

# Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency

## 20/21 Community Needs Assessment

In preparation for the 2022-2023 Community Action Plan (CAP), ATCAA completed an assessment in 2020 and 2021 that included analysis of community measures, and feedback from partner agencies, stakeholders, and ATCAA clients. Through this process, top community needs were identified. The purpose of the assessment is to enhance understanding of the needs in both Amador and Tuolumne Counties. The report is meant to build upon the work done in 2019-2020 and inform the community and other interested parties of ATCAA's efforts to improve conditions of living for Amador and Tuolumne low-income residents.

The Community Needs Assessment is broken down into four phases.

Phase One: Secondary Data Reports

ATCAA utilized secondary data reports to collect data sets that are often inclusive of under-represented groups. Groups that are difficult for ATCAA to collect data on include youth, young adults, and the elderly. Sources of secondary data included in the Needs Assessment were collected from Federal, State, and local data sets such as the U.S. Census, the Department of Education, the Central Sierra Continuum of Care and the Area 12 Agency of Aging.

Phase Two: ATCAA Demographics and Surveys

Priority was placed on developing and conducting well-rounded surveys to collect data from both service counties. The **Client Needs Survey** gathered information on "greatest needs" and "biggest challenges", capturing the awareness of the agency and agency satisfaction. The survey also captured client demographics such as age, gender, race and ethnicity.

ATCAA also conducted an extensive external **Partner Agency Survey** targeting diverse respondents representing the private, public, and low-income sectors. Partner agencies commented on programs and resources that are working well in our community, the challenges our communities are facing and how they view their relationship with ATCAA.

ATCAA also surveyed its internal stakeholders, ATCAA employees and the ATCAA Board of Directors. ATCAA strongly believes that employee and board input and involvement are critical components to future planning and goal setting.

\*Note: Respondents were not required to answer every question for Phase II surveys and some questions allow for multiple answers. <u>Therefore, the percentages that are presented reflect the percentage of responses received for that question, not percentage of all respondents, unless otherwise indicated.</u>

#### Phase Three: Focus Groups

Qualitative information was collected from **community-based organizations and residents** with an emphasis on gathering feedback on the needs of low-income residents through focus groups. With the onset of COVID-19 we found that residents and organizations were more likely to complete surveys and video-chats than they were to participate in socially distanced focus groups. The focus groups were designed to encourage discussion and free response by asking a single open-ended question, "What do you see as the greatest needs for low-income community members?". Feedback was transcribed into qualitative data and analyzed as part of the overall Community Needs Assessment data.

Phase Four: Community Asset Mapping

ATCAA has captured a listing of community assets from the Partner Agency survey participants listing the assets into service categories. ATCAA has also included links to community resources.

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# **Demographics**

The Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA) serves residents in two non-contiguous rural counties, Amador and Tuolumne, which comprise our service area. These counties are 45 miles apart and located in the western Sierra Nevada foothill region south east of Sacramento. Both counties have similar geography with elevations that range from 300 to 13,000 feet. Amador, the northernmost of the two counties, covers 593 square miles, whereas Tuolumne County has 2,235 square miles.

The geography and transportation corridors of the region help to define where major population areas are in the two counties. The major transportation arteries in both counties connect the western valley floor with the eastern mountainous regions. Most residents live along these corridors. Amador County has some largely unpopulated areas in the El Dorado National Forest and Mokelumne Wilderness areas, and agricultural land in the Shenandoah Valley. Tuolumne County also has sparsely populated areas including the Stanislaus National Forest and the northern half of Yosemite National Park.



Amador County (population 38,429) has five small, incorporated cities which include Amador City (190), Sutter Creek (2,538), Ione (7,439), Plymouth (894), and Jackson (4,694)- the county seat. Residents living outside of these cities are scattered throughout the region in small communities such as Camanche (620), Pioneer (1,443), Fiddletown (235), River Pines (607), Martell (300), and Pine Grove (1,730) which are located near transportation corridors.

Tuolumne County (population 54,045) has one incorporated city, Sonora (4,870), which is also the county seat. The balance of the county population is spread out among communities such as Jamestown (2,687), Groveland (307), Soulsbyville (2.286), Twain Harte (2.296), Columbia (2,217), Tuolumne (1,577), and Pinecrest (232). As in Amador County, these towns are situated near major roads. Due to the unique geographic profile and arrangement of populated areas, our recruitment area and program operations are limited to the regions located to the west of the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and outside of National Forest lands and Wilderness Areas in Amador and Tuolumne Counties.

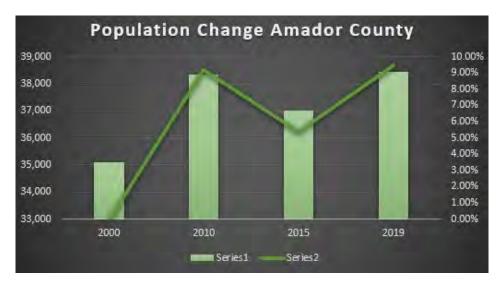
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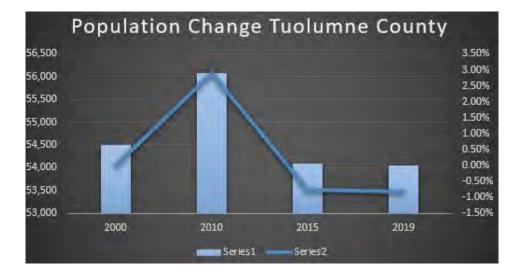
## **Population**

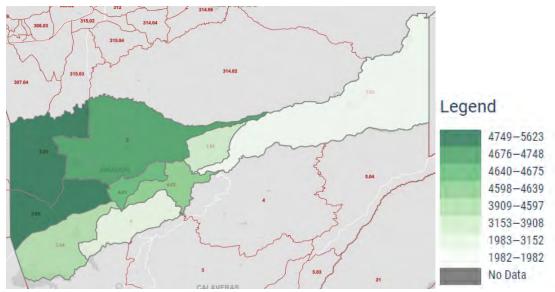
The U.S. Census Bureau Census Track indicates that the population of Amador County is on a rise and while Tuolumne County's population is on the decline. According to the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate, reports indicate that in 2019 Amador County has a total population of 38,429 and Tuolumne County has a total population of 54,045.

Amador County Population	<b>Tuolumne County Population</b>
Rate of change	Rate of change
2000-2019: 9.48%	2000-2019: -0.84%
2010-2019: 0.27%	2010-2019: -3.62%

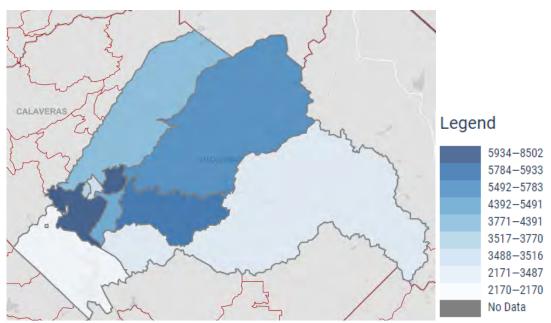
Rate of Change = ((total population 2019 – total population 2000)/total population 2000) \*100







Amador County - total population by Census County Division (CCD), 2019 estimates



Tuolumne County - total population by Census County Division (CCD), 2019 estimates

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## Age and Gender

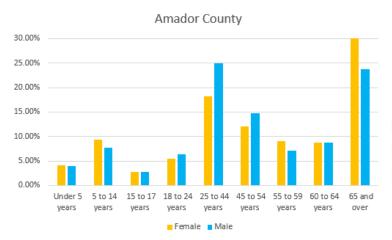
In Amador County the female population comprises 46.3%, while the male population comprises 53.7 %. In Tuolumne County the female population comprised 48% while the male population comprised 52%.

The median age in Amador County moved from 47.2 in 2010 to 50.5 in 2019 and in Tuolumne County moved from 46.6 to 48.4.

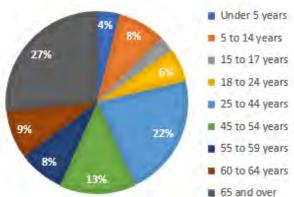
The 2019 census data indicates the median age of the total population aged 65 and over is 72.6 in Amador County and 72.8 in Tuolumne County.

The census data reflects very few changes from 2010 to 2019 in gender and in age for age 0-17 with a 2% decrease in this population in Amador County and a 1% decrease in Tuolumne County.

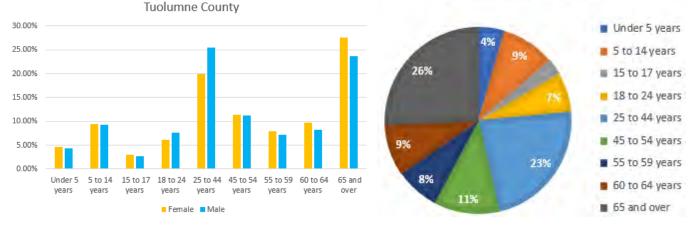
According to the Area 12 Agency on Aging's 2019 Community Needs Data Analysis there has been significant growth in the 65-74 and the 75–84-year-old populations from the 2010 Census to 2018 according to the Rural County Representatives of California, (RCRC). Both Amador and Tuolumne Counties experiencing a 33% increase of the over 65 age group. Tuolumne County, of all the five foothill counties in the A12AA service area, shows the greatest proportional increase in its population between ages 65-74 (25%) and those age 85+ (44%).

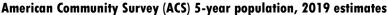


AMADOR COUNTY



TUOLUMNE COUNTY

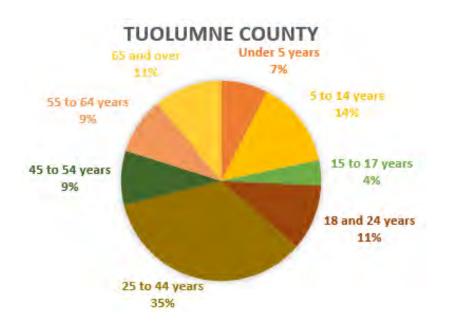


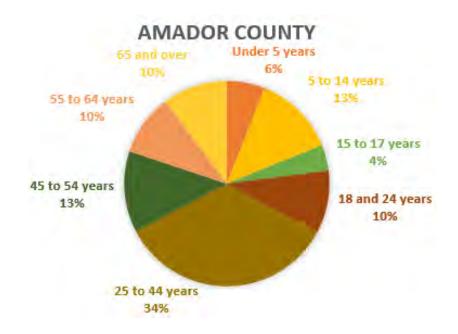


## Ethnicity and Race

U.S. Census estimates reflect very little change in ethnicity for both Amador and Tuolumne Counties from 2010 to 2019, with a Hispanic/Latino increase of 2% in Amador County and a 1% increase in Tuolumne County.

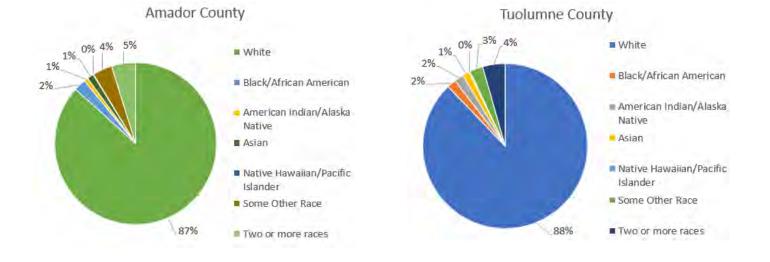
- 12.2% Tuolumne County's Hispanic/Latino population is comprised of 57.1% male and 42.8% female, and 11% of this population is aged 65 years and older.
- 13.9% of Amador County's Hispanic/Latino population is comprised of 62.6% male and 37.4% female, and 10% of this population is aged 65 years and older.



