

Appendix C
Yolo County Community Services Action Board
2023 Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment

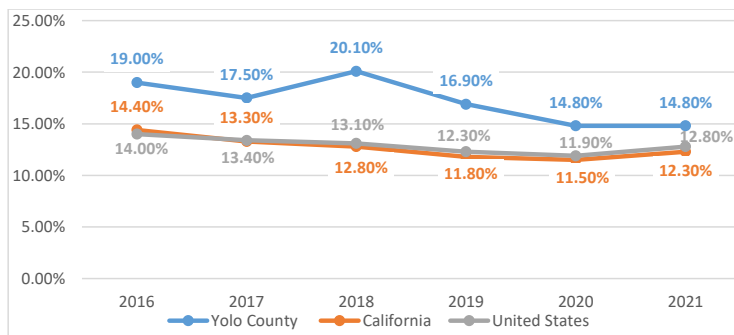
Background

As part of conducting its comprehensive community needs, HHSA/CSAB examined census data specific to poverty in Yolo County.

Poverty in Yolo County

According to Census data, nearly 15% of Yolo County residents lived below the federal poverty level in 2021. Despite a decrease from 2018 to 2020, Yolo County’s poverty rate continues to trend higher than both national and state average percentages which are estimated around 12.5%.

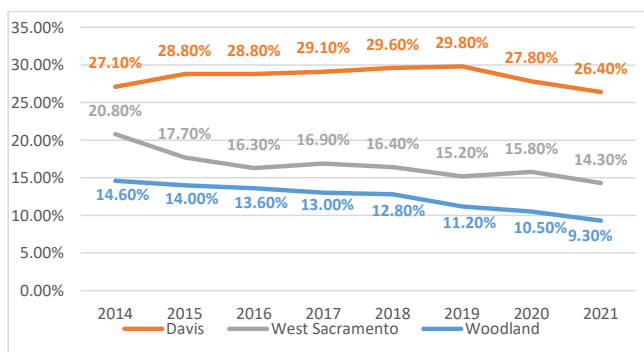
Percentage of Yolo County Residents with Incomes below the Federal Poverty Level over Time – 2016 to 2021



Data Source: [SAIPE \(census.gov\)](https://nces.gov/ipeds/datacenter/saipe/)

When comparing poverty rates among Yolo County’s three largest cities, Davis has consistently experienced the highest rates with a notable decrease from 2019 to 2021. While Woodland experienced a steady decline from 2014 to 2022, and West Sacramento experienced a steady decline with slight peak in 2017 and 2020. One factor likely skewing Davis’s poverty rate is the large population of University of California, Davis students who report little to no income.

Percentage of Yolo County Residents with Incomes below the Federal Poverty Level by City over Time – 2014 to 2021 (based off five-year estimates)



Data Source: [S1701: Census Bureau Table](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2019/other-released-tables/s1701.html)

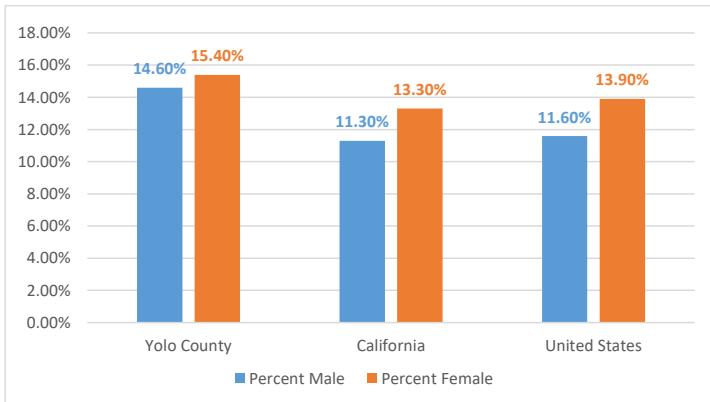
Commented [JB1]: US Census has not yet released 2022 data sets; all data is based off of the 2021 American Community Survey;

