



2021
edition



Community NEEDS Assessment



A report of conditions, trends, and human service priorities impacting the critical needs of the people of Adams County.



United Way
of Adams County, IL

www.unitedwayadamsco.org

Table of Contents

- History, Process & Team3
- Executive Summary4-5
- How to Use this Assessment6
- Community Snapshot7-8
- Data Index9
 - Financial Stability10-24
 - Education25-31
 - Health32-58
 - Multi-Sector59-65
 - COVID-19 Special Section66-67
 - Key Informant Survey Results68-80
 - Two-Question Community Themes Survey Results81-83
- Community Resource Guide84
- Margin of Error and Data Collection Methodology85

History, Process & Team

In 2001, United Way of Adams County, University of Illinois Extension, and Adams County Health Department joined together to conduct a Community Assessment for Adams County, Illinois. With the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) in 2010, Blessing Health System joined the collaboration, taking an active role in the community building effort.

In 2021, the United Way of Adams County applied for and received an R3 – Restore. Reinvest. Renew. Assessment and Planning Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. The purpose of the Assessment and Planning grant is to support community organizations to assess community needs and develop a plan for delivery of economic development, violence prevention, re-entry, youth development, and civil legal aid services. This Adams County Community Assessment is the first step in developing a plan to address community concerns and needs.

The process for the Adams County Community Assessment includes the collection and analysis of primary and secondary data. Both public and private organizations including government agencies, faith-based organizations, educational systems, nonprofits, and health and human service entities, as well as the general public, contributed to the process and data.

Community Building Council

Co-Chairs:

Julie Shepard, Blessing Health System

Ellen Vonderheide, Adams County Health Department

Members:

Brent Babyak, Phibro Animal Health

Barb Baker-Chapin, Transitions

Megan Duesterhaus, Quanada

Matt Bergman, Quincy University

Kelle Bunch, Liberty Schools

Maria Rench, YWCA

Jim Chamberlain, YMCA

Richard Elsenpeter, Tri-State Veterans Support

Diane Hughes, SIU Medicine

Terry Jenkins, Tracy Family Foundation

Dr. Laurel Klinkenberg, John Wood Community College

Curtis Sethalar, Quincy Young Life

Heath Richmond, Community Foundation

Dr. Irshad Siddiqui, Blessing Health System

Blanche Shoup, Workforce Office of Western Illinois

Quincy Area Chamber of Commerce

Sharon Tweedell, The Moorman Foundation and

J.W. Gardner II Foundation

Roy Webb, Quincy Public Schools

Kelly Vandermaiden, Quincy Police Department

Kyle Moore, Great River Economic Development Foundation

Mayor Michael Troup, City of Quincy

Tim White, Trinity United Church of Christ

Tegan Orpet, KHQA-TV

Jerry Gille, Quincy Housing Authority



United Way
of Adams County, IL

Jeremy Wingerter, Executive Director

Maureen Klues,

Director of Community Impact and Investment

Adam Duesterhaus,

Director of Development and Communications

Jenna Hull, Director of Programs and Services

Amanda Goings, Director of Administration

Jessica McCabe, Administrative Assistant

Consultant Team



Maggie Strong, MBA, Principal Consultant & Project Lead

Madison Kim, Project Assistant

Survey Analysis: Blessing Corporate Services
Department of Data Analytics

Zayn Hashmi, Data Scientist

Anup Kumar Mishra, Ph.D., Data Scientist

Executive Summary

Why We Did This

Adams County has been conducting a community assessment for 20 years. This year, the United Way of Adams County, Blessing Health System, Adams County Health Department, and their partners opted to dig deeper to paint a more robust picture of Adams County, and provide a foundation for problem identification and solving on behalf of the community.

The survey instrument was overhauled and an effort was launched to get a more diverse representation of the community. We were able to secure feedback from 861 respondents via two survey instruments. Respondents from the surveys were 93 percent white or Caucasian, 55 percent female, and the ratio of Quincy to rural Adams County residents was around 80/20. These demographics generally match the demographics of the Adams county region. We continue to observe a limitation in the data without appropriate representation from communities with lower-socioeconomic status. Included in the survey results were the results of in-depth interviews with 33 key stakeholders on the front lines of community health and social service. These informed stakeholders shared candidly their challenges, and opportunities they see for growth. While responses varied, one overwhelming theme throughout all of the interviews was **an innate hope and optimism** by practitioners in direct service of our community in areas such as social services, health, education and safety.

This work began in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of the pandemic came up in every interview and nearly every response. Secondary data presented in this report is the most current available, but almost all of the secondary data predates the pandemic which hit the community in March of 2020. As we await new data showing just how deep the impact of the pandemic has been on our community, emerging research indicates the pandemic will only exacerbate the community's greatest challenges.

Why It Matters

It is critical that Adams County have reliable data to help identify the problems most detrimental to our community. Through a combination of primary and secondary data, we can highlight and isolate areas that need immediate attention and further study. We can also identify and leverage our strengths in the community. In addition to informing county-wide priorities, this assessment serves as a resource for program, grant and, partnership development.

What We Know

This assessment brought a few major challenges and threats to the Adams County community to the surface. Over 50 percent of survey respondents reported the overall health of Adams County residents had declined in the past 10 years.

It is important to view this data through the lens of our changing demographics. The population of Adams County has decreased by 2.5 percent since 2010. At the same time, the number of residents age 65 years and older has increased by 2.8 percent while the working age population of 25 to 34-years old has remained relatively unchanged. Going forward, the lack of population growth and aging population could limit the potential for economic growth and affect the general health of the community.

The top challenges/concerns our community is facing in the realm of community health include:

- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Physical Inactivity
- Covid-19 Pandemic

Executive Summary (continued)

What We Know

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) is defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion as the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning and quality of life outcomes and risks. Adams County survey respondents identified the following SDOH as one of their top three most critical issues facing Adams County residents:

- Economic Insecurity
- Lack of access to healthy foods/lack of nutritional education
- Lack of safe, affordable housing
- Poverty
- Aging Infrastructure
- Inequality
- Transportation

Extensive secondary data is found in this report to underscore these concerns, and in some areas additional study is needed.

While the community health challenges identified in this assessment are daunting and at times, worrying, we want to stress the overall optimism we witnessed among our community leaders and residents. We heard from many stakeholders how important the parks system and in particular, the Bill Klingner Trail, has been for improving quality of life and encouraging physical activity among residents. 60,499 people used the Trail between May and September of 2021 according to data from the Quincy Park District trail counter.

The assessment highlighted some important strengths Adams County should continue to leverage and build upon, including:

- Social Service Agencies
- Parks and Trails
- Public and Private School Systems
- Ongoing Collaboration, Planning and Development Efforts
- Regional Healthcare Hub

What's Next

The United Way of Adams County, Blessing Health System, and Adams County Health Department, along with their partners, will continue to engage the broader community to build upon our community's strengths, address our challenges, and develop a plan to improve outcomes. The information in this assessment will be used to inform a Compression Planning session in October of 2021 where community leaders and frontline workers in education, social services, and health will come together and identify priorities and key strategies for each priority. The assessment and resulting plan will be the first steps toward the development of shared goals and community-wide initiatives that support the health and well-being of all Adams County residents.

How to Use This Assessment

This Assessment is intended to inform a plan to address the concerns, needs and opportunities for future growth of Adams County. With quality data, both primary and secondary, we can clearly communicate our needs to potential funders and build programs that will address our unique concerns and opportunities.

Secondary data collected and presented in this Assessment includes demographic, physical health, mental health, social, and economic information available from local, county, state, and federal primary sources. The secondary data profile allows us to look at health and social issues on a broader scale and in a larger context.

- Health indicators on a local, state, and national level
- Data trends
- Comparisons among county, state, and national data

Primary Data collected and presented in this Assessment includes survey results from community members and key informants. This data gives us an accurate view of the unique challenges our Adams County community is facing as well as opportunities for growth. We also used this data to understand community sentiments and develop themes.

- 861 total survey participants
- 535 2-Question Community Themes Survey Responses
- 36 Key Informant Interviews
- 290 Key Informant Survey Responses
- 64% Response Rate to Key Informant Survey and Interviews
- Key Informants were identified with the help of the Community Building Council and include representatives from community sectors such as government, social service, churches/faith, healthcare, business, education, and nonprofit organizations.

The accompanying **Adams County Community Resource Guide** is a comprehensive searchable database of providers serving the Adams County area. This guide is intended to be a reference for local service providers.

2021

Adams County, Illinois Community Snapshot



65,435



2019 Population

Adams County's population has declined slightly since 2010. Going forward, this lack of population growth could limit the potential for economic growth and the general health of the community.

51.5% Female
48.5% Male

Age Distribution

0-9 years	8,394	12.8%
10 to 19 years	7,208	11.0%
20 to 24 years	3,687	5.6%
25 to 34 years	7,879	12.0%
35 to 44 years	8,160	12.5%
45 to 54 years	7,419	11.3%
55 to 59 years	4,208	6.4%
60 to 64 years	5,168	7.9%
65+	13,312	20.3%

The population is aging. 20% of residents are aged 65 years or older while only 12% are in the early workforce group of 25 to 34 year-olds.

RACE	92.8% White
	3.9% Black or African American
	2.1% Two or more races
	1.2% Other Hispanic or Latino, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native

ETHNICITY
91.4% Not Hispanic or Latino

41.7

Median Age

Population Trend



Educational attainment in Adams County is skewed, with a relatively high percentage of residents with associates degrees or some college, but a relatively low percentage with a college degree or higher (as compared to the nation).

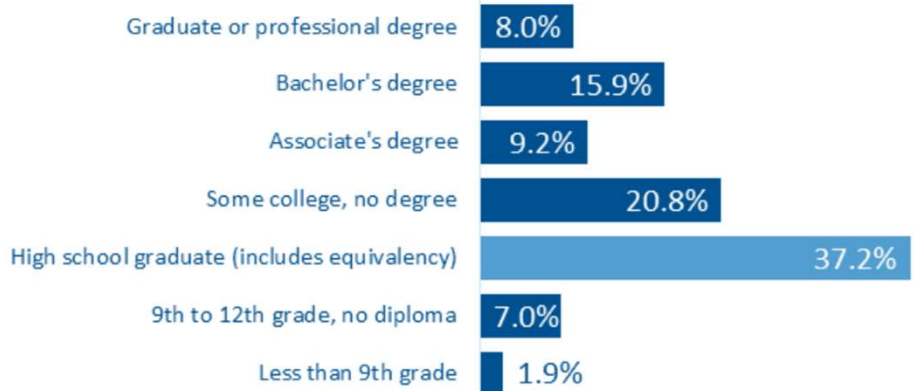
In 2019, colleges and universities in Adams County awarded 853 degrees: John Wood Community College (465), Quincy University (256), and Blessing Rieman College of Nursing and Health Sciences (98).

2.34 Average Household Size

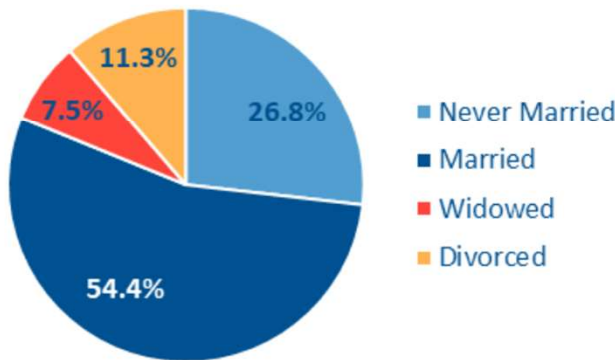
Educational Attainment (Population 25+)

91.1% High School Graduate or higher (94% U.S. rate)

23.9% Bachelor's Degree or higher (39% U.S. rate)



Population (15+) by Marital Status



\$135,673 Median Home Value

30,253 Total Housing Units

67.8% of Adams County residents own their own home according to 2021 estimates while 25.5% rent. The homeownership rate is higher than the national average which currently sits at 65.6%. 68.9% of housing units are in urban clusters while 31.1% are rural.

Businesses & Jobs

The most common employment sectors for those who live in Adams County are Health Care/Social Assistance, Retail, and Manufacturing.

34,082 Labor Force

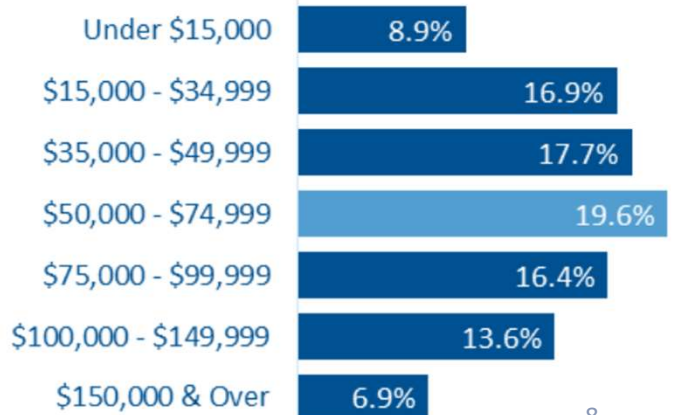
25.1% Blue Collar

74.9% White Collar & Services

2,492 Total Businesses

Households by Income

\$56,145 Median Household Income



Financial Stability

INCOME AND POVERTY

- ALICE – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed
- Income
- Adams County Living Costs Estimates
- Poverty
- Seniors in Poverty
- Children in Poverty
- Low Income Students in District
- Wealth Index
- Social Vulnerability Index

EMPLOYMENT

- Unemployment
- Labor Force
- Employment by Industry
- Underemployment

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

- Housing Overview
- Low Income Housing
- Severe Housing Problems

CHILDCARE & CHILDREN

- Cost of Child Care
- Child Care Need Survey
- Children in Single-Parent Households

TRANSPORTATION

- Urban – Quincy
- Rural – Adams County

Education

Dropout Rate

Truancy Rate

High School Graduation Rate

9th Grade on Track

Third Grade Proficiency: Math

Students Proficient on Illinois Science Assessment

Third Grade Proficiency: Language

Quincy Public Library

Multi-Sector Issues

FOOD INSECURITY & ENVIRONMENT

- Food Insecurity
- Economic Drivers of Food Insecurity
- Food Environment Index
- Child Nutrition
- SNAP Benefits

CRIME & SAFETY

- Offenses Known to Law Enforcement
- Violent Crime Reported
- Juvenile Detention

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

- Child Abuse and Neglect Trends
- Maltreatment of Children
- Child Abuse and Neglect Stats
- Children in Substitute Care

Health

Poor Physical Health Days

Life Expectancy

Premature Death

Leading Causes of Death Under Age 75

Causes of Death

CHRONIC DISEASE

- Preventable Hospital Stays
- Hospital Readmissions
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- High Cholesterol
- Hypertension/High Blood Pressure
- Heart Disease
- Stroke
- Cognitive Decline
- Tobacco & E-Cigarettes
- Cancer
- Mammography Screening
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- HIV
- Physical Inactivity
- Quincy Park District

ENVIRONMENT

- Lead Poisoning
- Drinking Water Violation
- Air Pollution

MOTHERS, INFANTS & CHILDREN

- Births
- Prenatal Care Utilization
- Preterm Births
- Low Birthweight
- Infant Mortality Rates
- Births to Teen Mothers
- Child Immunizations

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – Substance Abuse

- Alcohol Use
- Drug Overdose Deaths
- Opioid Abuse
- Methamphetamine Use
- Gambling Disorder
- Substance Use – Youth
- Facts and Stats about Addiction

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – Mental Health

- Mental Health and Emergency Department Visits
- Poor Mental Health Days
- Frequent Mental Distress
- Mental Health Providers
- Depression Among Youth
- Bullying
- Child Mental Health Services
- Facts and Stats about Mental Health
- Suicide

UNINSURED/UNDERINSURED

- Health Care Cost, Coverage and Utilization

DENTAL CARE



FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERVIEW

Poverty

In Adams County, nearly 1 out of 3 households fall below both the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and ALICE threshold. ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed and means that even though a family of four may make more than \$26,500 (the 2021 FPL), they still are not able to afford basic household necessities.

In 2018, 26,397 Adams County households were forced to make difficult choices like paying their rent or electric bill, or purchasing food for their family or a prescription drug.

Lack of financial stability puts our children and their futures at risk. 18.3 percent of Adams County children under the age of 18 lived in poverty in 2019 which is higher than the previous four years and higher than the child poverty rate in both Illinois (15.6 percent) and the U.S. (16.8 percent).

According to research provided by the American Psychological Association, poverty is linked with negative conditions such as substandard housing, homelessness, inadequate nutrition and food insecurity, and under-resourced schools. Poor children and teens are at greater risk for several negative outcomes such as poor academic achievement, school dropout, abuse and neglect, behavioral and socioemotional problems, physical health problems, and developmental delays.

Employment

The Labor Force in Adams County has steadily declined from 34,827 in 2010 to 32,309 in 2019 following labor force participation rates in Illinois which have fallen steadily over the past few decades. The workforce shortage that is occurring on a national scale is playing out in Adams County. In a 2021 report titled *The Demographic Drought*, by the Economic Modeling firm, Emsi, we see that Baby Boomers are exiting the labor force faster than ever and they aren't being replaced due in part to a decades-long declining birth rate. According to QuincysCalling.com and data from the jobs site, Indeed, over 700 jobs are currently available in the City of Quincy alone.

While additional study at the local level is necessary to paint a fuller picture, one in every ten workers in the U.S. labor market were underemployed part-time workers according to analysis of 2016 data by the Center for Law and Social Policy. Underemployment suppresses income which contributes to poverty. More research is needed to determine the underemployment rate in Adams County. Our current unemployment rate is 4 percent (July 2021) while the Illinois unemployment rate is 7 percent.

According to the Healthy People 2030 initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, people with steady employment are less likely to live in poverty and more likely to be healthy, but many people have trouble finding and keeping a job.

Housing

Housing is a fundamental need, yet, according to a 2016 analysis of affordable housing, millions of low-income renters cannot afford a place to live. Housing is connected to better health outcomes, economic mobility, employment prospects, and greater opportunities for people exiting the criminal justice system.

The lack of affordable, safe, and livable housing in Adams County was a common theme discussed by community stakeholders. Of the 3,230 households that have been deemed to have severe housing problems, 2,005 are renter occupied. Severe housing problems include incomplete kitchen or plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 persons per room, and a cost burden greater than 50 percent.

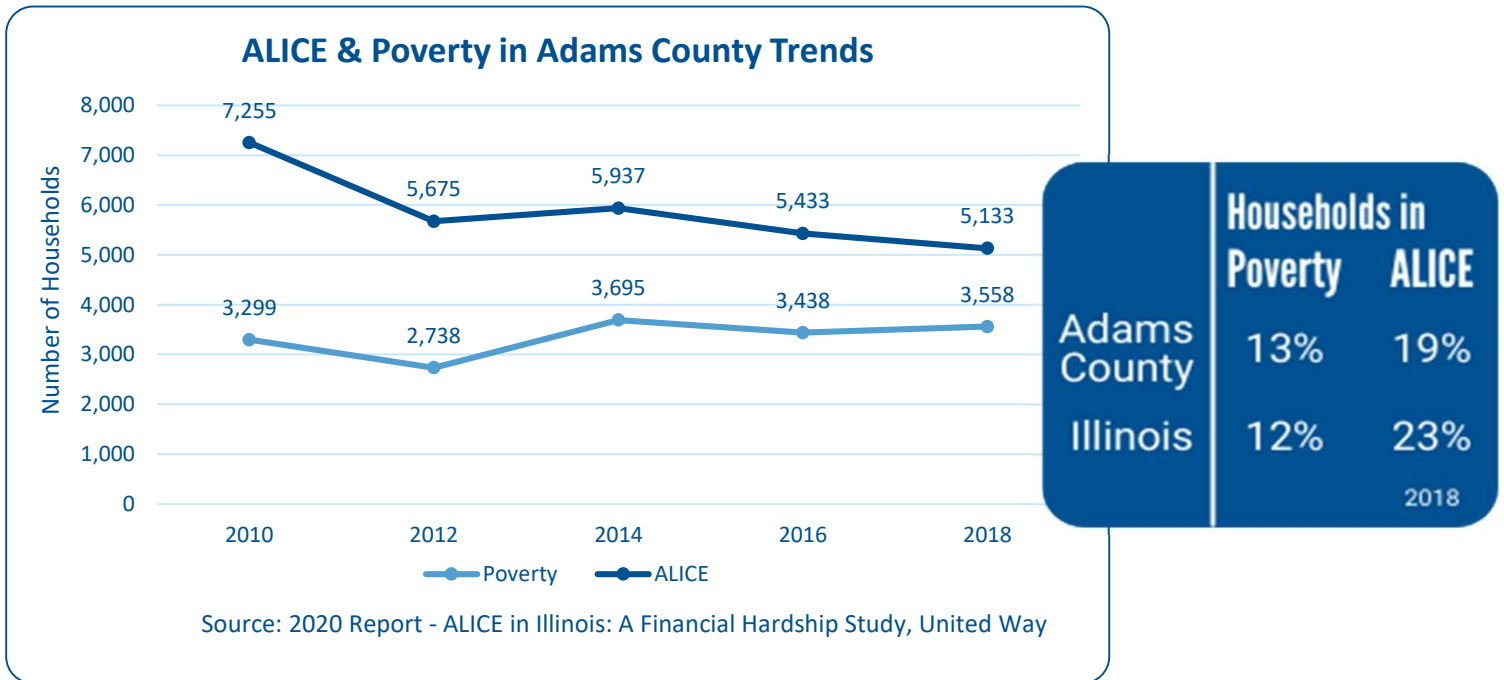
The connections between health and financial stability are well-documented. Financial capability is determined not only by an individual's knowledge, skills, and access, but by the environment in which they live, work, and learn. Through continued collaboration across sectors, breaking down siloes, and putting the voices of those impacted the most at the forefront, we can improve individual financial and physical health while also improving community health overall.



INCOME & POVERTY

ALICE – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

In 2018, of the 26,397 total households in Adams County, 32 percent were below the ALICE and poverty threshold. ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. ALICE households earn above the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford basic household necessities. The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) is a measure of income issued every year by the Department of Health and Human Services. FPLs are used to determine eligibility for certain programs and benefits. The 2021 FPL is \$12,880 for individuals. Of the 32 percent total, 13 percent of households were at the poverty threshold and 19 percent were at the ALICE threshold.



In the 2020 Report, *ALICE in Illinois: A Financial Hardship Study*, the following trends were highlighted:

- The cost of living is increasing for ALICE households.
- Worker vulnerability is increasing while wages stagnate in ALICE jobs.
- The number of ALICE households is increasing in Illinois.

Adams County Communities Below ALICE Threshold (2018)

Community	# Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Camp Point	437	39%
Clayton	305	58%
Golden	281	37%
Liberty	159	37%
Loraine	126	34%
Mendon	355	31%
Payson	411	31%
Plainville	131	42%
Quincy	17,308	43%
Ursa	255	31%

Source: 2020 Report - ALICE in Illinois: A Financial Hardship Study

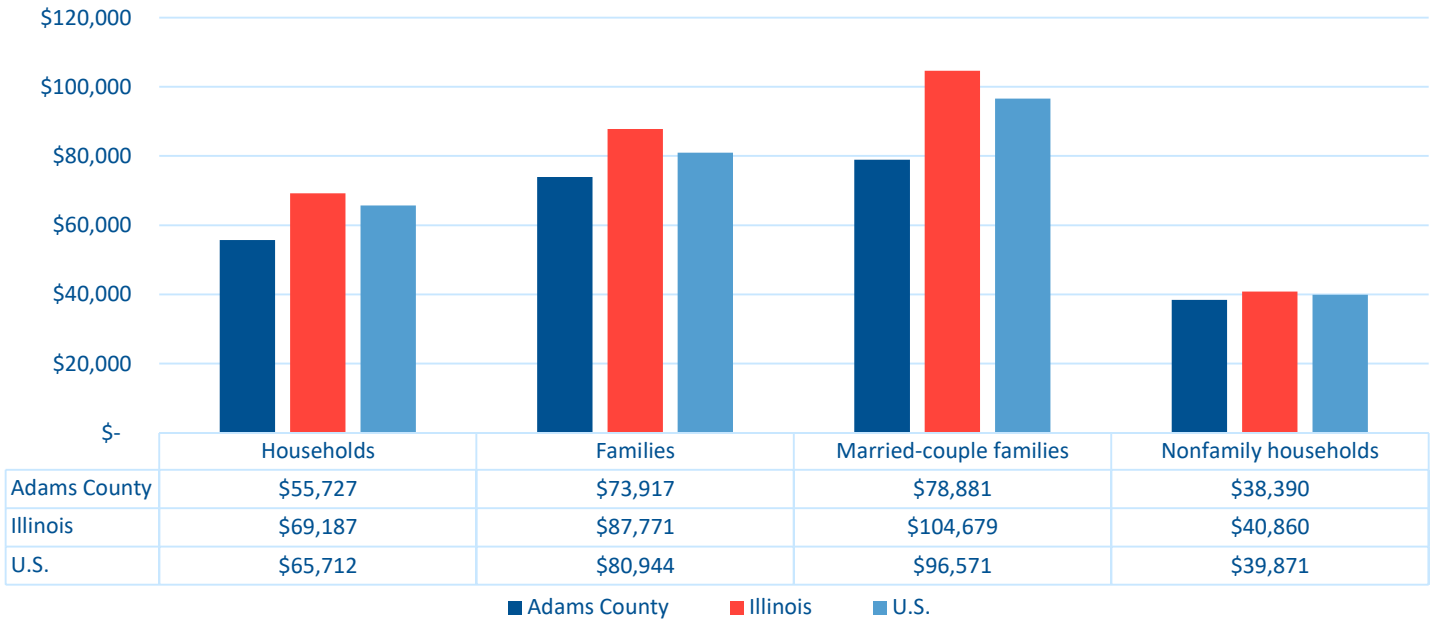


Income

With regard to income distribution, Adams County’s percentage of households earning less than \$15,000 (8.7 percent in 2019) is lower than the national average (9.8 percent). The percentage of Adams County households earning over \$100,000 (20.3 percent) is more than 10 percent lower than the national average (31.4 percent).

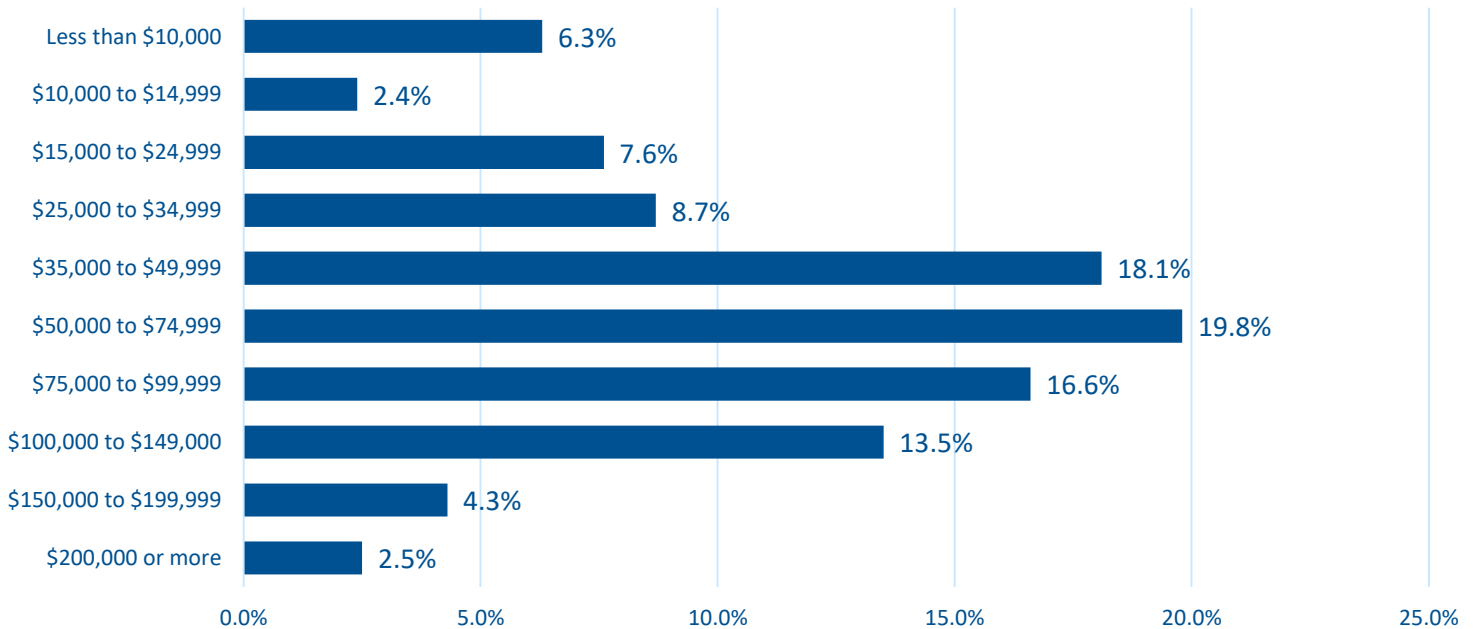
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Median Income in the Past 12 Months



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2019: ACS 1-Year Estimates

Income in the Past 12 Months - Adams County Households



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2019: ACS 1-Year Estimates



Adams County Living Costs Estimates (2019)

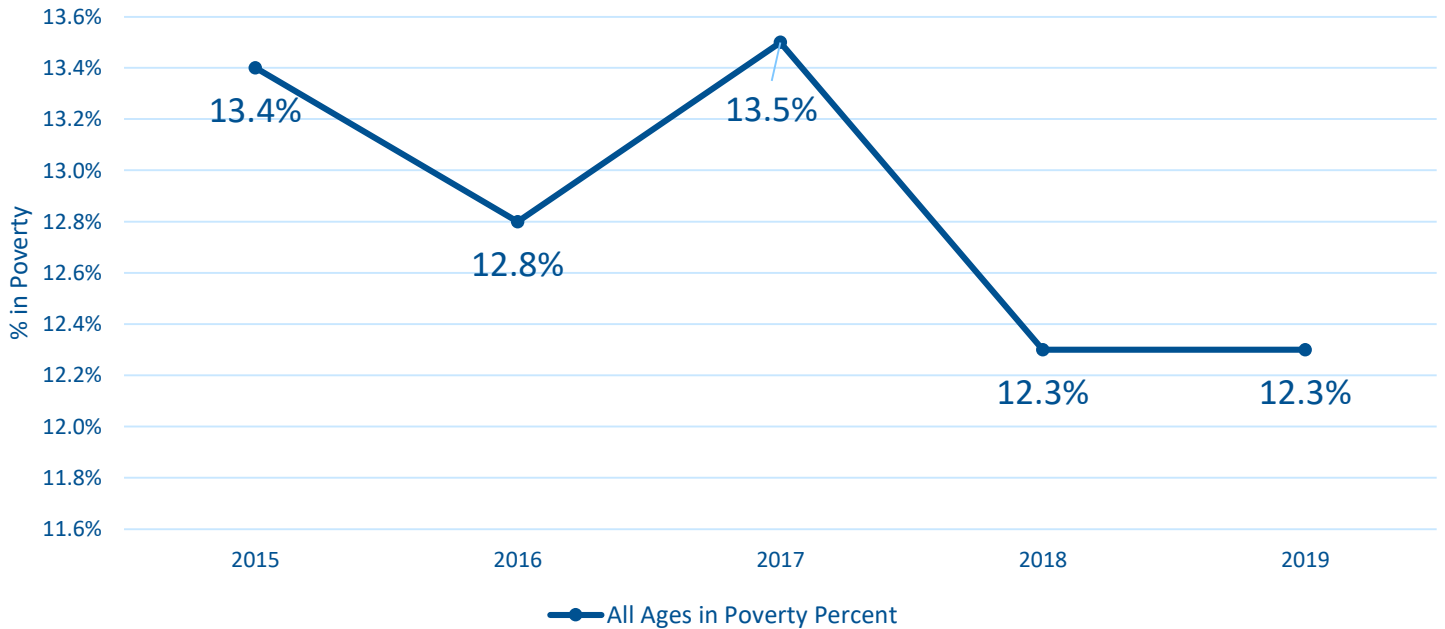
Living Costs	Adams County	Illinois	Comparison	Explanation of Data
Housing	\$670	\$1,052	Housing cost estimates in Adams County are 36.3% less expensive on average than the Illinois average.	Reflects fair market rent (shelter rent plus utilities) at the 40 th percentile for a 2-bedroom apartment.
Child Care	\$941	\$1,414	Child Care cost estimates are 35.5% less expensive than the Illinois average.	Reflects costs of center-based child care and family-based child care for one 8-year-old.
Transportation	\$1,180	\$1,110	Transportation cost estimates in Adams County are 6.3% more expensive than the Illinois average.	Reflects a combination of the costs of auto ownership, auto use, and transit use.
Health Care	\$1,384	\$1,158	Health care cost estimates are 19.5 % more expensive on average than the Illinois average.	Reflects insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs, and assumes families purchase the lowest cost health insurance exchange established under the Affordable Care Act.
Other Necessities	\$535	\$716	Reflects the cost of apparel, personal care, household supplies, reading materials, and school supplies for households in the second (from the bottom) fifth of households in the household income distribution.	Other necessities cost estimates in Adams County are 25.3% less expensive on average than the Illinois average.
Sources: Feeding America Research, Map the Meal Gap – Calculating A Household Budget with SNAP Benefits Economic Policy Institute analysis of data from: The Department of Housing and Urban Development, Child Care Aware of America, The Center for Neighborhood Technology, The Kaiser Family Foundation and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Bureau of Labor Statistics				



Poverty

7,786 residents or 12.3 percent of the Adams County population lived below the poverty line in 2019. This is compared to 12.3 percent in the U.S. and 11.4 percent in Illinois. The largest demographic living in poverty in Adams County are Females 25 - 34, followed by Females 35 - 44 and then Females 18 - 24. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimate

Adams County Poverty (All Ages) Trends



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

Seniors in Poverty

6.9 percent of seniors (65 and older) live below the poverty line in Adams County in 2019 compared to 8.6 percent in the State of Illinois and 9.4 percent in the U.S.

