



# Community Asset Mapping Report for Toledo

*in partnership with*

Lincoln County School District



Prepared parents. Healthy families.

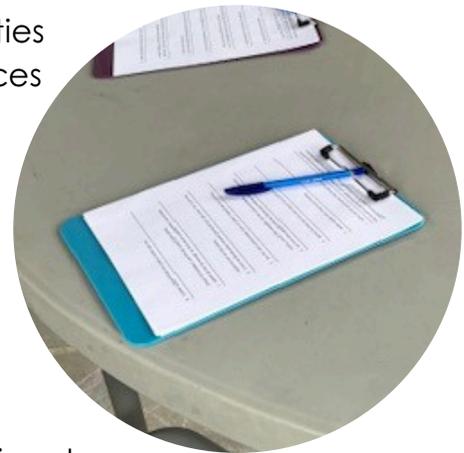


Early  
Learning **Hub**

*of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties*

## Pollywog's Community Asset Mapping Project

The Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties is proud to support the families in our region with services and information about early childhood learning and development. We believe that by working together as a collective of agencies and service providers, we can increase family stability, improve kindergarten readiness, and ensure service coordination that is equitable, and culturally and linguistically competent.



A crucial component of our coordinated work is data about the families in our region and the social determinants of health, i.e. the conditions in which we are born, grow, live, work, and age, that affect their lives. Quantitative community data from reliable sources is useful for understanding the context of social determinants of health, like the population of a town or the median household income of a city. But to understand how social determinants of health factor into the daily lives of families in our region we must ask community members, and we must listen to their responses.

With this directive in mind, Pollywog and the EL Hub are conducting a regional Asset Mapping Project in 15 rural Linn/Benton/Lincoln communities. Asset Mapping is an innovative tool for community-based participatory research, and with this project we seek to engage and center the voices and experiences of families raising young children in rural communities.

Rural communities, in particular, face deep disparities in the resources that families need to raise happy and healthy children, and this inequity isn't always related to geography. With each Asset Mapping session, we ask direct questions about families' experiences in accessing resources and services in their community and beyond. Their answers show where families encounter gaps in needed support and will translate into data that will inform program funding plans across our region.

The selected communities were chosen because they are similar in size (under 20,000 residents) and have two of these existing assets - a grocery store that sells fresh meats and produce, a library, and a health care clinic.

The 15 communities are: Brownsville, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Mill City, Scio, and Sweet Home (Linn County); Alsea, Monroe, and Philomath (Benton County); Lincoln City, Newport, Siletz, Toledo, and Waldport (Lincoln County).

## What is Asset Mapping?

Asset Mapping, or the process of creating a map of community assets, is a hands-on experience that centers the participants' experiences and opinions. Over-sized aerial maps of a community are the canvas for community members to share their perspectives on their community and its resources. We hope to learn more about the community that we can't learn from just looking at a map ourselves.



Asset mapping is unique and valuable because it is strength-focused. We want to know about the places in a community that are valuable to families. To collect this information, we provide stickers with icons of various types of assets and participants are asked to place the stickers on the map to note the physical location. We also ask participants to write the name of the asset and any comments they have, positive or negative or neutral. If an asset doesn't exist in their town, we ask for stickers to be placed on the edge of the map, indicating that families must go outside their town for that asset.



After placing their stickers on the map, each participant is given a one-page survey that asks about other aspects of their community, like internet access, banking availability, and laundry facilities. We also ask what makes their community unique, what concerns they have, and what they love about their community. The survey questions are open and have space for answers in their own words.



Pollywog's Asset Mapping Project is funded through Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Equity Grant Program, which seeks to eliminate health inequities by 2030. Our work is funded by the Acute and Communicable Disease section, where we hope our gathered data can contribute to greater access to health care in rural communities. To that end, we have been tasked with collecting information about these additional community assets: Annual Exam Providers, Emergency Health Care, Sexual Health & Testing, and Vaccine Providers.

