



HEAD START COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

2025



Skyline CAP, Inc.

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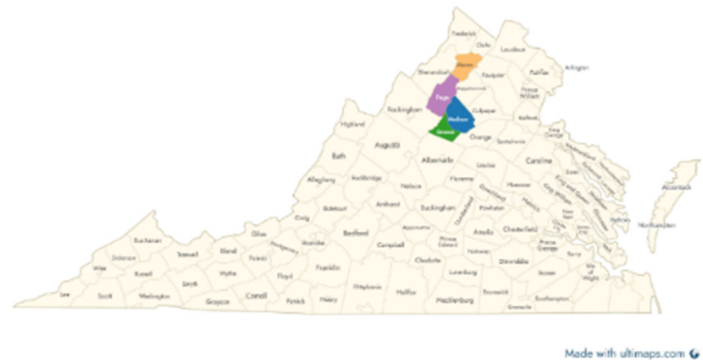
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Introduction

Skyline CAP Head Start, operating since 1991, has long served as a trusted provider of high-quality, consistent early learning for children across the communities we serve. Our in-class programming plays a vital role in supporting the developmental, social, and practical needs of young children while fostering strong, ongoing partnerships with families. Through daily engagement and collaborative goal setting, we reinforce the connection between home and classroom so that families feel empowered and supported—not simply informed. In communities where families often face barriers such as limited childcare options, economic instability, and restricted access to early-learning opportunities, our structured classroom environments offer reliable, stable learning experiences that help buffer the effects of these challenges. This comprehensive and equitable foundation strengthens kindergarten readiness and promotes long-term educational success for the children in our care.

Service Area

Skyline CAP’s Head Start program serves a diverse four-county region spanning both sides of the Blue Ridge Mountains—Madison and Greene counties to the east, and Page and Warren counties in the Shenandoah Valley.



Greene County, located in north-central Virginia east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, borders Shenandoah National Park and is part of the Charlottesville Metropolitan Statistical Area. With a 2024 population of 21,744, the predominantly rural county lies along the U.S. Route 29 corridor, offering an accessible setting for residents. During the 2024–2025 program year, Skyline CAP Head Start served 38 children and families in Greene County.

Madison County, located in Virginia’s north-central Piedmont region just east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, had an estimated population of 14,252 in July 2024. The county’s economy is rooted in agriculture and forestry, with growing opportunities in trade and light industry due to its proximity to Northern Virginia and access via U.S. Route 29. During the 2024–2025 program year, Skyline CAP Head Start served 42 children and families in Madison County.

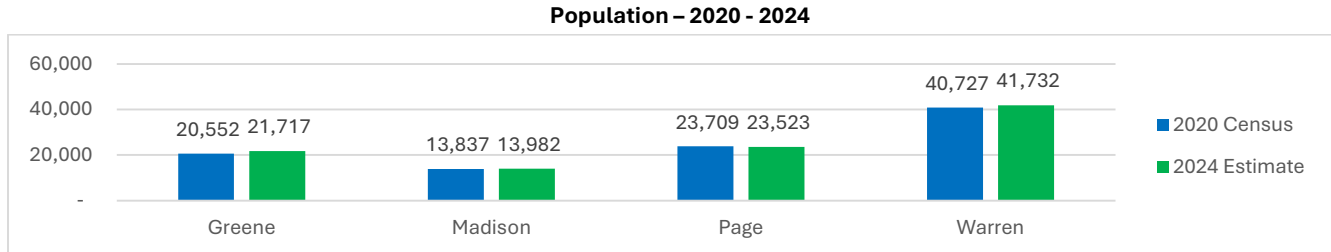
Page County, located between the Blue Ridge and Massanutten Mountains, had an estimated population of 23,686 in July 2024. Known for its scenic beauty, affordability, and strong community, the county offers convenient access to Interstates 81 and 66 and is about 90 miles from Washington, D.C. During the 2024–2025 program year, Skyline CAP Head Start served 33 children and families in Page County.

Warren County, located in northwestern Virginia within the northern Shenandoah Valley, is part of the Washington–Arlington–Alexandria Metropolitan Statistical Area. As of July 2024, the county’s population was estimated at 42,641. Warren County benefits from strong transportation access via I-66, I-81, and the Virginia Inland Port in Front Royal. During the 2024–2025 program year, Skyline CAP Head Start served 45 children and families in Warren County.

