

Holmes County Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan



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2018-2021

Holmes County Planning Commission

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Available Digitally: <http://omegadistrict.us/programs/transit/plans/holmes>

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Executive Summary

This plan is the Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Holmes County, Ohio. The Holmes County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan was initially developed in 2018. This plan fulfills the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, signed into law as a reauthorization of surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020. According to requirements of the FAST Act, locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plans must be updated to reflect the changes established by the FAST Act legislation. The FAST Act applies new programs and rules for all Fiscal Year 2016 funds and authorizes transit programs for five (5) years.

Transportation is a critical component for the communities in Holmes County. Transportation provides access to jobs, education, health care, human services and allows all community members, including older adults and people with disabilities, to live independently and engage in community life. It is the purpose of this plan for local stakeholders to work collaboratively to do the following:

1. AVAILABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

Primary Transportation Service Providers

- Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Lynn Hope Industries
- Holmes County Council on Aging, Inc.
- Precious Angel Transportation
- Midwest Community
- Thompson Taxi

Contracted Agencies

- Holmes County Veterans Services
- Holmes County Job and Family Services
 - *HCJFS contracts with a private provider for nonemergency Medicaid transportation-Thompson Taxi. If an individual has a private vehicle, HCJFS does mileage reimbursement.*

2. COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

Several challenges to coordinated transportation and unmet transportation needs have been identified by the Holmes County Transportation Planning Team and the general public. These challenges and unmet transportation needs include:

CHALLENGES TO COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION

- Transportation options for low income individuals are limited and may impact individuals living in western Holmes County within the communities and villages of:
 - Lakeville
 - Nashville

- Glenmont
 - Killbuck
- More availability
 - Especially for those that work in adjacent counties
- Publicize and market the available options
- No tax payer dollars used
- More social transportation options
 - Holmes County Library
 - Non-medical services
- Bus transportation in any capacity
- Uber/Lyft Service as an option
- More efficient service to make medical appointments on time

UNMET TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

- Assistance for people with disabilities and senior citizens
- Access for low-income individuals (primarily in western Holmes County)
- More carpool options
- Affordable general transportation options
- More marketing and awareness of options
- Taxi service 24/7
- More non-private transportation options
- Increase opportunities for people with disabilities for employment
- More trips for veterans
- Fixed route and park-and-ride transportation option for tourism

3. PLAN FOR ACHIEVING SHARED GOALS

Two goals were established to guide the Holmes County Coordinated Transportation Plan and to identify strategies that can be used to achieve the Coordinated Transportation Plan goals. These are the two goals developed by the Planning Team:

1. *Efficiently and Cost-Effectively Expand Transportation Services and increase mobility.*
2. *Provide employed persons with disabilities with flexible, accessible, and affordable transportation services.*

The following strategies were identified to achieve the shared goals of this Plan:

1. *Explore potential to expand services with private transportation providers*
2. *Apply for funding from the state to replace old vehicles*
3. *Explore potential to establish a fixed route and park-and-ride for tourist transportation by coordinating with private transportation providers*
4. *Update maps of persons with disabilities for Holmes County by OMEGA*
5. *Connect transportation service providers to areas with high concentrations of persons with disabilities*

6. *Inventory of the businesses and work hours for persons with disabilities to coordinate their work shifts*

Fundamental to the Coordinated Transportation Plan process is the active and meaningful involvement of stakeholders. For projects selected for funding under the Section 5310 program, participation in planning activities must include participation and/or representation of the following, at minimum:

- Seniors
- Individuals with disabilities
- People with low incomes
- Veterans
- People that do not own vehicles
- People in areas with no transportation to connect them to services
- Students and employees with disabilities with transportation challenges
- Public, private and non-profit transportation providers
- Human services providers
- The general public

In order to ensure participation from the above groups the following stakeholder involvement activities were performed in 2018:

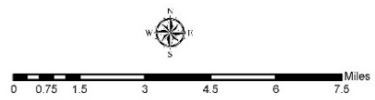
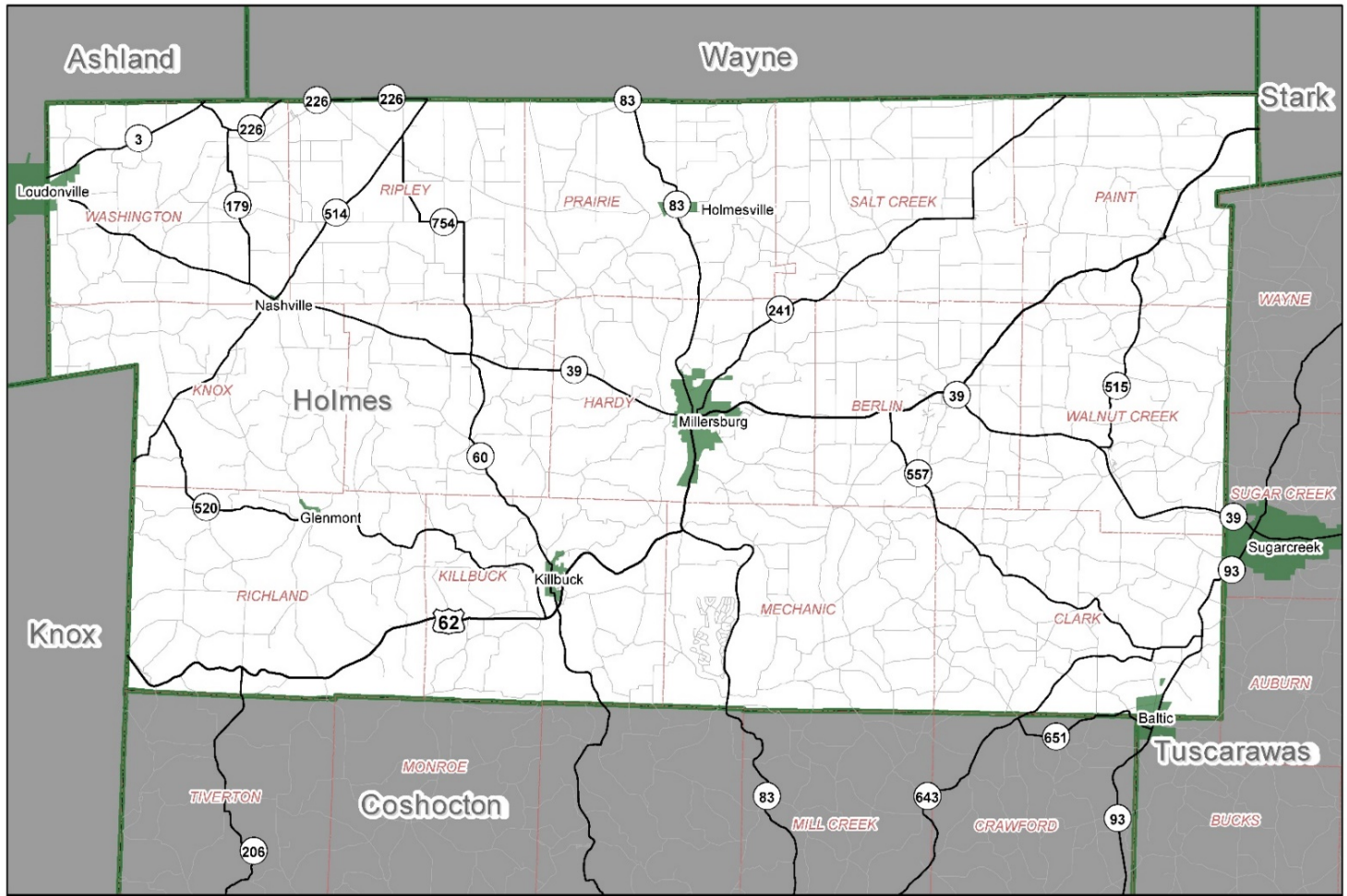
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Initial Planning Meeting – May 31st
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Initial Stakeholders Meeting – July 30th
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Public Workshop, Holmes County District Library – August 29th
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Final Stakeholders Meeting – September 18th
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Public Survey Closed – October 12th
- Holmes County Coordinated Plan – Presentation to Commissioners – November 5th

This plan was developed by a planning committee and presented to the Holmes County Commissioners for their review on November 5, 2018. More information about the planning committee can be found in Appendix A.

I. Geographic Area

Holmes County was established in 1824 and was named in honor of Major Holmes for his service during the War of 1812. The county seat of Holmes County is the Village of Millersburg and had a population of 3,180 estimated for 2017. Holmes County has a total population of 43,957 residents in 2017. Holmes County is approximately 423 square miles in area and is located 77 miles south of Cleveland, OH; 84 miles east-northeast of Columbus, OH; and 122 miles west of Pittsburgh, PA.

Holmes County is located within the boundaries of the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA), a Local Development District designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission. OMEGA was designated by the Governor of Ohio as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization in 2016 and selected by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) as the rural region for the Regional Coordinated Human Services Transportation Pilot Program in 2017. Holmes County shares borders with Wayne County to the north, Ashland County to the northwest, Knox County to the west, Coshocton County to the south, Tuscarawas County to east and southeast, and Stark County to the northeast. OMEGA is assisting Holmes County Planning Commission, lead agency for Holmes County's coordinated planning process, with the development of the Coordinated Transportation Plan for Holmes County.



Holmes County, Ohio



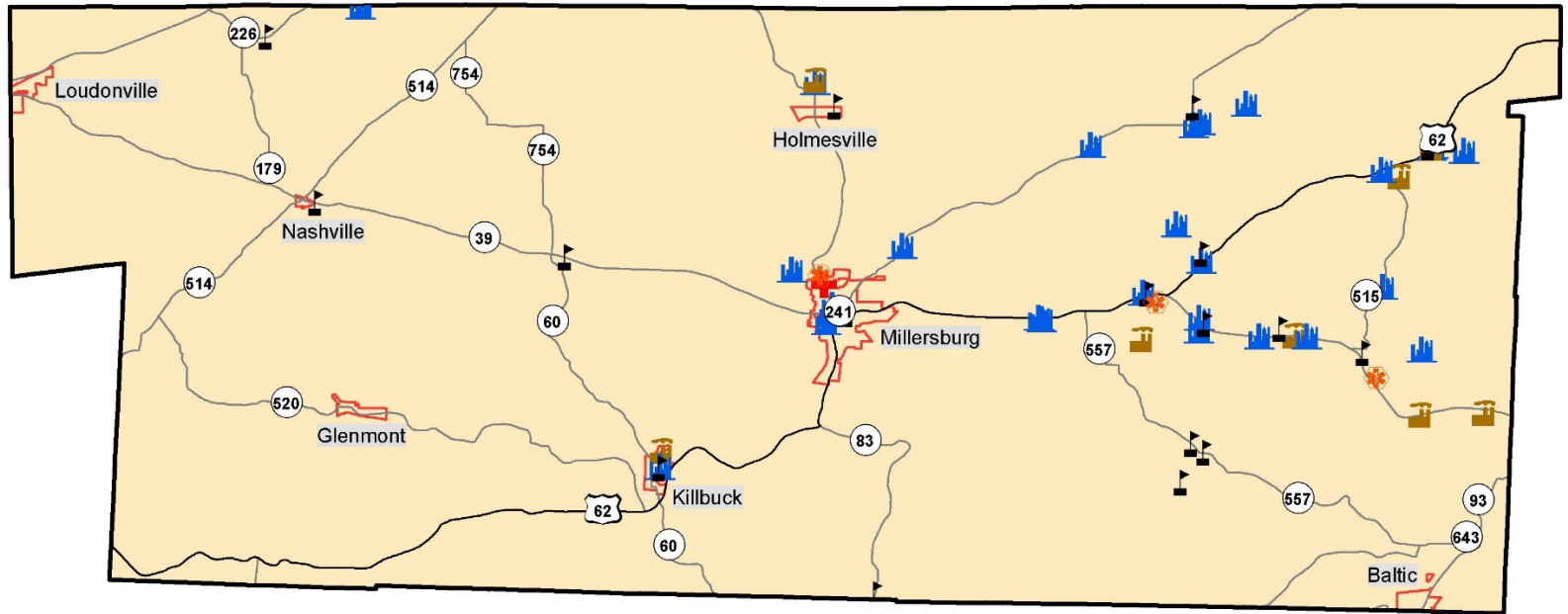
Map 1: Basic map of Holmes County

The location of major trip generators within the county is a vital component in understanding the transportation needs of the county. For Holmes County, major trip generators include schools, hospitals and other medical centers, industrial centers, commercial areas, and major businesses with 50 or more employees. Map 2 illustrates where the major trip generators are located within Holmes County. A majority of these locations are in or around Millersburg and throughout the eastern part of Holmes County along US 62 and State Route (SR) 241, SR 39, SR 557, and SR 515.

The five largest employers in Holmes County are:

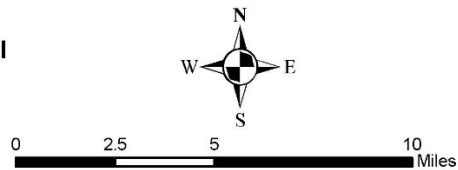
1. Wayne Dalton, 450 employees, Mt. Hope
2. Case Farms, 420 employees, Winesburg
3. ProVia Door, 400 employees, SR 39 near county line
4. Weaver Leather, LLC, 280 employees, Mt. Hope
5. Fryburg Door, 240 employees, Millersburg

Holmes County has other notable locations with trip generators. One is in Holmesville, along SR 83, with a mix of commercial and industrial businesses. The other in Killbuck at the intersection of US 62 and SR 60 with a mix of commercial and industrial centers. There are a few schools along SR 557 in the southeast area of Holmes County (East Holmes School District). West Holmes High School is located near the intersection of SR 39 and SR 60 and Lakeville Elementary School is located in the northwest section of the county along SR 226.



Holmes County
Major Trip Generators

- | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|------------|
|  | Commercial |  | Industrial |
|  | Educational |  | Medical |
|  | Hospital | | |



MAP 2: MAJOR TRIP GENERATORS IN THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA

II. Population Demographics

In Holmes County, there are several villages and townships of significant population size. These include the largest village and county seat, Millersburg (2016 population: 3,180); the largest township, Salt Creek (2016 population: 4,410); Berlin Township (2016 population: 4,404); Clark Township (2016 population: 4,061); and Walnut Creek Township (2016 population: 3,934).

Population Trend and Projection for Every Five Years Until 2040

As shown in Chart 1, the population of Holmes County is expected to increase by approximately 4 percent by 2040. Holmes County is growing slightly more than 1 percent every 5 years. Current projections predict that Holmes County will peak in population around 2030. An important issue for population is a large percentage of Amish persons who may be under counted. Anecdotally, the Holmes County Commissioners indicated that Amish population may be underreported in census data and the true population of Holmes County may be higher.

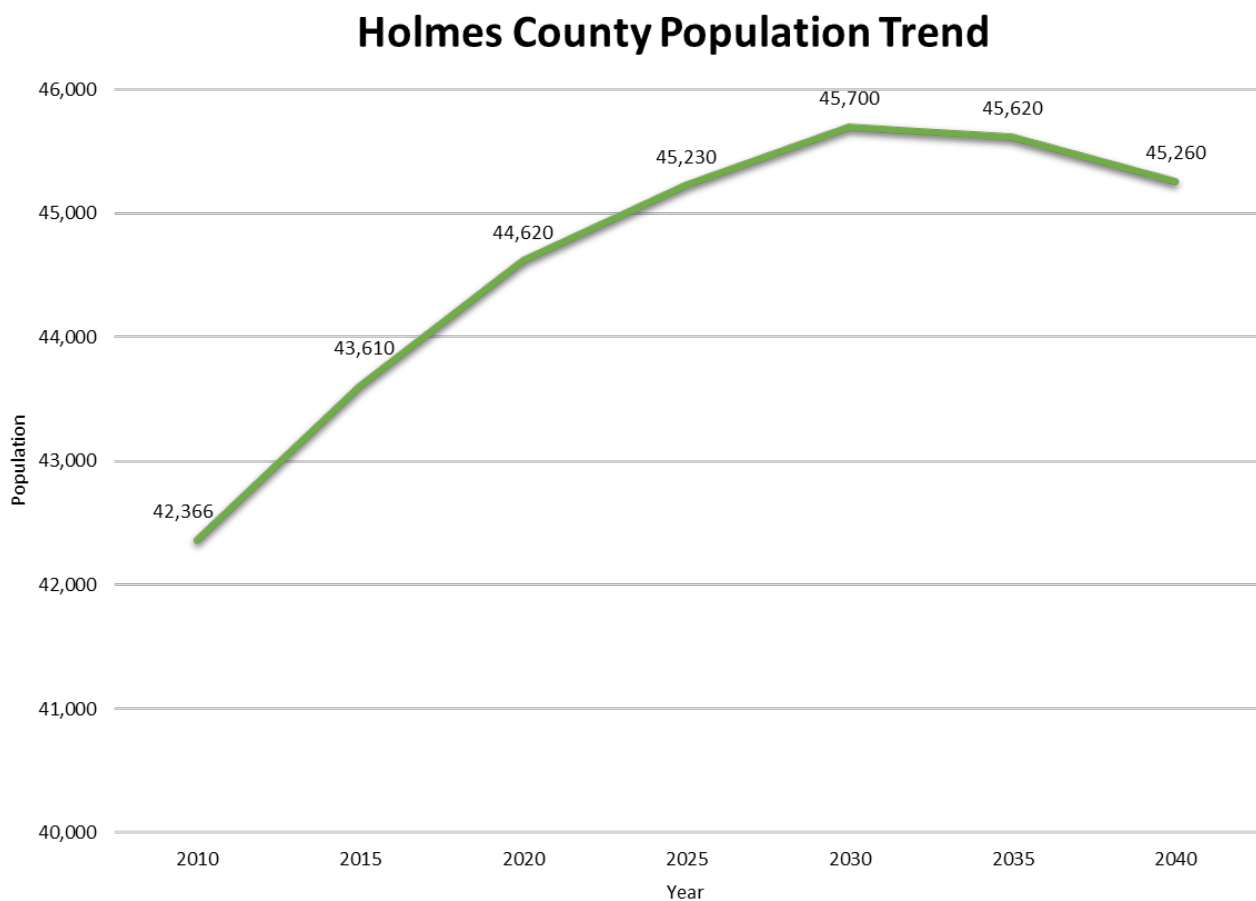


CHART 1: TOTAL POPULATION CURRENT AND PROJECTED FOR FIVE YEARS

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, April 2018

Total Population by Age Group

Age demographics in Holmes County differ significantly when compared to the other counties in the OMEGA region. Holmes County is currently the second youngest county in the state of Ohio. The largest age group (27 percent) is 0-14 years-old, the next largest age group is 15-24 years old (16 percent) and the third largest age group are seniors age 65 or older at 13 percent. Two-thirds of the population in Holmes County is 44 years or younger. While the county population is very young, the 5,453 seniors in the county comprise another substantial portion of the population who may benefit from more transportation services.

