



Will County Community Health Needs Assessment



Will County MAPP COLLABORATIVE 2020

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



To all Will County Residents and Partners in our Public Health System,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment for the County of Will. This document is a culmination of a great amount of effort from our Mobilizing for Action in Planning and Partnership (MAPP) Collaborative.

I use the word “our” because it is truly a group effort. The many partner organizations that devote their time to this process have donated countless hours, in addition to the responsibilities of their jobs, to make Will County a better place to live and work. Additionally, many of these member partners have been with the Collaborative for several years, and have proven to be a vital part of the process. This is evident by the successes we have been able to celebrate by documented improvements in our community.

This Community Health Needs Assessment will provide the blueprint for the MAPP Collaborative and its partner organizations for the next three years. It will assist residents, institutions, and leaders of Will County by informing them of factors that can improve health, prevent illness, and move towards health equity.

I am motivated by the opportunities this assessment provides in improving the health and wellness of Will County and look forward to working with all our community partners, and hopefully gathering additional community health partners in the process!

Susan Olenek
Executive Director
Will County Health Department
Chairman, Will County MAPP Collaborative

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Will County Community Health Needs Assessment Executive Summary

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a collaborative effort of the Will County Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Collaborative. The purpose of the CHNA is to provide a community plan that is developed by and for the community. The assessment and planning process is required every three years for hospitals and every five years for local health departments. The Will County Health Department has aligned its assessment process with the three-year hospital requirements to avoid a duplication of efforts and to expand on the evidenced based needs of the community.

Vision, Mission, and Value Statements

Vision Statement

Achieving equitable and optimal health in body and mind for all Will County residents.

Mission Statement

The Will County MAPP Collaborative will assess the health needs of the community and develop, implement, and evaluate initiatives to promote the highest quality of life for all residents.

Value Statements

Health Equity: All individuals have the opportunity to realize their full potential and to achieve the highest quality of life.

Collective Impact: We strive to be a progressive community that maximizes the use of community partnerships and collaboration among all sectors to ensure, enhance and promote comprehensive, quality, and equitable education, healthcare, and social services.

Respect: Every life has value.

Communication: We commit to sharing our data, assessments, and plans in order to educate and engage the community.

Quality: We believe in evaluation, continuous improvement, and innovation.

Inclusiveness: We are a community rich in diversity, where involvement and commitment have deep roots among our residents.

Collaborative Process and Assessment Methodology

In 2018, the Will County MAPP Collaborative convened to conduct the fourth iteration of the MAPP process. MAPP is a community-driven, strategic planning framework that assists communities in developing and implementing efforts around the prioritization of public health issues and the identification of resources to address them, as defined by the 10 Essential Public Health Services. The MAPP process has six phases which include four assessments. The *Mobilizing and Organizing Partners to Achieve Health Equity* supplemental guide was used during this assessment process.

Community Health Status Assessment

The Community Health Status Assessment (CHSA) is one of four assessments conducted as a part of the MAPP process. During this assessment, information regarding demographics, health status, health

behaviors, and social determinants in the community is gathered and analyzed. Data is collected from a variety of resources and analyzed comparing local, state, and national benchmarks when available.

Community Themes and Strengths Assessment

The Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA) aims to gather community members' perceptions, thoughts, opinions, and concerns regarding quality of life in Will County. This input provides valuable insight into the issues of importance to the community. The CTSA was conducted June-July 2019.

Forces of Change Assessment

The Forces of Change Assessment (FOCA) aims to identify all the forces and associated opportunities and threats that can affect, either now or in the future, the local public health system. Forces may be social, economic, political, technological, environmental, scientific, legal, and/or ethical in nature. Forces can be trends, factors, or events. The FOCA was conducted March-April 2019.

Local Public Health System Assessment

The Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) was conducted in May 2019. The LPHSA is used to understand the overall strengths and weaknesses of the public health system based on the 10 Essential Public Health Services.

Prioritization of Strategic Issues

On September 13, 2019, Forty Will County public health stakeholders participated in a planning session at Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center to review key findings from the four MAPP assessments, identify cross-cutting themes and potential strategic issues, and prioritize a set of strategic issues. The meeting was facilitated by the Illinois Public Health Institute. Attendees identified five potential strategic issues but could not come to consensus.

In September, MAPP Executive Committee members were asked to use a *Prioritization Criteria and Planning Worksheet* during the discussion of the previously identified strategic issues. All attendees agreed that transportation and housing stabilization is a concern, but that it could be nested under all strategic issues and become a goal of the MAPP Executive Committee. A prioritization on supporting a community of wellness, as it relates to social determinants of health, focusing on Access to Food and Nutrition, Access to Health Care, Behavioral Health and Substance use, and the Built Environment. These task forces were devised entering 2020 to measurably reduce adverse health outcomes for target populations of will county.

MAPP Executive Committee members decided that behavioral health and substance use, access to health care, access to food and nutrition, and the stabilization of the built environment would be the top three strategic issues for the next three years entering 2020.

Access to Health Care

Access to comprehensive, quality healthcare services is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equity. Access is a complex issue with multiple components including availability, affordability, proximity and timeliness. Findings from the assessments detail access issues to healthcare services and resources. Specific priority needs identified in the assessment process include:

- Coordination and Linkage to Primary Medical Home
- Access to services and resources
- Benefits enrollment
- Policy, Education, Empowerment
- Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues
- Technological Assistance and Advancements

Access to Dental and Primary Care	
Insurance Coverage	
Issue	Target Population
<p>10.36% of the Will County working age population (18-64) was uninsured in 2016. There has been an overall decrease in the percentage of uninsured population since 2010. 16.43 % of the Hispanic/Latino population in Will County reported no health insurance coverage, compared to 5.42% of the non-Hispanic/Latino population.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males • African American and Asian races • Hispanic ethnicity • 60432, 60433, and 60484
Provider Availability	
<p>Will County has a total of 391 primary care physicians, yielding a ratio of population to primary care physicians of 1,760:1. Will County has a total of 361 dentists, yielding a ratio of population to dentists of 1,830:1 compared to 1310:1 for Illinois. 15.9% of adults in Will County report that they do not have at least one person that they consider to be their primary care provider. There is one community on the East side of Joliet designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as an area having shortages of primary care, dental care, and mental health providers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433 zip code • Non-white males, ages 25-44 with an income less than \$35,000
Preventable Hospital Visits	
<p>Will County's ambulatory care sensitive condition discharge rate was 69 per 1,000 Medicare enrollees in 2014, which is higher than both Illinois (59) and the U.S. (38), but has decreased since 2010. Ambulatory care sensitive conditions include pneumonia, dehydration, asthma, diabetes, and other conditions which could have been prevented if adequate primary care resources were available and accessed by those patients.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare beneficiaries

Improving Behavioral Health

Behavioral health is a term used to include both mental health and substance use disorders. Mental health disorders are among the most common causes of disability. Mental disorders attributed to 7.8% (5,783) of Will County hospitalizations in 2014, and is the third leading cause of hospitalizations overall. Findings from the assessments detail access issues to behavioral health services, as well as resources.

Behavioral health issues impact population groups across income levels as well as racial and ethnic groups. Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

- Coordination and Linkage to mental health services
- Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues
- Technological Assistance and Advancements
- Policy, Education, Empowerment

Improving Behavioral Health	
Provider Availability	
Issue	Target Population
Will County has a total of 645 mental health providers, yielding a ratio of population to mental health providers of 1,010:1, compared to 480:1 for Illinois. There is one community on the East side of Joliet designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as an area having a shortage of mental health providers. According to providers, three barriers for clients to access services were identified: cost of needed services, wait for services, and proximity to access services. They also reported that psychiatric services are the most difficult to access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433 zip code • Southern Will County
Emotional and Mental Health	
37% of Will County adults, aged 18 and older, self-reported that they experienced at least one and up to 30 "not good" mental health days in the past month. 19.2% of adults self-reported that they receive insufficient emotional and social support all or most of the time. 35% of 12 th graders experienced depression in 2018, 7% increase from 2014.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults • High school youth
Substance Use	
23.6% of adults, aged 18 and older, reported binge or heavy alcohol consumption in 2012. 13.4% reported regular tobacco use in 2014. 23% of 12 th graders report binge alcohol consumption in the past two weeks in 2018. 45% of 12 th graders report using alcohol, 35% of 12 th graders report using e-cigarettes or vaping, and 26% report using marijuana in the last 30 days, Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) 2018. 26% of all 12 th graders also reported experiencing two or more consequences due to substance use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults • High school youth
Drug Overdose	
In 2017, there were 117 total overdose deaths, 73% of which were male. Of the 117 accidental overdoses, 87 deaths were heroin related. Combined drug intoxication was the second leading cause of accidental overdose. 57% of overdoses were in Joliet, followed by Romeoville and Lockport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males
Suicide	
In 2017, there were 324 unnatural deaths in Will County, of which approximately 25% were attributed to suicide, which has doubled since 2014; Of which, 81.25% testing positive for substances. 14% of 12 th graders and 16% of 10 th graders reported considering suicide in the past year in 2018.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Youth • Adults

Stabilizing the Built Environment

In Will County, housing security, and transportation security has been nested as an issue in all major strategic categories. Being housing insecure reduces life expectancy by nearly half. Individuals experiencing housing insecurity tend to present multiple chronic illness conditions and have the least access to resources to improve quality of life and health outcome. Findings from the assessments detail access issues to housing and transportation security and resources. Specific priority needs, and populations identified in the assessment process include

- Vocational Training
- Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues
- Technological Assistance and Advancements
- Health Service linkage and coordination
- Evaluate the environment
- Policy, Education, Empowerment

Stabilizing the Built Environment	
Issue	Target Population
In Will County, 341 individuals were identified as Housing insecure or “homeless” under the definition in 2018 and over 30% were children. Children tend to be of the majority of Medicaid recipients and individuals experiencing poverty. Being housing insecure reduces life expectancy by nearly half. Individuals experiencing housing insecurity tend to present multiple chronic illness conditions and have the least access to resources to improve quality of life and health outcome.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Insecure populations of 60433,60432, 60435
Vacancy	
Will County has a housing vacancy rate of over 6%. Central, Eastern and Southern Will County experience the highest rates of vacancies amongst the county at over 20%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Insecure population • Owners/Renters
Overcrowding	
Overcrowding in specific geographies of Will County has become an issue due to housing insecurity, hitting primarily the socially vulnerable areas of the east side of Joliet; with over 4% of homes being overcrowded. Rent cost, socioeconomics, and Illinois law all effects the housing security of an individual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433, 60432, 60435 • Renters; Housing insecure population
Substandard Conditions	
Of those living in socially vulnerable zip codes of Will County 60433, 60432, 60435, 35% are living in or experiencing substandard housing conditions, effecting habitation and access to resources required to limit social determinants verdict on health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433, 60432, 60435 • Renters; Housing Insecure Population
Transportation	
Will County residents without a vehicle in the home to commute to services in socially vulnerable areas is over 8%. Public Transportation is available in segments of the county and might be inaccessible due to socioeconomic factors or safety. Communities have limited sidewalks and bike paths for safe commuting to local health services and educational centers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes with No motor vehicle • 60433, 60432, 60435

Access to Food and Nutrition

Food insecurity in Will County effects nearly 10% of all residents, of which even more have no access to healthy food retailers. Of the more than 34,000 children experiencing food insecurity, 46% are ineligible for assistance programs. Residents residing primarily in the central and northwestern areas of the county have less access to healthy food and only 15 per every 100,000 have access to WIC authorized food stores.. Findings from the assessments detail access issues to healthcare services and resources. Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

- Coordination and linkage for food insecure population
- Access to Nutritional Food
- Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues
- Technological Assistance and Advancements
- Policy, Education, Empowerment

Access to Food and Nutrition	
Issue	Target Population
Food insecurity in Will County effects nearly 10% of all residents, of which even more have no access to healthy food retailers. Of the more than 34,000 children experiencing food insecurity, 46% are ineligible for assistance programs. Residents residing primarily in the central and northwestern areas of the county have less access to healthy food and only 15 per every 100,000 have access to WIC authorized food stores.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth • 60417, 60432, 60433, 60436, 60440, • 60441, and 60484 zip codes
Chronic Disease	
Over the past decade, mortality due to diabetes has slowly decreased in Will County. In 2014, the age-adjusted mortality rate of diabetes was 17.7 deaths, well below the Healthy People 2020 target of 66.6 deaths. The concern with diabetes is the high percentage of Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes. Excess weight is a prevalent problem in the U.S., as it indicates an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues. Coronary Heart disease plagues more Non-Hispanic African Americans than counterparts. Males were more likely to be obese than females. Additionally, 37.9% of adults aged 18 and older self-reported that they have a BMI between 25-30 (overweight), with the highest percentage being Non-Hispanic White. Additionally, obesity is an issue in Will County youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth • Non-Hispanic White • Males • African American population • 60417, 60432, 60433, 60436, 60440, • 60441, and 60484 zip codes
Healthy Food Consumption	
Healthy food consumption is an issue among youth and adults in Will County. Among Will County adults, 80.7% are consuming less than five servings of fruits and vegetables each day, compared to 76.3% in Illinois and 75.7% in the U.S. Nearly 95% of all youth 8th through 12th report not consuming the adequate number of fruits and vegetables per day. Joliet residents of 60433, 60432 experiences a food desert.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth • 60433, 60432, 60436
Food Access	
An environment that provides access to healthy food and recreational opportunities is important to maintaining and improving community health. There are 81 neighborhoods in Will County that are within food deserts, affecting approximately 437,000 residents, located in or around Joliet. Also, 31.8% of the population do not have access to healthy foods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth • 60433, 60432, 60436, 60435

Introduction

Demographic Profile of Will County

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Will County has grown rapidly over the past decade. Will County total population is approximately 692,661 as of 2017. Will County's population has and is expected to continue outpacing the growth rate for Illinois.

Will County has a total of 849 square miles (12 of which are water), 31 zip codes, 23 cities, and five area codes. A majority of these Will County residents reside in Joliet, Plainfield, Bolingbrook, and Romeoville. Will County is predominantly urban, with 96.07% of the total population living in urban areas. Geographically, southern Will County is largely rural.

The median age of Will County is 36.2 years, and the County's population is slightly younger than Illinois' population. According to the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau, 63% of Will County's population is below the age of 45, compared to 60% statewide.

In 2016, the majority of Will County's population was White (74.2%), followed by Black/African American (11.2%), Asian (5.1%), and American Indian/Alaska Native (0.7%). The population for all races increased since 2010, however the White population has decreased overall since 2000. The Hispanic/Latino ethnicity has nearly doubled since 2000, including Spanish speaking homes. Hispanic and Latino account for roughly 16.5% of all residents.

The population of foreign-born residents in Will County increased slightly between 2011 and 2016 (an increase of 2,767 residents). Currently, the foreign-born population constitutes 11.7% of the Will County population. As of 2016, a little over half of the foreign-born population had become U.S. citizens. Almost 50% of Will County's foreign-born population originated from Latin America (47.1%) and Asia (30.6%). A higher concentration of Will County's foreign-born population resided in northern Will County and in the Joliet area.

As of 2016, there are 91,485 families with children (under age 18) which accounts for 40.7% of total households in Will County. This percentage is just under 10% higher than in Illinois (31.5%).

In Will County, 8.76% of the population, or 56,202 people has a disability. This percentage is slightly lower than Illinois (10.87%). Large concentrations of this population resided in certain areas in northern, eastern, and southern Will County, as well as Joliet.

In Will County, 6.4% of the total population, or 31,953 people, are veterans, who mostly reside in southern and eastern Will County.

Will County Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships Collaborative

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a collaborative effort of the Will County Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Collaborative. The purpose of the CHNA is to provide a community plan that is developed by and for the community. The assessment and planning process is required every three years for hospitals and every five years for local health departments. The Will County Health Department has aligned its assessment process with the three year hospital requirements to avoid a duplication of efforts.

The MAPP Project was established in 2008 as an effort to meet the IRS guidelines for not-for-profit hospitals and the requirements of the Illinois Department of Public Health for local health department certification. A 25 member steering committee guided the community through the MAPP Strategic Planning Framework. The assessment phase was completed in 2010, with approval of the plan in January 2011.

The Will County MAPP Collaborative was formed following the completion of the MAPP Project in 2011. The second iteration of the MAPP process began in September 2012 and was completed in May 2014. The third round of the MAPP process began in January 2016. The Fourth iteration of MAPP was conducted through 2018-2019 and the Fifth cycle begins as 2020 ensues.

The MAPP Executive Committee meets quarterly to provide oversight to the ongoing MAPP process and make recommendations to the overall operations of the MAPP Collaborative. A program coordinator was appointed in June 2019. The coordinator is a full-time staff member of the Will County Health Department, with partial funding by the Will County MAPP Collaborative. Action Teams task forces were established around the identified priorities and have been implementing action plans and strategies to address those needs. The action teams are led by chairs and co-chairs from partner organizations. Most of the teams meet monthly or bi-monthly as needed. Organizations involved in the MAPP Executive Committee are listed below.

- AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook
- Aunt Martha's Youth Services
- Catholic Charities
- Chestnut Health Systems
- Easterseals Joliet Region, Inc.
- Edward Hospital
- Governors State University
- AMITA Health Saint Joseph Medical Center
- Senior Services of Will County
- Silver Cross Hospital
- Stepping Stones, Inc.
- United Way of Will County
- Will County Community Health Center
- Will County Executive's Office
- Will County Health Department
- Will-Grundy Medical Clinic

The Data, Evaluation, and Monitoring Team (DEM) was established to review and monitor the progress of the Action Teams, and maintain and update data for the Community Health Status Assessment. The team also serves as a resource for the data needs of the Action Teams; providing technical assistance through the use of software, secure drop box sharing sites, and more.

The general membership consists of partners who are not involved directly with an Action Team, but participate as appropriate for their organization. They contribute to the overall assessment process and implementation of strategies.

Many partners participated in developing this Community Health Needs Assessment, which are listed:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Agape Missions, NFP | 28. Greater Joliet Area YMCA | 56. Stepping Stones, Inc. |
| 2. Agency on Aging
Northeastern IL | 29. Guardian Angel Community
Services | 57. TEC Services Consulting Inc. |
| 3. AMITA Health Adventist
Medical Center Bolingbrook | 30. Harvey Brooks Foundation | 58. The Community Foundation
of Will County |
| 4. Aunt Martha's Youth
Services | 31. Heritage Woods of
Plainfield | 59. Trinity Services, Inc. |
| 5. Bluestem Earth Festival | 32. Illinois Department of
Children & Family Services | 60. United Way of Will County |
| 6. Bolingbrook Fire
Department | 33. Illinois Department of
Employment Security | 61. University of Illinois
Extension |
| 7. Braidwood Area Healthy
Community Coalition | 34. J.F. Holder Foundation | 62. University of St Francis |
| 8. Breast Intentions of Illinois | 35. Joliet Fire Department | 63. Valley View School District |
| 9. C.W. Avery Family YMCA | 36. Joliet Junior College | 64. VNA Health Care |
| 10. Catholic Charities Diocese of
Joliet | 37. Joliet Police Department | 65. Warren-Sharpe Community
Center |
| 11. Channahon Park District | 38. Joliet Public School District
86 | 66. Will County Adult Detention
Facility |
| 12. Chestnut Health Systems | 39. Joliet Township Government | 67. Will County Board |
| 13. Child and Family
Connections #15 | 40. Lakewood Nursing Center | 68. Will County Board of Health |
| 14. Child Care Resource &
Referral | 41. Lewis University | 69. Will County Center for
Community Concerns |
| 15. CITGO Petroleum Corp | 42. Mari Gallagher Research &
Consulting Group | 70. Will County Circuit Clerk |
| 16. Coldwell Banker Residential | 43. Mokena Police Department | 71. Will County Community
Health Center |
| 17. Community Alliance &
Action Network | 44. Mt. Zion Baptist Church | 72. Will County Emergency
Management Agency |
| 18. Community Lifeline
Ministries, Inc. | 45. New Life Church | 73. Will County Executive's
Office |
| 19. Cornerstone Services Inc. | 46. PACE Suburban Bus | 74. Will County Forest Preserve
District |
| 20. Easterseals Joliet Region,
Inc. | 47. Plainfield Counseling Center
LLC | 75. Will County GIS |
| 21. Edward-Elmhurst Health | 48. Amita Home Care | 76. Will County Health
Department |
| 22. Riverwalk Holmes
Apartments | 49. Amita Health Saint Joseph
Medical Center | 77. Will County Land Use
Department |
| 23. Food Allergy Research &
Education | 50. PT Solutions Physical
Therapy | 78. Will County Medical
Reserve Corps |
| 24. Forest Park Center | 51. Rasmussen College | 79. Will County Residents |
| 25. Franciscan Communities,
Inc.- Marian Village | 52. Senior Services Center of
Will County | 80. Will County Veterans
Assistance Commission |
| 26. Glenwood Rehab Center | 53. Silver Cross Healthy
Community Commission | 81. Will Grundy Center for
Independent Living |
| 27. Governors State University | 54. Silver Cross Hospital | 82. Will-Grundy Medical Clinic |
| | 55. Illinois Department of Public
Health | 83. Joliet Township Government |

Vision, Mission, and Value Statements

The Will County MAPP Collaborative chose to revise the current vision statement, but also add mission and value statements. The collaborative used the current vision statement to develop the new value statements. There were three rounds of voting on developed statements. Approximately 100 MAPP members participated in this voting process. MAPP Executive Committee members gave final approval in November 2016 on the statements listed below.

Vision Statement

Achieving equitable and optimal health in body and mind for all Will County residents. Mission

Statement

The Will County MAPP Collaborative will assess the health needs of the community and develop, implement and evaluate initiatives to promote the highest quality of life for all residents.

Value Statements

Health Equity: All individuals have the opportunity to realize their full potential and to achieve the highest quality of life.

Collective Impact: We strive to be a progressive community that maximizes the use of community partnerships and collaboration among all sectors to ensure, enhance and promote comprehensive, quality and equitable education, healthcare and social services.

Respect: Every life has value.

Communication: We commit to sharing our data, assessments and plans in order to educate and engage the community.

Quality: We believe in evaluation, continuous improvement and innovation.

Inclusiveness: We are a community rich in diversity, where involvement and commitment have deep roots among our residents

Collaborative Process and Assessment Methodology

Framework

In 2018, the Will County Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Collaborative convened to conduct the fourth iteration of the MAPP process. MAPP is a community driven, strategic planning framework that assists communities in developing and implementing efforts around the prioritization of public health issues and the identification of resources to address them as defined by the 10 Essential Public Health Services. The MAPP process includes four assessments, as shown in the graphic to the right.