DEMOGRAPHICS

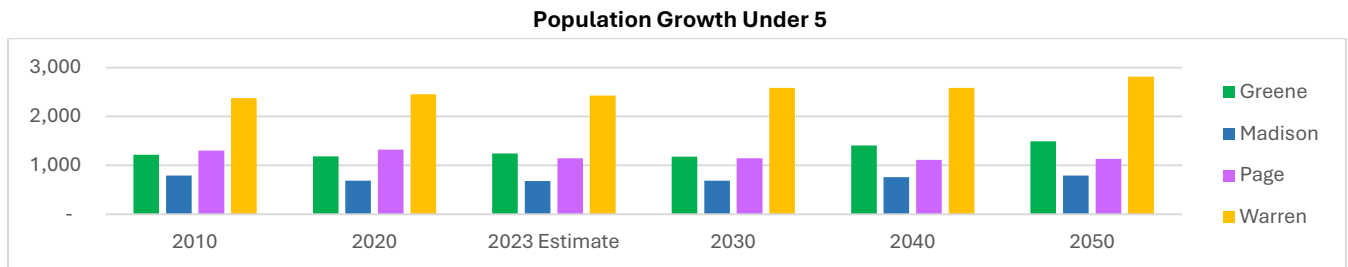
POPULATION

Within Skyline CAP’s Head Start service area, two counties experienced growth exceeding that of the state of Virginia (1.93%) between 2020 and 2024: Greene County at 5.67% and Warren County at 2.47%. Madison County experienced more modest growth of 1.05% while the population in Page County declined by 0.78%.



Source: University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. (2024). Virginia Population Estimates.

Population projections for children under 5 show mixed trends across Skyline CAP’s service area. Greene County is expected to experience the most significant growth, with a 26% increase in children under age 5 by 2050 compared to 2020. Madison and Warren counties also show moderate growth of 16% and 15%, respectively. In contrast, Page County is projected to decline by 14%, which may lead to reduced enrollment and potential resource reallocation.



Source: University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. (2024). Virginia Population Estimates.

LANGUAGE

The table below illustrates the primary languages spoken in households within Greene, Madison, Page, and Warren counties. While English remains the dominant language in all four counties, there is notable variation in the presence of other languages. Spanish is the most common non-English language, with Warren County showing the highest percentage at 4.3%.

Language Spoken at Home

County	English Only	Spanish	Other European	Asian and Pacific Islander	Other
Greene	93%	3.00%	2.50%	0.90%	0.30%
Madison	97%	1.60%	1.30%	0.50%	0.0%
Page	97%	2.10%	0.20%	0.30%	0.50%
Warren	94%	4.30%	1.40%	0.60%	0.20%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2023 5-Year Estimates. Table S1601.

RACE & ETHNICITY

Understanding the racial and ethnic makeup of communities is essential for identifying disparities, tailoring services, and ensuring equitable access to resources. Within Skyline CAP’s overall service area, all counties are predominantly white, with limited racial and ethnic diversity. Counties with higher Hispanic/Latino populations may benefit from bilingual services and culturally tailored outreach programs.

Population by Race

County	White	Black	Asian	American Indian / Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Two or More Races
Greene	16,668	1,411	525	14	24	786	1,422
Madison	11,797	1,166	53	3	5	81	826
Page	21,970	443	82	20	0	295	940
Warren	34,386	2,114	493	39	0	1,824	2,248

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

Population by Hispanic Ethnicity

County	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino Population	Non-Hispanic Population
Greene	20,850	6.95%	93.05%
Madison	13,931	3.52%	96.48%
Page	23,750	2.37%	97.63%
Warren	41,104	6.71%	93.29%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