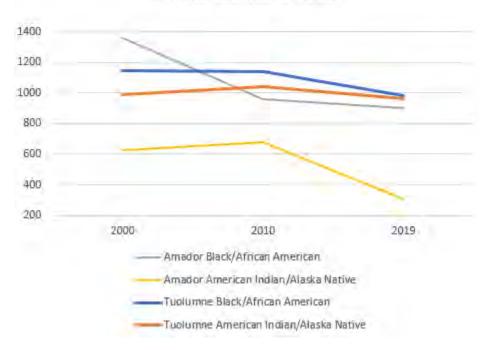


The American Indian/Alaska Native population in Amador County has seen a 10.7% decrease since 2000 while Tuolumne County has seen very little change with a 3% decrease.

The Black/African American population in Amador County has seen a 50% decrease since 2000 while Tuolumne County has seen less change with a 16% decrease.



#### Population Change since 2000 Black/African American and American Indian/Native Alaskan



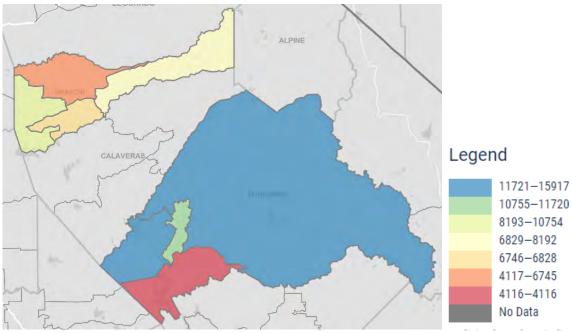
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## Veterans, Age and Gender

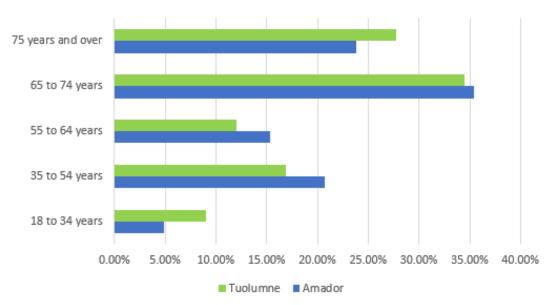
The total number of Veterans living in Amador and Tuolumne Counties comprise 11.7% and 11.5%, respectively, with the largest concentrations living in the Ione CCD (10,754) and Sonora CCD (15,917).

The largest percentage of Amador County (45.6%) and Tuolumne County (43.2%) Veterans are Vietnam era Veterans.

In Amador County the number of veterans reflected in 2019 decreased by 5.5% but only decreased by 1.8% in Tuolumne County from 2010 census data.



Veteran - total population by Census County Division (CCD), 2019 estimate



Veterans by Age

# Poverty

*Poverty thresholds* and *poverty guidelines* are dollar amounts set by the U.S. government to indicate the least amount of income a person or family needs to meet their basic needs.

The Census Bureau uses poverty thresholds as part of the official poverty measure to estimate the population's income and poverty levels and related information.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) sets the poverty guidelines. The guidelines are a simpler version of the thresholds set with the official poverty measure, mostly used by federal agencies to determine eligibility for public programs such as food assistance.

Persons in	100% Poverty	
family/household	guideline	
1	\$ 12,760	
2	\$17,240	
3	\$ 21,720	
4	\$ 26,200	
5	\$ 30,680	
Ģ	\$ 35,160	
7	\$ 39,640	
8	\$ 44,120	

## 2020 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines 48 Contiguous States and D.C.

In March 2020 the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed, increasing the income eligibility criteria, and providing relief and assistance to businesses, people, and communities. Although this additional funding will be short lived, this is important because poverty creates barriers to access including childcare, food, health services, housing, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

In Amador County 24.39% are living below 200 percent the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and in Tuolumne County 28.03% are living below 200 percent of the FPL according to the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

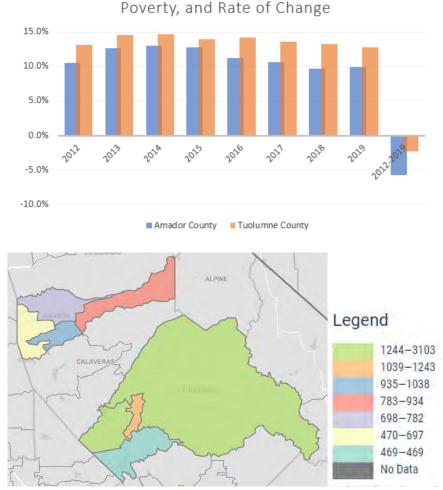
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Poverty level information is reflected as 100% of the federal poverty income guidelines. US Census 2019 poverty estimates reflect 9.9% of Amador County and 12.8% of Tuolumne County persons living below poverty level. In Amador County, the Jackson Census County Division (1,038 persons) has the highest concentration of those living below poverty level and in Tuolumne County that area is the Sonora Census County Division (3,103 persons).

The rate of change from 2012-2019 of persons living below poverty level has decreased -5.7% in Amador County and -2.3% in Tuolumne County.

Poverty quick facts:

- 3% more females than males in both Counties are living in poverty.
- Females, 25 and over, despite educational attainment, have a 4% higher rate of poverty in both Amador and Tuolumne Counties than males.
- Amador County Black/African Americans (37%) and Tuolumne County American Indian/Alaska Natives (37%) are the counties highest populations living in poverty.
- 14% of Amador and Tuolumne County residents living in poverty are under the age of 18.
- 8% and 9% of Amador and Tuolumne County residents, respectively, living in poverty are 60 years of age and over.



Below Poverty Level - total population by Census County Division (CCD), 2019 estimate

# **Employment and Income**

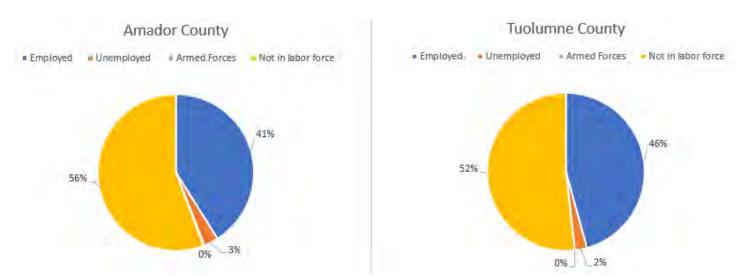
Unemployment rates are back on the rise since 2019. 2020 unemployment rates for Amador and Tuolumne Counties are at 9.10% and 10.10%, up from 3.8% and 4.5% in 2019, respectively according to the California Employment Development Department.

Labor force, employment, unemployment, and income quick facts: (US Census and EDD)

- From 2010 to 2019 there was a 5% decrease in the Labor Force in Amador County and a 1.5% decrease in Tuolumne County.
- There was an increase from 2010 to 2019 of residents on Social Security with a 12% increase in Amador County and a 3.6% increase in Tuolumne County, with 51.4% of the population on Social Security in Amador County and 47% in Tuolumne County.
- 5% of residents in both counties are on SSI.
- 2.4% of Amador County residents are utilizing cash assistance with 2.6% utilization in Tuolumne County.
- 37% of Amador children under 18 and 35% of Tuolumne children live at 200% of the federal poverty level.

Median income- (US Census)

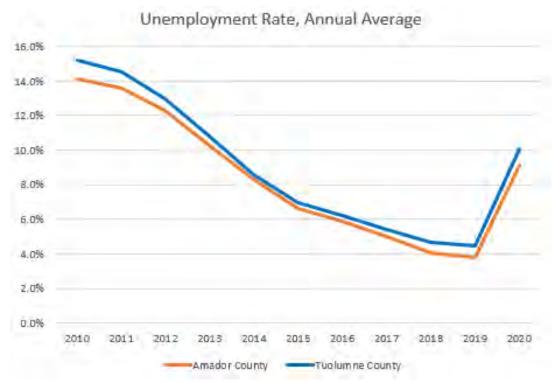
- Amador County Median Income: \$31,281 in 2010 and \$35,732 in 2019 reflecting \$4,451 and a 12.5% increase in nine years. Female householders living alone have seen 0.4% increase in median income since 2010 while males have seen 0.8% decrease.
- Tuolumne County Median Income: \$25,498 in 2010 and \$31,748 in 2019 reflecting \$6,250 and a 19.7% increase in nine years. Female householders living alone have only seen a 0.4% increase in median income since 2010 while males have seen a 34% increase.
- California Average Median Income: \$54,283 in 2010 and \$78,105 in 2019 reflecting \$23,822 and a 30% increase in nine years.



Employment Status for the population 16 years and over- American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year population, 2019 estimates

The graph below reflects a steady reduction in the annual average unemployment rate from 2010 to 2019 in Amador and Tuolumne Counties with a high of 14% in Amador and 15% in Tuolumne in 2010, decreasing to 4.5% and 4% respectively in 2019, with an average reduction of 10% in the nine years. The unemployment rates increased dramatically in 2020 climbing to an average of 9% in Amador and 10% in Tuolumne County with the peak month of April 2020 at 14.4% and 17.3% respectively.

The 2020 increase coincides with the COVID-19 outbreak. Ten of the first twenty confirmed COVID-19 cases in the United States occurred in California, the first of which was confirmed on January 26, 2020, which subsequently prompted the shutdown of businesses, schools and "stay at home" orders. What followed was a dramatic increase in unemployment throughout California that continues to exist today.

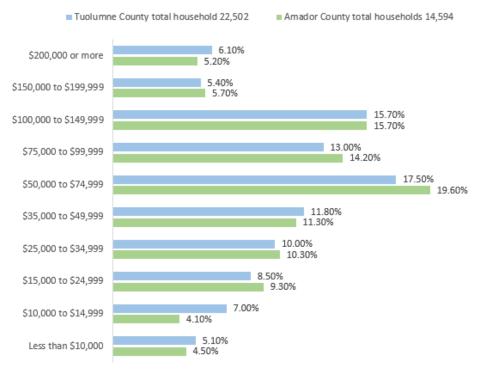


Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, January 22, 202

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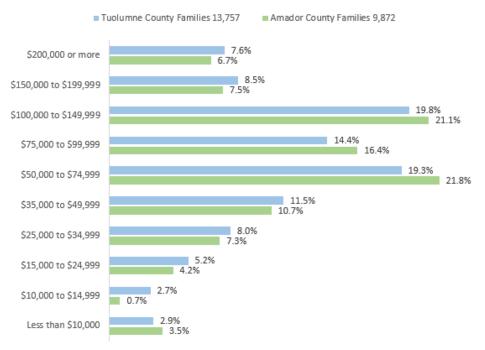
### INCOME AND BENEFITS

(IN 2019 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)





FAMILY INCOME (In 2019 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)



U.S. Census-American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year population, 2019 estimates

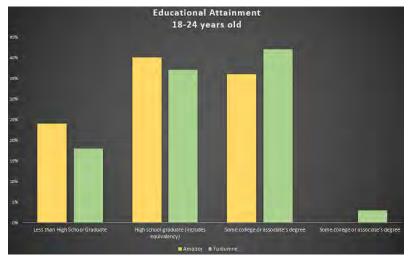
# Education

#### Graduation Outcomes

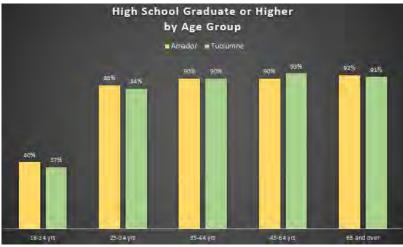
- o 24% of the Amador County population aged 18-24 have less than a high school graduate education
- o 18% of the Tuolumne County population aged 18-24 have less than a high school graduate education
- o 3% fewer students graduated high school from 2010 to 2019 in both counties
- Amador County had a graduation rate of 90% in the 2019-2020 school year
- o Tuolumne County had a graduation rate of 86% in the 2019-2020 school year
- o California's graduation rate in 2019-2020 school year was 84%

55% of Amador County English Language Learners (ELL) gained language proficiency while only 39% of ELL gained proficiency in Tuolumne County.