Holmes County Population by Age

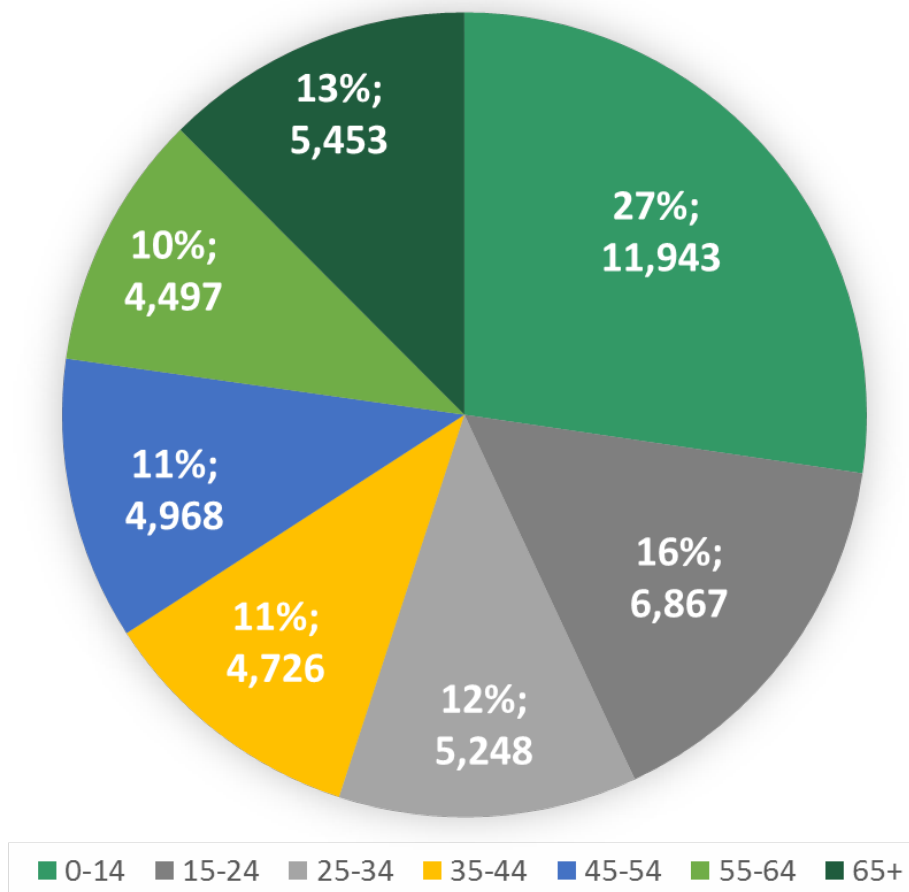


CHART 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Total Population Projection by Age Group

As shown in Chart 2B, in the next 10-20 years, the largest age group in terms of population is projected to be youth age 0-14 years. It has a steady trendline yielding a healthy population growth for the county. In 2025 it is predicted that the senior population, age 65 and older, will surpass the 15-24-year olds to become the second largest age group. The other age groups are either level or decreasing in population. In the next 10 – 20 years, the top two largest age groups are projected to be the youth age 0-14 years and seniors (65+ years). More transportation services may be required to assist their mobility options for school, employment, and medical appointments.

Holmes County Age Group Population Projection

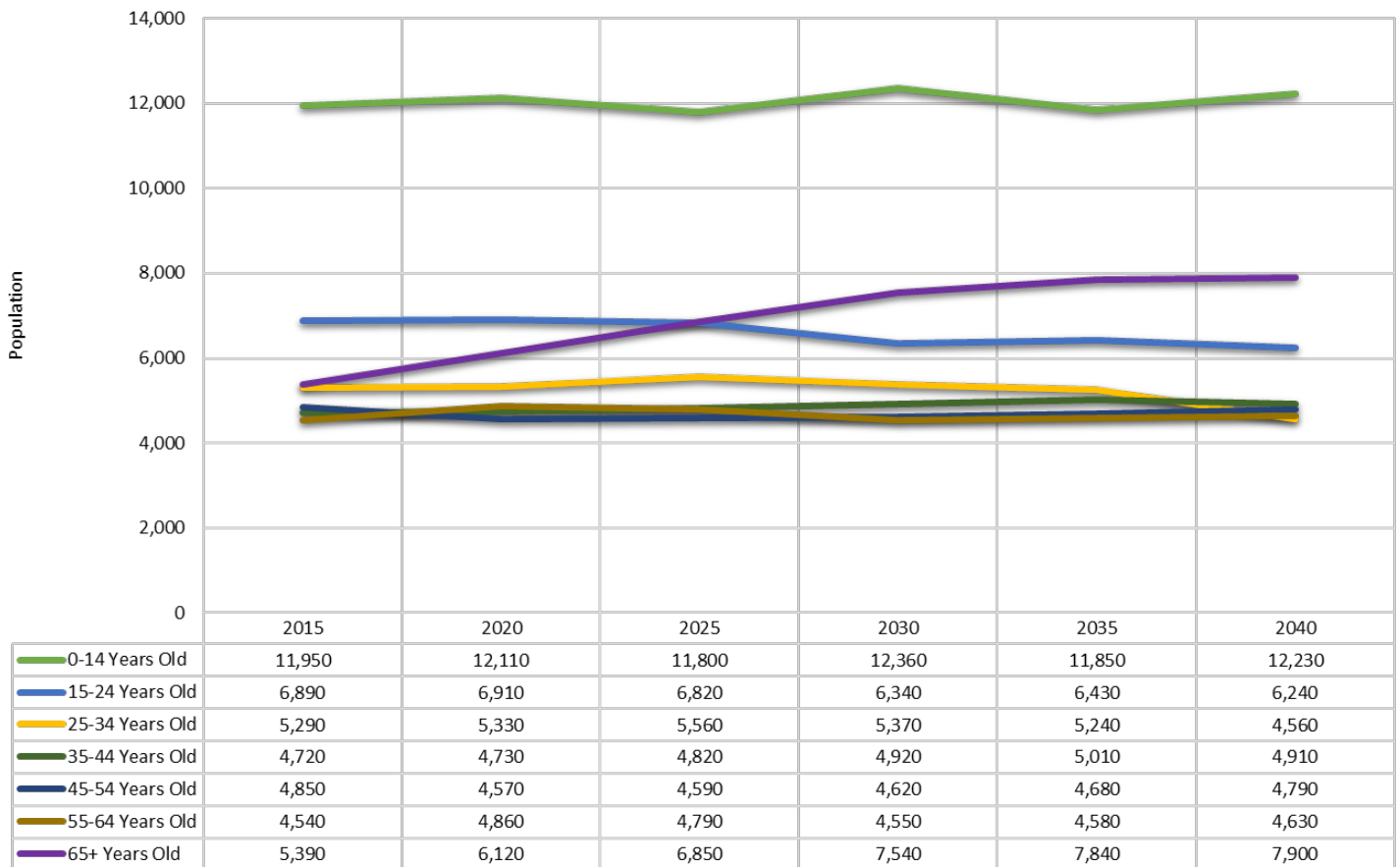


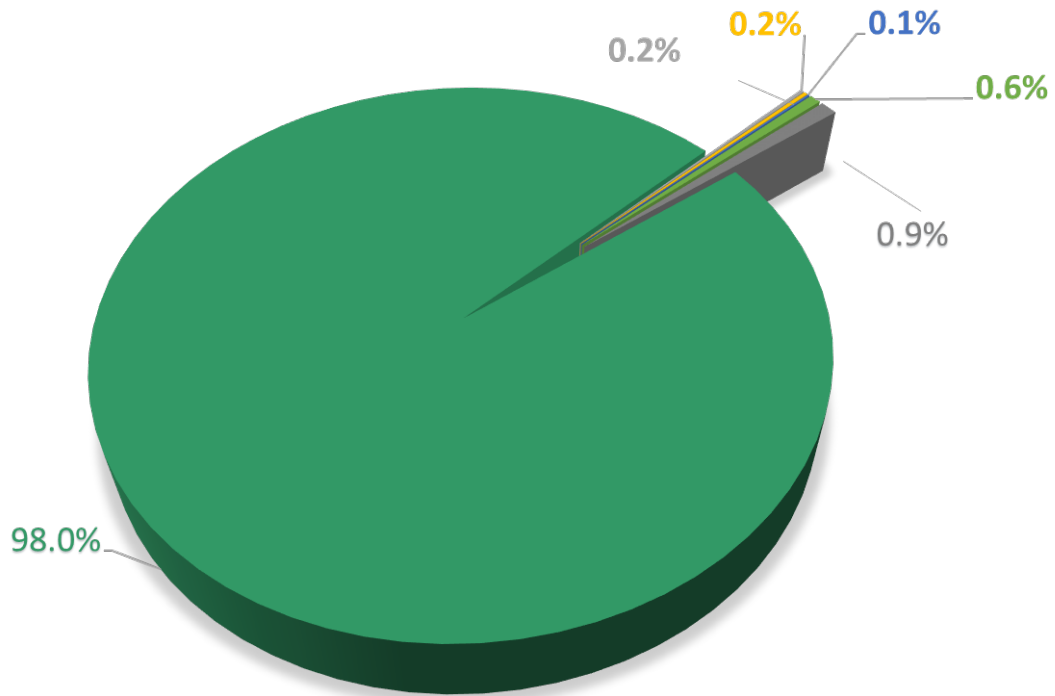
CHART 2B – AGE GROUP POPULATION PROJECTION

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, April 2018

Total Population by Race

Ninety-eight percent of the population in Holmes County identified as white, followed by 0.9 percent Hispanic/Latino, 0.6 percent with two or more races, and 0.2 percent or less for all other races.

Holmes County Population by Race



■ Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	■ White alone
■ Black or African American alone	■ American Indian and Alaska Native alone
■ Asian alone	■ Two or more races

CHART 3: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Number and Percentage of People with Disabilities

The disability rate in a county is a vital aspect for human services transportation and public transit use. Holmes County currently has an 8.8 percent disability rate for the entire population which is below the Ohio average at 13.9 percent. Even though the portion of the population with disabilities is small, this accounts for 3,846 people who may require and benefit from more transportation services.

Holmes County Population with any Disability

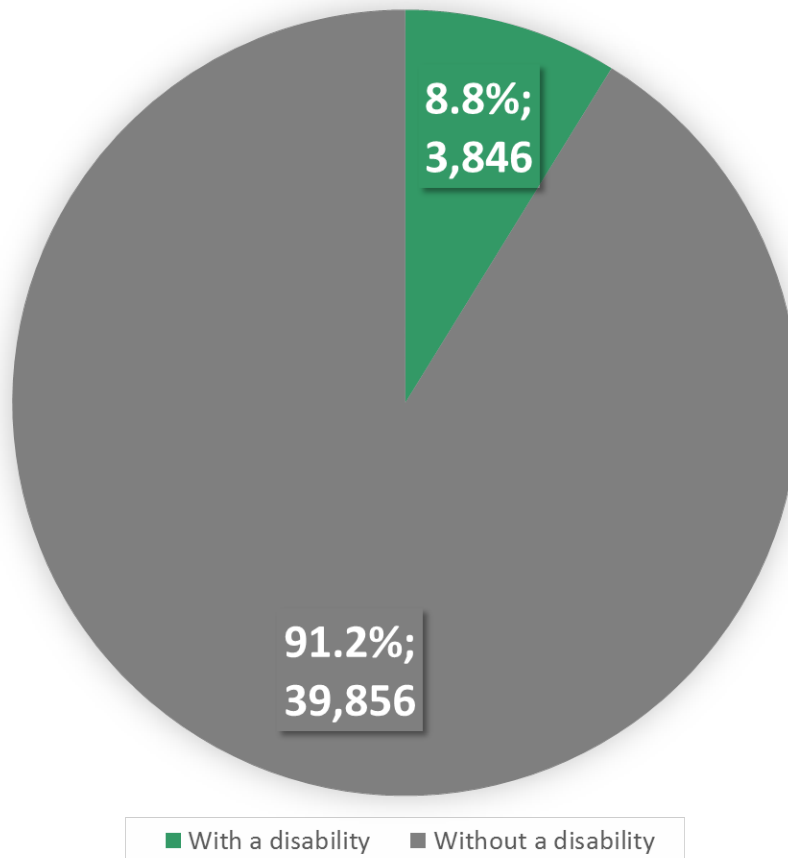


CHART 4: DISABILITY RATE

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Chart 4b shows the differences of the disability rate for age groups in Holmes County individuals. The largest represented age group are adults age 18 to 64, of which 6.9 percent or 1,624 individuals identify as having a disability. Almost 36% of all seniors (65 years and older) or 1,784 persons are disabled. Of the 8.8 percent of the population with any disability in Holmes County, the majority are seniors and this population will continue to grow over time. People with disabilities may require more transportation services to access work, hospitals, and commercial areas.

Holmes County Civilian Population Disability Status 2012 - 2016

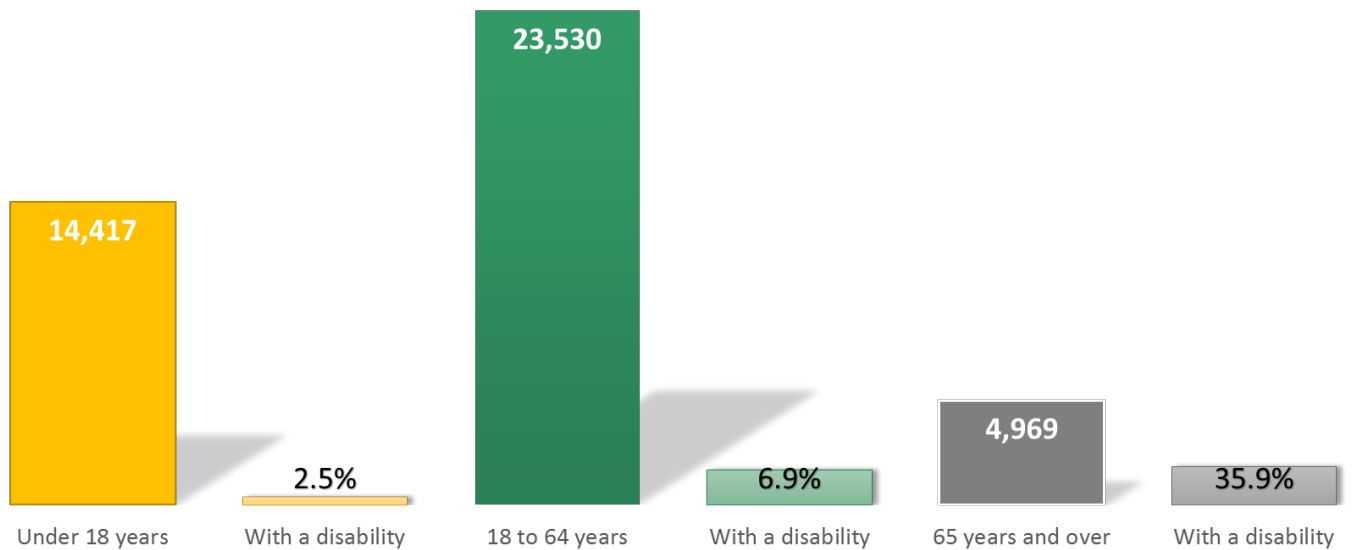
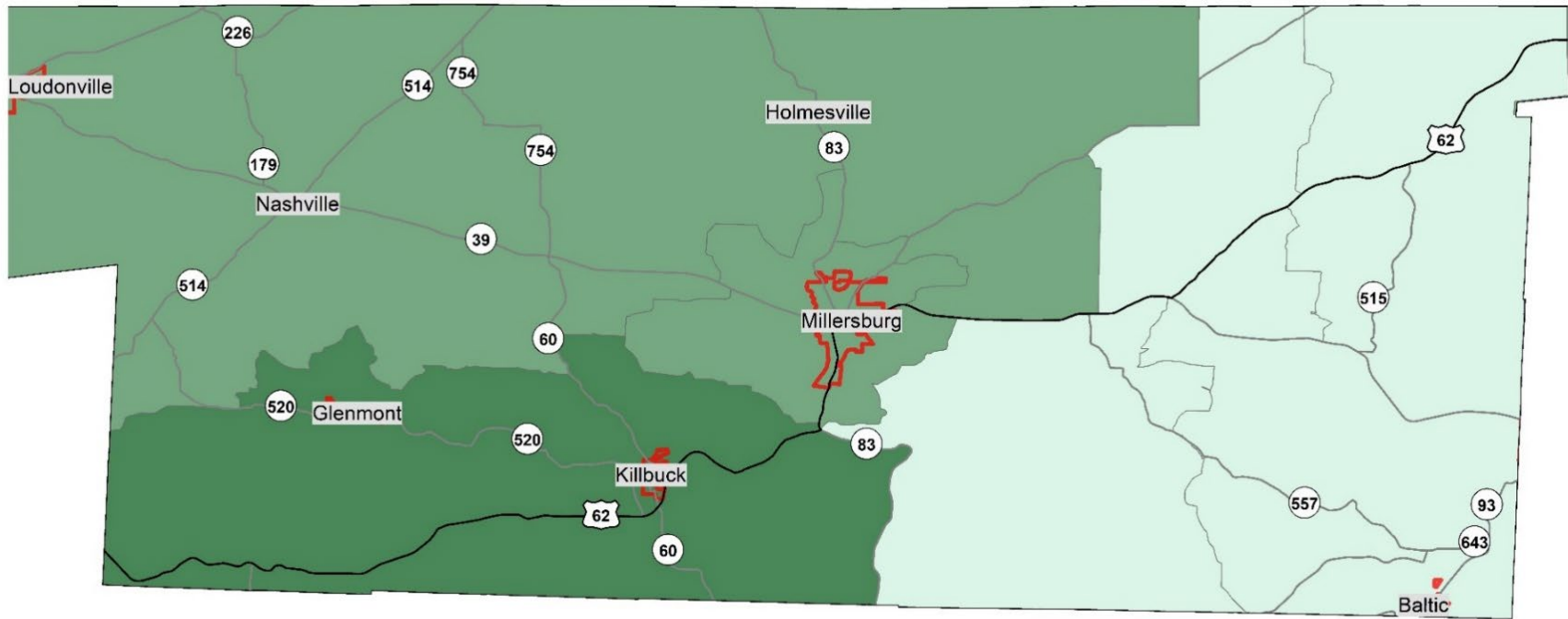


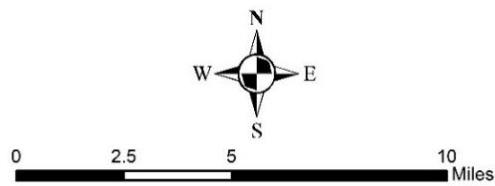
CHART 4B: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Map 3 represents the population with any disability by census tract. The highest concentration of people with any disability is in the south and southwest areas in Holmes County; primarily located near Glenmont and Killbuck along SR 520, SR 83, and SR 60 and bisected by US 62. The next highest concentration of people with any disability is in the central, north, and northwest areas of Holmes County. This includes the towns and villages and the surrounding areas of Millersburg, Holmesville, Nashville, and Loudonville. The lowest concentration of people with any disability is in the eastern part of Holmes County surrounding US 62, SR 515, SR 557, SR 643, SR 93, and SR 39.



