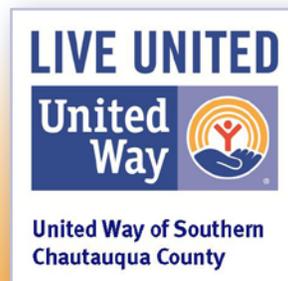


Community

STATUS REPORT

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY | 2013



United Way of Southern Chautauqua County

413 North Main Street | Jamestown, NY 14701 | 716 483-1561 | www.uwayscc.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3 – 4
Executive Summary	5 – 7
Section One – Community Profile	9 – 14
Section Two – Financial Stability & Economic Vitality.....	15 – 28
Section Three – Health & Wellbeing	29 – 49
Section Four – Education & Lifelong Learning.....	51 – 62
Section Five – Public Safety.....	63 – 71
Section Six – Community Engagement	73 – 76
Appendix – Health Resources	77
Acknowledgments.....	78

INTRODUCTION

The United Way of Southern Chautauqua County has completed a number of planning studies with local data trends and community characteristics including:

- The Southern Chautauqua County Human Services Status Report – 1991
- Community Report Card & Companion Indicators for Community Action – 1997
- Community Report Card – 2006

These reports were designed to promote understanding of social conditions and trends and focus attention on efforts to address and improve these conditions in the greater Jamestown area. Utilized by the United Way in identifying priorities for funding, they have also provided compelling needs data used by local human services organizations when applying for Federal, state and local grants.

Earlier reports focused primarily on the data, with limited recommendations for action. For this project, the data is a starting point and will serve as a basis for a series of Community Conversations designed to identify Community Priorities. Once these priorities are identified there will be further research into successful programs/benchmarks designed to address identified priorities. The process is designed to be inclusive, based on facts/trends, identify community priorities and search for solutions in an effort to achieve an optimum quality of life for all residents.

COMMUNITY STATUS REPORT → CONVERSATIONS → PRIORITIES → SOLUTIONS

Due to the sea changes in technology over the past 20 years and widespread use of the Internet, this report will provide a brief overview of trends but will be more “virtual” with links to various data sources. This will allow for greater flexibility, access and most current information for all users.

The majority of data is at the county level and where available Jamestown area data was used. It should be noted however, that in some instances Jamestown and Chautauqua County data diverge. For example the county rate of home ownership at 69.2% is well above the state (54.8%) closer to the national percentage (66.1%) while the Jamestown rate (48.6%) is significantly below all three.

All data is attributed to trusted public sources. Every effort was made to include multi-year and/or comparative state and national information to demonstrate trends. Based on information from the Chautauqua County Planning Department, Oswego County is being used as a comparison county. While not a perfect match, on a number of indicators they closely mirror Chautauqua County. Additionally, data from neighboring Cattaraugus County is also being used for comparison.

There are a number of other area organizations which produce community reports and assessments for planning purposes and to benchmark indicators of community well-being. They include:

- Chautauqua Opportunities, Incorporated - Community Needs Assessment published every three years with the last one published in 2011, and a 2013 version expected by end of the year,
- Chautauqua County Health Department - Community Health Assessment 2010-2013,
- All area hospitals – Community Service Plans.

Individually and collectively these reports provide important comparative data, which can be used to identify community strengths and areas for improvement.

This report was prepared by Patricia A. Smith, president of Management Strategies under the direction of Tory Irgang, Executive Director of the United Way of Chautauqua County and members of the Council for Community Building at the United Way.

Special thanks are extended to all who provide information and/or current data sources, or who served as content expert reviewers or participated in the community conversations designed to identify priorities.

For further information about the project contact:

Tory Irgang, Executive Director
United Way of Southern Chautauqua County
413 North Main St.
Jamestown, NY 14701
Ph. 716 483-1561
tirgang@uwayscc.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

While this *Community Status Report* is different in both content and process than the *2006 Report Card* published by the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County, we felt it would be helpful to readers if comparisons were made on a limited number of data sets. The indicators selected are not all inclusive, nor do they paint a complete picture of Chautauqua County. They do however provide a dashboard or quick assessment of how things have changed in Chautauqua County in the last seven years.

Indicator	2006 Report Card	2013 Status Report	
Population	2000 Census 139,759	2010 Census 134,905	
Median Household Income	2000 \$34,422	2011 \$41,432	
Teen Pregnancy Rate 10-14 15-19	2003 1.3 per 1,000 births 44.9 per 1,000 births	2011 1.5 per 1,000 births 48.6 per 1,000 births	
Low birth-weight babies (less than 2500 grams)	2003 Rate 6.8 per 100	2011 Rate 8 per 100	
% of CC children under 18 Living in poverty	1995 – 24.5% 2002 – 20.7%	2012 - 28.2%	
Home Ownership % owner occupied homes	2000 69.2%	2011 69.2%	
Unemployment Rate	12/2005 4.9%	12/2012 8.9%	
Mfg. Sector Employment In thousands	2004 11.7%	2012 9.9%	
School enrollment	2004/2005 22,446	2011/2012 19,432	

RED = BAD • GOLD = GOOD • BLUE = NO CHANGE

Chautauqua County, while rich in natural resources and year round recreational and tourist attractions, faces a number of challenges. Like many areas in the northeast, the population is shrinking and aging and there are high levels of poverty, a smaller manufacturing base and the out-migration of educated young people.

The data in this report provides both challenges and opportunities including:

FINANCIAL STABILITY

- Financial stability is not a reality for many area residents and the high levels of poverty underscore a dependent population.
- The population is projected to continue to decline, which means that tax revenue drops and many public services may be underfunded.
- Higher than state and national unemployment and lower wages means there is a greater need for assistance related to basic needs.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

- The robust foundation community invests almost \$10,000,000 per year in a variety of programs and services. How can this investment be evaluated?
- The recent branding as The World's Learning Center is a central theme for lifelong learning as part of vacation and visitor experiences. This enhances tourism efforts, as does promotion of the celebrity status of area natives such as Justice Robert H. Jackson, Roger Tory Peterson and Lucille Ball.
- The county has a rich agricultural history and has more farms and produces more grapes than any other county in New York State.
- Many residents cannot pass either the math and literacy requirements or the employment drug testing. Educational attainment, a decline in the younger population and aging of baby boomers will further exacerbate the size and quality of the local workforce.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

- The economic situation of the County has a direct impact on the public's attitude and concerns about health care.
- The long term care system is fragmented and there is a lack of alignment between what senior county residents want and what is available.
- County youth engage in risky behaviors which have long term consequences and costs. Issues with physical and mental health in students, when ignored, become more of an issue in adulthood which can translate to misuse of drugs, additions to bad habits and the inability to be contributing members of society. A number of protective factors have been identified which can reduce this likelihood. Efforts to decrease risk factors and increase protective factors should be encouraged and supported.
- Poverty, poor nutrition, and lack of early prenatal care put many women at increased risk of giving birth to a baby who will be born too soon or too small, have birth defects, or have breathing and blood chemistry problems at birth. Drug, alcohol and tobacco use compound the problems.
- There is a need for all sectors to identify ways to help change culture and create a healthier community focused more on prevention.

EDUCATION

- Based on estimates of working families with young children, there may be insufficient licensed and registered child care or wrap around care.
- While high school graduation rates are on a par with NYS and US figures, the percentage of the population with a Bachelor's Degree or higher is considerably below state and national percentages and can be an indicator of a "brain drain" or out-migration of the education young.
- With the exception of Jamestown and Dunkirk, all school districts are above the Statewide graduation rate average of 77%.
- All schools in the county are below the state average in terms of students (47%) planning to attend a four year school.
- All schools in the county, except Silver Creek , have higher than the statewide average (32%) of students planning to attend a two year college.
- There are 18 separate school districts and administrations adding to the tax burden of county residents and resulting in limited options for students from small, rural school districts.
- Chautauqua County is home to several quality institutions of higher education which makes it convenient to pursue various degree, certificate and training programs.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Chautauqua County falls into the higher range of counties in terms of the percentage of children who were alleged victims of a report of child abuse or maltreatment.
- Juvenile arrests for crime and DUI are declining.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- While the voter turn-out rate (61%) was above the national rate (58.9%), the number of voters is declining.
- There are a growing number of individuals in Chautauqua County who choose not to affiliate with a political party. This has implications for the future of the major political parties.
- The library system throughout the county is an important community asset which helps to minimize the digital divide by providing computer and Internet access to all for free.
- Volunteer levels are high but there is some question about future leadership.

SECTION ONE COMMUNITY PROFILE

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

Chautauqua County is described on the county's website as ...”the western gateway to New York State, occupying the extreme southwest corner of our state. With its two cities, Jamestown and Dunkirk, its twenty-seven towns and fifteen villages, it covers 1065 square miles and has a present population of 134,905 (2010 census). Because of its six beautiful lakes and approximately fifty miles of Lake Erie shoreline, there is no place in the county more than twenty-five miles from open water.



Today, the manufacturing sector provides the base for the county's economy with important and growing contributions from the retail, service, and tourism sectors. Farming continues to contribute to the county's economy, as well as the associated food processing industry. With 1678 commercial farms (2004), 19,166 acres of grapes, and eight wineries, Chautauqua County has more farms and produces more grapes than any other county in New York State.”

For additional information on Chautauqua County see <http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us/Pages/AboutCC.aspx> and www.planningchautauqua.com/pdf/CompPlan/FinalReport/Chautauqua_CompPlan.pdf

The County has two major population centers, Jamestown in the south county and Dunkirk/Fredonia in the north. This north/south divide can be problematic and limit the ability of county-wide efforts and initiatives, or result in duplicative organizations/efforts.

CITY OF JAMESTOWN

According to the City of Jamestown website, “The City of Jamestown is an economically sound and vibrant community serving as the industrial, commercial, financial and recreational hub of Southwestern New York. As the center of a metropolitan area of more than 70,000 residents and a market area of nearly 175,000 people, Jamestown supports a broad diversity of industry, modern commercial establishments and financial institutions, and provides a myriad of cultural and recreation opportunities for its residents. Jamestown’s “balanced community living” reflects the commitment of both public and private sector forces to provide the highest quality of life possible.”

For more information on Jamestown’s history see www.jamestownny.net/ and http://www.chautauquachamber.org/community_chambers/Jamestown.aspx, or <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OXTjAvdwoU&feature=youtube>

INCOME

The data for Jamestown and Chautauqua County paints a picture of economic insecurity with lower than state and national per capita (per person) and median (midway point) income and high levels of people living below the poverty level as shown in the chart below:

INCOME/POVERTY LEVELS

Location	Per Capita Income (2011 dollars)	Median Household Income	Persons Below Poverty Level
	2007-2011	2007-2011	(Est. 2007-2011)
Jamestown	\$18,773	\$31,657	25.6%
Chautauqua County	\$21,325	\$41,432	17.7%
Cattaraugus County	\$21,369	\$42,754	16.7%
Oswego County	\$22,261	\$47,036	14.5%
NYS State	\$31,796	\$56,951	14.5%
USA	\$27,915	\$52,762	14.3%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA <http://quickfacts.census.gov/>

POPULATION

Like many areas in NYS, the county and the city continue to experience population declines. Between 2000 and 2010, the county population dropped by 3.4% from 139,750 to 134,905. This is a continuation of a decline from 1970 when the Chautauqua County population was at its higher at 147,854. The city of Jamestown population declined by 1.8% from 31,903 to 31,146 between 2000 and 2010, and has declined over 20% since 1950.

Mirroring the national trend, which saw a 43% increase in the Hispanic population (<http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-04.pdf>) during that same time period, the Hispanic population in Chautauqua County increased by 39.65%. According to the U.S. Census Profile most of the Hispanic population lives in the County's urban areas: with 45% residing in Dunkirk and 25% living in Jamestown. However, there are Hispanic residents throughout the entire County. The largest portion of the County's Hispanic/Latino population is Puerto Rican (86.5%). While the percentage increase is high, both Jamestown and Chautauqua County remain predominantly white and well below state and national Hispanic percentage figures as the chart below indicates.

In addition there are approximately 2000-2500 Amish residents in Chautauqua County and they comprise about 2% of the total population. Generally these residents live "below their means," provide their own schools and work together within their community.

POPULATION – 2010 CENSUS

Location	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
Jamestown	31,146	88.4%	4.1%	8.8%
Chautauqua County	134,905	94.2%	2.7%	6.3%
Cattaraugus County	80,317	93%	1.55	1.8%
Oswego County	122,112	96.6	1	2.2%
New York	19,378,104	71.5%	17.5%	18%
USA	308,747,507	78.1%	13.1%	16.7%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts <http://quickfacts.census.gov/>

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME (POPULATION AGE 5+)

	Chaut. Co.	Jamestown	Dunkirk	NYS	U.S.
English only	92.8%	93.2%	79.1%	70.5%	79.7%
Spanish	4.1%	4.5%	18.1%	14.6%	12.6%
Other Language	3.1%	2.3%	2.9%	14.9%	7.7%
Speak English "less than very well"	2.4%	2.7%	5.7%	13.3%	8.7%

POPULATION CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY 1940 - 2040

Census Year	Total Population	Change - Number	Change - Percentage
1940	123,580		
1950	135,189	11,609	9.4%
1960	145,377	10,188	7.5%
1970	147,854	2,477	1.7%
1980	146,925	-929	-0.6%
1990	141,895	-5,030	-3.4%
2000	139,750	-2,145	-1.5%
2010	134,905	-4,845	-3.5%
PAD PROJECTIONS			
2020	129,056	-5,849	-4.3%
2030	121,884	-7,172	-5.6%
2040	112,859	-9,025	-7.4%

Source: 1940-2010 Decennial Census and projections by Cornell Program on Applied Demographics (PAD)

As the above chart indicates, the county population has been declining since the 1980's. The PAD projections forecast a continual and increasing decline in the population of Chautauqua County.

Note: (PAD) The Program on Applied Demographics developed by Cornell University brings skills in demographics, economics, statistics, data gathering and data analysis together.

For more information: <http://pad.human.cornell.edu/>

Jamestown and Chautauqua County have a higher percentage of senior citizens than NYS and the country as a whole. Jamestown has a higher percentage than the county, state and country of young children 0-4. Both of these age groups are considered vulnerable segments of the population and often require assistance and special programs.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Location	% 0-4 years	% 5-17 years	% 18-64 years	% 65 years
Jamestown	7.3%	17.32%	60.78%	14.63%
Chautauqua County	5.61%	16.22%	61.58%	16.59%
Cattaraugus County	6.2%	17.13%	61.13%	15.46%
Oswego County	5.7%	17.34%	64.28%	12.61%
NYS	6%	16.35%	64.17%	13.7%
USA	6.5%	17.73	62.9%	13.3%

Source: <http://censusviewer.com/county/NY/Chautauqua/Cattaraugus/Oswego>

The median age continues to rise. Those 65+ are the fastest growing primary segment of the world's population. This is true in the United States as well where median age is currently 36.6 up from 32.9 in 1990. Local statistics mirror the state and national aging of the population. The rise in the median age is a reflection of increased longevity and/or declining fertility or both. This rise of the elderly population and decline in the number of children has implications for education, the workforce and health care.

AGE/SEX DISTRIBUTION

Location	Median Age	Men - % of population	Women - % of population
Jamestown	36.9	49%	51%
Chautauqua County	40.9	49.3%	50.7%
Cattaraugus County	37.4	49.47%	50.53%
Oswego County	35	49.8%	50.16%
NYS	37.3	48.5%	51.5%
United States	36.6	49.2%	50.8%

Source: Various US Census

EDUCATION

In terms of residents with a high school diploma, Jamestown and Chautauqua County are slightly above the NYS and USA percentages. However both the city and the county are considerably below the state and national averages in terms of earning Bachelor's degrees or higher. Section Six of this report goes into greater detail on education throughout the life cycle, but the figures below are considered benchmarks for earning capacity and are included as part of the demographic profile of the community.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT LEVEL

Location	% of population aged 25+ high school graduate or higher 2007-2011	% of population aged 25+ Bachelor's Degree or higher 2007-2011
Jamestown	85.2%	17.2%
Chautauqua County	86.9%	20.5%
Cattaraugus County	87.4%	17.5%
Oswego County	86.4%	15.8%
NYS	84.6%	32.5%
United States	85.4%	28.2%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts quickfacts.census.gov/

Jamestown and Chautauqua County face a number of challenges that are reflected in the above demographic and economic statistics

1. Below average per capita and median household income
2. High levels of poverty (contributed to in part by education levels)
3. A rising median age
4. Higher percentage of mature adults coupled with an overall population decline

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- Financial stability is not a reality for many area residents and the high levels of poverty underscore a dependent population.
- Anecdotally we are told of workforce shortages because many residents cannot pass either the math and literacy requirements or the employment drug testing. Educational attainment, a decline in the younger population and aging of baby boomers will further exacerbate the size and quality of the local workforce.
- Declining preschool and school age populations challenge the current configurations of districts and their ability to offer robust curricula given significant funding constraints. There are no easy answers but this is clearly an area of concern.
- The aging population has implications not only for future workforce shortages but for the long term care needs of a significant portion of the population.
- The population is projected to continue to decline, which means that tax revenue drops and many public services may be underfunded.
- While high school graduation rates are on a par with NYS and US figures, the % of the population with a Bachelor's Degree or higher is considerably below state and national percentages and can be an indicator of a "brain drain" or out-migration of the young.
- Efforts such as the City of Jamestown's Strategic Planning and Partnership Committee's "Brain Gain" action team which is focused on bringing and keeping young professionals to Chautauqua County merits community support.
- North/south divide hampers county-wide efforts.

