

Missouri Association for Community Action Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment for South Central Missouri Community Action Agency (SCMCAA)



Prepared on May 06, 2014

Introduction and Overview

This Community Needs Assessment (CNA) presents an overview of the current community conditions for Butler, Carter, Dent, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon, and Wayne county area (see map below).

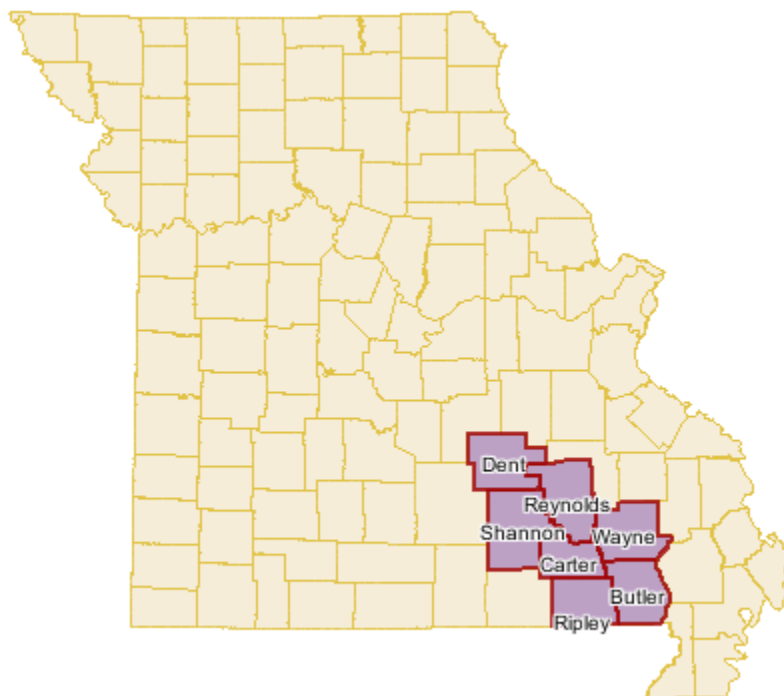


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To our friends, program participants, and supporters:

Every three years, SCMCAA completes a Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment. We utilize the information gathered during this process to base our future direction and to formulate an updated Strategic Plan. When completed, our agency's Strategic Plan will provide a blueprint for us to use as we work to move Community Action forward.

We have accomplished many of the things that we set out to do in our last Strategic Plan, and much has happened since that time.

This report represents a collaborative effort to present both statistical data and citizen and client input on our communities' greatest assets as well as current challenges and pressing needs. It represents our agency's efforts to strengthen our collaborative partnerships of key community stakeholders – an effort that will continue, as we seek to address some of the issues that are presented in this document.

In this effort, "Town Hall Events" were held in each of our seven counties. CSBG Outreach and Head Start staff accepted the roles as liaisons to our communities. They convened the meetings, summarized the discussions and sought input from program participants, vendors and community members.

The economic forecast for our service area remains discouraging. It is our hope that this Community Needs Assessment will guide us as we seek to find ways to assist the families and communities of South Central Missouri.

We acknowledge and thank the people who answered surveys and participated in our focus groups. We are pleased to hear from our partners, clients and communities, and we are challenged to think of ways that we can improve our efforts.

We recognize the remarkable dedication of the staff of SCMCAA who have enabled SCMCAA to be a constant source of hope for 50 years. Over the years, their dedication and service has the greatest evidence of this agency's commitment to serve some of Missouri's most vulnerable citizens.

Ginger Hill
Community Services Director

Introduction

Service Area

South Central Missouri Community Action Agency was incorporated in 1965 under the Equal Opportunities Act, 1964, as a not-for-profit Community Action Agency serving the counties of Butler, Carter, Dent, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon and Wayne.

History

The idea of “Community Action” came out of the enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA) of 1964. The overall purpose of the statute was to eliminate the causes and results of poverty in the United States. Under the Act, the federal Office of Economic Opportunity was established, state Economic Opportunity offices were formed, and new community-based organizations called Community Action Agencies evolved.

Our Mission

We assist the low-income residents of our seven-county service area in their efforts to become self-sufficient. This is accomplished through providing a comprehensive range of services and activities designed to improve the quality of life for low-income individuals and families while providing assistance and opportunities to eliminate the cause of their poverty situation.

Vision

For Families

All families are supported in their goals to be self-sufficient. They are viewed not as burdens to society but as productive citizens who can make a positive difference. We envision families who have the potential to improve their own lives and the determination to help others. **Our vision is that all families are self reliant and have support systems in their community.**

For Communities

Our community vision is not defined by geographical boundaries or stock Market analyses. We envision our communities as large families concerned With the well-being of all its citizens. We want neighborhoods that are safe and Growing, employers who are fair and rewarding and academic institutions that are innovative and achieving. **Our vision is that communities invest in their people, realizing that human investment reaps the greatest returns.**

For Agency

The agency will be a leader in South Central Missouri by providing Innovative and creative solutions for families and communities grappling with the effects of poverty. Through established partnerships and human connections, we will use our best tools and resources against an enemy that threatens the lives and livelihood of the people that we serve. **Our vision as an agency is to end poverty – one family at a time.**

The burden of poverty isn't just that you don't always have the things you need, it's the feeling of being embarrassed every day of your life, and you'd do anything to lift that burden.

Jay-Z

I thought in this country, the best social program was a job. Yet minimum wage jobs aren't paying enough to keep families out of poverty.

Barbara Mikulski

These days there is a lot of poverty in the world, and that's a scandal when we have so many riches and resources to give to everyone. We all have to think about how we can become a little poorer.

Pope Francis

South Central Missouri Community Action Agency
2013-2014 Board of Directors

COUNTY	MEMBER	SECTOR	ORGANIZATION
Butler	Dr. Cynthia Brown	Public	Poplar Bluff School Board Member
	Rev. Keith Frye	Low- Income	Ministerial Alliance
	Robert Smith	Private	Attorney
Carter	Eddie Ballard	Public	County Commissioner
	Richard Clyburn	Low Income	East Carter Nutrition Ctr.
	Shirley Burke	Private	Carter County FSD
Dent	Darrell Skiles	Public	Presiding Commissioner
	Doug Walter	Low Income	United Methodist Church
	Lelia Cotner (Vice Pres.)	Private	Dent Co. Sheltered Workshop
Reynolds	Doug Warren	Public	County Commissioner
	Leslie Dale Hawkins	Low Income	Black River Food Pantry
	Beth Buford	Private	Sun Security Bank
Ripley	Janice Spencer	Public	Ripley County Assessor
	Betty Hampton	Low Income	Ripley County Sheltered Workshop
	Katy Miller	Private	Ozark Family Resource Agency
Shannon	Summer Crider	Public	Shannon County Assessor
	Colleen Detwiler (Sec.)	Low Income	Shannon Co. Sheltered Workshop
	Roger Dillon (Treas.)	Private	Chamber Of Commerce
Wayne	Chad Henson	Public	County Commissioner
	VACANCY	Low Income	
	Bill McMurry (Pres.)	Private	Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors

South Central Missouri Community Action Agency is governed by a twenty-one member tri-partite Board of Directors. One-third of the board is elected public officials or their representatives. One-third is representatives of business, industry, labor, religion, welfare, education, or other major groups and interests in the community. One-third is individuals who represent the poor in the area served. The tri-partite composition of membership provides for the actual problems experienced by the poor to be voiced by their representatives and responded to by the representative of the business community and local government.

Executive Summary

Background

The 2014 South Central Missouri Community Action Agency Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment (CCNA) is a report that identifies the needs, strengths and current realities affecting the seven counties served by our agency. The information derived as a result of this process will be the driver for future program design, service delivery and change. The CCNA is the first step taken by our agency as a precursor to developing an updated Strategic Plan. This assessment will help our agency by providing the foundation for administrative and operational planning, as well as assessing whether our agency is meeting the needs of the communities that we serve. By gathering input and information from a variety of sources, new projects or programs may be identified that would provide new opportunities for our agency to create change at the agency, family, or community level.

New data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2012 was released in December of 2013. This information provides a startling look at the face of poverty in South Central Missouri.

Methodology

In late summer of 2013, SCMCAA completed and submitted a proposal for the scope of work that would be done as a result of funding from the FFY2014 CSBG program. Completion of an updated Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment was selected as one of SCMCAA's intended strategies. SCMCAA's leadership team worked together to collect data from multiple sources, as well as form a plan for the agency's outreach staff to host "Town Hall" events.

Community Focus Group meetings have historically been used as a successful way to gather information and input from the communities that we serve. SCMCAA's leadership team implemented a recommendation from a prior CSBG/LIHEAP Monitoring Exit Interview to try to include as much information from these events as possible.

Since most funding sources have needs assessment requirements, our agency staff periodically conduct meetings to compare data, assessments and self evaluation tools and processes. These meetings are conducted throughout each fiscal year as new data and information become available. Focus groups and surveys were typically conducted in either the fall or spring. For 2014, focus groups and surveys were conducted in early summer due to the fact that SCMCAA had new staff and new programs that required a substantial time commitment. Deadlines were scheduled for information to be collected and compiled. Central office staff were responsible for inputting the information into an online system (Survey Monkey), as instructed by managers. All of the statistical data and information that was gathered, updated, analyzed and assembled by staff was conducted during fiscal year 2014.

Data Gathering

- ❖ Community Focus Groups (Head Start/CSBG)
- ❖ MIS Data
- ❖ Secondary (Statistical) Data
- ❖ Surveys (utilized as part of ongoing assessment efforts and as a recommendation of our most recent CSBG/LIHEAP Monitoring)
 - ✓ Head Start Parent Information Surveys
 - ✓ Community Needs Surveys
 - ✓ Agency Client Satisfaction Surveys

Analysis & Prioritization

SCMCAA Leadership Team members worked together to gather, assemble, review and analyze the aforementioned data and information. This team held discussions on the data and trends and concerns that were discovered.

Discussions were held regarding priority issues, and the need for an updated Strategic Plan. This need, and well as others was identified as strategies for the FFY2015 CSBG fiscal year. These recommendations were presented as a point of discussion to the Board of Directors at the August 2014 Board Meeting. Their recommendation was that these items be included in the Request for Application packet (for FFY2015 CSBG).

Throughout the CCNA process, the SCMCAA Board of Directors were presented with program and community data, assessments and evaluations of agency initiatives and direction, as well as projections for future project, plans and proposed changes to existing programs.

Agency Planning

Our agency leadership team continues to seek out ways to revise and improve the way that we do business. Leadership team members promote learning and implementation of best practices of sister agencies. South Central Missouri Community Action Leadership Team members realize that our agency must set rigorous priorities based on realistic budgetary expectations, develop effective tools for evaluation, and promote partnerships with other agencies and institutions where possible. The continuing Federal budget deficit concerns, create a difficult environment for any institution. SCMCAA must maintain a nimble position and be able to determine where activities must be started, sustained, or phased out. The current national climate of uncertainty calls SCMCAA's Leadership Team to higher levels of leadership and stewardship as we go forward with drafting an updated Strategic Plan.

**Our grand business is not to see what lies
dimly at a distance, but to do what lies
clearly at hand.**

Thomas Carlyle

**Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth
doing well.**

Lord Chesterfield

A line has to be drawn somewhere
between what is essential and what
is peripheral.
Sargent Shriver

SCMCAA Head Start Self Assessment

2014-2015

Geographic Area and Description

SCMCAA Head Start/Early Head Start Enrollment Information 2013-2014

Center	Services	Classrooms	Age Group	Total Served
Broseley	Full day, part year	3	3-5 years	57
Doniphan	Full day, part year	3	3-5 years	57
East Carter	Full day, part year	2	3-5 years	37
Neelyville	Full day, part year	2	3-5 years	37
Piedmont	Full day, part year	1	3-5 years	17
Poplar Bluff - Full Year Center	Full day, full year	1	3-5 years	17
Poplar Bluff - Full Year Center	Full day, full year	8	0-3 years	64
Poplar Bluff -Full Year Center	Home base	NA	Pregnant mothers	8
Poplar Bluff -Part Year Center	Part day, part year Full day, part year	8 (double session) 1	3-5 years	148
Reynolds County	Full day, part year	1	3-5 years	17
Salem	Full day, part year	5	3-5 years	94
Shannon County	Full day, part year	1	3-5 years	17
Van Buren	Full day, part year	1	3-5 years	17
Total		37		587

SCMCAA Head Start currently serves seven counties within the South Central region of Missouri. A geographically rural region, our service area, while beautiful in its natural resources, challenges families with finding employment, housing, transportation, child care and medical resources. The majority of our classrooms are full day Head Start. One community also provides Early Head Start center base services and double session Head Start services. In 2012, we were fortunate to receive funding to establish an Early Head Start Home Base program through MIECHV funding. This program serves 115 families in Butler and Ripley counties and provides another option for families seeking to improve the lives of their children.

Changes made during the 2013-2014 program year included the addition of days of service to a classroom serving primarily four year olds in our largest community. This provides the area of our largest population full day, full week services for infants through school age children, thus helping parents to obtain no cost, high quality educational care for their children as they work, attend school or training.

Parent surveys and community needs assessment focus groups during the spring of 2013 indicated, for the second year in a row, their biggest concern was the lack of infant/toddler care in the seven county area.

Results from Community and Parent Focus Group Meetings – Spring 2013

Needs Expressed	Priority
Early Head Start services – Infant/Toddler care	1
Full week (Monday – Friday)	2
Extended transportation routes	3
Full day services	4
Full year services	5

Many parents cited the lack of any licensed infant/toddler care or the lack of quality programs within their communities. Parents feel they need affordable, quality options for child care during employment hours. Our population within the seven counties remained fairly consistent over the past decade with no significant population shifts.

Population Change 2000 - 2011

County	Census 2000 Population	ACS 2007-2011 Population	Population Change	% Change
Butler	40,867	42,607	1,740	4.26
Carter	5,941	6,208	267	4.49
Dent	14,927	15,550	623	4.17
Reynolds	6,689	6,676	-13	-0.19
Ripley	13,509	14,080	571	4.23
Shannon	8,324	8,428	104	1.25
Wayne	13,259	13,448	189	1.43
Report Area	103,516	106,997	3,481	3.36
Statewide	5,595,211	5,955,802	360,591	6.44

(Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Census 2010. Release Date: February 2011](#) and [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011 Data Release, December 2012](#).

The 2011 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2007 through 2011)

Population change within the 7 county report area from 2000-2011 is shown in the table above. During the eleven-year period from 2000-2011, U.S. Census population estimates for the program area grew by 3.36%, increasing from 103,516 persons in 2000 to 106,997 persons in 2011. This was less than the 6.44% population increase for Missouri during the same time period. The greatest growth occurred in Carter County, which experienced a 4.49% increase in population, whereas Reynolds County experienced a -0.19% change. In 2011, 1.8% of Missouri's population resided in the 7 county program area.

Needs of Children

Children in the seven county area have many of the same needs as their parents including access to medical care, quality child care, educational opportunities and a lack of community resources. The seven counties in our program consistently rank in the bottom twenty of Missouri's 115 counties as far as well child statistics. (Kids Count data, 2012)

We address the health issues for our children by encouraging well child checks, immunization, dental and other health screening. We provide parental education and information with these concerns and provide supportive services to assist parents in obtaining health care for their children.

