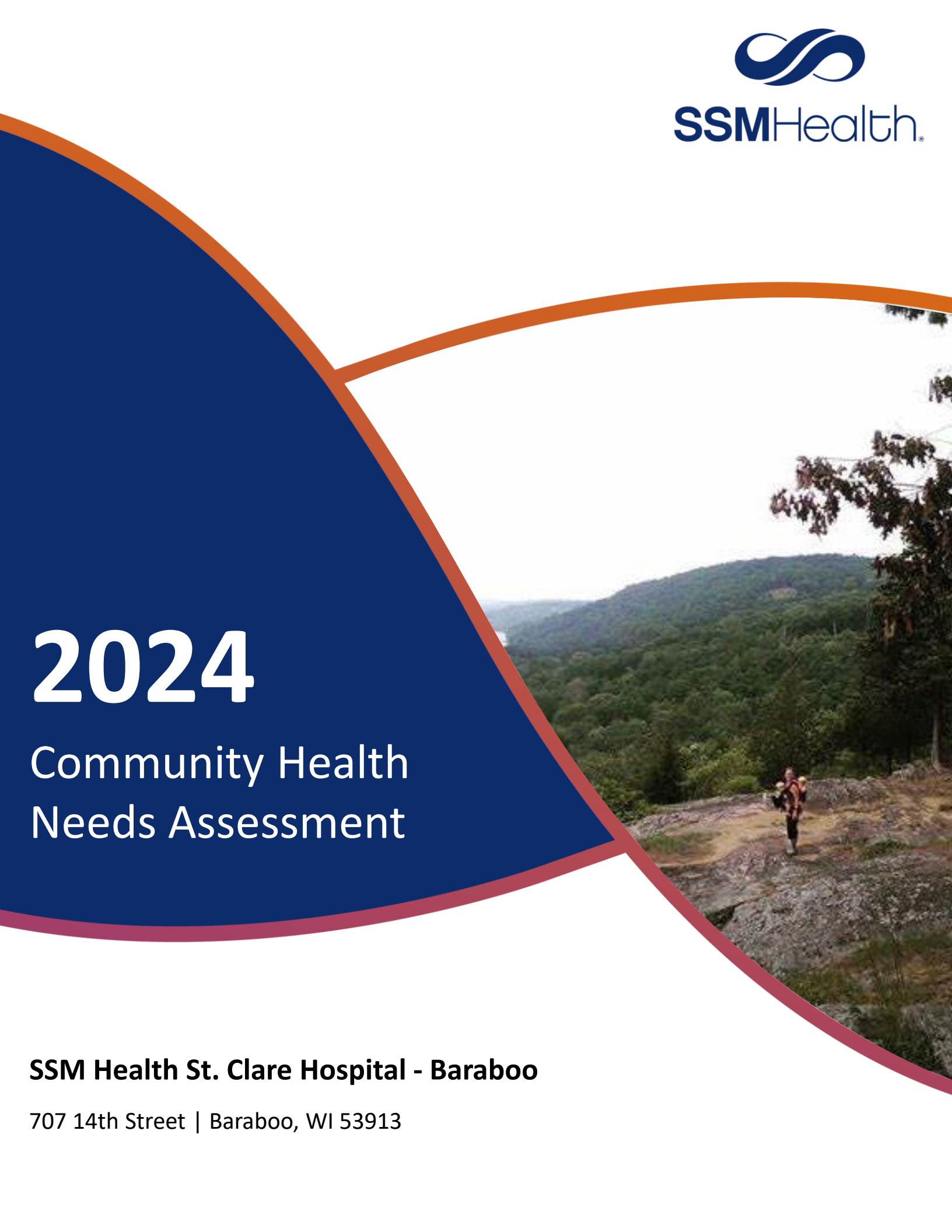


2024

Community Health Needs Assessment

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital - Baraboo

707 14th Street | Baraboo, WI 53913



Message to Our Community

Community collaboration is what brings Sauk County success in achieving their health priority goals. Along with many community partners, SSM Health St. Clare Hospital- Baraboo is pleased to present the community with the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital- Baraboo has delivered exceptional, compassionate care to the community for over 60 years. Inspired by our founding Franciscan Sisters of Mary and guided by our Mission – Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God – we cherish the sacredness and dignity of each person as demonstrated through our Values of Compassion, Respect, Excellence, Stewardship and Community.

This document is intended to serve as a guide for the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and is also intended to inform community understanding of how certain factors, including the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH), impact the health status of some community members more than others. Our sincere hope is this assessment serves as a tool for organizations serving Sauk County to identify how they can influence the health of our community.

*From the assessment and a process of prioritization, the same health priorities rose to the top in 2024: **Mental Health, Affordable Housing and Substance Use.** We've accomplished so much in the past three years and by continuing with the same health priorities in the 2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) we can achieve even more success. In the spirit of collaboration, the Sauk County Health & Wellness Coalition will continue to roll up our sleeves and stay on this path together.*

Sincerely,

DeAnn Thurmer
President
SSM Health St. Clare Hospital
SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital
SSM Health Waupun Memorial Hospital



Executive Summary

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital is pleased to present the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This CHNA report provides an overview of the health needs and priorities associated with our service area. With a health lens on Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) and identified barriers to health equity for all. The goal of this report is to provide persons with a deeper understanding of the health needs in their community, as well as to help guide the hospital in its community benefit planning efforts and development of an implementation strategy to address evaluated needs. The SSM Health Wisconsin Regional Board approved this CHNA on November 12, 2024.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires 501(c)(3), tax-exempt hospitals to conduct a CHNA every three years and adopt a strategic implementation plan to address identified the needs. The hospital last conducted a CHNA in 2021.

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital – Baraboo worked closely with the Sauk County Health & Wellness Steering Committee to develop the 2024 Sauk County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The hospital is a member in the Sauk County Community Health Assessment workgroup, has a representative serving as an advisor to the Health & Wellness Steering Committee and assisted in inviting community members to conversations to gather and collect community perspectives. The process benefited from input from several individual community leaders representing diverse constituencies.

How a Community Becomes Healthier

The Take Action Cycle at the right shows us how to create a healthy community.

At the heart of this cycle is people working together. We know that when people work together with a shared vision and commitment to improve health, it can yield better results than working alone.

The County Health Rankings are based on the model of community health that emphasizes the many factors that influence how long and how well we live. The Rankings use more than 30 measures that help communities understand how healthy their residents are today (health outcomes) and what will impact their health in the future (health factors).



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About SSM Health St. Clare Hospital



Through our exceptional health care services,
we reveal the healing presence of God.

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital

Highlight of services

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital offers a comprehensive range of acute inpatient services, along with an ambulatory care consisting of primary care and specialty care providers. Services include radiation oncology, total joint replacement, women's health services, cardiac/pulmonary rehab, sleep studies, chronic disease education and other clinical departments.

Community benefit

In 2023, SSM Health St. Clare Hospital – Baraboo provided \$8,008,789 in community benefit, through our investment in community benefit programs, we focus to enhance the health of all who live in our area.

In 2023, we gave \$126,652 for community partnership programs specific to our most recent health priorities of Mental Health, Affordable Housing and Substance Use.