# Toledo, Oregon

Toledo is located seven miles from Oregon's coast and along the Yaquina River, nestled against the western side of the Coast Range and home to 3,549 residents. It was named Toledo after Toledo, Ohio, by settlers who were homesick for Ohio. Like many other communities in Lincoln County, Toledo is on the traditional lands of the Yaqo'n (Yaquina) people, who lived along the Yaquina River. Yaqo'n people who were still alive following devastating outbreaks of illness and displacement by settlers were forcibly moved to reservations in the mid-1850's.

Toledo grew rapidly in the late 1800's and into the 1900's as a busy lumber mill town, due to access to the river and railway to transport timber throughout Oregon and beyond. Spruce trees, especially, were sought for use in building planes in the beginning of World War I. The community saw an industrial decline in the mid 1950's but has retained its cultural connection to the timber industry. In 1971, a movie based on Ken Kesey's *Sometimes A Great Notion* was filmed in Toledo. Kesey's novel portrays a logging clan's fight to remain independent of logging unions, reminiscent of Toledo's own story.



## Community Partner in Toledo

Data for this report was gathered at Garlicpalooza, a community event hosted in Toledo by the Lincoln County School District. The entire community was welcomed to enjoy music, food, activities for kids, a garlic poem contest, cider pressing, arts and crafts, and a chili cookoff.



We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in this inaugural event that was a fundraiser for the Lincoln County School District's School Garden and Food Pantry program. The School Garden and Food Pantry provide healthy, fresh food for students and families and offer hands-on learning in Lincoln County School District's school gardens.

## Community Strengths

What do you love about Toledo? What makes Toledo unique?



## Community Concerns

What concerns do you have about Toledo?



## Community Strengths and Concerns

According to families who call it home, the community of Toledo is unique among Oregon's small towns. It's located a short distance inland from the coast and just next to the forests and foothills of the Coast Range. Participants described Toledo as distinct from nearby coastal and mountain communities, noting its inland location and close connection to the surrounding forests. Toledo residents value their town and its friendly neighbors, creating a strong, close-knit community.



In addition, Toledo Asset Mapping participants stated that they enjoy the community events in their town. These events are unique, too, like the one where our Asset Mapping took place. The "Garlicpalooza" was part food celebration and part Harvest party, with a wide variety of attendees.

A third strength noted by Toledo families is the presence of art and art-related events. Toledo is home to the Yaquina River Museum of Art, which hosts frequent art shows and events.

"Everyone tries hard to make things special."  
--Toledo Asset Mapping participant

Despite these strengths, Toledo families expressed concerns about their community. They worry that there are not enough resources for those experiencing difficulties, especially drug abuse and addiction. Another concern for Toledo families is few activities for children in their community. They stated that while there are outdoor activities, most indoor activities are in other cities, like Newport.



The area around Toledo is beautiful and provides many opportunities for recreation, and asset mapping participants specifically included Glen Lyons Natural Area, East Slope Park, Yaquina View Park, the Greater Toledo Pool, and the GP Baseball field as places of recreation that they use and appreciate.

## Opportunities for Learning in Toledo

There are two schools in Toledo: Toledo Elementary School (K-6) and Toledo Junior/Senior High School (7-12), which are part of the Lincoln County School District. In addition, there is the Arcadia School which participants referred to as an “alternative” school, offering preschool classes as well as classes for older children.



Toledo also has several small, locally focused museums, such as the the Yaquina Pacific Railroad Historical Society for local train history, the Yaquina River Museum of Art showcasing regional artists. Toledo is also relatively close to Newport where families can visit the Hatfield Marine Science Center and the Oregon Coast Aquarium to learn more about the environment that surrounds them.

“Lack of Resources.”  
--Toledo Asset Mapping participant

## Child Care and Preschools

While preschool is widely recognized as an important component of early childhood development, families across Toledo and Lincoln County continue to face challenges accessing child care and preschool options. Lincoln County has been referred to as a “Child Care Desert”, which means that there are more than three children (under the age of five) for every one available licensed child care slot. In some areas of Lincoln County there is no child care for children under 2 years of age.



In spite of this critical shortage, children in Toledo have been able to find child care and preschool at places like “Little Guppies” home daycare and CSC Headstart. Asset mapping participants did not list child care or preschool as a concern that they were facing, but we have seen this same omission in other small communities in our region.