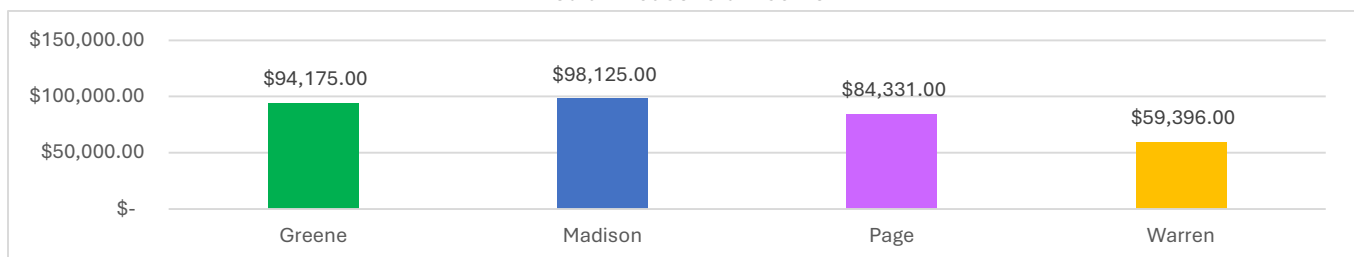
INCOME

In Virginia, the minimum wage is currently \$12.41 per hour and is set to increase to \$12.77 per hour on January 1, 2026, pursuant to state law linking the wage to inflation. While this rate reflects a steady upward adjustment, it remains modest relative to living costs in many of the communities served by Skyline CAP. As such, families working minimum-wage jobs continue to face challenges in affording essentials such as housing, food, and childcare—barriers that directly impact children’s stability, early learning participation, and family economic security.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Household income growth has been relatively stagnant for many low- and middle-income families over the past few decades, with real wage growth often failing to keep pace with inflation and rising costs of living. While high-income households have seen significant gains, lower-income families have faced slower wage increases, making it harder to build wealth and achieve economic mobility.

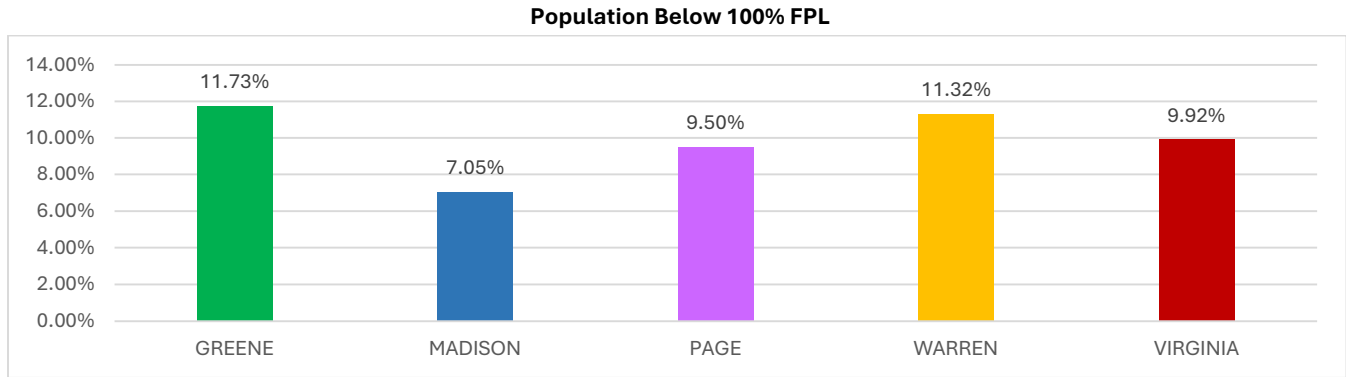
Median Household Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-23.

POVERTY

Across the four localities, poverty rates vary notably. Greene (11.73%) and Warren (11.32%) have the highest poverty levels, both exceeding the statewide rate of 9.92%. Page County's poverty rate (9.5%) is just slightly below the Virginia average, while Madison County has the lowest rate at 7.05%. In total numbers, Warren has the largest population and the greatest number of residents experiencing poverty (4,542), while Madison has the smallest figures in both categories. Overall, Greene and Warren show greater economic vulnerability, with poverty rates above the state average, whereas Madison and Page County fall below or near statewide levels.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

Children Under 5 in Poverty

County	Ages 0-4 Total Population	Ages 0-4 in Poverty	Ages 0-4 Poverty Rate
Greene	1,257	219	17.4%
Madison	797	45	5.6%
Page	1,175	79	6.7%
Warren	2,152	250	11.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

This indicator reports the percentage of households receiving public assistance income. Public assistance income includes general assistance and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Separate payments received for hospital or other medical care (vendor payments) are excluded. This does not include Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or noncash benefits such as Food Stamps.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME

Households Receiving Public Assistance Income

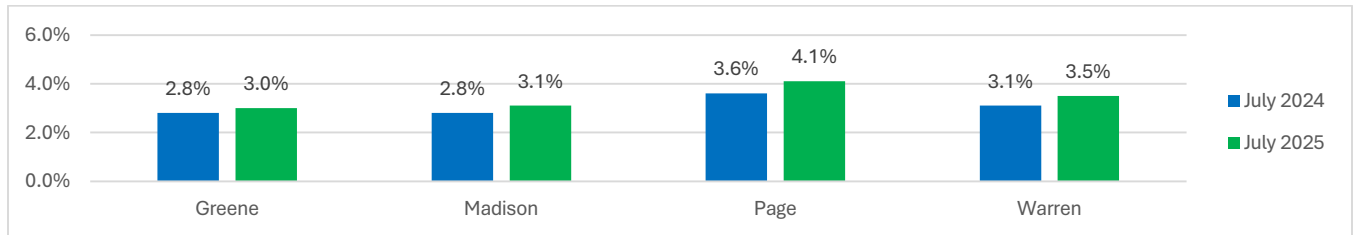
County	Total Households	Percentage with Public Assistance Income
Greene	7,912	1.28%
Madison	5,392	3.89%
Page	9,509	1.45%
Warren	15,357	3.30%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

