Third grade reading scores are predictive of both graduation and incarceration rates. Both locally and statewide, the proportion of third-graders reading at grade-level is falling.

Countywide, 41,544 students qualified for low and reduced-cost meals. The majority of these students live in the Lewisville and Denton school districts.

40,571 Denton County students are at risk of dropping out of school
Families

Across Denton County: 47,340 adults live in poverty

Female head of household families with children under the age of 18 had the highest poverty rates, at least twice that of all other family types.

More than 80% of women and children experiencing homelessness have been victims of domestic abuse.

Fast-growing Senior Population

95% of senior healthcare costs are related to chronic illnesses

To view the entire Community Needs Assessment visit UnitedWayDenton.org/Needs
Veterans

Denton County is a popular destination for Veterans, especially those putting their GI Bill benefits to use at UNT, TWU and NCTC.

Over 6,000 (15%) Veterans in Denton County meet criteria for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and substance abuse disorders.

After adjusting for differences in age and gender, risk for suicide was 21% higher among Veterans when compared to U.S. civilian adults.

To view the entire Community Needs Assessment visit UnitedWayDenton.org/Needs
Homelessness is hounded by myths, including the assumption that all who experience homelessness are unemployed. In fact, half the people experiencing homelessness in Denton County work in some capacity or another and still live without a roof over their head.

Our community’s latest Point-in-Time count found that on any given day an estimated 200-plus people experience homelessness in Denton County. The data isn’t perfect, which is why United Way of Denton County is spearheading efforts to improve our data collection.

Homelessness often manifests as a cycle, reflected in the strong correlation between the most common causes of homelessness and most common needs of people experiencing homelessness.

To view the entire Community Needs Assessment visit UnitedWayDenton.org/Needs
Health & Mental Health

An estimated 19.8% of Denton County residents will experience mental illness in a year.

Diagnosed mental illness in children is on the rise in Denton County 6.4% in 2009 to 7.7% in 2015

Homelessness and Mental Health

59.7%
Percent of Texans with a mental illness who did not receive treatment.

$241,756,966
Average annual cost of preventable hospitalization in Denton County, 2011-2014

36,314
Number of Denton County residents with a disability who couldn’t see a doctor due to the cost of medical care

Mental illness and behavioral health issues are both a cause and a symptom of experiencing homelessness.

To view the entire Community Needs Assessment visit UnitedWayDenton.org/Needs
Denton County is one of the fastest growing communities in the nation. An Oxford Economics study ranked Denton County as the top growing county in the nation for 2017-2021. By 2050, the US Census Bureau projects that Denton County will more than triple in size with more than 3 million people living within our county, far surpassing both present-day Dallas and Fort Worth. With such exciting growth comes not only great opportunity, but great challenge - the needs of our community have grown as well.

Across Denton County, cities and towns are seeing enormous growth as housing developments spring up on cheap land close to major highways leading into Dallas and Fort Worth.

To view the entire Community Needs Assessment visit UnitedWayDenton.org/Needs
How do we meet the challenges that no single organization can solve on their own?

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

“No single organization is responsible for any major social problem, nor can any single organization cure it. Complex problems can be solved only by cross-sector coalitions.”

– Stanford Social Innovation Review

COMMON AGENDA
Moving coalitions towards the same goal through shared vision and joint action

SHARED MEASUREMENT
Tracking the same metrics to align efforts and understand true outcomes

MUTUALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES
Leveraging each organization’s perspective and expertise to strengthen the coalition

CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATION
Ensuring trust and cooperation through consistent and open communication

BACKBONE SUPPORT
Uniting the coalition through coordination by a trusted backbone organization

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