There was a 7% decrease from 2010 to 2019 of residents with bachelor's degrees in Amador County and a 5% decrease in Tuolumne County.



Educational Attainment-ACS 5-year population, 2019 estimates



Educational Attainment-ACS 5-year population, 2019 estimates This Chart refers to those who obtained an education of high school graduate or higher, but less than a bachelor's degree.

# Food Insecurity

Food insecurity describes a household's inability to provide enough food for every person to live an active healthy life. Food insecurity is one way we can measure and assess the risk of hunger. The effects of food insecurity can include:

- serious health complications and difficult decision-making for seniors especially when people facing hunger are forced to choose between spending money on food and medicine or medical care,
- damage to a child's ability to learn and grow.

Rural communities make up 63% of counties in the United States and 87% of counties with the highest rates of overall food insecurity and 86% of the counties with the highest percentage of children at risk for food insecurity are rural. In Amador and Tuolumne Counties, 1 in 8 people struggle with hunger and 1 in 5 children struggle with hunger (feedingamerica.org).

In 2018, Amador County had 4,110 (1,020 children) food insecure persons with an overall food insecurity rate of 10.9%, and Tuolumne County had 6,920 (1,680 children) persons with an overall food insecurity rate of 12.8%, both counties down 1.9% from 2016 (feedingamerica.org).

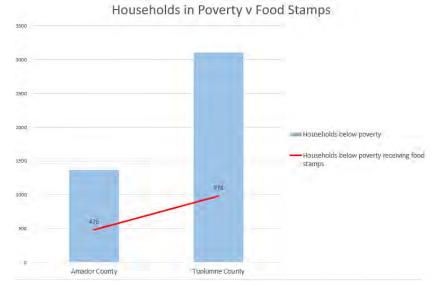
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) substantially reduces the prevalence of food insecurity and thus is critical to reducing negative health outcomes.

#### Food Stamp Use

- 7.2% of households in Amador County use Food Stamps which increased 3% from 2010-2019, however, there were 928 households below the poverty level that did not receive benefits.
- 9.3% of households in Tuolumne County use Food Stamps which also increased 3% from 2010-2019, however, there were 2,130 households below the poverty level that did not receive benefits.
- In Amador County 3.4% of households with children under the age of 18 received Food Stamps.
- In Tuolumne County 4.2% of households with children under the age of 18 received Food Stamps.

#### Free & Reduced Lunch Program Use:

- In Amador County 41% of the students are on the program and 55% are eligible.
- In Tuolumne County 32% of students are on the program and 59% are eligible.



Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)-(ACS) 5-year population, 2019 estimates 2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

# Housing and Homeless

The Census Bureau combines 5 consecutive years of ACS data to produce estimates for geographic areas with fewer than 65,000 residents. These 5-year estimates represent data collected over a period of 60 months. Because the ACS data is based on a sample, rather than all housing units and people, ACS estimates have a degree of uncertainty associated with them, called sampling error.

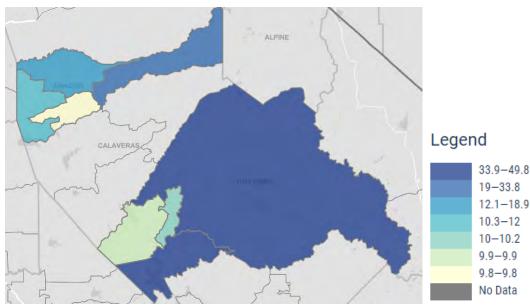
Housing Quick Fact (2019 census data)	Amador County	Tuolumne County
Housing units	18,379	31,553
Owner-occupied housing unit rate	76.5%	71.3%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units	\$313,700	\$289,200
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage	\$1,774	\$1,748
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage	\$561	\$571
Median gross rent	\$1,103	\$1,009

The highest number of occupied housing units in Tuolumne County is in the Sonora "County Census District" (CCD)with 7,298 units, and in Amador County it's in the Pine Grove-Silver Lake CCD with 4,188 units. Rental vacancy rate is highest in Tuolumne County's Groveland CCD (20.3%) compared to Amador County's Jackson CCD at (8.2%).

#### Heating Fuel Use

In Amador County occupied housing units use (30.4%) gas, (19.1%) electricity, and (30.9%) propane as a source of heating fuel.

In Tuolumne County occupied housing units use (8.5%) gas, (20.3%) electricity, and (42%) propane as a source of heating fuel.



Housing Occupancy-Total Housing Units-Vacant Housing Units Percent-by Census County Division (CCD), 2019 estimates 2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

Number of Households	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
TOTAL	12,965,435	14,090	22,427
RENTER	5,880,000	3,292	6,771
PERCENT RENTERS	45%	23%	30%
Housing Wage	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ONE-BEDROOM	\$29.26	\$16.46	\$15.90
TWO-BEDROOM	\$36.96	\$21.69	\$19.52
THREE-BEDROOM	\$50.50	\$31.29	\$27.94
Fair Market Rent	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ONE-BEDROOM	\$1,522	\$856	\$827
TWO-BEDROOM	\$1,922	\$1,128	\$1,015
THREE-BEDROOM	\$2,626	\$1,627	\$1,453
Annual Income Needed to Afford	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ONE-BEDROOM	\$60,864	\$34,240	\$33,080
TWO-BEDROOM	\$76,879	\$45,120	\$40,600
THREE-BEDROOM	\$105,036	\$65,080	\$58,120
Minimum Wage	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
MINIMUM WAGE	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$13.00
RENT AFFORDABLE AT MINIMUM WAGE	\$676	\$676	\$676
Work Hours/Week at Minimum Wage	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ONE-BEDROOM	90	51	49
TWO-BEDROOM	114	67	60
THREE-BEDROOM	155	96	86
Renter Wage	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ESTIMATED MEAN RENTER WAGE	\$23.96	\$11.17	\$12.50
RENT AFFORDABLE AT MEAN RENTER WAGE	\$1,246	\$581	\$650
Work Hours/Week at Mean Renter Wage	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
ONE-BEDROOM	49	59	51
TWO-BEDROOM	62	78	62
THREE-BEDROOM	84	112	89
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Payment	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
SSI MONTHLY PAYMENT	<b>\$944</b>	<b>\$944</b>	\$944
RENT AFFORDABLE TO SSI RECIPIENT	\$283	\$283	\$283
Income Levels	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
30% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI)	\$27,273	\$23,610	\$21,480
ESTIMATED RENTER MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	\$53,402	\$36,350	\$35,543
Rent Affordable at Different Income Levels	California	Amador County	Tuolumne County
30% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI)	\$682	\$590	\$537
ESTIMATED RENTER MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	\$1,335	\$909	\$889

#### National Low-Income Housing Coalition Out of Reach 2020: California

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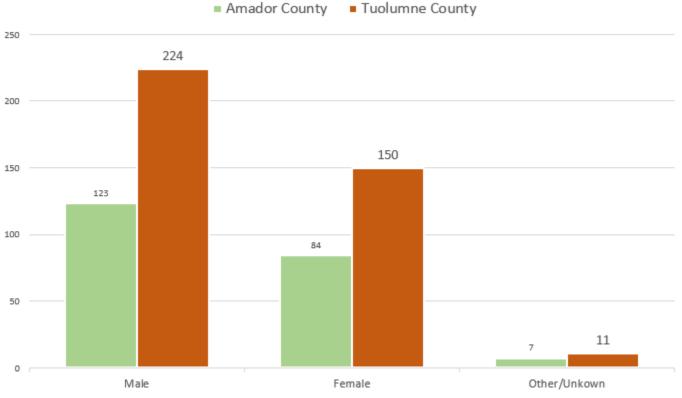
## Homeless Point-In-Time (PIT) Count

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness that HUD requires each Continuum of Care (CoC) nationwide to conduct in a single night in January. HUD requires that CoCs conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and Safe Havens. CoCs must also conduct a count of unsheltered homeless persons at least every other year. The unsheltered count is intended to demonstrate the unmet need.

It is difficult to accurately count homeless individuals who are spread out in remote areas of Amador and Tuolumne Counties and a homeless count in January might not accurately capture the number of unsheltered homeless individuals who may leave the area in the harsh winter months to return in the spring, summer, or fall.

- In 2019, PIT counts identified 385 total homeless persons in Tuolumne County, 301 of which were unsheltered. This was a 180% increase in unsheltered persons from 2017.
- In 2019, PIT counts identified 214 total homeless persons in Amador County, 180 of which were unsheltered. This was a 57% increase in unsheltered persons from 2017.

\* In both Amador and Tuolumne Counties, approximately 10% of the homeless counted were children under 18 years of age.



## Homeless by Gender

Central Sierra Continuum of Care, CA-526: 2019 Point-in-Time Count

# Health and Mental Health

# <u>California Department of Public Health</u> 2020 County Health Status Profile Report

	Morbidity/Mortality ata – per 100,000 persons 2016-2018	Amador Co. per 100k	Tuolumne Co. Per	California Average
	ficant ranking noted in Bold)	pop.	100k pop.	<pre></pre>
Death All Causes	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	680	776	608
Death from All Cancers	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	149	157	134
Lung Cancer	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	40	35	25
	Amador ranking- 55 out of 58 counties			
Coronary Heart Disease	Tuolumne above CA ranking 45 of 58	85	106	85
Stroke	At or near average	33	36	36
Diabetes	Amador & Tuolumne below CA Ranking 5 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> lowest in CA	11	11	21
Unintentional Injuries	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	56	57	33
Motor Vehicle Related Amador & Tuolumne above CA		20	14	9
Alzheimer's Disease Tuolumne- below CA-6 <sup>th</sup> lowest in CA		39	13	36
Death Due to Suicide	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	27	19	10
	Ranking 52 and 42 in CA			
Death Due to Homicide	Amador is above CA Tuolumne below CA	7	1	5
	Amador ranking 45 <b>Tuolumne 4<sup>th</sup> lowest in CA</b>			
<b>Firearms Related Death</b> Amador & Tuolumne above C.		17	11	7
	Amador ranking 50 & Tuolumne 35			
Drug Induced Deaths	Amador & Tuolumne above CA	15	26	13
6	Amador ranking 28 and Tuolumne ranking 51			
Tuberculosis	Amador & Tuolumne ranking very low	1.9	1	5
Am	ador ranking 11 and Tuolumne 1- lowest in CA			

Most significant data areas where Amador and or Tuolumne Counties differed from the California average in the above chart were the following:

- Amador County had one of the highest incidents of Lung Cancer deaths in California ranking 55<sup>th</sup> out of 58 counties.
- Amador and Tuolumne Counties had very low incidents of deaths from Diabetes compared to the rest of California ranking 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> respectively as lowest in California.
- Tuolumne County had a very low incidence of Alzheimer's deaths ranking 6<sup>th</sup> lowest in California.
- Amador had a high incidence of deaths due to **Suicide** ranking 52nd of 58 California counties.
- Tuolumne County had a very low incidence of **Homicide** deaths ranking 4<sup>th</sup> lowest in California.
- Tuolumne had a high instance of **Drug Induced Deaths** ranking 51<sup>st</sup> highest in California.
- Tuolumne had the lowest incidents of Tuberculosis in the State ranking no. 1 with Amador County ranking 11<sup>th</sup> in California.

