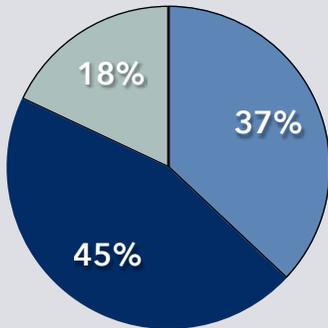


# 2023 ACCAP Community Assessment

## 2023 Service Data

13,782 people served from 5,043 households

### People Served by Age



● < 18 ● 18-59 ● 60+

About 9% of all people served were under age 6, and 7% were age 70+.

32% were Black or African American, 6% were Asian, 6% were of 2+ races, 2% were American Indian, 2% chose "other," and 45% were white. About 6% were Hispanic/Latinx.

58% were female.

56% of households served were renters, and 43% owned their homes.

43% of households were single adults, 16% had 2 adults, and 30% were households with children. 11% fit other definitions.

128 people were veterans.

2,043 people served had a disabling condition.

## Summary of Services

ACCAP is an independent nonprofit that primarily serves Anoka County residents with low incomes. ACCAP launched in 1965 in response to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. ACCAP services focus on the needs of people living in poverty, providing direct assistance and referrals to support economic self-sufficiency. The six core service areas are Energy Assistance, Crisis Assistance, Senior Services, Housing Services, Head Start-Early Head Start (HS-EHS), and Child Care Support Services.

Among 1,262 adults served who reported their **employment status**, 48% were retired, 20% worked full-time, 13% worked part-time, 7% were experiencing unemployment, and 12% were not in the labor force.

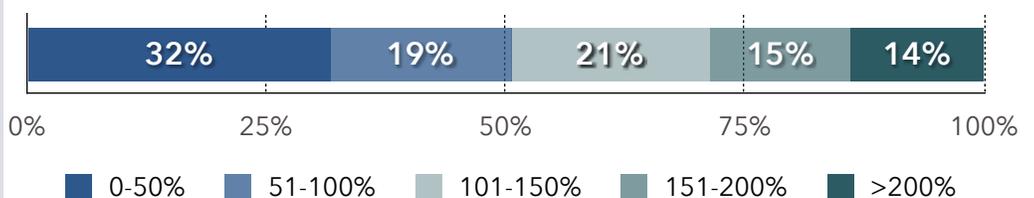
Among 1,653 households that reported on their **health insurance**, 42% received Medicaid, 27% received Medicare, 13% purchased insurance directly, 6% received state health insurance for children, 7% received state health insurance for adults, and 4% had insurance through work. Fifty-six individuals reported they had no health insurance.

Among 3,163 adults age 25+ who reported their **education level**, the largest portion had a high school diploma or GED (45%). Another 15% had less than a 9th grade education, 11% had less than a high school education, 11% had some education post high school, 17% completed a 2 or 4-year degree, and 1% had some education after college.

Among 3,743 households reporting **income sources**, 9% relied solely on employment income. Another 9% relied solely on sources such as pensions and social security or SSI. Most households combined sources of income including SNAP, WIC, LIHEAP, and public housing funds.

Finally, the chart below shows the portion of households living on incomes below the **federal poverty level** (0-50% and 51-100%) in blue, and the portions with incomes above the poverty level (101-150% and above) are in green. Overall, 51% of households were below the poverty level.

### Portion of Households Served by Poverty Level Status



## 2023 Survey Results from 62 ACCAP Clients

Clients identified **critical needs**. The top needs were affordable housing (32%), utility assistance (26%), money for basic needs (23%), affordable child care (21%), and healthy food (18%).

They were also asked to identify **barriers** to meeting those needs. The top answers were employment/wages/income (37%), child care (24%), rent (21%), transportation (21%), access to resources (19%), and rising costs (19%).

Clients identified **areas of struggle**, and responses differed by age. Among those under 55, affording auto repairs was the top answer, followed by access to computers, food and nutrition, energy costs, and the costs of owning a car. Among those 55+, access to computers and to WIFI/internet topped the list, followed by the cost of both energy and other utilities, and affording the bus or a ride share program.

Clients were asked which **ACCAP services** they used and rated their confidence in services. The top 5 services used by survey respondents were HS-EHS (52%), Energy Assistance (24%), Early Learning Scholarships (13%), Child Care Assistance (10%), and Transportation Solutions (7%). HS-EHS received the highest confidence

rating (4.7 out of 5), followed by Early Learning Scholarships (4.4), Child Care Assistance (4.1), Energy Assistance (4.0), and Senior Chores (3.9).

