



# Regional Data Book

## Second Edition 2021



# Regional Data Book of Linn, Benton, & Lincoln Counties

## Our Charge

The Regional Data Book presents the resources and challenges facing our region's youngest children who are at risk of arriving at kindergarten unprepared. This data will guide and support strategic decision-making by the Governing Board of the Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties in order to increase family stability, improve kindergarten readiness, and ensure service coordination that is equitable and culturally and linguistically competent for our region. In addition, we designed this data book to assist our community partners and stakeholders in serving local children and families.

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**“Overwhelming evidence tells us that  
investing in young children and their families  
has a lasting, positive impact  
across their lifetime.”**

***Raise Up Oregon***

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## Executive Summary

### Children at Risk

Oregon Revised Statute OAR 414 900-010 stipulates that **children who are at risk experience chronic and persistent opportunity gaps due to family circumstances beyond their control**, such as:

- Poverty
- Drug abuse in the home
- Unsafe housing
- Racism or ethnic discrimination
- Unmet medical needs
- Parental mental illness
- Child abuse and/or neglect
- Involvement with Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Families involved in juvenile and adult corrections

## Social and Economic Factors

### Children at Risk

Approximately 8,705 children under age six are at risk, which is 53.8 percent of the total number of young children (16,177) in our region, in 2018: 5,248 in Linn County; 1,602 in Benton County; and 1,855 in Lincoln County.

### Poverty

Twenty percent (3,139) of young children live below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and 27 percent (4,212) of young children live between 100 percent and 200 percent of the FPL.

### Spanish Speakers

Ten percent of households with young children speak Spanish; Spanish is the dominant non-English language in our region.

### Parent Employment

Over half of young children (61.9 percent) of young children live in families where all available parents are employed; in our region: 67.8 percent in Linn County, 53.8 percent in Benton County, and 56.1 percent in Lincoln County.

Young Children Living Near Federal Poverty Level

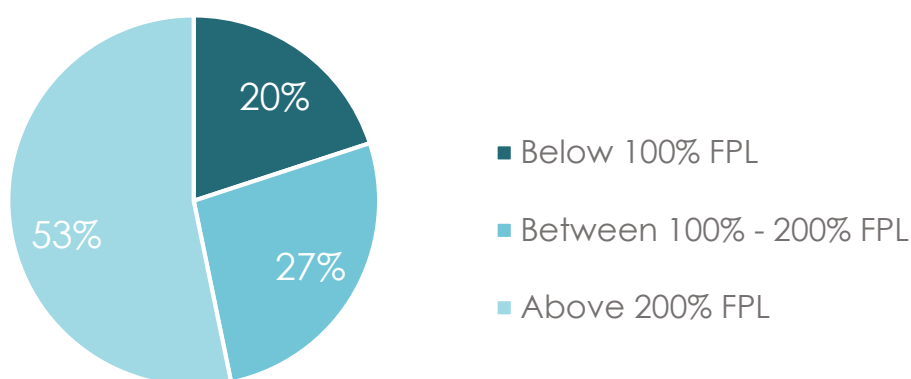


Figure 10. Children in poverty (< 6 years) in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties in 2018. Data from 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

### Race and Ethnicity

- Twenty-six percent (893) of children under age six living in poverty are Hispanic/Latino.
- Hispanic/Latino young children living in poverty are the largest non-White population living in poverty.
- Infants born to mothers who are Hispanic are the largest non-White demographic group.
- The largest racial/ethnic group of young children living in poverty is White Alone (59 percent).

### Rural Communities

The Oregon Office of Rural Health identifies all areas in our region outside of the urban areas of Albany and Corvallis as rural.

Rural communities face more disparities including higher poverty rates, higher unemployment rates, lack of transportation, limited access to healthcare, lower education levels, and reduced access to quality child care and education.



## Kindergarten Readiness

### Kindergarten (KA) Scores

- On average in 2019-2020 School Year (SY), children entering kindergarten in our region scored the following:
  - Recognized 7.4 of 26 English Letter Sounds
  - Recognized 13.7 of 26 Uppercase English Letter Names
  - Recognized 11.3 of 26 Lowercase English Letter Names.
  - Correctly answered 10.9 of 16 Early Mathematics questions.
  - Demonstrated a score of 3.5 on Approaches to Learning (1-5 scale).
- When comparing children in our region entering kindergarten to children in Oregon over five years from 2015-2020:
  - Average Approaches to Learning (total) scores and Early Mathematics scores dropped below the state in 2018-2019 SY and 2019-2020 SY.
  - Average Early Literacy scores are consistently below state levels.
- Average scores of the following groups are below the LBL Hub average during 2015-2020:
  - Children with Disabilities and children who are Economically Disadvantaged scored below the LBL Hub averages on Approaches to Learning, Early Mathematics, and Early Literacy.
  - Native American children, Hispanic children and children with limited English proficiency, scored below our Hub average on Early Mathematics and Early Literacy.
  - Boys scored below the LBL Hub average on Approaches to Learning and Early Literacy.

### Analysis of the Association Between Kindergarten Assessment - Approaches to Learning (KA-AL) Scores and Third Grade Reading (TGR)

- The LBL Hub Epidemiology Intern analyzed KA-AL and TGR scores for a group of children entering kindergarten in 2015-2016 SY. Findings indicate that, on average, scores can differ significantly based upon demographic differences:
  - Students in Benton County have KA-AL scores significantly higher on average from students in Lincoln and Linn counties; there is no difference between KA-AL scores in Linn and Lincoln counties. By third grade, scores are different among all three counties.
  - Scores for boys and girls are significantly different; on average, boys score lower. The magnitude of difference is greater for KA-AL scores than for TGR scores.
  - There is a significant relationship between KA-AL scores and TGR scores: each unit increase in KA-AL scores is associated with a linear increase in TGR scores.
  - English Language Learner, Economic Disadvantage, and Special Education status score lower on KA-AL assessments and on the TGR assessment, and the relationship between KA-AL scores and TGR scores was not as strong as other groups.

## Early Childhood Care

### Availability

Our region is considered a “child care desert” where access to regulated child care is limited for all children with the greatest need among 0-2 year old child care slots.

- There are 5,906 regulated child care slots for children: 4,854 slots in child care centers and 1,052 slots in family child care homes in our region.

### Affordability

- Median annual cost of toddler care in a child care center: \$9,600 in Linn County, \$14,400 in Benton County, and \$7,380 in Lincoln County.

## Health and Well-Being

### Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) Incentive Measure Benchmarks, 2018 and 2019

- InterCommunity Health Network (IHN-CCO) – the CCO for our region – achieved three of the five quality metrics related to pregnant women and children ages 0 to 5 years.
  - IHN-CCO met the 2018 and 2019 Improvement Targets for Developmental Screenings.
  - IHN-CCO met the 2019 Improvement Targets for Childhood Immunizations.

### Two-Year-Old Immunization Rates

Across our region, from 2016 to 2018, Two-Year-Old Immunization rates were lower than Oregon's rate. In January 2019, the LBL Hub and Samaritan Health Services collaborated to offer a Boost Oregon training in our region. Medical providers learned how to communicate effectively with vaccine-hesitant parents:

- Two-Year-Old Immunization rates improved to 70 percent in Linn County and 68 percent in Lincoln County.

### Two-Year-Olds Fully Vaccinated With All Recommended Vaccines

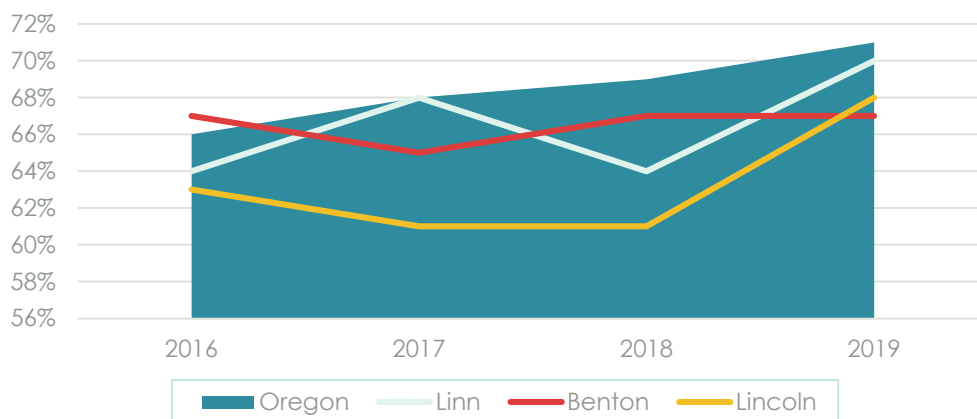


Table 6. Two-Year-Old Immunization rates, 2016-2019. Data from Oregon Child Immunization Rates - Annual Rates for Two-Year-Olds, OHA.

## Food Security

Children living in food insecure households have limited or uncertain availability to nutritionally adequate food.

Children under age 18 living in food insecure households include 22.4 percent of children in Lincoln County, 18.5 percent of children in Linn County, and 12.9 percent of children in Benton County.

## Homelessness

In our region, 285 young children were without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence while receiving SNAP services.

## Child Abuse and Neglect

Forty-six percent of all child abuse and neglect victims were six years old or younger in 2018.

Of children under age 18, 883 were victims of child abuse and neglect.

Seventy-two children under age six were sheltered in domestic violence programs.



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# Introduction

## Purpose

The Regional Data Book, 2nd Edition will guide and support strategic decision-making by the Governing Board of the Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties (LBL Hub) in order to increase family stability, improve kindergarten readiness, and ensure service coordination that is equitable and culturally and linguistically competent for our region. In addition, we designed this data book to assist our community partners and stakeholders in serving children and families.

## Overview

The Data and Evaluation Work Group is a committee of the Early Learning Hub and was formulated in the infancy of the LBL Hub structure. This group ensures that our Hub has the data it needs to make decisions informed by an understanding of the target population and progress toward outcomes. Along that vein, this data book was born from the Governing Board's desire to have a consolidated repository of early childhood data useful for making data-informed decisions. The following information presents health, education, social, and economic factors for our target population of children ages 0–6. This includes the following sections:

1. Introduction: Provides the Early Learning Hub System Goals and *Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Learning System Plan 2019-2023*, as well as a description of our region and various demographic factors of the target population and their families.
2. Kindergarten Readiness: Analyzes Oregon Kindergarten Assessment (Approaches to Learning, Early Mathematics, and Early Literacy) results by various demographic characteristics of groups of children in our region. We include data regarding the status of early care and education in each county.
3. Healthy, Stable, and Attached Families: Presents factors influencing maternal and infant health such as mother's prenatal care, substance abuse during pregnancy, and teen pregnancy. This section also includes factors influencing child health, such as access and quality of care, and indicators of health status for children in our region.

The 2nd Edition of the Regional Data Book, researched and updated during the unprecedented period of COVID-19, presents the most current data available at publication. The data presented here reflects conditions just before COVID-19. This data will be a resource for comparisons with post-COVID-19 data to evaluate the outcomes for young children and their families in our region following the pandemic.

**Contributing Members of the Data & Evaluation Work Group include:**

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# Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

## Early Learning Hub Goals

Oregon's Revised Statutes 414-900-0015 outline three system goals:

- Goal 1: Children Arrive Ready for Kindergarten
- Goal 2: Children are Raised in Healthy, Stable, and Attached Families
- Goal 3: The Early Learning System is Aligned, Coordinated, and Family Centered

## ***Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Learning System Plan 2019-2023***

*Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Learning System Plan 2019-2023* is a five-year prenatal to age five early learning plan developed by the Early Learning Division to support Early Learning Hub goals.

The purpose of the five-year *Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Learning System Plan* is to:

- Share a vision of where we as a state intend to go.
- Identify actionable, concrete strategies for working together across traditional boundaries to make this vision a reality.
- Align with the governor's agenda and with the strategic plans of cross-agency state partners which will provide opportunities to intervene early and be more successful in the individual missions of each agency.
- Guide key system partners as they implement plans with measurable outcomes and timelines.

The “**Introduction**” and “**Kindergarten Readiness**” sections of this data book support the following *Raise Up Oregon* objectives and strategies:

**Objective 2:** Families have access to high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable early care and education that meets their needs.

- **Strategy 2.1** Expand access to and build the supply of high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable infant-toddler early care and education that meets the needs of families.
- **Strategy 2.2** Expand access to and build the supply of high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable preschool that meets the needs of families.

**Objective 6:** Children and families experience supportive transitions and continuity of services across early care and education and K-12 settings.

- **Strategy 6.2** Improve the Oregon Kindergarten Assessment to better support decision-making between early learning and K-12 stakeholders.

**Objective 13:** The business and philanthropic communities champion the early learning system.

- **Strategy 13.1** Educate business leaders on the economic value of early care and education to the Oregon economy.

The “**Introduction**” and “**Healthy Stable and Attached Families**” sections of this data book support the following *Raise Up Oregon* objectives and strategies:

**Objective 4:** Early childhood physical and social-emotional health promotion and prevention is increased.

- **Strategy 4.1** Ensure prenatal-to-age-five health care services are comprehensive, accessible, high quality, and culturally and linguistically responsive.
- **Strategy 4.2** Increase capacity to provide culturally responsive social-emotional supports for young children and their families.

**Objective 7:** Parents and caregivers have equitable access to support for their physical and social-emotional health.

- **Strategy 7.1** Increase equitable access to reproductive, maternal, and prenatal health services.
- **Strategy 7.2** Improve access to culturally and linguistically responsive, multi-generational approaches to physical and social-emotional health.

**Objective 9:** Families with young children who are experiencing adversity have access to coordinated and comprehensive services.

- **Strategy 9.2** Provide preventive parenting support services to reduce participation in the child welfare system.
- **Strategy 9.3** Improve the nutritional security of pregnant women and young children, particularly infants and toddlers.

The “**Introduction**”, “**Kindergarten Readiness**”, and “**Healthy Stable and Attached Families**” support *Raise Up Oregon* objectives and strategies:

**Objective 4:** Early childhood physical and social-emotional health promotion and prevention is increased.

- **Strategy 4.4** Strengthen coordination among early care and education, health, and housing to promote health and safety for young children.

**Objective 10:** State-community connections and regional systems are strengthened.

- **Strategy 10.2** Ensure family-friendly referrals.
- **Strategy 10.3** Further develop the local Early Learning Hub system.

**Objective 11:** Investments are prioritized in support of equitable outcomes for children and families.

- **Strategy 11.1** Ensure resources are used to reduce disparities in access and outcomes.
- **Strategy 11.2** Align and expand funding opportunities for culturally specific organizations

**Objective 13:** The business and philanthropic communities champion the early learning system.

- **Strategy 13.2** Introduce business leaders to the science of early childhood development and the impact of public investment.

**Objective 14:** The data infrastructure is developed to enhance service delivery, systems building, and outcome reporting.

- **Strategy 14.1** Strengthen data-driven community planning.



## Early Learning Hub Region

The following section describes our region in regards to geographic, demographic, economic, and social factors that affect young children and their families.

### Focus Population

Our focus population is children under age six and their families residing in Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties. We focus specifically on children at risk for arriving at kindergarten unprepared as defined by the Oregon Revised Statutes. Children who are at risk experience chronic and persistent opportunity gaps due to family circumstances beyond their control, such as poverty, drug abuse, unsafe housing, racial and ethnic inequities, unmet medical needs, parental mental illness, child abuse and/or neglect, or are involved with Department of Human Services (DHS), or families involved in juvenile and adult corrections (Oregon Laws 2012, Chapter 37, Section 12).

**Map of Early Learning Hub Region**

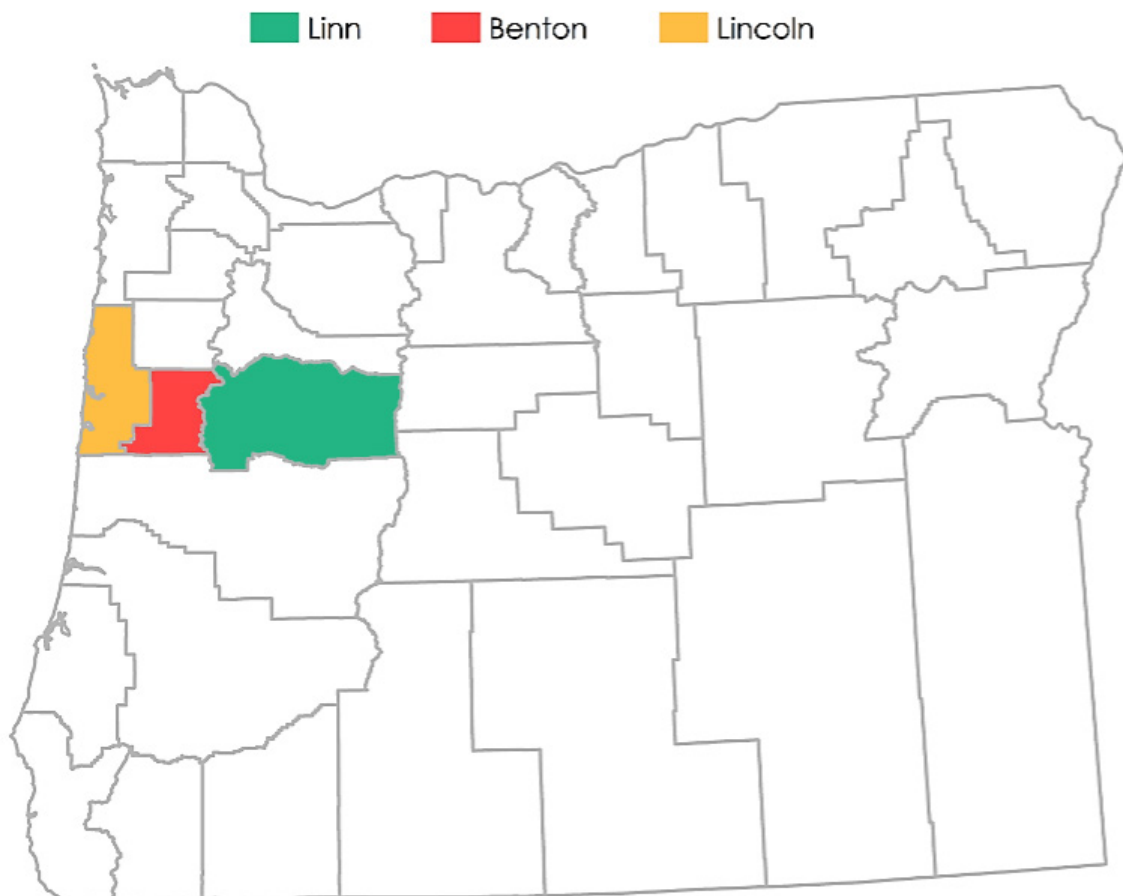


Figure 1. Map of Early Learning Hub region, Benton County Health Department Epidemiology (2020).

## Geographic, Demographic, Social, and Economic Diversity

In general, the LBL Hub's three counties vary greatly:

### Linn County

Located at the eastern edge of the LBL region, **Linn County** extends from the Cascade Range across the valley to the Willamette River. Linn County is the largest of the three counties in our region, both in total area (2,297 square miles) and population (127,335). The following estimates from U.S. Census Quick Facts (July 2018) provide an overview of the county:

- Children under age five comprise 6.1 percent of the population.
- Non-Hispanic White (92.6 percent) and Hispanic/Latino (9.3 percent) are the largest racial/ethnic groups.
- People over age five who speak a language other than English at home comprise 7.7 percent (2014-2018) of the population.
- Spanish is the dominant language for 10 percent of children under age five (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019).
- The median household income was \$52,097 in 2018 dollars (2014-2018), and 12.7 percent of the population were living in poverty.
- The economy is supported by agriculture, forest products, rare metals, manufacturing, and recreation (Oregon Secretary of State, 2019).
- There are 2,524 people unemployed and the unemployment rate is 4.1 percent in January 2020 (Oregon Employment Department, March 2020).

### Benton County

Located between Linn and Lincoln counties, **Benton County** extends into the Coastal Range. Benton County has the smallest total area (679 square miles) in our region. The population of Benton County is 92,101. The following estimates from U.S. Census Quick Facts (July 2018) provide an overview of the county:

- Children under age five comprise 4.1 percent of the population.
- Non-Hispanic White (86.5 percent), Hispanic/Latino (7.6 percent), and Asian (7.1 percent) are the largest racial/ethnic groups.
- People over age five who speak a language other than English at home comprise 14.3 percent (2014-2018) of the population.
- Spanish is the dominant language for 10 percent of children under age five (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019).
- The median household income was \$58,655, in 2018 dollars (2014-2018), and 15.8 percent of the population were living in poverty.
- The economy is supported by agriculture, forest products, research and development, electronics, and wineries (Oregon Secretary of State, January 2019).
- There are 1,246 total people unemployed; the unemployment rate is 2.8 percent in January 2020 (OED, March, 2020).

## Lincoln County

To the west, **Lincoln County** extends along the Pacific Coast. The total area of Lincoln County is 992 square miles. The population of Lincoln County (49,388) is the smallest in our region. The following estimates from U.S. Census Quick Facts (July 2018) provide an overview of the county:

- Children under age five comprise 4.5 percent of the population.
- Non-Hispanic White (89.7 percent) and Hispanic/Latino (9.5 percent) are the largest racial/ethnic groups.
- People over age five who speak a language other than English at home comprise 7.1 percent (2014-2018) of the population.
- Spanish is the dominant language for 10 percent of children under age five (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019).
- The median household income was \$46,061 in 2018 dollars (2014-2018), and 13.6 percent of the population were living in poverty.
- Eighty children under age five lived in the Siletz Reservation located in Siletz in Lincoln County and off-reservation trust land in Oregon (American Community Survey, 2017).
- The economy is supported by tourism, government, services and retail, forest products, and fishing (Oregon Secretary of State, 2019).
- There are 926 total people unemployed; the unemployment rate is 4.1 percent in January 2020 (OED, March 2020).

## Educational Attainment Level

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that more education is linked to higher income and better employment opportunities (Vilorio, 2016). Across our region, the education levels of adults in poverty varies by county.

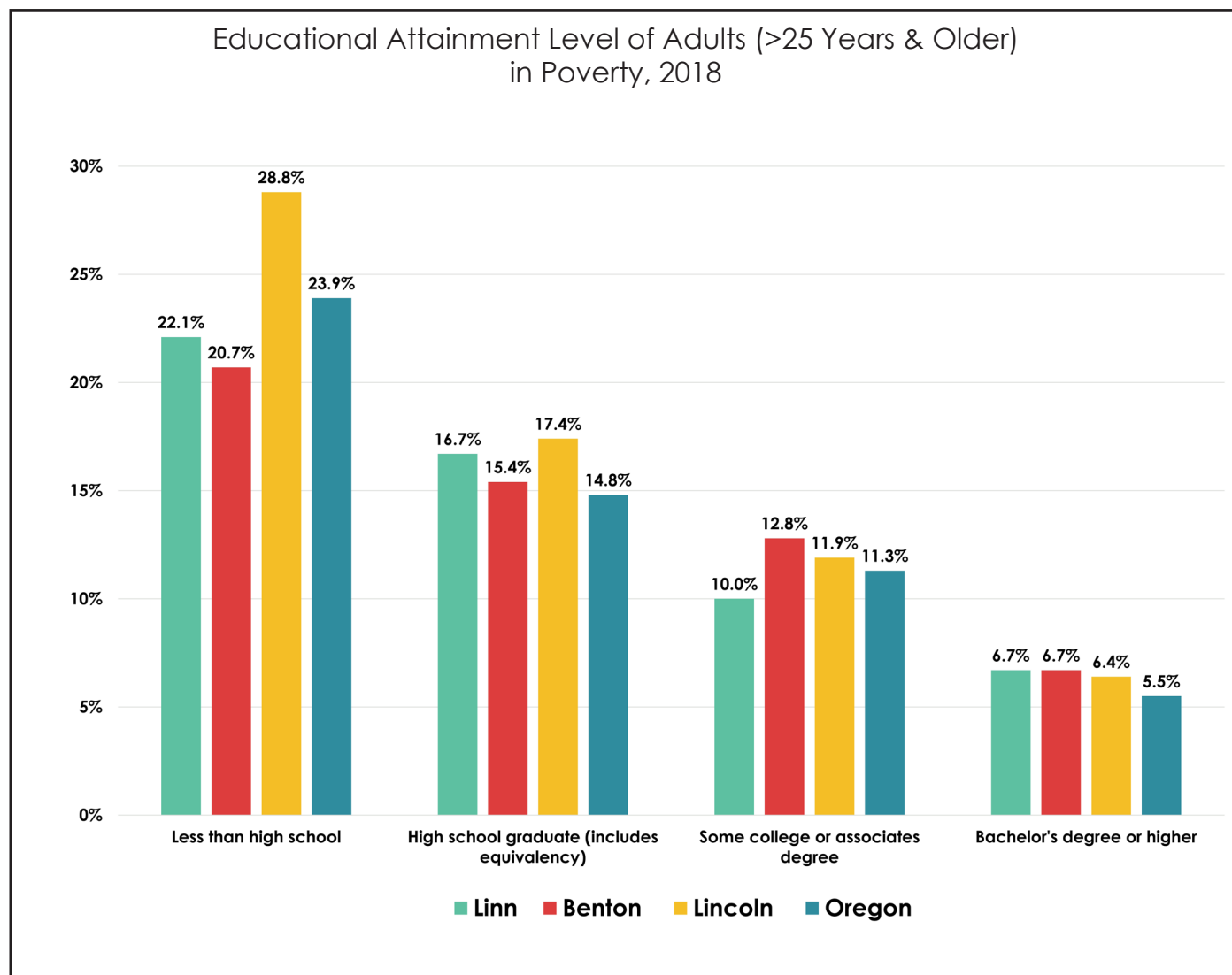


Figure 2. Educational attainment level of adults (25 years and older) in poverty in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. Data from U.S. Census Bureau 2018 American Community Survey (2014-2018) 5-year estimates.

