

Community Needs Assessment: Continuity and Change in the Needs of Lycoming County, 2015

Jonathan Williamson, Ph.D.

Director, CSCE
Chair, Department of Political Science
Williams@lycoming.edu

Bonita Kolb, Ph.D.

Co-Director, CSCE
Associate Professor of Business
Kolb@lycoming.edu

Center for the Study of Community and the Economy (CSCE)

Lycoming College
Williamsport, PA 17701

Rachelle Abbott, AICP

Chief Planning Officer
raabbott@stepcorp.org

STEP, Inc.

2138 Lincoln Street
Williamsport, PA 17701



*A joint project of the
Lycoming County
United Way, STEP,
Inc. and Lycoming
College's Center for
the Study of
Community and the
Economy (CSCE)*

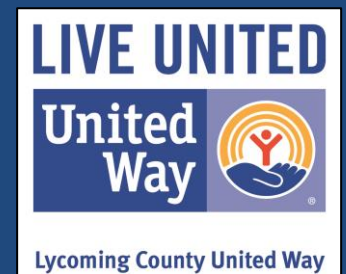


Table of Contents

- [Table of Contents](#).....1
- [Executive Summary](#)..... 2
- [Methodology](#)..... 3
 - Objective Data
 - Community Survey
 - Partner Survey
 - Customer Survey
 - Focus Groups
- [Understanding & Using this CNA Report](#) 5
- [Critical Needs Ranking](#)..... 6
- [Key Need Categories with Summary Themes](#) 10
- [Children and Youth](#) 10
 - Child Abuse
 - Child Care
 - Delinquency
 - Family Issues
- [Education and Employment](#)..... 20
 - Early Childcare Education
 - Lack of Employment Skills
 - Parents as Educators
- [Emergency Services for Families in Crisis](#)..... 28
 - Domestic Violence
 - Financial and Service Needs
 - Parenting Classes
 - Teen Pregnancy
- [Health and Nutrition](#)..... 37
 - Access and Affordability of Health Care
 - Care of Aging Population
 - Hunger & Food-Security
- [Housing and Homelessness](#) 44
 - Lack of Space
 - Landlords
 - More than Just Housing
 - Specialized Populations
- [Senior and Persons with Disabilities Support Services](#)..... 54
 - Housing Affordability
 - Inadequate Information
 - Sense of Entitlement Service Needs
 - Socialization
- [Substance Abuse](#)..... 62
 - Behavioral Issues
 - Drug Use
 - Housing Situations
 - Health Care Professionals
- [Demographics](#)..... 62

Executive Summary

In anticipation of the 2015 Community Needs Assessment (CNA), Lycoming-Clinton Counties Commission for Community Action (STEP), Inc. partnered with the Lycoming County United Way (LCUW) in 2012 to develop a mutually beneficial process for creating an overarching, comprehensive CNA. As is the case with community action agencies, United Ways are required to produce a CNA on a three-year time frame. Prior to this collaboration both agencies were developing CNAs separately, yet the results were relatively the same. The key to the partnership is to maximize resources while eliminating duplication. Lycoming College's Center for the Study of Community and the Economy (CSCE) provided technical assistance and guidance in the process. They collected qualitative data through telephone surveys and conducted data analysis and interpretation. The CNA combined objective and subjective data sets for both counties that include demographic data, community surveys, customer surveys, partner surveys, and focus groups. The information presented in this document is the comprehensive analysis of the information gathered.

Since the LCUW and the CSCE have worked on the CNA over the last ten years, longitudinal data exists to illustrate the identified priority needs. This data plays a key role in understanding both past and current needs. The *Critical Needs* section of the report provides a broad view of the community and partner perception of needs in Lycoming County. From 2012 to 2015, there has been a transition of the most critical need from *Jobs/Economy* to *Drug/Alcohol Abuse*. The partner survey results categorize the top problems as drug/alcohol related, followed by housing issues and early childhood education. Early Childhood Education was mentioned throughout the focus groups as a real barrier to self-sufficiency. The continued CNA partnership between STEP, LCUW, and CSCE will allow for longitudinal data that illustrates how we as a community are tackling community needs and being true catalysts of change.

The multiplier effect of poverty and how barriers often work together to create a ripple effect that keeps a family from moving towards self-sufficiency were highlighted in focus group discussions as well as in respondents' comments. Given this, a holistic approach to breaking down barriers is necessary to address many existing community needs. Coordination of services between agencies and emphasis on the importance of more effective communication within partnerships should be focal points.

STEP and the LCUW intend the CNA report to serve as a community resource and asset. The multitude of stakeholders in the community including funding agencies, government officials, nonprofits, businesses, and institutions are encouraged to use the information within. The CNA's value and utility will be realized only if it is embraced and used within strategic and comprehensive planning, grant writing, program development, and partnerships. Within the document analysis of the data is illustrated in various ways, but by no means is it all-inclusive as the data provided can and should be further examined to be most useful to the reader.

While the CNA provides more analysis and data than previous assessments, it should be understood that there is limitations to the data. Additional questions still are left unanswered, most specifically, what the community does now. The easy answer is focus on the needs identified, but the key is that each sector, nonprofit, private, and public, have a role and it is through their individual missions and programs incremental change can occur. Through a concentrated effort of collaboration that focuses financial resources, human capital, and innovative outcome-based programming on the identified community needs, we will make Lycoming County a better place to live, work, and play.

Methodology

The community needs assessment for Lycoming County was completed using four connected methodologies: analysis of objective secondary data, a survey of the adult population of Lycoming County, a survey of partner agencies working in the county, a survey of customers of those agencies, and a series of focus groups to delve further into the topics identified in prior surveys. This section will address the methodology used for each.

Objective Data

Objective secondary data was assembled using the CAAP Community Needs Assessment (CNA), a comprehensive tool that provides Pennsylvania's Community Action Agencies with the means to capture information about their community, analyze the data, and identify the needs to be met within the community. This online tool provides background information for the state and counties from over 20 data sources, including federal and state departments.

The tool was developed in partnership with the Missouri Association for Community Action and the University of Missouri, under the guidance of a CAAP workgroup consisting of staff from local PA Community Action Agencies. The PA Department of Community & Economic Development funded the acquisition and development. CAAs fund the annual maintenance as part of a project by The Pennsylvania Community Action Needs Assessment Workgroup, made up of staff from various community action agencies and the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania in conjunction with the Missouri Association for Community Action (MACA), University of Missouri Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems (CARES), and the Pennsylvania State Data Center (PSDC) to create the PA Community Needs Assessment Tool. The tool allows Pennsylvania Community Action agencies to gather the demographic data needed to perform their CNA in a consistent and automated manner.

Community Survey

The Community Survey contacted by telephone 464 respondents who were randomly selected from registered voters in Lycoming County. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.6%. It should be noted that the margin of error for subgroups can be significantly larger depending on each group's share of the total population. The methodology used here largely replicates that used in each survey since 2005, also referenced here.

Registered voters were selected with the purpose of providing a broad cross-section of residents in the county, and because the accompanying data that comes with a registration-based sample provided useful information for reporting purposes. The primary drawback of using a registered voter-based sample is that those residents who are not registered are likely to have different characteristics and hold different opinions than those who are registered. That the unregistered are likely to be among those more likely to need and use the services designed to address the needs identified in this report should be taken into account when interpreting the results. Registered voters are older, more financially secure, less mobile, and better educated on average than their unregistered counterparts.

In addition, when comparing our sample with the universe of registered voters, we found that respondents were older than the population of registered voters, were more likely to be female, and in some townships in the county were overrepresented, while others were underrepresented. Therefore, the data was statistically weighted so that the results reflect the universe of registered voters on those three factors.

Demographic questions on income and education levels were included in the community survey. The results are provided in the demographics section of this report for the purpose of comparison between the survey respondents and the broader county population.

Partner Survey

The partner survey was distributed to staff members of approximately 150 social service agencies in Lycoming County via Survey Monkey. One hundred seventy-nine responses were received. While there was no means to control whether staff members from certain agencies were more likely to respond than those from other agencies, the high number of responses compared with prior years is likely adequate to accurately gauge the perceptions of those engaged with the needs being assessed. While there is no reason to believe the responding agencies expressed substantially different views than nonresponding agencies, the possibility cannot be discounted.

Customer Survey

As a means to fill gaps in assessing county needs that might remain from community and partner perceptions, costumers of social service agencies in Lycoming County were also asked about their needs and their perceptions of needs in Lycoming County though a paper survey distributed by the agencies. Five hundred eighty-eight responded to the Customer Survey. It is notable that the number of responses received from customers of the various agencies varied significantly. While some agencies were quite systematic in ensuring that their customers completed a survey, others were not. As a result, interpretation of the results should take into account that there is no way of knowing how representative the responses are when compared with the opinions of the population of social service agency customers as a whole.

Several demographic questions were included in the customer survey. The results are provided in the demographics section of this report for the purpose of comparison between the survey respondents and the broader county population.

In addition to the customer surveys, customer satisfaction surveys were analyzed as part of the process.

Focus Groups

Six focus groups were conducted to delve further into the community needs identified through the surveys. The topic of each focus group centered on one area of identified concern: *Education & Employment, Services for Persons with Disabilities & Seniors, Substance Abuse, Children & Youth, Families in Crisis, and Housing & Homelessness*. Participants in focus groups were selected by the Lycoming County United Way and STEP, Inc. as representatives of partner agencies, the public sector, and the private sector, and have extensive experience in the respective focus group topics. Each focus group included 8 to 12 participants.

Understanding & Using this CNA Report

In order to have the CNA be a resource and tool for the greater community, below provides a breakdown of the document into three key sections and a summary of each.

Purpose of CNA

- ✓ ***Meet United Way & STEP Requirements***
- ✓ ***Analyze Comprehensive Community Needs***
- ✓ ***Provide CNA Tool to Community***

- * Lycoming-Clinton Counties Commission for Community Action (STEP), Inc. and Clinton County United Way (CCUW) are required to produce a CNA on a three-year time frame.
- * The CNA analyzes comprehensive community needs through objective and subjective data sets including demographic data, community surveys, customer surveys, partner surveys, and focus groups.
- * The CNA report can be used by the community stakeholders for strategic planning, grant writing, program development, and partnerships.

CNA Organizational Structure

- ✓ ***Critical Need Rankings***
- ✓ ***Key Need Categories with Summary Themes***
- ✓ ***Supporting Data***

- * Critical need rankings provide relative importance of identified needs of Clinton County.
- * In each key need category section, category themes summarize findings.
- * Supporting data includes objective data, community and customer survey data, and focus group findings.
- * Use findings and data to plan short- and long-range goals.
- * Tie findings and data to support new program development and enhancement.

Using the CNA

- ✓ ***Strategic Planning***
- ✓ ***Program Development***
- ✓ ***Grant Writing & Resource Development***
- ✓ ***Internal & External Assessment***

- * Collaborate with community partners to maximize community outcomes efficiently and effectively.
- * Justify funding requests with CNA content within and across need categories.
- * Utilize CNA as a foundation for developing and implementing assessment tools.
- * Measure effectiveness to achieve program effectiveness.

Critical Needs Ranking

The critical needs of Lycoming County and perceptions of their relative importance were assessed through asking community survey respondents to identify the most important problem facing the County and by asking partner agency respondents to rate a series of potential county issues on both their importance and the adequacy of the current response to those issues. By comparing the results of this needs assessment to those of prior years, it is possible to identify not only the emergence of new issues but also whether respondents feel that progress has been made on other issues identified in the past.

In the community survey, the most commonly cited problems were drugs and alcohol, followed by crime and gangs. Both categories grew significantly in the minds of respondents and now account for over 60 percent of all responses. They emerged to displace the economy and jobs, as well as natural gas-related issues and housing-related issues, which had been more prominent in the public's mind in the last assessment. Taxes, education, and transportation-related concerns rounded out the problems identified by a significant share of respondents. It should be noted that some issues identified as problems in the County (taxes, for example) fall outside the scope of the missions of the organizations sponsoring this needs assessment and their partners. The needs assessment focuses attention on those issues that mesh with the missions of CNA sponsors and their partner organizations.

Similarly, a growth in the concern about issues of substance abuse surfaced in the partner survey. The top three concerns are related to drugs and alcohol, each ranking higher in partners' minds than they had in the prior assessment. Also receiving significantly higher ratings in terms of issue importance were access to mental health services, illiteracy, adult job training, affordable housing for seniors, and affordable child care. While housing dropped from the top spot, it remains in the first tier of concerns. Rounding out the top ten issues were child abuse and neglect, access to affordable health care insurance, and the quality of early childhood education.

Consistent with the perceptions expressed in the community survey, partner survey respondents placed less attention in this assessment on economic issues. Unemployment and underemployment both saw significant drops amongst the issues ranked. Homelessness also fell despite the continued concern over affordable housing. Also seeing significantly lower rankings were access to dental care, hunger, the availability of counseling services, and teenage pregnancy.

When asked if adequate attention was being devoted to each of the issues, partners were more negative than they had been about the attention being paid to substance abuse issues, access to mental health, domestic abuse, and access to counseling services. They revealed more optimism with regard to the attention being paid to access to affordable health insurance, affordable housing for seniors, access to affordable child care, access to health care, access to dental care, and teenage pregnancy. Overall, a majority responded that inadequate attention was being paid to 25 of the issues surveyed. The rankings from the community survey as well as the partner survey are listed below.

Community Survey

What do you feel is the most important problem facing Lycoming County today? (Telephone Survey)

	2015 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2005 (Percentage)
Drugs/Alcohol	48.5	4.6	13.3	11.0
Crime / Gangs	15.1	9.2	20.6	17.0
Economy/Jobs	14.8	30.2	42.2	23.8
Natural gas industry related issues	4.8	17.4	*	*
Housing-related issues, including homelessness	3.8	9.9	0.2	0.8
Taxes	2.8	5.4	3.2	14.3
Education	2.8	3.7	1.1	1.5
Roads, Trucks and Traffic	2.6	4.7	1.2	3
Various Other	4.8	14.9	18.2	28.6

*Respondents did not provide this response in this survey.

Partner Survey

What are the most important issues facing Lycoming County?

Note: The table is sorted based on the ranking the issues in 2015 survey.

	2015		2012		2009		2005	
	Rank	Mean	Rank	Mean	Rank	Mean	Rank	Mean
Abuse of alcohol and/or drugs by youth	1	4.73	5	4.25	1	4.62	2	4.38
Abuse of alcohol and/or drugs by adults	2	4.60	T7	4.12	4	4.41	T6	4.13
Access to substance abuse services	3	4.53	T15	3.98	T12	4.23		***
Affordable housing	4	4.49	1	4.46	T12	4.23	15	3.93
Access to mental health services	5	4.39	T21	3.90	29	3.84	T4	4.18
Child abuse and neglect	6	4.20	9	4.10	5	4.37	3	4.24
Access to affordable health insurance	7	4.18	6	4.22	3	4.46	1	4.54
Quality of early childhood education	8	4.15		***		***		***
Illiteracy	9	4.12	20	3.91	27	3.92	T12	3.97
Adult job training	T10	4.11	19	3.92	T24	3.96	14	3.95
Affordable housing for seniors	T10	4.11	23	3.89	20	4.05	21	3.74
Access to early childhood education	12	4.10		***		***		***
Availability of affordable child care	13	4.09	24	3.86	17	4.14	9	4.05
Access to affordable prescription medications	14	4.08	T10	4.08	T9	4.28		***
Household budgeting	15	4.06		***		***		***
Domestic abuse	16	4.05	T10	4.08	8	4.30	T4	4.18
Unemployment	T17	4.02	2	4.35	2	4.52	T6	4.13
Homelessness	T17	4.02	3	4.28	T9	4.28	22	3.73

Health care for senior citizens	19	4.01	18	3.95	15	4.21	17	3.87
Youth job training	20	4.00		***		***		***
Access to job skill training	21	3.99		***		***		***
Juvenile delinquency	22	3.98	T15	3.98	T22	3.99	16	3.92
Access to health care	T23	3.96	T7	4.12	6	4.33	8	4.08
Access to nutritious meals for seniors	T23	3.96		***		***		***
Access to dental care	25	3.95	12	4.04	14	4.22	24	3.71
Underemployment	T26	3.94	4	4.27	7	4.31	T10	4.03
Heating, electricity, & water assistance	T26	3.94		***		***		***
Services for the needs of senior citizens	28	3.92	26	3.71	18	4.09	23	3.72
Availability of after school activities	29	3.90	27	3.65	T22	3.99	T10	4.03
Hunger	30	3.86	T13	4.00	11	4.25	19	3.76
Availability of counseling services	T31	3.84	T21	3.90	19	4.08	T12	3.97
Services for disabled children	T31	3.84	T28	3.54	T24	3.96	18	3.81
Availability of summer activities	33	3.83		***		***		***
Teenage pregnancy	34	3.75	T13	4.00	26	3.93	20	3.75
Elder abuse or neglect	35	3.74	T28	3.54	21	4.00	31	3.47
Occupational training for the disabled	36	3.69	36	3.35	31	3.69	32	3.45
Violence in schools	37	3.65	32	3.51	16	4.17	29	3.51
Access to transportation for the disabled	38	3.61	31	3.53	32	3.67	27	3.58
Building access for the disabled	39	3.54	35	3.39	33	3.66	26	3.66
Ethnic/racial discrimination	40	3.38	25	3.84	34	3.65	25	3.67
AIDS/HIV	41	3.19	33	3.50	28	3.87	30	3.50
Gender discrimination	42	3.16	34	3.43	35	3.20	34	3.31
Age discrimination	43	3.14	30	3.54	36	3.16	33	3.32
Transportation for the elderly		***	17	3.96	30	3.73	28	3.54

Is the issue receiving adequate attention by community groups?

	2015	2012	2009	2005
	% Responding "No"			
Abuse of alcohol and/or drugs by youth	68%	62%	72%	54%
Abuse of alcohol and/or drugs by adults	60%	31%	58%	40%
Access to substance abuse services	64%	37%	43%	***
Affordable housing	71%	77%	67%	75%
Access to mental health services	77%	57%	63%	72%
Child abuse and neglect	64%	57%	72%	71%
Access to affordable health insurance	65%	80%	79%	100%
Quality of early childhood education	34%			
Illiteracy	50%	41%	41%	17%
Adult job training	49%	39%	41%	33%

Affordable housing for seniors	49%	64%	40%	61%
Access to early childhood education	21%			
Availability of affordable child care	71%	81%	68%	63%
Access to affordable prescription medications	72%	64%	60%	***
Household budgeting	69%			
Domestic abuse	54%	40%	63%	44%
Unemployment	61%	64%	73%	65%
Homelessness	60%	53%	62%	47%
Health care for senior citizens	36%	42%	64%	67%
Youth job training	54%			
Access to job skill training	46%			
Juvenile delinquency	68%	60%	56%	72%
Access to health care	55%	66%	61%	68%
Access to nutritious meals for seniors	28%			
Access to dental care	57%	70%	76%	65%
Underemployment	70%	64%	80%	90%
Heating, electricity, & water assistance	51%			
Services for the needs of senior citizens	30%	30%	28%	59%
Availability of after school activities	58%	67%	64%	65%
Hunger	37%	37%	48%	33%
Availability of counseling services	54%	31%	42%	64%
Services for disabled children	34%	17%	36%	46%
Availability of summer activities	61%			
Teenage pregnancy	54%	65%	71%	64%
Elder abuse or neglect	45%	38%	46%	60%
Occupational training for the disabled	24%	24%	20%	42%
Violence in schools	58%	52%	74%	69%
Access to transportation for the disabled	21%	19%	13%	31%
Building access for the disabled	22%	18%	23%	35%
Ethnic/racial discrimination	43%	48%	64%	53%
AIDS/HIV	28%	15%	30%	27%
Gender discrimination	45%	45%	48%	56%
Age discrimination	45%	50%	55%	70%
Transportation for the elderly		21%	32%	20%

Key Need Categories with Summary Themes

The Key Need Categories were defined through understanding previous CNAs and areas of interest that were mutually important to LCUW, STEP, and the broader community. The themes under each category summarize findings from customer surveys, partner surveys, community surveys, and focus groups. The themes are arranged in alphabetical order.

Children and Youth

The issue of children and youth is broad-based, with young people bearing the brunt of other issues facing the community. The consensus seems to be that progress toward solving many county needs requires focused attention on the problems experienced by county youths. When prior studies allow for comparisons over time, existing problems remain a concern, with some growth in perceived lack of access to affordable child care and increased awareness of child abuse. Across the objective data, community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information four main themes emerge: issues related to family structure and stability, delinquency, availability and affordability of child care, and child abuse.

Child Abuse

The community survey shows that a higher percentage of community members are more aware of someone who has suffered from abuse. Focus group participants believe that we need to provide families with preventive services. Changes in the mandatory reporting laws that will inform reporters of the results will help the public know that something is being done. However, Pennsylvania laws on what constitutes abuse are very lenient and the emphasis is on keeping the family together.

Child Care

The objective data shows the number of child care facilities available in the county. The community survey shows a decline in the percentage of people who either agree or disagree with the statement that they have access to day care. A customer survey question on access to affordable child care brought a response equally split between *agree* and *disagree*. Customer survey respondents were overwhelmingly positive about their family's access to early childhood education. Focus group participants believe that there is a need to provide children with assistance from early Head Start through twelfth grade and that there is a lack of quality child care in the area. It is even more difficult to find quality care in the rural areas. Contradictory to the community survey response, according to the focus group participants, children do not have any activities after school.

Delinquency

Community survey data reveals that a strong majority *disagree* with the statement that there is nothing to do after school. They *strongly agree* with the statement that adequate summer activities for children exist. Focus group members state that although there is actually less delinquency in our community than in the past, the crimes are worse. Local places to house delinquents are lacking, making it difficult for the family to stay in contact. Juvenile delinquency workers currently are part of middle school staff, but they should also be doing preventive services in elementary schools. With as many as 90 percent of delinquents of African-American ethnicity, outreach with more services for minority youths is needed.

Family Issues

Objective data from the 2012 U.S. Census shows that the poverty rate for youths aged 0–17 in Lycoming County was slightly higher than the state or national rate. However, for those aged 0–4 the rate is significantly higher than the state or national rate. Focus group members believe that many family issues affect children. The family in crisis must be stabilized before the child can be helped because children bring with them the families' problems. Sixty percent of parents do not have a high school diploma, so there is a lack of understanding in the importance of education. If the family is “couch surfing,” it is difficult for children to concentrate on their academic studies. Parents are also working irregular hours, which makes consistent child care difficult. A two-generational approach based on increasing the stability of the families, while supporting the children is needed.

Objective Data: Children & Youth

Population: Children & Youth (ACS)

The table below shows the population of youths up to age 17 in Lycoming County and in Pennsylvania.

Population by Age & Gender, 2009 - 2013

County	0 to 4		5 to 17		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Lycoming	3,367	3,090	9,018	8,640	24,115
Pennsylvania	370,033	352,945	1,043,432	993,970	2,760,380

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Poverty: Child (0-17) Poverty Rate (ACS)

The table below shows total population estimates for children as a whole and children in poverty for the one-county report area. According to the American Community Survey 5-year averages, 20.76 percent of children in this age group lived in a state of poverty during the 2013 calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in Lycoming County is greater than the Pennsylvania average of 18.76 percent.

American Community Survey, Child (0-17) Poverty Rate, 2009 - 2013

County	Children, Ages 0 - 17 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Lycoming	23,725	4,926	20.76%
Pennsylvania	2,716,032	509,623	18.76%
National	72,748,616	15,701,799	21.58%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Poverty: Child (0-4) Poverty Rate (ACS)

The table below shows total population estimates for children as a whole and children in poverty for Lycoming County. According to the American Community Survey 5 year averages, an average of 29.67 percent of children in this age group lived in poverty in Lycoming County during the 2013 calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in the Lycoming County is greater than the Pennsylvania average of 22.12 percent.

American Community Survey, Child (0-4) Poverty Rate, 2009 - 2013

County	Children, Ages 0 - 4 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Lycoming	6,387	1,895	29.67%
Pennsylvania	713,183	157,748	22.12%
National	19,743,544	4,881,767	24.73%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Education: Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation

In Lycoming County, *Children Served, Aged 0-2* includes children served in the following programs: the Nurse Family Partnership, the Parent-Child Home Program, and Healthy Families America. Under *Children Served, Aged 3-4* includes children served in the following programs: Parent-Child Home Program, Parents as Teachers, Head Start, Pre-K Counts, School District Pre - K, Early Intervention, and Keystone Stars. Children

Served in Head Start and Early Head Start are also listed, as indicated by the Departments of Education and Public Welfare, Office of Child Development and Early Learning *Reach and Risk Report*. For the 2012–2013 year, the number of children ages 0–4 included in this one-county report area totaled 6,449, while those participating in an early childhood program or Head Start equal 2,903, or 45.01 percent.

Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation, 2012-2013

County	Number of Children		Children Served		Aged 0–2 Only Participants		Aged 3–4 Only Participants	
	Aged 0–2	Aged 3–4	Aged 0–2	Aged 3–4	Nurse Family Partnership	Healthy Families America	Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts	School Based Pre-K
Lycoming	3,743	2,706	1,170	1,733	178	0	130	110

Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation (continued), 2012-2013

County	Aged 0–4 Participants				Head Start Program Participants	
	Parent-Child Home Program	Parents as Teachers	Early Intervention	Keystone STARS	Early Head Start (Aged 0–2)	Head Start (Aged 3–4)
Lycoming	19	0	673	1,443	54	296

Source: *Departments of Education and Public Welfare, Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Reach and Risk Report, 2012-2013.*

Child Care: Certified Child Care Facilities

The table below shows the number of Certified Child Care Providers in Lycoming County as of June 2014, provided by the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL).

*Certified Provider Type:

- Child Care Center: A child care facility in which 7 or more children who are not related to the operator receive child care.
- Family Child Care Home: A child care facility located in a home in which 4 to 6 children who are not related to the caregiver receive child care.
- Group Child Care Home: A child care facility in which 7 to 12 children of various ages or in which 7 to 15 children from 4th grade through 15 years of age who are not related to the operator receive child care.

** The maximum number of children permitted to receive care in a child care facility at one time based on square footage of child care space and age of the children.

Certified Child Care Facilities, June 2014

County	Number of Certified Providers	Certified Provider Type *	Maximum Capacity **
Lycoming	47	Child Care Center	3,287
Lycoming	18	Family Child Care Home	108
Lycoming	5	Group Child Care Home	58

Source: *Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), 2014.*

Child Care: Costs

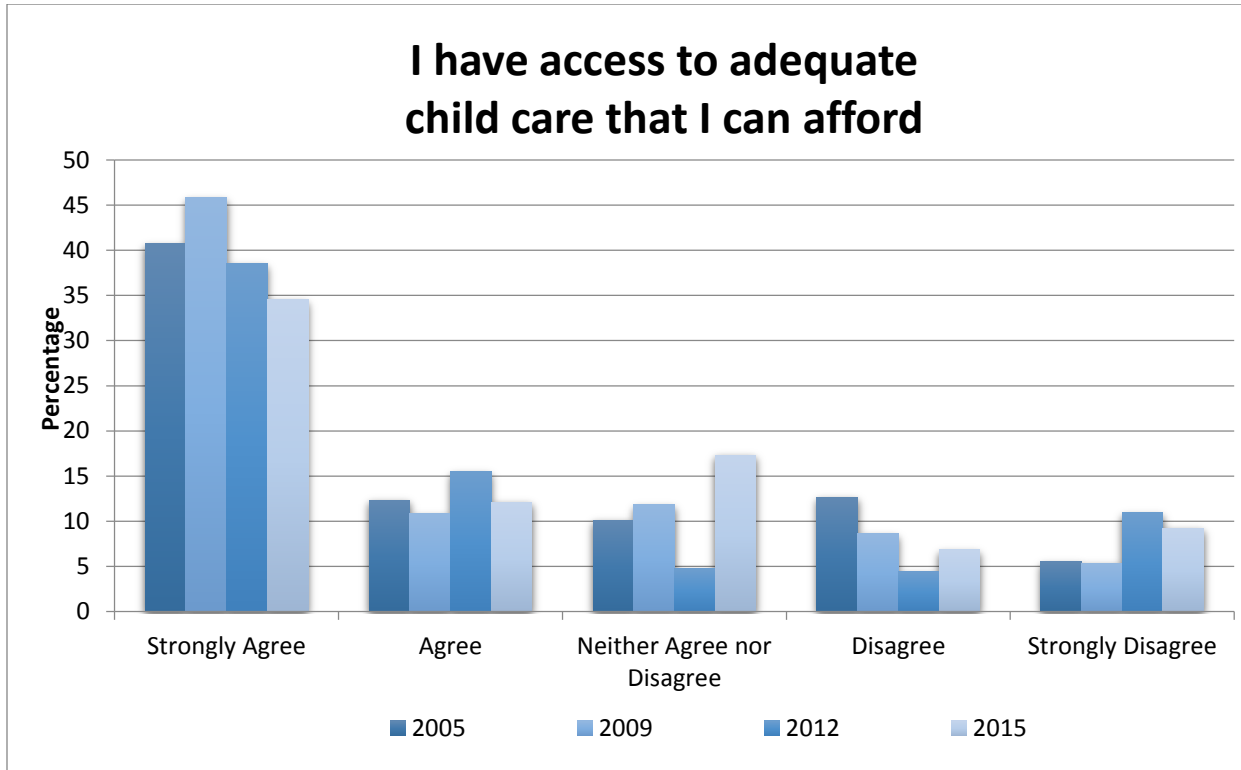
The 2008–2009 Department of Public Welfare reports the average costs for child care based on responses from licensed care provider centers in each county. Cost of child care for each type of care and age group for Lycoming County are below. These figures include the average cost of care for all age ranges including infant care, toddler care, preschool care, school-aged before-and-after care, and school-aged full-day rates.

Average Child Care Costs, 2011-2012

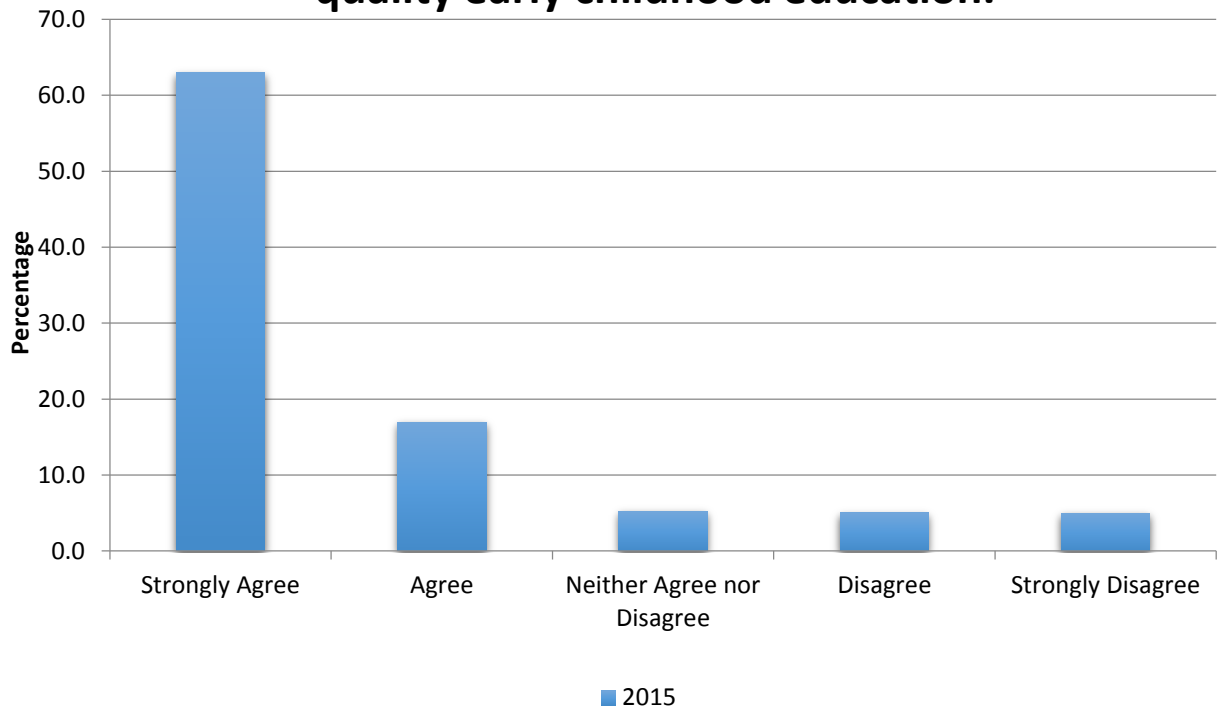
County	Type of Care	Daily Cost, Full-Time	Daily Cost, Part-Time
Lycoming	CENTER BASED	\$24.01	\$18.97

Survey Data: Children & Youth

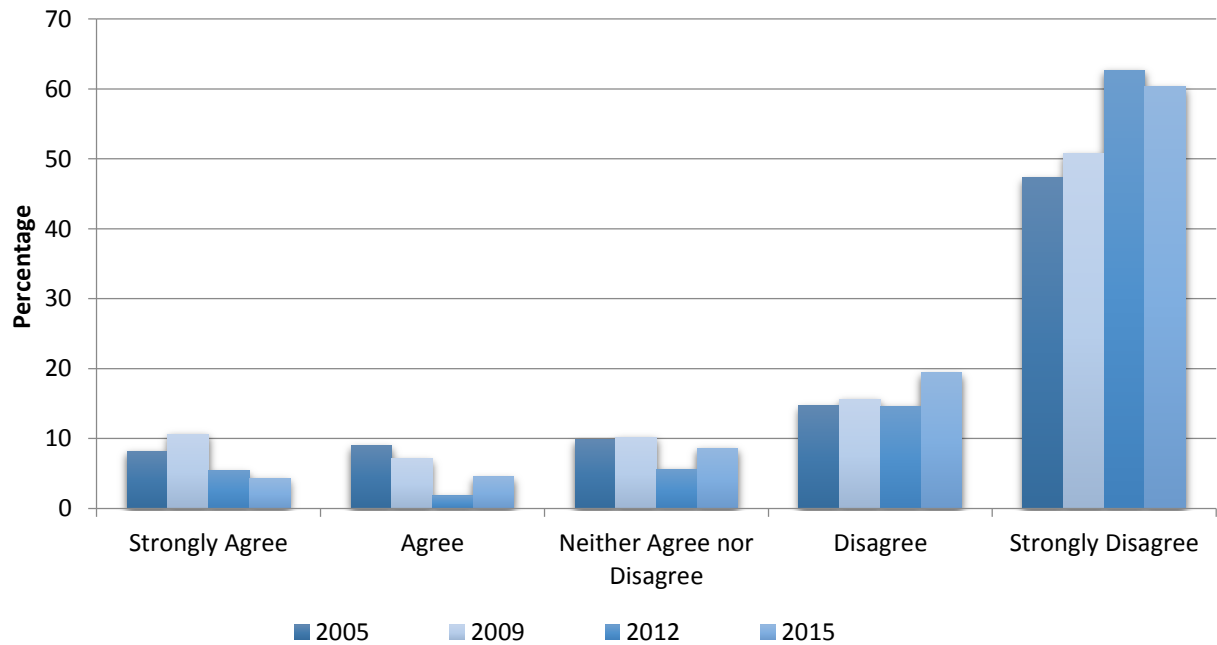
Community Survey Information



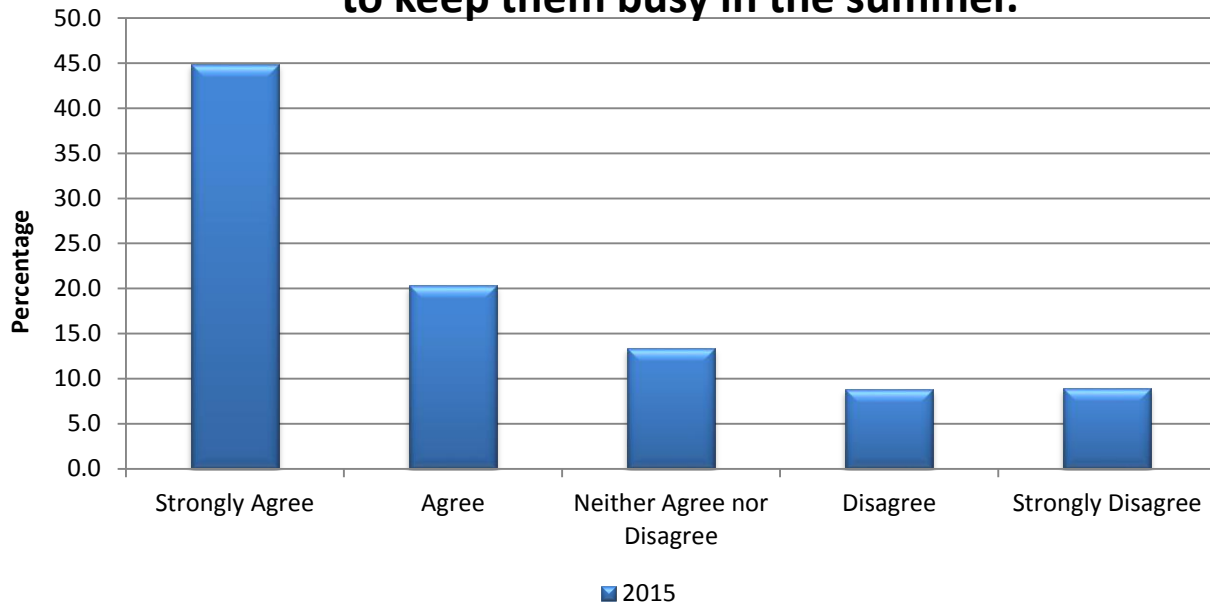
My family has had access to quality early childhood education.



My children have nothing to do after school



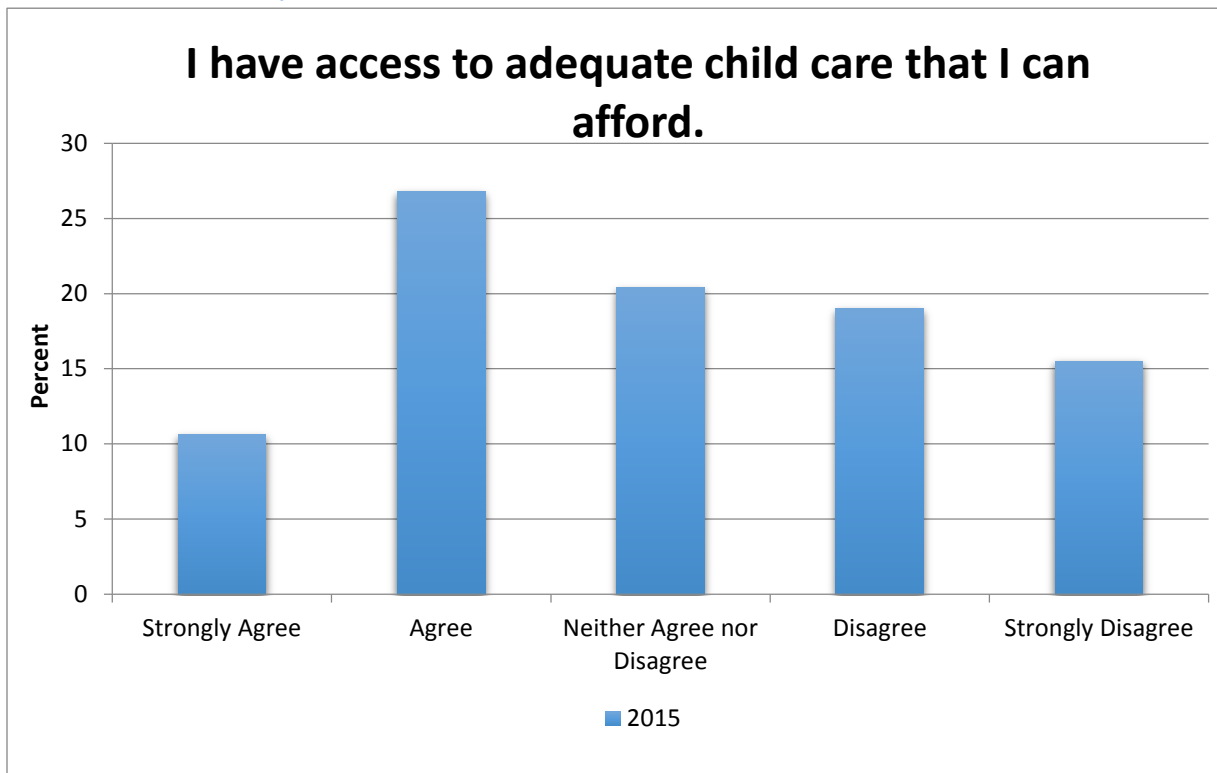
My children have access to adequate activities to keep them busy in the summer.



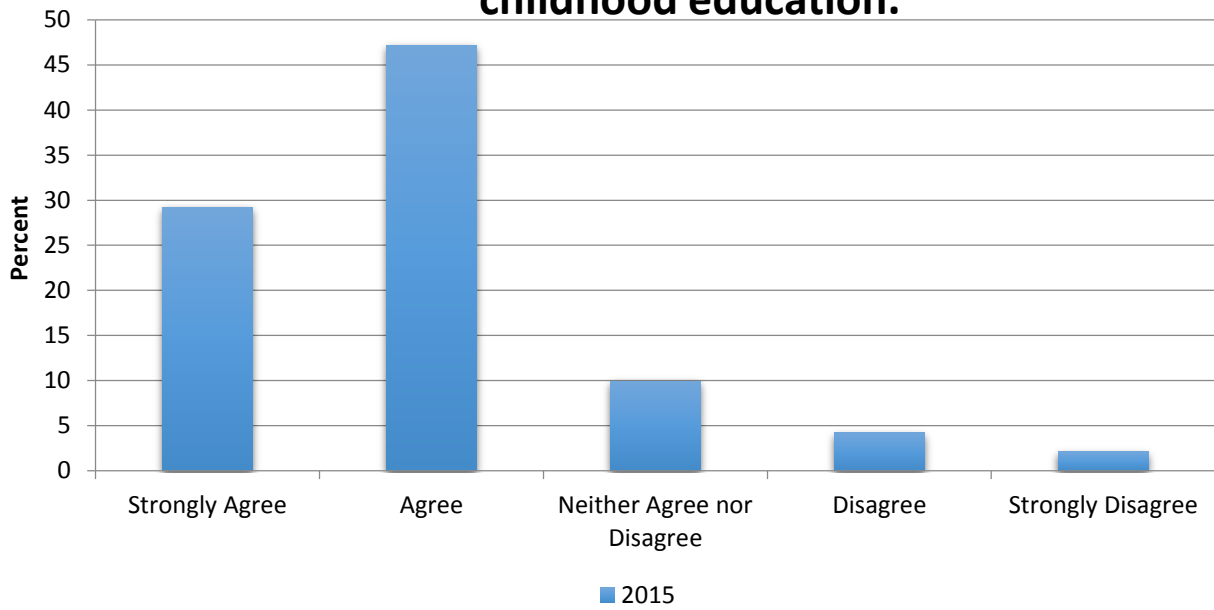
Are you aware of anyone in your community who has been the victim of child abuse or neglect in the last year?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	17.6	21.9	17.7	26.7
No	81.3	76.7	81.8	71.3
Refused	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0
Don't Know	0.8	1.4	0.4	1.9

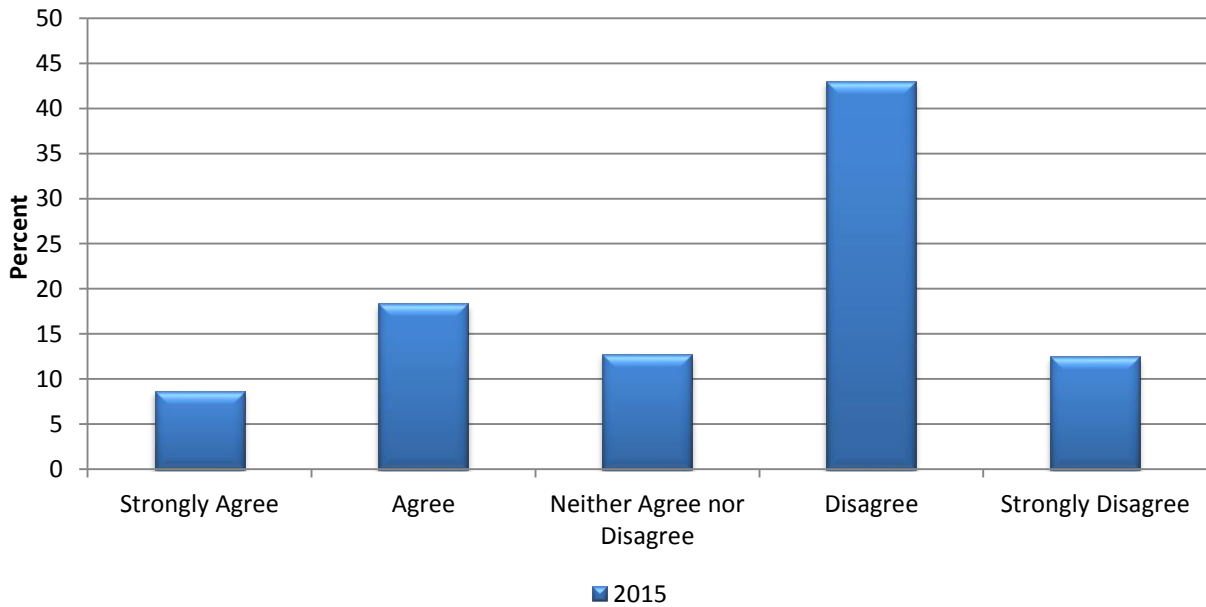
Customer Survey Information



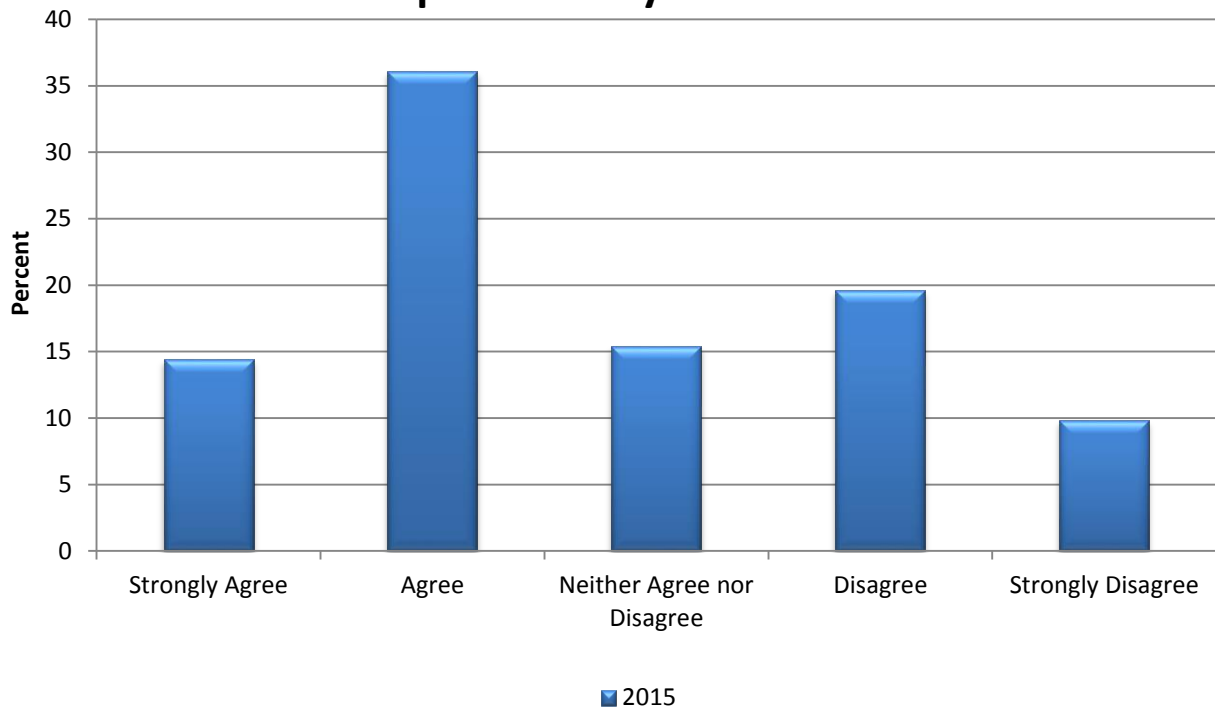
My family has had access to quality early childhood education.



My children have nothing to do after school.



My children have access to adequate activities to keep them busy in the summer.