Additional affiliations

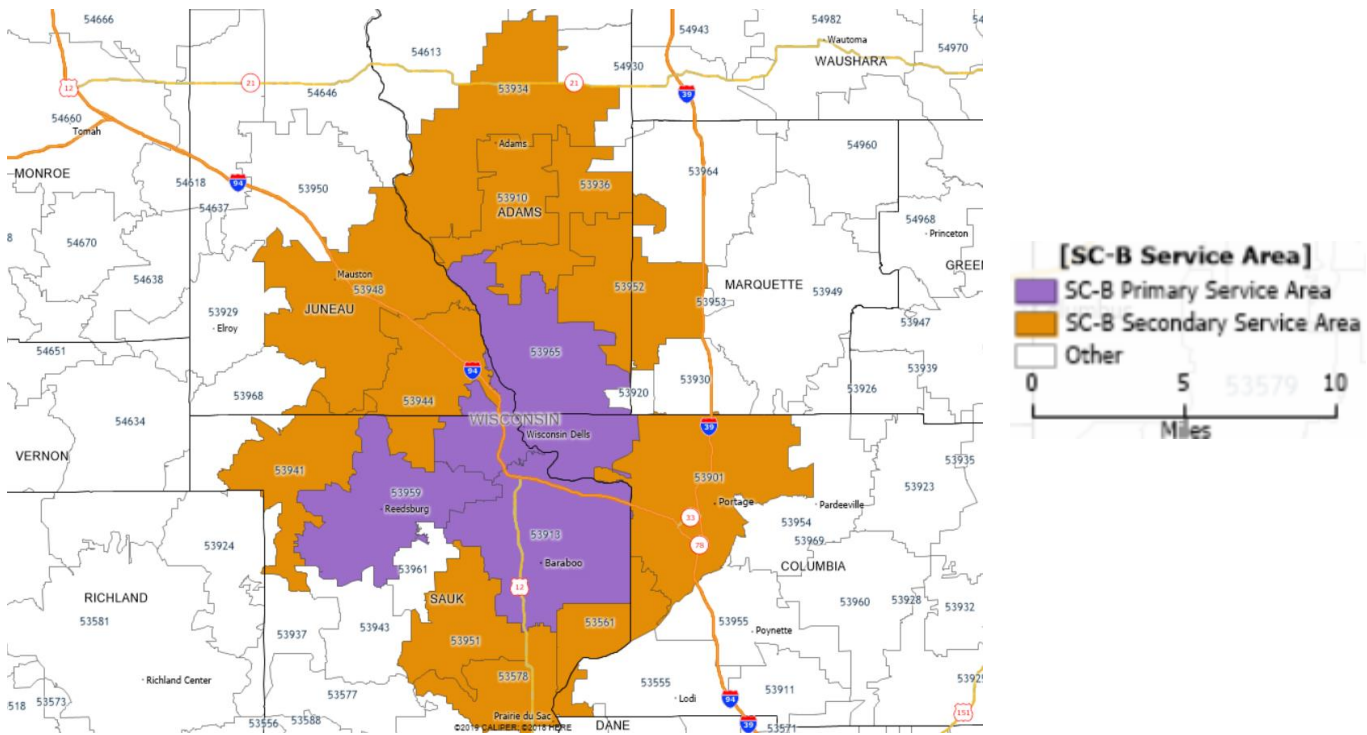
The connection with SSM Health Dean Medical Group offers patients a seamless health care experience. Patients receive exceptional care from the moment they begin their journey with SSM Health. The heritage of healing continues today with a deep-rooted commitment to providing personal and compassionate care.

Hospital at a glance

Admissions		1,631
Outpatient visits		81,834
ER visits		21,310
Births		196
Beds		100
Employees		420
Medical staff		390
Volunteers		107
Charity care		\$333K

Definition of Community

For the purposes of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), SSM Health defines its community as Sauk County and the surrounding portions of adjacent Adams, Columbia and Juneau counties within the hospital's primary and secondary service areas. Given the hospital's partnership with the Sauk County Health Department and participation in the Sauk County Health and Wellness Coalition and Sauk County Data Council, much of the needs assessment will focus on the community within Sauk County. SSM Health will also coordinate and collaborate with the Adams and Columbia County public health departments on the needs of populations within their counties that are also located within the hospital's primary service delivery area.



Geography

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital is located at 707 14th Street in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Baraboo is the county seat of Sauk County and the county's largest city. According to the U.S. Census, Baraboo had an estimated population of 12,557 and Sauk County had an estimated population of 65,920. Baraboo occupies approximately 3,356.5 acres along the Baraboo River. It is approximately 40 miles north-northwest of Madison, Wisconsin's capital and second largest city. Sauk County includes rolling country sides, farmlands, Devil's Lake State Park and much of the Wisconsin Dells tourism areas (that welcomes over 5 million visitors each year). Baraboo has a balanced economic base of manufacturing, tourism, agriculture and technology, excellent schools, public elementary and high schools, plus a two-year University of

Wisconsin campus, Baraboo-Sauk County, and access to high-quality healthcare.

Service delivery area

Approximately 75% of St. Clare Hospital's patient population lives within the following mapped primary service area. An additional approximately 15% of the patient population lives within the secondary service area. The primary service area is limited to portions of Sauk County and small portions of Adams, Columbia and Juneau Counties while the secondary service area also extends into a portion of Marquette County. According to the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), a large portion of Sauk County and SSM Health St. Clare Hospital service areas are designated as Rural Health Areas.

About our Community

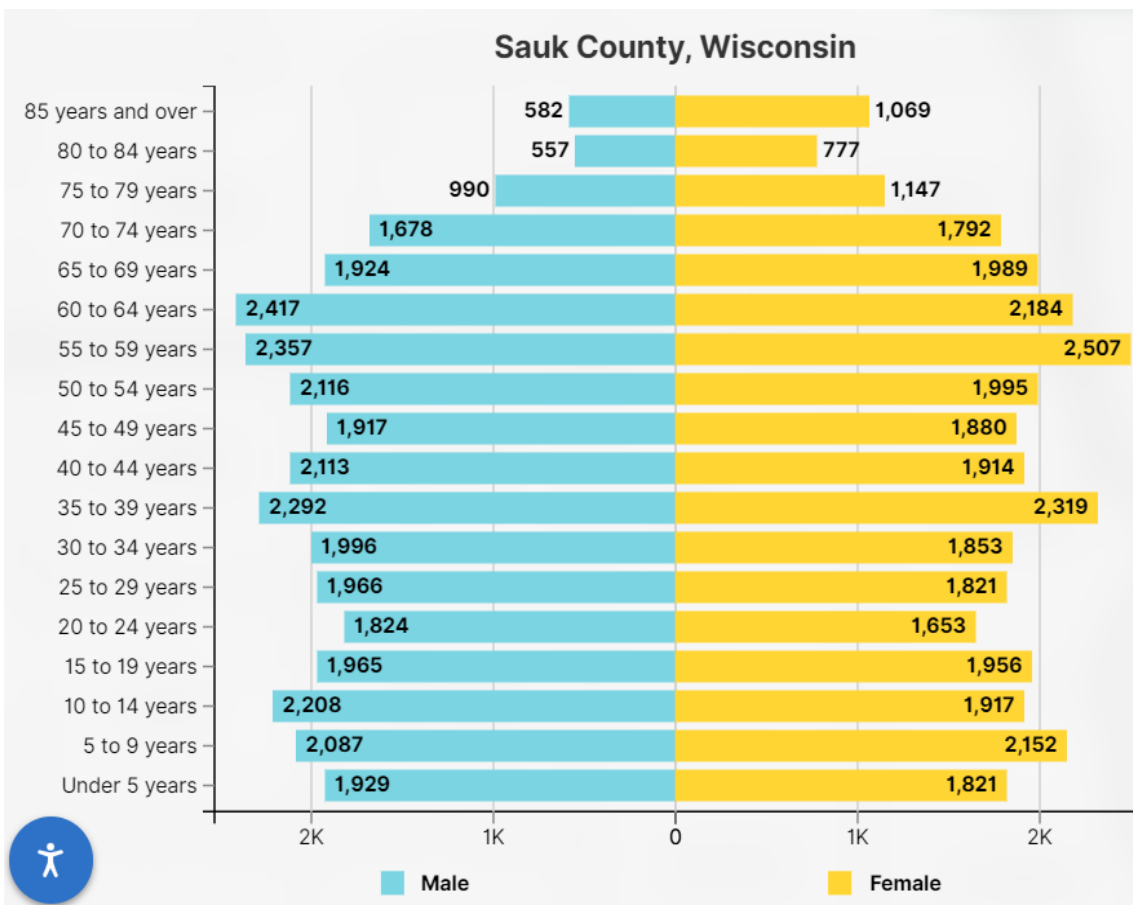
Under-represented or More Vulnerable Portions of the Population:

Sauk County and SSM Health St. Clare Hospital service areas includes people who are at high risk of not receiving adequate medical care due to being uninsured/underinsured, are experiencing health disparities, or facing barriers related to geography, language, financial circumstances, and transportation, stigma, accessibility to technology or knowledge of technology, medication compliance due to cost or coverage, access to healthy foods and low-income housing.