UNEMPLOYMENT

As of July 2025, Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stands at 3.8%, marking a rise of 0.6 percentage points compared to July 2024. This rate remains below the national average of 4.6%.

Unemployment Statistics, July 2025



Source: Virginia Works, Economic Information & Analytics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. July 2025.

HEAD START-ELIGIBLE CHILDREN & FAMILIES

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

The following table estimates the number of 3- and 4-year-old children in Skyline CAP Head Start's service area, as well as how many of these children are living in poverty and therefore likely eligible for Head Start services. These figures provide a snapshot of local early-childhood need, showing both the overall population of preschool-aged children and the subset facing economic hardship who may benefit most from early-education support programs.

Estimated Number of 3- and 4-Year Old Children in Poverty

County	Est. 3- and 4-Year Old Children	Est. 3-and 4-Year-Old Children in Poverty
Greene	503	88
Madison	319	18
Page	470	32
Warren	861	100

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

FOSTER CARE

In Virginia, approximately 22.9% of children in foster care are between the ages of 1 and 5. In rural counties like those served by Skyline CAP Head Start, a key challenge is the limited availability of suitable caregivers who are trained to provide consistent developmental and health monitoring and to minimize placement changes. When possible, prioritizing kinship placements—placing children with relatives—offers significant benefits for young children by supporting stronger attachment, reducing disruption, and promoting greater overall stability.

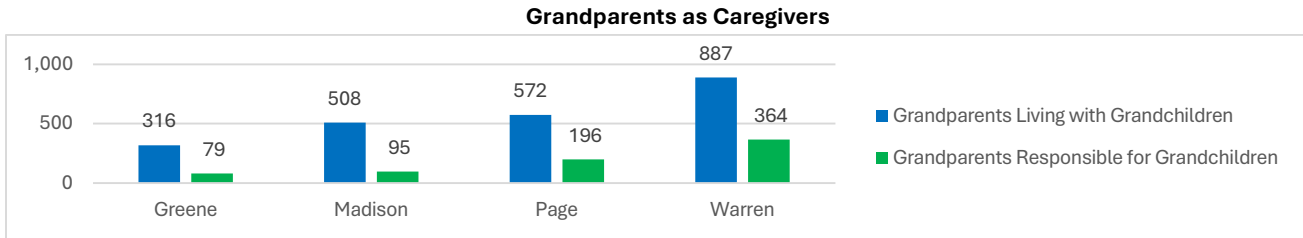
Children in Foster Care – September 2025

County	Age 5 and Under	Percent Age 5 and Under	Average Time in Care (Months)
Greene	5	11.6%	22.58
Madison	9	27.3%	12.88
Page	6	16.2%	17.27
Warren	17	38.6%	24.47

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services. Foster care Children Demographic Report. September 2025.

GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS

Grandparents who have their grandchildren under 18 living in their household—and who are financially responsible for their basic needs—represent an important and often vulnerable caregiving group. Many grandparents step in to care for their grandchildren during times of family crisis, parental absence, substance use issues, incarceration, or economic instability. Their involvement ensures that children remain in a familiar, loving environment rather than entering foster care. This sudden shift in financial responsibility can increase economic hardship, especially for older adults who may already be managing health or employment limitations. Programs like Head Start actively include and support grandparent caregivers to help strengthen both the child’s well-being and the family’s stability.