Are you aware of anyone in your community who has been the victim of child abuse or neglect in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	10.3
No	64.8
Don't Know	24.9

Education and Employment

The issues that emerged from the interconnected topics of education and employment ranged from children in their very first educational experiences all the way through adults who lacked skills for success in the workplace. Prominent amongst the needs identified were the interrelated needs for improvement in the outcomes attributable to education and overcoming the barriers that prevent productive employment. Making progress on these combined issues would enable better outcomes on many of the other needs in the county. At the same time, the problems underlying the educational and employment needs (for example, substance abuse) are often at the root of why existing educational and employment resources have thus far proven inadequate. Across the objective data, community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information three main themes emerge: early childhood education, lack of employment skills, and parents as educators.

Early Childhood Education

One of the themes often repeated throughout the focus groups and surveys was the need for increased early childhood education. The lack of such education was seen as a concern even by representatives of higher education institutions. One of the issues in providing early education was the need for trained education professionals. However the cost of receiving such education is too high in comparison to the pay that is received.

Lack of Employment Skills

Another concern of focus group respondents was that people seeking employment did not have the skills needed for job success. While there are jobs available, they require a level of reading ability, mathematical aptitude and reasoning skills that many unemployed lack. In addition, the soft skills related to attitude and motivation are often lacking. Employers are looking for people who not only have the ability to learn job skills, but also the soft skills to be successful at the job. This results in county citizens unprepared for higher education or employment and lacking other options besides possibly military service.

Parents as Educators

As one focus group participant explained, the family is the first teacher. Her concern was expressed because many families do not provide intellectual stimulation to their children. The families do not value education. Education obtainment level data illustrate that nearly 55 percent of residents in Lycoming have a high school diploma or less, which is higher than both Pennsylvania and National data. This also ties back to the emphasis placed on the need for early childhood education, so that children *will* have the opportunity to build their educational foundations. In addition, parents may lack the skills to be effective parents to their children. Programs focusing on parenting and how to interact with children were noted as being important. Also, providing two-generation programs that holistically focus on families and children are essential to addressing the underlying problem.

Objective Data: Education & Employment

Education: School Enrollment

The table below shows the total public and nonpublic school enrollment for 2013–2014. In Lycoming County, a total of 16,660 persons were enrolled in school, with 9,226 enrolled in elementary school and 7,434 enrolled in secondary schools. In this report, *private schools* refer to both private and nonpublic institutions and for the report area, 595 students are enrolled in private schools or 3.57 percent of the student population.

County	Public and Non-Public School Enrollment, 2013–2014								
	Enrollment			Elementary			Secondary		
	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private
Lycoming	16,660	16,065	595	9,226	8,782	444	7,434	7,283	151
Pennsylvania	1,971,759	1,750,059	221,700	1,082,069	926,229	221,700	889,690	823,830	65,860

Source: *Public School Enrollment report and Private and Non-Public Schools Enrollments Reports, 2013-2014, The Pennsylvania Department of Education.*

Education: High School Graduates

The chart shows public high school graduates planning to attend college in Lycoming County for the 2012–2013 academic year, revealing that Lycoming County has 64.06 percent of graduates attending college, while the statewide figure is 67.13 percent.

County	High School Graduates		
	Total Graduates	College Bound	College Bound %
Lycoming	1,099	704	64.06%
Pennsylvania	129,739	87,099	67.13%

Source: *Graduates Public by School 2012-13, The Pennsylvania Department of Education.*

Education: High School Dropouts

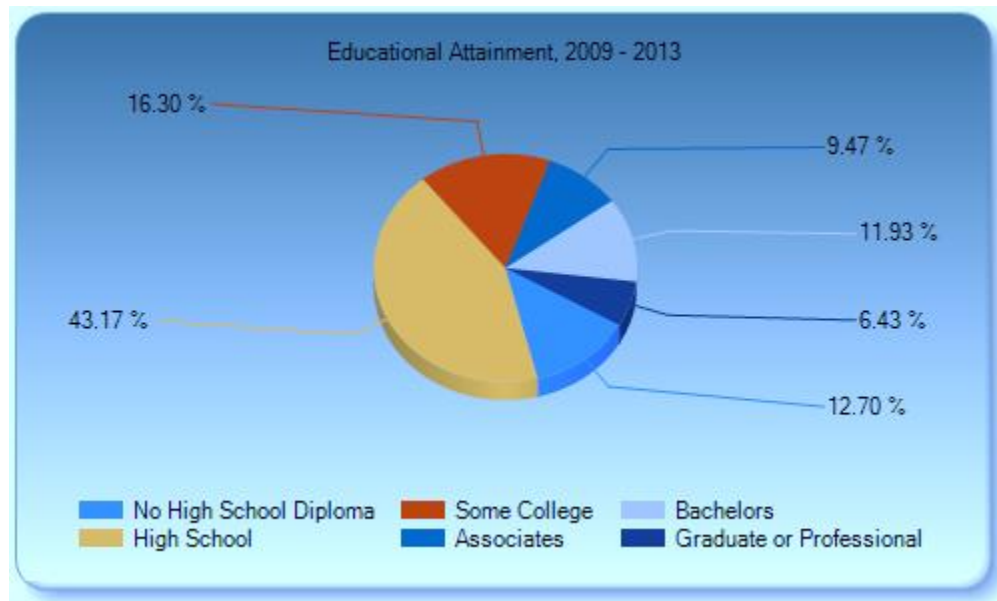
The annual High School Dropout Rate is defined as the number of students who, for any reason other than death, leave school before graduation without transferring to another school or institution. For the academic year 2011–2012, 179 students dropped out in Lycoming County, which is a rate of 2.39 percent—slightly higher than the Pennsylvania rate.

County	Total Enrollment Grades 7-12	High School Dropout Rates			Dropout Rate
		Dropouts			
		Male	Female	Total	
Lycoming	7,484	110	69	179	2.39%
Pennsylvania	831,595	9,572	7,427	16,999	2.04%

Source: *Dropouts Public by School 2011-12, The Pennsylvania Department of Education.*

Education: Educational Attainment

The table shows the distribution of educational attainment levels in Lycoming County. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25, except where noted, and is an average for the period from 2008 to 2012. The statewide percentage of persons with no high school diploma is 11.71 percent, while the national percentage is 14.25 percent.



Percent Attaining Educational Levels

County	Over Age 18 and No High School Diploma%	Education Level for Persons over 25					
		No High School Diploma	High School Only	Some College	Associate's	Bachelor's	Graduate or Professional
Lycoming	12.59%	12.60%	42.30%	16.60%	9.90%	12.00%	6.70%
Pennsylvania	11.91%	11.71%	37.20%	16.50%	7.50%	16.60%	10.40%
National	14.53%	14.25%	28.20%	21.30%	7.70%	17.90%	10.60%

Source: *United States 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.

Education: Adult Literacy

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) produces estimates for adult literacy based on educational attainment, poverty, and other factors in each county.

Persons Lacking Basic Prose Literacy Skills, 2003

County	Estimated Population over 16	Lacking Literacy Skills %
Lycoming	91,854	12%
Pennsylvania	9,561,844	13%
National	219,016,209	12%

Source: *United States Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, State and County Estimates of Low Literacy, 2003.*

Education: Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation

In Lycoming County, *Children Served, Aged 0 - 2* includes children served in the following programs: the Nurse Family Partnership, the Parent-Child Home program, and Healthy Families America. Under *Children Served, Aged 3-4* includes children served in the following programs : the Parent-Child Home Program, Parents as Teachers, Head Start, Pre-K Counts, School District Pre - K, Early Intervention, Keystone Stars. Children served in Head Start and Early Head Start are also listed, as indicated by the Departments of Education and Public Welfare, Office of Child Development and Early Learning *Reach and Risk Report*. For the 2012-2013 year, the number of children aged 0-4 included in this one-county report area total 6,449, while those participating in an early childhood program or Head Start equal 2,903, or 45.01 percent.

Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation, 2012-2013

County	Number of Children		Children Served		Aged 0-2 Only Participants		Aged 3-4 Only Participants	
	Aged 0-2	Aged 3-4	Aged 0-2	Aged 3-4	Nurse Family Partnership	Healthy Families America	Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts	School Based Pre-K
Lycoming	3,743	2,706	1,170	1,733	178	0	130	110

Early Childhood Programming and Head Start Participation (continued), 2012-2013

County	Age 0-4 Participants			Head Start Program Participants		
	Parent-Child Home Program	Parents as Teachers	Early Intervention	Keystone STARS	Early Head Start (Aged 0-2)	Head Start (Aged 3-4)
Lycoming	19	0	673	1,443	54	296

Source: *Departments of Education and Public Welfare, Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Reach and Risk Report, 2012-2013.*

Employment: Unemployment Rate

Unemployment rate change within Lycoming County from September 2010 through September 2014 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this five-year period fell from 7.6 percent to 4.5 percent, compared with a statewide decrease from 7.7 percent to 4.9 percent.

Comparatively during the same period between 2010 and 2014, the change in Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was -2.8 percent, while the national rate changed -3.5 percent.

Five Year Unemployment Rate, September 2010-September 2014

County	September 2010	September 2011	September 2012	September 2013	September 2014
Lycoming	7.6%	7.0%	7.6%	7.0%	4.5%
Pennsylvania	7.8%	7.6%	7.5%	6.8%	4.5%
National	9.1%	8.6%	7.6%	7.0%	5.6%

Source: *United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, October 29, 2014.*

Survey Data: Education & Employment

Community Survey Information: Education

Are you aware of any adults in your community who cannot read?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	23.2
No	70.3
Don't Know	3.4

Community Survey Information: Employment

Which of the following best describes your employment status? Are you self-employed, employed by someone else, unemployed, retired, or are you a homemaker?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Self Employed	10.0	10.8	7.7	6.4
Employed by someone else	45.9	48.7	52.3	54.2
Unemployed	4.2	9.3	7.4	2.7
Retired	33.3	23.0	23.2	29.9
Homemaker	6.2	6.9	8.0	5.8
Refused	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.5
Don't Know	0.1	0.8	1.2	0.4

Those who were employed by someone else were also asked:

Is that employment full time or part time?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Full time	83.0	71.8	79.9	81.0
Part time	17.0	28.2	20.1	19.0

Those who were unemployed are also asked:

Are you currently seeking work?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	48.8	60.0	65.0	55.9
No	51.2	40.0	35.0	44.1

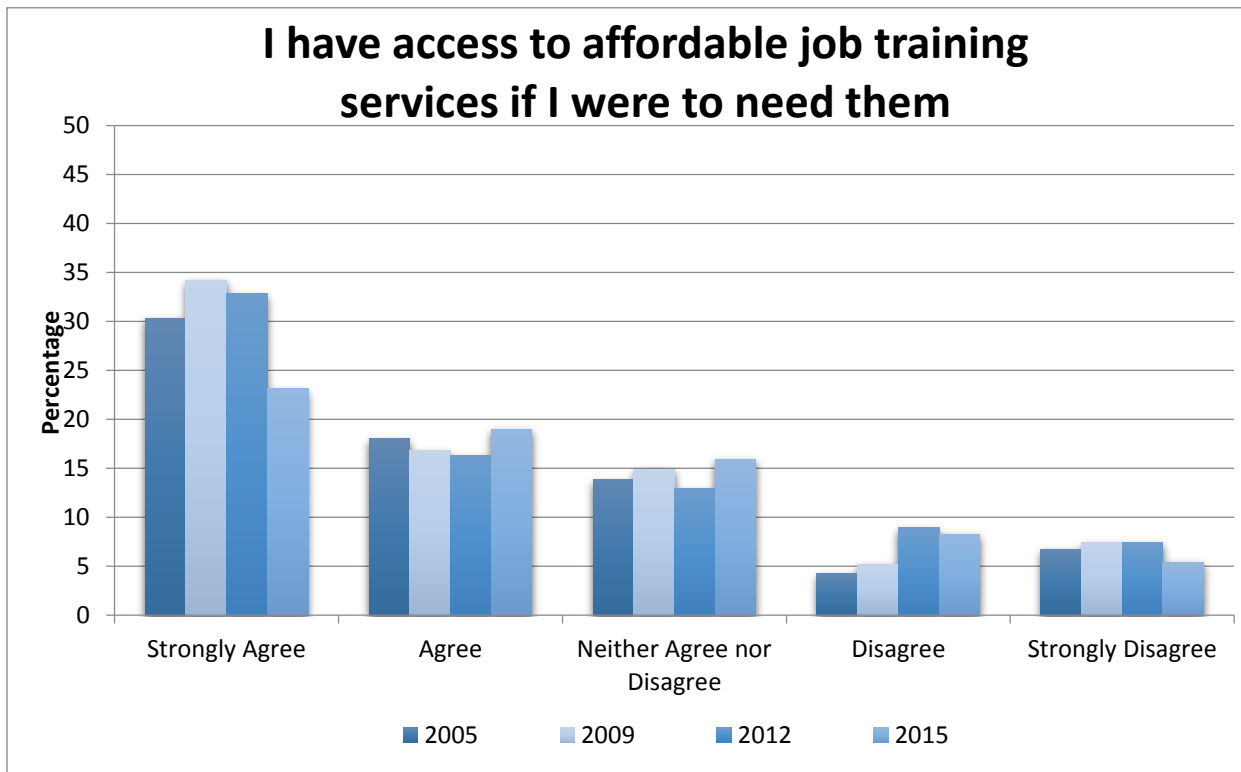
Has anyone in your household been laid off from a job at any time in the past year?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	8.6	20.6	12.1	10.8
No	90.7	78.9	87.4	88.9
Refused	.6	0.0	0.0	0.3
Don't Know	.1	0.4	0.5	0.0

Those who had been laid off were also asked:

How long did it take that person to find another job – Less than three months, three to six months, more than six months, or is that person still unemployed?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
0-3 months	27.8	14.2	20.4	34.2
3-6 months	39.3	37.6	21.1	27.4
More than 6 months	8.5	3.2	5.6	18.5
Still unemployed	24.4	45.0	53.0	19.9

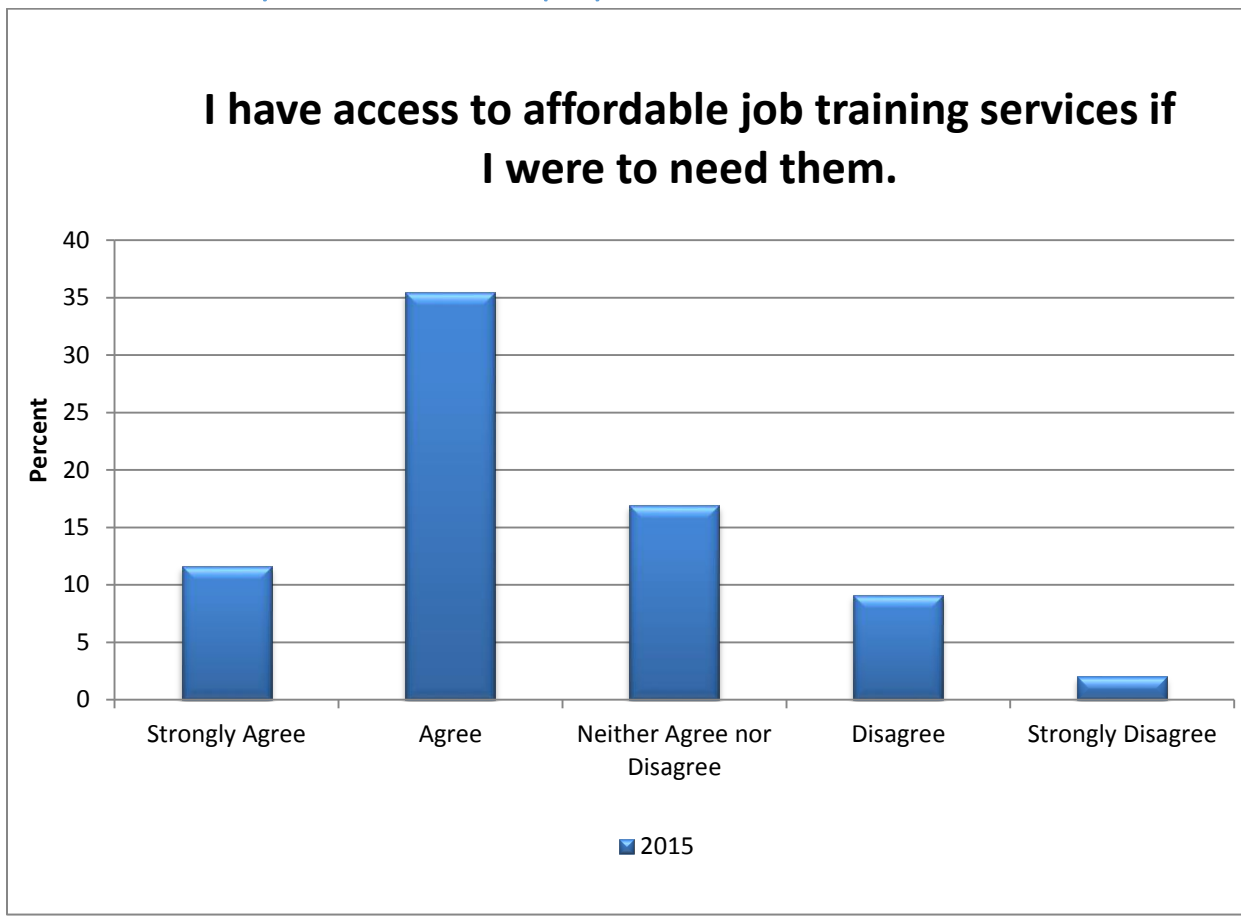


Customer Survey Information: Education

Are you aware of any adults in your community who cannot read?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	14.1
No	68.0
Don't Know	18.0

Customer Survey Information: Employment



Which of the following best describes your employment status?

	2015 (Percentage)
Self Employed	1.7
Employed by someone else	27.6
Unemployed	15.9
Retired	45.4
Homemaker	9.3

Is that employment full time or part time?

	2015 (Percentage)
Full time	55.9
Part time	44.1

Are you currently seeking work?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	40.8
No	59.2

Has anyone in your household been laid off from a job at any time in the past year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	11.1
No	86.7
Don't Know	2.3

How long did it take that person to find another job?

	2015 (Percentage)
0-3 months	24.8
3-6 months	13.3
More than 6 months	7.1
Still unemployed	54.9

Emergency Services for Families in Crisis

The needs of families in crisis, whatever the cause, were paramount in the minds of focus group respondents and show up consistently in the results of other assessment tools. Issues that emerged across assessment methods included the broad-based need for financial support and services for families facing the problems of poverty, the difficulties of parenting while poor, the presence of domestic violence, and the prevalence of teen pregnancy. These and other crises identified in the assessment are interconnected and suggest the need for continuing improvement in generating a coordinated, holistic response to prevent a duplication of services in a limited-resource environment.

Domestic Violence

More people who participated in the community survey stated that they knew someone who had experienced domestic violence. The rate was even higher in the customer survey. Domestic violence is pervasive, and children are caught in the middle. The interaction between abused women and the court system may make it difficult for them to get housing or secure employment. Women who are survivors of domestic violence need skills that enable them to become financially independent.

Financial and Service Needs

Objective data shows a poverty rate in Lycoming County that is higher than both the state and national rates. In Lycoming County a higher percentage of nonfamilies are in poverty than families—the reverse of the state and nation. In the community survey, over the last two surveys, nearly identical percentage *agreed* that they have a hard time making ends meet, but there was marked intensity, with respondents *strongly agreeing*. Respondents to the customer survey in the *agree* and *strongly agree* categories for if they had a hard time making ends meet were nearly doubled that of the community survey with over fifty-percent. Financial issues affect families since welfare and disability payments are insufficient to cover living expenses. People have problems paying both utilities and rent, but solving their immediate problem does not help them over the long term. When families split up, twice as many resources are then needed. Some children may need to move in with relatives, causing grandmothers to take on the responsibility for raising children, which stretches their financial resources. While some people may need assistance only one time, most are “frequent flyers.” Additional holistic services in one location and volunteer mentors to support families on their paths to self-sufficiency are needed. Families are not successful because they do not know what a successful family looks like.

Parenting Classes

Objective data indicates that a large percentage of families living in poverty are headed by females. In the community survey there is a greater awareness of access to counseling. Families in crisis may have no role model of a successful family and no moral structure to follow. While parenting classes are needed, poor parents may not attend because they believe they *are* good parents. However, parenting classes can only work with reinforcement in the home. Addressing family-level issues by offering parenting classes with innovative programming that all parents feel comfortable attending and providing in-home training is necessary.

Teen Pregnancy

In the community survey more people were neutral on whether teen pregnancy is a problem in the community. It is believed that a girl having her first child at fourteen is likely to have a second by the age of sixteen. On some occasions, teens choose to get pregnant because they are aware that they will get “stuff”. Also, people in their community educate them about how to “work the system.” Teen moms are not alone, since other teen moms often are their community.

Objective Data: Emergency Services for Families in Crisis

Poverty: Households in Poverty

Shown below is the number and percentage of households in poverty based on poverty thresholds in Lycoming County. In 2012, it is estimated that 6,507 households, or 14 percent, were living in poverty within the county, compared with a Pennsylvania average of 12.6 percent.

Households in Poverty, 2008–2012

County	Total Households, 2008–2012	Households in Poverty, 2008–2012	% Households in Poverty, 2008–2012
Lycoming	46,476	6,507	14.0%
Pennsylvania	4,959,633	624,710	12.6%
National	115,226,800	15,920,513	13.8%

Source: *United States 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.

Poverty: Household Poverty Rate by Family Type, 2008–2012

Shown below is the percentage of households in poverty by household type in Lycoming County. In 2012, it is estimated that 6.44 percent of households in poverty were family type, while 7.56 percent were non-family.

Household Poverty Rate by Family Type, 2008- 2012

County	Total Households	Households in Poverty		Family Households in Poverty		Non-Family Households in Poverty	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Lycoming	46,476	6,507	14.00%	2,995	6.44%	3,512	7.56%
Pennsylvania	4,959,633	624,710	12.60%	292,539	5.90%	332,171	6.70%
National	115,226,800	15,920,513	13.82%	8,363,024	7.26%	7,557,489	6.56%

Source: *United States 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.

Poverty: Households in Poverty by Family Type, 2008–2012

Shown below is the number of households in poverty by type in Lycoming County. In this area, there are 935 married couples living in poverty, compared with 1,783 female-headed households in poverty. In 2012 it is estimated that 6,507 households, family and non-family, were living in poverty within the county.

Households in Poverty by Family Type, 2008–2012

County	Total Households, 2008–2012	Total Households in Poverty	Non-Family Households in Poverty - Including Persons Living Alone	Married Couples in Poverty	Male Head of Household in Poverty	Female Head of Household in Poverty
Lycoming	30,397	6,507	3,512	935	277	1,783
Pennsylvania	3,227,194	624,710	332,171	91,263	31,085	170,191
National	76,595,552	7,557,489	8,363,024	3,031,161	873,067	4,458,796

Source: *United States 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.

Poverty: Number of Households Eligible for County Assistance Funding

Shown below is the average monthly unduplicated number of households eligible for services from the County Assistance Office for the fiscal year 2012–2013. Of the report area's total 46,476 households, only 603 are eligible for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF - Case Assistance), less than 1.30 percent of households.

