



**FORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
2024-2029 IPLAN**

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# Health Needs Assessment

## Executive Summary

The Ford County Public Health Department opened July 1, 2014, using the first iteration of IPLAN as a pathway to development. As a newly formed public health department, there were many challenges to face. The health department navigated new administration, new staff, unfilled positions, local and State of Illinois fiscal crisis, and lack of community awareness. Despite these challenges, five years later, the Ford County Public Health Department was a growing department within Ford County and developed a new IPLAN document covering the next five years.

The arrival of SARS-Covid-19 tested the Department in ways that we could not foresee. Nonetheless, the Department persevered using the 2019-2024 IPLAN as a guidebook for priorities, not just for mitigating the pandemic, but also for looking to the future of Ford County.

The time has come once again to update the IPLAN. Using surveys and data from the Gibson Area Hospital's 2021 Community Needs Assessment, and engagement directly with Gibson Area Hospital's own IPLAN community engagement committee, the Ford County Health Department has compiled an overview of general community health to help chart a course for the next five years. To help identify the health needs of Ford County, we have collaborated with all levels of staff, and the community in general. That information was then used to define and prioritize needs with the participation of the Community Health Committee. This was all completed with input from the local health department staff, Ford County residents, community partners, elected officials, and community leaders.

The Ford County Public Health Department, along with the input of the Community Health Committee and Board of Health, developed this following plan. It covers the priorities we are targeting to help sustain and maintain the vibrance and resilience of Ford County. These priorities are: Drug abuse, chronic disease, maternal and child care, and mental health/life quality. These goals are in line with broad community feedback as was codified in the Gibson Area Hospital's Community Needs Assessment, providing synergy for targeting the desired outcomes that impact the whole County. The following statistical data and analysis will help to guide the activities of the Department through the next IPLAN period, between 2024 and 2029.





## Community Health Indicators

### Demographics and Socioeconomic Characteristics

#### Economic:

Unemployment in Ford County spiked dramatically as with all counties at the start of the pandemic. However, this quickly mitigated and is now at the same overall Illinois unemployment rate for 2024. Additional factors are comparable to the State of Illinois rates except for injury deaths which are 22% higher in Ford County than the State rate. The median income rate increased from 2019 (\$50,851) to 2022 (\$58,930), though both are lower than the State of Illinois averages in both years (\$61,229; \$76,708 respectively)

#### Unemployment rates for Ford County

2024	5.1%	Illinois overall is 5.1%
2023	4.6%	-
2022	5.1%	-
2021	6.3%	-
2020	12.1%	-

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Unemployment in States and Local Areas (all other areas).  
<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

Illinois Department of Employment Security, Economic Information & Analysis Division; Local Area Unemployment Statistics.  
<https://ides.illinois.gov/resources/labor-market-information/laus.html>

United States Census Bureau: Ford County, Illinois.  
[https://data.census.gov/profile/Ford County, Illinois](https://data.census.gov/profile/Ford%20County,%20Illinois)

Social & Economic Factors	Ford County	Illinois
Children Eligible for free/reduced lunch	44.6%	48.7%
Children in Poverty	17%	16%

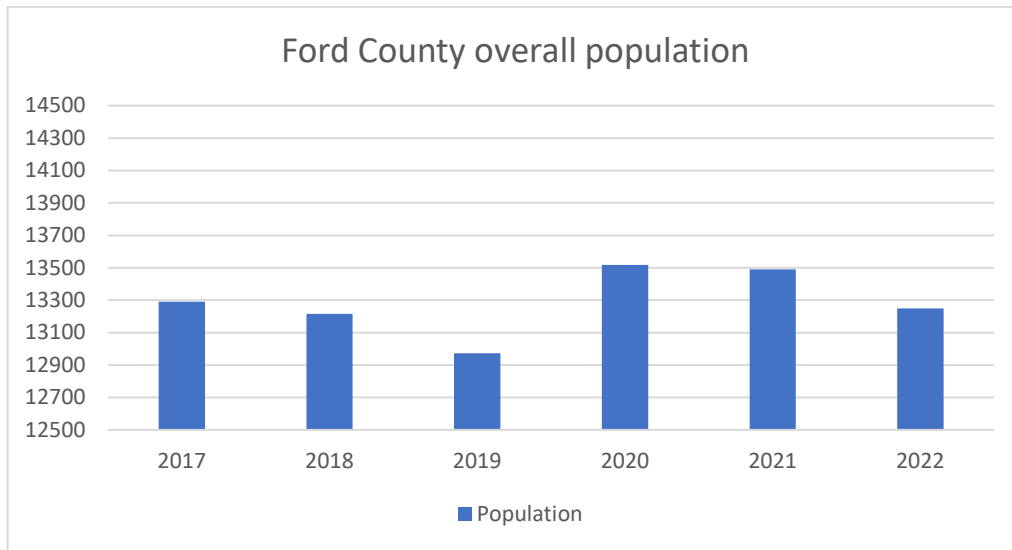
Source: Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services; 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment  
<https://www.gibsonhospital.org/file/1141/12%2016%20Gibson%20Area%20Hospital%20%20Health%20Services%20CHNA.pdf>

St. Louis Fed; Economic Research Data.  
<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/release/tables?eid=359183&rid=412>



**Population:**

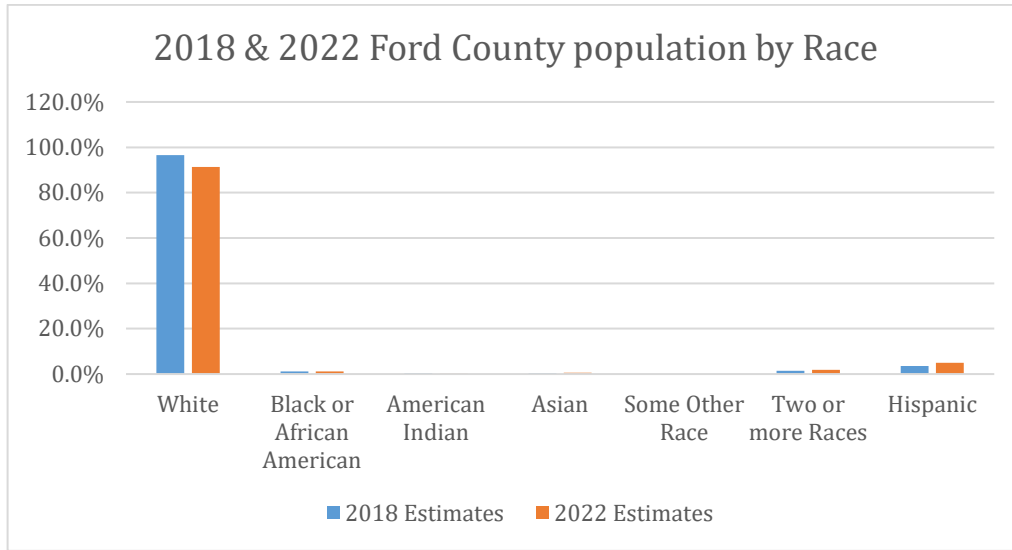
While Ford County’s population has decreased over the last five years, the percentage of older adults and youth within the County remains steady. The older adult population continues to be slightly higher than the State percentage. By race, there has not been a significant change in Ford County since 2010 Census other than a continued slight increase in the Hispanic population.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Fact Finder

Percent of Youth population	2018 U.S. Census Estimates (up to 18 years of age)	2022 U.S. Census Estimates (up to 18 years of age)	
Ford County	22.9%	23%	Ford County has a slightly higher youth population than Illinois
Illinois	22.4%	21.6%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Quick Facts and Fact Finder



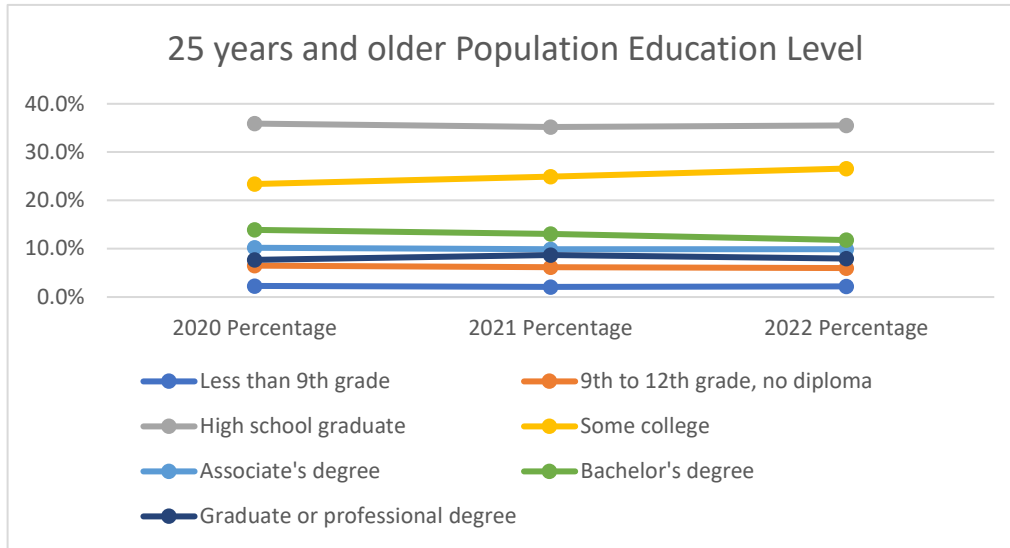
Percent of population 65 years of age and older	2018 U.S. Census Estimates	2022 U.S. Census Estimates
Ford County	18.8%	19.4%
Illinois	15.6%	17.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Quick Facts and Fact Finder



**Education:**

High school graduation rates have increased slightly. The rate was 89.6% in 2017, increasing to 91.7% in 2022 — these rates are slightly higher than the current Illinois state average of 90.1%. While those with some college have increased, so has the rate of those with a bachelor’s decreased. The number of those with an advanced degree has increased steadily but slowly since 2014.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Fact Finder

**General Health and Access to Care**

Access to care and health insurance is an important piece to general health. Without the necessary health care and the ability to utilize that care, a person’s health needs may not be met which creates a higher level of needed care and a lower quality of health. The County Health Rankings 2019 show the comparisons or availability in Ford County to Illinois as a whole. The dental ratio was addressed by Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services by opening a dental clinic. Otherwise, the available providers in Ford County are comparable to the State.

<b>Health Factors/Clinical Care</b>	<b>Ford County</b>	<b>Illinois</b>
Primary care physicians	1930:1	1260:1
Dentists	2650:1	1190:1
Mental health providers	200:1	320:1
Preventable hospital stays	3,905	3,327
Mammography screening	46%	49%

Source: County Health Rankings 2019



Having the health care providers available is the first step but people must be able to get to the health care providers to utilize the services. Many times, those seeking services to the providers are low income and may not have the means or the finances to pay for transportation to the health care and/or mental health providers. Transportation was a need reported on the Ford County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey in our previous cycle. 38.81% of respondents selected “poor” as a response for access to public transportation. Currently, there are four transportation providers in Ford County and all of them have restrictions on the use of their services. While the data from the needs assessment is older, there has been little progress toward increasing transportation accessibility in the County, and is an ongoing need that we hope to address in the future.

Older data supports the observation that providers giving Mental Health Services in Illinois have a large percentage of mental health clients with lower income and Medicaid health insurance. This population and those 65 and older have more difficulty with access to providers with the limited number in Ford County.

<b>Employment With Known Status (Adults)</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Employed	14.4%
Unemployed	32.3%
Not In Labor Force	53.3%

<b>Medicaid Funding Status of Consumers</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Medicaid Only	96.4%
Non-Medicaid	1.6%
Both Medicaid and Other Funds	2.0%

### **Physical Activity:**

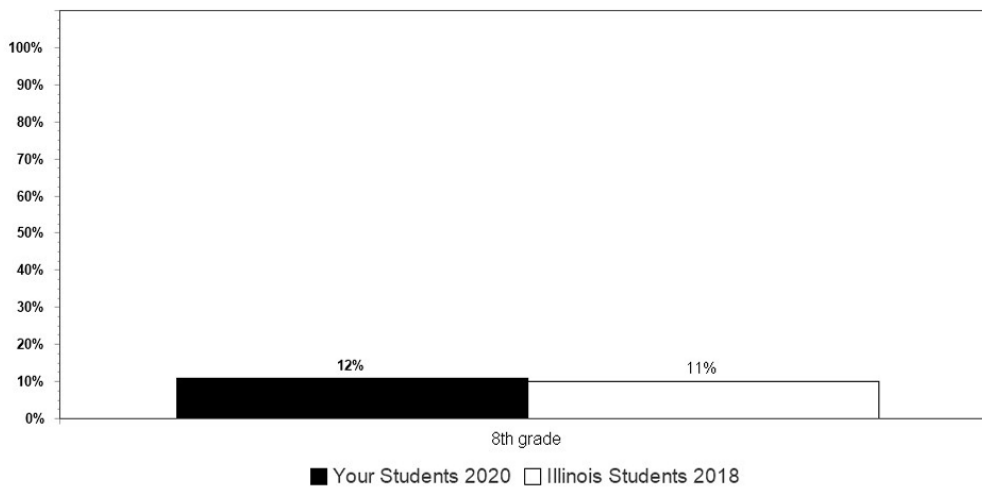
The Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance from 2019 reports that 66.4% of adults surveyed did have some exercise in the last 30 days, with only 40.7% meeting physical activity guidelines. Physical activity can play an important role in overall health, a person’s well-being, and potential for obesity. In Ford County in 2019 73.6% of respondents reported to be overweight or obese (IL County BRFS). The Body Mass Index of Ford County youth appears to increase as they become older. This is always an area that can be improved upon, especially given a marked increase in the rates across the county.



ICBRFS – Ford County	Estimated Population	Weighted Percent	Confidence Interval	Number of Respondents
<b>Any physical activity in the last 30 days?</b>				
<b>YES</b>	6585	66.4%	58.0-73.8%	254
<b>NO</b>	3333	33.6%	26.2-42%	152
<b>Meets Physical Activity Guidelines?</b>				
<b>YES</b>	3018	40.7%	32.0-49.9%	139
<b>NO</b>	4405	59.3%	20.1-68%	176

Source: Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Round 6 (Collected 2015-2019)

Prevalence of Obesity\* According to BMI  
By Grade



\*As defined by the Centers for Disease Control based on Body Mass Index for age and gender

Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2020



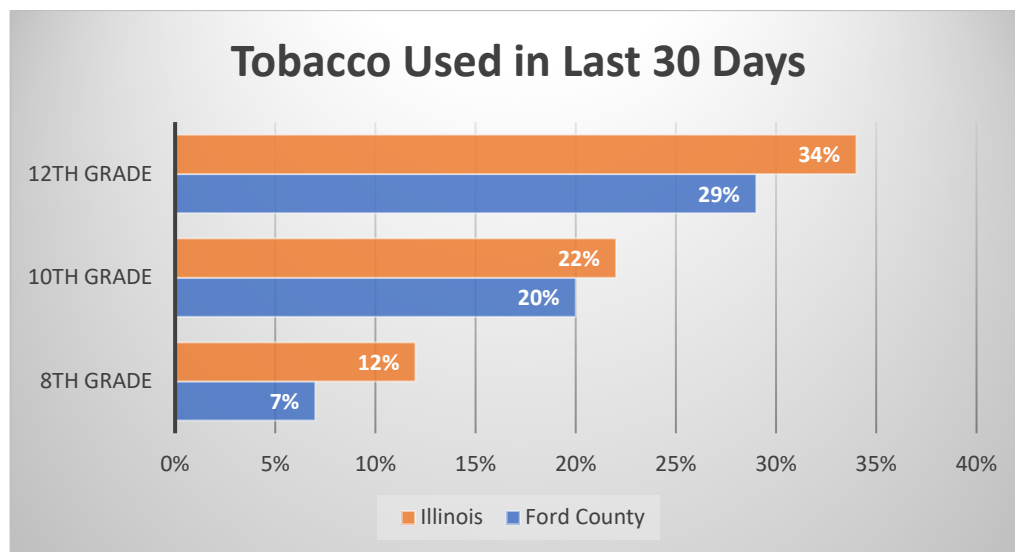
OBESITY					
ICBRFS – Ford County		Estimated Population	Weighted Percent	95% Confidence Interval	Number of Respondents
<b>BMI</b>	Normal or Underweight	2642	26.4%	19.7-34.4%	109
	Overweight Obese	* 3927	* 39.1%	* 31.2-47.7%	* 172
<b>Overweight or Obese</b>					
	No	2646	26.4%	19.7-34.4%	109
	Yes	7389	73.6%	65.6-80.3%	300

Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Round 6 (Collected 2015-2019)

#### Tobacco Use:

The County Health Rankings show that adult tobacco use is at 18% which is higher the State at 13%. The disparity between these numbers has increased since the last project period. Tobacco use among youth is lower than the State rate for all grade levels.

The Illinois Youth Survey 2018 also provided beneficial information about perceived disapproval by parents, peers, and self. There appears to be a correlation between the usage of tobacco as a youth gets older and the parent communication about not using tobacco products as well as the perceived disapproval by all parties involved.



Ford County's percentage of adults aged 18 and older who are current smokers is 18% which is higher than the Statewide rate of 13%.



**Substance Abuse:**

Ford County’s Illinois Youth Survey 2022 reports that 54% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders used alcohol within the past 12 months and 41% within the past 30 days. 32% 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 38% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using any tobacco or vaping products within the last year. However, within the past 30 days only 18% 10<sup>th</sup> graders reported using E-cigarettes. Illicit drug usage for youth was less than 2% for each grade surveyed during the past year save the 10<sup>th</sup>, which registered as 5%. Marijuana use in the past year by 12<sup>th</sup> graders was reported as 24% and prescription drugs not prescribed to the youth by all grade levels within the past year were no higher than 4%.