As we review the implications of the demographics of our area, it is important to also keep in mind the community assets and resources which can be utilized to mitigate these challenges. The county is fortunate that a foundation community invests almost \$10,000,000 per year in a variety of programs and services. Additionally, the county is rich in natural resources, is well positioned for tourism, and has the largest number of farms in New York State.

SECTION TWO

FINANCIAL STABILITY FOR INDIVIDUALS & ECONOMIC VITALITY FOR THE COUNTY

INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL STABILITY

Most individuals strive for financial stability or having a secure income or other resources to support a standard of living. According to a report released by Wider Opportunities for Women, a group that works with low-income women and families to achieve economic security, the average minimum income needed for a family with two workers and two young children is \$67,920 — that’s with both parents working, and earning just over \$16 an hour. And a single worker with no children needs to make about \$30,000 a year, which means working full-time and earning twice the minimum wage.

The income requirements in the index cited above are about three times more than the federal poverty level, which for 2012 was \$23,050 for a family of four and \$11,170 for an individual.

INCOME/POVERTY LEVELS

Location	Per capita income (2011 dollars) 2007-2011	Median household Income 2007-2011	Persons below poverty level (estimates 2007-2011)
Jamestown	\$18,773	\$31,657	25.6%
Chautauqua County	\$21,325	\$41,432	17.7%
Cattaraugus County	\$21,369	\$42,432	16.7%
Oswego County	\$22,261	\$47,036	14.5%
NYS State	\$31,796	\$56,951	14.5%
USA	\$27,915	\$52,762	14.3%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA quickfacts.census.gov/

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME – CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY 2000 - 2011

Year	Median Household Income
2000	\$34,422
2001	\$33,455
2002	\$33,518
2003	\$33,881
2004	\$34,734
2005	\$35,581

Year	Median Household Income
2006	\$37,711
2007	\$38,926
2008	\$39,824
2009	\$38,203
2010	\$39,981
2011	\$40,782

Source: Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

EMPLOYMENT

According to the New York State Department of Labor, since January 2012, the number of private sector jobs in the state increased by 1.4% and the nation's private sector job count increased by 1.9%. This coupled with a decrease in the unemployment rate are indicators that the employment picture is improving.

CHANGE IN TOTAL NON-FARM AND PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS – January 2012 - January 2013

	Change in Total Nonfarm Jobs: (private sector + government)		Change in Private Sector Jobs	
	Net	%	Net	%
United States	+2,048,000	+1.6%	+2,118,000	+1.9%
New York State	+90,800	+1.1%	+102,600	+1.4%

Source: NYS DOL

In looking at the employment levels in Chautauqua County from Dec. 2011 to December 2012, most of the industry sectors saw a level or slight decrease but overall employment in the manufacturing sector increased slightly by 1.0% for the year. See the chart below:

EMPLOYMENT DATA FOR CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY (Data in Thousands)

Industry	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2011
Total Nonfarm	54.1	54.2	54.1
Total Private	42.9	43.0	43.1
Goods Producing	12.1	12.1	12.1
Natural Resources, Mining, Construction	2.1	2.0	2.0
Manufacturing	10	10.1	10.1
Service Providing	42.0	42.1	42.0
Private Service Providing	30.8	30.9	31.0
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	9.2	9.2	9.3
Information	0.7	0.7	0.7
Financial Activities	1.4	1.4	1.5
Professional and Business Services	2.8	2.9	2.8
Education and Health Services	8.2	8.2	8.2
Leisure and Hospitality	5.2	5.2	5.4
Other Services	3.3	3.3	3.1
Government	11.2	11.2	11.0

Data are not seasonally adjusted. Data are preliminary and subject to revision.

Source: NYS Department of Labor www.labor.ny.gov

Sector	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	+ / - 2000/ 2011
Manufacturing	13,926	13,111	11,885	11,979	11,025	9,452	9,976	- 3,950
Health Care and Social Assistance	7,428	7,722	7,669	7,832	8,286	8,566	8,393	+ 965
Retail trade	6,707	6,530	6,168	6,908	6,766	6,578	6,326	- 381
Accommodation & food services	4,467	4,518	4,535	4,758	5,033	4,864	4,894	+ 427
Construction	1,541	1,412	1,447	1,639	1,909	1,772	1,621	+ 80
Wholesale Trade	2,179	1,805	1,735	1,685	1,639	1,279	1,382	-797
Professional, Scientific, & Technical services	1,179	1,318	1,192	1,285	1,164	1,141	1,019	- 160
Finance/Insurance	885	920	953	982	1,107	896	893	+8
Transportation/								
Warehousing	891	992	1,109	1,083	1,068	996	848	- 43
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	634	719	638	779	705	640	685	+51
All other sectors	7,514	6,847	7,295	7,166	6,719	5,678	5,687	- 1,827
Total	47,351	45,894	44,626	46,096	45,421	41,862	41,724	- 5,627

Source: U.S. Census Bureau County Business Patterns

Manufacturing and retail and wholesale trade, as well as professional, scientific and technical services saw losses in the number of employees. Health care, and social assistance, accommodation and food services and construction saw increases in employment. Overall between 2000 and 2011 there were 5,627 fewer jobs in the county.

According to the *American Community Survey 2011*, 54% of the population 16 and older in Chautauqua County was employed and 42% were not. The majority of workers (71%) were considered private wage and salary workers, 20.6% were Federal, state or local government workers and 8.7% were self-employed.

As the chart below indicates, more than one in four jobs in Chautauqua County is in education, health or social services (28.6%) followed by manufacturing (17.8%) and retail trade (11.2%).

Industry	% by Industry - 2011
Educational services/health care and social assistance	28.6%
Manufacturing	17.8%
Retail trade	11.2%
Arts/entertainment/recreation/accommodation/food service	8.2%
Other services except public administration	6.1%
Construction	5.8%
Prof/scientific/management and adm and waste management services	4.7%
Public Administration	4.4%
Finance/insurance/real estate and rental and leasing	4.1%
Transportation/warehousing/utilities	4%
Wholesale trade	2.1%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining	2.1%
Information	1%

Source: 2011 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates

There are a number of local initiatives designed to stimulate job and economic growth. However, there are myriad challenges ranging from high taxes to lack of a skilled labor force, to limited start-up capital. Southern Tier West, the regional planning organization published a *Regional Innovation Analysis* in 2012. They researched the region's capacity for innovation in the development of a healthy, sustainable economy using an Innovation Index that computes an overall score based on each geographic area's human capital, economic dynamics, productivity and employment, and economic well-being. On a scale in which the U.S. index is equal to 100, the index for NY State is 102. The index for the three-county Southern Tier West Region is 80.3, indicating that the region is less prepared than the state and the nation to participate in an innovative economy.

EARNINGS

Average wages in Chautauqua County are lower than in other areas of western New York and in comparable counties like Oswego and neighboring Cattaraugus County. It should also be noted that the county has fewer people in higher wage jobs than in more urban areas like Buffalo.

AVERAGE WAGE – ALL INDUSTRIES

Location	2011	2010	2009
Chautauqua County	\$33,757	\$33,191	\$32,127
Cattaraugus County	\$36,002	\$35,155	\$34,428
Oswego County	\$37,621	\$37,669	\$36,260
Buffalo - Niagara Falls MSA	\$41,169	\$40,095	\$39,225
NYS	\$61,768	\$60,263	\$57,794

Source: <http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/LSQCEW.shtm>

UNEMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rate or the percentage of the work force that is unemployed at any given time is an important indicator of the economic health of the country and is also used by the Federal Reserve when setting monetary policy. Nationally unemployment peaked at 10.2% in October 2009. It is expected to remain above 7% through 2013 and above 6.5% in 2014. In December of 2012 NYS, Chautauqua County and the city of Jamestown were all higher than the US unemployment rate. A review of statistics which notes the rates in December of each year shows that Jamestown and Chautauqua County unemployment rates for those periods fluctuate from the state and national rates.

Unemployment rises when firms increase layoffs, or when firms create fewer new jobs. In the second case, the workers who lose their jobs have greater difficulty finding new work, and stay unemployed longer. The chart below shows that the unemployment rate peaked in 2009 and has been gradually declining for NYS and the country. For some reason Jamestown and Chautauqua County saw a decline from 2010 to 2011 and then a sharp increase.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 2007 – 2012

Location	Rate Dec. 2012	Rate Dec. 2011	Rate Dec. 2010	Rate Dec. 2009	Rate Dec. 2008	Rate Dec. 2007
Jamestown	9.8%	7.9%	8.7%	9.7%	7.9%	5.4%
Chautauqua County	8.9%	8.0%	8.5%	9.1%	6.9%	5.3%
Cattaraugus County	9.1%	9.0%	9.2%	9.3%	7.5%	6
Oswego County	11%	10.9%	11.6%	10.8%	8.8%	6.6%
NYS	8.2%	8.3%	8.2%	8.7%	6.6%	4.7%
USA	7.6%	8.3%	9.3%	9.9%	7.3%	5.0%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

For additional unemployment data see:

<http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/LSQCEW.shtm> or <http://data.bls.gov/map/MapToolServlet>

POVERTY LEVELS

Lack of employment in the short and long term has a number of consequences including outmigration of the affected workers, inability to meet financial obligations, home foreclosures and an increase in the number of individuals living in poverty and in need of assistance. The percentage of Chautauqua County residents living below the poverty level has historically been higher than the state and national average.

According to data in the *American Fact Finder Survey*, one in five Chautauqua County residents lives in poverty, and in the city of Jamestown 29 percent of residents were in poverty. These rates are higher than the state and national percentages. There are several ways that poverty is measured and regardless of the measure used a high percentage of county residents live in poverty.

OTHER FINANCIAL INDICATORS

There are a number of additional indicators which highlight the level of economic security for Chautauqua County residents.

Retail Sales Per Capita

The level of retail sales per capita for an area shows the amount of cash spent by individuals. On this measure Chautauqua County as a whole is below the Cattaraugus County, Jamestown, state and Federal level, but well above comparison county Oswego.

RETAIL SALES PER CAPITA

Location	Retail Sales Per Capita - 2007
Jamestown	\$12,169
Chautauqua County	\$10,187
Cattaraugus County	\$12,572
Oswego County	\$8,186
NYS State	\$11,879
USA	\$12,990

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts quickfacts.census.gov/

Average Debt

On average NYS residents have \$11,791 in credit card debt as compared with a low for North Dakota residents of \$5,865 and a high for Connecticut residents of \$15,065, according to Transunion.

Bankruptcy

Bankruptcy filings per 1000 population for the USA are 4.4, while for NYS they are 2.4. According to the Western New York Bankruptcy Court data filings, 17 Chautauqua County residents filed for bankruptcy in January 2013 which was a -29.2% change from January 2012, and 22 CC residents filed in February 2013, which is a decrease over the same time period last year of 26.4%. Overall bankruptcies in the Buffalo Division are down by 15.9% from the 2012 YTD totals.

Personal Income Percentage by Type of Income

According to the 2009 Personal Income by Type and County of Residence, 2006, published by the Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York, more than one quarter of Chautauqua County residents (26.80%) receive transfer payments or assistance, while 59.18% report personal income from earnings, and property income accounts for 14.02%. The percentage of county residents receiving transfer income is higher than the state percentage of 17.53%, while a greater percentage of NY residents 65.95% report income from earnings and 16.52% report property income.

NOTE – the 59.19% reporting earnings is higher than the 54% cited in American Community Survey 2011 Pg. 18

Temporary Assistance to Families

The New York State Office of Temporary Assistance provides assistance and support to low income families throughout the state. The chart below highlights the number of cases and individuals who receive this type of assistance and the monthly expenditures.

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE: Year to Year Monthly Comparison

Location	March 2011	March 2012	March 2013
NYS			
Cases	298,831	302,533	308,322
Recipients	566,378	572,757	585,762
Expenditures	\$186,738,488	\$184,011,703	\$190,759,380
Chautauqua County			
Cases	2,846	2,922	2,627
Recipients	6,017	6,193	5,733
Expenditures	\$1,724,946	\$1,671,828	\$1,408,635
Cattaraugus County			
Cases	486	550	580
Recipients	792	896	916
Expenditures	\$238,277	\$257,866	\$297,794
Oswego County			
Cases	1,071	1,099	881
Recipients	2,144	2,742	3,418
Expenditures	\$619,992	\$760,385	\$925,345

Source: <http://otda.ny.gov/resources/caseload/2013/2013-03-stats.pdf>

Statistics for March 2013 show that the majority of recipients are children

Location	Recipients	Children	Adults	Expenditure
NYS	585,762	310,456	275,306	\$190,759,380
Chautauqua County	5,733	3,282	2,451	\$1,408,635
Cattaraugus County	916	523	393	\$297,794
Oswego County	3418	1,897	1,521	\$925,345

Source: <http://otda.ny.gov/resources/caseload/2013/2013-03-stats.pdf>

According to Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse, the percentage of children and youth birth to 17 who are living below the poverty level has risen from 24% in 2005 to 30.95% in 2011. This is above the NYS rate of 22.8%.

HOME OWNERSHIP

Home ownership is important on a number of levels. It is one of the often cited indicators of neighborhood stability. It is theorized that home ownership impacts net worth, educational achievement, civic participation, health and overall quality of life. The housing sector also helps create jobs and represents 15% of the gross domestic product. Six of the last eight recessions ended as a result of a robust housing market. So home ownership is an important indicator of community well being.

In 2011, Chautauqua County had 56,000 occupied housing units – 38,000 (67%) owner occupied and 18,000 (33%) renter occupied. The median monthly housing costs which include mortgage principal and interest payments, hazard insurance premiums, property taxes and homeowner’s association fees, for mortgaged owners was \$1,012, non-mortgaged owners \$434 and renters \$610. Thirty percent of owners with mortgages, 16% of owners without mortgages and 52% of renters in the county spend 30% or more of household income on housing.

HOME OWNERSHIP 2007 - 2011

Location	% Owner Occupied
Jamestown	48.6%
Chautauqua County	69.2%
Cattaraugus County	72.5%
Oswego County	73.5%
NYS (including NYC)	54.8%
USA	66.1%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts
<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qdf/states/36/36013.html>

Home ownership is one of the categories where we see a considerable divergence between the City of Jamestown, where fewer than half of the residents own their own homes, and the county where seven out of ten residents are home owners. The county rate of home ownership is above state and national, but below comparison counties while the city is below the county, state and national percentages.

noted however that area housing has not appreciated at the same rate as in other areas, and 45.9% of housing stock in the county was built prior to 1939, requiring resources for repairs and rehabilitation.

Housing affordability in the county and city are important factors. It should be

According to the **Reinvesting in Itself: Report to the City of Jamestown, NY** prepared by *czbLLC* in March 2010, the average sale price of a single family home in 2000 was \$55,417, at a time when the median household income was \$25,837, for a remarkably affordable 2.14 housing value to household income ratio. Ten years later, the ratio is 2.12 with average sales for single-family homes in 2009 at \$55,980 and median household incomes for 2008 at \$26,405. The report goes on to say, “So during a period of unprecedented access to creative financing, and the advent of wholesale transfers of homes equity stores from the leading edge of the baby boomers to retirement and second homes in virtually every market in the US, Jamestown values and incomes remained flat in absolute terms and fell against inflation.”

To view the complete report go to: http://www.jrconline.org/letsLook/pdfs/Final_Report.pdf

MEDIAN HOME VALUES

Location	2007 - 2011
Jamestown	\$63,400
Chautauqua County	\$80,900
Cattaraugus County	\$78,400
Oswego County	\$90,600
NYS	\$301,000
USA	\$186,200

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qdf/states/36/36013.html>

COST OF RENTAL PROPERTY

According to the *2010 National Low Income Housing Coalition Report*, rental housing in Chautauqua County is expensive relative to other counties in upstate New York with county residents needing 44% of the average median income to rent a one bedroom apartment, 53% to rent a two bedroom apartment and 68% to rent a three bedroom unit.

Approximately 4% of all households in the United States and 12% of all U.S. renter households receive federal housing assistance. About 1.1 million households live in public housing, and 2.1 million households utilize housing vouchers. An additional 1.3 million households live in apartments subsidized through the Project-Based Section 8 program and 140,000 households live in units subsidized through the Section 202 and Section 811 programs, programs that serve people who are elderly and people with disabilities, respectively.

Cumulative data for Jamestown and or Chautauqua County is not readily available since some programs are state and some are federally funded and there are numerous agencies responsible for oversight and administration.

