

# 7.

## Human Capital

Health, Recreation and Renewal, Education, Art

“ It's a high number; at least 75%, of the people that live there are either artists, musicians, or folks who are involved in theater. I'm not saying they do it for a living, but that's what they would prefer to be doing, and they actively do it. And I think that's an important element of our community. ”

- *Local Artist*

The concept of Human Capital has played a part in economic theory since the 1950's with roots going back to the turn of the century<sup>40</sup>. In the current context, human capital reflects the investments that people make in their education, on-the-job training, and overall wellness, including the benefits of recreation. All of these “investments” can translate into greater personal and household income. Human capital can also refer to the interpersonal and leadership skills that can magnify the overall human capital in a community<sup>41</sup>. A high level of human capital is a valuable community asset because the community as a whole benefit from the creativity, knowledge and interpersonal skills of its members resulting in increased initiative, responsibility and innovation.



Another key component of human capital, harder to quantify, is the capacity of community members to work cooperatively, especially in the face of chaotic circumstances, such as disaster or other significant community disruption. The human capacity for cooperation, tolerance, and compassion is a significant resource which supports a community's capacity to respond to change, even catastrophic change, with creativity and a commitment

to life. If change is an inevitable, even essential aspect of life, then the perpetual unfolding of new forms of life and community will only be nurtured by these springs of human virtue.