Community Health Status Assessment

The Community Health Status Assessment (CHSA) is one of four assessments conducted as a part of the MAPP process. During this assessment, information regarding demographics, health status, health behaviors and social determinants in the community is gathered and analyzed. Data is collected from a variety of resources and analyzed comparing local, state, and national benchmarks when available.

The CHSA provides a picture of our community by answering three questions:

1. Who are we and what do we bring to the table?
2. What are the strengths and risks in our community that contribute to health?
3. What is our health status?

The MAPP process recommends and identifies health indicators in the following eleven categories for conducting the CHSA:

- Demographics
- Socioeconomics
- Health Resource Availability
- Quality of Life
- Behavioral Risk Factors
- Environmental Health
- Social and Mental Health
- Maternal and Child Health
- Death, Illness and Injury
- Communicable Diseases
- Sentinel Events

In the spring of 2018, the Mapp Coordinator and Mapp Collaborative collected and summarized data in the above categories. County level data from public and proprietary sources were used. The MAPP Data, Evaluation, and Monitoring (DEM) Team, which was established by the Will County MAPP Collaborative in 2019, reviewed, edited, and provided data for the report. Additional partnering organizations provided staff and interns to assist in collecting additional data for the report.

Figure 4 MAPP Framework



Community Themes and Strengths Assessment

The Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA) aims to gather community members' perceptions, thoughts, opinions, and concerns regarding quality of life in Will County. This input provides valuable insight into the issues of importance to the community. This assessment engages the community by requesting their input on the following questions:

1. What is important to our community?
2. How is quality of life perceived in our community?
3. What are the assets in our community?

Community engagement is key to the success of any community-wide initiative, and provides residents with a sense of ownership and participation in their county. The Will County MAPP Collaborative conducted a survey among Will County residents to answer the questions above.

The Will County MAPP Collaborative participated in the CTSA through the use of a community-wide survey. The survey contained 64 questions on a variety of topics, including quality of life, health status, access to resources, social support, economic opportunity, health equity, and social issues. Residents were able to report on their perceptions of health and quality of life issues within their homes, community, and county. Most of the survey questions asked participants to rate issues on a Likert scale, however, some questions were open-ended, giving respondents opportunities to comment on their responses.

The CTSA survey was developed using Survey Monkey, and made available online in both English and Spanish. The survey was open to all Will County residents and the collection period ran from June-July 2019. 1,688 surveys were collected during the collection period (1,657 English and 31 Spanish). Survey results were analyzed by the CTSA Subcommittee and used to gather the top identified health and quality of life issues in Will County.

Upon a mid-collection period review of the random sample of survey participants, it was identified that the demographics were not reflective of the entire Will County population. Underrepresented populations included the following groups: Latino/Hispanic, African American, men, youth/young adults, and residents from University Park, Crete, Monee, Bolingbrook, and Romeoville. The CTSA Subcommittee attempted to further reach these populations by distributing paper copies of the survey to various groups throughout the county, including the Spanish Community Center, Northern Illinois Food Bank Mobile Pantry sites and YMCA. Surveys were also collected from clients of the Will County Community Health Center in waiting areas, incentives such as water and healthy snacks were provided.

Questions addressing health equity were included in the survey to measure the effects of discrimination on health. Respondents were asked to identify perceptions of discrimination due to race, ethnicity, and color in Will County. These questions were adapted from "Experiences of discrimination: Validity and reliability of a self-report measure for population health research on racism and health."

Forces of Change Assessment

The Forces of Change Assessment (FOCA) aims to identify all the forces and associated opportunities and threats that can affect, either now or in the future, the local public health system. Forces may be social, economic, political, technological, environmental, scientific, legal, and/or ethical in nature. Forces can be trends, factors, or events.

- Trends are patterns over time, such as migration in and out of a community or a growing disillusionment with government.
- Factors are discrete elements, such as a community's large ethnic population, an urban setting, or the jurisdiction's proximity to a major waterway.
- Events are one-time occurrences, such as a hospital closure, a natural disaster, or the passage of new legislation.

During the FOCA, participants answer the following questions:

1. What is occurring or might occur that affects the health of our community or the local public health system?
2. What specific threats or opportunities are generated by these occurrences?

The Will County MAPP Collaborative participated in the FOCA. In March 2019, the Will County MAPP Collaborative participated in the first phase of the FOCA. MAPP members were emailed and invited to participate in a survey through Survey Monkey to identify the forces of change affecting Will County's local public health system and the community. The survey contained open-ended questions, with guided prompts, intended to identify the forces of change. The survey used eight categories of forces, as well as an "other" option, to elicit broad community input.

Survey results were analyzed by the FOCA Subcommittee and used to gather the top identified forces. An additional health equity question was included asking if any forces identified will impact equal opportunity for health and access to care. While an answer was not required for every question, diverse community input was encouraged. A definition of each force was provided by clicking a hyperlink that was directed to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary. This survey was open to anyone who lived or worked in Will County. Those who selected the answer option "I do not live or work in Will County" in Question 1 was directed to the end of the survey.

The Forces of Change Assessment (FOCA) elicited broad community input to identify forces of change impacting the local public health system in Will County. 66 Participants from cross sector organizations reported on current trends, events, and factors that may have implications on the local public health system and quality of life for Will County residents. FOCA participants also addressed threats and opportunities posed by each of the major forces.

An analysis of the forces reported by MAPP Partners and community members throughout the FOCA process produced ten cross-cutting issues, listed below.

- Access to transportation
- Access/affordability of healthy foods
- Access/affordability of housing
- Air and water quality
- Behavioral health/substance abuse
- Equitable and quality health care
- Funding for social service agencies
- Political climate
- Unemployment/underemployment
- Use and influence of technology/social media

When asked to rank the top three forces with the most impact, survey participants ranked (1) Economic Forces, (2) Political Forces, and (3) Social Forces as key issues in Will County.

Regarding these issues, community members identified several opportunities to create positive change in Will County. In general, the following themes of opportunities were identified for each force: Increase advocacy

- Increase partnership/coordination
- Increase education
- Increase jobs/employment opportunities

Local Public Health System Assessment

The Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) was conducted in May 2019. The LPHSA is used to understand the overall strengths and weaknesses of the public health system based on the 10 Essential Public Health Services shown in Figure 5.

Conducting the Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA), answers the following questions:

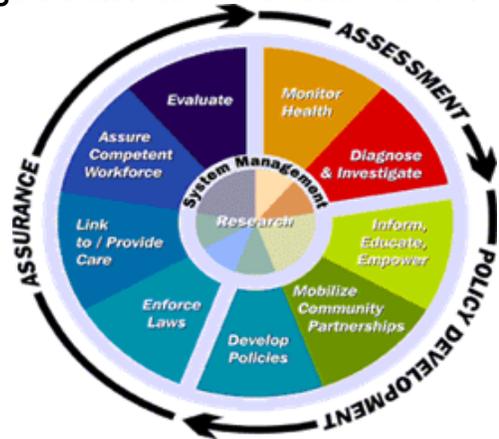
1. What are the activities, competencies, and capacities of the local public health system?
2. How are the 10 Essential Public Health Services being provided to the community?

The National Public Health Performance Standards (NPHPS) Assessment is the instrument used to measure the performance of the local public health system – defined as the collective efforts of public, private, and voluntary entities, as well as individuals and informal associations that contribute to the public's health within a jurisdiction. Any organization or entity that contributes to the health or wellbeing of a community is considered part of the public health system. Ideally, a group that is broadly representative of these public health system partners participates in the assessment process. By sharing diverse perspectives, all participants gain a better

understanding of each organization's contributions, the interconnectedness of activities, and how the public health system can be strengthened. The NPHPS does not focus specifically on the capacity or performance of any single agency or organization.

The Local Public Health System Assessment survey instrument was designed in 2019 to collect data from our local public health stakeholders, policy makers, health professionals and collaboratives to address essential public health service needs and gaps that may exist within the existing public health structure. The survey used on-line data collection. A Survey Monkey questionnaire was distributed to a list of community members and partners who are part of the local public health system in Will County. Sixty-six total participants responded to questions related to strengths and activities associated with essential public health service frameworks. This survey closed as of May 2019. In an analysis of the local public health system, stakeholders were asked to rank, from No Activity to Optimal Activity, their and/or their organizations involvement in sectors related to innovation, technological advancements, addressing inequities, and surveillance as it related to personal health service exposures. Participants were individuals whom held roles mainly linking individuals to services, educating and informing the public about available public health services.

Figure 5 Essential Public Health Framework

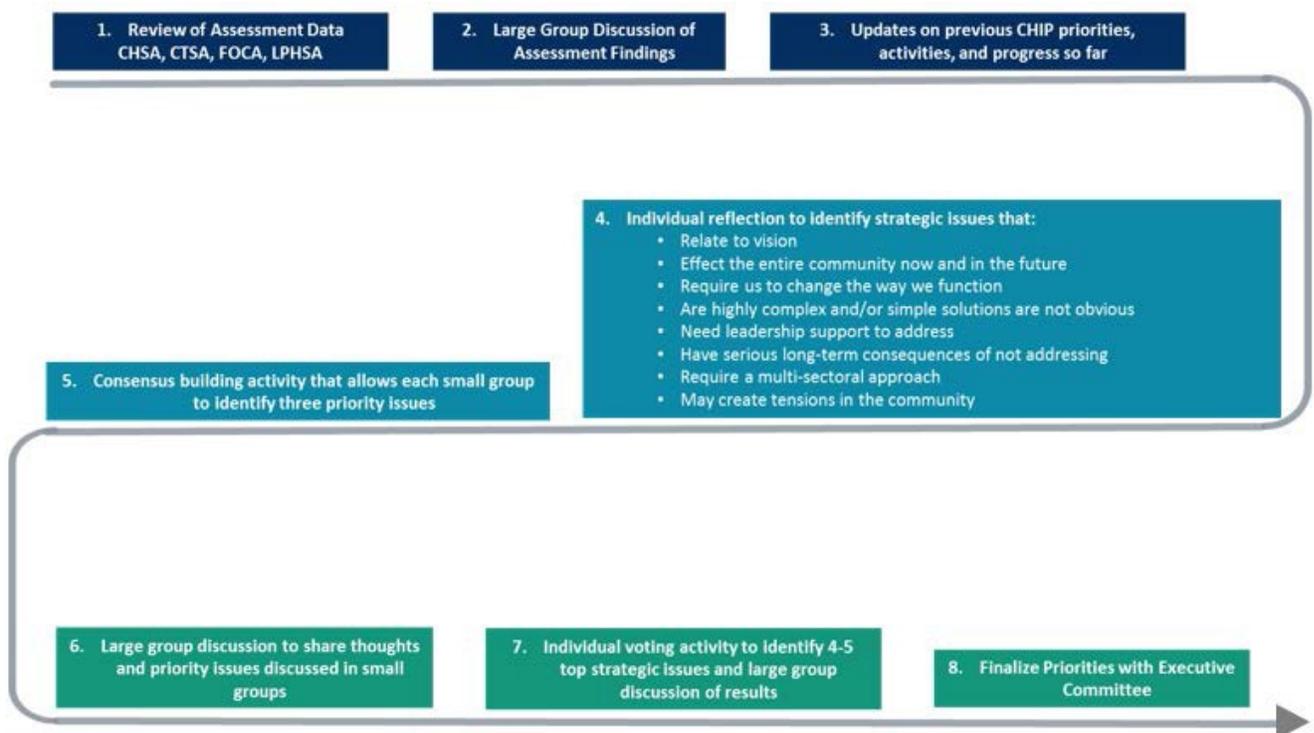


Prioritization of Strategic Issues

On September 13, 40 Will County public health stakeholders participated in a three hour meeting at AMITA Health Saint Joseph Medical Center to review key findings from the four MAPP assessments, identify cross-cutting themes and potential strategic issues, and prioritize a set of strategic issues. The meeting was facilitated by the MAPP Coordinator, Program Manager Community Planning and a representative from Kankakee Health Department.

Following the discussion of assessment findings and updates on previous Community Health Implementation Plan priorities, participants individually reflected on the top strategic issues by noting up to five top strategic issues for Will County. Individuals participated in a voting poll to determine if the prior strategic issues were still reflective of the current community needs. Individuals voted that Behavioral Health and Substance Use, Access to Healthy Food and Nutrition, Access to Health Care, and Stabilizing the Built Environment to be of top priorities. Individual reflections were discussed in small groups to build a consensus around the top goals and objectives for each of these categories using a set of defined prioritization criteria (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Process for Prioritization of Strategic Issues



Next, each small group shared their recommendations and rationale for the top four strategic issues, followed by a facilitated discussion to further explore and define the potential priorities. This discussion yielded a consolidated list of potential top strategic issues, as well as consensus agreement from the large group. Thus, the following top priorities were identified:

- Lack of access to Health care
- Access to Food and Nutrition
- Transportation
- Behavioral Health
- Substance Use
- Housing stabilization

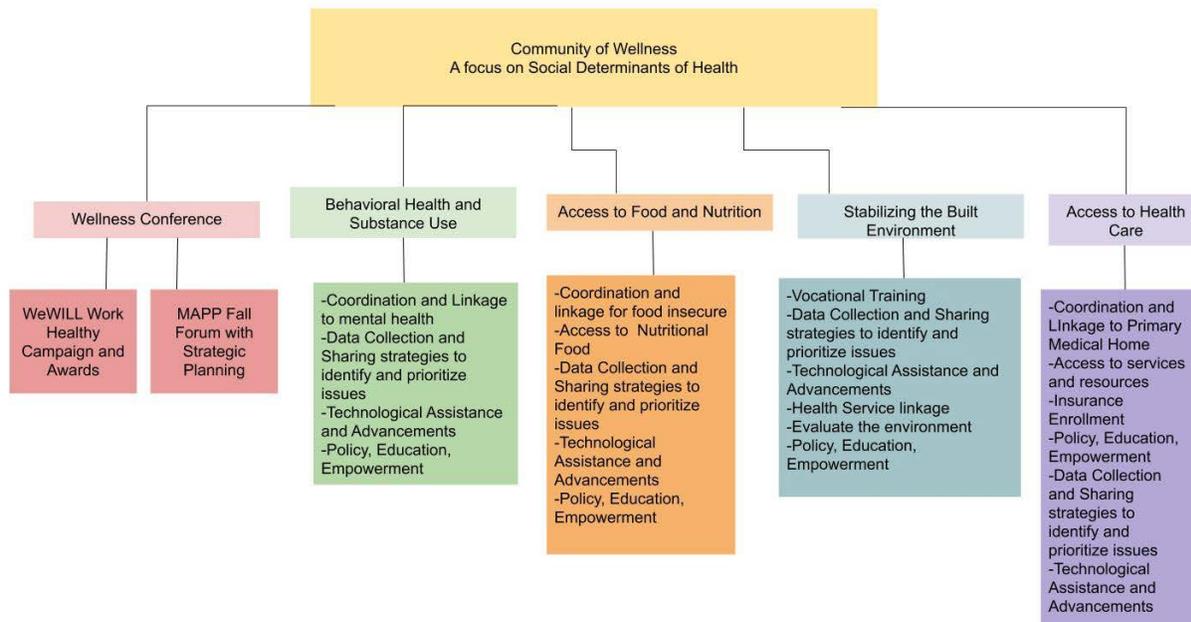
The results of the voting activity are presented in Figure 6.1.

Figure 6.1. Results of Voting Activity to Narrow Priorities*

Priorities	Number of Votes
Access to Health Care	23
Access to Food and Nutrition	20
Behavioral Health and Substance Use	24
Stabilizing the Built Environment	17

Strategic Planning respondents indicated that creating a Community of Wellness as it relates to Social Determinants of Health should be an overarching theme, goal, or vision that is embedded into all other priorities. Integration of Wellness will remain a theme, providing goals and objectives specific to the inclusion of wellness into each of the four priority task forces; incorporating such things as wellness policy integration into the workforce, mental health policy, and engagements that prioritizing wellness within cross sector organizations of the local health system. Figure 6.2 provides an outline of the top priorities discussed and key aspects of each strategic priority.

Figure 6.2. Priority Areas Identified by the Overall Group



In September 2019, MAPP Executive Committee members were asked to use a Prioritization Criteria and Planning Worksheet during the discussion of the previously identified strategic issues. A focus on Social Determinants of Health as it relates to the Community of Wellness will be the theme embarking on 2020.

MAPP Executive Committee members and action team committee members decided that behavioral health, access to health care, behavioral health and substance use, stabilizing the built environment, and access to food and nutrition would be the priority focus for the next three years. Goals and action plans will be developed or updated for each of these priority health issues. These action plans will be implemented and aligned to improve the local public health system, and ultimately the health and wellbeing of the Will County community in alignment with our vision. A community of wellness as it relates to social determinants of health will provide education, empowerment, and engagement to guide the health system and community alike to cohesively improve the community of wellness, the work and school environments, and improve health outcomes for all.

Health Equity

One of the core values of the Will County MAPP Collaborative is health equity, with the belief that all individuals have the opportunity to realize their full potential and to achieve the highest quality of life. Healthy People 2020 defines health equity as the "attainment of the highest level of health for all people." To achieve health equity, avoidable health inequities and health disparities must be eliminated. This requires short- and long-term strategies addressing the root causes of health inequities and health disparities, specifically social determinants of health. The *Mobilizing and Organizing Partners to Achieve Health Equity* supplemental guide was used during this assessment process. Equity as it relates to workforce development, in the measures of the delivery of essential public health services, leadership development, the use of ubiquitous and robust technologies that provide a secure sharing framework, and the opportunity to develop inclusion and diverse policy and empowerment for our community.

Figure 6.3. Health Equity

Source: Saskatoon Health Region,

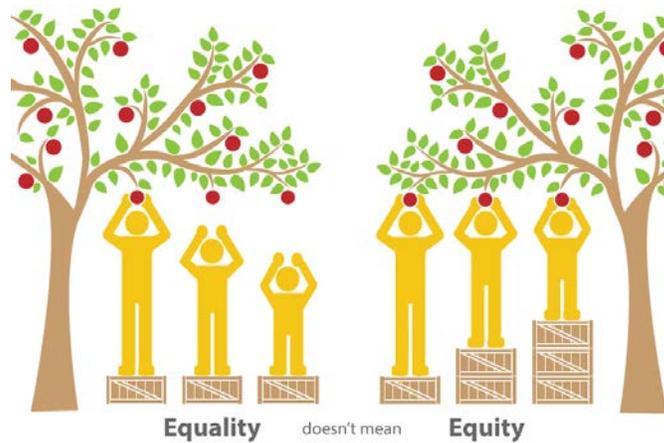
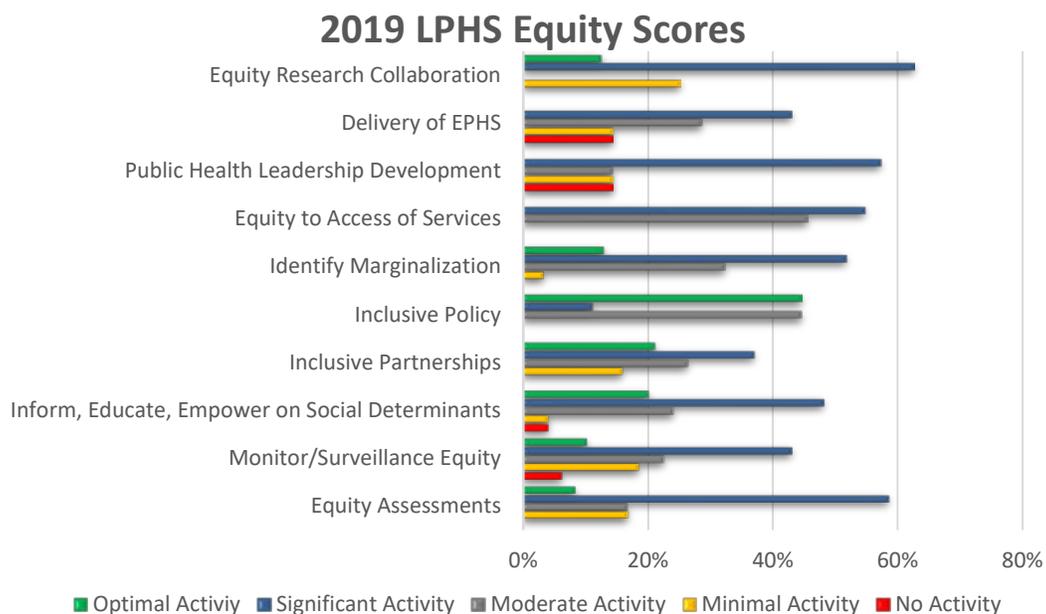


Figure 6.4 LPHSA Equity scores (Mean values)



Key Findings of Strategic Issue: Access to Health Care

Overview

Access to comprehensive, quality healthcare services is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equity. Access to healthcare improves both individual and community health. Access is a complex issue with multiple components including availability, affordability, and timeliness. Findings from the assessments detail access issues to healthcare services, as well as resources. Certain communities in Will County labeled as a healthcare provider shortage area also experience issues with social economic, and environmental inequities.

Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

Needs	Populations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination and Linkage to Primary Medical Home• Access to services and resources• -Benefits enrollment• Policy, Education, Empowerment• Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues• Technological Assistance and Advancements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicaid recipients• Medicare recipients• Underinsured and uninsured population• Hispanic/Latino population• East side of Joliet (60432, 60433, 60435)• Southern Will County

Assessment Findings

The Forces of Change Assessment and Local Public Health System Assessment identified the lack of equitable and quality healthcare as a major concern in Will County. The top identified forces of change were:

- Economic
- Political
- Social

Opportunities pinpointed in these assessments include:

- Improve population health by developing county-wide healthcare programs
- Increase advocacy and funding for equitable healthcare
- Increase capacity for provision of services
- Improve system interoperability of electronic medical records

Insurance Coverage

The lack of health insurance is considered a key driver of health status and is a primary barrier to healthcare access including regular primary, specialty, dental, and other healthcare services. According to the US Census Bureau, 7.24% of the Will County population is uninsured. There has been an overall decrease in the percentage of uninsured population since 2013 which could be attributed to IL Medicaid Expansion and the opening of the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace. According to the 2016 American Community Survey, 16.43% of the Hispanic/Latino population in Will County reported no health insurance coverage, compared to 5.42% of the non-Hispanic/Latino population. A larger percentage of uninsured residents reside in the Joliet area as well as parts of eastern Will County in the zip codes 60432, 60433, and 60484. compared to 7.1% of the non-Hispanic/Latino population. Along with disparities in ethnicity, there are geographical inequities as displayed in Figure 7.