HOMELESSNESS

Over the course of a lifetime, approximately 9 to 15% of the US population becomes homeless (Ringwalt et. al.,1998; Robertson and Toro 1999). The inability to afford housing contributes to homelessness. While much of the homeless population remains less visible than in urban areas and numbers are often extrapolated from anecdotal information, the following charts indicate the extent of homelessness and those at risk for homelessness in Chautauqua County. While the number of homeless has declined since 2006, the number of those at risk of homelessness has skyrocketed.

Housing Situation	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
At risk of homelessness	20	118	104	91	279	306	453
Homeless	260	129	137	136	131	113	190
Total	280	247	241	227	410	419	643

Source: Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition – Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. COI

There are no local estimates of “couch-homeless” also sometimes called precariously housed, doubled up, couch surfers. They are the homeless who stay with friends or family. For the US overall, it is estimated that 1.65% of the population is couch-homeless. Identifying the couch-homeless is important because people are often couch-homeless before they become street-homeless. While people in difficult situations can often find someone to stay with, often it is for a limited time.

FOOD SECURITY

The high levels of poverty in the community mean that a number of individuals and families are dependent on agencies and organizations for the most basic need of food. According to a recent *Post Journal* article, the St. Susan’s Soup Kitchen in its 29 year history has served almost 1.75 million meals and for 2012 served 98,000 meals.

To better understand those who are at risk of going hungry, statistics from a recent survey (April 2013) of guests visiting St. Susan’s Center are instructive. The survey revealed that half of those visiting St. Susan’s Center come 3-4 times per week, with 11% coming once per week, 17% coming twice per week and 22% coming 5 times a week. Seven out of ten guests were unemployed and of that number 29% were retired. Additionally, more than half of the guests (53%) reported that they were disabled. The majority of guests are English speaking (78%) and 22% had Spanish as their primary language.

In terms of responses to questions about their use of state or community services, 44% did not receive any state services, while almost half (49%) received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP -formerly called food stamps) and 14% receive WIC Women-Infant Children benefits.

The majority of guests surveyed (73%) rated St. Susan’s as very important for a number of reasons including their personal inability to cook, St. Susan’s providing the only hot meal they eat each day, the socialization aspect of the center including friendships and utilizing St. Susan’s allows them to stretch their budget or SNAP benefits to last all month.

Additionally, according to Kids’ Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC), one in three children and youth birth to 17 years (33.65%) in Chautauqua County received SNAP, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits in 2011. This has risen from 21.7% in 2005, so we have moved from approximately one in five children to one in three needing assistance with food. This is above the NYS 2011 percentage of 27.5%.

The KWIC report also states that more than half (52.4%) of K-6 students are eligible for free or reduced price school lunches. This number mirrors the NYS percentage, but is an increase from the 2004/2005 school year when the percentage was 47.6%.

http://www.nyskwic.org/get_data/county/report/detail.cfm?countyID=36013

ECONOMIC VITALITY FOR THE COUNTY

While many county residents struggle to attain financial stability, what is the level of economic vitality at the county level?

The recently completed *Chautauqua 20/20 Plan* calls the county “A premier place to visit, learn, conduct business, and be proud to call home,” and focuses on the county’s many natural, cultural and recreational resources. The Plan goes on to state:

- Chautauqua County’s scenic landscapes and natural resources are among its greatest strengths and of key importance to the quality of life and the economy.
- Year-round recreation opportunities are a major strength of Chautauqua County.

According to the county website, “the manufacturing sector provides the base for the county’s economy with important and growing contributions from the retail, service, and tourism sectors.”

TOURISM

As the manufacturing base in the county has declined, tourism has become an increasingly important economic engine. There are a number of ways to try and gauge the extent that tourism plays in terms of economic vitality for the county. One indicator would be the total occupancy or bed tax collected annually.

Chautauqua County has a five percent (5%) occupancy or bed tax for the rental of lodging units within the County. Three fifths (3%) of this tax is utilized to increase tourism, conventions, trade shows special events and other directly related and supporting activities including businesses in the county. The remaining (2%) bed tax is utilized solely for the enhancement and protection of lakes and streams in the County. Bed tax revenue received in 2012 amounted to \$1,321,910. The amount collected has more than doubled since the county instituted the occupancy tax in 2004.

OCCUPANCY TAX RECEIPTS – CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

Year	Amount Collected – 5%
2012	\$1,321,910
2011	\$1,262,245
2010	\$1,241,712
2009	\$1,262,721
2008	\$1,318,000
2007	\$815,595
2006	\$736,725
2005	\$662,291
2004	\$563,364

**Includes non exempt lodgings in Chautauqua Institution Source: Financial Analyst to CC Legislature*

According to *The Economic Impact of Tourism in New York*, published by Tourism Economics – An Oxford Economics Company, Chautauqua County tourism sales resulted in \$238 million in traveler spending. This report was commissioned by the New York State Association of CVB’s.

Chautauqua County represents 48% of the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus-Allegany region’s tourism sales. In total, tourism in the region is a \$493 million industry, sustaining 10,885 jobs. Of the almost \$500 million travelers spent in the region, lodging and restaurants each comprised 21% of all spending and rental and upkeep of second homes contributed 23% to the total. Annually, Chautauqua County received over \$15 million in local taxes from 2009, to 2011, while state taxes collected in Chautauqua County for 2011 totaled over \$14 and a half million dollars.

Tourism saw a 6.7% increase in traveler spending between 2010 and 2011, a 4.4% increase in local taxes and a 4.9% increase in state taxes.

To read the full report: http://www.tourismeconomics.com/docs/ILNY_Impact_Executive_Summary.pdf

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE

One cannot talk about tourism or natural resources without highlighting Chautauqua Lake which is approximately 17 miles long and 2 miles wide at its greatest width, with over 40 miles of shoreline of which all but 2.6 miles are privately owned.

The lake's name has various meanings, based on a variety of translations of the original native words. The most common translation means *Bag Tied in the Middle*, referring to the narrow portion between Stow and Bemus Point shore line halfway down the lake.

Jamestown is at the southern end of the Lake and the Village of Mayville is at the northern end. Bemus Point, Lakewood, Celoron and Chautauqua are located on the Lake. There are many other settlements located on the lake, including Fluvanna, Greenhurst, Dewittville, Stow, Maple Springs and Ashville Bay.

The lake is used primarily for tourism and recreation, mostly boating and fishing. Chautauqua Lake is known worldwide for its excellent fishing and sailing, as well as for being the home of the world famous Chautauqua Institution.

CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION

According to the Chautauqua Institution website, "The Institution is a not-for-profit, 750-acre educational center beside Chautauqua Lake in southwestern New York State, where approximately 7,500 persons are in residence on any day during a nine-week season, and a total of over 142,000 attend scheduled public events. Over 8,000 students enroll annually in the Chautauqua Summer Schools which offer courses in art, music, dance, theater, writing skills and a wide variety of special interests.

The Institution, originally the Chautauqua Lake Sunday School Assembly, was founded in 1874 as an educational experiment in out-of-school, vacation learning. It was successful and broadened almost immediately beyond courses for Sunday school teachers to include academic subjects, music, art and physical education."

THE WORLD'S LEARNING CENTER BRAND

In July of 2007, an Assessment of Chautauqua County was made by the firm Destination Development. That report states, "The primary goal of the tourism industry is to bring more cash into the local economy.....you want to entice them into your shops, your cafes, espresso stands, restaurants, galleries, B&Bs, hotels, ultimately opening their wallets to make purchases. That is what helps your local economy, your small merchants, your hoteliers, and your tax coffers." The report goes on to state that "experience-based tourism is alive and is the future of tourism."



Chautauqua Institution, which boasts more than 135 years as a learning vacation destination, and is unique as a vacation spot was identified as a “primary lure” in this report, which then goes on to highlight “diversionary activities” – things visitors can do closer to home, but will do while in the area. As a result of this report, the County is promoting the World’s Learning Center brand and trying to expand the tradition of the Chautauqua education movement through other year round leisure learning opportunities for visitors.

It is important to understand the relative importance of tourism in the county by understanding both benefits and costs.

AGRICULTURE

Farming continues to contribute to the county’s economy, as well as the associated food processing industry. With 1557 commercial farms (1997), 15,500 acres of grapes, and eight wineries, Chautauqua County has more farms and produces more grapes than any other county in New York State.

For more information about economic development efforts see:
<http://chautauqua.ny.us/departments/planning/Pages/default.aspx>

For a complete list of capital projects for 2010 see:
<http://www.planningchautauqua.com/pdf/planningboard/2010%20Capital%20Projects%20Rpt.pdf>

Like many small, rural communities with a declining population, high taxes and poverty levels, the county is focused on trying to remain economically viable.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Individual Financial Stability:

- The data in this chapter underscores the high levels of poverty and dependency of many Chautauqua County residents.
- While there was a slight increase (1.0%) in manufacturing employment in 2012, manufacturing jobs continue to decline, and this sector represents only 17.8% of available jobs in the county.
- Just more than half of the population (54%) is employed.
- Higher than state and national unemployment and lower wages means there is a greater demand for assistance related to basic needs.
- City home ownership is below the county, state and national level and this has implications for neighborhood stability, as absent land lords may not be concerned with property upkeep and neighborhood beautification.
- There is a culture of poverty for many of those receiving public assistance or dealing with long term unemployment.
- Locating the couch-homeless and providing them with services may prevent them from becoming homeless.

Economic vitality for the county:

- Continue to protect and grow the manufacturing sector.
- Capitalize on the tourism industry and continue to develop more multi-season attractions and experiences.
- Unify effort to support The World's Learning Center brand as a theme for lifelong learning as part of vacations and visitor experiences.
- Capitalize on the natural resources and celebrity status of area natives i.e. Lucille Ball, Justice Robert H. Jackson, Roger Tory Peterson, etc.
- Capitalize on the county's agricultural heritage by promoting – farm to table events and the growing interest in organic foods, as well as the wine, grape and craft beer production.
- Identify strategies to stop the population decline, or right size government and services to meet the new reality.

SECTION THREE HEALTH AND WELLBEING

A number of factors and decisions influence a person's health and well being. Daily activities and decisions have a direct impact on each individual's level of health. There is no shortage of health information available and countless studies on the behaviors necessary to improve health and longevity.

What factors influence our health? A lot of attention is focused on people's behavior - their decisions to smoke, drink, over-eat and so on - with strong messages about the changes needed to become healthier. But people's behavior is influenced by circumstances and events, friends and family, education, job prospects, income, housing and environment. *Healthy People 2020* is a comprehensive, nationwide health promotion and disease prevention agenda containing a number of objectives designed to serve as a framework for improving the health of all Americans. Some of the data in this section will be benchmarked against the HP 2020 targets, where comparative statistics are available. In other instances the Prevention Agenda 2013 Objectives will be used. www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/docs/hp2020.pdf, http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017

There are a number of publications, websites and initiatives focused on the health of Chautauqua County residents which are included in Appendix One.

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Healthy People 2020 Target: *Increase proportion of people with medical insurance to 100%
Improve access to comprehensive, quality health care.
National Baseline 83.2% - (2008)
Chautauqua County estimate 88% - (2012)*

Access is a broad term referring to the ability of individuals or groups to obtain needed medical services across their life span. Factors include availability - the range of medical services; accessibility - the location and ease of accessing the service; and affordability or the ability to pay for the services.

In terms of availability, The *NYS Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century* forced a major restructuring of health care services in Chautauqua County including a mandatory consolidation of two hospitals. Additionally, physician recruitment has become increasingly competitive as the demand for and supply of physicians has changed. The current ratio of physicians to patient per 1000 population for Chautauqua County is 8 and this compares to 20 per 1000 in the nation and 26 per 1000 in New York State. This shortage is acknowledged and Chautauqua County has 4 HPSA – Health Professional Shortage Area designations including 2 for primary care, one dental and one for mental health.

High emergency room use for routine illnesses is another indicator of the lack of availability of physicians. Nationally as many as 75% of emergency room visits are not for emergencies. The emergency room is the universal short cut to a diagnosis and treatment. According to figures from WCA, between 97 and 104 area residents are treated in the emergency room on a daily basis

2008 – 35,463 visits
2009 – 35,958 visits
2010 – 36,946 visits
2011 – 38,172 visits
2012 – 37,856 visits

WCA Hospital has just completed a major renovation and update of its emergency room facilities and there are also two urgent care walk-in clinics in Jamestown.

In terms of accessibility, area hospitals are located across the county, but the majority of physician practices are concentrated in Jamestown and Dunkirk. Rural residents must often travel considerable distances to receive care and county residents needing specialty care must often travel even further to Buffalo, NY or Erie, PA. While the county has a high proportion of Medicaid users, there are very few Medicaid providers which also hinder access. Limited public transportation and winter driving conditions also impact the degree of accessibility available.

The County Health Rankings and Roadmaps published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation puts the percentage of uninsured county residents at 12%, while for NYS the percentage is 14% and the National Benchmark is 11%.

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

MEDICAL HOME

According to the American College of Physicians and the American Academy of Family Physicians, the medical home, also known as the patient-centered medical home (PCMH), is a team based health care delivery model led by a physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner that provides comprehensive and continuous medical care to patients with the goal of obtaining maximized health outcomes. It is designed to allow better access to care and improve health because there is consistency in treatment. Indicators that individuals do not have a medical home would include emergency room and urgent care usage for non-emergency services.

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) estimates that 36 million Americans or about one in eight are without a medical home because of a shortage of practicing primary care physicians. Per a survey completed by Chautauqua County Health Network completed earlier this year, there are 80 Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) in Chautauqua County. This includes 7 OB/GYNs, 14 pediatricians and 59 adult primary care physicians from 33 practices. Seven of these practices have received the NCQA certification for Patient Centered Medical Home.

As a result of the HPSA designations as a medically underserved area, and the concerted efforts of the Chautauqua County Health Network and community residents, a new federally qualified health center, was established in Dunkirk, New York in 2012. The Chautauqua Center provides primary care – medical, dental and behavioral services and referrals to all county residents. This clinic is funded through Medicare and Medicaid and is required to serve everyone without regard to their ability to pay.

OVERALL HEALTH

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute *County Health Rankings and Roadmaps 2012*, rank Chautauqua County 54th In terms of overall health out of 62 NYS counties, while comparison counties Oswego and Cattaraugus rank 40th and 51st. This puts the county at the 90th percentile, with only 10% of counties in the state having worse health. The Health Factor ranking is slightly better at 49th, while comparison counties Oswego and Cattaraugus rank 60th and 53rd. The *County Health Rankings*, were first released in 2010 and rank the overall health of the counties in all 50 states by using a standard formula to measure how healthy people are and how long they live. <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is the world's largest, on-going telephone health survey system, which tracks health conditions and risk behaviors monthly by state and has been doing so since 1986. BRFSS data indicate that the majority of residents in the County rate their health status as very good (34.1%) or good (33.0%). Many also consider their health to be excellent (18.2%) and fewer consider it to be fair (11.2%). While only 3.2% of county residents who participate in (BRFSS) believe they are in poor health, the high percentages of adults with diabetes (11.2%) or who are obese (27.8%), along with high rates of cardiovascular disease, cancer, and asthma indicate that a much greater percentage of the population are actually experiencing poor health.

<http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/brfss/expanded/2009/county/docs/chautauqua.pdf>

MORTALITY

United States statistics – 2006-2010:	804.9 deaths per 100,000 residents
New York State statistics – 2011:	643.7 deaths per 100,000 residents
Chautauqua County statistics –2011:	777.3 deaths per 100,000 residents

According to Vital Statistics of New York State 2011 there were 1,491 deaths in Chautauqua County in 2011 resulting in a rate of 777.3 deaths per 100,000 residents, compared to 643.7 deaths per 100,000 residents in New York State.

According to Chautauqua County Health and Human Services representatives, across the board, Chautauqua County saw significantly higher death rate due to chronic disease (heart disease, diabetes, most cancers) but lower hospitalization rates. This could mean that residents aren't monitoring their health and have traumatic episodes before accessing care, and/or those hospitalizations may be happening in other counties/states and aren't captured in the data the department has.

The leading causes of death in the County and state were diseases of the heart, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease (CLRD), and cerebrovascular disease, respectively. Chautauqua County experienced greater death rates for CLRD (60.2)diabetes (20.7) and cerebrovascular disease (43.5) than New York State (30.5,17.4,26.6 respectively). AIDS and pneumonia deaths were lower for the County than for the state. When compared to similar counties Allegany and Cattaraugus, Chautauqua County has a lower rate of deaths by suicide, total accidents, and pneumonia. Cattaraugus County had a greater rate of heart disease deaths (283.5) than Chautauqua County (225.3).

HEART DISEASE

Healthy People 2020 Objective: *Reduce CHD deaths to 100.8 per 100,000 population*

Baseline: *126 CHD deaths per 100,000 population 2007*

Chautauqua County statistic: *225.3 CHD deaths per 100,000 population - 2011*

According to Healthy People 2020, heart disease is the leading cause of death for all people in the United States, while stroke is the third leading cause of death. Both continue to be major causes of disability and significant contributors to increases in health care costs in the United States.

