

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment



Adopted by the MercyOne Medical Center Board of Directors June 5, 2025.

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Executive Summary

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requires not-for-profit health care organizations to perform a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) every three years and adopt an implementation plan to meet the outstanding community health needs, identified therein, as a condition of maintaining the institution's federal tax exemption. This requirement became effective in 2012. The CHNA process uses data and community input to measure the relative health and social well-being of a community. The information identified as community assets and needs are used to develop an implementation strategy. The findings should inspire collective action and ensure meaningful, effective allocation of resources, both within the hospital and in the community.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, in collaboration with an advisory committee, conducted an inclusive and comprehensive community-based assessment to determine the health needs of Fayette County. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center utilized the same survey as Black Hawk County. In addition, three focus groups took place, to get additional information on what the residents of Fayette County feel are needs in their community. Fayette County Public Health is part of Gunderson Palmer Lutheran Hospital and Clinics and are aligned with their Community Health Needs Assessment cycle. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center's Community Health Needs Assessment was completed independently, but in collaboration with Fayette County Public Health and Healthy Fayette County.

Healthy Fayette County Partners:

Northeast Iowa food & Fitness Initiative

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

NAMI

Hillcrest Family Services

Gundersen Palmer Lutheran Hospital and Clinics

Rock Valley Physical Therapy

UnityPoint Health

Elevate

Upper Explorerland

Fayette County Public Health

MercyOne

Riverview Center

Helping Services for Youth & Families

Master Gardener

North Fayette Valley Community Coalition

Dolly Pardon's Imagination Library

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, in collaboration with an advisory committee conducted a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the geographic area of Fayette County. The CHNA was presented to and adopted by the MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center Board of Directors on June 5, 2025.

In reviewing the survey, focus group and secondary data, there were 23 common themes identified. The advisory committee was sent a Microsoft forms link with a list of all themes that were pulled from the survey and focus groups. Each committee member was asked to pick their top 10 needs. A meeting was held on December 10, 2024. At this meeting, the top 14 (due to multiple ties) were presented to the committee to review and prioritize.

The common themes identified were:

1. Childcare/daycare availability
2. Access to Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Services
3. Access to Nutritional Food
4. Mental Health
5. Affordable Safe Housing
6. Economic Stability
7. Food Insecurity
8. Jobs and Healthy Economy
9. Transportation
10. Substance Use
11. Access to Health Care
12. Screen Time
13. Dental Care & Access to Dental Care
14. Care for the Elderly

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It was decided that a few of the above listed could be combined (due to similarity), reducing the above common themes from 14 to 11.

The advisory committee met on December 10, 2024, and ranked the identified significant health needs considering the following: number of people impacted, the risk of morbidity and mortality, impact on vulnerable populations, importance to the community, and feasibility of change. The significant community health needs, ranked order of priority, include:

1. Mental health
2. Substance Misuse
3. Food Insecurity & Nutritional Food
4. Childcare/Daycare
5. Affordable Safe Housing
6. Access to Healthcare
7. Transportation
8. Economic Stability, Jobs, Healthy Economy
9. Screen Time (kids)
10. Care for the Elderly
11. Dental Care & Access to Dental Care

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center will begin work on the implementation strategy by February 1, 2025.

Printed copies of this report are available upon request at MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center. This report is also available electronically at <https://www.MercyOne.org/about-us/community-health-and-well-being/>

Please email questions, comments, and feedback to communityhealth@mercyhealth.com.

About Us

Our Mission

We, MercyOne, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

Our Vision

As a mission-driven innovative health organization, we will become the national leader in improving the health of our communities and each person we serve. We will be your most trusted health partner for life.

Our Core Values

- **Reverence:** We honor the sacredness and dignity of every person.
- **Commitment to Those Experiencing Poverty:** We stand with and serve those who are experiencing poverty, especially those most vulnerable.
- **Safety:** We embrace a culture that prevents harm and nurtures a healing, safe environment for all.
- **Justice:** We foster right relationships to promote the common good, including sustainability of Earth.
- **Stewardship:** We honor our heritage and hold ourselves accountable for the human, financial and natural resources entrusted to our care.
- **Integrity:** We are faithful to who we say we are.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center

MercyOne is a connected system of health care facilities and services dedicated to helping people and communities live their best lives. The system's more than 230 clinics, medical centers, hospitals, and care locations are located throughout the state of Iowa and beyond. MercyOne employs more than 22,000 colleagues. MercyOne is a member of Trinity Health based in Livonia, Michigan.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, a member of MercyOne, is a faith-based, full-service community health system-serving residents of Fayette County. It is a 25-bed, critical access hospital providing acute, skilled, and outpatient care to the community of Oelwein and surrounding. Oelwein Medical Center's role is to provide all the basic health care services needed in the community. Oelwein Medical Center provides general medical care, ambulatory care, long-term care, and recovery. Services include 24-hour emergency department access and ambulance transportation, radiology with CT scanning, digital mammography, MRI and ultrasound, laboratory, pharmacy, respiratory therapy, rehabilitation therapies, spiritual care, social services, nutrition and mental health services (both psychiatry and therapy).

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center participates in a clinically integrated network (CIN) where providers work together to improve health, increase patient satisfaction, and lower healthcare costs for members and the communities served.

Advisory Committee

Thank you to our community and public health partners for their active engagement in the assessment process:

- Jess Wegner-Fayette County Public Health & Healthy Fayette County (no longer with Fayette County Public Health or a member of Healthy Fayette County Coalition).
- Ashely Kunkle-Ehn-Plentiful Pantry
- Dr. Al Kruger- MercyOne NEIA Board member and dentist in Oelwein
- Kim Puls-Parent Share & Support
- Amanda Nesvik-Department of Corrections
- Julie Hendershot-Oelwein resident and long-time social worker in Fayette County.
- Deena Smock-Oelwein School Counselor
- Jenna & Dan Jones-Parent Partner
- Barb Fogarty-Retired Oelwein School Counselor
- Josh Schunk-Pastor
- Jill Groth-MercyOne Oelwein Hospital Administrator
- Kelly Saathoff-MercyOne Oelwein Social Worker
- Brianne Davis-MercyOne Oelwein Respiratory Therapy
- Beth Fish-MercyOne Oelwein Administration Assistant
- James Stanton-MercyOne Oelwein EMT
- Razija Vallem-MercyOne Oelwein CHW

Summary of previous needs assessment

The MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center Board approved the previous Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) on June 30, 2022. The significant health needs identified in the FY22-FY25 CHNA, in order of priority, include:

1. Prevention
2. Mental Health
3. Nutrition

A wide range of priority health and social issues emerged from the CHNA process. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center determined that it could effectively focus on only those needs which were most pressing, under- addressed and within its ability to influence. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, in collaboration with community partners, chose to focus on initiatives addressing the following needs:

1. Prevention
2. Mental Health
3. Nutrition

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The below highlights actions taken over the succeeding three (3) years to address selected needs as well as the impact of those actions. A MercyOne Community Benefit Coordinator is actively involved in the Healthy Fayette Coalition, serving on the leadership team as well as participating in the three workgroups. A lot of work has been done in partnership with Healthy Fayette County.

Prevention: Participated in the Fayette County Fair Health Expo, on behalf of Healthy Fayette County. Teen Maze, Poverty Simulation (6-18-24). Over 200 students from Fayette County High Schools participated in this event at Upper Iowa University. The students were in small groups that spent time in each of the following rooms: Teen Dating, Bullying Assertiveness, Food Insecurity, Nutrition, Rethink Your Drink, Mental Wellness, Pregnancy, Mental Wellness Lived Experience, Suicide/Crisis/988, Nutrition Trivia, Party Room & Court Room.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center annually offers a free Mammography night.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center continues to have Community Health Worker available to assist any patients who have been identified in routine questions surrounding SDOH.

Continued trainings have occurred on using the MercyOne Community Resource directly, powered by Find Help.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center led the Healthiest State Initiative statewide walk in Oelwein.

MercyOne Oelwein Urgent Care started a new pharmacy program for patients who are not able to get medication filled. This allows patients to get started on their medications right away.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center offered free mammography screenings. Eleven Fayette County women participated in the screening.

Mental Health: Healthy Fayette County brought Emma Benoit to Upper Iowa University where the public was invited to participate in watching her documentary. Emma is a motivational speaker, who shares her story of surviving a suicide attempt. Emma was present to answer questions following the showing of her documentary.

Mental Health awareness and reducing the stigma of mental health has been a focus. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center participated in May Make it Ok week. We provided resources to colleagues on mental health and reducing the stigma as well as providing this information, resources and swag to students at the local schools.

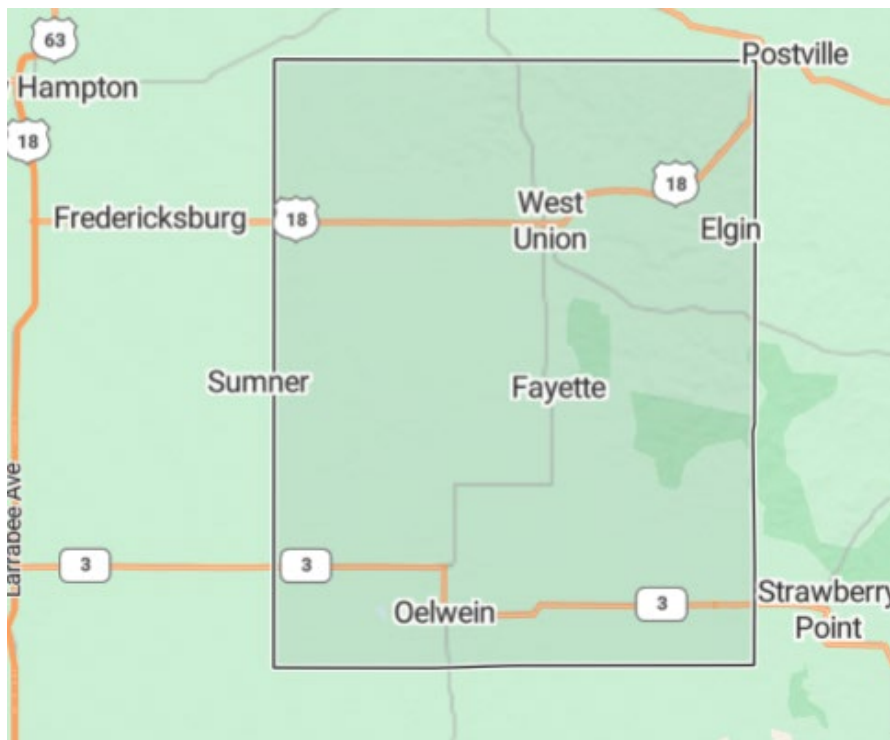
MercyOne Oelwein provided a free Mental Health First Aid Training at the hospital. Nine participants were trained, eight were MercyOne Colleagues. Training on Mental Health First Aid was planned for teachers at Oelwein Community School, spring of 2024. This had to be rescheduled until late winter, 2025 due to the trainers not being available.

Nutrition: MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center continues to partner with Plentiful Pantry, located in Oelwein. We do this by providing restricted cash donations as well as in-kind colleague time at the Pantry. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center has held several food/hygiene drives. All donations have been given to Plentiful Pantry. MercyOne Oelwein Medical center dietitian held a free nutrition class offered at the hospital. Healthy Fayette County Coalition, nutrition team, identified all the area farmers markets and played a role in the summer food programs throughout the county. A list of nutrition programs/resources in Fayette County was developed.

Community Served

Geographic area

The geographic area for this assessment is all of Fayette County, Iowa. MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center is in Oelwein, Iowa. The advisory team met to discuss the service area. That information was taken to MercyOne Oelwein Administration, and it was decided that the community health needs assessment would focus on those residents who live within Fayette County. Eighty-three percent (83%) of MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center patients reside in Fayette County. This service area does not exclude low-income or underserved populations.



Population Characteristics

The total population of Fayette County, as recorded on the most recent census (2023) is 19,210. Fayette County has 730.8 square miles of land area and is the 7th largest county in Iowa by total area. The following counties border Fayette County: Allamakee County, Iowa; Black Hawk County, Iowa; Winneshiek County, Iowa; Buchanan County, Iowa; Clayton County, Iowa; Chickasaw County, Iowa; Bremer County, Iowa; and Delaware County, Iowa. Fayette County has an employment rate of 58.3%. The median household income is \$56,043, while the median household income in Iowa is \$71,433. There are 5.4% of residents in Fayette County who are without health care coverage. Fayette County has a poverty rate of 11.8%, while Iowa has a poverty rate of 11.3%. Fayette County has 73% of the kids enrolled in kindergarten to 12th grade, which is higher than Iowa's average enrollment of 68.7%.

The below table summarizes the demographics of Fayette County using (2023) population estimates.

Race and Hispanic Origin	
White alone	95.1%
Black or African American alone	1.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	0.4%
Asian alone	1.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.1%
Two or more races	1.7%
Hispanic or Latino	3.2%
Ethnicity	
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	3.2%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	92.4%
Age	
Under 18	21.4%
18-64	55.3%
65 and older	23.3%
Median age	43.4
Sex	
Male	50.7%
Female	49.3%
Population characteristics	
Foreign-born population	1.4%
Population age 5+ with limited English proficiency	2.8%
Veterans	1,388
Population with a disability	11.1%
Geography	
Population per square mile	26.7

Assessment process

Input from community leaders and community organizations.

The CHNA Advisory Committee was developed in April 2024. The Advisory Committee met for the first time on May 17, 2024, and May 22, 2024. Representatives from MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, MercyOne Northeast Iowa board member and local dentist, Healthy Fayette County, Plentiful Pantry, Parent Share & Support, Department of Corrections, Oelwein Community School, Pastoral Services, & Parent Partners participated in the virtual meeting. Fayette County Public Health leads the Healthy Fayette County Coalition. Due to the logistics of all involved, meetings will take place via teams. The role and purpose of the Advisory Committee was discussed as well as meeting frequency and time commitment. Information and education were provided to the Advisory Committee on the purpose and requirements of conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment, as well as a brief overview of the current Community Health Needs Assessment and the identified community health needs. A review of the timeline was completed. During this initial meeting, the community was defined. It was discussed how to best get community input, and the Advisory Committee agreed that surveys and focus groups would be best.

The Advisory Committee convened on December 10, 2024, to review data.

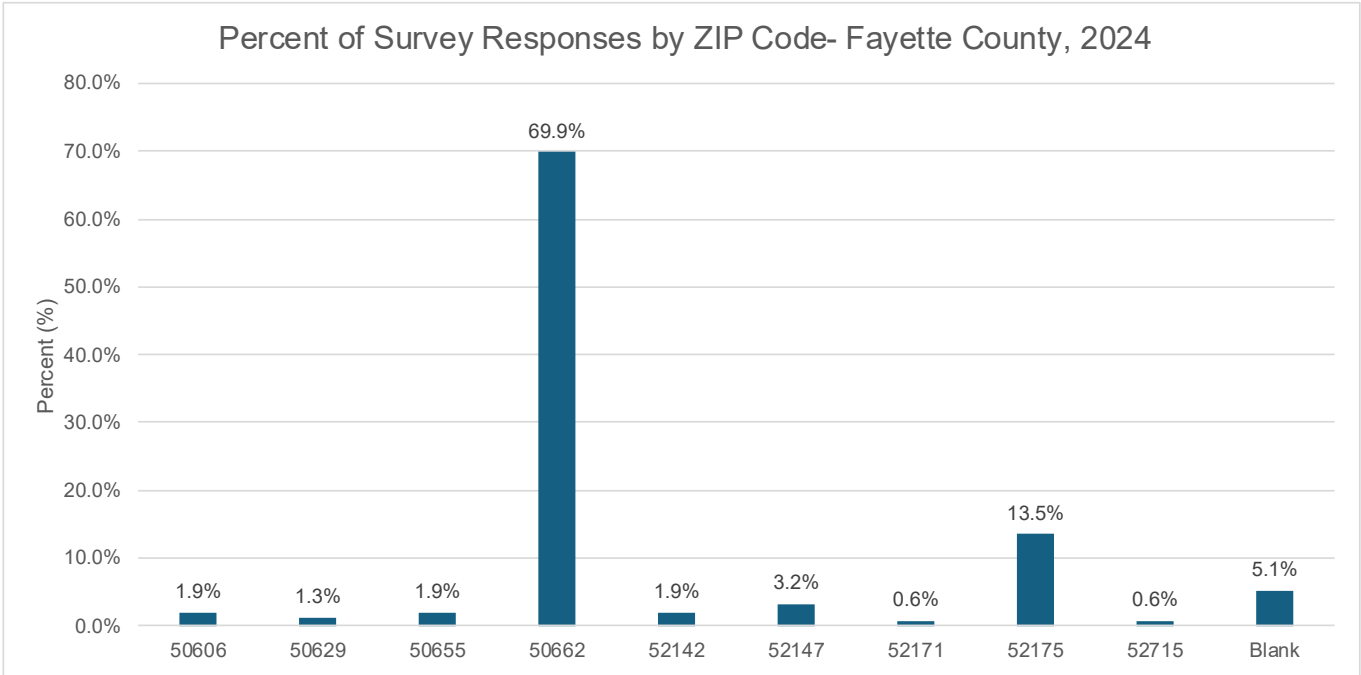
Community input

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center collected community input through a 30-question survey. A total of 157 responses were collected between August 5, 2024 – October 22, 2024. Surveys were distributed to community members and organizations throughout Fayette County including, but not limited to, mass emails, social media, distribution of flyers with QR codes throughout Fayette County, University of Iowa strike team participated in Party in the Park on Sept. 12th and West Union 175th Celebration on Sept. 28th.

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center collected community input through three focus groups held in October. The three focus groups were Department of Corrections, Plentiful Pantry and Parent Share and Support. The Department of Corrections was a group of residents who met to discuss the questions, while Plentiful Pantry and Parent Share & Support were completed individually (not in a group setting). Thirty-three community members participated in these focus groups. Individuals from the Department of Corrections were all current residents in the Residential Facility, having various criminal convictions. Participants from Plentiful Pantry were Fayette County residents who were present at the pantry obtaining food to meet their needs of food insecurity. Participants from Parent Share and Support were families in Fayette County with children participating in their home visitation program.

A copy of the survey is included in the Appendix.

Zip Codes

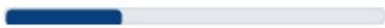


The below table summarizes the demographics of survey respondents.

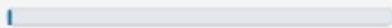
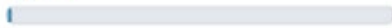
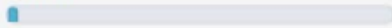
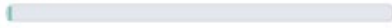
Age

Value	Percent	Responses
18-29	10.9%	17
30-39	23.7%	37
40-49	19.2%	30
50-59	20.5%	32
60-69	14.1%	22
70-79	10.3%	16
80+	1.3%	2
Totals: 156		

Gender

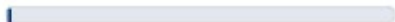
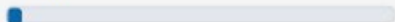
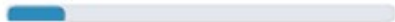
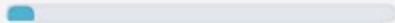
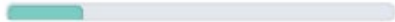
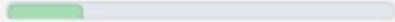
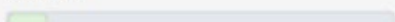
Value	Percent	Responses
Male	30.6% 	48
Female	68.8% 	108
Choose not to disclose	0.6% 	1
		Totals: 157

Race

Value	Percent	Responses
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.6% 	1
Asian	0.6% 	1
Black or African American	0.6% 	1
Hispanic or Latino	2.6% 	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.6% 	1
White	97.4% 	151

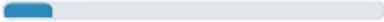
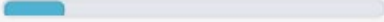
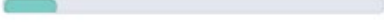
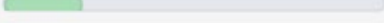
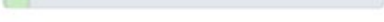
Other	Count
Totals	0

Education

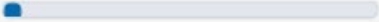
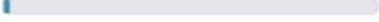
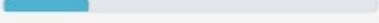
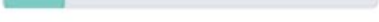
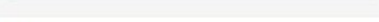
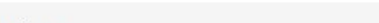
Value	Percent	Responses
Less than 8th grade	1.3% 	2
Some high school, no diploma	3.9% 	6
High school graduate	15.0% 	23
High school equivalent (GED)	7.2% 	11
Some college, no degree	19.6% 	30
Associate's degree or trade/technical school training or certificate	20.3% 	31
Bachelor's degree	22.2% 	34
Advanced degree	10.5% 	16

Totals: 153

Household Income

Value	Percent	Responses
Under \$15,000	16.2% 	24
Between \$15,000 and \$29,999	14.2% 	21
Between \$30,000 and \$49,999	12.8% 	19
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999	15.5% 	23
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999	13.5% 	20
Between \$100,000 and \$149,000	20.9% 	31
More than \$150,000	6.8% 	10
		Totals: 148

Health Insurance Status

Value	Percent	Responses
Insurance through a current or former employer (of yourself or family member)	52.9% 	82
Insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (by yourself or family member)	5.2% 	8
Insurance purchased from the Marketplace (by yourself or family member)	1.9% 	3
I am covered by Medicaid (Iowa Total Care, Molina, Wellpoint)	23.2% 	36
I am covered by Medicare	16.8% 	26
VA health care	2.6% 	4
I am not covered by health insurance	7.1% 	11
One or more of my children are not covered by health insurance	0.6% 	1

Written comments

MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center did not receive any written comments regarding the FY22-FY24 Community Health Needs Assessment or Implementation strategy, to the email listed. The documents continue to be available on the MercyOne website at <https://www.mercyone.org/about-us/community-health-and-well-being/> and printed copies are available upon request at MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center.