Substance Used	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
<b>Used Past Year</b>			
Any common substance (including alcohol, cigarettes, inhalants or marijuana)	25%	43%	56%
Any common substances plus vaping (including alcohol, tobacco products, cigarettes, e-cigarettes or other vaping products, inhalants, or marijuana)	27%	44%	56%
Alcohol	21%	44%	54%
Cigarettes	3%	7%	3%
E-cigarettes or other vaping products	9%	25%	35%
Any Tobacco Product (including smokeless tobacco, tobacco smoked through cigarettes or cigars/cigarillos, or tobacco used in a hookah water pipe)	2%	10%	9%
Inhalants	5%	5%	0%
Marijuana	5%	16%	24%
Synthetic marijuana	1%	1%	4%
Alcohol and marijuana at the same time	2%	9%	18%
Alcohol and energy drinks at the same time	3%	13%	10%
<b>Any Illicit Drugs (excluding marijuana)</b>	1%	5%	1%
Crack/Cocaine	0%	0%	0%
Hallucinogens/LSD	1%	5%	1%
Ecstasy/MDMA	1%	2%	0%
Methamphetamine	0%	0%	0%
Heroin	0%	0%	0%
<b>Any Prescription Drugs to get high</b>	1%	1%	0%
Prescription Painkillers	0%	0%	0%
Other Prescription Drugs	1%	1%	0%
Prescription <b>pain medicine</b> without prescription or differently than prescribed	4%	3%	0%
Prescription drugs not prescribed to you	1%	4%	0%
Over-the-Counter Drugs	1%	1%	0%
<b># of Respondents</b>	154	120	79



Substance Used	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
<b>Used Past 30 Days</b>			
Alcohol	7%	27%	41%
<b>Any tobacco products OR e-cigarettes or other vaping products</b>	7%	20%	29%
Cigarettes	1%	4%	1%
Smokeless tobacco	1%	3%	9%
Smoked tobacco (other than cigarettes)	1%	3%	3%
Hookah or water pipe	1%	6%	4%
E-cigarettes or other vaping products	5%	18%	23%
Marijuana	3%	10%	17%
Prescription drugs not prescribed to you	1%	3%	0%
<b># of Respondents</b>	154	120	79

**2022 Substance Use Rates by Grade - Part 3 of 3**

Substance Used	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
<b>Used Past 2 Weeks</b>			
Binge Drinking	1%	13%	30%
<b># of Respondents</b>	154	120	79

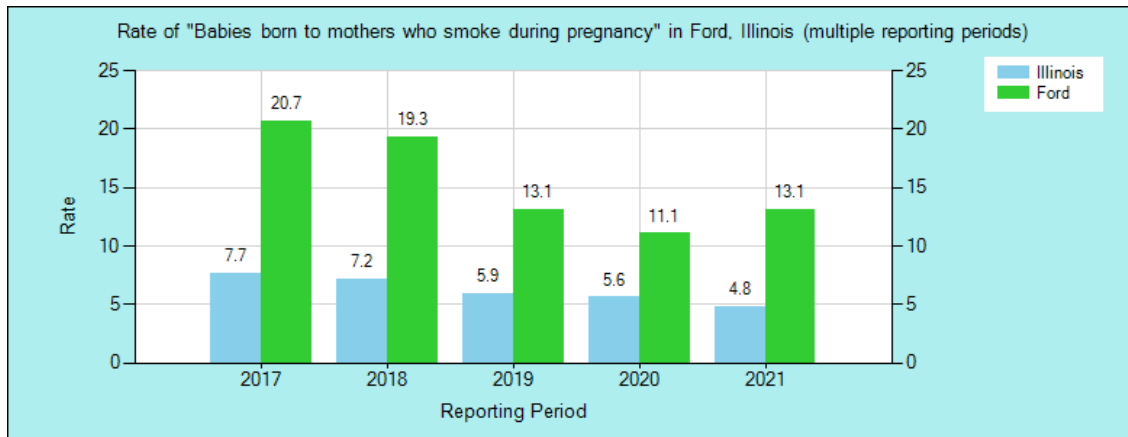


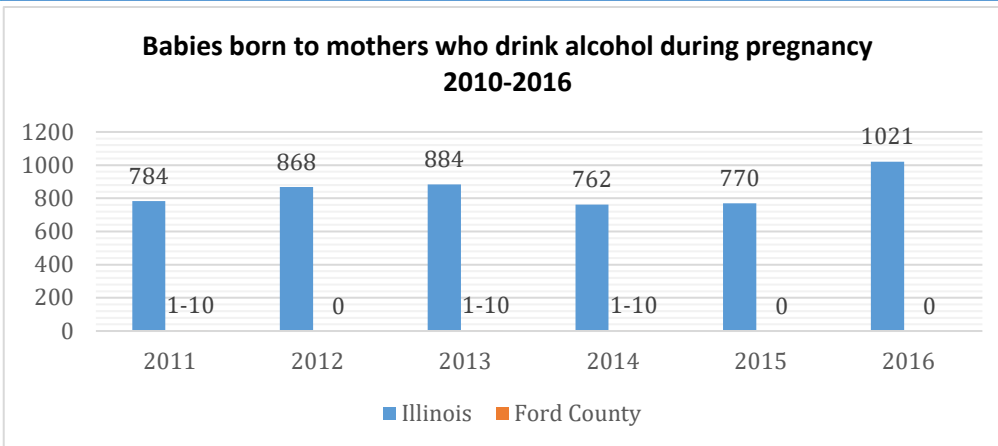
### Maternal and Child Health

Illinois Public Health Community Map shows Ford County’s comparison with the State of Illinois. Ford County has a higher rate of teen births and prenatal care starting in the first trimester. IDPH IQuery shows a decrease in mothers that smoke during pregnancy in Ford County; however, the rate is more than double that of Illinois as a whole. Statistics for mothers who drink during pregnancy are low enough to be suppressed. Infant death and mortality rates reported by IDPH show that Ford County has had very few infant deaths since 2014. In recent years, the infant mortality data was low enough to be suppressed for statistical reasons in the relevant databases. However, if we turn to aggregate estimations using surrounding counties that do have enough information to produce data, the estimate from the HRSA Maternal & Child Health mapping tool is approximately 7 in 1000. While this is under one percent, this number still may be vastly higher than the actual total number of infant deaths, given the estimation process.

Area	Low birth weight	Teen birth rate	Percent prenatal care started in first trimester	Percent of live births breastfed in hospital
Ford County	6.8%	23.2 per 1,000	85.3%	76.8%
Illinois	8.4%	14.7 per 1,000	78.7%	82.1%

Source: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/data-statistics/vital-statistics/infant-mortality-statistics/more-statistics>





Source: <http://www.healthcarereportcard.illinois.gov/maps>

## Chronic Disease

IDPH IQuery shows the top 10 leading causes of death in Ford County for 2022 as follows:

1. Diseases of heart	52
2. Malignant neoplasms	29
3. Cerebrovascular diseases	11
4. Chronic lower respiratory diseases	11
5. Alzheimer's disease	9
6. Diabetes mellitus	6
7. Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	5
8. Accidents	5
9. Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	5
10. Influenza and pneumonia	5

**Heart Disease:**

Heart Attack Mortality rate in 2014 was 76.3 but in 2015, 2016, and beyond, the data was suppressed (as an age-adjusted death rate from heart attack among persons 35 and older per 100,000 population). This tends to indicate a low incidence rate of actual death. While this data is older, it is nonetheless the most recent official data that the Ford County Health Department was able to procure. Illinois' age rate for Heart Attack Mortality in 2014 was 66.1 which is lower than Ford County's. The CDC shows a heart disease death rate of 372 per 100,000 but only a 73 per 100,000 death rate for stroke.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. Mortality for Heart Attack. Accessed From: <https://ephrtracking.cdc.gov/DataExplorer>. Accessed on 08/09/2019

The Illinois Public Health Community Map shows that Ford County has a higher prevalence of heart disease.

Measure	Ford County	Illinois
Angina or Coronary Heart Disease	5.6%	3.6%
Heart Attack or M.I Prevalence	5.1%	3.8%
Stroke Prevalence	3.7%	2.9%
Hypertension Emergency Room Visits	45.44 per 10,000	38.21 per 10,000
Heart Failure readmission rate	135.23 per 100,000	72.91 per 100,000

**Cancer:**

Cancer was reported as one of the top five health concerns on the Ford County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey that was completed in 2019. 60.74% of respondents selected cancer as one of their top five health issues that are the most prevalent in Ford County. From 2016-2020 the rate of cancer deaths in Ford County was 208 per 100,000 (actual 204 deaths) which is higher than the Illinois rate of 168.5 and the National rate of 155. The top three new cases of cancer in Ford County are female breast, lung bronchus, and colon and rectum. Female breast and lung bronchus new cancer case rates are higher than the State and National rates as well.



## 2016-2020 New Female Breast Cancer Cases

	New Cases	Rate per 100,000
Ford County	63	139
Illinois	52,112	132
National	*	*

## 2016-2020 New Lung Bronchus Cancer Cases

	New Cases	Rate per 100,000
Ford County	65	68
Illinois	46,593	59.3
National	1,076,536	54

## 2016-2020 New Colon &amp; Rectum Cancer Cases

	New Cases	Rate per 100,000
Ford County	41	45.3
Illinois	30,136	39.8
National	690,104	37

Source: U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on November 2018 submission data (2016-2022): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; [www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz](https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz), May 2024., <https://idph.illinois.gov/isrstats/AllRace/Show-AllRace-Table.aspx>



<b>Cod_Malignant_Neoplasms</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
All other and unspecified malignant neoplasms	4	3	5	5	8
Bladder	0	1	0	3	3
Breast	9	3	3	1	0
Cervix uteri	0	0	0	0	0
Colon, rectum and anus	4	5	5	2	5
Corpus uteri and uterus, part unspecified	1	2	1	0	0
Esophagus	2	1	1	2	1
Kidney and renal pelvis	2	0	0	1	1
Larynx	0	2	0	0	2
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	0	0	0	0	0
Liver and intrahepatic bile ducts	1	1	2	1	1
Lymphoid, hematopoietic and related tissue	6	5	7	5	5
Melanoma of skin	1	0	0	1	1
Meninges, brain and other parts of central nervous system	0	1	3	0	1
Ovary	1	2	0	1	1
Pancreas	1	0	3	5	7
Prostate	3	1	2	1	0
Stomach	0	0	0	0	1
Trachea, bronchus and lung	11	9	13	10	11
All Cancers	46	36	45	38	48
Total deaths	200	190	209	203	209
Number of cancer deaths	46	36	45	38	48
Percentage of cancer deaths in total deaths	23%	19%	22%	19%	23%
Number of heart-disease deaths	54	48	41	54	41
Percentage of heart-disease deaths in total deaths	27%	25%	20%	27%	20%
Both cancer and Hearth diseases	50%	44%	41%	45%	43%

Source: VRS Death Data

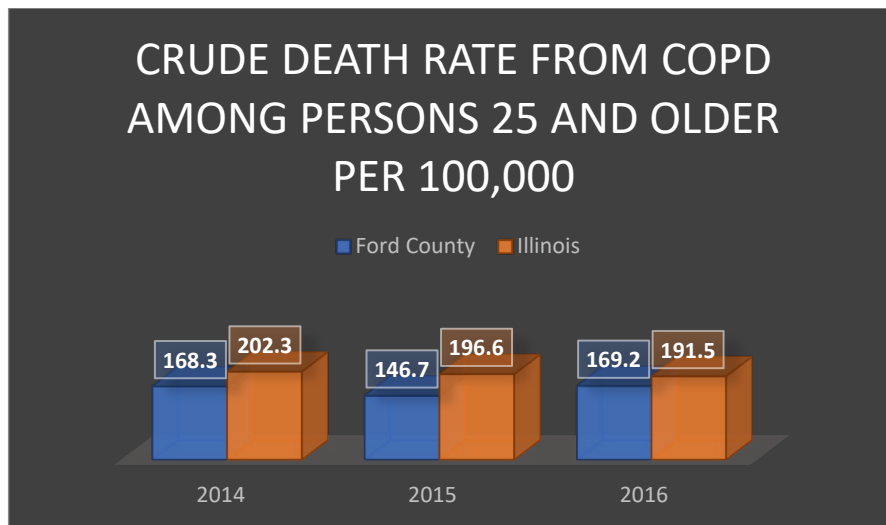


### Respiratory Illness:

Ford County's 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in 2022 was chronic lower respiratory disease which includes; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic bronchitis, and emphysema. However, the Illinois Public Health Community Map shows the prevalence of asthma in Ford County as 11% and Illinois as 7.6%.

Per Medicare (CMS) hospital compare, Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services readmission rate for Medicare beneficiaries with COPD is no different than the National rate of 19.5%. This also holds true for the COPD death rate within 30 days of a hospital admission (8.5%). However, this data is no longer easily available and may have changed in the intervening years. It is included because it is the last accurate measure of the percentage of COPD death rates.

Crude death rates were lower than the Statewide rates for COPD among those 25 years and older, per the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. The most recent statistics available for the general COPD rates have been suppressed from the data due to statistical factors.



### Infectious Disease

Chlamydia and gonorrhea have remained generally steady since 2017. A case of syphilis was detected in 2021. Sexually Transmitted Disease rates for Ford County remain under the State rates. Flu vaccinations rates continue to remain significantly under the Healthy People 2020 goal of 90% for those 18 years of age and older.

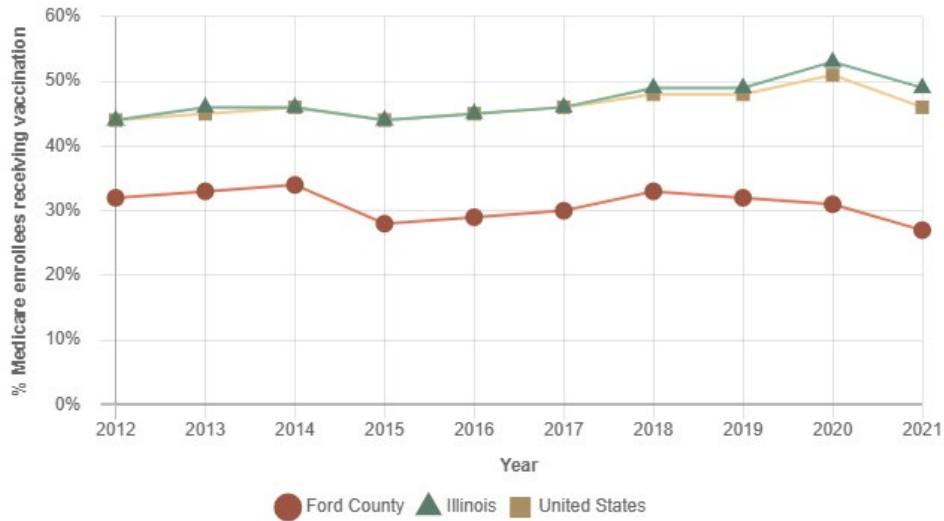


FORD COUNTY STI CASES			
YEAR	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	Syphilis
2020	6	29	0
2021	11	33	1
2022	11	29	0

Source: IDPH

### Flu Vaccinations in Ford County, IL County, state and national trends

Although no significant trend was found in Ford County for this measure, please note state and national trends.



Source: County Health Rankings 2024

**Hepatitis**

IDPH IQuery Report shows a steady number of Hepatitis C, chronic cases since 2012. Hepatitis B, chronic case information data was not available until 2016. The table below is current, as the data for the next reporting period has not been posted, likely disrupted because of the pandemic.

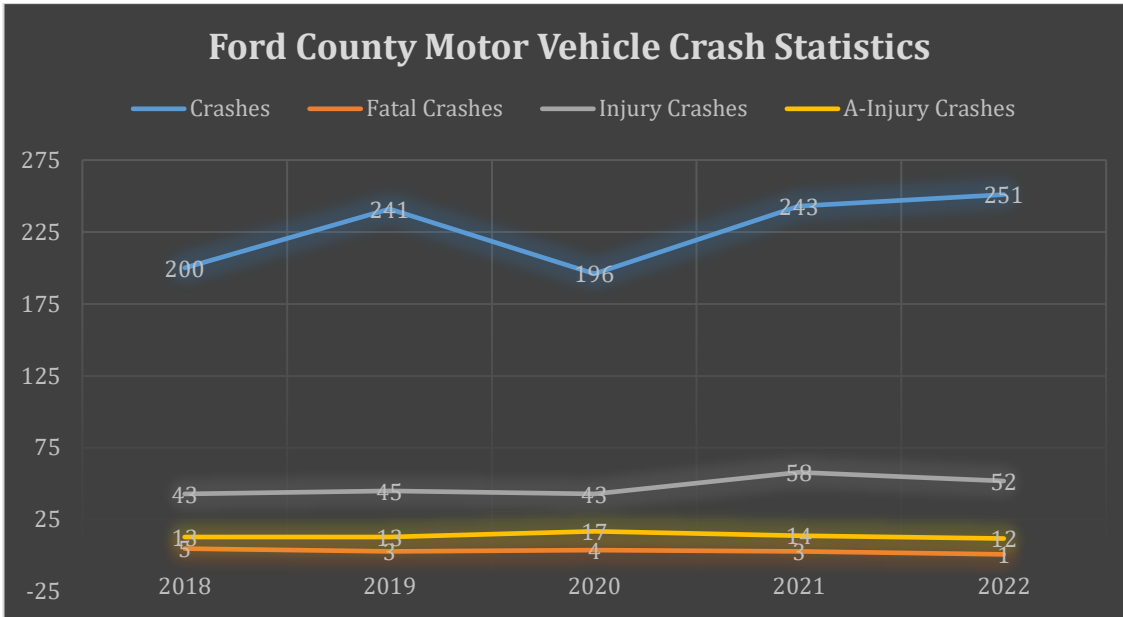
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Hepatitis B, chronic	-	-	-	-	1
Hepatitis C, chronic	5	2	6	7	5

Source: <https://iquery.illinois.gov/DataQuery/Default.aspx>



### Environmental, Occupational and Injury Control

Crime in Ford County, per the Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Data Explorer, is low for homicides. However aggravated assaults appear to be increasing since 2013. Motor Vehicle Crash Statistics from the Illinois Department of Transportation are steady in all areas. Based on the breakdown for 2019-2022, the only notable distinction for crash situations is the number of intersections with no controls was 182 out of 251 crashes, up from the previous reporting period.



