



2012

## NEEDS AND ASSETS REPORT

Yavapai Regional Partnership Council



**FIRST THINGS FIRST**

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

# **First Things First Needs and Assets Report**

*Yavapai Regional Partnership Council*

*2012*

Prepared by the  
Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences  
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences  
The University of Arizona

Funded by  
First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council

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July 24, 2012

### Message from the Chair:

The past two years have been rewarding for the First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council, as we delivered on our mission to build better futures for young children and their families. During the past year, we have touched many lives of young children and their families by expanding the number of child care sites involved in Quality First, which in turn increased the number of child care scholarships; providing programming specific to teen parents; and delivering parent education in multiple formats including home visitation and community based trainings.

The First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council will continue to advocate and provide opportunities for quality improvement in child care centers; professional development for early childhood professionals; assistance to families with young children; increased awareness of and collaboration among early childhood service providers.

Our strategic direction has been guided by the Needs and Assets reports, specifically created for the Yavapai Region in 2008, 2010, and the new 2012 report. The Needs and Assets reports are vital to our continued work in building a true integrated early childhood system for our young children and our overall future. The Yavapai Regional Council would like to thank our Needs and Assets Vendor, the University of Arizona's Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences for their knowledge, expertise and analysis of the Yavapai Region. The new report will help guide our decisions as we move forward for young children and their families within the Yavapai Region.

Going forward, the First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council is committed to meeting the needs of young children by providing essential services and advocating for social change.

Thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers and community partners, First Things First is making a real difference in the lives of our youngest citizens and throughout the entire State.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Kathy Watson, Chair  
Yavapai Regional Partnership Council

## **Introductory Summary and Acknowledgments**

### **First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council**

A Child's most important developmental years are those leading up to kindergarten. First Things First is committed to helping Arizona kids five and younger receive the quality education, healthcare and family support they need to arrive at school healthy and ready to succeed. Children's success is fundamental to the wellbeing of our communities, society and the State of Arizona.

This Needs and Assets Report for the Yavapai Geographic Region provides a clear statistical analysis and helps us in understanding the needs, gaps and assets for young children and points to ways in which children and families can be supported. The needs young children and families face in the Yavapai Region include, geographically dispersed high rates of poverty with about one-quarter of the children under six living in poverty; a shortage of preventive services particularly in the outlying rural areas; reductions in child care assistance subsidies; and a high rate of tobacco use by pregnant women.

The First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council recognizes the importance of investing in young children and empowering parents, grandparents, and caregivers to advocate for services and programs within the region. A strong focus throughout the Yavapai Region, in the past year, is the expansion of programs that provide improvements in early care and education including increasing the number of child care sites enrolled in Quality First, offering the Professional REWARD\$ program which will compensate qualifying early care and education staff members, and additional professional development scholarships to child care professionals. This report provides basic data points that will aid the Council's decisions and funding allocations; while building a true comprehensive statewide early childhood system.

#### **Acknowledgments:**

The First Things First Yavapai Regional Partnership Council owes special gratitude to the agencies and key stakeholders who participated in numerous work sessions and community forums throughout the past two years. The success of First Things First was due, in large measure, to the contributions of numerous individuals who gave their time, skill, support, knowledge and expertise.

To the current and past members of the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council, your dedication, commitment and extreme passion has guided the work of making a difference in the lives of young children and families within the region. Our continued work will only aid in the direction of building a true comprehensive early childhood system for the betterment of young children within the region and the entire State.

We also want to thank the Arizona Department of Economic Security and the Arizona Child Care Resource and Referral; the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona State

Immunization Information System; the Arizona Department of Education and School Districts across the State of Arizona; the Arizona Head Start Association; the Office of Head Start; Head Start and Early Head Start Programs across the State of Arizona; the Arizona Balance of State Homeless Management Information System; and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System for their contribution of data for this report. In addition, we want to express our gratitude to the Yavapai-Apache Nation; their contributions have provided a more robust report.

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## Executive Summary

The Yavapai Regional Planning Council supports the needs of young children in the Yavapai First Things First Region. This region covers most of Yavapai County, and includes all of Sedona. The Yavapai Region also includes the Yavapai-Apache Nation Indian Tribe. The majority of the population in the region lives in either the Prescott-Prescott Valley area or the Verde Valley-Sedona area.

According to the 2010 US Census, the Yavapai Region had a population of 214,253, of whom 12,703 were children under the age of six. In the last decade, the population of young children in the region has grown at about the same rate as the state as a whole. In 2010, there were 2,191 more young children in Yavapai County than there had been in 2000. Much of that growth was in the towns of Prescott Valley and Chino Valley. This suggests a need for increased services to families there.

The majority of children under six in the region (82%) live with both parents, and about 22 percent lived in a single-female headed household. Across the region, 12 percent of children were living in their grandparents' household.

Although only 14 percent of the population across the region identifies as Hispanic, and only one percent as American Indian, there is some variability in ethnic diversity in communities. For instance, about 65 percent of the population on the Yavapai-Apache Nation report being American Indian, and nearly half the children enrolled in the Ash Fork Joint Unified District are reported to be Hispanic. An estimated eight percent of the population speak Spanish at home. In Cottonwood, however, about 18 percent of the residents speak Spanish at home. In most—but not all—of the homes in which Spanish is spoken, there is at least one adult who is fluent in English.

In Yavapai County, about one-quarter of the children under six live in poverty. The unemployment rate in the county averaged about 10 percent during 2011, only slightly higher than the statewide rate of 9 percent. There is, however, variability among the local unemployment rates in the region, from a high of 29 percent in Ash Fork, to a low of 7 percent in Paulden and Dewey-Humboldt. In July 2011, the number of children under six receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits was almost 5,000. Only 156, in contrast, were receiving Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) benefits. More than 6,000 children under the age of five participated in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program during 2011. Over 450 preschool and elementary-aged children were identified as homeless within school districts across the region, though only about one tenth of that number are documented as receiving services outside of the school system.

Educational attainment among adults in the region is similar to that seen in the state as a whole. The percent of births to women with less than a high-school education in Yavapai County in 2010 was 24 compared to 22 percent in the state as a whole. The

proportion of third-grade students passing the standardized math and reading AIMS tests was about the same in the county as in the state as a whole. There was, however, considerable variation in the passing rates from district to district.

Families in the region have access to 76 registered child care providers. This includes child care centers, Head Start and Early Head Start centers, and family providers. In 2011, the total licensed capacity of these centers and home providers was 4,618 children. (Unregistered home-based providers are not included in these totals.)

During 2011, there were 1,829 babies born to mothers resident in Yavapai County. Almost 90 percent of these births occurred at Yavapai Regional or Verde Valley medical centers. Most of the rest occurred in Maricopa County. Overall, 73 percent of the women giving birth during 2011 started prenatal care during the first trimester, and 69 percent had five or more prenatal doctor visits. These rates fall somewhat short of the Healthy People 2020 targets. Only 17 births (out of the 1,829) occurred in which the mother had had no prenatal care at all. Expectant mothers in Yavapai County were substantially more likely to smoke tobacco during pregnancy (12%) than mothers in the state as a whole (5%). Immunization rates for preschool children in Yavapai County are the lowest in the state of Arizona.

In Yavapai County, the percentage of residents enrolled in AHCCCS, and the percentage of children enrolled in KidsCare are roughly equal to the statewide percentages. For both programs, the county's highest enrollments, by far, are seen in the Ash Fork-Seligman area.

Across the region, about 13 percent of children receive special education services (in preschool, kindergarten, or elementary school). In three districts—Mayer, Skull Valley, and Yarnell—more than 20 percent are enrolled in special education. Although good data are difficult to come by, some young children in the region are affected also by problems associated with domestic violence, homelessness, child abuse or neglect, and incarcerated parents.

The Yavapai Regional Partnership Council is committed to the ideal that all children in the region should arrive at kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed in school.

## Who are the families and children living in the Yavapai Region?

### The Yavapai Region

The First Things First regional boundaries were established in 2007 according to the following guidelines:

- They should reflect the view of families in terms of where they access services
- They should coincide with existing boundaries or service areas of organizations providing early childhood services
- They maximize the ability to collaborate with service systems and local governments, and facilitate the ability to convene a Regional Partnership Council
- They allow for the collection of demographic and indicator data

These boundaries do not necessarily align with county boundaries, because they were set with the needs of families with young children in mind. They are reviewed every two years to determine whether a change would better serve children and families in the regions affected. The map in Figure 1 shows the geographical area covered by the First Things First Yavapai Region. This Region covers almost all of Yavapai County, plus some parts of southern Coconino County.

The Yavapai Region is identified as a set of zip codes. In this report, we distinguish between *zip codes* (which are used by the USPS for delivering mail) and *Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)*, which have been created by the Census Bureau as geographical areas which approximate the zip codes.<sup>1</sup>

Although the Yavapai Region is almost identical to Yavapai County, there are a few places in which the two are different:

- In the north, the Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) 86337 and 86320 include Seligman and Ash Fork in Yavapai County, but also extend northward into Coconino County.
- The entire city of Sedona (in ZCTA 86336) is included in the Yavapai Region, including the Coconino County part.
- The southern part of Yavapai County contains parts of three ZCTAs which are assigned to the Northwest Maricopa Region: 85320 (Aguila), 85390 (Wickenburg), and 85342 (Morristown).

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to the 28 ZCTAs visible in Figure 1, there are eight zip codes which First Things First has also assigned to the Yavapai Region. These are 86302, 86304 (Prescott), 86312 (Prescott Valley), 86339, 86340, 86341 (Sedona), 86342 (Lake Montezuma), and 86330. The Census Bureau, however, does not assign any geographical area, or population, to these eight zip codes because they are used only for Post Office boxes, or are used by very few people or businesses.

- The far northwest corner of Yavapai County falls into the 86434 ZCTA (Peach Springs), which is assigned to the Hualapai Tribe Region.

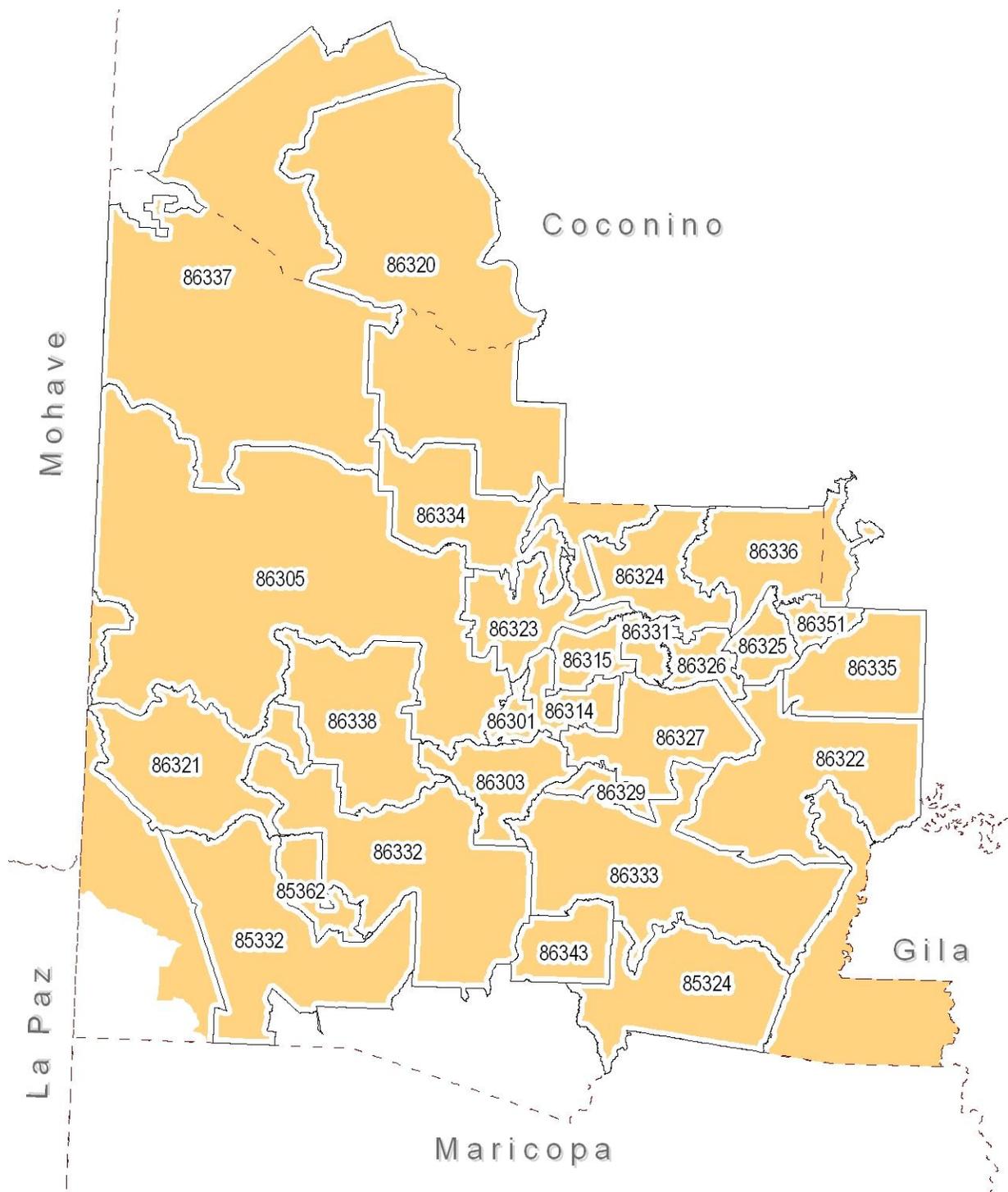
The topography in the region includes desert elevations, forested mountain peaks and grassland mesas. With 38 percent of the land owned by the U.S. Forest Service, the Yavapai Region is known for its four mild seasons, plentiful lakes, mountains and forest and small town atmosphere.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation is also part of the region. When First Things First was established by the passage of Proposition 203 in November 2006, the government-to-government relationship with federally-recognized tribes was acknowledged. Each Tribe with tribal lands located in Arizona was given the opportunity to participate within a First Things First designated region or elect to be designated as a separate region. The Yavapai-Apache Nation chose to participate as part of the Yavapai Region.

The information contained in this report includes data obtained from state agencies by First Things First, data obtained from other publically available sources, and findings from additional data collection that was conducted specifically for this report. Secondary data were collected from federal sources, and state and community agencies. Some of the data in this report is gathered at the ZCTA or zip-code level, but some is gathered at the county level.

In December of 2011, the Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council approved resolution 202-11 authorizing the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council to collect and disseminate non-identifying data for the region's Needs and Assets Report. Publically available data on the Yavapai-Apache Nation has been included throughout the various sections of this report. In addition, a separate section containing more detailed information about the Nation was included in Appendix J. This section presents the results of qualitative data collected through interviews with key informants in the Yavapai-Apache Nation, all of whom are representatives from tribal agencies and programs.

**Figure 1. Geographical area of the Yavapai Region, as defined by First Things First**



Note: The solid black lines are the borders of the Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs). The dotted lines are county borders.

## **The Ten Communities of the Yavapai Region**

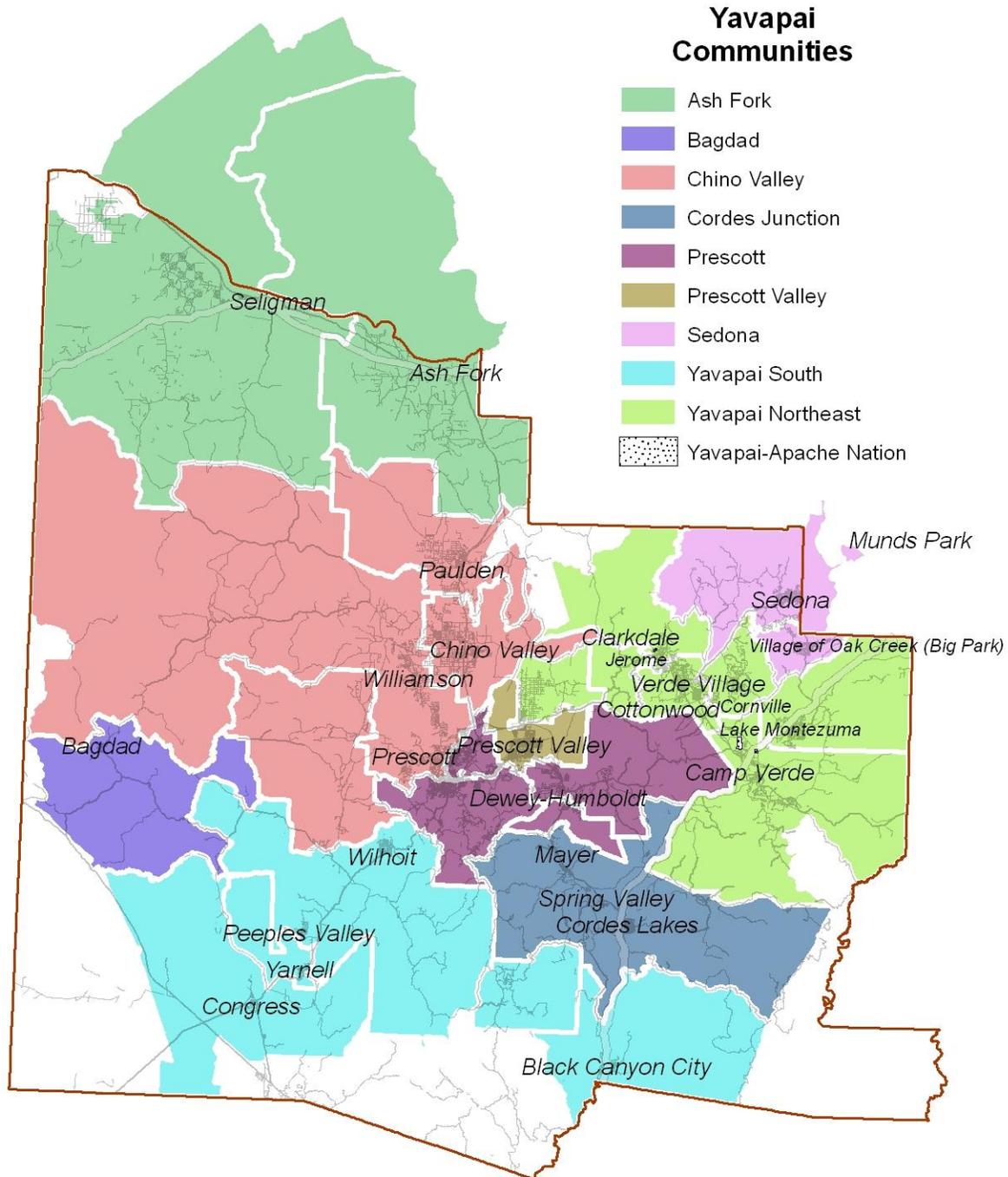
Because community-level information in rural areas is sparse, the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council sought additional detailed data gathering, analysis and reporting at the community level in order to provide a more complete picture of the Region. Nine geographic areas within the Yavapai Region were identified by the Council as focus areas for additional data collection and analysis. These nine communities correspond roughly to the Primary Care Areas (PCAs) which have been defined by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). The ZCTAs were combined to create nine of the communities. In addition, the Yavapai-Apache Nation forms the tenth community. Appendix B provides a list of the communities and the ZCTAs associated with each.

Figure 2 illustrates the ten communities.

A data querying system was developed to provide online access to data for each of these communities, based on a core set of key indicators. This system can be accessed at <http://sfcs.cals.arizona.edu/CF/fff-surveys/Yavapai/>. We emphasize that there is a necessary trade-off between detail and accuracy. To examine the data at a level smaller than the Region is valuable for understanding the differences which exist among the various communities. Much of the data reported here are actually estimates. For example, the number of persons who speak Spanish at home is an estimate, based on survey data. The smaller the population of an area, the less precise the estimates become. (Data such as the 2010 Census and the ADHS Vital Statistics are observed counts, not estimates, so the warning does not apply.)

These more community-based data give important information about the variability across the Region. For the purpose of this report, we will primarily provide the more stable estimates available at the Region, but will highlight important community variations where warranted.

**Figure 2. The ten communities of the Yavapai Region**



## General Population Trends

According to the 2010 US Census, the Yavapai Region had a population of 214,253, of whom 12,703 were children under the age of six. Table 1, below, lists the population and number of households for the state, the county, the Yavapai Region, each community, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation. (The Yavapai-Apache Nation is listed separately, but its population is also counted among the Yavapai Northeast community.)

As we see from Table 1, the difference in population between Yavapai County and the Yavapai Region (defined as the sum of the 28 ZCTAs, or the sum of the nine communities) is small: 214,253 versus 211,033. The Region has about 1.5 percent more residents (and about 1% more young children) than the county. The differences between the county and the Region are attributable to the addition of (a) the Coconino County part of Sedona (ZCTA 86336), and (b) the populated area in Coconino County just north of Ash Fork (ZCTA 86320), minus (c) the populated area in Yavapai County north of Wickenburg (ZCTA 85390).

Figure 3 shows the geographical distribution of children under six in the Region, according to the 2010 U.S. Census. A dot on the map represents one child. The dots do not pinpoint each child's location, but are placed generally in each census block in which a young child was living in 2010. Figures 4 and 5 zoom in on the two most densely populated areas of the Yavapai Region: the Prescott-Chino Valley area and the Verde Valley-Sedona area.

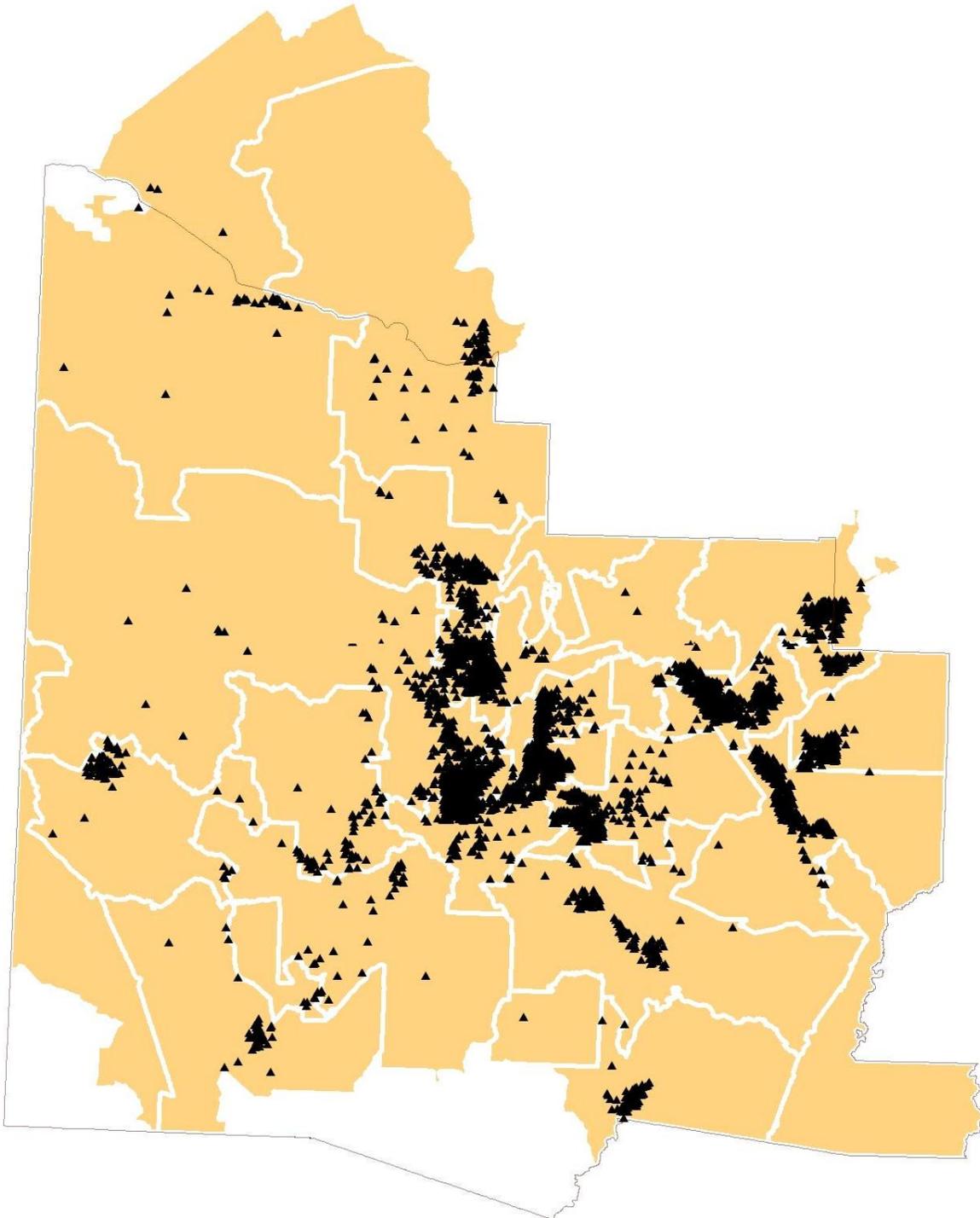
**Table 1. Population and households by community, according to the 2010 Census**

	TOTAL POPULATION (ALL AGES)	POPULATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 0-5)	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 0-5)
Arizona	6,392,017	546,609	2,380,990	384,441
Yavapai County	211,033	12,583	90,903	8,854
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>214,253</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>92,586</b>	<b>8,948</b>
Ash Fork community	3,152	169	1,449	119
Bagdad community	2,219	243	847	155
Chino Valley community	38,906	2,158	16,392	1,536
Cordes Junction community	5,734	299	2,500	207
Prescott community	48,002	1,996	22,211	1,490
Prescott Valley community	34,401	3,016	13,275	2,101
Sedona community	17,669	569	8,888	421
Yavapai Northeast community	56,661	3,989	23,375	2,728
Yavapai South community	7,509	264	3,649	191
Yavapai-Apache Nation	718	87	203	56

Source: US Census 2010, Tables P1, P14 & P20

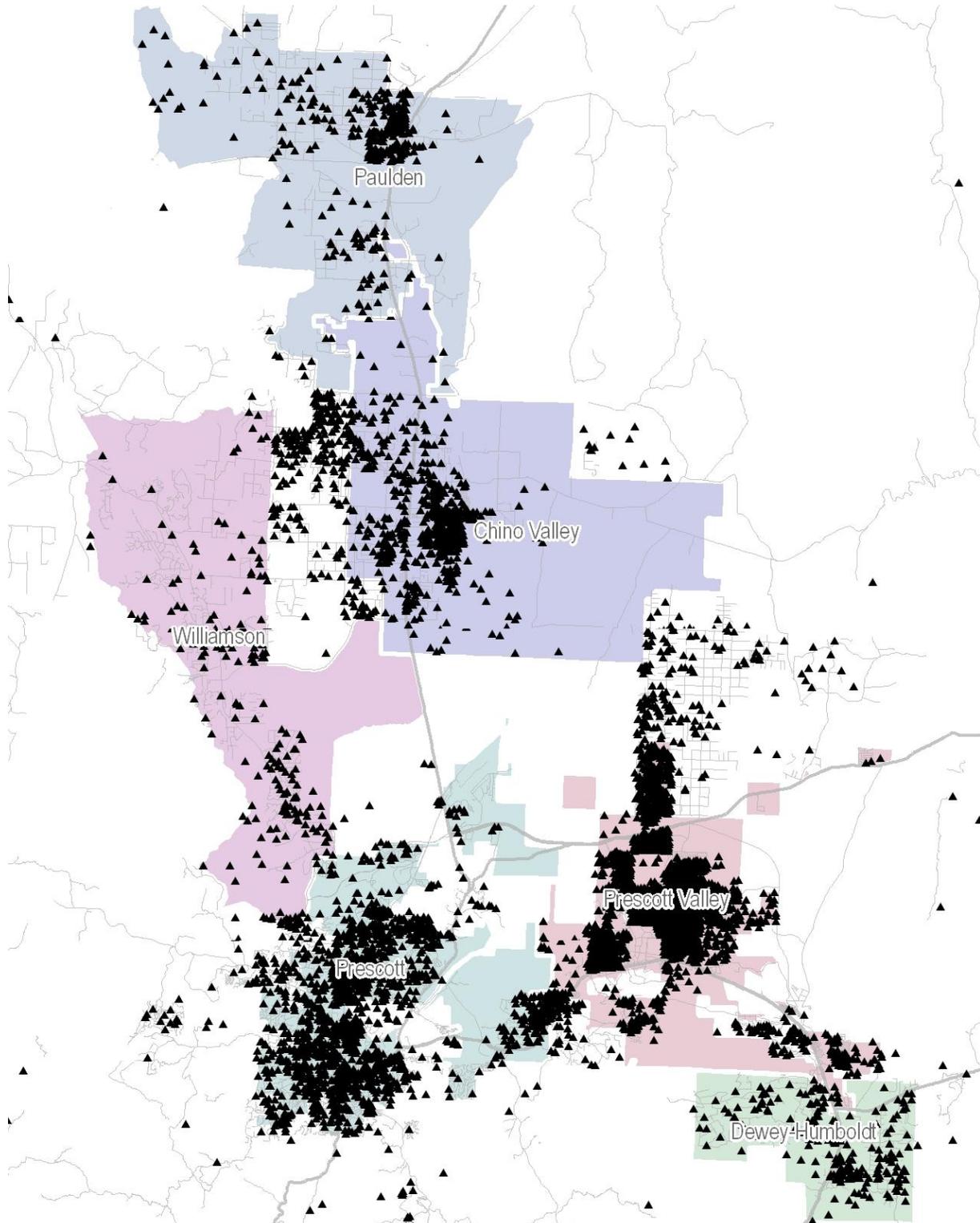
Note: The nine communities are defined in the map in Figure 2. The numbers of people and households for the Yavapai-Apache Nation are included also in the Yavapai Northeast community.

