



2024 COMPASS NOW

NAVIGATING TOWARD STRONGER COMMUNITIES



How is your community faring?

Trempealeau County

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Monroe County Health Department

Otto Bremer Trust

Tomah Health

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Vernon County Health Department

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List of Organizations that Participated in Community Stakeholder Meetings

Stakeholder Meetings were held in each of the six counties covered by the Compass Now 2024 Report. 177 individuals from 84 different organizations attended. They are listed below:

ABLE, Inc.
Allina Health
Arcadia Public Library
Ashley Wellness Center
Blair-Taylor School District
Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse
Buffalo County
Buffalo County Board
Buffalo County Emergency Management
Buffalo County Health Department
Buffalo County Sheriff's Department
Caledonia School District
Campbell Family Group Home
CASA for Kids, Inc.
Chileda
City of Caledonia
City of La Crosse – Fire Department
City of Mondovi
Coulee Recovery Center
Couleecap, Inc.
Family and Children's Center
First National Bank & Trust Company
Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District
Gateway Area Council, Boy Scouts of America
Great Rivers 211
Great Rivers United Way
Gundersen Health System
Gundersen St. Joseph's Hospital & Clinics
Gundersen Tri-County Hospital & Clinics
Hillsboro City Council
Hope Floats
Hope4U
Houston County Commissioners
Houston County Public Health
Hunger Task Force
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Independence School District
La Crosse Area Family YMCA
La Crosse County Administration,
Economic & Community Development
La Crosse County Board
La Crosse County Health Department
La Crosse County Human Services
La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium
LeaderEthics
Mayo Clinic Health System
Minnesota Department of Health
Monroe County Child Support
Monroe County Health Department
Monroe County Human Services
Next Steps for Change
ODCorp
Outdoor Recreation Alliance
Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin
Scenic Bluffs Community Health Centers
Scenic Rivers AHEC
School District of Hillsboro
School District of Holmen
School District of La Crosse
School District of Mondovi
School District of Onalaska
Second Harvest Food Pantry
SEMCAC
St. Clare Health Mission
State of Wisconsin DHS
The Nature Place
The Parenting Place
The Salvation Army
Together with Veterans
Tomah Area School District
Tomah Health
Trempealeau County
Trempealeau County Health Department
University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
UW-Madison Extension – Monroe County
UW-Madison Extension – Vernon County
Vernon County Health Department
Vernon County Over 50
Vernon Memorial Healthcare
Viroqua Area Schools
Viroqua Variety
Viterbo University
Western Dairyland Head Start
Whitehall Area Chamber of Commerce
Winona State University Department of Nursing

Bold means there was representation at this county's stakeholder meeting.

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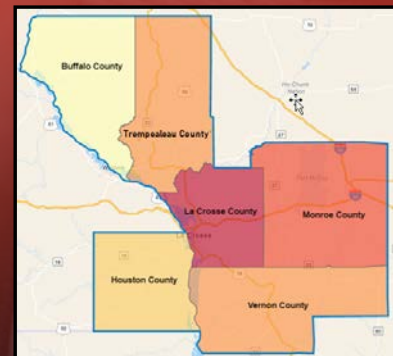
Introduction

Compass Now is a joint effort of Great Rivers United Way, area healthcare organizations, and county health departments to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community. This introductory section describes the purpose and additional context for the study. Sections 2-8 present the study results.

Purpose of the Study

This report is the latest in a series of Compass Now needs assessments and reports published since 1995. In response to these reports, Great Rivers United Way has focused its funding system to more closely reflect identified community needs. In addition, a wide array of community organizations have used report findings to shape their own priorities and support grant requests.

The purpose of this Compass Now 2024 report is to provide an updated assessment of community needs that can be used to inform community action strategies by stakeholders across the region. As illustrated in **Exhibit 1.1**, the Compass Now 2024 study is focused on communities within a six-county region including Buffalo, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon counties in Wisconsin, and Houston County in Minnesota.



If you find the contents of this report useful, please consider supporting our work by making a financial contribution to Great Rivers United Way at greatriversunitedway.org

2023 Population Estimate

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Buffalo | 13,234 |
| Houston | 18,813 |
| La Crosse | 122,678 |
| Monroe | 46,577 |
| Trempealeau | 31,170 |
| Vernon | 30,994 |
| Region | 263,466 |

Exhibit 1.1 - The Study Region. Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of data from ESRI using ArcGIS Business Software.

Study Methods and Data Sources

The study was conducted under the direction of Great Rivers United Way, with technical support from a contracted consultant (Community Health Solutions). The study was guided by a Compass Now Steering Committee comprised of stakeholders from public health, health care, and other community sectors. The Steering Committee members provided guidance on the study scope and methods, and also provided liaisons to engage community organizations in promoting participation in the community survey conducted for the study.

The study methods included analysis of community indicators from various sources, plus insights from community members as collected through a community survey and a series of community insight events. The study methods are summarized below, with more details provided in Appendix A.



Community Indicators

Community Demographics

A community demographic profile can provide insight about the size and distribution of the population in terms of health-sensitive attributes such as age, sex/gender, race, ethnicity, and income. Community demographics were analyzed and mapped using data and software from ESRI, a commercial provider of community data.

County Health Rankings

The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (CHR&R) program is a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The goal of CHR&R is to bring actionable data, evidence, guidance, and stories to diverse leaders and residents so people and communities can be healthier. The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute created CHR&R for communities across the nation, with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

As illustrated in **Exhibit 1.2**, the County Health Rankings are based on a model of community health that emphasizes the many factors that influence how long and how well we live. The Rankings use more than 30 measures that help communities understand how healthy their residents are today (health outcomes) and what will impact their health in the future (health factors).

Additional Community Indicators

Indicators from the County Health Rankings are supplemented with additional indicators from sources in the local region. The indicators are provided in several sections of the report, along with notes on specific data sources. These supplemental indicators include:

- Leading causes of death
- Maternal and infant health indicators
- Youth risk indicators
- Child services cases
- 211 assistance calls
- Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households



Community Insights

Community Survey

A community survey was conducted throughout the region from June to September of 2023. The purpose of the survey was to invite community insights about health needs in the region. The survey was conducted using mixed methods, and respondents could either complete their survey online or submit a paper copy of their survey response. Great Rivers United Way staff and volunteers entered paper survey responses into a Qualtrics survey portal provided by Community Health Solutions.

The survey was conducted in partnership with a wide range of community partners that helped raise awareness and encourage community members to complete the survey. In planning the survey, the project partners began with a common aim to conduct an inclusive survey with insights from a wide array of community members.

It should be noted that the surveys were conducted using convenience sampling. Convenience sampling is a practical approach for obtaining insights from as many people as possible, but without random selection. The results of a convenience sample are instructive for understanding the scope of issues and opportunities in a community; however, results might not be statistically representative of the entire population of a community.

A total of 1,238 individuals submitted a response to the survey (although not every respondent completed every item). A profile of the survey respondents is provided in **Exhibit 1.3**. As shown in the exhibit:

The number of surveys completed by county ranged from 89 in Houston County and Trempealeau County to 536 in La Crosse County. Noting this wide range of responses, it is important to view the survey results at the county level, and recognize that the higher number of responses from La Crosse County and Monroe County have a skewing effect on the regional results.

A total of 89 responses were obtained from Trempealeau County residents. The Trempealeau County respondents were predominantly female (86%), as is common in community surveys of this type. Based on self-reports from survey respondents, the Trempealeau County survey respondents included 8% other than White race alone; 13% Hispanic; and 19% with household income below \$35,000. By comparison, the rates for the overall population are 15% other than White alone; 14% Hispanic, and 21% with household income below \$35,000 (see Exhibit 2.1 for details).

The County Health Rankings Model

Exhibit 1.2 - Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

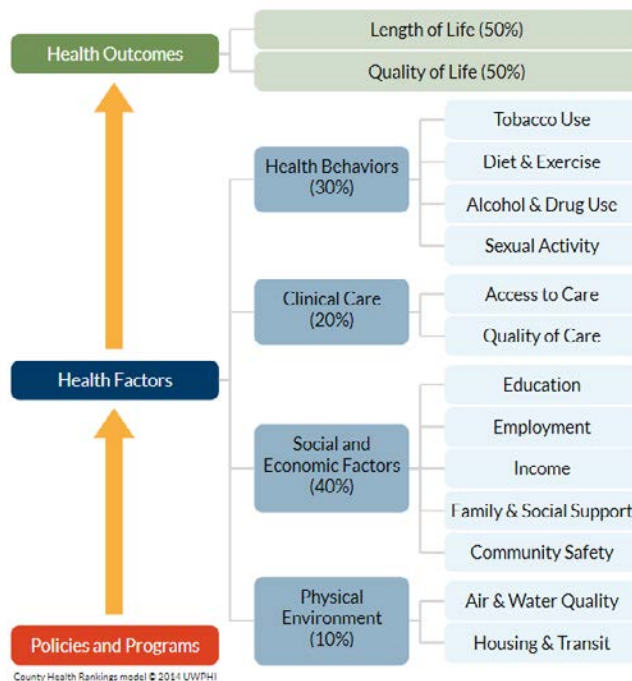


Exhibit 1.3 Profile of Community Survey Respondents

| Indicator | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGIONAL TOTAL |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 89 | 536 | 226 | 89 | 206 | 1,238 |
| Age | 92 | 86 | 529 | 220 | 88 | 204 | 1,219 |
| Age 18-29 | 20% | 10% | 17% | 9% | 8% | 7% | 13% |
| Age 30-44 | 34% | 47% | 29% | 39% | 30% | 22% | 31% |
| Age 45-64 | 34% | 37% | 33% | 42% | 47% | 41% | 37% |
| Age 65+ | 13% | 6% | 21% | 10% | 16% | 30% | 18% |
| Gender | 92 | 86 | 528 | 222 | 88 | 204 | 1,220 |
| Female | 77% | 72% | 77% | 77% | 86% | 75% | 77% |
| Male | 20% | 27% | 21% | 19% | 10% | 22% | 20% |
| Prefer not to answer | 2% | 1% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| Self-identify | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% |
| Race | 91 | 86 | 523 | 220 | 87 | 204 | 1,211 |
| American Indian | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% |
| Asian | 3% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 2% |
| Black/African American | 0% | 0% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 2% |
| Pacific Islander | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| White | 93% | 98% | 90% | 95% | 92% | 94% | 93% |
| Other race | 1% | 0% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Two or more races | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 5% | 2% | 1% |
| Ethnicity (Hispanic) | 92 | 86 | 522 | 223 | 87 | 203 | 1,213 |
| Hispanic | 2% | 20% | 3% | 8% | 13% | 1% | 6% |
| Ethnicity (Hmong) | 92 | 86 | 521 | 220 | 86 | 202 | 1,207 |
| Hmong | 1% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% | 0% | 2% |
| Education | 92 | 86 | 526 | 220 | 88 | 204 | 1,216 |
| Post-graduate/professional | 17% | 20% | 32% | 21% | 15% | 25% | 26% |
| College graduate | 42% | 53% | 35% | 38% | 42% | 37% | 38% |
| Some college | 13% | 14% | 20% | 20% | 10% | 15% | 17% |
| Vocational school | 11% | 7% | 6% | 9% | 13% | 13% | 9% |
| High school diploma | 14% | 5% | 6% | 11% | 17% | 10% | 9% |
| Did not graduate from high school | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 1% |
| Housing Type | 91 | 86 | 526 | 221 | 89 | 202 | 1,215 |
| Owner-occupied | 82% | 78% | 66% | 70% | 74% | 86% | 73% |
| Renter | 13% | 20% | 30% | 23% | 26% | 13% | 24% |
| Other arrangement | 4% | 2% | 5% | 7% | 0% | 1% | 4% |
| Housing Type | 88 | 83 | 517 | 218 | 84 | 196 | 1,186 |
| Less than \$15,000 | 3% | 8% | 9% | 7% | 8% | 5% | 8% |
| \$15,000 to \$24,999 | 2% | 18% | 8% | 3% | 7% | 5% | 7% |
| \$25,000 to \$34,999 | 10% | 5% | 8% | 8% | 4% | 9% | 8% |
| \$35,000 to \$49,999 | 11% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 12% | 9% |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999 | 17% | 16% | 16% | 21% | 18% | 17% | 17% |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 22% | 16% | 17% | 21% | 17% | 21% | 18% |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999 | 19% | 19% | 19% | 21% | 27% | 15% | 19% |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999 | 14% | 5% | 8% | 10% | 2% | 9% | 8% |
| \$200,000 and over | 1% | 5% | 7% | 2% | 10% | 8% | 6% |

Source: CHS analysis of community survey data.

Community Insight Events

In addition to the community survey, the project partners conducted a series of 'community insight events' where community members were invited to share their insights about community needs in a group setting. A total of 20 community insight events were conducted in the August-October time frame (see **Exhibit 8.2** for details). Within each event the participants were invited to share their insights in response to these questions:

1. What do you see as the most important health issues or concerns facing your community?
2. Are you aware of any new or emerging health issues or concerns that people should know about?
3. Are there any particular population groups who may be especially vulnerable for problems with their health or health care?
4. What do you see as the most important health resources available to support people in your community?
5. Do you have any ideas about how people or organizations could work together to promote better health or health care for the community?

Limitations of this Report

This Compass Now 2024 report is intended to inform community action strategies by stakeholders across the region. The data presented within the report comes from multiple sources, each with its own set of limitations that should be considered when interpreting the results.

Community Indicators

Each section of the report includes a series of exhibits showing various community indicators based on various existing data sources. This array of community indicators can be helpful for planning community improvement strategies, but it does not include every possible indicator of community health and well-being. We encourage readers to use this report as a starting point, and go beyond the report to seek additional data and information that can help you plan and implement effective strategies for community improvement.

County Health Rankings

The County Health Rankings are developed from multiple data sources with varying levels of reliability, and some of these data sources are several years old. Consequently, the rankings and indicators do not provide precise and definitive evidence on where one county stands compared to another. However, in most cases the rankings and indicators are reliable enough to illustrate general community strengths and areas of concern, and they can be helpful for informing efforts to improve community health and well-being.

Community Survey

As noted earlier, the community survey was conducted as an open survey with convenience sampling rather than random household sampling. The survey results do provide rich insights into community perceptions of need. However, because of the convenience sampling strategy, they are not structured to support statistical analyses that would generalize the results from the sample to the broader population.

Respondent Perceptions.

In the community survey and the community insight events, respondents were invited to share their insights about a wide range of factors at the individual, household, and community level. Many of the survey questions rely on respondent perceptions of community concerns and community supports. Perceptions are subjective and based on the unique experience of each individual respondent. A respondent's perception of a community issue reflects their reality, but might not reflect the broader situation in the community.

Bridging the Compass Now 2021 and 2024 Reports

The study methods used to produce this report were designed to provide continuity with the 2021 Compass Now Report where it was feasible and productive to do so. To summarize the similarities and differences:

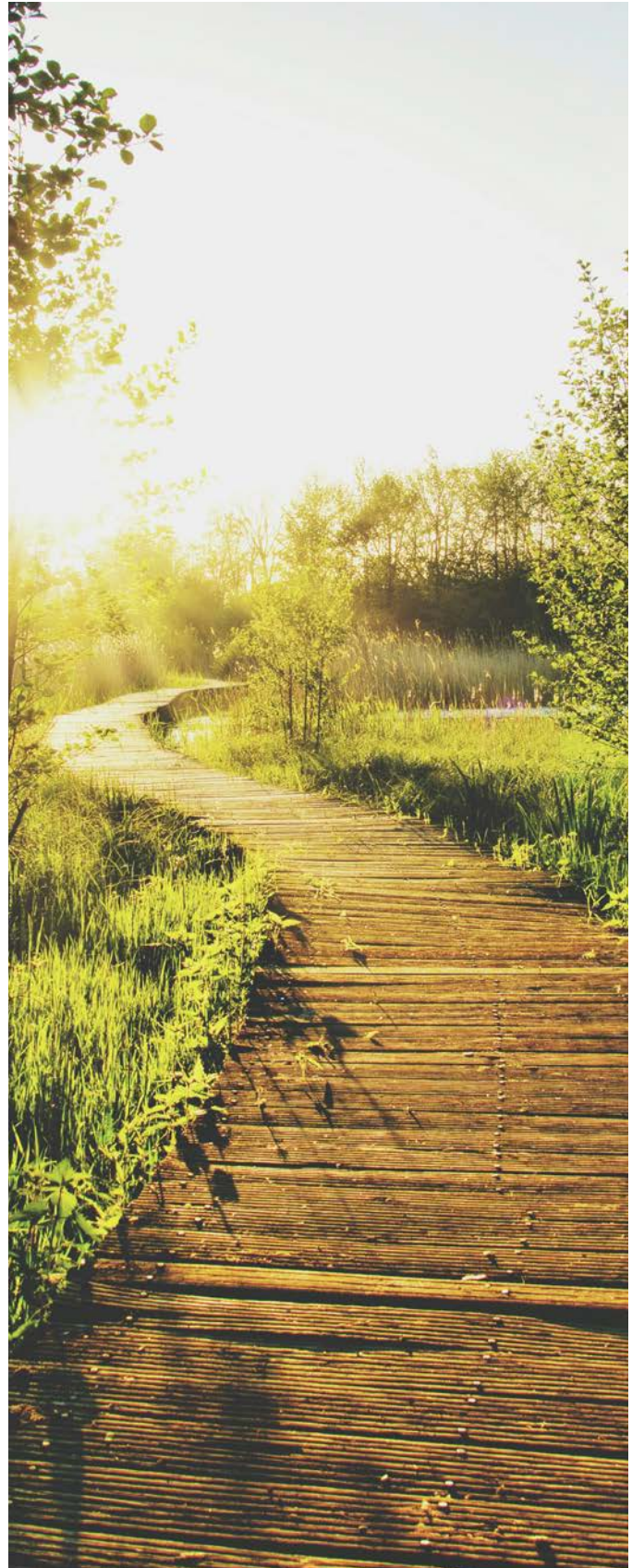
Although there is general continuity of structure between the 2021 and 2024 reports, caution should be used when comparing the results. One consideration is that many of the community indicators in the 2024 report are several years old, and the same was true for the 2021 report. This problem of 'data lag' is a challenge not only for the Compass Now study series, but also for every community study that relies on secondary sources of data. Consequently, it is not possible to measure improvement on community indicators from 2021 to 2024 in a relevant and reliable way.

Focusing on community data, this study relies heavily on County Health Rankings data, as did the Compass Now studies published in 2018 and 2021. There are some County Health Rankings data that are no longer available for this report, and these are noted in the relevant sections of the report.

This study also relies on local indicators of mortality, maternal and infant health, child health, and selected other factors. There are some differences in the availability and structure of selected indicators, and these are also noted in the relevant sections of the report.

Focusing on community surveys, the 2021 study included a highly structured, random household survey alongside a more open 'convenience sample' survey. In 2024 the study partners decided to focus on convenience sampling for the community survey, the rationale being that a convenience survey could be more flexibly focused on capturing insights from diverse populations across the study region. The study partners also conducted a series of 'community insight events' to capture additional perspectives from community members.

As a final consideration, this report is not intended as a scorecard on the health and well-being of one county compared to another. Throughout the report we provide county-level indicators on a number of community issues. However, these indicators are not structured to support reliable comparisons between counties. To illustrate this point, although the County Health Rankings do provide a relative ordering of counties on various indicators, in many cases the differences in ranking are not based on statistically significant differences in the underlying data used to generate the rankings. Beyond statistics, each county has its own unique set of factors that influence the health and well-being of the population. We recommend focusing on how to sustain strengths and address challenges within each county rather than comparing counties in scorecard fashion.





How is the Great Rivers Region Faring?

This section presents an overview of the six-county region included in the study. The results include a demographic snapshot of the region, population projections, and a set of maps showing how selected populations are distributed throughout the region. Also shown is a summary exhibit of the County Health Rankings for the region.

Section Outline

2. The Six-County Region

Demographic Profile
Summary of County Health Rankings

3. Length and Quality of Life

Community Indicators
Community Insights

4. Health Behaviors and Concerns

Community Indicators
Community Insights

5. Health Care and Utilization

Community Indicators
Community Insights

6. Social and Economic Factors

Community Indicators
Community Insights

7. Physical Environment and Safety

Community Indicators
Community Insights



Demographic Profile

As shown in **Exhibit 2.1**, the six-county region is home to an estimated 263,466 residents. Within the Trempealeau County population of an estimated 31,170 people:

- An estimated 21% are children, and an estimated 20% are adults age 65+.
- An estimated 7 percent of the population is classified as other than White, and about 4 percent are classified as multi-race.
- An estimated 11% of households have income below poverty, and an estimated 38% have household income under \$50,000 per year.

Exhibit 2.1 Demographic Snapshot of the Region

| Indicator | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGIONAL TOTAL |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|
| 2023 Total Population | 13,234 | 18,813 | 122,678 | 46,577 | 31,170 | 30,994 | 263,466 |
| Age (2023) | | | | | | | |
| Age 0-17 | 20% | 20% | 19% | 24% | 22% | 23% | 21% |
| Age 18-29 | 12% | 13% | 21% | 13% | 12% | 12% | 17% |
| Age 30-44 | 17% | 17% | 18% | 18% | 19% | 16% | 18% |
| Age 45-64 | 28% | 27% | 23% | 26% | 27% | 27% | 25% |
| Age 65+ | 23% | 23% | 18% | 19% | 21% | 22% | 20% |
| Sex or Gender (2023) | | | | | | | |
| Female Population | 49% | 50% | 50% | 49% | 49% | 50% | 50% |
| Male Population | 51% | 50% | 50% | 51% | 51% | 50% | 50% |
| Race (2023) | | | | | | | |
| American Indian/Alaska Native Population | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% |
| Asian Population | 0% | 1% | 5% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 3% |
| Black/African American Population | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% |
| Other Race Population | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 8% | 1% | 2% |
| Pacific Islander Population | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Population of Two or More Races | 3% | 3% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 3% | 4% |
| White Population | 95% | 95% | 88% | 89% | 85% | 95% | 89% |
| Ethnicity (2023) | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic Population | 3% | 1% | 3% | 6% | 14% | 2% | 4% |
| Household Income | | | | | | | |
| Total Households | 5,668 | 8,050 | 51,322 | 18,380 | 12,453 | 12,261 | 108,134 |
| Households Below Poverty Level (2021) | 10% | 8% | 11% | 10% | 8% | 14% | 11% |
| Median Household Income | \$64,948 | \$65,712 | \$62,122 | \$66,761 | \$67,619 | \$61,033 | \$63,917 |
| Household Income less than \$15,000 | 8% | 7% | 9% | 7% | 7% | 11% | 8% |
| Household Income \$15,000-\$24,999 | 8% | 7% | 9% | 7% | 6% | 8% | 8% |
| Household Income \$25,000-\$34,999 | 9% | 7% | 10% | 8% | 8% | 8% | 9% |
| Household Income \$35,000-\$49,999 | 12% | 12% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 13% |
| Household Income \$50,000-\$74,999 | 20% | 23% | 17% | 19% | 20% | 18% | 19% |
| Household Income \$75,000-\$99,999 | 17% | 13% | 15% | 16% | 17% | 14% | 15% |
| Household Income \$100,000-\$149,999 | 18% | 20% | 15% | 18% | 18% | 18% | 17% |
| Household Income \$150,000-\$199,999 | 6% | 7% | 7% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% |
| Household Income \$200,000 or greater | 3% | 4% | 6% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 5% |
| Housing Type | | | | | | | |
| Owner Occupied Housing Units | 77% | 82% | 65% | 72% | 74% | 79% | 70% |
| Renter Occupied Housing Units | 23% | 18% | 35% | 28% | 26% | 21% | 30% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of data from ESRI using ArcGIS Business Software. [See Appendix A for details.](#)



Exhibit 2.2 provides a closer look at the population by age within Trempealeau County.