Figure 7. Percent of Uninsured Will County Adults by Zip Code, 2016

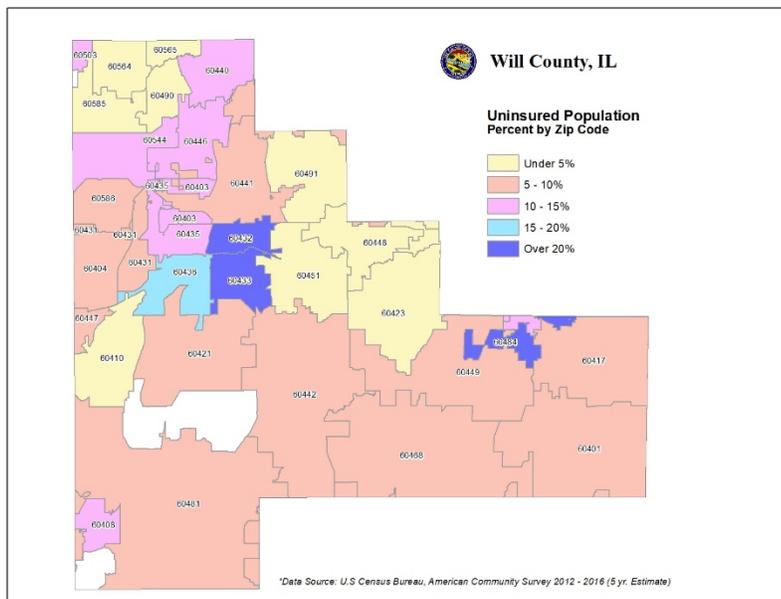
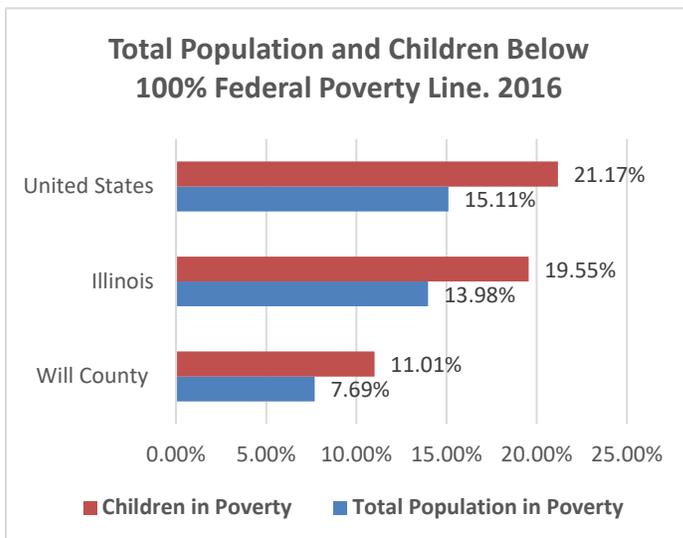


Figure 7.1 Poverty Threshold 2016



Poverty is considered a key driver of health status. According to Community Commons, “poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.” This indicator provides data on the number of population 100% below the federal poverty level. In 2016, 7.69% of Will County residents (or 51,976 people) lived below the federal poverty level. In 2016, more than 11% of children under the age of 18 were living under the poverty level in Will County. Fourteen percent of the Hispanic/Latino population was living in poverty, compared to 6.39% of the Non-Hispanic population. Fifteen percent of the Black or African American population was also living in poverty. The highest percent of the population living in poverty reside in the Joliet area in the 60432, 60433, and 60436 zip codes.

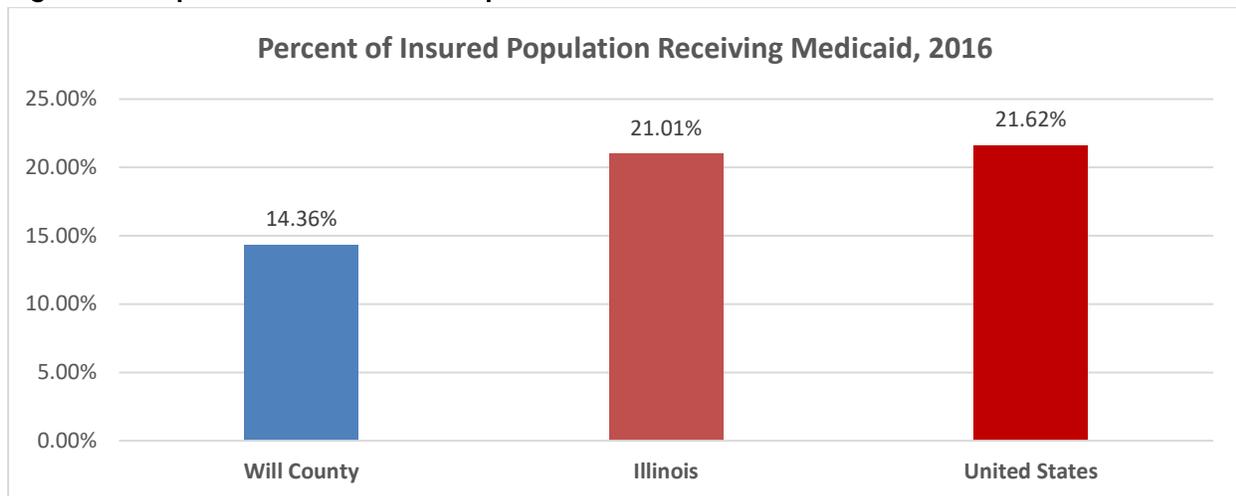
Source: US Census Bureau. 2012-16. Source geography: Tract

Provider Availability

In terms of clinical care, Will County is ranked 33rd out of 102 counties in the state. These measures suggest a shortage of providers available in the community. Will County has a total of 391 primary care physicians, yielding a ratio of population to primary care physicians of 1,760:1. Will County has a total of 361 dentists, yielding a ratio of population to dentists of 1,830:1 compared to 1310:1 for Illinois. 15.9% of adults in Will County report that they do not have at least one person that they consider to be their primary care provider. There is one community on the East side of Joliet designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as an area having shortages of primary care, dental care, and mental health providers.

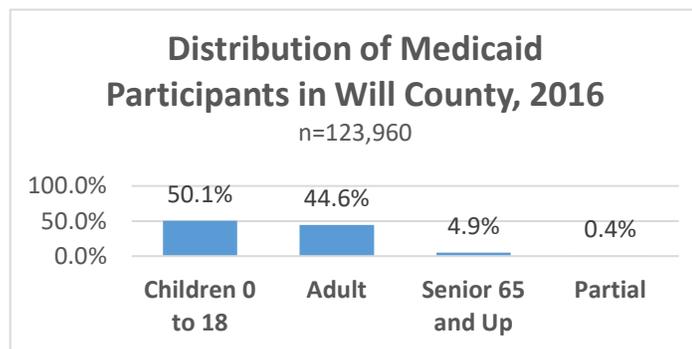
There are more than 120,000 Medicaid enrollees in Will County. Approximately one in seven residents are enrolled in Medicaid, with 50% of the enrollees being children. There are 757 physicians and 138 nurse practitioners participating in Medicaid. 355 of these physicians are primary care providers. The rate of primary care providers to Medicaid enrollees is three for every 1,000 Medicaid enrollees. There is one pediatrician per 1,000 children enrolled. There are 91 dentists participating in Medicaid, which is a rate of less than one dentist for every 1,000 Medicaid enrollees.

Figure 7.2 Population of Medicaid Recipients 2016



Data Source: HFS Medical Enrollment Data 2016

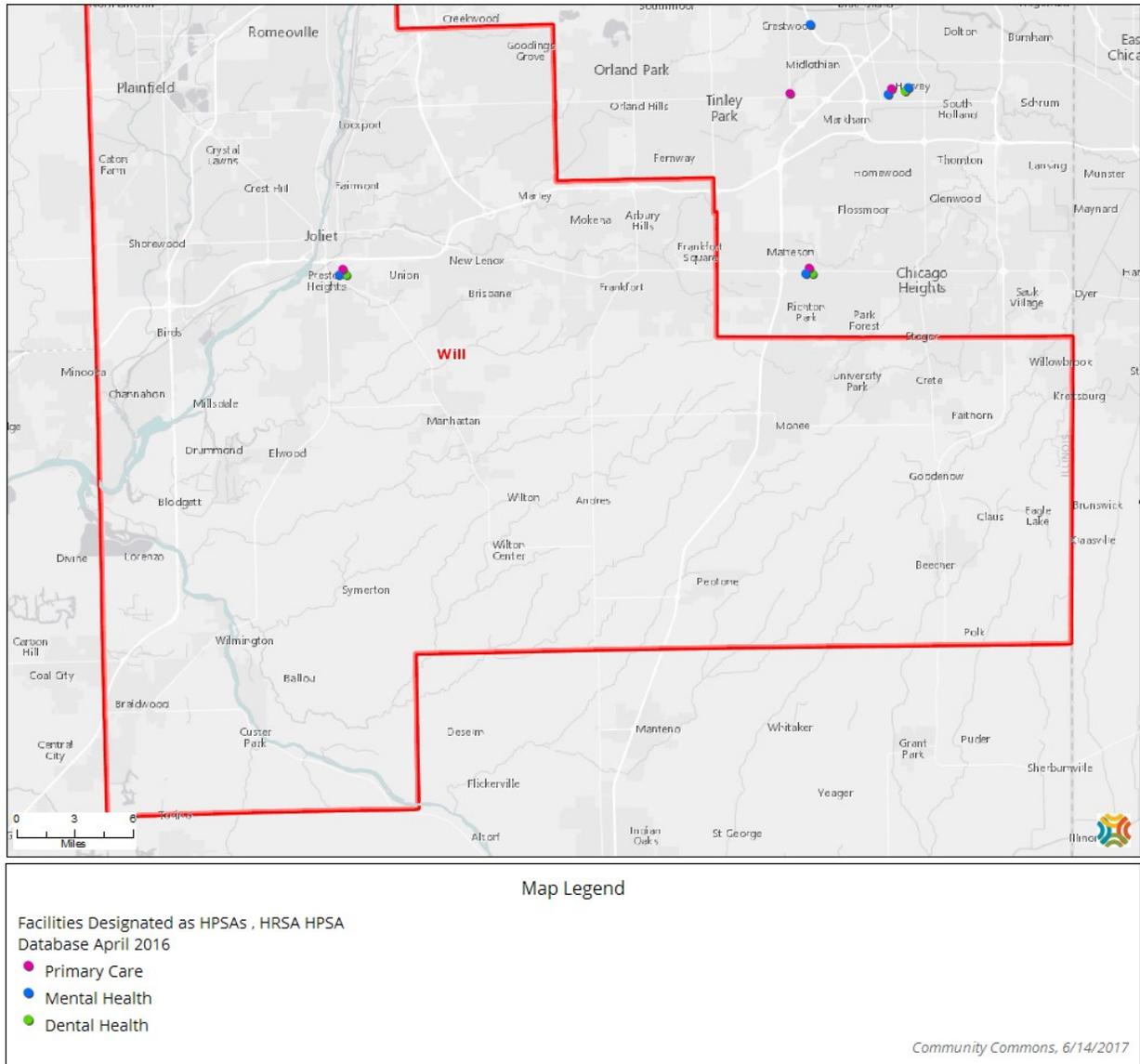
Figure 7.3 Distribution of Medicaid Recipients 2016



Data Source: HFS Medical Enrollment Data 2016

The U.S. Department of Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) has developed shortage designations that are used to determine if areas or population groups are Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). HPSAs may be designated as having a shortage of primary medical care, dental, or mental health providers. In Will County, the east side of Joliet has been identified as a HPSA for primary care, dentists, and mental health providers, as identified on the map below. 12.9% (87,398) of Will County residents live in a HPSA.

Figure 7.4. Map of Provider Shortage in Will County, 2016



Data Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Professional Shortage Area Database, 2016

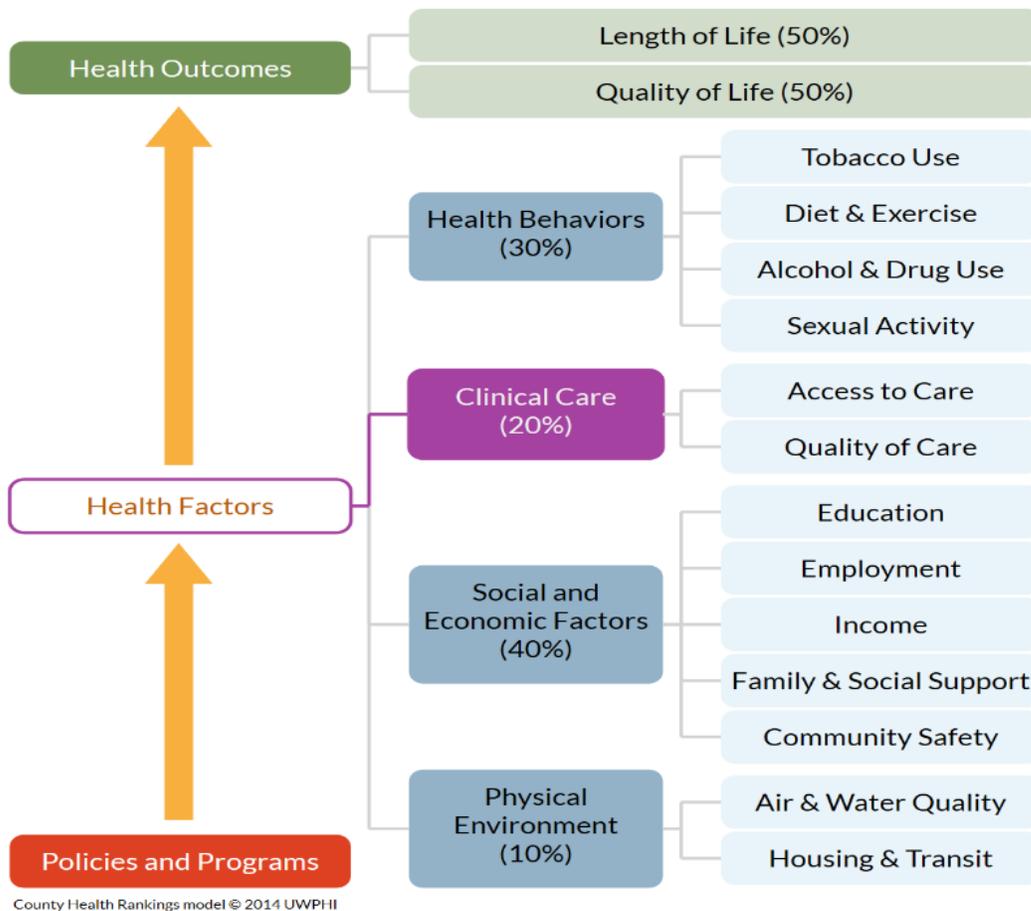
In 2014, 84.1% of adults had a primary healthcare provider, which is a slight decrease from previous years. The percentage in Will County is higher than what was reported for Illinois in 2013 (79.9%) and the HP2020 Target (83.9%). Even though Will County meets the HP2020 target, there are significant disparities in gender, income, race, and age, as displayed in Figure 7.5.

Figure 7.5. Will County Adults Who Report Having a Regular Provider, 2010-2015

Gender		Income		Race		Age	
Female	90.6%	\$15-35,000	76.9%	Non-white	77.5%	25-44	79.4%
Male	77.5%	\$35-50,000	95.0%	White	85.9%	45-64	86.5%
		> \$50,000	85.0%			65+	95.7%

Data Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2010-2015

Figure 7.6 Policy Effects Health Care Model

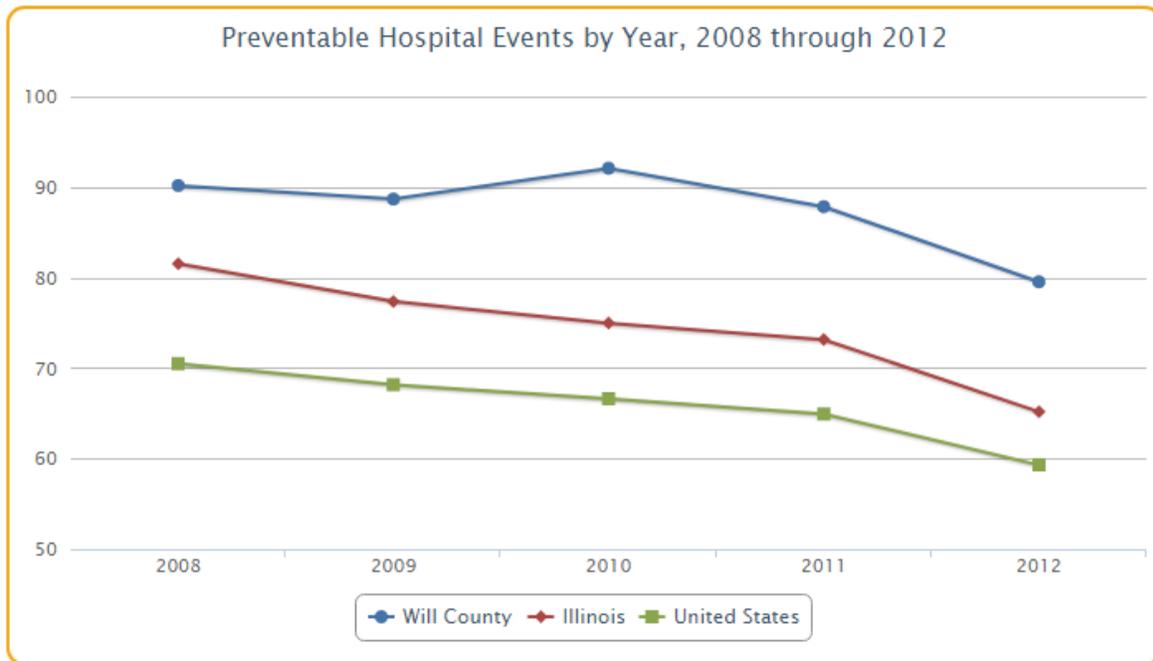


Data Source: <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings/measures-data-sources/county-health-rankings-model/health-factors/clinical-care>

Preventable Hospital Events

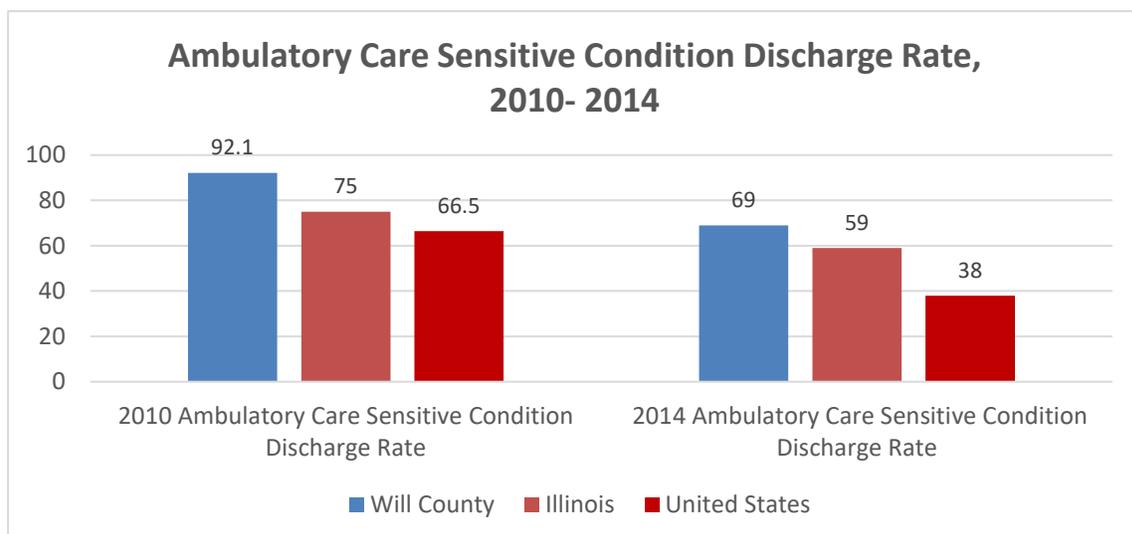
Figure 7.8 reports the discharge rate (per 1,000 Medicare enrollees) for conditions that are ambulatory care sensitive (ACS). ACS conditions include, pneumonia, dehydration, asthma, diabetes, and other conditions which could have been prevented if adequate primary care resources were available and accessed by those patients. This indicator is relevant because analysis of ACS discharges allows the demonstration of possible “ROI” Return on Investment from interventions that reduce admissions (i.e. uninsured Medicaid patients) through improved access to primary care services and resources.

Figure 7.7. Medicare Preventable Hospital Events in Will County



Data Source: Dartmouth College Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice, Dartmouth Atlas of Healthcare, 2012

Figure 7.8 Ambulatory Care Discharge Rate 2014



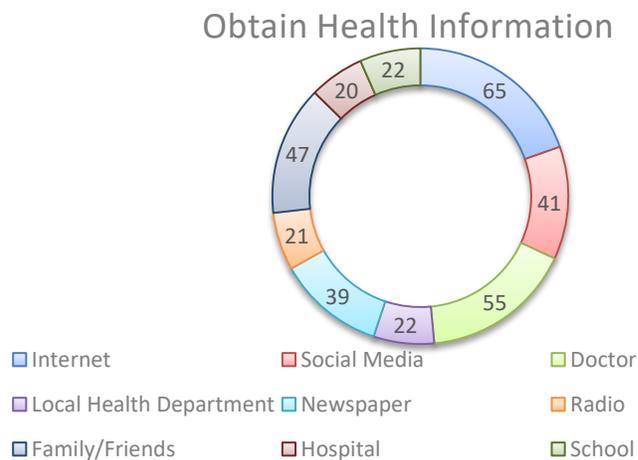
Data Source: Dartmouth College Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice, Dartmouth Atlas of Healthcare, 2014

Community Survey

In the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA), a survey was distributed to the community. Survey respondents were asked where they receive healthcare, mental health and dental services. The majority of respondents (85.27%) visit a private dentist for dental services. With respect to healthcare services, respondents visit a variety of locations. 85.27 % receive healthcare from a private practice or family healthcare provider, 48% go to the Immediate Care Center, 20.6% visit the hospital emergency rooms, 24.5% visit Quick Clinics, such as Walgreens or CVS, and 2.98% visit Community Health Centers.

Respondents receive health-related information from a variety of sources as well. The majority (65.36%) get their information from the internet. Other prominent sources of health information identified include: the doctor (54.56%), online/print newspaper (39.5%), village/township newsletter (38.9%), social media (40.8%), the hospital (20.2%), family members (29.8%), and the local health department (21.79%).