**Figure 3. Geographic distribution of children under six according to the 2010 census**



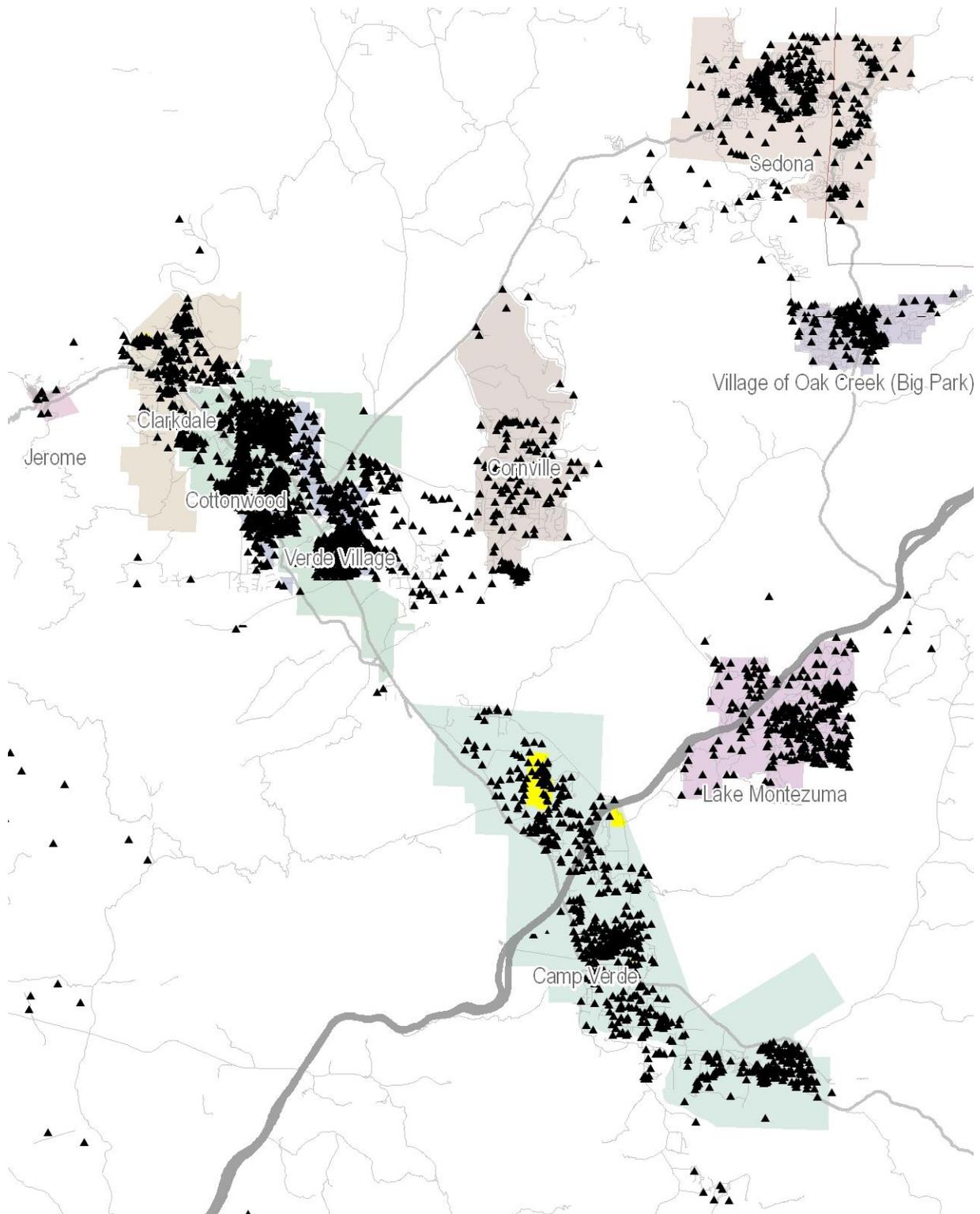
Note: Each black dot represents the approximate location of one child.

**Figure 4. Geographic distribution of children under six in the Prescott-Chino Valley area**



Note: Each black dot represents the approximate location of one child. Williamson is an unincorporated, census-defined place. It lies along Williamson Valley Road, north of the incorporated city of Prescott.

**Figure 5. Geographic distribution of children under six in the Verde Valley and Sedona areas**



Note: Each black dot represents the approximate location of one child. The Yavapai-Apache Nation is marked in yellow.

Table 2 and Figure 6 show how the population of the state, the county, and the larger cities and towns has changed in population between 2000 and 2010.

From 2000 to 2010, the population of Yavapai County increased by 26 percent. During the same ten years, the number of young children (ages 0 to 5) increased by 21 percent. Yavapai County grew at about the same rate as the state. In Arizona, the total population increased by 25 percent and the number of children under six increased by 19 percent.

The towns of Prescott Valley and Chino Valley showed the greatest growth over the decade, in both their total populations and the numbers of young children. In contrast, Prescott and Clarkdale grew in total population, but the numbers of young children in those two places was virtually unchanged from 2000 to 2010. In Sedona (the Yavapai County part only), the total population is almost the same in 2010 as it was in 2000, and the number of young children decreased by 5 percent. (For the unincorporated places in the county—such as Verde Village or Paulden—it is more difficult to compare the 2000 and 2010 censuses.)

As the population of the county has grown, the number of young children in need of services and developmental opportunities has also increased (except in Prescott, Sedona, and Clarkdale, as noted above). There were 2,191 more children under the age of six in Yavapai County in 2010 than there were ten years earlier.

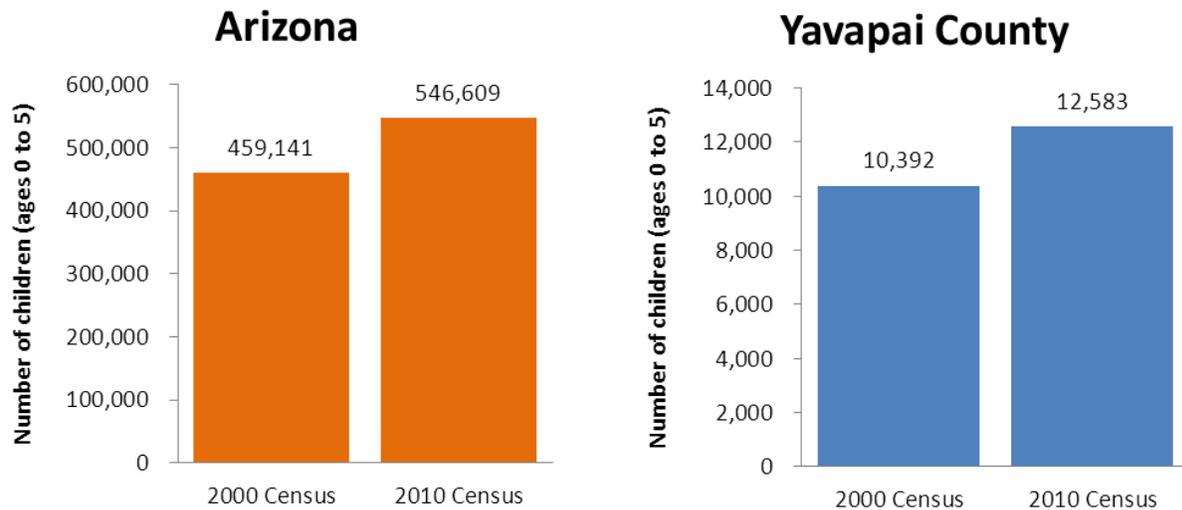
**Table 2. Comparison of Census 2000 and Census 2010 in Yavapai County and in the incorporated cities and towns**

GEOGRAPHY	POPULATION (ALL AGES)			POPULATION (AGES 0-5)		
	2000 CENSUS	2010 CENSUS	CHANGE	2000 CENSUS	2010 CENSUS	CHANGE
Arizona	5,130,632	6,392,017	25%	459,141	546,609	19%
Yavapai County	167,517	211,033	26%	10,392	12,583	21%
Prescott city	33,938	39,843	17%	1,514	1,530	1%
Prescott Valley town	23,535	38,822	65%	2,140	3,164	48%
Camp Verde town	9,451	10,873	15%	682	769	13%
Cottonwood city	9,179	11,265	23%	749	870	16%
Chino Valley town	7,835	10,817	38%	576	810	41%
Sedona city (Yavapai County part)	7,229	7,189	-1%	280	267	-5%
Clarkdale town	3,422	4,097	20%	248	248	0%
Jerome town	329	444	35%	7	9	29%
Remainder of Yavapai County	72,599	87,683	21%	4,196	4,916	17%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 and 2010 (Tables P1 and P14)

Note: The cities and towns in this table are defined by their municipal boundaries. The town of Dewey-Humboldt, which incorporated in 2004, had a population of 3,894 in the 2010 Census. There were 210 children under the age of six.

**Figure 6. Increases in the number of young children (ages 0 to 5) in the state and in Yavapai County**

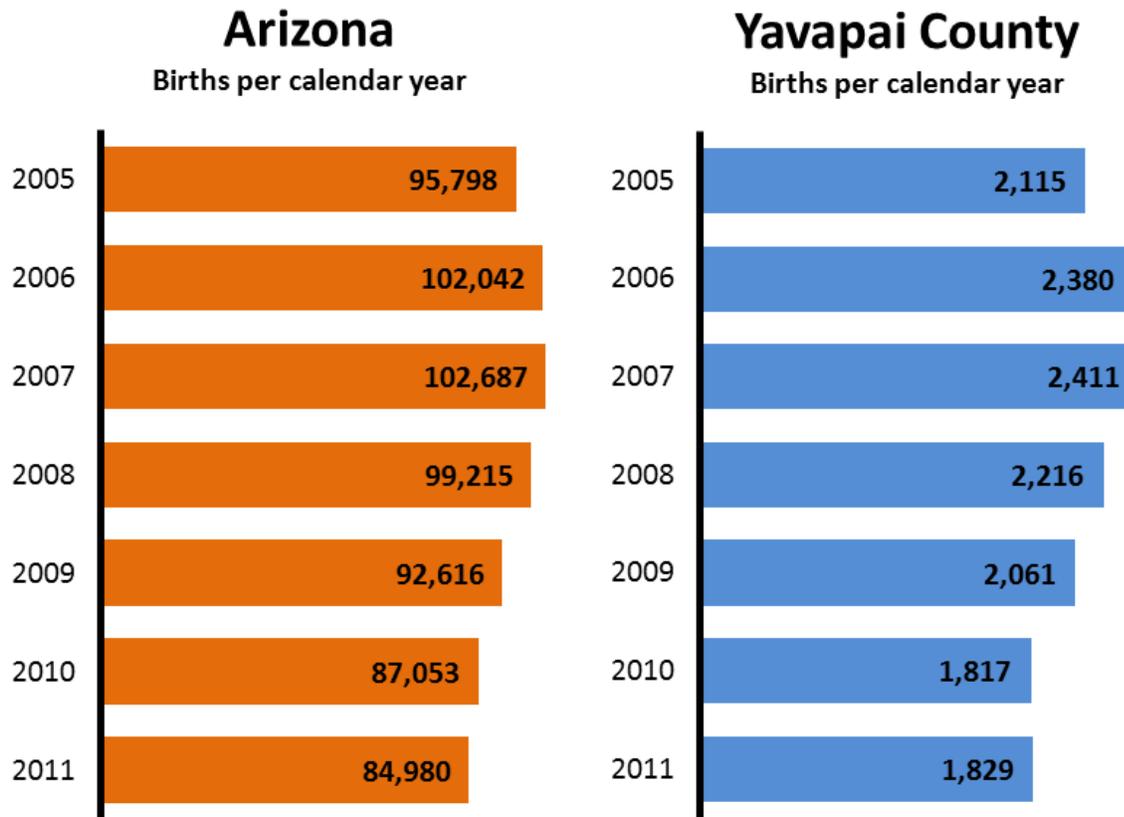


Source: U.S. Census 2000 and 2010 (Tables P1 and P14)

Although the number of children under six in the state and the county has increased over the decade from 2000 to 2010, the year-to-year data tell a somewhat different story. From the mid-1960's, the number of children born in Yavapai County and in the state of Arizona increased steadily from year to year, until 2008. In both the county and the state, the number of births has been decreasing since then. The decline in births could be caused by women of child-bearing age having fewer children or women of child-bearing age moving out of the state and the county, or a combination of both. Programs which serve young children should be aware of this recent trend in decreasing numbers of births.

Data from the 2010 Census confirms this trend. Of the 12,703 young children in the Yavapai Region, there were relatively fewer babies and toddlers under the age of two (31%) than there were two- and three-year-olds (35%) or four- and five-year-olds (34%). The children under the age of two in the 2010 Census would have been born during or after April 2008.

**Figure 7. Births per calendar year**



Source: ADHS Vital Statistics

## Additional Population Characteristics

**Household Composition.** In the Yavapai Region, 82 percent of the children (ages 0 to 5) were living with one or two parents (or step-parents), according to the 2010 Census. This is almost identical to the statewide percentage of 81 percent. Most of the remaining children (15%) were living with other relatives (such as grandparents, uncles, or aunts). The remainder (3%) lived with non-relatives or in group quarters.

Among the more populous ZCTAs, 86322 (Camp Verde) has a somewhat lower rate of children living with parents or step-parents: only 611 of the 795 (77%) children there live with their parents. The remaining 184 (23%) live with other relatives or with unrelated persons.

According to the 2010 Census, there were 8,948 households with one or more young children (ages 0 to 5). Among these households, about two-thirds (65%) were headed by a married couple. Twenty-two percent of households had a single female head. The remaining 13 percent had a single male head. (Note: The heads of household are not necessarily the children's parents. They could be grandparents, other relatives, or persons unrelated to the children.)

The 2010 Census provides additional information about multi-generational households and children 0-5 living in a grandparent's household. In Arizona, 74,153 children under six (14%) were living in a grandparent's household. The Arizona Children's Action Alliance reports that in Arizona, approximately 36 percent of grandparents caring for their grandchildren have been doing so for at least five years, and that 21 percent of these grandparents are living in poverty<sup>2</sup>.

The percentage of grandparents caring for grandchildren varies across Arizona. In the Yavapai Region, 1,586 children under six (12%) are living in a grandparent's household. (See Table 3.)

It is important to note that although these children are members of their grandparents' households, the grandparent may or may not be the primary caregiver. In many cases, one or both parents might also be living in the household.

Among the more populous ZCTAs, 86322 (Camp Verde) has a relatively high rate (17%) of young children living in their grandparents' households. In contrast, relatively few (8%) of the young children in ZCTA 86315 (Prescott Valley) live in their grandparents' household.

Only about 3 percent of the households in the Yavapai Region include three or more generations. This percentage is somewhat less than the statewide average of 5 percent.

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<sup>2</sup> Children's Action Alliance. (2012). *Grandfamilies Fact Sheet*. Phoenix, AZ. Retrieved from <http://www.azchildren.org/MyFiles/2012/grandfamilies%20fact%20sheet%20pic%20background.pdf>.

Households with three or more generations are somewhat more common (5%) in ZCTA 86334 (Paulden), and much more common (16%) on the Yavapai-Apache Nation. (Note: These multi-generational households may or may not contain children under the age of six.) It should be noted that extended families that involve multiple generations and relatives along both vertical and horizontal lines are an important characteristic of many American Indian families (Hoffman, 1981; Light & Martin, 1996).

**Table 3. Children living in a grandparent's household, and number of multi-generation households (Census 2010)**

GEOGRAPHY	POPULATION (AGES 0-5)	CHILDREN (0-5) LIVING IN A GRANDPARENT'S HOUSEHOLD		TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH THREE OR MORE GENERATIONS	
		Count	Percentage		Count	Percentage
Arizona	546,609	74,153	14%	2,380,990	115,549	5%
Yavapai County	12,583	1,580	13%	90,903	2,645	3%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>92,586</b>	<b>2,658</b>	<b>3%</b>
Ash Fork community	169	23	14%	1,449	35	2%
Bagdad community	243	17	7%	847	28	3%
Chino Valley community	2,158	305	14%	16,392	512	3%
Cordes Junction community	299	51	17%	2,500	98	4%
Prescott community	1,996	250	13%	22,211	441	2%
Prescott Valley community	3,016	331	11%	13,275	540	4%
Sedona community	569	58	10%	8,888	109	1%
Yavapai Northeast community	3,989	500	13%	23,375	816	3%
Yavapai South community	264	51	19%	3,649	79	2%
Yavapai-Apache Nation	87	32	37%	203	33	16%

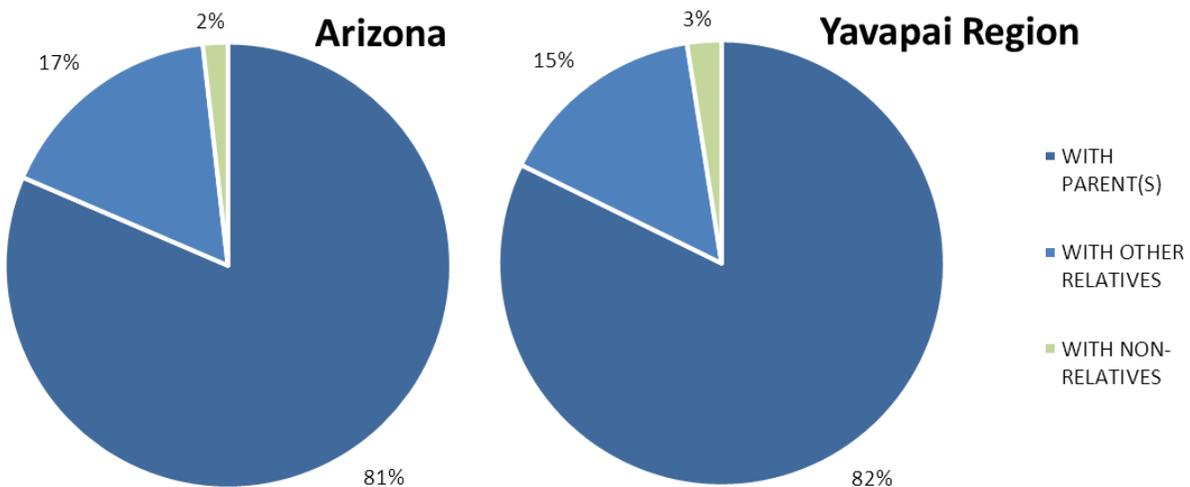
Source: U.S. Census 2010; Tables P41 & PCT14

**Table 4. Living arrangements for young children (0 to 5) in the Yavapai Region, Yavapai County, and the state**

GEOGRAPHY	POPULATION (AGES 0-5)	LIVING WITH PARENT(S)	LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVE(S)	LIVING WITH NON-RELATIVES OR IN GROUP QUARTERS
United States	24,258,220	84%	15%	2%
Arizona	546,609	81%	17%	2%
Yavapai County	12,583	82%	15%	3%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Ash Fork community	169	82%	17%	2%
Bagdad community	243	90%	7%	3%
Chino Valley community	2,158	82%	16%	2%
Cordes Junction community	299	79%	20%	1%
Prescott community	1,996	82%	15%	3%
Prescott Valley community	3,016	84%	13%	3%
Sedona community	569	82%	14%	4%
Yavapai Northeast community	3,989	82%	16%	2%
Yavapai South community	264	73%	24%	3%
Yavapai-Apache Nation	87	56%	43%	1%

Source: U.S. Census 2010; Table P32

**Figure 8. Living arrangements for young children (0 to 5) in Arizona and in the Yavapai Region**



Source: U.S. Census 2010; Tables P41 & PCT14

**Ethnicity and Race.** Of the people living in the Yavapai Region, 14 percent identified as Hispanic and 82 percent identified as non-Hispanic White. The remaining 4 percent identified as non-Hispanic Black, American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander, or Other. (The *Other* category includes persons who did not report or who reported more than one race, but did not identify as Hispanic.) The ZCTAs in the Yavapai Region with the highest percentages of Hispanic residents are 86334 (Paulden), 86321 (Bagdad), 86326 (Cottonwood), 86320 (Ash Fork), and 86314 (Prescott Valley)

In Arizona as a whole, there is a higher percentage (30%) of Hispanic persons, and a lower percentage of non-Hispanic white (58%) than in the Region.

**Table 5. Ethnicity and race in the Yavapai Region, Yavapai County, and the state**

GEOGRAPHY	2010 CENSUS POPULATION (ALL AGES)	HISPANIC	NOT HISPANIC				
			WHITE	BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN or PACIFIC ISLANDER	OTHER
Arizona	6,392,017	30%	58%	4%	4%	3%	2%
Yavapai County	211,033	14%	82%	1%	1%	1%	2%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>214,253</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>
Ash Fork community	3,152	18%	76%	1%	2%	0%	3%
Bagdad community	2,219	23%	73%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Chino Valley community	38,906	11%	85%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Cordes Junction community	5,734	8%	88%	1%	1%	0%	2%
Prescott community	48,002	9%	87%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Prescott Valley community	34,401	20%	76%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Sedona community	17,669	12%	84%	1%	0%	2%	1%
Yavapai Northeast community	56,661	17%	78%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Yavapai South community	7,509	8%	89%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Yavapai-Apache Nation	718	21%	7%	0%	65%	0%	7%

Source: U.S. Census 2010; Table QT-P4

Note: In the Yavapai-Apache Nation, 12% of the population identified as both Hispanic and American Indian.

Among the residents of the Yavapai-Apache Nation Reservation, 21 percent identified as Hispanic. (Most of these Hispanic residents also identified themselves as American Indian.) The majority of the rest (65%) identified as American Indian.

In Yavapai County, as in the state of Arizona, the relative number of Hispanic residents increased from 2000 to 2010. In 2000, 25 percent of Arizonans reported being Hispanic. In 2010, 30 percent did so. The Hispanic proportion of Yavapai County increased from 10 percent in 2000 to 14 percent in 2010.

School enrollment data can provide a perspective on the differences in ethnic breakdown among the youngest segment of the population in the Region (see Table 6). For instance, in the Yavapai Northeast community, where only 17 percent of the population identifies as Hispanic, the Beaver Creek Elementary District reports that 37 percent of the students enrolled are Hispanic, and the Cottonwood-Oak Creek District reports a similar proportion of Hispanic students (36%). The Seligman Unified District serves a number of children from the Hualapai Tribe, hence the high proportion of American Indian children enrolled. Likewise, the Camp Verde District serves children from the Yavapai-Apache Nation. Nearly half the children enrolled in the Ash Fork Joint Unified District are reported to be Hispanic.

**Table 6. Ethnicity and race by school district enrollment**

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ENROLLMENT	HISPANIC	WHITE, NOT HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN, NOT HISPANIC	OTHER, NOT HISPANIC
Humboldt	6,057	26%	69%	1%	4%
Prescott	5,406	14%	80%	2%	4%
Chino Valley	2,432	26%	70%	1%	3%
Cottonwood-Oak Creek	2,165	36%	60%	2%	2%
Camp Verde	1,448	26%	59%	11%	4%
Sedona-Oak Creek Joint	1,272	35%	59%	0%	6%
Mayer	457	15%	79%	3%	3%
Clarkdale-Jerome	434	18%	69%	8%	5%
Bagdad	434	29%	68%	1%	2%
Beaver Creek	360	37%	55%	5%	5%
Ash Fork Joint	288	45%	52%	2%	2%
Canon	185	11%	83%	1%	5%
Seligman	147	15%	53%	29%	3%
Congress	125	40%	57%	2%	2%
Kirkland	59	24%	76%		
Yarnell	55	20%	78%		2%
Hillside	32	13%	88%		
Skull Valley	21	29%	71%		

Source: Arizona Department of Education

**English Use and Proficiency.** In Yavapai County, nearly 9 of every 10 residents speaks English at home. Most of the rest (8%) speak Spanish at home. Notably, in Cottonwood, there is a higher proportion (18%) of Spanish speakers. In the Yavapai-Apache Nation, an estimated 11 percent of the residents speak an American Indian language at home.

The American Community Survey (ACS) also includes questions about how well non-English speakers speak English. Among the households in Yavapai County, about 2 percent are considered linguistically isolated. These are households in which no adult member speaks English “very well.” Only in Camp Verde (5%) and Cottonwood (6%) do we see rates of linguistic isolation nearly as high as in the state as a whole (5%). Most of these linguistically isolated households are Spanish-speaking.

**Table 7. Estimates of home language use and linguistic isolation**

GEOGRAPHY	PERSONS (5+) WHO SPEAK ONLY ENGLISH AT HOME	PERSONS (5+) WHO SPEAK SPANISH AT HOME	PERSONS (5+) WHO SPEAK AN INDIAN LANGUAGE AT HOME	HOUSEHOLDS IN WHICH A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS SPOKEN	LINGUISTICALLY ISOLATED HOUSEHOLDS
Arizona	73%	21%	2%	27%	6%
Yavapai County	89%	8%	1%	12%	2%
Camp Verde town	86%	11%	2%	11%	5%
Chino Valley town	92%	5%	1%	9%	1%
Clarkdale town	91%	6%	1%	12%	2%
Cottonwood city	79%	18%	0%	15%	6%
Dewey-Humboldt town	94%	2%	xx	8%	xx
Prescott city	91%	5%	0%	11%	2%
Prescott Valley town	86%	12%	0%	13%	3%
Sedona city	88%	8%	xx	13%	3%
Yavapai-Apache Nation	88%	1%	11%	xx	xx

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010, Tables 16001 and 16002

Note: A "linguistically isolated" household is one in which no adult speaks English very well. Missing estimates are indicated by "xx"

School district data reflect the community-level ethnicity variability discussed above, with a higher proportion of English Language Learners enrolled in Beaver Creek and Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary Districts.

**Table 8. Enrollment in English Language Learners Programs by school district**

SCHOOL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	STUDENTS IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) PROGRAMS	
Ash Fork Joint Unified District	150	8	5%
Bagdad Unified District	246	3	1%
Beaver Creek Elementary District	280	43	15%
Camp Verde Unified District	788	38	5%
Canon Elementary District	154	0	
Chino Valley Unified District	1,224	88	7%
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary District	347	3	1%
Congress Elementary District	96	6	6%
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary District	1,613	209	13%
Crown King Elementary District	4	-	
Hillside Elementary District	26	-	
Humboldt Unified District	3,406	173	5%
Kirkland Elementary District	59	6	10%
Mayer Unified District	225	8	4%
Prescott Unified District	2,654	31	1%
Sedona-Oak Creek Unified District	574	44	8%
Seligman Unified District	62	2	3%
Skull Valley Elementary District	21	1	5%
Yarnell Elementary District	44	3	7%

Source: ADE Preschool & Elementary Needs, 2011

Note: The areas covered by each school district are shown in the map in Figure 9.

## Economic Circumstances

### Poverty and Income

Income measures of community residents are an important tool for understanding the vitality of the community and the well-being of its residents. According to the American Community Survey (ACS), the percentage of people living in poverty in Yavapai County (14%) was almost the same as the state as a whole (15%). The median income in the city of Sedona is more than \$18,000 higher than in the county as a whole. On the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the median income is less than half of that of Yavapai County, and the poverty rate is much higher: 42 percent. (In each area, half of the households have incomes less than the median, and the other half have incomes greater than the median.)

Poverty rates for young children (ages 0-5) are generally higher than the rates for the all-ages population. About one-quarter of the young children in Yavapai County are estimated to be living in poverty.

**Table 9. Estimated median family annual income and estimated percentage of persons living in poverty**

<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	<b>MEDIAN FAMILY ANNUAL INCOME (2010 DOLLARS)</b>	<b>POPULATION IN POVERTY (ALL AGES)</b>	<b>ALL RELATED CHILDREN (0-5) IN POVERTY</b>
Arizona	\$59,840	15%	24%
Yavapai County	\$53,499	14%	25%
Camp Verde town	\$50,185	20%	29%
Chino Valley town	\$49,849	14%	33%
Cottonwood city	\$43,390	21%	34%
Prescott city	\$60,414	12%	11%
Prescott Valley town	\$51,768	14%	22%
Sedona city	\$71,768	11%	23%
Yavapai-Apache Nation	\$25,682	42%	xx

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010; Tables B19126 & B17001  
 NOTE: Missing estimates are indicated by "xx"

The Arizona Children’s Action Alliance reports that overall in Arizona, disparities in income distribution are increasing rapidly. In 2010, the bottom 60 percent of Arizonans (as measured by median household income) earned only 28 percent of the state’s income, while the top 20 percent earned 49 percent<sup>3</sup>. The Arizona Directions 2012 report notes that Arizona has the 5<sup>th</sup> highest child poverty rate in the country, with over 1 in 4 children living at or below the poverty level<sup>4</sup>.

The darker parts of the map in Figure 10 show that greater concentrations of poverty are found in the Ash Fork-Seligman and Cordes Junction sections of the county. There are also some sections of higher poverty in Cottonwood, and on the east side of Prescott Valley.

The map in Figure 11 shows that household incomes similarly vary from place to place. The median household income is lower in the Ash Fork-Seligman area and in the southeastern part of the county. There are also parts of Cottonwood, Prescott, and Prescott Valley which have relatively low median incomes.

Although the American Community Survey provides information on smaller communities, those data are aggregated over the past five years, 2006 to 2010, and so are less sensitive to more recent fluctuations (such as the economic downturn). The US Census provides more recent estimates of poverty and median income in its Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, though these are only at the state and county level. The relative pattern illustrated by the ACS results (Table 10) remains the same, but the more recent data show that median household incomes have fallen in the State and Region, and a higher percentage of children and families are living in poverty.

**Table 10. Poverty and Median Income Estimates, SAIPE**

	ARIZONA		YAVAPAI COUNTY	
Median Household Income	\$46,787		\$40,562	
Estimated number and percent of persons in poverty (all ages)	1,105,075	18%	37,975	18%
Estimated number and percent of children in poverty (0-17)	401,664	25%	11,029	28%
Estimated number and percent of young children in poverty (0-4)	129,973	29%	X	X

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Estimates Branch, 2010 Poverty and Median Income Estimates  
 Note: SAIPE estimates are not available (X) for children under five for Yavapai County.