Seniors (65 and older) living below the Poverty Level

Adams County	6.9%
Illinois	8.6%
U.S.	9.4%

2019

Federal Poverty Guidelines

Poverty thresholds are the original version of the federal poverty measure. They are updated each year by the Census Bureau. The thresholds are used mainly for statistical purposes – for instance, preparing estimates of the number of Americans in poverty each year. **Poverty guidelines** are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services. The guidelines are a simplification of the poverty thresholds for use for administrative purposes – for instance, determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs.

Persons in family/household	2019 Poverty Guideline	2021 Poverty Guideline
1	\$12,490	\$12,880
2	\$16,910	\$17,420
3	\$21,330	\$21,960
4	\$25,750	\$26,500
5	\$30,170	\$31,040
6	\$34,590	\$35,580

Source: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

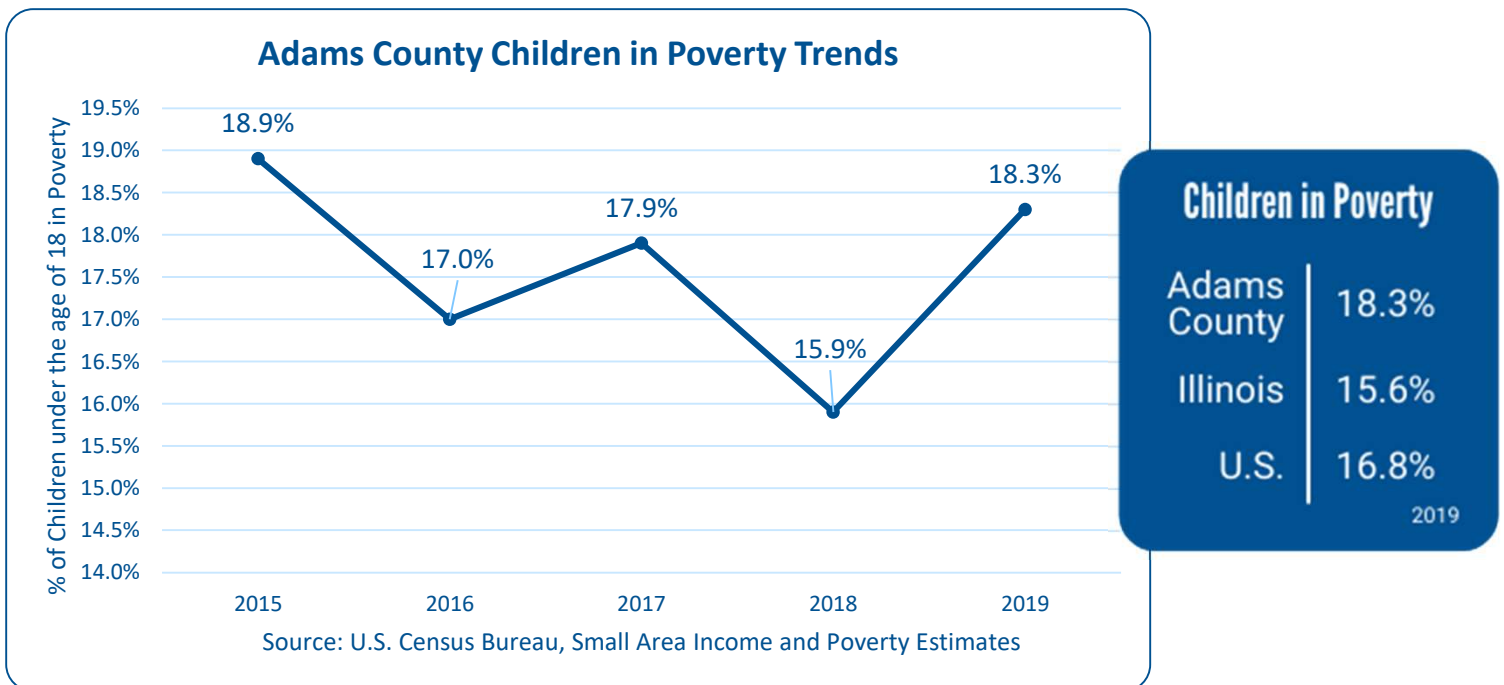


Children in Poverty

2,640 children under the age of 18, or 18.3 percent of the child population in Adams County lived in poverty in 2019. The poverty rate for children in Adams County is higher than both the U.S. (16.8 percent) and the state of Illinois (15.6 percent).

Child poverty is measured as the percentage of children in families with income below 100 percent of the federal poverty level. Poverty status is defined by family; either everyone in the family is in poverty or no one in the family is in poverty. The characteristics of the family used to determine the poverty threshold are: number of people, number of related children under 18, and whether or not the primary householder is over age 65. Family income is then compared to the poverty threshold; if that family’s income is below that threshold, the family is in poverty. – U.S. Census Bureau

The overall percentage of children ages 0 to 11 in poverty (2013-2017) in Adams County was 18.5 percent while the white (not Latinx) poverty rate was 17.1 percent. For black children in the same age group living in Adams County during the same time period, the poverty rate was 41.2 percent (over twice the overall rate). Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center





Low Income Students in District

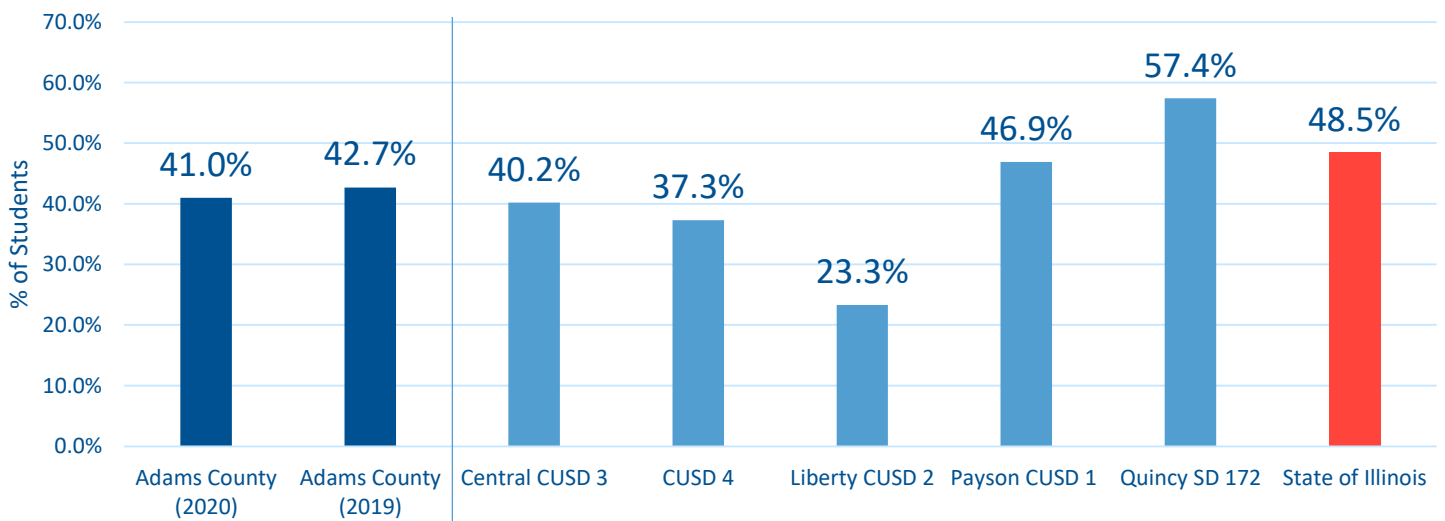
Students ages 3 to 17 meet the low-income criteria if they receive or live in households that receive public aid from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Targeted Assistance for Needy Families); are classified as homeless, migrant, runaway, Head Start, or foster children; or live in a household where the household income meets (USDA) guidelines to receive free or reduced-price meals.

Why does it matter?

Chronic exposure to poverty can result in detrimental changes to the brain, the brain’s very ability to adapt from experience means that poor children can also experience emotional social, and academic success.

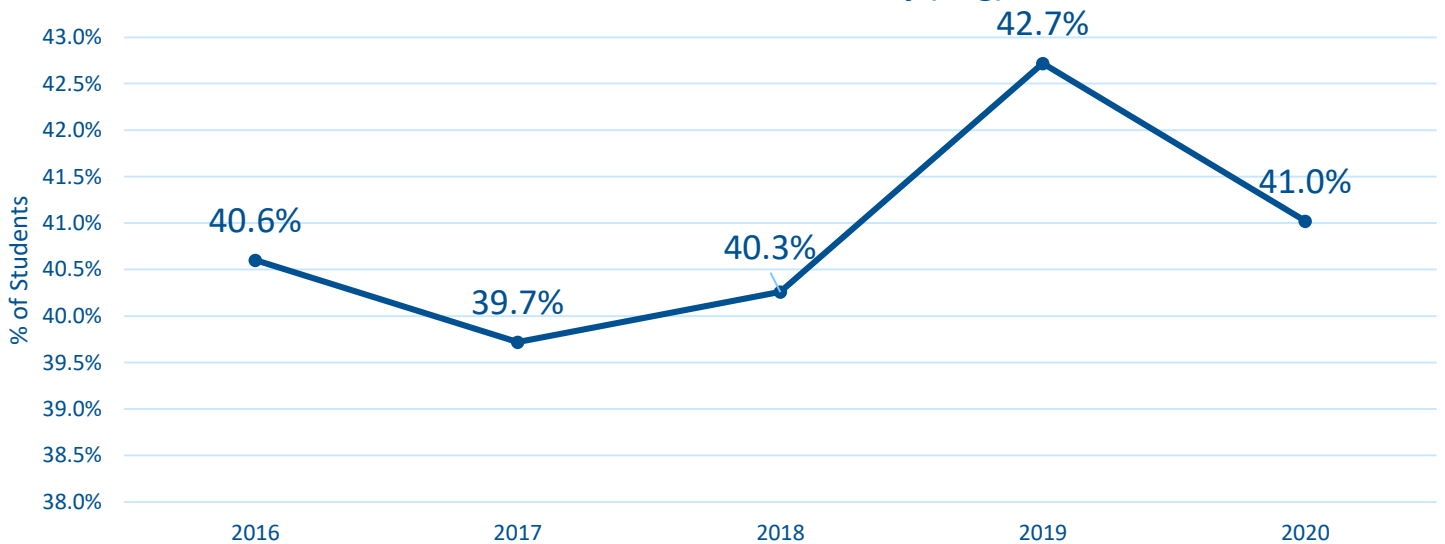
Source: Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids’ Brains and What Schools Can Do About It by educator and brain expert, Eric Jensen

Low Income Students by District (2020)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020

Low Income Students in Adams County (Avg) Trends



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020



Wealth Index

The Wealth Index is a composite measure of a household’s cumulative living standard. It is designed not to evaluate worth, but rather to capture the standard of living and financial stability of households. Adams County’s estimated Wealth Index in 2021 is 70. An index of 100 represents wealth on par with the national average. An area with a wealth index below 100 has lower than average wealth. Source: Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Adams County Community Profile

Why does it matter?

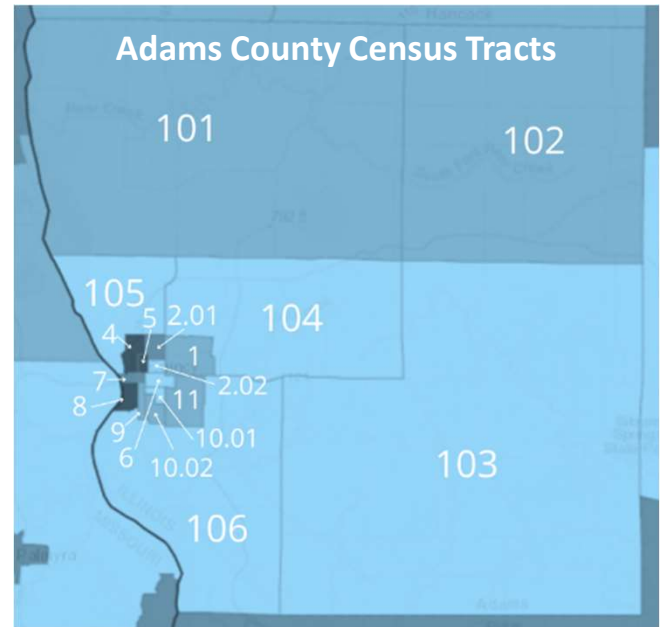
Wealth is highly correlated to consumer expenditures and purchasing behaviors. Wealth is also strongly linked to health outcomes, educational attainment, and access to goods, services, and recreation.

Social Vulnerability Index

Adams County, Illinois is **more vulnerable** than **24.9 percent** of the counties in the entire U.S. according to the CDC’s 2018 Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). **Social vulnerability** refers to the potential negative effects on communities caused by external stresses on human health. Such stresses include natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. A rate of 24.9 percent indicates a low level of vulnerability. Source: CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Social Vulnerability Index

Why does it matter?

Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss.



CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) 2018

Location	Census Tract	SVI Score	Level of Vulnerability
Adams County	105	0.0559	low
Adams County	104	0.0771	low
Adams County	106	0.1026	low
Quincy	10.01	0.1432	low
Adams County	103	0.1985	low
Quincy	6	0.2158	low
Quincy	2.02	0.2172	low
Quincy	9	0.4075	low to moderate
Quincy	1	0.4193	low to moderate
Quincy	10.02	0.4201	low to moderate
Quincy	11	0.4447	low to moderate
Quincy	2.01	0.5655	moderate to high
Quincy	7	0.7127	moderate to high
Quincy	8	0.7645	high
Quincy	5	0.7883	high
Quincy	4	0.8279	high

Source: CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, CDC’s Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

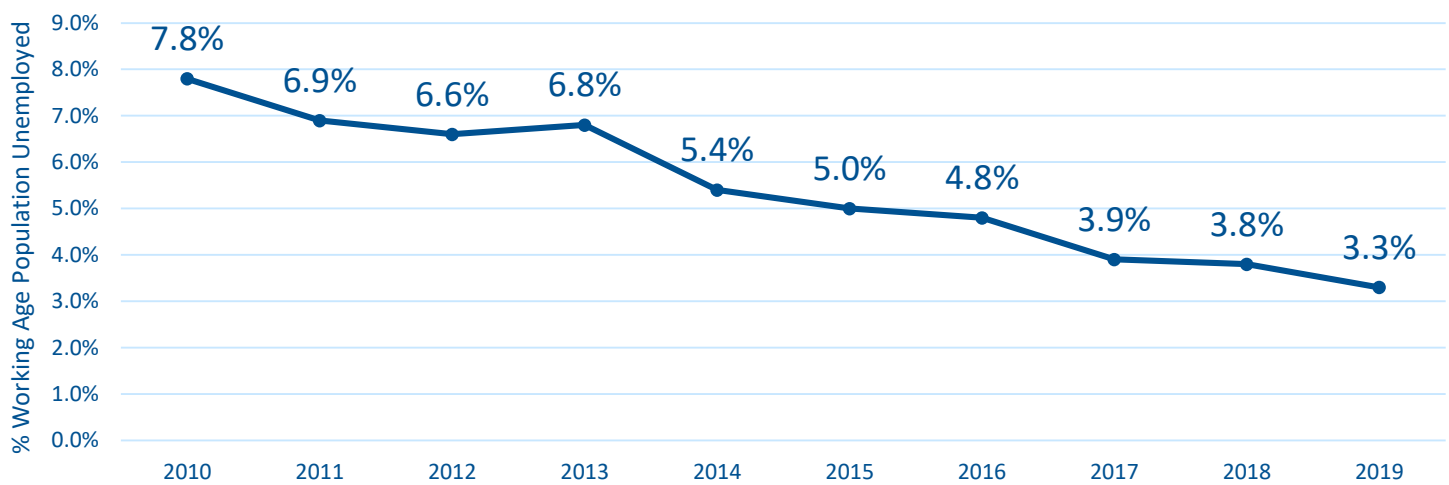


EMPLOYMENT

Adequate employment and income can provide a lifestyle that offers choices and options that influence health status and environmental factors such as housing, food, skill building for better employment opportunities, transportation, health care, and more.

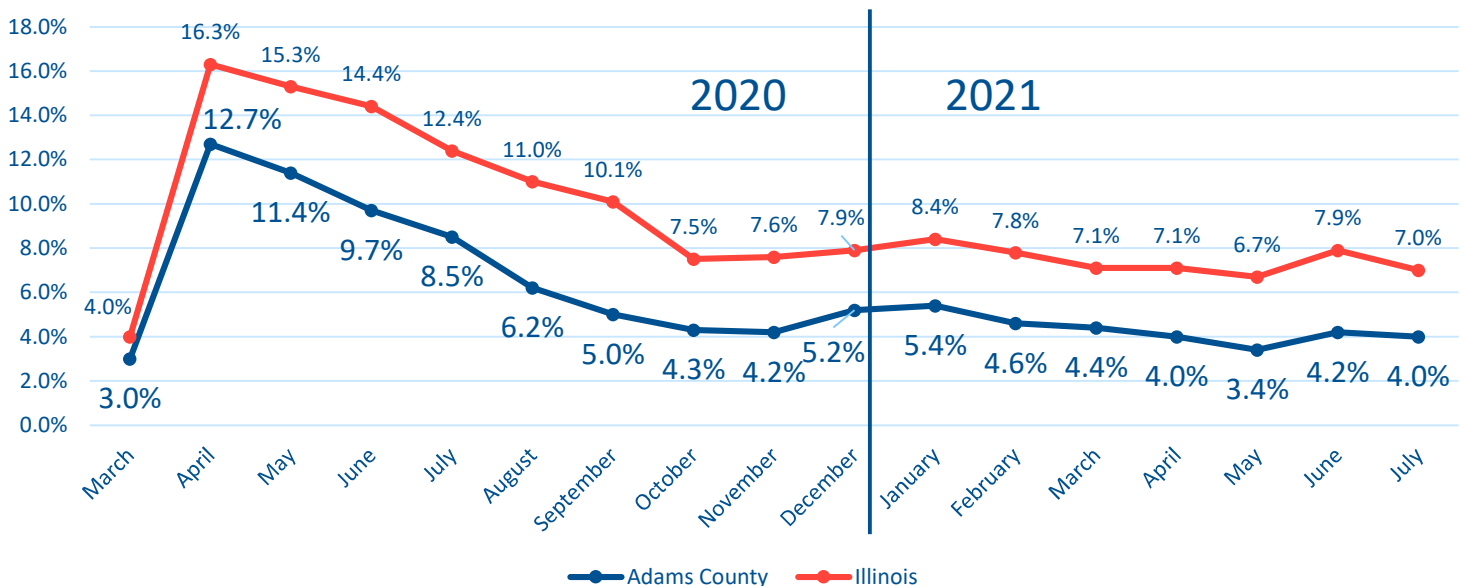
According to a 2018 report from the Illinois Department of Employment Security, Economic Information and Analysis Division, labor force participation rates in Illinois have fallen steadily over the past few decades, dropping to levels not seen since the late 1970s. The labor force is defined as the civilian, non-institutionalized people, age 16 and older (also known as the working-age population) who are either employed or unemployed. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the working-age population who either have a job or are without a job, but available and actively looking for work. On a state level, those who are less educated not only had the lowest labor force participation rates, but were also more likely to drop out of the labor force. The main reasons for the decrease in labor force participation rates are the growing number of retirees and disabled persons.

Adams County Unemployment Rate Trends 2010 - 2019



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Annual Average Data

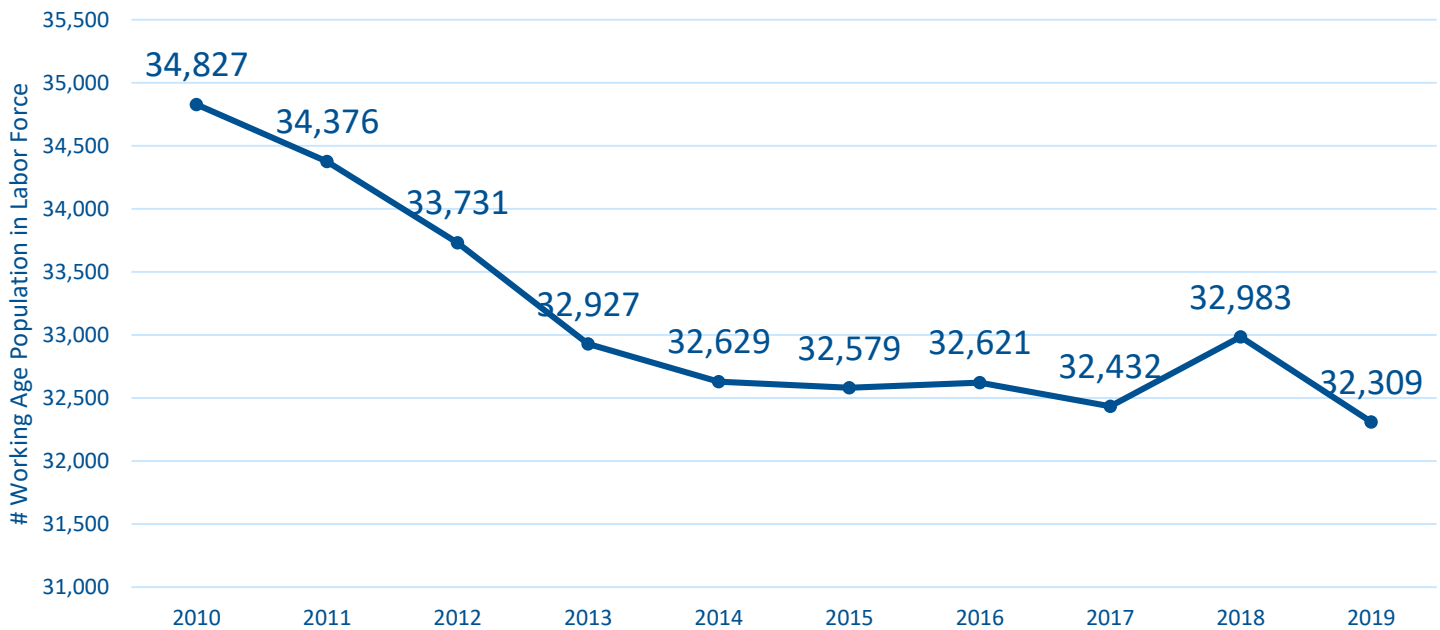
Adams County & Illinois Unemployment Rates March 2020 - July 2021



The total current workforce in Adams County is 34,082. As of July 2021, an estimated 96 percent of the workforce is employed and 4 percent is unemployed. As with much of the data from 2020, these numbers have been impacted by COVID-19.



Adams County Labor Force Trends

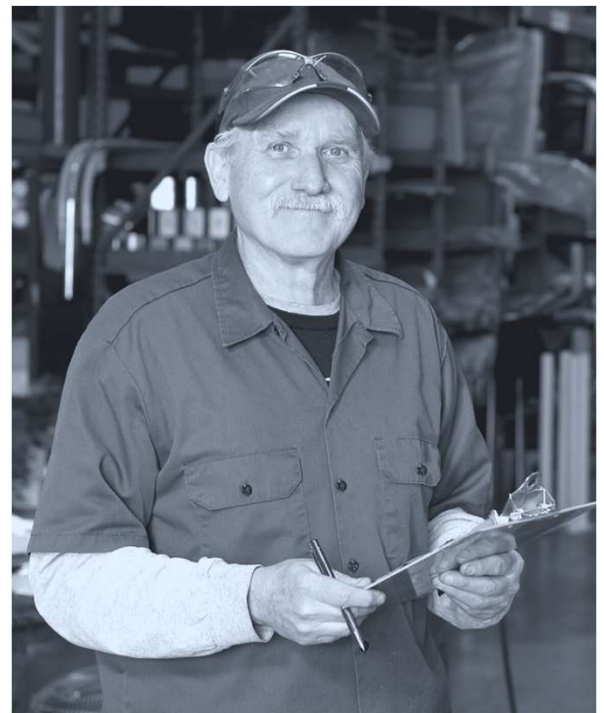


Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Annual Average Data

Adams County Employment by Industry

Employment by Industry (2020)	# Employed
Health Care / Social Assistance	6,327
Retail Trade	4,583
Manufacturing	4,404
Educational Services	2,438
Construction	1,927
Transportation / Warehousing	1,703
Wholesale Trade	1,542
Accommodation / Food Services	1,468
Finance / Insurance	1,465
Other Services	1,375
Professional / Scientific / Tech Services	1,296
Public Administration	1,098
Agriculture / Forestry / Fishing / Hunting	761
Admin / Support / Waste Management Services	622
Information	392
Arts / Entertainment / Recreation	294
Real Estate / Rental / Leasing	290
Utilities	174
Mining / Quarrying / Oil & Gas Extraction	79
Management of Companies / Enterprises	10

Source: Esri forecasts for 2020; U.S. Census Bureau Census 2010





Underemployment

Underemployment is a broad term that generally refers to three types of workers

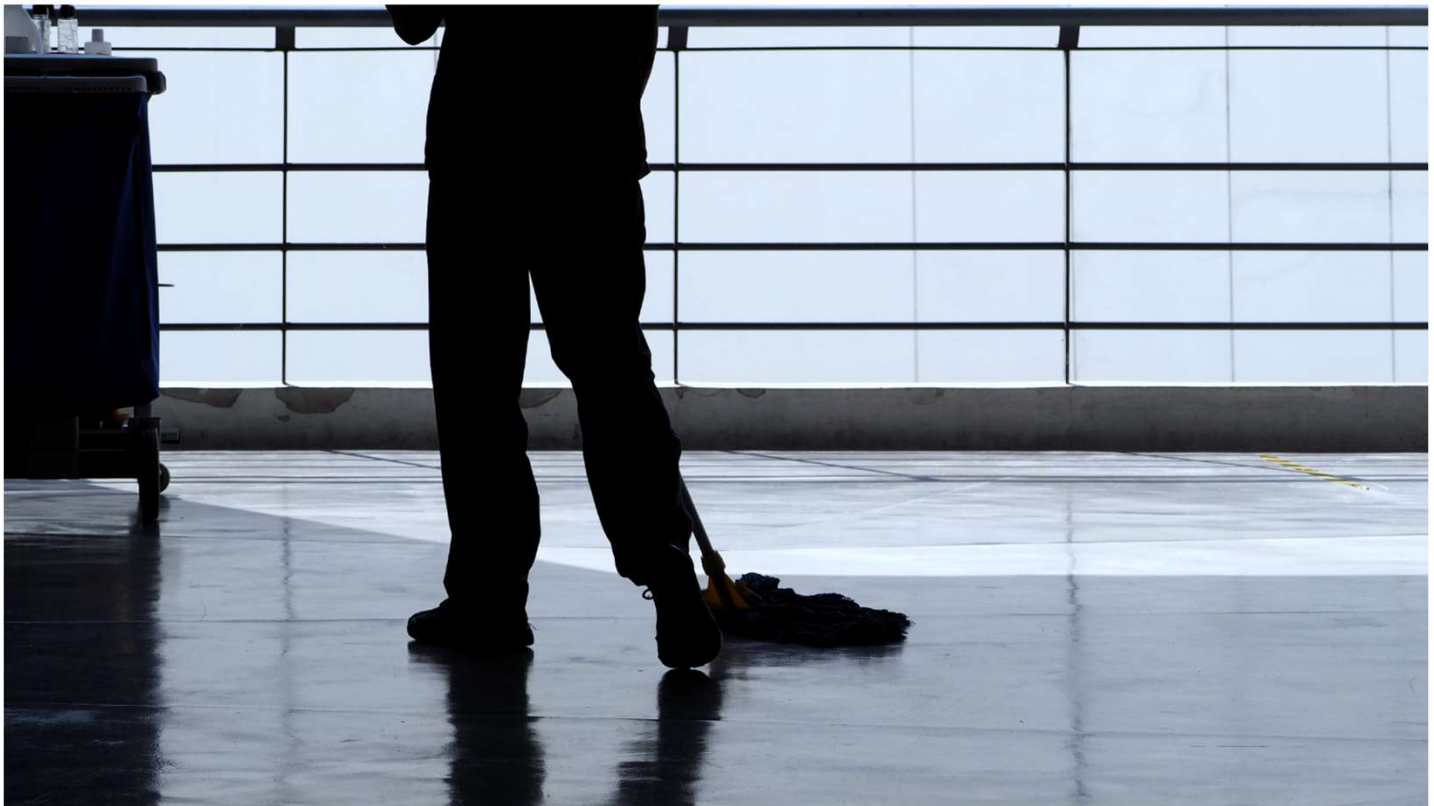
- High-skilled employees with low-skilled jobs
- Part-time workers who want full-time jobs
- Skilled workers with low-paying jobs

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, underemployed persons are those who work part-time (considered less than 35 hours per week) but who want and are available to work full-time (35 or more hours). Part-time underemployed also includes any part-time worker who prefers more work hours, not just those who want a full-time job.

One in every ten workers in the U.S. labor market were underemployed part-time workers according to analysis of 2016 data by the Center for Law and Social Policy published in an August 2020 report titled, *The Involuntary Part-time Work and Underemployment Problem in the U.S.*

The report also found:

- Underemployment disproportionately afflicts people who have been historically marginalized and experience economic uncertainty.
- Part-time workers face barriers to getting more, desired work hours – which comes at a high cost to their wellbeing and that of their families and employers.
- By implication, underemployed part-time workers experience the hardships and constraints associated with system declines in job quality.
- Underemployment is not only higher than conventionally thought, but is concentrated in growing, low-wage industries and occupations such as retail, service, and transportation jobs.
- Because underemployment suppresses weekly incomes, it is a key contributor to the incidence of poverty at both the household and community levels.





HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Affordable, clean, and safe housing was a common theme discussed by community stakeholders. Public housing and rental properties are often in poor condition and can contain harmful elements that lead to respiratory conditions. Landlords often do not maintain their rental properties or adhere to building codes, and families are often unsure where to seek housing assistance. The number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the area outpaces the available resources to serve them.

Residents in transitional housing situations are there, in part, due to the lack of affordable homes. Safe, clean, and affordable housing is not easy to obtain and is especially difficult for minorities and those on limited or fixed incomes. Low-cost housing in Adams County is in poor condition and there are limited resources and housing services for people seeking clean and safe housing.

2020 Housing Overview

Median Home Value	\$135,673
Total Housing Units	30,253
Owner Occupied Units	20,507
Renter Occupied Units	6,789
Vacant Units	2,957

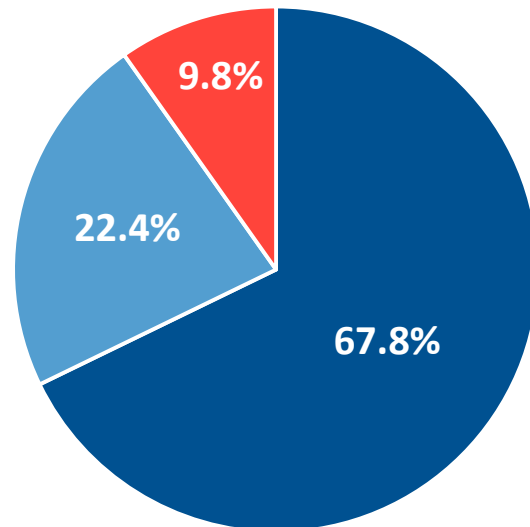
2020 Housing Overview

Currently, 67.8% of the 30,253 housing units in Adams County are owner occupied; 22.4%, renter occupied; and 9.8% are vacant. Currently in the U.S., 57.3% of the housing units are owner occupied; 31.2% are renter occupied; and 11.5% are vacant.