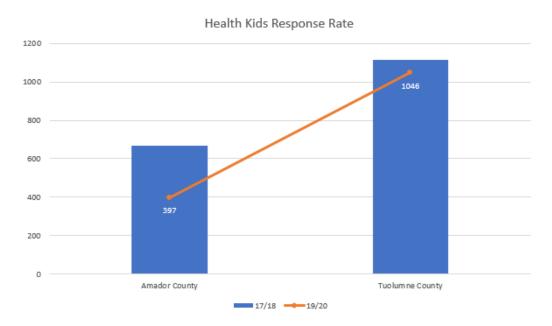
# Areas of Change in Five Years reflected in the California Department of Public Health –County Health Status Profile Reports:

- Amador County has seen a reduction in lung cancer deaths, Alzheimer's, stroke and heart disease and drug induced deaths.
- Amador County has seen an increase in combined cancer deaths, diabetes, unintentional injuries, motor vehicle accidents.
- Tuolumne County has seen a reduction in all cancers, diabetes, homicide, and drug induced deaths.
- Tuolumne County has seen an increase in Alzheimer's and motor vehicle deaths.

## Healthy Kids Survey

The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is an anonymous, confidential, and voluntary survey of school climate and safety, student wellness, and youth resiliency. There are supplementary modules to choose from at the secondary level, (grades 7,9& 11) that asks detailed in-depth questions on specific topics such as social emotional health and learning; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; safety/violence; and physical health. Districts can also customize their questions in a custom module targeting topics of local interest. Percentages are based on the participation response rate for each question and therefore do not represent the total students enrolled.

Amador County total survey response rates were down 69% from 2017/208 survey to the 2019/2020 survey period due to Amador School closure in March of 2020 due to COVID-19 according to Amador County School District. A drop of only 6% was experienced by Tuolumne County Schools from the 2017/2018 to the 2019/2020 survey as the survey was performed before COVID-19 school closures.



#### 2019/2020 Tuolumne County Students 7th, 9th and 11th Grade Participant Demographics

- Total student participants:1046
- 55% boys & 45% girls
- Ethnicity: 63% White, 21% Hispanic, 5% American Indian, 27% mixed (2 or more races)
- 91% living at home with one or more parent or guardian
- 33% received free and reduced lunches

#### 2019/2020 Amador County Students 7th,9th, and 11th Grade Participant Demographics

- Total student participants: 397
- 46% boys & 54% girls
- Ethnicity: 64%White, 26% Hispanic, 4% American Indian, Mixed 29% (2 or more races)
- 89% living at home with one or more parent or guardian
- 45% received free and reduced lunches

2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

County		Amador			Tuolumne	
	Grade 7	Grade 9	Grade 11	Grade 7	Grade 9	Grade 11
Key Indicators of School Climate and Student Well-Being	%	%	%	%	%	%
Grades						
Mostly A's/A's and B's§	53	59	46	60	55	53
Mostly B's/B's and C's§	21	30	39	27	28	29
Mostly C's/ C's and D's§	16	9	11	10	10	15
Absences						
Missed 3 or more days¶	15	23	18	18	18	15
Reason for Absence, past 30 days						
physicall illness	42	54	54	38	46	46
felt sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed or angry	10	10	7	7	10	13
lack of sleep	11	11	4	7	11	16
were bored or uninterested in school	3	7	11	3	5	6
didn't feel safe at school or going to and from school	2	1	0	1	3	2
had no trasportation	3	5	7	2	4	5
School Engagement and Supports						
School connectedness†	52	56	43	59	68	55
Academic motivation /	66	62	63	67	67	57
Caring adult relationships‡	61	53	51	57	58	66
High expectations #	71	70	70	70	71	70
Meaningful participation #	24	26	17	23	25	27
Promotion of parent involvement in school #	47	42	38	56	45	35
School Safety						
School perceived as very safe or safe	42	55	54	63	57	54
Experienced any harassment or bullying§	48	34	25	42	35	32
Has been a victim of school violence§	44	30	24	39	31	30
Been in a physical fight§	22	8	18	15	6	9
Seen a weapon on campus§	16	14	14	12	18	21
Substance Use and Physical/Mental Health						
Current alcohol or drug use¶	8	27	32	12	25	36
Current marijuana use¶	4	18	25	7	16	25
Vaping¶	5	20	30	9	21	30
Sleep deprivation (less than 8 hours)	50	68	64	43	63	77
Experienced chronic sadness/hopelessness§	39	38	36	33	44	46
Considered suicide§	22	23	21	18	26	27
Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.						
†Average percent of respondents reporting "Agree" or "Strongly	agree."					
#Average percent of respondents reporting "Pretty much true" of	r "Very much tri	ue."				
§Past 12 months.						
¶Past 30 days.						

#### Feeling Safe at School

- The Amador student data indicates more students felt safe as 9<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> graders than the 7<sup>th</sup> graders did.
- Tuolumne 7<sup>th</sup> grade students felt less safe than the 9<sup>th</sup> graders expressed, with the 11<sup>th</sup> graders feeling safer than the 7<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

#### **Students Experiencing Harassment**

Both Amador and Tuolumne 7<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed expressed more harassment than the 9<sup>th</sup> graders, with the 11<sup>th</sup> graders expressing the least harassment of all three grades surveyed.

#### Victim of School Violence

Both Amador and Tuolumne 7<sup>th</sup> graders surveys expressed being a victim of school violence, which is more than the 9<sup>th</sup> graders, with the 11<sup>th</sup> graders expressing the least victimization of school violence of all three grades. surveyed.

#### Experience with Substance Use in the last 30 days including alcohol and drugs, marijuana, and vaping.

Both Amador and Tuolumne 7<sup>th</sup> graders surveys expressed less substance use than the 9<sup>th</sup> graders, with the 11<sup>th</sup> graders having the highest use of all substances.

#### Chronic Sadness/Helplessness & Thoughts of Suicide

- The Amador County survey reflected a very slight decrease in, "Chronic sadness/hopelessness", by grade with the lowest being 7<sup>th</sup> grade and the highest being 11<sup>th</sup> grade and the survey did not reflect any significant differences between the grades in the category of, "Thoughts of suicide".
- The Tuolumne County survey reflected an increase by grade level of both, "Chronic sadness/hopelessness", and "Thoughts of suicide".

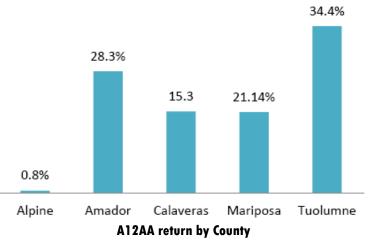
#### 2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

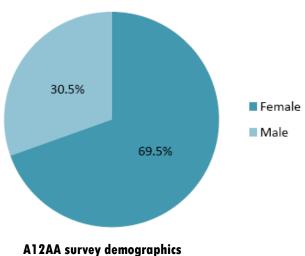
## Area 12 Agency on Aging

The 2019 Area 12 Agency on Aging (A12AA) Community Needs Data Analysis Report included surveys of residents of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties aged 50 and over.

- The A12AA received 935 survey responses of which 303 were from Tuolumne County and 249 from Amador County,
- The A12AA respondents had lived in their current community an average of 22 years,
- Approximately 20% of single respondents reported their income was equal to or less than \$1,041 per month (less than 100% the poverty level), while 72% of couples reported their income was more than \$2,818 (200% of the poverty level),
- Approximately 75% of respondents noted their main source of income was Social Security,
- 25% noted their income came from savings/investments and nearly an equal amount reported income from pensions.

**Technology:** The report indicated that close to 85% of seniors indicated they use the computer, while 85.4% use email and over 70% use the internet. In addition, 57% noted they use Facebook, approximately 68% use smartphones, and 30% use iPads, with 27% of those surveyed expressing concern of knowing what services were available to them in their community





2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

Many of the Issues & Concerns (Figure 5.1) and "Services would Use if Available "(Table 6.2) include ATCAA current services:

52% - Home Repair - (some of which may be related to weatherization). (Table 5.1)

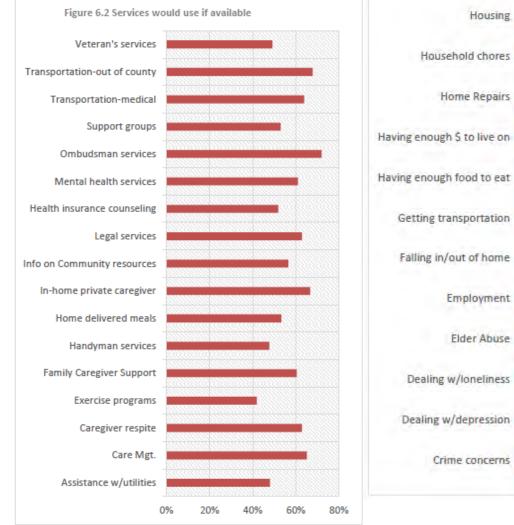
22%- Paying Utilities (Table 5.1).

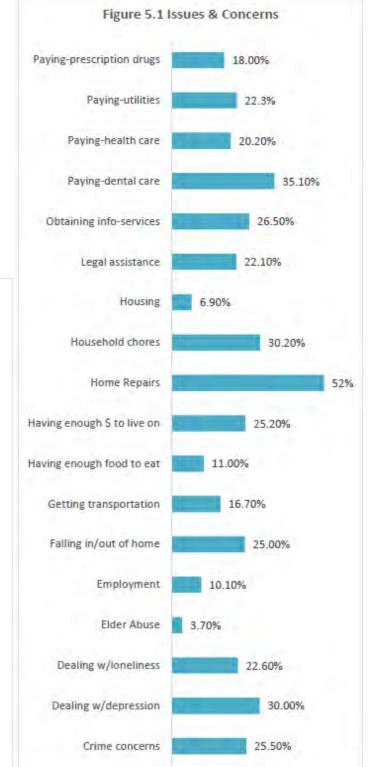
50% -Assisting with Utilities (Table 6.2)

55% Information on Community Resources (Table 5.1)

11%- "Having Enough to Eat" (Table 5.1)

Of note on table 6.2 is "Out of County Transportation" selected by 65% of respondents and "Medical Transportation" at 70% of respondents.





## <u>The Sutter Amador Hospital</u> 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment

The report included primary and secondary data, key informant data, and focus group information. Key informants and focus groups identified the following areas as a community health need.

Access to Mental/Behavioral/Substance Abuse Services	100%
Access to Basic Needs Such as Housing, Jobs, and Food	92.3%
Injury and Disease Prevention and Management	92.3%
Access and Functional Needs	92.3%
Access to Quality Primary Care Health Services	84.6%
Access to Central Care and Preventive Services	69.2%
Access to Specialty and Extended Care –69.2	69.2%

\*Access to Mental/Behavioral/Substance Abuse Services -Qualitative themes from key informants and focus groups:

- limited access to mental health treatment, lack of psychiatrists,
- need to recruit mental health professionals,
- not enough mental health or drug rehab facilities in the area,
- stigma to seek mental health services,
- substance use and abuse is prevalent,
- remote area and isolation,
- veterans struggling with PTSD.

\*Access to Basic Needs Such as Housing, Jobs, and Food-Qualitative themes from key informants and focus groups:

- more resources needed to support homeless living,
- need for more shelters,
- limited affordable housing,
- ack of quality employment,
- cost of living increases in the area,
- Butte County fire victims moving to Amador County,
- many working poor fall short of qualify for aid,
- lack of affordable childcare,
- limited services for Spanish speaking residents,
- many residents living in isolation without basic needs,
- access to healthy food, health care and resources.

