



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

## Thomas County

## Table of Contents

<b>Youth Level</b>	3
Distribution of the Population Age 10-17 by Race/Ethnicity and Gender (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>	3
School Membership by Race/ Ethnicity and School Year (2014-2019)	4
Chronic Absenteeism by Race/Ethnicity and School Year (2014 - 2019) <sup>b</sup>	4
Disabilities, English Proficiency, Eligibility for Free/Reduced Lunch and School Year (2014 – 2019) <sup>b</sup>	5
Nebraska Public High School 4-Year Graduation Rates by County (5-year estimates, 2015-2019) <sup>c</sup>	5
Youth Who Report Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>	5
Youth Who Report Gang Involvement by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>	6
Arrest Rates for Adults and Juveniles for 2018 and 2019 with Percent Change <sup>f</sup>	7
Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2015 - 2017) <sup>g</sup>	7
Racial and Ethnic Disparities Descriptives (2015-2019) <sup>i</sup>	7
<b>Family Level</b>	9
Poverty/SES, Educational Attainment, Technology and Computers in Home, Housing, and Transportation (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>	9
Youth Who Report Supportive Adults by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>	10
Domestic Violence Reports and Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means (2019) <sup>h</sup>	10
Child Abuse and Neglect Reports (2018) <sup>i</sup>	10
<b>Community Level</b>	11
Community Violence Measured by Arrests for Violent Crime (2019) <sup>j</sup>	11
Youth Perceptions of Community Attitudes on Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>	11
Juvenile Court Record Sealing Analysis (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>	12
<b>Policy, Legal and System Level</b>	13
Percent of Youth in Juvenile Court Who Had Access to Counsel (2018) <sup>n</sup>	13
Frequency of Youth with a Curfew Violation (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>	14
Court Filing for 3A, 3B, and 3C cases (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>	14
County Diversion Procedures and Protocols Compared to Statewide Responses (2020) <sup>o</sup>	14
<b>Community Team Level</b>	16
Collective Impact Survey Response Rates <sup>p</sup>	16
Collective Impact Survey Scores <sup>p</sup>	16
Community Planning Team Diversity <sup>p</sup>	17
<b>References and Resources</b>	19



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

**JUVENILE JUSTICE INSTITUTE**

**EVIDENCE-BASED**  
NEBRASKA

**COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021**

**Appendix: Sealed Court Records by Year .....21**



## Youth Level

- While we could not get race/ethnicity data for chronic absenteeism in this community because the frequency was too low to report, Hispanic, Native American, and Black youth are over-represented statewide in chronic absenteeism.
- In recent years, there were more youth under IDEA in Thomas County compared to the state.
- Thomas County has more youth who qualify for free/reduced lunch compared to the state.
- Thomas County is ranked #1 for graduation rates.
- This community has not participated in the NRPFS and should consider participating in the next survey year (2020) to get youth-level data on mental health, gangs, supportive adults and community perceptions of substance use.
- Arrests for all age groups have increased from 2018 to 2019, while under 18 “arrests” have decreased. With such small frequencies, this increase in the all age group category should be taken with caution
- JJI did not have risk assessment scores for diversion from the 2015-2017 assessment evaluation to include. If the county is not using a validated assessment tool, then it should begin doing so (there will be a statewide tool coming in July 2021). If the county does have assessment data in digital format for JJI to analyze, we would be happy to update this table
- Law enforcement data by race and ethnicity would be very beneficial to have a clearer picture of RED. Although the Census and school data indicate few Hispanic youth, they are over-represented in successful probation completion and probation RAI overrides.
  - One court case filed in adult court is missing race/ethnicity.

Table 1.

Distribution of the Population Age 10-17 by Race/Ethnicity and Gender (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

### Males

Geographic Area	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	108,494	70.4%	16.2%	5.7%	1.4%	2.0%	4.4%
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>77.8%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>

### Females

Geographic Area	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	102,658	70.4%	16.2%	5.7%	1.4%	2.0%	4.4%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Thomas	16	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
--------	----	--------	------	------	------	------	------

[Click here to go back to RED analysis](#)

Table 2.

