

Lucas County Family Council: The Status of Children & Families in Lucas County



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Special Thanks . . .

The Lucas County Family Council would like to thank the Data & Evaluation Network for their efforts in completing this monumental project. Your significant contribution to our community is greatly appreciated.

The committee would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Kristen Kania throughout the process of this project. We are especially grateful for her efforts to keep us on task.

The Lucas County Family Council: Data & Evaluation Network

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Introduction

The central focus of the Lucas County Family Council (LCFC) is to create, improve, increase and promote a seamless system of care for children and families throughout Lucas County. According to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 121.37, the LCFC is charged with inventing new approaches to achieve better results for families and children; developing and implementing a process that maintains a system of accountability; improving the response of different agencies to the needs of children and families; and, ensuring ongoing input from a broad range of families who are receiving services within the county system.

Fundamental to successfully achieving these responsibilities is the on-going collection of data and information on community programs and services. Therefore, the LCFC convened a new committee, the Data and Evaluation Network (DEN), comprised of data, research and/or program evaluation specialists from the various public and private systems represented on the Council, to address this vital community need.

The purpose of the DEN is to establish a development round-table or forum where community issues can be analyzed and researched. The primary function of the DEN is to coordinate the systematic collection and reporting of data and information for community planning and evaluation purposes. This report is meant to provide community stakeholders with an important tool to assist them in policy decision-making processes. It is the combined effort of members of the DEN. Complete membership is detailed in *Appendix A*.

Through this report, we seek to fill an identified community gap by displaying much-needed local data and information. Although state and national data are readily available through various reports and sources on the Internet, local data can be extremely difficult to acquire. Therefore, all data displayed throughout this report will be available on the Lucas County Family Council web site at www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org. Additional local data and information will also be available through the web site.

This report is modeled after several reports, including - "Children in Central Ohio: How They Live, Learn and Grow, 2003," by KidsOhio.Org; and, "Kids Count – State Profiles of Child Well-Being," by the Anne E. Casey Foundation. Each section begins with a question key to the health and well being of families and children. Data and information are presented in an attempt to address each question. The section questions are as follow: *Who are the Children & Families in Our Community; Are Children's Families Able to Provide for Them; Are Our Children & Families Healthy; How Many Children Need Care While Their Parents Work; Are Children Learning Basic Skills; Are Children Living in Safe Homes; and, Are Youth Involved in High Risk Behaviors.*

Where It All Began – Comprehensive Strategy

In 1998, the national Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announced Ohio's selection to participate in the Comprehensive Strategy for the Prevention of Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile offenders. Lucas County was one of six Ohio counties included in the process. The OJJDP Comprehensive Strategy initiative provided communities with a framework for preventing delinquency, intervening in early delinquent behavior, and responding to serious, violent, and chronic offending.

The initiative started as an unprecedented collaborative effort to prevent juvenile delinquency and promote the positive development of children. It provided our community with a new way to combat juvenile crime based on a community level, research based, data-driven, and outcome-focused model. The Comprehensive Strategy is guided by the following five principles:

1. Strengthening families in their role to instill moral principles and provide guidance and support to children
2. Supporting core institutions (schools, youth organizations, youth service agencies, and community organizations) in their role to develop capable, mature, and responsible youth
3. Recognizing that delinquency prevention is the most cost-effective approach in combating youth crime
4. Intervening immediately and effectively when delinquent behavior first occurs and ensuring appropriate sanctions for misconduct are delivered in a timely fashion
5. Identifying and controlling the small group of serious, violent and chronic offenders through a range of graduated sanctions, including placement in secure facilities.

Comprehensive Strategy is based on a “risk-focused” prevention model that made it possible to examine our community for known risk factors associated with youth violence. These factors exist at the individual, family, school, peer, and community levels. Based upon thirty years of research on factors related to adolescent problem behaviors, the OJJDP identified 19 risk factors that contribute to problem behavior, and seven protective factors that buffer a child against their development.

Through the Comprehensive Strategy planning process, Lucas County selected five of the nineteen risk factors that were prevalent in the community. The five risk factors identified in Lucas County were as follow:

1. Favorable parental attitudes and involvement
2. Friends who engage in problem behaviors
3. Academic failure beginning in elementary school
4. Early initiation to problem behavior
5. Family management problems.

In May 2000, Lucas County issued a report based on an extensive analysis of community data. The plan was to fulfill the vision developed for Lucas County, and to address the five identified risk factors by capitalizing on community, neighborhood and individual strengths and assets. The vision developed under the Comprehensive Strategy initiative for Lucas County is that we will be a community -

- ✓ That supports parents in caring for their children
- ✓ Where families set their own goals and provide a loving, nurturing, supportive and safe environment
- ✓ Where parents are the primary service specialists for their children and will provide opportunities for their growth
- ✓ Where the community will support parents with the necessary assistance for the care and nurturing of their children.

One of the key priorities from the Comprehensive Strategy initiative was to implement a process by which data would be collected, processed and distributed in relationship to the priorities set by the implementing agencies. The goal was to continually update data as well as make it easily and readily available to persons, agencies and organizations. This report and the committee that compiled the data and information for this report are two key elements assisting our community as we move closer to achieving the goals set through the Comprehensive Strategy initiative. Currently, the Lucas County Family Council serves as the coordinating body for the Comprehensive Strategy.*

* The state of Ohio renamed *Comprehensive Strategy to Partnerships for Success* in 2002.

Who are the Children & Families in Our Community?

Families are our community's most valuable resource. They are the building blocks of Lucas County. Healthy, well-functioning families provide members of all ages with rewarding, caring relationships, and with essential mutual support that is sustained throughout their life. Families are the major producers and consumers of goods and services. They make a central contribution to the present and future workforce as well as enhance the quality of life in our community.

Conversely, society has a critical effect on families. Families are best able to provide for themselves when their own basic social, psychological, physical, spiritual, and economic needs are being met. Children develop into competent, productive, loved and loving adults with devoted and sustained parenting. The later years of life are made more productive and satisfying when families are empowered with the resources to provide support and care, as it is needed. Strong families provide intimacy, security, and commitment to their members; they need to be supported, not supplanted, in their care giving roles throughout the life course.

Bordering on Lake Erie and the State of Michigan, Lucas County is located in the northwest portion of Ohio. Both the Ottawa and Maumee rivers flow through Lucas County and the Port of Toledo providing access to the Great Lakes and international shipping. Lucas County covers 340.4 square miles with Toledo serving as the major metropolitan area and county seat. The county has a listed Census population of over 455,000, which signifies a population loss of 1.6 percent since 1990. Projections for 2010, 2020, and 2030 indicate a further erosion of the population base will occur. The total county minority population is listed at 25 percent. African-Americans represent the largest minority group at 17 percent.

The City of Toledo has a listed population of 313,619 representing 69 percent of the county population. Toledo had a population loss of approximately 6 percent from 1990 to 2000 while the suburban areas of the county experienced some net gains to offset the county loss. The largest areas (based on 2000 Census data) in Lucas County are as follows:

- City of Toledo (313,619)
- Sylvania Township (25,583)
- Springfield Township (22,817)
- City of Oregon (18,334)
- City of Sylvania (18,670)
- City of Maumee (15,237)
- Monclova Township (6,767)
- Village of Waterville (4,828)
- Village of Ottawa Hills (4,564)
- Washington Township (3,574).

	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
Total Population	455,054	11,373,541	281,421,906
White	78% (352,678)	85%	75%
Black/African American	17% (77,359)	12%	12%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5% (22,753)	2%	13%
Children under the age of 5	31,180	796,148	19,699,533
White	68% (21,180)	79%	67%
Black/African American	22% (6,710)	14%	15%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	8% (2,594)	3%	19%
Children under the age of 18	119,481	2,888,339	72,293,812
White	70% (82,633)	81%	69%
Black/African American	22% (26,728)	14%	15%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	7% (8,743)	3%	17%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Lucas County's population is comprised of 78 percent white, 17 percent African American, and 5 percent Hispanic or Latino (any race). The racial profile of Lucas County is similar to the United States as a whole; however, both Lucas County and Ohio have a smaller proportion of Hispanics than the nation as a whole. Lucas County also has a larger percentage of African Americans versus Whites than Ohio. Further, when looking closely at the racial breakdown in the under 18 and under 5 populations, Lucas County has a much larger proportion of African American children than both Ohio and the nation.

	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
Children under 18 living w/ single parent	37,709	711,928	16,812,254
White	49% (18,310)	62%	54%
Black/African American	42% (15,679)	32%	30%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	9% (3,334)	4%	18%

Source: Anne E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count – 2000 Census Data

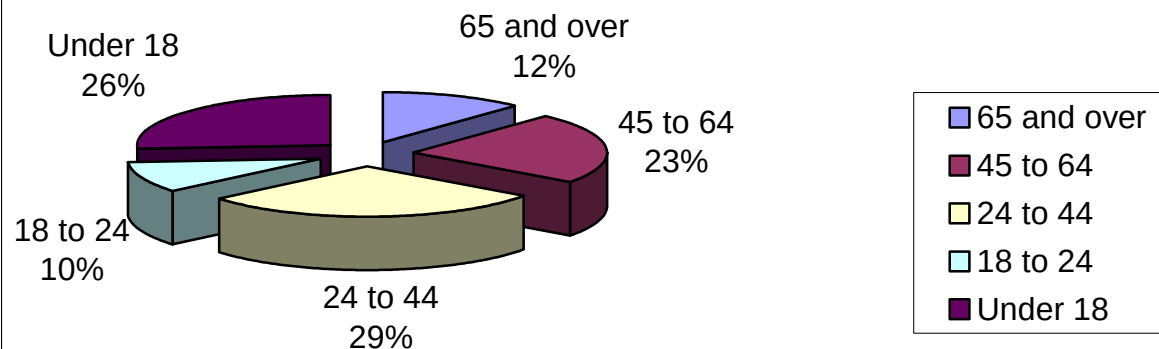
Single parents maintain 32 percent of the households with children in Lucas County. The percentage of single parents in Lucas County is higher than the state, which weighs in at approximately 25 percent of households with children headed by a single parent. The nation as a whole has a slightly lower percentage of households with children headed by single parents at 23 percent (Anne E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count – 2000 Census Data).

Grandparents – Parents Again

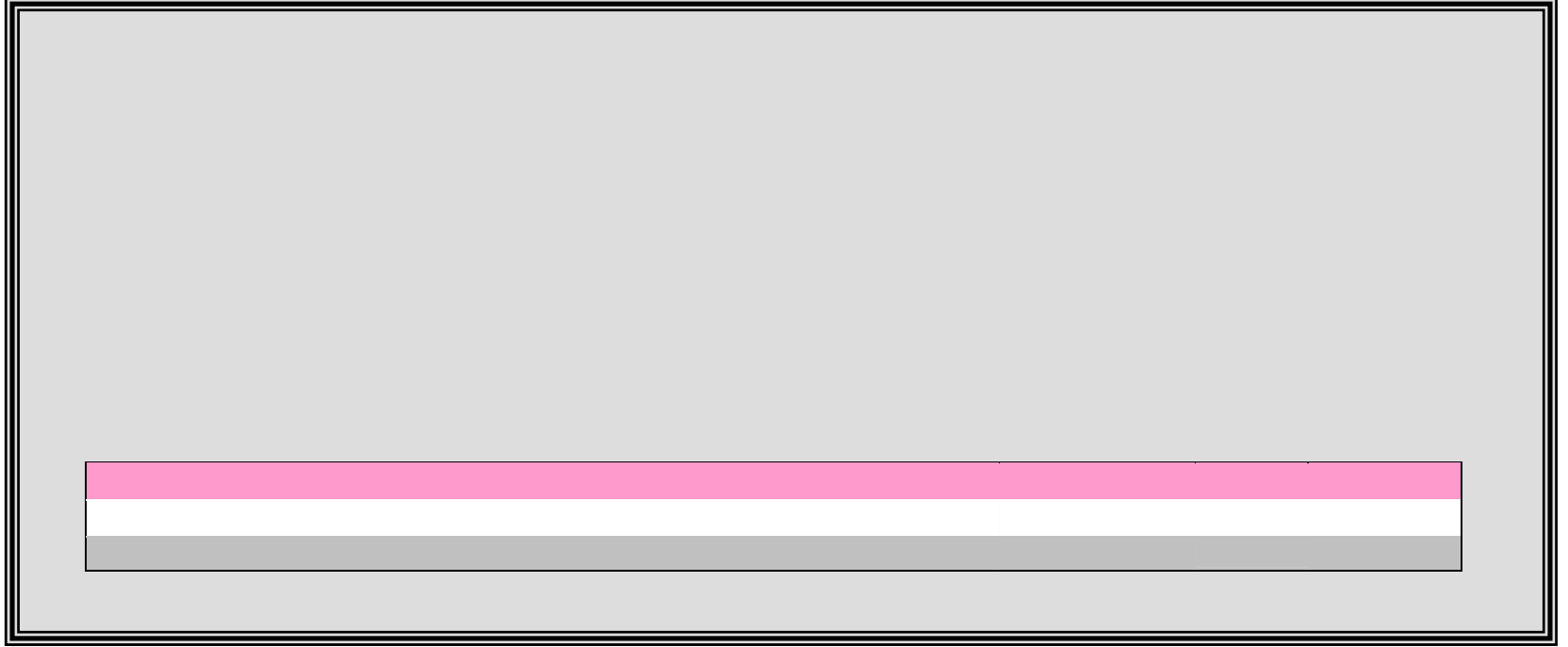
At a time in their lives when they should be thinking about retirement, many grandparents are facing the reality of raising their children's children. For the first time in 2000, the U.S. Census measured the number of households with children that are being run by grandparents. Grandparents run approximately one in 20 households with children, or 11,580, in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Reasons why grandparents gain control of their grandchildren vary – parents become involved with drugs, are sent to prison, suffer mental illness, die, or just can't handle the stress of child-rearing.