Source: <http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/safety/Illinois-Roadway-Crash-Data>

Social & Economic Factors	Ford County	Illinois
Children Eligible for free/reduced lunch	46%	46%
Children in single-parent households	22%	25%
Children in Poverty	17%	16%
Injury Deaths (per 100,000 residents)	80	74

Source: County Health Rankings 2023



The CDC's Environmental Public Health Tracking shows the following information for Ford County.

In 2020 and 2022...



- 21 Days of temperatures above 90 degrees
- 0 Day of Unhealthy Ozone levels
- 9  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  Air Quality particulate matter (National Standard = 12.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
- In 2020...
  - 26.1% of residents lived within .5 mile of a park
  - 78.6% of Illinois residents lived within .5 mile of a park

Source: <https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/InfoByLocation/>



## Sentinel Events

### **Tuberculosis:**

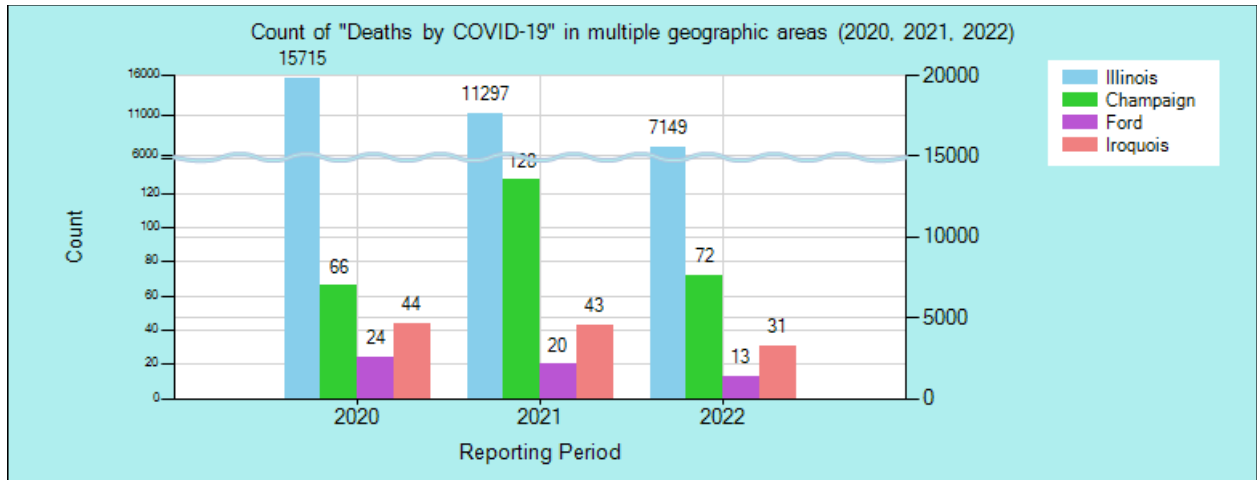
Per IDPH Illinois Tuberculosis Cases by County, Ford County's last Tuberculosis case was in 2002.

### **SARS-CoV-2**

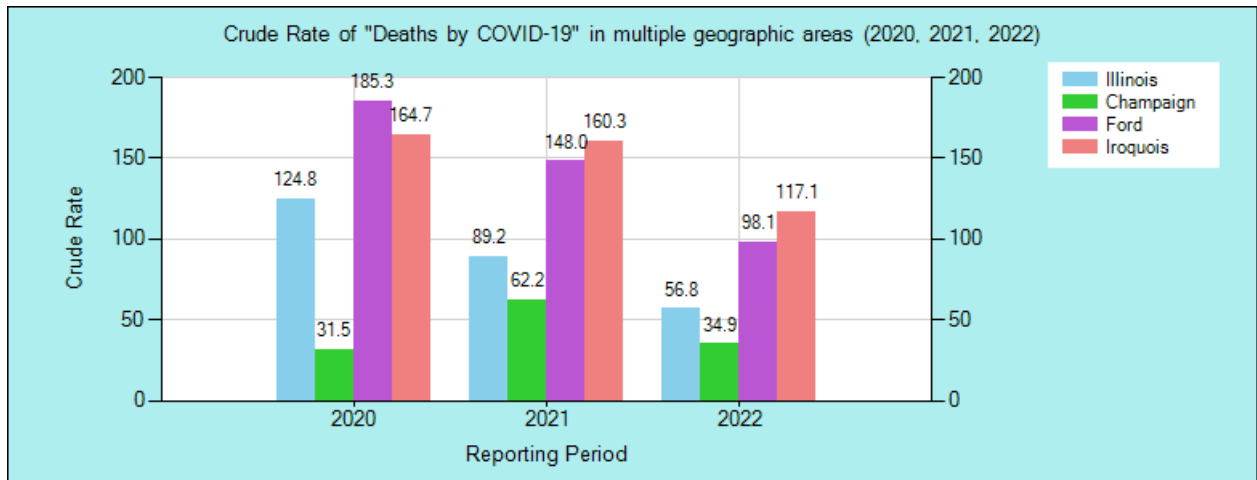
The SARS-CoV-2 virus, better known as COVID-19, is the cause of severe and acute respiratory illness and drove the emergence of a global pandemic in early 2020. The emergence of this novel virus strained National, State, and Local capacities to respond and mitigate illness at a systemic level. This pandemic caused many global casualties.

Between 2020-2022, the total number of deaths in Illinois were in excess of 34,161 with a crude rate of 90.3 when averaged between all three years. In that same period, total deaths in Champaign County were 266, while total deaths in Iroquois County were 118 and in Ford County were 57. On the surface, these total numbers make it seem as though Ford had far fewer deaths.

However, the crude rates tell another story. For Illinois' average crude death rate of 90.3 in this three-year period, Champaign County had an average rate of 42.8, Iroquois county had an average rate of 147.3, and Ford County had an average rate of 143.7. The Ford County crude rate of Covid deaths, while lagging just behind Iroquois County, was significantly higher than Illinois' death rate on average, and over double Champaign County's death rate as well for every single year. This is likely due to a constellation of factors including an aging population that is more prone to significant complications from the virus, community trends in access to healthcare, personal health choices that may contribute to vulnerability, and the socio-political as well as economic realities facing the more rural counties of the state. While the acute phase of the pandemic has passed, it is not over. From March 2023 to March 2024, there are at least 2204 deaths from Covid-19 in Illinois.



Source: IQuery, accessed 2024



Source: IQuery, accessed 2024

### Unnecessary ER Visits

Ford County had many ER visits that could have been avoided. Compared with other Illinois counties, Ford had a slightly higher rate of non-emergent ER visits at 18.76%, but was still below the Illinois statewide average of 20.31%. This may be in part because of the supply of primary care doctors, as Ford is one of the highest rated counties in Illinois for access to primary care providers, according to the Illinois Public Health Community Map.



# Community Health Plan

## Board of Health Letter

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**Website:** [www.fordcountyphd.org](http://www.fordcountyphd.org)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ford County Board of Health met on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The Ford County Public Health Department staff completed an Organizational Self-Assessment. Results were presented to and reviewed by the Board. The IPLAN process required for Health Department certification was completed by the Ford County Public Health Department and presented by Seth Russell, Health Department Interim Administrator. The Ford County Community Health Needs Plan for 2024-2029 was approved by the Board of Health.

The following health problems have been established as the top priorities and have been addressed by the Plan.

1. Drug Abuse
2. Chronic Disease
3. Maternal and Childcare
4. Mental Health Life/Safety

The Ford County Public Health Department staff and the Community Health Committee provided much input and assistance during the entire process. The Board of Health would like to thank those involved for all the time and support on this project.

Sincerely,

Michael Short, President  
Ford County Board of Health





## Community Participation

The Ford County Public Health Department staff began researching the seven groupings outlined in the Health Needs Assessment. During this time, we consulted with a variety of community health partners with more resources and a larger community footprint in order to help not only fill the Ford County Health Department's staffing difficulties, but to better integrate the health impacts sought by partners to help bring about the maximum possible benefit for fully coordinating healthcare strategies.

An invitation to participate in the Ford County IPLAN process was sent out to those in the areas of: mental health, health education, hospital, care coordination, local officials, emergency management, and public health.

During the April 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 Ford County Health Board meeting, those in attendance discussed the research in the Health Needs Assessments while looking at the community survey results. Our Partners considered heavily the topmost voiced concerns, areas of broad concurrence between other community survey responses, and current trends for the most prevalent health issues in Ford County. However, all data was reviewed and assessed for the prevalence within Ford County and the seriousness of the health issues. Discussion was held on several health needs as well as how those needs were interrelated.

Community Partners met on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of 2024 in coordination with the Gibson Area Hospital to review the research gathered from major public databases and how best to integrate the results of multiple community engagement activities, such as the one conducted by the Gibson Area Hospital. Effort was made to align these with various Health Improvement Plans, including Healthy Illinois 2028 and Healthy People 2030.

After this discussion, the Partners decided that mirroring the concerns of the Gibson Area Hospital's results for the Community Needs Assessment was the best strategy for integrating healthcare. This concurrence was even stronger after meeting directly with the Gibson Area Hospital's committee for their own IPLAN processes. The IPLAN was then presented for review to the Community Health Partners and Board of Health. Then, after suggested changes, was presented to the Ford County Board of Health for final approval and adoption.



## Priorities

### **Substance Abuse**

The statistics for substance abuse in Ford County are generally mixed. While they are comparable to the overall state average for various indicators, Ford County's rate for inpatient alcohol and illicit drug treatment is above all surrounding counties. According to the Illinois Public Health Community Map, the rate of Emergency visits because of substance related issues is low, only 17.66 per 10,000, compared to 33.89 statewide. However, the inpatient rates spike dramatically when compared to all surrounding counties; 10.93 per 10,000 which while lower than the Illinois statewide rate of 13.43, is nonetheless higher than all but one county that Ford shares a border with (being Vermillion).

These statistical trends are also reflected in the rates of treatment for alcohol use disorders. Emergency visits are quite low, only 31.83 per 10,000 where the statewide average is 56.75. However, once again the rates of inpatient treatment spike significantly. While still in line with the statewide average of 20.9 per 10,000, Ford County's rate of 17.96 is higher than almost every county Ford shares a border with, this time behind only Kankakee.

Therefore, substance abuse was chosen by the County as an area of particular focus for this IPLAN period.

### **Goal**

Improve knowledge on drug abuse treatment and intervention resources, access to those resources, and the perceptions of stigma surrounding drug abuse issues.

### **Outcome Objectives**

By 2029, reduce inpatient visits for alcohol and drug treatment to below 8.5 per 10,000 through prevention and early intervention, as opposed to by stigma or refusal of treatment.

### **Impact Objectives**

Reduce the number of students who report having used alcohol or illicit drugs by 15% by the time of the 2026 youth survey.

### **Interventions & Partnerships**

- Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) will continue collaborating with the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District's PROMPT program – the Partnership to Reduce Opiate Mortality & Promote Training. These efforts include the distribution and increased awareness of Narcan interventions, including training events held by the FCPHD and outreach by the Community Educator.



- FCPHD will continue exploring a partnership with Dr. Osman to create a methadone distribution point in association with the Health Department. This will give an opportunity for maintenance and weaning outside of the usual boundaries of an inpatient health clinic, though would not be mutually exclusive to said treatment.
- FCPHD will conduct outreach and community education regarding substance abuse awareness. Promoting through media outlets and social media, FCPHD will provide attention and education to address the dangers and impacts of drug abuse, as well as potential treatments or remedies thereto. Continuing information provided on these topics can help mitigate against the stigma and lack of knowledge regarding substance abuse issues.
- The FCPHD outreach can even impact local schools, as a number of grant programs include a variety of provisions for not just community education inside of school systems but also the renewal and revision of educational materials, up to and including the purchase and implementation of new curricula.

### **Funding Needs and Potential Sources**

There are significant gaps in the funding for achieving these outcomes. As such the FCPHD has been applying for a Sharps grant in order to help control the spread of contaminated drug related items in the community and curb needle sharing which contributes to the spread of HIV and hepatitis. Furthermore, we are looking at other grants particularly in the realm of opioid abuse including the Rural Community Opioid Response Program grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

### **Healthy People 2030:**

1. Reduce the portion of adults who used drugs in the last month from 13.1% to 12%
2. Reduce the portion of adolescents who used drugs in the past month from 8.7% to 5.5%
3. Reduce the number of acute hepatitis C cases from 1.6 per 100,000 to .1 per 100,00
4. Reduce the number of overdose deaths involving opioids across all drug classes from 24.7 to 13.1 per 100,000.

### **Healthy Illinois 2028:**

1. Improve the mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) system's infrastructure to support and strengthen prevention and treatment.
2. Reduce mortality due to mental health conditions and substance use disorders through harm reduction and preventative care strategies.
3. Increase access to age-appropriate community-based care to reduce institutionalized treatment.
4. Strengthen workforce capacity and infrastructure to screen for, assess, and treat mental health conditions and substance use disorders among pregnant/ postpartum persons.



## Maternal/STI

### Narrative

Currently, no strong programs exist with the Ford County Department of Public Health to assist with new mothers, or the reproductive health of the community in general.

As a component of this, there are several infectious diseases that the Ford County Public Health Department would like to help people prevent. According to County Health Rankings, “In Illinois 639.3 new cases of chlamydia were diagnosed per 100,000 people. This ranged from 84.4 to 1052 new cases per 100,000 people across counties in the state”. Of the new cases that are in Illinois, 231.5 were from Ford County alone for chlamydia.

Significantly, teen birth rates in Ford County are higher than all surrounding counties save one, Vermillion. As such, we have selected

### Goal

Improve knowledge of and access to maternal healthcare services and interventions, and help prevent outright or improve the outcomes for STI infections.

### Outcome Objectives

By 2029, reduce teen birth below 18 occurrences per 1000.

### Impact Objectives

By 2026, increase knowledge of serostatus by 5%.

### Interventions & Partnerships

- Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) began operating an STI clinic on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Using State level partners to help reimburse costs due the fact that we do not have the resources for rapid tests, we will be offering chlamydia and gonorrhea testing, particularly for young mothers and those otherwise sexually active but lacking overall access to healthcare.
- Using various private nonprofit organizational support and partners, FCPHD intends to offer free HIV testing to help boost awareness of one’s serostatus, especially among at-risk populations and
- Continue seeking partnerships with WIC in order to help serve as a stopgap and provide basic supplies and informational services to expecting mothers.

**Funding Needs and Potential Sources**

Significant funding is needed to help meet the outlined goals and intents. One grant resource that the FCPHD is looking toward is the General Departmental Sexual Risk Avoidance Education or GDSRAE Grant. This grant is, in part, designed to help mitigate outcomes like teen birth, which is high in Ford County compared to all surrounding counties save Vermillion. The floor of this grant is quite high, at \$300k, but could be used to revitalize school outreach education efforts across all grade areas, by not just offering classes but also providing materials and supplies for new curricula.

**Healthy People 2030:**

1. Increase knowledge of HIV Status from 86% to 95%.
2. Increase successful quit smoking attempts in pregnant women who smoke from 19% to 24%.
3. Reduce the rate of Hepatitis A from 1.7 cases per 100,000 to .04 per 100,000
4. Increase the proportion of pregnant women who receive early and adequate prenatal care from 74.9% to 80.5%.

**Healthy Illinois 2028:**

1. Improve accessibility, availability, and quality of equitable reproductive health and well-woman/person preventative health care services across the reproductive lifespan.
2. Promote a comprehensive, cohesive, and equitable system of care and support services for all persons to have a healthy pregnancy, labor and delivery, and through the first year postpartum.
3. Promote a comprehensive, cohesive, and equitable system of care and services to improve birth outcomes and support infants' healthy development in their first year.



## **Chronic Disease**

### **Narrative**

One of the major concerns for the Ford County Public Health Department is not simply the prevention of disease and illness that has large impacts on the general community, but the early intervention in health outcomes to attempt mitigating the lifelong damage that unhealthy behaviors tend to cause. Much of our demographics are made up of elders, and as such it would be far more beneficial to help the population avoid chronic or persistent health problems rather than simply wait until they become intractable before intervening.

However, this is a difficult and multifaceted issue to approach. There are significant external and community factors that contribute to the constellation of issues that create persistent health issues. As such we have decided to take a multivariate and long term approach, focusing foremost on healthy habit choices among the youth, and then sustaining health capacities through adulthood by offering linkup and community coordinated support options as individuals grow in our community.

### **Goal**

Help cultivate awareness of healthy choices and behaviors to help foster positive health outcomes well before health problems escalate into chronic issues.

### **Outcome Objectives**

By 2029, increase cardiovascular health measure by 5%.

### **Impact Objectives**

By the time of the 2026 Youth Assessment, increase the amount of exercise youth participate in by 20%.

### **Interventions & Partnerships**

- The Ford County Public Health Educator has been authorized by grant to perform a number of interventions in the schools regarding education around the hazards of smoking and vape. As such, Ford County has been obligated to perform fifteen public classes in county area schools at three grade levels each year over the course of 2023-2025.
- Continue education, protection, and enforcement of the Smoke-free Illinois Act (SfIA) and increase awareness of including e-cigarettes to the SfIA under new law (effective January 1, 2024), and Illinois Tobacco-Free Communities program (Public Act 103-0272).
- The department wishes to hold a number of public outreach and education activities including, but not limited to, blood pressure seminars, where staff would take and instruct on how to take blood pressure, as well as diabetic seminars, and a number of other similar



activities guided by our public health educator.