Number of Households Eligible for County Assistance Funding, 2013

County	Total Households	Households Eligible for County Assistance Funding	Eligible for TANF	Percent Eligible for TANF	Eligible for SNAP	Percent Eligible for SNAP
Lycoming	46,476	7,927	603	1.30%	7,324	15.76%

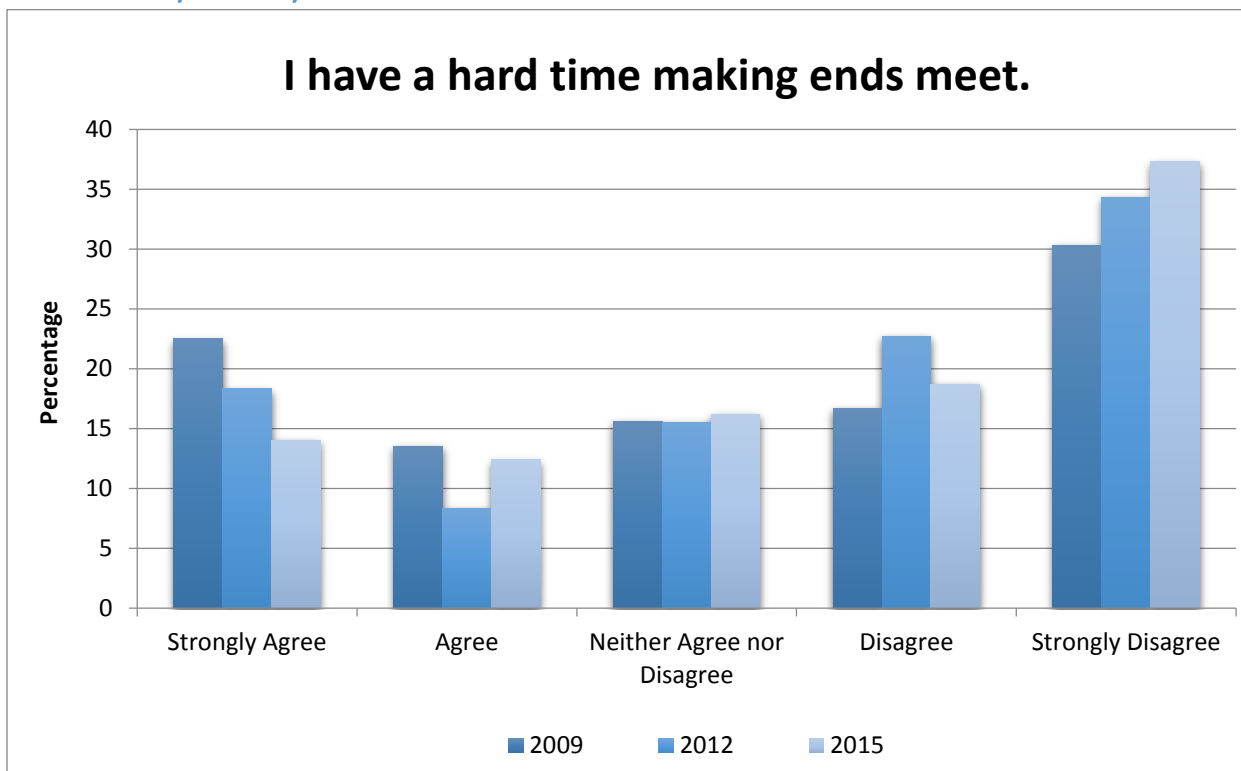
Source: *Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, 2012-2013.*

United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

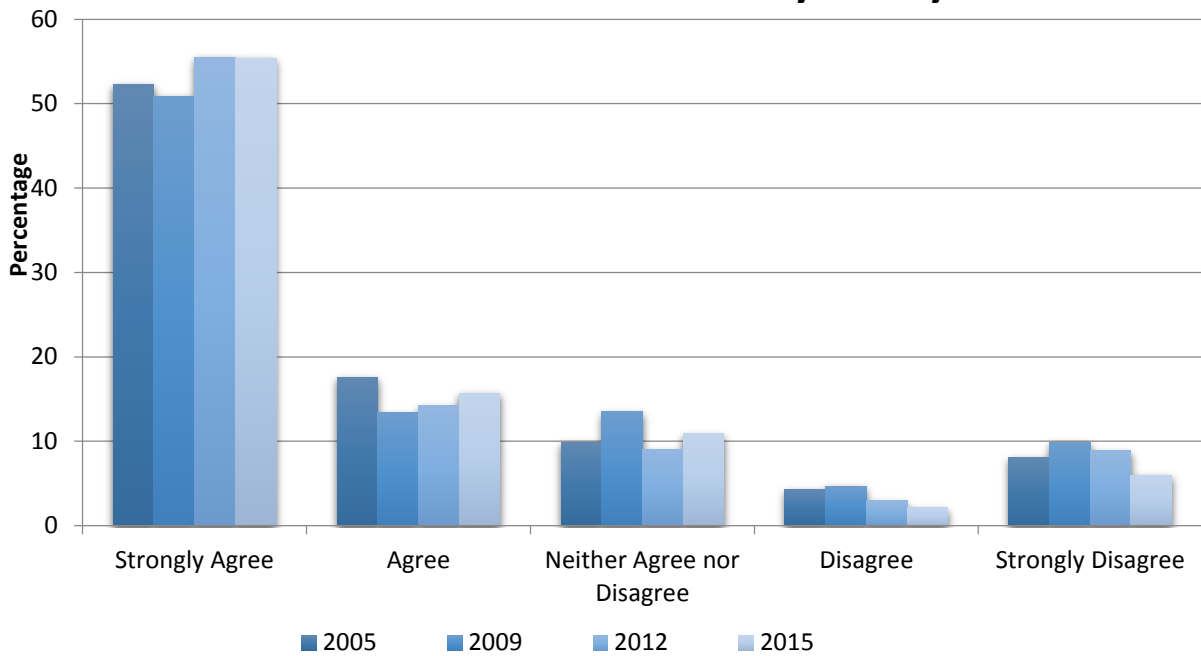
The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Survey Data: Emergency Services for Families in Crisis

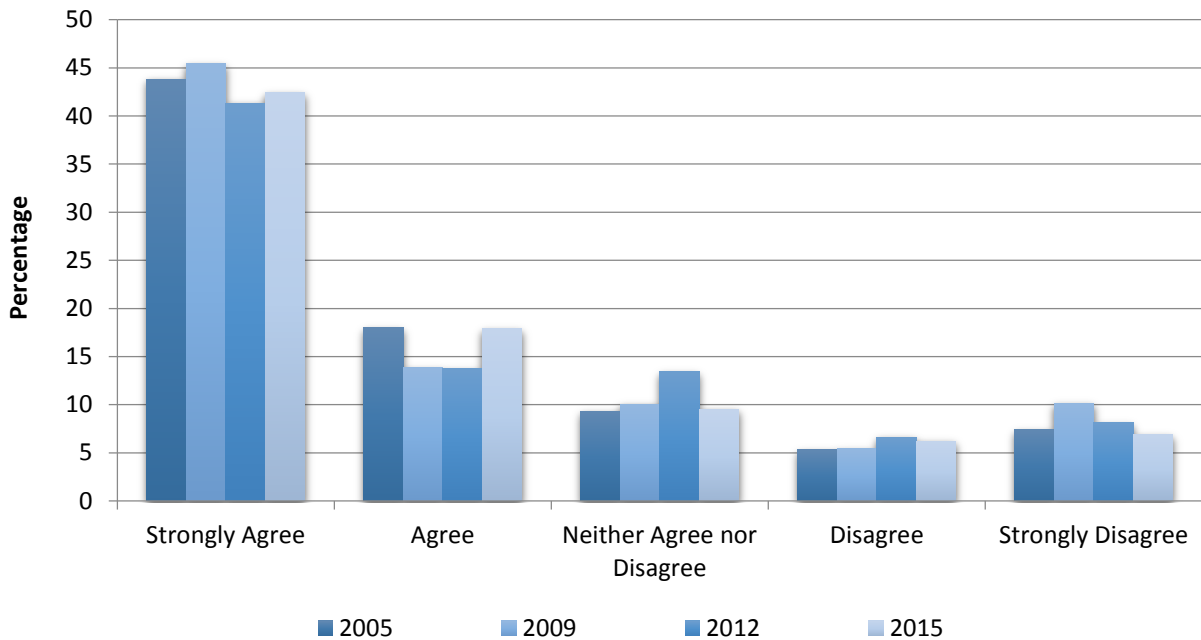
Community Survey Information



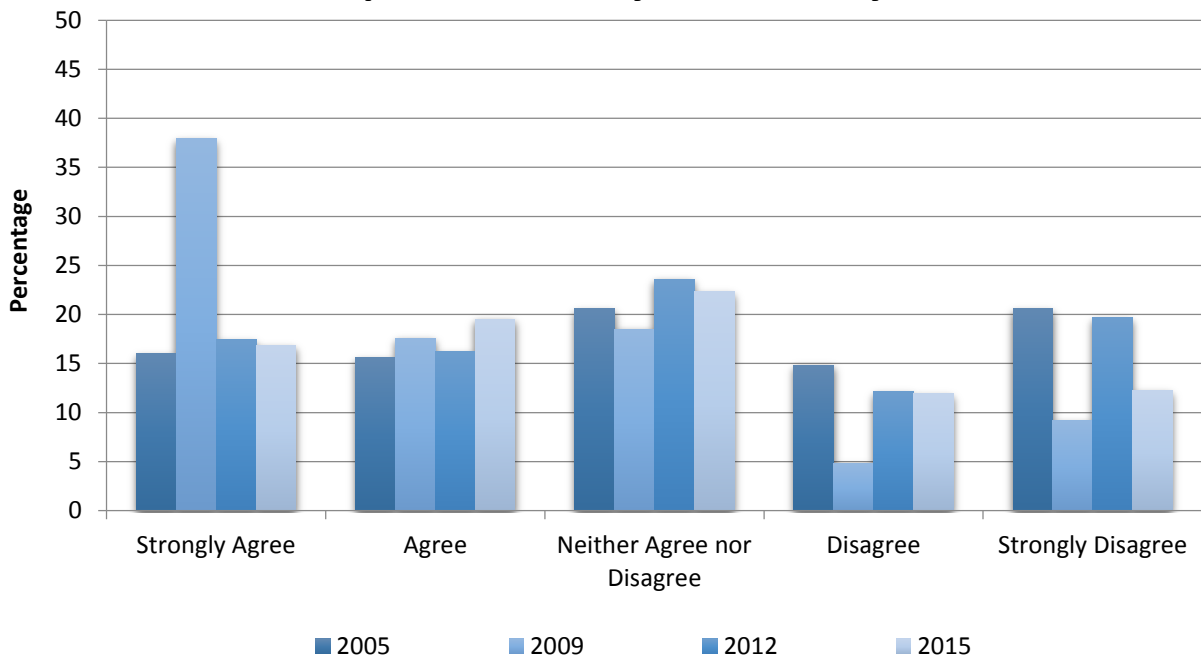
Adequate access to transportation is available to me and my family



I have access to affordable individual and family counseling services if I were to need them



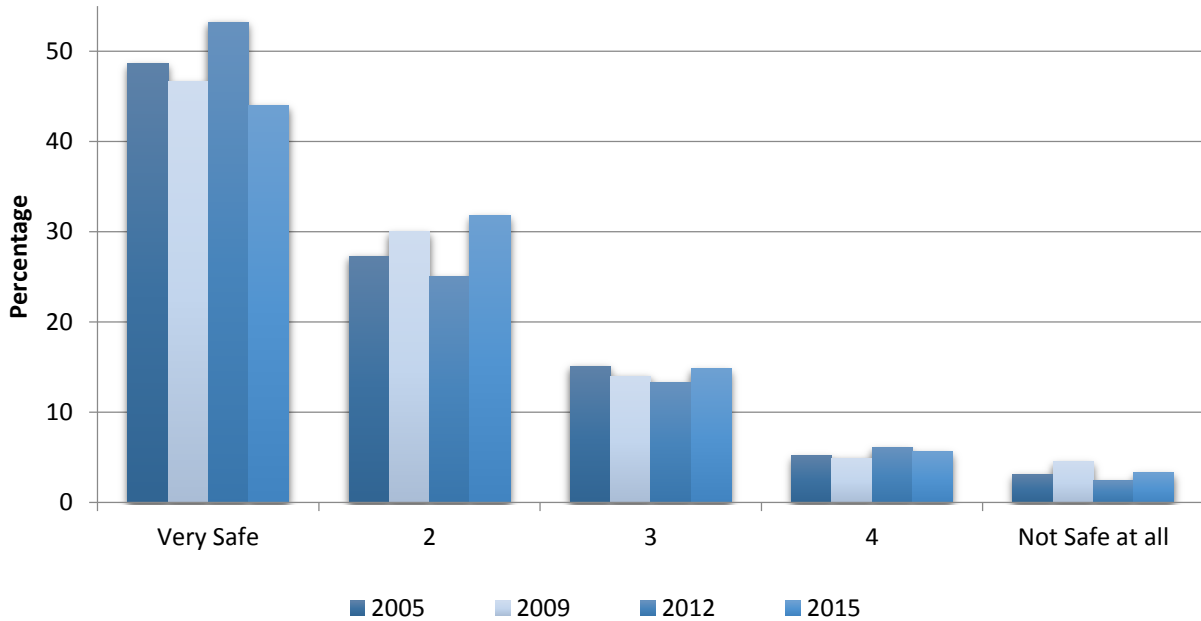
Domestic violence is a big problem in my community



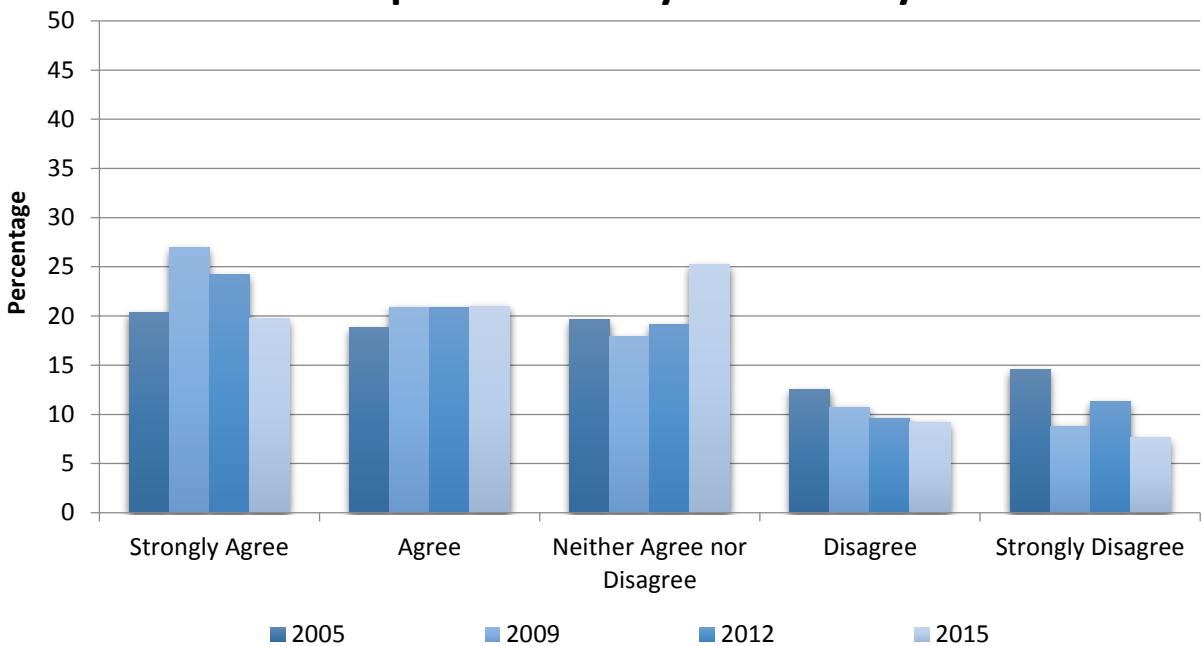
Have you or someone you know in your community been the victim of physical abuse by a family member in the last year?

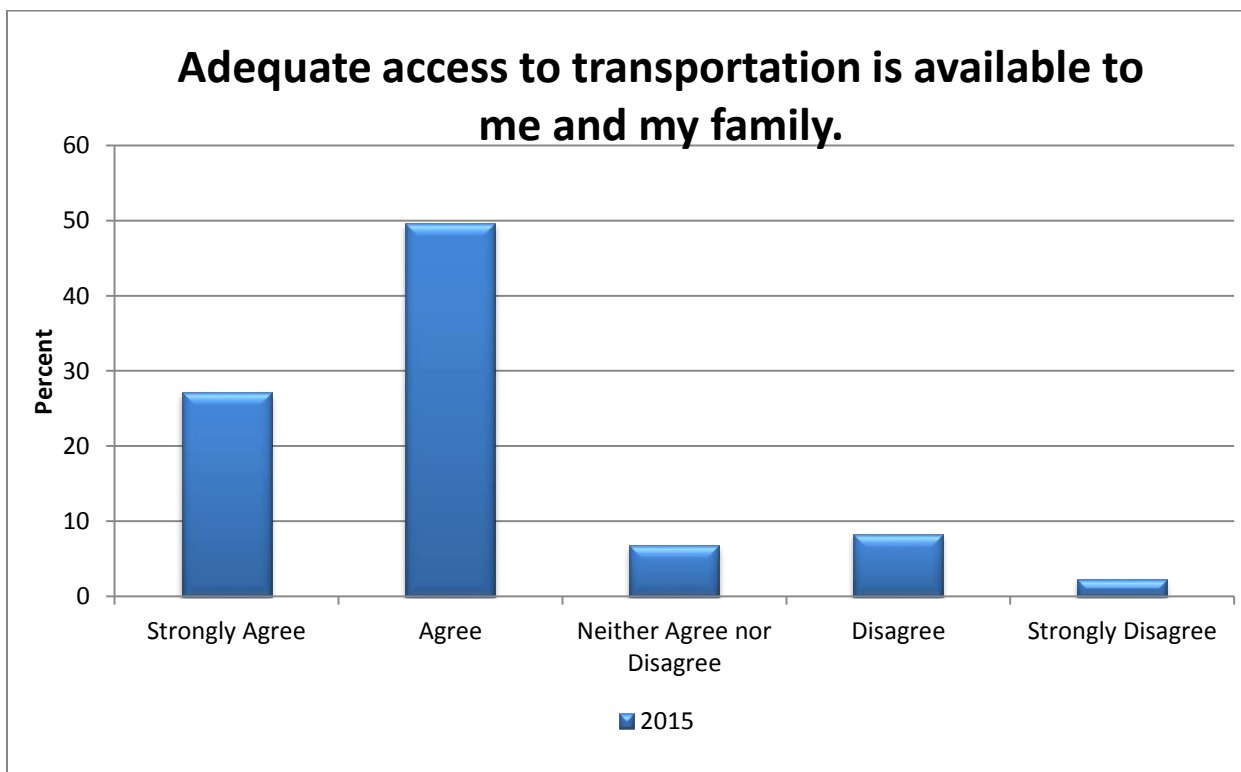
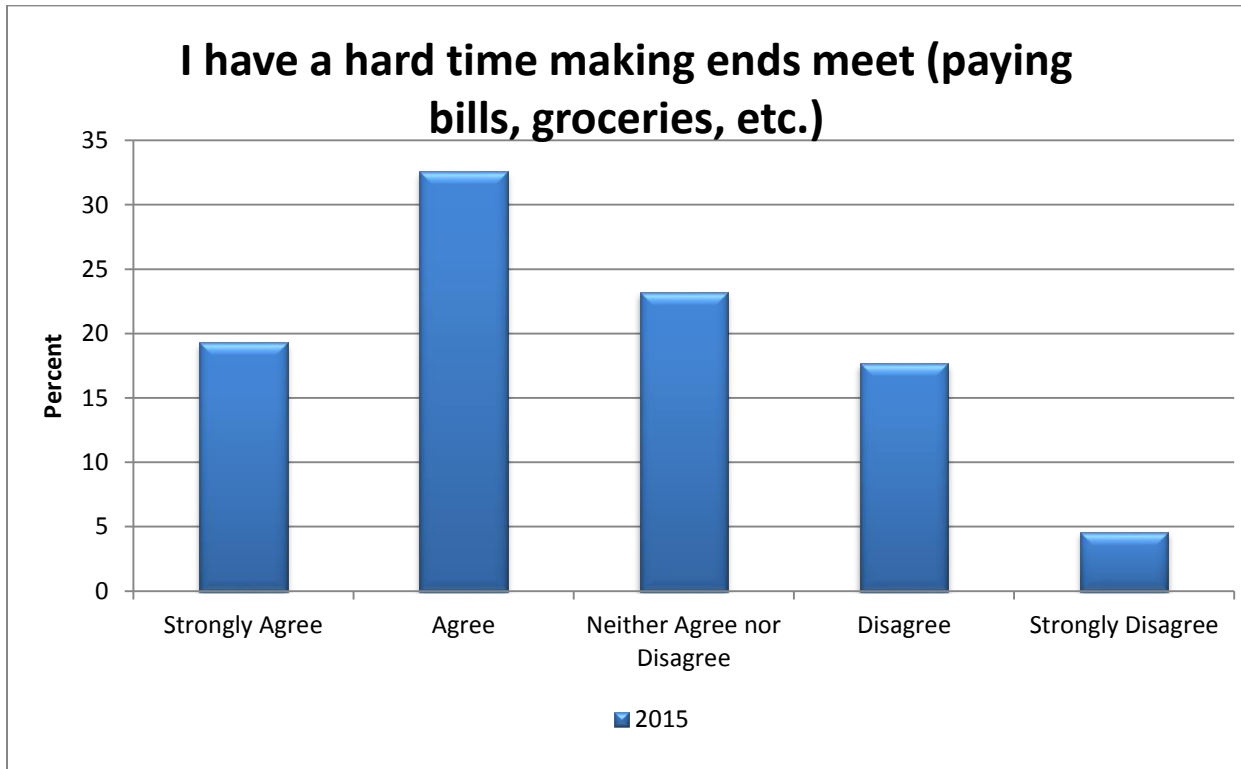
	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	12.7	11.8	12.4	15.2
No	85.8	86.8	86.6	81.9
Don't Know	1.5	1.3	0.8	2.9

How safe is your neighborhood?

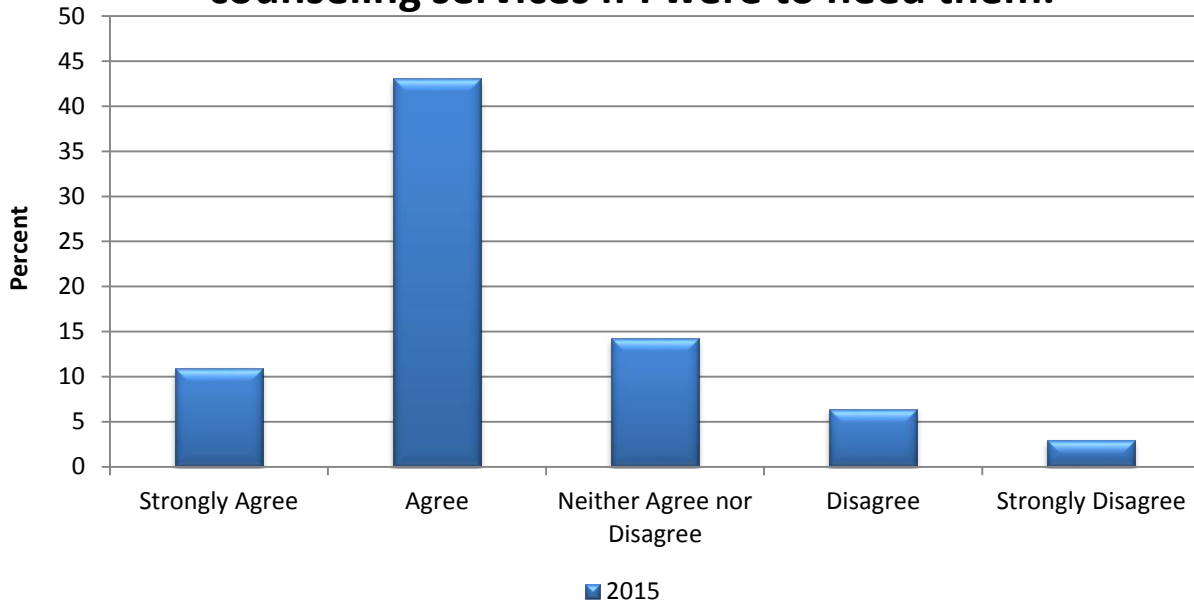


Teenage pregnancy is a big problem in my community

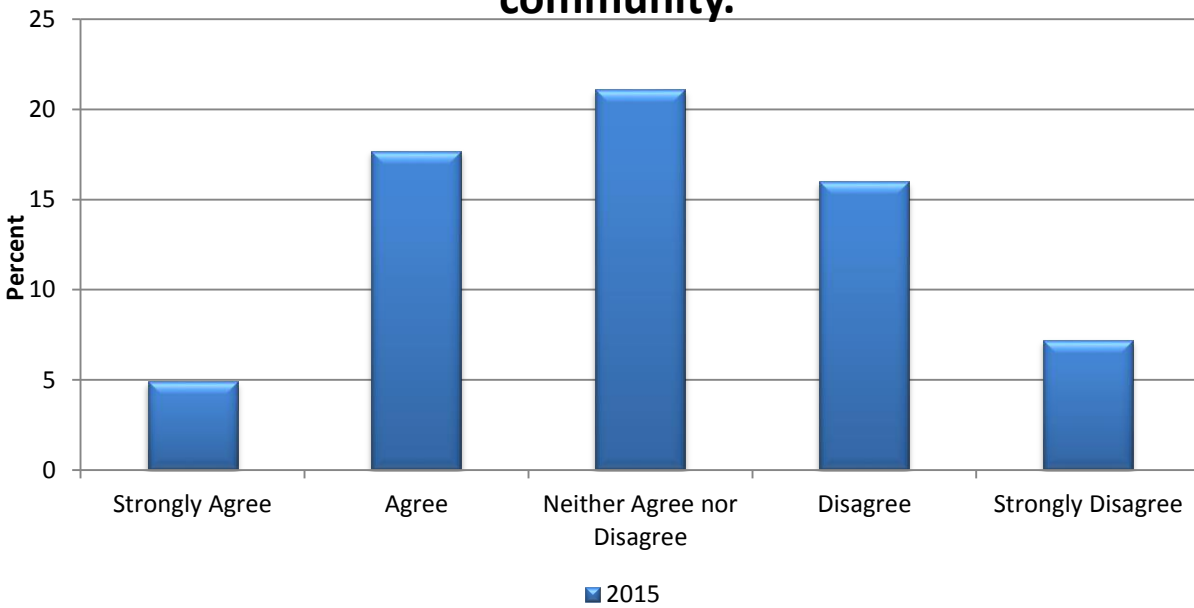




I have access to affordable individual and family counseling services if I were to need them.