# Health and Wellness in Toledo

Toledo has a full-service Samaritan Health Clinic offering family medicine, preventive care, well-child check-ups, annual exams, screenings, and behavioral health support (psychiatry and social work) right in town. In addition the Toledo Family Practice Clinic offers local providers to care for Toledo families. More extensive services are available at the Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital in Newport and other nearby communities. In addition, children in Toledo have access to school-based health care, which reduces barriers for students to get care. This service is provided by Lincoln County Health and Human Services. Several participants flagged this clinic as a place they went for services.



Although Toledo has one dental office in town, many residents continue to seek dental care outside of the community, suggesting limited local capacity.



## Other Health Care Needs

The percentages shown below demonstrate the services that residents seek outside of Toledo. *(Note: Not all participants used every sticker category; these results are based on mapped assets.)*



**Behavioral Health: 100%**



**Vaccine Provider: 71%**



**Annual Exam Provider: 44%**



**Emergency Health Care: 100%**



**Sexual Health and Testing: 80%**

## Survey Questions

**Do you have reliable internet service that supports video? If your home doesn't have cell coverage, do you have a landline?**

All participants stated they have reliable internet service at home.

**Do you use a bank/credit union, a check cashing service, or both?**

All participants reported they use a bank or credit union, and none reported using a check cashing service.

**If you use government services (Social Security, DHS, DMV, etc.) how and where do you access them?**

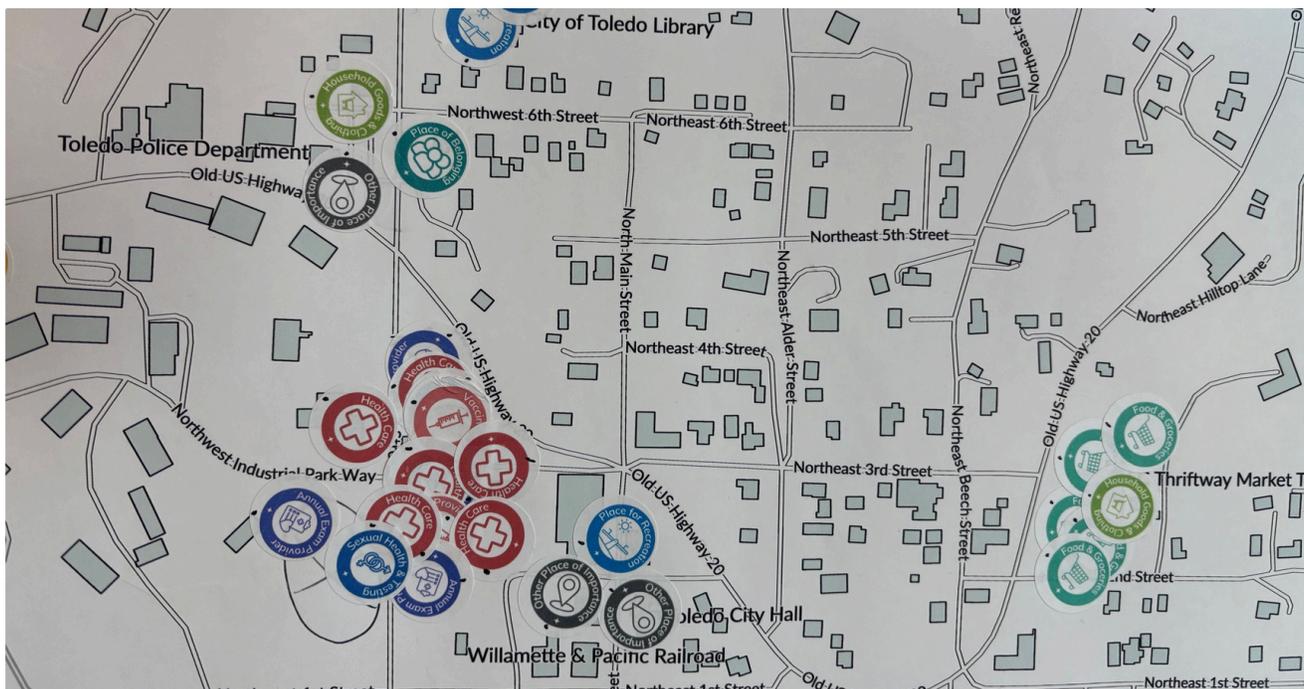
Of the participants who use government services, 34% access these services online and 66% access these services in-person outside of their community.