- People with lower levels of education are more likely to live in poverty.
- The percent of people living in poverty with less than a high school education in **Lincoln County** (28.8) is higher than **Linn** (22.1), **Benton** (20.7), and **Oregon** (23.9).



## Urban and Rural Areas

Our region comprises largely rural communities, with the exception of two areas that meet the Census Bureau's definition of urban. Urban Areas are densely developed and include residential, commercial, and other urban uses. Rural is identified as any area not included in an Urban Area. The Census Bureau (2010) identifies two types of urban areas:

- Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people.
- Urban Clusters (UCs) of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.

Those areas that met the Census definition of Urban Area from Census 2010 include:

- Albany Urban Area, which includes Jefferson, Millersburg, and Tangent.
- Corvallis Urban Area, which includes Philomath.

Those areas that met the Census definition of Urban Cluster include:

- Harrisburg
- Lebanon
- Lincoln City
- Newport
- Sweet Home
- Toledo
- Waldport



Figure 3. Map of Urbanized Areas, Urban Clusters and Rural Areas from Benton County Health Department Epidemiology (2020).

Following each decennial census, Urban Areas are delineated according to specific criteria.

The Office of Rural Health (2019) identifies Rural Areas as any geographic areas in Oregon ten or more miles from the centroid of a population center of 40,000 people or more.

In comparison to Urban Areas, Rural communities in our region face additional economic, health and social barriers, such as lack of transportation, limited access to healthcare, and reduced access to quality child care and education.

## Schools and School Districts

The Linn, Benton, Lincoln Education Service District (ESD) has 54 schools located in the following 12 school districts:

### Linn County

- Central Linn School District
- Greater Albany Public Schools
- Harrisburg School District
- Lebanon Community School District
- Santiam Canyon School District
- Scio School District
- Sweet Home School District

### Benton County

- Alsea School District
- Corvallis School District
- Monroe School District
- Philomath School District

### Lincoln County

- Lincoln County School District

Maps of the school catchment areas (i.e. attendance boundaries) and school districts are available on the Oregon Department of Education website.

# Children in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties

## Children Under Age Six, 2018

**Linn County:** 8,989

**Benton County:** 4,411

**Lincoln County:** 2,777

**LBL Hub Region:** 16,177

There were an estimated 16,177 children under age six in our region in 2018 which is down from 16,541 (est.) children under age six, in 2016 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017, 2018, and 2019). See Appendix A for the total population of children under age six during 2016 to 2018. See Appendix B for the total population of children broken out by age 0-2 years and age 3-5 years in 2018 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019). Children qualify for different programs based on age, such as Preschool Promise and Head Start. The actual count of children in our region will be available following the 2020 Census.

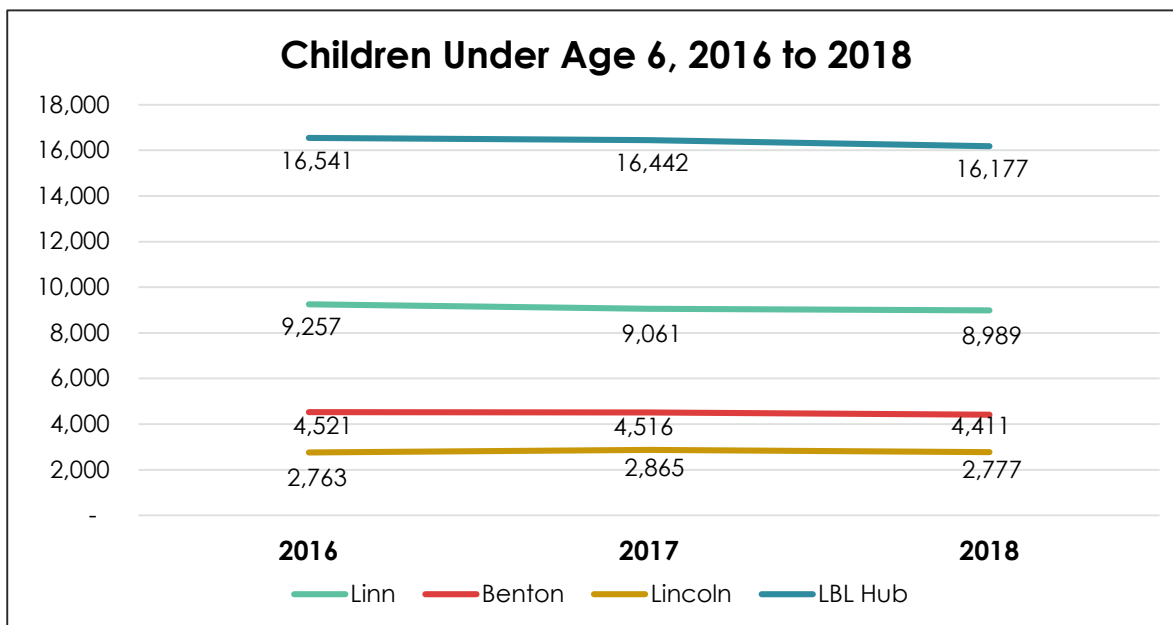


Figure 4. Children under age six, 2016 to 2018 in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties. Data from the 2012-2016, 2013-2017 and 2014-2018 U.S. Census Bureau ACS 5-Year estimates.

## Children Under Age Six At Risk

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the federal nutrition assistance program for low-income individuals and families. The Oregon Early Learning Division used 2016 SNAP enrollment as an estimate of the number of children at risk. Department of Human Services reported there were 11,811 children under age six enrolled in SNAP in our region in 2016. In 2018, the number of children under age 6 enrolled in SNAP had decreased to 8,705. Counts of SNAP enrollment for Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties from 2016 to 2018 are available in Appendix C.

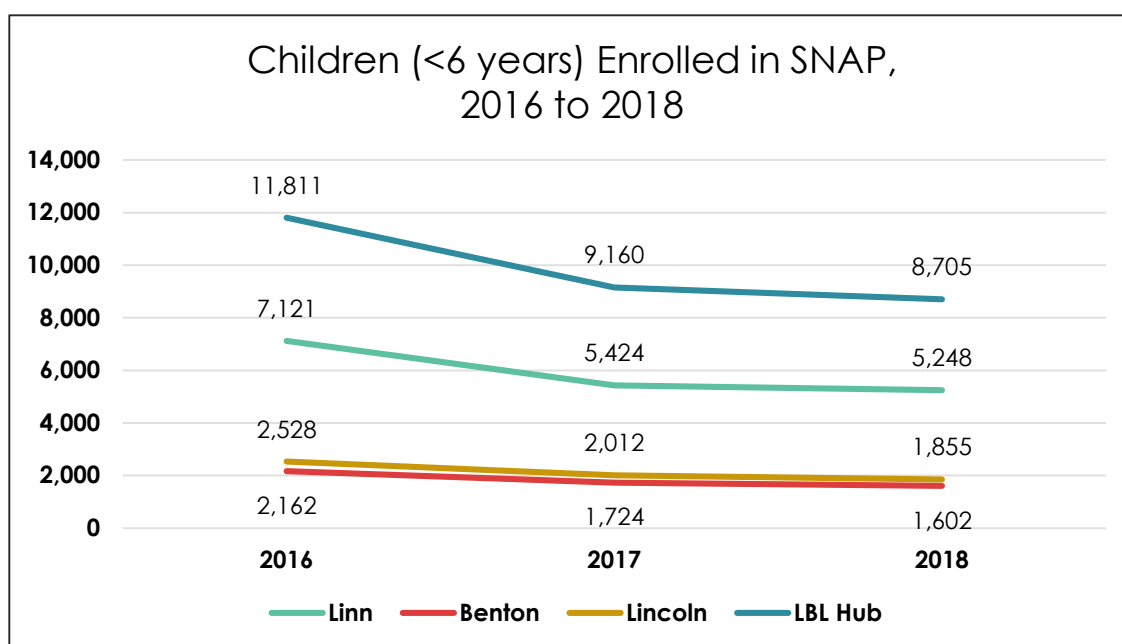


Figure 5. Children enrolled in SNAP, 2016 to 2018 in Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties in 2016 to 2018. Data from 2016-2018 SNAP enrollment, Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS).

- During 2016 to 2018, the number of children under age six qualifying for SNAP benefits in our region decreased by 3,106.
- During 2016 to 2018, the greatest decrease in our region in the number of children under age six qualifying for SNAP benefit was in Linn County (1,873).

It is important to note that there may also be children who meet the definition of at risk, but are not currently enrolled in the SNAP program. We hope this data will spur questions and stimulate discussions by decision-makers.



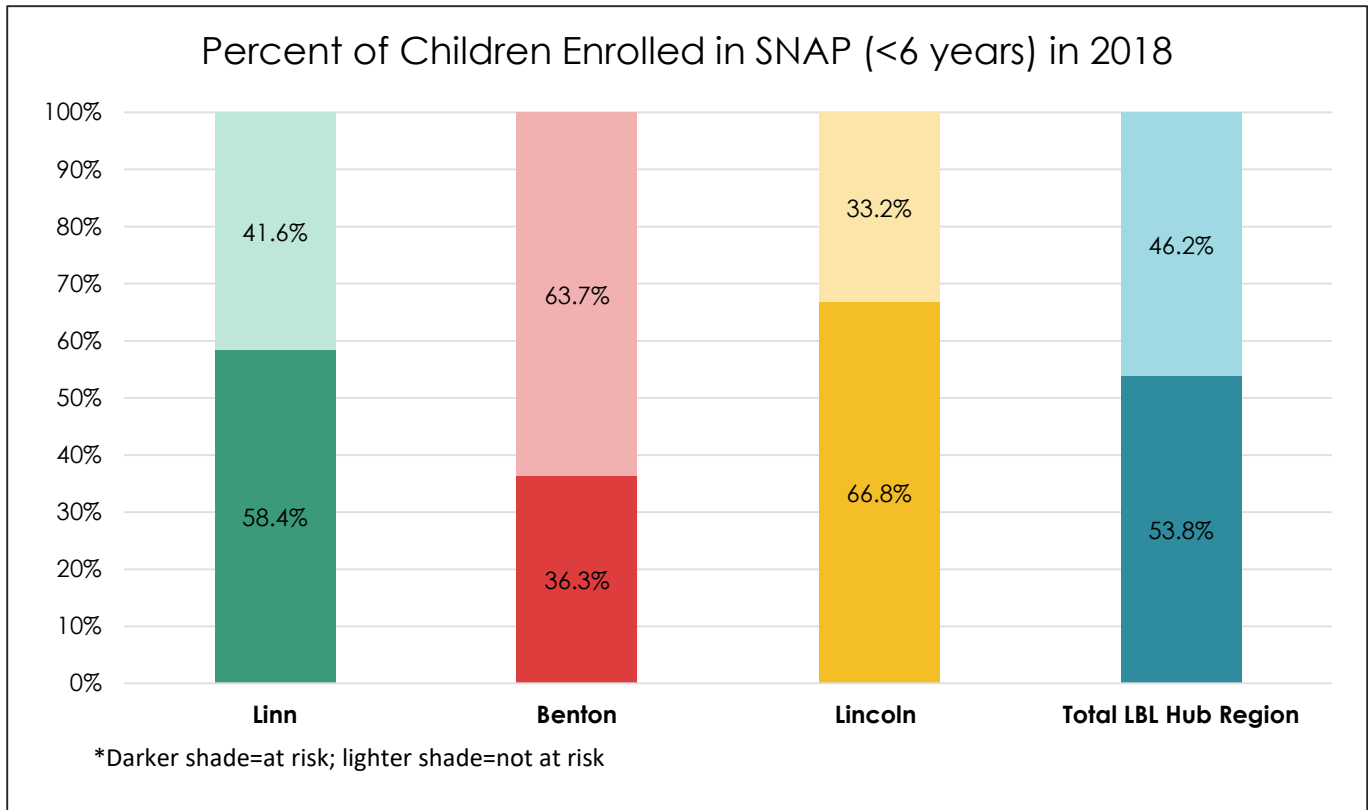


Figure 6. Percent of children (<6 years) enrolled in SNAP in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties in 2018. Total children from U.S Census American Community Survey, 2019 and SNAP enrollment, Oregon DHS (2019).

Figure 6 demonstrates a high level of need among families with children under age six. The majority of children under age six in our region and in Linn and Lincoln counties are enrolled in SNAP.

- According to DHS, 8,705 children under age six were enrolled in SNAP in our region in 2018, which is 53.8 percent of the total number of children under age six (16,177).
- In **Benton County**, 1,602 children under age six were enrolled in SNAP in 2018, which is 36.3 percent of the total number of children under age six (4,411).
- **Linn County** had the highest number of children under age six (5,248) enrolled in SNAP in 2018, which is 58.4 percent of the total number of children under age six (8,989).
- **Lincoln County** had the highest percentage (66.8) of the total number of children under age six (2,777) enrolled in SNAP (1,855 children).

## Children (<6 years) Living Below 200 Percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

The FPL is a measure of income issued every year by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and is used to determine eligibility for certain government programs and benefits. The 2020 guidelines indicate that a family of four is considered living below 100 percent of FPL if the annual income is less than \$26,200. Programs often determine a family's eligibility based on a percentage of the FPL, such as 130 percent or 200 percent. living in poverty by FPL. For example, children automatically qualify for Head Start when living in households with income below 100 percent of the FPL. See Appendix D for the number of children less than age six living in poverty by FPL.

In 2018, a family of four was considered living below 100 percent of FPL if earning an annual salary of less than \$25,100.

## Estimated Total Number of Children (<6 years) Living Below 100 Percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), 2018

**Linn County:** 1,569  
**Benton County:** 716  
**Lincoln County:** 854  
**LBL Hub Region:** 3,139  
**Oregon:** 54,219

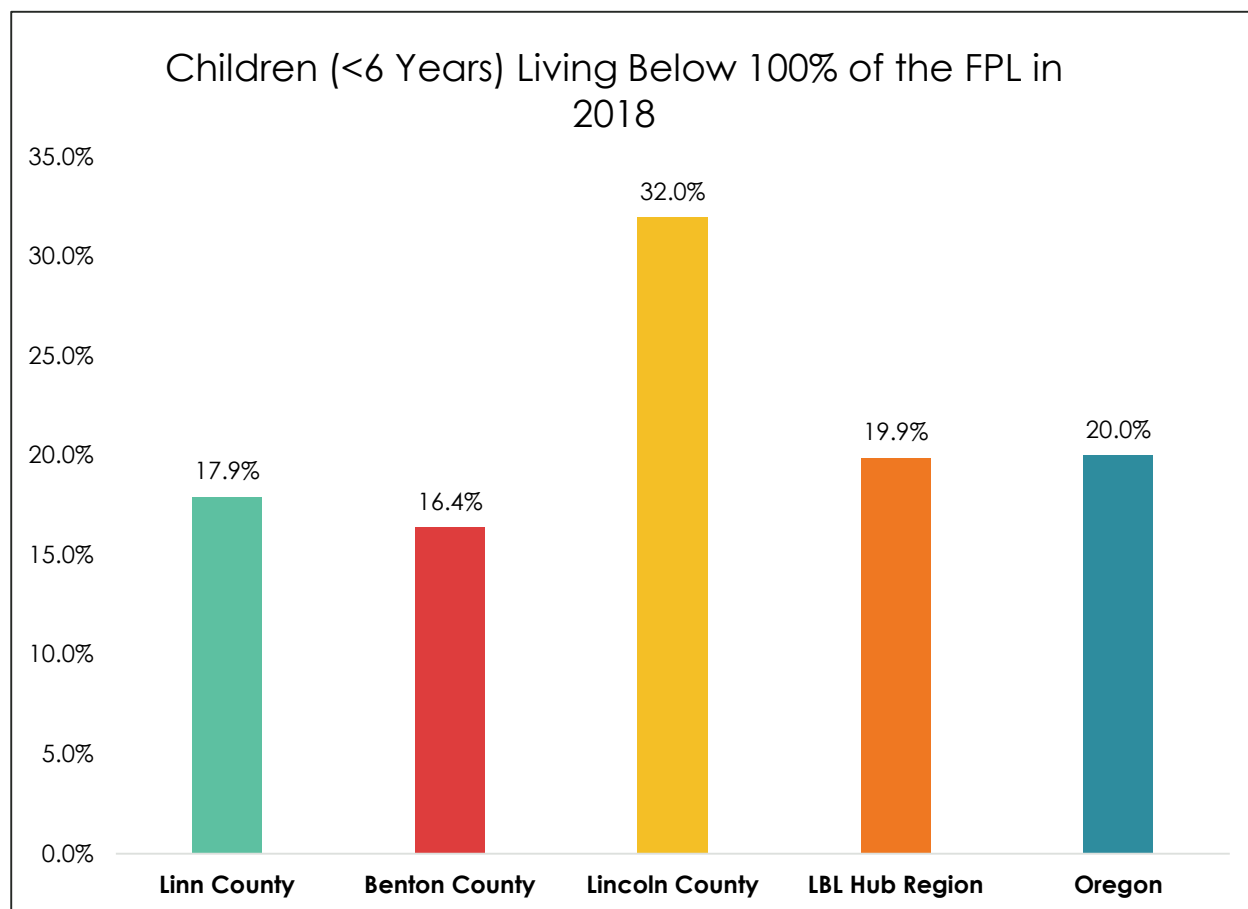


Figure 7. Children (<6 years) Living Below 100% of the FPL in 2018. Data from ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2018.

- The percent of children under age six living in poverty in our region (19.9) is similar to Oregon (20.0).
- **Lincoln County** has the highest percentage (32.0) of children under age six living in poverty, which is significantly more than Oregon (20.0).
- **Linn County** has the highest number (1,569) of children under age six living in poverty, which is more than either **Lincoln** (854) or **Benton** (716) counties.

## Estimated Total Number of Children (<6 years) Living Between 100 and 200 Percent of the FPL

**Linn County:** 2,767

**Benton County:** 669

**Lincoln County:** 776

**LBL Hub Region:** 4,212

**Oregon:** 64,343

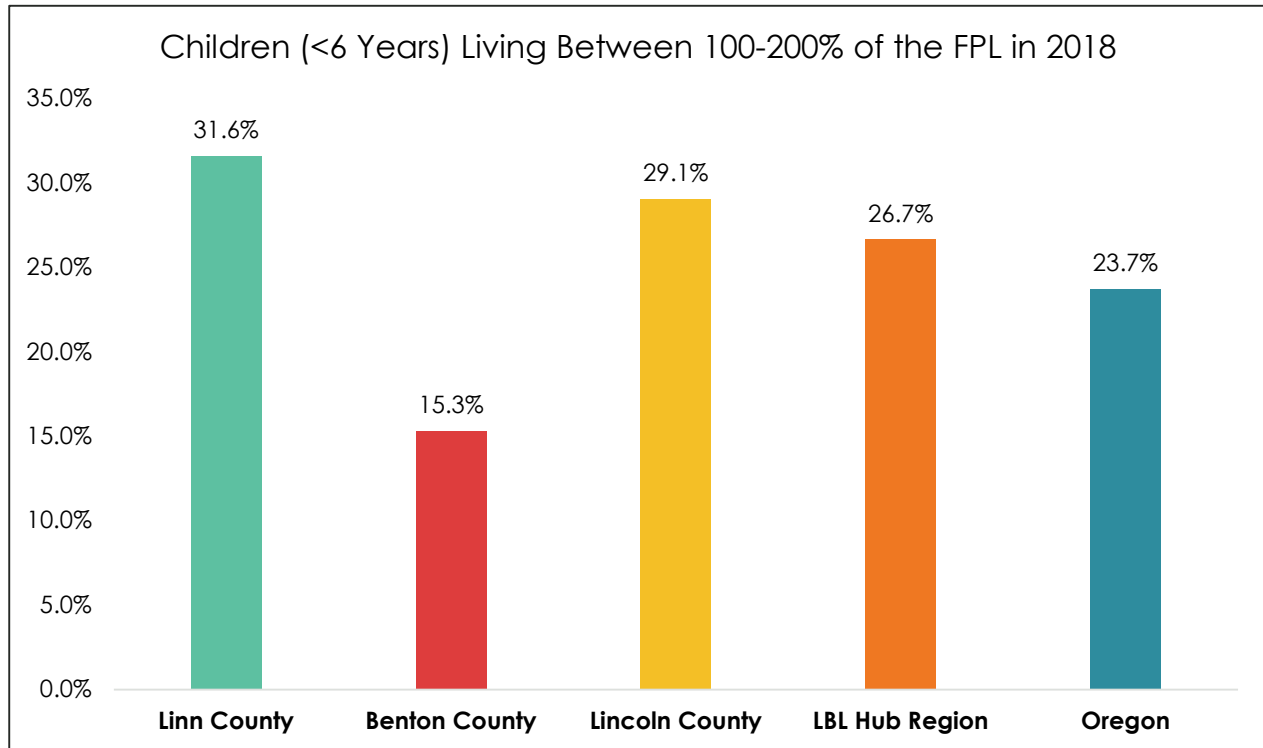


Figure 8. Children (<6 years) Living Between 100-200 percent of the FPL in 2018. Data from ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2018.

- The percent of children under age six living between 100-200 percent of the FPL in our region (26.7) is higher than Oregon (23.7).
- **Linn County** has the highest number (2,767) of children under age six living between 100-200 percent of the FPL, which is more than three times the number in either **Lincoln** (776) or **Benton** (669) counties.
- In **Linn** (31.6 percent) and **Lincoln** (29.1 percent) counties, almost one-third of children under age six, live between 100-200 percent of the FPL.

## Estimated Total Number of Children (<6 years) Living Below 200 Percent of the FPL

The 2018 guidelines indicate that a family of four is considered living below 200 percent of FPL if earning an annual salary less than \$50,200. Children under age six who live in families with income up to 200 percent of the FPL qualify for Preschool Promise, a free high-quality program. Preschool Promise, first enacted by the Legislature in 2015, was expanded to include all Early Learning Hubs in Oregon with the Student Success Act passed in 2019. The Student Success Act includes funding for early care and education for infants and toddlers (more information is available on the ODE website).

**Linn County:** 4,336

**Benton County:** 1,385

**Lincoln County:** 1,630

**LBL Hub Region:** 7,351

**Oregon:** 118,562

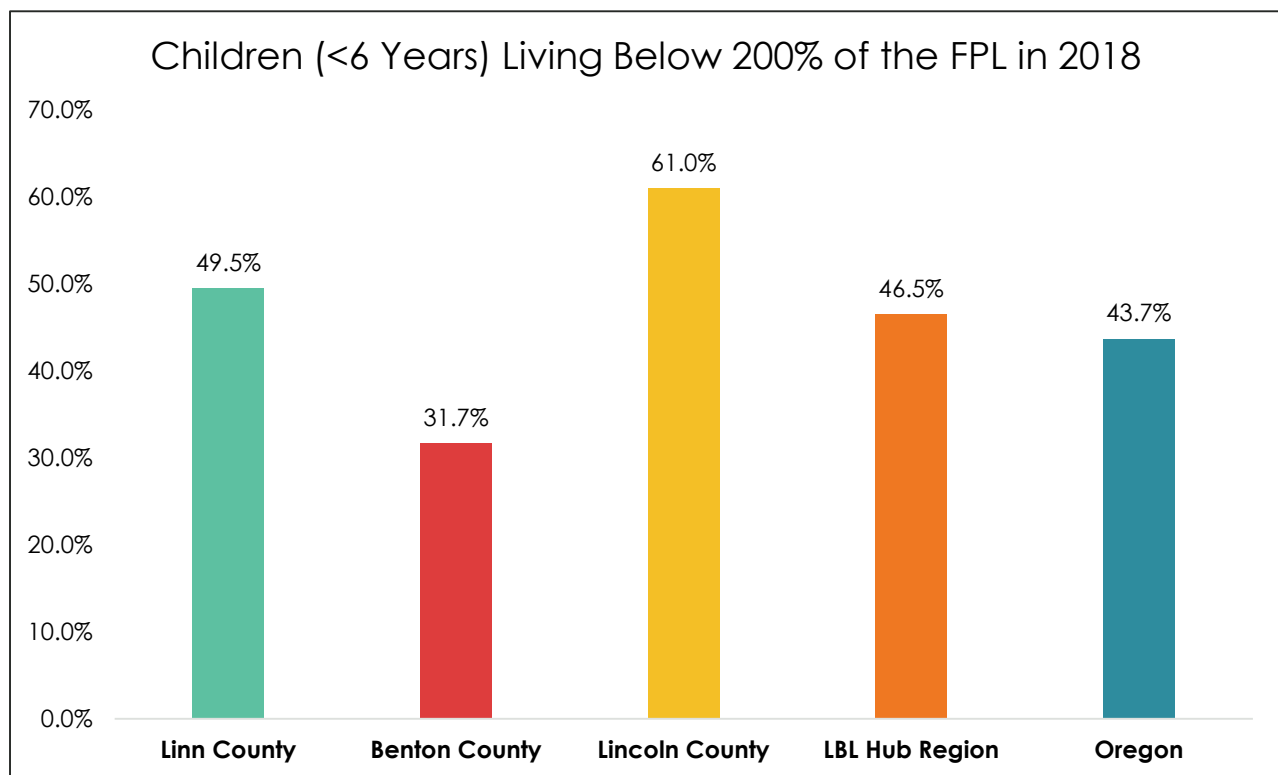


Figure 9. Children (<6 years) Living Below 200% of the FPL in 2018. Data from ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2018.