Quantitative data gathering

Secondary data, comparisons, and benchmarks include figures and interpretation from the following sources:

- American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
- Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES)
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- County Health Rankings
- Feeding America
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Healthy People 2030
- Iowa Department of Public Health
- Kids Count Data Center
- MercyOne Community Input Survey
- Community Focus Groups
- National Center for Health Statistics
- State Cancer Profiles
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Find Help-Community Resource Directory
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Labor
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Trust for Public Land. 2020.
- County Radon Information

Appendix

Primary indicator data

Access to Care

Nearly 70% (68.7%) of participants identified access to healthcare as one of the top three factors for a healthy and thriving community. When asked to rate how the community is doing specifically related to access to health care, 48.4% feel that Fayette County is doing a good job, while 43.8% feel that it needs improvement. Over 81% of the survey respondents receive an annual health exam. Of the nearly 19% that do not receive an annual exam, 53.8% do not feel an annual exam is needed, while 23.1% can't get an appointment for a time that works best for them. About 53% of respondents report that they have health insurance through a current or former employer and about 40% report being covered by either Medicaid or Medicare and nearly 7% are uninsured. When asked about understanding their current health care benefits on a scale from 1-5, with 5 being very well and 1 not at all, 31% gave it a 4 and 5.6% gave it a 1.

Of the 69.6% respondents who reported being a parent or guardian, 64.8% report they their children receive an annual health exam, while 4.8% do not receive an annual exam. When the parent/guardian was asked to why their child/children did not receive an annual health exam, 16.7% report that their child/children are healthy and do not need annual health exam, 16.7% to not receive annual exam due to cost and 66.7% report "other" reasons.

Over 61% of respondents report that they visit the dentist regularly (1-2 times per year). The 38.7% who do not, report that cost is the contributing factor for not seeking regular dental care followed by lack of dental insurance. Of those who do have insurance, many reported difficulties in finding a dentist who accepts their insurance.

When these same respondents were asked if they are a parent or guardian if their children visit the dentist regularly (1-2 times per year), 59% report that their child/children do receive regular dental care while 9.7% do not. Of those whose children do not receive regular dental care, 28.6% report that their child/children do not have dental insurance, 21.4% report that they cannot get an appointment time that works for their schedule, 14.3% identify cost as the primary reason for lack of annual dental care, 7.1% stated transportation is the barrier, while 50% marked "other" for their reason. The majority reported their "other" reason as the inability to find a dentist that will take their child/children's insurance.

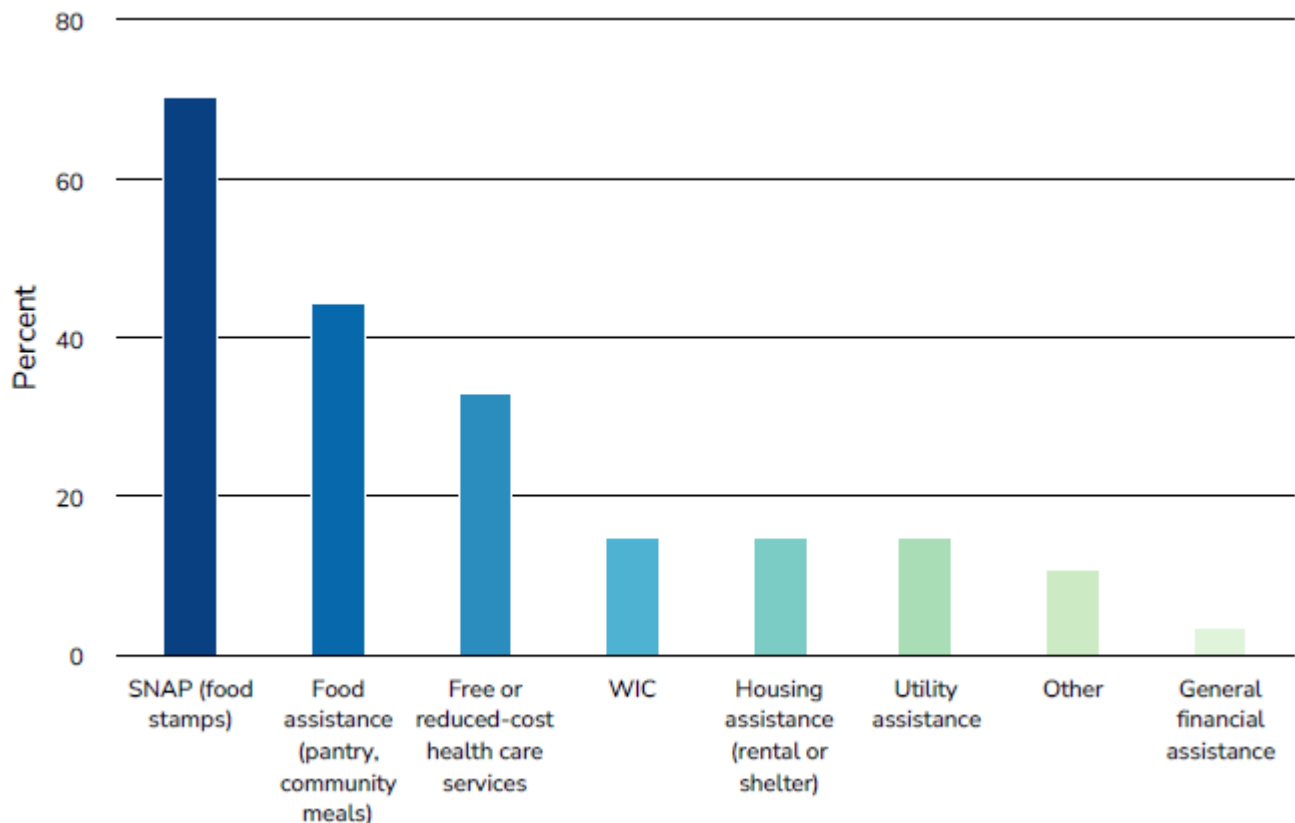
Education

Nearly 22% of Fayette County Respondents report having a bachelor's degree, 20.3% report an associate degree or trade/technical school training/certificate, 19.6% reported having some college, while 15% of the respondents' highest level of education is high school and 3.9% some high school, no diploma. Respondents with less than 8th grade, 1.3%. Of the participants in the survey, 9.3% reported either being active in the Reserves/National Guard or a Veteran.

Income/Financial Barriers

Nearly 21% of respondents report a gross annual income between \$100,000 and \$149,000 while 16.2% report an annual income under \$15,000. Respondents varied greatly around income.

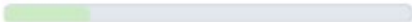
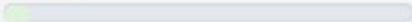
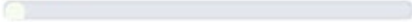
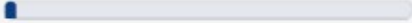
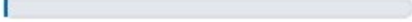
When asked within the past 12 months if you worried that your food would run out before you got the money to buy more, 16.2% reported often true and 24.2% reported sometimes true. When asked in the past 12 months if the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more, 14.3% reported often true and 21.4% reported sometimes true. Respondents were asked if they receive services from local agencies, 18.6% answered yes. Those who responded that they receive services reported using the following:



Nearly 42% of respondents reported needing assistance from local agencies but didn't receive any assistance. Over 27% did not meet the eligibility criteria for assistance, 6.7% stated their needs exceed the maximum amount of assistance, 4.4% reported both transportation barriers and hours that were not convenient. Other barriers identified, childcare, interpreter services, local resources/agencies already exhausted and no services for men in need of assistance.

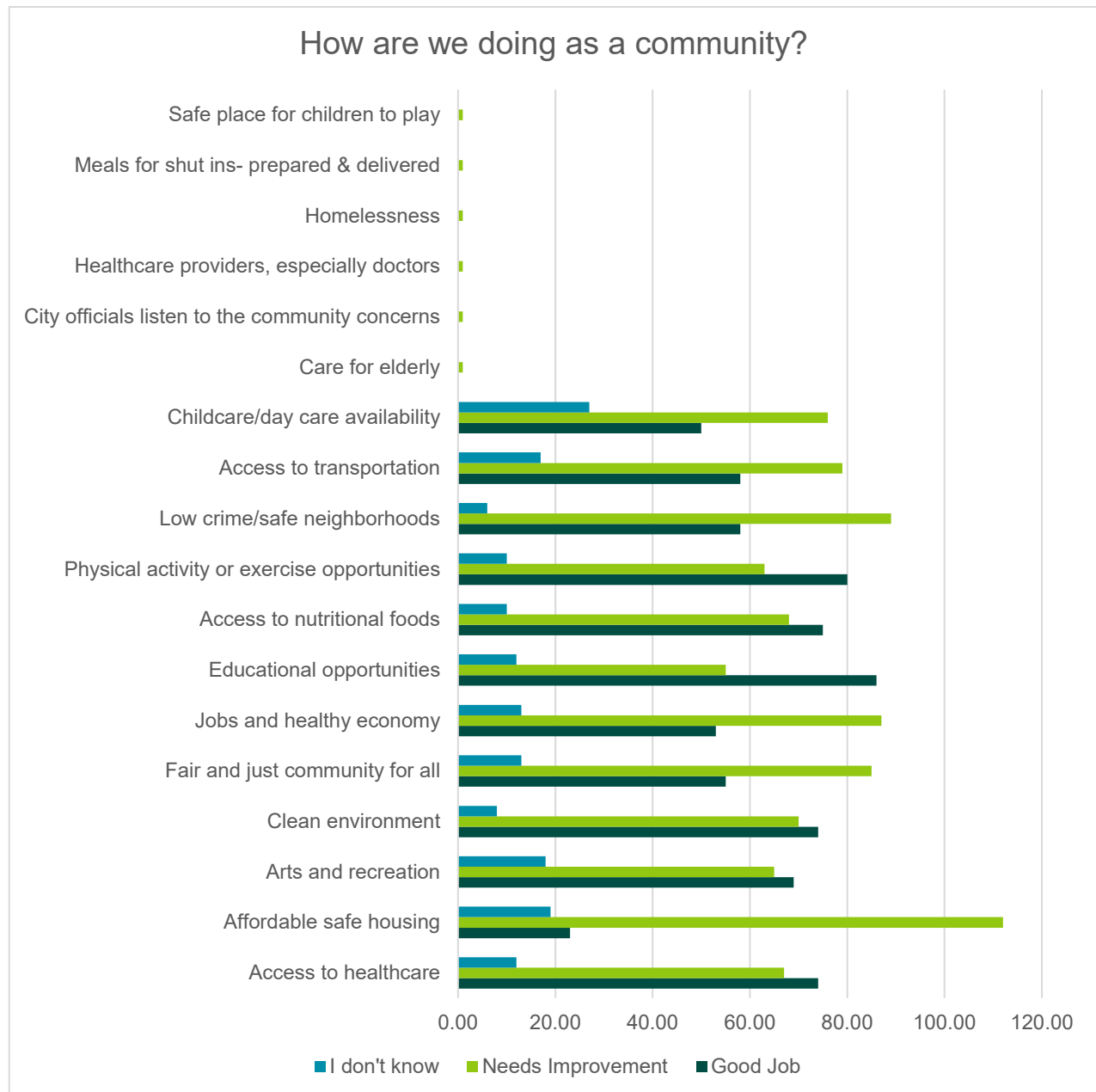
Most Important Community Health Concerns

When asked what each respondent feels are the top three (3) health problems for adults in the community, respondents reported:

Value	Percent	Responses
Mental illness	60.6% 	94
Obesity	55.5% 	86
Substance use disorder/substance abuse	51.0% 	79
Aging or disability (arthritis, hearing/vision loss, dementia, etc.)	46.5% 	72
Cancer	22.6% 	35
Diabetes	22.6% 	35
Heart disease/stroke	20.6% 	32
Injuries (falls, car accidents, drowning, violence)	5.8% 	9
Infectious disease	4.5% 	7
Sexually transmitted infection	3.2% 	5
Other	1.3% 	2

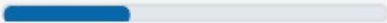
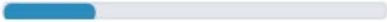
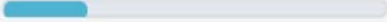
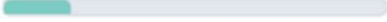
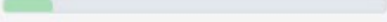
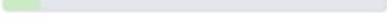
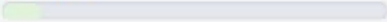
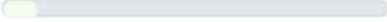
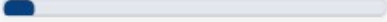
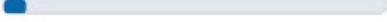
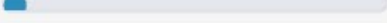
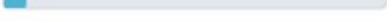
Other	Count
medicare rules	1
Totals	1

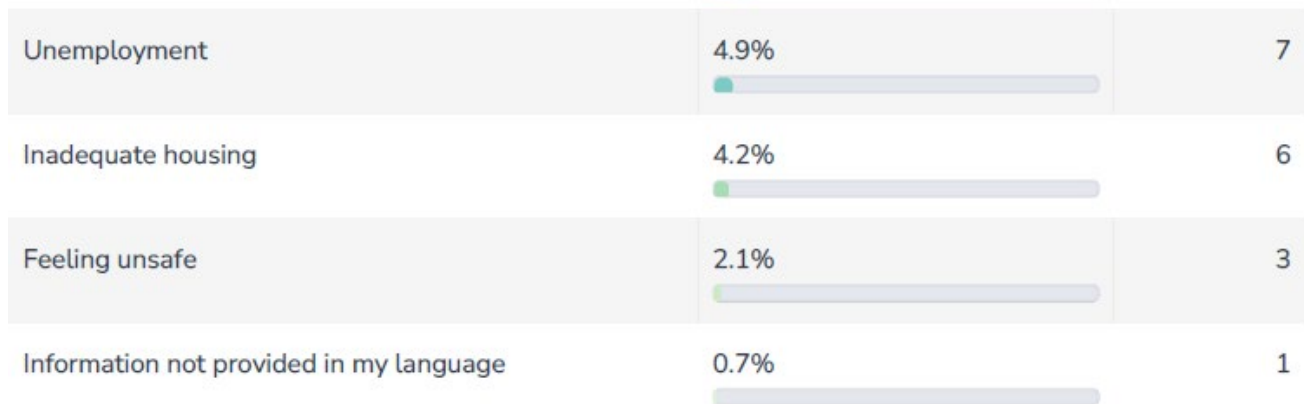
Respondents were asked how we are doing as a community on several specific topics. They were asked to rate them by marking: Good Job, Needs Improvement or I Don't Know. Below is a graph that shows how this question was answered.



Personal Barriers in Becoming Healthier

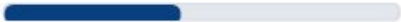
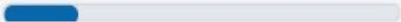
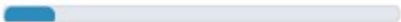
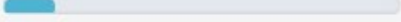
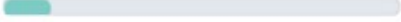
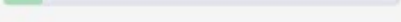
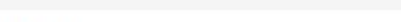
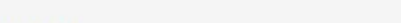
When asked to identify barriers that prevent you from being healthier, respondents identified the following:

Value	Percent	Responses
Not enough time	35.4% 	51
Lack motivation	33.3% 	48
Other priorities	24.3% 	35
Healthcare services are too expensive	22.2% 	32
Nowhere to exercise or affordable gym	18.1% 	26
Lack access to or can't afford healthy foods	13.2% 	19
Lack of appointments for healthcare services when I need them	10.4% 	15
Other	10.4% 	15
Healthcare services are too complicated	9.0% 	13
Mental health is too poor	8.3% 	12
Physical health is too poor	6.3% 	9
Lack access to transportation	5.6% 	8
Lack knowledge about healthy choices	5.6% 	8



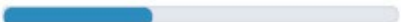
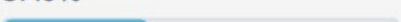
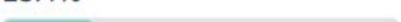
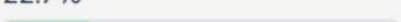
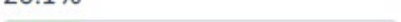
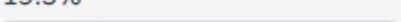
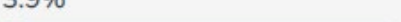
Other	Count
Aging joints keep me from exercising like I would like to do. Sure wish we had an indoor pool!	1
Don't have membership	1
Lack dental/vision clinics that accept of State Insurance	1
No child care available while I exercise	1
delusional	1
dr doesn't know enough. Can't figure out what's wrong	1
feel healthy overall	1
lazy	1
medication too expensive	1
nothing	1
price of living=more work	1
they don't allow everything at once? why, pick and choose	1
Totals	12

When asked if you feel you could benefit from mental health or substance use disorder services but are not currently receiving them. Respondents identified the following barriers:

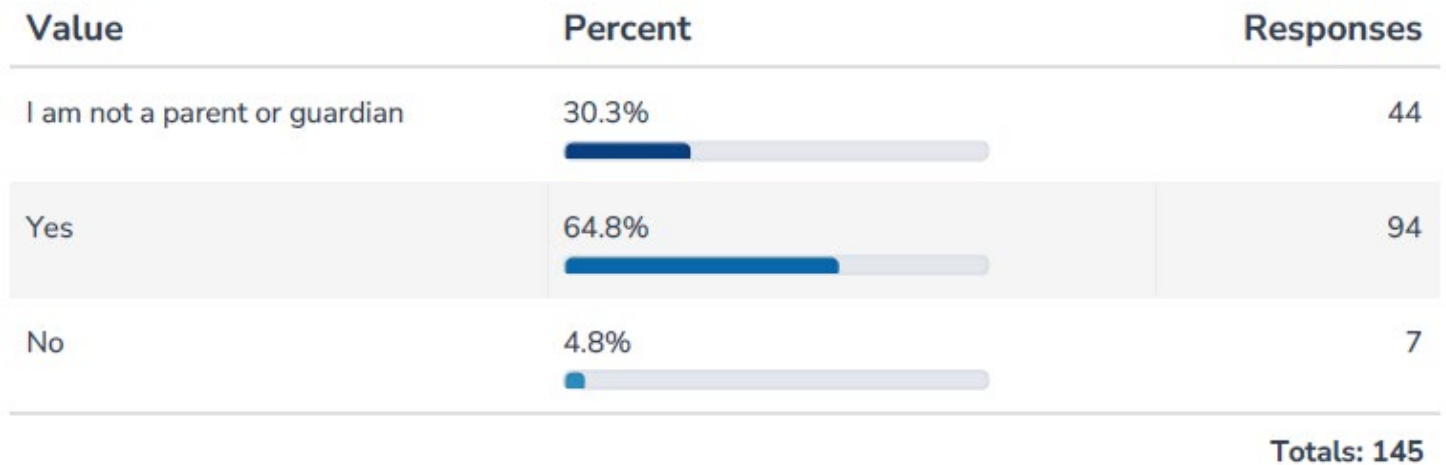
Value	Percent	Responses
I did not need these services or was able to access services I needed.	44.5% 	53
Feeling ashamed or uncomfortable talking about personal issues	18.5% 	22
Other	13.4% 	16
No insurance coverage, employer EAP, or don't understand what my insurance covers	12.6% 	15
Services are too expensive	11.8% 	14
Unable to find a provider I can connect with	10.1% 	12
Have tried and takes too long to get an appointment	8.4% 	10
Lack of transportation	6.7% 	8
Have tried services and they were unsuccessful	5.9% 	7
Lack of providers that speak the same language as me or share the same culture	2.5% 	3
Unable to find childcare	2.5% 	3

Children's Health

Respondents were asked to identify the top three (3) factors affecting children's health.