School Membership by Race/ Ethnicity and School Year (2014-2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-2015	Thomas	114	0.88%	0.0%	0.0%	2.63%	0.0%	96.49%	0.0%
	Nebraska	312,281	17.74%	2.43%	1.42%	6.70%	0.13%	68.20%	3.38%
2015-2016	Thomas	112	0.0%	0.0%	0.89%	3.57%	0.0%	95.54%	0.0%
	Nebraska	315,542	18.08%	2.53%	1.38%	6.67%	0.14%	67.72%	3.47%
2016-2017	Thomas	112	0.0%	0.0%	0.89%	2.68%	0.0%	96.43%	0.0%
	Nebraska	318,853	18.61%	2.66%	1.38%	6.69%	0.15%	66.92%	3.59%
2017-2018	Thomas	115	0.0%	0.0%	0.87%	6.09%	0.0%	93.04%	0.0%
	Nebraska	323,391	18.80%	2.76%	1.35%	6.67%	0.14%	66.50%	3.78%
2018-2019	Thomas	128	1.56%	0.0%	0.0%	4.69%	0.0%	93.75%	0.0%
	Nebraska	325,984	19.13%	2.83%	1.33%	6.63%	0.15%	66.02%	3.91%

Table 3.

Chronic Absenteeism by Race/Ethnicity and School Year (2014 - 2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Youth with Chronic Absenteeism	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-2015	Thomas	11	*	*	*	*	*	100.0%	*
	Nebraska	35,638	24.54%	1.64%	4.42%	12.93%	0.19%	51.61%	4.68%
2015-2016	Thomas	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Nebraska	38,812	25.73%	1.55%	4.27%	13.68%	0.27%	49.68%	4.83%
2016-2017	Thomas	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Nebraska	42,290	26.90%	1.66%	4.40%	14.22%	0.24%	47.66%	4.92%
2017-2018	Thomas	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Nebraska	46,365	26.81%	1.77%	4.18%	14.49%	0.22%	47.37%	2389
2018-2019	Thomas	14	*	*	*	*	*	100.0%	*
	Nebraska	46,356	27.64%	1.76%	4.16%	14.71%	0.23%	46.27%	5.23%

Per the Nebraska Department of Education, the \* represents masked data, which they define as 10 or fewer students, for the confidentiality of the students



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 4.

Disabilities, English Proficiency, Eligibility for Free/Reduced Lunch and School Year (2014 – 2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	IDEA	504 Plan	Limited English Proficiency	Free/Reduced Lunch
2014-2015	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>9.65%</b>	*	*	<b>50.88%</b>
	Nebraska	312,281	13.66%	0.76%	5.97%	44.53%
2015-2016	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>11.61%</b>	*	*	<b>47.32%</b>
	Nebraska	315,542	13.64%	0.90%	5.90%	44.23%
2016-2017	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>16.96%</b>	*	*	<b>42.86%</b>
	Nebraska	318,853	13.80%	0.93%	6.99%	44.76%
2017-2018	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>22.61%</b>	*	*	<b>54.78%</b>
	Nebraska	323,391	15.87%	0.88%	6.59%	46.24%
2018-2019	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>21.09%</b>	*	*	<b>49.22%</b>
	Nebraska	325,984	16.13%	0.85%	6.78%	45.42%

Per the Nebraska Department of Education, the \* represents masked data, which they define as 10 or fewer students, for the confidentiality of the students

Table 5.

Nebraska Public High School 4-Year Graduation Rates by County (5-year estimates, 2015-2019) <sup>c</sup>

County	Total in Last 5 Years		Yearly Averages		Graduation Rate	Rank
	Graduates	Students	Graduates	Students		
Nebraska	100,111	112,857	20,022.2	22,571.4	88.7%	-
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1</b>

Data are only for public school districts and their associated high schools. The figures are aggregated based on the location of the school, not the residential location of the student. The figures for Dawes County are impacted by a vocational school where graduation rates are less than 25%; in the rest of the county graduation rates equal 93%.

Table 6.

Youth Who Report Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Thomas</b>	Loss of sleep from worry	--	--	--
Nebraska		18.0%	20.6%	21.6%
<b>Thomas</b>	Depressed	--	--	--
Nebraska		31.1%	34.8%	35.3%
<b>Thomas</b>	Considered/Attempted suicide	--	--	--



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Nebraska		22.9%	18.2%	16.2%
<b>Thomas</b>	Current alcohol	--	--	--
Nebraska		9.8%	20.1%	34.2%
<b>Thomas</b>	Current binge drinking	--	--	--
Nebraska		1.3%	6.2%	15.0%
<b>Thomas</b>	Current marijuana	--	--	--
Nebraska		3.0%	7.3%	13.9%
<b>Thomas</b>	Current tobacco	--	--	--
Nebraska		3.7%	8.0%	15.3%
<b>Thomas</b>	Current vaping	--	--	--
Nebraska		10.4%	24.7%	37.3%
<b>Thomas</b>	Hopeful for future (past week)	--	--	--
Nebraska		78.0%	76.1%	77.6%

**\*\*JJI is currently waiting for the legal team at DHHS to approve providing this data**

Table 7.