- The percent of children under age six living below 200 percent of the FPL in our region (46.5) is higher than Oregon (43.7).
- **Lincoln County** has the highest percentage of children under age six living below 200 percent of FPL (61.0) which is equivalent to 1,630 children.
- **Linn County** has the highest number of children under age six living below 200 percent of FPL (4,336) which is 49.5 percent.
- **Benton County** has the lowest percentage of children (31.7) living below 200 percent of the FPL which is 1,385 children.



## Children in Poverty (<6 years) by Race/Ethnicity, 2018

Each county in our region has notable differences for children under age six in poverty by race and ethnicity.

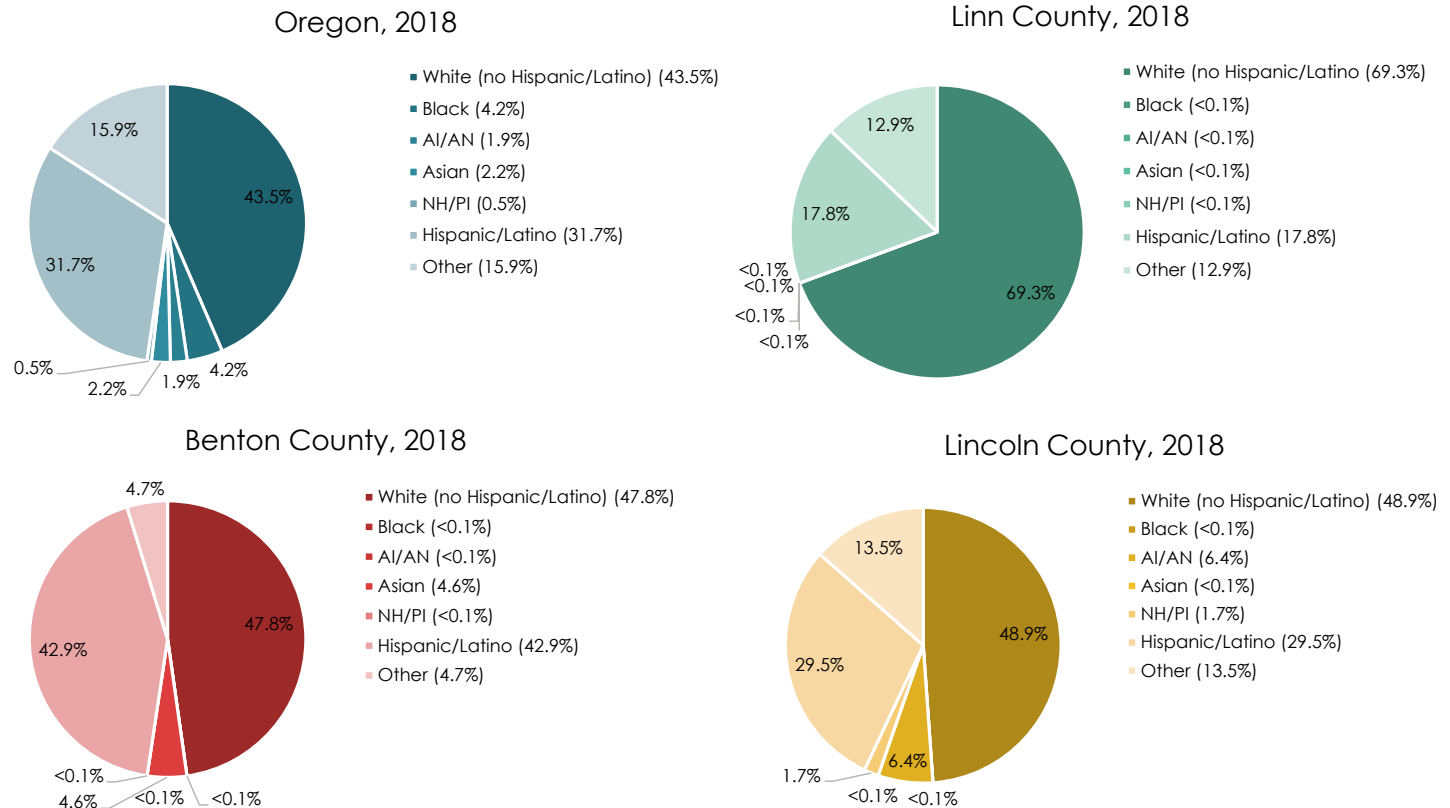


Figure 10. Children in poverty (< 6 years) by race/ethnicity in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties and Oregon, in 2018. Data from 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

**Note:** American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NH/PI)

**Note:** Appendix E has the estimated number of children in poverty by race/ethnicity in Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties.

- The largest non-White percentage of the population living in poverty is Hispanic/Latino for our region and in Oregon.
- **Linn** (311) and **Benton** (307) counties have a similar estimated number of Hispanic/Latino children in poverty.
- **Benton County** has the largest percentage (42.9) of Hispanic/Latino children in poverty in our region, which is also larger than that of Oregon (31.7 percent).
- The largest racial/ethnic group in our region is White Alone (Not Hispanic/Latino), and **Linn County** (1,215) has over two times the number of White children in poverty compared to **Lincoln** (456) and **Benton** (342) counties.

## Appendix A

Total Population for Children (<6 years), 2016 to 2018			
Area	2016	2017	2018
Linn	9,257	9,061	8,989
Benton	4,521	4,516	4,411
Lincoln	2,763	2,865	2,777
<b>Total LBL Hub</b>	<b>16,541</b>	<b>16,442</b>	<b>16,177</b>

Data from U.S. Census Bureau 2017 to 2019, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates.

## Appendix B

Total Population for Children (<6 years) by Age Group, 2018			
Area	Under Age 3	Age 3-5 Years	Under Age 6
Linn	4,380	4,609	8,989
Benton	2,202	2,209	4,411
Lincoln	1,307	1,470	2,777
<b>Total LBL Hub</b>	<b>7,889</b>	<b>8,288</b>	<b>16,177</b>

Data from U.S. Census Bureau 2019 ACS Five-Year Estimates.

## Appendix C

Children (<6 years) Enrolled in SNAP and Percent of Total Population, 2016 to 2018						
Area	2016		2017		2018	
Linn	7,121	76.9%	5,424	59.9%	5,248	58.4%
Benton	2,162	47.8%	1,724	38.2%	1,602	36.3%
Lincoln	2,528	91.5%	2,012	70.2%	1,855	66.8%
<b>Total LBL Hub</b>	<b>11,811</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>9,160</b>	<b>55.7%</b>	<b>8,705</b>	<b>53.8%</b>

Data is from Oregon Department of Human Services, 2017 and December 2019.

## Appendix D

Children Under Age 6 Living in Poverty by Federal Poverty Level, 2018						
Area	Below 100% FPL		Between 100-200% FPL		Below 200% FPL	
Linn	1,569	17.9%	2,767	31.6%	4,336	49.5%
Benton	716	16.4%	669	15.3%	1,385	31.7%
Lincoln	3,139	19.9%	4,212	26.7%	7,351	46.5%
Total LBL Hub	3,139	19.9%	4,212	26.7%	7,351	46.5%
Oregon	54,219	20.0%	64,343	23.7%	118,562	43.7%

Data is from U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates.

## Appendix E

Total Children (<6 years) in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2018				
Race	Linn	Benton	Lincoln	Oregon
White Alone (No Hispanic/Latino)	1,215	342	456	26,284
Black	*	*	*	2,508
Asian	*	33	*	1,316
American Indian/ Alaska Native	*	*	60	1,175
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	*	*	16	320
Hispanic/Latino	311	307	275	19,157
Some other race	170	*	41	3,698
Two or more races	56	34	85	5,923

\*Data is not available for this group.

Children in poverty (<6 years) by race/ethnicity in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties and Oregon in 2018. Data from 2014-2018 ACS 5-year estimates, U.S.

# Kindergarten Readiness

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Early Learning Council (ELC) developed the Oregon Kindergarten Assessment (KA) to measure areas of kindergarten readiness among incoming kindergarten students. The KA includes self-regulation, social competency, and aspects of early achievement (literacy and math).

The KA offers local and statewide data for policy makers and is a tool to identify characteristics of children where additional supports may be needed to increase kindergarten readiness. Oregon KA domains are strongly linked to third grade reading scores and future academic success (ODE, 2018).

## Oregon Kindergarten Assessment

The KA began, in its current form, in the 2013-2014 school year. In the fall of each school year, local school educators administer the KA to children as they enter kindergarten, which provides a snapshot of their early math, early literacy, and approaches to learning skills prior to their school experience. School catchment areas (i.e. attendance boundaries) usually define which school children will attend.

The KA should not be viewed as a pass or fail test for children or their families, but rather an opportunity for teachers and guardians to better understand and support early learning opportunities before they reach kindergarten. Children who arrive at kindergarten with strong social-emotional skills, as measured by the KA, are more likely to be on track in third grade reading and math (Oregon ELC, 2019).

Note: In 2016-2017, Early Literacy: English Letter Names and English Letter Sounds were no longer timed, and the scales were changed. Also, the assessment for Early Literacy: English Letter Names was split into upper and lowercase letters.

Kindergarten Assessment Category	Assessment Method	Description
<b>Approaches to Learning</b>	Educator observes and records child's interactions with other children and classroom materials using the Child Behavior Rating Scale (CBRS). A final score between 1 and 5 is given using the average score of all 15 items, which is Approaches to Learning (Total) score.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment focuses on a child's approaches to learning, self-regulatory skills, and interpersonal skills.</li> <li>CBRS is strongly predictive of reading and math achievement in elementary grades and has been validated in a wide range of cultural contexts.</li> </ul>
<b>Early Mathematics*</b>	A test administrator asks the child math questions, one question at a time. The child responds by pointing to the answer or responding verbally to 16 multiple-choice questions. Final scores range from 0 to 16.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Questions, developed by Oregon educators, also include measures from the easyCBM, a nationally recognized assessment method.</li> <li>easyCBM provides benchmarking and progress monitoring in math.</li> <li>Non-easyCBM items strongly align with Early Learning and Common Core State Standards and include geometry, measurement and data, and counting and cardinality.</li> </ul>
<b>Early Literacy* (English Letter Name and Sound Recognition)</b>	Children identify as many letter sounds and names as they can. A test administrator records their score out of 26 for each sub-category.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The English Letter Name Recognition measure consists of two distinct parts, uppercase and lowercase letter recognition.</li> <li>The English Letter Sound Recognition measure focuses on letter sound recognition.</li> </ul>

\*Spanish speakers receive the Early Literacy portion in both English and Spanish. Spanish speakers receive the Early Mathematics portion in their preferred language.

For more detailed information about the KA and parent's frequently asked questions, please visit the Oregon Department of Education website.



## Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Kindergarten Assessment Results

Annually, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) publishes aggregated Kindergarten Assessment (KA) results for the state, Early Learning Hubs, school districts, and schools; the 2020-2021 KA is suspended. Our region has 12 school districts and 50 schools.

To understand KA results in our region, the Data and Evaluation Work Group asked two questions:

1. How does the LBL Hub compare to the state for each of the KA categories?
2. Which demographic groups of children are below the LBL Hub average? The demographic groups used in our KA results include: Economically Disadvantaged, Limited English Proficient, Males/Females, Students with Disabilities, Native American/ Alaska Native, and Hispanic.

Tables comparing LBL Hub average KA scores to the state for the past five years (2015-2016 to 2019-2020) are located in Appendix F. The following charts compare our region to the state for each of the KA categories for the most current year, 2019-2020.

### LBL Hub vs. Oregon: Kindergarten Assessment Scores, School Year 2019-2020

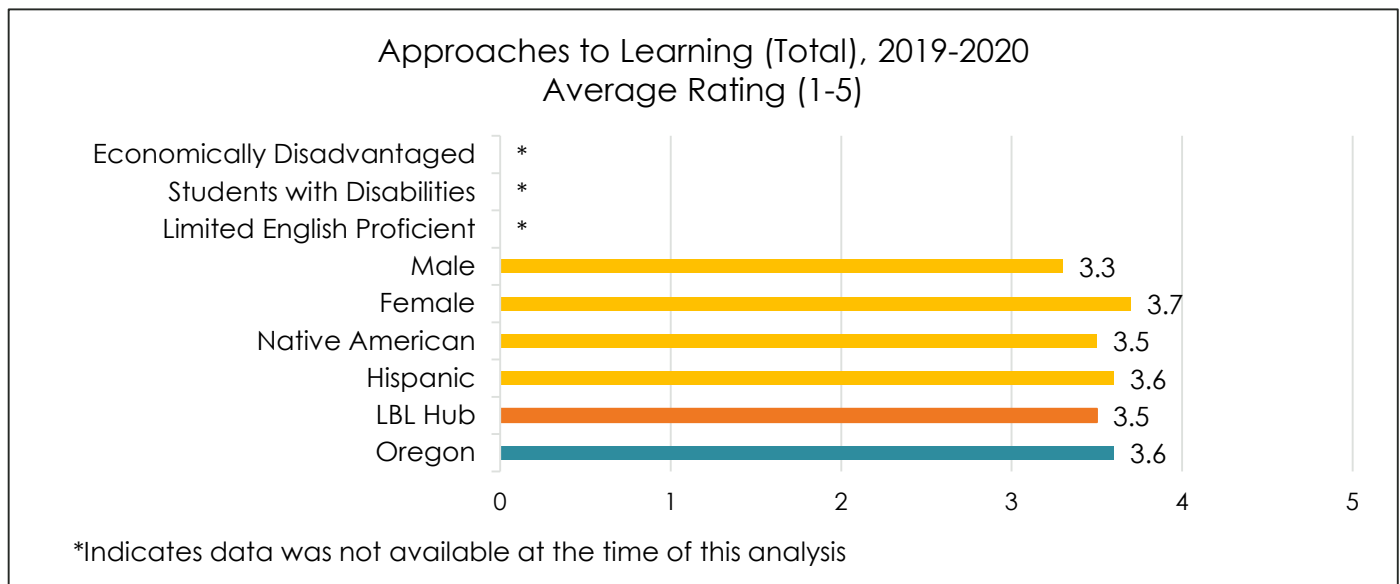


Figure 11. LBL Hub Approaches to Learning scores versus Oregon and demographic groups in 2019-2020. Data from the 2019-2020 Kindergarten Assessment Approaches to Learning (Total), Oregon Department of Education.

### Approaches to Learning (Total)

- The LBL Hub's average (3.5) was below the state's average (3.6), during 2019-2020.
- The average score for Males (3.3) was lower than the LBL Hub average (3.5) and lower than Females (3.7) during 2019-2020.
- Native American children (3.5) scored the same as the LBL Hub average (3.5), during 2019-2020.
- Hispanic students (3.6) scored above the LBL Hub average (3.5), during 2019-2020.

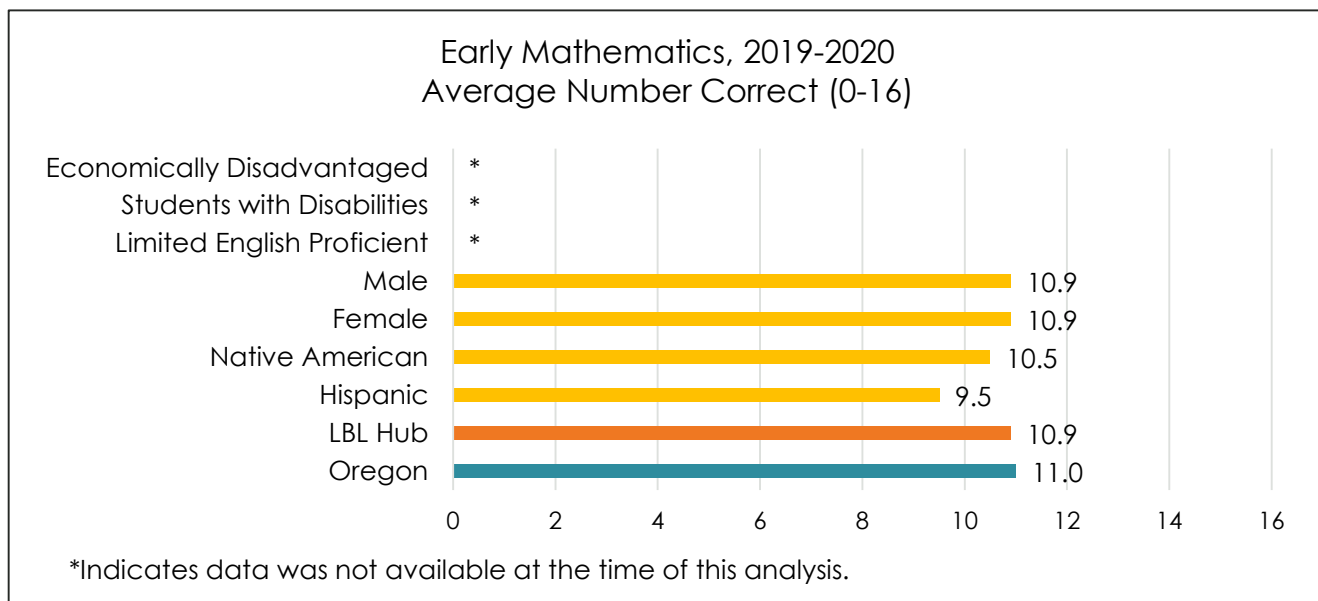


Figure 12. LBL Hub Early Mathematics scores versus Oregon and demographic groups in 2019-2020. Data from the 2019-2020 Kindergarten Assessment Early Mathematics, Oregon Department of Education.

### Early Mathematics

- LBL Hub's average (10.9) was slightly below the state's average (11.0) in 2019-2020.
- Native American (10.5) and Hispanic (9.5) children's average scores were below the LBL Hub (10.9) average in 2019-2020.
- Averages for both Males (10.9) and Females (10.9) matched the LBL Hub's average (10.9) in 2019-2020.

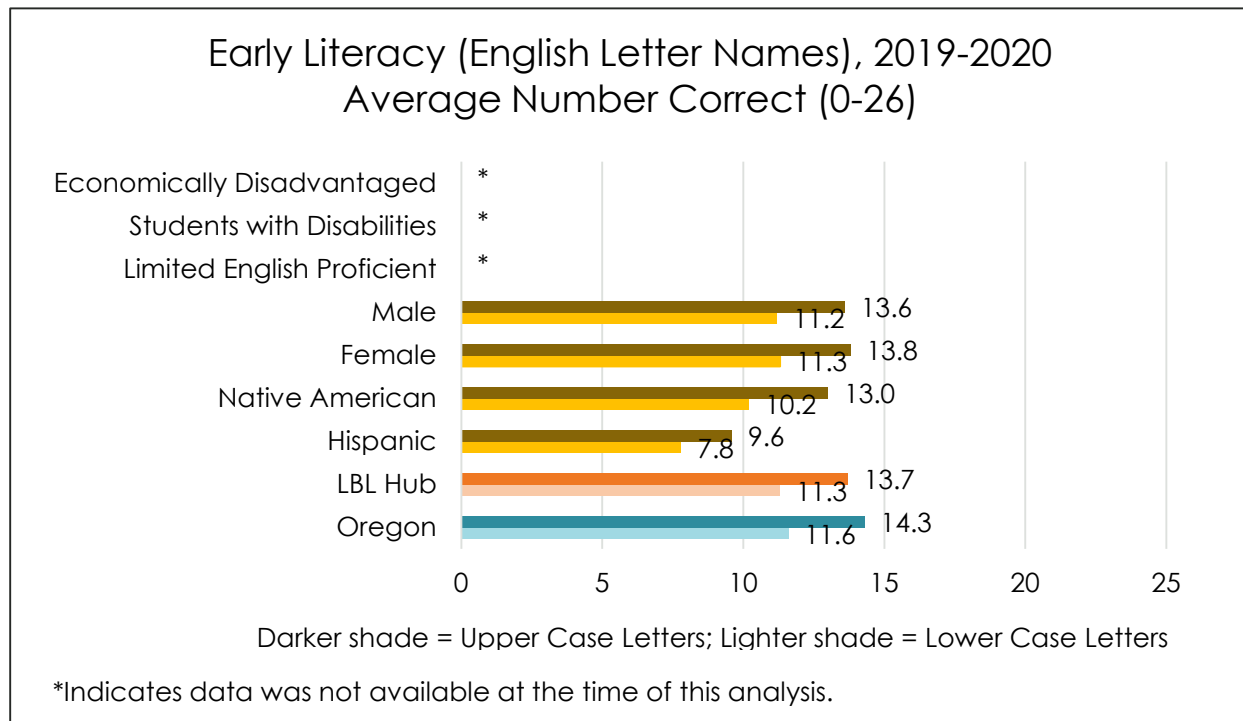


Figure 13. LBL Hub English Letter Name Recognition scores versus Oregon and demographic groups in 2019-2020. Data from the 2019-2020 Kindergarten Assessment Early Literacy (English Letter Names), Oregon Department of Education.

### Early Literacy (English Letter Names: Upper Case & Lower Case)

- The LBL Hub's averages in all these categories for both Upper and Lower Case English Letter Names fell short of the state average for 2019-2020.
- The average scores for Males (13.6 and 11.2) were lower than the LBL Hub average scores (13.7 and 11.3) and Female average scores (13.8 and 11.3) were higher or matched, during 2019-2020.
- Native American (13.0 and 10.2) and Hispanic (9.6 and 7.8) children's average scores were below the LBL Hub (13.7 and 11.3) average scores in 2019-2020.
- The average scores for Hispanic children (9.6 and 7.8) were the lowest for all the categories.

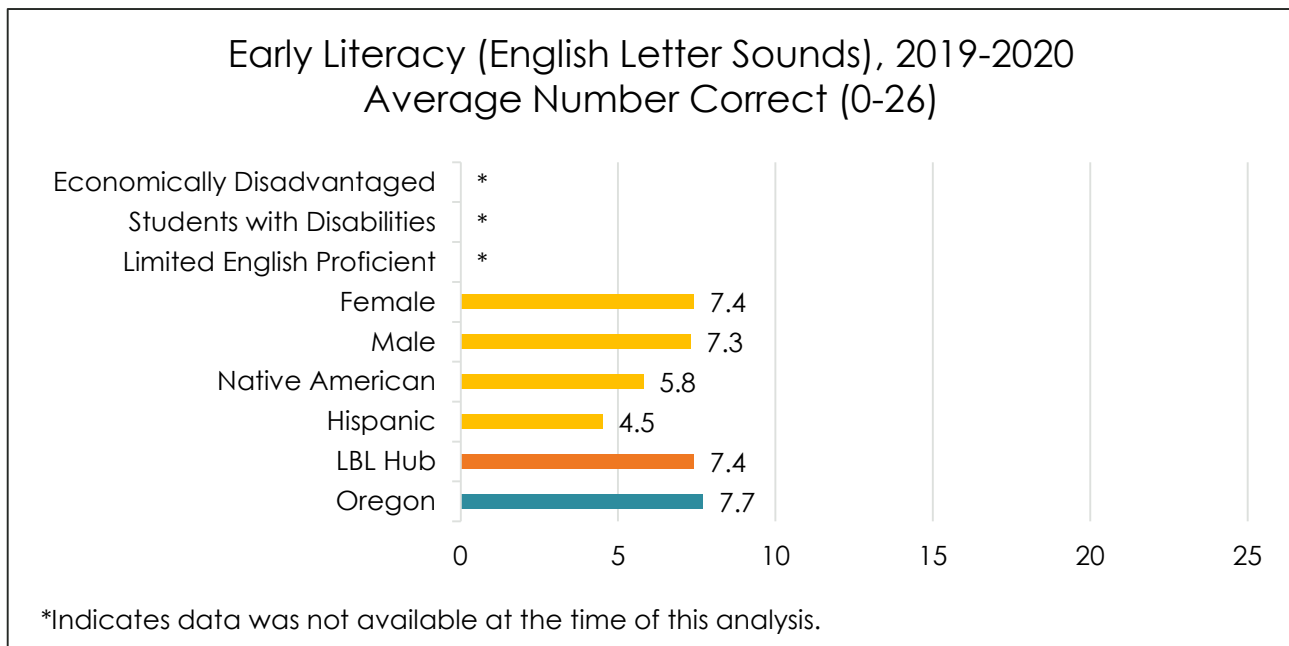


Figure 14. LBL Hub English Letter Sound Recognition versus Oregon and demographic groups in 2019-2020. Data from the 2019-2020 Kindergarten Assessment Early Literacy (English Letter Sounds), Oregon Department of Education.

### Early Literacy - English Letter Sounds

- The LBL Hub's averages in these categories fell short of the state average.
- Averages for Males (7.3) fell below Female (7.4) averages, which matched the LBL Hub (7.4) average.
- Native American (5.8) and Hispanic (4.5) children's average scores were below the LBL Hub (7.4) average in 2019-2020.

## Key Findings from the Kindergarten Assessment School Years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020

Please see Appendix F for KA data, 2016-2017 to 2019-2020.

- When compared, KA averages for the LBL Hub region were similar to the state for three years from 2015-2016 to 2017-2018; however, in 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 KA averages in our region dropped to slightly below the state on Approaches to Learning (total) and Early Mathematics.
- For KA Early Literacy, which looks at English letter names and sound recognition, our region remained consistently lower than the state across the three-year period (2017-2018 to 2019-2020) that data was available.
- The KA allows us to identify demographic characteristics of groups of children who are below our Hub average. Children with Disabilities and children who are Economically Disadvantaged remain below our Hub average on all three measures of the KA (Approaches to Learning, Early Mathematics and Early Literacy).
- Hispanic children and children with Limited English Proficiency on average are below our Hub average in Early Mathematics and Early Literacy.

