

Pasco County Community Health Assessment 2025



Florida Department of Health in Pasco County

Published January 1, 2025- December 31, 2029

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Introduction

There are many factors that influence the health and wellbeing of a community. These include access to health care and key resources, social and economic status, and the physical built environment. To improve community health outcomes, it is important to identify and measure all these factors and understand the inequities that prevent some people from living long and happy lives.

Every five years, the Florida Department of Health in Pasco County engages the community in an assessment to better understand the current health status of the Pasco County community and to identify ways to improve health for everyone. The Pasco County Community Health Assessment (Pasco CHA) is a compilation of community input and local data designed to measure the health of Pasco County. This was done by identifying key needs and issues through systematic, comprehensive data collection and analysis. Collaboration between the health department and the community were necessary for developing this shared vision.

This assessment was done by DOH-Pasco. As a result, the Pasco CHA now exists as a resource for identifying the community's health priorities. It will serve as the foundation of the Community Health Improvement Plan, a collaborative, community-driven strategic plan that outlines how to address areas of need reflected in the data.

The Pasco CHA report and supplemental materials are available at www.pasco.floridahealth.gov. To provide feedback or request additional information, please contact the Florida Department of Health in Pasco County, Community Health, and Performance Management Division at (727) 619-0161.

Purpose

The Florida Department of Health in Pasco County (DOH-Pasco) completed a community health assessment in 2024 (Pasco CHA) to better understand and analyze the health of the county and its residents. The assessment looked at health factors which can contribute to the health of the individual and the community, such as:

- Social and economic status
- Disease incidence
- Behavioral health
- Access to care
- Health behaviors

Methodology

In February 2024, the Pasco County Community Health Assessment process was launched, continuing a strong commitment to better understanding the health status and health needs of the community. The purpose of the community health assessment is to uncover the health needs and issues in Pasco County and better understand the causes, barriers and contributing factors to health and quality of life in this community. The Florida Department of Health in Pasco County has

historically played the lead role in the development of the community health assessments. As a Public Health Accreditation Board accredited health department, the Florida Department of Health in Pasco County further demonstrates its commitment to ongoing community engagement to address health issues and mobilize resources towards improving health outcomes through this comprehensive process. The 2024 Pasco Community Health Assessment has two major components: a community survey and analysis of statistical data from a variety of sources. Each component provides a different insight into the health of Pasco County.

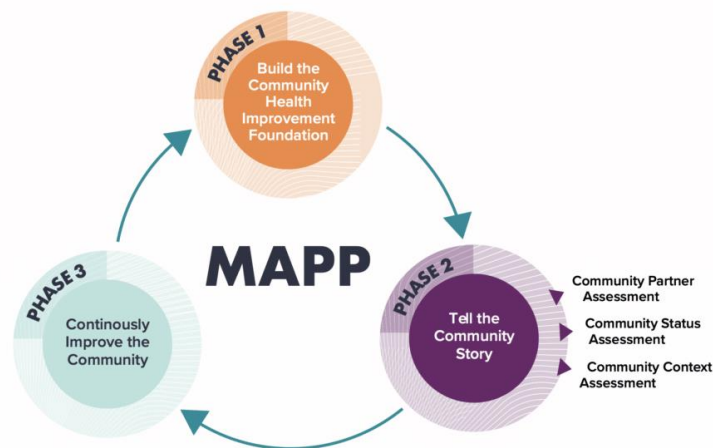
MAPP 2.0 Framework

This comprehensive health assessment effort is based on a nationally recognized model and best practice for completing community health assessments and improvement plans called Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) 2.0. The MAPP 2.0 tool was developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) in cooperation with the Public Health Practice Program Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Strategies to assure inclusion of the assessment of health equity and health disparities have been included in the Pasco County modified MAPP 2.0 process. Use of the MAPP 2.0 tools and process helped Pasco County assure a focus on overall wellness, quality of life, and health equity would lead to the identification of shared, actionable strategic health priorities for the community.

At the heart of the Pasco County MAPP 2.0 process is the following core MAPP 2.0 assessment:

- Community Status Assessment

The findings from the MAPP 2.0 assessment is integrated into the 2024 Pasco CHA.



Source: National Association of County and City Health Officials *Mobilizing for Action through Planning & Partnerships 2.0 User's Handbook*.

Community Input and Perspectives

Quantitative data from an extensive array of secondary or administrative data sets describes a significant part of a community's core health needs and health issues. A community perspective of health and the health care experience is also essential to fully understanding the health and quality of life in a community. The Community Input and Perspectives Assessment uses primary, quantitative data to answer the questions: "How is the quality of life perceived in your community?", "What factors

define a healthy community?”, and “What are the most important health problems in your community?”. This assessment contributes to a sound understanding of community issues, concerns, experiences, and perceptions about quality of life through the lens of community residents.

Community Health Assessment Survey

A community survey was developed to ask Pasco County residents about their perspectives and opinions on health issues and the local health care system. For the purposes of this assessment, a community member was defined as any person 18 years of age or older who resides in Pasco County. Responses from individuals who did not meet these criteria were not included in the data analysis. The survey included 16 core questions with additional items depending on responses, and eight (8) demographic items. The Qualtrics® web-based surveying platform was used to deliver the survey and collect responses. A web link and QR code made the survey accessible on any internet-enabled device, including smartphones. The survey was available in English and Spanish. Prior to deployment, the electronic survey was pre-tested for readability, functionality, and ease of use. For the community survey, a convenience sampling approach (i.e., respondents self-select based on accessibility and willingness to participate) was utilized for collecting survey responses. The survey went live on February 26, 2024, and was available through April 15, 2024. Community partners widely distributed and promoted the surveys using email blasts, social media posts, press releases, flyers, and other print and electronic promotional materials. At the time the survey closed there were 384 complete, eligible surveys. One (1) survey from a Pasco County resident was completed in Spanish. The overall survey completion rate was calculated at 77.0 percent; note that any surveys deemed ineligible due to non-residency or age were classified as complete because survey respondents replied to all questions for which they were eligible. The eligible, completed surveys from Pasco County residents were analyzed using descriptive analysis methods and include descriptive statistics and data visualization for presenting results. The general demographic factors collected on respondents who completed surveys are presented in the table below. Tabulated results from survey items are presented in the following tables and figures.

Survey Limitations

The limitations of this survey include the sampling method, the potential for self-reporting bias, and limited sample size. Due to the nature of convenience sampling, the following survey results cannot be considered representative of the Pasco County population. There is also potential for self-reporting bias. Self-reporting bias may be present in any data that relies on the respondents to accurately report outcomes. Respondents’ answers have the potential to reflect their own biases or a desirable outcome, rather than reality. This type of bias is limited by careful wording of the questions and multiple questions on the same topics. The primary quantitative data collected by this survey should be complemented by other sources of data when used to set priorities, identify populations or geographic areas with specific issues, and plan interventions. Even with these limitations, valuable insights and perspectives, opinions and attitudes about health issues can be generated and contribute to assessing and identifying priority health concerns in Pasco County.

Community Health Assessment Survey Participant Profile

The survey responses from 384 adult Pasco County residents included demographic information provided by the respondents. While the survey results are not considered representative nor generalizable to the entire adult county population because of survey limitations (see section above), certain demographics of the cohort of survey respondents in some ways reflect the broader population. In particular, 85 percent of respondents reported non-Hispanic ethnicity compared to 83.4 percent of the Pasco County population (U.S. Census Bureau, American Communities Survey (ACS), 2022). About 80 percent of respondents identified their race as White compared to 74.2 percent of the population with seven (7) percent of survey takers identified as Black or African American compared to about six (6.1) percent of the population (ACS, 2022). Other similarities included percentages of those employed full-time at 61 percent of survey respondents compared to 54.9 percent in the general population and another 61 percent of respondents who reported acquiring health insurance through their own or a family member’s employer compared to 64.8 percent of the county population (ACS, 2022). The 2024 community health assessment survey garnered responses from younger adults compared with the general population; that is, 31 percent of respondents were between the ages of 25-44 years of age compared with 24.4 percent in the general population and 49 percent compared with 26.2 percent for those aged 45-64 years, respectively. Only 17 percent of survey respondents were 65 years of age or older compared to their representation in the general population at 22 percent (ACS, 2022). The percentage of respondents with graduate or advanced degrees was reported at 26 percent compared with only 9.6 percent of the county’s general adult population having the same level of education completed. Similarly, the percentage of survey respondents with four-year degrees (26 percent) also exceeded the percentage in the general adult population (19.3 percent, ACS). It is important to note these similarities and differences when examining the survey results as life stage, race, ethnicity, and education can have influences on perspectives.

Table 1: Demographics of Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents, 2024

Demographics	n = 384	
	Number	Percent
Age Group		
18-24	13	3
25-34	55	14
35-44	65	17
45-54	88	23
55-64	98	26
65-74	49	13
75 or older	16	4
Prefer not to answer	0	0
Gender Identity		
Man	104	27
Woman	264	69

Non-binary	10	3
Prefer not to answer	1	0
Other (5 – only two genders so can't respond)	5	1
Racial Identity		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4	1
Asian	3	1
Black or African American	25	7
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Two or more races	21	5
White	306	80
Prefer not to answer	17	4
Oher (4 – Hispanic, 3- mixed race, 1 – undecipherable)	8	2
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic	328	85
Hispanic	37	10
Prefer not to answer	19	5
Highest Level of Education Completed		
Elementary/Middle School	8	2
High school diploma or GED	49	13
Vocational or technical school or training	27	7
2-yr college/Associate's degree	49	13
4-yr college/Bachelor's degree	101	26
Graduate/Advanced degree	100	26
Some college	47	12
Prefer not to answer	3	1
Other	0	0
Current Employment Status (may choose all that apply)		
Employed (full-time)	235	61
Employed (part-time)	31	8
Student (full- or part-time)	14	4
Not employed, not looking for work	12	3
Not employed, looking for work	14	4
Retired	52	14
Self-employed	17	4
Work two or more jobs	20	5
Disabled, unable to work	33	8
Prefer not to answer	7	2
Other (1 – do not work in Pasco County)	1	0

Methods of Healthcare Payment (may choose all that apply)		
Health Insurance offered through job or family member's job	234	61
Health insurance that you pay on your own	39	10
Medicaid	42	11
Medicare	74	19
Military coverage/TriCare or VA	9	2
Pay cash	25	7
Do not have health insurance	19	5
Other (3 – 1 Ryan White, 2 – health care is too expensive)	3	1
Zip Code of Residence		
33523 Dade City	19	5
33524 Crystal Springs	0	0
33525 Dade City	22	6
33526 Dade City	0	0
33537 Ladoochee	0	0
33539 Zephyrhills	2	1
33540 Zephyrhills	7	2
33541 Zephyrhills	11	3
33542 Zephyrhills	11	3
33543 Wesley Chapel	18	5
33544 Wesley Chapel	6	2
33545 Wesley Chapel	4	1
33548 Lutz	0	0
33549 Lutz	1	0
33556 Odessa	10	3
33558 Lutz	1	0
33559 Lutz	0	0
33574 Saint Leo	0	0
33576 San Antonio	7	2
33593 Trilby	0	0
33597 Webster	0	0
33809 Lakeland	0	0
33849 Kathleen	0	0
34610 Spring Hill	16	4
34637 Land O'Lakes	5	1
34638 Land O'Lakes	13	3
34639 Land O'Lakes	11	3
34652 New Port Richey	22	6

34653 New Port Richey	33	9
34654 New Port Richey	16	4
34655 New Port Richey	41	11
34656 New Port Richey	1	0
34667 Hudson	29	8
34668 Port Richey	24	6
34669 Hudson	14	4
34673 Port Richey	0	0
34674 Hudson	0	0
34679 Aripeka	0	0
34680 Elfers	0	0
34690 Holiday	4	1
34691 Holiday	32	8
34692 Holiday	4	1

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024

Community Health Status Assessment (Secondary Data)

According to the latest data from County Health Rankings, Pasco County is faring worse than the average county in Florida for Health Factors, and about the same as the average county in the nation. Pasco County ranks 31 for year 2022 compared to the rank in 2019 of 3 out of 67 counties in Florida for health outcomes (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2022). The following section of this assessment contains secondary data which highlights several health outcomes and behaviors of Pasco County residents. Secondary data is collected by other organizations, as opposed to primary data that is collected directly by partners engaged in the community health assessment process. Data sources are listed for each topic.