Potentially medically underserved populations include the rural poor and older adults who may be without adequate transportation; Black, Indigenous and other persons of color (BIPOC) individuals who may be experiencing discrimination and racial or ethnic health disparities; non-English (primarily Spanish) speaking individuals who may also be undocumented; low socio-economic status (SES) and homeless individuals; lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer (LGBTQ) residents; and incarcerated individuals or people engaged in the criminal justice system.

The Ho-Chunk Nation’s House of Wellness is located in Sauk County and serves many tribal members. The Sauk County community health assessment process included an equity plan to ensure that the needs of more vulnerable populations were considered.

Population in Sauk County by age and sex



21.9% of the population is under age 18.

20.4% of the population is age 65+

About our Community

Demographics

Sauk County, Wisconsin has 831.5 square miles of land area and is the 27th largest county in Wisconsin by total area. The county is more rural than Wisconsin overall, with 44.7% of the population in rural areas and 55.3% in urban areas. An estimated 65,920 people call Sauk County home. The Median Age is 42.2 years old, which is slightly higher than the national median age of 39. Overall, 21.9% of the population is under age 18, 57.7% are ages 18-64, and 20.4% are age 65+. The following factors and data from U.S. Census Bureau provide some useful information.

Demographic Category	Demographic Factor	Sauk County	Wisconsin	United States
Race and Ethnicity	Black or African American alone, percent	1.2%	6.3%	12.6%
	American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%
	Asian alone, percent	0.7%	3.2%	6.3%
	Hispanic or Latino, percent	6.2%	7.6%	19.1%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	89.7%	80.1%	58.9%
	*Other is defined as less than 1%			
Poverty	Children in poverty, percent	12%	13%	16%
Health Insurance	Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent	8%	7%	12%
Education	High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+	93%	90%	86%
	Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+	27.1%	33.2%	
Age	Persons under 5 years, percent	5.7%	5.7%	6.0%
	Persons under 18 years, percent	21.9%	21.1%	21.7%
	Persons 65 years and over, percent	20.2%	18.7%	17.3%
Median Household Income	Median Household Income	\$70,500	\$71,100	\$74,800
	White (Non-Hispanic)	\$53,900		
	Hispanic	\$49,600		
	American Indian and Alaska Native	\$43,900		
	Asian	\$42,300		
	Black	\$31,300		

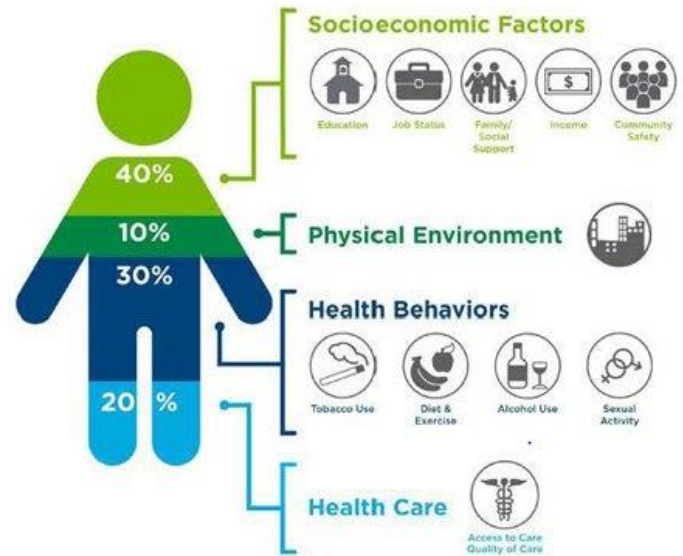
Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) are non-medical factors that affect health outcomes. These factors include the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age, as well as the systems that shape daily life. SDOH can affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. Some examples of SDOH include availability of healthy food, affordable housing, access to health care services, transportation, neighborhood safety, racism, discrimination, violence and built environment.

For example, people who don't have access to grocery stores with healthy foods are less likely to have good nutrition. That raises their risk of health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and obesity — and even lowers life expectancy compared to people who do have access to healthy foods.

SDOH also contribute to wide health disparities and inequities. By focusing on Social Determinants of Health and health equity in the communities that we serve, we will see improved health outcomes.

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital - Baraboo began screening for the social determinants of health for acute care patients in January 2023. The data below reflects the percent of patients at risk for **Housing Instability, Lack of Access to Transportation, Financial Strain, and Food Insecurity.**



Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Going Beyond Clinical Walls. Solving Complex Problems (October 2014). The BridgeSpan Group


Housing Instability

2023

- 9.5% of patients stated they did not have stable were housing.

2024

- 9.6% of patients stated they did not have stable were housing.




Access to Transportation

2023

- 6.9% of patients stated they did not have reliable transportation.

2024

- 8.6% of patients stated they did not have reliable transportation.




Financial Strain

2023

- 2.6% of patients stated they had financial resource strain.

2024

- 3.2% of patients stated they had financial resource strain.




Food Insecurity

2023

- 6.9% of patients stated they did not have regular access to food.

2024

- 8.5% of patients stated they did not have regular access to food.



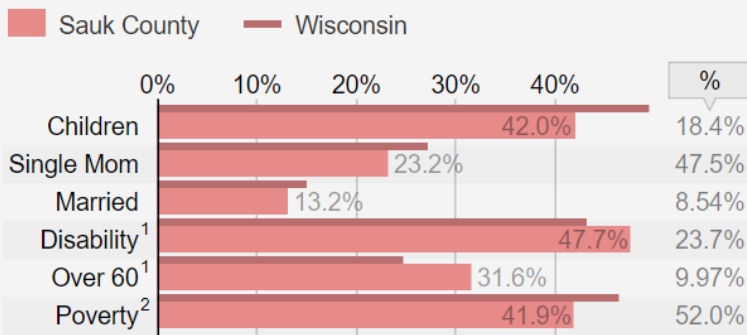
SDoH Spotlight: Food Security

Food security for a household means having access to enough affordable and nutritionally adequate food for an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is when people can't access the food they need to live their fullest lives. There are many causes of food insecurity. But one thing is clear: financial security for everyone is the most effective way to end hunger.

Characteristics of Households Receiving Food Stamps #2

Households with given characteristics as a percentage of all households that receive food stamps.

Scope: households in Wisconsin and Sauk County



% households on food stamps as a percentage of all households with the given characteristic

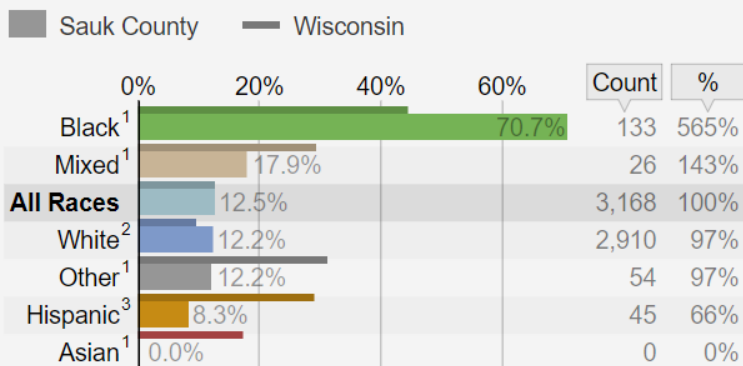
¹ at least one qualifying person

² income in last 12 months below poverty level

On Food Stamps by Race #4

Percentage of given ethno-racial group on food stamps.