<sup>3</sup> The Arizona Children’s Action Alliance *Income Disparity in Arizona*. Newsletter received October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. [azchildren.org/MyFiles/2011/Gini%20Index%20U.S.%20vs%20AZ%201979%20to%202009.pdf](http://azchildren.org/MyFiles/2011/Gini%20Index%20U.S.%20vs%20AZ%201979%20to%202009.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Arizona Indicators. (Nov. 2011). *Arizona Directions Report 2012: Fostering Data-Driven Dialogue in Public Policy*. Whitsett, A.

It can be useful to look at Regional incomes in the context of the “living wage,” which takes into account the cost of living in an area to estimate a wage rate that is required to meet minimum standards of living. Based on the work of the Economic Policy Institute, Penn State researchers developed a “living wage calculator”<sup>5</sup> to estimate the hourly wages that a family would need to earn to meet monthly expenses in a particular area. Based on this work, the living wage estimate for a single parent/one child family would be \$15.16 in Yavapai County; for two adults with two children, it would be \$24.67.

The Arizona 2010 hourly wage estimates show that the median (50th percentile) hourly wage across all occupations is calculated to be \$14.48 in Yavapai County<sup>6</sup>. For the occupations employing the highest proportion of workers in the county (office and administrative support; sales; and food preparation), median hourly wages are even lower. This suggests that the average single working parent is unlikely to be able to make ends meet in Yavapai, and that both parents would need to work for a two parent family with two children to live comfortably.

There are 20 elementary or unified school districts within the Yavapai Region. These are shown in Figure 10 below. The SAIPE program estimates, for each school district, the number and percent of school-age children living in poverty. These estimates range from a low of 12 percent in the Seligman Unified District, up to a high of 51 percent in the Canon Elementary District. (See Table 12).

There are a number of federally-assisted school-based meal programs for children whose families meet income criteria. The most widely-used is the National School Lunch Program which provides low-cost or free lunches each school day to students who qualify. For school year 2011-2012, a family of two with an annual income of \$27,214 or less would qualify. For each additional family member, the income criterion increases by \$7,067<sup>7</sup>. In Yavapai County, 58 percent of children were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, about the same as the state overall (59%). The table below shows free and reduced lunch eligibility information across the Yavapai Region’s communities. Cordes Junction community has the highest free and reduced lunch eligibility rate (89%), and Prescott community has the lowest free and reduced lunch eligibility rate (39%).

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/>

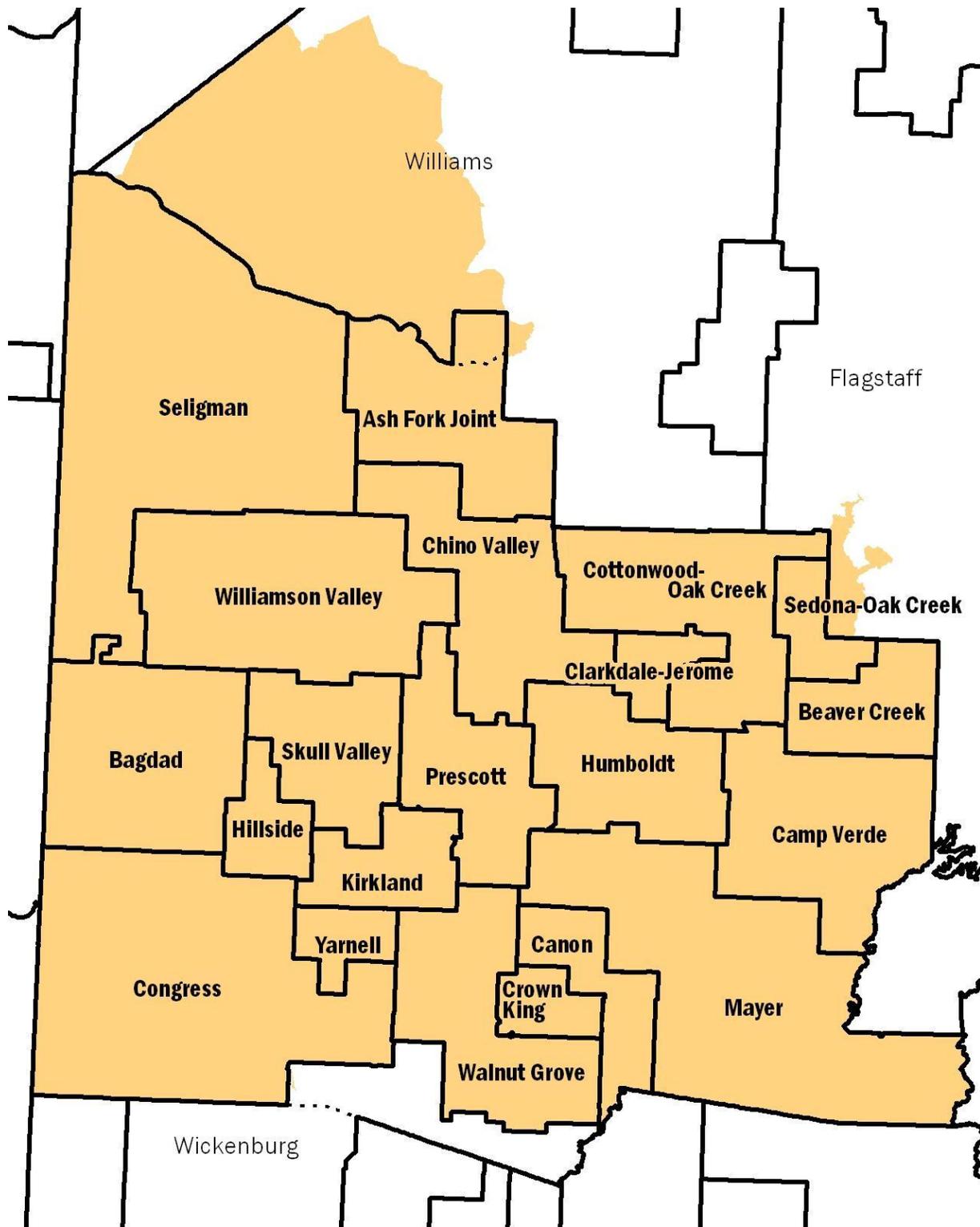
<sup>6</sup> Arizona Office of Employment and Population Statistics, <http://www.workforce.az.gov/pubs/labor/yavapai10.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> United States Department of Agriculture at [www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegs.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegs.htm)

**Table 11. Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility in the Yavapai Region**

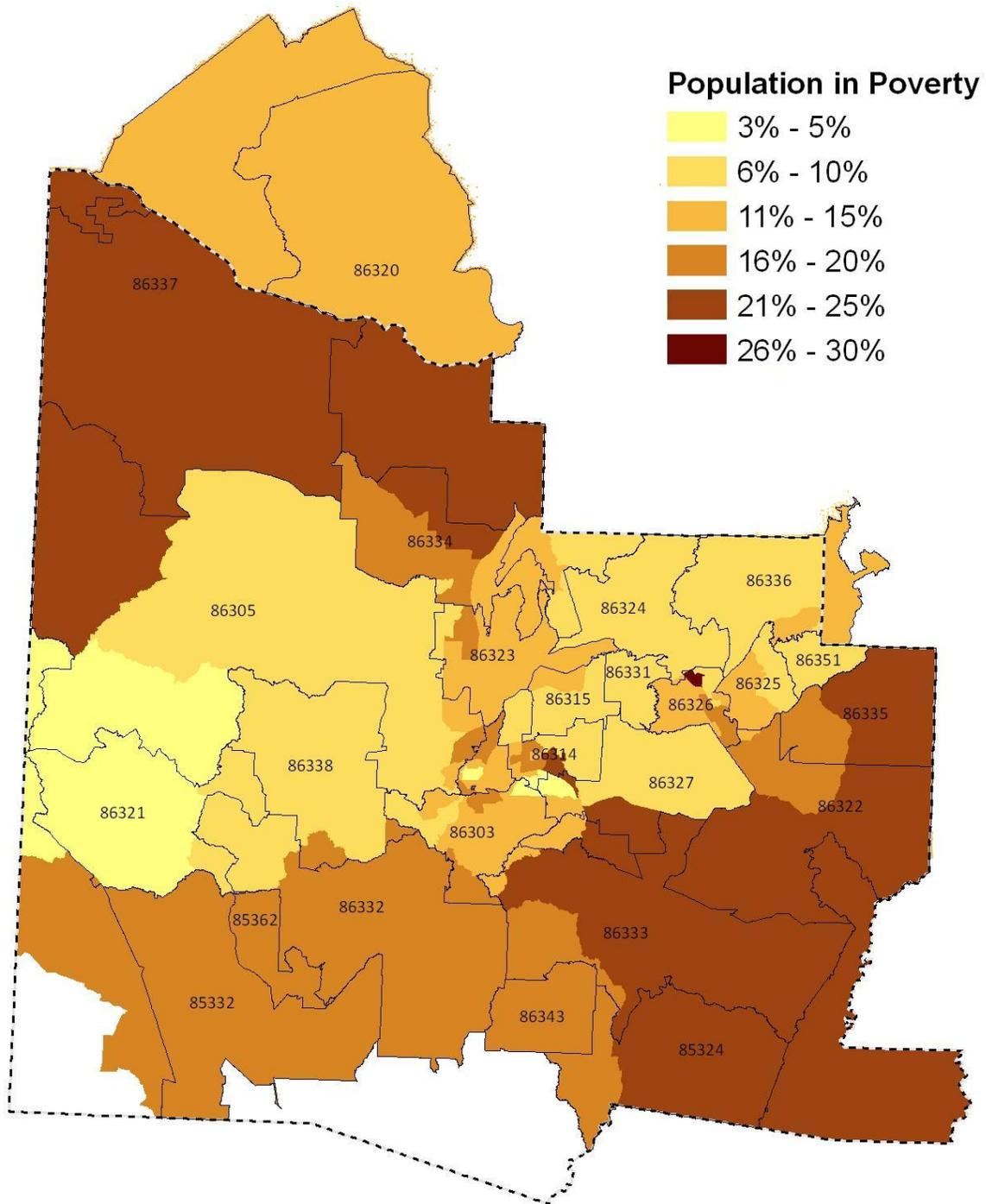
GEOGRAPHY	PERCENT ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH
ARIZONA	59%
Yavapai County	58%
Ash Fork community	62%
Bagdad community	47%
Chino Valley community	64%
Cordes Junction community	89%
Prescott community	39%
Prescott Valley community	62%
Sedona community	49%
Yavapai Northeast community	72%
Yavapai South community	75%

**Figure 9. Elementary and Unified School Districts of Yavapai County**



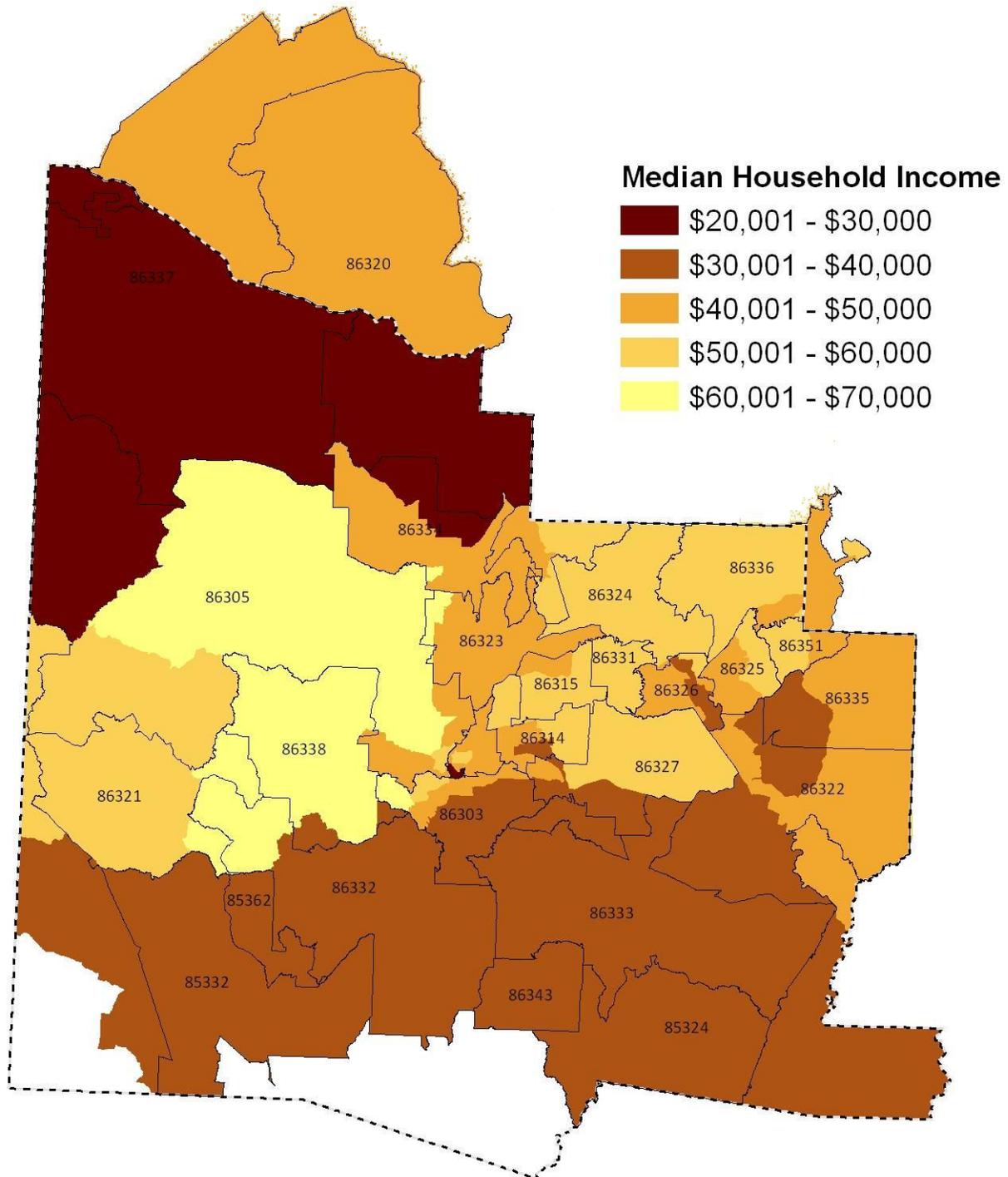
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 10. Estimated percent of residents living in poverty, by Census tract**



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010

**Figure 11. Estimated household median income by Census tract**



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010

**Table 12. Poverty estimates by school districts, SAIPE**

YAVAPAI COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS	ESTIMATED TOTAL POPULATION (ALL AGES)	ESTIMATED SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION (AGES 5-17)	ESTIMATED NUMBER AND PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY (AGES 5-17)	
Ash Fork Joint Unified District	1,835	278	81	29%
Bagdad Unified School District	2,143	479	81	17%
Beaver Creek Elementary District	4,809	780	148	19%
Camp Verde Unified District	11,454	1,880	679	36%
Canon Elementary District	2,918	352	179	51%
Chino Valley Unified District	21,597	3,633	746	21%
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary District	3,789	350	67	19%
Congress Elementary District	2,439	217	41	19%
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elem. District	29,433	3,076	1,025	33%
Crown King Elementary District	174	15	3	20%
Hillside Elementary District	129	23	5	22%
Humboldt Unified District	51,100	8,705	2,050	24%
Kirkland Elementary District	1,131	148	57	39%
Mayer Unified District	5,680	739	218	29%
Prescott Unified District	54,541	5,893	1,093	19%
Sedona-Oak Creek Joint Unified District	14,442	1,327	334	25%
Seligman Unified District	1,316	149	18	12%
Skull Valley Elementary District	611	113	19	17%
Williamson Valley Elementary District	607	61	12	20%
Yarnell Elementary District	1,182	69	19	28%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Estimates Branch, 2010 Poverty and Median Income Estimates

In addition, the Arizona Department of Education reports the number of economically disadvantaged students in each district. The percentage of economically disadvantaged students ranges from a high of 100 percent in the Ash Fork district to a low of 25 percent in the Prescott district.

**Table 13. Economically disadvantaged students by school district**

SCHOOL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS	
Ash Fork Joint Unified District	2	150	150	100%
Bagdad Unified District	2	246	122	50%
Beaver Creek Elementary District	1	280	200	71%
Camp Verde Unified District	2	788	588	75%
Canon Elementary District	1	154	105	68%
Chino Valley Unified District	4	1,224	502	41%
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary District	1	347	187	54%
Congress Elementary District	1	96	65	68%
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary District	5	1,613	968	60%
Crown King Elementary District	1	4	-	-
Hillside Elementary District	1	26	-	-
Humboldt Unified District	7	3,406	2,036	60%
Kirkland Elementary District	1	59	25	42%
Mayer Unified District	1	225	194	86%
Prescott Unified District	8	2,654	672	25%
Sedona-Oak Creek Unified District	2	574	-	-
Seligman Unified District	1	62	39	63%
Skull Valley Elementary District	1	21	-	-
Yarnell Elementary District	1	44	32	73%

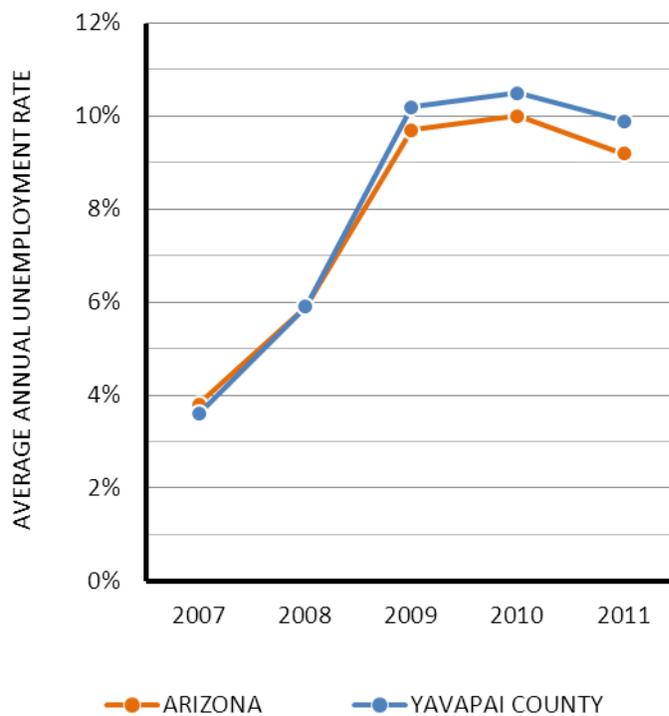
Source: ADE Preschool & Elementary Needs, 2011.

Note: The areas covered by each school district are shown in the map in Figure 12.

## Unemployment and Foreclosures

Annual unemployment rates are another important indicator of regional economic vitality. The average unemployment rate in Yavapai County in 2011 was 9.9 percent, slightly higher than the statewide average of 9.2 percent. In 2007, prior to the recession, unemployment in the county as well as the state was a little under 4 percent. In 2009 and 2010, the unemployment rate in the county jumped to about 10 percent (about half a percentage point less than the Arizona average). The Yavapai County communities with the highest estimated unemployment rates for 2011 were Ash Fork (29%), Peeples Valley (20%), Cordes Lakes (19%), and Mayer (18%). At the opposite end of the scale, the lowest 2011 unemployment rates were in Paulden (7%), Dewey-Humboldt (7%), and the Williamson Valley area (8%).

**Figure 12. Annual unemployment rates in Yavapai County and the state**



Source: Arizona Department of Commerce, Research Administration, CES/LAUS Unit, 2010

The number and rate of foreclosures also gives an indication of the status of the economy in different places. Table 14 presents data from Realty Trac on the foreclosures in the state and in Yavapai County. The rates by zip code range from a high of 7.6 per thousand properties in zip code 86335 (Lake Montezuma), to a low of 1 per thousand in zip code 86324 (Clarkdale).

**Table 14. Foreclosures in Arizona and Yavapai County**

<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES (FEBRUARY 2012)</b>	<b>NUMBER OF FORECLOSURES (FEBRUARY 2012)</b>	<b>FORECLOSURES PER THOUSAND PROPERTIES</b>
Arizona	2,848,872	9,131	3.2
Yavapai County	110,484	324	2.9
Ash Fork community	1,452	2	1.4
Chino Valley community	19,061	54	2.8
Cordes Junction community	3,210	10	3.1
Prescott community	27,573	73	2.6
Prescott Valley community	14,906	58	3.9
Yavapai Northeast community	26,448	73	2.8
Yavapai South community	5,231	23	4.4

Source: RealtyTrac, Inc. Retrieved from <http://www.realtytrac.com/trendcenter>.

### **Public Assistance Programs**

Public assistance programs commonly used by families with young children in Arizona include SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, which replaced previous welfare programs), and WIC (Women, Infants, and Children, food and nutrition services). Participation in public assistance programs is an additional indicator of economic vitality. According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, nationally, the percentage of income that is derived from government benefit programs is rising sharply.

In the entire state of Arizona, the number of children receiving SNAP benefits rose by 36 percent between 2007 and 2011, reflecting the challenges families face in handling the economic downturn. In the Yavapai Region, the number of children on SNAP increased by 45 percent over that same period. More recently, the numbers have stabilized, growing by just two percent between 2010 and 2011 in both the state and Region. However, many communities continue to have higher rates of enrollment, with Chino Valley, Cordes Junction and Ash Fork seeing the greatest recent increase (see Table 15) .

**Table 15. Numbers of young children (aged 0 to 5) receiving SNAP**

	JUNE 2007	JUNE 2009	JULY 2010	JULY 2011	CHANGE 2010-2011
Arizona	139,170	199,367	212,465	216,398	2%
Yavapai Region	2,709	4,613	4,821	4,942	2%
Ash Fork community	60	80	89	96	7%
Bagdad community	<25	<25	<25	<25	0%
Chino Valley community	389	648	646	731	12%
Cordes Junction community	93	144	158	173	9%
Prescott community	357	577	645	675	4%
Prescott Valley community	706	1,299	1,329	1,355	2%
Sedona community	94	167	189	198	5%
Yavapai Northeast community	920	1,593	1,677	1,625	-3%
Yavapai South community	77	105	99	104	5%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2011

In contrast to SNAP, the number of children receiving TANF in Arizona has hardly changed from 2007 to 2011, in spite of the worsening economic situation. This is likely due to new eligibility rules and state budget cuts to the program, which have been annually enforced by state lawmakers for the past three fiscal years. A new rule which takes grandparent income into account has increased the decline of child-only TANF cases.

Yavapai County child TANF recipients decreased by 129 percent from 2007 to 2011. The decreases were seen throughout the county, with the exception of a slight increase in the Ash Fork community. Three communities-- Cordes Junction, Sedona, and Yavapai Northeast—had a decrease of over 200 percent in that time period. Looking more recently, enrollment continued to decrease between 2010 and 2011 in most communities in the Region. This trajectory is likely to continue: Fiscal 2012 budget cuts limit the amount of time that families can receive TANF to two years, and are estimated to adversely affect 3,500 families, including 6,500 children across the state<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> Reinhart, M. K. (2011). *Arizona budget crisis: Axing aid to poor may hurt in long run*. The Arizona Republic: Phoenix, AZ. Retrieved from <http://www.azcentral.com/news/election/azelections/articles/2011/04/17/20110417arizona-budget-cuts-poor-families.html>

**Table 16. Numbers of young children (aged 0 to 5) receiving TANF**

	<b>JUNE 2007</b>	<b>JUNE 2009</b>	<b>JULY 2010</b>	<b>JULY 2011</b>	<b>CHANGE 2010-2011</b>
Arizona	41,067	41,069	41,100	41,101	0%
Yavapai Region	358	388	224	156	-44%
Ash Fork community	<25	<25	<25	<25	33%
Bagdad community	-	<25	<25	-	-
Chino Valley community	31	45	35	26	-35%
Cordes Junction community	<25	<25	<25	<25	-80%
Prescott community	50	61	33	26	-27%
Prescott Valley community	103	108	63	44	-43%
Sedona community	<25	<25	<25	<25	-100%
Yavapai Northeast community	136	141	67	37	-81%
Yavapai South community	<25	<25	<25	<25	14%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2011

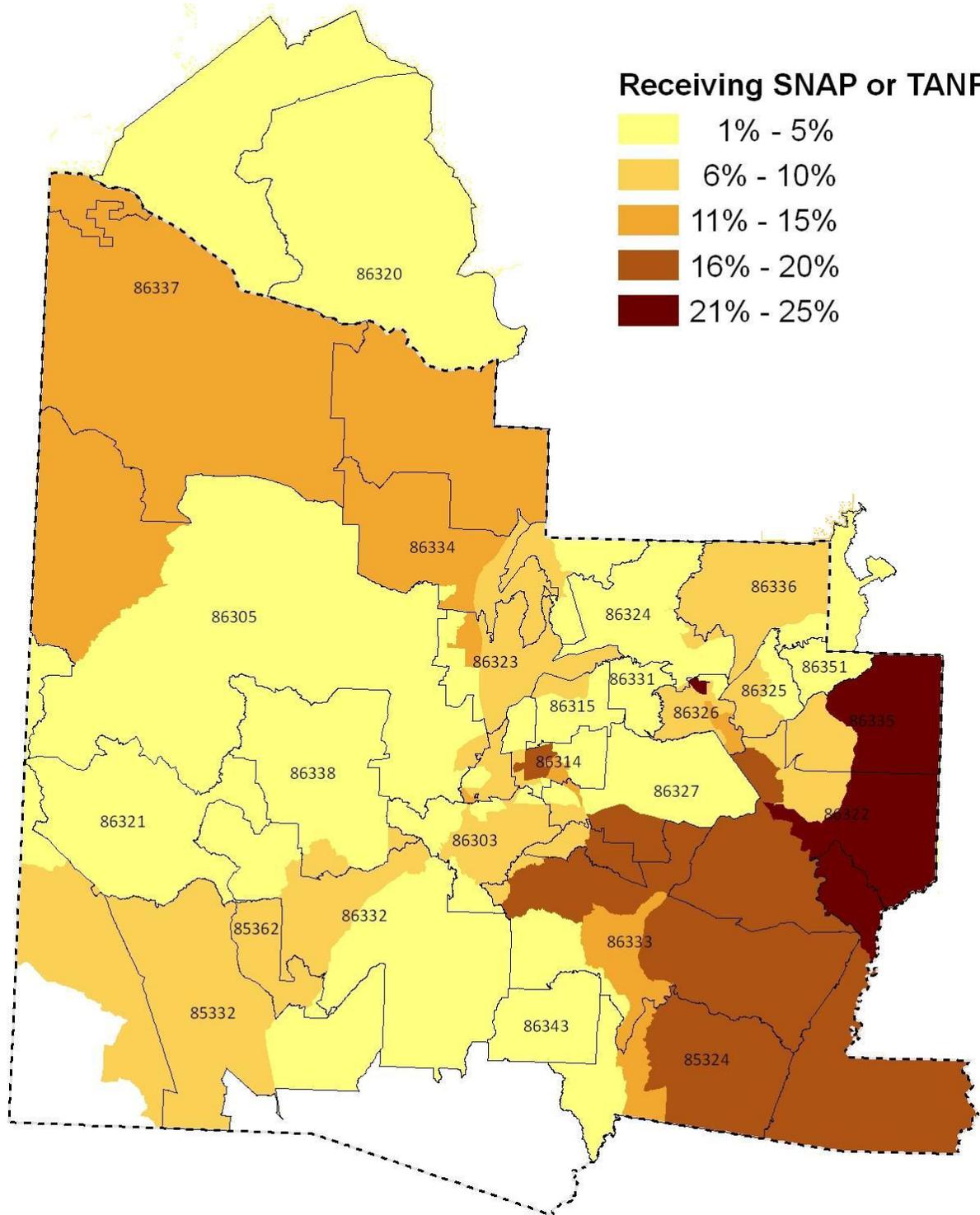
Figure 13 maps the distribution of SNAP or TANF assistance in the county. These estimates come not from the state DES, but from the federal Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS). The pattern of dark and light areas resembles the patterns observed above for poverty rates and household income.

Arizona’s WIC program is a federally funded nutrition program which services pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, as well as infants and children under the age of 5 who are eligible for the program.

The number of recipients of emergency food in Arizona rose by 85 percent between 2006 and 2009, and in 2009, nearly half of those recipients were under the age of 18. In 2009, 888,100 unduplicated individuals in Arizona were recipients of emergency food. The Hunger in America 2010 report estimates that over 10 percent of all Arizona food bank clients have a child between the ages of 0 and 5. An estimated 84 percent of all Arizona food bank recipients were not receiving TANF or other government welfare services<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Association of Arizona Food Banks. (2010). *2010 Hunger in American Report: Arizona Highlights*. Phoenix, Arizona.