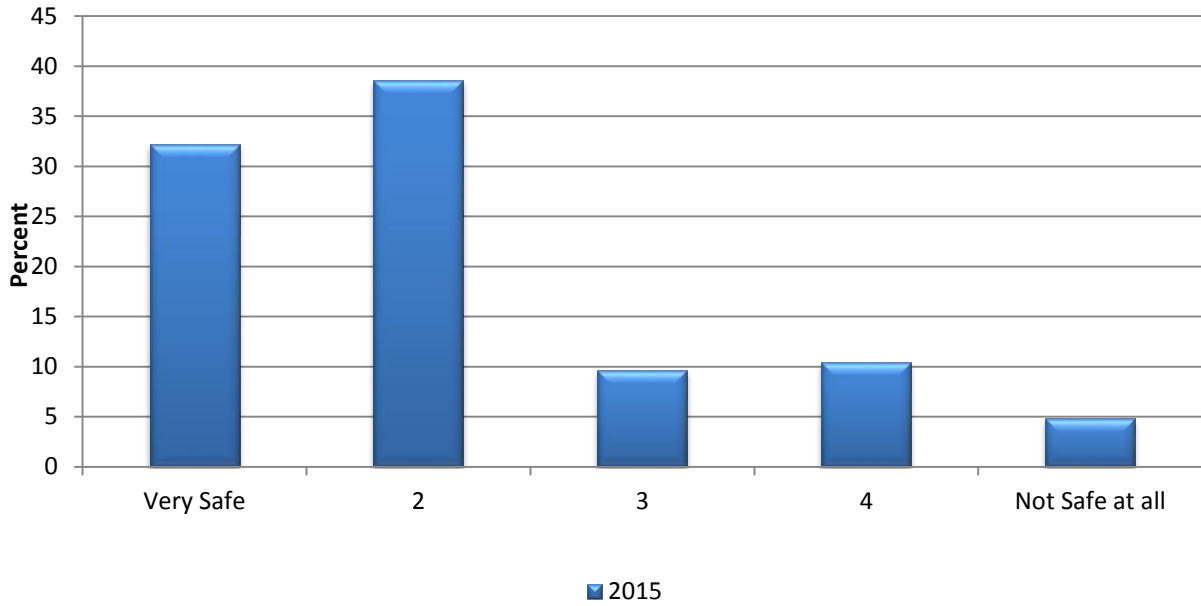
Domestic violence is a big problem in my community.



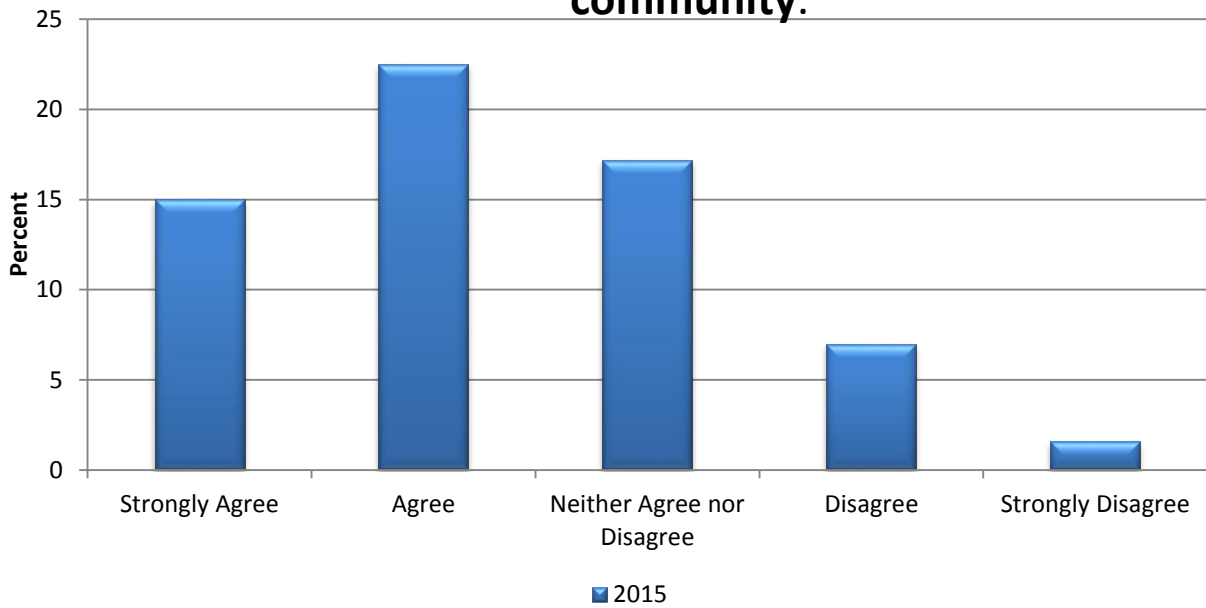
Have you or someone you know in your community been the victim of physical abuse by a family member in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	11.3
No	68.7
Don't Know	20.0

How safe is your neighborhood?



Teenage pregnancy is a big problem in my community.



Health and Nutrition

In the area of health and nutrition, the data gathered across all research methods used in the needs assessment revealed needs involving the access and affordability of health care, both in terms of suppliers and the resources of consumers. In addition, the assessment revealed a need for greater attention to the issue of hunger in the County. Across the objective data, community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information three main themes emerge: access and affordability of hunger and food-security, health care, and care of aging population.

Access and Affordability of Health Care

A significant share of respondents from the community and an expectedly larger share of customers of local social service agencies reported the avoidance of seeking health care because of costs. While much of the need for greater affordability is part of the national landscape of health care, a particular local problem with access is likely contributing to the need here. In nearly every category, the number of health care providers per capita trails state or national averages.

Care of Aging Population

Lycoming County has a higher rate of residents 65 and older enrolled in Medicare at nearly 22 percent of the population, compared to Pennsylvania at rate of 18 percent. This along with having less health care providers per capita makes it more difficult for our senior population to receive care. As a relatively rural community the challenge is how to provide incentives to medical professions to come and stay in Lycoming County. Improvements in the quality of life of the region helps will help with recruitment and retention of medical professionals.

Hunger & Food-Security

Hunger appears to be a significant and potentially growing need in the County. Roughly 12 percent of households participate in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Sixteen percent of agency customers report awareness of someone who has gone without food in the past year. For the community at large, that number is up to 24 percent and growing; since 2005 it has nearly tripled, growing in each needs assessment. It is not just about giving people food, but teaching them that when it comes to eating, healthy life choices can be affordable. Efforts to provide education across the all populations from children to seniors is needed to begin changing the trend and improving quality of life through healthy choices.

Objective Data Health & Nutrition

Health Care: Births

Most live births occurred with mothers 20–30 years of age, giving birth to 59.03 percent of all births in Lycoming County. The second largest group is mothers 30–40 years of age, with 29.48 percent of births. Mothers over age 40 represent 0 percent of births.

Of interest are live births by mothers under the age of 19, who gave birth to 9.70 percent of all babies in the report area. These births can work against families being self-sufficient. Teen mothers are statistically less likely to continue education through high school and college, without which many may earn only low-income wages. Teen mothers and their children face increased health risk due to lack of education and resources.

Births by Females Under 15, and 15 to 19, 2011

County	Total Births	Mother Age					
		Under 15	15 to 19	20 to 30	30 to 40	Over 40	Unknown
Lycoming	1,279	no data	124	755	377	no data	4
Pennsylvania	142,021	149	10,775	72,571	54,508	3,959	59

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Research, 2011.

Health Care: Number of Deaths and Death Rate

Number of deaths and death rates are shown below. Birth and total death crude rates are per a 1,000 person population, while infant and neonatal death rates are per 1,000 live births. (Neonatal death denotes death within one week of a live birth.) Fetal death rates are per 1,000 deliveries (live births + fetal deaths) and exclude induced terminations. (Fetal death refers to stillborn or death after a 20-week gestation period.)

Subtracting the crude death rate from the crude birth rate provides the rate of natural increase, which is equal to the rate of population change in the absence of migration. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Research, there were a total of 1,279 live births in Lycoming County, compared with 1,248 total deaths and 5 infant deaths. The rate of natural increase in the report area during 2011 was 31 lives.

Number of Deaths and Death Rate, 2011

County	Live Births		All Deaths		Infant Deaths		Neonatal Deaths		Fetal Deaths	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Lycoming	1,279	11%	1,248	10.7%	5	no data	4	no data	13	10.06%
Pennsylvania	142,021	11%	127,122	10.0%	930	7%	643	%	1,351	9.42%

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Research, 2011.

Health Care: Persons Receiving Medicare

The total number of persons receiving Medicare is shown, broken down by number age 65 and older number of persons with disabilities receiving Medicare in Lycoming County. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that a total of 25,442 persons were receiving Medicare benefits in the report area in 2012. A large number of individuals in our society are aware that persons age 65 and older receive Medicare; however, many of them are unaware that persons with disabilities also receive Medicare benefits. A total of 4,907 disabled persons in the report area received Medicare benefits in 2012.

Medicare Enrollment by County, 2012

County	Persons 65 and Older Receiving Medicare	Disabled Persons Receiving Medicare	Total Persons Receiving Medicare
Lycoming	20,535	4,907	25,442
Pennsylvania	2,100,850	472,898	2,573,748

Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare County Enrollment Report, 2012.

Health Care: Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Enrollment

Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollment is shown below. Total enrollment in Lycoming County is 1,536 children. The number of enrollees whose household income is less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) totals 1,322, while those enrolled where FPL is greater than 300 percent equals 14 children. Families who are at or above 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level pay in part on a sliding scale for CHIP services.

Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Enrollment, 2013

County	Total Enrollment	Federal Poverty Levels				
		Less than 200%	200% to 250%	250% to 275%	275% to 300%	Greater than 300%
Lycoming	1,536	1,322	146	29	25	14
Pennsylvania	188,452	152,730	22,613	5,780	3,378	3,951

Source: 2013 Annual Report to the Legislature, Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program.

Health Care: Uninsured Population

The uninsured population is calculated by estimating the number of persons eligible for insurance (generally those under 65) minus the estimated number of insured persons. In 2012, the percentage of uninsured persons was 11.5 percent in Lycoming County. Comparatively, the Pennsylvania rate was 9.5 percent and the national rate was 14.5 percent.

Uninsured Persons, 2012

County	Insurance Population (2012 Estimate)	Number Insured	Number Uninsured	Percent Uninsured
Lycoming	116,447	82,252	10,676	11.5%
Pennsylvania	12,790,00	18,342,918	2,421,921	9.5%
National	309,138,709	219,286,188	44,960,048	14.5%

Source: United States Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2012 (March, 2014 release).

Health Care: Medicare and Medicaid Providers

The total number of institutional Medicare and Medicaid providers, including hospitals, nursing facilities, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and community mental health centers for Lycoming County is shown below. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were 25 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in Lycoming County in 2013.

Institutional Medicare and Medicaid Providers, 2013

County	Total Institutional Providers	Hospitals	Nursing Facilities	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics	Community Mental Health Centers
Lycoming	25	4	8	1	0	0

Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, Third Quarter, 2013.

Health Care: Physicians

Shown below is the number of physicians and physician assistants for Lycoming County. There are 3.07 physicians per 1,000 persons in the report area; the Pennsylvania average is 3.83 physicians per 1,000 persons.

Physicians and Assistants, April 2014

County	Medical Physicians / Surgeons	Medical Physician Assistants	Osteopathic Physicians / Surgeons	Physicians / Assistants per 1,000
Lycoming	226	86	46	3.07
Pennsylvania	36,371	5,861	6,427	3.83

Source: Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

Health Care: Dentists

Shown below is the number of dentists and dental hygienists for Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania average is 1.26 dental professionals per 1,000 persons.

Dental Professionals, April 2014

County	Dentists	Dental Hygienists	Dental Professionals per 1,000 Persons
Lycoming	51	120	1.47
Pennsylvania	8,179	7,799	1.26

Source: Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

Health Care: Nurses

Shown below is the number of nurses, nurse practitioners, and nurse specialists for Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania average is 19.18 nursing professionals per 1,000 persons.

Nurses, April 2014

County	Registered Nurses	Practical Nurses	Registered Nurse Practitioners	Clinical Nurse Specialists	Nurses per 1,000 Persons
Lycoming	1,462	690	45	0	18.87
Pennsylvania	180,698	55,056	7,609	154	19.18

Source: Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

Health Care: Mental Health Professionals

Shown below is the number of psychologists for Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania average is 0.42 psychologists per 1,000 persons.

Mental Health Professionals, April 2014

County	Psychologists	Psychologist per 1,000 Persons
Lycoming	27	0.23
Pennsylvania	5,276	0.42

Source: Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

Health Care: Therapists

Shown below is the number of physical therapists, occupational therapists, and chiropractors for Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania average is 1.73 physical therapists, occupational therapists, and chiropractors per 1,000 persons.

Therapists, April 2014

County	Physical Therapists	Occupational Therapists	Chiropractors	Therapists / Chiropractors per 1,000 Persons
Lycoming	84	48	40	1.48
Pennsylvania	11,455	6,639	3,817	1.73

Source: *Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.*

Health Care: Special Health Professionals

Shown below is the number of dietitian-nutritionists, optometrists, doctors of podiatric medicine, and speech pathologists for Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania average is 1.02 special health professionals per 1,000 persons.

Special Health Professionals, April 2014

County	Dietitian-Nutritionists (LDN)	Optometrists	Doctors of Podiatric Medicine	Speech Language Pathologists	Special Health Professionals per 1,000 Persons
Lycoming	28	12	8	49	0.83
Pennsylvania	3,511	1,868	1,253	6,340	1.02

Source: *Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, April 2014; and United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.*

Poverty: Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)

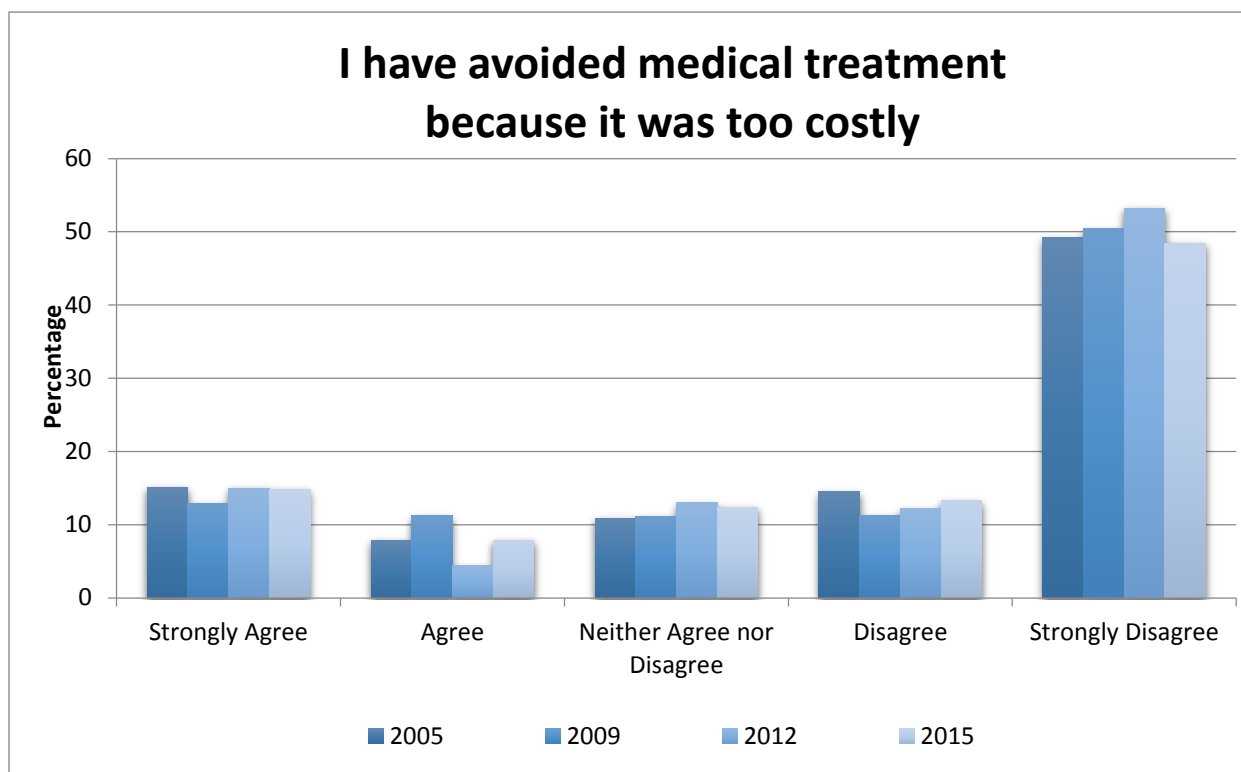
The table below shows that 5,524 households (or 12.00 percent) received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payments, formerly known as food stamps, during 2013. Of those 5,524 households, 47.54 percent or 2,626 households have at least one working family member and 21.47 percent or 1,186 are over the age of 60.

Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status, 2009 – 2013

County	Total Households Receiving SNAP	Percent	Income Below Poverty	Income Above Poverty	Family has at Least 1 Working Member	Age 60 and Older
Lycoming	5,524	12.00%	2,916	2,608	2,626	1,186
Report Area	5,524	12.00%	2,916	2,608	2,626	1,186

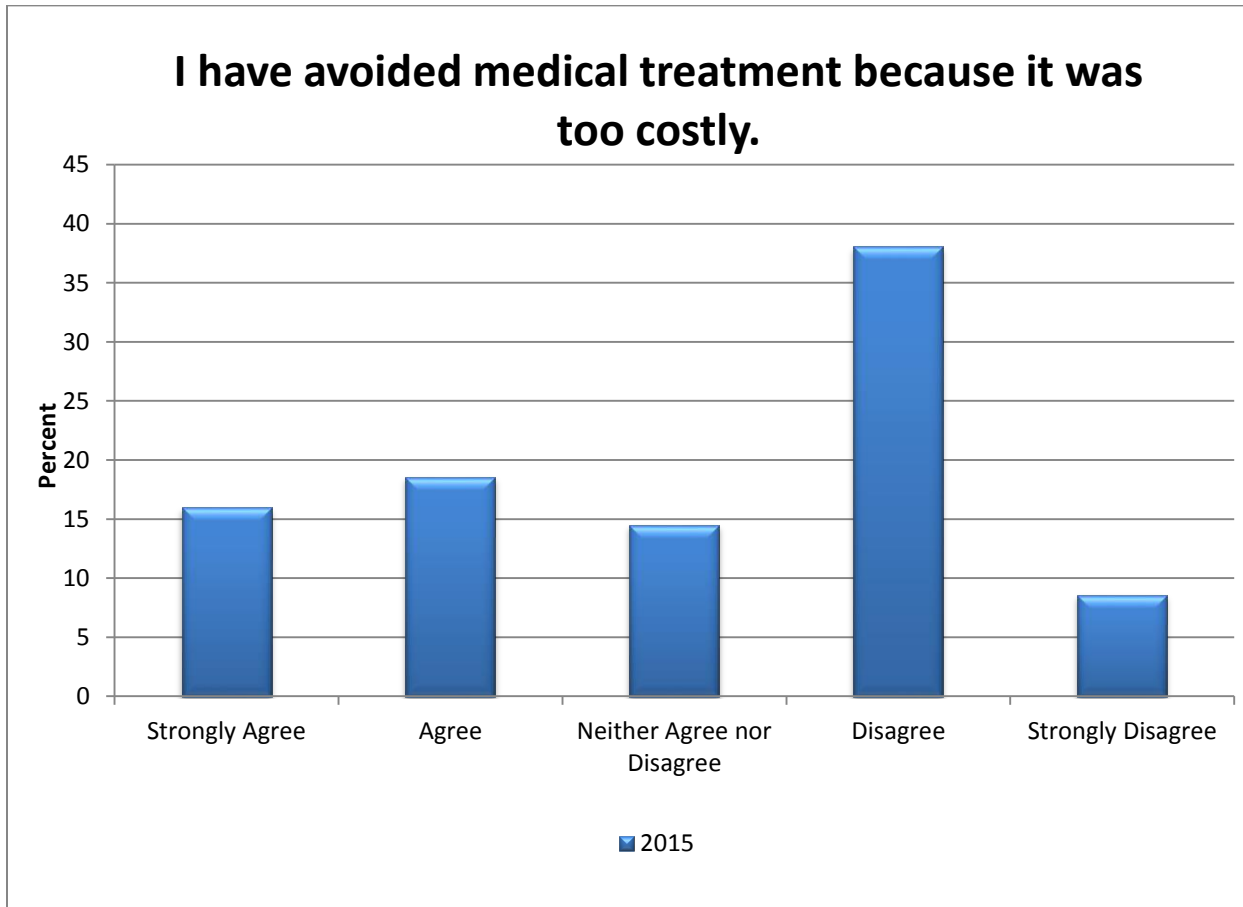
Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013. Supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) numbers are for the last 12 months of the five-year average (2013).



Have you or someone you know in your community gone without food for more than a day in the last year because they could not afford it?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	8.3	12.5	14.5	24.0
No	86.7	80.2	81.9	68.6
Don't Know	5.0	7.3	3.4	7.4



Have you or someone you know in your community gone without food for more than a day in the last year because they could not afford it?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	15.6
No	59.4
Don't Know	25.0

Housing and Homelessness

The availability of quality affordable housing was an issue in the area long before the increased demand created by the growth of the natural gas industry placed additional pressures on the housing markets in the area. The scaleback of the industry has not eliminated the housing needs in the county. Across the objective data, community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information four main themes emerge: lack of space, more than just housing, specialized populations, and landlords.

Lack of Space

Objective data shows a slight rise in housing units in Lycoming County, although there is less rental vacancy than the state. A smaller percentage of renters pay over 30 percent of their income for rent than those in the state or country. The community survey found a slightly smaller population who stated they have no place to live. The customer survey found that one-quarter had no affordable housing and one-third of respondents have experienced a rent increase in the past two years. In the focus group there was general *agreement* that the number of available beds is unable to meet the need. Agencies constantly receive calls for housing that they cannot meet. Available housing may not be appropriate for the family unit. Rural homeless end up couch surfing.

Landlords

Landlords are becoming increasingly careful about screening potential renters. If they are not cautious, and there are subsequent problems with the unit, it can shut be shut down due to code violations, causing a loss in revenue. Even complaints from neighbors can cause a rental unit to be shut down. Some refusals to accept potential tenants are due to discrimination; however, some happen because a landlord cannot afford mistakes. Raising rents results in renters with fewer identifiable potential problems, yet this leaves a gap for people who cannot afford the higher rent.

More than Just Housing

The community survey revealed less concern regarding the ability to make mortgage payments. In the customer survey, most stated that if someone they knew lost their home, they were forced to move in with someone else. In the focus group it was discussed that while in the past people came in for help with their utilities, they now come in for help with rent. Some clients do not even have a working furnace. There may be lower-priced rental units outside the city, but the lack of transportation is a problem. Families will keep homelessness hidden out of fear of losing their children. Addressing housing through a holistic scope of individualized services and coordination of services is necessary.

Specialized Populations

Specialized populations, such as *inmates* coming out of the prison system, are difficult to house. Those who become homeless after release are more likely to reoffend. Very few beds are available for the mentally ill and when they are available they do not experience turnover. Women released from prison face a special challenge because they need housing that will allow them to reunite their families. *Addicts* need services beyond just housing. Those in recovery also face challenges because they cannot be housed without programs. They may have criminal records, which presents additional obstacles to finding housing. Another specialized population is young adults aging out of *foster care*. This group needs life skills training that schools no longer provide. While training is provided by the government, “aged out” youths do not want to be in programs. They can only get minimum wage jobs, so they sell drugs or become prostitutes. They get caught and end up in the prison system. *Veterans* also face a challenge in finding housing, since programs for vets house them outside of the community.