Disabled Population



MAP 3: HOLMES COUNTY POPULATION WITH ANY DISABILITY

Number and Percentage of Households with Incomes Below the Federal Poverty Level

Another important aspect for human services transportation and public transit is the number of households below the federal poverty level. This is defined by the Department of Health and Human Services as a household of four having an annual income of no more than \$24,600, and \$4,320 more for each additional member. In the state of Ohio, 17.6 percent of the households in the state are below the federal poverty levels. Only 9.9% of the households in Holmes County are below the federal poverty level. This represents an estimated 1,003 households that may benefit from more available transportation services to take them to and from competitive employment opportunities as well as any other services and activities.

Holmes County Households Below Poverty

State of Ohio - Households below Poverty - 17.6%

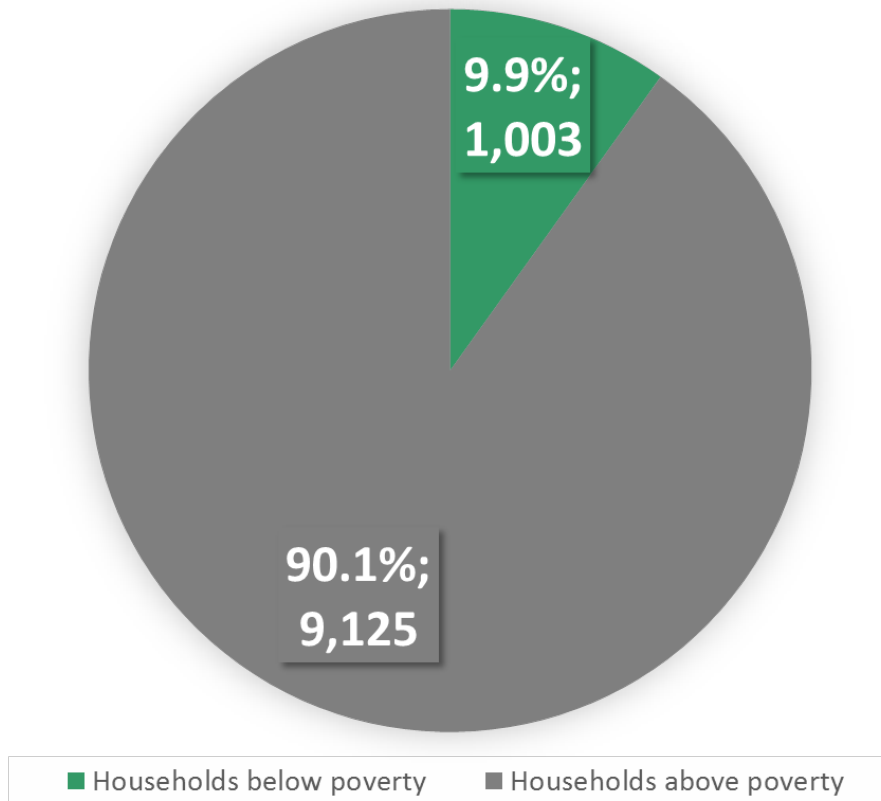


CHART 5: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Number and Percentage of Individuals with Incomes Below the Federal Poverty Level

According to Chart 6, 12.9% (5,504 people) of the total population of Holmes County is below the federal poverty level. This is defined by the Department of Health and Human Services as an individual having an annual income of no more than \$12,140. This is below the state average of 15.4 percent. This population may benefit from more available transportation and public transit services.

Holmes County Population Poverty Level

State of Ohio - Population Below Poverty Level - 15.4%

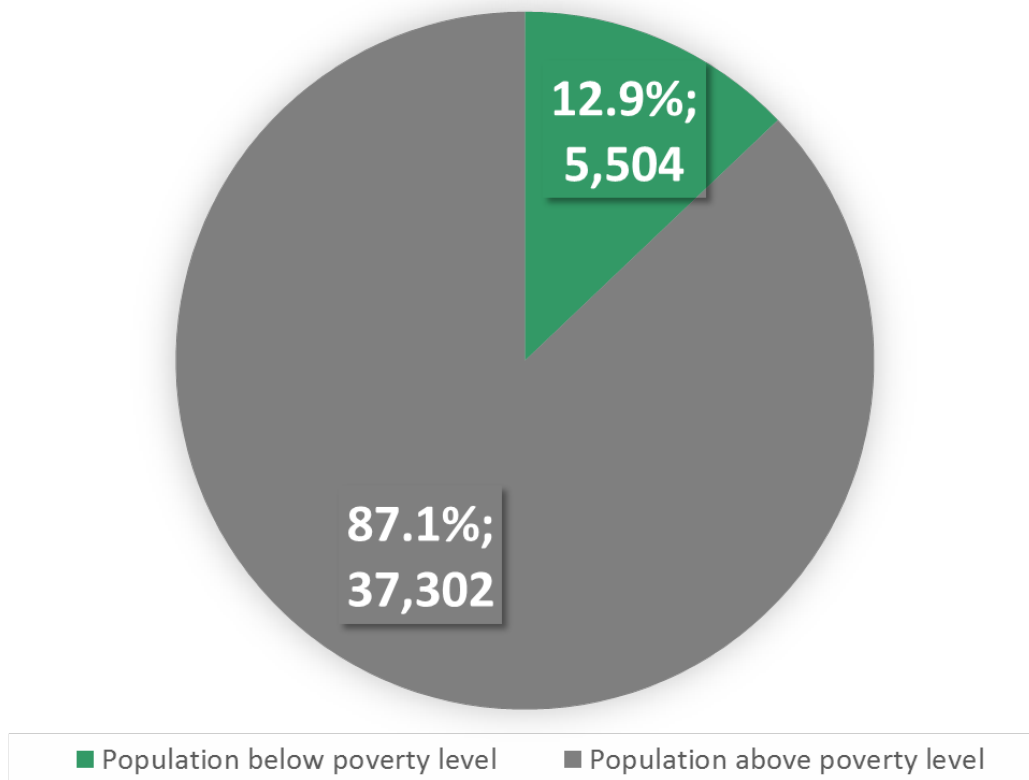
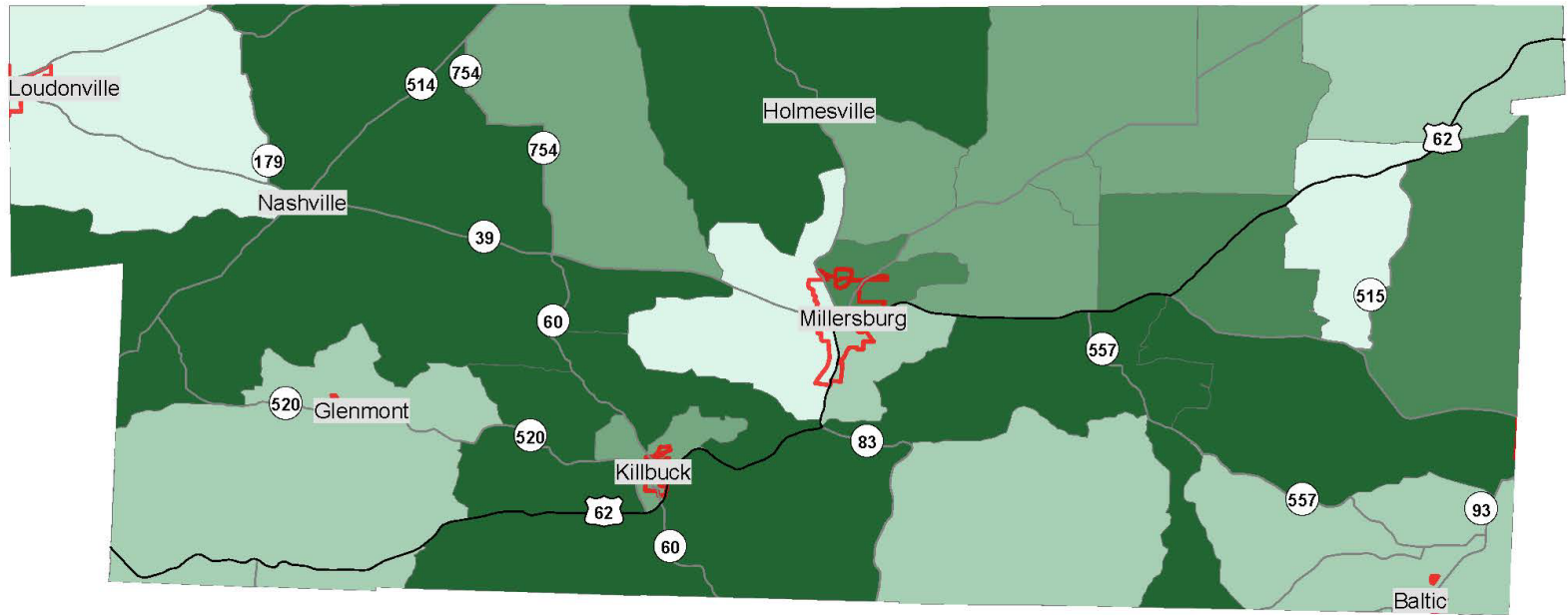


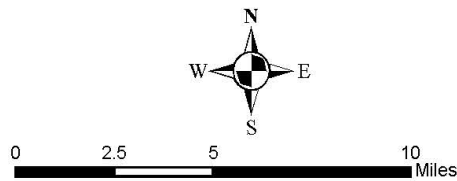
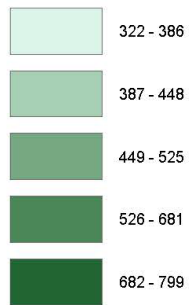
CHART 6: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to Map 4, the highest concentration of population below the poverty level is in western Holmes County in and around Nashville, east of SR 179, west of SR 754, and bisected by SR 39. Other locations indicating high poverty levels are the Killbuck and Holmesville areas. There is also a significant population located in the southeast section of the county bisected by SR 557 and south of SR 39. These areas, especially western Holmes County, may benefit from more availability of transportation services.



Population Below Poverty



MAP 4: HOLMES COUNTY PERCENT OF POPULATION BELOW POVERTY

Percent of Population with Limited English Proficiency

Holmes County is unique to most other counties in Ohio because it has a very large Amish population who do not speak English as their primary language. Holmes County, according to Chart 7, currently has 20.2 percent of the population 5 years old or older, or 8,041 residents, who are not fluent in English. These residents may benefit from bilingual services in transportation.

Holmes County Spoken English

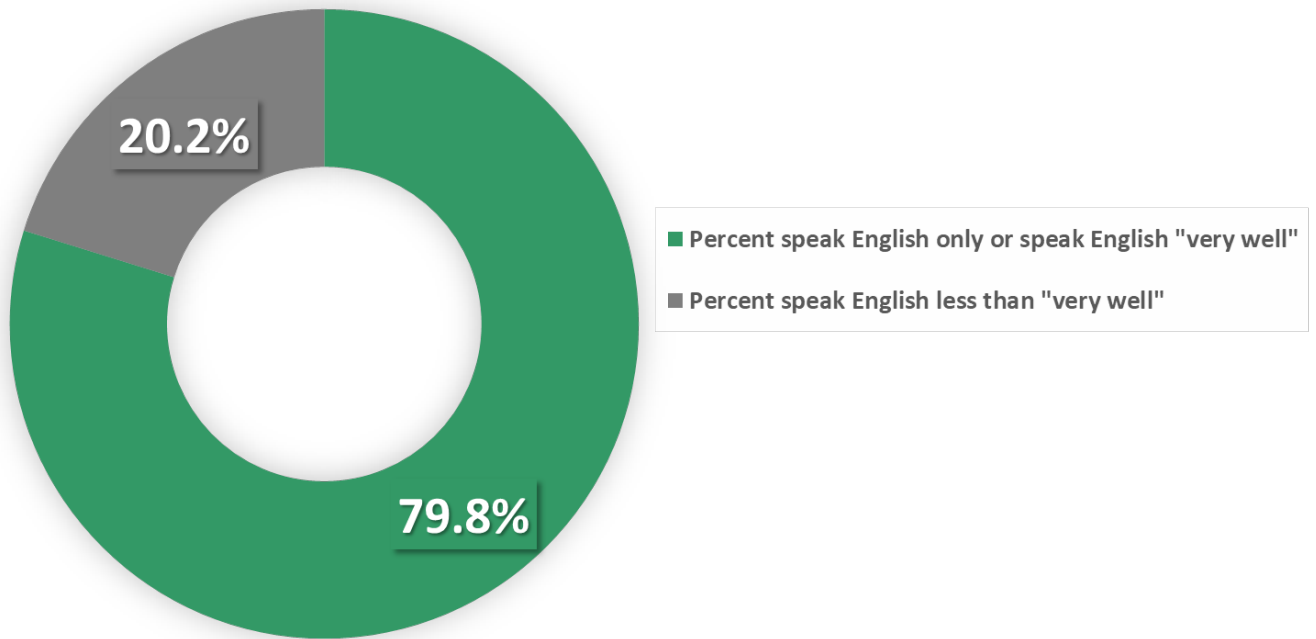
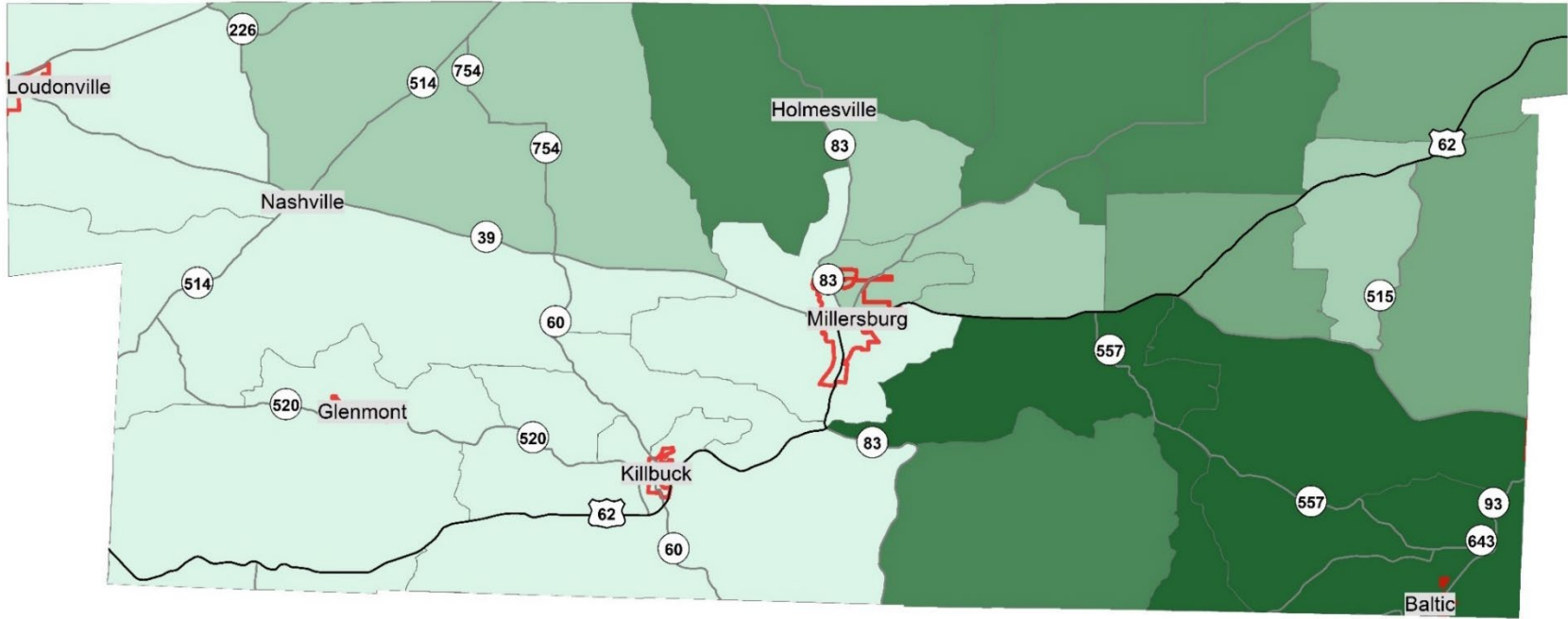


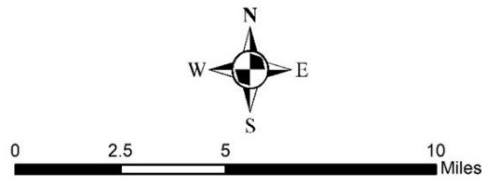
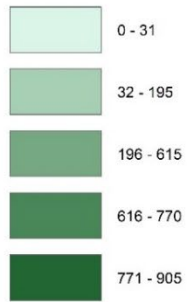
CHART 7: PERCENT OF POPULATION THAT SPEAK ENGLISH "LESS THAN VERY WELL"

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to Map 5, the locations in Holmes County with the most households that have a limited English proficiency are in the southeastern area of the county surrounding Baltic and along SR 83, SR 557, SR 93, and SR 643. The next highest concentration of households with limited English proficiency are in the north central part of Holmes County north of Holmesville bisected by SR 83. Holmes County has the largest concentration of households with limited English proficiency in the eastern side of the county.