**Where do you do laundry, at your home or elsewhere? Is the laundry facility accessible? Is the laundry facility affordable?**

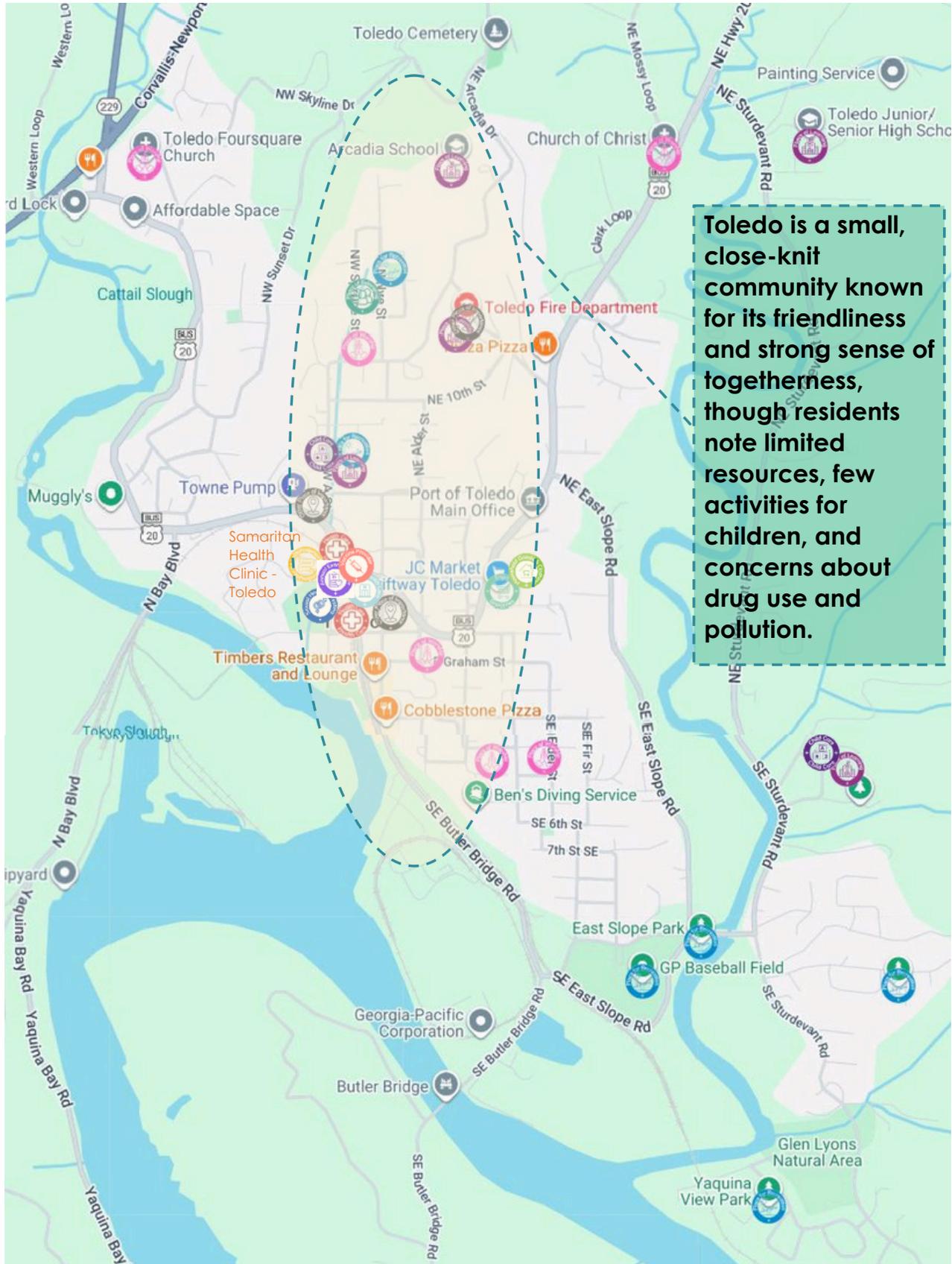
Most participants (90%) stated they do laundry at their home, and 10% use the laundry facility in Toledo.

**Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?**

There was no further information share on the Toledo surveys.



# Overview of Community Assets in Toledo

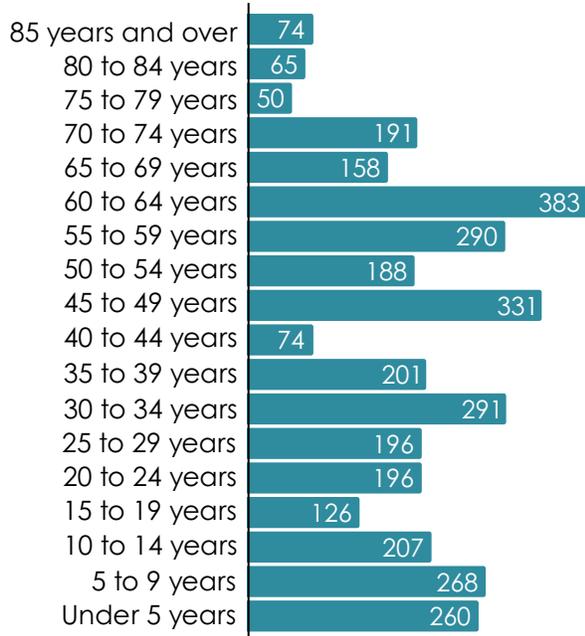


Toledo is a small, close-knit community known for its friendliness and strong sense of togetherness, though residents note limited resources, few activities for children, and concerns about drug use and pollution.

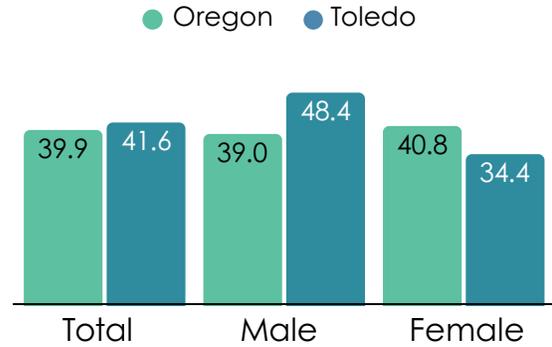
# Community Data

All data are from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, except data about Lincoln County's school district, which is from Oregon's Department of Education.

## Total Population: 3,549



## Median Age

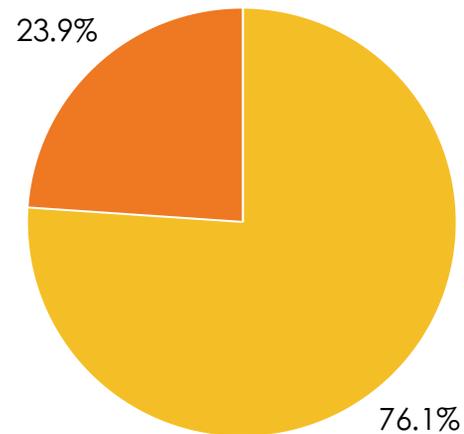


## Proportion of Population by Sex

Sex	Proportion
Male	47.6%
Female	52.4%

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin	
White alone	88.6%
Black or African American alone	0.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1.0%
Asian alone	0.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.0%
Some other race	0.0%
Two or more races	10.4%
Hispanic or Latino origin, of any race	13.0%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	80.1%