Needs of Families

In 2013, a survey provided to our parents, yielded 225 completed surveys. Parents indicated that 70% of them felt that Head Start prepared their child *“Very Well”* for kindergarten and 79% of parents felt their experiences in Head Start prepared them *“Very Much”* with their comfort level talking to their child’s public school teacher. Eighty-nine percent of parents responded that their child *“Enjoyed Head Start Very Much”* and that Head Start has *“Very Much”* helped them find ideas to be involved in their child’s education.

In the area of school readiness parents indicated their top priorities for items of importance as:

- 63% - Most important cognitive skill was being able to follow a sequence
- 59% - Most important mathematics skill was the ability to recognize their numbers up to 20
- 56% - Most important literacy skills was the ability to know and recognize their ABCs

Out of 50 responses for comments, 20 were positive and well pleased with the Head Start program, 8 were comments concerning the need for more “academics” or more information concerning their child’s behavior and 4 were comments stating more parents need to be involved in their child’s center. The other 18 comments just answered “no” to the opportunity to leave a comment.

Poverty, 2011

County	All Ages		Age 0-17		Age 5-17	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate
Butler	9,330	22.1	3,300	33.9	2,159	30.8
Carter	1,560	24.7	558	36.7	386	35.7
Dent	3,227	20.9	1,124	31.8	756	29.5
Reynolds	1,738	26.9	615	43.9	395	37.7
Ripley	3,622	25.9	1,271	39.3	846	35.9
Shannon	2,402	28.8	858	45.4	569	41.2
Wayne	3,423	25.7	1,074	39.1	729	36.1
Report Area	25,302	23.9	8,800	36.6	5,840	33.5
Statewide	922,103	15.8	308,390	22.3	201,231	20.1

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2011](#). Estimates for 2011 were released in December 15, 2012.

Change in Poverty Rate, 2000 - 2011

County	Persons in Poverty, 2000	Poverty Rate, 2000	Persons in Poverty, 2011	Poverty Rate, 2011	Change in Poverty Rate, 2000 - 2011
Butler	6,799	17.0	9,330	22.1	5.1
Carter	1,246	21.2	1,560	24.7	3.5
Dent	2,429	16.4	3,227	20.9	4.5
Reynolds	1,308	20.1	1,738	26.9	6.8
Ripley	2,718	20.5	3,622	25.9	5.4
Shannon	1,994	24.0	2,402	28.8	4.8
Wayne	2,851	21.8	3,423	25.7	3.9
Report Area	19,345	19.0	25,302	23.9	4.9
Statewide	581,207	10.6	922,103	15.8	5.2

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\), 2011](#). Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012.

Population By Gender and Age, 2007 - 2011

County	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 64		Over 64	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Butler	1,624	1,219	3,647	3,451	12,288	13,243	2,912	3,976
Carter	224	241	484	565	1,804	1,860	466	540
Dent	488	446	1,380	1,244	4,573	4,482	1,155	1,634
Reynolds	210	178	629	526	1,914	1,895	576	679
Ripley	436	403	1,275	1,215	4,025	4,121	1,090	1,393
Shannon	264	258	740	721	2,542	2,479	613	760
Wayne	329	364	1,149	968	3,830	3,961	1,335	1,450
Report Area	3,575	3,109	9,304	8,690	30,976	32,041	8,147	10,432
Statewide	197,733	189,182	530,397	506,335	1,833,346	1,872,670	317,865	472,340

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011 Data Release, December 2012](#).

The 2011 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2007 through 2011.

Resources within our communities

Again, our resources within the seven county area are very limited. The largest community has a population of 17,000 and many families have to travel a large distance for medical care or weekly shopping. Families cite their reasons for living in this area as being close to family, wanting a small town atmosphere, being in a smaller school district and having recreational opportunities (such as hunting). Families believe this area offers a lower cost of living, despite limited opportunities for employment.

Change in Unemployment, August 2012 - August 2013

County	Unemployment, August 2012	Unemployment, August 2013	Unemployment Rate, August 2012	Unemployment Rate, August 2013
Butler	1,541	1,517	7.4	7.2

Carter	237	237	7.6	7.6
Dent	496	523	7.9	8.4
Reynolds	255	245	10.7	10.8
Ripley	590	514	8.8	7.8
Shannon	308	306	10.1	10.0
Wayne	477	464	8.0	8.3
Report Area	3,904	3,806	8.1	8.0
Statewide	210,404	214,074	7.1	7.1

Source: [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, October 21, 2013.](#)

Dental Professionals, 2013

County	Dentists	Dental Specialists	Dental Hygenists	Dental Professionals per 1,000 Persons
Butler	17	3	15	0.82
Carter	2	0	4	0.97
Dent	9	0	1	0.64
Reynolds	2	0	2	0.60
Ripley	1	0	2	0.21
Shannon	0	0	1	0.12
Wayne	0	0	3	0.22
Report Area	31	3	28	0.58
Statewide	2,490	501	2,759	0.97

Source: [Missouri Division of Professional Registration](#)

The 2011 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2007 through 2011.

Program Approach and Results or Benefits Expected

Many factors are considered when planning the Head Start program. These include eligible population, community needs, suitable building locations, geographic locations, transportation routes, educational qualifications of staff, and other available opportunities for children in early childhood programs serving our

area. Policy Council, parents, and community members provide input into the formation of our goals and objectives through community focus meetings, participation in self-assessment, parent surveys, and Policy Council committee meetings. They also provide input and guidance into the program through the Policy Council Eligibility Selection Criteria (ERSEA) committee and the Policy Council Grant Planning committee.

We serve 702 children and families in a seven county area. 579 children are federally funded, with 515 of those being Head Start children and 64 Early Head Start children and 8 pregnant moms. An additional 115 Early Head Start children are served through a home base option, funded by a separate MIECHV grant.

We provide primarily center based services. The majority of our classrooms are full day, part year, although we do have some part day classes in one location and provide full year services in another center. We provide transportation at most of our centers and extended before-and-after care is available for Early Head Start children.

Program Approaches

We evaluate our services and service area each year through a self-assessment, community needs assessment, parent survey, summary of staff evaluations, community focus group meetings, and program data analysis. Census data and information on families with low income children is used to evaluate our services. Enrollment and recruitment, size and location of classrooms, and primary age of children in a classroom are all determined based on population, community needs assessment, and selection criteria.

Self Assessment

When do we do it? When is it completed? When is plan developed? And when is it approved by pc/board?

Our self-assessment is conducted annually. Teams of staff, parents, Policy Council members, community members, and Board members are organized and oriented to the self-assessment process. Teams are led by a management staff person and visit one center per team. They review data, observe, evaluate family files, and interview staff, according to our self-assessment procedure. Results, including strengths and areas for improvement, are gathered and documented. The teams then analyze the data to determine greatest needs and organize those needs into three areas of priority. After this process is completed, management staff and Policy Council assist in the development of Program Improvement Plans for each of the areas of need. These are approved by Policy Council as our Goals for Program Improvement. Each Program Improvement Plan is also analyzed to determine if there is a need for training to assist in the resolution of the plan and if indicated, that training is incorporated into our annual T/TA plan, submitted with the Continuation Grant.

Community Needs Assessment

Each year our service area is evaluated utilizing data from the Community Needs Assessment. This information is presented to the Executive Board and Policy Council with any recommendations concerning our service area. In the past, we have re-located services to other areas within our seven counties to ensure we are meeting the mandate of serving the children and families with the greatest need.

Staff Qualifications

All our Head Start and Early Head Start teaching staff meet the educational mandates as outlined in the 2007 Head Start Act. We have a working relationship with a community college and a four year university to provide college credit courses for our staff leading to either an AA degree in early childhood or a BS degree in child development. We have 27 Head Start teachers providing educational direction for

preschool age children. One hundred percent of our Head Start teachers have either an AA degree, BS degree or MS degree. Over seventy percent of those teachers have a BS degree or higher. Early Head Start employs sixteen teachers. All EHS teachers have their Child Development Associate credential. In addition, one EHS teacher has their BS degree and eight have their AA degree.

Current Education Staff Qualifications 2013

Qualifications (highest qualification is listed)	HS Teachers	EHS Teachers
CDA	0	6
AA	4	7
BS	19	3
MS	2	0
Total	25	16

All center base Head Start classrooms are staffed by a qualified teacher and teacher aide. An additional staff person, a class aide, is utilized in every classroom as an aide to any children with special needs or behavior concerns. This additional staff person is also available to individualize with any children that may be experiencing delays. All classrooms have a minimum of 15 children and a maximum of twenty preschool age children, dependent upon the predominant age of the children in the classroom and the class option. Eight of our 29 classrooms are double session. All but two of our remaining classrooms are full day (7 hours per day) and meet Monday through Thursday during the school year. We have one full year, full day, full week Head Start classroom and one part year, full day, full week Head Start classroom.

The center base Early Head Start classrooms are staffed with two teachers and one class aide. We have four classrooms with eight children age zero to 24 months, and four classrooms with eight children 24 months to 36 months. The EHS program also serves 8 pregnant women through a Family Advocate/Home Visitor.

We have not experienced any significant turnover in our program. We lose more staff in the part time positions, primarily due to a 32 hour week and no benefits for this position. We have not had any turnover in our management staff in over two years. We also have not experienced much difficulty in finding qualified staff. There are two community colleges located within our area and both offer degrees in early childhood development.

We provide CDA clock hour preparation courses to staff and parents in both programs to ensure we have a qualified pool of staff. We believe the CDA courses provide a deeper level of education pertaining specifically to their knowledge of early childhood, child development and their educational setting.

Disability Services

We have collaborative agreements with all public schools in our service area. This includes the LEA agreement, transition agreement and preschool MOU. Most schools have provided services to our children in a timely manner. We continue to work with some public schools to better provide services to children with suspected disabilities in a more efficient partnership. Early Head Start has an agreement with the First Steps program and works with them in securing services for children age 0 – 3.

Enrollment

We continue to maintain full enrollment throughout each program year and maintain a waiting list in each center. We have met our disabilities requirement each year. Our enrollment has never exceeded 10% over income; we continue to serve the population with the greatest need. We have consistently met our in-kind obligations each year.

Program Priorities

Our staff works very hard to ensure the highest quality services, meeting all Performance Standards. Policies and plans are in place to assist with on-going monitoring to satisfy all requirements. Reports are provided to Policy Council and the Executive Board to document our progress.

Short Term Program Objectives

Proposed changes and priorities within program options

In our 2014-2015 program year, we anticipate several challenges within the seven county area. With the re-funding of the Missouri Preschool Project, many school districts will, or have already taken advantage of the opportunity to start or expand a preschool program in the community. When populations are small, there may not be enough children to support both a Head Start program and a Missouri Preschool Project Program.

School district enrollment information

YEAR	DISTRICT	COUNTY	pre k enr	k enr	k-12 enr	f/r count	f/r %	est # eligible HS children
2013	NEELYVILLE R-IV	BUTLER	24	39	611	405.0	65.4	26
2013	POPLAR BLUFF R-I		245	409	5079	3041.0	61.7	252
2013	TWIN RIVERS R-X		0	68	961	619.6	66.7	45
2013	EAST CARTER CO. R-II	CARTER	10	52	710	486.0	68.1	35
2013	VAN BUREN R-I		30	43	509	329.0	65.9	28
2013	SALEM R-80	DENT	21	80	1362	658.0	62.8	50
2013	OAK HILL R-I		0	18	116	85.0	74.6	13
2013	GREEN FOREST R-II		0	19	199	143.0	72.2	14
2013	DENT-PHELPS R-III		22	27	250	139.0	54.9	15
2013	NORTH WOOD R-IV		11	18	199	143.0	70.8	13
2013	CENTERVILLE R-I	REYNOLDS	0	10	67	51.0	79.7	8
2013	SO REYNOLDS CO. R-II		34	34	494	271.0	57.2	19
2013	BUNKER R-III		20	33	246	171.0	68.7	23
2013	LESTERVILLE R-IV		20	7	239	190.0	81.9	6
2013	NAYLOR R-II	RIPLEY	13	38	422	257.0	62.5	24
2013	DONIPHAN R-I		30	107	1505	1082.5	75.2	80

2013	RIPLEY CO. R-IV		0	17	148	112.0	79.4	13
2013	RIPLEY CO. R-III		13	6	102	78.0	72.9	4
2013	WINONA R-III	SHANNON	17	42	453	395.0	85.5	36
2013	EMINENCE R-I		9	18	277	180.0	66.7	12
2013	GREENVILLE R-II	WAYNE	24	58	757	502.0	66.4	39
2013	CLEARWATER R-I		48	67	980	669.1	69.3	46

School district enrollment data, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2013

School district free and reduced meal data, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2012

We have struggled in some areas with maintaining a wait list with income eligible children. Sequestration cuts of 2013 provided an opportunity for adjustments and reductions in enrollment to some centers to allow for reduced class size. Choices for enrollment reductions and classroom closures were based on a thorough examination of data from previous years, other available opportunities within a community for preschool services and other census and community data. The Policy Council and Board assisted in those decisions.

It is our intent to explore the possibility of converting Head Start slots to Early Head Start slots in the summer of 2014. Our priority areas are Shannon County, Reynolds County, Dent County and Carter County, due to the lack of, or limited quantity of infant/toddler care, and the limited population of preschool age children with expanding or future public school preschool programs.

At this time, we anticipate Carter County/Van Buren being our priority for HS to EHS conversion. This is due to the lack of infant/toddler care in the area but primarily due to the expansion of the public school preschool, which will be expanded July 2014 to serve an additional 10 three year olds through a Missouri Preschool Project grant.

YEAR	DISTRICT	COUNTY	pre k enr	k enr	k-12 enr	f/r count	f/r %
2013	VAN BUREN R-I	Carter	30	43	509	329.0	65.9

The MPP grant will increase the total preschool age children served by the public school in Van Buren to 43. This exceeds the number of income eligible preschool age children in that school district. At this time, we have a classroom of 17 three year olds in Van Buren.

Licensed Child Care Serving Infants – Spring 2013

County	Number of Programs Serving Infants	Total Programs in County
Butler	15	20
Carter	2	5
Dent	1	4
Reynolds	0	2
Ripley	6	7
Shannon	0	3
Wayne	3	8

Location/County	Current 2013-2014 HS enrollment	Proposed EHS slots	Proposed HS slots
Van Buren/Carter	17	8	0
Ellington/Reynolds Co	17	8	0
Winona/Shannon Co	17	8	15
Salem/Dent Co	94	16	64
Total	145	40	79

See *"Income Eligible Wait List Statistic Information"* on the following page

(10 a and 10 b)

Average Child Care Costs, 2011

County	Type of Care	Daily Cost, Infant (\$)	Daily Cost, Pre- School (\$)	Daily Cost, School Age (\$)
Butler	CENTER	27.50	20.00	20.00
Butler	FAMILY	17.00	20.00	10.00
Butler	GROUP	20.00	15.00	7.00
Carter	CENTER	0.00	8.50	0.00
Carter	FAMILY	14.00	0.00	0.00
Carter	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dent	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dent	FAMILY	15.00	15.00	15.00
Dent	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ripley	CENTER	16.50	12.50	12.50
Ripley	FAMILY	14.00	12.00	12.00
Ripley	GROUP	20.00	20.00	20.00
Shannon	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shannon	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00

Shannon	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wayne	CENTER	0.00	12.00	12.00
Wayne	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wayne	GROUP	17.00	14.00	14.00
Report Area	0	7.67	7.10	5.83
Statewide	CENTER	36.10	27.00	22.00
Statewide	FAMILY	22.00	19.00	17.00
Statewide	GROUP	20.50	17.00	16.00

Source: [Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division, Early Childhood and Prevention Services, Childcare Market Rate Survey, 2011](#)

Risk management

SCMCAA Head Start participated in their triennial federal review in March 2012. We received no non-compliances as a result from that review. Our most recent risk assessment meeting with Regional Office, in December 2013, required no action from our Head Start program.