- We will be seeking further participation with local community stakeholders to ensure that the FCPHD has a high visibility footprint in the various community activities planned by the county, including holding information outlets at county wide functions such as the Ford County Fair and individual community health expos attached to various events in the area.

### **Funding Needs and Potential Sources**

Because of the multivariate nature of chronic disease, there is a wide gap between current and needed funding in order to meet our goals. As such there are a number of strategies to procure funding that cut across the swath of concerns, and more that target specific components of overall health. For example, a variety of grants through HRSA specifically target rural collaboration and coordination between healthcare entities, something that our meetings with Gibson Area Hospital have highlighted. Grants of this nature include the Rural Health Care Coordination Program with a ceiling of \$300,000, the Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program with a ceiling of \$250,000, and the Rural Health Network Development Planning Program. Other individual components of chronic disease prevention, i.e. cardiovascular health education and the organizational capacities to administer it are scattered across governmental grantmaking organizations.

### **Healthy People 2030**

1. Increase the portion of adolescents who get enough aerobic and muscle strengthening activity from 16% to 24%.
2. Reduce current tobacco use in adolescents from 23% to 11.3%
3. Increase the proportion of adults who get recommended evidence-based preventative healthcare from 5.3% to 11.5%
4. Improve cardiovascular health in adults from a 65.5 mean cardiovascular health score to 72.2

### **Healthy Illinois 2028:**

1. Increase opportunities for tobacco-free living.
2. Decrease preventable chronic diseases through nutrition.
3. Increase opportunities for active living.
4. Increase community-clinical linkages to reduce the incidence and burden of chronic diseases.



## Life Quality/Mental Health

Mental health was the third most prevalent health issue based on the Ford County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey of 2019. 60.74% of respondents selected Mental Health as one of the top five health issues in Ford County. The Survey also showed 36.03% of respondents reporting that mental health services are inadequate in Ford County. The knowledge of services available is concerning due to the 2024 County Health Rankings showing a 200:1 ratio of mental health providers compared to the State of Illinois ratio of 480:1. There is also concern about the access to mental health services based on the Ford County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey showing 38.81% of respondents reported that access to public transportation is poor in Ford County, and little has been done to expand access in the last four years.

The Community Health Committee had discussions on the need to address mental health concerns. This topic was tied to transportation/access to mental health services, addressing mental health needs/stigmas with the younger population, and the potential lead to substance use if mental health concerns are not addressed. Many of these concerns have not been adequately addressed since the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, this topic was once again chosen as a top priority for Ford County.

**Goal:** Improve knowledge on available mental health resources, access to those resources, and stigma of mental health issues.

**Outcome Objective:** By 2029, reduce the average number of reported mentally unhealthy days in the past 30 to 3 or fewer. Ford County is currently at 4.6 which is data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System accessed through County Health Rankings.

**Impact Objective:** By 2026, 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Ford County will report having mental health concerns at or below the State percentage. Using the Illinois Youth Survey results, 47% of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in 2028 within Ford County reported having mental health concerns in the past 12 months compared to Illinois at 28%.

### Interventions and Community Partnerships:

- Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) will continue collaborating with Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services (GAHHS) by promoting and supporting Mental Health First Aid Training and Youth Mental Health First Aid Training. These trainings will increase mental health education, improve knowledge of mental health diseases, and inform others of the availability. FCPHD will also send selected staff to participate in the training.
- FCPHD will work together with other agencies to promote mental health services available in Ford County as well as transportation availability. FCPHD will ensure that resource guides given to clients contain all the available mental health resources and available transportation providers as well as those they serve. The FCPHD website will have links to available mental



health providers. Promoting the available services will positively impact the knowledge of what mental health providers and transportation services are within Ford County.

- FCPHD will conduct outreach and community education regarding mental health awareness. Promoting through media outlets and social media, FCPHD will provide attention and education to mental health awareness. Continual information being provided on mental health awareness can help improve the stigma and lack of knowledge regarding mental health issues.
- For some time, FCPHD has been exploring options for the creation of some kind of transit support system whereby community members most in need of services will be able to access them. Community perceptions of access are significantly worse than the actual mental healthcare provider/community member ratio. FCPHD is currently exploring the possibility of establishing a program or obtaining a person to operate a lift van to loop through the county twice per weekday. Currently, options for transport to healthcare are prohibitively expensive and having a dedicated person working part time may help fill that gap to quality healthcare access.

**Funding Needs and Potential Sources:** By enhancing current programs, existing funds will be used to complete Interventions. Local funds and grant dollars have been utilized to initiate a Community Health Educator to provide promotion, outreach and education in the community. The estimated cost is \$51,000. Additional grant opportunities from State and Federal sources will be explored For the need of transportation the FCPHD is exploring the possibility of using any number of hazard mitigation plans and funds to help not only justify but generally support the process of finding grant opportunities to help bring a greater fraction of community members to the kinds of healthcare which can sustain long term wellbeing.

#### **Healthy People 2030:**

1. Increase percentage from 68.9 to 75.8 percent of children with mental health problems to receive treatment.
2. Increase percentage from 79 to 87 percent of primary care facilities that provide mental health treatment onsite or by a paid referral.
3. Increase the proportion of children with autism spectrum disorders who receive special services by age 4 from 47.7% to 78.1%.
4. Reduce suicide attempts by adolescents from 10.2 per 100 to 1.8 per 100.

#### **Healthy Illinois 2028:**

1. Increase access to age-appropriate community-based care to reduce institutionalized treatment and incarceration.
2. Reduce mortality due to mental health conditions and substance use disorders through harm reduction and preventative care strategies.
3. Improve the resilience and recovery capital of communities experiencing violence.

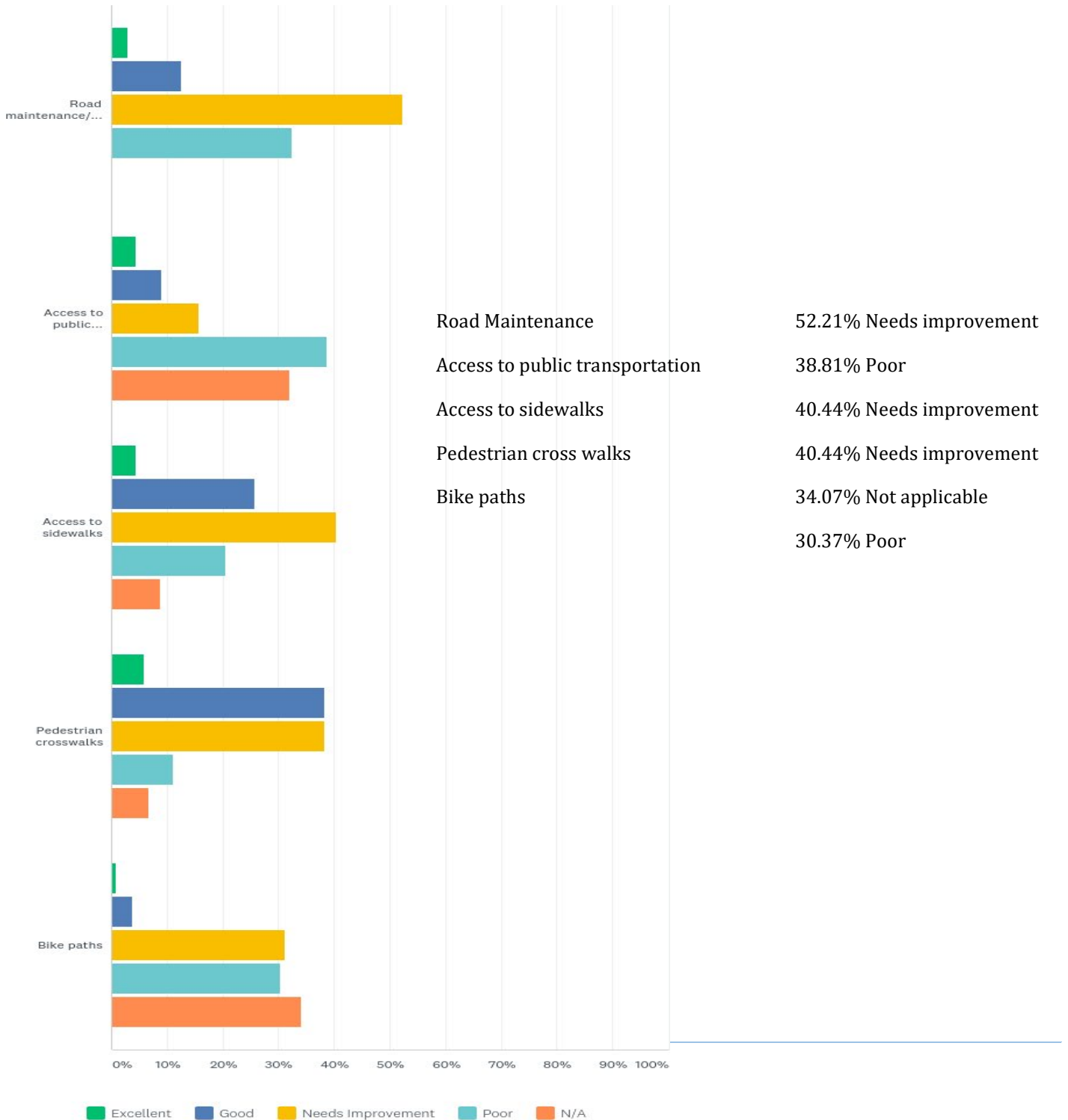




# Appendices

## Survey Results

Q1: Neighborhood Traffic & Roads: For each category, please indicate the level to which your neighborhood meets these needs



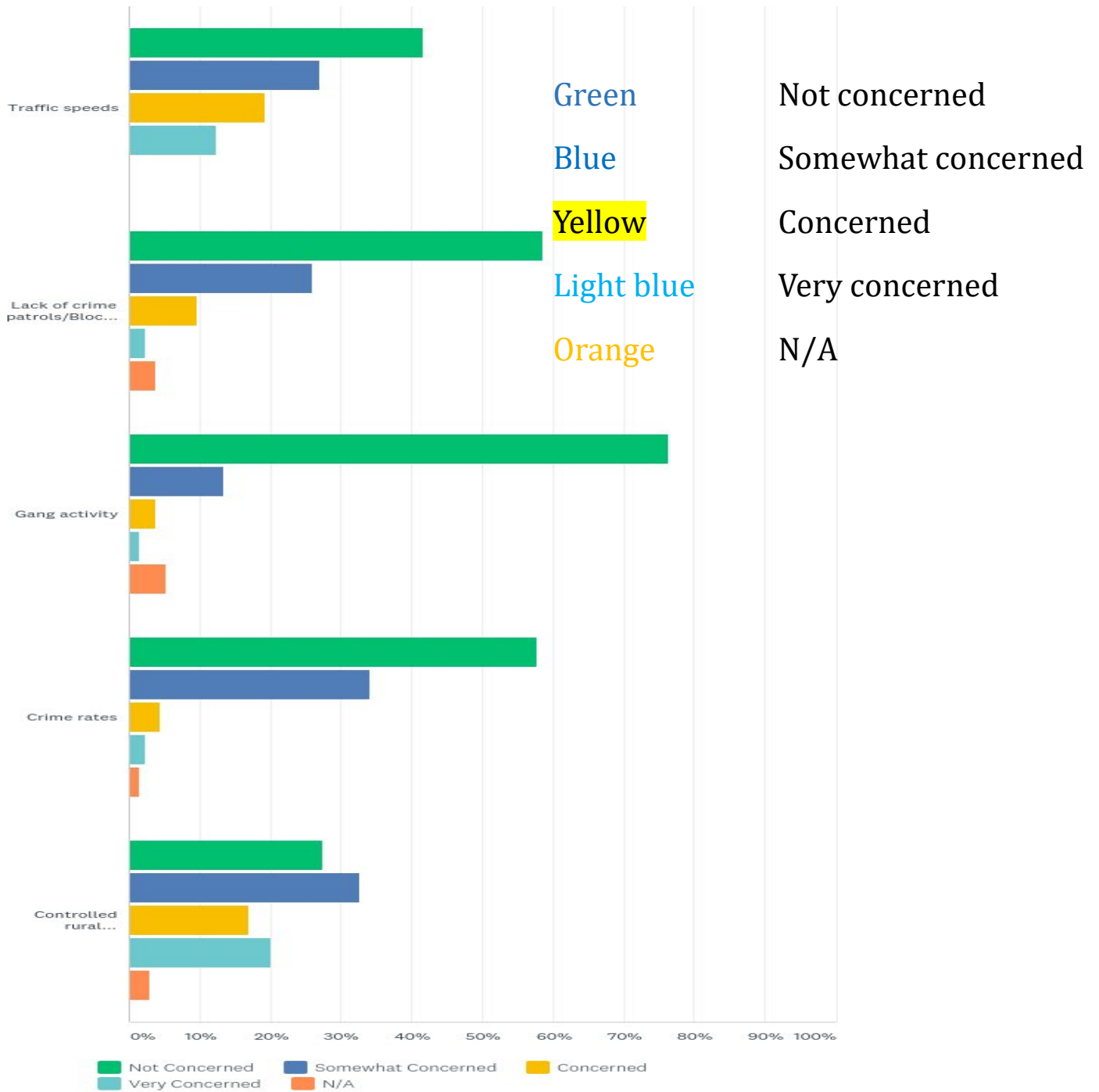


Q1: Neighborhood Traffic & Roads: For each category, please indicate the level to which your neighborhood meets these needs

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	POOR	N/A	TOTAL
Road maintenance/repair	2.94% 4	12.50% 17	52.21% 71	32.35% 44	0.00% 0	136
Access to public transportation	4.48% 6	8.96% 12	15.67% 21	38.81% 52	32.09% 43	134
Access to sidewalks	4.41% 6	25.74% 35	40.44% 55	20.59% 28	8.82% 12	136
Pedestrian crosswalks	5.88% 8	38.24% 52	38.24% 52	11.03% 15	6.62% 9	136
Bike paths	0.74% 1	3.70% 5	31.11% 42	30.37% 41	34.07% 46	135



Q2: Safety Concerns: For each category, please indicate your level of concern as it pertains to your neighborhood.





Q2: Safety Concerns: For each category, please indicate your level of concern as it pertains to your neighborhood.

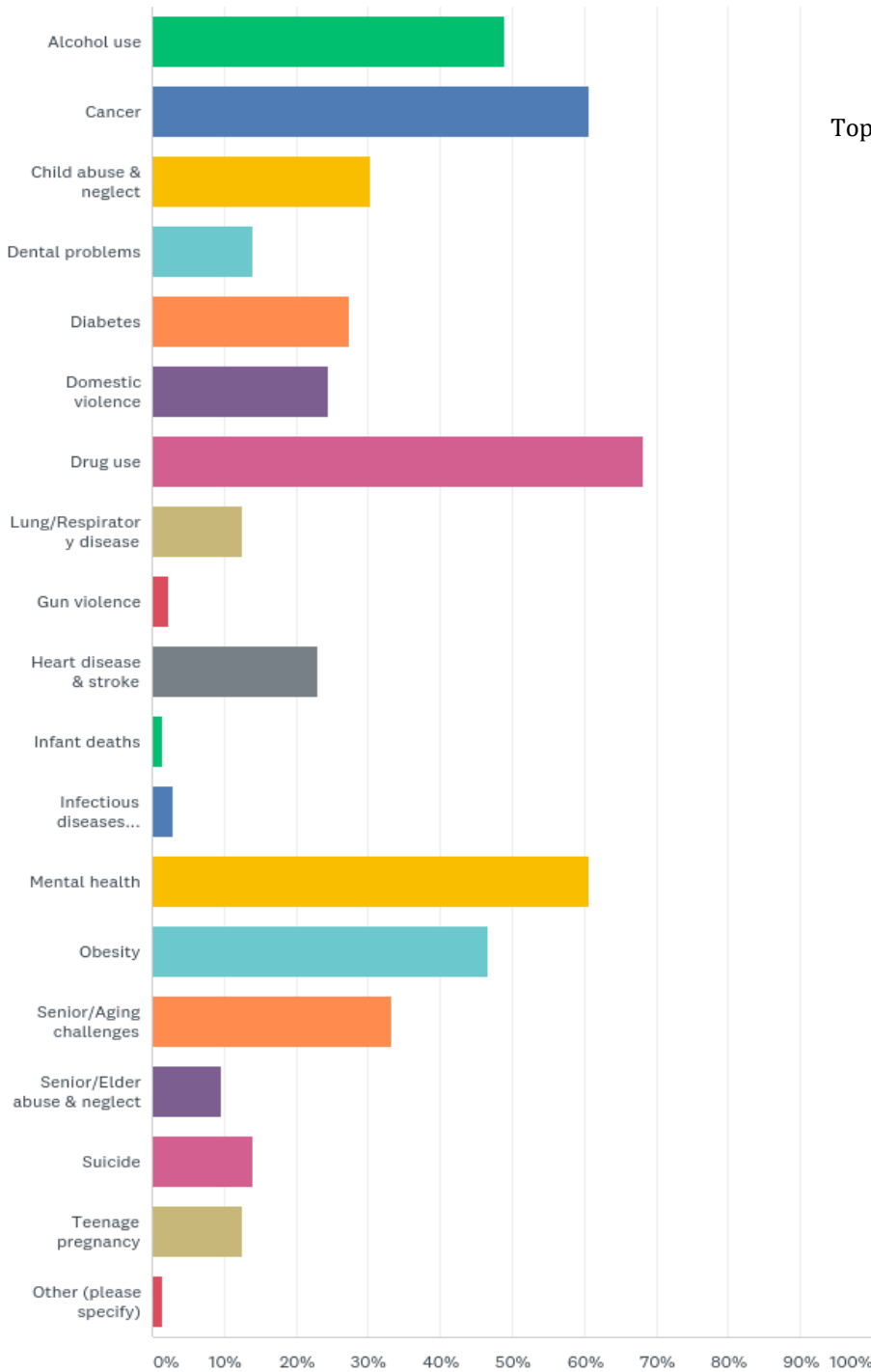
	NOT CONCERNED	SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	CONCERNED	VERY CONCERNED	N/A	TOTAL
Traffic speeds	41.54% 54	26.92% 35	19.23% 25	12.31% 16	0.00% 0	130
Lack of crime patrols/Block watches	58.52% 79	25.93% 35	9.63% 13	2.22% 3	3.70% 5	135
Gang activity	76.30% 103	13.33% 18	3.70% 5	1.48% 2	5.19% 7	135
Crime rates	57.78% 78	34.07% 46	4.44% 6	2.22% 3	1.48% 2	135
Controlled rural intersections	27.41% 37	32.59% 44	17.04% 23	20.00% 27	2.96% 4	135

### Comments:

Seems some drivers do not understand traffic laws such as not passing at intersections, how to handle unmarked intersections, how to navigate/drive on country roads, even with laws in place for staying off electronics drivers still have their faces buried in their phones while driving, children not buckled in car seats or buckled in period.