Limited English Proficiency Households - Holmes County



MAP 5: HOLMES COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Holmes County Commuting to Work

How residents move to get to their places of employment is an important factor relating to transit and transportation issues since these make up most trips made in a week for the population. There are currently 19,384 active workers aged 16 years and over in Holmes County. Holmes County differs from other counties in the OMEGA region because it has the lowest percentage of employees who drive themselves to work at 53.4 percent, or 10,351 individuals. The next largest mode of transportation is those who carpool to work at 20.1 percent or 3,896 individuals. The third largest mode for the work is the 8.4 percent, or 1,628 individuals, who tele-commute by working at home. A significant portion of the Holmes County population travel to work by bicycle or walking. This may be attributed to the high percentage of Amish population in the county. There are 7.8 percent who bike to work (1,512 individuals) and 6.8 percent (1,318 individuals) who walk to work, yielding a total of 2,830 individuals who choose an active form of transportation for their commute. The balance of the working population, 3.5 percent, use either taxi cabs or other means like public or private transportation.

Holmes County Commuting to Work

Average Commute Time - 20.7 minutes

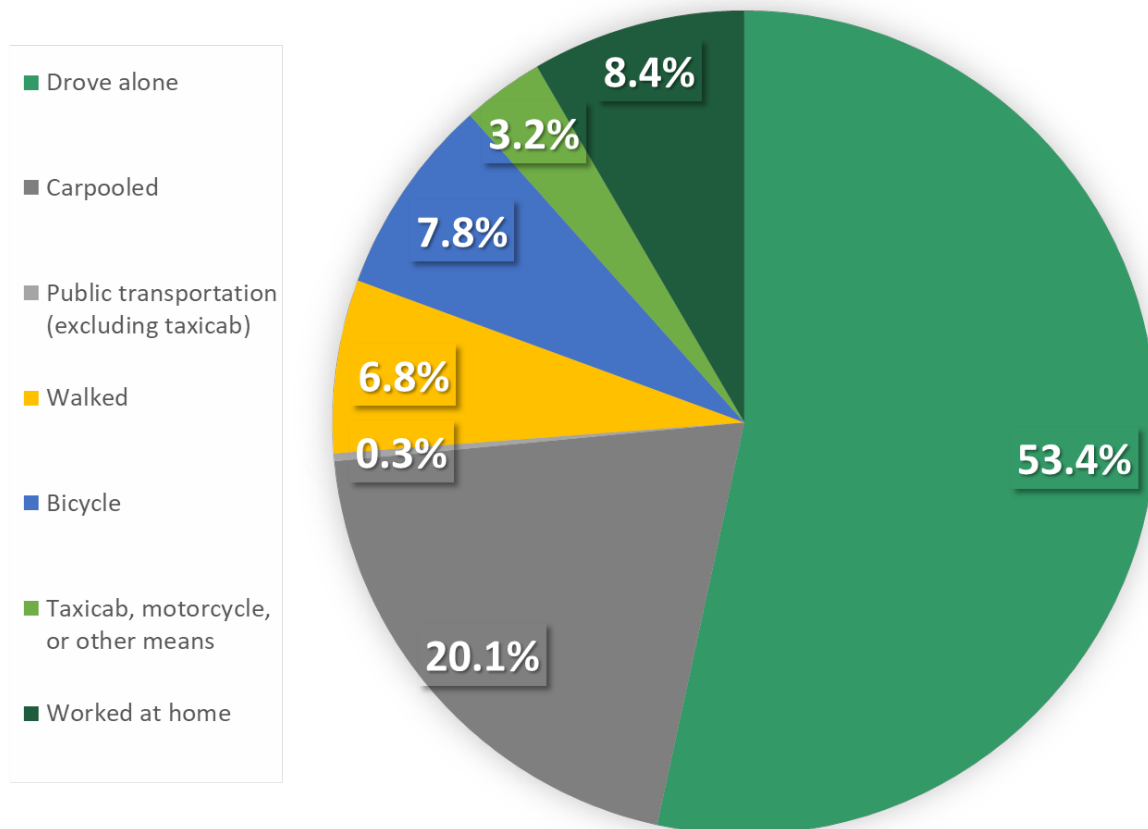


CHART 8: COMMUTING TO WORK (19,384 WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Place of Work

Understanding where employees work may be useful in assessing the possibility of expanding transportation alternatives and services. According to Chart 9, 20 percent of the civilian labor force travels outside Holmes County on a daily basis to work. As it currently stands, this is the lowest percentage that leaves its home county for work in the OMEGA region. This accounts for a total of 3,877 workers who are travelling to other counties to work. The rest of the workers, 15,507, remain in Holmes County and may benefit from more transportation services to help them travel to work within the county.

Holmes County Place of Work

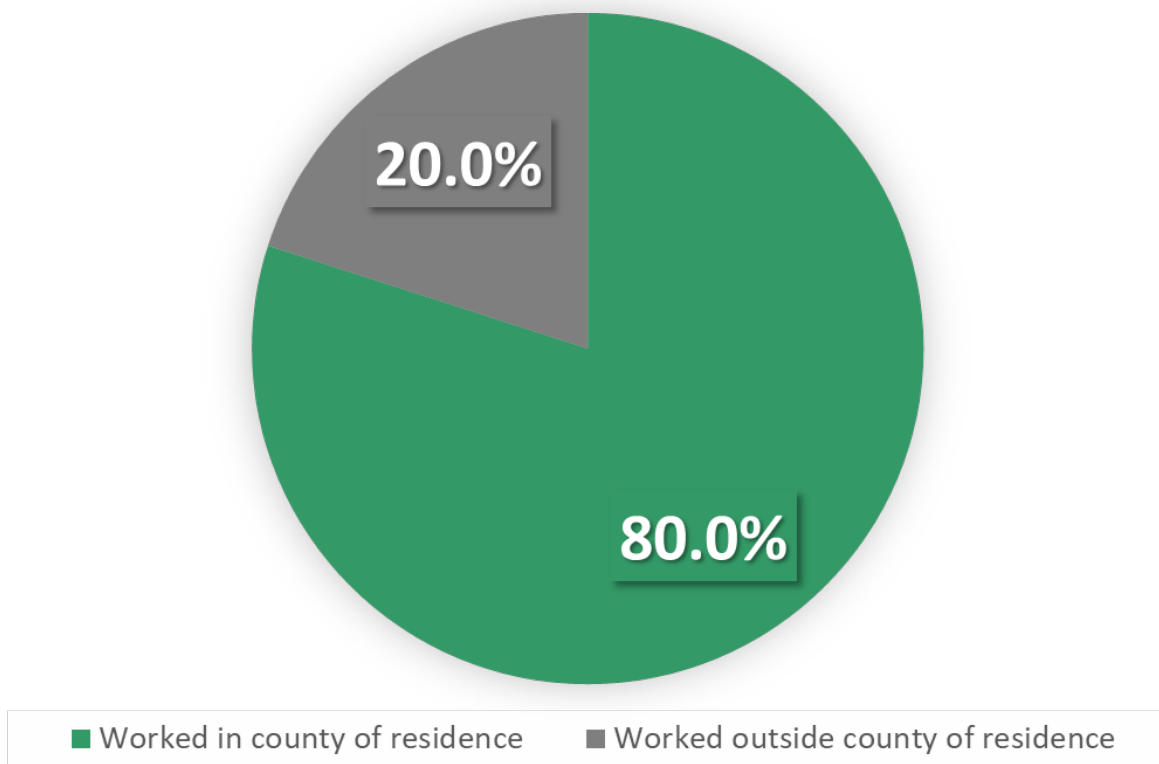


CHART 9: PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Vehicles Available per Total Occupied Households

Households without a motor vehicle is an important aspect relating to human services transportation and transit options. Households with no vehicle available may need to have an alternative option available to access points of interest, places of employment, and professional and commercial services. In Holmes County, there currently are a total of 12,500 occupied housing units, both renter-occupied and owner-occupied. Of these households, 29.6 percent (3,706 households) do not have access to a motor vehicle. This is the largest percentage of households without a motor vehicle in the OMEGA region. These households may be indicative of the large Amish population and may also benefit with more transportation services available to them.

Holmes County Occupied Housing Units - Zero-Vehicles

Total Occupied Housing Units = 12,500

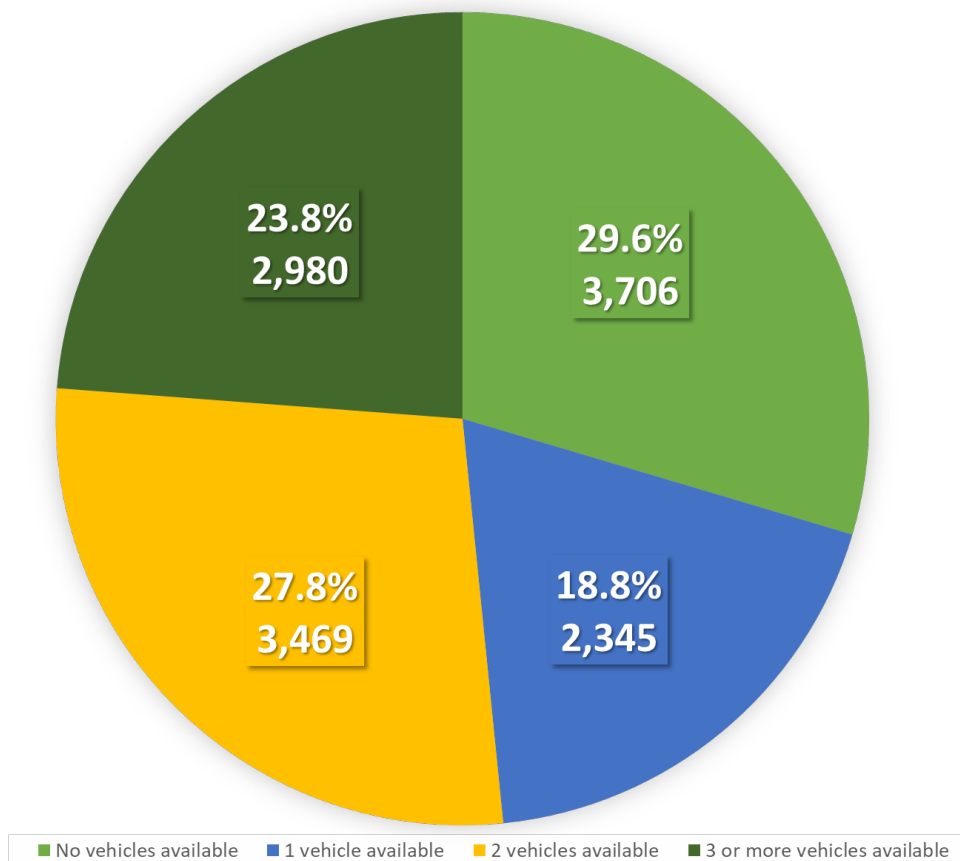
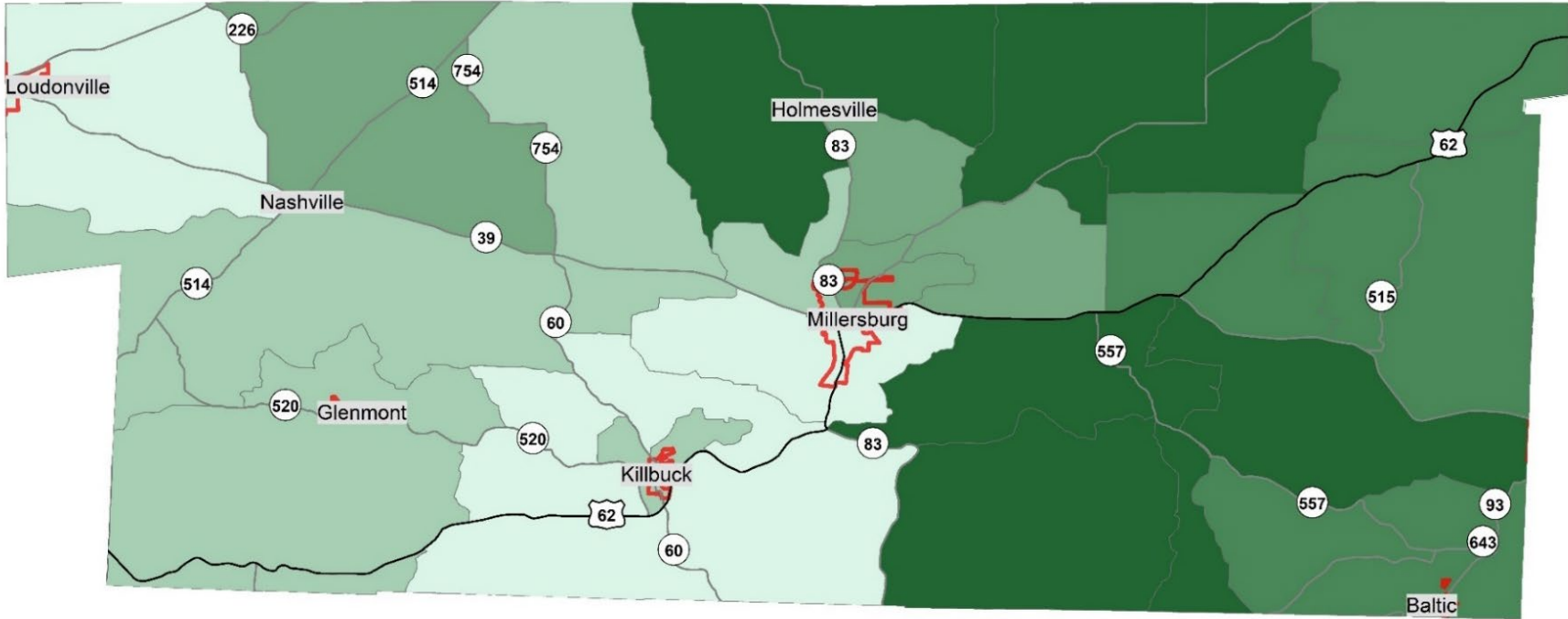


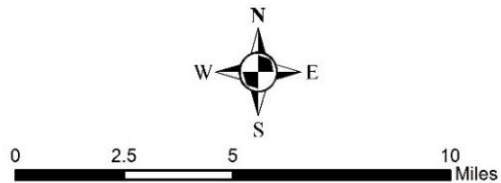
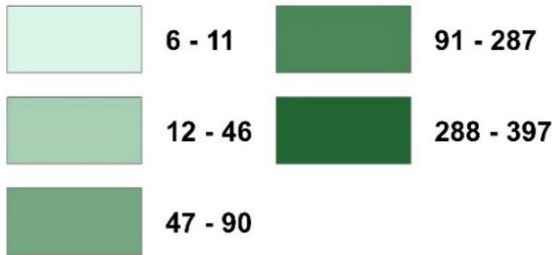
CHART 10: HOLMES COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS WITH ZERO-VEHICLES

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to Map 6, the most households without a motor vehicle are located to the north of Holmesville bisected by SR 83 as well as in the southeast area of the county along SR 83 and SR 557 to the north and west of Baltic. The areas in the eastern part of the county, all along US 62, also have a high concentration of zero-vehicle households. This compares to the population with limited English proficiency (see Map 5), and may relate directly to the large Amish population that lives in Holmes County.



Zero Vehicle Households



MAP 6: HOLMES COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS WITH ZERO VEHICLES

Employment Status

In Holmes County, the total population 16 years old and over is 31,084 individuals. Of this total, 62.6 percent are individuals currently employed, 2.4 percent are unemployed, and the rest are either retired, in school, or are not currently searching for employment. The civilian labor force, defined as individuals who are eligible to work, is a total of 20,213 individuals. Those who are currently employed is 62.6 percent of the total working population, or 19,458 individuals. The population not in the labor force are individuals eligible to work but not actively seeking employment because they are either retired, disabled, or in school and have not begun to work. A total of 10,879 individuals are not included in the labor force, equating to 35 percent of the eligible working-age population. The unemployment rate, the percent of the civilian labor force that is currently unemployed and actively seeking employment, is 3.7 percent in Holmes County. This is the third-lowest county unemployment rate in Ohio.

HOLMES COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (FROM CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE) - 3.7%

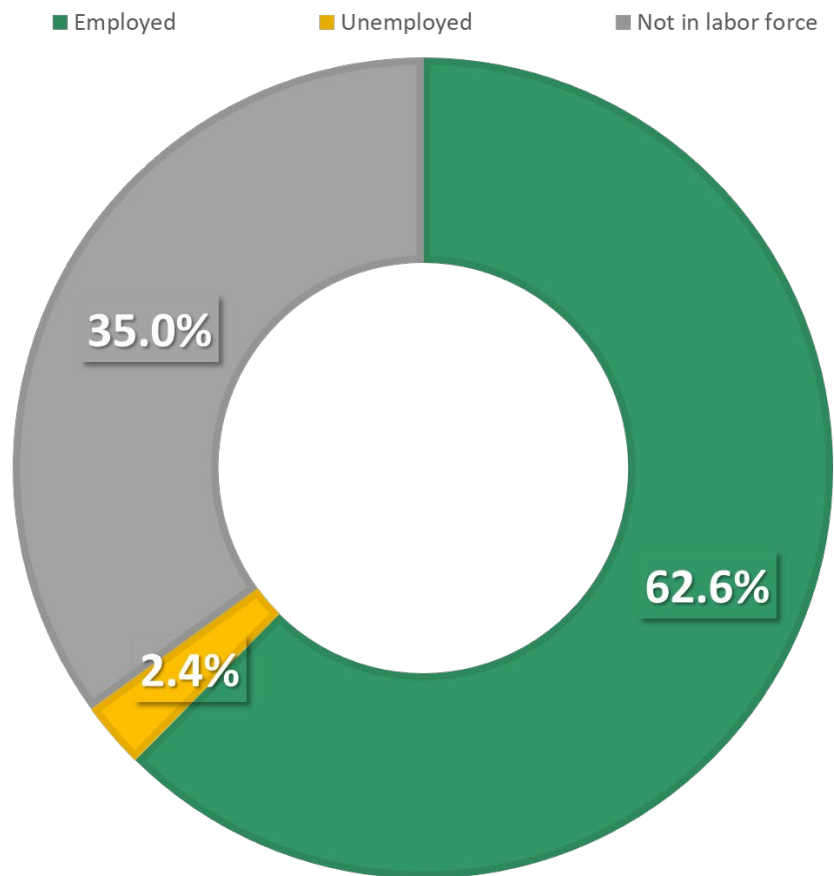


CHART 11: EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN HOLMES COUNTY

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, July 2018

III. Assessment of Available Services

Conducting an evaluation of service provider capabilities and analyzing the existing gaps and duplications of services for transportation resources in each community provides transportation planners with the information needed to implement changes that will improve the network of transportation resources and services in Holmes County and across county lines.