In 2010, there were 29,842 housing units in the area - 66.2% owner occupied, 25.5% renter occupied, and 8.3% vacant. The annual rate of change in housing units since 2010 is 0.61%. to \$150,173. Source: Esri forecasts for 2020; U.S. Census Bureau Census 2010



Adams County Housing (2020)



- Owner Occupied Units (20,507)
- Renter Occupied Units (6,789)
- Vacant Units (2,957)



Low Income Housing

In Adams County, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is **\$776**. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities – without paying more than 30% of income on housing – a household must earn **\$2,587** monthly or **\$31,040** annually. Assuming a 40-hour workweek, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly Housing Wage of:

\$14.92
per hour
COUNTY HOUSING
WAGE

FACTS ABOUT ADAMS COUNTY:

IL Minimum Wage	\$11.00
Average Renter Wage	\$12.54
2-Bedroom Housing Wage	\$14.92
Number of Renter Households	7,634
Percent Renters	28%

54 Work Hours Per Week at Minimum Wage to afford a 2-bedroom rental home (at FMR)

42 Work Hours Per Week at Minimum Wage to afford a 1-bedroom rental home (at FMR)

1.4 Number of Full-Time Jobs at Minimum Wage to afford a 2-bedroom rental home (at FMR)

1.1 Number of Full-Time Jobs at Minimum Wage to afford a 1-bedroom rental home (at FMR)

"In no state, metropolitan area, or county in the U.S. can a worker earning the federal or prevailing state or local minimum wage afford a modest two-bedroom rental home at fair market rent by working a standard 40-hour work week."

– Out of Reach 2021 Report, National Low Income Housing Coalition



Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition – Out of Reach 2021

Severe Housing Problems

12 percent of Adams County households have at least 1 of 4 housing problems. This compares to 17 percent in Illinois. Based on data from 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 3,230 Adams County households have at least 1 of 4 severe housing problems. Of that number, 1,225 are owner occupied and 2,005 are renter occupied. The four severe housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 persons per room, and cost burden greater than 50 percent. Cost burden is the ratio of housing costs to household income. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, HUD’s Office of Policy Development and Research Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data

Why does it matter?

Good health depends on having homes that are safe and free from physical hazards. Poor quality and inadequate housing contributes to health problems such as infectious and chronic diseases, injuries, and poor childhood development. Housing measures can also be considered proxy indicators of more general socioeconomic circumstances. Households experiencing severe cost burden have to face difficult trade-offs in meeting other basic needs. When the majority of a paycheck goes toward the rent or mortgage, it makes it hard to afford health insurance, health care and medication, healthy foods, utility bills, or reliable transportation to work or school. This, in turn, can lead to increased stress levels and emotional strain.

– 2021 County Health Rankings



CHILDCARE & CHILDREN

Cost of Child Care

The average cost of child care as a share of median family income in 2016 was 9.5 percent in Adams County compared to 10.6 percent in Illinois.

Why does it matter?

Child care is one of the largest expenses in families, especially in Illinois, which ranked eighth among states for most expensive infant care. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), child care is considered affordable if it costs no more than seven percent of household income. Yet, only a quarter (22.3 percent) of Illinois families spend less than 10 percent of income on infant care. To afford child care for both an infant and a four-year old, a typical Illinois family would have to spend a third of their income. A minimum wage worker in Illinois would need to work full-time for 39 weeks just to pay for annual child care for one infant. Source: Risk and Reach Report, Erikson Institute/Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map/Voices for Illinois Children

Adams County Child Care Need Survey

In early 2021, a Task Force focused on child care capacity in Quincy conducted a survey of area employees. 19.7 percent of respondents indicated they need to establish new child care for one or more child and 7.5 percent of respondents currently had child care but want or need something different.

45.4 percent of respondents anticipated needing child care in the next 1-3 years and would be willing to pay an average of \$125 per week per child for child care that fits their desired qualities and services.

When asked to rank the top three most important child care qualities and services, respondents ranked cost first, followed by transportation to/from school for school-age children, and preschool curriculum. Summer care and a flexible schedule came in 4th and 5th as the most needed/desired qualities and services.

In an accompanying survey of employers, 100 percent of employers responded that they feel child care is an issue for their employees and 83.3 percent of companies have experienced issues/challenges related to child care.

Children in Single-Parent Households

22 percent of children in Adams County live in a household headed by a single parent compared to 25 percent overall in Illinois. 2,723 children under the age of 18 live with a female householder compared to 610 children living with a male householder. 1,474 children live with cohabitating couples and 10,057 live with married couples. (2015-2019) Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to ALICE and Poverty in Illinois 2018 data, 46 percent of households of single, female-headed families met the federal poverty level and 26 percent of single, female-headed families met the ALICE Threshold. Source: 2020 Report – ALICE in Illinois: A Financial Hardship Study

Why does it matter?

Adults and children in single-parent households are at risk for adverse health outcomes, including mental illness (e.g. substance abuse, depression, suicide) and unhealthy behaviors (e.g. smoking, excessive alcohol use, food insecurity). Self-reported health has been shown to be worse among lone mothers than for mothers living as couples, even when controlling for socioeconomic characteristics. Mortality risk is also higher among lone parents. Children in single-parent households are at greater risk of severe morbidity and all-cause mortality than their peers in two-parent households. – 2021 County Health Rankings



TRANSPORTATION

16 percent of workers who commute in their car alone in Adams County commute more than 30 minutes. The farther people commute by vehicle, the higher their blood pressure and body mass index and the less physical activity the individual tends to participate in. Longer commute times have also been associated with poorer mental health. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings (2015-2019)

Public Transportation - Urban (Quincy)

The Quincy Transit Lines offers fixed route services, paratransit services, and senior citizen transportation in the City of Quincy. Bus services are offered seven days per week with the exception that no buses operate on Thanksgiving or Christmas. Quincy Transit Lines (QTL) operates eight fixed-route buses Monday through Friday and two fixed-route buses on Saturday/Sunday & Holidays. QTL also operates four Para-transit buses and four senior citizen vans Monday through Friday and one Para-transit bus on Saturday and Sunday.

The fixed routes are designed to provide optimum service to people who do not have their own transportation. The fixed routes serve eight areas of the city. The bus routes operate from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Survey and interview participants cited access/location and availability/hours of public transportation in Quincy as barriers to securing and maintaining employment and accessing healthcare.

Public Transportation – Rural

Survey and interview participants said the lack of public transportation in rural Adams County leads to economic inequality and isolation. When residents have no way to get to jobs or appointments, they cannot provide for themselves and their families or access the critical services they need.

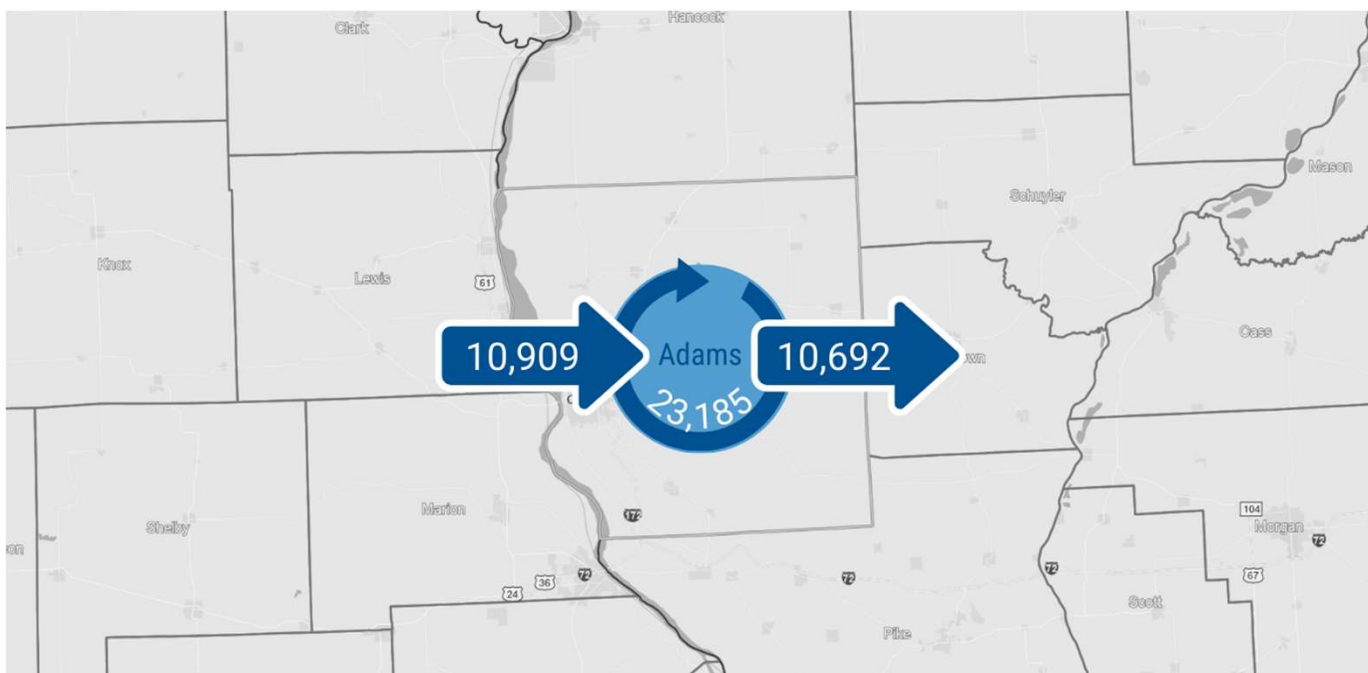
Inflow/Outflow Job County 2018

10,909 – Employed in Adams County, live outside

10,692 – Live in Adams County, employed outside

23,185 – Employed and live in Adams County

Source: U.S. Census Bureau On the Map Inflow/Outflow Analysis





EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Social and economic factors such as income, education, employment, and social supports can significantly affect how well and how long we live. Educational attainment in particular is a strong predictor of future health outcomes.

Educational attainment in Adams County is skewed. A relatively high percentage of residents have obtained an associates degree or attended some college (30 percent), but a relatively low percentage of residents have a bachelors degree or higher (23.9 percent) as compared to the nation (39 percent).

When it comes to high school graduation rates, the Quincy School District rate of 77 percent lags both the Illinois and U.S. rates of 88 percent and 85.3 percent respectively. Black students in the Quincy School District are more than twice as likely as white students to dropout of high school. Dropping out of high school has adverse consequences, including negative effects on employment, lifetime earnings, and physical health.

More students in Adams County are not meeting expectations in math and language than in Illinois as a whole. Illinois school children participate in annual summative assessments beginning in third grade and administered annually through the eighth grade. 67 percent of Adams County third graders did not meet expectations in mathematics for SY2017-2018 compared to 60.8 percent of Illinois third graders. 71.3 percent of Adams County third graders did not meet expectations in English language arts compared to 63.8 percent overall in Illinois. Math, language, and particularly reading proficiency by the end of third grade is a critical marker in a child's educational development.

We won't have a full picture of the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our children's academic progress for years to come. However, early national research indicates students have fallen behind. In particular, the educational gaps that existed before the pandemic – in access, opportunities, achievement, and outcomes – are widening according to a June 2021 report from the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights titled, *Education in a Pandemic: The Disparate Impacts of COVID-19 on America's Students*.

The ultimate goal is for all Adams County students to complete high school and go on to attend college or workforce training in order to attain meaningful and long-term employment. By tracking educational milestones and identifying areas for growth and potential achievement gaps, we can better prepare our youngest residents for success in their future careers and lives.



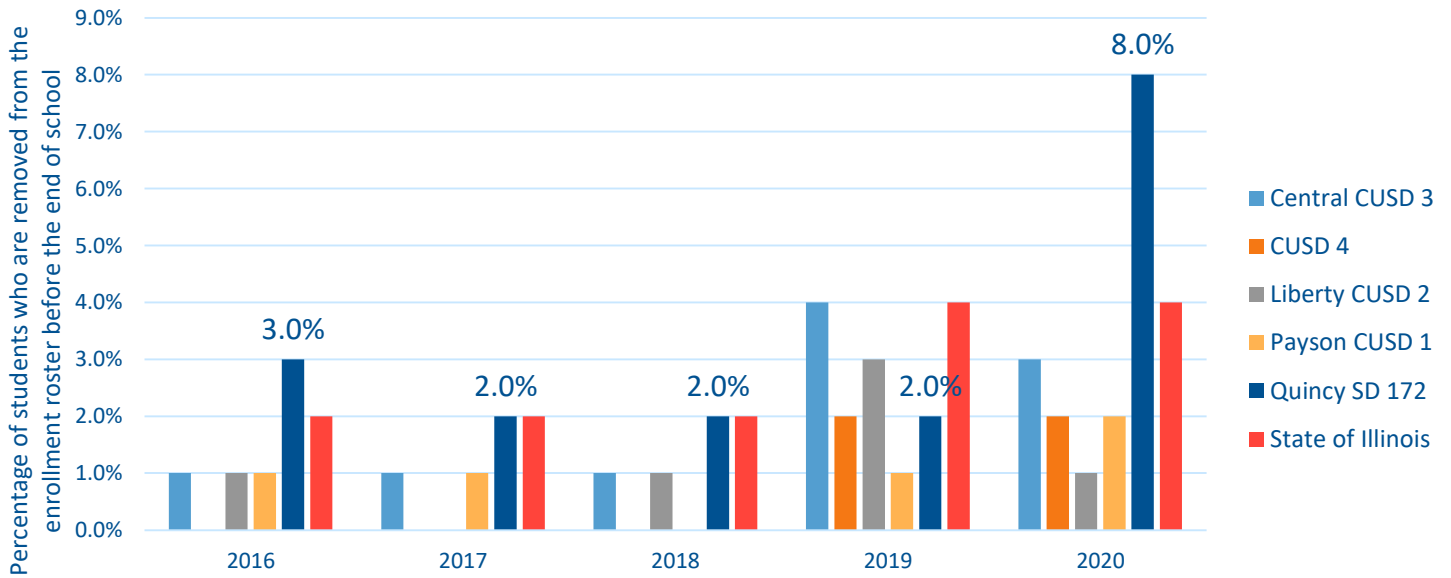
Dropout Rate

Dropouts include students in grades 9-12 whose names have been removed from the roster for any reason, including moved and not known to be continuing, transfer to GED-program, and aged out. The percentage does not include death, extended illness, graduation/completion of a program of studies, transfer to another public/private/home school, or expulsion.

Why does it matter?

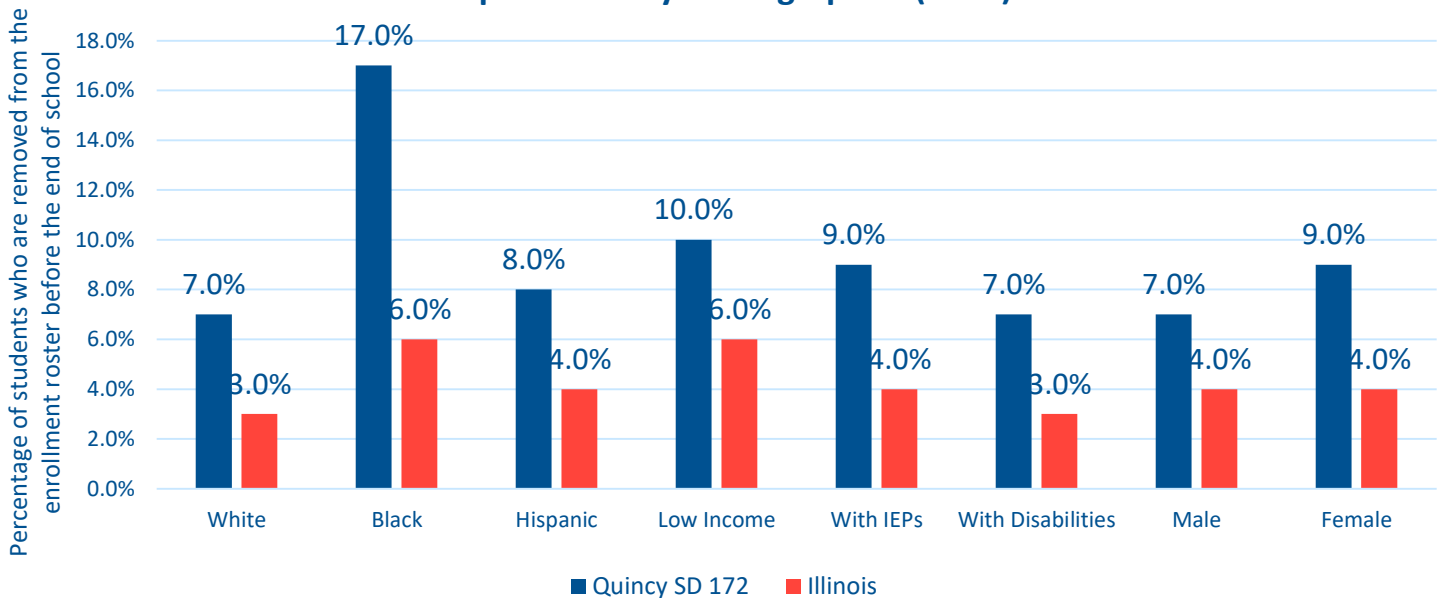
The most significant disadvantage high school dropouts face is lower expected income. Without a high school diploma, a person will find enrolling in a college or trade school to be difficult or even impossible. The increased likelihood of low income, along with the lowered possibility of higher education and career opportunities, tends to make high school dropouts more susceptible to crime, substance abuse, and other characteristics of poverty.

Dropout Rate by School District Trends



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020

Dropout Rate by Demographics (2020)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020



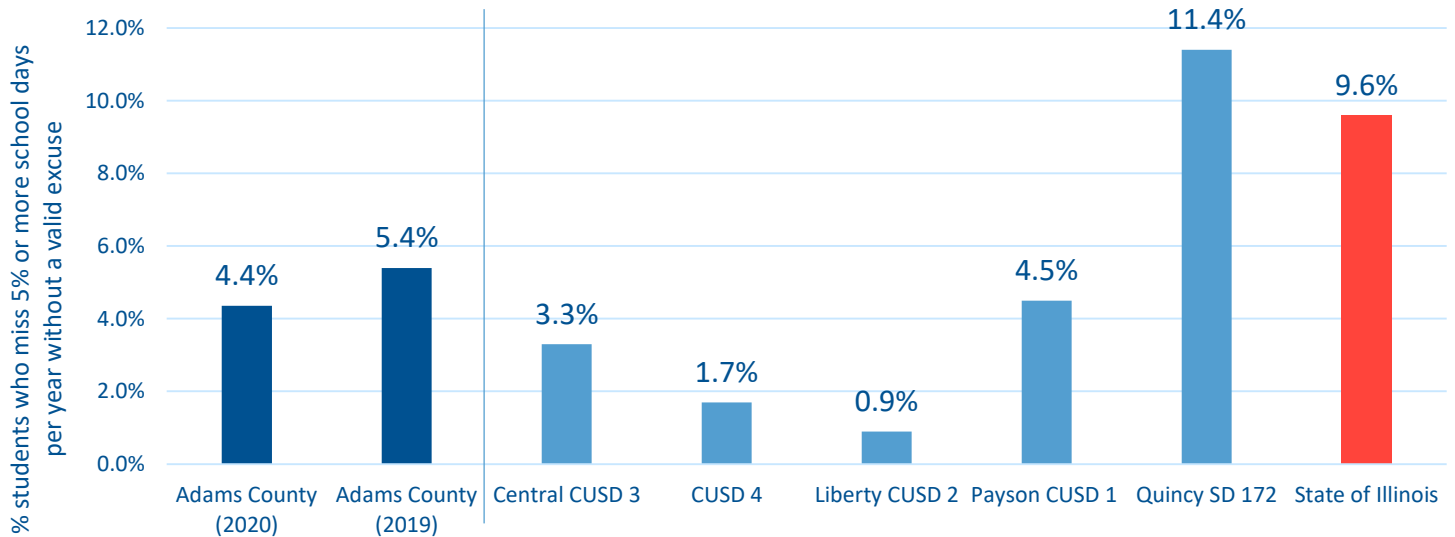
Truancy Rate

Students who missed more than 5 percent of school days within the academic year due to unexcused absences are considered chronically truant. Chronic truants are at risk of academic and behavioral problems. According to the Illinois Report Card, research shows that chronic truancy has been linked to serious delinquent activity in youth and to significant negative behavior and characteristics in adults.

Why does it matter?

Truancy has been clearly identified as one of the early warning signs that youth are headed for potential delinquent activity, social isolation, and/or educational failure. Several studies have established lack of commitment to school as a risk factor for substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, and dropping out of school. – Juvenile Justice Bulletin, *Truancy Reduction: Keeping Students in School*

Chronically Truant Students (2020)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020



High School Graduation Rate

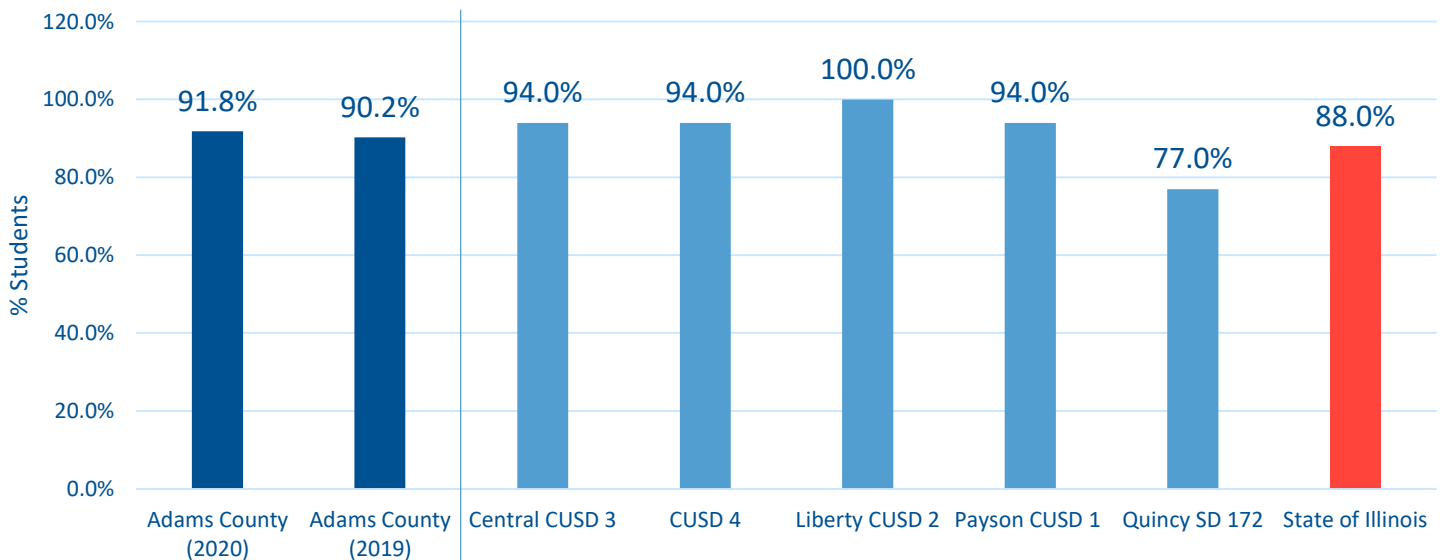
The average high school graduation rate of Adams County’s five school districts increased from 90.2 percent in 2019 to 91.8 percent in 2020. 2020 figures show that Liberty CUSD 2 had the highest graduation rate of 100 percent compared to Quincy School District 172 (77.0 percent) which is lower than the state of Illinois rate (88.0 percent) and the U.S. rate (85.3%). Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020

According to the special report, *America’s Promise Alliance 2020 Building a Grad Nation* authored by Civic and the Everyone Graduates Center at the Johns Hopkins University School of Education, subgroups such as Black, Hispanic, low-income, and Native American students are less likely to graduate high school on time and college- and career-ready. Source: America’s Promise Alliance 2020 Building a Grad Nation Report

Why does it matter?

Educational attainment is a strong predictor of future health outcomes. Education is associated with longer life expectancy, improved health and quality of life, and health-promoting behaviors like getting regular physical activity, not smoking, and going for routine check-ups and recommended screenings. Source: Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion – Healthy People 2020

Graduation Rate (2020)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020



9th Grade on Track

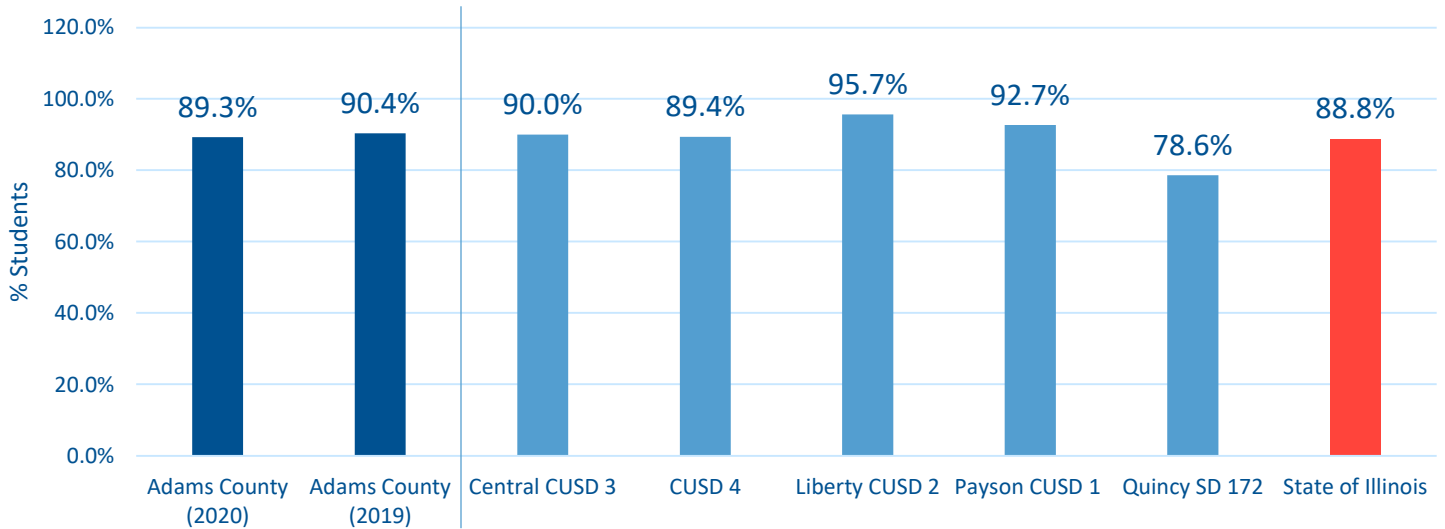
The Freshman OnTrack indicator identifies students as on-track if they earn at least five full-year course credits and no more than one semester F in a core course in their first year of high school. Adams County’s 9th graders on track to graduate increased slightly between 2019 and 2020 up from 90.2 percent in 2019 to 91.8 percent in 2020. Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020

Why does it matter?

According to a 2005 Report from the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research, on track students are more than 3.5 times more likely to graduate from high school in four years than off-track students.



9th Grade On Track (2020)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020



Third Grade Proficiency: Math

67 percent of 3rd grade students (428 students) did not meet expectations in mathematics for SY2017-2018 according to the Illinois State Board of Education Illinois Report Card.

Illinois school children participate in annual summative assessments beginning in third grade and administered annually through the eighth grade. For the 2016-2017 school year, Illinois used the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) as its assessment tool and accountability measure for students enrolled in public school districts. Schools and educators use results from PARCC assessments for student promotion and to inform instruction while parents use the information to understand their child’s academic progress. Source: Illinois Risk and Reach Report, ISBE Illinois Report Card



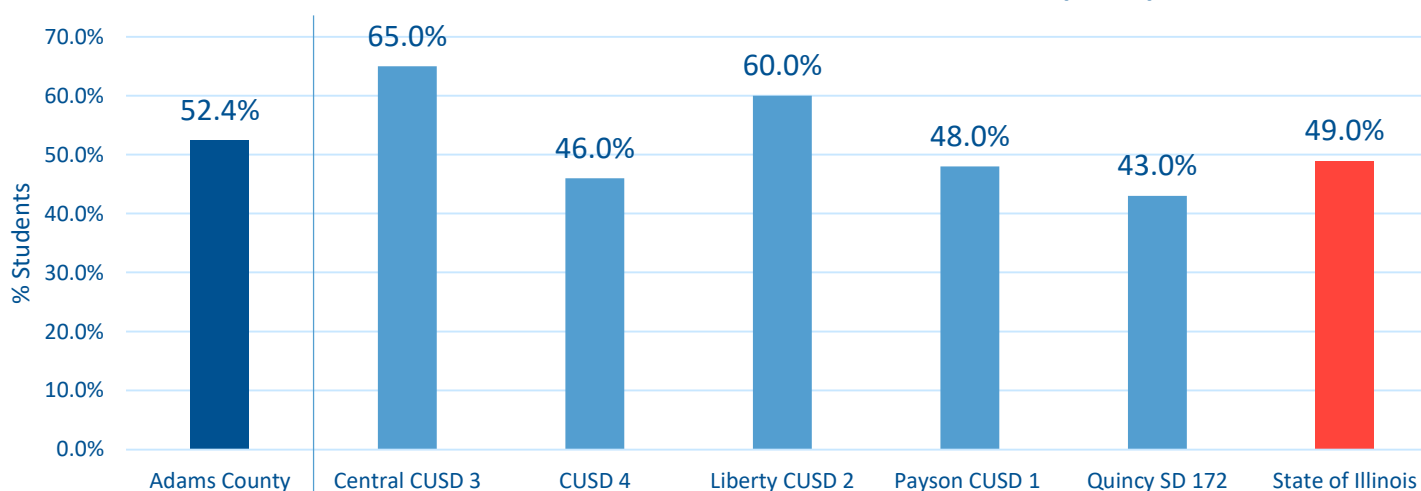
Students Proficient on Illinois Science Assessment

Students in Quincy SD 172 had the lowest proficiency rate on the Illinois Science Assessment of all Adams County School Districts at 43 percent in 2019 compared to 46 percent in 2018 and 44 percent in 2017.

Why does it matter?

Developed by Next Generation Science Standards, the Assessment measures students’ abilities to learn science by doing science. “There is no doubt that science - and therefore, science education - is central to the lives of all Americans. Never before has our world been so complex and scientific literacy is critical to making sense of it all. Science is also at the heart of America's ability to continue innovating, leading, and creating jobs for the future. That's why all students - regardless of whether they pursue college or STEM careers - should have access to a high-quality K-12 science education.” Source: Next Generation Science Standards

Students Proficient on Illinois Science Assessment (2019)



Source: Illinois Report Card 2019-2020

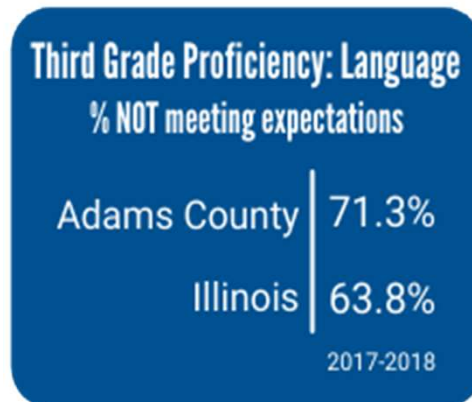


Third Grade Proficiency: Language

71.3 percent of 3rd grade students did not meet expectations in English language arts, SY2017-2018 according to the Illinois State Board of Education Illinois Report Card. Reading scores measures performance outcomes on reading tests for 3rd grade students in Adams County compared with the national average for 3rd graders. The score of 2.8 for Adams County 3rd graders indicates that they are performing slightly worse on English Language Arts standardized tests than expected for 3rd graders.

Illinois school children participate in annual summative assessments beginning in third grade and administered annually through the eighth grade. For the 2016-2017 school year, Illinois used the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) as its assessment tool and accountability measure for students enrolled in public school districts. Schools and educators use results from PARCC assessments for student promotion and to inform instruction while parents use the information to understand their child’s academic progress.

Source: Illinois Risk and Reach Report, ISBE Illinois Report Card



Why does it matter?

Reading proficiency by the end of third grade is a critical marker in a child’s educational development. By fourth grade, children are expected to use reading to learn other subjects. Therefore, mastery of reading at this level becomes important for students to keep up academically. Children who reach fourth grade without being able to read proficiently are more likely to struggle academically and eventually drop out of school. Low reading proficiency also can reduce earning potential and chances for career success as adults. Although there have been improvements since the early 1990s, progress has been slow, and racial and income disparities remain.

Quincy Public Library

The Quincy Public Library’s vision is creating, supporting, and promoting a literate community. The mission is to provide patrons with materials, facilities, and programs to meet lifelong learning, cultural, and recreational needs.

	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Total Circulation	589,711	594,620	670,870	508,762	405,191
Locker Usage	196	1,180	1,946	2,023	3,491

Data Notes: FY 16/17 migration to RSA shared catalog. Major purge of records.