- On average, Native American children were below our Hub average three out of five years in KA Approaches to Learning, and four out of five years for Early Mathematics and Early Literacy.
- Boys, as a group, scored lower than our Hub average across multiple years in both Approaches to Learning and Early Literacy. For Early Mathematics, boys scored lower than our Hub average for three out of five years.

## Further Analysis of LBL Hub Kindergarten Assessment Scores

Brain science clearly indicates that the first five years of a child's life are the most significant for learning and brain development with long-term consequences for success in school and life (Oregon ELC, 2019). With that in mind, we sought a better understanding of our target population by analyzing multiple variables associated with school catchment areas in our region. We also wanted to know more about the relationship between KA-Approaches to Learning scores and Third Grade Reading scores for the same cohort of children in our region. The LBL Hub hired Oregon State University (OSU) College of Public Health and Human Sciences Interns to analyze the most recent data available. The Epidemiologist for Benton County provided oversight and support.

The following Supplementals to this Data Book report the findings and are available on the LBL Hub website:

1. *Expanded Analysis of our Target Population, 2018-2019 School Year*
2. *Analysis of One Cohort: 2015-2016 Kindergarten Assessment Approaches to Learning Scores and 2018-2019 Third Grade Reading Scores\**

\*Please see the Regional Data Book 1<sup>st</sup> Edition for findings from our first statistical analysis: *One Cohort: 2014-2015 KA-AL scores and 2017-2018 Third Grade Reading Scores.*

## High School Graduation Rates by School District for 2018-2019

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (2019), Oregon's graduation rate was 48th of 50 states in 2016-2017. Research indicates that children who successfully read at or above third grade reading levels are more likely to graduate from high school within five years and then continue on to college (Lesnick et al., 2010). The findings from the research described in the Supplementals to this Data Book demonstrate how kindergarten readiness, specifically KA-AL scores are directly associated with Third Grade Reading scores.

Therefore, high school graduation rates can help identify priority school catchment areas in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln County to implement Early Learning Hub strategies.

The following graph presents high school graduation rates for each school district in **Linn**, **Benton**, and **Lincoln** counties for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. Five-year cohort graduation rates are used instead of four-year cohort graduation rates as they include students who required an additional year to graduate.

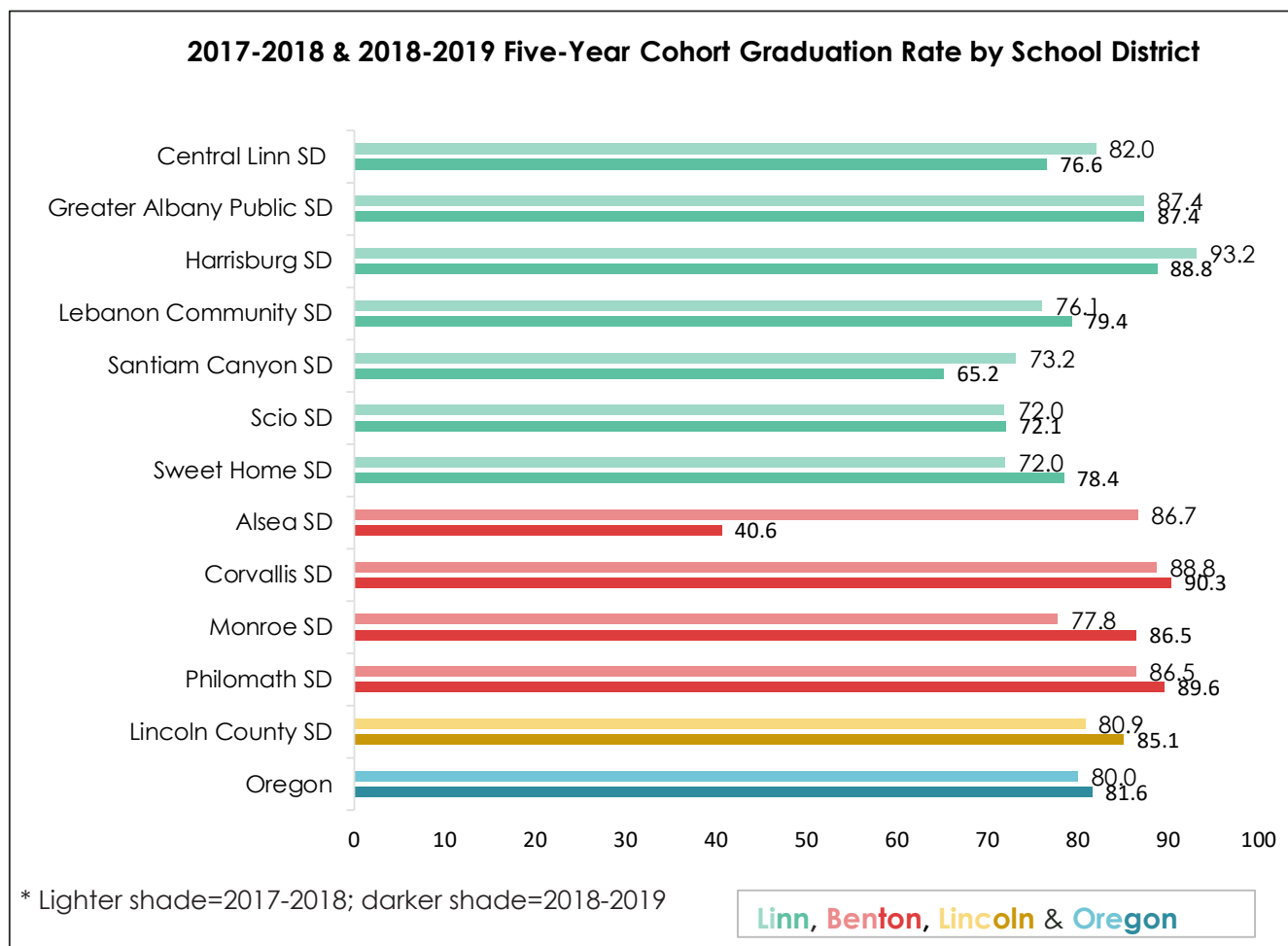


Figure 15. 2017-2018 & 2018-2019 Five-Year Cohort Graduation Rate by School District. Data from Graduation Reports, School Years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Media File, Oregon Department of Education.

- Oregon's five-year cohort graduation rate improved from 80.04 during 2017-2018 to 81.61 in 2018-2019.
- Five-year graduation rates improved during 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 in seven school districts in our region:
  - Lebanon Community School District increased from 76.08 to 79.42 – **Linn County**
  - Scio School District increased from 71.95 to 72.09 – **Linn County**
  - Sweet Home School District increased from 71.98 to 78.44 – **Linn County**
  - Corvallis School District increased from 88.75 to 90.34 – **Benton County**
  - Monroe School District increased from 77.78 to 86.49 – **Benton County**
  - Philomath School District increased from 86.47 to 89.60 – **Benton County**
  - Lincoln County School District increased from 80.85 to 85.12 – **Lincoln County**
- Five-year graduation rates decreased during 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 in four school districts in our region:
  - Central Linn School District decreased from 82.00 to 76.60 – **Linn County**
  - Harrisburg School District decreased from 93.17 to 88.76 – **Linn County**
  - Santiam Canyon School District decreased from 73.20 to 65.20 – **Linn County**
  - Alsea School District decreased from 86.67 to 40.63 – **Benton County**



## Preschool Participation

During early childhood, high-quality child care and preschool experiences have a positive impact on all children, preparing them for success in school, for high school graduation, and improved lifelong outcomes (Oregon ELC, 2019). Preschool's primary focus is on the education and development of children ages three to five years so they are prepared for kindergarten. The focus of child care is on providing care for part of a day on a regular basis for children unaccompanied by their parents or guardians. Child care may also include early childhood education.

The following preschool enrollment data indicates the percent of children in our region who are accessing preschool and suggests opportunity gaps useful for preschool expansion planning.

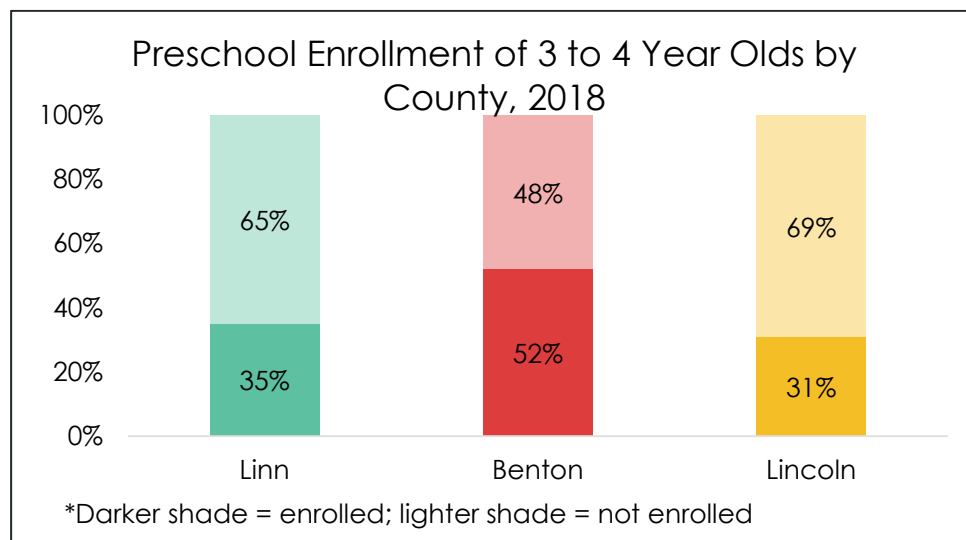


Figure 16. Preschool Enrollment of 3 to 4 Year Olds by County, 2018. Data from Early Care and Education Profiles: 2018 Oregon Child Care Research Partnership, Oregon State University, Pratt, M. (2018).

Note: the **number** of 3-4 year old children enrolled in preschool is not provided with the data. This is the most recent data available, July 2020.

- The highest percentage (52) of 3-4 year olds enrolled in preschool in our region is in **Benton County**.
- The percentages of 3-4 year olds enrolled in preschool in **Linn** (35) and **Lincoln** (31) counties is similar.

## Early Childhood Care

In our region, a majority of young children live in families where all available parents are employed. In 2018, two-thirds of children under age six in **Linn County** (67.8 percent) and over half of children in **Benton** (53.8 percent) and **Lincoln** (56.1 percent) counties and 63.6 percent in Oregon had both parents employed or a single parent employed (American Community Survey, 2019). As a result, many families look to their family, friends, neighbors (FFN), and state regulated programs for child care during their working hours.

### Regulated Care

In Oregon, regulated child care programs operate under state rules which divide child care into License-Exempt and Licensed care as defined in the following table:

Regulated Child Care		
License Exempt	Recorded Preschool	Programs that are primarily educational for up to four hours per day
	Regulated Subsidy Provider	Eligible for state subsidy
Licensed	Registered Family	Home-based providers caring for up to ten children under age 13, including the provider's own children of which only six can be preschool age or younger
	Certified Family	Home-based providers who care for up to 16 children
	Certified Child Care Center	Center-based program for more than four hours per day with the number of children determined by floor space and number of staff

Source: Early Learning Division, 2020

### Child Care Availability in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties

“Availability of child care plays a critical role in the lives of Oregon’s families with young children, including if, where and when parents work,” according to Megan Pratt, Oregon Child Care Research Partnership. The term “Child Care Desert” has been coined to illustrate the lack of child care slots across the country. A child care desert is defined as a geographic region with more than three times as many children as licensed slots (Malik et al., 2018). A recent study conducted by Oregon State University identified areas in Oregon that have inadequate child care supply for different age groups (Pratt et al., 2019). Every county in Oregon is considered a child care desert for families living with infants and toddlers.

Please refer to Appendix G for the number of slots in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes in each county in 2018.

The following table indicates the percentage of children in our region with access to a regulated children care slot in 2018 (the most recent data available).

Percentage of Children with Access to a Regulated Child Care Slot in 2018			
County	# 0-2 year olds	# 3-5 year olds	# 0-5 year olds
Linn	6%	17%	12%
Benton	19%	42%	31%
Lincoln	4%	27%	15%

Table 1. Percentage of Children with Access to a Regulated Child Care Slot in 2018. Data from Oregon's Child Care Deserts: Mapping Supply by Age Group, Metropolitan Status, and Percentage of Publicly Funded Slots, Oregon State University.

- Access to regulated child care is limited for all children in our region with the greatest need among 0-2 year olds child care slots.
- **Linn** (6 percent), **Benton** (19 percent), and **Lincoln** (4 percent) counties have very low percentages of children ages 0-2 years with access to a regulated child care slot.
- **Benton County** (42 percent) has the highest percentage in the region of children ages 3-5 with access to a regulated child care slot.
- **Benton County** is one of nine counties that is not considered a child care desert for 3-5 year olds.

The following graphs indicate the number of Regulated Child Care programs in our region by type for 2018 and 2020 including:

- Head Start – free educational programs for qualifying families, may be licensed or recorded.
- Alternative Pathway (available in 2020) – Child care programs administered by school districts and Education Service Districts, are License Exempt.

Note: Tribal Head Start is not included as it is not required to be licensed.

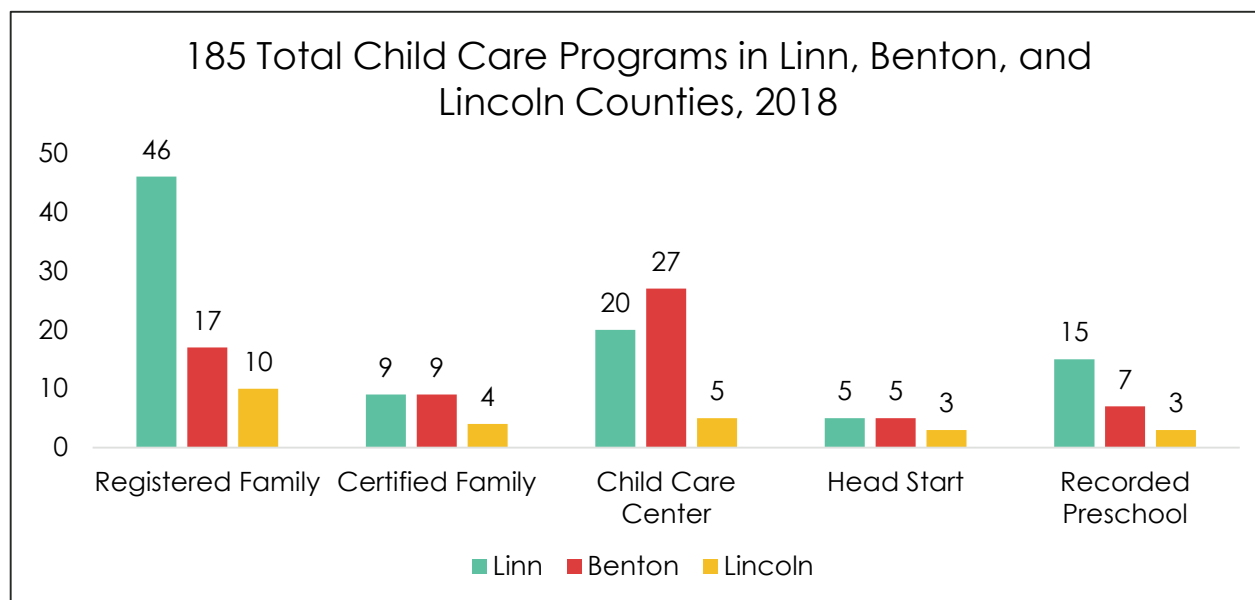


Figure 17. 185 Total Child Care Programs in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, 2018. Registered Family, Certified Family, Child Care Center and Head Start Data from the Research Institute at Western Oregon University for Reporting Period April 1 2018 to June 30 2018, Recorded Preschool pulled from Oregon Department of Education Child Care Regulatory Information System – Partner Version (CCRIS-P) by Family Connections, 10/8/2018.

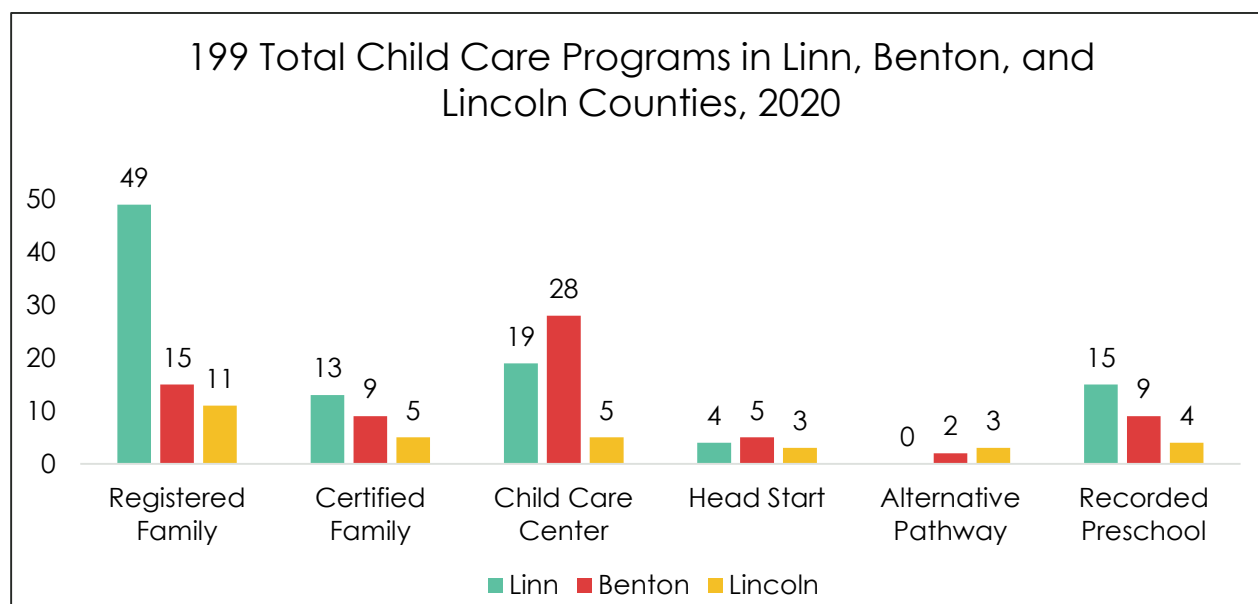


Figure 18. Total Child Care Programs in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, 2020. Registered Family, Certified Family, Child Care Center, Head Start and Alternative Pathway data from the Research Institute at Western Oregon University as of March 2020, Recorded Preschool pulled from Oregon Department of Education Child Care Regulatory Information System – Partner Version (CCRIS-P) by Family Connections, 7/14/2020.

- The number of child care programs in the LBL region increased from 185 in 2018 to 199 in 2020 (**Linn County** added five programs, **Benton County** added three programs, and **Lincoln County** added six programs).
- Registered Family programs increased from 73 in 2018 to 75 programs in 2020
- Certified Family programs increased from 22 in 2018 to 27 in 2020.
- Child Care Centers remained at 52 programs.
- Licensed Head Start centers dropped from 13 in 2018 to 12 in 2020 (**Linn County** dropped one).
- Five Alternative Pathway programs added in 2020 (two in **Benton County** and three in **Lincoln County**).
- Recorded Preschool programs increased from 25 in 2018 to 28 in 2020.

## Unregulated Care

Many families access unregulated care. Multiple factors influence a family's use of unregulated care, which include preference, expanded or flexible hours, cost and availability of regulated care. Child care exempt from state regulation includes preschool/school-age programs that:

- Operate less than four hours per day and serve children from age three years.
- Home-based care for three or fewer children in addition to one's own children.

In Oregon, many families rely on their family, friends, and neighbors (FFN) to supply child care for their youngest children. FFN care in Oregon represents:

- Thirty-eight percent of the care of children (<3 years old)
- Sixteen percent of the care of children (3 and 4 years old) (Weber & Hartman, 2015).

## Child Care Affordability in Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties

"In Oregon, lack of affordability often prevents families from accessing quality care and education" (Oregon Child Care Partnership, 2018). The median annual cost for toddler care in a child care center in **Benton County** is \$14,400, \$9,600 in **Linn County** and \$7,380 in **Lincoln County**. Detailed information on the cost of Oregon Child Care is available in the 2018 Oregon Child Care Market Rate Price Study.

Oregon offers support, such as the Oregon Child Care subsidy, for certain special populations who meet eligibility requirements. Employment-Related Day Care (ERDC) accounts for the majority of the subsidies. Many families, ineligible for subsidies and unable to pay the cost of care for licensed facilities, turn to unlicensed care. Statewide, 39.6 percent of children received care in unlicensed facilities (Pratt, 2018).

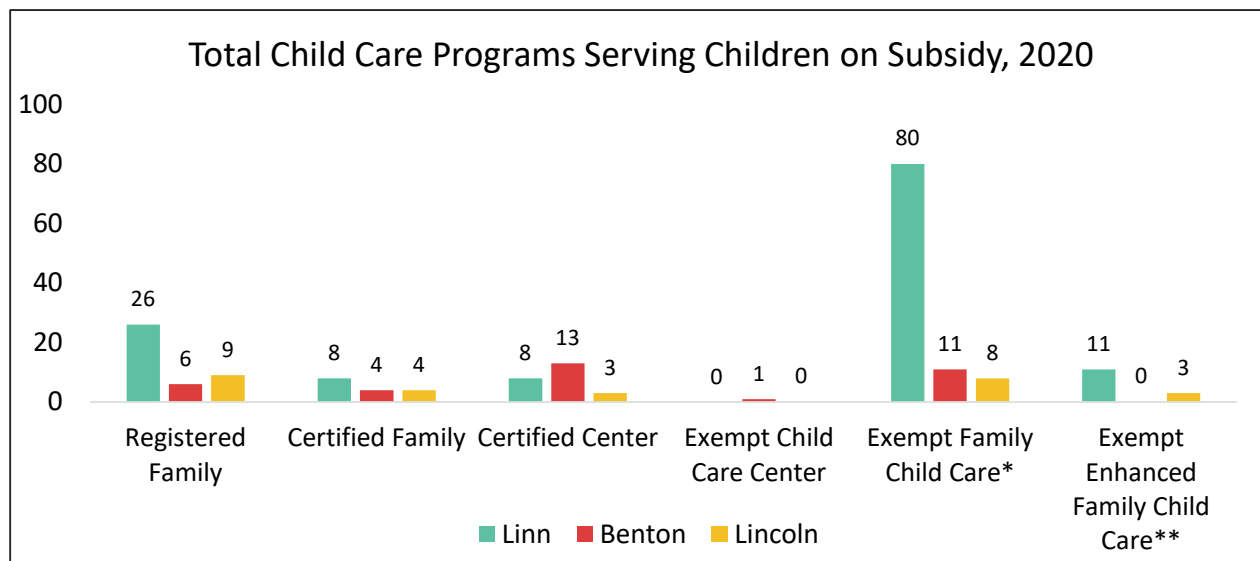


Figure 19. Total Child Care Programs Serving Children on Subsidy, 2020. Data from Family Connections, Linn-Benton Community College.

\*80 (80 percent) License Exempt Family Child Care Providers are relatives.

\*\*License Exempt Enhanced Family Child Care providers have completed trainings in CPR/First Aid, Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, and Food Handler Permit.

- **Linn County** has the highest number of child care programs (133) serving children on subsidies in the region, in 2020.
- **Benton County** has 35 child care programs serving children on subsidies, in 2020.
- **Lincoln County** has 27 child care programs serving children on subsidies, in 2020.

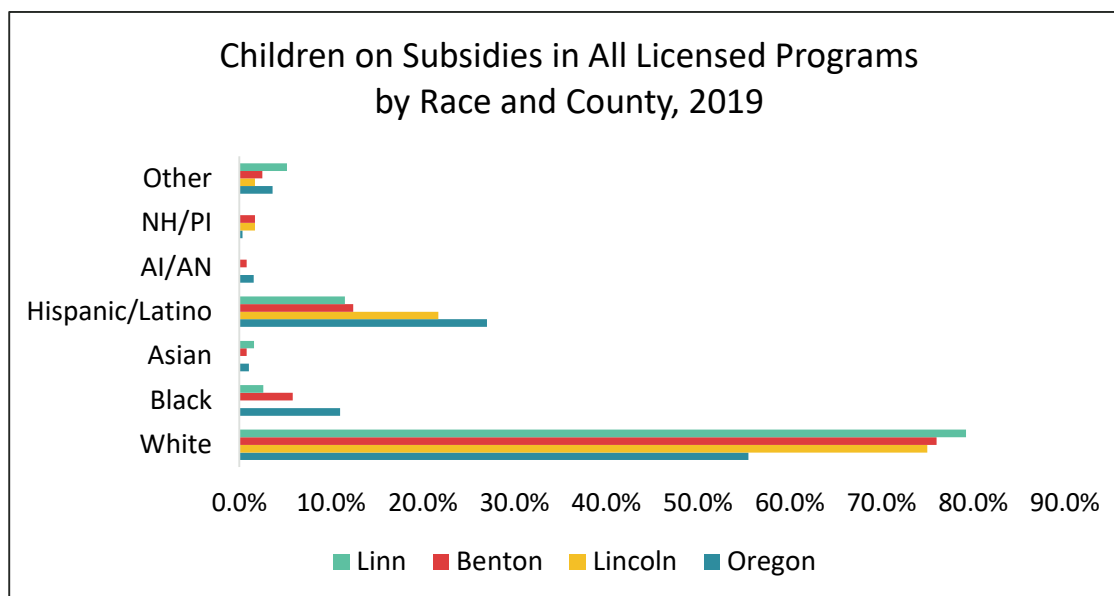


Figure 20. 2019 Children on Subsidies in All Licensed Programs by Race and County (April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019). Data from the Research Institute at Western Oregon University. This is the most recent data available.

