



Lincoln Vital Signs 2025 Report

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Prepared By



The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center is a university-wide, multidisciplinary research and outreach center committed to addressing complex issues by linking academic research, stakeholder opinions, and practical experience through innovative and creative solutions.

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The authors gratefully acknowledge the assistance of their colleagues at the Public Policy Center: Stacie Kotschwar, PhD; Taylor St. Cin, and Kyle Brown.

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Acknowledgements

Sponsors

The following organizations contributed leadership and financial support:

Acklie Charitable Foundation
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.
Buffett Early Childhood Fund
City of Lincoln - Mayor's Office
Community Health Endowment
Cooper Foundation
Duncan Family Trust
Lancaster County
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Community Foundation
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
Sherwood Foundation
United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County
University of Nebraska Foundation
Woods Charitable Fund

Acknowledgements

Special Thanks

The following individuals assisted in the collection, analysis, or presentation of this report:

Alexandra Daro – Buffett Early Childhood Institute

Isaac French – CenterPointe

Tommy George, Lata Nawal – Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Katie Flood – Lincoln Police Department

Dawn Mazzie – Lincoln Public Schools

Erin Rourke – Region V Systems

Executive Summary

Since 2014, **Lincoln Vital Signs**, authored by the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, has been a community-wide data resource. The 2025 Lincoln Vital Signs report is sponsored by Lincoln's and Nebraska's largest public and private charitable organizations. Lincoln Vital Signs 2025 continues the tradition of providing credible, reliable information about Lincoln, compared to its recent past and to the United States overall. Data from the report are used by organizations and individuals to inform decisions, spark connections, and spur collaboration. You can view the report, along with new interactive graphs, at lincolnvitalsigns.org.

Lincoln Vital Signs presents data in chapters covering: Community Profile, Economy & Workforce, Basic Needs, Education, Health, and Safety & Security.

In 2025, Lincoln Vital Signs finds:

- 1. Population trends will shape future need for services and initiatives.**
- 2. Lincoln is flourishing in many areas, which enabled a quick recovery from 2020 economic impacts.**
- 3. Some previously noted areas of weakness persist.**

The opportunities and challenges identified in past Lincoln Vital Signs reports led to the creation of Prosper Lincoln (prosperlincoln.org), promoting collective impact action.

Learn more at lincolnvitalsigns.org and prosperlincoln.org.

About the Report

Be informed. Get Involved.

Lincoln Vital Signs 2025 presents over 100 charts, graphs, and maps to illustrate trends in our community. When looked at holistically, the data suggest areas of success and areas for improvement.

The 2025 Lincoln Vital Signs Report finds:

1. Population trends will shape future need for services and initiatives.

Lincoln's 65+ population is growing eight times faster than other age groups. This will drive a demand for services and initiatives targeting the needs of this population. As Lincoln's population ages, however, population growth is being driven mostly by migration to the city from other areas of Nebraska and the United States. Nearly half of those moving to Lincoln are 18 to 24 years of age.

2. Lincoln is flourishing in many areas, which enabled a quick recovery from 2020 economic impacts.

Lincoln has consistently done well in several areas. Overall, our population is well-educated. New businesses creating jobs contributed to a robust economy that was able to recover from the 2020 economy rather quickly. Lincoln's unemployment rate is consistently one of the lowest in the nation and is now lower than in 2019. Our crime rates are also lower than other comparably sized cities.

3. Some previously noted areas of weakness persist.

While Lincoln is doing well in some areas, weaknesses remain. Income adjusted for cost of living continues to trail other metropolitan areas, and the gap is increasing. Childcare costs continue to rise. Although the health of Lincoln's residents is better than that of the U.S. overall, deaths due to heart disease and to cancer are rising and closing the gap with national rates.

Learn more at lincolnvitalsigns.org.

Lincoln Vital Signs: Helping Lincoln Prosper

Lincoln Vital Signs helped Lincoln become aware of our opportunities and challenges and led to a community-wide agenda-setting process, Prosper Lincoln (prosperlincoln.org). Thousands of people were involved in setting the initial community agenda focusing on Early Childhood, Employment Skills, and Innovation.

The results of the initial Prosper Lincoln community agenda (2017-2019) were impressive, including: hundreds of new high-quality early childhood placements; \$600,000 raised to support access to early childhood programs for low-income families; local companies mobilizing to support access to high-quality early childhood care for young families; hundreds of businesses connecting with public agencies to recruit employees; thousands of university and high school students connecting to internships and careers offered by local employers; and businesses implementing new practices to remove barriers and recruit valued employees.

From 2020-2025, Prosper Lincoln has deepened and broadened the work with five areas of focus:

- 1. Early Childhood - All children will have access to high-quality early childhood care and education** leading to a more available workforce today and a smarter workforce tomorrow.
- 2. Innovative Workplace - People will have careers and employers retain skilled talent in a culture of innovation** to fuel economic success for businesses and lift workers out of poverty.
- 3. Affordable Housing - All residents will live in affordable housing** leading to healthier and more stable families.
- 4. Strong Neighborhoods - Neighborhoods will thrive through investments in people and places** creating robust and attractive places for residents to live.
- 5. Civic Investment - Major new civic investments will create sustainable opportunities to work, live, and play** resulting in a stronger and more vibrant city.

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Lincoln Vital Signs





Community Profile

Lincoln is a growing community. In the past decade, **Lincoln's overall population has grown by more than 26,000 residents, or 10%**. Since 2013, **Lincoln's growth rate of the retirement-age population has outpaced that of the working age and younger populations**. However, the population of all age groups is growing, including children 19 and under. **Lincoln's children are dispersed throughout the city but are most heavily concentrated near downtown where poverty is most prevalent**.

Lincoln is **becoming more racially and ethnically diverse**. The number of people of color living in Lincoln has increased by 23% over the last decade, and in 2023, people of color comprised 24% of Lincoln's population. Compared to other cities across the United States, Lincoln is in the **top fifth for overall well-being**.

Population

Lincoln's population has grown 10% since 2013

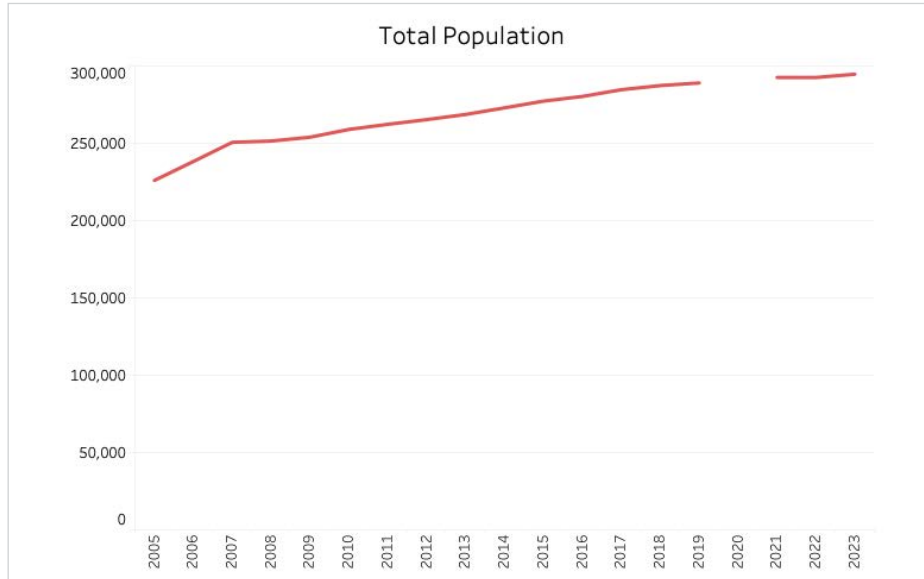


Figure 1

Similar to other urbanized communities in Nebraska, Lincoln has experienced population growth over the past decade.

- Lincoln now has more than 294,000 residents, 26,007 more since 2013.
- Lincoln's total population has grown 10% since 2013.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP05.

Population Growth

Lincoln's growth rate has been low for the past decade

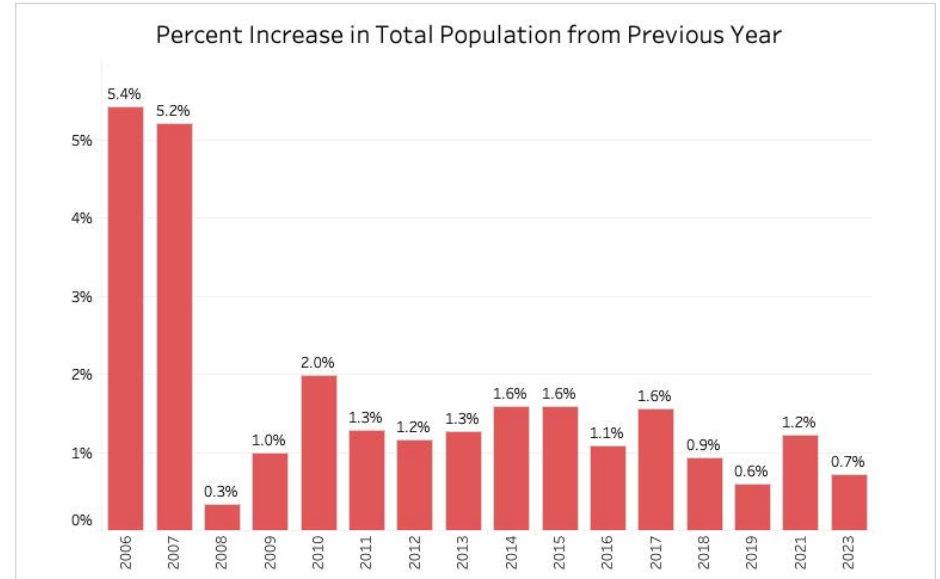


Figure 2

In 2023, Lincoln's growth rate was the lowest it has been since 2008 (0.3% in 2008 versus 0.7% in 2023).

- As of 2018, Lincoln's growth rate has slowed, averaging less than 1% between 2018 and 2023.
- Between 2010 and 2017, Lincoln's population grew at a rate between 1% and 2% per year.
- From 2006 to 2007, Lincoln's growth rate was over 5% per year.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP05.

The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics; therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

Population by Age Group

Lincoln's 65 or older age group has grown the most since 2013

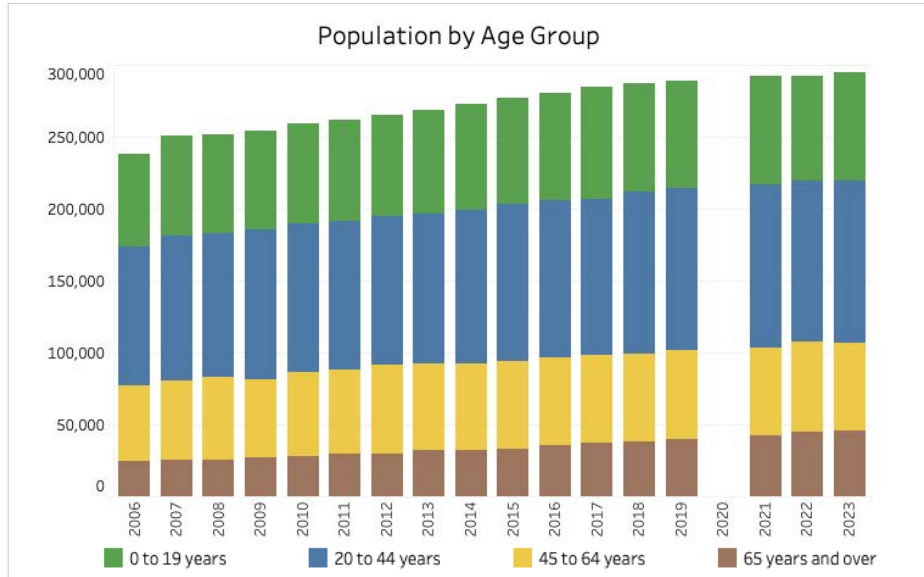


Figure 3

The population of all age groups has grown since 2013, with adults aged 65 years and over being the fastest growing age group.

- In 2023, there were 45,941 adults aged 65 years and over living in Lincoln. That is 13,607 more adults aged 65 years and older living in Lincoln than in 2013.

Population Growth by Age Group

Lincoln's 65 or older age group is growing at a faster rate than other age groups

	2013 Population	2023 Population	Percent Growth	Population Growth
0 to 19 years	72,329	75,281	4.1%	2,952
20 to 44 years	103,937	112,688	8.4%	8,751
45 to 64 years	60,143	60,840	1.2%	697
65 years and over	32,334	45,941	42.1%	13,607

Table 1

The 65 years and over age group has experienced a higher population growth rate than any other age group.

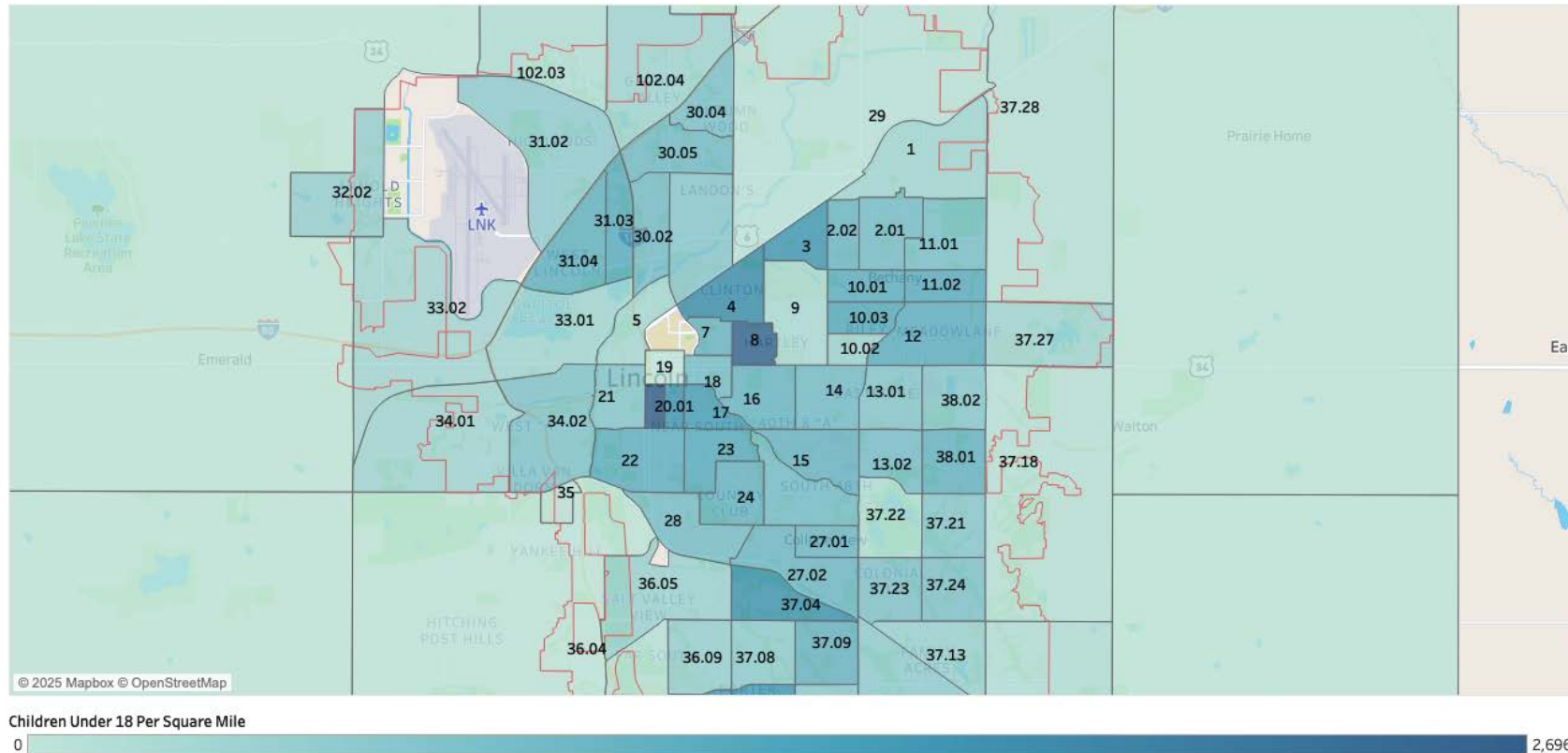
- Since 2013, the 65 years and over age group grew by 42% compared to an average 5% growth rate for other age groups.

NOTES

Figure 3 & Table 1. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP05.

Concentration of Children Map

Lincoln's children are most heavily concentrated in areas with historically high poverty



Map 1

Lincoln's children are most heavily concentrated near downtown where poverty is most prevalent. Census Tracts 8 and 20.02 have the highest concentration of children per square mile.¹

- There are 2,543 children per square mile in Census Tract 8.
 - 27.2% of residents in Census Tract 8 are in poverty.²
- There are 2,696 children per square mile in Census Tract 20.02.
 - Although the poverty rate has declined over the last decade, 26.7% of residents in Census Tract 20.02 are in poverty.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020 5-year estimates, Table DP05.
 U.S. Census Bureau, TIGERweb State-Based Data Files - Census Tracts - Census 2020.

Map does not include Census Tracts 6, 35, 36.01, or 9832.

Birth & Death Rates

Lancaster County's natural growth rate is higher than Nebraska and the U.S.

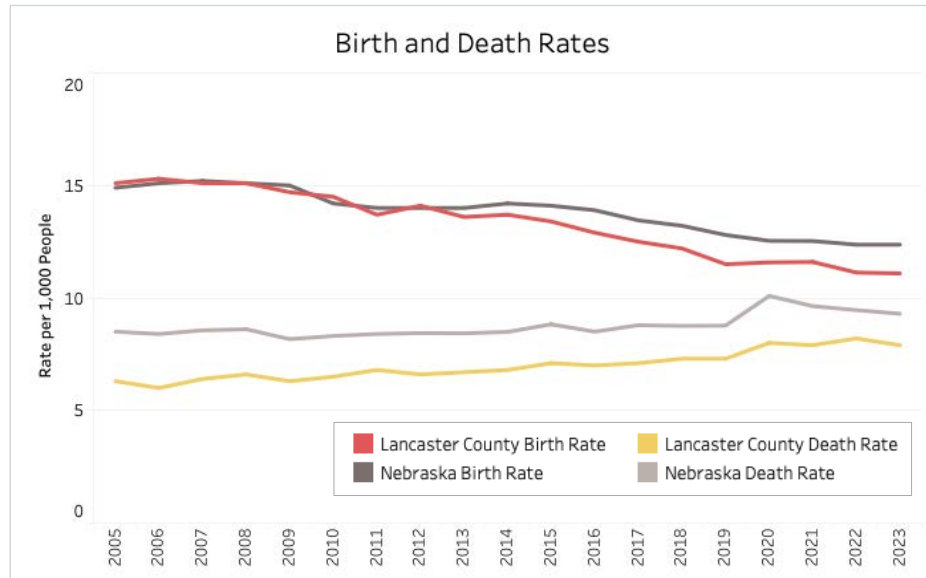


Figure 4

The natural growth rate of a community is determined by subtracting the death rate from the birth rate. Lancaster County's natural growth rate (birth rate minus death rate) increased the total population by 0.32% in 2023. Lancaster County had a natural growth rate on par with Nebraska and double that of the U.S. in 2023.

- The Lancaster County natural growth rate was 0.32%.
- The Nebraska natural growth rate was 0.31%.
- The U.S. natural growth rate was 0.15%.



NOTES

National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

Local birth and death rates are presented for Lancaster County, and may vary from previous Lincoln Vital Signs Reports, which previously presented data for Lincoln, NE. National rates for 2020 have been revised and may differ from those previously published.

The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics; therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

Lincoln Newcomers

Lincoln’s growth is attributable to people moving to Lincoln

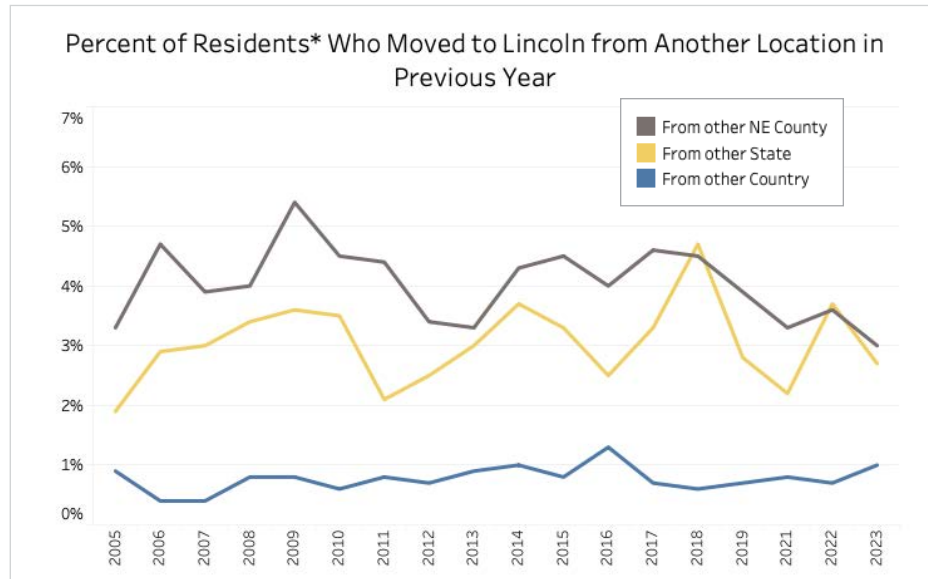


Figure 5

Over the last decade, on average, about 7% of Lincoln’s population moved to the city in the previous 12 months. In 2023, newcomers to Lincoln had moved from:

- Other places in Nebraska (3.0%).
- Other places in the United States outside Nebraska (2.7%).
- Other places in the world outside the United States (1.0%).

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S0701.

Residents one year of age or older.

Newcomers by Age Group

Lincoln newcomers are young

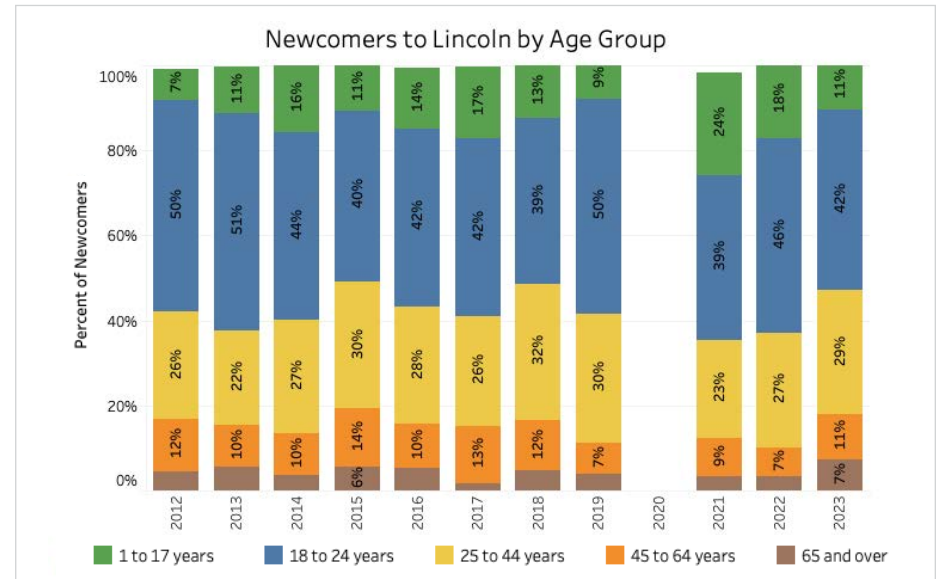


Figure 6

Over the past three years, since 2021, almost two-fifths (42%) of newcomers to Lincoln have been young adults between 18 and 24 years of age on average. The influx of young people may be attributable to Lincoln’s multiple post-secondary institutions.

- In 2023, 42% of Lincoln newcomers were 18 to 24 years of age.
 - This matches the average of the past three years since 2021.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S0701.

Residents one year of age or older.

The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics, therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

Newcomers by Race/Ethnicity

The proportion of newcomers of color has changed little in the past 5 years

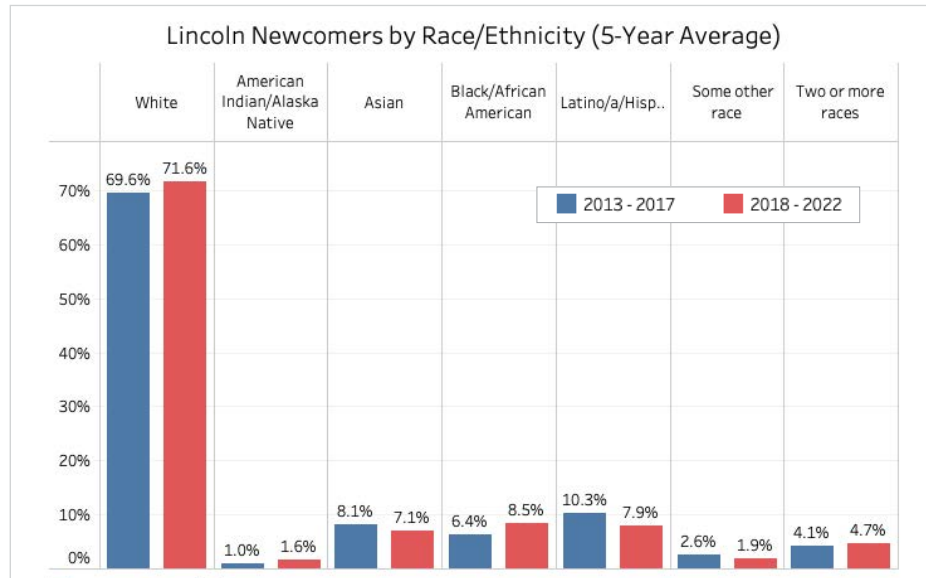


Figure 7

The proportion of newcomers of color seems to have levelled off after gradually increasing for several years. Black or African American groups have seen the largest increase of newcomers to Lincoln.

- The proportion of newcomers within Lincoln’s Black or African American population has increased 2.1 percentage points from 2017 to 2022.
- The proportion of American Indian or Alaska Native newcomers, and newcomers from two or more races, increased slightly from 2017 to 2022.
- The proportion of Latino/a/Hispanic, Asian American or Pacific Islander newcomers, and newcomers of some other race, decreased from 2017 to 2022.



NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S0701.

Residents one year of age or older.

Those who identify as Latino/a/Hispanic may also be counted in other racial categories. Race/ethnic groups that make up less than one quarter of one percent of the population do not appear on the chart.

Newcomer Educational Attainment

Overall, newcomers are as educated as the rest of Lincoln’s population

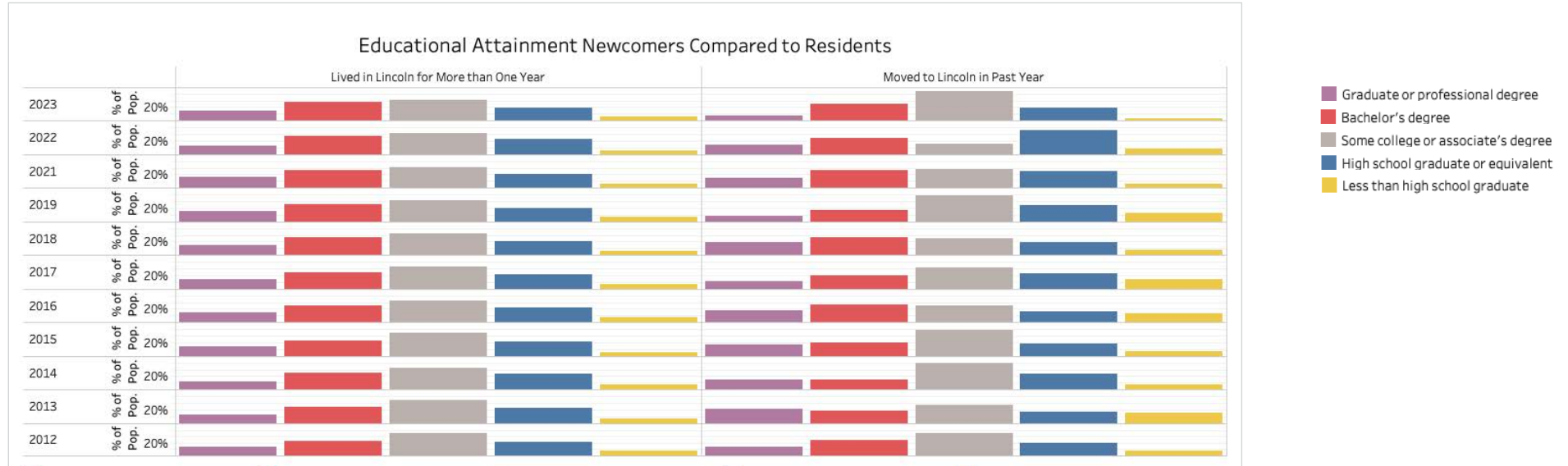


Figure 8

On average, newcomers to Lincoln have similar levels of educational attainment as the rest of Lincoln’s population. In 2023:

- 8% of newcomers and 15% of other Lincoln residents had a graduate or professional degree.
- About a quarter of newcomers (25%) and other Lincoln residents (28%) had a bachelor’s degree.
- About 45% of newcomers and a third of other Lincoln residents (31%) had achieved some college or associate’s degree.
- About a fifth of newcomers (20%) and of other Lincoln residents (20%) had achieved at most a high school diploma or equivalency.
- 6% of newcomers and 3% of other Lincoln residents had achieved less than a high school diploma or equivalency.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S0701. Residents 25 years of age and over.

Race/Ethnicity

Lincoln is becoming more diverse

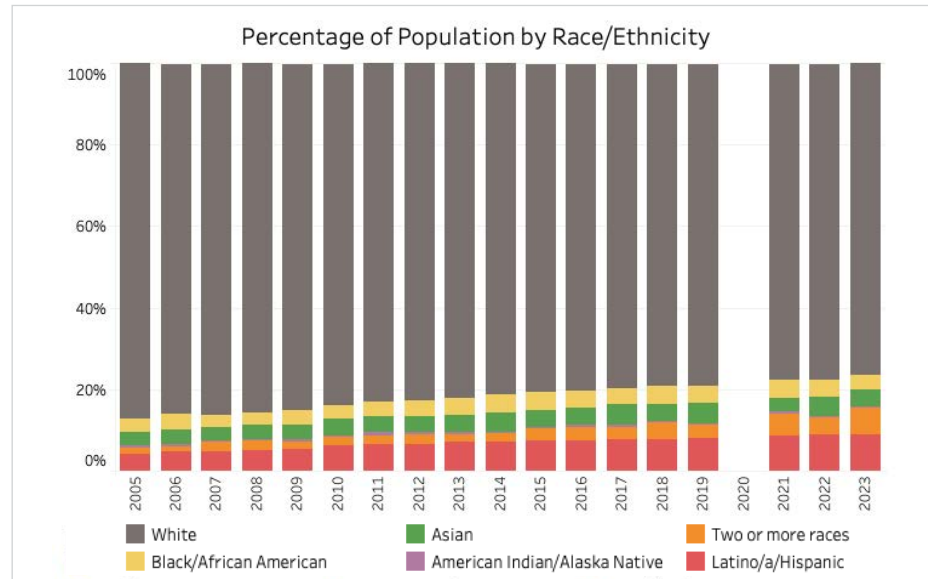


Figure 9

While the majority (76%) of Lincoln’s population identifies as White, Lincoln has become more ethnically and racially diverse over the past decade.

- From 2013 to 2023, the number of residents of color has increased by 23% while the White-non-Hispanic population has decreased 7%.
- Over the last decade, Lincoln’s Latino/a or Hispanic population increased by 27%.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP05.

Race/ethnic groups that make up less than one quarter of one percent of the population do not appear on the chart.

The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics; therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

Race/Ethnicity by Age

Lincoln’s children are more ethnically and racially diverse than the adult population

	2013 - 2017			2018 - 2022		
	Younger than 18 Years	18 to 64 Years	65 Years or Older	Younger than 18 Years	18 to 64 Years	65 Years or Older
White	70.2%	81.8%	93.1%	66.9%	81.1%	91.8%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	1.0%	0.6%	0.3%
Asian	4.6%	5.1%	2.4%	3.5%	4.8%	2.8%
Black/African American	5.9%	4.5%	1.5%	4.7%	4.0%	1.7%
Latino/a/Hispanic	12.4%	6.5%	2.2%	14.1%	6.7%	2.6%
Two or More Races	8.3%	2.0%	0.5%	14.1%	4.5%	1.8%

Table 2

Lincoln’s children (younger than 18 years of age) are more ethnically and racially diverse than the adult population. This pattern has grown over the past five years. As of 2022:

- 33% of Lincoln’s children are children of color.
- In contrast:
 - 18% of Lincoln’s adult working age population are people of color.
 - 8% of Lincoln’s population 65 years or older are people of color.

NOTES

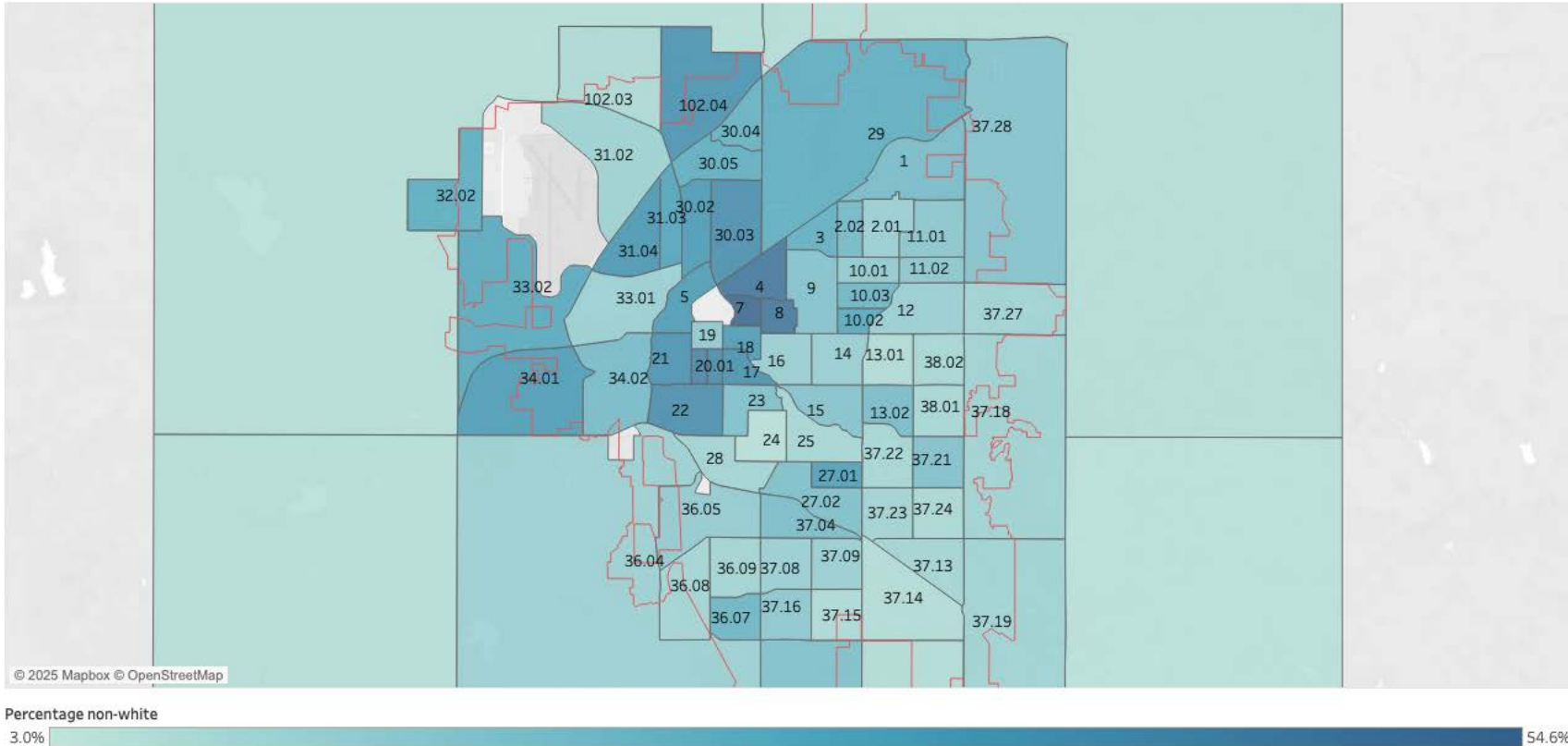
U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table B01001 series.

Latino/a/Hispanic category has some overlap with other categories. Groups that make up less than one quarter of one percent of the population do not appear in the table.

Race/Ethnicity Map

Diversity across Lincoln varies by location

Race/Ethnicity map



Map 2

As shown on this map, the area of greatest diversity in Lincoln is downtown and northwest of downtown.

- The highest percentage of residents of color (62.1%) live in Census Tract 7 (represented by the darkest area on the map).
 - In this area, 40.2% identified as Asian, and 37.9% identified as White.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table DP05.

Community Well-Being Index

Lincoln ranks in the 1st quintile of cities in the U.S. for overall well-being

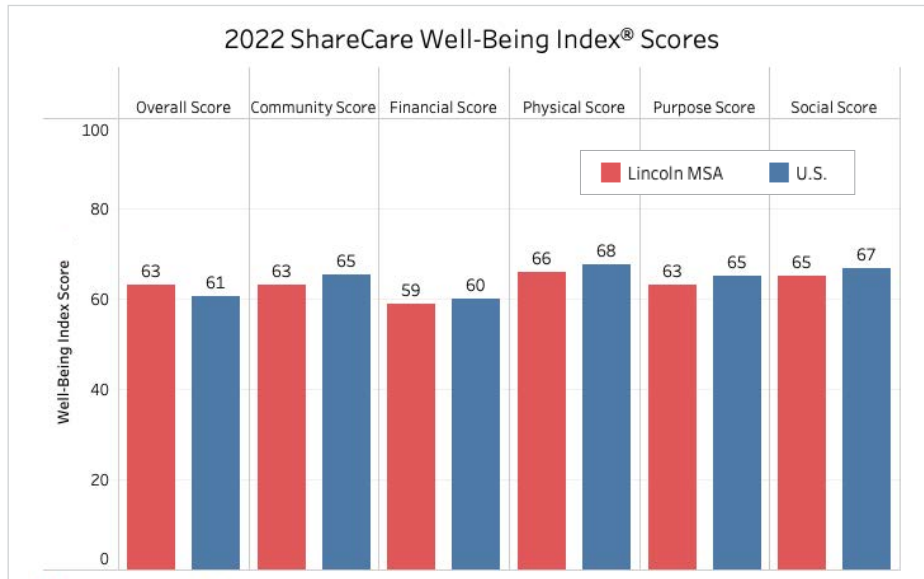


Figure 10

The Sharecare Community Well-Being Index® is based on phone surveys of people living in 383 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs).

- The Lincoln MSA (consisting of Lancaster and Seward counties) was ranked 62nd of 383 MSAs in overall well-being.
- The state of Nebraska was ranked 16th in overall well-being.



NOTES

2022 Sharecare Well-Being Index®

Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

For more information about the Sharecare Well-Being Index®, go to: wellbeingindex.sharecare.com

Beginning with the 2020 survey, individual well-being dimensions are no longer ranked but are instead reported as a score on a 0-100 scale. These well-being dimensions include: purpose, social, financial, community, and physical. Lincoln scores very similarly to the national average in all five dimensions and has a slightly higher overall Well-Being Index Score.

Community Profile Notes

1. A census tract may have a total land area of less than one square mile. Therefore, the concentration of children per square mile may be higher than the number of children in a census tract.
2. U.S. Census Bureau (2022). *Poverty status in the past 12 months, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-year estimates* (Table S1701) [Data set].



Economy and Workforce

Lincoln continues to have an active and educated workforce: **high rates of workforce participation, low unemployment**, and with over half of **adults with post-secondary degrees**. However, **Lincoln's per capita income is lower than the U.S. metropolitan average**, even after adjusting for Lincoln's low cost of living. Lincoln also continues to have a **high percentage of children with all parents in the workforce**, which signals the need for high quality and affordable childcare. However, **childcare costs have increased substantially since 2019** and may consume a significant proportion of household income.

Unemployment

Lincoln's unemployment rate has decreased since 2019

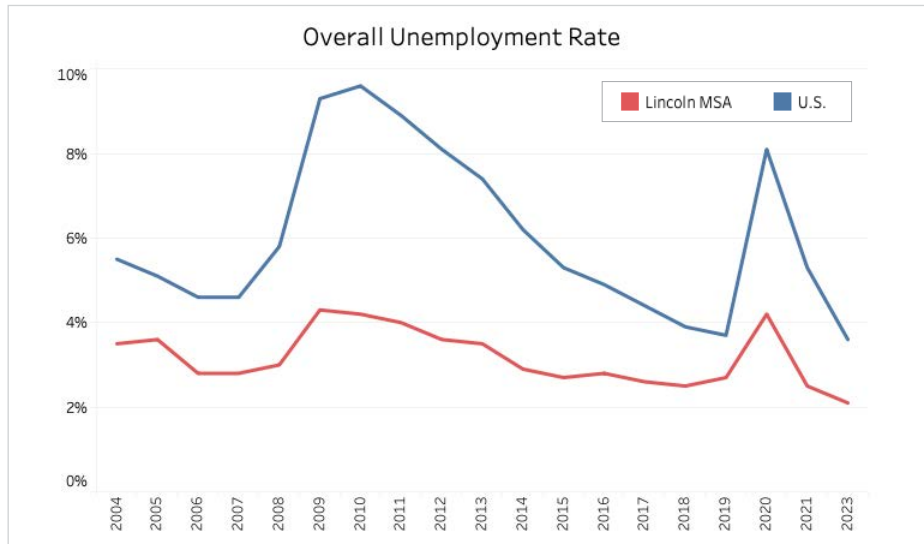


Figure 11

The unemployment rate in the U.S. and in Lincoln has decreased since the high in 2020. Lincoln's unemployment rate continues to be lower than the overall U.S. rate. Additionally, while the U.S. rate is about the same as it was in 2019, Lincoln's 2023 unemployment rate is slightly lower than pre-pandemic unemployment.

- Lincoln's unemployment rate decreased from 2.7% in 2019 to 2.1% in 2023.
- The U.S. unemployment rate stayed about the same, being 3.7% in 2019 and 3.6% in 2023.

NOTES

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment (LAU) Statistics.

The Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

Figure 12. In 2018 to 2022, the average unemployment rate of the population ages 16 and over in Lincoln was 3.3%. While unemployment rates continue to vary by race/ethnicity, the unemployment gap from baseline for non-White groups has decreased steadily since 2012.

Unemployment by Race/Ethnicity

Unemployment rates are decreasing for all, but some disparities remain

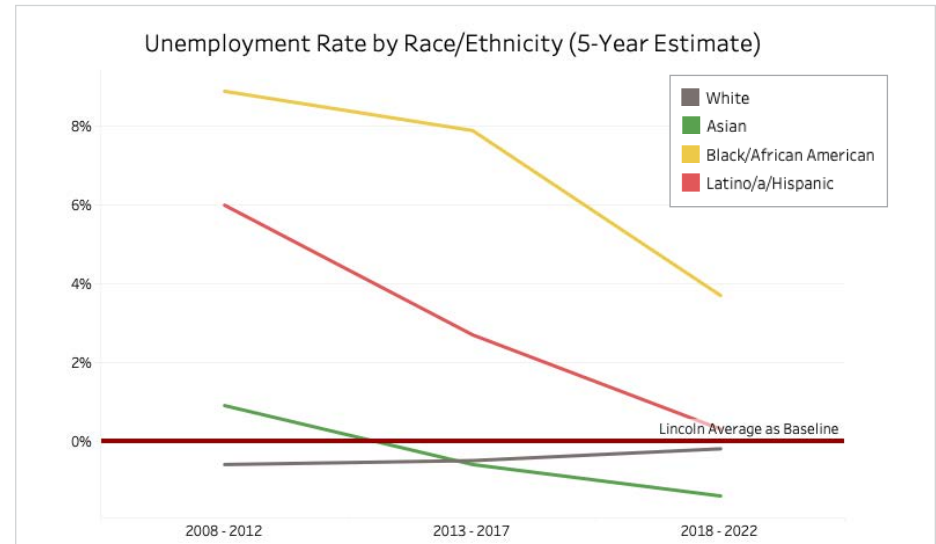


Figure 12

- 7.0% of Black or African American Lincoln residents are unemployed, which is 3.7 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average. This unemployment gap has continued to decrease from 7.9 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average in 2017.
- 3.6% of Latino/a or Hispanic Lincoln residents are unemployed, which is just 0.3 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average. This unemployment gap has decreased from 2.7 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average in 2017.
- 3.1% of White Lincoln residents are unemployed, which is about the same as the Lincoln average.
- 1.9% of Asian Lincoln residents are unemployed, which is 1.4 percentage points lower than the Lincoln average. The unemployment rate for Asian residents has also decreased since 2017, when it was about the same as the Lincoln average.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S2301. Chart includes race/ethnic groups that make up 1% or more of Lincoln's population.

Workforce Participation

Workforce participation in Lincoln remains high

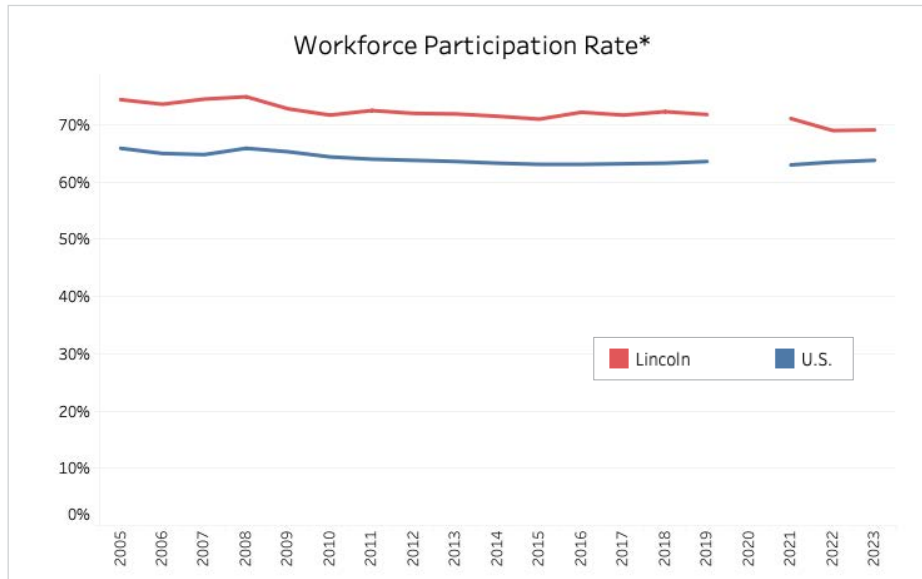


Figure 13

The workforce participation rate is the percentage of the population that is either working or actively looking for work.¹ In Lincoln, a higher percentage of persons over the age of 16 participate in the workforce than the national average.

- The workforce participation rate in Lincoln has exceeded the national rate by an average of 7.1% over the last decade.
- Lincoln's workforce participation rate was 69.1% in 2023, while the national rate was 63.8%.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S2301.

Among the population 16 years or older and in the labor force.