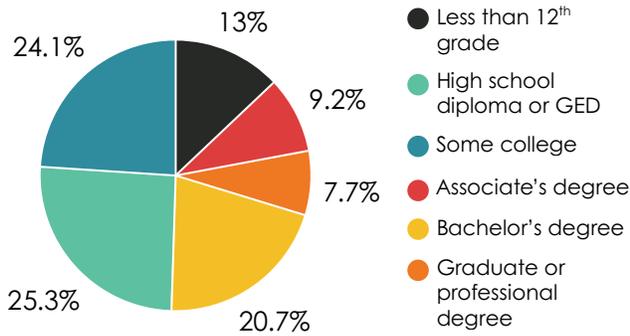
## Travel to Work



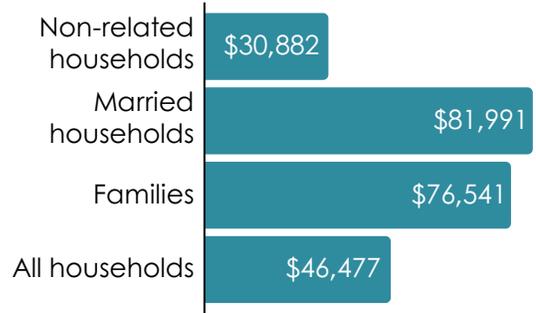
- Worked in county of residence
- Worked outside of county of residence

**Worked from home: 3.3%**  
**Mean travel time to work: 21.4 minutes**

### Educational Attainment

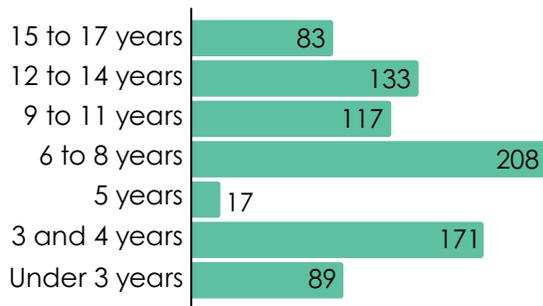


### Median Household Income



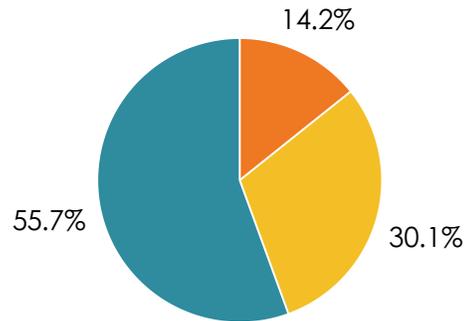
Total Households: 1,525  
 Average Home Price: \$361,027  
 (Zillow Home Values Index of March 31, 2024)

### Child Population



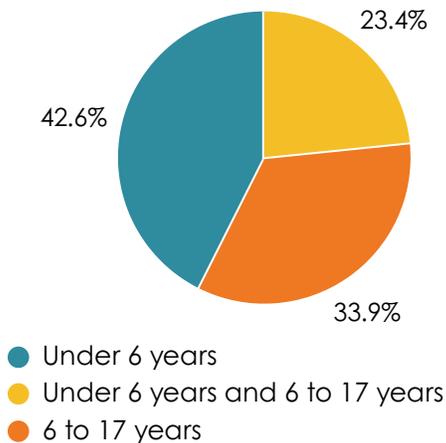
Total households with own children: 333

### Children in Households by Family Type

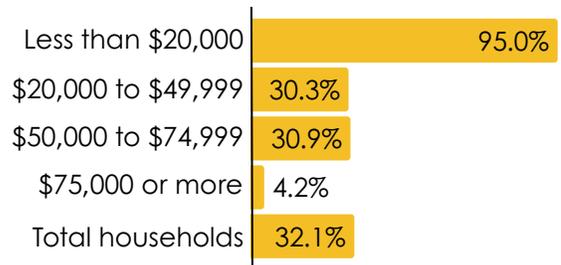


- Married couple household
- Female head of house, no partner
- Male head of house, no partner

### Households with Own Children by Age Group



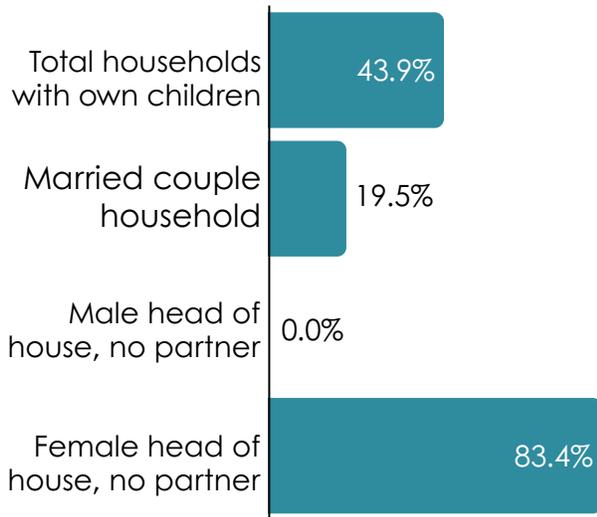
### Cost-Burdened Housing by Household Income



Note: Cost-burdened housing is defined as paying more than 30% of household income for housing (rent or mortgage plus utilities).