The lead agency identified stakeholders to participate in the assessment of available services. These stakeholders included those who were represented in the current or past planning committees, as well as others who the planning committee identified as being appropriate stakeholders.

Interviews were conducted with each of the identified stakeholders. The purpose of the interview was to offer the stakeholders an opportunity to discuss the specific transportation services, gaps, needs, and priorities for their respective service areas or communities.

Inventory of Transportation Providers

Primary Transportation Service Providers

- Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Lynn Hope Industries
- Holmes County Council on Aging, Inc.
- Precious Angel Transportation
- Midwest Community
- Thompson Taxi

Contracted Agencies

- Holmes County Veterans Services
- Holmes County Job and Family Services (HCJFS)
 - *HCJFS contracts with Thompson Taxi, a private provider, for nonemergency Medicaid transportation. If an individual has a private vehicle and is eligible, HCJFS does mileage reimbursement.*

There are also several private transportation providers who provide transportation for Amish and are not included in this plan.

Existing Transportation Services

The following information is based on tabulations from the survey and interview results. A total of four organizations provided information about their services.

List of Transportation Service Providers

Agency Name: Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities (HCBDD)

Transportation Service Type: Accessible transportation for students and adults attending HCBDD programs

Other Services Provided: School, adult day program, employment, case management

Contact Information: Marianne Mader, (330)–674–8045; mmader@holmesdd.org

Hours: M-F, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Service Area: Holmes County

Eligibility Requirements: Have qualifying disability and functional limitations

Web-site: www.holmesdd.org

Agency Name: Lynn Hope Industries

Transportation Service Type: Transportation for adults with disabilities attending Lynn Hope Industries

Other Services Provided: Adult day program, employment

Contact Information: Sheri Martin, (330)–674–8045; smartin@holmesdd.org

Hours: M-F, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Service Area: Holmes County

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible for HCBDD services

Web-site: www.lynnhope.com

Agency Name: Holmes County Veterans Services

Transportation Service Type: Van

Other Services Provided: None

Contact Information: Jason Brooks, (330)-674-4806; jbrooks@co.holmes.oh.us

Hours: M-F 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Service Area: Canton, Parma, Cleveland VA medical Centers

Eligibility Requirements: Veteran

Web-site: <https://www.co.holmes.oh.us/veterans-services-overview>

Agency Name: Holmes County Council on Aging, Inc.

Transportation Service Type: Senior transportation

Other Services Provided: None

Contact Information: Penny Hamilton, (330)–674–0580; westfork@ymail.com

Hours: M-F, 7 am – 2:30 pm

Service Area: Holmes County

Eligibility Requirements: 60 years old or greater

Web-site: <https://www.facebook.com/MillersburgSeniorCenter/>

Agency Name: Precious Angel Transportation

Transportation Service Type: Private customized transportation and for special needs populations

Other Services Provided: Special events such as airport trips, weddings, funerals, sporting events

Contact Information: Roger Masters, (330)–601–0345, info@preciousangeltransport.com

Hours: M-F, 6am – 5pm; Weekend trips only if available

Service Area: Holmes and Wayne County

Eligibility Requirements: HCBDD clients ride alone, anyone else has combined trips, must pay with cash or check.

Web-site: www.preciousangeltransport.com/

Table 1 provides a summary of the characteristics of the participating transportation providers and organizations that purchase transportation on behalf of consumers.

Table 1: Organizational Characteristics

Agency Name	Directly Operates Transportation (Yes/No)	Purchases Transportation from Another Agency (if Yes, Who?)	Legal Authority (Private Non-Profit, Private For-Profit, Public Non-Profit,)	Number of Annual One-Way Passenger Trips	Average Number Trip Denials per Week	Are Vehicles Only Available for Human Service Agency Clients (Y/N)*
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Yes	Yes. Precious Angel Transportation, Midwest Community, Thompson Taxi	Public Non-Profit	43,868	N/A	Yes
Lynn Hope Industries	Yes	No	Private Non-Profit	368	N/A	Yes
Holmes Co Veterans	No	N/A	Public Non-Profit	150	0	Yes
Holmes Co Council on Aging	Yes	No	Private Non-Profit	1,100	2-3	No
Precious Angel Transportation	Yes	No	Private	<i>11,520 (estimate)</i>	N/A	No

* Answering “Yes” indicates that your agency is closed door. Your agency is considered closed door if you ONLY provide transportation to your facility as a courtesy or if you ONLY serve a particular clientele that are enrolled in your agency programs (i.e. members of a sheltered workshop, or residents in a nursing home). Answering “No” indicates that your agency is open door. This means the service is open to the public or a segment of the general public defined by age, disability, or low income. For example, if an agency provides general transportation for anyone in the community who is over the age of 60, they are considered “open door”. For example, an individual who is 60 or over can request transportation to a doctor’s appointment or the grocery store regardless of their affiliation with your agency.

The participating organizations provide a wide range of transportation including Human Services Door-to-Door and On Demand. All four of the participating organizations provide services on weekdays. None of the organizations operate transportation on Saturdays and none on Sundays. Evening services after 5pm are operated by none of the organizations. Table 2 depicts the transportation service characteristics by agency.

Table 2: Transportation Service Characteristics

Agency Name	Mode of Service	Days & Hours of Operation	Provides Medicaid-Eligible Trips (Y/N)	Level of Passenger Assistance Provided	Training Courses Required for Drivers
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Human Services Door to Door Route	M-F, 7:00 am - 9:00am; 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Yes	Guided	CDL DODD required trainings First Aid/CPR Medication Administration Certification
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Human Services field trips	M-F, 9:00 am -2:00 pm	No	Guided	Van certified drivers First Aid/CPR Medication Administration Certification
Lynn Hope Industries	Human Services field trips	M-F, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	No	Guided	First Aid/CPR
Holmes Co Veterans	Van	M-F, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	N/A	Guided	N/A
Holmes Co Council on Aging	Van	M-F, 7 am – 2:30 pm	No	Escort	Defensive Driving D.R.I.V.E. First Aid/CPR/AEO ¹ Sensitivity to Aging
Precious Angel Transportation	On-Demand	M-F, 6am – 5pm <i>Weekends if available</i>	N/A	Guided Wheelchair Lifts	Background Checks CPR/CPI ² First Aid RappBack

1. AEO – Administering Emergency Oxygen; 2. CPI – Crisis Prevention Intervention; (See also Appendix C: Definitions)

Transportation-related expenses and revenues also differ by organization. Tax Levies Medicaid, County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and Title III are common revenue sources for transportation operators in Holmes County. Table 3 below provides a summary of expenses and revenues for public and non-profit transportation programs.

Table 3: Transportation-Related Expenses and Revenues

Agency Name	Fare Structure	Donations Accepted (Y/N)	Number of Full-Time & Part-Time Drivers	Number of Full-Time & Part-Time Schedulers/ Dispatchers	Revenue Sources (most recent Fiscal Year)	Total Annual Transportation Expenses
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	N/A	N	8	1	Levy and Medicaid	\$900,000
Lynn Hope Industries	N/A	N	3 PT	0	HCBDD	\$1,600
Holmes Co Veterans	Free	N	2	0	0	\$25,000
Holmes Co Council on Aging	Per Trip	Y	1	1	Title III	\$12,750
Precious Angel Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4 provides basic information about transportation options other than the traditional public and human services transportation. Transportation options might include bike share, ride share, intercity, or taxi services, and more.

Table 4: Alternative/ Active Transportation Options

Transportation Option	Availability	Cost	Usage	Service Area
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes Co
Lynn Hope Industries	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes Co
Holmes Co Veterans	N/A	N/A	N/A	Canton, Parma, Cleveland VA medical Centers
Holmes Co Council on Aging	7am – 2:30 pm	Donation	Senior Transportation 60 yrs+	Holmes Co + 20 miles within
Precious Angel Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes and Wayne Counties

Table 5 provides basic information about local travel training program options.

Table 5: Transportation Resources

Transportation Resource	Availability	Cost	Usage	Service Area
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes Co
Lynn Hope Industries	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes Co
Holmes Co Veterans	N/A	N/A	N/A	Canton, Parma, Cleveland VA medical Centers
Holmes Co Council on Aging	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes Co
Precious Angel Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A	Holmes and Wayne Counties

Table 6 illustrates the technology used by each transportation provider for scheduling, dispatching, and/or GPS tracking vehicles.

Table 6: Technology

Agency Name	Name of Scheduling Software	Do you have an App for Transportation (Y/N)?	Name of Dispatching Software	AVL System/ GPS (Y/N)
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lynn Hope Industries	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Holmes Co Veterans	None	N	N/A	N/A
Holmes Co Council on Aging	None	N	N/A	No
Precious Angel Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Assessment of Community Support for Transit

According to the Assessment of Available Service in Holmes County, there is no primary transit provider. There are several transportation service providers and many supporting transportation providers that are contracted with different agencies. Of the five reporting agencies, four provide their own transportation for their services, but at a very limited scale: Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities (HCBDD), Lynn Hope Industries, Holmes County Council on Aging, and Precious Angel Transportation. Both HCBDD and Lynn Hope Industries also contract transportation services through either Precious Angel Transportation, Midwest Community, or Thompson Taxi. If an individual has a qualifying disability or functional limitations determined during intake, then they can be eligible for services provided by HCBDD or Lynn Hope Industries. Any person 60 years old or older will be eligible for the Holmes County Council on Aging. Any veteran will be eligible for Holmes County Veterans services. Holmes County Veteran Services receives their vehicles through Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and were not obliged to report their vehicle utilization. Precious Angel Transportation provides transportation services for anyone willing to pay by cash or check. They will transport all HCBDD clients alone between Holmes and Wayne counties. None of the transportation service providers operate after 5 pm during the weekdays, and only Precious Angel Transportation provides weekend trips when available. Precious Angel Transportation is currently exploring CTS scheduling software by learning the functions and operations and are looking to implement it into their vehicle management.

Safety

All transportation service providers in Holmes County consider safety as a top priority and offer their drivers training courses to ensure they can provide transportation services as safely as possible. CDL – DODD required safety training courses, van certified drivers, Defensive Driving, D.R.I.V.E., First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Medication Administration Certification, Administering Emergency Oxygen (AEO), Sensitivity to Aging, Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI), background checks, and monthly driver meetings are all examples of courses and trainings required for the drivers that operate in Holmes County. HCBDD, along with Lynn Hope Industries, provides most of the services above and offers guided assistance for all their riders. Holmes County Veteran Services provide guided assistance for their passengers. Holmes County Council on Aging provides escorts for their passenger assistance. Precious Angel Transportation provides wheelchair lifts in all their vehicles except one. They also have RappBack, a reporting system if their drivers commit a crime, as well as two vehicles that have video cameras installed and operating while in use. Overall, the safety training and travel assistance provided by the transportation service providers in Holmes County is adequate, but additional safety training programs and travel assistance may be beneficial.

Vehicles

Survey/Interview participants listed a combined total of 31 vehicles for human service transportation. Approximately 77% of the vehicles are wheelchair accessible. A vehicle utilization table is provided at the end of this chapter (Table 7).

All transportation providers provide at least 24 wheelchair accessible vehicles, while some organizations have an entire fleet of wheelchair accessible vehicles or none at all. The accessibility and availability of vehicles from each agency that provides access to wheelchairs is summarized as follows:

- **Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities** has nearly all of their vehicles wheelchair accessible. There is great need for wheelchair accessible transportation especially in eastern Holmes County. For school/work routes they have 3-5 individuals using wheelchairs on each route.
- **Lynn Hope Industries** has one vehicle with a wheelchair capacity of two. The other two vehicles do not have any capacity for wheelchairs.
- **Holmes County Veteran Services** elected not to provide information regarding vehicle and wheelchair information.
- **Holmes County Council on Aging** does not currently have any vehicles with wheelchair access.
- **Precious Angel Transportation** provides wheelchair lifts in all vehicles except one.

As vehicles age, they require additional maintenance, may break down more often, and become costlier to operate. Vehicle replacement, based on age and condition, is vital to the overall cost effectiveness of the transportation services provided.

Table 7: Vehicle Utilization Table

Veh #	Make	Model	Year	Vin #	Capacity	WC Capacity	Days in Service	Service Hours	Vehicle Condition	Program Vehicle is Assigned	Service Area
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities											
1	Bluebird	Bus	2009	1BAKCCPA29F259352	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
2	Bluebird	Bus	2012	1BAKCCPA7CF287641	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
3	Bluebird	Bus	2013	1BAKCCPA6DF295201	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
4	Bluebird	Bus	2014	1BAKCCPA0EF304878	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
5	Bluebird	Bus	2006	1BAKCCKA87F241278	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
6	International	Bus	2008	4DRBUAAN58B565109	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
7	Bluebird	Bus	2006	1BAKCCKA26F232713	66	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
8	Bluebird	Bus	2015	1BAKCCPA6 FF311321	54	5	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
9	Bluebird	Bus	2017	1BAKCCPA1 HF332872	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
10	Bluebird	Bus	2016	1BAKCCPA9GF322167	54	5	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
13	International	Bus	2008	4DRBUAAN18B565110	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
14	Bluebird	Bus	2009	1BAKCCPA4 9F259353	54	4	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	School	Holmes Co
15	Chevy	Van	2006	1GNHG35V961183033	8	1	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	Adult	Holmes Co
16	Ford	E350	2001	1FMNE31L21HA17768	8	0	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	Adult	Holmes Co
17	Ford	Van	2003	1FMRE11L63HB47724	8	0	M – F	8am – 5pm	Fair ³	Adult	Holmes Co
18	Chevy	Van	1997	1GCGG25R0V158950	8	0	M – F	8am – 5pm	Poor ³	Adult	Holmes Co
20	Chevy	Van – 1 Ton	2012	1GB3G2BG1C1202606	9	2	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
21	Ford	Van – 1 Ton	2015	1FDEE3FS1FDA15962	9	2	M – F	8am – 5pm	Good	School/Adult	Holmes Co
Lynn Hope Industries											
19	Ford	E350	2006	1FDWE35L66DA32156	10	2	M – F	9am – 2pm	Fair	Adult	Holmes Co
20	Ford	Edge	2012	2FMDK4JC7CBA89091	5	0	M – F	9am – 2pm	Good	Adult	Holmes Co
21	Ford	Escape	2012	1FMCU9EG9CKC62079	5	0	M – F	9am – 2pm	Good	Adult	Holmes Co
Holmes County Council on Aging, Inc.											
1	Dodge	Caravan	2016	2C4RDGBG4GR392348	7	0	M – F	7am -2:30pm	New	Senior	Holmes Co

3. Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities: All vehicles listed as *Fair* or *Poor* are used as back up vehicles only.

Veh #	Make	Model	Year	Vin #	Capacity	WC Capacity	Days in Service	Service Hours	Vehicle Condition	Program Vehicle is Assigned	Service Area
Precious Angel Transportation											
1	Chevy	3500	2000	N/A	6	1	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
2	Chevy	4500	2010	N/A	12	2	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
3	Chevy	4500	2010	N/A	12	2	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
5	Ford	3500	2001	N/A	12	1	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
6	Ford	350	2003	N/A	12	0	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
8	Ford	350	2009	N/A	12	1	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
9	Chevy	4500	2010	N/A	12	3	M – F	6am – 5pm	Great	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
10	Chevy	4500	2010	N/A	12	2	M – F	6am – 5pm	Great	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
11	Ford	350	2001	N/A	12	1	M – F	6am – 5pm	Good	HCBODD	Holmes & Wayne
Holmes County Veteran Services – N/A											

3. Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities: All vehicles listed as *Fair* or *Poor* are used as back up vehicles only.

Summary of Existing Resources

Table 7 describes in detail the 31 different vehicles used by the transportation service providers in Holmes County.

Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities has most of these vehicles in their fleet. They provide transportation for people with disabilities and limited functionality for all ages, children in school and adults that require transportation services. They currently have a total of 18 vehicles and only three do not provide wheelchair access. Of their entire fleet, eight vehicles are used on a daily basis to transport children and adults. The remaining vehicles serve as back-up transportation and many of these vehicles provide wheelchair access. Trips primarily serve only the Holmes County area.

Lynn Hope Industries has three vehicles in their fleet. All their vehicles serve adults with disabilities that use their services. Of the three vehicles, only one has wheelchair capacity. They serve only the Holmes County area.

Holmes County Council on Aging has three total vehicles but only one vehicle provides transportation service for the senior population. They do not have wheelchair access and only serve the Holmes County area.

Precious Angel Transportation has nine vehicles in their fleet. All their vehicles except one can accommodate wheelchairs. All these vehicles also have wheelchair lifts. Precious Angel Transportation provides transportation service for both Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Lynn Hope Industries when they are unable to provide transportation for their clients. Precious Angel Transportation is the only service to provide weekend trips on a limited basis.

Holmes County Veteran Services is provided vehicles from Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and elected to not provide any vehicle information.

IV. Assessment of Transportation Needs and Gaps

In an effort to better understand the Holmes County needs, the planning committee examined research and data, as well as solicited input from the community in an effort to gather information about needs and gaps in transportation services.

The demographic and socio-economic conditions of the study area are discussed in the demographics chapter of this plan. The following overview is an evaluation of the gaps in service based upon geographic data as well as from the perspective of the targeted populations, transportation providers, and the general public.