- Within the 2023 population there are an estimated 6,840 children age 0-17, and 6,435 adults age 65+.
- Looking ahead to 2028, overall population growth for Trempealeau County is projected to be 1%.
- The adult population age 18-64 is projected to decline by 4%, and the population age 65+ is projected to grow by 14%.

Exhibit 2.2 Population Estimates and Projections

| Indicator | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGIONAL TOTAL |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Total Population | | | | | | | |
| 2023 Total Population Estimate | 13,234 | 18,813 | 122,678 | 46,577 | 31,170 | 30,994 | 263,466 |
| 2028 Total Population Projection | 13,138 | 18,766 | 124,103 | 46,625 | 31,416 | 31,060 | 265,108 |
| 2023-2028 % Change | -1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% |
| Children Age 0-17 | | | | | | | |
| 2023 Child Population (Age <18) | 2,599 | 3,813 | 23,871 | 11,109 | 6,840 | 7,245 | 55,477 |
| 2028 Child Population (Age <18) | 2,599 | 3,855 | 24,027 | 11,252 | 6,967 | 7,306 | 56,006 |
| 2023-2028 % Change | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| Adult Population Age 18-64 | | | | | | | |
| 2023 Adult Population (Age 18-64) | 7,536 | 10,745 | 76,534 | 26,691 | 17,895 | 17,010 | 156,411 |
| 2028 Adult Population (Age 18-64) | 7,073 | 10,039 | 74,863 | 25,513 | 17,118 | 16,085 | 150,691 |
| 2023-2028 % Change | -6% | -7% | -2% | -4% | -4% | -5% | -4% |
| Adults Age 65+ | | | | | | | |
| 2023 Senior Population (Age 65+) | 3,099 | 4,255 | 22,273 | 8,777 | 6,435 | 6,739 | 51,578 |
| 2028 Senior Population (Age 65+) | 3,466 | 4,872 | 25,213 | 9,860 | 7,331 | 7,669 | 58,411 |
| 2023-2028 % Change | 12% | 15% | 13% | 12% | 14% | 14% | 13% |

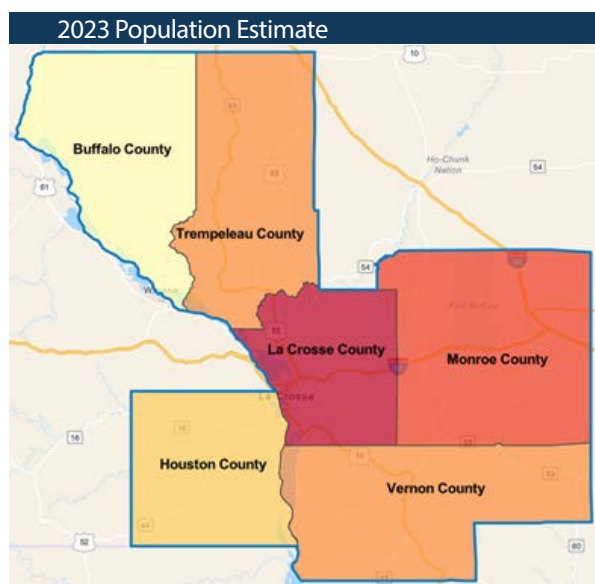
Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of data from ESRI using ArcGIS Business Software. [See Appendix A for details.](#)

Demographic Maps

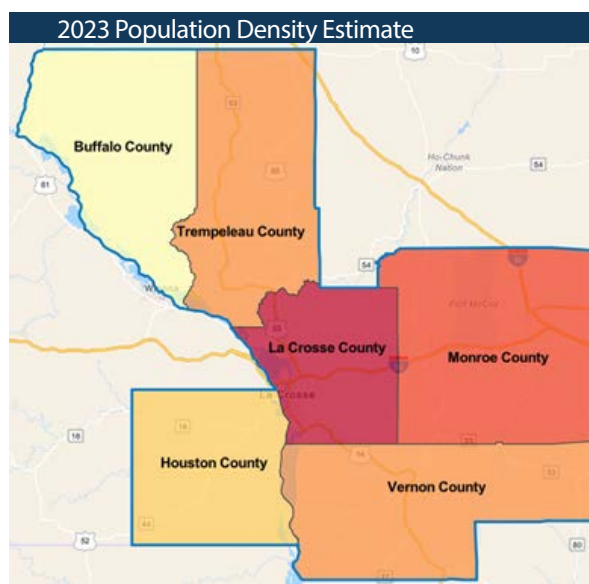
Demographic maps can be helpful for understanding the diversity and distribution of the community population. **Exhibits 2.3 through 2.11** illustrate the population distribution across the community based on demographic factors of poverty, age, race, and Hispanic ethnicity.

Exhibit 2.3 Total Population and Population Density by County

Exhibit 2.3 shows the total population and population density by county. The darker shading shows La Crosse County has the largest population and population density in the region.



| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Buffalo County | 13,234 |
| Houston County | 18,813 |
| La Crosse County | 122,678 |
| Monroe County | 46,577 |
| Trempealeau County | 31,170 |
| Vernon County | 30,994 |
| Region | 263,466 |

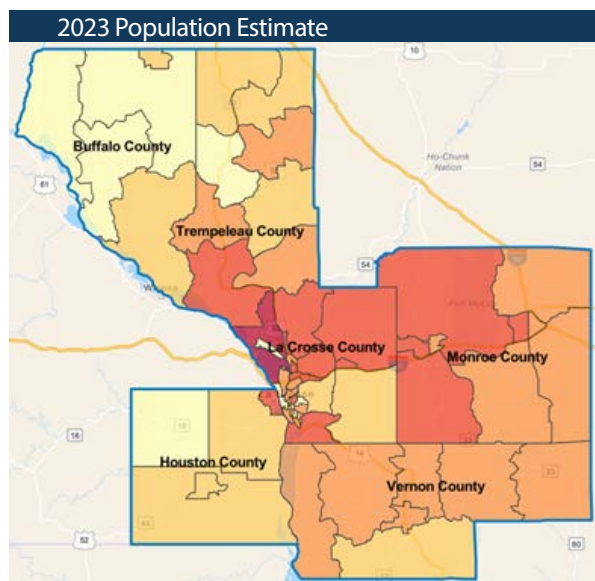


| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Buffalo County | 19.7 |
| Houston County | 34.1 |
| La Crosse County | 271.6 |
| Monroe County | 51.7 |
| Trempealeau County | 42.5 |
| Vernon County | 39.2 |

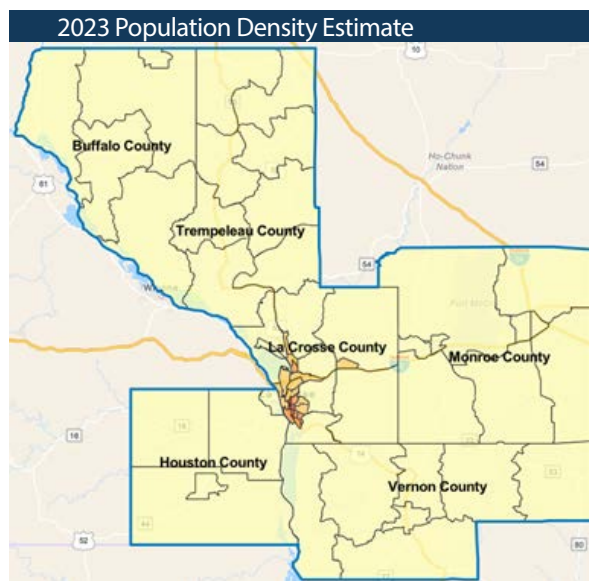
(population per square mile)

Exhibit 2.4 Total Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.4 shows a closer look at population indicators by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating census tracts with higher populations. The right-hand map shows population density, with darker shading indicating higher density in terms of population per square mile.



| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1,937 - 2,815 | 5,156 - 7,874 |
| 2,816 - 3,834 | 7,875 - 8,971 |
| 3,835 - 5,155 | |



| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11.3 - 927.9 | 5,370.8 - 7,847.2 |
| 928 - 2,857.5 | 7,847.3 - 8,698 |
| 2,857.6 - 5,370.7 | |

(population per square mile)

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of data from ESRI using ArcGIS Business Software. See Appendix A for details.

Exhibit 2.5 Households with Income Below Poverty by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.5 shows households with income below poverty by census tract. The left-hand map shows household counts, with darker shading indicating census tracts with higher numbers of households in poverty. The right-hand map shows the percentage of households in poverty within each census tract.

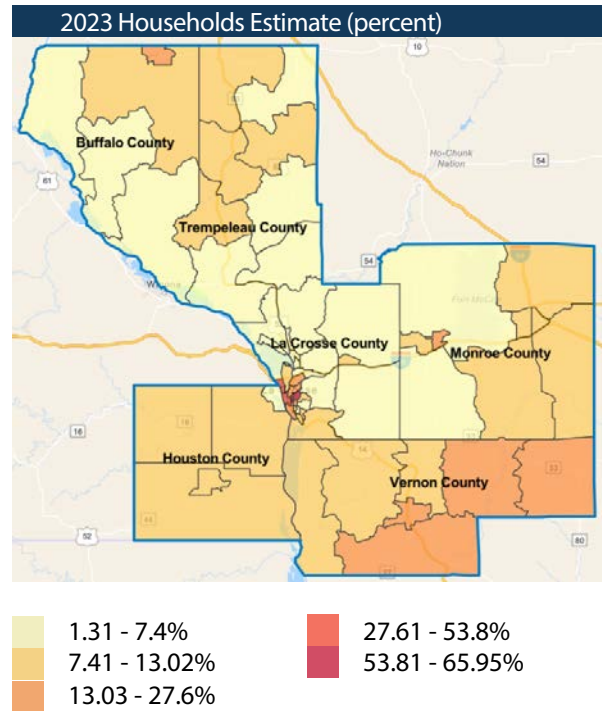
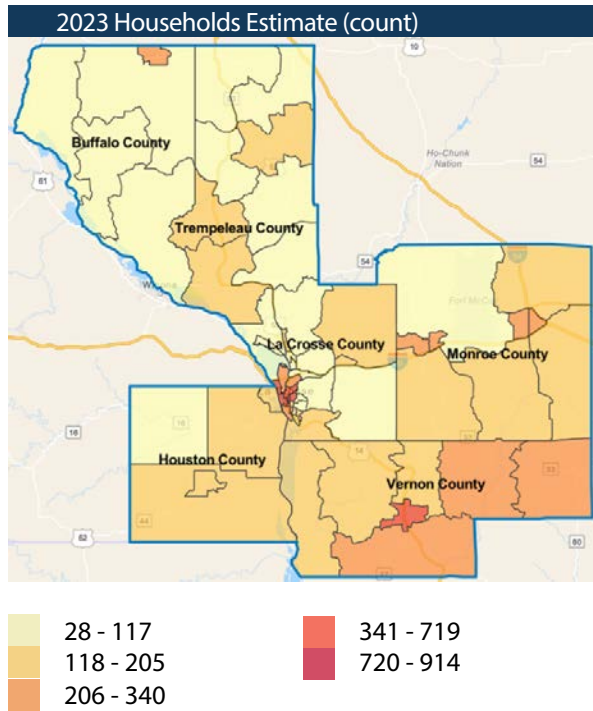
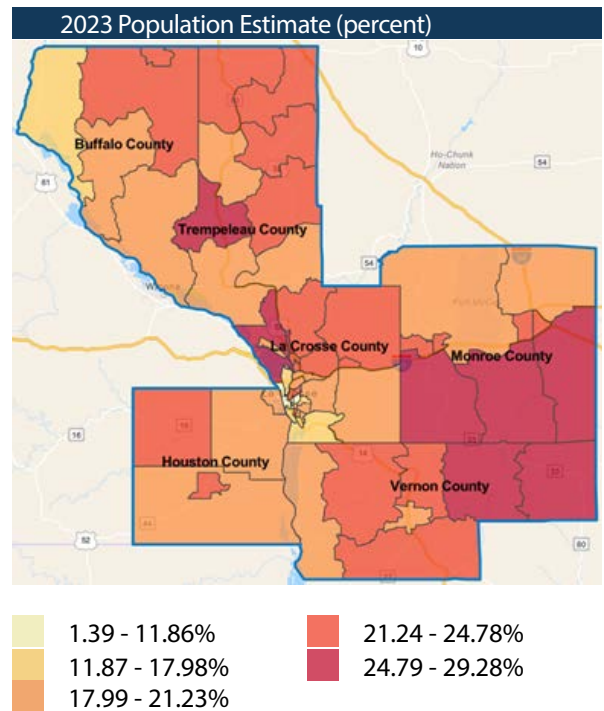
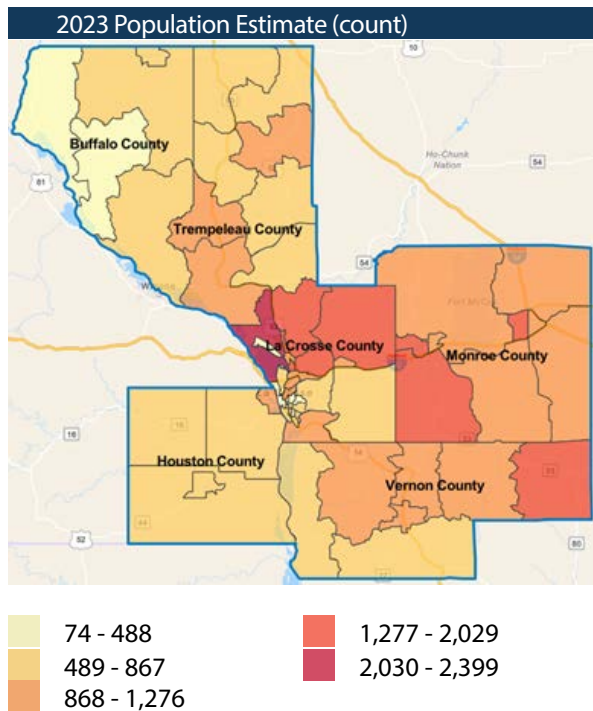


Exhibit 2.6 Child Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.6 shows the child population (<18) by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating census tracts with higher numbers of children. The right-hand map shows children as a percentage of the total population within each census tract.



Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of data from ESRI using ArcGIS Business Software. See Appendix A for details.

Exhibit 2.7 Older Adult Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.7 shows the older adult population (65+) by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating census tracts with higher numbers of older adults. The right-hand map shows older adults as a percentage of the total population within each census tract.

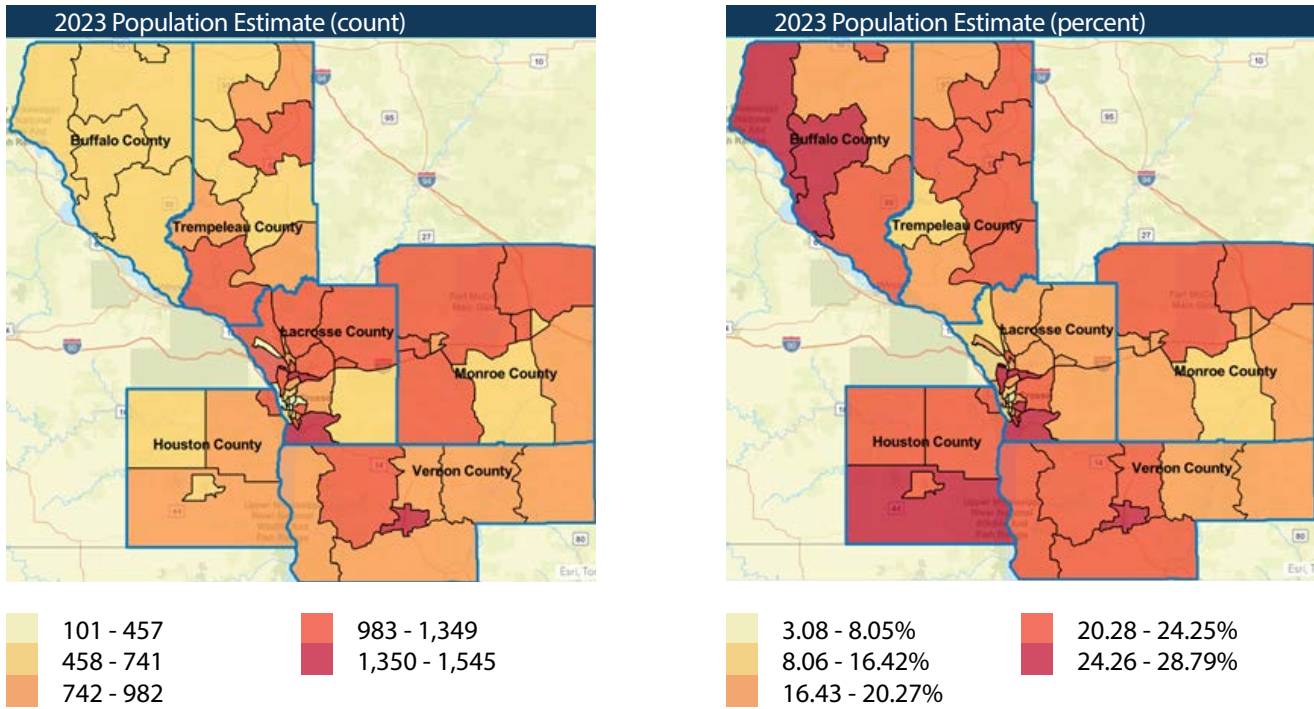
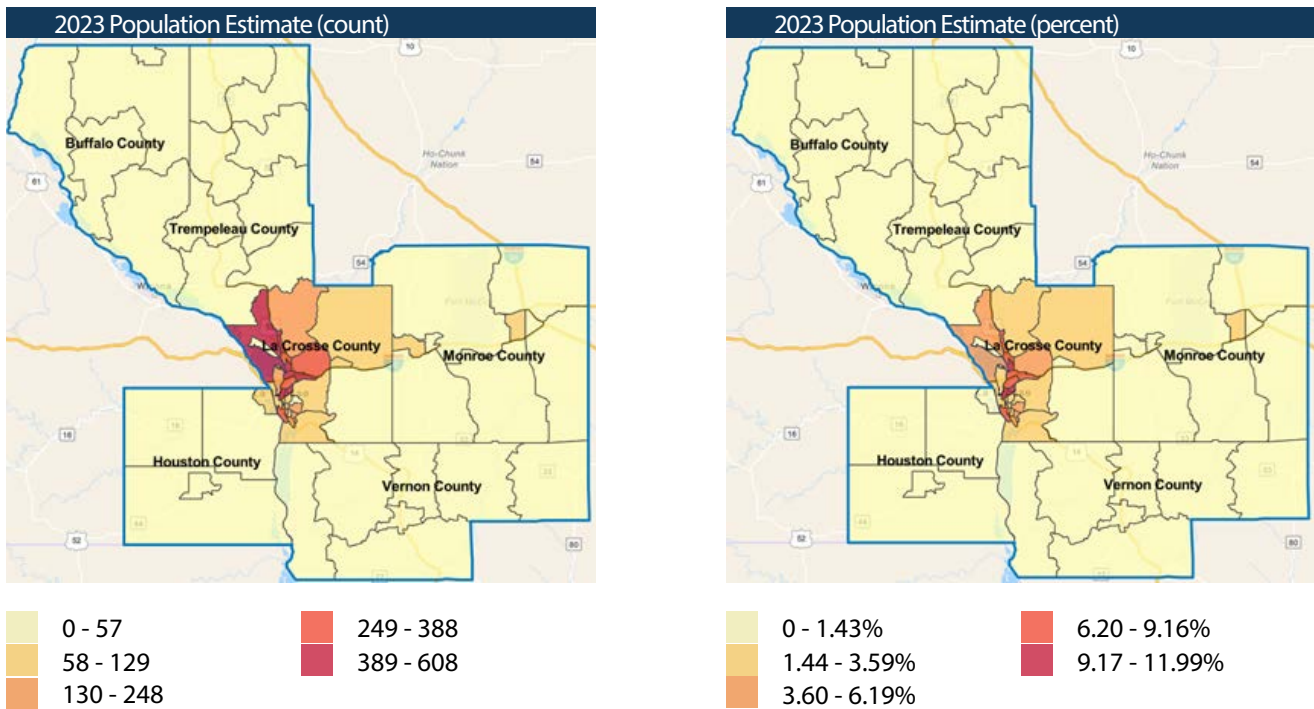


Exhibit 2.8 Asian Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.8 shows the Asian population by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating census tracts with higher numbers of people classified as Asian. The right-hand map shows the Asian population as a percentage of the total population within each census tract.



Source: CHS analysis of population estimates published by ESRI. See [Appendix A](#) for details.

Exhibit 2.9 Black / African American Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.9 shows the Black or African American population by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating higher numbers of people classified as Black or African American. The right-hand map shows the Black or African American population as a percentage of the total population.