Objective Data: Housing & Homelessness

Housing: Housing Units

The number of housing units within Lycoming County in July of each year from 2003–2013 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, there were 52,408 housing units in the report area in 2013, a decrease of –385 or –0.73 percent since 2003, compared with a 3.5 percent increase in Pennsylvania.

2002–2012 Housing Units

County	July 2003	July 2004	July 2005	July 2006
Lycoming	52,793	52,826	52,862	52,866
Pennsylvania	5,370,224	5,411,357	5,454,141	5,490,779

2002–2012 Housing Units (continued)

County	July 2007	July 2008	July 2009	July 2010	July 2011	July 2012	July 2013
Lycoming	52,857	52,758	52,640	52,492	52,538	52,537	52,408
Pennsylvania	5,520,838	5,544,680	5,560,138	5,568,220	5,572,564	5,572,466	5,565,157

Source: United States Census Bureau, Population Division, Housing Unit Estimates for Counties: July 1, 2003 to July 1, 2013, Release Date May 2014.

Housing: Housing Age

Total housing units, median year built and median age in 2012 for the Lycoming County are below. Houses in Lycoming County are 46 percent older than homes across the Nation.

Median Housing Unit Age, 2012

County	Total Housing Units	Median Year Built	Median Age (in 2012)
Lycoming	52,621	1958	54
Pennsylvania	5,563,832	1961	51
National	131,642,456	1975	37

Source: United States 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.

Housing: Homeowners

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 32,636 owner-occupied homes in Lycoming County in 2000, and 32,236 owner-occupied homes in Lycoming County for the 5-year estimated period from 2008–2012. Lycoming County experienced a –1.23 percent change in occupied homes between 2000 and 2012. Comparatively, the Pennsylvania increase in owner occupied homes was 2.12 percent. The decrease in Lycoming County is a concern particularly with housing stability.

Percent Change in Owner-Occupied Homes, 2000, 2008–2012

County	Homes, 2000	Homes, 2008–2012	Owner Occupied Homes Change %
Lycoming	32,636	32,236	-1.23%
Pennsylvania	3,406,337	3,478,602	2.12%
National	69,815,753	75,484,661	8.12%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, 2000; United States 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.

Housing: Housing-Cost Burden (Renters)

The 2008–2012 American Community Survey (ACS) shows that 48.12 percent of occupied units paying rent nationwide pay 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs. Thirty percent or more of income spent on housing costs is considered a "housing-cost burden." For Lycoming County, 43.23 percent of occupied units paying rent have a housing cost burden.

The number of occupied units is limited to those for which gross rent as a percentage of household income is able to be calculated.

Housing-Cost Burden (Renters), 2008–2012

County	Total Housing Units	Occupied Units Paying Rent	30 Percent or More of Income Used to Pay Rent	Percent of Renters Spending 30 Percent or More of Income for Rent
Lycoming	52,621	14,240	6,156	43.23%
Pennsylvania	5,563,832	1,481,031	675,935	45.64%
National	131,642,456	39,742,140	19,122,930	48.12%

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.

Housing: Housing-Cost Burden (Owners)

The 2008–2012 American Community Survey (ACS) shows that 36.6 percent of homeowners with mortgages nationwide pay 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs. In the report area, 30.84 percent of owners with mortgages and 16.29 percent of owners without mortgages spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs. Spending 30 percent or more of income on housing costs is considered a "housing-cost burden." In Lycoming County, 25 percent are in the housing-cost burden and at financial risk.

Housing-Cost Burden (Owners), 2008–2012

County	Total Housing Units	Owners with Mortgages	30 Percent or More of Income with Mortgage	Percent of Owners Spending 30 Percent or More of Income with Mortgage	Owners without Mortgages	30 Percent or More of Income without Mortgage	Percent of Owners Spending 30 Percent or More of Income without Mortgage
Lycoming	52,621	18,893	5,826	30.84%	13,343	2,173	16.29%
Pennsylvania	5,563,832	2,186,501	706,334	32.30%	1,292,101	215,470	16.68%
National	131,642,456	50,671,256	18,547,270	36.60%	24,813,404	3,784,853	15.25%

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.

Housing: Vacancy Rates

The U.S. Census Bureau provides vacancy data based on ACS 5-year estimates (2009 - 2013). Vacancy rates for the Lycoming County are reported below. Vacant *non-rental* housing totals 624 units and includes those for sale only and sold but not occupied. For Lycoming County, that is a non-rental housing vacancy rate of 1.19 percent, in comparison to the Pennsylvania rate of 1.57 percent and the national rate of 1.73 percent.

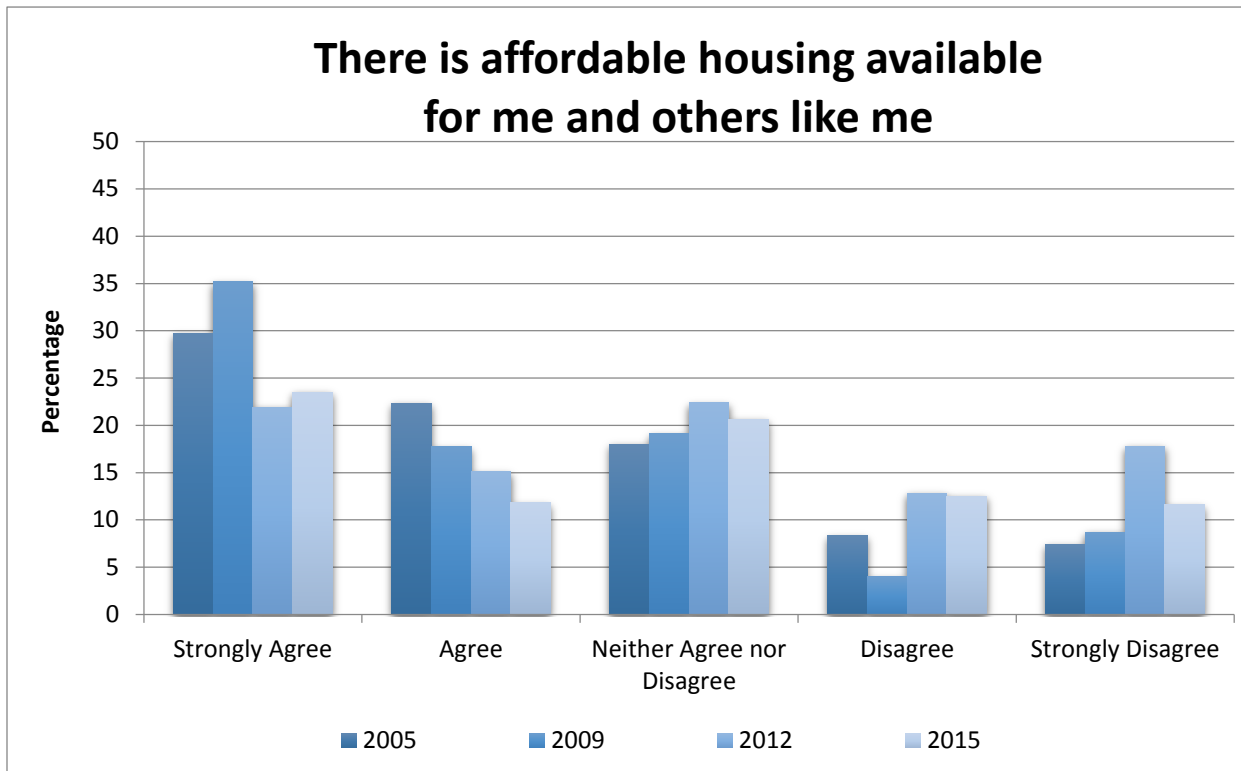
Vacant rental housing totals 951 units and includes those for rent and rented but not occupied. For Lycoming County, that is a rental housing vacancy rate of 1.81 percent, in comparison to the Pennsylvania rate of 2.15 percent and the national rate of 2.9 percent. Vacant other housing totals 4,849 units and includes those used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use, as well as units used for migrant workers. For Lycoming County, that is an *other* housing vacancy rate of 9.24 percent, in comparison to the Pennsylvania rate of 7.19 percent and the national rate of 7.82 percent.

Address Vacancies, 2009 – 2013

County	Total Housing Units	Vacant Non-Rental	Vacant Non-Rental Rate	Vacant Rental	Vacant Rental Rate	Vacant Other	Vacant Other Rate
Lycoming	52,470	624	1.19%	951	1.81%	4,849	9.24%
Report Area	52,470	624	1.19%	951	1.81%	4,849	9.24%
Pennsylvania	5,565,653	87,387	1.57%	119,768	2.15%	400,071	7.19%
National	132,057,808	2,290,610	1.73%	3,830,007	2.90%	10,326,971	7.82%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.



Have you or your family had difficulty finding the money to pay your mortgage or rent at any time in the last year?

	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	19.0	14.7	14.4
No	80.1	84.8	83.1
Don't Know	1.0	0.5	1.8

Have you or your family had difficulty finding the money to pay for the costs of heating, electricity, or water at any time in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	23.4
No	75.7
Don't Know	0.5

Have you or someone you know in your community had no place to live at some time in the last year?

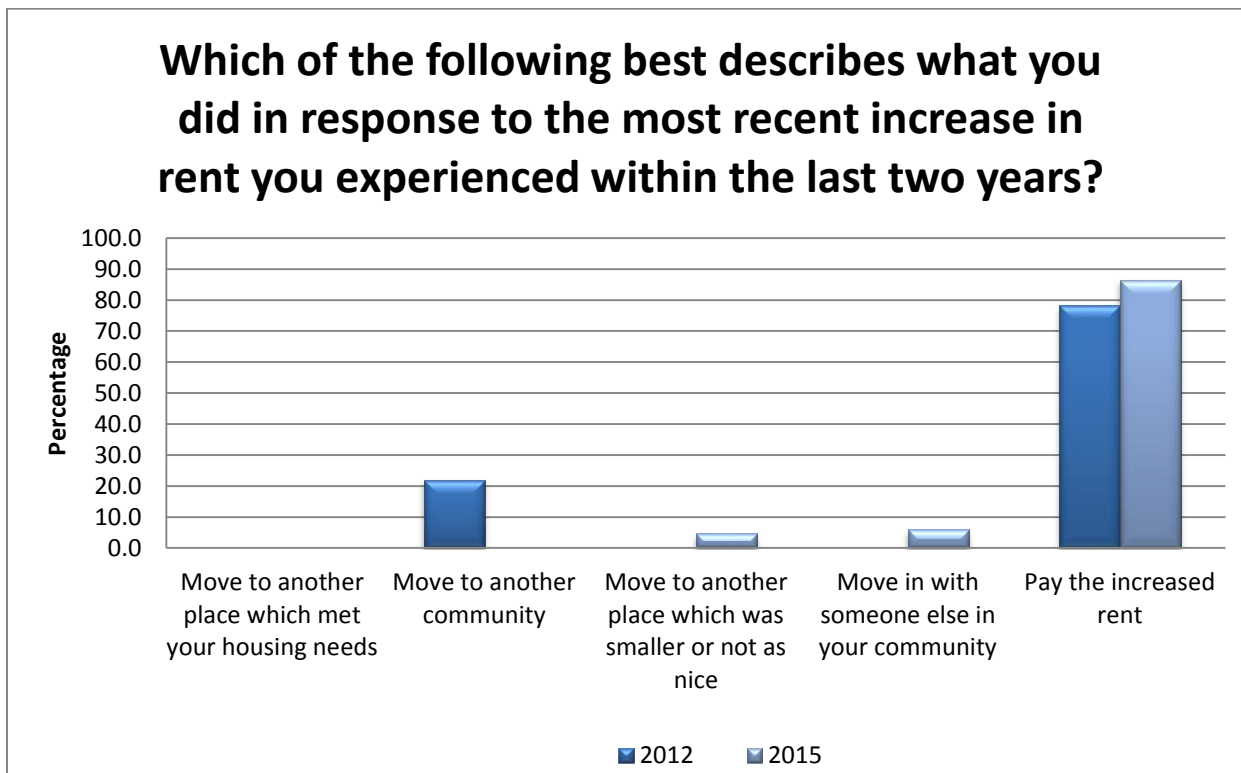
	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	12.1	19.9	30.4	29.9
No	84.9	75.9	67.9	66.0
Don't Know	2.7	4.2	1.8	4.1

Do you own or rent your home?

	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Own	86.9	83.3
Rent	10.7	13.2
Don't Know	1.6	2.9

Amongst renters: Thinking back to the last two years, has your landlord increased your rent?

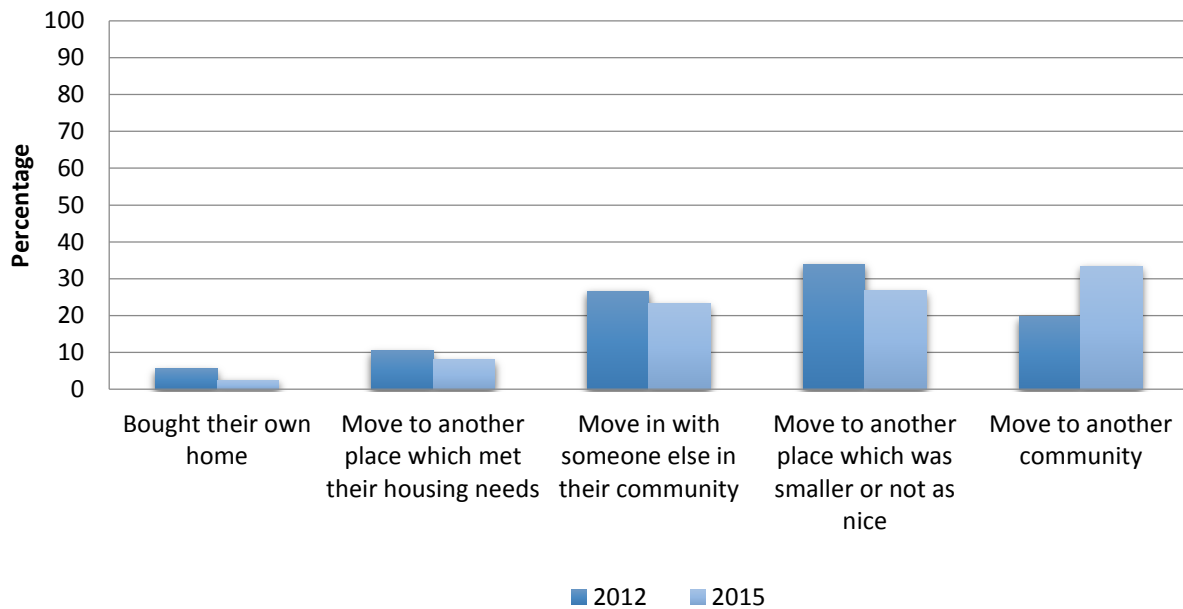
	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	28.4	38.2
No	70.1	60.2
Don't Know	1.5	1.6



Do you know someone personally who has been forced to move from their home within the last two years because that person's landlord has raised the rent more than they could afford?

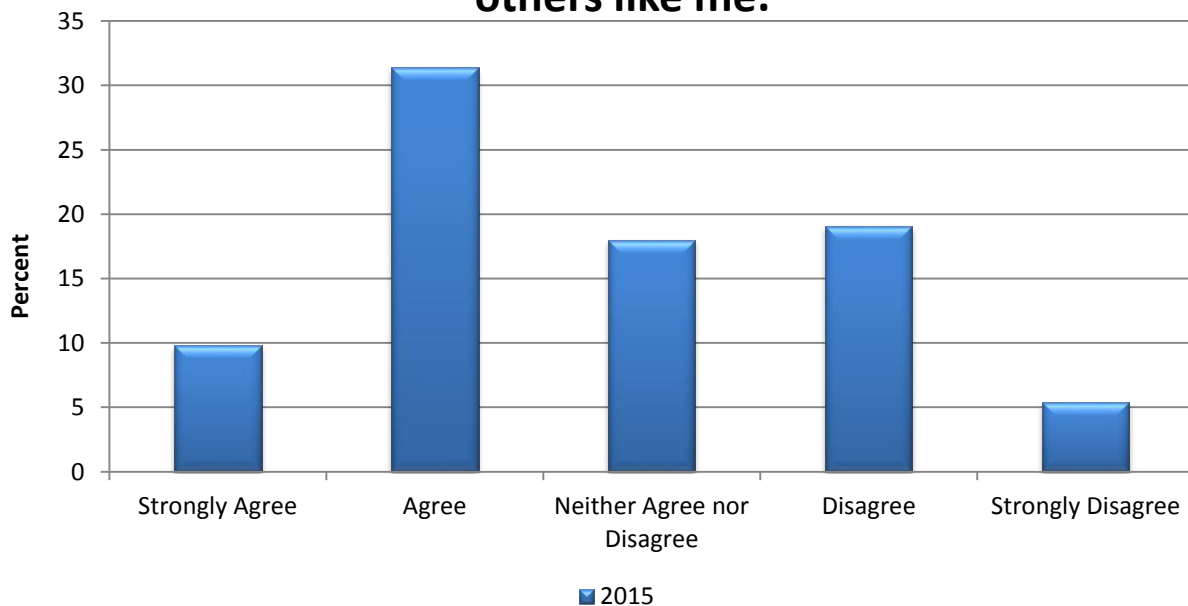
	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	33.8	30.1
No	65.2	67.5
Don't Know	0.9	2.3

Which of the following best describes what that person did after moving?



Customer Survey Information

There is affordable housing available for me and others like me.



Have you or your family had difficulty finding the money to pay your mortgage or rent at any time in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	35.6
No	56.9
Don't Know	7.6

Have you or your family had difficulty finding the money to pay for the costs of heating, electricity, or water at any time in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	44.8
No	47.0
Don't Know	8.2

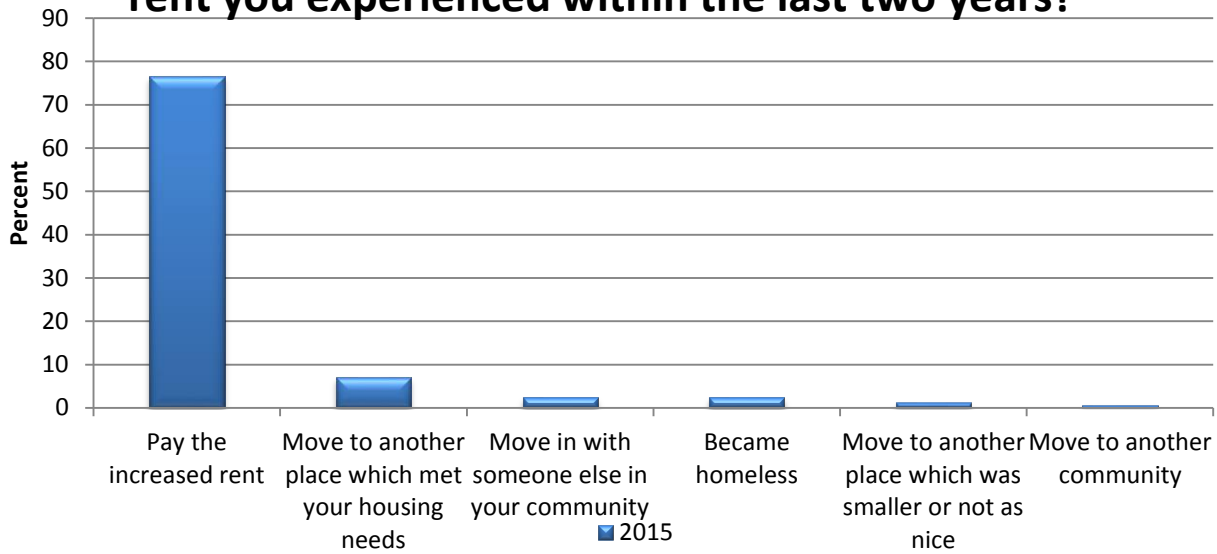
Do you own or rent your home?

	2015 (Percentage)
Own	43.1
Rent	54.9
Don't Know	1.9

If you rent, thinking back to the last two years, has your landlord increased your rent?

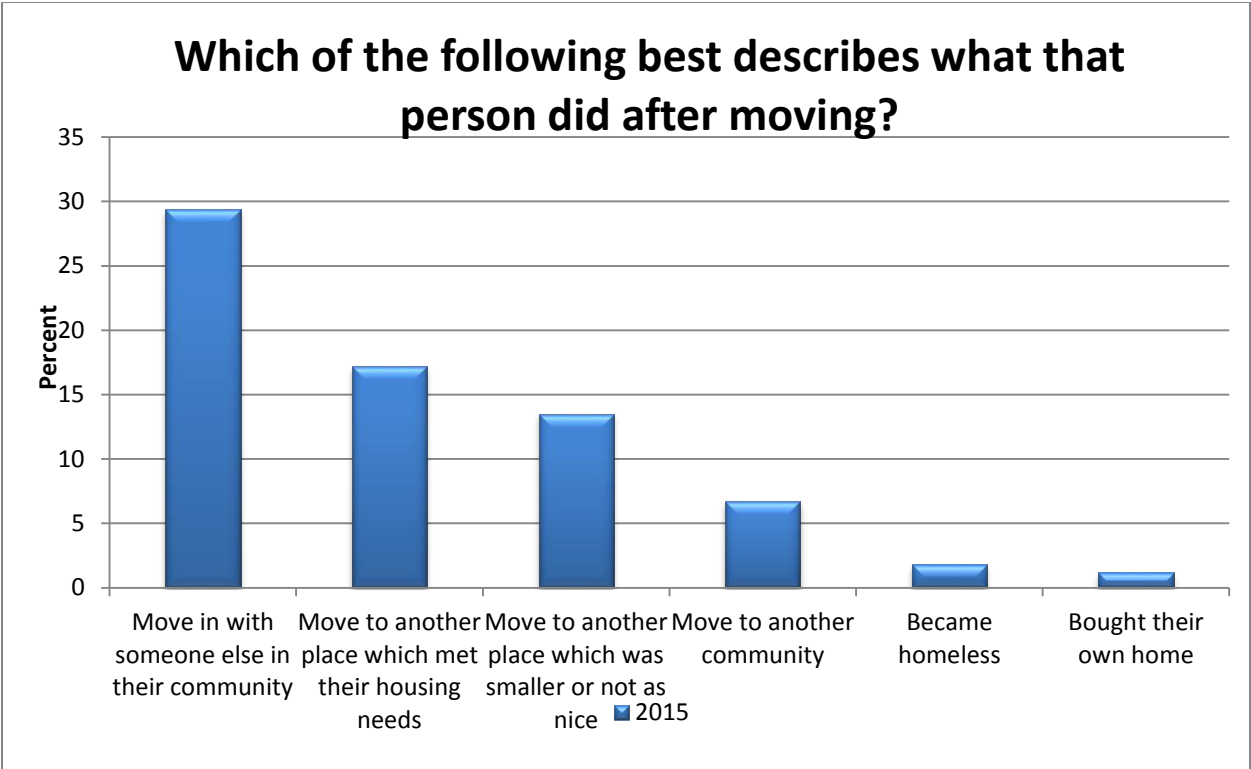
	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	34.7
No	60.7
Don't Know	4.6

Which of the following best describes what you did in response to the most recent increase in rent you experienced within the last two years?



Do you know someone personally who has been forced to move from their home within the last two years because that person's landlord has raised the rent more than they could afford?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	21.0
No	70.9
Don't Know	8.1



Have you or someone you know in your community had no place to live at some time in the last year?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	20.2
No	58.4
Don't Know	21.4

Senior and Persons with Disabilities Support Services

The needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities have long been a focus of community agencies. With an aging population leading to a growing need for senior services, and with greater awareness of how services for persons with disabilities can enhance quality of life and enable productive contributions to society, it was important to gauge the specific needs and assess the effectiveness of existing programs to meet these needs. Across the objective data, community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information five main themes emerge: housing affordability, service needs, socialization, sense of entitlement, and inadequate information.

Inadequate Information

A concern that people are not aware of the services offered by our community was discussed in the focus group. This may be due to inadequate communication. Additional information in newspapers was suggested along with the need to communicate verbally with community groups. It was thought that the problem is inevitable because most will not hear the information until the need personally affects them. Agencies would rather be overwhelmed with requests for help than see people go unserved.