Leading Causes of Death

In Pasco County, the leading causes of death are cancer and heart disease. Together, they made up nearly half of all causes of death in Pasco County in 2020. Updated 2022 data shows that heart disease and cancer are still the leading causes of death in Pasco County, combined they calculate slightly above 40 percent. Followed by unintentional injury, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke.

Table 2: Leading Causes of Death in Pasco County, 2022

Causes of death	Count (2020)	Count (2022)	Percent of total deaths (2020)	Percent of total deaths (2022)
Cancer	1,430	1,442	19.72%	19.21
Heart disease	1,511	1,546	20.84%	20.60
Chronic lower respiratory disease	498	463	6.87%	6.17

Unintentional injury	596	649	8.22%	8.65
Stroke	307	393	4.23%	5.24
Diabetes	243	261	3.35%	3.48
Alzheimer's disease	164	136	2.26%	1.81
Suicide	103	115	1.42%	1.53
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome & nephrosis	64	101	.88%	1.35
Septicemia	90	98	1.24%	1.31
Influenza & pneumonia	91	83	1.26%	1.11
Hypertension	81	115	1.12%	1.53
Parkinson's disease	105	104	1.45%	1.39
Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	121	129	1.67%	1.72

Source: Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2024

Health status by topic

The following section of this assessment report contains secondary data categorized into health topics. These topic areas correspond with the leading causes of death for Pasco County and priority health areas identified by community partners and residents.

Chronic Disease

The topic of chronic disease refers to a collection of long-term conditions - such as heart disease, heart attack, stroke, asthma, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases - that are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to chronic disease.

For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 3: Chronic Disease Indicators, Pasco County

Indicator	Measure	Year(s)	County
Coronary Heart Disease			
Adults Who Have Ever Been Told They Had Angina or Coronary Heart Disease	Percent	2021	
Deaths From Coronary Heart Disease	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	98.6

Hospitalizations From Coronary Heart Disease	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	350.1
Heart Attack			
Adults Who Have Ever Been Told They Had a Heart Attack	Percent	2021	
Deaths From Acute Myocardial Infarction (Heart Attack)	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	19.8
Hospitalizations From Acute Myocardial Infarction	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	200.7
Stroke			
Adults Who Have Ever Been Told They Had a Stroke	Percent	2021	
Deaths From Stroke	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	38.4
Hospitalizations From Stroke	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	230.2
Diabetes			
Deaths From Diabetes	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	27.8
Hospitalizations From or With Diabetes as Any Listed Diagnosis	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	2686.3
Hospitalizations From or With Diabetes as Any Listed Diagnosis Which Resulted in a Diabetes-Attributable Amputation of a Lower Extremity	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	40.4
Adults Who Have Ever Been Told They Had Diabetes	Percent	2021	
Asthma			
Adults Who Currently Have Asthma	Percent	2021	
Hospitalizations From or With Asthma as Any Listed Diagnosis	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	813.9
Adults Who Have Ever Been Told They Had Asthma	Percent	2021	
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (CLRD)			
Deaths From Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (CLRD)	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	52.7
Hospitalizations From Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (CLRD) (Including Asthma)	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	227.7

For many years Pasco County performed worse than the state of Florida on several indicators of chronic disease. Possible factors which influence these differences are not having access to health care and health insurance coverage. In addition to access to care, the rates of chronic disease in a community are also influenced by lifestyle choices, such as alcohol/substance use, physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and chronic stress. Community efforts to support residents in accessing needed health care, early detection and prevention strategies are key along with making healthy choices affordable and accessible to preventing chronic diseases.

Cancer

Public health focuses on the impact of cancer on the entire population. A public health approach to cancer is largely preventive; this might include promoting access to health care, safe places to exercise, routine health screenings for early detection and treatment to be started, a nutritious diet, and community education. The public health approach is significantly different from that of clinical professionals, who focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to cancer. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 4: Indicators Relating to Cancer, Pasco County

Indicator	Measure	Year(s)	County
Breast Cancer			
Deaths From Breast Cancer	Per 100,000 Females	2019-21	22.4
Female Breast Cancer Incidence	Per 100,000 Females	2018-20	129.8
Women 40 Years of Age and Older Who Received a Mammogram in the Past Year	Percent	2020	
Cervical Cancer			
Deaths From Cervical Cancer	Per 100,000 Females	2019-21	2.8
Cervical Cancer Incidence	Per 100,000 Females	2018-20	8.8
Women Who Received a Pap Test in the Past Year (Aged 18 Years and Older)	Percent	2020	
Colorectal Cancer			
Deaths From Colorectal Cancer	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	12.6
Colorectal Cancer Incidence	Per 100,000 Total Population	2018-20	37.2
Adults Who Received a Sigmoidoscopy or Colonoscopy in the Past Five Years (Aged 50 Years and Older)	Percent	2020	
Adults Who Received a Blood Stool Test in the Past Year (Aged 50 Years and Older)	Percent	2020	
Lung Cancer			
Deaths From Lung Cancer	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	42.4
Lung Cancer Incidence	Per 100,000 Total Population	2018-20	67.9
Melanoma			
Deaths From Melanoma	Per 100,000 Total Population	2019-21	2.9
Melanoma Incidence	Per 100,000 Total Population	2018-20	30.4
Prostate Cancer			
Deaths From Prostate Cancer	Per 100,000 Males	2019-21	15
Prostate Cancer Incidence	Per 100,000 Males	2018-20	91

Men Who Received a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) Test in the Past Two Years (Aged 50 Years and Older)	Percent	2020	
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Pasco performed relative to the state of Florida on many indicators of cancer but saw lower rates of lung and skin cancers when comparing previous years data. Breast Cancer & Prostate cancer is on the rise in Pasco County and in Florida as of the latest data available. If incidences continue to rise, a focus on Prostate Cancer will be an area to implement case occurrence improvement strategies/practices. Promoting early screening and detection of cancers is crucial to improved outcomes and is done in Pasco County. Pasco County currently has a program called The Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCEDP) that offers Free or low-cost mammograms to Women that qualify for the program. More information on the BCCEDP in Pasco County please call 727-861-5250. Pasco County views early detection is the key to successful treatment along with supporting healthy lifestyle choices for prevention of cancers.

Infectious Disease

Infectious disease refers to a collection of illnesses that can be spread from person to person either by direct contact or indirectly through a vector (such as a mosquito). Local health departments are required to report many infectious diseases to State and Federal health officials (e.g., hepatitis, mumps, pertussis, rabies, and tetanus). Preventing and controlling the spread of communicable disease is at the heart of public health work because outbreaks of these diseases can have an extraordinary impact on human health. Vaccinations, proper handwashing, and practicing safe sex are all clinically proven ways to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to infectious disease. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 5: Indicators Related to Infectious Diseases, Pasco County

Data from the Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control Reportable and infectious diseases (2022, unless otherwise noted)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
AIDS (2020-2022 3-year rolling)	Rate per 100,000	4.0	8.2
Campylobacteriosis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	21.5	17.1
Chlamydia (2020-2022 3-year rolling)	Rate per 100,000	13.2	2.9
Cryptosporidiosis (2020-2022 3-year rolling)	Rate per 100,000	2.9	2.8
Giardiasis, Acute	Cases	19	1,178
Gonorrhea (2020-2022 3-year rolling)	Rate per 100,000	4.8	196.5
Hepatitis A (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	2.1	2.3

Hepatitis B, acute (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	5.3	3.0
Hepatitis B, chronic (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Count	15.4	19.4
HIV (2020-2022) 3- year rolling	Rate per 100,000	1.4	17.8
Infectious syphilis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	7.7	19.1
Legionellosis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	3.1	2.2
Pertussis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	0.7	0.5
Salmonellosis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	21.1	30.3
Shigellosis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,00	0.8	3.1
Streptococcus pneumoniae (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Count	55	2,131
Single year (2022)		18	862
Tetanus (2022)	Count	1	6
Tuberculosis (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	21	1,659
Varicella (chickenpox) (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000	1.2	2.5

Pasco County was relative to Florida for many indicators of infectious disease, with Pasco performing better (rate is lower) on rates of HIV and AIDS, gonorrhea, and syphilis. However, with Pasco performing better than Florida as a whole, cases are rising for Chlamydia and Hepatitis B. Pasco performed worse than Florida for rates of hepatitis B.

Mental Health

Mental disorders involve changes in thinking, mood, and/or behavior. These disorders, which take many forms, can affect how people relate to others and make choices. Anxiety, stress and depression are the most common mental health disorders. Mental health disorders can have a powerful effect on the health of individuals, their families, and their communities. Mental health issues are often rooted in or exacerbated by societal problems like racism, workplace stress, and unemployment. Promoting and implementing prevention and early intervention strategies, including stigma reduction to reduce the impact of mental health disorders is important for length and quality of life.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to mental health. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 6: Indicators Related to Mental Health, Pasco County

Data from the Florida Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, and Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance			
Mental health indicators (2019, unless otherwise indicated)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida

Licensed mental health counselors (FY 22-23)	Rate per 100,000 population	55.9	65.4
Adults with good mental health	Percent	82%	86.2%
Adults whose poor physical or mental health kept them from doing usual activities on 14 or more of the past 30 days	Percent	28.2%	18.3%
Adults with poor mental health 14+ of past 30 days	Percent	18%	13.8%
Unhealthy mental days in past 30 days	Avg Number	5	4
Average number of days where poor mental or physical health interfered with activities of daily living in the past 30 days	Avg Number	8	6
Suicide deaths (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	17.4	14.1
Suicide deaths (2022)	Count	115	3,445

Source: (<https://nihcm.org/publications/prioritizing-mental-health-care-in-america>; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States: Results from the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, October 2021; Health Resources & Services Administration, Shortage Areas, April 2022)

Mental health emerged as a top priority area through previous and the current CHA process. Pasco performed relative to Florida on several mental health indicators but saw higher rates of deaths by suicide and lower rates of mental health care providers. Suicides are tragic and traumatic to a community. Addressing mental health early by discussing risk factors is a primary step to mental health wellbeing prevention. Education, prevention efforts, screenings, and access to treatment along with medication adherence are also important strategies in suicide prevention and relapse. Pasco County Schools has increased their efforts in addressing mental health by providing Mental Health First Aid training to all staff and incorporating social and emotional learning into curriculums. The school system has also hired additional professional and clinical staff to provide mental health support and education to students. Other organizations, such as the Alliance for Substance Use and Prevention (ASAP), are promoting stigma reduction around mental health to encourage help-seeking behavior for community members experiencing mental health issues. An estimated 149 million Americans, or 45% of the U.S. population live in a mental health professional shortage area. During the COVID-19 pandemic, concerns about mental health and substance use have grown substantially. Over 50 million (21%) U.S adults experienced any mental illness in 2020. 37 percent of the U.S. population live in a mental health professional shortage area. Even though Pasco County has about 10 percent less Licensed Mental health Counselors and Licensed Psychologist than Florida; both have increased the number of Licensed Providers to address the mental health treatment needs of the population.

Substance use

Substance abuse, also referred to as drug abuse, describes a pattern where a person consumes a substance in amounts or in ways that are not approved or advised by medical professionals.