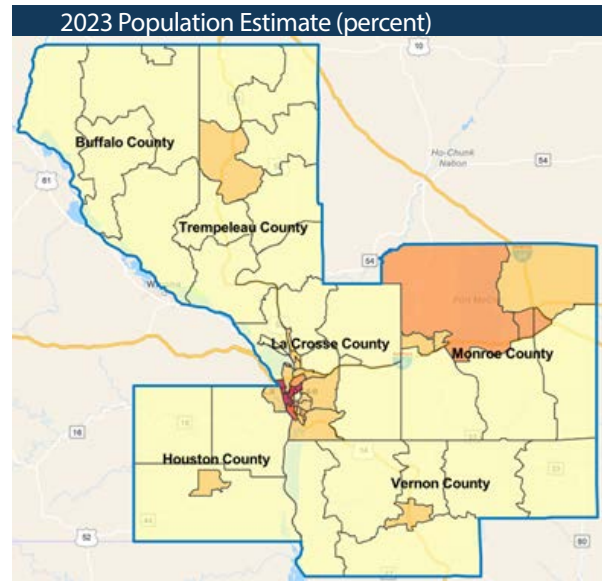
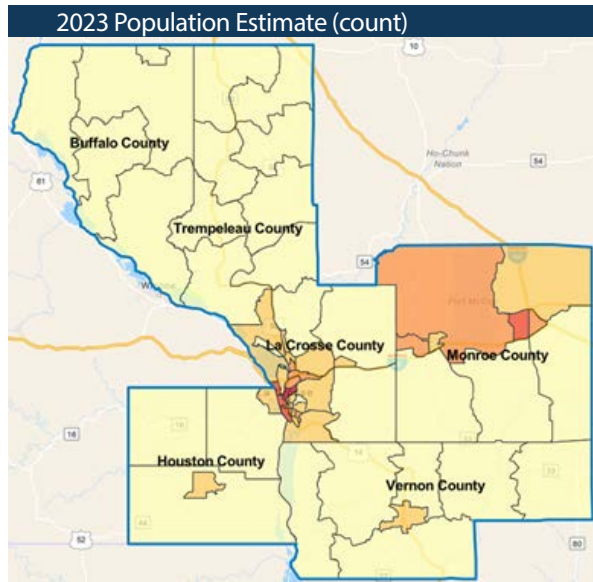
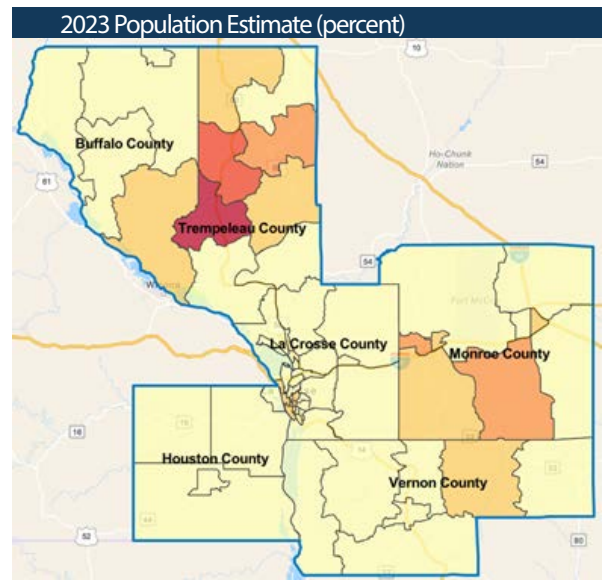
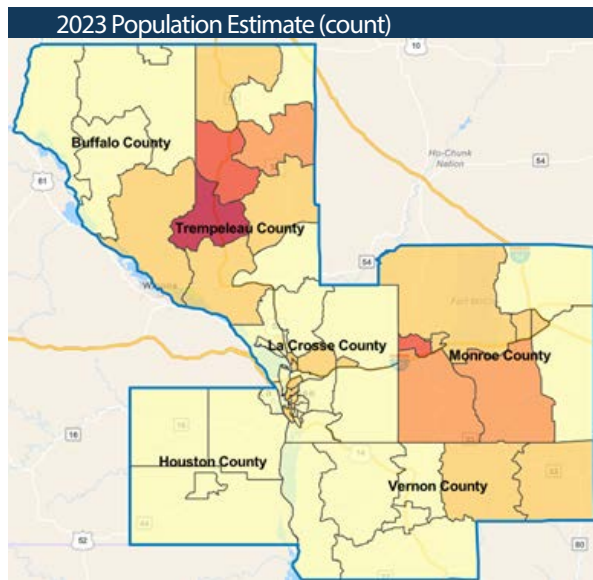


Exhibit 2.10 Other Race Population by Census Tract

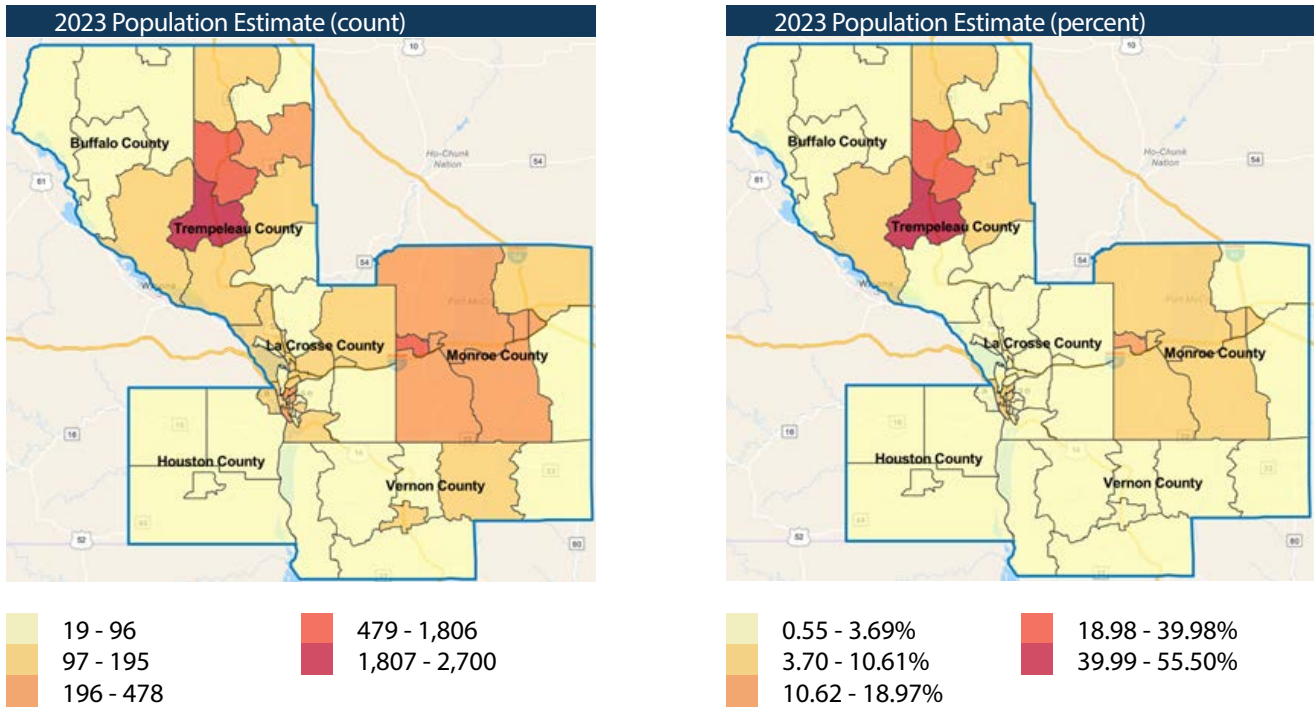
Exhibit 2.10 shows the Other Race population by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating higher numbers of people classified as Other Race. The right-hand map shows the Other Race population as a percentage of the total population.



Source: CHS analysis of population estimates published by ESRI. See Appendix A for details.

Exhibit 2.11 Hispanic Population by Census Tract

Exhibit 2.11 shows the Hispanic ethnicity population by census tract. The left-hand map shows population counts, with darker shading indicating higher numbers of people classified as Hispanic. The right-hand map shows the Hispanic population as a percentage of the total population.



Source: CHS analysis of population estimates published by ESRI. [See Appendix A for details.](#)



Summary of County Health Rankings

Exhibit 2.12 provides a profile of the [County Health Rankings](#) for the six-county region. Within the exhibit, Houston County is ranked among other counties in Minnesota, and the Wisconsin counties are ranked among all counties in the state. The top part of the exhibit indicates that Trempealeau County ranked in the 2nd quartile statewide for length of life, health factors, and social and economic factors; and in the 3rd quartile statewide on indicators of health outcomes, quality of life, health behaviors, clinical care, and physical environment. The lower part of the exhibit indicates a mix of worsening (**W**) and improving (**B**) trends within the county. The County Health Rankings are explored in more depth within Sections 3-7 of the report.

Exhibit 2.12 County Health Rankings Summary for 2023

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE |
|---------------------------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Health Outcomes | 10 | 5 | 26 | 46 | 42 | 30 |
| Length of Life | 4 | 5 | 22 | 51 | 35 | 33 |
| Quality of Life | 27 | 9 | 33 | 46 | 47 | 31 |
| Health Factors | 39 | 11 | 7 | 27 | 31 | 57 |
| Health Behaviors | 31 | 10 | 14 | 49 | 43 | 59 |
| Clinical Care | 60 | 14 | 1 | 17 | 38 | 57 |
| Social & Economic Factors | 27 | 11 | 10 | 36 | 24 | 47 |
| Physical Environment | 61 | 69 | 22 | 16 | 55 | 66 |

Ranking Key: ■ 1st (best) quartile ■ 2nd quartile ■ 3rd quartile ■ 4th quartile

| Selected Trends | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Length of Life | | | | | | |
| Premature death | B | B | -- | B | B | B |
| Health Behaviors | | | | | | |
| Adult obesity | Trends for adult obesity and physical activity were not available for the current report. | | | | | |
| Physical inactivity | As of the 2021 Compass Now report, both indicators were getting worse. | | | | | |
| Alcohol-impaired driving deaths | -- | -- | W | -- | -- | W |
| Sexually transmitted infections | W | W | W | W | W | W |
| Clinical Care | | | | | | |
| Uninsured | B | B | B | B | B | B |
| Primary Care Physicians | W | -- | -- | -- | W | B |
| Dentists | B | B | B | B | B | B |
| Preventable Hospital Stays | -- | -- | B | B | -- | B |
| Mammography Screening | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | B |
| Flu Vaccinations | -- | B | B | B | B | B |
| Social & Economic Factors | | | | | | |
| Unemployment | -- | B | -- | -- | -- | B |
| Children in poverty | -- | -- | B | -- | -- | W |
| Violent crime (Not Available) | | | | | | |
| Injury deaths (2016-2020) | 55 | 68 | 83 | 69 | 74 | 68 |
| Physical Environment | | | | | | |
| Air pollution – particulate matter | B | B | B | B | B | B |

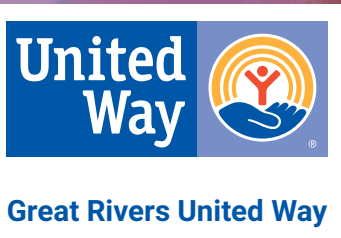
Trend Key: ■ **B** Getting better ■ -- No trend ■ **W** Getting worse

Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>

*Note: Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties.

3. Length and Quality of Life

Measures of length of life in a community indicate whether people are dying too early, prompting discussion of possible reasons and action strategies. Measures of quality of life indicate how people feel about their health and well-being at a given point in time. This section describes selected community indicators and community insights about length and quality of life.



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Community Indicators

Exhibit 3.1 shows the County Health Rankings for length and quality of life. The rankings are based on a set of indicators including premature death, physical and mental health status, and low weight births. The results indicate that **Trempealeau County** is in the 2nd quartile in Wisconsin for length of life, and the 3rd quartile for quality of life. Focusing on available trend data, the premature death rate is improving in **Trempealeau County**.

Exhibit 3.1 County Health Rankings for Length and Quality of Life

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
|---|--|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Rankings | | | | | | | | |
| Length of Life Rank | 4 | 5 | 22 | 51 | 35 | 33 | -- | -- |
| Quality of Life Rank | 27 | 9 | 33 | 46 | 47 | 31 | -- | -- |
| Ranking Key: | ■ 1st (best) quartile | ■ 2nd quartile | ■ 3rd quartile | ■ 4th quartile | | | | |
| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
| Indicators | | | | | | | | |
| Premature death** (2018-2020) | 4,700 | 4,500 | 6,000 | 7,000 | 6,300 | 6,200 | 5,600 | 6,600 |
| Poor or fair health (2020) | 12% | 11% | 10% | 12% | 12% | 13% | 10% | 12% |
| Poor physical health days (2020) | 3.2 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 3.2 |
| Poor mental health days (2020) | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.1 | 4.4 |
| Low birth-weight (2014-2020)*** | 6% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 5% | 7% | 8% |
| Selected Trends | | | | | | | | |
| Premature death rate | B | B | -- | B | B | B | -- | -- |
| Trend Key: | B Getting better | -- No trend | W Getting worse | | | | | |
| <p>*Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties.</p> <p>** Premature death is defined as years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted).</p> <p>*** As reported in Exhibit 3.1, County Health Rankings uses a rolling, multi-year average of low birth-weight in its ranking model. Exhibit 3.3 reports a one-year rate for 2021 or 2020 as indicated. Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. <i>County Health Rankings</i>. Retrieved in July 2023 from http://www.countyhealthrankings.org.</p> | | | | | | | | |

“ I would like to see more continuing education opportunities for senior citizens. More opportunities for retirees to engage with the community now that they have more free time.

~ Vernon County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 3.2 shows the leading causes of death in the region in 2021 for Wisconsin Counties, and 2020 for Houston County. For **Trempealeau County**, the two leading causes by a substantial margin were heart disease and malignant neoplasms (cancers), which is typically the case in United States communities. Covid-19 was also among the leading causes, along with accidents and several types of chronic diseases.

Exhibit 3.2 Leading Causes of Death

| | BU | LC | MO | TR | VE | WI | HO | MN |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| Year | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 | 2020 | 2020 |
| Counts-Total Deaths by Leading Causes | | | | | | | | |
| Heart Disease | 35 | 230 | 106 | 76 | 65 | 12,782 | 51 | 8,562 |
| Malignant Neoplasms | 35 | 200 | 102 | 62 | 67 | 11,335 | 41 | 9,940 |
| COVID-19 | 5 | 68 | 41 | 16 | 33 | 5,255 | 12 | 5,214 |
| Accidents (Unintentional Injuries) | 5 | 70 | 31 | 11 | 31 | 4,706 | 10 | 3,308 |
| Alzheimer's Disease | x | 60 | 27 | x | 18 | 2,371 | 23 | 2,587 |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases | 9 | 61 | 34 | 14 | 12 | 2,443 | 10 | 2,211 |
| Cerebrovascular Diseases | 6 | 66 | 24 | 13 | 17 | 2,637 | 10 | 2,316 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | x | 39 | 20 | 12 | 6 | 1,685 | 6 | 1,492 |
| Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis | x | 22 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 913 | 1 | 895 |
| Intentional Self-Harm (suicide) | x | 21 | 7 | x | 5 | 905 | x | x |
| Rates-Age Adjusted Per 100,000 Population | | | | | | | | |
| Heart Disease | 160.6 | 146.9 | 173.9 | 175.9 | 148.4 | 164.6 | 140.9 | 117.5 |
| Malignant Neoplasms | 154.3 | 129.2 | 164.1 | 143.5 | 154.5 | 144.1 | 128.4 | 143.7 |
| COVID-19 | 26.2 | 45.9 | 70.6 | 42.7 | 78.6 | 69.3 | x | x |
| Accidents (Unintentional Injuries) | 25.2 | 55.2 | 67.3 | 32.3 | 86.3 | 72.6 | 38.3 | 45.7 |
| Alzheimer's Disease | x | 37.2 | 47.1 | x | 39.3 | 30.9 | 32.9 | 34.1 |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases | 41.8 | 39.5 | 57.6 | 34.7 | 27.4 | 31.1 | 29.3 | 33.5 |
| Cerebrovascular Diseases | 27.2 | 40.6 | 41.6 | 29.7 | 37.3 | 34.2 | 28.6 | 32.4 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | x | 25.2 | 33.4 | 27.2 | 12.2 | 22.1 | 21.8 | 19.6 |
| Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis | x | 16.3 | 16.2 | 10.4 | 13.8 | 12.6 | x | 10.4 |
| Intentional Self-Harm (suicide) | x | 19.0 | 15.7 | x | 15.6 | 15.1 | x | x |

Note on Cell Suppression and Cells with Counts of Zero: An "x" indicates a value that is not reported in public sources, because of suppression due to small size, or other reasons. Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system and 2020 Minnesota Department of Health County Health Tables



Exhibit 3.3 shows indicators of maternal and infant health for the region. Note that reporting years differ for Houston County, and also note that infant deaths are counted across a five-year period.

- The low birth weight rate for **Trempealeau County** was 7%.
- The five-year infant death rate was 8.1 deaths per 1,000 live births for **Trempealeau County**.

Exhibit 3.3 Maternal and Infant Health

| | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION | MN | WI |
|---|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Births | 124 | 203 | 1,150 | 600 | 399 | 435 | 2,911 | 63,451 | 61,814 |
| Total Low Weight Births | 11 | 8 | 79 | 39 | 29 | 17 | 183 | 3,098 | 4,768 |
| As pct. of Total Births | 9% | 4% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 4% | 6% | 5% | 8% |
| Infant Deaths | x | 4 | 35 | 20 | 17 | 11 | 87 | 1,593 | 389 |
| Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births | 3.1 | - | 6.0 | 7.0 | 8.1 | 5.3 | - | - | 6.1 |

Notes: "x" indicates a value that is less than 5 (but more than zero) and has been suppressed to protect confidentiality. "-" means not reported in public sources. Houston County low weight birth data are for 'singleton births' only. Houston County infant death data are for 2015-2019. As reported in Exhibit 3.1, County Health Rankings uses a rolling, multi-year average of low birth-weight in its ranking model. Exhibit 3.3 reports a one-year rate for 2021 (2020 for HO*) Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system and 2020 Minnesota Department of Health County Health Tables



Community Insights

Exhibit 3.4 shows ratings of selected aspects of community life on a scale from poor to excellent. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Topics receiving ratings of poor or fair for **Trempealeau County** included:

- 23% for the community as a place to live
- 51% for the community as a place that meets their family's recreational needs
- 48% for opportunities to explore interest and participate in positive activities
- 27% for opportunities to volunteer
- 56% for the community as a place where all people are treated respectfully
- 60% for the community as a place where people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds are included in decision making

Exhibit 3.4 Ratings of Community Life

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 224 | 89 | 204 | 1,231 |
| a. Rating of your community as a place to live | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 1% | 0% | 2% | 4% | 4% | 2% | 2% |
| Fair | 11% | 14% | 18% | 24% | 19% | 10% | 19% |
| Good | 61% | 54% | 55% | 58% | 57% | 59% | 62% |
| Excellent | 27% | 32% | 25% | 14% | 19% | 28% | 16% |
| b. Your community as a place that meets your family's recreational needs (e.g., fine arts, outdoor activities, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 22% | 5% | 5% | 17% | 23% | 10% | 11% |
| Fair | 40% | 30% | 14% | 37% | 28% | 31% | 25% |
| Good | 29% | 40% | 43% | 38% | 31% | 39% | 39% |
| Excellent | 8% | 24% | 36% | 8% | 17% | 19% | 24% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
| c. Opportunities for youth to explore interests and participate in positive activities | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 28% | 10% | 6% | 18% | 18% | 11% | 12% |
| Fair | 33% | 28% | 18% | 38% | 30% | 37% | 28% |
| Good | 33% | 37% | 41% | 34% | 33% | 34% | 37% |
| Excellent | 3% | 21% | 26% | 6% | 11% | 11% | 17% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 5% | 9% | 4% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| d. Opportunities to volunteer in your community | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 7% | 1% | 2% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 4% |
| Fair | 33% | 25% | 11% | 27% | 21% | 25% | 19% |
| Good | 37% | 31% | 39% | 50% | 52% | 40% | 41% |
| Excellent | 18% | 41% | 46% | 14% | 20% | 26% | 33% |
| No Opinion | 6% | 1% | 2% | 4% | 1% | 3% | 3% |
| e. Your community as a place where all people are treated respectfully, regardless of their race, culture, religion, gender, sexual orientation, income level, disability or age | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 16% | 10% | 15% | 24% | 20% | 11% | 16% |
| Fair | 32% | 29% | 41% | 32% | 36% | 39% | 37% |
| Good | 41% | 43% | 33% | 34% | 34% | 37% | 35% |
| Excellent | 9% | 16% | 9% | 8% | 7% | 11% | 10% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| f. Your community as a place where people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds are included in decision-making | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 22% | 15% | 23% | 27% | 30% | 22% | 23% |
| Fair | 34% | 25% | 39% | 34% | 30% | 33% | 35% |
| Good | 29% | 38% | 27% | 26% | 24% | 26% | 27% |
| Excellent | 6% | 20% | 8% | 5% | 6% | 8% | 8% |
| No Opinion | 9% | 2% | 4% | 8% | 11% | 11% | 7% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 3.5 shows ratings of selected aspects of educational opportunities on a scale from poor to excellent. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Topics receiving ratings of poor or fair for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 28% for the community as a place that meets their family's educational needs
- b. 30% for the availability of early educational opportunities
- c. 23% for the quality of education in grades K-12
- d. 54% for opportunities to gain additional knowledge or skills
- e. 70% for the availability of resources to learn new skills or hobbies

Exhibit 3.5 Ratings of Educational Opportunities

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 532 | 226 | 88 | 205 | 1,230 |
| a. Your community as a place that meets your family's educational needs | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 3% | 2% | 4% | 7% | 8% | 4% | 5% |
| Fair | 26% | 22% | 10% | 32% | 20% | 21% | 19% |
| Good | 53% | 56% | 42% | 43% | 36% | 45% | 44% |
| Excellent | 11% | 14% | 35% | 10% | 19% | 24% | 24% |
| No Opinion | 7% | 6% | 9% | 8% | 16% | 6% | 8% |
| b. The availability of early education opportunities in your community (e.g., play groups, Head Start, 4 year old kindergarten) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9% | 8% | 8% | 8% | 10% | 8% | 8% |
| Fair | 24% | 18% | 12% | 22% | 20% | 21% | 18% |
| Good | 41% | 51% | 37% | 38% | 31% | 43% | 39% |
| Excellent | 12% | 11% | 21% | 15% | 23% | 15% | 18% |
| No Opinion | 14% | 11% | 21% | 17% | 16% | 13% | 17% |
| c. The quality of education grades K-12 in your community | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 3% | 2% | 4% | 9% | 5% | 4% | 5% |
| Fair | 24% | 18% | 14% | 28% | 18% | 18% | 19% |
| Good | 51% | 56% | 43% | 43% | 40% | 46% | 45% |
| Excellent | 15% | 14% | 25% | 10% | 19% | 22% | 20% |
| No Opinion | 7% | 9% | 14% | 10% | 18% | 10% | 12% |
| d. Opportunities to gain additional knowledge or skills (e.g., tuition reimbursement, conferences, skills training courses, classes) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 29% | 17% | 7% | 22% | 29% | 22% | 16% |
| Fair | 25% | 24% | 24% | 36% | 25% | 37% | 29% |
| Good | 28% | 44% | 40% | 25% | 21% | 23% | 32% |
| Excellent | 7% | 7% | 18% | 7% | 11% | 9% | 12% |
| No Opinion | 11% | 8% | 12% | 10% | 14% | 9% | 11% |
| e. The availability of community resources to learn new skills or hobbies (e.g., woodworking, photography, computers) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 42% | 13% | 11% | 36% | 39% | 26% | 23% |
| Fair | 38% | 23% | 28% | 34% | 31% | 39% | 31% |
| Good | 12% | 40% | 35% | 20% | 17% | 19% | 27% |
| Excellent | 0% | 23% | 17% | 4% | 6% | 8% | 12% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 1% | 8% | 6% | 8% | 7% | 7% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 3.6 shows ratings of concerns about issues related to community life. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 47% racism
- b. 69% school bullying
- c. 67% cyber-bullying
- d. 60% discrimination

Exhibit 3.6 Concerns about Issues Related to Community Life

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 90 | 85 | 534 | 226 | 89 | 205 | 1,229 |
| a. Racism | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 14% | 25% | 35% | 27% | 26% | 16% | 27% |
| Moderately Concerned | 28% | 33% | 31% | 24% | 21% | 30% | 29% |
| A Little Concerned | 31% | 25% | 22% | 30% | 27% | 30% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 26% | 15% | 10% | 18% | 24% | 22% | 16% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| b. School bullying | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 41% | 48% | 44% | 50% | 43% | 29% | 43% |
| Moderately Concerned | 33% | 34% | 29% | 24% | 26% | 41% | 30% |
| A Little Concerned | 17% | 14% | 15% | 18% | 16% | 20% | 17% |
| Not Concerned | 7% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 7% | 3% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 0% | 7% | 3% | 8% | 7% | 6% |
| c. Cyber bullying | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 28% | 45% | 42% | 38% | 33% | 31% | 38% |
| Moderately Concerned | 39% | 27% | 28% | 37% | 34% | 37% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 21% | 17% | 15% | 18% | 16% | 17% |
| Not Concerned | 9% | 2% | 6% | 7% | 8% | 8% | 6% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 4% | 7% | 4% | 6% | 8% | 6% |
| d. Discrimination | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 12% | 36% | 36% | 32% | 31% | 17% | 30% |
| Moderately Concerned | 38% | 28% | 29% | 28% | 29% | 32% | 30% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 21% | 23% | 23% | 24% | 32% | 25% |
| Not Concerned | 20% | 12% | 10% | 14% | 14% | 14% | 12% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 4% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

4. Health Behaviors and Concerns

Health behaviors are actions individuals take that affect their health, such as eating well, being physically active, and avoiding smoking, excessive alcohol intake, and risky sexual behavior. This section describes community indicators and community insights about health behaviors and related concerns.

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Community Indicators

Exhibit 4.1 shows the County Health Rankings for health behaviors. The rankings are based on a set of indicators including smoking, obesity, food environment, physical activity, alcohol use, and sexual activity. The results indicate that **Trempealeau County** ranked in the 3rd quartile for Wisconsin. Focusing on available trends, the trend is getting worse for sexually transmitted infections.