The survey also asked about **other community services** clients have used. The top answers were WIC (60%), SNAP (48%), food shelves (38%), county economic programs (17%), and The Salvation Army (10%).

### **Demographics of Survey Respondents**

- 80% were female.
- 66% were age 44 and under, 12% age 45-54, 7% age 55-69, and 15% age 70+.
- 28% were African American, 8% were recent African immigrants, 12% were multi-racial, 5% identified as other, 3% were Asian, and 44% were white.
- 13% identified as Hispanic/Latinx.
- 15% had no High School education, 32% had a HS diploma or GED, 15% had some college, and 38% a college degree or higher.
- Among those with children, 15% had one child, 28% had 2 children, 30% had 3 children, and 27% had 4+ children.
- 10% of households had three generations.

## 2023 Survey Results for Community Partners

Partner Surveys were completed by 43 individuals: 52% from the public sector, 21% from community-based organizations, 12% from educational institutions, 7% from the private sector, 4% from faith-based organizations, and 4% from ACCAP's Governing Board. 63% were direct service providers.

Partners identified **critical needs**, and 67% chose affordable housing, followed by money for basic needs (40%), services for seniors (30%), affordable child care (28%), and access to mental health services (23%). Partners named mental illness as the top **barrier to meeting needs** (35%), followed by rising costs (33%), access to resources (28%), employment/wages and fixed incomes (both 26%).

98% of partners were most **concerned about their clients** accessing both food/nutrition and mental/emotional support. 95% worried about clients paying rent. The top **referrals for ACCAP services** were Energy Assistance (84%), crisis assistance (68%), Senior Chores & More (67%), Senior Outreach (67%), and affordable housing (64%). Partners' top rated services were Energy Assistance (4.6 out of 5); HS-EHS, Senior Outreach, and Child Care Assistance (all 4.5), and the Senior Information Line (4.4).

## Anoka County Economic Data

The 2021 Median Household Income (MHI) was \$88,680 for Anoka County. Some cities and townships had MHI's as low as \$40,667. The November 2023 unemployment rate was 1.1%, down from 10.8% in 2020. Census estimates show about 20,140 Anoka County residents lived at or below the federal poverty level in 2021.

### 2021 Poverty Rates for Key Groups in Anoka County

Families with children	<b>6%</b>	Single mothers	<b>20%</b>
Men age 75+	<b>4%</b>	Women age 75+	<b>9%</b>
Less than HS education	<b>11%</b>	HS Diploma/GED	<b>6%</b>
Some college	<b>5%</b>	4-year degree+	<b>2%</b>
Renters	<b>15%</b>	Home owners	<b>3%</b>

Overall county poverty rate: **6%**

In 2021, about 60% of all metro area jobs required a high school diploma or less, and the median wage for those jobs was \$19.39/hr. However, at least 25% of those jobs paid less than \$14.88/hr. In 2024, the state's minimum wage is \$8.85 to \$10.85, depending on the size of the company. The state provides estimated costs of living for each county, using the costs for basic needs. Several scenarios are shown in the table below.

### 2022 Monthly Living Costs, Anoka County

	1 person Age 19-50	1 adult, 1 child 1 FT income	2 adults, 1 ch. 1 FT income	2 adults, 1 ch. 1.5 FT incomes
Child care	\$0	\$1,547	\$0	\$774
Food	\$395	\$583	\$903	\$903
Health care	\$155	\$356	\$567	\$567
Housing	\$1,111	\$1,394	\$1,394	\$1,394
Transport	\$772	\$777	\$902	\$902
Other	\$364	\$479	\$556	\$556
Taxes	\$355	\$644	\$215	\$535
Yearly Total	\$37,821	\$69,360	\$54,442	\$67,570
Minimum hourly wage	<b>\$18.18</b>	<b>\$33.35</b>	<b>\$26.17</b>	<b>\$21.66</b>

Source: <https://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/col/>

## Population Data

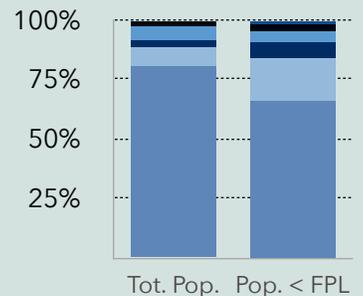
Anoka County's total population is 368,864, up 38,020 from 2010 (+12%). Anoka County has 10% of the Twin Cities Metro population and 6% of the state's population.