Housing Affordability

The objective data demonstrates that fewer Lycoming seniors live in poverty than is true of the state and nation. A major theme of the focus group discussion was the need for affordable housing for the elderly and persons with disabilities. Another issue was the rising cost of utility payments. Even if the homeowner can cover a mortgage/rent payment and pay utility bills, a further issue is the cost of home maintenance. While agencies are encouraged to have the elderly age in place, this is not always possible.

Sense of Entitlement

One problem that was mentioned in the focus group was a sense of entitlement to services. Rather than the family stepping in to provide assistance, they want an agency to do what families used to do. Agencies are also having a problem recruiting volunteers since the Baby Boomer generation is reluctant to do so.

Service Needs

When asked to prioritize services that seniors and persons with disabilities lack, transportation was ranked lowest in the public survey. The three highest for seniors were meals, housing, and health care. For persons with disabilities, the highest needs were home nursing, rehabilitation, and abuse/scam prevention services. The customer survey was similar but added abuse/scam prevention for seniors and housing for persons with disabilities. Much focus group discussion focused on the need for transportation services. It was *agreed* that there are good services during the day. However, lack of transportation services on weekend creates difficulties for people wishing to attend church services, in the evening for people who want to attend social activities.

Socialization

The need for socialization was mentioned often in the focus group. Some people come in for services when they really just want to talk. Persons with disabilities can be particularly lonely in the evening when there are no scheduled activities. Activities during the day are not only important for the participants, but also for caregivers.

Objective Data: Seniors & the Disabled

Poverty: Seniors Population and Seniors in Poverty, 2008–2012 (ACS)

Poverty rates for Seniors, including data for all counties from the American Community Survey as average values for the 2009 to 2013 period, are shown below. In 2012, it is estimated that 1,429 seniors, or 7.74 percent, lived in poverty within Lycoming County.

Seniors in Poverty, 2009 – 2013

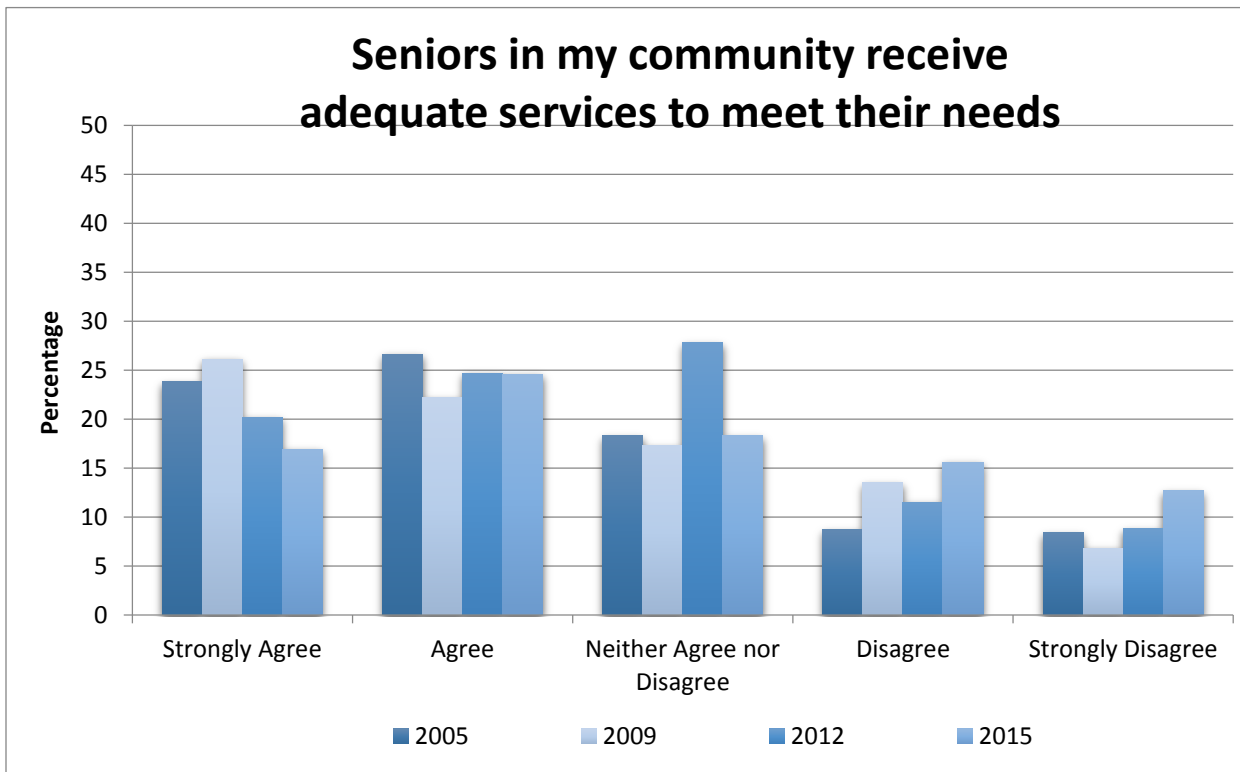
County	Seniors, 2008-2013	Seniors in Poverty, 2009-2013	Senior Poverty Rate, 2009-2013
Lycoming	18,468	1,429	7.74
Report Area	18,468	1,429	7.74
Pennsylvania	1,924,768	159,230	8.27
National	40,544,640	3,793,577	9.36

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

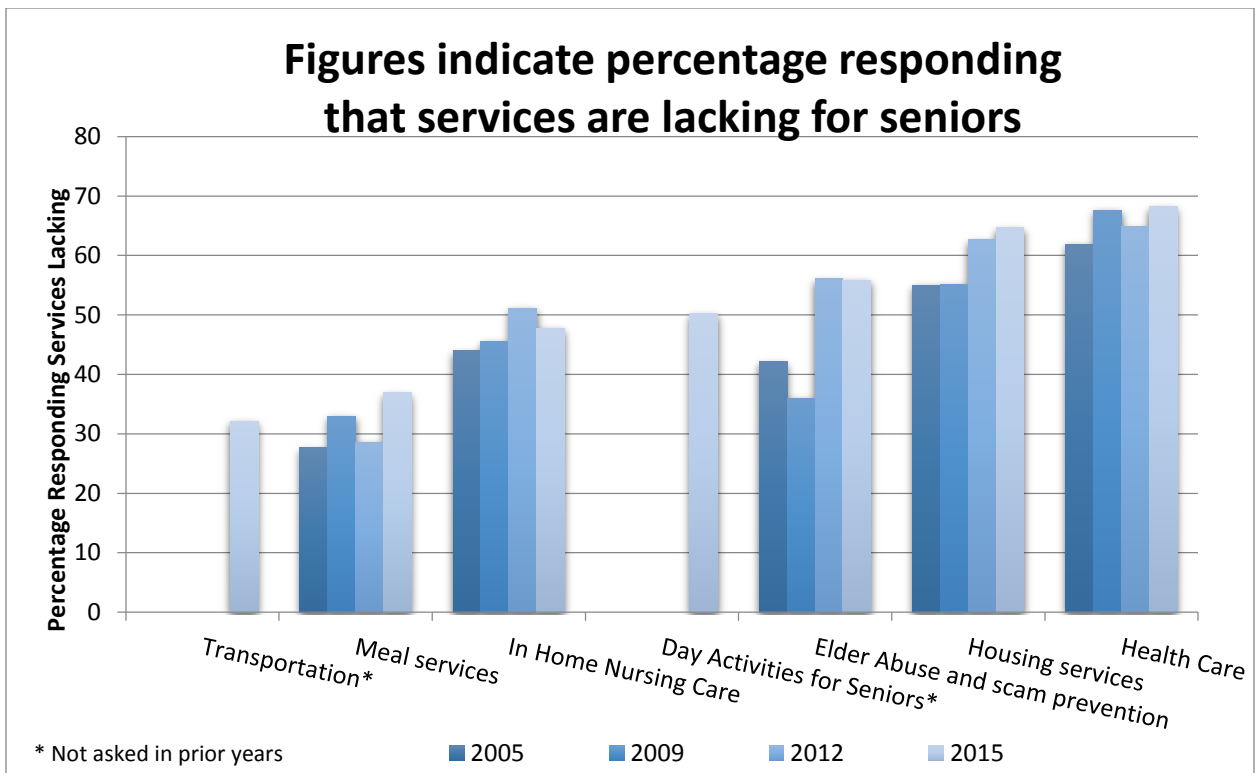
The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Survey Data: Seniors & Disabled

Community Survey Information - Seniors

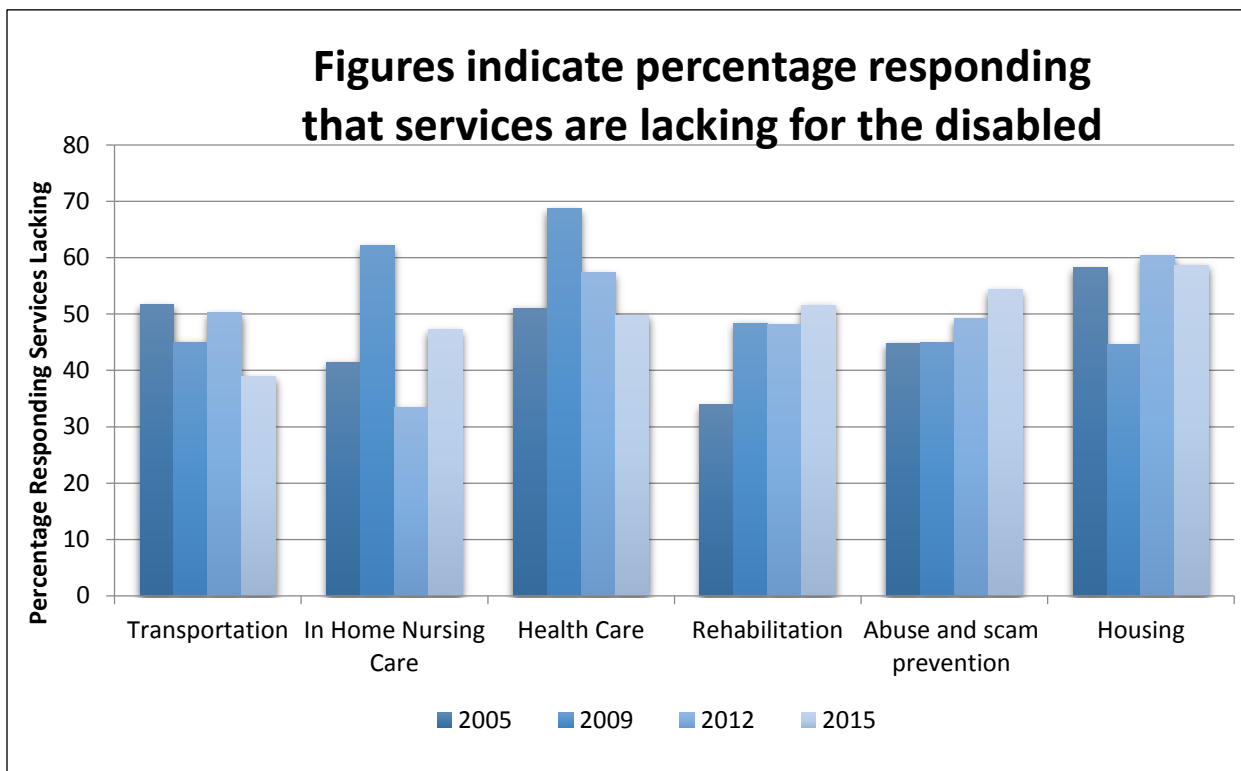
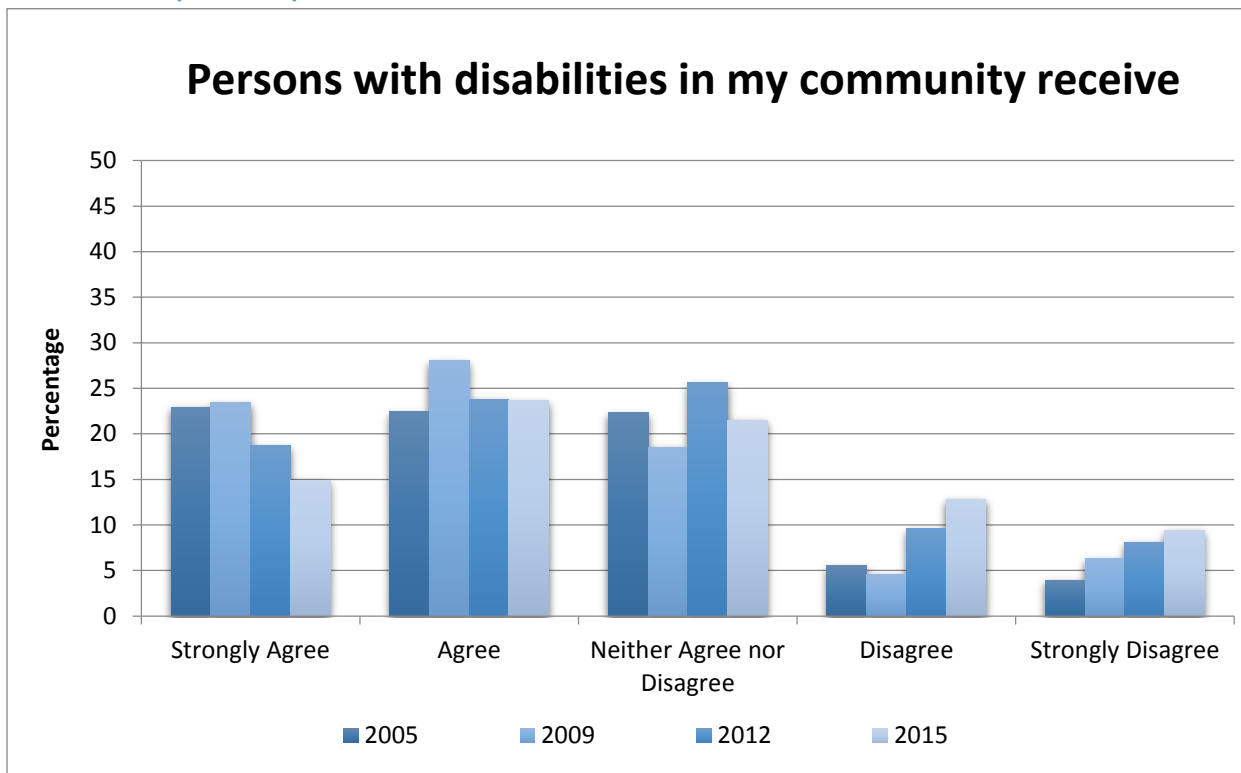


Figures indicate percentage responding that services are lacking for seniors



Do you provide any assistance for an elderly relative in Lycoming County?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	22.7	24.8	21.9	25.6
No	77.0	74.8	78.0	74.2
Refused	.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Don't Know	.1	0.3	.1	0.0



Are you or anyone in your household disabled?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	16.2	18.7	19.4	18.6
No	83.5	80.9	80.1	79.9
Refused	.3	0.0	0.2	0.5
Don't Know	0.0	0.4	0.3	1.0

Those who indicated there was someone with a disability in their household were also asked:

What is the approximate age of that individual?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Under 18	3.5	13.6	12.8	4.6
18-64	56.0	69.7	58.1	61.1
65+	40.5	16.7	29.1	34.3

Is that person's primary disability physical or mental?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)
Physical	84.5	74.7	69.0
Mental	15.5	15.1	27.8
Both	Option not offered	10.2	3.1

The question was changed for 2015:

Does that person have a physical (physical, mental, or both) disability?

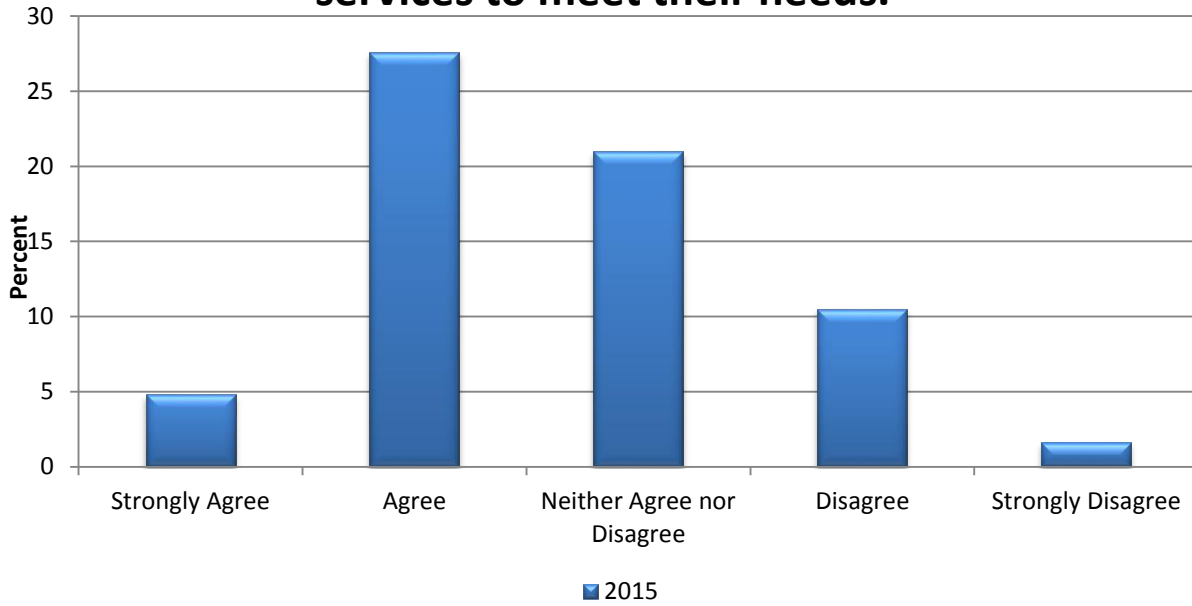
	2015 (Percentage responding yes to each option)
Physical	83.7
Mental	26.4

Customer Survey Information – Senior

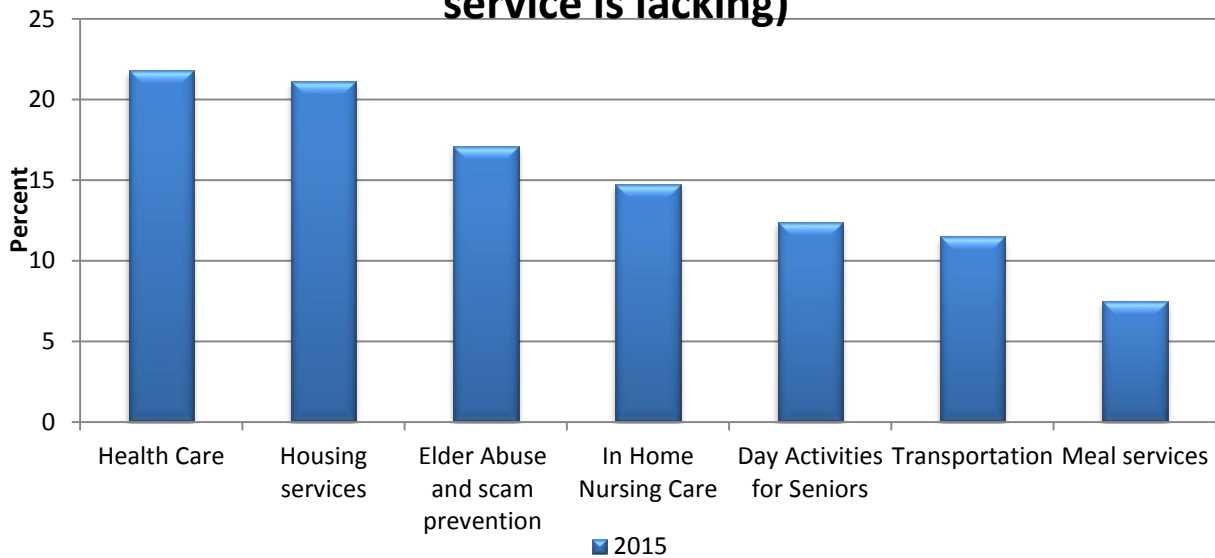
Do you provide any assistance for an elderly relative in (Lycoming, Clinton) County?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	12.4
No	82.7
Don't Know	4.9

Seniors in my community receive adequate services to meet their needs.



Which of the following services for seniors are lacking in Lycoming County? (Percent indicating service is lacking)



Customer Survey Information - Disabled

Are you or anyone in your household disabled?

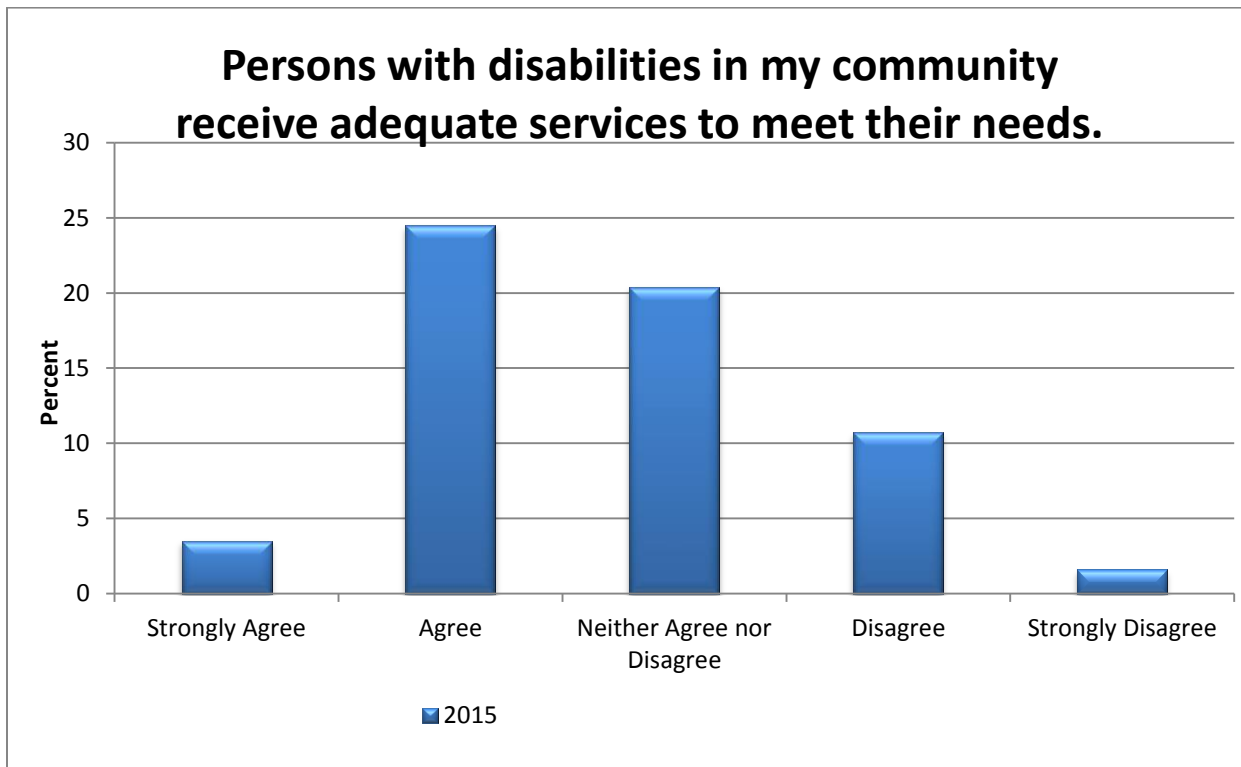
	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	32.8
No	65.0
Don't Know	2.2

What is the approximate age of that individual?