Exhibit 4.1 County Health Rankings for Health Behaviors

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
|---|---|--|--|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Rankings | | | | | | | | |
| Health Behaviors Rank | 31 | 10 | 14 | 49 | 43 | 59 | -- | -- |
| Ranking Key: | ■ 1st (best) quartile | ■ 2nd quartile | ■ 3rd quartile | ■ 4th quartile | | | | |
| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
| Indicators | | | | | | | | |
| Adult smoking (2020) | 19% | 18% | 17% | 20% | 18% | 20% | 14% | 16% |
| Adult obesity (2020) | 34% | 33% | 32% | 36% | 35% | 35% | 31% | 33% |
| Food environment index (2019 & 2020) | 8.5 | 9.3 | 8.7 | 8.4 | 8.9 | 8.3 | 9.0 | 8.8 |
| Physical inactivity (2020) | 20% | 19% | 19% | 21% | 21% | 22% | 19% | 20% |
| Access to exercise opportunities (2022 & 2020) | 61% | 87% | 86% | 57% | 79% | 47% | 86% | 84% |
| Excessive drinking (2020) | 28% | 22% | 27% | 26% | 28% | 26% | 22% | 26% |
| Alcohol-impaired driving deaths (2016-2020) | 43% | 11% | 35% | 32% | 42% | 57% | 30% | 36% |
| Sexually transmitted infections (2020) | 153.5 | 204.3 | 494.8 | 259.4 | 300.2 | 236.8 | 392.1 | 456.2 |
| Teen births (2014-2020) | 8 | 8 | 7 | 18 | 19 | 7 | 12 | 14 |
| Selected Trends | | | | | | | | |
| Adult obesity | Trends for adult obesity and physical activity were not available for the current report. | | | | | | | |
| Physical inactivity | As of the 2021 Compass Now report, both indicators were getting worse. | | | | | | | |
| Alcohol-impaired driving deaths | -- | -- | W | -- | -- | W | -- | -- |
| Sexually transmitted infections | W | W | W | W | W | W | -- | -- |
| Trend Key: | B Getting better | -- No trend | W Getting worse | | | | | |
| *Note: Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties. | | | | | | | | |
| Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. | | | | | | | | |
| Retrieved in July 2023 from http://www.countyhealthrankings.org | | | | | | | | |



Exhibit 4.2a shows a set of youth health behavior risk indicators for four of the five Wisconsin counties in the 2020-21 school year. Comparable data were not reported for Vernon County, and additional data from a separate survey effort in Houston County are summarized in **Exhibit 4.2b**. Focusing on available data for **Trempealeau County**:

- The indicators are based on anonymous survey responses by high school students on a range of youth risk factors as of the 2020-2021 school year.
- The indicators shown include alcohol and drug use, auto safety, mental health, personal safety, sense of belonging, sexual activity, and sleep, nutrition, and exercise.
- The indicators for **Trempealeau County** indicate significant numbers of youth are experiencing or engaging in health risk situations.

Exhibit 4.2a Youth Risk Profile – Wisconsin Counties

| | BU | LC | MO | TR | VE | HO |
|---|-----|-------|-----|-----|----|----|
| Total Survey Responses (2020-2021 School Year) | 480 | 3,645 | 765 | 974 | -- | -- |
| a. Alcohol and Drugs | | | | | | |
| Were offered, sold, or given drugs on school property past 12 months. | 8% | 8% | 7% | 11% | -- | -- |
| Attended school under influence of alcohol past 12 months. | 7% | 6% | 8% | 7% | -- | -- |
| Had at least one drink of alcohol past 30 days. | 33% | 19% | 23% | 28% | -- | -- |
| Used marijuana in past 30 days. | 13% | 11% | 12% | 10% | -- | -- |
| Ever misused over-the-counter and/or prescription drugs. | 4% | 10% | 12% | 11% | -- | -- |
| b. Auto Safety | | | | | | |
| Never or rarely use seatbelt. | 6% | 4% | 6% | 8% | -- | -- |
| Drove after drinking past 30 days. | 3% | 3% | 4% | 5% | -- | -- |
| Texted or emailed while driving past 30 days. | 46% | 40% | 37% | 41% | -- | -- |
| Texted and/or drank while driving past 30 days. | 48% | 40% | 38% | 41% | -- | -- |
| Rode with a driver who had been drinking. | 20% | 13% | 16% | 17% | -- | -- |
| c. Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Experienced significant problems with anxiety past 12 months. | 42% | 49% | 50% | 47% | -- | -- |
| Experienced prolonged, disruptive sadness past 12 months. | 28% | 31% | 33% | 31% | -- | -- |
| Intentionally self-harmed without intending to die past 12 months. | 22% | 20% | 23% | 22% | -- | -- |
| Seriously considered suicide past 12 months. | 15% | 17% | 17% | 18% | -- | -- |
| Made a plan for suicide attempt past 12 months. | 10% | 13% | 15% | 15% | -- | -- |
| Said they rarely or never get the help they need. | 58% | 51% | 58% | 60% | -- | -- |
| Report ever having lived with someone with a mental illness. | 31% | 40% | 41% | 37% | -- | -- |
| d. Personal Safety | | | | | | |
| Rarely or never feel safe at school. | 10% | 10% | 13% | 13% | -- | -- |
| Agree or strongly agree violence is a problem at their school. | 8% | 18% | 17% | 19% | -- | -- |
| In or fight and/or threatened with a weapon at school. | 13% | 12% | 12% | 14% | -- | -- |
| Experienced bullying at school past 12 months. | 25% | 17% | 21% | 25% | -- | -- |
| Bullied online past 12 months. | 20% | 17% | 17% | 17% | -- | -- |
| Agree or strongly agree bullying is a problem as school. | 39% | 41% | 39% | 37% | -- | -- |
| Experienced rape, sexual assault, or intimate partner violence. | 15% | 15% | 17% | 15% | -- | -- |

Exhibit 4.2a Youth Risk Profile – Wisconsin Counties (cont.)

| | BU | LC | MO | TR | VE | HO |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| e. Sense of Belonging | | | | | | |
| Said they did not feel like they belonged at their school. | 17% | 13% | 15% | 15% | -- | -- |
| Feel they do not have a teacher or other adult at school they can talk to. | 15% | 16% | 16% | 18% | -- | -- |
| Do participate in school activities, teams, or clubs. | 75% | 67% | 58% | 73% | -- | -- |
| f. Sexual Activity | | | | | | |
| Sexually active past 3 months. | 29% | 18% | 22% | 21% | -- | -- |
| Sexually active past 3 months 11th grade. | 36% | 23% | 28% | 32% | -- | -- |
| Sexually active past 3 months 12th grade. | 49% | 33% | 36% | 32% | -- | -- |
| Among sexually active students, no birth control. | 4% | 7% | 9% | 9% | -- | -- |
| Engaged in sexting past 30 days. | 20% | 15% | 20% | 19% | -- | -- |
| g. Sleep, Nutrition, Exercise | | | | | | |
| Sleep 8 or more hours per night. | 31% | 27% | 28% | 32% | -- | -- |
| Reported 5 or fewer hours of sleep per night. | 13% | 16% | 19% | 18% | -- | -- |
| Exercised zero days in past week. | 8% | 11% | 13% | 14% | -- | -- |
| Ate fruit every day past 7 days. | 39% | 50% | 42% | 42% | -- | -- |
| Ate vegetables every day past 7 days. | 38% | 47% | 37% | 41% | -- | -- |
| Drank plain water every day past 7 days. | 79% | 80% | 75% | 77% | -- | -- |
| Ate breakfast every day past 7 days. | 33% | 33% | 28% | 30% | -- | -- |
| Experienced hunger due to lack of food at home past 30 days. | 18% | 21% | 21% | 23% | -- | -- |
| Use technology between midnight and 5 am on school nights. | 50% | 50% | 51% | 48% | -- | -- |
| Used vaping products past 30 days. | 20% | 12% | 16% | 16% | -- | -- |
| Used tobacco products past 30 days. | 8% | 4% | 5% | 6% | -- | -- |
| Note: "--" means Comparable data not available for Vernon County and Houston County | | | | | | |
| Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, County-Level Youth Risk Behavior Survey Reports, 2020-2021 school year. | | | | | | |

“ I am also concerned with the use of technology and social media, especially in regards to young people and how it is impacting their mental health.

~ Vernon County Survey Respondent

”



Exhibit 4.2b shows a set of youth health behavior risk indicators for Houston County in the 2021-2022 school year. These indicators were developed using a different survey instrument and sampling methodology than was used in Wisconsin.

- The indicators shown include personal safety; adverse childhood experience; food, physical activity, and sleep; mental health; and substance use.
- As in the Wisconsin counties, the Houston County results indicate significant numbers of youth are experiencing or engaging in health risk situations.

Exhibit 4.2b Youth Risk Profile – Houston County

| | 9th Grade Male | 9th Grade Female | 11th Grade Male | 11th Grade Female |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Total Survey Responses (2021-22 School Year) | 187 (male and female) | | 154 (male and female) | |
| a. Personal Safety | | | | |
| Disagree with “I feel safe at school” | 9% | 14% | 7% | 7% |
| Been cyber-bullied at least once in the last 30 days | 14% | 18% | 8% | 10% |
| Been in a casual or serious relationship where your partner physically hurt you on purpose | 2% | 6% | 7% | 4% |
| b. ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) items | | | | |
| Live with anyone who drinks too much alcohol | 13% | 15% | 13% | 12% |
| Live with anyone who uses illegal drugs or abuses prescription drugs | 5% | 3% | 2% | 8% |
| Live with anyone who is depressed or has other mental health issues | 14% | 45% | 15% | 43% |
| Had a parent or other adult in your home regularly swear at you insult you, or put you down. | 6% | 26% | 11% | 18% |
| Had a parent or other adult in your home ever hit, beat, kicked, or physically hurt you in any way. | 12% | 10% | 8% | 9% |
| Had parents or other adults in your home ever slapped, hit, kicked, punched, or beat each other up? | 2% | 16% | 5% | 11% |
| Had anyone who was not a relative / family member ever pressured, tricked, or forced you to do something sexual or done something sexual to you against your will. | 2% | 4% | 0% | 7% |
| Had a relative / family member ever pressured, tricked, or forced you to do something sexual or done something sexual to you against your will. | 1% | 1% | 0% | 7% |
| Ever traded sex or sexual activity to receive money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, or anything else? | 2% | 1% | 0% | 3% |
| c. Food, Physical Activity, and Sleep | | | | |
| During past 30 days, had to skip meals because family did not have enough money to buy food. | 1% | 1% | 0% | 4% |
| Not physically activity for at least 60 minutes in the last 7 days. | 5% | 14% | 0% | 3% |
| Typically get less 6 or less hours of sleep on a school night. | 19% | 37% | 31% | 35% |
| d. Mental Health | | | | |
| During past 12 months, ever do something to purposely hurt or injure yourself without wanting to die, such as cutting, burning, or bruising yourself on purpose? | 16% | 22% | 18% | 22% |
| Ever seriously considered attempting suicide. | 14% | 28% | 11% | 24% |
| Ever attempted suicide. | 6% | 4% | 5% | 7% |
| d. Substance Use | | | | |
| Used conventional tobacco products, past 30 days. | 4% | 6% | 3% | 3% |
| Use tobacco products including e-cigarettes and hookah, past 30 days. | 10% | 10% | 10% | 16% |
| Use of alcohol or any drug use during the past year. | 32% | 24% | 41% | 41% |

Source: Minnesota Student Survey County Tables, 2021-22 School Year, Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team: Minnesota Department of Education Minnesota Department of Health Minnesota Department of Human Services Minnesota Department of Public Safety.



Community Insights

Exhibit 4.3 shows ratings of personal health by community survey respondents. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary ratings for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 22% rated their overall health as poor or fair
- b. 28% rated their overall mental health as poor or fair
- c. 27% rated their overall dental health as poor or fair

Exhibit 4.3 Ratings of Personal Health

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 86 | 529 | 223 | 87 | 204 | 1,220 |
| a. Your overall health | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 5% | 0% | 2% | 5% | 9% | 3% | 3% |
| Fair | 21% | 28% | 23% | 32% | 13% | 19% | 24% |
| Good | 57% | 59% | 54% | 56% | 68% | 58% | 57% |
| Excellent | 16% | 13% | 21% | 7% | 10% | 20% | 17% |
| b. Your overall mental health | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 2% | 7% | 5% | 8% | 7% | 3% | 5% |
| Fair | 33% | 24% | 26% | 28% | 21% | 21% | 26% |
| Good | 54% | 56% | 49% | 51% | 62% | 49% | 51% |
| Excellent | 11% | 13% | 20% | 13% | 10% | 27% | 18% |
| c. Your overall dental health | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 2% | 3% | 10% | 11% | 12% | 6% | 8% |
| Fair | 26% | 14% | 16% | 23% | 15% | 17% | 18% |
| Good | 55% | 58% | 44% | 50% | 51% | 50% | 48% |
| Excellent | 16% | 24% | 30% | 17% | 22% | 27% | 25% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 4.4 shows self-reported ratings of concern about health issues in the community. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 72% mental health in the community
- b. 67% mental health stigma
- c. 67% suicide
- d. 69% alcohol use
- e. 57% prescription drug misuse
- f. 83% illegal drug use
- g. 77% obesity
- h. 50% tobacco use
- i. 58% e-cigarette use / vaping

Exhibit 4.4 Concerns about Health Issues in the Community

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 225 | 87 | 203 | 1,229 |
| a. Mental health | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 34% | 46% | 60% | 52% | 44% | 43% | 52% |
| Moderately Concerned | 37% | 33% | 27% | 28% | 28% | 38% | 31% |
| A Little Concerned | 18% | 20% | 10% | 12% | 22% | 12% | 13% |
| Not Concerned | 11% | 1% | 2% | 5% | 6% | 5% | 4% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| b. Mental health stigma | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 30% | 39% | 36% | 42% | 41% | 31% | 36% |
| Moderately Concerned | 32% | 34% | 36% | 34% | 26% | 39% | 35% |
| A Little Concerned | 26% | 20% | 19% | 13% | 22% | 21% | 19% |
| Not Concerned | 11% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 9% | 7% | 7% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 2% | 4% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| c. Suicide | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 28% | 26% | 41% | 36% | 24% | 25% | 34% |
| Moderately Concerned | 29% | 40% | 38% | 32% | 43% | 43% | 37% |
| A Little Concerned | 32% | 28% | 16% | 25% | 24% | 18% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 9% | 5% | 4% | 7% | 8% | 10% | 7% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 3% | 2% |
| d. Alcohol use | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 38% | 40% | 53% | 45% | 37% | 34% | 45% |
| Moderately Concerned | 28% | 34% | 31% | 32% | 32% | 41% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 17% | 15% | 11% | 14% | 22% | 16% | 14% |
| Not Concerned | 15% | 10% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| e. Prescription drug misuse | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 21% | 31% | 38% | 42% | 23% | 26% | 34% |
| Moderately Concerned | 34% | 34% | 37% | 29% | 34% | 38% | 35% |
| A Little Concerned | 29% | 20% | 17% | 19% | 26% | 26% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 11% | 10% | 7% | 6% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 5% | 2% | 4% | 9% | 2% | 3% |
| f. Illegal drug use | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 59% | 52% | 66% | 61% | 52% | 52% | 60% |
| Moderately Concerned | 21% | 26% | 22% | 26% | 31% | 29% | 25% |
| A Little Concerned | 14% | 15% | 7% | 8% | 10% | 14% | 10% |
| Not Concerned | 3% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 2% | 3% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 3% | 3% | 2% |

Exhibit 4.4 Concerns about Health Issues in the Community (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| g. Obesity | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 35% | 33% | 34% | 32% | 37% | 45% | 35% |
| Moderately Concerned | 34% | 48% | 40% | 38% | 40% | 35% | 39% |
| A Little Concerned | 25% | 16% | 18% | 22% | 10% | 16% | 18% |
| Not Concerned | 7% | 2% | 7% | 5% | 10% | 3% | 6% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 1% | 3% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| h. Tobacco Use | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 14% | 26% | 20% | 24% | 19% | 22% | 21% |
| Moderately Concerned | 32% | 35% | 31% | 34% | 31% | 35% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 30% | 29% | 33% | 23% | 25% | 30% | 30% |
| Not Concerned | 22% | 10% | 15% | 14% | 23% | 10% | 15% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 0% | 1% | 5% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| i. e-cigarette Use / Vaping | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 29% | 37% | 33% | 35% | 33% | 32% | 33% |
| Moderately Concerned | 26% | 31% | 32% | 34% | 25% | 35% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 29% | 29% | 21% | 18% | 17% | 21% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 12% | 2% | 12% | 9% | 21% | 9% | 11% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 0% | 2% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

“ We don't have enough addiction and/ or mental health treatment resources in the wider area. When people want help, it doesn't seem like they have a place to go for in-patient treatment.

~ Vernon County Survey Respondent ”

5. Health Care

Access to affordable, quality, and timely health care can help prevent diseases and detect issues sooner, enabling individuals to live longer, healthier lives. This section describes selected community indicators and community insights about health care access and utilization.

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Community Indicators

Exhibit 5.1 shows the County Health Rankings for clinical care. The rankings are based on a set of indicators including uninsured rates, health care provider supply, preventable hospital stays, mammography screening, and flu shots. **Trempealeau County** ranked in the 3rd quartile for clinical care. Trends indicate that **Trempealeau County** is improving on indicators of uninsured, dentists, and flu vaccinations.

Exhibit 5.1 County Health Rankings for Clinical Care

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
|--|--|--|---|---|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Rankings | | | | | | | | |
| Clinical Care Rank | 60 | 14 | 1 | 17 | 38 | 57 | -- | -- |
| Ranking Key: | ■ 1st (best) quartile | ■ 2nd quartile | ■ 3rd quartile | ■ 4th quartile | | | | |
| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
| Indicators | | | | | | | | |
| Uninsured (2020) | 8% | 5% | 6% | 9% | 8% | 12% | 6% | 7% |
| Primary care physicians (2020) | 4,340:1 | 1,690:1 | 710:1 | 1,610:1 | 3,710:1 | 1,000:1 | 1,110:1 | 1,240:1 |
| Dentists (2021) | 780:1 | 1,880:1 | 1,020:1 | 1,540:1 | 3,410:1 | 3,090:1 | 1,310:1 | 1,380:1 |
| Mental health providers (2022) | 13,300:1 | 2,680:1 | 280:1 | 480:1 | 1,920:1 | 640:1 | 320:1 | 420:1 |
| Preventable hospital stays (2020) | 2,965 | 1,817 | 1,928 | 1,510 | 1,787 | 1,872 | 2,323 | 2,559 |
| Mammography screening Medicare only (2020) | 43% | 53% | 55% | 53% | 50% | 42% | 45% | 43% |
| Flu vaccinations (2020) | 50% | 65% | 64% | 44% | 49% | 39% | 57% | 56% |
| Selected Trends | | | | | | | | |
| Uninsured | B | B | B | B | B | B | -- | -- |
| Primary care physicians | W | -- | -- | -- | W | B | -- | -- |
| Dentists | B | B | B | B | B | B | -- | -- |
| Preventable hospital stays | -- | -- | B | B | -- | B | -- | -- |
| Mammography screening | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | B | -- | -- |
| Flu vaccinations | -- | B | B | B | B | B | -- | -- |
| Trend Key: | ■ B Getting better | -- No trend | ■ W Getting worse | | | | | |
| *Note: Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties. | | | | | | | | |
| Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from http://www.countyhealthrankings.org | | | | | | | | |

“ I am aging and I worry that I might need to move to assisted living or a nursing home and there is a big shortage of staff for the places in this community. I would like to see more help for those training to work in healthcare so that there are more people available to staff such facilities.

~ Vernon County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 5.2 shows selected cancer screening rates for each county within the region. Note that rates shown are estimates, and apparent differences may be within the estimation margin of error. Estimated screening rates for **Trempealeau County** are as follows:

- 74% for breast cancer screening (mammogram)
- 82% for cervical cancer screening
- 60% for colorectal cancer screening

Exhibit 5.2 Cancer Screening Rates

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION | MN | WI |
|---|------|---------|------|------|------|------|--------|------|------|
| Year | 2020 | 2017-19 | 2020 | 2020 | 2020 | 2020 | | 2020 | 2020 |
| Mammogram in past 2 years (50-74y/o) | 74% | 72% | 76% | 72% | 74% | 71% | -- | 79% | 78% |
| Cervical cancer screening up-to-date (21-64y/o) | 83% | 73% | 84% | 83% | 82% | 82% | -- | 77% | 78% |
| Colorectal cancer screening up to date (50-75y/o) | 61% | -- | 59% | 59% | 60% | 59% | -- | -- | 67% |

Note: Houston County data modeled from 2017-2019. "--" means not reported in public sources.

Source: Wisconsin data from Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative, Interactive County Cancer Data Dashboard. Minnesota data from National Cancer Institute State Cancer Profiles <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/index.html>.