**Figure 13. Estimated percentage of residents receiving SNAP or TANF by census tract**



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010

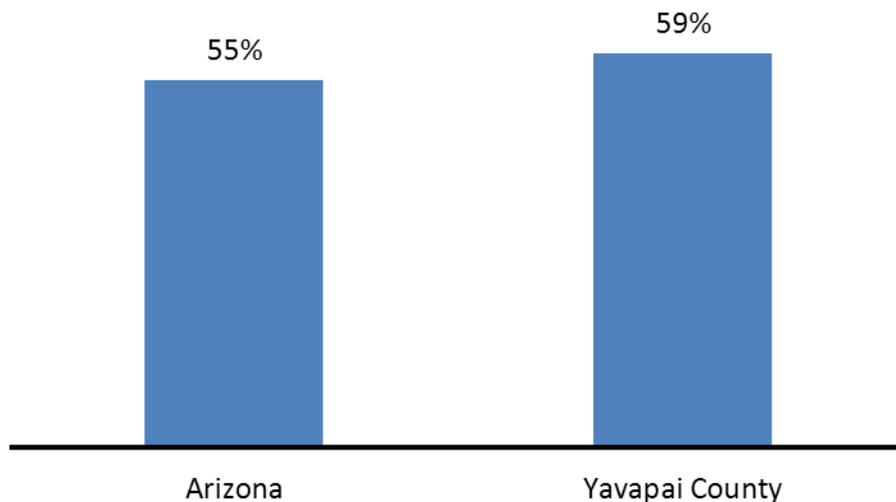
**Table 17. WIC participation in the Yavapai Region**

	WIC PARTICIPANTS, 2010			WIC PARTICIPANTS, 2011		
	WOMEN	INFANTS AND CHILDREN 0 TO 4	PERCENT OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN 0 TO 4	WOMEN	INFANTS AND CHILDREN 0 TO 4	PERCENT OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN 0 TO 4
Arizona	91,322	262,805	58%	88,512	251,531	55%
Yavapai County	2,330	6,771	65%	2,149	6,155	59%
Chino Valley	352	1099	61%	308	983	55%
Cordes Junction	74	172	66%	66	180	69%
Prescott	300	866	54%	284	786	49%
Prescott Valley	300	866	76%	284	786	68%
Sedona	74	222	45%	102	253	52%
Yavapai Northeast	685	1949	59%	260	1759	53%

Source: Department of Economic Security, 2012

Note: The Department of Economic Security releases data about WIC participation at the zip code level. To protect participant privacy, the Department of Economic Security suppresses WIC participation data for all zip codes in which participation numbers are lower than 30. The percentages shown in the table above may be underestimates, as a result.

**Figure 14. Percent of infants and children (0 to 4) participating in WIC, 2011**



## Educational Indicators

A national report released in early 2012 by the Annie E. Casey Foundation ranked Arizona among the ten states with the lowest score for children’s education attainment. This report noted that low levels of adult education are correlated with low levels of overall child well-being<sup>10</sup>. Fewer than 26 percent of adults (ages 25 and up) in Arizona hold a Bachelor’s degree or higher level of education<sup>11</sup>. The pattern of educational achievement in Yavapai County is similar to that seen in the state as a whole.

**Table 18. Educational Indicators**

	ADULTS (AGES 25+) WITHOUT HIGH SCHOOL OR GED	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO WOMEN WITH LESS THAN A HIGH-SCHOOL EDUCATION, 2010	ADULTS (AGES 25+) WITH BACHELORS DEGREE OR MORE	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO WOMEN WITH A BACHELORS DEGREE OR MORE, 2010
Arizona	15%	22%	26%	10%
Yavapai County	11%	24%	24%	7%

Source: American Community Survey 2006-2010; Arizona Department of Health Services Vital Statistics, 2010

The primary in-school performance of current students in the public elementary schools in the Region is measured by the Arizona Institute to Measure Standards (AIMS)<sup>12</sup>. The AIMS is a high-stakes exam used to track how well students are performing compared to state standards. As of the 2013-2014 school year, Arizona Revised Statute<sup>13</sup> states that a student shall not be promoted from the third grade “if the pupil obtains a score on the reading portion of the Arizona’s Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) test...that demonstrates that the pupil’s reading falls far below the third-grade level.” Exceptions exist for students with learning disabilities, English language learners, and those with reading deficiencies. Research shows that early reading experiences, opportunities to build vocabularies and literacy rich environments are the most effective ways to support

<sup>10</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2012). Analyzing State Differences in Child Well-being. O’Hare, W., Mather, M., & Dupuis, G.

<sup>11</sup> Arizona Indicators. (Nov. 2011). *Arizona Directions Report 2012: Fostering Data-Driven Dialogue in Public Policy*. Whitsett, A.

<sup>12</sup> For more information on the AIMS test, see the Arizona Department of Education’s Website: <http://www.ade.az.gov/AIMS/students.asp>

<sup>13</sup> A.R.S. §15-701

the literacy development of young children to prepare them to succeed on later tests such as the AIMS<sup>14</sup>.

As Figure 15 shows, overall, third graders in Yavapai county tend to pass the AIMS math portion (meets + exceeds standard) at the same rate as children across the state (67%) and tend to pass the reading portion at a slightly higher rate (78% vs. 75%).

**Figure 15. 3rd grade AIMS results, 2011**

### Math 3rd-Grade AIMS Results, 2011



### Reading 3rd-Grade AIMS Results, 2011

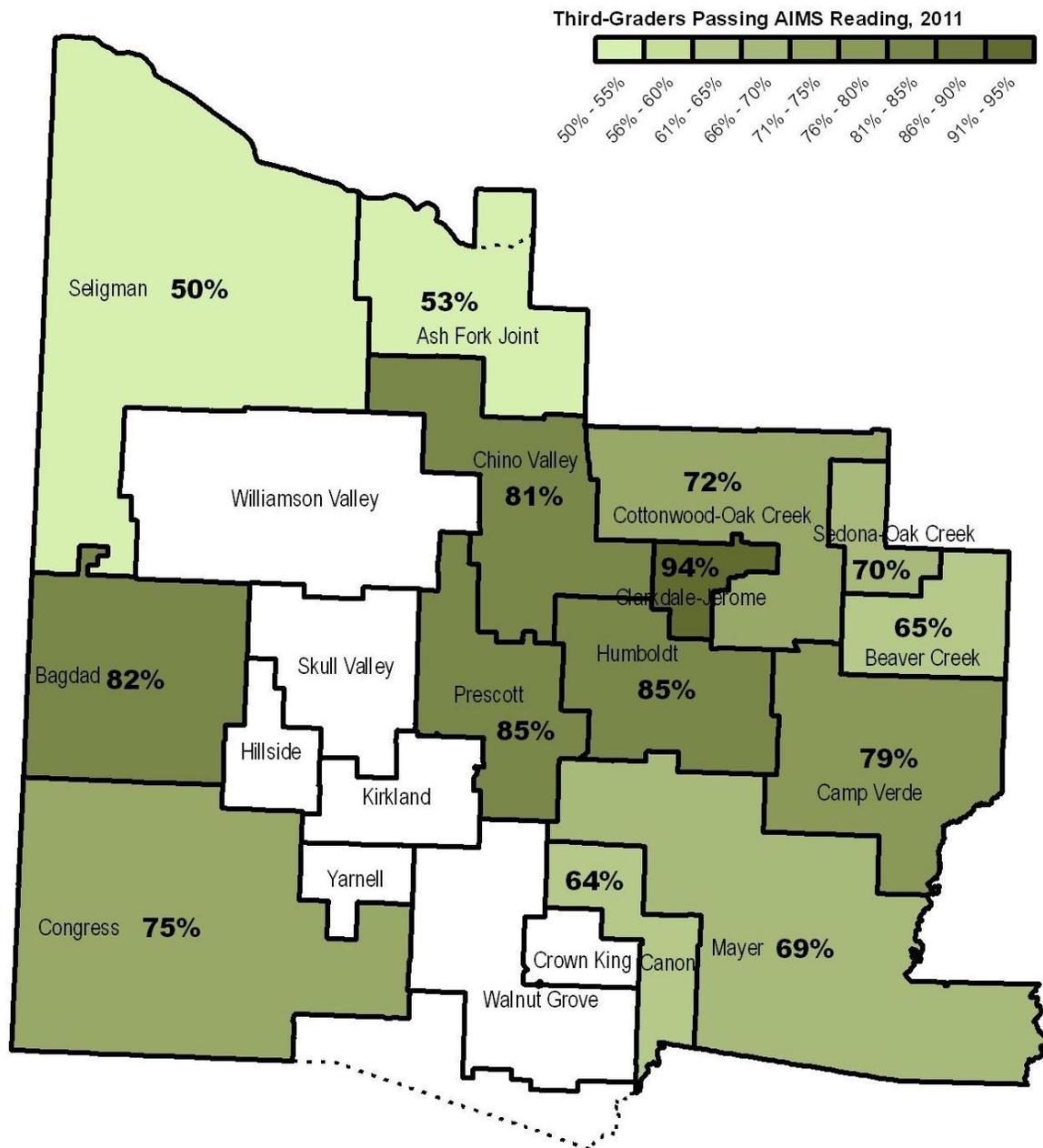


Source: Arizona Department of Education, 2011

Figure 16 shows the passing rate for the third-grade AIMS reading test in each school district for which results were reported. Although the overall county passing rate is similar to the state rate, there is substantial variability at the district level. A number of districts have passing rates substantially lower than the 75 percent state rate.

<sup>14</sup> First Things First (2012) *Read All About It: School Success Rooted in Early Language and Literacy*. Retrieved from [http://www.azftf.gov/WhoWeAre/Board/Documents/Policy\\_Brief\\_Q1-2012.pdf](http://www.azftf.gov/WhoWeAre/Board/Documents/Policy_Brief_Q1-2012.pdf) (April, 2012)

**Figure 16. Percent of third-graders passing the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) reading test, by school district**



Note: The seven districts in white either did not report third-grade AIMS scores, or had fewer than 10 students taking the test in 2011. Only district schools, not charter schools, are included in these rates.

Source: Arizona Department of Education, 2011

Arizona fourth-graders also take the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a nationally administered measure of academic achievement that allows for comparisons to national benchmarks<sup>15</sup>.

Although 67 percent of fourth graders in Arizona “meet or exceed standards” on the AIMS reading test, only 26 percent of Arizonan fourth graders scored “at or above proficient” on the NAEP reading test (compared to 34% nationally).<sup>16</sup> Arizona fourth graders made no significant gains in performance on the NAEP reading test between 2009 and 2011, and although statistically significant gains on the NAEP mathematics test were made (from 28% to 34% “at or above proficient”), Arizonan fourth graders still fall below the national average (40%)<sup>17</sup>.

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<sup>15</sup> The NAEP test is a product of U.S. Department of Education. For more information, visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/>

<sup>16</sup> Arizona Indicators. (Nov. 2011). *Arizona Directions Report 2012: Fostering Data-Driven Dialogue in Public Policy*. Whitsett, A.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2009-2011 Reading and Assessments. Accessed online at [http://nationsreportcard.gov/math\\_2011/gr4\\_state.asp](http://nationsreportcard.gov/math_2011/gr4_state.asp) (math) and [http://nationsreportcard.gov/reading\\_2011/](http://nationsreportcard.gov/reading_2011/) (reading) on 8-6-2012

## The Early Childhood System

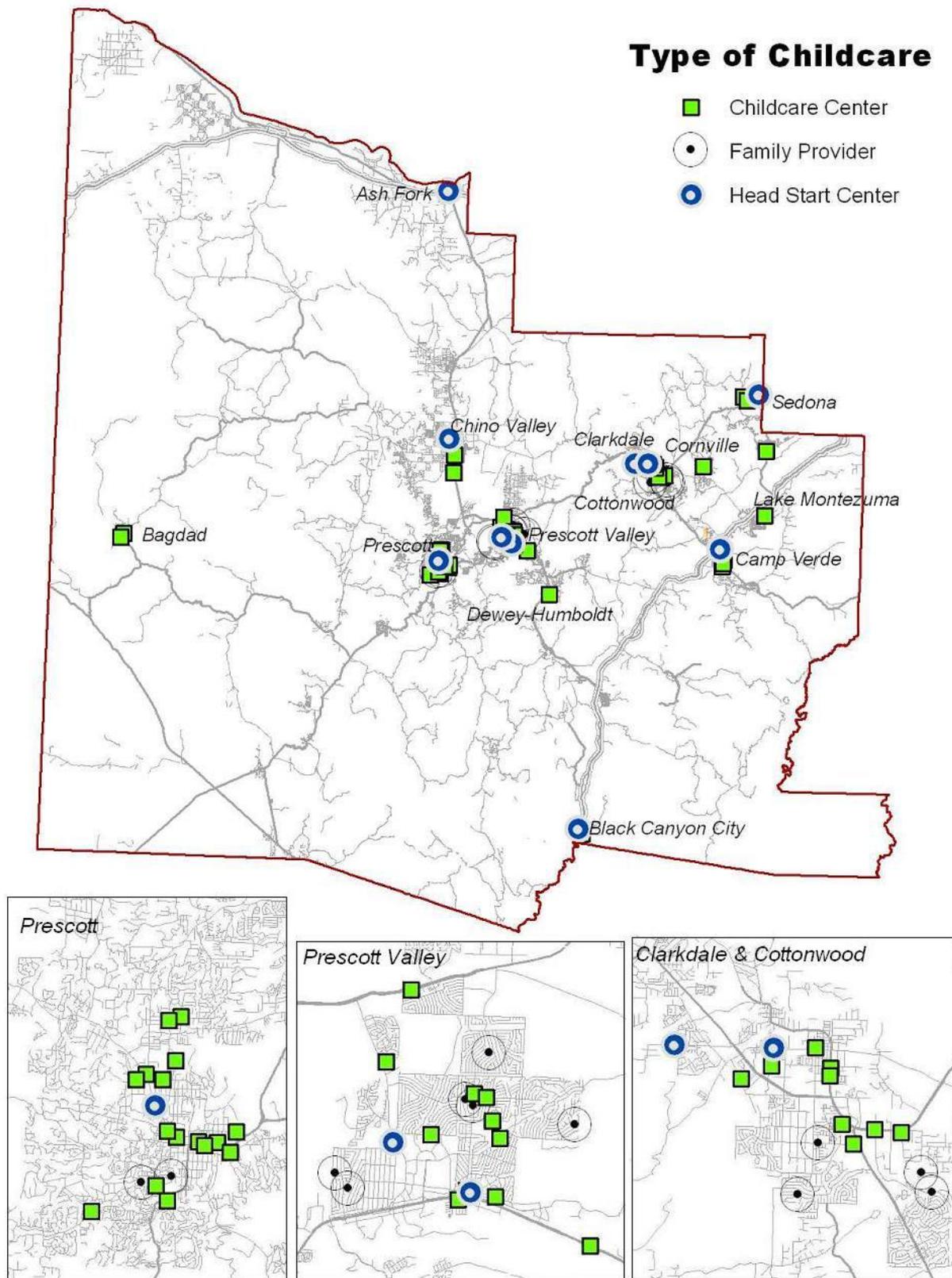
### Quality and Access

In the Yavapai Region, there are 76 regulated child care providers, according to the Arizona Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) report of December 2011. The total licensed capacity was 4,618 children, representing capacity for about one in three young children in the Region. However, not all providers have the actual capacity to care for as many children as the license allows, and capacity numbers include spots which might be used by children older than five. Therefore, regulated care is likely to be available to a substantially lower proportion of children aged birth to five. Detailed data on each provider are found in Appendix A.

**Table 19. Regulated child care providers in the Yavapai Region (as of March 2012)**

COMMUNITY	CHILD CARE CENTERS		HEAD START CENTERS		FAMILY PROVIDERS		ALL PROVIDERS	
	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity
Yavapai Region	54	3,977	10	551	12	90	76	4,618
Ash Fork community			1	25			1	25
Bagdad community	2	115					2	115
Chino Valley community	4	327	1	52			5	379
Prescott community	15	1,029	1	84	2	14	18	1,127
Prescott Valley community	11	1,126	2	84	6	48	19	1,258
Sedona community	4	255	1	49			5	304
Yavapai Northeast community	17	1,066	3	237	4	28	24	1,331
Yavapai South community	1	59	1	20			2	79

Figure 17. Child care providers in Yavapai County



## **Quality First**

Quality First, a First Things First program, is a statewide quality improvement and rating system for providers of center-based or home-based early care and education, with a goal to help parents identify quality care settings for their children. The Quality First Rating Scale incorporates measures of evidence-based predictors of positive child outcomes. Based on these, a center is given a star rating that ranges from 1-star (where the provider demonstrates a commitment to examine practices and improve the quality of care beyond regulatory requirements) to 5-star (where providers offer lower ratios and group size, higher staff qualifications, and a curriculum aligned with state standards).

Quality First provides financial and technical support for child care centers and homes to help them raise the quality of care they provide young children. Program components of Quality First include: assessments, TEACH scholarships, child care health consultation, and financial incentives to assist in making improvements.

In the Yavapai Region, about one-third (27) of the regulated center and home providers in the Region were enrolled in the Quality First program as of June 2012. Of these, preliminary star ratings suggest that 11 percent of Quality First enrolled providers in the Region hold a 1-star rating (designated “rising”), three quarters hold a 2-star rating (designated “progressing”) and about 15 percent hold a 3-star rating (designated “quality”). This is a higher proportion at “quality” level than the state as a whole (where just over 7% of enrolled providers received a 3-star or higher rating, with 4- and 5-star providers being designated “quality plus” and “highest quality” respectively).

## Head Start

Head Start is a comprehensive early childhood education program for pre-school age children whose families meet income eligibility criteria<sup>18</sup>. Arizona residents not meeting these criteria may still be eligible for Head Start if: their income status is low or very low, they are under-employed, unemployed, or about to become unemployed, facing pregnancy, or under 19 years of age<sup>19</sup>.

Head Start addresses a wide range of early childhood needs such as education and child development, special education, health services, nutrition, and parent and family development. The Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) administers several Head Start sites in Yavapai County. Head Start centers are in Ash Fork, Camp Verde, Chino Valley, Cottonwood, Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Sedona. NACOG additionally administers a Head Start site in Black Canyon City, which offers home-based classes only. In its four-county area (Apache, Navajo, Coconino, and Yavapai), the NACOG Head Start Program offers an enrollment of 1,621 according the 2010-2011 Program Information Report, which includes a full day, four days per week option (189), a part day, four days per week option (1,251), and a home-based option (181). Eighty classes are offered in total.

The Northern Arizona Council of Governments additionally administers an Early Head Start program, which services low-income families with infants and toddlers, as well as pregnant women. In Yavapai County, there are Early Head Start centers in Clarkdale and Prescott Valley, and offer a total enrollment of 193. Of these slots, 72 represent a full-day, five-days-per-week option, and 121 represent a home-based option. Ten classes are offered in total<sup>20</sup>.

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<sup>18</sup> As of March 2012, eligibility criteria for the Head Start program include: being a resident of Arizona; being a parent or primary caregiver for a child who is too young for public school; having a pre-tax household income of \$10,830 for a one-person household, of \$18,310 for a two-person household, \$22,050 for four-person household, of \$25,790 for a five-person household, of \$29,530 for a six-person household, of \$33,270 for a seven-person household, of \$37,010 for an eight-person household, and of \$40,750 for a household larger than eight person. \$3,740 may be added for each additional person in the home for larger households.

<sup>19</sup> Retrieved from <http://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/1897>.

<sup>20</sup> Source: Northern Arizona Council of Governments (Head Start) 2010-2011 Program Information Report; Northern Arizona Council of Governments (Early Head Start) 2010-2011 Program Information Report

## Cost of Child care

The table below shows the average estimated cost of full-time child care in a child care center by percent of median income in the Yavapai Region. It should be noted that data about median income is available at the community level, but average cost of child care data is available only at the state and county level. The calculations in the tables below were therefore made with community-level median income data and county-level data about average cost of child care.

**Table 20. Cost of Full-Time Child Care in a Regulated Child Care Center by Percent of Median Family Income**

GEOGRAPHY	INFANTS LESS THAN 1 YEAR OLD	CHILDREN 1 OR 2 YEARS OLD	CHILDREN 3 TO 5 YEARS OLD
Arizona	16%	15%	13%
Yavapai County	14%	12%	11%
Ash Fork community	17%	14%	13%
Bagdad community	12%	10%	10%
Chino Valley community	15%	13%	12%
Cordes Junction community	22%	18%	17%
Prescott community	12%	10%	10%
Prescott Valley community	14%	12%	12%
Sedona community	10%	9%	8%
Yavapai Northeast community	16%	13%	13%
Yavapai South community	22%	18%	17%

Source: Census 2010; Child Care Market Rate Survey 2010

As the above table shows, infant care is most costly to families, and consumes between 10 and 22 percent of median family income in the Yavapai Region. The Department of Health and Human Services recommends that parents spend no more than 10 percent of their family income on child care. However, to secure regulated center-based care, more than half of the families (those at the median income level and below) in each of the communities in the Yavapai Region would need to exceed this recommendation for nearly all age groups; Yavapai South and Cordes Junction families at the median income level would need to spend more than double this percentage on child care.

It is important to note that the percentages above are reflective of families with only one young child in need of full-time child care. Families with more than one child under age five requiring child care would exceed the Department of Health and Human Services recommendation by a substantially higher percentage. Moreover, the percentages above were calculated with the average median family income. Single parent homes, particularly those with a single female householder, typically have a substantially lower

income than this median in the Yavapai Region. Single parent families may also be more likely to need full-time child care than married-couple families.

Unregulated homes are typically a less expensive child care option. The following table shows the average estimated cost of full-time child care in an unregulated home by percent of median family income. With the exception of the Bagdad, Prescott, and Sedona communities, cost of child care in an unregulated home for one child still exceeds the Department of Health and Human Services recommendation in the Region. For this reason, many families are likely to turn to family, friends and neighbors who may provide care free of charge.

**Table 21. Cost of Full-Time Child Care in an Unregulated Home by Percent of Median Family Income**

<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	<b>CHILDREN UNDER ONE</b>	<b>CHILDREN ONE TO TWO YEARS OLD</b>	<b>CHILDREN THREE TO FIVE YEARS OLD</b>
Arizona	11%	11%	10%
Yavapai County	12%	12%	12%
Ash Fork community	14%	14%	14%
Bagdad community	10%	10%	10%
Chino Valley community	13%	13%	13%
Cordes Junction community	18%	18%	18%
Prescott community	10%	10%	10%
Prescott Valley community	12%	12%	12%
Sedona community	9%	9%	9%
Yavapai Northeast community	13%	13%	13%
Yavapai South community	18%	18%	18%

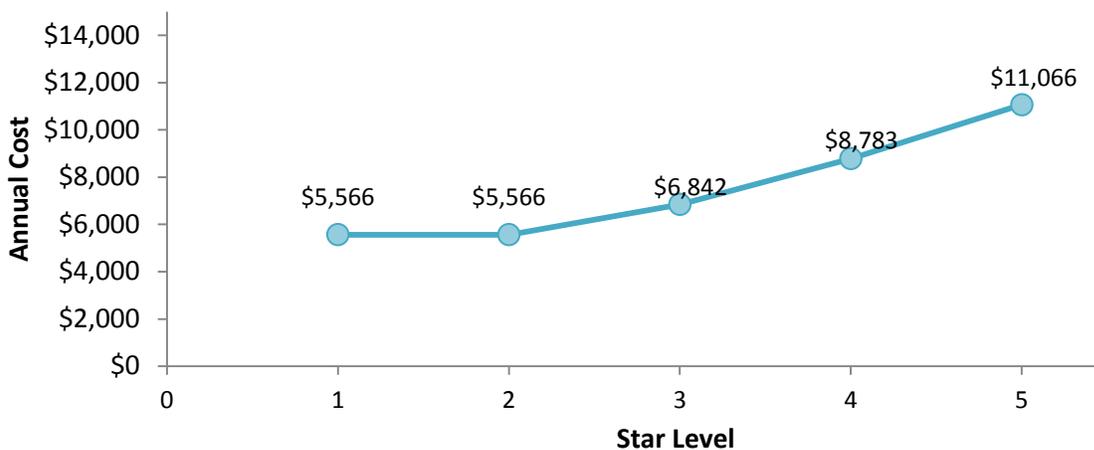
Source: Census 2010; Child Care Market Rate Survey 2010

Previous studies of “kith and kin care” and other types of unregulated, informal child care have consistently found that informal child care is lower in quality than regulated child care, and that this is particularly true for home-based unregulated programs. Research findings have also reported that kith and kin child care is less structured and has less of an educational focus than regulated child care does, which may impact school readiness. Other research findings have indicated that children in child care

centers are more likely to interact with their peers than children in informal home-based care<sup>21</sup>.

Recent work conducted at the statewide level by First Things First suggests that the high cost of quality care is a statewide concern. As shown in the figure below, the annual cost of an average 5-star Quality First Center is currently estimated to be nearly double the average annual cost of 1 or 2-star Quality First Center. It remains to be seen how this difference will change as more centers attain higher star ratings.

**Figure 18. The estimated cost of quality care for full-day care (8 hours)**



Source: Arizona Cost of Quality in Early Education Study (First Things First), 2011

Note: These are estimated costs reflective of statewide level data for non-profit and for-profit center-based providers only.

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<sup>21</sup> Brown-Lyons, M., Robertson, A., & Layzer, J. (2011). *Kith and Kin – Informal Child Care: Highlights from Recent Research*. Columbia University, New York, NY. National Center for Children in Poverty.

## Professional Development

Formal education attainment of Early Childhood Education (ECE) staff is linked with improved quality of care in early care and education settings. The Compensation and Credentials Survey is a statewide survey that assesses the education and pay of the early care and education workforce in Arizona (Arizona Children's Action Alliance, 2008). Results from the 2007 survey show that across the state of Arizona, 27 percent of employers required at least some college for teachers and 12 percent required the same for assistant teachers. The percentage of employers across the state requiring this level of education from teachers had decreased over the previous 10 years, from a high of 39 percent in 2009. The median salary for assistant teachers was \$9.00 per hour and the median salary for teachers was \$9.75 per hour in 2007, and these wages for early care and education workers across the state increased little over a 10 year period.

In the Northern Arizona Council of Governments Head Start program, 38 percent of all classroom teachers have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) or a related field. Of the remainder, the majority (55%) have an Associate's Degree in ECE. No preschool teachers lack an Early Childhood Education credential entirely. Among Early Head Start teachers, the majority have either a Bachelor's Degree (29%) or an Associate's Degree (29%). Seven Early Head Start teachers have no ECE credential (23%), but are enrolled in a related field degree program.

First Things First offers Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) Scholarships to support child care providers in their pursuit of their CDA certification or Associate of Arts (AA) certificate/degree. Through participation in TEACH, child care providers, directors and assistant directors, teachers, and assistant teachers working in licensed or regulated private, public and Tribal programs are able to participate in 9-15 college credits of college coursework leading to their CDA (Child Development Associates) credential. A Bachelors Degree model of the TEACH program is also currently being developed. In fiscal year 2012, there were 60 child care professionals in the Yavapai Region who had received TEACH scholarships to take coursework leading to an associate's degree. Statewide, 613 scholarships were awarded.

Several community colleges accessible to the Yavapai Region participate in the TEACH program, as well as offer coursework and professional development opportunities in the area of early childhood education. Yavapai Community College is the primary community college serving the region, although as shown in the table below, there are growing opportunities for students to obtain degrees in early childhood education online through other colleges and Universities across Arizona.

**Table 22. Professional Development Opportunities in the Yavapai Region**

COLLEGE	LOCATION	DEGREE OFFERED
Yavapai Community College	Prescott Verde Valley Prescott Valley	AA in Early Childhood Education
Rio Salado College	Online	AAS in Early Childhood Education  AA AAS in Early Childhood Administration  AA in Transfer Partnership: Early Childhood Teacher Ed  AAS in Early Learning and Development
Arizona Western College	Online	Certificate in Early Childhood Education  AA in Elementary Education  AA in Secondary Education
Northern Arizona University	Online	BA Early Childhood Education  MA Early Childhood Education

## Health

### Access to Care

Families throughout the Yavapai Region face several challenges to receiving adequate health care for their children. The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) aggregates communities in the state into Primary Care Areas which are geographically based regions in which most residents seek primary medical care within the same places.<sup>22</sup> The labels for the Primary Care Areas are drawn from the major population centers for those areas. There are eleven Primary Care Areas in Yavapai County, each outlined in Figure 19, below.

- Ash Fork
- Bagdad
- Chino Valley
- Cordes Junction
- Prescott
- Prescott Valley
- Sedona
- Yavapai South
- Yavapai Northeast
- Yavapai-Apache
- Yavapai-Prescott<sup>23</sup>



**Figure 19: Yavapai County Primary Care Areas**

The communities included within each PCA are listed in **Appendix C.**

The ADHS Primary Care Area Program designates Arizona Medically Underserved Areas (AzMUAs) in order to identify portions of the state that may have inadequate access to health care. Each Primary Care Area is given a score based on 14 weighted items including points given for ambulatory sensitive conditions, population ratio, transportation score, percentage of population below poverty, percentage of uninsured births, low birth weight births, prenatal care, percentage of death before the U.S. birth life expectancy, infant mortality rate, and percent minorities, elderly, and unemployed.

<sup>22</sup> Definition based on Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health Services Data Documentation for Primary Care Area and Special Area Statistical profiles. Bureau of Health Systems Development.

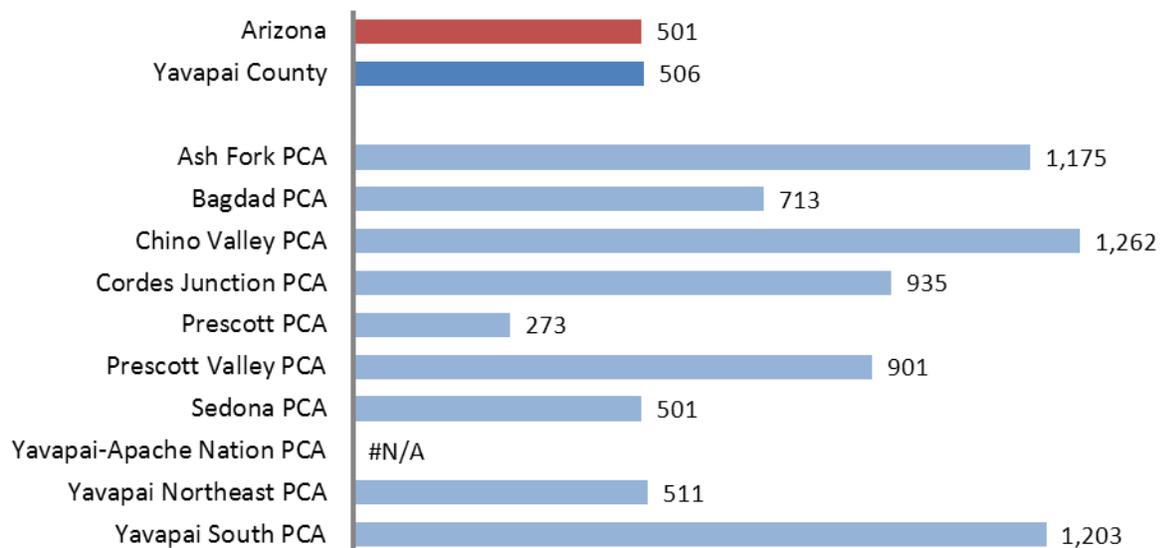
<sup>23</sup> Data for the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe are not included in this report

Based on their scores, **all** of the Primary Care Areas in Yavapai County are designated as Medically Underserved (AzMUA).