Addiction is a chronic disease where drug-seeking behavior is compulsive, hard to control, and has harmful consequences for the user. The misuse of alcohol, over-the-counter medications, illicit drugs, and tobacco affect the health and wellbeing of millions of Americans. It is also a predictor of chronic disease and can sometimes increase the risk of someone contracting a communicable disease, such as hepatitis or HIV.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to substance use. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 7: Indicators Related to Substance Use, Pasco County

Data from FL CHARTS and Florida Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Substance use indicators (2019, unless otherwise noted)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
Adults who are current smokers	Percent	21.6%	14.8%
Adults who have never smoked	Percent	45.2%	58.9%
Adults who currently use e-cigarettes	Percent	6.7%	7.5%
Adults who engage in heavy or binge drinking	Percent	16.3%	18%
Adults who used marijuana or hashish in the past 30 days (2016)	Percent	9.5%	7.4%
Unintentional injury deaths by drug poisoning (2022)	Rate per 100,000 population	55.5	33.1
Unintentional injury deaths by drug poisoning (2018)	Count	314	7,098
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome birth defect (2022)	Count	30	934
Opioid overdose deaths (2022)	Count	354	7,769

Opioid use and overdose prevention are the focus of several community initiatives in Pasco County led by the Pasco Sheriff’s Office, Pasco County Schools, and the Alliance for Substance Use and Prevention (ASAP), along with other partner organizations. Data indicators illustrate that opioid misuse is a critical issue for Pasco County for many previous and current years, including higher rates of opioid overdose deaths. For a more comprehensive report of opioid data, please visit the Substance Use Dashboard on Florida Charts, flhealthcharts.com.

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and child health are often good indicators of a community’s overall health. The field is made up of a host of factors, including but not limited to nutritional status and health knowledge of mothers, level of immunization, availability of services (including prenatal care), income and food availability in the family, and overall safety of the child’s environment.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to maternal and child health. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 8: Indicators Related to Maternal and Child Health, Pasco County

Data from FL CHARTS and Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics Maternal and child health indicators (2022, unless otherwise noted)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
Mothers who initiate breastfeeding	Percent	83.2%	86.7%
Repeat births to teen mothers (ages 15-19) (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Percent of births 15-19	11.9%	13.1%
Births to mothers who smoke during pregnancy	Percent of births	6.5%	3.0%
Births with adequate prenatal care (Kotelchuck index)	Percent w/ known care	71.6%	62.6%
Preterm births (< 37 weeks gestation)	Percent	10.5%	10.6%
Low birth weight	Percent	6.0%	6.2%
Fetal deaths (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 1,000 deliveries	6.1	6.7
Infant deaths (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 1,000 births	4.9	6.0
Infant deaths, White (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 1,000 White births	4.7	4.3
Infant deaths, Black and Other (2020-2022) 3-year rolling	Rate per 1,000 Black and Other births	11.8	17.5
Kindergarten children fully immunized	Percent of KG students	93%	90.6%

Pasco County is performing on par with Florida for several maternal and child health indicators, yet there are some notable differences. The percent of births with adequate prenatal care (Kotelchuck index) for Pasco is higher (better) than Florida, at 71.6 percent and 62.6 percent, respectively. Getting adequate prenatal care is essential for the health of mothers and babies. The percent of mothers who smoked during pregnancy is declining at 6.5 percent for Pasco while the state of Florida's is 3.0 percent but is still quite high, especially when compared to Florida state. Representing the continuing need for increased education, awareness, and support around healthy prenatal lifestyle choices DOH-Pasco offers programs to support maternal and child health, such as Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Healthy Start. Staff in these programs are in routine collaboration with community partners working toward similar goals, such as the Healthy Start Coalition, Pasco Kids First, and the Early Learning Coalition.

Injury and Violence

People can get hurt either accidentally (through injuries) or intentionally (through violence). Combined, these two types of injuries are the 4th leading cause of death in Pasco County. The focus of public health is on the safety and well-being of entire populations. Violence and injuries affect everyone, regardless of age, race, or economic status.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to injury and violence. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 9: Indicators Related to Injury and Violence, Pasco County

Data from FL CHARTS and the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics Injury and violence indicators (2018, unless otherwise indicated)		
Indicator	Measure	Pasco
Motor vehicle traffic crashes (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	1,305.2
Motor vehicle traffic crashes (2022)	Count 2022	7,727
Deaths from motor vehicle crashes (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	16.5
Deaths from motor vehicle crashes (2022), age-adjusted	Count 2022	105
Homicide (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	4.8
Homicide	Count 2022	24
Domestic violence offenses (2022)	Rate per 100,000 population	419.9
Domestic violence offenses	Count 2022	2,486
Deaths from unintentional poisoning (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	56.5
Deaths from unintentional poisoning	Count (2022)	320
Deaths from unintentional falls (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	19.6
Deaths from unintentional falls	Count (2022)	185
Deaths from firearms discharge (2022), age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000 population	13.7
Deaths from firearms discharge	Count (2022)	85

Deaths from unintentional firearms discharge (2016-2018; 2018-2020) 3-year rolling, age-adjusted	Rate per 100,000	0.2
Deaths from unintentional firearms discharge	Count (2022)	1
Unintentional drowning deaths (2016-2018) Age-adjusted 3-year rolling	Rate per 100,000 population	2.1
Unintentional drowning deaths	Count (2022)	13

Pasco performed similar to the state of Florida in previous years, however more recent data shows the improvements made in Pasco County on several indicators of injury and violence, with a few noteworthy differences. Unfortunately, that number is even higher according to the most recent data on domestic violence. Pasco also had higher rates than Florida for unintentional deaths due to falls. This could be in part due to Pasco having an older age demographic. Education on home safety and the benefits of physical activity for older adults, along with routine screening for falls risk factors, can help promote preventative influences to decrease the risk of unintentional falls.

Oral Health

Oral health refers to the wellbeing of the teeth, gums, and the entire oral-facial system that allows us to smile, speak, chew, and even express emotions. Some of the most common diseases that impact our oral health include cavities (tooth decay), gum (periodontal) disease, and oral cancer., cause pain and disability for millions of Americans. Cavities are one of the most common chronic diseases in the United States. Oral health has been linked with other chronic diseases, like diabetes and heart disease, and stroke. It is also linked with risk behaviors like using tobacco and consuming foods and beverages high in sugar. These conditions may be prevented to some extent with regular visits to the dentist.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to oral health. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 10: Indicators Related to Oral Health, Pasco County

Data from Florida Health CHARTS and Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS) Oral health indicators (FY 22-23, unless otherwise indicated)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
Total licensed dentists	Rate per 100,000 population	38.7	61.5
Total licensed dental hygienists	Rate per 100,000 population	71.2	66
Percentage of adults who have seen a dentist in the past year (2016)	Percent	59.8%	63.0%

Adults who had a permanent tooth removed due to tooth decay or gum disease (2016)	Percent	52.6%	47.3%
Emergency room visits due to dental conditions ages 5 and over (2022)	Rate per 100,000 population	508.8	499.2
Population receiving fluoridated water	Percent	9.9%	78.1%

Pasco County is considered a provider shortage area for dentists (HRSA Data Warehouse, 2022). Also, most of Pasco County residents (less than previous years data; 2021 had 10.4%, a 1.5% decrease) do not receive fluoridated water, which can provide proven benefits for dental health. These factors can lead to problems in accessing care and a subsequent increase in dental ailments.

Access to Care

The topic of access to care refers to how easy or hard it is for a person to get quality, affordable, medical care when they need it to achieve the best health outcomes. It is important to measure and improve access to care because health disparities in access are often directly linked to disparities in health outcomes. Also, when it is difficult to get routine medical care because of cost, transportation, language barriers, or other reasons, complications that could have been detected early can result in life-threatening situations that require immediate attention, endangering lives and putting strain on emergency services that can somewhat be prevented.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to access to care. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 11: Indicators Related to Access to Care, Pasco County

Data from Florida Health CHARTS and Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS) Access to care indicators (2019, unless otherwise indicated)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
Total physicians (MD) (FY 22-23)	Rate per 100,000 population	182.7	261.2
Total pediatricians (FY 22-23)	Rate per 100,000 population	7.5	16.5
Adults who had a medical checkup in the past year	Percent	77%	78.8%
Adults who have a personal doctor	Percent	72.4%	72.0%
Adults who could not see a doctor at least once in the past year due to cost	Percent	17.5%	16.0%
Adults with any type of health insurance coverage	Percent	86.3%	84.2%

Access to care once again emerged as a top priority for Pasco County from the secondary data analysis and feedback from community members and leaders. Limited health care resources and transportation can be barriers to accessing needed care. Increasing opportunities for telehealth and offering community-based mobile services can help improve access for residents who may otherwise not be able to see a health care provider. We saw telehealth visits dramatically increase to reduce risk, exposure, spread, and strain on the health care system; the groups with lower odds of utilizing telehealth services were respondents who were uninsured and from the Northeast, Midwest, and South regions.

Physical Activity and Nutrition

There is a wealth of evidence to suggest that the burden of chronic disease can be reduced through an active lifestyle, proper nutrition, and other healthy habits. Having convenient access to affordable, nutritious foods, such as fresh fruits and vegetables, helps make the healthy choice the easy choice. Likewise, opportunities for physical activity which are convenient and close to home help encourage this healthy behavior. Parks, green spaces, trails, and sidewalks where people feel safe are important structures of the built environment to promote a healthy, active community.

Below is a table containing a selection of indicators related to physical activity and nutrition. For a complete list, visit www.flhealthcharts.com.

Table 12: Indicators Related to Physical Activity and Nutrition, Pasco County

Data from the Florida Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Feeding America’s Map the Meal Gap project, and US Census Physical activity and nutrition indicators (2019, unless otherwise noted)			
Indicator	Measure	Pasco	Florida
Adults who are sedentary	Percent	27.5%	26.5%
Adults who are inactive or insufficiently active (2016)	Percent	63.7%	56.7%
Adults who meet aerobic recommendations (2016)	Percent	37.9%	44.8%
Adults who meet muscle strengthening recommendations	Percent	28.5%	38.1%
Adults who are overweight	Percent	33.6%	37.6%
Adults who are obese	Percent	26.1%	27. %
Adults who are at a healthy weight	Percent	38.2%	32.8%
Persons experiencing food insecurity (2021)	Percent	11%	10.6%

Nutrition and physical activity remain important areas of focus for the Pasco Community. While Pasco performed similarly to the state of Florida on indicators of physical activity and nutrition. Community-wide physical activity programs, such as those provided by the Health Communities of Florida initiative, help encourage healthy behaviors and promote physical activity among residents. Pasco is home to many beautiful parks, trails, and green spaces which also invite opportunities to be more active. Regarding nutrition, there are several community organizations focused on addressing hunger and food insecurity in Pasco County, including the Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger, One Community Now, and The Volunteer Way. These organizations, along with community partners, work together to provide meal sites, meal delivery to homebound residents, and food pantries to support a healthy diet.

Community Health Assessment Survey Responses

The figures and tables below summarize the responses to the survey questions. In general, all the responses along with their respective percentages of the totals are displayed in tabular form. Figures typically present the top ten responses for items with many options. Questions on the following topics are included in the analysis:

- Factors that most contribute to a healthy community
- Most important health problems to be addressed in the community
- Behaviors with the greatest negative impact on overall health
- Access to health care services
- Barriers to receiving dental, primary, and mental health care
- Health behaviors and local health-related resources and information
- Social and economic factors that impact health

Tables and figures show the percentages of respondents who completed the survey who indicated the given response for a question accompanied by a ranking, if appropriate. The number of surveys completed by Pasco County residents included in the analysis was 384. Small numbers of survey responses prevented the analysis and data disaggregation by certain sub-categories such as race, ethnicity, and zip code of residence. An open comments section at the end of the survey collected qualitative information. Numerous anonymous quotes taken from these comments are included throughout this report.