Commented [JB2R1]: For the 2023-23 CNA: We used 2014-2019 data

For the 2024-25 CNA: I have used 2016-2021 data

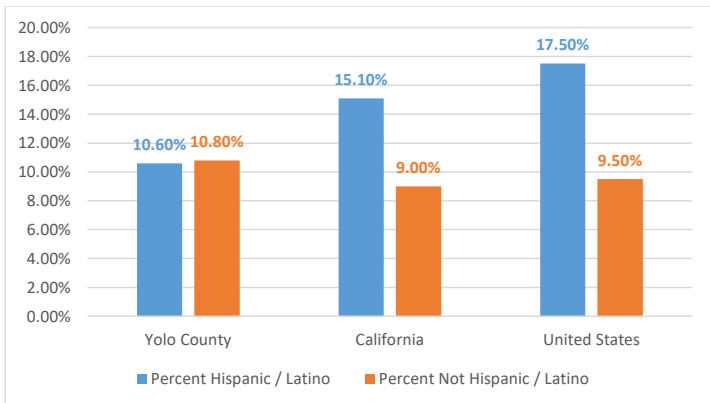
When comparing local poverty rates among gender and ethnicity, census data shows that female have the highest rates and the rates of Hispanic/Latinos are comparable to those who don't identify as Hispanic/Latino. There is only a 0.2% difference between the percentage of Hispanic/Latino and Not Hispanic/Latino residents in Yolo County. Yolo County's trends are consistent with state and national percentages for gender.

Percentage of Males and Females Living Below the Federal Poverty Level in 2021



Data Source: [S1701: Census Bureau Table](#)

Percentage of Hispanic/Latinos and Not Hispanic/Latinos Living Below the Federal Poverty Level in 2021



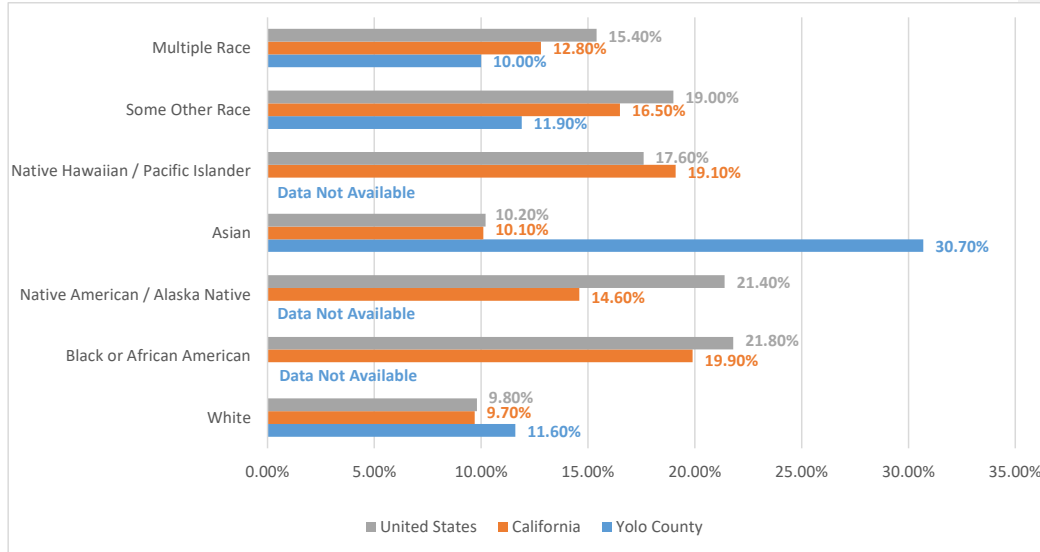
Data Source: [S1701: Census Bureau Table](#)

When comparing local poverty rates among races, available census data shows that *Asian, White, and Other Race* residents have the highest rates. Yolo County's data is only partially consistent with state and national percentages which show *Native American/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Black/ African American, and Some Other Race* residents experiencing the highest rates. The percentage of Asians living below the federal poverty level (30.7%) in 2021 in Yolo County constitutes roughly three times as much as the state and national percentages at approximately (10%). Note that the local poverty rate for Black/African American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, and Native American/Alaska Natives are not available because the number of sample cases are too small to provide a reliable estimate.