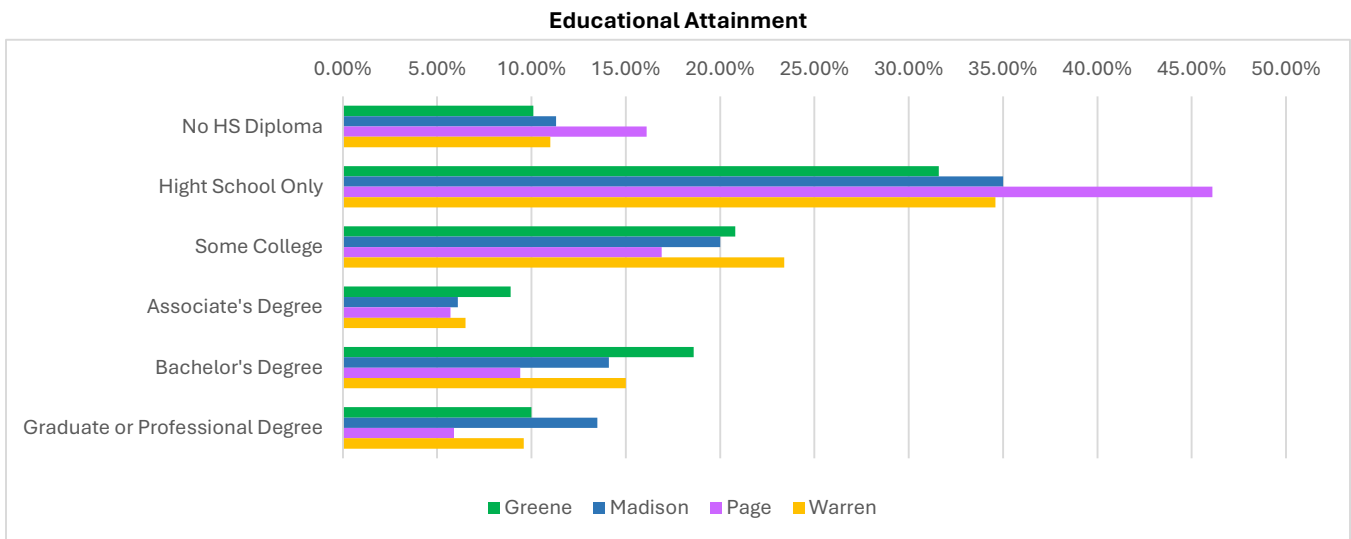


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. DP02 | Selected Social Characteristics in the United States. 2023: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles.

EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Education continues to be a central factor in quality of life and community advancement. Higher educational attainment is linked to improved health outcomes, higher civic participation, and greater economic stability.

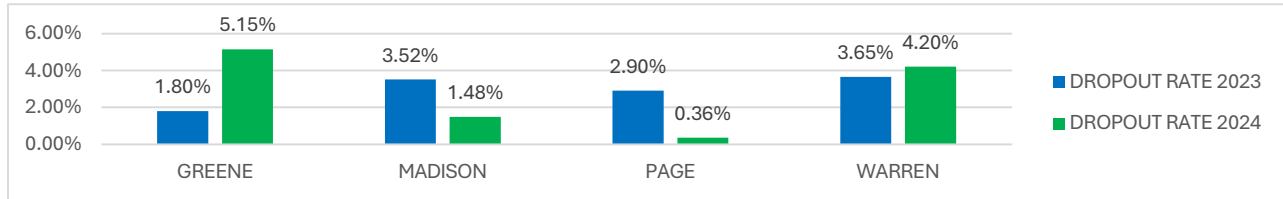


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

DROP-OUT RATES

Public schools annually report on the number of students in grades 7-12 who drop out during the school year. These dropout percentages represent the number of dropouts for a given school year divided by the membership on September 30 of that school year.

Dropout Rates



Source: Virginia Department of Education. Virginia Cohort Graduation and Dropout Reports.2023-2024.

SCHOOL READINESS

Children entering kindergarten unprepared often face early challenges that can influence their long-term academic and social development. When children begin school without foundational skills—such as basic language abilities, early math concepts, self-regulation, and social readiness—they may struggle to keep pace with classroom expectations. This can lead to frustration, lower confidence, and a widening achievement gap as they progress through elementary school. Research consistently shows that early learning experiences—especially for children from low-income households—play a critical role in school readiness.