	Lucas County	Ohio
Grandparents Living In Households With One Or More Own Grandchildren Under 18	7,736	185,443
Grandparent Responsible for Grandchildren	48% (3,723)	46%(86,009)
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000		

Age Distribution of Lucas County Population

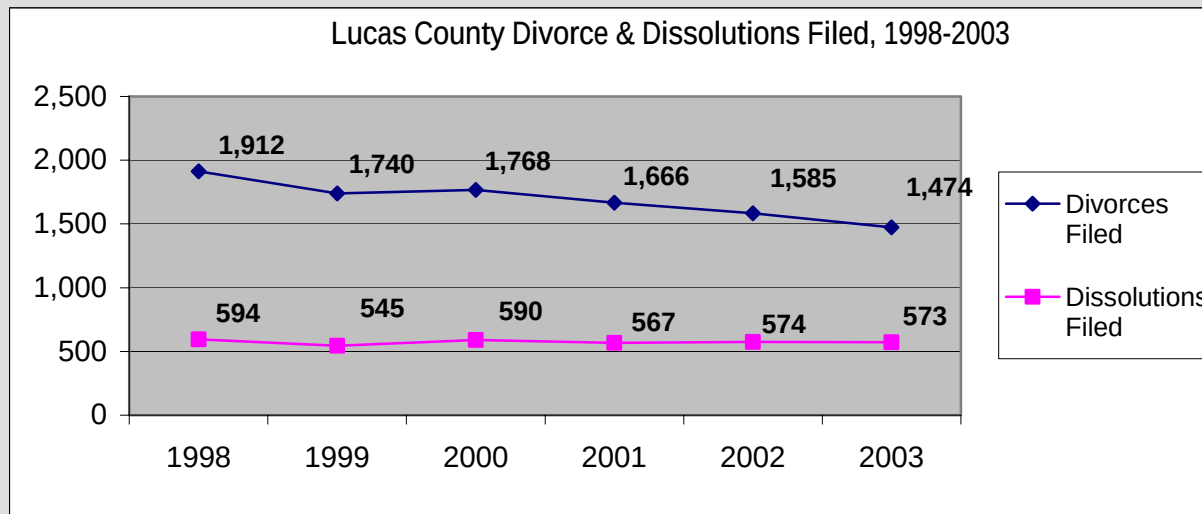


The median age in Lucas County is 35 years old. Twenty-four to 44 year olds make up the largest age group in Lucas County, closely followed by the eighteen and under population. Eighteen to 24 year olds comprise the smallest segment of the population in Lucas County at only 10 percent.



Marriage & Divorce

In a study reported in the Journal of Marriage and Family, researchers at the Ohio State University examined nearly 10,000 adolescents at four points during the divorce process: three years before the divorce, one year before the divorce, one year after the divorce, and three years after the divorce. The study found that psychological damage builds before the divorce and dissipates after, but academic progress continues to weaken. The researchers speculated that after falling behind academically, children often are not able to catch up to their peers. Further, they lose self-esteem and motivation. By contrast, E. Mavis Hetherington contends the negative impact of divorce is largely exaggerated. His research concluded that 25 percent of children from divorced families have serious emotional, social or psychological damage compared to 10 percent of intact families. He stated that 70 percent of young adults from divorced families find divorce acceptable (even if children are present) compared to 40 percent from intact families (Rapport Newsletter, Vol 7-2003, Issue 2, News and Notes pg 16; 2003, Vol. 6, Issue 3 pg 17).



In Lucas County, the number of divorces and dissolutions filed has remained fairly constant with a slight decrease over the past two years. The graph depicts the number of divorce and dissolutions filed from 1998 to 2003.

Source: Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations.

The number of marriage licenses issued to Lucas County residents during the past three years has remained stable. There has been a 15 percent increase in the number of out of state licenses issued. The majority of the out of state licenses are issued to Michigan residents.

Total Marriage Licenses Issued in Lucas County: 2001 - 2003

	2001	2002	2003
Total Marriage Licenses Issued	6,191	6,700	6,522
Lucas County Residents	3,274	3,382	3,274
Out of State Residents	2,917	3,318	3,348

Source: Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division

Are Children's Families Able to Provide for Them?

Regardless of income level, the cost of supporting a family is high. About 11 percent of the families fall below the poverty line, with female-headed households with children representing 62 percent of this group. Family income affects child-rearing costs. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, over a seventeen-year period low-income families are projected to spend \$159,800 to raise their children. Similarly, middle-income families will spend a projected \$219,300 throughout a seventeen-year period to raise their children. Upper-income families are projected to spend almost \$306,000 during that same timeframe on child-rearing costs. As low-wage working parents struggle to make ends meet, many are unaware they are eligible for health insurance, child-care assistance and food stamps. Children who grow up poor are less likely to have quality schools, child-care and health care.

The median family income in Lucas County was \$48,190 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). However, this amount varied significantly along racial lines. For example, the median family income of whites living in Lucas County was \$52,280, versus African Americans, whose median family income was \$27,213, and Hispanics, whose median family income was \$34,493.

Since the 2000 U.S. Census, poverty has continued to decline in some areas of the country. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, eight states continued to experience a decrease in poverty between 2001 and 2002. Ohio was one of the eight that experienced a decline in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, October 2003). When taking a closer look at the faces of American poverty, children have higher poverty rates than adults. Lucas County is no stranger to this phenomenon. According to the 2002 American Community Survey, there is a greater percentage of children under 18 years old (22%) than adults 18 years and over (13%) in Lucas County living in poverty. When looking even further into children living in poverty throughout Lucas County, the numbers bear out that a greater percentage are African Americans. In fact, according to the 2000 U.S. Census, Lucas County has a greater proportion of African American children living in poverty than both the state of Ohio and the nation. Across the United States, the number of African Americans living in poverty rose the greatest from 2001 to 2002 - 24.1 percent in 2002 and 22.7 percent in 2001 (U.S. Census Bureau, *Poverty in the United States: 2002*, Current Population Reports, September 2003).

	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
Median Family Income	\$48,190	\$50,037	\$50,046
White	\$52,280	\$51,910	\$53,356
Black/African American	\$27,213	\$31,425	\$33,255
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	\$34,493	\$36,533	\$34,397
Source: Anne E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count – 2000 Census Data			

As discussed previously, children under the age of six are particularly vulnerable to poverty. In 2002, the national poverty rate for related children under six was 18.5 percent, or approximately one out of every five children. Yet, of children under six living in families with households lead by females – with no father present – nearly one out of two, or 48.6 percent, were in poverty, five times the rate of their counterparts in married-couple families (U.S. Census Bureau, *Poverty in the United States: 2002*; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, September 2003).

	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
Children 5 yrs. & Younger Living in Poverty	7,095	128,266	3,412,025
White	38% (2,682)	54%	46%
Black/African American	48% (3,377)	36%	30%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12% (860)	5%	29%
Children 18 yrs. & Younger Living in Poverty	23,434	408,685	11,746,858
White	38% (8,872)	56%	47%
Black/African American	50% (11,621)	36%	33%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	11% (2,553)	5%	28%
Source: Anne E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count – 2000 Census Data			

This trend also rings true in Ohio. Most of Ohio's poor children live with a working single parent or grandparent. Statewide, 78 percent of low-income children have parents who work, similar to 82 percent nationally. Overall, more Ohioans are working. Between 1979 and 1998, Ohio's unemployment rate decreased 27 percent. Nevertheless, during the same time period, Ohio's child poverty rate increased 50 percent (Children's Defense Fund, 2001).

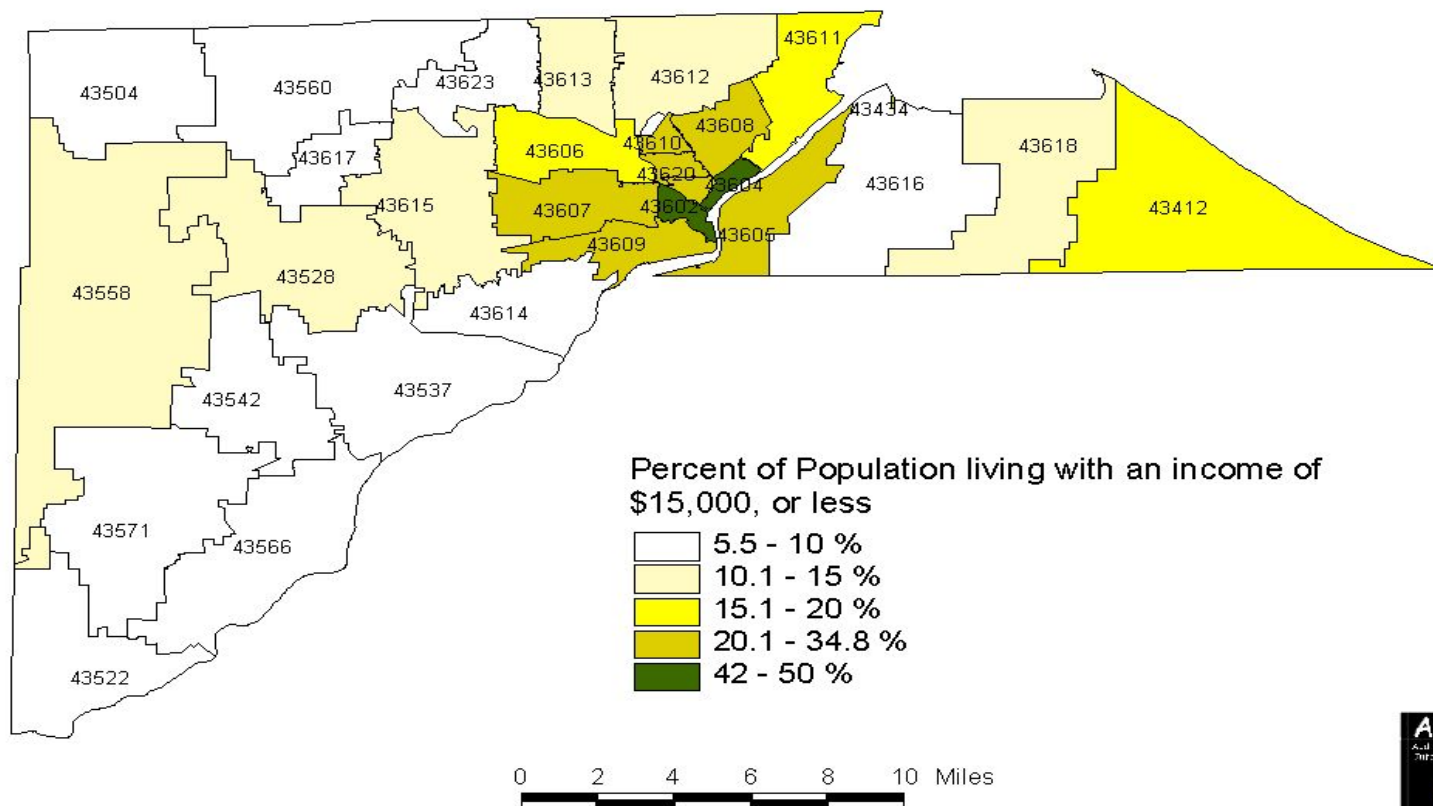
How is poverty measured?

The U.S. Census Bureau uses a complex equation to measure “official poverty.” It begins by computing status based on income, including all money income before taxes, such as earnings, unemployment compensation, Social Security, public assistance, veterans payments, etc. Non-cash benefits such as food stamps and housing do not count, nor do capital gains or losses. If a person lives with a family, the income of all related family members is calculated. That income amount is then matched against what is called the “measure of need,” or the poverty threshold. These thresholds vary according to the size of the family and the ages of the members.

The thresholds are intended for use as a statistical yardstick. Many government programs use a different poverty measure. For example, varying levels of poverty are used as qualification for food stamps, child-care assistance, Head Start, etc. These programs, as well as income eligibility, are discussed further throughout the report. The U.S. Census Bureau officially designates a family as “in poverty” if the total family income is less than the threshold appropriate for family of its size.

2004 Poverty Guidelines 100% of Poverty				150% of Poverty				200% of Poverty			
Family Size	Hourly	Monthly	Annual	Family Size	Hourly	Monthly	Annual	Family Size	Hourly	Monthly	Annual
1	\$4.48	\$776	\$9,310	1	\$6.71	\$1,164	\$13,965	1	\$8.95	\$1,552	\$18,620
2	\$6.00	\$1,041	\$12,490	2	\$9.01	\$1,561	\$18,735	2	\$12.01	\$2,082	\$24,980
3	\$7.53	\$1,306	\$15,670	3	\$11.30	\$1,959	\$23,505	3	\$15.07	\$2,612	\$31,340
4	\$9.06	\$1,571	\$18,850	4	\$13.59	\$2,356	\$28,275	4	\$18.13	\$3,142	\$37,700
5	\$10.59	\$1,836	\$22,030	5	\$15.89	\$2,754	\$33,045	5	\$21.18	\$3,672	\$44,060
6	\$12.12	\$2,101	\$25,210	6	\$18.18	\$3,151	\$37,815	6	\$24.24	\$4,202	\$50,420
7	\$13.65	\$2,366	\$28,390	7	\$20.47	\$3,549	\$42,585	7	\$27.30	\$4,732	\$56,780
8	\$15.18	\$2,631	\$31,570	8	\$22.77	\$3,946	\$47,355	8	\$30.36	\$5,262	\$63,140
Source: Children's Defense Fund-Ohio											

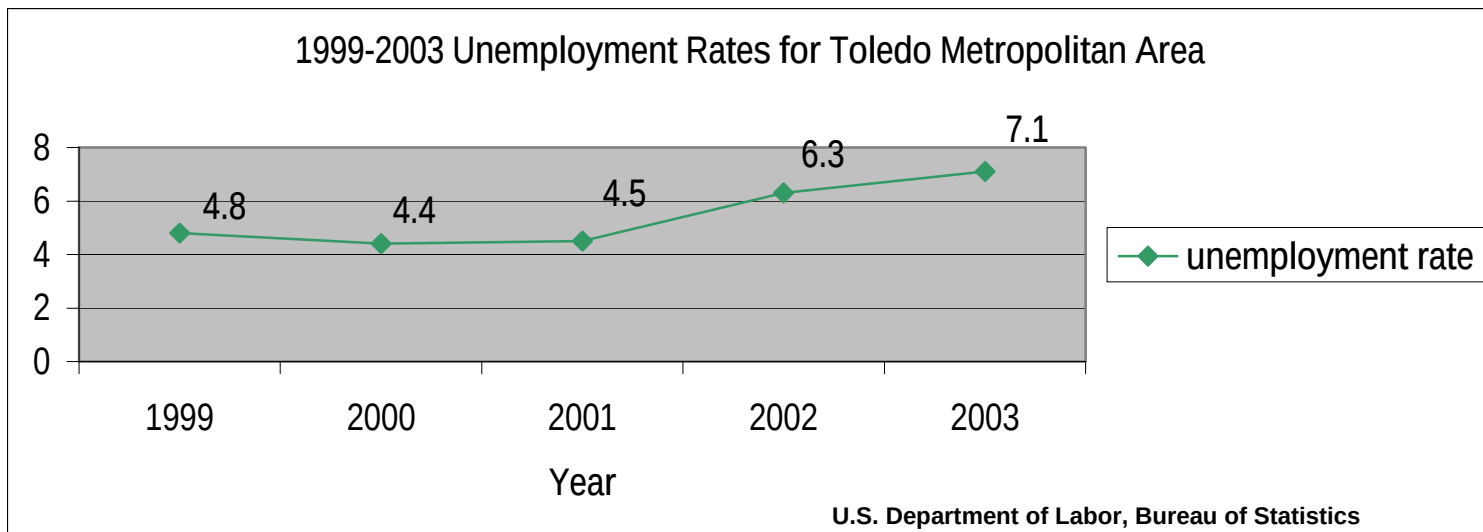
Percent of Population Making \$15,000 or less per year, by Zip Code



The map depicts the percent of the population throughout Lucas County living with an income of \$15,000 or less by zip code. As shown, the greatest concentration of poverty occurs in the 43602 and 43604 zip code areas closely followed by the 43605, 43609, 43607, 43620, 43610, 43624, and 43608 zip code areas.