FY19/20 Covid-19 pandemic reduced services to locker pick up only for 3 weeks in March and closed the library for 3 weeks in April.

FY 20/21 Covid-19 pandemic closed the library for 3 weeks in May. Very limited service Dec/ Jan. Limited programming all year.

Why does it matter?

According to a 2015 report from the University of Pennsylvania, *Beyond Books: Public Libraries As Partners For Population Health*, public libraries are well-positioned partners for building a culture of health. The U.S. public support libraries and believe they are vital to community well-being; libraries have tremendous population reach; libraries play a critical role in promoting child and adult literacy – keys to predicting health literacy, adherence to preventive health care services, and overall health outcomes; and libraries have long been sources of consumer health information, places of shelter, and sites of socialization across diverse groups.



HEALTH OVERVIEW

When it comes to our health, Adams County residents face growing challenges. Over 50 percent of Adams County residents reported having at least one chronic health condition (2015-2019 Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System). Many of the chronic diseases diagnosed in community members are preventable. Living a healthy lifestyle by incorporating exercise, eating healthy foods, and avoiding tobacco and alcohol can reduce the risk of developing certain diseases.

Stakeholders identified mental health, obesity and substance abuse as top concerns when it comes to the health of our community. Adams county residents rated the overall physical health of Adams County residents a 5.66 on a scale of 10. This correlates with secondary data highlighting concerning health trends around obesity, diabetes, and physical inactivity among Adams County residents.

The adult obesity rate in Adams County is 38 percent compared to 30 percent in the state of Illinois. Over 70 percent of Adams County residents are overweight or obese according to the Illinois Behavior Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019). Obesity increases the risk for health conditions such as coronary heart disease and type 2 diabetes. The percent of Adams County adults age 18 and older with diagnosed diabetes in 2017 was 11.4, up from 7.9 percent in 2010 and higher than the U.S. rate of 8.5 percent. In 2017, the percent of physically inactive adults in Adams County was 27.8 percent, compared to 22 percent in Illinois and 23 percent in the US.

COVID Impact

- As a group, American children and teenagers have seen a significant increase in weight gain since the COVID-19 pandemic began, with the biggest jumps occurring in younger school-aged children and those who were already prone to obesity, according to a new study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- A survey by the American Psychological Association showed 42 percent of U.S. adults have experienced undesired weight gain during the pandemic, with an average gain of 29 pounds.

Adams county residents rated the overall mental health of Adams County residents a 5.71 on a scale of 10. This correlates with secondary data highlighting concerning mental health trends. Our community is still combatting a stigma around both mental health and addiction which serves as a barrier for those who are in need of assistance. Mental health and substance abuse challenges impact all areas of quality of life. A few alarming trends include:

- Over the past 5 years, 35 percent of Blessing Hospital Emergency Department visits were related to Mental, Behavioral, and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.
- Adams County residents reported an average of 4.5 poor mental health days compared to an average of 3.8 days for Illinois residents.
- 14 percent of Adams County adults reported frequent mental distress (14 or more days of poor mental health per month) compared to 12 percent of Illinois adults.
- Drug overdose deaths in Adams County increased from 11 deaths in 2019 to 41 deaths in 2020.
- Adams County ranks among the highest counties in Illinois for methamphetamine arrests.

COVID Impact

- During the pandemic, about 4 in 10 adults in the U.S. have reported symptoms of anxiety or depressive disorder, up from 1 in 10 adults who reported these symptoms from January to June 2019. Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, 2020
- Adults reported a 12 percent increase in alcohol consumption or substance use during the pandemic. Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, The Implications of COVID-19 for Mental Health and Substance Use.

There is no one factor that dictates the overall health of an individual or community. The actions that individuals take to improve their health, access to care, and social and economic factors all come into play. This assessment illuminates opportunities for improvement and takes into account that not everyone has the means and opportunities to make healthy decisions. Addressing the issues outlined in this assessment will require a sustained, long-term, and fully resourced County-wide effort.



Poor Physical Health Days

Adams County residents had an average of 4.1 physically unhealthy days reported in the past 30 days, which is higher than Illinois at 3.6.

Why does it matter?

Measuring health-related quality of life (HRQoL) helps characterize the burden of disabilities and chronic diseases in a population. In addition to measuring how long people live, it is also important to include measures of how healthy people are while alive – and people’s reports of days when their physical health was not good are a reliable estimate of their recent health. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

**Poor Physical Health Days
reported in the past 30 days**

Adams County		4.1
Illinois		3.6

2018

Life Expectancy

Adams County		78.3 years
Illinois		79.4 years

2021

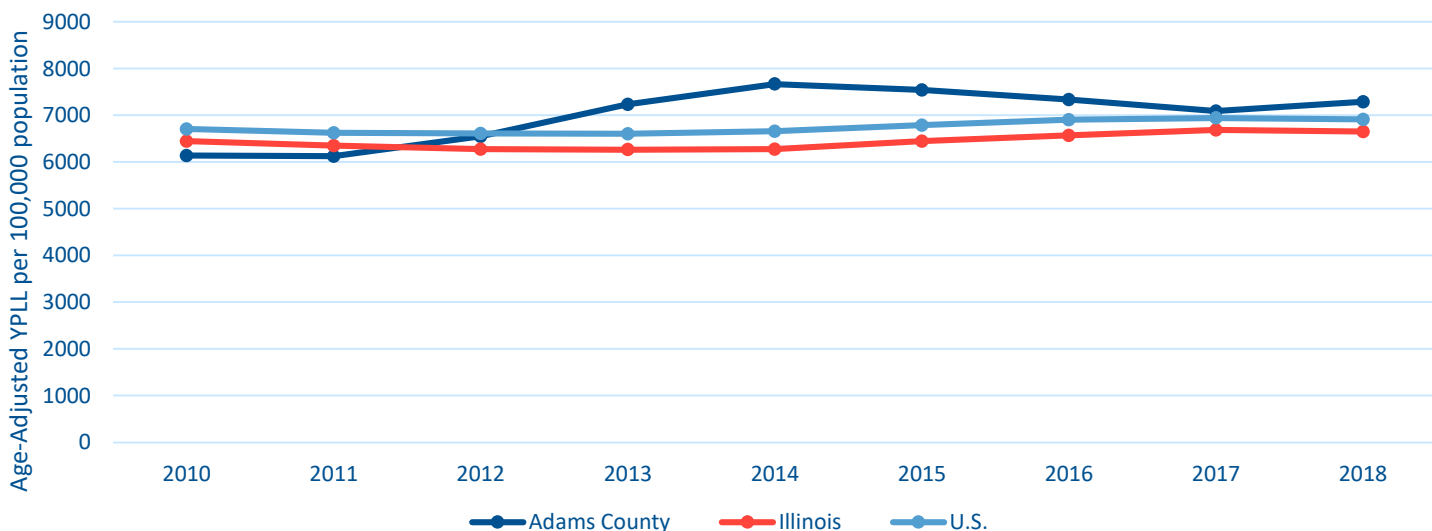
Life Expectancy

The average number of years an Adams County resident can expect to live 78.3 years compared to 79.4 years overall in Illinois. In general, life expectancy is based on two major factors: genetics and lifestyle choices which include gender, access to quality health care, hygiene, obesity, diet and nutrition, exercise, and crime rates. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, National Center for Health Statistics – Mortality Files

Premature Death

Length of life can vary greatly by place, income, and race and ethnicity. By measuring deaths of those younger than 75 (Years of Potential Life Lost), we can identify where difference exist and what health factors should be explored to make a positive difference. While no significant trends are present, Adams County YPLL has remained higher than both the State of Illinois and U.S. since 2013.

**Premature Death - Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL)
County, State and National Trends**



Source: 2021 County Health Rankings – National Center for Health Statistics – Mortality Files
Notes: Each year represents a 3-year average around the middle year (e.g. 2015 is the middle year of 2014-2016).



Leading Causes of Death under age 75 in Adams County

Leading Causes of Death Under Age 75	Number of Deaths	Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000
Malignant neoplasms	267	103.6
Diseases of heart	189	73.8
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	67	23.5
Accidents	59	30.9
Intentional self-harm	37	21.8

Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, CDC WONDER. Premature Mortality includes all deaths among people under age 75 and the rates are age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.

Cause of Death in Adams County (2010-2014)

Adams County Cause of Death (2010-2014) All ages, genders, and races	Number of Deaths	Percent
All Other Causes	1,054	27.1%
Diseases Of Heart	893	23%
Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	804	20.7%
Respiratory - Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (excludes Asthma)	256	6.6%
Cerebrovascular Diseases	204	5.2%
Respiratory - Pneumonia/Influenza	143	3.7%
Nephritis/Nephrotic Syndrome/Nephrosis	90	2.3%
Diabetes Mellitus	75	1.9%
Injury - All others	75	1.9%
Infection - Septicemia	71	1.8%
Injury (Unintentional) - Falls	68	1.7%
Injury (Intentional) - Suicide	33	0.8%
Injury (Unintentional) - Motor Vehicle	27	0.7%
Infection - All Other Infectious/Parasitic Diseases	26	0.7%
Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis	25	0.6%
Congenital Malformation/Deformation/Chromosomal Abnormalities	12	0.3%
Certain Perinatal Conditions	9	0.2%
Atherosclerosis	8	0.2%
Injury (Intentional) - Homicide	7	0.2%
Total	3,890	100%

Source: Illinois Department of Health, EMS Data Reporting System

CHRONIC DISEASE

53.7 percent of Adams County residents reported having at least one chronic health condition according to the 2015-2019 Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Chronic health conditions include heart disease (heart attack, stroke, angina), asthma, cancer, COPD, arthritis, depression, and diabetes. Many of the chronic diseases diagnosed in community members are preventable. Living a healthy lifestyle by incorporating exercise, eating healthy foods, and avoiding tobacco and alcohol can reduce the risk of developing certain diseases.

Chronic diseases can be managed, and many are preventable; however, generational attitudes along with the ability to obtain necessary health care services need to be addressed in order to allow community residents the opportunity to live a healthier life. Education, information, and improved access can have a significant impact in reducing the chronic conditions of residents.

Smoking, obesity, substance abuse, high blood pressure, and poor food choices are significant contributing factors for chronic disease in residents. More education and information for residents and patients who have these conditions could help reduce complications and improve their overall health. Lack of access to affordable healthy food, safe venues for physical exercise, and adequate education and support are major road blocks to many who want to improve their health.

Chronic Diseases in Adams County (2015-2019)

Chronic Disease		Estimated Population	Weighted Percent
Has Asthma Now	Yes	5,073	9.9%
Ever Told COPD	Yes	5,078	9.9%
Ever Told Cancer	Yes	6,193	12.1%
Ever Told Arthritis	Yes	16,418	32.0%
Arthritis/Joint Symptoms: Limits Activities	Yes	8,131	15.8%
Ever Told Depressive Disorder	Yes	9,268	18.1%
Told Have Diabetes	Yes	4,119	8.0%
Chronic Health Conditions*	No Chronic Disease	23,732	46.3%
	1 Chronic Disease	12,854	25.1%
	2+ Chronic Diseases	14,628	28.6%

Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019)

*Chronic Health Conditions calculated from heart disease (heart attack, stroke, angina), current asthma, cancer, COPD, arthritis, depression, and diabetes questions.



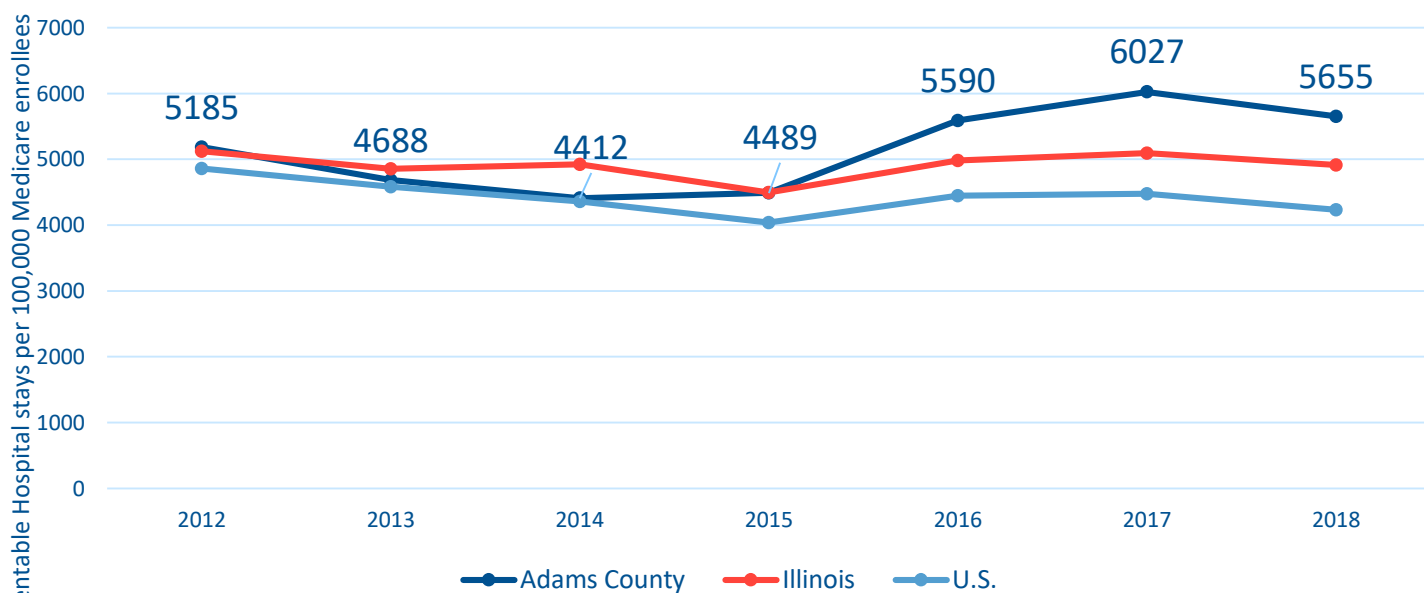
Preventable Hospital Stays

The rate of Preventable Hospital Stays in Adams County is higher than the state of Illinois and U.S. and is worsening.

Why does it matter?

Hospitalization for ambulatory-care sensitive conditions, diagnoses usually treatable in outpatient settings, suggests that the quality of care provided in the outpatient setting was less than ideal. This measure may also represent a tendency to overuse emergency rooms and urgent care as a main source of care. Preventable Hospital Stays could be classified as both a quality and access measure, as some literature describes hospitalization rates for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions primarily as a proxy for access to primary health care. – 2021 County Health Rankings

Preventable Hospital Stays County, State and National Trends



Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health's Mapping Medicare Disparities (MMD) Tool

Hospital Readmissions

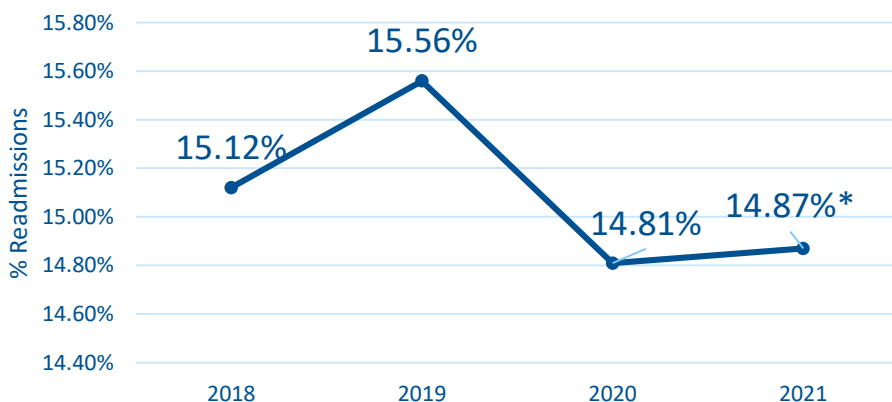
The hospital readmission rate includes all-cause, unplanned hospital admissions within 30 days of discharge from a prior hospital stay.

Why does it matter?

According to the article, *The Continuing Problem of Hospital Readmissions* from the American Council on Science and Health, while the benefits of reducing readmissions to the patient are unclear, readmissions are costly.

Source: American Council on Science and Health

Hospital Readmissions



Source: Blessing Health System Data Analytics
*2021 data is incomplete

Obesity

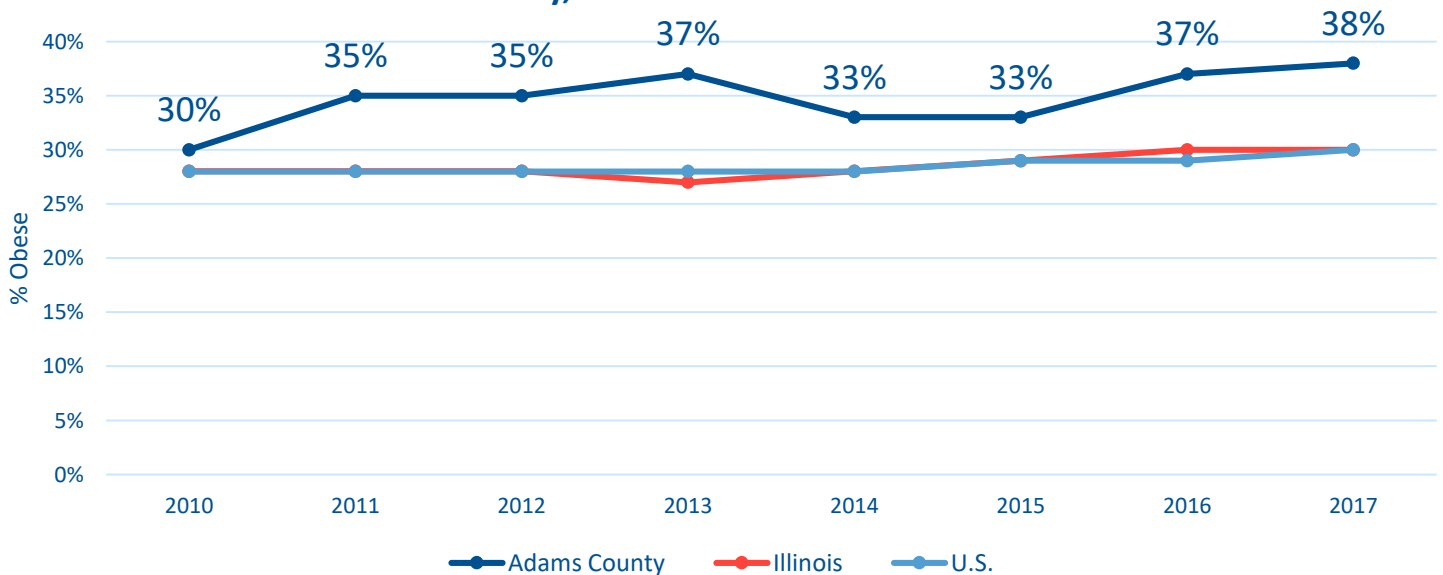
Obesity is a growing concern for Adams County along with the nation. Communities are seeing children as young as two years old diagnosed as being overweight and/or obese. According to The State of Obesity (2017), Illinois has the 26th highest adult obesity rate in the nation. Illinois' adult obesity rate is currently 30 percent (2017), up from 24 percent in 2004. Adult Obesity in Adams County is among the highest in Illinois at 38 percent in 2017.

Over 70 percent of Adams County residents are overweight or obese according to the Illinois Behavior Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019). 35.7 percent of Adams County residents self-reported as overweight with a BMI between 25 and 30 while 35.4 percent of residents reported being obese with a BMI over 30. This is compared to 40.6 percent overweight and 32.6 percent obese in 2012. Source: Illinois Behavioral Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey 2015-2019

Why does it matter?

The County Health Rankings measure of obesity serves as a proxy metric for poor diet and limited physical activity and has been shown to have very high reliability. Obesity increases the risk for health conditions such as coronary heart disease, type 2 diabetes, cancer, hypertension, dyslipidemia, stroke, liver and gallbladder disease, sleep apnea and respiratory problems (such as asthma), osteoarthritis, and poor health status. – 2021 County Health Rankings

**Adult Obesity
County, State and National Trends**



Source: 2021 County Health Rankings – United States Diabetes Surveillance System
Notes: Each year represents a 3-year average around the middle year (e.g. 2015 is the middle year of 2014-2016).

Diabetes

Diabetes is a widespread, chronic disease caused by the inability of the body to produce or properly use insulin. It is characterized by high blood sugar levels. According to the CDC’s U.S. Diabetes Surveillance System, the percent of diagnosed diabetes in adults aged 18+ years in Adams County in 2017 is 11.4 percent, up from 7.9 percent in 2010. The rate of Adams County residents with diagnosed diabetes is 2.9 percent higher (11.4 percent) than U.S. rate of 8.5 percent.

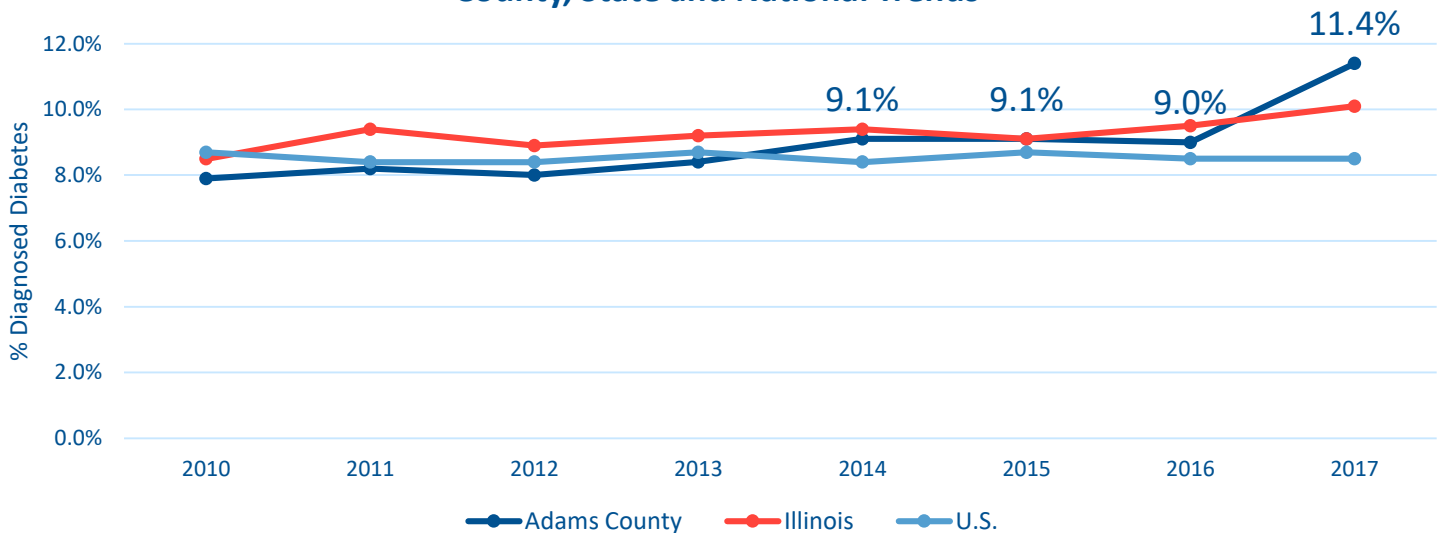
53.9 percent of Adams County residents have had a high blood sugar/diabetes test in the past three years according to the Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2015-2019).

Over the past five years, 16.3 percent of Emergency Department visits have a diabetes diagnosis (32842/200959). Source: Blessing Health System Data Analytics, 2021

Why does it matter?

Diabetes predisposes people to costly complications, including heart disease, hypertension and stroke. Diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness, end-stage renal failure, and non-traumatic lower extremity amputation.

**Diagnosed Diabetes in Adults
County, State and National Trends**



Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Diabetes Surveillance System
Total Adults Aged 18+, Age-Adjusted Percentage



High Cholesterol

38.6 percent of Adams County residents who have had their cholesterol checked reported they have been told they have high cholesterol (2015-2019). 25.2 percent reported they have never had their cholesterol checked. Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019)

High Cholesterol

Adams County	38.6%
Illinois	31.5%
U.S.	33.3%

High Blood Pressure

Adams County	34.8%
Illinois	32.2%
U.S.	32.5%

Hypertension/High Blood Pressure

34.8 percent of Adams County residents have been told they have high blood pressure (2015-2019). High blood pressure (hypertension) increases the risk for heart disease and stroke, two leading causes of death for Americans. High blood pressure is also very common. Tens of millions of adults in the United States have high blood pressure, and many do not have it under control. Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019) / Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Heart Disease

The heart disease death rate, ages 35 and over for Adams County was 313 per 100,000 (2017-2019, 3-year average). This is compared to a rate of 316 in Illinois and 317.4 in the U.S. Source: CDC Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

4.8% of Adams County residents have been told they have **coronary heart disease**.

4.2% of Adams County residents have been told they had a **heart attack**.

10.2% of Adams County residents have a history of **Cardiovascular Disease**.

Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey (2015-2019)

Heart Disease Death Rate age 35 and over, per 100,000

Adams County	313
Illinois	316
U.S.	317.4

2017-2019, 3-yr avg

Stroke Death Rate age 35 and over, per 100,000

Adams County	78
Illinois	74
U.S.	72.3

2017-2019, 3-yr avg

Stroke

The stroke death rate, ages 35 and over for Adams County was 78 per 100,000 (2017-2019, 3-year average). This is compared to a rate of 74 in Illinois and 72.3 in the U.S. Source: CDC Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

Cognitive Decline

11.4 percent of Adams County residents age 45 and older experienced confusion and/or memory loss in the past 12 months (2015-2019), according to the Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

Cognitive Decline

11.4%

Current Smoker

Adams County	14.8%
Illinois	14.5%
U.S.	15.9%

Tobacco & E-Cigarettes

14.8 percent of Adams County residents reported that they were current smokers while 25.4 percent identified as former smokers in the 2015-2019 Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Survey. The percent of current smokers was down from 20.9 percent in 2012. 14.5 percent of adults in Illinois and 15.9 percent of adults in the U.S. reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoke daily or some days. Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey 2015-2019; CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2019

Cancer

In Adams County from 2014 to 2018, there were 2,185 new cases of cancer. For every 100,000 people, 484 cancer cases were reported. Between 2014 and 2018, 778 people died of cancer in Adams County. For every 100,000 people in Adams County, 155 died of cancer.

Cancer in Adams County (2014-2018)		Age-Adjusted Rate	# Cases / Deaths
New Cases of Cancer	Female	470.3	1,093
	Male	506.7	1,092
Cancer Deaths	Female	135.5	367
	Male	179.9	411

Source: U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2020 submission data (1999-2018); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; released in June 2021.

Adams County Cancer Incidence Counts & Five-Year Age-Adjusted Rates	Count	Rate
All sites	2,185	484.2
Oral Cavity and Pharynx	60	12.9
Esophagus	30	7.0
Stomach	10	1.8
Colon and Rectum	198	43.7
Liver	33	6.7
Pancreas	79	16.1
Lung and Bronchus	341	70.3
Bones and Joints	4	1.4
Melanoma of the Skin	137	33.5
Breast (invasive)	325	76.5
Cervix (females)	10	5.5
Corpus and Uterus, NOS (females)	73	30.2
Ovary (females)	30	13.3
Prostate (males)	222	98.7
Testis (males)	6	3.7
Urinary Bladder (includes situ)	108	22.3
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	74	17.9
Brain and Nervous System	25	6.4
Hodgkin Lymphoma	9	2.8
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	68	13.8
Myeloma	29	6.5
Leukemia	45	9.1
All other sites	269	62.0
Breast in Situ (not in total) (females)	52	25.1

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois State Cancer Registry, Data as of November 2020; Incidence counts are five-year totals. Rates are per 100,000, age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population.

In Illinois, there will be an estimated 74,980 new cancer cases and an estimated 23,080 cancer deaths in 2021. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), much of the suffering and death caused by cancer could be prevented by more systematic efforts to reduce underlying causes and to expand the use of established screening tests. The ACS recommends a greater emphasis must be placed on cancer screenings to provide early detection and public education and awareness to reduce the risk and prevent the various types of cancer.



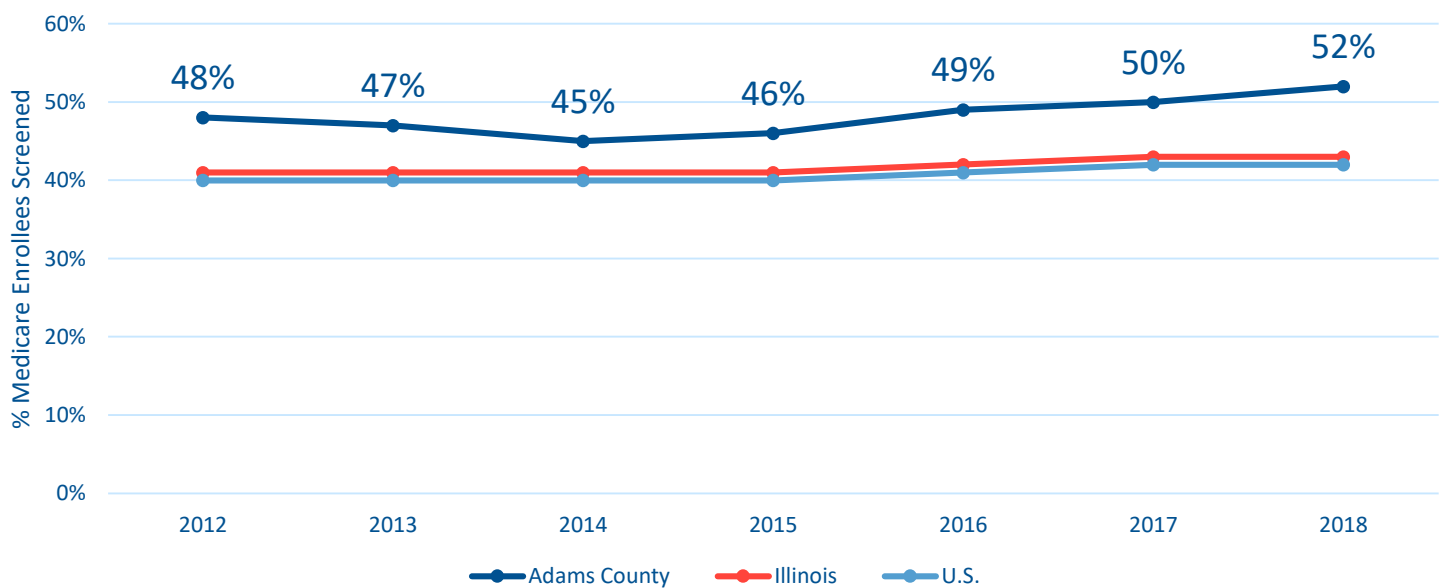
Mammography Screening

52 percent of female Medicare enrollees ages 65-74 received an annual mammography screening in 2018 compared to 43 percent in the state of Illinois and 42 percent in the U.S.

Why does it matter?

Evidence suggests that mammography screening reduces breast cancer mortality, especially among older women. A physician's recommendation or referral – as well as satisfaction with physicians – are major factors facilitating breast cancer screening. Currently, women ages 45-54 are recommended to get mammograms every year, and women 55 and older are recommended to get mammograms every 2 years. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

**Mammography Screening
County, State and National Trends**



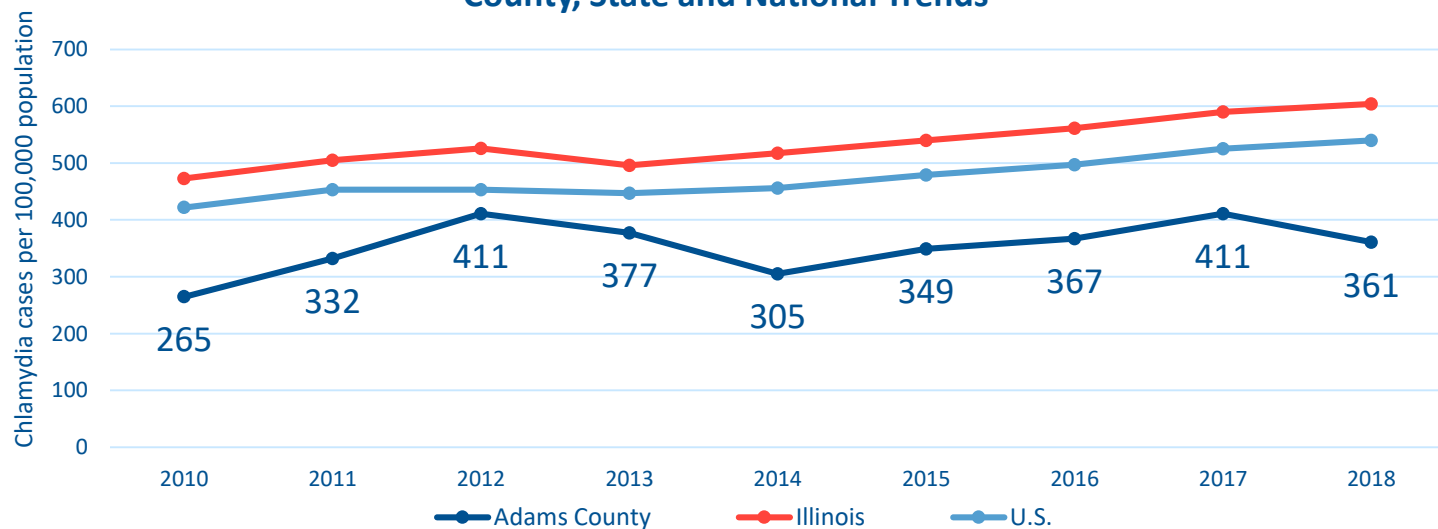
Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health's Mapping Medicare Disparities (MMD)



Sexually Transmitted Infections

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are significant health issues that are largely preventable. Socioeconomic factors have a strong relationship with how STIs are spread. Racial and ethnic disparities, poverty, drug abuse, and access to care are some factors that contribute to the spread of the disease.