Q3: Health Issues: The following are the top reported health issues within the United States. Please select the (5) five health issues you feel are the most prevalent in Ford County. Select only 5.



Top five responses:

1. Drug Use 68.15%
2. Cancer 60.74%
3. Mental Health 60.74%
4. Alcohol Use 48.89%
5. Obesity 46.67%
6. Senior/Aging 33.33%
7. Child Abuse 30.37%
8. Diabetes 27.14%

Q3: Health Issues: The following are the top reported health issues within the United States. Please select the (5) five health issues you feel are the most prevalent in Ford County. Select only 5.

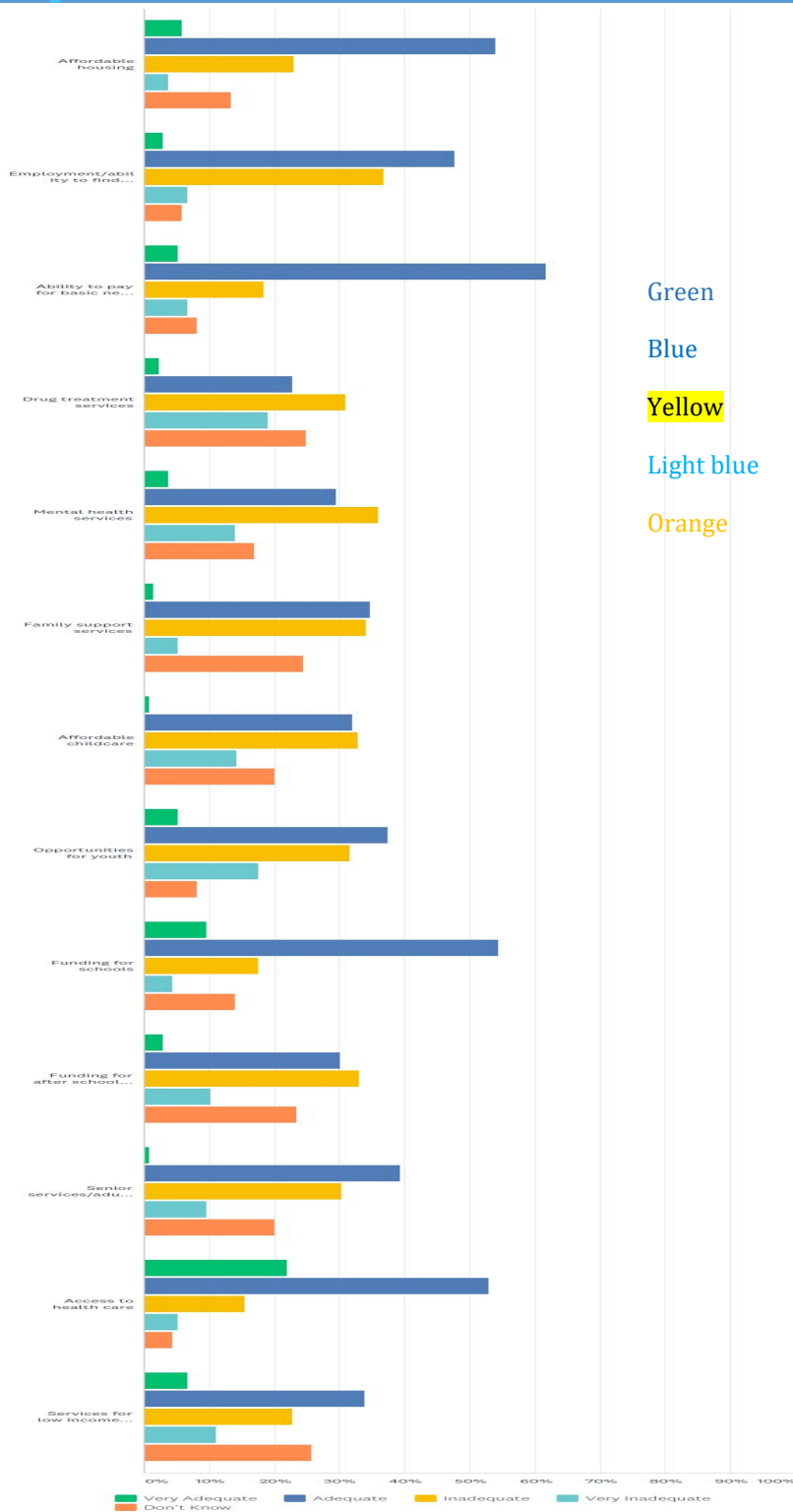


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Alcohol use	48.89%	66
Cancer	60.74%	82
Child abuse & neglect	30.37%	41
Dental problems	14.07%	19
Diabetes	27.41%	37
Domestic violence	24.44%	33
Drug use	68.15%	92
Lung/Respiratory disease	12.59%	17
Gun violence	2.22%	3
Heart disease & stroke	22.96%	31
Infant deaths	1.48%	2
Infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, STDs, West Nile Virus)	2.96%	4
Mental health	60.74%	82
Obesity	46.67%	63
Senior/Aging challenges	33.33%	45
Senior/Elder abuse & neglect	9.63%	13
Suicide	14.07%	19
Teenage pregnancy	12.59%	17
Other (please specify)	1.48%	2
Total Respondents: 135		

**Comments:**

I don't really think teenage pregnancy is a "health" issue. It is a lack of knowledge and/or resources. We do have a lot of teenage pregnancy here in town, but it is not a health issue. We need to be better about educating in a more realistic way and giving teenagers the proper resources to protect themselves and prevent teen pregnancy.

Q4: Community Resources: For each category, please indicate the level to which Ford County meets the need



Green Very adequate  
 Blue Adequate  
 Yellow Inadequate  
 Light blue Very inadequate  
 Orange Don't know

**Comments:**

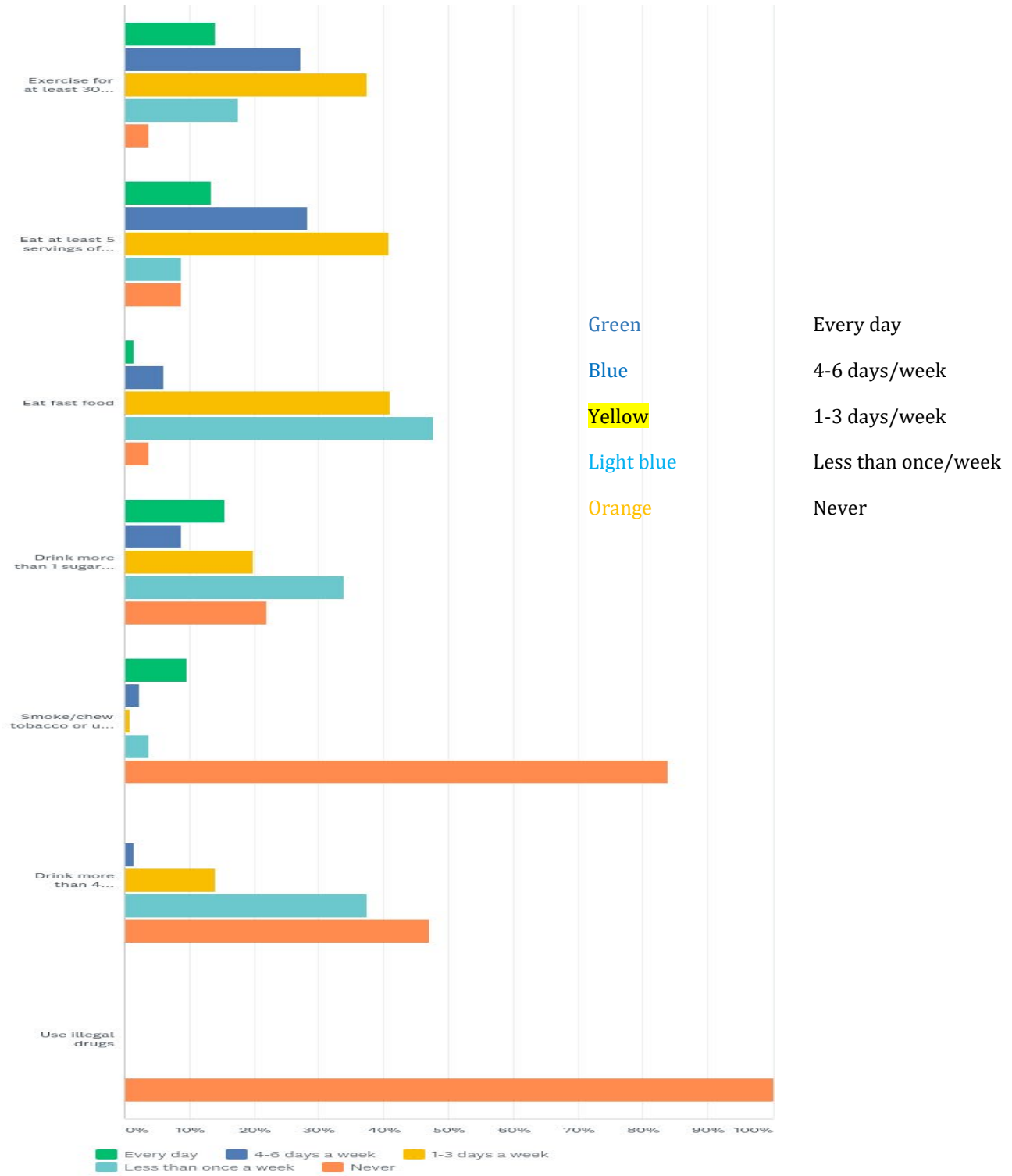
Transportation out of county can be challenging. Showbus is great, but it's not always available for people to get to Urbana/Champaign to see healthcare specialists

Q4: Community Resources: For each category, please indicate the level to which Ford County meets the need



	VERY ADEQUATE	ADEQUATE	INADEQUATE	VERY INADEQUATE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Affordable housing	5.93% 8	54.07% 73	22.96% 31	3.70% 5	13.33% 18	135
Employment/ability to find jobs	2.94% 4	47.79% 65	36.76% 50	6.62% 9	5.88% 8	136
Ability to pay for basic needs (food, clothing, etc.)	5.15% 7	61.76% 84	18.38% 25	6.62% 9	8.09% 11	136
Drug treatment services	2.21% 3	22.79% 31	30.88% 42	19.12% 26	25.00% 34	136
Mental health services	3.68% 5	29.41% 40	36.03% 49	13.97% 19	16.91% 23	136
Family support services	1.48% 2	34.81% 47	34.07% 46	5.19% 7	24.44% 33	135
Affordable childcare	0.75% 1	32.09% 43	32.84% 44	14.18% 19	20.15% 27	134
Opportunities for youth	5.15% 7	37.50% 51	31.62% 43	17.65% 24	8.09% 11	136
Funding for schools	9.56% 13	54.41% 74	17.65% 24	4.41% 6	13.97% 19	136
Funding for after school programs	2.94% 4	30.15% 41	33.09% 45	10.29% 14	23.53% 32	136
Senior services/adult care	0.74% 1	39.26% 53	30.37% 41	9.63% 13	20.00% 27	135
Access to health care	22.06% 30	52.94% 72	15.44% 21	5.15% 7	4.41% 6	136
Services for low income persons	6.62% 9	33.82% 46	22.79% 31	11.03% 15	25.74% 35	136

Q5: Personal Health: For each category, please indicate how often you engage in these activities per week



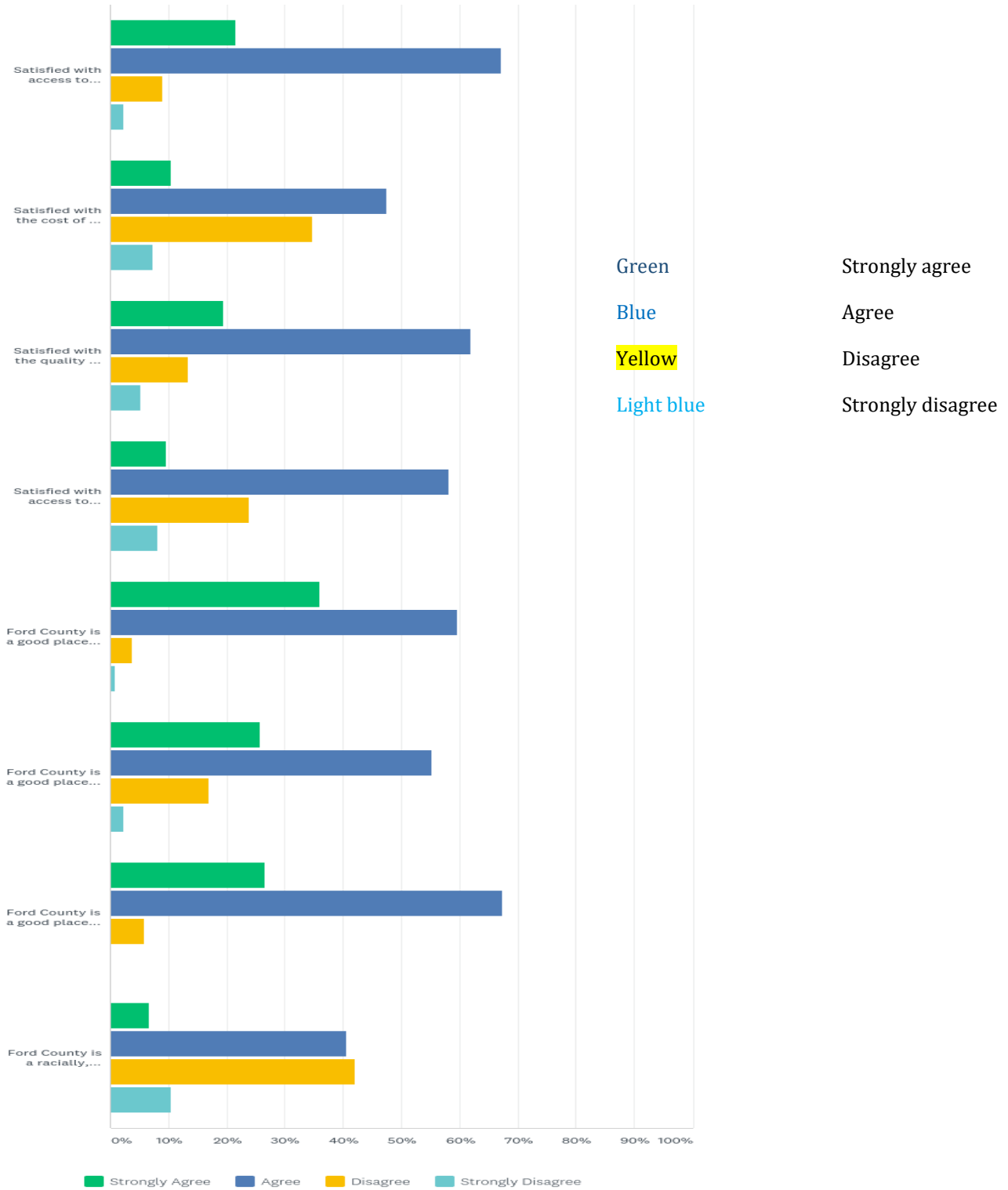
Q5. Personal Health: For each category, please indicate how often you engage in these activities per week



	EVERY DAY	4-6 DAYS A WEEK	1-3 DAYS A WEEK	LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK	NEVER	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Exercise for at least 30 minutes	13.97% 19	27.21% 37	37.50% 51	17.65% 24	3.68% 5	136	2.70
Eat at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables a day	13.33% 18	28.15% 38	40.74% 55	8.89% 12	8.89% 12	135	2.72
Eat fast food	1.49% 2	5.97% 8	41.04% 55	47.76% 64	3.73% 5	134	3.46
Drink more than 1 sugary drink a day (soda, sweet tea, etc.)	15.44% 21	8.82% 12	19.85% 27	33.82% 46	22.06% 30	136	3.38
Smoke/chew tobacco or use e-cigarettes	9.56% 13	2.21% 3	0.74% 1	3.68% 5	83.82% 114	136	4.50
Drink more than 4 alcoholic drinks	0.00% 0	1.47% 2	13.97% 19	37.50% 51	47.06% 64	136	4.30
Use illegal drugs	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 136	136	5.00



Q6: Personal Satisfaction: For each category, please indicate the level to which you agree or disagree that Ford County meets the need