The Impact of Unemployment on Children

The economy takes its toll on children during times of increased unemployment. As a consequence of more parents experiencing layoffs and longer stretches of unemployment, there are more children going without health insurance. According to the Rand Corporation, approximately 26 percent of children have parents who are unemployed versus 12 percent of children whose parents are employed. Further, according to a report in the Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology, having an unemployed parent can be one of a number of risk factors for later behavioral difficulties. As a result, these children are more likely to suffer developmental delays and fall behind in school (Rapport Newsletter, Vol 7-2003, Issue 2, News and Notes pg 13).



The unemployment rates in the Toledo Metropolitan area have generally remained higher than those for the state of Ohio or the United States. The graph above depicts annual unemployment rates in Lucas County since 1999. In July 2003, the greater Toledo area experienced a 9.1 unemployment rate. The area had not had an unemployment rate that high since June 1992 (U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics).

	Lucas County	Ohio
Population Ages 16 To 19 Who Are Not In School & Not Working	9.4% (2,384)	7.5% (48,272)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Ohio Works First & Food Stamps

One out of every three Americans living in poverty held a job during 2002 – 37.9 percent or nine million out of everyone living in poverty – yet, despite working, could not earn enough to afford the basic necessities (i.e., food, healthcare and housing) (U.S. Census Bureau, *Poverty in the United States: 2002*; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, September 2003).

Ohio Works First (OWF) aims to prevent the need for assistance. Only half as many Ohio families received cash assistance in October 2000 than in October 1997. Ohio now spends more on child-care assistance and preventing welfare dependency than it does on cash assistance. To be eligible for the program, families have to be low income, and are likely to be well below 100 percent of the poverty level (refer to p. 11 for poverty levels). The number of Ohioans receiving cash assistance declined 47 percent between October 1997 and October 2000. However, OWF serves nearly two children for every adult. Moreover, a family of three receives a maximum of \$373 per month on cash assistance. Seventy-two percent of the individuals on cash assistance live in Ohio's eight urban counties, compared to 50 percent of the state's population. Fewer than half of the adults receiving cash assistance statewide have a high school diploma.

The Food Stamp program is another example of assistance given to Lucas County families. It is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Eligible residents are likely to be low income at or under 130 percent of the poverty level. Families who have an elderly (60+) or disabled person residing with them are likely to be low income and at or under 165 percent of the poverty level. Residents qualifying for this program do not have to accept other benefits, but may if their family circumstance warrants.

One reason for children in poverty is that many parents who are considered low income do not earn enough to move them out of poverty. Many of these jobs have limited benefits and erratic hours. Most of these parents have to access public assistance to make ends meet. A total of 91 percent* of families in 2002 who were once on Ohio Works First cash benefits were eligible for and maintained medical benefits for their families. Many other low-income families are receiving food stamps in Lucas County to subsidize their family's basic needs. In 2002, there was an average of 86 percent* of all families in Lucas County under 130 percent of the poverty level who received food stamps.

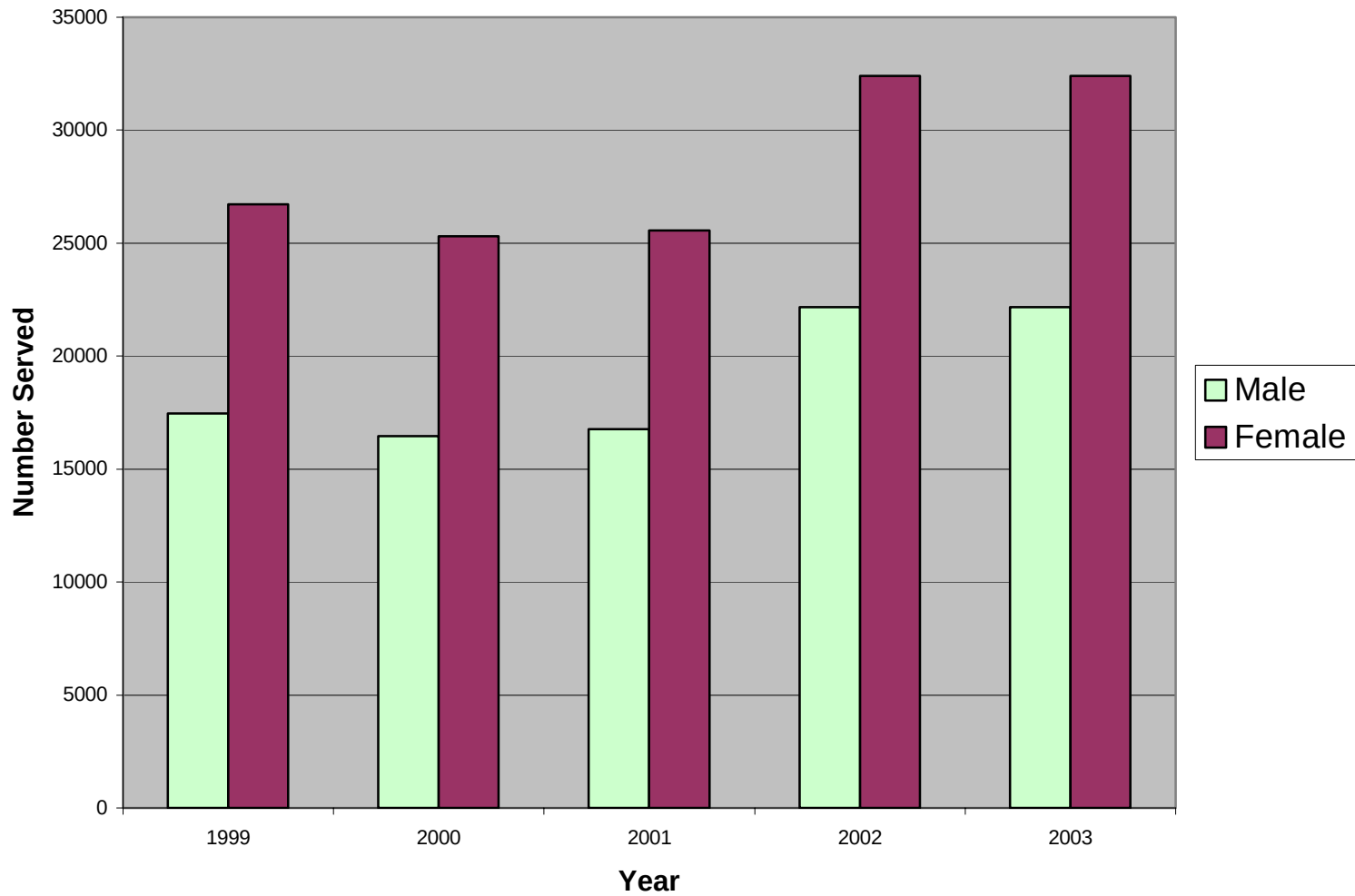
* The population baseline based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

The following tables, charts and maps represent breakdowns of Lucas County recipients (including adults and children) who are receiving cash assistance (i.e., OWF) and/or Food Stamps from Lucas County Job and Family Services. The tables represent recipients by race, age and gender from 1999 to 2003.

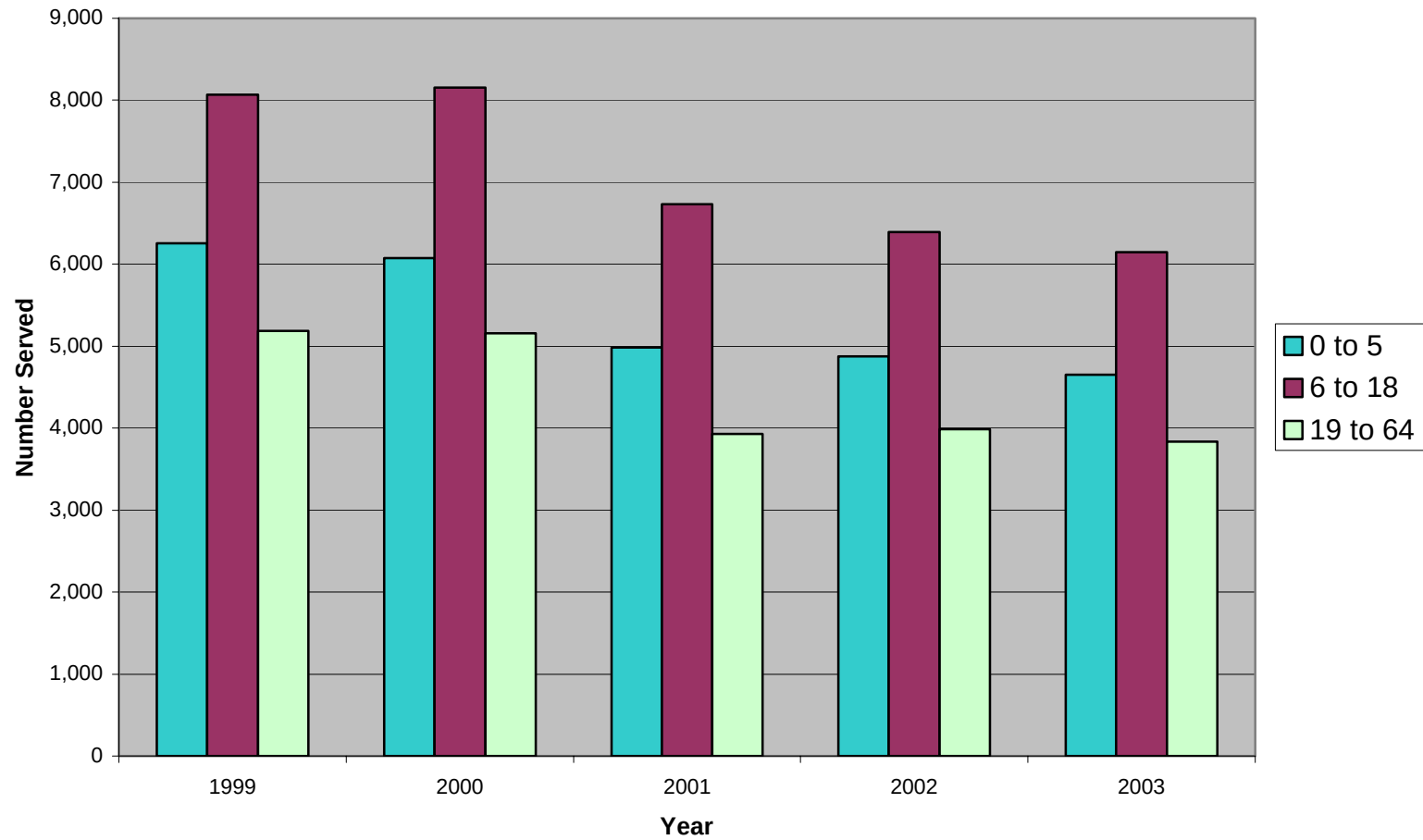
Ohio Works First by Age in Lucas County					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
0 to 5	6,255	6,075	4,981	4,878	4,649
6 to 18	8,067	8,154	6,729	6,392	6,144
19 to 64	5,187	5,154	3,930	3,985	3,838
Food Stamps by Age in Lucas County					
0 to 5	8,983	8,270	8,474	9,447	10,809
6 to 18	13,472	12,711	13,029	14,581	16,486
19 to 65	19,033	18,224	18,429	21,178	24,760
65 and older	2,695	2,564	2,398	2,456	2,527
Source: Lucas County Job & Family Services					

Ohio Works First by Race in Lucas County					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
White	6,983	6,985	5,776	5,991	6,047
Black/African American	11,308	11,213	8,881	8,228	7,497
Other/Unknown	1,213	1,185	977	1,031	1,087
Food Stamps by Race in Lucas County					
White	18,694	17,752	18,099	20,876	24,902
Black/African American	22,843	21,508	21,768	23,880	26,729
Other/Unknown	2,646	2,509	2,463	2,906	2,951
Source: Lucas County Job & Family Services					