Sexually Transmitted Infections County, State and National Trends



Source: 2021 County Health Rankings; National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention

Why does it matter?

Chlamydia incidence rates are associated with unsafe sexual activity. Chlamydia is the most common bacterial sexually transmitted infection (STI) in North America and is one of the major causes of tubal infertility, ectopic pregnancy, pelvic inflammatory disease, and chronic pelvic pain. STIs are associated with a significantly increased risk of morbidity and mortality, including increased risk of cervical cancer, infertility, and premature death. STIs also have a high economic burden on society. The direct medical costs of managing sexually transmitted infections and their complications in the US, for example, was approximately 15.6 billion dollars in 2008. This measure is also significant to health equity as chlamydia disproportionately affects underserved communities, particularly adolescent minority women. – 2021 County Health Rankings

HIV

The HIV prevalence rate in Adams County in 2018 is 87. The HIV prevalence rate is the rate of diagnosed cases of HIV for people aged 13 years or older in a county per 100,000 population. Adams County's rate is lower than the rate overall in Illinois of 335. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)



Physical Inactivity

In 2017, the percent of physically inactive adults aged 20 and older in Adams County was 27.8 percent compared to 22 percent in Illinois and 23 percent in the U.S. Physical inactivity is based on responses to the Behavioral Risk Surveillance Survey and is the percentage of adults ages 20 and over reporting no leisure-time physical activity in the past month.

Why does it matter?

Decreased physical activity has been related to several disease conditions such as type 2 diabetes, cancer, stroke, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and premature mortality, independent of obesity. Inactivity causes 11 percent of premature mortality in the United States, and caused more than 5.3 million of the 57 million deaths that occurred worldwide in 2008.

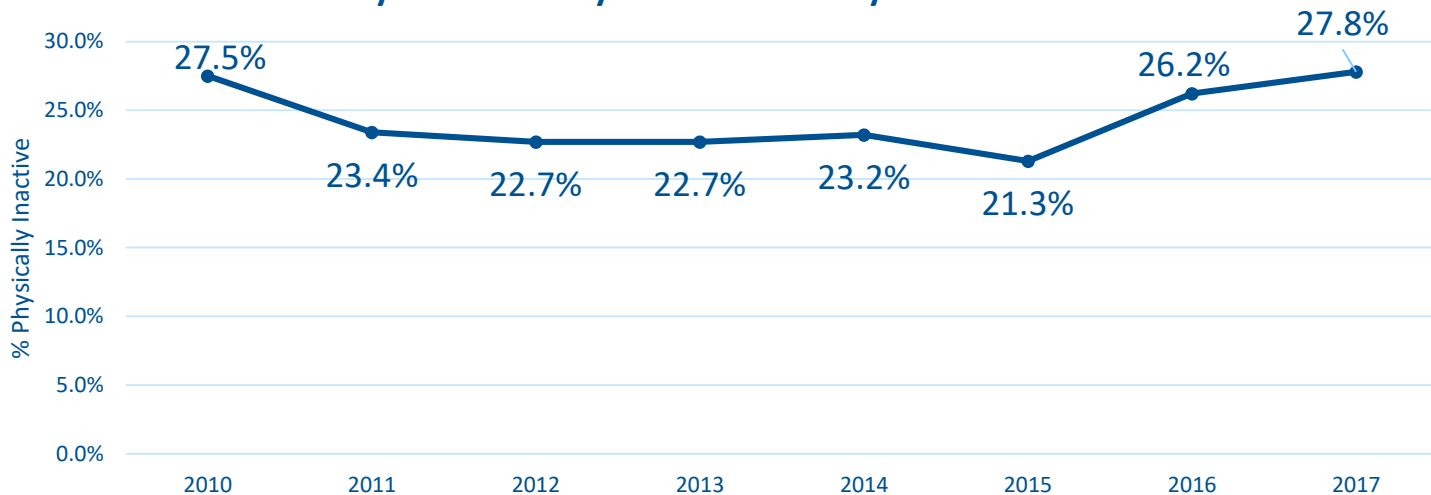
In addition, physical inactivity at the county level is related to health care expenditures for circulatory system diseases. Physical activity improves sleep, cognitive ability, and bone and musculoskeletal health, as well as reduces risks of dementia. Physical inactivity is not only associated with individual behavior but also community conditions such as expenditures on recreational activities, access to infrastructure, and poverty. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

Physical Inactivity among adults age 20 and older

Adams County	27.8%
Illinois	22%
U.S.	23%

2017

Physical Inactivity of Adams County Adults Trends



Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Diabetes Surveillance System
Total Adults Aged 20+, Age-Adjusted Percentage

Notes: Each year represents a 3-year average around the middle year (e.g. 2015 is the middle year of 2014-2016).

Starting with the 2011 data, a new BRFSS methodology was introduced that included cell phone uses. Data from prior years should only be compared with caution.

Quincy Park District

The Quincy Park District consists of approximately 1,012 acres of parkland. Facilities include 1 outdoor swimming pool; Moorman Park complex with the batting cage/miniature golf, paddleboat, Kayaks, multipurpose courts that include pickleball courts, 1 tennis court, and 1 basketball/Futsal (Soccer) court, and 2 sand volleyball courts; 241-slip marina and public boat launching ramps; 27-hole public golf course; lighted baseball/softball/t-ball synthetic and dirt turf fields; lighted tennis courts; soccer/football fields and basketball courts; 15 playground sites; 1 outdoor fitness station; archery range; walking/jogging paths; and the Bill Klingner Trail paved walking/bike trail from the riverfront to 24th Street.

Why does it matter?

Having access to places for physical activity, such as parks and trails, encourages community residents to participate in physical activity and do so more often. The closer you live to a park, the more likely you are to walk or bike to those places, and use the park for exercise. However, only a small number of people in the U.S. live within half a mile of a park. People are also more likely to walk when they feel protected from traffic and safe from crime and hazards. – CDC 43

ENVIRONMENT

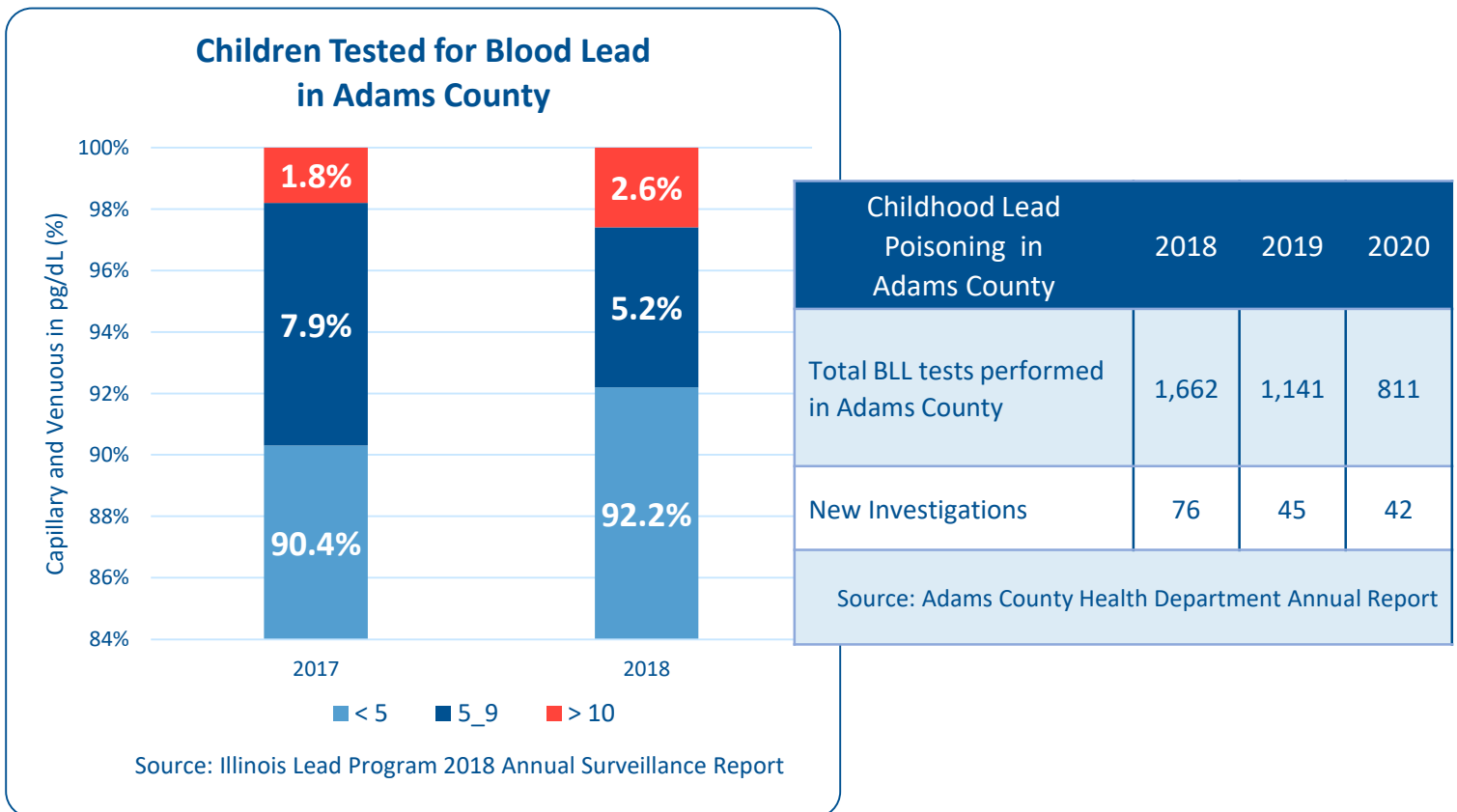
Lead poisoning

2.6 percent of the children 6 years of age and younger who were tested for Blood Lead in Adams County in 2018 were identified with a Blood Lead Level ≥ 10 pg/dL compared to 0.5 percent overall in Illinois. Childhood lead poisoning in Illinois remains one of the highest in the nation. Sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint, airborne emissions, water, consumer products, dust/oil, and maternal. Children at higher risk include those under the age of 6 who live or frequent pre-1978 housing units, reside in high-risk areas, and are eligible for medical assistance.

Why does it matter?

There is no safe level of lead in the body. Lead poisoning is one of the most prevalent and preventable environmental health hazards. Lead exposure can affect the brain and nervous system. Childhood lead exposure is known to contribute to learning disabilities, developmental delays, and behavioral problems as well as a number of other negative health effects.

– 2021 County Health Rankings



Drinking Water Violation

According to the 2021 County Health Rankings, Adams County had at least one community water system in the county receive at least one health-based violation for 2019.

Why does it matter?

Ensuring the safety of drinking water is important to prevent illness, birth defects, and death. Other health problems have been associated with contaminated water, including nausea, lung and skin irritation, cancer, kidney, liver, and nervous system damage. An increase in drinking water violations has also been shown to increase health care expenditures.

Between 3 and 10 percent of community water systems experience a violation each year. – 2021 County Health Rankings



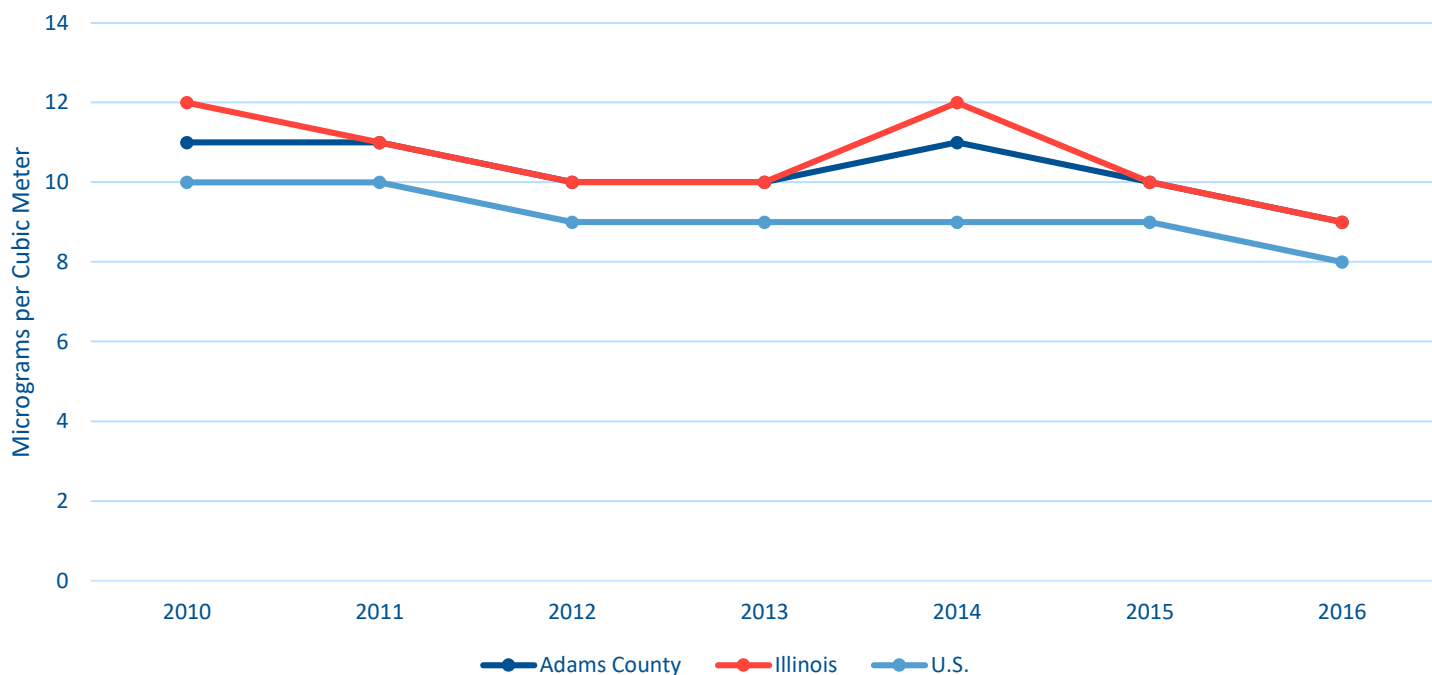
Air Pollution

The average daily density of fine particulate matter in Adams County is 8.6 micrograms per cubic meter. This compares to 8.7 in Illinois. Adams County is getting better for this measure, however it is still higher than the U.S. average of 8.0 micrograms per cubic meter.

Why does it matter?

The relationship between elevated air pollution (especially fine particulate matter and ozone) and compromised health has been well documented. Negative consequences of ambient air pollution include decreased lung function, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and other adverse pulmonary effects. Long-term exposure to fine particulate matter increases premature death risk among people age 65 and older, even when exposure is at levels below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. These harmful particles can be directly emitted from sources such as forest fires, or they can form when gases emitted from power plants, industries, and automobiles react in the air. – 2021 County Health Rankings

Air Pollution - Particulate Matter
Average Density of Fine Particulate Matter
County, State and National Trends



Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program
 Average Daily Density of Fine Particulate Matter: County, State and National Trends



MOTHERS, INFANTS & CHILDREN

Births

Vital Statistics - Births	2018	2019	2020
Total births in Adams County	1115	1009	1035
Born in hospital	1113	1006	1034
Born outside hospital	2	3	1
Quincy	530	491	458
Adams County	150	161	177
Other Illinois Counties	206	192	214
Out of State	229	165	186
1st Child Births	408	385	320

Source: 2020 Adams County Health Department Annual Report

Prenatal Care Utilization

87.2 percent of Adams County babies (736 births) born in 2016 had adequate or above prenatal care utilization compared to 74.3 percent in Illinois.

Prenatal care includes a combination of preventive measures shown to have significant positive impacts on maternal health, infant health, and child development. Prenatal care also facilitates early detection of potentially harmful complications in both mother and fetus. As a result, women who do not have prenatal care or who begin care later in the pregnancy are at higher risk of poor pregnancy outcomes, including preterm births, low birth weight, and infant and maternal morbidity and mortality. Prenatal visits also prepare mothers to provide proper care for their infant after the baby is born. Providers educate expectant mothers on nutrition for their newborn, breastfeeding, immunizations, and illness prevention. Utilization of prenatal care increases the likelihood of improving children's long-term health. Source: Illinois Risk and Reach Report, Illinois Department of Health

Prenatal Care Utilization

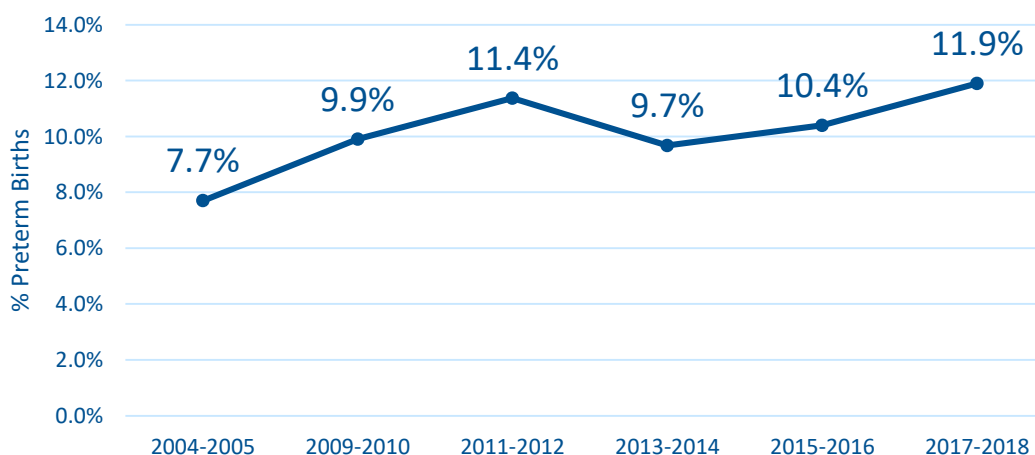
Adams County	87.2%
Illinois	74.3%

2016

Preterm Births

Preterm refers to babies born with a gestational period of less than 37 completed weeks. The 2017-2018 preterm birth rate in Adams County was 11.9 percent compared to 10.5 percent in Illinois.

Preterm Births in Adams County Trends



Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Illinois Department of Public Health, Birth Characteristics by Resident County



Low Birthweight

8 percent of Adams County infants were born with low birthweights (< 2,500 grams) based on 2013-2019 data. Low birthweight (LBW) represents multiple factors: infant current and future morbidity, as well as premature mortality risk, and maternal exposure to health risks. LBW serves as a predictor of premature mortality and/or morbidity. LBW children have greater developmental and growth problems, are at higher risk of cardiovascular disease later in life, have a greater rate of respiratory conditions, and have higher rates of cognitive problems such as cerebral palsy, and visual, auditory, and intellectual impairments. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

Low Birthweight

8%

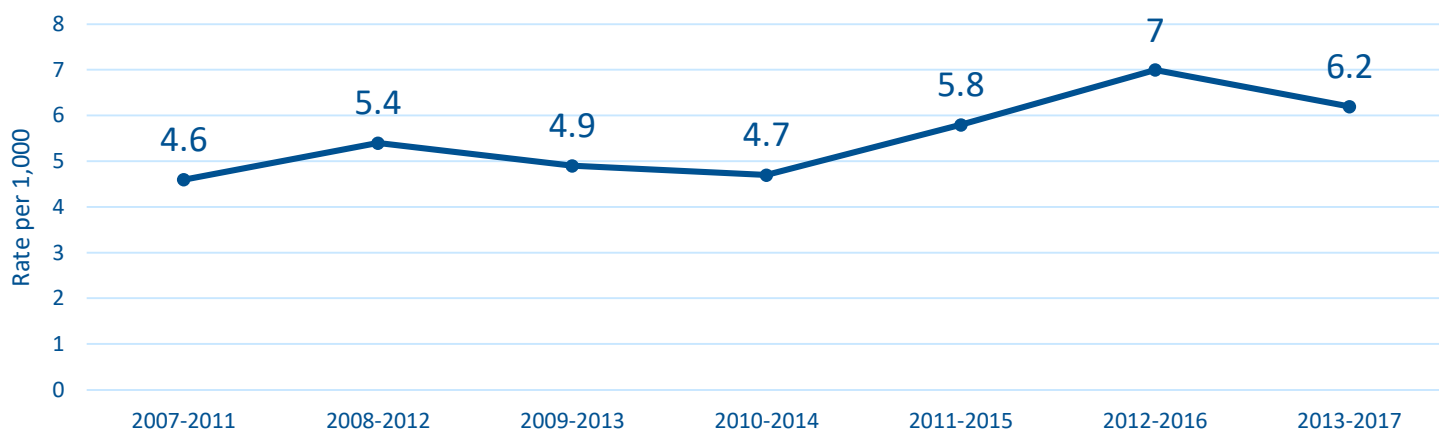
Why does it matter?

Low birthweight is a valuable public health indicator of maternal health, nutrition, healthcare delivery, and poverty. LBW indicates maternal exposure to health risks in all categories of health factors, including her health behaviors, access to health care, the social and economic environment the mother inhabits, and environmental risks to which she is exposed. Authors have found that modifiable maternal health behaviors, including nutrition and weight gain, smoking, and alcohol and substance use or abuse, can result in LBW. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

Infant Mortality Rates

The average infant mortality rate for Adams County has trended slightly upward since 2007. The average rate for both Adams County and Illinois was 6.2 during the 2013-2017 period.

Infant Mortality Rates in Adams County Trends



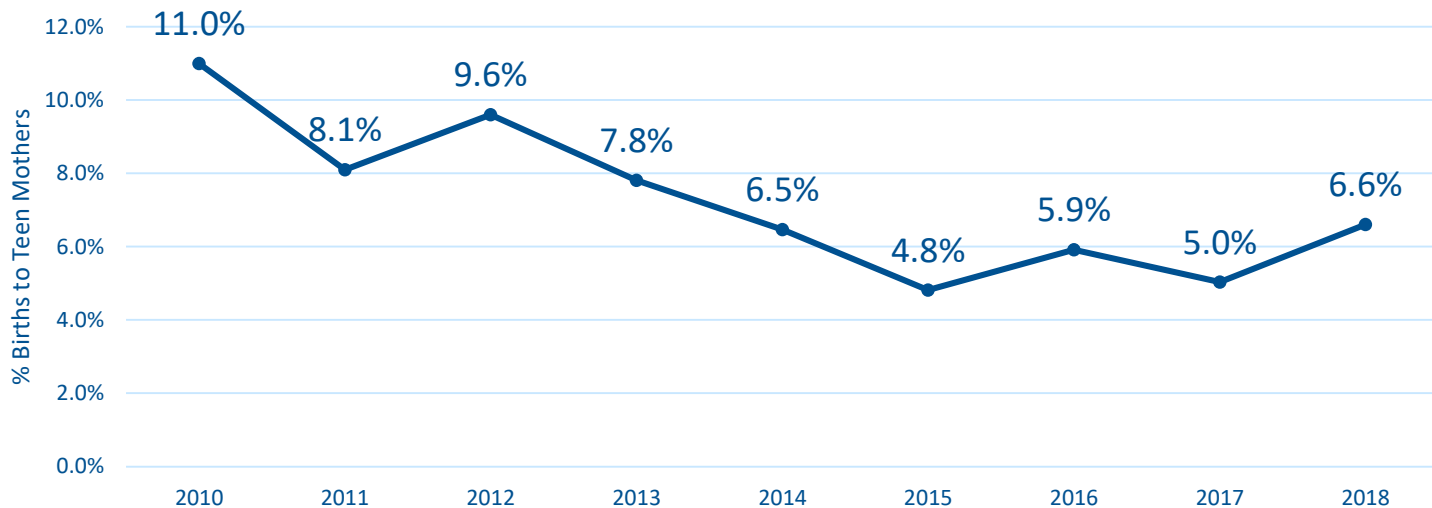
Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).
Infant Mortality Rates by Resident County, 5-year Moving Averages, Illinois Residents, Ending Years 2010-2017



Births to Teen Mothers

Births to teen mothers as a percentage of all live births in Adams County has generally trended downward since 2010. The percent of births to teen moms (under age 19) in Adams County in 2018 was 6.6 percent compared to 4.4 percent in the State of Illinois.

Births to Teen Mothers (Under age 19) in Adams County Trends



Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Teen Births by County

Child Immunizations

57.3 percent of Adams County children age 19-35 months completed the combined 7 vaccine series in 2016 compared to 58.8 percent of Illinois children. U.S. children routinely receive vaccines that protect them from more than a dozen diseases including measles, polio, tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. Most of these diseases are now at their lowest levels in history.

Why does it matter?

Vaccines prevent approximately 14 million cases of disease per year and save 33,000 lives in the United States alone, but approximately 300 children in the United States still die from vaccine-preventable diseases annually. Immunizations are important in preventing outbreaks of preventable communicable disease. If outbreaks do occur, they may be fatal for children who are too young to be immunized and for those who are immunocompromised. Communities with pockets of unvaccinated and under-vaccinated populations are at increased risk for outbreaks. – *Illinois Risk and Reach Report, Illinois Department of Health*

Child Immunizations

Adams County	57.3%
Illinois	58.8%
2016	



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Substance Abuse

A growing concern along with mental illnesses is substance abuse, which refers to the abuse of alcohol, the inappropriate use of prescription medicine, and the use of illegal drugs. According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, among people aged 12 and older in 2019, 60.1 percent (or 165.4 million people) used a substance (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, kratom, or an illicit drug) in the past month. In particular, 50.8 percent (or 139.7 million people) drank alcohol in the past month, 21.1 percent (or 58.1 million people) used a tobacco product in the past month, and 13.0 percent (or 35.8 million people) used an illicit drug in the past month. In addition, 0.3 percent (or 825,000 people) used kratom in the past month.

Alcohol Use

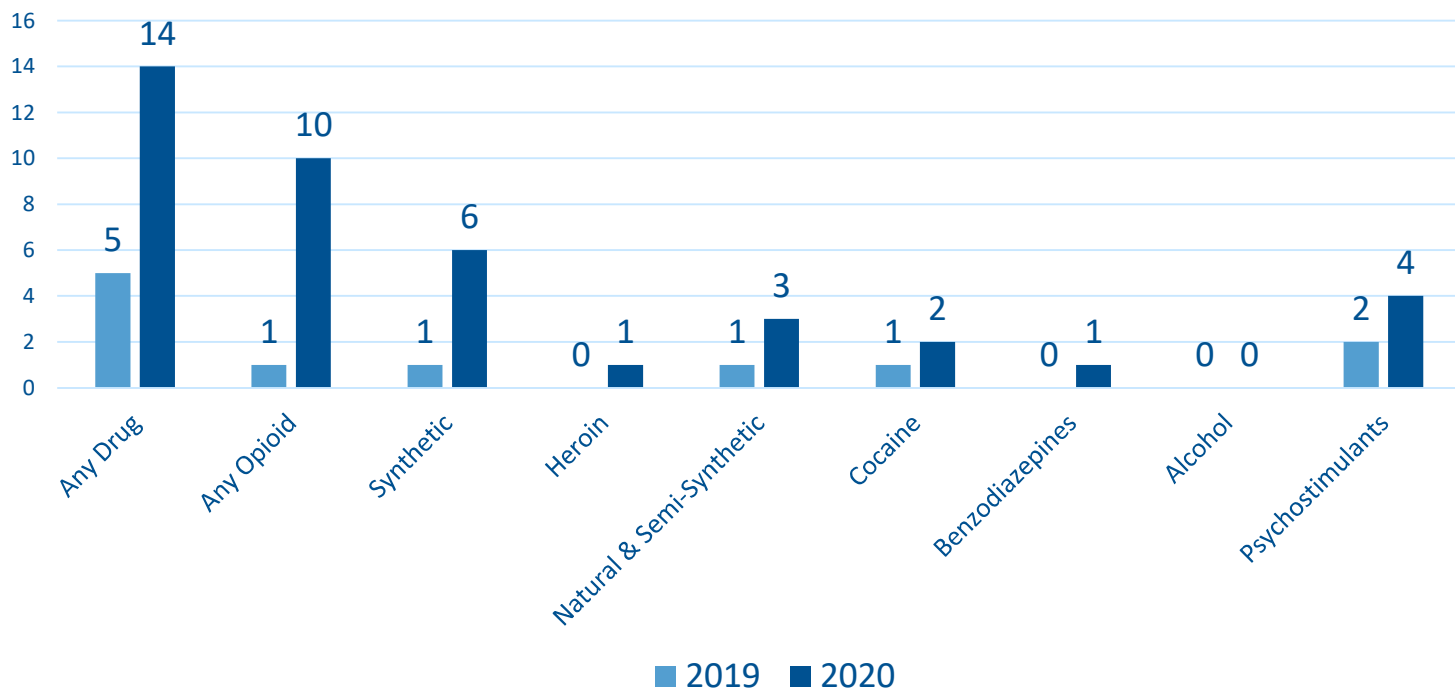
- **19.2%** of the Adams County population is at risk for **binge drinking** (5 or more drinks on one occasion for men, 4 or more drinks on one occasion for women). This is down from 21.7 percent in 2012.
- **6.9%** of the Adams County population is at risk for **heavy drinking** (2 or more drinks per day for men, 1 or more drink per day for women). This is up from 7.4 percent in 2012.

Source: Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, 2015-2019

Drug Overdose Deaths

41 people died of an overdose in Adams County in 2020 compared to 11 people in 2019.

Drug Overdose Deaths in Adams County (2019 & 2020)



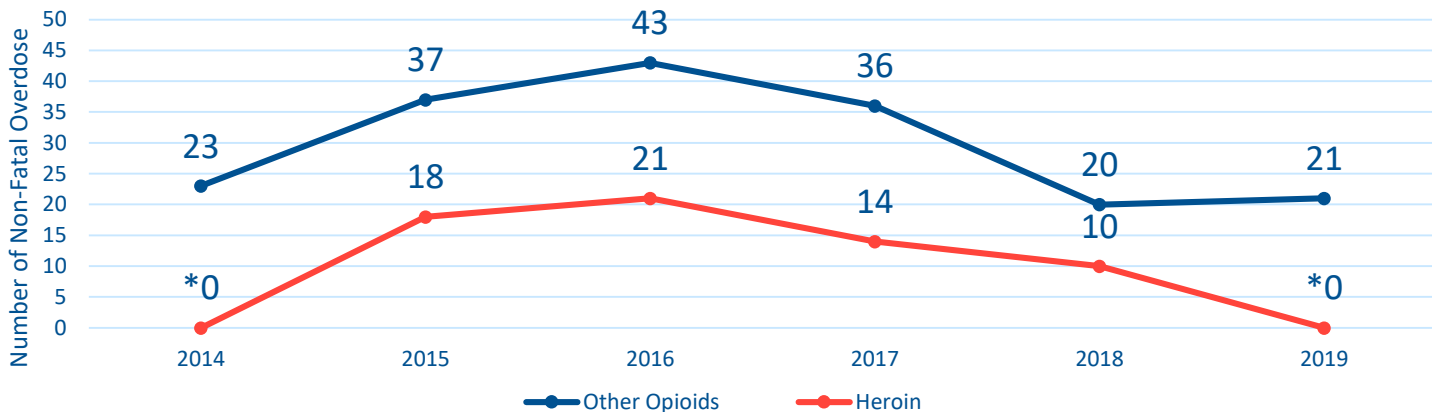
Source: Illinois Department of Public Health



Opioid Abuse

The rate of non-fatal opioid overdose per 10,000 population in Adams County in 2019 is 3.8 percent compared to 11.5 percent in Illinois.