Community Insights

Exhibit 5.3 shows self-reported responses to questions about health coverage. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- 10% reported any household members without health coverage
- 32% reported any household members with Medicaid coverage
- 25% reported any household members with Medicare coverage
- 20% reported any household members with private insurance coverage
- 67% any household members with employer-based coverage

Exhibit 5.3 Self-Reported Health Coverage

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| a. Do all members of your household have health coverage? | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 86 | 528 | 220 | 86 | 202 | 1,214 |
| Yes, all members of my household have health coverage. | 98% | 88% | 94% | 93% | 90% | 96% | 94% |
| No, one or more members of my household do not have health coverage. | 2% | 12% | 6% | 7% | 10% | 4% | 6% |
| b. Do any members of your household have the following types of health insurance? (Choose all that apply) | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 83 | 527 | 222 | 87 | 200 | 1,211 |
| Medicaid | 20% | 18% | 21% | 20% | 32% | 15% | 20% |
| Medicare | 20% | 27% | 29% | 19% | 25% | 35% | 27% |
| Private Insurance | 17% | 17% | 20% | 17% | 20% | 23% | 19% |
| Employer Based Insurance | 71% | 52% | 55% | 63% | 67% | 58% | 59% |
| Other | 5% | 1% | 6% | 6% | 3% | 6% | 5% |
| Not Applicable-No one in my household has health insurance | 2% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 1% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 5.4 shows self-reported ratings of health care access and affordability. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 19% reported poor or fair access to healthcare
- b. 34% reported poor or fair ability to pay for healthcare
- c. 38% reported poor or fair access to mental healthcare
- d. 42% reported poor or fair ability to pay for mental healthcare
- e. 26% reported poor or fair access to dental care
- f. 41% reported poor or fair ability to pay for dental care

Exhibit 5.4 Ratings of Health Care Access and Affordability

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 86 | 529 | 223 | 87 | 204 | 1,220 |
| a. Your access to healthcare | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 4% | 0% | 2% | 2% | 6% | 1% | 2% |
| Fair | 20% | 17% | 11% | 20% | 13% | 9% | 13% |
| Good | 46% | 49% | 39% | 48% | 49% | 43% | 43% |
| Excellent | 30% | 35% | 48% | 30% | 33% | 47% | 41% |
| b. Your ability to pay for healthcare | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 11% | 5% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 9% | 12% |
| Fair | 30% | 33% | 21% | 28% | 21% | 22% | 24% |
| Good | 37% | 44% | 35% | 42% | 34% | 37% | 37% |
| Excellent | 22% | 19% | 30% | 16% | 32% | 32% | 27% |
| c. Your access to mental health care | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 14% | 19% | 14% | 13% | 15% | 12% | 14% |
| Fair | 29% | 26% | 26% | 34% | 23% | 22% | 27% |
| Good | 40% | 45% | 36% | 41% | 43% | 46% | 40% |
| Excellent | 17% | 10% | 25% | 12% | 19% | 21% | 20% |
| d. Your ability to pay for mental health care | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 19% | 3% | 17% | 17% | 15% | 11% | 15% |
| Fair | 24% | 37% | 25% | 31% | 27% | 22% | 26% |
| Good | 41% | 43% | 34% | 39% | 32% | 43% | 37% |
| Excellent | 16% | 16% | 24% | 12% | 26% | 24% | 21% |
| e. Your access to dental care | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 5% | 6% | 10% | 12% | 12% | 7% | 9% |
| Fair | 18% | 14% | 13% | 13% | 14% | 18% | 14% |
| Good | 49% | 52% | 36% | 48% | 41% | 42% | 42% |
| Excellent | 27% | 28% | 41% | 26% | 34% | 32% | 34% |
| f. Your ability to pay for dental care | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 11% | 3% | 15% | 15% | 15% | 12% | 13% |
| Fair | 24% | 24% | 20% | 28% | 26% | 20% | 22% |
| Good | 42% | 49% | 36% | 40% | 33% | 41% | 38% |
| Excellent | 23% | 23% | 30% | 17% | 25% | 28% | 25% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 5.5 summarizes community survey results about health care sources and obstacles for adults. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 24% cited a hospital emergency room as a usual source of health care and 6% reported no usual source of health care
- b. 36% reported one or more obstacles to getting care, such as cost, lack of health coverage, difficulty getting appointments, transportation, problems getting child care, or language barrier

Exhibit 5.5 Health Care Sources and Obstacles for Adults

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| a. Usual Source of health care for adults | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 85 | 529 | 222 | 89 | 202 | 1,219 |
| Doctor's office | 47% | 52% | 54% | 53% | 55% | 54% | 53% |
| Clinic | 57% | 73% | 60% | 58% | 67% | 70% | 63% |
| Express care in a grocery or drug store | 0% | 9% | 14% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 8% |
| Urgent care | 47% | 27% | 41% | 41% | 36% | 34% | 39% |
| Free clinic | 4% | 2% | 5% | 12% | 1% | 6% | 6% |
| Hospital emergency room | 14% | 9% | 18% | 22% | 24% | 25% | 19% |
| VA Medical Center | 2% | 2% | 1% | 8% | 4% | 3% | 3% |
| VA Outpatient Clinic | 3% | 0% | 3% | 5% | 3% | 0% | 3% |
| Internet | 9% | 8% | 14% | 9% | 12% | 12% | 12% |
| I do not have a place that I go to most often | 4% | 0% | 5% | 5% | 6% | 3% | 4% |
| b. Obstacles to health care for adults | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 87 | 86 | 519 | 219 | 85 | 196 | 1,192 |
| Could not afford the cost | 18% | 23% | 15% | 21% | 13% | 13% | 16% |
| Did not have insurance | 7% | 9% | 4% | 7% | 9% | 4% | 6% |
| Did not have transportation | 3% | 2% | 3% | 5% | 4% | 5% | 4% |
| Could not schedule the appointment at a convenient time | 17% | 22% | 26% | 28% | 21% | 22% | 24% |
| There was a language barrier | 0% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| I could not get child care | 3% | 1% | 5% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 4% |
| None of the above apply to me | 63% | 47% | 64% | 52% | 64% | 67% | 61% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 5.6 summarizes community survey results about dental care visits and obstacles for adults. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 19% said they have not seen a dentist within the past 2 years
- b. 35% reported one or more obstacles to getting dental care, such as cost, lack of health coverage, difficulty getting appointments, transportation, problems getting child care, or language barrier

Exhibit 5.6 Dental Visits and Obstacles for Adults

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| a. How long has it been since you have seen a dentist for any reason? | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 86 | 530 | 222 | 87 | 203 | 1,220 |
| Within the past year | 76% | 85% | 75% | 71% | 67% | 74% | 74% |
| Within the past 2 years | 9% | 10% | 9% | 11% | 13% | 6% | 9% |
| Within the past 5 years | 7% | 1% | 8% | 9% | 10% | 9% | 8% |
| 5 or more years | 7% | 3% | 7% | 8% | 9% | 9% | 7% |
| Don't know | 2% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |

Exhibit 5.6 Dental Visits and Obstacles for Adults (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| b. In the last 12 months, was there any time when you needed to see a dentist but did not because of any of the following reasons? | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 89 | 84 | 517 | 219 | 82 | 198 | 1,189 |
| Could not afford the cost | 20% | 25% | 19% | 19% | 22% | 18% | 19% |
| Did not have insurance | 10% | 5% | 10% | 11% | 11% | 7% | 10% |
| Did not have transportation | 1% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 2% | 3% |
| Could not schedule the appointment at a convenient time | 10% | 6% | 13% | 12% | 12% | 11% | 12% |
| There was a language barrier | 0% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 0% | 1% | 1% |
| I could not get child care | 1% | 5% | 2% | 2% | 5% | 1% | 2% |
| None of the above apply to me | 71% | 62% | 71% | 65% | 65% | 73% | 69% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 5.7 summarizes community survey results about health care and dental visits for children. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- 32% cited a hospital emergency room as a usual source of care for children
- 6% reported children were without a dental visit in past two years

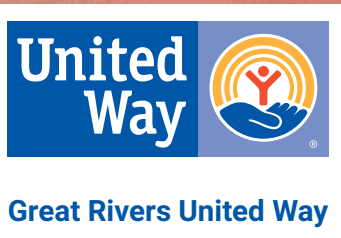
Exhibit 5.7 Health Care and Dental Visits for Children

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| a. Usual source of health care for children | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 72 | 75 | 285 | 199 | 74 | 129 | 950 |
| Doctor's office | 58% | 55% | 62% | 53% | 59% | 45% | 28% |
| Clinic | 58% | 47% | 50% | 60% | 70% | 73% | 29% |
| Express care in a grocery or drug store | 3% | 8% | 19% | 5% | 3% | 6% | 5% |
| Urgent care | 50% | 20% | 47% | 39% | 30% | 42% | 20% |
| Free clinic | 3% | 8% | 9% | 10% | 0% | 11% | 4% |
| Hospital emergency room | 13% | 8% | 20% | 19% | 32% | 21% | 10% |
| Internet | 3% | 6% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 8% | 2% |
| We do not have a place that we go to most often | 3% | 0% | 4% | 2% | 0% | 2% | 1% |
| b. Most recent dental visit for children | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 38 | 47 | 184 | 107 | 34 | 64 | 474 |
| Within the past year | 74% | 87% | 83% | 70% | 76% | 78% | 78% |
| Within the past 2 years | 13% | 11% | 9% | 16% | 9% | 9% | 11% |
| Within the past 5 years | 8% | 2% | 1% | 7% | 3% | 6% | 4% |
| 5 or more years | 3% | 0% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| Don't know | 3% | 0% | 4% | 6% | 9% | 5% | 4% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

6. Social and Economic Factors

Social and economic factors, such as income, education, employment, and social supports can significantly affect community health and quality of life. This section describes selected community indicators and community insights related to social and economic factors.



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Community Indicators

Exhibit 6.1 shows the County Health Rankings for social and economic factors. The rankings are based on a set of indicators related to education, income, family structure, social associations. **Trempealeau County** ranked in the 2nd quartile for social & economic factors. No trend data were reported for **Trempealeau County**.

Exhibit 6.1 County Health Rankings for Social and Economic Factors

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
|--|---|--|--|--|------|------|------|------|
| Rankings | | | | | | | | |
| Social & Economic Factors Rank | 27 | 11 | 10 | 36 | 24 | 47 | -- | -- |
| Ranking Key: | ■ 1st (best) quartile | ■ 2nd quartile | ■ 3rd quartile | ■ 4th quartile | | | | |
| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
| Indicators | | | | | | | | |
| High school graduation (2017-2021) | 92% | 95% | 96% | 91% | 92% | 90% | 94% | 93% |
| Some college (2017-2021) | 65% | 74% | 77% | 60% | 60% | 58% | 76% | 70% |
| Unemployment (2021) | 4.2% | 2.9% | 3.0% | 3.2% | 3.7% | 3.2% | 3.4% | 3.8% |
| Children in poverty (2021) | 11% | 9% | 11% | 15% | 12% | 23% | 11% | 14% |
| Income inequality (2017-2021) | 3.9 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.2 |
| Children in single-parent households (2017-2021) | 15% | 16% | 18% | 17% | 15% | 14% | 20% | 23% |
| Social Associations (2020) | 9.2 | 13.4 | 13.2 | 9.4 | 13.1 | 11.7 | 12.4 | 11.2 |
| Injury deaths (2016-2020) | 55 | 68 | 83 | 69 | 74 | 68 | 69 | 89 |
| Selected Trends | | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment | -- | B | -- | -- | -- | B | -- | -- |
| Children in poverty | -- | -- | B | -- | -- | W | -- | -- |
| Trend Key: | ■ B Getting better | ■ -- No trend | ■ W Getting worse | | | | | |
| Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/ . :*Note: Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties. | | | | | | | | |

“ I work from pay check to pay check just to make a living. And then I don't have no money to myself. That's why I cant retire and enjoy life anymore!!

~ Monroe County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 6.2 shows data on low-income households and ALICE households. Summary points for **Trempealeau County**:

- In **Trempealeau County** there were an estimated 958 households with income at or below poverty in 2021. This represents an estimated 8% of all households.
- ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, and provides a way of defining and understanding the struggles of households that earn above the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford basic necessities. In 2021 an estimated 2,979 households in **Trempealeau County** were classified as ALICE households.

Exhibit 6.2 Low Income and ALICE Households

| | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION | MN | WI |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|---------|
| Households in Poverty (2021) | | | | | | | | | |
| Households (count) | 538 | 617 | 5,963 | 1,834 | 958 | 1,643 | 11,215 | 206,178 | 267,433 |
| Households (%) | 10% | 8% | 12% | 10% | 8% | 14% | 11% | 9% | 11% |
| ALICE Households (2021) | | | | | | | | | |
| ALICE Households (count) | 1,310 | -- | 13,582 | 4,429 | 2,979 | 3,125 | 24,115 | -- | 567,854 |
| ALICE Households (%) | 24% | 24% | 27% | 25% | 24% | 26% | -- | 26% | 23% |

Source: Data on households in poverty from ESRI obtained through ArcGIS Business software. Data on ALICE Households from <https://www.unitedforalice.org/county-reports/wisconsin>



Exhibit 6.3 shows reported child services cases for 2021, including child abuse and neglect cases. In **Trempealeau County** there were 491 referrals made to Child Protective Services; 26 documented child abuse victims; and 19 out-of-home placements.

Exhibit 6.3 Reported Child Services Cases

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION | MN* | WI |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|--------|
| CPS Referrals (2021) | | | | | | | | | |
| CPS Referrals | 190 | -- | 699 | 814 | 491 | 239 | 2,243 | -- | 74,280 |
| Child Abuse Cases (2021) | | | | | | | | | |
| Child Abuse Victims | 22 | -- | 38 | 34 | 26 | 18 | 116 | -- | 4,254 |
| Child abuse rate per 1,000 children | 8.4 | -- | 1.6 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 2.3 | -- | -- | 3.4 |
| Out of home Placements (2021) | | | | | | | | | |
| Out of Home Placements | 12 | -- | 97 | 58 | 19 | 24 | 210 | -- | 6,887 |

Note: CPS Referrals and Child Abuse Cases for Minnesota were not included in this report as definitions for cases and referrals in Minnesota may vary from Wisconsin definitions. For more information on Minnesota Maltreatment data, visit <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/edocs/child-protection-foster-care-adoption/>

Source: [Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report Annual Report for Calendar Year 2021 to the Governor and Legislature Wis. Stat. s. 48.47\(8\)](#). Also, [Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Out-of-Home Care \(Otte\) Dashboard](#).



Community Insights

Exhibit 6.4 summarizes community survey results about caring for individuals who are aging or have disabilities. Results are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County**:

- a. 26% currently help care for an individual that is aging
- b. 21% currently help care for an individual that has a disability

Exhibit 6.4 Caring for Vulnerable Persons

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| a. Do you currently help care for an individual that is aging? | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 86 | 525 | 221 | 86 | 204 | 1,214 |
| Yes | 24% | 45% | 20% | 30% | 26% | 24% | 25% |
| No | 76% | 55% | 80% | 70% | 74% | 76% | 75% |
| b. Do you currently help care for an individual that has a disability? | | | | | | | |
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 86 | 528 | 221 | 85 | 203 | 1,215 |
| Yes | 20% | 33% | 16% | 24% | 21% | 15% | 19% |
| No | 80% | 67% | 84% | 76% | 79% | 85% | 81% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 6.5 summarizes community survey results regarding concerns about vulnerable persons in the community. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** were:

- a. 59% child abuse
- b. 66% domestic abuse
- c. 57% elder abuse
- d. 56% sexual abuse

Exhibit 6.5 Issues Affecting Vulnerable Persons

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 87 | 532 | 225 | 88 | 204 | 1,227 |
| a. Child abuse | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 24% | 29% | 45% | 37% | 25% | 31% | 37% |
| Moderately Concerned | 36% | 31% | 30% | 32% | 34% | 38% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 32% | 29% | 18% | 23% | 23% | 24% | 22% |
| Not Concerned | 5% | 7% | 4% | 6% | 9% | 3% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% | 9% | 4% | 3% |
| b. Domestic abuse | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 29% | 36% | 44% | 35% | 26% | 28% | 37% |
| Moderately Concerned | 33% | 28% | 32% | 31% | 40% | 43% | 34% |
| A Little Concerned | 29% | 30% | 16% | 27% | 22% | 21% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 8% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 8% | 4% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 5% | 4% | 3% |
| c. Elder abuse | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 27% | 28% | 35% | 27% | 18% | 24% | 29% |
| Moderately Concerned | 32% | 30% | 32% | 30% | 39% | 34% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 31% | 22% | 31% | 26% | 28% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 10% | 9% | 8% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 9% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 2% | 4% | 4% | 8% | 5% | 4% |

Exhibit 6.5 Issues Affecting Vulnerable Persons (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| d. Sexual abuse or sexual violence | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 26% | 33% | 45% | 35% | 25% | 26% | 36% |
| Moderately Concerned | 33% | 28% | 33% | 32% | 31% | 37% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 29% | 28% | 15% | 25% | 29% | 25% | 22% |
| Not Concerned | 7% | 9% | 4% | 6% | 8% | 5% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 6% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 7% | 6% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 6.6 summarizes community survey results about community supports for vulnerable persons. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Topics receiving ratings of poor or fair for **Trempealeau County** included:

- 41% for their community as a place that meets the overall needs of children
- 46% for efforts to prevent abuse or neglect
- 54% for their community as a place that meets the overall needs of elderly persons
- 43% for efforts to prevent neglect or abuse of seniors
- 52% for efforts to help persons age in place
- 48% for efforts to meet the overall needs of persons with disabilities
- 46% for efforts to prevent neglect or abuse of persons with disabilities
- 48% for the availability of services that meet the overall needs of community members who are victims of abuse or neglect

Exhibit 6.6 Community Supports for Vulnerable Persons

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 85 | 532 | 226 | 87 | 205 | 1,226 |
| a. Your community as a place that meets the overall needs of children | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 12% | 4% | 6% | 10% | 1% | 4% | 7% |
| Fair | 36% | 31% | 24% | 46% | 40% | 32% | 32% |
| Good | 44% | 48% | 52% | 35% | 41% | 50% | 47% |
| Excellent | 5% | 16% | 10% | 5% | 9% | 7% | 9% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 7% | 4% | 8% | 6% | 6% |
| b. Efforts to prevent abuse or neglect of children | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 10% | 4% | 10% | 14% | 5% | 8% | 10% |
| Fair | 41% | 33% | 36% | 44% | 41% | 37% | 38% |
| Good | 38% | 41% | 39% | 31% | 36% | 41% | 38% |
| Excellent | 2% | 13% | 6% | 5% | 2% | 3% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 9% | 9% | 9% | 6% | 16% | 11% | 9% |
| c. Your community as a place that meets the overall needs of elderly persons (e.g., access to transportation, social outlets) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 27% | 15% | 10% | 15% | 23% | 20% | 15% |
| Fair | 32% | 27% | 35% | 44% | 31% | 37% | 36% |
| Good | 31% | 36% | 41% | 30% | 34% | 32% | 36% |
| Excellent | 2% | 18% | 8% | 6% | 6% | 8% | 8% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 3% | 5% |

Exhibit 6.6 Community Supports for Vulnerable Persons (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| d. Efforts to prevent abuse or neglect of seniors | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 18% | 6% | 9% | 13% | 7% | 8% | 10% |
| Fair | 32% | 32% | 32% | 40% | 36% | 44% | 35% |
| Good | 40% | 39% | 38% | 28% | 34% | 31% | 35% |
| Excellent | 1% | 13% | 7% | 5% | 7% | 5% | 6% |
| No Opinion | 10% | 11% | 15% | 14% | 16% | 12% | 13% |
| e. The availability of resources to help persons age in place | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 23% | 13% | 13% | 15% | 24% | 19% | 16% |
| Fair | 31% | 29% | 35% | 43% | 28% | 37% | 35% |
| Good | 37% | 36% | 31% | 27% | 32% | 28% | 31% |
| Excellent | 2% | 12% | 6% | 5% | 6% | 8% | 6% |
| No Opinion | 7% | 9% | 14% | 10% | 10% | 8% | 11% |
| f. Your community as a place that meets the overall needs of persons with disabilities | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 19% | 6% | 10% | 13% | 17% | 15% | 12% |
| Fair | 46% | 28% | 37% | 48% | 31% | 40% | 39% |
| Good | 27% | 40% | 37% | 29% | 34% | 36% | 34% |
| Excellent | 4% | 14% | 7% | 3% | 5% | 2% | 6% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 12% | 9% | 8% | 13% | 7% | 9% |
| g. Efforts to prevent abuse or neglect of persons with disabilities | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 10% | 4% | 11% | 10% | 8% | 11% | 10% |
| Fair | 40% | 27% | 32% | 44% | 38% | 39% | 36% |
| Good | 36% | 41% | 36% | 29% | 33% | 30% | 33% |
| Excellent | 2% | 15% | 6% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 12% | 13% | 16% | 13% | 17% | 17% | 15% |
| h. The availability of services that meet the overall needs of community members who are victims of abuse or neglect | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 17% | 5% | 13% | 16% | 15% | 18% | 14% |
| Fair | 38% | 36% | 36% | 42% | 33% | 40% | 37% |
| Good | 30% | 35% | 34% | 25% | 32% | 23% | 30% |
| Excellent | 3% | 14% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 12% | 9% | 14% | 12% | 16% | 15% | 13% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 6.7 summarizes community survey results about meeting household needs. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 17% meeting basic needs for food, housing, clothing
- b. 20% paying the rent or mortgage
- c. 20% paying for utility bills, property taxes, or other household expenses
- d. 25% being able to access housing
- e. 17% availability of resources to help them budget their money
- f. 34% paying for educational expenses
- g. 22% paying for vehicle expenses
- h. 33% paying for legal assistance
- i. 27% paying for child care, if needed
- j. 33% access to child care, if needed

Exhibit 6.7 Concerns about Meeting Household Needs

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 86 | 530 | 223 | 87 | 205 | 1,222 |
| a. Your ability to meet your household's basic needs for food, housing, clothing | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 4% | 7% | 10% | 8% | 7% | 5% | 8% |
| Moderately Concerned | 9% | 20% | 10% | 12% | 10% | 7% | 10% |
| A Little Concerned | 24% | 22% | 19% | 28% | 11% | 17% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 62% | 51% | 60% | 52% | 71% | 69% | 60% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 1% |
| b. Your ability to pay for rent/mortgage for your household | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 10% | 11% | 10% | 10% | 6% | 9% |
| Moderately Concerned | 9% | 23% | 9% | 15% | 10% | 6% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 19% | 16% | 19% | 24% | 9% | 19% | 19% |
| Not Concerned | 66% | 50% | 60% | 50% | 70% | 65% | 59% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 4% | 2% |
| c. Your ability to pay for utility bills, property tax, and other housing related expenses | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 13% | 13% | 12% | 11% | 6% | 11% |
| Moderately Concerned | 11% | 22% | 10% | 16% | 9% | 6% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 15% | 21% | 23% | 15% | 24% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 56% | 50% | 55% | 48% | 64% | 61% | 55% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 1% |
| d. Your ability to access housing | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 16% | 14% | 15% | 14% | 13% | 13% |
| Moderately Concerned | 11% | 14% | 10% | 15% | 11% | 7% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 15% | 16% | 14% | 17% | 12% | 12% | 14% |
| Not Concerned | 63% | 48% | 55% | 46% | 59% | 61% | 54% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 5% | 7% | 6% |
| e. The availability of resources to help you budget your money | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 16% | 6% | 9% | 8% | 4% | 7% |
| Moderately Concerned | 12% | 16% | 11% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 16% | 18% | 17% | 23% | 19% | 21% | 19% |
| Not Concerned | 63% | 48% | 58% | 55% | 58% | 59% | 57% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 1% | 8% | 3% | 6% | 7% | 6% |
| f. Your ability to pay for education beyond high school for you and/or your family | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 10% | 16% | 19% | 23% | 19% | 14% | 18% |
| Moderately Concerned | 22% | 24% | 14% | 17% | 15% | 14% | 16% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 16% | 19% | 22% | 12% | 19% | 19% |
| Not Concerned | 40% | 36% | 37% | 29% | 43% | 42% | 37% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 7% | 11% | 9% | 12% | 11% | 10% |

Exhibit 6.7 Concerns about Meeting Household Needs (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| g. Your ability to pay for your own vehicle (including gas, insurance, and maintenance) | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 5% | 14% | 10% | 11% | 13% | 7% | 10% |
| Moderately Concerned | 10% | 18% | 15% | 15% | 9% | 9% | 13% |
| A Little Concerned | 25% | 19% | 21% | 25% | 16% | 24% | 22% |
| Not Concerned | 58% | 48% | 53% | 48% | 58% | 59% | 53% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 0% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 2% |
| h. Your ability to pay for legal assistance | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 11% | 19% | 16% | 20% | 19% | 12% | 16% |
| Moderately Concerned | 15% | 30% | 13% | 17% | 14% | 12% | 15% |
| A Little Concerned | 19% | 14% | 21% | 20% | 16% | 25% | 20% |
| Not Concerned | 47% | 36% | 41% | 36% | 44% | 46% | 41% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 1% | 10% | 8% | 7% | 5% | 8% |
| i. Your ability to pay for child care, if needed | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 12% | 8% | 17% | 20% | 21% | 9% | 15% |
| Moderately Concerned | 11% | 23% | 10% | 9% | 6% | 6% | 9% |
| A Little Concerned | 12% | 12% | 7% | 11% | 7% | 11% | 9% |
| Not Concerned | 44% | 34% | 37% | 33% | 40% | 46% | 38% |
| No Opinion | 21% | 23% | 29% | 28% | 27% | 28% | 27% |
| j. Your ability to access childcare, if needed | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 18% | 24% | 17% | 21% | 27% | 15% | 18% |
| Moderately Concerned | 16% | 19% | 10% | 14% | 6% | 6% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 8% | 8% | 10% | 8% | 6% | 9% | 9% |
| Not Concerned | 38% | 27% | 35% | 30% | 40% | 41% | 35% |
| No Opinion | 20% | 22% | 29% | 27% | 22% | 29% | 27% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

“ not enough day cares to fulfill needs, which leaves working/single mothers in a very difficult situation.

