School Age Only Programs	0	0.0%

Data Source: ChildCare Aware of Virginia. Retrieved from:
<https://stage.worklifesystems.com/virginia?county=Powhatan>

The average weekly cost of full-time childcare ranged from \$132 for school age children at a Child Care Center to \$172 for infants at a Child Care Center. The average weekly cost for Preschools was \$160. No information on cost was available for Family Child Care Homes.

Average Cost of Care Full Time Weekly in Powhatan (2024)				
Type	Center	Family Child Care	Preschools	School Age
Infant (Birth-16 months)	172	0	-	-
Toddler (17-23 months)	167	0	-	-
Preschool (2-3 years)	166	0	160	-
Preschool (4-5 years and not in school)	151	0	160	-
School Age (5-12 years)	132	0	-	0

Data Source: ChildCare Aware of Virginia. Retrieved from:
<https://stage.worklifesystems.com/virginia?county=Powhatan>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Health

This section provides data on access to health care, insurance coverage, birth statistics and the prevalence of chronic health conditions.

The table below provides information on the ratio of the population to providers for Virginia and Powhatan County. Compared to other localities across Virginia, the ratio of individuals to primary care physicians, dentists, and mental health providers is lower in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall. Because there are more individuals for every one provider, this would likely make it more difficult for residents to access those services. This ratio of residents to mental providers is particularly low. There are 2,590 residents for every mental health provider in Powhatan County, compared to 450 residents for every mental health provider for the state of Virginia overall, which means that it would be very difficult for a resident to obtain mental services.

Access to Care (Ratio to Population)		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Type of Health Care Provider	Estimate	Estimate
Primary Care Physicians	1,320:1	1,670:1
Dentists	1,350:1	2,400:1
Mental Health Providers	450:1	2,590:1

Source: County Health Rankings. Retrieved from:

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/virginia/powhatan?year=2023>

Note: Data on primary care physicians is from 2020, while data on dentists is from 2021, and data on mental health providers is from 2022.

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below displays the names of 19 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which are community-based organizations that provide comprehensive primary care and preventive care, within 30 miles of Powhatan County. FQHCs are outpatient clinics that qualify for specific reimbursement systems under Medicare and Medicaid, which serve a variety of federally designated medically underserved areas and populations, and therefore are an important part of the health care safety net.

Federally Qualified Health Centers within 30 Miles of Powhatan County (2024)	
Health Center Name	City
AMELIA HEALTHCARE CENTER	Amelia Court House
Pediatric Medical Center	Richmond
The Southside Community Health Center of Greater Richmond	Richmond
HAMHDS Woodman Center	Glen Allen
Safe Haven	Richmond
CVHS Buckingham	New Canton
Henderson Health Services (VUU)	Richmond
CARITAS	Richmond
DAILY PLANET HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS PROGRAM	Richmond
Daily Planet Health Services Mobile Unit	Richmond
South Side Medical Center	Richmond
Daily Planet Health Services	Richmond
THE HEALING PLACE	Richmond
Northside Medical Center & Administration	Richmond
Northside Medical Center	Richmond
VERNON J. HARRIS EAST END CHC	Richmond
Bermuda Medical Center	Chesterfield
Greater Fulton Medical Center	Richmond

Data Source: HRSA Data Warehouse. Retrieved from:

<https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/?zip=Powhatan%2BCounty%252C%2BVA%252C%2BUSA&radius=30&incrementalsearch=false>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below displays the number and percentage of uninsured individuals from 2018 to 2022 in Powhatan County and Virginia. Across all income levels, the percentage of the population without health insurance was consistently lower in Powhatan County compared to the overall rate across Virginia. In 2022, 3.8% of the population in Powhatan County did not have health insurance, whereas 7.4% of the overall population in Virginia did not have health insurance.

Uninsured - All Income Levels				
5 Year Estimate Year	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
2018	755,739	9.2%	1,645	6.3%
2019	707,960	8.6%	1,581	6.0%
2020	681,362	8.2%	1,421	5.3%
2021	658,732	7.9%	1,363	4.9%
2022	623,631	7.4%	1,089	3.8%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2018.S2701?q=uninsured&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false). 2018-2022. Retrieved from: https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2018.S2701?q=uninsured&g=040XX00US51_050XX00US51145&moe=false

As shown in the table below, the percentage of uninsured individuals under age 65 in 2021 was similar in Powhatan County (7.7%) compared to the statewide rate (8.0%).

Uninsured Under Age 65				
Year	Virginia		Powhatan	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
2021	559,026	8.0%	1,870	7.7%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/sahie/#/?state_county=51000,51145&s_searchtype=sc&AGECAT=0). 2021. Retrieved from: https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/sahie/#/?state_county=51000,51145&s_searchtype=sc&AGECAT=0

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The next two tables display the teen birth rate (per 1,000 females) by age group from 2016 to 2020.