Figure 7.9 CTSA 2019 Health Information Obtainment by respondents



Residents indicated the high cost of healthcare as their main concern, noting that the high cost limits their use of services and resources. Also, out of pocket expenses place a huge financial burden on individuals and families in the County.

When asked to rate the quality of life in Will County, the majority of survey respondents (74.7%) perceive life in Will County as "very good" or "good." The most commonly mentioned issues regarding the quality of life, related to healthcare, include:

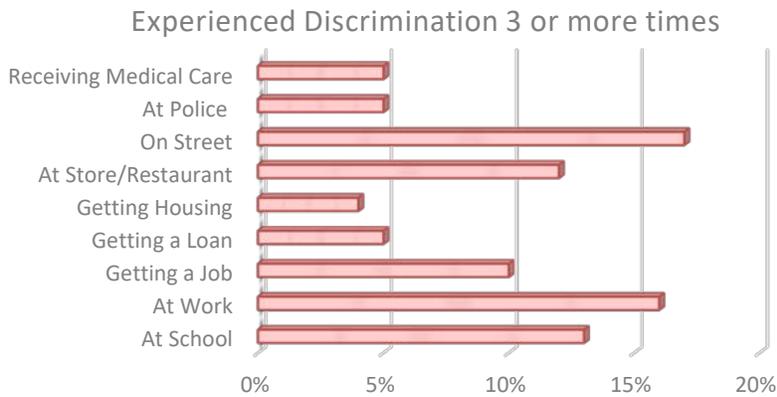
- High cost of living
- Lack of quality healthcare
- Lack of access to transportation
- Lack of access to resources
- Lack of services for senior citizens
- Discrimination

Survey participants mentioned a few issues in particular, including a shortage of hospitals and medical facilities, low quality service at the existing hospitals, a lack of mental/behavioral health providers, and difficulty locating Medicaid providers. It should be noted that many respondents mentioned having to drive out of Will County, often long distances, to find a medical provider that accepts their insurance. Lack of public

transportation to services remain an issue as well. Multiple mentions of a lack of healthcare services in Southern and Eastern Will County are of importance as well. Comments show that navigating and accessing healthcare in Will County is especially challenging for senior citizens and residents that remain under, uninsured or with Medicaid.

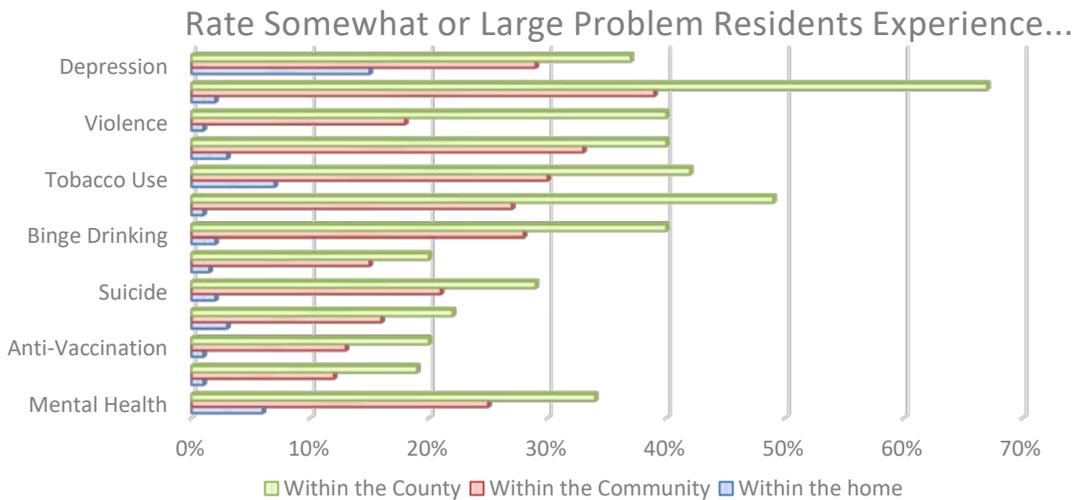
Discrimination was ranked among the top themes of concern, were it relates to race, ethnicity, gender, and treatment at school, work and on the streets of our community, at least 13 percent of respondents identified with discrimination three or more times in these settings. Respondents were asked in which settings they experienced discrimination, such as getting housing, receiving medical care, applying for loans or with encounters with the local municipalities and law enforcement, in which participants stated in all categories they were discriminated a minimum of 3 or more times. Six percent of all respondents stated that they perceive discrimination to be an issue all or most of the time within the county. Among the resident respondents, 11 percent of all individuals identified with feeling concerned with “unfair treatment due to race, ethnicity and color.

Figure 8 CTSA 2019 Discrimination Experiences by respondents



As access to public transportation remains a top concern for individuals in the Home, Illegal Drug Use debuts as a top concern among the community and the county with 67 percent of participants stating it as, the primary, “somewhat or large problem”. Prescription drug use within the county and illegal drug use among the community follow closely behind at just under 50 percent. Depression remains a top concern “within the home”, following just after access to public transportation, with nearly 20 percent of respondent rankings, while individuals rate vaping and mental health following.

Figure 8.1 CTSA 2019 Large Issues Experienced by respondents



Key Findings of Strategic Issue: Behavioral Health and Substance Use

Overview

Behavioral health is a term used to include both mental health and substance misuse disorders. Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively, and is able to make a contribution to their community. The existing model for understanding mental health and mental disorders emphasizes the interaction of social, environmental, and genetic factors throughout the lifespan. In behavioral health, researchers identify:

- Risk factors, which predispose individuals to mental illness
- Protective factors, which protect them from developing mental disorders

Mental health disorders are among the most common causes of disability. Mental health disorders attributed to 7.8% (5,783) of Will County hospitalizations in 2014, and it is the third leading cause of all hospitalizations.

Substance abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs. Substance abuse has a major impact on individuals, families, and communities. The effects of substance abuse are cumulative, significantly contributing to costly social, physical, mental, and public health problems.

Findings from the assessments detail access issues to behavioral health services, as well as resources. Behavioral health issues impact population groups across income levels, as well as racial and ethnic groups. Certain communities in Will County labeled as mental healthcare provider shortage areas also experience issues with social, economic and environmental inequities.

Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

Needs	Populations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• -Coordination and Linkage to mental health services• Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues• Technological Assistance and Advancements• Policy, Education, Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60433 zip code• Southern Will County• Youth• White population• Males• Mental Health First Responders

Assessment Findings

The Forces of Change Assessment and Local Public Health System Assessment identified behavioral health as a major concern in Will County. Opportunities pinpointed in these assessments include:

- Increase education, advocacy, and prevention efforts to decrease substance abuse trends and stigma around behavioral health

- Increase coordination of care between social service agencies, law enforcement, and healthcare agencies
- Advocacy for increased funding and reimbursements for services
- Increase and improve ubiquitous and robust technologies for care linkage and referral networks

Provider Availability

Behavioral health continues to be a concern among Will County residents. The term behavioral health is inclusive of mental health and substance use disorders. Resources in Will County are limited for hospitalizations for mental health disorders as well as inpatient and outpatient treatment for substance use disorder. Individuals who lack insurance or are Medicaid recipients are additionally limited in their ability to find services.

The closing of the Tinley Park Mental Health Facility in June of 2012 reduced the availability of hospital beds for Will County residents due to mental health disorders. While there are other mental health services in Will County, none are inpatient facilities. All three hospitals in Will County have inpatient mental health units, totaling 75 beds. Will County MAPP Collaborative assessment findings in 2016 and 2018 confirmed that mental and substance use disorder treatment was difficult to access for many residents. In response to this need, Silver Cross Hospital partnered with US Health Vest to bring a 100-bed behavioral health hospital to Will County in early 2019.

Will County has a total of 645 mental health providers, yielding a ratio of population to mental health providers of 1,010:1, compared to 370:1 for Illinois and 560:1 nationally.

The U.S. Department of Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) has developed shortage designations that are used to determine if areas or population groups are Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). The East side of Joliet (zip code 60433) has been identified as a HPSA for mental health providers.

The Will County MAPP Collaborative has found through a capacity assessment of key stakeholders that behavioral health is a key area of need in Will County. The MAPP Behavioral Action Team, with guidance from the University of Saint Francis, surveyed providers and referrers in 2016 to get a picture of system capacity. In this survey, three barriers for clients to access services were identified; cost of needed services (34%), wait for services (32%), and distance to services (30%). The survey also found that, according to providers, psychiatric services were hardest to access, especially for mental health disorders.

Self-Reported Emotional and Mental Health

One of the indicators in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) is to measure the number of days residents report their mental health to be ‘not good,’ during the last 30 days.

Figure 9. Will County Adults Who Report Bad Mental Health Days

BRFSS Round	1-7 Mental Health Days ‘Not Good’	8-30 Mental Health Days ‘Not Good’
	Collective %	Collective %
2010-2014	22.0%	15.0%
2007-2009	17.3%	17.3%
2004-2006	25.8%	11.6%
2001-2003	26.8%	10.4%

Data Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2001-14

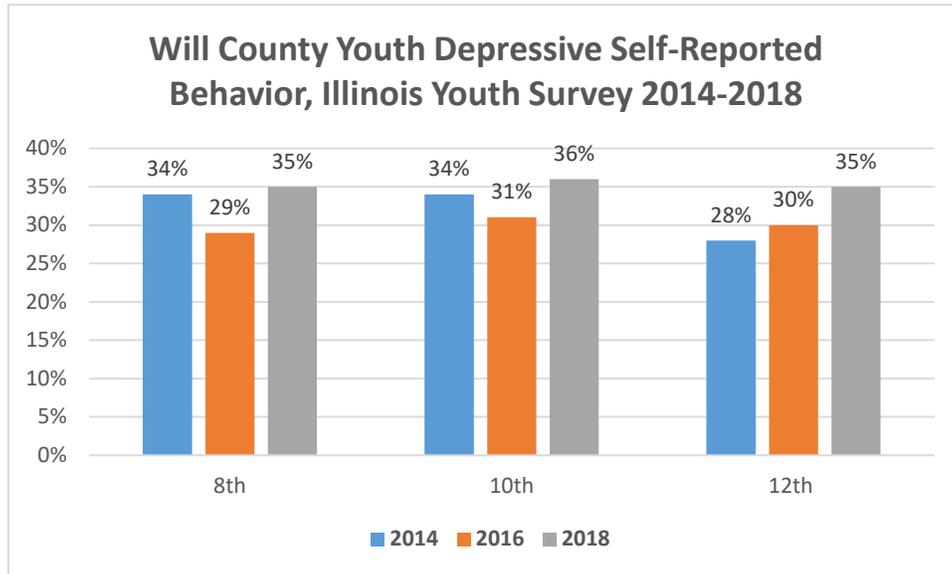
Emotional Support

The percentage of adults, aged 18 and older, who self-report that they receive insufficient social and emotional support all or most of the time in Will County is 19.2% (91,148).

Youth Depression

When asked, “During the past 12 months did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?,” 35% of 12th graders responded yes in 2018, which is an increase from 30% reported in 2016.

Figure 9.1. Percent of Will County Youth Who Experienced Depression in the Past Year

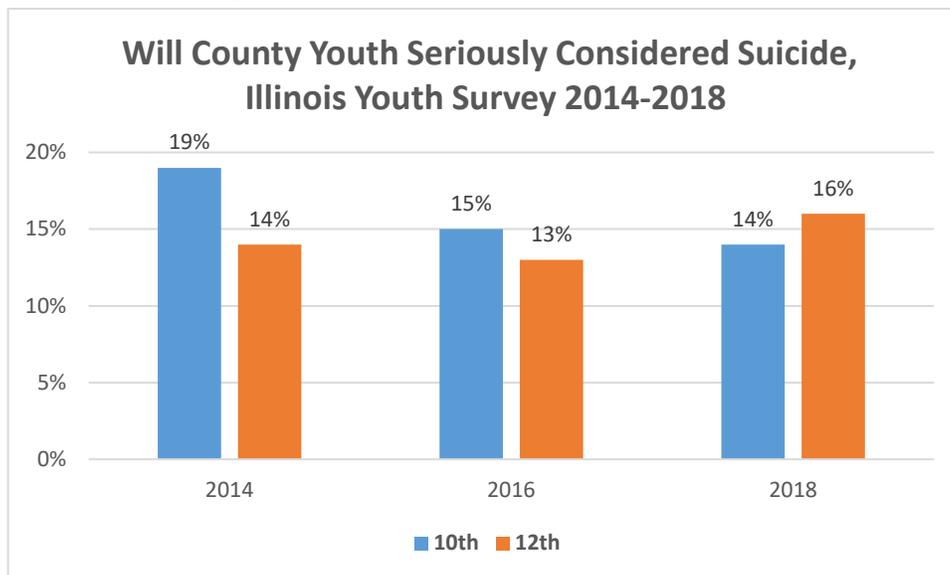


Data Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2018

Suicide

When asked, “During the past 12 months did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?,” 16% of 12th graders and 14% of 10th graders responded yes, which has increased from 2016, as shown in the figure below.

Figure 9.2. Percent of Will County Youth Who Considered Suicide in the Past Year

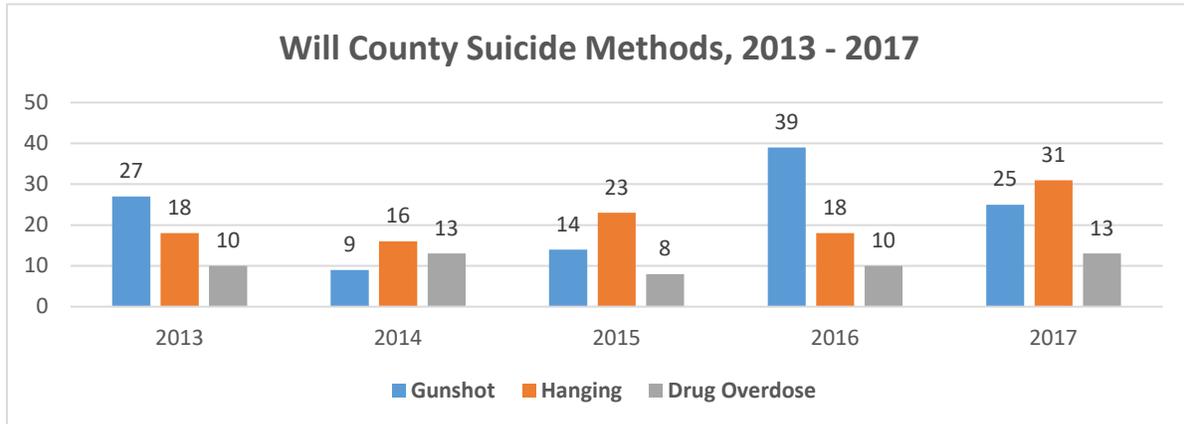


Data Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2018

Unnatural deaths include all suicides, homicides, traffic fatalities, work-related accidents, all other accidental deaths, and any deaths where the cause or manner cannot be determined. In 2017, there were 285 unnatural deaths in Will County. Of those 285 unnatural deaths, approximately 24% were attributed to suicide.

This indicator reports the rate of death due to suicide per 100,000 population. Will County's suicide rate is 11.5. There are significant disparities within gender and race, with males more likely to commit suicide, 58% were male versus 22% female. The methods in which individuals are committing suicide has changed since 2016; suicide due to gunshot was diminished by nearly half while hanging nearly doubled.

Figure 9.3. Will County Adult Suicide Mortality Rate 2017



Data Source: Will County Coroner report 2017

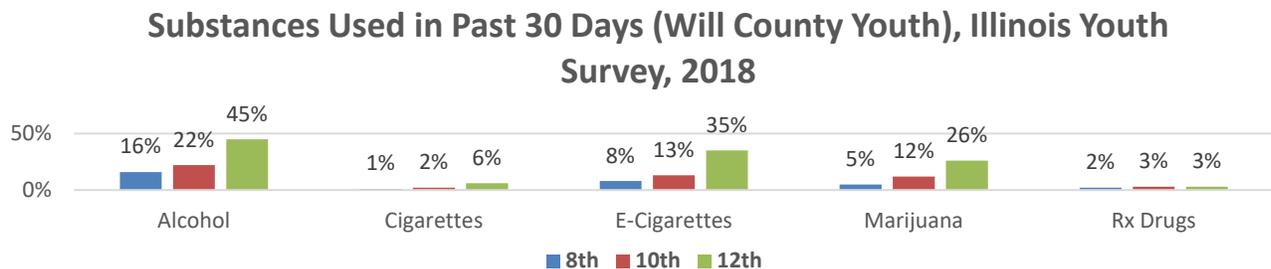
Substance Use

Youth Substance Use

Will County youth substance use in 2018:

- 45% of 12th graders and 22% of 10th graders reported drinking alcohol in the past 30 days
- 23% of 12th graders reported binge drinking at least once in the past two weeks
- 26% of 12th graders and 12% of 10th graders reported using marijuana
- In the past year, 3% of 12th graders reported using any illicit drug excluding marijuana
- 3% of 12th graders and 3% of 10th graders reported using prescription drugs to get high in the past 30 days
- 29% of 12th graders experienced two or more negative consequences from drug use, indicating the potential need for substance abuse assessment

Figure 9.4 Substances used in last 30 days by Youth



Data Source: (IYS) Illinois Youth Survey 2018A/cohol

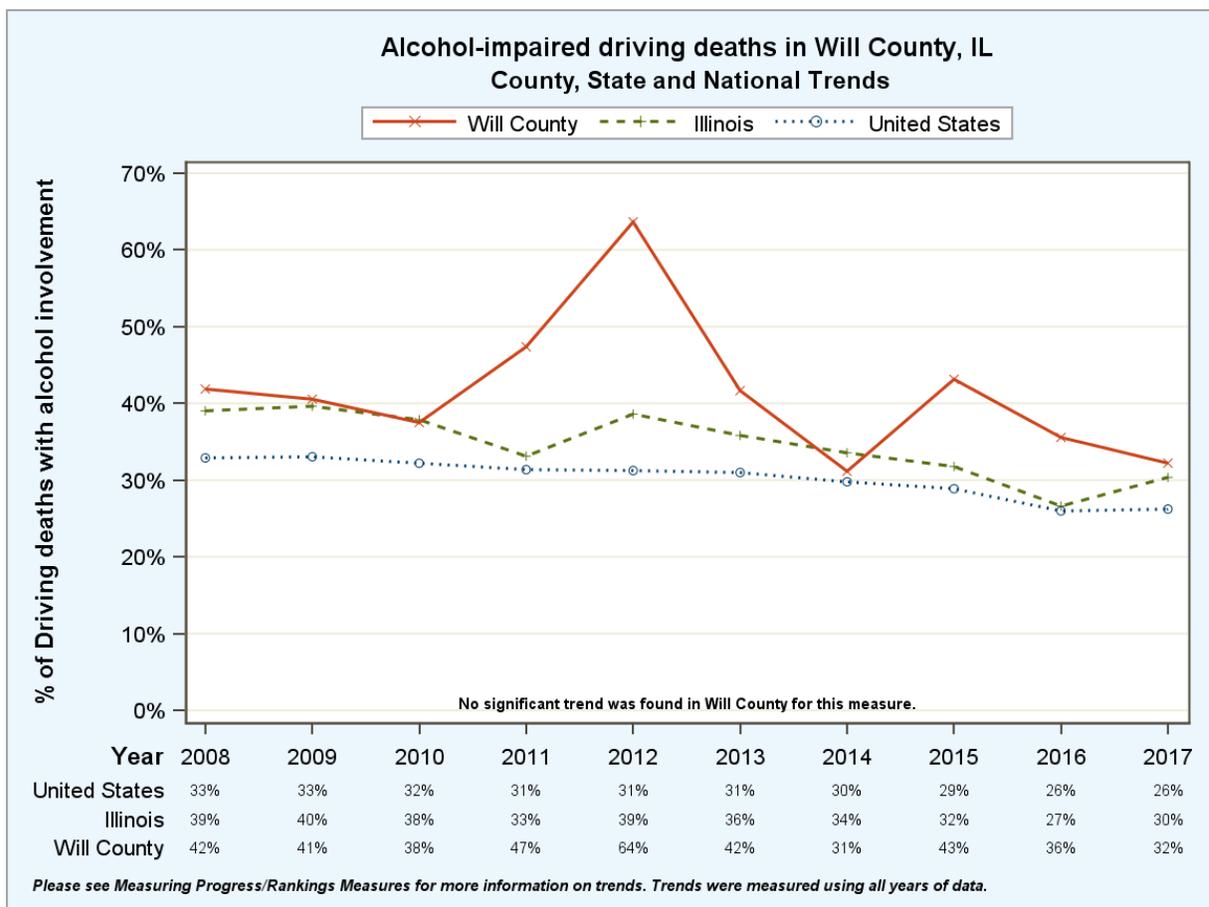
Alcohol Use

Less than a quarter (23.6%) of adults, aged 18 and older, reported binge or heavy alcohol consumption (defined as more than two drinks per day for men and one drink per day for women).

Liquor store access reports the number of beer, wine, and liquor stores per 100,000 population. In 2016, Will County (10.29) had a slightly lower rate of liquor establishments than in Illinois (10.32), and a still lower than the United States (10.5).

The percent of driving deaths which include alcohol is declining statewide and nationally, but is on the rise in Will County, as illustrated in the graph below. 36% of all Driving Deaths were related to being alcohol impaired in 2017.

Figure 9.5 Percent of Driving Deaths with Alcohol Involvement



Data Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). *County Health Rankings* Key Findings, 2017

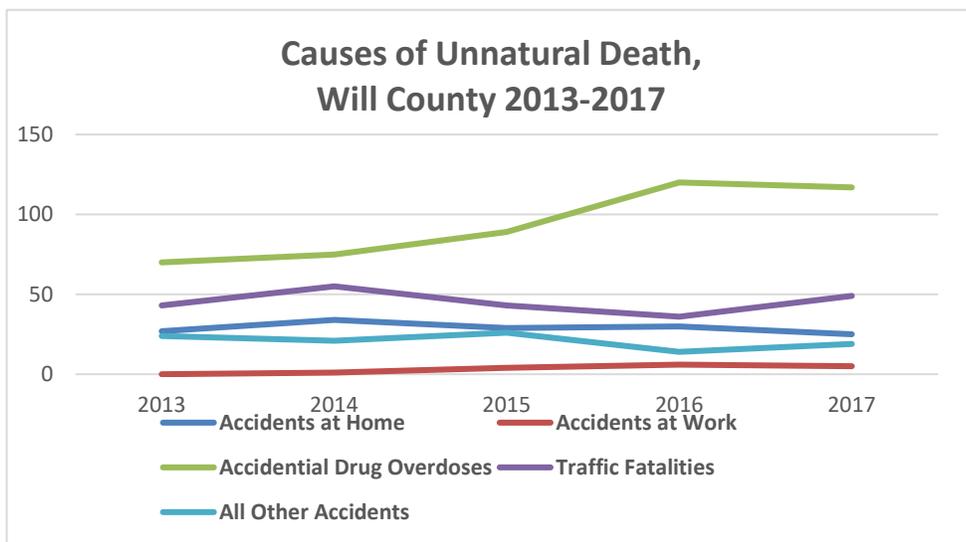
Overdoses and Drug Induced Mortality

In 2017 36% of accidental deaths in Will County were attributed to overdose. According to the Will County Coroner's Office, heroin deaths continue to be the leading cause of accidental overdose deaths.