~ Houston County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 6.8 summarizes community survey results about access to healthy food. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 20% rated their access to healthy food as poor or fair
- b. 33% rated their ability to pay for healthy food as poor or fair
- c. 5% said in the past 12 months, it was often true that the food they bought didn't last and they didn't have money to get more

Exhibit 6.8 Concerns about Access to Healthy Food

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 86 | 529 | 223 | 87 | 204 | 1,220 |
| a. Your access to healthy food | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 10% | 2% | 4% |
| Fair | 22% | 23% | 15% | 19% | 10% | 16% | 17% |
| Good | 45% | 41% | 39% | 54% | 48% | 38% | 42% |
| Excellent | 30% | 33% | 42% | 22% | 31% | 44% | 36% |
| b. Your ability to pay for healthy food | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 7% | 3% | 9% | 10% | 8% | 4% | 7% |
| Fair | 21% | 23% | 19% | 25% | 25% | 21% | 21% |
| Good | 52% | 52% | 37% | 48% | 40% | 40% | 41% |
| Excellent | 21% | 21% | 36% | 18% | 27% | 34% | 29% |
| c. How True is the following statement for your household? "Within the past 12 months the food we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more." | | | | | | | |
| Often true | 2% | 2% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| Occasionally true | 10% | 23% | 9% | 10% | 10% | 5% | 10% |
| Sometimes but infrequently true | 12% | 13% | 11% | 16% | 2% | 13% | 12% |
| Never true | 76% | 62% | 74% | 67% | 83% | 77% | 73% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

“ Concerned about homelessness, poverty, hunger and resources for disabled children who are not severe, but rather mild who still need adequate services for success.

~ La Crosse County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 6.9 summarizes community survey results about economic issues in the community. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 44% excessive personal debt in the community
- b. 23% gambling in the community
- c. 28% foreclosure or bankruptcy in the community
- d. 36% risk of job loss in the community
- e. 52% poverty in the community
- f. 40% hunger in the community
- g. 33% homelessness in the community

Exhibit 6.9 Concerns about Economic Issues in the Community

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 90 | 85 | 531 | 223 | 87 | 206 | 1,222 |
| a. Excessive personal debt | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 15% | 16% | 24% | 20% | 16% | 20% | 20% |
| Moderately Concerned | 33% | 31% | 33% | 29% | 28% | 29% | 31% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 24% | 25% | 31% | 29% | 29% | 27% |
| Not Concerned | 20% | 18% | 13% | 11% | 11% | 14% | 13% |
| No Opinion | 6% | 12% | 7% | 9% | 16% | 9% | 8% |
| b. Gambling (in-person or online) | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 11% | 7% | 10% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| Moderately Concerned | 17% | 19% | 14% | 15% | 16% | 11% | 15% |
| A Little Concerned | 29% | 27% | 34% | 31% | 23% | 31% | 31% |
| Not Concerned | 38% | 33% | 31% | 31% | 36% | 31% | 32% |
| No Opinion | 12% | 11% | 14% | 13% | 18% | 20% | 15% |
| c. Risk of foreclosure or bankruptcy | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 4% | 15% | 13% | 12% | 8% | 10% | 11% |
| Moderately Concerned | 22% | 24% | 23% | 25% | 20% | 25% | 24% |
| A Little Concerned | 36% | 28% | 34% | 34% | 29% | 32% | 33% |
| Not Concerned | 27% | 26% | 20% | 19% | 26% | 20% | 21% |
| No Opinion | 11% | 7% | 10% | 10% | 17% | 13% | 11% |
| d. Risk of job loss | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 7% | 16% | 14% | 12% | 16% | 11% | 13% |
| Moderately Concerned | 24% | 27% | 30% | 27% | 20% | 23% | 27% |
| A Little Concerned | 31% | 22% | 30% | 36% | 31% | 36% | 32% |
| Not Concerned | 31% | 28% | 21% | 17% | 26% | 21% | 22% |
| No Opinion | 7% | 6% | 5% | 8% | 7% | 8% | 6% |
| e. Poverty | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 19% | 26% | 45% | 35% | 23% | 32% | 36% |
| Moderately Concerned | 30% | 33% | 32% | 36% | 29% | 35% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 33% | 24% | 16% | 20% | 30% | 21% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 17% | 13% | 5% | 5% | 13% | 10% | 8% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 4% | 1% | 4% | 6% | 2% | 2% |
| f. Hunger | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 17% | 16% | 38% | 28% | 19% | 27% | 30% |
| Moderately Concerned | 20% | 40% | 35% | 38% | 21% | 30% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 37% | 29% | 18% | 22% | 35% | 26% | 24% |
| Not Concerned | 22% | 12% | 8% | 9% | 21% | 14% | 11% |
| No Opinion | 3% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 5% | 2% | 2% |
| g. Homelessness | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 13% | 26% | 67% | 32% | 23% | 23% | 44% |
| Moderately Concerned | 20% | 23% | 19% | 31% | 10% | 26% | 22% |
| A Little Concerned | 34% | 27% | 9% | 28% | 36% | 33% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 31% | 21% | 4% | 6% | 26% | 14% | 11% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 5% | 4% | 2% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 6.10 summarizes community survey results about community supports for economic stability. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Topics receiving ratings of poor or fair for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 62% rated availability of jobs that offer a livable wage
- b. 76% rated availability of safe and affordable housing
- c. 51% rated availability of services for people who need extra help
- d. 86% rated accessibility of public transportation
- e. 87% rated convenience of public transportation
- f. 67% rated efforts to reduce poverty
- g. 52% rated efforts to reduce hunger

Exhibit 6.10 Community Supports for Economic Stability

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 85 | 530 | 223 | 87 | 206 | 1,222 |
| a. The availability of jobs that offer a livable wage | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 32% | 24% | 22% | 24% | 26% | 30% | 25% |
| Fair | 42% | 42% | 38% | 43% | 36% | 45% | 40% |
| Good | 21% | 25% | 33% | 26% | 28% | 19% | 27% |
| Excellent | 4% | 8% | 6% | 5% | 7% | 4% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| b. The availability of safe, affordable housing | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 32% | 24% | 47% | 47% | 29% | 47% | 43% |
| Fair | 44% | 36% | 36% | 33% | 47% | 34% | 36% |
| Good | 19% | 27% | 13% | 14% | 22% | 16% | 16% |
| Excellent | 3% | 11% | 2% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 3% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
| c. The availability of services for people who may need extra help (government, nonprofit services) | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 18% | 8% | 17% | 20% | 17% | 18% | 17% |
| Fair | 43% | 34% | 40% | 41% | 34% | 46% | 41% |
| Good | 23% | 39% | 31% | 27% | 31% | 27% | 30% |
| Excellent | 8% | 13% | 8% | 6% | 7% | 4% | 7% |
| No Opinion | 9% | 6% | 4% | 5% | 10% | 5% | 5% |
| d. The accessibility of public transportation | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 72% | 25% | 14% | 57% | 66% | 50% | 36% |
| Fair | 18% | 25% | 31% | 27% | 20% | 29% | 28% |
| Good | 3% | 29% | 39% | 9% | 6% | 16% | 24% |
| Excellent | 2% | 16% | 11% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 8% |
| No Opinion | 4% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 6% | 2% | 4% |
| e. The convenience of public transportation | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 76% | 29% | 20% | 61% | 74% | 54% | 42% |
| Fair | 13% | 22% | 30% | 25% | 13% | 27% | 25% |
| Good | 3% | 29% | 36% | 9% | 7% | 13% | 22% |
| Excellent | 2% | 14% | 8% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 5% |
| No Opinion | 6% | 5% | 6% | 4% | 6% | 3% | 5% |
| f. Efforts to reduce poverty in your community | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 42% | 20% | 29% | 37% | 36% | 30% | 31% |
| Fair | 34% | 29% | 39% | 38% | 31% | 46% | 38% |
| Good | 12% | 27% | 23% | 14% | 14% | 17% | 19% |
| Excellent | 1% | 13% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 0% | 3% |
| No Opinion | 10% | 11% | 7% | 8% | 18% | 8% | 9% |

Exhibit 6.10 Community Supports for Economic Stability (cont.)

| Topic/Survey | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| g. Efforts to reduce hunger in your community | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 8% | 0% | 10% | 14% | 15% | 14% | 11% |
| Fair | 46% | 29% | 31% | 41% | 37% | 38% | 35% |
| Good | 33% | 49% | 43% | 32% | 29% | 37% | 39% |
| Excellent | 6% | 19% | 13% | 9% | 8% | 7% | 11% |
| No Opinion | 8% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 11% | 4% | 4% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 6.11 provides further insight into community support needs through 2-1-1 call data. For each county and the region in calendar 2022, the exhibit shows 2-1-1 call types, the common caller problems or needs, and common referral types. (Note that the exhibit only shows the 5 most common problems/needs and referral types for each county and the region. Dozens of additional concerns were also presented by callers.)

- The most common problems or needs presented by calls were related to mental health/addictions, housing, health care, information services, and utility assistance.
- The most common referral types included referrals for individual counseling, housing-related assistance, electric service payment assistance and talk lines / warmlines.

Exhibit 6.11 2-1-1 Assistance Profile

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|----|-----|-------|-------|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Contacts (2022) | 84 | 990 | 6706 | 994 | 303 | 261 | 9,338 |
| Call Types | | | | | | | |
| Information and Referral | 52 | 912 | 4,756 | 808 | 210 | 197 | 6,935 |
| Information Only | 23 | 42 | 1,273 | 47 | 65 | 22 | 1,472 |
| No Referral Given | 2 | 9 | 470 | 47 | 11 | 15 | 554 |
| Crisis | 8 | 40 | 483 | 137 | 20 | 32 | 720 |
| Problems/Needs (top 5 for each) | | | | | | | |
| Mental Health / Addictions | 51 | 893 | 5,669 | 1,106 | 290 | 271 | 8,280 |
| Housing | 36 | 154 | 1,373 | 453 | 129 | 98 | 2,243 |
| Information Services | 14 | 34 | 746 | | 47 | 30 | 936 |
| Health Care | 16 | | 646 | 110 | 57 | 31 | 882 |
| Legal, Consumer, and Public Safety Services | | | 493 | 76 | | | 692 |
| Food / Meals | 17 | 42 | | | | | |
| Transportation | | | | | | | |
| Utility Assistance | | | | 113 | 53 | 54 | |
| Individual, Family, and Community Support | | 25 | | | | 30 | |
| Referral Types (top 5 for each) | | | | | | | |
| Talk lines / Warmlines | | 705 | 2,358 | 270 | 23 | 31 | 3,390 |
| Individual Counseling | 6 | 72 | 1,309 | 276 | 63 | 62 | 1,788 |
| Rent Payment Assistance | 8 | 62 | 335 | 116 | 32 | | 570 |
| Directory Assistance | 10 | | 483 | | | | 537 |
| Electric Service Payment Assistance | | | 282 | 70 | 34 | 36 | 440 |
| Food Pantries | 8 | 25 | | | | | |
| Low Income/Subsidized Private Rental Housing | 7 | 31 | | | 27 | | |
| Homeless Motel Vouchers | | | | 81 | | 27 | |
| Community Shelters | | | | | | | |
| General Counseling Services | | | | | | 19 | |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

7. Physical Environment and Safety

Physical environment and community safety affect length and quality of life. The physical environment includes the spaces where individuals live, learn, work, and play. People interact with their physical environment through the air they breathe, water they drink, houses they live in, and the transportation they access to travel to work and school. This section describes selected community indicators and community insights about the physical environment and safety in the region.



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Community Indicators

Exhibit 7.1 shows the County Health Rankings for the physical environment. The ranking are based on a set of indicators including air pollution, drinking water violations, housing problems, driving alone to work, and commute time.

- **Trempealeau County** ranked in the 4th quartile on physical environment measures.
- Available trend data show air pollution is improving in **Trempealeau County**.

Exhibit 7.1 County Health Rankings for the Physical Environment

| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
|--|---|--|--|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rankings | | | | | | | | |
| Physical Environment Rank | 61 | 69 | 22 | 16 | 55 | 66 | -- | -- |
| Ranking Key: | 1st (best) quartile | 2nd quartile | 3rd quartile | 4th quartile | | | | |
| | BU | HO* | LC | MO | TR | VE | MN* | WI |
| Indicators | | | | | | | | |
| Air pollution-particulate matter (2019) | 7.9 | 8.1 | 7.6 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.1 | 6.1 | 7.8 |
| Drinking water violations (2021) | Yes | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | N/A | N/A |
| Severe housing problems (2015-2019) | 12% | 9% | 13% | 11% | 10% | 15% | 13% | 13% |
| Driving alone to work (2017-2021) | 78% | 80% | 79% | 78% | 79% | 77% | 74% | 78% |
| Long commute- driving alone (2017-2021) | 39% | 31% | 18% | 24% | 34% | 40% | 31% | 28% |
| Selected Trends | | | | | | | | |
| Air pollution – particulate matter | B | B | B | B | B | B | -- | -- |
| Trend Key: | B Getting better | -- No trend | W Getting worse | | | | | |
| Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/ . | | | | | | | | |
| :*Note: Houston County is ranked among all Minnesota counties. Other counties are ranked among all Wisconsin counties. | | | | | | | | |



Community Insights

Exhibit 7.2 summarizes community survey responses about community safety. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. For **Trempealeau County**, 22% rated overall community safety as poor or fair.

Exhibit 7.2 Rating of Overall Community Safety

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 531 | 225 | 89 | 203 | 1,227 |
| Rating of overall community safety | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 1% | 0% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 2% |
| Fair | 10% | 10% | 24% | 24% | 19% | 11% | 19% |
| Good | 75% | 61% | 58% | 64% | 69% | 67% | 63% |
| Excellent | 14% | 29% | 15% | 11% | 9% | 22% | 16% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 7.3 summarizes community survey results regarding specific concerns about community safety. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 53% school safety
- b. 59% cyber security
- c. 55% criminal activity
- d. 34% community response to flooding
- e. 38% community response to disease outbreak
- f. 32% community response to hazardous materials incidents
- g. 24% community response to terrorist activity
- h. 42% community response to tap water safety
- i. 43% community response to well water safety

Exhibit 7.3 Concerns about Community Safety

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 225 | 88 | 206 | 1,233 |
| a. School safety | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 18% | 31% | 30% | 23% | 27% | 27% | 27% |
| Moderately Concerned | 30% | 33% | 31% | 38% | 26% | 31% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 32% | 20% | 27% | 24% | 32% | 26% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 18% | 14% | 10% | 14% | 14% | 14% | 12% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 2% |
| b. Cyber security (e.g., identity theft) | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 32% | 32% | 27% | 22% | 26% | 31% | 27% |
| Moderately Concerned | 25% | 34% | 32% | 35% | 33% | 33% | 32% |
| A Little Concerned | 26% | 25% | 27% | 28% | 33% | 26% | 27% |
| Not Concerned | 16% | 8% | 11% | 12% | 5% | 9% | 11% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 1% | 2% |
| c. Criminal activity | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 22% | 31% | 37% | 27% | 28% | 23% | 31% |
| Moderately Concerned | 38% | 19% | 36% | 35% | 27% | 32% | 33% |
| A Little Concerned | 24% | 35% | 20% | 27% | 33% | 33% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 15% | 14% | 5% | 10% | 13% | 10% | 9% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% |
| d. Community response to flood | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 4% | 16% | 8% | 8% | 9% | 12% | 9% |
| Moderately Concerned | 12% | 22% | 17% | 17% | 25% | 18% | 18% |
| A Little Concerned | 28% | 16% | 32% | 24% | 31% | 29% | 28% |
| Not Concerned | 55% | 45% | 37% | 40% | 32% | 38% | 39% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 1% | 7% | 11% | 2% | 3% | 6% |
| e. Disease outbreak | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 4% | 20% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 13% | 11% |
| Moderately Concerned | 15% | 18% | 24% | 21% | 29% | 20% | 22% |
| A Little Concerned | 37% | 30% | 36% | 32% | 24% | 36% | 34% |
| Not Concerned | 43% | 32% | 29% | 33% | 37% | 30% | 31% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 2% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
| f. Hazardous materials incident | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 7% | 14% | 9% | 7% | 11% | 7% | 9% |
| Moderately Concerned | 18% | 23% | 20% | 21% | 21% | 17% | 20% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 24% | 35% | 31% | 32% | 41% | 33% |
| Not Concerned | 48% | 36% | 33% | 35% | 34% | 33% | 35% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 3% | 4% | 6% | 1% | 1% | 3% |

Exhibit 7.3 Concerns about Community Safety (cont.)

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 225 | 88 | 206 | 1,233 |
| g. Terrorist activity | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 4% | 16% | 5% | 6% | 5% | 6% | 6% |
| Moderately Concerned | 8% | 15% | 11% | 12% | 19% | 11% | 11% |
| A Little Concerned | 25% | 25% | 30% | 26% | 24% | 29% | 28% |
| Not Concerned | 62% | 43% | 51% | 52% | 52% | 52% | 51% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 1% | 3% | 4% | 0% | 2% | 3% |
| h. Tap water safety | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 11% | 23% | 30% | 21% | 15% | 19% | 23% |
| Moderately Concerned | 18% | 18% | 21% | 27% | 27% | 23% | 22% |
| A Little Concerned | 27% | 23% | 26% | 25% | 26% | 24% | 25% |
| Not Concerned | 39% | 33% | 22% | 25% | 32% | 33% | 27% |
| No Opinion | 4% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 0% | 1% | 2% |
| i. Well water safety | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 14% | 24% | 25% | 18% | 15% | 22% | 21% |
| Moderately Concerned | 23% | 20% | 20% | 24% | 28% | 21% | 21% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 21% | 21% | 21% | 16% | 25% | 21% |
| Not Concerned | 36% | 32% | 24% | 27% | 33% | 28% | 27% |
| No Opinion | 6% | 3% | 10% | 11% | 8% | 3% | 8% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 7.4 summarizes community survey results regarding responsiveness of public safety agencies. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 47% responsiveness of emergency medical services
- b. 44% responsiveness of law enforcement
- c. 36% responsiveness of the fire department

Exhibit 7.4 Responsiveness of Public Safety Agencies

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 225 | 88 | 206 | 1,233 |
| a. Responsiveness of emergency medical services (EMS) | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 22% | 15% | 9% | 12% | 19% | 18% | 13% |
| Moderately Concerned | 32% | 28% | 13% | 17% | 28% | 23% | 19% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 23% | 21% | 22% | 23% | 26% | 22% |
| Not Concerned | 26% | 34% | 50% | 44% | 28% | 31% | 42% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 7% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 4% |
| b. Responsiveness of law enforcement | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 13% | 17% | 13% | 13% | 16% | 14% | 14% |
| Moderately Concerned | 21% | 23% | 21% | 22% | 28% | 20% | 22% |
| A Little Concerned | 30% | 30% | 28% | 27% | 28% | 28% | 28% |
| Not Concerned | 36% | 30% | 34% | 34% | 27% | 35% | 33% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 5% | 4% | 1% | 2% | 3% |
| c. Responsiveness of fire department | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 9% | 13% | 7% | 12% | 11% | 12% | 10% |
| Moderately Concerned | 21% | 21% | 12% | 17% | 25% | 19% | 16% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 25% | 24% | 22% | 23% | 26% | 24% |
| Not Concerned | 50% | 41% | 52% | 46% | 39% | 41% | 47% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 5% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

“ Most of our services to protect the community are ran on a voluntary basis. The lack of people wanting to work and or volunteer is a cause for concern.

~ Buffalo County Survey Respondent ”



Exhibit 7.5 summarizes community survey results regarding preparedness for emergency events. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. Summary results for **Trempealeau County** included:

- 51% said they were not or a little prepared for household fire
- 64% said they were not or a little prepared for flood
- 47% said they were not or a little prepared for a power outage longer than 24 hours
- 54% said they were not or a little prepared for a natural disaster
- 47% said they were not or a little prepared for a pandemic
- 65% said they were not or a little prepared for loss of a job

Exhibit 7.5 Preparedness for Emergency Events

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 91 | 86 | 531 | 223 | 86 | 205 | 1,222 |
| a. Household fire | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 13% | 13% | 20% | 16% | 15% | 11% | 17% |
| A Little Prepared | 44% | 37% | 33% | 41% | 36% | 35% | 36% |
| Moderately Prepared | 35% | 37% | 37% | 31% | 34% | 43% | 36% |
| Very Prepared | 8% | 13% | 10% | 12% | 15% | 11% | 11% |
| b. Flood | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 26% | 27% | 40% | 39% | 25% | 25% | 34% |
| A Little Prepared | 36% | 27% | 31% | 30% | 39% | 27% | 31% |
| Moderately Prepared | 26% | 32% | 20% | 24% | 24% | 29% | 24% |
| Very Prepared | 13% | 14% | 9% | 7% | 13% | 18% | 11% |
| c. Power outage longer than 24 Hours | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 11% | 13% | 22% | 21% | 17% | 18% | 19% |
| A Little Prepared | 34% | 35% | 39% | 33% | 30% | 29% | 35% |
| Moderately Prepared | 39% | 35% | 29% | 32% | 36% | 37% | 32% |
| Very Prepared | 16% | 17% | 11% | 14% | 16% | 16% | 13% |
| d. Natural disaster (such as ice storm, tornado, snowstorm) | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 9% | 10% | 23% | 19% | 16% | 12% | 18% |
| A Little Prepared | 37% | 36% | 36% | 33% | 38% | 35% | 35% |
| Moderately Prepared | 44% | 43% | 33% | 38% | 35% | 44% | 37% |
| Very Prepared | 10% | 10% | 9% | 10% | 10% | 8% | 9% |
| e. Pandemic/epidemic | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 10% | 11% | 16% | 16% | 14% | 14% | 14% |
| A Little Prepared | 30% | 26% | 31% | 37% | 33% | 28% | 31% |
| Moderately Prepared | 46% | 48% | 36% | 33% | 35% | 42% | 38% |
| Very Prepared | 14% | 15% | 17% | 14% | 18% | 16% | 16% |
| f. Loss of job | | | | | | | |
| Not prepared | 33% | 23% | 31% | 35% | 39% | 26% | 31% |
| A Little Prepared | 28% | 30% | 28% | 27% | 26% | 31% | 28% |
| Moderately Prepared | 28% | 38% | 22% | 24% | 26% | 23% | 24% |
| Very Prepared | 11% | 8% | 18% | 14% | 9% | 20% | 16% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Exhibit 7.6 summarizes community survey results regarding concerns about public spaces. Ratings are shown for each of the six counties and at the regional level. The percent saying they were very or moderately concerned about each topic for **Trempealeau County** included:

- a. 23% loose animals
- b. 33% sidewalks in poor condition
- c. 32% lack of sidewalks
- d. 39% inadequate crosswalks
- e. 38% motor vehicle traffic
- f. 20% not enough traffic lights / stop signs
- g. 26% street lighting

Exhibit 7.6 Concerns about Public Spaces

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Survey Responses | 92 | 87 | 535 | 225 | 88 | 206 | 1,233 |
| a. Loose animals | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 7% | 17% | 8% | 6% | 10% | 12% | 9% |
| Moderately Concerned | 11% | 24% | 11% | 12% | 13% | 18% | 13% |
| A Little Concerned | 23% | 16% | 30% | 34% | 27% | 33% | 29% |
| Not Concerned | 59% | 42% | 50% | 46% | 49% | 36% | 47% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 0% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| b. Sidewalks in poor condition | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 9% | 25% | 16% | 9% | 10% | 15% | 14% |
| Moderately Concerned | 27% | 16% | 22% | 24% | 23% | 26% | 23% |
| A Little Concerned | 22% | 21% | 32% | 29% | 30% | 32% | 30% |
| Not Concerned | 41% | 36% | 28% | 33% | 31% | 24% | 30% |
| No Opinion | 1% | 2% | 1% | 4% | 6% | 2% | 2% |
| c. Lack of sidewalks | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 9% | 24% | 12% | 11% | 15% | 15% | 13% |
| Moderately Concerned | 22% | 18% | 20% | 19% | 17% | 20% | 20% |
| A Little Concerned | 19% | 23% | 27% | 28% | 30% | 24% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 46% | 33% | 39% | 37% | 36% | 38% | 38% |
| No Opinion | 4% | 1% | 2% | 4% | 2% | 3% | 3% |
| d. Inadequate crosswalks | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 8% | 20% | 15% | 10% | 16% | 15% | 14% |
| Moderately Concerned | 13% | 17% | 21% | 18% | 23% | 23% | 20% |
| A Little Concerned | 20% | 29% | 26% | 23% | 20% | 28% | 25% |
| Not Concerned | 57% | 33% | 36% | 43% | 39% | 32% | 38% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 2% | 5% | 2% | 2% | 3% |
| e. Motor vehicle traffic | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 12% | 18% | 9% | 10% | 19% | 14% |
| Moderately Concerned | 12% | 26% | 24% | 15% | 28% | 26% | 22% |
| A Little Concerned | 40% | 27% | 32% | 39% | 26% | 27% | 32% |
| Not Concerned | 45% | 36% | 25% | 35% | 35% | 27% | 30% |
| No Opinion | 0% | 0% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 1% |

Exhibit 7.6 Concerns about Public Spaces (cont.)

| County/Region | BU | HO | LC | MO | TR | VE | REGION |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| f. Not enough traffic lights/stop signs | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 3% | 14% | 9% | 5% | 10% | 16% | 9% |
| Moderately Concerned | 7% | 24% | 13% | 9% | 10% | 17% | 13% |
| A Little Concerned | 18% | 10% | 26% | 26% | 23% | 28% | 24% |
| Not Concerned | 70% | 50% | 51% | 56% | 51% | 37% | 50% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 2% | 4% | 6% | 2% | 3% |
| g. Street lighting | | | | | | | |
| Very Concerned | 5% | 14% | 14% | 10% | 7% | 13% | 12% |
| Moderately Concerned | 15% | 22% | 20% | 12% | 19% | 15% | 18% |
| A Little Concerned | 21% | 20% | 27% | 31% | 22% | 25% | 26% |
| Not Concerned | 57% | 43% | 37% | 44% | 45% | 43% | 41% |
| No Opinion | 2% | 1% | 1% | 3% | 7% | 4% | 3% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.