The median age is 39.

There are 32,592 residents who were born in other countries, and 21% arrived in the U.S. after 2010. The largest portion of these newer arrivals is from Asia (33%) and Africa (32%).

27% of households with children were headed by a single parent.

### Data for Race & Poverty 5-year Census Estimates



In this chart, the left bar shows the total population by race. The right bar shows the composition by race for just the population living below poverty.

## ACCAP Partner Surveys Concerning Seniors

29 of 43 partners had made referrals to ACCAP senior services, and more than half of them **worried about their clients meeting these 12 needs:**

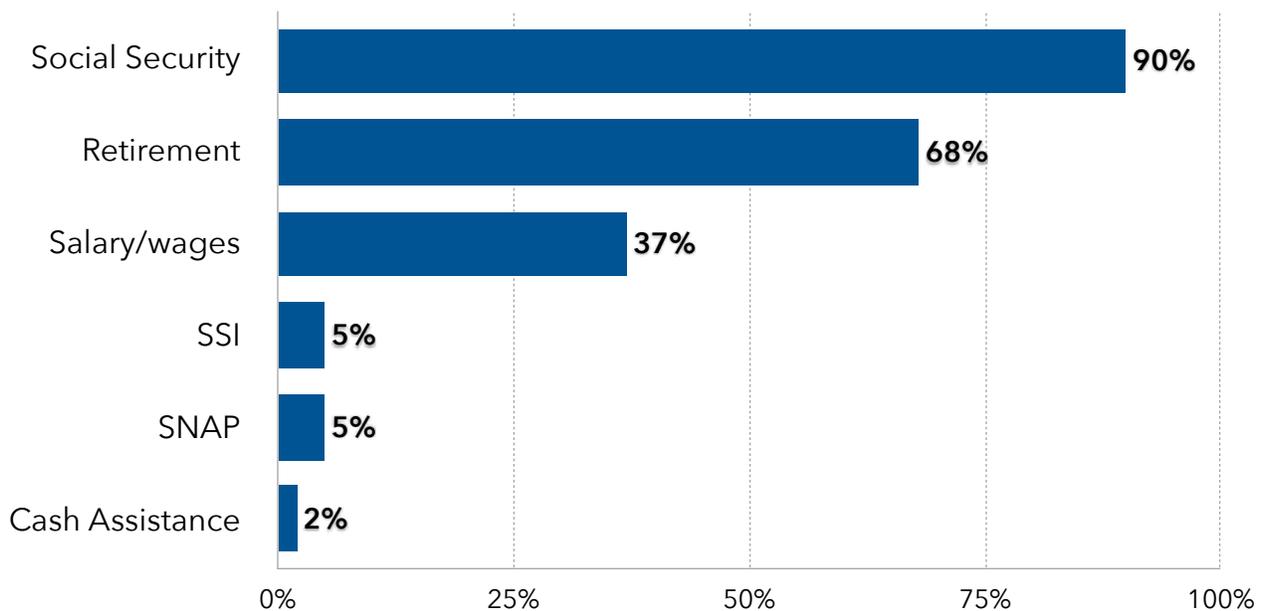
- 93% - Mental/emot. support
- 93% - Paying rent
- 93% - Paying for energy
- 93% - Paying for food
- 90% - Affording buses/rides
- 89% - Paying for car repair
- 86% - Paying car costs
- 86% - Paying housing deposit
- 79% - Accessing computers
- 71% - Avoiding foreclosure
- 69% - Accessing internet
- 69% - Paying for utilities

## Seniors in Anoka County

2022 5-year estimates from the US Census Bureau indicate there are about 53,293 Anoka County residents age 65 or older, up 2,415 from 2021 estimates.

- The Census estimates 54% are female and 46% are male.
- The median age for this group is 72.6.
- 61% are married, 19% are widowed, 15% are divorced, 4% never married, and 1% are separated.
- 5% are living with grandchildren, though most are not primary caregivers of those children.
- 18% are veterans.
- About 3,490 seniors were born in another country, and 3 out of 4 are citizens.
- 17% remain in the labor force.
- 9% have no computer, and 5% have a computer but no internet.
- 7% live at or below the poverty level, and another 5% live between 100% and 150% of the poverty level.
- 83% of seniors own their homes, and 23% spend at least a third of their income on housing. Median monthly costs are \$1,530.
- 17% of seniors rent their homes, and 67% spend at least a third of their income on housing. The median rent is \$1,281/month.