Juveniles Referred to Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 8.

Juveniles Referred to Services by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Mental Health Diagnosis <sup>e</sup>

Table 9.

Juveniles Who Utilized Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 10.

Types of Services Utilized <sup>e</sup>

Table 11.

Youth Who Report Gang Involvement by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Thomas</b>	Youth Reported Gang Involvement	--	--	--
Nebraska		3.8%	4.4%	3.8%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 12.

Arrest Rates for Adults and Juveniles for 2018 and 2019 with Percent Change <sup>f</sup>

Arrestee Age	All Arrestee Ages			Under 18		
Summary Arrest Date	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %
Jurisdiction by Geography	THOMAS COUNTY					
Arrest Offense						
Total	7	13	85.71	3	1	-66.67
Drug Violations - Sale/Manufacturing	--	2	--	--	0	--
Drug Violations - Possession	1	2	100.00	0	0	--
Driving Under the Influence	1	3	200.00	0	0	--
Liquor Laws	5	6	20.00	3	1	-66.67

Table 13a.

Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2015 - 2017) <sup>g</sup>

	Thomas			All NYS Counties		
Score	0	1	2	0	1	2
Family Circumstance/Parenting				60.1%	26.7%	13.1%
Education/Employment				43.0%	44.0%	13.1%
Peer Relationships				44.7%	46.6%	8.6%
Substance Use				61.4%	30.3%	8.3%
Leisure/Recreation				50.6%	33.0%	16.5%
Personality/Behavior				50.1%	39.4%	10.4%
Attitudes/Orientation				61.3%	33.7%	5.0%
Mean Score				M = 5.64, SD = 3.65, 0-17		

Could not compute because county did not have any risk assessments completed

Table 14.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities Descriptives (2015-2019) <sup>i</sup>[Click here to see Census and School Population Data](#)

\*Data were not separated by year because there were too few cases



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	0*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth enrolled in diversion	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Successful completion diversion	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth with multiple charges	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Filed on in adult court	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%
RAI Override: More Severe	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
RAI Override: Less Severe	1	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Probation intake	1	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Successful probation	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Revocation of probation	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

\*Thomas County sheriff did not report to NCC 2015 - 2018





## Family Level

- Thomas County has higher rates of youth below 185% poverty compared to the state.
- Number of adults with bachelor's degrees is lower than the state average; it may be possible that residents who go to college outside of Thomas County find employment where they go to school and do not return to Thomas County.
- Youth in Thomas County have access to computers and internet at home at higher rates than the state (ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the state for computers and internet in the home)
- Thomas County has a very low rate of households without a vehicle available.

Table 15.

Poverty/SES, Educational Attainment, Technology and Computers in Home, Housing, and Transportation (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

		Thomas	Nebraska
<b>Poverty/SES</b>	Children <18 in Poverty	<b>12.3%</b>	14.8%
	Number of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	<b>17</b>	43,814
	% of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	<b>36.2%</b>	28.9%
<b>Educational attainment</b>	Age 25+ with B.D.	<b>24.0%</b>	31.3%
	County Rank	<b>24</b>	-
	Age 25+ with some college, no degree	<b>28.9%</b>	23.0%
	County Rank	<b>14</b>	-
	Age 25+ with HS degree	<b>92.5%</b>	91.1%
	County Rank	<b>47</b>	-
<b>Technology and computers in the home</b>	% under 18 with a computer at home	<b>100%</b>	96.9%
	County Rank	<b>1</b>	-
	% under 18 with an internet subscription at home	<b>100%</b>	91.0%
	County Rank	<b>1</b>	-
	% under 18 with broadband internet access at home	<b>100%</b>	90.8%
	County Rank	<b>1</b>	-