Please see Appendix H. for a table with the percentage of children on subsidies in all licensed programs in our region and in Oregon, separated by race.



- Out of all children on subsidies, **Lincoln County** has the highest percentage (21.7) of Hispanic/Latino children on subsidies in all licensed child care programs in our region.
- Out of all children on subsidies, **Linn County** has the highest percentage of White children (79.2) and Asian children (1.6) on subsidies in all licensed child care programs in our region.
- Out of all children on subsidies, **Benton County** has the highest percentage of Black children (5.8) on subsidies in all licensed child care programs in our region.
- Compared to Oregon, our region has a higher percentage of White children on subsidies in all licensed programs than the state and smaller percentages of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN), Hispanic/Latino, and Black than the state.

## Child Care Quality in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties

Spark, a voluntary program from Oregon's Early Learning Division, began in 2013 as Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). Oregon's Spark program recognizes and rewards child care and early learning programs for continuous quality improvement to their services for children and families and for meeting specific quality standards. Local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) provide technical assistance.

The Spark framework includes key standards in the following domains: Environments, Learning and Development, Inclusion of Children, Families and Culture, Positive Relationships, Personnel Qualification and Children's Safety and Program Stability. Child Care and Early Learning providers begin Spark by attending a training and making a Commitment to Quality (C2Q). Providers may then achieve 3-Star, 4-Star and 5-Star ratings by meeting key standards at each level. Providers from Certified Centers, Certified Family, Registered Family, Alternative Pathway and Head Start programs are eligible to participate.

Family Connections, the CCR&R for our region, uses Focused Networks as a primary strategy for supporting Spark participants. Our region currently has three Focused Child Care Networks (FCCN) to assist up to 15 licensed home-based and early education programs with their portfolios to achieve a star-rating. Programs recruited for these networks serve children receiving child care subsidies, care for infants and toddlers, care for children with special needs, or are in their first two years of business. Previous FCCNs funded by the LBL Hub targeted home-based providers in rural communities and Spanish-speaking home-based providers, Certified Family, and Registered Family programs.

Provider cohorts, which bring together providers to focus on specific topics or issues, are another strategy currently used in our region to enhance quality. A cohort of providers in **Lincoln County** has been meeting in a Book Study focused on the Whole Brain Child, written by Daniel J Siegel and Tina Payne Bryson. This group of providers met virtually three times and interacted in small groups reflecting on how to guide children's behavior with an understanding of brain development.

## Spark Participation

The Research Institute at Western Oregon University collects data and information about child care providers participating in Oregon's Spark system. The following graphs portray the number of child care providers for each category of child care quality by county.

### Linn County Spark Participation, March 2020

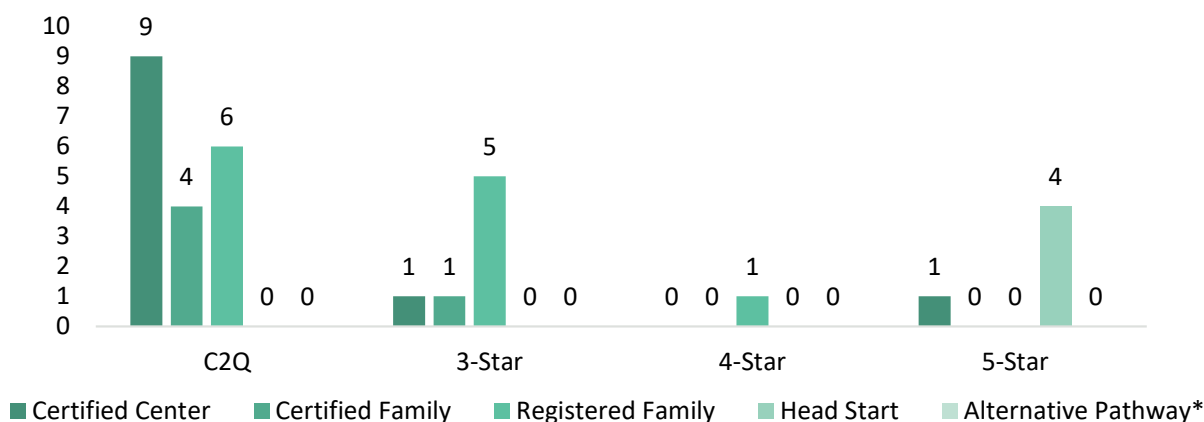


Figure 21. Spark Participation in Linn County, March 2020. Data from Oregon's QRIS Data Facts and County Data Facts for March 2020, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University.

- In **Linn County**, Registered Family providers (12) make up the greatest number of programs participating in Spark followed by Certified Centers (11).

### Benton County Spark Participation, March 2020

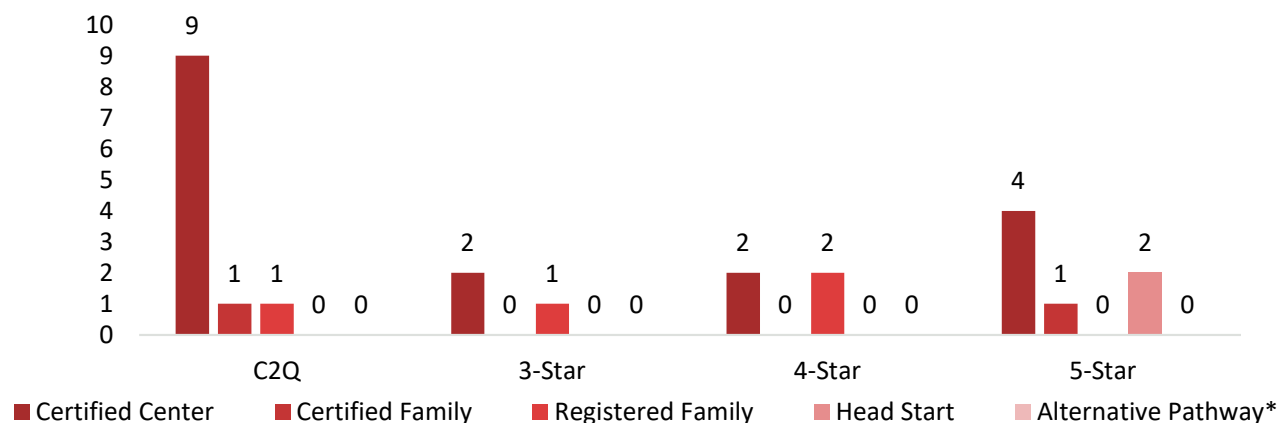


Figure 22. Spark Participation in Benton County, March 2020. Data from Oregon's QRIS Data Facts and County Data Facts for March 2020, The Research Institute at WOU.

- In **Benton County**, Certified Centers (17) make up the greatest number of programs participating in Spark followed by Registered Family providers (4).

## Lincoln County Spark Participation, March 2020

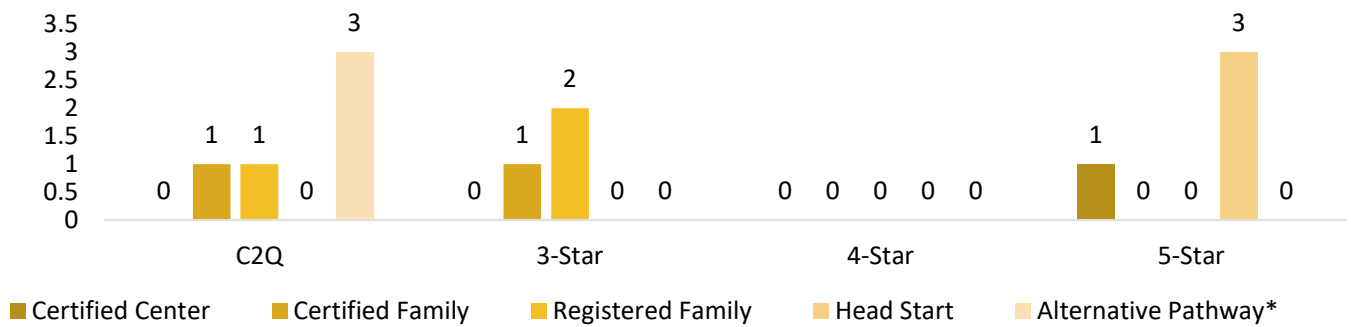


Figure 23. Spark Participation in Lincoln County, March 2020. Data from Oregon's QRIS Data Facts and County Data Facts for March 2020, The Research Institute at WOU.

- In **Lincoln County**, the greatest number of programs participating in Spark is split equally between three Registered Family providers, three Head Start programs, and three Alternative Pathway programs.

As of March 31, 2020, 46.6 percent of centers (Licensed, Alternative Pathway, and Head Start programs) and 53 percent of Family Child Care (large Certified Family and small Registered Family programs) in Oregon were engaged in Spark. In our region, 40 percent of Licensed providers are participating in Spark. Spark participation across program types is 38 percent in **Linn County**, 42 percent in **Benton County**, and 44 percent in **Lincoln County**. This data can be found at <http://triwou.org/pages/show/qris-data-facts> where it is updated monthly.

## Appendix F

To understand Kindergarten Assessment results in our region, the Data and Evaluation Work Group asked the following questions:

1. How does the LBL Hub compare to the state?
2. Which demographic groups of children are below the LBL Hub average?

The following tables compare the LBL Hub average Kindergarten Assessment scores to the state for the past five years.

Approaches to Learning (Total) - Average Rating (1-5)										
	2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020	
Group	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.6</b>
Economic Disadvantaged	1,399	3.5	1501	3.5	1,450	3.5	1,468	3.4	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	253	3.6	228	3.5	209	3.5	228	3.5	*	*
Students with Disabilities	241	3.0	246	3.0	298	3.0	272	3.0	*	*
Males	1,247	3.4	1,266	3.4	1,264	3.4	1,269	3.4	1,174	3.3
Females	1,128	3.8	1,234	3.7	1,191	3.7	1,167	3.7	1,222	3.7
Native American	42	3.6	36	3.6	30	3.3	29	3.2	45	3.5
Hispanic	360	3.6	358	3.5	370	3.6	380	3.6	410	3.6

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

Approaches to Learning (Self Regulation) - Average Rating (1-5)										
2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020		
Group	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>3.5</b>
Economic Disadvantaged	1,399	<b>3.4</b>	1501	<b>3.4</b>	1,450	<b>3.5</b>	1,468	<b>3.3</b>	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	253	<b>3.4</b>	228	<b>3.4</b>	209	<b>3.4</b>	228	<b>3.4</b>	*	*
Students with Disabilities	241	<b>2.9</b>	246	<b>2.9</b>	298	<b>2.9</b>	272	<b>2.9</b>	*	*
Males	1,247	<b>3.3</b>	1,266	<b>3.3</b>	1,264	<b>3.3</b>	1,269	<b>3.3</b>	1,174	<b>3.2</b>
Females	1,128	<b>3.7</b>	1,234	<b>3.7</b>	1,191	<b>3.7</b>	1,167	<b>3.6</b>	1,222	<b>3.6</b>
Native American	42	<b>3.2</b>	36	<b>3.4</b>	30	<b>3.2</b>	29	<b>3.2</b>	45	<b>3.3</b>
Hispanic	360	<b>3.6</b>	358	<b>3.4</b>	370	<b>3.5</b>	380	<b>3.6</b>	410	<b>3.5</b>

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

Approaches to Learning (Interpersonal) - Average Rating (1-5)										
2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020		
Group	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.7</b>		<b>3.7</b>
Economic Disadvantaged	1,399	<b>3.7</b>	1501	<b>3.6</b>	1,450	<b>3.7</b>	1,468	<b>3.6</b>	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	253	<b>3.9</b>	228	<b>3.7</b>	209	<b>3.8</b>	228	<b>3.7</b>	*	*
Students with Disabilities	241	<b>3.3</b>	246	<b>3.3</b>	298	<b>3.2</b>	272	<b>3.2</b>	*	*
Males	1,247	<b>3.6</b>	1,266	<b>3.6</b>	1,264	<b>3.6</b>	1,269	<b>3.5</b>	1,174	<b>3.5</b>
Females	1,128	<b>4.0</b>	1,234	<b>3.8</b>	1,191	<b>3.9</b>	1,167	<b>3.9</b>	1,222	<b>3.8</b>
Native American	42	<b>3.9</b>	36	<b>4.0</b>	30	<b>3.6</b>	29	<b>3.3</b>	45	<b>3.8</b>
Hispanic	360	<b>3.9</b>	358	<b>3.7</b>	370	<b>3.8</b>	380	<b>3.8</b>	410	<b>3.8</b>

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

Early Mathematics (Numbers & Operations) - Average Number Correct (0-16)										
	2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020	
Group	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	2,359	<b>8.5</b>	2,500	<b>8.7</b>	2,455	<b>11.4</b>	2,436	<b>10.9</b>	2,398	<b>10.9</b>
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>8.5</b>		<b>8.5</b>		<b>11.3</b>		<b>11.1</b>		<b>11.0</b>
Economic Disadvantaged	1,378	<b>8.0</b>	1501	<b>8.1</b>	1,450	<b>10.7</b>	1,468	<b>10.4</b>	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	243	<b>7.2</b>	228	<b>7.0</b>	209	<b>9.4</b>	228	<b>8.7</b>	*	*
Students with Disabilities	229	<b>7.1</b>	246	<b>7.0</b>	298	<b>9.0</b>	272	<b>8.8</b>	*	*
Males	1,243	<b>8.6</b>	1,266	<b>8.7</b>	1,264	<b>11.3</b>	1,269	<b>10.7</b>	1,174	<b>10.9</b>
Females	1,116	<b>8.4</b>	1,234	<b>8.6</b>	1,191	<b>11.5</b>	1,167	<b>11.1</b>	1,222	<b>10.9</b>
Native American	43	<b>7.8</b>	36	<b>9.0</b>	30	<b>10.2</b>	29	<b>9.5</b>	45	<b>10.5</b>
Hispanic	344	<b>7.4</b>	358	<b>7.4</b>	370	<b>10.2</b>	380	<b>9.9</b>	410	<b>9.5</b>

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

Early Literacy (English Letter Names) - Average Number Correct (0-26)												
	2017-2018		2017-2018		2018-2019		2018-2019		2019-2020		2019-2020	
	Uppercase English Letter Names		Lowercase English Letter Names		Uppercase English Letter Names		Lowercase English Letter Names		Uppercase English Letter Names		Lowercase English Letter Names	
Group	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	2,429	<b>14.4</b>	2,422	<b>9.9</b>	2,394	<b>13.5</b>	2,394	<b>11.1</b>	2,386	<b>13.7</b>	2,383	11.3
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>14.5</b>		<b>6.4</b>		<b>14.3</b>		<b>11.7</b>		<b>14.3</b>		11.6
Economic Disadvantaged	1,427	<b>12.2</b>	1,422	<b>8.9</b>	1,436	<b>11.6</b>	1,436	<b>9.4</b>	*	*	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	205	<b>7.6</b>	205	<b>11.9</b>	223	<b>6.4</b>	223	<b>5.2</b>	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	283	<b>11.0</b>	280	<b>12.1</b>	255	<b>9.5</b>	255	<b>7.6</b>	*	*	*	*
Males	1,246	<b>14.3</b>	1,244	<b>11.6</b>	1,246	<b>12.7</b>	1,246	<b>10.4</b>	1,180	<b>13.6</b>	1,178	11.2
Females	1,183	<b>14.5</b>	1,178	<b>8.1</b>	1,148	<b>14.4</b>	1,148	<b>11.8</b>	1,204	<b>13.8</b>	1,203	11.3
Native American	31	<b>15.3</b>	31	<b>9.0</b>	28	<b>10.1</b>	28	<b>8.1</b>	43	<b>13.0</b>	43	10.2
Hispanic	365	<b>9.8</b>	364	<b>7.4</b>	374	<b>9.8</b>	374	<b>8.3</b>	409	<b>9.6</b>	407	7.8

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

**Note:** 2016-2017 School Year is not reported because after that year the assessment for Early Literacy: English Letter Names was split into upper and lowercase letters. Also, Early Literacy: English Letter Names and English Letter Sounds were no longer timed, and the scales were changed.



Early Literacy (English Letter Sounds) - Average Number Correct (0-26)								
Group	2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020	
	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating	N	Average Rating
<b>LBL Hub</b>	2,413	<b>8.6</b>	2,394	<b>7.8</b>	2,393	<b>6.8</b>	2,374	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Oregon</b>		<b>8.9</b>		<b>8.2</b>		<b>7.7</b>		<b>7.7</b>
Economic Disadvantaged	1,434	<b>6.5</b>	1,398	<b>5.8</b>	1,436	<b>5.2</b>	*	*
Limited English Proficiency	217	<b>2.8</b>	204	<b>3.2</b>	223	<b>3.0</b>	*	*
Students with Disabilities	223	<b>4.8</b>	275	<b>4.8</b>	255	<b>3.2</b>	*	*
Males	1,219	<b>8.3</b>	1,227	<b>7.5</b>	1,245	<b>6.1</b>	1,174	<b>7.3</b>
Females	1,194	<b>8.9</b>	1,167	<b>8.1</b>	1,148	<b>7.6</b>	1,198	<b>7.4</b>
Native American	35	<b>4.8</b>	31	<b>6.6</b>	28	<b>3.1</b>	42	<b>5.8</b>
Hispanic	343	<b>4.6</b>	364	<b>4.5</b>	374	<b>5.0</b>	407	<b>4.5</b>

\*Indicates that the data is missing or the sample size is <6.

**Note:** 2016-2017 School Year is not reported because after that year the assessment for Early Literacy: English Letter Names was split into upper and lowercase letters. Also, Early Literacy: English Letter Names and English Letter Sounds were no longer timed, and the scales were changed.

## Appendix G

Estimated Supply of Child Care Slots, January 2018		
Area	Child Care Centers	Family Child Care Homes
Linn County	1,720	583
Benton County	2,331	322
Lincoln County	803	147
Total LBL Hub	4,854	1,052

Pratt, M. (2018). *Early Care and Education Profiles: 2018 Oregon Child Care Research Partnership*, Oregon State University

## Appendix H

Children on Subsidies in All Licensed Programs				
	Linn	Benton	Lincoln	Oregon
White	79.2%	76.2%	75.0%	55.5%
Black	2.6%	5.8%	0.0%	11.0%
Asian	1.6%	0.8%	0.0%	1.0%
Hispanic/Latino	11.5%	12.4%	21.7%	27.0%
AI/AN	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	1.6%
NH/PI	0.0%	1.7%	1.7%	0.4%
Other	5.2%	2.5%	1.7%	3.6%

Data from the Research Institute at Western Oregon University.

# Healthy, Stable, and Attached Families

This section targets the experiences that have been shown to greatly impact the growth of children and their families in our communities, which include maternal and infant health and child health.

## Maternal and Infant Health

This section includes data about factors that increase the risk of poor pregnancy outcomes in the LBL Hub region. The following topics will be covered as areas of emphasis to understand maternal and infant health in our region:

1. Births
2. Timeliness of Prenatal Care
3. Prenatal Care
4. Low Birthweight
5. Teen Pregnancy
6. Mother's Education Level
7. Unmarried Mothers
8. Prenatal Substance Use
9. Breastfeeding

## Total Births

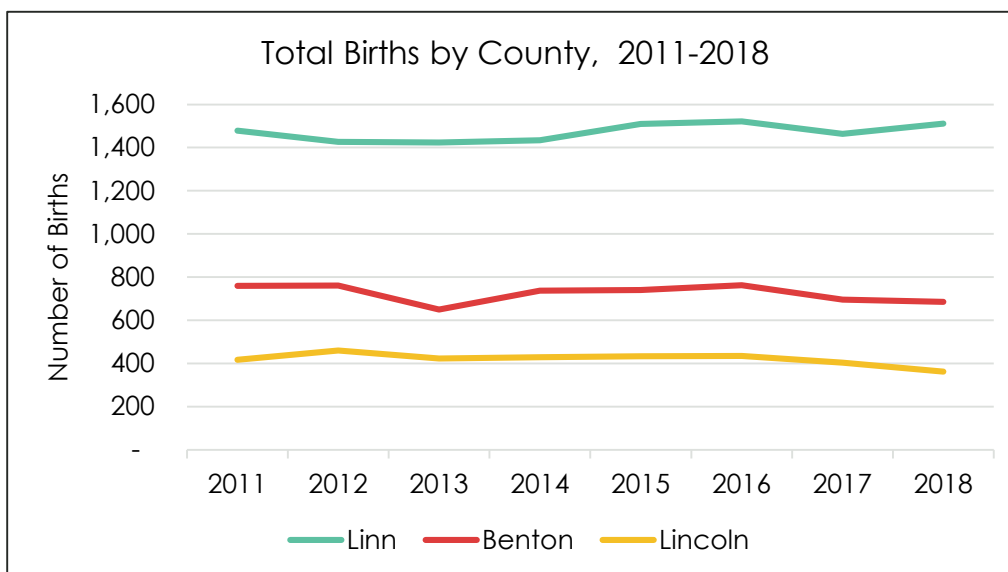


Figure 24. Total Number of Births by County, 2011-2018. Data from Oregon Birth Certificates: Center for Health Statistics, Center for Public Health Practice, Public Health Division, Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

- The number of births per year in all three counties had little variance between 2011 to 2018.
- **Linn County** consistently had more births than **Benton** and **Lincoln** counties from 2011 to 2018.
- The number of births in **Linn County** increased slightly from 1,478 in 2011 to 1,511 in 2018.
- The number of births in **Benton County** decreased slightly from 760 births in 2011 to 685 births in 2018.
- The number of births in **Lincoln County** decreased slightly from 417 births in 2011 to 362 in 2018.

The births illustrated in the following show the number of infants born according to the mother's county of residence and their selected racial and ethnic groups.

## Births in Our Region by Race and Ethnicity

### Births in Linn County by Race and Ethnicity

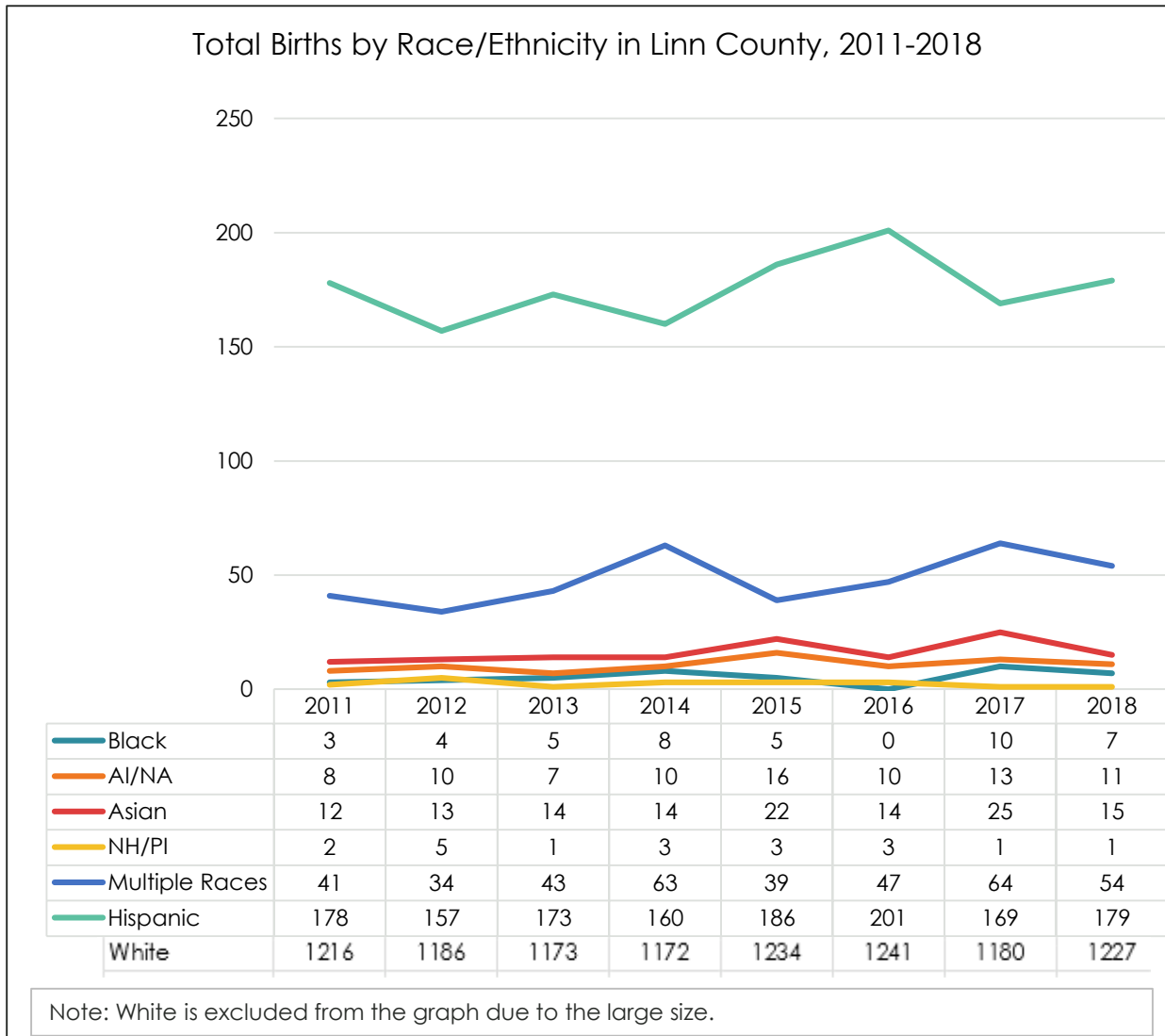


Figure 25. Total Births by Race/Ethnicity in Linn County, 2011-2018. Data from Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Vital Records and Certificates, Vital Statistics, Birth Data (2020).