Many of the rural areas in Arizona face challenges in supporting enough health professionals to serve the resident population. The Arizona Department of Health Services notes that the majority of Arizona physicians (87 percent), nurses (80 percent), and dentists (82 percent) practice in either Maricopa or Pima County<sup>24</sup>. Seven of the Yavapai County PCAs have been designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration. These seven are: Ash Fork, Chino Valley, Cordes Junction, Prescott Valley, Yavapai Northeast, the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, and Yavapai South.

Data about the ratio of population to primary care providers in the various Primary Care Areas is an indicator of the healthcare infrastructure within the Region. The number of residents per primary-medical care provider is about the same in Yavapai County (506) as it is in the state as a whole (501). There are fewer than one provider per thousand residents in three PCAs: Ash Fork, Chino Valley, and Yavapai South.

**Figure 20. Ratio of population to primary care providers**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

The Community Health Center of Yavapai (CHCY) is a Federally Qualified Community Health Center that provides comprehensive primary medical care, including pediatric

<sup>24</sup> [http://azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/mch/2012\\_Title-V-Block-Grant-Narratives.pdf](http://azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/mch/2012_Title-V-Block-Grant-Narratives.pdf)

services, and dental services on a sliding fee scale. They also provide behavioral health consultations and reproductive health services, including prenatal care for those with low risk pregnancies. No-cost well woman cancer screening is available to low-income women through CHCY participation in the state Well Woman Healthcheck program. There are three locations: Prescott, Prescott Valley, and a recently-opened center in Cottonwood.

Additional services to support the health of families and children are also provided by Yavapai County Community Health Services, including the Health Start home visitation program which provides community health workers to support low-income pregnant women and families with children under 2 years of age; the Nurse Family Partnership program, which provides registered nurse support for low-income women and teens who are pregnant for the first time; and the Newborn Intensive Care Program, which provides home-based follow-up to families with infants who spent time in an Intensive Care Nursery immediately after birth, which aims to help reduce infant deaths and to help high-risk infants and toddlers reach their potential. Although these home visitation services are provided county wide, key informants noted that it can be challenging to provide services in the outlying areas, especially when parents miss scheduled appointments, requiring time-consuming return visits.

The First Things First Regional Partnership Council supports Yavapai County's Child Care Health Consultation program which provides nurse consultants at no cost to help child care providers improve the health and safety of children in their care by reviewing health and safety policies; providing trainings on child health, development, and safety; and making appropriate referrals to other community resources. Behavioral health consultations are also available to child care providers through another First Things First funded strategy (see *Behavioral Health*, below).

### **Pregnancies and Births**

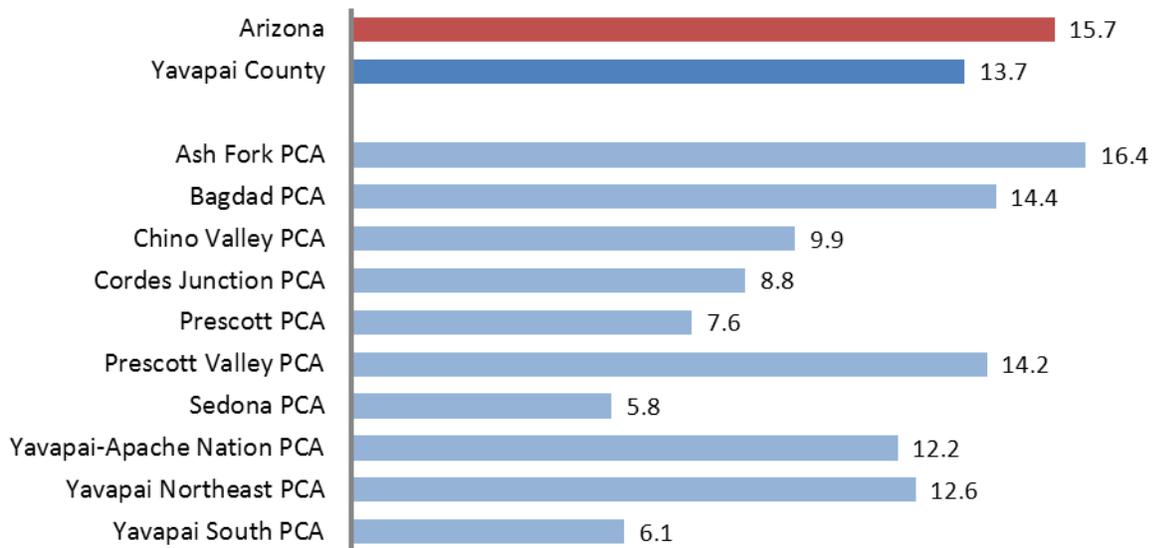
According to the Arizona Department of Health (ADHS) Vital Statistics, there were a total of 84,980 live births in 2011 to women who were Arizona residents. About 2 percent of these births (1,829) were to residents of Yavapai County. Most women in Yavapai County (almost 90%) have their babies in the county—mainly at the Yavapai Regional Medical Center or the Verde Valley Medical Center. Most of the remaining babies are born in Maricopa County.

Because the Region communities tend to be relatively sparsely populated, data from any one year for rare occurrences (such as births) tend to be unreliable because of small sample sizes. Therefore, the data illustrated below are an average of the rates across a number of years (2000-2009). For comparison, they include the state average. These data are based on the Primary Care Areas, described above.

The birth rate in Yavapai County (13.7 births per thousand residents) is a little lower than it is in the state as a whole (15.7 per thousand). Birth rates are much lower in the

Sedona and Yavapai South PCAs. (The variability in birth rates in Figure 20 would be reduced if we could look at birth rates relative to the population of women of child-bearing age. Ash Fork and Bagdad, for example, have a generally younger population, compared to the rest of the county.)

**Figure 21. Average birth rate per 1,000 residents, 2000-2009**



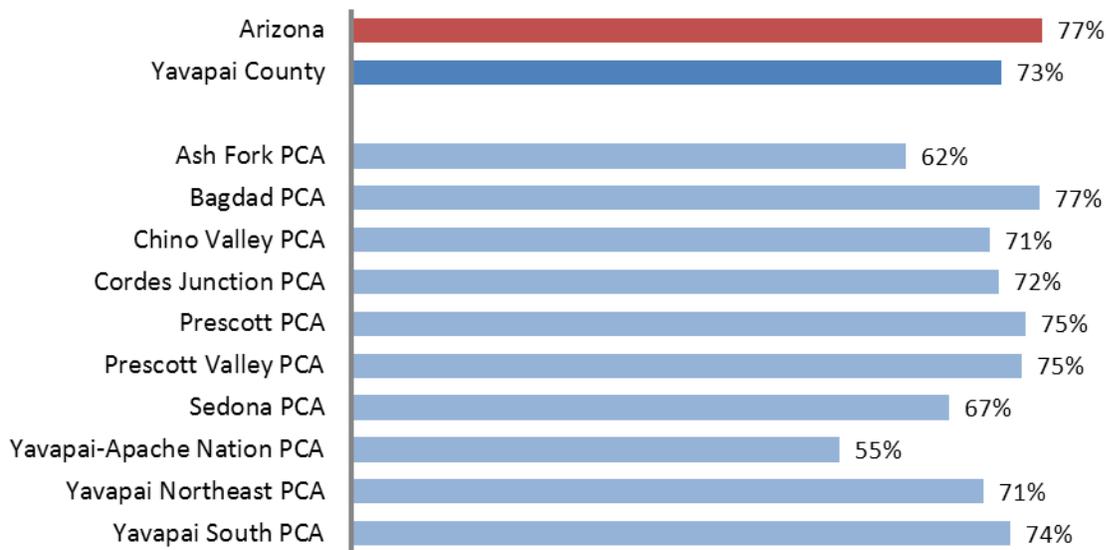
Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

Many of the risk factors for poor birth and neonatal outcomes can be mitigated by good prenatal care, which is most effective if delivered early and throughout pregnancy to provide risk assessment, treatment for medical conditions or risk reduction, and education. Research has suggested that the benefits of prenatal care are most pronounced for socio-economically disadvantaged women, and prenatal care decreases the risk of neonatal mortality, infant mortality, premature births, and low-birth-weight births<sup>25</sup>. Care should ideally begin in the first trimester.

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) recommends at least 13 prenatal visits for a full-term pregnancy; seven visits or fewer prenatal care visits are considered an inadequate number (ACOG, 2002).

The two figures below illustrate the variability in prenatal care across the Region. The Healthy People 2020 targets are federal guidelines developed with the use of current health data, baseline measures, and areas for specific improvement. The Healthy People 2020 target for receiving prenatal care in the first trimester is at least 78 percent. Neither the state, the county, nor any of the PCAs meet this target. Expectant mothers in the Ash Fork and Yavapai-Apache Nation PCAs are least likely to start prenatal care during the first trimester.

**Figure 22. Average percent of births with prenatal care beginning in first trimester, 2000-2009**

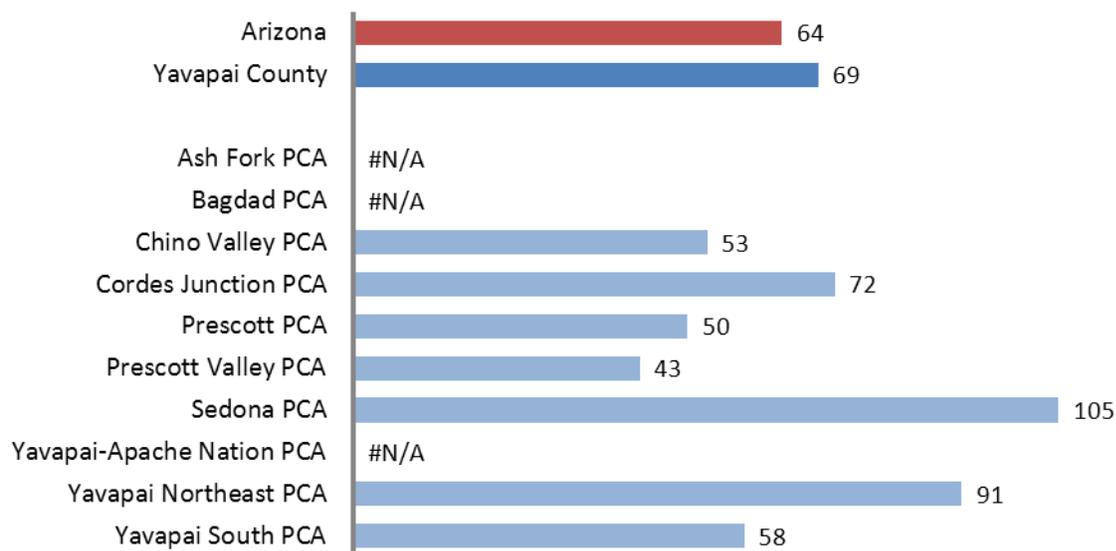


Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

<sup>25</sup> Kiely, J.L. & Kogan, M.D. *Prenatal Care*. From Data to Action: CDC’s Public Health Surveillance for Women, Infants, and Children. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from: <http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/ProductsPubs/DatatoAction/pdf/rhow8.pdf>

With respect to mothers receiving fewer than five prenatal visits, Yavapai County has a slightly higher rate (69 per thousand births) than the state (64 per thousand). The Sedona and Yavapai Northeast PCAs have substantially higher rates than the rest of the Region. This is somewhat counterintuitive given that these PCAs have relatively high numbers of primary care providers, and have generally favorable health-related indicators. This may be a topic to consider for further investigation. Although more mothers should be receiving care earlier and more often, very few mothers in the county fail to receive any prenatal care at all. In 2010, there were only 17 reported cases (out of 1,817 births) of mothers receiving no prenatal care at all. (See Appendix D.)

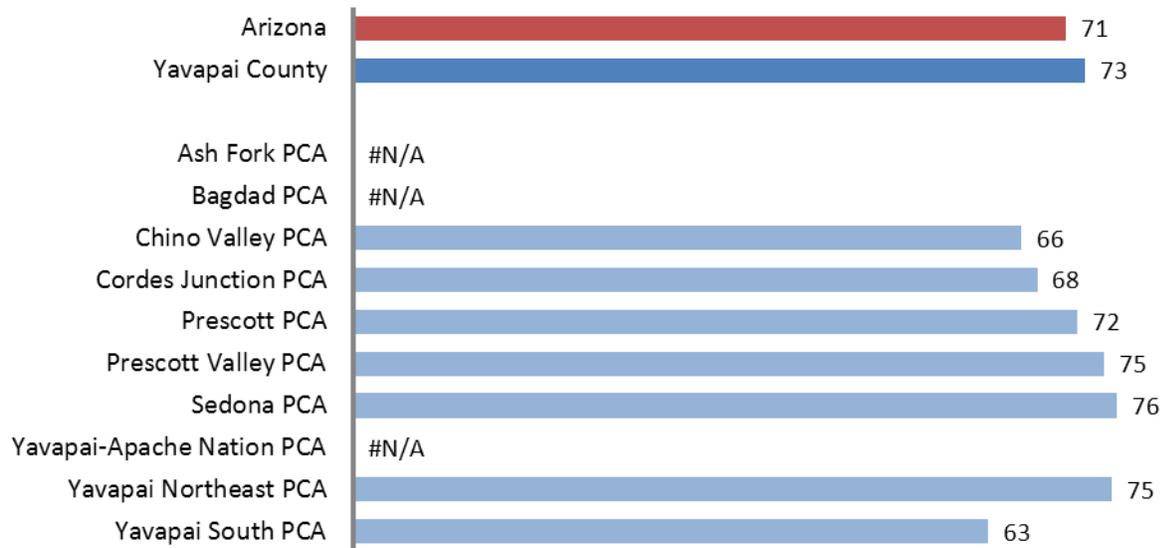
**Figure 23. Average number of births with fewer than five prenatal care visits (per 1,000 live births), 2000-2009**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

Low birth weight is the risk factor most closely associated with neonatal death; thus, improvements in infant birth weight can contribute substantially to reductions in the infant mortality rate. As shown in Figure 24, low birth weight is somewhat more prevalent in Yavapai County (73 per thousand births) than it is in the state as a whole (71 per thousand). The Yavapai South PCA has a much lower rate (63 per thousand) than the rest of the county. All PCAs in the Region for which data are available meet the Healthy People 2020 Target of no more than 78 low birth weight infants per 1,000 live births.

**Figure 24. Average number of low birth weight (5.5 lbs or less) births (per 1,000 live births), 2000-2009**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

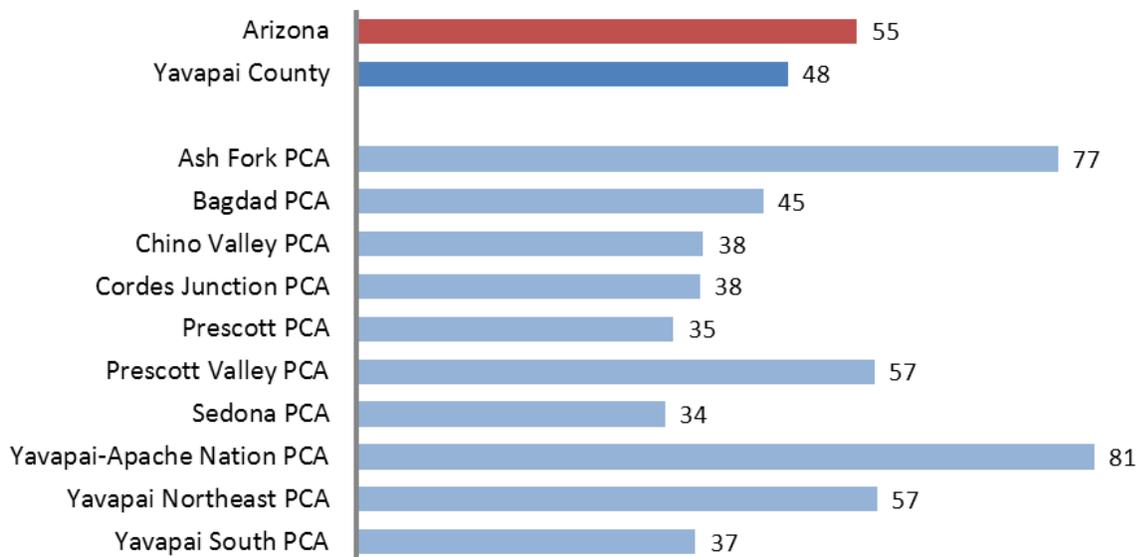
Smoking during pregnancy is a risk factor for low infant weight at birth, as well as preterm births and intrauterine growth retardation. For births during 2010, about 5 percent of women in Arizona reported smoking during pregnancy. In Yavapai County, however, the rate was much higher: 12 percent. (See Appendix D.) Of the 1,817 babies born in 2010, 216 were exposed to tobacco *in utero*. Low income children birth to 5 enrolled in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutritional support program show even higher rates of exposure: 31 percent of children were exposed to smoking in the household, compared to 14 percent of children enrolled in WIC statewide.<sup>26</sup> In contrast, the prevalence of alcohol use in pregnancy was much lower: only about one-half of one percent of Yavapai mothers reported drinking during pregnancy (which was virtually equal to the rate of alcohol use statewide).

Another factor related to low birth weight is birth to a teenage mother, particularly if the teenage mother is under 18 years of age. Teenage parenthood is also associated with other health concerns for infants, including neonatal death, sudden infant death syndrome, child abuse and neglect, and puts infants at risk for behavioral and

<sup>26</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Nutrition and Physical Activity, AZ Pediatric and Pregnancy Surveillance Systems, 2009-2011

educational problems later<sup>27</sup>. In addition, teenage mothers are less likely to get or stay married, less likely to complete high school or college, and more likely to require public assistance and to live in poverty than their peers who are not mothers.

**Figure 25. Average number of teen births per 1,000 females 14-19 years old, 2000-2009**



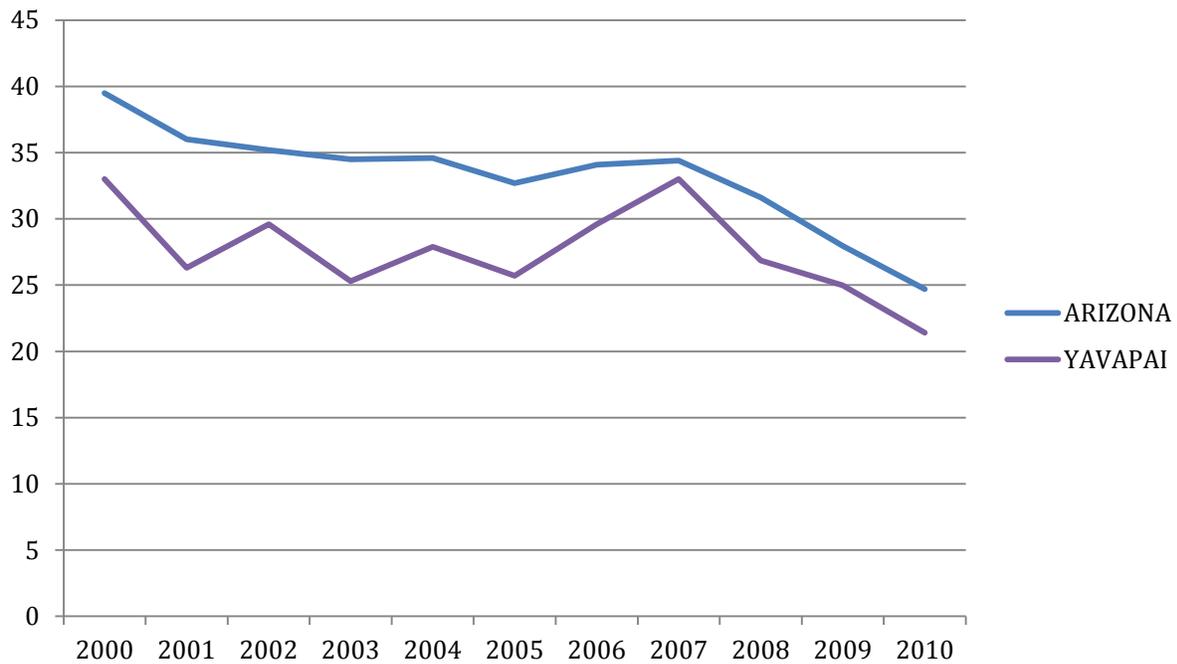
Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

Teen pregnancy and birth continues to be a statewide issue in Arizona, which ranks fifth highest nationally for teen births (Guttmacher Institute, 2010), with a birthrate 23 percent higher than the most recent national estimates (22 per thousand females, 15 to 17 years old). Although the number of teen births in Arizona has dramatically decreased in recent years, Arizona still has the 6<sup>th</sup> highest teen birth rate nationally<sup>28</sup>. In 2010, about 11 percent of all births in Arizona were to mothers under the age of 20. Yavapai County had a similar rate: 12 percent. In both the state and the county, about 3 percent of births were to mothers younger than 18, those for whom the risks are the highest.

<sup>27</sup> Office of Population Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, 2010

<sup>28</sup> Arizona Indicators. (Nov. 2011). *Arizona Directions Report 2012: Fostering Data-Driven Dialogue in Public Policy*. Whitsett, A.

**Figure 26. Trends in teen pregnancy rates per 1,000 females 19 or less, 2000-2010 in Arizona and in Yavapai County**

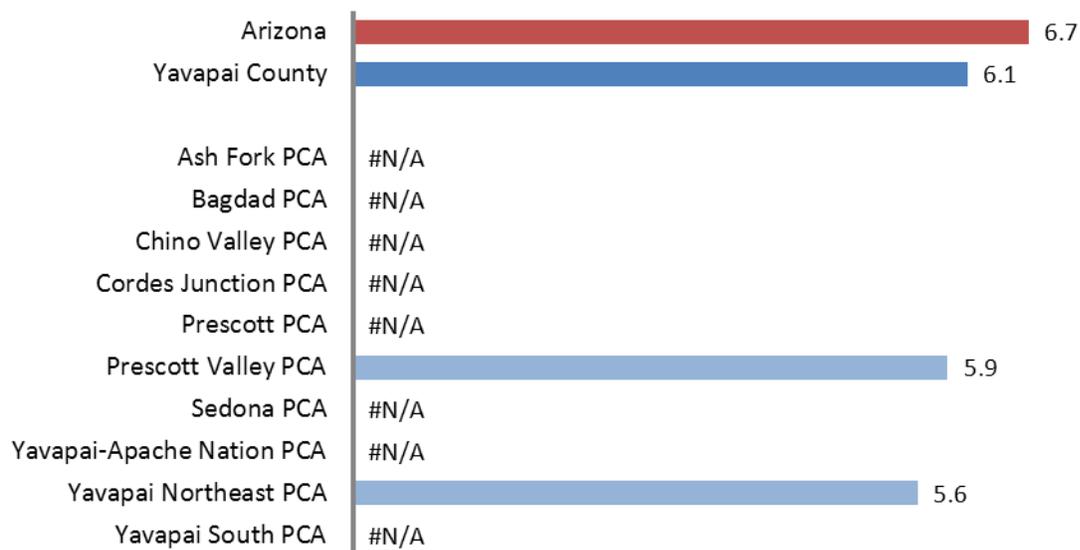


Because teen parenthood has so many far-reaching consequences for mother and baby alike, these rates, though falling, indicate that teen parenthood education and services for teen parents may be important strategies to consider in order to improve the well-being of young children in the Region.

One of the consequences that has been linked to high teen birth rates, among other factors, is high infant mortality. Yavapai County has a slightly lower infant mortality rate (6.1 deaths in the first year of life, per thousand live births) than the state (6.7 per thousand). The Healthy People 2020 target for all infant deaths is no more than 6 infant deaths per thousand live births.

Because infant deaths are relatively infrequent, it is difficult to calculate meaningful estimates of mortality in less populous areas. During calendar year 2010, there were only 10 infant deaths recorded in Yavapai County. As Figure 26 shows, rates are available only for the Prescott Valley PCA (5.9) and the Yavapai Northeast PCA (5.6).

**Figure 27. Average infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 2000-2009**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

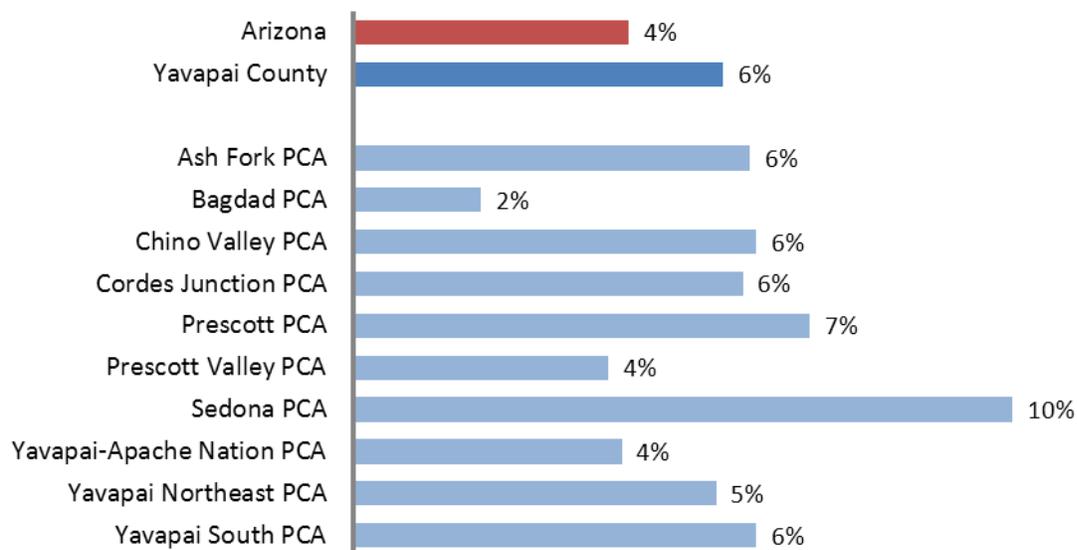
### Insurance coverage for births

Statewide, about 55 percent of mothers used a public payer (AHCCCS or IHS) to cover birth expenses in 2010. In Yavapai County, about 65 percent did so.

Statewide, about 3 percent of mothers had no insurance for their birth expenses in 2010. In Yavapai County, about 4 percent had no coverage. The percentage of uninsured births was low (2%) in the Bagdad PCA, but high in the Sedona PCA (10%).

Additional details on pregnancy and birth in the state and Yavapai County can be found in Appendix D.

**Figure 28. Average percent of uninsured births**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

### AHCCCS Coverage

Children in Arizona are covered by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), Arizona’s Medicaid, through both the Title XIX program (Traditional Medicaid and the Proposition 204 expansion of this coverage of up to 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level or FPL) and the Title XXI program (KidsCare) (Arizona State Legislature, Joint Legislative Budget Committee, 2010).

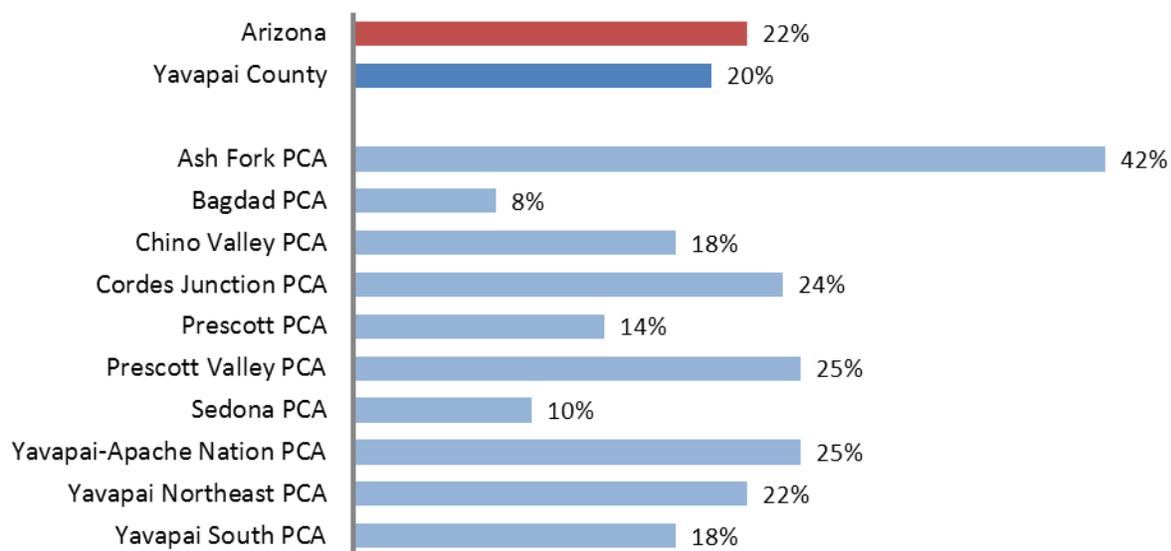
As shown in Table 21 and Figure 28 below, about 19 percent of the population of Yavapai County is enrolled in AHCCCS. The number of persons enrolled has not changed much from 2010 to 2011. The rate of participation is higher in the Ash Fork PCA (42%) and lower in the Bagdad and Sedona PCAs.

**Table 23. Enrollment in AHCCCS**

	ARIZONA	YAVAPAI COUNTY
AHCCCS Enrollment, December 2010	1,347,614	39,264
AHCCCS Enrollment, December 2011	1,336,141	38,045
Population (all ages)	6,110,304	205,479
Percent of population enrolled in AHCCCS	22%	20%
Population in poverty (all ages)	933,113	28,134
Percent of population in poverty	15%	14%

Source: AHCCCS (2012) and American Community Survey (2006-2010)

**Figure 29. Enrollment in AHCCCS as a percentage of the total population, 2010**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

Arizona's state Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is called KidsCare. It offers free or affordable health insurance for children 18 years of age or younger who do not qualify for employer-based health coverage or for Medicaid through Title XIX.