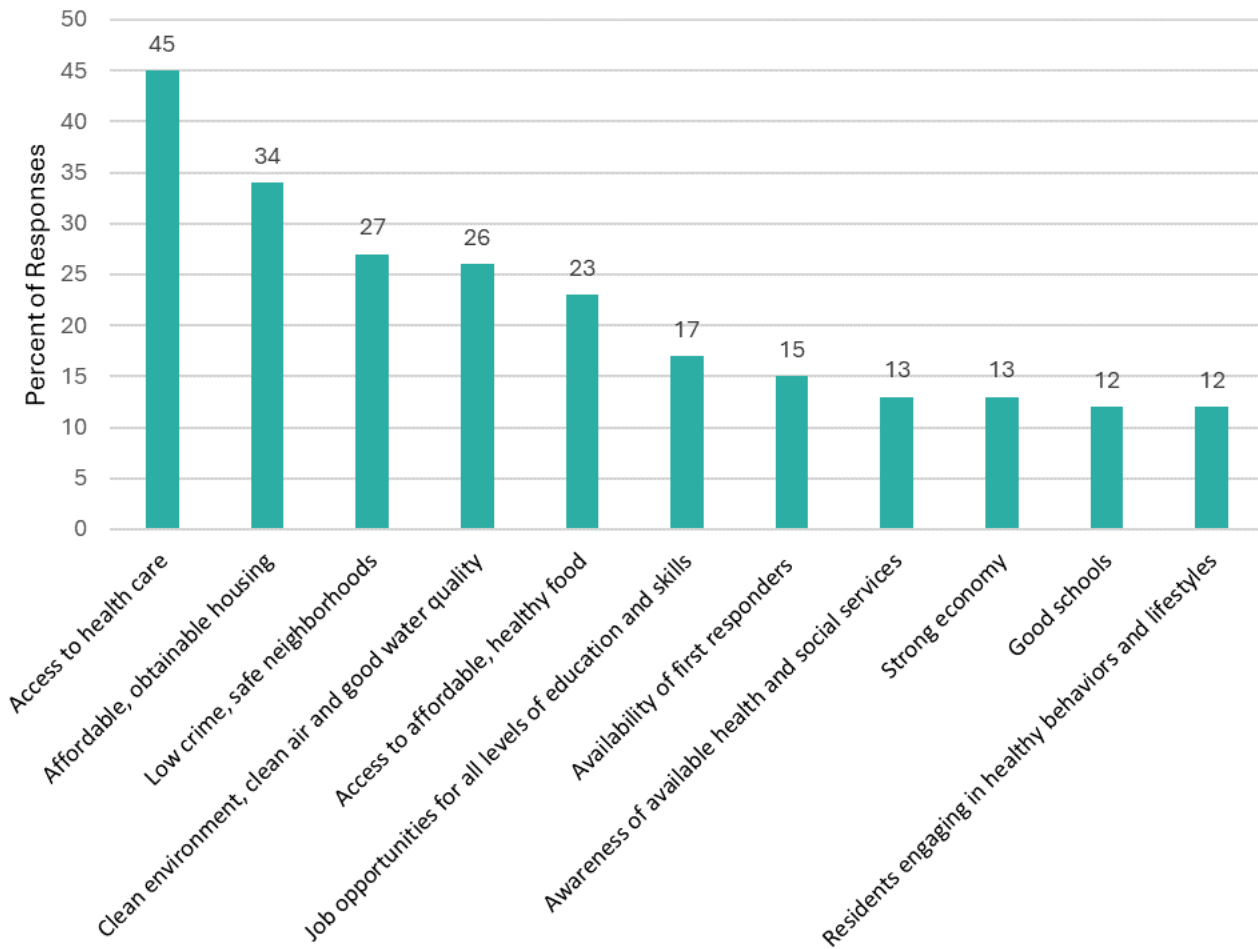
Which factors or attributes do you think contribute most to having a healthy community? Please choose three (3).

Table 13: Most Important Factors or Attributes that Contribute to a Healthy Community, Pasco County, Ranked by Percent of Responses, 2024

Rank	Factors (Percent of Responses)
1	Access to health care including primary/family care, specialty care, dental, and mental health care (45 percent)
2	Affordable housing (34 percent)
3	Low crime/safe neighborhoods (27 percent)
4	Clean environment, clean air, good water quality (26 percent)
5	Access to convenient, affordable, and nutritious foods (23 percent)
6	Job opportunities for all levels of education (17 percent)
7	Availability of first responders, law enforcement, fire/rescue/EMS, emergency preparedness services (15 percent)
8, 9 tie	Awareness of health care and social services (13 percent)
	Strong economy (13 percent)
10, 11 tie	Good schools (12 percent)
	Residents engaging in healthy behaviors (12 percent)
12	Sidewalks and trails for pedestrians and bicycle riders (11 percent)
13	Good place to raise children (10 percent)
14	Supportive community where people help each other (9 percent)
15, 16 tie	Availability of parks and recreational opportunities (7 percent)
	Respect for and acceptance of diversity (7 percent)
17	Public transportation system (6 percent)
18, 19 tie	Ability to practice religious or spiritual values (5 percent)
	Strong family ties (5 percent)
20	Other (3 percent) (3 – preserve rural areas, 2 – all, 1 each – speeding, government interference, non-monopoly health care, strong food system, commissioners who listen to residents)
21	Arts and cultural events (1 percent)

Source: Pasco County Community Health Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Figure 1: Top 10 Factors or Attributes that Contribute Most to a Healthy Community, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024



Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024

Which three (3) health issues are the most important to address to improve the health of your whole community? Please choose up to three (3).

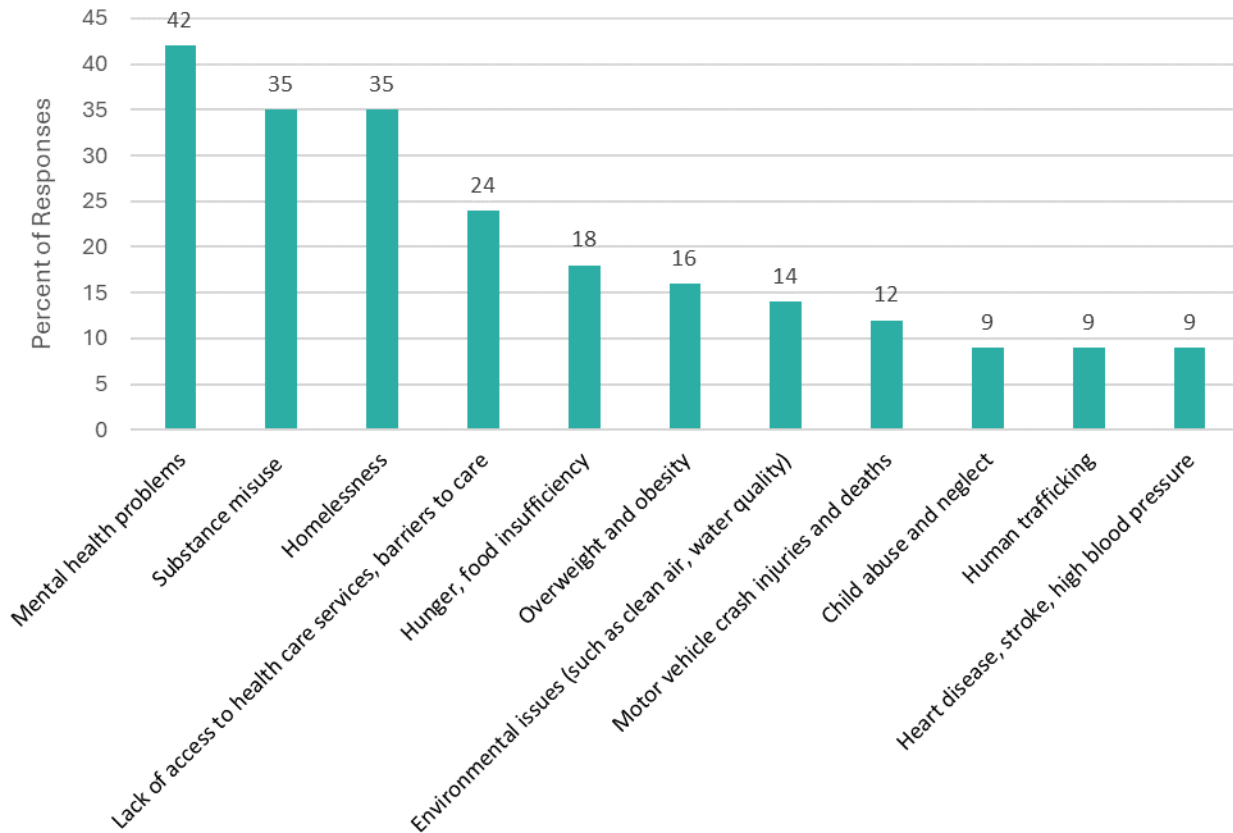
Table 14: Most Important Health Issues to be Addressed in Pasco County, Ranked by Percent of Responses, 2024

Rank	Health Issues (Percent of Responses)
1	Mental health problems (42 percent)
2, 3 tie	Substance abuse/drug abuse (35 percent)
	Homelessness (35 percent)
4	Lack of access to health care services, barriers to care (24 percent)
5	Hunger, food insufficiency (18 percent)
6	Overweight and obesity (16 percent)
7	Environmental issues (such as clean air, water quality) (14 percent)
8	Motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths (12 percent)

9, 10, 11 tie	Child abuse and neglect (9 percent)
	Human trafficking (9 percent)
	Heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure (cardiovascular issues) (9 percent)
12, 13 tie	Domestic violence (7 percent)
	Age-related issues (such as hearing loss, mobility problems, arthritis) (7 percent)
14, 15 tie	Dental problems (6 percent)
	Alcohol abuse (6 percent)
	Tobacco use and vaping (5 percent)
16, 17, 18, 19 tie	Cancer (5 percent)
	Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (including autism spectrum disorders) (5 percent)
	Diabetes or high blood sugar (5 percent)
20, 21, 22, 23	Gun-related injuries (4 percent)
	Infectious diseases (such as Hepatitis, Tuberculosis, flu) (4 percent)
	Suicide (4 percent)
	Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) (e.g., gonorrhea, chlamydia, hepatitis) (4 percent)
24, 25 tie	Rape/sexual assault (3 percent)
	Other (3 percent) (1 each - stress, trauma, signal 40 issues, home health, health education, high prescription costs, education and opportunities for youth, assistance for elderly and poor, not enough choices, waste of time)
26, 27 tie	Alzheimer's Disease and dementia (2 percent)
	Teenage pregnancy (2 percent)
28, 29, 30, 31 tie	Homicide (1 percent)
	Lung disease and respiratory problems (1 percent)
	Infant death (1 percent)
	Unintentional injuries (such as falls, drownings, poisonings) (1 percent)

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Figure 2: Top 10 Ranked Most Important Health Issues to be Addressed in Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024



Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Which three (3) behaviors are most harmful to the overall health of your community? Please choose up to three (3).