Holmes County Planning Commission and a variety of stakeholders attempted to solicit input and request participation from organizations that could potentially be impacted by the coordinated transportation planning process.

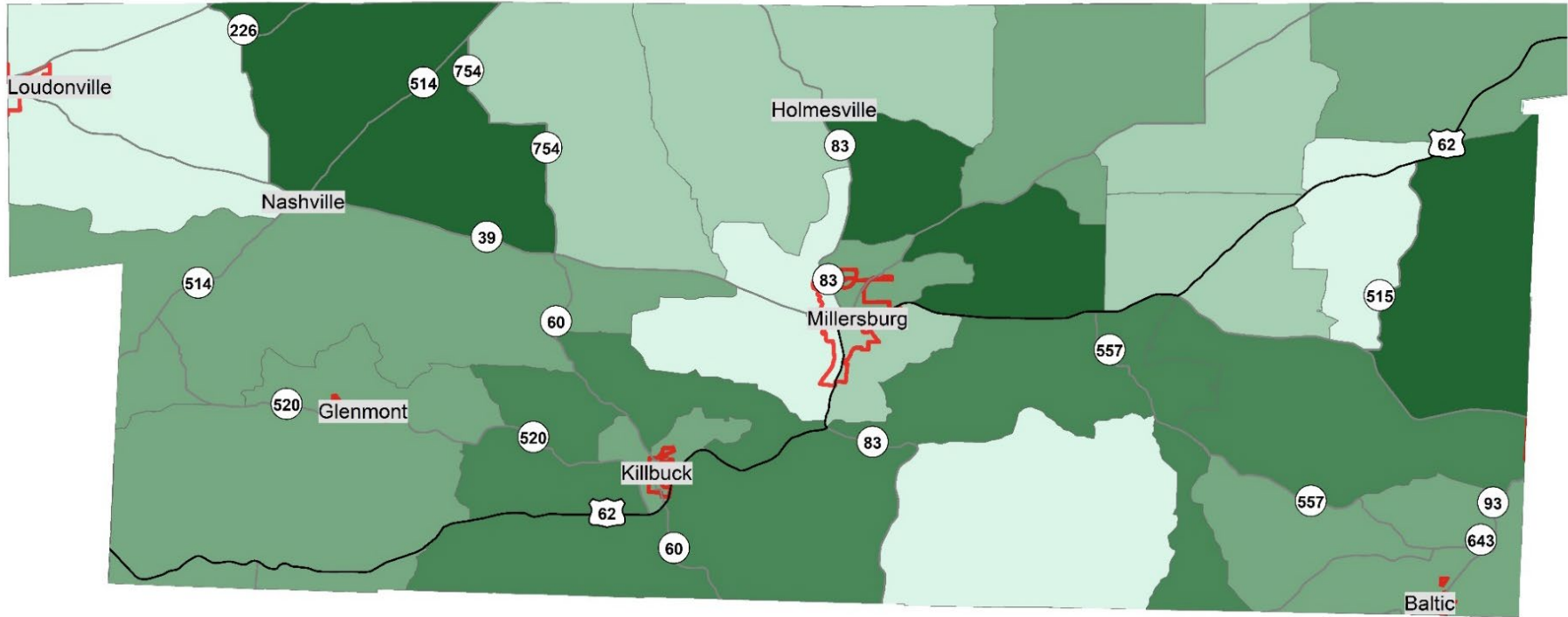
The following methods were used to assess transportation needs and gaps:

- Assessment of data and demographics
- Planning committee meetings with stakeholders
- Public workshop
- Public surveys

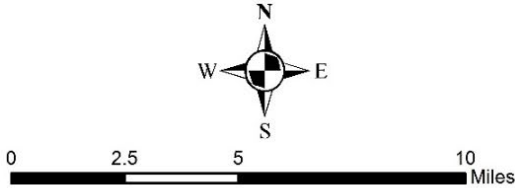
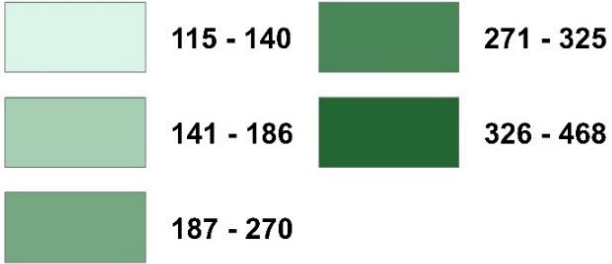
Local Demographic and Socio-Economic Data

Data for each target population group were aggregated by Census Block Group for transportation analysis. The demographic and socio-economic data is valuable because it assists in determining populations at associated locations for individuals likely to require transportation. This information can then be compared to the locations of (1) major trip generators, and (2) available transportation services.

Map 7 illustrates the areas where the older adults (age 65 and older) population is located in Holmes County. The highest concentration (326 to 468 seniors per block group) of seniors in Holmes County appears to be between Millersburg and Holmesville, north of US 62 and east of SR 83, in the far east of the county south of US 62 and east of SR 515, and then in the northwest area of the county, northeast of Nashville, along SR 226, SR 514, SR 754, and SR 39. Other notable locations with a concentration of seniors is also Glenmont and Killbuck, along SR 520, SR 60, and US 62 and also in southeast Holmes County around Baltic along SR 643, SR 93, and SR 557. This senior population may likely use transportation services more frequently than the general population.

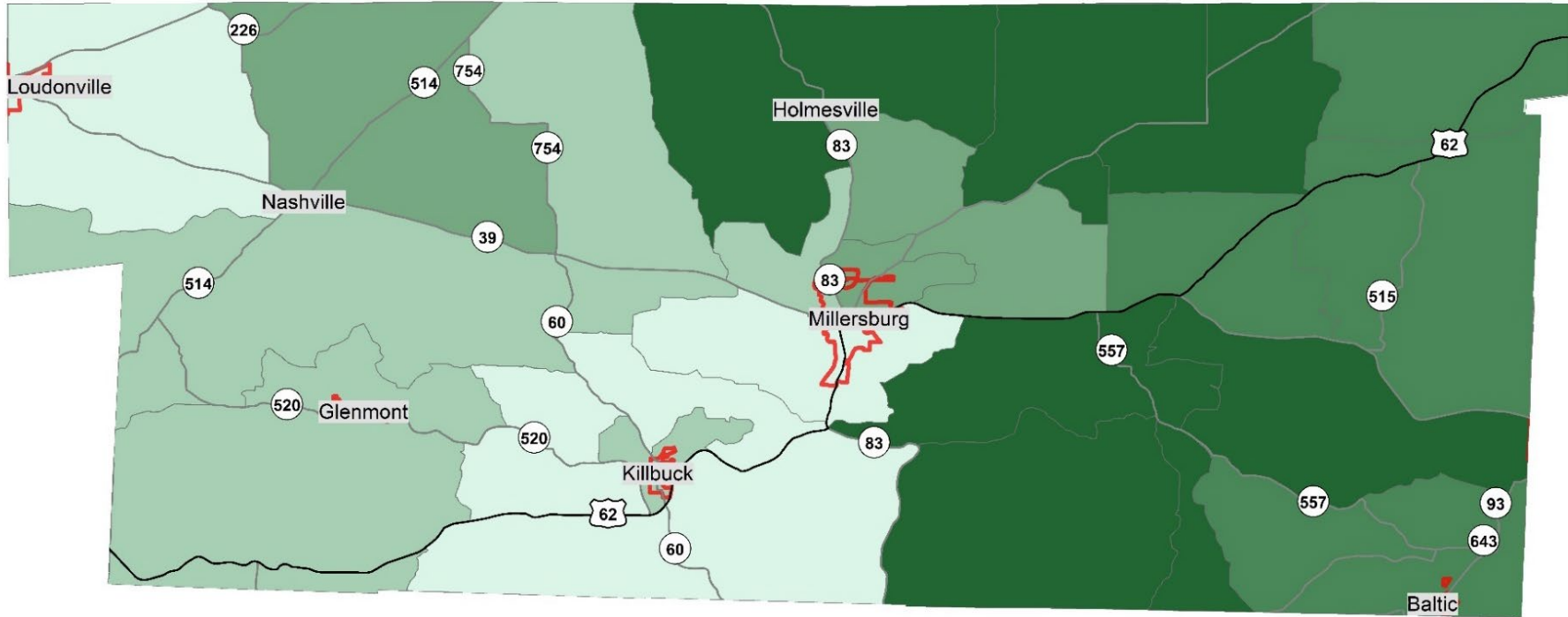


Population 65 years and over

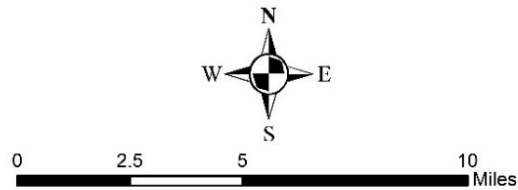


MAP 7: MAP OF POPULATION DENSITY OF INDIVIDUALS AGE 65 AND OLDER

Map 8 indicates the areas where zero-vehicle households are in Holmes County. The absence of a vehicle in the household is often an indication of the need for transportation services. According to Map 8, the areas of Holmes County with the most households with no vehicles available are to the north of Holmesville bisected by SR 83 as well as in the southeast area of the county along SR 83 and SR 557 to the north and west of Baltic. The areas in the eastern part of the county along US 62 also have a high concentration of zero-vehicle households. This also corresponds to the data shown in Map 5, Population with Limited English Proficiency, the number of zero-vehicle households may be a result of the Amish population in these areas.



Zero Vehicle Households



MAP 8: MAP OF DENSITY OF ZERO VEHICLE HOUSEHOLDS

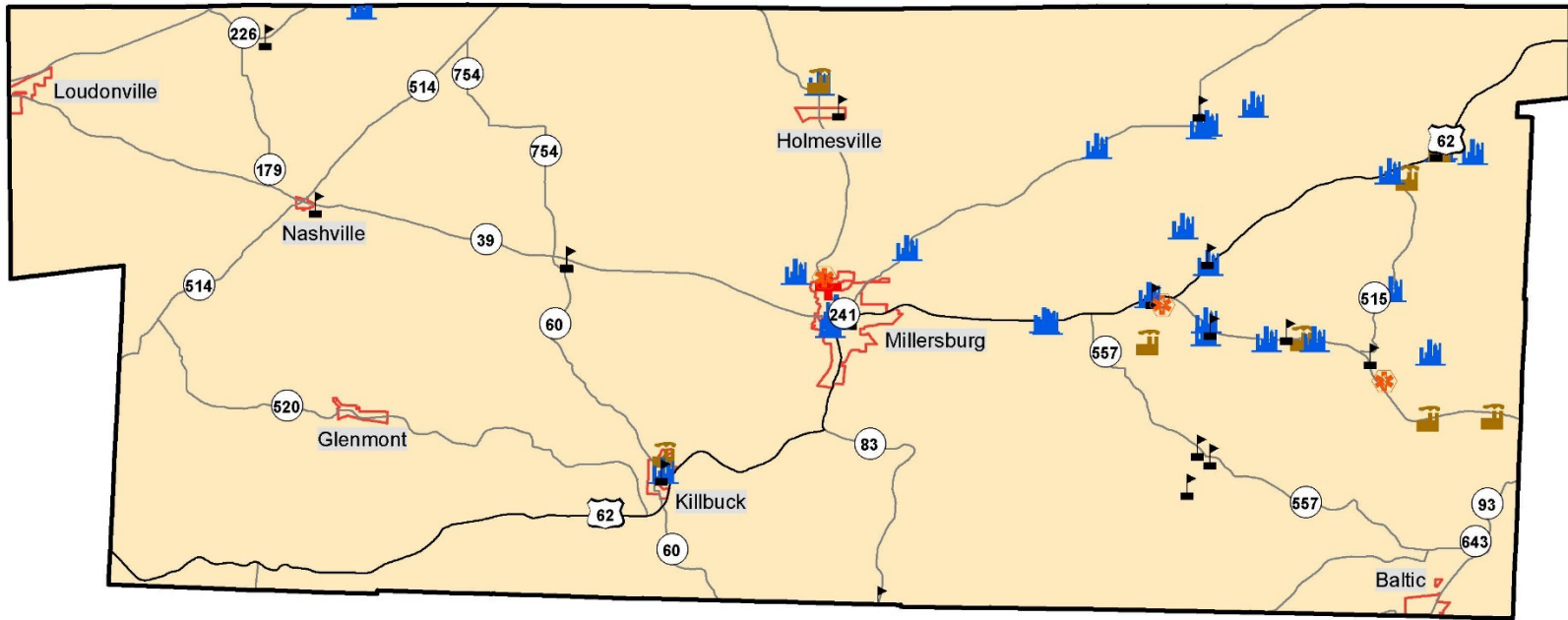
Map 9 illustrates the location of the top destinations for the existing transportation providers as well as major trip generators, including those who drive a personal vehicle. In Holmes County, major trip generators include schools, hospitals, medical centers, industrial centers, commercial areas, and major businesses with 50 or more employees. The majority of these trips is in Millersburg and throughout the eastern part of Holmes County along US 62 and SR 241, SR 39, SR 557, and SR 515. Five of the top 15 Holmes County employers by size, with the largest being Fryburg Door, employing 240 people, is located in Millersburg.

Berlin township has a range of diversity in types of trip generators from industrial centers, commercial establishments, educational facilities, major businesses, and medical centers. Moving east along SR 39 towards Walnut Creek there are commercial centers, schools, industrial centers and a medical center. Along SR 39 towards Sugarcreek, ProVia Door is a major trip generator and the third-largest employer in Holmes County with 400 workers. The second largest employer is located in Winesburg, home to Case Farms, with 420 employees. Northwest of Winesburg, Mount Hope, contains commercial centers, Mount Hope School, Wayne Dalton, with 450 employees, and Weaver Leather, LLC with 280 employees.






Trip generators are also located in Holmesville and Killbuck with a mix of commercial and industrial businesses. Also, west of Millersburg in Monroe Township is West Holmes High School, a significant trip generator.

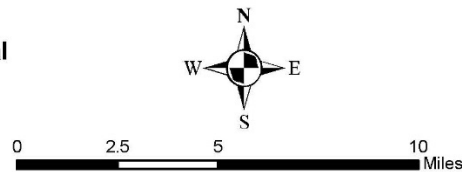
The Top 15 businesses that employ 50 or more employees are:

Employer/Business	Employees
Wayne Dalton	450
Case Farms	420
ProVia Door	400
Weaver Leather, LLC	280
Fryburg Door, Inc.	240
Centor Gerresheimer	200
Mullet Cabinet	150
International Automotive Components Group	140
Robin Industries, Inc., Health Care Division	130
Walnut Creek Foods, Inc	125
Holmes Lumber & Building Center	104
Berlin Gardens, LLC	100
Domestic Corp – Sanitation Division	100
Hiland Wood Products, Inc	100
Robin Industries, Inc., Holmco Division	100



Holmes County
Major Trip Generators

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|-------------------|
|  | Commercial |  | Industrial |
|  | Educational |  | Medical |
|  | Hospital | | |



MAP 9: MAP OF MAJOR TRIP GENERATORS

Analysis of Demographic Data

Holmes County is the second youngest county in Ohio in terms of average age. The largest age group of the population is 0-14 year olds, accounting for a quarter of the population. More than half the population, 55%, is below age 34. This is a positive indication on the growth and the health of the county. The disability rate in Holmes County is currently 8.8% of the population, which is well below the state average of 13.9%. In Holmes County, of the people with disabilities, 35.9% are seniors. For comparison purposes, the population under age 65, the disability rate is only 6.9%. According to stakeholder meetings, public workshops, and the public survey, the majority of the medical trips from Holmes County are to Wayne County. Analyzing both the population with disabilities and the population living below poverty, there appears to be a geographical correlation in Holmes County mainly because the higher concentration of both populations live in western Holmes County. Holmes County has a high number in the civilian labor force and majority of this population (80%), live and work in the county. Compared to other counties in the region, this suggests a strong economy with employment opportunities. A characteristic unique to Holmes County is the zero-vehicle household consisting of 29.6% of the entire households in the county. This may be attributed to the high Amish population in the county. Another significance for this statistic is Holmes County is projected to become the first majority Amish population in the nation.

General Public and Stakeholder Meetings/Focus Groups

Holmes County Planning Commission hosted three local stakeholder meetings to discuss the unmet transportation needs and gaps in mobility and transportation. There were a total of 15 stakeholders, including three OMEGA representatives at the meetings. There were two general public workshops scheduled on August 29, 2018, at the Holmes County District Public Library in Millersburg. Minute and attendance records for these meetings are available upon request.

During the meetings, OMEGA presented statistical, demographic, and geographic data for the county. OMEGA also initiated conversations and distributed surveys to gather information to identify some of the unmet transportation needs and gaps in services for the area.

Following the initial presentation, the stakeholders were asked to review the gaps in transportation services and needs and identify any gaps that currently exist. The focus of the discussion was transportation for seniors, people with disabilities, and individuals with low incomes. The discussion also examined the impact of mobility options for the general public.

After identifying the unmet needs and service gaps, each stakeholder was asked to rank the unmet needs representing a high, medium, or low priority.

Participants discussed 10 mobility issues to achieve, preserve, avoid, or eliminate through coordination. Coordinated transportation stakeholders will consider these unmet needs when developing transportation goals and strategies, and grant applications. Table 8 at the end of this section provides a summary of the unmet mobility needs discussed during the meeting as well as the needs identified by the survey results.

Surveys

The following is a summary of the information gained from the public surveys. A total of **56** surveys completed from the general public: **7.1%** of individuals with disabilities completed the survey; **30.4%** who completed the survey were adults over age 65.

The first question asked what transportation options the respondent or their family used in the last year. The majority of the respondents, 89.3%, replied that they use their own personal vehicle, followed by carpooling at 23.2% and senior services agencies at 16.1%.

The second question asked what makes transportation service/public transit appealing to the respondent. The majority of the responses, 69.6%, indicated that it is low cost and saves money, followed by handicap assistance (35.7%) and travel longer distances at 26.8%.

The third question examined types of trips the respondent takes regularly throughout the week. The two top responses for commercial and work were both at 75%. This is followed by social/family trips at 71.4% and then recreational trips at 66.1%.