KidsCare operates as part of the AHCCCS program and provides coverage for children in households with incomes between 100%-200% of the Federal Poverty Level, with a monthly premium paid by the family. However, due to budget cuts at the state level, enrollment in the KidsCare Program has been frozen since January 1, 2010. A waiting list was established in the event that the freeze is lifted. When an application is submitted, the Department of Economic Security first verifies whether the child is eligible for AHCCCS Health Insurance. If the child is not eligible for AHCCCS Health Insurance, but may be eligible for KidsCare, the application is referred to the KidsCare Office to be added to a waiting list.

Beginning May 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013, a temporary new program called KidsCare II became available for a limited number of eligible children. KidsCare II is the result of an agreement between AHCCCS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and three hospital systems in the state: UA Health Network, Phoenix Children's Hospital, and Maricopa Integrated Health Systems. The Safety Net Care Pool (SNCP) program provides hospitals with funds to cover the costs for providing uncompensated care to AHCCCS members or to the uninsured. CMS approval of the SNCP program was contingent on making a portion of the funding available to provide coverage to children in the KidsCare program. As the three hospital systems agreed, the KidsCare II program started to enroll children that had been placed in the KidsCare waiting list.

KidsCare II has the same benefits and premium requirements as KidsCare, but with a lower income limit for eligibility; it is only open to children in households with incomes from 100% to 175% of the Federal Poverty Level, based on family size. Monthly premium payments, however, are lower for KidsCare II than for KidsCare. At the end of the KidsCare II coverage period, AHCCCS will assist children enrolled in this program to transition to the Health Insurance Exchange, expected to be open for enrollment and coverage by that date.

Table 24 shows how sharply the enrollment in KidsCare has declined over the past two years. Enrollment in the county declined 68 percent from 2009 to 2011, which is similar to the rate of decrease in the state (70%).

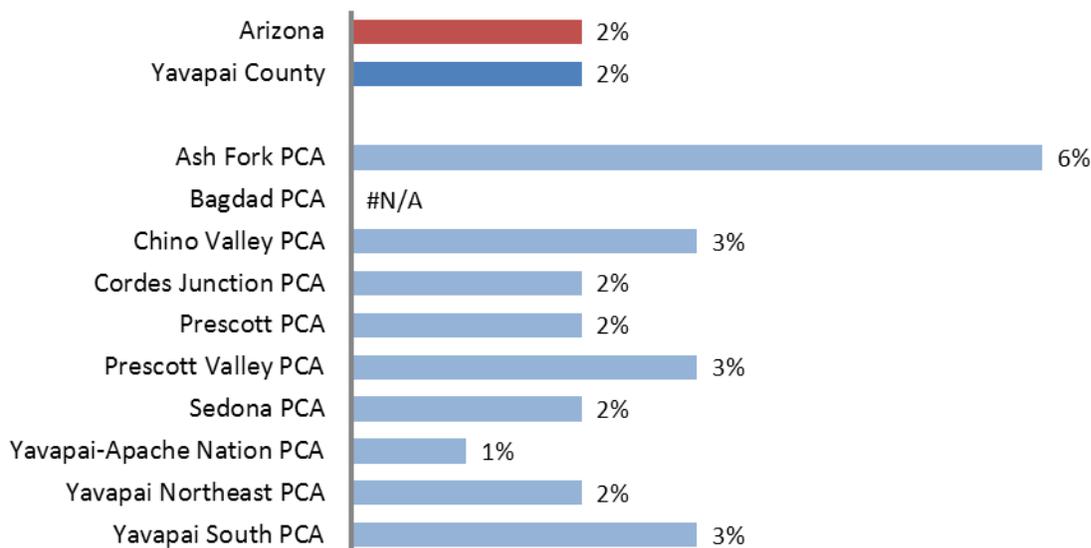
Countywide, about 2 percent of all children under 18 years old are enrolled in Kids Care. The Ash Fork PCA has a higher rate (6%) than other communities.

**Table 24. Enrollment in Arizona's KidsCare program**

	ARIZONA	YAVAPAI COUNTY
KidsCare enrollment, November 2009	46,750	1,518
KidsCare enrollment, November 2010	25,086	874
KidsCare enrollment, November 2011	14,225	483
Decrease from November 2009 to November 2011	-70%	-68%

Source: AHCCCS (2012) and ACS (2006-2010)

**Figure 30. Enrollment in KidsCare, as a percentage of the population of children (ages 0 to 7), 2010**



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, January 2012

## **Developmental Screenings and Services for Children with Special Developmental and Health Care Needs**

The Arizona Child Find program is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that requires states to identify and evaluate all children with disabilities (birth through age 21) in an attempt to assure that they receive the supports and services they need. Children are identified through physicians, parent referrals, school districts and screenings at community events. The National Survey on Children with Special Health Care Needs (2009/2010) estimates that 7.6 percent of children from birth to 5 in Arizona have special health care needs, defined broadly as “those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally”<sup>29</sup>.

Screening and evaluation for children from birth to three are provided by the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), who also provide services or make referrals to other appropriate agencies (e.g. for Department of Developmental Disabilities case management). Children eligible for AzEIP services are those who have not reached 50 percent of the developmental milestones for his or her age in one or more of the following areas:

- physical,
- cognitive,
- communication/language,
- social/emotional, or
- adaptive self-help.

Children who are at high risk for developmental delay because of an established condition (e.g., prematurity, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, among others) are also eligible. Families who have a child who is determined to be eligible for services work with the service provider to develop an individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) that identifies family priorities, desired child and family outcomes, and the services needed to support attainment of those outcomes.

AzEIP providers can offer, where available, an array of services to eligible children and their families, including assistive technology, audiology, family training, counseling and in-home visits, health services, medical services for diagnostic evaluation purposes, nursing services, nutrition, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological

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<sup>29</sup> U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, 2010

services, service coordination, social work, special instruction, speech-language therapy, vision services, and transportation (to enable the child and family to participate in early intervention services). High Country Early Intervention Program provides AzEIP services to the Yavapai Region.

The most recent AzEIP Public Report (FY2008-2009) showed that the Yavapai area met the state target (based on other state and national benchmarks) of assuring that at least 1.80 percent of infants and children aged 0-3 years of age in the area had an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) in place<sup>30</sup>. The Yavapai program had an actual rate of 1.90 percent. In addition, the Yavapai program was one of only three areas in the state that met the state target (.74%) of IFSPs for infants 0-1 years (with a .75% actual rate). The only performance indicator in which the Yavapai area did not meet the state target was in assuring that referrals were followed up by evaluation/assessment and IFSP (where appropriate), within 45 days. Eighty-two percent of the cases had follow-up within this time period, compared to the state target of 100 percent.

In FY 2009-2010, there were 349 referrals to AzEIP for evaluation in the Yavapai Region, and 222 children were found to be eligible for services. This represents a 31 percent increase over the 153 children served in FY 2008-2009. Although AzEIP services are increasing, there was a slight drop in the number of children being served by the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). In 2007, 76 infants and children under three years of age were receiving services from DDD. Although this number increased to 82 in 2009, it fell to 72 in 2010, a decrease of 6 percent from 2007. In 2007, 76 children aged three to six were receiving services, falling to 72 in 2009 and 66 in 2010, a decrease of 15 percent. In contrast, the DDD caseload across the entire state increased by about five percent for both age groups from 2007 to 2009 (Arizona Department of Economic security, 2007, 2009).

Children over age three with developmental delays are supported by the public schools in their home district that are responsible for “finding” and evaluating eligible children, and for arranging appropriate classes and therapies. If the school, parents or other provider feel that the child is delayed sufficiently to qualify for Department of Developmental Disabilities, a referral can be made. About 13 percent of children enrolled in preschool and elementary schools across the Region are receiving special education services. Three school districts in the Region report that greater than one in five children enrolled in preschool or elementary school are receiving these services from their district. (See Table 24.)

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<sup>30</sup> Arizona Department of Economic Security, Arizona Early Intervention Program, 2010

**Table 25. Preschool and Elementary Children Enrolled in Special Education, by School District**

SCHOOL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
Ash Fork Joint Unified District	2	150	25	17%
Bagdad Unified District	2	246	42	17%
Beaver Creek Elementary District	1	280	49	18%
Camp Verde Unified District	2	788	87	11%
Canon Elementary District	1	154	21	14%
Chino Valley Unified District	4	1,224	139	11%
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary District	1	347	30	9%
Congress Elementary District	1	96	11	11%
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary District	5	1,613	183	11%
Crown King Elementary District	1	4	0	0%
Hillside Elementary District	1	26	3	12%
Humboldt Unified District	7	3,406	492	14%
Kirkland Elementary District	1	59	9	15%
Mayer Unified School District	1	225	52	23%
Prescott Unified District	8	2,654	375	14%
Sedona-Oak Creek Unified District	2	574	48	8%
Seligman Unified District	1	62	9	15%
Skull Valley Elementary District	1	21	5	24%
Yarnell Elementary District	1	44	13	30%

SOURCE: ADE Preschool & Elementary Needs, 2011

**Immunizations**

Yavapai County has as the lowest immunization rates for young children in the state. Only 51 percent of two-year-old children had the recommended vaccinations for their age. The rate drops to only 13 percent if the Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) is taken into account.

**Behavioral Health**

Researchers and early childhood practitioners have come to recognize the importance

of healthy social and emotional development in infants and young children<sup>31</sup>. Infant and toddler mental health is the young child's developing capacity to "experience, regulate and express emotions; form close interpersonal relationships; and explore the environment and learn"<sup>32</sup>. A number of interacting factors influence the young child's healthy development, including biological factors (which can be affected by prenatal and postnatal experiences), environmental factors, and relationship factors<sup>33</sup>. Warm, nurturing, responsive, and consistent interactions can be protective factors for young children and help buffer them from adversities<sup>33</sup>. Young children who experience exposure to abuse, neglect or trauma, however, are more likely to show abnormal patterns of development, including distractibility, abnormal patterns of emotion expression, disruptions in feeding and sleeping, and developmental delays in motor and language skills<sup>34</sup>. In addition, young children in families who experience food insecurity have been shown to be at risk for poorer social, emotional and cognitive outcomes, largely through the effects of food insecurity on maternal depression and parenting practices<sup>35</sup>.

A continuum of services to address prevention and treatment in infant and toddler mental health has been proposed by a number of national organizations. These components would include 1) incorporating awareness of infant and toddler mental health issues in early childhood care and education programs, home visiting programs, and health-related programs to promote infant mental health and prevent mental health challenges; 2) providing focused interventions to children and families who may be more at risk for developing mental health problems (for example, families experiencing chronic illness, homelessness, high stress, abuse, substance use, or children with physical health problems); and 3) providing intensive services with mental health professionals for infants, toddlers and their families who face very challenging situations and experience traumatic events that lead to mental health concerns, in order to return them to positive developmental progress<sup>33</sup>.

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<sup>31</sup> *Research Synthesis: Infant Mental health and Early Care and Education Providers*. Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning. Accessed online, May 2012: [http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/documents/rs\\_infant\\_mental\\_health.pdf](http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/documents/rs_infant_mental_health.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> Zero to Three Infant Mental Health Task force Steering Committee, 2001

<sup>33</sup> Zenah P, Stafford B., Nagle G., Rice T. *Addressing Social-Emotional Development and Infant Mental Health in Early Childhood Systems*. Los Angeles, CA: National Center for Infant and Early Childhood Health Policy; January 2005. Building State Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Series, No. 12

<sup>34</sup> Scheeringa, M. S., & Zeanah, C. H. (1995). Symptom expression and trauma variables in children under 48 months of age. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 16(4), 259–270.

<sup>35</sup> Zaslow, Bronte-Tinkew, Capps, Horowitz, Moore, and Weinstein (2008) Food Security During Infancy: Implications for Attachment and Mental Proficiency in Toddlerhood. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 13 (1), 66-80.

In 2011, over 205,000 Arizonans were enrolled in the public behavioral health system. According to Arizona Department of Health data, 64,277 (21.3%) of enrollees were children or adolescents; children aged 0-5 comprised 3.8 percent of all enrollees<sup>36</sup>, or approximately 8,000 young children statewide. With about 546,600 children aged birth to 5 in Arizona, this means that about one percent of young children statewide are receiving care in the public behavioral health system<sup>37</sup>. It is likely that there are a much higher proportion of young children in need of these types of services than are receiving them. The lack of highly trained mental health professionals with expertise in early childhood, particularly in more rural areas, has been noted as one barrier to meeting the full continuum of service needs for young children.

One strategy proposed for addressing the lack of local specialists in early childhood mental health is to better equip healthcare and other service providers to meet infant mental health needs and to serve as effective sources of referral<sup>38</sup>. In an effort to promote this approach, the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council supports mental health consultation services for child care providers in the Region through the Smart Support program, provided by Prevent Child Abuse Arizona. This program provides masters-level early childhood mental health consultants who work with ADHS licensed or DES regulated providers to design an individualized plan that may include training, consultation, implementation of classroom strategies and resources or referrals for specific children or situations.

**Table 26. Enrollment in the public behavioral health system**

<b>COUNTIES</b>	<b>REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY</b>	<b>NUMBER ENROLLED</b>	<b>PERCENT OF CLIENTS ENROLLED STATEWIDE</b>
Apache, Coconino, Mohave, Navajo, and Yavapai	Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA)	27,819	13%

Source: Division of Behavioral Health Services, Arizona Department of Health Services, 2012

<sup>36</sup> Division of Behavioral Health Services, Arizona Department of Health Services. (2012). *An Introduction to Arizona's Public Behavioral Health System*. Phoenix, Arizona.

<sup>37</sup> Woodworth, R. (1994,). Grandparent-headed households and their grandchildren: A special report. Washington, DC: AARP Grandparent Information Center.

<sup>38</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000). Report of the Surgeon General's Conference on Children's Mental Health: A National Action Agenda. Washington, DC: Author.

## Oral Health

Oral health is an essential component of a young child's overall health and well-being, as dental disease is strongly correlated with both socio-psychological and physical health problems, including impaired speech development, poor social relationships, decreased school performance, diabetes, and cardiovascular problems. A recent report on oral health care needs by the Arizona Governor's Office found that one of the critical needs in the state is public education about this direct relationship between oral health and overall well-being<sup>39</sup>. In early childhood, the educational needs include awareness that tooth decay can be caused by bacteria passed from caregivers to infants and young children<sup>40</sup>.

Although pediatricians and dentists recommend that children should have their first dental visit by age one, half of Arizona children 0-4 have never seen a dentist. In a statewide survey conducted by the ADHS Office of Oral Health, parents cited affordability (12%), difficulties in finding a provider who will see very young children (34%), and belief that the young child does not need to see a dentist (46%) as primary reasons for not taking their child to the dentist<sup>41</sup>.

Screenings conducted in Arizona preschools in 2008-2009 found that 28 percent of children aged 0-4 had untreated tooth decay, with 37 percent of four year olds being identified as needing dental care within weeks to avoid more significant problems. Three percent of four year olds were identified as having urgent treatments due to severe decay<sup>42</sup>. Arizona had nearly twice the proportion of children aged 2-4 with untreated tooth decay (30%) compared to the US as a whole (16%) and were more than three times higher than the Healthy People 2010 target of 9 percent. Untreated decay was highest amongst children whose parents had less than a high school education<sup>43</sup>.

The costs of dental care can be prohibitive for families not covered by insurance. A 2011 survey of dental providers across the state found that self-pay costs for new patient exams (with x-rays and cleaning) ranged from \$240 to \$260 in Yavapai County,

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<sup>39</sup> Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (2011). *Oral Healthcare for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Arizona*. <http://www.azgovernor.gov/DDPC/documents/Reports/OralHealthcareElect2012.pdf>

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/engpacifier.pdf>;  
<http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/1%20to%203.pdf>

<sup>41</sup> Office of Oral Health, Arizona Department of Health Services. (2009). *Arizona Oral Health Survey of Preschool Children*.

<sup>42</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, Office of Oral Health [http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/FactSheet\\_Oral%20Health\\_Preschool.pdf](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/FactSheet_Oral%20Health_Preschool.pdf)

<sup>43</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, Office of Oral Health [http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/FactSheet2\\_Oral%20Health\\_Preschool.pdf](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ooh/pdf/FactSheet2_Oral%20Health_Preschool.pdf)

and that costs for cavity fillings ranged from \$85 to \$300 in the county<sup>44</sup>. However, the costs of avoiding early care can be higher. The Arizona Department of Health Services Office of Oral Health notes that even young children with tooth decay can require crowns (\$700-\$1,100), root canals (\$450-\$900) and/or extractions (\$95-\$300).

### **Overweight and Obesity**

Overweight children are at increased risk for becoming obese. Childhood obesity is associated with a number of health and psycho-social problems, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, Type 2 diabetes and asthma. Childhood obesity is also strong predictor of adult obesity, with its related health risks. As is the case with adults, childhood obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority children<sup>45</sup>. National surveillance data indicate that there has been a rapid increase in obese youth aged 10 to 17 in Arizona, rising from about 12 percent in 2003 to about 18 percent in 2007<sup>46</sup>.

Data on the weight status of low-income young children in Yavapai County enrolled in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program are available through the Pediatric and Pregnancy Surveillance Systems<sup>47</sup>. These data show that a lower proportion of young children enrolled in WIC in Yavapai County are overweight and obese compared to other low-income children statewide. In fact, young children in Yavapai County nearly meet the Healthy People 2020 target of no higher than 9.6 percent of children two to five years old meeting the criteria for obesity.

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<sup>44</sup> Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (2011). *Oral Healthcare for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Arizona*. <http://www.azgovernor.gov/DDPC/documents/Reports/OralHealthcareElect2012.pdf>, page 35

<sup>45</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2010). Obesity prevalence among low-income, preschool-aged children—United States, 1998-2008 <http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?volume=303&issue=1&page=28>

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/bnp/nupao/documents/TFAH2010FasInFat06.pdf>

<sup>47</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Nutrition and Physical Activity, AZ Pediatric and Pregnancy Surveillance Systems, 2009-2011

**Table 27. Overweight, Obesity and Breastfeeding in Yavapai County (2009-2011)**

	HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 TARGET	ARIZONA WIC	YAVAPAI COUNTY WIC
Percent Overweight (age 2-5)	xx	16%	14%
Percent Obese (age 2-5)	9.6%	14%	10%
Percent Breastfed Ever	82%	65%	86%
Percent Breastfed at least 6 months	61%	26%	43%
Percent Breastfed at least 6 months (exclusive breastfeeding)	26%	6%	17%

Source: Arizona 2009-2011 Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance, Table 6B; Arizona 2009-2011 Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance, Table 7b; Healthy People 2020, Maternal, Infant and Child Health & Nutrition and Weight Status

Studies have shown that breastfeeding, particularly exclusive breastfeeding, has a protective effect against pediatric overweight, and that effect may persist into the teenage years and adulthood<sup>48</sup>. The rates of breastfeeding in the Yavapai County WIC population are substantially higher than the rates among other WIC participants across the state, and even meet the Healthy People 2020 Target for the proportion who have ever breastfed.

A 2012 survey of child care providers in Yavapai County found only seven who were participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This program, funded by the USDA and administered by the Arizona Department of Education, can reimburse child care centers or home-based providers all or part of the cost of providing nutritious meals and snacks to children in care. The CACFP also provides nutrition education. (Source: Grady, Ending child hunger in Yavapai County, June 2012).

The Economic Research Service of the USDA identified three census tracts in Yavapai County as *food deserts*. These are areas in which low-income residents live far from supermarkets and large grocery stores, making it difficult for them to buy healthy food. Two of these tracts are in rural areas: One in the north, including Ash Fork and

<sup>48</sup> Centers for Disease Control (2007). Research to Practice Series, No. 4. Accessed at: [http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/nutrition/pdf/breastfeeding\\_r2p.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/nutrition/pdf/breastfeeding_r2p.pdf)

Seligman, and the other in the south, roughly corresponding to the Yavapai South community. The third tract is in the town of Prescott Valley, generally to the east of North Robert Road. The food deserts were identified using data from the 2000 US Census and a 2006 listing of supermarkets and grocery stores. It is uncertain if the food-desert analyses will be updated with 2010 Census data.

### **Child Fatalities**

Since 2005, the Arizona Child Fatality Review Program has reviewed the death of every child who died in the state. In 2010, there were 862 child fatalities (aged birth to 18). Of these, 75 percent (645) were young children between birth and 5 years old<sup>49</sup>. Most of these deaths (334, or 52%) were during the neonatal period (birth-27 days), and were due to natural causes (prematurity, congenital anomalies, and other medical conditions). About one-third (192, or 30%) were during infancy (28-365 days), of which over half were due to natural causes, and one quarter were undetermined (primarily attributed to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome). Nearly one in five deaths in early childhood (119, or 18%) was of children one to four years of age. In this age group, natural causes continued to be a leading feature (44%), but accidental deaths (including drowning) are higher in this older age group (44%). Fifteen children across the state between birth and five were victims of homicide in 2010.

The Child Fatality Review Teams review each death and make a determination of preventability for each death, after reviewing all available information on the circumstances (in 10% of cases, there were unable to determine preventability). Based on these reviews, the teams concluded that 11 percent of perinatal deaths, 38 percent of infant deaths, and 54 percent of young child deaths were preventable.

The Child Fatality Review Teams also make a determination of whether the death can be classified as maltreatment by parent, guardian or caretaker, based on their acting, or failing to act, in a way that presents a risk of serious harm to the child. Nine percent (55) of all deaths of children from birth to five were classified as maltreatment. These may have been classified as homicide (e.g., due to abusive head trauma), natural (e.g., prenatal substance use that resulted in premature birth, or failure to seek medical care), or accidental (e.g., unintentional injuries caused by negligence or impaired driving).

There were 20 child fatalities in Yavapai County in 2010; 14 (70%) of those were children between birth and five years old. Detailed data by age group were not available at the county level, but the causes and manner of death across age groups are presented in Table 25. There were no child homicides or suicides in Yavapai County in

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<sup>49</sup> Arizona Child Fatality Review Program, 2010 [http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/cfr/Eighteenth-Annual-CFR-Report\\_Nov2011.pdf](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/cfr/Eighteenth-Annual-CFR-Report_Nov2011.pdf)

2010. Although the pattern of causes was similar to other areas of Arizona (with medical causes and prematurity as leading causes), drowning deaths (15 percent) were higher than in the remainder of Arizona, where they accounted for four percent of deaths<sup>50</sup>.

The Yavapai County Child Fatality Review Team determined that 6 (30%) of the deaths were preventable; that drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor in 10 (50%) of the deaths; that lack of supervision was a contributing factor in 7 (35%) of deaths; and that an unsafe sleep environment contributed to one death (5%).

**Table 28. Deaths Among Children in Yavapai County During 2010 (n=20)**

CAUSE OF DEATH	MANNER OF DEATH			TOTAL
	NATURAL	ACCIDENT	UNDETERMINED	
Medical*	8	0	0	8
Prematurity	4	0	0	4
Drowning	0	3	0	3
Undetermined	1	0	2	3
Poisoning	0	1	0	1
Fire/Burn	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>

\*Excludes prematurity and SIDS

Source: Arizona Child Fatality Review Program

<sup>50</sup> Arizona Child Fatality Review Program, 2010  
<http://azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/cfrr/2010/2010YavapaiCounty.pdf>

## Family Support

### Parental Involvement

Parental involvement has been identified as a key factor in the positive growth and development of children<sup>51</sup>, and educating parents about the importance of engaging in activities with their children that are contributory to development has become an increasing focus. The table below contains survey data illustrating parental involvement in a variety of activities known to contribute positively to healthy development, as described by the Arizona Health Survey. The Arizona Health Survey parses survey data into 5 different regions. Yavapai County falls into their northern region, which also includes Mohave, Coconino, Navajo, and Apache counties. On the questions relating to parental involvement, parents in the northern region reported being engaged in developmental activities with their children somewhat more frequently than parents across the state as a whole.

**Table 29. Parental Involvement in Child's Growth and Development**

ACTIVITY	REPORTED FREQUENCY	ARIZONA	MOHAVE, COCONINO, NAVAJO, APACHE, & YAVAPAI COUNTIES
READ OR TELL STORIES	7 days per week	66%	74%
	3 to 6 days per week	24%	20%
	2 or fewer days per week	10%	6%
PLAY MUSIC OR SING	7 days per week	71%	72%
	3 to 6 days per week	19%	23%
	2 or fewer days per week	10%	5%
GO TO PARK	every day	19%	23%
	3 to 6 days per month	25%	24%
	2 or fewer days per month	56%	54%
GO TO THE LIBRARY	every day	58%	61%
	3 to 6 days per month	20%	16%
	2 or fewer days per month	22%	24%

Source: Arizona Health Survey, 2010

<sup>51</sup> Bruner, C. & Tirmizi, S. N. (2010). *The Healthy Development of Arizona's Youngest Children*. Phoenix, AZ: St. Luke's Health Initiatives and First Things First.

Poverty status and educational status emerged as important factors influencing parental involvement. Higher poverty rates were generally associated with less frequent engagement in development activities, and higher levels of education were generally associated with more frequent engagement in development activities. One exception to this was frequency of library visits; less educated adults were *more* likely to take their children to the library on a daily basis.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect**

Child abuse and neglect can have serious adverse developmental impacts, and infants and toddlers are at the greatest risk for negative outcomes. Infants and toddlers who have been abused or neglected are six times more likely than other children to suffer from developmental delays. Later in life, it is not uncommon for maltreated children to experience school failure, engage in criminal behavior, or struggle with mental and/or physical illness. However, research has demonstrated that although infants and toddlers are the most vulnerable to maltreatment, they are also most positively impacted by intervention, which has been shown to be particularly effective with this age group. This research underscores the importance of early identification of and intervention to child maltreatment, as it cannot only change the outlook for young children, but also ultimately save state and federal agencies money in the usage of other services<sup>52</sup>.

The Arizona Department of Economic Security's Division of Children, Youth and Families is the state-administrated child welfare services agency that oversees Child Protective Services (CPS), the state program mandated for the protection of children alleged to abuse and neglected. This program investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect, performs assessments of child safety, assesses the imminent risk of harm to the children, and evaluates conditions that support or refute the alleged abuse or neglect and need for emergency intervention. CPS also provides services designed to stabilize a family in crisis and to preserve the family unit by reducing safety and risk factors.

Child welfare numbers are difficult to interpret across years because they are influenced by numerous factors, including the availability of trained staff to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect, the services available to maintain children safely in their home, and the availability of out-of-home placements. The 2011 semi-annual report on child welfare in Arizona acknowledged that the work of the Division of Children, Youth and Families has been hampered by vacancies in specialist positions, economic factors creating increasingly complex family situations, and a reduction in behavioral health services for both adults and children. The report also notes challenges in substantiating

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<sup>52</sup> Zero to Three: National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families. (2010). *Changing the Odds for Babies: Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers*. Washington, DC: Hudson, Lucy.

many allegations of abuse and neglect due to omissions in current state laws about many situations related to child sexual abuse or neglect<sup>53</sup>.

Data on the number of children removed from their homes by CPS is available by zip code. The table below shows the number of removals by the identified communities in the Region from 2007 to 2010.

**Table 30. Number of children (all ages) removed**

GEOGRAPHY	CALENDAR YEAR 2007	CALENDAR YEAR 2009	CALENDAR YEAR 2010
ARIZONA	7,418	7,532	7,872
Ash Fork community	0	8	9
Bagdad community	4	0	1
Chino Valley community	30	15	35
Cordes Junction community	4	7	9
Prescott community	38	32	35
Prescott Valley community	58	50	47
Sedona community	4	3	2
Yavapai Northeast community	59	44	48
Yavapai South community	12	6	5

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families, 2011

### **Incarcerated Parents**

In Arizona, 3 percent of youth under 18 are estimated to have one or more incarcerated parents. This statistic includes an estimated 6,194 incarcerated mothers and an estimated 46,873 incarcerated fathers, suggesting that in Arizona, there are over 650 times more incarcerated fathers than incarcerated mothers. This represents a population of Arizona youth who are at great risk for negative developmental outcomes. Previous research on the impact parental incarceration has on families demonstrates that parental incarceration dramatically increases the likelihood of marital hardship, troubling family relationships, and financial instability. Moreover, children who have incarcerated parents commonly struggle with stigmatization, shame and social

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<sup>53</sup> Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children, Youth and Families (2011). *Child Welfare Reporting Requirements Semi-Annual Report for the Period of October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011*. Phoenix, Arizona.

challenges, and are far more likely to be reported for school behavior and performance problems than children who do not have incarcerated parents<sup>54</sup>.

The emotional risk to very young children (0-5) is particularly high. Losing a parent or primary caregiver to incarceration is a traumatic experience, and young children with incarcerated parents may exhibit symptoms of attachment disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and attention deficit disorder.<sup>55</sup> Studies show that children who visit their incarcerated parent(s) have better outcomes than those who are not permitted to do so<sup>56</sup> and the Arizona Department of Corrections states that it endeavors to support interactions between parents and incarcerated children, as long as interactions are safe<sup>57</sup>.

Regional and even statewide resources for caregivers of children with incarcerated parents are scarce. KARE, an Arizona Children's Association initiative, offers online informational brochures such as Arizona Family Members Behind Bars for caregivers of incarcerated parents. The Children of Prisoner's Library is an online library of pamphlets designed for caregivers and health care providers of children with incarcerated parents. These resources may be downloaded for free in English or Spanish at [fcnetwork.org/resources/library/children-of-prisoners-library](http://fcnetwork.org/resources/library/children-of-prisoners-library).

