

County Levers to Drive Economic Mobility: How Counties are Increasing the Prosperity of Their Residents

March 3, 2022



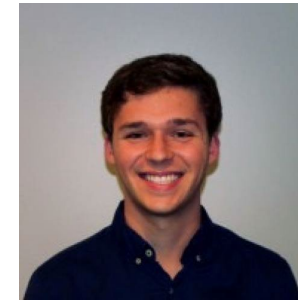
Today's Agenda



- **Stacy Nakintu**
Research and Data Analyst
National Association of Counties



- **Kevin Shrawder**
Associate Economist
National Association of Counties



- **Hon. Kevin L. Boyce**
Commissioner
Franklin County, Ohio

- **Hon. Larry Nelson**
Supervisor
Waukesha County, Wis.



- **Open Q&A**

Reminders and Tips

- This webinar is being recorded and will be made available online to view later or review at www.naco.org/webinars.
- If you have a question for any of our speakers today, type your question into the chat at any time during the presentation, and the moderator will read the question on your behalf during the Q&A session.
- If you are having technical difficulties, please send us a message via the chat function. Our organizer will reply to you privately and help resolve the issue.

Economic Mobility Leadership Network (EMLN) Goals

- Engage on economic mobility issues and assess the current barriers to mobility
- Share scalable and transferable programs across the country
- Inform and structure future research and programming on economic mobility

Economic Mobility: the ability of an individual, family or some other group to improve (or lower) their economic status—usually measured in income.

ECONOMIC MOBILITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK



Interested?

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT LEVERS TO FOSTER ECONOMIC MOBILITY

**How Counties are Increasing the Prosperity of
Their Residents**

March 3, 2022

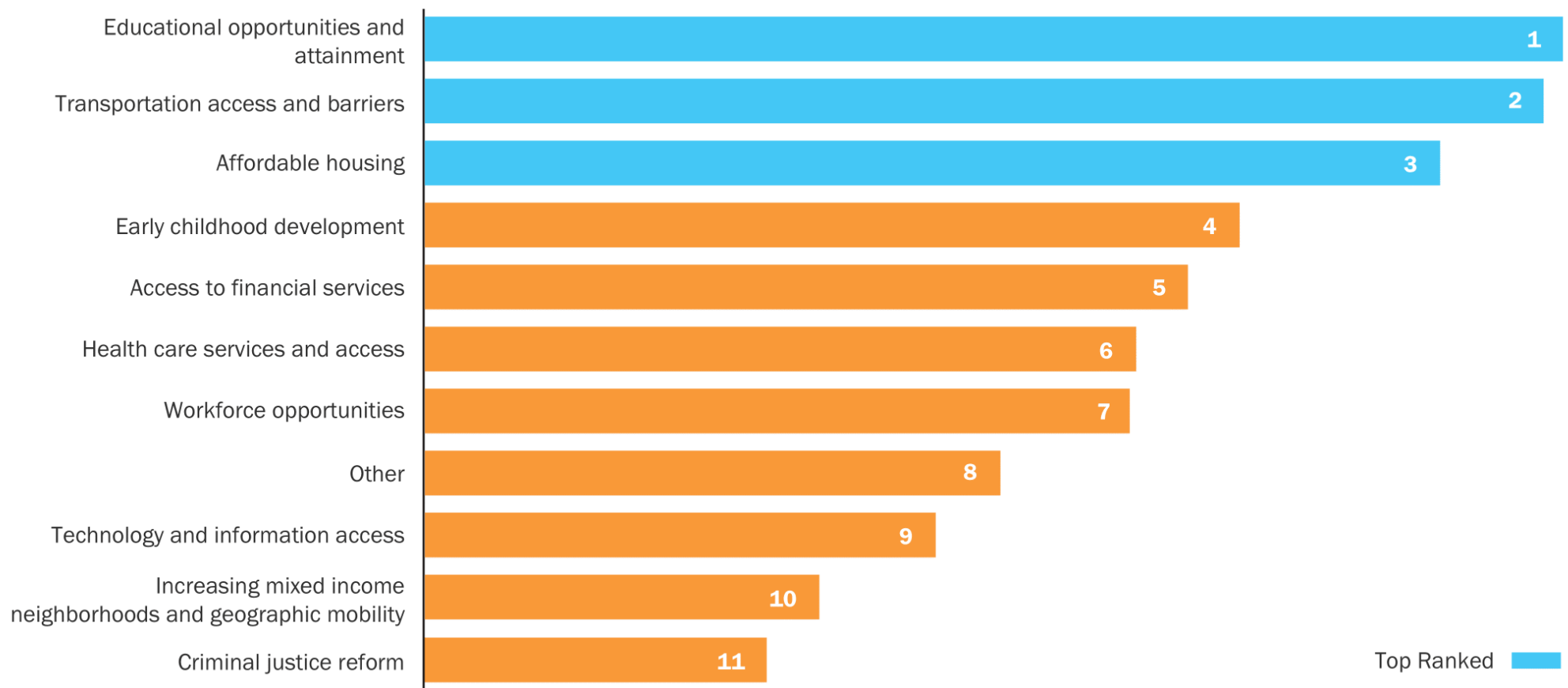


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ECONOMIC MOBILITY ACROSS THE NATION