Workforce Participation by Race/Ethnicity

Lincoln workforce participation varies by race and ethnicity

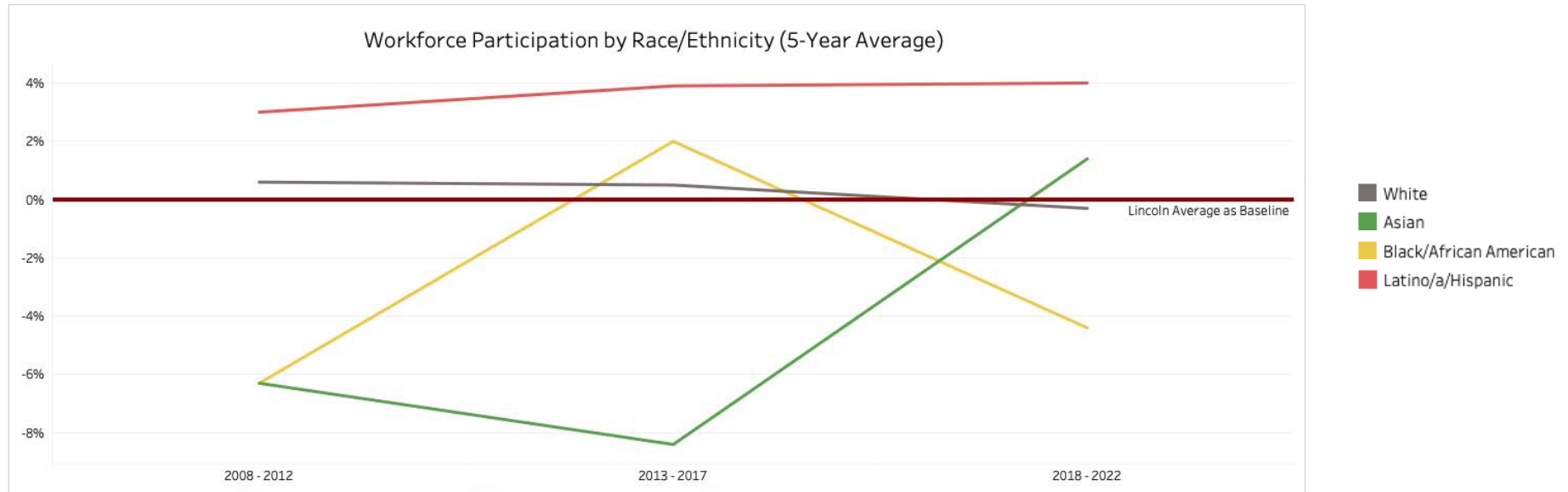


Figure 14

In 2016 to 2020, the average workforce participation rate of Lincoln residents 16 years and older was 71%. However, workforce participation rates vary by race/ethnicity.

- 74.9% of Latino/a or Hispanic residents participate in Lincoln’s workforce, which is 4.0 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average.
 - Higher workforce participation among Latino/a or Hispanic residents has been consistent for the past decade.
- 72.3% of Asian residents participate in Lincoln’s workforce, which is 1.4 percentage points higher than the Lincoln average.
 - In 2017 and prior, the workforce participation for this group was lower than the Lincoln average.
- 70.6% of White residents participate in Lincoln’s workforce, which is about the same as the Lincoln average.

- 66.5% of Black or African American residents participate in Lincoln’s workforce, which is 4.4 percentage points lower than the Lincoln average.
 - This gap in workforce participation has increased 6.4 percentage points from 2017 when this group had a higher-than-average workforce participation rate.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S2301. Chart includes race/ethnic groups that make up 1% or more of Lincoln’s population.

Parents in Workforce

Most parents in Lincoln work

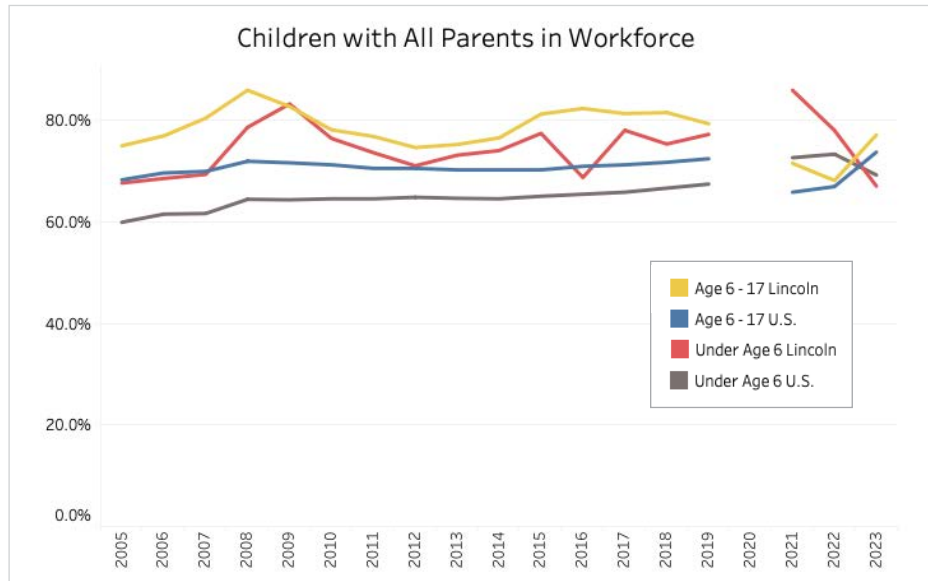


Figure 15

Lincoln has typically had a higher percentage of families with all parents in the workforce than the national average.² Nebraska, along with other northern Great Plains states, regularly ranks as one of the top states for percentage of children with all parents in the workforce.

However, for children under age 6, this pattern has changed. In 2023:

- 67% of Lincoln children under 6 years of age had all parents in the workforce.
 - This is 2.2 percentage points lower than the U.S. average of 69%.
- 77% of Lincoln children aged 6 to 17 had all parents in the workforce.
 - This is 3.4 percentage points higher than the U.S. average of 74%.



NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP03.

Childcare Costs

Childcare costs have increased substantially since 2019

Year	Care in a Center				Care in a Family Child Care Home				Public 4-Year Resident ..
	Infant	Toddler	Pre-K	School-age	Infant	Toddler	Pre-K	School-age	
2023	\$12,915	\$12,196	\$10,912	\$9,211	\$8,537	\$8,190	\$8,060	\$7,587	\$10,108
2021	\$12,389	\$11,872	\$10,398	\$8,452	\$7,828	\$7,613	\$7,564	\$6,902	\$9,872
2019	\$9,943	\$9,110	\$8,474	\$6,734	\$6,941	\$6,709	\$6,599	\$5,644	\$9,522
2017	\$10,793	\$10,075	\$9,252	\$7,534	\$7,496	\$7,295	\$7,173	\$6,345	\$8,978
2015	\$9,851	\$9,342	\$8,870	\$7,498	\$7,003	\$7,003	\$6,340	\$5,525	\$8,399
2013	\$9,601	\$8,661	\$8,155	\$7,043	\$6,623	\$6,247	\$6,150	\$6,000	\$7,315

Figure 16

Childcare costs as reported by providers have increased from 2021 to 2023, continuing the trend in rising costs observed between 2019 and 2021.

The cost of childcare is often a significant proportion of working parents' income, and, in some cases, may be a barrier to participation in the workforce.³ In 2023, center-based childcare for children younger than school age was more expensive than resident tuition and fees at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (\$10,108). The annual cost of care for an infant in a childcare center was 28% more than resident tuition and fees. Despite the increase in cost, childcare workers have low wages. In 2023, the annual median income of a childcare worker in Lincoln was \$28,850.⁴

- In 2023, average annual childcare costs in Lancaster County ranged from \$7,587 to \$12,915 depending on the age of the child and whether care was provided in a Center or Family Child Care Home.
- The overall average annual cost of cost of childcare in 2023 was \$9,700 compared to \$9,127 in 2021. This is a 6% increase in childcare costs over two years.

Infant Childcare Cost

Infant childcare costs are a significant percentage of income for families

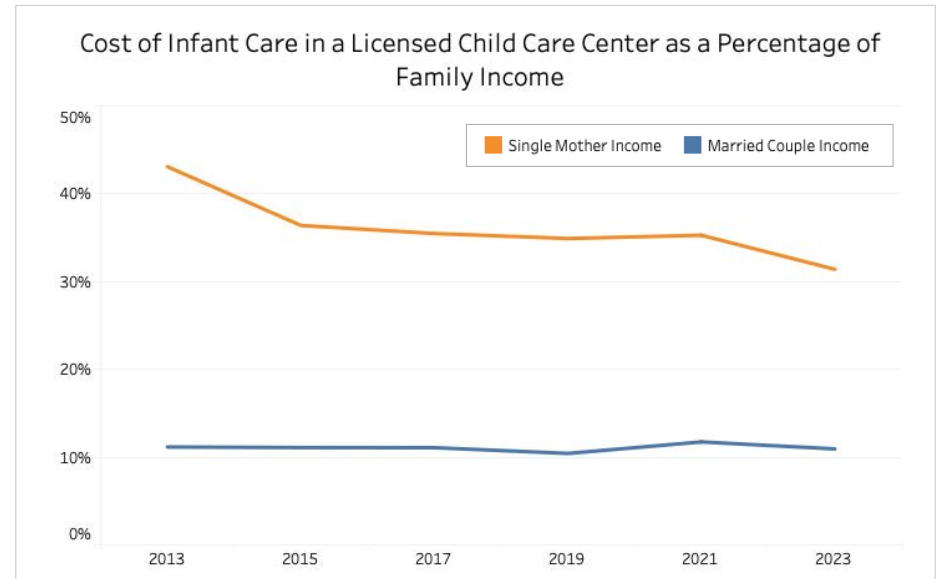


Figure 17

In 2023, the annual cost of childcare for an infant was:

- 11% of the median family income of a typical married couple.
- 31% of the median income of a typical single mother.

NOTES

Figure 16. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Market Rate Survey. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Figure 17. Compiled from Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Market Rate Survey, and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B19126.

Cost of Living

Lincoln's cost of living and per capita income are lower than the U.S. average

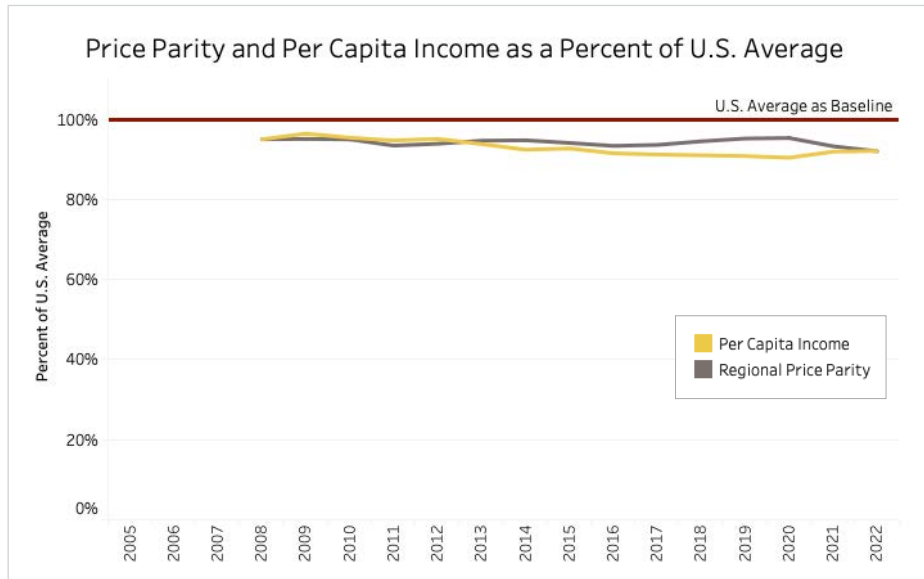


Figure 18

Regional price parities (RPPs) are price indexes that measure price level differences of goods and services (cost of living) for the average consumer between geographic regions. On average, the cost of living and per capita income in Lincoln are less than the U.S. average.

- In 2022, Lincoln's RPP is 92% of the U.S. average. In other words, goods and services cost 8% less than they do on average in the United States.
- In 2022, Lincoln's per capita income is 92% of the U.S. average. In other words, the per capita income in Lincoln is 8% lower than the average per capita income in the United States.

Per Capita Income

Lincoln's per capita income is lower than the U.S. metropolitan average, even after adjusting for low cost of living

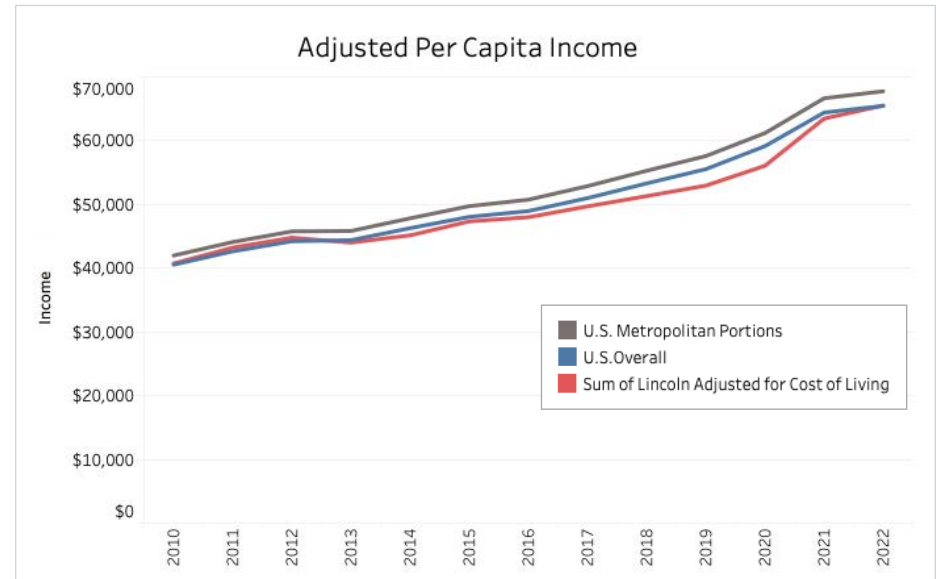


Figure 19

Adjusting per capita income by cost of living provides an indicator of relative buying power and recognizes that a dollar of income in Lincoln has more buying power than a dollar of income in the U.S. on average. After adjusting for cost of living, Lincoln's per capita income is about the same as the total U.S. average, but lower than the U.S. metropolitan average. Lincoln's average has been catching up with these comparison geographies since 2019.

- In 2022, Lincoln per capita income was about the same as the U.S. overall.
- In 2022, Lincoln trailed the U.S. metropolitan average per capita income by \$2,231.

NOTES

Figure 18 & 19. U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Tables MARPP, CAINC1.

The Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

Household Income

Lincoln household incomes are lower than they were before COVID-19

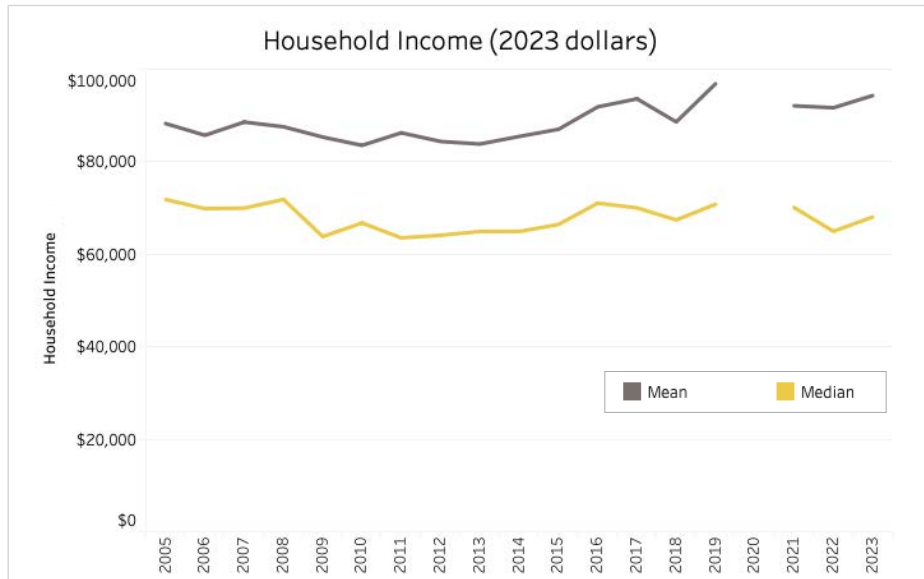


Figure 20

Most economists use median income as the preferred measure of average household income, rather than the mean. This is because very high incomes skew the mean, inflating what the income is for most households.

Lincoln’s median household income, when adjusted to 2023 dollars, is a little lower than before the COVID-19 pandemic.

- In the three years prior to the pandemic (2017 through 2019), Lincoln’s median household income was \$69,422.
- In the three years following the pandemic (2021 through 2023), Lincoln’s median household income was \$67,709.

There is a large gap between median and mean household incomes in Lincoln.

- In 2023, Lincoln’s median household income was \$68,050.
- In 2023, Lincoln’s mean household income was \$94,320.

Median vs. Mean Household Income

The gap between low-income and high-income earners has increased over the past decade

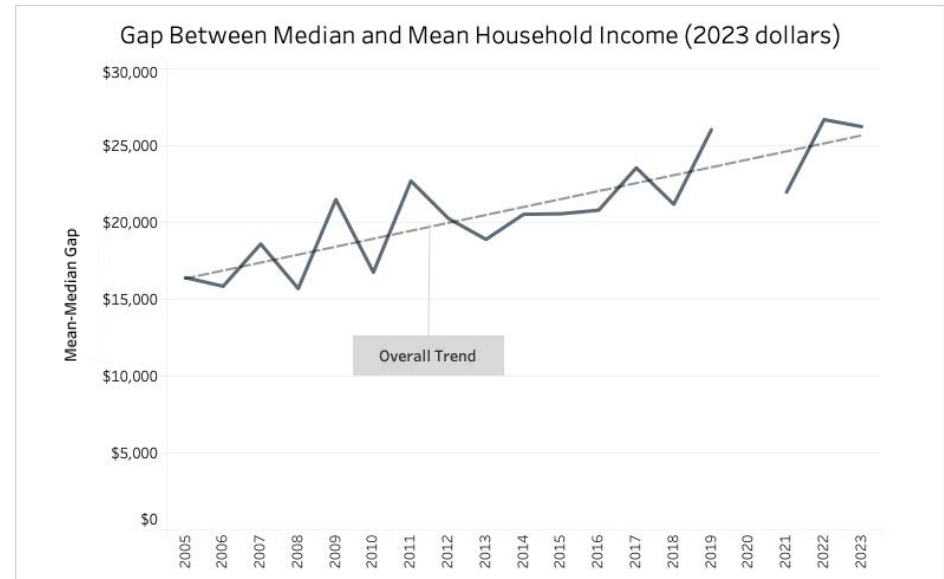


Figure 21

The gap between Lincoln’s mean and median income has increased over the past decade. Because very high incomes inflate the mean, an increase in the mean-median gap indicates an increase in the gap between low-income and high-income earners.

- Lincoln’s mean income has been on average \$16,596 higher than Lincoln’s median income over the past decade.
- The gap between the mean and the median income has ranged from 29% to 41% of the median income between 2013 and 2023.

NOTES

Figure 20 & 21. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP03; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index Research Series Using Current Methods (CPI-U-RS), U.S. city average, all items, 1978-2023.

Household Income by Race/Ethnicity

Disparities exist in median household income by the race/ethnicity

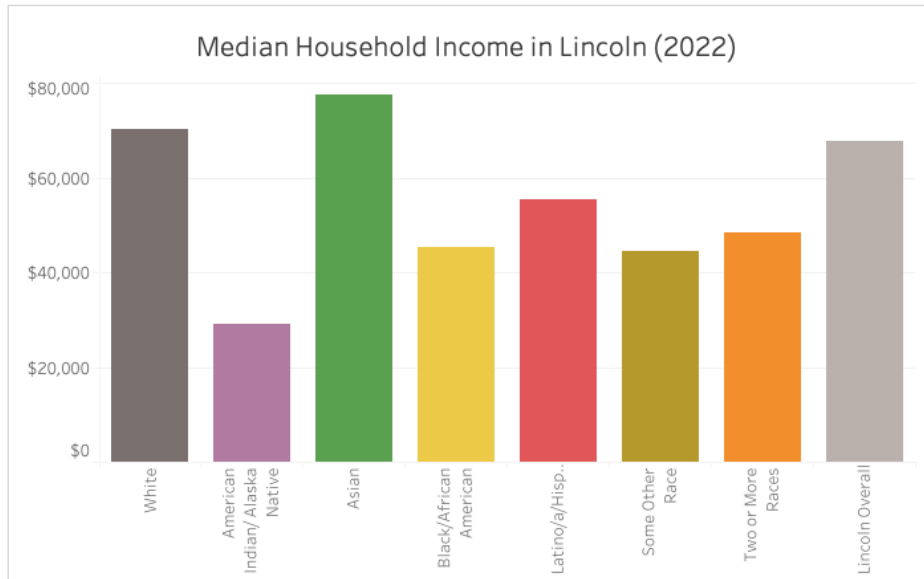


Figure 22

Household income⁵ is a widely accepted measure of financial well-being. There are large disparities across racial and ethnic groups in median household income.

The overall Lincoln median household income in 2022 (in 2022 dollars) was \$67,846. Median household incomes in 2022 were:

- \$77,645 for Asian households, or 14.4% higher than the Lincoln median.
- \$70,264 for White households, or 3.6% higher than the Lincoln median.
- \$55,571 for Latino/a or Hispanic households, or 18.1% lower than the Lincoln median.
- \$48,347 for householders reporting as being of Two or More Races, or 28.7% lower than the Lincoln median.
- \$45,476 for Black or African American households, or 33.0% lower than the Lincoln median.



- \$44,523 for householders reporting as being of Some Other Race, or 34.4% lower than the Lincoln median.
- \$29,015 for American Indian and Alaska Native households, or 57.2% lower than the Lincoln median.

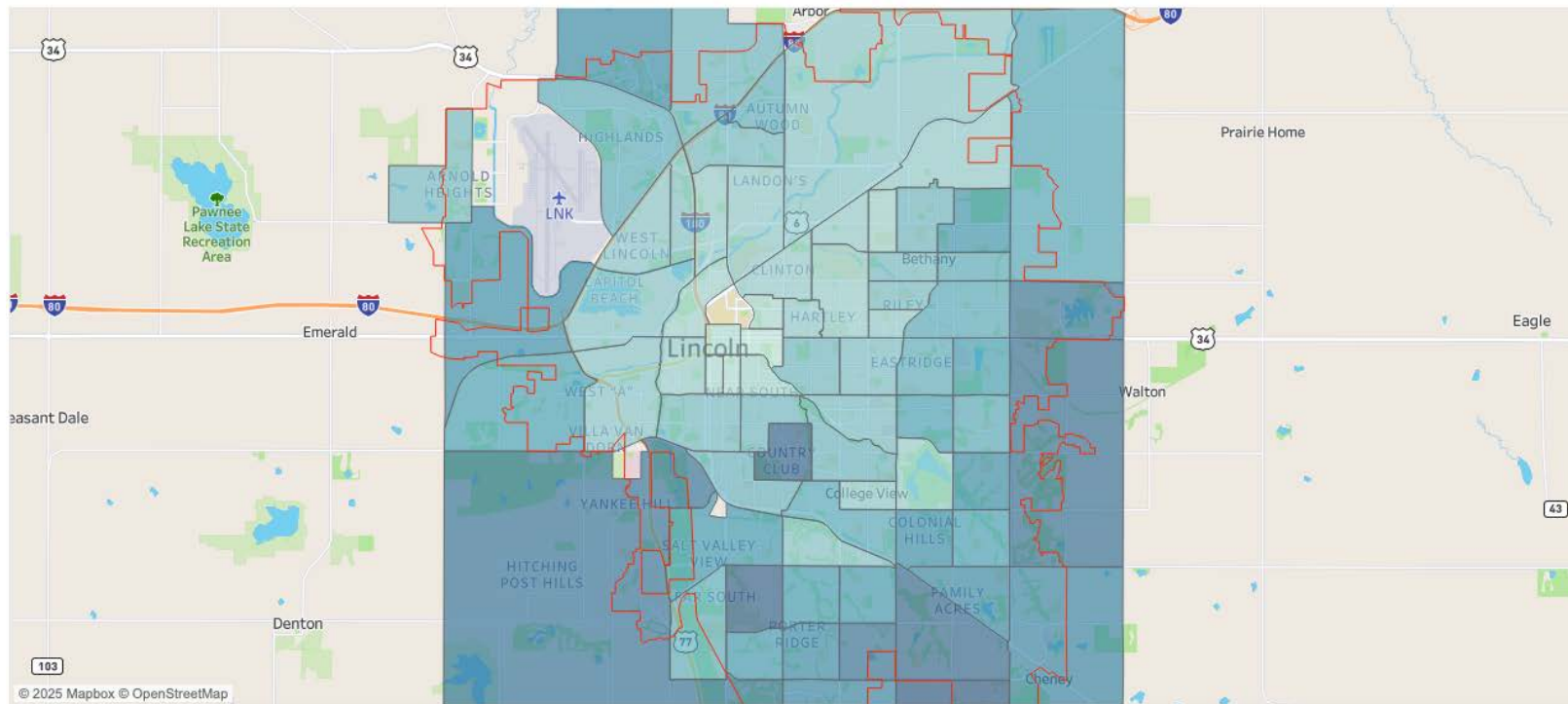
NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, table S1903.

Household Income by Census Tract Map

Median household income varies across Lincoln

Median Household Income by Census Tract (2022)



Median Household Income (dollars)



Map 3

When census tracts in Lincoln are ranked by median household income, the lowest 10% of census tracts had a median household income average of \$34,326. These census tracts were primarily all located near downtown Lincoln. The median household income average for census tracts in the top 10% of household income across Lincoln was \$135,012. These census tracts were mostly located towards the edges of the city to the North, South, and East. There was a difference of \$100,685 between the top 10% and lowest 10% of census tract household incomes across Lancaster County.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, table S1901.

Workforce Status & Poverty

Most persons who fall below the poverty threshold are employed or not in the labor force

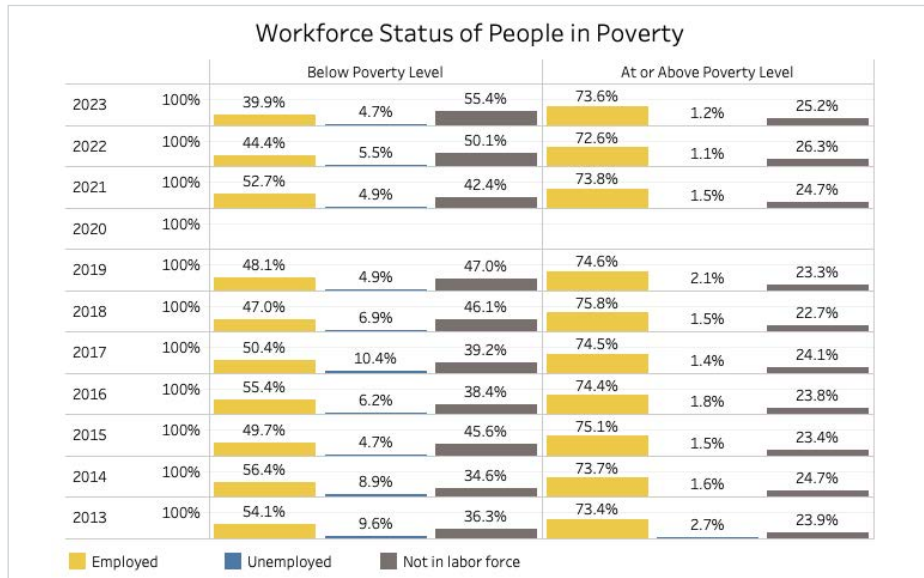


Figure 23

In Lincoln, most people aged 16 or older who fall below the poverty threshold⁶ are either employed or not in the labor force.⁷ Very few residents who are below the poverty threshold are unemployed.

- In 2023, 39% of people aged 16 or older who fall below the poverty threshold were employed, while 55% were not in the labor force.
- Only 5% of people aged 16 or older who fall below the poverty threshold were unemployed in Lincoln in 2023.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B17005.

Employment Status & Poverty

Most people in poverty who are in the workforce are employed

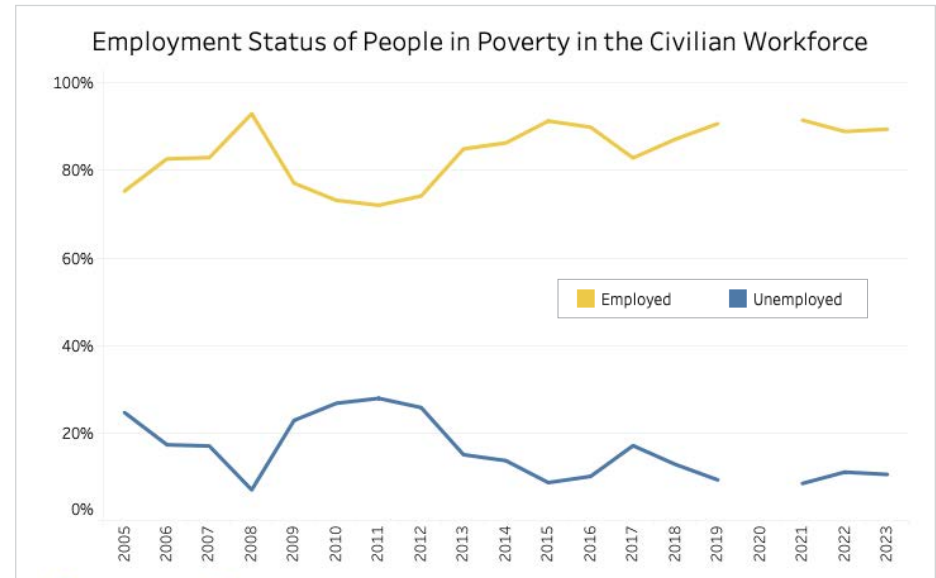


Figure 24

In Lincoln, the vast majority of people ages 16 or older in the civilian workforce⁸ who fall below the poverty threshold⁶ are employed.

In 2023:

- 90% of those in the civilian workforce who fall below the poverty threshold were employed.
- 10% of those in the civilian workforce who fall below the poverty threshold were unemployed.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Work Type & Poverty

Of those in poverty, and equal number either work part-time/part-year or did not work in the past year

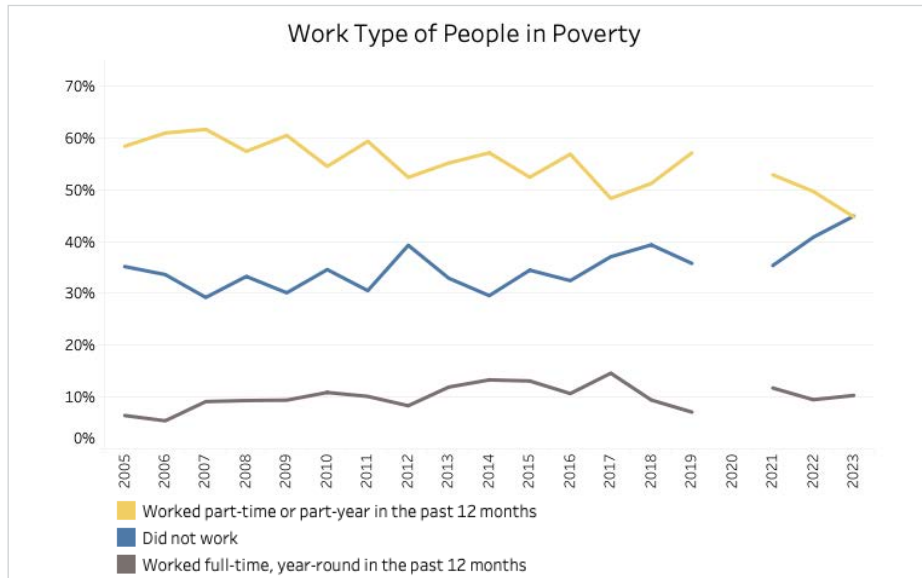


Figure 25

In Lincoln, most people ages 16 or older who fall below the poverty threshold work part-time or part-year, or do not work at all.

In 2023:

- 45% of people in poverty worked part-time or part-year.
- 45% of people in poverty did not work.
- 10% of people in poverty worked full-time, year-round.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Hours Worked & Poverty

Mean hours worked and poverty rates have been steady for the past 5 years

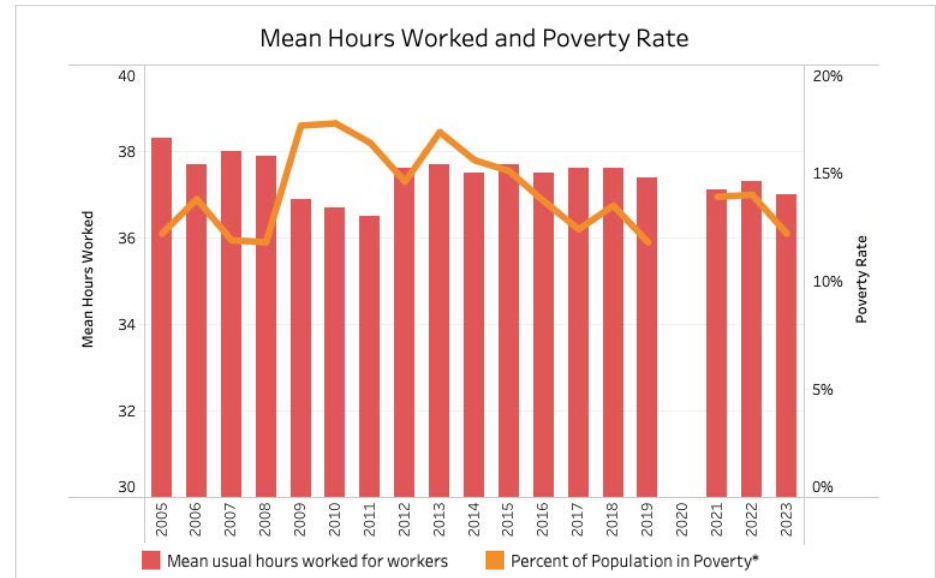


Figure 26

Poverty rates and the average number of hours worked in 2023 have been steady, having returned in 2019 to pre-Great Recession levels (comparable to 2008). Average hours worked and poverty rate are negatively correlated, meaning that, typically, when mean hours worked is lower the poverty rate is higher.

In 2023:

- 12% of the population was in poverty in the last 12 months.
- The mean number of hours worked for workers was 37 hours a week.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S2303.

Poverty status in last 12 months.

Educational Attainment

Lincoln is becoming an even more highly educated population

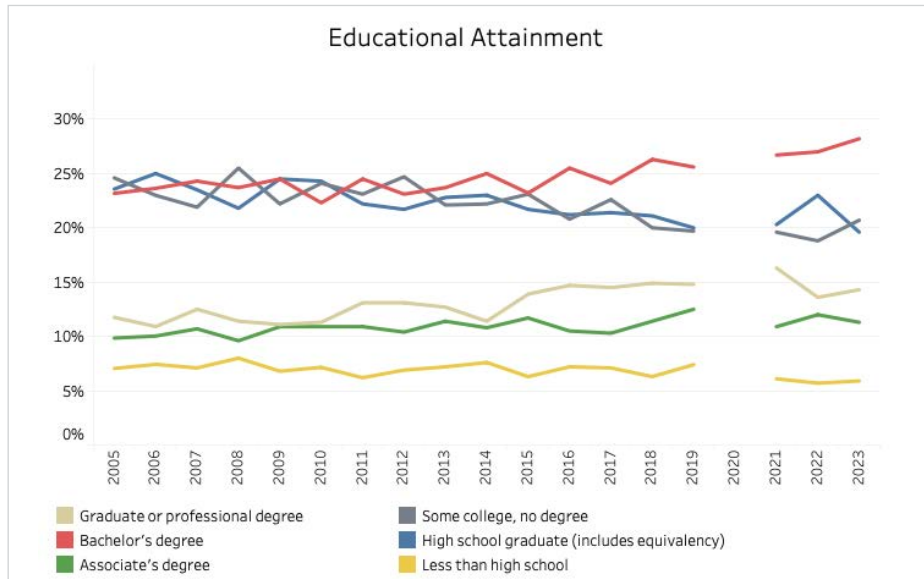


Figure 27

The number of adults in Lincoln who have a post-secondary degree has increased over the last decade. Over half of the adults in Lincoln (54%) have a post-secondary degree, which is a 6 percentage point increase from 2013.

In 2023:

- 6% of Lincoln adults had achieved less than a high school diploma.
- 20% of Lincoln's adults had a high school diploma or equivalency.
- 21% of Lincoln's adults had some college, but no degree.
- 11% of Lincoln's adults had an associate's degree.
- 28% of Lincoln's adults had a bachelor's degree.
- 14% of Lincoln's adults had a graduate or professional degree.



NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP02.
 Chart based on population of adults 25 years and older.

High School Diploma

Lincoln has a high percentage of adults with at least a high school diploma

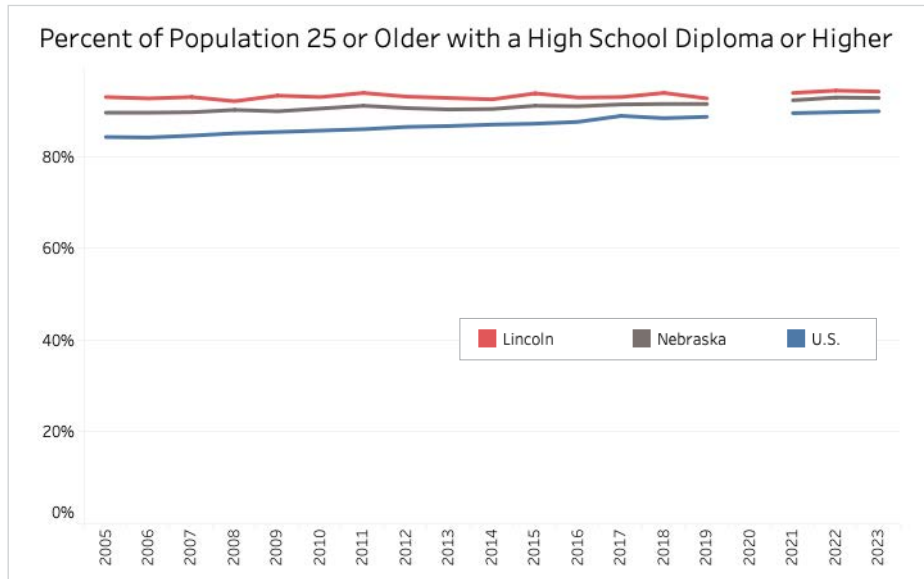


Figure 28

Lincoln has a higher percentage of adults with at least a high school diploma than Nebraska and the U.S. Lincoln’s percentage of adults who have a high school diploma or higher has been steady since 2005 (which this report uses as a starting place).

In 2023:

- 93% of Lincoln’s adults had a high school diploma or higher.
- 91% of Nebraska’s adults had a high school diploma or higher.
- 89% of the adults in the U.S. had a high school diploma or higher.

Graduate or Professional Degree

Lincoln has a high percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree

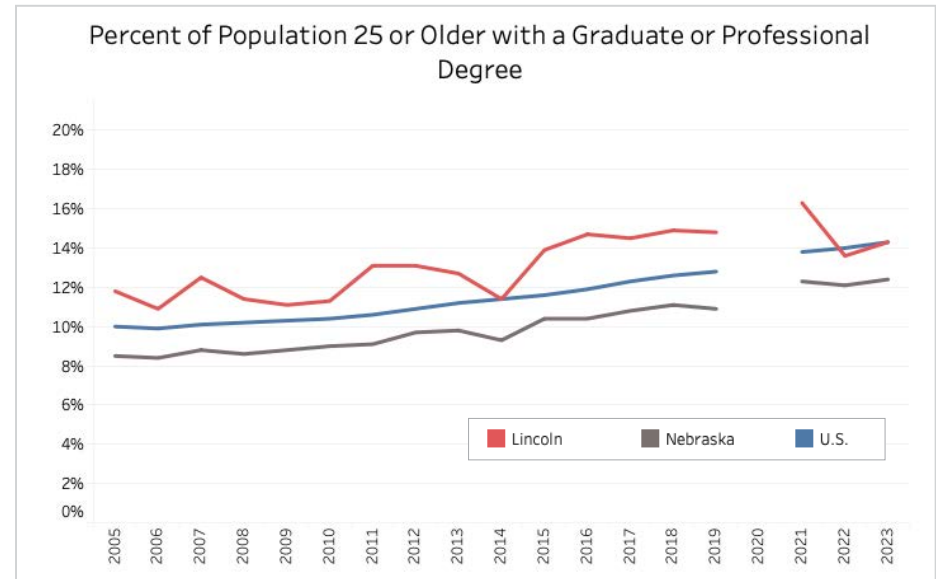


Figure 29

Lincoln has a higher percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree than Nebraska and the U.S. overall. Lincoln’s percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree has gradually increased over the last decade, although this rate has declined since 2021. This indicates the possibility that highly educated residents may be moving out of Lincoln.

In 2023:

- 15% of Lincoln’s adults had a graduate or professional degree.
- 13% of Nebraska’s adults had a graduate or professional degree.
- 11% of the adults in the U.S. had a graduate or professional degree.

NOTES

Figure 28 & 29. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP02.

Unemployment Rate by Education

Unemployment is higher among those without a high school degree

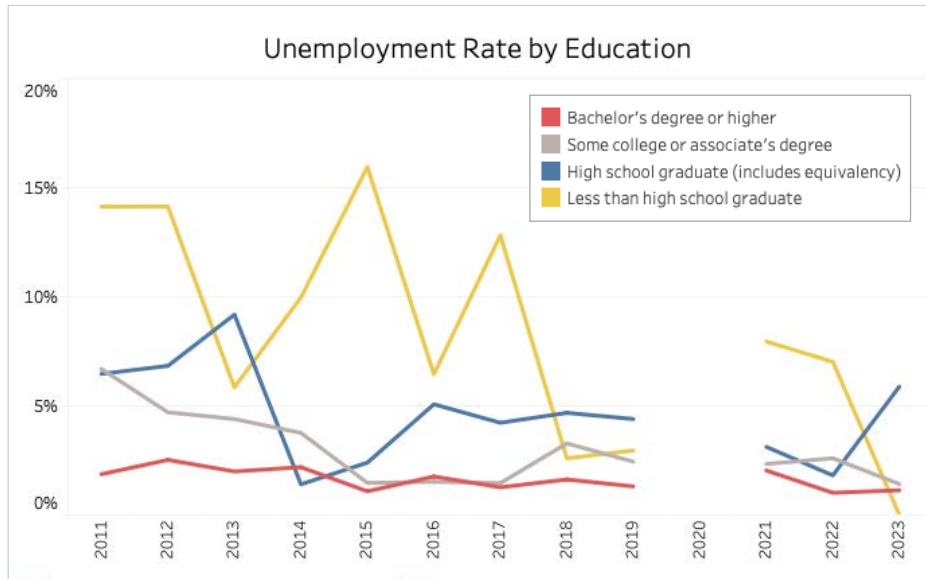


Figure 30

The unemployment rate among those of all levels educational attainment is low, except for those with less than a high school degree. Those with bachelor's degrees or higher have the lowest unemployment rate among educational attainment categories.

In 2023:

- 1.1% of persons with bachelor's degrees or higher were unemployed.
- 5.9% of persons who have attained a high school degree in Lincoln were unemployed.
- Data for persons with less than a high school diploma was unavailable for 2023. The unemployment rate among people with less than a high school diploma was 7.0% in 2022.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B23006. Chart based on population of adults 25 years and older.

Median Earnings by Education

Adults with more education earn more

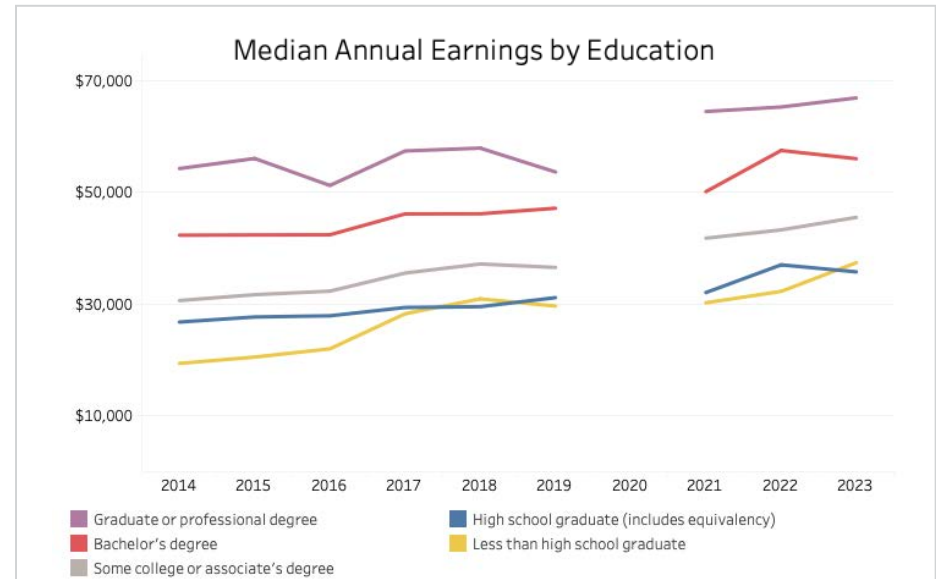


Figure 31

In general, Lincoln adults with higher educational attainment have higher earnings. In 2023, those without a high school diploma have about the same earnings as those with a high school diploma. This has occurred at other times in the past.

In 2023, median annual earnings for Lincoln adults were:

- \$66,850 for those with a graduate or professional degree.
- \$55,978 for those with a bachelor's degree.
- \$45,486 for those with some college or an associate's degree.
- \$35,743, for those with a high school diploma.
- \$37,381 for those with less than a high school diploma.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B20004. Chart based on population of adults 25 years and older.

Projected Employment Growth

Nationally, jobs requiring a master's degree will grow in demand over 2023-2033

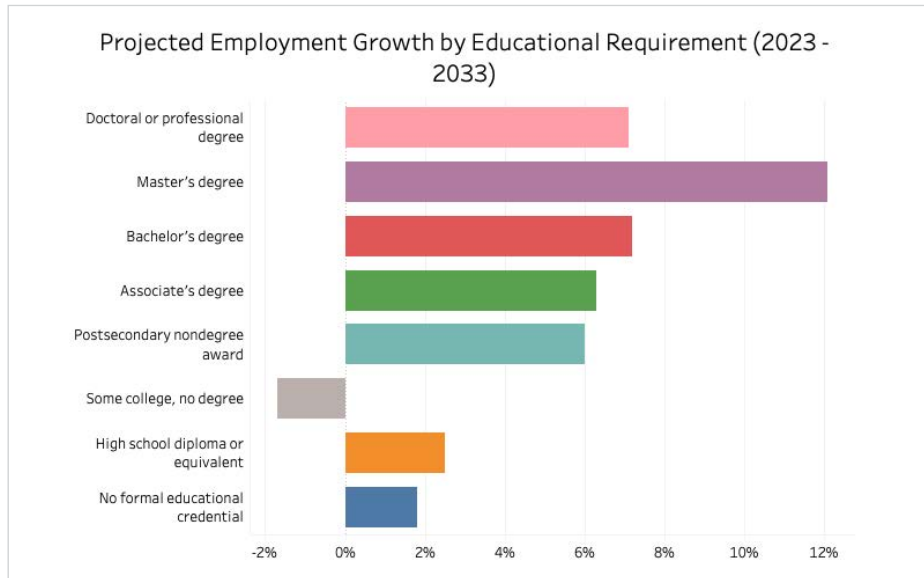


Figure 32

It is difficult to know exactly what skills Lincoln residents will need to meet the demands of the future. However, jobs requiring a master's degree are expected to grow the fastest nationally.