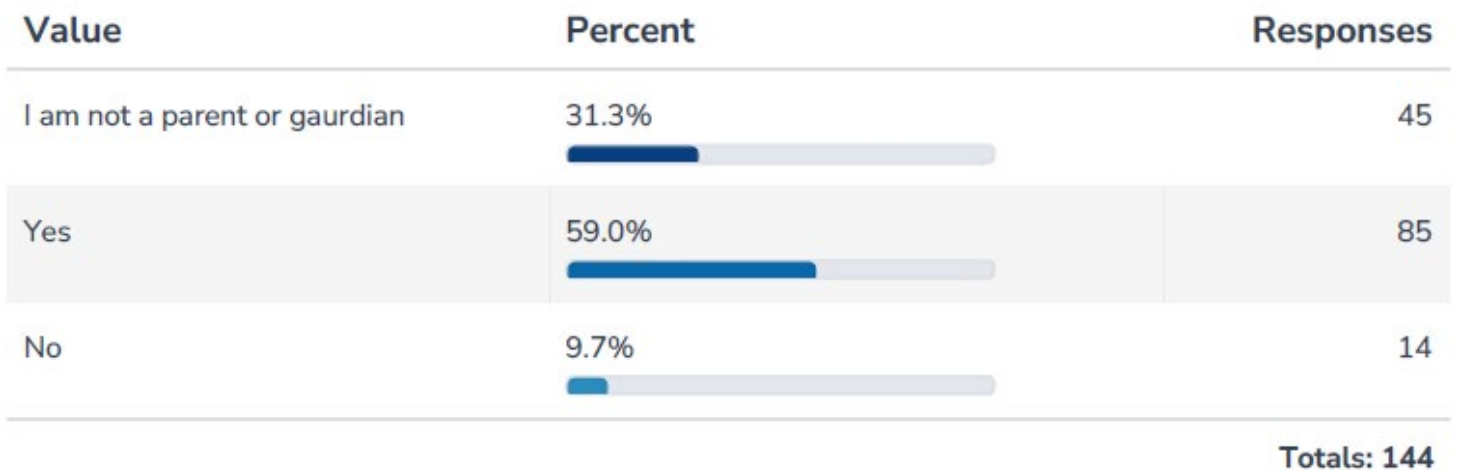
Value	Percent	Responses
Screen time/social media	49.4% 	76
Bullying	42.2% 	65
Access to mental health or substance use disorder services	37.7% 	58
Supportive family environment	37.0% 	57
Safe living environment	23.4% 	36
Access to nutritional foods	22.7% 	35
Access to dental care	20.1% 	31
Substance abuse	19.5% 	30
Access to healthcare	17.5% 	27
Physical activity opportunities	13.0% 	20
Sexual behavior	5.8% 	9
Educational opportunities	3.9% 	6

Based on this survey, most children in Fayette County receive an annual health exam.

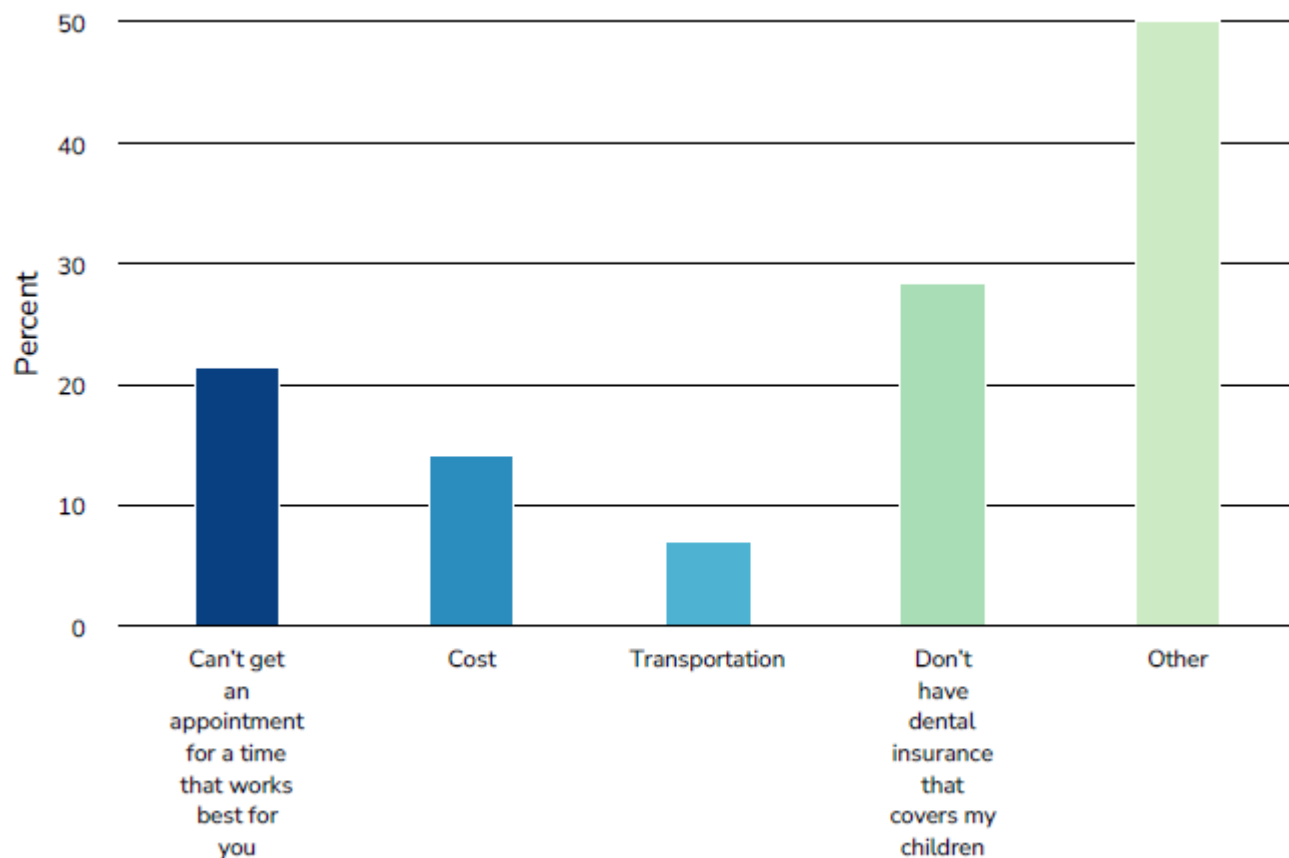


Of those children who do not receive an annual health exam, their parent/guardian identified the following as the reason they did not was due to cost and because they feel their child is healthy, they do not need an annual exam.

Respondents who are parents were asked if their child(ren) visit the dentist regularly (1-2 times per year).



Below are the barriers respondents report for their child(ren) not visiting the dentist regularly. For those who selected “other,” report that it is due to insurance issues and dentists in the area not accepting state insurance.



Three focus groups were held, Department of Corrections, West Union, Plentiful Pantry, Oelwein and Parent Share and Support. Each group were asked the same 5 Questions. Below is the combined data from the 3 focus groups.

How would you rate the overall health of Fayette County?	
Very Healthy	0
Healthy	7
Somewhat Healthy	17
Unhealthy	8
Very Unhealthy	1

Why did you select this ranking? Excessive drug use; Don't feel like we are a community; members of the community; poor environment; healthcare is nearly inaccessible; food is too expensive; resources are available to those in need; needs are not taken seriously; high class or unhoused- there are no middle class; depends, there are a lot that are healthy and a lot that are not; people seem to be healthy; things are properly wiped down in stores and people wear masks, etc., low income no new opportunities to grow, which leads to depression and other mental health concerns-downhill spiral; not being able to afford healthy food and access to large stores; drug abuse in the area; there are a lot of overweight people; there are some healthy food items.

What 3 factors do you think are most essential to the health of your community?	
access to healthcare (ex: family doctor, hospital, or other health services)	9
access to healthy food	15
affordable housing	24
arts and cultural events	1
clean environment	8
good jobs and healthy economy	9
good place to raise kids	4
good schools	8
healthy behaviors and lifestyles	7
low adult death and disease rate	2
low crime rate/safe neighborhoods	2
low infant death rate	0
low level of child abuse	1
lots of parks and recreational activities	4
religious or spiritual values	1
walk-ability and bike paths	0

*Note: Not all participants chose 3 factors.

What do you feel are common health problems in the area? Housing needs to be affordable because the city wants more money for water and sewer; a variety of health issues; diabetes; no dental access with state insurance; a lot of people are sick; a bit of everything; healthcare access; clean environment; food insecurity; homelessness; air pollution (factory); RSV; flu; hygiene; dental; substance abuse; mental health; substance abuse; health of the government (local); physical health/obesity; population of sex offenders to overall population; obesity; allergies; colds/flu; mental health (depression & anxiety); diabetes; housing for the homeless; nowhere to help those in need; most people are living paycheck to paycheck; sometimes you are down and out and need help, it would be nice to have resources available on an emergency basis, not just on scheduled days; lack of affordable housing; lack of employment options in the community; lack of transportation (no public transit and no way to get around).

Secondary data summary table ([Fayette, Iowa | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#))

Secondary data		Fayette County	Iowa	United States
Access to Care				
Uninsured adults		8.10%	7.27%	12.98
Uninsured children		3.87%	2.93%	5.34%
Insured population receiving Medicaid		25.08%	20.73%	22.34%
Residents with a recent primary care visit		73.90%	77.40%	76.10%
Primary care providers per 100,000 population		46.13	117.64	116.01
Mental health providers per 100,000 population		51.26	193.02	309.2
Addiction/substance use providers per 100,000 population		15.38	29.12	28.17
Dentists per 100,000 population		0	12.57%	16.72%
Clinical Care and Preventive Services				
Preventable hospitalizations per 100,000 (Medicare)		1,144	2,330	2,681
30-Day hospital readmissions (Medicare)		9.90%	14.50%	17.80%
Diabetes management		89.80%	91.25%	87.53%
Blood pressure control		29.60%	31.10%	32.70%
Mammography screening		54%	53%	43%
Flu vaccine		46%	54%	43%
Child immunization		69.10%	69.60%	
Mental Health				
Deaths of despair per 100,000 population		38.1	42	55.9
Deaths due to suicide per 100,000 population		16.5	17.1	14.5
Depression (adult)		20.40%	19.30%	20.70%
Drug and Alcohol Use				
Deaths due to drug poisoning per 100,000 population		11.3	14.5	28.5
Binge drinking		23.90%	21.70%	16.60%
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths		21%	26%	26%
Economic Stability				
Labor force participation rate		60.63%	66.62%	63.47%
Unemployment rate		3.00%	3.20%	4.40%
Food insecurity rate		12.10%	10.60%	12.88%

Child food insecurity rate		18%	15.57%	18.03%
Homeless children and youth enrolled in school system		0.50%	1.54%	2.77%
Children eligible for free and reduced-price lunch		48.00%	41.70%	53.50%
Median household income		\$56,043	\$70,571	\$75,149
Households at or below 200% of the FPL		34.83%	27.14%	28.80%
Social Associations				
Head start programs per 10,000		19.4	14.21	11.26
Preschool enrollment		53.15%	43.19%	45.62%
Chronic absenteeism		18.36%	22.64%	20.94%
Student reading proficiency		37.40%	34.50%	60.10%
No high school diploma		7.11%	6.97%	10.86%
Bachelor's degree or higher		17.17%	30.28%	34.31%
Violence Prevention				
Incarceration rate		0.40%	0.70%	1.30%
Violent crimes per 100,000 people		223.9	283	416
Homicides per 100,000 population		No data	2.8	6.9
Child abuse per 1,000 children		20.9	14.5	
Environment				
Air quality (fine particulate matter)		8.20%	7.40%	7.40%
Drinking water violations		51.26	65.38	80.01
Average radon levels in unmitigated households (pCi/L)		6.4		1.3
Housing and Transportation				
Households with no motor vehicle		4.67%	5.61%	8.33%
Housing cost burdened		27.04%	23.04%	30.51%
Renter occupied housing		23.80%	28.48%	35.18%
Overcrowded housing		0.56%	1.72%	4.74%
Substandard housing		26.35%	23.41%	31.70%
Broadband access		82.57%	95.11%	93.84%
Maternal, Infant, and Child Health				
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births		No Data	5	5.7
Low birth weight		5.80%	6.90%	8.30%
Lack of prenatal care		suppressed	4.25%	6.12%
Health Behaviors and Risk Factors				
Tobacco Use (18+ years)		19.00%	16.00%	15.00%
Obesity (adult)		41.00%	37.00%	34.00%
Physical inactivity		28.00%	24.00%	23.00%
Recreation and fitness facility access		suppressed	12.38	12.31
Park access		23.52	45.28	43.57
Fast food restaurants (establishments per 100,000 people)		51.26	65.38	80.01
Grocery stores (establishments per 100,000 people)		25.63	19.28	18.9
Chlamydia cases per 100,000 population		368.7	489.2	495.5

Significant Community Health Needs

After analyzing primary and secondary data, along with input from the advisory committee, 11 significant community health needs were identified and prioritized as:

Significant health need	Supporting data
Mental Health	- When survey respondents were asked to identify the top health problems for adults in the community, 60.6% identified mental health. - Respondents were asked to identify to 3 factors affecting children's health, 37.7% identified access to mental health or substance use disorder services. - Mental Health was a common theme in the focus groups. - Fayette County only has 56.38 providers per 100,000 population, which is considerably less than the state average of 193.02 providers per 100,000 and the national average of 309.20 per 100,000. - Fayette County has a death due to suicide rate of 16.5 per 100,000 population, which is slightly less than the state, but higher than the national average of 14.5 deaths per 100,000. - Fayette County ranks higher in the percentage of residents who have poor mental health, impacting their quality and length of life (17.4%) compared to the state (14.9%) and national (15.5%). - Fayette County is in a Health Professional Shortage Area for mental health providers.
Substance Misuse	- When survey respondents were asked to identify the top 3 health problems for adults in the community, 51% identified substance use disorder/substance misuse. - Respondents were asked to identify to 3 factors affecting children's health, 19.5% identified substance abuse misuse. - Substance misuse was a common theme in the focus groups. - Fayette County has 15.38 per 100,000 population addiction/substance use providers, compared to 29.12 in Iowa and 28.17 nationally per 100,000.

Food Insecurity & Nutritional Food	- Nearly half (48%) of all public-school students in Fayette County are eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch. This is higher than the state average of 41.2%. - When survey respondents were asked within the past 12 months if you worried that your food would run out before you got the money to buy more, 16.2% reported often true and 24.2% reported sometimes true. - When survey respondents were asked how Fayette County is doing on specific topics, 44.4% identified access to nutritional food needs improvement. - The combined focus groups listed this as one of the top 2 essential factors for a healthy community. - Fayette County has a food insecurity rate of 12.1%, which is higher than the state at 10.60%. - Nearly 40% (39.7%) of Fayette County residents are considered obese, which is higher than both the state and national numbers. - Average meal cost in Fayette County is \$3.84. Annual food budget shortfall \$1,710,00 (based on 2022 data).
Childcare/Daycare	- When survey respondents were asked how Fayette County is doing on specific topics, 49.7% stated access to childcare needs improvement. - Access to childcare was a top concern (8 out of 10) identified by the advisory committee. - Total number of childcare spaces listed with Iowa Childcare Resource & Referral for Fayette County has decreased by 3%, while the weekly cost of childcare has increased 26%.
Affordable Safe Housing	- When survey respondents were asked how Fayette County is doing on specific topics, 72.7% stated affordable safe housing needs improvement. - Affordable housing was identified as the most essential to the health of community by the participants in the 3 focus groups). - A total of 27.04% of households in Fayette County have housing costs exceeding 30% of their total household income, which is higher than the state average of 23.04%. - Substandard housing conditions, Fayette County has higher than the Iowa rate of 23.41%, with the issue being housing units lacking a complete kitchen.

Access to Health care	- Nearly 70% (68.7%) of participants identified access to health care as one of the top three factors for a healthy and thriving community. - When respondents were asked to rate how the community is doing specifically related to access to health care 43.8% feel that it needs improvement. - When respondents were asked to identify the top 3 factors affecting children's health, 17.5% identified access to health care as a concern. - The combined focus groups listed access to healthcare as one of their top 3 factors that are essential to the health of the community. - Fayette County has a primary care provider ratio of 46.13 providers per 100,000 population while the state has 117.64 per 100,000. - Fayette County is in a Health Professional Shortage Area for primary care providers.
Transportation	- Nearly 5% of households in Fayette County do not have transportation. - Survey respondents listed transportation as barriers to accessing health care (including mental health) and dental care. - When survey respondents were asked how Fayette County is doing on specific topics, 51.3% identified access to transportation needs improvement.
Economic Stability/Jobs/Healthy Economy	- More than 16% of the survey respondents report an annual income less than \$15K. - Nearly 42% of respondents reported needing assistance from local agencies but didn't receive any assistance. - When survey respondents were asked how Fayette County is doing on specific topics, 56.9% identified jobs and healthy economy needs improvement. - Focus group participants identified good jobs and healthy economy as the most essential to the overall health of a community. - Fayette County has a lower labor force participation rate (60.63%), when compared to both the state (66/2%) and national rates (63.47%) 34.83% of Fayette County households are at or below the 200% of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level). More than 42% of children 18 years or younger fall below 200% of the FPL.

Screen Time (kids)	- Nearly 50% (49.4%) of the survey respondents identified screen time/social media as one of the top 3 factors affecting children's health. - Four of the 10 Advisory Team members identified this as one of the top 10 community health needs.
Care for the Elderly	- Fayette County has a population of 23.3% of 65+ residents. - Four out of ten of the advisory committee members identified care for the elderly as one of the top 10.
Dental Care & Access to Dental Care	- Nearly 40% (38.7%) of the respondent's report that cost is the contributing factor for not seeking regular dental care. - When these same respondents were asked if they are a parent/guardian if their children visit the dentist regularly, 9.7% report they do not. - Fayette County is in a Health Professional Shortage Area for dental care. - Both survey and focus group participants identified concerns that they are unable to access dental care due to dentists not accepting state insurance. - Fayette County has 11 dentists, which represents 57 providers per 100,000 population. This considerably lower than both the state and national numbers.

Prioritized Needs

In reviewing the survey, focus group and secondary data, there were 23 common themes identified. The advisory committee was sent a Microsoft forms link with a list of all themes that were pulled from the survey and focus groups. Each committee member was asked to pick their top ten needs. A meeting was held on December 10, 2024. At this meeting the top 14 (due to multiple ties) were presented to the committee to review and prioritize.

The common themes identified were:

1. Childcare/daycare availability
2. Access to Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Services
3. Access to Nutritional Food
4. Mental Health
5. Affordable Safe Housing
6. Economic Stability
7. Food Insecurity
8. Jobs and Healthy Economy
9. Transportation
10. Substance Use
11. Access to Health Care
12. Screen Time
13. Dental Care & Access to Dental Care
14. Care for the Elderly

It was decided that a few of the above listed could be combined (due to similarity), reducing the above common themes from 14 to 11.

The advisory committee met on December 10th, 2024, and ranked the identified significant health needs considering the following: number of people impacted, the risk of morbidity and mortality, impact on vulnerable populations, importance to the community, and feasibility of change). The significant community health needs, ranked order of priority, include:

1. Mental health
2. Substance Misuse
3. Food Insecurity & Nutritional Food
4. Childcare/Daycare
5. Affordable Safe Housing
6. Access to Healthcare
7. Transportation
8. Economic Stability, Jobs, Healthy Economy
9. Screen Time (kids)
10. Care for the Elderly
11. Dental Care & Access to Dental Care

Community Assets and Resources

The following have been identified as community resources and assets available to address the highest priority health needs.