Opioid Non-Fatal Overdose in Adams County Trends



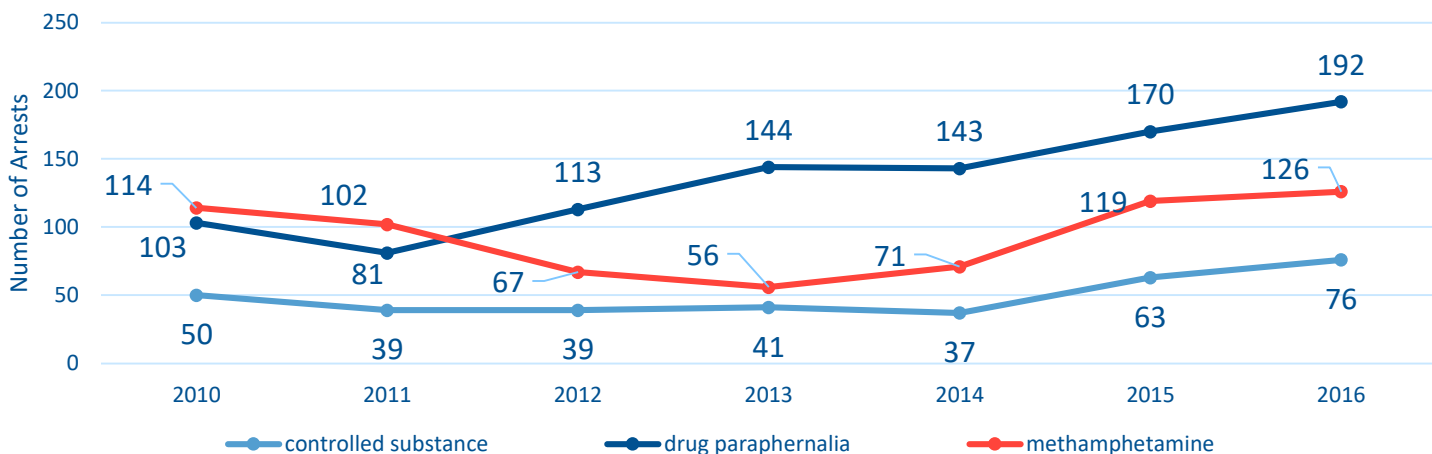
Source: Illinois Department of Public Health Opioid Data Dashboard, 2019
 *Overdose counts involving numbers less than 10 are suppressed for reasons of health information and privacy.

Methamphetamine Use

Rural counties in Illinois had the highest methamphetamine arrest rate in 2017 according to data from a 2019 report titled, *A State and National Overview of Methamphetamine Trends* published by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Researchers found the arrest rate for methamphetamine-related offenses more than tripled between 2010 and 2017 in Illinois and the number of individuals in Illinois prisons for methamphetamine offenses increased 67 percent between 2012 and 2018. Further, treatment for methamphetamine increased five-fold between 2000 and 2017.

Adams County ranked among the highest counties in methamphetamine arrests per 100,000 population – in the 164.3 to 568.2 range.

Drug Arrests in Adams County Trends



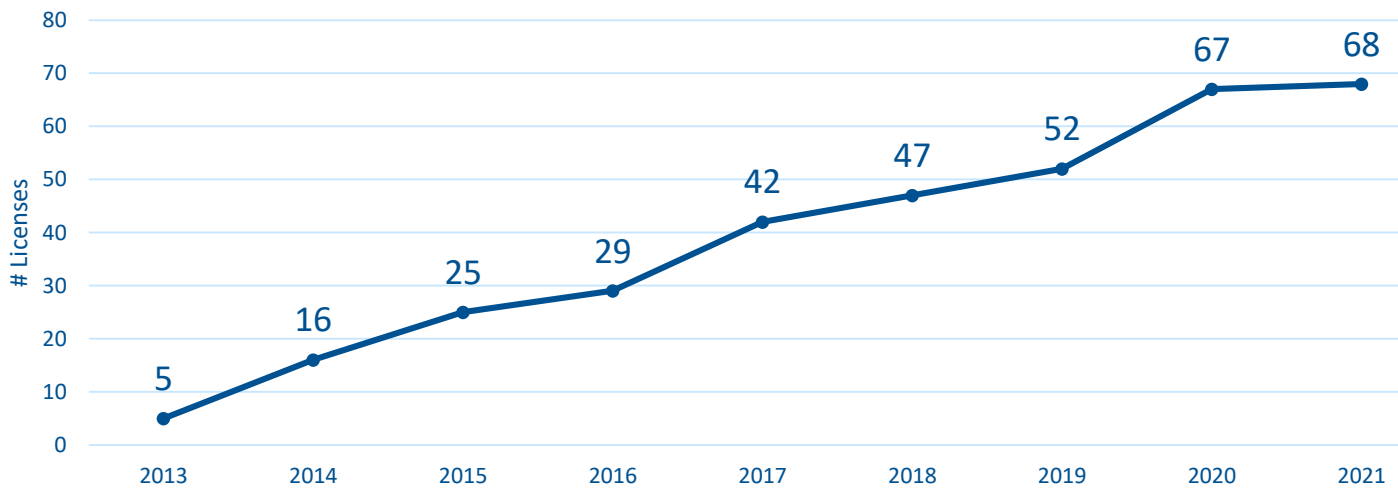
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Illinois State Police, Uniform Crime Report, Juvenile/Adult Drug Arrests, 2010-2016 (Latest Release Date: December 2018)

Gambling Disorder

Gambling isn't always a problem. Gambling becomes a problem when it affects someone's wellbeing or it affects the people around them.

According to a National Survey of Problem Gambling Services, more than 2 percent of adults in Illinois demonstrated gambling disorders. A 2017 Wallethub report on the most gambling addicted states ranks Illinois as 18th highest. For the criteria 'Gambling problem and treatment' Illinois ranks 2nd. Illinois is at the top of the list for the most gambling related arrests per capita. Gambling establishments represent the front line in the battle for gambling disorder treatment. – *Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery*

Video Gaming Licenses in Adams County Trends



Source: Illinois Gaming Board

Substance Use – Youth

Substance Use Among Adams County Youth	2020 (10 th Grade)	2018 (8 th Grade)
Alcohol	38%	26%
Cigarettes	5%	3%
E-Cigarettes	32%	NA
Any Tobacco/Tobacco or Vaping	7%	13%
Marijuana	25%	11%
Illicit (other than marijuana)	3%	1%
Prescription Drug not for you	4%	6%

Source: 2020 Illinois Youth Survey; Contributing Schools – Quincy Senior High School & Unity High School 10th Grade; 2018 IL Youth Survey, 8th/10th/12th Grades



Facts and Stats about Addiction

Addiction is a chronic, but treatable, brain disorder. People who are addicted cannot control their need for alcohol or other drugs, even in the face of negative health, social or legal consequences. This lack of control is the result of alcohol or drug induced changes in the brain. Those changes, in turn cause behavior changes.

- Over 5,500 deaths among Illinois residents each year, over 5% of all deaths, are directly or indirectly related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.
- From 9,000 to 10,000 Illinois residents die each year from accidental injuries. About 40% of these deaths are related to the use of alcohol.
- Each year, about 18,000 Illinois residents die from conditions that are related to the use of tobacco products. These tobacco-related deaths account for about 17% of annual total deaths among Illinois residents.
- The annual Illinois statewide economic costs associated with alcohol, other drug, and tobacco-related mortality is in excess of \$3.5 billion.

Source: Illinois Department of Human Services

Over the past five years, 6.1 percent of Emergency Department visits were related to Alcohol and Drug Related Dependencies (12240/200959). Source: Blessing Health System Data Analytics, 2021

Community Member Key Informants recognize the dangers associated with substance use disorders and addiction, identifying as a top critical health concern.





BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health

Mental health issues have significant impacts on people, families, communities and societies. There are many factors linked to mental health, including genetics, age, income, education, employment, and environmental conditions. Mental health provider shortages, overall access issues, and high rates of co-occurring mental disorders and substance abuse issues all raise concerns about the state of behavioral health in Adams County.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), behavioral health is essential to overall health, with prevention and effective treatment measures allowing individuals to recover from mental health crises. Direct access to health professionals and health services for behavioral health problems enables community residents to obtain proper care and treatment, leading to healthier lives.

Across the nation, mental illness continues to be a major issue for individuals and families. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines mental illness as “collectively all diagnosable mental disorders” or “health conditions that are characterized by alterations in thinking, mood, or behavior associated with distress and/or impaired functioning.” According to the CDC, serious mental illness costs in the United States amount to \$193.2 billion in lost earnings per year. Mood disorders, including major depression, dysthymic disorder, and bipolar disorder, are the third most common cause of hospitalization in the United States for both youth and adults aged 18 to 44.

Mental Health and Emergency Department Visits

Over the past five years, 35 percent of Blessing Hospital Emergency Department visits were related to Mental, Behavioral, and Neurodevelopmental Disorders (70314/200959). Source: Blessing Health System Data Analytics, 2021

**Emergency Department Visits
with Mental & Behavioral Disorders**

35% over past 5 years

Poor Mental Health Days reported in the past 30 days

Adams
County | 4.5

Illinois | 3.8

2018

Poor Mental Health Days

Adams County residents had an average of 4.5 mentally unhealthy days reported in the past 30 days, which is higher than Illinois at 3.8. (2018)

Why does it matter?

Self-reported health status is a general measure of health-related quality of life (HRQoL) in a population. Measuring HRQoL helps characterize the burden of disabilities and chronic diseases in a population. Self-reported health status is a widely used measure of people’s health-related quality of life. In addition to measuring how long people live, it is important to also include measures that consider how healthy people are while alive. Further, reports of days when mental health was not good is a reliable estimate of recent health. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Frequent Mental Distress

14 percent of Adams County adults reported 14 or more days of poor mental health per month. This compares to 12 percent overall in Illinois. (2018 data)

Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Why does it matter?

Frequent Mental Distress is a corollary measure to Poor Mental Health Days. It provides a slightly different picture that emphasizes those who are experiencing more chronic, and likely severe, mental health issues. – 2021 County Health Rankings

Frequent Mental Distress

Adams
County | 14%

Illinois | 12%

2018



Mental Health Providers

The ratio of population to mental health providers in Adams County is 360:1. This is compared to 410:1 overall in Illinois. (2020 data)

Why does it matter?

Access to care requires not only financial coverage, but also access to providers. As the mental health parity aspects of the Affordable Care Act create increased coverage for mental health services, many anticipate increased workforce shortages. Source: 2021 County Health Rankings, National Provider Identification Registry

Mental Health Providers

Adams County	360:1
Illinois	410:1

2020

Community Member Key Informants recognize that mental health is an area of concern, rating mental health - the rate of occurrence of depression, anxiety, and suicide; and access, cost of care, and accessibility - as the top critical health issue facing Adams County residents.

Depression among Youth

2020	Adams County	43%
2018	Adams County	40%
	Illinois	34%

Depression among Youth

43 percent of surveyed Adams County 10th graders reported they experienced depression in the 2020 Illinois Youth Survey compared to 34 percent of Illinois students in 2018. 40 percent of surveyed Adams County 10th graders reported they experienced depression in the 2018 Survey.

Why does it matter?

Untreated depression can result in emotional, behavioral and health problems that affect every area of a teenager's life. Complications related to teen depression may include alcohol or drug misuse, academic problems, family conflicts and relationship difficulties, involvement in the juvenile justice system, and suicide attempts or suicide. – *Mayo Clinic*

Bullying

40 percent of the surveyed Adams County 10th graders reported they have been bullied in the 2020 Illinois Youth Survey. This is compared to 32 percent of Adams County 8th graders and 31 percent of Illinois students in the 2018 Survey. 10 percent of Adams County 10th graders reported that they were intensely bullied in the 2020 Illinois Youth Survey compared to 5 percent of all Illinois students in 2018.

Bullying among Youth

2020	Adams County	40%
2018	Adams County	32%
	Illinois	31%

2020: 10th Grade / 2018: 8th Grade

Child Mental Health Services

9.8 percent of children age 5 and under (262 kids) enrolled in All Kids in Adams County received mental health services through the All Kids program in 2018 compared to 5.9 percent in Illinois. All Kids is an Illinois program for children who need comprehensive, affordable health insurance regardless of immigration status or health condition. Mental health services range from mental health assessment and individual treatment plan development to individual and family therapy.

Why does it matter?

Behavioral health conditions affect a substantial number of children in the U.S. Conditions include mental illnesses such as anxiety disorders, major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Children with behavioral health needs may require a range of services, from outpatient counseling or prescription drugs to inpatient treatment. As the only source of funding for some specialized behavioral health services, and as a major source of insurance coverage for children from families with limited economic resources, Medicaid plays a key role in covering and financing behavioral health care. In total, 11 percent of all children nationwide who were eligible for Medicaid based on income had a behavioral health diagnosis as of 2011.

Source: Illinois Risk and Reach Report, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services



Facts and Stats about Mental Health

Mental Illness among Adults

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, among adults aged 18 or older, the percentage who had any mental illness (AMI) in the past year increased from 17.7 percent (or 39.8 million people) in 2008 to 20.6 percent (or 51.5 million people) in 2019. Over that same period, the percentage who had serious mental illness (SMI) in the past year increased from 3.7 percent (or 8.3 million people) to 5.2 percent (or 13.1 million people).

Among young adults aged 18 to 25, the percentage who had AMI in the past year increased from 18.5 percent (or 6.1 million people) in 2008 to 29.4 percent (or 9.9 million people) in 2019. Over that same period, the percentage who had SMI in the past year increased from 3.8 percent (or 1.2 million people) to 8.6 percent (or 2.9 million people).

Among adults aged 26 to 49, the percentage who had AMI in the past year increased from 20.7 percent (or 20.7 million people) in 2008 to 25.0 percent (or 25.3 million people) in 2019. Over that same period, the percentage who had SMI in the past year increased from 4.8 percent (or 4.8 million people) to 6.8 percent (or 6.8 million people).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Co-Occurring Mental Health Issues and Substance Use Disorder

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, among adolescents aged 12 to 17 in 2019, 18.7 percent (or 4.5 million people) had either a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or a Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the past year, 14.1 percent (or 3.4 million people) had an MDE but not an SUD, 2.7 percent (or 682,000 people) had an SUD but not an MDE, and 1.7 percent (or 397,000 people) had both an MDE and an SUD in the past year. These co-occurring MDE and SUD estimates in 2019 were similar to the estimates in each year from 2015 through 2018.

Among adults aged 18 or older in 2019, 24.5 percent (or 61.2 million people) had either AMI or an SUD in the past year, 16.8 percent (or 42.0 million people) had AMI but not an SUD, 3.9 percent (or 9.7 million people) had an SUD but not AMI, and 3.8 percent (or 9.5 million people) had both AMI and an SUD. The percentage who had both AMI and an SUD increased from 3.3 percent (or 8.1 million people) in 2015 to 3.8 percent (or 9.5 million people) in 2019.

Among adults aged 18 or older in 2019, 11.5 percent (or 28.8 million people) had either SMI or an SUD in the past year, 3.8 percent (or 9.6 million people) had SMI but not an SUD, 6.3 percent (or 15.7 million people) had an SUD but not SMI, and 1.4 percent (or 3.6 million people) had both SMI and an SUD. The percentage who had both SMI and an SUD increased from 1.0 percent (or 2.3 million people) in 2015 to 1.4 percent (or 3.6 million people) in 2019.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Perceived Unmet Need for Mental Health Services among Adults with Mental Illness

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, among the 51.5 million adults aged 18 or older in 2019 with past year AMI, 26.0 percent (or 13.3 million people) perceived an unmet need for mental health services in the past year, which was higher than the percentage in each year from 2008 through 2018.

Among the 13.1 million adults aged 18 or older in 2019 with past year SMI, 47.7 percent (or 6.2 million people) perceived an unmet need for mental health services in the past year, which was higher than the percentages in most years from 2008 through 2018.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health



Suicide

21 percent of surveyed Adams County 10th graders reported they considered suicide in the 2020 Illinois Youth Survey compared to 16 percent of Illinois students in 2018. 22 percent of surveyed Adams County 10th graders reported they considered suicide in the 2018 Survey.

In Illinois, suicide is the 11th leading cause of death resulting in more than 1,000 deaths each year. For young adults 15 to 34 years of age, suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death in Illinois. However, suicide deaths are only part of the problem. More people survive suicide attempts than actually die. They are often seriously injured and need medical care.

Youth who Considered Suicide

2020	Adams County	21%
2018	Adams County	22%
	Illinois	16%

Why does it matter?

Suicide is a serious public health problem and preventable cause of death. According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, in 2018, 48,344 people in the United States died by suicide, including 46,510 adults aged 18 or older. Moreover, suicide rates increased in most states between 1999 and 2016, including increases by more than 30 percent in 25 states over this period. Furthermore, suicide rates continued to increase nationally from 2016 to 2018. However, people who die by suicide represent a fraction of those who consider or attempt suicide. Out of every 31 adults in 2008 to 2011 in the United States who attempted suicide in the past 12 months, there was 1 death by suicide.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health





UNINSURED/UNDERINSURED

For 2019, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 6.1 percent of Adams County residents, compared to 8.7 percent of Illinois residents, lives without any type of health care insurance. U.S. Census Bureau estimates show Adams County lowered the percentage of its uninsured population under age 65 by 3.8 percent between 2018 and 2019.

Why does it matter?

The availability of health care insurance is one of the most important elements in obtaining primary health care access. The limitations in health care coverage affect the vulnerable, underserved, and low-income populations. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) provides Americans with better health security by putting in place comprehensive health insurance reforms that expand coverage, hold insurance companies accountable, lower health care costs, guarantee more choice, and enhance the quality of care for all Americans. Although this legislation introduced historic reform, millions of Americans still find themselves unable to afford health insurance. Often forced to choose between meeting basic needs or paying health insurance premiums, too many Americans go without health insurance coverage, increasing the risk of injury and illness. – *2021 County Health Rankings*

	Insured	Uninsured
2019		
Adams County	93.9%	6.1%
Illinois	91.3%	8.7%
2018		
Adams County	90.1%	9.9%
Illinois	83.2%	16.8%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2018-2019 Small area Health Insurance Estimates using the American Community Survey		

Health Care Cost, Coverage and Utilization

Overall, the cost of care, insurance, and lack of community awareness are barriers to receiving health care. Many feel that payment for health care services is expensive, which includes out-of-pocket costs, prescription medications, and high deductibles. Many people also don't understand how to navigate the insurance system.

- **84.8%** of Adams County residents report they **have a personal doctor**. This is down from 2012 when 89.9 percent of residents reported they have a usual person as a health care provider. 82.8 percent of Illinois residents report they have a personal doctor.
- **5.8%** of Adams County residents report they are **unable to visit a doctor due to cost**. This is down from 2012 when 10.2 percent of residents reported they had not visited a doctor in the past 12 months because of cost.
- **74.4%** of Adams County residents report their **last routine check-up was in the past year**. This is up from 2012 when 72.8 percent of residents reported their last routine check-up was in the past year.
- **10.5%** of Adams County residents report they **could not fill a prescription due to cost**.

Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey, 2015-2019

DENTAL CARE

Dental care is an important part of basic health care. There are many factors that cause access to dental care to be an issue within communities including economics, age, cultural and racial background, and access to transportation. Lack of dental coverage, access, and out-of-pocket costs limit the ability of many residents to obtain proper and consistent dental care.

- **53.5%** of Adams County residents reported they **have dental insurance coverage**.
- **11%** of Adams County residents reported they **could not visit the dentist due to cost**.
- **63.3%** Adams County Residents reported their **last dental visit was in the past year** compared to **29.1%** who reported their **last dental visit was more than 2 years ago**.

Source: Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Risk Factor Survey, 2015-2019

Over the past five years, 1.8 percent of Blessing Hospital Emergency Department visits were related to Dental Health (3694/200959). Source: Blessing Health System Data Analytics, 2021

Adams County Health Department Oral Health Services	2018	2019	2020
Total Patient Visits	9,326	7,850	3,816
Diagnostic Procedures	11,822	15,490	9,089
Preventive	4,742	11,454	6,693
Restorative	1,910	2,002	1,111
Annual Production – Dental Clinic	\$761,570	\$786,187	\$398,654
Sealants	278	1,130	359

Source: 2020 Adams County Health Department Annual Report

Why does it matter?

Certain diseases such as diabetes and HIV/AIDS can lower the body’s resistance to infection, making oral health problems a more serious concern. Oral health might affect, be affected by, or contribute to various diseases and conditions, such as endocarditis, cardiovascular disease, premature birth, low birth weight, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease, and other conditions. The American Dental Association (ADA) recommends regular dental visits. However, individuals who are more prone to or are considered high-risk for dental diseases (e.g., smokers, people with diabetes, people with gum disease, etc.) may need more frequent visits to a dental care provider. – *2021 County Health Rankings*



MULTI-SECTOR ISSUES & COVID OVERVIEW

Multi-Sector Issues

More residents are food insecure in Adams County (11.5 percent) than in the state of Illinois (11 percent). Not having adequate access to enough nutritious foods is associated with poorer health and higher healthcare costs.

Violent crime in Adams County has increased over the last decade from 22 reported incidents of violent crime in 2010 to 44 incidents in 2019. High levels of violent crime compromise physical safety and psychological well-being.

A disproportionate number of black and multi-ethnic Adams County juveniles are admitted to the Adams County Juvenile Detention Center. Of the 128 Adams County juvenile admissions in 2019, 33.6 percent were black, 17.2 percent were multi-ethnic, and 49.2 percent were white.

A concerning trend we see from recent data is more children are experiencing maltreatment and more children are in substitute care in Adams County. 221 children were temporarily placed outside of their homes – in a foster family home, group home, or institution – due to abuse, neglect or dependency in 2020 compared to 90 children in 2015. Youth in foster care and adults who formerly were placed in care have disproportionately high rates of emotional and behavioral disorders. Source: National Library of Medicine - *Mental health services for children placed in foster care: an overview of current challenges*

COVID-19 Pandemic

As of September 1, 2021, 44.36 percent of the total Adams County population are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 compared to 53.18 percent of the Illinois population. Adams County has also had a higher rate of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people and higher rate of deaths related to COVID-19 per 100,000 people than Illinois. COVID-19 is a threat to people who are unvaccinated. Some people who get COVID-19 can become severely ill, which could result in hospitalization, and some people have ongoing health problems several weeks or even longer after getting infected. As of September 2021, one in every 500 Americans has died of COVID according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As documented in emerging research, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic go beyond the devastation of severe illness and death of friends, neighbors, and loved ones. COVID-19 has impacted our mental health, healthcare, employment, housing, economy, education systems and more.



FOOD INSECURITY & ENVIRONMENT

The lack of access to healthy foods, the absence of health education, and the lack of access to outdoor activities or structured physical activity can create an environment that perpetuates chronic health problems such as obesity, high blood pressure, and diabetes. Additional barriers and factors impacting nutrition include cultural eating habits, lack of quality grocery stores, affordability of healthy foods, and the lack of health education or understanding how to prepare healthy meals.

Food Insecurity

According to data from Feeding America, 5,220 adults or 10 percent of the population are food insecure in Adams County. These 5,220 adults are estimated to spend a total of \$1,610 more for health care than people who are food secure. The overall food insecurity rate in Adams County is 11.5 percent compared to 11.0 percent in Illinois and 12.9 percent in the U.S.

Why does it matter?

Food insecurity – not having adequate access to enough nutritious foods – is associated with poorer health and higher healthcare costs. Among food-insecure households, reduced access to nutritious foods increase the risk for poor health and chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension. Food insecurity increase stress and the risk of poorer mental health, affecting people’s capacity to manage their overall health. Food insecurity can cause people to skip or delay medication refills and clinic visits – complicating self-management and continuing the cycle of poor health. Source: Feeding America, The Healthcare Costs of Food Insecurity, 2019

Economic Drivers of Food Insecurity in Adams County

- A one percentage-point increase in the poverty rate leads to a 0.26 percentage-point increase in the overall food-insecurity rate.
- A one percentage-point increase in the unemployment rate leads to a 0.50 percentage-point increase in the overall food-insecurity rate.
- A one percentage-point increase in the homeownership rate leads to a 0.09 percentage-point decrease in the overall food-insecurity rate.

Source: Feeding America, Mapp the Meal Gap, The Economic Drivers of Food Insecurity

Food Environment Index

The County Health Rankings measure of the food environment accounts for both proximity to healthy foods and income. This measure includes access to healthy foods by considering the distance an individual lives from a grocery store or supermarket, locations for health food purchases in most communities, and the inability to access healthy food because of cost barriers. The Food Environment Index ranges from a scale of 0 (worst) to 10 (best) and equally weighs two indicators of the food environment:

- 1) Limited access to healthy foods estimates the percentage of the population that is low income and does not live close to a grocery store. Low income is defined as having an annual family income of less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold for the family size. Living close to a grocery store is defined differently in rural and nonrural areas; in rural areas, it means living less than 10 miles from a grocery store whereas in nonrural areas, it means less than 1 mile.
- 2) Food insecurity estimates the percentage of the population that did not have access to a reliable source of food during the past year. A two-stage fixed effects model was created using information from the Community Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and American Community Survey to estimate food insecurity.

The 2021 Food Environment Index value for Adams County was 8.5. This is compared to 8.7 overall in Illinois. Adams County ranks 46 out of 102 Illinois counties for this measure.

Why does it matter?

There is strong evidence that food deserts are correlated with high prevalence of overweight, obesity, and premature death as supermarkets traditionally provide healthier options than convenience stores or smaller grocery stores. Additionally, those with low incomes may face barriers to accessing a consistent source of healthy food. Lacking consistent access to food is related to negative health outcomes such as weight gain, premature mortality, asthma, and activity limitations, as well as increased health care costs. – 2021 County Health Rankings

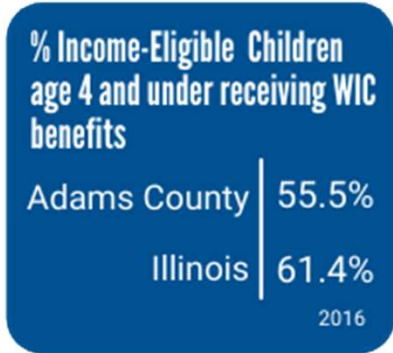


Child Nutrition

55.5 percent of income-eligible children age 4 and under (926 children) received Women, Infants and Children (WIC) benefits in 2016 compared to 61.4 percent in Illinois.

Why does it matter?

Proper nutrition, particularly in the first three years of life, has implications for a child’s future physical health and cognition. Children living in homes that are food insecure are sick more often, recover more slowly, and are more likely to be hospitalized. Iron deficiency in early life, the most prevalent nutritional deficiency in the United States, has been linked to persistent cognitive delays, attention deficits, and behavior challenges, even after treatment. Source: Illinois Risk and Reach Report, Illinois Department of Health and American Community Survey

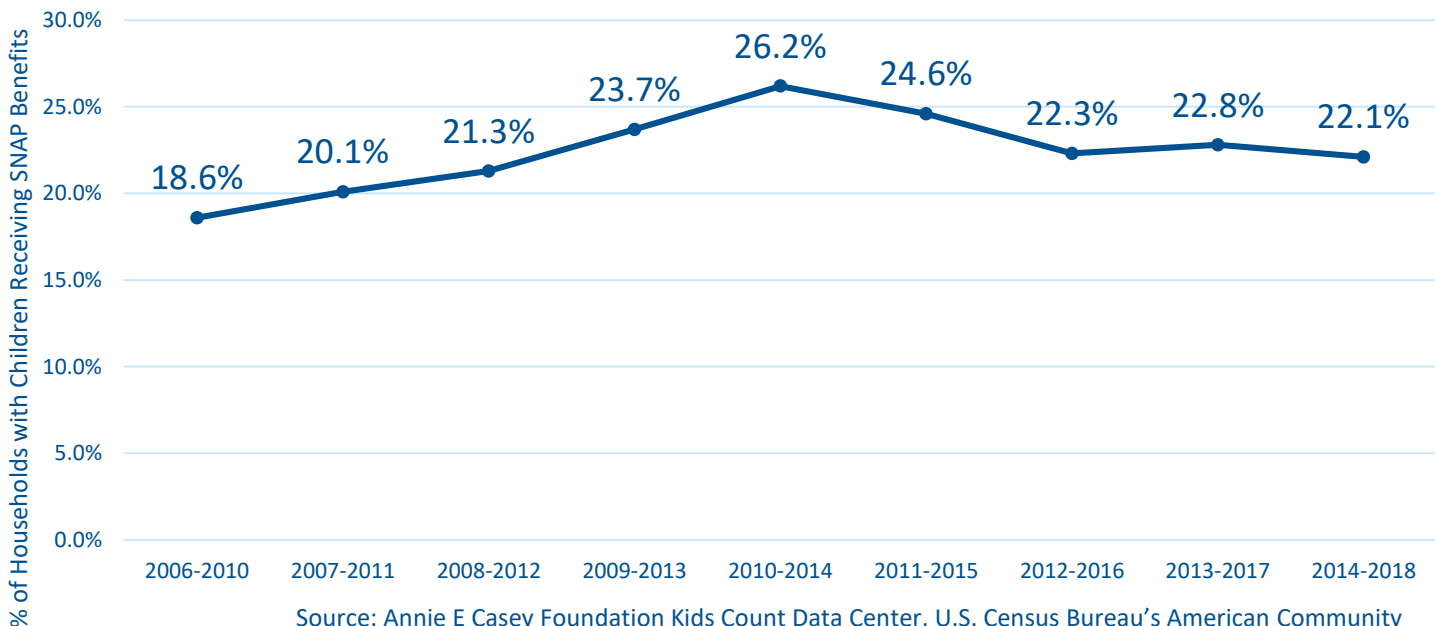


SNAP Benefits

Among the total food insecure people in Adams County, Feeding America estimates 60 percent may be SNAP eligible. In Illinois, the income limit for a family of 4 to receive SNAP is \$41,415 pre-tax, which is 165 percent of the poverty line. This equals \$3,451 monthly before taxes for critical living expenses. Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2019

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) offers nutrition to eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. The U.S. Census Bureau reported for 2015 to 2019, 21.4 percent of households with children in Adams County received SNAP benefits. This is higher than the Illinois rate of 20.2 percent.

Adams County SNAP Benefits Trends



Source: Annie E Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey, Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) 2006-201 to 2015-2019 5-year estimates



CRIME AND SAFETY

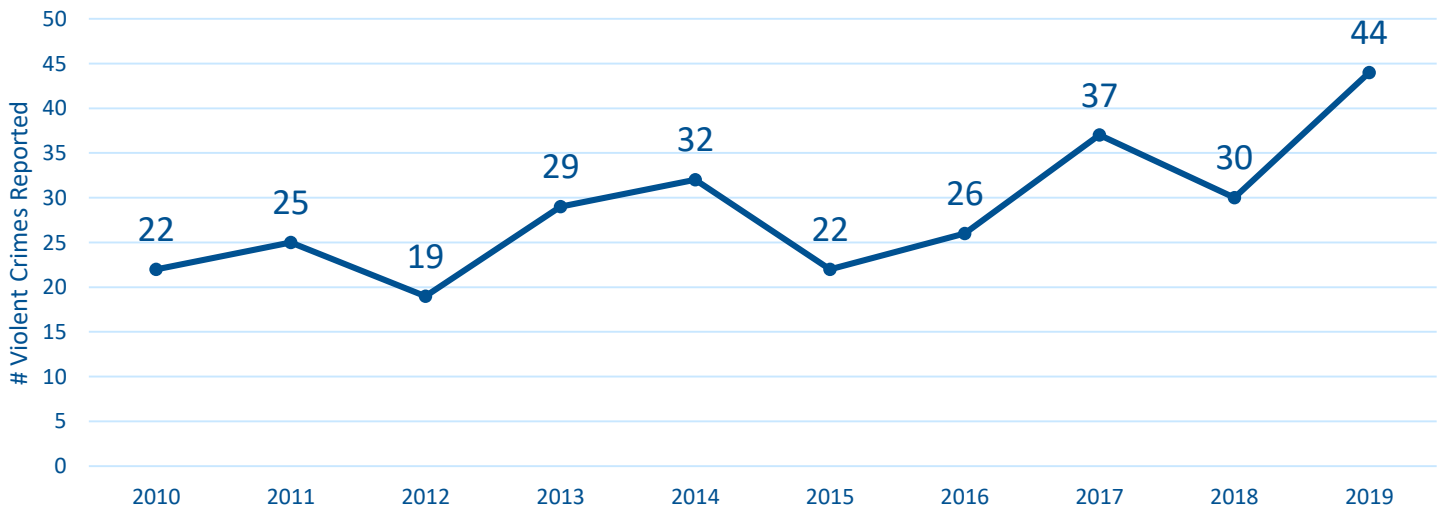
Crime and safety factors significantly impact the ability of an individual to enjoy a full and productive life. Lack of a livable environment affects the ability of individuals to access adequate preventative health care services, engage in outdoor activities, and obtain other basic needs.

Offenses Known to Law Enforcement in Adams County (2015-2018)

Year	Violent Crime	Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Property Crime	Burglary	Larceny - theft	Motor vehicle theft	Arson
2018	30	0	15	0	15	165	64	93	8	0
2017	37	0	18	1	18	186	46	136	4	0
2016	26	1	12	0	13	169	55	108	6	0
2015	22	0	8	0	14	149	43	95	11	1

Source: United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Uniform Crime Reports

Violent Crime Reported by the Adams County Sheriff's Office



Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Data Explorer - Volume of violent crime (murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crime (burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft)

Why does it matter?