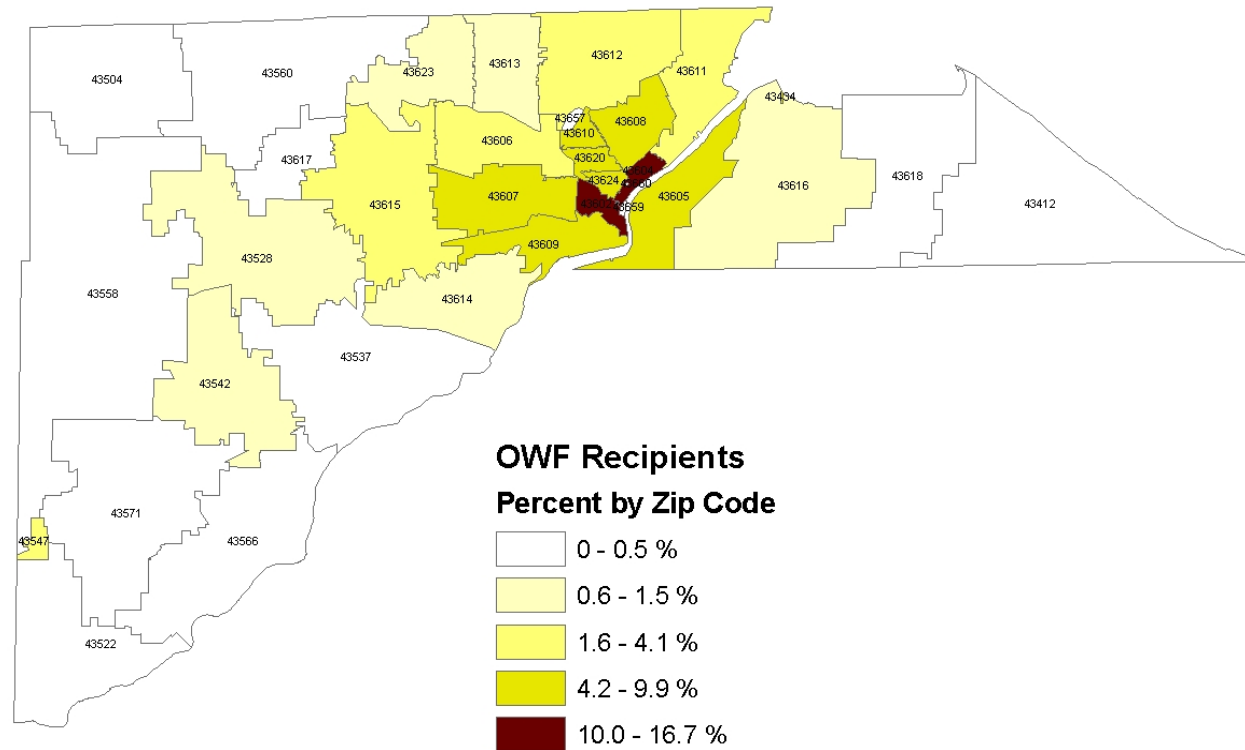
Food Stamps by Gender in Lucas County



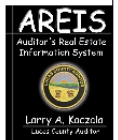
Ohio Works First by Age in Lucas County



2003 Lucas County OWF Recipients by Zip Code



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles



The map depicts the percent of the population in each zip code throughout Lucas County receiving cash assistance (i.e., OWF). As shown, the greatest concentrations of residents receiving cash assistance occur in the 43602 and 43604 zip code areas closely followed by the 43609, 43607, 43605, 43624, 43620, 43610, and 43608 zip code areas.

Food & Shelter

In 2002, 35 million people lived in households experiencing food insecurity (not enough food for basic nourishment) and hunger compared to 34 million in 2001 and 31 million in 1999 (U.S. Department of Agriculture, *Household Food Security in the United States, 2002*, October 2003). The situation is equally unfortunate for low-income households attempting to access housing. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition's *Out of Reach 2003 Annual Report on Housing Affordability*, 35 percent of the Lucas County households are renters. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are over a 196,000 housing units in Lucas County. Sixty-one percent of the housing units are owner occupied, and the median value of a home is \$90,700. The median gross rent is \$484 and this represents 25 percent of household income. The following chart illustrates the disparity between wage and rent in Lucas County, making it challenging for low wage families to rent at fair market rates.

Fair Market Monthly Rate (FMR) for Apartments		Hourly Wage Needed to Afford FMR Apt.	Work Hours/Week Necessary at Minimum Wage (\$5.15/Hr) to Afford FMR Apartment
Zero bedroom:	\$387	\$7.44	58
One bedroom:	\$470	\$9.04	70
Two bedroom:	\$574	\$11.04	86
Three bedroom:	\$739	\$14.21	110
Four bedroom:	\$802	\$15.42	120
Source: National Income Housing Coalition's Out of Reach Annual Report, 2003			

Further, the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority reports an average wait of eight months for large families to obtain public housing. The Section 8 certificate program, allowing families to pay only 30 percent of their household income for rent in both public and privately owned housing, has not been authorized for additional certificates in the past few years. As families become ineligible, due to increased income or program noncompliance, the same certificates (about 400) re-circulate over the course of each year. Unfortunately, the number one cause of homelessness in Lucas County is lack of affordable housing. Families remain in shelters longer than anticipated because no housing vouchers are available, or fair market housing is too expensive. New families entering the system find themselves locked into long shelter stays, or moving in with relatives or friends. Lucas County has few sources for non-program related eviction prevention services for non-TANF eligible households. According to one service provider, Catholic Charities, they received almost 500 calls for eviction prevention services from July 2003 to December 2003. The program was only able to serve 57 households due to limited resources.

The Emergency Food and Shelter Board of Lucas County

The Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) funds programs in Lucas County that provide meals for individuals and families. EFSP guidelines stipulate agencies must keep a daily tally of the individuals served; however, no one is screened for eligibility. The following information is a 3-year compilation of the number of meals served at the following hospitality kitchens:

- Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor
- Good Samaritan Outreach Center
- Helping Hands of St. Louis
- Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality Kitchen
- St. Paul's Community Center

The Emergency Food and Shelter Board of Lucas County, 2001 - 2003

Number of Meals Served	
2001	278,235
2002	290,573
2003	292,328

Source: Emergency Food and Shelter Board of Lucas County

These numbers represent number of meals served, not the number of persons—the number of persons would be a duplicate count since many people receive multiple meals per day and month at these sites.

The Toledo Homeless Management Information System

The Toledo Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a computerized tracking system and data collection tool designed to capture system wide information over time about the characteristics and service needs of residents experiencing homelessness. Community HMIS projects were developed in response to a mandate from Congress in 2001. Congress asked communities to generate an unduplicated count of the homeless population, generate data detailing the impact of homeless programs, and detail outcomes of the success of these programs moving the homeless population from emergency and transitional shelters back into permanent housing in the community.

HMIS data collection began in November 2003. As of February 2004, approximately 904 total clients have been input into HMIS from 15 pilot agencies. HMIS pilot agencies include: Aurora Project, Beach House, Bethany House, Catholic Charities/La Posada Family Shelter, Cherry Street Mission, David's House, Family House, FOCUS, Harbor House, Neighborhood Properties, Open Door Ministry, St. Paul's Community Center, Salvation Army, United Way First Call for Help. Although data collection began in November 2003, the early numbers indicate almost half, or 43 percent, of the individuals served were children under the age of 18. Adults over the age of 19 represent 57 percent of the individuals served.

Toledo Homeless Management Information System, 2004										
Age	Gender				Race					
	Male		Female		African American		White		Other	
	Count	% of Category	Count	% of Category	Count	% of Category	Count	% of Category	Count	% of Category
0 to 5 yrs	27	6%	39	11%	30	8%	11	5%	15	24%
6 to 18 yrs	115	26%	158	44%	137	38%	71	30%	22	35%
19 to 64 yrs	293	67%	162	45%	194	53%	152	65%	25	40%
65+ yrs	3	1%	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	1	2%
TOTAL	438	100%	359	100%	363	100%	234	100%	63	100%
Source: Toledo Homeless Management Information System										

School Lunch Program

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in more than 99,800 public and non-profit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to more than 26 million children each school day. In 1998, Congress expanded the National School Lunch Program to include reimbursement for snacks served to children in after-school educational and enrichment programs to include children through 18 years of age. When comparing state and national data to Lucas County, the county serves a larger percentage of children with free or reduced-price meals.

	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
School Children Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Meals	38%	29%	31%

Source: KidsOhio.org, 2002

Child Support

The increase in the rate of divorce, separation and out-of-wedlock births has been dramatic in the United States. There are more than one million children in Ohio who are entitled to child support. Ohio's child support program serves over 869,000 children – more than any other public program except public education. For many children, child support can mean the difference between living in poverty and being able to afford the basics. Children can receive child support for three main reasons: the children are born to unmarried parents, the parents divorce, or the parents separate.

The Child Support program is a collaborative effort involving federal, state and local agencies. In Ohio, the program is administered by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Child Support (OCS). The program's goals are to ensure both parents support all children financially and to reduce the number of children receiving public assistance. Each county in Ohio is required to establish a separate child support enforcement agency (CSEA). In Lucas County, the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) collects and disburses millions of dollars each year. During fiscal year 2002, over 51,000 children were involved in child support orders in Lucas County. A total of \$76,394,987 was disbursed through CSEA. In 2002, approximately 53,000 children were involved with child support orders in Lucas County, and a total of \$92,545,092 was disbursed through CSEA. Further, one of every \$4 owed in child support in Lucas County is in arrears.



How Many Children Need Care While Their Parents Work?

According to longitudinal studies, quality childcare prepares children for school. Children in quality childcare programs scored higher on cognitive measures and social skills. Childcare that leads to improved school readiness is consistently linked to low child-to-teacher ratios and more highly trained and better-compensated staff. More than 500,000 Ohio children younger than age 6 spend some or all of their day in a childcare setting. Childcare costs rival the cost of college tuition. Full-time care in a childcare center for a four-year old averaged more than \$5,400 per year in Lucas County. For an infant, full-time care costs in a childcare center are even more staggering at over \$7,000 per year. By comparison, the University of Toledo charged \$6,414 for full-time undergraduate fees and tuition for academic year 2003-2004.

Between 1985 and 2001, costs for childcare have almost doubled. Runzheimer International examined costs in suburban communities surrounding 75 metropolitan areas and found the average weekly cost for childcare in 1982 was \$58; whereas, by 2001, costs rose to \$129 per week. According to the Children's Defense Fund, the average weekly cost for childcare in Lucas County is \$118. Depending on what level of care is needed (i.e., age of child), weekly costs can be as high as \$145. Factoring in metropolitan counties with rural, average weekly childcare costs in Ohio run around \$95.

Full-Time Center Weekly Average Cost,	Lucas County	Ohio
Infant	\$145	\$112
Toddler	\$127	\$99
Preschool	\$111	\$89
School-Age	\$89	\$80
Source: Children's Defense Fund Fact Sheet-- Lucas County, Ohio, 2002		

YW Child Care Connections

The YW Child Care Connections is a nonprofit childcare resource and referral program. The purpose of the program is to assist parents in locating and evaluating affordable, quality childcare in Northwest Ohio and West-Central Ohio. In addition, YW Child Care Connections serves as a resource to childcare providers, employers and policymakers.

The following table depicts the percentage of requests for information and referral to family childcare homes versus childcare centers. Requests were further broken down by age of child(ren) in need of care. Requests made were generally higher for home-based childcare in each age group.

2002 YW Child Care Connections: Percent of Center v. Home (Non-Center) Care Requests by Age for Northwest Ohio and West-Central Ohio		
	Childcare Center	Home Childcare
Under 1 yr. old	37%	58%
1 yr. old	40%	60%
2 yrs. old	39%	59%
3 to 4 yrs. old	40%	56%
5 yrs. old	47%	50%
6 to 8 yrs. old	39%	51%
9 yrs. old & over	38%	50%

Source: YW Child Care Connections, 2002

JFS Subsidized Childcare

Many Lucas County residents have children in need of childcare and may be qualified by their income and/or need to receive a financial subsidy for childcare. The chart below is the count of families that received services in 2003 by category of financial eligibility, such as Ohio Works First (OWF), or by specific need, such as Head Start. Most families receiving childcare have a total gross income of less than 150 percent of the poverty level. Federal and state governments collect and allocate childcare funding according to the categories listed below.

Families Receiving Subsidized Childcare by Category of Qualification: 2003		
Category	# of families	% of Total
Families receiving OWF	621	19.5%
Families with children in Head Start and need childcare before and/or after child attends Head Start	32	1 %
Families who are employed and over income for OWF, income must be less than 150% of the poverty level.	1624	51 %
Families who meet needing childcare for training (not employed) and income eligible to receive childcare.	16	.5%
Families working with Children's Services and needing "protective" childcare	127	4%
Clients receiving childcare for one year after being removed from OWF	478	15%
Other	286	9%
Total	3184	

Source: Lucas County Job & Family Services

Head Start

Head Start is a federal and state funded pre-school program for children ages 3 to 5 years old. Most enrolled children live in families with incomes at or below the federal poverty level. The State of Ohio ranks 5th highest in federal funding and 4th highest in the number of children served. However, the state ranks 49th in average dollars spent per child. Ohio's funding of Head Start is 13 percent lower than the national average. The national average cost per child in 2000 was \$5,464. In 2000, Ohio spent approximately \$4,729 in average dollars per child.

In Lucas County, the Economic Opportunity Planning Association of Greater Toledo (EOPA) operates Head Start. For over thirty-five years, EOPA/Toledo-Lucas County Head Start has served over 80,000 income eligible Lucas County 3-5 year olds and their families. According to the 2002 EOPA community assessment, 64 percent of Head Start children in Lucas County come from single-parent households. Fifty-two percent of Head Start families in Lucas County are employed while approximately 53 percent receive some form of government assistance. The following chart depicts Head Start enrollment in Lucas County and the state of Ohio in 1990 and 2002.

Head Start Enrollment	Lucas County	Ohio
1990	1,679	30,452
2002	3,057	54,218

Source: KidsOhio.org, 2002



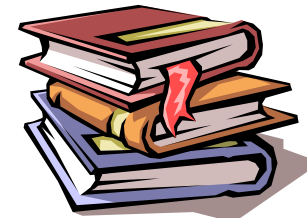
Are Children Learning Basic Skills?