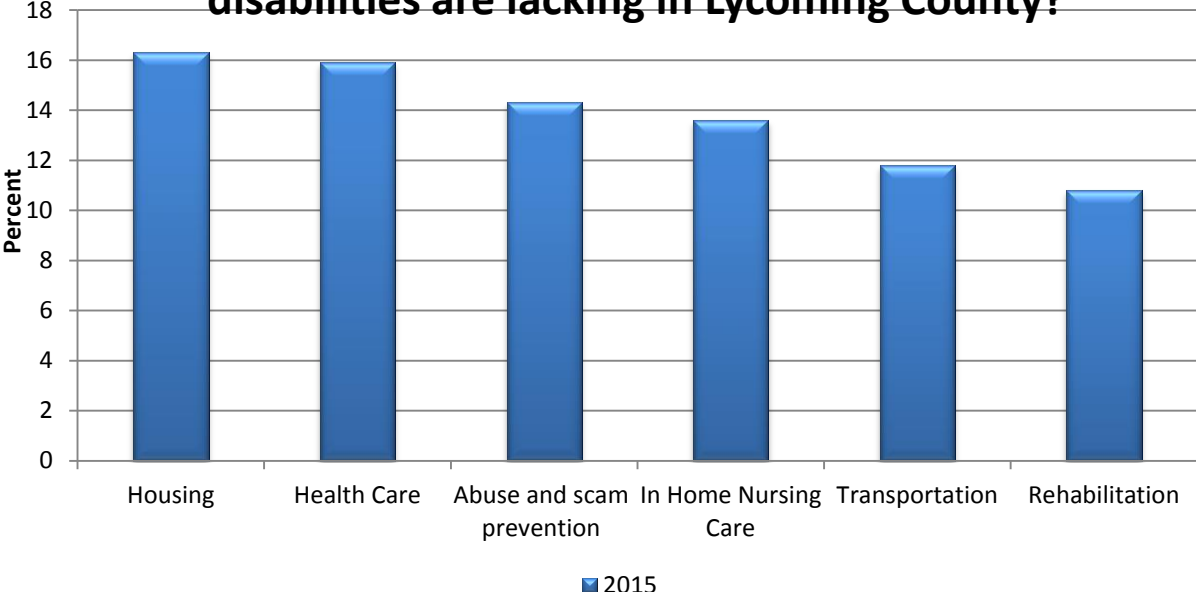
	2015 (Percentage)
Under 18	12.8
18-64	46.2
65+	41.0

Does that person have a (physical, mental) disability?

	2015 (Percentage responding yes to each option)
Physical	70.0
Mental	41.1



Which of the following services for persons with disabilities are lacking in Lycoming County?



Substance Abuse

Community and customer surveys confirmed perceptions by community partners that substance abuse is a major problem in Lycoming County. Over two-thirds of the general public and nearly one-third of agency customers knew of someone dealing with substance abuse. Focus group respondents indicated that the problem exacerbates the other identified needs in the county. Objective data on the topic of substance abuse was difficult to gather and quantify. Breaking the cycle of substance abuse goes well beyond treating the addiction; life's normal problems are amplified by addiction. Objective data on this topic was very difficult to gather, as there is no specific data source that provides a big-picture view of the issue. Efforts to gather number of cases or specific drug-related incidents were made, but unsuccessful. Across the community, customer, and partner surveys as well as focus group information three main themes emerge: drug use, behavioral issues, housing situations, and health care professionals.

Drug Use

As was seen in the community survey, the awareness of someone who has a drug problem has continued to increase since the initial survey in 2009 and is now at 66 percent. The survey of customers shows a lower percentage. Clients are using opiates, pain medication, anything and everything, but opiates are becoming increasingly popular because they are available and cheap. Some addicts start on alcohol, which is a problem, but then some progress to heroin, which “takes them down.” If not using hard drugs, addicts will rationalize that their using is acceptable. Youths are using drugs at a younger age and using harder drugs.

Behavioral Issues

There was wide *agreement* that there are behavioral issues that work against the drug user. First they may not come to appointments, may show up drunk at appointments, or may even be using in the lobby before an appointment. Addicts face many other problems besides drug abuse, which must be addressed. Many families are dysfunctional, with multiple generations using. If some addicts stop using, all of the other problems resurface, and the using resumes. Other comments included that the majority of addicts lack both life and employment skills, and that there is a problem with some local young black males who have no fear and were not taught values.

Health Care Professionals

Addicts shop for doctors who will give them prescriptions for pain killers, and also get prescriptions in the emergency room. It is hard to educate all of the doctors, many of whom do not care about the problem. Some ER doctors are from outside the area feel no connection to the community. Agencies are now working to educate nurses.

Housing Situations

Inmates are not being released from prison because they do not have an address, which adds to prison overcrowding. Addicts are often homeless because their families will no longer take them in, they do not have the money to pay rent, and when they do rent, they are evicted because they do not maintain their residence. It was commented that parents do not know how to parent. Young people with problems are often locked out of their own homes and engage in risky behavior. Activities are needed in a safe place with adults who care.

Survey Data: Substance Abuse

Community Survey Information

Are you aware of anyone in your community who has a problem with drug or alcohol abuse?

	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	54.7	56.9	66.3
No	43.3	42.7	32.8
Don't Know	2.0	0.2	1.0

Customer Survey Information

Are you aware of anyone in your community who has a problem with drug or alcohol abuse?

	2015 (Percentage)
Yes	30.1
No	53.3
Don't Know	16.6

Demographics

The following section provides demographic data across a range of topics useful in evaluating community needs. Of particular note are data indicating that income levels in Lycoming County fall below state and national averages across family sizes. However, poverty rates in the County are seeking relative, if not absolute, improvement. Between 2000 and 2012 as Pennsylvania and national poverty rates were growing by 4.2 and 4.6 percent as a result of recession, Lycoming County's rates grew by only 3.4 percent. Depending on the measure used, Lycoming's rate is now at or slightly higher than Pennsylvania's, but lower than the nation's.

Population

Population: Population Change

Population change within Lycoming County from 2000-2012 is shown below. During the twelve-year period, total population estimates for the report area declined by -3 percent, decreasing from 120,044 persons in 2000 to 116,447 persons in 2012.

Population Change, 2000–2012

County	Census 2000 Population	ACS 2008–2012 Population	Population Change	% Change
Lycoming	120,044	116,447	-3,597	-3.00%
Pennsylvania	12,281,054	12,699,589	418,535	3.41%
National	281,421,906	309,138,709	27,716,803	9.85%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, Population Division, Census 2010. Release Date: February 2011 and United States 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: Age and Gender

Population by gender and age within Lycoming County is shown below. According to ACS 2009 - 2013 5 year population estimates for the report area, the female population compose 51.34 percent of the report area, while the male population represented 48.66 percent.

Population by Gender and Age, 2009 – 2013

County	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 24		25 to 34	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Lycoming	3,367	3,090	9,018	8,640	6,981	5,616	6,643	6,884
Pennsylvania	370,033	352,945	1,043,432	993,970	637,049	621,190	779,575	771,368
National	10,247,162	9,804,950	27,536,556	26,288,810	15,908,094	15,163,170	20,996,648	20,714,628

Population by Gender and Age (continued), 2009 – 2013

County	35 to 44		45 to 54		55 to 64		65 and Up	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Lycoming	6,593	7,091	8,484	8,878	7,960	8,021	7,233	11,160
Pennsylvania	787,115	795,940	935,571	967,027	812,062	859,303	746,763	1,157,833
National	20,345,982	20,528,180	21,907,042	22,599,226	18,145,446	19,499,656	16,290,099	23,690,560

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Population: Race Demographics

Population by race and gender in Lycoming County is shown below. According to the ACS 5 year averages, white population comprised 92.41 percent, black population represented 4.79 percent, Asian population represented 0.61 percent, and other races combined were 0.54 percent. Persons identifying themselves as mixed race made up 1.65 percent of the population. In comparison, Pennsylvania's population comprises 82.22 percent white, 10.88 percent black, 2.86 percent Asian, 2.13 percent other races, and 1.91 percent mixed race. The United States' population comprises 74.02 percent white, 12.57 percent black, 4.89 percent Asian, 5.72 percent other races, and 2.8 percent mixed race.

Population by Race, 2009 – 2013

County	White		Black		Asian		Other		Mixed Race	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Lycoming	53,053	54,702	2,719	2,866	275	436	302	324	875	1,052
Pennsylvania	5,113,214	5,354,219	663,938	721,861	174,777	189,190	139,612	130,996	120,264	123,310
National	113,846,008	116,746,576	18,685,702	20,481,308	7,227,755	8,004,207	9,145,503	8,667,207	4,342,446	4,389,887

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Population: Household Types

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 46,046 households in Lycoming County in 2013. Single person households comprised of 28.15 percent of the total, two person households comprised 0.06 percent of the total, three person households comprised 37.70 percent of the total, four person households comprised 0.08 percent of the total, and larger households of 5 or more made up 15.54 percent of the total.

Household Types, 2009 – 2013

County	Total Households	1 Person		2 Persons	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Lycoming	46,046	12,960	28.15%	17,360	37.70%
Pennsylvania	4,958,427	1,462,305	29.49%	1,703,627	34.36%
National	115,610,216	31,778,728	27.49%	38,743,856	33.51%

Household Types (continued), 2009 – 2013

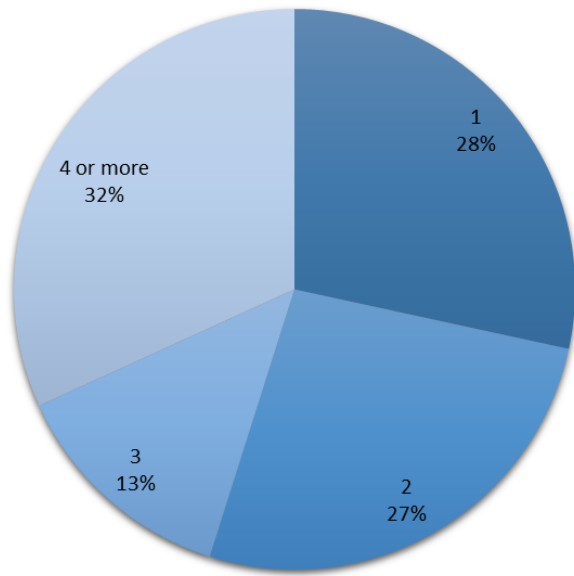
County	3 Persons		4 Persons		5 or More Persons	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Lycoming	7,154	16%	5,311.00	12%	3,261.00	7%
Pennsylvania	776,632	15.66%	619,892	12.50%	395,971	7.99%
National	18,307,172	15.84%	15,355,819	13.28%	11,424,639	9.88%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

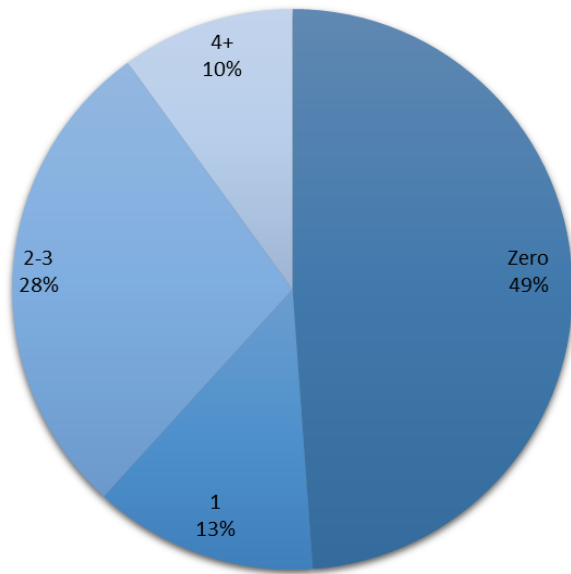
The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Customer Survey Information: Population

Household Size of Respondents, Customer Survey



Children in Household, Customer Survey



Income

Income: Wages

Average weekly wages for Lycoming County during the period April–June, 2013 are provided. Wage and employment figures are shown by county of employment. The report area has an average weekly wage of \$742. The average federal government weekly wage is \$1,091, which compares with the average state and local government weekly wage of \$894 and the average private weekly wage of \$715. The data illustrates a wage disparity with Lycoming County workers making 27 percent less than the average Pennsylvania worker.

Weekly Wages, Second Quarter 2013

County	Total Employees	Average Weekly Wage	Number Federal Employees	Average Federal Government Weekly Wage	Number State/Local Employees	Average State/Local Government Weekly Wage	Number Private Employees	Average Private Weekly Wage
Lycoming	53,061	\$742	364	\$1,090	7,141	\$893	45,554	\$715
Pennsylvania	5,634,326	\$918	97,287	\$1,276	609,644	\$949	4,927,394	\$907

Source: *United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.*

Income: Income Levels, 2008–2012

Three common measures of income are *median household income*, *per capita income*, and *average income* based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates. All three measures are shown for Lycoming County. The average income for earners in Lycoming County is \$30,745. The Census Bureau defines an earner as someone age 15 and older who receives any form of income, whether it be wages, salaries, benefits, or other type. The median household income in Lycoming County is nearly 15 percent below the state average.

Income Levels by County, 2008 – 2012

County	Median Household Income, 2012	Per Capita Income, 2012	Average Income Per Earner, 2012
Lycoming	\$44,557	\$22,808	\$30,745
Pennsylvania	\$52,267	\$28,109	\$38,568
National	\$53,046	\$28,051	\$40,434

Source: *United States 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.

Income: Income Levels, 2009-2013

The average income for earners in Lycoming County is \$30,987. The Census Bureau defines an earner as someone age 15 and older who receives any form of income, whether it be wages, salaries, benefits, or other type. The median household income in Lycoming County is nearly 15 percent below the state average.

Income Levels by County, 2009 – 2013

County	Median Household Income, 2013	Per Capita Income, 2013	Average Income Per Earner, 2013
Lycoming	\$45,430	\$22,987	\$30,987
Pennsylvania	\$52,548	\$28,502	\$39,066
National	\$53,046	\$28,155	\$40,683

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Income: Income by Family Size

Shown below is median household income categorized by family size. For a household of three persons, Lycoming County has the lowest median household income at \$61,918 compared with the Pennsylvania average of \$71,793 and national average of \$67,084. For a family size of four, Lycoming County's median household income is approximately 19 percent below the state average.

Median Household Income by Family Size, 2009 – 2013

County	Median Household Income						
	Household of One	Household of Two	Household of Three	Household of Four	Household of Five	Household of Six	Household of Seven
Lycoming	\$22,421	\$48,908	\$61,918	\$67,109	\$70,912	\$56,513	\$53,281
Pennsylvania	\$26,077	\$58,295	\$71,793	\$82,418	\$80,082	\$74,894	\$70,641
National	\$27,980	\$59,456	\$67,084	\$77,607	\$71,624	\$67,546	\$69,240

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

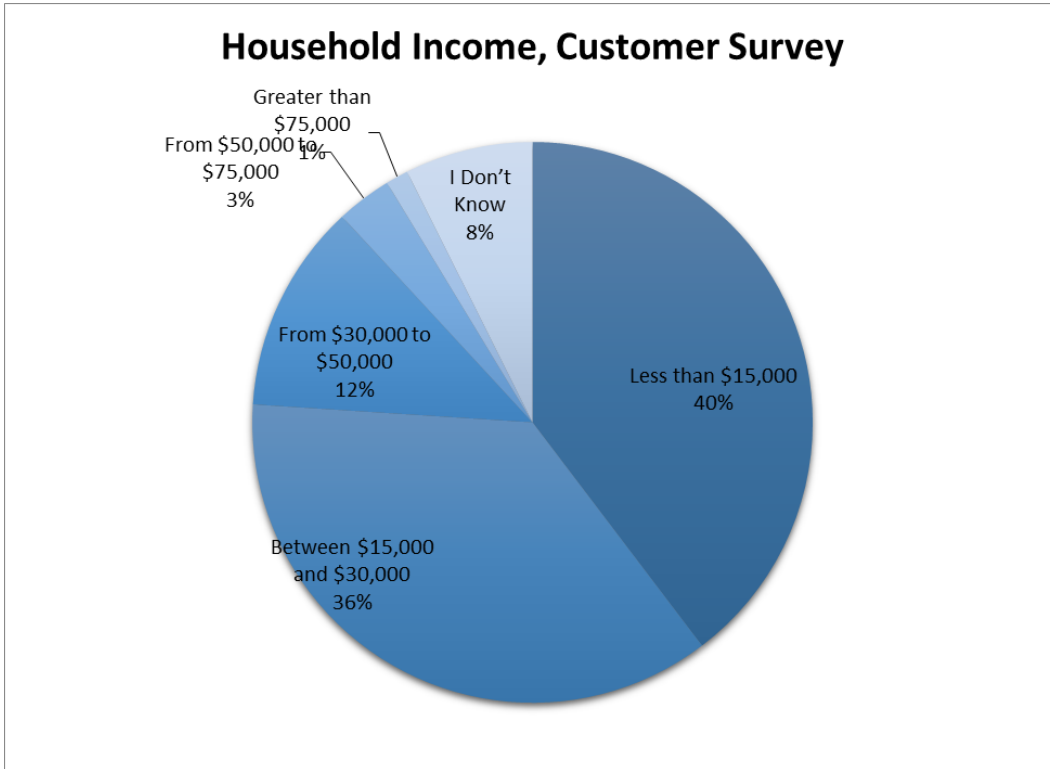
The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Community Survey Information: Income

What was the total income of all persons in your household over the past year for all household members?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
\$15,000 or less	9.7	8.4	4.5	4.8
\$15-30,000	21.1	16.4	15.2	13.8
\$30-50,000	22.5	22.1	20.8	19.7
\$50-75,000	24.0	16.1	21.6	20.4
Greater than \$75,000	16.9	17.6	18.7	26.5
Refused	5.2	14.2	11.2	4.7
Don't Know	.7	5.3	8.1	10.1

Customer Survey Information: Income



What was the total income of all persons in your household over the past year for all household members?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
\$15,000 or less	9.7	8.4	4.5	4.8
\$15-30,000	21.1	16.4	15.2	13.8
\$30-50,000	22.5	22.1	20.8	19.7
\$50-75,000	24.0	16.1	21.6	20.4
Greater than \$75,000	16.9	17.6	18.7	26.5
Refused	5.2	14.2	11.2	4.7
Don't Know	.7	5.3	8.1	10.1

Poverty

Poverty: Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

The Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIG) displayed below are issued every year by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and are the measure used for determining financial eligibility for all federal and many state programs. The FPIG is the same for all 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia. The Federal Poverty Income Guidelines is a slightly different, simplified version of the Poverty Thresholds used to measure poverty for statistical purposes. In most communities, a family would need to earn twice or 200 percent of the amount identified for their family size in the FPIG guidelines to achieve stability, and in some communities that number is closer to 3 times or 300 percent. In order for a community to assist families in moving out of poverty into stability, a self-sufficiency model like the Living Wage Calculator must be used so that appropriate strategies can be instituted.

Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, 2013

County	Family / Household Size	Family of 1	Family of 2	Family of 3	Family of 4	Family of 5	Family of 6	Family of 7
Pennsylvania	Poverty Guideline	\$11,490	\$15,510	\$19,530	\$23,550	\$27,570	\$31,590	\$35,610
Pennsylvania	Wage for FT Hours (2080/year)	\$5.52/hr	\$7.45/hr	\$9.38/hr	\$11.32/hr	\$13.25/hr	\$15.18/hr	\$17.12/hr

Source: *Annual Update of the Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines, January 2013.*

Poverty: Poverty Rate (ACS)

Shown below are total population estimates for all persons in poverty for Lycoming County. According to the ACS 5-year averages, an average of 13.30 percent of all persons lived in a state of poverty during the 2013 calendar year. The poverty rate for all persons living in Lycoming County is greater than the Pennsylvania average of 13.30 percent.

Poverty Rate, 2009 – 2013

County	Poverty Rate for All Persons		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Lycoming	111,158	15,731	14.15%
Pennsylvania	12,318,805	1,638,820	13.30%
National	303,692,064	46,663,432	15.37%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 Data Release, December 2014.*

The 2013 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2009 through 2013.

Poverty: Poverty Rate Change, 2000–2012

Poverty rate change in Lycoming County from 2000 to 2012 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for Lycoming County increased by 3.4 percent, compared with the state increase of 4.2 percent.

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
Lycoming	11,818	10.3%	15,239	13.7%	3.4%
Pennsylvania	1,135,928	9.5%	1,688,364	13.7%	4.2%
National	31,581,086	11.3%	48,760,123	15.9%	4.6%

Source: *United States Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2012.*

Education

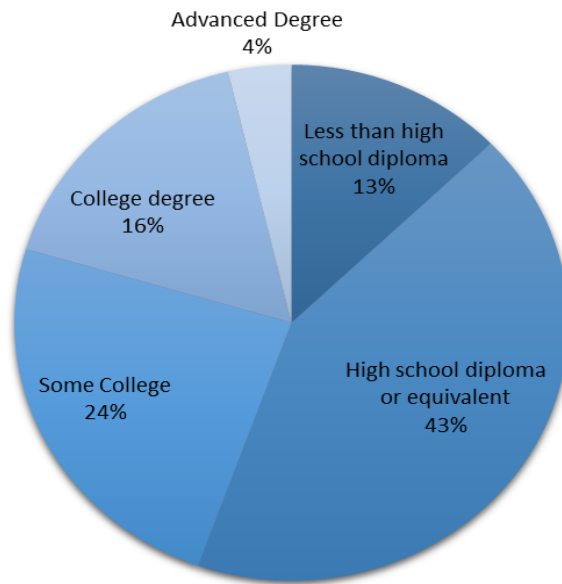
Shown below is the number of students eligible for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program (FRLP) as of March 12, 2014. The figures below include public, private, and parochial schools, and residential child care institutional figures. There are 7,609 students in Lycoming County, of which 42.62 percent are enrolled in the FRLP. This is consistent with the Pennsylvania rate of 42.94 percent.

Students Participating in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program (Lunches Only), March 2014

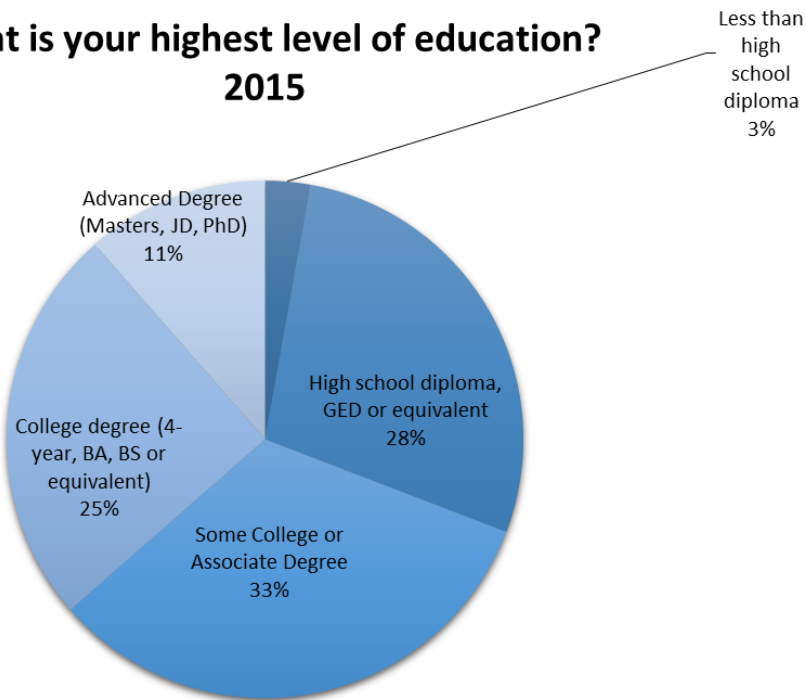
County	School District	School Type	Total Enrollment	Free Lunch Eligible	% Free Lunch Enrollment	Reduced Lunch Eligible	% Reduced Lunch Enrollment	% Free and Reduced Lunch Enrollment
Lycoming	EAST LYCOMING SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	1,675	408	24.36%	86	5.13%	29.49%
Lycoming	JERSEY SHORE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	2,592	827	31.91%	225	8.68%	40.59%
Lycoming	LOYALSOCK TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	1,520	415	27.30%	67	4.41%	31.71%
Lycoming	MONTGOMERY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	917	281	30.64%	61	6.65%	37.30%
Lycoming	MONTOURSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	2,011	389	19.34%	97	4.82%	24.17%
Lycoming	MUNCY SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	1,024	273	26.66%	71	6.93%	33.59%
Lycoming	SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	1,333	387	29.03%	98	7.35%	36.38%
Lycoming	WILLIAMSPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	Public School	6,421	3,410	53.11%	437	6.81%	59.91%
Lycoming	ST JOHN NEUMANN REGIONAL ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS	Private / Parochial School	361	59	16.34%	18	4.99%	21.33%

Source: *Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition, October, 2014.*

Respondents' Levels of Education, Customer Survey



What is your highest level of education? 2015



What was the total income of all persons in your household over the past year for all household members?

	2005 (Percentage)	2009 (Percentage)	2012 (Percentage)	2015 (Percentage)
\$15,000 or less	9.7	8.4	4.5	4.8
\$15-30,000	21.1	16.4	15.2	13.8
\$30-50,000	22.5	22.1	20.8	19.7
\$50-75,000	24.0	16.1	21.6	20.4
Greater than \$75,000	16.9	17.6	18.7	26.5
Refused	5.2	14.2	11.2	4.7
Don't Know	.7	5.3	8.1	10.1