

Prepared for the
Racine Head Start Policy Council

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The Need

Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds at or below federal poverty level (FPL)



Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds with a disability who are not also at or below federal poverty level (FPL)



**Racine·¶
Head·Start·¶
Need¶**

The Need

Estimate of 3 and 4
year olds at or below
FPL

828



Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds
with a disability who are not
also at or below FPL

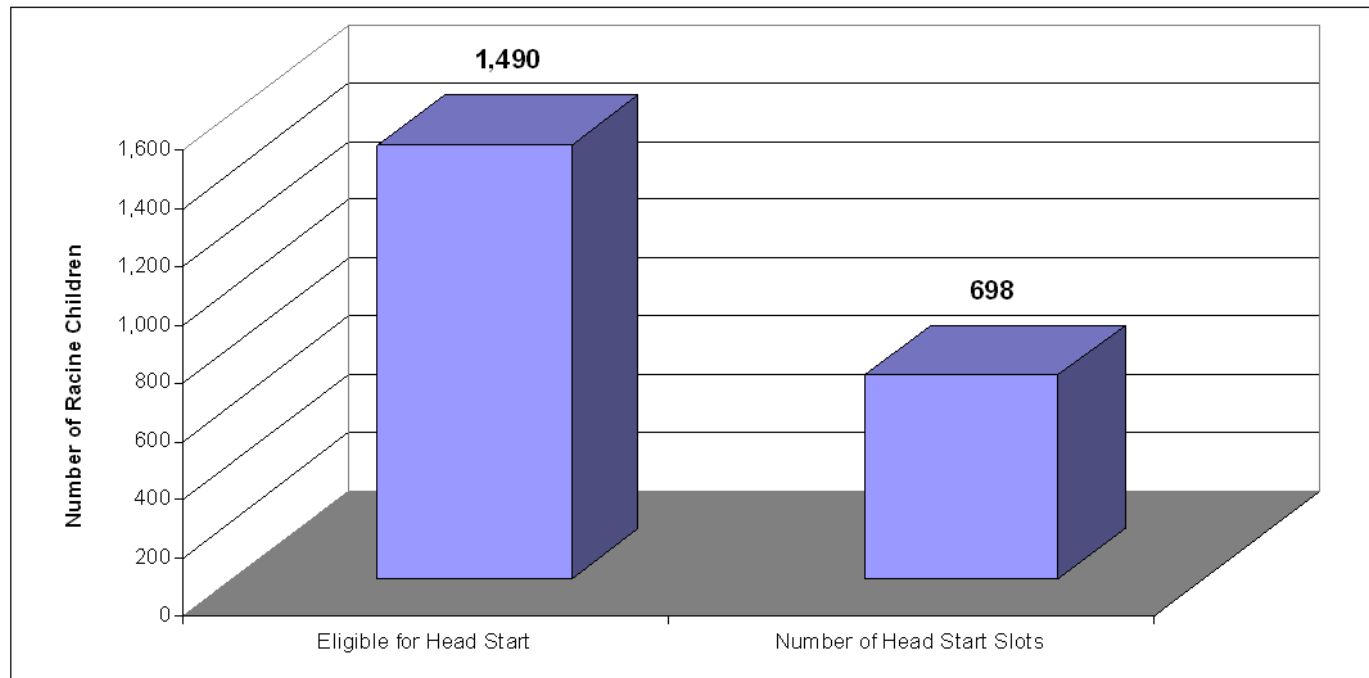
662



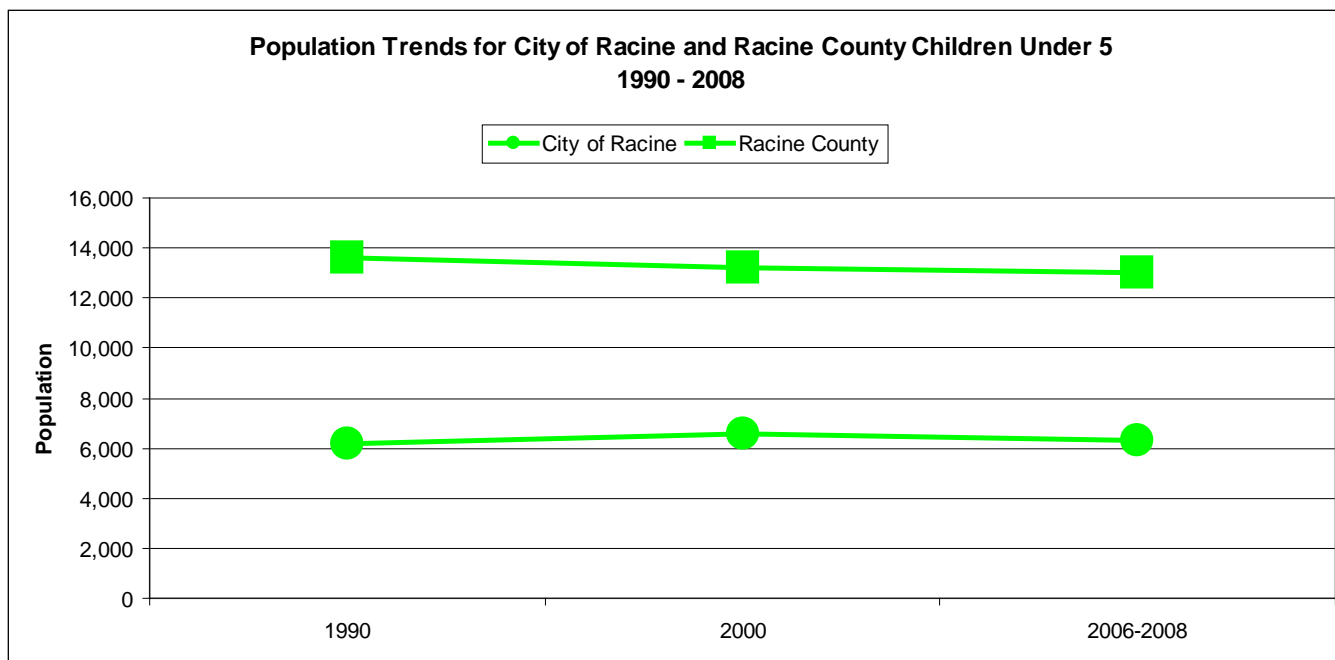
**Racine
Head Start
Need**

1,490

Shortfall in Head Start Slots in Racine



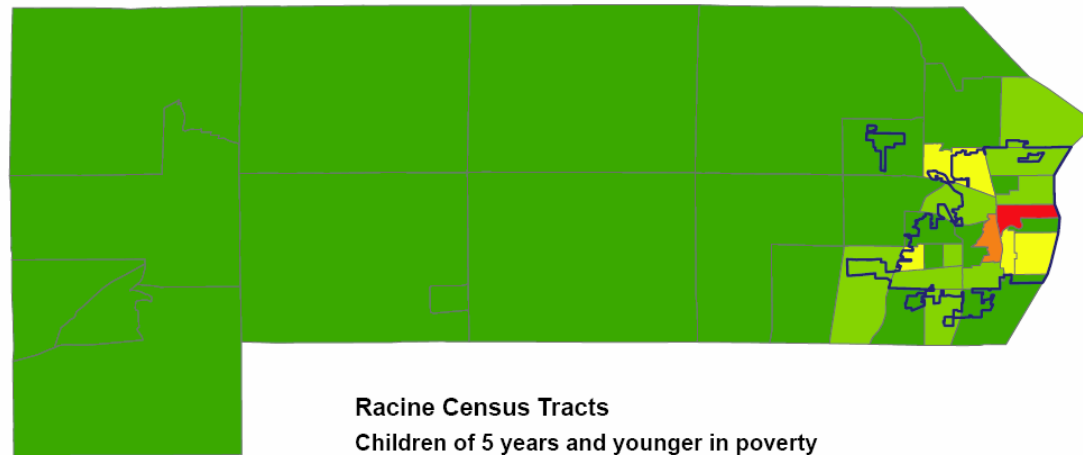
Demographic Trends Children Under 5



Demographic Trends – Racine County Children Living in Poverty

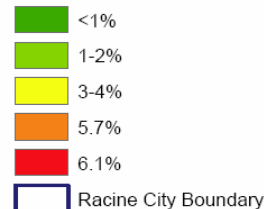
Child poverty in Racine County by Census Tract