Ohio is in the process of reforming its system of public education to ensure every child receives a high-quality education. State and federal legislation have been driving the reform process since 2001. Governor Taft signed the *Student Success Bill* in June of 2001, and the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* went into affect in 2002. A key element to both education reform initiatives is a commitment to address achievement gaps and to ensure all students receive a quality education. When comparing the eight public school systems in Lucas County, Toledo Public Schools (TPS) has the largest enrollment. Approximately, 65,000 students attend public schools throughout Lucas County. Fifty-six percent attend TPS while 44 percent attend one of the other seven public school districts.

The following tables depict a breakdown of the eight school districts in Lucas County as well as a comparison chart of TPS to similar urban school districts in the state of Ohio. Included is a table displaying the Ohio Department of Education's District-Rating System, as well as the rating scale, and a district-by-district comparison from the past two academic years.

Lucas County School Districts	Enrollment	Graduation Rate	Female	Male	Gifted	Disabilities	White	African/ American	Hispanic
Toledo City School District	36,408	66%	49%	51%	2%	16%	44%	47%	7%
Sylvania City School District	7,568	92%	49%	51%	23%	14%	91%	3%	1%
Washington Local School District	6,557	78%	47%	53%	16%	13%	88%	7%	3%
Maumee City School District	2,802	90%	47%	53%	24%	14%	93%	4%	2%
Oregon City School District	3,617	86%	47%	53%	15%	14%	91%	1%	5%
Anthony Wayne Local School District	3,467	90%	50%	50%	19%	7%	97%	0%	2%
Springfield Local School District	3,478	95%	48%	52%	15%	16%	80%	10%	4%
Ottawa Hills Local School District	985	95%	45%	55%	57%	8%	97%	Not Counted	Not Counted

Source: Ohio Department of Education



2002 Proficiency Results		4th Grade Prof.		6th Grade Prof.			
		Reading	Math	Reading		Math	
State of Ohio Total		68%	63%	58%		62%	
4th Grade Prof.			6th Grade Prof.		9th Grade Prof.		
Lucas County School Districts	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	
Toledo City School District	41%	34%	33%	38%	82%	45%	
Sylvania City School District	82%	67%	76%	71%	97%	89%	
Washington Local School District	72%	68%	54%	65%	93%	75%	
Maumee City School District	76%	76%	67%	74%	94%	88%	
Oregon City School District	83%	82%	68%	71%	97%	92%	
Anthony Wayne Local School District	88%	90%	70%	66%	98%	90%	
Springfield Local School District	83%	73%	67%	66%	95%	81%	
Ottawa Hills Local School District	97%	86%	85%	95%	100%	99%	

Source: Ohio Department of Education

Ohio Department of Education District Academic Rating System		
	Excellent	21-22
	Effective	17-20
	Continuous Improvement	11-16
	Academic Watch	7-10
	Academic Emergency	6 or fewer
Lucas County School District Academic Ratings	2001 - 2002	2002 - 2003
Toledo City School District	Academic Emergency (6)	Academic Emergency (6)
Sylvania City School District	Effective (20)	Effective (19)
Washington Local School District	Continuous Improvement (14)	Continuous Improvement (14)
Maumee City School District	Effective (20)	Effective (17)
Oregon City School District	Effective (18)	Continuous Improvement (16)
Anthony Wayne Local School District	Effective (20)	Excellent (21)
Springfield Local School District	Effective (17)	Continuous Improvement (16)
Ottawa Hills Local School District	Excellent (22)	Excellent (22)

Source: Ohio Department of Education

Toledo Public Schools (TPS) is the fourth largest school system in the State of Ohio (behind Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati). It experiences many of the problems present in the other large urban school districts. TPS proficiency test scores are low, and graduation rates continue to lag. The district remained in Academic Emergency during school year 2001-2002 as well as school year 2002-2003. Nearly 20 percent of the students receive some form of public assistance. Further, the median income of families living in the TPS district is considerably lower than the median income in Lucas County as a whole, which is \$48,190.

Ohio's Urban School Districts				% of Students receiving public assistance	Median Income of Families in District	% Minority Students
District	County	Enrollment				
Toledo City	Lucas	37,730		18%	\$25,292	55%
Akron City	Summit	31,500		16%	\$24,314	50%
Dayton City	Montgomery	22,720		20%	\$22,885	72%
Cincinnati City	Hamilton	43,896		19%	\$25,151	73%
Columbus City	Franklin	64,854		16%	\$25,774	62%
Cleveland City	Cuyahoga	76,747		21%	\$21,434	80%
Canton City	Stark	12,280		15%	\$21,441	43%
Youngstown City	Mahoning	11,583		25%	\$19,451	73%
Source: Ohio Department of Education, 2002						



The following table, based on data from the 2000 U.S. Census, shows the education attainment of residents twenty-five and older living in Lucas County compared to the state of Ohio and the United States. Generally, Lucas County, Ohio and the U.S. have comparable rates in each category. Lucas County and Ohio have higher high school or GED rates than the nation, and the United States as a whole has slightly higher Bachelor's degree and Graduate or professional degree rates than the county or state.

Educational Attainment of Population Age 25+	Lucas County	Ohio	Nation
Not High School Graduate	17%	17%	20%
High School Graduate or GED	32%	36%	29%
Some College, no degree	22%	20%	21%
Associates Degree	7%	6%	6%
Bachelor's Degree	14%	14%	16%
Graduate or Professional Degree	7%	7%	9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000



Are Our Children & Families Healthy?

The good news is that in 2002, the majority (86%) of Lucas County adults describe their overall health as excellent, very good or good. Nearly 88 percent indicate they have health insurance, and a large portion of adults (76%) have taken steps in maintaining good oral health by having their teeth cleaned by a dentist or hygienist in the past year. Nearly three-quarters (73%) of adults say they have participated in some form of physical exercise in the past month, and 19 percent have improved their diet by eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times a day (SMART BRFSS, 2002).

On the downside, in 2002, 14 percent of Lucas County adults report their health as fair or poor, and 12 percent do not have health insurance. Nearly 13 percent have been diagnosed with asthma, and another 8 percent have diabetes. Overall, incidences of sexually transmitted infections in the U.S. and Lucas County are rising. The three-year average rate of Chlamydia for Lucas County female teens and young adults ages 15-24 is 4,503 cases per 100,000 population compared to 2,842 for Ohio. Between 27-30 percent of adults are estimated to be current smokers putting them at risk for smoking related illnesses, such as heart and lung diseases. Nearly two-thirds of Lucas County adults are estimated to be overweight or obese by Body Mass Index (BMI) measurements putting them at risk for health problems including diabetes and disabilities (ODH 2000-2002).

Behaviors That Risk Health			
	Lucas	Ohio	Healthy Goal*
Current Cigarette Smokers	30%	27%	12%
Binge Drinkers	22%	15%	6%
No Leisure Time Physical Activity	41%	37%	20%
Participates in Regular Physical Activity	15%	13%	30%
Adult Obesity (20+ years)	27%	22%	15%
Children Wearing Bike Helmets	16%	34%	N/A
* Objective is to meet goal by 2010.			
Source: Ohio Department of Health, Data Warehouse, 1999-2001, Behavioral Risk Factor Survey for Lucas County			

Turning to children's health in Lucas County, the American Lung Association estimates over 10,000 youth had asthma during 2001. The 2002 ADAS Student Survey determined one-fourth of youth ages 12-18 are at risk of being overweight or are overweight based on BMI calculations with significant differences between males (29%) and females (20%). Differences were also identified among racial and ethnic groups. Almost one-third of the African American and multi-ethnic students surveyed are at risk for being overweight or are overweight compared to 23 percent of white students.



Prenatal Care & Infant Mortality Rates

The Centers for Disease Control recognizes a healthy pregnancy may increase the chances of having a healthy baby. In 2002, 89 percent of Lucas County babies were born to mothers who received early prenatal care. However, cigarette smoking during pregnancy can result in low birth weight. In 2001, the Ohio Department of Health reported that 20 percent of Lucas County mothers smoked during the prenatal period. The leading causes of death for infants (babies less than one year of age) in Lucas County as well as the nation are low birth weight, birth defects, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

In 2001, 52 Lucas County infants died either at birth or before their first birthday. African American infants died at a rate that is over three times higher than the figure for Whites. The following tables depict the percentage of women who received early prenatal care during their pregnancies in Lucas County.

Percentage of Babies Whose Mothers Received Early Prenatal Care	
	Lucas County
All live births	89%
15-17 year old mothers	68%
18-19 year old mothers	83%
African American & Hispanic	79%
Sources: ODH Information Warehouse, 2002	

Low birth weight, congenital malformations, and SIDS account for 54 percent of the deaths to infants less than one year (ODH Information Warehouse, 1999-2001).

Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Population		
	Lucas County	Ohio
Total	8.1	7.6
White	5.3	6.1
African American	18	16.1
Hispanic	N/A	5.6
Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 2001		



Help Me Grow (HMG) is the birth-to-three system in each of Ohio's counties. The primary purpose of HMG is to assure that infants have the best possible start in life by providing health and developmental services. HMG services include newborn home visits, early intervention for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities, and ongoing services for expectant parents and their infants and toddlers who are at risk for developmental problems.

The Lucas County Family Council receives funds from the state of Ohio to implement and maintain "a coordinated, community-based infrastructure that promotes trans-disciplinary, family-centered services for expectant parents, newborns, infants, toddlers and their families." Activities conducted through the HMG birth-to-three system are expected to support the following commitments to family and child well-being as established by Governor Taft: expectant parents and newborns thrive; infants and toddlers thrive; and, children are healthy and ready for school.

For each of the three HMG service areas, families must meet certain eligibility criteria. All county residents are eligible for newborn home visits. To be eligible for early intervention services, infants and toddlers must be experiencing a developmental delay in one or more areas (e.g., cognitive, physical, including vision, hearing and nutrition, communication, social/emotional, and adaptive development) as measured by a developmental evaluation tool and informed clinical opinion, or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay. In order to qualify for ongoing services, infants and toddlers, pregnant women and their families must exhibit a minimum of four out of seventeen risk factors.

Between July 2001 and June 2002, 957 individuals were served through HMG, and during the next funding period, July 2002 to June 2003, 2,237 individuals were served in Lucas County. The increase in children and families served between the two funding years was due in large part to an increase in outreach and child-find efforts. Approximately 22 percent of the children served have an identified disability whereas about 78 percent of the children fall into the "at-risk" category exhibiting a minimum of four out of seventeen risk factors. The most frequently identified risk factors are as follow:

- Demographic Characteristics (i.e., Parent education level, parents' employment status, single parent)
- Family Income Up to 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Acute Family Crisis
- Adolescent Mother (Age <20).

Youth Depression and Suicide

According to the 1999 Lucas County Youth Health Needs Assessment Report, many youth, ages 12-18 years, experience feelings of sadness and hopelessness. In 1999, almost one-fourth (21%) of Lucas County youth reported that at some time in the past twelve months they had felt sad or helpless almost every day for two weeks or longer; whereas, females, ages 17-18, were at 32 percent. The study also showed females were more likely than males to have stopped doing their usual activities as a result of these feelings. Further, African American (28%) youth reported feelings of sadness and hopelessness at a greater rate during the past 12 months than whites (20%) and Hispanics (15%). However, the report went on to indicate that although African Americans are more likely to have felt sad and hopeless, they are the less likely to consider attempting suicide. In 1999, 15 percent of Lucas County youth in grades 9-12 reported they had seriously considered attempting suicide at some time in the past year. Although this study and the 2002 ADAS Student Survey have shown that females were more likely to have had thoughts of suicide than males, 79 percent of the suicide deaths in Lucas County from 1999-2001 were males. The ADAS survey also indicated that ninth grade students report the highest rate of thoughts about committing suicide.

Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates Per 100,000 Population		
	Lucas County	Ohio
Total	11.4	10.1
White	13.1	10.5
African American	4.5	7.1
Hispanic	5.8	4.7
Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 1999-2001		

Lucas County Number of Suicide Deaths By Age and Gender		
Age	Male	Female
15-24	20	2
25-34	15	6
35-44	33	9
45-54	22	7
55-64	9	5
65-74	12	2
75+	10	1
Total	121	32
Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 2002		

Leading Causes of Death for Lucas County Children & Families

An average of 4,566 people died each year from 1999-2001 in Lucas County, 76 percent of those deaths occurred to those 65 years and older. Major cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease and strokes, are the leading causes of death for older adults and for people age 35-54.

Cancer is the next leading cause of death for those same age groups. Differences in age-adjusted mortality rates within the county exist by race and ethnicity. Between 1999 and 2001, African Americans had the highest rates of heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes deaths. In 2003, the American Cancer Society reported incidences of cancer rates at 485.6 cases per 100,000 population for Lucas County residents, which is higher than the state and nation. From 1999 to 2001, lung & bronchus cancers accounted for 30 percent of the cancer deaths in Lucas County.

When compared to Non-Hispanics, the mortality rates of Lucas County Hispanics are higher for accidents (unintentional injuries) and diabetes. Motor vehicle accidents are the top cause of death for Lucas County children and adults aged 1-34 years.

Age-Adjusted Heart Disease Mortality Rate Per 100,000 Population

	Lucas	Ohio
Total	334	281
White	325	276
Black/ African American	396	333
Hispanic	185	163

Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 1999-2001

Age-Adjusted Cancer Mortality Rate Per 100,000 Population

Type of Cancer	Lucas	Ohio
Lung and Bronchus	66	62
Colon, Rectum and Anus	24	23
Prostate	10	11
Breast (Female Only)	25	29

Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 1999-2001

Age-Adjusted Accident (Unintentional Injury) Mortality Rate Per 100,000 Population

	Lucas	Ohio
Total	27	31
White	27	31
African American	29	33
Hispanic	38	27

Source: ODH Information Warehouse, 1999-2001

Are Children Living in Safe Homes?

Violence is a part of every child's life in America. Violence originates in many places – self, family, peers, the community, and the media. It affects children and youth at every age, even newborns. In 2002, there were an estimated 81,028 incidences of family violence crime in Toledo and the surrounding Lucas County suburbs, including crimes of domestic violence, stalking, assault, rape, and menacing (Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, 2004).