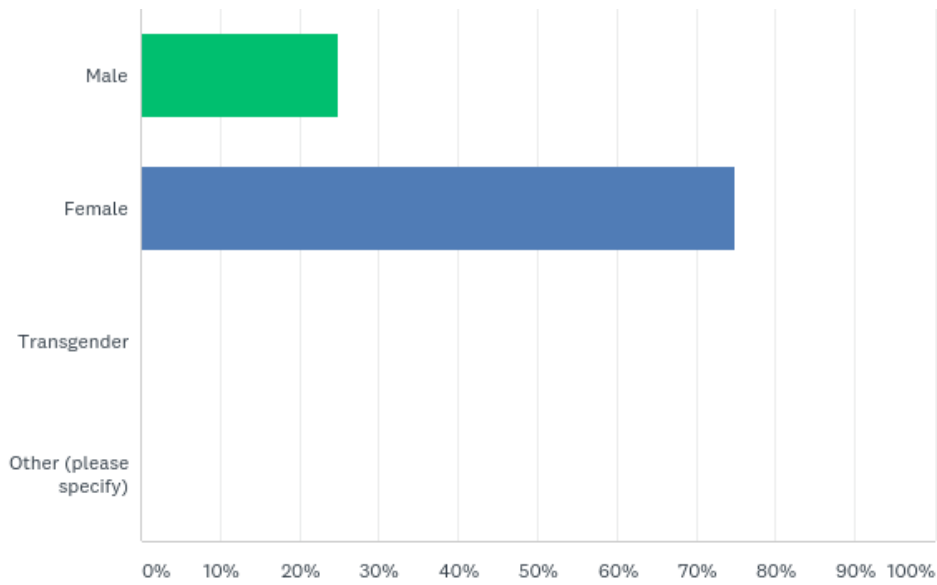
Q6: Personal Satisfaction: For each category, please indicate the level to which you agree or disagree that Ford County meets the need

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Satisfied with access to health in Ford County	21.64% 29	67.16% 90	8.96% 12	2.24% 3	134
Satisfied with the cost of my health care in Ford County	10.37% 14	47.41% 64	34.81% 47	7.41% 10	135
Satisfied with the quality of health care in Ford County	19.40% 26	61.94% 83	13.43% 18	5.22% 7	134
Satisfied with access to affordable dental care in Ford County	9.70% 13	58.21% 78	23.88% 32	8.21% 11	134
Ford County is a good place to raise children	36.03% 49	59.56% 81	3.68% 5	0.74% 1	136
Ford County is a good place to grow old	25.74% 35	55.15% 75	16.91% 23	2.21% 3	136
Ford County is a good place to live	26.67% 36	67.41% 91	5.93% 8	0.00% 0	135
Ford County is a racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse place to live	6.77% 9	40.60% 54	42.11% 56	10.53% 14	133

Q7. Zip Codes of Responses

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60957 Paxton 56</li> <li>• 60936 Gibson City 54</li> <li>• 61773 Sibley 5</li> <li>• 60933 Elliott 4</li> <li>• 60952 Melvin 3</li> <li>• 60948 Loda 3</li> <li>• 60918 Buckley 2</li> <li>• 60962 Roberts 2</li> <li>• 60946 Kempton 2</li> <li>• 61775 Strawn 1</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Not Represented</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60960 Clarence</li> <li>• 60919 Cabery</li> <li>• 60959 Piper City</li> </ul> |
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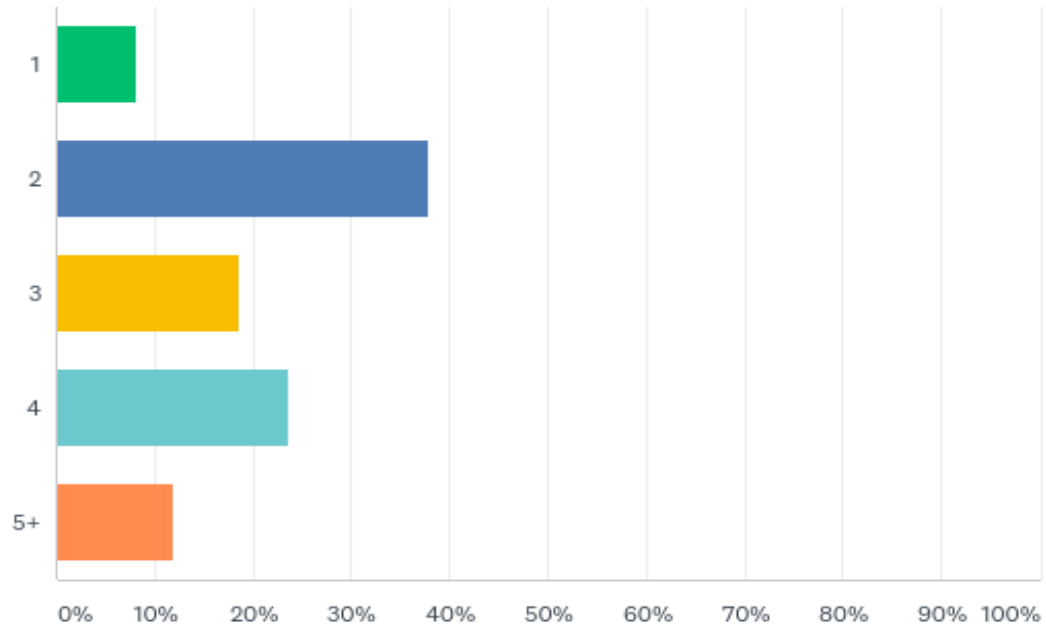
Q8: Gender:



Q8: Gender:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	25.00%	34
Female	75.00%	102
Transgender	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>136</b>

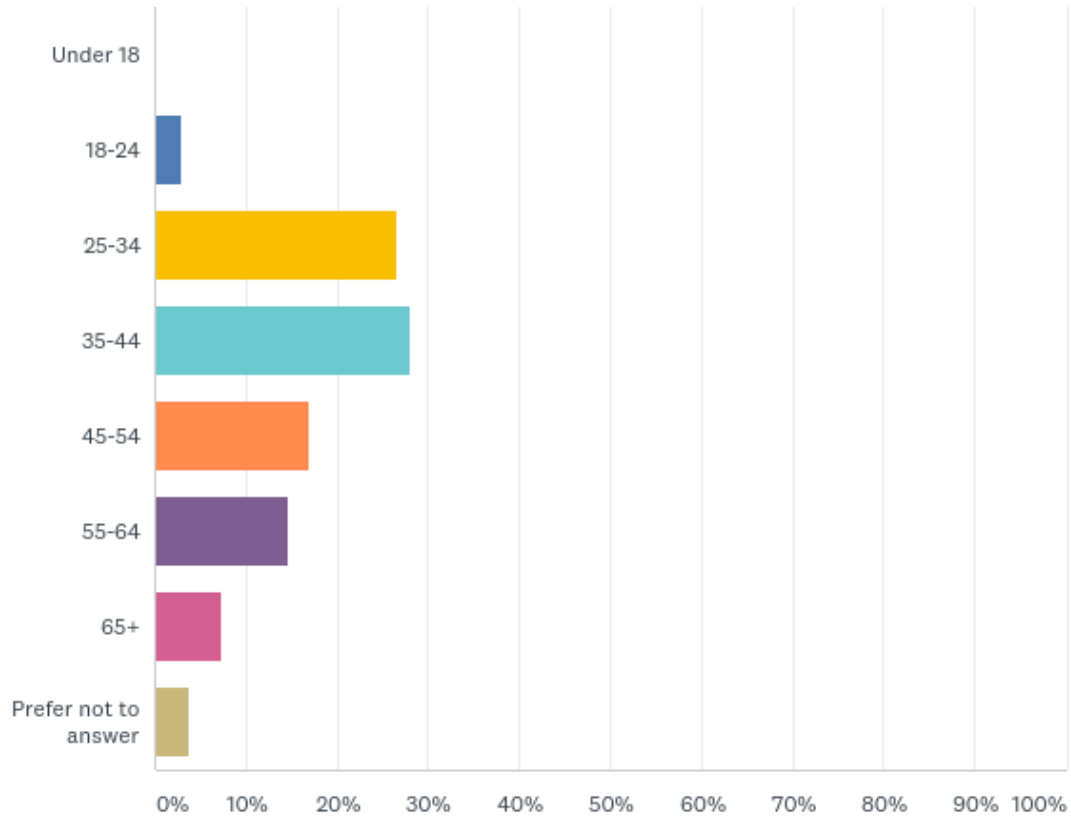
Q9: Including yourself, how many people live in your household?



Q9: Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	8.15%	11
2	37.78%	51
3	18.52%	25
4	23.70%	32
5+	11.85%	16
TOTAL		135

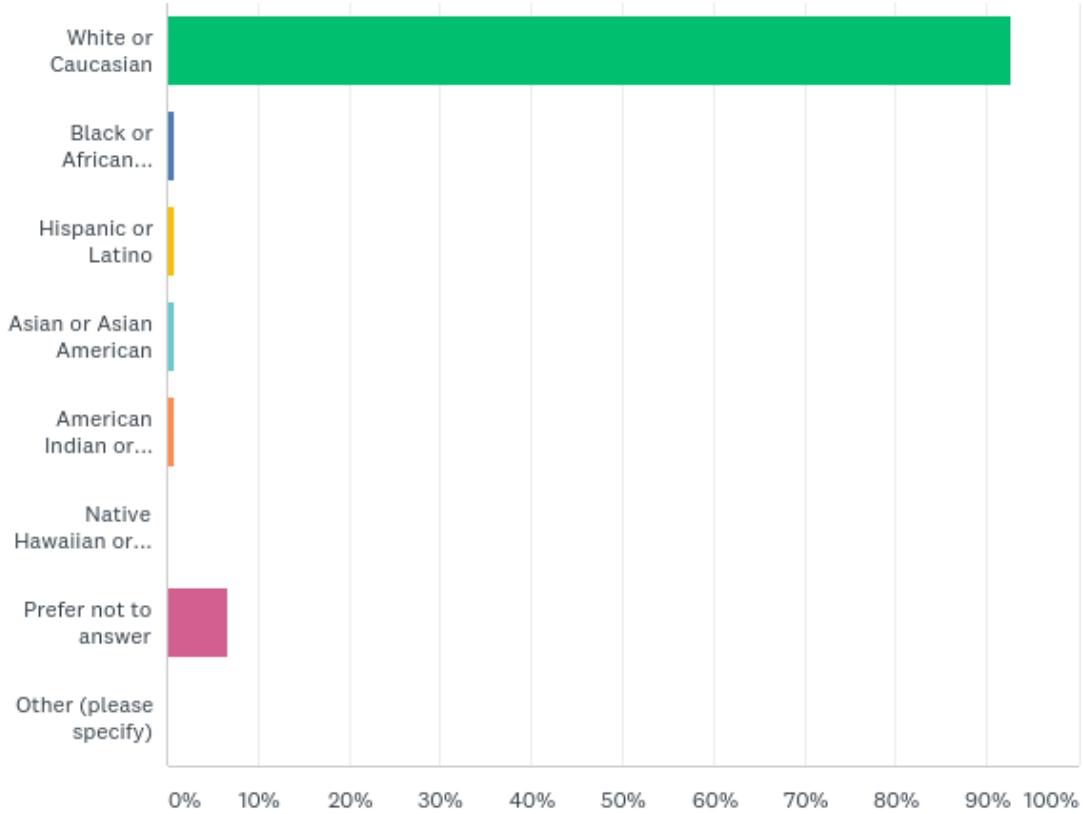
Q10: Age:



Q10: Age:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	2.94%	4
25-34	26.47%	36
35-44	27.94%	38
45-54	16.91%	23
55-64	14.71%	20
65+	7.35%	10
Prefer not to answer	3.68%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>136</b>

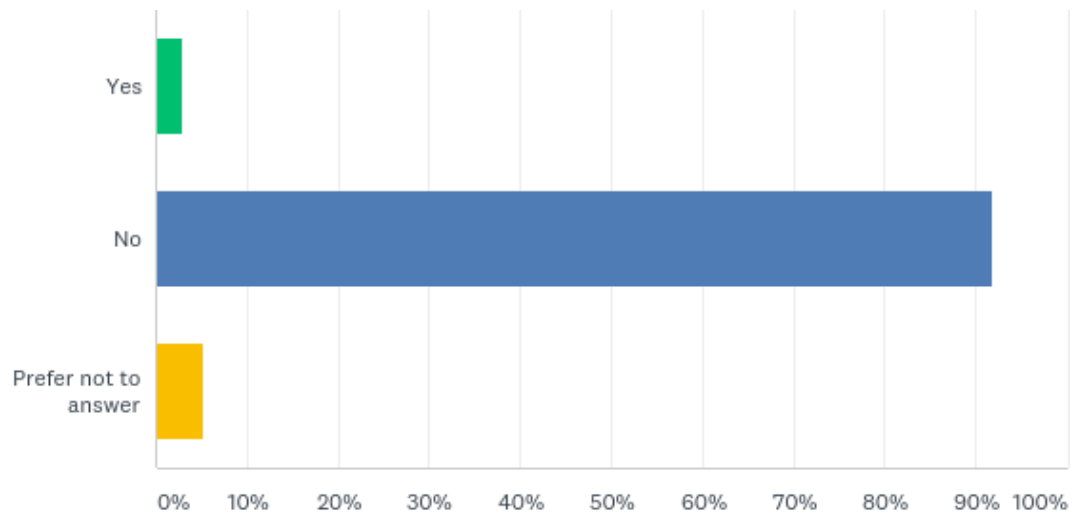
Q11: Race: (Select all that apply)



Q11: Race: (Select all that apply)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White or Caucasian	92.65%	126
Black or African American	0.74%	1
Hispanic or Latino	0.74%	1
Asian or Asian American	0.74%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.74%	1
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	6.62%	9
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 136		

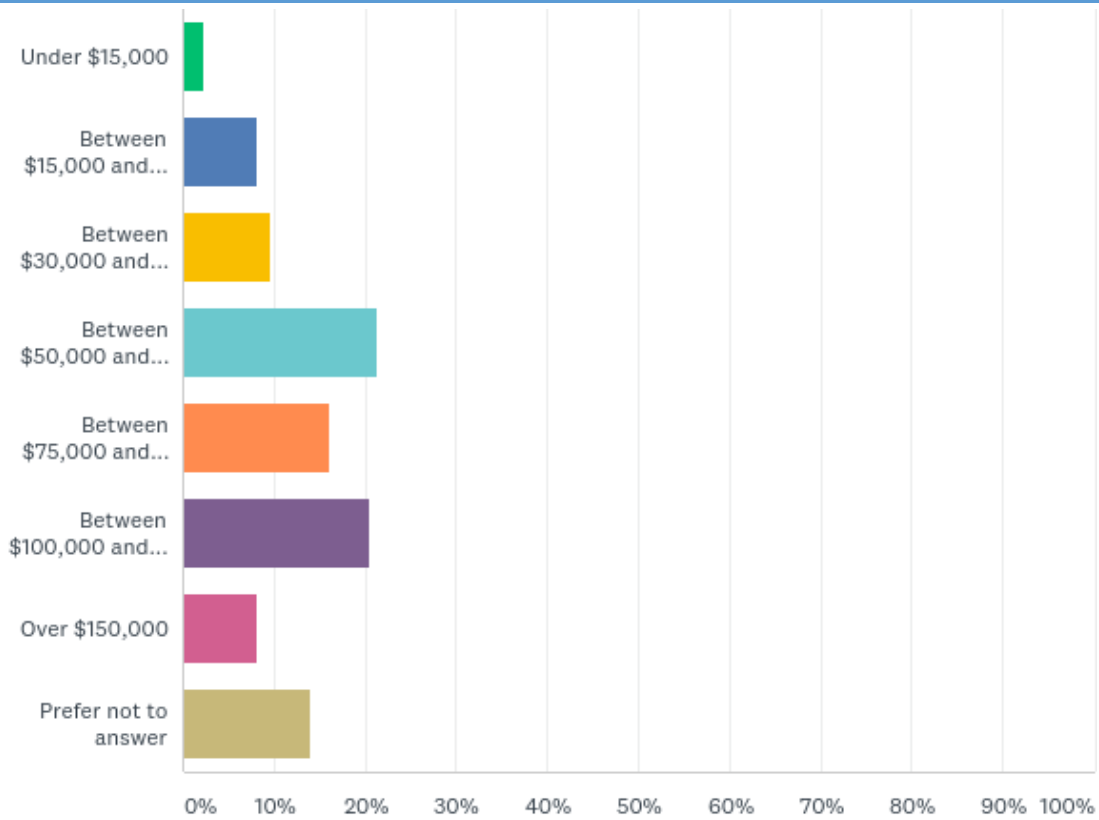
Q12: Are you Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin?