# <u>The Adventist Health Sonora</u> 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment

The report included significant health and social needs. The focus groups, key informants, and surveys contained questions about the most significant health needs in the community resulting in the following concerns expressed:

	Focus Groups	Key Informant Interviews	Surveys
1	Mental and behavioral health	Access to health care	Access to health care
2	Access to health care	Mental and behavioral health	High rates of youth or adults engaging in risky health or sexual behaviors
3	Housing and Homelessness	Elderly services	Lack of affordable housing options
4	Immunization	Immunization	Lack of access to mental health services
5	Smoking	Poverty/housing	High rates of chronic diseases

Adventist Health: Order of Most Frequently Mentioned by Data Source Type

The top five needs mentioned below are a combination of all three data sources based on frequency of response. The most frequently mentioned health issues by focus groups, key informant interviews, online surveys and corresponding data from the secondary sources were the following:

Priority Health Issues:

- o Access to Health Care focus: lack of providers, preventative care, and transportation
- o Mental and Behavioral Health- focus: substance abuse, trauma, and isolation
- o Housing and Homelessness
- o Chronic Disease- focus: asthma and obesity
- o Poverty

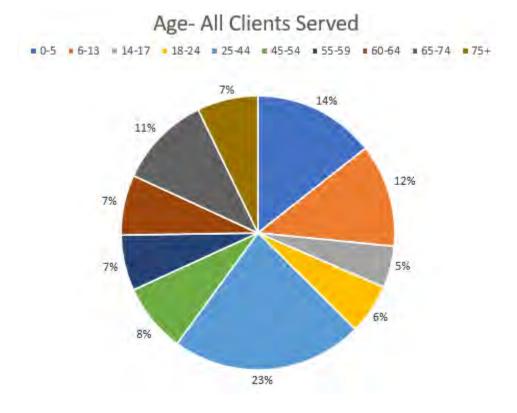
# **ATCAA Client Demographics**

Customer and community input are valued by ATCAA as critical to future planning and setting goals for continual quality targeting service and enhancements. ATCAA customers include the full community with a focus on low-income and vulnerable populations, ATCAA client base, Community Partners, ATCAA staff, ATCAA Board of Directors and agency volunteers. Every two years ATCAA completes a Community Action Plan (CAP), which includes a Community Needs Survey, to lay out strategic goals and follow a clear plan to achieve desired results.

\*In 2020, ATCAA served a total of 6,084 individuals within 2,955 households. Of that, demographics were collected on 5,725 individuals and 2,726 households.

Clients Served by County

- Amador: 1310 individuals 656 households
- ➢ Tuolumne: 4104 individuals 1975 households
- Calaveras: 670 individuals 324 households



In 2019, Amador and Tuolumne Counties foreign-born population was 6% and 5%, respectively. Since 2015, this is up 0.5% in Amador and up 0.3% in Tuolumne.

Foreign-born populations include anyone who was not a U.S. citizen or a U.S. national at birth. This includes respondents who indicated they were a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a U.S. citizen.

Net migration refers to the arrival of people (foreign- or native-born) to California. The rate of net migration is projected to steadily grow from approximately 1.8 net migrants per 1,000 population per year in 2015 (70,000 net migrants) to 4 per 1,000 by 2060 (215,000 net migrants).

The net effect of in-migration and out-migration on an area's population, in a given time period, is expressed as an increase or decrease. Both Amador and Tuolumne Counties have a net positive increase, 3,105 and 982, respectively.

The US Census and the American Community Survey (ACS) measure an individual's race and ethnicity through self-identification. In 2019, the ACS 5-year estimate, 0.8% of California residents identified as American Indian/Alaska Native.

It is worth noting that the percentage of ATCAA's clients, served in 2020, that identify as American Indian/Alaska Native is five times that of the rest of California. With the presence of the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians in Amador County, the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians in Tuolumne County, and a strong collaboration with Tribal TANF, this is not surprising.

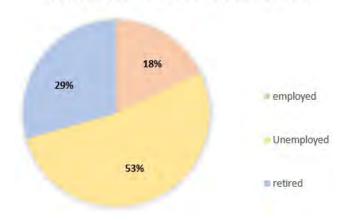
The Hispanic/Latino Population has been growing steadily over the last decade in Amador and Tuolumne. There has been an 11% rate increase since 2011 in Tuolumne County and a 12% rate increase in Amador County.

The vast majority of Amador and Tuolumne County residents identify as White alone, although there has been a slight decrease since 2010 in Amador and slight increase in Tuolumne. Compared to the rest of California, ATCAA's Hispanic/Latino client population is significantly smaller, and its White population is significantly larger.

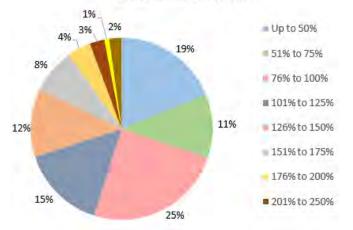


ATCAA Clients Served-2020

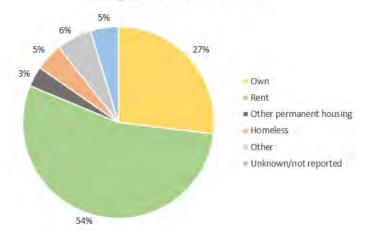
WORK STATUS - ATCAA CLIENTS SERVED 2020



Level of Household Income (% of HHS Guideline) ATCAA Clients Served 2020



Housing Type-ATCAA Clients Served 2020



Homelessness and unemployment are an issue that is dealt with across various parts of the country and affect our communities on a national, regional, and local level. Unemployment is a prominent factor in the persistence of homelessness. As bad as it is for homeless people who have jobs and can't escape homelessness, climbing out of homelessness is virtually impossible for those without a job. For those with limited skills or experience, opportunities for jobs that pay a living wage are very limited.

✓ Client data indicates that 55% of ATCAA's clients served in 2020 fell below 100% the federal poverty line

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, California is one of the states with the highest concentration of people experiencing homelessness. In 2019 alone, California had 151,278 people experiencing homelessness, a rate of 38.2 (homeless per 10,000 people in the general population).

✓ Our CoC area, in 2019, had a homelessness rate of 53.8, that is a 29% increase over the State.

According to HUD, an individual is considered chronically homeless if he or she has a disability, including a substance use disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and a serious mental illness, and has been homeless continuously for at least one year or on at least four occasions in the last three years (with those instances adding up to at least a year). In addition, California also has one of the highest percentages of chronic homelessness in the country. Meaning that there is a significant number of individuals who have a disability and have been homeless for at least a year or have been frequently homeless.

✓ In 2020, 25% of ATCAA clients reported having a disabling condition.

Homelessness is exacerbated by the lack of affordable housing. California has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, "housing wage", in the U.S. A worker earning minimum wage in California. would have to work nearly 114 hours per week to afford a modest two-bedroom rental home, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition (2019).

2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency - Needs Assessment Report

# **Agency Awareness and Satisfaction**

With the growing emphasis on agency accountability, it is important to document the quality of overall agency function. As a Community Action Agency and essentially a human service organization, ATCAA recognizes the need for and the benefit of receiving feedback from customers and partner agencies. ATCAA does this by incorporating a satisfaction question in our Needs Surveys.

#### Client Needs Survey 2020:

- $\triangleright$  20% of those who completed the needs survey were new clients.
- > 46% of new clients indicated they learned of ATCAA from a friend or family member,
- ➤ 43% were referred by ATCAA staff,
- ▶ 54% indicated they were applying for Energy/Weatherization Assistance,
- > 99% of clients reported being satisfied with ATCAA services,
- ▶ 82% indicated they had utilized Energy/Weatherization assistance in the past,
- ➤ 32% indicated they had utilized Food Bank services.

#### Comments received from clients:

- I am very grateful for the help from this program (utility assistance) gives to the community,
- I appreciate you all dearly!
- Thank you for being part of the Team who cares in Tuolumne County that can go the extra mile,
- Thank you very much for your kind and caring staff. All your programs have truly helped my family and we appreciate it! \*Adult Education, After school/childcare options for parents,
- We appreciate all of you! Thank you!
- Wonderful class. Very informative, down to earth, and practical.

#### Early Childhood Services (ECS) Parent Survey (Head Start and Early Head Start):

73% of parents stated that ECS encouraged volunteerism and in-kind by having a welcoming environment and friendly staff

Comments received from parents:

- The teachers and staff are always willing to help you with anything you may need.
- The staff is amazing and do everything they can to help me with getting any programs I needed or assistance for programs I might need that can help. I absolutely love head start and the staff are just wonderful.
- Everyone actually cares about the kids unlike other schools where they are just teachers and students
- Head Start has always exceeded my parental expectations when it comes to teaching and caring for my child(ren)! I am so grateful to have such a strong, compassionate team of teachers/staff for my child's preschool experience!
- The teachers are fantastic! They listen to my concerns and even when it came to his speech, they made sure to get us an appointment with a therapist, so we could create a plan to keep him on track.
- You guys were amazing through the whole shut down.
- The team is really fast about meeting my family's needs and helping us meet our goals.
- I think the staff are amazing and go over and beyond for my family.

#### Partner Agencies:

ATCAA surveyed 35 partner agencies seeking feedback on their relationship with ATCAA. Of the respondents, 69% stated they had been working with ATCAA for eight or more years and 97% stated that their partnership with ATCAA had agreed upon goals, measurable outcomes, and processes for accountability.

- > 86% were satisfied with the overall partnership between their organization and ATCAA,
- 91% agreed or strongly agreed that ATCAA services offered seem to benefit the community and increase participants' knowledge of city resources.

Comments received from partner agencies:

- ATCAA is a community rock star. Thanks for being such a great community partner. I'd like to give a shout out to your housing staff which I work with. They are all great & so dedicated to their jobs and helping their clients.
- ATCAA's Financial Literacy and Tax support services are working well.
- Other than ATCAA's financial course, I am unaware of any income use/personal budgeting programs/resources.
- ATCAA's Housing Assistance program and homeless shelter are good resources.
- ATCAA's Smart Money classes seem well-received.
- ATCAA homeless program is helping but there are limited landlords willing to participate in the program. Weatherization program working well it seems.
- I think ATCAA does a good job with the homeless shelter and assisting families in housing options.
- ATCAA is a fantastic resource on many fronts.

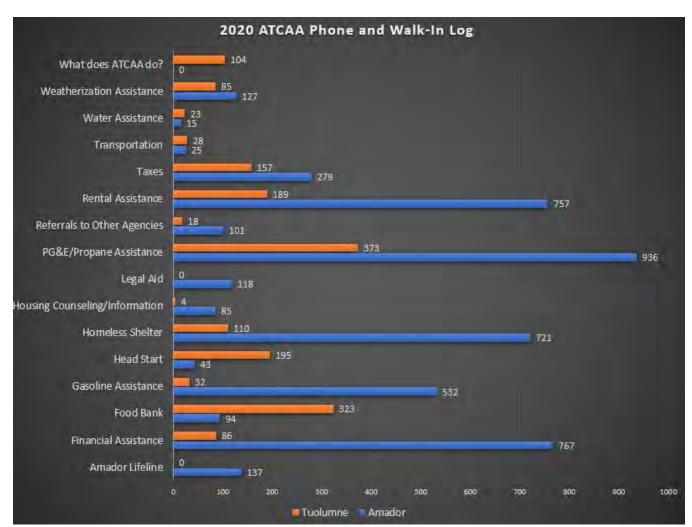
## ATCAA 2020 Phone and Walk-in logs

ATCAA uses agency phone and walk-in logs as an additional layer of data collection to help find trends in client needs.

In 2020, ATCAA received 1,477 phone calls and welcomed 893 clients through its front doors prior to closing them on March 17, 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Subsequently, ATCAA filtered an additional 4,738 phone calls between April-December of 2020. This is a 13.5% increase in phone inquiries from 2019.

The top 5 services requested/inquired by County:

Amador	Tuolumne
PG&E/Propane (-8% from 2019)	PG&E/Propane (-17.7% from 2019)
Financial Assistance (+74% from 2019)	Food Bank (+13% from 2019)
Rental Assistance (-7% from 2019)	Early/Head Start (-20% from 2019)
Homeless Shelter (+.05% from 2019)	Rental Assistance (-32% from 2019)
Gasoline Assistance (no change from 2019)	Taxes (-26% form 2019)



\*Chart does not reflect services that received a total of less than 30 inquiries.