- From 2023 to 2033, jobs requiring a master's degree are expected to grow by 12.1%.

NOTES

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Table 5.2 Employment, wages, and projected change in employment by typical entry-level education (Employment in thousands). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Labor.



Employment by Sector

Most people work in private companies

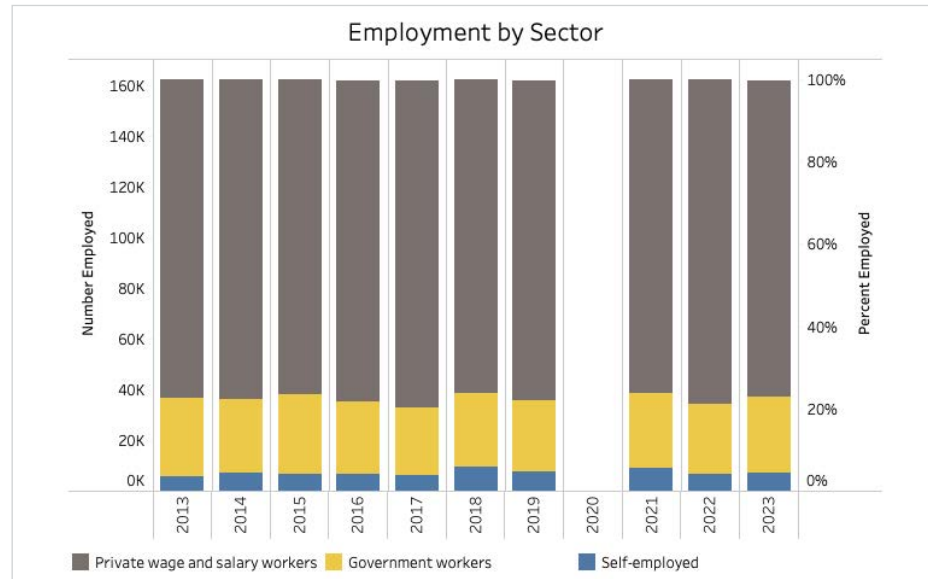


Figure 33

In Lincoln, civilian workers were employed by the following type of employer in 2023:

- 77% were private wage and salary workers.
- 19% were federal, state, or local government workers.
- 4% were self-employed in their own (not incorporated) business.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP03.

STEM Occupations

Lincoln's percentage of STEM occupations is increasing

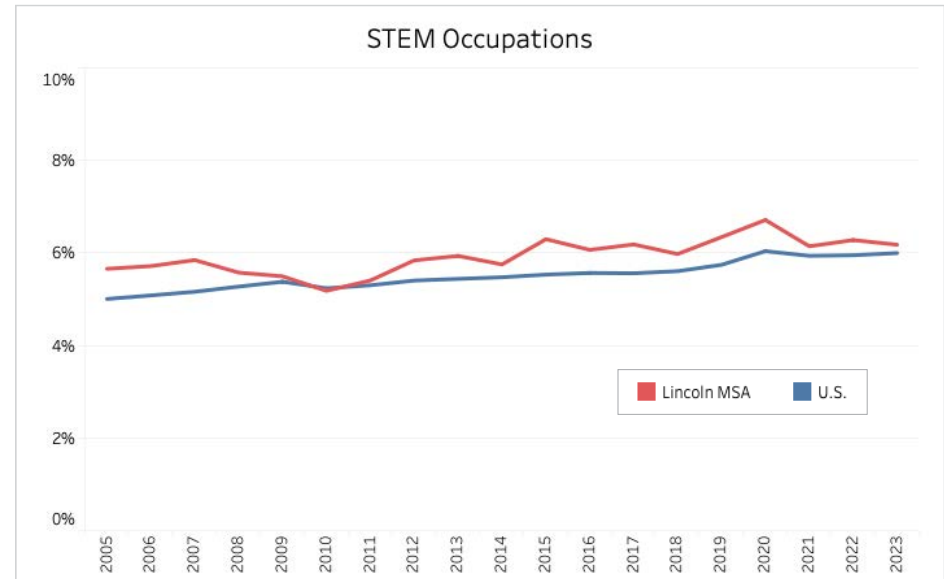


Figure 34

There is a general consensus that the United States' long-term global competitiveness will partially hinge on the supply and quality of workers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.⁹ STEM careers are important to communities because they offer high wage jobs that will result in reinvestments back into local economies.¹⁰

- In 2023, 6.2% of all occupations in Lincoln are classified as STEM. This is slightly higher than the 6.0% of U.S. occupations classified as STEM.

NOTES

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates.

The Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

Net Job Creation

Lincoln lost jobs in 2020, but net job creation has since rebounded strongly

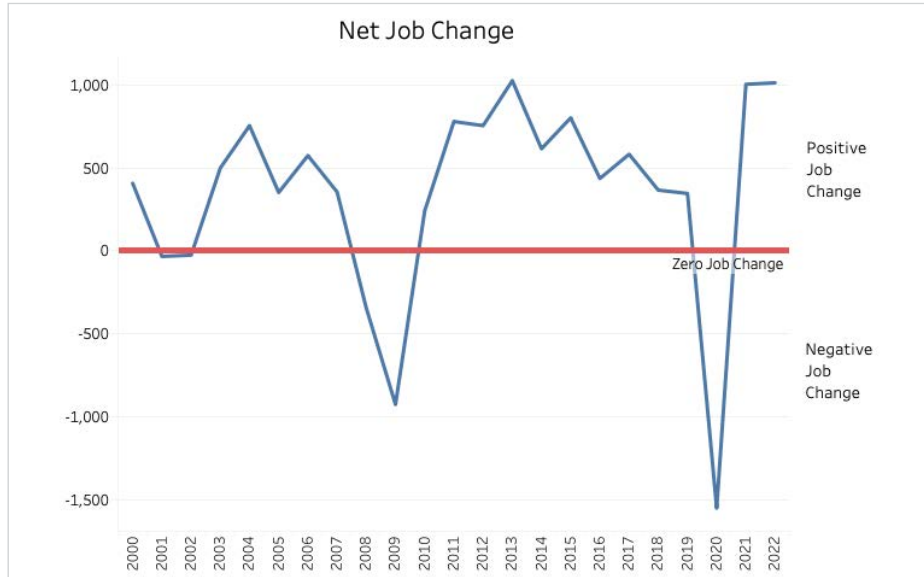


Figure 35

Lincoln, like many cities across the U.S., lost jobs in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹

- Lincoln lost 1,548 jobs in 2020. This is the first year Lincoln saw job loss since 2009.
- Lincoln added 1,003, and 1,012 jobs in 2021 and 2022 respectively.

Jobs Created by New Businesses

New businesses are creating jobs

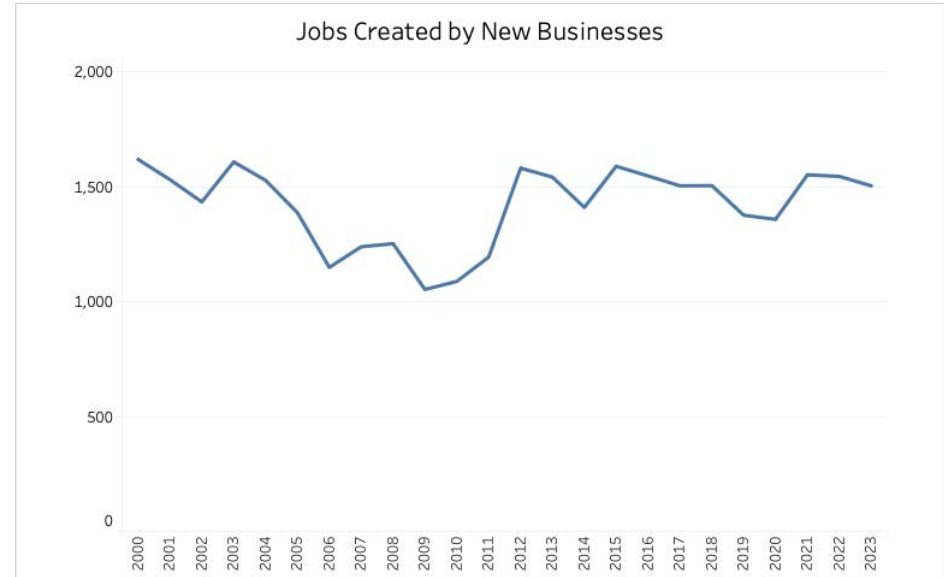


Figure 36

New businesses (0-5 years old) are creating jobs in Lincoln. Job creation by new businesses has remained relatively steady for the past decade, with only a small decrease in 2020.

- In 2023, new businesses created 1,504 jobs in Lincoln.
- This is more than in pre-pandemic 2019, when new businesses created 1,376 jobs.

NOTES

Figure 35 & 36. U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI).

Establishment Entry Rate

The establishment entry rate of new businesses has been steady over the last decade

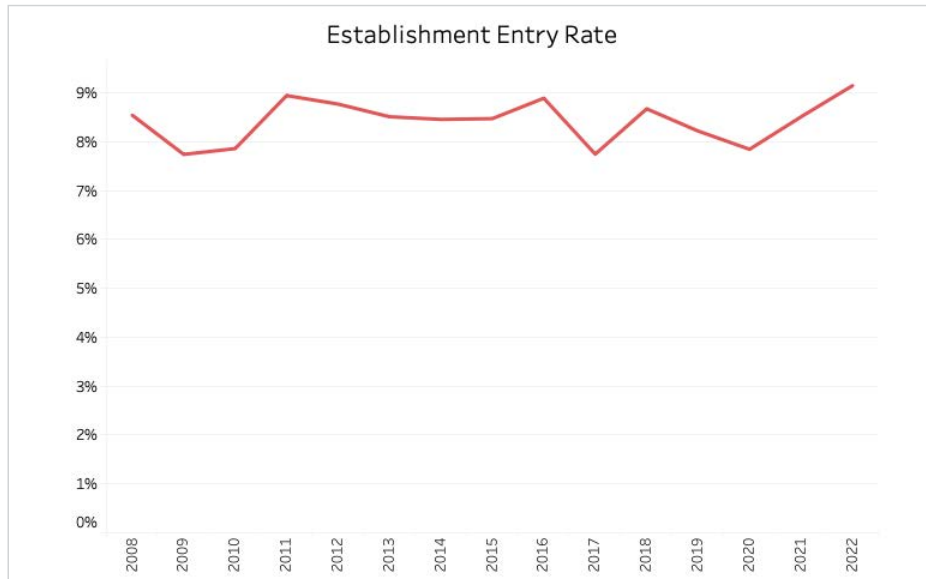


Figure 37

The establishment of new businesses (as a percentage of existing businesses) is a measure of business growth.

- The establishment entry rate in Lincoln in 2022 was 9.1%.
- This now surpasses the prior peak in 2016, when the establishment entry rate was 8.9%.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau - Center for Economic Studies - Business Dynamics Statistics (2022). The Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

Data shown through most recent year available.

Tabulations for prior years of data subject to periodic revision. The BDS uses longitudinal information on firms and establishments to generate measures of business dynamics and job flows. Since information from multiple years is used to produce a statistic for any given year, having more years of data surrounding the year in question improves the quantity and quality of information used to generate the statistics. Thus, less information is available to generate the last year(s) of any given BDS release.

Commercial & Residential Construction

Construction has grown in the past decade

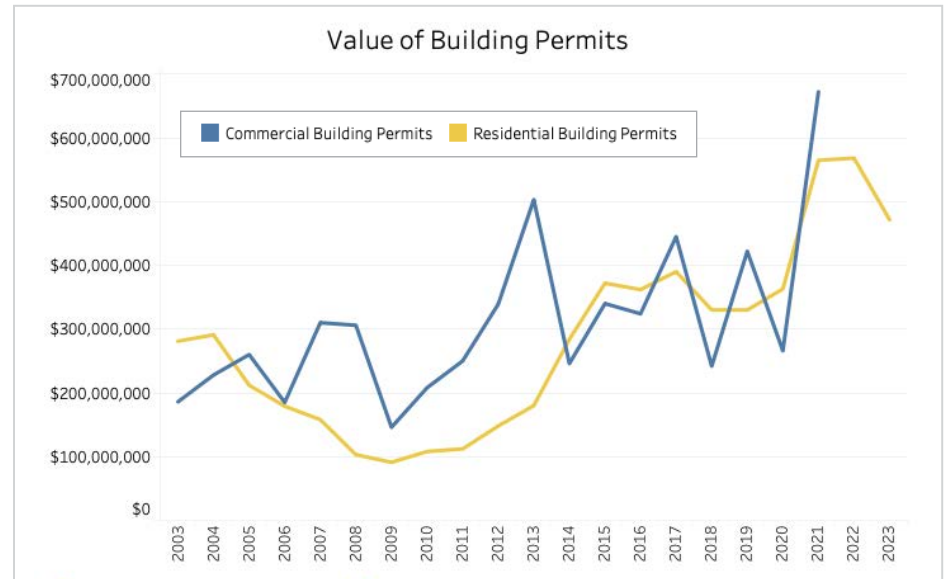


Figure 38

Lincoln continues to invest in new commercial buildings and residences. The value of commercial building and residential permits has been on a general upward trend since 2009.

- In 2023, residential building permits were valued at \$472,000,000 in Lincoln.
- In 2021, commercial building permits were valued at \$672,000,000 in Lincoln.

NOTES

Commercial permit data from City of Lincoln Building and Safety. Residential permit data for Lancaster County from U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey.

Revised commercial estimates for 2014-2018. Residential permits are for new privately-owned residential housing units.

Economy and Workforce Notes

1. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2021, October 21). *Concepts and definitions*. <https://www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm#laborforce>
2. Families with all parents in the workforce include two-parent families with both parents working and one-parent families with said parent working.
3. Taryn W. Morrissey (2017). Child care and parent labor force participation: a review of the research literature, *Review of Economics of the Household*, 15(1), 1-24. https://ideas.repec.org/a/kap/reveho/v15y2017i1d10.1007_s11150-016-9331-3.html
4. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023). *Occupational employment and wage statistics query system* (Lincoln, NE; SOC: 299011). [Data set]. <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/geoOcc/Multiple%20occupations%20for%20one%20geographical%20area>
5. The sum of the income of all people 15 years and older living in the household. A household includes related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit, is also counted as a household. <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2022/acs/acsbr-011.pdf>
6. Federal poverty thresholds are determined annually based on household income, family size, and the number of related children under 18 years of age. In 2023, the poverty threshold for a family of four with two children under the age of 18 was \$30,900 in annual household income.
7. Not in labor force includes all people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, stay-at-home parents, retired workers, seasonal workers not currently looking for work, institutionalized people, and people only doing incidental unpaid family work.
8. The civilian workforce includes people 16 years old and over who are working or are actively looking for work but excludes people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.
9. Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century. (2007). *Rising above the gathering storm: Energizing and employing America for a brighter economic future*. Washington, D.C.: National Academies Press.
10. Rothwell, J. (2013). The hidden STEM economy. *Metropolitan Policy Program*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institute.
11. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2021). COVID-19 ends longest employment recovery and expansion in CES history, causing unprecedented job losses in 2020. <https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2021/article/covid-19-ends-longest-employment-expansion-in-ces-history.htm>



Basic Needs

Lincoln's poverty rate was 12% in 2023 and roughly tracks the overall poverty trends of the nation. **44% of public-school students currently receive free lunch.** The number of households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formerly known as food stamps) increased during the COVID-19 pandemic but is now close to 2019 levels, being 9% in 2023. Lincoln has **two Census Tracts in extreme poverty** (defined as more than 40% of residents in poverty). Homeless rates appear to have been positively impacted (decreased) by the COVID-19 pandemic but have since returned to the levels seen in 2019.

Poverty Rate

The poverty rate now is at the same level as in 2019, after an increase in 2021 and 2022

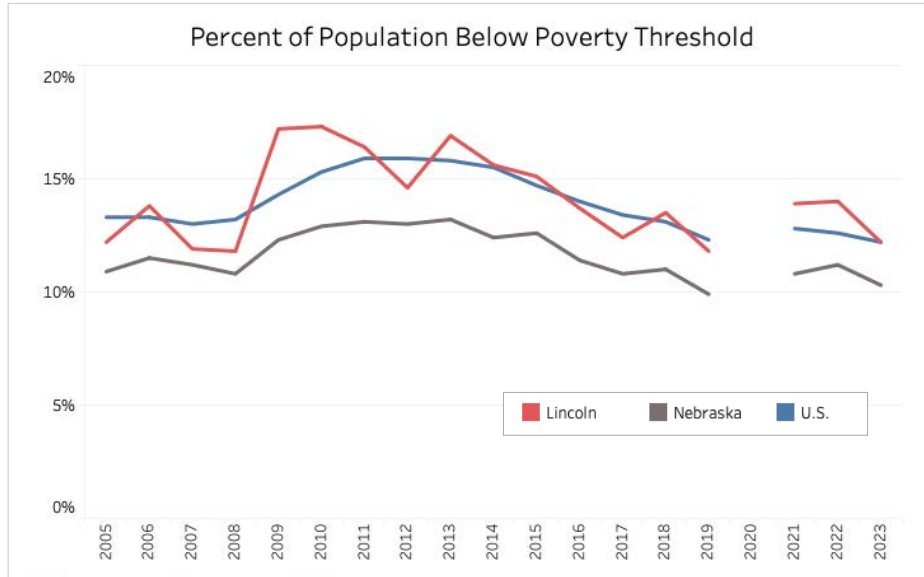


Figure 39

The federal poverty level is determined annually based on size of the family, the number of children, and a measure of income needed to purchase food and other essential goods and services.¹ In 2023, the poverty threshold was \$30,900 for a family of four that included two related children less than 19 years of age. The 2023 poverty threshold for one person under age 65 was \$15,852 or about \$43.43 a day.

The poverty rate increased from 12% in 2019 to 14% in 2021 and remained at 14% for 2022. In 2023, 12% (34,174 persons) lived in households falling below the poverty threshold, returning to about the same level as the 2019 pre-COVID-19 pandemic level (32,564 persons).

- Since 2013, there has been a 21% decrease in the total number of persons below the poverty threshold. This represents a decrease of 9,281 persons in poverty in the past 10 years.
- Since the year 2005, the poverty rate in Lincoln peaked in 2009 and 2010 with 17% of individuals falling below the poverty threshold.

Population Change of Those in Poverty

The number of people in poverty decreased in 2023, after an increase in 2021 and 2022

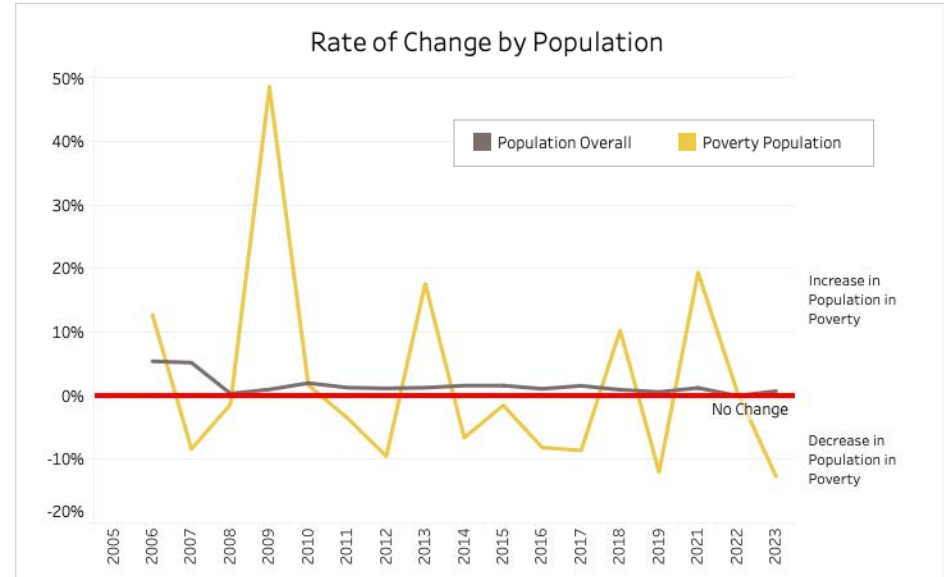


Figure 40

- Lincoln’s poverty rate generally tracks trends for the U.S. overall and is higher than Nebraska overall.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Figure 40. While the number of people in poverty increased in 2021 (38,873 persons) and 2022 (39,138 persons), from what it had been in 2019 (32,564 persons), there was a 13% decrease (representing 4,964 fewer people in poverty) from 2022 to 2023 (34,174 persons). This is still higher 5% higher than in 2019, prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Rate of change for 2021 was calculated based on 2019, as data was not published for 2020.

Households In/Near Poverty

Nearly one-third of Lincoln’s households are in or near poverty

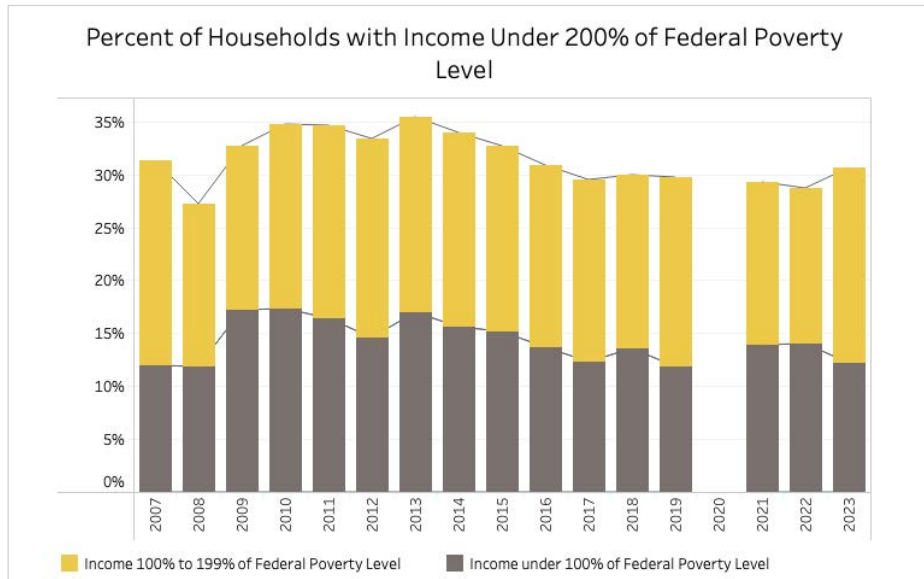


Figure 41

Households with incomes at or below 200% the federal poverty level are sometimes referred to as households “in or near poverty.”²

- In 2023, households with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level comprised 31% of Lincoln’s households, a decrease from a high of 35% of households in 2013.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table C17002.



Children in Poverty

The percentage of Lincoln’s children in poverty decreased sharply in 2023 after increases in 2021 and 2022

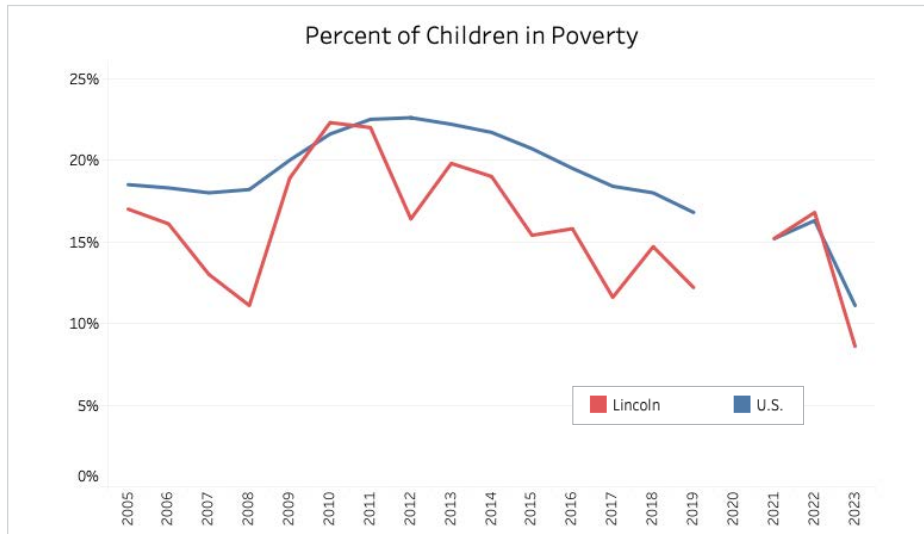


Figure 42

Children who live in poverty face tougher odds for achievement than do other children. People who live in poverty for at least half of their childhoods are more likely to leave high school without a diploma and to be an unwed teen parent when compared with people who were never poor as children.³

- In 2019, 12% of Lincoln’s children (7,537 persons under age 18) lived in poverty.
- In 2021 and 2022, the poverty rate among children increased.
 - 15% of Lincoln’s children (9,644) experienced poverty in 2021.
 - 17% of Lincoln’s children (10,105) experienced poverty in 2022.
- In 2023, 9% of Lincoln’s children (5,308 persons under age 18) lived in poverty.
 - This is a 47% decrease from 2022 in the number of children living in poverty.
 - This is also a 28% decrease from 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Poverty by Age Group

The percent of children in poverty has decreased, while adults 65 and older in poverty has increased in recent years

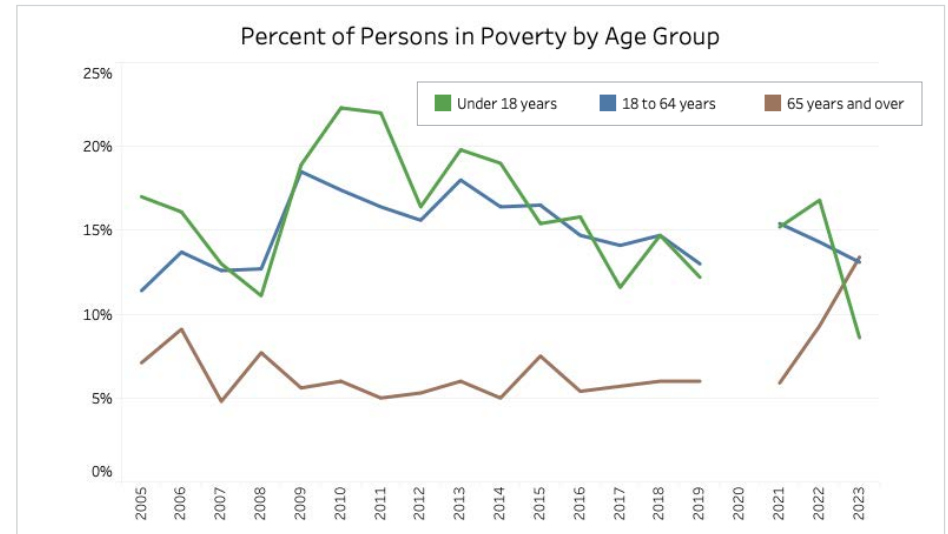


Figure 43

Compared to 2019, in 2023:

- Children experienced less poverty (poverty rate of 9% in 2023 compared to 12% in 2019).
- Working-age adults experienced the same levels of poverty (rate of 13% in 2023 and 2019).
- Retirement-age adults, aged 65 and older, experienced higher levels of poverty (rate of 13% in 2023 compared to 6% in 2019).
 - From 2005 through 2022, adults 65 years or older had a lower rate of poverty than other age groups.
 - In 2023, the rate of poverty for adults 65 and older is now the same as working-age adults (13%).
 - This represents a 158% increase in the number of adults 65 years and older in poverty between 2019 (2,349 individuals) and 2023 (6,067 individuals).

NOTES

Figure 42 & 43. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Families in Poverty

Poverty for families with greater numbers of children has decreased over time

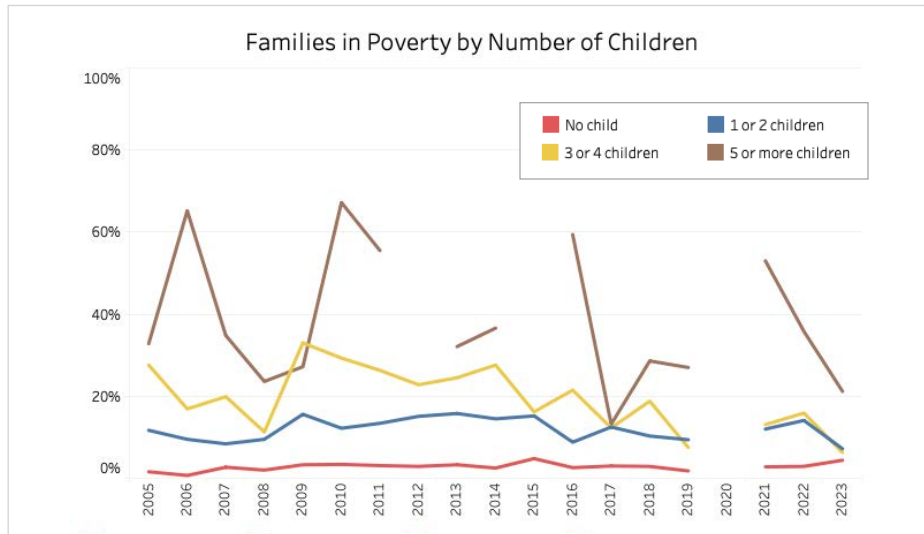


Figure 44

Rates of poverty increased for all families in 2021 and 2022, compared to 2019, and by 2023 had fallen below rates seen in 2019. Increased rates of poverty were seen for all families regardless of how many children were in the family. However, the number of children in a family is related to a higher likelihood of living in poverty.

- Families with no children had a poverty rate of 4.4% in 2023.
 - This rate is higher than in 2021 (2.8%) and 2022 (2.9%).
 - This is also an increase from 2019 (1.8%).
- Families with one or two children had a poverty rate of 7.2% in 2023.
 - This rate is a decrease from 2021 (12.0%) and 2022 (14.1%).
 - This is also lower than in 2019 (9.4%).
- Families with three or four children had a poverty rate of 6% in 2023.
 - This was a decrease from 2021 (13.1%) and 2022 (15.9%).
 - This is also lower than in 2019 (7.5%).
- The poverty rate for families with three or four children is currently lower than those with one or two children, which differs from the usual trend.

Female Householder Families in Poverty

Single female head of household families have higher rates of poverty compared to all other families

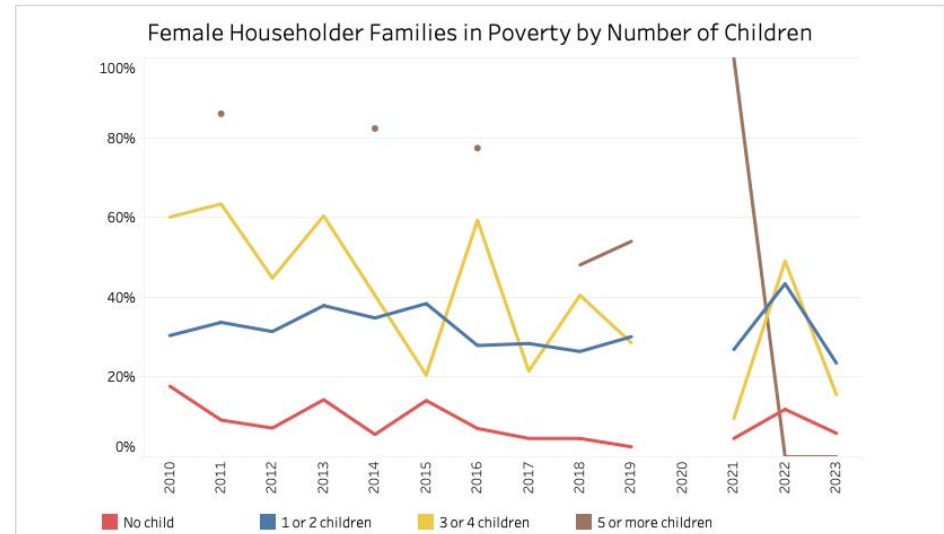


Figure 45

In 2023:

- Of all families with one or two children, 7% were living in poverty.
 - For single female head of household families with one or two children, 24% were living in poverty.
- For all families with three or four children, 6% were living in poverty.
 - For single female head of household families with three or four children, 16% were living in poverty.

NOTES

Figure 44 & 45. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1702.

Data can include very few families with five (5) or more children; this causes a large degree of fluctuation in estimated poverty rates for these families.

Estimates not provided for families with five or more children in several years due to low survey responses.

Poverty and Race - Number

The number of persons in poverty increased following the COVID-19 pandemic, but are now close to 2019 levels

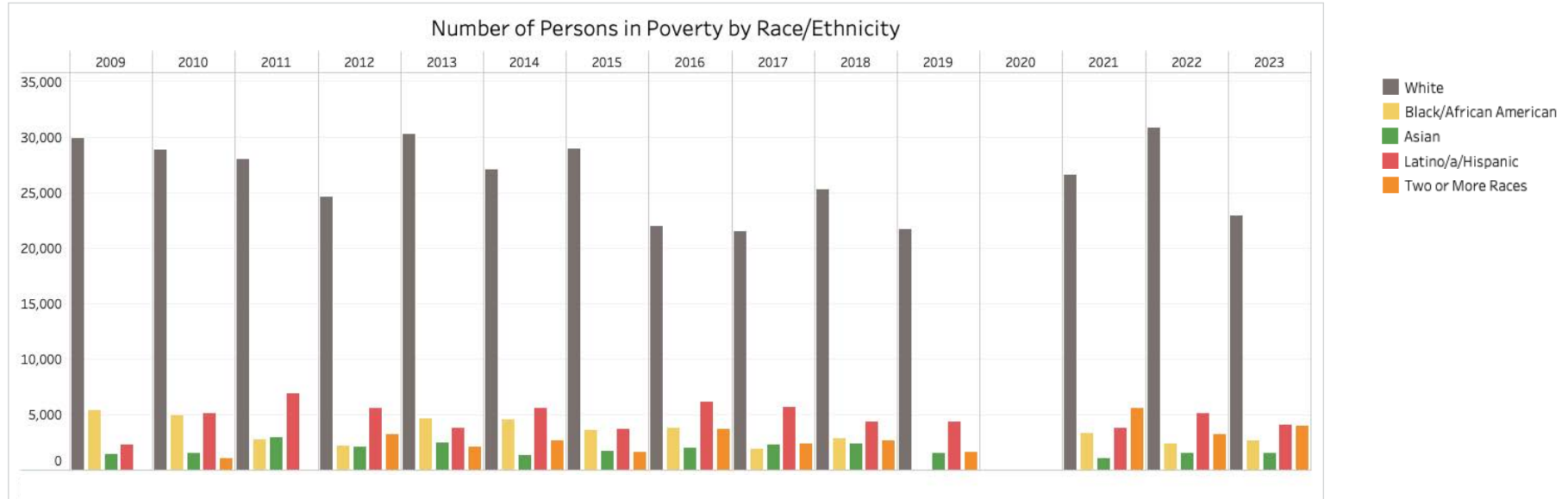


Figure 46

The largest number of individuals in poverty in Lincoln are White non-Latino/a or Hispanic (22,864 persons in 2023).

- The number of White residents in poverty was 22,864 in 2023, compared to 21,680 in 2019.
- The number of Latino/a or Hispanic residents in poverty was 4,085 in 2023, compared to 4,373 in 2019.
- The number of residents identifying as two or more races who were in poverty was 3,984 in 2023, compared to 1,610 in 2019.
- The number of Black or African American residents in poverty was 2,666 persons in 2023, compared to 2,787 in 2018 (2019 data not available for this group).
- The number of Asian residents in poverty was 1,514 in 2023, compared to 1,515 in 2019.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Chart includes race/ethnic groups that make up 1% or more of Lincoln's population. Estimates unavailable in 2019 for Black/African American and in 2020 for all groups.

Poverty and Race - Percent

People of color experience higher rates of poverty in Lincoln

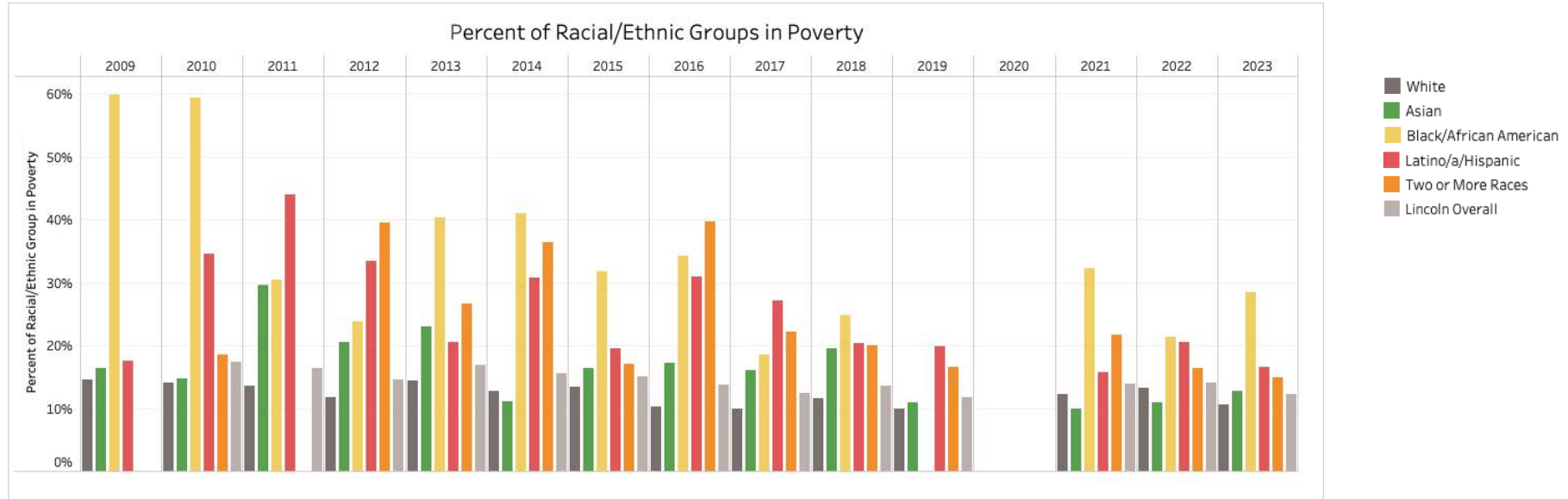


Figure 47

Poverty rates vary by race and ethnicity. These rates increased for most racial and ethnic groups following the COVID-19 pandemic but are now closer to the rates seen in 2019.

- The rate of poverty among Black or African American residents was 28% in 2023, compared to 25% in 2018 (2019 data not available for this group).
 - This rate has not returned to pre-pandemic levels.
 - Black or African American residents consistently face the highest poverty rates in Lincoln.
- The rate of poverty among Latino/a or Hispanic residents was 17% in 2023, compared to 20% in 2019.
- The rate of poverty among residents identifying as two or more races was 15% in 2023, compared to 17% in 2019.
- The rate of poverty among Asian residents was 13% in 2023, compared to 11% in 2019.

Given Lincoln’s increasingly diverse population, the high poverty rates among people of color are cause for concern.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701.

Chart includes race/ethnic groups that make up 1% or more of Lincoln’s population. Estimates unavailable in 2019 for Black/African American and in 2020 for all groups.

New Americans in Poverty

Newer New Americans in Lincoln have consistently higher poverty rates

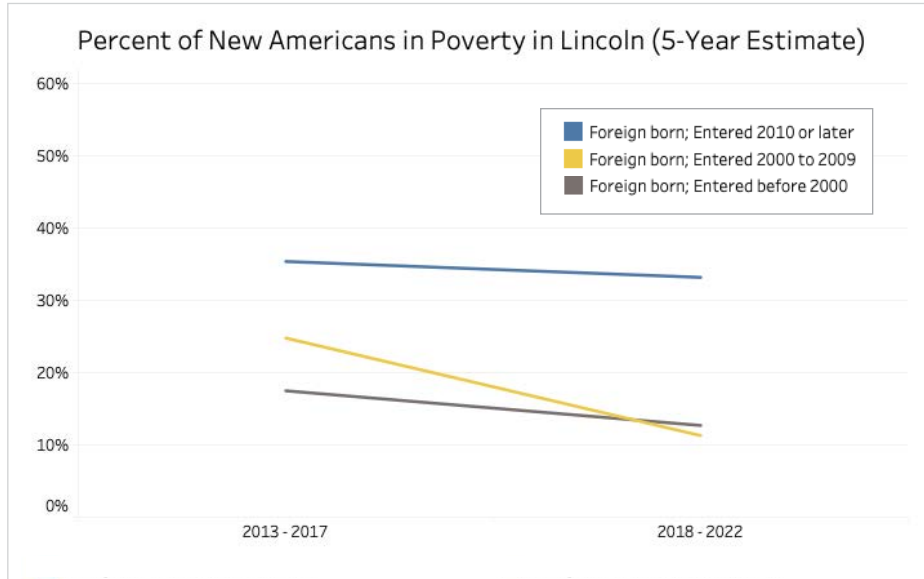


Figure 48

Foreign-born persons who live in Lincoln and entered the United States prior to 2000 and those who entered between 2000 to 2009 have poverty rates of 13% and 11%, respectively. Those who entered after 2010 have a higher poverty rate of 33%.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S0502.



Poverty by Education

Poverty rates are consistently higher among those with less educational attainment

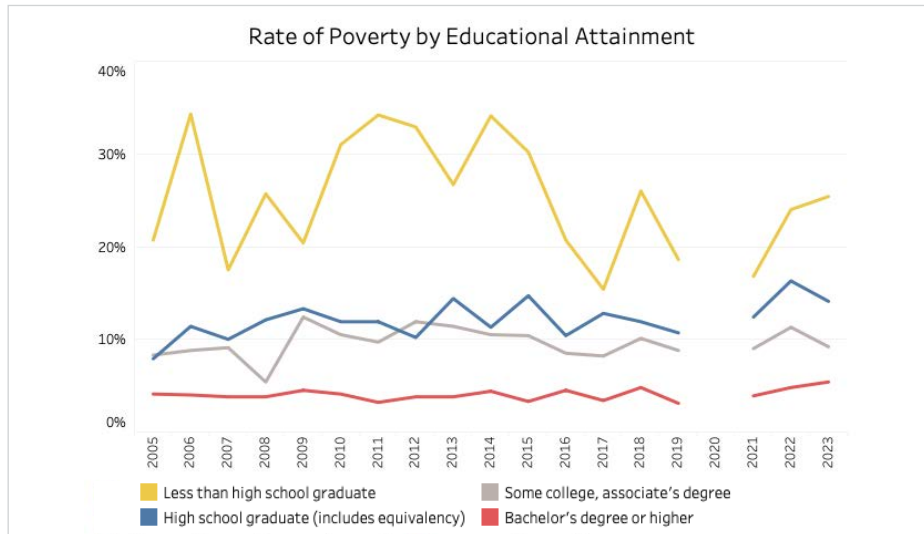


Figure 49

In 2023, Lincoln residents with less than a high school diploma had higher poverty rates than those who achieved greater levels of educational attainment.

- Of those who did not complete high school, 25% were in poverty.
- Among those with a high school degree or equivalent, 14% were in poverty.
- Those with some college or an associate’s degree had a poverty rate of 9%.
- Of those with a bachelor’s degree or higher, 5% were in poverty.

The poverty rate for those with a bachelor’s degree or higher was most impacted by COVID-19. The poverty rate for this group increased by 74% from the 3% poverty rate in 2019 to the 5% poverty rate in 2023.

Those with less than a high school diploma and high school graduates experienced similar impacts on poverty rates. The poverty rate for those with less than a high school diploma increased by 37% from 19% in 2019 to 25% in 2023. The poverty rate for high school graduates increased 32% from 11% in 2019 to 14% in 2023.

Poverty by School Enrollment

In Lincoln, approximately half of people in poverty are enrolled in school

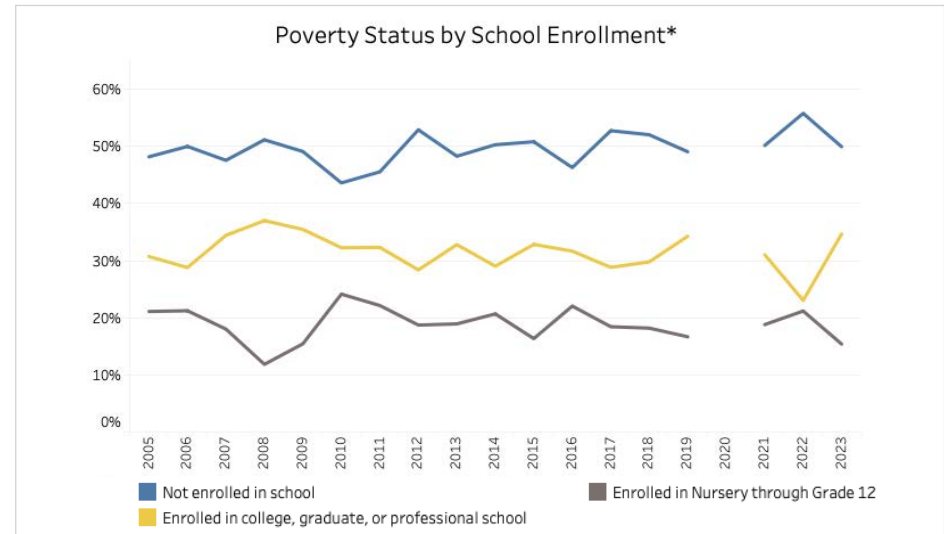


Figure 50

The poverty rate for those with some college education or an associate’s degree remained fairly level.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1701. Chart based on population 25 years and older.

Figure 50. As of 2023:

- Of persons in poverty, 50% are not enrolled in school.
- Approximately 35% of persons in poverty are enrolled in college or graduate/professional schools.
- Approximately 15% of persons in poverty are children enrolled in nursery school through grade 12.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B14006. Poverty status determined for persons 3 years of age and older.

Census Tracts in Extreme Poverty

Lincoln has three Census Tracts in extreme poverty

Lincoln Census Tracts in Extreme Poverty

Census Tract	2008 - 2012	2013 - 2017	2018 - 2022
4^	43%	40%	34%
5^	55%	59%	40%
7^	36%	41%	31%
18	30%	44%	45%
19	33%	47%	55%
20.01^	48%	45%	20%
20.02^	40%	32%	27%
31.03^	47%	25%	22%
33.01^	42%	32%	24%

Table 3

Census Tracts in extreme poverty are generally considered to be those with more than 40% of residents in poverty. At this concentrated level of poverty, individuals begin to face cultural and social constraints that isolate them from opportunities for economic advancement.^{4,5}

- In 2000, Lincoln had no census tracts in extreme poverty.⁶
- In 2013-2017, Lincoln had six census tracts in extreme poverty.
- In 2018-2022, Lincoln had two* census tracts in extreme poverty.