## Connections with other Community Capitals

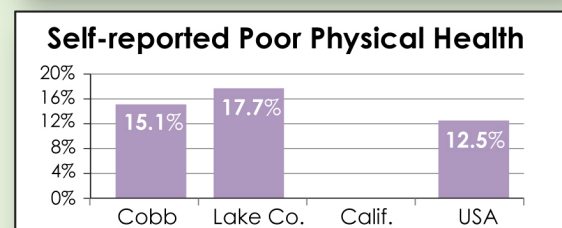
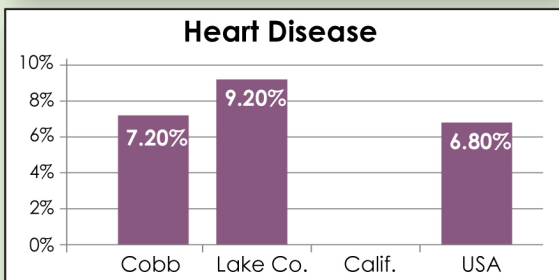
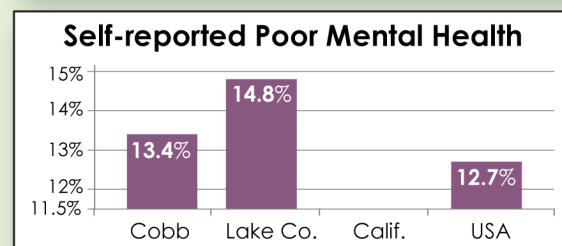
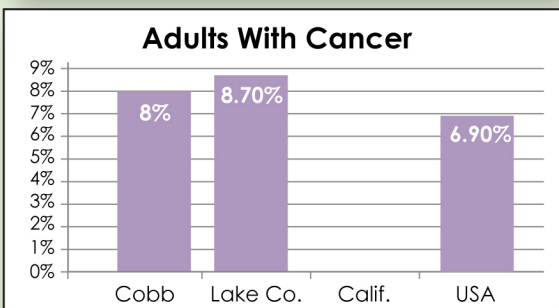
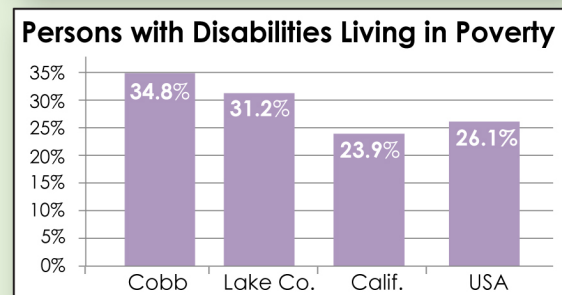
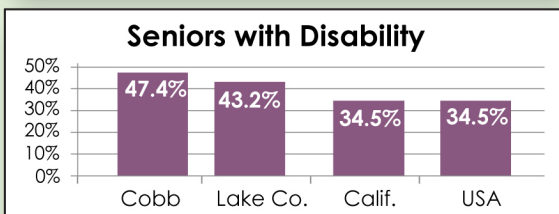
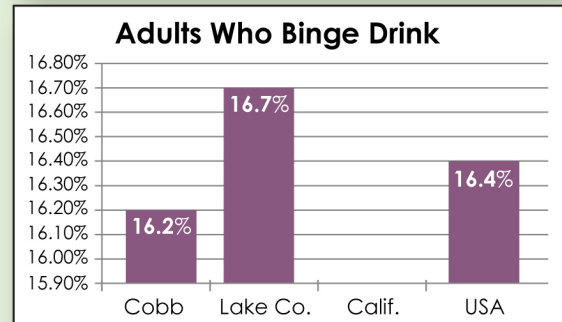
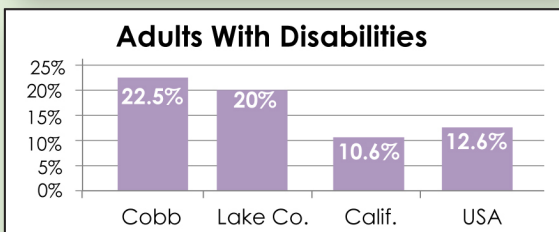
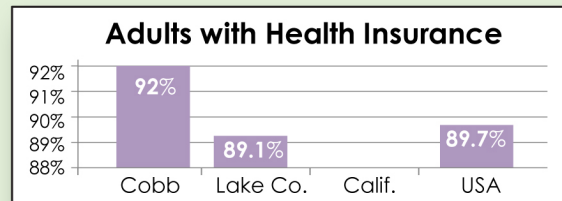
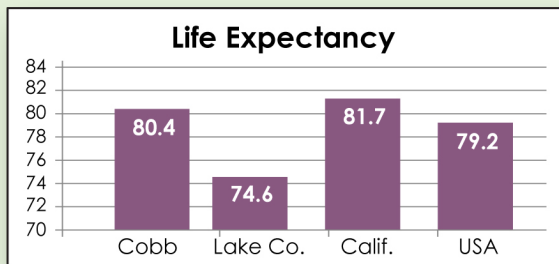
Because the people that make up the community are, in a sense, at the very center of the development process, the state of our common human capital will affect every other community capital. New skills acquired, new training programs, better health and wellness opportunities, better childcare, a more educated workforce and a community skilled in dialog and cooperative enterprise, will feed every area of community life. Also, recognizing that we continue to be in a very dynamic changing environment, these core human capital assets will be critical support for the community's ongoing process of growth and transformation.



# HUMAN CAPITAL DATA

## 1. HEALTH: Cobb Mountain Health Profile (from the Lake Co. Community Health Needs Assessment)<sup>42</sup>

The Lake County Community Health Needs Assessment, completed in 2016, is a comprehensive statistical evaluation of all aspects of health and wellbeing. It collects over 250 measures countywide. As noted in the “About Data” section of this report, information can be collected in many areas. Of the indicators reported in the Countywide Assessment, 90 of them are also available at the Census Tract Level. Some of these measures are also available for the State of California and/or the whole United States and we have included these when possible. Of these 90 indicators, we have selected ten to give a snapshot of the wellness of the Cobb Mountain community.