School Readiness

Development

Committees were developed in the late winter and early spring of 2012 for the development of school readiness goals. Committee members included parents, community members, staff, public school personnel and component specialists. Discussion within each local group included the priorities for children in early childhood development programs and which skills are necessary to prepare them for kindergarten and school success.

Committee members reviewed the lists of skills determined to be needed for school readiness. They were prioritized and linked to our on-going assessment system. The goals were developed into a preliminary set of school readiness goals for SCMCAA Head Start.

Program Goals for Children

It is our goal to provide children with the skills necessary to succeed in school, and in life. Our teachers make plans daily, weekly, monthly and every year to determine how and when the children in their care will learn best. They plan activities for learning and then reinforce them by presenting them multiple times for best results. Children benefit from the rich and varied experiences we provide. They need many different opportunities throughout the day to practice new skills. Children are allowed to explore concepts over time. They are active learners and should have an opinion on the things they want to learn. Teachers focus on the skills that are present during their developmental stage and build on those to create a secure learning environment with materials and equipment that allow children to manipulate and experiment.

Our goals for children's learning and development include:

- Providing children with a safe, supportive and stimulating environment
- Surrounding them with caring, supportive adults who are knowledgeable in child development
- Providing children with opportunities to develop self-control

- Offering opportunities to develop self-confidence
- Exposing children to teaching strategies that assist them in becoming successful learners

Our program utilizes the *Creative Curriculum for Preschool Children* and the *Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos*. We assess every child through the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment system, which was developed to support the *Creative Curriculum*. Children are assessed three times per year in the part-year programs and four times per year in the full year programs. The *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment system or TSG, is a web based program that provides reports for staff and parents and are designed to make information easy to obtain and analyze.

The *Widely Held Expectations* report can be generated by administrators and teachers and can be customized to provide the type of data presented. A specific area can be presented and information used to determine areas where children need more individualized instruction. The *Performance and Growth* report enables teachers and administrators to organize outcome data by program, center, classroom or an individual child. This report allows a visual demonstration of progress toward meeting expectations. The *Alignment* report enables teachers and administrators to show how the knowledge, skills and behaviors of a child or groups of children meet the important state early learning standards and the domains of the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework.

TSG also provides reports to assist teachers and administrators in planning. The *Class Profile Report* compares information about the knowledge, skills, and behaviors of the children in one or more classes with the widely held expectations of their age. The *Individual Child Report* lets teachers and administrators see how individual children are performing during one checkpoint period or progressing over multiple checkpoint periods. The *Snapshot Report* provides teachers and administrators the opportunity to view information about a group of children at one particular point in time.

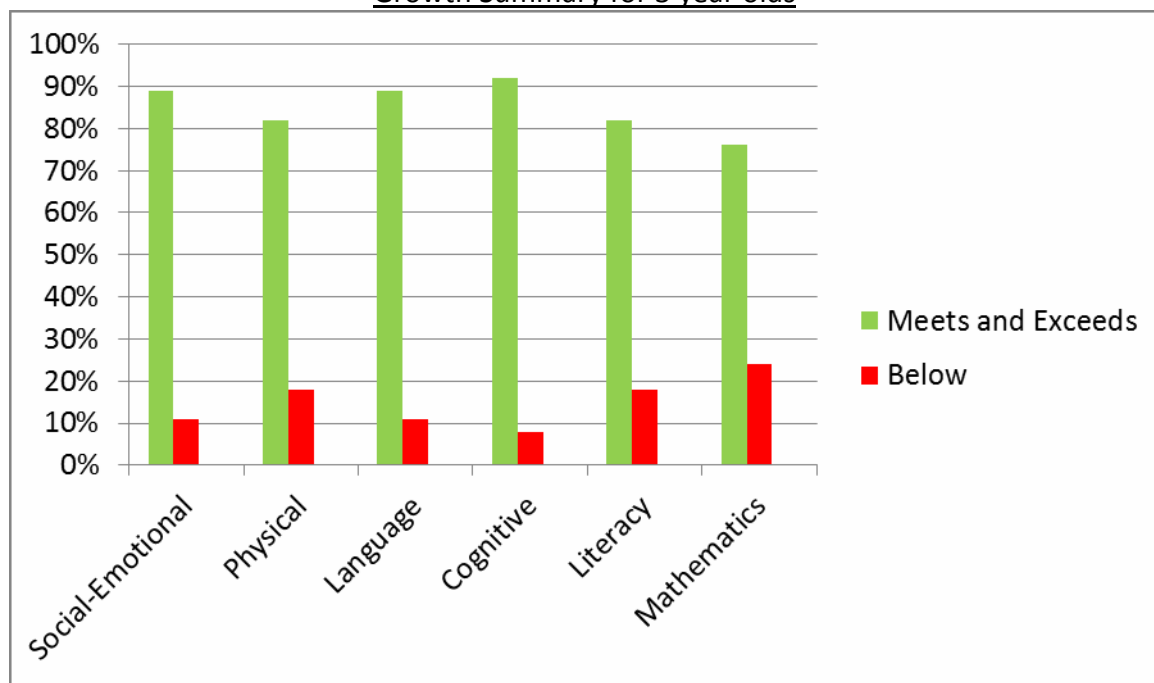
Families can also benefit from reports through TSG. The *Development and Learning Report* helps to share important information with family members and can assist parents with understanding the knowledge, skills and behaviors related to each objective. This report will also recommend developmentally appropriate activities for families to do at home to support children's' learning.

All reports from the TSG system are utilized in the planning and implementation of activities for children from birth to age 5. The reports are also used by teachers to plan and implement individualized activities for children to assist them in their areas of strength and weakness. The system allows for the use of technology in that tablets and smart phones can be utilized in classrooms to aid in the documentation of children's daily observations.

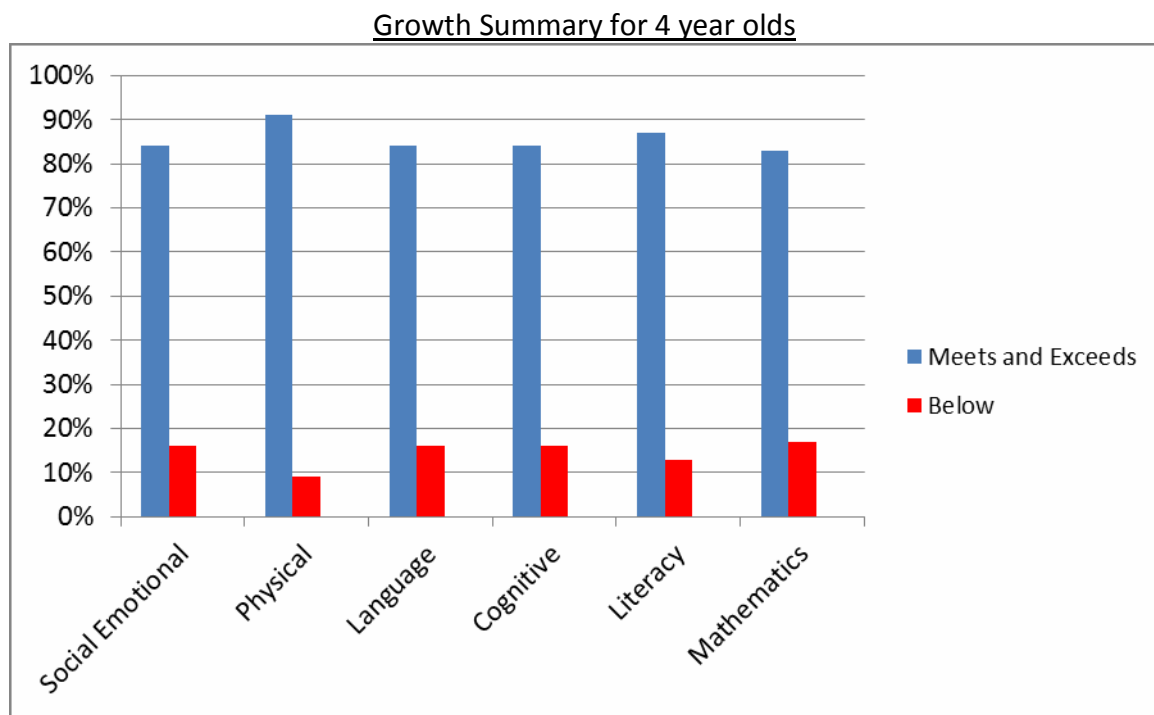
At the end of our 2012-2013 program year, data was aggregated and presented to the Policy Council and Board. The information was also available for parents and the community through the agency website. A priority was to hire additional management staff to assist in the support of teachers in School Readiness goals and other educational mandates. A second Education Specialist was hired in January 2014.

School Readiness Results
For Education Component
2012-2013 Program Year

Growth Summary for 3 year olds



The Growth Summary is assessed in all areas of development that we are currently measuring with Teaching Strategies Gold. It is compared to the Wildly Held Expectation based on approximately 158 three year old children enrolled with only finalized checkpoints for periods Fall 2012/2013 thru Spring 2012/2013. The greatest strength for the three year olds was the cognitive domain. The weakest domain was mathematics. The average for all the three year olds with finalized checkpoints in all objectives throughout the year was 85%.



The Growth Summary is assessed in all areas of development that we are currently measuring with Teaching Strategies Gold. It is compared to the Wildly Held Expectations based on approximately 348 four year old children enrolled with only finalized checkpoints for periods Fall 2012/2013 thru Spring 2012/2013. The greatest strength for the four year olds was the physical domain. The weakest domain was mathematics. The average for all the four year olds with finalized checkpoints in all objectives throughout the year was 85%.

2013-2014 Program Year

The program has added the domains of science, social studies and the arts to the Teaching Strategies Gold data base and has added these objectives to our school readiness goals with the established baseline. Teaching staff will be doing their lesson plans and their child individualizations on the Teaching Strategies Gold website. The teachers will also be tracking alphabet, shape and number knowledge on the website.

Strength and Weaknesses

Weakness

Overall as a program we will need to focus more on Math. The math domain was above the baseline but was below the average of all the goals. The staff will be sending home more math related Family Activity Plans. The staff will be using an online resource for lesson plans from National Head Start's Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center. Teaching staff will use this as a tool to help teach math and science.

Strengths

Formal School Readiness Goals in the 5 domains of development have been created which align with both the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework and the Missouri Early Childhood Standards. These School Readiness Goals were a collaborative effort from the Education team consisting of component specialist and the director along with surveys from the parents and public schools districts in the seven counties that our program serves.

SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
Self-Assessment
Goals for program improvement:
Head Start/Early Head Start
2013-2014

Goals for Improvement	Description
To meet nutritional goals for a center without nutrition staff or services on site Performance Standard 1304.23(b)(1)(v)	Component staff will analyze what specific issues exist within center and what possibilities are available to improve nutritional services in order to provide meals that meet all standards in adequate quantities for children and implement changes. Resolved May 2013 - due to sequestration cuts of 5.27% this center was closed and children served from Doniphan center
To develop a comprehensive staff education/orientation program Performance Standard 1304.52(l)(1)(2)(3)	A formalized process of orientation and education will be developed and utilized for new staff to allow for better comprehension of position requirements, state licensing requirements and program performance standards. The new orientation process for employees is in the finalization stages and will be implemented by the end of Summer 2014. (Final Drafts due for approval July 11, 2014) Ongoing training through video/classroom analysis and in-service training will be provided monthly to education staff starting Fall 2014.
Accomplish detailed analysis across components to achieve the program goals. Performance Standard 1304.51(1)(2)	Collection and aggregation of data will be a formalized process leading to analysis of program strengths and weaknesses. Plans will be developed for program improvement and programs goals, based on data collection and analysis. CLASS and School Readiness Data are collected quarterly and individualized training/coaching is developed based on classroom scores. In-Services trainings are scheduled based on agency scores in each area. Each classroom bases activities and techniques on analysis of Teaching Strategies Gold assessments and Dial 3 Screenings.
To improve the IFPA process. Performance Standard 1304.40(a)(1)(2)(3)	The IFPA process will be more straightforward for staff and families. Goals and outcomes will be clearer and the process for achieving goals will be a partnership between staff and families.
To establish a schedule for timely replacement of buses. Performance Standard 1310.13(a)(b)(c)	Establish a procedure to determine greatest need for replacement of vehicles utilized for transportation of children. Analyzing current fleet of buses and greatest need for replacement will allow better planning within budget for purchases each year.
Other	Include in bus replacement procedure - the cost analysis of repairing and/or rebuilding older buses vs. purchasing new or pre-owned buses.

SCMCAA Head Start

Community Needs Assessment 2013

Five Year Goals and Objectives

Community Assessment

- Community Assessment information must be used to
 - Help determine the philosophy, and long and short range program objectives
 - Determine the type of component services that are most needed and the program option/s that will be implemented
 - Determine the recruitment area
 - Determine appropriate locations for centers and areas to be served by home base programs
 - Set criteria that define the types of children and families who will be given priority for recruitment and enrollment

SCMCAA Head Start

○ **Proposed Five Year goals and objectives**

- *Increased instructional support for teaching staff*
 - Increase CLASS scores
 - Improve school readiness of children
 - Reduce turnover
 - Improve teacher knowledge

SCMCAA Head Start

○ **Proposed Five Year goals and objectives**

- *Provide on-going professional development to new staff*
 - Will allow them to meet their professional requirements

SCMCAA Head Start

○ Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- *Increase family engagement participation*
 - Additional incentives to increase attendance
 - Develop additional opportunities for parent participation
 - Explore additional methods for parent education

SCMCAA Head Start

○ Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- *Explore additional program options for services*
 - Possible conversion of HS to EHS slots
 - Better address community needs within enrollment

SCMCAA Head Start

○ Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- *Better recognition and service of chronic health conditions within families*
 - Recognition of early childhood obesity
 - Provide families with options and education

SCMCAA Head Start

○ Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- Increased oversight of transitions between programs
 - Better implementation of individualization goals for each child within the program and continued throughout Head Start services
 - Prenatal through kindergarten entry

SCMCAA Head Start

○ Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- *Better documentation of services to families*
 - More opportunities for parent education through a curriculum
 - Increased knowledge of opportunities for families by staff and parents

SCMCAA Head Start

● Proposed Five Year goals and objectives

- Increased implementation of mental health curriculum
 - Increased knowledge of Conscious Discipline
 - Increased knowledge of implementation strategies for Conscious Discipline
 - Increased follow through by staff and parents of mental health and disabilities needs for children

SCMCAA Head Start

- All Five Year goals and objectives must be included as priorities within grant application to be submitted February 1, 2014
- To be implemented within Five Year grant period: May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2019
- Final goals and objectives to be determined through discussion with PC, board, and staff.

Compilation of Results from Community Focus Groups – Hosted by CSBG Outreach Staff

SCMCAA CSBG staff hosted seven individual, county meetings during June 2014. A compilation of the findings from these meetings is included below, as well as a list of dates and numbers of attendees. All meetings were held in the conference rooms of our outreach offices.

2014
Community Focus Groups

County	Date	Attendees
Butler	6/17/14	5
Carter	6/20/14	3
Dent	6/17/14	9
Reynolds	6/24/14	8
Ripley	6/5/14	17
Shannon	6/12/14	8
Wayne	6/12/14	6
Total		56

Community Focus Group meeting provide greater insight to the “inner-thinking” of our local Communities. While our Needs Assessment contains survey and secondary statistical data, the information gathered from our focus group attendees provide us with an intimate understanding of what the local people think are the strengths and needs of our community.