# **Needs Surveys**

## Client Needs Survey Results

- ✤ ATCAA received 1,321 responses from the Client Needs Survey administered in 2020
- ✤ 273 responses came from Amador,
- ✤ 728 from Tuolumne,
- ✤ 321 from Calaveras.
- ATCAA's energy department which offers utility assistance in all three counties, is the greatest contributor to this survey. Below are the cumulative response percentages of greatest needs in order to highest responses.

**<u>\* PAYING OFF/REDUCING DEBT (35%)</u>** ATCAA client are increasingly concerned about their debt burden and interested in any assistance available. This survey was taken during the pandemic when many families have faced layoffs and work hour reduction and find themselves needing to utilize any savings they might have.

- Low-income families today are burdened with rising levels of family debt such as credit card bills, medical and legal bills, and personal loans.
- Families have few assets to leverage if they are confronted by a financial crisis, such as losing a job, as we have seen with the recent pandemic. It is estimated that a family of 4 living in Amador County needs \$7,233 and in Tuolumne County need \$6,932 as a starting budget.
- While poverty thresholds are absolute income levels used to measure the number and percentage of those who are the most impoverished and poor in our society, family budgets are a relative measure of the dollar amount families need to live modestly in the communities where they reside.

**<u>\*UTILITY ASSISTANCE (34%)</u>** continues to be one of the greatest housing needs for our clients. Along with the continual rise in housing and rental costs so is the cost for utilities.

- From April 2019-April 2020 the average price of residential electricity in California jumped by 13.4%. This corresponds with newer restrictions on natural gas and California's already-high electricity prices are headed even higher (The Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity).
- Rural communities have high concentrations of low-income households and elderly that experience high energy burdens and often cannot afford the upfront costs needed for energy efficiency improvements.
- Renters experience higher-than-average energy burdens and split incentives may be a barrier to efficiency in rental properties. If the owner does not pay the energy bills, then he or she may not want to invest in efficiency upgrades to lower those bills. On the other hand, the renters who pay the bills may not have an incentive to invest in energy efficiency upgrades for a property that they do not own.
- Propane, natural gas and fuel oil providers typically do not fund weatherization and efficiency programs.

#### \*BROADBAND Access & Affordability (29%) ranked among one of the greatest needs.

- In 2020, with the onset of COVID-19 and the cancellation of in-person education, broadband access became a top need for child education, with more families having to rely on remote learning.
- Broadband, although slowly expanding, is still difficult for many rural communities to access, especially the smaller communities located at higher elevations in the counties served. In urban areas such as Sacramento or the San Francisco Bay Area residents enjoy internet speeds of up to 500 megabits per second (Mbps) while in Amador and Tuolumne Counties those who live too remotely to access cable can only access DSL or satellite and may experience speeds as low as 5 Mbps.

#### **\*FOOD ASSISSTANCE (29%)** has been a constant concern for both Amador and Tuolumne clients.

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. Hunger refers to a personal, physical sensation of discomfort, while food insecurity refers to a lack of available financial resources for food at the household level.
- Even as the demand for charitable food assistance increases, federal food programs are failing to serve eligible, hungry families.
- In California, the income limit for a family of 4 to receive SNAP is \$50,200 pre-tax, which is 200% of the federal poverty line. When managing competing household expenses while already living on low incomes, many food insecure families cut back on food expenditures to pay for critical household expenses and will often choose between food and utilities, medicine, or transportation.
- Economic ramifications are also being felt by individuals already at risk of hunger, such as those who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic. Feeding America studies project that the overall food insecurity rate in 2020, as a result of COVID-19, will increase 4.9 % in Tuolumne County and 4.4% in Amador County, from 2018.

#### \*EMPLOYMENT & JOB SKILLS & COMPUTER SKILLS TRAINING (23%)

- According to a recent study completed by Kapor Center, a nonprofit that focuses on equity and access in technology, and Computer Science for California, only 39% of California high schools offer computer science (CS) courses. The survey also showed that low-income schools in California were four times less likely and rural schools were significantly less likely to offer CS courses than urban schools.
- The study shows just 3% of the 1.9 million high school students in California took a CS course in 2017.
- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that computer and information technology occupations will grow 13% between 2016 and 2026 further adding to the growing need for computer skills training to obtain gainful employment.

#### \*AFFORDABLE HOUSING (21%) remains a priority for ATCAA clients.

- The median cost of housing in Tuolumne County is 45.2% higher than the U.S. Average and Amador County is 33.9% higher,
- Renters make up 30% of Tuolumne County's occupied housing units and in Amador County 23%.,
- In Amador County, 45% of renters pay \$1,000 \$1,499 a month and in Tuolumne County 34%,
- When factoring in the average cost of housing, childcare, transportation, health care, taxes and other necessities, the monthly estimated cost of living in Amador County is \$7,233 for a family of 4 and in Tuolumne County \$6,932,
- 6% of Amador households live in poverty and 8% in Tuolumne County,
- Low-income residents face juggling increasing household expenses such as rent, utilities, food and other necessities.
- Most rentals and housing options require at least 2 years rental history, good credit, with many rentals requiring a substantial deposit, and first and last month's rent
- Low-income residents lack the capital to obtain safe, affordable housing.

### **\*TRANSPORTATION (14%)** concerns are prevalent among ATCAA clients.

- Many low-income individuals and families lack reliable transportation or have limited access to public transportation.
- 14% of 2-person households in Amador County have a single vehicle and in Tuolumne County 16%; for 3-person households Amador County is 11% and Tuolumne County is 22%.

- In Amador and Tuolumne Counties, public transportation runs only on the main arterial roads, making transportation to and from services difficult for low-income individuals who lack their own transportation or are on limited incomes.
- For people with no other means of transportation, access to a public transit system is an important component of health. Access to transit is particularly important for people with physical disabilities.
- In 2019, 29% of clients noted that transportation was on their list of greatest needs but with the onset of COVID-19 and regional stay at home orders transportation in 2020 was not as high a necessity.

	Amador 273 responses	Tuolumne 728 responses	Calaveras 321 responses
Adult Ed	27% broadband	30% broadband	30% broadband
	27% computer skills training	28% computer skills training	29% computer skills training
	17% night/eve/wknd classes	18% transportation	13% night/eve/wknd classes and
			transportation
Child Ed	30% broadband	27% broadband	25% broadband
	24% counseling services	22% available school resources	21% counseling services
	16% smaller class sizes	17% counseling services	20% proactive approaches to
			violence/bullying
Employment	24% computer skills training	23% job skills training	30% computer skills training
	24% job skills training	21% computer skills training	23% job skills training
	21% job search assistance	21% job search assistance	15% extended childcare options
Housing	30% utility assistance	35% utility assistance	35 % utility assistance
	25% affordable housing	22% affordable housing	18% housing repair programs
	18% rent/mortgage assistance	20% rent/mortgage assistance	17% affordable housing
Health	37% available	33% available	38% available medical/dental/vision
	medical/dental/vision	medical/dental/vision	23% available food resources
	20% available food resources	25% available food resources	16% available health resources
	16% available health resources	14% available health resources	
Income	32% pay off/reduce dept	25% pay off/reduce debt	36% pay off/reduce debt
	21% address credit issues	20% address credit issues	20% address credit issues
	17% set up/maintain a budget	16% set up/maintain a budget	15% set up/maintain a budget
Overall	30% food assistance	31% food assistance	23% food assistance
Support	16% nutrition education	13% nutrition education	17% nutrition education
-	14% life skills programs	13% life skills programs	14% life skills programs

## Partner Survey Results

ATCAA conducted an extensive survey in November 2020 seeking feedback from **35** partner agencies regarding programs and resources that are working well in our community, and about the challenges they felt our communities are facing. Partner agencies included those of Faith Based organizations, other non-profits, local government agencies, for-profit business or corporations, school districts, consortiums/collaborations, and special districts.

# Of the 35 total respondents, 19 were from Tuolumne County and 11 were from Amador County. The remaining 5 indicated that they represented more than one county.

Tuolumne - 19 respondents	Amador - 11 respondents
Adult Education	Adult Education
<ul> <li>74% broadband/internet access</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>73% broadband/internet access</li> </ul>
• 68% convenient public transportation	• 64% after school/childcare options
<ul> <li>58% after school/childcare options</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>55% available evening/night/weekend courses</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>55% convenient public transportation</li> </ul>
Child Education	Child Education
• 89% available counseling services	<ul> <li>80% broadband/internet access</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>67% broadband/internet access</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>60% available counseling services</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>56% proactive approaches to violence/bulling</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>30% proactive approaches to violence/bulling</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>30% ability to offer smaller class sizes</li> </ul>
Employment	Employment
<ul> <li>81% convenient public transportation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>78% after school/childcare options for parents</li> </ul>
• 56% after school/childcare options	<ul> <li>67% programs to improve job skills, training</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>50% programs to improve job skills, training</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>56% convenient public transportation</li> </ul>
Income Use/Personal Budgeting	Income Use/Personal Budgeting
<ul> <li>69% general money management programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>63% programs on how to set up/maintain a budget</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>56% programs on how to address credit issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>63% general money management programs</li> </ul>
• 50% programs on how to pay off or reduce debt	<ul> <li>38% programs on how to pay off or reduce debt</li> </ul>
	• 38% programs on how to set up savings/retirement account
Health/Mental Health	Health/Mental Health
<ul> <li>89% mental health counseling services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>90% mental health counseling services</li> </ul>
• 78% available health resources	• 50% affordable medical/dental/vision insurance
• 39% affordable medical/dental/vision insurance	• 40% available health resources
Housing	Housing
<ul> <li>94% affordable housing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>91% affordable housing</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>67% rental/mortgage assistance programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>55% rental/mortgage assistance programs</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>39% utility assistance programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>36% utility assistance programs</li> </ul>
3 most leveraged challenges you see our community fa	
today	today
<ul> <li>63% substance abuse programs/services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>100% affordable childcare programs</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>42% affordable/available transportation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>50% affordable/available transportation</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>42% affordable childcare programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>50% substance abuse programs/services</li> </ul>

Below you can see how the counties ranked their greatest needs in each Category.

### Community Needs Survey Results

# (February 2021- 1 year post pandemic declaration)

ATCAA understands that individuals and families need more support now than ever before. To do this, ATCAA chose to conduct a short final survey in February 2021, one year post pandemic declaration, to better understand the current challenges that COVID-19 has brought to our communities. This survey asked one simple question, <u>"What do you see as the greatest need(s) for our low-income community?"</u>

**125 respondents** represented non-profit organizations, for-profit businesses, faith-based organizations, local collaborations/consortiums, school districts, health services institutions, local government agencies, institutions of post-secondary education/training, state government agencies, federal government agencies, special districts, **and** local community members.

- ✤ Local residents made up the largest group completing the survey at 34%,
- ✤ 29% local government agencies
- ✤ 21% non-profit organizations
- ✤ 10% faith-based organizations
- ✤ 6% make up the remaining sectors
- ✤ 66% Amador County
- ✤ 23% Tuolumne County
- 11% Other counties (5 from Calaveras, 6 from Mariposa, 1 from Stanislaus, and 1 who represented Amador/Tuolumne/Mariposa/Calaveras).

#### **Survey Results:**

- Housing
- Employment
- Health/Mental Health
- Food
- Transportation
- Education
- Childcare
- Medical/Dental Care



## **Employee Engagement Survey Results**

ATCAA understands the importance of employee engagement cannot be overstated- one of the most important determinants of program excellence is the presence of qualified, well-trained, and satisfied team members. In February 2021, ATCAA distributed an Employee Engagement and Satisfaction Survey that resulted in a 46% response rate.