The fourth question examined the trips made outside of Holmes County. Respondents indicated the out-of-county trips were to adjacent counties (82.1%), Canton/Akron (44.6%), and Cleveland/Columbus, at 23.2%, respectively.

The fifth question examined recommended changes the respondent suggests to improving transportation services. This was a subjective question and the responses were included in the “Challenges to Coordinated Transportation” section as well as the “Unmet Needs” section.

Question six examined what prevents individuals from using transportation services on a regular basis. Most of the responses, 66.1%, answered that they have no personal need, followed by unclear options (14.3%), scheduling conflicts (7.1%) and cost at 5.4%.

The seventh question examined if transportation services have improved, declined, or stayed the same. Most of the responses, 35.7%, answered that this was not applicable to them or their needs followed by “unsure, unaware, or didn’t know” at 30.4%. The third most responses, 14.3%, mentioned that transportation services have declined in Holmes County. The respondents who answered that transportation services have remained the same was 12.5%. Only 7.1% of the responses mentioned that transportation services in Holmes County have improved.

According to question eight, only 7.1% of the respondents have a disability that require the use of a cane, walker, wheelchair, or any other type of device assisting with mobility.

According to question nine, 10.7% of the respondents reported that they access Medicaid for transportation services.

According to question 10, the residences of the respondents were 42.9% in Millersburg, 12.5% in Hardy Township, 10.7% in Mechanic Township, 8.9% in the Village of Killbuck, 5.4% in the Village of Nashville, and 3.6% each from Berlin Township, Village of Loudonville, Ridley Township, and Prairie Township.

Finally, according to Question 11, most of the respondents, 30.4% were seniors age 65 and older, 21.4% were age 25-34 years old, 21.4% were age 55-64 years old, 14.3% were age 45-54, and 12.5% were age 35-44 years.

Challenges to Coordinated Transportation

In addition to identifying needs, the planning committee gathered information from stakeholders and used professional experience to identify challenges to providing coordinated transportation services.

These challenges include the following:

- Transportation options for low income individuals
 - Primarily in western Holmes County communities and villages of:
 - Lakeville
 - Nashville
 - Glenmont
 - Killbuck
- More availability
 - Especially for those that work in adjacent counties
- Publicize and market the available options
- No tax payer dollars used
- More social transportation options
 - To the Library
 - Non-medical services
- Bus transportation in any capacity
- Uber/Lyft Service as an option
- More efficient service to make medical appointments on time

Summary of Unmet Mobility Needs

Table 8 lists the 10 unmet transportation needs that were identified, and the method used to identify and prioritize each need. Needs are listed in order of their rank in highest to lowest priority.

Table 8: Prioritized Unmet Mobility Needs

Rank	Unmet Need Description	Method Used to Identify and Rank Need
1	Assistance for people with disabilities and senior citizens	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
2	Access for low-income individuals (primarily in western Holmes County)	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
3	More carpool options	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
4	Affordable general transportation options	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
5	More marketing and awareness of options	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
6	Taxi service 24/7	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
7	More non-private transportation options	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
8	Increase opportunities for people with disabilities for employment	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
9	More trips for veterans	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys
10	Fixed route and park-and-ride transportation option for tourism	Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshop, Public Surveys

V. Goals and Strategies

Developing Strategies to Address Gaps and Needs

Strategies for improving transportation for Holmes County should address the service gaps and user needs identified in this plan, if they are to be effective. As described, the gaps and unmet needs were based on information obtained from geographic analysis, the attendees participating in the meetings, and responses to the public survey.

Based on information gathered throughout the planning process, the Holmes County Planning Commission and OMEGA developed the following goals and strategies to address the gaps and unmet transportation needs. Priority levels are assigned by considering the primary funding sources that could be available to support plan implementation compared to the importance of meeting this unmet need expressed by the public and stakeholders. Not all strategies are activities specifically eligible for funding under the existing programs, nor is it guaranteed that sufficient funding will be available to achieve every strategy identified. In addition, the local stakeholders will need to provide support and commit to pursuing the strategies if they are to be accomplished. Nonetheless, these goals and strategies have been tailored to address the identified primary gaps and needs.

Below is an outline describing the prioritized goals and strategies to address each of the identified unmet transportation needs and gaps in service. These are not mandatory, however, they are suggestions.

Goal #1:

Efficiently and Cost-Effectively Expand Transportation Services and increase mobility.

Need(s) Being Addressed: Assistance for people with disabilities and senior citizens; access for low-income individuals (primarily in western Holmes County); more carpool options; affordable general transportation options; more marketing and awareness of options; more non-private transportation options; increase opportunities for people with disabilities for employment; fixed route and park-and-ride transportation option for tourism

Strategy 1.1:

Explore potential to expand services with private transportation providers

Strategy 1.2:

Apply for funding from the state to replace old vehicles

Strategy 1.3:

Explore potential to establish a fixed route and park-and-ride for tourist transportation by coordinating with private transportation providers

Timeline for Implementation: Continuous through the duration of implementation of the plan.

Action Steps:

1. Schedule bi-monthly meetings with private transportation providers that operate in Holmes County

2. Schedule quarterly Holmes County Coordinated Transportation Meetings throughout the year in a common central location, including teleconferences to save on transportation costs
3. Share “Best Practices in Rural Regional Mobility Report” with all participating transportation service providers and stakeholders
4. Assess if implementing scheduling software across all providers will be effective
5. Replace old vehicles and purchase new vehicles with grant funding assistance, as necessary
 - a. Section 5310 Program funded
 - b. 80% provided by FTA funds and 20% provided by a local match
6. Assess need to expand vehicle fleet to address changing demographics

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation: Holmes County Planning Commission, HCBDD, stakeholders

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation: OMEGA, Commissioners, ODOT, HCBDD

Resources Needed: Best practices report, central meeting location for coordinated meetings, scheduling software (if necessary)

Potential Cost Range: \$500 estimated annually for meetings; One vehicle with wheelchair access on average: \$42,650 (if 5310 funding approved, then local match would be \$8,530)

Potential Funding Sources: Section 5310, Local match

Performance Measures/Targets:

1. Measure – Bi-monthly meetings with transportation service providers
 - a. Target – Six meetings every year
 - b. Target – Minimum of one representative from each provider
2. Measure – Quarterly Meetings with all Holmes County transportation service providers and stakeholders
 - a. Target – four meetings every year
 - b. Target – Minimum of five representatives for all participating transportation service providers
 - c. Target – Minimum of one representative for the lead agency Holmes County Planning Commission
 - d. Target – Assess a cost-analysis to purchase scheduling software to coordinate with all providers, as necessary
3. Measure – Determine fixed route for tourism transportation for private provider
 - a. Target – Assess if private providers want to expand services
 - b. Target – If so, coordinate a tourism corridor to install park-and-ride locations
 - c. Target – Then, establish main corridor to connect park-and-rides to tourist destinations

PRIORITY POINTS: 100

Goal #2:

Provide employed persons with disabilities with flexible, accessible, and affordable transportation services.

Need(s) Being Addressed: Assistance for people with disabilities and senior citizens; access for low-income individuals (primarily in western Holmes County); affordable general transportation options; increase opportunities for people with disabilities for employment

Strategy 2.1:

Update maps of persons with disabilities for Holmes County by OMEGA

Strategy 2.2:

Connect transportation service providers to areas with high concentrations of persons with disabilities

Strategy 2.3:

Inventory of the businesses and work hours for persons with disabilities to coordinate their work shifts

Timeline for Implementation: After approval of the plan and by the end of the 2nd quarter 2019.

Action Steps:

1. Meet regularly, teleconference to save on transportation costs, and create a sub-committee from the stakeholders
2. Maintain fleet inventory with vehicles that can transport and support people with disabilities
3. Increase rider assistance for persons with disabilities

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation: Holmes County Planning Commission, Precious Angel Transportation, Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and Lynn Hope Industries

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation: OMEGA, Commissioners, ODOT

Resources Needed: Annual Maps of Persons with Disabilities, Inventory of vehicles for wheelchair capacity

Potential Cost Range: One vehicle with wheelchair access on average: \$42,650 (if 5310 funding approved, then local match would be \$8,530)

Potential Funding Sources: Section 5310, Local match

Performance Measures/Targets:

1. Measure – Update maps of Holmes County persons with disabilities
 - a. Target – Create and update map by every 2nd quarter of the year
2. Measure – Survey Holmes County businesses to determine need every fiscal year
 - a. Target – Minimum of top 50 local businesses
3. Measure – Determine trips based on shifts for employees with disabilities
 - a. Target – At least one transportation service provider operates during each shift of employees with disabilities they work

PRIORITY POINTS: 90

VI. Plan Adoption

The Holmes County Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan planning process:

- The Coordinated Transportation Plan was developed with assistance to senior population, people with a disability, members of the general public, and representatives from the public transit and human services agencies.
- The initial planning meeting with the Holmes County Commissioners to determine necessity of the plan was conducted on May 31, 2018.
- The initial stakeholders' meeting was conducted July 30, 2018 and included agencies and stakeholders that serve these populations above and established the Holmes County Planning Team.
- Holmes County planning team will meet to discuss necessary changes to the coordinated plan.
- Stakeholder meetings were scheduled by the transit planner and the lead agency
- Public Workshops were scheduled by the transit planner, lead agency, and hosted by the local library on August 29, 2018.
- Public surveys were distributed at the public meetings and an online link was provided.
- Surveys were sent to all stakeholders who were present at the meetings and emailed to all who were unable to attend.
- Goals and strategies were discussed and established, respectively, during the final stakeholders meeting on September 18, 2018.
- The coordinated plan, survey, and survey results were posted on OMEGA's website on the appropriate county transit page.
- There was one month from the last public meeting to provide comments and there was a 10-day period from the last stakeholder meeting for final comments to be submitted from the stakeholders.
- After the last stakeholder meeting, the plan will be finalized and sent as a draft to the Commissioners on November 5, 2018.

Appendix A:

List of Planning Committee Participants

The planning committee consists of representation from local agencies as well as participation of individuals with disabilities, senior citizens, and members of the general public. More information about the planning committee is available upon request.

Agency Representation

Name	Agency
Arnie Oliver	Holmes County Planning Commission
Misty Burns	Holmes County Commissioner's Office
Susan Schie	Holmes County Commissioner's Office
Ray Eyer	Holmes County Commissioner
Jeannette Wierzbicki	OMEGA
Kevin Buettner	OMEGA
Sean Sammon	OMEGA
Lisa Duvall	OMEGA
Laura Schlabach	Pomerene Hospital
Tara Martin	Pomerene Hospital
Marianne Mader	Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Sheri Martin	Lynn Hope Industries
Dan Jackson	Holmes County Job and Family Services
Pamella Semenyna	Holmes County Job and Family Services
Jason Brooks	Holmes County Veterans Office
Terri Coakley	KNOHOCO
Georgianna Cool	Holmes County Senior Center
Jennifer Citino	Member of the Public
Samantha SeEVERS	Member of the Public
Roger Masters	Precious Angel Transportation
Ken Frazier	Precious Angel Transportation
Penny Hamilton	Holmes County Council on Aging

More information about the efforts that occurred is available upon request. To request additional information please contact:

Sean Sammon

OMEGA

740.439.4471 ext. 212

ssammon@omegadistrict.org

Appendix B:

List of Annual Reviews and Plan Amendments

It is required that this plan be reviewed by the planning committee annually. For more information on when the next annual review will occur, how to be involved in the annual review process or to request information on how to make changes or corrections to this plan between annual reviews, please contact:

Sean Sammon

OMEGA

740.439.4471 ext. 212

ssammon@omegadistrict.org

Annual Review – November 2019

This is the initial coordinated plan for the Holmes County Coordinated Human Services Transportation and Public Transit Plan. The first annual review will occur November of 2019. Following the plan approval, the process for reviewing the plan annually will occur as follows:

- Update all demographic and statistical information to the present year
- Update all maps to match the present demographic data
- Update all transportation service provider information
 - the inventory
 - existing transportation services
 - organizational characteristics
 - service characteristics
 - expenses and revenues
 - active transportation options
 - resources
 - technology
 - vehicle utilization table
- Reassess all transportation needs and gaps
- Host at least two stakeholder and one public meetings
- Survey the public on existing transportation services
- Determine any new unmet mobility needs
 - Assess if identified and goals have been met
 - Reprioritize unmet needs based on implementation from original plan
- Reevaluate the goals and strategies from the general public and the transportation service providers

Amendment - TBD

This is the first version of the Holmes County Coordinated Transportation Plan. If the plan is amended, the information on how it has been amended will be included here.

Appendix C:
Definitions

There are several terms used throughout the plan that may be unique to transportation providers or human service agencies. The terms are defined here for reference.

AEO – Administering Emergency Oxygen, a safety training course for drivers to provide an understanding of how to safely handle and administer oxygen in various settings.

Coordination – Collaborative efforts toward understanding and meeting the mobility needs in the most appropriate, cost effective, and responsive manner.

CPI – Crisis Prevention Intervention, a safety training course for drivers that specializes in the safe management of disruptive and assaultive behavior.

D.R.I.V.E. – Diversity, Responsibility, Inclusion, Vision, and Experiential-learning, is a safety training course for drivers that focuses on creating a unique and age-appropriate educational experience that nurtures student’s social and academic growth. This program is a highly individualized education program for individuals with developmental disabilities to continue their education after high school in a collegiate environment.

FAST Act – Congress established the funding for Federal Transit Administration programs through authorizing legislation that amends Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the U.S. Code. On December 4, 2015, President Obama signed the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, reauthorizing surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020.

Gaps in Service – A break in the continuity of available transportation resources such as a break between hours of operation or a break between two or more geographic areas.

Lead Agency – The organization responsible for facilitating outreach; composing a plan that meets the requirements of current Federal and State legislation; maintaining documentation from the planning process and making it available upon request; and leading stakeholders through annual reviews, amendments, and updates of the plan. The Lead Agency also is responsible for submitting the adopted Coordinated Plan and all amendments or updates to participating stakeholders and ODOT.

Planning Committee – (indicate if the planning committee has another formal name) The Planning Committee is composed of key community stakeholders. The Planning Committee members agree to actively participate in the planning process and act as the plan advisory and adopting entity.

Ridership – The total number of passengers who boarded transportation vehicles are counted each time they board a vehicle.

Section 5310 Program – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (49 U.S.C. 5310) provides Federal formula funding for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. The program aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options.

Section 5311 Program – The Formula Grants for Rural Areas program provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to states to support public transportation in rural areas with populations of less than 50,000 where many residents often rely on public transit to reach their destinations. The program

also provides funding for state and national training and technical assistance through the Rural Transportation Assistance Program. Subrecipients may include state or local government authorities, nonprofit organizations, and operators of public transportation or intercity bus service.

Section 5307 Program – The Urbanized Area Formula Grants program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas and to governors for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning. An urbanized area is an incorporated area with a population of 50,000 or more.

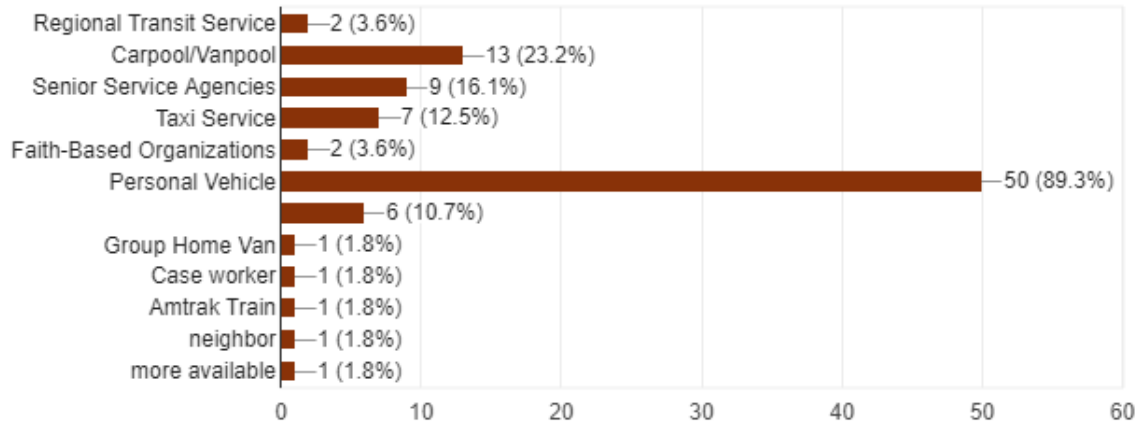
Transportation – Transportation is broadly defined to include traditional transit, human service agency services, on-demand (taxi-like) services, bicycle and pedestrian programs and amenities.

Unmet Transportation Needs – Transportation that is wanted or desired but is not currently available.