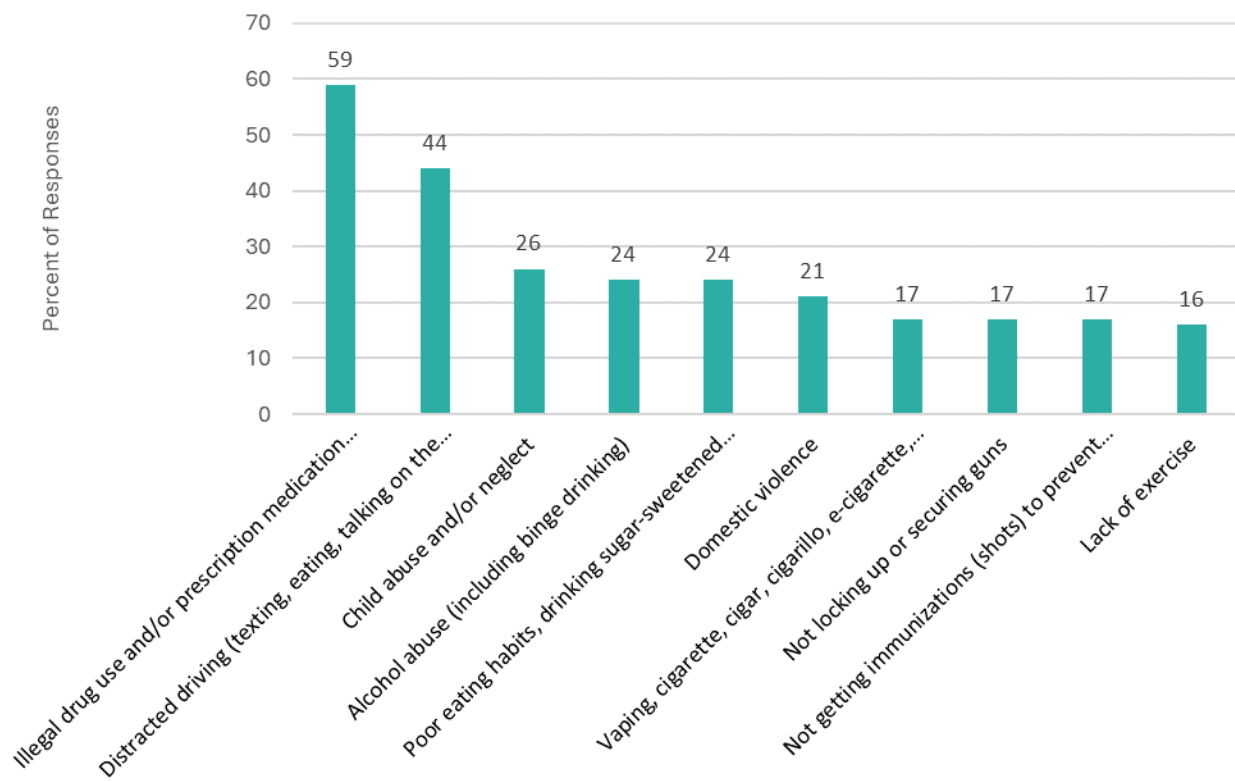
Table 15: Behaviors Most Harmful to Overall Health of the Community, Pasco County, Ranked by Percent of Responses, 2024

Behaviors (Percent of Responses)	
Rank	
1	Illegal drug use and/or prescription medication misuse (59 percent)
2	Distracted driving (such as texting, eating, talking on the phone) (44 percent)
3	Child abuse and/or neglect (26 percent)
4, 5 tie	Poor eating habits, drinking sugar sweetened beverages (24 percent)
	Alcohol abuse (including binge drinking) (24 percent)
6	Domestic violence (21 percent)
7, 8, 9 tie	Vaping, cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, e-cigarette, smokeless tobacco use (17 percent)
	Not locking up or securing guns (17 percent)
	Not getting immunizations (shots) to prevent disease (17 percent)

10	Lack of exercise (16 percent)
11	Dropping out of school (11 percent)
12	Unsafe sex including not using birth control (7 percent)
13, 14 tie	Not getting prenatal (pregnancy) care (4 percent)
	Other (4 percent) (1 each - senior neglect, no sex education in schools, government overreach, shootings, overdoses, disrespect, road rage, drugs, social media, lack of diversity, lack of accountability, meth epidemic, speeding, mental health, all of the above)
15	Not using seat belts or not using child safety seats (3 percent)
16	Not wearing motorcycle and/or bicycle helmets (1 percent)

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024

Figure 3: Top 10 Behaviors Most Harmful to Overall Health of the Community, Pasco County, Ranked by Percent of Responses, 2024



Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Which health care services are difficult for you to get in Pasco County? Choose all that apply.

Figure 4: Health Care Services Difficult to Get in Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024



Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024. Note: Other – (11 total, 4 – affordable care, 2 – homeless shelters, 1 each – homeless services, quality care, HIV/STD care, infectious disease services, help for people who will not accept care)

In the past 12 months, was there a time when you needed to see a primary care/family doctor for health care but could not get the care you needed? AND What kept you from getting needed primary/family care? Choose all that apply.

Table 16: Primary/Family Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received in the Past 12 Months by Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Primary/Family Care	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n = 273)	71 percent
Did not receive needed care (n = 111)	29 percent

Reasons Primary/Family Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, inability to pay for services	44 percent
No appointments available when I needed one	61 percent
No primary care providers (doctors, nurses, practitioners) available	27 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	46 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	12 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for another person (child or adult) kept me from getting the care I needed for myself	11 percent
Work-related issue (such as work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	23 percent
Other (5 total – 3 – providers do not accept Medicaid, 2 – care quality)	4 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

In the past 12 months, was there a time when you needed dental care, including routine checkups, but could not get the care you needed? AND What kept you from getting the dental care you needed? Choose all that apply.

Table 17: Dental Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received by Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Dental Care	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n=257)	67 percent
Did not receive needed care (n=127)	33 percent
Reasons Dental Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, inability to pay	74 percent
No appointments available when I needed one	34 percent
No dentists available	20 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	61 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	6 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for another person (child or adult) kept me from getting the care I needed for myself	10 percent
Work-related issue (e.g., work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	13 percent
Other (8 total – 2 each – dentists do not accept Medicaid, no holistic dentists, quality of care, 1 each – was late and denied care, dentist only wants to do expensive procedures)	6 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

In the past 12 months was there a time when you needed to see a physician, therapist or counselor for a mental health or substance misuse issue but could not get the care you needed? AND What kept you from getting needed mental health and/or substance misuse care? Choose all that apply.

Table 18: Mental Health and/or Substance Misuse Issue Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received by Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Mental Health and/or Substance Misuse Issue Care	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n = 300)	78 percent
Did not receive needed care (n = 84)	22 percent
Reasons Mental Health or Substance Misuse Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, inability to pay	51 percent
No appointments available when I needed one	38 percent
No mental health care providers or no substance use therapists or counselors available	44 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	48 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	11 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for another person (child or adult) kept me from getting the care I needed for myself	8 percent
Work-related issue (e.g., work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	13 percent
Stigma associated with this issue and/or stigma associated with seeking care	17 percent
Other (3 total – 1 each – unaware of available services, quality of care, no urgent mental health care found)	3 percent

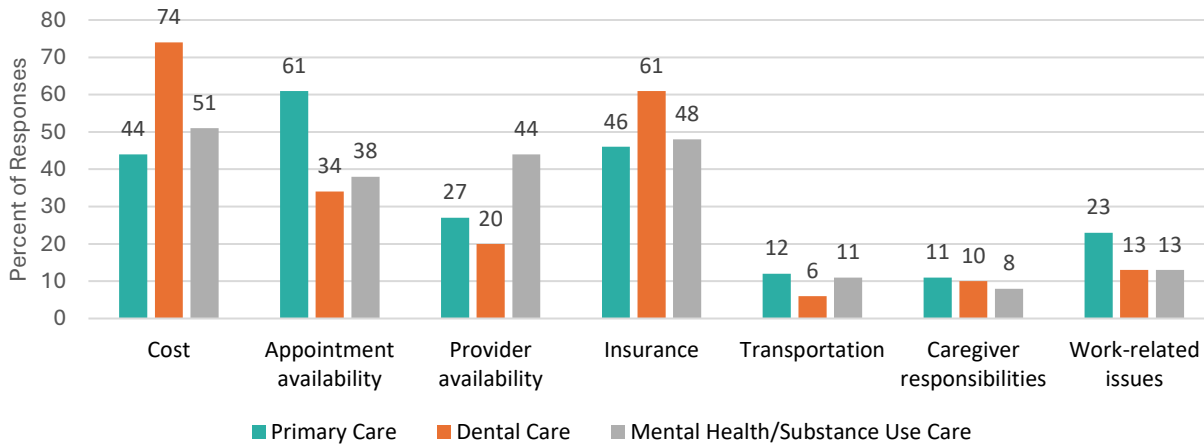
Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024

“Need more primary care and pediatric physicians with convenient hours. More urgent care facilities—emergency rooms shouldn't be clogged with patients requiring basic medical attention.”

“A lot of primary care doctors are not taking new patients and it is hard to find a doctor in the area.”

— Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents

Figure 5: Barriers to Primary/Family, Dental, and Mental Health or Substance Misuse Care Experienced in the Past 12 Months by Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024



Are you responsible for getting health, dental, and/or mental or behavioral health care for a child or children under the age of 18?

Table 19: Percentage of Survey Respondents Responsible for Getting Health, Dental and/or Mental or Behavioral Health Care for a Child or Children Under the Age of 18, Pasco County, 2024

Survey Respondents Responsible for Getting Care for Child/Children Under 18	
Yes	29 percent (n = 113)
No	71 percent (n= 271)

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

In the past 12 months was there a time when a child or children in your care needed primary/family care but could not get the care they needed?” AND “What kept the child or children from getting the needed primary/family care? Choose all that apply.

Table 20: Primary/Family Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received by Child or Children in the Care of Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Primary/Family Care (by Percent of Responses)	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n=93)	82 percent
Did not receive needed care (n=20)	18 percent
Reasons Primary/Family Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, inability to pay for services	45 percent
No appointments available when we needed one	50 percent
No primary care providers (doctors, practitioners, nurses) available	35 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	50 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	10 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for others (child or adult) kept me from getting this care for the child/children	0 percent
Work/job issue (for example, work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	10 percent
Other (1 – could not complete required paperwork)	5 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

In the past 12 months was there a time when a child or children in your care needed dental care, including checkups, but could not get the care they needed?” AND “What kept the child or children from getting the needed dental care? Choose all that apply.

Table 21: Dental Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received by Child or Children in the Care of Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Dental Care (by Percent of Responses)	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n=89)	79 percent
Did not receive needed care (n=24)	21 percent
Reasons Dental Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, in ability to pay for services	42 percent
No appointments available when we needed one	50 percent
No dentists available	38 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	33 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	4 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for others (child or adult) kept me from getting this care for the child/children	0 percent
Work/job issue (for example, work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	8 percent
Other (2 total – 1 each – service not available, specialist who accepts Medicaid)	8 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

In the past 12 months was there a time when a child or children in your care needed mental and/or behavioral health care but did not get the care they needed?” AND “What kept the child or children from getting the needed mental and/or behavioral health care? Choose all that apply.