Scope: households in Wisconsin and Sauk County



Count number of households on food stamps in given ethno-racial group

% percentage more or less than the population at large

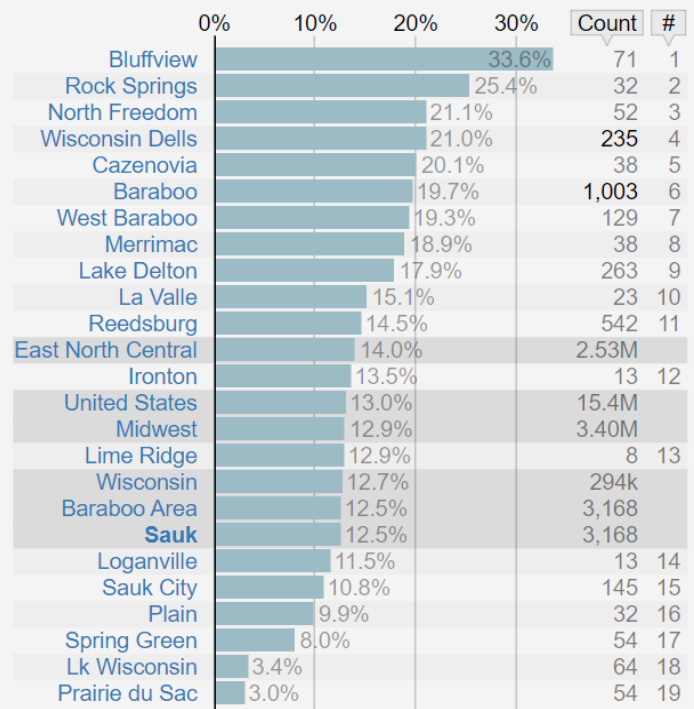
¹ including Hispanic ² non-Hispanic white ³ white Hispanic



Most Food Stamps by Place #7

Food Stamp recipients as a percentage of all households.

Scope: population of Sauk County, selected places in Sauk County, and entities that contain Sauk County



Count number of households on food stamps

rank of place out of 19 by percentage on food stamps

Statistical Atlas.com

Community Partners

A Community Health Needs Assessment of this scope was made possible with the partnerships of many individuals. Public Health Sauk County gratefully acknowledges the following individuals & organizations who contributed.

- Siobhan Allen, Public Health Sauk County
- Sara Jesse, Public Health Sauk County
- Jodie Molitor, Public Health Sauk County
- Jessie Phalen, Public Health Sauk County
- Jennifer Weitzel, Public Health Sauk County
- Kate Hansen, Public Health Sauk County
- Hannah Erdman, Public Health Sauk County
- Rebecca Szydowski, Public Health Sauk County
- Taylor Fish, Public Health Sauk County
- Jill Quinn, Public Health Sauk County
- Julie Jaech, Public Health Sauk County
- Kelly Koch, Public Health Sauk County
- Treemanisha Stewart, Public Health Sauk County
- Ken Carlson, Sauk Prairie Healthcare
- Brenda Humbracht, Sauk Prairie Healthcare
- Errin Wellman, Sauk Prairie Healthcare
- Megan Timm, SSM Health- St Clare Hospital - Baraboo
- Tammie Jamiska, SSM Health- St Clare Hospital - Baraboo
- Heather Sloan, SSM Health- St Clare Hospital - Baraboo
- Claudie Jamison, SSM Health- St Clare Hospital - Baraboo
- Marina Wittmann, Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Carey Craker, Reedsburg Area Medical Center
- Emily Herritz, Reedsburg Area Medical Center
- Jen Baird, Ho-Chunk Nation
- Michelle Sampere, Ho-Chunk Nation
- Haley Weisert, Pathway Home of South Central WI
- Wendy Schneider, Pathway Home of South Central WI
- Angela Witczak, Pathway Home of South Central WI
- Stacy Parson, UW Extension
- Ed Geick, Former Baraboo City Administrator
- Brian Duvalle, City of Reedsburg
- Jeff Wright, Sauk Prairie School District
- Rainey Briggs, Baraboo School District
- Tywana German, Sauk Prairie Chamber of Commerce
- Danielle Sander, UW Extension
- Ray Ring, Village of Plain



We would like to thank all the community members who completed our online survey as well as those who participated in our focus groups and key informant meetings. Everyone took time out of their busy schedules to listen to health data and reports, share their concerns, and comment on their experiences, and for that we are sincerely grateful.

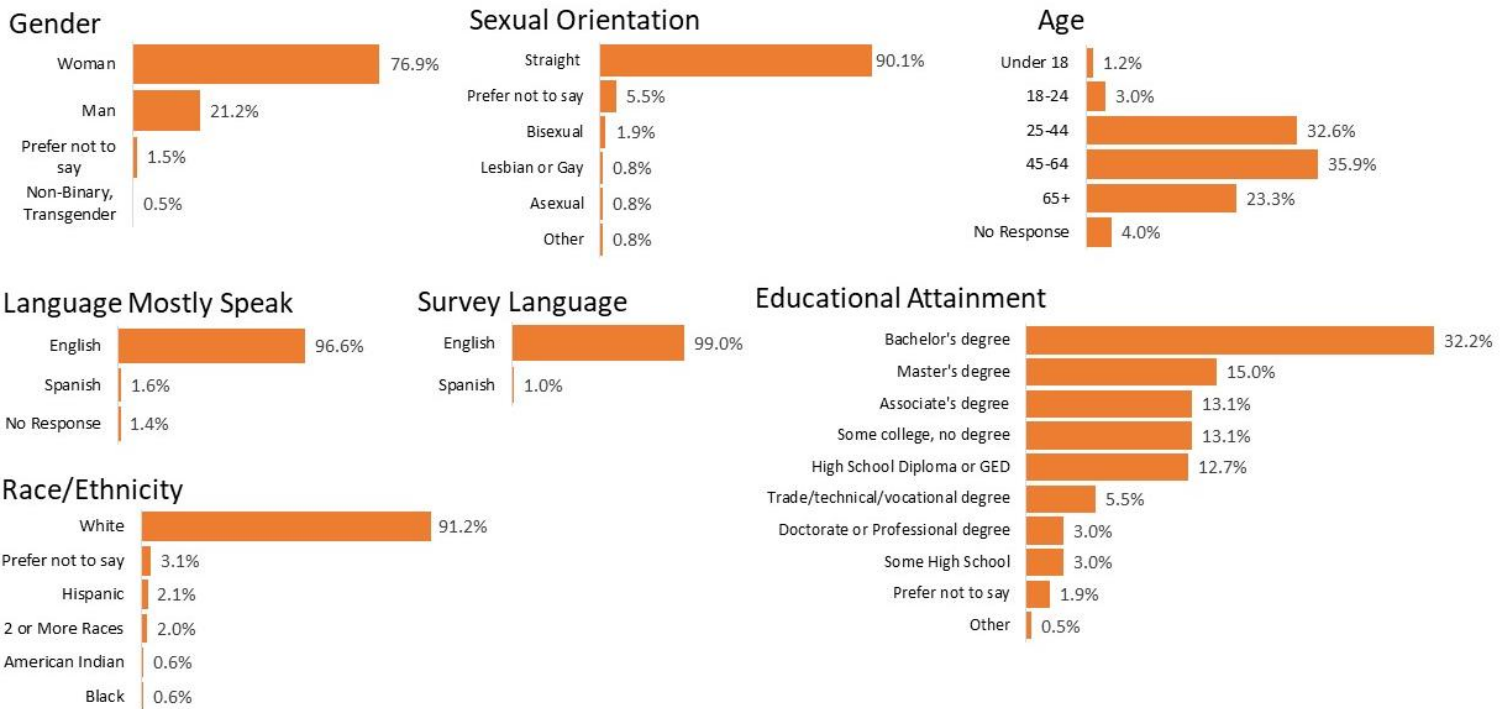
Primary Data: Community Survey

The primary data includes multiple perspectives and experiences from people who live and/or work in Sauk County. The primary data was collected using multiple methods: a community health assessment survey, one-on-one key informant interviews, and focus groups.

To collect primary data, we used an online convenience sample survey that was available from February to May 2024. The confidential and anonymous survey asked respondents to think about their community and identify community problems and community strengths. Respondents were also asked to answer demographic questions.