## Births in Benton County by Race and Ethnicity

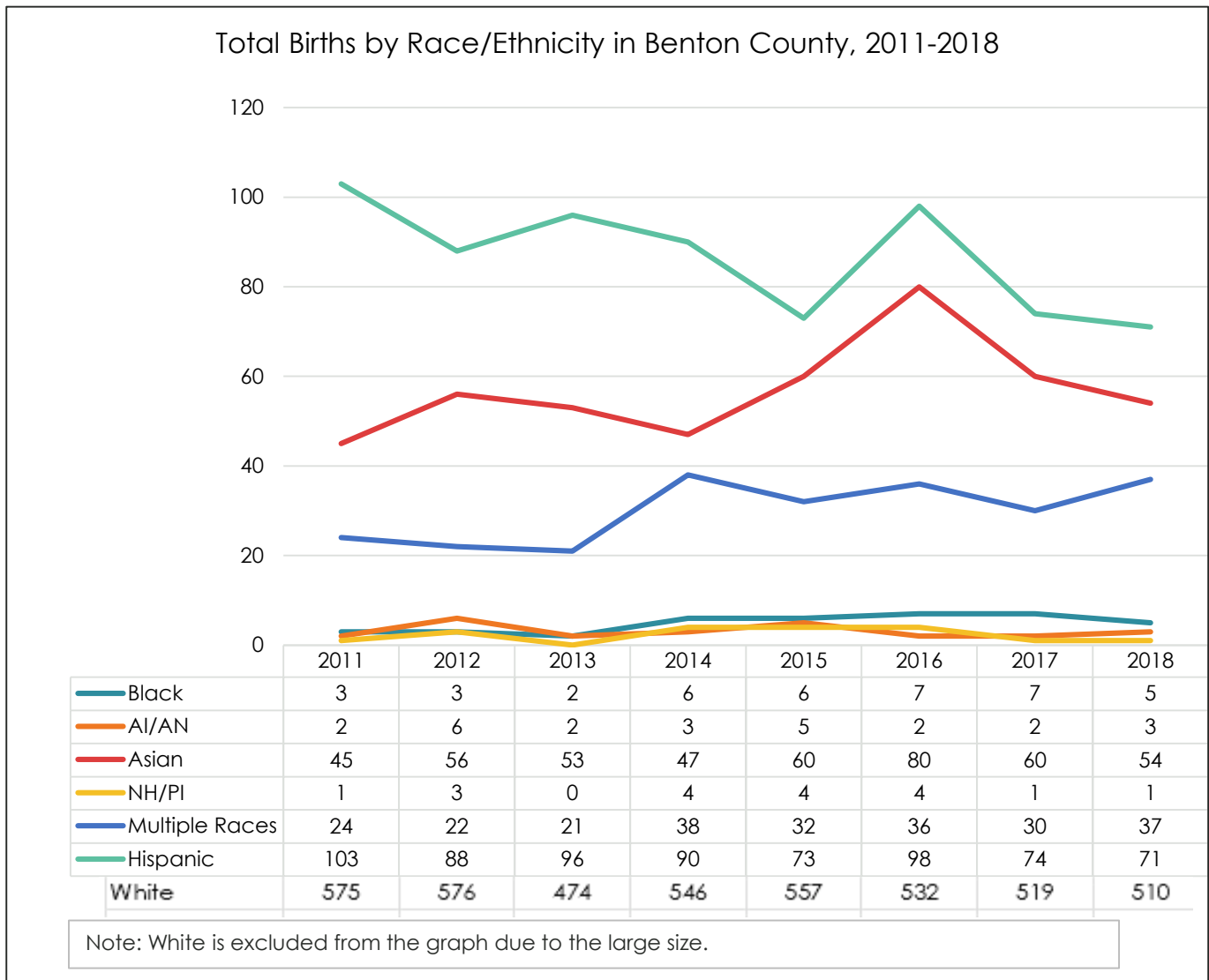


Figure 26. Total Births by Race and Ethnicity in Benton County, 2011-2018. Data from OHA, Vital Records and Certificates, Vital Statistics, Birth Data (2020).

## Births in Lincoln County by Race and Ethnicity

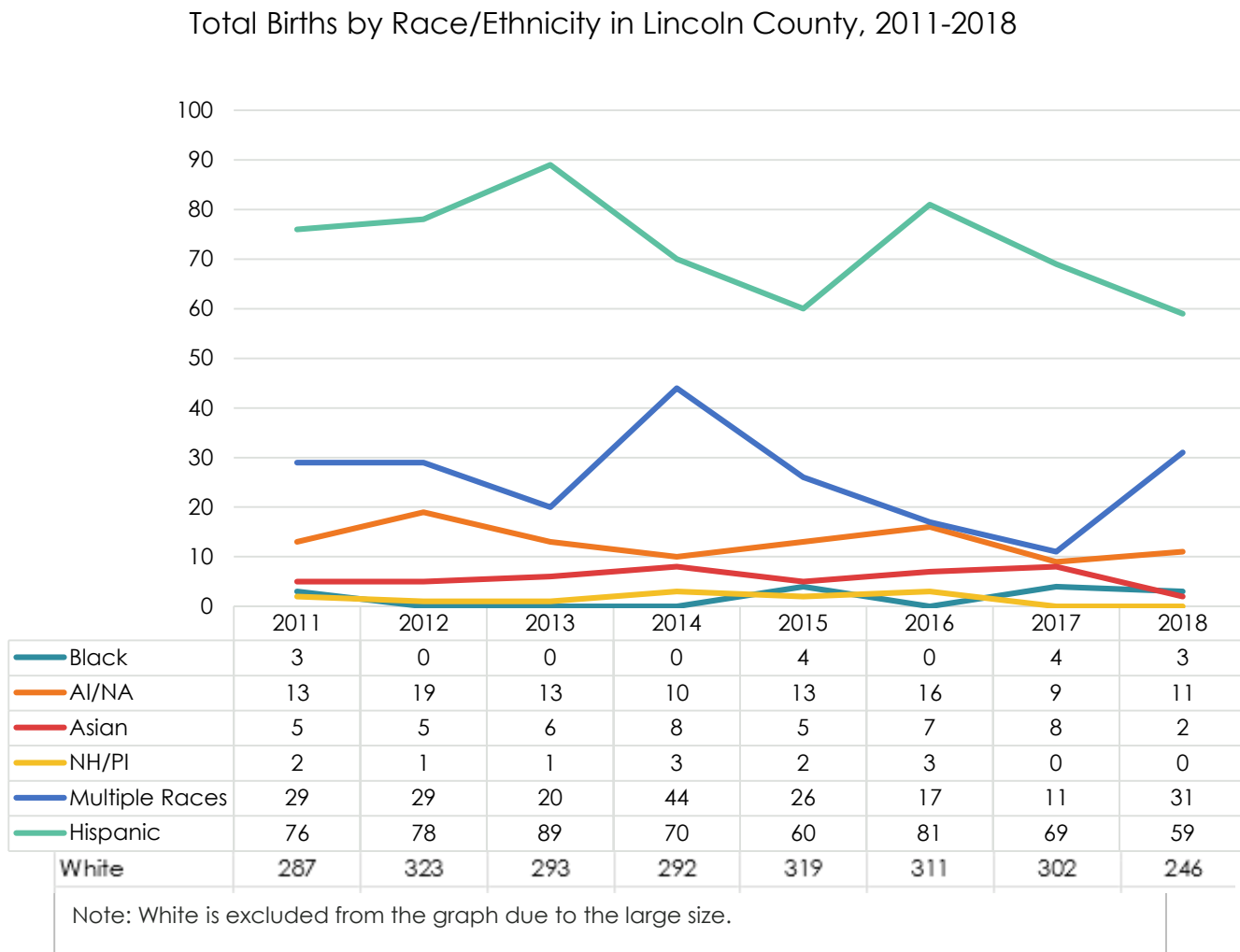


Figure 27. Total Births by Race/Ethnicity in Lincoln County, 2011-2018. Data from OHA, Vital Records and Certificates, Vital Statistics, Birth Data (2020).

- Infants born to mothers who are White was the largest demographic group born in our region from 2011 to 2018.
- Infants born to mothers who are Hispanic was the second largest demographic group born in our region.
- Over twice as many infants were born to mothers who are Hispanic in **Linn County** (179) compared to mothers who are Hispanic in **Lincoln** (59) or **Benton** counties (71) in 2018.



## Timeliness of Prenatal Care

Prenatal care is critical to lower the risk of low birth weight and serious health problems that can lead to death for the infant. Early prenatal care includes counseling about healthy choices to care for the mother's physical health and the infant's growth and development. Regular prenatal care with a healthcare professional also includes early identification and treatment for any medical complications and screening for the mother's mental health (Benton County Community Health Assessment, 2017).

**Adequate care** is care that began in the first or second trimester and included at least five prenatal visits.

**Inadequate care** is less than five prenatal visits or care that began in the third trimester.

### Inadequate or No Prenatal Care by Age Group

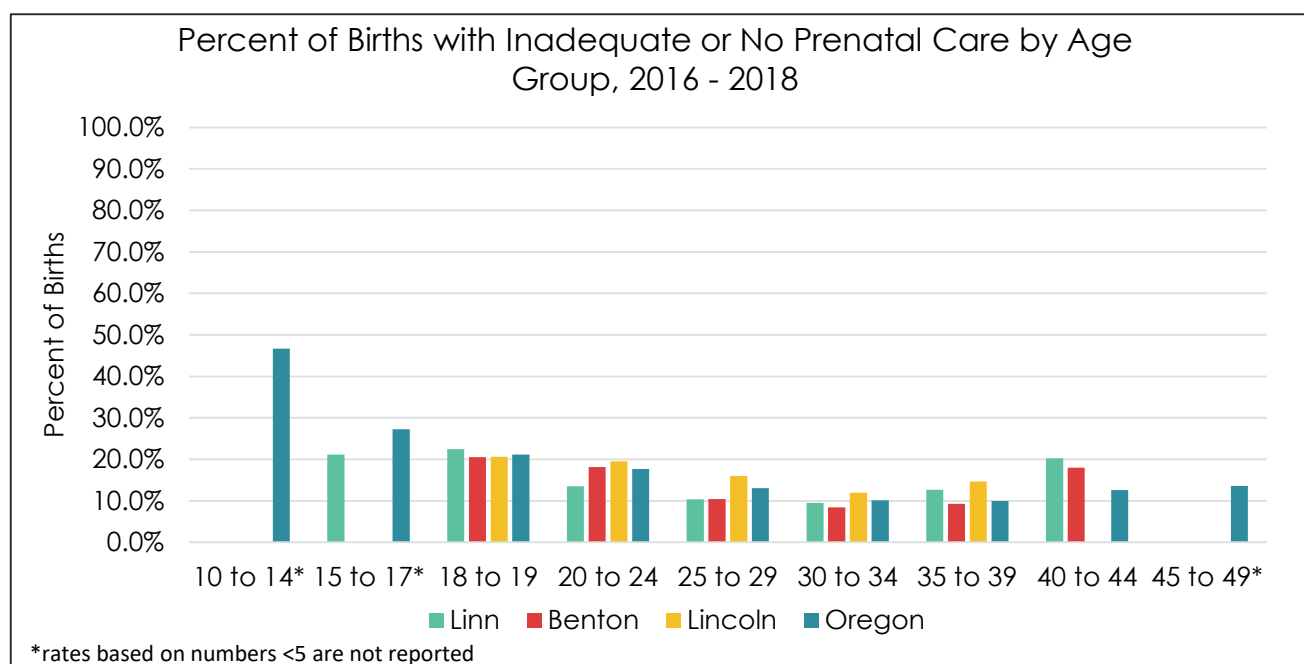


Figure 28. Percent of Births with Inadequate or No Prenatal Care by Age Group 2016-2018. Data from OHA (2020) "Birth Risk Factors" data set.

- Disparities exist among different age groups within our region. Younger mothers (under age 25) and mothers age 40 to 44 were less likely than mothers ages 25 to 39 to access adequate prenatal care during 2016 to 2018.

## Prenatal Care by Race and Ethnicity

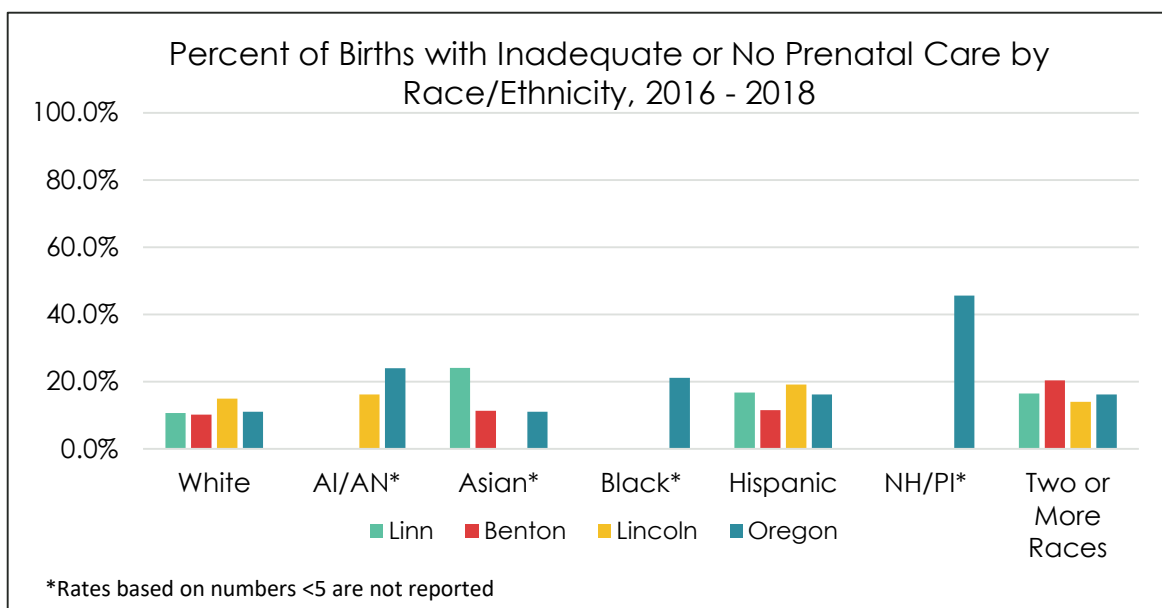


Figure 29. Percent of Births with Inadequate or No Prenatal Care by Race and Ethnicity, 2016-2018. Data from OHA (2020) "Birth Risk Factors" data set.

According to the Regional Community Health Assessment (CHA), disparities exist in access to prenatal care among mothers of different race and ethnic groups:

- In **Linn** and **Benton** counties, White mothers were more likely to access adequate prenatal care than mothers of other racial or ethnic groups.
- In **Linn County**, Asian mothers were least likely to access adequate care.
- In **Benton County**, mothers with two or more races were least likely to access adequate prenatal care.
- In **Lincoln County**, Hispanic mothers were least likely to access adequate prenatal care.

## Low Birthweight

Some babies born with low birthweight (Less than 5 pounds 8 ounces) are healthy; others can need treatment for serious health problems. For example, low birthweight babies may have trouble eating, gaining weight and fighting off infections. For some babies, health problems may continue into later life (March of Dimes, 2018). The Healthy People 2020 target rate for reducing low birthweight is 7.8.

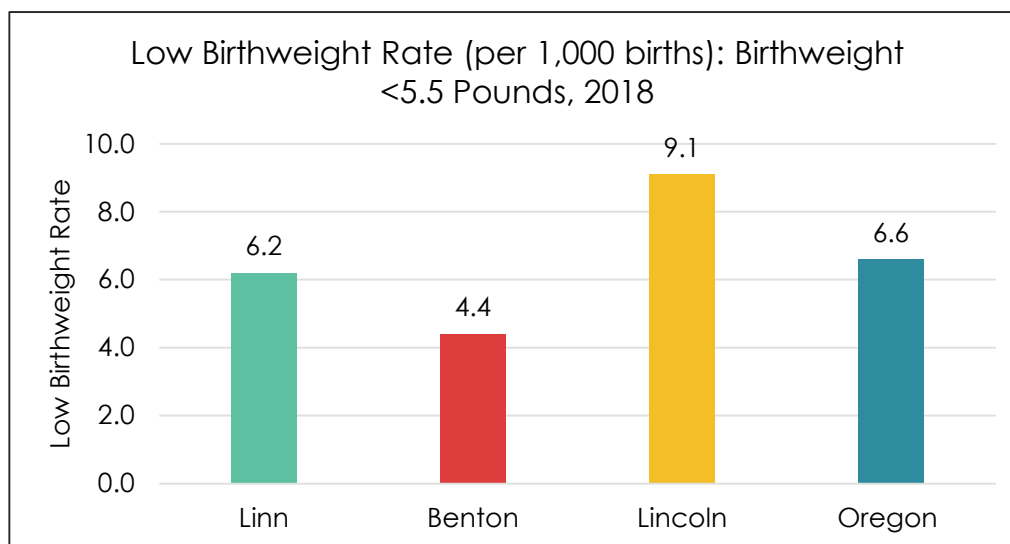


Figure 30. Low Birthweight Rate (per 1,000 births) in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties compared with the state, 2018, All Low Birthweight. OHA, Oregon Birth Data, Final Birth Data (2020).

- **Linn** (6.2 per 1,000), **Benton** (4.4 per 1,000) and Oregon's low birthweight rates were below the Healthy People 2020 target rate (7.8 per 1,000), in 2018.
- **Lincoln County**'s low birthweight rate was the highest in our region, higher than Oregon's rate and higher than the Healthy People 2020 target rate (7.8 per 1,000), in 2018.

## Teen Pregnancy

Teen pregnancy increases the risk for poor health and educational outcomes for families and children. Compared with people who delay childbearing, teen girls who have a child are less likely to finish high school. Teen mothers are more likely to rely on public assistance, to have lower income levels as adults, and to have children who have poor educational, behavioral, and health outcomes over the course of their lives (Office of Adolescent Health, 2019).

Please see Appendix I for the Number and Rates of Teen Pregnancies, 2017 and 2018.

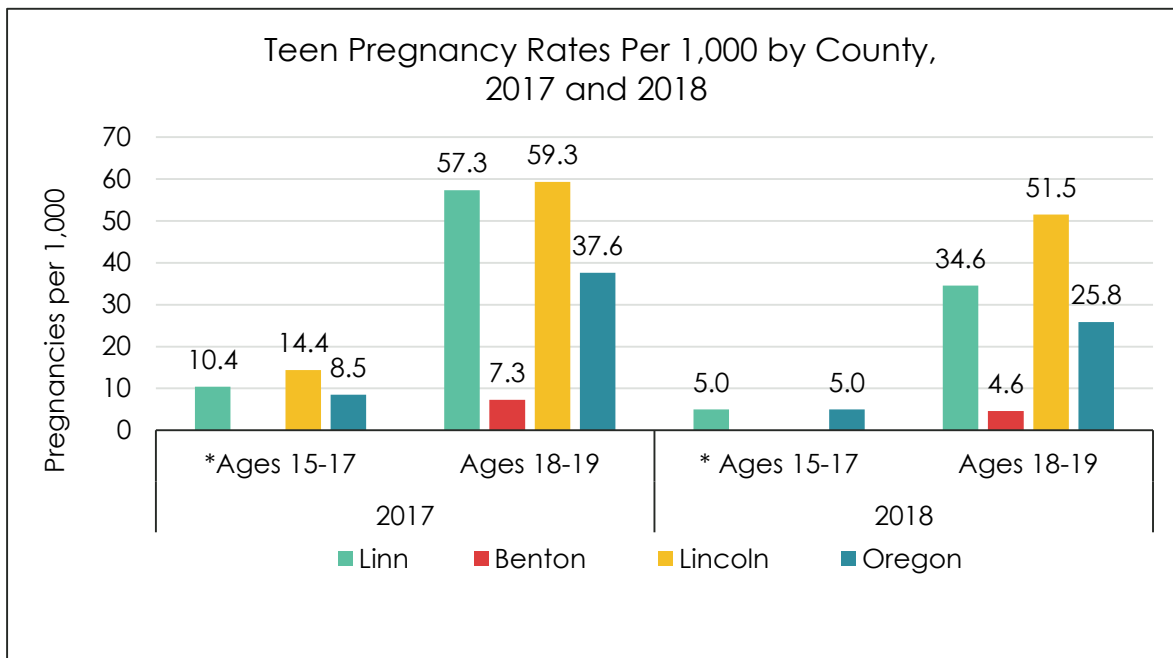


Figure 31. Teen pregnancy rates per 1,000 females for Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties, 2017 and 2018. 2017 data from Oregon Vital Statistics Annual Report 2017 (Table 4-3. Pregnancy rates of teens by county of residence), Oregon Health Authority and 2018 data from OHA (2020) "Birth Risk Factors" data set.

- The number of pregnant teens and the teen pregnancy rates throughout our region and in Oregon decreased from 2017 to 2018.
- **Linn County** had the highest number of pregnant teens (57) in our region, in 2018, which is almost half of the number of pregnant teens (109) in Linn County in 2017.
- **Benton County** had 14 pregnant teens in 2018, which is 11 fewer than in 2017.
- **Lincoln County** had 25 pregnant teens in 2018, which is 6 fewer than in 2017.
- The teen pregnancy rates in **Linn** (34.6 per 1,000) and **Lincoln** (51.5 per 1,000) counties for ages 18-19 were higher than Oregon's rate (25.8 per 1,000), in 2018.
- In 2018, **Benton County** had the lowest teen pregnancy rate (4.6 per 1,000) for ages 18-19 in our region, which was significantly lower than Oregon's rate (25.8 per 1,000).

## Mothers with Less Than a High School Diploma

Parenting and caring for a child at a young age is a barrier to achieving a high school diploma and puts the mother at increased risk for low income throughout life. A high school diploma or equivalent historically serves as a foundation for future opportunities such as higher education leading to increased income levels.

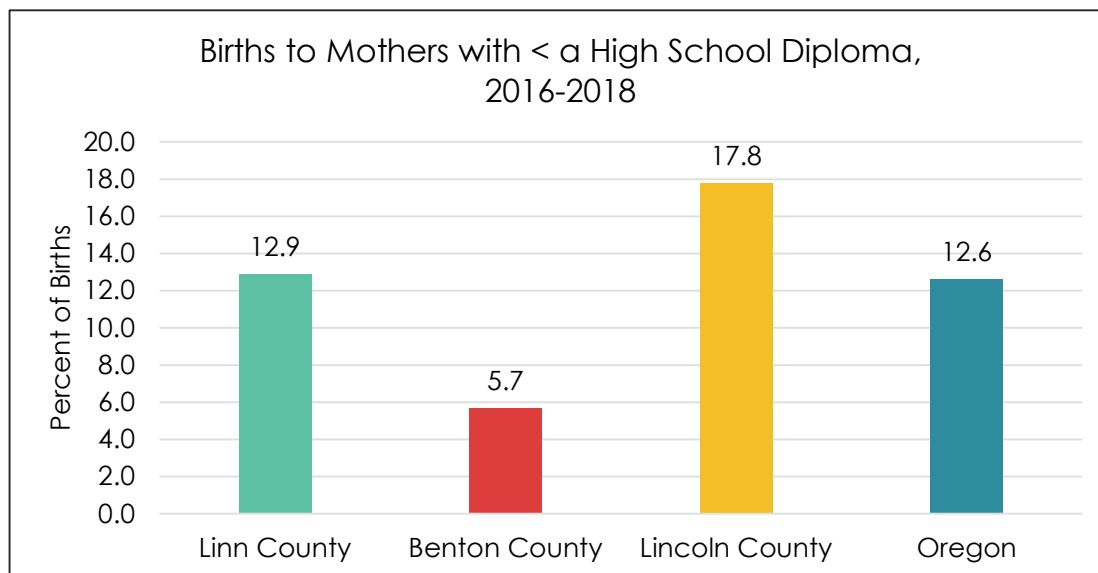


Figure 32. Births to Mothers with Less Than a High School Diploma in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties compared with state, 2016-2018. Data from OHA (2020) "Birth Risk Factors" data set.

- **Linn** (12.9 percent) and **Lincoln** (17.8 percent) counties had higher percentages of births to mothers with less than a high school diploma than Oregon (12.6 percent), during 2016 to 2018.
- **Lincoln County** had the highest percent of births to mothers with less than a high school diploma in our region, during 2016 to 2018.

## Unmarried Mothers

The Oregon Health Authority considers unmarried mothers a “birth risk factor”. However, cohabiting unions have become more common in recent decades, so an unmarried mother may not be raising the infant alone (Curtin et al., 2014).