Mental Health

- MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center
- County Social Services
- Northeast Iowa Behavioral Health
- Healthy Fayette County
- Gundersen Palmer Hospital
- Inspiring Lives
- Robert and Ruth Walker Foundation
- NAMI Northeast Iowa
- Elevate
- North Fayette Valley Community Coalition (NFVCC)

Substance Misuse

- MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center
- Gundersen Palmer Hospital
- Healthy Fayette County
- Northeast Iowa Behavioral Health
- North Fayette Valley Community Coalition (NFVCC)

Food Insecurity & Nutritional Food

- MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center
- Plentiful Pantry
- Kitchen Cupboard
- NEI3A
- Fayette County Food Shelf
- Iowa Department Health & Human Services
- Northeast Iowa Food Bank
- Iowa State Extension
- Healthiest State Initiative
- Open Hands Food Pantry
- Northeast Iowa Community Action
- Healthy Fayette County
- St. John's Lutheran Church (Arlington)

-
- Peacock Pantry (UIU)
 - His Hands (Oran)
 - Ruby's Pantry
 - Fayette County Public Health
 - Robert and Ruth Walker Foundation
 - North Fayette Valley Community Coalition (NFVCC)

Childcare/Daycare

- Iowa Childcare Resources & Referral (CCR&R)
- Crisis Childcare
- Childcare Centers
- Parent Share & Support

Affordable Safe Housing

- Fayette County Housing Authority
- City Hall may offer some additional information.
- Friends of the Family
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
- Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation
- Inspiring Lives
- Upper Explorerland and Regional Planning

Access to Healthcare

- MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center
- Gundersen Palmer Hospital
- Fayette County Public Health

Transportation

- Northeast Iowa Community Action
- Earl Public Transit

Economic Stability, Jobs, Healthy Economy

- Iowa Department Health & Human Services
- Economic Development (within each community)

Screen Time (kids)

- Parent Share and Support
- North Fayette Valley Community Coalition (NFVCC)

Care for the Elderly

- MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center
- Gundersen Palmer Hospital
- Fayette County Public Health
- Senior Care Centers

Dental Care & Access to Dental Care

- Iowa Department Health & Human Services
- I-Smile IDPH

Next steps

MercyOne Oelwein will reconvene the Advisory Committee as well as Senior Leadership to develop a multi-year strategy to address identified community health and social needs. The implementation strategy will be publicly available as a separate document.

Printed copies of this report are available upon request at MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center 201 8th Avenue Southeast Oelwein, Iowa 50662. This report is also available electronically at <https://www.mercyone.org/about-us/community-health-and-well-being/>

Please email questions, comments, and feedback to communityhealth@mercyhealth.com.

The next community needs assessment for MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center will be completed in fiscal year FY28.

Secondary indicator data

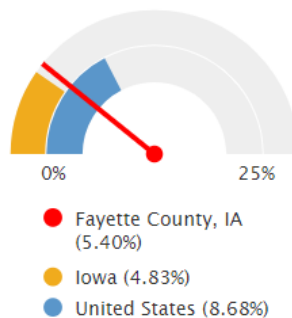
ACCESS TO CARE

Health Insurance

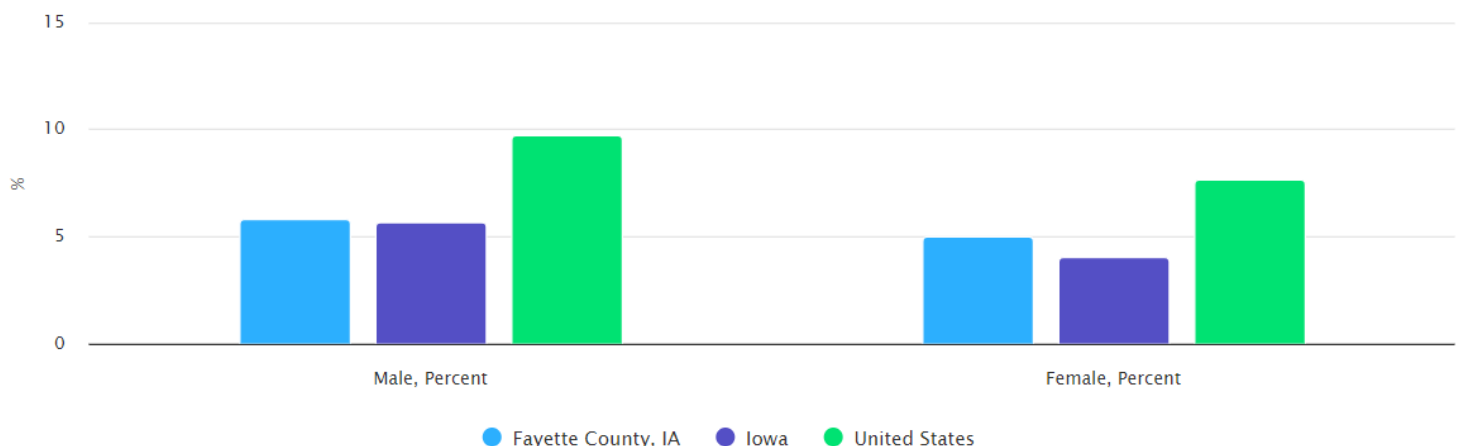
The lack of health insurance is a key driver of health status. People without health insurance are less likely to get the care they need leading to poorer health outcomes. In Fayette County, nearly 5.40% of the residents do not have insurance. The rate of uninsured Fayette County residents is greater than the state average of 4.83%.

- **Benchmark:** Uninsured rates in Fayette County are higher than the state overall of 20.73%.
- **Disparities:** More males are uninsured than females, 5.82% males compared to 4.98% females.
- **Data sources:** US Census Bureau, American County Survey. 2018-2022.

Uninsured Population, Percent



Uninsured Population by Gender

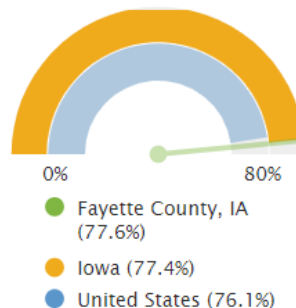


Recent Primary Care Visit

In the past year, 77.6% adults in Fayette County had a routine checkup in the past year.

- **Benchmark:** Comparable to state (77.4%) and national (76.1%) rates.
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+
with Routine Checkup in Past 1
Year

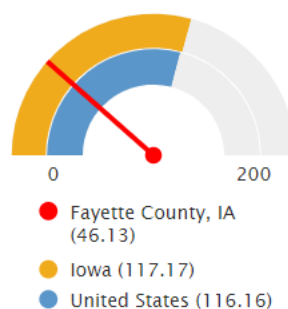


Primary Care Providers

In Fayette County, there are 46.13 primary providers per 100,000 population.

- **Benchmark:** The shortage in Fayette County is much more significant than the state, 117.76 primary providers per 100,000 population and national of 116.16 primary providers per 100,000.
- **Data Source(s):** Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, [CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\)](#). November 2024.

Primary Care Providers, Rate
per 100,000 Population

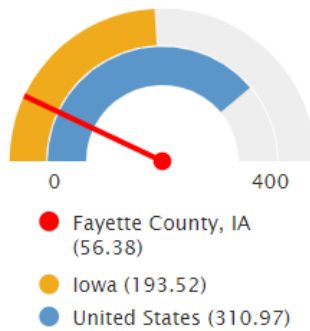


Mental Health Providers

Fayette County has 11 providers specializing in mental health, a rate of 56.38 providers per 100,000 population.

- **Benchmark:** The shortage in Fayette County is much more significant than state (193.52/100,000) and national (310.97/100,000) shortages.
- **Data Source(s):** Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, [CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\)](#). November 2024

Mental Health Care Providers,
Rate per 100,000 Population

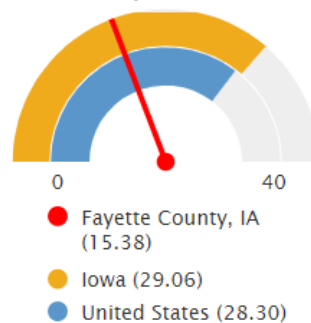


Addiction/Substance Abuse Providers

In Fayette County, there are 3 addiction/substance use providers per 100,000 population.

- **Benchmark:** The shortage in Fayette County is more significant than state (29.06/100,000) and national (28.30/100,000) shortages.
- **Data source(s):** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). November 2024.

Addiction/Substance Abuse
Providers, Rate per 100,000
Population

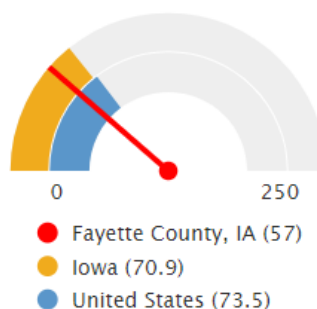


Dentists

In Fayette County, there are 57 dentists per 100,000 population.

- **Benchmark:** The shortage in Fayette County is slightly more significant than state (70.9/100,000) and national (73.5/100,000) shortages.
- **Data Source(s):** County Health Rankings 2022.

Dentists Rate Per 100,000
Population

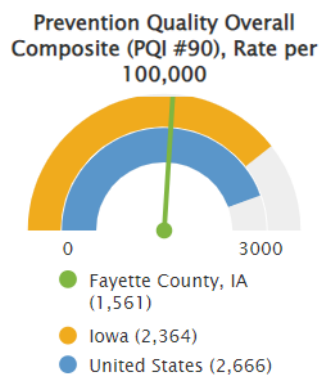


QUALITY OF CARE

Preventable Hospitalizations

This indicator reports the preventable hospitalization rate among Medicare beneficiaries for the latest reporting period. Preventable hospitalizations include hospital admissions for one or more of the following conditions: diabetes with short-term complications, diabetes with long-term complications, uncontrolled diabetes without complications, diabetes with lower-extremity amputation, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, hypertension, heart failure, bacterial pneumonia, or urinary tract infection. The preventable hospitalization rate in Fayette County was 1,561 per 100,000 beneficiaries.

- **Benchmark:** The preventable hospitalization rate in Fayette County is lower than the state rate of 2,364 and the national rate of 2,666.
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool. 2022.

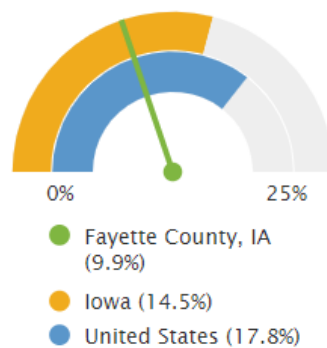


30-Day Hospital Readmissions

This indicator reports the number and rate of 30-day hospital readmissions among Fee-for Service (FFS) Medicare beneficiaries. Hospital readmissions are unplanned visits to an acute care hospital within 30 days after discharge from a hospitalization. Patients may have unplanned readmissions for any reason, however readmissions within 30 days are often related to the care received in the hospital, whereas readmissions over a longer time period have more to do with other complicating illnesses, patients' own behavior, or care provided to patients after hospital discharge. Fayette County has a 30-day hospital readmission rate of 9.9%.

- **Benchmark:** The readmission rate in Fayette County is better than the state readmission rate of 14.5% and the nation rate of 17.8%.
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - Geographic Variation Public Use File. 2022.

FFS Medicare Beneficiaries, 30-Day Readmission Rate



Mammography Screening

Over half (54%) of females in Fayette County received an annual mammography screening.

- **Benchmark:** Mammography screening rates in Fayette County are similar to the statewide screening rate (53%).
- **Data Source(s):** County Health Rankings. 2024.

Flu vaccine

Forty-six percent (46%) of Fayette County residents received a flu vaccine during the 2021 flu season.

- **Benchmark:** The percent of the population receiving the flu vaccine in Fayette County is lower than the statewide vaccination rate of 54%.
- **Data Source(s):** County Health Rankings. 2024.

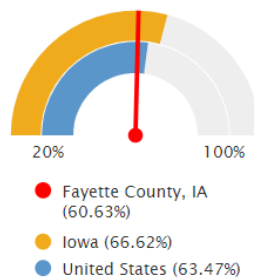
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

Labor Force Participation

Labor force participation rate measures the percentage of working age adults employed or seeking employment. The labor force participation rate in Fayette County is 60.63%.

- **Benchmark:** Labor force participation in Fayette County is lower than both the state (66.62%) and national participation rate (63.47%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, 2018-2020 2022 American Community Survey.

Labor Force Participation Rate

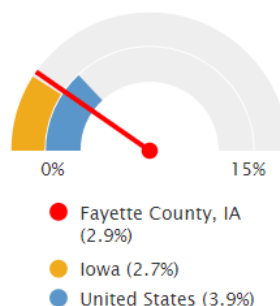


Unemployment Rate

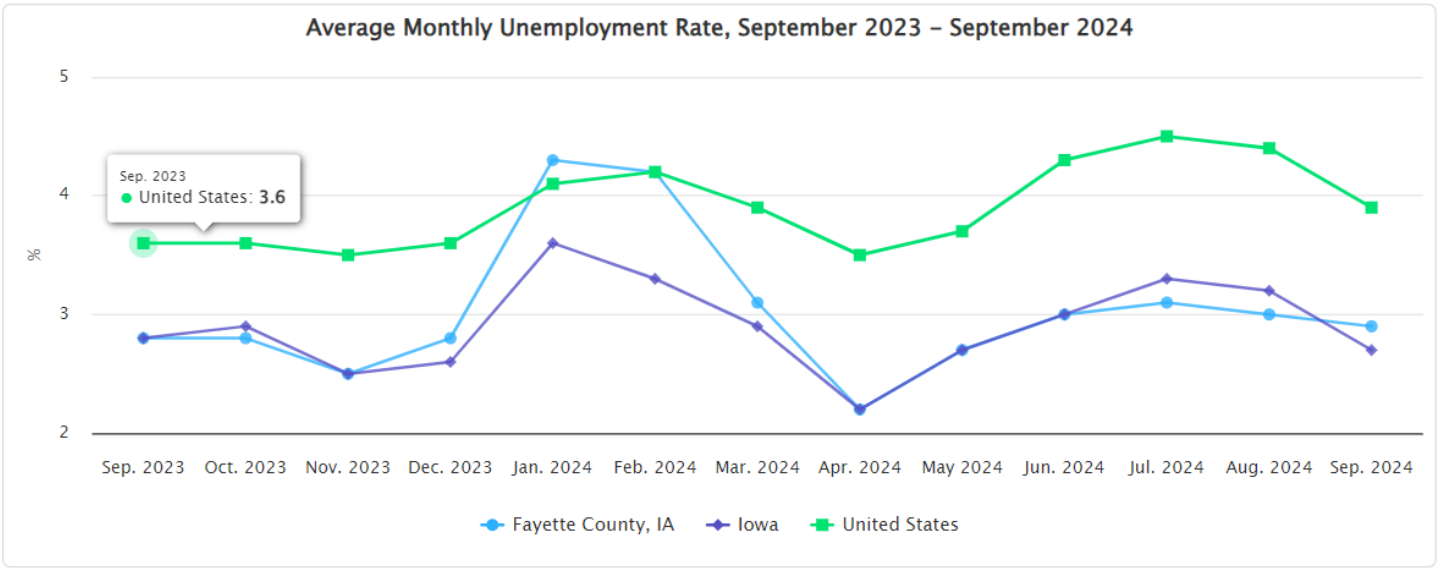
Unemployment rate measures the percentage of adults aged 16 and older unemployed or seeking employment. The unemployment rate in Fayette County in September 2024 was 2.9%. Over the past 12 months the unemployment rates have fluctuated some. The highest was in January 2024 where 4.3% were unemployed and the lowest in April with 2.2% unemployment rate. Unemployment creates financial instability and barriers to access including health insurance coverage, health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

- **Benchmark:** The unemployment rate of 2.9% in Fayette County is slightly higher than the state's 2.7% and lower than the national 3.9%.
- **Data Source(s):** US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2024; Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2024.

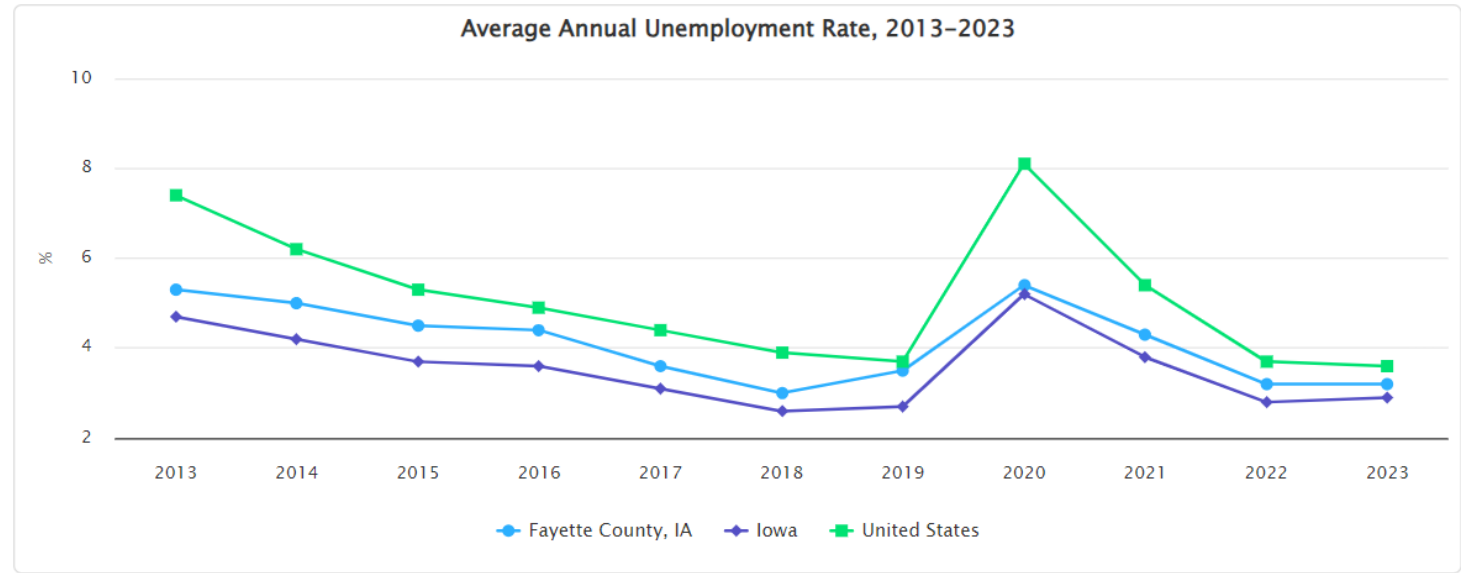
Unemployment Rate: %



Average Monthly Unemployment Rate, September 2023 – September 2024



Average Annual Unemployment Rate, 2013–2023

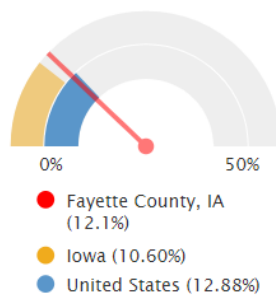


Food Insecurity Rate

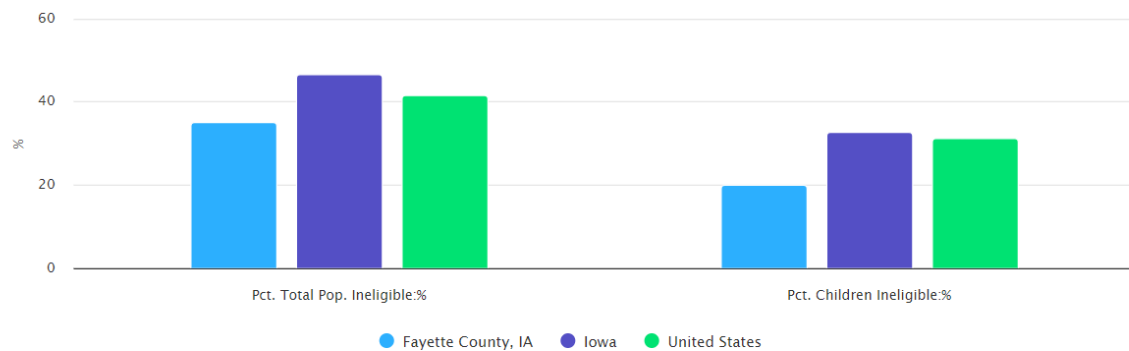
Food insecurity estimates the percentage of the population that experienced food insecurity at some point during the year. The food insecurity rate in Fayette County in 2022 was 12.1%. 35% of the food insecure population is ineligible for assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, school meals, CSFP, and TEFAP). When reviewing trends, this is the highest insecurity rate since 2017, mirroring both state and national trends. Food insecurity has been linked to negative health outcomes.