Five questions were posed to the participants at each of our seven CSBG-hosted focus groups. These questions were:

- 1.) What needs of the low-income population are currently being met by the community?
- 2.) What needs of the low-income population are not currently being met by the community?
- 3.) Are there currently any efforts/plans underway to address these needs? If so, what are they?
- 4.) In your opinion, are these efforts working? If not, why not?
- 5.) What first/new actions should community/ faith-based / organizations take to address these needs?

The participants were then asked to break into groups to discuss the questions. Each group was then asked to identify the top three needs/concerns identified for their community, as well as a list of potential leaders of the project. Participants were asked to “title” the projects. The following compilation lists the most urgent needs identified for each county.

Butler	Carter	Dent	Reynolds	Ripley	Shannon	Wayne
Transportation	Food Nutrition &	Better coordination of services / Resource Center	Housing	Drug Abuse Awareness	Housing	Jobs
GED/Educational Assistance/Employment Opportunities	Housing	Workforce Enhancements (Placement opportunities, work ethic training, etc.	Transportation	Resource Meetings/Resource Booklet	Workforce Supports Marketing your own crafts/products	Housing
Child Care	Transportation	Grant Writer (able to write grants for additional program funds)	Child Care	Parenting/Grand Parent Support/Housing Supports	Child Care	Education

In addition to the identified needs above, several counties reported that communities were unsure of our office location, or that we were “still in business”. Several counties also reported that attendees felt that regular “Resource Meetings” to share program information/updates would be helpful. Some suggested that a “Resource” booklet or even a “Resource Center” where all providers could be co-located would be beneficial.

Section G: Program Participant Characteristics

1. Name of Agency Reporting		SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY	
2.a Total Non CSBG resources Reported in Section F TOTAL		\$	8,041,222
2.b.Total amount of CSBG Funds EXPENDED		\$	432,335
Total Resources for FY 2013 (2a+2b)		\$	8,473,557
3. Total unduplicated number of persons about whom one or more characteristics were obtained		3	9,821
4. Total unduplicated number of persons about whom no characteristics were obtained		4	12
5. Total unduplicated number of families about whom one or more characteristics were obtained		5	3,959
6. Total unduplicated number of families about whom no characteristics were obtained.		6	7
7. Gender NUMBER OF PERSONS*		13 Family Size NUMBER OF FAMILIES***	
a. Male	4,383	a. One	1,604
b. Female	5,438	b. Two	809
TOTAL*	9,821	c. Three	603
8. Age NUMBER OF PERSONS*		d. Four	501
a. 0-5	1,148	e. Five	269
b. 6-11	1,635	f. Six	123
c. 12-17	1,261	g. Seven	34
d. 18-23	673	h. Eight or more	16
e. 24-44	2,664	TOTAL***	3,959
f. 45-54	1,128	14 Source of Family Income NUMBER OF FAMILIES***	
g. 55-69	904	a. Unduplicated # of Families Reporting.	
h. 70+	408	One or More Sources of Income ***	3,577
TOTAL*	9,821	b. Unduplicated # of Families Reporting	
9. Ethnicity/Race NUMBER OF PERSONS*		Zero Income***	330
I. Ethnicity		TOTAL UNDUP Families who responded as	
a. Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	129	either having a source of income or having	
b. Not Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	9692	no income. (a + b)***	
TOTAL*	9,821	3,907	
II. Race.		Below please report the total # of families	
a. White	9,007	identifying the applicable sources of income.	
b. Black or African American	576	c. TANF	132
c. American Indian & Alaska Native	18	d. SSI	361
d. Asian	5	e. Social Security	669
e. Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	3	f. Pension	71
f. Other	86	g. General Assistance	0
g. Multi-Race (Any 2 or more of above)	126	h. Unemployment Insurance	52
II TOTAL*	9,821	i. Employment + other sources	202
10. Education levels of Adults # NUMBER OF PERSONS*		j. Employment only	306
(# for Adults 24 years or Older Only)		k. Other	153
a. 0-8	527	TOTAL (c. through k.)	
b. 9-12/non-graduates	1,480	1,946	
c. high school grad/GED	2,379	15 Level of Family Income	
d. 12+ some post secondary	638	(% of HHS Guideline) NUMBER OF FAMILIES***	
e. 2 or 4 yr.college graduate	79	a. Up to 50%	1,439
TOTAL**	5,103	b. 51% to 75%	949
11. Other Characteristics NUMBER OF PERSONS*		c. 76% to 100%	841
	Yes No Total	d. 101% to 125%	485
a. Health insurance	7488 2333	e. 126% to 150%	172
	9821	f. 151% to 175%	33
b. Disabled	1729 8092	g. 176% to 200%	12
	9821	h. 201% and over	28
12. Family Type NUMBER OF FAMILIES***		TOTAL***	3,959
a. Single Parent/Female	1,018	16. Housing NUMBER OF FAMILIES***	
b. Single Parent/Male	114	a. Own	1,450
c. Two-Parent Household	1,011	b. Rent	2,404
d. Single Person	1,232	c. Homeless	12
e. Two Adults/No children	391	d. Other	93
f. Other	193	TOTAL***	3,959
TOTAL***	3,959	e. Please describe below housing situations included in 16.d. Other:	

Section G: Program participant Characteristics (ALL AGENC NASCSP CSBG IS 2013

This assessment is to be used to aid in identifying the needs of specific counties and communities, as well as the needs of the low-income population within each county, and to be used in developing future programs to address these needs.

This report includes information derived from standard local, state, or national sources on:

- Nutrition
 - Free and Reduced Lunch Program
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamp Program)
 - Number of Food Pantries
 - Number of Farmer's Markets
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program
 - Senior Nutrition Centers
 - Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)
- Income
 - Income Levels
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - Free and Reduced Lunch Program
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamp Program)
 - Earned Income Tax Credit
 - Social Security Administration Benefits
- Employment
 - Current Unemployment
 - Unemployment Change
 - Top Employers
 - Household Income
 - Wages
 - Living Wage
 - High School Graduation Rate
 - Child Care Costs
 - Child Care Facilities
 - Child Care Wait List
 - Commuter Travel Patterns, 2008 - 2012
 - Thirteen Month Unemployment Rates
 - Five Year Unemployment Rate
- Education
 - Public School Districts
 - Colleges, Universities and Trade Schools
 - Educational Attainment
 - Veterans - Educational Attainment
 - Adult Literacy
 - Child Care Costs

- Child Care Facilities
 - Children with Disabilities Receiving Services
 - First Step Program
- Housing
 - Housing Units
 - Homeowners
 - Housing Age
 - Foreclosures
 - Vacancy Rates
 - Overcrowded Housing
 - Number of Unsafe, Unsanitary Homes
 - Fair Market Rent
 - Housing Affordability
 - Homeless Children
- Health Care
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers
 - MO HealthNet Providers
 - Medicare and Medicaid Providers
 - Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Wait List
 - Physicians
 - MO HealthNet Recipients
 - Dentists
 - Persons Receiving Medicare
 - Uninsured Population
 - Causes of Death
 - Teen Births (ACS)
 - Infant Health
 - Child Abuse and Neglect
 - Licensed Professional Counselors
 - Nurses
- Population Profile
 - Population Change
 - Age and Gender Demographics
 - Race Demographics
 - Households
 - Families
 - Poverty
 - Poverty Rate Change
 - Seniors in Poverty
 - Households in Poverty
 - Juvenile Court Referrals
 - Domestic Violence
 - Violent Crime
 - Property Crime
 - Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics

Population Profile

Population Profile: Population Change

Population change within the 7 county report area from 2000-2012 is shown in Table 1. During the twelve-year period from 2000-2012, U.S. Census population estimates for the report area grew by 3.57%, increasing from 103,516 persons in 2000 to 107,215 persons in 2012. This was less than the 6.92% population increase for Missouri during the same time period. The greatest growth occurred in Carter County, which experienced a 4.78% increase in population, whereas Reynolds County experienced a -0.1% change. In 2012, 1.8% of Missouri's population resided in the 7 county report area.

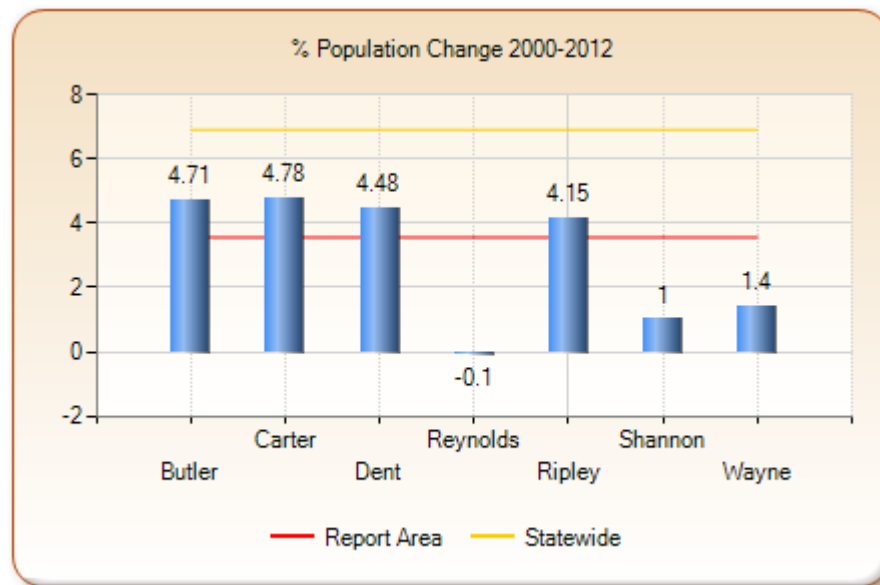


Table 1. Population Change 2000 - 2012

County	Census 2000 Population	ACS 2008-2012 Population	Population Change	% Change
Butler	40,867	42,792	1,925	4.71
Carter	5,941	6,225	284	4.78
Dent	14,927	15,595	668	4.48
Reynolds	6,689	6,682	-7	-0.10
Ripley	13,509	14,070	561	4.15
Shannon	8,324	8,407	83	1.00
Wayne	13,259	13,444	185	1.40
Report Area	103,516	107,215	3,699	3.57
Statewide	5,595,211	5,982,413	387,202	6.92

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Census 2010. Release Date: February 2011](#) and [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Age and Gender Demographics

Population by gender within the 7 county report area is shown in Table 2. According to ACS 2008-2012 5 year population estimates for the report area, the female population comprised 51.22% of the report area, while the male population represented 48.78%.

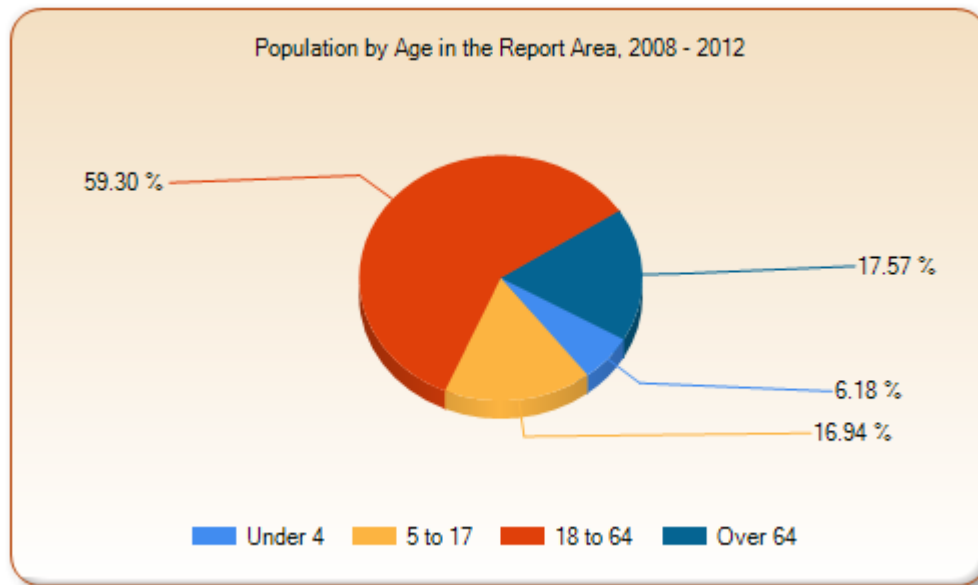


Table 2. Population By Gender, 2008 - 2012

County	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 64		Over 64	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Butler	1,511	1,232	3,743	3,522	12,251	13,367	2,870	3,989
Carter	262	222	474	581	1,801	1,849	472	540
Dent	486	447	1,371	1,220	4,635	4,484	1,135	1,638
Reynolds	205	179	640	510	1,888	1,886	610	700
Ripley	437	406	1,247	1,194	3,984	4,188	1,139	1,391
Shannon	257	250	702	717	2,501	2,500	657	776
Wayne	336	352	1,132	980	3,826	3,952	1,342	1,445
Report Area	3,494	3,088	9,309	8,724	30,886	32,226	8,225	10,479
Statewide	197,129	188,243	528,728	504,295	1,840,898	1,879,648	325,637	480,239

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Race Demographics

Population by race within the 7 county report area is shown in Table 3. According to the American Community Survey 5 year averages for the report area, white population comprised 94.26% of the report area, black population represented 2.47% , and all other races (American Indian, Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Other) combined were 1.43% . Persons identifying themselves as mixed race made up 1.84% of the population.

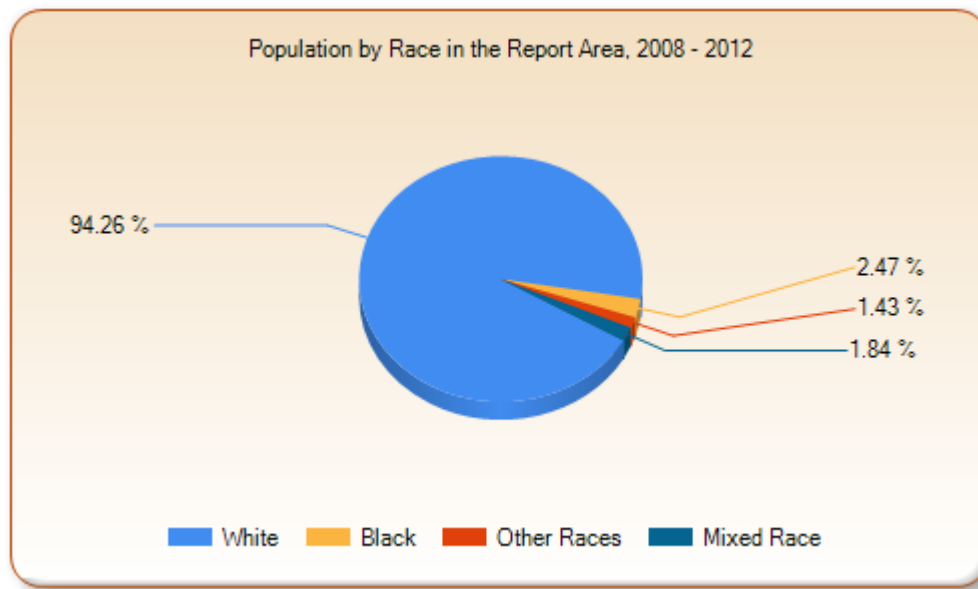


Table 3. Population By Race, 2008 - 2012

County	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Other	Mixed Race
Butler	38,789	2,343	132	271	0	357
Carter	5,984	42	30	0	0	6
Dent	15,034	52	160	125	7	17
Reynolds	6,460	59	45	3	0	15
Ripley	13,635	64	83	24	0	19
Shannon	8,112	49	106	0	0	0
Wayne	13,046	34	106	11	4	17
Report Area	101,060	2,643	662	434	11	431
Statewide	4,972,530	689,683	22,704	96,035	5,812	61,349

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Households

The change in number of households within the 7 county report area from 2000 to 2008/2012 is shown in Table 4. Total households for the report area increased by 572, or 1.36% in those counties reported in the 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data. This compares to a statewide increase of 7.46%.