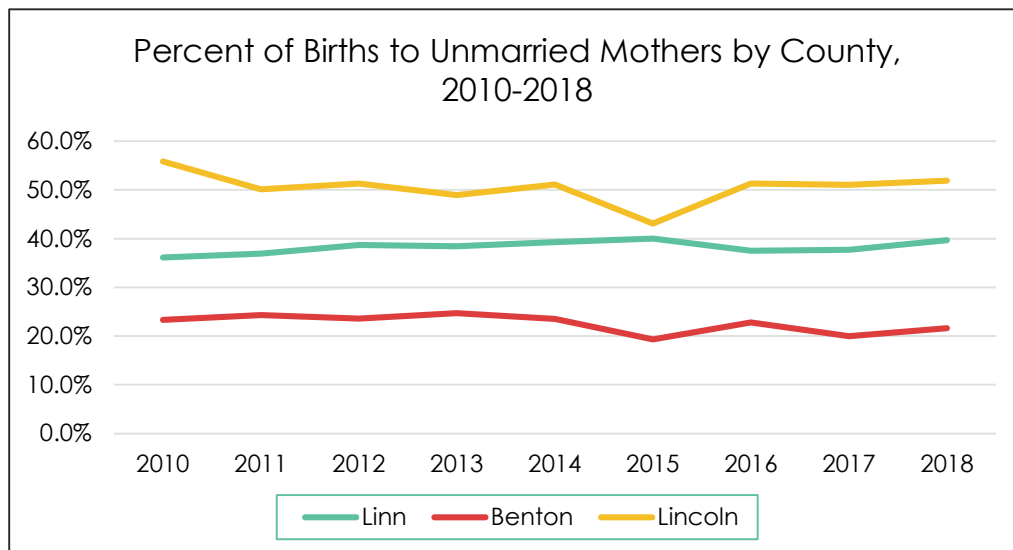


Figure 33. Births to Unmarried Mothers by County, 2010-2018. Data from OHA (2020) “Birth Risk Factors” data set.

- From 2010 to 2018, **Lincoln County** had the highest percentage of births to unmarried mothers.
- Overall, there was only slight variability in rate of births to unmarried mothers in our region from 2010 to 2018.

## Prenatal Substance Abuse

Tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use during pregnancy are linked with serious health consequences for both mother and infant. Abuse of multiple substances during pregnancy compounds these negative outcomes (Forray, 2016). There is very little local or regional data available related to prenatal alcohol abuse or illicit drug use.

### Births to Mothers Who Use Tobacco

Smoking during pregnancy harms both mother and infant. The infant is at increased risk for miscarriage, low birth weight, premature birth, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other medical complications and problems (CDC, 2020).

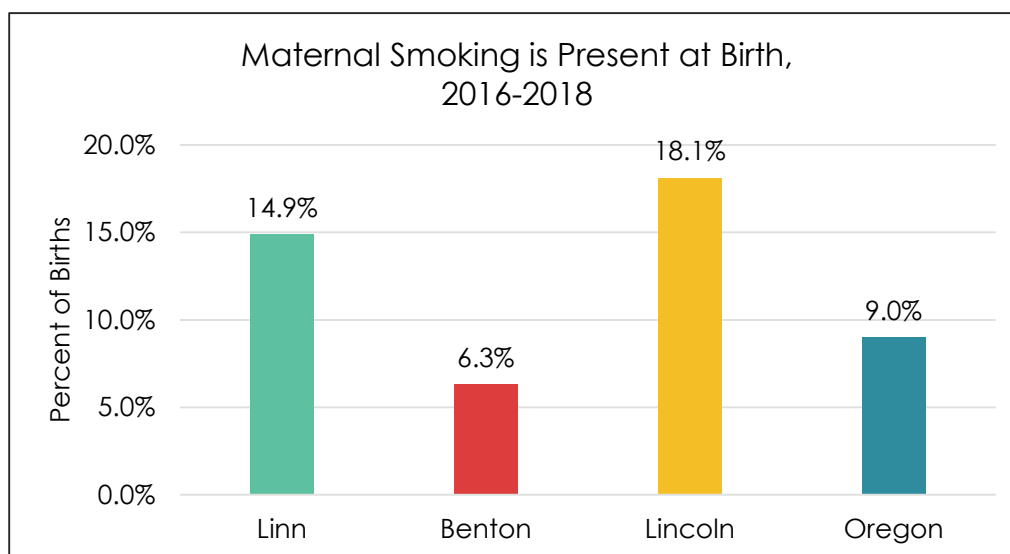


Figure 34. Maternal Smoking is Present at Birth, 2016-2018. Data from OHA (2020) "Birth Risk Factors" data set.

- During 2016-2018, both **Linn** and **Lincoln** counties had higher percentages of mothers who smoked at some point during pregnancy compared to Oregon.
- Our region falls below the Healthy People 2030 target of 95.7 percent of mothers who abstain from smoking tobacco during pregnancy (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2020).



### **Impact of Substance Abuse on the Infant**

Given the increase of opiate dependence nationally, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (when an infant goes through withdrawal from substances) is on the rise. The impact of substance abuse during pregnancy is observed in the infant within the first 24-72 hours after birth. The subsequent impact of NAS on the child and parent(s) is widespread and long lasting. Measures are not yet in place to understand the effects of this in our region. While local regional data is just beginning to understand the effects of this in our region. While local regional data is just beginning to emerge it is too small to report, yet given the national trends it warrants consideration in the future.

### **Alcohol Consumption During Pregnancy**

According to the regional Community Health Assessments, "Drinking alcohol during pregnancy can cause miscarriage, stillbirth, and a range of lifelong disorders known as fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs). Children with FASDs can have a host of problems, including poor coordination, hyperactivity behavior, difficulty paying attention, poor reasoning and judgement skills, vision or hearing problems, and complications with the heart, kidney, or bones. There is no known safe amount of alcohol to drink during pregnancy and no known safe time to drink alcohol during pregnancy."

The Oregon Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a survey by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) of a sample of mothers before, during, and after pregnancy. State-level results for the 2015 PRAMS survey of 1,468 mothers of babies born January 1 through December 31, 2015 indicate that 39.5 percent of mothers did not consume alcohol during the three months before becoming pregnant. During the last trimester of their pregnancy, 88.4 percent of mothers also did not consume alcohol.

State-level results for the PRAMS survey of 1,473 mothers of babies born January 1 through December 31, 2017 indicate that 36.9 percent of mothers did not consume alcohol during the three months before becoming pregnant. This survey did not ask about alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

No regional or county-level data is available.

## Breastfeeding Rates

Breastfeeding is the biological norm for infant feeding and protects the health of both mother and child in numerous ways. Breastfeeding keeps the infant's immune system strong, reduces the risk of type 2 diabetes, and prevents obesity. Breastfeeding also promotes maternal-child bonding. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusively breastfeeding for the first six months after birth and further recommends continued breastfeeding for a year or more after birth (Benton County CHA, 2017).

The Women Infants and Children (WIC) program's vision is to ensure optimal nutrition and lifelong health for every Oregon family. WIC provides supplemental foods to low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants, and children under age five. WIC services include breastfeeding support, nutrition education, and connecting families with healthcare support and other community resources.

The table below indicates the number of people participating in the WIC program and the WIC breastfeeding rates for 2019 in our region and Oregon.

WIC Breastfeeding Rates, 2019				
	Linn	Benton	Lincoln	Oregon
Number of women, infants, and children (<5 years) participating in the WIC program	4,635	1,496	1,821	127,112
Percent of pregnant women served by WIC	34%	28%	46%	32%
Percent of WIC mothers who started out breastfeeding	91%	97%	97%	95%
Percent of WIC mothers who breastfeed exclusively for six months	35%	42%	36%	34%

Table 2. WIC breastfeeding rates among mothers in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties in 2019. Data from 2019 WIC agency factsheets, OHA, Public Health Division, Center for Prevention & Health Promotion, Oregon WIC Program (2020).

- The majority of WIC mothers started out breastfeeding in **Linn** (91 percent), **Benton** (97 percent), and **Lincoln** (97 percent) counties.
- Less than half of WIC mothers breastfed exclusively for six months in **Linn** (35 percent), **Benton** (42 percent), and **Lincoln** (36 percent) counties.

## Child Health

This section includes factors that can impact children's health such as access and quality of health care. Data on the following child health indicators are presented in this section:

1. Early Intervention or Early Childhood Special Education Services
2. Health Insurance Coverage
3. Coordinated Care Organization Quality Measures
4. Two-year Old Immunization Rates
5. Obesity
6. Oral Health
7. Water Fluoridation
8. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
9. Parents with Developmental Disability
10. Child Abuse and Neglect
11. DHS and Foster Care
12. Children of Incarcerated Parents
13. Food Security
14. Homelessness

## Early Intervention or Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) Services

During early childhood, children with disabilities or those identified as at risk for developmental delay may be eligible for EI or ECSE Services. EI/ECSE Services support the developmental and educational needs of children ages birth to five and their families to build skills for further developmental progress and readiness for kindergarten (ODE, 2020).

Children Enrolled in EI/ECSE During 2018-2019 School Year						
County	Percent of Total 0-2 Population Enrolled in EI		Percent of Total 3-5 Population Enrolled in ECSE		Percent of Total 0-5 Population Enrolled in EI/ECSE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Linn	105	2.3	270	5.9	375	4.1
Benton	45	2.1	91	3.8	136	3.0
Lincoln	37	2.7	82	5.4	119	4.2

Table 3. Percent of Total Population Enrolled in EI/ECSE. Data from Preschool Development Grant Needs Assessment (2019), 2018-2019 School Year.

- **Lincoln County** had the highest percent (2.7 percent) of the total birth to age two population enrolled in EI and the highest percent (4.2 percent) of the total birth to age 5 population enrolled in EI/ECSE during the 2018-2019 school year.
- **Linn County** had the highest percent (5.9 percent) of the total age 3 to 5 population enrolled in ECSE.
- **Linn County** also had the highest number of children enrolled in EI (105), ECSE (270) and in both EI/ECSE (375), during the 2018-2019 school year.

## Health Insurance Coverage

Having health insurance coverage as a child is a significant predictor of health, school performance, educational attainment, and economic outcomes. In Oregon, sources of health insurance for children include Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Oregon State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace, and private insurers.

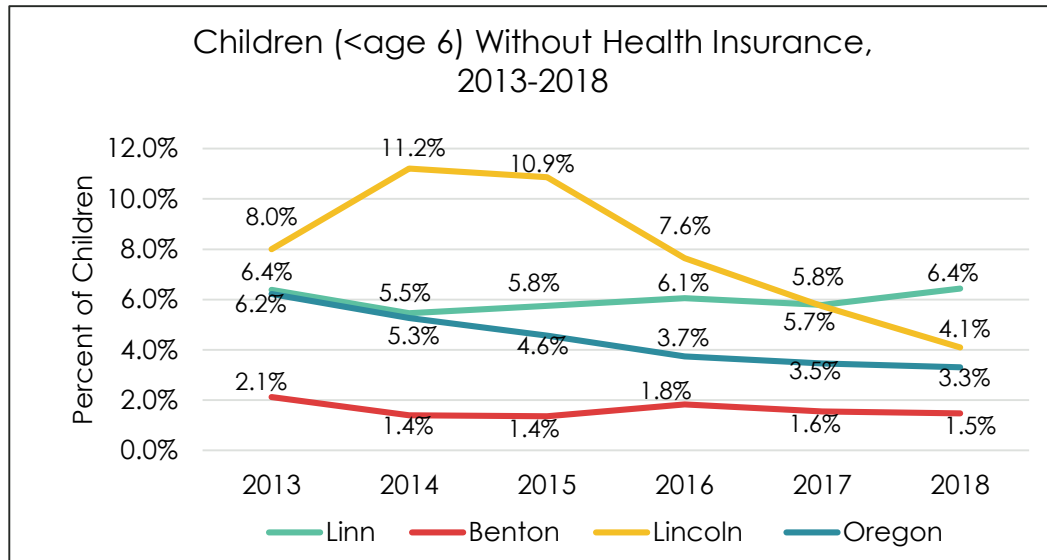


Figure 35. Children Less Than Age Six Without Health Insurance, 2013-2018, 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables.

- In 2014, rates of children under age six without health insurance began to drop throughout Oregon. At that time, the state expanded eligibility to Medicaid and Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO) began a push to enroll (Oregon Health & Science University, December 29, 2017).
- **Lincoln County** rates of children under age six without health insurance increased from 8.0 percent in 2013 to 11.2 percent, in 2014. Since that time, the rate has consistently dropped to 4.1 percent in 2018.
- **Linn** and **Lincoln** counties' rates of children under age six without health insurance are consistently higher than the state.
- **Linn County**'s rate of children under age six without health insurance was the same in 2018 (6.4 percent) as the rate in 2013 (6.4 percent).
- **Benton County** has consistently lower rates of children without health insurance than **Linn** and **Lincoln** counties and the state.

**Note:** During 2017, the Oregon Legislature passed SB 558 (Cover All Kids), which guarantees that Medicaid will cover all individuals under the age of 18, regardless of immigration status. However, many immigrant families increasingly distrust government programs and fear enrolling in public benefits like OHP (OHA, Health Systems, Oregon Health Plan, OHP covers me! 2020).

## Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO) Quality Measures

Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO) are networks of health care providers (physical, dental, addiction and mental health) for people who receive coverage under the Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid). CCOs focus on preventative health through integrated primary and specialty services. Intercommunity Health Network (IHN) is the CCO for the LBL region.

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) measures quality and monitors CCO's for progress on key **Quality Metrics** such as Childhood Immunization Status. **Benchmarks** and **Improvement Targets** assess CCOs on effectiveness and progress, focusing on improving and providing access to care, eliminating health disparities, and reducing the cost of care for the members that they serve. Additionally, CCOs receive payments for achieving **Incentive Measures** based on their performance on selected metrics. To receive the incentive payment, CCOs have to meet the **Benchmark** or an assigned **Improvement Target**.

OHA establishes CCO quality measures annually. The following table indicates which years the measures related to young children were tracked and publicly reported at the CCO level, when the metrics were measured as a state **Quality Metric**, and when the metrics were selected as an **Incentive Measure**.

CCO Quality Metrics and Incentive Measures, 2017 - 2021					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Not a Quality Metric during year	<input type="checkbox"/> Quality Metric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incentive Metric		
Metric	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Assessments for Children in DHS Custody	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Childhood Immunization Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Developmental Screening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prenatal & Postpartum Care: Timeliness of Prenatal Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prenatal & Postpartum Care: Postpartum Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
"NEW" Well-Child Visits in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Years of Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
"NEW" Receiving Preventative Dental Visits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
"NEW" Meaningful language access to culturally responsive healthcare services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Table 4. CCO Quality Metrics & Incentive Measures, 2017 – 2021. Source: Oregon Health Authority. <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/analytics/pages/cco-metrics.aspx>

Cross-system, collective efforts are essential to improve measures for the health and well-being of young children. The LBL Hub's role is to strengthen coordination among our community partners and other organizations who serve young children and their families. CCO Benchmarks and Improvement Targets can indicate the success of our combined efforts.

CCO Metrics Final Report, available in July following each assessment year, indicates performance for the previous year. The following graph and table displays IHN-CCO's performance on the Benchmarks and Incentive Metrics for 2017 and 2018; the most recent years that data was available for this report.

Please see Appendix J for 2020 CCO Incentive Measures and Benchmarks.

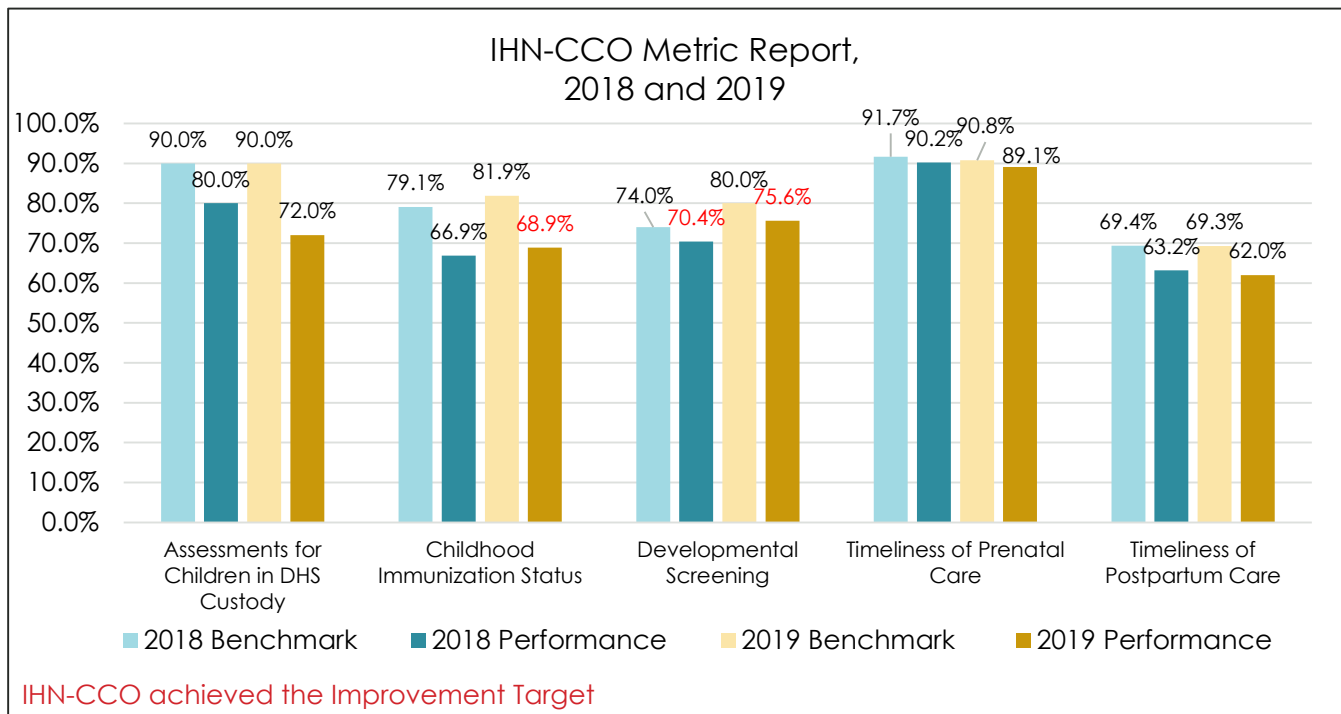


Figure 36. IHN-CCO incentive measure benchmarks and outcomes, 2018-2019. Data from Oregon Health Authority.



IHN-CCO Incentive Metric Performance, 2018 and 2019				
IHN-CCO met the Improvement Target		<input type="checkbox"/>	Not an Incentive Metric, this year	
	2018		2019	
Metric	Benchmark	IHN Performance	Benchmark	IHN Performance
Assessments for Children in DHS Custody	90.0%	80.0	90.0%	72.0%
Childhood Immunizations	79.1%	66.9%	81.9	68.9%
Developmental Screenings	74.0%	70.4%	80.0%	75.6%
Timeliness of Prenatal Care	91.7%	90.2%	90.8%	89.1%
Timeliness of Postpartum Care	69.4%	63.2%	69.3%	62.0%

Table 5. IHN-CCO Incentive Metric Performance, 2018 and 2019. Source: OHA, Office of Health Analytics, CCO Metrics (2019) CCO Metrics 2019 Final Report. OHA Office of Health Analytics, CCO Metrics (2020) and CCO Metrics 2020 Final Report.

**Note:** In some cases, a CCO does not achieve the Benchmark, but does achieve the Improvement Target for the Incentive Metric.

- In 2018, IHN-CCO met the Improvement Target for Developmental Screenings.
- In 2019, IHN-CCO met the Improvement Target for Childhood Immunizations and Developmental Screenings.

## Two-Year-Old Immunization Rates

Immunizations prevent death and diseases and give children and adults the best chance for a healthy life. Maintaining high immunization rates is essential to ensure community immunity, keep vulnerable people protected, and stop transmission when cases appear.

Two-Year-Olds Up-to-Date Immunization Rates*				
Region	2016	2017	2018	2019
Linn	64%	68%	64%	70%
Benton	67%	65%	67%	67%
Lincoln	63%	61%	61%	68%
Oregon	66%	68%	69%	71%

Table 6. Two-Year-Old Immunization rates, 2016-2019. Data from Oregon Child Immunization Rates - Annual Rates for Two-Year-Olds, OHA.

\*Fully immunized with 4 doses of DTaP, 3 doses IPV, 1 dose MMR, 3 doses Hib, 3 doses HepB, 1 dose Varicella, and 4 doses PCV. This is the official childhood vaccination series.

Childhood Immunization rates are a CCO Incentive Measure.

- Across our region, from 2016 to 2019, the Two-Year-Old Immunization rates are generally lower than Oregon's rate.
- **Linn County**'s rates improved from 64 percent in 2016 to 70 percent in 2019; **Linn County**'s rate was the highest in the region, in 2019.
- **Lincoln County**'s rates improved from 63 percent in 2016 to 68 percent in 2019
- **Benton County** had the lowest immunization rates in the region (67 percent) in 2019.
- **Benton County**'s immunization rate was 67 percent for three of the past four years.

## Obesity

The Oregon Women Infants and Children (WIC) program supports low-income pregnant women, postpartum women, and children under age five. WIC gathers the height and weight of children at multiple points during the year. Weight categories for children in WIC are based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Body Mass Index (BMI)-for-age percentile.

WIC data indicate declining obesity among 2 to 4-year olds from 2010 to 2016. The obesity rate declined from 15.8 percent to 14.7 percent (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2019). The Oregon WIC program provided 2017-2018 data for 6,010 children (2 to 4-year olds) in our region. Due to the small number of underweight children in Lincoln County, WIC provided two years of data.

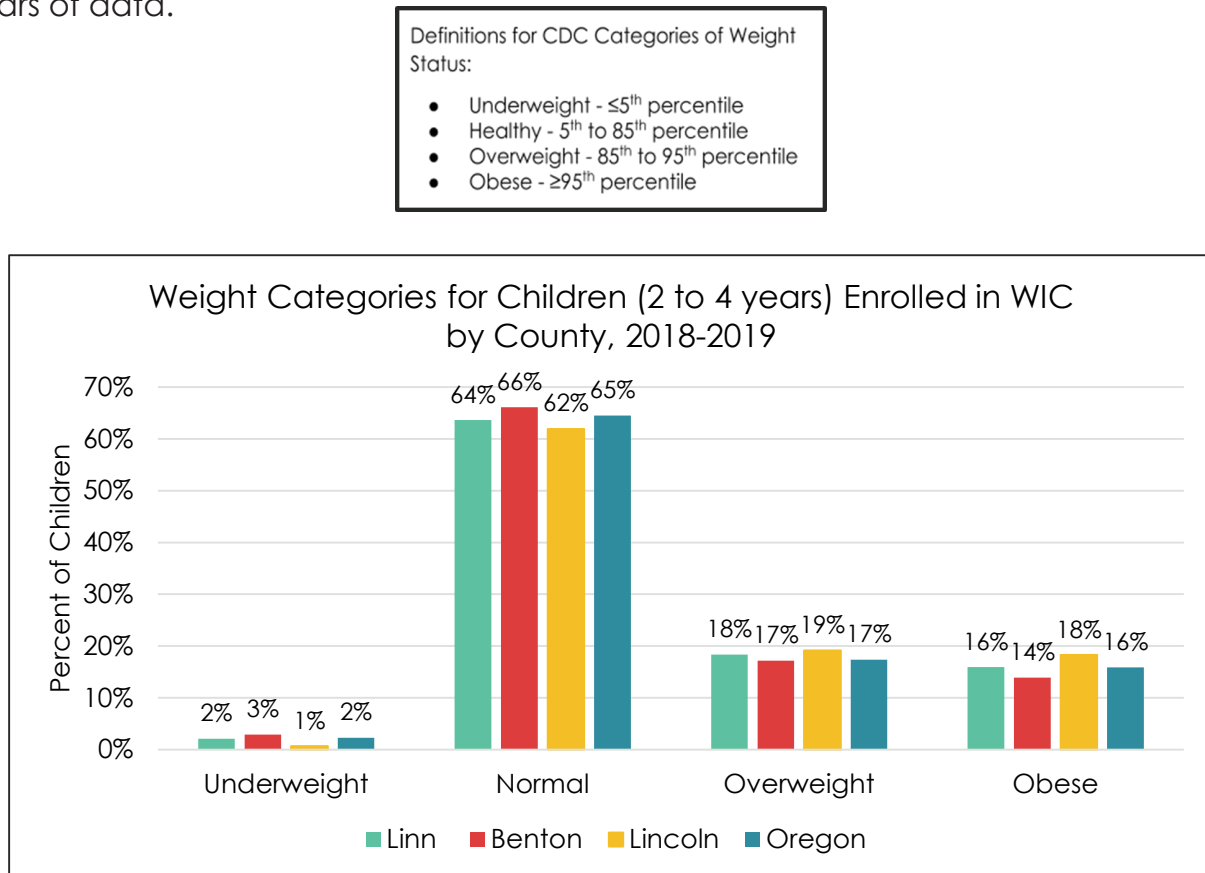


Figure 37. Weight Categories for Children (age 2 to 4 years) Enrolled in WIC by Linn, Benton, and Lincoln County compared to state, 2018-2019. Data from Center for Prevention & Health Promotion, Oregon Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Public Health Division, OHA.

- The percentage of children considered underweight, normal, overweight, and obese is similar for each county and Oregon as a whole.
- For each county in the LBL Hub region, 14-18% of children are obese.
- The rate of obesity in **Lincoln County** (18 percent) is slightly higher than the state (16 percent); similarly, the rate of overweight in **Lincoln County** (19 percent) is slightly higher than the state (17 percent).
- The majority of children in our region are considered 'normal' weight.
- Fewer than three percent of children in our region are considered underweight.

The Oregon WIC program acknowledges that children can be healthy and meet the criteria for overweight or obesity. WIC works with families to promote responsive feeding, eating competence, and health at every size as a means to support steady growth of the child and to minimize weight-based stigma (OHA, 2020).

## Oral Health

The Oregon Oral Health Surveillance System Report (2020) compiles data from a variety of sources for an overview of oral health outcomes and behaviors. The statewide Oregon Smile Survey, conducted every five years, is included in the report. The survey assesses oral health among children in first, second, and third grade. The survey is an important step in understanding and addressing the problem of tooth decay. Tooth decay is a significant public health concern that can be prevented with proper oral hygiene and regular visits to the dentist.