Commented [JB3]: US Census did not include Yolo County data for the following:
 -Black/African American
 -Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
 -Native American/ Alaska Native

Commented [JB4R3]: For the 2022-23 CNA the following were missing:
 -Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
 -Native America/ Alaska Native

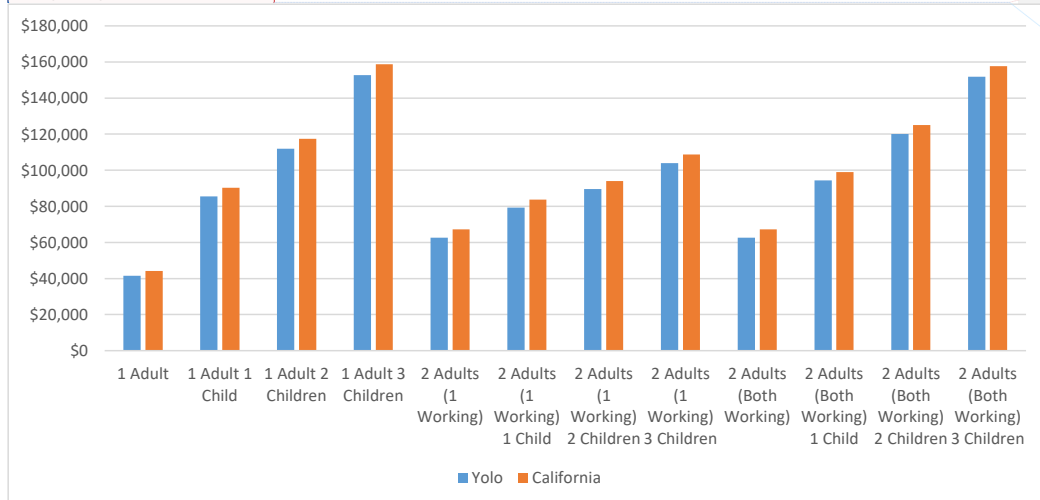
Percentage of Races Living Below the Federal Poverty level in 2021



Data Source: [S1701: Census Bureau Table](#)

As an alternative to the federal poverty level, the 2023 Living Wage Calculator represents the annual income that an individual in a household must earn to support his or herself and their family. In Yolo County the annual income needed in 2023 to meet basic needs is shown below for a sampling of family types. It is worth noting that the Living Wage amount required for families in Yolo County is lower than the statewide average for all family types.

Living Wage Calculation 2023



Commented [JB5]: This a new addition to the CNA, using data included in this year's CAP template (sample data sets);

Commented [AV6R5]: Please edit the narrative above to reflect what is on this graph

Data Source: [Living Wage Calculator - Living Wage Calculation for California \(mit.edu\)](#)

Community Needs Assessment Methodology

HHSA/CSAB used a two – pronged methodology to conduct its Community Needs Assessment consisting of community input at public forums and through a Low-Income Needs Survey. The following sections explain each approach in more detail.

Public Forums

To ensure HHSA/CSAB received input from all geographic areas within its service area, staff distributed low-income needs survey flyers with links/QR Codes and conducted in-person surveys via clipboard and iPad in the major cities of Yolo County. This year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this public forum was held virtually via Zoom in three separately scheduled meetings. HHSA/CSAB publicly noticed the meetings by disseminating a County press release, posting the information on the County’s social media pages (e.g. Facebook and Twitter), and distributing the information to all of its County stakeholder email distribution groups.