## Sources of Income for Anoka County Seniors



Source: 2022 5-year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

## Homelessness in Anoka County

The MN Homeless Management Information System participates in the annual Point In Time Count. On **one night in 2023 there were 218 people experiencing homelessness in Anoka County**. They were among 726 people experiencing homelessness that night in the 5 metro suburban counties (Anoka, Dakota, Carver, Scott, Washington). Only Dakota county had a higher count, 331 people. In the group of 726, 25% were under age 18, and 51% were BIPOC.

In 2023, 6,140 people in the 5 metro suburban counties received services. Among them, 1,285 were in emergency shelters, and 1,008 were contacted through street outreach.

Between November 2022 and November 2023, there were **1,201 eviction filings** in Anoka County, up 3% from the 2012-2019 average. The eviction rate was 4.71% of renters, and this is the highest eviction rate in Minnesota for this time period.

### The MN Homeless Study

*New data coming in 2024!*

This comprehensive point-in-time study by Wilder Research was delayed by COVID-19, but data were collected in October 2023.

Detailed results will be available this spring.

## Housing in Anoka County

The 2022 5-year Census Estimates for Anoka County show 20% of 134,490 households rented, and 80% lived in homes they owned.

Among **renters**, the median monthly rent in 2022 was \$1,356/month, up 11% from 2021 estimates.

Among **home owners**, the median monthly costs with a mortgage were \$1,844, up 8% from 2021 estimates.

The 2023 Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) Anoka County fact sheet states more than 30,300 households are **cost-burdened** when it comes to housing, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. About 18% of home owners are cost-burdened.

Among renters, 46% are cost-burdened, and 20% of all renters spend more than half their incomes on housing costs. As stated earlier, almost 70% of seniors who rent spend at least 30% of their incomes on rent. MHP estimates an annual salary of \$53,160 is needed to rent a 2-bedroom apartment in Anoka County.

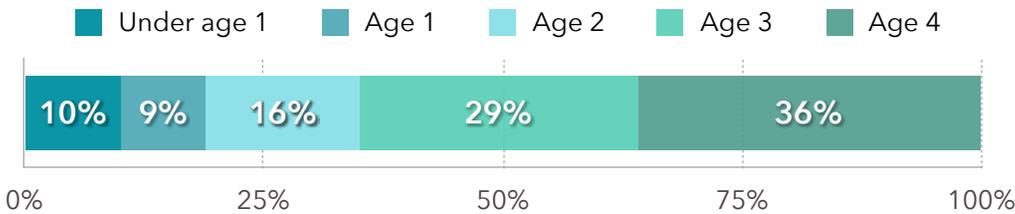
MHP estimates there are 5,920 households in the county with *extremely limited incomes* (ELI), meaning they live on annual incomes of \$30,190 or less. There are 1,595 units in Anoka County that are affordable to ELI households, leaving a shortage of 4,325 units. The Metropolitan Council estimates a similar number of affordable housing units (4,018) must be added in Anoka County by 2030, and units by city are listed below.

Top 10 Cities for Growth	Needed Affordable Units
Blaine	1,143
Lino Lakes	515
Ramsey	486
Coon Rapids	457
Andover	362
Fridley	268
East Bethel	214
St. Francis	213
Columbia Heights	133
Anoka	113

# Head Start-Early Head Start

Data from Program Information Reports (PIRs), were analyzed by pooling data for 2020-21 through 2022-23. Here are recent enrollment trends for Head Start, Early Head Start and Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships.