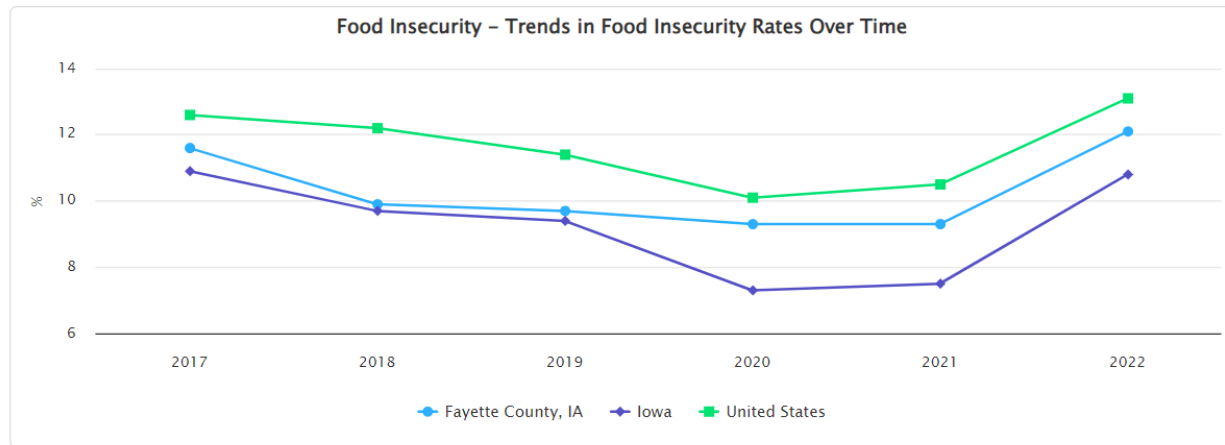
- **Benchmark:** The food insecurity rate in Fayette County is higher than the state rate of 10.6% and slightly lower than the national rate of 12.88%.
- **Disparities:** Food insecurity disproportionately affects children in Fayette County. The food insecurity rate among children is 18%.
- **Data Source(s):** Feeding America 2022.

Percentage of Total Population with Food Insecurity



Food Insecurity – Food Insecure Population Ineligible for SNAP Assistance



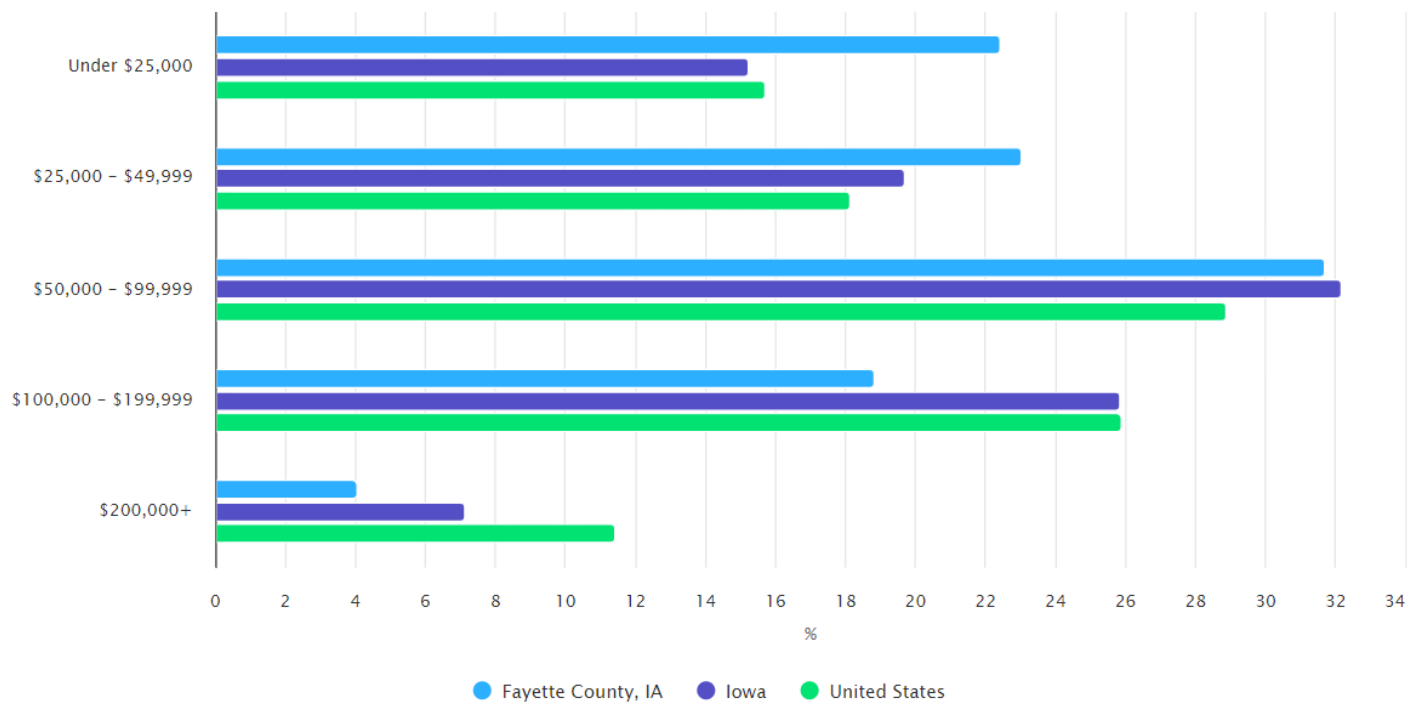


Income

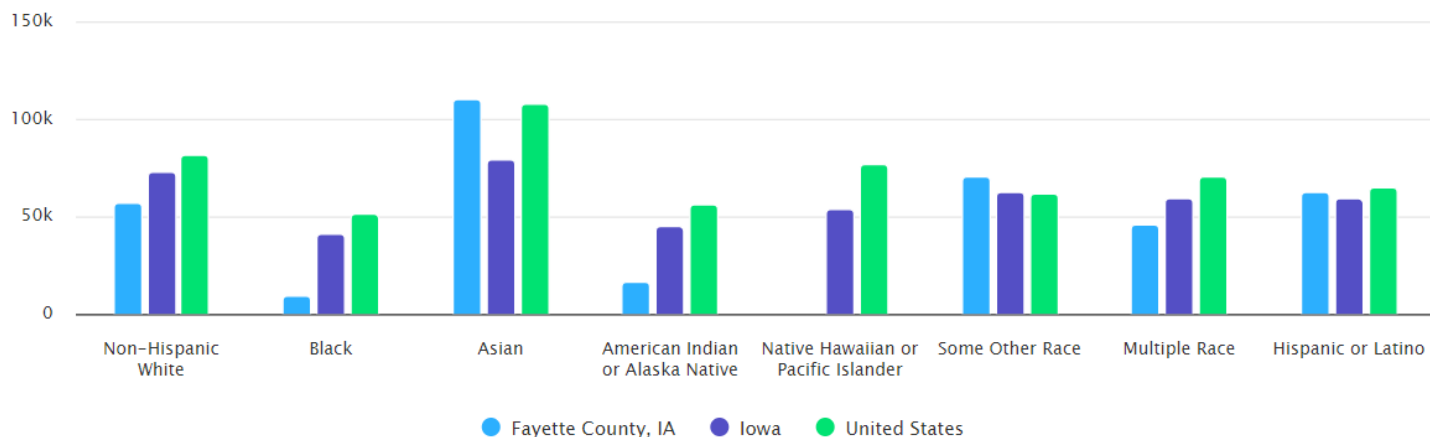
The median household income in Fayette County is \$56,043 (2018-2022).

- **Benchmark:** The median household income in Fayette County is substantially lower than the state median of \$70,571 and the national median of \$75,149.
- **Disparities:** Median household income is much lower among people of color in Fayette County.
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22

Households by Household Income Levels, Percent



Median Household Income by Race / Ethnicity of Householder

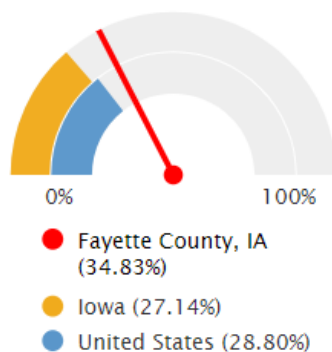


Poverty

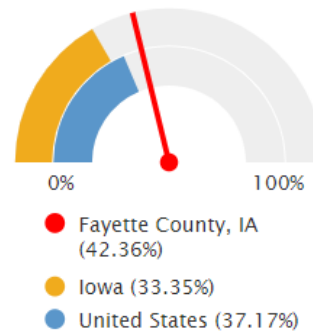
More than a third (34.83%) of Fayette County residents live in households with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The population under 18 living in households below 200% FPL is 42.36%. This indicator is important since poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, stable housing, and opportunities for physical activity.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of individuals living in poverty in Fayette County is higher than Iowa as a whole (27.14%).
- **Target:** Fayette County is not meeting the 8.0% Healthy People 2030 target.
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey; 2018-22; Healthy People 2030

Percent Population with Income at or Below 200% FPL



Population Under Age 18 Below 200% FPL, Percent

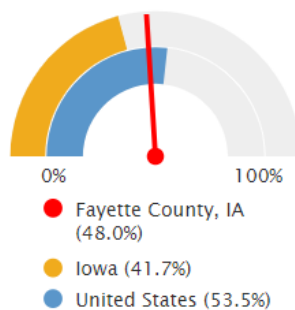


Children Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Lunch

Nearly half (48%) of all public-school students in Fayette County were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Free or reduced-price lunches are served to qualifying students in families with income under 185% (reduced-price) or under 130% (free lunch) of the US federal poverty threshold as part of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch is higher in Fayette County than the state (41.2%).
- **Data Source(s):** National Center for Education Statistics, NCES - Common Core of Data. 2022-2023

Percentage of Students Eligible
for Free or Reduced Price
School Lunch



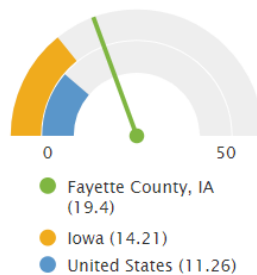
EDUCATION

Head Start

Head Start is a program designed to help children from birth to age five who come from families at or below poverty level. Fayette County has two (2) Head Start programs, a rate of 19.4 per 10,000 children. This indicator is important because the program's goal is to help children become ready for kindergarten while also providing the needed requirements to thrive, including health care and food support.

- **Benchmark:** Fayette County has a much higher rate of head start programs than the state (14.21).
- **Data Source(s):** US Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA - Administration for Children and Families. 2024.

Head Start Programs Rate (Per 10,000 Children Under Age 5)

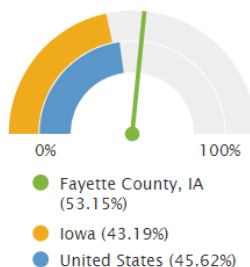


Preschool

Fayette County has 236 children aged 3-4 enrolled in school, which is 53.15% of the county population age 3-4.

- **Benchmark:** Preschool opportunities are more abundant in Fayette County than in Iowa as a whole (43.19%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

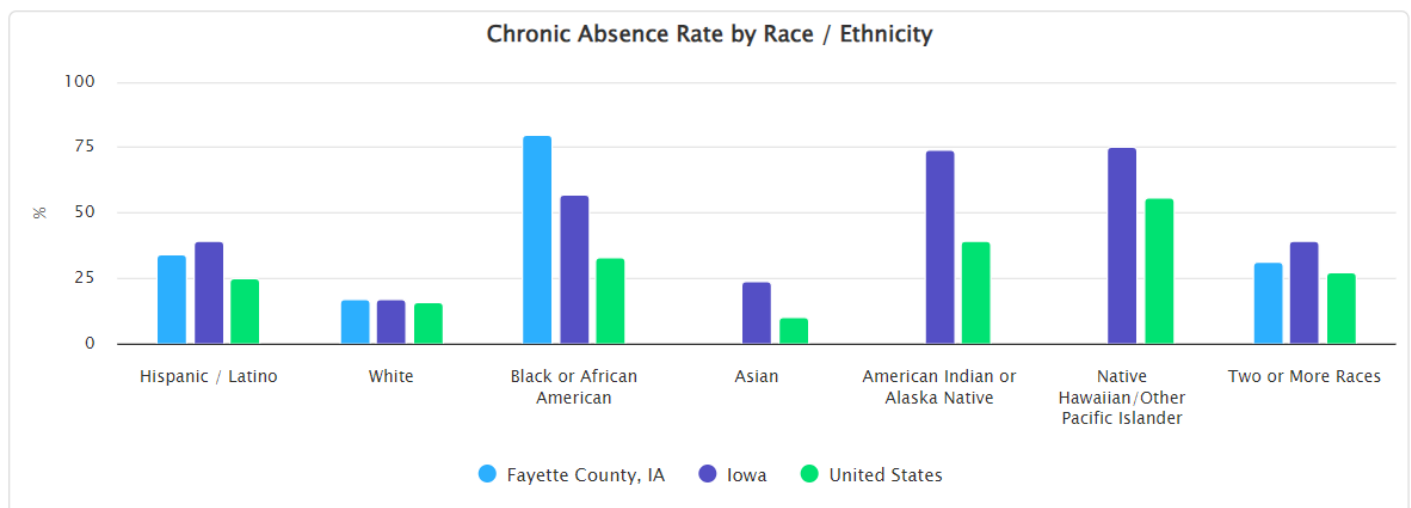
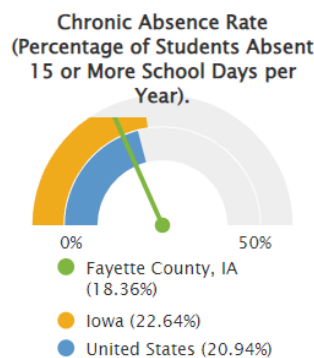
Percentage of Population Age 3-4 Enrolled in School



Chronic Absenteeism

In Fayette County, 18.36% of children missed 15 or more school days during the 2020-21 school year. This indicator is important because chronic absence can jeopardize students' academic proficiency, social engagement, and opportunities for long-term success.

- **Benchmark:** Absenteeism in Fayette County is lower than Iowa as a whole (22.64%).
- **Disparities:** Chronic absenteeism is higher among people of color in Fayette
- **Data Source(s):** U.S. Department of Education, US Department of Education - Civil Rights Data Collection 2020-21.

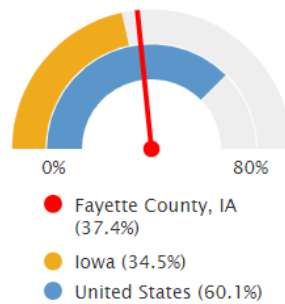


Student Reading Proficiency (4th grade)

In Fayette County, 62.6% of 4th grade students had reading skills at or above the proficient level.

- **Benchmark:** Students in Fayette County (62.6%) performed lower than students statewide (65.5%).
- **Target:** Fayette County is performing above the Healthy People 2030 target of 41.5%.
- **Data Source(s):** US Department of Education, ED Facts. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2020-21.

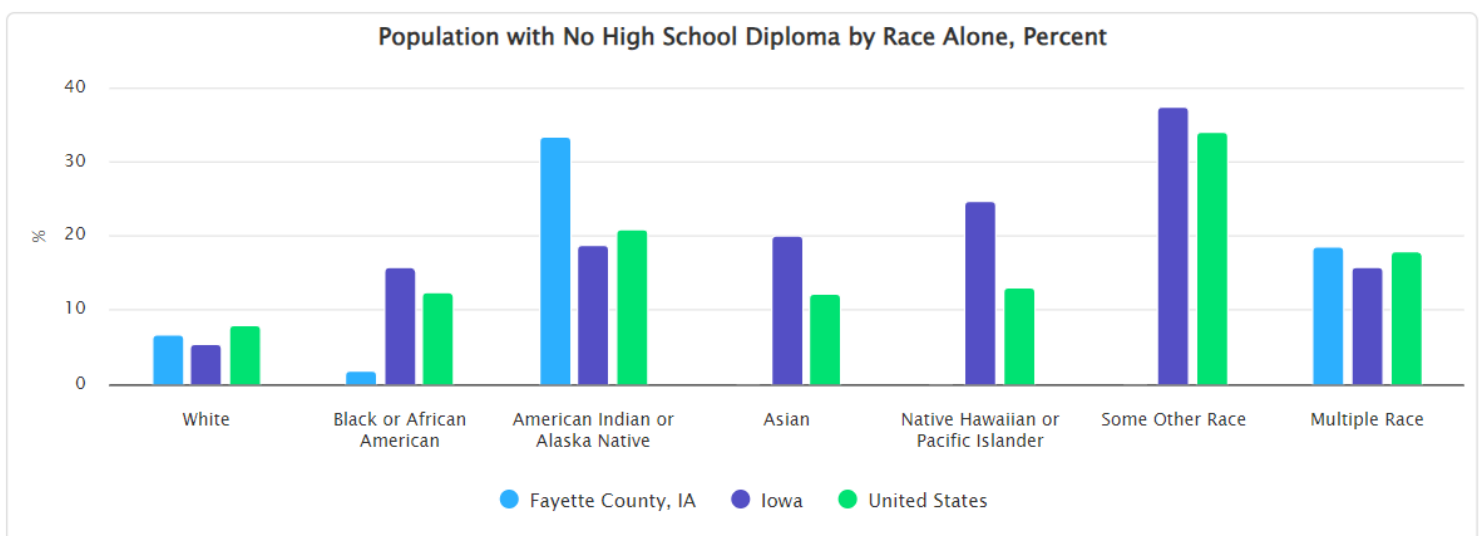
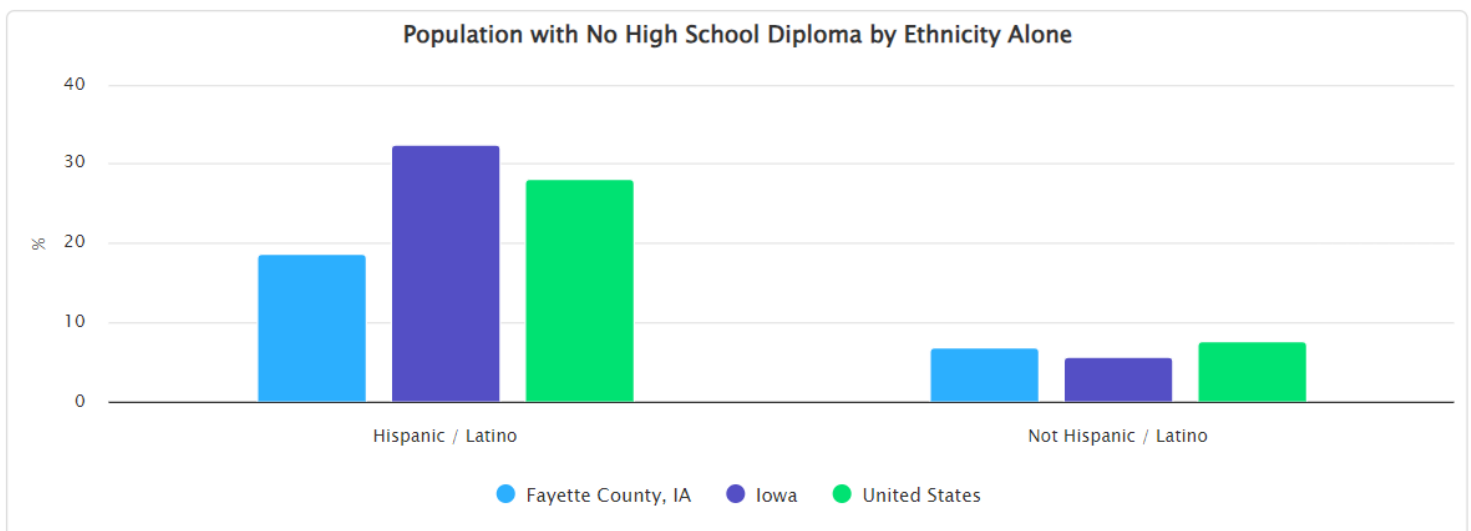
Students Scoring 'Not Proficient' or Worse, Percent



High School Diploma

In Fayette County 92% of the population aged 25 or older has a high school diploma or equivalent. This indicator is important because educational attainment is linked to positive health outcomes.