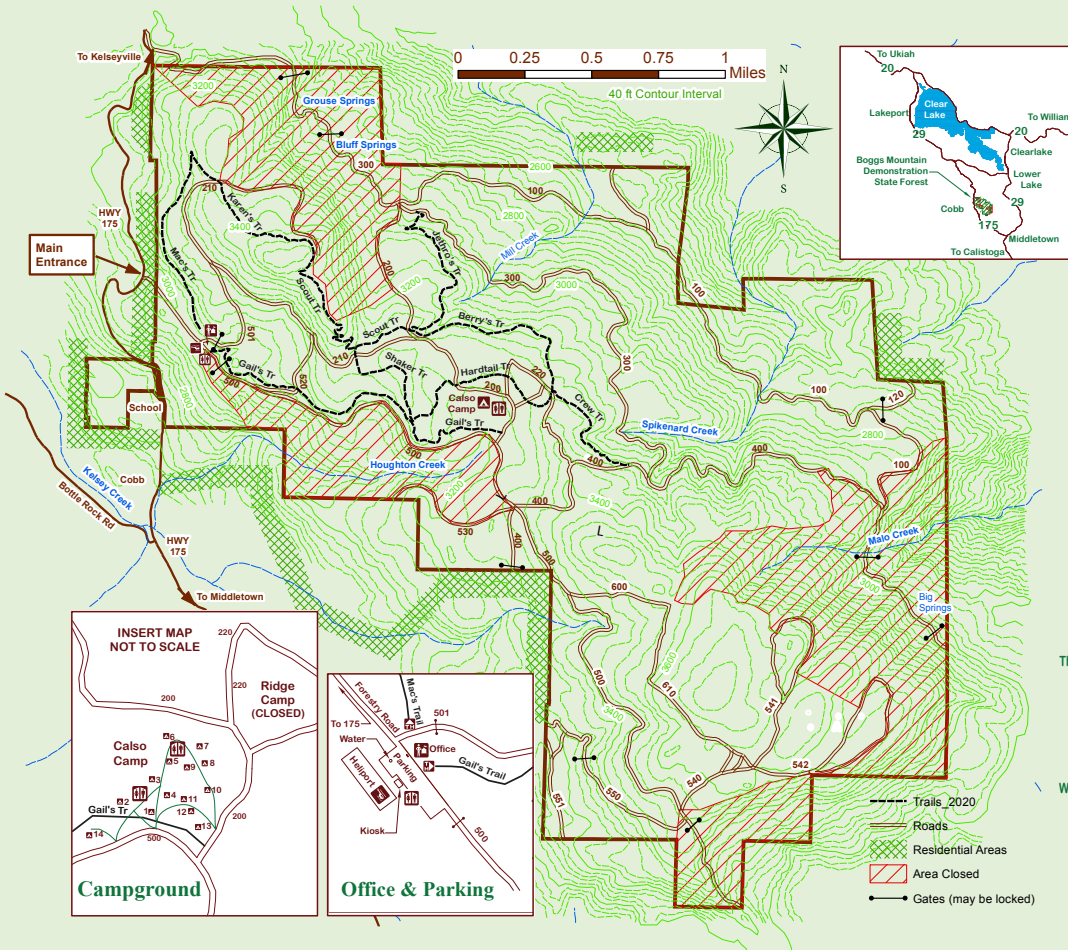
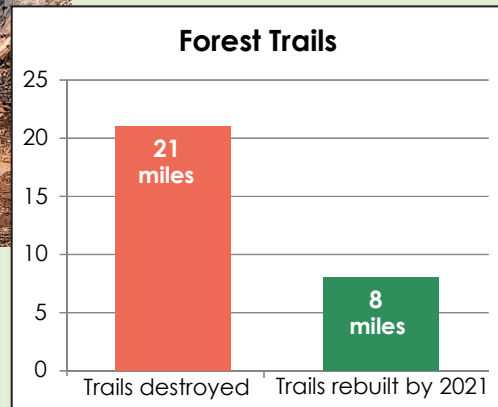


## 2. RECREATION: Restoration of Boggs Mountain State Demonstration Forest Trail System



The Boggs Mountain State Demonstration Forest was established in 1949, after most of its 3,400 acres had been clear cut for timber. All of the twenty-one miles of trails in the Boggs Mt. Forest (hiking, biking, equestrian) were destroyed in the Valley Fire. The Friends of Boggs Mountain has been spearheading an ambitious effort to rebuild and

has already reconstructed over five miles of multi-use trails. The Covid-19 pandemic has slowed this work down some, but current plans are to bring back two-three miles of trail each year.