### **Domestic Violence**

Domestic violence includes both child abuse and intimate partner abuse. When parents (primarily women) are exposed to physical, psychological, sexual or stalking abuse by their partners, children can get caught in the crossfire in a variety of ways, thereby becoming direct or indirect targets of abuse, potentially jeopardizing their physical and emotional safety (e.g., Evans, Davies, & DeLillo, 2008)<sup>58</sup>. Therefore, promoting a safe home environment is key to providing a healthy start for young children.

The 2011 Domestic Violence Shelter Fund Report identifies child care, transitional housing, and transportation services as the most needed services statewide.

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<sup>54</sup> Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. Statistical Analysis Center. (2011). *Children of Incarcerated Parents: Measuring the Scope of the Problem*. USA. Phoenix: Statistical Analysis Center Publication.

<sup>55</sup> Adalist-Estrin, A., & Mustin, J. (2003). *Children of Prisoners Library: About Prisoners and Their Children*. Retrieved from <http://www.fcnetwork.org/cpl/CPL301-ImpactofIncarceration.html>.

<sup>56</sup> Adalist-Estrin, A. (1989). *Children of Prisoners Library: Visiting Mom and Dad*. Retrieved from <http://www.fcnetwork.org/cpl/CPL105-VisitingMom.html>.

<sup>57</sup> Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. Statistical Analysis Center. (2011). *Children of Incarcerated Parents: Measuring the Scope of the Problem*. USA. Phoenix: Statistical Analysis Center Publication.

<sup>58</sup> Evans, S. E., Davies, C., & DiLillo, D. (2008). Exposure to domestic violence: A meta-analysis of child and adolescent outcomes. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 13(2), 131–140. doi:10.1016/j.avb.2008.02.005.

There are two domestic violence organizations in Yavapai County, Stepping Stones in Prescott Valley and the Verde Valley Sanctuary in Sedona. (The locations of the shelters are confidential.) During the 2011 calendar year, 167 adults and 122 children received services for domestic violence in Yavapai County. The average length of stay in Yavapai County was 22 days, which is somewhat briefer than the statewide average of 29 days. Domestic violence shelters in Yavapai County received 4,280 hotline and Information & Referral calls, representing about 15 percent of such calls in the state.

**Table 31. Yavapai domestic violence shelters and services provided**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS	POPULATION SERVED			UNITS OF SERVICE PROVIDED			
	TOTAL SERVED	ADULTS	CHILDREN	BED NIGHTS	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY (IN DAYS)	HOURS OF SUPPORT SERVICES	HOTLINE AND I&R CALLS
ARIZONA	9,769	5,117	4,652	332,967	29	157,615	28,273
YAVAPAI COUNTY	289	167	122	7,989		5,008	4,280
Stepping Stones	148	88	60	3,719	22	4,176	285
Verde Valley Sanctuary	141	79	62	4,270	22	832	3,995

Source: Dept of Economic Security, Division of Aging and Adult Services: Domestic Violence Shelter Fund Report, SFY 2011.

In Arizona, a nine- agency State Agency Coordination Team (SACT) meets monthly to address issues of common concern for domestic violence and sexual assault programs across the state<sup>59</sup>. In 2010, the SACT convened a series of Regional Community Conversations to identify priorities to guide the development of policies, programs and services for domestic violence and other violent crime. A meeting was held for Yavapai County community members, attended by representatives of 11 agencies. The regional needs identified as priorities were: transportation; child care; mental health; basic needs; and criminal justice response and training<sup>60</sup>.

<sup>59</sup> The member agencies are: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC); Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES); Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS); Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS); Arizona Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC); Governor’s Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF); Office of the Arizona Attorney General (AG)

<sup>60</sup> State Agency Coordination Team (2010) Arizona Regional Community Conversations 2010. Provided by Arizona Department of Health Services

## Homelessness

In Arizona in 2011, 10,504 people were documented as homeless, designating a homelessness rate of 16 per 10,000. Of these people, 4,101 (39%) were part of families.

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) collects data from emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, permanent supportive housing, street outreach, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing, and service providers in all fifteen counties in Arizona. HMIS produces periodic program demographics report for each HMIS region, with the intent that this information may be used to assess local service needs. For data reporting, HMIS divides Arizona counties into designated Regions. Yavapai County falls under Region 2, which also includes Coconino County. For the purposes of this report, data were provided by HMIS for Yavapai County alone.<sup>61</sup>

A total of 476 clients were provided with homelessness services between July 2010 and July 2011. Of these, almost two-thirds (60%; 283 people) were identified as part of 73 families. There were 96 children (birth to 17) served, and one third of these (30) were children aged 0 to 5. One third of the children birth to five who were receiving homelessness services were on Medicaid (AHCCCS); only two were enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (aka, receiving food stamps), and only one was enrolled in WIC. Of those asked, about one third of the adults in families reported being victims of domestic violence.

A large proportion (77%) of the children 0 to 5 were served by the Housing Prevention & Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP). HPRP was an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA, aka Federal Stimulus) program that was designed to help prevent homelessness for persons about to lose their housing and to rapidly re-house those that recently became homeless. This was a three year program that started in 2009 and is now ending.

Key informants note that there are a limited number of shelters or transitional housing programs that serve families in the area, so the numbers reported may not capture the complete need for housing services in the Region. In fact, the school data presented in Table 31 show 484 elementary school-aged students across the Region identified as homeless, over 10 times the number of children 6-12 (47) served by homelessness service providers in the Region.

Schools in Arizona report to the ADE on the number of homeless students enrolled. Homeless students include those living in shelters or transitional housing; living doubled-up with another family; living in motels; and those who are unsheltered. Those

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<sup>61</sup> Source: Arizona Balance of State Homeless Management Information System (2010-2011).

data for the 2011-12 school year are reported in the table below, by district. The districts with the highest reported rates of homelessness among elementary students are Mayer (28%), Bagdad (13%), and Ash Fork (11%). The relatively high rate in Bagdad is unexpected, given the otherwise good economic indicators there. Bagdad is a copper mining community and is a company town; all housing and commercial buildings are owned by Freeport-McMoRan, which operates the mine. Housing in the area is highly subsidized for employees. As noted above, the definition of “homeless” used by school districts includes children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons, or who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Further data gathering that examines whether the low-cost housing in the area attracts extended family, or whether something else might be affecting this rate, would help shed light on this interesting finding.

**Table 32. Homeless students in Yavapai County elementary schools**

SCHOOL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	HOMELESS STUDENTS	
Ash Fork Joint Unified	2	150	17	11%
Bagdad Unified	2	246	33	13%
Beaver Creek Elementary	1	280	-	-
Camp Verde Unified	2	788	71	9%
Canon Elementary	1	154	3	2%
Chino Valley Unified	4	1,224	79	6%
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary	1	347	21	6%
Congress Elementary	1	96	-	-
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary	5	1,613	7	0%
Crown King Elementary	1	4	-	-
Hillside Elementary	1	26	-	-
Humboldt Unified	7	3,406	147	4%
Kirkland Elementary	1	59	-	-
Mayer Unified School	1	225	63	28%
Prescott Unified	8	2,654	43	2%
Sedona-Oak Creek Unified	2	574	-	-
Seligman Unified	1	62	-	-
Skull Valley Elementary	1	21	-	-
Yarnell Elementary	1	44	-	-

SOURCE: ADE Preschool & Elementary Needs, 2011

## Public Information and Awareness

The primary quantitative data source for Public Awareness in the Region is the First Things First Family and Community survey (FCS) (First Things First, 2009).

The overall results of the 2009 First Things First Family and Community Survey demonstrated challenges to access to and awareness of services for families with young children. For example:

- 38 percent of respondents indicated that the available family support services do not meet their family's needs
- 32 percent of respondents indicated that existing services do not adequately screen for problems or intervene appropriately
- 20 percent of respondents indicated that the available family support services are not offered at times that are convenient to them

Socioeconomic status emerged as an important factor in service satisfaction. Although less than a third of higher SES parents reported being dissatisfied with family support service comprehensiveness, 56 percent of lower SES parents reported being dissatisfied with the comprehensiveness of available services. Lower SES parents also reported more challenges in obtaining early intervention services<sup>62</sup>.

The Yavapai Regional Partnership Council sponsors a wide breadth of outreach efforts targeted at educating parents, caregivers and the general community about issues relevant to early childhood development. To date, these efforts have included: a variety of parent education classes and workshops about topics ranging from child cognitive development to effective communication strategies; home visitation programs; a public bullying workshop held in Prescott Valley to educate the community about bullying prevention; a disaster preparedness conference for early childhood professionals; outreach and education for new and expectant mothers about Perinatal Mood Disorders; and support groups for teen parents.

In addition, Yavapai Regional Partnership Council has co-sponsored a comprehensive resource and information guide for Yavapai County children since 2009. The Big & Little Kids Book is published and distributed throughout the county free of charge by the Yavapai County Community Foundation, which this year added an online version ([www.YavapaiKidsBook.org](http://www.YavapaiKidsBook.org)) to its print offering.

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<sup>62</sup> First Things First (2009). *Family and Community Survey on Early Childhood: A Baseline Report on Families and Coordination*. Phoenix, AZ.

## **System Coordination**

The Yavapai Region's emphasis on enhancing public awareness in each of its communities is a notable strength of the region, and these efforts may be further enhanced by strengthening the coordination among agencies and providers. Service coordination and inter-agency collaboration is enmeshed in some of these outreach efforts; for instance, the FTF-funded Best for Babies program brings together individuals who work with infants and toddlers in foster care, in order to encourage collaboration and coordination between them. Coordination of home-visiting services has been a focus of some of the Council's work recently. Moreover, the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council has identified developing a collaborative model of service implementation as a strategy in its FY 2013 funding plan. An organized forum in which all agencies are incentivized to come together to exchange information and develop strategies as a community of providers may further enhance service coordination, preventing the duplication of services and providing families with an increasingly holistic approach to care.

## Summary and Conclusion

This needs and assets report is the third biennial assessment of early education, health, and family support in the Yavapai Region. In addition to providing an overview of the region, this report looks more closely at some of the community-level variation within it. This report also provides an initial overview of the needs and assets for young children and their families on the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as outlined in Appendix J.

It is clear that the region has substantial strengths. We base this conclusion on the quantitative data reported here, as well as the qualitative data gathered on the Yavapai-Apache Nation. These strengths include: good health care availability in some areas of the region, relatively high breast feeding rates among WIC participants, and a developing cadre of quality child care providers. A table containing a full summary of these and other regional assets can be found in **Appendix G**.

However, there continue to be challenges to fully serving the needs of families with young children throughout the region. It is particularly important to recognize that there is considerable variability in the needs of families across the region. Although there are communities with many resources and opportunities, there are several pockets of high need in the Yavapai Region. These areas run the risk of being overlooked for services if only region or county-level “averages” are examined. A table containing a full summary of identified regional challenges can be found in **Appendix H**. Many of these have been recognized as ongoing issues by the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council and are being addressed by current First Things First-supported strategies in the region.

- **A need for affordable, high quality and accessible child care** – Although the region has a higher proportion of Quality First providers who have received a preliminary designation of “quality” based on the state-wide star rating system, than are found statewide, accessibility to that level of high quality care continues to pose a challenge to many families. Quality First and Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships will continue to be funded in order to address the need for affordable early childhood education. A strategy to increase the number of available child care slots and provide support for capital expansion also responds to the need of additional high quality child care opportunities, giving priority to outlying communities in the rural areas of the region. The Yavapai Regional Partnership Council is addressing the high rate of informal care seen throughout the region with its Family, Friend and Neighbor strategy, which provides education and resources to kith and kin caregivers.
- **Support for Native language and culture** – Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation expressed a need for language and culture revitalization efforts, as the number of fluent speakers of both Yavapai and Apache languages in the Nation has critically decreased. The Yavapai Regional Partnership Council has

acknowledged the need to support these efforts through its Native Language Enrichment strategy. This strategy will provide early literacy resources to be utilized by center and home-based early childhood care and education staff settings and also by parents of young children on the reservation.

A table of Yavapai Regional Partnership Council funded strategies for fiscal year 2013 is provided in **Appendix I**.

This report also highlighted some additional needs that could be considered as targets by stakeholders in the region.

- **Low immunization rates** – The Yavapai Region shows low immunization rates relative to state averages. Parent education around the importance of keeping young children up-to-date with their immunizations could be addressed through existing regional strategies such as Parent Outreach and Awareness and Home Visitation.
- **High rates of smoking during pregnancy** – Pregnant women in the region smoke at a higher rate than women in the state as whole, and low income children enrolled in WIC in the Region are exposed to tobacco smoke at twice the rate of other low-income children in the state. Educational services provided through the Prenatal Outreach strategy could put an emphasis on the health risks of smoking during pregnancy to the developing baby and young child and there may be a need for coordinated messaging across agencies serving young children and their families.
- **A need for additional early literacy activities in certain areas of the region** – Although AIMS passing rates in the region overall are similar to those in the state as a whole, children in some areas in the region are passing the test at much lower rates. Providing greater opportunities for early literacy in these communities will help ensure that children do not lag behind by the time they reach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- **An examination of family housing services, especially in areas with high foreclosure rates** – Some school districts report relatively high levels of homelessness among their students, compared to fairly low numbers of children served by homelessness service providers in the region. This may be an area of need worth exploring more closely, especially given that many of the services that had been available to families will no longer be available because of the time-limited nature of their funding. Finding ways to link families receiving homelessness services with other supports (e.g., nutritional support programs such as SNAP and WIC) may also be fruitful.

Successfully addressing the needs outlined in this report will require the continued concentrated effort of collaboration among First Things First and other state agencies, the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council and staff, local providers, and other community stakeholders in the region. Families are drawn to the Yavapai Region both for the intimacy of many of its communities and for the increasing number of opportunities available to its residents. These continued collaborative efforts have the long-term potential to make these opportunities available to more families across the Region.

## Appendix A: Child Care Centers and Family Providers in the Yavapai Region

CITY	ZIP	BUSINESS NAME	TELEPHONE	LICENSED CAPACITY	TYPE
Ash Fork	86320	NACOG Head Start	(928) 637-1027	25	Head Start Center
Bagdad	86321	Bagdad Special Needs Preschool	(928) 633-5974	25	Child Care Center
		Copper Kids Child Care & Early Learning Center	(928) 499-2819	90	Child Care Center
Black Canyon City	85324	NACOG Head Start	(623) 374-0417	20	Head Start Center
		SonShine Learning Center	(623) 680-2323	59	Child Care Center
Camp Verde	86322	Camp Verde Elem. Preschool	(928) 567-8060	25	Child Care Center
		Chester/Sunnyside Montessori/Charter School	(928) 567-2363	57	Child Care Center
		NACOG Head Start	(928) 567-3182	88	Head Start Center
		Parkside Christian Learning Center & Los Niños Preschool	(928) 567-6791	107	Child Care Center
		Rays of Sunshine Center	(928) 567-6299	71	Child Care Center
		South Verde Middle+High School	(928) 567-8076	9	Child Care Center
Chino Valley	86323	NACOG Head Start	(928) 636-1076	52	Head Start Center
		Cougar Lane Preschool (Chino Valley USD)	(928) 636-2299	45	Child Care Center
		Valley Learning Center	(928) 636-1656	135	Child Care Center
Clarkdale	86324	NACOG Head Start & Early Head Start (Yavapai)	(928) 634-8308	65	Head Start Center
Cornville	86325	Cornville C.A.S.P.E.R.	(928) 639-5109	67	Child Care Center
Cottonwood	86326	Accelerated Learning Charter School	(520) 208-3860	48	Child Care Center
		Buena Vista Children's Services (Bright Futures CC)	(928) 649-1330	59	Child Care Center

CITY	ZIP	BUSINESS NAME	TELEPHONE	LICENSED CAPACITY	TYPE
		Buena Vista Children's Services (Clarkdale Discovery Connection)	(928) 301-9105	43	Child Care Center
		First Steps Child Care	(928) 646-3377	59	Child Care Center
		Fitch Family Child Care	(928) 399-0700	4	Family Provider
		Flip City Gym-N-Learn Preschool	(928) 639-2852	25	Child Care Center
		Gwen's House Group Home	(928) 634-6184	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Hilltop Christian Preschool & Learning Center	(928) 634-7759	112	Child Care Center
		Kare Bear Child Care Center	(928) 634-9613	98	Child Care Center
		Kids Corner Group Home	(928) 639-2772	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Mimi's Day Care	(928) 301-4586	4	Family Provider
		NACOG Head Start (Cottonwood)	(928) 634-8236	84	Head Start Center
		Noah's Ark	(928) 649-1010	33	Child Care Center
		St. Joseph Catholic Montessori Preschool	(928) 649-0624	25	Child Care Center
		Verde Valley Montessori	(928) 634-3288	39	Child Care Center
Humboldt	86329	Kids Corral Preschool & Learning Center	(602) 558-3700	35	Child Care Center
Prescott	86301	American Lutheran Preschool	(928) 778-7049	166	Child Care Center
		Christian Academy of Prescott Preschool	(928) 445-2565	59	Child Care Center
		Cornerstone Christian Preschool	(928) 771-2754	69	Child Care Center
		Del E Web Family Enrichment Center (at Yavapai College)	(928) 776-2111	67	Child Care Center

CITY	ZIP	BUSINESS NAME	TELEPHONE	LICENSED CAPACITY	TYPE	
	86301	Kids & Co (at Washington Traditional School)	(928) 541-2295	49	Child Care Center	
		Mountain Oak Aftercare Program	(928) 541-7700	45	Child Care Center	
		Pine Grove Preschool & Aftercare	(928) 277-1424	39	Child Care Center	
		Prescott Discovery Gardens Early Childhood Center	(928) 442-1283	59	Child Care Center	
		Prescott YMCA Early Childhood Center	(928) 445-7221	245	Child Care Center	
		Sacred Heart Catholic Preschool	(928) 445-3141	59	Child Care Center	
	86303	Alynn's Family Child Care	(928) 420-6229	4	Family Provider	
		Cedar Tree Playhouse/ Montessori Preschool	(928) 771-8786	31	Child Care Center	
		Primavera School	(928) 445-5382	67	Child Care Center	
		The Children's Garden	(928) 777-9150	14	Child Care Center	
		The Little Club for Kids Group Home	(928) 777-3299	10	Family Provider (Group Home)	
		Trinity Christian Preschool	(928) 445-4536	25	Child Care Center	
	86305	NACOG Head Start	(928) 445-8534	84	Head Start Center	
		Prescott Child Development Center	(928) 778-1840	63	Child Care Center	
		Prescott Kids & Company (Miller Valley)	(928) 541-2295	84	Child Care Center	
	Prescott Valley	86312	Busy Bee Learning Center	(928) 772-6333	102	Child Care Center
		86314	Acorn Christian Montessori	(928) 772-5778	85	Child Care Center
			Acorn Montessori School	(928) 775-0238	300	Child Care Center
All About Kids Learning Center			(928) 772-9600	56	Child Care Center	

CITY	ZIP	BUSINESS NAME	TELEPHONE	LICENSED CAPACITY	TYPE
		Coyote Springs Elem. School	(928) 759-4336	60	Child Care Center
		God's World Child Care	(928) 772-0460	248	Child Care Center
		Grandpa's Farm	(928) 772-8009	61	Child Care Center
		Grannie's House Group Home LLC	(928) 772-1445	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Granville Elem. School	(928) 759-4845	102	Child Care Center
		Growing Kids Preschool (at Lifepointe Church)	(928) 710-2539	24	Child Care Center
		Kid's Club Group Home	(928) 772-5911	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Learning Castle Children's Center LLC	(928) 775-9677	53	Child Care Center
		Little Angels Preschool & Family Child Care	(602) 904-0315	4	Family Provider
		NACOG Early Head Start	(928) 772-7274	10	Head Start Center
		NACOG Head Start	(928) 772-7726	74	Head Start Center
		Noah's Ark Child Care of Prescott Valley LLC	(928) 759-3710	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Reed Family Child Care	(928) 533-6002	4	Family Provider
		Stacy's Family Group Home	(928) 308-4198	10	Family Provider (Group Home)
		Teddy Bear Care	(928) 775-4673	35	Child Care Center
Rimrock	86335	Beaver Creek School (Developmental Preschool & After School)	(928) 567-4631	189	Child Care Center

<b>CITY</b>	<b>ZIP</b>	<b>BUSINESS NAME</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>LICENSED CAPACITY</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
Sedona	86336	NACOG Head Start	(928) 204-2776	49	Head Start Center
		Precious Stones Preschool	(928) 282-4091	104	Child Care Center
		Red Rock Early Learning Center	(480) 466-1166	36	Child Care Center
		Sedona Montessori School	(928) 282-4772	50	Child Care Center
	86351	Village Christian School	(928) 284-1762	65	Child Care Center

## Appendix B: Definitions of the Nine Communities

COMMUNITY	ZIP CODE TABULATION AREAS (ZCTAs)	PLACES
Ash Fork	86320 86337	Ash Fork Seligman
Bagdad	86321	Bagdad
Chino Valley	86305 86323 86334 86338	Chino Valley Paulden Williamson Valley
Cordes Junction	86333	Cordes Lakes Mayer Spring Valley
Prescott	86301 86303 86313 86327 86329	Dewey-Humboldt Prescott
Prescott Valley	86314	Prescott Valley
Sedona	86336 86351	Oak Creek (Big Park) Sedona
Yavapai Northeast	86315 86322 86324 86325 86326 86331 86335	Camp Verde Clarkdale Cornville Cottonwood Jerome Lake Montezuma Verde Village
Yavapai South	85324 85332 85362 86332 86343	Black Canyon City Congress Peeples Valley Wilhoit Yarnell

## Appendix C: Incorporated and Unincorporated Places in Each Primary Care Area

PRIMARY CARE AREA	PLACES
Ash Fork PCA	Ash Fork, Audley, Crookton, Chino Station, Lake Mary, Nelson, Pica, Seligman, and Yampai
Bagdad PCA	Bagdad
Chino Valley PCA	Arizona State University, Camp Wood, Camp Wood Ranger Guard Station, Chino Valley, Del Rio, Drake, Eddy Place, Fair Oaks, Grand View, Granite, Hillside, Mint, Paulden, Prescott National Forest, Simmons, Skull Valley, Stringfield, Willow Spring, Wood Trap, and Yava
Cordes Junction PCA	Arcosanti, Cordes Lakes, Cedar Mill, Dandrea, Dugas, Goodwin, Lancaster, and Mayer
Prescott PCA	Amulet Mine Dump, Accidental Mine, Blue Hills Farms, Combination Mine, Dewey, Entro, Eugene Mine, Granite Dells, Groom Creek Loop, Hilltop Campground, Humboldt, Iron King Mine, Iron Springs, Lynx Campground, Mark Twain Mine, Midnite Test Mine, Monte Cristo Mine, Mudhole Mine, New Era Mine Dump, Pine Mountain Mine, Poland Junction Substation, Ponderosa Park, Potato Patch, Prescott, Red Rock Mine, Sheldon Mine, The Castle, Venezia, Victor Mine, Walker, and Whipple
Prescott Valley PCA	Castle Canyon Mesa, Doodlebug Diggings, and Prescott Valley
Sedona PCA	Indian Gardens, Munds Park, Oak Creek, and Sedona
Yavapai-Apache Nation PCA	Camp Verde, Yavapai-Apache Nation, and Middle Verde
Yavapai-Northeast PCA	Aultman, Beaver Creek Campground, Beaver Creek Ranger Station, Bridgeport, Cornville, Cottonwood, Camp Verde, Centerville, Cherry, Childs Powerplant, Clarkdale, Cloverleaf Ranch, Hecla, Jerome, Lake Montezuma, McGuireville, Page Springs, Perkinsville, Rimrock, Sycamore, and Tapco
Yavapai-South PCA	Big Reef Mill, Black Canyon City, Black Rock Mine, Bradshaw City, Briggs, Bumble Bee, Burro John, Button Mine, Columbia, Congress, Constellation, Copperopolis, Cordes, Cordes Junction, Crown King, Casa Rosa, Castle Hot Springs, Champie Ranch, Chilean Mill, Cleator, Date, Date Creek Ranch, East Fort, Flores, Fort Misery, Fort Tule, French Lilly Mine, Gillette, Glen Ilah, Glen Oaks, Gold Bar Mine, Hawkins, Hazlett Hollow Campground, Hooper, Horsethief Basin, Humburg, Kentuck Spring Campground, Kirkland, Kirkland Junction, Lapham, Lehman Mill, Minnehaha, Octave, Packer, Peoples Valley, Piedmont, Rock Springs, Shelley, South Fort, Spring Valley, Stanton, Turney Gluch Campground, Wagoner, Walnut Grove, Wilhoit, and Yarnell

## Appendix D: Characteristics of Births in Calendar Year 2010

		<b>YAVAPAI COUNTY RESIDENTS</b>	<b>ALL ARIZONA RESIDENTS</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS DURING 2010</b>		<b>1,817</b>	<b>87,053</b>
Payee for births	AHCCCS	64.4%	53.3%
	IHS	0.2%	2.0%
	Private insurance	31.0%	41.0%
	Self	3.9%	3.0%
Marital status	Married	54.6%	54.3%
	Unmarried	45.0%	44.7%
Prenatal care	No care	0.9%	1.6%
	Began care in 1st trimester	79.0%	81.9%
	Began care in 2nd trimester	16.7%	13.1%
	Began care in 3rd trimester	3.2%	3.2%
Prenatal visits	No visits	0.9%	1.6%
	1-4 visits	3.6%	3.3%
	5-8 visits	11.0%	14.4%
	9-12 visits	42.4%	48.8%
	13+ visits	41.9%	31.6%
Weight at birth	Less than 2500 grams	6.3%	7.1%
	2500 grams or more	93.6%	92.9%
Mother's age	Under 15	0.0%	0.1%
	15-17	2.9%	3.3%
	18-19	8.7%	7.4%
	20-24	29.9%	25.5%
	25-29	27.6%	28.6%
	30-34	19.9%	22.2%
	35-39	8.7%	10.5%
	40 or older	2.1%	2.4%

		<b>YAVAPAI COUNTY RESIDENTS</b>	<b>ALL ARIZONA RESIDENTS</b>
County where birth occurred	Yavapai County	88.5%	
	Maricopa County	9.3%	
	Coconino County	1.9%	
	Mohave County	0.2%	
	Pima County	0.1%	
	Outside Arizona	0.1%	
Mother's race or ethnicity	White non-Hispanic	70.4%	44.5%
	Hispanic or Latino	22.8%	39.4%
	Black or African American	1.0%	5.0%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	3.9%	6.7%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	3.8%
	Other race	0.2%	0.1%
Births with complications of labor or delivery reported		44.9%	29.0%
Preterm births (gestational age less than 37 weeks)		7.8%	9.6%
Very low birthweight births (less than 1500 grams)		0.9%	1.1%
Births with congenital anomalies reported		0.3%	0.6%
Tobacco use during pregnancy		11.9%	4.7%
Alcohol use during pregnancy		0.6%	0.5%
Primary and repeat cesarean deliveries		30.0%	27.6%
Infants admitted to newborn intensive care units		4.5%	6.2%

## Appendix E: Census Data by Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)

### Appendix E-1. Population and Households by Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA).

GEOGRAPHY	TOTAL POPULATION (ALL AGES)	POPULATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 0-5)	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 0-5)	
Arizona	6,392,017	546,609	2,380,990	384,441	16%
Yavapai County	211,033	12,583	90,903	8,854	10%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>214,253</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>92,586</b>	<b>8,948</b>	<b>10%</b>
ASH FORK COMMUNITY					
86320 (Ash Fork)	1,885	120	821	87	11%
86337 (Seligman)	1,267	49	628	32	5%
BAGDAD COMMUNITY					
86321 (Bagdad)	2,219	243	847	155	18%
CHINO VALLEY COMMUNITY					
86305 (Williamson Valley)	17,356	647	7,902	478	6%
86323 (Chino Valley)	15,822	1,078	6,393	753	12%
86334 (Paulden)	4,985	369	1,804	263	15%
86338 (Skull Valley)	743	64	293	42	14%
CORDES JUNCTION COMMUNITY					
86333 (Mayer)	5,734	299	2,500	207	8%
PRESCOTT COMMUNITY					
86301 & 86313 (Prescott)	20,883	928	9,261	683	7%
86303 (Prescott)	17,082	586	8,467	455	5%
86327 (Dewey)	8,858	397	4,017	295	7%
86329 (Humboldt)	1,179	85	466	57	12%
PRESCOTT VALLEY COMMUNITY					
86314 (Prescott Valley)	34,401	3,016	13,275	2,101	16%
SEDONA COMMUNITY					
86336 (Sedona)	11,320	368	5,675	273	5%
86351 (Oak Creek)	6,349	201	3,213	148	5%
YAVAPAI NORTHEAST COMMUNITY					
86315 (Prescott Valley)	7,234	506	2,772	340	12%
86322 (Camp Verde)	11,480	795	4,345	533	12%
86324 (Clarkdale)	4,168	260	1,836	175	10%
86325 (Cornville)	5,152	259	2,292	192	8%
86326 (Cottonwood)	23,344	1,776	9,897	1,226	12%
86331 (Jerome)	477	9	270	7	3%
86335 (Lake Montezuma)	4,806	384	1,963	255	13%
YAVAPAI SOUTH COMMUNITY					
85324 (Black Canyon City)	2,886	121	1,345	91	7%
85332 (Congress)	2,146	79	1,038	55	5%
85362 (Yarnell)	663	10	387	7	2%
86332 (Peoples Valley, Wilhoit)	1,637	52	787	37	5%
86343 (Bradshaw City, Crown King)	177	2	92	1	1%
YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION	718	87	203	56	28%

SOURCE: US Census 2010, Tables P1, P14 & P20.

NOTE: The 86313 ZCTA is the Northern Arizona VA Hospital in Prescott. Because of its small numbers of families and children, it has been combined with the adjacent ZCTA, 86301.

NOTE: The population of the Yavapai-Apache Nation are listed separately, but they are also included in the 86322, 86324, and 86335 ZCTAs.