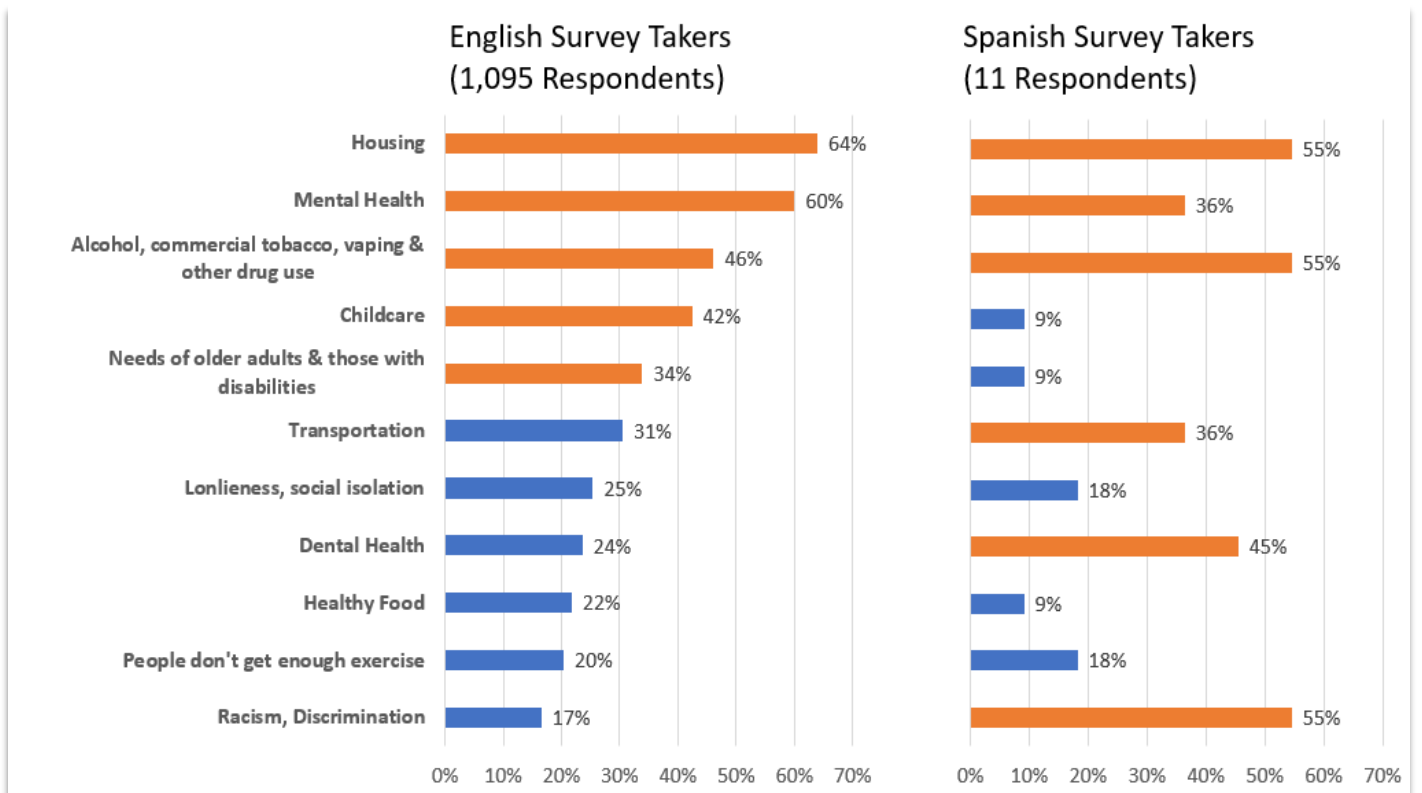
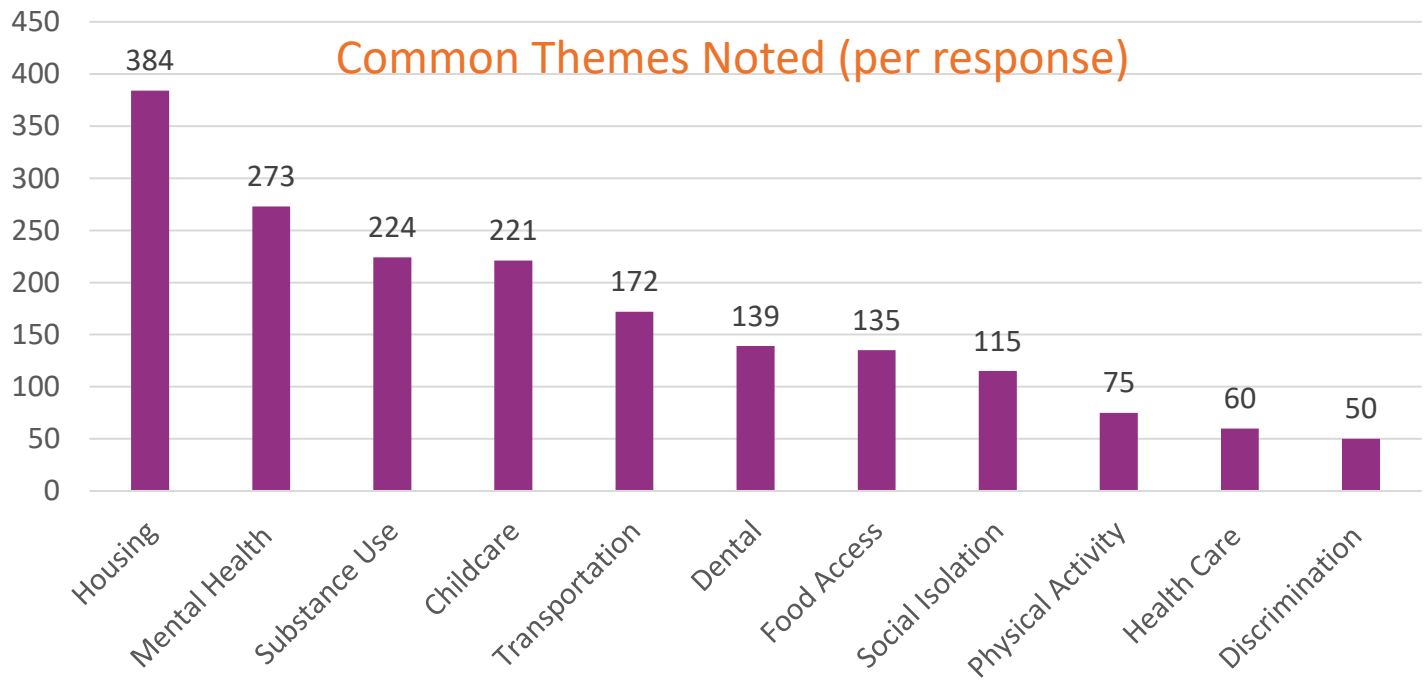
The survey was advertised to our entire community by way of local newspaper press releases. Online advertisements ran on the websites of all 3 county healthcare systems as well as Public Health’s and included corresponding social media sites. Radio interviews on Magnum Radio Group stations, press releases to the school districts, internal communications within the coalition entities, and local entities such as churches and libraries assisted by distributing information. Cards advertising the survey were created and handed out at local entities including libraries, local businesses, churches, mental health offices, and pharmacies. A targeted mailing list was purchased and a survey card sent to residents in low internet areas.

In total we received **1,106** completed surveys. Community perspectives and data gathered during this endeavor were incorporated into the CHNA along with **6** Key Informant interviews and **5** community conversations. The Community Health Survey data shows these most pressing health issues in Sauk County. The survey provided the community at large to provide input regarding their experience and knowledge of community problems. The survey was available in hard copy at the health department and online on the health department’s website. The survey was available to take in English and Spanish.