The survey was divided into five categories

- Cat 1: Organization, Strategy and Planning (questions 4-12)
- Cat 2: Culture, Recognition and Reward (questions 13-26)
- Cat 3: Communication, Training and Development (questions 27-37)
- Cat 4: Customer Satisfaction and Community Outcomes (questions 38-45)
- Cat 5: Free response (questions 46-51)

Each response is given a weighted score as follows.

"Strongly Agree"	= 2 points
"Agree"	= 1 point
"Neutral"	= 0 points
"Disagree"	= -1 point
"Strongly Disagree"	= -2 points

The average score of each question is then calculated. To highlight discussion areas as strengths and potential areas for improvement, average scores have been highlighted in either "Green" for scores of 1.5 or higher, and "Red" for scores of 0.50 and lower. All other scores (between .51 and 1.49) reflect a general agreement with the survey question.

Employee Demographics:

- How long have you worked for ATCAA?
  - 44% less than or equal to 5 years
  - o 37% 6-10 years
  - o 19% 11 or more years
- What is your employment status?
  - o 84% full-time
  - o 12% part-time
  - o 4 % seasonal
- Job seniority or classification
  - o 54% project and program staff
  - o 26% management/coordinator
  - o 11% administrative staff
  - o 9% executive/director

Survey Results:

	Category 1 Organization, Strategy and Planning (questions 4-12)						
RESPONSE RATING							
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement		ngly Disagree Statement		
					Weighted		
					Average		
4. The agency encoura	ages new ideas and in	novation			1.1		
5. The agency is always striving to change for the better							
6. Our Board and staf	f actively advocate on	behalf of the agen	cy and those we serve		1.1		
7. I see teams working	g together effectively	across different de	partments		0.8		
8. The agency possess results	8. The agency possesses the tools, technology and resources it needs to produce community						
9. The agency is quick	k to apply resources to	new ideas that wi	ll drive future success		0.7		
10. Changes to the wa	0.5						
11. As it plans for the	future, the agency inv	volves me and asks	for my ideas		0.4		

### Category 1 Organization, Strategy and Planning (questions 4-12)

### Category 2: Culture, Recognition and Reward (13-26)

RESPONSE RATING							
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagre with Statement	ee		
				Weighted			
				Average			
13. The leaders of this	agency care about the	eir employee's we	ll-being	1.1			
14. The leaders of our	agency are accessible	;		1.0			
15. I have a safe/produ	active and team-orient	ed workplace		1.3			
16. My job provides n	ne with a sense of mea	ning and purpose		1.4			
17. I feel part of a tear	n working towards a s	hared goal		1.2			
18. I can see myself w	orking at this organize	ation one year from	n now	1.4			
19. I am proud to work	k for our agency			1.5			
20. I believe there is a	spirit of cooperation	within our agency		1.1			
21. The people I work	with take accountabil	ity and ownership	for results	1.2			
22. My supervisor trea	ats me fairly and with	respect		1.5			
23. My coworkers trea	at me fairly and with r	espect		1.4			
24. I receive appropria accomplishments	ate recognition (beyon	d my pay) for my	contributions and	0.9			
25. I am paid fairly for	r the contributions I m	ake to agency suc	cess	0.4			

Category 5: Communication, Training and Development (27-57)							
RESPONSE RATING							
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement		ongly Disagree 1 Statement		
					Weighted		
					Average		
27. I have a clear und	lerstanding of my job	role			1.3		
28. I have the tools I	need to do my job				1.1		
29. I am encouraged	and have access to the	training I need to i	mprove my work		1.1		
30. My supervisor is	available and provide	s coaching to devel	op my skills		1.2		
31. Our agency missi	on/vision (what we ar	e trying to accompl	ish) is well understood	by staff	1.0		
at every level							
32. I have a good und	lerstanding of the orga	anization's goals an	d objectives		1.3		
33. I understand how	my role contributes to	o achieving agency	outcomes		1.4		
34. My supervisor is	open to hearing my of	oinion or feedback			1.4		
35. There is good cor	0.4						
36. I utilize the agend	cy website and social i	nedia pages to acce	ess information and reso	ources	0.5		
about the agency	-						

### **Category 3: Communication, Training and Development (27-37)**

### Category 4: Customer Satisfaction and Community Outcomes (38-45)

RESPONSE RATING							
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement		gly Disagree Statement		
					Weighted		
					Average		
38. Our agency stays in touch and listens to our customers							
39. We annually evaluate	ate customer satisfaction	n about our progra	am's services		0.9		
40. Our agency regular	rly measures, tracks, and	l reports our resul	ts and impacts to our sta	ıff,	1.0		
Board, and the commu	nity						
41. Our agency engage	es and involves the com	nunity and stakeh	olders in planning our f	uture	0.7		
42. Our customers are	highly satisfied with our	r services and the	work we do		1.0		
43. Our agency obeys	laws and regulations and	l has high ethical	standards		1.5		
<u> </u>	a substantial difference	-			1.5		

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## **Board Member Self-Assessment**

ATCAA performed a Board Member self-assessment in 2020. The Board of Directors are important internal stakeholders, and the self-assessment provides insight and alignment into Board member involvement in ten key organizational components: Vision/Mission, Strategic Planning, Executive Leadership, Financial Resources, External Relations/Community Involvement and Fiscal Oversight, Assessing Program Performance, Board and Organizational Roles, Board Structure and Operations, Board Member Self- Reflection.

Each response is given a weighted score as follows.

"Strongly Agree"	= 2 points
"Agree"	= 1 point
"Neutral"	= 0 points
"Disagree"	= -1 point
"Strongly Disagree"	= -2 points

The average score of each question is then calculated. To highlight discussion areas as strengths and potential areas for improvement, average scores have been highlighted in either "Green" for scores of 1.5 or higher, and "Red" for scores of 0.50 and lower. All other scores (between .51 and 1.49) reflect a general agreement with the survey question.

## SECTION 1: VISION AND MISSION

RESPONSE RATING					
+2	+1	0	-1		-2
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement	
				RATING	Responses
1. The organization h	1. The organization has clearly stated vision and mission statements.				
2. The organization's	vision and mission have	e specific goals.		1.50	8
3. The organization's	mission is clearly unde	erstood and accepted	by the board.	1.50	8
<ol> <li>The board considers how all programs, activities, and policy decisions fit with the organization's mission. (2 Neutral Responses)</li> </ol>				1.25	8
<ul> <li>5. There is consensus among the board that the vision and mission accurately reflect where the organization is headed in the next two to three years.</li> <li>(4 Neutral Responses)</li> </ul>				0.88	8

## SECTION 2: STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY DECISIONS

RESPONSE RATING						
+2	+1	0	-1		-2	
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement		Disagree atement	
	RATING Responses					
	<ol> <li>The board engages in a strategic planning process that lays out the organization's goals over the next two to three years. (1 Neutral, 1 Disagree)</li> </ol>					
	<ol> <li>The board demonstrates a strong ability to promote improvement and manage change in the organization.</li> </ol>					
<ol> <li>The board takes primary responsibility for establishing and regularly reviewing the organization's policies and procedures. (1 Neutral)</li> </ol>				1.50	8	
<ol> <li>The board operates using clearly written policies and by-laws that enhance the governing body. (1 Neutral)</li> </ol>			1.25	8		
	nd follows the conflict of cy decisions for the orga			1.25	8	

# SECTION 3: EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

RESPONSE RATING					
+2	+1	0	-1		-2
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement	
				RATING	Responses
constructive relat	<b>17.</b> The executive director demonstrates the ability to maintain a positive, constructive relationship with the board that maximizes organizational performance. (1 Neutral)				
18. The executive director ensures the board has access to relevant information and data to facilitate informed decision-making regarding the organization and its programs, activities, and services.					8
<b>19.</b> The executive director and board chair are viewed as working cooperatively as a team. (2 Neutrals)				1.13	8
20. The executive director ensures that the organization has clearly defined and implemented board approved policies and procedures that are used for oversight of operations.					8
annually based o	rector's performance ar n objectives establishe s fiscal year. (2 Neutral	d by the board at the		1.25	8

## SECTION 4: ENSURING ADEQUATE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

RESPONSE RATING						
+2	+1	0	-1		-2	
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement		
				RATING	Responses	
<b>25.</b> Board members are clear about expectations for their personal fundraising responsibility (i.e., individual giving, volunteering at fundraising events). (4 Neutrals)					8	
	26. The board works to diversify and maximize sustainable revenue sources beyond CSBG funding to ensure the health of the organization. (4 Neutrals)					
<ul><li>27. The board supports efforts to seek public and private funding to implement new programs and services to address the identified needs of the community. (4 Neutrals)</li></ul>					8	
	fund development plan trategies and goals. (4 I		с	0.50	8	

## SECTION 5: EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

RESPONSE RATING					
+2	+1	0	-1		-2
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement	
	·	·		RATING	Responses
	collaborates with other -income families in the o		that provide	1.50	8
	aff engage community r vocacy efforts. (1 Neutra		n the	1.38	8
<b>34.</b> The organization can readily mobilize a network of community allies and advocates who can be influential at neighborhood, city, town, and state levels. (1 Neutral)					8
	<b>35.</b> The board actively promotes the organization and its activities to enhance its reputation in the community.				8
36. The board and organization invite policymakers and elected officials to agency events, such as the annual meeting. (3 Neutrals, 2 Disagree)					8
<b>37.</b> The organization has an effective public relations and communication plan in place, keeping the community informed about the organization's activities and accomplishments. (2 Neutrals, 1 Disagree)				0.75	8
	bers and other partners erve on board committe			0.00	8

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### SECTION 6: PROVIDING EFFECTIVE FISCAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

RESPONSE RATING							
+2	+1	0	-1		-2		
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement			
	RATING Responses						
	<b>42.</b> The organization's annual budget is fully discussed and understood by board members prior to its approval. (2 Neutrals)						
	<b>43.</b> The fiscal status of the organization is regularly reviewed and necessary board action is taken in a timely manner.						
	<b>44.</b> Organizational funding needs are reviewed annually and priorities are established. (1 Neutral)						
45. The Chief Financial Officer provides relevant financial statements and documents to the board at least one week before every board meeting for review by board members. (2 Neutrals, 1 Disagree)				0.86	8		
	s audit report is reviewe in a timely manner. <mark>(1</mark>		nd necessary	1.63	8		

# SECTION 7: ASSESSING PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

RESPONSE RATING					
+2	+1	0	-1	-2	
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement	
				RATING	Responses
<b>50.</b> Data is used to inform decisions regarding implementation of programs and services targeted to reduce inequality in outcomes for low-income children and families. (1 Neutral)			1.25	8	
<ol> <li>The organization staff demonstrates the ability to work effectively with diverse populations.</li> </ol>				1.75	8
<ol> <li>The board uses the results of activity performance reviews to update the strategic plan. (4 Neutrals, 1 Disagree)</li> </ol>				0.50	8
53. The board annually engages in a thorough review of performance of the organization's programs and services. (2 Neutrals)			1.13	8	
54. The board uses evaluation and activity performance review information to guide decisions about program modification and/or new programs. (4 Neutrals)			0.75	8	
<b>55.</b> The board evaluates program performance against the organization's mission on a regular basis. (3 Neutrals, 1 Disagree)			0.50	8	
56. Written organizational procedures are in place to ensure equitable access to program services and facilities. (3 Neutrals)			1.00	8	

# SECTION 8: BOARD AND ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF ROLES

RESPONSE RATING					
+2	+1	0	-1	-2	
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement		Disagree atement
				RATING	Responses
<b>60.</b> Line of responsibility for board and organizational staff are clearly defined and differentiated.			1.00	7	
	ites to the executive dir It the organization's mis		ity to lead the	1.63	8
<b>62.</b> Board and staff have a shared understanding of the organization's strategic goals and work cooperatively to achieve those goals.			1.50	8	