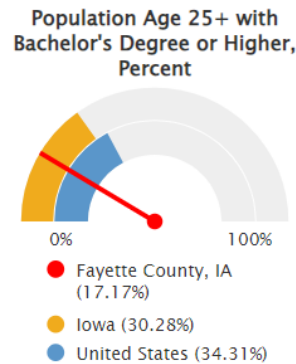
- **Benchmark:** High school graduation rates in Fayette County are slightly lower than the state (93%).
- **Disparities:** The percentage of the population without a high school diploma is much higher in the Hispanic or Latino population.
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.



Bachelor's Degree or Higher

Only 17.17% of Fayette County residents aged 25 or older have obtained a bachelor's degree or higher. According to Healthy People 2030, higher education helps people secure better-paying jobs with fewer safety hazards. Income from these employment opportunities may improve health by increasing people's ability to accrue material resources, such as higher-quality housing, as well as psychosocial resources, such as higher social status.

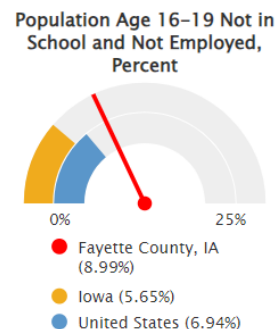
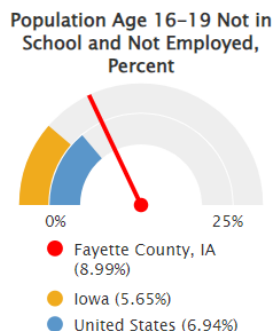
- **Benchmark:** The percentage of Fayette County residents with a bachelor's degree or higher is nearly 50% lower than the state (30.28%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22; Healthy People 2030.



Young People Not in School and Not Working

This indicator reports the percentage of youth aged 16-19 who are not currently enrolled in school and who are not employed. Nearly 9% (8.99%) of youth in Fayette County are not in school and not employed.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of youth who not enrolled in school and who are not employed is much higher in Fayette County (8.99%) than the state of Iowa (5.65%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

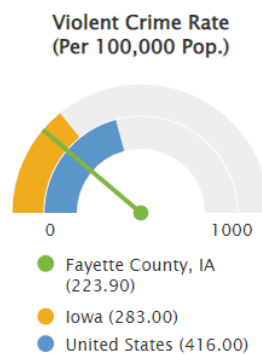


COMMUNITY SAFETY

Violent Crime

Within Fayette County, the 2015-2017 three-year total of reported violent crimes was 145, which equates to an annual rate of 223.90 crimes per 100,000 people. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

- **Benchmark:** The rate of violent crimes in Fayette County is lower than the state rate of 283.00 and significantly less than the national rate of 416.
- **Data Source(s):** Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

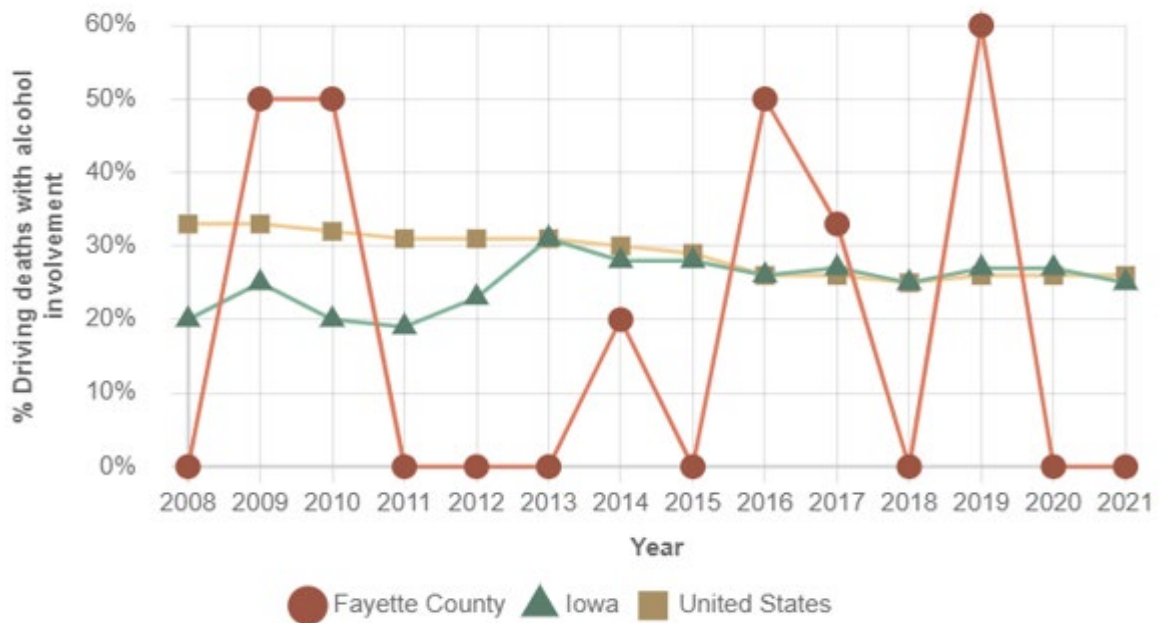


Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths

In Fayette County, 21% of the driving deaths were linked to alcohol impaired drivers.

- **Benchmark:** More than a quarter (26%) of motor vehicle crash deaths in Iowa involved alcohol.
- **Data Source(s):** 2024 County Health Rankings.

Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths in Fayette County, IA
 No significant trend was found in Fayette County for this measure.



SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY

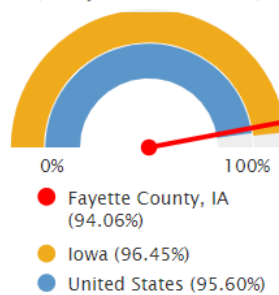
Broadband Access

Most (94.06%) Fayette County residents have access to high-speed internet. Data is based on the reported service area of providers offering download speeds of 25 MBPS or more and upload speeds of 3 MBPS or more.

- **Benchmark:** Access to broadband in Fayette County is slightly lower than the state (96.45%).

Data Source(s): FCC FABRIC Data. Additional data analysis by CARES. June 2024

Percentage of Population with
Access to Broadband Internet
(DL Speeds > 25MBPS)



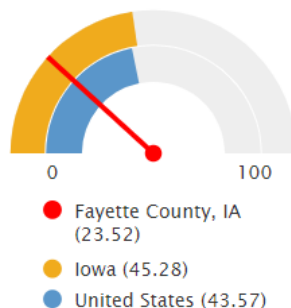
Park Access

Just under a quarter of the population in Fayette County (23.52%) live within a 10-minute walk from a park. This indicator is relevant because access to outdoor recreation encourages physical activity and other healthy behaviors.

- **Benchmark:** Only 23.52% of of Fayette County residents have park access while 45.28% of Iowans have access.

- **Data Source(s):** Trust for Public Land. 2020.

Percent of Population Within a
10-Minute Walk

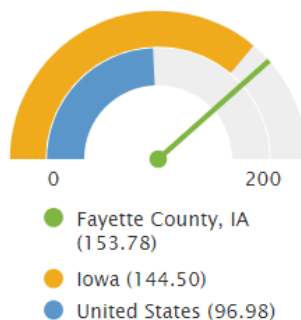


Social Associations

Fayette County has 30 social establishments and 153.78 per 100,000 population. Associations include membership organizations such as civic organizations, bowling centers, golf clubs, fitness centers, sports organizations, political organizations, labor organizations, business organizations and professional organizations.

- **Benchmark:** Fayette County has a higher rate of social establishments than the state (144.50).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2022.

Membership Associations, Rate
per 100,000 Population



AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Air Pollution

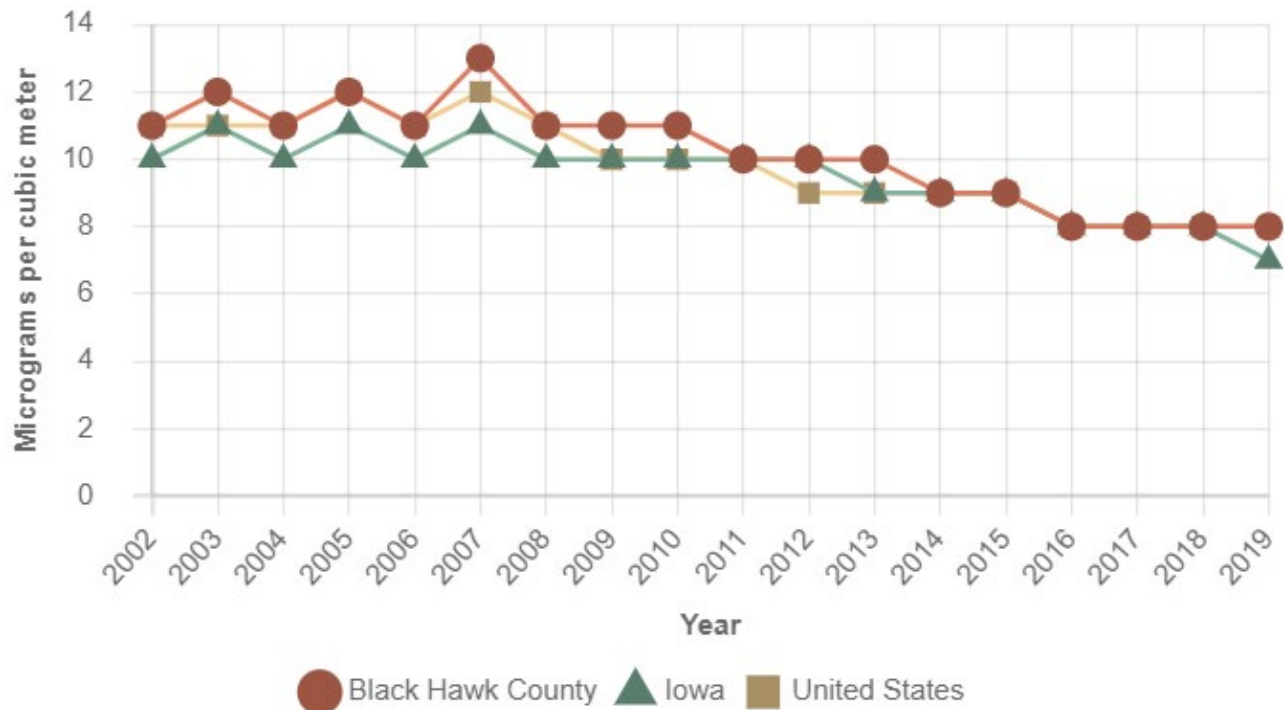
Fayette County has an annual average of 8.2 micrograms per cubic meter of fine particulate matter measured in the air.

- **Benchmark:** The average density of particulate matter in the air is higher in Fayette County than Iowa as a whole (7.4).
- **Data Source(s):** 2024 County Health Rankings, which utilizes 2019 figures from the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.

Air Pollution - Particulate Matter in Black Hawk County, IA

Average daily density of fine particulate matter

Black Hawk County is getting better for this measure.



Drinking Water Safety

This indicator reports presence or absence of one or more health-based violations in drinking water within community water systems that serve the community. No community water system in Fayette County reported a health-based drinking water violation.

- **Data Source(s):** 2022 County Health Rankings, which utilizes figures from the 2020 Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS).

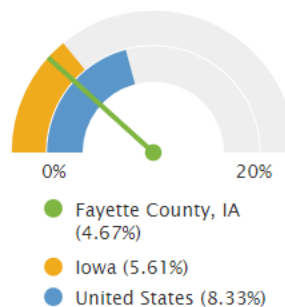
HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Households with No Motor Vehicle

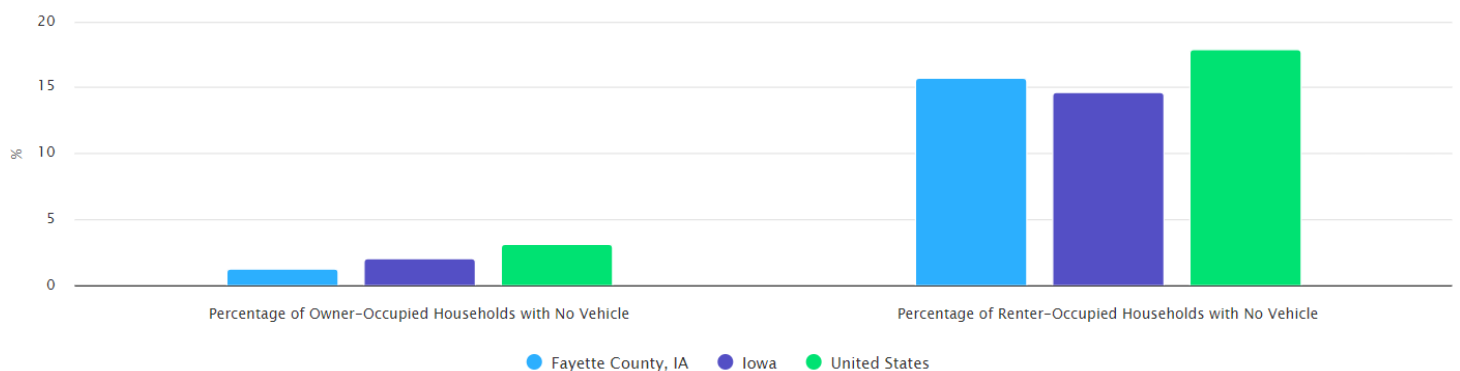
Nearly five percent (4.67%) of households in Fayette County do not have a motor vehicle.

- **Benchmark:** A lower percentage of households in Fayette County are without a motor vehicle than the state percentage (5.61%).
- **Disparities:** Within the service area, there are significantly more renter-occupied households with no vehicle (15.68%) than owner-occupied households (1.23%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage of Households with No Motor Vehicle



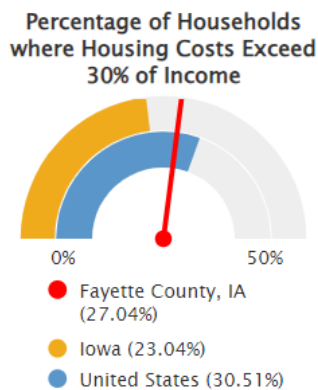
Households with No Motor Vehicle by Tenure



Housing Costs

A total of 27.04% of households in Fayette County have housing costs exceeding 30% of their total household income. This indicator provides information on the cost of monthly housing expenses for owners and renters. The information offers a measure of housing affordability and excessive shelter costs.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of cost-burdened households in Fayette County is higher than the Iowa rate of 23.04%.
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

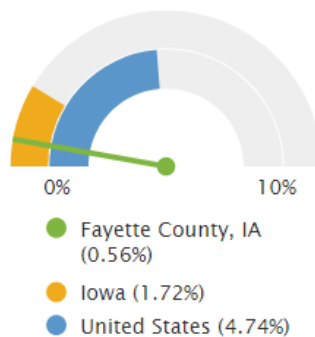


Overcrowded Housing

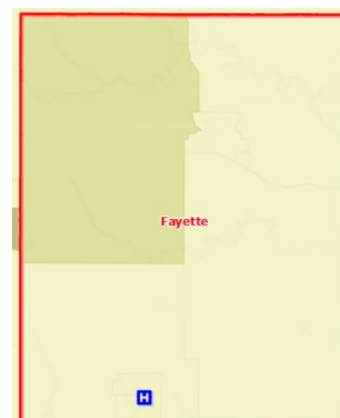
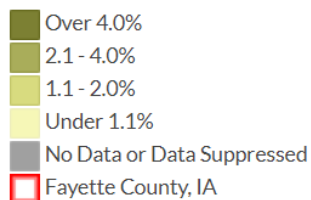
A total of .56% of households in Fayette County are overcrowded. Overcrowding is defined as more than one occupant per room.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of overcrowded households in Fayette County is lower than Iowa (1.72%).
- **Disparities:** The northwestern area of the county has higher rates of overcrowding (1.1-2%).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage of Housing Units Overcrowded



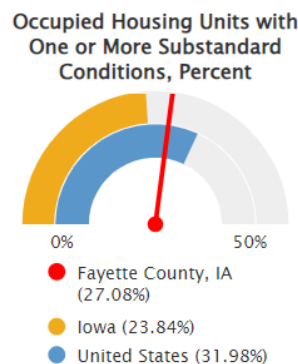
Overcrowded Housing (Over 1 Person/Room), Percent by Tract, ACS 2018-22



Substandard housing

This indicator reports the number and percentage of owner- and renter-occupied housing units having at least one of the following conditions: 1) lacking complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacking complete kitchen facilities, 3) with 1 or more occupants per room, 4) selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30%, and 5) gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30%. Selected conditions provide information in assessing the quality of the housing inventory and its occupants. This data is used to easily identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. Of the 8,203 total occupied housing units in the report area, 2,221 or 27.08% have one or more substandard conditions.

- Benchmark:** The percentage of housing units with substandard conditions in Fayette County is higher than the Iowa rate of 23.84%. The only condition where Fayette County performs more poorly than the state is housing units lacking a complete kitchen. Almost 3% (2.85%) percent of housing units in Fayette County lack a complete kitchen compared to the Iowa average of 2.41%.
- Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-23.

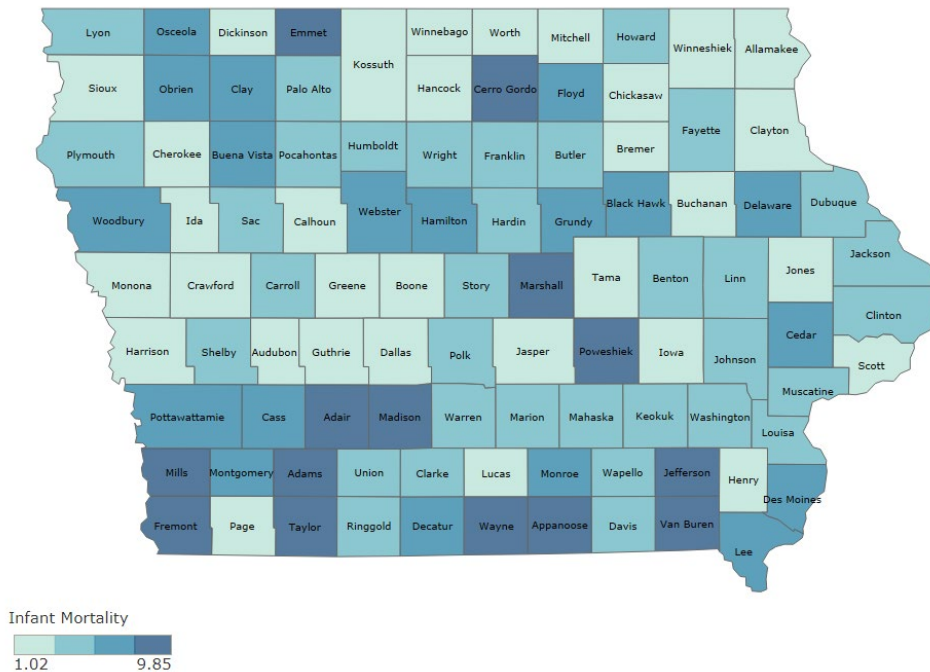


MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH

Infant mortality

Fayette County has an infant mortality rate of 3.89 per 1,000 live births. The mortality rate is highest in infants between 28 days of age and one year of age.

- **Benchmark:** The infant mortality rate is lower in Fayette County than the state of Iowa (4.64 per 1,000 live births).
- **Data Source(s):** Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal, Infant Mortality Data, 2018-2022.



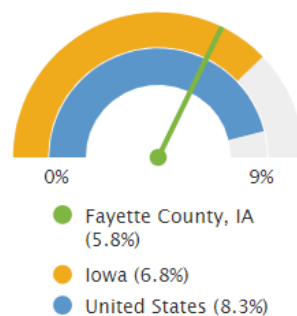
Indicator	Definition	Fayette County	Iowa
Infant mortality	Number of deaths in infants younger than one year of age per 1,000 live births	3.89	4.64
Perinatal mortality	Number of deaths in infants younger than seven days of age plus the number of fetal deaths at 28 weeks or greater gestation per 1,000 live births	1.95	2.23
Neonatal mortality	Number of deaths in infants younger than 28 days of age per 1,000 live births	1.95	2.89
Post neonatal mortality	Number of deaths in infants between 28 days of age and one year of age per 1,000 live births	1.95	1.75

Low Birth Weight

Nearly 6% (5.8%) of infants born in Fayette County had a low birth weight. Low birth weight is defined as less than 2,500 grams (approximately 5 lbs., 8 Oz.).