Child abuse and neglect are other forms of violence that too many children in our community experience. Child abuse and neglect represent those actions, or failures to act, toward a child that cause harm or risk of harm. Basically, it's a failure to provide a child with needed care and protection. Every child's well-being depends on proper food, clothing, shelter, medical care and supervision. Children also need plenty of attention and affection as well as positive school experiences. Child neglect and physical abuse differ, though the results are similar. Both can cause serious physical injury, emotional harm and even death.

Child abuse and neglect are typically substantiated through an admission by the person(s) responsible, an adjudication, other forms of confirmation deemed valid by the legal authorities [i.e., Lucas County Children Services (LCCS)], or a professional judgment made by LCCS staff that child abuse or neglect has occurred. Child abuse and neglect are defined as "indicated" when there is insufficient evidence to substantiate, but there are circumstantial or other isolated indicators of child abuse or neglect lacking confirmation.



The table below shows the number of children of substantiated or indicated incidents for each of the four maltreatment categories. In 2003, 19 percent of the substantiated or indicated children were physically abused, 37 percent experienced neglect, 16 percent were sexually abused and 27 percent experienced emotional maltreatment.

Children of Substantiated/Indicated Incidents of Child Abuse and Neglect (CA/N) in Lucas County						
Type of CA/N	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
Physical Abuse	509	600	738	626	555	
Neglect	1219	1251	1361	1200	1063	
Sexual Abuse	518	510	503	539	463	
Emotional Maltreatment*	19	24	21	423	776	
Annual Total	2265	2385	2623	2788	2857	
*In 2002, LCCS began coding incidents with domestic violence as Emotional Maltreatment.						
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board						

The following table provides a profile of the demographics (race, gender and age) of alleged victims of child abuse or neglect. Of the 2857 children abused in 2003, 40 percent were under the age of 6, 39 percent were between 6 and 12 years of age, and 21 percent were between 13 and 18 years of age. In 2003, 53 percent of the substantiated victims were female. The table shows that 58 percent of the substantiated/indicated victims were White and 38 percent were African American.

Demographics on Children of Substantiated/Indicated Incidents of CA/N in Lucas County						
AGE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
0-5 yrs	856	831	947	1018	1142	
6-12 yrs	910	980	1101	1139	1115	
13-18 yrs	499	574	575	631	600	
GENDER						
Female	1209	1214	1354	1448	1501	
Male	1056	1171	1269	1340	1356	
RACE						
African American	894	1002	1045	1112	1087	
White	1181	1239	1365	1536	1650	
Other	190	144	213	140	120	
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board						

The table below shows the number of children that entered into LCCS custody or relative custody. In 2003, 58 percent of the children entering out of home care went into LCCS custody. Regardless of whether LCCS or a relative had custody, a point of importance is that of the 811 total children who were placed in out of home care, 62 percent (501) were placed in a relative home.

Children entering out of home care in Lucas County					
Type of Custody	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Children entering agency custody	520	419	541	515	472
Children entering relative custody	153	194	210	270	339
Annual Total	673	613	751	785	811
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board					

The table below provides a profile of the demographics (race, gender and age) of children entering LCCS custody. Of the 472 children entering LCCS custody in 2003, 58 percent were under the age of six, 24 percent were between 6 and 12 years of age, and 18 percent were between 13 and 18 years of age. In 2003, 52 percent of the children entering LCCS custody were male. The table shows that 55 percent of the children entering LCCS custody were White and 44 percent were African American.

Demographics of Children Entering Agency Custody in Lucas County					
AGE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
0-5 yrs	272	215	289	283	271
6-12 yrs	161	131	150	150	114
13-18 yrs	87	73	102	82	87
GENDER					
Female	249	214	260	245	227
Male	271	205	281	270	245
RACE					
African American	256	224	259	259	209
White	254	185	248	239	259
Other	10	10	34	17	4
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board					

The table below provides a profile of the demographics (race, gender and age) of children entering *relative* custody. Of the 339 children entering relative custody in 2003, 60 percent were under the age of six, 28 percent were between 6 and 12 years of age, and 12 percent were between 13 and 18 years of age. In 2003, 51

percent of the children entering relative custody were female. The table shows that 50 percent of the children entering relative custody were African American and 49 percent were White.

Demographics of Children Entering <i>Relative</i> Custody in Lucas County						
	AGE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	0-5 yrs	72	98	100	159	203
	6-12 yrs	55	63	79	74	95
	13-18 yrs	26	33	31	37	41
	GENDER					
	Female	78	88	108	146	172
	Male	75	106	102	124	167
	RACE					
	African American	85	96	118	128	170
	White	64	93	84	135	165
	Other	4	5	8	7	4
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board						

If LCCS holds temporary custody, the agency's custody may be terminated through reunification or the transfer of custody to a family member or other person close to the family. If a child enters LCCS permanent custody, that custody will not terminate until there is a finalized adoption or the child emancipates from agency custody. In 2003, there were 579 children released from agency custody. The table below shows the reasons that LCCS temporary or permanent custody was terminated. The percentage of terminations in which children returned to their own homes or were discharged to a relative was 70 percent in 2003. The percentage of terminations in which children were adopted was 24 percent in 2003.

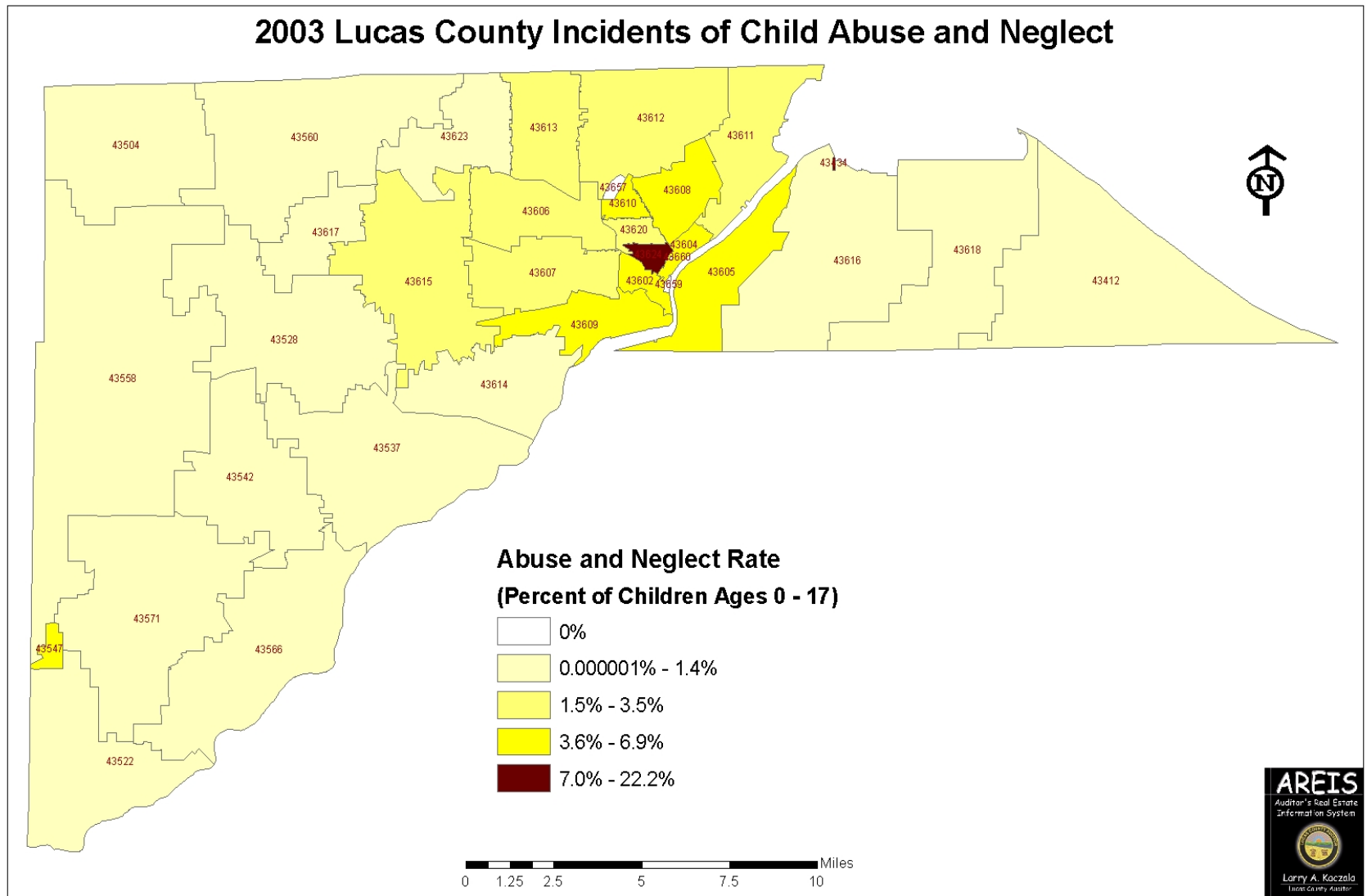
Children Leaving Out-of-Home Care in Lucas County						
	Type of Placement	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	Returned Home to Parent	231	188	184	209	164
	Discharged to Relative	217	213	179	263	242
	Adoption	126	154	135	124	137
	Emancipation	46	32	40	33	33
	Other	5	2	7	1	3
	Total	625	589	545	630	579
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board						

The table below provides a profile of the demographics (race, gender and age) of children released from agency custody. Of the 590 children released from agency custody in 2003, 51 percent were under the age of six, 27 percent were between 6 and 12 years of age, and 22 percent were between 13 and 18 years of age. The table shows that 51 percent of the children released from agency custody were White and 48 percent were African American.

Demographics of Children Leaving Out-of-Home Care in Lucas County					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
AGE					
0-5 yrs	276	266	246	328	298
6-12 yrs	204	205	175	170	162
13-18 yrs	145	118	124	132	130
GENDER					
Female	309	298	280	313	280
Male	316	291	265	317	310
RACE					
African American	288	289	293	301	301
White	307	293	233	298	282
Other	30	7	19	31	7
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board					

Lucas County Children Services provided services to 12,288 children during calendar year 2003. This is about a negligible change when compared to 2002. In terms of families served, there a 1 percent increase in 2003 compared to 2002. These figures include children and families whose involvement with the LCCS continued from 2002 into 2003.

Children and Families Served by LCCS					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Children Served	11,486	12,062	13,213	12,303	12,288
Families Served	4,571	4,776	5,304	5,126	5,156
Source: Lucas County Children Services Board					



The map depicts the percent of the population, age 0-17, throughout Lucas County experiencing child abuse & neglect by zip code. The area experiencing the highest rate of occurrences is 43624. Other areas with high occurrences are the 43605, 43602, 43609, 43610, 43604, 43608, and 43547 zip code areas.

Are Youth Involved in High-Risk Behaviors?

Youth violence continues to be a major concern on the national level as well as locally. Reducing serious, violent, and chronic juvenile delinquency requires a multifaceted, coordinated approach. Having a clear picture of local problems and issues involving and surrounding youth violence is key in both treating and preventing juvenile crime.

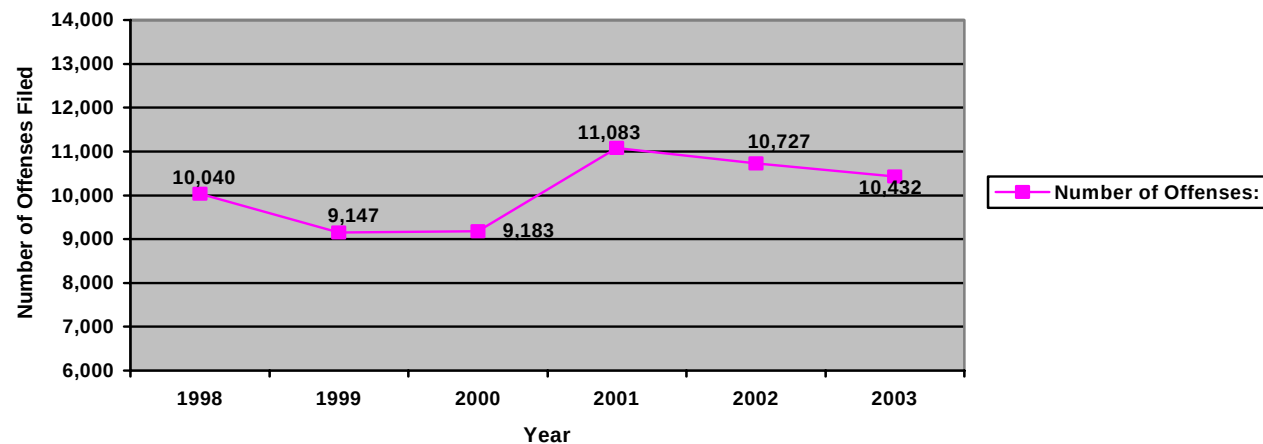
Juvenile Court

Delinquency offenses are acts committed by juveniles that, if committed by an adult, would result in criminal prosecution. In 1999 (the most recent year for national data) the juvenile courts in the United States handled nearly 1.7 million delinquency cases.

Total Juvenile Offences	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of Offenses:	10,040	9,147	9,183	11,083	10,727	10,432
Source: Lucas County Juvenile Court						

The total number of offenses filed in the Lucas County Juvenile Court during 2003 decreased by three percent from the prior year (2002). Since 1998, the number of filings has increased by four percent.

Total Offense Filings - Six Year Trend



Juvenile Court - Summary of Most Common Offenses, 2000-2003					
2000			2001		
	# of Offenses	% of Filings		# of Offenses	% of Filings
Safe School Ordinance	1229	13%	Safe School Ordinance	1726	16%
Theft	861	9%	Unruly	1289	12%
Unruly	777	8%	Petty Theft	933	8%
Assault	610	6%	Domestic Violence	596	5%
Domestic Violence	560	6%	Assault	573	5%
Unruly-Truancy	414	4%	Disorderly Conduct	382	3%
% of Total Filings		46%	% of Total Filings		49%
2002			2003		
	# of Offenses	% of Filings		# of Offenses	% of Filings
Safe School Ordinance	1726	16%	Safe School Ordinance	1630	16%
Petty Theft	1005	9%	Petty Theft	847	8%
Unruly	747	7%	Domestic Violence	661	6%
Domestic Violence	613	6%	Unruly	655	6%
Assault	520	5%	Assault	624	6%
Unruly/Truancy	442	4%	Obstructing Official Business	373	4%
% of Total Filings		47%	% of Total Filings		46%
Source: Lucas County Juvenile Court					

The most common offense filing in Lucas County is and has been Safe School Ordinance (SSO). Safe School Ordinances are municipal laws that make it illegal to disturb, disrupt, and/or interfere with normal school activities. During 2003, a total of 36 percent of all offenses filed in the Juvenile Court were for Safe School Ordinance, petty theft, domestic violence, or being unruly.