Census Tracts in extreme poverty fluctuate over time, particularly for Tracts with poverty rates hovering close to 40%.

- As of 2022, there are no new extreme poverty Census Tracts; the two Tracts in extreme poverty were also in extreme poverty five years ago.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S1701.

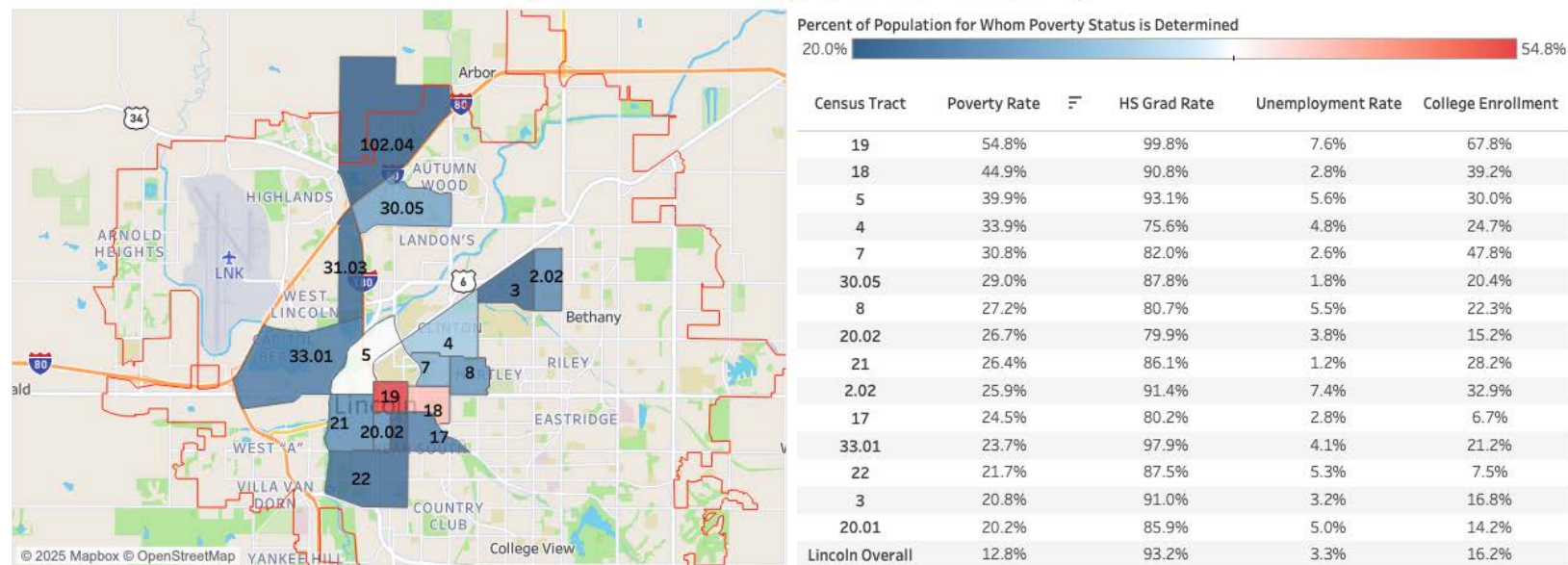
Does not include Census Tracts 6, 35, 36.01, or 9832.

*Value for Census Tract 5 is 39.9%. Although this rounds to 40%, the value does not cross the threshold of 40% and is, therefore, currently not in extreme poverty.

High and Extreme Poverty Map

Higher levels of poverty experienced in neighborhoods near and surrounding downtown

High and Extreme Poverty by Census Tract (2022)



Map 4

A high poverty area is defined by the USDA as an area where greater than 20% of residents live below the poverty level.⁷ Living where poverty is concentrated between 20% of households (high poverty) and 40% of households (extreme poverty) is the point “where neighborhood poverty begins to negatively affect individual well-being for area residents regardless of their own poverty status.”⁷ In these areas, poverty’s effects, such as reduced opportunities for economic advancement, become “more structurally and demographically systemic,” and often also more persistent and enduring over time.⁷

Census tracts classified as extreme poverty areas are those with more than 40% of residents in poverty.

At this concentrated level of poverty, individuals residing in such neighborhoods are more likely to experience poor housing and health conditions, higher crime and high school dropout rates, and isolation from employment opportunities.⁸

There are 15 census tracts in Lincoln that exceed the 20% high poverty threshold, and two of these census tracts exceed the 40% extreme poverty threshold.

- Both census tracts classified as extreme poverty areas are near the University of Nebraska-Lincoln city campus and have higher than average percentages of adult residents enrolled in college than Lincoln as a whole.
- One of the census tracts classified as extreme poverty areas (19) has an unemployment rate much higher than the overall rate for Lincoln, while the other (18) has a slightly lower unemployment rate than the city.
- Both census tracts classified as extreme poverty areas have high school graduation rates comparable to the overall Lincoln average.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Tables DP05, S0101, S1401, S1701, S2301.

SNAP Benefits

Lincoln SNAP program participation rose following the COVID-19 pandemic

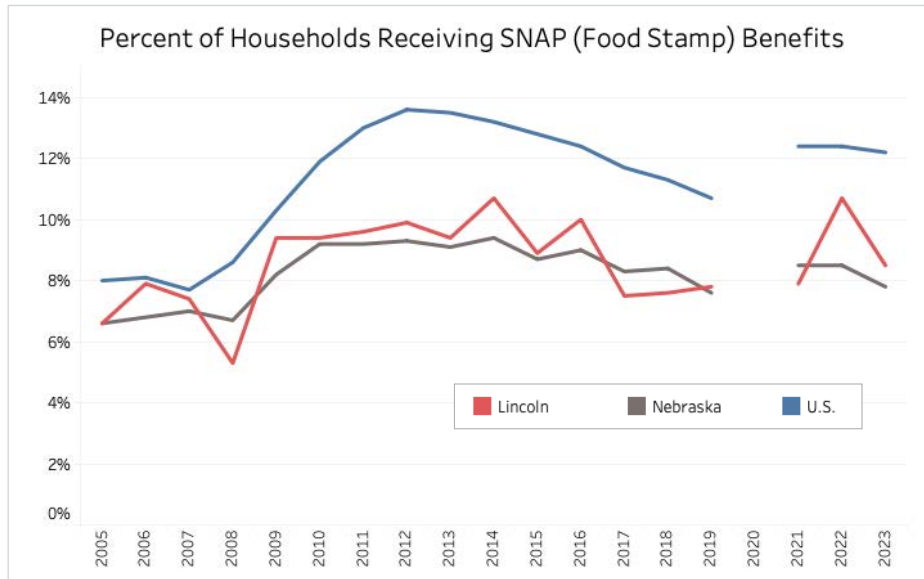


Figure 51

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formerly called food stamps) provides financial assistance for food purchases to households with incomes below 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.⁹

- The percent of households in Lincoln participating in SNAP has declined slightly in the past decade, from 9.4% in 2013 to 8.5% in 2023.
 - Households participating in SNAP increased from 7.8% pre-pandemic in 2019, to 10.7% in 2022.
- Lincoln’s rate of SNAP participation in 2023 is:
 - Slightly higher than in Nebraska overall (7.8%).
 - Lower than the national participation rate (12.2%).

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP03.

Free/Reduced Lunch

Free lunch participation at Lincoln Public Schools has been increasing

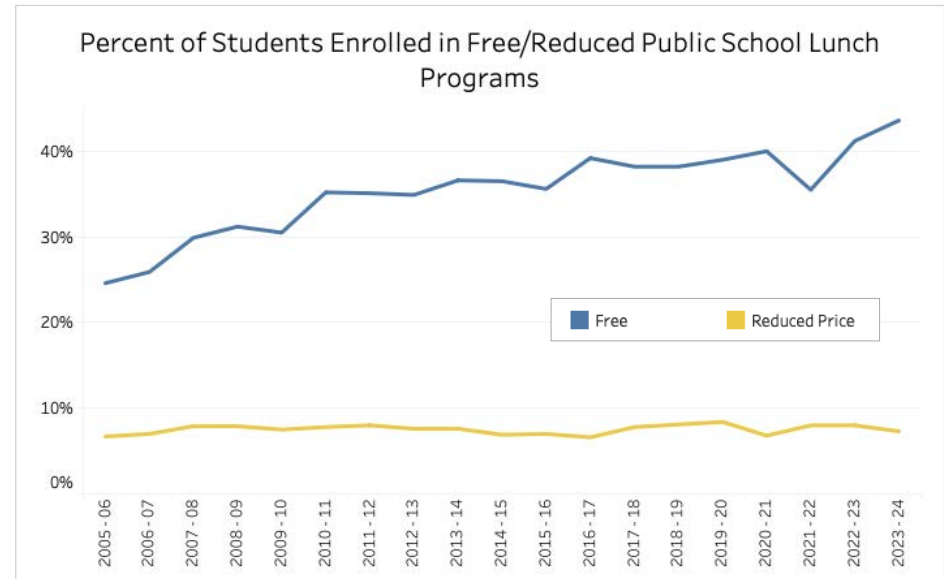


Figure 52

Half of students at LPS now participate in the free or reduced-price lunch program.

- In the 2023-24 school year, there were 3,039 students (7%) receiving reduced price lunches, and 18,170 students (44%) receiving free lunches at Lincoln Public Schools, representing 51% of students.¹⁰
- The number of Lincoln Public School students receiving free or reduced lunch has grown 11% from 2019-2020 (19,069 students) to 2023-2024 (21,209 students) school years.

NOTES

Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln Public Schools Statistical Handbook, Table 1-24.

Food Insecurity

Lancaster County's rate of food insecurity has increased recently, reversing years of improvement

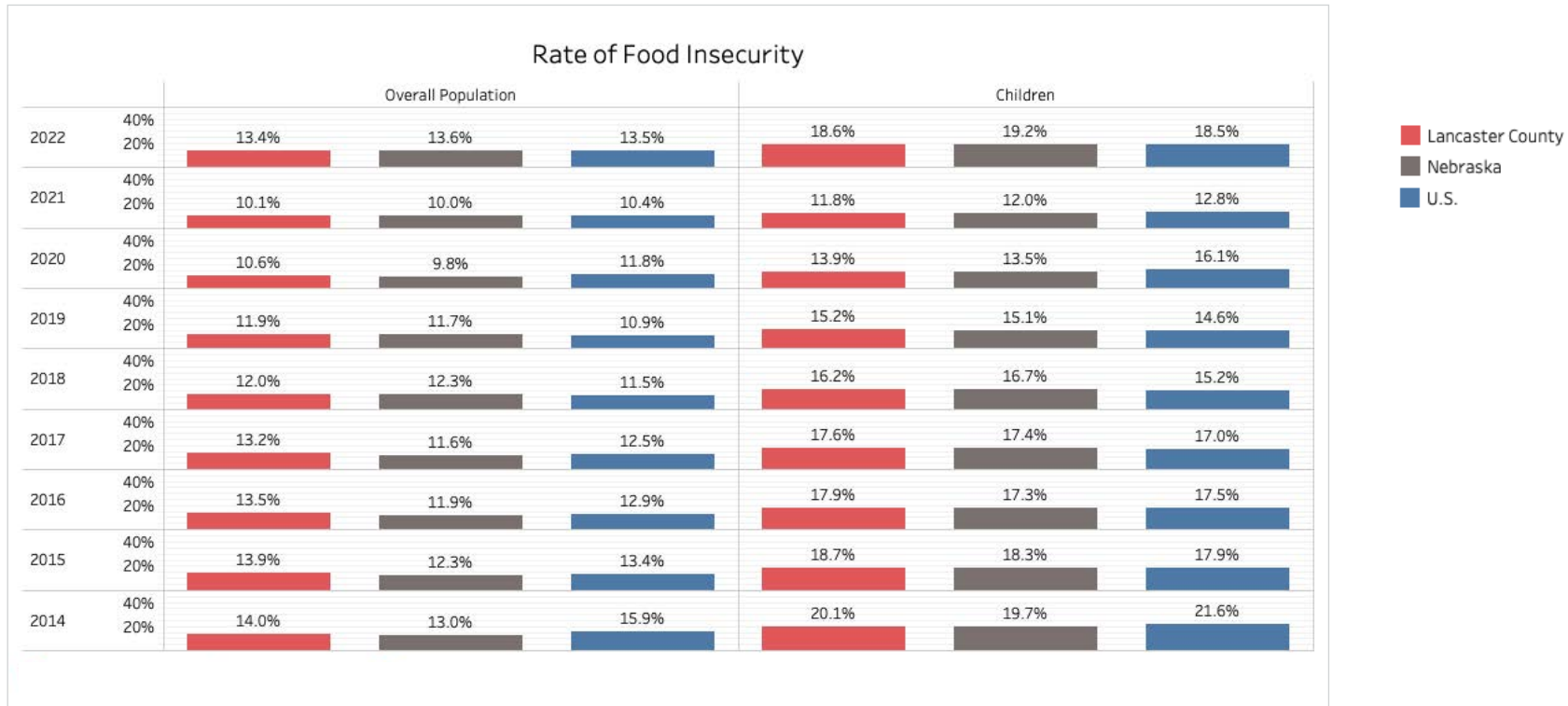


Figure 53

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain access to adequate food.¹¹ Food insecurity negatively impacts health.¹² For children, it can also impede physical and mental development.¹³ In 2022, 13% of the overall population, and 19% of children in Lancaster County were food insecure.

- The rate of food insecurity in Lancaster County increased substantially for children since 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - 15% of children were food insecure in 2019, compared to 19% in 2022.
 - 12% of the overall population were food insecure in 2019, compared to 13% in 2022.

- Lancaster County now has a similar rate of food insecurity as Nebraska and the United States as a whole.
 - Since 2014 it has been higher than Nebraska and the United States as a whole.
 - All three regions experienced an increase in food insecurity in 2022.

NOTES

Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap.

Food Insecurity by Race/Ethnicity

People of color experience higher rates of food insecurity in Lancaster County

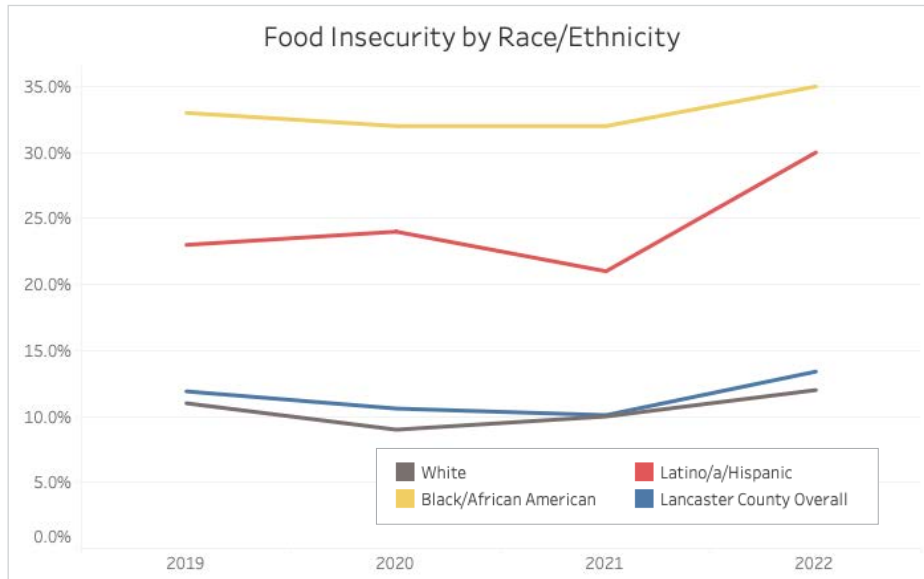


Figure 54

Food insecurity negatively impacts health. For children, it can also impede physical and mental development. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.¹¹ In other words, household access to healthy food is not consistent, leading to reduced intake and/or reduced nutritional quality, variety, and desirability in household members' diets.^{12,13} Food insecurity may reflect households needing to make trade-offs with other important basic needs, such as healthcare or housing.

Using Current Population Survey data and USDA food insecurity measures, Feeding America, a hunger-relief nonprofit organization, estimated local food insecurity rates by analyzing several factors, including poverty, unemployment, homeownership, and disability at the county level.¹⁴ This dataset finds people of color in Lancaster County more likely to be food insecure than White residents.



- Overall, 11% of Lancaster County residents faced food insecurity in 2022.
- One-third, or 35%, of Black or African American residents faced food insecurity.
- Nearly one-third, or 30%, of Latino/a or Hispanic residents were food insecure.
- White residents had a 12% rate of food insecurity.

NOTES

Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap.

Chart includes all race/ethnic groups available from source.

Food Insecurity Assistance Ineligibility

Lancaster County has higher rates of food insecure persons who are ineligible for federal nutrition programs compared to the United States

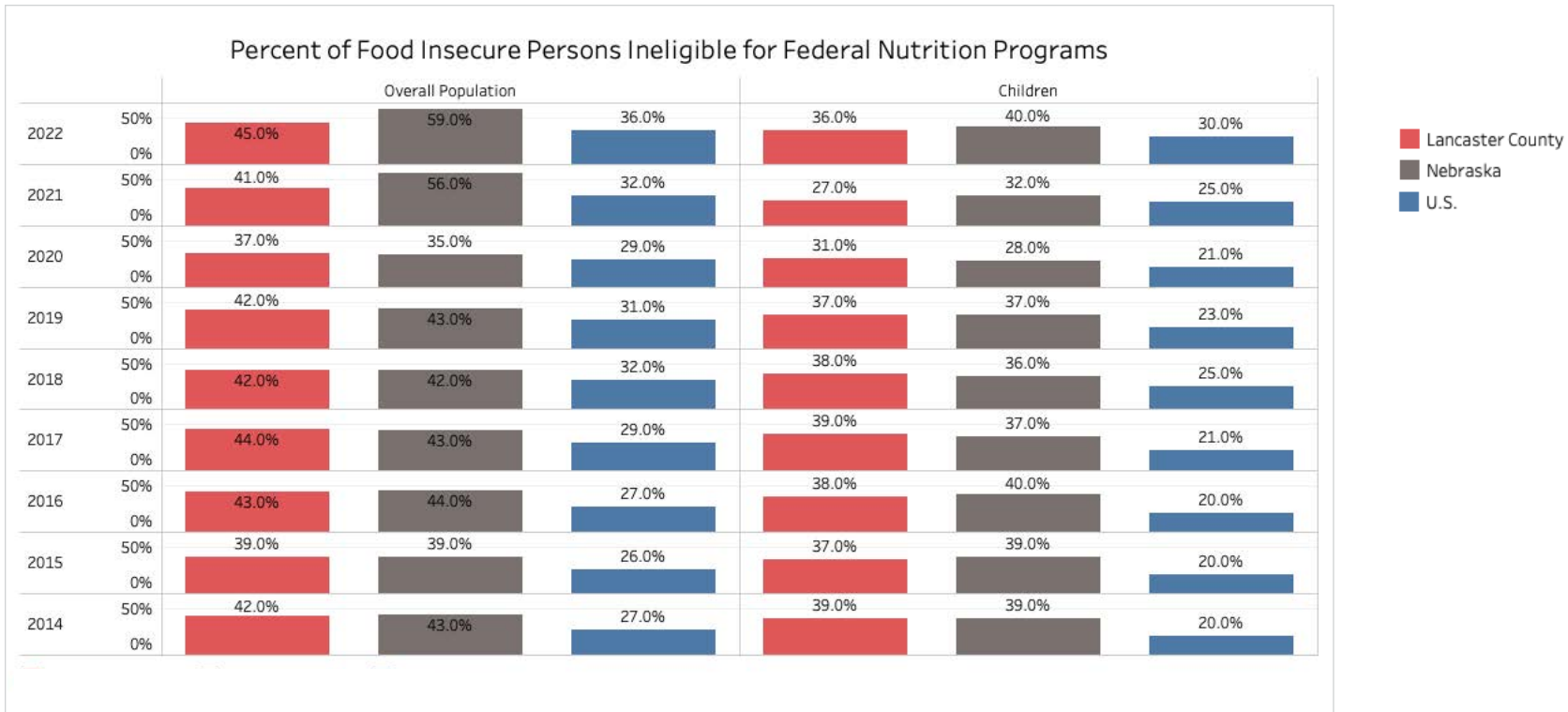


Figure 55

Those who are food insecure are the ones who can benefit most from federal nutrition programs.

- Lancaster County, and Nebraska, have a higher rate of food insecure persons who are ineligible for federal nutrition programs compared to the United States overall.
- In 2022, 45% of people overall, and 36% of children, who are food insecure in Lancaster County are not eligible to receive federal nutrition benefits.

NOTES

Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap.

Uninsured Population

The uninsured adult population in Lincoln continues to decrease over time and is lower than Nebraska and the U.S. as a whole

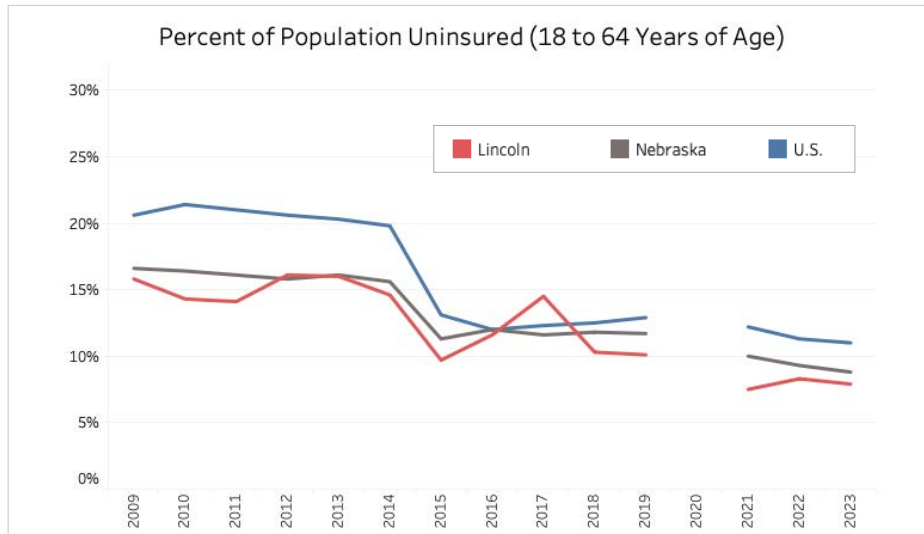


Figure 56

To identify the uninsured, it is common practice to focus on the population 18 to 64 years of age, because there are programs that ensure availability of health insurance to children (the Children’s Health Insurance Program, called Kids Connection in Nebraska) and older adults (Medicare).

- In 2023, there were 15,491 uninsured people 18 to 64 living in Lincoln.
- In 2023, the percentage of the population 18 to 64 years of age without health insurance in Lincoln (8%) was lower than the U.S. average (11%).
- Generally, the percentage of persons uninsured has decreased over the past decade, from 16% in 2013 to 8% in 2023.
- Rates of being uninsured appear to have not been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, despite higher rates of unemployment immediately after the pandemic.
 - This may be due to the availability of health insurance that is available outside that provided by employers.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S2701. 2009 is the first year this data was collected.

2025 Lincoln Vital Signs Report : Basic Needs

Uninsured Population by Race/Ethnicity

The percentage of uninsured adults of color in Lincoln is higher than for White Lincoln adults

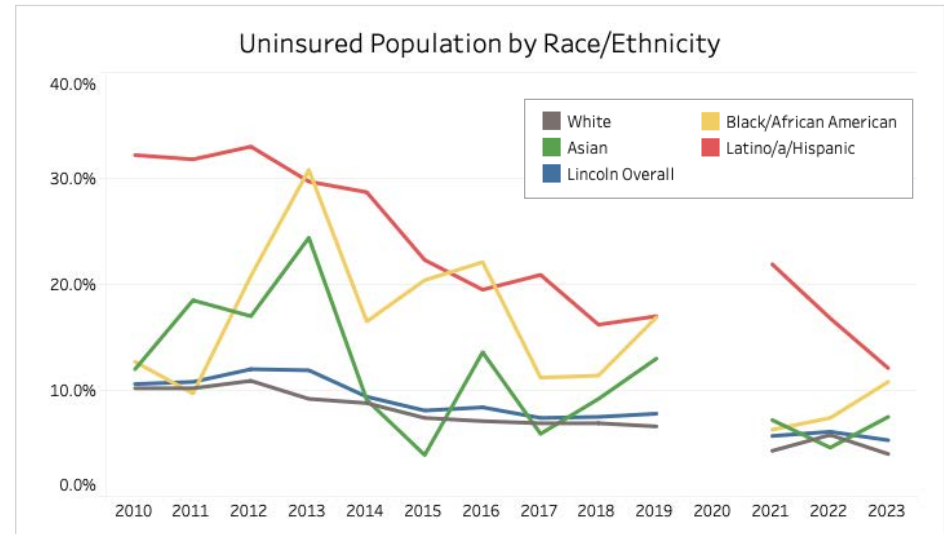


Figure 57

Although the overall rates of uninsured¹⁵ persons fluctuates, generally the number and rate of those uninsured has been improving in the past five years. In 2023:

- 12% of the Latino/a or Hispanic adult population and 11% of the Black or African American adult population were without health insurance.
 - For Latino/a or Hispanic adults, this is a decrease of 63% since the highpoint in 2012, when 33% of the Latino/a or Hispanic adult population was without health insurance.
 - The percent of the Black or African American adult population without health insurance has fluctuated year to year, with a high of 30% uninsured in 2013 to a low of 6% in 2021.
- 7.5% of the Asian adult population was without health insurance in Lincoln.
- 4% of the White adult population was without health insurance in Lincoln.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S2701. 2010 is the first year this data was collected. Race/ethnic groups that make up less than one percent of the population do not appear on the chart.

Medicaid-Only Coverage

The rate of working age adults in Lincoln covered only by Medicaid has increased in recent years

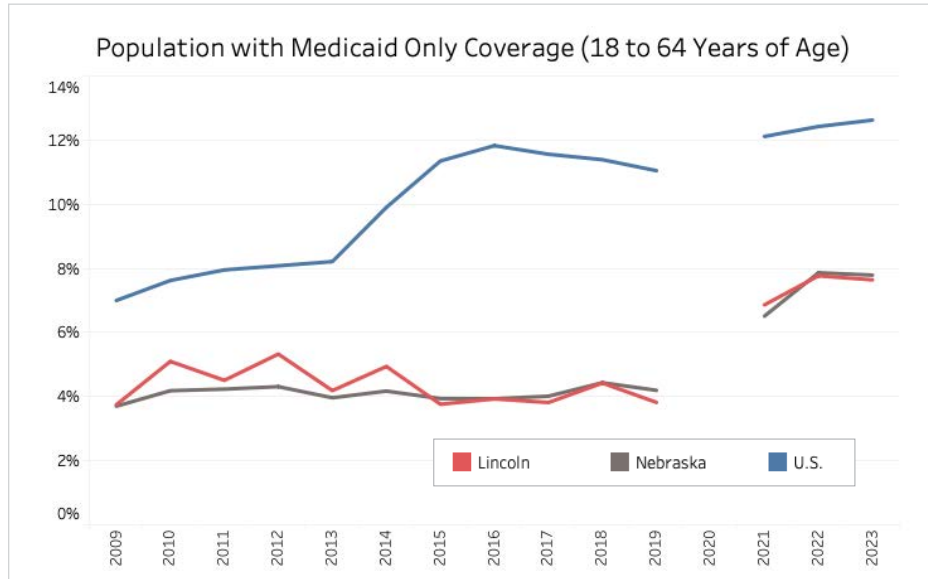


Figure 58

The COVID-19 pandemic appears to have impacted the rate of working age adults in Lincoln covered only by Medicaid. The rate is currently double what it was in 2019. Rates in Lincoln in recent years are also no longer lower than rates for the United States overall.

- The rate of those with Medicaid-only coverage in Lincoln has increased since the COVID-19 pandemic, from 4% in 2019 to 8% in 2023.
- In 2023, there were 13,562 people in the 18 to 64 age group in Lincoln with Medicaid-only health coverage.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table B27010. 2009 is the first year this data was collected.

Healthcare Coverage by Age

Insurance profile varies by age group in Lincoln

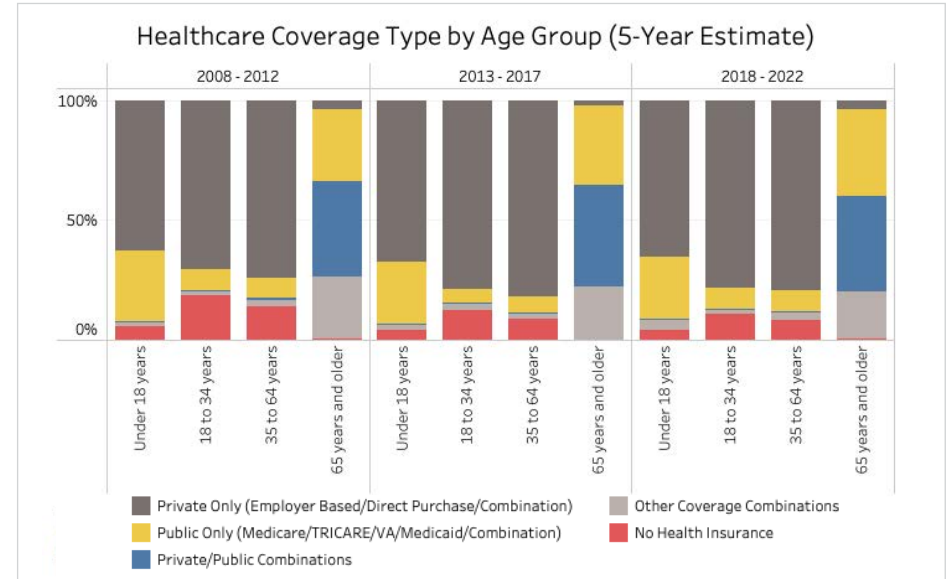


Figure 59

The types of healthcare coverage accessed by different age groups have generally been stable over time, though the age groups differ from each other.

- Children and those 65 years and over have higher rates of publicly funded health insurance than do working age adults (18 to 64 years old).
- The working age population continues to have the highest rates of no health insurance.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table B27010.

Cost of Living - Price Parity

Cost of Living in Lincoln is lower than the U.S. overall average

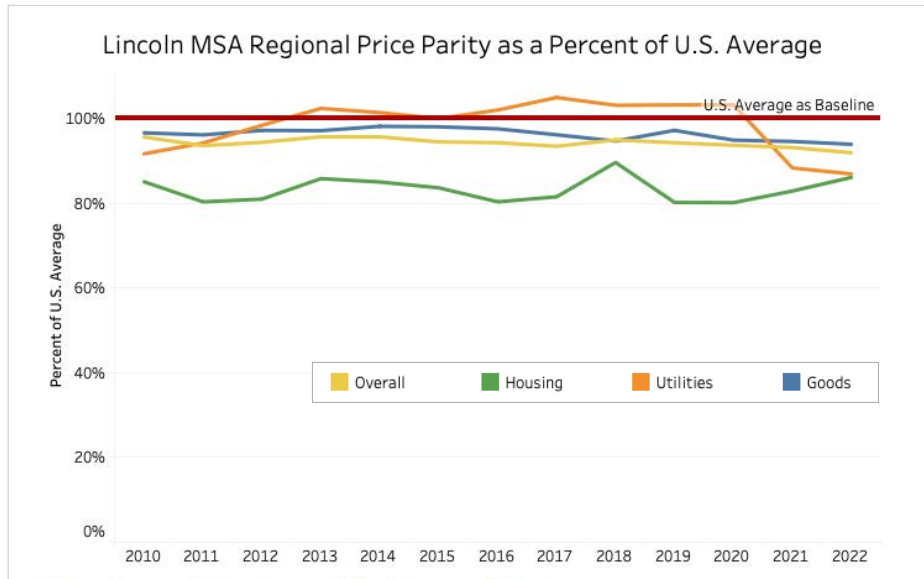


Figure 60

In 2022:

- The cost of housing in Lincoln was 86% of the national average.
 - Low housing costs do not appear to be caused by oversupply
 - Lincoln homeowner (0.7%) and rental (3.1%) vacancy rates were lower than the U.S. rates respectively.¹⁶
- The cost of utilities in Lincoln was 87% of the national average.

NOTES

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table MARPP.

The Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Lancaster and Seward Counties.

Figure 61. A standard measure of housing affordability is the percentage of household income devoted to housing costs. In general, many experts believe that housing costs should not exceed 30% of a household’s income, and that the percentage should decrease for lower income households.¹⁷

Housing Costs

Nearly half of renting households in Lincoln spend a large portion of their income on housing

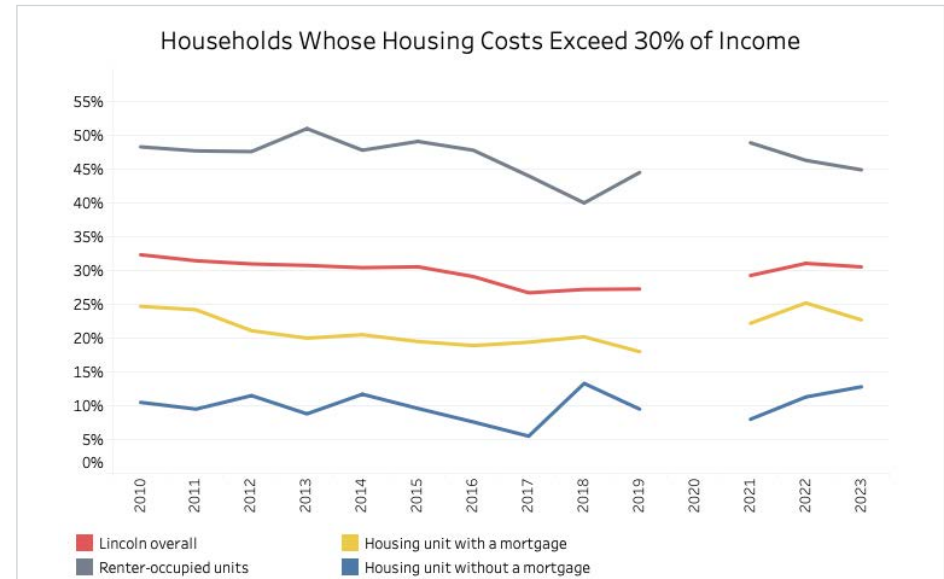


Figure 61

In 2023:

- 45% of all renting households in Lincoln pay 30% or more of their income on housing.¹⁸
 - This increased right after the COVID-19 pandemic, during 2021 and 2022, but is now the same as it was in 2019.
- 22% of Lincoln homeowners carrying a mortgage pay 30% or more of their income on housing.
 - This is an increase from 18% in 2019.
- 13% of Lincoln homeowners with no mortgage pay 30% or more of their income on housing.¹⁹
 - This is an increase from 10% in 2019.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP04.

Housing Costs by Race/Ethnicity

Disparities exist by race and ethnicity in households facing severe housing cost burden

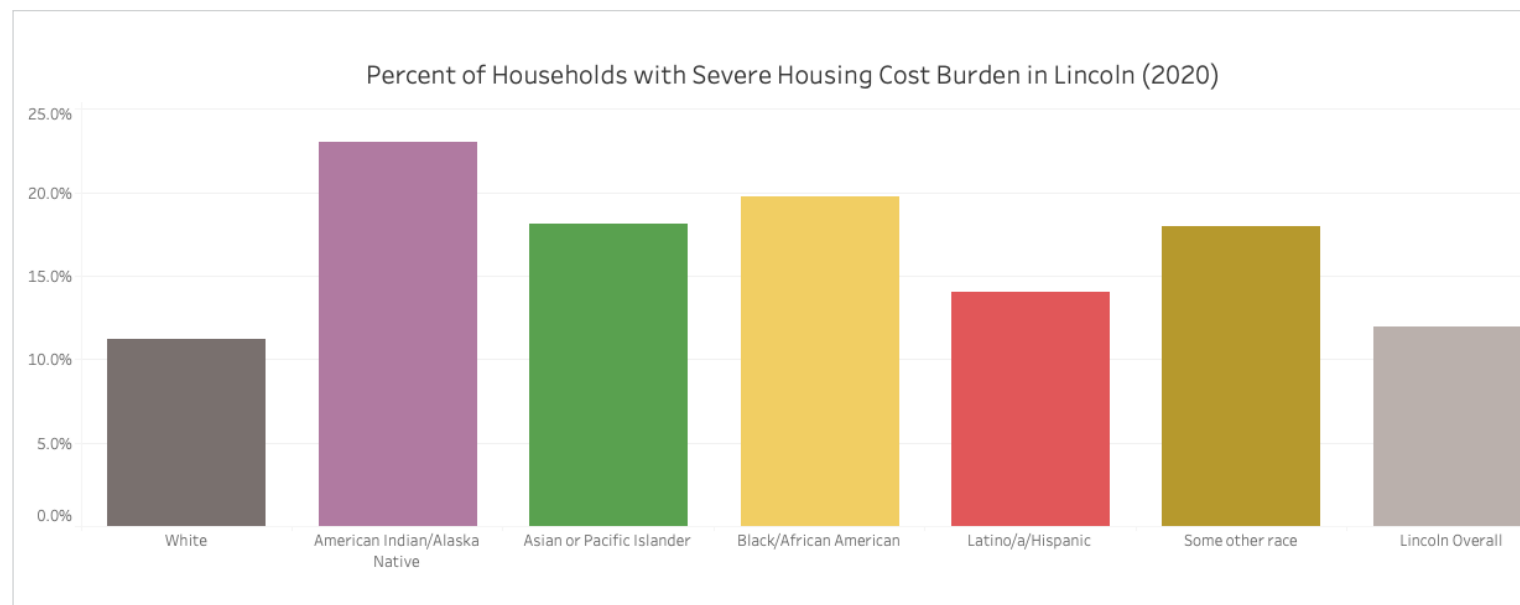


Figure 62

A standard measure of housing affordability is the percentage of household income devoted to housing costs. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recommends housing costs (including utilities) not exceed 30% of a household’s income and that the percentage should decrease for lower income households.¹⁷

Severe housing cost burden is defined as housing costs (including utilities) greater than 50% of household income.²⁰ Severe housing cost burdens leave households less able to afford other necessities like food, transportation, and health care.

Overall, 11.9% of Lincoln households spend more than 50% of their income on housing.

- 23.0% of households identified as American Indian or Alaska Native spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.
- 19.8% of households identifying as Black or African American spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.

- 18.1% of households identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.
- 17.9% of households identifying as Two or More Races spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.
- 14.1% of households identifying as Latino/a or Hispanic spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.
- 11.2% of households identifying as White spend greater than 50% of their income on housing.

NOTES

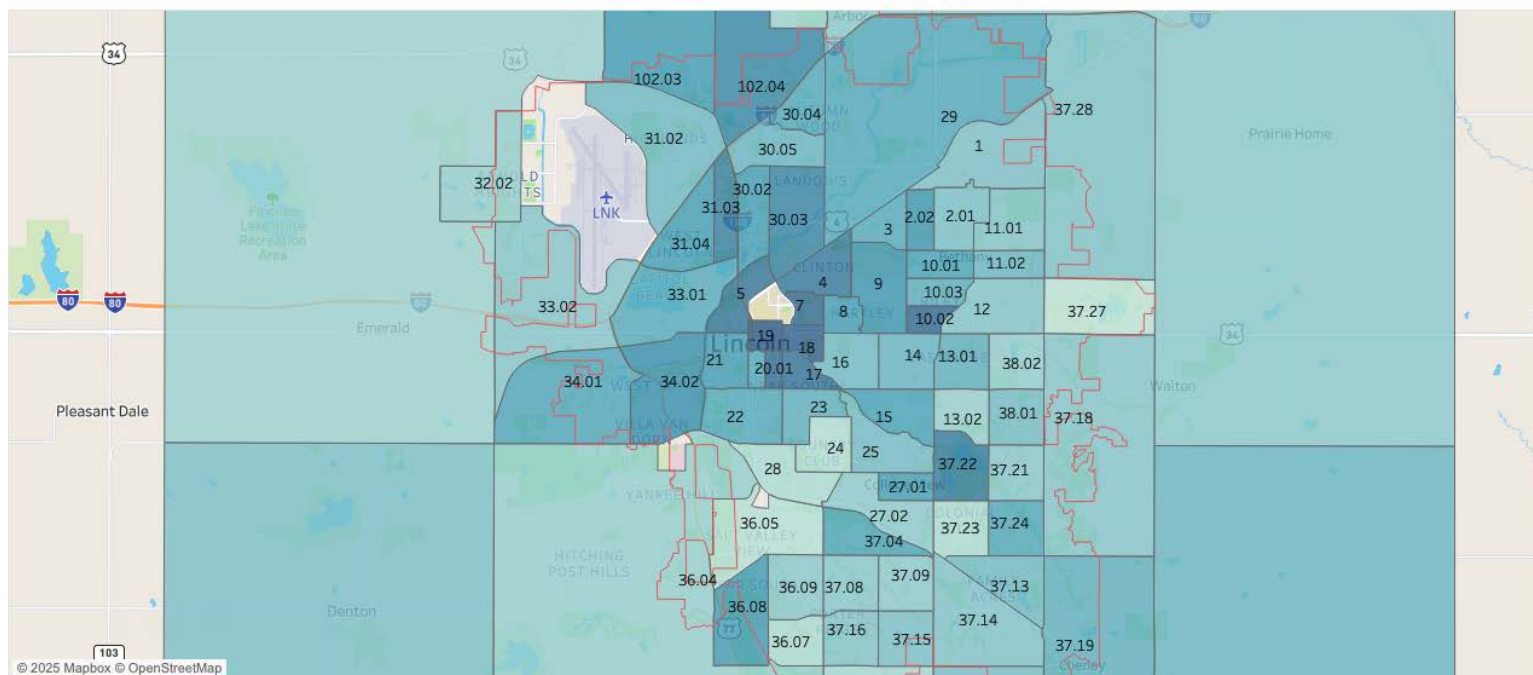
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Research. (2020). Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Data and Mapping Tool (AFFH-T). AFFHT0006, Table 10. <https://egis.hud.gov/affht/>

Households are considered cost burdened when they spend more than 30% of their income on rent, mortgage, and other housing needs such as utilities and property taxes. Households are considered severely cost burdened when they spend more than 50% of their income on rent, mortgage, and other housing needs.

Housing Costs Map

Households spending a large portion of their income on housing are most heavily concentrated in areas with historically high poverty

Housing Cost Burden by Census Tract (2022)



Housing costs (GRAPI or SMOCAPI) are 30% or more of household income - Percent
 10.3% 54.9%

Map 5

The highest concentration of households paying over 30% of their income are near downtown where poverty has been most prevalent. Census Tracts 18 and 19, have over 50% of households spending over 30% of income on housing as of 2022.

- There are 473 households (55% of households) in Census Tract 19 spending over 30% of their income on housing.
 - 55% of residents in Census Tract 19 are in poverty.
- There are 554 households (52% of households) in Census Tract 18 spending over 30% of their income on housing.

- 45% of residents in Census Tract 18 are in poverty.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Tables DP04, DP05.

HUD defines cost-burdened families as those who pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing. Does not include Census Tracts 6, 35, 36.01, or 9832.

Homeless Point in Time Count

The number of people who are homeless in Lincoln has declined substantially over the past decade

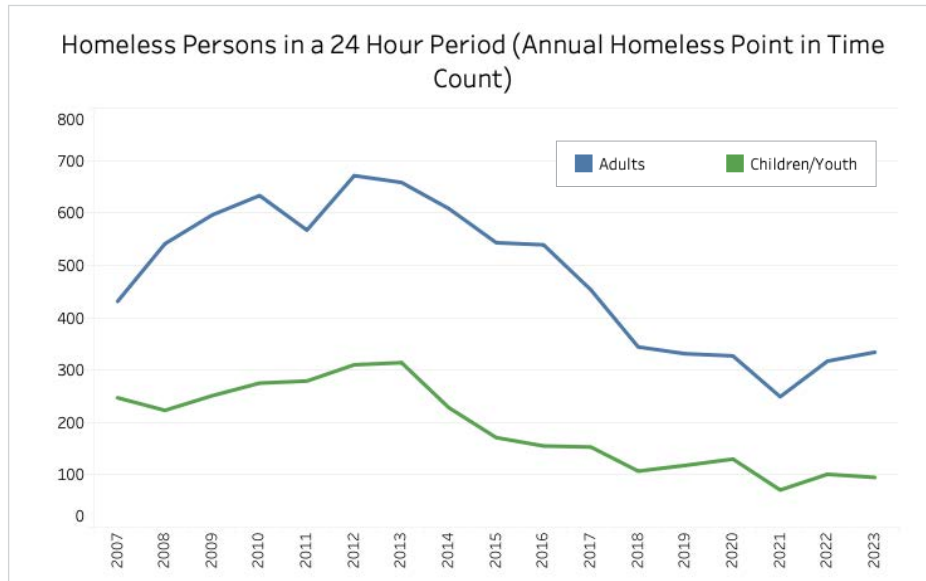


Figure 63

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development mandates that an annual count be conducted of homeless individuals²¹ on a specified date. The most recent data reported is from the count conducted in 2023.

In 2023:

- 429 persons in Lincoln were counted as homeless in the annual homeless point in time count.
- A little less than one quarter of homeless individuals were children under 18 years of age (95 children).

The homeless count hit a high in 2012 of 981 persons (310 children and 671 adults) and has been declining²² since, though it has increased slightly since the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The number of homeless children is 69% lower than in 2012 (310 in 2012 vs. 95 in 2023).



- The number of homeless adults is 50% lower than in 2012 (671 in 2012 vs. 334 in 2023).

NOTES

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law, Lincoln Homeless Point in Time Report.

Children/Youth are 19 and younger through 2014, and under 18 beginning in 2015

Homeless Rate by Age

The rate of homeless Lincoln adults in decreased after the COVID-19 pandemic, but has returned to pre-pandemic levels

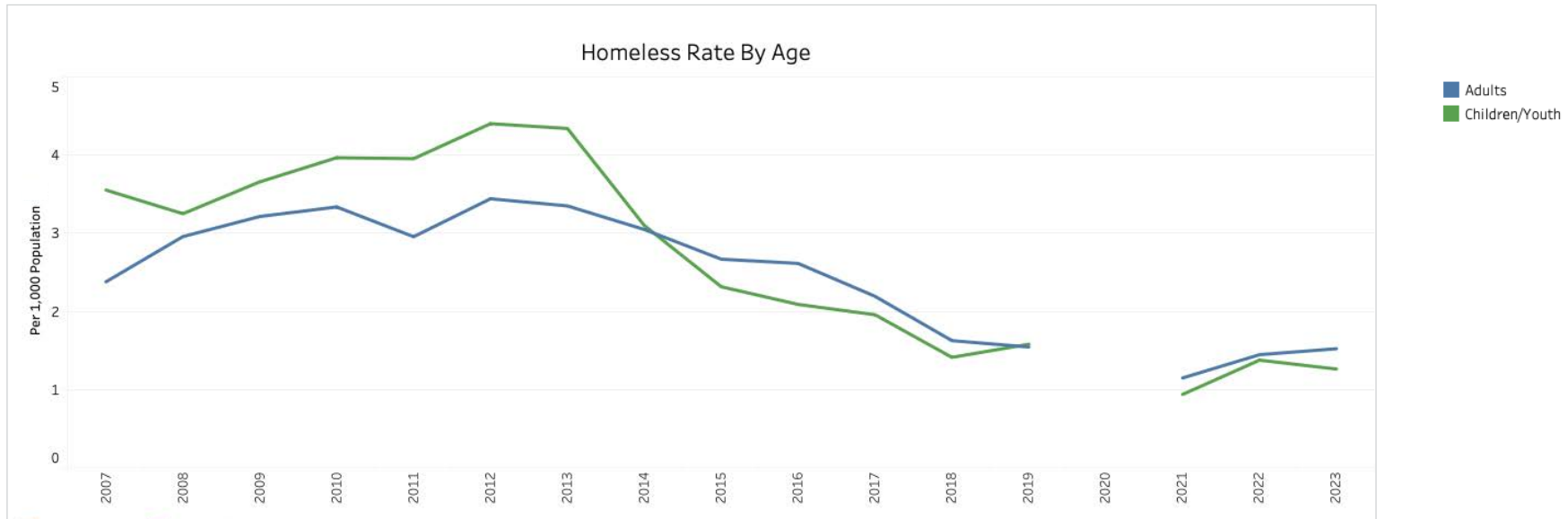


Figure 64

When homelessness is viewed as a proportion of the population, the homeless rate among youth was lower than the rate among adults in 2023. Looking at past years, a larger percentage of youth were homeless compared to adults up through 2014; in more recent years, however, a larger proportion of adults were homeless compared to youth.