The chart below shows Chautauqua County in comparison to other NYS locations. All location rates are significantly above the target to be reached by 2020.

DISEASES OF THE HEART DEATH RATES PER 100,000 - 2011

Location	Age-Sex Adjusted Death Rates 2011
NYS	225.9
Chautauqua County	336.4
Cattaraugus County	377
Oswego County	225

Source: http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/vital_statistics/2011/table40.htm

DIABETES

Prevention Agenda:

2013 Objective 5.7%

Triple Aim Overview: Percentage of CC adults who have diabetes 11.2%

The occurrence of diabetes, especially type 2 diabetes, as well as associated diabetes complications, is increasing in the U.S. The number of persons with diabetes has increased steadily over the past decade; in 2011 18.8 million Americans were diagnosed, while 7 million persons were estimated to have the disease but were undiagnosed.

Diabetes is most common in persons over the age of 60. As the population in the U.S. and the county ages, especially as the number of persons aged 60 years and older grows, an increase in the number of people with diabetes is expected.

Diabetes is a growing problem in Chautauqua County and one of the most problematic chronic diseases in the county. Data from New York State Vital Statistics for 2011 shows the Chautauqua County age-adjusted diabetes mortality rate of 20.7 is greater than New York State (17.4) Cattaraugus (12.0), and Oswego (18.4%), but lower than Allegany County (27%).

Who is at risk for diabetes? – take the test: <http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/>

CANCER

Healthy People 2020 Target: *Reduce death rate for all cancers to 160.6 per 100,000*
Baseline: *178.4 (US - 2007)*
Chautauqua County mortality: *165.8 per 100,000 (2005-2009)*

According to the *Chautauqua County Community Health Assessment 2010 – 2013*, both male and female Chautauqua County residents experience a proportionately greater incidence rate of all invasive cancers than New York State residents as a whole.

According to the New York State Cancer Registry (2005-2009) there are 494.4 average annual cases of cancer in Chautauqua County with the rate per 100,000 males at 662.2 and the rate per 100,000 females 449.1. The average annual deaths from cancer is 165.8 with a rate of 226.3 for males and 147 for females.

For a complete chart of cancer incidence and type of cancer see: <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/cancer/registry/vol1/v1cchautauqua.htm>

ASTHMA

Healthy People 2020: *Reduce asthma deaths among children and adults under age 35 years.*

Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs. In New York State (NYS), more than 1.1 million adults have asthma, according to the NYS Health Department. Asthma occurs at any age but is more common in children than adults. Nationally, nearly one in 13 school-age children have asthma, and that rate is rising more rapidly in preschool-aged children and those living in urban inner cities than in any other group.

ASTHMA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) VISITS - Rate per 10,000 Population, Age 0-17

Region/County	ED Visits				Average Population	Average
	2008	2009	2010	Total	2008-2010	Rate
<i>Reg-1 Western New York</i>						
Allegany	51	61	38	150	10,238	48.8
Cattaraugus	124	143	162	429	18,322	78.0
Chautauqua	210	275	228	713	28,875	82.3
Erie	1,655	1,971	1,772	5,398	196,792	91.4
Genesee	78	87	58	223	12,885	57.7
Niagara	286	461	315	1,062	46,167	76.7
Orleans	49	72	57	178	9,344	63.5
Wyoming	41	45	42	128	8,454	50.5
Region Total	2,494	3,115	2,672	8,281	331,077	83.4

Source: http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/ny_asthma/ed/asthmaed2b.htm

ASTHMA - Deaths and Death Rates Per 1,000,000 Residents

Source: 2008-2010 Vital Statistics Data as of April, 2012

Adjusted Rates Are Age Adjusted to The 2000 United States Population

Region/ County	Deaths				Average Population		Adjusted
	2008	2009	2010	Total	2008-2010	Rate	Rate
Reg-1 Western New York							
Allegany	0	2	0	2	49,251	13.5	10.5
Cattaraugus	0	0	0	0	79,898	0.0	0.0
Chautauqua	1	2	1	4	134,066	9.9	7.9
Erie	10	7	10	27	912,711	9.9	8.7
Genesee	0	0	1	1	58,589	5.7	4.6
Niagara	4	3	7	14	215,163	21.7	17.7
Orleans	0	0	0	0	42,356	0.0	0.0
Wyoming	1	0	0	1	41,735	8.0	6.8
Region Total	16	14	19	49	1,533,769	10.6	9.1

Source: http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/ny_asthma/mort/ast0.htm

OVERWEIGHT & OBESITY

Healthy People 2020: *Reduce obesity prevalence among adults to 30.5%*
Baseline: 33.9%

Chautauqua County statistic: *BRFSS Report 2008-2009*
Obesity prevalence among adults: 27.8%

Overweight and obesity are both labels for ranges of weight that are greater than what is generally considered to be healthy for a given height. The magnitude of this epidemic is growing nationally and locally. Today, approximately 1 in 3 adults (34.0%) and 1 in 6 children and adolescents (16.2%) are obese, according to HP 2020

The Expanded BRFSS - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey June 2008 – June 2009 indicates that 27.3% of the adult county population is obese and 34.7% is overweight. Together, 62% or a majority of the county population is overweight or obese based on this self reporting survey. Having a Body Mass Index (BMI) status that indicates overweight or obese conditions is a risk factor for several chronic illnesses. A BMI of 25-29.9 is considered overweight and above 30 is obese..

The national rate of obesity in children 2-19 is 17%. Students in Chautauqua County appear to be in line with this statistics as a total of 17.8% of students participating in a Weight Status survey were classified at the 95+ percentile as Obese. Statistics from a Student Weight Status Report for 2008-2010 which included all schools in Chautauqua County with the exception of Silver Creek indicate that 29.2% of all students reporting were at the 85th +percentile and were overweight or obese. Almost one in four (24%) elementary school students were in this category and 36.9% of Middle/High school students in 7th and 10th grade fall into this category.

<http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/brfss/expanded/2009/county/docs/chautauqua.pdf>

PRENATAL CARE

Healthy People 2020 target: *77.9% of pregnant women begin prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy.*

National baseline: *70.8% 2007*

Chautauqua County 2009: *67.6% of pregnant women in county began prenatal care within the first trimester.*

A woman's health prior to pregnancy and early prenatal care are critical to the health of the infant and can impact an infant's health and wellness for a lifetime. Prenatal care is a program of care for a pregnant woman before she gives birth to her baby. There is a direct correlation between the health of a newborn and the trimester when the mother begins receiving prenatal care. As the chart below indicates, the percentage of women receiving early prenatal care is declining rather than increasing.

EARLY PRENATAL CARE - Chautauqua County Percent of Live Births

Year	Single Year	3-Yr Average	Uptate NY
2000	73.3		78.5
2001	71.9	72.9	77.7
2002	73.5	72.6	77.8
2003	72.6	73.9	77.9
2004	75.5	73.9	77.8
2005	73.6	73.8	77.9
2006	72.5	72.0	76.3
2007	70.1	70.7	75.1
2008	69.5	69.1	74.5
2009	67.6		74.9

Source: <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/birth/pnear16.htm>

trimester. Twelve women or .03% did not seek any prenatal care. Of all age groups of women of child-bearing age in Chautauqua County, those 25-34 years old and greater were the most likely to receive early prenatal care (75.8%). For all other age groups, Chautauqua County's proportion of women who reported that they received early prenatal care was quite a bit lower than that of comparable counties and approximately equal to the state proportions.

The total number of pregnancies in 2011 was 1732 (rate of 70.5 total pregnancies per 1,000 female population aged 15-44) resulting in 1,412 live births, 78 spontaneous fetal deaths and 242 induced abortions.

There are some differences in terms of race and early prenatal care. White women (71.1%) receive early prenatal care at a slightly higher rate than black, other, and Hispanic women (approximately 65%). In 2011, one in four black women were the most likely to receive late or no prenatal care (20.0%).

New York State Vital statistic data (2009) indicate that only 67.6% of pregnant women in Chautauqua County began prenatal care within the first trimester. This is considerably below the HP 2020 target of 77.9%.

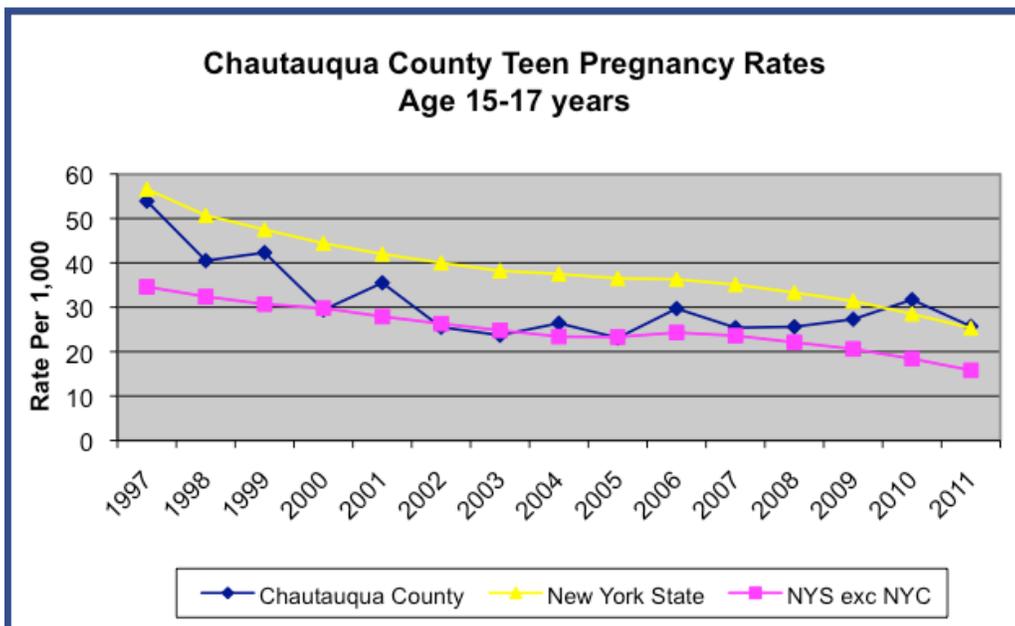
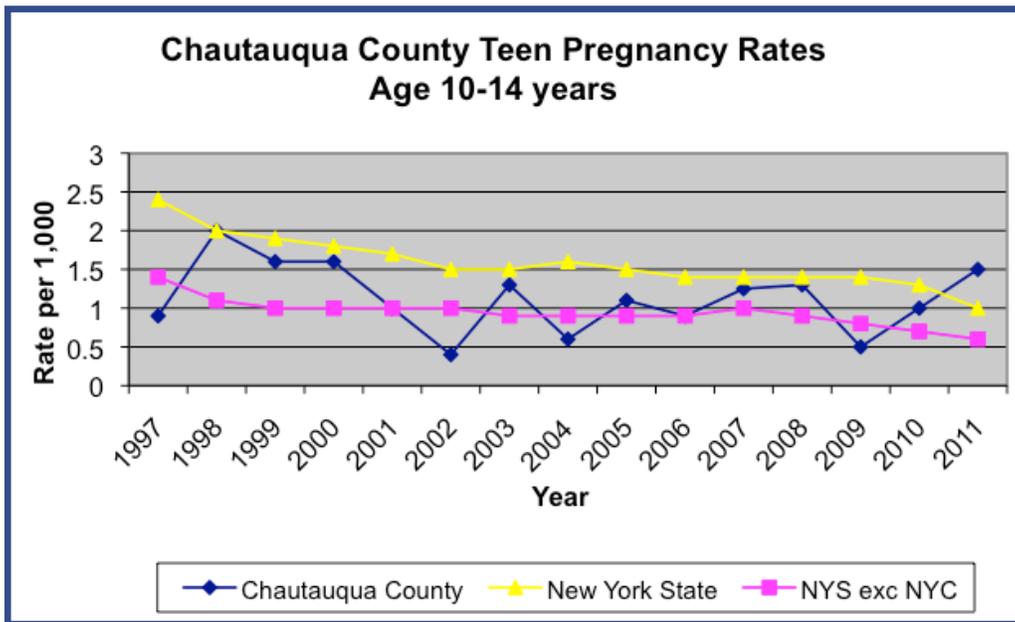
In 2011 there were 24,571 women of child bearing age (15-54) residing in Chautauqua County. In that year there were 1412 live births. Two thirds of the women (934 or 66%) began receiving prenatal care in the first trimester. During the second trimester, 295 or 21% of birth mothers began prenatal care, while 86 or 6% did not seek care until the third

TEEN PREGNANCY

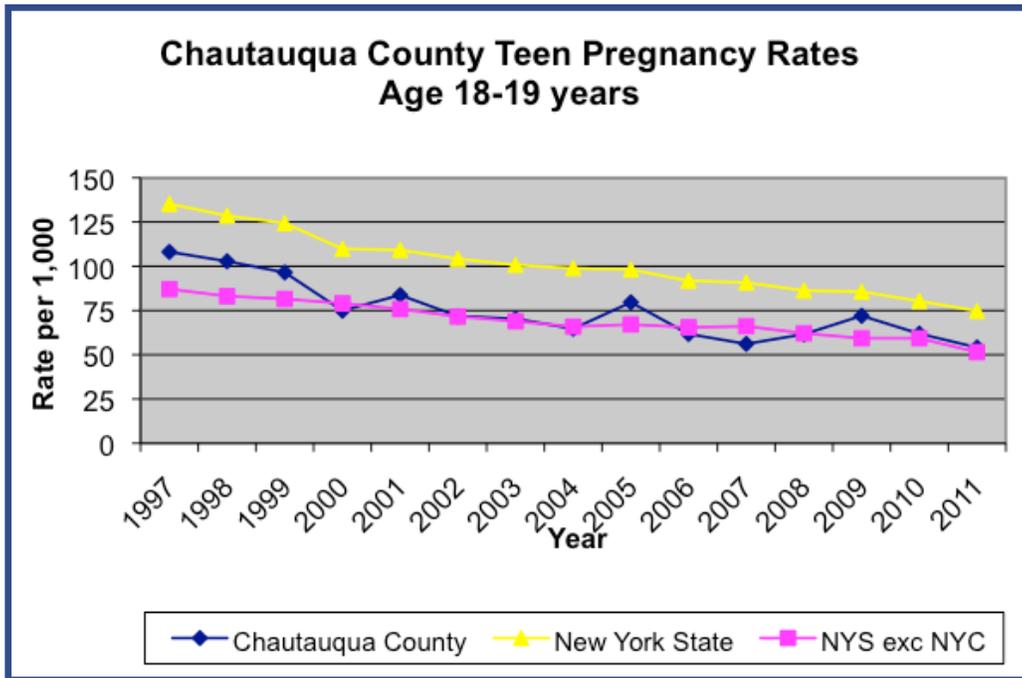
Healthy People 2020 Target: *Reduce the pregnancy rate among adolescent females 15-17 to 36.2 pregnancies per 1000, and the 18-19 year olds to 105.9 per 1000.*
Chautauqua County statistics: *Pregnancy rate among adolescent females 15-17 25.4 and the 18-19 year olds 56.1 per 1000.*

Teen pregnancy statistics are recorded for 15-19 year olds and that is often how teen pregnancy rates per 1000 are reported. However, for those who want to better understand the breakout by age groups, additional statistics are available by sub categories including 10-14 years, 15-17 and 18-10. The highest number of pregnancies is in the oldest age group.

The charts below shows the changes over a fifteen year period by specific age group.



Source: NYS Department of Health



Source: NYS Department of Health

The national birth rate in 2009 among teens 15-19 fell 9% from 37.9 to 34.3 live births per 1000 females, which is a record low. This trend continued in 2010 when the rate dropped to 34.3 and again in 2011 when it dropped to 31.3. Across the state there are wide fluctuations in the teen pregnancy rate for 15-19 year olds from a low of 9.5 in Putnam County to a high of 106.9 in the Bronx. Chautauqua County is well above the national and upstate percentage.

COMPARATIVE TEEN PREGNANCY RATES 2007 - 2009

Location	15 - 19 year old rate per 1,000
USA	34.3
Chautauqua County	48.6
Cattaraugus County	48.5
Oswego County	41.2
NYC	81.7
Upstate NY	37.4

Source: NYS Health Department

COMPARATIVE TEENAGE (AGE 15-19) PREGNANCY RATES

Per 1,000 Females - 3 year averages

Year	Chautauqua County 3-Yr Average	Cattaraugus County 3-Yr Average	Oswego County 3-Yr Average	Upstate New York 3-Yr Average
2001	51.1	48.6	47.4	47.4
2002	49.6	45.3	44.7	44.8
2003	45.2	43.1	43.0	43.0
2004	45.9	42.3	40.8	40.8
2005	45.8	43.3	41.0	41.0
2006	44.3	44.6	41.6	41.6
2007	42.3	47.6	41.6	41.6
2008	43.5	49	39.4	39.4
2009				37.4

Source: NYS Department of Health

Teen Pregnancy Rates by ZIP codes for 2008 – 2010 show a wide variation by location with Dunkirk topping the list at 87.6 teen pregnancies per 1000 females 15-19 followed by Jamestown at 76.8, Sherman at 70.2, Sinclairville at 65.4, and Falconer at 58.2. County zip codes with the lowest teen pregnancy rates are Panama 7.2 and Fredonia at 11.3.