Appendix D:
Public Survey Results

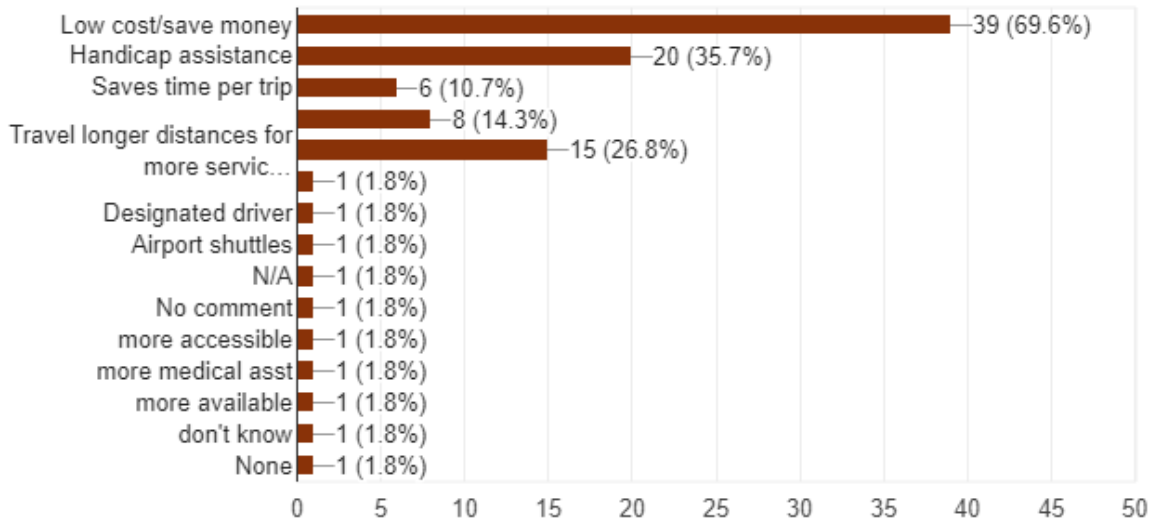
What transportation options have you or your family used in the last year? (Check all that apply)

56 responses



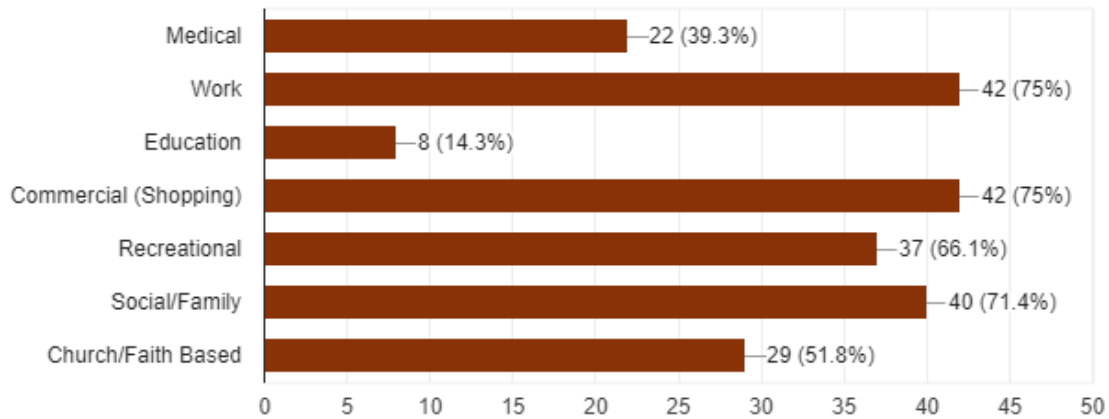
What would make using transportation service/public transit appealing to you? (Check all that apply)

56 responses



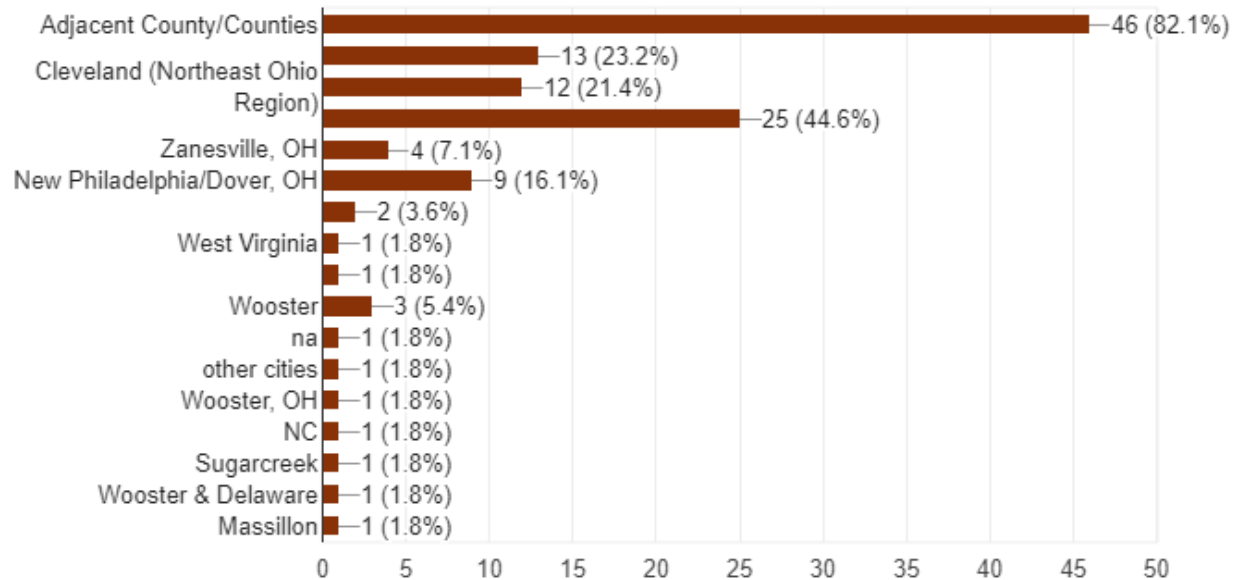
What types of trips do you take regularly throughout your week? (Check all that apply)

56 responses



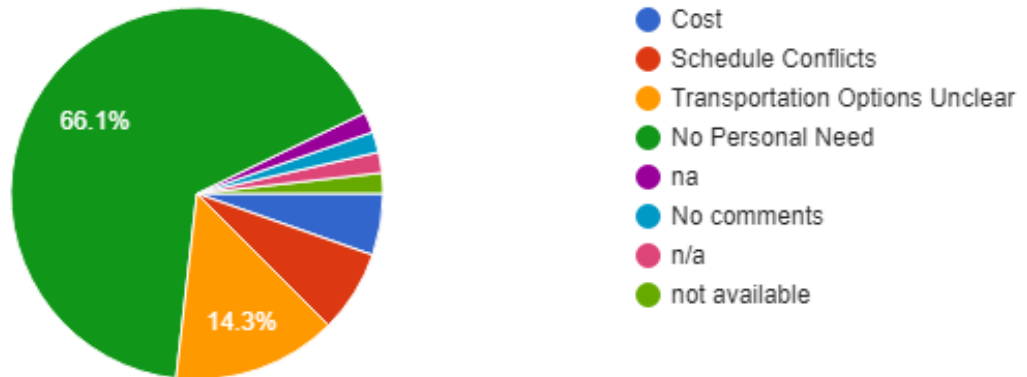
Outside of Holmes County, what destination do you frequent most?

56 responses



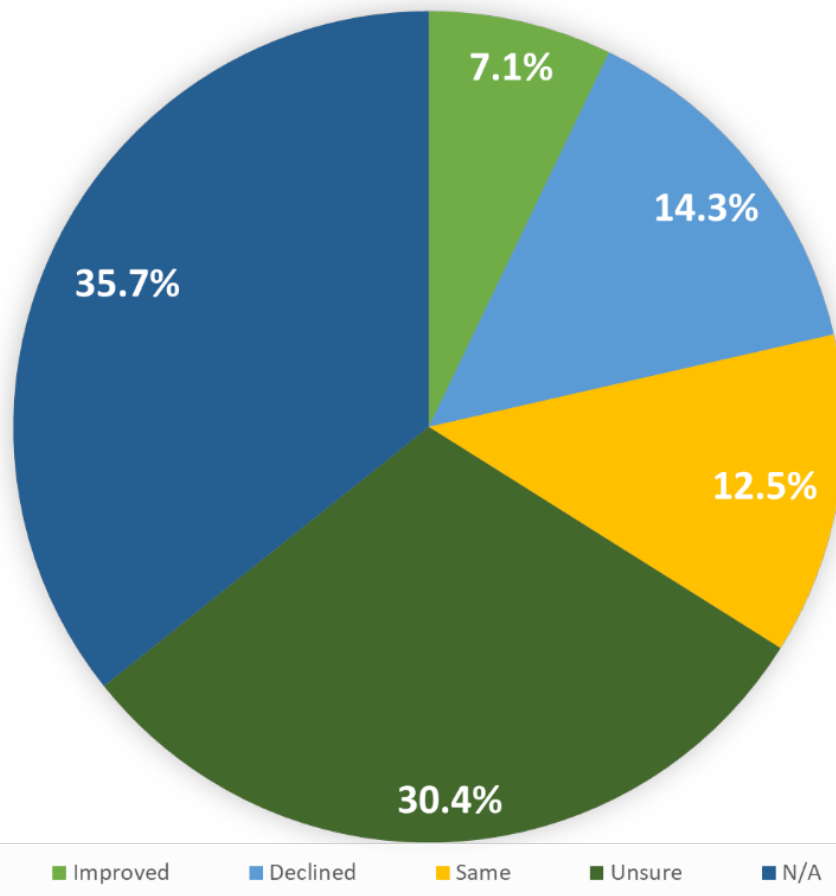
What prevents you from using transportation services on a regular basis?

56 responses



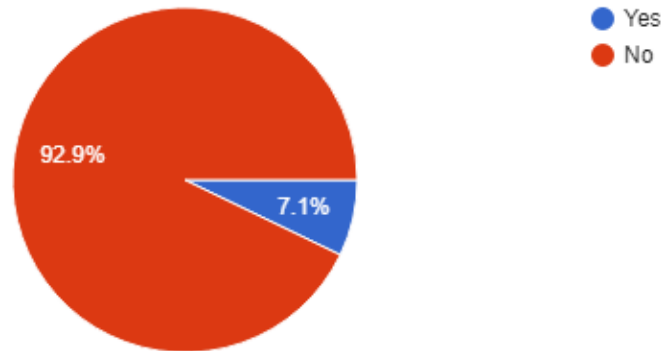
To your knowledge, how have conditions improved or declined regarding transportation service and/or public transit in Holmes County?

56 responses



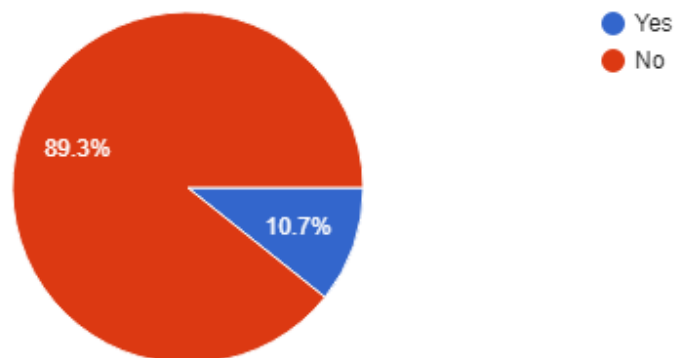
Do you have a disability that requires you to use a cane, walker, wheelchair, and/or another device to help you get around?

56 responses



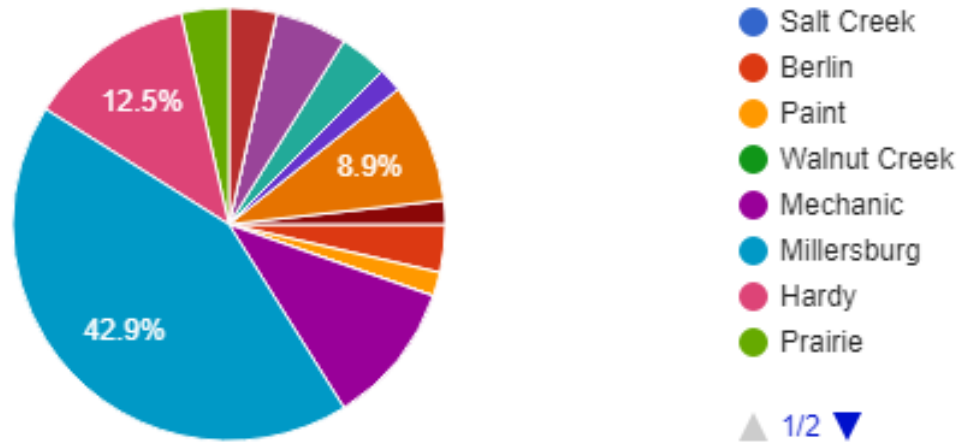
Are you or a family member currently using any transportation services that are available to you through the Medicaid Program?

56 responses



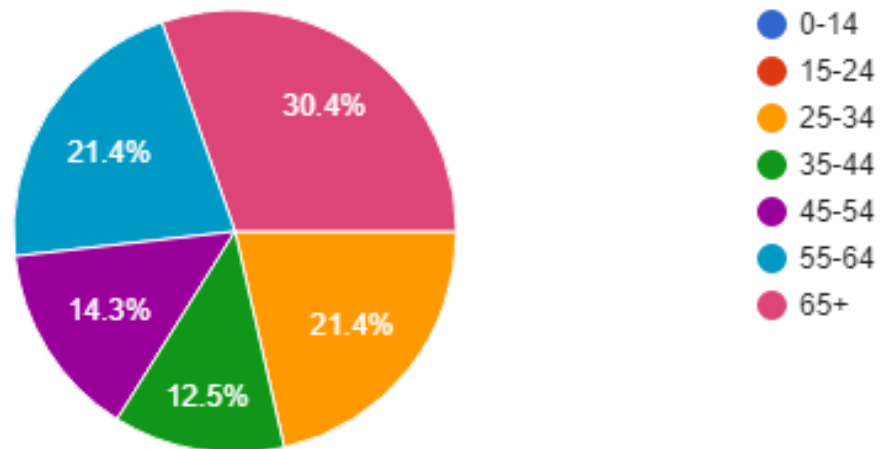
What is your township or village of residence?

56 responses

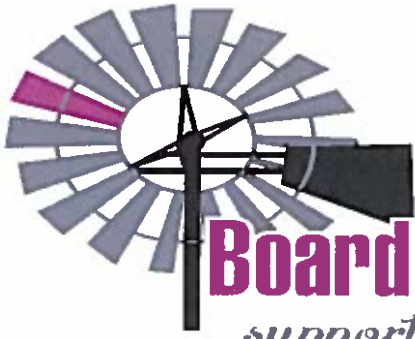


What is your age group?

56 responses



Appendix E:
Letter(s) of Support



H O L M E S C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities
supporting people in living meaningful lives

October 25, 2018

Sean Sammon, Transit Planner
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, OH 43725

Dear Sean,

The Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities supports more than 270 individuals with disabilities in Holmes County. One of the most frequent reasons given by people with disabilities for not working or not participating in community life is affordable, accessible transportation. As a participant in the Holmes County Coordinated Transportation Plan, I am writing to support implementation of this plan.

Thank you for working with Holmes County groups to develop a plan that can improve the quality of life of residents with disabilities and senior citizens.

Sincerely,

Marianne M. Mader
Superintendent

From: Olivia.Hook@dot.ohio.gov
To: Sean.Sammon; Arnie.Oliver
Cc: Blake.Williams@dot.ohio.gov
Subject: RE: transportation plan
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 2:06:02 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi Arnie,

Here is a comprehensive explanation that will helpfully help gain understanding from the commissioners. The coordinated plan will not financially obligate the commissioners. This is a document that ODOT uses to determine the need for funds when an agency applies for funding.

If an agency puts down the commissioners for local match for their 5311 or 5310 projects, they would need to get consent to do so.

For example: 5311 application local match form.

Local Match Sources	
Please define all local match sources that will be used for the projects you are applying for.	
Intercity Operating	
Intercity Project Administration	
Intercity Capital	
Intercity Ticketing	
Other	

Applicant Certification
By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances* and agree to comply with any

The 5310 Local Match form



Local Match Certification

I, the undersigned, representing _____, do hereby certify to the Ohio Department of Transportation that the required local match for the proposed project will be available in the following amount(s), from the following source(s) by the start date of the proposed project.

Requested Items	Qty.	Total Cost (Estimation)	Federal Share	Local Share	Funding Source(s) (be specific)
Vehicles	3	196,842.00	157,473	39,369	Local Tax Dollars
Computer Hardware/Software	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communications Equipment	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Capitalized Maintenance		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mobility Management		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Operating		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Only the subrecipient is responsible for finding local match, maintaining vehicle maintenance and all vehicle reporting. The parties obligated are the ones on the contract, not the commissioners. County funds will not be effected by the coordinated plan or 5310/5311/mobility management applicants.

And no funds are needed to fund a transit coordinator in a different county. The only difference the commissioners will notice is that the county will have a new coordinated plan that will open doors for the agencies to apply for federal funding. This will not affect their budget UNLESS they make an agreement with an agency to provide local funds. But that would have to involve getting concern from the commissioners, which I'm sure they will see coming.

Hopefully this helps you to explain the process to them. If I can help at all, please let me know.

I would be happy to write a letter for you to put the commissioners minds at ease. Please let me know if you would prefer one.

Olivia

Olivia Hook

ODOT, Office of Transit
614.466.8957

Appendix F:

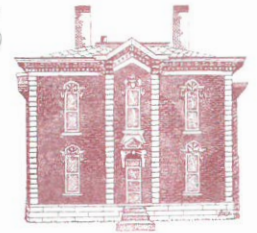
Holmes County Transportation Plan Resolution

#12-13-18-18



HOLMES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2 COURT STREET, SUITE 14
MILLERSBURG, OHIO 44654-2001
PHONE (330) 674-0286 FAX (330) 674-0566
E-MAIL: HCC@CO.HOLMES.OH.US



Resolution # 12-13-18-18

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HOLMES COUNTY COORDINATED PUBLIC SERVICES TRANSIT/HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Board of Holmes County Commissioners have received from the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) and in conjunction with the Holmes County Planning Commission, who is the lead agency, a Holmes County Coordinated Public Services Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Plan is to identify community resources for transportation and mobility, to understand the gaps unmet needs and to determine the approach to address these gaps; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the federal law, this Plan was developed through a process that included participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private and nonprofit transportation and human service providers and other members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners have reviewed this Plan;

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Transportation will use this Plan to ensure that the projects selected for funding through the Specialized (Section 5310) Transportation Program are addressing the gaps and unmet transportation needs of the County; and

WHEREAS, upon approval of this Plan by the Board of Holmes County Commissioners, there will be no liability and no funding obligation from the Board of Holmes County Commissioners;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners hereby signs and approves the Holmes County Coordinated Public Services Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan.

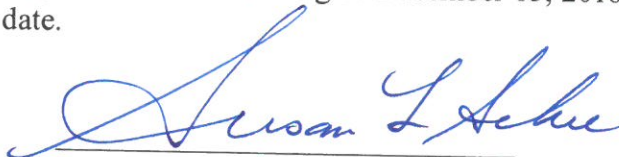
Mr. *Miller* moved for adoption of the preceding Resolution. Mr. *Fyler* seconded the motion. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Rob Ault *Rob Ault* yes/no

Raymond Eyer *Raymond Eyer* yes/no

Joe D. Miller *Joe D. Miller* yes/no

The below signed Clerk to the Board hereby certifies that the preceding Resolution is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted during the regular business meeting of December 13, 2018 and recorded in Commissioners Journal 50 under that date.



Susan L. Schie, Clerk to the Board
Holmes County Board of Commissioners