- Homelessness peaked in Lincoln in 2012, when there was a homeless rate of 4.4 children per 1000, and 3.4 adults per 1000.
- In the past 10 years, the year with the lowest rate of homelessness for both groups was 2021 (0.9 per 1000 children and 1.1 per 1000 adults).
- Although rates of homelessness were low in 2021, they have since returned to 2019 rates. In 2023, compared to 2019:
 - The homeless rate among children was 1.3 per 1000, compared to 1.6 per 1000 in 2019.

- The homeless rate was 1.5 per 1000 among adults, the same as in 2019.

NOTES

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law, Lincoln Homeless Point in Time Report. Children/Youth are 19 and younger through 2014, and under 18 beginning in 2015

Data not available for 2020.

Student Homelessness by Race/Ethnicity

Students of color disproportionately experience homelessness

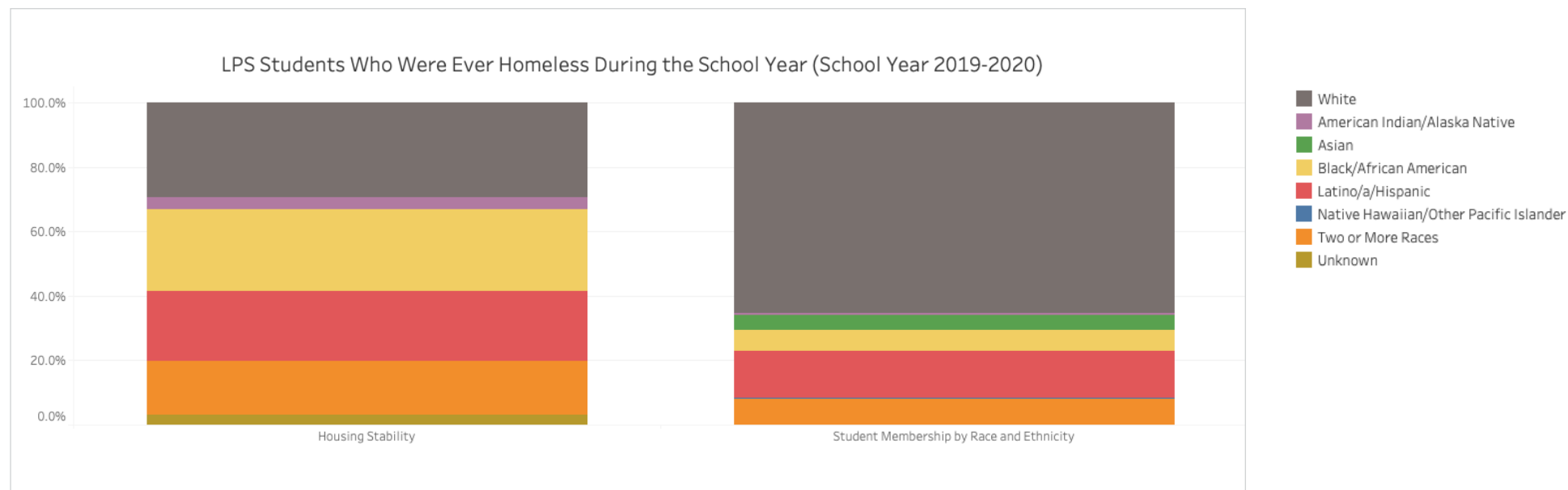


Figure 65

In the most recent data available, 236 Lincoln Public Schools student were identified as experiencing homelessness in the 2019-2020 school year:

- 29.2% of students who were homeless during the school year identified as White compared to 65.3% of the overall student population.
- 25.4% of students who were homeless during the school year identified as Black or African American compared to 6.6% of the overall student population.
- 21.6% of students who were homeless during the school year identified as Latino/a or Hispanic compared to 14.3% of the overall student population.
- 16.9% of students who were homeless during the school year identified as Two or More Races compared to 8.4% of the overall student population.

- 3.8% of students who were homeless during the school year identified as American Indian or Alaska Native compared to 0.6% of the overall student population.

NOTES

U.S. Department of Education. (2021). Homeless Student Enrollment Data by Local Education Agency: School Year 2019-20.

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program, authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento) (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.) defines homeless persons as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Data is suppressed for groups if student count is between 0 and 2 and is reported as unknown. Race and ethnicity data was first available for the 2019-2020 School Year.

Basic Needs Notes

1. Critics have said that the Federal Poverty Threshold, developed in the early 1960s, should be improved. The measure uses food costs and a multiplier of three to calculate needed income. Needed income is compared to gross income and does not include in-kind benefits, nor does it recognize increased labor participation of women (and related childcare costs), variability in health care costs across populations, or variability of expenses across geographies. These and other factors may underestimate poverty for persons in working families and overestimate poverty for persons in families receiving public assistance.
2. Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality. (2018, July 1). *Will You Count? Households with Low Incomes in the 2020 Census*. The Leadership Conference Education Fund. <https://www.georgetownpoverty.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Low-Income-Families-HTC.pdf>
3. Fiester, L. (2013). *Early warning confirmed: A research update on third-grade reading*. Baltimore, MD: Annie E Casey Foundation.
4. Quane, J. M., & Wilson, W. J. (2012). Critical commentary: Making the connection between the socialisation and the social isolation of the inner-city poor. *Urban Studies*, 49(14), 2977-2987. doi: 10.1177/0042098012453857
5. Wilson, W. J. (2010). Why both social structure and culture matter in a holistic analysis of inner-city poverty. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 629, 200-219. doi: 10.1177/0002716209357403
6. Due to changes in the Census' methodology for sampling populations, caution must be exercised when comparing 2000 or 2010 decennial data with the newer American Community Survey data. Census Tract geographies are updated every 10 years. As of the 2020 Decennial Census Lincoln has 81 Census Tract neighborhoods. Neighborhoods for which extreme poverty was calculated exclude Census Tract 6, situated directly over the main campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Census Tract 35, situated over the Lincoln Regional Center; Census Tract 36.01, covering the State Penitentiary; and 9832 over the Lincoln Airport.
7. USDA, Economic Research Service. (n.d.) Poverty Area Measures- Background and Uses. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/poverty-area-measures/background-and-uses>
8. USDA, Economic Research Service. (2023). Rural Poverty and Well-Being. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/rural-economy-population/rural-poverty-well-being>
9. Federal Poverty Guidelines are based on size of household and income. In fiscal year 2023, a four-person household with a gross income less than \$36,084 (the equivalent of 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) would be eligible for SNAP benefits. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). (2023). Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) FY 2023 Income eligibility standards.

Basic Needs Notes (cont.)

10. In general, students are eligible for free lunch if their household income is less than 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and eligible for reduced lunch if their household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. In the 2023-24 school year, students in a family of four with a household income less than \$36,084 would fall under the 130% threshold.
11. United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. (Last Updated April 22, 2022). Definitions of Food Security. Retrieved May 1, 2022 from: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/definitions-of-food-security>
12. Healthy People 2020. (n.d.) Social Determinants of Health. Retrieved May 1, 2022 from: <https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>
13. Feeding America (n.d.) Child Hunger in America. Retrieved May 1, 2022 from: <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/impact-of-hunger/child-hunger>
14. Feeding America. (n.d.) Mapping the Meal Gap 2023, Technical Brief. Retrieved February 22, 2024 from: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/Map%20the%20Meal%20Gap%202023%20Technical%20Brief.pdf>
15. Rates of insurance coverage are presented here for all ages together; when restricting age, to the working age population of 19 to 64, for example, source data was suppressed in 2022 for several race and ethnic groups, and back to 2017 for some groups, so comparisons of recent years for this age group were not possible. Reasons for lack of coverage may be different depending on age of an individual.
16. U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. American Community Survey 2019 1-year estimates. Table DP04.
17. Schwartz, M., & Wilson, E., (n.d.) *Who can afford to live in a home?: A look at data from the 2006 American Community Survey*. Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau.
18. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters.
19. Costs for households without a mortgage may include home equity loans, real estate taxes, homeowner's insurance, association fees, and utilities.
20. U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. (2020). Office of Policy Research. *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Data and Mapping Tool (AFFH-T) Data Documentation*.

Basic Needs Notes (cont.)

21. The HUD definition of homelessness for the purpose of a point in time homeless count includes only people who are living unsheltered on the streets, in a vehicle or another place not fit for human habitation, or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. Many people and families considered homeless, or at risk of homelessness, including those in prison/jail, living in hotels/motels, or “couch surfing” are NOT included in the count.
22. The decrease in homelessness is believed to be attributable to increased support of homeless persons through the Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and domestic violence housing programs.



Education

Communities with educated populations are more productive, more innovative, and earn higher salaries.¹ When compared to the state and the nation, Lincoln has **more residents with high school diplomas and bachelor's degrees**. In Lincoln, **more children are enrolled in childcare quality improvement initiatives**, which should lead to improved educational outcomes. Lincoln Public Schools' enrollment has been growing.

Lincoln Public School students' **scores increased for third grade language arts, and eighth grade math proficiencies after decreasing during the COVID-19 pandemic**.² National research and data from Nebraska public schools suggest that student learning was negatively impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.^{3,4,5}

Graduating from high school gives students the opportunity to earn a higher income and leads to good health.^{6,7,8} Although educational attainment is highly correlated with income and occupation, research suggests that education is the strongest predictor of health outcomes.^{7,8} However, Lincoln Public **Schools' graduation rate remains below both the national and statewide average.**

From the earliest standardized tests through graduation rates, students of color and students from low-income households experience **disparities in educational achievement and attainment.** Nationally, research indicates that barriers to equal educational achievement and attainment include ongoing racial segregation, unequal school resources, unequal academic opportunities, and family economic status.^{9,10,11} Research also suggests that disparities in educational achievement by race/ethnicity and income were often exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴



Providers Participating in SUTQ

Childcare providers continue to enroll in the Step Up to Quality program

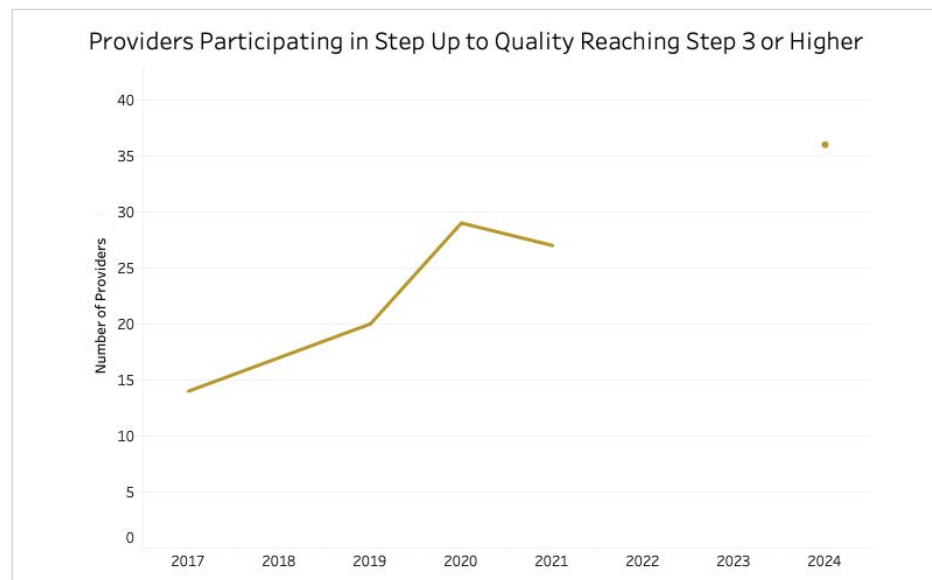


Figure 66

In 2013, Nebraska passed the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act.¹² This act provides training and subsidies to encourage childcare providers' participation in a quality rating system. The program's first year of operation was 2015.

- As of 2024, 36 childcare providers in Lincoln reached Step 3 in the Step Up to Quality program. This is an increase from 27 childcare providers in 2021, and an increase from 14 childcare providers in 2017.
- As of 2024, there were 145 listed childcare providers within a 15-mile radius of Lincoln. As such, one-quarter (25%) of childcare providers in Lincoln reached Step 3 in the Step Up to Quality program.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Step Up to Quality Program.

Reports on numbers of SUTQ providers were not publicly available for 2022 or 2023.

Preschool Enrollment

A fourth of all children ages 0-5 are enrolled in preschool in Lincoln

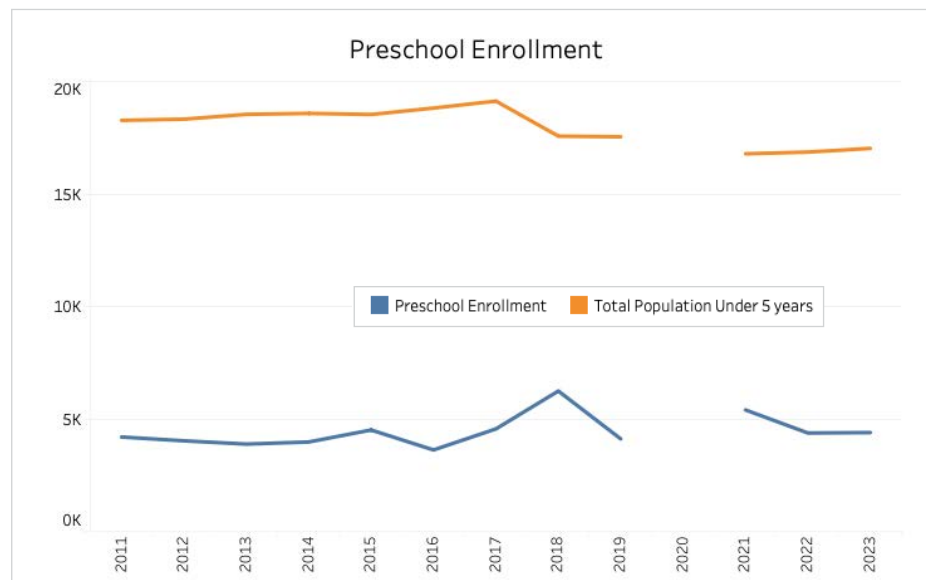


Figure 67

Preschool, or nursery school,¹³ attendance has been shown to have a positive impact on children's lives. It has been shown to improve development of their social-emotional skills and to improve their later academic achievement.¹⁴ Preschool attendance also likely improves children's earnings later in life.¹⁵ Being able to send children to preschool can enable some parents/caregivers to work, impacting families' financial well-being.

- In 2023, there were 4,391 children enrolled in preschool in Lincoln. This is 26% of all children between 0 and 5 years of age.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Tables DP05 and B14007 series.

Preschool Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Disparities exist in preschool enrollment for some racial/ethnic groups

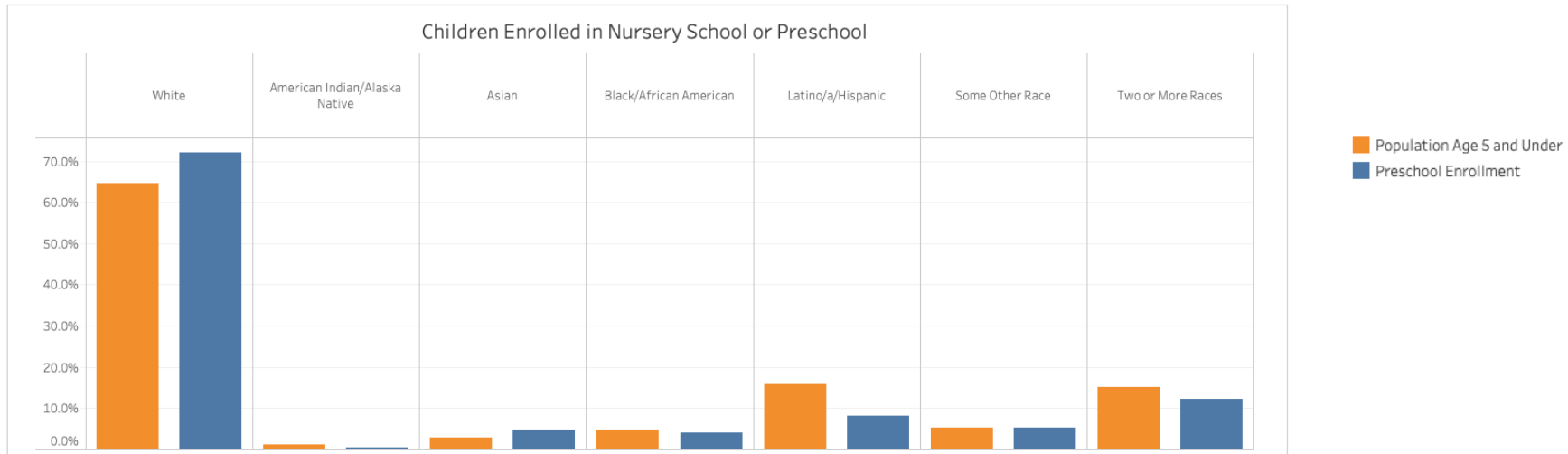


Figure 68

Some racial and ethnic groups in Lincoln have lower enrollment in preschool than would be proportional to their size in the overall population. This is particularly true for American Indian or Alaskan Native children, Black or African American children, and Latino/a or Hispanic children. Systemic, familial, cultural, and economic factors, including preschool costs, impact preschool enrollment decisions for all families.

In Lincoln for 2023:

- 72.1% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as White.
 - 64.7% of children under 5 years of age are identified as White.
- 4.7% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as Asian.
 - 2.9% of children under 5 years of age are identified as Asian.
- 0.5% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as American Indian or Alaska Native.
 - 1.3% of children under 5 years of age are identified as American Indian or Alaska Native.
- 4.1% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as Black or African American.

- 4.9% of children under 5 years of age are identified as Black or African American.
- 8.2% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as Latino/a or Hispanic.
 - 15.9% of children under 5 years of age are identified as Latino/a or Hispanic.
- 5.3% of children enrolled in preschool are identified as Some Other Race.
 - 5.2% of children under 5 years of age are identified as Some Other Race.
- 12.3% of children enrolled in preschool are identified with Two or More Races.
 - 15.2% of children under 5 years of age are identified with Two or More Races.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2023 5-year estimates, Tables DP05 and B14007 series. Latino or Hispanic category has some overlap with other categories.

Students Enrolled in LPS K-12 Schools

K-12 enrollment in LPS has grown 9% since the 2013 to 2014 school year

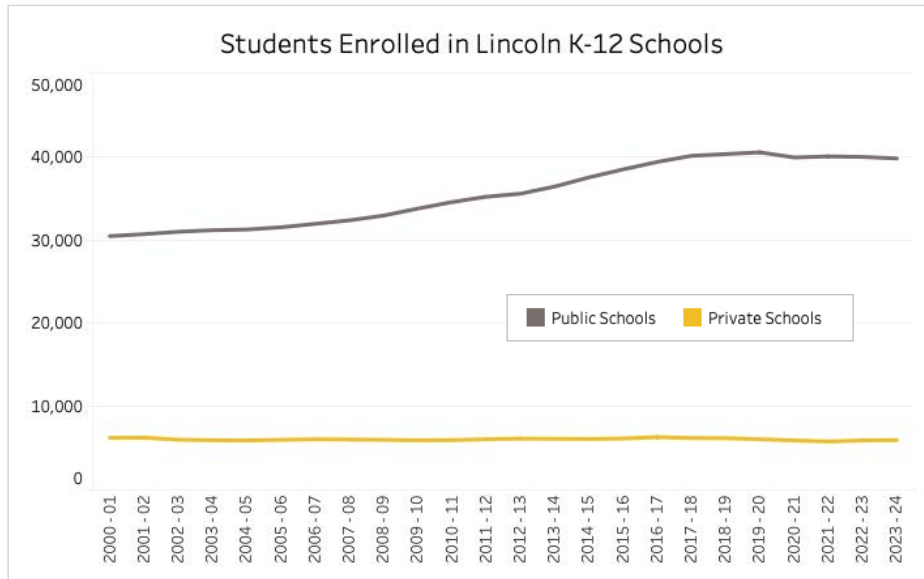


Figure 69

In the 2023-24 school year, 87% of students were enrolled in Lincoln’s public schools.

- Public school enrollment has increased 9% in the past decade (36,400 children in the 2013-14 school year compared to 39,771 in the 2023-24 school year).
- Private school enrollment has decreased 2.5% in the past decade (6,141 children in the 2013-14 school year compared to 5,985 in the 2023-24 school year).
- Lincoln Public Schools also provides services, such as special education, to eligible private school students.



NOTES

Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln Public Schools Statistical Handbook. Nebraska Department of Education, Statistics & Facts about Nebraska Schools Reports.

Fall Membership Count, as of October 1st of year indicated.

Enrollment in LPS K-12 by Race/Ethnicity

Students of color comprise one-third of Lincoln Public Schools K-12 student population

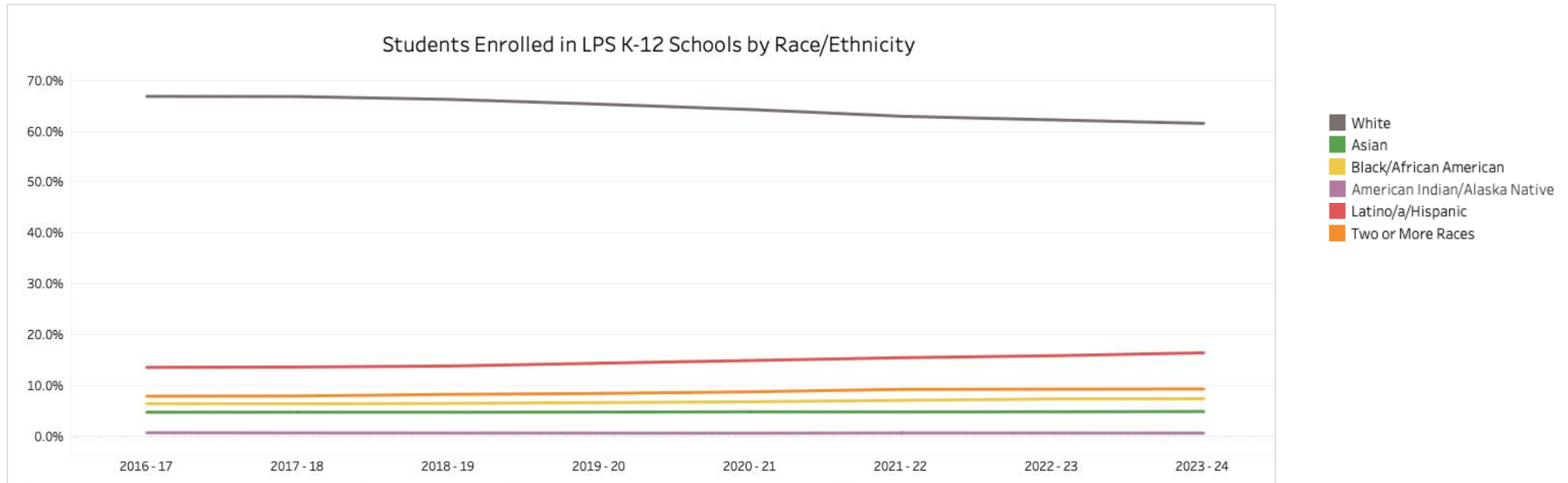


Figure 70

Relative percentage of students enrolled in K-12 Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) by race/ethnicity has gradually changed from 2016 through 2023. On average, students of color comprise one-third of the LPS K-12 student population, and this is slowly increasing.

In the 2023-24 school year:

- 61% of the student population identify as White (25,613 students).
- 16% of the student population identify as Latino/a or Hispanic (6,820 students).
- 9% of the student population identify as Two or More Races (3,866 students).
- 7% of the student population identify as Black or African American (3,057 students).
- 5% of the student population identify as Asian (2,014 students).
- 1% of the student population identify as American Indian or Alaska Native (249 students).

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile (formerly Nebraska State of Schools Reports).

American Indian or Alaskan Native students and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students each make up less than 1% of student population and are not easily visible in the figure. You can see numbers and percentages of these students by hovering your mouse over the thin blue or purple lines toward the bottom of the chart.

Third Grade Language Arts Proficiency

Third grade language arts proficiency returned to pre-pandemic norms after COVID-19 decline

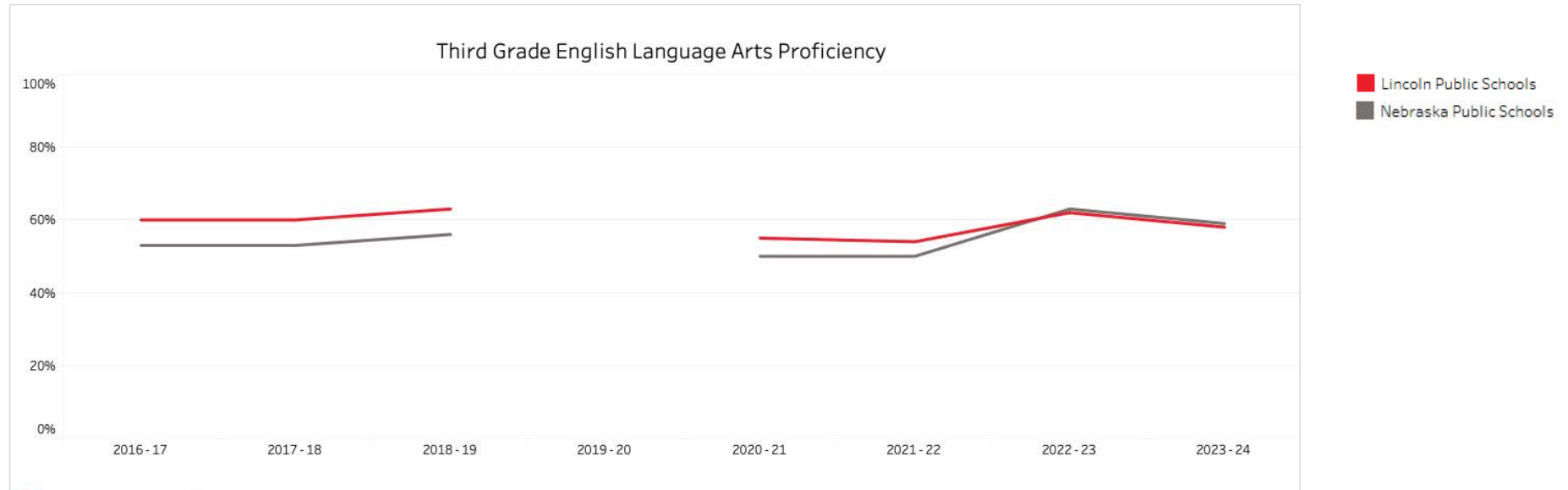


Figure 71

Third grade English language arts (ELA) proficiency is the earliest standardized test given to all public school students in Nebraska.² Third grade language arts proficiency measures student achievement at a critical transition point in their educational careers.¹⁶ Students who do not read proficiently at third grade are four times more likely to leave school without a diploma,¹⁷ while third graders who read at or above their level are more likely to graduate and attend college.¹⁶

- In the 2023-24 school year, third grade language arts proficiency among Lincoln Public School (LPS) students was 58%, compared to 59% of Nebraska public school students statewide.
- Third grade language arts proficiency among LPS students declined during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, with proficiency rates in the 2020-21 school year (55% proficient) being 8 percentage points less than in 2018-19 (63% proficient).
 - A similar trend occurred statewide, with proficiency rates decreasing from 56% in 2018-19 to 50% in 2020-21.

- Proficiency rates rebounded in the 2022-23 school year, with 62% of LPS third graders proficient in language arts.
- In the 2023-24 school year, about the same proportion of LPS third graders and Nebraska public school third graders are language arts proficient.
 - Since the NSCAS was first administered in 2016, a higher proportion of LPS third graders were language arts proficient compared to Nebraska public school third graders statewide, up until the 2022-23 school year.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile (formerly Nebraska State of Schools Reports), Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System.

The NSCAS English Language Arts test from 2016-17 and later is not comparable to standardized tests from earlier years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NDE cancelled the 2019 - 2020 NSCAS assessment; therefore, there are no results from that year.

Third Grade Language Arts Differential

Significant disparities by race/ethnicity and income in third grade language arts proficiency remain

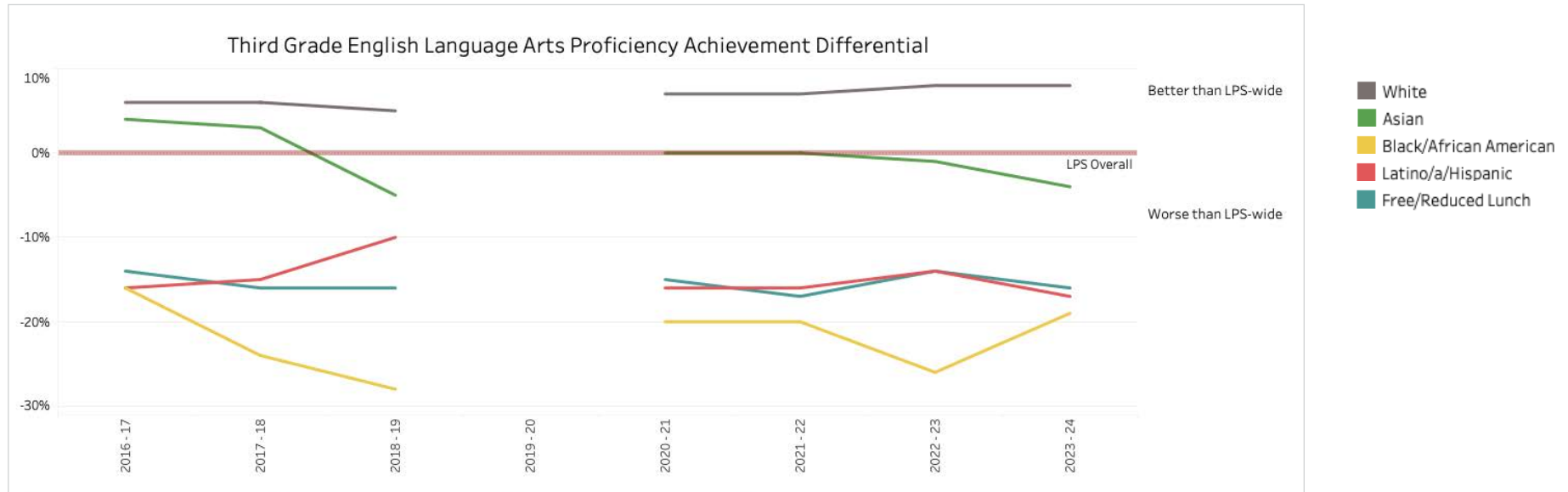


Figure 72

In the 2023-24 school year, 58% of third grade students who attended Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) were language arts proficient.² However, there are significant disparities in language arts proficiency by race/ethnicity and income. The largest disparity in language arts proficiency for the 2023-24 school year was for Black or African-American students, which has been consistent for several years.

- 42% of students who receive free/reduced lunch (a proxy for low income¹⁸) are language arts proficient, which is 16 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.
- 66% of students who identify as White are language arts proficient, which is 8 percentage points higher than the overall LPS population.
- 54% of students who identify as Asian are language arts proficient, which 4 percentage points lower than the language arts proficiency of the overall LPS population.

- 41% of students who identify as Latino/a or Hispanic are language arts proficient, which is 17 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.
- 39% of students who identify as Black or African American are language arts proficient, which is 19 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile (formerly Nebraska State of Schools Reports), Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System.

The NSCAS English Language Arts test from 2016-17 and later is not comparable to standardized tests from earlier years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NDE cancelled the 2019 - 2020 NSCAS assessment; therefore, there are no results from that year.

For the 2020 to 2021, and 2021 to 2022 school years, there is a perfect overlap of Asian student English Language Arts scores with the district-wide average; the line representing these student scores overlays the “LPS Overall” baseline for these years.

Eighth Grade Math Proficiency

Eighth grade math proficiency slightly improved despite the COVID-19 pandemic

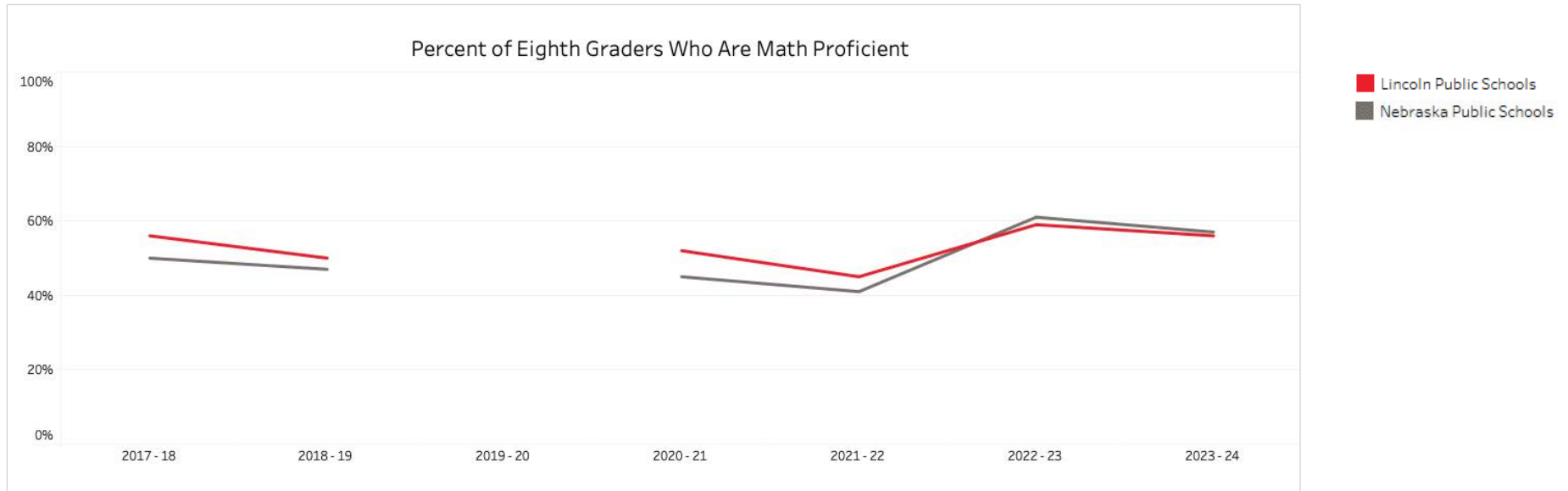


Figure 73

While research suggests that student learning in math was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic nationally,^{3,4} eighth grade math proficiency among Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) students increased since 2018, when the last Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) was administered.²

- In the 2023-24 school year, eighth grade math proficiency among LPS students was 56%, compared to 57% of Nebraska public school students statewide.
- Eighth grade math proficiency among LPS students had decreased to 45% during the 2021-22 school year but increased 11 percentage points for the 2023-24 school year.
 - This is 6 percentage points higher than when the NSCAS was administered in 2019.
- Eighth grade math proficiency among Nebraska public school students statewide has also increased from 47% in 2019 to 57% in 2023. However,

changes in enrollment and differences in NSCAS participation rates complicates direct comparisons to previous assessment data.²

- Starting with the 2022-23 school year, about the same proportion of LPS eighth graders and Nebraska public school eighth graders are math proficient.
 - Since the NSCAS was first administered in 2016, a higher proportion of LPS eighth graders were math proficient compared to Nebraska public school eighth graders statewide.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile (formerly Nebraska State of Schools Reports), Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System.

The NSCAS Mathematics test from 2017-18 and later is not comparable to assessments in earlier years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NDE cancelled the school year 2019 - 2020 NSCAS assessment; therefore, there are no results from that year.

Eighth Grade Math Proficiency Differential

Significant disparities by race/ethnicity and income in eighth grade math proficiency remain

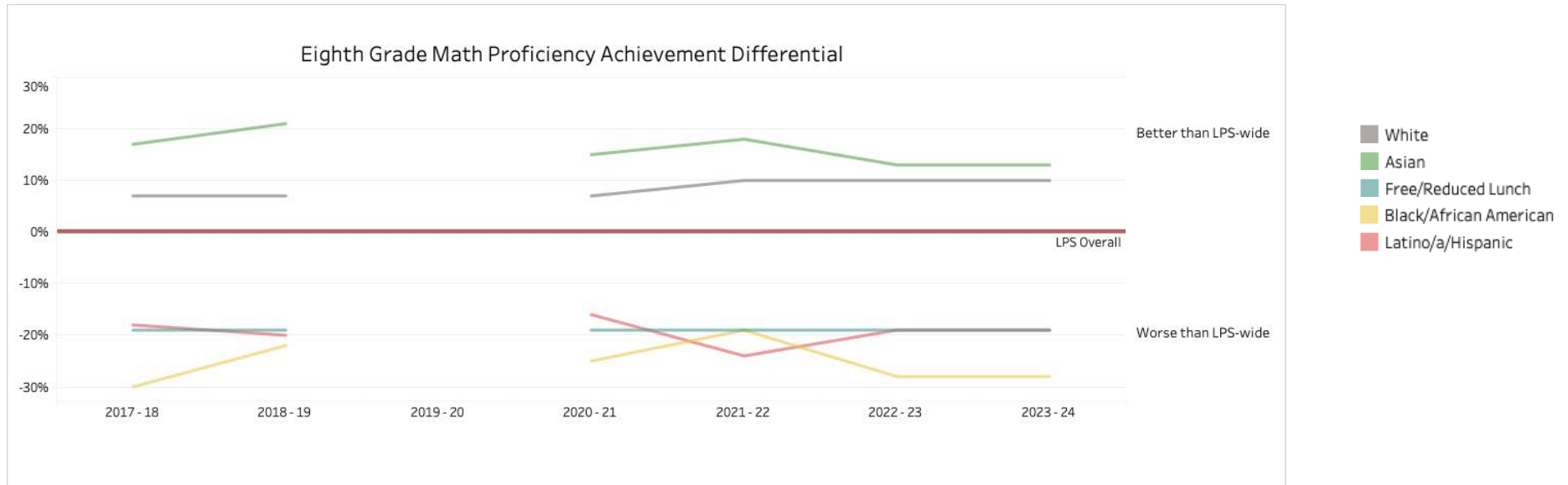


Figure 74

In the 2023-24 school year, 56% of eighth grade students who attended Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) were math proficient.² However, there are significant disparities in math proficiency by race/ethnicity and income.

- 37% of students who receive free/reduced lunch (a proxy for low-income¹⁸) are math proficient, which is 19 percentage points less than the overall LPS population.
- 69% of students who identify as Asian are math proficient, which is 13 percentage points higher than the overall LPS population.
- 66% of students who identify as White are math proficient, which is 10 percentage points higher than the overall LPS population.
- 37% of students who identify as Latino/a or Hispanic* are math proficient, which is 19 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.
- 28% of students who identify as Black or African American are math proficient, which is 28 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile (formerly Nebraska State of Schools Reports), Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System.

*The Data for Latino/a or Hispanic students aligns perfectly with the data for students with Free/reduced price lunch for the 2023-24 school year, and these lines overlap on the chart.

The NSCAS Mathematics test from 2017-18 and later is not comparable to assessments in earlier years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NDE cancelled the 2019 - 2020 NSCAS assessment; therefore, there are no results from that year.

Graduation Rate

LPS high school graduation rate remains lower than national average

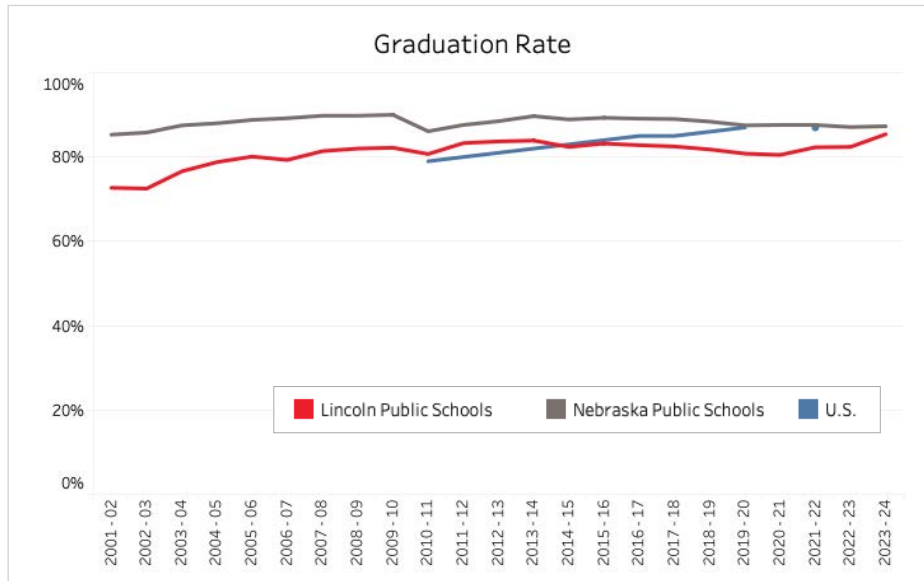


Figure 75

In the 2023-24 school year, Nebraska’s high school graduation rate exceeded the graduation rate for Lincoln Public Schools (LPS). However, the high school graduation rate for Lincoln Public Schools has reached its highest point since the earliest data available in 2001.

- In the 2023-24 school year, the LPS high school graduation rate was 85%, whereas Nebraska’s graduation rate was 87%.
- The most recent national high school graduation data was available for the 2021-22 school year, where 87% of public high school students received their high school diploma within four years of starting high school in the 2021-22 school year.^{19,20}



NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile.

In Fall 2010, Nebraska started tracking graduation as the four-year graduation rate (graduating within four years of starting ninth grade). U.S. ACGR not reported for 2020-21 SY. Data shown through most recent year available.

National graduation rate data was not available for the 2020-21 school year, due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Data is most recently available for the 2021-22 school year.

Graduation Rate Differential

Significant disparities by race/ethnicity and income in LPS graduation rates persist

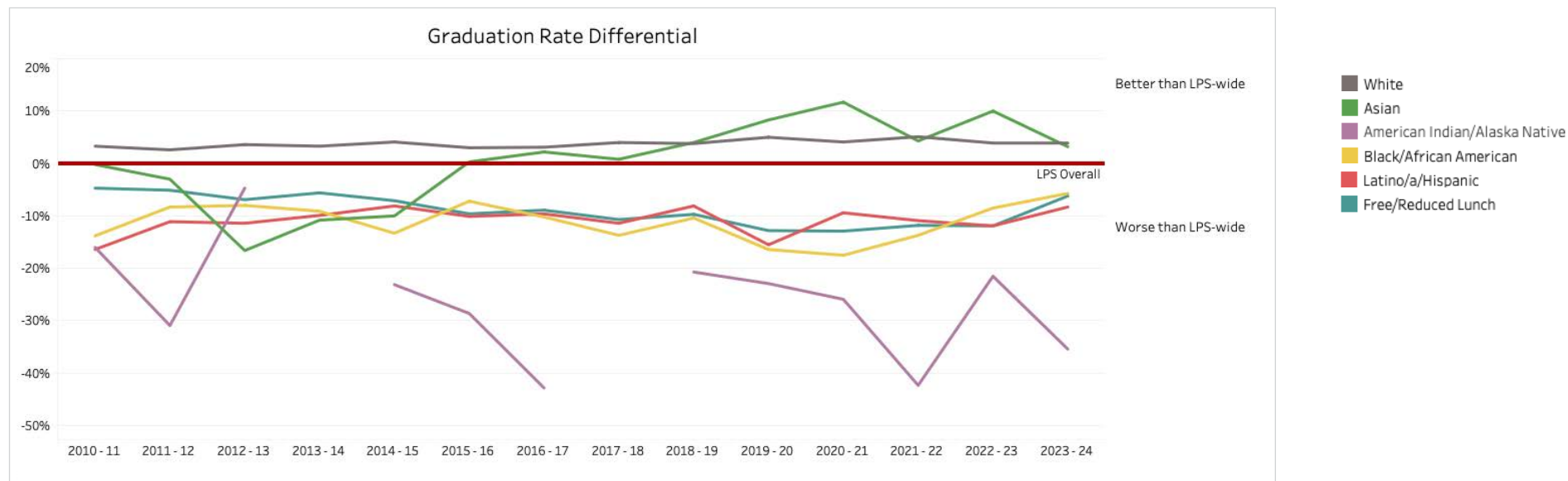


Figure 76

In the 2023-24 school year, the Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) graduation rate was 85%. However, significant disparities in graduation rates exist by race/ethnicity and income.

- 79% of students who receive free/reduced lunch (a proxy for low-income¹⁸) graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 6 percentage points less than the overall LPS population.
- Just over 89% of students who identify as White graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 4 percentage points higher than the overall LPS population.
- Just under 89% of students who identify as Asian graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 4 percentage points higher than the overall LPS population.
- 80% of students who identify as Black or African American graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 5 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.

- 77% of students who identify as Latino/a or Hispanic graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 8 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.
- 50% of students who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native graduated from LPS in the 2023-24 school year, which is 35 percentage points lower than the overall LPS population.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile.

Data suppressed for American Indian/Alaska Natives for 2013-14, and for 2017-18 due to too few data points.