For a complete listing of teen pregnancies by zip code see -
<http://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfa/inactive/1007301230/attach1a.pdf>

For further information on teen pregnancies review the following:
 NYS Department of Health teen pregnancies
http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/vital_statistics/2009/table30.htm#2

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (LBW)BABIES

Healthy People 2020 Target: *Reduce the percent of LBW to 7.8% of live births*
Baseline: *8.2% of live births 2007*

About one in every twelve babies in the United States is born with low birth weight, according to the March of Dimes. While some low birth weight babies are healthy, there can be a number of serious health problems as a result including respiratory, heart and, intestinal issues. As these children grow, they are more likely to have high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease than babies born at a normal weight.

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS (< 2500 grams) by Resident County New York State – 2011

County	Live Births	Low Birth weight Total	% low birth weight babies
Chautauqua	1412	114	8%
Cattaraugus	911	65	7%
Oswego	1348	96	7%

Source: http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/vital_statistics/2011/table11.htm

INFANT MORTALITY

Healthy People 2020 Target: *6 infant deaths per 1000 live births*
Baseline: *6.7 infant deaths per 1000 live births 2006*
Chautauqua County rate – 2011: *7.8 deaths per 1000 live births*

The Infant mortality rate provides a partial measure of the overall health status of a community. It is often correlated with population health factors such as immunization rates, access to health care and teen pregnancy.

In 2011, there were 11 infant deaths in Chautauqua County, resulting in an infant death rate of 7.8 deaths per 1,000 live births. Infant deaths include all deaths of residents under the age of one year (excluding spontaneous fetal deaths).

The County infant death rate is lower than that of neighboring Cattaraugus County (11) but greater than the rates of Oswego County (5.9), and New York State (5.0) as a whole.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STD'S)

NYS 2017 Objective: *Gonorrhea case rate per 100,000 women age 15-44: 183.1*
Gonorrhea case rate per 100,000 men age 15-44: 199.5
Chlamydia case rate per 100,000 women age 15-44: 1458
Primary and secondary Syphilis case rate per 100,000 males: 10.1
Primary and secondary Syphilis case rate per 100,000 females: 0.4

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that there are 19 million new STD infections each year with almost half of them among young people 15-24.

Infectious disease rates in the County remain low. Of all types of communicable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) cause the greatest disease burden. Chlamydia is the most common STD, and has been trending upward since 2005. The county rate for Chlamydia in 2010 per 100,000 men of all ages was 156.8 which is about half of the NYS rate of 305.1. For Women the rate per 100,000 for women of all ages was 431.4 compared to the state rate of 644.6. These lower rates may be the result of fewer individuals being screened.

Gonorrhea was the second most common STD in Chautauqua County with a case rate for 100,000 men at 78.7 and women at 52.4. Both of these case rates are significantly below NYS rates 221.7 and 203.4 and NYS 2017 Objectives of 199.5 and 183.1.

The incidences of early and late Syphilis are both very low in the County and neighboring counties. There were no cases of primary or secondary syphilis for males or females in the County in 2010.

HIV/AIDS

***NYS 2017 Objective: 14.7 newly diagnosed HIV case rate per 100,000
21.6 2008-2010 NYS newly diagnosed case rate per 100,000
Chautauqua County statistic: 6.0 newly diagnosed case rate
per 100,000 – 2008-2010***

According to the HP 2020 report an estimated 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV. Between 2008-2010, the case rate for newly diagnosed cases of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in Chautauqua County was 6.0.

According to the *NYS HIV/AIDS Surveillance Annual Report For Cases Diagnosed through December 2010*, there are 244 county residents living with HIV or AIDS. If prisoners are excluded there are 168 county residents living with HIV or AIDS.

http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/statistics/annual/2010/2010-12_annual_surveillance_report.pdf

MENTAL HEALTH

There is considered to be a continuum between mental health and mental illness; which is a medical condition that disrupts a person's thinking, feeling, mood, perception, ability to relate to others and daily functioning. Mental disorders can arise from multiple sources, and in many cases there is no single accepted or consistent cause currently established.

According to the NYS Department of Mental Health, the recognition and understanding of mental health conditions have changed over time but there are still variations in definition, assessment and classification, although standard guideline criteria are widely used.

The stigma and discrimination against individuals with mental illnesses can add to the suffering and disability. Prevention is now appearing in some mental health strategies. The recent mass shootings throughout the country have elevated the discussion of the need for prevention and treatment of mental illness to the national agenda.

In terms of Chautauqua County statistics regarding mental illness, the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) conducts the Patient Characteristics Survey (PCS). This survey is conducted every two years, and collects demographic, clinical, and service-related information for each person who receives a public mental health service during a specified one-week period. The PCS receives data from approximately 5,000 mental health programs serving 175,000 people during the survey week. All programs licensed or funded by OMH are required to complete the survey. The PCS is the only OMH data source that describes all the public mental health programs in New York State. Results from the PCS are summarized into reports at the state, region, county, and facility levels. Facility level reports are sent to each respective facility director, while the other reports are posted publicly on the OMH web site.

ANNUALIZED RATE OF SERVICE PER 100,000 – June 2011

Location	Age - Under 8	Ages 9-17	Ages 18-64	Age 65+
NYS	373	1257	1030	472
Western Region	521	1456	1166	349
Chautauqua County	443	1670	1127	207

Source: <http://bi.omh.ny.gov/pcs/Planning%20Report>

PCS data have been published on the OMH Web Site since 1999. This page also links to archived PCS summary reports for survey years 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007, which are presented in an abbreviated, fixed format.

Other indicators of mental health issues and the potential for drug use include the following data from the Pride Survey - Depressive Symptoms Risk Factor in the Individual/Peer Domain. Young people who express feelings of sadness for long periods over the past year and who have negative attitudes about themselves and life in general are more likely to use drugs.

Northern Chautauqua County		7-State Norm	% Score More Desirable	% Score Least Desirable
7-8 grade	41.4	45 Our area of concern starts at 40+	25.0	51.7
9-10 grade	37.8		25.9	57.9
11-12 grade	39.6		36.7	42.6
Combined	39.9		30.4	50.0
The percentage of students showing the depressive symptoms risk factor is at 39.9%. At that level it is an area of concern. <i>For Risk Factors a lower score is desirable.</i>			This section is included to demonstrate the range across the districts included in the compilation.	

	Grade	% Score More Desirable	% Score Less Desirable
Other districts surveyed but not included in the compilation data. Includes districts in both North and South County. After Fall 2011, the grades were broken down individually.	7	13.3	42.6
	8	28.8	54.5
	9	36.4	55.6
	10	20.9	49.1
	11	29.0	51.0
	12	22.7	44.7
	Combined	30.1	44.7

INDEPENDENCE & HEALTH FOR OLDER ADULTS

According to the National Commission for Quality Long-Term Care, “The population of the United States is heading toward a dramatic and unprecedented demographic shift. Well into this century, the number of older Americans will grow substantially with each passing decade. The average person will live longer than we ever imagined possible. As a result, the nation will experience an unprecedented demand for high-quality long-term care services.”

Western New York has the 10th highest percentage of senior citizens among the nation’s 103 metro areas with populations of more than 500,000. The 85+ bracket is the fastest growing segment of the population. Chautauqua County (16.59%) has a higher percentage of 65+ individuals than the state (13.5%) and the country (13.3%).

According to a Gap Analysis prepared for the Chautauqua County Long Term Care Council by William Gormley, LLC, in 2011 as part of their strategic planning process, there are a number of significant factors which will impact services for seniors as indicated below:

- The need for long term care services in Chautauqua County will increase.
- Affordability of long term care services is a key factor in meeting needs of the Chautauqua County seniors.
- The physician supply of both primary and specialty care physicians needs to increase.
- Chautauqua County has excess skilled nursing facility capacity (299 excess beds).
- Chautauqua County appears to have a sufficient number of licensed adult care facilities in total. However, the number of Medicaid eligible units (ALP) and their geographic distribution may be insufficient.
- There appears to be sufficient Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) and hospice services to meet the County’s needs.
- There is a growing need for residential services for the geriatric mentally ill and developmentally disabled.
- There is a growing need for subsidized/affordable home and community based services to provide support to enable the frail elderly to remain in the community.

For further information about the plan to address the issues outlined in the gap analysis go to: Long Term Care Council of Chautauqua County – Strategic Plan

<http://chautauqua.ny.us/departments/ofa/Documents/Strategic%20planning/Final%20Strategic%20Planning%20Document.pdf>

DISABILITY & SECONDARY CONDITIONS

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, 14% of the population in Chautauqua County has a disability. There are no estimates for the 5 and under population, but for those 5-17 years, the estimate is 6.8% of that population, 12% for the 18-64 year old residents and 34.5% of the population 65+ has either a hearing, vision, cognitive or ambulatory difficulty or a self-care or independent living difficulty.

For a complete list of SSI recipients by county for 2011 see:

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_sc/2011/ny.html

TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Tobacco Use

According to the Surgeon General, every day, more than 1,200 people in this country die due to smoking. For each of those deaths, at least two youth or young adults become regular smokers each day. Almost 90% of those replacement smokers smoke their first cigarette by age 18. In Chautauqua County, the average age of first use of cigarettes is 12.4 years.

The Surgeon General's report goes on to indicate:

- There could be 3 million fewer young smokers today if success in reducing youth tobacco use that was made between 1997 and 2003 had been sustained.
- Rates of smokeless tobacco use are no longer declining, and they appear to be increasing among some groups.
- Cigars, especially cigarette-sized cigars, are popular with youth. One out of five high school males smokes cigars, and cigar use appears to be increasing among other groups.
- Use of multiple tobacco products—including cigarettes, cigars, and smokeless tobacco—is common among young people.
- Prevention efforts must focus on young adults ages 18 through 25, too. Almost no one starts smoking after age 25. Nearly 9 out of 10 smokers started smoking by age 18, and 99% started by age 26. Progression from occasional to daily smoking almost always occurs by age 26.

According to the NYS Department of Health, smoking kills 25,500 people every year in New York State. Secondhand smoke kills 2,500 New Yorkers every year. At any one time, there are estimated to be 570,000 New Yorkers afflicted with serious disease directly attributable to their smoking. It is projected that 389,000 New York State youth age 0-17 will die from smoking.

Clearly tobacco use is a major health concern and cost. The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids reports that there are 23,900 new youth smokers per year in New York State.

The Pride New York State Youth Development Survey(YDS) conducted in the Spring 2011 of more than 1200 north county students in grades 7 to 12, indicated that in the 30 days prior to the survey 9.9% of youth responding had used cigarettes and 5.1% had used chewing tobacco. 86.5% of respondents perceive harm from smoking regularly with 90.1% of 12th graders reporting potential harm.

Low to high ranges can be used to demonstrate community differences and the need for addressing data in communities.

Combination scores for grades 7-12	North County (1088)			Individual Districts (North & South) (1385)	
	Compilation %	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable
30 day use-Cigarettes	9.9	7.2	13.4	3.0	13.4
30 day use-Chewing Tobacco	5.1	2.2	8.7	2.7	7.6
Avg age of 1st use-Cig	12.4 yrs	11.7 yrs	12.6 yrs	12.3 yrs	13.3 yrs

Source: Pride YDS Survey - 2011

The Expanded BRFSS Report July 2008- June 2009 indicates 18.7% of adult county residents smoke on a daily basis. This is higher than the NYS percentage, which is 11%. Of that percentage of smokers, 15.8% are male and 21.5% are female.

The State Health Department indicator for 2008-2009 puts the figure for Chautauqua County adult smokers higher at 25.3% or one in four residents, while the NYS indicator was 16.8% with a target of getting to 15%.

Alcohol

Serious health, social and economic problems result from the use of alcohol by youth. Underage drinking is a causal factor in a host of problems including homicide, suicide, traumatic injury, drowning, burns, violent and property crime, high risk sex, fetal alcohol syndrome, alcohol poisoning and the need for treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence.

Results from the YDS survey of 1200 north county students conducted in 2011 indicate that “alcohol is the most widely used drug among Chautauqua County youth”. Perception of risk is lower for alcohol than for tobacco. The low to high ranges shown in the data can be used to demonstrate community differences and the need for addressing data in communities.

One in four 24.8% of students taking the survey reported drinking alcohol in the prior 30 days. Additionally, 56.7% of respondents in grades 7-12 have had a full alcoholic drink at least once in their lives and 25.2% percent of 11th and 12 graders reported binge drinking (consuming 4 or more drinks in a row). Binge drinking is a particularly dangerous drinking pattern characterized y bouts of heavy consumption that can lead to injury, illness, addiction and even death.

According to the survey report, comparisons with national peers show higher lifetime and 30 day use for local students in grades 8,10 and 12. Use by females is slightly higher (25.8%) than for males (23.9%). Most youth obtain alcohol from someone over age 21, but 7.6% drank at home with their parents’ permission. The average age of first alcohol use is 12.9 years and for regular use (drinking alcohol at least once or twice a month) is 14.2.

	North County (1088)		Individual Districts (North & South) (1385)		
	Compilation %	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable
30 day alcohol use	24.8	17.9	37.3	11.6	29.9
Avg age of 1st use	12.9 yrs	12.1 yrs	13.2 yrs	12.6 yrs	13.7 yrs
Heavy use - binge drinking	15.0	11.4	23.7	6.6	20.6
Perception of risk	68.6	64.2	73.2	73.2	63.8

Source: Pride YDS Survey - 2011

To date the same YDS survey has been completed by four of the south county school districts and it mirrors the north county data with alcohol being the drug of choice with marijuana being a close second. Very high risk factors for alcohol/drug use include poor family management/family conflict and parental attitudes toward anti-social behavior?. As many as one in three respondents reported drinking at home.

Among adults 18 years and older 17.7% of New York State residents participated in binge drinking at least once during the month before the 2008-2009 Expanded BRFSS. The County estimate was higher at 19.7%.

Substance Abuse:

Marijuana

After alcohol, marijuana is the next most commonly used drug by Chautauqua County youth. By 12th grade more than half (53.2%) of youth have tried it at least once and more than a third (36.9%) are current users (within the past 30 days). According to the Chautauqua Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council report on the YDS, current local use rates exceed national rates for lifetime and past 30 day use in grades 8, 10 and 12. Further, they go on to note noticeable increases in use from grade to grade with rates more than doubling between grades 7 and 8, and double again from grades 10 to 12. Students reported that their parents would disapprove of their using marijuana, but more than half 57% do not consider it harmful. The average age of first marijuana use is 13.7 years.

It should be noted specifically that the perception of risk and harm for marijuana use is considerably lower than both tobacco and alcohol. The current state of the issues causes a fair amount of confusion for both adults and youth. Efforts to provide accurate awareness information remain a priority.

Pharmaceuticals*

According to the same YDS survey, pharmaceuticals are being misused at an increasing rate locally and nationally, with prescription pain killers being most common and often mixed with alcohol. Past 30 day use range from a low of 4.2% in 7th grade to a high of 13% in 11th grade.

*Over-the-counter (OTC) cold medicine and caffeine/diet pills and any use of these prescription drugs without a doctor's order: pain killers, tranquilizers, sedatives and stimulants.

Other Drugs

The YDS survey shows the 30 day use rate for other drugs among county youth is low with Ecstasy and hallucinogens below 1%, and cocaine use at 1.2%, Inhalant use, more common in younger children due to easy access, peaks at 4.7% in 9th grade and drops to less than 1% in 12th grade.

Regarding Other Drugs - low to high ranges can be used to demonstrate community differences and the need for addressing data in communities.

	North County (1088)			Individual Districts (North & South) (1385)	
	Compilation %	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable
Any illicit drug use* *includes all drugs except alcohol and tobacco	23.5	15.9	29.7	7.6	22.3
30 day use - MJ	15.7	10.1	21.2	6.5	17.9
Perception of risk-MJ	43.0	36.6	45.8	75.2	33.3

Source: Pride YDS Survey - 2011

RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Strength to build on *1 st of most concern *2 nd *3 rd *4 th	North County (1088)			Individual Districts (North & South) (1385)	
	Compilation %	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable
Risk Factors (Community, Family, School and Individual/Peer Domains)					
Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use	37.6	28.8	50.4	23.7	50.2
Perceived Availability of Drugs	43.6	35.7	48.7	30.3	46.9
Poor Family Management	48.0	33.8	65.1	44.3	57.3
Family Conflict	43.1	38.4	52.0	36.1	48.2
Parental Attitudes Towards ATOD	42.4	29.2	54.1	31.2	55.3
Parental Attitudes Towards ASB	56.9	46.9	68.0	53.5	63.8
Low Commitment to School	51.4	41.1	68.5	33.1	59.1
Perceived Risk of Drug Use	45.6	40.1	51.0	39.0	56.4
Friends Use of Drugs	40.4	24.4	50.0	20.3	44.7

- Those in the chart are the most common Risk Factors that make up the top four areas of concerns across the districts.
- Beliefs, attitudes and behaviors that are favorable towards alcohol and other drug use and abuse have an impact on youth behaviors.
- Perception of and actual availability and access to alcohol and other drugs has an impact on youth behaviors.
- A focus on the family is imperative. Issues within the family domain are predictive of youth problem behaviors.
- Having an accurate understanding of the risks of use is important as well as the understanding that perceived and actual prevalence rates influence youth behavior.