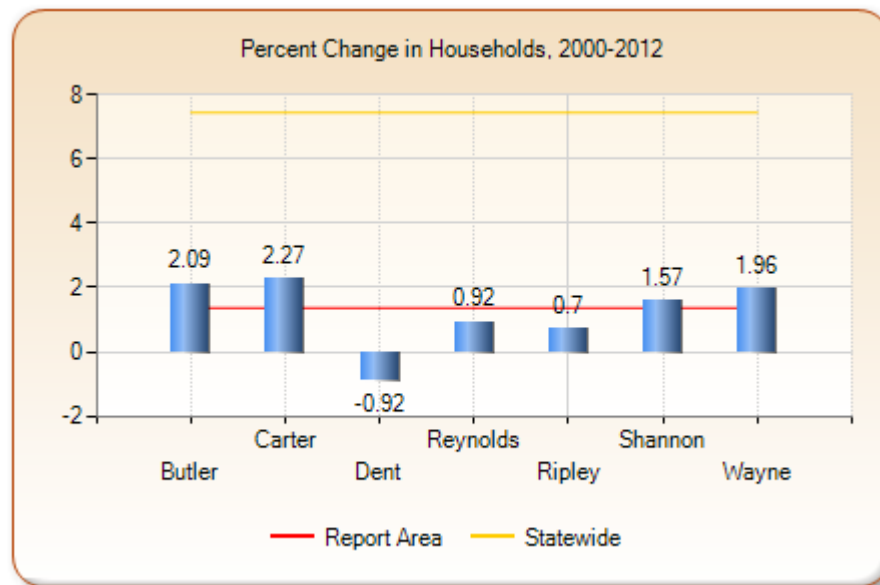


Table 4. Change in Number of Households, 2000 - 2012

County	Total Households, 2000	Total Households, 2008-2012	Change in Households	% Change in Households
Butler	16,718	17,067	349	2.09
Carter	2,378	2,432	54	2.27
Dent	5,982	5,927	-55	-0.92
Reynolds	2,721	2,746	25	0.92
Ripley	5,416	5,454	38	0.70
Shannon	3,319	3,371	52	1.57
Wayne	5,551	5,660	109	1.96
Report Area	42,085	42,657	572	1.36
Statewide	2,194,594	2,358,270	163,676	7.46

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, 2000](#) and [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013](#).

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Families

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 28,870 families in the 7 county report area in 2012. Married couple families comprised 78.31% of the total number. Families headed by men without wives comprised 5.20% of the total, while women without husbands headed 16.49% of families.

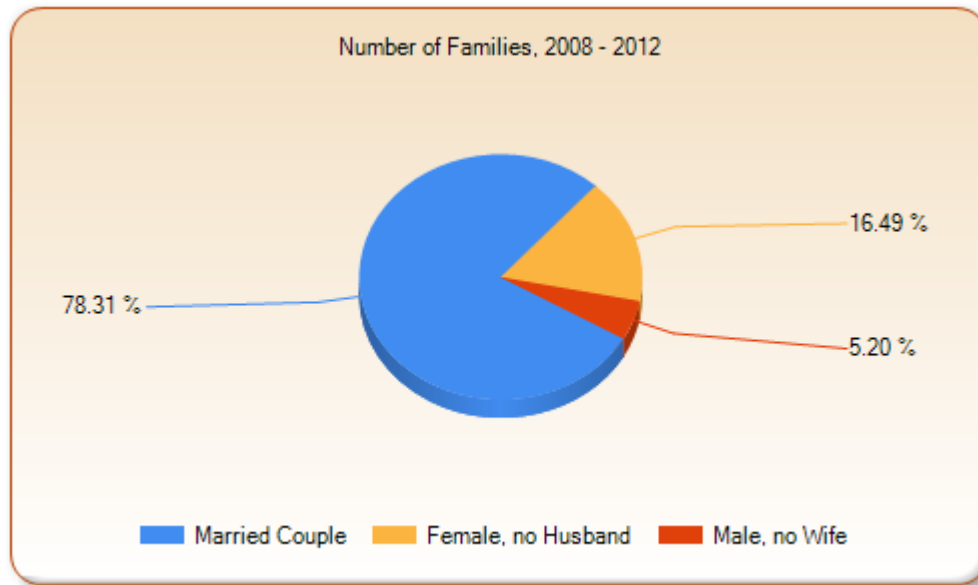


Table 5. Number of Families, 2008 - 2012

County	Number of Families			
	Total	Married Couple	Female, no Husband	Male, no Wife
Butler	11,245	8,485	2,244	516
Carter	1,571	1,204	305	62
Dent	4,195	3,342	591	262
Reynolds	1,741	1,373	255	113
Ripley	3,984	3,163	621	200
Shannon	2,411	2,044	244	123
Wayne	3,723	2,997	502	224
Report Area	28,870	22,608	4,762	1,500
Statewide	1,543,528	1,159,263	285,003	99,262

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Poverty

2012 poverty estimates show a total of 25,193 persons living below the poverty rate in the report area. The report area poverty rate of 23.8% is above the Missouri average of 16.2% during 2012. In 2012, Ripley County had the highest poverty rate (27.4%), while Dent County had the lowest poverty rate (20%).

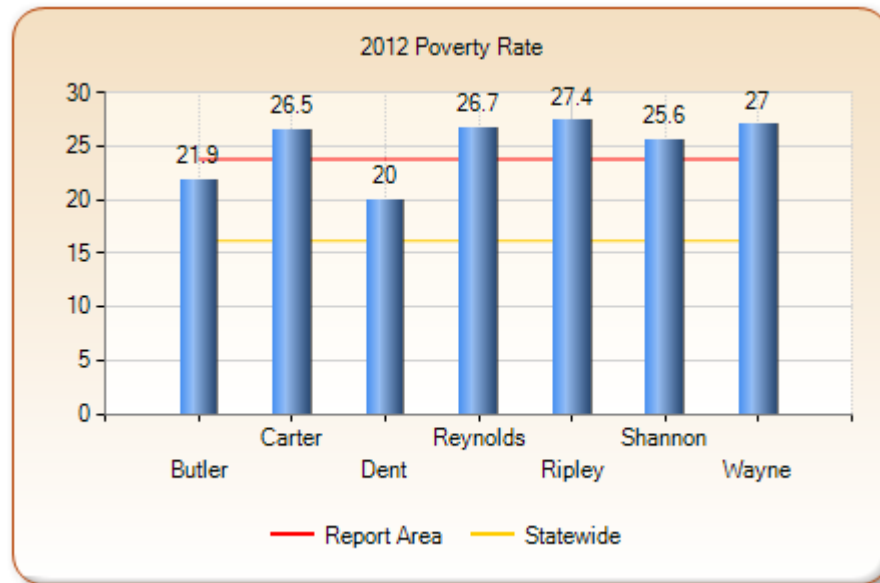


Table 6. Poverty, 2012

County	All Ages		Age 0-17		Age 5-17	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate
Butler	9,258	21.9	3,252	33.3	2,201	31.0
Carter	1,647	26.5	602	40.4	414	38.5
Dent	3,075	20.0	1,072	30.5	737	28.6
Reynolds	1,739	26.7	546	39.3	371	35.0
Ripley	3,797	27.4	1,295	40.6	888	38.8
Shannon	2,104	25.6	773	42.4	541	40.0
Wayne	3,573	27.0	1,140	41.3	775	39.0
Report Area	25,193	23.8	8,680	36.3	5,927	34.0
Statewide	945,435	16.2	310,382	22.6	205,173	20.6

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\), 2012](#). Estimates for 2012 were released in December 2013.

Population Profile: Poverty Rate Change

Poverty rate change in the 7 county report area from 2000 to 2012 is shown in Table 7. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for the 7 county area increased by 4.8%, compared to a statewide increase of 5.6%. Ripley County experienced the greatest change in poverty, increasing by 6.9% from 2000-2012 and Shannon County experienced the least amount of change, increasing by 1.6%.

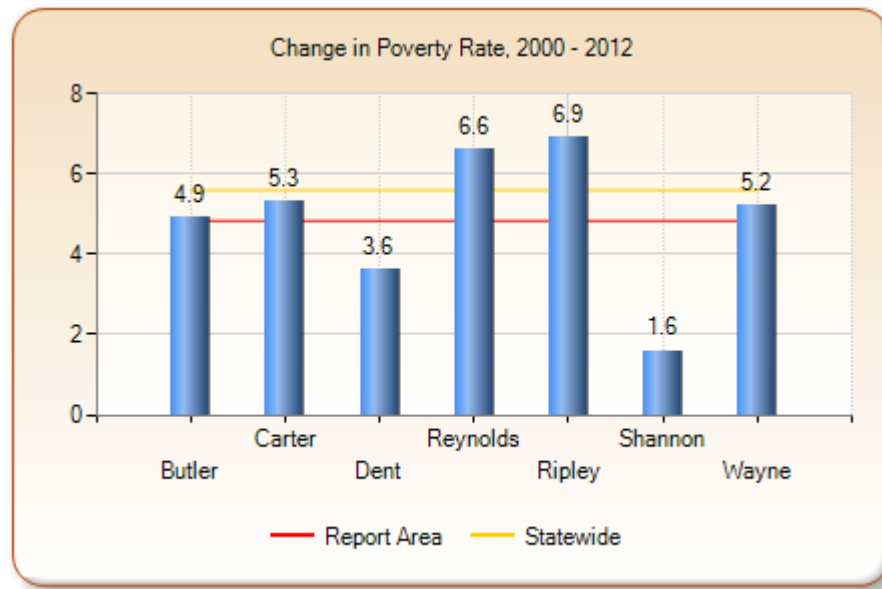


Table 7. Change in Poverty Rate, 2000 - 2012

County	Persons in Poverty, 2000	Poverty Rate, 2000	Persons in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Change in Poverty Rate, 2000 - 2012
Butler	6,799	17.0	9,258	21.9	4.9
Carter	1,246	21.2	1,647	26.5	5.3
Dent	2,429	16.4	3,075	20.0	3.6
Reynolds	1,308	20.1	1,739	26.7	6.6
Ripley	2,718	20.5	3,797	27.4	6.9
Shannon	1,994	24.0	2,104	25.6	1.6
Wayne	2,851	21.8	3,573	27.0	5.2
Report Area	19,345	19.0	25,193	23.8	4.8
Statewide	581,207	10.6	945,435	16.2	5.6

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\), 2012](#). Estimates for 2012 were released in December 2013.

Population Profile: Seniors in Poverty

Poverty rates for seniors, including data for all counties from the 2000 Census as of April 1, 2000, and data from the American Community Survey as average values for the 2008 to 2012 period are shown in Table 8. In 2000, the senior poverty rate was highest in Ripley County at 20.4% and lowest in Dent County at 12.2%. This compares to a statewide rate of 8.9%.

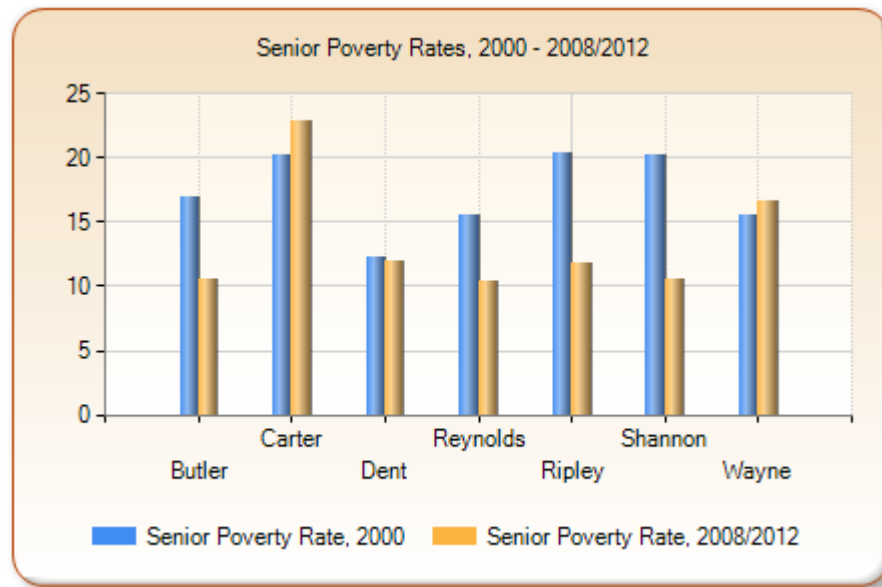


Table 8. Seniors in Poverty, 2000 - 2008/2012

County	Seniors in Poverty, 2000	Senior Poverty Rate, 2000	Seniors in Poverty, 2008/2012	Senior Poverty Rate, 2008/2012
Butler	1,067	16.9	712	10.6
Carter	183	20.2	228	22.8
Dent	307	12.2	338	12.0
Reynolds	165	15.5	140	10.4
Ripley	452	20.4	301	11.8
Shannon	243	20.2	152	10.6
Wayne	394	15.6	463	16.7
Report Area	2,811	16.8	2,334	12.5
Statewide	70,476	9.9	71,758	8.9

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, 2000.](#); [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#) The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Households in Poverty

Table 9 shows the number and percentage of households in poverty in the 7 county report area. At 19.7 percent, Dent, had the lowest percentage of households in poverty while the Ripley, had the largest percentage of households in poverty. In 2012, it is estimated that there were 9,167 households, or 21.49 percent, living in poverty within the report area, compared to a statewide average of 14.4 percent.

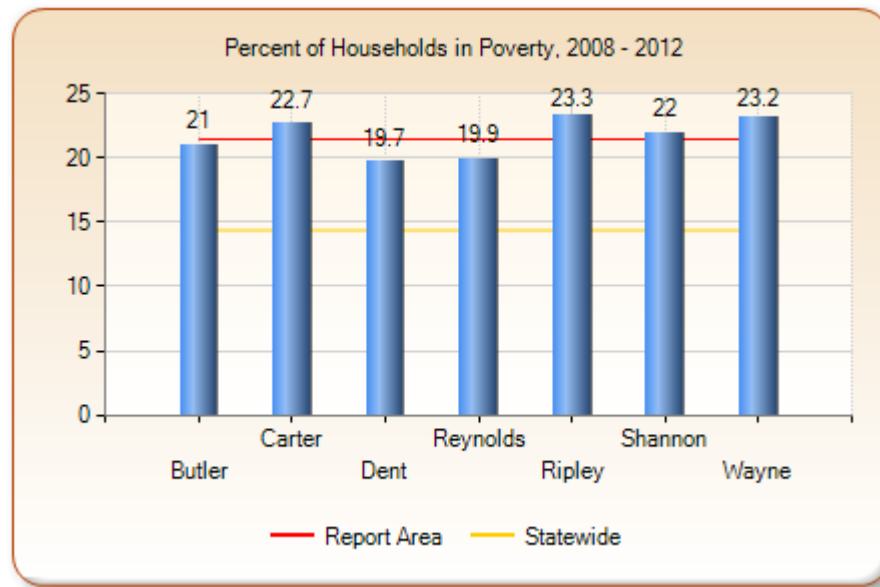


Table 9. Households in Poverty, 2000/2008 - 2012

County	Total Households, 2000	Households in Poverty, 2000	% Households in Poverty, 2000	Total Households, 2008/2012	Households in Poverty, 2008/2012	% Households in Poverty, 2008/2012
Butler	16,737	3,167	18.92	17,067	3,580	21.0
Carter	2,377	551	23.18	2,432	551	22.7
Dent	6,017	988	16.42	5,927	1,166	19.7
Reynolds	2,735	556	20.33	2,746	546	19.9
Ripley	5,438	1,280	23.54	5,454	1,270	23.3
Shannon	3,329	868	26.07	3,371	741	22.0
Wayne	5,540	1,205	21.75	5,660	1,313	23.2
Report Area	42,173	8,615	20.43	42,657	9,167	21.5
Statewide	2,197,214	258,419	11.76	2,358,270	338,498	14.4

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, 2000.](#); [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Population Profile: Juvenile Court Referrals

The number of juvenile court referrals in 2008 within the 7 county report area is shown in Table 10, in addition to the number of referrals per 100 persons age 10 to 19. Missouri Department of Social Services data indicates Butler County had the greatest number of referrals per 100 persons age 10-19 at 12.08 and Wayne had the least with 2.2. The rate for the report area was 6.93 which was lower than the statewide rate of 9.79.