Of the 117 accidental overdoses, 87 deaths were heroin related. Combined drug intoxication was the second leading cause of accidental overdose. Figure 14.6 displays the causes of accidental deaths in Will County.

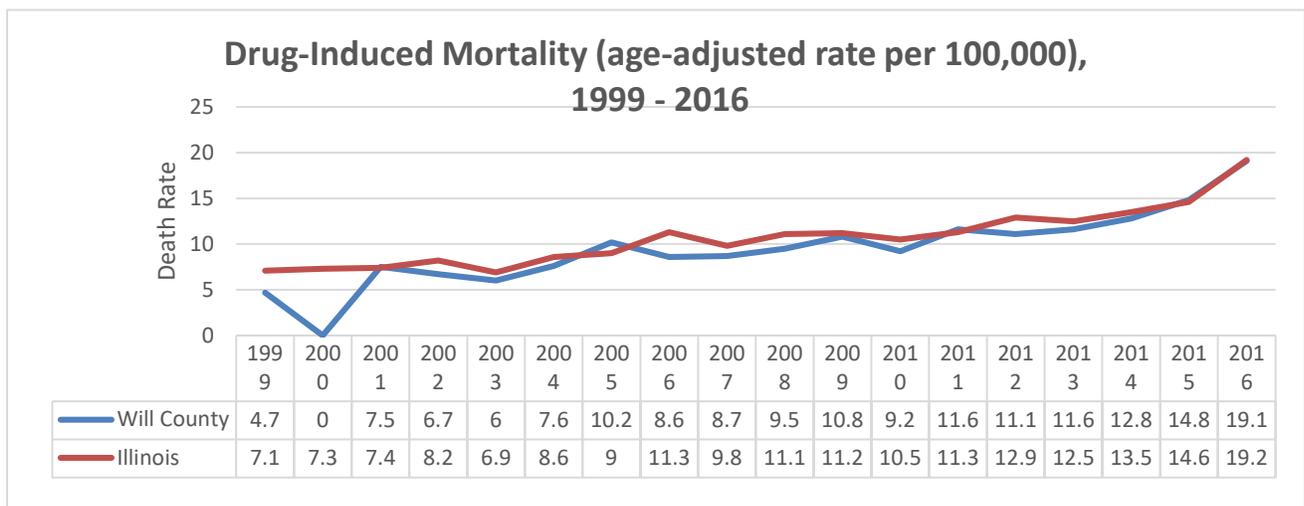
Drug induced mortality reports the rate of death due to drug overdose per 100,000 population. Will County is above the Healthy People 2020 target of 11.3 deaths per 100,000 population, as indicated in Figure 9.6.

Figure 9.6. Adult Accidental Deaths in Will County



Data Source: The Will County Coroner Annual Report, 2017

Figure 9.7. Will County Drug Induced Mortality Rate



Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDWONDER, 2016

Community Survey

In the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA), a survey was distributed to the community. Survey respondents were asked where they receive mental health services. Those seeking mental health services visit a private practice or family health care provider (85.27%), the hospital emergency room (20.6%), Community Health Centers, such as Aunt Martha’s or the Will County Community Health Center (2.98%), or an Immediate Care Center (48%).

Questions on a variety of health issues were asked in the survey and respondents were able to rate the impact of each issue in their home, in their community, and in the county on a Likert scale. The following health issues were identified by survey respondents, combining the answers “It is somewhat a problem” and “It is a large problem.”

Figure 9.8. CTSA 2019 Top Health Issues Identified as ‘Somewhat’ or a ‘Large’ Problem

Within the Home	Within the Community	Within the County
#1. Access to Public Transportation	#1. Illegal Drug Use	#1. Illegal Drug Use
#2. Depression	#2. Vaping	#2. Prescription Drug Use
#3. Access to Interpreters	#3. Underage Drinking	#3. Violence
#4. Mental Health	#4. Tobacco Use	#4. Underage Drinking
#5. Tobacco Use	#5. Mental Health	#5. Vaping
#6. Vaping	#6. Depression	#6. Tobacco Use
#7. Alzheimer’s/Dementia	#7. Binge Drinking	#7. Mental Health
#8. Binge Drinking	#8. Prescription Drug Use	#8. Depression
#9. Suicide	#9. Suicide	#9. Binge Drinking
#10. Self-Harm	#10. Alzheimer’s/Dementia	#10. Self Harm

The following figures display the number of respondents rating health issues as a problem in their homes, communities, and in Will County.

Figure 9.9. CTSA 2019 Health Issues Rated as a Problem at Home

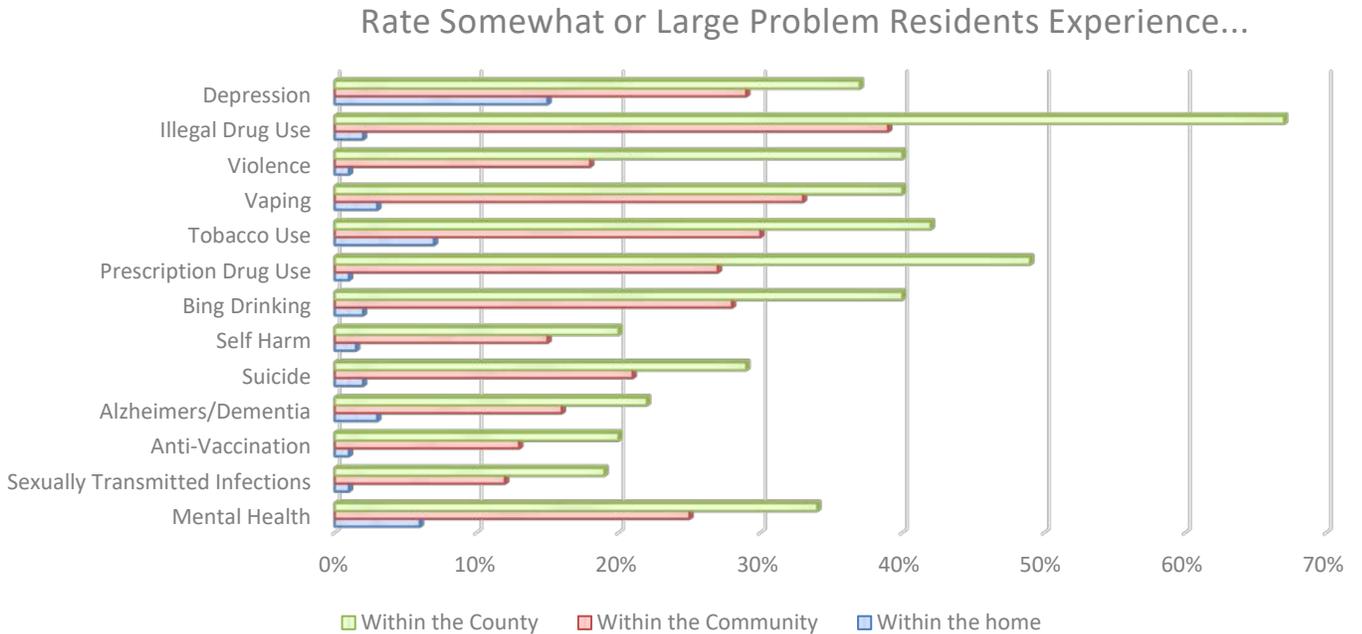
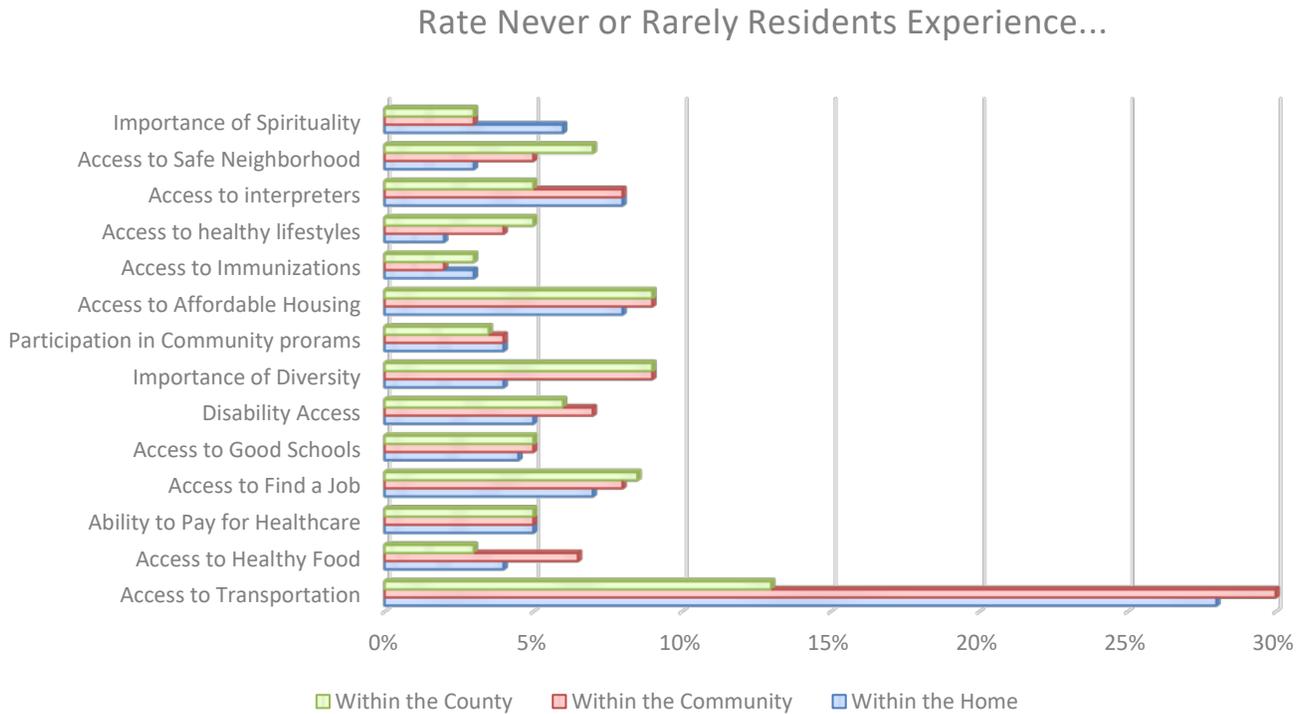
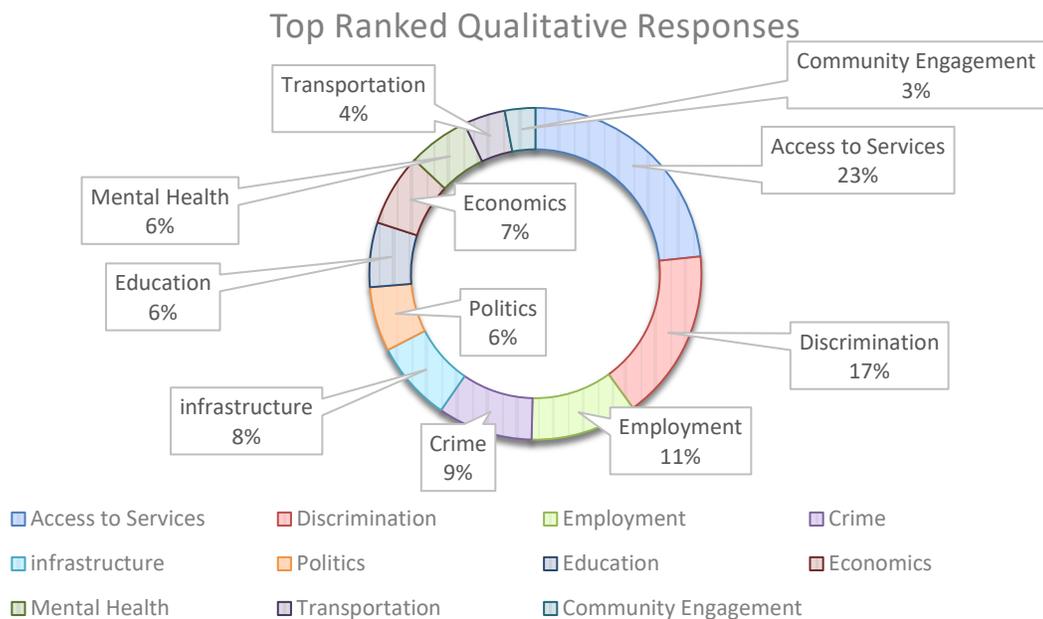


Figure 10. CTSA 2019 Respondents Rarely or Never Experienced



Residents were invited to list any further comments to help us understand their ratings. Of the 1,688 respondents, 405 chose to leave a comment. Of these comments, the main area of concern was on discrimination, employment, and Access to services. Depression, drug and vaping problems in the home and within the community. Specifically, respondents mentioned the rise of heroin overdoses and illegal drug abuse in recent years. Qualitative responses included concerns relating to lack of services, diversity inclusion, public transportation and housing for individuals.

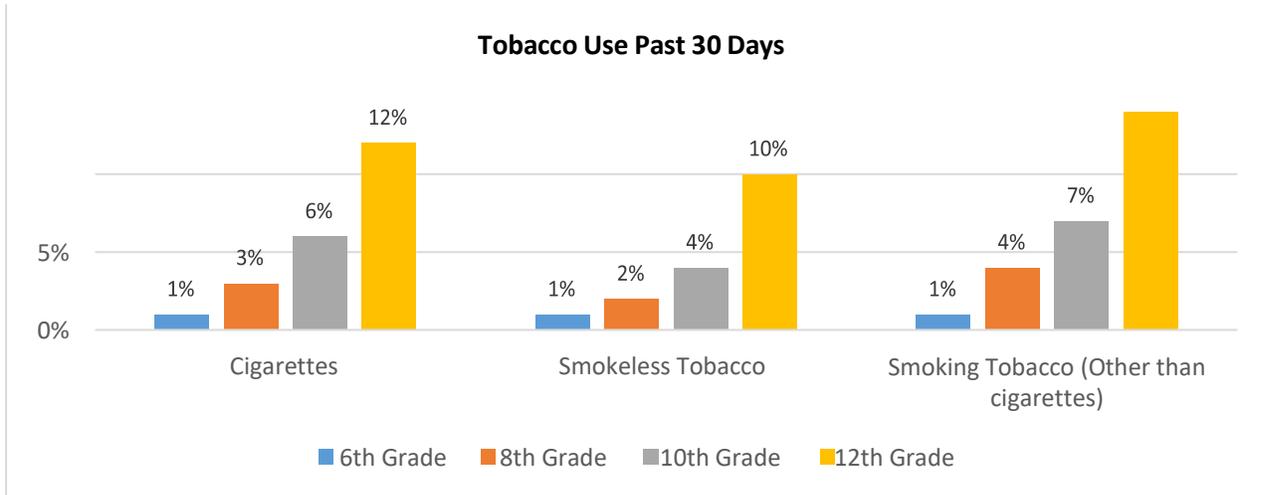
Figure 10.1 CTSA 2019 Qualitative Responses by respondents



Tobacco Use

In 2010-2014, 13.4% of Will County adults were smokers. For the state of Illinois and the U.S, this figure was similar with 16.7% and 16.8% of adults reporting they were current smokers. The percentage of smokers in Will County has declined since 2001 but is still higher than the Healthy People 2020 target of 12%. Tobacco use is also an issue among Will County youth, as shown in Figure 19.

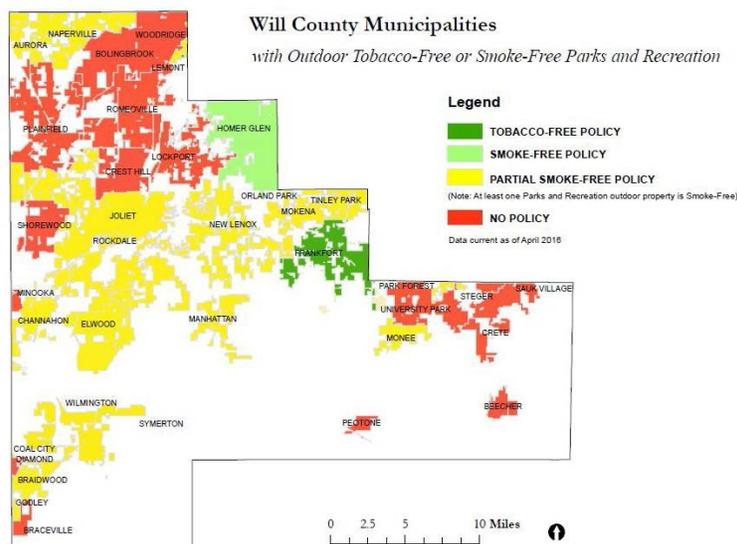
Figure 10.2. Percent of Will County Youth Tobacco Use, Past 30 Days, 2014



Data Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2014

The Smoke-Free Illinois Act [PA 95-0017] enacted on January 1, 2008, and amended on February 4, 2009, prohibits smoking in all public places and within 15 feet of any entrance, exit, window, and ventilation intake. Tobacco-free outdoor policies have become a growing trend in Will County. As of 2016, 55% of Will County municipalities have a partial or 100% smoke/tobacco-free outdoor policy, as shown in Figure 19.1. The Tobacco 21 law went into effect in July 2019 and amendments to include e-cigarettes and vaporizing devices will be included.

Figure 10.3. Will County Municipalities with Outdoor Tobacco-Free or Smoke-Free Policies, 2016



Data Source: Will County Health Department, Tobacco Control & Prevention Program, 2016

Key Findings of Strategic Issue: Access to Food and Nutrition

Overview

Food insecurity in Will County affects nearly 10% of all residents, of which even more have no access to healthy food retailers. Of the more than 34,000 children experiencing food insecurity, 46% are ineligible for assistance programs. Residents residing primarily in the central and northwestern areas of the county have less access to healthy food and only 15 per every 100,000 have access to WIC authorized food stores..

Many chronic diseases are linked to lifestyle choices, or health risk behaviors, which are unhealthy behaviors that can be changed. Four of these health risk behaviors—lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, tobacco use, and excess alcohol consumption—cause much of the illness, suffering, and early death related to chronic diseases and conditions. Eating nutritious foods, becoming more physically active, and avoiding tobacco can help avoid developing many of these diseases and conditions. Becoming or being housing insecure reduces an individual’s life expectancy to nearly half.

Findings from the assessments detail access issues to healthcare services and resources. Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

Needs	Populations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Coordination and linkage for food insecure population • -Access to Nutritional Food • -Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues • -Technological Assistance and Advancements • -Policy, Education, Empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing insecure population • Children • Joliet, University Park • Parts of Bolingbrook & Romeoville • African American population • 60417, 60432, 60433, 60436, 60440, 60441, and 60484 zip codes

Assessment Findings

The Forces of Change Assessment identified access to and affordability of healthy foods as a major concern in Will County. Opportunities pinpointed in these assessments include:

- Increase advocacy and funding for healthy eating campaigns and policies to support healthy eating
- Focus on bringing new healthy businesses, grocery stores, farmers markets, and community gardens to Will County
- Technological Assistance and Advancements to link services and Map service locations
- Reduce barriers in the built environment that effect health outcomes for targeted populations.

Chronic Disease Management

The percentage of adults with a reported chronic disease is similar to state and national percentages, as shown in Figure 11. However, the Medicare population has a higher percentage of reported heart disease, high cholesterol, and diabetes.

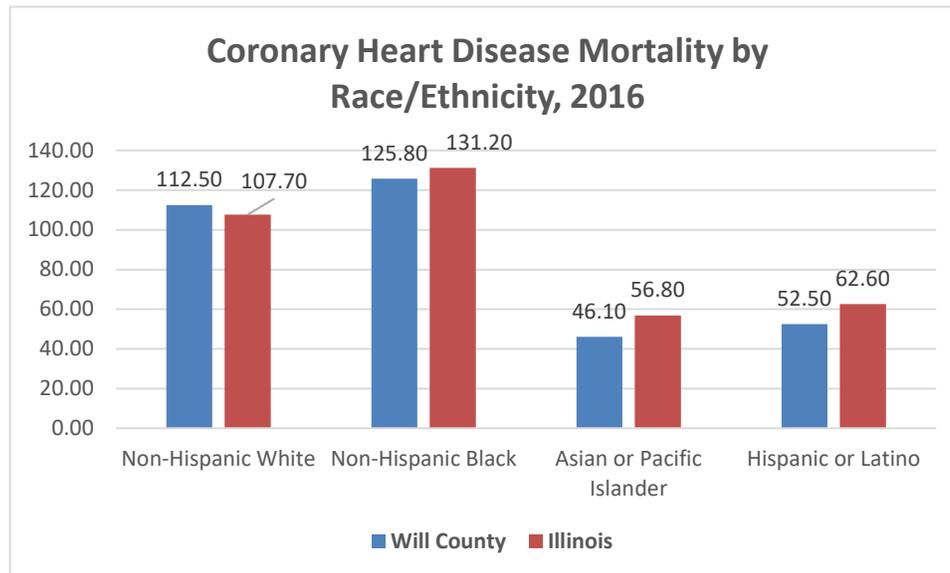
Figure 11. Percent of Adults with a Chronic Disease, 2014-15

	Total Adults			Medicare Population		
	Will County	Illinois	U.S.	Will County	Illinois	U.S.
Heart Disease	2.4%	3.8%	4.4%	28%	26.8%	26.46%
High Blood Pressure	28.2%	28.2%	28.16%	28.8%	56.35%	54.99%
High Cholesterol	38.89%	38.02%	38.52%	51.51%	46.19%	44.61%
Diabetes	8.2%	8.47%	9.19%	27.38%	26.27%	26.55%

Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 2015 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2014

Will County's coronary heart disease mortality rate of 95.6 is slightly higher than both Illinois' mortality rate and the Healthy People 2020 target at 103.4 per 100,000. The White population has the highest rates of reported heart disease, however, heart disease mortality is highest among African Americans, as shown in Figure 11.1.