Strength to build on *1 st of most concern *2 nd *3 rd *4 th	North County (1088)			Individual Districts (North & South) (1385)	
	Compilation %	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable	% Score more desirable	% Score least desirable
Protective Factors (Community, Family, School and Individual/Peer Domains)					
Family Attachment	41.8	51.1	34.5	54.1	35.0
Family Opportunities for PSI	50.0	59.3	39.6	61.1	45.3
Family Rewards for PSI	52.0	59.2	34.1	60.1	39.5
School Rewards for PSI	50.6	59.7	39.1	59.0	36.5
Social Skills*	60.2	69.3	50.6	73.8	55.6
I/P-Pro-social Involvement	50.2	61.4	41.5	61.3	37.3
Peer Rewards for PSI	56.8	65.9	49.8	63.5	52.0

- While focusing on the risks, it is equally important to enhance protective factors within the family domain.
- Enhancing rewards, or feeling the benefits and recognition, for being involved in positive, healthy activities is a need across the domains.
- *Social Skills is not in the top 4, but is the most likely protective factor to be addressed by face-to-face programming ~ whether low and an area of concern or high as a strength to build on.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

There are some environmental exposures which are linked to health but they can be difficult to control and measure including:

- Tobacco Smoke – The NYSDOH Expanded BRFSS 2008-2009 for Chautauqua provides estimates for smoking policies within the homes of County residents. In 2009, 74.2% of respondents lived in a home where smoking was not allowed.
- Lead Poisoning - The risk of childhood lead poisoning greatly increases when children live in houses containing lead paint. While lead paint was banned in 1978, it was rarely used in houses built after 1950. Therefore, houses built prior to 1950 are generally considered suspect in cases of childhood lead poisoning. Housing structures in the County are relatively old with 45.9% built in 1939 or earlier, compared to 34.8% in New York State. In Chautauqua County, 53.0% of homes were built prior to 1950, compared to 44.1% in New York State. As a result, many children in the County are considered at risk for lead poisoning.
- Air Quality – Chautauqua County (13.4) is well above the national benchmark (8.8) or the NYS rate (10.9) for Daily Fine Particulate Matter. This is a concern because those particles generally pass through the throat and nose and enter the lungs. Once inhaled, these particles can affect the heart and lungs and cause serious health effects.

THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT "HEALTH CARE REFORM"

The Affordable Care Act is the health care law that aims to improve the current national health care system by increasing access to health coverage for Americans and introducing new protections for people who have health insurance.

For a full text of the law:

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/final-health-reform-bill-patient-protection-and-affordable-care-act.aspx>

For information on key health policy issues, the Kaiser Family Foundation website has in depth information:

<http://www.kff.org/>

Animation: <http://healthreform.kff.org/the-animation.aspx?source=QL>

How health insurance coverage will work: <http://healthreform.kff.org/profiles.aspx>

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- The economic situation of the County has a direct impact on the public's attitude and concerns about health care and general well being.
- A considerable percentage of the population lack a patient centered medical home (PCMH) and therefore lack consistency in receiving health care services.
- The high incidence of obesity, cancer, diabetes and addiction in the population result in premature death and health complications.

- Poverty, poor nutrition, and lack of early prenatal care put many women at increased risk of giving birth to a baby who will be born too soon or too small, have birth defects, or have breathing and blood chemistry problems at birth. Drug, alcohol and tobacco use compound the problems.
- HPSA and MUP – classifications point to physician shortages in the county but also provide incentives related to physician recruitment and establishment of a FQHC – Federally Qualified Health Center
- The long term care system is fragmented and there is a lack of alignment between what senior county residents want and what is available.
- There is an excess of skilled nursing home beds and insufficient home based services for seniors
- The attitude of County residents toward improving health behaviors has become more favorable
- Over the past several years with many residents beginning to acknowledge their role in preventing chronic disease such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease through better wellness.
- County youth engage in risky behaviors which have long term consequences and costs. Issues with physical and mental health in students when ignored becomes more of an issue in adulthood which can translate to misuse of drugs, additions to bad habits and the inability to be contributing members of society.
- Prevention of alcohol and other drug problems can reduce deaths, injuries, disease and vast social and economic costs.
- A number of risk and protective factors have been identified which can reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in problem behaviors. Efforts to decrease risk factors and increase protective factors should be encouraged and supported.
- There is need for all sectors to identify ways to help change culture and create a healthier community focused more on prevention.

SECTION FOUR EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

The County’s educational system ranges from early childhood education and Head Start programs to graduate programs at the State University of New York at Fredonia. Public education is offered by 18 school districts, as well as private religious schools. Additionally, Jamestown Community College and Jamestown Business College provide post secondary education degrees ranging from business to piloting.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early childhood education (also early childhood learning and early education) refers to the formal teaching of young children by people outside the family or in settings outside the home. Research indicates that the early years (zero to five) lay the foundation for all future learning and development. Research shows that up to 90% of brain development occurs during this time period. So, the seeds for success in school and in life are sown at this early age. For working parents, finding quality and affordable early childhood education or child care is a significant family concern. Child care is one of the major expenses for working families and in some instances can exceed a year’s in-state tuition and related fees at four year public colleges. The *Parents and the High Cost of Child Care: 2012 Report* ranked New York among the 10 least-affordable states for full-time center-based infant care in 2011, as well as for full-time care for a 4-year-old in a center. www.naccrra.org

Infant care is the most expensive because infants require more individualized attention. Costs range from \$140 - \$190 per week in Chautauqua County, according to the Chautauqua County Child Care Council. Rates vary by type of facility but generally family day care and group family day care homes are slightly less expensive than day care centers.

Child Care subsidies are provided by the Department of Health and Human Services and family eligibility is based on income, reasons for needing day care, and each child’s age and individual needs. Families that are eligible for child care subsidies pay approximately 30% of the cost of care. However, those on Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) are guaranteed child care at no cost. In most cases, families receiving a child care subsidy can choose any legal child care provider. The chart below shows the total yearly expenditures for child care subsidies.

Year	Total Expenditure
2012	\$4,579,587.61
2011	\$4,744,001.00
2010	\$5,177,785.50
2009	\$4,613,008.50
2008	\$5,489,027.27

Source: Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services

According to economist and Nobel Laureate Dr. James Heckman, the return on investment in early education is 16%. According to Dr. Heckman, *“Early environments play a large role in shaping later outcomes. Skill begets skill and learning begets more learning. Early advantages cumulate; so do early disadvantages. Later remediation of early deficits is costly, and often prohibitively so, though later investments are also necessary since investments across time are complementary. Evidence on the technology of skill formation shows the importance of early investment. At current levels of public support, America under-invests in the early years of its disadvantaged children. Redirecting additional funds toward the early years, before the start of traditional schooling, is a sound investment in the productivity and safety of our society.”*

For further info about Dr. Heckman and his economic models and ROI arguments for investing in early childhood learning see: <http://www.childrenofthecode.org/interviews/heckman.htm>

By extrapolating data from the American Community Survey 2011 there are more than 3,000 households in Chautauqua County with a potential need for child care services. Statistics from the Chautauqua Child Care Council show the following licensed and registered child care slots available in Chautauqua County:

Child Care Capacity – Licensed & Registered		February 2013
Center Based (Licensed)		1308
Family Day Care (Registered)		431
Group Family Day Care (Licensed)		448
School Age (Licensed)		1660
Preschool (Includes Universal Pre-K)		1704

Source: COI – Chautauqua Child Care Council

According to the Chautauqua Child Care Council, there was a net loss of 101 child care slots in Chautauqua County between 2011 and 2013.

It should be noted that there is no way to quantify informal child care arrangements where neighbors or family members provide care for children. From the numbers above, the legally exempt providers and the unquantifiable informal care, there may be sufficient

child care availability. However, location, access and care during non traditional hours can be problematic for working families and the quality of some of the informal arrangements cannot be ascertained.

For rural parents especially, finding wrap around programs for their children who attend Universal Pre-K is problematic as the majority of child care centers are located in the urban areas. Working parents also struggle with care when children are ill, finding before and after school care and care givers for school vacations and half days.

There is only one accredited child care center in Chautauqua County and that is the child care center at SUNY Fredonia.

	Chautauqua County	New York State
Caregivers with an active CDA	151	4431
Licensed/registered Child Care Providers Centers/ includes preschool and UPK	160	3971
NAEYC Accredited Child Care Centers	1	301
National Association for Family Child Care	1	8
National Afterschool Credentials	1	21

Source: COI – Chautauqua County Child Care Council – Annual Report 2012

The licensed child care centers located in Chautauqua County are primarily located in the larger cities and towns and include:

Agri-Business Child Development	Fredonia
Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center	Fredonia
Campus and Community Children’s Center Inc. - UPK	Fredonia
Campus and Community Children’s Center, Inc.	Fredonia
Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center	Mayville
Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center	Falconer
Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center	Mayville
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc	Dunkirk
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.	Kennedy
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.	Jamestown
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.	Jamestown
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.	Dunkirk
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Westfield
First Presbyterian Church- A Children’s Place Day Care	Jamestown
Lake Shore Family Center	Irving
Little Seeds Preschool South	Jamestown
YMCA Heritage House Child Care Center	Jamestown
Young Women’s Christian Association of Jamestown, N.Y.	Jamestown
Young Women’s Christian Association of Jamestown, NY	Jamestown
YWCA Preschool Day Care Center	Westfield
Zion Covenant Church	Jamestown

Source: COI – Chautauqua County Child Care Council – Annual Report 2012

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START

Head Start, which is operated by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) provides comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families. Additionally, since 1995 an Early Head program serves children from birth to three years of age. Both programs promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children enrolled. Parents of Head Start children are actively involved in the program’s governance and engaged in their children’s learning. The funded enrollment for Head Start was 502 and for Early Head Start 82. After sequester cuts, funding for enrollment for Head Start dropped to 425 and remains at 82 for Early Head Start. More than that number of children are actually served annually as children enter and leave services for various reasons, according to COI staff.

There is a growing body of knowledge which demonstrates that when children receive quality child care, they enter school prepared for success.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Chautauqua County, with a declining population of 134,905 has 18 separate school districts and school administrations including:

Bemus Point CSD

Brocton CSD

Cassadaga Valley CSD

Chautauqua Lake CSD

Clymer CSD

Dunkirk City SD

Falconer CSD

Forestville CSD

Frewsburg CSD

Fredonia CSD

Jamestown City SD

Panama CSD

Pine Valley CSD

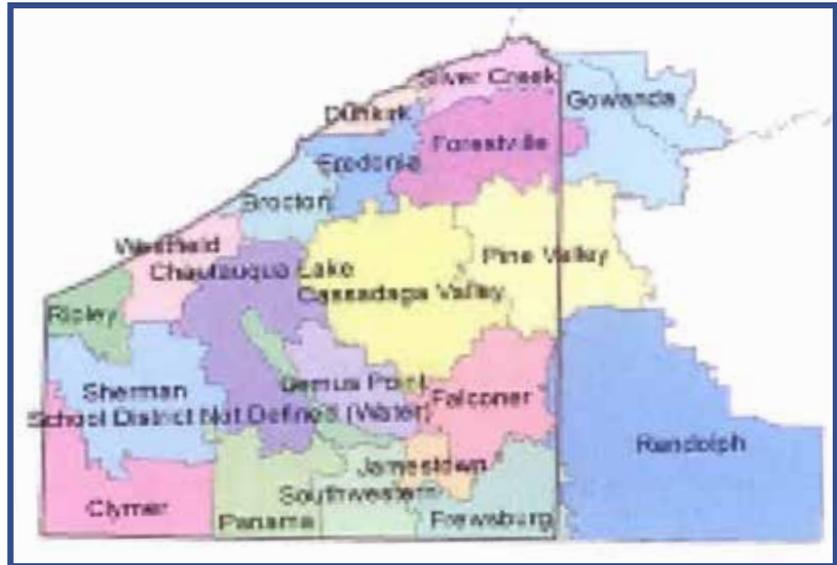
Southwestern CSD

Ripley CSD

Sherman CSD

Silver Creek CSD

Westfield CSD



Reflecting the racial distribution of the county, White students made up the majority of all public school students. Jamestown and Dunkirk have the highest percentage of Black students 5% and 9% respectively and students of Hispanic ethnicity 16% in Jamestown and 43% in Dunkirk. As the chart below reveals, there is considerable variation in enrollment, ethnicity, poverty levels as indicated by eligibility for free and reduced lunch, drop out rates and low English proficiency.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE – 2010 - 2011

District Name	Enrollment					Graduation & At Risk			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Attendance	Free/Reduced Lunch	Dropout	Low English Proficiency
Bemus Point	749	96%	1%	1%	2%	96%	14%/5%	0%	0%
Brocton	556	89%	1%	6%	2%	94%	89%/34%	10%	0%
Cassadaga	1030	95%	1%	2%	1%	95%	38%/11%	3%	0%
Chautauqua	741	95%	0%	1%	3%	95%	47%/23%	1%	0%
Clymer	447	95%	1%	1%	3%	96%	28%/12%	2%	0%
Dunkirk	1991	46%	9%	43%	2%	93%	59%/8%	5%	13%
Falconer	1210	96%	1%	1%	1%	96%	27%/8%	2%	0%
Forestville	544	92%	1%	5%	2%	95%	26%/10%	3%	0%
Fredonia	1521	87%	1%	8%	4%	95%	25%/6%	2%	2%
Frewsburg	876	94%	1%	2%	2%	96%	10%/5%	2%	0%
Jamestown	4866	69%	5%	16%	9%	94%	61%/8%	6%	4%
Panama	538	94%	0%	2%	3%	96%	25%/8%	1%	0%
Pine Valley	614	95%	0%	3%	2%	95%	75%/24%	3%	0%
Ripley	314	99%	0%	1%	0%	95%	49%/13%	9%	0%
Sherman	434	97%	1%	0%	1%	95%	40%/13%	4%	0%
Silver Creek	1050	76%	1%	5%	18%	94%	39%/9%	7%	0%
Southwestern	1409	92%	1%	2%	4%	95%	22%/5%	1%	0%

Source: NYS Department of Education <https://reportcards.nysed.gov/files/2010-11/CIR-2011-061700010000.pdf>

Many of the smaller, rural districts have very small classes and offer a limited range of electives or sports teams. Yet when schools talk consolidation, very often taxpayers reject this concept. According to the above chart there were 19,438 students enrolled in county schools for the school year 2011-12. This is down from an enrollment of 21,053 in the fall of 2007, and is a continuation of an enrollment decline each year since then.

The New York State Department of Education publishes a report card on all school districts in the state. According to their web site, the charts represents student scores on the NAEP – the National Assessment of Educational Progress, which was developed in 1969 and is a nationally representative assessment of the performance of United States’ students in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography and U.S. history. Teachers, principals, parents, policymakers, and researchers use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in the United States.

The ELA and Mathematics test scores for Chautauqua County third through eight grade students, released in August 2013, reflect the expected 30 percent decrease in students deemed proficient in ELA and math. This year’s scores are a part of the new Common Core learning standards being implemented across NYS. The cumulative county scores are included in the chart below. To view scores by individual district go to: www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/

CUMULATIVE TEST SCORES – CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY - 2013

Grade	# tested	% level 1 Well below proficient	% level 2 Below proficient	% level 3 Proficient	% level 4 Excel in standards	Mean
3 – ELA	1391	46.1	33.5	19.1	1.4	289
3 – Math	1399	42.2	32.6	18.5	6.6	290
4 – ELA	1436	38.1	37.7	18.1	6.1	292
4 – Math	1440	31.7	37.1	22	9.2	296
5 – ELA	1491	43.3	34.5	17.4	4.7	290
5 – Math	1486	48.3	31.6	16.3	3.8	292
6 – ELA	1535	32.5	43.4	15.8	8.3	293
6 – Math	1539	34.8	45	15.5	4.7	291
7 – ELA	1495	34.4	38.5	20.9	6.2	296
7 – Math	1490	42.5	37.7	17	2.9	294
8 – ELA	1490	31.2	36.7	23.4	8.7	297
8 – Math	1470	34.3	47	16.1	2.7	295

Source: NYS Education Department <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/pressRelease/20130807/home.html>

GRADUATION RATES

The NYS Education Department tracks graduation rates by computing the number and percentage of students that finish high school in four years from the number of students that were enrolled back in their freshman year. For example 298 out of a total cohort of 423 incoming students graduated from JHS in 2007 resulting in a graduation rate of 70%. The state standard is 80%. There are any number of reasons that graduation rates are less than 100% including:

- Students dropping out,
- Students not finishing in four years,
- Students finish without a Regents Diploma (IEP diplomas don't count toward graduate rate),
- Some students just disappear – indicate they are moving but then no evidence that they re-enrolled somewhere else,
- Some students finish later with a GED, but that does not count toward graduation rate.