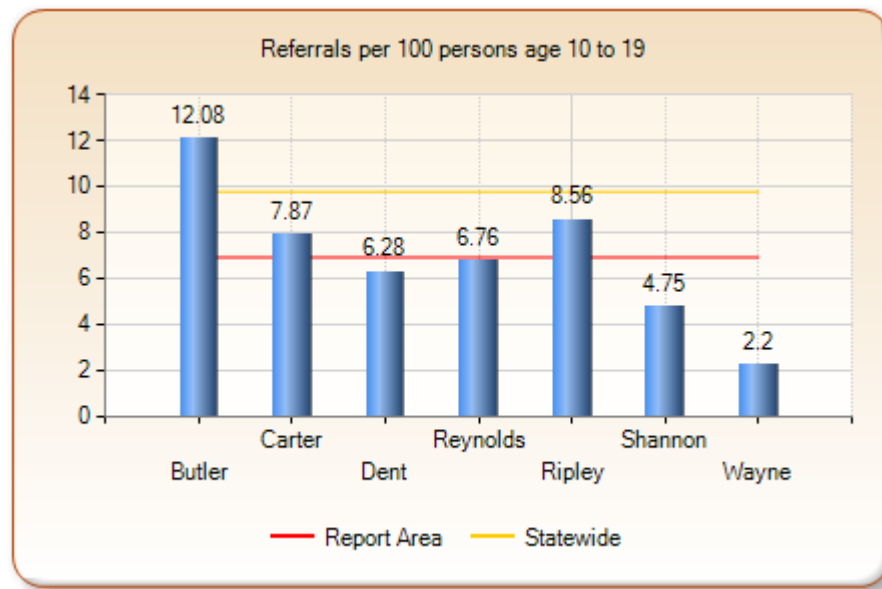


Table 10. Juvenile Court Referrals, 2008

County	Number of Referrals	Referrals per 100 Persons Age 10 to 19
Butler	609	12.08
Carter	61	7.87
Dent	121	6.28
Reynolds	56	6.76
Ripley	152	8.56
Shannon	54	4.75
Wayne	33	2.20
Report Area	1,086	6.93
Statewide	68,283	9.79

Source: [Missouri Department of Social Services, Division of Youth Services, 2008 Juvenile Court Statistics Report](#)

Population Profile: Domestic Violence

Reported incidents of domestic violence within the 7 county report area are shown in Table 11. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, a total of 482 incidents were reported in 2013.

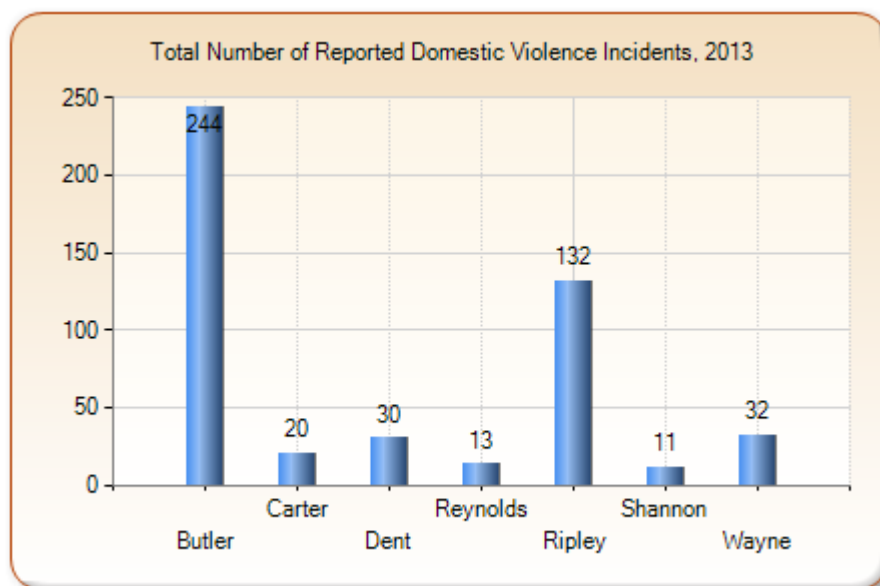


Table 11. Domestic Violence

County	Spouses	Former Spouses	With Children in Common	Related by Blood	Related by Marriage	Not Married, Residing Together	Not Married, Formerly Residing Together	Total Number of Reported Incidents	Incidents per 1,000 Persons
Butler	62	9	10	52	6	54	3	244	5.70
Carter	1	1	3	5	0	9	1	20	3.21
Dent	9	1	2	6	3	2	0	30	1.92
Reynolds	4	0	2	4	0	3	0	13	1.95
Ripley	37	1	11	23	5	28	12	132	9.38
Shannon	0	1	2	3	2	0	2	11	1.31
Wayne	6	0	2	6	3	5	3	32	2.38
Report Area	119	13	32	99	19	101	21	482	4.50
Statewide	7,155	922	4,890	7,718	1,387	9,070	1,350	39,900	6.67

Source: [Missouri State Highway Patrol, Uniform Crime Reporting \(UCR\) Program, 2013.](#)

Population Profile: Violent Crime

Occurrences of violent crime within the 7 county report area are shown in Table 12. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, a total of 2 murders, 0 incidents of involuntary manslaughter, 302 assaults, 31 armed robberies and 24 rapes and attempted rapes took place in 2013.

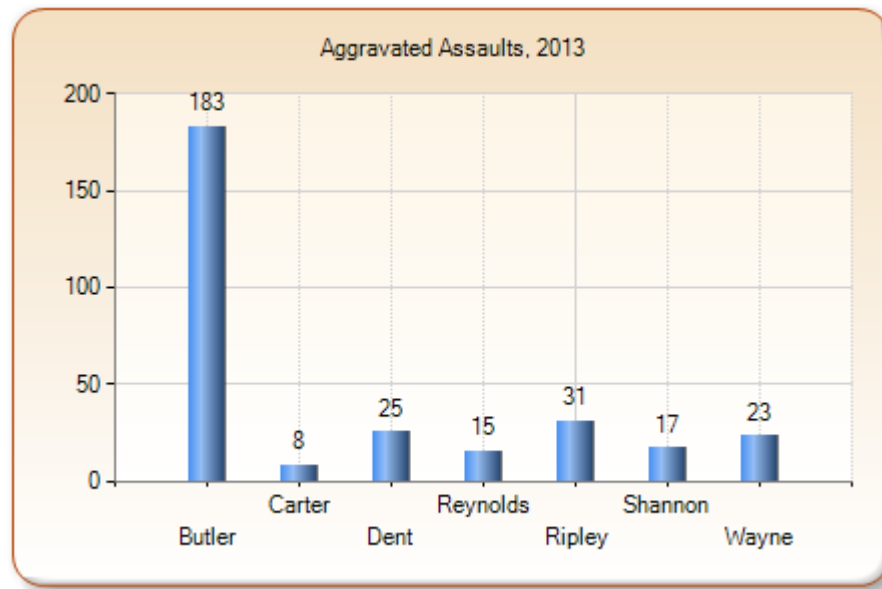


Table 12. Homicides, Involuntary Manslaughter, Aggravated Assaults, Armed Robberies, Forcible Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 2013

County	Homicide	Involuntary Manslaughter	Aggravated Assault	Armed Robbery	Forcible Rape	Attempted Rape
Butler	0	0	183	22	11	0
Carter	0	0	8	0	0	0
Dent	0	0	25	1	1	0
Reynolds	0	0	15	1	2	0
Ripley	1	0	31	4	5	0
Shannon	0	0	17	2	1	1
Wayne	1	0	23	1	3	0
Report Area	2	0	302	31	23	1
Statewide	369	17	18,190	5,481	2,024	99

Source: [Missouri State Highway Patrol, Uniform Crime Reporting \(UCR\) Program, 2014.](#)

Population Profile: Property Crime

Occurrences of violent crime within the 7 county report area are shown in Table 13. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, a total of 781 burglaries, 2,377 larcenies, 199 automotive thefts, and 43 incidents of arson were reported in 2013.

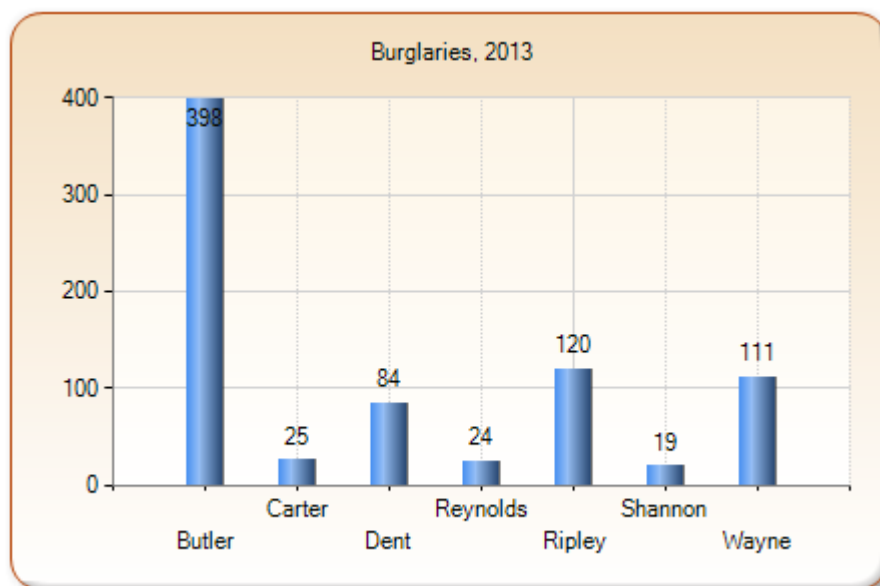


Table 13. Burglary, Larceny, Auto Theft, and Arson, 2013

County	Burglaries	Larcenies	Auto Theft	Arson	Property Crimes Total
Butler	398	1,479	110	27	2,036
Carter	25	38	6	2	71
Dent	84	269	21	2	377
Reynolds	24	27	3	3	58
Ripley	120	359	19	1	503
Shannon	19	61	11	4	97
Wayne	111	144	29	4	289
Report Area	781	2,377	199	43	3,431
Statewide	38,584	134,032	16,164	1,204	195,465

Source: [Missouri State Highway Patrol, Uniform Crime Reporting \(UCR\) Program, 2014.](#)

Population Profile: Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics

Table 14 shows the numbers of veterans living in the 7 county report area. In the adult population, the greatest percentage (13.69%) of veterans live in Butler County, while Shannon County has the smallest percentage of Veterans (11.25%). 13.15 percent of the adult population in the report area are veterans, which is less than the statewide average of 10.9 percent.

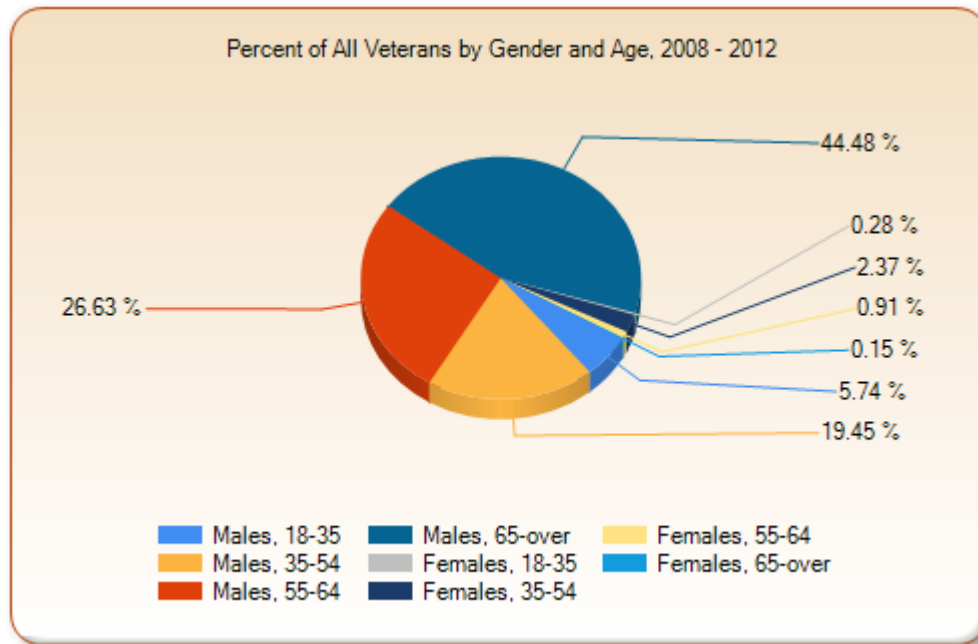


Table 14. Age and Gender Demographics of Veterans, 2008 - 2012

County	Veterans			Percent of Population over 18 by Gender		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Butler	4,485	4,357	128	13.69	28.29	0.74
Carter	568	556	12	12.12	24.21	0.50
Dent	1,643	1,508	135	13.61	25.35	2.21
Reynolds	695	672	23	13.50	26.23	0.89
Ripley	1,427	1,390	37	13.24	26.75	0.66
Shannon	729	696	33	11.25	21.72	1.01
Wayne	1,309	1,275	34	12.30	24.30	0.63
Report Area	10,856	10,454	402	13.15	26.23	0.94
Statewide	494,876	463,857	31,019	10.89	21.21	1.32

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013](#). The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Employment

Employment: Current Unemployment

Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for each county in the 7 county report area is provided in Table 15. According to the U.S. Department of Labor in February 2014, unemployment in the report area varies from 6.9% in Dent County to 10.8% in Shannon County. Overall, the report area experienced an average 8% unemployment rate in February 2014 compared to a statewide rate of 7.6%.