Q12: Are you Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	2.99%	4
No	91.79%	123
Prefer not to answer	5.22%	7
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

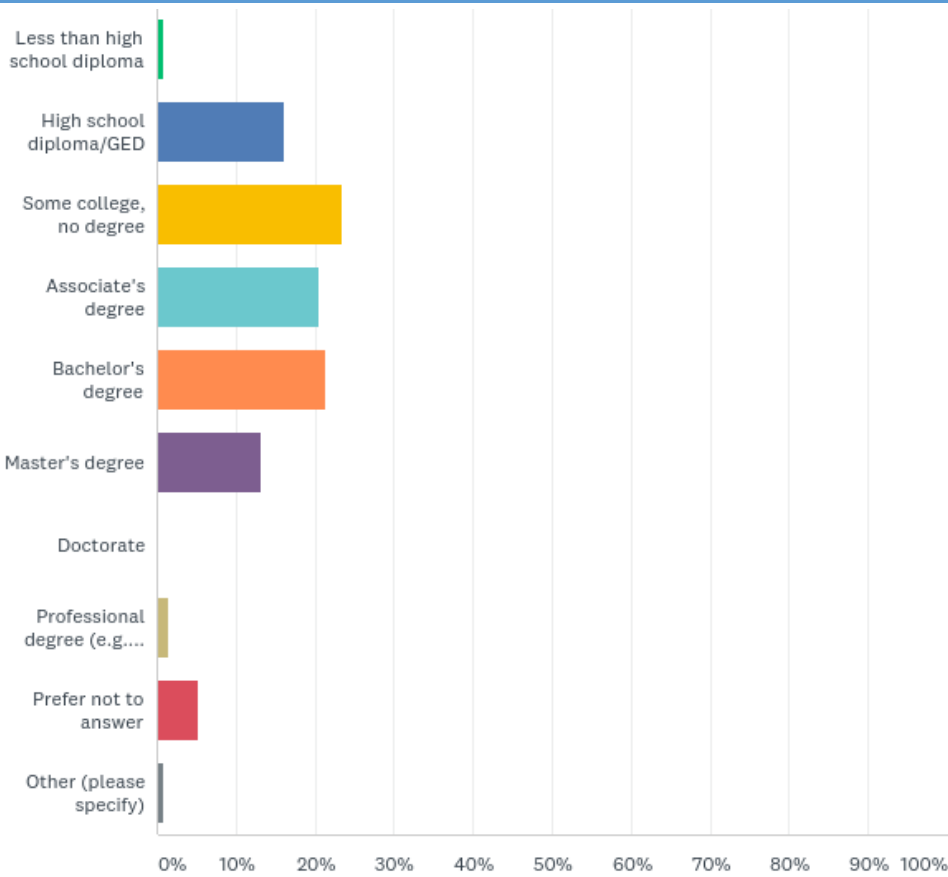
Q13: Household Income: (Please select one)



Q13: Household Income: (Please select one)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under \$15,000	2.21%	3
Between \$15,000 and \$29,999	8.09%	11
Between \$30,000 and \$49,999	9.56%	13
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	21.32%	29
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	16.18%	22
Between \$100,000 and \$150,000	20.59%	28
Over \$150,000	8.09%	11
Prefer not to answer	13.97%	19
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>136</b>

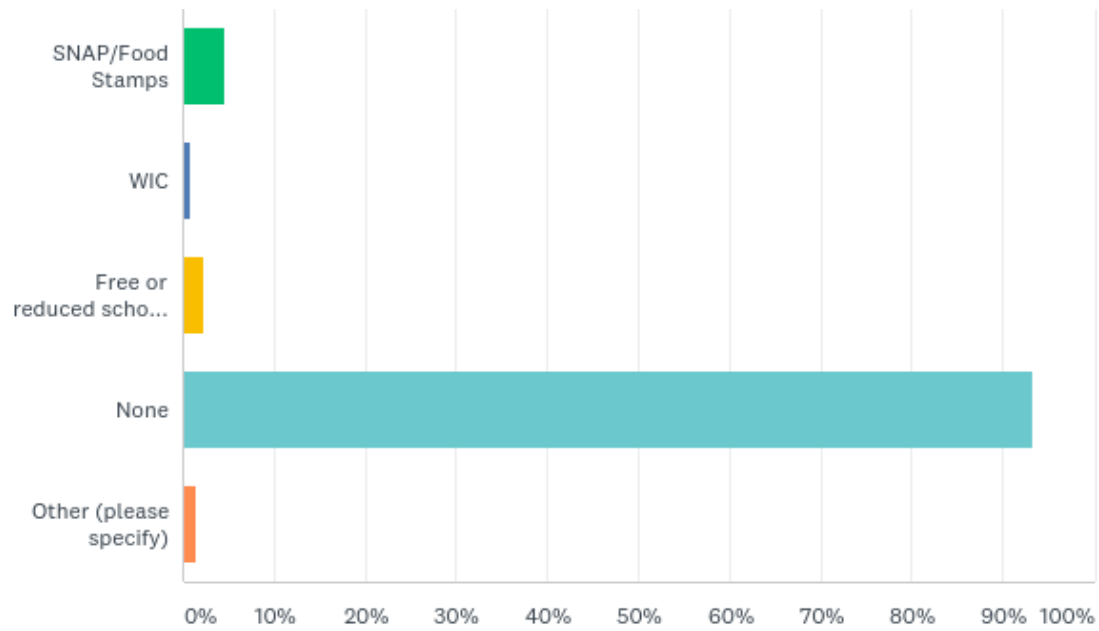
Q14: Education: (Highest level completed)



Q14: Education: (Highest level completed)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than high school diploma	0.74%	1
High school diploma/GED	16.18%	22
Some college, no degree	23.53%	32
Associate's degree	20.59%	28
Bachelor's degree	21.32%	29
Master's degree	13.24%	18
Doctorate	0.00%	0
Professional degree (e.g. MD, DDS, DVM)	1.47%	2
Prefer not to answer	5.15%	7
Other (please specify)	0.74%	1
Total Respondents: 136		

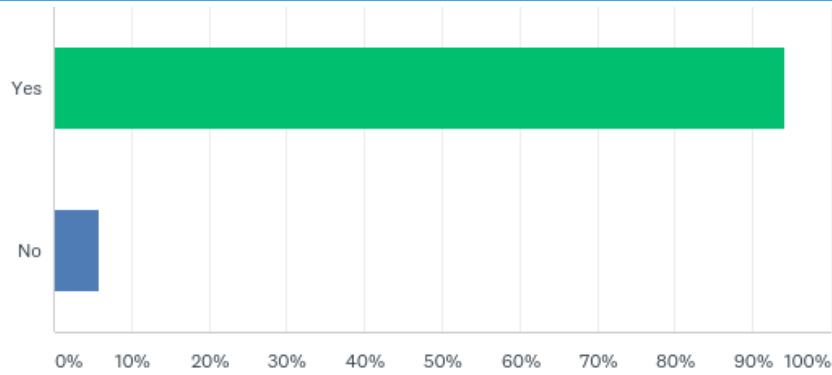
Q15: Do you qualify for any of the following programs? (Select all that apply)



Q15: Do you qualify for any of the following programs? (Select all that apply)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
SNAP/Food Stamps	4.51%	6
WIC	0.75%	1
Free or reduced school lunch	2.26%	3
None	93.23%	124
Other (please specify)	1.50%	2
Total Respondents: 133		

Q16: Do you have a primary care physician?

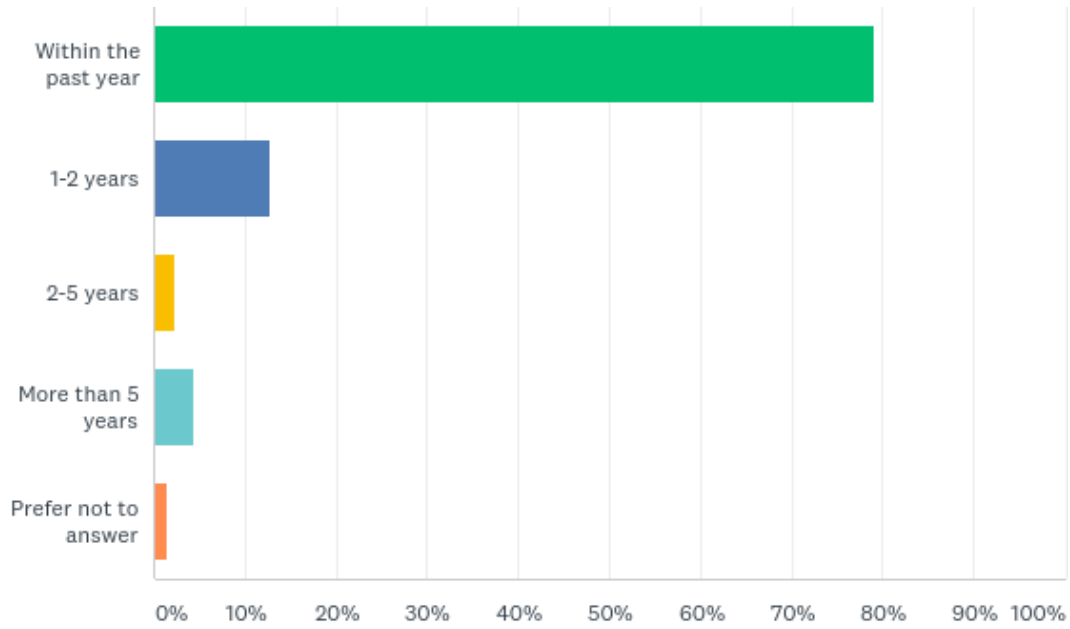


Q16: Do you have a primary care physician?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	94.12%	128
No	5.88%	8
TOTAL		136

GAHHS	77	St James Pontiac	1
Christie	6	Veteran's Administration	1
Carle	16	Not GAHHS	1
OSF Urbana	3		
OSF Bloomington	1		

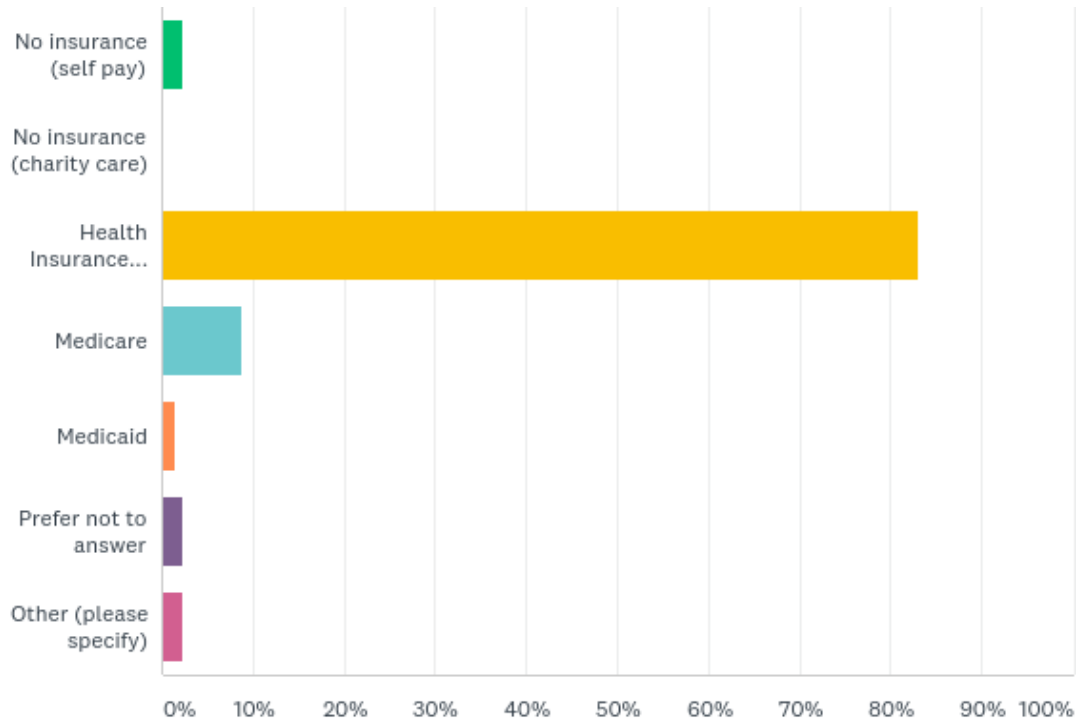
Q17: How long has it been since you had a routine check-up at a primary care provider's office?



Q17: How long has it been since you had a routine check-up at a primary care provider's office?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Within the past year	79.10%	106
1-2 years	12.69%	17
2-5 years	2.24%	3
More than 5 years	4.48%	6
Prefer not to answer	1.49%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

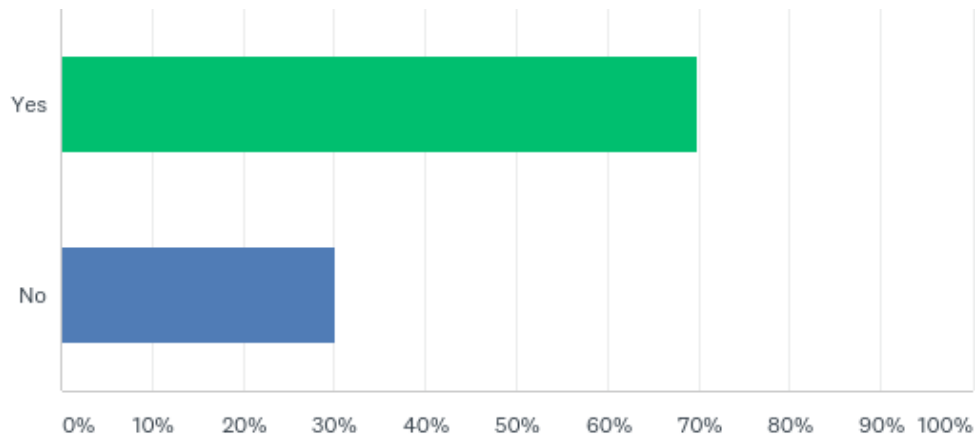
Q18: How do you pay for health care?



Q18: How do you pay for health care?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No insurance (self pay)	2.21%	3
No insurance (charity care)	0.00%	0
Health Insurance (employer, spouse, parent, Marketplace)	83.09%	113
Medicare	8.82%	12
Medicaid	1.47%	2
Prefer not to answer	2.21%	3
Other (please specify)	2.21%	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>136</b>

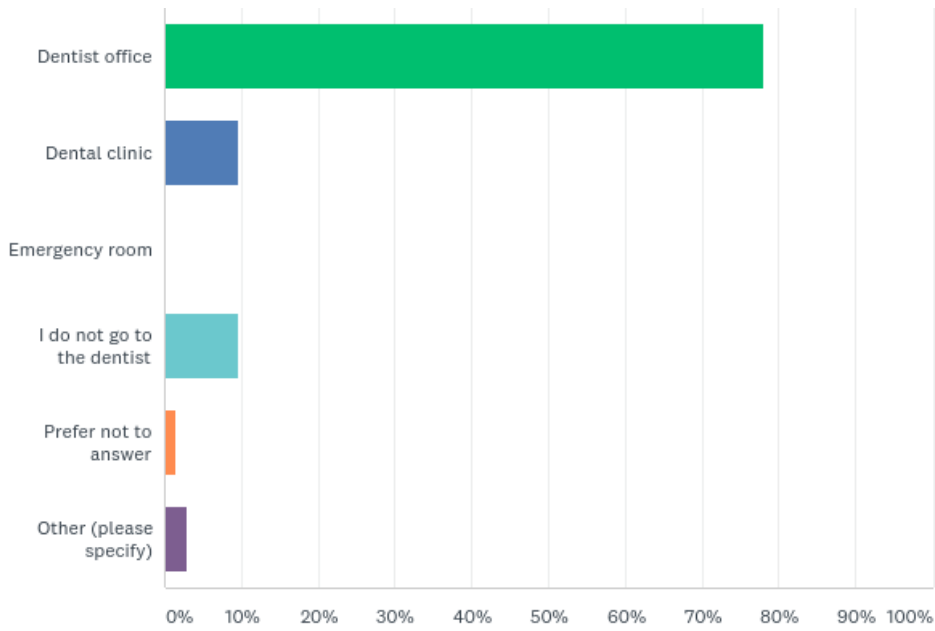
Q19: Do you see a dentist regularly?



Q19: Do you see a dentist regularly?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	69.85%	95
No	30.15%	41
TOTAL		136

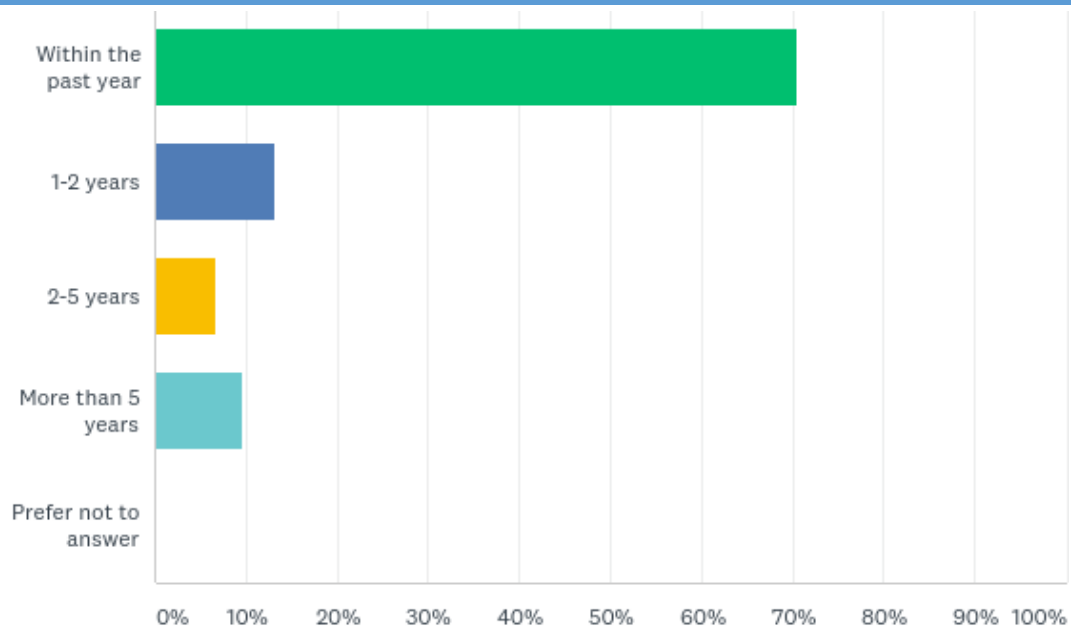
Q20: Where do you go for dental services?