The statewide average 4 year graduation rate did not meet the state standard of 80%, according to the statewide report card. In Chautauqua County Brocton (78%), Dunkirk (66%), Jamestown (69%), and Ripley (72%) did not meet the state standard graduation rate according to the 2011-2012 report card. Sherman has the highest graduation rate at 96%, followed by Bemus and Clymer at 94% and Falconer and Fredonia at 92%. The following chart provides 4 year graduation rates and post secondary plans for all districts in the county.

2011 – 2012 REPORT CARDS

School District	2007 4 year Graduation Rate – total cohort all students (State standard 80%)	Post Secondary Plans
Statewide Average	77%	To 4 year – 47% To 2 year – 32% To Military – 2% To Employment 6%
Bemus Point Central	94%	To 4 year – 41% To 2 year – 52% To Military – 3% To Employment 3%
Brocton Central	78%	To 4 year – 20% To 2 year – 61% To Military – 5% To Employment – 4%
Cassadaga Valley Central	87%	To 4 year – 18% To 2 year – 54% To Military – 5% To Employment 21%
Chautauqua Lake Central	86%	To 4 year – 42% To 2 year – 32% To Military – 5% To Employment – 5%
Clymer Central	94%	To 4 year – 33% To 2 year – 39% To Military – 3% To Employment - 19%
Dunkirk Central	66%	To 4 year – 20% To 2 year – 46% To Military – 3% To Employment– 23%
Falconer Central	92%	To 4 year – 23% To 2 year – 54% To Military – 6% To Employment –14%
Forestville Central	85%	To 4 year – 33% To 2 year – 47% To Military – 0 To Employment –21%
Fredonia	92%	To 4 year – 45% To 2 year – 41% To Military – 2% To Employment –10%
Frewsburg	81%	To 4 year – 19% To 2 year – 61% To Military – 3% To Employment -12%
Jamestown	69%	To 4 year – 24% To 2 year – 52% To Military – 3% To Employment – 17%

School District	2007 4 year Graduation Rate – total cohort all students (State standard 80%)	Post Secondary Plans
Panama Central	88%	To 4 year – 13% To 2 year – 66% To Military – 3% To Employment – 6%
Pine Valley Central	80%	To 4 year – 20% To 2 year – 53% To Military – 7% To Employment – 9%
Ripley Central	82%	To 4 year – 10% To 2 year – 55% To Military -0 To Employment -24%
Sherman Central	96%	To 4 year – 36% To 2 year – 42% To Military – 6% To Employment – 14%
Silver Creek Central	81%	To 4 year – 39% To 2 year – 31% To Military – 7% To Employment –16%
Southwestern Central	88%	To 4 year – 41% To 2 year – 36% To Military – 2% To Employment-9%
Westfield Central	80%	To 4 year – 31% To 2 year – 48% To Military – 3% To Employment-11%

Source: <https://reportcards.nysed.gov/files/2010-11/CIR-2011-061700010000.pdf>

2007 FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION-RATE TOTAL COHORT

The 2007 four-year graduation-rate total cohort consists of all students who first entered grade 9 anywhere between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. Four-year graduation-rate results for these students are captured as of August 31, 2011 in the above chart.

DROP OUT RATE

The drop out rate in the United States for 2008-09 was 4.1% and for NYS for the same time period was 4.2%. The figure is calculated by taking the percentage of 16-24 year olds not enrolled in school and who have not earned a high school credential – either a diploma or General Equivalence Diploma GED. The drop out percentage for the Jamestown City School district is climbing and has risen from 2% in 2008-09 to 6% in 2011-2012.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Educational attainment refers to the highest level of education completed by an individual. In today's economy, a high school diploma is considered a basic requirement.

While the percentage of Jamestown and Chautauqua County residents who graduate from high school closely mirrors state and Federal percentages, a significantly lower percentage of the local population has a Bachelor's degree or higher than the rest of the state and the country as a whole. This may be an indicator of the outmigration of educated, young people from the county. While there have been a number of initiatives to encourage young professionals to return to Jamestown to live and work, especially those in the medical field, the statistics seem to indicate that the county suffers from a "brain drain."

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT LEVEL 2007 - 2011

Location	% of population aged 25+ high school graduate or higher	% of population 25+ with a Bachelor's Degree or higher
Jamestown	85.2%	17.2%
Chautauqua County	86.9%	20.5%
Cattaraugus County	87.4%	17.5%
Oswego County	86.4%	15.8%
NYS	84.6%	32.5%
United States	85.4%	28.2%

Source: US Census Bureau State, County & USA Quick Facts quickfacts.census.gov/

The United States risks an unprecedented shortage of college-educated workers in coming years. With the global economy demanding more and more highly skilled workers, economists and labor experts say increasing college attainment is a national imperative.

There is a growing movement to increase the higher education attainment rate of the United States. Supporters of this concept believe that increasing the nation's college attainment rate is critical to sustain the vitality of local communities and the nation's economy.

The Lumina Foundation, an independent, private foundation is a staunch proponent of this goal. It is their belief that education provides the basis for individual opportunity, economic vitality and social stability. They strives to meet workforce demands and close gaps in attainment for groups not historically well-served by higher education.

Their overarching goal is to increase the higher education attainment rate of the United States to 60 percent by 2025. This will represent an increase of 23 million graduates above current levels of production.

**PERCENTAGE OF NATION’S WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)
WITH AT LEAST AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

Location	Rate - 2011
Chautauqua County	36.53%
Oswego County	28.51%
NYS	44.6%
United States	38.7%

As the figures from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (CRCF) data below would indicate, the community invests considerable resources in helping to education young residents. Unfortunately, there are no statistics to indicate how many of these scholarship recipients return to the area.

Source: Lumina Foundation for Education, Inc.

CHAUTAUQUA REGION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Year	Total of scholarships awarded	Attended JCC	Attended JBC	Attended SUNY Fredonia	Attended out of area college/ university	Average scholarship award
2012	\$677,746	131	32	50	372	\$1,158.54
2011	\$784,315	111	15	64	505	\$1,142.89
2010	\$813,252	98	11	55	514	\$1,199.49

Source: Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

There is a growing effort to engage business and industry in educating students in needed skills and helping to keep young people here whether they be young professionals or tradesmen and women or factory workers.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Chautauqua County is home to a number of quality institutions of higher learning including:

Jamestown Community College

(JCC), which is the oldest community college in New York State, is the “Top Performing Public Two-Year College” in New York according to a recent report published by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the nation’s leading publication of news and information about colleges and universities.

Factors taken into consideration in compiling the report included graduation rate, completions per every 100 students, cost per completion, spending per completion, student aid per recipient, and percentage of students receiving federal Pell Grants.

JCC topped the list of public two-year colleges which included 35 institutions from within the State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY) with at least 200 freshmen per year.

JCC offers a wide range of degree and certificate programs, has articulation agreements with multiple four year colleges and universities and is a source of pride for both Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. JCC has campuses in Jamestown, Dunkirk and Olean and a branch campus in Warren, Pa with a current student enrollment of 3582. Statistics for 2010-2011 show 826 degrees and certificates awarded. www.sunyjcc.edu

Jamestown Business College

(JBC), a private 4 year institution was founded in 1886 and has been serving Jamestown area residents interested in business careers for more than 125 years. JBC offers intensive programs which provide the most training in the shortest possible time. Students can earn an associate degree in as little as eighteen months and a bachelor degree in just over three years. Current enrollment of full and part time students is 294 and JBC graduates approximately 130 per year. www.jamestownbusinesscollege.edu/

SUNY Fredonia

SUNY Fredonia is a comprehensive, public, liberal arts university located in northern Chautauqua County which offers bachelor's and master's degree and advanced certificate programs. With a founding date of 1826, SUNY Fredonia is among the oldest universities in the SUNY system, and is especially noted for bachelor's degree programs in music and education. <http://www.fredonia.edu/>

Empire State College

SUNY Empire State College (ESU) was established in 1971 by the SUNY Board of as a distinctive statewide SUNY institution focused on nontraditional teaching and learning, where college faculty mentors guide learners through designing an individual degree program within 12 broad areas.

ESU College serves mostly working adults pursuing associate, bachelor's and master's degrees on-site at 35 locations in New York state and abroad, as well as online everywhere. There is an ESU presence at JCC. www.sunyjcc.edu/communiversity/empire-state-college

LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning is the “on going, voluntary and self motivated” pursuit of knowledge for personal fulfillment or professional development. Chautauqua County has a long and proud history of life-long learning which began at Chautauqua Institution more than 138 years ago. This unique aspect of the county has expanded to promotion of the area as **The Learning Center** for sports, the natural world, history and culture, culinary experiences, creative camps, and personal development, in addition to the nine week Chautauqua Institution Special Studies courses.

Additionally, Chautauqua in June is a celebration of farms, food and drink focused on the county's strong agricultural and grape heritage.

There are numerous opportunities for county residents who are motivated to continue learning throughout their lives. JCC offers credit free personal and professional development courses, area libraries offer everything from basic computer classes to knitting. The Robert Jackson Center, Roger Tory Peterson Center, and Jamestown Audubon Society also offer numerous opportunities for life-long learning.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- Based on estimates of working families with young children, there may be insufficient licensed and registered child care or wrap around care in Chautauqua County.
- There are 18 separate school districts and administrations adding to the tax burden of county residents and resulting in limited options for students from small, rural school districts.
- There is considerable variation in school district enrollment, test scores, ethnicity, poverty levels and drop out rates.
- Breaking the cycle of poverty seems to be key to raising standards in education which in turn can lead to more productive citizens.
- Collaborations with schools, government and employers should be intensified.
- Chautauqua County is home to several quality institutions of higher education which makes it convenient to pursue various degree and certificate programs.
- Statistics seem to indicate that many young, educated residents leave the area to pursue careers in other locations, resulting in a “brain drain”. Concerted efforts to minimize this out-migration should be stepped up.
- Chautauqua Institution, The Robert Jackson Center, The Audubon Society and the Roger Tory Peterson Center as well as the county’s rich agricultural and grape heritage provide unique learning opportunities for residents and visitors.

SECTION FIVE PUBLIC SAFETY

There are a number of areas where a community must provide public safety to prevent and protect its citizens from injury or harm. Statistics in the following categories provide indicators of the relative safety of this community.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence is a pattern of abusive behavior by one partner against another in a relationship such as marriage, cohabitation, dating or within a family. It can take many forms including physical aggression or assault, threats, sexual or emotional abuse, intimidation, stalking, neglect or economic deprivation.

According to statistics from Project Crossroads, there were **3023 calls** for service reported as domestic violence disputes in Chautauqua County in 2012. Of that number more than a third **1235** domestic incident reports took place in Jamestown. Statistics indicate that this issue cuts across all races and age groups.

JAMESTOWN - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTIC BY RACE 2012

Race	Number
American Indian/Alaska Native	6
Black or African American	93
White	1027
Unknown	3

Source: Project Crossroads

JAMESTOWN - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICS BY AGE

Age	Number
13 – 17	170
18 – 24	244
25 – 59	780
60+	13

Source: Project Crossroads

The majority of the Jamestown calls were from females (935), but there were also calls from 290 males.

Eighteen of the calls were from individuals with limited English proficiency and two were from individuals with disabilities.

Additional statistics from Project Crossroads show that there were 448 calls for assistance to 911 and other calls related to domestic violence/dating violence in this time period and 5 calls for stalking.

911 CALLS – 2012 – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

	Calls for Assistance	Incident Reports	Arrests	Dual Arrests	Protection/Temporary Restraining Orders Served	Enforcement of Warrants
Domestic Violence	448	371	667	18	537	279
Stalking	5	5			5	

Source: Project Crossroads

Additionally there were 144 arrests for violation of order of protection and 325 domestic violence/dating violence protection orders issued by law enforcement.

The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services reports the following domestic violence statistics for Chautauqua County for 2010 – 2012.

Offense	Total 2012	Total 2011	Total 2010
Agg Assault	62	60	66
Simple Assault	820	997	1034
Sex Offense	73	75	68
Violate Protection Order	25	61	48
Total	980	1193	1214

Source: <http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/domesticviolence2010/chautauqua.pdf>
<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/domesticviolence/chautauqua.pdf>

The above chart shows a decline each year, but these statistics are considerably below the statistics provided by Project Crossroads, making it difficult to assess the extent of the problem.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Sexual assault or abuse is any type of sexual activity that a person does not agree to, including:

- Rape or attempted rape
- Touching your body or making you touch someone else's
- Incest or sexual contact with a child
- Someone watching or photographing you in sexual situations
- Someone exposing his or her body to you

National statistics indicate that 1 in 6 women reported experiencing rape or attempted rape at some time in their lives.

While sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, most often it is committed by someone the person knows, including a date or an intimate partner like a husband, ex-husband, or boyfriend.

Statistics indicate that of all violent crimes, sexual assault is the least likely to be reported to the police. Figures from the *Index Crimes Reported to Police in Chautauqua County from 2008 -2012* reveal that on average 33 women per year report a rape in Chautauqua County, 31 per year in Oswego and 21 per year in Cattaraugus County.

COMPARATIVE INDEX CRIMES – Forcible Rape Reported to Police from 2008 -2012

Year	Chautauqua County	Oswego County	Cattaraugus County
2008	39	35	24
2009	35	31	25
2010	42	28	22
2011	34	28	16
2012	27	33	18

Source: <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/Chautauqua.pdf>
<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/Cattaraugus.pdf>
<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/Oswego.pdf>

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

Child abuse includes physical abuse, physical neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse inflicted by a parent or other caretaker. Prevent Child Abuse New York cites a combination of individual, relational, community and societal risk factors which contribute to the risk of child maltreatment including:

- Social isolation in families
- Parents’ lack of understanding of children’s needs and development
- Physical or mental disabilities in children that may increase caregiver burden
- Parents’ history of domestic abuse and/or domestic violence
- Poverty and other socio-economic disadvantages, such as unemployment
- Lack of family cohesion
- Substance abuse
- Young, single non-biological parents
- Poor parent-child relationships and negative interactions
- Parental stress and distress, including depression or other mental health conditions
- Community violence

In 2010 79,668 New York children were abused or neglected, according to the NYS Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment. Child neglect continues to comprise the largest portion of cases of child maltreatment. According to the federal report *Child Maltreatment 2010*, figures for the country and NYS are as follows. Comparable figures for Chautauqua County were not readily available:

	United States	New York State
Neglect	78.3%	106.6%
Physical Abuse	17.6%	11.4%
Sexual Abuse	9.2%	3.5%
Psychological Maltreatment	8.1%	.9%
Medical Neglect	2.4%	5.7%
Other types* Abandonment, threats of harm, congenital drug addiction	10.3%	32.0%

Source: <http://www.preventchildabuse.org/resources/about-child-abuse/facts-and-statistics/>

Nationwide in 2010, an estimated 1560 children died as a result of abuse or neglect, 2.07 of every 100,000 children in the population. For NYS for the same time period 114 children died as a result of abuse or neglect, a fatality rate of 2.58 per 100,000 children.

Data from the NYS OCFS Data Warehouse shows that Chautauqua County falls into the higher range in terms of the percentage of children that were alleged victims of a report of child abuse/maltreatment during calendar year 2011, expressed as a percent of total child population for the county. Selected counties from that report are as follows:

Rank	County	Distribution of Scores (median 8%)
1	Rockland	2.0%
46	Cattaraugus	9.1%
47	Chautauqua	9.3%
57	Oswego	10.8%
59	Fulton	11.3%

Source: NYS OCFS Data Warehouse

The Kwik County report reveals that indicated reports of child abuse/maltreatment in Chautauqua County are declining from 947 children and a rate of 30.1 in 2004 to 797 children and a rate of 21.8 in 2011. However, the current rate is still above the NYS 2011 rate of 16.9.

FOSTER CARE

Foster care is the term used for a system in which a child (minor) has been placed under the protection of a legal guardian and placed in an institution, group or private home. In Chautauqua County, this placement is the responsibility of the County Department of Social Services.

The KWIC report shows an increase in the number of children admitted to Foster care, but the rate has declined slightly. In 2005 there were 76 children and a rate of 2.4, while 2011 figures indicate 83 children and a rate of 2.3 entered foster care.

Additionally, the same KWIC report shows a decline in both the rate and number of children in foster care: 2005 number 143 with a rate of 3.5 and 2011 number 100 and a rate of 2.2. The current rate is well below the 2011 NYS rate of 3.8.