**No day use parking in campground**  
**Restrict motor vehicle use on numbered roads**  
**Observe all posted closures**  
**Target shooting prohibited**



Maps printed by:  
**FOBM**  
 Enhancing the visitor's experience!  
 Friends of Boggs Mountain  
 P.O. Box 735  
 Cobb, CA 95426  
 boggsmountain.org  
 fobm@boggsmountain.org  
 Donations are appreciated

**UNAUTHORIZED TRAIL BUILDING  
 PROHIBITED ON BMSDF PROPERTY**

The Friends of Boggs Mountain is a non-profit 501c3 organization enhancing your experience by:

- UPDATING, improving and financing the forest trail maps
- REBUILDING, maintaining and improving trails
- ADDING and replacing signs along all designated forest trails
- MAINTAINING and updating information posted on kiosks
- SPONSORING free outdoor programs with guest speakers
- WORKING TOGETHER with all forest visitors to care for Boggs trails, foster trail etiquette, and courtesy

Please visit our website at [boggsmountain.org](https://www.boggsmountain.org) and support our work by becoming a member!  
 Visit us <https://www.facebook.com/FOBMCA>

### 3. EDUCATION:

#### Cobb Mountain Elementary School - A source of community pride and hope

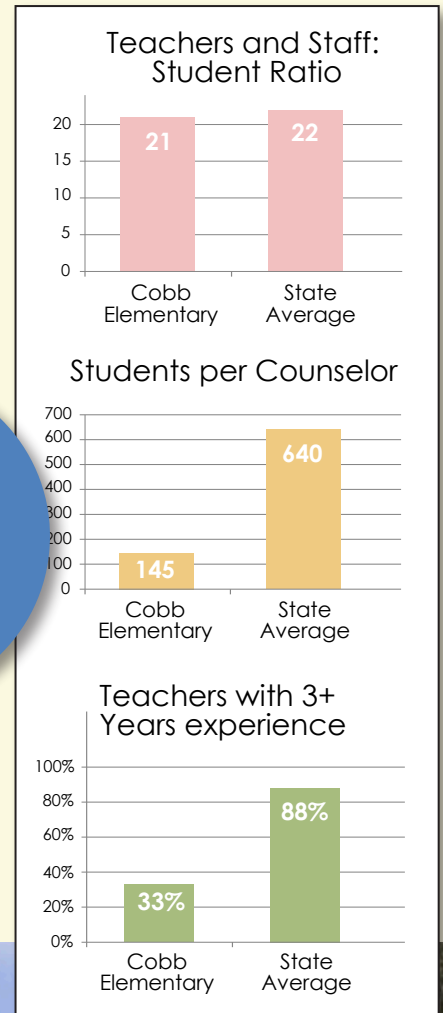
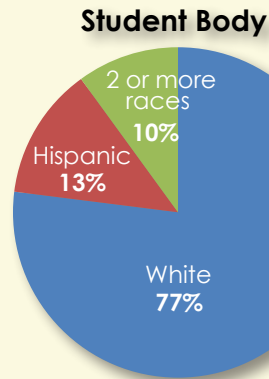
Built in 1985, the Cobb Elementary School celebrated its 30th anniversary just two days before the Valley Fire swept through the community in 2015. Even before the fire, maintaining a top quality elementary school in a small rural community had taken tremendous dedication and love. After the fire, keeping the school viable has been a continuing effort. With less than 150 students in K-6th grade, the schools has garnered many top honors over the years and continues to do well



A special feature of the Cobb Mountain School is its School Garden - the oldest organic school garden in the State of California!