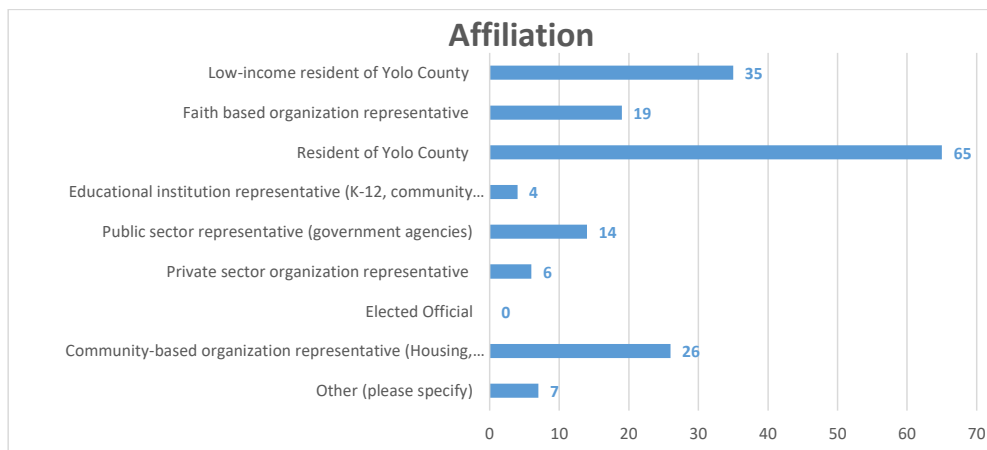
The public forum was attended by an individual from the public. At this forum, staff provided an overview of the Community Services Block Grant and the Community Needs Assessment process. Thereafter, staff invited attendees to provide testimony as to the needs of low-income residents. Staff recorded the testimony and coded the qualitative information into categories, which staff presented to CSAB as part of its Community Needs Assessment results. In total, one individual provided feedback at the public forums. The two priority needs identified at the Public Forums were disability related or elderly services, more specifically meal delivery and youth services.

Commented [AV7]: Did 1 or 2 people attend the online forum?

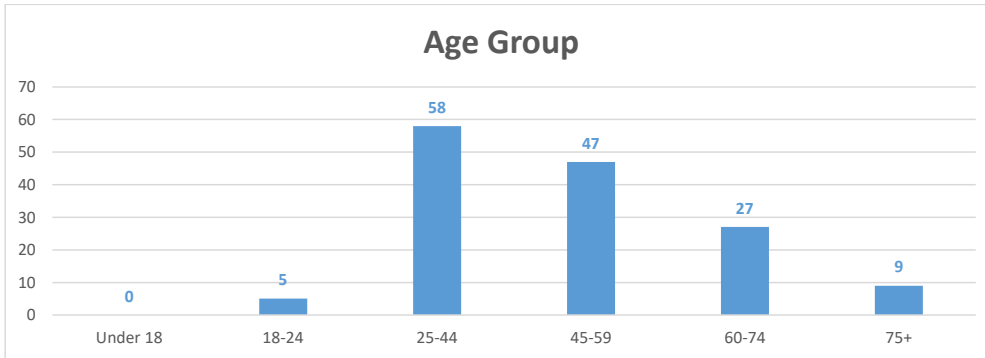
Survey

In an effort to collect quantitative data, HHSA/CSAB also administered a survey. The survey, available in electronic and paper formats as well as in English, Russian, and Spanish, allowed HHSA/CSAB to seek more standardized responses. Similar to the public forums, HHSA/CSAB publicly advertised the survey by disseminating a County press release (sent to media contacts, posted online to the County’s website, general Facebook and Twitter feeds), posting the information at its County service centers, and distributing the information to all of its County stakeholder email distribution groups. Individual CSAB members also distributed the surveys further to community-based organizations and local educational organizations

In total, HHSA/CSAB received 145 responses, including a wide range of stakeholders. Out of 145 surveys received, 35 respondents self-identified as a “low-income resident of Yolo County”.



The Low-Income Needs Survey also asked respondents to identify their age group. The responses indicate that the survey represents a wide representation of different age groups.



Findings

Staff organized the Low-Income Needs Survey results into graphs and tables, which staff presented to CSAB along with the notes from its public forums. Based on both the qualitative and quantitative data collected, HHSA/CSAB identified **housing services, employment, emergency assistance, and education** as key causes of poverty that need to be addressed.

The figure below depicts the weight scored of each category when respondents ranked the categories according to the most pressing need. When scored through this process, the survey results indicated housing services as the most pressing need for low-income individuals and families in Yolo County. Employment ranked next highest followed by emergency assistance and education.

Survey Question—Please rank the following needs from 1-10 with 1 being the most pressing need for low-income individuals and families in Yolo County and 10 being the least pressing need.