Demographics by Offenses Filed:	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Median Age:	15	15	15	15	15	15
Male:	71%	70%	69%	69%	69%	69%
Female:	29%	30%	31%	31%	31%	30%
White:	48%	46%	46%	44%	42%	41%
Black/African American:	44%	46%	47%	48%	49%	50%
Hispanic:	6%	6%	5%	5%	6%	6%
Other:	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown:	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Source: Lucas County Juvenile Court						

The demographics over a six-year period indicate that the median age (15) and gender (69% male/31% female) have remained relatively constant. There has been a definite change in the race category with white referrals decreasing (from 48% to 41%) and nonwhite referrals increasing (from 52% to 59%) during the same six-year period. More than one-half of the cases handled by the juvenile courts nationally involved youths aged 15 or younger. Nationally there has been an increase in female offenders – in 1999 nearly 24 percent of all delinquency cases involved girls compared to 19 percent in 1990. This trend has not occurred in Lucas County. The trend nationally for race is that whites accounted for 66 percent of all delinquency cases in 1990 and 68 percent in 1999. In Lucas County, non-white referrals to the Juvenile Court have increased 13 percent in six years.

Summary Offense by Category	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
A - Robbery/Theft Offenses:	21%	20%	19%	20%	20%	20%
B - Sex Offenses:	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
C - Injury to Person Offenses:	12%	12%	11%	11%	11%	13%
D - Weapon Offenses:	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
E - Drug Offenses:	5%	5%	6%	5%	4%	5%
F - Alcohol Offenses:	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%
G - Property Damage Offenses:	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%
H - Status Offenses:	14%	14%	20%	19%	17%	14%
I - Other Delinquency Offenses:	39%	38%	36%	38%	39%	38%

Source: Lucas County Juvenile Court

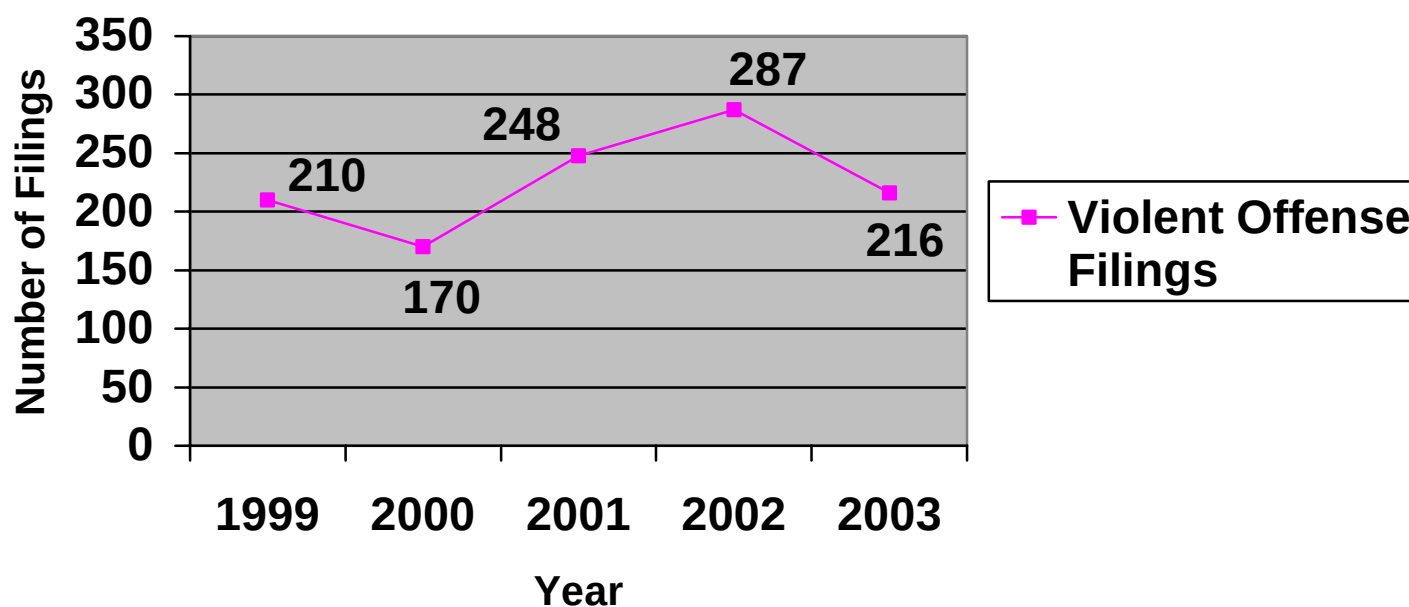
The types of offenses being committed by Lucas County youth over the years have remained constant. Other Delinquency Offenses, which includes Safe School Ordinance and other public nuisance crimes, is the largest single category, followed by Robbery/Theft Offenses.

Juvenile Violent Offense Filings, 2003	Boys	Girls	Unknown	Total
Aggravated and Felonious Assault	64	13	0	77
Aggravated Robbery and Robbery	77	10	0	87
Homicide Offenses	3	1	0	4
Rape	47	0	1	48
Total	191	24	1	216
% of Total Filings	2%	<1%	<1%	2%

The number of violent offense filings decreased by 25 percent in 2003. The majority (88%) of these offenses are committed by boys. These offenses represent just 2 percent of the total filings brought into Lucas County Juvenile Court.

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Juvenile Violent Offense Filings	210	170	248	287	216

Violent Offense Filings - Six Year Trend



Juveniles commit about one-quarter of all violent offense crimes, nationally. Violent juvenile crime nationally peaked in 1993 and has been decreasing ever since.

ADAS Student Survey

The Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board (ADAS) Student Survey was first implemented in 1990 by Dr. Bill Ivoska and Dr. Nick Piazza. The intent of the survey is to measure the prevalence of alcohol and other drug use among the youth of Lucas County. Since 1990, significant trend data has been accumulated allowing prevention, intervention and treatment agencies to target those areas of highest concern. The on-going survey data also facilitates the measuring of local prevention, intervention and treatment efforts. Not only can this data assist in an efficient allocation of funds, it also provides needed support for a variety of grant and funding applications.

During February and March 2002, data were gathered from 34,165 Lucas County students in attendance on the days the survey was administered. Therefore, students who were ill, suspended, etc., were not included. Toledo Catholic Diocese schools administered the survey; however, private schools did not. The survey is self-reported, but a number of validating questions are used to eliminate inconsistent responses. Questions mirror those used by the University of Michigan's *Monitoring the Future* survey.

Results from the 2002 survey reveal that cigarette use decreased significantly for grades 7 through 12, while rates remain stable for grades 5 and 6. Female students report a higher prevalence rate than do males for all grades except grade 12. Heavy smoking (defined as smoking more than one-half a pack a day) rose significantly in 2002.

It would appear while there are fewer students using cigarettes, those that do, are much more likely to smoke heavily. Females have slightly higher rates than boys for all grades. African-American youth have the lowest rate while Hispanics have the highest rates for grades 7 through 10 and whites equal prevalence rates for grades 11 and 12. Although cigarette smoking is declining at a slow rate nationally, nearly one-quarter of our youth are actively smoking before they leave high school according to the University of Michigan's *Monitoring the Future Survey*. This unacceptable high rate endangers their health and reduces life expectancy.



Lucas County ADAS Student Survey: 1998 - 2002			
Past 30 Days Cigarette Usage	1998	2000	2002
5th: surveyed reporting use	(4.7%)	70 (2.0%)	114 (2.3%)
6th: surveyed reporting use	(8.4%)	133 (3.5%)	173 (3.5%)
7th: surveyed reporting use	(18.1%)	383 (9.6%)	233 (4.7%)
8th: surveyed reporting use	(26.8%)	534 (14.7%)	347 (7.8%)
9th: surveyed reporting use	(28.9%)	923 (23.7%)	651 (14.8%)
10th: surveyed reporting use	(36%)	1,177 (30.7%)	740 (17.9%)
11th: surveyed reporting use	(42%)	1,048 (32%)	808 (22.7%)
12th: surveyed reporting use	(39.1%)	1,021 (38%)	813 (29.2%)
Source: ADAS Student Survey			

Alcohol consumption across all grades continues to gradually decline and is the lowest it has ever been in all grades except grade 5. The number of respondents who report not drinking in the past 30 days has increased considerably since 1998 for all grades; the number of students drinking 11 or more times a month continues to show significant decreases; and, binge drinking (defined as four or more alcoholic beverages on any given drinking occasion) continues to decline in all grades. Gender differences in alcohol consumption appear to be minimal – although somewhat higher for girls than boys in all grades except grade 7. African Americans report the lowest rates and Hispanics report the highest. From a national perspective alcohol use among teens has remained unchanged.

Past 30 Days Alcohol Usage	1998	2000	2002
5th: surveyed reporting use	(9.8%)	480 (13.8%)	642 (13.0%)
6th: surveyed reporting use	(18.6%)	747 (19.6%)	914 (18.5%)
7th: surveyed reporting use	(38.6%)	1,261 (31.6%)	1,536 (31.0%)
8th: surveyed reporting use	(54.0%)	1,664 (45.8%)	1,768 (39.8%)
9th: surveyed reporting use	(62.0%)	2,270 (58.3%)	2,307 (52.4%)
10th: surveyed reporting use	(69.8%)	2,562 (66.8%)	2,603 (63.0%)
11th: surveyed reporting use	(75.5%)	2,318 (70.8%)	2,459 (69.1%)
12th: surveyed reporting use	(77.3%)	2,046 (76.1%)	2,080 (74.7%)
Source: ADAS Student Survey			

Marijuana prevalence rates have dropped significantly since leveling off in 1998. Prevalence rates continue to show a decline in all grades except 5 and 6, which show increased prevalence rates over the 2000 survey. Males are much more likely to report using marijuana than females at all grade levels. Differences are greatest in grade 7 suggesting that young males are more likely to be “early adopters” than young female students.

Past 30 Days Marijuana Usage	1998	2000	2002
5th: surveyed reporting use	(2.7%)	45 (1.3%)	104 (2.1%)
6th: surveyed reporting use	(6.3%)	95 (2.5%)	158 (3.2%)
7th: surveyed reporting use	(13.2%)	283 (7.1%)	342 (6.9%)
8th: surveyed reporting use	(23.7%)	472 (13.0%)	533 (12.0%)
9th: surveyed reporting use	(31.1%)	1,051 (27.0%)	1,087 (24.7%)
10th: surveyed reporting use	(40.7%)	1,331 (34.7%)	1,244 (30.1%)
11th: surveyed reporting use	(44.2%)	1,283 (39.2%)	1,363 (38.3%)
12th: surveyed reporting use	(42.4%)	1,145 (42.6%)	1,133 (40.7%)
Source: ADAS Student Survey			

Racial and ethnic group data reveal that Hispanics report the highest prevalence rates at all grade levels. Whites report the lowest initial prevalence rates during grades 7 through 10; however, African Americans report the lowest rates for grades 11 through 12. Other findings of the local ADAS Survey were:

- Cocaine use continues to be low
- Prevalence of amphetamines continues to decline since their 1996 high
- Inhalant use rates were higher than those in the rest of the U.S.

On the national level, illicit drug use reached a peak in 1996 and 1997. Marijuana use declined for a second year in a row in 2003 in the upper grades. Marijuana use has declined among eighth graders for the past seven years. [Data and interpretation text from The ADAS Student Survey – 2002 for Toledo and Lucas, County, Ohio and The Monitoring the Future website]

Teen Pregnancy

Although teen pregnancy rates are at their lowest levels in 20 years, Lucas County ranks first in the state of Ohio among the metropolitan counties for rates of teen childbirth. From 2000 to 2001, Lucas County teen birthrate decreased, however, not as dramatically as the other metropolitan counties in Ohio. As shown in the table below, in 2000, Lucas County ranked 4th of the metropolitan counties in Ohio whereas in 2001 and 2002 Lucas County was ranked 1st.