“ I walk frequently and our community is not pedestrian friendly. You take your life into your own hands when crossing the street.

~ Vernon County Survey Respondent ”

8. Additional Community Insights

Beyond the results presented in Sections 1-7, the study gathered additional community insights from community members in their own words. These insights were collected through two channels, the community survey, and a series of community insight events. This section presents a summary of those results, prefaced with a brief description of thematic analysis methods used to summarize the results.

Thematic Analysis

Through the community survey and the community insight events, respondents were invited to respond to particular questions in their own words rather than through a pre-defined checklist. To summarize the results, Community Health Solutions applied a method called 'thematic analysis' to identify common themes among the responses. Thematic analysis is a process for grouping text responses into categories based on common words and phrases. It is a commonly used method in qualitative analysis. The results of this summary analysis are presented in the exhibits that follow.

In reviewing the results of the thematic analysis, it is important to note that this approach is designed to identify broad themes as a starting point for further analysis. The detailed responses collected through the survey and the community insight events provide a much richer database for understanding community member perspectives in their own words. All of the detailed responses have been shared with the project partners.



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Themes from the Community Survey

At the end of the community survey instrument, respondents were invited to provide any additional comments in their own words. As shown in **Exhibit 8.1**, a total of 169 comments were received from all survey respondents from all counties. A total of 9 comments were received from Trempealeau County survey respondents. Among these:

- The themes identifying service needs included health care services and coverage, social supports, health equity, mental health, transportation, and several other concerns.
- Particular populations mentioned included children and families, the low-income population, and older adults.

Exhibit 8.1 Thematic Analysis: Additional Comments from Survey Respondents

Please provide any additional comments regarding this survey here:

| | All counties (169 survey responses) | Trempealeau County Only (9 survey responses) |
|--|--|---|
| A. Themes Identifying Service Needs | | |
| Social Supports | 51 | 3 |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 44 | 4 |
| Education | 31 | 1 |
| Housing | 30 | 1 |
| Health Equity | 26 | 2 |
| Mental Health | 19 | 2 |
| Employment | 13 | 2 |
| Transportation | 13 | 1 |
| Community Collaboration | 12 | 1 |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 12 | |
| Food Security | 9 | 1 |
| Community Safety | 8 | |
| Substance Use Concerns | 8 | |
| COVID-19 | 7 | |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 7 | 1 |
| Taxes | 6 | |
| Health Behaviors | 5 | |
| Telehealth | 4 | 1 |
| Faith-Based Communities | 3 | |
| Funding-Related | 3 | 1 |
| Chronic Conditions | 2 | |
| Volunteering | 2 | |
| Health Communication | 1 | 1 |
| Social Isolation | 1 | |
| Other (not-issue specified) | 23 | 9 |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Children and Families | 45 | 2 |
| Low Income Population | 20 | 2 |
| Older Adults | 17 | 1 |
| People with Disabilities | 9 | |
| Minority Population / People of Color | 4 | |
| Rural Populations | 4 | |
| LGBTQ+ | 4 | |
| Immigrants/Undocumented | 1 | |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of community survey data.



Themes from Community Insight Events

In addition to the survey of community residents, the study also included a series of community listening events facilitated by personnel from the project partner organizations. The events were held either onsite at community locations or virtually via Zoom. **Exhibit 8.2** lists the event dates and locations.

Exhibit 8.2 List of Community Insight Events

| Location | Group | Date |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1. Arcadia High School, Trempealeau County | Hispanic Focus Group | 9/21/2023 |
| 2. Assembly Room in Sparta | Health and Human Services Board | 7/5/2023 |
| 3. Cia Siab, Inc. La Crosse County | Hmong Maternal & Child Health Group | 9/13/2023 |
| 4. Cia Siab, Inc. La Crosse County | Cia Siab, Inc. Staff Members | 9/11/2023 |
| 5. Hillsboro, Vernon County | St. Joseph's Community Insight Forum | 9/26/2023 |
| 6. Independence Library, Trempealeau County | Hispanic Focus Group | 9/28/2023 |
| 7. La Crosse, WI | La Crosse PRIDE Event Attendees | 9/9/2023 |
| 8. La Crosse, WI | Gundersen Health System Employees & Volunteers | 9/26/2023 |
| 9. Mayo Clinic Health System- La Crosse, La Crosse County | Social work team | 9/8/2023 |
| 10. Mayo Clinic Health System-La Crosse, La Crosse County | Social work team | 9/11/2023 |
| 11. Multiple Counties | Nonprofit Directors | 7/25/2023 |
| 12. Multiple Counties | Community Health Workers | 7/19/2023 |
| 13. Sparta, Monroe County | Monroe County Health and Human Services Board | 8/2/2023 |
| 14. Sparta, WI, Monroe County | Needle Exchange staff | 6/21/2023 |
| 15. Sparta, WI, Monroe County | Monroe County Health Department Maternal and Child Programming | 7/10/2023 |
| 16. Virtual Attendees from La Crosse and Monroe Counties | Head Start Staff Members | 9/26/2023 |
| 17. Wilton, WI, Monroe County | Together With Veterans Monthly Breakfast | 9/25/2023 |
| 18. Zoom, representatives from La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon counties | Coulee Collaborative to End Homelessness | 8/15/2023 |
| 19. Zoom-Monroe County 54660 | Monroe County Nutrition Coalition | 8/8/2023 |

Source: Great Rivers United Way

An Important Note on Methods

Exhibits 8.3-8.7 present the thematic analysis of insights captured at the events. During the events, participants were invited to share multiple insights in response to each question. Consequently, a participant's response to a given question might include several different insights, or 'statements.' With this dynamic in mind, the unit of analysis in the following exhibits is the number of statements classified into each theme, rather than the number of individuals.



Important Health Issues. Participants in community insight events were asked: What do you see as the most important health issues or concerns facing your community? **Exhibit 8.3** lists the results.

- As shown in Part A of the exhibit, the most common themes identifying services needs included health care services and coverage, mental health, social services/supports, substance use concerns, and health behaviors.
- As shown in Part B, particular populations mentioned included children and families, low-income population, people with chronic conditions, older adults, rural populations, LGBTQ+ populations, minority population / people of color, immigrants/undocumented, and people with disabilities.

Exhibit 8.3 Community Insight Events: Important Health Issues

What do you see as the most important health issues or concerns facing your community?

| Themes identified from 334 statements collected at events: | Number of statements involving this theme | % |
|--|---|-----|
| A. Themes Identifying Service Needs | | |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 145 | 43% |
| Mental Health | 81 | 24% |
| Social Services/Supports | 62 | 19% |
| Substance Use Concerns | 47 | 14% |
| Health Behaviors | 43 | 13% |
| Housing | 42 | 13% |
| Food Security | 20 | 6% |
| Chronic Conditions | 15 | 4% |
| Transportation | 14 | 4% |
| Education | 13 | 4% |
| Health Equity | 10 | 3% |
| Social Isolation | 8 | 2% |
| Communicable Disease | 7 | 2% |
| Community Safety | 7 | 2% |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 7 | 2% |
| COVID-19 | 6 | 2% |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 6 | 2% |
| Health Communication | 4 | 1% |
| Community Collaboration | 3 | 1% |
| Domestic Violence | 3 | 1% |
| Employment | 3 | 1% |
| Staffing | 3 | 1% |
| Funding-Related | 2 | 1% |
| Telehealth | 1 | 0% |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Children and Families | 17 | 5% |
| Low Income Population | 15 | 4% |
| Older Adults | 14 | 4% |
| Rural Populations | 6 | 2% |
| LGBTQ+ | 5 | 1% |
| Minority Populations / People of Color | 4 | 1% |
| Immigrants/Undocumented | 2 | 1% |
| People with Disabilities | 1 | 0% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events.



New or Emerging Health Issues. Participants in community insight events were asked: Are you aware of any new or emerging health issues or concerns that people should know about? **Exhibit 8.4** lists the results.

- As shown in Part A of the exhibit, the most common themes identifying service needs included health care services and coverage, social services/supports, COVID-19, mental health, and substance use concerns.
- As shown in Part B, particular population mentioned included children and families, older adults, low-income population, immigrants/undocumented, LGBTQ+, women, minority populations / people of color, and rural populations.

Exhibit 8.4 Community Insight Events: New or Emerging Health Issues

Are you aware of any new or emerging health issues or concerns that people should know about?

| Themes identified from 243 statements collected at events: | Number of statements involving this theme | % |
|--|---|-----|
| A. Themes Identifying Service Needs | | |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 60 | 25% |
| Social Services/Supports | 36 | 15% |
| COVID-19 | 34 | 14% |
| Mental Health | 30 | 12% |
| Substance Use Concerns | 23 | 9% |
| Housing | 16 | 7% |
| Food Security | 13 | 5% |
| Communicable Disease | 12 | 5% |
| Education | 12 | 5% |
| Chronic Conditions | 11 | 5% |
| Health Behaviors | 11 | 5% |
| Staffing | 10 | 4% |
| Community Safety | 9 | 4% |
| Health Communication | 8 | 3% |
| Social Isolation | 7 | 3% |
| Community Collaboration | 5 | 2% |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 5 | 2% |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 4 | 2% |
| Health Equity | 4 | 2% |
| Employment | 3 | 1% |
| Transportation | 3 | 1% |
| Volunteering | 2 | 1% |
| Domestic Violence | 1 | 0% |
| Telehealth | 1 | 0% |
| Other (not-issue specified) | 5 | 2% |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Children and Families | 28 | 12% |
| Older Adults | 16 | 7% |
| Low Income Population | 9 | 4% |
| Immigrants/Undocumented | 4 | 2% |
| LGBTQ+ | 4 | 2% |
| Women | 3 | 1% |
| Minority Population/POC | 1 | 0% |
| Rural Populations | 1 | 0% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events.



Vulnerable Populations. Participants in community insight events were asked: Are there any particular population groups who may be especially vulnerable for problems with their health or health care? **Exhibit 8.5** lists the results.

- As shown in Part A of the exhibit, the most common themes identifying service needs included health equity, health care services and coverage, housing, diversity, and inclusion, social services/supports, and mental health.
- As shown in Part B, particular populations mentioned included low-income population, older adults, children and families, minority population / people of color, LGBTQ+, immigrants / undocumented, women, people with disabilities, and rural populations.

Exhibit 8.5 Community Insight Events: Vulnerable Populations

Are there any particular population groups who may be especially vulnerable for problems with their health or health care?

| Themes identified from 286 statements collected at events: | Number of statements involving this theme | % |
|--|---|-----|
| A. Themes Identifying Service Needs | | |
| Health Equity | 79 | 28% |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 40 | 14% |
| Housing | 39 | 14% |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 24 | 8% |
| Social Services/Supports | 13 | 5% |
| Mental Health | 13 | 5% |
| Substance Use Concerns | 8 | 3% |
| Transportation | 8 | 3% |
| Domestic Violence | 6 | 2% |
| Community Safety | 4 | 1% |
| Health Behaviors | 4 | 1% |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 4 | 1% |
| Social Isolation | 4 | 1% |
| Chronic Conditions | 3 | 1% |
| Education | 3 | 1% |
| COVID-19 | 2 | 1% |
| Other (not-issue specified) | 8 | 3% |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Low Income Population | 67 | 23% |
| Older Adults | 47 | 16% |
| Children and Families | 47 | 16% |
| Minority Populations / People of Color | 31 | 11% |
| LGBTQ+ | 23 | 8% |
| Immigrants/Undocumented | 10 | 3% |
| Women | 7 | 2% |
| People with Disabilities | 5 | 2% |
| Rural Populations | 4 | 1% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events.



Important Health Resources. Participants in community insight events were asked: What do you see as the most important health resources available to support people in your community? **Exhibit 8.6** lists the results.

- As shown in Part A of the exhibit, the most common themes identifying community resources included health care services and coverage, social services/supports, education, food security, and mental health.
- As shown in Part B, particular populations mentioned included children and families, women, older adults, low-income population, people with disabilities, immigrants/undocumented, LGBTQ+, minority populations / people of color, and rural populations.

Exhibit 8.6 Community Insight Events: Important Health Resources

What do you see as the most important health resources available to support people in your community?

| Themes identified from 274 statements collected at events: | Number of statements involving this theme | % |
|--|---|-----|
| A. Themes Identifying Community Resources | | |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 135 | 49% |
| Social Services/Supports | 91 | 33% |
| Education | 15 | 5% |
| Food Security | 14 | 5% |
| Mental Health | 12 | 4% |
| Health Behaviors | 10 | 4% |
| Housing | 9 | 3% |
| Community Collaboration | 8 | 3% |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 8 | 3% |
| Transportation | 7 | 3% |
| Employment | 6 | 2% |
| Health Communication | 6 | 2% |
| Communicable Disease | 5 | 2% |
| Community Safety | 4 | 1% |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 4 | 1% |
| Substance Use Concerns | 4 | 1% |
| Chronic Conditions | 2 | 1% |
| Funding-Related | 2 | 1% |
| Health Equity | 2 | 1% |
| Volunteering | 1 | 0% |
| Other (not-issue specified) | 3 | 1% |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Children and Families | 20 | 7% |
| Women | 6 | 2% |
| Older Adults | 5 | 2% |
| Low Income Population | 4 | 1% |
| People with Disabilities | 3 | 1% |
| Immigrants/Undocumented | 1 | 0% |
| LGBTQ+ | 1 | 0% |
| Minority Populations / People of Color | 1 | 0% |
| Rural Populations | 1 | 0% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events.



Ideas for Working Together. Participants in community insight events were asked: Do you have any ideas about how people or organizations could work together to promote better health or health care for the community? **Exhibit 8.7** lists the results.

- As shown in Part A of the exhibit, the most common themes identifying ideas for working together included community collaboration generally, health care services and coverage, social services/supports, health communication, and education.
- As shown in Part B, particular populations mentioned included children and families, older adults, low-income population, minority populations / people of color, rural populations, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+, and women.

Exhibit 8.7 Community Insight Events: Ideas for Working Together

Do you have any ideas about how people or organizations could work together to promote better health or health care for the community?

| Themes identified from 205 statements collected at events: | Number of statements involving this theme | % |
|--|---|-----|
| A. Themes Identifying Ideas for Working Together | | |
| Community Collaboration (generally) | 61 | 30% |
| Health Care Services and Coverage | 54 | 26% |
| Social Services/Supports | 44 | 21% |
| Health Communication | 35 | 17% |
| Education | 28 | 14% |
| Mental Health | 10 | 5% |
| Food Security | 7 | 3% |
| Health Behaviors | 6 | 3% |
| Health Equity | 6 | 3% |
| Volunteering | 6 | 3% |
| Funding-Related | 5 | 2% |
| Housing | 5 | 2% |
| Transportation | 5 | 2% |
| Health Environment (Built or Natural) | 4 | 2% |
| Community Safety | 3 | 1% |
| Social Isolation | 3 | 1% |
| Telehealth | 3 | 1% |
| Diversity and Inclusion | 2 | 1% |
| Employment | 2 | 1% |
| Staffing | 2 | 1% |
| Communicable Disease | 1 | 0% |
| COVID-19 | 1 | 0% |
| Substance Use Concerns | 1 | 0% |
| Other (not-issue specified) | 6 | 3% |
| B. Particular Populations Mentioned | | |
| Children and Families | 21 | 10% |
| Older Adults | 6 | 3% |
| Low Income Population | 3 | 1% |
| Minority Population/POC | 2 | 1% |
| Rural Populations | 2 | 1% |
| People with Disabilities | 2 | 1% |
| LGBTQ+ | 1 | 0% |
| Women | 1 | 0% |

Source: Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events.

9. Prioritization & Reflection

Community Insight on Priority Needs

All information presented thus far has been collected data and community input. As a culmination of the Compass process, community stakeholder meetings were held in each county to review the data, discuss community issues, prioritize community issues, and identify community assets.



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The invited participants included representatives from local businesses, education, faith, government, health and human services, nonprofit organizations, and the general public. A total of 177 individuals participated in the various county meetings. The meetings in each county were planned and facilitated by the public health departments and local hospitals in coordination with Great Rivers United Way. Each county decided on the number and types of meetings that would best meet the needs of their community. Meetings are listed in **Exhibit 9.1**

Exhibit 9.1 Community Stakeholder Meetings

| County | Location | Date |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| Buffalo | Roger Marten Community Center, Mondovi, WI | 3/7/2024 |
| Buffalo | Cochrane Fountain City School Auditorium, Fountain City, WI | 3/19/2024 |
| Buffalo | Virtual | 3/22/2024 |
| Houston | ABLE, Inc, Caledonia, MN | 3/26/2024 |
| La Crosse | The Nature Place, La Crosse, WI | 3/13/2024 |
| La Crosse | Virtual | 3/19/2024 |
| La Crosse | Hazel Brown Leicht Memorial Library, West Salem, WI | 3/21/2024 |
| Monroe | Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey, Sparta, WI | 3/12/2024 |
| Monroe | Virtual | 3/13/2024 |
| Monroe | Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey, Sparta, WI | 3/18/2024 |
| Trempealeau | Gundersen Tri-County Hospital, Whitehall, WI | 4/4/2024 |
| Vernon | McIntosh Memorial Library, Viroqua, WI | 4/18/2024 |
| Vernon | Gundersen St. Joseph's Hospital, Hillsboro, WI | 4/23/2024 |

Source: Great Rivers United Way

Stakeholder meeting participants were presented with data from their county and given opportunities to give input on the top needs of the county. Presentations can be found online at www.compassnow.org.

Facilitators presented data through Canva slides. Data was presented as infographics of the following topics: Maternal and Child’s Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity, Communicable Disease, Oral Health, Aging and Disability; Environment (built and quality of), Access to Care, Social and Economic Factors (includes housing, employment, education, transportation, and childcare), Injury and Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health. The presentation can be found online at www.compassnow.org.



At three points during the presentation, participants were given opportunities to discuss the topics presented using the following prompts:

- Which health areas have the largest community impact?
- Which health areas have the most serious impact?
- Which health areas is our community ready to change?

At the end of the stakeholder meeting, participants were given the opportunity to pick their top three health issues from a list that matched the topics presented. Additionally, stakeholders were given the opportunity to choose their top three health issues via an online vote. The voting results were combined. The top health issues are shown in **Exhibit 9.2**.

Exhibit 9.2 Trempealeau County Top Needs

| Topic | Number of Votes |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mental Health | 15 |
| Nutrition and Access to Food | 11 |
| Access to Care | 8 |
| Substance Use | 7 |
| Dental Health | 6 |
| Income/Employment | 5 |
| Aging & Disability | 4 |
| Housing | 4 |

Source: Trempealeau County Health Department

Throughout the stakeholder meetings, facilitators encouraged participants to use sticky notes to write down different issues facing the county. **Exhibit 9.3** is a word cloud of the community issues identified by meeting participants.



Exhibit 9.3: Community Issues Word Cloud

Reflection on Top Needs

The following is a review of data relating to the top 5 issues identified as priorities for Trempealeau County. As we reflect on these top needs, we also recognize that the issues identified affect some groups more than others. While this report is intended as a broad overview of the status of the health of the region, it is just a starting point in exploring how best to respond to our health needs. Using a health equity lens is important in understanding how vulnerable groups such as those who are low-income, LGBT+, have a disability, or are a racial or ethnic minority are impacted differently and the root causes of those differences. In the following reflection of community needs, when you see this symbol,



it means the topic was discussed in Hispanic focus groups.

Mental Health

Trempealeau County identified mental health as a top need. The main themes of mental health concerns that emerged from the stakeholder meeting are the need for mental health crisis options, the need for on-going support, more providers, youth support, and community education and training.

Section 4 of this report covers youth mental health data, survey respondents' rating of their mental health, and survey respondents' level of concern about mental health and mental health stigma. Section 5 of this report covers data on the availability of mental health providers and survey respondents' rating of their ability to access and pay for mental health care. Infographic data from the stakeholder meeting presentation supporting this need follow.

Exhibit 9.4 shows youth mental health data. Youth report experiencing mental health issues. In the 2020-2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey taken in high schools in Trempealeau County youth were asked a series of questions regarding mental health. About half answered that they had experienced either anxiety, depression, self-harm, and/or suicidal ideation in the past year. Further analysis shows higher percentages of students who are low-income or identify as LGBT+ experiencing mental health problems. For more information on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, please visit Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs>.