District Dropout Rate

LPS district dropout rate continues to decline

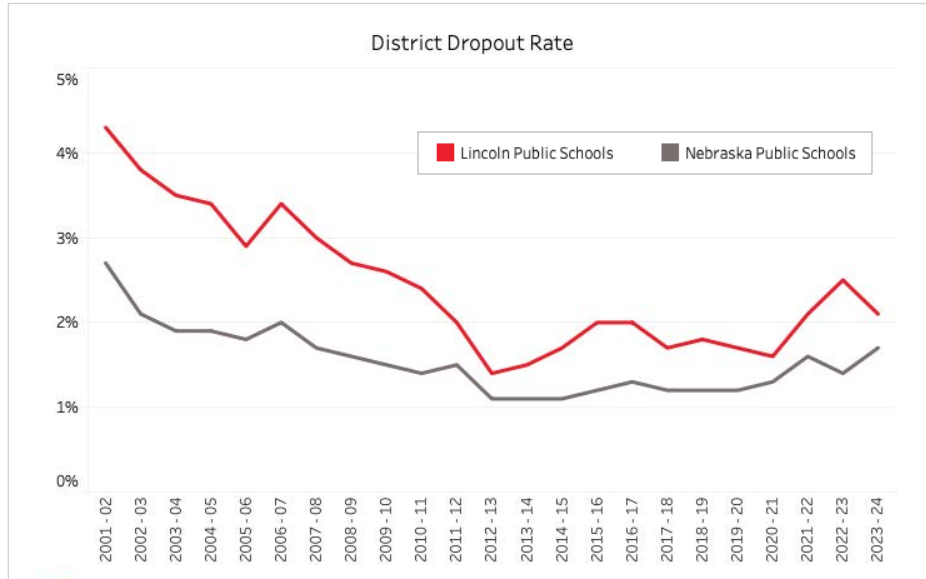


Figure 77

The Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) dropout rate²¹ was 2.1% during the 2023-24 school year, which was higher than the Nebraska Public Schools dropout rate of 1.7%.

- The LPS dropout rate has decreased by half since the 2001-02 school year, when the dropout rate was 4.3%.
- The Lincoln Public Schools dropout rate has increased in the past few years since 2019-20 (before impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic), when the LPS dropout rate was 1.7%.
 - Prior to the pandemic, dropout rates had been fairly steady since the 2011-12 school year, being 2.0% or less each year.

NOTES

Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile. The district dropout rate is calculated for grades 7-12.



Graduating Class Dropout Rate Differential

Significant disparities by race/ethnicity and income in LPS graduating class dropout rates persist

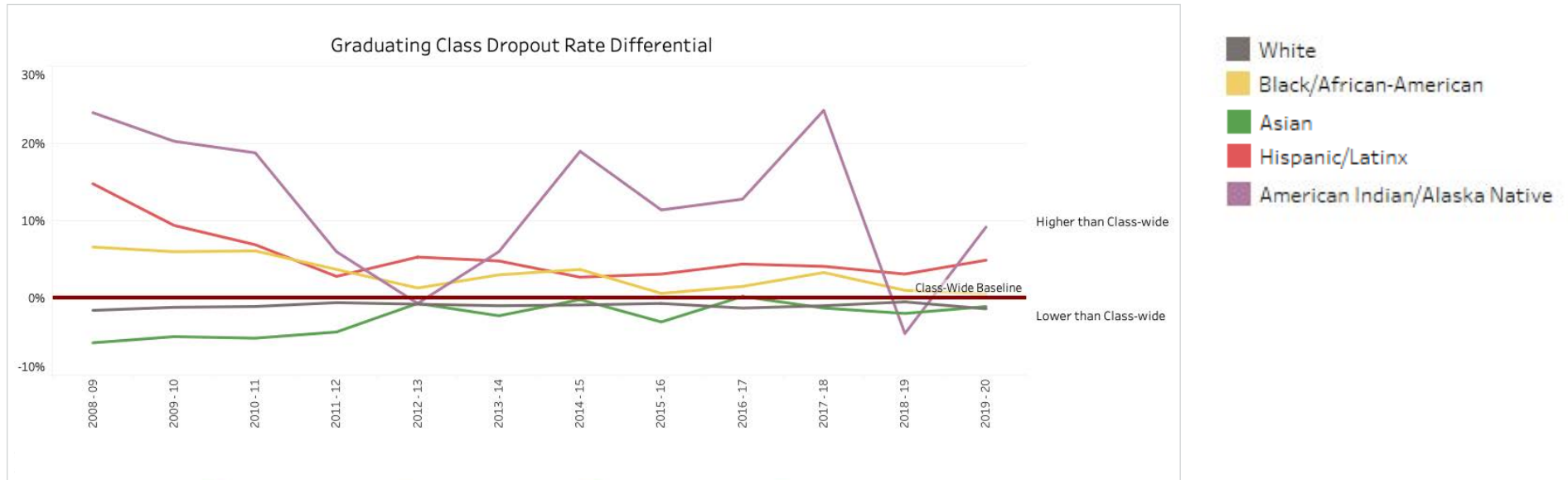


Figure 78

The Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) High School graduating class dropout rate for the class of 2020 was 5%. However, significant disparities in graduating class dropout rates exist by race/ethnicity.

- 14% of LPS students in the class of 2020 who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native dropped out in the 2019-20 school year, which is 9 percentage points higher than the overall 2020 LPS graduating class.
- 10% of LPS students in the class of 2020 who identify as Latino/a or Hispanic dropped out in the 2019-20 school year, which is 5 percentage points higher than the overall 2020 LPS graduating class.
- 6% of LPS students in the class of 2020 who identify as Black or African American dropped out in the 2019-20 school year, which is 1 percentage point higher than the overall 2020 LPS graduating class.
- 4% of LPS students in the class of 2020 who identify as Asian dropped out in the 2019-20 school year, which is 1 percentage point lower than the overall 2020 LPS graduating class.

- 4% of LPS students in the class of 2020 who identify as White dropped out in the 2019-20 school year, which is 1 percentage point lower than the overall 2020 LPS graduating class.

NOTES

Lincoln Public Schools, District Longitudinal Graduation Rate Reports.

Most recent data available by race/ethnicity is for the 2019-20 school year.

The graduating class dropout rate is calculated only for students in the graduating class of the school year, students who take longer than 4 years to graduate are not counted as a drop-out. Longitudinal dropout rates are typically reported as the percentage of students who were enrolled in the same class year at the beginning of ninth grade who drop out before graduation after 4 years.

Post-secondary Enrollment of LPS Grads

Most LPS graduates enroll in post-secondary institutions

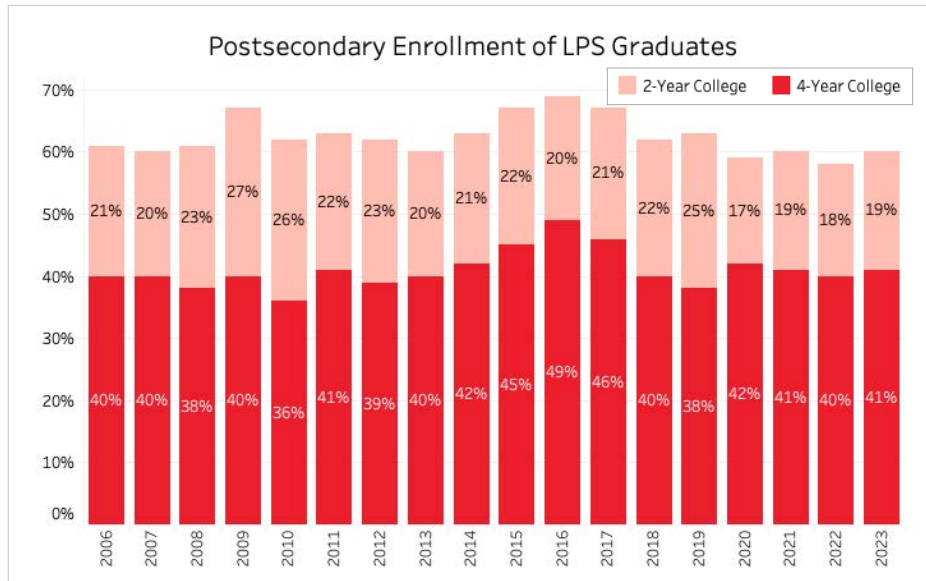


Figure 79

In 2023, 60% of Lincoln Public School (LPS) graduates enrolled in post-secondary institutions.

- 41% of LPS graduates enrolled in a 4-year college in 2023.
- 19% of LPS graduates enrolled in a 2-year college in 2023.

NOTES

Lincoln Public Schools, National Student Clearinghouse Reports.

Young Adults in College or Grad School

In Lincoln, over half of people ages 18 to 24 years old are enrolled in college or graduate school

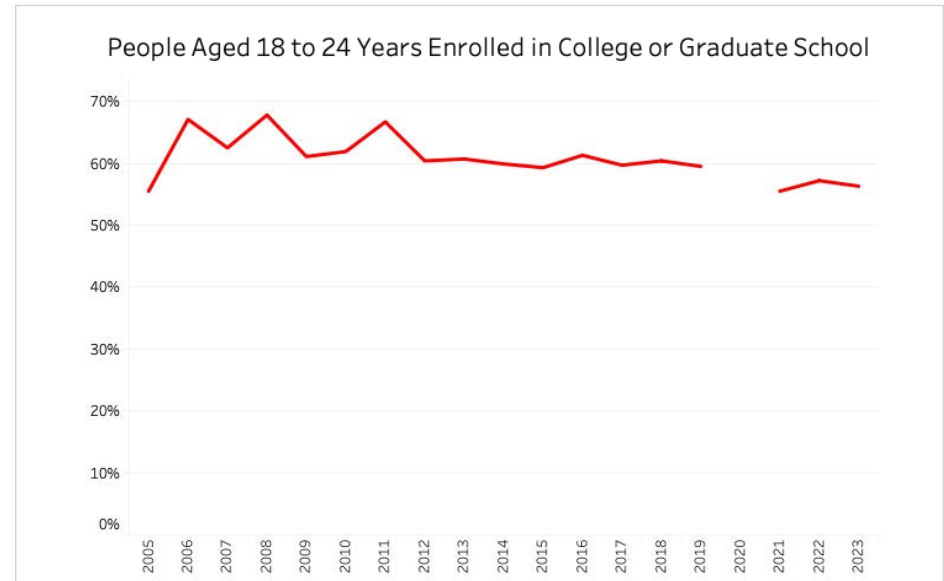


Figure 80

Lincoln is home to several post-secondary educational institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Union College, Southeast Community College, and other private institutions. In 2023, 56% of people in Lincoln 18 to 24 years of age were enrolled in college or graduate school.

- This rate has declined slightly from the pre-pandemic rate of 60% in 2019.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table S1401.

The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics, therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

Adults With a High School Diploma or Bachelor's Degree

Lincoln has a higher rate of people with high school diplomas and bachelor's degrees compared to Nebraska and the nation

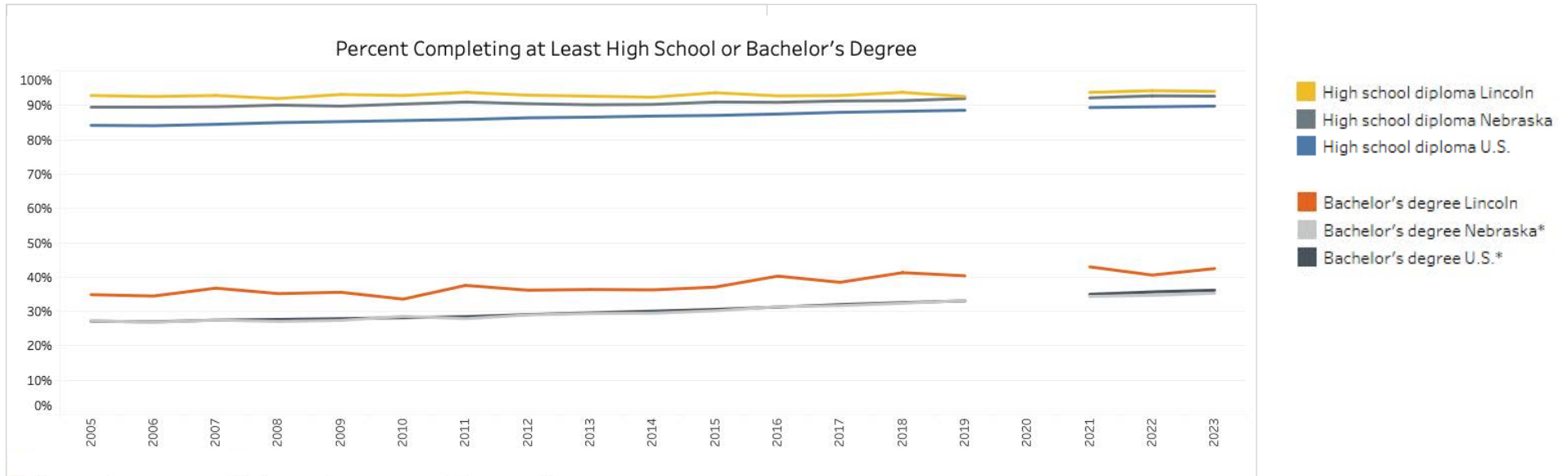


Figure 81

In 2023, 94% of Lincoln’s population had a high school diploma and 43% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. This compares favorably to the educational attainment of Nebraska and the nation. The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics, therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020.

- 94% of Lincoln residents had a high school diploma in 2023, compared to 93% of Nebraskans and 90% of the nation.
- 43% of Lincoln residents had a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 35% of Nebraskans and 36% of the nation.

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP02.

Chart based on population of adults 25 years and older.

*The Nebraska rate of bachelor’s degrees aligns almost perfectly with the U.S. rate, and these lines overlap almost completely on the chart.

Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity

Educational attainment varies by race and ethnicity

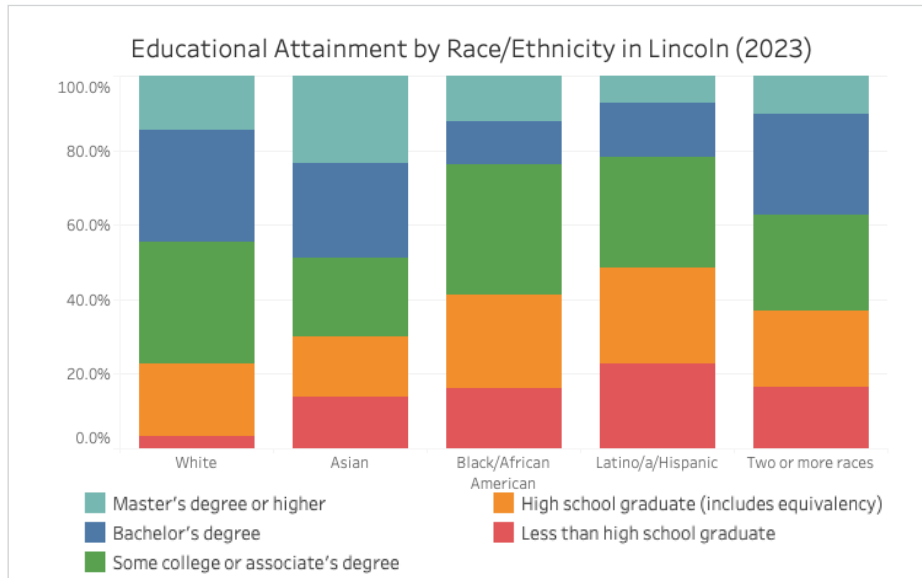


Figure 82

In 2023, a sizable proportion of Lincoln's adult population had received some education after high school, with at least some college or an associate degree.

This includes:

- 77.4% of residents identifying as White
- 69.9% of residents identifying as Asian
- 63.1% of residents identifying as Two or More races
- 58.7% of residents identifying as Black or African American
- 51.4% of residents identifying as Latino/a or Hispanic

Over the next 10 years, jobs requiring more postsecondary education are expected to grow faster than jobs requiring only some college, a high school diploma, or less.²² Meanwhile, there may be financial or other barriers encountered by some racial and ethnic groups in obtaining at least a four-year college degree; disparities in education received increase for higher levels of education.



Lincoln residents attaining at least a four-year college degree include:

- 48.7% of residents identifying as Asian
- 44.6% of residents identifying as White
- 37.4% of residents identifying as Two or More races
- 23.6% of residents identifying as Black or African American
- 21.8% of residents identifying as Latino/a or Hispanic

NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, B15002 Series.

Educational attainment refers to the highest level of education completed in terms of the highest degree, or the highest level of schooling completed. This data is available for the population of people 25 years of age and over.

Chart includes only racial/ethnic groups that make up more than 1% of the population.

Estimates unavailable in 2019 for Black/African American population and in 2020 for all groups.

Education Notes

1. Glaeser, E. (2011). *Triumph of the city*. Penguin Books.
2. The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) is the statewide assessment system for English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science that public schools have administered since the 2016-17 school year. It is not comparable to the older Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) assessment. The ELA and mathematics NSCAS test administered in Spring 2021 was shortened to preserve instructional time due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Non-participants were also not representative of the whole population. These factors, in addition to changes in enrollment and differences in NSCAS participation rates, complicates direct comparisons to previous NSCAS data.
3. Lewis, K., Kuhfeld, M., Ruzek, E., & McEachin, A. (2021). *Learning during COVID-19: Reading and math achievement in the 2020-21 school year*. Center for School and Student Progress. <https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2021/07/Learning-during-COVID-19-Reading-and-math-achievement-in-the-2020-2021-school-year.research-brief-1.pdf>
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7. Freudenberg, N. & Ruglis, J. (2007). Reframing school dropout as a public health issue. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 4(4), A107.
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9. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2006). Race matters: How race affects education opportunities. <https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-racemattersEDUCATION-2006.pdf>
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Education Notes (cont.)

12. Step Up to Quality Child Care Act, Nebraska Revised Statute 71-1961.
13. U.S. Census Bureau. (2021) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about School Enrollment. <https://www.census.gov/topics/education/school-enrollment/about/faq.html> The U.S. Census bureau defines nursery school “as a group or class that is organized to provide educational experiences for children during the year or years preceding kindergarten. It includes instruction as an important and integral phase of its program of childcare...Children enrolled in Head Start programs or similar programs sponsored by local agencies to provide preschool education to young children are counted under nursery school.” For U.S. Census Bureau data, nursery school and preschool are not differentiated.
14. Pianta, Robert C., Barnett, W. Steven, Burchinal, Margaret, and Kathy R. Thornburg. 2009. The Effects of Preschool Education: What We Know, How Public Policy is or Is Not Aligned with the Evidence Base, and What We Need to Know. *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, 10(2) 49-88.
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18. In general, students are eligible for free lunch if their household income is less than 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and eligible for reduced price lunch if their household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. In the 2022-23 school year, students in a family of four with a household income less than \$36,075 would be eligible for free lunch, and those with a household income less than \$51,338 would be eligible for reduced lunch. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. (2022). Child nutrition programs: Income eligibility guidelines. *Federal Register*, 87 (32). <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-02-16/pdf/2022-03261.pdf>
19. This is the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate for the nation, considered the most accurate estimate of four-year graduation rates. McFarland, J., Hussar, B., Zhang, J., Wang, X., Wang, K., Hein, S., Diliberti, M., Forrest Cataldi, E., Bullock Mann, F., and Barner, A. (2019). *The Condition of Education 2019 (NCES 2019-144)*. U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved November, 12, 2019 from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2019144>

Education Notes (cont.)

20. A 100% graduation rate is unlikely, in part because some special education students continue to receive educational services beyond four years of high school, some students graduate but in more than four years, and due to student mobility out of districts and state.
21. The district dropout rate is calculated by dividing the total number of 7th-12th grade students who dropped out by the official fall enrollment for grades 7-12. A student who dropped out either enrolled in school the previous school year but did not enroll at the beginning of the current school year, has not graduated from high school or completed a state or district-approved education program, or has aged out.
22. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Table 5.2 Employment, wages, and projected change in employment by typical entry-level education (Employment in thousands). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Labor.



Health

It is widely known that **Americans' health status has declined in some areas**. Lincoln, like the U.S., is experiencing increasing rates of obesity, diabetes, and deaths due to heart disease or cancer. Lincoln, however, still has lower rates than the U.S. as a whole on many measures.

In Lincoln, there are **geographic disparities in life expectancy**. Census tracts with lower-than-average life expectancy are located near downtown where poverty is most prevalent. Additionally, **mental health issues in Lincoln continue to require attention**. The number of poor mental health days reported by Lancaster County and Nebraska residents has increased in the past decade since 2012, and suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in Lancaster County. Furthermore, police investigations in Lincoln involving mental health needs have increased by 21% in recent years.

However, Lincoln has shown improvement in some areas. In the past 10 years, **the rate of women with 10 or more prenatal visits has increased**, and **rates of low birth weight have decreased** both nationally and in Lancaster County. Additionally, youth rates of cigarette, alcohol, and marijuana use has declined in recent years, and incidents involving alcohol and/or drugs requiring police response have decreased in Lincoln.



Health Risk Factors

Adult chronic health factors are better than the U.S. as a whole

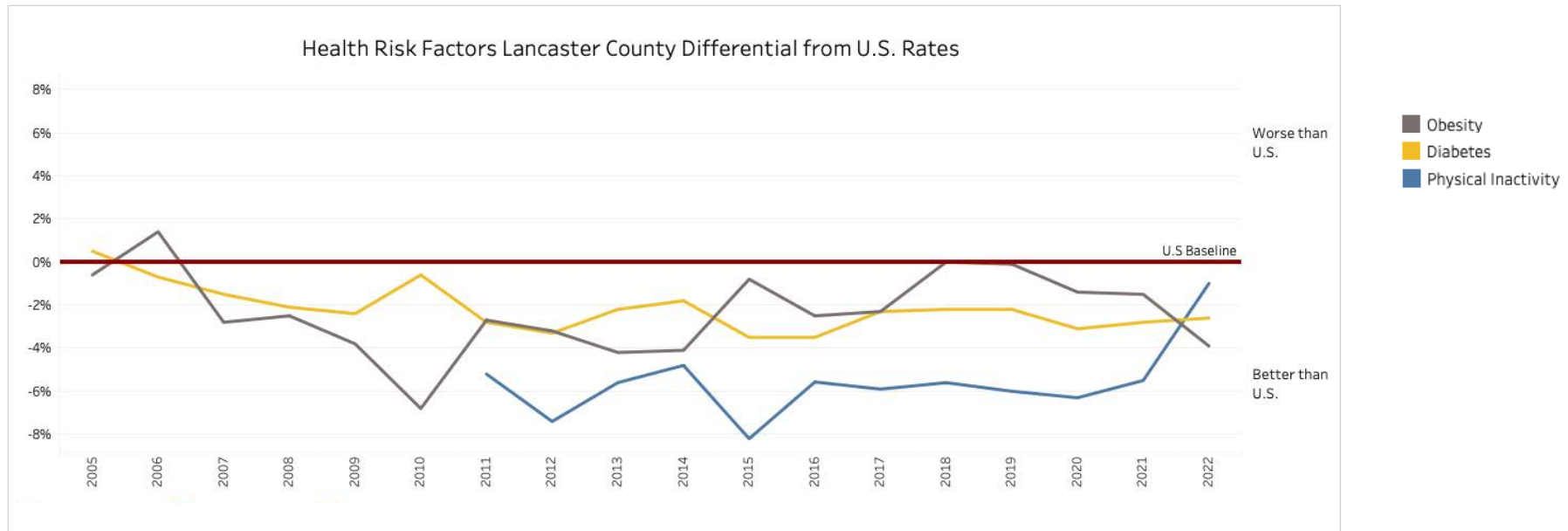


Figure 83

Of the 10 leading causes of death in the United States, six are chronic diseases,¹ and six in 10 Americans live with at least one chronic illness.² Underlying many chronic health conditions are risk factors such as tobacco use and exposure, physical inactivity, and poor nutrition. Engaging in healthy behaviors greatly reduces the risk for illness and death due to chronic diseases.

- In 2022, 30% of Lancaster County’s residents were obese. Lancaster County’s obesity rate³ has increased 22% since 2012, when 24% of residents were obese. This matches the same increase the U.S. has experienced since 2012 (22%).
 - Lancaster County’s obesity rate has declined 3 percentage points since its highest rate of 32% in 2021.
 - From 2007 through 2011, Lancaster County’s obesity rate had been lower than the national rate but equaled the national rate in 2018 and 2019. Since 2020, Lancaster County’s obesity rate has returned to

being lower than the national rate. In 2022, Lancaster’s obesity rate was 4 percentage points lower than the national rate.

- In 2022, 9% of Lancaster County’s residents were diagnosed with diabetes.
 - Lancaster County’s diabetes rate⁴ fluctuates but is lower than the national rate.
- In 2022, 22% of Lancaster County residents reported not participating in any physical activity or exercise in the past month.
 - The physical inactivity⁵ rate in Lancaster County has been lower than the national rate since 2011.

NOTES

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; national data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; local data from Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Data shown through most recent year available. Sampling changes occurred in 2011, data from 2011 on may not be comparable to earlier data.

Cancer Deaths

Lancaster County's rate of deaths from cancer is lower than the U.S. overall

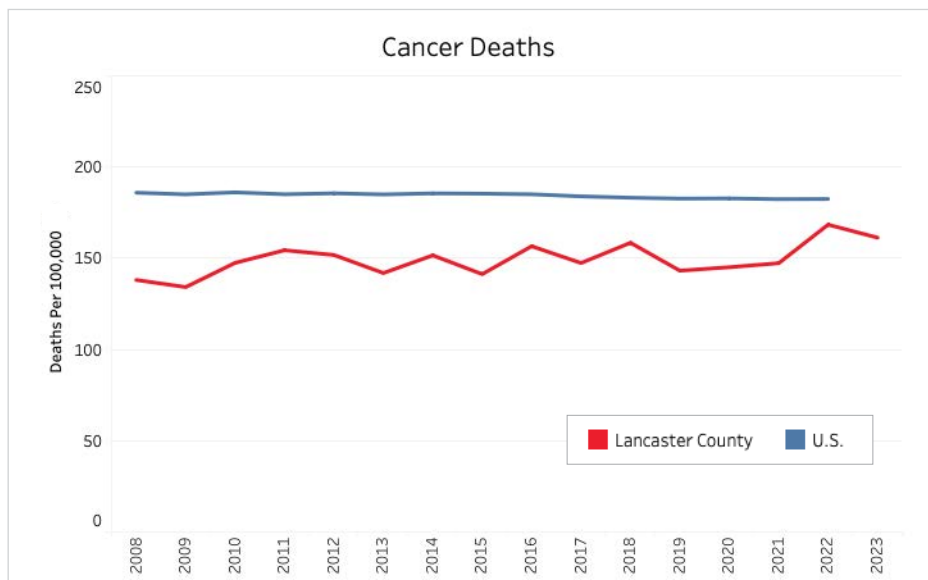


Figure 84

An indicator of health in a community is the number of individuals who die due to chronic diseases, including cancer.

- Lancaster County is lower than the U.S. in deaths due to cancer.
- In 2022, Lancaster County had 168 deaths due to cancer per 100,000 residents, while the U.S. had 183 deaths due to cancer per 100,000 residents.

Heart Disease Deaths

Lancaster County's rate of deaths from heart disease is lower than the U.S. rate

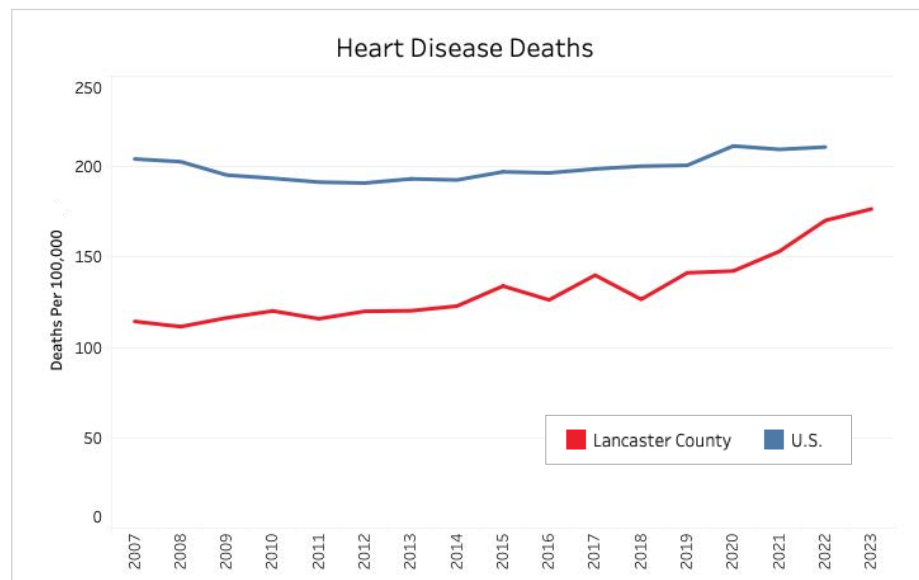


Figure 85

An indicator of health in a community is the number of individuals who die due to chronic diseases, including heart disease.

- Lancaster County is lower than the U.S. in the rate of deaths due to heart disease. In 2022, Lancaster County had 170 deaths due to heart disease per 100,000 residents, while the U.S. had 211 deaths due to heart disease per 100,000 residents.
- However, heart disease deaths in Lancaster County have been increasing and are closing in on the national rate.

NOTES

Figure 84 & 85. National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System. Local data from Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System.

Diabetes Deaths

Deaths due to diabetes trail the U.S. rate

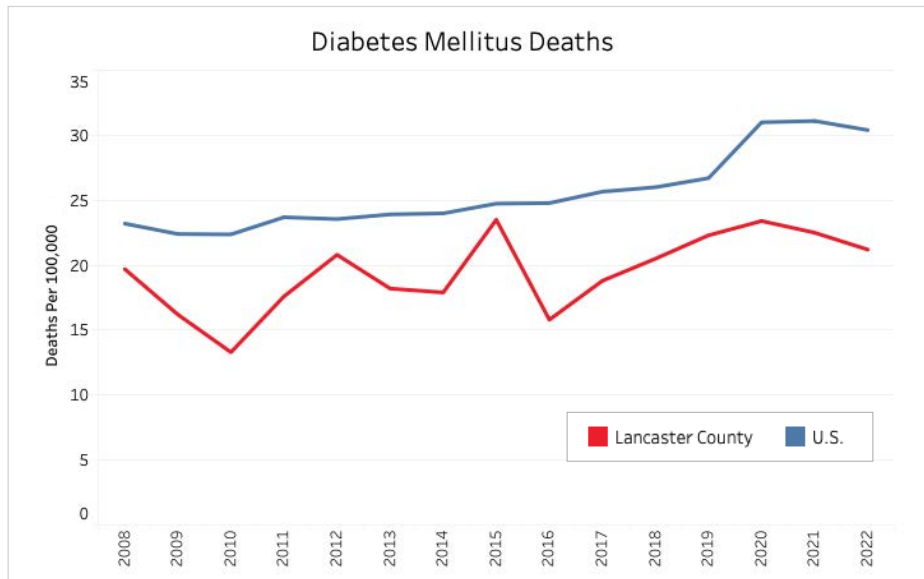


Figure 86

An indicator of health in a community is the number of individuals who die due to chronic diseases, including diabetes.

- Lancaster County has been lower than the U.S. in deaths due to diabetes since 2008.
- In 2022, Lancaster County had 21 deaths due to diabetes per 100,000 residents, while the U.S. had 30 deaths due to diabetes per 100,000 residents.

NOTES

National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

Figure 87. The percentage of Lancaster County adults 18 and older who report that they currently use tobacco (cigarettes/smokeless tobacco) or e-cigarettes either every day or on some days varies by method.

Tobacco/E-Cigarette Use

Lancaster County's rates of tobacco use vary by method, when compared to the U.S.

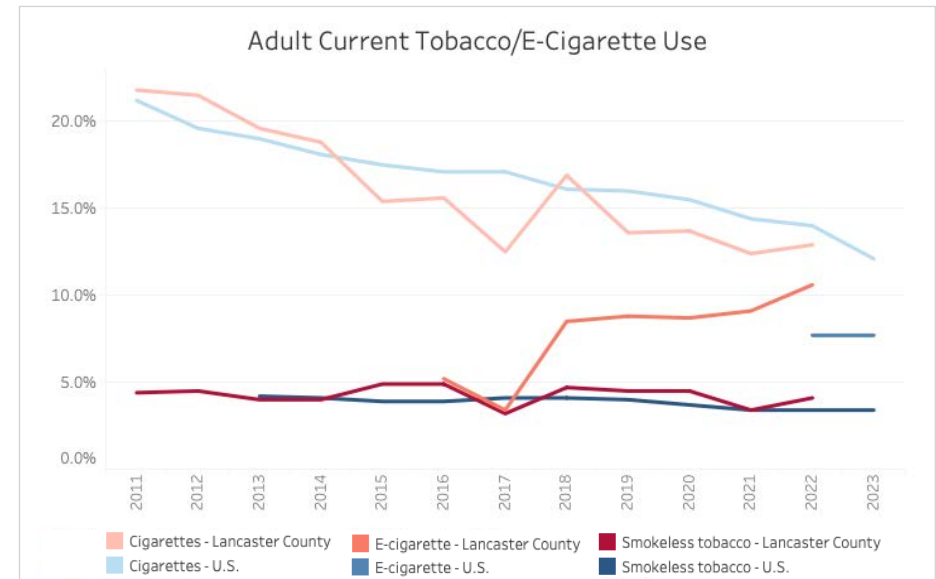


Figure 87

- The rate of current cigarette smoking in Lancaster County and the U.S. has generally declined since 2012.
 - Lancaster County has typically had slightly lower rates than the U.S. of cigarette smoking during this time.
- The rate of current e-cigarette use in Lancaster County has doubled since this measure was first collected in 2016 and is higher than the U.S. rate in 2022.
- The rate of current smokeless tobacco use in Lancaster County and the U.S. is comparable and has remained steady since 2012.

NOTES

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), national data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; local data for Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department from Nebraska DHHS

Percentage of adults 18 and older who report that they currently use tobacco (cigarettes/smokeless tobacco) or e-cigarettes either every day or on some days. Data availability varies by year for each indicator and geography.

Healthcare Access

Differences by race/ethnicity exist for adults with a primary care provider

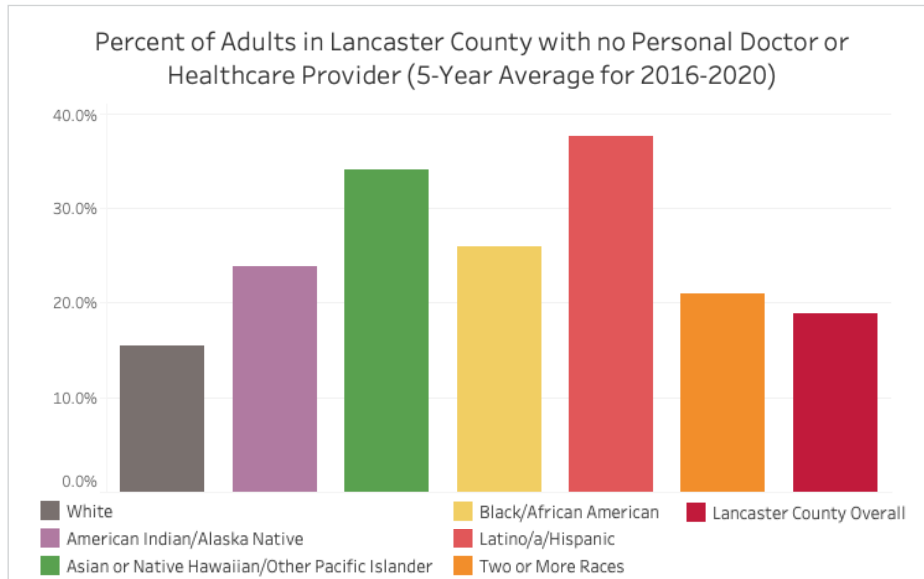


Figure 88

Adults with primary care are significantly more likely to receive routine annual preventative visits, cancer screenings, diagnostic and preventative screenings, diabetes care, and health counseling, such as smoking cessation.⁶

As of 2020, 18.9% of Lancaster County residents report not having a primary care provider. However, disparities exist by race and ethnicity.

- 15.4% of those who identify as White report not having a primary care provider.
- 23.9% of those who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native report not having a primary care provider.
- 25.9% of those who identify as Black or African American report not having a primary care provider.
- 34.0% of those who identify as Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander report not having a primary care provider.



- 37.6% of those who identify as Latino/a or Hispanic report not having a primary care provider.
- 21.0% of those who identify as being of Two or More Races report not having a primary care provider.

NOTES

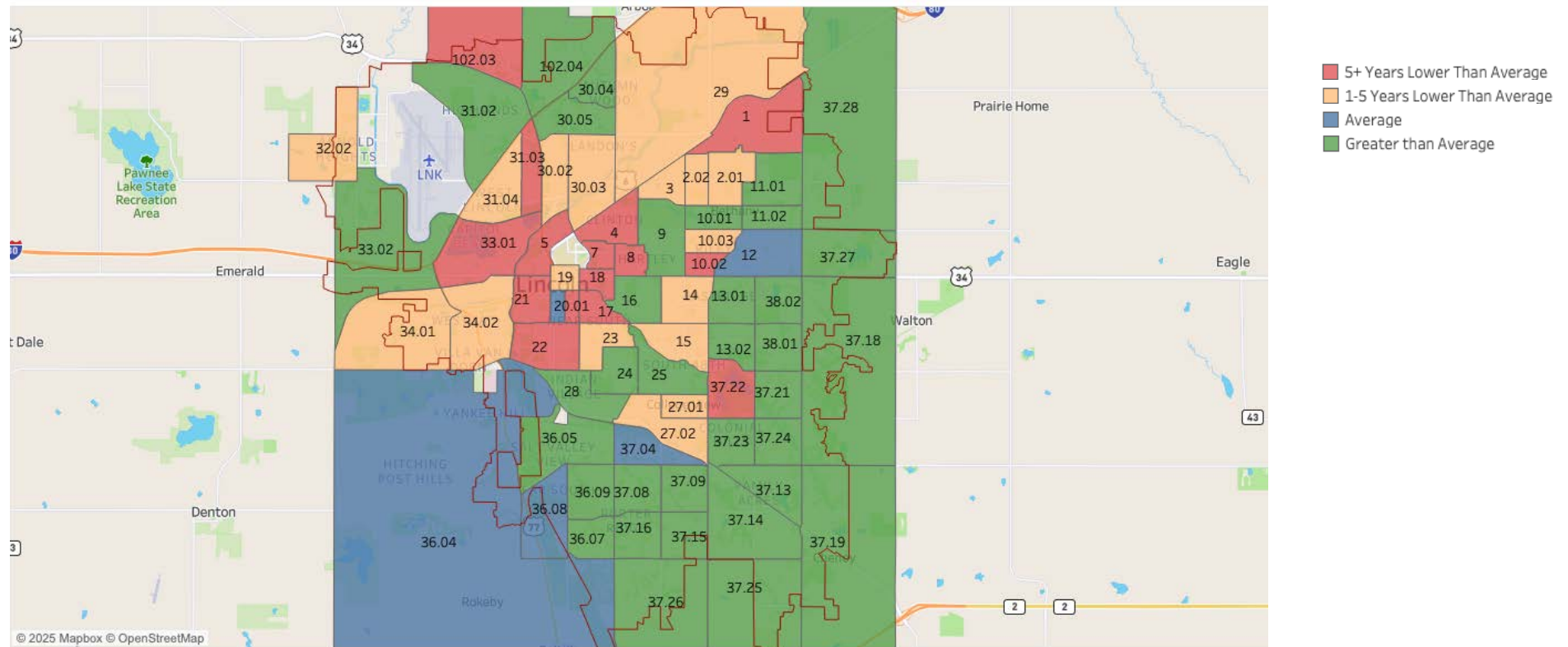
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Nebraska DHHS.

Percent within race or ethnicity based on number of adults 18 and older without primary care provider by population size for race or ethnicity.

Life Expectancy

Life expectancy varies throughout Lancaster County

Life Expectancy by Census Tract (2021 Five-year average)



Map 6

Life expectancy is the statistically probable length of time an individual is expected to live.

- As of 2021, the average life expectancy in Lancaster County is 78.2 years.
- Census tracts with lower-than-average life expectancies are located near downtown where poverty is most prevalent.

NOTES

Community Health Endowment. (2024). Place Matters 5.0 - Community Mapping Partnership LLC & CHE. <https://www.chelincoln.org/placematters/>

The Community Health Endowment 2024 Place Matters 5.0 Community Mapping Project maps life expectancy in Lancaster County based on mortality patterns of the population in a specific census tract given the risk factors in that location.

Chlamydia

Lancaster County's chlamydia rate is higher than the national average

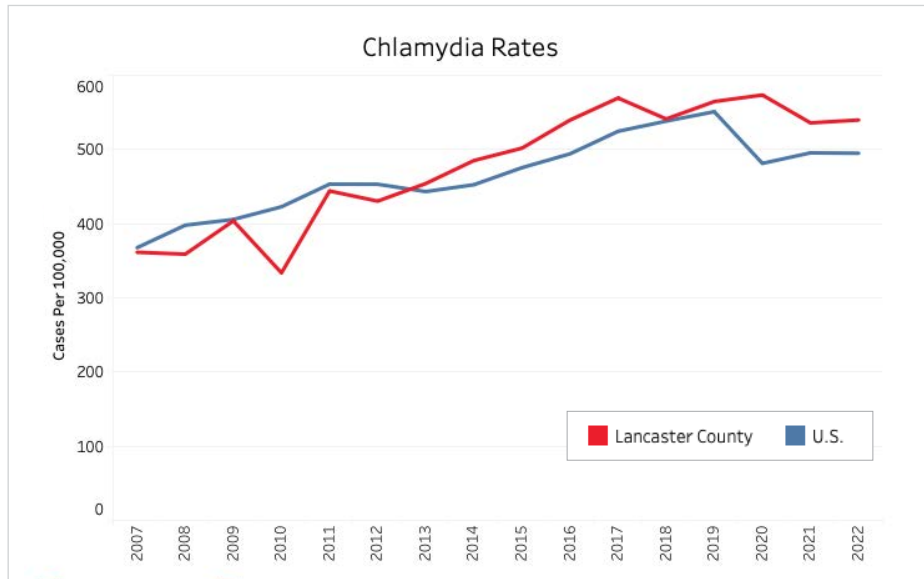


Figure 89

The rate of chlamydia, which had been steadily increasing since 2007, began to decline nationally in 2020 and locally as of 2021.

- The Lancaster County chlamydia rate has been higher than the national rate since 2013.
- In 2022, Lancaster County had 540 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 residents.
 - The U.S. had 495 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 residents.

Figure 90. Lancaster County's rate of chlamydia and gonorrhea diverge from national rates.

- Lancaster County's chlamydia rate exceeds that of the U.S.
 - In 2022, Lancaster County had 45 more cases of chlamydia per 100,000 residents than the U.S. (540 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 in Lancaster County compared to 495 cases per 100,000 in the U.S.).

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Lancaster County's rate of sexually transmitted diseases diverges from national rates

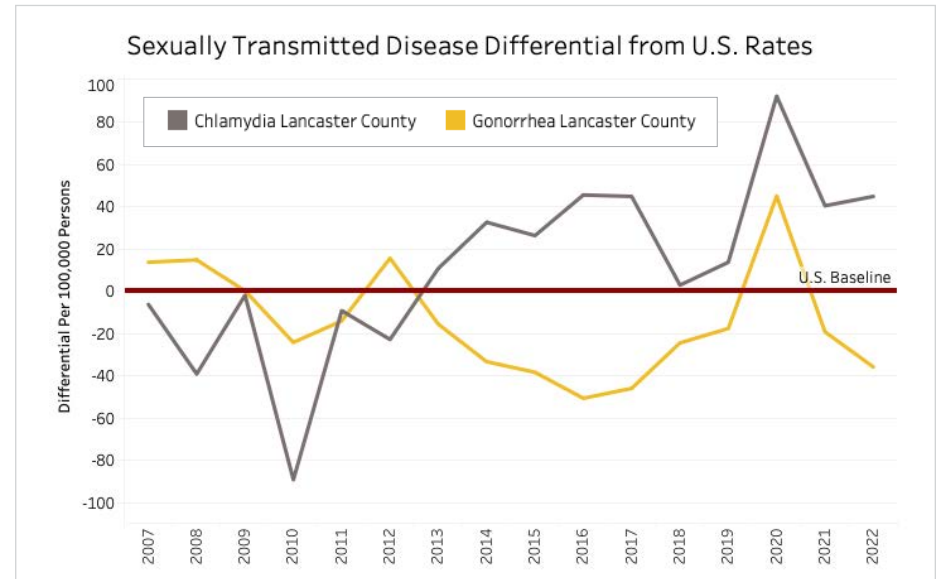


Figure 90

- Chlamydia cases in 2020 decreased for the U.S. as a whole, while increasing slightly in Lancaster County. This resulted in a large disparity between Lancaster County and the U.S. for 2020.
- Lancaster County's gonorrhea rate is lower than that of the U.S.
 - In 2022, Lancaster County had 36 fewer cases of gonorrhea per 100,000 residents than the U.S. (159 cases of gonorrhea per 100,000 in Lancaster County compared to 194 cases per 100,000 in the U.S.).
 - Gonorrhea cases in 2020 increased in both the U.S. and Lancaster County, but this increase was greater for Lancaster County, resulting in a large disparity between the county and the U.S. for 2020.

NOTES

Figure 89 & 90. Sexually Transmitted Diseases Surveillance System; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Prenatal Care

In the past 10 years, the rate of women with 10 or more prenatal visits has increased

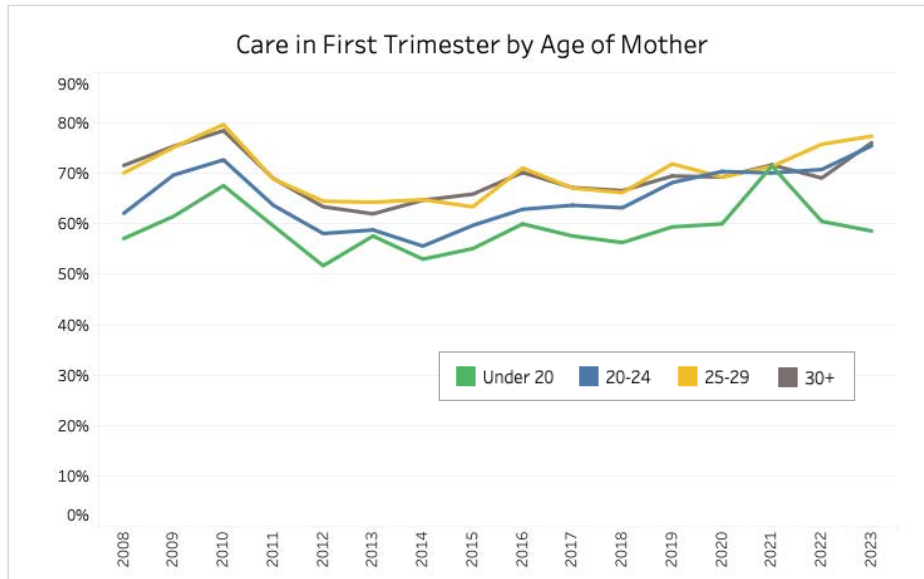


Figure 91

Women with 10 or more prenatal visits are less likely to experience adverse pregnancy outcomes when compared to women who have less than 10 prenatal visits. These adverse pregnancy outcomes include, but are not limited to, low birth weight, preterm births, and developmental delays or disabilities. Ten or more prenatal visits is an indicator of responsible and healthy pregnancies and subsequently births.⁷

- In 2021, 69.1% of women received 10 or more prenatal visits in Lancaster County.
- Consistently, a lower percentage of women under 20 years of age receive 10 or more prenatal visits than older women.

NOTES

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System.



Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity

Disparities exist in access and utilization of adequate prenatal care

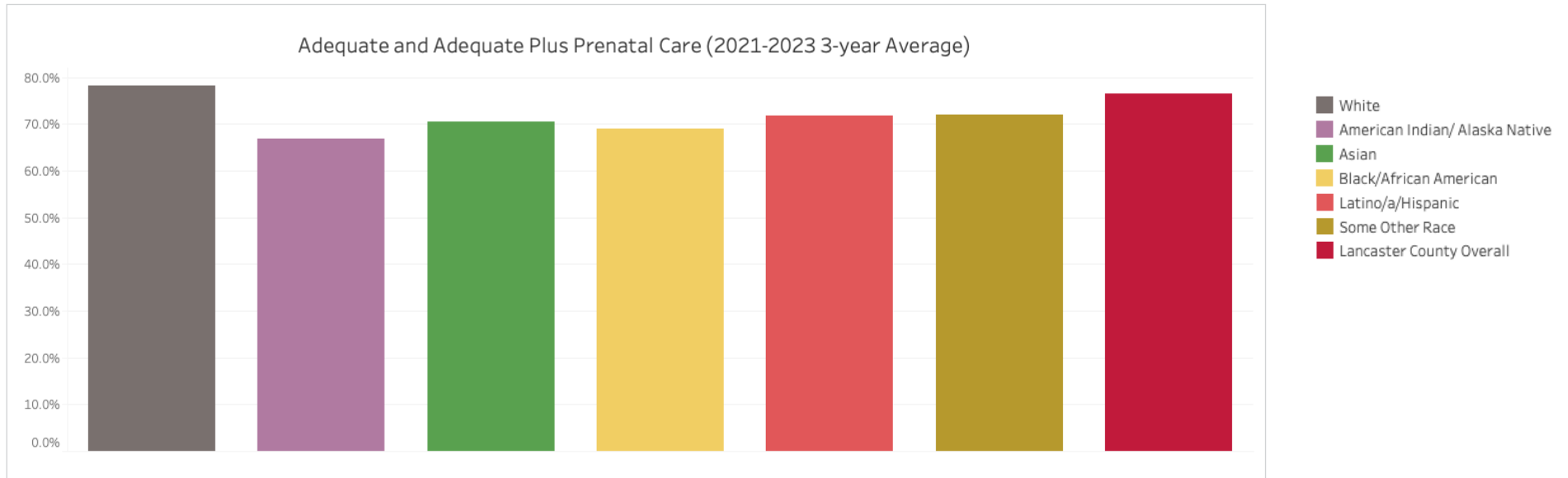


Figure 92

Adequate prenatal is defined as care beginning in the first four months of pregnancy and receiving at least 80% of prenatal care visits or examinations recommended by health care professionals.⁸

Inadequate prenatal care has been found to be associated with poor birth outcomes. Compared to adequate care, inadequate care is associated with increased risk of prematurity, stillbirth, and higher infant mortality.⁹

Overall, 76.5% of expectant mothers in Lancaster County received at least adequate prenatal care between 2021 and 2023.

- 78.2% of those who identified as White received at least adequate prenatal care.
- 71.8% of those who identified as Latino/a or Hispanic received at least adequate prenatal care.
- 70.5% of those who identified as Asian received at least adequate prenatal care.

- 69.0% of those who identified as Black or African American received at least adequate prenatal care.
- 66.9% of those who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native received at least adequate prenatal care.
- 71.9% of those who identified as Some Other Race received at least adequate prenatal care.

NOTES

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System. National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

Low Birth Weight

Lancaster County has a low rate of low birth weight infants

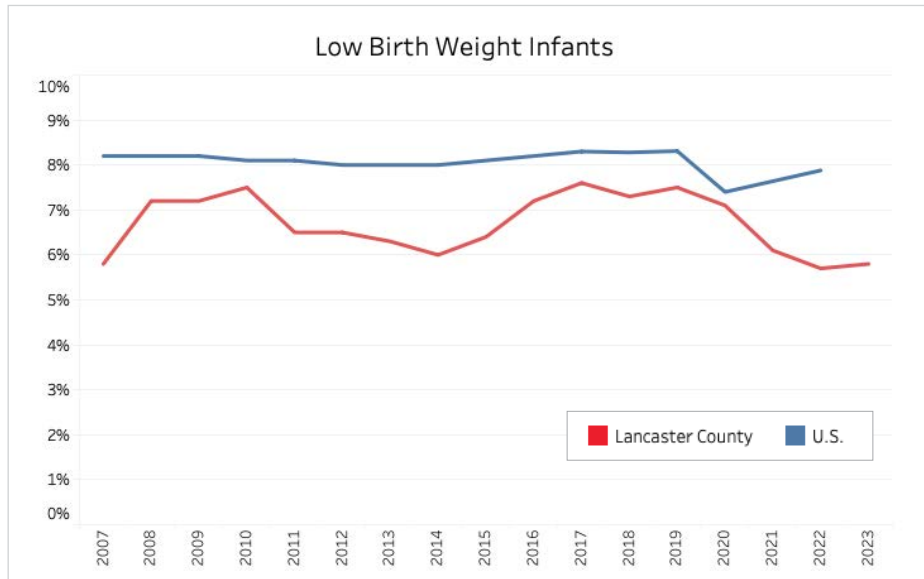


Figure 93

Children who are born at a low birth weight (less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces) have an increased risk of long-term disability and impaired development.¹⁰ Low birth weight may indicate inadequate prenatal care.¹⁰

- Lancaster County has a lower percentage of children who are born at a low birth weight than the U.S. In 2022, 5.7% of children were born at a low birth weight in Lancaster County, compared to the 7.9% of children who were born at a low birth weight in the U.S.
- Rates of low birth weight have decreased both nationally and in Lancaster County since 2019.



NOTES

National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System. Local data from Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System.

Low Birth Weight by Race/Ethnicity

Disparities exist in incidence of low birth weight by race and ethnicity in Lancaster County

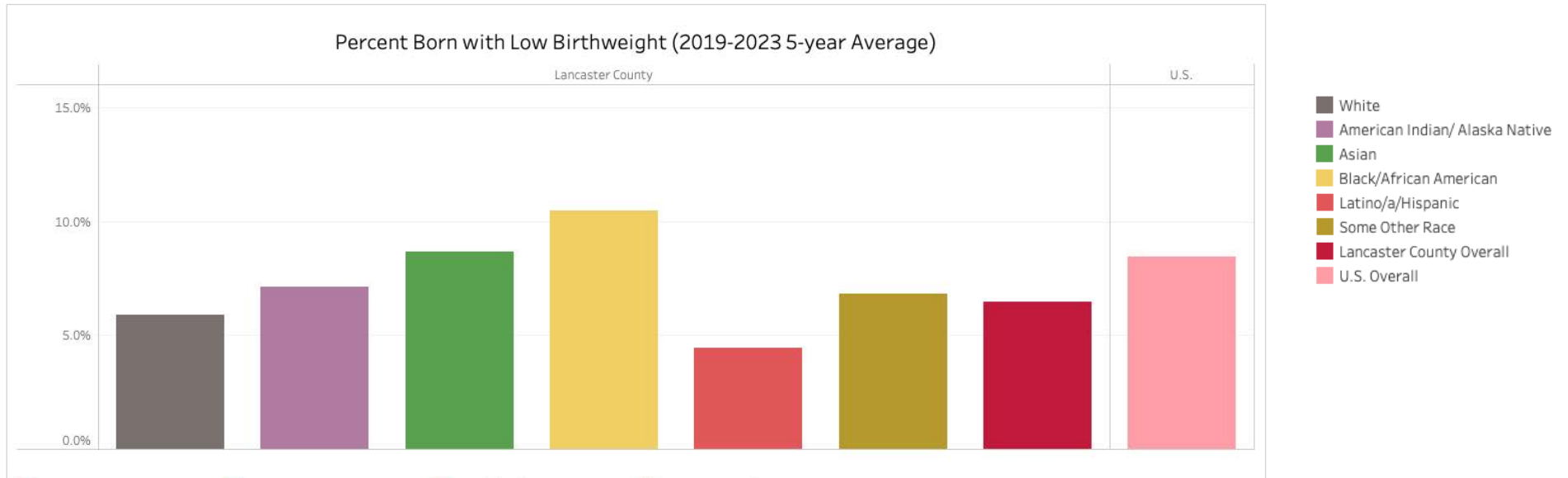


Figure 94

Children who are born at a low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams or 5 pounds, 8 ounces) have increased risk of death and need for long-term medical care compared to those born with weights above that threshold.^{11,12}

Lancaster County has a lower overall percentage of children who are born at a low birth weight than the U.S.

- From 2019 to 2023, the average percentage of children born at a low birth weight in Lancaster County was 6.4%, compared to the 8.4% of children who were born at a low birth weight in the U.S.

However, disparities in the incidence of low birth weight in Lancaster County exist by race and ethnicity.

- 4.5% of infants identified as Latino/a or Hispanic were born at low birth weight.
- 5.9% of infants identified as White were born at low birth weight.
- 6.8% of infants identified as Some Other Race were born at low birth weight.

- 7.1% of infants identified as American Indian or Alaska Native were born at low birth weight.
- 8.7% of infants identified as Asian were born at low birth weight.
- 10.4% of infants identified as Black or African American were born at low birth weight, higher than the national average.

NOTES

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System. National data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

Low birth weight births are defined as live births with a birth weight of less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs, 8 oz).

Births to Teen Mothers

Births to Lincoln teen mothers is the same as the national rate

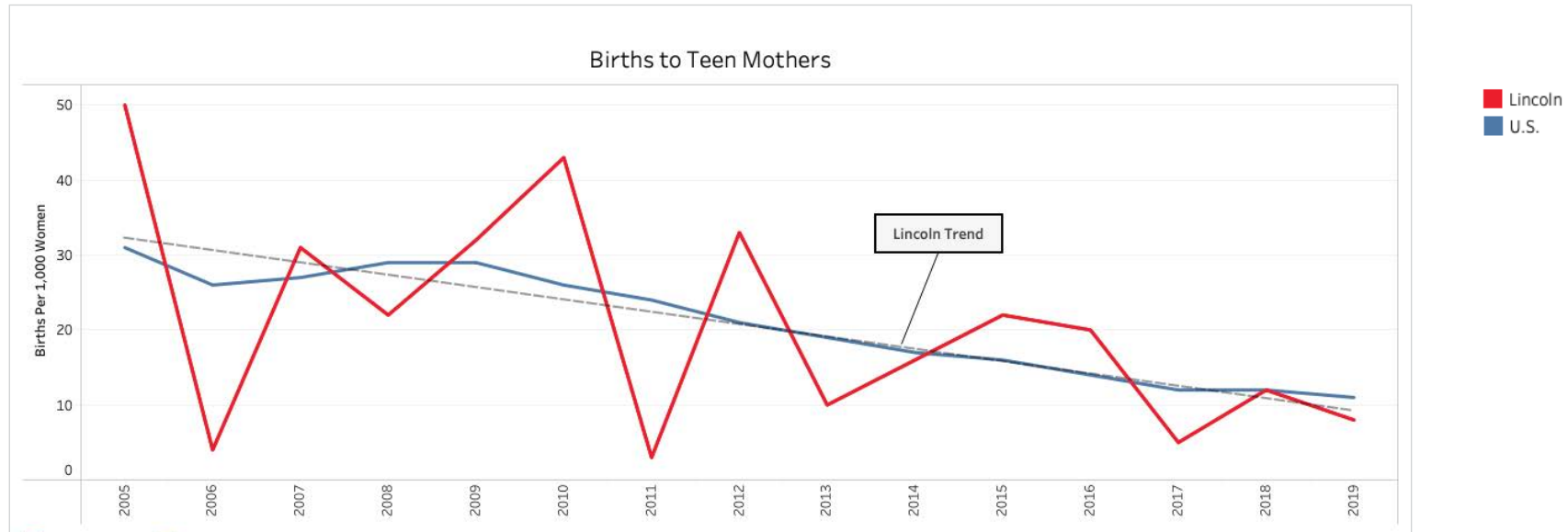


Figure 95

Teenage girls who give birth are more likely to drop out of high school and more likely to be in poverty.¹³ Research suggests that children born to teen mothers are more likely to be low birth weight, have long-term health problems, and have worse educational outcomes. These outcomes are likely the result of associated socio-economic status and family background rather than the age of the mother.¹⁰

- Over time, Lincoln’s average rate of births to teens has been similar to the national rate. From 2005 to 2019, the U.S. has had an average of 20.9 births per 1000 women aged 15 to 19 years of age, while Lincoln, over the same time, has had an average of 20.7.
- Both Lincoln and national rates of births to teen mothers have declined in the past decade.

- In Lincoln, the rate of births to teen mothers (aged 15 to 19 years of age) has fluctuated, some years much higher than the national rate and other years much lower.

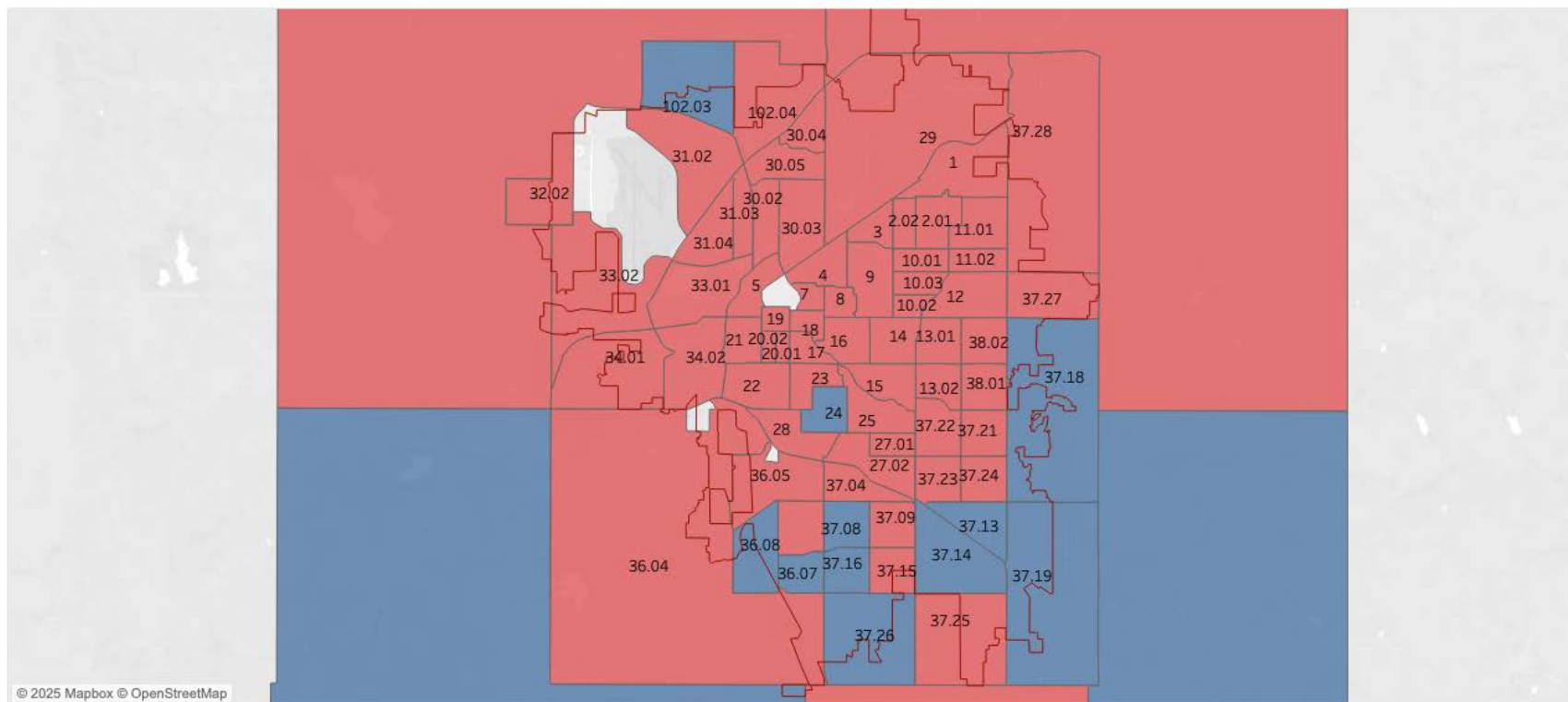
NOTES

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP02.

Youth Fitness by Geography

Lincoln's youth fitness rate varies by geography

Youth Fitness Map (2022)



Did 80% or more of youth living in the census tract pass the PACER test?

■ No ■ Yes

Map 7

The Community Health Endowment Place Matters 5.0 maps the percentage of children grades 4 – 8 who passed the FitnessGram PACER test measuring aerobic capacity. In 2022, children living in many areas of Lincoln did not meet the Lincoln Public Schools' goal of an average 80% pass rate. The 80% pass rate was achieved in 13 of Lincoln's 77 eligible census tracts (17%).

NOTES

Community Health Endowment. (2024). Place Matters 5.0 - Community Mapping Partnership LLC & CHE. <https://www.chelincoln.org/placematters/>

Youth Marijuana Use

Youth drug use rates are declining in Lancaster County and the U.S.

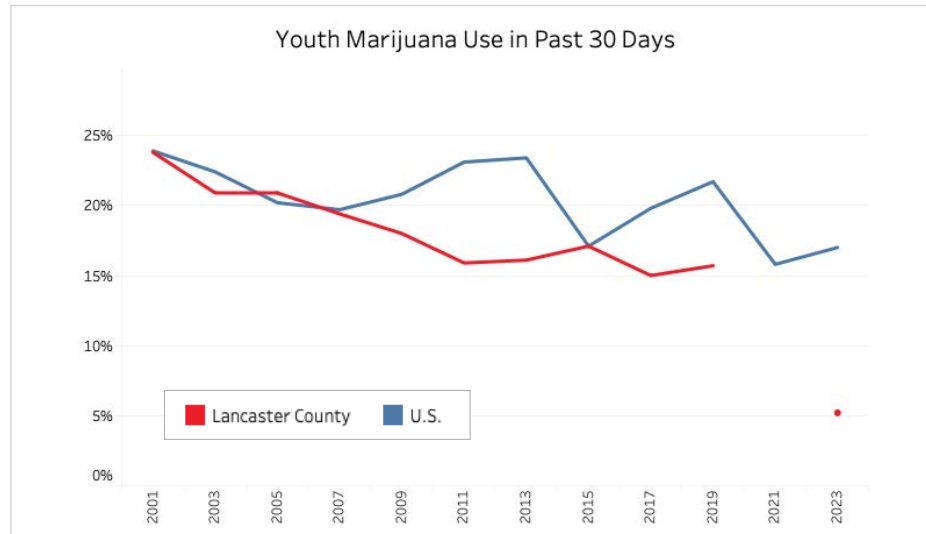


Figure 96

Marijuana use by youth may negatively affect brain development and increase the risk of mental health problems, driving while impaired, and addiction.¹⁴

- Over the past two decades, Lancaster County has seen a 78% decline in youth marijuana use.
 - 5% of students in Lancaster County reported 30-day marijuana use in 2023, compared to 21% in 2003.
 - The decline in use between 2019 and 2023 is steep. Additional years of data will show whether this decline is stable.
- Youth marijuana use is lower in Lancaster County than the U.S.
 - 5% of students in Lancaster County reported 30-day marijuana use in 2023 compared to 17% of students in the U.S.

Figure 97. The Lancaster County youth alcohol use rate is lower than the national rate. The youth cigarette use rate mirrors the national rate.

- Over the past two decades, alcohol use among youth in Lancaster County has declined significantly.

Youth Alcohol and Cigarette Use

Youth alcohol and cigarette use rates are declining in Lancaster County and the U.S.

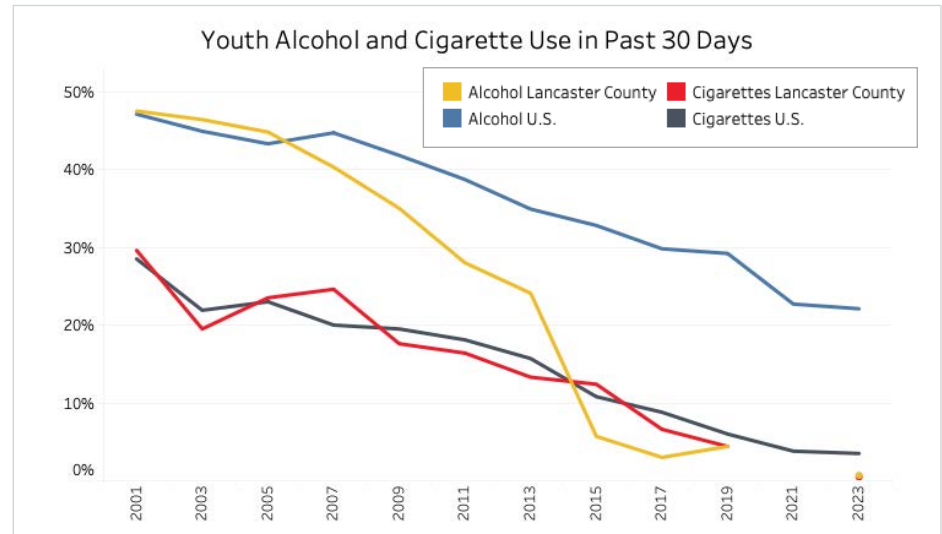


Figure 97

- This declining trend was steep between 2013 and 2015.
- The low rates first seen in 2015 have been maintained through 2023.
- In 2023, 0.7% of students in Lancaster County reported using alcohol in the past 30 days.
- Cigarette use among youth in Lancaster County has declined steadily over the past two decades.
 - In 2023, 0.5% of students in Lancaster County reported smoking cigarettes in the past 30 days.

NOTES

Figures 96 & 97. Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System; national data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; local data from Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Data shown through most recent year available. Revised estimates for Lancaster County in 2015, 2017, 2019. No data available for Lancaster County for 2021.

Mental Health Days

Poor mental health days have increased

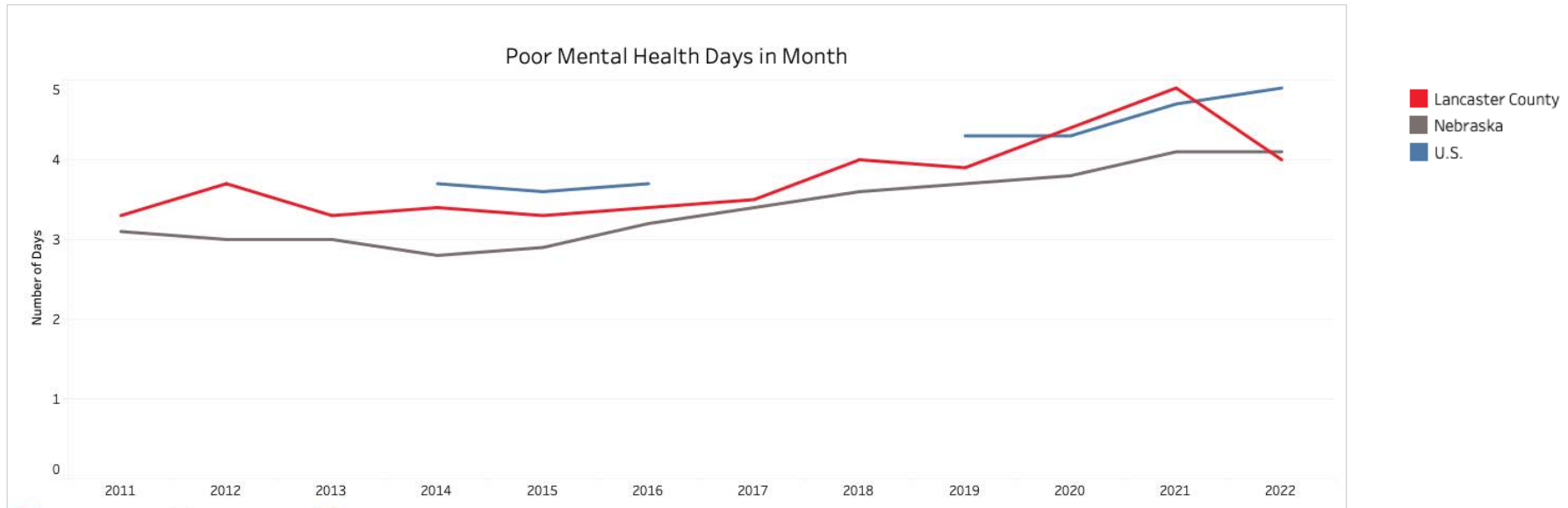


Figure 98

Mental health is a key component of overall well-being. Nationally, 23% of adults aged 18 or older experienced mental illness in 2022, while 6% of adults experienced a serious mental illness (e.g., schizophrenia, manic-depressive disorder, and severe depressive disorders).¹⁵

- The number of poor mental health days reported by Lancaster County and Nebraska residents has increased in the past decade since 2012.
 - In 2022, Lancaster County and Nebraska residents reported an average of 4.0 and 4.1 poor mental health days per month, compared to an average of 3.0 and 3.7 poor mental health days per month in 2012, respectively.
- The number of poor mental health days reported by Lancaster County residents was highest at 4.9 in 2021, and has since decreased to about the same as in 2018 and 2019.

NOTES

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; national data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; local data from Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Data shown through most recent year available. U.S. data is not reported comparably from 2017-2018 and is not shown.

Mental Health/Depression by Race/Ethnicity

Residents identifying as being two or more races, are disproportionately diagnosed with depression

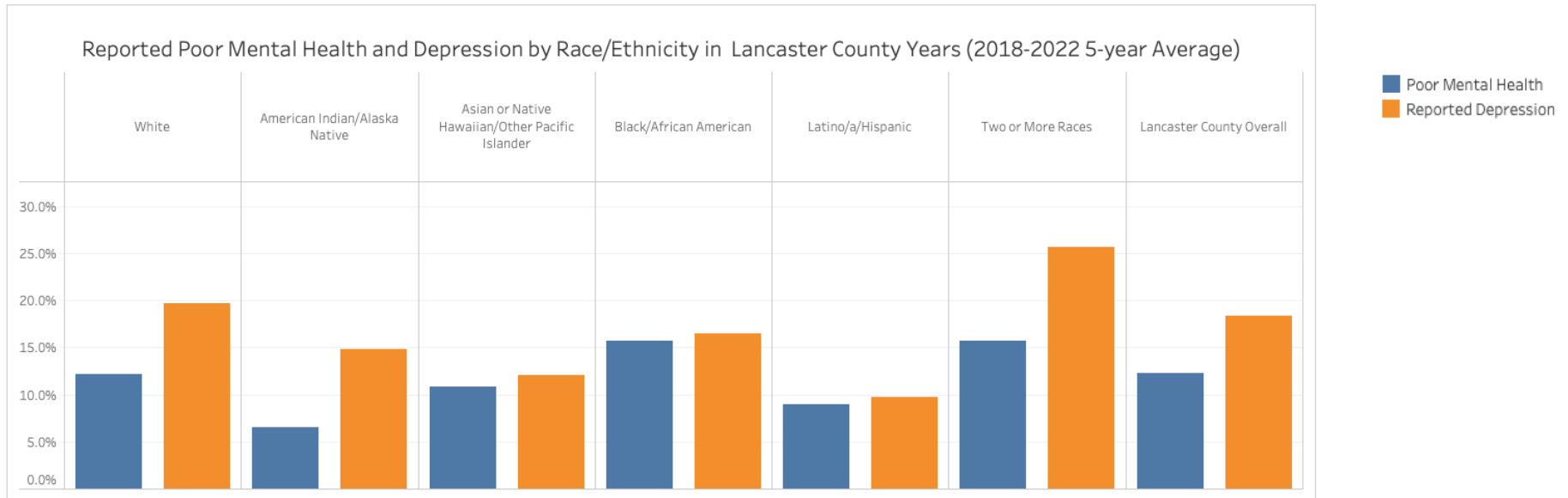


Figure 99

For 2018 through 2022, overall, 12.3% of Lancaster County residents reported poor mental health (including stress, depression, and problems with emotions) on 14 or more of the previous 30 days.

Those reporting 14 or more poor mental health days in the past 30 days include:

- 15.7% of those who identified as Black or African American.
- 15.7% of those who identified as being of Two or More Races.
- 12.2% of those who identified as White.
- 10.8% of those who identified as Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
- 8.9% of those who identified as Latino/a or Hispanic.
- 6.5% of those who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native.

An estimated 18.4% of adults in Lancaster County report ever being told by a health professional that they have a depressive disorder. Persons who identified as being of Two or More Races had a substantially higher rate than the rate for Lancaster County overall.

Those reporting having ever been diagnosed with a depressive disorder include:

- 25.6% of those who identified as being of Two of More Races.
- 19.7% of those who identified as White.
- 16.5% of those who identified as Black or African American.
- 14.8% of those who identified American Indian or Alaska Native.
- 12.1% of those who identified as Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
- 9.7% of those who identified as Latino/a or Hispanic.

NOTES

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Nebraska DHHS.

Percentage of adults 18 and older who report that they have ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they have a depressive disorder (depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression).

Police Mental Health Investigations

Police investigations involving mental health needs have increased by 21% in recent years

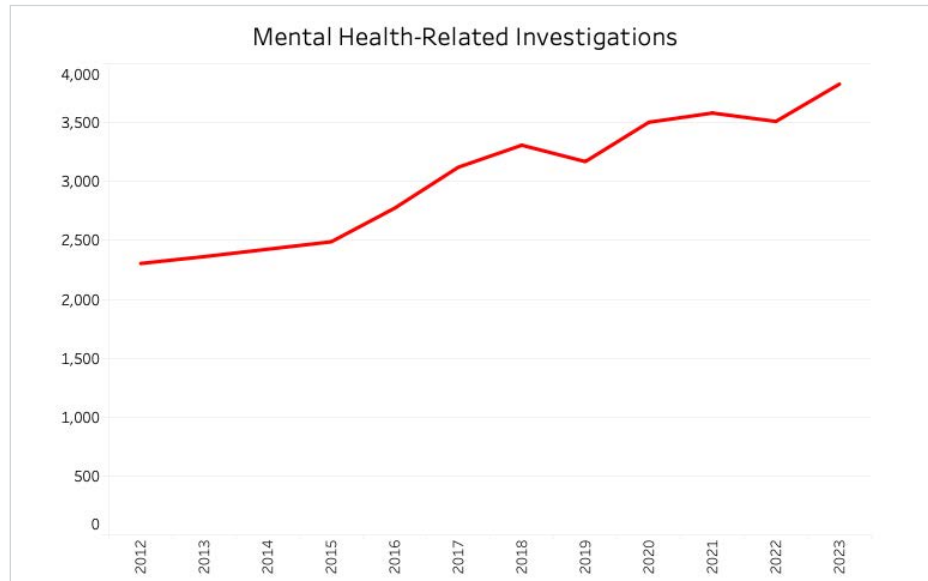


Figure 100

The Lincoln Police Department has officers trained to respond to calls involving mental health issues. When a person is located who may need mental health services, and they are not dangerous, they are provided information about available services. Their contact information is also provided to a peer support program that follows up on all contacts.

- The number of investigations involving mental health needs has steadily increased from 2012 to 2023.
- Since 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, police investigations involving mental health needs have increased by 20.8%.

NOTES

Lincoln Police Department.

Data from 2021 on is reported using a new federal reporting standard and may undercount the total number of dispatch calls related to mental health when mental health calls are associated with a second offense.

Suicide

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in Lancaster County

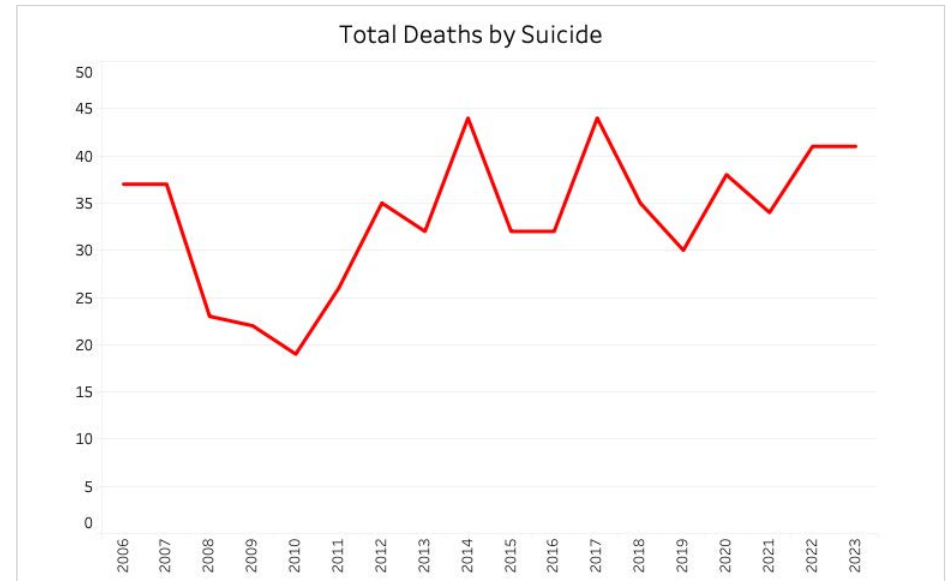


Figure 101

In 2022, suicide was among the top nine leading causes of death for people 10 to 64 years of age nationwide. Suicide was the second leading cause of death for people 10 to 14 years of age, and for those 25-34 years of age.¹⁶

In Lancaster County, in 2023, suicide was the 11th leading cause of death.¹⁷

- Since 2006, Lincoln has averaged 33 suicides per year.

NOTES

2011 and earlier data from Lancaster County Vital Statistics Reports; 2012 and later data from Lincoln Police Department.

Data is for Lancaster County.

Police Alcohol/Drug Related Incidents

Incidents involving alcohol and/or drugs requiring police response have decreased

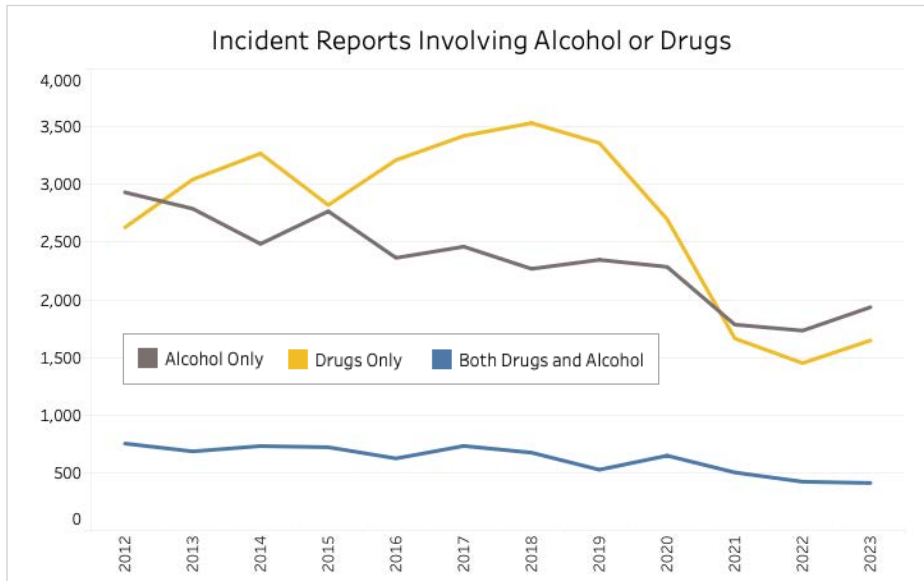


Figure 102

Incidents requiring a police response that also involved alcohol and/or drugs have decreased from the levels seen prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 12.7% of all police incident reports involved alcohol and/or drugs in 2023 (3,993), compared to 18.2% of police incident reports involving alcohol and/or drugs in 2019.
- In 2023:
 - Drugs were involved in 5.2% of all police incident reports.
 - Alcohol was involved in 6.2 % of all police incident reports.
 - Both alcohol and drugs were involved in 1.3% of all police incident reports.

NOTES

Lincoln Police Department.



Emergency Protective Custody

Mental health crisis services use is declining, but users often repeat crisis services

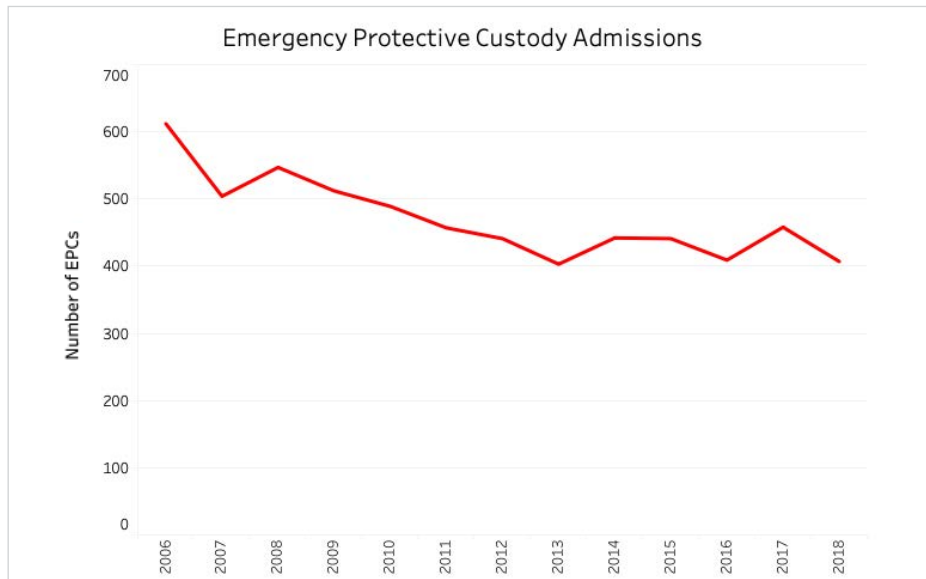


Figure 103

Through Emergency Protective Custody (EPC), law enforcement may take a person into involuntary custody who is mentally ill and dangerous to themselves or others, and who does not seek voluntary treatment when encouraged to do so by officers.

- The number of EPC admissions has declined 34% since 2006.
 - In 2005, police awareness training taught how to refer people to services and offer them the opportunity to be admitted voluntarily.
- Approximately 40% of those admitted have previously been EPC'd sometime after 2012.
 - For those **with repeat admissions**, the majority (63%) return within 13 months.

NOTES

Region V Behavioral Health Systems, Emergency Monitoring Annual Reports.

Data is for Lancaster County.

Civil Protective Custody

Substance abuse crisis services use is declining

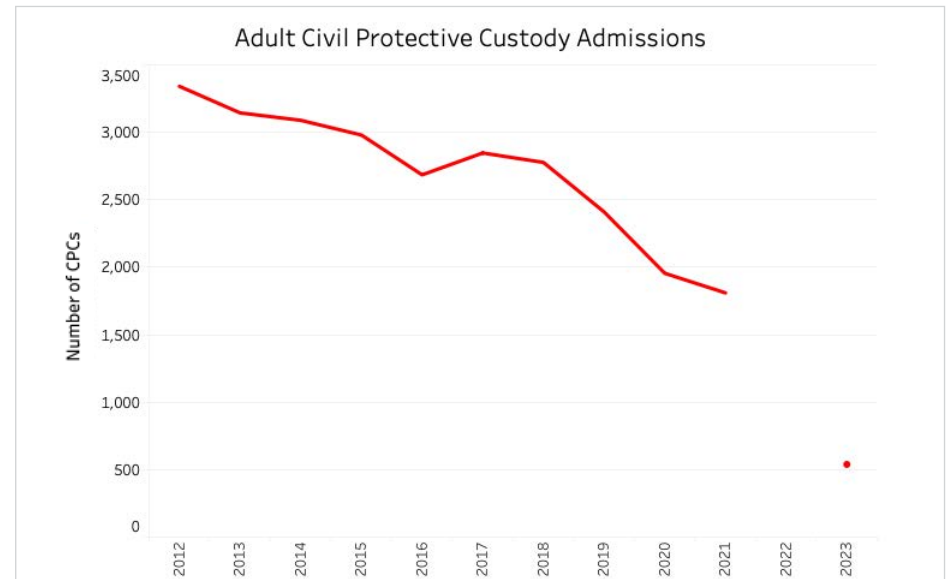


Figure 104

Civil Protective Custody (CPC) is used by law enforcement to detain a person who appears intoxicated and dangerous to themselves or others or is incapacitated on public property.

- Over the past decade, the number of CPC admissions has steadily declined.
 - In 2023, CPC admissions were 17% of what they were 2013.
 - In 2023, 539 admissions occurred.
 - In 2013, 3,144 admissions occurred

NOTES

Region V Behavioral Health Systems. CenterPointe.

Number of Adult Civil Protective Custody Admissions in 2022 are not reported due to admission program change. Data from 2021 and prior reported by Region V Behavioral Health Systems. Data for 2023 reported from CenterPointe.

Behavioral Health Admissions

Mental health disorders are the most common diagnosis for persons entering behavioral health services

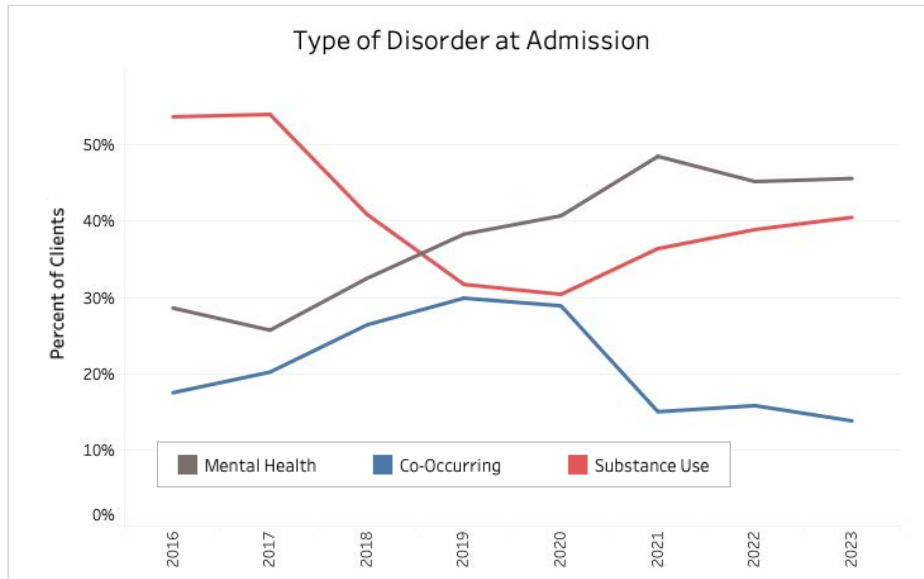


Figure 105

The state of Nebraska and local communities are responsible for delivering services to persons with severe and persistent behavioral health needs who are unable to pay for them. In Lincoln, Nebraska-funded services are paid for by the State of Nebraska, Lancaster County, behavioral health providers' charitable donations or other underwriting, and donors.

When persons enter into any type of service, they are admitted. People may be admitted to multiple services simultaneously. Persons admitted may have a primary diagnosis of mental health disorder, substance use disorder, or co-occurring disorder. A co-occurring disorder is one that involves both mental health and substance abuse. When individuals have a co-occurring disorder, treatments that address both are associated with lower costs and better outcomes.¹⁸



- Among receiving Nebraska-funded services in Lancaster County in 2023:
 - 45.6% had a mental health disorder.
 - 40.5% had a substance use disorder.
 - 13.8% had a co-occurring disorder.
- Since 2016, the prevalence of mental health disorders at time of admission (not co-occurring) has increased 59.4%, while the prevalence of substance use disorders (not co-occurring) has decreased by 24.6%.

NOTES

Region V Behavioral Health Systems.

Electronic data system changed in 2016 and recent data may not be comparable to previous data. Therefore, only data starting with 2016 is shown.

Behavioral Health Housing

Housing rates vary among those with mental health disorders after receiving services

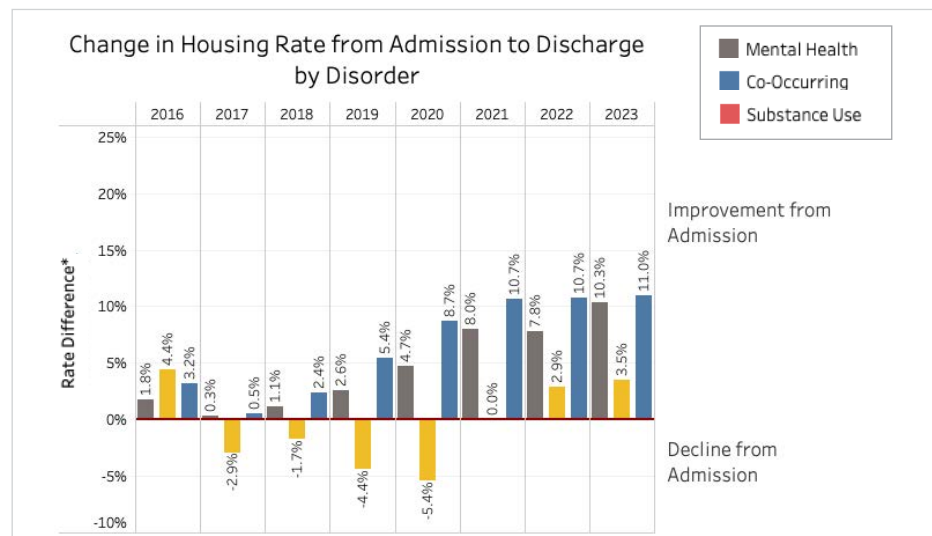


Figure 106

Persons with severe mental illness comprise a significant percentage of the homeless¹⁹ population. In addition to treatment services, a wide array of agencies provide other supportive community services to aid those with severe and persistent behavioral health needs in Lincoln. In 2023:

- Those with a co-occurring disorder diagnosis had an 11.0 percentage point increase in housing rate.
 - 64.4% were housed at admission, increasing to 75.4% housed at discharge.
- Those with a mental health diagnosis had a 10.3 percentage point increase in housing rate.
 - 78.9% were housed at admission, increasing to 89.2% housed at discharge.
- Those with a substance use diagnosis had a 3.5 percentage point increase in housing rate.
 - 87.4% were housed at admission, increasing to 90.9% housed at discharge.

Behavioral Health Employment

Employment rates increase among those with behavioral health disorders after receiving services

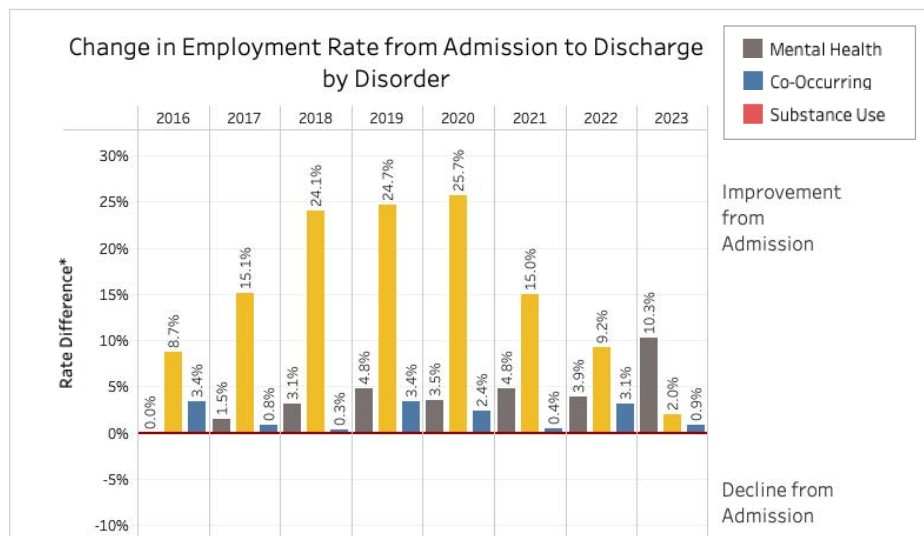


Figure 107

In addition to treatment services, a wide array of agencies provide other supportive community services to aid those with severe and persistent behavioral health needs in Lincoln. This includes assistance finding and retaining employment.