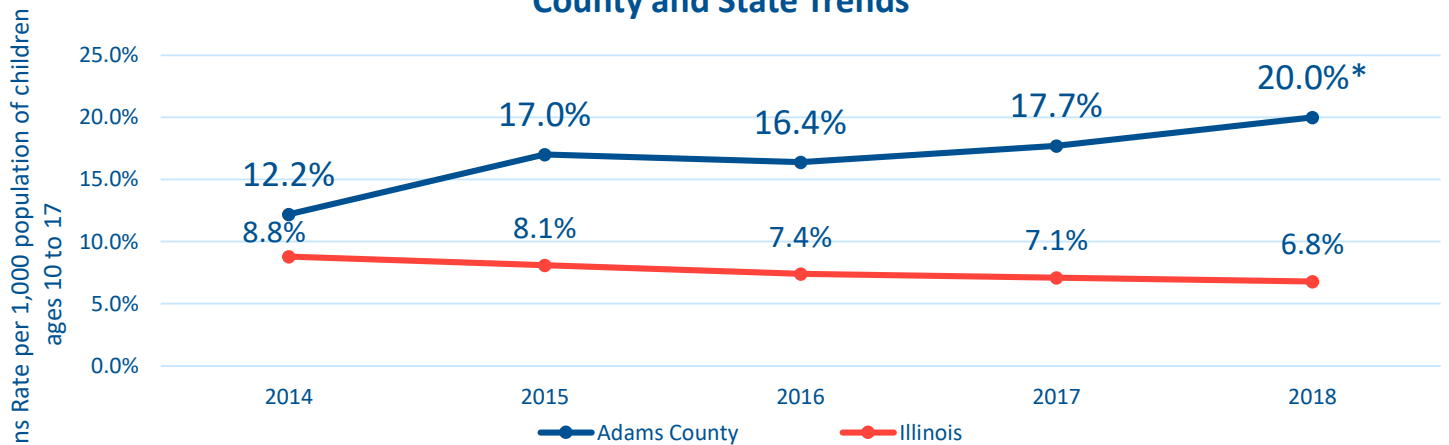
High levels of violent crime compromise physical safety and psychological well-being. High crime rates can also deter residents from pursuing healthy behaviors, such as exercising outdoors. Additionally, exposure to crime and violence has been shown to increase stress, which may exacerbate hypertension and other stress-related disorders and may contribute to obesity prevalence. Exposure to chronic stress also contributes to the increased prevalence of certain illnesses, such as upper respiratory illness, and asthma in neighborhoods with high levels of violence. Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data is generally regarded as a valid and reliable index of the types of crime residents view as serious events. – 2021 County Health Rankings



Juvenile Detention

The rate of juvenile detention in Adams County in 2018 was 20.0 per 1,000 child population. The Illinois rate in 2018 was 6.8. Juvenile detention is defined as the temporary care of a minor alleged or adjudicated as delinquent who requires secure custody for his or her own or the community’s protection. Children in juvenile detention are between the ages of 10 and 18+. All rates are per 1,000 population of children ages 10 to 17. *The Adams County rate includes juveniles from outside of the county that are admitted to the Adams County Juvenile Detention Center.

**Juvenile Detention Admissions
County and State Trends**

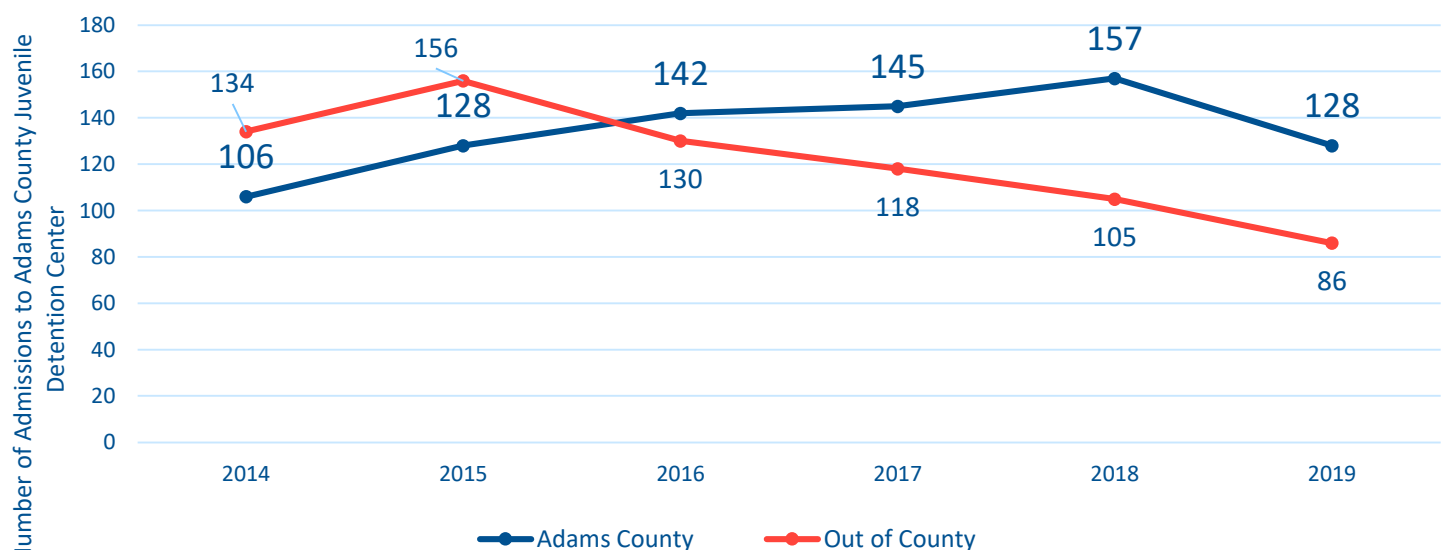


Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and the Center for Prevention Research and Development at the University of Illinois
*The Adams County rate Includes out of county juveniles admitted to the

Juvenile Detention – Race, Age, Length of Stay

Of the 128 Adams County juvenile admissions in 2019, 33.6 percent were black, 17.2 percent were multi-ethnic, and 49.2 percent were white. The average age of Adams County juveniles in detention and treatment in 2019 was 16.2 years and their average length of stay was 33.7 days.

Adams County Juvenile Detention Center Admissions



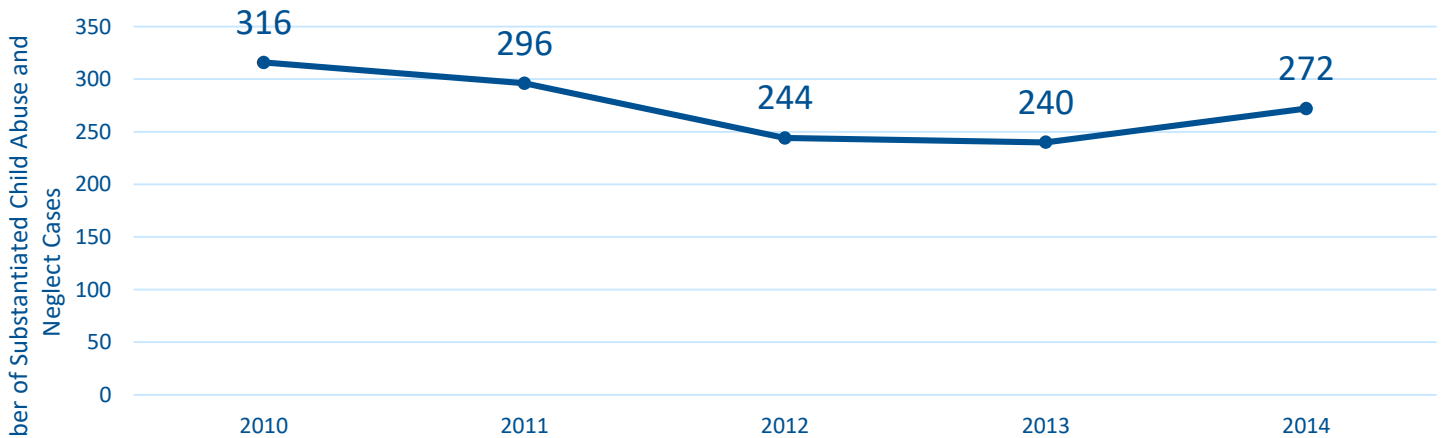
Source: Adams County Juvenile Detention Center



CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

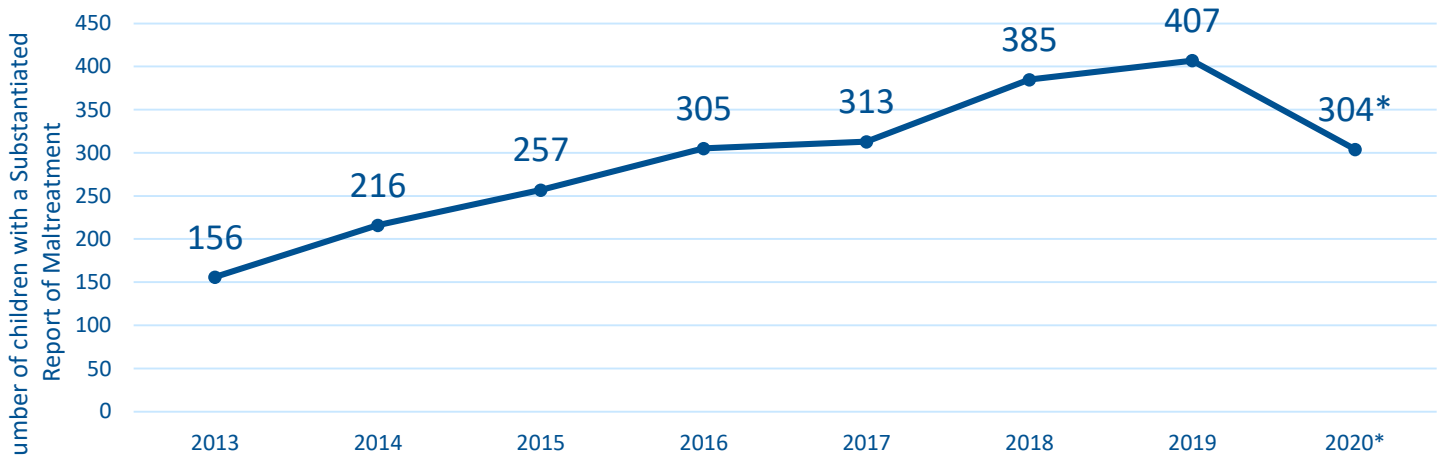
The rate of child abuse and neglect in Adams County between 2012-2014 (3-year average) was 15.6 per 1,000 child population compared to the State of Illinois rate of 9.3. Substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect are those in which an investigation by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services produced sufficient evidence to confirm that child abuse and neglect did occur.

Child Abuse and Neglect Cases in Adams County Trends



Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Maltreatment of Children in Adams County Trends



Source: University of Illinois Children & Family Research Center School of Social Work
 Years marked with an asterisk () do not reflect a complete year of data.



Child Abuse and Neglect

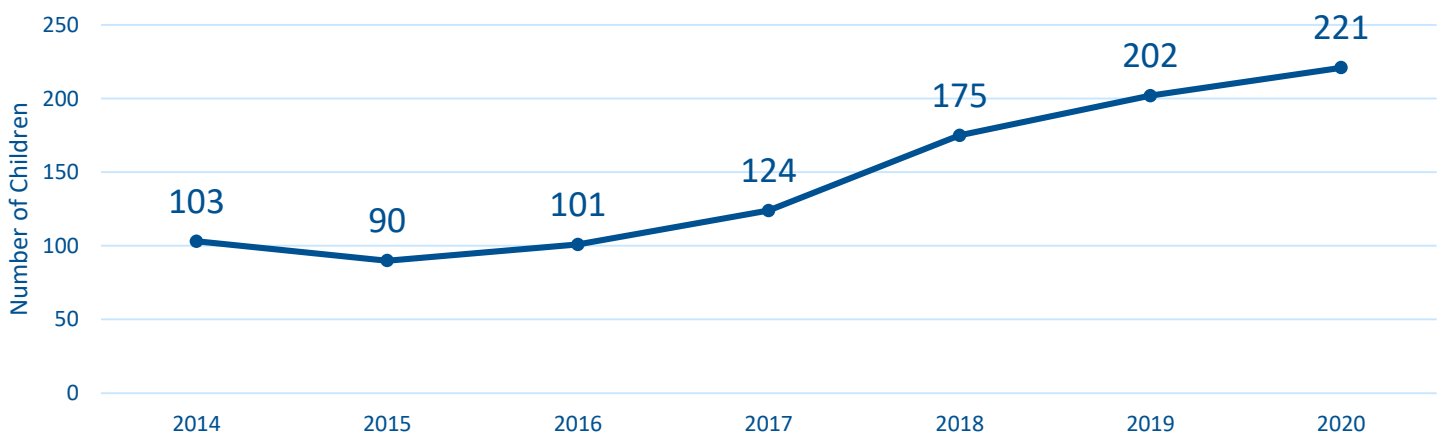
In 2020, the percentage of all substantiated child reports in each allegation group in Adams County is as follows:

- **27.7%** The **Neglect** group includes all substantiated Lack of Supervision, Environmental Neglect and Other Neglect allegations.
- **6.8%** The **Physical and Other Abuse** group includes all substantiated Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse and Substance Exposure allegations.
- **4.5%** The **Sexual Abuse** group includes all substantiated Sexual Abuse allegations.
- **69.6%** The **Risk of Harm** group includes all substantiated Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse as well as Substantial Risk of Physical Abuse/Harm (by Abuse or by Neglect) allegations.

Children in Substitute Care

The total number of children in substitute care in Adams County has grown steadily since 2015. Substitute care – in a foster family home, group home, or institution – is the temporary placement of children outside their homes due to abuse, neglect or dependency. Placing a child in substitute care is not intended as a permanent living arrangement but to protect the child with the ultimate goal of returning the child home.

Children in Substitute Care in Adams County Trends



Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Children and Family Research Center at the University of Illinois



COVID-19 in Adams County

Vaccination Rates

As of September 1, 2021, Illinois Department of Public Health reports that 29,139 Adams County residents or 44.36 percent of the total Adams County population are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This COVID-19 vaccination rate is less than the state of Illinois at 53.18 percent. At the time this Assessment was published, Adams County lags in the percentage of fully vaccinated residents in each of the population age groups as indicated in the table below.

	Adams County # Fully Vaccinated	Adams County % Fully Vaccinated	Illinois % Fully Vaccinated
Total	29,139	44.36%	53.18%
18-64 years	17,291	45.96%	60.95%
12-17 years	1,092	21.99%	46.61%
65+ years	10,755	80.93%	82.20%

As of September 1, 2021 / Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

Why does it matter?

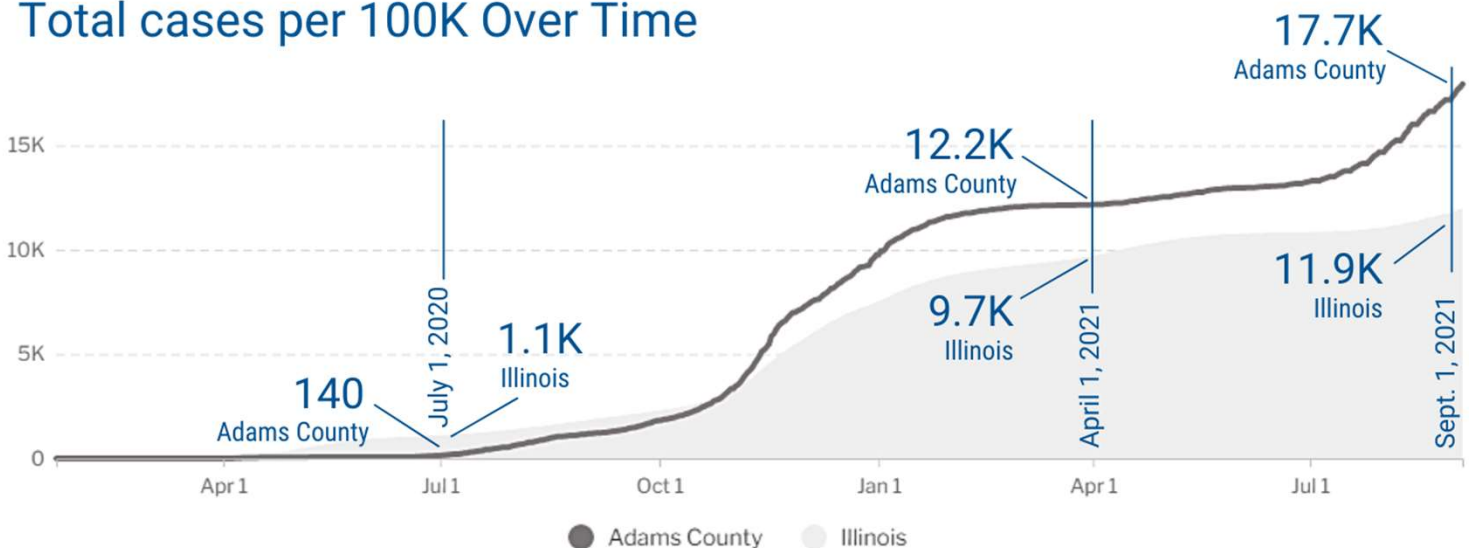
According to the CDC, COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. The vaccines have been developed using science that has been around for decades. They are not experimental and went through all the required stages of clinical trials. Extensive testing and monitoring have shown that these vaccines are safe and effective. COVID-19 vaccines can keep you from getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. They also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, particularly people at increase risk for severe illness from COVID-19 including older adults, people with medical conditions, and pregnant and recently pregnant people.

Evidence is emerging that people get better protection by being fully vaccinated compared with having had COVID-19. COVID-19 is a threat to people who are unvaccinated. Some people who get COVID-19 can become severely ill, which could result in hospitalization, and some people have ongoing health problems several weeks or even longer after getting infected. Even people who did not have symptoms when they were infected can have these ongoing health problems. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Total Cases per 100K

Cumulative cases per 100K shows us which areas have the highest rates of total people who have been or are currently infected with COVID-19. Higher total infections means more people may have been affected by quarantine requirements or may be experiencing long-term health effects.

Total cases per 100K Over Time



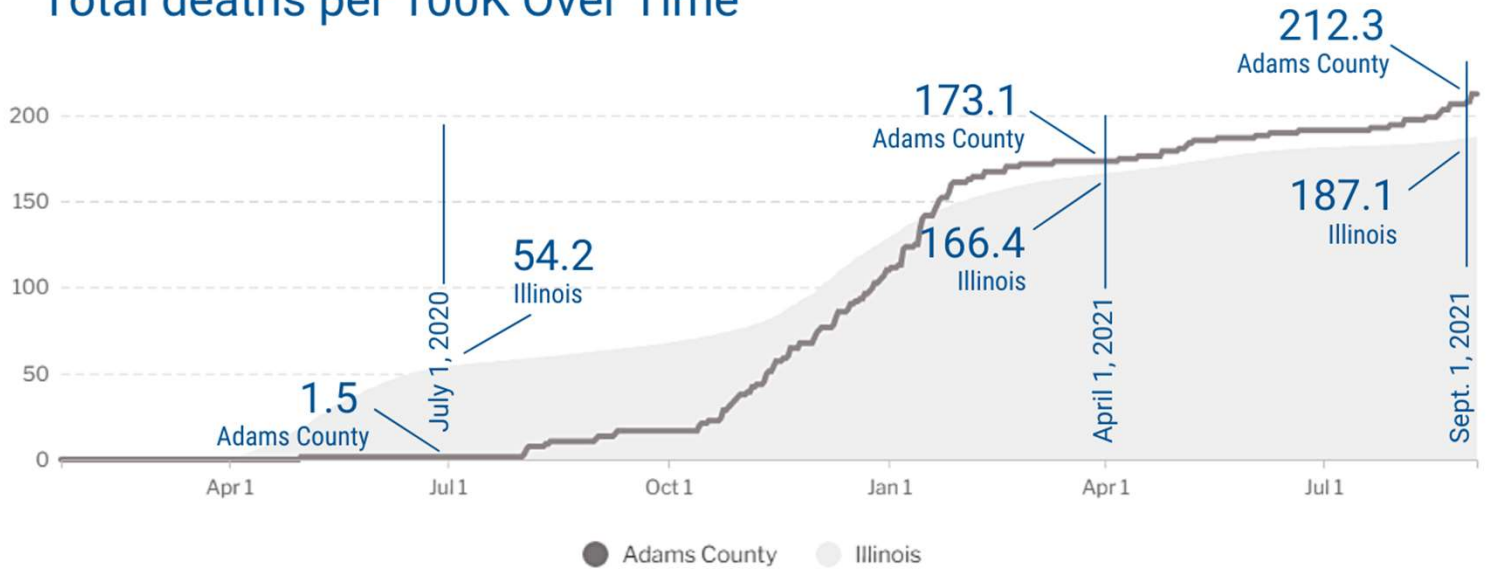
Source: Precision for COVID, U.S. Data Explorer; JHU CSSE COVID-19 Data



Total Deaths per 100K

The COVID-19 Pandemic has devastated communities across the country, and the death of friends, neighbors and loved ones is one of its most profound impacts.

Total deaths per 100K Over Time



Source: Precision for COVID, U.S. Data Explorer; JHU CSSE COVID-19 Data





SURVEY RESULTS

In this section you will find survey results from Adams County Community Assessment Key Informant Interviews and Survey and Two-Question Community Themes Survey.

Key Informant Survey & Interview Results

Key Informants include representatives from community sectors such as government, social service, churches/faith, healthcare, business, education, and nonprofit organizations. Over 500 individuals were identified and invited to participate in either a Zoom interview or online survey. 293 people responded to the online survey and 33 people participated in the interview process resulting in a 64 percent response rate. The survey collection period was from July 9, 2021 to August 5, 2021.

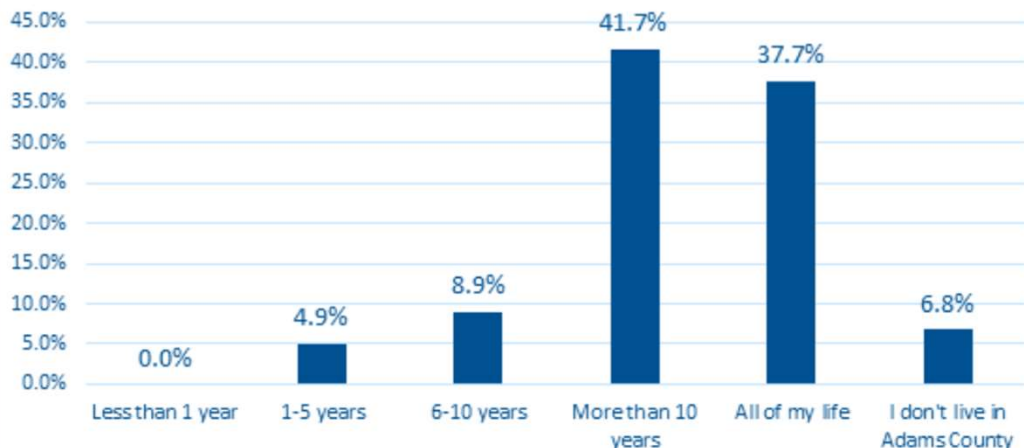
Two-Question Community Themes Survey Results

535 people from Adams County responded to the Two-Question Community Themes Survey. The survey was administered in February 2021 at the Adams County Health Department's COVID-19 Vaccination Site in Quincy. It was also shared on the United Way of Adams County's social media channels and to United Way volunteers and partners through its various communications channels.

Adams County Key Informant Survey & Interviews

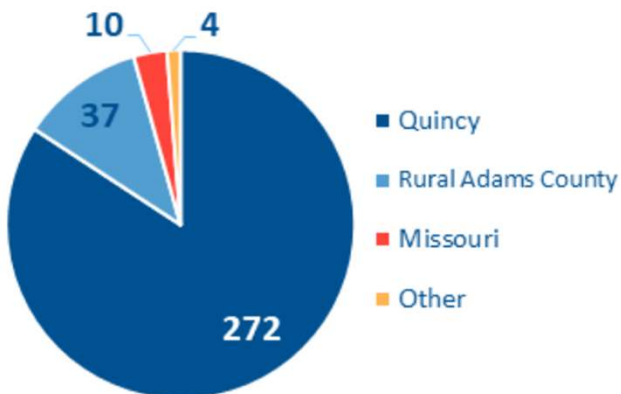
Respondents Demographic Profile

How Long Respondents have lived in Adams County

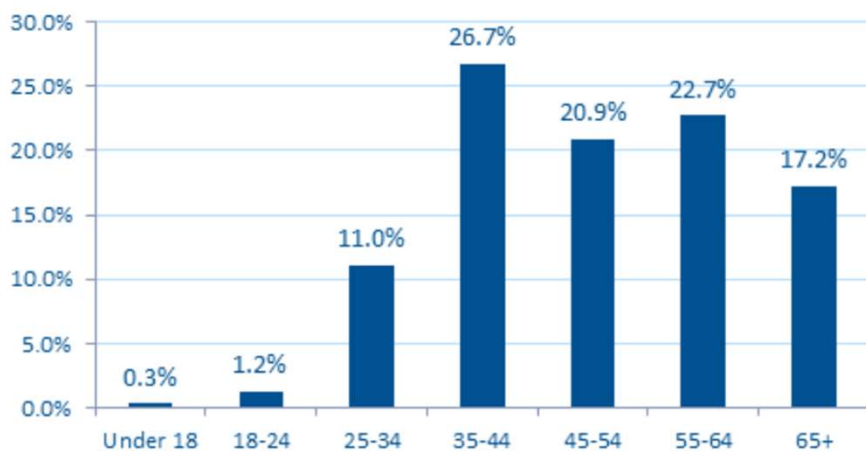


326
Responses
33 interviews
293 surveys

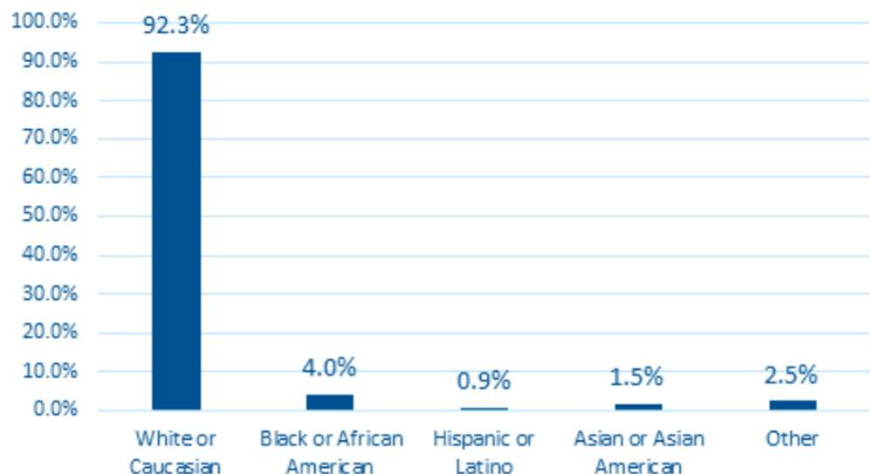
Zip Code of Respondents



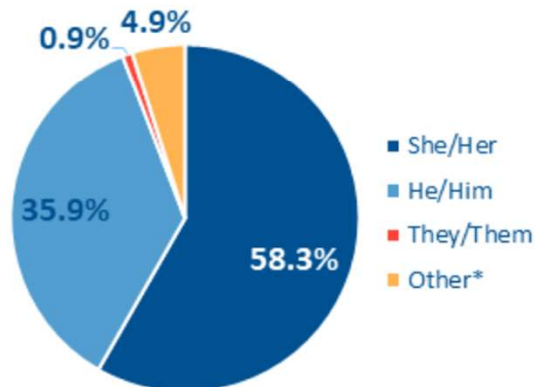
Age of Respondents



Ethnicity of Respondents



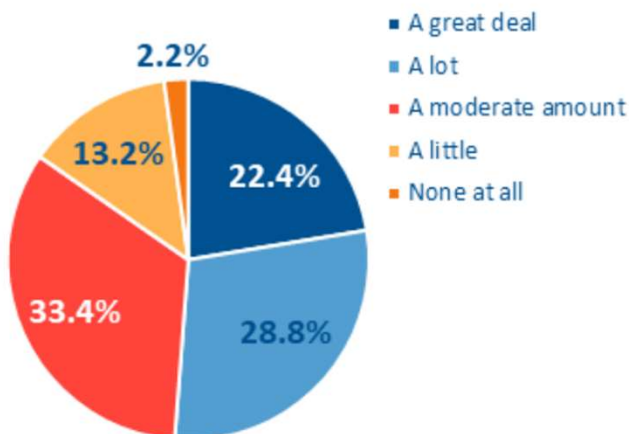
Pronouns Used by Respondents



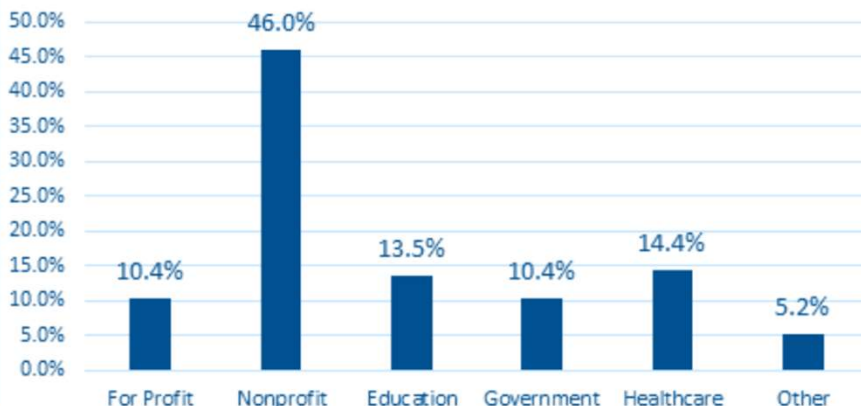
Adams County Key Informant Survey & Interviews

Respondents Demographic Profile - *continued*

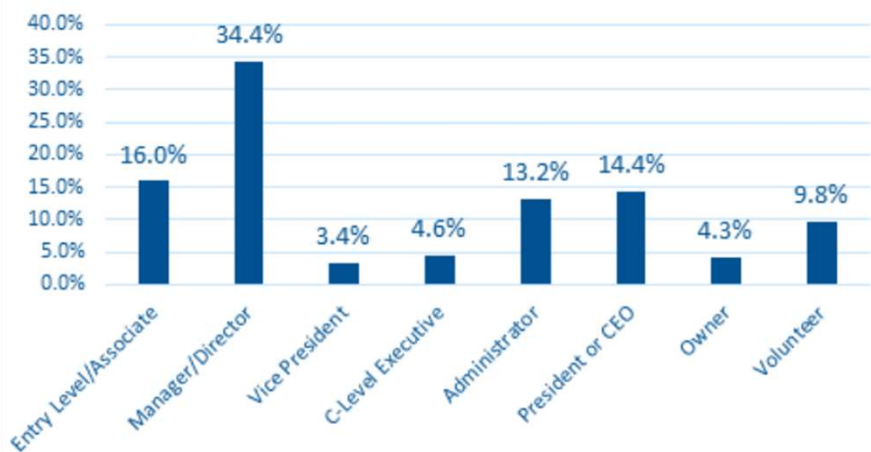
Level of Involvement in Quincy/Adams County



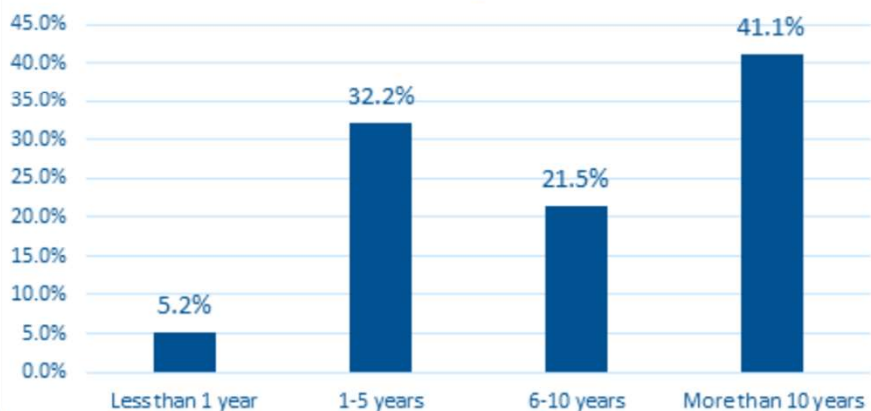
Type of Organization for which Respondents Works or Volunteers



Job Title of Respondents



Respondents' Length of Employment at Current Organization



Interview Participants

- Kelle Bunch**, Liberty School District
- Angela Caldwell**, Great River Economic Development Foundation
- Josh Carlson**, Chaddock
- Jim Chamberlain**, YMCA of West Central Illinois
- Ivetta Cooper**, My Brothas My Sistas Keeper
- Megan Duesterhaus**, Quanada
- Mike Elbe**, John Wood Community College
- Jamie Friye**, Adams County State's Attorney Office
- Jerry Gille**, Quincy Housing Authority
- Anita Hanke**, Adams County Health Department
- Pat Heinecke**, Community for Christ Assistance Center
- Clairice Hetzler**, Hetzler and Associates
- Laura Keck**, Adams County State's Attorney Office
- Kyle Moore**, Great River Economic Development Foundation
- Rhonda Murry**, Quincy Neighborhood Federation
- Todd Nelson**, Adams County Public Defender's Office
- Mike Nobis**, Bella Ease - Quincy Teen Reach
- Chris Parker**, Cornerstone: Foundation for Families
- Maria Rench**, YWCA of Quincy
- Curtis Sethaler**, Young Life Quincy
- Todd Shackelford**, Advocacy Network for Children
- Julie Shepard**, Blessing Health System
- Fr. Patrick Smith**, St. John's Anglican Parish
- Jeff Steinkamp**, Addicts Victorious
- Sarah Stephens**, Horizons Social Services
- Dan Teefey**, Tracy Family Foundation
- Mayor Mike Troup**, City of Quincy
- Sharon Tweedell**, The Moorman & JW Gardener Foundations
- Ellen Vonderheide**, Adams County Health Department
- Roy Webb**, Quincy Public School District
- Jerrod Welch**, Adams County Health Department
- Dennis Williams**, Bella Ease - Quincy Teen Reach
- Jeremy Wingerter**, United Way of Adams County



What about Adams County drew you here or is keeping you here?