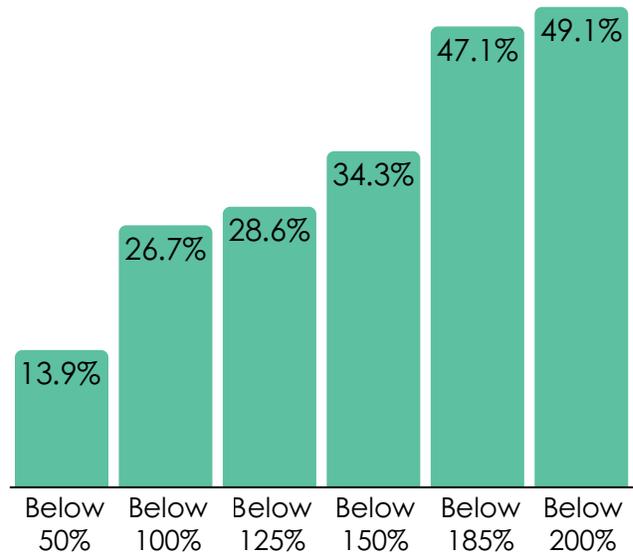
Median Monthly Housing Cost: \$1,036

### Households with Own Children Receiving SNAP/Food Assistance



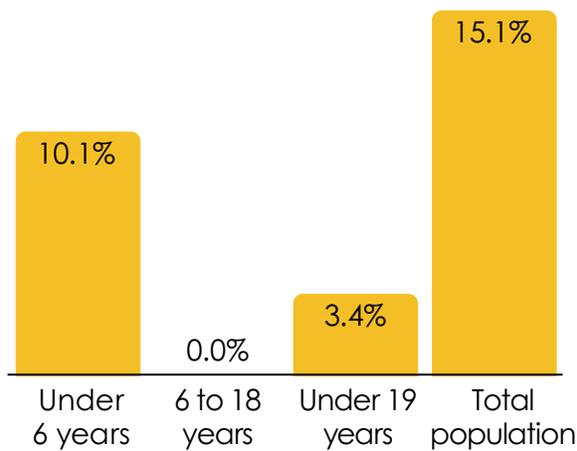
**Both parents in the labor force: 88.0%**