- Persons receiving behavioral health services are more likely to be employed after receiving treatment.
- In 2023, the employment rate of persons with a mental health diagnosis increased the most after treatment.
 - The employment rate of persons undergoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis increased from 28.4% employed at admission to 38.6% at discharge.

NOTES

Figure 105 & 106. Region V Behavioral Health Systems.

Electronic data system changed in 2016, and recent data may not be comparable to previous data. Therefore, only data starting with 2016 is shown.

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Safety and Security

People want to live in communities where they feel physically free from harm. Harm may occur through intentional victimization, as well as through accidents and health crises. Violent crime in the U.S. has increased since 2019 but is again trending downward.¹

Lincoln has less crime than other similarly sized communities. Lincoln residents report feeling safe most or all of the time, and medical and fire services are effective. However, the percentage of **children removed from their homes for their safety remains higher than nationwide.** Lincoln has also seen an **increase in the juvenile arrest rates for drug violations and property crimes** when compared to national rates.

Crime Rate

Lincoln's crime rate remains low

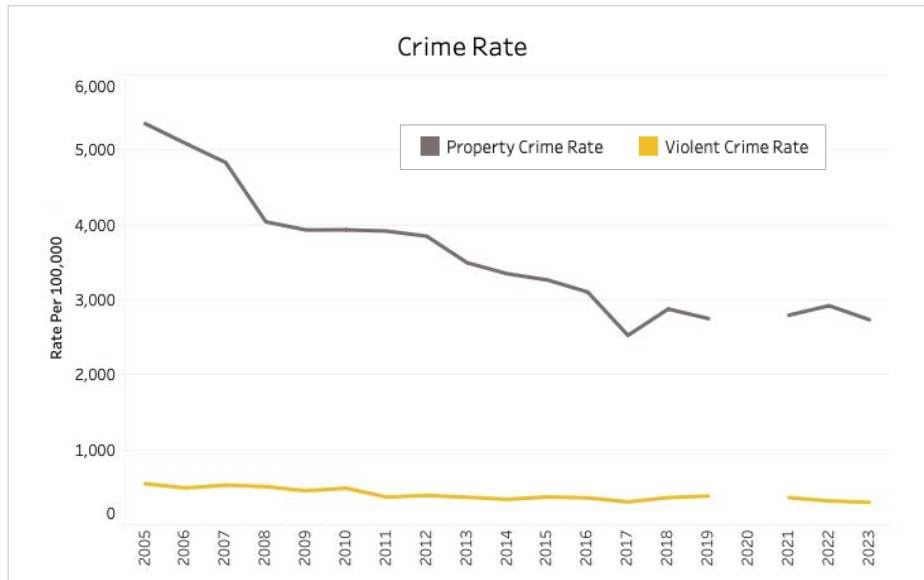


Figure 108

Lincoln's crime rate remains low. The City of Lincoln has regularly met its goal of having fewer than 555 violent crimes per 100,000 persons and fewer than 755 burglaries (part of property crimes) per 100,000 persons.

- Property crimes are the most reported offenses in Lincoln, but they have declined 22% in the past decade (from 3,496 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2013, to 2,735 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2023).
- Violent crimes are the least reported offenses in Lincoln, and they have declined 19% in the past decade (from 367 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2013 to 299 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2023).
 - Violent crime was relatively steady for most of this decade, with declines occurring in recent years. Violent crime has declined from 383 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2019.

NOTES

U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports.

The FBI experienced lower rates of data submission from agencies in 2020. Lincoln data for 2020 is not reported as participating agencies may not be comparable to previous or subsequent years.

Crime Rate Comparison

Lincoln's crime rate is lower than similar-size cities

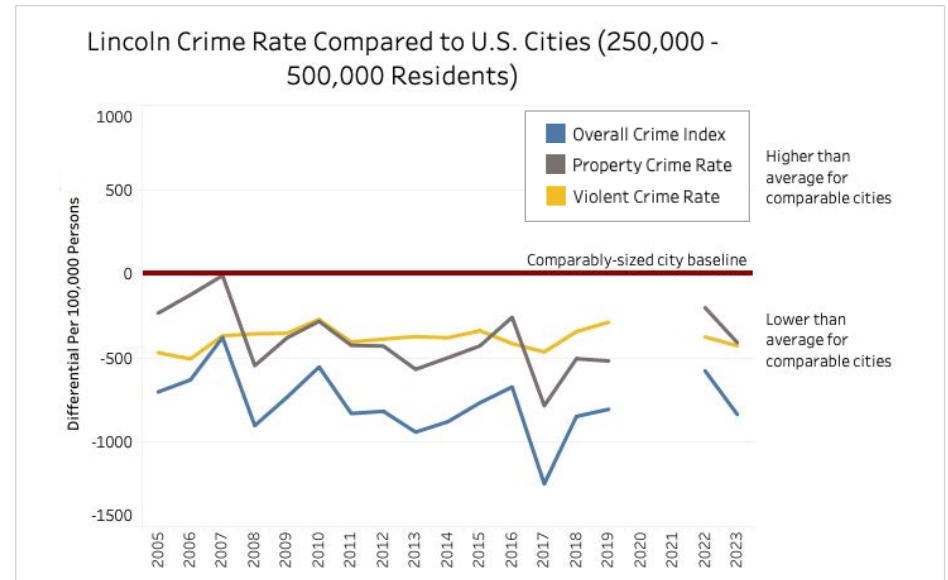


Figure 109

Lincoln's property and violent crime rates have consistently been lower than the rates of other cities across the United States with populations between 250,000 and 500,000 persons.

- In 2023, Lincoln's property crime rate was 86% of the rate of comparably sized cities.
 - This value has fluctuated between 76% and 84% of rates in cities of comparable size over the past decade.
- Over the past decade, Lincoln's violent crime rate averaged 48% of the violent crime rate of other comparably sized cities.

NOTES

U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports.

The FBI experienced lower rates of data submission from agencies in 2020. Lincoln data for 2020 is not reported as participating agencies may not be comparable to previous or subsequent years.

Data on cities across the United States with populations between 250,000 and 500,000 persons is not available for 2021. This year (2021) has been excluded from calculations.

Juvenile Arrest Comparison

Lincoln's juvenile arrest rates for drug violations and property crimes were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

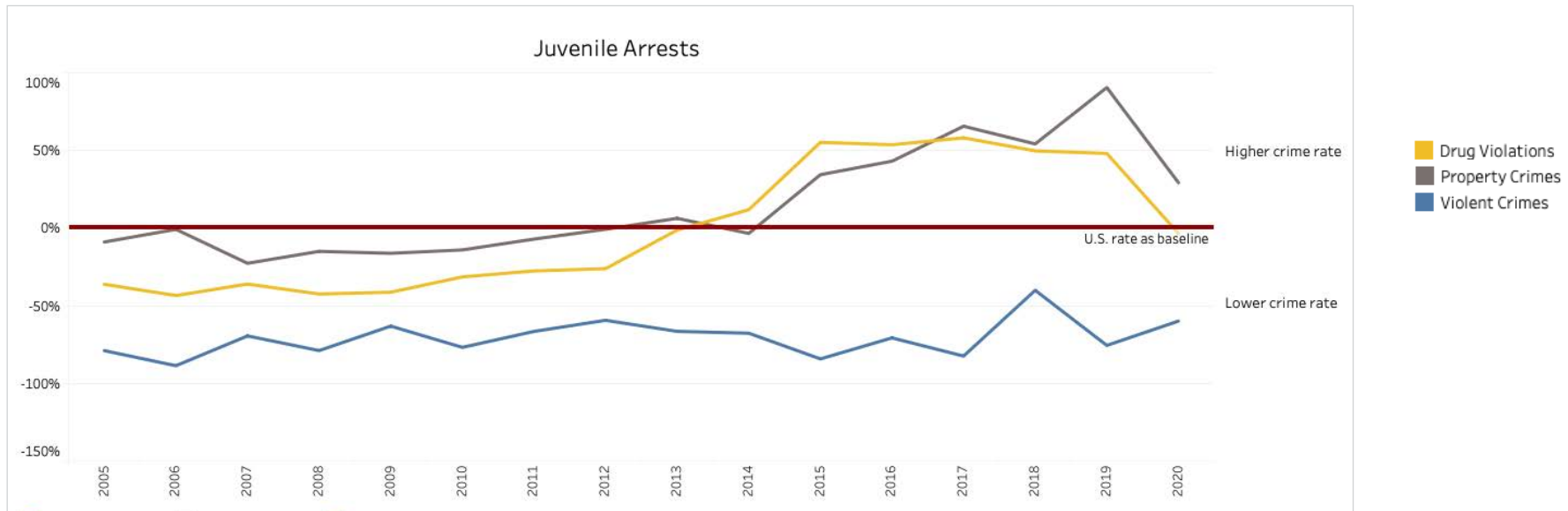


Figure 110

Lower juvenile arrests for drug violations and property crimes were observed in 2020. This is likely related to less time spent outside of the home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Juvenile arrests for violent crimes have always been lower in Lincoln than national arrest rates and remained low in 2020.

- Lincoln's juvenile drug arrest rate was previously lower than the national rate but has been increasing in the past decade (since 2010) and in 2019 was 48% higher than the national rate.
 - In 2020, it was substantially lower, sitting at 3% lower than the national average.
- Although the juvenile property crime arrest rate has been decreasing nationally,² Lincoln has experienced an increase in juvenile property crime arrest rates.³ The Lincoln juvenile property crime arrest rate was 91% higher than the national rate in 2019, though decreased to just 29% higher than the national rate in 2020.

- Lincoln's juvenile violent crime arrest rates have been on average 68% lower than the national rate in the decade from 2010 to 2020.

NOTES

Juvenile Arrest Rates (JAR); national data from U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; local data from Nebraska Crime Commission.

ACS 1-year estimates for population data for Lancaster County is not available for 2020. Instead, the ACS 5-year estimate was used for this calculation.

Local data is for Lancaster County.

National data on juvenile arrests was revised in 2022 and past years have been updated in the figure to reflect this. This data is not available past 2020.

Feeling Safe and Secure

People in Lincoln report feeling safe

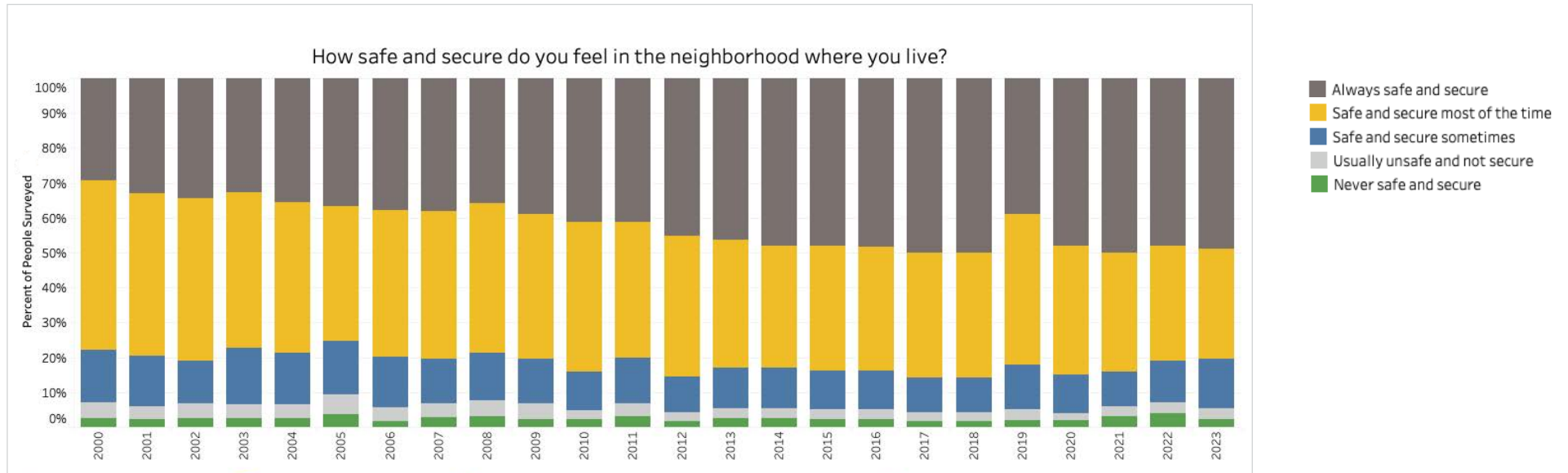


Figure 111

The Lincoln Police Department, through a contract with Gallup, surveys all individuals who have contact with city police officers.

- In the past decade, through 2023, 74% to 85% of respondents have indicated that they feel safe and secure either *always* or *most of the time*.
- Of that group, there has been a steady increase in the percentage of individuals who say they *always* feel safe and secure prior. The percentage of individuals who say they *always* feel safe and secure decreased from 50% in 2018 to 39% in 2019, but has since increased to 45% in 2023.

The high percentage of feelings of safety and security among this population are particularly notable since the group includes individuals who have had contact with the police department as the result of victimization.

NOTES

Lincoln Police Department, Annual Reports, Quality Service Audit.

Percentages in this figure differ slightly from the Lincoln Police Department Annual Report as this figure does not include people who did not answer this question in the calculation.

Ambulance Response Time

Medical emergency response trails city’s goals

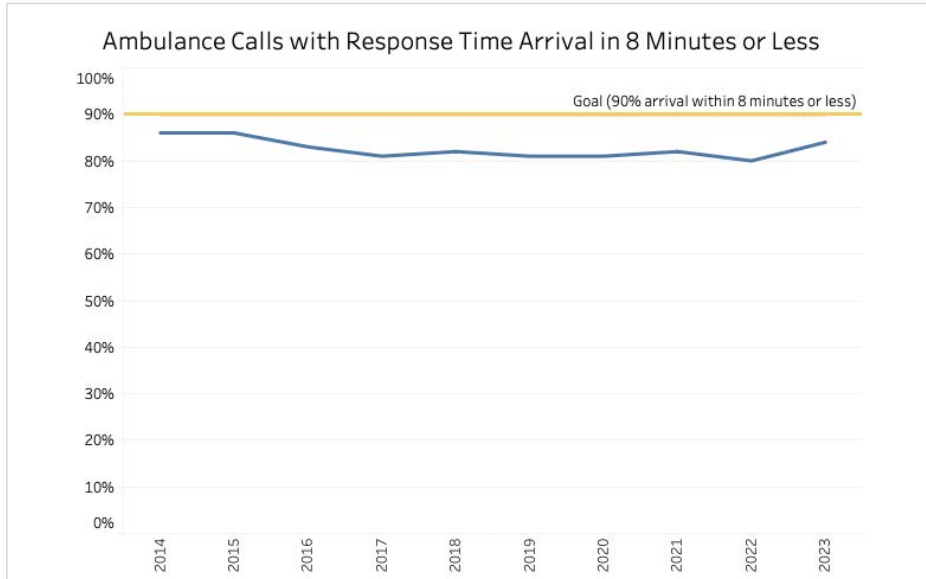


Figure 112

The City of Lincoln’s goal is to achieve on-scene arrival of an ambulance in less than 8 minutes after receiving a medical call.

- For the past 10 years, the goal has not been reached. In 2023, 84% of on-scene ambulance arrivals were achieved in less than 8 minutes after receiving a medical call.

NOTES

Lincoln Fire & Rescue, Annual Reports.

Property Saved from Fire

Property value saved from fire is high

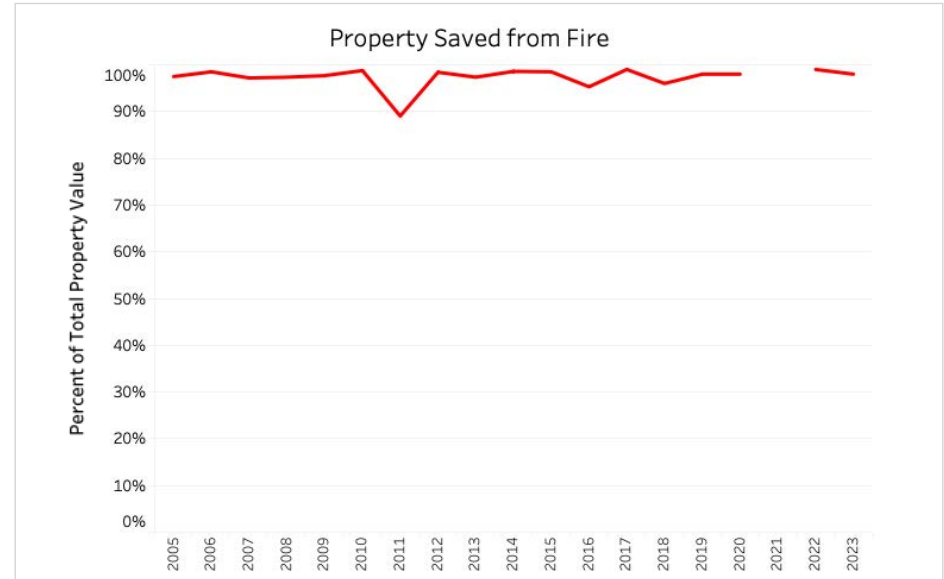


Figure 113

Lincoln Fire and Rescue track the percentage of total property value they save when responding to fires.

- Over the past decade, through 2023, Lincoln Fire and Rescue saved on average 97% of property value.
 - The only year this percentage dropped below 95% was in 2011, when the Lincoln Public Schools’ district office was destroyed by fire.

NOTES

Lincoln Fire & Rescue, Annual Reports.

Data on average property value saved was not presented in 2021. This year has been excluded from calculations.

Domestic and Child Violence

Child abuse and neglect investigations have increased following the COVID-19 pandemic

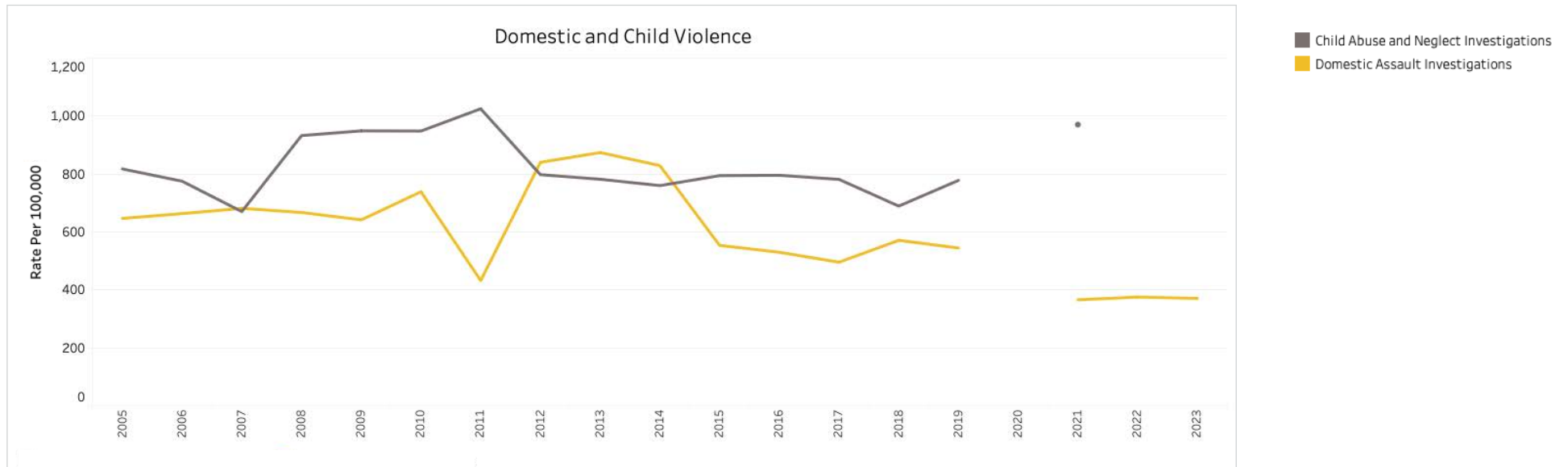


Figure 114

- Lancaster County’s number of child abuse and neglect investigations by Health and Human Services has increased 25%, from 778 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2019 to 971 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2021.⁴
- The rate of domestic assault investigations has decreased 57% from a high in 2013 (from 874 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2013 to 371 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2023).
 - In recent years, the number of domestic assault investigations has decreased 32% from 545 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2019 to 371 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2023).

NOTES

Compiled from Nebraska Crime Commission, Domestic Assault Reports. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Child Abuse and Neglect Reports.

Data is for Lancaster County.

Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations count those conducted by Nebraska DHHS.

Data for child abuse and neglect investigations by county have not been publicly published since 2021.

Child Out-of-Home Placements

The percentage of children in out-of-home placements has fluctuated in the past decade

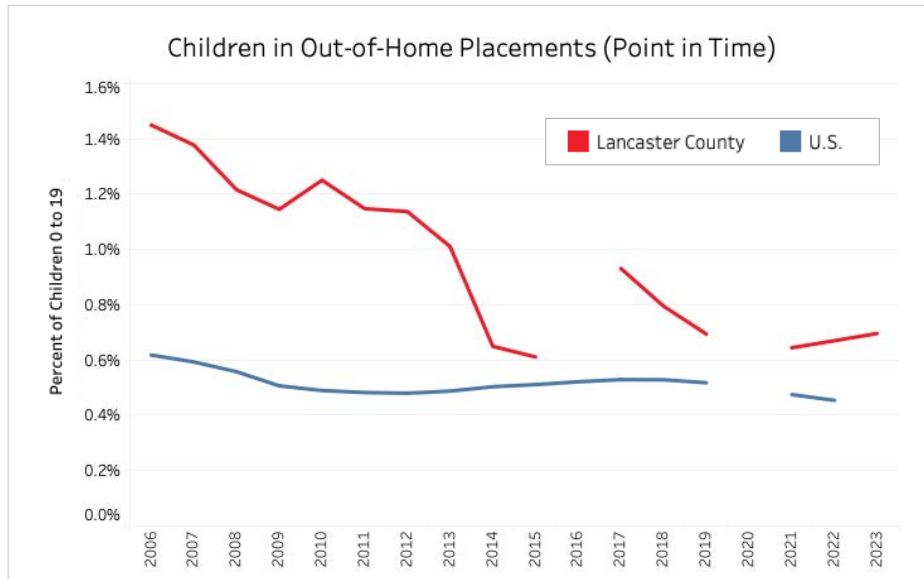


Figure 115

Nebraska’s child protective custody system has been widely criticized for the high percentages of children that are placed in out-of-home care (such as foster care). However, there have been improvements in the past decade.

- In Lancaster County, the percentage of children in foster care continues to be higher than the national rate.^{5,6}
- Although the percentage of children in out-of-home placement is a relatively small percentage of Lincoln’s children, 524 children were in out-of-home placements in 2023.⁵
- Since 2010, the percentage of children in out-of-home placements has declined steadily from a high of 1.25% to 0.7% in 2023.



NOTES

National data from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Reports. Local data from The Nebraska Foster Care Review Office, Annual Reports.

2016 and 2020 data for Lancaster County is not available in public reports.

Child Out-of-Home Placement Reasons

Parent substance use and neglect are the most common reasons for children to be in out-of-home placements

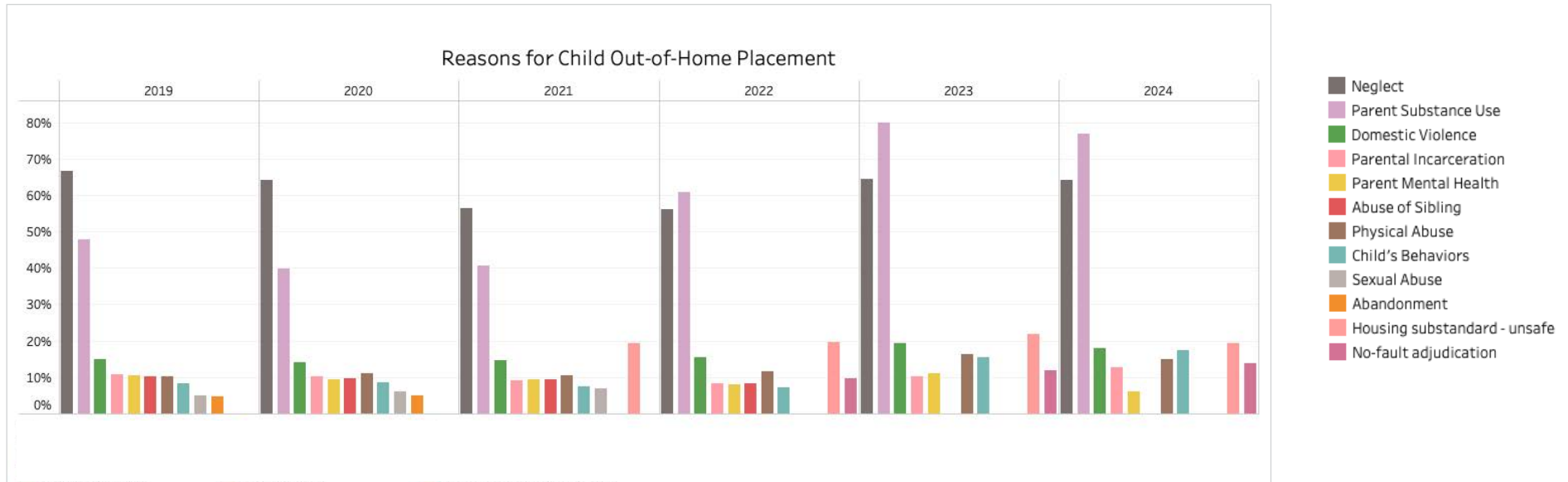


Figure 116

In 2023, there were several reasons for children to be in out-of-home placements.

- Parent substance use was the reason for out-of-home placement for the majority of children (77%).
- Neglect was a reason for over half (64%) of out-of-home placements.
- The third most common reason for out-of-home placement in 2023 was substandard housing, which accounted for 19% of child out-of-home placements
- Parent substance use and neglect have consistently been the top two reasons for child out-of-home placements since 2012.

NOTES

The Nebraska Foster Care Review Office, Annual Reports.

Any individual child may be removed from a home for multiple reasons; therefore, percentages add to more than 100%.

Data reporting on reasons for child out-of-home placements changed in 2017. Due to this, only data from 2019 onward is reported.

Nebraska Foster Care Review Office Annual Reports include the top 10 reasons for child out-of-home placement; these reasons can change over time. As of 2022, sexual abuse and abandonment were no longer reported in the top 10 reasons. As of 2023, abuse of sibling was no longer reported in the top 10 reasons.

Safety and Security Notes

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3. Although juvenile arrest rates may largely reflect juvenile behavior, many other factors can affect the magnitude of these rates, such as the attitudes of citizens toward crime, the policies of local law enforcement agencies, and the policies of other components of the justice system.
4. Data for domestic violence offenses is not available for only the City of Lincoln, therefore Lancaster County data is used.
5. All data is point-in-time. Lancaster County data 2006 through 2009 for December 20; 2011 and later for June 30. National data is for September 30 of each year.
6. These figures exclude children who are removed from homes due to juvenile justice interventions.

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General Notes

Terms of Use

The public information contained in Lincoln Vital Signs reports comes from a variety of reputable public sources. The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center makes no warranties concerning the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information from these various sources.

About the Data

Lincoln Vital Signs indicators are measures of the strength and health of our community as well as the challenges it faces. The indicators come from many sources and are meant to:

- **Reflect fundamental interests and concerns of the community, families, and individuals**
- **Serve as reliable sources using valid sampling and measurement approaches**
- **Be available for past years and repeatable for future years**
- **Measure outcomes, rather than inputs or outputs**

For a number of indicators, national, state, peer, or aspirational community data are provided. The authors have noted in various sections of the report where data are lacking for important aspects in our community's life. Data already available from public sources were used. The Appendix provides information about the data sources. Data were selected, where possible, to represent the City of Lincoln. The authors have noted when other geographic units were used (Lancaster County, of which Lincoln comprises 90% of the population; the Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is Lancaster and Seward Counties; or Nebraska as a whole).

General Notes (cont.)

Several other areas of importance are noted below:

OMB race and ethnicity standards

There is some variation in reporting of racial and ethnic categories within this report based on availability from the data source. Most of these data are from the U.S. Census Bureau and other federal agencies that are reported in accordance with 1997 U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards, and generally reflect a social definition of race based upon self-identification. The Census Bureau reports a minimum of five race categories (American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White) and two ethnicity categories (Hispanic or Latino and Not Hispanic or Latino). Ethnicity, as specified by OMB, is treated as a separate and distinct concept from race. Respondents may choose more than one race, along with ethnicity. However, for purposes of presentation, race and ethnicity are often reported in a single graphic figure. Further, we have shortened titles of race and ethnic categories, in most cases. When population sizes of racial groups are small, access to specific data about these populations may be excluded and/or unavailable due to privacy concerns for small populations.

MENA

Under the OMB standards, the U.S. Census Bureau currently classifies people with Middle Eastern or North African (MENA) descent as White, while many people of MENA descent may not identify as White. Research by the Census Bureau and recommendations from several groups suggest reforming federal data collection by adding a “Middle Eastern or North African” box, and to remove people with MENA origins from the white category. However, these recommendations have not yet been implemented, which may impact current data.

People Living in Group Quarters

Over the years, the U.S. Census Bureau has varied its approach to reporting about people living in group quarters (including data from populations living in college dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes). For example, beginning in 2006, race and educational attainment data include persons in group quarters. Calculations for people in poverty exclude institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

General Notes (cont.)

COVID-19 Impact

Many indicators throughout multiple sections of Lincoln Vital Signs utilize data from the American Community Survey (ACS). The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affected the data quality of these statistics, therefore, the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020 and also delayed the release of the 2016-2020 ACS 5-year estimates. The Census Bureau instead released experimental estimates from the limited 1-year data. *Due to the experimental nature of these ACS 2020 1-year estimates, they are not included in Lincoln Vital Signs reports.*

Multiple indicators in the Education section rely on data from the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS). The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) is the statewide assessment system for English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science that public schools have administered since the 2016-17 school year. It is not comparable to the older NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) assessment. The ELA and mathematics NSCAS test administered in Spring 2021 was shortened to preserve instructional time due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Non-participants were also not representative of the whole population. These factors, in addition to changes in enrollment and differences in NSCAS participation rates, complicates direct comparisons to previous NSCAS data.

Figure Updates

Some indicators or maps that were in previous reports have been removed from this year's report, primarily because data are no longer available, or the metrics that are publicly available have changed. Additionally, several indicators and maps have been added to this year's report to replace removed items or are carried forward from the Lincoln Vital Signs Race Equity Trends 2024 report.

Economy and Workforce

• Removed

- Quality of Workforce (Lincoln Economic Dashboard and Business Conditions & Indicators Reports)
- Availability of Skilled Workforce (Lincoln Economic Dashboard and Business Conditions & Indicators Reports)

• Added

- Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity (U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey)
- Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity Map (U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey)

Basic Needs

• Removed

- Poverty Map (Community Health Endowment, Place Matters Community Mapping Project)
- Race/Ethnicity and Poverty Map (Community Health Endowment, Place Matters Community Mapping Project)

• Added

- Food Insecurity by Race/Ethnicity (Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap)
- Housing Cost Burden by Race/Ethnicity (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Tool)
- Student Homelessness by Race/Ethnicity (US Department of Education, ED Facts)

Figure Updates (cont.)

Education

- **Removed**

- Young Children Enrolled in SUTQ Providers (Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Education Profile)

- **Added**

- Nursery School and Preschool Enrollment (U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey)

Health

- **Removed**

- Tobacco Use Map (Community Health Endowment, Place Matters Community Mapping Project)
- First Trimester Prenatal Care Map (Community Health Endowment, Place Matters Community Mapping Project)

- **Added**

- Tobacco/E-Cigarette Use (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Nebraska DHHS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)
- Healthcare Access by Race/Ethnicity (Nebraska DHHS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)
- Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity (Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System)
- Low Birth Weight by Race/Ethnicity (Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Online Vital Statistics Reporting System)
- Mental Health/Depression by Race/Ethnicity (Nebraska DHHS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

Safety and Security

- **Removed**

- Lincoln Traffic Crash Injuries (City of Lincoln, Mayor's Office Taking Charge Website)

Data Sources

Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Annual Reports

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) collects case-level information from state and tribal title IV-E agencies on all children in foster care and those who have been adopted with title IV-E agency involvement. Title IV-E agencies are required to submit AFCARS data twice a year.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Tool (AFFH-T)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The AFFH-T is a dynamic online mapping and data-generating tool for communities to aid in their completion of fair housing planning. The data provided in the AFFH-T is not exhaustive and should not supplant local data or knowledge that is more robust. It represents a baseline effort to assemble consistent, nationally available data from a variety of sources compiled into one location and local data and knowledge remain important.

American Community Survey

United States Census Bureau

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a relatively new survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. It uses a series of monthly samples to produce annually updated data for the same small areas (census tracts and block groups) formerly surveyed via the decennial census long-form sample. Initially, 5 years of samples will be required to produce these small-area data. Once the Census Bureau has collected 5 years of data, new small-area data will be produced annually. The Census Bureau also will produce 3-year and 1-year data products for larger geographic areas. The ACS includes people living in both housing units (HUs) and group quarters (GQs). The ACS is conducted throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico.

Annual Domestic Violence Reports

Nebraska Crime Commission

Data is reported by all local jurisdictions and compiled by the Nebraska Crime Commission on an annual basis. Data collection began in 1999.

Data Sources (cont.)

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The BRFSS is an ongoing, monthly, state-based telephone survey of the adult population. The survey provides state-specific information on behavioral risk factors and preventive health practices. Major changes to BRFSS survey methods began in 2011, meaning that comparison of data prior to 2011 to that after 2011 is not recommended.

Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS)

United States Census Bureau

BDS provides annual measures of business dynamics (such as job creation and destruction, establishment births and deaths, and firm startups and shutdowns) for the economy overall and aggregated by establishment and firm characteristics.

Crime in the United States

FBI Uniform Crime Reports

Crime in the United States is an annual publication in which the FBI compiles the volume and rate of violent and property crime offenses for the nation, and by state. Individual law enforcement agency data are also provided for those contributors supplying 12 months complete offense data. This report also includes arrest, clearance, and law enforcement employee data. Use the new online UCR Data Tool to research crime statistics for the nation, by state, and by individual law enforcement agency.

Gallup-Sharecare Well-Being Index® (formerly Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index®)

Gallup

The specific dimensions on which communities and states are ranked changed in 2014. The Well-Being Index now measures Americans' perceptions of their lives and their daily experiences through five interrelated elements that make up well-being: sense of purpose, social relationships, financial security, relationship to community, and physical health.

Data Sources (cont.)

Homeless Student Enrollment Data by Local Education Agency Report

US Department of Education EDFacts

The US Department of Education began publicly releasing privacy-protected student assessment achievement data at the school and LEA level for many subgroups of students, including homeless students. These assessment data are available starting with SY 2009-10 on the EDFacts Initiative website. It was deemed that homeless student enrollment data would be valuable to the public, as well as to agencies and organizations serving homeless children and youth. ED finalized the privacy protection and data quality review methodology for this dataset and began releasing these LEA homeless student enrollment datasets in 2016, starting with SYs 2013-14 and 2014-15. Since then, ED has released the latest available files after they are certified by states in the late spring.

Lincoln/Lancaster County Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (Lincoln/Lancaster YRBS)

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey measures the prevalence of health-risk behaviors among adolescents through representative national, state, and local surveys conducted biennially. The national and state surveys use multi-stage cluster sampling to obtain samples of students in grades 9-12 reflecting the geographic, urban-rural, racial, gender, and grade makeup of the population in those grade levels. In Lancaster County, the survey is conducted in all high schools, in randomly selected classrooms of a required period (second or English period). Parental consent was required beginning in 1997.

Lincoln Economic Dashboard and Business Conditions and Indicators Reports

Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development

The Lincoln Economic Dashboard is a joint effort of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research, the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development, and the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development Steering Committee. The Dashboard collects and presents data to measure Lincoln's economic performance in comparison to other communities. The Business Conditions & Indicators Reports is designed to inform business leaders, government officials, and the community about the perceptions of doing business in Lincoln by the primary employers/businesses.

Data Sources (cont.)

Lincoln Homeless Point in Time Report

University of Nebraska—Lincoln Center on Children, Families and the Law

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires each Continuum of Care to conduct an unduplicated Point-in-Time Count of all persons who are homeless. Since 2006, the Lincoln Homeless Coalition has worked with the University of Nebraska—Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law to conduct the unduplicated count. Included in the count are the number of homeless persons sheltered in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, and domestic violence shelters provide aggregate counts of unduplicated persons in their shelters. These persons represent the sheltered homeless counts. A street count (unsheltered persons) is conducted by the Lincoln Police Department, Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, Cedars Street Outreach, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Street count information is then cross referenced with CS-MIS sheltered information to remove duplicates identified in the street count from those identified as sheltered in the CS-MIS count.

Lincoln Police Department Quality Service Audit

City of Lincoln Police Department

Phone survey conducted by Gallup with people who had contact with a police officer (such as crime victims and people who received traffic tickets), but not arrested for a crime.

Lincoln Public Schools Statistical Handbooks

Lincoln Public Schools

The Annual Statistical Handbook contains basic statistical information about Lincoln Public Schools. It is intended to provide the user with current information about public education in the community of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is a federal-state cooperative effort that produces monthly estimates of total employment and unemployment. These estimates are key indicators of local economic conditions. The concepts and definitions underlying LAUS data come from the Current Population Survey (CPS), the household survey that is the official measure of the labor force for the nation. Data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES program, State UI systems, annual population estimates, and the decennial census, are used to create estimates that are adjusted to the statewide measures of employment and unemployment.

Data Sources (cont.)

Map the Meal Gap

Feeding America

The primary goal of the Map the Meal Gap analysis is to more accurately assess food insecurity at the community level. Map the Meal Gap generates two types of community-level data: county-level food insecurity and child food insecurity estimates by income categories, and an estimate of the food budget shortfall that food insecure individuals report they experience.

National Center for Juvenile Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Collects and presents information about juvenile participation in the justice system.

National Vital Statistics System (NVSS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The National Vital Statistics System is the oldest system of inter-governmental data sharing in Public Health. These data are provided through contracts between NCHS and vital registration systems operated in the various jurisdictions legally responsible for the registration of vital events– births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and fetal deaths. Mortality data from the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) are a fundamental source of demographic, geographic, and cause-of-death information.

Nebraska Education Profile (NEP) (formerly Nebraska State of the Schools Reports)

The Nebraska Education Profile is the online portal that provides information and data about Nebraska public schools and student performance. The NEP highlights the performance of students by district and school building in reading, mathematics, writing, and science as well as performance by groups of students, including race and ethnicity, poverty, special education, and English Language Learners.

Nebraska Foster Care Review Office Annual Reports

These are annual reports by the Nebraska Foster Care Review Office that summarize data about Nebraska children who are in out-of-home placement in Nebraska.

Data Sources (cont.)

Nebraska Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (Nebraska YRBS)

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

The survey is designed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and matches surveys used in other states. The CDC selects a sample for Nebraska using a two-stage cluster sampling design. In the first stage, a random sample of public high schools is selected with probability proportionate to school enrollment. Schools are then recruited to participate. In the second stage, within each of the participating schools, a random sample of classrooms is selected and all students in those classes are targeted for participation. Upon agreeing to participate, schools work with University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Sociological Research (BOSR). BOSR, who assists the school in selecting an administration date, sends the school the surveys and instructions for administration, receives surveys back from the schools, and sends them to the CDC. The CDC weights the surveys to represent all public high school students in Nebraska.

Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces employment and wage estimates annually for over 800 occupations. These estimates are available for the nation as a whole, for individual states, and for metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas; national occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

Online Vital Statistics Reporting System

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Vital records data include information on births and deaths occurring to Lancaster County residents. Birth and death records are an excellent source of population data to determine rates of birth, pregnancy, prenatal care, birth weight, infant mortality, and numerous other birth outcomes and causes of death. Birth certificate data are collected from various sources; including the mother, clinic, and hospital with most of the information coming from the hospital and other medical records. As for the source of data from death certificates, the cause of death is reported by the attending physician or coroner/medical examiners. Funeral directors and the families often are the sources of information about the person's demographic characteristics.

Data Sources (cont.)

Quarterly Workforce Indicators

United States Census Bureau

The Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) are a set of 32 economic indicators including employment, job creation/destruction, wages, hires, and other measures of employment flows. The QWI are reported based on detailed firm characteristics (geography, industry, age, size) and worker demographics (sex, age, education, race, ethnicity) and are available tabulated to national, state, metropolitan/micropolitan areas, county, and workforce investment areas (WIA). The QWI are unique in their ability to track both firm and worker characteristics over time.

Regional Price Parities (RPPs) by State and Metro Area

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

BEA produces several types of price indexes that help policymakers, business leaders, and consumers see the big pictures of price movements. Regional price parities (RPPs) measure the differences in price levels across states and metropolitan areas for a given year and are expressed as a percentage of the overall national price level. The RPPs are calculated using price quotes for a wide array of items from the CPI covering apparel, education, food, housing, medical, recreation, transportation, and other goods and services. Data on housing rents are obtained separately from the Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS). The expenditure weights for each category are constructed using BEA PCE and Census ACS housing rents expenditures.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Surveillance

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Annual reports present surveillance information derived from the official statistics for the reported occurrence of nationally notifiable sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States, test positivity and prevalence data from numerous prevalence monitoring initiatives, sentinel surveillance, and national health care services surveys.

Statistical Briefing Book

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

The OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book (SBB) is an online information source via OJJDP's website. Developed for OJJDP by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the SBB presents information about juvenile crime and victimization and about youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

Data Sources (cont.)

Statistics & Facts About Nebraska Schools Reports

Nebraska Department of Education

This is a series of reports that were included in a publication called Statistics and Facts About Nebraska Schools. The reports include state-level reports, district and school level reports for public districts, nonpublic systems and State Operated systems (Special Purpose Schools). Most of the reports relate to the Fall Membership (student counts as of the last Friday in September, Nebraska's official counting day). Other reports include School District Census by County and Full-Time Equivalency (F.T.E) of Certificated Personnel by Assignment and Gender.

Taking Charge Reports

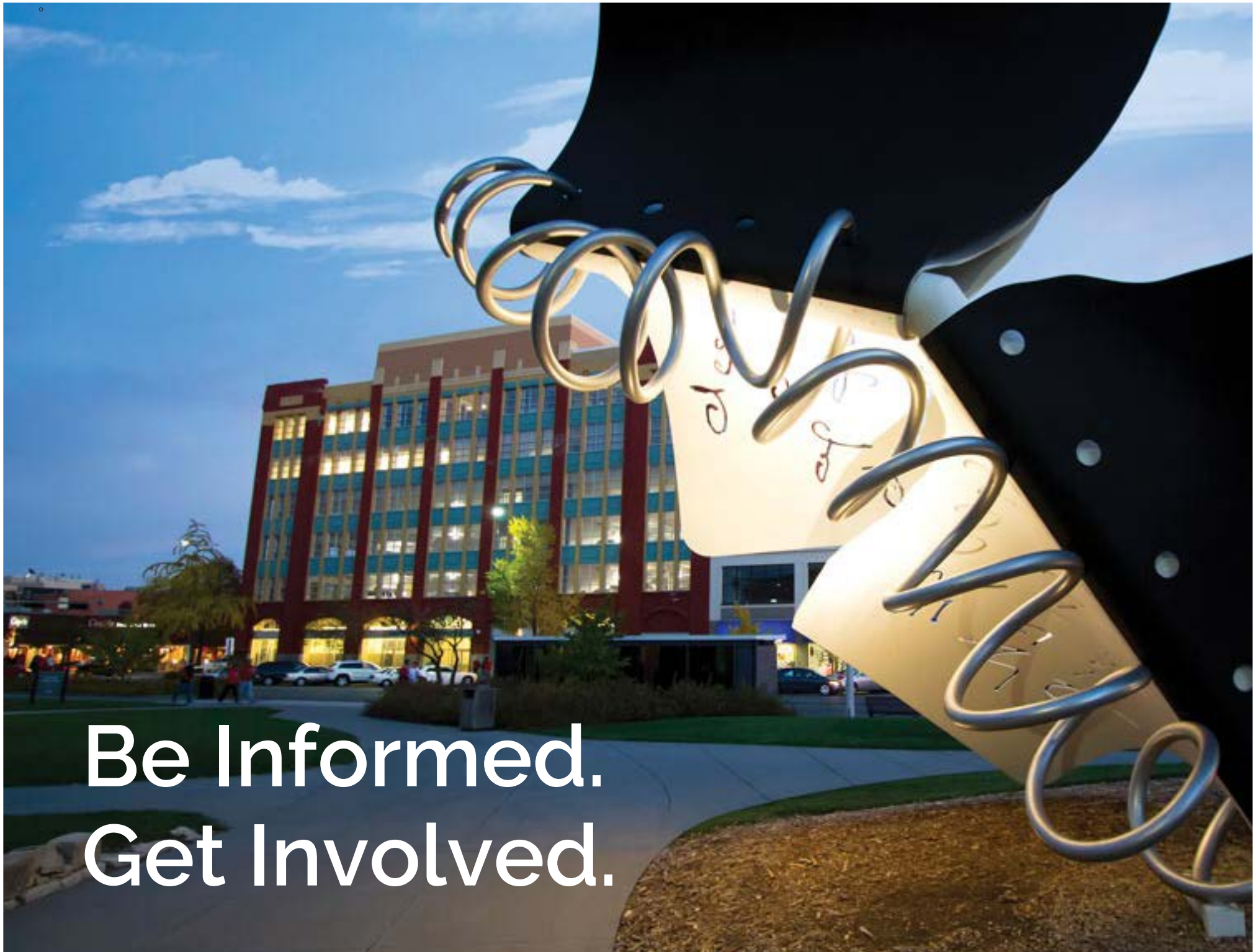
City of Lincoln

The City of Lincoln partnered with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center on the Taking Charge public engagement process since 2008 to make their voices heard on a variety of budget topics. Their input has helped shape the budgets released by the Mayor's office. Reports presenting the results of online surveys combined with face-to-face community conversation have been released annually since 2013.

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), established in 1991, monitors six categories of priority health-risk behaviors among youths and young adults: 1) behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence; 2) sexual behaviors that contribute to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancy; 3) tobacco use; 4) alcohol and other drug use; 5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and 6) physical inactivity. In addition, YRBSS monitors the prevalence of obesity and asthma among this population. YRBSS data are obtained from multiple sources, including a national school-based survey conducted by CDC as well as school-based state, territorial, tribal, and large urban school district surveys conducted by education and health agencies. These surveys have been conducted biennially since 1991 and include representative samples of students in grades 9–12.



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Get Involved.**



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