When key informant respondents were asked what about Adams County drew them here or is keeping them here, the majority referenced family and jobs. Many respondents either moved to or stayed in Adams County for a specific job or employment opportunity. A large number of other respondents cited family and kids as reasons why they remain in Adams County. Along those lines, the quality of schools drew people to or is keeping people in Adams County. The overall quality of life, cost of living/affordability, and community- and family-oriented focus were also mentioned frequently.

Kids **Cost of Living** **People** **Schools**
Community **Job** **Affordability**
Quality of Life **Family**

What we heard:

“Family, job and ease of living”

“People. Low crime. Arts. Schools. Great nonprofit organizations. Great medical clinics and hospital.”

“Moved for a job. Stayed for the community and strong schools.”

“There are many reasons we stay. Most important is that our children and grandchildren all live in the area. This is home. Quincy is also a safe community that has a small-town feel but many amenities of a larger city.”

“Quality of life: healthcare, education, arts, people.”

“We moved to Adams County because we worked here, shopped here, and attended church here. We stay because we like being in close proximity to the people and places we care about.”

“Close proximity to work. No lengthy commutes. Family. Good public education.”

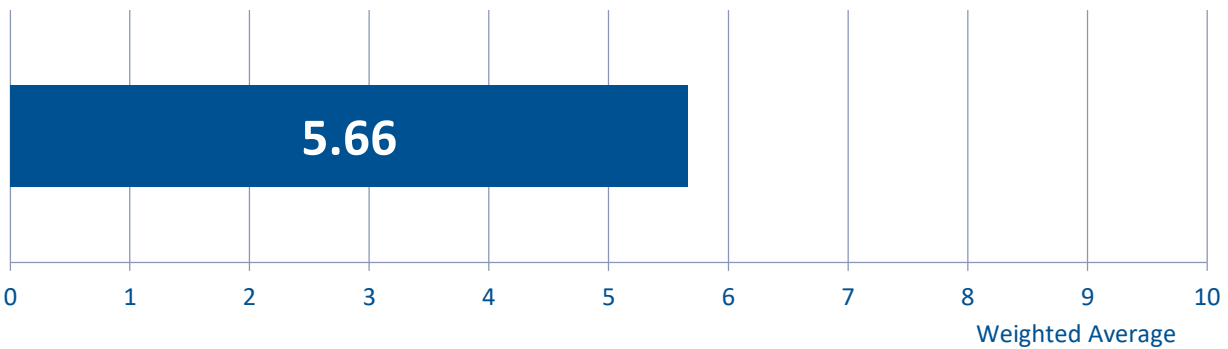
“Family oriented, small town feel, up and coming things to do, citizens that care about our community, great place to raise a family, great schools, great healthcare and so much more!”



How would you rate the overall PHYSICAL HEALTH of Adams County residents on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most positive?

When key informant respondents were asked how they would rate the overall physical health of Adams County residents, the weighted average was 5.66 out of 10. Respondents referenced the high percentage of obese residents, aging population and overall unhealthy/sedentary lifestyles of residents when rating physical health. Conversely, respondents pointed to the new walking trails and availability of programs encouraging healthy lifestyles as reasons for a higher rating.

How would you rate the overall PHYSICAL HEALTH of Adams County residents on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most positive?



What we heard:

“Diabetes and obesity are of great concern.”

“Not many healthy food options, you are more likely to eat healthy if you have easier access. It is not a walking city, we sit all day and drive to work. The framing of alcohol being the center of our events is pervasive & it leads to many unhealthy behaviors. Aging population.”

“Lots of programs and availability, but people are obese and there are barriers to health for lower income individuals.”

“I think people in Adams County try to care about their physical health and there are several opportunities for people to continue to be physically active indoors and outdoors.”

“Quincy residents are an aging group with aging health concerns.”

“Many residents are overweight and have health issues that are related to it. Low income households tend to purchase foods with lower nutrition value due to it being less expensive than those foods with higher nutritional value such as fresh produce.”

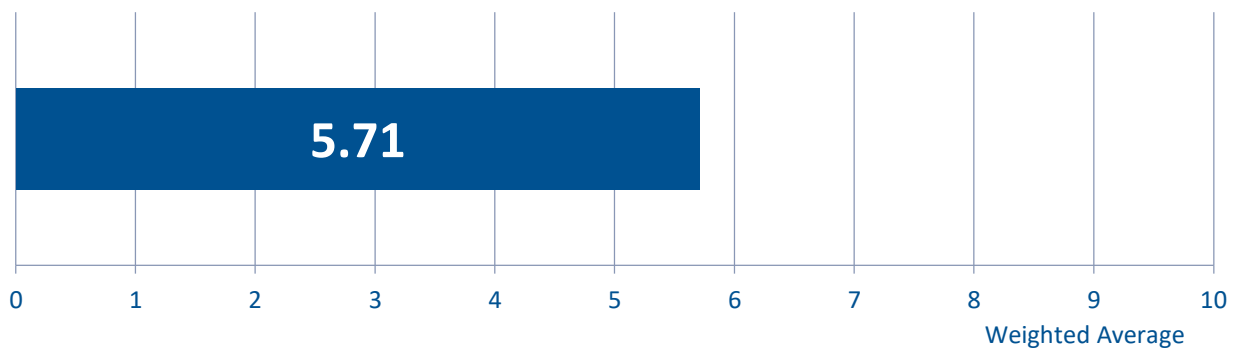
“I have recently started walking the various Quincy parks, and have been surprised on how many individuals utilize the parks. I think there is still a lot of room for improvement, but was pleasantly surprised.”



How would you rate the overall MENTAL HEALTH of Adams County residents on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most positive?

When key informant respondents were asked how they would rate the overall mental health of Adams County residents, the weighted average was 5.71 out of 10. Respondents referenced an increase in mental health issues, limited access to mental health providers and the stigma related to mental health. Respondents indicated they believe the COVID-19 Pandemic has contributed to an increase in mental health challenges related to uncertainty and isolation.

How would you rate the overall MENTAL HEALTH of Adams County residents on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most positive?



What we heard:

“There are many mental health services here (because there is great need).”

“Stigma - the idea that mental health is a personal failure is still very present. There is a difference between how we view child mental health and adult mental health.”

“We struggle with what mental issues are, seeking treatment, having access to treatment, following through with treatment & there is stigma toward mental health issues.”

“The pandemic has really weighed on people (uncertainty, isolation). I would have rated our mental health higher before the pandemic.”

“Overall it’s okay, but there are people that need help and it’s hard to find or socially unacceptable to address.”

“While many, many residents struggle with mental health on a whole scale, mental health awareness, initiatives, and even acceptance have continued to increase in our community.”

“There has been an increase in services available for people to access behavioral health services.”

“We have far fewer resources than are really needed to serve Quincy and the surrounding area with mental health services.”

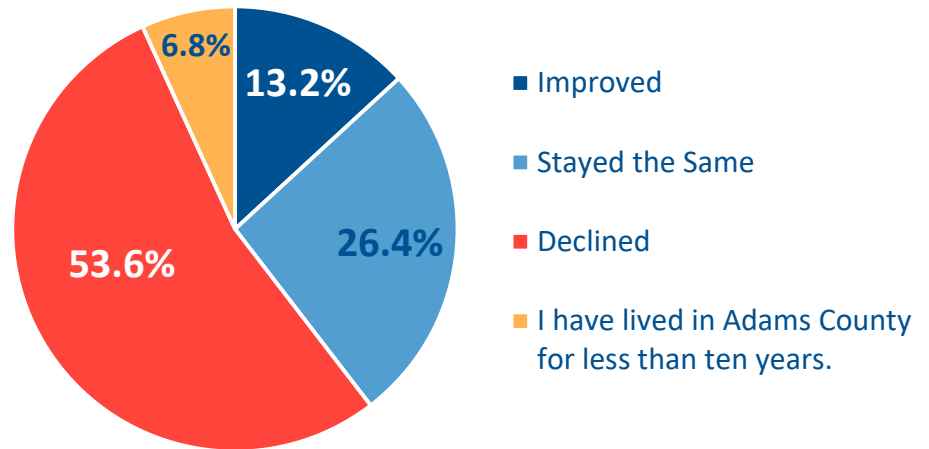
“There is a lot of anxiety – largely due to the economy and family structure/situations.”

“I see families that are engaged and thriving, but also families in crisis, and I don't see a clear way out for them.”



Has the overall HEALTH of Adams County Residents Improved, Stayed the Same, or Declined over the past 10 years?

Over 53 percent of respondents believe the overall health of Adams County residents has declined over the past 10 years. Nearly 40 percent of respondents believe the overall health of residents has improved or stayed the same. Respondents referenced mental health issues, the aging population, issues related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and greater awareness about healthy living for reasons they chose their answers.



What we heard:

“Appears to be more physical and mental health challenges, possibly related to aging population.”

“Some improvement because people have improved their utilization of healthcare, but right now we are struggling with that. COVID’s role in this makes it muddy because it’s not reflective of the last 10 years.”

“Many more services that did not previously exist, so people do not have to leave for services as often. The stigma surround mental health is improving as well.”

“People are becoming more aware of their health and the need to improve it.”

“We do not have a local culture of overall fitness. People have less time to focus on themselves and self-care. People with fewer resources only have access to cheap, unhealthy food. The middle class has limited access to affordable fitness activities, and little time to participate.”

“Adams County has so many job opportunities and human service organizations that work to provide food, health care, and assistance for those in need, that there should be some improvement from 10 years ago.”

“Loss of living wage jobs in the community has created economic hardship that has added to the overall decline in health.”

“We have made improvements in infrastructure , ie., walking paths, & this improves physical and mental health.”

“It has declined since the pandemic began. People avoiding going to their regular medical appointments and the mental toll is felt by everyone. Everyone is traumatized.”



What do you think are the top three most critical health (both physical and mental) issues facing Adams County residents?

Mental Health

Depression, Anxiety, Stigma, Access to Services, Impact of COVID

Obesity

Access to Healthy Foods, Lack of Exercise/Physical Activity,
Economic Insecurity, Lack of Nutritional Education

Substance Abuse

Addiction, Economic Insecurity, Trauma, Violence,
Generational Issues, Access to Services

Housing

Safety, Affordability, Access, Substandard Conditions, Poverty

Diabetes, Heart Disease

Chronic Health Conditions, Physical Inactivity,
Aging Population, Lack of Healthy Food Options

What we heard:

“Lack of access to mental health services (has improved, but we aren’t quite where we need to be).”

“Access to/lack of healthy and affordable fresh food choices.”

“Substance use disorders and addiction.”

“Housing issues (lack of affordable, quality housing).”

“Poverty and its effects on mental and physical health and development.”



What do you think are the top three things (programs, initiatives, activities, organizations) currently helping to improve the health (both physical and mental) of Adams County residents? Why do you think so?

Social Service Agencies

Horizons, YMCA, Salvation Army, United Way
Nonprofits, Community, Services

Parks/Trails

Quincy Park District, Klingner Trail, Programs,
Activities, Riverfront

School Systems

Community Health Workers, Education, Services,
Free Lunches, School-Based Programs

Collaboration

Community Initiatives, Planning, Compassionate,
Nonprofits, Outreach Efforts, Networks

Healthcare

Access, Blessing Health System, SIU Family Medicine,
Quincy Medical Group, Outreach, Services, Education

What we heard:

“Collaboration of our social services is unique to Quincy.”

“People are getting out and being more active because of the trail. These are great ways for people to exercise.”

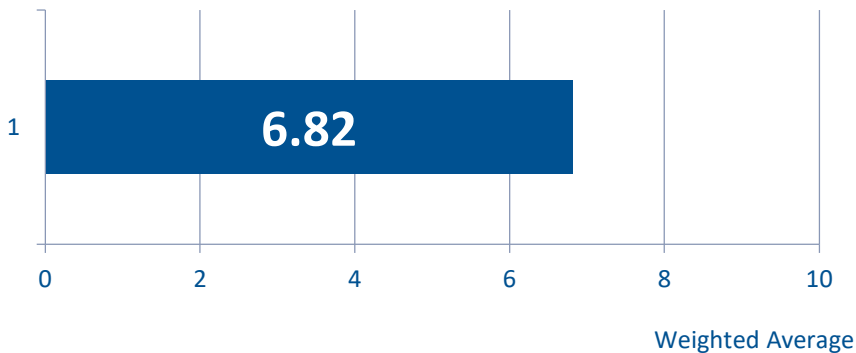
“I believe one thing that Adams County does best is work together in the best interest of the Community and its residents.”

“Schools have in-house programs to serve all populations.”



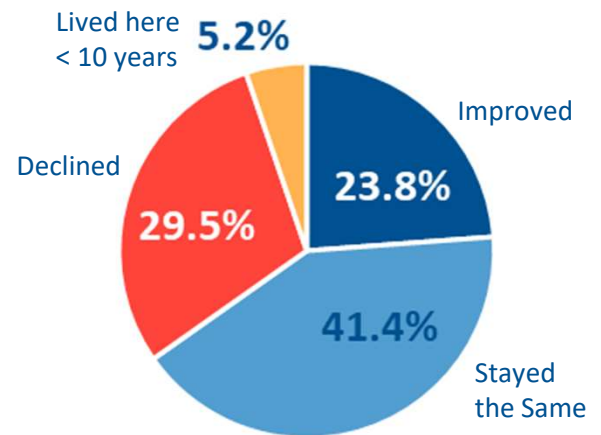
How would you rate the overall QUALITY OF LIFE of Adams County residents on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most positive?

When key informant respondents were asked how they would rate the overall Quality of Life of Adams County residents, the weighted average was 6.82 out of 10.



Has the overall QUALITY OF LIFE of Adams County Residents Improved, Stayed the Same, or Declined over the past 10 years?

Over 65 percent of respondents believe the overall quality of life of Adams County residents has stayed the same or improved over the past 10 years. Nearly 30 percent of respondents believe the overall quality of life of residents has declined.



What we heard:

“I see that some things have improved yet others have deteriorated significantly.”

“The advantaged have a few more advantages (trails, restaurants, district, riverfront), not because the disadvantaged are better off.”

“We have brought more issues concerning overall quality of life to the forefront and have started to work on combating them.”

“We have an aging population and we have a growing dependency/poverty population.”

“There are some high points - expansion in healthcare, our schools have improved, increase in access to behavioral health services, and our park system has expanded - our population is stagnant and industry has shrunk.”

“Social service and community support programs have higher visibility and participation.”

“I believe there are more activities and opportunities for people to take advantage of.”

“The overall quality of life has diminished for the country due to violence of all kinds, drug use, media and lack of strong family structure.”

“Our community is fairly safe and we have lots of arts, parks and activities. However, there is an equity issue. These things are easier to access for some groups and this seems to be a growing issue.”



What do you think are the top three most critical quality of life issues facing Adams County residents?

Housing

Accessibility, Affordability, Availability, Safety, Aging Infrastructure, Quality, Neighborhood Decline

Economy/Workforce

Aging Workforce, Attracting Young Professionals, Low wages, Lack of Childcare, Employment Opportunities, Unemployment, COVID Impact, Population Loss

Inequality

Discrimination, Class Issues, Social Divide, Diversity, Poverty, Decline

Transportation

Access, Infrastructure, Public Transportation, Rural Access

Healthcare

Availability, Cost, Accessibility, COVID Impact, Vaccination Rate, Mental Health Services

What we heard:

- “Affordable, secure and safe housing.”
- “Poverty/low-income related issues.”
- “Job market – leads to poor financial, housing, standards of living.”
- “Diversity, equity and inclusion at all levels.”
- “Lack of transportation after buses stop at 6:00 pm.”



What do you think are the top three things (programs, initiatives, activities, organizations) currently helping to improve the quality of life of Adams County residents? Why do you think so?

People

Community, Leaders, Collaboration, Family, Friendly, Support, Leadership

Development

Riverfront, The District, City, Economic Development Government, Neighborhood, Planning

Schools

Excellent, Leaders, Affordable, Good Public Systems, Quality

Nonprofits

Agencies, Collaboration, Network, Arts, Healthcare, Housing, Outreach, Neighborhood Federation, YWCA, Library Salvation Army, Support, Foundations, Horizons, Quanada

Park District

Trail System, Riverfront, Quality, Excellent, Activities, Neighborhood, Recreation

What we heard:

“Nonprofits that support low income individuals.”

“The District – people are starting to develop the downtown and this will improve the entire quality of life.”

“Our arts programs – Art Center, Quincy Community Theatre, etc.”

“Good schools.” “New schools/Good communication from school leaders.”

“Dedicated people in key positions – Friends of the Trails, Park District.”



How likely is it that you would recommend Quincy/Adams County as a place to live to a friend or family member?

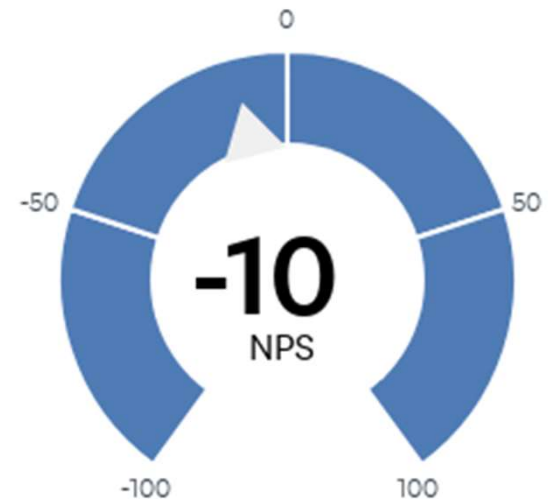
The Net Promoter Score (NPS) is a widely used market research metric that typically takes the form of a single survey question asking respondents to rate the likelihood that they would recommend a specific thing (company, product, service, or in our case, place) to a friend, colleague or family member. Respondents are divided into promoters, passives, and detractors based on their ratings and the NPS is calculated based on the responses.

Net Promoter Score: - 9.52

Detractors (0-6): 36.7%

Passive (7-8): 36.2%

Promoters (9-10): 27.1%



What we heard:

“Every community has great assets and many things they still need to improve on. At the end of the day, this is still a great place to live and I'm proud to call it home.”

“I think this is a great community to live and raise a family. I think we have come a long way over the past 10-15 years, and I can't wait to see us continue to grow.”

“I love living here - can't give it a 10 because it is in Illinois and the taxes are out of control, which is driving out business.”

“Illinois as a state isn't appealing and Quincy specifically is stale. I am here because of my kids.”

“I moved here to be near family and my privilege has afforded me a high level of access to many wonderful things this community has to offer. But the level of bias (racial, gender, socio-economic) is difficult to accept. I am encouraged by some efforts to correct these inequities. But I would not recommend that someone move here at this time, particularly if they have young children and they believe in equity.”

“Great place with lots to offer. We just need to improve on our welcoming and inclusive attitudes.”

“Notwithstanding our challenges, it's still a great place to live and raise a family.”

“If you are African American I would not recommend it. People with money, regardless of race, I would recommend it because you have the resources to experience a life that is full, in Adams County and in the surrounding area - parks, education, traveling around.”

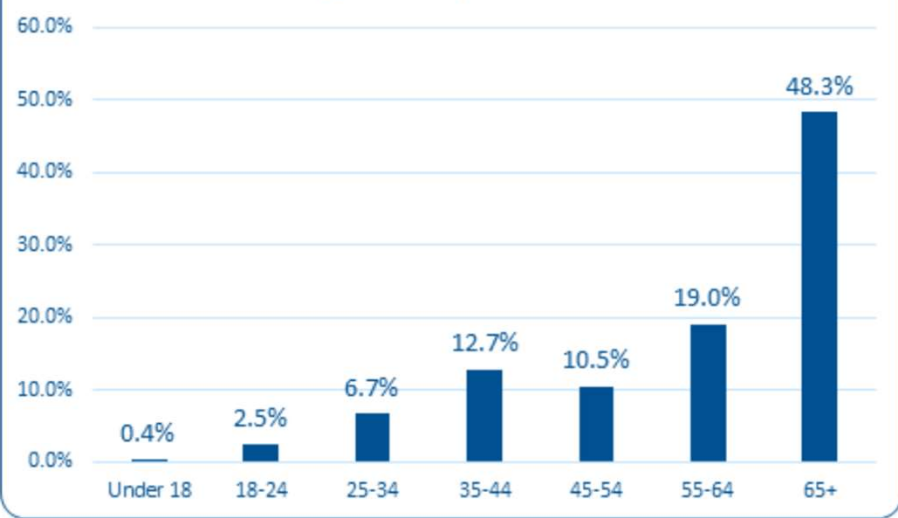
“Quincy is perhaps not for everyone, but if you love a vibrant little community with lots of opportunities, and if you have the means to enjoy those opportunities, then it is a great place to live, work and play. It is not a great community for everyone, however, particularly if you lack resources.”

“I have lived here all my life, it is a nice area to be with a lot of resources in Quincy. I live in rural Adams county and the small town relationships are wonderful.”

Adams County 2-Question Community Themes Survey

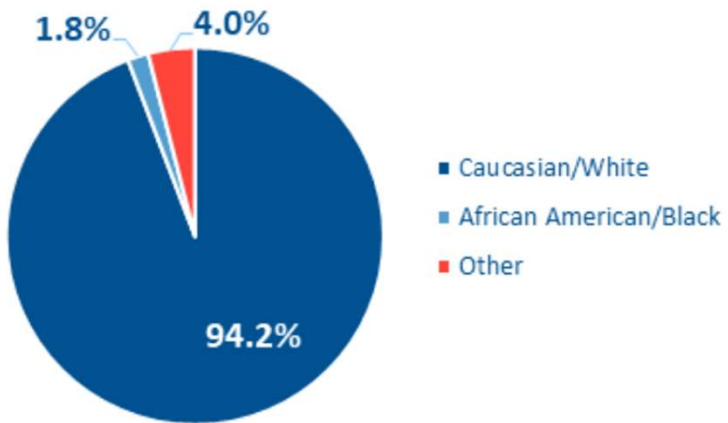
Respondents Demographic Profile

Age of Respondents

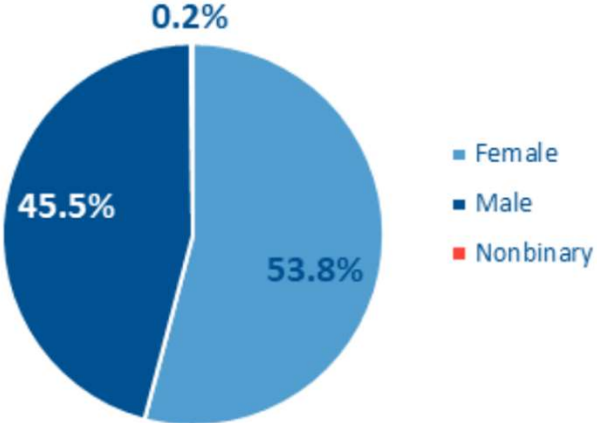


535 Responses

Ethnicity of Respondents



Gender of Respondents

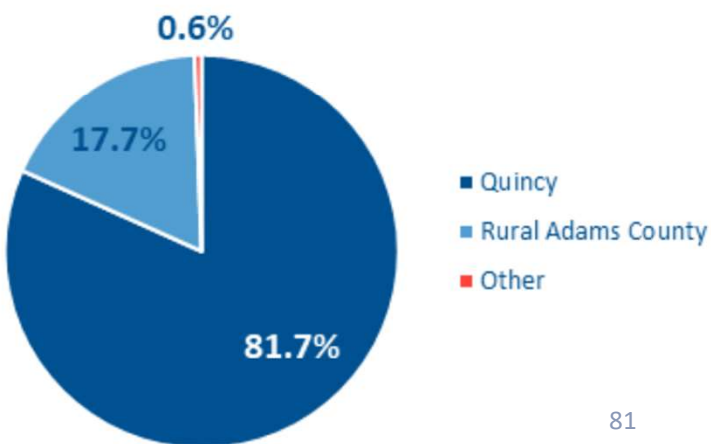


Sentiment Analysis

0.61

In sentiment analysis, responses are classified based on the occurrence of positive or negative words on a scale of 0 (extremely negative) to 1 (extremely positive). Of the 535 responses to this Community Themes Survey, 75% were positive, 15% were negative and 9% were neutral resulting in a sentiment analysis score of 0.61.

City/Town of Respondents





QUESTION 1: What are the most important issues or concerns facing you/your community? (Please list words or short phrases.)

When respondents were asked what were the most important issues or concerns facing them or their community, many cited high taxes and concerns related to the economy and jobs (availability of jobs, head of household jobs, lack of people willing to work, viability/lack of small businesses). Respondents also were largely concerned with the COVID-19 Pandemic and its effects. The affordability, quality and safety of housing as well as poverty, drugs and access to food/hunger were also mentioned frequently.

Jobs Roads Hunger
Poverty Taxes COVID
Affordable Housing Drugs

What we heard:

“Housing and Mental Health”

“The cleanliness of the community is really going downhill.”

“Quality Jobs, Affordable Housing, Roads”

“Drug use, youth development, resources for addicts.”

“Poverty, lack of inclusion for minorities.”

“Childhood hunger, lack of jobs, affordable childcare.”

“Getting the vaccines into the arms of as many of our citizens as possible. Repairing the damage that the Pandemic has done to our economy.”

“Mental health, racial division”

“Affordable, quality housing, growing our community rather than staying stagnant, increasing living wage jobs”

“Respecting One Another Again, Being Healthy and Normal”

“Financial instability for low income families. Lack of safe affordable housing. Lack of tolerance and acceptance of people who are different. Aging workforce and shrinking population.”



QUESTION 2: What are three things in your community that make you happy to live here? (Please list words or short phrases.)

When respondents were asked what three things make them happy to live here, it largely came down to people - family, good neighbors, friends and the general feeling of community. Respondents also cited the strong school system and nonprofit sector. The overall quality of life, parks, restaurants, small businesses, The District and availability and quality of healthcare were also mentioned frequently.

Nonprofits Schools
 Family Restaurants Healthcare
 The District People Parks
 Community

What we heard:

“Good people, good schools, police and fire, healthcare.”

“Health resources, food resources, exercise resources, arts, schools.”

“Sense of Community, Not a Big City, Access to Parks.”

“Low Crime Rate, Friendly Police, Great Community Support Services, Beautiful City, Cultural Amenities.”

“Small Community, Places to Shop, Places to Eat.”

“Perfect Size, Family Friendly, Safe, Wonderful Parks, Walking Trails, Walkable.”

“People helping each other, close knit community, community activities.”

“The River and all the things to enjoy with the river, parks, outside activities, restaurants.”

“Great medical facilities, wonderful schools, supportive community, people step up when there is a need.”

Community Resource Guide

The community service agencies listed below are included in an online database of providers serving the Adams County area. This guide is intended to be a reference for local service providers. To access the database, go to www.unitedwayadamscounty.org. If you are a service provider in Adams County and would like to be included in the Community Resource Guide, call the United Way of Adams County office at 217.222.5020.

Academic Talent Search
Adams County Emergency Services
Adams County Health Department
Adams County Housing Authority
Adams County State's Attorney Victim and Witness Program
Addicts Victorious
Advocacy Network for Children
Alzheimer's Association
American Red Cross
AOK Network (All Our Kids)
Attorney General of Illinois
Better Business Bureau
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Birthright of Quincy
Blessing Breast Center
Blessing Health Services
Blessing Physician Services
Boy Scouts of America
Care Net Pregnancy Services of Quincy
Chaddock
Cheerful Home Childcare and Early Learning Center
Child and Family Connection
Clarity Healthcare
Community for Christ Assistance Center
Community Wellness Clinic
Cornerstone: Foundations for Families
Covered Bottoms Diaper Bank
DHS Family Community Resource Center in Adams County
Early Childhood & Family Center
Family Focus - Bella Ease
General Assistance (Quincy Township)
Girl Scouts of Central Illinois
Horizons Social Services
Illinois Department of Children and Family Service
Illinois Department of Employment Security
Illinois Department of Human Services - Rehabilitation Services
Illinois Department of Human Services/Public Aid
Illinois Veteran's Home
John Wood Community College
Ladies of Charity
The Living Room
Meals On Wheels (West Central Illinois Nutrition Project)
My Brother's Keeper, My Sister's Keeper
New Start Rescue Mission
Pact Headstart
PACT Head Start (Parents as Children's Teachers)
Pathway Health Clinic
Preferred Family Healthcare Family Resource Center
QUANADA
Quincy Catholic Charities
Quincy Family YMCA
Quincy Hospitality House
Quincy Housing Authority
Quincy Medical Group
Quincy Young Life
Safe Families for Children Quincy
The Salvation Army
School Children's Shoe Fund
Senior Center Information and Assistance
SIU Center for Family Medicine - Quincy
Teen REACH - Bella Ease
Transitions of Western Illinois
Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials
United Way Help Line
United Way of Adams County
University of Illinois Extension
Unmet Needs
The Virgene Project
Well House
West Central Area Agency on Aging
West Central Child Care Connection
West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
West Central Illinois Case Coordination
West Central Illinois Center for Independent Living
Workforce Innovation Board of Western Illinois
YWCA (Women and children only)

View the Community Resource
Guide online at
www.unitedwayadamscounty.org

Margin of Error and Data Collection

This Community Assessment contains information from other sources, also known as secondary data. The best example of this is the U.S. Census, data from which you saw referenced on numerous pages throughout the document. We trust this information and have no hesitation to include it in this assessment, but there are two things that help keep it in perspective.

- 1. Margin of Error** - You've probably heard or seen results like this: "This survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points." What does this mean? Most surveys are based on information collected from a sample of individuals, not the entire population. A certain amount of error is bound to occur — not in the sense of calculation error but in the sense of sampling error, which is the error that occurs simply because the researchers aren't asking everyone. The margin of error is supposed to measure the maximum amount by which the sample results are expected to differ from those of the actual population. Because the results of most survey questions can be reported in terms of percentages, the margin of error most often appears as a percentage, as well. In populations such as Adams County, the margin of error can at times be more substantial. For that reason, if a particular result seems too high, or too low, investigating the original source to identify the margin of error might provide some enlightenment. But for the most part, anything included in this summary document can be regarded as trustworthy and good starting points for further discussion.
- 2. Data Collection Methodology** - You will see different dates for different sources, but the facilitators of this process have strived to include the most current data available. Government agencies do not necessarily update data they collect on an annual basis. And with county-level data, which is the most useful to communities, a federal agency might take years to update data for all counties in the United States. So if a data source in a document like this states the data is four years old, that almost always means it is the most current available. In recent years the U.S. Census Bureau has updated data from that office annually by using formulas and algorithms along with a sampling of citizens who answer a survey every year, but that office is unique in this practice.

A related issue is that some well-known sources of data themselves collect information from a number of different sources which they compile and report under their own umbrella. For example, the County Health Rankings organization relies on an array of surveys and reports from around the country in order to compile and rank the various health outcomes of all U.S. counties. As stated above, the various sources operate on different timetables, so the 2021 County Health Rankings might include data from 2018 or 2016 or whatever is most current at the time. Margin of error is something to be aware of within the County Health Rankings data as well.