Q20: Where do you go for dental services?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Dentist office	77.94%	106
Dental clinic	9.56%	13
Emergency room	0.00%	0
I do not go to the dentist	9.56%	13
Prefer not to answer	1.47%	2
Other (please specify)	2.94%	4
Total Respondents: 136		

Q21: How long has it been since you have seen a dentist?



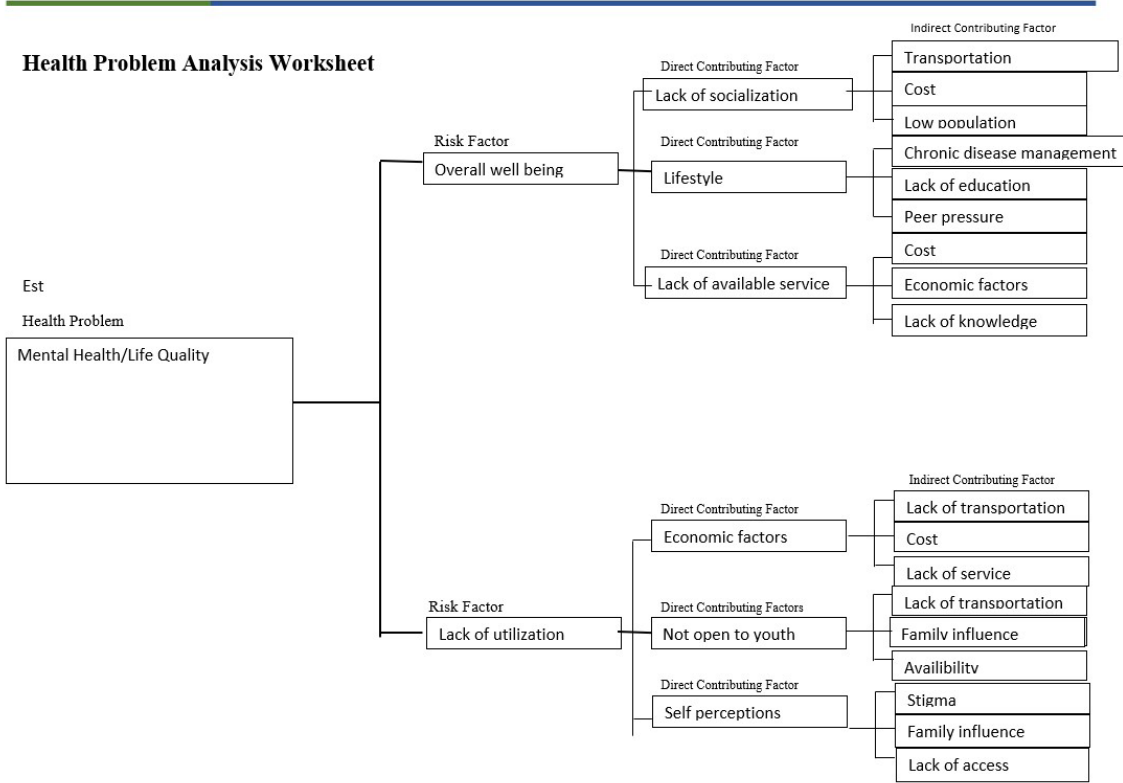
Q21: How long has it been since you have seen a dentist?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Within the past year	70.59% 96
1-2 years	13.24% 18
2-5 years	6.62% 9
More than 5 years	9.56% 13
Prefer not to answer	0.00% 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>136</b>



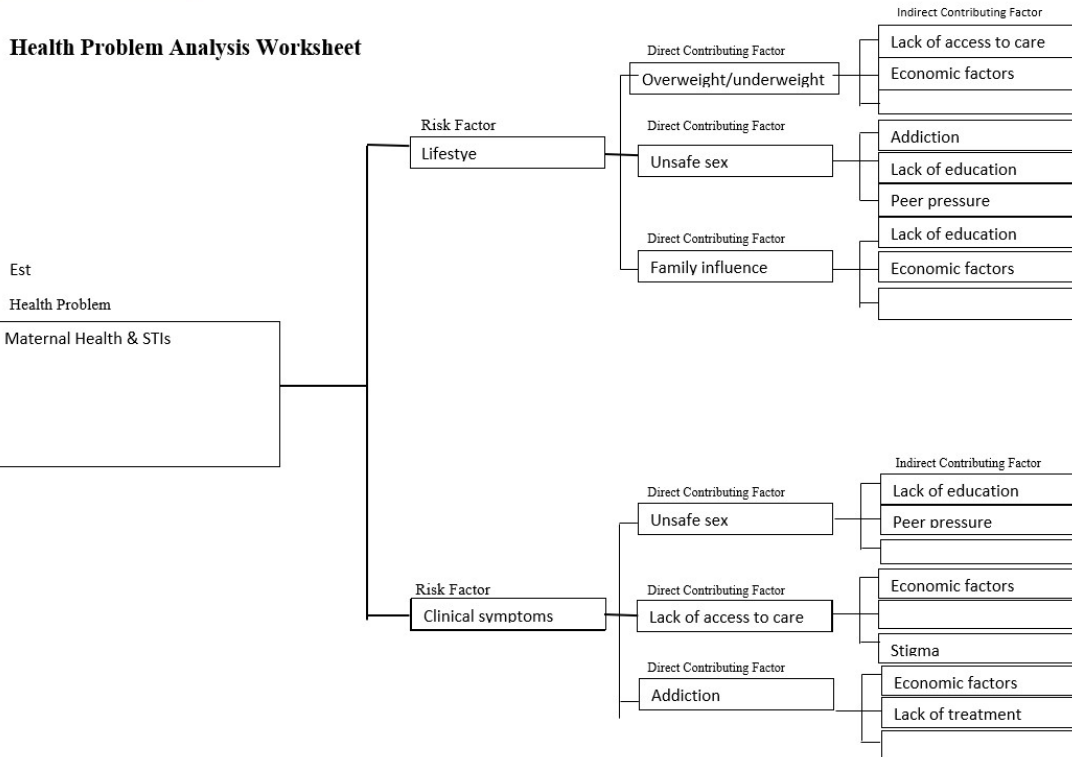
# Health Problem Analysis Worksheets

## Mental Health & Life Quality:



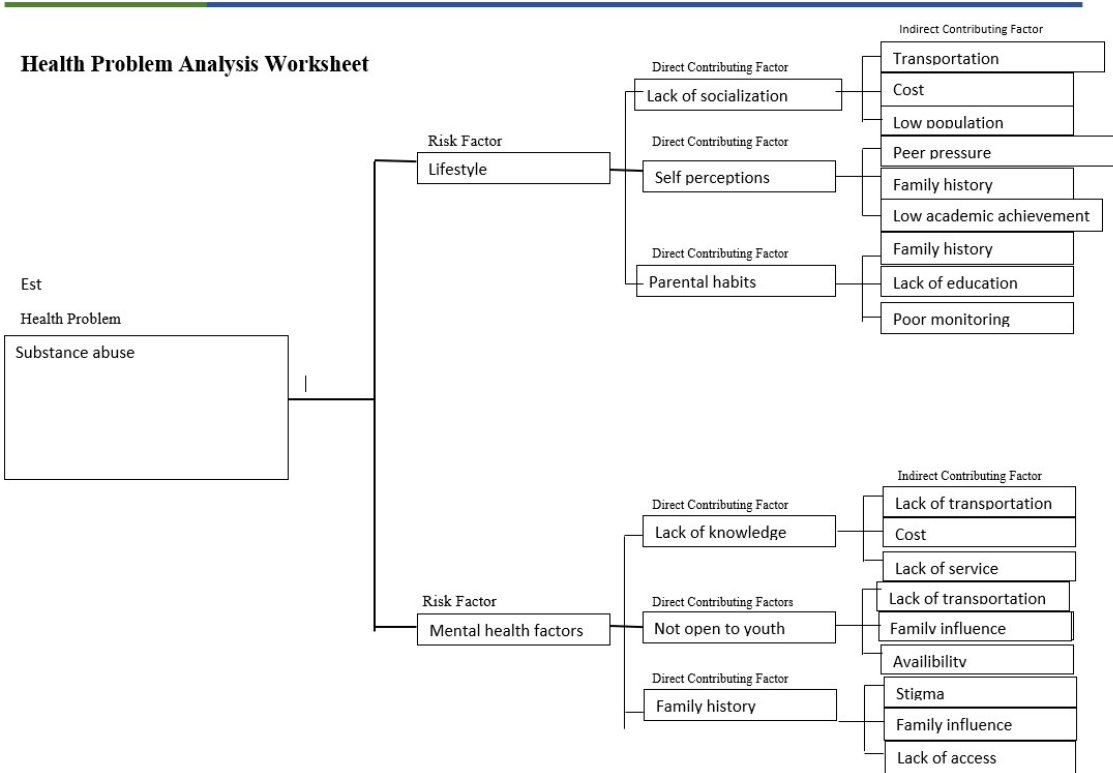


### Maternal & STI:



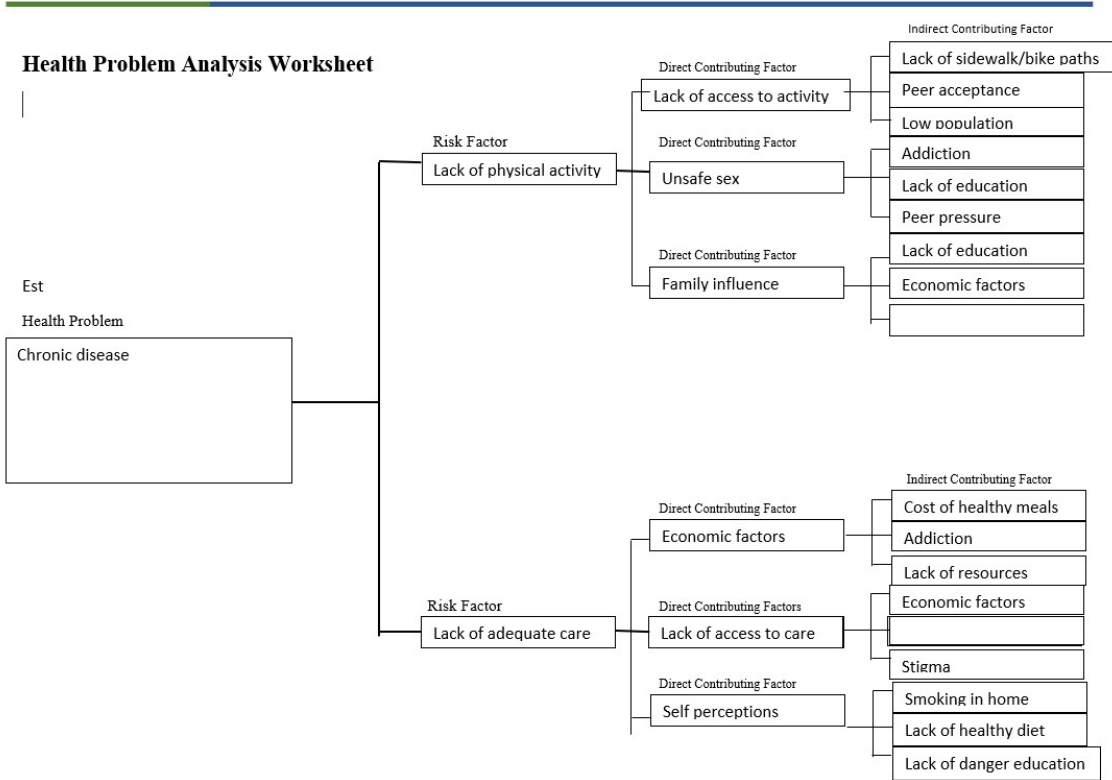


### Substance Abuse:





Chronic Disease:





# Community Health Plan Worksheet

## Ford County Community Health Plan Worksheet

<p><b>Health Problem:</b></p> <p>Life Quality &amp; Mental Health</p>	<p><b>Outcome Objectives:</b></p> <p>By 2028, reduce the average number of reported mentally unhealthy days in the past 30 to 3 or fewer. Ford County is currently at 4.6 which is data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System accessed through County Health Rankings.</p>
<p><b>Risk Factors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall well being</li> <li>• Lack of utilization</li> </ul>	<p><b>Impact Objectives:</b></p> <p>By 2026, 12th grade students in Ford County will report having mental health concerns at or below the State percentage. Using the Illinois Youth Survey results, 47% of the 8th grade students in 2028 within Ford County reported having mental health concerns in the past 12 months compared to Illinois at 28%.</p>
<p><b>Contributing Factors (Direct/Indirect):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chronic Disease Management</li> <li>• Heart Disease</li> <li>• Cancer</li> <li>• Respiratory Illness</li> <li>• Lifestyle</li> <li>• Lack of Physical Activity</li> <li>• Unhealthy Diet</li> <li>• Lack of Socialization</li> <li>• Stigma</li> <li>• Lack of Education</li> <li>• Not open to youth</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Availability</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Available Service</li> <li>• Lack of Knowledge</li> </ul>	<p><b>Proven Intervention Strategies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health First Aid Training and Youth Mental Health First Aid Training</li> <li>• Outreach and education on available transportation services</li> <li>• Mental health services within schools</li> <li>• Outreach and education on available mental health services</li> <li>• Outreach and education on mental health awareness</li> <li>• Outreach and education on youth mental health awareness, especially in schools</li> </ul>
<p><b>Resources Available:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Health Department</li> <li>• Community Resource Counseling Center</li> <li>• Gibson Area Hospital Behavioral Health</li> </ul>	<p><b>Barriers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of transportation to appointments</li> <li>• Schools allowing additional curriculum</li> <li>• Educators attending additional mental health training</li> <li>• Inpatient mental health treatment availability</li> </ul>



**Ford County  
Community Health Plan Worksheet**

<p><b>Health Problem:</b></p> <p>Chronic disease</p>	<p><b>Outcome Objectives:</b></p> <p>By 2029, increase cardiovascular health measure by 5%.</p>
<p><b>Risk Factors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overweight or Obese</li> <li>• Cigarette Smoke and Smoking</li> </ul>	<p><b>Impact Objectives:</b></p> <p>By the time of the 2026 Youth Assessment, increase the amount of exercise youth participate in by 20%.</p>
<p><b>Contributing Factors (Direct/Indirect):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of Physical Activity</li> <li>• Unhealthy Diet</li> <li>• Family Influence</li> <li>• Self Perception</li> <li>• Secondhand Smoke</li> <li>• Lack of Sidewalks/Bicycle Paths</li> <li>• Knowledge of importance of physical activity</li> <li>• Cost of healthy meals</li> <li>• Lack of healthy diet</li> <li>• Addiction</li> <li>• Lack/Known resources</li> <li>• Peer/Family Acceptance</li> <li>• Smoking in home</li> <li>• Lack of danger education</li> </ul>	<p><b>Proven Intervention Strategies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide education on public and private resources for smoking cessation</li> <li>• Engage medical community in promotion of smoking cessation programs</li> <li>• Provide education in public and private settings regarding negative health effects of tobacco use</li> <li>• Encourage use of public space for exercise.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Resources Available:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Health Department</li> <li>• Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services</li> <li>• Illinois Tobacco Quitline</li> </ul>	<p><b>Barriers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statistics due to low population within the County</li> <li>• Outdoor resources for walking and bike riding</li> <li>• Coordination of physical activity availability</li> </ul>



**Ford County  
Community Health Plan Worksheet**

<b>Health Problem:</b>  Maternal Health/STIs.	<b>Outcome Objectives:</b> By 2029, reduce teen birth below 18 occurrences per 1000.
<b>Risk Factors:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lifestyle</li><li>• Clinical Symptoms</li></ul>	<b>Impact Objectives:</b> By 2026, increase knowledge of serostatus by 5%.
<b>Contributing Factors (Direct/Indirect):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overweight or Obese</li><li>• Underweight</li><li>• Unhealthy Diet</li><li>• Unsafe sex</li><li>• Lack of education</li><li>• Family Influence</li><li>• Peer pressure</li><li>• Addiction: Physical/Psychological</li><li>• Lack of access to care</li></ul>	<b>Proven Intervention Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Educate on maternal health.</li><li>• Educate on sexual health.</li><li>• Increase use of community resources for expecting mothers.</li><li>• Provide community resources for the prevention of STIs.</li></ul>
<b>Resources Available:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Health Department</li><li>• Community Resource Counseling Center</li><li>• Gibson Area Hospital Elite</li><li>• Paxton Community and Wellness Center</li></ul>	<b>Barriers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stigma</li><li>• Lack of desire for education</li><li>• Economic factors</li></ul>



**Ford County  
Community Health Plan Worksheet**

<b>Health Problem:</b>  Substance Abuse	<b>Outcome Objectives:</b>  By 2029, reduce inpatient visits for alcohol and drug treatment to below 8.5 per 10,000 through prevention and early intervention, as opposed to by stigma or refusal of treatment.
<b>Risk Factors:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lifestyle</li><li>• Mental Health Factors</li></ul>	<b>Impact Objectives:</b>  Reduce the number of students who report having used alcohol or illicit drugs by 15% by the time of the 2026 youth survey.
<b>Contributing Factors (Direct/Indirect):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of Socialization</li><li>• Self Perception</li><li>• Parental Habits</li><li>• Lack of Knowledge</li><li>• Not open to youth</li><li>• Family History</li><li>• Stigma</li><li>• Low academic achievement</li><li>• Peer/family influence and pressure</li></ul>	<b>Proven Intervention Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Early education on risks.</li><li>• Education on addiction.</li><li>• Increase use of community resources by community members.</li></ul>
<b>Resources Available:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Health Department</li><li>• Community Resource Counseling Center</li><li>• Gibson Area Hospital Elite</li><li>• Paxton Community and Wellness Center</li></ul>	<b>Barriers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stigma</li><li>• Lack of desire for education</li><li>• Economic factors</li><li>• Complacency</li></ul>