### People Living in Poverty, by Percentage of Poverty Level

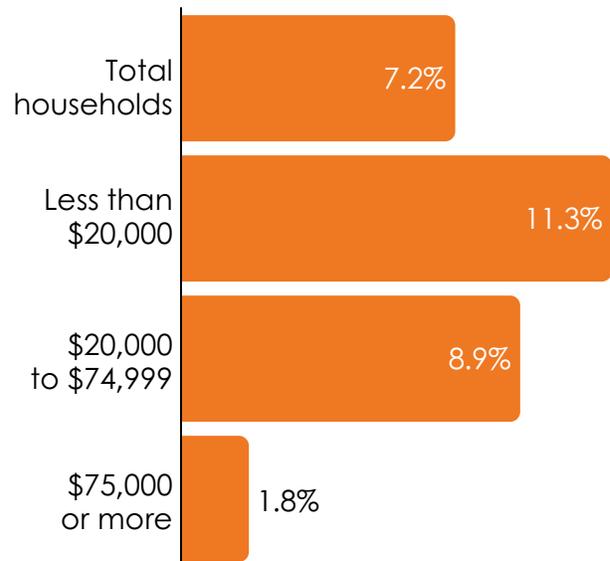


**31.1% of children under 18 years old are living below poverty level**

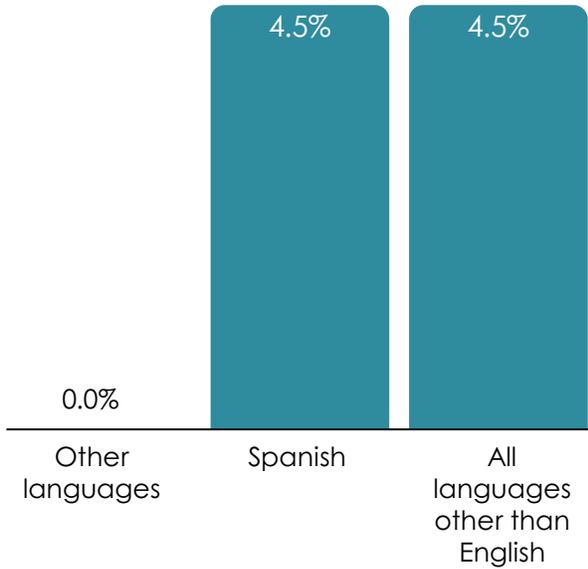
### Children Without Health Insurance by Age Group



### Households Without an Internet Subscription by Income



### Primary Language Spoken at Home



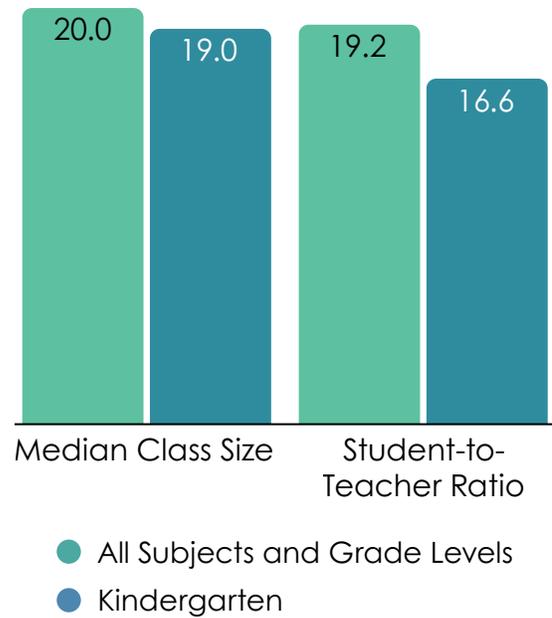
### Lincoln County School District At-A-Glance, 2022-2023

Student Enrollment	5,058
Ever English Learners	14.0%
Students with Disabilities	16.0%
Mobile Students	16.0%
Free/Reduce Price Lunch	>95%
Experienced Teachers	66.0%
Languages Spoken	30
Regular Attendees	55.0%
Grade 3 English Language Arts	32.0%
Grade 8 Mathematics	13.0%
On-Track to Graduate	84.0%
On-Time Graduation	86.0%
Five-Year Completion	80.0%

### Lincoln County School District Special Education At-A-Glance, 2022-2023

Student Enrollment	5,058
Students in Special Education	709
% of Students in Special Education	14.02%
Regular Class	65.3%
Separate Class	22.0%
Separate Settings	1.13%
Graduation Rate (Oregon target: 81%)	90.24%
Dropout Rate (Oregon target: 12.17%)	<5%

### Median Class Size & Student-to-Teacher Ratio, 2022-23





Prepared parents. Healthy families.

Pollywog was developed in 2017 to align health care, parenting education, and early childhood services for children and their families in Oregon’s Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties.

As a program of the Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties, families trust Pollywog to connect them with the resources and services they need, including community-based organizations, medical services, and early childhood education and care. We also work closely with the Parenting Success Network, our local parenting education collaborative.



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**Early Learning Hub**

*of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties*

This project is made possible with support from Early Learning Hub staff. In addition, the following Hub staff contributed to this report:

Connie Adams -- Design and Text

Jinguang Lin -- Data Analysis and Data Visuals

Carmen Santacruz -- Spanish Translation

## Asset Mapping Project Updates

Follow the progress of our project as we hold asset mapping sessions throughout the Linn/Benton/Lincoln region. We invite you to join an asset mapping session in your town to share your opinions and experiences as a participant. You can find upcoming session locations and dates, reports from past sessions, and pictures of maps and sessions on the Pollywog website and the EL Hub website.