School Readiness

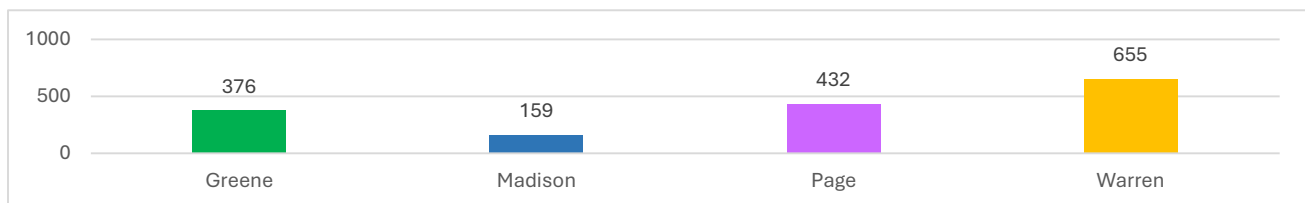
County	2022	2023
Greene	55.8%	50.8%
Madison	55.3%	62.6%
Page	67.1%	59.2%
Warren	54.0%	63.0%

Source: Virginia Early Childhood Foundation. (n.d.). *Ready Regions ECCE Supply/Demand Dashboard*.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) collects statistics on the number of December 1 students enrolled in public school. School divisions are required to report an unduplicated count of students with disabilities receiving special education on December 1 (or the closest school day to December 1) for state funding and federal reporting under provisions the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B.

Special Education Services



Source: Virginia Department of Education. Special Education December 1 Child Count. 2017-2023.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Residents in Skyline CAP's primarily rural service area face a range of health challenges, including higher rates of chronic conditions such as heart disease, obesity, and diabetes. Health disparities are particularly pronounced among low-income individuals, older adults, and people with disabilities. Access to medical care – including primary care, dental services, and behavioral health care – is limited.

Health Care Access

Location	Primary Care	Mental Health	Dentists
Greene	3,520:1	680:1	7,100:1
Madison	7,000:1	2,380:1	2,830:1
Page	3,390:1	1,580:1	5,940:1
Warren	2,300:1	1,320:1	1,310:1

Source: County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, 2025).

Children with Disabilities by Type

County	Hearing Difficulty	Vision Difficulty	Cognitive Difficulty	Ambulatory Difficulty	Self-Care Difficulty
Greene	2.7%	2.7%	7.6%	1.3%	2.9%
Madison	0.4%	0.7	8.4%	0.2%	2.5%
Page	5.1%	0.7%	7.4%	0.0%	2.0%
Warren	0.4%	1.4%	8.4%	0.8%	1.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 2023. Table S1810.

Women Who Gave Birth During Past Year

County of Residence	Total Births
Greene	184
Madison	256
Page	293
Warren	452

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. 5-Year Data, Table B13002. Data accessed through Census Reporter.

Birth-Related Risk Factors

County	Teen Pregnancies	Teen Live Births	Non-Marital Live Births	Total Low Weight Births
Greene	16	11	95	14
Madison	3	3	49	7
Page	14	14	98	27
Warren	17	15	170	32

Source: Virginia Dept. Of Health. Statistical Reports and Tables. 2020. Retrieved from <https://apps.vdh.virginia.gov/HealthStats/stats.htm>

Child Abuse and Neglect

County	Referrals	Accepted	Family Assessment	Investigation	Founded
Greene	445	197	134	41	7
Madison	433	200	116	84	47
Page	337	83	72	5	0
Warren	1,119	554	405	123	41

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services. CPS Accountability Referrals: Type of Abuse Annual Report SFY 2025. Richmond, VA: Virginia Department of Social Services, 2025.

FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION

FOOD INSECURITY

Feeding America reports that food insecurity affects every county in the nation, including those served by Skyline CAP. Their *Map the Meal Gap* analysis provides the following estimates for food insecurity in our service area:

County	Food Insecure Population	Food Insecurity Rate	% Above SNAP Threshold	% Below SNAP Threshold	Average Meal Cost
Greene	2,520	12.1%	43%	58%	\$3.51
Madison	1,430	10.3%	23%	77%	\$3.51
Page	3,280	13.8%	20%	80%	\$3.40
Warren	5,180	12.6%	30%	70%	\$3.79

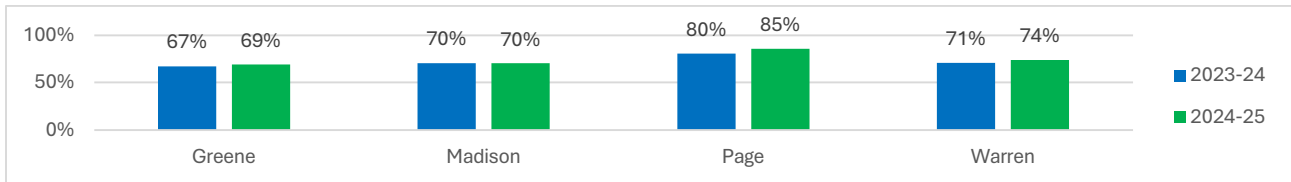
Source: Feeding America. *Map the Meal Gap*. 2023.