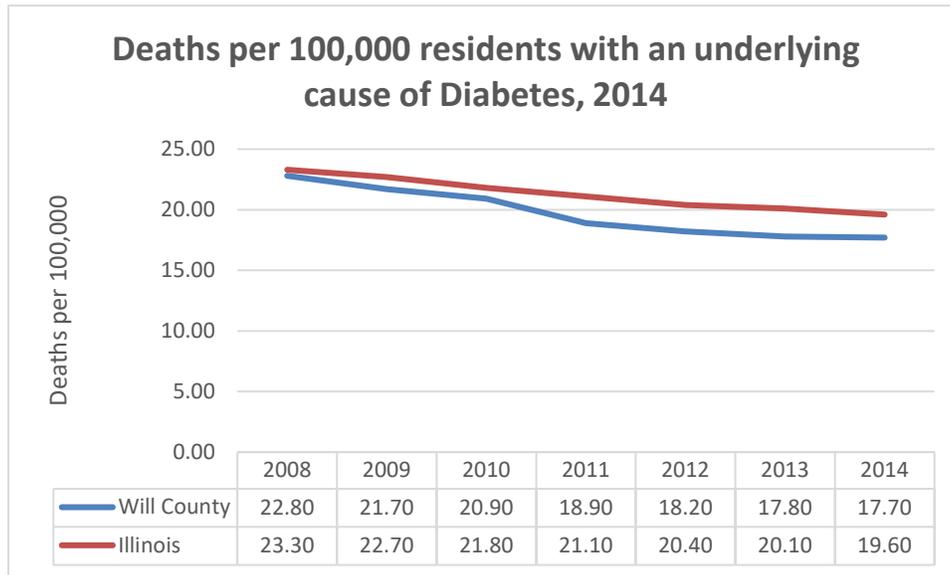
Figure 11.1. Will County Heart Disease Mortality Rate by Race/Ethnicity, 2016



Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER, 2016

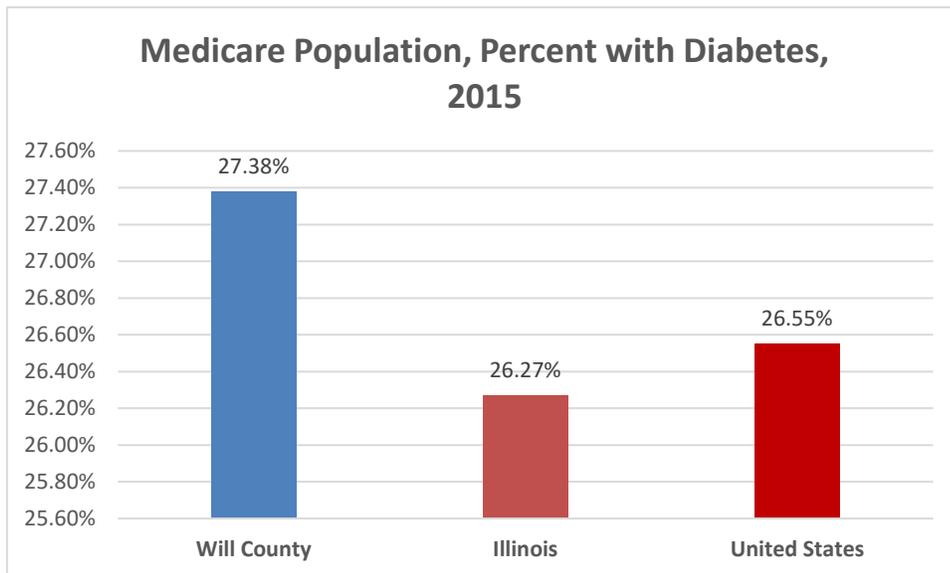
Over the past decade, mortality due to diabetes has slowly decreased in Will County, as shown in Figure 11.2. In 2014, the age-adjusted mortality rate of diabetes was 17.7 deaths, well below the Healthy People 2020 target of 66.6 deaths. The concern with diabetes is the high percentage of Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes, as shown in Figure 11.2.

Figure 11.2. Will County Diabetes Mortality Rate



Data Source: National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (NVSS-M) (Via <http://healthindicators.gov>), 2014

Figure 11.3 Medicare Population, Percent with Diabetes 2015

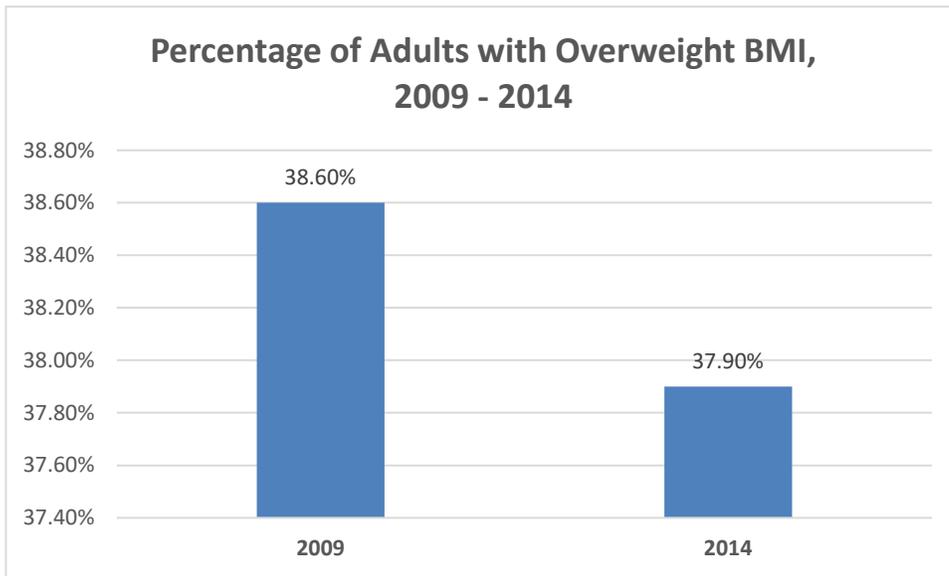


Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 2015.

Obesity

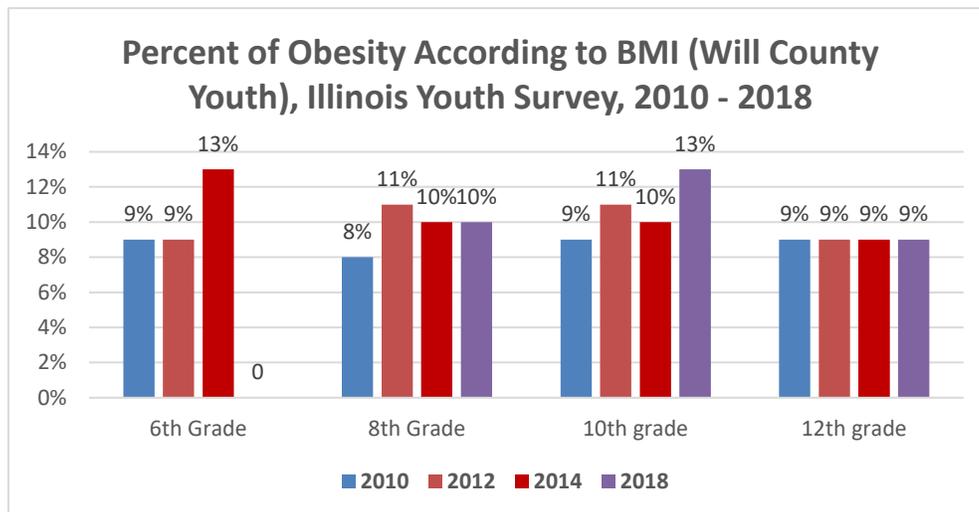
Excess weight is a prevalent problem in the U.S., as it indicates an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues. The graph below reports the percentage of adults aged 20 and older who self-report that they have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30.0 (obese). Males were more likely to be obese than females. Additionally, 37.9% of adults aged 18 and older self-reported that they have a BMI between 25-30 (overweight), with the highest percentage being Non-Hispanic White. Additionally, obesity is an issue in Will County youth.

Figure 11.4. Percent of Will County Adult Population Who Are Obese



Data Source: 2014 Will County Round 4 Illinois County BRFS; 2014 Will County Round 5 Illinois County BRFS

Figure 11.5. Percent of Overweight and Obese Will County Youth, 2018

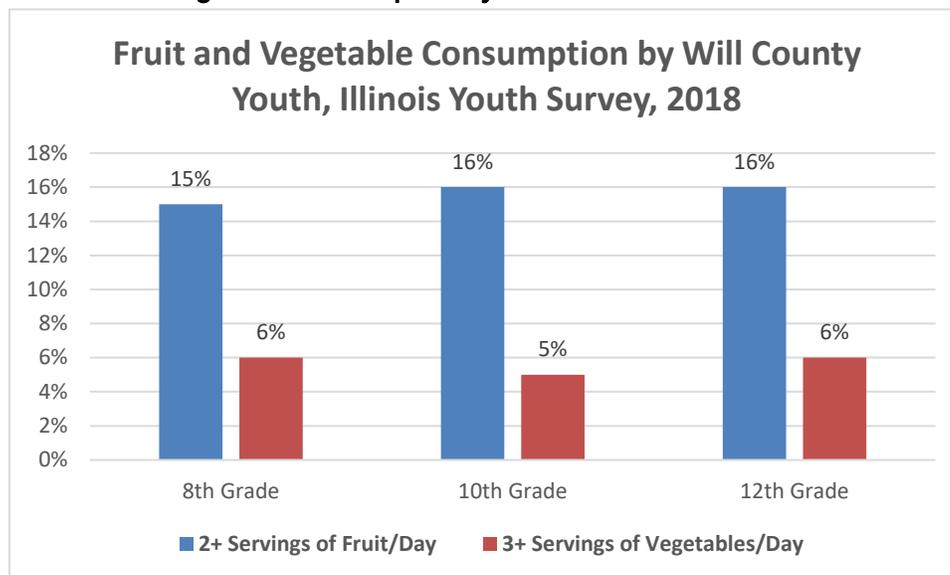


Data Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2018 County Report

Healthy Food Consumption

Healthy food consumption is an issue among youth and adults in Will County. Among Will County adults, 80.7% are consuming less than five servings of fruits and vegetables each day, compared to 76.3% in Illinois and 75.7% in the U.S. Nearly 95% of all youth 8th through 12th report not consuming the adequate number of fruits and vegetables per day.

Figure 11.6 Fruit and Vegetable Consumption by Youth 2018

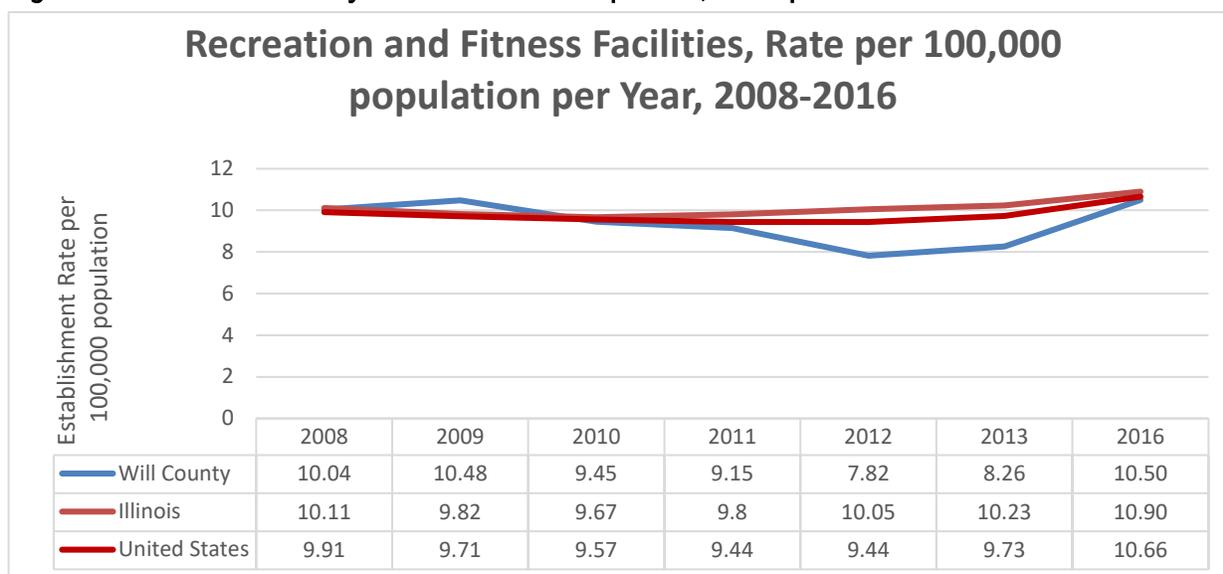


Data Source: IYS Illinois Youth Survey 2018

Physical Inactivity

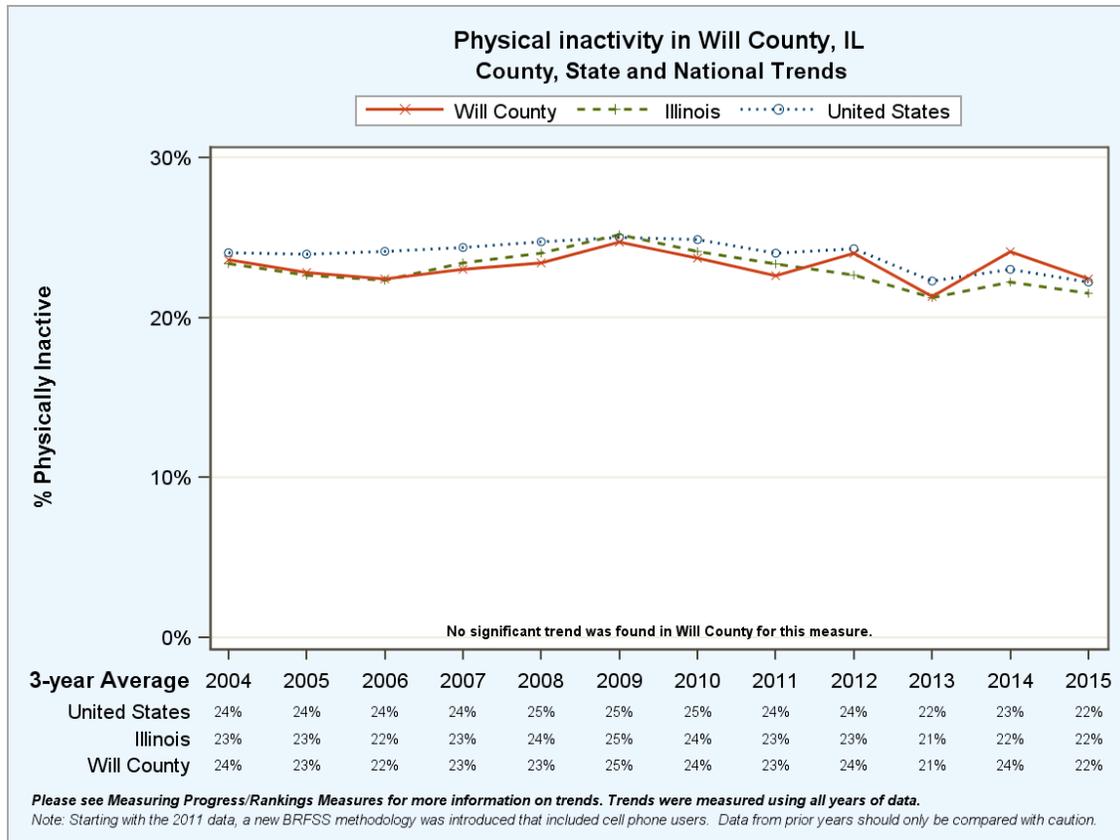
Physical inactivity is a contributing factor to obesity and many chronic diseases. The figure below reports the number, per 100,000 population, of recreation and fitness facilities. A lack of access to recreation and fitness facilities contributes to low levels of physical activity.

Figure 11.7. Rate of Will County Recreational Facilities per 100,000 Population



Data Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES, 2016 Among adults and older adults, physical activity can lower the risk of early death, coronary heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, cancer, falls, and depression. Adults are recommended to get 150 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per week, however many adults are physically inactive as show in Figure 11.8.

Figure 11.8. Percent of Adults Physically Inactive



Data Source: County Health Rankings 2016

On an average school day, youth are spending more than the recommended screen time on electronics (not including time for school work), as shown in Figure 11.9.

Figure 11.9. Screen Time Spent On an Average School Day, 2018

	5+ Hours Screen Time	5+ Hours Television
8 th Grade	28%	6%
10 th Grade	30%	5%
12 th Grade	20%	3%

Data Source: Illinois Youth Survey, 2018

Food Access

An environment that provides access to healthy food and recreational opportunities is important to maintaining and improving community health. There are 81 neighborhoods in Will County that are within food deserts, affecting approximately 437,000 residents, located in or around Joliet, as shown in Figure 12.1. Also, 31.8% of the population do not have access to healthy foods as shown in Figure 12.

Figure 12. Will County Food Desert by Census Tract, 2015

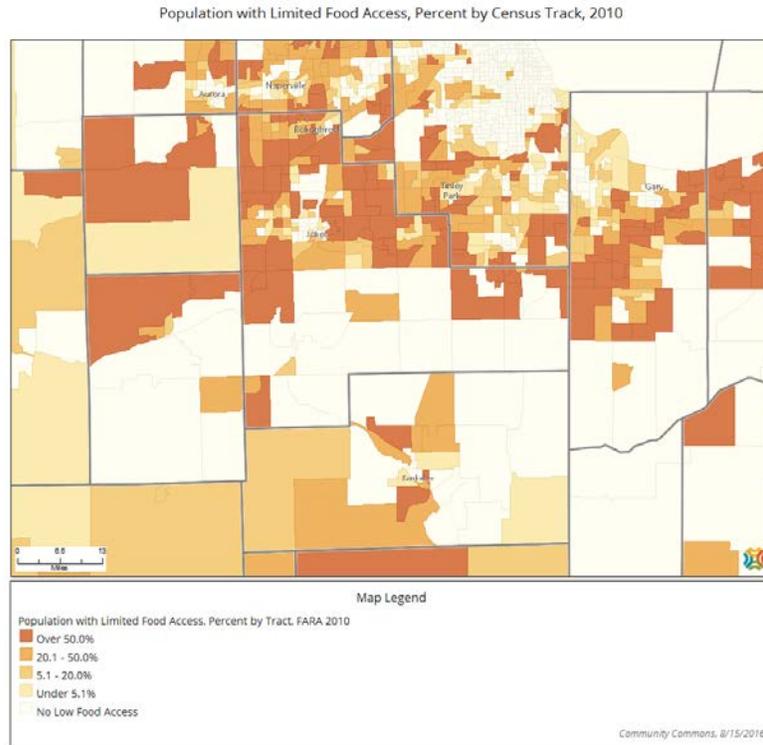
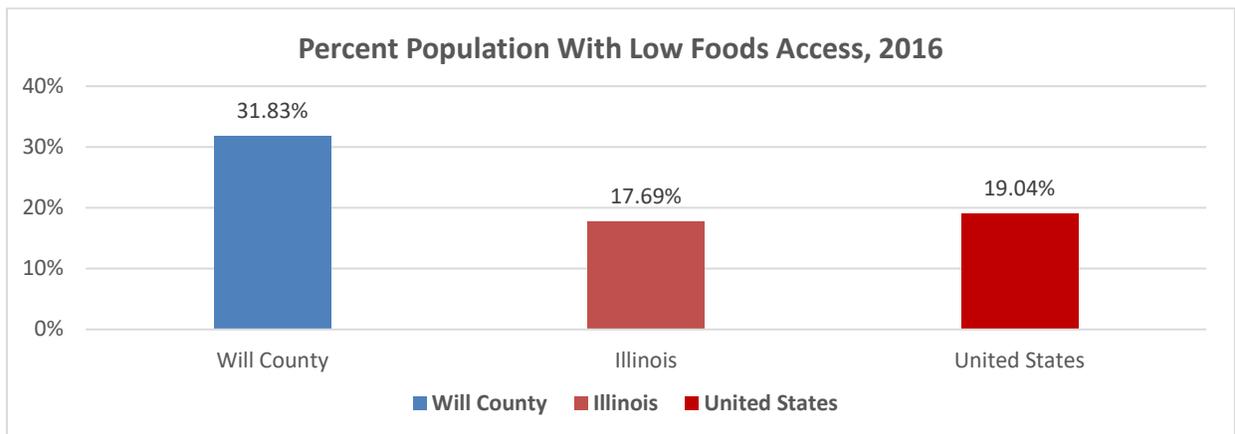


Figure 12.1 Percent of population with Low Food Access 2016



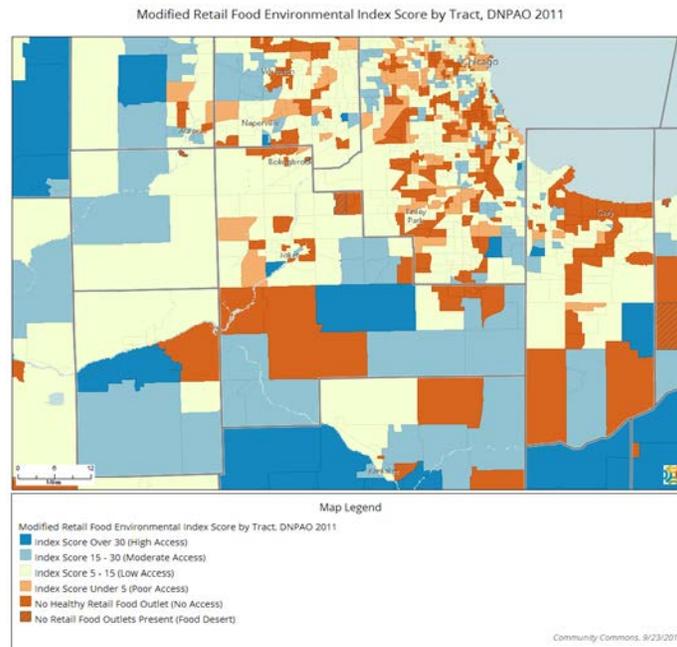
Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA Food Access Atlas 2016

Figure 12.2. Percentage of Population Living In Census Tracts with No or Low Access to Healthy Retail Food Stores, 2011

Report Area	% Population with No Food	% Population with No Healthy Food	% Population with Low Healthy Food	% Population with Moderate Healthy Food Access	% Population with High Healthy Food
Will County	1.08%	16.36%	37.11%	43.14%	2.30%
Illinois	0.79%	21.04%	38.50%	36.13%	3.53%
United States	0.99%	18.63%	30.89%	43.28%	5.02%

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity, 2011

Figure 12.3 Food Environment 2011



Access to healthy, affordable food is a key component of obesity and chronic disease prevention. Retailers who accept SNAP and WIC provide a measure of food security and healthy food access for women and children in poverty, as well as environmental influences on dietary behaviors. Figure 12.3 depicts that Will County has a shortage of retailers which accept SNAP or WIC compared to the state rate.