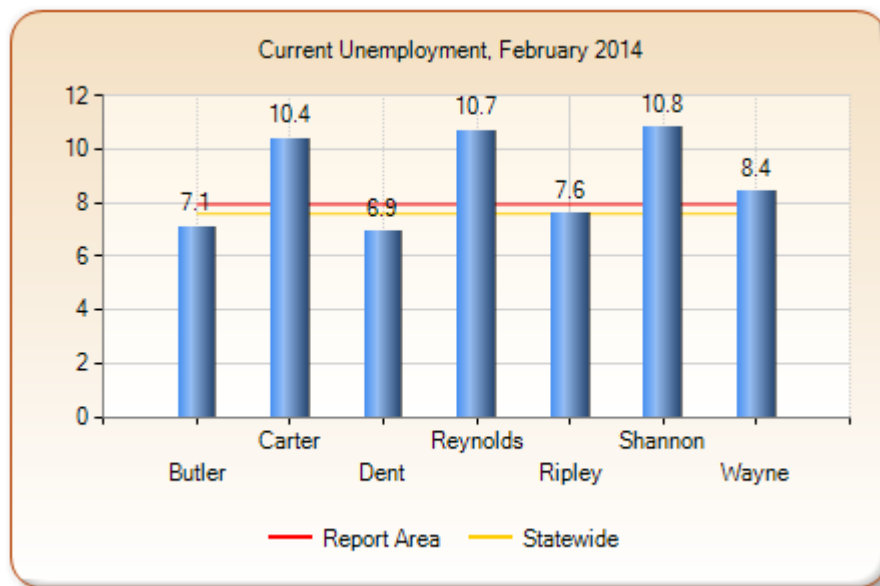


Table 15. Employment/Unemployment Information, February 2014

County	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Butler	21,582	20,039	1,543	7.1
Carter	2,921	2,616	305	10.4
Dent	7,341	6,832	509	6.9
Reynolds	2,627	2,346	281	10.7
Ripley	7,011	6,479	532	7.6
Shannon	3,523	3,142	381	10.8
Wayne	6,180	5,658	522	8.4
Report Area	51,185	47,112	4,073	8.0
Statewide	3,013,979	2,784,561	229,418	7.6

Source: [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, April 9, 2014.](#)

Employment: Unemployment Change

Unemployment change within the 7 county report area during the 1-year period from February 2013 to February 2014 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this one year period grew from 3,944 persons to 4,073 persons, a rate change of -0.01% compared to a statewide rate change of +0.2%. The greatest change in the unemployment rate occurred in Dent County with a rate increase of 0.6% while the smallest change was in Carter County with a rate decrease of 1.3%.

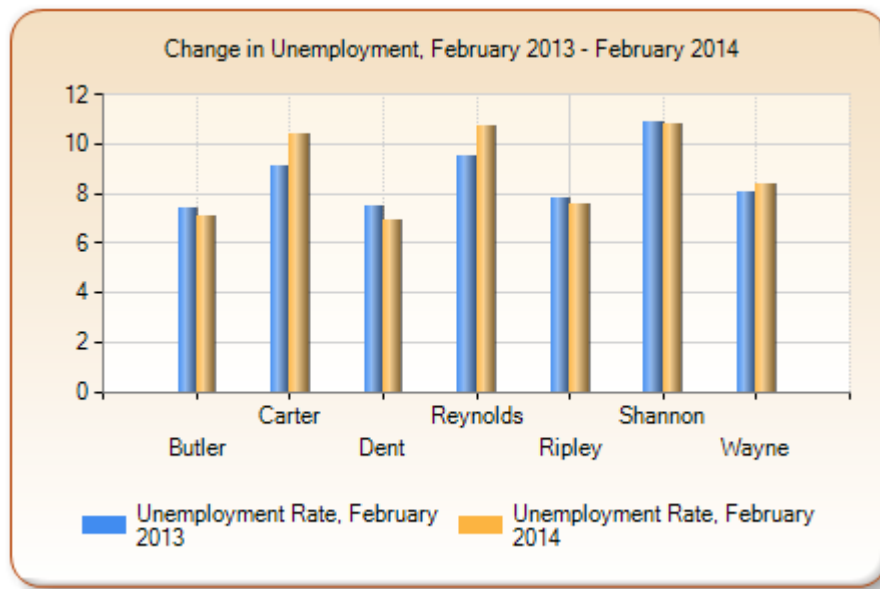


Table 16. Change in Unemployment, February 2013 - February 2014

County	Unemployment, February 2013	Unemployment, February 2014	Unemployment Rate, February 2013	Unemployment Rate, February 2014
Butler	1,569	1,543	7.40	7.10
Carter	261	305	9.10	10.40
Dent	514	509	7.50	6.90
Reynolds	244	281	9.50	10.70
Ripley	538	532	7.80	7.60
Shannon	345	381	10.90	10.80
Wayne	473	522	8.10	8.40
Report Area	3,944	4,073	7.97	7.96
Statewide	221,083	229,418	7.40	7.60

Source: [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, April 9, 2014.](#)

Employment: Top Employers**Table 17. Employers**

County	
Butler	
Carter	
Dent	
Reynolds	
Ripley	
Shannon	
Wayne	
Report Area	

Employment: Household Income

Median annual household incomes in the 7 county report area are shown in Table 18. According to the U.S. Census, Median Annual Household Incomes ranged from a low of \$27,750 in Shannon County to a high of \$34,414 in Butler County in 2012.

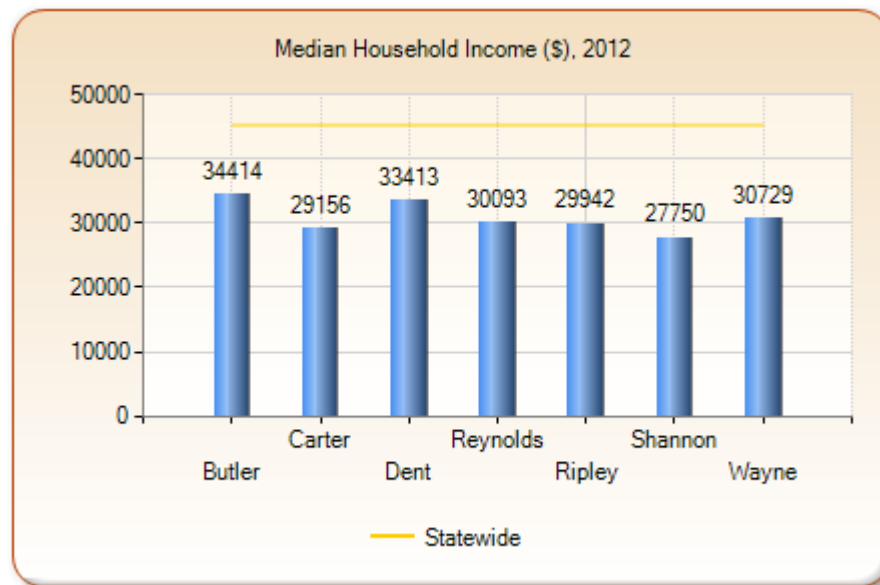


Table 18. Median Annual Household Income, 2012

County	Median Household Income (\$)
Butler	34,414
Carter	29,156
Dent	33,413
Reynolds	30,093
Ripley	29,942
Shannon	27,750
Wayne	30,729
Statewide	45,320

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\), 2012.](#) Estimates for 2012 were released in December 2013.

Employment: Wages

Average hourly and annual wages in the 7 county report area are shown in Table 19. According to the Missouri Department of Economic Development, annual wages ranged from \$19,873 in Shannon County to \$30,879 in Butler County in 2011. The 7 county report area average annual wage was \$24,572 compared to a statewide average of \$41,474.

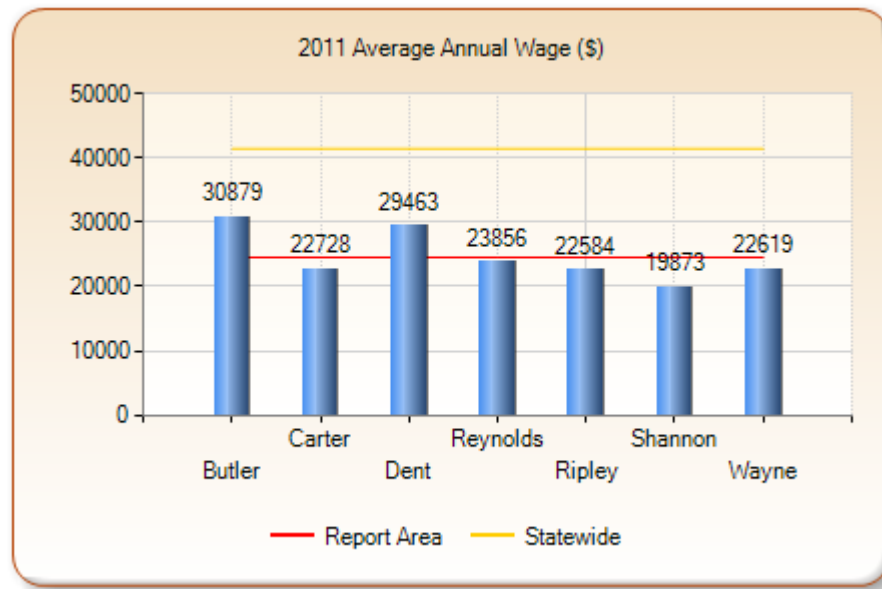


Table 19. 2011 Average Wages

County	Average Hourly Wage (\$)	Average Annual Wage (\$)
Butler	14.85	30,879
Carter	10.93	22,728
Dent	14.16	29,463
Reynolds	11.47	23,856
Ripley	10.86	22,584
Shannon	9.55	19,873
Wayne	10.87	22,619
Report Area	11.81	24,572
Statewide	19.94	41,474

Source: [Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center \(MERIC\), Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, All Industries, Public and Private, data for calendar year 2011.](#)

Employment: Living Wage

The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support their family, if they are the sole provider and are working full-time (2080 hours per year). The living wage for a family of four (two adults, two children) for the 7 county report area ranges from \$16.21 in Butler County to \$16.21 in Butler County. The Minimum Hourly Wage for Missouri is \$7.35.

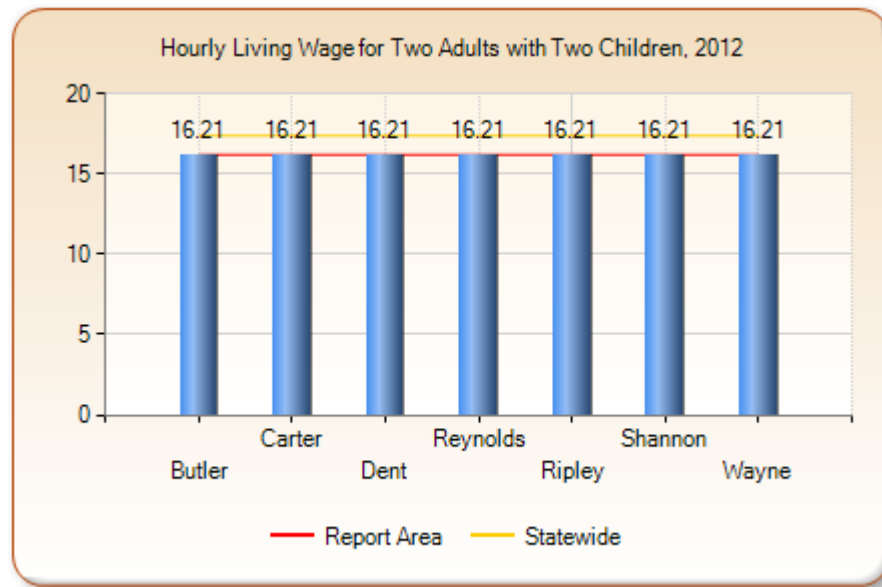


Table 20. County Hourly Living Wage, 2012

County	One Adult	One Adult, One Child	Two Adults	Two Adults, One Child	Two Adults, Two Children
Butler	7.64	15.60	12.16	14.82	16.21
Carter	7.65	15.60	12.16	14.82	16.21
Dent	7.35	15.60	12.10	14.82	16.21
Reynolds	7.65	15.60	12.16	14.82	16.21
Ripley	7.65	15.60	12.16	14.82	16.21
Shannon	7.31	15.60	12.15	14.82	16.21
Wayne	7.65	15.60	12.16	14.82	16.21
Report Area	7.56	15.60	12.15	14.82	16.21
Statewide	8.17	16.84	13.11	16.05	17.42

Source: [Poverty in America, Living Wage Calculator, June 2012. \(© 2013 Dr. Amy K. Glasmeier and The Pennsylvania State University\)](#)

Employment: High School Graduation Rate

The number of high school graduates and the graduation rate in the 7 county report area are shown in Table 21. According to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, graduation rates ranged from 77.45% in Butler County to 98.67% in Shannon County in the 2011/2012 academic school year. The 7 county report area average graduation rate was 85.1%, above the statewide rate of 85.19%.

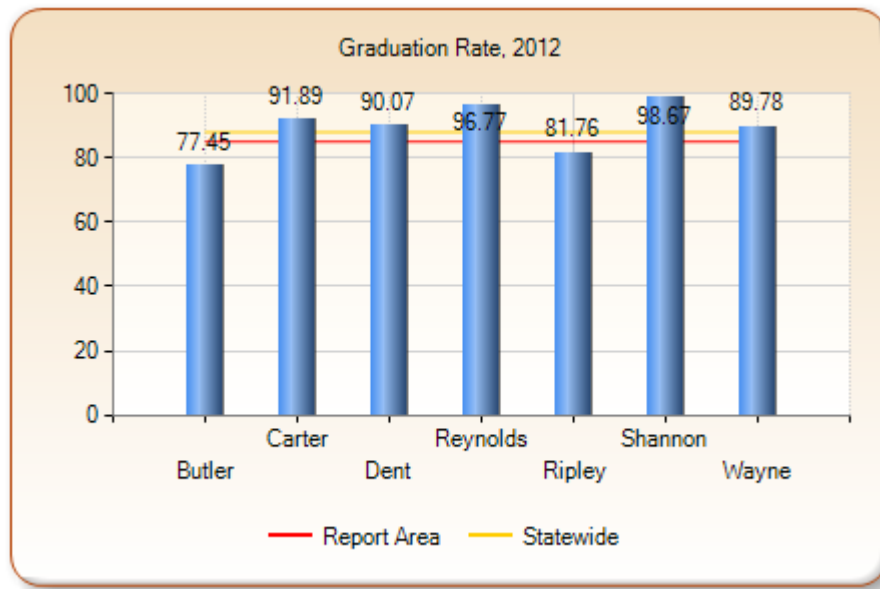


Table 21. High School Graduation Rate, 2012

County	Graduates	Graduation Rate
Butler	371	77.45
Carter	102	91.89
Dent	127	90.07
Reynolds	90	96.77
Ripley	130	81.76
Shannon	74	98.67
Wayne	123	89.78
Report Area	1,017	85.10
Statewide	61,047	88.19

Source: [Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Annual Reporting of School District Data, 2011/2012 Academic Year.](#) Data provided by school district, summarized by DESE school district - county association.

Employment: Child Care Costs

The 2010-2011 Department of Social Services Childcare Market Rate Survey shows the average costs for child care based on responses from licensed care providers in each county. Cost of child care for each type of care and age group for the 7 county report area is shown in Table 22. Child care costs in the report area, including all age groups and type of care, range from \$0 per day in Carter County to \$27 per day in Butler County.