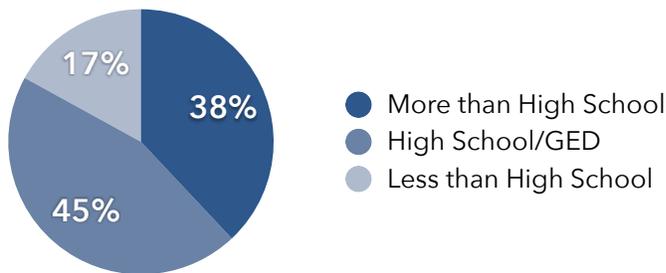
## Age at Enrollment



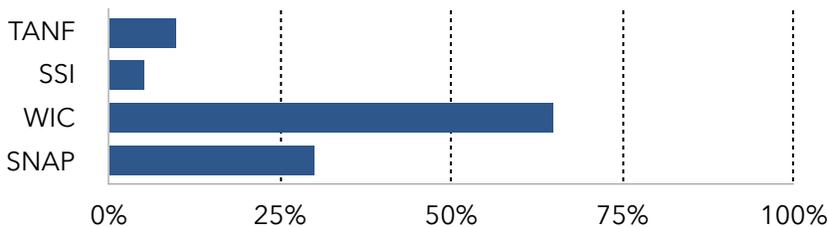
The majority of children served are in Head Start, so ages 3 and 4 are the largest groups. Some are age 2 at the beginning of Head Start, so the Age 2 group is larger than *Under Age 1* and *Age 1*. Within EHS and EHS-CCP, enrollment for the three age groups is often similar.

## Caregiver Education Levels at Enrollment

Across the three program years, the portion of families in each education category below were fairly consistent.



## Portions of Families Using Key Economic Supports



## Job Training, School & Work

Over the three program years, about **73%** of families had at least one adult in job training, in school, or working.

## Languages

Each year, about 37% of the children are Dual Language Learners.

The common language groups after English are:

- Spanish 12%
- African languages 13%
- Middle Eastern 8%
- Euro/Slavic 2%
- East Asian 1%

Within these language groups, Somali and Arabic are prevalent.

## Homelessness

The number of enrolled children experiencing homelessness varies from year to year:

- 2020-21: 19 children
- 2021-22: 37 children
- 2022-23: 29 children

In 2020-21, there were pandemic measures to prevent evictions that were over by 2022.

## Foster Care

The number of enrolled children in foster care averaged 35 over 3 years.

- 2020-21: 34 children
- 2021-22: 41 children
- 2022-23: 31 children

## Primary Caregivers

- 52% single parents
- 47% two parents
- 1% grandparent/relative

## COVID-19 Impacts

The impact of the pandemic is still unfolding, but several data sources offer some early observations.

### Young families:

- Home visiting programs that support newborns reported fewer post-partum screenings and lower rates of breast feeding during the pandemic.
- The home visiting programs also identified an increase in pre-natal health conditions and cases of poor fetal growth.
- Only 10% of young children were up-to-date on standard childhood vaccines in 2020 and 2021.

### Health in our communities:

- More people reported having significant levels of anxiety, depression and stress.
- The number of people using food shelves increased by 62% from 2019 to 2022, and 47% lived in suburbs. Over 1/3 of the households had at least 1 person working full-time.

### Our economy:

- The Twin Cities is facing increased competition from other cities to attract employers.
- Though many workers changed jobs for better pay during the pandemic, the recent inflation has diluted those financial gains.
- Labor shortages continue to limit access to social services and government programs, as well as adequate child care resources.

## Child Care in Our Service Area

ACCAP provides child care and early learning resources to eligible families in Anoka County as well as Washington County.

ChildCare Aware MN estimates the following average **weekly child care costs** for the Twin Cities metro area.

2022-23	Centers	Family Child Care
Infant	\$375	\$202
Toddler	\$326	\$193
Preschool	\$283	\$182
School-Age	\$250	\$161

*Note, the child care costs presented in the table on monthly living costs on page 3 are based on a complex formula that considers a variety of circumstances. The costs listed in the table on this page are the averages of weekly stated prices from licensed providers.*

2023 data for **active child care licenses** across the two counties show there are 178 child care centers and 528 family sites. The number of licensed family sites dropped by 42 during the year, reducing capacity by 638 slots. The number of child care centers increased by 4 sites, adding 244 slots. Across all types, there were 23,042 slots available at licensed sites, including slots for school-age children. About 10% of family sites are rated 3 or 4 stars, as are about 51% of child care centers.

ACCAP helps eligible families access **Early Learning Scholarships** and the **Child Care Assistance Program**. State data sources indicate there were 957 Early Learning Scholarships used in our service area in 2022, across both Pathway I and Pathway II scholarship types. Statewide, the Child Care Assistance Program reported \$1,754/mo. as the average amount of assistance for fully eligible families in 2022, and \$1,427/mo. for families using the sliding income scale to qualify.

For the two counties, the 2021 5-year Census estimate for **children under age 5 living below the poverty** level was 2,360 children. About 25% lived in Washington County, and 75% lived in Anoka County.