The current administration’s efforts to reduce SNAP benefits – a combination of significant funding reductions, stricter eligibility and work requirements, shrinking benefit value, reduced oversight support, and shifting financial burdens -- threaten to undermine SNAP’s role as a safety net—risking increased food insecurity, especially among vulnerable families and children.

FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential childcare institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.

Percentage Eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch – 2024 and 2025



Source: schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions

HOUSING

FAIR MARKET RENT

Fair market rent (FMR) is an estimate of rent plus the cost of utilities, except telephone, and was developed by HUD to determine payments for various housing programs. The National Low Income Housing Coalition reports that the Charlottesville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), of which Greene County is a member, is the second most expensive area in Virginia requiring an hourly wage of \$33.25 to rent a 2-bedroom home.

Fair Market Rent (FMR) – 2025

County	2025 2-BR FMR	Annual Income to Afford 2-BR FMR	Rent Affordable at Mean Renter Wage	30% of Area Median Income (AMI)
Greene	\$1,729	\$69,160	\$915	\$37,740
Madison	\$1,096	\$43,840	\$685	\$33,840
Page	\$ 851	\$34,040	\$720	\$23,520
Warren	\$1,298	\$51,920	\$843	\$31,170

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition. *Out of Reach 2025: The High Cost of Housing*. National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2024.

AVAILABILITY

Rental Vacancy Rates

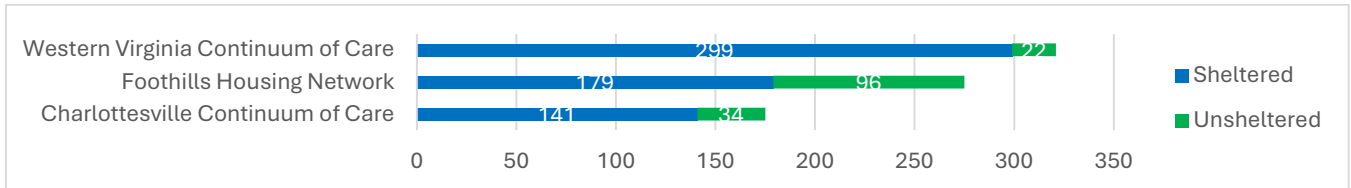
County	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Greene	2.9	2.6	3.1	4.8	4.0
Madison	1.5	1.6	2.5	0.0	0.0
Page	5.6	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.2
Warren	15.4	11.2	9.5	8.3	4.7

Source: HousingForward Virginia. Rental Vacancy Rate. Retrieved from <https://housingforwardva.org/applications/sourcebook/rental-vacancy/>

HOMELESSNESS

Each year, Point-in-Time (PIT) data provides a snapshot of individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a single night, helping communities better understand local needs and allocate resources effectively. Data for areas served by Skyline CAP Head Start are collected by three different Continuums of Care (CoC).

Individuals Experiencing Homelessness – 2023 PIT Count



Source: HUD Exchange. CoC Housing Inventory Count Reports. 2023.

Across the past three program years, the number of families enrolled in Head Start who identified as homeless has shown modest variation: 11 in 2024–2025, 10 in 2023–2024, and 13 in 2022–2023.

CHILD CARE

PRESCHOOL SERVICES & CHILDREN IN POVERTY

The availability of preschool services across Skyline CAP Head Start’s service area varies significantly in relation to the number of young children living in poverty. While Greene, Madison, Page, and Warren counties each have sizeable populations of children under age five, the share of 3- and 4-year-olds living in poverty—and therefore most in need of early learning support—differs widely. Comparing these figures with the number of available Head Start and Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) slots highlights both existing early childhood resources and remaining gaps, offering insight into the region’s overall capacity to meet the needs of its most vulnerable young learners.

Preschool Services

County	Estimated Population Under 5	Estimated 3- and 4-Year Olds Living in Poverty	Percentage Living in Poverty	Head Start Slots	VA Preschool Initiative (VPI) Slots – FY26
Greene	1,257	88	17.4%	41	42*
Madison	797	18	5.6%	24	24*
Page	1,175	32	6.7%	100	79*
Warren	2,152	100	11.6%	110	113**

*4-year-old slots only. **3- and 4-year-old slots

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23. Virginia Department of Education. FY26 VPI Initial Slot Allocations. Commonwealth of Virginia, 2024.

CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY

Access to quality, affordable child care remains a challenge and is particularly acute within Skyline CAP’s service area. Families and providers alike are struggling within a system that no longer meets community needs. In Skyline CAP’s 2025 Community Needs Assessment survey, affordable child care ranked as the second highest concern, cited by 39.22% of respondents, while 34% reported that affordable care is simply not available in their communities.

Child Care Facilities

Location	Total Child Care Centers		Licensed Centers		Serves Age 5 and Under		Full-Time		Infant Care	Accepts Subsidies
	Centers	Capacity	Centers	Capacity	Centers	Capacity	Centers	Capacity	Centers	Centers
Greene	7	639	6	579	5	340	5	340	1	5
Madison	5	336	2	160	5	318	5	336	2	2
Page	9	314	4	202	8	314	3	182	3	4
Warren	12	984	9	753	11	909	10	894	6	7

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services. Child care facility search.

WORKING PARENTS

A significant share of children under age six have all parents in the labor force, underscoring the strong need for reliable early childhood education and care.

Children Under Age 6 With All Parents in the Labor Force

County	2021
Greene	41.7%
Madison	27.9%
Page	42.6%
Warren	25.1%

Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Kids Count Data Center. Children Under Age 7 With All Parents in the Labor Force in Virginia. 2021.

HEAD START CHILDREN & FAMILIES

SKYLINE CAP HEAD START ENROLLMENT

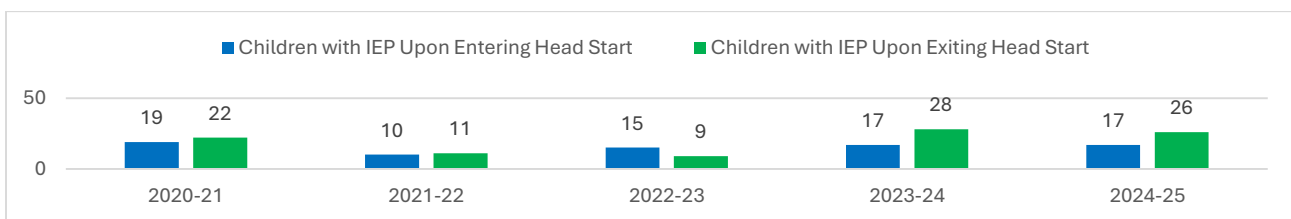
Head Start Families Served

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Total Served	193	119	182	203	177	177
Average Household Size	4	4	4	5	4	5
Single Parent Households	51%	45%	46%	89%	80	65
Children with Disabilities	24%	18%	11.5%	11.8%	15.8%	14.7%
Families with at Least One Parent Working	75%	73%	78%	68%	76%	87%

Source: Skyline CAP Head Start Program Information Reports (PIR). 2019-2025.

DISABILITIES

Skyline CAP Head Start Children with Disabilities



Source: Skyline CAP Head Start Program Information Report (PIR). 2020-21 through 2024-25

HEALTH OUTCOMES

Skyline CAP Head Start Health Outcomes – FY25

Health Coverage Factors	Number at Enrollment	Number at End of Enrollment
Children with Health Insurance	194	195
Children Enrolled in Medicaid	167	167
Children with Private Health Insurance	27	28
Children with No Health Insurance	2	1
Children with Continuous, Accessible Dental Care Provided by a Dentist	145	196
Children Enrolled with an Ongoing Source of Continuous, Accessible Health Care	181	196
Children Up-to-Date on a schedule of Age Appropriate Preventative and Primary Health Care According to the Relevant State’s EPSDT Schedule for Well Child Care	154	176
Children Determined by a Health Care Professional to be Up-to-Date on Immunizations	187	189

Source: Skyline CAP Head Start Program Information Report (PIR). 2024-2025

FAMILY SERVICES

Skyline CAP Head Start Family Services – FY25

Service	Identified Needs	Services Received
Emergency/crisis intervention, such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing or shelter	8	8
Housing assistance - subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.	1	1
Asset building services	13	13
Mental health services	0	0
Substance misuse prevention	0	0
Substance misuse treatment	0	0
English as a Second Language (ESL) training	1	1
Adult education - Assistance in enrolling into an education or job training program	1	1
Parenting education	82	82
Involvement in discussing child’s screening/assessment results/progress	189	189
Supporting transitions between programs (ie. EHS to HS, HS to kindergarten)	76	76
Health education – Preventative medical/dental	79	79
Education on health and developmental consequences of tobacco product use	66	66
Nutrition education	83	83
Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	2	2
Marriage/relationship education	1	1

Source: Skyline CAP Head Start Program Information Report (PIR). 2024-2025.

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