2019 SURVEY OF COUNTY LEADERS



OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC LITERATURE ON ECONOMIC MOBILITY

- Changes in people's **economic outcomes** or socioeconomic status
 - Usually measured in **income**
- Two primary perspectives for measuring economic mobility
 - Absolute – relative to **parents'** generation
 - Relative – relative to **peers**
- Several factors influence economic mobility
- Emerging as a **highly local, connective and relational issue**

COUNTIES POSSESS VARYING DEGREES OF **AUTHORITY** TO ENACT MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

COUNTY GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY:



- Designated by state Constitution or law
- Must/May/Cannot – for each type of county service
- Ability to form partnerships
- Create special districts
- Call a state of emergency
- Enact policies (e.g., passing ordinances or resolutions)
- Administer programs

DILLON'S RULE

- Only possess powers granted by the state
- Must obtain state approval to act on anything not specifically permitted under existing state legislation

HOME RULE

- Local autonomy or self-determination
- Flexibility in altering the local government structure, providing additional services, creating special districts and entering partnerships

COUNTIES PLAY A BIG ROLE IN MOBILITY

DRIVERS OF ECONOMIC MOBILITY



FINANCIAL
SECURITY



JUSTICE &
PUBLIC
SAFETY



TECHNOLOGY &
INFORMATION
ACCESS



HOUSING



EDUCATION &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



HEALTH



COMMUNITY &
NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY AUTHORITY



There are 38,873 total county
elected officials

COUNTY INVESTMENTS



Counties Invest More Than \$600 Billion
Annually in Delivering Essential Services

COUNTY SERVICES



Counties provide services to more
than 319 million residents

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Education is the **third largest** source of expenditures for counties nationwide
- Access to a high-quality education is a **key determinant of child-related outcomes**
- Counties implement mobility solutions in education through the three levers by:
 1. **Authority:** Licensing of childcare providers, convening local partners
 2. **Investments:** School funding, scholarships/resources for low-income families
 3. **Services:** Administering childcare programs

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Workforce development **increases human capital**
- Addressing a **skills mismatch** or **displacement from the labor market**
- Counties implement mobility solutions in education through the three levers by:
 1. **Authority:** Form partnerships with local stakeholders
 2. **Investments:** Investing in community colleges & technical certification programs
 3. **Services:** County-based human service agencies, WIOA & WDBs



Hon. Kevin L. Boyce

Commissioner
Franklin County, Ohio

ECONOMIC MOBILITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK



ECONOMIC MOBILITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK



HOUSING

- Many residents struggle with **housing challenges**
- Housing is the **backbone of economic development** for communities
- Counties implement mobility solutions in education through the three levers by:
 1. **Authority:** Housing supply through regulations, taxation, land use and partnerships
 2. **Investments:** Affordable housing & low-income housing developments
 3. **Services:** Housing support services



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Supervisor
Waukesha County, Wis.



Riverside Historic Lofts

- City of Jefferson, Jefferson County
- Historic adaptive reuse project along the Rock River in downtown Jefferson
- \$500,000 in HOME funds in a \$9.78M project
- 11 of the 36 family units are HOME units, with a preference for people with disabilities or Veterans

Construction of Spring City Crossing

- formerly called Frame Park Apartments
- City of Waukesha, Waukesha County
- \$561,000 in HOME funds in a \$14M project
- 11 of the 72 family units are HOME funded, and targeted toward veterans at 50% AMI or less





Spring City Crossing, Completed



Spring Harbor Senior Apartments

- City of Port Washington, Ozaukee County
- New construction
- \$440,000 of HOME funds in a \$7.4M project
- 11 of the 40 units are HOME units, targeted toward people at 50% AMI or less.



Muskego School Apartments, Before

- City of Muskego, Waukesha County
- Historic adaptive reuse of an elementary school
- \$415,000 in HOME funds in a \$10.9M project
- 7 of 22 Senior apartment style units are HOME funded, and 1 of 18 family style townhouses are HOME funded
- All HOME units are for people at 30% AMI or less, with a risk of homelessness



**Muskego School
Apartments, Completed**

NEXT STEPS: HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

- County leaders, officials and staff can use this report to:
 1. **Learn:** Whether you are new to the topic or have baseline knowledge, this report is a good resource to expand your knowledge.
 2. **Reflect:** Use the knowledge you have gained from this study to help you make a decision about your approach. You can connect with your peers highlighted in this study. Think about departments or local organizations that you can partner with, in support of your economic mobility goals.
 3. **Share:** Feel free to share with your county and peers.



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Q&A



Please type your questions in the chat box now.

THANK YOU!

Additional questions or feedback?

NACo Contact:

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