To further define the need, the table below features survey participants weighted answer when asked to rate the need for each service within each larger category. The services are arranged in order of weighed average from highest to lowest. Responses were weighted using 3 points given for “1 – Very Needed”, 2 points for “2 – Somewhat Needed” and 1 point for “3-Rarely Needed”.

Survey Question— Within each category, please rate the need for each service on a scale of 1 to 3 with 1 being very needed and 3 being rarely needed.

	Very Needed	Somewhat Needed	Rarely Needed	Weighted Average
Adult education programs/Literacy classes/GED	84	39	22	2.45
English as second language classes	82	47	16	2.44
Career/technical education	100	34	12	2.60
K-12 retention and mentoring services	77	41	27	2.34
Access to higher education (e.g. community college, 4-year college)	80	42	21	2.40
In-home support services and care	97	34	14	2.54
Respite Care	82	41	22	2.41
Meal delivery	87	34	24	2.42
Advocacy for disability benefit (e.g. SSI/SSP, Veteran's Disability)	95	37	15	2.54
In-home support services and care	97	33	16	2.55
Meal delivery	88	39	19	2.47
Advocacy for disability benefit (e.g. SSI/SSP, Veteran's Disability)	97	33	16	2.55
Transportation Assistance (bus passes, door to door service, Bus-route frequency-rural areas)	104	29	13	2.62
Clothing and other weather appropriate items	89	36	21	2.46
Emergency shelter	112	16	16	2.66
Food	112	21	12	2.69
Health Care	106	30	10	2.65
Protection from violence	99	31	16	2.56
Employer engagement and recruitment	86	50	11	2.50
Job placement assistance	88	47	11	2.52
Job skills training/Re-training	99	37	12	2.59
Eviction prevention	89	35	23	2.45
Help finding housing	111	19	16	2.65
Help paying rent	94	31	22	2.48
Help paying utilities	95	34	17	2.53
Legal services to overcome housing barriers	92	35	20	2.48
Permanent Supportive Housing and supportive services	104	25	17	2.59
Transitional and bridge housing	103	26	17	2.59
Access/Assistance with County and Provider services	92	36	19	2.50
Life Skills Training	90	38	19	2.48
Money management and credit repair classes	84	44	19	2.43
Public benefits enrollment assistance (e.g. Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, General Assistance)	86	43	17	2.48
Tax preparation and tax credit classes	56	62	28	2.19
Mentoring programs (e.g. life skills, community engagement, pro-social youth development programs)	96	33	17	2.53
Tutoring assistance	79	42	23	2.38
Affordable extracurricular/after school programs (e.g. YMCA, Boys and Girls Club of America)	94	30	22	2.49
Affordable Childcare Services	103	27	17	2.59
Teen Development Classes	80	44	23	2.37
Parenting Support (e.g. home visiting, parent advocacy training)	75	47	22	2.37
Child/Adolescent development classes	78	44	23	2.36

Identification of Program Priority Needs

Housing/Homeless Services

Consistent with past findings, the recent assessment substantiated the need for housing and homeless services. This was the top priority need identified through the Low-Income Needs Survey. According to the assessment results, priorities within this category include housing navigation assistance, eviction prevention assistance such as help paying rent and/or utilities, supportive services to assist persons maintain their permanent housing, and transitional/bridge housing.

Employment

The assessment also revealed the need for employment assistance. Employment received the second highest weighted score when survey respondents were asked to rank the most pressing need. Priorities within this category include assisting with employer engagement and recruitment, providing job placement assistance and skills training.

Emergency Assistance

Another need identified by the assessment was emergency assistance in the form of shelter, food, supplies, and protection from violence. This category was identified as the third highest need when survey respondents were asked to rank the most pressing need. Priorities within this category include emergency shelter beds for persons and families experiencing homelessness, meals for food insecure persons and families, as well as safety from crime and domestic violence.

Education

This category of need received the 4th highest score when survey respondents were asked to rank the most pressing need. Priorities within this category include providing adult education programs, English as second language classes, life skills training, literacy classes, career/technical education assistance, K-12 retention and persistence services, and access to higher education (e.g. community college, 4-year college).