In 2011, 26 children and youth were discharged from foster care to adoption with a rate of 61.9 which is considerably higher than the NYS 2011 rate of 47.5.

FAMILY COURT

Family Court handles most legal matters which affect families and children. According to statistics received from CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates, the following family offense petitions were filed and brought in front of the Court:

Petitions	2010	2011	2012
Neglect	310	310	366
Abuse	8	8	40
Termination of Parental Rights	41	47	27
Surrenders	22	43	18
Adoptions	42	43	18
Family Offense	426	182	237
Custody Visitation	2987	3195	3085

JUVENILE ARRESTS/CRIMINAL ACTIVITY 2007 – CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

Crimes committed by juveniles are a predictor of future criminality in adulthood. At least 30% of adults serving felony terms in prison were incarcerated as juveniles, according to a study released in 2004 by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse. The same study found that drugs and alcohol were common factors in the characteristics of arrest rates for juveniles.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY JUVENILE ARRESTS/CRIMINAL ACTIVITY 2007 - 2011

Year	Total	Index Total	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Agg Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MV Theft
2007	401	124	1	4	22	14	81	2
2008	337	116	1	8	13	15	72	7
2009	202	77	1	1	4	17	50	4
2010	295	2	1	1	8	24	79	9
2011	215	93	1	2	14	21	53	2

Source: <http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/juvenilearrests/>

The KWIC report shows a decline in rate and number of youth 16-21 arrested for Driving While Intoxicated. In 2004 there were 133 arrests and a rate of 101.2 youth, and in 2011 the number of arrests dropped to 95 for a rate of 73.4. However, that lower rate is more than two times the NYS rate of 32.2.

It is estimated that crime costs \$1.7 trillion dollars each year in America.

http://www2.davidson.edu/news/news_archives/archives99/9910_anderson.html

VIOLENT AND PROPERTY CRIMES

Property crime includes a range of offenses including burglary, larceny, fraud, embezzlement, forgery, motor vehicle theft and arson. These are crimes against property, not individuals and constitute the majority of crimes committed.

COUNTY INDEX CRIME COUNTS AND RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION – Selected Counties

County	2010 Population	Index Crime Count	Index Crime Rate	Violent Crime Count	Violent Crime Rate	Property Crime Count	Property Crime Rate
Allegany	48,531	835	1,720.5	89	183.4	746	1537.2
Broome	191,892	6,205	3,233.6	499	260.0	5706	2,973.5
Cattaraugus	76,602	2,003	2,614.8	181	236.3	1,822	2,378.5
Chautauqua	131,411	3,863	2,939.6	312	237.4	3,551	2,702.2
Erie	895,158	32,561	3637.5	4,528	505.8	28,033	3,131.6
Oswego	119,906	3,287	2,741.3	189	157.6	3,098	2,583.7
New York	1,618,207	51,297	3,170	8,829	545.6	42,468	2,624.4

Source: <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/Chautauqua.pdf>
<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/2010-county-index-rates.pdf>

INDEX CRIMES REPORTED TO POLICE IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY: 2007 -2012

Year	Violent Total	Murder	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Agg Assault	Property Total	Burglary	Larceny	MV Theft
2007	341	1	50	48	242	3,464	818	2,541	105
2008	320	6	39	55	220	3,414	836	2,490	88
2009	256	2	34	45	174	3,341	667	2,613	61
2010	312	2	42	65	203	3,552	828	2,639	85
2011	301	1	34	64	202	3,381	862	2,432	87
2012	305	2	27	60	216	3,525	814	2,626	85

Source: <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/Chautauqua.pdf>

It appears that 2009 was a year when all crime dropped, but since has gradually risen except for forcible rape.

ELDER ABUSE/FRAUD

While statistics on elder abuse in Chautauqua County were not readily available, extrapolating from state data we might conclude that as many as 4300 Chautauqua County residents 60+ may have experienced an elder abuse event. According to *Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study SELF-REPORTED PREVALENCE AND DOCUMENTED CASE SURVEYS FINAL REPORT May 2011*, there were several major findings including:

- The findings of the study point to a dramatic gap between the rate of elder abuse events reported by older New Yorkers and the number of cases referred to and served in the formal elder abuse service system.
- Overall the study found an elder abuse incidence rate in New York State that was nearly 24 times greater than the number of cases referred to social service, law enforcement or legal authorities who have the capacity as well as the responsibility to assist older adult victims.
- Psychological abuse was the most common form of mistreatment reported by agencies providing data on elder abuse victims in the Documented Case Study. This finding stands in contrast to the results of the Self-Reported Study in which financial exploitation was the most prevalent form of mistreatment reported by respondents as having taken place in the year preceding the survey.
- Applying the incidence rate estimated by the study to the general population of older New Yorkers, an estimated 260,000 older adults in the state had been victims of at least one form of elder abuse in the preceding year (a span of 12 months between 2008-2009).

The report goes on to exercise caution in interpreting the large gap between prevalence reported directly by older adults and the number of cases served. The inability of some service systems and individual programs to report on their involvement in elder abuse cases may have affected the final tally of documented cases. As a result, an undetermined number of cases may not be accounted for from agencies and programs that could not access some data about elder abuse victims served. However, the study received comprehensive data from the largest programs serving elder abuse victims: Adult Protective Services, law enforcement and community-based elder abuse programs.

**RATES OF ELDER ABUSE IN NEW YORK STATE:
Comparison of Self-Reported One-Year Incidence and Documented Case Data**

	Documented Rate Per 1000	Self-reported Rate Per 1000	Ratio of Self-Reported to Documented
New York State - All Forms of Abuse	3.24	76	23.5
Financial	.96	42.1	43.9
Physical and Sexual	1.13*	22.4*	19.8
Neglect	.32	18.3	57.2
Emotional	1.37	16.4	12.0

* The documented Case rate includes physical abuse cases only. Physical and sexual abuse data were combined in the Self-Reported Study. The sexual abuse rate for the Documented Case Study was 0.03 per 1000.

SELF-REPORTED PREVALENCE STUDY

Major findings of the Self-Reported Study include:

- **A total one-year incidence rate of 76 per 1,000 older residents** of New York State for any form of elder abuse was found.
- The cumulative prevalence of any form of **non-financial elder mistreatment was 46.2 per thousand subjects studied** in the year preceding the survey.
- The highest rate of mistreatment occurred for **major financial exploitation** (theft of money or property, using items without permission, impersonation to get access, forcing or misleading to get items such as money, bank cards, accounts, power of attorney) with **a rate of 41 per 1,000 surveyed**.
- This rate reflects respondent reports of financial abuse that occurred in the year preceding the survey.
- The study also found that **141 out of 1,000 older New Yorkers have experienced an elder abuse event since turning age 60**.

This report was prepared by: Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc., Weill Cornell Medical Center of Cornell University and the New York City Department for the Aging

DISASTER RESPONSE

When tragedy strikes, how responsive is the community? According to data from the American Red Cross of Southwestern New York, their mission is to support the entire “disaster cycle” – preparedness, response and recovery. In FY 2010, the Red Cross responded to 27 disasters (primarily house fires) and served 142 people. In 2011 and 2012, the number of disasters almost doubled to 52 each year with services provided to 201 people in 2011 and 204 people in 68 families in 2012.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- Violence continues to be an issue which women experience. Many women do not report these crimes, so the magnitude of the issue may be understated.
- Chautauqua County falls into the higher range of counties in terms of the percentage of children who were alleged victims of a report of child abuse or maltreatment.
- There has been a decline in both the rate and number of children in foster care.
- Family court appears to have an increasingly full docket of petitions affecting children and families.
- Juvenile arrests for crime and DUI are declining.
- Chautauqua County Violent Crime Rate is higher than Cattaraugus and Oswego Counties but less than half of Erie and New York County.
- Elder abuse may go unreported.

SECTION SIX COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

While there is not a precise measure to gauge community involvement, there are a number of indicators from voting levels, to volunteerism, to support for community programs and services that paint a picture of how committed residents are to strengthening and supporting their community.

VOTER PARTICIPATION

One of the basic rights for American citizens 18 years or older is the right to cast a ballot in local, state and national elections. Voting is considered to be an indicator of community connectedness as voters take the time to vote for or against candidates for office and other ballot initiatives. It is the highest order of citizen involvement/participation.

According to figures from the Chautauqua County Board of Elections, the current (2013) voter registration for the county is 87,203 with 45,973 women registered and 41,230 men. Democratic registrants total 30,197 and Republican registrants total 28,258. The next highest voter registrations are No Party at 19,572 total. These are individuals who do not choose to affiliate with any political party. Younger voters 18-21 register No Party in higher numbers than those who affiliate with either major party. Younger voters do not participate at the same level as more mature individuals with only about 20% of under 40 voters casting a ballot, while approximately 75% of those above 40 vote.

Year	Number of Votes Cast
2000	59,282
2004	61,243
2008	60,087
2012	53,183

In the 2012 Presidential election 53,183 votes were cast in Chautauqua County resulting in a 61% voter turn out rate which was above the national rate of 58.9% of eligible voters. It should be noted however that the number of voters in Chautauqua County peaked in the 2004 election and is declining.

Source: Chautauqua County Board of Elections webpage

SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

2008	\$1,370,000
2009	\$1,350,000
2010	\$1,320,000
2011	\$1,313,000
2012	\$1,321,979

Another indicator of community engagement is the level of support of United Way campaigns. Figures from the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County campaigns over the last five years show a percentage decrease of 3.50% in the amount raised to support community-wide programs and services. The United Way campaign committee bases the yearly goal on the current economic climate and takes into account factory closings, as well as new businesses. The decreased campaign goals reflect that thinking. The United Way prides itself on the money raised locally

being spent locally with only 10% spent on fundraising.

LIBRARY USAGE

There are 24 libraries in Chautauqua County and as the statistics below indicate, county residents avail themselves of these community resources. With more than 94,000 borrowers, approximately 70% of county residents are library users. The circulation would be equivalent to every county resident borrowing 9 books or movies per year. Additionally, most libraries provide computers and Internet access, which many county residents do not have in their homes.

STATISTICS FOR CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY January- December 2012

Library	Circulation	Circulation Other Materials	# Of Borrowers	# Of Visits Visits	# of Reference Questions	Hours Open	Minimum Hours
Ashville	13,459	4,491	868	7,268	4,218	49	25
Bemus Point	5,326	919	358	9,246	1,049	39	12
Brocton	10,257	3,555	2,503	8,863	1,219	35	35
Busti	12,711	4,292	451	6,437	914	38	25
Chautauqua	28,241	11,766	9,747	68,856	2,835	29	20
Clymer	15,032	2,060	557	5,303	448	20	20
Dunkirk	36,078	5,993	3,505	63,308	2,611	48	35
Ellington	7,762	4,022	354	6,286	2,063	34	20
Falconer	196,781	94,261	11,243	71,001	13,512	52	25
Findley Lake	4,055	887	283	2,666	968	20	20
Fluvanna	10,625	2,152	471	9,384	1,038	48	25
Fredonia	92,497	31,500	6,215	64,808	5,026	54	35
Frewsburg	15,358	5,096	712	11,504	4,580	33	25
Jamestown	565,888	437,478	41,632	194,121	26,673	70.5	55
Kennedy	10,702	4,599	420	5,225	637	29	20
Lakewood	34,678	13,196	952	19,810	6,862	43	35
Mayville	21,927	7,964	1,312	17,663	3,165	43	25
Ripley	5,997	1,966	323	10,042	862	38	25
Sherman	8,231	2,711	1,521	2,783	67	22	20
Silver Creek	28,385	9,680	3,462	21,328	3,140	35	35
Sinclairville	16,937	6,715	754	11,490	979	25	20
Stockton	14,872	5,370	1,665	6,092	3,152	35	20
Westfield	51,850	21,559	4,448	39,132	3,784	54	35
Total	1,207,649	682,232	93,756	662,616	89,802	893.5	612
Outreach	5,214	520	300	0	243		
Grand Total	1,212,863	682,752	94,056	662,616	90,045	42.81%	

Libraries are in a state of transition and are repositioning themselves as community centers and places to connect.

DIGITAL DIVIDE

In 2012 JPLA reported an average of 81 daily computer users at the library with a total number of public internet uses for 2012 of 26,602.

VOLUNTEERISM

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, one in four Americans (26.5%) volunteer on a regular basis. About 64.5 million Americans volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2011 and September 2012. Women continue to volunteer at a higher rate (29.5%) than men (23.2%) across all age groups, educational levels, and other major demographic characteristics.

For a complete copy of the volunteer statistics go to <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm>

Volunteer statistics for Chautauqua County are not readily available but news articles regarding volunteer recognition for organizations such as RSVP, the hospitals, youth serving agencies, etc., would indicate there are numerous opportunities for all ages to be involved in giving back to their community. Out of the 18 school districts, 6 mandate community service, 10 recommend it and 2 have no requirements.

There are 42 fire departments in Chautauqua County with approximately 2,200 volunteers.

There are over 130 nonprofit organizations in Chautauqua County and each is governed by a volunteer board of directors. It is estimated that in any community, it is 5% of the population who serve on boards and make decisions for the other 95% of the community.

CHAUTAUQUA LEADERSHIP NETWORK(CLN)

Since 1993 CLN has trained over 400 regional leaders through their structured program focused on improving the community, enhancing personal leadership skills and expanding professional and personal networks in an effort to help Chautauqua county meet the challenges of today and the opportunities of tomorrow.

SOCIAL CAPITAL

According to the Chautauqua County Comprehensive Plan 2011, *The County has a strong “social infrastructure” of organizations and volunteer group engaged in activities to benefit the community. Collectively, these organizations are a major resource but face challenges for the future.* These challenges center around the age of the leadership and the limited involvement of younger residents.

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Chautauqua County is fortunate in that earlier residents who accumulated wealth chose to establish foundations for the benefit of the community. There are 10 local foundations including both a south county and north community foundation. In 2010, these local foundations invested \$9,170,876 with 31% of those funds going to public/society benefit organizations, 28% to education, 17% to human services, 12% to health, 8% to arts, culture and humanities and 1% to religious organizations.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- There are a growing number of individuals in Chautauqua County who choose not to affiliate with a political party. This has implications for the future of the major political parties.
- Older Chautauqua County residents are more likely to vote than younger ones. Is lack of civic engagement by younger residents an indicator of disengagement?
- United Way workplace participation in campaigns has been impacted by the economic downturn and plant closings.
- The library system throughout the county is an important community asset and helps to minimize the digital divide by providing computer and Internet access to all for free.
- Volunteer levels are high but there is some question about future leadership.
- **What else???**

APPENDIX ONE

HEALTH RESOURCES

Community Health Assessment – Chautauqua County 2010-2013

http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us/departments/health/Documents/Chautauqua%20CHA_2010-2013_final.pdf

Physician Recruitment in Chautauqua County – Challenges and Opportunities/2009

http://www.cchn.net/Portals/4/CCHN_PhysRecruitment_web.pdf

Long Term Care Council of Chautauqua County – Strategic Plan

<http://chautauqua.ny.us/departments/ofa/Documents/Strategic%20planning/Final%20Strategic%20Planning%20Document.pdf>

Chautauqua County Health Network

<http://www.cchn.net/>

Chautauqua County Health Department

www.co.chautauqua.ny.us/departments/health/Pages/default.aspx

Health United States, 2011

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/hus11.pdf#081>

Community Needs Assessment – 2011 – Chautauqua Opportunities Incorporated

<http://www.nyscaaonline.org/%5CBestPracFiles%5C2011CommunityNeedsAssessment.pdf>

Healthy People 2020

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/healthy_people/hp2020.htm

www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks are extended to: United Way Community Building Committee and the following community organization representatives who were very generous with their time and expertise:

Maureen Abbott	Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.
Ann Abdella	CC Health Network
Bree Agett	CC Department of Health and Human Services
Elizabeth Bracey	Jamestown Police Department Project Crossroads
Marie Carrubba	Southwestern Independent Living Centers
Bobbie Caswell	James Prendergast Library System
Mark Deas	CC Legislature Analyst
Julie Franco	Chautauqua Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council
Nelson Garifi	Jamestown Community College
Mark Geise	CC Department of Planning
Jessica Golley	Jamestown Business College
Norman Green	CC Election Commissioner
Carol Hay	Retired School Superintendent
Joseph Gerace	Chautauqua County Sheriff
Marge Lundquist	Department of Health and Human Services
Don McCord	CC Department of Planning
Jana McDermott	Child Advocacy Project
Rachel Mesmer Ludwig	CC Office Mental Hygiene/Tapestry Project
Andrew Nixon	CC Visitor's Bureau
Cathy Park	Court Appointed Special Advocates
Karl Sisson	WCA Hospital
Bonnie Sleigh	Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.
John Slinker	NYS Department of Labor
Mary Ann Spanos	CC Office for the Aging
Eric Stronz	Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.
Linda Swanson	Sheldon Foundation



United Way of Southern Chautauqua County
413 North Main Street | Jamestown, NY 14701 | 716 483-1561 | www.uwayscc.org