**Appendix E-2. Living arrangements for young children (ages 0-5) in the Yavapai Region, Yavapai County, and the state.**

<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	<b>POPULATION (AGES 0-5)</b>	<b>LIVING WITH PARENT(S)</b>	<b>LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVE(S)</b>	<b>LIVING WITH NON-RELATIVES or IN GROUP QUARTERS</b>
Arizona	546,609	81%	17%	2%
Yavapai County	12,583	82%	15%	3%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>ASH FORK COMMUNITY</b>				
86320 (Ash Fork)	120	78%	21%	1%
86337 (Seligman)	49	90%	6%	4%
<b>BAGDAD COMMUNITY</b>				
86321 (Bagdad)	243	90%	7%	3%
<b>CHINO VALLEY COMMUNITY</b>				
86305 (Williamson Valley)	647	85%	12%	2%
86323 (Chino Valley)	1,078	81%	17%	2%
86334 (Paulden)	369	78%	21%	2%
86338 (Skull Valley)	64	84%	9%	6%
<b>CORDES JUNCTION COMMUNITY</b>				
86333 (Mayer)	299	79%	20%	1%
<b>PRESCOTT COMMUNITY</b>				
86301 & 86313 (Prescott)	928	81%	16%	3%
86303 (Prescott)	586	83%	14%	3%
86327 (Dewey)	397	82%	15%	3%
86329 (Humboldt)	85	81%	15%	4%
<b>PRESCOTT VALLEY COMMUNITY</b>				
86314 (Prescott Valley)	3,016	84%	13%	3%
<b>SEDONA COMMUNITY</b>				
86336 (Sedona)	368	80%	16%	4%
86351 (Oak Creek)	201	84%	10%	6%
<b>YAVAPAI NORTHEAST COMMUNITY</b>				
86315 (Prescott Valley)	506	88%	9%	2%
86322 (Camp Verde)	795	77%	20%	3%
86324 (Clarkdale)	260	82%	17%	1%
86325 (Cornville)	259	78%	19%	3%
86326 (Cottonwood)	1,776	83%	15%	2%
86331 (Jerome)	9	89%	0%	11%
86335 (Lake Montezuma)	384	79%	19%	2%
<b>YAVAPAI SOUTH COMMUNITY</b>				
85324 (Black Canyon City)	121	74%	22%	3%
85332 (Congress)	79	73%	22%	5%
85362 (Yarnell)	10	60%	40%	0%
86332 (Peoples Valley, Wilhoit)	52	69%	29%	2%
86343 (Bradshaw City, Crown King)	2	100%	0%	0%
<b>YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>1%</b>

SOURCE: U.S. Census 2010; Table P32

NOTE: The percentages in each row may not sum to 100% because of rounding.

**Appendix E-3. Children living in a grandparent’s household, and number of multi-generation households.**

<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	<b>POPULATION (AGES 0-5)</b>	<b>CHILDREN (0-5) LIVING IN A GRANDPARENT'S HOUSEHOLD</b>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>HOUSEHOLDS WITH THREE OR MORE GENERATIONS</b>
Arizona	546,609	74,153 14%	2,380,990	115,549 5%
Yavapai County	12,583	1,580 13%	90,903	2,645 3%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>12,703</b>	<b>1,586 12%</b>	<b>92,586</b>	<b>2,658 3%</b>
<b>ASH FORK COMMUNITY</b>				
86320 (Ash Fork)	120	21 18%	821	27 3%
86337 (Seligman)	49	2 4%	628	8 1%
<b>BAGDAD COMMUNITY</b>				
86321 (Bagdad)	243	17 7%	847	28 3%
<b>CHINO VALLEY COMMUNITY</b>				
86305 (Williamson Valley)	647	70 11%	7,902	141 2%
86323 (Chino Valley)	1,078	163 15%	6,393	271 4%
86334 (Paulden)	369	67 18%	1,804	91 5%
86338 (Skull Valley)	64	5 8%	293	9 3%
<b>CORDES JUNCTION COMMUNITY</b>				
86333 (Mayer)	299	51 17%	2,500	98 4%
<b>PRESCOTT COMMUNITY</b>				
86301 & 86313 (Prescott)	928	122 13%	9261	206 2%
86303 (Prescott)	586	62 11%	8,467	110 1%
86327 (Dewey)	397	57 14%	4,017	111 3%
86329 (Humboldt)	85	9 11%	466	14 3%
<b>PRESCOTT VALLEY COMMUNITY</b>				
86314 (Prescott Valley)	3,016	331 11%	13,275	540 4%
<b>SEDONA COMMUNITY</b>				
86336 (Sedona)	368	43 12%	5,675	76 1%
86351 (Oak Creek)	201	15 7%	3,213	33 1%
<b>YAVAPAI NORTHEAST COMMUNITY</b>				
86315 (Prescott Valley)	506	41 8%	2,772	79 3%
86322 (Camp Verde)	795	134 17%	4,345	192 4%
86324 (Clarkdale)	260	36 14%	1,836	52 3%
86325 (Cornville)	259	38 15%	2,292	83 4%
86326 (Cottonwood)	1,776	194 11%	9,897	339 3%
86331 (Jerome)	9	0 0%	270	2 1%
86335 (Lake Montezuma)	384	57 15%	1,963	69 4%
<b>YAVAPAI SOUTH COMMUNITY</b>				
85324 (Black Canyon City)	121	24 20%	1,345	42 3%
85332 (Congress)	79	14 18%	1,038	19 2%
85362 (Yarnell)	10	2 20%	387	2 1%
86332 (Peoples Valley, Wilhoit)	52	11 21%	787	14 2%
86343 (Bradshaw City, Crown King)	2	0 0%	92	2 2%
<b>YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>32 37%</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>33 16%</b>

SOURCE: U.S. Census 2010; Tables P41 & PCT14

NOTE: For some children living in their grandparent’s household, one or both parents may also be present. Households of three or more generations include households without young children.

**Appendix E-4. Ethnicity and race in the Yavapai Region, Yavapai County, and the state.**

GEOGRAPHY	2010 CENSUS POPULATION (ALL AGES)	HISPANIC	NOT HISPANIC				
			WHITE	BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN or PACIFIC ISLANDER	OTHER
Arizona	6,392,017	30%	58%	4%	4%	3%	2%
Yavapai County	211,033	14%	82%	1%	1%	1%	2%
<b>Yavapai Region</b>	<b>214,253</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>ASH FORK</b>							
86320 (Ash Fork)	1,885	21%	73%	1%	2%	0%	2%
86337 (Seligman)	1,267	13%	81%	1%	3%	0%	3%
<b>BAGDAD</b>							
86321 (Bagdad)	2,219	23%	73%	0%	2%	0%	1%
<b>CHINO VALLEY</b>							
86305 (Williamson Valley)	17,356	6%	91%	0%	1%	1%	1%
86323 (Chino Valley)	15,822	13%	84%	0%	1%	0%	1%
86334 (Paulden)	4,985	25%	71%	0%	1%	0%	2%
86338 (Skull Valley)	743	10%	87%	1%	0%	0%	1%
<b>CORDES JUNCTION</b>							
86333 (Mayer)	5,734	8%	88%	1%	1%	0%	2%
<b>PRESCOTT</b>							
86301 & 86313 (Prescott)	20883	10%	84%	1%	1%	2%	2%
86303 (Prescott)	17,082	7%	90%	0%	1%	1%	1%
86327 (Dewey)	8,858	7%	90%	0%	1%	1%	2%
86329 (Humboldt)	1,179	15%	79%	1%	1%	0%	3%
<b>PRESCOTT VALLEY</b>							
86314 (Prescott Valley)	34,401	20%	76%	1%	1%	1%	2%
<b>SEDONA</b>							
86336 (Sedona)	11,320	13%	83%	0%	0%	2%	1%
86351 (Oak Creek)	6,349	10%	86%	1%	0%	2%	1%
<b>YAVAPAI NORTHEAST</b>							
86315 (Prescott Valley)	7,234	9%	86%	1%	1%	1%	2%
86322 (Camp Verde)	11,480	16%	75%	0%	6%	0%	3%
86324 (Clarkdale)	4,168	13%	78%	1%	5%	1%	2%
86325 (Cornville)	5,152	9%	86%	1%	1%	1%	2%
86326 (Cottonwood)	23,344	22%	74%	1%	1%	1%	1%
86331 (Jerome)	477	6%	90%	0%	0%	0%	3%
86335 (Lake Montezuma)	4,806	16%	78%	0%	3%	0%	3%
<b>YAVAPAI SOUTH</b>							
85324 (Black Canyon City)	2,886	6%	91%	0%	1%	0%	2%
85332 (Congress)	2,146	12%	85%	0%	1%	1%	2%
85362 (Yarnell)	663	6%	90%	0%	1%	0%	2%
86332 (Peoples Valley, Wilhoit)	1,637	10%	88%	0%	1%	0%	1%
86343 (Bradshaw City, Crown King)	177	2%	98%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>7%</b>

SOURCE: U.S. Census 2010; Table QT-P4

NOTE: Persons of Hispanic ethnicity may be of any race. The category “other” includes non-Hispanic persons who report any race not listed here, or two or more races. Percentages refer to the total population, of all ages. The percentages in each row may not total to 100% because of rounding.

## Appendix G: Table of Regional Assets

<i>First Things First Yavapai Regional Assets</i>
Good health care availability in the areas of high population
Availability of outdoor recreation areas for families
A higher proportion of Quality First providers who have received a preliminary designation of “quality” based on the state-wide star rating system, than are found statewide
Some school districts have very high passing rates of 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade AIMS
Good collaboration among different tribal services and departments in the Yavapai-Apache Nation
High quality, affordable child care and early childhood education opportunities available in some communities like the Yavapai-Apache Nation where families have access to the Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center and the Montessori Children’s House

## Appendix H: Table of Regional Challenges

<i>First Things First Yavapai Regional Challenges</i>
Low immunization rates
High rates of tobacco use during pregnancy and exposure to tobacco smoke in the home
“Pocketed” nature of the region, may result in some smaller communities with more challenges being overlooked
Early literacy activities needed in areas with low 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade AIMS passing rates
Low rates of adequate prenatal care in some areas
Access to health care in outlying areas
Concern about loss of culture and language among members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation

## Appendix I: Yavapai Regional Partnership Council Funded Strategies, Fiscal Year 2013

Goal Area	Strategy	Strategy Description
Quality and Access	Quality First	Supports provided to early care and education centers and homes to improve the quality of programs, including: on-site coaching; program assessment; financial resources; teacher education scholarships; and consultants specializing in health and safety practices. Expands the number of children who have access to high quality care and education, including learning materials that are developmentally appropriate, a curriculum focused on early literacy and teachers trained to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
	Quality First Child Care Scholarships	Provides scholarships to children to attend quality early care and education programs. Helps low-income families afford a better educational beginning for their children.
	Child Care Health Consultation	Provides supports to early care and education centers and homes about health and safety practices.
	Expansion: Increase slots and/or capital expense	Recruits new or existing providers to begin to serve or expand services. May assist with planning, licensing or certification process for new centers or homes, or provide support to a provider to improve the quality of facility or programs.
Professional Development	Scholarships TEACH	Provides scholarships for higher education and credentialing to early care and education teachers. Improves the professional skills of those providing care and education to children 5 and younger.
	FTF Professional REWARD\$	Improves retention of early care and education teachers through financial incentives. Keeps the best teachers with our youngest kids by rewarding longevity and continuous improvement of their skills.
Health	Prenatal Outreach	Provides outreach and education to pregnant women and their families and links pregnant women to sources of prenatal care.
	Mental Health Consultation	Provides mental health consultation to teachers and caregivers, and tuition reimbursement to support professional development to increase capacity of workforce. Helps child care staff and early childhood programs to support the social-emotional development of young children.

Goal Area	Strategy	Strategy Description
Family Support	Native Language Enrichment	Provides materials, awareness and outreach to promote native language and cultural acquisition for the young children of Tribal families.
	Parent Outreach and Awareness	Provides families with education, materials and connections to resources and activities that promote healthy development and school readiness.
	Family Support Coordination	Improves the coordination of, and access to, family support services and programs.
	Parent Education Community-Based Training	Provides classes on parenting, child development and problem-solving skills. Strengthens families with young children by providing voluntary classes in community-based settings.
	Home Visitation	Provides voluntary in-home services for infants, children and their families, focusing on parenting skills, early physical and social development, literacy, health and nutrition. Connect families to resources to support their child’s health and early learning. Gives young children stronger, more supportive relationships with their parents through in-home services on a variety of topics, including parenting skills, early childhood development, literacy, etc. Connects parents with community resources to help them better support their child’s health and early learning.
	Food Security	Distribute food boxes and basic necessity items to families in need of assistance who have children birth to 5 years old. Improves the health and nutrition of children 5 and younger and their families.
Evaluation	Statewide Evaluation	Statewide evaluation includes the studies and evaluation work which inform the FTF Board and the 31 Regional Partnership Councils, examples are baseline Needs and Assets reports, specific focused studies, and statewide research and evaluation on the developing early childhood system.
	Needs and Assets	Biennial, overall assessment of data on opportunities and challenges for children zero through five and their families undertaken to inform regional strategic planning. This is additional funding for specific enhancements to the baseline regional report
Coordination	Service Coordination	Through coordination and collaboration efforts, improves and streamlines processes including applications, service qualifications, service delivery and follow-up for families with young children. Reduces confusion and duplication for service providers and families.

Goal Area	Strategy	Strategy Description
Coordination (continued)	Community Partnerships	Establish partnerships to promote innovation and to leverage resources.
	Court Teams	Assign multidisciplinary teams, led by superior court judges, to monitor case plans and supervise placement when a child 5 or younger is involved with the court system.
Community Awareness	Media	Increases public awareness of the importance of early childhood development and health via a media campaign that draws viewers/listeners to the ReadyAZKids.com web site.
	Community Outreach	Provides grassroots support and engagement to increase parent and community awareness of the importance of early childhood development and health.
	Community Awareness	Uses a variety of community-based activities and materials to increase public awareness of the critical importance of early childhood development and health so that all Arizonans are actively engaged in supporting young kids in their communities.

## **Appendix J: The Yavapai-Apache Nation Supplement**

When First Things First was established by the passage of Proposition 203 in November 2006, the government-to-government relationship with federally-recognized tribes was acknowledged. Each Tribe with tribal lands located in Arizona was given the opportunity to participate within a First Things First designated Region or elect to be designated as a separate Region. The Yavapai-Apache has chosen to become part of the First Things First Yavapai Region. As indicated by Resolution 202-11 of the Governing Body of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (December 1, 2011), it has also chosen to participate in the data collection for the Yavapai Region 2012 Needs and Assets Report.

This section presents qualitative data gathered through key informant interviews with a selected number of representatives from agencies providing services to tribal members. When available, these representatives provided quantitative information from their respective agencies. These data have also been included in this section.

### **The Early Childhood System**

#### **Quality and Access**

The Yavapai-Apache Nation receives funding from the Child Care and Development Fund to administer its own child care program. The Yavapai-Apache Day Care program is located in the Middle Verde tribal community and provides supervised child care to children who are enrolled tribal members. The program operates two types of services: center-based and home-based care.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center serves children ages 1 to 7 and has a total capacity of 22 children, with a total enrollment of 30 (eight of these children are enrolled in part-time services). As of June of 2012 the Center had a waiting list of about 8 children. The Center is inspected annually by the Health Services Office of Environmental Health and it has received excellent ratings.

The program also recruits home providers, who must pass a drug test and a home inspection before being certified. Home-based care is provided at either the child's home or the provider's home by both relatives and non-relatives. Selection of a family provider is left to the discretion of the parents but in order to obtain final certification, providers must have clearance of state and federal background checks conducted by the Yavapai-Apache Nation Detective Unit. Providers must also pass a drug test conducted by the tribal Human Resource Department (Yavapai-Apache Nation Day Care Program, 2011b).

In FY 2010-2011 a total of 67 children received services from the program. Of these, 30 were enrolled in center-based services at the Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center and 37 received home-based services from the nine home providers available. Sixty three (or 94%) of the children who received services were 0 to 5 years of age. The average monthly Child Care and Development Fund subsidy was \$120 per child, and the average monthly parent copayment was \$36 per child (Yavapai-Apache Nation Day Care Program, 2011a).

The Table below shows additional detailed information about the services provided by the Day Care Program.

<b>SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION DAY CARE PROGRAM</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CHILDREN</b>
Received center-based services	30
Received home-based services	37
Cared by relatives	22
Cared by non-relatives	15
Received services at child's home	10
Received services at provider's home	27
Received services because parents worked	57
Received services because parents were in training/education program	6
Received services because child was in need of protective services	4

Source: Yavapai-Apache Nation Day Care Program, 2011a.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation continues to experience an increase in the demand for child care services. Key informants indicated that new homes are being built on the reservation lands. As more families move into the area the demand for child care and after-school services is expected to increase. Availability of child care for infants is an area of particular need, as there is only one child care center in Camp Verde that accepts infants (and the Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center only takes children from one year and older). This presents a challenge to the community as the Child Care Center operates at capacity and recruiting qualified home-care providers is sometimes difficult (the Day Care Program continuously recruits providers through advertisement in the tribal newspaper, fliers, community events and even door-to-door visits by a program representative).

Another important asset in the Nation's early childhood education system is The Montessori Children's House, a tribally operated center located in the Middle Verde tribal community that provides preschool and kindergarten education to children ages 3

to 6 in the area. Tuition is covered by the Yavapai-Apache Nation for children who are enrolled tribal members, but the Montessori Children's House is open to the community at large (staff indicated that about two thirds of the children in the Montessori Children's House are tribal members and one third are children from the community at large). Key informants note that those in surrounding areas recognize that some of the best child care in the Region is available on the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and chose to send their children there.

The Montessori Children's House is affiliated with the Verde Valley Montessori, a charter school in Cottonwood, which allows it to get funding from the Arizona Department of Education for half-day Kindergarten instruction for 5 year old children. The Montessori Children's House follows the Camp Verde public school calendar, so it is closed during the summer. Students attend five days a week from 8:30 – 2:30; 3 year old children, however, usually attend the half day program, which goes from 8:30 to 12:00.

The Montessori Children's House can enroll up to up to 49 children in its three classrooms and it usually operates at capacity. The number of children in the waiting list varies during the year, usually ranging somewhere between 5 and 20. One challenge has been that the Montessori Children's House sometimes struggles with children having low attendance and being tardy, which impacts the quality of their education and can be disruptive to the classroom. Parents may need more support to realize the importance of prompt and consistent attendance. Because the tuition-free slots are so valuable, and because there is an on-going waiting list, one suggestion made by key informants was to consider linking certain obligations (such as participation in parent education, or a commitment to consistent attendance) with the tuition waiver.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center provides transportation for children enrolled in its program who attend the Montessori Children's House.

Key informants indicated that there have been plans for a new building that could house both the Child Care Center and the Montessori Children's House, and possibly allow the Montessori Children's House to expand into higher grades. However, funding limitations have stopped the plan from becoming a reality.

### **Professional Development**

Staff from the Yavapai-Apache Nation Child Care Center and home-based providers are encouraged to attend professional development opportunities throughout the year. They attend regular trainings as time and budget allow. With funding from First Things First, child care providers in the Nation have been able to attend trainings and conferences offered locally in Yavapai County.

Professional development opportunities for staff in the Montessori Children's House have been limited in recent years due to funding cuts. Staff usually participates in some

in-house training on the Montessori philosophy which usually takes place the week before school starts (teaching staff is trained by either the Association Montessori Internationale based in Amsterdam, Holland or the North American Montessori Center.)

## Health

### **Access to Care**

As a result of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (PL-93-638), federally recognized tribes have the option to receive the funds that the Indian Health Service (IHS) would have used to provide health care services to tribal members. The tribes can then utilize these funds to directly provide services to tribal members (they can also opt to take the funds from IHS and provide the services through another entity). This process is commonly known as 638 contracts.

This means that tribes have three options regarding the overall management of their health services: 1) Having IHS fully manage all services; 2) Having IHS manage some services and taking over responsibility for other services (a 638 contract); or 3) Taking over control of all services from IHS and have them be fully managed by the tribe (known as 638 compact). Most tribes in Arizona currently have their health services managed through options 1 or 2.

Residents of the Yavapai-Apache Nation can access health services in the Middle Verde tribal community from the Yavapai-Apache Medical Center, which is a Tribally-operated 638 program. The Medical Center offers services by appointment Monday-Friday. Some providers travel to this location from the IHS Phoenix Indian Medical Center and at least one provider is permanently assigned to this clinic. Specialty care is provided locally although not on a daily basis (e.g. optometry services are available every two months; behavioral health services, once a month; audiology services, once every three months). Dental services are also provided at this site three times a week with a provider on a contract basis with a provider from Prescott. Through an agreement with Northern Arizona University students in the dental hygiene program travel to the Medical Center to provide services to the community an average of 8 times per month.

No pharmacy or radiology services are available at the Medical Center. For urgent care or emergency room needs, community members must travel to Cottonwood.

Prenatal care is provided to women early in their pregnancy but pregnant women are then referred out to a contracted Ob/Gyn provider at the Verde Valley Medical Center in Cottonwood, where they also give birth. Transportation is available to community members for medical appointments through the Community Health Representatives program at the Yavapai-Apache Nation Community Wellness Department. Pediatric care is also available for community members by the family practitioner. Well Baby, Well

Child and immunizations are all provided on site. Staff with the Medical Center indicated that there is only a handful (3-5) of children with special needs in the area and that services available to them at the Medical Center are limited.

Health-related services to members of the Nation are also available through the Community Wellness Department, which houses the diabetes, Community Health Representatives (CHR), tobacco use prevention, Transportation, Women's Children and Infant (WIC) and Wellness programs. Services available from these programs rotate in the different communities that comprise the Yavapai-Apache Nation to ensure accessibility to all tribal members.

The diabetes program provides community nutrition services targeting the family as a whole through the "Way of the Circle" diabetes prevention curriculum, which promotes meal time as family time. In addition, the program signs up children from the community to participate in a diabetes camp for Native children. The program also coordinates with the Medical Center in maintaining the diabetes register up-to-date.

The Wellness Department has also initiated a Community Garden project to help promote the consumption of traditional foods as well as to provide more opportunities for healthy activities where the whole family can participate.

In many Arizona tribal communities the Women's Children and Infant (WIC) program was initially funded through the state of Arizona. Over time, however, several tribes advocated for services that were directed by the tribes themselves and that met the needs of tribal members. As part of this effort, in 1986 the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) applied for and received approval to become a WIC state agency through the USDA, initially funding seven Tribes. Currently, the ITCA WIC program provides services to 13 reservation communities and the Indian urban populations in the Phoenix and Tucson area, including the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation WIC program provides nutritional and fitness services to members of the Nation but also to non-tribal members who reside in its area of service (including the Hispanic population in Camp Verde and the Native American population in the Prescott area). Services available aim at preventing and reducing obesity as well as gestational diabetes among community members, sometimes in collaboration with the Diabetes program. The small size of the community allows WIC program staff to provide individualized one-on-one services. A nutritionist with the Intertribal Council of Arizona travels to the Nation to provide services to high-risk program clients. Vouchers provided to clients can only be redeemed at two stores: one in Cottonwood and another one in Camp Verde.

The Community Wellness Department also houses the Tobacco Program, which is currently in the process of establishing a Youth Coalition. Members of the Teen Circle Program will become part of the Youth Coalition, with the goal of having them become

'health ambassadors' in the community (e.g. they will teach younger children about the dangers of commercial tobacco).

### **Oral Health**

Oral health is an essential component of a young child's overall health and well-being, as dental disease is strongly correlated with both socio-psychological and physical health problems, including impaired speech development, poor social relationships, decreased school performance, diabetes, and cardiovascular problems. Although pediatricians and dentists recommend that children should have their first dental visit by age one, half of Arizona children 0-4 have never seen a dentist. In a statewide survey conducted by the ADHS Office of Oral Health, parents most frequently cited difficulties in finding a provider who will see very young children (34%), and the belief that the young child does not need to see a dentist (46%) as primary reasons for not taking their child to the dentist. Among third-grade children screened in 2009-2010, American Indian children showed higher rates of decay experience (treated and untreated) than did non-Native children (93% compared with 76 %), with 62 percent showing signs of untreated decay (compared to 41% among non-American Indian children). American Indian children were also less likely to have seen a dentist during the year prior to their screening (59%, compared to 73% for non-American Indian children).

The Yavapai-Apache Nation recognizes the importance of providing for the oral health of young children. In addition to the services provided by NAU dental hygiene students at the Yavapai-Apache Nation Medical Center, pediatric oral health services are also provided through collaboration between the NAU team and the Day Care Program to children at the Child Care Center and the Montessori House and the community at large. Every three months, dental hygienists with the NAU program visit the community to provide free screenings and fluoride varnish to all enrolled children. Services are also open to children in the community at large.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect**

The Yavapai-Apache Nation Social Services program provides services to children in the community who are in the need of child protective services. There is no local shelter or group home within the community. Key informants noted that there is a big need for more foster families in the area (as of June 2012 there were only two foster homes of tribal members in the community and both were at capacity). Finding placement for children is often a challenge, and when local homes are not available, they must be sent outside of the community.

Finding foster homes within the community is a challenge not only because all family members must clear a background check, but also because in a small community such as this one, families are often related or know each other. According to key informants, becoming a foster parent may lead to conflict with the child's biological parents who can

very easily find out where the children reside. This may continue to limit the numbers of community-based foster homes that are available.

### **Supporting Families**

Culture and language preservation are a priority for the Yavapai-Apache Nation. The Culture Resource Center hosts a variety of programs and services aimed at documenting and preserving both the Yavapai and Apache cultures. Yavapai and Apache cultural managers provide language classes that are free of cost and open to the community at large.

Participation of the Yavapai-Apache Nation in the First Things First Yavapai Region has allowed the Nation to provide additional services to families with young children in the Nation. The Cultural Resource Center has received funding to produce children's books that will help teach children the Yavapai and Apache languages and culture. Coloring books, story books and flash cards and CDs accompanying the books are being produced so that they can be utilized by the instructors at the Culture Resource Center, the Child Care Center, The Montessori Children's House and by home child care providers. Eventually, the goal is to also provide the books to families so that parents can become the teachers at home.

According to the Census' American Community Survey (2006-2010), eleven percent of residents on the Yavapai-Apache Nation speak an Indian language at home (these data do not specify which language is spoken).

### **System Coordination**

Key informants indicated that collaboration and coordination among tribal agencies is good. The fact that the Yavapai-Apache Nation is a relatively small community facilitates contact among different agency representatives who work together to provide services to community members. A good example of this are the partnerships established by the Child Care Center with other tribal agencies: Community Health Representatives provide health trainings; nutrition and cooking classes are offered to parents through the Diabetes Program; fitness activities are provided to families through the Community Wellness Program; safety lessons are provided by the Tribal Police Department; and cultural and Native language teachings are provided by the Cultural Resource Center (including the children's books developed with funding from First Things First). Regular meetings of program directors as well as and committee meetings (e.g. Education Committee) also facilitate this internal collaboration.

Key informants indicated that this existing network of collaborations around early childhood could be further improved with the creation of a youth services coordinator position.

Staff with other agencies such as the Community Wellness Program indicated that, in addition to the good internal collaboration, there are also good relationships established with a number of outside agencies (such as other WIC offices in the area), including with other First Things First grantees in the Region.

**Identified Assets:**

- Children growing up in the community can have a strong sense of belonging to an Indian Nation. Develop strong sense of identity as a tribal member. Being able to receive the teachings from the elders and other family members, and also from the school via the Cultural Resource Department. Opportunity to participate in traditional cultural practices such as the Sunrise Ceremony.
- Strong sense of community; tight community where members can take care of each other.
- Wide variety of services available to community members locally. “Well covered” – good support services available. From clothing to fitness areas, cultural resources, recreation areas, tutoring from Johnson O’Malley.
- Good collaboration among different tribal services and departments – facilitates that services can be made available to a larger audience. Agencies work well together trying to figure out how to best provide services to community members.
- Strong interest in cultural and language revitalization efforts.

**Identified Challenges or Needs (not listed in order of relevance):**

- Transportation is sometimes a challenge. Geographic location of the different reservation sections makes it difficult for community members to take advantage of services or programs available (e.g. must travel to Camp Verde for park and pool).
- Increased child care opportunities. Difficult for working parents to find child care in the area – Child Care Center at capacity and it is challenging finding home-based providers. A bigger Center, more funding for Center employees would be helpful.
- More activities and events for children and also for the entire family would provide opportunities for learning in the community.
- Limited housing on reservation lands. Key informants noted that there is a trend among families who are tribal members to move back to the reservation, with the resulting stress on the housing availability.
- Need for more parent education. Parents need more information emphasizing the learning potential of young children and how parents can involve their young

children in various activities as learning opportunities. It would be helpful for them to have information that stresses the importance of early childhood education.

- Need for more parent involvement. Key informants pointed out that there are a variety of services available to families with young children in the community but that there is a need for parents to be more involved and for them to participate and take advantage of existing opportunities. Parents volunteering more could be very beneficial. Key informants also indicated that the distance between the communities in the Nation may also impact parents' ability to participate in the different activities or programs offered. Often members in the more distant parts of the reservation may not learn about services that are also available to them. In addition, no-show rates at some programs might also be impacted by limited phone service availability.
- Loss of culture and language. This need is currently being addressed by the development of children's books.
- Need for more foster families- when foster families are not available locally, they must go to group care out of the community, often even out of the state.
- Need for more services to help treat substance abuse. There are limited counseling and rehabilitation services available locally. Currently community members receive treatment out of state. This has an impact on families at multiple levels, but even affects the availability of home-based child care providers, as all adults residing in the household must clear the background and drug test.
- Limited job opportunities and correspondingly high unemployment rates.

### **Yavapai-Apache Nation Agencies that provided information for the Needs and Assets Report**

- Cultural Resource Center
- Community Wellness Department
- Day Care program
- Montessori Children's House
- Social Services Program
- Yavapai-Apache Nation Medical Center

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