Teen Birth (10-19 yrs.) Rates and Ranking for Ohio Metropolitan Counties								
2000			2001			2002		
Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate	Rank	County	Rate
1	Montgomery	28.7	1	Lucas	25.5	1	Lucas	25.1
1	Hamilton	28.7	2	Franklin	25.1	2	Hamilton	24.1
3	Franklin	27.7	3	Hamilton	24.9	3	Montgomery	23.6
4	Lucas	26.7	4	Montgomery	23.7	4	Franklin	23
5	Cuyahoga	26.5	5	Cuyahoga	23.5	5	Cuyahoga	20.5
6	Mahoning	23.8	6	Mahoning	20.9	6	Mahoning	17.5
7	Summit	20.8	7	Summit	20.4	7	Summit	17.1

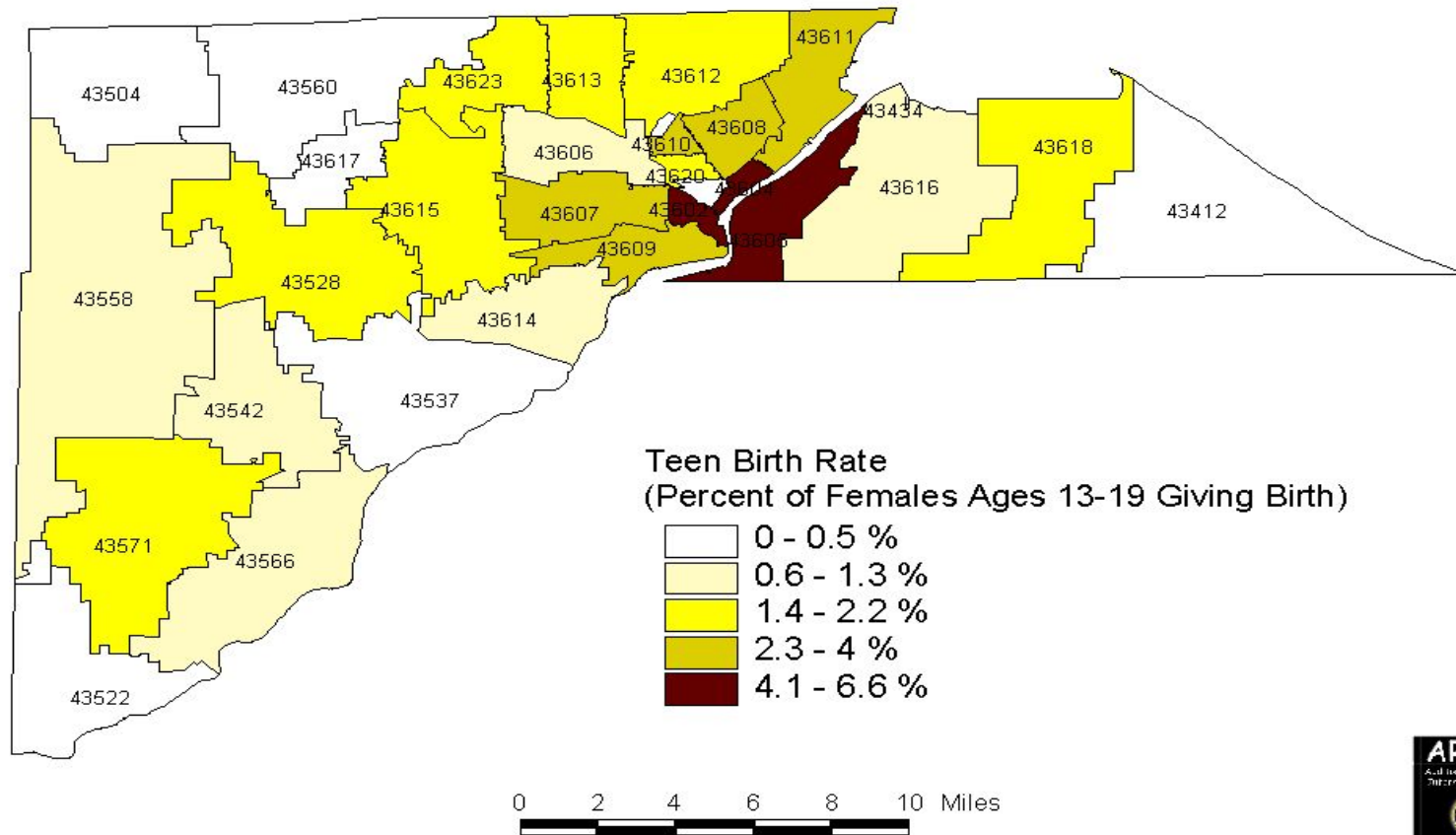
Source: ODH Data Warehouse

Many studies have been done to determine what works to prevent teen pregnancy. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health found adolescents who reported strong feelings of personal connection to family and school were least likely to engage in behaviors that endangered their health, including sexual activity. Adolescents who reported their parents disapproved of them having sex were also more likely to delay first intercourse. The research suggests parents can help their children avoid risky behavior by sending clear messages about appropriate and inappropriate behavior and spending time with them, talking with them, being available to them, and setting high standards for them.

Lucas County Teen Births				
Age of Mother				
	2001	2002	2003	
13	4	2	4	
14	17	14	13	
15	38	37	43	
16	60	74	75	
17	142	148	143	
18	217	232	215	
19	270	321	306	
Total	748	828	799	

Source: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

2003 Lucas County Teen Births by Zip Code



The map depicts the percent of the population throughout Lucas County experiencing teen births by zip code. As shown, the greatest concentrations of teen births are in 43602, 43604 and 43605. Similarly, high incidents of teen births occur in 43608, 43611, 43610, 43609, and 43607.

Online References

Local Web Site Sources

Community Partnership

<http://www.communityprevention.org>

Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio

<http://www.hcno.org/>

Lucas County

<http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Lucas County Child Support Enforcement Agency

<http://www.lucascountyoh.gov/CSEA>

Lucas County Children Services

<http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/LCCS>

Lucas County Family Council

<http://www.lucascountyfamilycouncil.org>

Lucas County Juvenile Court

<http://www.lucascountyoh.gov/Juvenile/>

Lucas County Probate Court

<http://www.lucas-co-probate-ct.org/>

Toledo-Lucas County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

<http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/cjcc/>

Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

<http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/health/Welcome.asp>

United Way of Greater Toledo
<http://www.uwgtol.org>

YWCA of Toledo
<http://www.ywcatoledo.org>

State Web Site Sources

Child Welfare League of Ohio
<http://cwla.org>

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio
<http://cdfohio.org>

Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in Ohio
www.cohhio.org

KidsOhio.org
<http://www.kidsohio.org>

Ohio County Profiles
<http://osuedc.org/profiles>

Ohio Department of Education
<http://ode.state.oh.us>

Ohio Department of Health
<http://www.odh.state.oh.us>

Ohio Department of Mental Health
<http://www.mh.state.oh.us>

Ohio Department of Youth Services

<http://www.dys.ohio.gov>

Ohio-Office of Strategic Research

<http://www.odod.state.oh.us/osr/data>

Ohio Prenatal Care

<http://www.kidsohio.org>

State and County Labor/Income Information

<http://lmi.state.oh.us>

State of Ohio

<http://www.ohio.gov>

State of Ohio Government Information and Services

<http://ohio.gov/pressroom.stm>

National Web Site Sources

Annie Casey Foundation – Kids Count

<http://aecf.org/kidscount>

Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System

<http://cdc.gov/brfss>

Bureau of Justice Statistics

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs>

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

www.cbpp.org

Center for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov>

Child statistics
<http://www.childstats.gov>

Child Trends Databank
<http://www.childtrends.databank.org>

Children's Defense Fund
<http://www.childrensdefense.org>

Federal Bureau of Investigation
<http://www.fbi.gov>

Fedstats
<http://www.fedstats.gov>

Monitoring the Future Survey – University of Michigan
<http://www.monitoringthefuture.org>

National Alliance to End Homelessness
www.endhomelessness.org

National Center for Children in Poverty
www.nccp.org

National Center for Education Statistics
<http://nces.ed.gov>

National Center for Health Statistics
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>

National Center for Juvenile Justice

<http://www.ncjj.org>

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol & Drug Information

<http://www.health.org>

National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth

<http://www.ncfy.com>

National Low Income Housing Coalition

www.nlihc.org

National Mental Health Association

<http://www.nmha.org>

National School Safety Center

<http://www.nssc1.org>

Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

<http://www.ojjdp.org/>

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Association

<http://www.samhsa.gov>

U.S. Census Bureau

www.census.gov

U.S. Conference of Mayors

www.mayors.org

U.S. Department of Agriculture

<http://www.usda.gov/>

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics
<http://www.bls.gov>

Welfare Information Network
www.financeprojectinfo.org/win

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System
<http://cdc.gov/yrbss>

Appendix A: Data & Evaluation Network Agency Profiles

Lucas County Family Council

The central focus of the Lucas County Family Council (LCFC) is to create, improve, increase and promote a seamless system of care for children and families throughout Lucas County. According to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 121.37, the LCFC is charged with inventing new approaches to achieve better results for families & children; developing & implementing a process that maintains a system of accountability; improving the response of different agencies to the needs of children & families; and, ensuring ongoing input from a broad range of families who are receiving services with the county system.

Lucas County Juvenile Court

The Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division hears cases involving delinquency, traffic, and unruly behavior for persons under 18 years of age . It has jurisdiction over cases of dependency, neglect, abuse , paternity, nonsupport, visitation, child support, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The juvenile division is responsible for the operation of both the Lucas County Juvenile Detention Center (125 beds) and the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center (44 beds).

Lucas County Children Services

The mission of Lucas County Children Services is to lead the community in the protection of children at risk of abuse and neglect. This is accomplished by working with families, service providers and community members to assess risk and coordinate community-based services resulting in safe, stable and permanent families for children. In assuming this responsibility, we also try our best to preserve families. Children belong in families, hopefully the one they are born into. We prefer that a child remain at home while they provide services to stabilize the family. If a child cannot live safely at home, we first look for an appropriate relative to care for the child for as long as necessary. If a relative is not available, the child will go into foster care or other placement. In every case, the safety of the child is our main concern.

Lucas County Child Support Enforcement Agency

The Lucas County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) was formed on January 1, 1988. The CSEA is the single agency in this county charged with the collection and enforcement of court ordered payments. The Child Support Enforcement Program is a Federal, State and Local effort to collect child support from parents who are legally obligated to pay support. The CSEA is under the direction of the Lucas County Commissioners

Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, in partnership with the diverse communities we serve, promotes quality and years of healthy life and minimizes health disparities by preventing avoidable disease, injury, and disability, and assuring environmental health. This mission is achieved through policies and programs that assess community health status and assure needed health services.

Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio

Founded in 1972, the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio (HCNO) is a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization in Toledo, Ohio. HCNO is a member-driven organization that represents and advocates on behalf of its member hospitals/health systems in NW Ohio, providing collaborative opportunities to enhance the health status of NW Ohio residents through its Healthy Communities Foundation (HCF), created in 1999. HCF, a program of HCNO, serves as a catalyst in efforts designed to improve the health status of NW Ohio residents, providing data services and technical assistance to stimulate counties to assess and address their health needs. HCF currently facilitates the NW Ohio Health Improvement Partnership, the NW Ohio Strategic Alliance for Tobacco Control, the NW Ohio Regional Trauma Registry, the Lucas County Hospitals and Health Systems Healthy Communities Endowment Fund, the CareNet primary health care program for uninsured Lucas County residents, The Northwest Ohio Regional Trauma Registry, and the Northwest Ohio Regional Disaster Coordinator.

United Way of Greater Toledo

United Way is an association of donors that works hard – in collaboration with community partners throughout Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa Counties – to eliminate the root causes of serious problems that devastate people's lives and threaten the welfare of the entire community. United Way's work produces real and meaningful change in the lives of thousands of men, women, and children affected by these problems. As more and more lives are changed, it makes a measurable impact on the community. To attack root causes, United Way is currently focusing all its resources and energies on a plan with four goals: to get kids under age five off to a great start in life; to build strong, secure families and neighborhoods; to prevent health problems and help people live as independently as possible; and to help older kids and teens prepare for healthy, successful lives.

Toledo Homeless Management Information System

As mandated by the U.S. Congress and directed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.), the Toledo Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was developed as a computerized tracking system and data collection tool that is designed to capture system wide information over time about the

characteristics and service needs of residents experiencing homelessness. In late 2001, the HMIS was created as a subcommittee of the Toledo Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness, enacted by the Toledo City Council. The Toledo HMIS recently completed its Pilot Implementation Phase with 15 participating agencies and is expanding participation of other agencies with Full Implementation anticipated by Fall 2004.

YW Child Care Connections

YW Child Care Connections (YW CCC) is a child-care resource and referral service that joined the YWCA program services in 1988. YW Child Care Connections provides services to parents and family members seeking child-care services, early education and child care professionals working with children and their families, agencies serving families, businesses, and communities. As a state funded child care resource and referral agency (CCR&R) we serve eight counties in northwest Ohio including Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, Fulton, Paulding, Henry, Defiance and Williams counties.

Lucas County Auditor, Real Estate Division – Geographic Information System Department

The Lucas County Auditor, Real Estate Division – Geographic Information System (GIS) Department is responsible for filling map requests; creating map layers; analysis using GIS; GIS training and technical support; and, GIS education and public awareness. The GIS Department filled approximately 600 requests for maps and data from Lucas County agencies and approximately 25 requests from State and Federal agencies. The department created 30 new geographic base layers and 65 other data layers to be used for mapping and analysis. Two formal GIS classes were offered for Lucas County employees. Department staff handled approximately 225 GIS technical support calls and 100 GIS consultations during 2002. GIS education was offered through 4 basic geography and GIS programs offered to the community. GIS staff members participated at 18 seminars and forums.

The Community Partnership

The Community Partnership (TCP) is a coalition of schools, funders, service providers, systems, businesses and citizens whose purpose is to coordinate prevention services and to increase the ability to impact substance abuse on multiple levels. It was founded to enhance the capacity of the substance abuse prevention system in Lucas County through education, training, resource allocation and advocacy. TCP is made up of over 480 organizations, agencies, businesses, and community organizations who support the stated mission of: Bringing community resources together to address alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and intervention issues to promote an environment that encourages healthy lifestyles. On-going projects include the Underage Access to

Alcohol Task Force, Youth to Youth/Teen Institute, Coalition for Youth Enrichment, Information Sharing Network, Methamphetamine/Inhalants Initiative, and the Youth Violence Policy Panel.

Lucas County Job & Family Services

The mission of Lucas County Job and Family Services is to assist Lucas County families and individuals to achieve their highest level of stability and independence. Respecting the dignity of our clients, we provide effective career development opportunities and individualized services in cooperation with our community partners. The programs and services offered are designed to help Lucas County residents be healthy and safe, while gaining and maintaining independence, and are delivered at the local level in a manner that recognizes and preserves individual rights, responsibilities and dignity.

Appendix B: Zip Code Map of Lucas County

43412	Curtice	43602	Toledo
43434	Harbor View	43604	Toledo
43504	Berkey	43605	Toledo
43522	Grand Rapids	43606	Toledo
43537	Maumee	43607	Toledo
43542	Monclova	43608	Toledo
43547	Neapolis	43609	Toledo
43558	Swanton	43610	Toledo
43528	Holland	43611	Toledo
43560	Sylvania	43612	Toledo
43566	Waterville	43613	Toledo
43571	Whitehouse	43614	Toledo
43616	Oregon	43615	Toledo
43618	Oregon	43617	Toledo
		43620	Toledo
		43623	Toledo
		43624	Toledo