Table 22. Average Child Care Costs, 2011

County	Type of Care	Daily Cost, Infant (\$)	Daily Cost, Pre-School (\$)	Daily Cost, School Age (\$)
Butler	CENTER	27.50	20.00	20.00
Butler	FAMILY	17.00	20.00	10.00
Butler	GROUP	20.00	15.00	7.00
Carter	CENTER	0.00	8.50	0.00
Carter	FAMILY	14.00	0.00	0.00
Carter	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dent	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dent	FAMILY	15.00	15.00	15.00
Dent	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reynolds	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ripley	CENTER	16.50	12.50	12.50
Ripley	FAMILY	14.00	12.00	12.00
Ripley	GROUP	20.00	20.00	20.00
Shannon	CENTER	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shannon	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shannon	GROUP	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wayne	CENTER	0.00	12.00	12.00
Wayne	FAMILY	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wayne	GROUP	17.00	14.00	14.00
Report Area	0	7.67	7.10	5.83
Statewide	CENTER	40.00	30.00	23.20
Statewide	FAMILY	25.00	20.00	18.00
Statewide	GROUP	25.00	19.00	18.50

Source: [Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division, Early Childhood and Prevention Services, Childcare Market Rate Survey, 2011.](#)

Employment: Child Care Facilities

The number of licensed child care facilities and total maximum capacity of slots within the 7 county report area are shown in Table 23. According to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, there were a total of 63 licensed child care facilities in the report area in 2008, ranging from 3 in Reynolds County to 26 in Butler County, with a combined maximum capacity of 2,275 children.

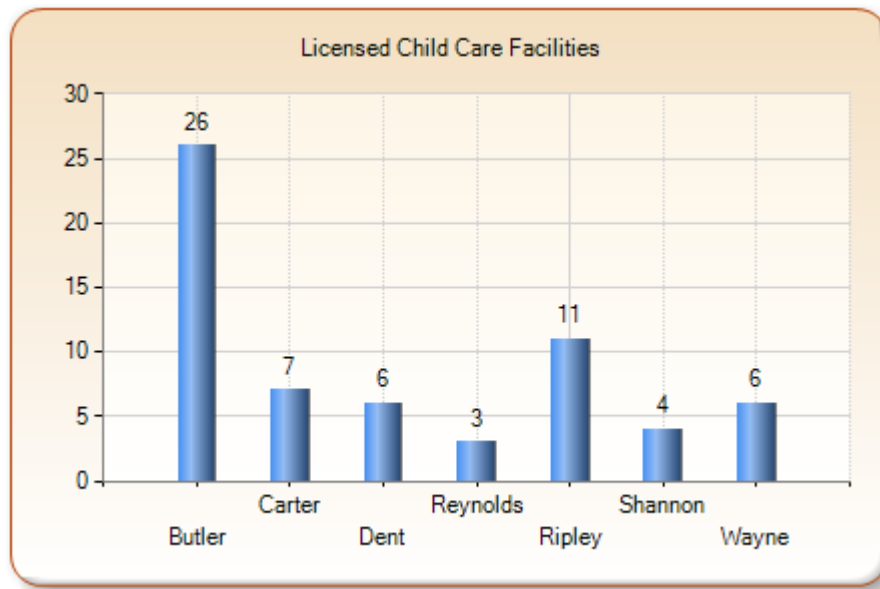


Table 23. Licensed Child Care Facilities

County	Number of Facilities	Total Maximum Capacity
Butler	26	1,337
Carter	7	190
Dent	6	139
Reynolds	3	60
Ripley	11	325
Shannon	4	80
Wayne	6	144
Report Area	63	2,275
Statewide	4,416	148,819

Source: [Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Section for Child Care Regulation, June 2008.](#)

Employment: Child Care Wait List

This information must be collected locally. Please see the list of [Licensed Child Care Providers](#) in this area for contact information.

Table 24. Wait List for Child Care Providers

County	Number of Children on Wait Lists
Butler	
Carter	
Dent	
Reynolds	
Ripley	
Shannon	
Wayne	
Report Area	

Source: Locally Collected. For a listing of licensed child care providers in this area, [click here](#).

Employment: Commuter Travel Patterns, 2008 - 2012

Table 25 shows the method of transportation workers used to travel to work for the 7 county report area. Of the 41,232 workers in the report area, 92.77 percent, or 38,249 workers used private automobiles to travel to work. Of these, 81.66 percent drove to work alone while 11.10 percent carpoolled. 0.42 percent of all workers reported that they used some form of public transportation, while 3.38 percent (or 1,392 workers) used some other means including walking, bicycles, and taxicabs to travel to work.

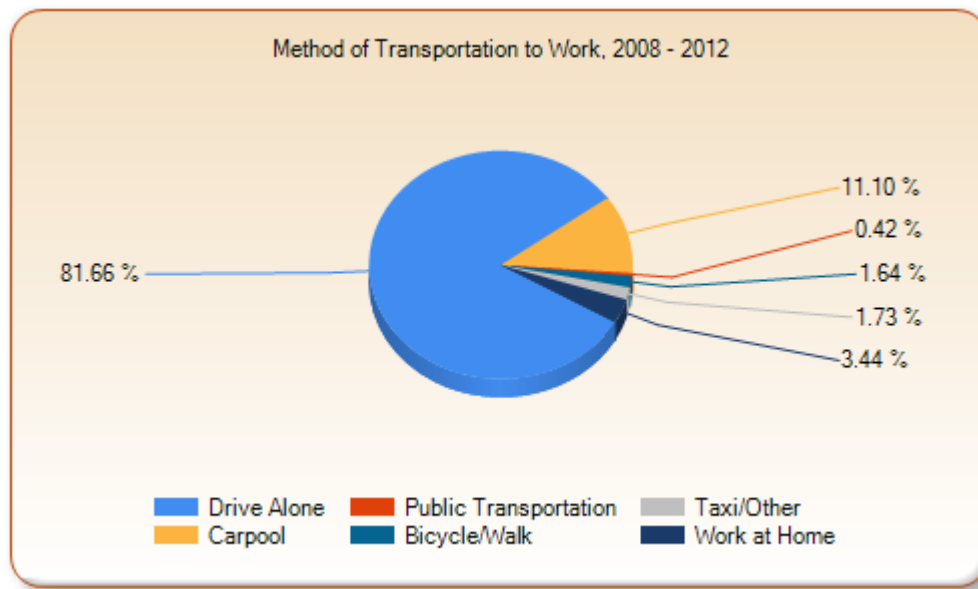


Table 25. Method of Transportation to Work

County	Workers 16 and Up	Method of Transportation to Work (Percent)					
		Drive Alone	Carpool	Public Transportation	Bicycle/Wal k	Taxi/Other	Work at Home
Butler	17,528	85.7	9.0	0.7	0.8	1.0	2.8
Carter	2,403	81.8	7.9	0.3	1.8	1.5	6.8
Dent	5,959	83.0	8.6	0.0	2.0	3.4	3.0
Reynolds	2,194	74.6	16.7	0.0	2.6	3.7	2.4
Ripley	4,965	78.7	17.3	0.4	1.4	0.5	1.7
Shannon	3,240	76.1	14.2	0.0	2.2	2.5	5.1
Wayne	4,943	75.6	12.4	0.6	3.6	2.3	5.6
Report Area	41,232	81.7	11.1	0.4	1.6	1.7	3.4
Statewide	8,877,453	54.0	7.1	26.8	6.9	1.3	3.9

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.](#)

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Employment: Thirteen Month Unemployment Rates

Unemployment change within the 7 county report area from February 2013 to February 2014 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this thirteen month period fell from 7.97 percent to 7.96 percent, compared to a statewide increase from 7.4 percent to 7.6 percent. The greatest increase in the unemployment rate occurred in Dent County with a rate increase of 0.6 while the greatest drop was in Carter County with a rate decrease of -1.3.

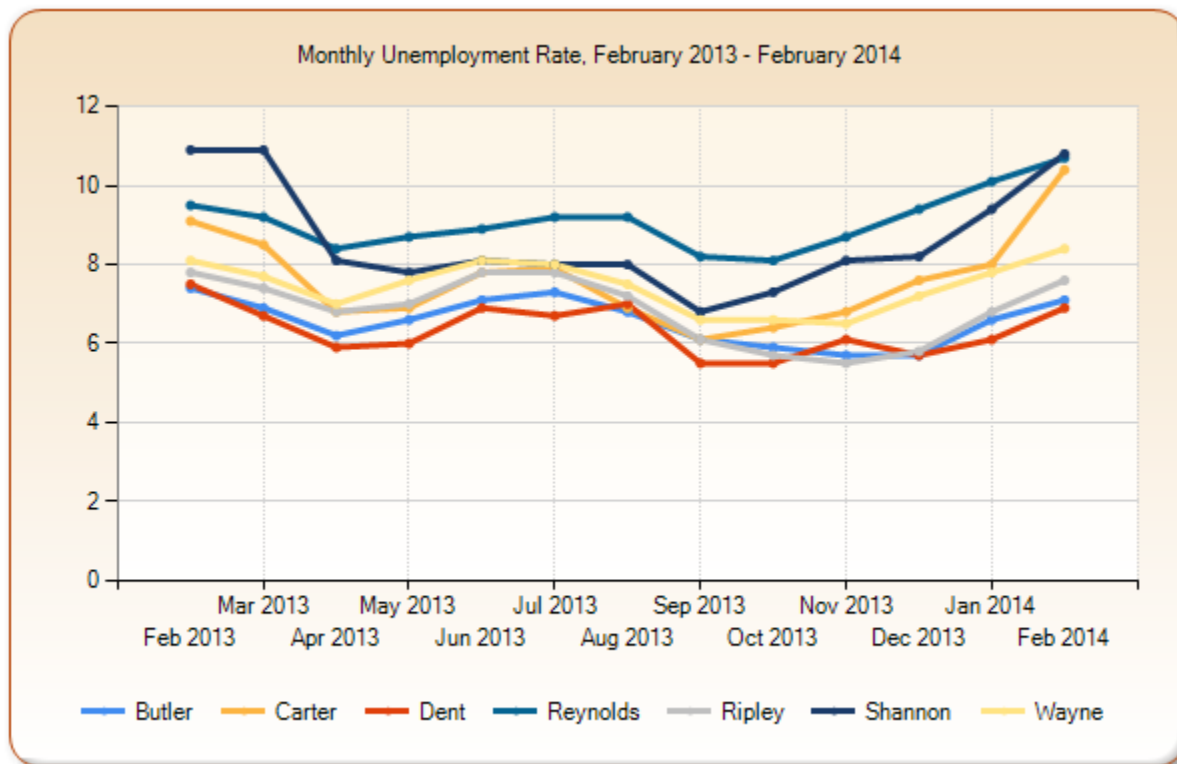


Table 26. Change in Unemployment Rates, February 2013 - February 2014

County	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Jun 2013	Jul 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2013	Oct 2013	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014
Butler	7.40	6.90	6.20	6.60	7.10	7.30	6.80	6.10	5.90	5.70	5.70	6.60	7.10
Carter	9.10	8.50	6.80	6.90	7.80	7.90	6.90	6.10	6.40	6.80	7.60	8.00	10.40
Dent	7.50	6.70	5.90	6.00	6.90	6.70	7.00	5.50	5.50	6.10	5.70	6.10	6.90
Reynolds	9.50	9.20	8.40	8.70	8.90	9.20	9.20	8.20	8.10	8.70	9.40	10.10	10.70
Ripley	7.80	7.40	6.80	7.00	7.80	7.80	7.20	6.10	5.70	5.50	5.80	6.80	7.60
Shannon	10.90	10.90	8.10	7.80	8.10	8.00	8.00	6.80	7.30	8.10	8.20	9.40	10.80
Wayne	8.10	7.70	7.00	7.60	8.10	8.00	7.50	6.60	6.60	6.50	7.20	7.80	8.40
Report Area	7.97	7.49	6.62	6.91	7.49	7.58	7.16	6.23	6.14	6.22	6.35	7.15	7.96
Statewide	7.40	6.90	6.10	6.50	6.90	7.10	6.80	6.00	5.90	5.70	5.80	6.80	7.60

Source: [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, April 9, 2014.](#)

Employment: Five Year Unemployment Rate

Unemployment change within the 7 county report area from February 2010 to February 2014 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this five year period fell from 10.1 percent to 7.9 percent, compared to a statewide decrease from 10.3 percent to 7.6 percent. For February, unemployment change in the report area from 2010 to 2014 varies from -4.2 percent in Shannon to -0.6 percent in Wayne.

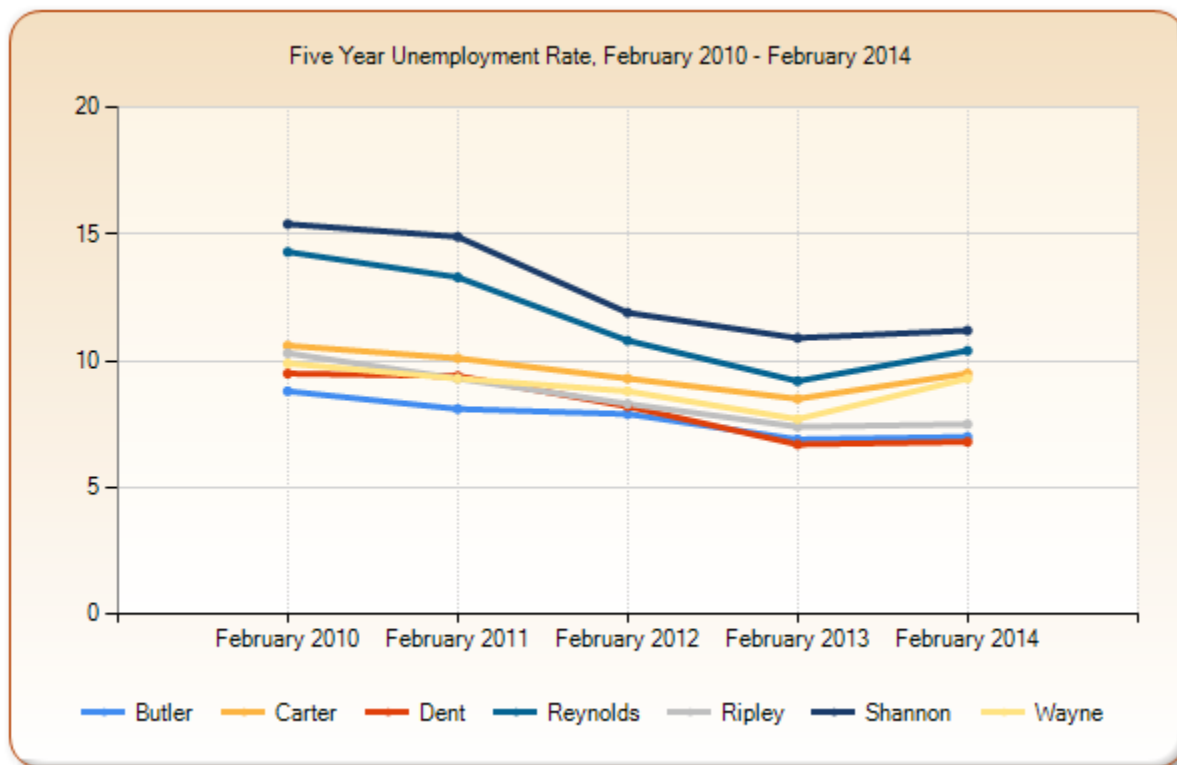


Table 27. Five Year Unemployment Rate, February 2010 - February 2014

County	February 2010	February 2011	February 2012	February 2013	February 2014
Butler	8.8	8.1	7.9	6.9	7.0
Carter	10.6	10.1	9.3	8.5	9.5
Dent	9.5	9.4	8.2	6.7	6.8
Reynolds	14.3	13.3	10.8	9.2	10.4
Ripley	10.3	9.3	8.3	7.4	7.5
Shannon	15.4	14.9	11.9	10.9	11.2
Wayne	9.9	9.3	8.8	7.7	9.3

Report Area	10.1	9.4	8.6	7.5	7.9
Statewide	9.9	9.0	7.5	6.9	7.4

Source: [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, April 9, 2014.](#)