- **Benchmark:** The prevalence of infants born at a low birth weight is lower in Fayette County than Iowa as a whole (6.8%).
- **Data Source(s):** University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings. 2016-2022.

Percentage of Infants with Low Birthweight: %

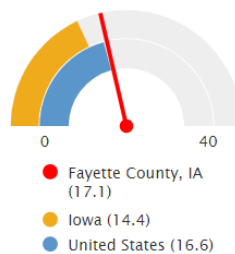


Teen Births

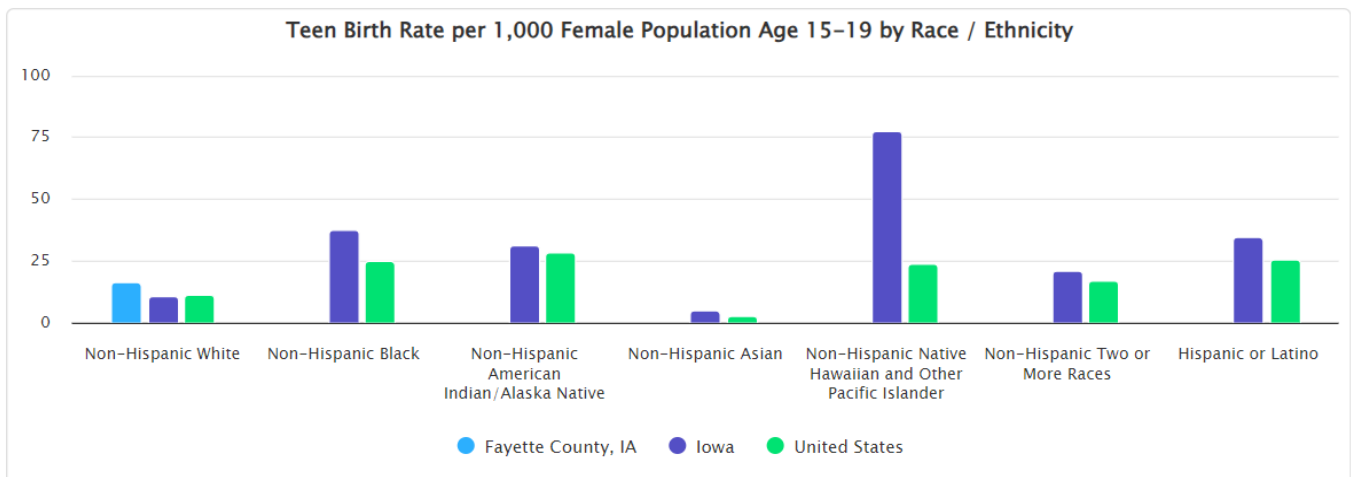
This indicator reports the seven-year average number of births per 1,000 female population age 15-19. In Fayette County, the teen birth rate is 17.1 per 1,000.

- **Benchmark:** The teen birth rate in Fayette County is higher than the state's teen birth rate of 14.1
- **Data Source(s):** National Center for Health Statistics - Natality files (2016-2022).

Teen Birth Rate Per 1,000
 Female Population, Ages 15-19



Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 Female Population Age 15-19 by Race / Ethnicity



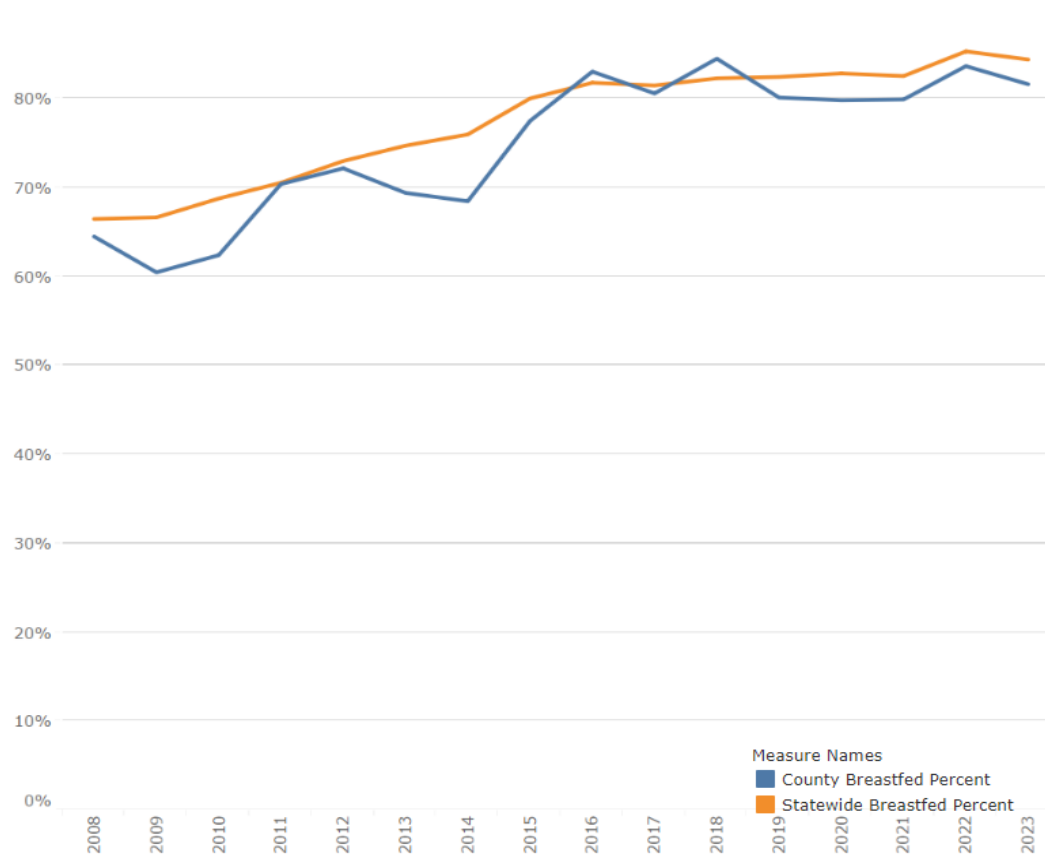
Note: Data for this indicator is not available for the Non-Hispanic Black population in Fayette County.

Infants Ever Breastfed

The breastfeeding initiation rate in Fayette County was 82% in 2023. This indicator is defined as the percentage of births where breastfeeding was initiated prior to hospital discharge for the delivery.

- **Benchmark:** Fayette County has a slightly lower breastfeeding initiation rate than the state (84%).
- **Data Source(s):** Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal. Infants Ever Breastfed. 2023.

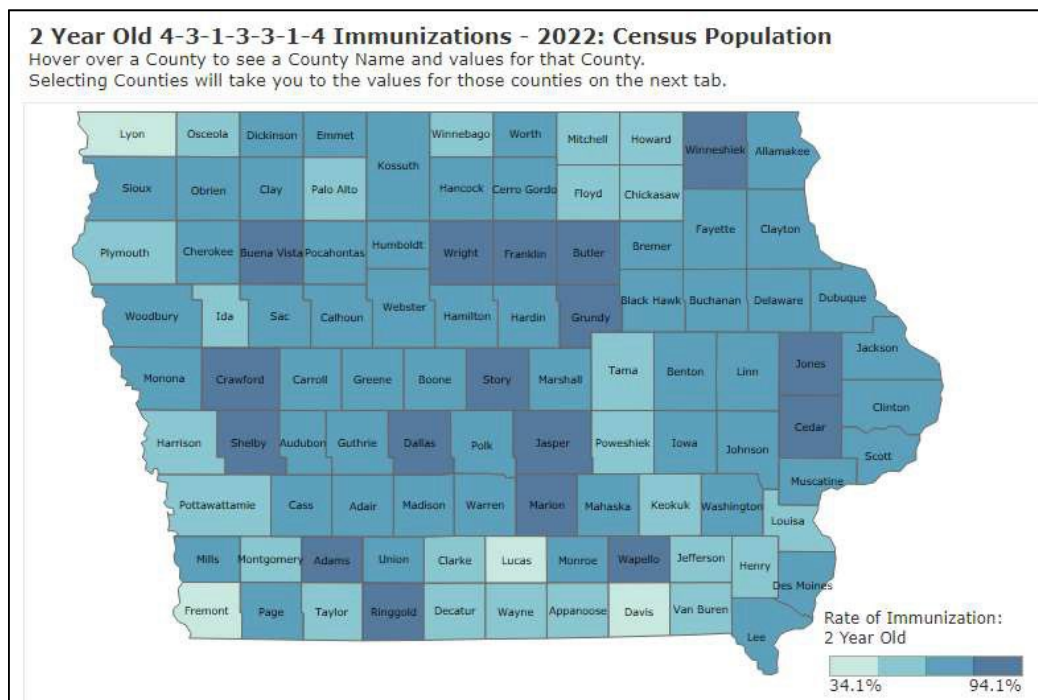
Percent Ever Breastfed Over Time - Fayette County



Child Immunization

Over 70% (72.4%) of 2-year-old children in Fayette County received the recommended DTaP Immunization.

- **Benchmark:** The immunization rate in Fayette County is lower than the Iowa vaccination rate (75.4%)
- **Data Source(s):** Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal. Children: Immunization Data for 2-Year-Old. 2023.



Child abuse

Fayette County had a Child Abuse rate of 20.9 per 1,000 children in 2020.

- **Benchmark:** The child abuse rate in Fayette County is higher than the statewide rate of 14.5.
- **Data Source(s):** Kids Count Data Center. Child abuse and neglect in Iowa. 2020.

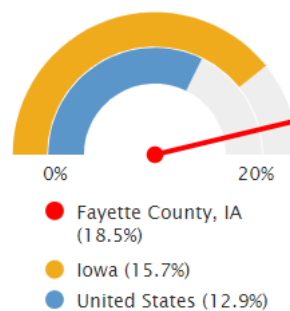
HEALTH BEHAVIORS AND RISK FACTORS

Current Smokers

Within Fayette County, 18.5% of adults report having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoke every day or some days.

- **Benchmark:** The proportion of adults who are current smokers in Fayette County is higher than the state (15.7%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ who are Current Smokers



Radon Exposure

Iowa has the highest average indoor concentration of radon. Fayette County resides in a county that which has been assigned a high-risk zone by the EPA.

- **Benchmark:** Average US indoor radon level = 1.3 pCi/L (picocuries per liter of air). The average indoor radon levels of Fayette County, as determined by radon test results from Air Chek, is 6.4 pCi/L.
- **Data Source(s):** County radon information, Air CheK.

Physical Inactivity

In Fayette County, 28% of adults reported no leisure-time physical activity outside of work (age-adjusted).

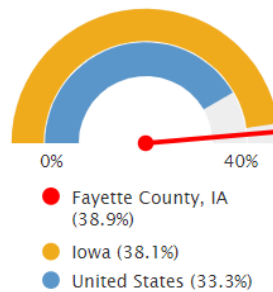
- **Benchmark:** Fayette County residents are less active than their Iowa peers (24%).
- **Data Source(s):** County Health Rankings. 2024.

Obesity

A total of 38.9% of Fayette County adults are obese, defined as having a BMI of ≥ 30.0 kg/m².

- **Benchmark:** Obesity is slightly higher in Fayette County than the state (38.1%) and significantly higher than the nation (33.3%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2022.

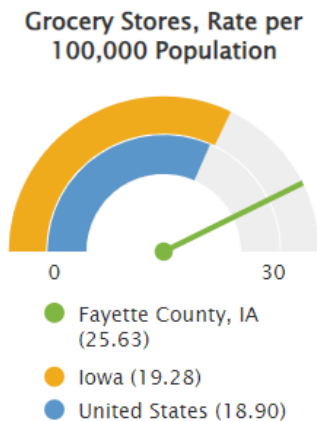
Percentage of Adults Age 18+
with Obesity



Grocery Stores and Supermarkets

Fayette County has 5 grocery establishments in the report area, a rate of 25.63 per 100,000 population. Healthy dietary behaviors are supported by access to healthy foods, and grocery stores are a major provider of these foods. Grocery stores are defined as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Delicatessen-type establishments are also included. Convenience stores and large general merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.

- **Benchmark:** Fayette County residents have better access to grocery establishments than Iowans as a whole (19.23 per 100,000).
- **Data Source(s):** US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2022.



Excessive Drinking

In Fayette County, 18% adults report binge or heavy drinking.

- **Benchmark:** Fayette County residents report slightly less binge/heavy drinking than their Iowa peers (23%).
- **Data Source(s):** County Health Rankings. 2024.

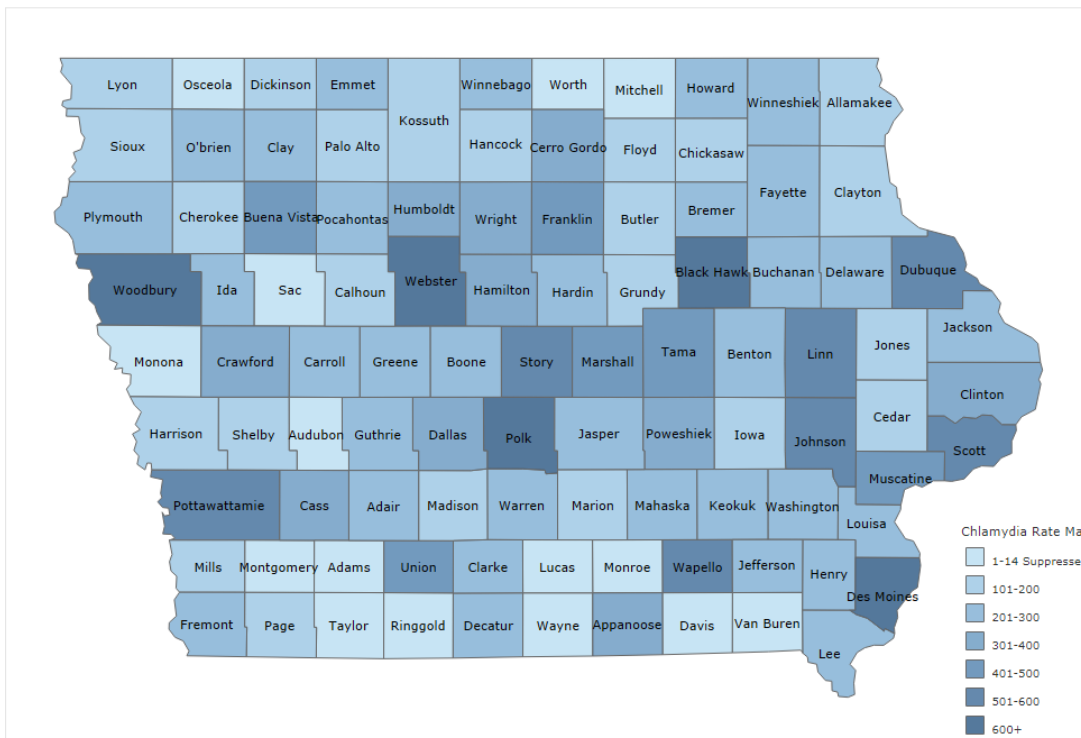
Chlamydia

In Fayette County, 290 new cases of chlamydia were diagnosed per 100,000 population in 2023.

- **Benchmark:** The rate of chlamydia diagnosis in Fayette County is lower than the state rate (428 per 100,000 population).
- **Data Source(s):** Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal. Chlamydia Data. 2023.

Iowa Chlamydia Rates by County for 2023

Rates are per 100,000 population / Blank indicates a suppressed value

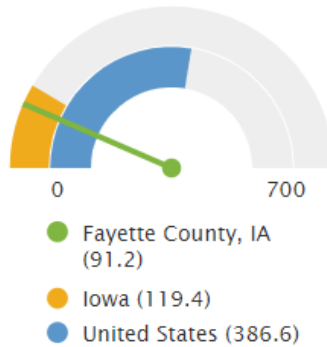


HIV Diagnosis

The prevalence of HIV disease in Fayette County is 91.2 per 100,000 residents.

- **Benchmark:** The prevalence in Fayette County is lower than the state (119.4 per 100,000 residents).
- **Data Source(s):** Center for Disease Control and Prevention, national Center for HIV/Aids, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. 2022.

Population with HIV / AIDS,
Rate per 100,000 Pop.

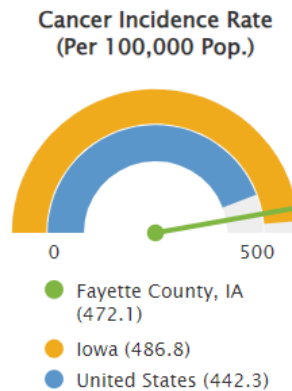


CHRONIC DISEASES

Cancer Incidence

The age-adjusted cancer incidence rate in Fayette County is 472.1 per 100,000 population. The top five most diagnosed cancers in Fayette County include: Lung, Breast, Prostate, Colon & Rectum and Melanoma of the Skin.

- **Benchmark:** The cancer incidence rate in Fayette County is lower than the state rate (484.1).
- **Data Source(s):** State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

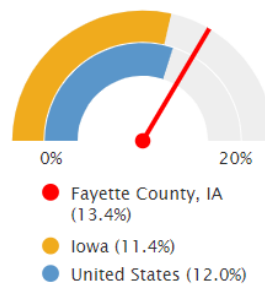


Diabetes

Over 13% percent of adults in Fayette County have been told by a health care professional that they have diabetes (excludes gestational diabetes).

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of adults with diabetes in Fayette County (13.4%) is slightly higher than state as a whole (11.4%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes

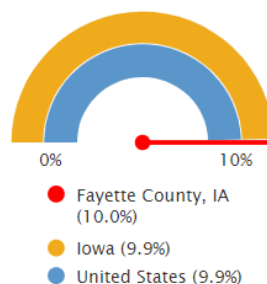


Asthma

Over 10% of adults age 18+ in Fayette County reportedly have asthma.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of adults with asthma in Fayette County (10%) is slightly higher than state and nation (9.9%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Current Asthma

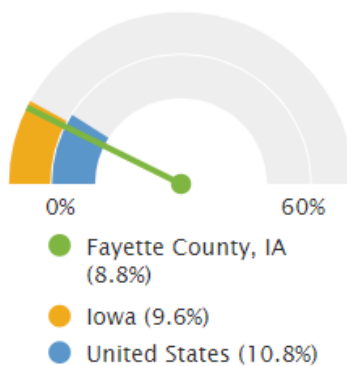


Alzheimer's Disease

Nearly 9% percent of Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries in Fayette County are living with Alzheimer's disease.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease in Fayette County is lower (8.8%) than the state as a whole (9.6%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services - Chronic Conditions. 2018.

Percentage of Medicare
Beneficiaries with Alzheimer's
Disease

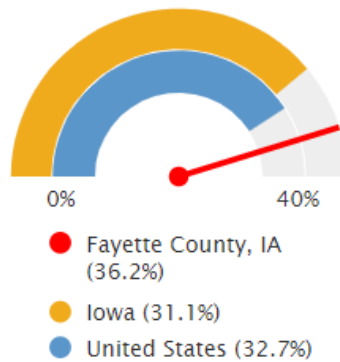


High Blood Pressure

Nearly 36% of Fayette County adults, age 18 or older, reported having high blood pressure.

- **Benchmark:** The number of Fayette County adults (36.2%) experiencing hypertension is higher than the state as a whole (31.1%).
- **Data Source(s):** *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2021*

Percentage of Adults Age 18+
with High Blood Pressure



Heart Disease

Almost a 20% of Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries in Fayette County are living with ischemic heart disease.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries with ischemic heart disease in Fayette County is the same as Iowa (18%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool. 2022

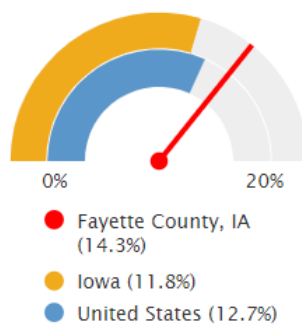
QUALITY OF LIFE

Poor Physical Health Days

Within Fayette County, 14.3% of adults reported having 14 or more days during the past 30 days during which their physical health was not good.