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

<b>Housing</b>	Owner-occupied households	<b>212</b>	498,567
	Total households	<b>292</b>	754,063
	Owner %	<b>72.6%</b>	66.1%
	Renters	<b>80</b>	255,496
	Renter %	<b>27.4%</b>	33.9%
<b>Transportation</b>	Households with no vehicle available	<b>1</b>	40,465
	Total households	<b>292</b>	754,063
	No vehicle %	<b>0.3%</b>	5.4%

Table 16.  
Youth Who Report Supportive Adults by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Thomas</b>	Adult at home who listens	--	--	--
Nebraska		87.3%	85.0%	85.6%
<b>Thomas</b>	Adult at school who listens	--	--	--
Nebraska		85.2%	85.0%	87.4%

Table 17.  
Domestic Violence Reports and Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means (2019) <sup>h</sup>

	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Reported	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means	Simple Domestic Assaults Reported	Simple Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Nebraska	562	402	3512	2019

Table 18.  
Child Abuse and Neglect Reports (2018) <sup>i</sup>

	Abuse/Neglect Calls	Reports Assessed	Substantiated	Unfounded
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33.3%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Nebraska	36,480	33.4%	16.0%	68.3%



## Community Level

- Juvenile record sealing is not “automatic” even if statute requires it to seal. Sealing a record requires administrative staff to initiate the process. Dismissed or dropped cases should be sealed at a rate of 100%. All others should be sealed at the rate to which youth successfully complete their court requirements (completion of diversion, probation, restorative practice, or other treatment). Yearly data is available in the Appendix to see if the rate has improved because of legislation, but newer cases should naturally have lower rates of sealing than older cases.
  - Thomas County has sealed all dismissed or dropped cases in the past 5 years
- Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) analysis. The court trial database (JUSTICE) has a high rate of missing data by race/ethnicity in this county.

Table 19.

Community Violence Measured by Arrests for Violent Crime (2019) <sup>j</sup>

Type of Violence	Thomas	Nebraska
Murder and Nonnegligent manslaughter	--	34
Rape	--	264
Robbery	--	367
Aggravated Assault	--	1,639
Other Assaults	--	8,782

Table 20.

Youth Perceptions of Community Attitudes on Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Thomas</b>	Wrong/very wrong – Marijuana	--	--	--
Nebraska		94.4%	89.8%	85.2%
<b>Thomas</b>	Wrong/very wrong – alcohol	--	--	--
Nebraska		89.1%	80.4%	68.7%
<b>Thomas</b>	Wrong/very wrong – cigarettes	--	--	--
Nebraska		92.9%	89.0%	78.7%



Table 21.

Juvenile Court Record Sealing Analysis (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>see [Appendix for yearly data](#)

	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	3	3	100%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	4	5	80.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	7	8	87.5%

\*Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not available data points in in JUSTICE. All cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis



## Policy, Legal and System Level

- There are no juvenile court cases in 2018 to look at access to counsel.
- There are no curfew and 3A, 3B, and 3C filings in court so the community is diverting appropriately or have few citations for these offenses.
- At the time of this needs assessment Thomas County does not have a juvenile diversion program, as such, did not complete the survey.
- With respect to diversion practices, the community may want to consider a few things:
  - Not filing all unsuccessful cases, if the youth completed most of the diversion plan
  - Allowing warning letters for the lowest risk youth
  - Comparing diversion fees to court costs so they are comparable. With a higher proportion of children <18 in poverty, perhaps offering scholarships.
  - Having a process for sealing records for youth on diversion with law enforcement and JCMS, as required by statute.

Table 22.

Percent of Youth in Juvenile Court Who Had Access to Counsel (2018) <sup>n</sup>

	Thomas	Nebraska
Access to Counsel	No Juvenile Court Cases	73.5%

**Neb. Rev. 43-272.** Right to counsel; appointment; payment; guardian ad litem; appointment; when; duties; standards for guardians ad litem; standards for attorneys who practice in juvenile court.

(1)(a) In counties having a population of less than one hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, when any juvenile shall be brought without counsel before a juvenile court, the court shall advise such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian of their right to retain counsel and shall inquire of such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian as to whether they desire to retain counsel.

(b) In counties having a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more inhabitants, when any juvenile court petition is filed alleging jurisdiction of a juvenile pursuant to subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247, counsel shall be appointed for such juvenile.



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 23.

Frequency of Youth with a Curfew Violation (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

	Thomas	Nebraska
Curfew Court Filing	0	352

Table 24.