% of children 5 years and younger in poverty from total population



Racine Census Tracts

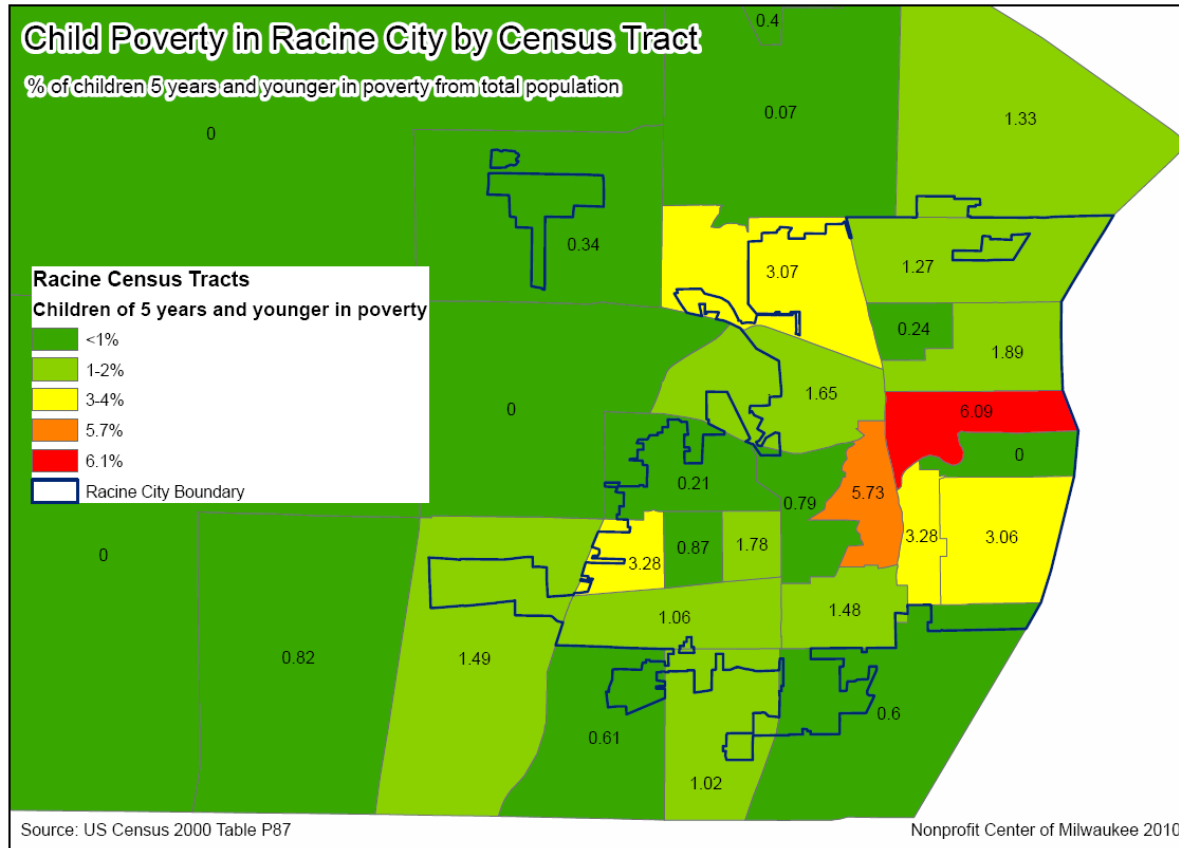
Children of 5 years and younger in poverty