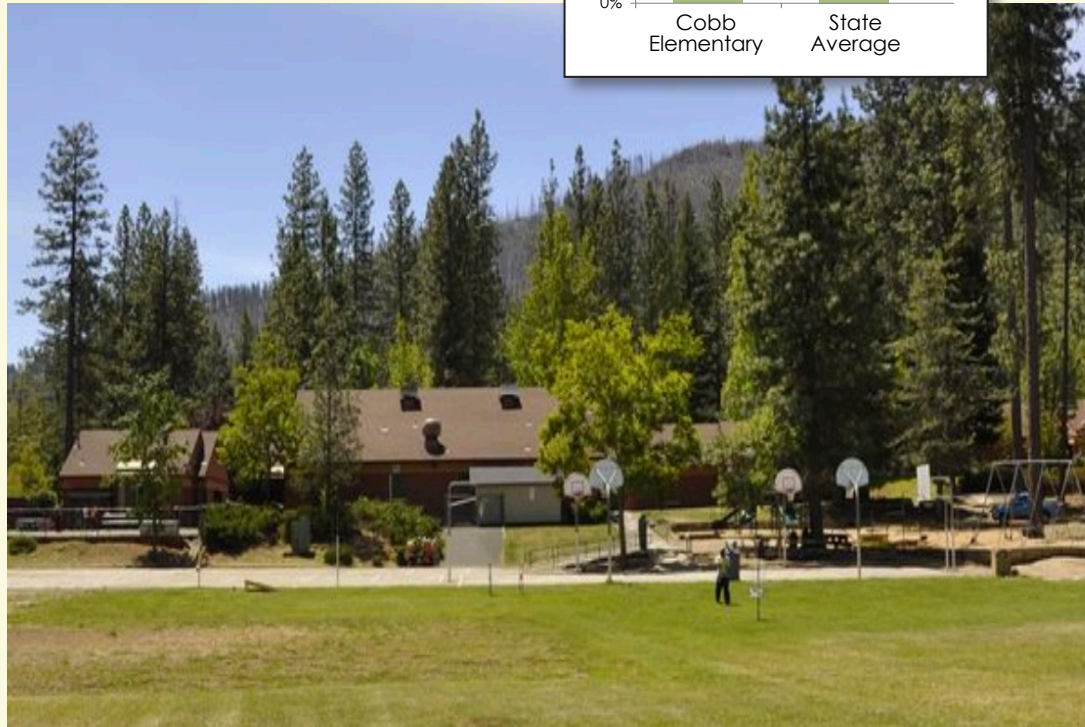


A cob (mud/straw/adobe) oven built with help of students is the site of home baked pizza, using veggies from the school garden.



#### Additional Human Capital Data We Would Like to Have

- Educational profile of Cobb Area residents
- Local training programs
- Local childcare facilities



## Analysis:

The Cobb Mountain has a strong reservoir of resources that can help local residents address the inevitable challenges we face, including economic uncertainty in a rapidly changing world and environmental disruption from wildfires and other effects of global climate change. The Cobb Elementary School has been a key anchor institution for decades and local pride in the exceptional programs there (such as the exceptional school garden program) continues to be a way for local folks to connect with the community. We do continue to have challenges with the education system beyond our local elementary school that will be important to address over the longer term. As has been referred to throughout this strategy, the fundamental natural resources of the community, such as the Boggs Mountain State Demonstration Forest and other local trail sites provide ready access to the healing and renewing influence of nature. And the vibrancy of our local arts scene is a major asset that should be further cultivated and brought to more visibility.

## Human Capital Goals:

- Establish a community park
- Increase support to and visibility of local artists
- Raise local awareness of Cobb as a special place
- Increase local access to health services

## Human Capital Strategies: and resources needed

- Establish a public park in the community
- Establish a community arts center in partnership with the Middletown Arts Center
- Hold local festivals including the annual Blackberry Cobbler Festival as well as other mini festivals such as “Cobb Night Out”
- Initiate a Cobb Mountain “seminar” series on local history, ecology and environment
- Review this Strategy annually

“ It's an amazing school. They do it well, the environment is incredible. There's no school like that. If there is, they're very few and far between in terms of the ideal setting; having that school garden that's been ongoing for over 30 years, having that nature trail behind you. I mean, how many schools have a nature trail? Then that big soccer field and surrounded by the trees, it's just the setting is perfect. ”

*- former local teacher*