# SECTION 9: BOARD STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

RESPONSE RATING						
+2	+1	0	-1	-2		
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement		
				RATING	Responses	
66. The roles, respon understood. (2 No	sibilities, and expectation expectation expectation is a set of the set of th	on of board members	are clearly	1.00	8	
67. The board size is	adequate.			1.38	8	
<b>68.</b> The areas of expertise, skills, and other factors needed to be an effective board for the organization are adequately represented among current board members. (2 Neutrals)				0.88	8	
<b>69.</b> Board members are actively recruited based on the organization's needs. (2 Neutrals)			0.75	8		
<b>70.</b> Board members are provided a comprehensive orientation that includes the history of community action, community action promise and code of ethics, and the organization's mission, vision, by-laws, policies, programs, and roles and responsibilities as board members.				1.50	8	
<ol> <li>The board has a written succession plan in place for board leadership to provide guidance when there is an anticipated or unanticipated change. (2 Neutrals, 1 Disagree)</li> </ol>			0.75	8		
72. The board thoroughly examines the pros and cons of all major issues before decisions are finalized.			1.13	8		
<b>73.</b> The board's committee structure is effective, the number of committees is appropriate, and their objectives are well-defined. (3 Neutrals)			0.63	8		
74. Each board member serves on at least one board committee. (3 Neutrals)			1.13	8		
<b>75.</b> The organization's conflict of interest policy is clear and all board members adhere to it. (1 Neutral)			1.50	8		
76. The format of the board meetings is the right balance of information sharing and strategic thinking about major issues and concerns. (1 Neutral)			1.13	8		
77. The board's meeting schedule has the right number and length of meetings.			1.38	8		
<b>78.</b> Board meeting ar (1 Neutral)	e generally well-run and	d make good use of m	embers' time.	1.13	8	

## SECTION 10: INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER SELF-REFLECTION

	RESPONSE RATING					
+ 2	+1	0	-1	-2		
Strongly Agree with Statement	Agree with Statement	Neutral	Disagree with Statement	Strongly Disagree with Statement		
				RATING	Responses	
82. I get excited about are headed in two	ut the mission of the or o to three years.	ganization and suppor	t where we	1.38	8	
83. I look for news a	nd trends that impact o	ur organization. <mark>(1 Ne</mark>	utral)	1.13	8	
84. I am knowledgea services. (3 Neutr	ble about and can desc r <mark>als)</mark>	ribe the organization's	program and	0.63	8	
85. I have a clear und Action board men	derstanding of my role a nber. <mark>(1 Neutral)</mark>	and responsibilities as	a Community	1.13	8	
86. I thoughtfully pre	pare for board and com	nmittee meetings.		1.25	8	
87. I actively participation governing process	ate in board meetings a s.	nd feel very engaged	in the	1.25	8	
88. I actively particip	ate on at least one boar	rd committee. <mark>(1 Disa</mark> g	gree)	1.13	8	
89. I actively participate in board and committee work. (1 Disagree)			1.13	8		
<b>90.</b> I recommend people for the board and board committees. (3 Neutral, 1 Disagree)			0.38	8		
<b>91.</b> I respect the other members of the board and have a strong working relationship with them. (2 Neutrals)			1.13	8		
<b>92.</b> I actively participate in the development of the organization's strategic plan. (3 Neutral, 1 Disagree)			0.38	8		
<ol> <li>93. I actively participate in the annual review of the organization's executive director. (2 Neutrals)</li> </ol>			1.38	8		
94. I am knowledgeable enough about the organization's budget to make informed funding decisions about the organization and the programs and services it offers.			1.38	8		
95. I make an annual financial gift to the organization. (3 Neutral, 2 Disagree)			0.13	8		
<b>96.</b> I share information about the mission and programs of the organization with people in the community. (1 Neutral)			1.13	8		
<b>97.</b> I actively participate in at least one organization activity or <u>event a</u> year. (3 Neutral, 1 Disagree)			.63	8		
98. I am <u>a</u> advocate for Community Action in my community.			1.25	8		
<b>99.</b> I believe that bein commitment of m	ng a member of this bo ny time.	ard is meaningful and	a productive	1.38	8	

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## Phase III

# **Focus Groups**

## Head Start/Early Head Start

In February 2021, nearly one year out from the pandemic official recognition, ATCAA Head Start/Early Head Start program reached out to 49 parents in Amador and Tuolumne Counties and communicated with 8 partnering agencies asking two questions, "What do you feel the biggest problem is for low-income residents?" and "Aside from our own struggles, what do you think friends and family would say is our counties biggest struggles?"

The issue of challenges for low-income families was discussed at Resiliency Coalition and Child Abuse Prevention meetings in Amador and Tuolumne. In Tuolumne, there were representatives from Juvenile Probation, Resiliency Village, Center for a Non-Violent Community, Tribal Social Services, and Child Welfare Services. In Amador, the community partners represented were First 5 Amador, Nexus, and Child Protective Services.

From the community partners, the top needs identified include:

- stress/mental health issues
- ➢ job loss
- lack of income
- loss of housing and homelessness

Other needs identified were:

- > problems having children at home so much and having to home school them
- > not knowing how to access resources or what is available in the community
- > substance misuse and increased domestic violence and child abuse

Amador and Tuolumne parents' greatest concerns were centered around, housing, transportation, childcare, employment, and income.

Housing - by far the most problematic issues. Parents expressed:

- There is a limited amount of affordable housing and that low-income housing wait lists are too long.
- There is not enough affordable housing to rent or buy, especially for single parents with one income; it's hard to move out on your own because of cost.
- We lack appropriate, affordable housing; families must live in homes that are too small for them because they cannot afford anything bigger.
- Securing a rental is also difficult for low-income residents as there is a fee associated with each application submittal and applicants typically do not have the upfront capital to secure first and last month's rent.

### Cost of Living –Parents expressed:

- Current cost of living is too high
- Not enough available jobs or enough jobs that pay a decent wage and the uncertainty of employment as
- Small businesses are struggle financially during the pandemic.
- Grandparent are raising their grandchildren struggling to live on a fixed income.
- Struggle with the daily costs of living and high prices such as clothes and shoes for their kids, baby wipes and diapers, food, and hygiene items.
- The hardest part is not being able to pay all the bills and never having anything to save at the end of the month. They must decide which ones they can pay and which they must wait on.
- Managing and paying bills, especially those that overlap each other, such as PG&E, was noted.

Transportation -concern for parents expressed:

- Many low-income families do not have a vehicle or only have one vehicle, making it difficult to run their errands or get their children to and from extra curriculars.
- For families that have a car, the cost of keeping and maintaining a car is expensive as well as the cost of fuel to keep getting to and from a job.
- Some low-income families need assistance to obtain a license and noted that auto insurance is too high.

Childcare- Parents expressed concerns about:

- The lack of affordable **childcare**,
- Not having enough infant/toddler care options,
- Income eligibility guidelines are inadequate and felt that they needed to be unemployed to qualify for Head Start or other assistance,
- Assistance needed for extended childcare hours,
- lack of low cost full-day daycare options or stipends,
- Due to the pandemic, people are trying to work from home and watch small children, making it extremely difficult to work without full-day childcare.

Other needs identified by parents included:

- The high cost of food and utilities,
- Needing more assistance for seniors living on fixed incomes,
- ✤ The cost of basic health coverage (dental, primary, optometry),
- The feeling that people look down on you because you are low-income.

# Top Needs Identified in the ATCAA Needs Assessment

- Available Housing: <u>Communities lack affordable housing</u>
- Affordable Housing: Individuals and Families cannot afford available housing
- Transportation: Families lack reliable means of transportation
- Affordable Childcare: Individuals cannot afford available childcare
- Available Childcare: There is a lack of extended hour infant/childcare in the community
- Employment: There is a lack of well-paying jobs in the community
- Food: Individuals and Families cannot afford healthy food
- Job skills: Individuals lack the skills to obtain well-paying jobs
- Utility Assistance: Individuals cannot afford the high cost of utilities

ATCAA Client Survey	Partner Survey	Community Needs Survey	Focus Groups	Total of Surveys Showing Need
1321 Surveys	35 Surveys	125 Surveys	49 parent participants	Total Surveys
			8 represented partner agencies	1481
Available/Affordable	Available/Affordable	Available/Affordable	Available/Affordable	4
Housing	Housing	Housing	Housing	
Transportation	Transportation	Transportation	Transportation	4
	Childcare	Childcare	Childcare	3
Employment		Employment	Employment	3
Food		Food	Food	3
Job Skills Training		Job Skills Training		2
Utility Assistance			Utility Assistance	2
Money Management	Money Management		Money Management	2
	Mental Health	Mental Health		2
	Substance Use Counseling	Substance Use Counseling		2
	Counseinig	Affordable	Affordable	2
		Medical/Dental	Medical/Dental	2
Broadband	Broadband			2
Computer Skills Training				1
	Child Counseling			1

### Phase IV

# **Asset Mapping**

What is it? Asset Mapping is a tool that relies on a core belief of asset-based community development; namely, that good things exist in communities and that those things can be highlighted and encouraged — these are assets suited to advancing those communities. (VISTAcampus.gov).

As part of the Partner Agency survey, organizations were asked to provide resources that worked well in their community. Below is a listing of the responses categorized by service area and county.

#### What works well in our community:

#### Adult Education:

- o Tuolumne County: YES partnership, ATCAA, TCSOS, ICES, JFRC and Columbia College.
- Amador County: ATCAA, WIC, ACUSD, Amador College Connect, Independent HS, Nexus, Amador Quality for Kids and Sierra Wind.

### **Child Education:**

- Tuolumne County: First 5, ATCAA Head Start and Early Head Start, ICES, WIC, MCAH, HVP Partnerships, ATCAA Promotores/ES, Smile Keepers, CNVC, YES Partnership, Friday Night Live, Youth Mentoring, Suicide Prevention, TCSOS, and PM Club programs.
- o Amador County: WIC, ATCAA Head Start and Early Head Start, First 5, and Amador College Connect.

### **Employment Resources:**

- Tuolumne County: Mother Lode Job Training, Welfare to Work, Columbia College, Job Fairs, EDD, Family Stabilization and Housing Support programs.
- o Amador County: Amador College Connect, Mother Lode Job Training, and CalWorks.

### **Income Use/Personal Budgeting Resources:**

- o Tuolumne County: CNVC, WIC, SNAP-ED, BBVA Compass Bank and ATCAA.
- Amador County: ATCAA programs such as Foster Youth IDA, Energy Assistance, Housing for the Homeless, and Rental Assistance.

### Health/Mental Health Resources:

- Tuolumne County: Behavioral Health, CNVC, NAMI and SAMI, ICES, Peer Enrichment Center, Lambert Drop-in Center, Me-Wuk, MACT, FSP, and YES Partnership.
- Amador County: ATCAA, WIC, Sutter Amador Hospital, Interfaith Food Bank, Nexus, Wellspace, MACT, NAMI, MHSA, First 5 and Amador/Calaveras Perinatal Wellness Coalition.

#### Housing Resources:

- Tuolumne County: ATCAA, County First Time Homebuyer Program, CalWorks, Behavioral Health, CNVC, and GRACE fund through Catholic Charities.
- o Amador County: ATCAA programs, Operation Care and Sierra Wind

### Other programs and services and assets noted:

Sonora Area Foundation, Central Sierra Continuum of Care, The Enrichment Center, ATCAA Food Bank, Project Hope, Meals-on-Wheels, Road to Resiliency Differential Response, Operation Care, Senior Center in Amador, Tribal TANF, and ASPIRE Student Assistance Program.

For additional references please use the Amador and Tuolumne County Resource Directories below:

<u>C:\Users\PSARAN~1\AppData\Local\Temp\mso529B.tmp</u> 2020-21 amador resource directory.pdf (trcac.org)

2020 Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency – Needs Assessment Report

## **REFERENCE TABLE**

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