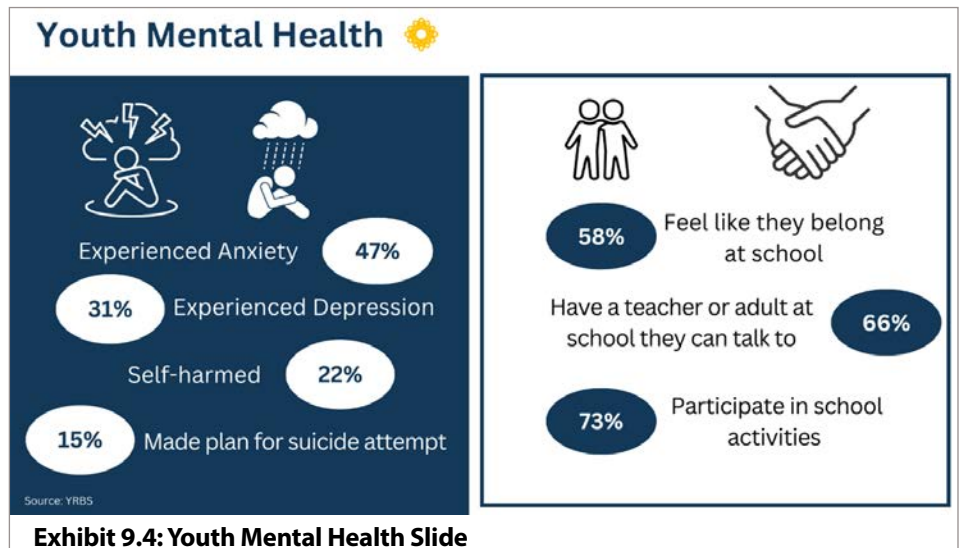


Exhibit 9.4: Youth Mental Health Slide

Over time, survey respondents have increasingly rated their overall mental health as fair or poor. The ratings of access to mental health care and the ability to pay for mental health care have varied. There were improved ratings from 2018 to 2021, but worse ratings in 2024. While the Compass survey is considered a snapshot in time and can't be used to make general conclusions about the whole population, it is a concern that an increasing proportion of respondents have rated their overall mental health as fair or poor and at the same time rated increasingly fair or poor access to care. **Exhibit 9.5** is a slide of mental health data from the Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting. The yellow symbol indicates mental health was a topic of concern at the Hispanic focus groups.

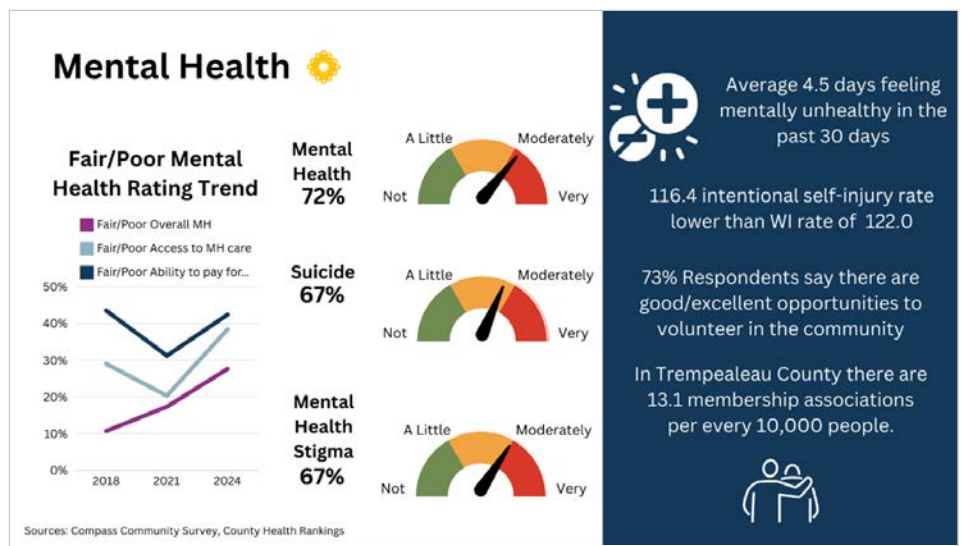


Exhibit 9.5: Mental Health Slide

Nutrition and Access to Food

Trempealeau County stakeholders identified nutrition and food access as a top need. The themes from the stakeholder meeting involving nutrition and food access include the need for nutrition education, access to affordable healthy foods, the need for more grocery stores, and the need for grocery shopping assistance.

Section 4 of this report covers health behavior data like youth fruit and veggie consumption and obesity rates. Section 6 of this report covers socio-economic factors that impact a household's ability to access healthy food. Infographic data from the stakeholder meeting presentation supporting this need follow.

Exhibit 9.6 is a Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting slide showing data related to nutrition and physical activity: grocery store access, food insecurity, and youth fruit and veggie consumption. The slide also shows the leading causes of death impacted by nutrition and food access.

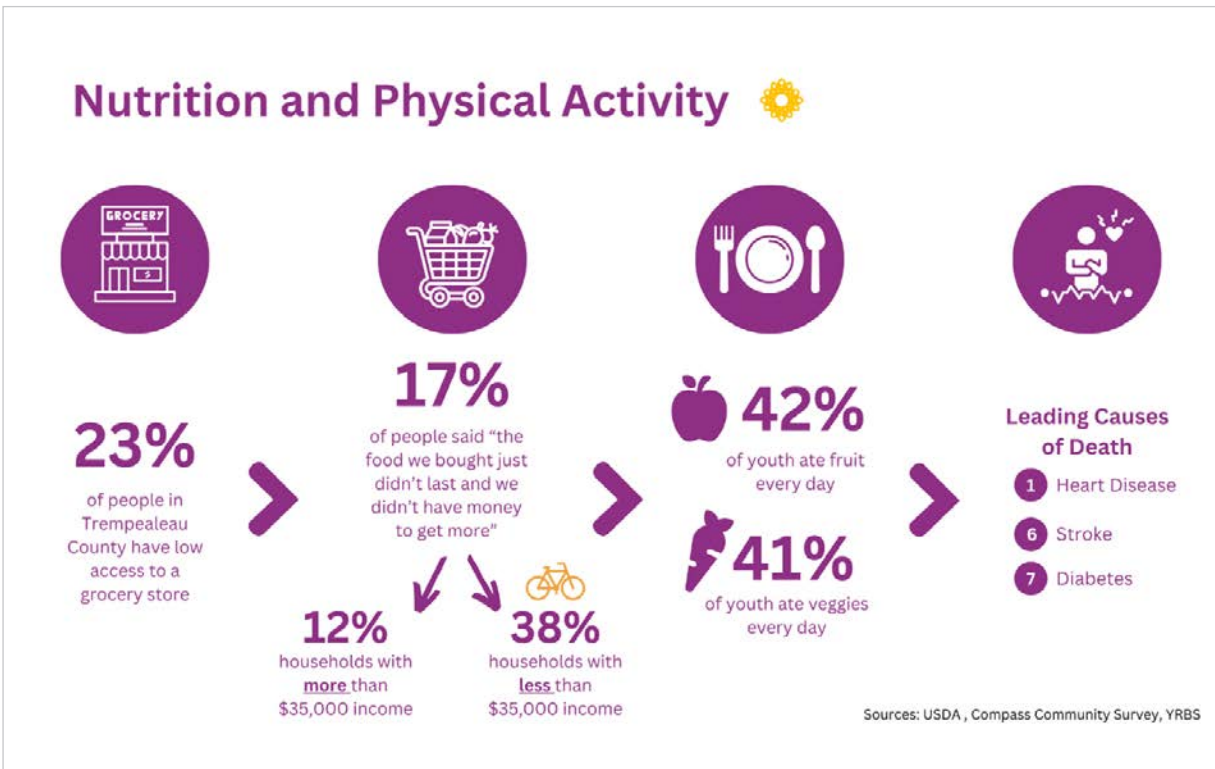


Exhibit 9.6: Nutrition and Physical Activity Slide

Access to Care

Stakeholders in Trempealeau County identified healthcare access as a top need. Themes from the stakeholder meeting sticky notes include access to medical care in general and specifically for Medicaid patients and EMS resources in addition to access to mental health and AODA treatment options covered in the Mental Health need section and access to dental health care especially for Medicaid patients covered in the Dental Health section.

Section 5 of this report covers Health Care Access and Utilization data. Infographic data from the stakeholder meeting presentation supporting this need follow.

Exhibit 9.7 is the Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting slide showing the ratio of population for every 1 provider for primary healthcare, mental health care, and dental care. As shown by the darker shade of blue, Trempealeau County has more people per care provider than several other counties included in this report.

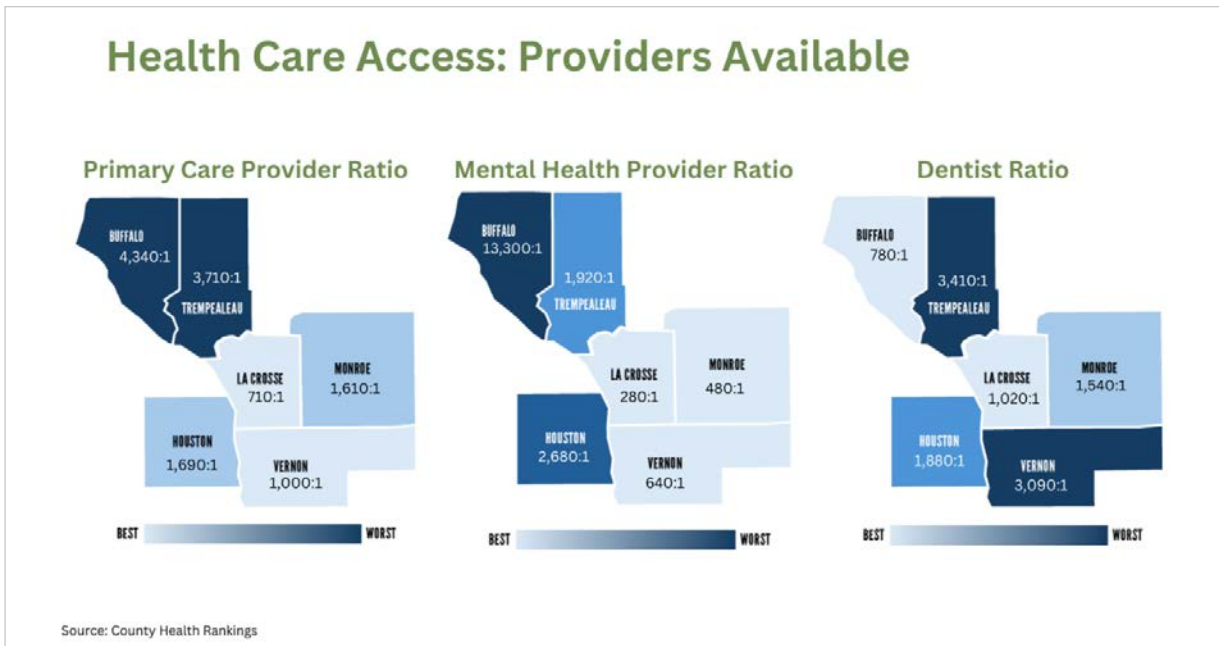


Exhibit 9.7: Providers Available Slide

Exhibit 9.8 is the Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting slide showing other data related to health care access. Hispanic focus group participants were concerned about accessing health insurance and barriers to receiving health care.

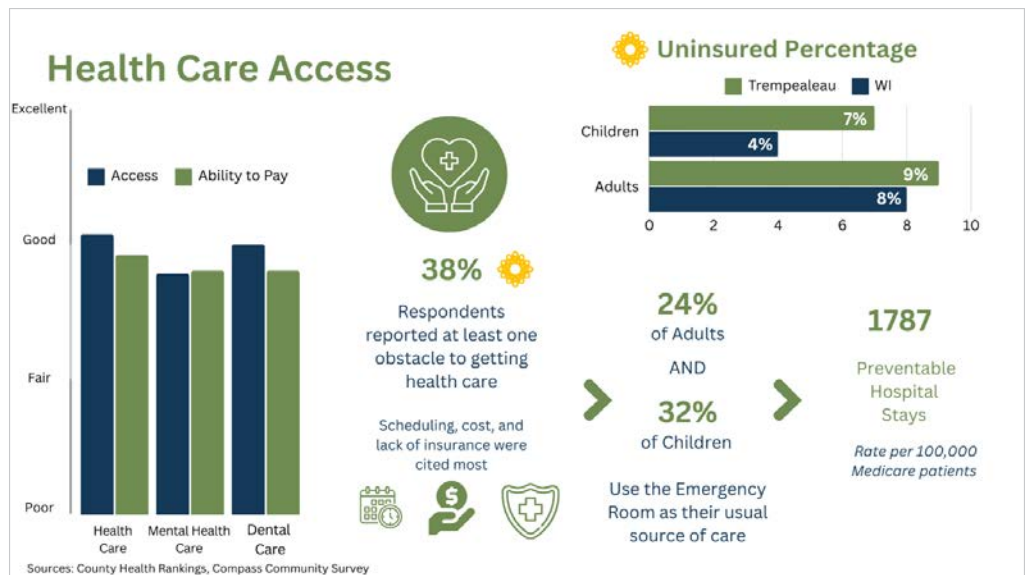


Exhibit 9.8: Health Care Access

Substance Use

Trempealeau County stakeholders identified substance use as a top need. Access to Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction (AODA) treatment and on-going support were identified by stakeholders as specific needs.

Section 4 of this report covers health behaviors like smoking and alcohol use; youth substance use; and levels of concern about various substances. Infographic data from the stakeholder meeting presentation supporting this need follow.

Exhibit 9.9 is the Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting slide showing data related to tobacco usage and level of concern for tobacco use and vaping/e-cigarette use. **Exhibit 9.10** is a slide showing data related to alcohol use and level of concern for alcohol use. **Exhibit 9.11** is a slide showing marijuana and opioid use and the level of concern for illegal drug use and prescription drug misuse.

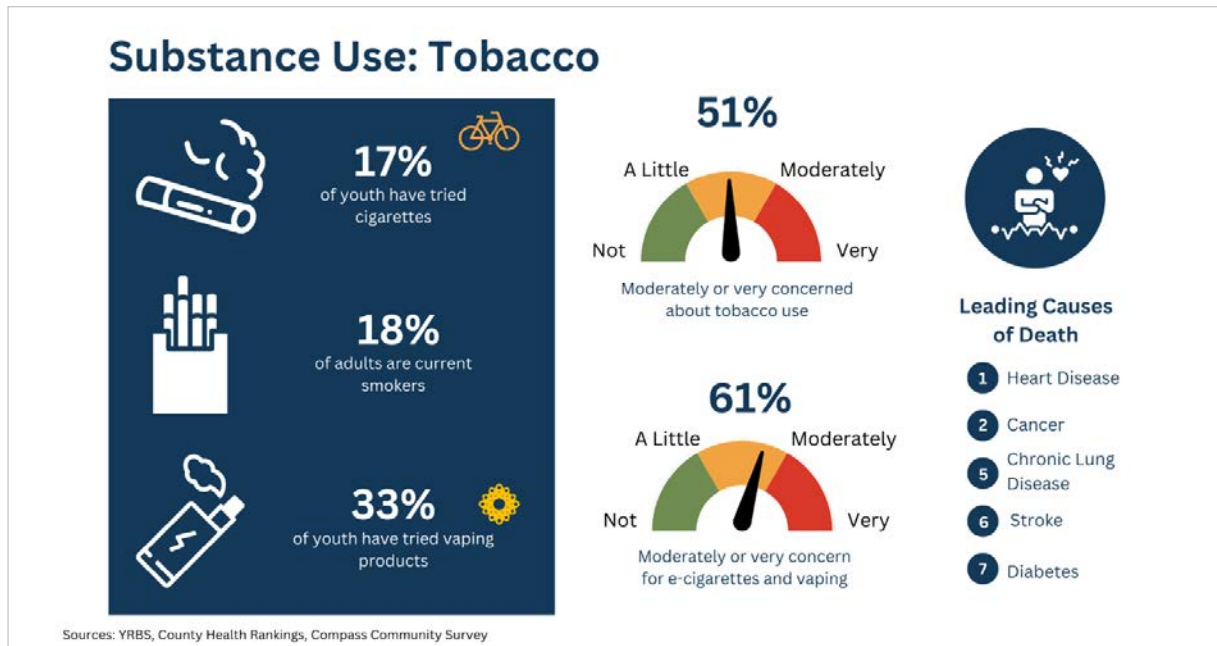


Exhibit 9.9: Tobacco Slide



Exhibit 9.10: Alcohol Slide

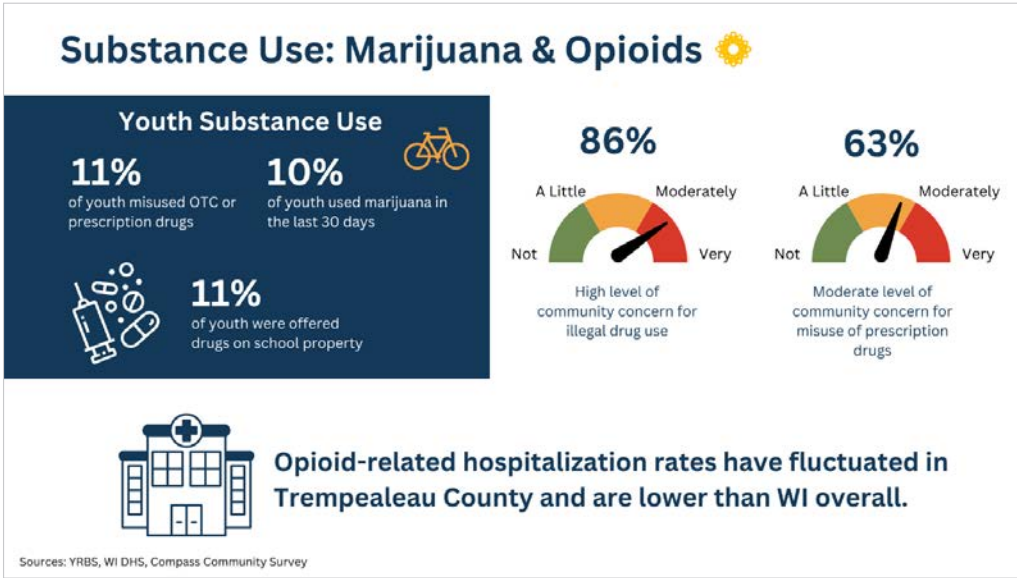


Exhibit 9.11: Marijuana & Opioids Slide

Dental Health

Stakeholders in Trempealeau County identified dental health as a top need. A major concern for stakeholders was access to dental care for Medicaid patients.

Section 5 of this report covers Health Care Access and Utilization data. Infographic data from the stakeholder meeting presentation supporting this need follow.

Exhibit 9.12 is the Trempealeau County stakeholder meeting slide showing data related to dental health. As seen in **Exhibit 9.7** the ratio of population for every dental provider is high compared to other counties in the region. Over one-third of survey respondents reported barriers to receiving dental care and only 19% of Medicaid members were able to receive preventive care.

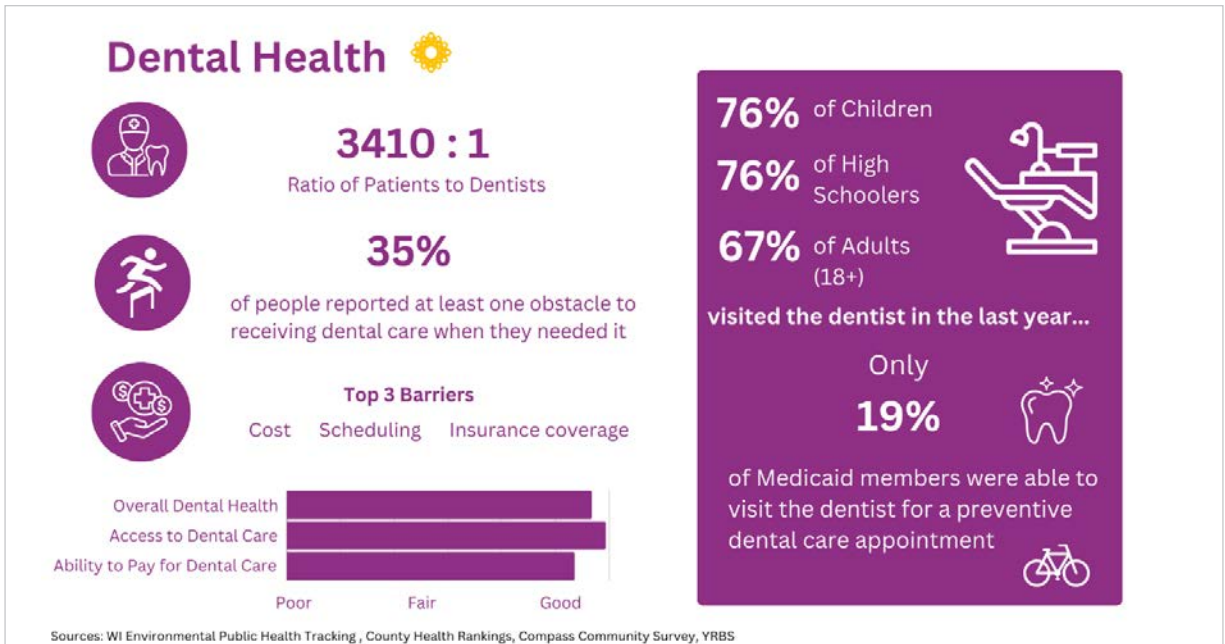


Exhibit 9.12: Dental Health Slide

Community Assets

An important step in addressing community needs is identifying community assets. Trempealeau County stakeholders were asked to identify community assets that could be leveraged to help address the community's top needs. **Exhibit 9.13** are the organizations, groups, programs, and characteristics identified as community assets. The list is a starting point and not exhaustive.

Exhibit 9.13: Community Asset List: Trempealeau County

Participants at the Trempealeau County Stakeholder Meetings were asked to identify community assets to leverage when working towards solutions. The following are organizations, groups, and characteristics identified as community assets:



- ADRC
- Public Health
- Local Health Department
- Schools
- Law enforcement
- School police liaisons
- Healthcare systems
- Food Pantries
- Collaborative group involvement to focus on a specific action
- County resources & programs
- Hospital support
- People who care- we need to get coalitions of people with a vested interest from multiple sectors to make incremental change together
- Resource guide / 211
- Social Services
- Large employers could contribute if the county reached out to them
- WIC program
- Social groups such as Lions Club
- Medical Facilities
- Access to information
- Western Dairyland's Housing & Employment Programs

Appendix A - Data Sources

| | |
|---|---|
| Community Demographics (Sections 1, 2, and 6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Health Solutions analysis of demographic estimates (2023) and population projections (2028) from ESRI. |
| County Health Rankings (Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings. Retrieved in July 2023 from http://www.countyhealthrankings.org:Full Rankings for WisconsinFull Rankings for MinnesotaCounty Health Rankings ModelMeasures and Data Sources |
| Leading Causes of Death (Section 3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system (2021 data)2020 Minnesota Department of Health County Health Tables |
| Maternal and Infant Health (Section 3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system2020 Minnesota Department of Health County Health Tables |
| Cancer Screening Rates (Section 5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wisconsin data from Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative, Interactive County Cancer Data Dashboard.Minnesota data from National Cancer Institute State Cancer Profiles |
| Youth Risk Profile (Section 4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, County-Level Youth Risk Behavior Survey Reports, 2020-2021 School YearMinnesota Student Survey County Tables, 2021-22 School Year, Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team: Minnesota Department of Education Minnesota Department of Health Minnesota Department of Human Services Minnesota Department of Public Safety |
| ALICE Households (Section 6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">United for ALICE National Research Center, Accessed September 2023. |
| Child Services Cases (Section 6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report Annual Report for Calendar Year 2021 to the Governor and Legislature Wis. Stat. s. 48.47(8). Also, Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Out-of-Home Care (Otte) Dashboard.CPS Referrals and Child Abuse Cases for Minnesota were not included in this report as definitions for cases and referrals in Minnesota may vary from Wisconsin definitions.For more information on Minnesota Maltreatment data, visit https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/edocs/child-protection-foster-care-adoption/ |
| Community Survey (Sections 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Health Solutions analysis of survey responses submitted by community residents in June – September, 2023. Raw survey data provided to Great Rivers United Way under separate cover. |
| Community Insight Events (Section 8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Health Solutions analysis of themes emerging from participant statements captured at community insight events. Original statements provided to Great Rivers United Way under separate cover. |



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