Court Filing for 3A, 3B, and 3C cases (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

	Thomas					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
3B - Uncontrollable	0	0	0	0	0	0
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Nebraska					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	2	0	2	3	7
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	96	510	493	423	475	1997
3B - Uncontrollable	47	118	125	119	82	491
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	22	48	37	22	23	306

Table 25.

County Diversion Procedures and Protocols Compared to Statewide Responses (2020) <sup>o</sup>

	Thomas	Nebraska *
Refer ALL juveniles who are first time offenders to diversion	--	Yes: 27.3% No: 63.6% Not sure: 9.1%
File a juvenile's charges at the time of the referral to diversion	--	Yes: 18.2% No: 70.5% Not sure: 11.4%
File a juvenile's charges if they are unsuccessful on diversion	--	Always: 47.7% Sometimes: 47.7% Not sure: 4.5%
Allow a juvenile to complete diversion more than once	--	Yes: 61.4% No: 34.1% Not sure: 4.5%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Charges/offenses that make a juvenile ineligible for diversion	--	Yes: 86.4% No: 9.1% Not sure: 4.5%
Warning letters instead of intervention	--	Yes: 27.3% No: 61.4% Not sure: 11.4%
Currently drug test	--	Yes: 31.8% No: 65.9% Not sure: 2.3%
Fees beyond restitution	--	Yes: 86.4% No: 13.6% Not sure: 0.0%
Use of graduated responses prior to discharge	--	Yes: 47.7% No: 25.0% Not sure: 27.3%
Sealing diversion records	--	Yes: 59.1% No: 22.7% Not sure: 18.2%

\*responses included 44 juvenile diversion programs; representing 68 counties/tribe (91.9% response rate)



## Community Team Level

- Thomas County did not receive CBA funding in either 2019 or 2020 when the two Collective Impact surveys were completed, as such, there is no data available.

Table 26.  
Collective Impact Survey Response Rates <sup>P</sup>

			Nebraska	
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020
Number of surveys sent	--	--	1407	780
Number of completed surveys	--	--	221	345
Response rate	--	--	28.3%	24.5%

Table 27.  
Collective Impact Survey Scores <sup>P</sup>

			Nebraska	
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020
	Mean Score		Mean Score	
Common agenda	--	--	5.29	5.69
Mutually reinforcing	--	--	5.37	5.50
Shared measurement	--	--	5.21	5.45
Continuous communication	--	--	5.49	5.55
Backbone agency	--	--	5.52	5.78

The five elements of Collective Impact are:

- **Common agenda:** Participants have a shared vision and common understanding of both the problem and potential solutions to that problem.
- **Mutually reinforcing activities:** Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.





## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

- **Shared measurement:** Collecting data and measuring results consistently across all participants ensures efforts remain aligned and participants hold each other accountable.
- **Continuous communication:** Consistent and open communication is needed across stakeholders to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and create common motivation.
- **Backbone support:** Creating and managing Collective Impact often requires a separate organization(s) with staff and a specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and to coordinate participating organizations <sup>q</sup>

Table 28.

Community Planning Team Diversity <sup>p</sup>

			Nebraska	
	N =	(%)	N = 345	(%)
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	--	--	101	29.3%
Female	--	--	229	66.4%
Missing	--	--	15	4.3%
<b>Age</b>				
Under 30	--	--	19	5.6%
30-39	--	--	68	19.6%
40-49	--	--	88	25.4%
50-59	--	--	90	25.8%
60 and over	--	--	44	13%
Missing	--	--	36	10.4%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	--	--	230	66.7%
Black	--	--	10	2.9%
Hispanic	--	--	13	3.8%
Native American	--	--	6	1.7%
Asian	--	--	1	0.3%
Other	--	--	2	0.6%
Provided town name	--	--	63	18.3%
Missing	--	--	19	5.5%
<b>Previous System Involvement</b>				
Yes	--	--	98	28.4%
No	--	--	242	70.1%
Missing	--	--	5	1.4%
<b>System Point*</b>				
Law enforcement	--	--	34	7.8%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