### Findings From the Oregon Oral Health Surveillance System, 2019

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) of Oregon:

- 51 percent of Oregon mothers had a dental visit during pregnancy in 2017
- 65.1 percent of Oregon mothers had their teeth cleaned within the previous year before pregnancy

National Survey of Children's Health:

- 84.8 percent of Oregon children aged 1-17 years had a dental visit in 2018
- 80.2 percent of Oregon children aged 1-17 years had a preventative dental visit
- 60.7 percent of Oregon children aged 0-5 had any dental visit in the past year in 2018

Oregon Smile and Healthy Growth Survey:

- 48.9 percent of Oregon children aged 6-9 years had cavities (treated and untreated, all teeth) in 2017
- 19.2 percent of Oregon children aged 6-9 years had untreated decay (all teeth)
- 1.9 percent of Oregon children aged 6-9 years in need of urgent dental care
- 4.5 percent of Oregon children aged 6-9 years with rampant decay (all teeth)
- 39.0 of Oregon children aged 6-9 years with protective sealants on at least one permanent molar

Local oral health data is not available, at this time, but may be worth exploring in the future.

## Water Fluoridation

Cavities (also known as tooth decay) are one of the most common chronic diseases among children. According to the CDC, water fluoridation helps keep teeth strong and reduces tooth decay by about 25 percent in children and adults (2019). In 2014, 22.6 percent of Oregon residents received fluoridated water through community water systems, the third lowest percentage in the country (2016).

### In Our Region (Linn, Benton, Lincoln CHA, 2017):

- **Lincoln County** has no public water fluoridation.
- 82 percent of residents in **Linn County** have access to public water fluoridation.
- 96 percent of residents in **Benton County** have access to public water fluoridation.

\*Individuals on well water are not included in this data.

## Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is a term used to describe neglect, abuse, violence and/or distressed family environments that children under the age of 18 years may experience. The cumulative effect of ACEs can be traumatic, especially if experienced repeatedly beginning at a young age. There is a strong association between the amount of ACEs an individual experienced during childhood and the increased risk for negative health behaviors (smoking, drug and alcohol abuse and risky sexual behaviors), chronic mental health concerns (depression and suicidal thoughts), and chronic diseases (heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer) later in life. Examples of ACEs include:

### Abuse:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Emotional

### Neglect:

- Physical
- Emotional

### Household Dysfunction:

- Mental Illness of a family member
- Divorce
- Mother treated violently
- Incarcerated relative
- Substance abuse in the household

## Sixth Grade Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Scores

The *Oregon Student Wellness Survey*, a survey of 6th, 8th and 11th grade youth, is conducted every two years by the Oregon Health Authority in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Education. The *Oregon Student Wellness Survey* is designed to assess a wide range of topics that includes school climate, positive youth development, mental health, physical health, substance use, problem gambling, fighting and other problem behaviors. The survey also includes an assessment of ACEs. We do not currently have regional ACE scores for children under age six but we can use the results of the *Oregon Student Wellness Survey* to infer how ACEs are impacting young children in our region.

Percentage of Sixth Grade Students Who Responded “Yes” to the ACEs Question, 2018				
ACEs Question	Linn	Benton	Lincoln	Oregon
Were your parents ever separated or divorced after you were born?	39.8	28.2	37.5	34.1
Have you ever lived with someone who is/was a problem drinker or alcoholic?	23.9	17.1	27.3	22.6
Have you ever lived with someone who uses/used street drugs?	12.3	7.0	12.1	10.9
Have you ever lived with a household member who is/was depressed or mentally ill?	25.8	18.0	21.9	21.6
Have you ever felt that you did not have enough to eat?	21.9	18.6	27.3	19.8
Have you ever felt that you had to wear dirty clothes?	12.1	8.6	6.1	10.9
Have you ever felt that you had no one to protect you?	16.3	15.2	12.5	15.8

Table 7. Percentage of sixth grade students who responded “yes” to the ACES question in 2018. Data from 2018 Oregon Student Wellness Survey, Oregon Health Authority.

- In 2018, **Benton County** had the lowest percentages of 6th graders responding “yes” to ACEs in five of the seven ACEs questions compared to 6th graders in **Linn County**, **Lincoln County**, and Oregon as a whole.
- In 2018, the ACEs question with the highest percentages of 6th graders responding “yes” in our region was - “Were your parents ever separated or divorced after you were born?” **Linn County** (39.8 percent), **Lincoln County** (37.5 percent), Oregon (34.1 percent) and **Benton County** (28.2 percent).

## Developmental Disability of Parent

County Developmental Disabilities (DD) programs support parents with DD and their children. DD includes autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, and fetal neurological conditions. The number of children under age six years enrolled in DD services in our region as of December 31, 2019 follows:

**Linn County**: 74 children

**Benton County**: 20 children

**Lincoln County**: 3 children

**Note:** many people are diagnosed with DD but do not qualify for DD services.

## Child Abuse and Neglect

In 2018, the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) reported that 46.3 percent of all child abuse and neglect victims were six years old or younger. Although child abuse data by age distribution is not publicly available by county, it is likely that there is a similar trend in reports of child abuse and neglect in our region. There were 883 victims of child abuse and neglect for children under age 18, in 2018 in our region. Of those victims, **Linn County** had the largest number (583). Please refer to Appendix K for number of victims of child abuse and neglect and the victim rate per 1,000 in each county, from 2016-2018.

In our region, in 2018, neglect was the most frequent incident identified followed by threat of harm. The total number of each type of abuse in our region follows:

- Mental injury (11),
- Sexual abuse (57),
- Physical abuse (111),
- Threat of harm (532),
- Neglect (535)

Please refer to Appendix L for the number of incidents of abuse and neglect in each county, in 2018.

**Note:** Victims of child abuse and neglect may experience more than one type of abuse so that the number of incidents of abuse is larger than the number of victims.

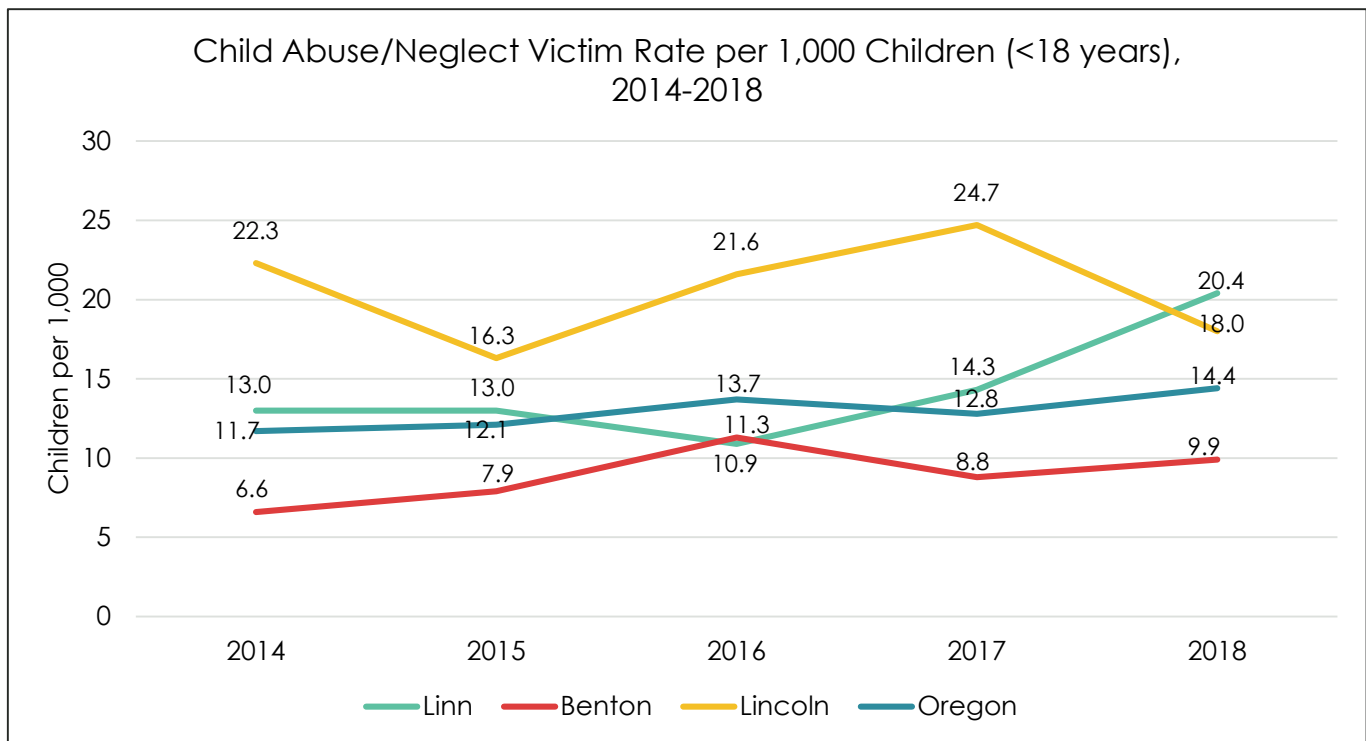


Figure 38. Child abuse/neglect victim rate per 1,000 children under age 18 years of age in Oregon and Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties, 2014-2018. Data from 2015 and 2017 Child Welfare Data Book, Oregon Department of Human Services. Figure notes: Rates include neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse.

- During 2014 to 2017, **Lincoln County** had the highest victim abuse rates per 1,000 children in the region.
- From 2014 to 2018, **Lincoln County**'s victim abuse rates shifted from a low of 16.3 in 2015 to a high of 24.7 in 2017.
- From 2014 to 2018, victim abuse rates in **Linn County** shifted from a low of 13.0 in 2014 to a high of 20.4 in 2018.
- In 2018, **Linn County**'s victim abuse rate (20.4) was the highest in the region closely followed by **Lincoln County** (18.0). The abuse rates in both counties were generally higher than the state's rates during 2014 to 2018.
- During 2014 to 2018, **Benton County**'s victim abuse rates remained lower than the state.

## Domestic Violence

In 2018, Oregon domestic and sexual violence programs answered 128,786 calls for help, almost an eight percent decrease from 2017. Unmet requests for shelter (8,414) in 2018 increased by about one percent from 2016.

Number of People Sheltered in Regional Domestic Violence Programs, 2018				
Area	Adults	<6 years	6-12 years	Teens
Linn & Benton	121	64	47	8
Lincoln	347	8	7	1

Number of Shelter Nights Spent in Regional Domestic Violence Programs, 2018		
Area	Adults	Children (<18 years)
Linn & Benton	1,292	1,484
Lincoln	986	537

Table 8. People Sheltered in Oregon's Domestic Violence Programs, 2018. Data from Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS), Abuse and Neglect Home.

## DHS In-Home Safety and Reunification Services

In-Home Safety and Reunification Services (ISRS) provides for the safety of children at risk of maltreatment by maintaining children safely in their homes.

Children Served In-Home Rate per 1,000 Children (point-in-time on 9/30)						
Area	Number Served In-Home			Rate per 1,000		
County	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Linn	19	31	33	0.7	1.1	1.2
Benton	6	14	12	0.4	0.9	0.8
Lincoln	14	34	18	1.7	4.1	2.1
Oregon	1,331	1,490	1,387	1.5	1.7	1.6

Table 9. Children Served by DHS In-home, 2016-2018. Data from Oregon DHS, Office of Child Welfare Programs.



- During 2016-2018, the rate per 1,000 children served by ISRS increased slightly in all three counties in the region.
- In 2018, 63 children received ISRS services in **Linn** (33 per 1,000), **Benton** (12 per 1,000), and **Lincoln** (18 per 1,000) counties.
- In 2018, **Linn County** had the largest number of children (33 per 1,000) and **Lincoln County** had the highest rate of children served in-home (2.1 per 1,000) in our region.

## Foster Care

When it is determined that a child is not safe at home they are placed in foster care and the Department of Human Services (DHS) provides services to assist families to make changes so their children are able to return home. DHS reports the number of children who were in Foster Care at least one day on 9/30 each year by county and by age.

On 9/30/2018 our region had the following number of children under age 6 years in Foster Care:

- **Linn County**: 126 children
- **Benton County**: 49 children
- **Lincoln County**: 88 Children (DHS, 2018)

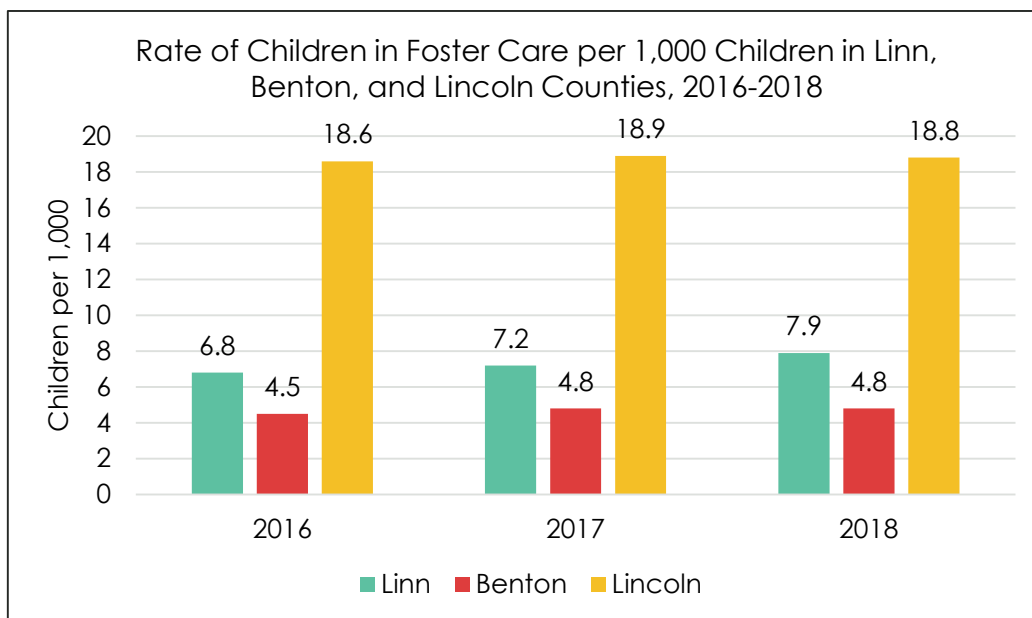


Figure 39. Rate of Children Under Age 18 in Foster Care per 1,000 Children in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, 2016-2018. Data from Oregon DHS.

- From 2016-2018, **Lincoln County** had the highest rate of children in Foster Care per 1,000 children in the region. That rate increased slightly from 18.6 to 18.8 per 1,000 children over the course of three years.
- From 2016-2018, **Linn County**'s Children in Foster Care rate had the greatest increase in the region, from 6.8 to 7.9 per 1,000 children.
- From 2016-2018, **Benton County** had the lowest rates of children in Foster Care per 1,000 children in the region.

## Children of Incarcerated Parents

Incarcerated persons who are parents face many challenges with negative impact on their children's well-being. Research links parental incarceration with childhood health problems such as asthma, depression, anxiety and difficulty in school. Children with an incarcerated parent are more likely to experience multiple adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) such as witnessing domestic violence, or having a parent with mental illness or who is suicidal. On average, children under age six who experienced an incarcerated parent had 1.2 more ACEs than children without that experience (Murphy and Cooper, 2015). Parent reports indicate that eight percent of children in Oregon have lived with a parent who is incarcerated (Kids Count, 2016).

Data is limited for the number of children in our region with parents who have lived with an incarcerated parent. Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS)/Child Welfare does not track parents who are incarcerated or on parole or probation. DHS does track data for children under age six who were removed from home and put into foster care due to parent incarceration (2020).

Children in Foster Care Due to Parent Incarceration Between 1/1/2017 and 12/31/2019									
County	All Removals			<Age 6 at Time of Removal			<Age 6 With Removal Reason: Parent Incarceration*		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Linn	105	110	95	55	59	59	13	8	3
Benton	26	39	36	12	19	21	0	2	0
Lincoln	75	60	47	34	36	25	6	13	3

Table 10. Children entering Foster Care between 1/1/2017 and 12/31/2019. Data from DHS, March 2020.

\* Most children have more than one reason for removal from their home to enter Foster Care.

- Over half of all children removed from their home, for any reason in our region, are under age six, during 2017 to 2019.
- In 2018, 23 children in our region were removed from their home for reasons of parental incarceration; of those, 13 children were removed in **Lincoln County**.
- In 2019, the number of children in our region removed from their home due to parental incarceration dropped to six.

## Food Security

The USDA annually surveys households on their level of food security defined as access to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle (2020). Feeding America, a national nonprofit that monitors food security, uses USDA data to report the estimated percent of children in our region living in food insecure households. Children living in food insecure households have limited or uncertain availability to nutritionally adequate food (2020).

Adequate nutrition is important for cognitive and behavioral development in children. Children from food insecure, low-income households are more likely to experience irritability, fatigue, and difficulty concentrating on tasks, especially in school, compared to other children (Benton County CHA, 2017).

Children (<18 years) Living in Food Insecure Households in 2018			
Region	Number of Children Who Were Food Insecure	Percent of Children Who Were Food Insecure	Percent of Children Who Were Food Insecure and Eligible for Federal Nutrition Programs*
Linn	5,250	18.6%	79%
Benton	1,920	12.9%	67%
Lincoln	1,840	22.4%	85%
Oregon	139,220	16.0%	70%

Table 11. Children (<18 years) Living in Food Insecure Households in Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties and Oregon, 2018. Data from Feeding America Map the Meal Gap 2020 (2018 historical data).

\*Determined using SNAP (formerly Food Stamp program) eligibility which is below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

- In 2018, **Lincoln County** had the highest percent of food insecurity among children in our region (22.4).
- In 2018, **Linn** (18.6) and **Lincoln** (22.4) had a higher percent of children who were food insecure than Oregon (16.0).
- In 2018, **Linn County** had the highest number (5,250) of children who were food insecure.

## Homelessness

Oregon DHS (2019) reported the following number of children ages 0-5 (unduplicated, includes age 5) were experiencing homelessness while receiving SNAP services during 2018:

**Linn County:** 192

**Benton County:** 30

**Lincoln County:** 63

LBL Hub Region: 285

According to the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act, a child is considered to be homeless if they: lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

Homelessness is further defined as an individual:

- sharing housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals
- who has primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- who is living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- migratory children who qualify as homeless.

<b>Homelessness Among Children in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, 2018-2019</b>			
<b>School District</b>	<b>Number of Students in Public Preschool Programs Experiencing Homelessness</b>	<b>Number of Students in Grades K-12 Experiencing Homelessness</b>	<b>Proportion of Student Body Experiencing Homelessness</b>
<b>Linn County</b>	98	1,182	-
Central Linn	0	79	12.0%
Greater Albany	42	296	3.1%
Harrisburg	0	51	6.3%
Lebanon	36	329	7.6%
Santiam Canyon	0	116	2.6%
Scio	0	28	3.6%
Sweet Home	20	283	12.2%
<b>Benton County</b>	15	328	-
Alsea	0	38	16.8%
Corvallis	15	251	3.7%
Monroe	0	26	6.9%
Philomath	0	13	0.8%
<b>Lincoln County</b>	73	943	17.0%
<b>LBL Region</b>	186	2453	-
<b>Oregon</b>	1822	22,215	3.9%

Table 12. Preschool and K-12 student homeless counts in our region and in Oregon, 2018-2019. Data from the Oregon Department of Education, McKinney-Vento Act: Homeless Education Program.

- Eight of our region's 12 school districts had a higher proportion of students experiencing homelessness compared to Oregon (3.9 percent) as a whole during 2018-2019.
- **Lincoln County** School District had the highest number of public preschool children (73) experiencing homelessness among school districts in the region, during 2018-2019.
- In **Lincoln County**, 17.0 percent of K-12 students experienced homelessness during 2018-2019. This was the highest need for housing security compared to the region and to the state.
- **Linn County** had the largest number of children (98) in public preschool programs experiencing homelessness in our region in 2018-2019.

# Appendix I

Number and Rate of Teen Pregnancy										
Total Births			Number of Teen Pregnancies				Teen Pregnancy Rate per 1,000			
2017		2018	2017		2018		2017		2018	
County	Total Births		Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19	Ages 15-17	Ages 18-19
Linn	1,622	1,511	25	84	12	45	10.4	57.3	5.0	34.6
Benton	799	685	4	21	1	13	*	7.3	*	4.6
Lincoln	472	362	9	22	4	21	14.4	59.3	*	51.5
Oregon	51,657	42,183	639	1,956	359	1,249	8.5	37.6	5.0	25.8

Oregon Health Authority, Annual Report Volume 1 (2017). Age of Mother and county of residence, Oregon resident births, 2018 final Data from Oregon Vital Statistics, Final Birth Data 2018. Age-Specific Birth Rates per 1,000 Women, Oregon Health Authority (2020).

\*Rates based on numbers smaller than 5 are not reported.

## Appendix J

2020 CCO Incentive Measures and Benchmarks		
Indicators	Definition	2020 Benchmark
<b>Childhood Immunization</b>	Percentage of children that turned 2 years old during the measurement year and had the Dtap, IPV, MMR, HiB, HepB, and VZV vaccines by their 2nd birthday	80.8%
<b>Mental and Physical Health and Oral Health Assessment Within 60 Days for Children in DHS Custody</b>	Percentage of children (0-17) who received a physical health assessment, children (1-17) who received a dental health assessment, and children (4-17) who received a mental health assessment within 60 days of the state notifying CCO's that the children were placed into custody with DHS (foster care)	90.0%
<b>Prenatal &amp; Postpartum care - Postpartum Care</b>	Percentage of deliveries of live births between November 6 of the year prior to the measurement year and November 5 of the measurement year that had a postpartum visit on or between 21 and 56 days after delivery	61.3%
<b>"NEW" Well-Child Visits in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th Year of Life</b>	Percentage of children ages 3 to 6 that had one or more well-child visits with a PCP during the measurement year	78.5%

Data from Oregon Health Authority (2020) 2020 CCO Incentive Measures and 2020 CCO Incentive Measure Benchmarks

## Appendix K

Child Abuse/Neglect Victim Rate per 1,000 Children, by County, 2016-2018									
Region	Population Under 18			Victims			Rate per 1,000		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Linn	27,791	28,031	28,529	303	401	583	10.9	14.3	20.4
Benton	14,679	14,753	15,044	166	130	149	11.3	8.8	9.9
Lincoln	8,014	8,233	8,399	173	203	151	21.6	24.7	18.0
Oregon	862,856	868,727	873,619	11,843	11,077	12,585	13.6	12.8	14.4

Data from Child Welfare Data Book, Oregon DHS, 2018.

## Appendix L

Number of Incidents of Child Abuse/Neglect, 2018					
Region	Mental Injury	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Threat of Harm
Linn	5	350	71	35	375
Benton	3	87	9	9	51
Lincoln	3	98	27	8	79
Oregon	265	7,069	1,487	971	6,512

Data from Child Welfare Data Book, Oregon DHS, 2018.



# Glossary of Acronyms



<b>ACES</b>	Adverse Childhood Experiences
<b>ACS</b>	American Community Survey
<b>AI/AN</b>	American Indian/Alaska Native
<b>CHA</b>	Community Health Assessment
<b>C2Q</b>	Commitment to Quality
<b>CBO</b>	Community-Based Child Care/Community-Based Organization
<b>CCO</b>	Coordinated Care Organization
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>CCRIS-P</b>	Oregon Department of Education Child Care Regulatory Information System - Partner Version
<b>CCR&amp;R</b>	Child Care Resource and Referral
<b>CHA</b>	Community Health Assessment
<b>DHS</b>	Department of Human Services
<b>DAP</b>	Developmentally Appropriate Practice
<b>DD</b>	Developmental Disabilities
<b>ECSE</b>	Early Childhood Special Education
<b>EI</b>	Early Intervention
<b>ELC</b>	Early Learning Council
<b>ELD</b>	Early Learning Division
<b>ELL</b>	English Language Learners
<b>ESD</b>	Education Service District
<b>ERDC</b>	Employment-Related Day Care
<b>FASD</b>	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
<b>FCCN</b>	Focused Child Care Networks
<b>FFN</b>	Family, Friends, and Neighbors
<b>FPL</b>	Federal Poverty Level
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized Education Program
<b>IFSP</b>	Individualized Family Services Plan
<b>ITMH</b>	Infant/Toddler Mental Health
<b>IHN-CCO</b>	InterCommunity Health Network CCO
<b>KA</b>	Kindergarten Assessment
<b>KA-AL</b>	Kindergarten Assessment Approaches to Learning
<b>NH/PI</b>	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
<b>NAS</b>	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
<b>ODE</b>	Oregon Department of Education
<b>OHA</b>	Oregon Health Authority
<b>OHP</b>	Oregon Health Plan

<b>OHCS</b>	Housing/Oregon Housing and Community Services
<b>OCHIN</b>	Oregon Community Health Information Network
<b>OPEC</b>	Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative
<b>PCP</b>	PCP" Primary Care Physician
<b>PD</b>	Professional Development
<b>PRAMS</b>	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
<b>QRIS</b>	Quality Rating and Improvement System
<b>SCHIP</b>	State Children's Health Insurance Program
<b>SNAP</b>	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
<b>SSP</b>	Self-Sufficiency Programs
<b>TA</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>TGR</b>	Third Grade Reading
<b>UAs</b>	Urbanized Area
<b>UCs</b>	Urban Clusters
<b>WIC</b>	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children

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## Data & Evaluation Work Group

The Data & Evaluation Work Group ensures that the Early Learning Hub has the data it needs to make strategic decisions informed by an understanding of the target population and progress towards outcomes.

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### Regional Data Book Second Edition, 2021