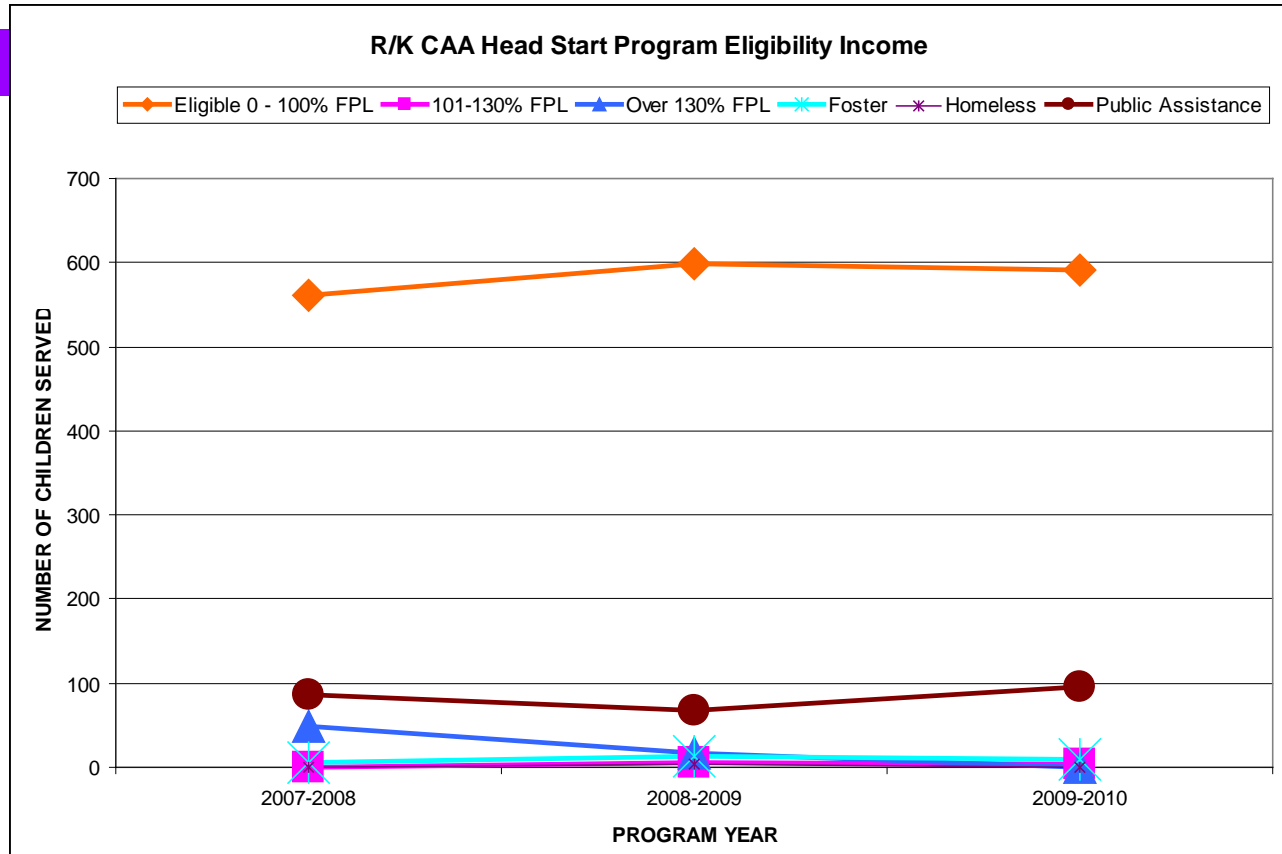
Source: US Census 2000 Table P87

Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee 2010

Demographic Trends – City of Racine Children Living in Poverty



Income eligibility of Racine Head Start Enrollees



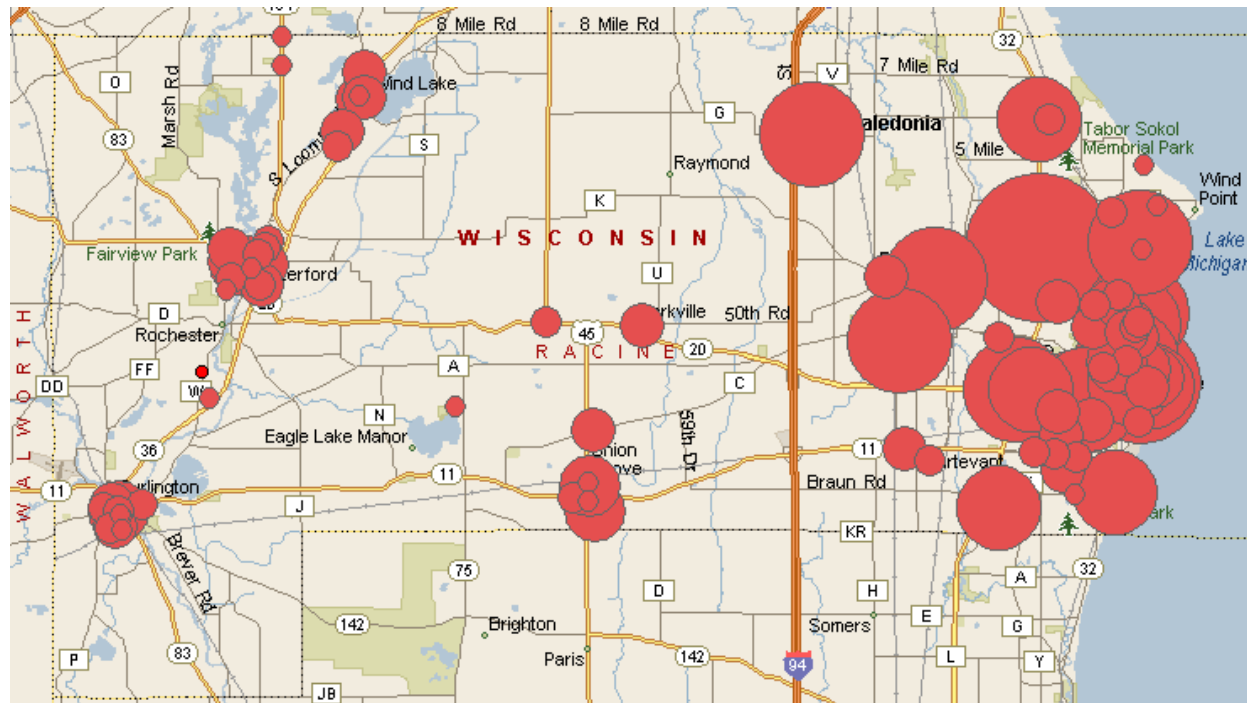


Children with Special Needs

12.3% (104 out of 847) children in the R/K CAA Head Start program in 2009-2010 had a diagnosed primary disability

- 90 speech or language impairment
- 7 emotional/behavioral disorders
- 5 non-categorical/developmental delays
- 2 orthopedic impairment

Location of other child care providers in Racine





Focus Groups with Racine Head Start Families

2 focus groups were held in 2010:

- Head Start Policy Council Representatives
- Adults with children enrolled in Racine County's Head Start program who were not on the Policy Council

Focus Groups - Housing

Some of the problems mentioned included:

- The waiting list for Section 8 vouchers
- The high cost of utilities, particularly in winter
- Being told they make too much to qualify for energy assistance

Focus Groups - Education

Some of the problems mentioned included:

- Need better education to get many jobs
- High cost of education for adults
- Difficulty of managing school plus work plus kids

Focus Groups - Health



Some of the problems mentioned:

- Hard to find doctors & dentists who will accept BadgerCare Plus
- Long waiting lists
- Many people earn too much to qualify for state health insurance, but not enough to pay for private or employer insurance
- High cost of prescription drugs
- Lack of mental health/substance abuse services



Focus Group Conclusions

- Poverty is a web of needs that make life difficult
- Needs extend beyond basic needs, impacting
 - Educational success
 - Employability
 - Health
 - Personal and family repercussions

Questions?



Thank you!

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