County attorney/ juvenile court	--	--	32	7.3%
K-12 or secondary education	--	--	65	14.9%
Ministry/faith based	--	--	10	2.3%
Diversion	--	--	55	12.6%
Probation	--	--	31	7.1%
Public defender/ defense counsel/ guardian ad litem	--	--	8	1.8%
DHHS or Child Welfare	--	--	13	3.0%
Treatment provider	--	--	40	9.2%
Post adjudication or detention	--	--	8	1.8%
Community based program	--	--	109	25.0%
Elected official or government	--	--	6	1.4%
Restorative practices	--	--	6	1.4%
Backbone or system improvement	--	--	3	0.7%
Other	--	--	16	3.7%
<b>Voice on Team</b>				
Feel heard	--	--	270	78.3%
Do not feel heard	--	--	75	21.7%

\*note. Team members could have selected more than one system point; as such, they do not add up to 100%



## References and Resources

- <sup>a</sup> **Population data:** Table B01001 race series, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Youth employment:** Table B23001, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Poverty/SES:** Table B10724, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Technology in household:** Table B28005, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20
- <sup>a</sup> **Home owner/transportation:** Table B25045, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20
- <sup>a</sup> **Education attainment:** Table B15002, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020
- <sup>b</sup> **School membership, chronic absenteeism, student disability, and free/reduced lunch:** Prepared by  
Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education
- <sup>c</sup> **Graduation rates:** Special Tabulation by Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 7-24-2020
- <sup>d</sup> **Mental health, Substance use, gang, and community perceptions of substance use:** Bureau of  
Sociological Research, Nebraska Risk and Protective Factors Survey:  
<https://bosr.unl.edu/current-nrpfss-county-level-data>
- <sup>e</sup> **Referral to and utilization of services:** Department of Health and Human Services
- <sup>f</sup> **Adult and juvenile arrests:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:  
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>
- <sup>g</sup> Diversion programs
- <sup>h</sup> **Domestic violence:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Domestic Assault:  
[https://ncc.nebraska.gov/sites/ncc.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2019%20Domestic%20Assault%20and%20Arrest%20by%20County\\_0.pdf](https://ncc.nebraska.gov/sites/ncc.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2019%20Domestic%20Assault%20and%20Arrest%20by%20County_0.pdf)
- <sup>i</sup> **Child abuse and neglect:** Department of Health and Human Services, Child Abuse and Neglect Annual Data  
Calendar Year 2018, retrieved from [Child Abuse and Neglect Annual Data Report - 2019](#)
- <sup>j</sup> **Community violence:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:  
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>
- <sup>k</sup> **Distance to detention facility:** Google Maps



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

<sup>l</sup> **Racial and ethnic disparities:** Prepared by Mitch Herian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln with data provided by:

Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:

<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>

Nebraska Crime Commission, Juvenile Case Management System

Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

Nebraska Judicial Branch, Juvenile Services Division

<sup>m</sup> **Court Filings and Juvenile Record Sealing:** Data provided by the Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute on 9-1-20

<sup>n</sup> **Access to Counsel:** Kids Count in Nebraska Report, Voices for Children, retrieved from:  
[www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount](http://www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount). Data originally from Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

<sup>o</sup> **Diversion procedures and protocols:** Diversion survey distributed to Juvenile Diversion programs, 2020. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

<sup>p</sup> **Collective impact:** Collective impact surveys distributed to Community Planning Teams, 2019 and 2020. Prepared by: Anne Hobbs and Erin Wasserburger, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

<sup>q</sup> **Collective Impact Elements:** Kania, J., & Kramer, M. (2011). Collective Impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.

**Appendix: Sealed Court Records by Year**

\*Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not available data points in in JUSTICE. All cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis

<b>2015</b>	<b>Number of charges Sealed</b>	<b>Total Number of charges</b>	<b>Sealed (%)</b>
Dismissed or Dropped	--	--	--
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	--	--	--

<b>2016</b>	<b>Number of charges Sealed</b>	<b>Total Number of charges</b>	<b>Sealed (%)</b>
Dismissed or Dropped	--	--	--
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	--	--	--

<b>2017</b>	<b>Number of charges Sealed</b>	<b>Total Number of charges</b>	<b>Sealed (%)</b>
Dismissed or Dropped	--	--	--
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	--	--	--

<b>2018</b>	<b>Number of charges Sealed</b>	<b>Total Number of charges</b>	<b>Sealed (%)</b>
Dismissed or Dropped	3	3	100%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	4	4	100%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	7	7	100%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2019	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	--	--	--
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	0	1	0.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	0	1	0.0%