Table 22: Mental and/or Behavioral Health Care Received and Reasons Care was Not Received by Child or Children in the Care of Survey Respondents, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

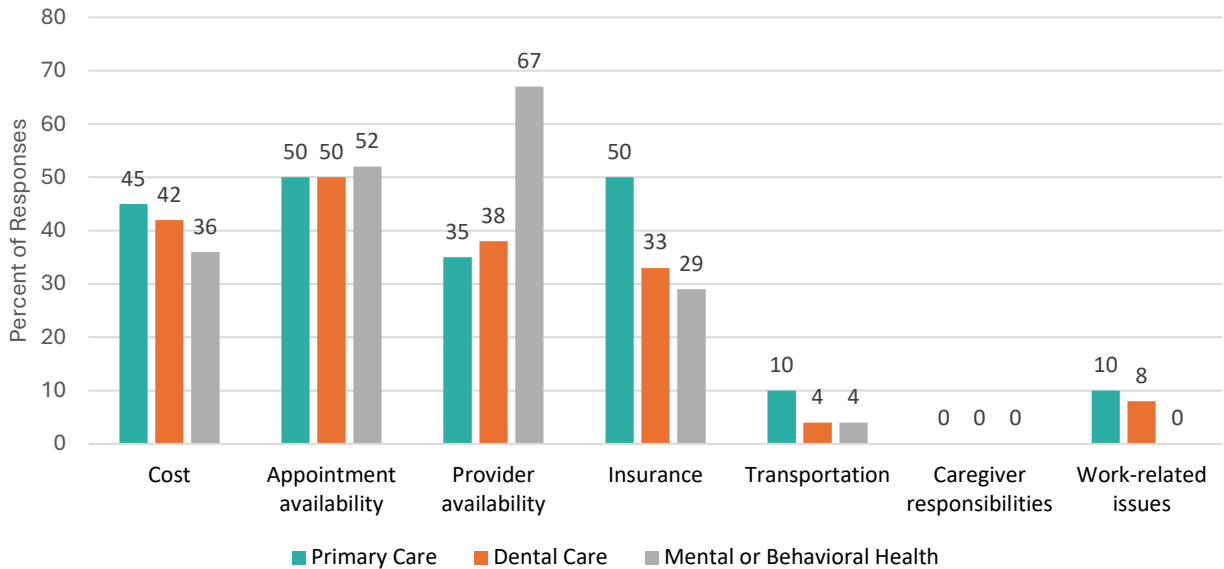
Mental and/or Behavioral Health Care (by Percent of Responses)	Response
Received needed care or didn't need care (n=86)	76 percent
Did not receive needed care (n=27)	24 percent
Reasons Care was Not Received (by Percent of Those Who Did Not Receive Care)	
Cost, inability to pay for services	36 percent
No appointments available when we needed one	52 percent
No mental or behavioral health providers, therapists, or counselors available	67 percent
Service not covered by insurance or have no insurance	29 percent
Stigma associated with this issue and/or stigma of seeking care	14 percent
Transportation, couldn't get there	4 percent
My responsibilities as a caregiver for others (child or adult) kept me from getting this care for the child/children	0 percent
Work/job issue (for example, work schedule conflict, no paid leave, denied time off)	0 percent

Other (4 total – 1 each – unaware of services available, good luck finding psychiatric care for minors, no on-demand urgent care, referral process unnecessarily complicated and overwhelming in time of crisis

14 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Figure 6: Behavioral Health Care Experienced by Child or Children in the Care of Survey Respondents in the Past 12 Months, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024



Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

How would you rate the overall health of your community? Please choose one (1). AND How would you rate your own personal health? Please choose one (1).

Table 23: Rating of Personal Health and Overall, Health of the Community, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Rating	Overall	Personal
Very healthy	1 percent	9 percent
Healthy	11 percent	37 percent
Somewhat healthy	49 percent	45 percent
Unhealthy	27 percent	8 percent
Very unhealthy	8 percent	2 percent
Not sure	3 percent	0 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Please answer the following questions about local health-related resources and information.

Table 24: Knowledge of Local Health-Related Resources and Information, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Questions about Local Health-related Resources	Yes	No	Not Sure	Prefer Not to Answer
Does your household have an emergency evacuation/response plan for disasters (such as fire, tornado, flooding, hurricane)?	66 percent	26 percent	7 percent	1 percent
If you needed to evacuate during an emergency, do you know where you would go?	72 percent	15 percent	13 percent	0 percent
Do you know how to get reliable information about health and health care services in Pasco County?	64 percent	20 percent	15 percent	1 percent
Do you know how to get free Narcan in Pasco County? (Narcan is used for emergency treatment of opioid overdoses.)	37 percent	54 percent	8 percent	1 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

Please answer the following questions about your experience with public assistance, food security, and housing.

Table 25: Experiences with Public Assistance, Food Security, and Housing, Pasco County, by Percent of Responses, 2024

Experiences with Public Assistance, Food Security, and Housing	Yes	No	Not Sure	Prefer Not to Answer
Have you or someone in your household used public assistance in the past 12 months? (Includes food stamps, cash assistance, 211 referrals, rental assistance, utility payment assistance and could be from governmental, faith-based, and/or community organizations)	20 percent	77 percent	2 percent	1 percent
In the past 12 months did you or someone in your household get food from a food pantry, food bank, and/or soup kitchen?	18 percent	80 percent	1 percent	1 percent
Are you concerned that in the next 12 months you may not have stable housing where you own, rent, or stay?	24 percent	69 percent	6 percent	1 percent

Source: Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey, 2024. Prepared by WellFlorida Council, 2024.

“The health care system is drowning; care is limited and usually you wait until you have an emergency...” – Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondent

Key Findings from the Community Health Assessment Survey

Access to Health Care and Barriers to Care

About 45 percent of the Pasco County residents who completed the survey considered access to affordable health care, including primary care, specialty care, dental, and mental health care, as the top factor that contributes to a healthy community. Access to primary or family health

care services ranked fourth among the most important health issues to be addressed in Pasco County. Notable percentages of respondents reported that they had not received needed care in the last 12 months, including primary care (29 percent of survey respondents), dental care (33 percent), and mental health/substance use care (22 percent). The most common barriers to primary/family care cited appointment availability and insurance issues.

Nearly three-quarters (74 percent) of those who did not get needed dental care in the past 12 months said cost and inability to pay were barriers with insurance issues or lack of insurance also a prohibitive factor at 61 percent. The same two barriers surfaced for mental health or substance misuse care and were cited by 51 percent and 48 percent, respectively. Almost a third (29 percent) of survey respondents reported being responsible for getting health, dental, and mental or behavioral health care for a child or children under the age of 18. Those survey respondents indicated having experienced similar barriers in accessing care for children. About a fifth (21 percent) of children in the care of survey respondents did not get needed dental care in the past 12 months. Appointment availability and cost or inability to pay (50 and 42 percent, respectively) were barriers as was dentist availability (38 percent). Survey respondents said that 18 percent of their children did not get needed primary care, citing appointment availability and insurance issues or lack of insurance (both at 50 percent) as impediments. Accessing mental health or behavioral health care was reported as an issue in the past 12 months for children of survey respondents with about a quarter (24 percent) of children in the care of survey respondents getting needed care. Two-thirds (67 percent) reported provider (such as physicians, therapists, counselors) availability as a barrier followed by appointment availability (52 percent).

“Should be free dental care. It allows people to get good jobs, improves overall health, creates better self-confidence.”

– Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondent

When asked about health care services difficult to find in Pasco County, those most commonly mentioned were mental or behavioral health care (cited by 36 percent of respondents), substance misuse counseling services (18 percent), alternative medicine and therapies (such as acupuncture, naturopathy; 18 percent), dental care (18 percent) and specialty care (such as heart doctor, neurologist, orthopedic doctor, cancer specialist; 17 percent). Survey respondents said that pediatric care, in-patient hospital care, and prenatal care (all cited by only 2 percent), along with telehealth services (3 percent) were much less difficult to obtain in Pasco County. The majority (64 percent) of survey respondents indicated that they know how to get reliable information about health and health care services in Pasco County.

Health Conditions and Health Behaviors

Mental Health and Substance Misuse. Concern about mental health issues and substance misuse emerged as themes from the survey. Mental health problems ranked first by 42 percent of respondents as the most important health issue to be addressed in Pasco County. Following closely and tied at second and third place with 35 percent of responses were substance misuse/drug abuse and homelessness. Substance misuse is often linked with mental or behavioral health problems and lack of access to mental health and substance misuse services frequently go hand-in-hand. Pasco County survey respondents ranked illegal drug use and/or prescription medication misuse as the behavior most harmful to overall health in the county (selected by 59 percent). Alcohol abuse which includes binge drinking was selected by nearly a quarter (24 percent) of respondents and tied as the fourth and fifth most harmful behavior impacting community health. Mental or behavioral health care was clearly noted as the type of health care service most difficult to access (36 percent), accompanied by substance misuse counseling (18 percent). To further underscore this theme, more than a fifth (22 percent) of Pasco County survey respondents said that in the past 12 months they did not receive needed care from a provider, therapist or counselor for a mental health or substance misuse issue. The most common barriers to mental health or substance misuse care were cost or inability to pay and insurance issues (51 percent and 48 percent, respectively). Children in the care of survey respondents also experienced obstacles to needed mental or behavioral health care services. As reported by the 29 percent of survey respondents who had a child or children in their care, in the past 12 months 24 percent of children did not get the mental or behavioral care they needed. The reported barriers were provider availability (67 percent), appointment availability (52 percent), and cost or inability to pay for services (36 percent). Only 37 percent of survey respondents indicated they know how to get free Narcan, which is used for emergency treatment of opioid overdoses, in Pasco County.

“The opioid epidemic has destroyed our community.”
“We need more mental health services.”
“Need clinics for drug addiction to try to get off drugs.”
“We need syringe services to help our local drug user populations keep the streets clean.”

— Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents

Chronic Conditions, Injuries, and Contributing Behaviors. Pasco County survey respondents also made clear their concerns about health behaviors and resulting health outcomes. As described above, substance, drug, and alcohol misuse are seen as problematic. In addition, chronic disease-related behaviors and outcomes surfaced among the most important health issues for Pasco County. Overweight and obesity was the sixth ranked most important health issue while cardiovascular issues ranked eighth. Behaviors known to contribute to chronic disease prevalence scored among practices harmful to overall health including eating unhealthy foods and drinking sugar-sweetened beverages (ranked fourth at 24 percent), lack of physical activity (ranked tenth at 16 percent), and tobacco use (including vaping and smokeless tobacco) tied for seventh through ninth place at 17 percent.

Pasco County survey respondents elevated issues related to injuries in their responses. Motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths ranked as the eighth most important issue while child abuse and neglect and human trafficking tied for ninth, tenth and eleventh place with cardiovascular problems. Distracted driving with behaviors such as texting, eating, and talking on the phone netted 44 percent of survey responses and ranked second as behaviors harmful to health, followed by child abuse

and/or neglect as third (26 percent), domestic violence as sixth (21 percent), and not locking up or securing guns tied for seventh, eighth and ninth ranking at 17 percent (tied with not getting immunizations and tobacco use).

“We need to have a greater police presence on our roads to look for distracted drivers, aggressive, reckless drivers, and drivers who are driving far in excess of the posted speed limit.”
“Need more law enforcement on the streets to protect and serve.”
“As a cyclist, between distracted drivers and folks who don’t know bicycles are vehicles, I take my life in my hands every time I have to ride on a road.”

— *Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents*

Social and Economic Factors that Impact Health

Basic Needs of Housing, Food, Safety and Clean Environment.

The value placed on the essentials for a healthy, safe community was shown in survey responses. These highly valued factors relate to the social and economic factors that impact health and quality of life. Among the top ranked most important factors were access to health care services (top ranked, chosen by 45 percent of survey respondents), affordable housing (second ranked at 34 percent), low crime and safe neighborhoods (third ranked at 27 percent), clean environment (fourth ranked at 26 percent), access to convenient, affordable, and nutritious foods (fifth ranked at 23 percent). Rounding out the top ten were job opportunities, availability of first responders (such as law enforcement, fire/rescue, and EMS), community awareness of services, a strong economy, good schools, and residents engaging in healthy behaviors. Homelessness was of major concern to survey respondents who ranked it as a tie for the second and third most important issues to be addressed in Pasco County (35 percent). This was followed by hunger and food insufficiency (fifth ranked, selected by 18 percent of survey respondents) and environmental issues such as clean air and water (seventh ranked at 14 percent). Twenty percent of respondents reported that they or someone in their household had used public assistance in the past 12 months (including food stamps, cash assistance, 211 referrals, rental and/or utility payment assistance that could be from governmental, faith-based and/or community organizations). Relatedly, 18 percent of survey respondents indicated that they or someone in their household got food from a food pantry, food bank, and/or a soup kitchen in the past year. Almost a quarter (24 percent) of respondents said they are concerned about having stable housing when they own, rent, or stay in the next 12 months.

“Housing is hard for lower and middle class to afford.”
“Rents are too high for workers to afford and also afford food and utilities...”
“Way too many fast-food establishments and too high a cost for healthy foods.”
“Quality of life is going downhill in Pasco. Stop rezoning of agricultural land.”
“...human trafficking going on in Pasco County and it needs to be addressed.”