Primary Data: Community Survey

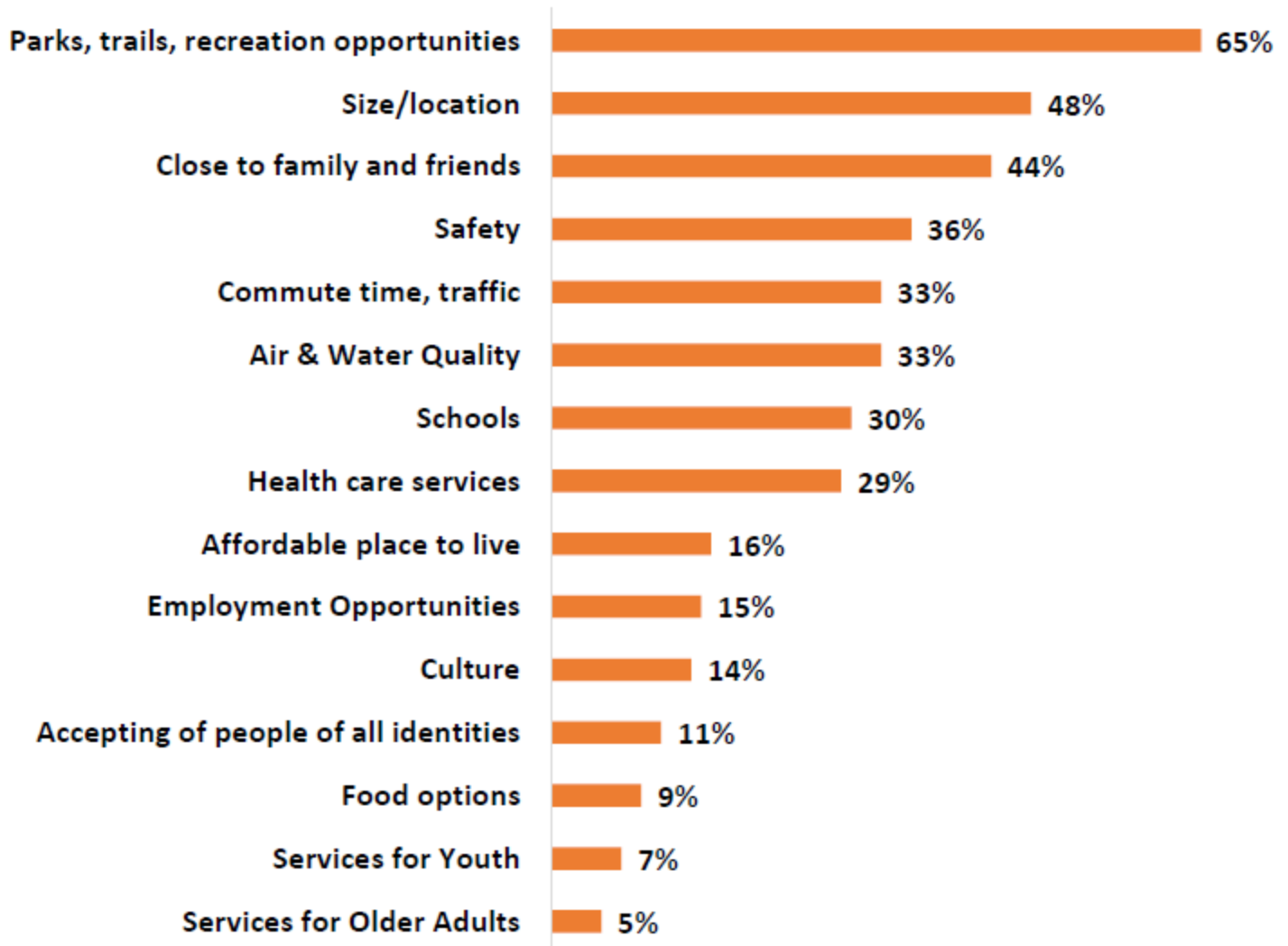
These are the most common health themes reported in the survey, community conversations and key stakeholder interviews. These comments are very much the same from the last CHNA report.



Primary Data: Community Survey

Sauk County has many strengths that make it an attractive place to live. In the 2024 Community Health Assessment (CHA) Survey, respondents were asked to “Think about your community: where you live, learn, work, and play. What do you like best about it?” Here’s what they selected.

Sauk County Community Strengths



Primary Data: Community Input

In 2023, SSM Health hired a Community Health Worker (CHW) to support and provide needed resources to the Spanish speaking community through outreach events and community engagement. The Hispanic or Latino population has grown to over 4,050 in Sauk County. As part of their role, they held two community conversations. By having their population represented we gathered these comments regarding discrimination and racism.

Centralized Information

"I don't believe the public is aware of the benefits the community has, if they are available. There needs to be a centralized physical location for information. To rely completely on social media or websites is limiting many people which in turn can be viewed as a not needed resource."

Discrimination

"Many in the area are totally distrustful and unwilling to accept people of color. Anyone that resembles someone from south of the border (even those here legally) are distrusted at best and hated at worse."

"Racism- because we are Hispanic and some people from the US treat us poorly, rejection."

Housing Issues

"Housing for our most vulnerable people is still extremely elusive and difficult to find...Housing provides the essential foundation on which all other services can build on. If you do not have a place to call home, other services can be wasted because of the chronic issues homeless people face."

Mental Health

"I'd like to see a focus on the mental health of functional adults. Some how we need to reach adults that are feeling overwhelmed with their day to day lives and find ways to provide a sense of community."

Substance Use

"Alcohol, tobacco, drugs - our culture encourages abuse of these things, and it devastates people's lives."



Sauk County COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS

Sauk County is faring about the same as the average county in Wisconsin for Health Outcomes, but better than the average county in the nation.

(County Health Rankings)

TOP FIVE

Top Five Health Priorities based on the survey data, interviews and secondary data are:

- Access to Housing
- Access to Healthcare
- Mental Health
- Substance Use
- Access to Healthy Food



ADULT OBESITY

Sauk County-37%
Wisconsin Average-34%
National Average-34%



ADULT SMOKING

Sauk County-15%
Wisconsin Average-14%
National Average-15%

17

DEATHS DUE TO SUICIDE

Sauk County-17
Wisconsin Average-15
National Average-14

ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

Sauk County-1000:1
Wisconsin Average-1350:1
National Average-1330:1



ADULTS WHO BINGE OR DRINK HEAVILY

Sauk County-23%
Wisconsin Average-25%
National Average-18%



ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

Sauk County-510:1
Wisconsin Average-400:1
National Average-320:1



CHILD CARE CENTERS

(children under 5 years old)

Sauk County-5
Wisconsin Average-6
National Average-7



15%

FREQUENT MENTAL DISTRESS

Sauk County-15%
Wisconsin Average-14%
National Average-15%



DEATHS DUE TO INJURY

Sauk County-95
Wisconsin Average-93
National Average-80

ALCOHOL IMPAIRED DRIVING DEATHS

Sauk County-34%
Wisconsin Average-35%
National Average-26%



Sauk County COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS



MEDICAID/MEDICARE USE

11.8% of population is on Medicaid and 13.5% are on Medicare



PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY UNDER AGE 65

Sauk County-12.9%
Wisconsin Average-8.3%
National Average-8.9%

ACCESS TO A DENTIST

Sauk County-1460:1
Wisconsin Average-1360:1
National Average-1360:1



CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Sauk County-12%
Wisconsin Average-13%
National Average-16%



POVERTY BY RACE

Children Living in Poverty:
36% Black
17% Hispanic
41% American Indian
10% White

UNINSURED CHILDREN

(Age 19 or under)
Sauk County-6%
Wisconsin-4%
National Average-5%



DIABETES PREVELANCE

Adults living with diabetes:
Sauk County-8%
Wisconsin Average-8%
National Average-10%



FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH

41% of children in Sauk County are eligible for free or reduced lunch



POVERTY BY AGE

<18 years-11.5%
18-64 years- 8.9%
65 years or older-6.1%

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD OR FOOD INSECURITY SCORE

(10 is the highest score)
Sauk County-9
Wisconsin Average-9.1
National Average-7.7



Juvenile Arrests

13 juvenile delinquency court cases in Sauk County



HOUSING COST BURDENS

10% of households spend 50% or more of their income on monthly housing expenses

Primary Profile: Mental Health

Mental Health includes our emotional, psychological and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, act and helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others and make choices.

Frequent Mental Distress

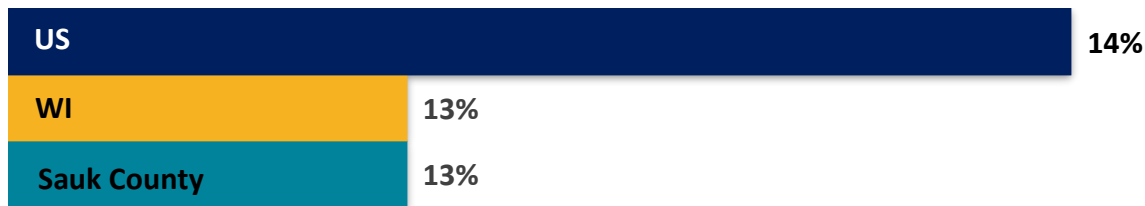
% of Adults who report poor mental health for 14 or more of the last 30 days



25.6% of adults have been told by a health professional that they had depression

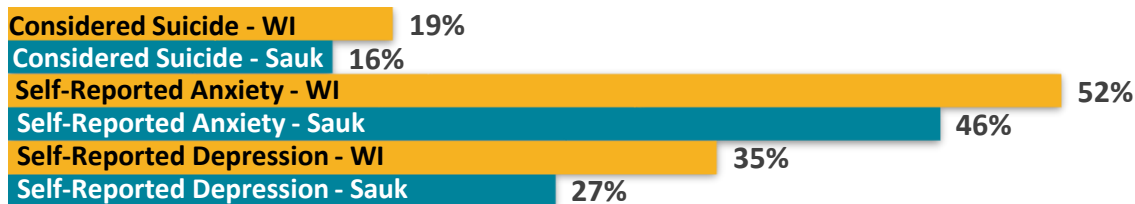
Fair or Poor Health

% of Adults reporting fair or poor health (2021)



13% of Sauk County adults report they consider themselves in fair or poor health.