- **Benchmark:** A larger percentage of adults in Fayette County (14.3%) reported poor physical health days than Iowa (11.8%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+
with Poor Physical Health

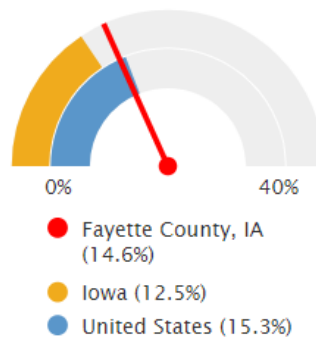


Poor or Fair Health

Within Fayette County, 14.6% of adults report having poor or fair health.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of adults reporting poor or fair health in Fayette County is higher than the state rate (12.5%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2021.

Percentage of Adults with Fair or Poor Health

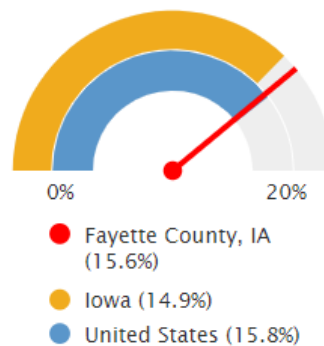


Poor Mental Health

Within Fayette County, 15.6% of adults reported poor mental health in the past month.

- **Benchmark:** The percentage of adults reporting poor mental health in Fayette County is slightly higher than the state rate (14.9%).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Poor Mental Health



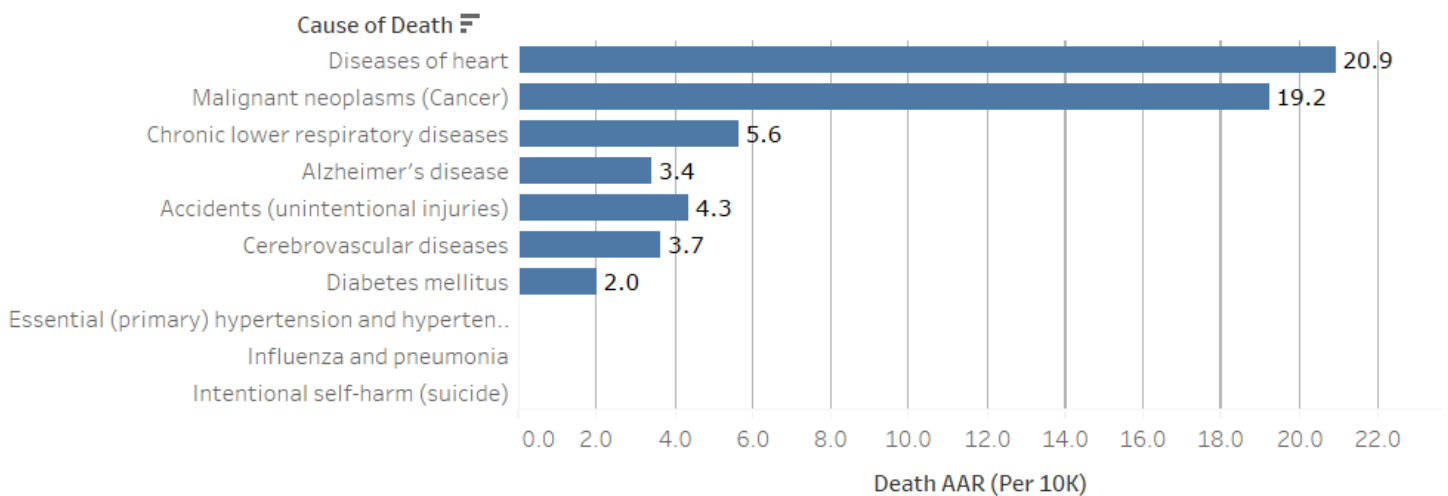
LIFE EXPECTANCY

Leading Cause of Death

The leading cause of death in Fayette County is disease of heart at 20.9 per 10,000 followed by malignant neoplasm (cancer) at 19.2 per 10,000.

- **Benchmark:** The number of Fayette County residents who experience chronic lower respiratory disease is higher at 5.6 than the state at 4.9. Fayette County has a higher number of accidents (unintentional injuries) at 4.3 per 10,000 compared to the state at 3.9.
- **Data Source(s):** Iowa Public Health Tracking Tool. 2023.

County Top 10 Causes of Death - 2023 Fayette County

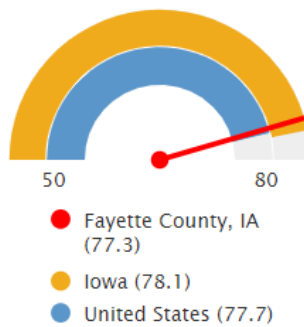


Life Expectancy

The average age-adjusted life expectancy at birth in Fayette County is 77.3 years.

- **Benchmark:** The life expectancy in Fayette County (77.3) is slightly lower than the state life expectancy (78.1 years).
- **Data Source(s):** University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings. 2019-2021.

Life Expectancy at Birth, 2019–2021

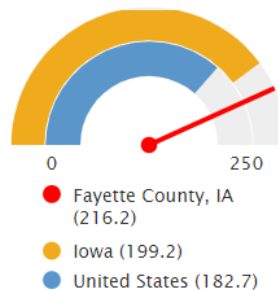


Cancer Mortality

The age-adjusted death rate due to cancer in Fayette County is 216.2 per every 100,000 population.

- **Benchmark:** The cancer mortality rate is higher in Fayette County than the state (199.2).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2021.

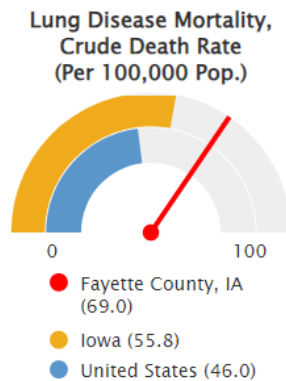
Cancer Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)



Lung Disease Mortality

The age-adjusted death rate due to lung disease in Fayette County is 69.0 per every 100,000 population.

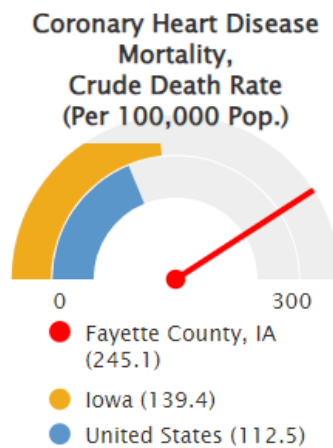
- **Benchmark:** The lung disease mortality rate is higher in Fayette County than the state (55.8 per 100,000).
- **Disparity:** Lung disease mortality rate is higher among males (75.4) than females (62.5) in Fayette County.
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.



Coronary Heart Disease Mortality

The age-adjusted death rate due to coronary heart disease in Fayette County is 245.1 per every 100,000 population.

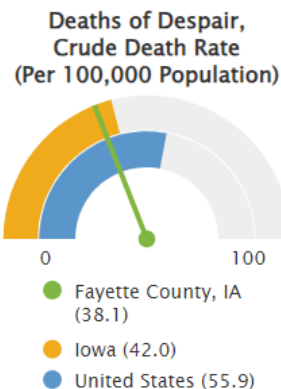
- **Benchmark:** The heart disease mortality rate is significantly higher in Fayette County than the state (139.4).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.



Death of Despair Mortality

Average rate of death due to intentional self-harm (suicide), alcohol-related disease, or drug overdose, also known as “deaths of despair,” per 100,000 in Fayette County is 38.1.

- **Benchmark:** The death of despair mortality rate is lower in Fayette County than the state (42.0).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.



Motor Vehicle Crash

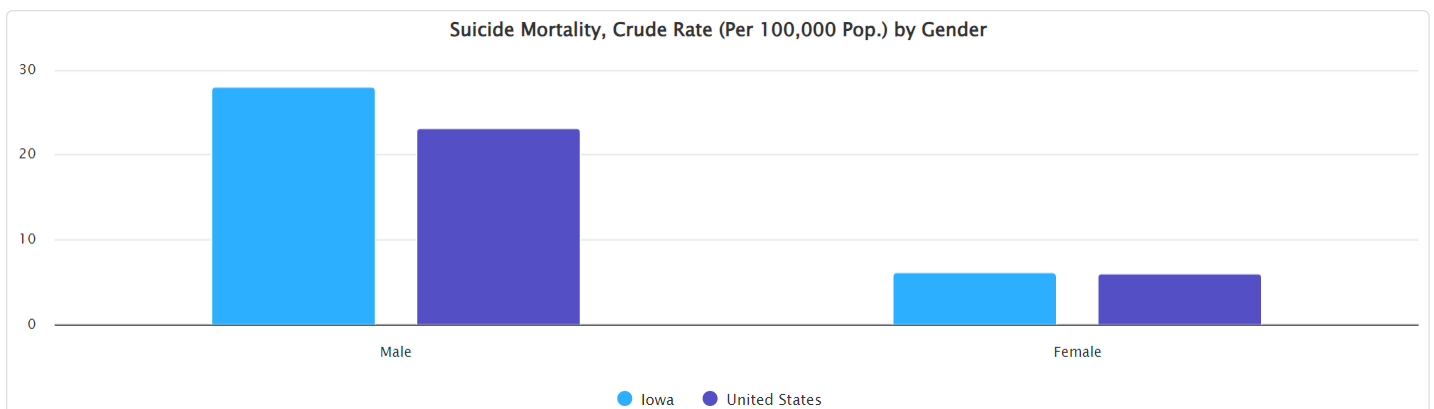
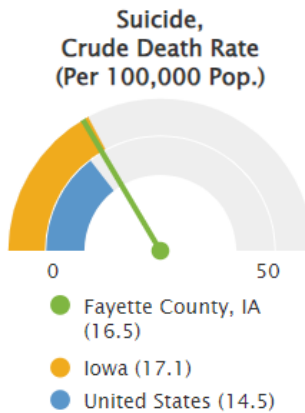
The five-year average rate of death due to motor vehicle crash per 100,000, which include collisions with another motor vehicle, a nonmotorist, a fixed object, and a non-fixed object, an overturn, and any other non-collision from 2018-2022 in Fayette County was 20.6.

- **Benchmark:** The motor vehicle crash mortality rate is significantly higher in Fayette County (20.6) per every 100,000 than the state (11.0).
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.

Suicide Mortality

The 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to intentional self-harm (suicide) per 100,000 population in Fayette County is 16.5.

- **Benchmark:** The suicide mortality rate is significantly lower in Fayette County (16.5) per every 100,000 than the state (17.1).
- **Disparity:** Suicide mortality rate is higher among males (28) than females (6.1) in Fayette County.
- **Data Source(s):** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.





2024 Community Health Survey

Introduction

Welcome to the 2024 Community Health Survey. Thank you for participating in this important work. All the information you provide is completely anonymous and confidential. If a question does not relate to you, please skip to the next question.

Community Health

1. Over the last five (5) years, do you feel people in the community are:

- ☐ More Healthy
- ☐ Less Healthy
- ☐ Maintained Health

2. What are the three (3) most important factors for a healthy thriving community? (Select up to three (3) boxes)

- ☐ Access to healthcare
- ☐ Affordable safe housing
- ☐ Arts and recreation
- ☐ Clean environment
- ☐ Fair and just community for all
- ☐ Jobs and healthy economy
- ☐ Educational opportunities
- ☐ Access to nutritional foods
- ☐ Physical activity or exercise opportunities
- ☐ Low crime/safe neighborhoods
- ☐ Access to transportation
- ☐ Childcare/day care availability
- ☐ Other _____

3. For each factor listed below, are we as a community doing a good job or do we need to improve? (Select one (1) of the boxes below for each row)

	Good Job	Needs Improvement	I Don't Know
Access to healthcare	☐	☐	☐
Affordable safe housing	☐	☐	☐
Arts and recreation	☐	☐	☐
Clean environment	☐	☐	☐
Fair and just community for all	☐	☐	☐
Jobs and healthy economy	☐	☐	☐
Educational opportunities	☐	☐	☐
Access to nutritional foods	☐	☐	☐
Physical activity or exercise opportunities	☐	☐	☐
Low crime/safe neighborhoods	☐	☐	☐
Access to transportation	☐	☐	☐
Childcare/day care availability	☐	☐	☐
Other _____	☐	☐	☐

4. What do you feel are the top three (3) health problems for adults in the community? (Select up to three (3) boxes below)

- ☐ Aging or disability (arthritis, hearing/vision loss, dementia, etc.)
- ☐ Cancer
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Heart disease/stroke
- ☐ Infectious disease
- ☐ Injuries (falls, car accidents, drowning, violence)
- ☐ Obesity
- ☐ Sexually transmitted infection
- ☐ Mental illness
- ☐ Substance use disorder/substance abuse
- ☐ Other _____

5. What are the top three (3) factors affecting children's health?

- ☐ Access to healthcare
- ☐ Access to mental health or substance use disorder services
- ☐ Access to dental care
- ☐ Access to nutritional foods
- ☐ Bullying
- ☐ Physical activity opportunities
- ☐ Sexual behavior
- ☐ Screen time/social media

- ☐ Safe living environment
- ☐ Substance abuse
- ☐ Supportive family environment
- ☐ Educational opportunities

Personal Health

6. Do you receive an annual health exam (check-up/physical)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No If no, why? (Select all that apply)
 - ☐ Can't get an appointment for a time that works best for you
 - ☐ I feel that I am healthy and don't need an annual health exam
 - ☐ Don't feel you need an annual health exam
 - ☐ Cost
 - ☐ Transportation
 - ☐ Childcare
 - ☐ Interpreter services
 - ☐ Other _____

7. Do you visit the dentist regularly (1-2 times per year)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No If no, why? (Select all that apply)
 - ☐ Can't get an appointment for a time that works best for you
 - ☐ Don't feel that you need to visit the dentist regularly
 - ☐ Cost
 - ☐ Transportation
 - ☐ Childcare
 - ☐ Interpreter services
 - ☐ Don't have dental insurance
 - ☐ Other _____

8. What prevents you from being healthier? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Lack of appointments for healthcare services when I need them
- ☐ Healthcare services are too expensive
- ☐ Healthcare services are too complicated
- ☐ Lack access to transportation
- ☐ Lack motivation
- ☐ Lack knowledge about healthy choices
- ☐ Not enough time
- ☐ Nowhere to exercise or affordable gym
- ☐ Other priorities
- ☐ Physical health is too poor
- ☐ Mental health is too poor
- ☐ Lack access to or can't afford healthy foods
- ☐ Unemployment

- ☐ Inadequate housing
- ☐ Information not provided in my language
- ☐ Feeling unsafe
- ☐ Other _____

9. If you feel you could benefit from mental health or substance use disorder services but are not currently receiving them, please select your reason(s) for not accessing those services.

- ☐ Have tried services and they were unsuccessful
- ☐ Have tried and takes too long to get an appointment
- ☐ No insurance coverage, employer EAP, or don't understand what my insurance covers ☐
- Services are too expensive
- ☐ Lack of transportation
- ☐ Feeling ashamed or uncomfortable talking about personal issues
- ☐ Unable to find a provider I can connect with
- ☐ Lack of providers that speak the same language as me or share the same culture ☐
- Unable to find childcare
- Other _____

10. If you are a parent or guardian, do your children receive an annual health exam (checkup/physical/well child visit)?

- ☐ I am not a parent or guardian
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, If no, why? (Select all that apply)
 - ☐ Can't get an appointment for a time that works best for you
 - ☐ Your children are healthy and don't need annual health exam ☐
 - Cost
 - ☐ Transportation
 - ☐ Childcare
 - ☐ Interpreter services
 - ☐ Other _____

11. If you are a parent or guardian, do your children visit the dentist regularly (1-2 times per year)? ☐ I am not a parent or guardian

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, If no, why? (Select all that apply)
 - ☐ Can't get an appointment for a time that works best for you ☐
 - Don't feel that your children need to visit the dentist regularly
 - ☐ Cost
 - ☐ Transportation
 - ☐ Interpreter services
 - ☐ Don't have dental insurance that covers my children
 - ☐ Other _____

12. Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more.

- ☐ Often true

- ☐ Sometimes true
☐ Never true

13. Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more.

- ☐ Often true
☐ Sometimes true
☐ Never true

14. Do you receive services from local agencies?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes, if yes, select all that apply.
☐ SNAP (food stamps)
☐ Food assistance (pantry, community meals)
☐ WIC
☐ Housing assistance (rental or shelter)
☐ Utility assistance
☐ Childcare assistance
☐ Youth programming assistance (eg. Boys and Girls Club)
☐ Parent education services
☐ General financial assistance
☐ Free or reduced-cost health care services
☐ Other _____

15. If you were in need of assistance from local agencies but didn't receive any, was there a reason? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ I wasn't in need of assistance
☐ They don't offer hours that are convenient to me
☐ Information is not provided in my language
☐ Transportation
☐ Childcare
☐ Interpreter services
☐ My needs exceed the maximum amount of assistance
☐ I don't meet eligibility criteria for assistance
☐ Other _____

16. Who do you trust for health information? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Doctor or other health professional
☐ Public Health Department
☐ Television or newspaper
☐ Social media
☐ Internet
☐ Family or friends
☐ Other _____

17. Which of the following emergency preparedness statements are true for you/your family?

- ☐ My family has a cell phone with a charger
- ☐ My family has a first aid kit
- ☐ My family has discussed a central meeting place
- ☐ My family has made a contact list for emergencies (kids know how to call another family member and how to use 911)
- ☐ My family has practiced a fire drill at home
- ☐ My family has practiced a tornado drill at home
- ☐ My family has a weather radio, flashlight, and batteries in our home
- ☐ My family keeps a supply of bottled water and extra nonperishable food items on hand
- ☐ My family keeps a list of current medications and important paperwork
- ☐ My family has signed up to obtain real-time alerts warning for disasters

About You

18. Age

- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80+

19. Gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Transgender Male
- ☐ Transgender Female
- ☐ Gender Variant/Non-Conforming
- ☐ Choose not to Disclose
- ☐ Other _____

20. ZIP Code

21. County of Residence ☐

- Black Hawk
- ☐ Bremer
- ☐ Buchanan
- ☐ Butler
- ☐ Benton
- ☐ Delaware
- ☐ Tama
- ☐ Fayette
- ☐ Grundy
- ☐ Marshall

☐ Other _____

22. Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Other _____

23. Country of birth

- ☐ United States
- ☐ Bosnia
- ☐ Burma
- ☐ Marshall Islands
- ☐ Mexico
- ☐ Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
- ☐ Haiti
- ☐ Liberia
- ☒ Other _____

24. Highest Level of Education

- ☐ Less Than 8th Grade
- ☐ Some High School, No Diploma
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ High School Equivalent (GED)
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associate Degree or Trade School Certificate/**Technical**
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Advanced Degree

25. Health insurance status (select all that apply)

- ☐ Insurance through a current or former employer (of yourself or family member)
- ☐ Insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (by yourself or family member)
- ☐ Insurance purchased from the marketplace (by yourself or family member)
- ☐ I am covered by Medicaid (Iowa Total Care, Molina, Wellpoint)
- ☐ I am covered by Medicare
- ☐ VA health care
- ☐ I am not covered by health insurance
- ☐ One or more of my children are not covered by health insurance

26. How well do you understand the benefits offered under your health insurance plan (If Applicable)?

Very Well (5)	4	3	2	Not at All (1)
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☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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27. Number of adults in home including yourself

28. Number of children in home

29. What is your family's gross annual income before taxes?

- ☐ Under \$15,000
- ☐ Between \$15,000 and \$29,999
- ☐ Between \$30,000 and \$49,999
- ☐ Between \$50,000 and \$74,999
- ☐ Between \$75,000 and \$99,999
- ☐ Between \$100,000 and \$149,999
- ☐ More Than \$150,000

30. Veteran status (select all that apply)

- ☐ Yes, I am currently serving on active duty
- ☐ Yes, I am currently serving in the Reserves or National Guard
- ☐ Yes, I am a veteran who served on active duty
- ☐ Yes, I am a veteran who served in the Reserves or National Guard
- ☐ Yes, I am a retiree from the military
- ☐ No, I have never served in the military
- ☐ Prefer not to answer



Find Help Data Fayette County Searches- November 21, 2023, to November 21, 2024.