— *Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents*

Vulnerable Populations

“The number of homeless will be a weak link in any community health project. We need more shelters, showers and laundry facilities, and counseling services that will help the homeless have a foothold into reclaiming a ‘housed’ way of life.”

“Help relocate the homeless but not just to a new part of the woods—they need affordable housing.”

“Need for help for our veterans who are homeless. They fought for our country and should not be in this situation.”

“Resources are not evenly distributed through the county. Areas with predominantly minority residents have far less resources available to help meet basic needs and those areas tend to be less developed with job opportunities.”

— Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents

The issue of homelessness surfaced in many ways in the community health assessment survey results. Along with mental health problems and substance misuse, homelessness rounded out the top three most important issues to be addressed in Pasco County. Child abuse and neglect also appeared in the results as an issue and behavior harmful to health and well-being of children and families. Related issues that might be contributory or root causes of homelessness and child abuse such as alcohol abuse, domestic violence, human trafficking, food insufficiency, and access barriers to health care services also permeated the survey results. Although to a lesser extent, survey respondents pointed to Pasco County’s senior population with age-related issues and Alzheimer’s Disease as deserving attention along with those of all ages who are impacted by intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Encouraging Health and Well-being Practices

According to survey respondents, they are well-prepared for emergencies and natural disasters. Two-thirds of respondents have household emergency response plans, and more than 70 percent already know where to evacuate in case of a disaster. The majority of Pasco County survey respondents were confident in their ability to get reliable information about health and health care. Survey respondents rated themselves as very healthy or healthy (46 percent) and scored Pasco County residents as a whole, to be somewhat healthy (49 percent) and healthy (11 percent).

“Like to see the constant improvements from community partners.”

“Thank you for trying to understand the problems better. We can fix this!”

— Pasco County Community Health Assessment Survey Respondents

Additional Community Input: Key Findings from Pasco County's 2023 National Community Survey

As a leaders and partners in improving health and quality of life for all residents, the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners commissioned the administration of a community survey in November and December 2023. This survey focused on livability and covered ten topical areas including the economy, mobility, community design, utilities, safety, natural environment, parks and recreation, health and wellness, education/arts/culture, and inclusivity and engagement. A paper survey was mailed to select households to obtain a representative sample. The final report provides the results collected from 316 Pasco County residents and can be accessed at: [2023 National Citizen Survey Results.pdf \(revize.com\)](#).

Some of the pertinent, related results from the county government survey are provided here to add depth and richness to the community perspectives considered in the 2024 Pasco County Community Health assessment process. The results are organized by the categories in the survey report and give the percentage of the survey respondents who rated the item as noted.

Health and Wellness:

- Overall health and wellness opportunities (rated as good or excellent by 59 percent of survey respondents)
- Availability of affordable quality food (48 percent)
- Availability of affordable quality health care (53 percent)
- Availability of preventive health services (55 percent)
- Availability of affordable quality mental health care (37 percent)
- Rate your overall health (67 percent)

Overall Community Facets of Livability:

- Overall economic health (rated as good or excellent by 49 percent of survey respondents)
- Overall quality of the transportation system (32 percent)
- Overall feeling of safety (53 percent)
- Overall quality of the natural environment (58 percent)
- Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities (66 percent)
- Overall health and wellness opportunities (59 percent; details presented above)
- Overall opportunities for education, culture, and arts (37 percent)
- Residents' connection and engagement with their community (37 percent)

Rating of Importance for the Pasco County Community to Focus on in the Coming Two Years:

- Overall economic health (rated as essential or very important by 91 percent of survey respondents)
- Overall quality of the transportation system (78 percent)

- Overall feeling of safety (94 percent)
- Overall quality of the natural environment (93 percent)
- Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities (78 percent)
- Overall health and wellness opportunities (84 percent)
- Overall opportunities for education, culture, and arts (79 percent)
- Residents' connection and engagement with their community (70 percent)

Similarities in Survey Findings.

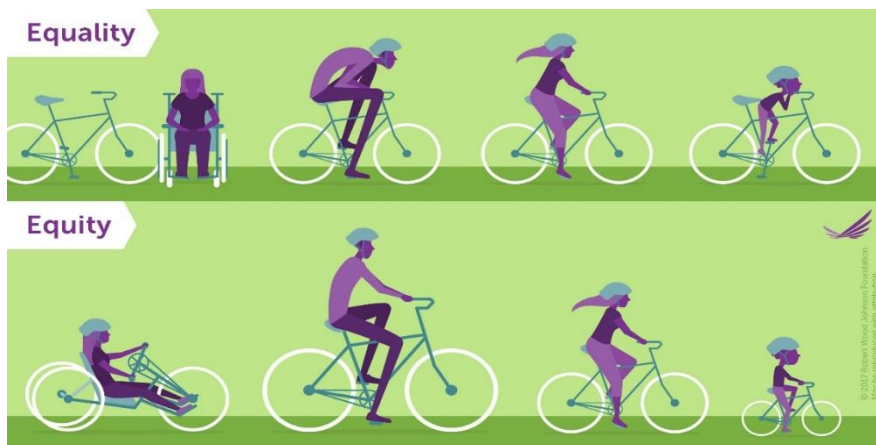
Some of the opinions and perspectives expressed in the county government community survey mirror those of the community health assessment survey respondents. Both groups placed importance on issues of affordability of basic needs such as housing and food. Availability of affordable quality health care services, in particular mental health services, was expressed as an area needing improvement. Concerns for safety were expressed in both surveys as were desires to preserve the natural environment.

Opportunities for Collaborative Community Health Improvement.

A hallmark of a comprehensive community health assessment process is the identification of priorities. These strategic priorities bring together partners and community members to find solutions that can be implemented collaboratively for health and quality of life benefits for many years to come.

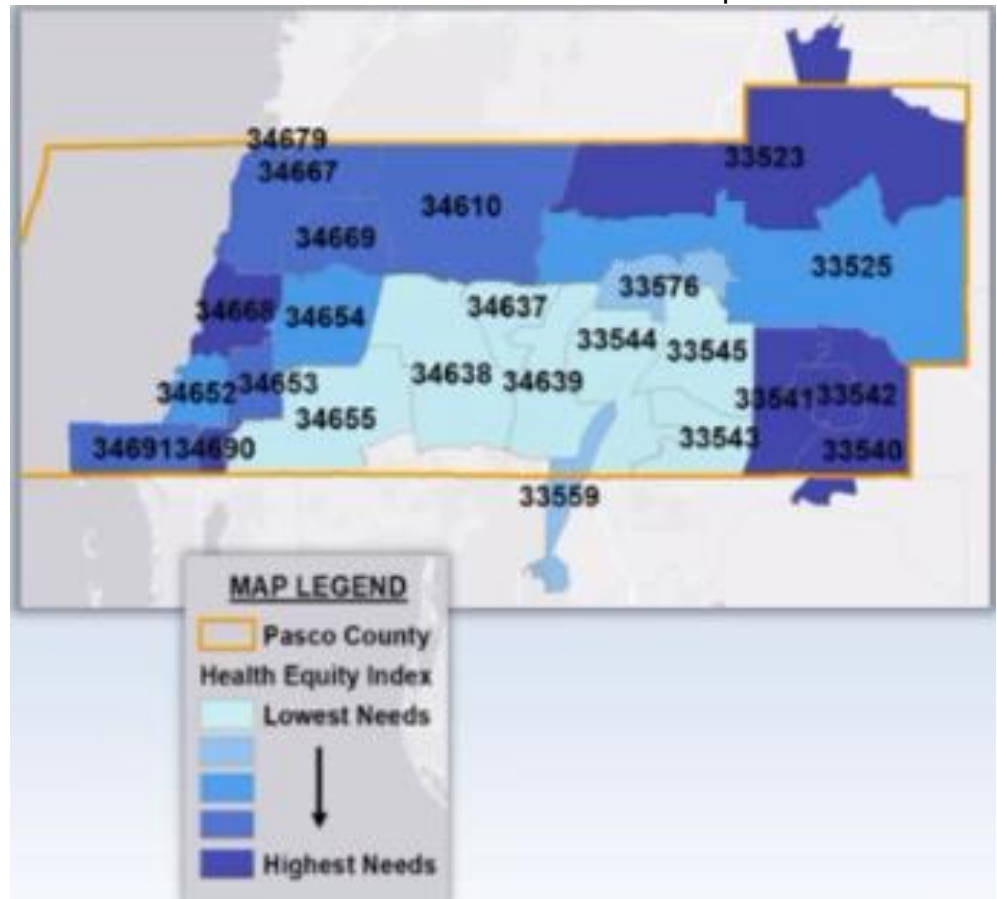
Health Disparity and Equity Analysis

Health begins where we live, learn, work and play. All people should have the opportunity to make the choices that allow them to live a long, healthy life, regardless of their income, education, or ethnic background. Health equity ensures everyone has the basics to be healthy. When it comes to expanding opportunities for health, thinking the same approach will work universally is like expecting everyone to be able to ride the same bike. Health equity means increasing opportunities for everyone to live the healthiest life possible, no matter who we are, where we live, or how much money we make (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017).



Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017
 Figure 7: Visualizing Health Equity Infographic, 2017

Data collected for this community health assessment was examined with a health equity lens. Healthy Communities Institute, one of our partners in data collection, assisted with identifying the areas of greatest need in Pasco County with the SocioNeeds Index. This index incorporates estimates for six different social and economic determinants of health that are associated with disparities in health outcomes (education, income, poverty, unemployment, language, and occupation). The indicators were standardized and averaged to create one composite index value for each zip code. Zip codes receive a SocioNeeds Index value from zero to one hundred, with higher values indicating higher potential need. The SocioNeeds Index map below (Figure 20) shows the areas in Pasco County where residents are expected to experience greater burdens related to preventable health issues.



Source: Healthy Communities Institute, 2022

Figure 8: Pasco County SocioNeeds Index map

Several health disparities were identified through analysis of the data. Some of the largest and most notable gaps were identified between non-Hispanic Whites and Blacks living in Pasco County. Regarding chronic disease and access to care, Black residents of Pasco County had over twice as many emergency room related visits for asthma and diabetes than their White counterparts. Black residents also experienced over twice the rate of breast and prostate cancers than White residents. Disparities were recognized in infant mortality and low birth weight, with Black and other races residents experiencing four times the rate than White residents for these indicators (FL Charts, 2018).

Pasco County received a rating of 0.45 on the income inequality index, a measure that ranges from zero to one. Zero indicates a perfect distribution of income where everyone receives an equal share. One indicates an imperfect distribution of income where only one or a group of recipients receive all the income. Pasco's score falls right in the middle, indicating a moderate amount of inequality in income distribution, comparable to the state of Florida and United States as a whole. For a more

comprehensive report on health equity in Pasco County, please refer to Pasco's Health Equity Profile on flhealthcharts.com (Florida Charts, 2018).

There are several ways to promote health equity in our communities and close the gap of health disparities. The first is to ensure that everyone can afford to see a doctor when they are sick. The second is to build preventive care, like screening for cancer and heart disease, into every health care plan and make it available to people who otherwise cannot access it, in malls and other public places, where it is easy to stop for a test. The third is to reconsider the way we think about health. Rather than health being something we only get at the doctor's office, it can instead be seen as something that starts in our families, in our schools and workplaces, at our playgrounds and parks, in the air we breathe, and the water we drink. The more health is viewed in this way, the more opportunities there are to improve it.

The Community Guide lists several evidence-based strategies and interventions to promote health equity, some of which are already being implemented in Pasco County. Programs and policies which address access to education are some of the most promising, including early childhood education, full-day kindergarten, and high school completion programs. School-based health centers are another evidence-based strategy to promote health among children and reduce absenteeism in schools. Out-of-school academic programs can also be beneficial in supporting student learning and providing additional academic support (The Community Guide, 2017). Pasco County Schools and community partners provide a variety of school-based support services, including mental health counseling, social work services, and expanded clinical services at some schools. DOH-Pasco holds a children's dental clinic at a local Title I elementary school, increasing access to dental care for children who may otherwise not receive it. Pasco County Schools also offers structured before-and-after school programs to provide enhanced learning opportunities for students in math, sciences, and reading. Continuing these interventions and programs, while continuing to grow and innovate, will help to promote health equity, and bridge the gap of health disparities in the Pasco County community.



Conclusions and Next Steps

The Florida Department of Health in Pasco County believes it can begin to address the areas of greatest need illuminated in this report with the help of community partners, community leaders, and most of all, Pasco residents. When community members and leaders met to identify priorities, mental health, substance use, access to care, nutrition and physical activity, and infectious disease prevention stood out as needs for the community. These, along with issues identified in the Pasco CHA, will form the basis of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Next Steps

The next steps involve sharing data and findings from this CHA with community partners and key stakeholders. Through this sharing process, we aim to engage a diverse set of community partners for the July 2024 – June 2029 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). New goals, strategies, and objectives will be formulated to address the health priorities identified by the community collaboration. A list of resources and evidence-based strategies for these priority areas can be found in Appendix B. The final phase will be the action cycle during which strategies will be implemented and evaluated with the ultimate goal to improve the health of Pasco County.

Appendix A: Community Partners and Organizational Assets

AdventHealth Hospital System

Alliance for Substance Use and Prevention
(ASAP Pasco)

BayCare Hospital System

CARES Senior Clinic

Early Learning Coalition

Central Florida Behavioral Health Network

Good Samaritan Clinic

Gulf Coast North Area Health Education
Center

Healthy Start Coalition

Medical Center of Trinity

Pasco County Government

Pasco County Fire Rescue

Pasco County Schools

Pasco Hernando State College

Pasco Sheriff's Office

Premier Community HealthCare Group

Recovery Epicenter Foundation

St. Leo University

Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger, Pasco
Chapter

The Hope Shot

The Rope Center

United Way of Pasco County

WellFlorida Council

Westcare

Appendix B: Resources and Best Practice Recommendations

Practice or Intervention	Expected outcomes	Effectiveness	Source
Mental health			
Crisis lines	Improved mental health, reduced suicides	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/crisis-lines
Mental Health First Aid	Increased knowledge of mental health, reduced stigma	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/mental-health-first-aid
School-based social and emotional instruction	Improved mental health, increased academic achievement	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/school-based-social-and-emotional-instruction
Substance use			
Naloxone education and distribution programs	Increased knowledge of appropriate overdose response	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/naloxone-education-distribution-programs
Mass media campaigns against alcohol-impaired driving	Reduced impaired driving, reduced alcohol-related crashes, reduced fatal and non-fatal injuries	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/mass-media-campaigns-against-alcohol-impaired-driving
Alcohol advertising restrictions	Reduced alcohol use, reduced underage drinking	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/alcohol-advertising-restrictions
Access to care			
Health insurance enrollment	Increased health insurance coverage	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/health-insurance-enrollment-outreach-support

outreach and support			
Telemedicine	Increased access to care	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/telemedicine
Rural training in medical education	Increased access to care	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/rural-training-in-medical-education
Health literacy interventions	Improved health related knowledge, adherence to treatment	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/health-literacy-interventions
Nutrition, physical activity, & weight			
Community gardens	Increased access to fruits and vegetables, increased consumption of fruits and vegetables	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/community-gardens
Activity programs for older adults	Improved health outcomes, mental health	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/activity-programs-for-older-adults
Bike and pedestrian master plans	Increased physical activity, active transportation	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/bike-pedestrian-master-plans
Community fitness programs	Increased physical activity, fitness	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/community-fitness-programs
Competitive pricing for healthy foods	Increased sales of healthy foods	Scientifically supported	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/competitive-pricing-for-healthy-foods
Infectious disease & immunization			
Clinic-based interventions for	Increased vaccination	Some evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-

human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination			<u>health/strategies/clinic-based-interventions-for-human-papillomavirus-hpv-vaccination</u>
Syringe services program	Reduced HIV infection, reduced hepatitis C infection, reduced injection risk behavior	Scientifically supported	<u>https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/syringe-services-programs</u>

Appendix C: Community Social and Demographic Summary

Indicator	Florida	Pasco
TOTAL POPULATION	21,634,529	569,211
RACE, OF ANY ETHNICITY		
White (%)	63.8	78.1
Black or African American (%)	15.5	6
American Indian & Alaska Native (%)	0.3	0.2
Asian (%)	2.8	2.9
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander (%)	0.1	0.1
Some other race (%)	4.8	3.4
Two or more races (%)	12.7	9.3
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Hispanic or Latino, of any race (%)	14.8	9.7
Not Hispanic or Latino (%)	7.2	2.2
White alone (%)	10.4	5.8
Black or African American alone (%)	73.5	82.6
American Indian & Alaska Native alone (%)	52	70.4
Asian alone (%)	14.9	5.6
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander alone (%)	0.1	0.2
Some other race (%)	2.8	2.8
Two or more races (%)	0.1	0.1
SEX AND AGE		
Male (%)	49.2	49
Female (%)	50.8	51
Median age (years)	42.4	43.9
Under 5 years (%)	5.1	4.9
5 to 9 years (%)	5.3	5.5
10 to 14 years (%)	5.8	6.2
15 to 19 years (%)	5.8	5.8
20 to 24 years (%)	6	5.3
25 to 34 years (%)	12.7	11.2
35 to 44 years (%)	12.3	12.5
45 to 54 years (%)	12.6	13
55 to 59 years (%)	6.8	6.6
60 to 64 years (%)	6.7	6.8
65 to 74 years (%)	11.5	12.1
75 to 84 years (%)	6.8	7.5
85 years and over (%)	2.6	2.5

POVERTY		
Families under 100% of poverty (%)	9.1	8.2
With children under 18 years (%)	14.4	13.3
With children under 5 years (%)	13.7	17.7
Families with female householder (%)	21.6	22.1
With children under 18 years (%)	30.7	32.8
With children under 5 years (%)	34.6	43.5
People whose poverty status is known	21,171,700	560,241
Under 50 % of poverty (%)	5.9	5.2
50 to 99 % of poverty (%)	7	6.6
100 to 124 % of poverty (%)	4.3	4.1
125 to 149 % of poverty (%)	4.5	4.3
150 to 184 % of poverty (%)	6.7	7.1
185 to 199 % of poverty (%)	3	3.1
200 % of poverty and over (%)	68.6	69.6
People under 100% of poverty (%)	12.9	11.8
Under 18 years (%)	17.7	16.7
18 years and over (%)	11.7	10.6
18 to 64 years (%)	11.9	10.7
65 years and over (%)	11	10.4
People under 185% of poverty (%)	28.5	27.3
EMPLOYMENT STATUS		
Civilian labor force	10,555,633	260,364
Civilian labor force unemployed (%)	5	5.3
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	9,897,435	242,883
Car, truck, or van - drove alone (%)	74.1	72.5
Car, truck, or van - carpooled (%)	9	8.2
Public transportation, excluding taxicab (%)	1.3	0.5
Walked (%)	1.4	0.8
Other means (%)	2.3	2
Worked at home (%)	11.9	16
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.9	31.2
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME		
English Only (%)	69.8	81.1
Spanish (%)	22.2	12.5
Other Indo-European (%)	5.6	3.7
Asian and Pacific Islander (%)	1.6	1.4
Other (%)	0.8	1.3
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		

Population 25 years and over	15,579,847	411,953
Less than 9th grade (%)	4.4	2.9
9th to 12 grades, no diploma (%)	6.4	6.4
High school graduate or higher (%)	89.3	90.7
High school graduate, includes GED (%)	27.7	33.1
Some college, no degree (%)	19.2	20.5
Associate's degree (%)	10.1	10
Bachelor's degree or higher (%)	32.3	27.1
Bachelor's degree (%)	20.2	17.6
Graduate or professional degree (%)	12.1	9.5
INCOME AND BENEFITS		
Median household income (dollars)	67,917	63,187
Total households	8,353,441	223,385
With earnings (%)	73.2	67.9
With social security (%)	36.9	40.3
With retirement income (%)	24.7	28.3
With Supplemental Security Income (%)	5	6.1
With cash public assistance income (%)	2.5	3.1
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits (%)	13	11.9
Median family income (dollars)	81,514	80,612
Median nonfamily income (dollars)	42,675	36,590
SOCIAL SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT⁷		
Households with one or more types of computing devices (%)	95.2	94.5
Households with access to broadband internet (%)	88.8	88.1
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE		
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	21,300,363	562,836
With health insurance coverage (%)	87.7	88.8
With private health insurance (%)	63.3	61.8
With public coverage (%)	36.8	40.2
No health insurance coverage (%)	12.3	11.2
Under 19 years	449,8693	120,818
No health insurance coverage (%)	7.5	5.9
Employed 19 to 64 years	9,140,534	226,479
With health insurance coverage (%)	83.8	84.5
With private health insurance (%)	78.6	79.1
With public coverage (%)	8	8.6
No health insurance coverage (%)	16.2	15.5
Unemployed 19 to 64 years	466,125	12,198
With health insurance coverage (%)	62.1	59.9
With private health insurance (%)	43.3	37.5

With public coverage (%)	21.6	24.2
No health insurance coverage (%)	37.9	40.1
Not in labor force	2,774,300	79,808
With health insurance coverage (%)	79.3	81.7
With private health insurance (%)	52	45.3
With public coverage (%)	34.1	44
No health insurance coverage (%)	20.7	18.3
GRANDPARENTS		
Living with grandchildren under 18 years	478,720	11,633
Responsible for grandchildren (%)	29.1	28.9
DISABILITY STATUS		
Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population	21,300,363	562,836
With a disability (%)	13.5	16.4
Under 18 years	4,231,722	114,799
With a disability (%)	4.8	5.8
18 to 64 years	12,647,930	324,504
With a disability (%)	10	13.2
65 years and over	4,420,711	123,533
With a disability (%)	31.8	34.8
RESIDENCE 1 YEAR AGO		
Population 1 year and over	21,432,310	564,423
Same house (%)	85.6	87
Different house in the U.S. (%)	14.4	13
Same county (%)	7.4	5.1
Different county (%)	6.1	7.4
Same state (%)	3.1	4.2
Different state (%)	3	3.2
Abroad (%)	0.9	0.5
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	9,915,957	259,083
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Occupied housing units	8,353,441	223,385
Occupied housing units (%)	84.2	86.2
Owner-occupied (%)	66.9	74.6
Renter-occupied (%)	33.1	25.4
Household size owner-occupied unit (people)	2.6	2.5
Household size renter-occupied unit (people)	2.5	2.6
Vacant housing units (%)	15.8	13.8
Homeowner vacancy (%)	1.6	1.6
Rental vacancy (%)	7.6	5.3
Occupying Mobile home (%)	8.3	18

Occupying Boat, RV, van, etc. (%)	0.2	0.3
Median value of owner-occupied units (dollars)	292,200	233,600
OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT CHARACTERISTICS		
Lacking complete plumbing facilities (%)	0.3	0.3
Lacking kitchen facilities (%)	0.7	0.4
With utility gas as heating fuel (%)	5	5.2
With bottled, tank or LP gas as heating fuel (%)	0.9	0.8
With electricity as heating fuel (%)	91.2	91.8
With fuel oil, kerosene etc. as heating fuel (%)	0.1	0.1
With coal or coke as heating fuel (%)	0	0
With wood as heating fuel (%)	0.1	0.1
With solar energy as heating fuel (%)	0.3	0.6
With other fuel as heating fuel (%)	0.1	0.1
With no fuel used to heat (%)	2.2	1.4
With no vehicles available (%)	6	4.8
With 1 vehicle available (%)	38.7	40
With 2 vehicles available (%)	38.4	38.2
With 3 or more vehicles available (%)	16.9	17