During this time period, the teen birth rate for girls younger than 15 was 0 in Powhatan County and less than 1% for Virginia overall.

Teen Birth Rate for < 15 Years (Per 1,000 Females)		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Year	Estimate	Estimate
2016	0.2	0.0
2017	0.1	0.0
2018	0.2	0.0
2019	0.1	0.0
2020	0.1	0.0

Data Source: Virginia Department of Health. Retrieved from:
<https://apps.vdh.virginia.gov/HealthStats/stats.htm#tables>

From 2016 to 2020, the birth rate for girls ages 15-17 was lower in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall, with one exception. In 2017, the teen birth rate for girls ages 15-17 (per 1,000 females) was 2.1 in Powhatan, compared to 2.0 for Virginia overall.

Teen Birth Rate for 15-17 Years (Per 1,000 Females)		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Year	Estimate	Estimate
2016	6.2	4.0
2017	2.0	2.1
2018	5.7	2.1
2019	5.3	0.0
2020	5.1	0.0

Data Source: Virginia Department of Health. Retrieved from:
<https://apps.vdh.virginia.gov/HealthStats/stats.htm#tables>

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below provides information on several indicators of health in 2020. The percentage of adults with diabetes was lower in Powhatan County (8%) compared to the statewide rate (10%), the percentage of adults in Powhatan County with prediabetes exceeded the statewide rate by nearly 5%. Rates of obesity were similar in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall.

Health Indicators		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Health Indicator	Percent	Percent
Adults with Diabetes	10.0%	8.0%
Adults with Prediabetes	9.29%	14.1%
Adult Obesity	34.0%	34.0%

Data Sources:

Data on Prediabetes from Virginia Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, 2020.

Data on Diabetes and Obesity from *County Health Ratings, 2021*. Retrieved from: www.countyhealthrankings.org

The hospitalization rates (per 100,000 total population) for strokes, asthma, diabetes, and hypertension in 2020 are displayed in the next table. Hospitalization rates for stroke, asthma, and diabetes (per 100,000 total population) were lower in Powhatan County compared to the statewide rates, but the hospitalization rate for hypertension is slightly higher in Powhatan County compared to Virginia overall.

Hospitalization Rates (per 100,000 Total Population)		
	Virginia	Powhatan
Condition	Estimate	Estimate
Stroke	229	186
Asthma	487	425
Diabetes	1,989	1,838
Hypertension	4,103	4,126

Data Source: Virginia Department of Health. Community Health Improvement Data Portal. [Virginia's Plan For Well-Being – Health begins where Virginians live, work, and play. \(virginiawellbeing.com\)](http://virginiawellbeing.com)

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

The table below provides data on the rate of newly diagnosed HIV cases (per 1,000 population) from 2018 to 2022. The rate of newly diagnosed HIV cases was lower in Powhatan County, compared to the statewide rate during this time period.

HIV Prevalence - Rate of New Diagnoses per 100,000 population				
	Virginia		Powhatan	
Year	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
2018	885	10.4%	3	10.3%
2019	850	10.0%	1	3.4%
2020	633	7.3%	0	0.0%
2021	799	9.2%	0	0.0%
2022	792	9.2%	0	0.0%

Data Source: Virginia Department of Health. Retrieved from:
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/10/2023/07/VDH_HIV-Surveillance_Annual-Report_2022.pdf

V. POWHATAN COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Nutrition

The table below provides data on food insecurity rates from 2017 to 2021. According to Feeding America, “Food insecurity refers to USDA’s measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.”

During this time period, the percentage of food insecure individuals ranged from 6.2% in 2017 to 4.4% in 2021. Each year, the food insecurity rate was lower in Powhatan County compared to the statewide rate.

Food Insecurity Rate				
	Virginia		Powhatan	
Year	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
2017	863,390	10.2%	1,760	6.2%
2018	842,870	9.9%	1,780	6.2%
2019	799,620	9.4%	1,770	6.1%
2020	658,470	7.7%	1,510	5.2%
2021	704,270	8.1%	1,330	4.4%

Data Source: Feeding America. Retrieved from:
<https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2021/overall/virginia/county/powhatan>

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APPENDIX A

Programs Offered by PCAA Community Partners

Community Life Church and the Coalition of Churches- Emergency/Crisis Assistance (e.g., rent, mortgages, utilities, car repairs).

Fast Feet Sports Academy- Before/after school sport program and summer sport program for children.

Free Clinic- Medical, dental, and behavioral health services for the uninsured; Pantry for people in immediate need of food or hygiene products.

Habitat for Humanity- Critical home repairs.

Powhatan YMCA- School supplies or needed clothing/shoes for children.

TRIAD- Services for seniors.