Sauk County High School Students Reporting Mental Health Challenges (YRBS, 2023)



46% of Sauk County youth report they experienced Anxiety in the last 30 days.

60% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Mental Health** as a **community problem** that we should work to improve, making it the 2nd most selected community problem.

25% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Loneliness, social isolation** as a **community problem** that we should work to improve.

Primary Profile: Housing

Ideally, households should spend less than 30% of their income on housing. **Overall, an estimated 6,637 (24%) Sauk County families spend 30% or more of their income on housing, and 2,794 (10%) are Severely Housing Cost Burdened, spending more than 50% of their income on housing.**

Renters are more likely than Homeowners to have a housing cost burden.

We know people who are **ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**, meaning they earn more than Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the area they live in. These households can struggle to keep up with rising costs of housing, childcare, food, transportation, health care, and other household essentials. **In Sauk County, 33% of households were below the ALICE threshold (24% ALICE households and 9% households in Poverty).**

64% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Housing** as a **community problem** that we should work to improve.

Only 16% of Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Affordable place to live** as something **they like best** about their community.

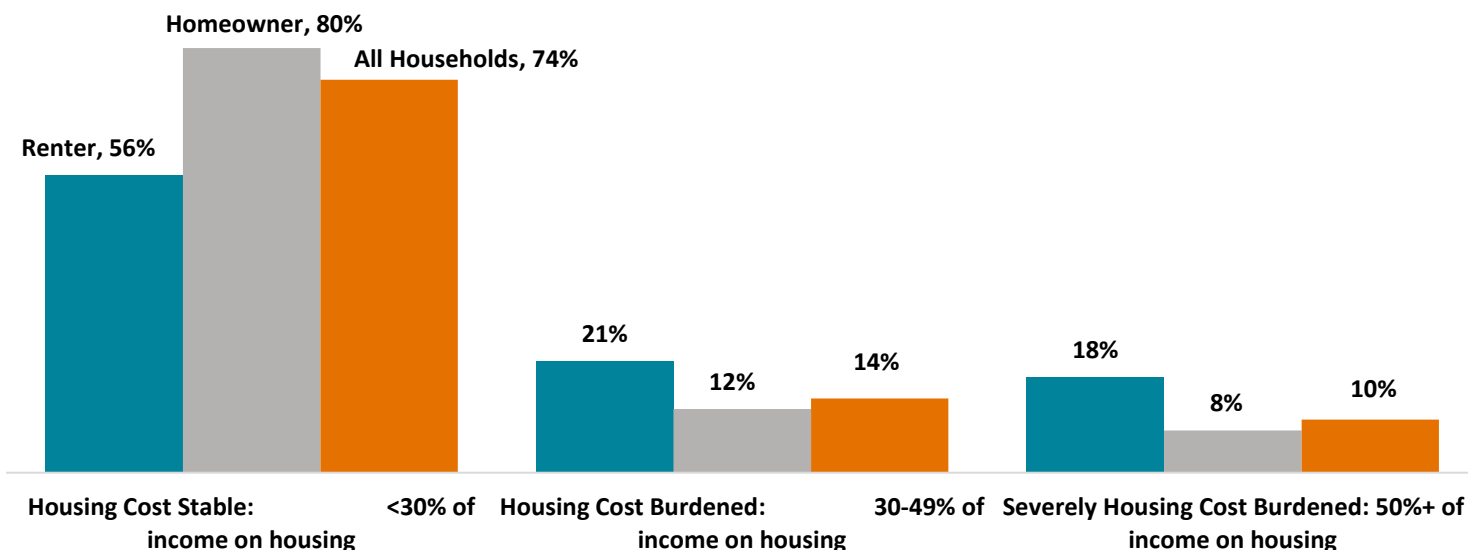


1 in 3 Sauk County Households were below the ALICE thresholds in 2022.

Renters are More Likely than Homeowners to Spend More of their Income on Housing

Percent of Income Spent on Housing, 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Sauk County

(Note: Categories do not equal 100% as costs could not be computed for all households)



Primary Profile: Substance Use

Sauk County Alcohol Data

- 279 establishments have a Liquor License, a ratio of 233 people per license
- Sauk County High School Students Use Alcohol at rates similar to other WI High School Students:
 - 52% report ever drinking alcohol
 - 26% report currently drink alcohol
 - 12% report binge drinking
- In 2023, there were 526 chronic-alcohol related emergency room visits and 341 inpatient hospitalizations
- There were 44 alcohol-attributable deaths in 2022
- From 2017-2021, 34% of motor vehicle crash deaths involved alcohol



The % of Sauk County Adults who report binge drinking is higher than the State and National Rates

(2022 BRFS)



The % of Sauk County Adults who report having smoked 100 cigarettes or more in their lifetime or who currently smoke is higher than the State and National Rates

(2022 BRFS)



46% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected Alcohol, Commercial Tobacco (Nicotine), Vaping & Other Drug as a community problem that we should work to improve, making it the 3rd most selected community problem.

Prioritization of Health Needs

The Health and Wellness Steering Committee and the Sauk County Data Council, which include members from Reedsburg Area Medical Center, Sauk Prairie Healthcare, SSM Health St. Clare Hospital- Baraboo, Public Health Sauk County and Ho Chunk Nation, coordinated a united effort to conduct a Community Health Assessment (CHA), which included the collection of primary and secondary data, presenting of data to the community and the prioritization of needs.

Upon completion of primary and secondary data collection, Sauk County Data Council analyzed the community health survey, community conversations, and key informant interview responses.

In early October two community presentations were held to present data and key findings from the information gathered. Priorities were determined on the following criteria:

- Ranking of priority areas based on primary data including community perspectives and secondary data including unbiased local, state and national resources.
- Health issues that impact a lot of people or for which disparities exist, and which put a greater burden on some population groups.
- Current efforts or gaps that exist in Sauk County to address each priority as well as ideas to improve each priority area in Sauk County at an individual, organizational and community level.



2025-2027 Priority Areas

Priority 1: Mental Health

#1

Issue is access to
Mental Health Provider

13% of adults reporting fair or poor health

15% of adults reporting 14 or more days of poor mental health per month

46% of females and 31% of male students reported anxiety and depression for two weeks or more in a row

Stigma education reduces suicide attempts by 5%

Priority 2: Affordable Housing

24%

Home prices are up 24.1% since
2023 with the median price of \$360k

13% of households experienced at least one of the following housing problems: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen facilities or lack of plumbing facilities

41% of children enrolled in public schools are eligible for free lunch or reduce price lunch

To cover basic household expenses, residents need an hourly wage of **\$45.99** for a household of one adult and two children, lower than the Wisconsin average of \$49.27

Priority 3: Substance Use

23%

Of adults self-reported excessive
drinking in the last 30 days.

34% of motor vehicle crash deaths involved alcohol

15% of adults are current cigarette smokers

Narcan Vending Machine has been utilized on average **35 times** a month

Impact of Previous Priorities 2022-2024

Priority 1: Mental Health

- Implemented a robust process to assess patients' health-related social needs via a nursing screening tool, and when needs are identified, providing a referral to community and support services as appropriate.
- As a community partner, the SSM Health St. Clare Foundation provided hygiene items such as toilet paper, soap, and shampoo through the hygiene program for Baraboo and Wisconsin Dells Food Pantries.
- Support and utilizing Credible Mind Sauk County platform for patients in immediate need of mental health resources.