Figure 12.4. Rate of Grocery Stores, SNAP and WIC-Authorized Retailers per 100,000 Population

Report Area	Grocery Store Rate	SNAP-Authorized Retailers Rate	WIC-Authorized Food Store Rate
Will County	17.8	5.3	15
Illinois	28.1	7.09	18.4
United States	29.9	8.07	15.6

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA - SNAP Retailer Locator. Additional data analysis by CARES,

Key Findings of Strategic Issue: Stabilizing the Built Environment

Overview

In Will County, housing security, and transportation security has been nested as an issue in all major strategic categories. 341 individuals were identified as Housing insecure or “homeless” under the definition in 2018 and over 30% were children. Children tend to be of the majority of Medicaid recipients and individuals experiencing poverty. Being housing insecure reduces life expectancy by nearly half. Individuals experiencing housing insecurity tend to present multiple chronic illness conditions and have the least access to resources to improve quality of life and health outcome. Overcrowding has become an issue due to housing insecurity, hitting primarily the socially vulnerable areas of the east side of Joliet; with over 4% of homes being overcrowded and more than 30% are substandard conditions. Will County has a housing vacancy rate of over 6%. Will County residents without a vehicle in the home to commute to services in socially vulnerable areas is over 8%.

Findings from the assessments detail access issues to housing and transportation security and resources. Specific priority needs and populations identified in the assessment process include:

Needs	Populations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Vocational Training • -Data Collection and Sharing strategies to identify and prioritize issues • -Technological Assistance and Advancements • -Health Service linkage and coordination • -Evaluate the environment • -Policy, Education, Empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and transportation insecure population • 60417, 60432, 60433, 60436, 60440, 60441, and 60484 60468 zip codes

Assessment Findings

The Forces of Change Assessment identified access to and affordability of healthy foods as a major concern in Will County. Opportunities pinpointed in these assessments include:

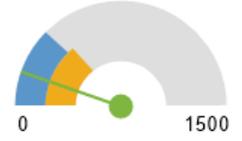
- Increase advocacy and funding for housing stabilization, housing security, and improving housing and transportation safety measures
- Technological Assistance and Advancements to link services and Map service locations
- Reduce barriers in the built environment that effect health outcomes for targeted populations.

Stabilization of the Built Environment

Assisted Housing

This indicator reports the total number of HUD-funded assisted housing units available to eligible renters, as well as the unit rate (per 10,000 total households). Affordable housing is important to the health and well-being of individuals and families. Low-income families may not have enough money to spend on necessities such as food and health care due to the cost of rent. There are 3,822 HUD-assisted housing units at a 160.93 rate per 10,000 units which is lower than the rate for Illinois and the United States.

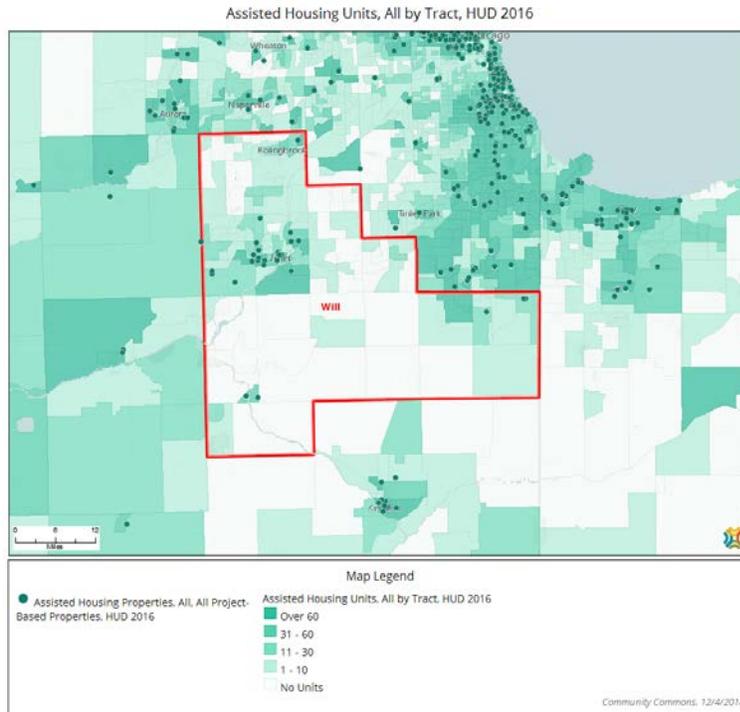
HUD-Assisted Units, Rate per 10,000 Housing Units



Will County, IL (160.93)
 Illinois (425.53)
 United States (375.41)

Report Area	Housing Choice Voucher Units	Project-Based Section 8 Units	Section 236 Units (Federal Housing Authority Projects)	Public Housing Authority Units	Section 202 Units (Supportive Housing for the Elderly)	Section 811 Units (Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities)	Other Multi-Family Program Units (RAP, SUP, Moderate Rehab, Etc.)
Will County	1,616	987	143	878	0	151	46
Illinois	103,232	62,033	674	50,464	5,412	1,669	1,897
United States	2,474,400	1,243,178	33,100	1,074,437	124,704	34,463	31,612

Figure 13 Assisted Housing Units 2016

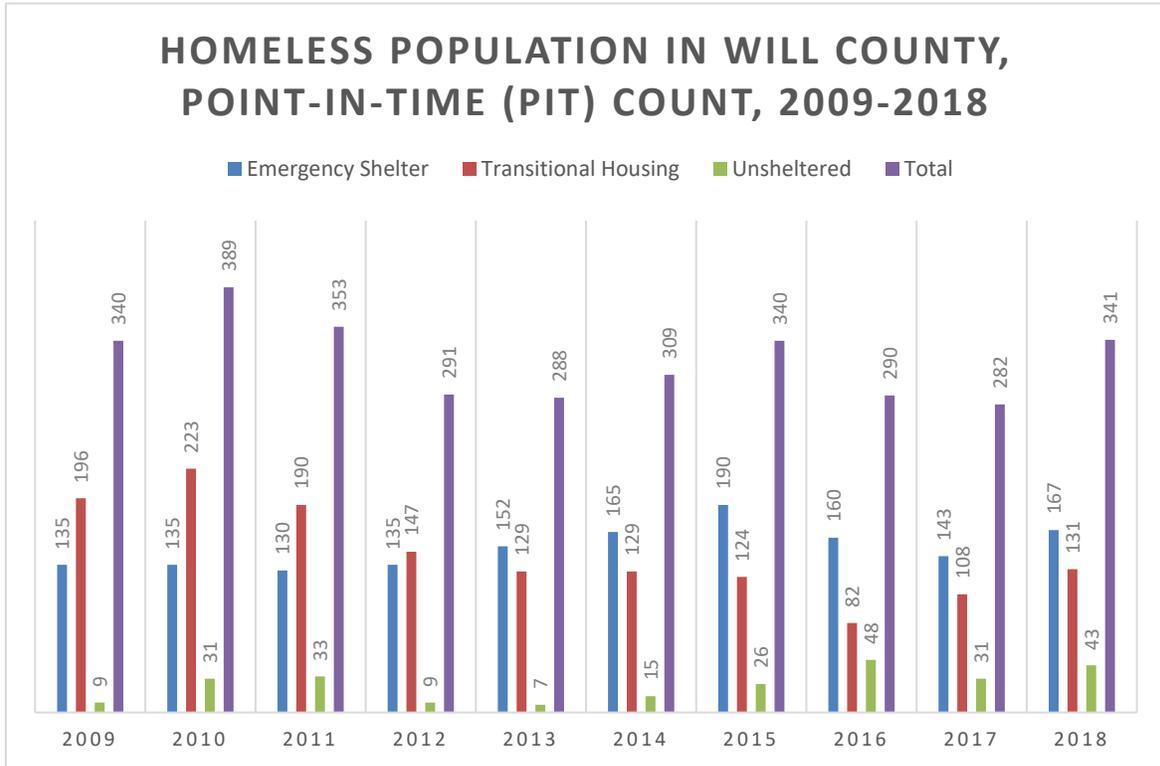


Data Source: US Department of Housing and Urban Development 2016

Homeless Population

One method calculating homelessness is using the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, which is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January, according to the Will County Continuum of Care. On January 31, 2018, 341 unique individuals experienced homelessness in Will County, including 43 unsheltered individuals and 31.9% were children.

Figure 13.1 Homeless Population 2018



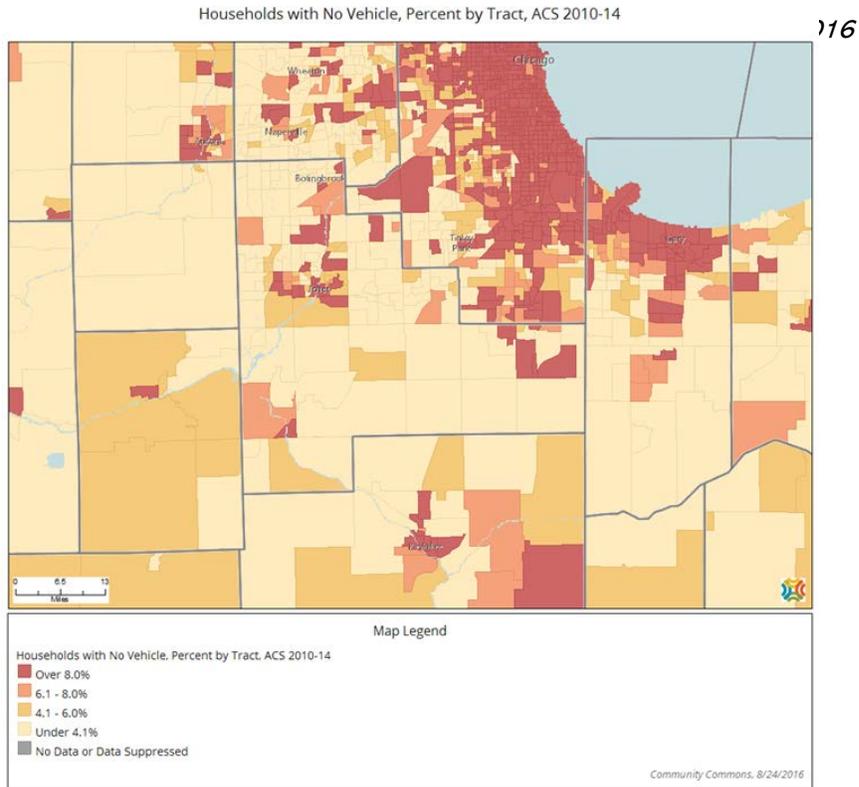
Data Source: Will County Continuum of Care 2018

Households with No Motor Vehicle

This indicator reports the number and percentage of households with no motor vehicle based on the 2016 Community Survey and U.S. Census estimates. 3.77% of Will County households have no vehicle compared to 10.82% of Illinois households.

Report Area	Total Occupied Households	Households with No Motor Vehicle	Percentage of Households with No Motor Vehicle
Will County	224,959	8,482	3.77%
Illinois	4,802,124	519,694	10.82%
United States	117,716,237	10,562,847	8.90%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2016



In addition, there is a significant difference in this measure which is dependent on whether one resides in an owner-occupied household (1.66%) or a rental household.

	Owner-Occupied Households with No Vehicle	Number of Owner-Occupied Households	Percentage of Owner-Occupied Households with No Vehicle	Renter-Occupied Households with No Vehicle	Total Rental Occupied	Percentage of Renter-Occupied Households with No Vehicle
Will County	3,104	183,930	1.68%	5,018	44,138	11.37%
Illinois	118,698	3,146,858	3.77%	412,982	1,675,188	24.65%
United States	2,343,830	75,022,569	3.12%	8,021,145	43,837,496	18.30%

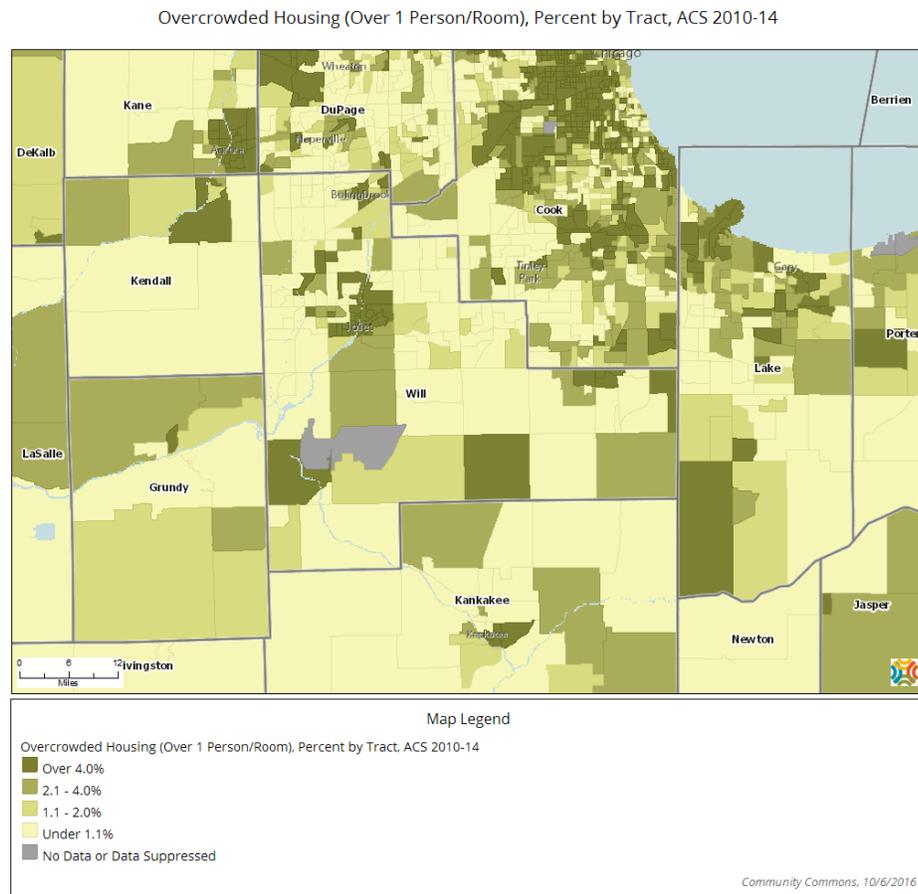
Overcrowded Housing

This indicator reports data on overcrowded housing from the latest 2016 American Community Survey. The Census Bureau has no official definition of crowded units, but this report considers units with more than one occupant per room to be crowded. Will County has a smaller percentage of overcrowded units than the percentages in Illinois and the United States. Overcrowding in Will County is occurring in the Joliet and Bolingbrook areas, as well as, parts of southern Will.

Report Area	Total Occupied Housing Units	Overcrowded Housing Units	Percentage of Housing Units Overcrowded
Will County	224,959	4,402	1.95%
Illinois	4,802,124	125,589	2.61%
United States	117,716,237	3,932,606	3.34%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016.

Figure 13.3 Overcrowding Housing 2014



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-14. Source geography: Tract

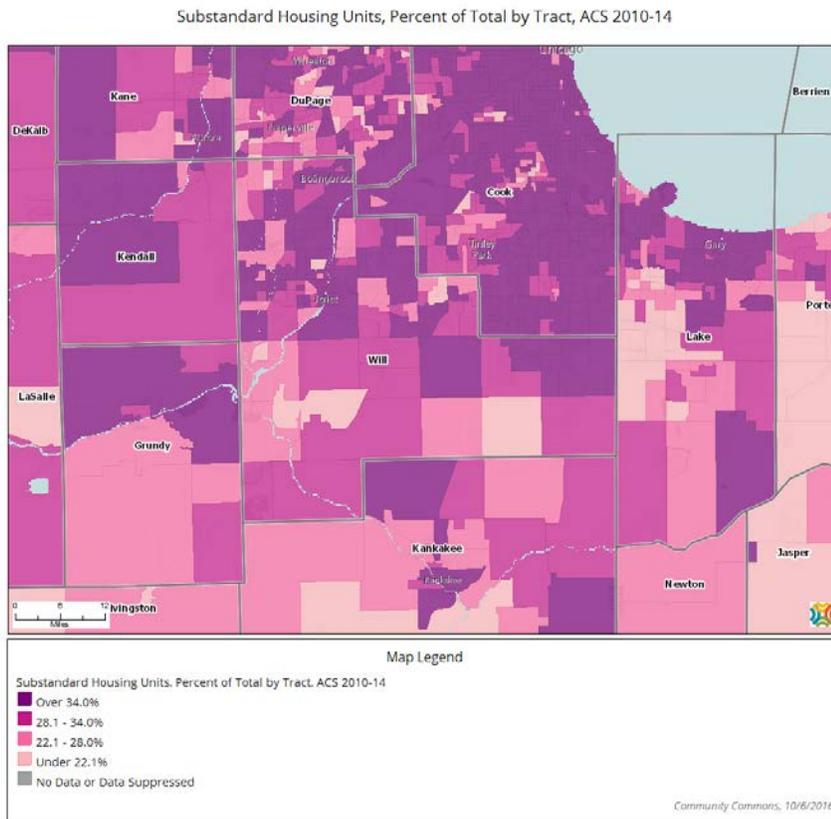
Substandard Housing

This indicator reports the number and percentage of owner- and renter-occupied housing units having at least one of the following conditions: 1) lacking complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacking complete kitchen facilities, 3) with 1.01 or more occupants per room, 4) selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent, and 5) gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent. Selected conditions provide information in assessing the quality of the housing inventory and its occupants. This data is used to easily identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. A higher concentration of substandard housing units are located in the Joliet area and northern Will County. The percent of occupied housing units with one or more substandard conditions in Will County is similar to Illinois and the United States.

Report Area	Total Occupied Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions	Percent Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions
Will County	224,959	79,010	35.12%
Illinois	4,802,124	1,775,655	36.97%
United States	117,716,237	44,022,167	37.39%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2016.

Figure 13.4 Substandard Housing Units 2014



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2010-14. Source geography: Tract

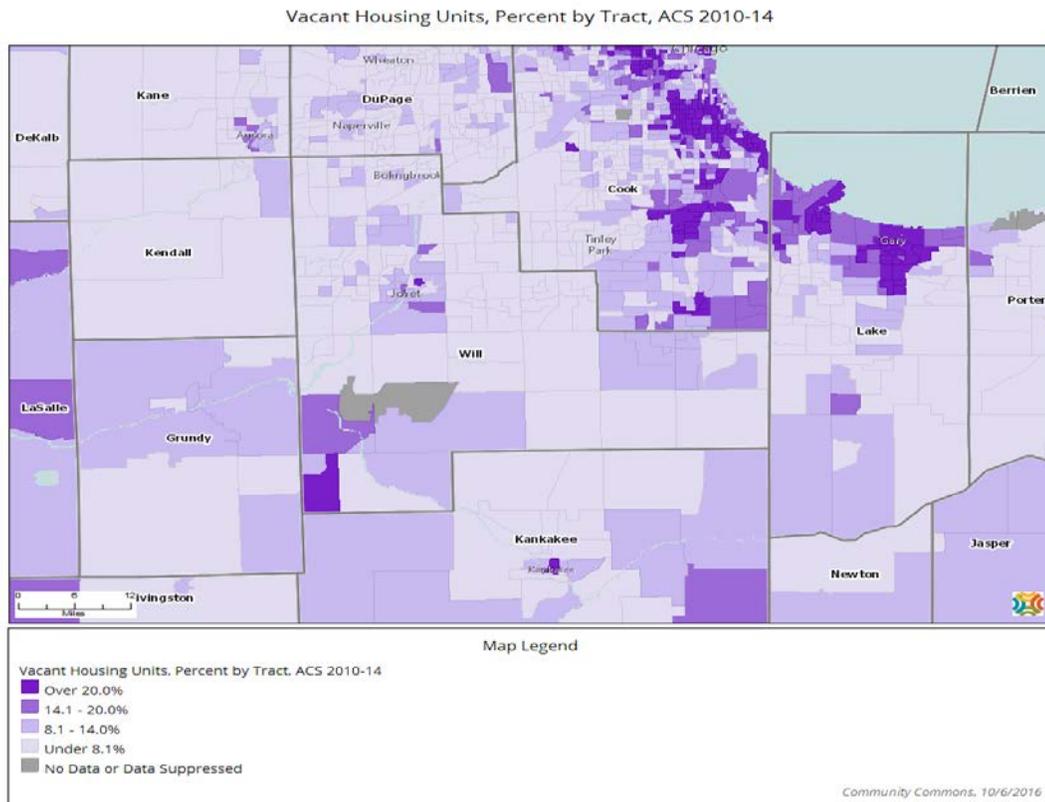
Vacancy Rate

This indicator reports the number and percentage of housing units that are vacant. A housing unit is considered vacant by the American Community Survey if no one is living in it at the time of interview. Units occupied at the time of interview entirely by persons who are staying two months or less and who have a more permanent residence elsewhere are considered to be temporarily occupied and are classified as “vacant.” Will County has a lower percentage of vacant housing units (6.24%) than Illinois (9.57%) and the United States (12.18%). A higher concentration of vacant housing units is in southern Will County, as well as, parts of Joliet and eastern Will.

Report Area	Total Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units, Percent
Will County	239,953	14,994	6.24%
Illinois	531,327	508,203	9.57%
United States	134,054,899	16,338,662	12.18%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2016

Figure 13.5 Vacant Housing Units 2014



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2010-14. Source geography: Tract

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Community Health Status Assessment Executive Summary Executive Summary

Based on the information gathered through this Community Health Status Assessment and the guidelines set forth in Healthy People 2020, the following “areas of opportunity” represent the significant health needs of the community.

Areas of Opportunity Identified by the Will County Community Health Status Assessment

Area of Opportunity	Data Identified	Target Population
Cancer	Leading cause of death and 5 th in hospitalizations	All of Will County
	Breast cancer mortality rate	Females
	Pap screenings	
	Prostate cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African American or Black • Males
Diabetes	Adults who have been told they have diabetes	All of Will County
	Population with diabetes	Medicare
	Diabetes hospital admission rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African American or Black • Hispanic/Latino ethnicity • Ages 65+
Heart Disease	High blood pressure prevalence and many report not taking prescribed medication	All of Will County
	High total blood cholesterol prevalence	
	Second cause of death and second cause of hospitalizations	
	Stroke mortality rate	
	Stroke hospital admission rate	Hispanic/Latino ethnicity
Maternal and Child Health	Fertility rate	All of Will County
	Infant mortality rate	African American or Black
	Pre-term live births	All of Will County
	Prenatal care	African American or Black
Mental Health	8-30 days adult mental health not good	All of Will County
	Mental health professional shortage area designation	60432 and 60433
	Mental health provider ratio	All of Will County
	Third cause of hospitalizations	All of Will County
	Youth experiencing depression	8 th – 12 th grades
Nutrition, Physical Activity and Weight	Low grocery store and healthy food retailer access and lack of retailers that accept SNAP and WIC	All of Will County and low income
	Obesity	Adults
	Physical inactivity	

Oral Health	Dental health professional shortage area designation	60432 and 60433
	Dental health provider ratio	All of Will County
Substance Abuse	Accidental drug overdoses	All of Will County
	Drug-induced mortality	All of Will County
	Heavy alcohol consumption	Adults and Youth 8 th – 12 th grades
	Substance use assessment need	12 th graders
Tobacco Use	Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths	All of Will County
	Outdoor tobacco-free areas	
	Tobacco and E-cigarette use	Adults and Youth 8 th – 12 th grades

Social Determinants of Health

The CDC defines Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) as conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.

Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. SDOH include both social and physician conditions.

Examples of SDOH including:

- Access to health and health care
- Economic Stability
- Education
- Neighborhood and Built Environment
- Social and Community Context



Areas of Opportunity Identified by the Will County Community Health Status Assessment that Correlates with the Social Determinants of Health

Social Determinant of Health	Data Identified	Target Population
Access to Health Services	Health professional shortage area designation	60432 and 60433
	Lack of consistent source of primary care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males • Non-white • Ages 25-44 • Incomes less than \$35,000
	Lack of health insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males • African American or Black, Asian, and other races • Hispanic/Latino ethnicity • 60432, 60433, and 60484 zip codes

	More medical/surgical and intensive care beds	All of Will County
	Primary care physician ratio	All of Will County
	Preventable hospital events	Medicare enrollees
Economic Stability	Affordable housing	All of Will County
	Low access to food stores	All of Will County
	Low income and low access to food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joliet • University Park • Parts of Bolingbrook & Romeoville
	Low household income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hispanic/Latino ethnicity • 60433, 60432
	High poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433, 60432, 60436 • Black and other race • Hispanic/Latino ethnicity
	High unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60433, 60484, 60468 • Black or African American • Ages 20-24
	Uncertain access to food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children
Education	High school diploma obtainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males • American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and other races • Hispanic/Latino ethnicity • 60432, 60433, 60436
	High school four-year graduation rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joliet Central High School • Joliet West High School
	Language barrier (speak English less than “very well”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish speakers
Neighborhood and Built Environment	Households with no vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of Joliet, Lockport, Bolingbrook and University Park
	Physical environment	All of Will County
	Public transportation for commuting to work	All of Will County
Social and Community Context	Access to social associations	All of Will County
	Lack of access to social and emotional support	All of Will County

Healthy People 2020

Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) provides a comprehensive set of 10-year, national goals and objectives for improving the health of all Americans. A smaller set of HP2020 objectives, called Leading Health Indicators (LHIs), have been selected to communicate high-priority health issues and actions that can be taken to address them. For this report, a selection of HP2020 LHIs are outlined below. The data shown is the most current data available. Additional HP2020 statistics are included within the report narrative.



Meets Healthy People 2020 Target



Does Not Meet Healthy People 2020 Target

Leading Health Indicator Category	HP2020 Target	Will County	Illinois
ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES			
Persons with medical insurance	100%	93%	90%
Persons with a usual primary care provider	83.9%	84.1%	79.9%
Adults receiving colorectal cancer screening based on the most recent guidelines	70.5%	69.9% (2014)	68.3% (2016)
INJURY AND VIOLENCE			
Homicides	5.5 homicides per 100,000 population	3.6 homicides per 100,000 population	7.01 homicides per 100,000 population
MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH			
All infant deaths	6.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births	6.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births	6.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
Total preterm live births	9.4%	10.4% (2016)	10.4% (2018)
MENTAL HEALTH			
Suicide	10.2 suicides per 100,000 population	11.5 suicides per 100,000 population (2017)	10.3 suicides per 100,000 population (2016)
Adolescents with a major depressive episode in the past 12 months	7.5%	35%	31%
NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND OBESITY			
Obesity among adults	30.5%	31.1%	28.4%
Obesity among children and adolescents	14.5%	11% (2018)	11% (2016)
ORAL HEALTH			
Children, adolescents, and adults who visited the dentist in the past year	49%	74.3% - Adults (2014)	65.5% - Adults (2016)
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS			
Students graduating from high school 4 years after starting 9th grade	87%	93%	85%
SUBSTANCE ABUSE			
Adolescents using alcohol or illicit drugs in past 30 days	12.8%	21.6% (2018)	24.3% (2016)
Binge drinking in past month—Adults	24.2%	23.6%	20%
TOBACCO			
Adult cigarette smoking	12%	13.4%	16.7%
Adolescent cigarette smoking in past 30 days	16%	1.9% (2018)	4.4% (2016)

Source: Healthy People 2020

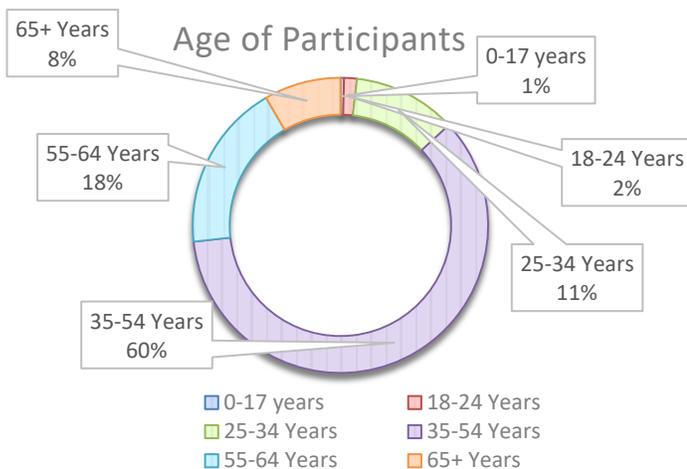
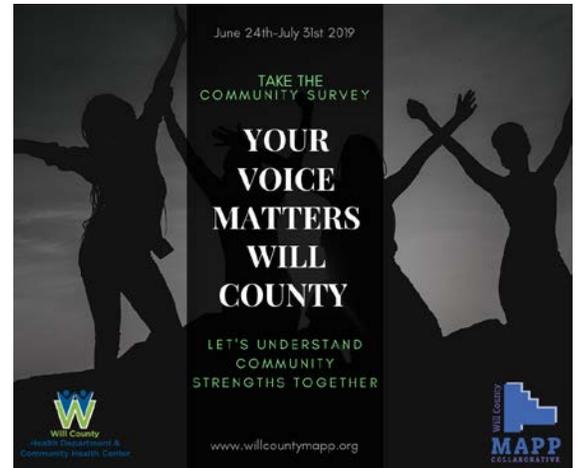
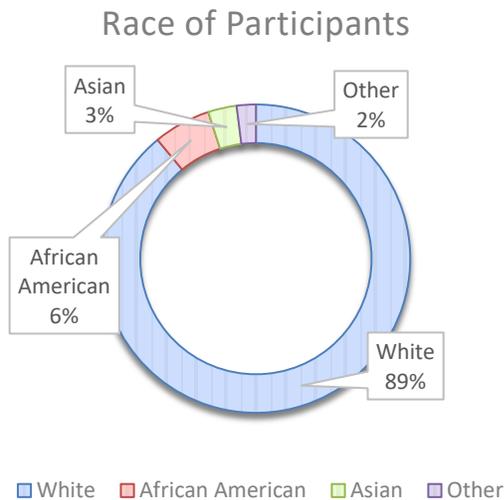
Community Themes and Strengths Assessment Executive Summary

The Community Themes and Strengths Survey was disseminated among Will County residents utilizing a social survey platform, Survey Monkey. Sixty-four total questions related to demographics, community engagement, perception of emerging threats, vulnerabilities and discrimination, as well as health care system perceptions related to access to care, food insecurity,

and social determinants were asked. The community responded by the thousands, as there was a total of sixteen hundred and eighty-eight total responses gathered, with 96% of all reach targeting Will County resident. The data represents a two percent margin of error at a 95% confidence interval and the reach was approximately a .25% response rate.

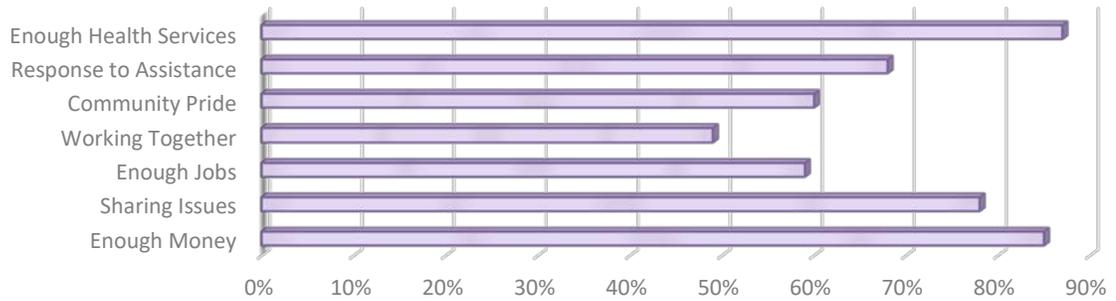
The community responded qualitatively with the top three following themes of concerns:

1. Access to Services
2. Discrimination
3. Employment



Survey respondents are represented by a disproportionate number of non-Hispanic, white females aged 35-55 years whom earned over 75,000 annually in income, owned their homes, see private healthcare providers via employer-based health insurance and obtained the majority of their health information from the internet, however, the responses were captured from each zip code represented within the county, with 96 percent of the total reach targeted Will County residents strictly. The reach was ubiquitous with social platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, web domain, QR codes, and web-based applications to reach resident participants, in person interviews and events were hosted during peak patient times at local health care organizations to discuss the survey and educate residents of the importance of providing input on a community-based notice and comment opportunity within their integrated public health system.

Most of the Time or More Residents Experience...



Quality of life questions were asked to residents. Respondents rated quality of life within the county as good or better 83 percent of the time. Eighty one percent of the time respondents rated Will County as a good or better place to raise their children in. Eighty five percent of residents stated that they have enough money most of the time or more and 87 percent of residents stated that they have access to health care services most of the time or more. Just 49 percent of residents felt that this was a place that most of the time or more individuals worked together to solve issues, and 61 percent of the time felt that this county was a good place to grow old most of the time or more. Discrimination was ranked among places and number of occurrences; with 17 percent of residents perceiving that discriminations was occurring 3 or more times on the streets and 16 percent stating that discrimination occurred 3 or more times at the place of work and 13 percent occurring at school 3 or more times. Transportation was declared as an issue with 30 percent perceiving there to be rarely or never access to transportation within the local communities and 28 percent perceiving the issue to be within their home and 13 percent perceiving this issue to be with the county in general. Substance abuse was rated as a top issue among respondents, with 67 percent stating it to be somewhat or large problem within the county. Among this was prescription drug use at 49 percent of responses, underage drinking at 43 percent, violence at 44 percent, Vaping at 40 percent, and mental health issues at 34 percent. Qualitative responses were collected in addition to the likert scale ranking of issues among the questions asked by the survey. The themes of concerns were ranked below in order from most discussed to least discussed:

1. Access to Services (Healthcare, Mental Health, Dental, Vision, etc.)
2. Discrimination
3. Employment
4. Crime
5. Infrastructure (Roads, Building and Land Development)
6. Economics
7. Politics (Current Legislation, Police, Government Leadership, partisans)
8. Education
9. Mental Health
10. Transportation
11. Community Engagement
12. Opinions

Forces of Change Assessment Executive Summary

The Forces of Change Assessment (FOCA) elicited broad community input to identify forces of change impacting the local public health system in Will County. Participants reported on current trends, events, and factors that may have implications on the local public health system and quality of life for Will County residents. FOCA participants also addressed threats and opportunities posed by each of the major forces.

An analysis of the forces reported by MAPP Partners and community members throughout the FOCA process produced ten cross-cutting issues, listed below.

- Access to transportation
 - Access/affordability of healthy foods
 - Access/affordability of housing
 - Air and water quality
 - Behavioral health/substance abuse
- Equitable and quality health care
- Funding for social service agencies
- Political climate
- Unemployment/underemployment
- Use and influence of technology/social media

When asked to rank the top three forces with the most impact, survey participants ranked (1) Economic Forces, (2) Political Forces, and (3) Social Forces as key issues in Will County.

Regarding these issues, community members identified several opportunities to create positive change in Will County. In general, the following themes of opportunities were identified for each force: Increase advocacy

- Increase partnership/coordination
- Increase education
- Increase jobs/employment opportunities

Below are notable opportunities associated with each of the ten cross-cutting issues.

Force of Change	Opportunities Identified
Access to transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve partnerships with transportation agencies • Increase advocacy and funding to expand transportation options
Access/affordability of healthy foods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of resources to access healthy food options • Encourage healthy food options in workplaces
Access/affordability of housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy for affordable housing options
Air and water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy to improve air and water quality standards
Behavioral health/substance abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy and funding to expand treatment facilities and providers • Increase coordination of care with existing Will County agencies • Improve community perception and decrease stigma of behavioral health services
Equitable and quality health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy and funding for more equitable and quality health care services • Increase collaborations with community agencies such as schools to reach youth and other target populations

Funding for social service agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy for stable state funding • Increase awareness and education of public health issues to elected officials
Political climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase advocacy efforts and support for vulnerable and minority populations • Increase awareness and education of public health issues to elected officials • Encourage bipartisanship over issues regarding social determinants of health and other public health issues
Unemployment/underemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage businesses to bring employment opportunities to Will County • Increase advocacy for fair wages
Use and influence of technology/social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve technology access and education for the senior population • Expand telehealth opportunities

- The issues and opportunities mentioned above will inform future strategic planning in Will County to improve the health and overall quality of life of Will County residents. The FOCA and other MAPP assessments are key in identifying and prioritizing health issues in Will County

Local Public Health Status Assessment Executive Summary

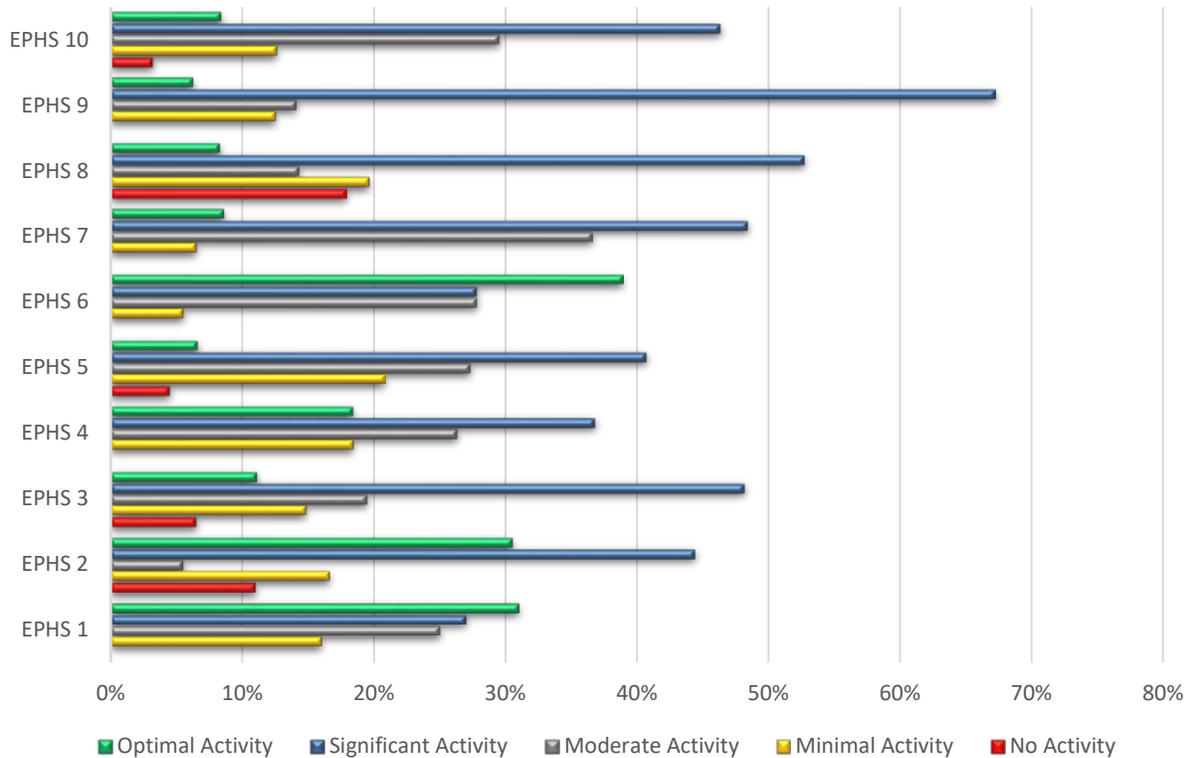
Cross-Cutting Themes from the Will County Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA)

The Local Public Health System Assessment survey was designed in 2019 to collect data from our local public health stakeholders, policy makers, health professionals and collaboratives to address essential public health service needs and gaps that may exist within the existing public health structure. The survey used on-line data collection. A Survey Monkey questionnaire was distributed to a list of community members and partners who are part of the local public health system in Will County. Sixty-six total participants responded to questions related to strengths and activities associated with essential public health service frameworks. This survey closed as of May 2019. In an analysis of the local public health system, stakeholders were asked to rank, from No Activity to Optimal Activity, their and/or their organizations involvement in sectors related to innovation, technological advancements, addressing inequities, and surveillance as it related to personal health service exposures. Participants were individuals whom held roles mainly linking individuals to services, educating and informing the public about available public health services. Frameworks associated as follows:

Strengths		Weaknesses	
EPHS 6: Enforce Laws	EPHS 9: Evaluate Services	EPHS 7: Link Services	EPHS 8: Assuring Workforce
Opportunities		Threats	
Enforce laws and create policies that are comprehensive to the goals and objectives created by the health care system	Support collaborative research that is inclusive to the equity development of the community	Community insecurities with the goals and objectives of the health system	Workforce Development inclusive of the diversity of the community
Engaging the community in policy and regulation design	Utilize more robust and ubiquitous social platforms	Community may have challenges obtaining services due to social determinants	Integrating the necessary technologies and resources required to maintain a standard of service
Mobilize the health care system to assess and report on cross cutting public health issues	Monitor and Surveillance of inequities, emerging threats and respond with adequate and efficient information to the vulnerable populations	Collaborating and aligning adequate training for workforce to support health service linkage	

A (SWOT) Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats analysis is depicted above related to the essential public health services and the responses from the survey. The threats and opportunities mentioned above will enhance future strategic planning in Will County to improve the health and overall quality of life for Will County residents.

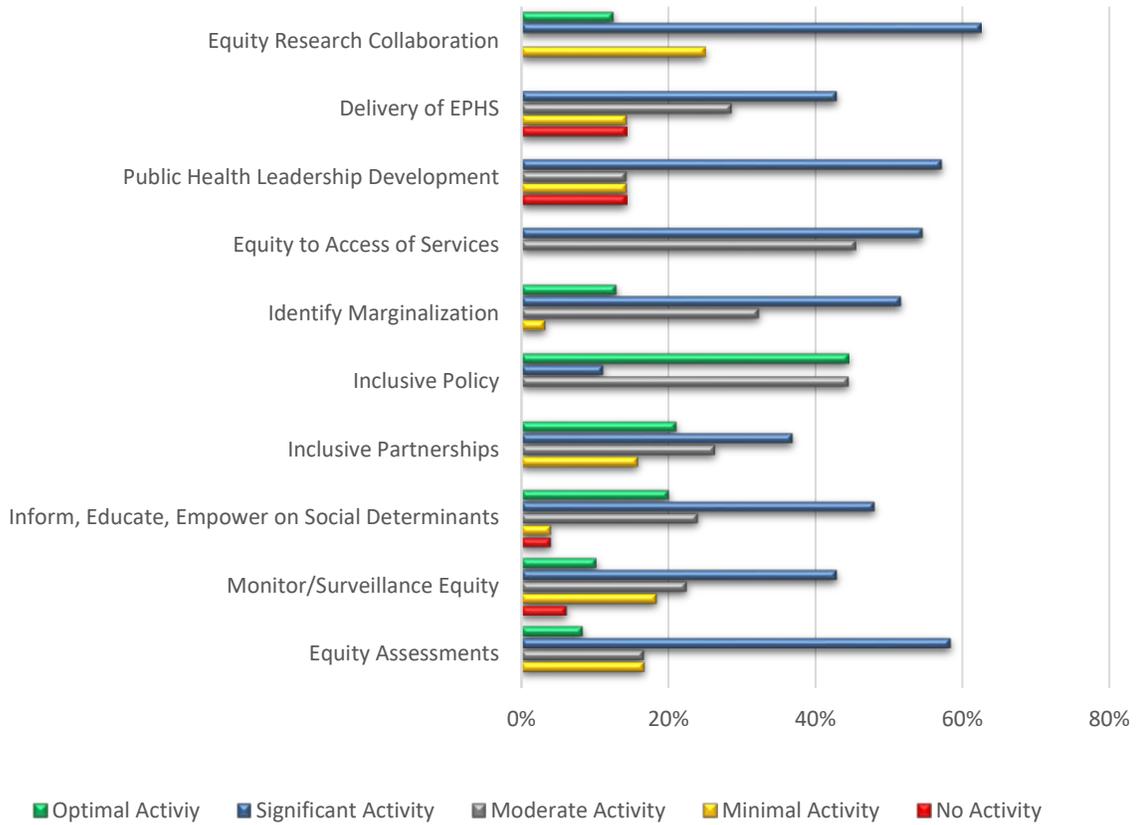
2019 EPHS Framework Scores (Mean)



The table above depicts the 10 essential public health service frameworks that mold the system assessment to diversity and reduce error to the data collection mechanisms and provide a comprehensive schematic of the areas required for focus.

Essential Public Health Services yielded most Activity: Optimal Activity established from the survey stemmed from EPHS framework 6; most organizations that participated felt that their activity related to enforcement and regulation of laws and policies was optimal. Essential Public Health Services yielded least Activity: No Activity was attributed to EPHS framework 8, Assuring a complete and competent workforce.

2019 LPHS Equity Scores



The table above depicts the scores related to equity and social determinants as they apply to our public health system of care deliverance. Equity addresses disease through surveillance and advocacy, inclusive of youth and racial and ethnic approaches to health. Equity measured most optimally within the framework: • Inclusive Policy • Inclusive Partnerships

Equity measured least activity or no activity within the framework: • Developing a leadership workforce representative of community