Priority 2: Housing

- Coalition members are working to bring housing awareness to the community as a lack of housing can represent many health issues that derive from Social Determinants of Health (SDoH).
- Donated \$10,000 to the *Seeds of Hope* project for Pathway Home (homeless shelter) and supported the Coldest Night of the Year. They offer shelter for approx. 30 individuals a month.
- Through the SSM Health Baskets of Hope food insecurity initiative, we partner with local food Pantry, Beyond Blessed, to provide new moms with shelf-stable emergency groceries and local resources available to help with more permanent food security options. In addition, we participated in the Give Thanks Match Challenge where SSM Health matched donations up to \$10,000 to Beyond Blessed.

Priority 3: Substance Use

- SSM Health Cheryl Goeckermann initiated a community mental health activity in collaboration with our SSM Health Baraboo community health team featuring a free community screening of the Dr. Gabor Mate's "Wisdom of Trauma" film in partnership with Sauk County Public Health, Ho Chunk House of Wellness, and UW Platteville to support the county's mental health initiatives.
- As an active partner with the Sauk County Care Consortium and a recipient of grant funding for our ministry to be one of the first Wisconsin hospitals to provide a Narcan dispensing machine to our community to assist with drug overdose prevention. The monthly average of products/resources distributed is over 35 items.
- Teen Focus groups were held for ages 14-18, focusing on experiences with alcohol, vaping, tobacco and marijuana.



SSMHealth.

2024

Appendices

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital - Baraboo

Appendix A: Primary Data

Community Health Survey Questions

Public Health Sauk County and local hospitals want to hear from you: what is going well in your community and what needs improvement? Your answers will help us improve community health. This survey will take about 5 minutes to complete and will be open through May 1, 2024. All responses are confidential and anonymous.

The following questions helped us better understand our community members. All responses were confidential and anonymous.

- Chose the top 5 problems in your community that we should work to improve?
- Please tell us more about the problems you selected?
- What do you like best about your community?
- What city do you live in?
- What is your home zip code?
- How old are you?
- What is your current housing situation?
- How many adults live in your household?
- How many children (under 18) live in your household?
- Which language do you mostly speak?
- What is your gender?
- What is your sexual orientation?
- With which race/ethnicity do you identify?
- What is your annual household income?
- Highest level of schooling completed?

<https://bit.ly/SaukSalud>

¡Oportunidad de ganar 1 de tarjetas regalo de 100 \$!

¿QUÉ ES LO BUENO DE SU COMUNIDAD?
¿QUÉ PUEDE MEJORAR?
RESPONDA HOY A LA ENCUESTA!

Para obtener una encuesta impresa, póngase en contacto con Jodie en jodie.molitor@saukcountywi.gov o 608-355-4315

PUBLIC HEALTH SAUK COUNTY
Together we thrive

Reedsburg
AREA MEDICAL CENTER

SSMHealth.
St. Clare Hospital
BARABOO

sauk prairie
HEALTHCARE

Ho-Chunk Nation
SPECS-UNJNOK
SPECS-UNJNOK
Department of Health

Appendix B: Primary Data

Community Conversations & Key Informant Interviews

- In your opinion, what makes a community healthy?
 - Imagine you are designing a healthy community. What would it look like? What would make it a healthy place to live?
 - What about issues like housing, good-paying jobs, and social connection—how big of a role do these issues play in making a community healthy?
- Now think about your community. What do you think prevents your community from being healthier?
 - What prevents people in your community from being healthy, making healthy decisions, and accessing healthcare?
 - In your community, do you think all people have an equal opportunity for good health? Why or why not?
- What do you think are the top 5 health issues in your community?
- What strengths does your community have that we could build on to make it a healthier place?

1. What makes your community healthy?

Theme	Count
Social Support	7
Programming	6
Recreation	4

- a. Imagine you are designing a healthy community. What would it look like? What would make it a healthier place to live?

Theme	Count
Food Access	17
Social Support	15
Community	13
Healthcare	13
Mental Health	9

- a. What about issues like housing, good-paying jobs, and social connection—how big of a role do these issues play in making a community healthy?

Theme	Count
Housing	4
Recreation	4
Transportation	3
Childcare	2
Social Support	2
Transportation	2

Appendix B: Primary Data

Community Conversations & Key Informant Interviews

- a. What prevents people in your community from being healthier, making healthier decisions and accessing healthcare?

Theme	Count
Healthcare	8
Finances	7
Transportation	5

- b. In your community, do you think all people have an equal opportunity for good health? Why or why not?

i. All 27 Focus Group Participants Responded No to this question.

Theme	Count
Healthcare	5
Income	4
Health Insurance	4
Transportation	4
Discrimination	3

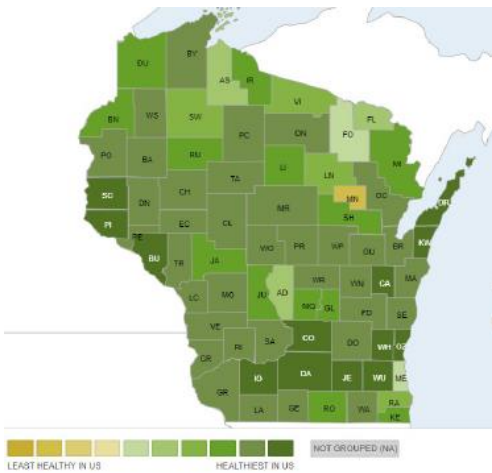
3. What do you think are the top 5 health issues in your community?

Theme	Count
Mental Health	7
Healthcare	5
Substance Use	4
Housing	3
Transportation	3

4. What strengths does your community have that we could build upon to make it a healthier place?

Theme	Count
Community	23
Social Support	18
Healthcare	7
Recreation	6
Volunteerism	5

Appendix C: Secondary Data County Health Rankings



Sauk County is faring about the same as the average county in Wisconsin for Health Outcomes, and better than the average county in the nation. Sauk County ranked 35th out of 72 WI Counties in Health Outcomes

Health Outcome	Sauk County	Trend	Wisconsin
Premature Death	7,100	Worsening	7,100
Poor/Fair Health	13%	Improving	13%
Poor Physical Health Days	3.3	Improving	3.1
Poor Mental Health Days	4.8	Worsening	4.8
Low Birthweight	6%	Neutral	8%
Diabetes Prevalence	8%	Improving	8%
Adult smoking	15%	Improving	14%
Adult Obesity	37%	Worsening	34%
Physical Inactivity	20%	Worsening	19%
Excessive Drinking	23%	Improving	25%
Alcohol Impaired Driving Deaths	34%	Worsening	35%
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)	392.7	Improving	472.3
Teen Births	12	Improving	12
Limited Access to Healthy Food	3%	Neutral	5%
Drug Overdose Deaths	28	Worsening	26
Preventable Hospital Stays	2,770	Improving	2,451
Injury Deaths	95	Worsening	94
Residential Segregation Black/White	73	Worsening	77
Suicides	17	Worsening	15
Air Pollution	7.4	Worsening	7.8

Appendix D: References

Data Source	Description
American Community Survey (US Census Bureau)	The American Community Survey (ACS) helps local officials, community leaders, and businesses understand the changes taking place in their communities. It is the premier source for detailed population and housing information about our nation.
County Health Rankings and Roadmaps	The annual Rankings provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work and play. It provides a starting point for change in communities.
Wisconsin Dept of Health Services – Data and Statistics	Health-related data from over 100 federal and state data tracking and database systems.
Community Commons	Community Commons is a site that holds curated tools, resources, and inspirational stories to drive public health work forward. Data tools, maps, and tables on this site are created to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities.
YRBS Data	The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) monitors six categories of health-related behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death. YRBSS also measures the prevalence of obesity and asthma and other health-related behaviors such as vaping and alcohol use.
SSM Health Social Determinants of Health Epic Dashboard	SSM Health began screening for the social determinants of health for admitted patients in January 2023. Through the electronic health record system, SSM Health can monitor percent of patients screened, percent of patients at risk and percent of patients receiving resources for those social determinants.
Healthy People 2030	Healthy People provides 10-year, measurable public health objectives — and tools to help track progress toward achieving them. https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople