

Attachments & Appendices

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>2009-2013 American Community Survey</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>U.S. Census Bureau</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are Changing. The ACS eliminated the need for a decennial census long form in 2010. The ACS collects long form type information throughout the decade, publishing statistics yearly rather than only once every 10 years.</p> <p>The American Community Survey produces demographic, social, housing and economic statistics in the form of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates based on population thresholds.</p> <p>The strength of the ACS is in estimating characteristic distributions. We recommend users compare derived measures such as percents, means, medians, and rates rather than estimates of population totals.</p> <p>Full implementation of the ACS began in 2005 in every county in the United States and in every municipia in Puerto Rico. In 2006, the ACS sample was expanded to include the population living in group quarters. Group quarters include nursing homes, correctional facilities, military barracks, and college/university housing, to name a few.</p> <p>More information here: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS_Information_Guide.pdf</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>The ACS collects long form type information throughout the decade, publishing statistics yearly rather than only once every 10 years</p>
	<p>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</p> <p>2009 through 2013</p>
	<p>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</p> <p>Distribution and collection of annual public surveys</p>
	<p>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</p> <p>Surveys are distributed to a large enough sample of the U.S. Population to represent estimates of the entire nation.</p>

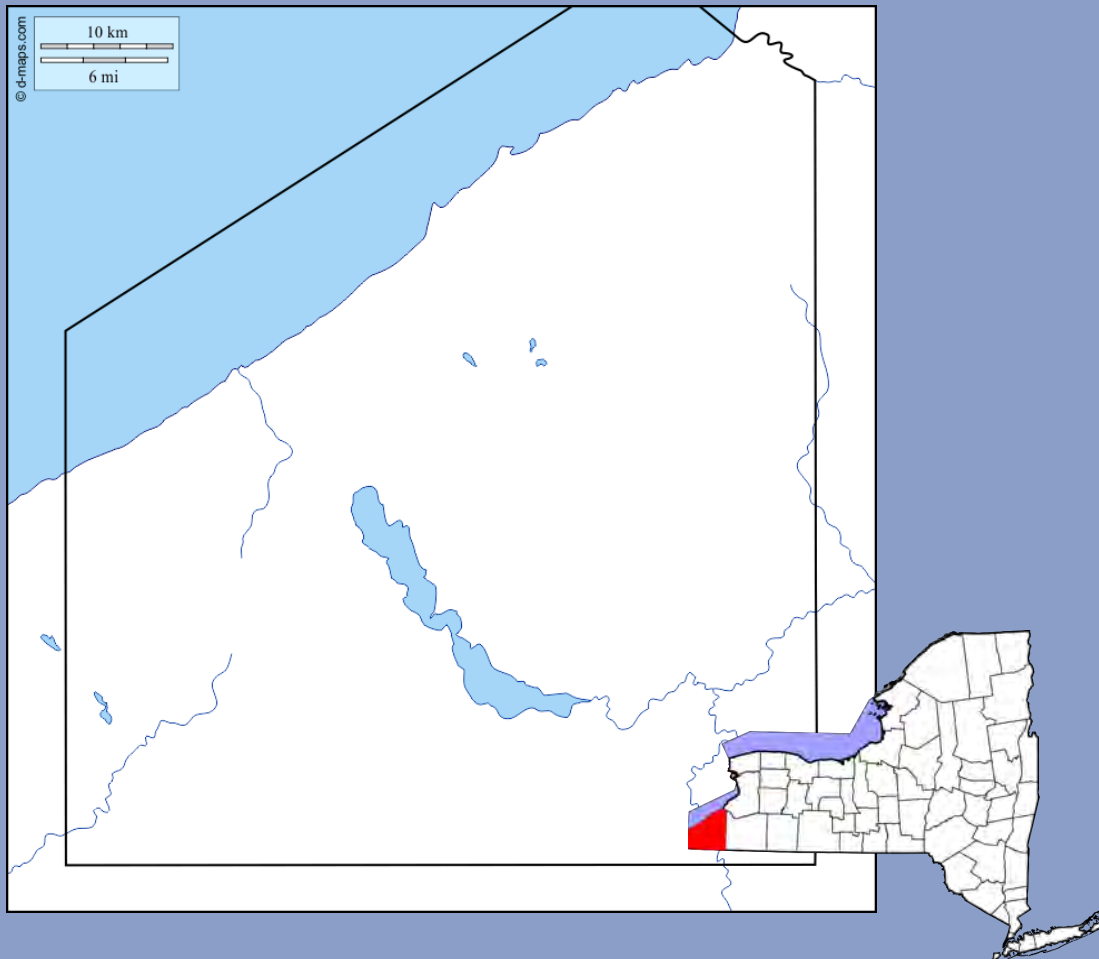
	<p>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</p> <p>Surveys are distributed and responded to by a large sample of all age, races, sexes, income levels, etc.</p>
2	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>2010 U.S. Decennial Census</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>U.S. Census Bureau</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>The decennial census is the only data gathering operation in the United States that is mandated by the Constitution. The first census was taken in 1790 and it occurs every 10 years, in the years ending in "0". Its primary purpose is to provide the population counts that determine how seats in the U. S. House of Representatives are apportioned. Census figures also are required to draw congressional and state legislative district boundaries, to allocate federal and state funds, to formulate public policy, and to assist with planning and decision making in the private sector.</p> <p>American FactFinder (AFF) contains data from the decennial censuses conducted in 2010, 2000 and 1990. Most data from the Census 2000 are currently available on AFF, and data from the Census 2010 will be released on AFF as they become available. Data from the 1990 census are archived and are searchable through the AFF archive search. The archived data are available on the Census Bureau's File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site. Selected data from 1980 and prior censuses may be found through the Census Bureau's home page search or from the Census 2000 Gateway page.</p> <p>The Census Bureau conducted decennial censuses in 2000 and 2010 in the United States, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands. Statistical data from all of these censuses are or will be available through American FactFinder.</p> <p>The reference date for Census 2000 is April 1, 2000 (Census Day).</p> <p>The reference date for the 2010 Census is April 1, 2010 (Census Day).</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>Census figures also are required to draw congressional and state legislative district boundaries, to allocate federal and state funds, to formulate public policy, and to assist with planning and decision making in the private sector.</p>

	<p>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</p> <p>April 1st, 2010</p> <p>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</p> <p>Most of the data in this report were gathered by a mail canvass of appropriate state government offices that are directly involved with state-administered taxes. There are approximately one hundred offices that are canvassed to collect data from all fifty states. Follow-up procedures include the use of mail, telephone, and e-mail until data are received.</p> <p>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</p> <p>The data cover the 50 state governments only. No local government data are included and should not be interpreted as state-area data (state government plus local government tax collections combined).</p> <p>The state government tax data presented by the U.S. Census Bureau may differ from data published by state governments because the Census Bureau may be using a different definition of which organizations are covered under the term, "state government".</p> <p>For the purpose of State Government Tax Collections statistics, the term "state government" refers not only to the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of a given state, but it also includes agencies, institutions, commissions, and public authorities that operate separately or somewhat autonomously from the central state government but where the state government maintains administrative or fiscal control over their activities as defined by the Census Bureau.</p> <p>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</p> <p>The entire population is expected to take part in the decennial Census surveys to ensure accurate demographic data</p>
3	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>2014 Chautauqua Opportunities Homeless Assessment</p> <p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. 402 Chandler ST Jamestown, NY 14701</p> <p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>An annual assessment of the Homeless population in the City of Jamestown, filtered by Race, Sex, Dependency, and Veteran Status.</p> <p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. actively fights the war on poverty, and aims to give the low-income population a chance at stable housing. Developing this data set is how they measure their success.</p>

	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p> <p>Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. collects data from all over Chautauqua County, but the assessment data used in this plan is focused only for the City of Jamestown.</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>2014</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>Complete</p>

Participation Appendix and Certifications & Assurances

Chautauqua County Community Needs Assessment 2020



Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.



Chautauqua Opportunities
for Development, Inc.



Acknowledgment and Mission

Acknowledgement

This Community Needs Assessment is the result of many hours of data collection and review by the staff and management of Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. We extend our sincere appreciation to the countless individuals and agencies who participated in the information gathering process, either through direct communication or online resources. Contributors include local government agencies and nonprofits, other community partners, customers, and other members of the community. Thank you to all who participated.

Mission Statements

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.

...is leading the fight against poverty by mobilizing resources and creating partnerships to promote empowerment, economic independence and opportunities.

Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

...is leading the fight against poverty by mobilizing resources and creating partnerships to promote and create economic independence through business development and opportunities.

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Introduction

Agency Profile

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is a not-for-profit Community Action Agency that has served low and moderate income residents in Chautauqua County, NY since 1965. The agency's services are intended to help vulnerable households achieve stability and economic security. An affiliate corporation, Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI), was formed in 2003 to assist new and existing small businesses with technical assistance and access to financing. COI and CODI serve over 4,000 low and moderate income households annually.

COI has implemented a comprehensive, asset-focused anti-poverty model that is evidence-based. Each customer household's situation is assessed at intake across 26 life domains and a life plan is developed that includes short and long term goals. All pertinent services for which they are eligible that will help them achieve their goals are included in the plan. Progress toward goals is measured using evidence-based continuums that are based on the ROMA model of service delivery (Results oriented management and accountability). The plan is continually updated as households achieve milestones toward their short and long term goals.

County Profile

Chautauqua County, NY is a primarily rural county in the southwestern corner of Western New York, bordering Lake Erie and Pennsylvania. The two Cities of Dunkirk and Jamestown sit at the northern and southern ends, separated by smaller towns and villages. Chautauqua County is one of fourteen NY State counties that form the upper boundary of the Appalachian Region, an area recognized by the federal government as having high rates of poverty and fewer economic opportunities than other areas of the country.

The county is rich in natural resources that beautify the landscape and draw visitors to recreational opportunities such as boating in the summer and skiing in the winter. Much of the geographic area is characterized by agricultural land that supports livestock

and dairy farms, as well as a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. The manufacturing base, while not as robust as the industrial environment of the past, still exists mainly in the more urbanized areas. The majority of jobs are now in the educational, health care and social services sectors. Educational institutions in the county offer undergraduate and advanced degrees, as well as certificate and trade programs.

While the majority of Chautauqua County residents have stable or thriving financial situations, a large percentage of the population faces challenges that prevent them from living their best lives. According to the 2013 – 2017 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 18.5% of individuals in the county live below the poverty level (24,206 individuals). Across New York State, 15.1% of individuals live in poverty, meaning the county is worse off economically than the state in general.

Using 2019 federal poverty guidelines, a household that includes four persons who collectively earn \$25,750 or less are considered poor by federal government standards. But what about those who earn just a little bit more, but still struggle to make ends meet? In addition to those living below 100% of poverty in Chautauqua County, another 13,594 individuals earn between 100% and 150% of poverty, or about \$38,625 for a 4-member household. Poverty thresholds are based on a very basic household budget that does not take into consideration costs such as child care and health care, which are often determining factors in an individual's ability to work. In reality, many county residents have characteristics of the "working poor", those who are employed but do not make enough money to be financially self-sufficient. Often, their incomes are too high to meet eligibility requirements for public assistance programs, but insufficient for providing necessities for the household.

A Living Wage Calculator has been developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that takes into account a more realistic budget for basic necessities, as well as geographic location. The Living Wage is a minimum income standard that would be needed for the household to be self-sufficient with no dependence on public assistance programs. To earn a Living Wage in Chautauqua County, a family of two adults and two

children (ages 4 and 9) would need to have both adults working full-time jobs and earning at least \$18.56 per hour each. This would put the household income at \$67,558 annually, more than twice the poverty threshold for a family of four.

At any time, any of us can be affected by poverty. A sudden event such as the loss of a job, divorce, death, or illness can throw any household into a crisis situation that could have long-term impacts on the stability of the household. The stress and anxiety caused by poverty is detrimental to mental and physical health of individuals and can have long term effects on well-being. Chautauqua County has subpopulations of elderly and disabled residents that are higher than state averages, creating further challenges for these individuals related to their ability to be financially stable and to access available services.

Purpose of the Community Needs Assessment

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. conducts a Community Needs Assessment every three years as part of its ongoing management and strategic planning processes. This document looks at various aspects of life in Chautauqua County to explore the needs of residents and identify potential service gaps. Data from a wide variety of local, regional, state, and federal sources have been used to develop an analysis of socio-economic trends in areas that include housing, health care, transportation, technology, children, and youth. In addition to qualitative data, this assessment has also captured qualitative data through a survey of county residents, as well as through quarterly Community Council sessions that have provided insight into specific needs and community perceptions.

This Community Needs Assessment explores both the strengths and challenges that relate to the complex issue of poverty in Chautauqua County. The chapters that follow provide an analysis of the conditions that exist in Chautauqua County that impact the ability of its residents to be self-sustaining and economically secure. Data is provided for many of the factors that come in to play for helping people out of poverty, as well as comparisons with state and regional averages. It is our hope that it will be useful in guiding strategies to respond to needs and conditions in Chautauqua County over the next three years.

Population Demographics

	#	%
Total Population	130,846	
Gender		
Males	64,652	49.4%
Females	66,194	50.6%
Race		
One Race	128,266	98.0%
White	121,359	92.7%
Black/African American	3,459	2.6%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	411	.3%
Asian	781	.6%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	41	.03%
Some other race	2,215	1.7%
Two or More Races	2,580	2.0%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic (of any race)	9,427	7.2%

	#	%
Age Groups		
Under 5 Years	7,083	5.4%
5 to 9	6,751	5.2%
10 to 14	8,313	6.4%
15 to 19	9,458	7.2%
20 to 24	8,999	6.9%
25 to 34	15,141	11.6%
35 to 44	13,834	10.6%
45 to 54	17,622	13.5%
55 to 59	10,187	7.8%
60 to 64	9,228	7.1%
65 to 74	13,237	10.1%
75 to 84	7,781	5.9%
85 and over	3,212	2.5%

1. Economic Development and Employment

INTRODUCTION

At the root of any community’s needs is the condition of the local economy. A robust job market and high level of sales spurs asset development and reduces poverty. Likewise, downturns lead to a lack of hiring and lower investment, causing other problems to manifest. Chautauqua County’s economy is anchored by industries that have seen great growth in recent years as well as some that have experienced hardships. Employment in the county is a similar story, as jobs have been added in certain fields but a lack of other opportunities persists for young workers in particular.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Chautauqua County’s working population (ages 16 - 64) totals 56,885 per the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS). The county has a 57.1% labor force participation rate, which is the percentage of this population that is employed. Census data indicate that 90.5% of these individuals work within the county. Among unemployed individuals, 38.5% live below the federal poverty line.

Many of those who work or are able to work, however, do not work full-time positions; according to the U.S.

Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS), 52.7% of all people ages 16 to 64 in Chautauqua County usually worked 35 or more hours per week, but 16% worked between 15 and 34 hours per week and 27.1% did not work at all.

The unemployment rate in Chautauqua County has decreased steadily since 2009, following a similar trend for New York State as a whole. **Chart 1.1** demonstrates this drop using data from the NY Department of Labor: Chautauqua County experienced a peak in unemployment for the decade in 2010 of 8.9%, followed by a drop below 8.0% in 2014, and a further decline to 5.0% in 2018. Since 2013, the state has consistently fared slightly better than Chautauqua County, sometimes by more than a percentage point. While overall data for 2019 is not yet available at the time of this writing, an average of the rates available through September shows a Chautauqua County unemployment rate of 4.6% and a New York state rate of 4.1%.

Incomes in Chautauqua County are well below those of the U.S. and New York State. The median household income in Chautauqua County in 2017 was \$44,304, compared to the median household income for NY State of \$62,765 and \$57,652 for the nation. **Table 1.1** uses 2013-2017 ACS data (adjusted for inflation) to illustrate income ranges in Chautauqua County by types of households.

Chart 1.1 Unemployment Rates

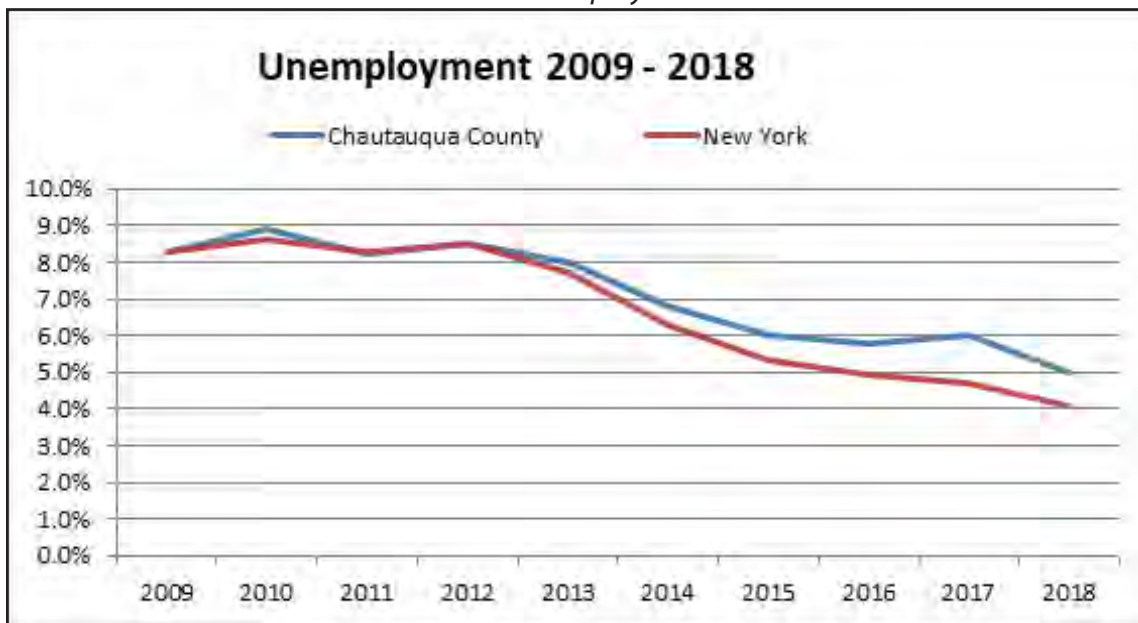


Table 1.1 Percent of Households in Chautauqua County by Income

	All Households	Family Households	Non-Family Households
Total number of households	52,983	32,986	19,997
Annual Income:			
< \$10,000	7.9	5.4	13.3
\$10,000 - \$14,999	7.2	3.6	13.5
\$15,000 - \$24,999	13.5	9.4	21.5
\$25,000 - \$34,999	11.4	10.1	14.3
\$35,000 - \$49,999	15.5	14.9	15.6
\$50,000 - \$74,999	18.4	21.3	12.5
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.2	15.7	5.6
\$100,000 - \$149,999	10.1	14.4	2.4
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.3	3.4	.4
> \$200,000	1.4	1.8	.8

Industry

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016 Business Patterns Report, Chautauqua County has a total of 2,880 employer establishments. The county's largest industries by numbers of employees are: educational, health care and social services (16,621), manufacturing (9,122), retail trade (5,857), accommodation and food services (4,710), and agriculture (1,702). The county has placed an emphasis on continuing to grow in the sectors of agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing in recent years.

While the trend of declining manufacturing jobs over the last several decades seen throughout the country is true in Chautauqua County, the area continues to employ over 9,000 individuals in the industry. Facilities such as those operated by Cummins (engines), Nestle Purina (pet food), and SKF (bearings) produce nearly \$5.1 billion in annual manufacturing shipments. However, the industry is not without its hardships. For example, the manufacturer Truck-Lite continues to operate a plant in Falconer, but established a new headquarters in Michigan in 2019 in part because of its access to qualified workers, according to an article published in the Jamestown Post-Journal.

The nearly 200 manufacturing businesses in Chautauqua County include general, metal and tool and die businesses that manufacture items including furniture, engine components, processed food and

beverages, and extremely skillfully designed pieces. Not only are these manufacturers locally and domestically owned, some including Nestle Purina, Cummins, SKF and Truck-Lite boast global recognition. The County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency describes manufacturing in the county as remaining "strong", and new companies are emerging. Plans for one new company that will manufacture high-potency oncology drugs, Athenex's Biotech Plant in Dunkirk, call for the creation of more than 400 jobs in areas including high tech manufacturing, regulatory processes and product formulation. Construction of the 409,000 square foot facility got underway in 2019 and commercial production is expected to begin as early as June 2020. There has not been a facility like it built in North America in the last fifteen years.

Organizations such as the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, the Small Business Development Center, Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc., and the Manufacturer's Association of the Southern Tier provide guidance and support for individuals hoping to start a new business and promote economic strength in Chautauqua County.

Jamestown Community College's Manufacturing Technology Institute provides skilled manufacturing training including Computer-Aided Design and numerical control, engineering science, machine tool and welding technology and industrial equipment technology to students seeking to enter these fields.

Chautauqua County is a center for agriculture, with chief farm products including dairy, grapes, cattle, vegetables, other fruits, timber, and maple. According to the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) in Jamestown, the county ranks number one in the state for number of farms, and number ten in the state for market value of agricultural products sold. Every dollar of income created by the agricultural industry in Chautauqua County generates \$2.29 for the local community, making it an essential piece of the economy.

The grape industry in particular is prominent in Chautauqua County, as the county's proximity to Lake Erie provides the fertile climate for 150,000 tons of grape production each year, according to the CCE. The wine industry in particular is experiencing a boom, allowing not just for more products to be sold but for wine-related tourism to become a viable industry in the area. The CCE estimates that the grape industry in total contributes more than \$300 million in economic impact to the region.

New York State tourism generated \$7.8 billion in state and local taxes in 2014, saving each NYS household

an average of \$962 in taxes. The travel and tourism industry in Chautauqua County is a substantial and growing component of the economy, spurred by the continued success of established destinations (such as the Chautauqua Institution) and the creation of new ones (The National Comedy Center in Jamestown). The hospitality industry has seen a rise that is related to the growth of tourism, as the CCIDA reported an increase in lodging occupancy of 14.7% for 2018 and an increase in associated revenues of 14.1%, or \$21.6 million.



The Chautauqua Institution, a not-for-profit educational center and community, is a destination for more than 100,000 persons each year who attend the wide array of programs during its summer season.

The National Comedy Center opened in 2018 in Jamestown and serves as a destination museum devoted to the world of comedy. Ranked as one of the “World’s Greatest Places” by TIME magazine in 2019, the National Comedy Center features an extensive collection of comedy artifacts, interactive multimedia displays, and other exhibits that highlight particular comedians, films, comedy styles, and more. The annual Lucille Ball Comedy Festival that takes place in Jamestown every August also brings popular and up-and-coming comedians to the city for live performances. The Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum in Jamestown honors the legacy of its namesake comedians and the role the pair played on television and in film.

Chautauqua County’s comprehensive plan, Chautauqua 20/20, recommends reinvestment in existing properties and the exploration of land banking opportunities as a means of addressing the high number of dilapidated and abandoned properties throughout the county. Land banking would involve making modest improvements to promising properties that could then attract additional business investments, thereby returning dilapidated or foreclosed properties to the tax rolls and revitalizing neighborhoods and main

streets. In May 2012, the Chautauqua County Land Bank Corporation (CCLBC) was approved by the Empire State Development Corporation as one of the first NYS land bank corporations. The CCLBC has a goal of acting as a model for developing and utilizing land banks in rural areas. (Source: Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency)

Chautauqua 20/20 also makes recommendations to explore local energy production as a means to generate local revenues, reduce economic costs, and lower environmental impacts. The plan recommends the support and promotion of waste-to-energy business opportunities. The county has natural resources that can be used for energy production, including nearly constant winds due to its position along Lake Erie. Several wind turbines have been installed in the past few years at scattered sites throughout the county for homes, businesses, and farms. The county also sits entirely within the Marcellus Shale formation that produces natural gas. New developments that utilize natural resources to produce energy could lead to job creation as well as decreased costs to homeowners, businesses, and municipalities. In 2012, the Chautauqua County legislature passed a resolution to support gas hydro-fracking, as long as it is done in an environmentally sensitive manner.



TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

Chautauqua County, through the auspices of its Industrial Development Agency, is actively facilitating development by attracting new businesses while promoting the retention and expansion of existing businesses. Incentives which include tax abatements, low interest loans, energy rebates and credits, shovel-ready sites, and a technology incubator, enhance the opportunities for job creation and retention. The Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency has

been successful in creating several ‘shovel-ready sites’ throughout the region to attract more business and economic opportunity to the county.

Several groups in the county actively promote the area to businesses and individuals. These include the Local Development Corporations in the Cities of Jamestown and Dunkirk and the Villages of Silver Creek and Westfield, the Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency, the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, six community Chambers of Commerce, the Chadwick Bay Regional Development Corporation, and the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau. Recent efforts by many of these groups have focused on marketing agri-tourism in the area, including the numerous Farmer’s Markets, Lake Erie Wine Country, and the Grape Discovery Center.

The Fredonia Technology Incubator (FTI) in Dunkirk promotes economic growth by supporting entrepreneurship and the development of new, innovative, companies into successful business ventures, with a focus on technology and the arts. Space is provided for start-up and established businesses as well as for educational events such as workshops for aspiring entrepreneurs.

START-UP NY is an incentive program that allows new and expanding businesses to operate tax-free for 10 years on or near eligible university or college campuses, with SUNY at Fredonia and Jamestown Community College among them. Businesses must create new jobs and contribute to the local economy in order to be eligible for incentives, which include the elimination of state tax liability, the reduction or elimination of an organization tax, and more.

There are a wide variety of energy subsidies available for new and start-up businesses in the region. Each local power company has its own subsidy structure.

- National Grid offers various discounts and incentives including discounts on electrical equipment, up to 70% off lighting and refrigeration upgrades and flexible payment plans
- Jamestown BPU (Board of Public Utilities) – offers commercial and industrial customers financial incentives (rebates) for energy efficiency projects
- NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) works with stakeholders throughout New York including residents, business owners, developers, and community leaders. NYSERDA partners with them to develop, invest, and foster the conditions that attract the private sector capital investment needed to expand New York’s clean energy

A Chautauqua County Education Coalition was

formed in 2018 as an initiative of the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, the Manufacturer’s Association of the Southern Tier, and the “Dream It Do It WNY” campaign. Dream It Do It was formed as part of Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Council initiative to promote apprenticeships and careers in advanced manufacturing to K-12 students across the region. The local Coalition was formed to promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education to meet the workforce requirements of local employers.

As part of the 2016-2017 New York State budget, legislation was signed sanctioning a plan consisting of gradual increases in the minimum wage rate. The first rounds of wage increases went into effect in 2016 and are scheduled to continue until the state minimum wage reaches \$15 per hour. The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, but the current NYS minimum wage rate is \$11.80 per hour and will increase to \$12.50 in December of 2020. Employer location and size are also a factor in determining wage increase rates and schedules. While the increase is a benefit to workers, it also has implications for businesses that are forced to increase salaries of personnel, increase prices, and/or decrease employees’ hours worked.

Accredited higher education options in Chautauqua County include the State University of NY at Fredonia and Jamestown Community College (JCC). SUNY Fredonia is a liberal arts university that offers bachelor’s and master’s degree and advanced certificate programs. JCC is a SUNY school that offers transferable two-year degree programs and certification courses in over 40 disciplines. In 2017, New York’s Governor Andrew Cuomo implemented the Excelsior Scholarship program that allows individuals with household incomes below \$125,000 to attend a SUNY school tuition-free. Recipients must be NY State residents and must agree to reside in NY State following graduation for the length of time they participated in the scholarship program.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

Attendees at Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.’s August 2019 Community Council Meeting discussed the lack of jobs in the county. While the unemployment rate has been on a downward trend, many of the jobs that are available offer low wages and few (if any) benefits. In an era where a bachelor’s degree is continually becoming seen as a prerequisite for most careers, Chautauqua County has low rates of persons with bachelor’s and advanced degrees; per the U.S. Census 2017 ACS, only 22.9% of the population aged 25 to 34 has a bachelor’s

degree or higher, compared to the U.S. rate of 35.6%. This is in part because young professionals tend to leave the county after attaining their education for places with more job opportunities. This “brain drain” means that skilled workers in many sectors are unavailable to fill the positions that do exist.

Multiple layers of government and administration have led to rising costs for municipalities, school districts, and services such as fire and police departments. These duplicated services place burdens on the budgets of each individual entity. Residents are taxed by multiple municipalities, and tax rates increase in order to meet expenses. As a result, many of these entities have considered mergers and consolidation of services for cost savings.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- There are several local development corporations and other groups in the county that actively promote the area to businesses and individuals. The area is marketed proactively in sectors where the area has strong local assets to build on, including recreation and tourism, personal enrichment and learning, agri-business and tourism, and food processing.
- The Chautauqua County Land Bank Corporation provides opportunities for reinvestment in existing properties as a means of re-purposing dilapidated and abandoned properties for new business investments.
- The county has natural resources that can be used for energy production, including natural gas, and nearly constant winds due to its position along Lake Erie.
- The county’s soil and climate are ideal for producing many fruits and vegetables, including Concord grapes and several varieties of wine grapes.
- Several organizations exist within Chautauqua County to provide workforce training and human resource development, including SUNY Fredonia’s Career Development Office, Jamestown Community College and its Manufacturer Technology Institute, Chautauqua Works, Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES, the P-TECH STEM College and Career Academy, and the

Chautauqua County Education Coalition. Economic development organizations in the county also provide education on entrepreneurship.

CHALLENGES

- Young working age people and displaced workers leave the county in search of better paying jobs, creating a local “brain drain”.
- Employers have difficulty filling positions that require specialized skills or higher education.
- Multiple layers of government increase the tax burden for households and businesses.
- While increases in the minimum wage benefit workers in low paying jobs, personnel costs increase for businesses, which can result in reduced hours or layoffs for the worker and increased prices for the consumer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Attract employers that will provide jobs for the emerging educated workforce.
- Continue to pursue investment in successful industries such as agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing.
- Find more ways to make Chautauqua County an attractive place for businesses to invest in and expand.
- Increase training and education opportunities relevant to the local workforce to allow for advancement and increase wages.
- Reduce multiple layers of government administration which will result in county cost savings.
- Continue to support local businesses while exploring innovative ways to attract new businesses to the area.
- Increase support, education, and training for entrepreneurs in the county interested in starting their own business.

2. Housing

INTRODUCTION

Quality housing is a key component of the financial and physical health of any community. Higher home values, newer housing stocks, lower foreclosure rates, and an availability of affordable housing options all speak to the quality of life for people across the income spectrum. Of course, the issue of housing is also closely related to the issue of poverty. Unsafe or unaffordable housing creates barriers to households working to move out of poverty.

Housing in Chautauqua County presents both opportunities and challenges. Relatively low home values make homeownership affordable to much of the county's population. Since a home is a long-term asset that retains its value over time, the county's homeownership rate of 70% bodes well for the financial health of county residents. On the other hand, many renters are struggling with an income that does not adequately cover the cost of housing, which has led to a rise in homelessness in the county. An aging housing stock also presents challenges as the cost of repairs is a burden to many residents and the environmental risks of old housing impacts residents. Developing strategies that build off the county's strengths and address these challenges will be crucial to improving the housing condition of county residents.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Housing values

Median home values in Chautauqua County are considerably lower than New York State and National home values, as illustrated in **Table 2.1**. In Chautauqua County in 2017, the median home value

Table 2.1: Median Home Values

Year	Chautauqua County	NY	US
2005	\$75,000	\$258,900	\$167,500
2010	\$79,600	\$303,900	\$188,400
2014	\$84,100	\$283,700	\$175,700
2017	\$85,800	\$293,000	\$193,500

was \$85,800 (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 5-year estimates), less than one third the \$293,000 median home value in the state and half of the \$193,500 median value in the U.S. For the country, home values increased by 10% between 2014 and 2017, which was a bounce back from a previous dip in value between 2010 and 2014. A similar trend was seen across New York State, but not in Chautauqua County. Home values in the county have increased gradually with a 5.6% increase between 2010 and 2014 and a lower 2% increase between 2014 and 2017. The local trends indicate that Chautauqua County home values are less affected by national trends than other markets and have not been subject to the market volatility that some markets experience.

Homeownership

As seen in **Table 2.2**, homeownership rates are strong in Chautauqua County compared to NY State and the nation, and they continue to trend upward. The county's homeownership rate of 70.0% is higher than the rates for both NY (54.0%) and the nation (63.8%) per the U.S. Census. Local homeownership rates now exceed the pre-Recession rate of 69.3% in 2000 and are up from the rate of 68.0% in 2010. NY State experienced a slight increase in its homeownership rate and is up 1% over the past two decades. The nation saw a dip in its homeownership rates from 66.2% in 2000 to 63.8% in 2017.

Table 2.2: Housing Units By Occupation

Chautauqua County				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	69.3%	68.0%	69.9%	70.0%
Rented	30.7%	32.0%	30.1%	30.0%
New York State				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	53.0%	53.3%	53.8%	54.0%
Rented	47.0%	46.7%	46.2%	46.0%
U.S.				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	66.2%	65.1%	64.4%	63.8%
Rented	33.8%	34.9%	35.6%	36.2%

Affordability of Homeownership

Rural communities often display higher rates of homeownership than urban areas, and Chautauqua County's homeownership rate of 70% is consistent with this pattern. By owning a home, residents have a financial asset that will retain its value if maintained. While median home values have not appreciated at the high rates of strong housing markets in other parts of the country, local home values have appreciated gradually since the Recession.

A key reason for the high ownership rate is that entry into the market is attainable for first-time homebuyers. Starter homes are available for less than the median home value of \$85,800 and are affordable for homebuyers with moderate to middle incomes. First-time homebuyer programs can assist with opening the door to more homebuyers. The American Dream Program available through member banks of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York provides up to \$14,500 in down payment and closing cost assistance to income eligible households, while the First Front Door Program from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh provides up to \$5,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance; both are available in Chautauqua County. Affordable mortgage products such as FHA loans, SONYMA loans, and USDA 502 Direct Loans also provide favorable rates and features for income eligible households.

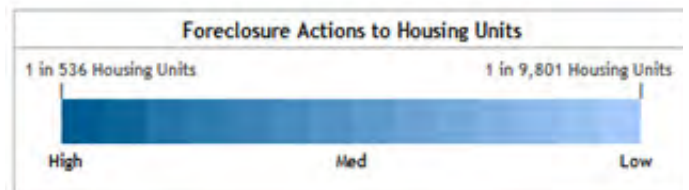
Foreclosure Rates

According to Realtytrac, one in 2,803 homes in Chautauqua County is in bank foreclosure as of March 2019. This is lower than the state rate of one in every 2,322 homes and national rate of one in every 2,312 homes. As illustrated in **Chart 2.1** from Realtytrac, the communities in Chautauqua County experiencing the highest rates of foreclosures in 2019 are Frewsburg and

Forestville, with Ripley, Westfield, Falconer, Dunkirk, Fredonia, and Silver Creek also experiencing high rates of foreclosure. Foreclosures are often the result of other challenges experienced by residents in the county, namely circumstances leading to loss of income and low assets, yet they are also the cause of further financial hardship. Some households face the challenge of tax foreclosure due to insufficient funds to pay annual taxes. Preventing foreclosures helps residents stabilize their housing and maintain any equity they have accrued in their home.

Chart 2.1 Foreclosure Actions by Zip Code, 2019

Source: Realtytrac



Age of Housing Stock

Chautauqua County has some of the oldest housing in the state and country. According to the U.S. Census 2013-2017 ACS, the median year built for housing in Chautauqua County is 1950, which is tied for 3rd oldest in New York State and tied for 45th out of 3,136 counties in the country. Over 42.7% of the county's homes were built before 1939, compared to 31.6% for New York and 12.5% for the nation. Just 0.7% of the county's homes were built since 2010, while state and national percentages are two and five times as high, respectively. In the county, nearly 86% of homes were built in 1979 or earlier, which is around the time that lead-based paint was determined to



be a health hazard and discontinued.

A survey of residential building permits confirms the relatively low numbers of new builds in the county, showing only 133 total new permits issued in 2018 (US Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey). The number is down from the 212 new build permits issued in 2014, reflecting a market that is oriented to rehabilitation of older units rather than new builds.

Table 2.3: Percent of Housing Units by Year Built

Year Built	Chautauqua County	NY	U.S.
2010 or later	0.7%	1.3%	3.3%
1980 to 2009	18.2%	19.9%	42.3%
1940 to 1979	38.2%	46.9%	41.9%
1939 or earlier	42.7%	31.6%	12.5%

Utilities

In upstate New York, winter temperatures require renters and homeowners to heat their housing for extended periods of time. Since the housing stock in New York and particularly in Chautauqua County is old and homes are often not energy efficient, the long winters can lead to high energy bills. Low-income renters often live in older housing that is least energy efficient and bear a disproportionate burden of energy expenses. Energy costs have risen between 2016 and 2019, with electric rising from 16.5 cents per Kilowatt-hour to 17.3 cents per Kilowatt hour, and natural gas rising from \$10.30 per 1,000 cubic feet to \$12.24 per 1,000 cubic feet. In 2019, several utility cost rate increases have been submitted to the New York Public Service Commission that, if approved, would increase the cost of energy, particularly for lower-income households. **Table 2.4** illustrates the average retail price for residential energy in NY over time, according to NYSERDA and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Table 2.4 Average Retail Price for Energy in NY

	Jan. 2010	Jan 2016	Jan 2019
Electric (cents/kilowatt-hour)	17.1	16.5	17.3
Natural gas (\$/1,000 cubic ft.)	12.97	10.3	12.24

Rental Affordability

For most households, housing costs are the single highest expense. For lower income households, particularly renters, housing can form a disproportionate share of the household budget. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has established that households who pay more than 30% of their income as gross rent are considered rent-burdened (gross rent is the amount of contract rent plus the cost of utilities or fuels if these are paid by the renter). Rent-burdened households can find it challenging to meet other basic needs and are often impaired from building assets and working toward financial mobility because their housing expenses take up such a large percentage of their income.

Table 2.5 uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017 ACS to illustrate the percentage of the population that is rent burdened. In Chautauqua County, rent-burdened households (those for whom gross rent takes up more than 30% of their income) make up 52.9% of the rental population with another 19.6% of renters paying between 20% and 29.9% of their household income towards their gross rent. The percentage of rent burdened households in Chautauqua County is slightly higher than the national average and slightly lower than the average for NY State.

Table 2.5: Gross Rent as Percentage of Household Income

	Chautauqua County	NY	U.S.
Less than 20%	27.6%	24.3%	25.2%
20.0 - 29.9%	19.6%	22.2%	24.2%
30% or more	52.9%	53.5%	50.6%

Homeless Population

The greatest housing challenges in Chautauqua County are experienced by homeless households. While there are fewer visible “street” homeless persons, there are many homeless persons and families in Chautauqua County. Homeless persons in Chautauqua County tend to include female-headed households, veterans, runaway youth, single men and women, and domestic violence survivors, but homelessness can affect people across age, gender, or racial and ethnic boundaries.

The Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition serves as the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) for the county. The Coalition works to coordinate a continuum of services to prevent and respond to homelessness. Chautauqua

Opportunities, Inc. is the lead agency for the Coalition, with membership including housing agencies (Southern Tier Environments for Living, Inc., Housing Options Made Easy, and the Dunkirk Housing Authority), shelters (UCAN City Mission in Jamestown, the YWCA of Jamestown), community service and relief groups (Community Helping Hands, the American Red Cross), government agencies (Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services, City of Jamestown Department of Development), organizations serving youth or students (Chautauqua County Youth Bureau, Erie-2 Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES), and more.

In 2018, per the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), there were 743 enrollments in homeless services in Chautauqua County, an increase from 493 in 2017 and 383 in 2016. The dramatic increase in homelessness is likely due to an increase in the ability to track homeless services, rather than a dramatic increase in homeless persons. Homeless service providers and the community are becoming more aware of the scope of homelessness in the county.

Of the 743 enrollments in 2018, 81% of individuals entered from a situation where they were either literally homeless, or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Of the 743, approximately 58% were male, and 41% were female, while 4% were veterans as seen in **Tables 2.6 and 2.7**. In 2018, the majority of homeless persons were White; however, African Americans (10%) and Hispanics (21.4%) were disproportionately affected by homelessness compared to the percentage of these populations in the total population (**Table 2.8**).

Table 2.6 Chautauqua Co. Homeless Population by Gender

	Total	Male	Female	Transgender
2016	383	41.8%	58.0%	.2%
2017	493	53.7%	46.1%	.2%
2018	743	58.4%	41.1%	.5%

Table 2.7 Veterans in Chautauqua Co. Homeless Population

	# Veterans	% of Homeless Population
2016	24	6.2%
2017	33	6.7%
2018	32	4.3%

Source of all homeless data: Chautauqua County Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Table 2.8 Chautauqua County Homeless Population by Race and Ethnicity

	2016	2017	2018
White	85.2%	87.3%	85.5%
African American	11.9%	8.8%	10.0%
Other	2.9%	3.9%	4.5%
Hispanic/Latino			
	27.5%	20.7%	21.4%
Non-Hispanic/Latino			
	72.5%	79.3%	78.6%

Youth homelessness continues to be a problem that the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition works to combat. Data from COI's Street Outreach Program in 2018 indicated that youth become homeless primarily because they are asked to leave the home by a parent or caregiver (51.2%), but substantial numbers are homeless because they cannot find a job (24.7%), they experienced physical abuse (23.8%), or their caretaker engages in substance abuse (22.6%) (Youth were able to choose more than one reason). Homeless youth in particular are at risk for becoming victims of human trafficking, and every effort should be made to house youth in appropriate shelters when their homelessness becomes apparent. The numbers of homeless youth recorded in the Chautauqua County HMIS are illustrated in **Table 2.9**.

Table 2.9 Youth Homelessness

	2016	2017	2018
Unaccompanied youth: Age < 18	46	39	62
Unaccompanied youth: Ages 18 - 24	56	61	94
Total Unaccompanied Homeless Youth	102	101	156
Homeless Youth in a Family Unit	271	224	232
Total Number of Homeless Youth	373	325	388

Numbers in Table 2.9 are a subset of the total homeless numbers in Table 2.6.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

Homeownership Trends

Homeownership rates have risen to a healthy mark of 70% in Chautauqua County at the same time that national homeownership rates are on the decline. This can largely be attributed to the lower home values in the county compared to the nation and New York State, which makes it easier for first-time homebuyers to enter the housing market. The affordability of homeownership is also driven by income. While Chautauqua County has a lower median income per the U.S. Census Bureau (\$44,304) than New York State (\$62,765) or the country (\$57,652), an index comparing median income as a percentage of median home values presents a positive picture for the affordability of homeownership in the county. The ratio of median home value to median income is 51% in Chautauqua County compared to 21% for New York State and 30% for the U.S.

Affordable Housing Trends

As illustrated in **Table 2.10**, Median Gross Rents continue to rise in Chautauqua County as well as the nation and state. In Chautauqua County, gross rents rose by 1.5% annually from \$581 in 2010 to \$631 in 2017. These small increases are roughly proportional to increases in the cost of living and do not reflect major changes in the housing market. At the same time, the percentage of rent-burdened households in the county (those whose rent is more than 30% of their income) did increase by 2.1% from 2014 to 2017 (**Table 2.11**). As rents increase, household incomes for renters have not increased proportionately and fewer households are living in an affordable rental property. *Source of data: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 5-year estimates.*

Table 2.10 Trend in Median Gross Rent

	Chautauqua County	NY	U.S.
2010	\$581	\$977	\$841
2014	\$611	\$1,117	\$920
2017	\$631	\$1,194	\$982

Table 2.11 Trend in Rent-Burdened Households

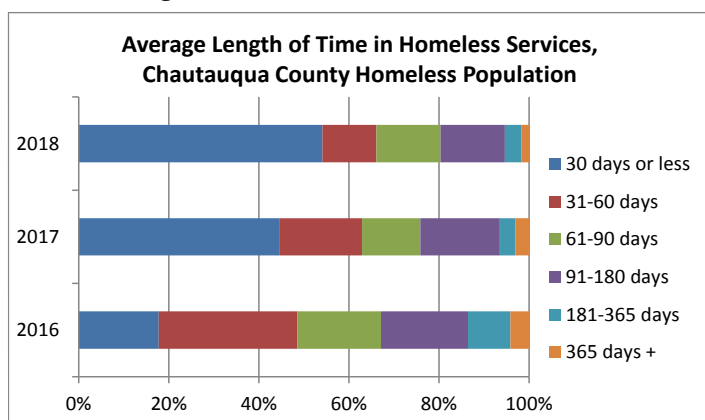
	Chautauqua County	NY	U.S.
2010	50.7%	53.6%	50.8%
2014	50.8%	53.9%	52.3%
2017	52.9%	53.5%	50.6%

Homelessness Trends

The total number of homeless persons recorded in Chautauqua County rose from 383 in 2016 to 743 in 2018. The increased coordination and data gathering of local homeless services providers has created a new baseline for homeless individuals and families in the county. Nationally, homeless services funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs have pushed local Continuums of Cares to formalize their structures and improve coordination between homeless service providers.

Chart 2.1 shows the average length of time that individuals remain enrolled in programs that provide homeless services in the county. It is important to note that increases from year to year are largely due to expanded and improved data collection of all individuals receiving homeless services throughout the county.

Chart 2.1 Length of Time Homeless



Another trend is the heavy reliance on area motels as homeless shelters. While Chautauqua County has homeless shelters that serve particular populations, such as youth or domestic violence victims, there is no all-purpose homeless shelter that serves all homeless individuals or families. When there are no beds available to accommodate a homeless person or persons, the Chautauqua County DHHS may provide a voucher

enabling them to stay in a nearby hotel or motel. This provides for the basic need of housing, but due to the location of the motels and the lack of supportive services onsite, it is a less than ideal option for homeless services. It is also more expensive to county government to pay for motel vouchers compared to the typical cost of placing homeless persons in a homeless shelter.

Subsidized Housing

Chautauqua County has a number of affordable housing developers and subsidized housing providers. Subsidies increase the affordability of rental housing for low-income households. According to standards set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, households in subsidized housing contribute no more than 30% of their income toward rent. In Chautauqua County, subsidized housing is provided by public housing authorities, privately owned units developed with low income housing tax credits (LIHTC), and housing vouchers used in coordination with private landlords. The numbers of subsidized units or vouchers in Chautauqua County are displayed in **Table 2.12**.

Table 2.12 Chautauqua County Subsidized Housing

Northern County LIHTC	278
Southern County LIHTC	47
Jamestown Housing Authority	250
Dunkirk Housing Authority	223
Housing Choice Vouchers	906
Vouchers for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS	45
Total	1,749

Source: HUD LIHTC Database 2019 and COI survey of housing providers.

Some of the major subsidized housing units can be found at Lindwood Apartments, Caroll Manor, Springwood Apartments, Collins Manor, Mayville Senior Apartments, Arrowhead Apartments, Second Street Apartments, Euclid Gardens, Chadakoin Centre Gardens, Fredonia Commons, and Appleyard Terrace Townhomes.

The Dunkirk Renovation and Ownership Program (DRO) is a 49 unit, mixed-income, multi/large family, scattered site, supportive housing, home ownership education project that is being developed by Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL). The project will include the rehabilitation and new construction of homes

along and in close proximity to U.S. Route 60, one of the major arterials into the City of Dunkirk’s core.

Environmental Risks

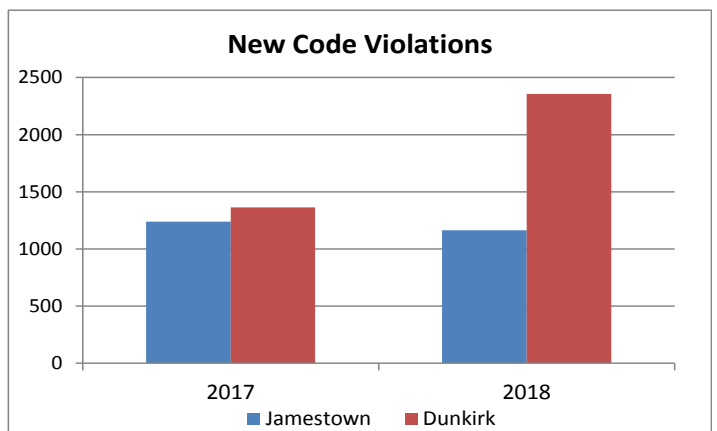
Older properties are at higher risk for environmental hazards. Lead paint was used commonly on properties built before 1978, which accounts for about 80% of housing in the county. The ingestion of lead-based paint particles by young children is known to have negative physiological and developmental impacts. **Table 2.15** shows the total number of children age 6 and under who tested positive for high levels of lead in their blood from 2014 to 2016. During this time period, 12.9% of children who were tested in Chautauqua County displayed high levels of lead in their blood, compared to 4.3% of tested children across New York State (New York Department of Health CHIRS Report 2017).

Table 2.13 Number of Children with Confirmed Elevated Lead Blood Levels (>10 mcg/dl)

	Chautauqua County	New York State
2014	29	2,642
2015	18	1,787
2016	29	1,919

Another indicator of environmental hazards is the number of housing code violations that are recorded. According to information provided by code enforcement officers, the City of Jamestown had 1,238 new code violations in 2017 and 1,164 in 2018. This information is displayed in **Chart 2.2**. The City of Dunkirk reported 1,363 new code violations in 2017 and 2,356 in 2018. Code violations are an indicator of the prevalence of

Chart 2.2 New Code Violations



members mentioned the lack of available, affordable housing (particularly in Dunkirk) as a rental barrier and indicated they had experienced long waitlists for properties they wanted to rent. Other community members expressed the need for more knowledge about the home buying process. When asked about the challenges that homeless households are facing, community members responded that lack of jobs or job skills, drug abuse, mental health issues, and lack of affordable housing were causes of homelessness.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- A stable national and local economy with low unemployment rates is helping many Chautauqua County residents to achieve housing stability.
- Median home values have risen slightly over the past three years.
- Homeownership rates remain strong and home buying is relatively affordable in Chautauqua County. Whereas many workers in “hot” housing markets are priced out of homeownership, in Chautauqua County more households have access to becoming first-time homebuyers
- First-time homebuyer programs that offer down payment and closing costs assistance are available, and can assist low to moderate income households with overcoming barriers to homeownership. The affordability of homeownership is an opportunity for low-to-moderate income households to build assets. This opportunity may be of particular benefit to minority households, who have lower rates of homeownership than white households both nationally and locally.

CHALLENGES

- One of the most significant local challenges is the number of rent-burdened households. With more than half of Chautauqua County renters living in unaffordable housing, there are many people who are struggling financially. This is not surprising considering that the county has one of the highest poverty rates in New York (18.5%). Any successful anti-poverty strategy will need to address both the lack of adequate incomes and the high cost of housing expenses. If unaddressed, unaffordable housing can lead to homelessness.

- A number of health hazards such as lead-based paint and poor indoor air quality can lead to poor health among low-income households. As identified in the community member survey, many houses need minor or major repairs, and lower income households may defer these repairs in order to meet basic needs. Older housing is subject to high energy bills and would benefit from energy efficiency upgrades to improve comfort and reduce energy bills.
- A lack of emergency shelter options results in many homeless being housed temporarily in area motels that are located far from social service agencies, lack services, and are not an ideal environment for a quick transition out of homelessness. Better options are needed, particularly for women and their dependent children.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promote programs and affordable mortgage products for first-time homebuyers, especially for female-headed and minority households who are less likely to access homeownership.
- Raise awareness on environmental health hazards in the county’s old housing stock and increase testing for lead-based paint hazards.
- Develop a homeless shelter that meets the need for emergency housing for women and children.
- Encourage grassroots initiatives to establish neighborhood standards and support improvements to the housing stock.
- Increase collaboration among public, non-profit, and private landlords to address common issues in landlord tenant relations.
- Offer subsidized energy efficiency services to assist low-income households.
- Conduct outreach on fair housing laws and increase awareness of asset-building opportunities for communities of color and disabled persons.
- Increase consumer financial education and knowledge of housing costs to prevent foreclosure or eviction.

3. Health

INTRODUCTION

Over the course of the last several years, health care has been one of the defining issues of our time. Costs for care have risen faster than the average annual income, and serious diseases or injuries can result in medical bills that wipe out savings or cause debilitating debt. According to a recent study by Harvard University, medical expenses are the leading cause of personal bankruptcy. Nearly two-thirds (62%) of all people who file for bankruptcy cite medical issues as a financial problem, despite the fact that 78% of these individuals had some form of health insurance.

The rural nature of Chautauqua County, along with the high incidence of poverty, contributes to the health challenges that are faced by county residents. According to a recent report of health rankings by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Chautauqua County ranks 59th out of 62 counties in New York State with respect to health outcomes such as length and quality of life, and 55th with respect to health factors such as behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. Improving the population's health at the individual, family, and county-wide levels is essential in addressing its problems in a holistic manner.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

According to the NYS Department of Health, the top 5 causes of death in Chautauqua County in 2016 were heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease, stroke, and unintentional injury. The top three have remained at the top of the list consistently since at least 2008.

Heart or cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in not just Chautauqua County, but in the nation. Risk factors include high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and stroke. The most common type, coronary heart disease, involves the buildup of plaque that causes arteries to narrow, which can cause a heart attack. Another type, congestive heart failure, refers to fluid buildup around the heart that causes it to pump inefficiently. As seen in **Table 3.1**, Chautauqua County suffers from heart disease mortality rates that exceed the rates for Western NY and NY State. The age-adjusted data is provided by the NY State Department of Health per

100,000 population for the years 2014 - 2016.

Table 3.1 Heart Disease Mortality Rates

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
Cardiovascular disease	253.9	246.7	220.2
Coronary heart disease	192.2	176.6	168.7
Congestive heart failure	35.9	24.8	13.0

Table 3.2 displays age-adjusted data for occurrences of selected types of cancer in Chautauqua County in comparison to Western NY and NY State. Data is provided by the NY State Department of Health per 100,000 population for the years 2013 - 2015.

Table 3.2 Cancer Incidence Rate

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
All cancer	706.4	689.5	564.4
Female breast	136.0	143.5	132.8
Ovarian	11.0	12.9	12.2
Prostate	166.0	139.6	123.4
Lung/bronchus	66.5	74.5	59.2
Colon/rectum	41.0	40.4	39.3

While the overall rate of cancer incidence has not significantly changed in Chautauqua County, the incidence of prostate cancer in particular decreased significantly from the 2010-2012 rate of 267.6 to the recent rate of 166.0. The incidence and mortality rates for ovarian cancer have not changed significantly over previous levels, but these rates are also lower than those of Western NY and the state. The overall rate of cancer mortality has significantly improved over the last several

years. The rate of deaths from cancer in Chautauqua County was 176.6 per 100,000 population for 2010 – 2012, compared to the 2013-2015 rate of 150.3 cancer deaths per 100,000 population.

Table 3.3 Cancer Mortality Rate

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
All cancer	150.3	174.3	149.2
Female breast	15.3	21.2	19.2
Ovarian	6.8	7.5	7.1
Prostate	11.8	17.0	17.8
Lung/bronchus	40.4	51.2	36.9
Colon/rectum	15.5	13.8	13.1

NYS Department of Health data also reveal that Chautauqua County has a high rate of deaths from chronic lower respiratory disease (44.1 per 100,000 pop.) compared to the WNY region (43.7) and the state (28.9). The term chronic lower respiratory disease encompasses chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma. In 2016, individuals in Chautauqua County visited emergency rooms for asthma at a rate of 34.8 per 10,000 persons, higher than the neighboring rural counties of Cattaraugus (12.5), Wyoming (17.4), Genesee (18.7), and Allegany (26.8), but lower than the statewide average rate of 68.6. In Chautauqua County, there were six deaths due to asthma between the years 2014 and 2016.

Information provided in Healthy People 2020, which outlines the federal government's 10 year goals for health and disease prevention, indicates that diabetes is the 7th leading cause of death in the United States. Diabetes increases the risk of heart disease two to four times and is the leading cause of kidney failure, amputations of lower limbs, and adult blindness. Up to 25% of Americans with diabetes are undiagnosed, and many more are at risk for developing the disease. Ethnic minority populations are more frequently affected by Type II diabetes, representing 25% of all diabetic adults and more than half of diabetic children nationally.

NYS Department of Health data indicate that 10.1% of adults in Chautauqua County have been diagnosed with diabetes, compared to 10.0% for Western NY and 9.5% for NY State. **Table 3.4** illustrates that hospitalization rates for diabetics are lower than regional and state averages, while mortality due to diabetes is lower than that of the

region but on par with the state average.

Table 3.4 Diabetes Mortality and Hospitalization Rates

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
Diabetes mortality rate	150.3	174.3	149.2
Diabetes hospitalization rate (diabetes diagnosis)	15.3	21.2	19.2
Diabetes hospitalization rate (any diagnosis)	6.8	7.5	7.1

Alcohol and drug addiction

Much like other areas throughout the country and NY State, the opioid epidemic has taken its toll on Chautauqua County. The NY State Department of Health's 2018 Opioid Annual Report indicates that 129 unique doses of Naloxone, which is commonly known as Narcan, were administered by emergency medical services in Chautauqua County in 2017. In proportion to the county's population, the rate of Narcan administration is 6.6 per 1,000 pop., compared to an average of 6.1 per 1,000 pop. for the rest of the state, excluding NY City. The Department of Health also reported 82 emergency room visits for opioid overdose and 56 emergency room visits for heroin overdose in the county in 2016. The number of fatal drug overdoses in the county dropped from 39 in 2017 to 26 in 2018, which the Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services largely attributes to the use of Narcan (Post Journal, 11/4/2019).

The Opioid Annual Report uses data regarding opioid overdose deaths, outpatient emergency room visits, and hospital discharges to determine a rate of opioid burden per 100,000 population. As illustrated in **Table 3.5**, the entire 8-county western NY region has an opioid burden rate of 357.2, with the highest rate attributed to Chautauqua County at 496.5.

According to the NYS Expanded Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 22.4% of adults in Chautauqua County reported binge drinking within the past month of being surveyed, compared to 21.2% of adults in Western NY and 18.3% statewide. Binge drinking is defined as consuming 4 or more drinks on a single occasion for females, or 5 or more drinks for males.

Table 3.5 Opioid Burden per 100,000 pop.

Opioid Burden	
Allegany	218.8
Cattaraugus	243.3
Chautauqua	496.5
Erie	352.2
Genesee	338.6
Niagara	416.5
Orleans	268.5
Wyoming	213.3
Western NY	357.2

A 2016 PRIDE report by the Chautauqua Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council (CASAC) compiled data from surveys of middle and high school students from nine Chautauqua County school districts. The report found that marijuana and alcohol use is prevalent among these students, and increases with grade level. The percentage of alcohol users increased from 13.9% of 8th graders to 42.7% of 12th graders. Marijuana users accounted for 8.7% of 8th graders, and 30.3% of 12th graders. Prescription drug abuse was reported by 2.1% of 8th grade students, which doubled to 4.2% for 12th grade students. (Chautauqua County 2016-2018 Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan)

Unintentional and Self-inflicted injury

In Chautauqua County, the 2014-2016 rate of death due to unintentional injuries (44.5 per 100,000 pop.) worsened significantly since the 2011-2013 rate of 31.4 per 100,000 population. The unintentional injury mortality rate for Western NY is slightly lower at 44.3. The rates for the county and the region are well above the NY State rate of 30.2 per 100,000 population. **Table 3.6** provides data regarding various types of injuries compared to the region and the state.

The age-adjusted rate of hospitalization due to falls is also provided by the NYS Department of Health. In 2016, the hospitalization rate for falls in Chautauqua County was 22.4 per 10,000, compared to 29.3 for Western NY and 32.2 for NY State. The data confirm that advanced age is a factor that increases the likelihood of falls in Chautauqua County. People between the ages of 65 and 74 were hospitalized for falls at a rate of 54.4 per 10,000 in Chautauqua County. For those aged 75 – 84, the rate increased to 150.7; and for those ages 85 and up, the rate increased to 426.9.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

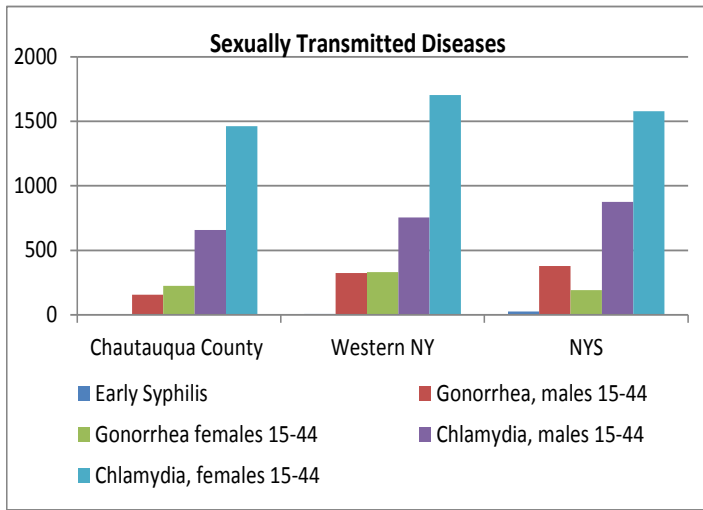
Recent data from the NYS Department of Health reveals that cases of early syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea for ages 15-44 in Chautauqua County are lower than Western NY and NY State averages overall. **Chart 3.1** illustrates the 2014-2016 rates of these diseases per 100,000 population for these geographies.

Table 3.6 Unintentional and Self-inflicted Injury (per 100,000 pop. except where indicated)

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
Suicide mortality rate	13.6	12.0	8.0
Self-inflicted injury hospitalization rate	5.3	4.4	3.5
Self-inflicted injury hospitalization rate, ages 15-19 (per 10,000 pop.)	9.6	8.4	7.6
Poisoning hospitalization rate (per 10,000 pop.)	7.5	8.4	6.9
Motor vehicle mortality rate	6.8	6.1	5.3
Alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries and deaths	45.1	39.7	29.9
Traumatic brain injury hospitalization rate (per 10,000 pop.)	5.1	6.2	7.6

NYS Department of Health data

Chart 3.1 Sexually Transmitted Diseases



Statewide, 3 out of 5 cases of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are contracted by teens and young adults. In Chautauqua County, rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea for ages 15-19 and ages 20-24 are all lower than regional and statewide rates, although still quite high. Rates are illustrated in **Table 3.7**.

Table 3.7 Sexually Transmitted Diseases by Age Groups

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
Gonorrhea, age 15-19	298.1	478.9	305.8
Chlamydia, males age 15-19	872.1	1060.4	922.5
Chlamydia, males age 20-24	1575.8	1591.6	1638.0
Chlamydia, females age 15-19	2921.7	3612.5	3147.6
Chlamydia, females age 20-24	3228.1	3658.8	3424.6

Newly diagnosed cases of both HIV and AIDS have decreased for NYS and Chautauqua County, as shown in **Charts 3.2 and 3.3**. According to the NYS HIV/AIDS Annual Surveillance Report from the NYS Department of Health, as of December 2017 there were 106 individuals living with HIV and 111 individuals living with AIDS in Chautauqua County. These figures include 6 incarcerated

persons with HIV and 2 incarcerated persons with AIDS.

Chart 3.2 New Cases of HIV

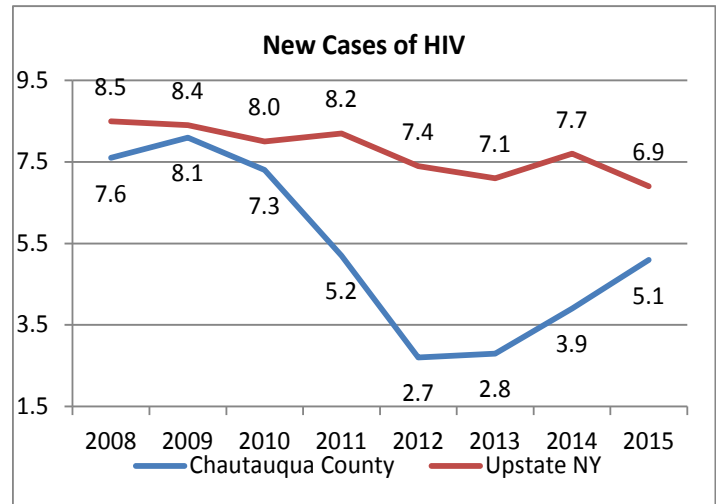
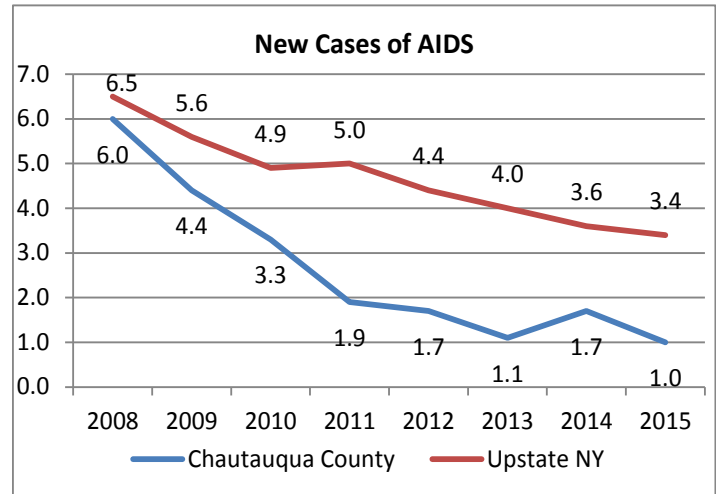


Chart 3.3 New Cases of AIDS



Maternity Care

Information provided by the NYS Department of Health in **Table 3.8** indicates that a lower percentage of pregnant women in Chautauqua County receive prenatal care in the first trimester when compared to Western NY and NY State. Despite this fact, rates of premature birth and low and very low birthweight infants are lower than regional and statewide rates.

NYS Department of Health data also reveal that Chautauqua County has a rate of newborns affected by narcotics compared to statewide level. The county rate of newborns with withdrawal syndrome and/or affected by narcotics via placenta or breast milk is 28.3 per 1,000

hospital deliveries as of 2014, compared to 5.2 per 1,000 for NY State. The data indicate a critical need for services and education to pregnant women, particularly those who abuse narcotics.

Table 3.8 Prenatal Care and Birthweight

	Chautauqua County	Western NY	NY State
Births with early (1st trimester) prenatal care	68.2	73.3	75.2
Births with late (3rd trimester) or no prenatal care	6.6	5.4	5.6
Low birthweight births (< 2.5 kg)	7.0	8.1	7.9
Very low birthweight births (<1.5 kg)	1.1	1.6	1.4
Premature births (< 37 weeks gestation)	8.6	9.5	8.8

The rates of adolescent pregnancies and births in Chautauqua County are illustrated below in **Table 3.9** per 1,000 females ages 15-19, which exceed the rates for upstate NY (excludes NY City) and NY State as a whole.

Table 3.9 Teen Pregnancies and Births

	Chautauqua County	Upstate NY	NY State
Teen Pregnancy Rate	28.9	22.3	29.8
Teen Birth Rate	23.9	12.7	13.9

NYS Department of Health data for 2014-2016

Table 3.10 lists the cities and towns within Chautauqua County that have the highest rates of teen pregnancy according to data from the NYS Department of Health for 2014-2016.

Table 3.10 Teen Pregnancy/Birth Rates by Zip Code

	Teen Pregnancy Rate	Teen Birth Rate
Dunkirk	76.0	54.4
Jamestown	51.5	45.6
Stockton	50.7	50.7
Sinclairville	42.9	42.9
Brocton	41.7	36.5
Falconer	41.3	35.4
Kennedy	33.3	29.2
Dewittville	22.2	22.2
Mayville	22.0	18.9
Ripley	20.8	20.8

Factors Influencing Health

Social Determinants of Health (SDH) are defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as “the conditions in the places where people live, work, learn and play” The five domains that are considered to encompass SDH include education, economic stability, social and community context, health and health care, and neighborhood and the built environment. The information presented here will focus on social and community context as well as health and health care in Chautauqua County, as the challenges associated with education, economic stability, and the built environment have been described in other chapters of this assessment. Most statistics in this section are reported from the County Health Rankings collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

Chautauqua County residents fare well compared to the rest of New York State with respect to social associations. The county boasts 17.5 memberships in social groups per 100,000 residents in the county over the state’s 8 memberships. However, the county is far and away from the top rates in these categories of 21.9 social associations per 100,000 residents. There are a number of social and community level factors that contribute negatively to the health of Chautauqua County residents, including the percentage of adult smokers, the

prevalence of adult obesity, and the percent of driving deaths that involved alcohol. **Table 3.11** illustrates each of these factors in the county in comparison to New York State and the top performers in the country.

Table 3.11 Factors Influencing Health

Health Factor	Chautauqua County	NY	USTP
Adult smoking	24%	14%	14%
Adult obesity	33%	26%	26%
Alcohol impaired driving deaths	28%	21%	13%

Health Care

Chautauqua County ranked 28th of 62 counties in New York with respect to clinical care. Some factors that contributed to this include mammography screening rates and the percent of county residents who are without health insurance. Forty-seven percent of women ages 65 to 74 receiving Medicare in the county reported mammography screenings, more than the state’s rate of 41% but still fewer than half and less than the top U.S. performers (49%). Six percent of the population under 65 reported as uninsured, which is the same rate as the top U.S. performers but slightly less than NY State at 7%.

Despite positive trends with respect to clinical care, Chautauqua County has relatively few primary care, dental and mental health providers as compared with the rest of New York state and the United States overall. With respect to mental health providers, the county has fewer than half than that of top performing areas of the United States. Chautauqua County has been designated as Health Professional Shortage Area by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. The designation applies to primary health care, as well as mental health care and dentistry.

Chautauqua County has four hospitals: Brooks Memorial Hospital in Dunkirk, Lakeshore Hospital in Irving, UPMC Chautauqua in Jamestown, and Westfield Memorial Hospital in Westfield. Each of these hospitals has become affiliated with larger networks in recent years which may have the benefit of avoiding issues that tend to plague smaller hospitals in rural areas, such as understaffing, tight budgets, aging infrastructure, and an inability to provide high-quality or specialized care. In December 2019, Lake Shore Hospital announced its closing, following several years of financial difficulties.

Chautauqua County is home to the Chautauqua Center, a federally qualified health center providing access to primary care, dental and behavioral health services. They have centers located in both Jamestown and Dunkirk that offer access to care for county residents who are economically disadvantaged. WellNow Urgent Care centers have recently opened in Jamestown, Lakewood, and Dunkirk that offer quick access to treatment for non-life threatening injuries and illnesses.

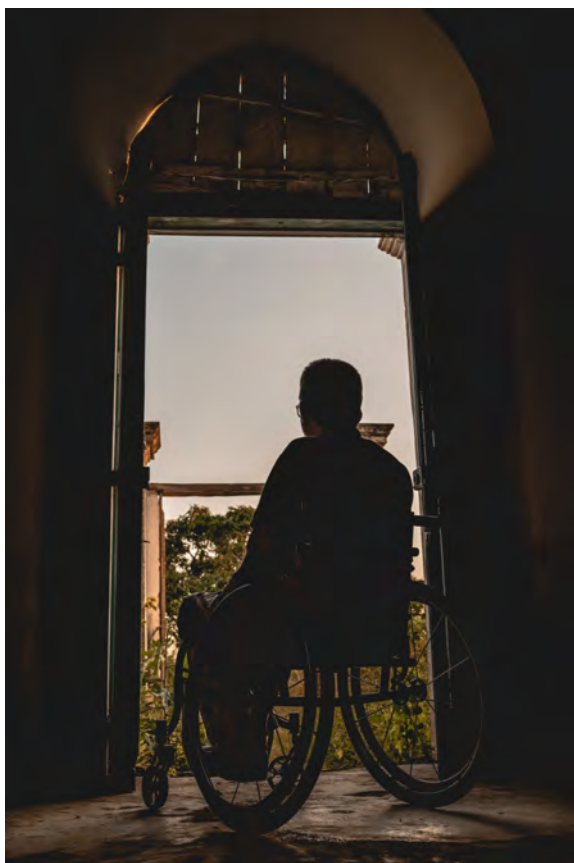
Individuals with disabilities and others needing transportation to medical appointments may access providers that have accessible vehicles, such as CARTS. A list of medical transportation providers can be found in the Transportation chapter of this document, which includes fee-based providers and options that are available only to special populations. The Resource Center is working toward a Chautauqua County Transportation Work Plan in collaboration with CARTS, elected officials, community organizations, service providers, and other stakeholders to ensure access to transportation for all who need it. A large portion of their budget is spent on transportation access for the vulnerable populations they serve. A coordinated system of affordable medical transportation is a critical need in the county due to its high percentages of elderly, low income and disabled individuals in combination with its designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area.

Disability and Elder Care

Care and support for the disabled and the aged is a critical need in Chautauqua County. According to the Census Bureau’s 2013-2017 ACS, 15.8% of the county’s non-institutionalized population has some type of disability, compared to 11.4% for NY State. Also, 18.5% of the county’s population is age 65 or over, compared to 15.9% of the population statewide. Among the over-65 population in Chautauqua County who are not residing in an institution, 32.7% have a disability.

There are a number of options available in Chautauqua County to assist caregivers of people with disabilities





response to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis during non-business hours.

TRENDS

Chautauqua County, like most of the state and the nation, continues to have high rates of diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes. Advances in medicine have led to decreased mortality rates for some diseases. High rates of unhealthy habits such as smoking, alcohol and substance abuse, and obesity persist among county residents that put them at risk for life-threatening diseases.

Chautauqua County residents have access to training on the administration of Narcan, which is an opiate antagonist used to reverse the effects of an opiate overdose. Trainings are provided to various community organizations and groups, emergency medical personnel and other first responders, and inmates of the Chautauqua County jail. Administration of Narcan at the time of an overdose can temporarily reverse the impact of the opiate and allow time to seek medical treatment.

Chautauqua County Department of Health has been participating in the Nationwide ODMAP project (<http://www.odmap.org/>). This system was developed in an effort to provide local officials to track real-time data regarding the nature and location of both fatal and non-fatal overdoses within a specific region. In Chautauqua County, the Department of Health has partnered with the Jamestown Police Department and the Mental Health Association to offer supports to individuals who experienced a non-fatal overdose. This police department will notify Department of Health of non-fatal overdoses in their jurisdiction that will in turn notify the Mental Health Association; a Peer Advocate will be assigned to make contact with the individual to offer resources and assistance in linking with treatment options. The Jamestown project has been identified as a pilot and it is hoped that this model can be replicated in other jurisdictions over time.

Although marijuana (cannabis) is still a prohibited substance at the federal level, cannabis for medical purposes is legal in 33 states. Since the legalization of medical cannabis in NY State in 2014, there has been an increasing push for the legalization of cannabis/marijuana use for recreational purposes. New York State has added a number of qualifying diagnoses, which is allowing more people to access marijuana for medical purposes; these include chronic pain, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Opiate Dependency

or the elderly. The Resource Center provides care and support for individuals with disabilities of all types and levels. Chautauqua Adult Day Care operates four centers in the county (two in Jamestown, one in Dunkirk, and one in Westfield) which offer caregivers respite during the daytime hours and provide adults who attend with social and recreational opportunities. One of the Jamestown locations specifically focuses on serving individuals with Alzheimer's and memory loss. Other resources are available through COI's Alzheimer's Caregiver Support program, the Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, the National Alliance for Family Caregivers, and the NYS Office for Persons with Disabilities. Resources include support groups for caregivers and respite care.

Mental Health

Chautauqua County residents have access to a dedicated 24/7 Crisis Line that is available to any person who is experiencing emotional distress. Calls to the Crisis Line are directed to Crisis Services in Buffalo and that organization has the option of responding directly or to making a referral to local providers, including the Mobile Crisis Outreach Program (MCOP). MCOP is available evenings, weekends and holidays to provide a local

(NYS Department of Health). In addition to the use of marijuana, derivatives of the plant, specifically CBD (Cannabidiol) oils and products are legal, readily available and are being used by New York State and Chautauqua County residents to treat various ailments, including chronic pain. New York State introduced a bill to legalize recreational marijuana in 2019 that was not passed into law.

Smoking electronic cigarettes, or “vaping”, has become popular in recent years, with some being marketed as a safer alternative to cigarettes. After several young people have become ill from vaping, NYS Governor Cuomo issued an emergency 90-day ban on sales of all flavored e-cigarettes except menthol in September 2019. Opponents of e-cigarettes are calling for more research into the health effects of these devices and a ban on marketing that is targeted to young people. The NY State Department of Health is urging everyone to stop using vaping products.

Health care organizations in the Western NY region have difficulties recruiting and retaining staff.

Facilities and Staffing

According to the 2018 report “The Health Care Workforce in New York: Trends in the Supply of and Demand for Health Workers” published by the SUNY at Albany School of Public Health, registered nurses (13,480) held the most jobs in in the region as of 2017, followed by personal care aides (9,430) and nursing assistants (6,640). The report states that the Western New York region experienced a 34.4% increase in the number of graduating RNs between 2012 and 2016, and a 3% increase in RNs obtaining licensure. However, hospitals, home health care agencies and nursing homes report difficulty in recruiting and retaining RNs, home health aides and personal care aides, reportedly due to a shortage of workers and non-competitive salaries. Ninety percent of home health care agencies reported difficulty in hiring workers of all types for evenings, nights and weekends; 60% reported difficulty in hiring bilingual workers.

The Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) is a statewide Medicaid program where the consumer has more control over who provides their care and how it is provided. Instead of using a home care agency to select, train, and schedule aides, the “consumer” or a family member, friend or guardian) performs all of these functions. Seniors and people with disabilities who receive Medicaid-certified home care are able to choose their own caregivers, who are often family



members. Medicaid then pays those consumer-directed caregivers for their services through a fiscal intermediary. While the program gives more choice to the consumer, the trend in consumer-directed care could be a detriment to agencies that provide home care, which will realize a decrease in the need for their services.

Some Hospital mergers are becoming more popular as care providers seek to improve efficiency, access to care, and quality of care. This may create a better opportunity for a smaller hospital to merge with a larger one for the sake of staffing, equipment availability, improved access to services, and a more advanced record keeping system. The local hospitals in Chautauqua County have all affiliated with larger systems: Brooks Memorial Hospital and Lakeshore Hospital are now affiliated with Kaleida Health of Buffalo, WCA Hospital in Jamestown is affiliated with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Westfield Hospital is affiliated with St. Vincent’s Hospital and the Allegheny Health Network.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

COI’s 2019 Community Survey elicited response from 122 county residents with respect to health care and other factors. Of those responding to the survey:

- 21% identified health care among their highest needs within the last year; mental health care was a top need for 11% of respondents.
- 22% indicated that a member of their household had skipped a meal in the past year due to not having enough food.

- 33% utilized SNAP (food stamps); 17% utilized a food pantry; and 14% utilized a school breakfast/lunch program.
- 32% reported that they had made a choice between buying food and meeting another basic need (paying a bill) in the past 12 months.
- 6% reported that there was a person with a disability under age 18 in the household; 25% reported that there was a person with a disability aged 18 or older.
- 41% reported a concern with a household member under the age of 18; of these, 32% indicated concern with the emotional/behavioral needs of their household member.
- 22.7% indicated that they bought health insurance through the NYS of Health Marketplace (as part of the Affordable Care Act).
- 95.2% reported that their children are up to date with immunizations.
- 17.2% reported not being able to access needed medical care; 26.3% could not access needed dental care; 12.8% could not access needed mental health care; 17.4% could not obtain needed prescription medications. The cost of care or lack of insurance was cited as the most common reason for not obtaining needed care.



some residents to access care.

- High percentages of elderly and disabled Chautauqua County residents create a strong need for agencies that provide services to assist these populations.
- Worker shortages and non-competitive salaries create challenges for hospitals, nursing homes and home health care agencies to recruit and staff.
- High costs for health, mental health, and dental care can still be unaffordable for those with insurance that have high deductibles, co-insurances, and co-pays.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Deaths from cancer have significantly decreased in the county over the last several years.
- New cases of HIV and AIDS have decreased significantly in Chautauqua County and statewide over the last decade.
- The rate of individuals without some form of health insurance has decreased in recent years.
- County residents have higher rates of social membership than other areas of the state.

CHALLENGES

- The limited public transportation system in the county and the county's designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area make it difficult for

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue funding and training for Narcan to reduce overdose deaths.
- Expand ODMAP project to include all county police agencies.
- Expand transportation options for individuals to access medical care.
- Continue funding for programs such as SNAP and school breakfast programs that provide nutrition for low income households.
- Continue funding for programs to address the health needs of low income, elderly, and disabled populations.
- Increase substance abuse education and services to adolescents, including those who are pregnant.

4. Early Education and Child Care

INTRODUCTION

Early care and education programs serve children from infancy to age five in a variety of settings: Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes, Prekindergarten (Pre-K) and Head Start classes. In New York State, these programs serve more than 300,000 children every year. Thousands more are served in Legally Exempt (non-regulated family, friend or neighbor) home-based child care and private nursery schools. All care, regardless of the setting, should be affordable, accessible, and most importantly - high quality.

Research shows that the quality of child care has a direct impact on a child's ability to learn, build healthy relationships and to become the best they can be. Consistent routines, unlimited learning opportunities, and a safe and nurturing environment are important characteristics of high quality care. Children go through critical stages of development during the early years, and high quality child care can have long-lasting effects on their overall development. (High-Quality ECE Strengthens Families and Can Break the Cycle of Poverty; May 14, 2019; Megan Feldman)

There is a growing awareness of the effect that access to child care has on parental employment and the economy overall. Businesses must have reliable employees, and employees who are parents must have dependable child care. Child care arrangements vary widely from one family to another, and must take into account family finances, work schedules and the availability of child care options that meet the family's needs and preferences. Hours of operation, location and transportation must also be considered. The language and culture of the child care provider may also be a principal consideration.

Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (CCR&R's) can be found in every county in New York State. The CCR&R has interrelated sets of services for families, child care providers, employers and communities about the important links between early learning and later success in school. They document child care needs and trends. CCR&R's are able to track trends about the changing needs of families. In Chautauqua County, the CCR&R is operated by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. and is

known as the Chautauqua Child Care Council.

Listed below are common types of child care programs with brief descriptions, as defined by New York State. Each program is regulated by the NY State Office of Children and Family Services.

Day Care Center (DCC): "a program or facility which is not a residence in which child care is provided on a regular basis to more than six children for more than three hours per day per child for compensation or otherwise, except those programs providing care as a school-age child care program as defined in this section."

Family Day Care Home (FDC): "a program caring for children for more than three hours per day per child in which the child day care is provided in a family home for three to six children." An FDC program may care for an additional two school aged children when school is not in session. There must be one caregiver for every two children under two years of age in a FDC.

Group Family Day Care Home (GFDC): "a program caring for children for more than three hours per day per child in which child day care is provided in a family for seven to twelve children of all ages, except for those programs operating as a family day care home, which care for seven or eight children." A GFDC program may care for an additional four school-aged children when school is not in session. There must be one caregiver for every two children under two years of age in a GFDC.

Informal Child Care – Legally Exempt (LE) family child care and Legally Exempt in-home child care.
Legally Exempt Family Child Care: "child care for one or two children provided outside the child's own home in a residence"; "child care for more than two children provided outside the child's own home in a residence... for less than three hours per day;" and "child care provided by a relative within the third degree of consanguinity of the parent(s) or step-parent(s) of the child or children except where such relative is a person legally responsible for, or the caretaker relative of, such child or children." Legally Exempt child care providers must be enrolled with the social services district to be eligible to receive funds for child care services provided under the New York State Child Care Block Grant Program.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Supply and Demand

The child care supply throughout the 5-county region of Western New York does not meet the demand. As shown in **Tables 4.1** and **4.2** below, there are a total of 41,957 child care slots in the region, but 77,521 children in need of care, leaving a gap of 35,564 children who need care. With such a large gap in the number of available slots, parents are forced to make difficult decisions about what to do for child care. Parents want to find quality child care and at a cost that they can afford.

Table 4.1 Supply of Child Care Slots in Western NY

Allegany County	1,539
Cattaraugus County	1,687
Chautauqua County	3,951
Erie County	29,495
Niagara County	4,933
Total Western NY	41,957

Table 4.2 Demand for Child Care in Western NY

Number of children under 6 with both parents in labor force	37,986
Number of children under 6 in single parent families	29,917
Number of females working part-time with children under 6	9,618
Total Need	77,521

Child Care Availability

Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) refers to communities with limited or no access to quality child care as child care deserts. A desert is defined as a census tract with more than 50 children under the age of 5 that lacks at least one licensed child care provider, or where there are three times as many children as there are available slots. According to CCAoA, these deserts are more prevalent in low-income communities, rural communities, among families of color, and among

families with irregular or nontraditional work schedules. Chautauqua County is considered a child care desert.

The data in **Table 4.3** from the Chautauqua Child Care Council illustrate that there are 70 registered and licensed day care facilities in Chautauqua County, not including School Aged Child Care (SACC's). This number has decreased from 103 facilities in 2013. The population of young children far exceeds the capacity of those facilities; there are 2,128 available slots, although census information indicates a total of 7,026 children under 5 in the county, as seen in **Table 4.4**.

Table 4.3 Day Care Facilities and Slots in Chautauqua County

Type of Facility	2013 Facilities	2013 Slots	2018 Facilities	2018 Slots
Day Care Centers (DCC)	20	1,337	21	1,608
Family Day Care (FDC)	53	330	32	254
Group Family Day Care (GFDC)	30	416	17	266
Total Licensed and Registered Day care	103	2,083	70	2,128
School Aged Child Care (SACC)	16	1,920	15	1,823
Legally Exempt	594		355	
Total	713	4,003	440	3,951

Table 4.4 Number of Children in Chautauqua County

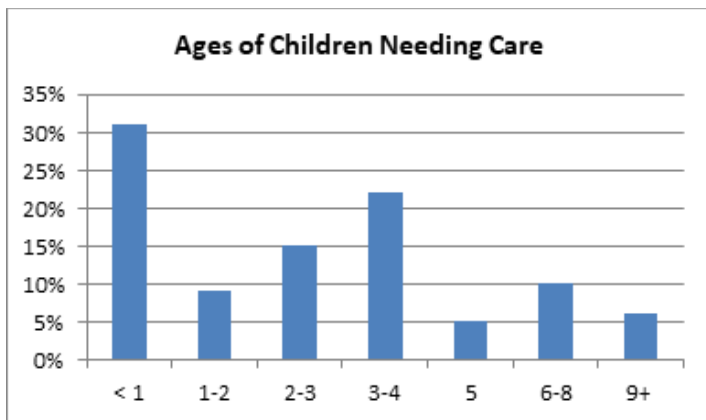
Under 5 years old	7,026
5-9 years	7,450
10-14 years	8,222
Total	22,698

The Chautauqua Child Care Council provided 175 referrals to families for child care services between July 2018 and June 2019. Of all families seeking referrals during this time period, 70% had incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level. Some of the characteristics of the families seeking care include:

- 61% of callers were single parents
- 23% were two parent families
- 3% were grandparents or other relatives
- 2% were teen parents
- 2% were foster parents/guardians

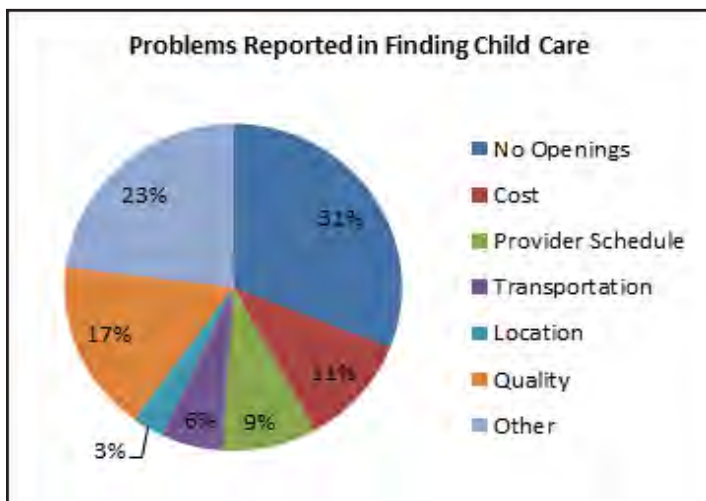
Families included 258 children needing care that fell within the age groups illustrated in **Chart 4.1**:

Chart 4.1 Ages of Children Needing Care



Problems that were reported by the families in finding care for their children are shown in **Chart 4.2**.

Chart 4.2 Problems Finding Child Care



Cost of Child Care

Child care is unaffordable for many families, as it has been in past years. In many homes, child care costs exceed the cost of housing, college tuition, transportation or food. According to Child Care Aware of America, "Across all states, the average cost of center-based infant care exceeds 27% of median household income for single working parents." (*Parents and the High Cost of Child Care, Child Care Aware of America, 2016*)

In New York State the cost of child care is increasing by \$730 each year. Families pay an average of \$11,440 per year for infant care, \$10,712 per year for toddler care and \$10,140 per year for 3 and 4 year old care. As parents are paying a sizable portion of their income each year for child care they are forced to make difficult decisions about how they can afford it. **Tables 4.5 and 4.6** show the detailed breakdown of the average cost of child care by the type of day care facility, as reported by CCAoA.

Table 4.5 Average Day Care Center Cost in NYS

	Age of Child			
	< 1 ½	1 ½ - 2	3-5	6-12
Weekly	\$220	\$206	\$195	\$180
Daily	\$48	\$45	\$44	\$39
Part Day	\$32	\$30	\$29	\$26
Hourly	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$7.00

Table 4.6 Average Family Day Care and Group FDC Home Cost in NYS

	Age of Child			
	< 2	2	3-5	6-12
Weekly	\$160	\$150	\$150	\$150
Daily	\$35	\$35	\$33	\$30
Part Day	\$23	\$23	\$22	\$20
Hourly	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00

To help offset the cost of child care, NY State provides a child care subsidy to recipients of Temporary Assistance who are participating in employment activities (subsidized employment, unsubsidized employment, work experience, job search, education training etc.).

Recipients of Child Protective Services or Preventive Services are also eligible for subsidies, and low income working families and recipients who are transitioning from Temporary Assistance to employment may also qualify. The objective of providing these benefits is to help families obtain and maintain employment, thereby increasing their self-sufficiency. **Chart 4.3** shows the percentage of children in subsidized care in New York State by the type of child care provider.

Chart 4.3 Children in Subsidized Care in NYS

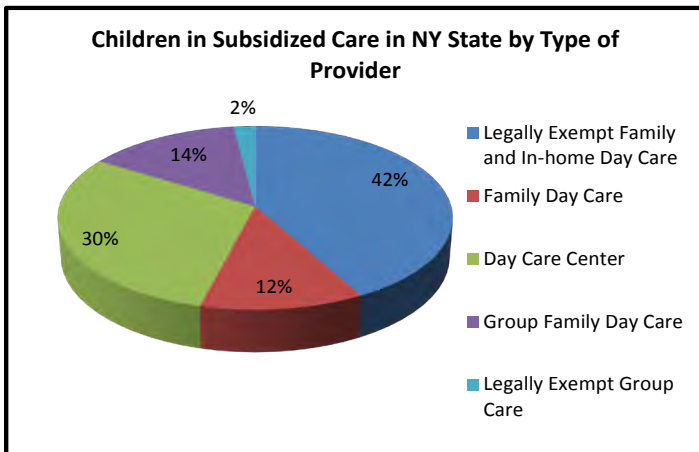


Table 4.7 documents the monthly average number of families and children who received Child Care subsidies in 2017 and 2018 in Chautauqua County, as reported in the Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report 2018.

Table 4.7 Monthly Average Subsidized Child Care Services in Chautauqua County

	2017	2018
Families receiving child care services	716	669
Children receiving child care services	1,095	914

Child Care Workforce

According to the Occupational Employment and Wages Report for May 2018 from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are approximately 16,000 childcare workers in NY State. The child care work force is 94% women and most do not make a living wage. Child care workers earn significantly less than their school-based counterparts. The median wage for childcare workers at

the time of the report was \$23,233 annually, or \$11.17 per hour.

TRENDS/DIRECTIONS

Universal Pre-K

State-funded Pre-K expansion could have an unintentional negative effect on the quality and supply of child care. Nationally, there is concern that non-school-based child care programs that offer full-day, full-year care will experience a decline in enrollment resulting in center closures. There is also concern that the quality of existing child care programs will suffer because more qualified care providers will choose to work in higher-paying school-based Pre-K programs. The effect on Family and Group Family providers will be even greater, as they will be unable to sustain their businesses without the 3 and 4 year old children in their program. Another unintentional effect is that families will struggle to find care for children before and after program hours and during the summer as Family, Group Family and Center based care may not be able to accommodate part-time, part-year children.

Cliff Effect

Parents need child care to be able to remain in the workforce or pursue their education. When parents that are receiving child care subsidies increase their income, the raise often causes families to hit what is called the “cliff effect”. This is what happens when public benefit programs end or are reduced when household earnings increase. The loss of benefits can be very disruptive for families because usually incomes have not increased enough to make the household self-sufficient. The effect can discourage people from seeking employment or looking at other ways to increase their income. Many people in poverty rely on a combination of earned income, public benefits, and community supports to survive. When these resources are unpredictable, people must choose which necessities to go without, which can negatively affect health and well-being.

Universal Assessments

An important positive trend is the use of universal developmental and behavioral assessments/screenings for all children to track a child’s progress in areas such as language, social, or motor development. When children are screened early, possible delays and concerns can be

identified for early intervention, leading to more effective and less expensive treatment during preschool, as opposed to special education services in later childhood. With regular screenings, young children get the services and supports they need as early as possible to help them thrive. It is important that universal screenings for all children be a coordination effort of all entities that work with children.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

Working parents are well aware of the struggles of finding quality child care that is affordable and has open availability. Families in which one parent cannot work outside the home due to lack of child care may have to depend on public assistance. For single parents, child care is imperative for their financial stability. But there may also be a lack of understanding about what quality child care is. For a lot of parents, a safe and warm environment is the only indicator of quality care. However, the most crucial time of development for the brain is in the first five years of life. Therefore, when children are going to be in the care of someone for several hours each day, it is critical to also nurture the children’s cognitive and social development. When children are not growing to their full potential, the entire community will be impacted in some way.

Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) has conducted several national polls and focus groups throughout the country to better understand parent preferences when selecting child care. They have found that nationally, parents do want to know as much as they can about the structure of their child’s day. They need to feel that their child is getting attention, stimulation and developmental learning opportunities that are age-appropriate. Parents reported difficulty in finding a provider they could trust that meets their budget, accepts state assistance (if applicable), and that has availability. If the child has special needs, these difficulties are compounded.

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. conducted a survey as part of this Community Needs Assessment that solicited information about local child care needs. The following answers were provided by the 45 respondents that reported a need for child care.

What time of day do you need care? (Check all that apply)

Daytime	30.6%
Before/after school	24.5%
Evening	10.2%
Weekends	2.0%

What do you currently use to meet your child care needs? (check all that apply)

Parent, family, friends, neighbors	57.8%
Children are old enough to be left alone	31.1%
Head Start/Early Head Start	24.4%
After school program	17.8%
Informal/unregistered provider/babysitter	6.7%
Licensed, registered provider	4.4%
Day care center	2.2%
Pre-K/Preschool	2.2%

If you have never used a day care center or registered child care provider, why not?

I had a reliable babysitter	22.7%
I cannot afford it	18.2%
I do not trust day care centers	18.2%
Evening/night slots not available	9.1%
Did not have transportation	4.5%
The quality of the center was not good	4.5%
Weekend slots not available	4.5%
Other (not specified)	18.2%

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- A number of local coalitions exist that focus on collaboration among organizations to promote healthy child development and education, including the Chautauqua Education Coalition, the Chautauqua Connections Children’s Coalition, and the Chautauqua Leadership Institute.
- The Chautauqua Child Care Council is one of the leading community service organizations that works with parents, providers, businesses, and community organizations to help promote the availability of quality child care services in the area. It is one of the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies throughout New York State that are an invaluable link between families, home-based and center-based child care programs, and communities. CCR&Rs educate families about high-quality care and help them find it; recruit and train

new providers; offer providers technical assistance; and encourage government, business leaders, and the public to support the expansion of high-quality early care and learning services. Child Care Council of Chautauqua also works to assess the supply and demand of child care in the community, and increase the supply where needed.

- A system of care called SART (screening, assessment, referral and treatment) has been initiated by the Chautauqua County Health Department that provides universal, uniform screening for all children in the county through age five.
- Head Start (ages 3-5) and Early Head Start (pregnancy through age 2) programs provide comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to low-income children and families. See the Head Start Addendum to this document for more information about these programs in Chautauqua County.
- Several school districts in the county have received NYS funding to operate Universal Pre-K programs for 3 and/or 4 year olds.
- QualityStarsNY is a voluntary quality improvement and rating system for all types of regulated early childhood programs in New York State. QualityStarsNY developed a set of standards to support early childhood programs to provide children with high quality early learning experiences.
- The NYS Infant Toddler Resource Network, funded by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, is an initiative aimed at supporting high-quality infant and toddler care. Counties served by the Western New York Infant Toddler Resource Network are Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming.
- Help Me Grow New York promotes the optimal development of young children by linking families to information and community resources related to child development and parenting.
- Early Care and Learning Council (ECLC) is a statewide, not-for-profit membership organization that represents the 35 CCR&R programs across

New York State. It works closely with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services to support and strengthen the capacity of CCR&Rs agencies.

CHALLENGES

- Home based providers who struggle the most financially often claim that their love and commitment for the children and families they care for are the only reason they remain in child care, with several reportedly on the verge of leaving the profession for financial and regulatory reasons.
- Day Care providers are unable to fund desired changes to improve their facilities, work force and programming
- Providers find some of the regulations to be burdensome and rigid as to interfere with their ability to provide what they see as optimal care.
- The cost of early child care and education is a major barrier for many families – particularly families with lower income. While many families may be eligible to receive help paying for child care, only a small share actually gets the assistance they need.
- Chautauqua County is considered a child care desert. With limited access to child care, parents are forced to make difficult decisions regarding child care.
- Low income Chautauqua County families sometimes encounter the “cliff effect”, which can be a deterrent to accepting a job or promotion because benefits will be lost or reduced. The increased wages are often not a sufficient replacement for the lost benefits.
- The process for working parents to apply for and receive subsidies is seen as slow and complicated, creating challenges for both parents and child care providers.
- New Legally Exempt paperwork is written in legal terms, making it confusing and hard for new providers to complete with accuracy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to implement the SART initiative (screening, assessment, referral and treatment) that provides universal, uniform screening for all children in the county.
- Increase the number of early childhood mental health consultants in Chautauqua County to promote healthy growth in young children's social and emotional development. Early childhood mental health consultants can help identify and work in partnership with families and caregivers for early remediation of problems that surface.
- Streamline the Legally Exempt application processes to make it easier for LE providers.
- Work with Regional Economic Development Council to help minimize the child care subsidies cliff effect and to open more child care facilities in the county
- Create a plan to recruit and prepare new staff in early care and education to enter the work force.
- Create opportunities to increase the number of bilingual family day care providers and child care with non-traditional hours.
- Increase wages for child care workers to affirm their importance and encourage more individuals to pursue child care as an occupation.



5. Youth

INTRODUCTION

It is documented through census data that the county is experiencing a “brain drain” in which young adults leave the county after graduating in search of high paying jobs. However, there are several indicators that Chautauqua County is trending in the right direction for youth. Public school enrollment rates by grade have remained relatively stable over the past three years despite the decline in overall population. Graduation rates also remain stable.

In surveys or small group settings, youth report that they would like more organized activities in which to participate. Existing activities include a variety of extra-curricular sports and other activities offered by each of the county’s 18 school districts. There are also numerous community based organizations that offer youth programming, including the Boys & Girls Clubs, Scouts BSA, Girl Scouts, 4-H and a variety of local initiatives. Research indicates that healthy communities provide ample positive youth development programming (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2000). Youth who are involved in their communities are less likely to be involved with drugs, early sexual activity, or crime. After school programs and community activities provide opportunities for youth to make constructive use of their time after school, when many parents are still at work.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

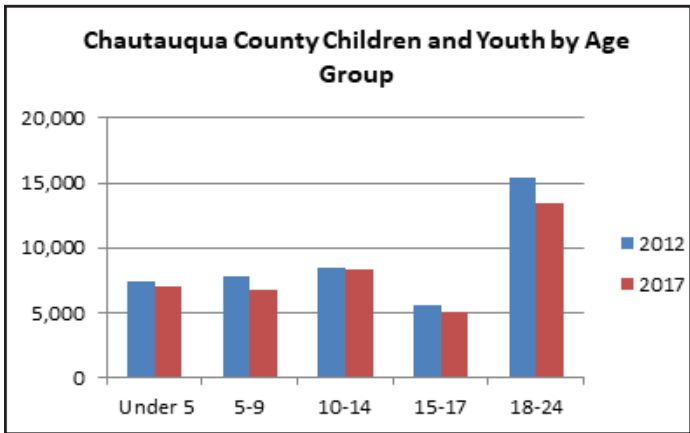
Table 5.1 and **Chart 5.1** provide data regarding youth

Table 5.1 Chautauqua County Youth Pop., 2012 and 2017

Age	2012		2017	
	Number	% of Total Population	Number	% of Total Population
< 5	7,403	5.5%	7,083	5.4%
5-9	7,807	5.8%	6,751	5.2%
10-14	8,479	6.3%	8,313	6.4%
15-17	5,518	4.1%	5,007	3.8%
18-24	15,344	11.4%	13,450	10.3%
Total	44,551	33.0%	40,604	31.0%

in Chautauqua County, as reported by the American Community Survey 5-Year estimates published by the US Census Bureau. As seen in **Table 5.1**, children and youth up to age 24 accounted for 33.0% of the county’s total population in 2012, which decreased to 31.0% in 2017. The number of youth in each age group decreased over the five-year period, as illustrated in **Chart 5.1**.

Chart 5.1 Chautauqua County Children and Youth by Age Group, 2012 and 2017



The race and ethnicity of children under the age of 18 in Chautauqua County are illustrated in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2 Race and Ethnicity of Youth <18 in Chautauqua County

One Race	94.2%
White	89.0%
Black/African American	2.5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	.2%
Asian	.5%
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%
Some other race	2.0%
Two or More Races	5.8%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	79.8%

In Chautauqua County, 62.9% of all children under 18 live in married couple households, 26.4% live in a household with a female head of household, and 10.6% live in households with a single male householder. **Table 5.3** illustrates the relationship of children under 18 to the householder. Census information reveals that there are 840 grandparents that are living with and responsible for their own grandchildren. In 840 of these situations (45%), the parent is not present.

Table 5.3 Child Relationship to Householder, Chautauqua County

	Total	Married Couple Families	Male, Single	Female, Single
Own Child (Biological, step, or adopted)	90.3%	94.2%	89.1%	86.1%
Grandchild	6.2%	4.4%	5.7%	10.8%
Other relative	.9%	.6%	2.0%	1.2%
Foster child or other unrelated	2.6%	.7%	3.2%	2.0%

For the population overall in Chautauqua County, 18.5% lives in poverty. However, many of the county's residents that are in poverty are in families with children, as documented by the poverty rate for children under 18, which is much higher at 28.5%. **Table 5.4** shows poverty characteristics of children under age 18 by household

Table 5.4 Poverty characteristics of Children in Chautauqua County

	Total	Married Couple Families	Male, Single	Female, Single
Households with children that receive public assistance	35.1%	20.1%	42.9%	65.4%
Poverty level of Children	28.5%	14.9%	32.0%	58.9%

type (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2013-2017). **Table 5.5** displays the percentage of children under 18 with a disability by the type of household in which they live.

Table 5.5 Child Disability

	Total	Married Couple Families	Male, Single	Female, Single
Child with a disability	6.5%	4.1%	9.2%	11.1%

Education

The following data in **Table 5.6** illustrates the educational characteristics of youth ages 18 – 24. As can be expected, many of the youth in this age group have not yet completed their education. Table 5.7 shows the educational attainment of the adult population over the age of 24.

Table 5.6 Educational Attainment for Ages 18 to 24 years

	% of	% of Males Age 18-24	% of Females Age 18-24
Less than high school graduate	13.0%	14.7%	11.3%
High School graduate (or equivalency)	27.8%	30.5%	24.8%
Some college or Associate's degree	52.3%	50.0%	54.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	6.9%	4.8%	9.1%

Table 5.7 Educational Attainment for Ages 25+

	% of	% of Males Age 25+	% of Females Age 25+
Less than high school graduate	12.5%	13.0%	10.1%
High School graduate (or equivalency)	35.6%	37.3%	34.1%
Some college or Associate's degree	31.6%	30.0%	33.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	21.2%	19.8%	22.6%

The New York State Education Department publishes report cards for public schools and aggregates data at the county level. **Table 5.8** compares student demographic data from the 2017-2018 school year to data for the 2013-2014 school year for all 18 Chautauqua County public school districts combined. The data reveal that rates of English Language Learners, students with disabilities, and those who are economically disadvantaged have all increased over the last few years, while the number of homeless children has decreased.

Graduation rates from the School Report Card indicate the disparity in high school completion among racial and ethnic populations of students, as seen in **Table 5.9**. Rates of high school completion are higher among White and Asian populations for both cohorts graduating in 2014 and 2018, although less racial disparity is seen for the more recent cohort. This could be an indication that educational attainment is improving for some minority populations.

Research has shown an association between higher educational attainment and higher earnings. Nationally, 82% of children whose parents have less than a high school diploma live in low income families. For children whose parents have at least some college or more, 24% live in low income families (*National Center for Children in Poverty, 2007*). The correlation between educational attainment and poverty in Chautauqua County is evident in census data, as shown in **Chart 5.2** on the following page. While 32.9% of Chautauqua County residents that have not graduated high school live in poverty, the rate of poverty is just 5.1% for those with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Chart 5.3 illustrates the racial and ethnic disparities with regard to educational attainment among Chautauqua County's population over the age of 25. White, non-Hispanic individuals graduate high school in higher proportion than all other racial and ethnic populations, with the exception of those who are two or more races. White individuals, whether or not they are of Hispanic ethnicity, attain at least a Bachelor's degree more often than minorities. One exception is the Asian population, who attain Bachelor's or higher degrees in greater percentages than Whites, but who exist in much smaller numbers in the county - less than 1% of the population.

Chautauqua County is home to three institutes of higher learning. SUNY Fredonia is a public, four year university that also offers graduate degree programs. Jamestown Community College (JCC) is a public, two year college offering associate degrees and certificate level programs. Jamestown Business College is a private

Table 5.8 Chautauqua County Student Demographics

	2017-2018		2013-2014	
K-12 Enrollment	18,032		19,260	
Male	9,201	51%	9,906	51%
Female	8,831	49%	9,354	49%
English Language Learners	652	4%	525	3%
Students with Disabilities	2,479	14%	2,294	12%
Economically Disadvantaged	10,513	58%	10,023	52%
Homeless	204	1.1%	310	1.6%

Table 5.9 Chautauqua County Public High School Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Freshman Cohort

	2017-2018	2013-2014
White	86%	84%
Black/African American	74%	61%
American Indian	73%	60%
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ other Pacific Islander	85%	100%
Multi-Racial	79%	80%
Hispanic/Latino	63%	63%

college offering associate and bachelor level degrees. Their combined enrollment in 2018 was over 8,000 students, with over 6,300 students attending full time.

A number of initiatives are currently underway in Chautauqua County that are aimed at preparing young people for technical and manufacturing careers that are in demand. Many of these initiatives specifically target the involvement of young women and girls. JCC operates a Manufacturing Technology Institute that trains students in advanced skills on actual equipment they will encounter in local industry jobs. Dream It Do It, an initiative of the Manufacturer's Association of the Southern Tier, works to promote manufacturing as a career choice with a focus on inspiring youth to attain

Chart 5.2 Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment in Chautauqua County

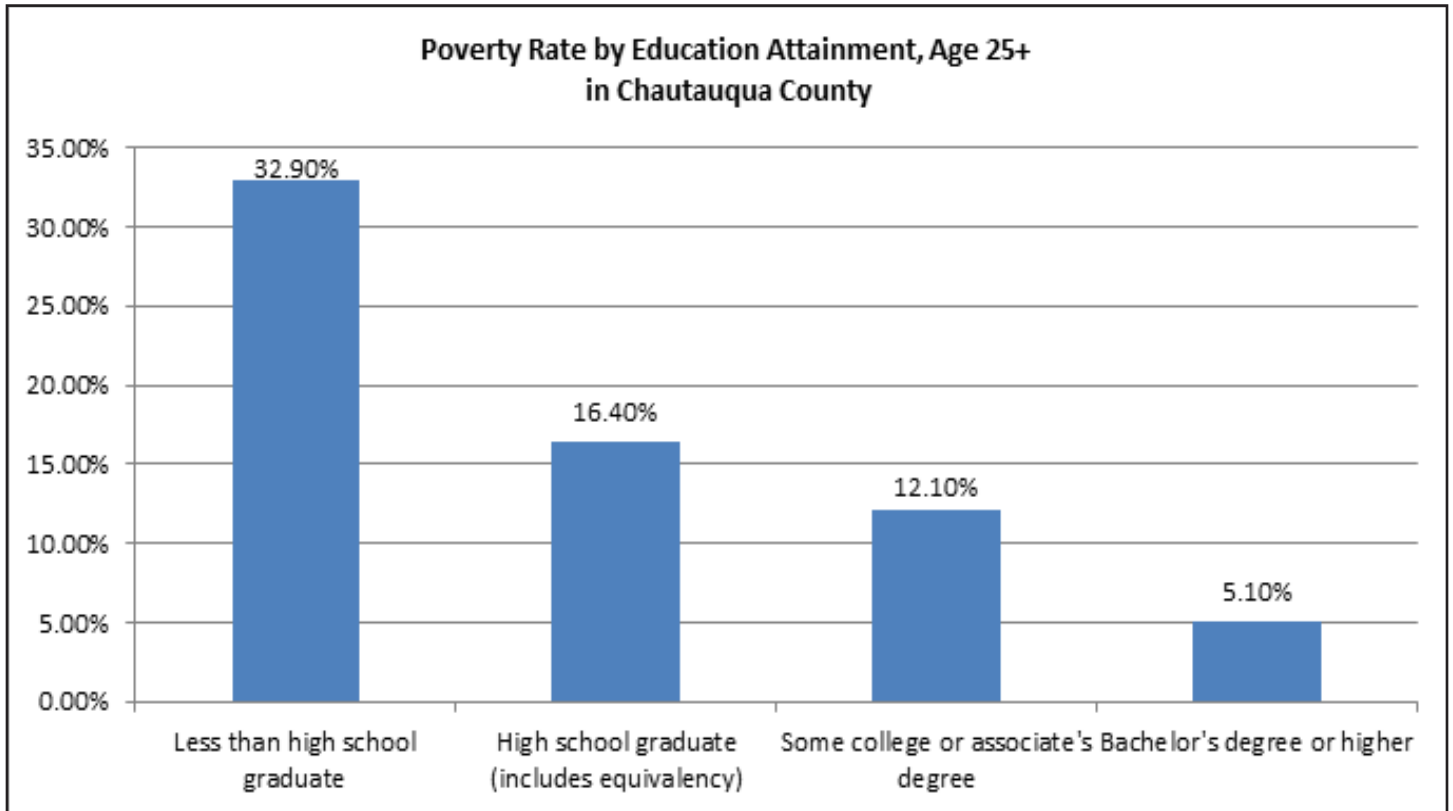
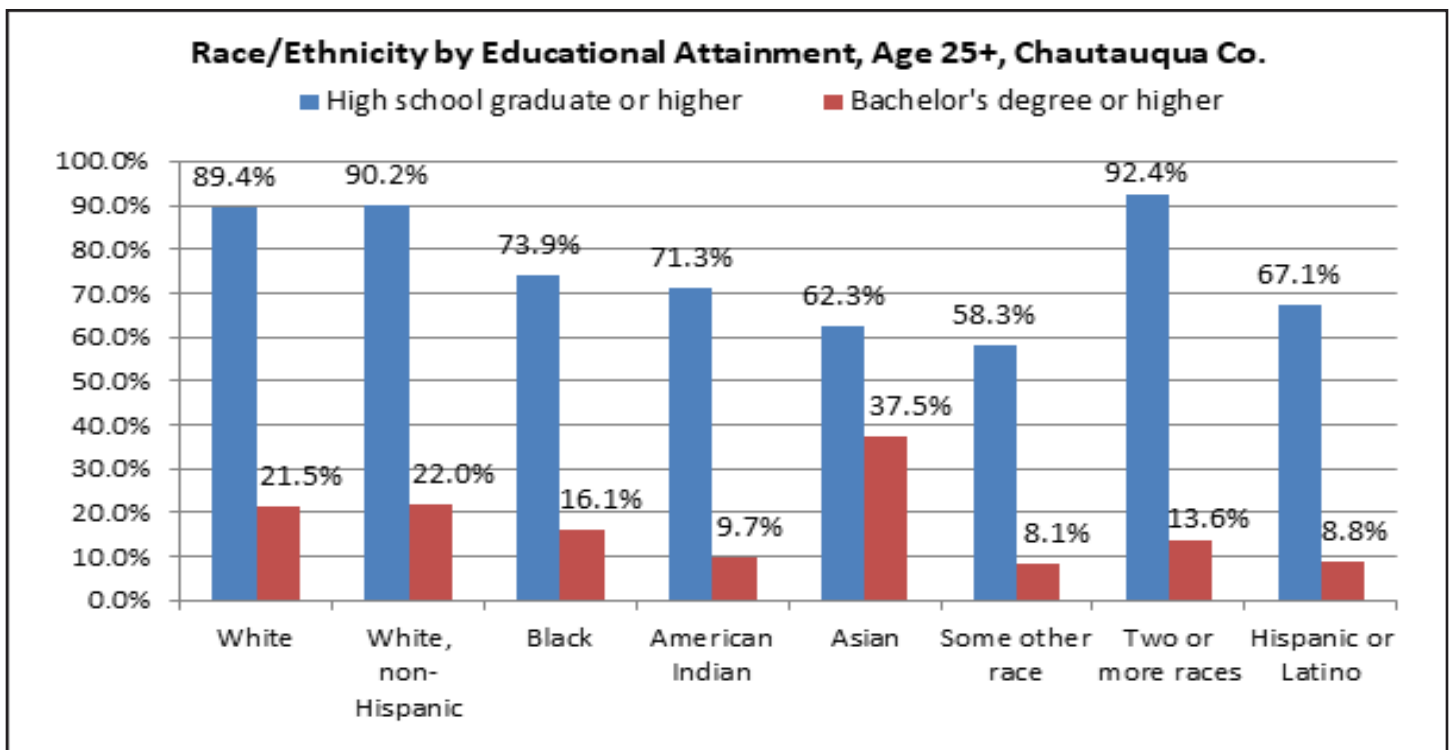


Chart 5.3 Race/Ethnicity by Educational Attainment in Chautauqua County



the advanced skills needed in the workforce. Several local public schools are offering courses in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) fields to promote careers in the industry by providing hands-on learning. The Western NY P-TECH Academy, operated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) also provides education in skilled trades to prepare students for high demand careers. A high level of collaboration exists among these programs and local schools to ensure youth are aware of advanced manufacturing options when making career choices.

At-Risk Youth

A number of issues exist in Chautauqua County that point to a critical need to engage youth who are disconnected from family or community, or otherwise at risk. Some of the indicators of risk in Chautauqua County that have been compiled by the NYS Council on Children and Families Kids’ Well-Being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC) are listed below:

- 54.0% of Chautauqua County children in grades K-12 in public schools were eligible for free or reduced price lunch in the 2017/2018 school year, an indicator of high poverty.
- The drop-out rate for Chautauqua County schools for the freshman cohort graduating in 2018 was 8.2%, compared to 6.0% for NY State.
- The arrest rate for ages 16-21 for Driving While Intoxicated is 42.4 per 10,000 youth in Chautauqua County for 2017, compared to 17.5 per 10,000 for NY State.
- The rate of juvenile arrests for property crimes (under age 16) was 24.2 per 10,000 pop. in 2017, compared to 17.1 per 10,000 pop. for upstate New York (excludes NY City).
- The rate of juvenile arrests for drug use, possession, or sale (under age 16) was 4.5 per 10,000 pop. in 2017, compared to 1.7 per 10,000 pop. for upstate NY (excludes NY City).
- The rate of children ages 0-17 in indicated cases of child abuse and maltreatment is 33.5 per 1,000 in Chautauqua County, compared to 17.5 per 1,000 for all of NY State.

- Children age 0-17 were admitted to foster care in 2018 at a rate of 1.8 per 1,000 in Chautauqua County, compared to a rate of 1.5 per 1,000 youth statewide.

Some of the other factors that put children and youth in Chautauqua County at risk are described in other chapters of this Community Needs Assessment. Data regarding homelessness can be found in Chapter 2: Housing. Data that relates to child and young adult health, including adolescent pregnancy, substance abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases, can be found in Chapter 3: Health.

Youth Services

The Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services provides the majority of government-based services for at-risk children and youth in the county. These include preventive services and foster care provided by Juvenile Services and Independent Living Teams, and Child Protective Services (CPS) that investigates reports concerning the abuse or

Table 5.10 Chautauqua County Health and Human Services Youth Data

	2017	2018
Juvenile Justice		
Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS)	103	84
Juvenile Delinquents	99	111
Juveniles in Residential Custody	18	15
Indicated Reports of Abuse/Neglect	624	623
Custodial Care		
In Foster Homes	84	78
In Institutions	15	18
In Group Homes	2	2
In Therapeutic Foster Homes	2	11
Child Support Collections		
Caseload	12,442	11,964
Cases with Current Collections	69%	71%
Cases with Arrears Collections	57%	53%

maltreatment of children. Foster care services provide nurturing homes to children on a temporary basis when their parents are unable to care for them. Children are placed in foster homes in situations where they have been removed from their own families due to abuse, neglect or other family problems that endanger their safety. The Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report for 2018 provides the data displayed in **Table 5.10**.

The Chautauqua County Youth Bureau served over 7,300 children and youth in 2018. They work in collaboration with a network of other county government, public, and private entities and service providers to develop a comprehensive range of opportunities for youth of Chautauqua County. The Youth Bureau supports youth residential programs operated by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., including the Safe House (runaway and homeless youth shelter for youth under age 18) and the Transitional Independent Living Program (for homeless youth ages 16-22). The Safe House and two Transitional Independent Living facilities are licensed by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services. In 2018, these two programs served 77 homeless and at-risk youth.

TRENDS/DIRECTIONS

As the population of Chautauqua County has continued to decline, children identifying as Hispanic/Latino have become a greater percentage of the enrolled school population. Non-white youth and youth in single parent households continue to be disproportionately affected by both poverty and low educational attainment. Graduation rates for racial and ethnic minorities lag significantly behind their white peers. In addition, the county's graduation rate for Hispanic/Latinos (63%) and multi-racial (79%) students are lower than the State averages (72%, 84% respectively).

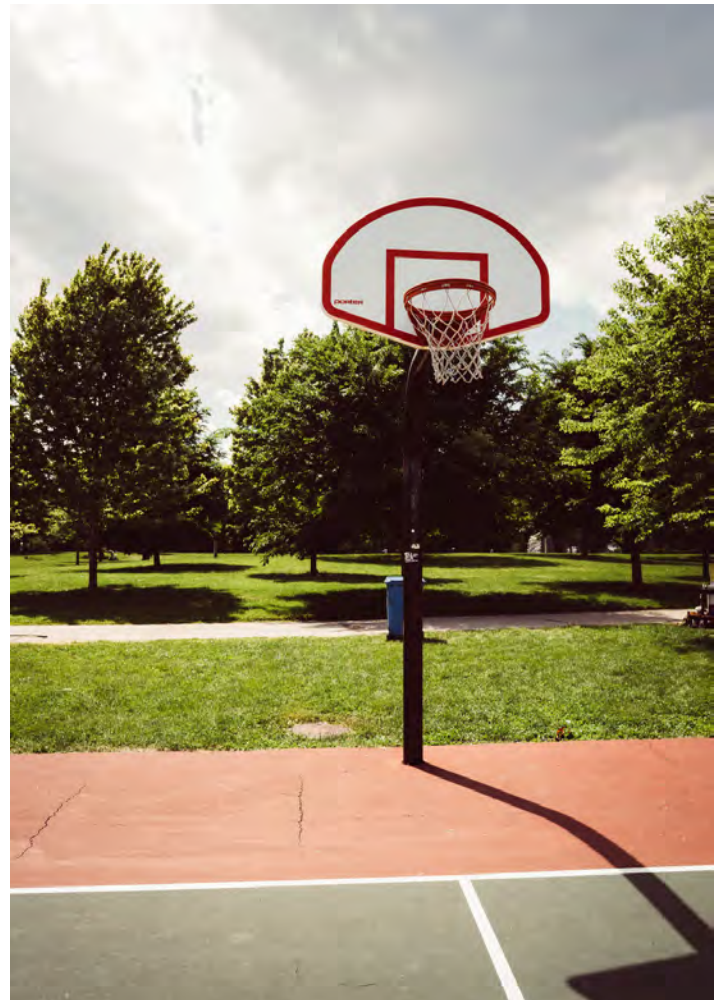
Educational attainment is highly correlated to future prospects of economic stability with poverty rates significantly lower for people who earn a Bachelor's degree versus those who receive a high school diploma or do not graduate from high school. The poverty rate for children in Chautauqua County continues to be much higher than for the total population, primarily correlated to the number of children living in single parent households.

Between 2010 and 2017 there were significant decreases in the number of arrests and crimes committed by youth and young adults. This ranged from a 30% drop in violent crimes committed by young adults to a

70% decrease in property crimes committed by juveniles. However, rates of young adult arrests for DWI and juvenile arrests for property crimes and drug crimes remain higher than upstate NY averages. There has been a 30% increase in founded abuse and neglect cases since 2010, and the number of children experiencing abuse is higher than the average statewide.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

A recurring theme locally is the perception that there are not enough activities to keep youth engaged in the community. There is no question that involvement in community activities helps youth to value their community, provides constructive use of their time, and helps youth build positive relationships with adults and peers. A lack of engagement in meaningful activities can put young people at risk for involvement in criminal activity, substance abuse, or premature sexual activity. Opportunities for youth involvement do exist in the county through extracurricular school activities, recreational and sports programs, and organizations



such as Boys & Girls Clubs, Scouts BSA, Girl Scouts, 4-H, and others. Given that there are over 27,000 youth under the age of 18 in Chautauqua County, there is a need for additional activities and for outreach to encourage youth to participate. Disconnected youth in particular are vulnerable to at-risk behavior and would benefit from programs that encourage and facilitate involvement in community activities.

In a survey conducted by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. in 2019, community members were asked about issues or concerns for youth in their household over the past 12 months. Of the 18 respondents who indicated there were issues, 15 reported behavioral or emotional problems (83.3%) and 10 reported that bullying was a problem (55.5%). Other issues reported in the survey included eating disorders, skipping or dropping out of school, smoking, and sexual activity.



STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Coordinated positive youth development programs are available throughout the county.
- Youth crime has decreased with intensive prevention services to reduce criminal justice involvement.
- Availability of local, accredited post-secondary education programs.
- There is a coordinated effort in the county to promote STEM careers with a focus on local manufacturing needs.

CHALLENGES

- Rates of poverty for children and youth remain high, particularly for single parent families.
- Chautauqua County has high rates of child abuse and neglect.
- Racial and ethnic minorities have disproportionate rates of high school completion and higher education attainment.
- High rates parents who are unable to care for their children result in higher than average Foster Care placements and elevated numbers of grandparents who are caring for grandchildren.
- Chautauqua County has high rates of sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents. (See Chapter 3: Health)
- there are high rates of adolescent pregnancies and births in Chautauqua County (See Chapter 3: Health)
- Substance abuse begins in middle schools and increases with grade level for a high number of students.
- Some youth become homeless due to poverty or parent abuse/neglect or substance abuse (see Chapter 2: Housing)



6. Public Assistance

INTRODUCTION

Chautauqua County is one of the poorest counties in New York State, with a median income (\$44,304) well below that of the state (\$62,765) and below those of the nearby counties of Cattaraugus, Erie, Wyoming, and Niagara. As incomes in Chautauqua County remain low, a need for public assistance persists for many of the county's residents that is exacerbated by attributes other than income, such as age and disability status.

Public assistance is defined as "assistance programs that provide either cash assistance or in-kind benefits to individuals and families from any governmental entity." Several programs exist at the federal level to provide assistance in areas such as food, housing, and healthcare. There are many programs in New York State that also provide a range of benefits for residents.

Poverty levels in Chautauqua County continue to be higher than the state and national averages. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.5% of Chautauqua County residents live in poverty, more than the percentage of 15.1% for New York State and 12.3% across the nation. A higher level of poverty means that more people will rely on public assistance as a means of paying for food, rent, and other needs. The Census Bureau also reports that 18.9% of households in Chautauqua County received SNAP benefits in 2016, a stark increase from the 2011 figure of 14.4%. Additionally, they report that 4.6% of households in Chautauqua County received cash public assistance and 7.4% of households received SSI benefits in 2016.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

A variety of federal programs provide assistance throughout the United States, many of them dating back to the Great Depression or even earlier. While the programs are themselves federal, administration of most of these programs is delegated to states, which may have differences in restrictions or income limits depending on the state of residency. New York State also has several of its own public assistance programs that may combine federal funds with state funds.

New York State's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program is known as Family Assistance

(FA), providing cash assistance for families that include a minor child living with a parent or caretaker relative. Benefits are capped at a 60 month lifetime limit for adults.

Certain other kinds of temporary assistance (TA) are available in New York State, including Safety Net Assistance (SNA), which can assist people who have exceeded the 60 month limit on FA (among others); services for non-parent caregivers of children; and funds to pay for indigent burials of TA recipients when necessary.

Table 6.1 below illustrates the numbers of adults and children receiving these benefits as of May 2019, per the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA).

Table 6.1: Monthly Caseload in Chautauqua County

Type of Assistance	Adult Recipients	Child Recipients	Expenditures
Temporary Assistance	2,096	1,607	\$1,039,514
Family Assistance	443	1,427	\$457,469
Safety Net	1,164	669	\$582,045

Types of Assistance

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, provides monthly assistance for the purchase of food and groceries. Eligibility is determined based on factors such as income, employment status, disability status, and more. Not all food items can be purchased with SNAP benefits; for example, alcoholic beverages, pet food, and prepared food are ineligible purchases. The NYS OTDA reports that 12,645 households (23,169 persons) received SNAP benefits in Chautauqua County in May 2019. Total benefits distributed amounted to \$2,875,237.

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program provides monthly financial assistance to disabled adults and children with limited income and resources, as well as those aged 65 or older. Eligibility depends on factors such as income, other benefits received, and other financial resources owned, among others. In Chautauqua County, 4,845 persons received a total of \$3,136,982 in SSI

benefits in May 2019 (NYS OTDA).

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides low income households with energy assistance via energy or fuel payments to utility providers, as well as emergency assistance with essential heating equipment that need to be repaired or replaced. Income-eligible households are normally eligible to receive each benefit once per winter, but in 2019, Governor Andrew Cuomo allowed for an additional emergency benefit and made \$15 million available to help New York State residents heat their homes. Emergency HEAP is typically available from January 2 to March 15 for persons eligible for HEAP who have an emergency energy issue, such as heat on the verge of being shut off, and can be used on top of regular HEAP benefits. For the federal fiscal year ending September 2018, there were 17,906 cases of authorized HEAP benefits in Chautauqua County totaling \$6,398,966 (NYS OTDA).



Heating Equipment Repair/Replacement (HERR) is an additional program for repairing or replacing essential heating equipment in homes. HEAP Clean and Tune is available April 1 to November 1 and provides energy efficiency services, such as cleaning of heating equipment, installation of carbon monoxide detectors, and more. Cooling Assistance is open typically from May 1 to August 30 and provides air conditioning or a fan for homes where a person meets income requirements and has a medical condition exacerbated by heat. Funds for additional HEAP services tend to be limited.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides food, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum, as well as infants and children up to age 5 who may be at nutritional risk. Recipients must meet certain income and residency requirements as

well.

Diversion services are a once-only, alternative form of assistance for persons who are at risk of needing Temporary Assistance, with the purpose of helping them obtain or maintain employment so that they would not need further assistance. Diversion services are administered at the county level, and are used to address issues that prevent people from employment, such as transportation or work-related expenses (i.e. uniforms, work boots, or tools).

Other social insurance programs that are available to seniors, veterans, the unemployed, or people who are injured on the job are not generally considered to be public assistance programs. These include Social Security, Department of Veterans' Affairs benefits, unemployment insurance compensation, and Workers' compensation.

Work Participation

Federal law sets Federal Work Participation Standards for people receiving public assistance that a state must meet. Participation rates refer to the number of people who receive public assistance while they are also members of the workforce. There are two participation requirements that a state must meet or face financial penalties. These are known as the "all-family" rate and the "two-parent family" rate. The requirements state that 50% of all families and 90% of all two-parent families must be engaged in countable work. However, states may receive reduction credit for reducing their caseload of recipients. Nationwide data from 2016 provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicate a 51.9% "all families" work participation rate and a 70.8% "two-parent families" work participation rate for all states combined. New York State had an "all families" participation rate of 31.2% for that year, which met the standard after reduction credit. The state had no two-parent families subject to the requirement.

The Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services reports that the most recent participation rate for Chautauqua County, for January 2019, is 15%, which ranks as the 16th highest among NY's 62 counties. They also report that Chautauqua County currently has a full county work participation waiver for SNAP cases with an Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) individual. This means that an ABAWD individual would generally be required to participate in some type of work in order to receive SNAP, but that requirement is waived in the county.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

The three most expensive social insurance programs at the federal level are Social Security, Medicare, and unemployment. These programs accounted for 40% of all federal outlays in 2017, an increase of 17% since 1962.

“Means-tested welfare” programs provide benefits to low-income people, including Medicaid, cash assistance, SNAP, Affordable Care Act subsidies, SSI, student financial aid, the Earned Income tax Credit, and other programs. Per justfacts.com, these programs accounted for 18% of all federal outlays in 2017.

The federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant is intended to provide temporary financial assistance to those with no other means to meet basic needs. According to the Center on Budget and

Policy Priorities, in 1996 when TANF was created, 68% of families in poverty received TANF benefits nationwide. In 2017, just 23% of families in poverty across the nation were receiving TANF assistance. New York State reaches more poverty-stricken families than the nationwide average, with 42% of poor families receiving TANF assistance. This represents a stark decline from historical figures, however. In 1996 in New York State, 79% of families in poverty received TANF assistance.

The decline in numbers of people receiving TANF in New York State since 2013 is illustrated in **Chart 6.2** by the type of assistance. The numbers include both adult and child recipients and are per the NYS OTDA. Chautauqua County has also seen a decline in TANF recipients, with the most significant declines occurring after 2015, as seen in **Chart 6.1**.

At the local level, marked decreases in expenditures

Chart 6.1

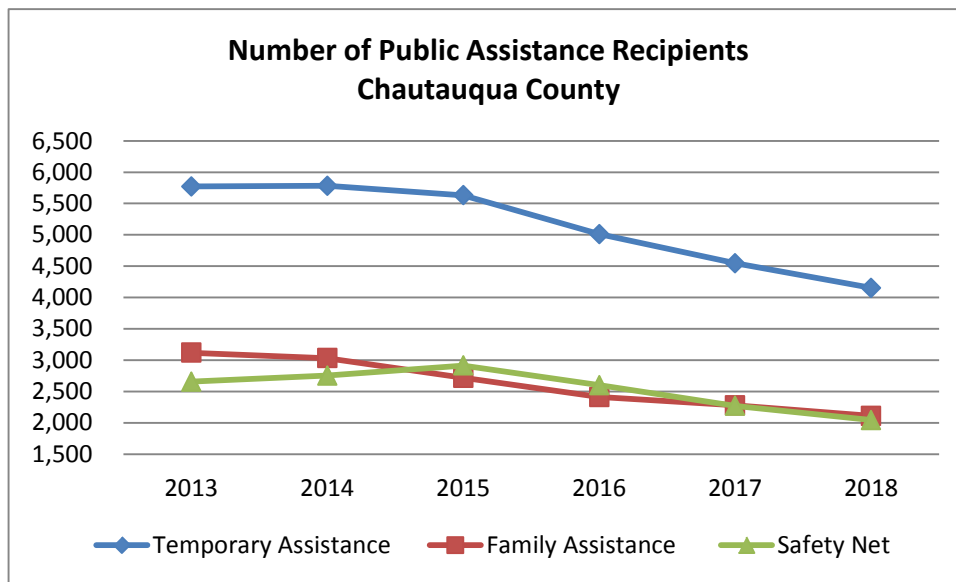
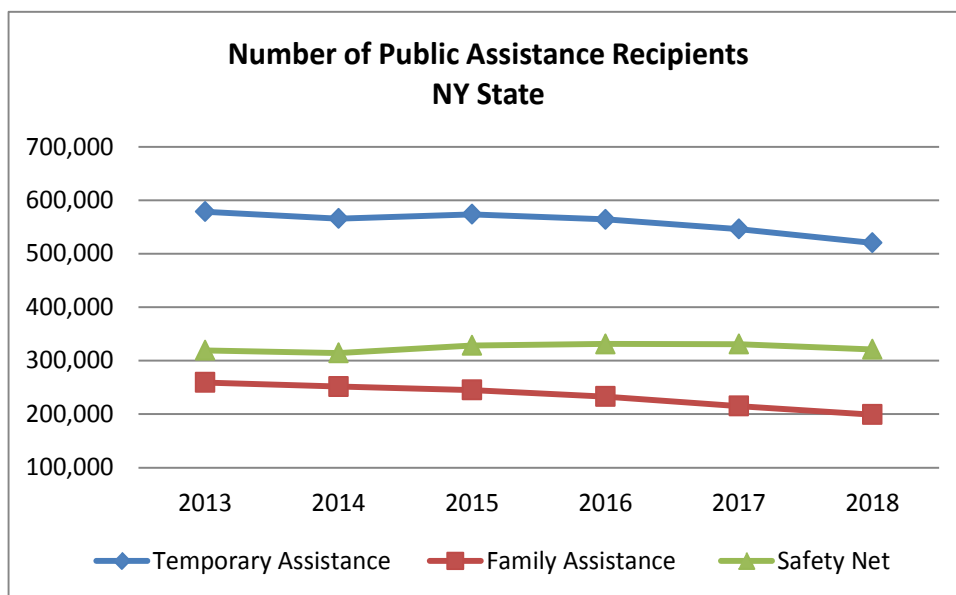


Chart 6.2



NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance; numbers in Charts 6.1 and 6.2 are for May in each year.

have occurred in all three types of assistance, as illustrated in **Chart 6.3**. Annual expenditures for public assistance have remained somewhat stable at the state level since 2013, with a small increase in Safety Net expenditures offset by a decrease in Family assistance., as illustrated in **Chart 6.4**.

Additional food supports are provided by soup kitchens and food pantries throughout the county. St. Susan Center in Jamestown reports that they served a total of 108,089 meals from January through November 2019, an average of over 9,800 meals per month.

Several initiatives in New York State are aimed at increasing education and employment skills of working

Chart 6.3

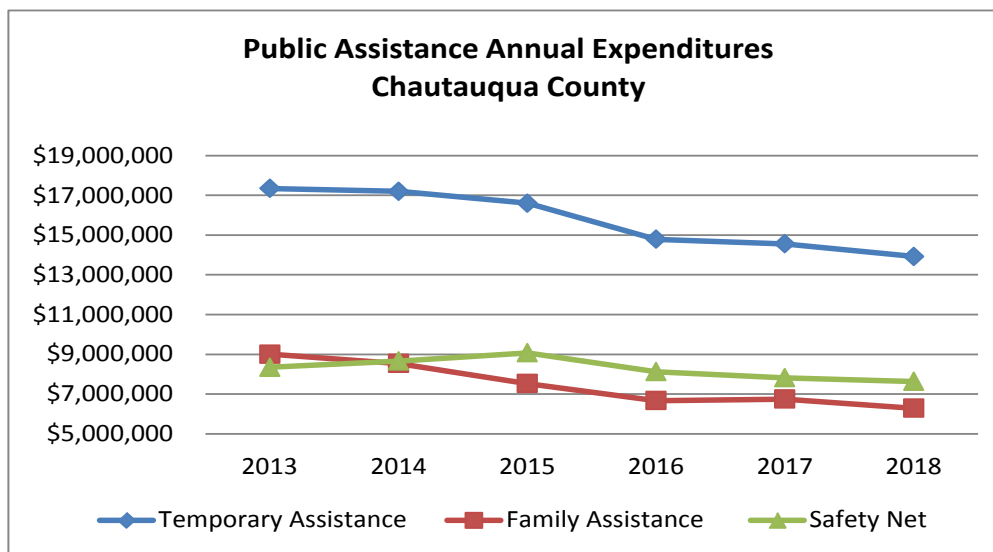
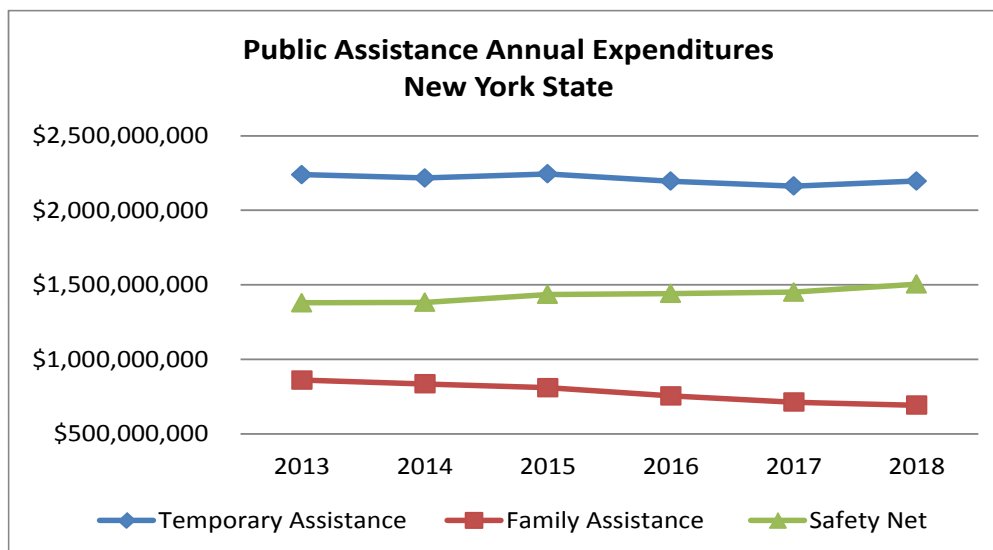


Chart 6.4



SNAP has seen decreases statewide and locally in the number of households receiving assistance for food. The number of households receiving SNAP benefits in New York State decreased 9.7% between 2013 and 2018. In Chautauqua County, households receiving SNAP decreased by 4.7% in the same time period (from 13,481 to 12,845 households). Data from the NYS OTDA reveal that the average monthly SNAP benefit per household in 2018 in Chautauqua County (\$234) is slightly less than the monthly per-household average for NY State (\$243).

age adults. Other economic development programs have goals that include business development and the creation of jobs. The Workforce Development Initiatives

Program provides grants to train underemployed or unemployed individuals in occupational skills training to qualify them for new full-time jobs or, if already employed, for higher levels of employment. NYS Empire State Development provides grant funding to businesses, nonprofits, and governments for capital projects that

are focused on creating or retaining jobs. The ultimate objective of these initiatives is to strengthen the economy and put people in sustainable, living wage employment that will lessen the need for them to seek public assistance.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

The working poor are well aware of the “benefits cliff” that occurs as household earnings increase. Those who are near the poverty line and eligible for a variety of assistance find that even a dollar increase in earnings and can make them ineligible for assistance. Often, the increase in wages is not enough to offset the lost benefits. Households that are just above poverty according to government guidelines are not earning enough to be self-sufficient.

A 2018 study from the College of William and Mary found that most Americans believe the government “should take care of people who can’t take care of themselves,” and also that nearly half of all Americans believe people in poverty have harder lives because the government’s benefits are inadequate. At the same time, public support drops when assistance is referred to as “welfare.” The history of public assistance in the U.S. is fraught with the belief that public assistance programs create a culture of dependency and encourage people to stay out of the workforce; however, studies regularly show that programs such as Medicaid and cash assistance increase workforce participation and can attain success lifting people out of poverty.

The Pew Research Center released a study in January 2018 revealing that a majority of Americans feel that the government does not do enough to help older people, younger people, poor people, and the middle class.

Definitive data on the public perception of assistance programs in Chautauqua County is limited, but public commentary often reveals negative stereotypical attitudes on the subject. The perception is that people submit false information to obtain benefits, such as not reporting all of their income. While statistics on this type of fraud are hard to come by, it has been estimated that fraudulent cases account for just 1% to 5% of all cases nationwide.

According to the USDA SNAP State Activity Report for 2016, there were 55,930 SNAP cases disqualified for intentional violations that year nationwide. Considering that the program served 21.8 million households that year, fraudulent cases accounted for approximately 2.6% of all cases. The program served 1,635,764 households in New York State, with 3,448 cases (.2%) disqualified for

intentional violations.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Public assistance programs provide relief to households experiencing economic insecurities and prevent crisis situations such as homelessness.
- There are a number of initiatives and programs designed to help people off of public assistance through skill development and job creation.
- NY State administers several programs with both federal and state funding to address the basic needs of people in poverty.
- A wide array of nonprofit agencies that provide supportive services exist in Chautauqua County to assist vulnerable populations.

CHALLENGES

- Public attitudes toward public assistance shift depending on whether or not it’s referred to as “welfare,” as a negative stigma against the term perpetuates the idea that its recipients are undeserving of the amount of aid given.
- Misuse of public assistance or fraud by a small percentage of recipients causes false impressions of widespread abuse of the system and negative perceptions of recipients.
- New York State provides more in public assistance than almost any other state in the country, with the second highest average TANF benefit per family.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A greater resurgence of the county economy is required in order to produce more meaningful change in keeping public assistance expenditures low.
- Revise federal poverty guidelines to help the poor avoid the “benefits cliff”.
- Provide information to the public counteracting the negative connotations of “welfare” and “public assistance”.

7. Transportation

INTRODUCTION

The availability of reliable, affordable transportation is one of the most critical issues faced by low-income people in Chautauqua County. The rural nature of the county presents transportation challenges for those seeking employment or needing medical attention, as the majority of jobs and health related services are located in the two major urban areas of Jamestown and Dunkirk. The public depends heavily on a well-developed, affordable, transportation system to be able to access employment opportunities and health care, and to shop for necessities.

Transportation is also a key issue in local economic development efforts. The availability of highway, rail, and air transportation is a determining factor in a business's decision to locate or expand in Chautauqua County.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Chautauqua County is a predominately rural county with 1,062 square miles of land area bisected by Chautauqua Lake. It is the 14th largest of New York State's 62 counties and is located the furthest west on the shores of Lake Erie. The Chautauqua County Division of Transportation is responsible for 552 center-line miles of roads, 308 bridges, and 258 major culverts that make up the county-owned highway system. In terms of the highway system, Interstate 86 runs east/west through the county, while Interstate 90 runs parallel to Lake Erie beginning in Ripley and heading east to Erie County. State Route 60 is a major route that connects the north and south ends of the county.

Private Transportation

Private transportation is the primary source of transportation in Chautauqua County. **Table 7.1** illustrates per the U.S. Census 2013-2017 American Community Survey the relative importance of privately owned vehicles as a means of getting to work in Chautauqua County compared to New York State data.

On average, employees in Chautauqua County have shorter commute times (17.3 minutes) than the average U.S. worker (25.1 minutes). A small percentage of the workforce in Chautauqua County (1.03%) has "super com-

muters" in excess of 90 minutes.

Census data from the 2013-2017 American Community Survey indicate that 10.9% of households have no personal vehicle available. The costs of owning a vehicle are prohibitive for some families. In addition to the vehicle purchase price, there are costs for registration, inspection, maintenance, insurance, and gasoline that must be considered. Families with young children are also required by New York State law to have child safety seats.

Table 7.1: Means of Transportation to Work

Means of Transportation to Work	Chautauqua County	New York State
Drive alone	81.7%	53.3%
Carpool	9.3%	6.6%
Public transportation	1.3%	28.3%
Bicycle or walk	4.1%	5.9%
Work at home	3.6%	4.0%

Bus Service

The Chautauqua Area Regional Transit System (CARTS) is a county-operated transportation system that provides fixed and on-demand routes throughout Chautauqua County. They also operate fixed route services within the more urbanized areas of Jamestown and Dunkirk, and the Villages of Celoron, Falconer, Lakewood, and Fredonia. Their services are fee-based and are open to the public. They offer Dial-a-Ride (door-to-door or curb-to-curb) service for individuals with disabilities and each bus is equipped with a lift for wheelchair access or for those who are unable to climb stairs.

Several bus companies that are based outside of the county operate along major routes and have regular stops in the more populated areas. Coach USA maintains a bus service out of Erie, PA that operates regularly sched-

uled routes between Jamestown, Olean (Cattaraugus County), and Buffalo (Erie County). Greyhound offers a bus stop at the State University of NY at Fredonia campus and near the NYS Thruway exit on Bennett Road in Dunkirk. The Cedar Bus Co., based in Erie County, offers group charters and individual transport by scheduling in advance. Their buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts. D&F Travel provides deluxe coach tours, local shuttles, and charter services.

Some of the schools in the county use bus companies to transport their students on a daily basis and for off-site trips instead of maintaining their own fleets of buses. Companies currently include First Student (northern Chautauqua County), Corvus Bus and Charter (Jamestown), and Western NY Bus Company (Head Start northern county sites). The Student Association of SUNY at Fredonia offers a Campus Community shuttle that can be accessed on campus and at nearby stops off-campus.

Medical Transportation

Much of Western NY is characterized by a population that is demographically older, economically poorer, and has a higher percentage of disabled people compared to the population statewide. These are all indicators of the need for reliable and affordable transportation for the high numbers of residents needing access to medical care. Chautauqua County has been designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. Residents often have to drive long distances to access medical specialists, such as those that are available in Buffalo, NY or Erie, PA.

Individuals with disabilities and others needing transportation to medical appointments may access providers that have accessible vehicles, such as CARTS. The Resource Center is working toward a Chautauqua County Transportation Work Plan in collaboration with CARTS, elected officials, community organizations, service providers, and other stakeholders to ensure access to transportation for all who need it. A large portion of their budget is spent on transportation access for the vulnerable populations they serve.

Other agencies providing medical transportation services include:

- The Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency provides a free van service for veterans to the VA Hospital in Buffalo that is scheduled through CARTS.



- The American Cancer Society has a Road to Recovery Program, which uses volunteers to provide transportation to cancer patients for medical visits.
- Adventure Transportation is based in Dunkirk and provides Medicaid transportation, courtesy prescription pickups, and courier and parcel delivery between facilities.
- Fancee Limousine provides non-emergency medical transportation services.
- The RO Foundation assists local medical patients with major illnesses and their families with monies to offset the cost associated with transportation to and from medical appointments from treatments.
- Emergency medical transportation response is provided by WCA Ambulance Services and Alstar Ambulance. Starflight provides medical transport by helicopter to medical services in Buffalo, NY, or Erie, PA or other large hospitals.
- Eligible patients may access medical transportation that is payable by Medicaid. This can include mileage reimbursement for using a personal vehicle or taxi service, bus passes provided by a local caseworker, or ambulette/ambulance services. Medicaid will pay for the most medically appropriate and cost-effective level of transportation to and from services that are covered by Medicaid.

Taxis and Ridesharing

There are just two taxi companies in the county, one that operates from Dunkirk and one that operates from Jamestown. Scheduling is made easier by mobile applications that allow riders to schedule a taxi from their smartphone. Uber and Lyft ride sharing services are also

available in Chautauqua County. These allow individuals to schedule rides from the smartphones from drivers that use their personal vehicles.

Airports

There are two main airports located near the Cities of Jamestown and Dunkirk that are both owned and operated by Chautauqua County. Neither currently offers commercial airline service, but both are used by private pilots and business partners. The Federal Express office is located next to the terminal building at the Jamestown Airport, and the local Civil Air Patrol unit meets there weekly. Flight school is also available at the Jamestown Airport.

Chautauqua County residents needing commercial air service most often travel to Buffalo-Niagara International Airport or Erie International Airport to access flights by major airlines. Both airports are 50 to 100 miles from Chautauqua County, depending on the starting point.

Railroads

Amtrak service crosses the country, but riders from Chautauqua County must travel to Buffalo, Depew, or Erie, PA to embark. Amtrak offers bus travel from Dunkirk, Fredonia, and Jamestown to their stops via the NYS Thruway.

There are six railroad companies that provide freight service to the southwestern New York State and northwestern Pennsylvania region. Three are Class I railroads: Norfolk Southern, Canadian Pacific, and CSX, although the latter two do not provide service on the Southern Tier Extension line) and two are regional railroads (Western New York and Pennsylvania Buffalo and Pittsburgh, and New York and Lake Erie, although the latter two do not provide service on the Southern Tier Extension Line).

Bikes and Walkways

There are various trails and bikeways throughout the county used for hiking, cycling, cross country skiing, snowmobiling and other recreational purposes. Chautauqua County maintains the 43-mile Overland Trails system comprising the Earl Cadot Eastside Overland Trail and the Fred J. Cusimano Westside Overland Trail. Equestrian trails run from Charlotte to Cherry Creek. Chautauqua Rails to Trails is a non-profit organization that develops and maintains recreational trails for personal use on or near abandoned railways. The trails are used for hiking, bicycling, running, treasure hunting, horseback riding, snowmobil-

ing, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing.

Lakes and Waterways

According to information provided by the Chautauqua County Visitor's Bureau, the county has five lakes and numerous waterways. The northwestern border of Chautauqua County is made up of nearly 50 miles of shoreline along Lake Erie. Chautauqua Lake is a naturally-formed lake that is 17 miles long and up to two miles wide. Cassadaga Lake is made up of three inter-connecting glacial lakes. Smaller man-made lakes include Findley Lake and Bear Lake. All of the lakes are popular recreational spots for fishing, swimming, boating, jet skiing, canoeing and kayaking.

The Marden E. Cobb Waterway Trail comprises two 25-mile flat-water trails used for canoeing and kayaking. The Cassadaga Creek (South Stockton to Falconer) and the Conewango Creek (north Kennedy to Kiantone) form the waterway trail.



Horse and Buggy

New York State contains the fifth largest Amish population in the U.S., with three major settlements in Clymer and Mayville in Chautauqua County, and Conewango Valley in the adjacent County of Cattaraugus. Horse and buggy remains a popular mode of transport for the Amish, which is a safety concern because they share the roadways with other vehicles. As there are no official statistics available for accidents involving horse and buggies and other vehicles, it is difficult to know how many such accidents take place. One fatal accident in 2016 prompted the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office to create a buggy safety manual to avoid future accidents.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

Ride Sharing

Ride sharing services are now available in Chautauqua County in the form of Uber and Lyft. Riders may use these apps on their smartphones to order private rides on-demand. All scheduling and billing is handled through the app. They operate similar to taxi service but transportation is delivered by a driver in their own personal vehicle. The service may or may not be available depending on if drivers are out accepting fares. Rural areas of the county are less likely to have an abundance of drivers at any one time. In the future it is possible that other ride sharing services will become available in Chautauqua County. The emergence of ride sharing apps has implications for the future of companies that operate other modes of transportation, who must be able to keep pace with changing technologies that cater to the convenience of the rider.

Energy Efficiency

The Charge NY initiative is part of New York State’s goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent by 2030. Implemented through NYSERDA, Charge NY includes incentives to purchase Electric Vehicles (EV), which are more energy efficient than gasoline vehicle and cost 50% - 70% less per mile to operate. This has resulted in the emergence of EV charging stations throughout the state, for public use, businesses, and municipal fleets. The NYS Department of Conservation offers incentives for municipalities to install public charging stations.

Infrastructure

Construction of a roundabout at the major intersection of NYS Routes 20 and 60 in Fredonia is currently underway, which includes the installation of medians to separate traffic and a traffic circle to replace stop lights. The estimated completion date for the project is July 1, 2020. The project has faced resistance from local residents and businesses, including a lawsuit that was ultimately dismissed. Opponents of the project are concerned about economic losses for the businesses at the intersection due to drivers not being able to access their entrances easily, as well as the safety of the roundabout in this high traffic area. The NYS Transportation Department cites a high number of traffic accidents at that intersection involving drivers making left-hand turns into the commercial driveways as the main reason for the changes. The

DOT maintains that roundabouts have been shown to increase safety at intersections and facilitate the smooth flow of traffic.

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the Complete Streets Act into law in 2011, requiring that consideration be given to the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motorists in the design of transportation projects that receive federal or state funding. The Act also requires consideration for the needs of children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Communities in Chautauqua County have worked to make their roads more accessible for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and others. Many communities throughout the county have established resolutions for their roads to include features like sidewalks, lane striping, bicycle lanes, paved shoulders, signage, crosswalks, pedestrian control signals, bus pull-outs, curb cuts, raised crosswalks, ramps, and traffic calming measures.

New York State is currently implementing a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan by investing in infrastructure improvements, public education efforts, and greater enforcement of pedestrian traffic rules. The NYSDOT is working to improve crosswalks and signalized intersections throughout the state. Chautauqua was ranked 18th out of NY’s 62 counties for the number of accidents involving pedestrians after an evaluation of crash patterns from 2009-2013, making it one of the focus counties for the Action Plan. During that time period, there were 196 accidents in Chautauqua County in which a pedestrian was injured or killed after being hit by a motor vehicle.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

Access to transportation has been an issue in Chautauqua County for years. The responses to a Community Needs Survey conducted by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. in 2019 suggest that the problem is continuing. The primary modes of transportation for those responding to the survey are listed in **Table 7.2** below.

Table 7.2: Survey - Primary Mode of Transportation

What is your primary mode of transportation?	
Car	89.2%
Ride with family or friends	4.3%
Walk	3.6%
Carpool/rideshare	1.4%
Taxi or Other	1.4

A total of 17.4% respondents indicated that transportation has been a problem for them within the last 12 months. The challenges they experienced are listed below in **Table 7.3**. Respondents could check more than one problem.

Table 7.3: Transportation Problems of Survey Respondents

Unable to afford car repairs	34.8%
Unable to afford gas	19.4%
No access to a car	9.3%
Public transportation not accessible	5.4%
Public transportation too expensive	3.9%
Unable to use public bus system	3.9%
No car insurance	1.0%

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Chautauqua County is well serviced by interstate highway and freight access.
- The Resource Center has assembled a Chautauqua County Transportation Coalition to develop a plan to improve transportation for all, particularly the most vulnerable populations of seniors, the disabled, and low income residents.
- There are a variety of services for medical transport.
- Advocacy groups and elected officials recognize that transportation is key to the success of families and businesses.
- Smartphone apps used for ride sharing and taxi service make ride scheduling more convenient for the rider.

CHALLENGES

- Current services such as CARTS are limited by day and hour.
- Medical transport in Chautauqua County is limit-

ed and some services require criteria to be met in order to transport.

- The limits of available public transportation make it difficult for some people with low paying jobs to get to work.
- Weather conditions in Western NY often present challenging driving conditions and delays in the winter months.
- Neither of the county’s two airports are currently used for commercial flights, although county officials are working to restore service to Jamestown.
- There are no Amtrak stops in the county.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support the efforts of the Chautauqua County Transportation Coalition to develop a plan for transportation access for all residents, particularly the most vulnerable populations.
- The county would benefit from a high quality, extended hour public transporting system.



8. Technology

INTRODUCTION

Our lives are shaped by the technology available to us. Access to the internet is a necessity for many of us who use computer devices for work, school, and other purposes. A strong technological infrastructure is becoming more and more of a priority as the 21st century continues to be shaped as an era of digital living.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Computer and internet use is prevalent in the everyday lives of most Americans. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 87.2% of households across the country owned a computer in 2017 and 78.1% of households had a broadband internet subscription. Residents in Chautauqua County report somewhat lower figures, as 82.4% of the population owns a computer and 71.5% has a broadband internet subscription. County residents who do not own a computer can access them at most of the community libraries.

Investments in internet infrastructure are continually being made by governments at the state and local levels. In 2015, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced New NY Broadband, a program designed to bring greater internet access and higher speeds to every upstate NY county. Since that time, \$16.5 million in state and federal funding has been invested in Chautauqua County through the program for the purpose of expanding service through underserved areas with 143 miles of new and upgraded fiber optic cable. The project also included \$1.06 million in private matching funds (dftcommunications.com).

In 2019, Chautauqua County also received a \$150,000 share of a \$1.3 million POWER grant from the Appalachian Region Commission that was matched with \$80,000 from DFT Communications to offer improved broadband internet throughout the county and high-speed, fiber optic internet in some locations starting in early 2020.

Despite the recent investments, some rural areas remain that lack internet access altogether. The Jamestown Post-Journal reported in June 2019 that certain parts of Busti had lost internet for at least 3 weeks. Often the most rural areas of the county are also cell phone “dead zones” that lack adequate cellular service.

Smartphone usage has also become an ever-present element of daily life for many in the country. According

to the Pew Research Center, 96% of Americans use a cell phone of some kind, with 81% using smartphones that connect to the internet. Since the first iPhone was introduced in 2007, this shift in technology has been particularly massive and fast-moving. Most people now carry a device with them wherever they go that can not only make calls, but can connect to the internet and take pictures and video, transforming the way we interact with each other and access information.

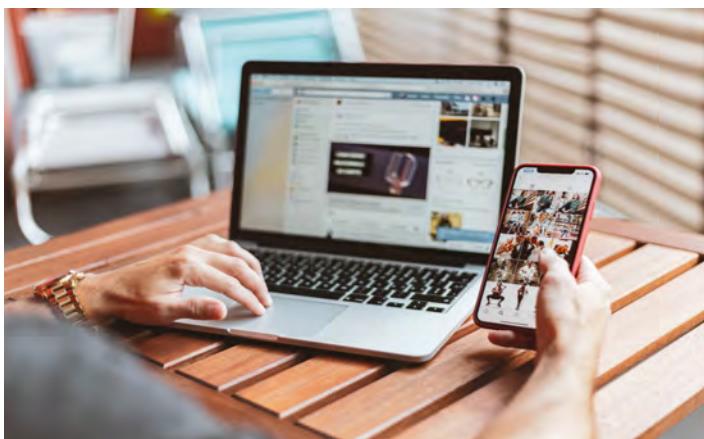
Table 8.1 uses national data from the Pew Research Center to illustrate the variations in smartphone use based on age, educational attainment, annual income, and location.

Table 8.1 Cellphone Use

	Any Cell Phone	Smart-Phone	Cellphone (Not Smart)
Age 18-29	99%	96%	4%
Age 30-49	99%	92%	6%
Age 50-64	95%	79%	17%
Age 65+	91%	53%	39%
Less than High School Grad	92%	66%	25%
High School Grad	96%	72%	24%
Some College	96%	85%	11%
College Grad	98%	91%	7%
< \$30K	95%	71%	23%
\$30K-\$50K	96%	78%	18%
\$50K - \$75K	98%	90%	8%
> \$75K	100%	95%	5%
Urban	97%	83%	13%
Suburban	96%	83%	13%
Rural	95%	71%	24%

While most consumer electronics such as smart phones and computers tend to be expensive, options exist for low-income residents in Chautauqua County to integrate themselves technologically. The Lifeline assistance program has provided people with low or

no-cost phone services since 1985, and in New York State, residents who participate in public assistance programs such as Medicaid and SNAP are eligible to receive a free cellphone.



TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

Although as a rural area, Chautauqua County lags behind the nation somewhat in the use of technology, it has the potential to catch up as technological advances permeate just about every aspect of our lives. Some of the many ways in which technology is transforming our day to day activities include:

- Colleges and universities offer distance learning programs that allow people to avoid transportation problems and in some cases, to work at their own pace.
- Health services can be delivered through telemedicine, allowing health professionals to diagnose and monitor patients remotely, addressing mobility and access problems.
- Online shopping has escalated, offering convenience for the consumer but often negatively impacting the bottom line of brick and mortar stores.
- Satellite-based Global Positioning Devices (GPS) have transformed navigation for all types of transportation worldwide.
- Streaming media allows a user to start playing digital video or audio content before the entire file has been transmitted. Streaming services such as YouTube, Netflix, and Hulu are changing the way

many people watch television shows and films.

- Social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter make it easy for individuals, businesses and other entities to interconnect and communicate.

While the value of having access to communication and information at our fingertips cannot be understated, the widespread use of technological devices also makes us susceptible to online dangers. Children learn to use technology at an early age and computers with internet access have become educational staples in our schools. A compilation of research statistics from Guardchild indicates that 21% of children in grades K-2 have access to cellphones. They also cite the following nationwide statistics that underscore the need for parent supervision of their children's online and cell phone activity:

- 44% of tweens admitted watching something online their parents would not approve of.
- 70% of children ages 7 to 18 have accidentally encountered online pornography.
- 65% of 8-14 year olds have been involved in a cyber-bullying incident.
- Holding a cell phone while driving makes a crash four times as likely.
- 48% of teens say they have been in a car in which the driver was texting.
- 69% of teens regularly receive online communications from strangers and do not tell their parents.

Americans have to concern themselves with cybersecurity more than ever before. A 2017 Pew Research Institute study found that 64% of adults had been impacted by at least one type of data theft (such as fraudulent credit card charges or a compromised Social Security number) and that 49% felt their personal information to be less secure than it was five years prior. However, the same study found that most Americans do not follow best practices for safeguarding their personal information online: 39% of respondents said they use the same password for many of their online accounts, and about 10% use potentially unsecured public Wi-Fi networks for activities such as shopping with their credit cards or online banking.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

Technology has made our lives easier and allowed for advanced ways to connect with each other on a global scale. According to the Pew Research Institute, 26% of American adults report being online almost constantly, and 43% report going online several times a day. Children are able to learn to use new technologies at a very young age, which become part of their everyday lives.

Smartphone usage has also become an ever-present element of daily life for many in the country. According to Statista, 69.6% of the U.S. population used a smartphone in 2018; since the first iPhone was introduced only in 2007, this shift in technology has been particularly massive. Most people carry a device that can connect to the internet with them wherever they go, transforming the way we interact with it and with each other.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- The state and county continue to pursue funding for increased internet infrastructure across Chautauqua County.
- Technology has transformed communication by making it easier than ever to communicate with each other.
- The internet, navigation devices, telemedicine, and streaming media are changing the ways we interact with the world, making us better informed and making our lives easier.



CHALLENGES

- Rural areas remain that lack adequate internet access and/or cell phone reception, limiting communication for residents in remote areas.
- Many people are not aware of best practices for cybersecurity or do not make an effort to follow them.
- Children and teens are particularly vulnerable to cyber bullying and online predators, underscoring the need for parental supervision and controls.
- Small brick and mortar retailers must find ways to compete with online shopping retailers and mega-stores.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to support infrastructure investments throughout the county for expanding internet access and quality.
- Support initiatives that encourage a better understanding of cybersecurity risks and best practices.
- Parents and educators need to monitor children's online activity and cell phone use.



9. Public Safety

INTRODUCTION

Studies routinely demonstrate that a higher prevalence of poverty often leads to a higher prevalence of crime. While there are many factors that influence an area's crime rate, people in poverty are more likely to experience stress, have fewer educational and vocational opportunities, be more disconnected from their communities, and perceive a greater lack of opportunity than people who have higher incomes, all of which in turn affect crime rates.

Chautauqua County experiences many of the public safety concerns that rural areas across the country currently face, such as a sharp increase in the number of opioid-related deaths and overdoses. New York State has also been active in recent years at changing certain criminal justice laws, such as those related to marijuana or the treatment of juvenile offenders.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

According to state crime data, Chautauqua County has an index crime rate of 2,100.9 per 100,000 population, which is higher than the rates for New York City (2,043.4), the state excepting NYC (1,580.6), and the state overall (1,782.5).

Crime rates in Chautauqua County have remained steady since 2013, with total adult arrests hovering between 3,400 and 3,600. The majority of arrests are misdemeanors; in 2018, misdemeanor arrests accounted for 70% of all arrests, while the remaining 30% were felony charges. Felony drug arrests went down slightly from 2017 to 2018, while misdemeanor drug arrests slightly increased for the same period. The City of Jamestown did note an increase in violent crime in 2018, up 15.8% from the previous year, but an overall total crime decrease of 3.9%. **Table 9.1** displays a breakdown of arrests throughout the county per the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Included in the numbers of adult arrests are arrests for felonies and misdemeanors committed by 16 and 17-year olds. Data from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice indicate that 166 arrests were made in 2017 of individuals in this age group. While the number dropped to 95 arrests in 2018, it should be noted that misdemeanors committed by 16 year olds after October 1, 2018 are not included in the data due to Raise the Age legislation that



changed the way these cases are handled, moving many of them to Family Court.

Between 2007 and 2014, an average of 24% of persons who were on probation in Chautauqua County were re-arrested within the following three years. The following chart illustrates the percentage of persons arrested for a felony within three years after being sentenced for a felony or misdemeanor. **Chart 9.1** compares data for Chautauqua County to all of New York State, with the exception of NY City, per the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Drugs and Opioid Abuse

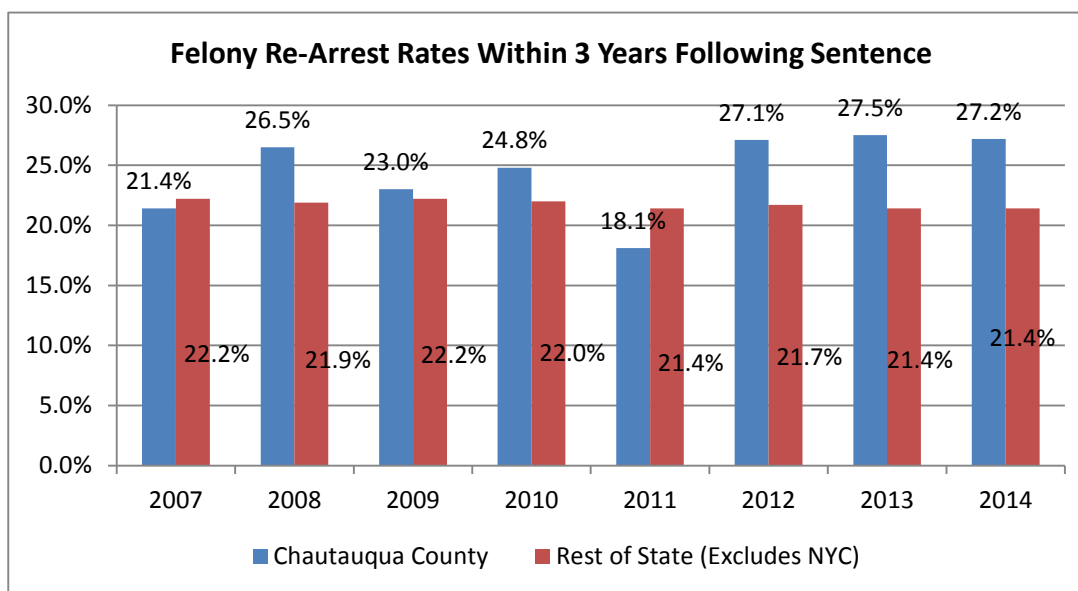
The opioid crisis that has seen a sharp increase in overdose deaths across the country has affected Chautauqua County. From 2003 to 2012, the county saw an annual average of 5 deaths attributed to opioid poisoning per year; since 2013, that average has increased to 18, with a peak in 2017 of 30 deaths.

The Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene was awarded \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 2018 to support treatment and prevention of substance use, including opioids, in rural areas that are at a high level of risk. The grant will be used by the Countywide Alliance for Enforcement

Table 9.1: Arrests in Chautauqua County, 2013 - 2018

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Arrests	3,534	3,474	3,452	3,482	3,593	3,433
Felony Total	876	954	945	976	1,062	1,021
Drug	178	204	183	203	260	159
Violent	199	175	205	171	214	202
DWI	86	78	90	83	73	71
Other	413	497	467	519	515	589
Misdemeanor Total	2,658	2,520	2,507	2,506	2,531	2,412
Drug	225	239	252	337	452	481
DWI	546	529	504	514	482	409
Property	790	776	819	752	720	663
Other	1,097	976	932	903	877	859

Chart 9.1: Felony Re-Arrests Within 3 Years



and Rehabilitation, the Countywide Alliance for Enforcement and Rehabilitation (CAER) formed in 2018 to address the opioid crisis in Chautauqua County. The group acts as a continuum for organizations that seek to address the opioid crisis and help those struggling with addiction.

Sex Offenders

As of June 2019, there are a total of 391 registered sex offenders in Chautauqua County: 160 at risk level 1, indicating low risk of repeat offense; 153 at risk level 2, indicating moderate risk of repeat offense; 76 at level 3, indicating high risk of repeat offense; and 2 at level P, for

whom a risk level has not yet been determined.

Courts

Chautauqua County has a unified court system that ensures all courts in the county are centrally governed. There are 31 local courts in Chautauqua County. Chautauqua County is part of the Eighth Judicial district in New York State which includes the Supreme and County Courts, Dunkirk City Court, Jamestown City Court, and Family Court. Town and Village Courts handle traffic infractions and have criminal jurisdiction over violations and misdemeanors.

Drug treatment courts, to offer an alternative for defendants that face addiction, exist as part of the NYS Judicial system, with four such courts in Chautauqua County. These courts allow for the opportunity for a reduced sentence or the dismissal of charges for a defendant who successfully completes a drug treatment program. Drug treatment courts have been shown to be linked to lower recidivism rates.

The drug courts in Chautauqua County include two in Jamestown, one in Dunkirk, and the Chautauqua Family Court in Mayville.

Modeled on the state's drug treatment courts, mental health courts handle criminal cases where defendants are experiencing mental illness. These courts feature specially-trained staff and resource coordination to meet the defendant's needs. The goal of the mental health courts is to provide such offenders with support and structure in order to avoid further criminal behavior. Two mental health courts exist within Chautauqua County, one each in Jamestown and Dunkirk.

Domestic Violence

Per the NYS Department of Criminal Justice, in 2017, Chautauqua County saw a total of 825 reported domestic violence victims, continuing a downward trend from totals of previous years (939 in 2015 and 874 in 2016).

Table 9.3 illustrates the numbers of reported victims of domestic violence throughout Chautauqua County in 2017 by the type of offense and the relationship between the parties, per the the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Table 9.3: Reported Domestic Violence Victims

VF = victim is female intimate partner

VM = victim is male intimate partner

VO = victim is other family

	VF	VM	VO	Total
Aggravated Assault	46	5	33	84
Simple Assault	411	93	182	686
Sex Offense	12	0	26	38
Violation of Protective Order	12	2	3	17
Total	481	100	244	825

While this data provides an unduplicated number of victims, the number of domestic violence incidents is most likely far greater due to repeat offenses between the same parties. For example, the 2018 Annual Report from the Jamestown Office of Public Safety indicates that City of Jamestown Police alone completed 1,258 domestic violence incident reports in 2017 and 1,271 in 2018. Also, it is known that many incidents of domestic violence go unreported and are therefore not reflected in the data.

Chautauqua County Jail

The Chautauqua County Jail is a division of the Sheriff's Office and the direct responsibility of Sheriff James B. Quattrone. The Chautauqua County Jail holds both pre-sentence detainees who are awaiting court action and convicted inmates who are sentenced to jail for a specific period of time. The jail also holds NYS parole violators, county probation violators, and persons accused of civil crimes such as failure to pay child support. According to the Vera Institute of Justice, the Chautauqua County Jail has a capacity of just over 300 persons, with an average of about 274 people in jail at any one time.

Since 2011, the Chautauqua County Jail has maintained a Re-entry Task Force in order to ensure a smooth transition from jail to the community upon an inmate's release. The Task Force assesses barriers, needs, and gaps in services in order to reduce recidivism throughout the county. Re-entry programs include Ready, Set, Work, a job readiness training program; and Thinking for a Change, a cognitive behavioral therapy group.

In 2017, the Chautauqua County Sheriff's office explained that the overcrowding is once again a concern at the Chautauqua County jail. 22 inmates had to be boarded out to other county jails.

Efforts by reentry programs and services at the county jail have reduced the jail's recidivism rate. In 2014 35 percent of participants returned to jail, compared to the 60 percent in 2013. This was due to programs that focus on community referrals, job readiness, parenting courses and child support for low income individuals with children and interview booking. In 2018 the Offender Workforce Development Partnership Training program started being offered to individuals that work with an inmate population.

Starflight Medevac

Medevac service throughout Chautauqua County is provided by Starflight, Inc. Since it was implemented in

1986, the program has made more than 10,000 air ambulance transports of the critically ill and severely injured to hospitals and other care centers where these patients may receive specialized emergency treatment. In 2018, Starflight flew 448 flights in Chautauqua County.

Fire and Emergency Services

The Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services supports the emergency services community throughout the county, including each of its 42 fire departments, both of the county's major firefighters' training centers, and law enforcement. Specialized teams assemble based on the type of threat or the service provided, which include: Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, Water Emergency, the Chautauqua Area Search Team, Critical Incident Stress Management, Fire Investigation, Fire Police, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and the Citizens Emergency Response Team.



A fly car response system was launched in 2017 to provide a quick response system to emergency calls throughout the county. Per the Dunkirk Observer, the vehicles in the system contain medications and equipment akin to those in an emergency room, allowing them to support volunteer fire services and the ALSTAR EMS medical transportation. Three cars are located in strategic spots throughout Chautauqua County, with a senior paramedic vehicle also able to respond when necessary. Within four months, the fly car system responded to 365 emergency calls. While the program only runs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, county officials are hopeful that funding will be made available to expand its coverage to all hours of each day.

Homeland Security

Chautauqua County's northern border on Lake Erie is an international border between the U.S. and Canada. The U.S. Border Patrol is responsible for these 45-miles of border. Individuals entering the country by boat can register with U.S. Customs at facilities at the Dunkirk and Barcelona harbors.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

Sexual Exploitation

Human trafficking is an issue that has gained in prominence over the last several years. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, there are 100,000 to 300,000 underage girls being sold for sex in America. One out of every three teens on the street will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of running away. Poverty, lack of education, and belonging to a marginalized group are all factors that increase risk of trafficking. Given the high percentage of children in Chautauqua County that live in poverty and the proximity of the area to major access routes and large cities, many runaway and homeless youth in the area are especially vulnerable to trafficking.

Safe Harbour is an initiative of the NYS Office of Children and Family Services that uses a system-level approach to respond to children and youth who have experienced, or are vulnerable to, sexual exploitation. The YWCA of Jamestown has taken the lead in coordinating Safe Harbour in Chautauqua County. They raise awareness for the issue through the use of evidence-based, prevention-focused curricula that teach students in local schools about human trafficking, including how to recognize trafficking tactics, who traffickers might be, and how to report a suspected instance or victim of human trafficking.

While local data on human trafficking is limited, an article published in the Jamestown Post-Journal in 2018 reported the claim by Safe Harbour that there were 25 youth that met the definition of or were at risk of being trafficked for sex. According to Safe Harbour, 76% of the identified victims were female, and the average age of a victim at the time their case file is opened is 14.8.

The Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services' Youth Bureau received a \$35,000 grant in 2015 from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services to help raise awareness about human trafficking. A billboard campaign was launched that summer featuring 18 billboards in English and Spanish that prominently

featured a phone number for reporting any suspected instances of human trafficking.

Raise the Age

In April 2017, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law “Raise the Age” legislation that changed how the state handles arrests for 16 and 17 year-old juveniles. As of Oct. 1, 2019, parents of 16 and 17 year-olds who are arrested must be notified and involved in any questioning of their child. Other changes include the trying of most cases in Family Court or “Youth Parts” of adult courts, a ban on sentencing and detaining juveniles in facilities that hold adults, and an opportunity for conviction records to become sealed after ten years for eligible nonviolent offenses.

Marijuana

Lawmakers in New York State declined to legalize recreational marijuana during 2019’s legislative session, opting for a decriminalization bill instead. Under the new law, the possession of up to two ounces of marijuana is a violation meriting a fine between \$50 and \$200, rather than a crime; smoking marijuana in public is a violation, rather than a misdemeanor; and many low-level marijuana convictions are automatically expunged. It is still illegal to purchase, sell, or grow marijuana in New York State, and penalties for possession of larger amounts of marijuana still remain in place.

Neighborhood Watch and Nextdoor

Neighborhood Watch is based on a concept of cooperation; when citizens take positive steps to secure their own property and neighbors learn how to report suspicious activity around their homes, burglary and related offenses decrease dramatically. The Cities of Dunkirk and Jamestown, as well as several townships in the county, sponsor Neighborhood Watch programs.

The City of Dunkirk has begun using the private social network Nextdoor, in which community members can report issues of concern in their neighborhoods, as well as stay connected to the Dunkirk police department and other residents. Residents may download an app to their phones where they use their real names and addresses to establish a digital version of their physical neighborhood. Other neighborhoods in Chautauqua County currently using Nextdoor include Panama-Stedman and Western Chautauqua Lake.

The City of Jamestown and has an official Neighbor-

hood Watch group that is associated with its respective police departments. Individuals interested in applying for membership are required to complete an application involving a petition with neighbors’ signatures. The Neighborhood Watch Coalition, a collective of representatives from 30 different watch groups in the city, meets monthly. Coalition members have joined with police officers and other volunteers to paint over graffiti in the city, distribute toys for children that have been victims or witnesses of violence, the National Night Out program, the “Race Against Racism,” food drives, recycling awareness campaigns, and more.



Criminal Justice Education

The Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES has developed a Criminal Justice and Crime Scene Investigation Forensics course designed for youth interested in criminal justice and law enforcement related careers. The course teaches students about basic criminal justice systems, fire protection, firearm safety and use, first aid and more. Criminal justice programs are also offered at SUNY Fredonia and Jamestown Community College.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

In a 2019 survey conducted in conjunction with the Community Needs Assessment by COI, attendees were asked, “Do you feel safe in your neighborhood?” Out of 119 Chautauqua County residents, 108 or 90.75% of participants said yes, while 11 or 9.24% of the participants said no. Compared to the 2017 Community Needs Assessment Survey results of the same question, there is no significant statistical change.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Volunteer groups such as Neighborhood Watch have taken an active role in reporting suspicious activity in their neighborhoods to increase safety.
- Several groups, such as the town and village fire departments, participate in coalitions to ensure better coordination of services and safety throughout the county.
- Specific emergency response teams, like the Water Emergency team, provide specialized emergency services when required.



CHALLENGES

- The Firemen's Association of the State of New York has reported difficulties for volunteer fire departments across the state to recruit and retain members.
- Poverty, lack of education, and belonging to a marginalized group are all factors that increase risk of trafficking. Given the high percentage of children in Chautauqua County that live in poverty and the proximity of the area to major access routes and large cities, many runaway and homeless youth in the area are especially vulnerable to trafficking.
- A total of 825 victims reported domestic violence in Chautauqua County in 2017. The actual number of victims is most likely much higher, since many cases of domestic violence are not reported.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to take measures against poverty in order to reduce crime rates in Chautauqua County.
- Collect more data on human trafficking in the county and take steps as needed to address the issue.
- Support the Countywide Alliance for Enforcement and Rehabilitation in order to effectively combat opioid abuse and provide more addiction treatment opportunities throughout Chautauqua County.
- Additional Neighborhood Watch programs could help reinforce public safety throughout the county.
- Expand outreach and prevention programs that deter substance abuse and prevent recidivism.



10. Veterans

INTRODUCTION

Chautauqua County is home to a number of veterans, defined as “a person who served in the active military, naval or air service, and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable” by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many veterans, particularly those who have served in combat situations or for long periods of time, have trouble assimilating into civilian life after discharge from the military.

Nationwide, the veteran population has health care needs in greater proportion than that of the general population, which include physical disabilities as well as mental health issues. The RAND Center for Military Health Policy Research claims that 20% of veterans that served in Iraq or Afghanistan suffer from major depression or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); the latter is associated with a higher incidence of substance abuse. A comprehensive study by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found that an average of 20 veterans die each day from suicide, making it imperative that veterans have access to the quality care they need as a result of their service.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

Data provided by the Census Bureau’s 2013-2017 American Community Survey indicate that there are 9,301 veterans in Chautauqua County, or 8.9% of the civilian population age 18 and over. Per the U.S. Census 2013-2017 American Community Survey, veterans represent a higher percentage of the population in the county compared to state and national data, as illustrated in **Table 10.1** below.

Table 10.1: Veterans as a Percentage of Population

Location	Number of Veterans	Percent of Population
U.S.	1.8 million	7.6%
NY	757,000	4.8%
Chautauqua County	9,301	8.9%

In Chautauqua County, the majority of veterans served during the Vietnam era. The period of service for Chautauqua County veterans, per Census data, is shown in **Table 10.2**.

Table 10.2: Veterans by Period of Service

Period of service	Percent of veterans
Gulf War (9/2001 or later)	11.7%
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001)	12.2%
Vietnam War	39.6%
Korean War	11.3%
World War II	4.6%

The veteran population is predominantly male in Chautauqua County; 94.7% (8,815) of local veterans are male as compared to 5.3% (486) that are female. The ethnic and racial breakdown of the veteran population in Chautauqua County is shown per Census data below in **Table 10.3**.

Table 10.3: Race and Ethnicity of Veterans

Race	Number of Veterans	Percentage
White/Caucasian	8,961	96.3%
Black	164	1.8%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	44	0.5%
Two or more races	78	0.8%
Other	54	0.6%
Ethnicity	Number of Veterans	Percentage
Hispanic	262	2.9%

Table 10.4 compares data for Chautauqua County’s veteran population to national and New York State

figures. It can be seen that percentages of disabled veterans and those who are unemployed are fairly consistent with percentages nationwide and statewide. However, the rate of poverty among veterans in Chautauqua County exceeds national and state levels. This can be attributed to the fact that the poverty rate for Chautauqua County's population as a whole is higher than the poverty rates for the nation and the state.

services include routine medical care, exams, blood work, and in home care.

The Joseph P. Dwyer Peer to Peer Support Program locally offers a number of programs and supports for veterans in Chautauqua County including an annual Gala, holiday gatherings, a motorcycle run and other social events.

The Amvets National 22 Everyday Suicide Prevention and Awareness Regional Director is based in Chautauqua

Table 10.4: Veterans and Poverty

	Veterans Below Poverty Level	Veteran Unemployment Rate	Veterans with a Disability	% of Disabled Veterans with a Service-Connected Disability Rating
U.S.	7.0%	5.6%	28.8%	20.6%
NY	6.9%	6.2%	28.2%	15.0%
Chautauqua County	8.3%	6.1%	28.9%	17.3%

Table 10.5 below compares the poverty rate, unemployment rate, and percentage of disabled persons for Chautauqua County veterans to the county's civilian population age 18 and over, per Census data. The data reveal that veterans have lower rates of poverty and unemployment in the county than non-veterans, but the percentage of persons with disabilities is much higher among veterans than it is among non-veterans.

County and is actively involved in suicide prevention and awareness efforts throughout the region, with a focus on prevention and education for veterans.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports in their VA Utilization Profile (FY2016) that, nationwide, 48% of all veterans used at least one VA benefit or service in 2016, an increase of 10% from ten years ago. They report that 44% of veterans used multiple benefits, an increase from 31% in 2005. Health care and/or disability compensation accounted for 76% of all VA use in 2016.

According to the report Veterans and Health in New York State, July 2017, by the NYS Health Foundation, the percentage of female veterans in the state is expected to increase from 7% to more than 10% by the year 2025. Approximately 8% of New York State's veterans are under age 35, a reflection of those who joined military service after 9/11. The report indicates that veterans are eight times more likely than the general population to have PTSD and 2-4 times more likely to have major depression.

In 2015, nearly 389,000 veterans in New York State were enrolled in VA Health Care, with approximately 58% of them visiting a VA Health Care facility during the year. More than 70% of veterans nationally have private health insurance. Two-thirds of post 9/11 veterans have health insurance outside of the VA. The Affordable Care Act opened VA health care coverage to more veterans. Currently, the VA is exploring options to make the VA Health Care system open to private providers.

Table 10.5: Veterans Versus Non-Veterans

BP = below poverty UR = unemployment rate
D = with a disability

	BP	UR	D
Veterans	8.3%	6.1%	28.9%
Non-Veterans	16.5%	7.7%	17.6%

There are 2,616 veterans with disabilities in Chautauqua County. The Chautauqua County Veterans Bureau reported in 2018 that just 1,771 of them (67.7%) receive compensation from the VA.

Chautauqua County has access to many VA Health Care facilities; Jamestown and Dunkirk both have a VA clinic and there are two VA hospitals within driving distance in Erie, PA and Buffalo, NY as well as another facility in an adjacent county in Pennsylvania. The VA has a Home Based Primary Care Program that provides home health care services to elderly and housebound veterans. These

Locally, some of the problems that veterans currently face include physical disabilities, mental health concerns, and homelessness. Physical disabilities are a prevalent issue within the veteran community due to the rigorous toll the military takes on the bodies of our soldiers. As the veteran ages, their likelihood for disability increases. In 2013, veterans were seen for tinnitus/ hearing loss, problems with their knees and back and degenerative arthritis.

In the last year in Chautauqua County, there were 35 homeless veterans according to data provided by the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition. Of those that were homeless, 32 were male and 3 were female. This compared to 47 Veterans who were reported as homeless in 2017 which is a positive trend. Based on this data, homelessness is down by 26% in Chautauqua County as compared to a reported decrease in Veteran homelessness of 5.4% nationwide, per the U.S.D.V.A.



COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

The perception of veteran services in Chautauqua County is mostly positive based on survey results and conversations with community members. However, many people say more can be done for local veterans. Many local residents perceive that there are few services for this population and often express a sentiment that veterans are more deserving of public benefits than other groups, due to the fact that they have served their country.

Those working directly in programs that offer services to veterans cite the availability of a number of valuable services for veterans in our area but also acknowledge the need for more coordination of services and better outreach efforts, as some services are underutilized. For example, local service providers point out that the

Veterans Van meant to provide transportation to the Buffalo VA hospital is underutilized.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Veterans in Chautauqua County have access to a number of services including those provided directly the Veteran's Administration, the Joseph Dwyer Peer to Peer Program, numerous social clubs and organizations, and the Amvets 22 Everyday Suicide Prevention and Awareness program.

CHALLENGES

- Although services for veterans in Chautauqua County are plentiful, it has been reported that many are underutilized.
- Most of the services available for veterans in Chautauqua County are concentrated in the Jamestown and Dunkirk areas, possibly rendering them inaccessible to veterans in outlying areas.
- There is a lack of homeless services for veterans with a family; services for the homeless are limited in this area and those that are available are targeted toward single people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase outreach to veterans in Chautauqua County to ensure that all veterans are receiving supports and services that are available to them.
- Expand existing services to outlying rural areas to ensure veterans in those areas are receiving adequate supports.
- Expand services for homeless veterans in Chautauqua County.

11. Volunteerism

INTRODUCTION

Many organizations depend on volunteers to provide necessary services in their community while helping to save on costs. A report by the Urban Institute found that, in addition to these benefits, volunteers may possess specialized skills that are a tremendous asset to their agency and the people they serve. The report also found that volunteers can increase public support for an organization's programs, improve community relations, and increase the quality of services.

In fact, volunteerism is a tested way to strengthen a company by strengthening its workforce. Volunteerism helps to instill company values in employees, attract and retaining workers, generating team building between employees, and improving the company's image. Many workers are motivated by the opportunity to give back when they can, so giving them opportunities to volunteer makes a positive impact for the organization as a whole.

Along those lines, volunteerism has a noticeable effect on our individual attitudes. Plenty of evidence exists suggesting that volunteerism increases our happiness, which can in turn promote productivity in the workplace and other positive net effects. Volunteerism is also a boon

for employees who desire opportunities for professional development, since it often helps them exercise problem-solving, leadership, and teamwork skills.

It is clear that volunteering is a worthy way to spend some time, and while a full list of benefits would be too numerous to include here, other positive results may include: giving your organization the ability to do more work, reducing the burden on paid staff, giving your organization a larger and more diverse membership, allowing for persons outside your organization to better understand your work, and maximizing what you can accomplish within your budget's confines.

The Benefits of Volunteering for Individuals

Volunteers may be devoting their time toward helping others, but their service has the potential to be rewarding for themselves. Among other benefits, volunteers often meet new people and gain connections, acquire a better understanding of their community's needs, obtain an understanding of the service organizations in their community, become more invested in their community, set an example for others in their lives, and gain new experiences for future employment.



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chautauqua County has many opportunities for those looking to volunteer their time for an organization or a cause. The following list is organized roughly by cause and is not exhaustive. Phone numbers and web addresses are accurate as of December 1, 2019; however, it is possible that a phone number or address may change after this date. All area codes are (716) unless noted otherwise.

Animals

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Chautauqua County Humane Society	Jamestown	665-2209	www.spcapets.com
Lakeshore Humane Society	Dunkirk	672-1991	www.lakeshorehumanesociety.org
Northern Chautauqua Canine Rescue	Westfield	326-7297	www.caninerescue.org
Westfield Stray Cat Rescue	Westfield	326-2404	www.westfieldstraycatrescue.com

Arts

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
1891 Fredonia Opera House	Fredonia	679-1891	www.fredopera.org
Infinity Performing Arts Center	Jamestown	664-0991	www.infinityperformingarts.org
Lucille Ball Little Theater	Jamestown	483-1095	www.lucilleballlittletheatre.org

Children and Youth

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Boys & Girls Clubs	Dunkirk	366-1061	www.bgca.org
Campus & Community Children's Center	Fredonia	673-4662	https://www.fredonia.edu/about/offices/campus-and-community-childrens-center
Centaur Stride	Westfield	326-4318	www.centaurstride.org
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Dunkirk/ jamestown	366-3333	www.chautauquaopportunities.com

Community

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
American Red Cross	Dunkirk	366-4033	www.redcross.org
	Jamestown	800-733-2767	www.redcross.org/ny/jamestown
Chautauqua Area Habitat for Humanity	Mayville	269-7772	www.habitatchaut.org
Chautauqua County Rural Ministry	Dunkirk	366-1787	www.theccrm.org
Chautauqua Children's Safety Education Village	Ashville	338-0171	www.childrensafetyvillage.com
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Dunkirk/ Jamestown	366-3333	www.chautauquaopportunities.com
Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy	Jamestown	664-2166	www.chautauquawatershed.org
Community Helping Hands	Jamestown	487-1488	www.chhny.org
Cornell Cooperative Extension	Jamestown	664-9502	www.cce.cornell.edu
Compeer Chautauqua	Dunkirk	366-3161	www.compeer.stel.org
Dunkirk Free Library	Dunkirk	366-2511	www.dunkirklibrary.weebly.com
Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels	Dunkirk	366-8822	www.dfmow.org
Housing Options Made Easy	Jamestown	661-3845	http://www.wnyhousingoptions.org/
James Prendergast Library	Jamestown	484-7135	www.prendergastlibrary.org

Community (continued)

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Jamestown Renaissance Corporation	Jamestown	661-2477	www.jamestownrenaissance.org
Learning Disabilities Association of WNY	Fredonia	679-1601	www.ldaofwny.org
Literacy Volunteers of Chautauqua County	Dunkirk	366-4438	www.lvoccread.org
Meals on Wheels Jamestown	Jamestown	488-9119	www.mowjamestown.org
Patterson Library	Westfield	326-2154	www.pattersonlibrary.info
The Resource Center	Jamestown	483-2344	www.resourcecenter.org/support-trc/volunteer-program/
Robert H. Jackson Center	Jamestown	483-6646	www.roberthjackson.org
Salvation Army	Dunkirk/ Jamestown	664-4108	www.empire.salvationarmy.org
Southern Tier Environments for Living	Dunkirk	366-3200	www.stel.org
St. Susan Center	Jamestown	664-2253	www.stsusancenter.org
Veterans Administration Clinic	Dunkirk	862-8671	www.buffalo.va.gov/locations/Dunkirk.asp
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	Dunkirk	366-6597	www.unitedwayncc.org
	Jamestown	483-1561	http://www.uwayscc.org/vita
Westfield Community Kitchen	Westfield	326-4012	www.ywcawestfield.org
Willow Mission	Dunkirk	366-2230	www.cornerstonedistrict.com/page/willow_mission
YMCA of Jamestown	Jamestown	484-8228	www.jamestownymca.org
YWCA of Jamestown	Jamestown	664-2802	www.ywcaofjamestown.com

Health/Wellness

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Brooks Memorial Hospital	Dunkirk	366-1111	www.brookshospital.org
CBA Visio Rehabilitation Services	Jamestown	664-6660	www.chautauquablind.org
Chautauqua Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council	Dunkirk	366-4623	www.casacweb.org
Hospice Chautauqua County	Lakewood	753-5383	www.hospicechautco.org
Southern Tier Kidney Association	Jamestown	664-8226	www.southerntierkidneyassoc.org
WCA Hospital	Jamestown	664-8224	www.wcahospital.org/volunteer.php
Westfield Memorial Hospital	Westfield	326-4921	www.ahn.org

History

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Dunkirk Historical Society and Museum	Dunkirk	366-3797	www.dunkirkhistoricalmuseum.org
Fenton History Center	Jamestown	664-6526	www.fentonhistorycenter.org

Sports and Recreation

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Allegany State Park	Salamanca	253-1209	www.friendsofallegany.com
Camp Gross	Cassadaga	595-2171	www.campgross.com
Chautauqua County Fair Association	Dunkirk	366-4752	www.chautauquacountyfair.org
Chautauqua Rails to Trails	Mayville		www.chaurtt.org
Chautauqua County Sports Hall of Fame	Jamestown	484-2272	www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org
Jamestown Audubon Society	Jamestown	569-2345	www.jamestownaudubon2.wordpress.com
Jamestown Lakers Youth Hockey Association	Jamestown	484-7825	www.jamestownlakers.com
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation	Countywide	372-0645	www.dec.ny.gov

Seniors

Organization	Location	Phone	Web Address
Chautauqua Adult Day Care	Jamestown	665-4899	www.seniordayprograms.com
Chautauqua County RSVP	Jamestown	665-3038	www.lutheran-jamestown.org/rsvp-retired-senior-volunteer-program
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Dunkirk/ Jamestown	366-3333	www.chautauquaopportunities.com
Friends of WCA Home	Fredonia	672-7961	www.wcahome.org
Heritage Ministries Rehab/Retirement/Senior Living	Gerry	487-6800	www.heritage1886.org
Lutheran Social Services	Jamestown	665-8090	www.lutheran-jamestown.org

Addendum: Head Start

INTRODUCTION

Head Start is a federally funded program that was established in 1965 to prepare America's most vulnerable young children for success in school and in life beyond school. To achieve this, Head Start programs support children's growth and development in a positive learning environment through a variety of services, which include:

- **Early learning:** Children's readiness for school and beyond is fostered through individualized learning experiences. Through relationships with adults, play, and planned and spontaneous instruction, children grow in many aspects of development. Children progress in social skills and emotional well-being, along with language and literacy learning, and concept development
- **Health:** Each child's perceptual, motor, and physical development is supported to permit them to fully explore and function in their environment. All children receive health and development screenings, nutritious meals, oral health and mental health support. Programs connect families with medical, dental, and mental health services to ensure that children are receiving the services they need.
- **Family well-being:** Parents and families are supported in achieving their own goals, such as housing stability, continued education, and financial security. Programs support and strengthen parent-child relationships and engage families around children's learning and development.

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. is the provider of Head Start services (ages three to five) for all of Chautauqua County (a separate program operated by Agri-Business Child Development provides Head Start services for 96 children of migrant workers). COI has been providing these services since 1965. COI began providing Early Head Start services (ages birth to three and pregnant women) in 1995, and in 2015, under the federal government's Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership

initiative, COI was able to expand its services by collaborating with a local child care provider to double the number of children served through Early Head Start in Chautauqua County. Today, COI serves 522 children, 360 in Head Start and 162 in Early Head Start.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

The following table uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017 American Community Survey to illustrate the number of children in Chautauqua County who are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services, and their characteristics.

Total Population		130,846
Children under 5 years of age	5.4%	7,083
Living in poverty	18.5%	1,310
Race and Hispanic Origin:		
White	92.7%	1,215
Black or African American	2.6%	34
American Indian	0.3%	4
Asian	0.6%	8
Native Hawaiian	0.1%	1
Some other race	1.7%	22
Two or more races	2.0%	24
Hispanic or Latino	7.2%	94

According to this data, 1,310 children are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. This is a conservative estimate of eligible children as ACS data also indicate a poverty rate of 25.1% for families with related children under the age of 5.

This would indicate that COI is currently only serving 39.8% of eligible children. COI maintains an active waitlist for its Early Head Start services and averages approximately 100 children waiting for services each month.

Children are also automatically eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services if they are experiencing homelessness or in foster care. Data from the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) reveals the following numbers

of children under the age of 5 in families seeking services for homelessness.

	2016	2017	2018
Children under 5 in families at risk of or experiencing homelessness	99	86	63

According to the NYS Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse, 108 Chautauqua County children under the age of 18 were in foster care in 2010 and 105 were in care in 2017. A conservative estimate of children automatically qualifying for Head Start or Early Head Start services is 100 children per year.

Other Early Education Programming

Numbers of child care slots in Chautauqua County are listed below by the type of provider, as reported by the Chautauqua Child Care Council for 2018.

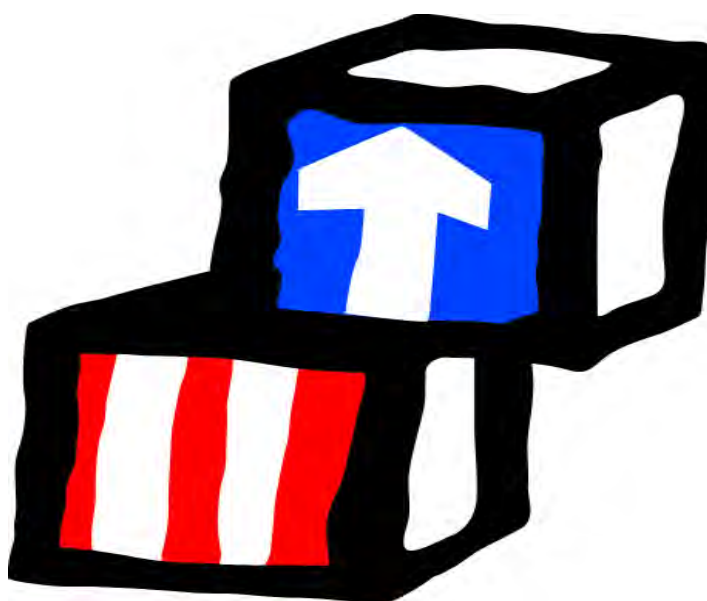
	Number of Facilities	Number of Slots
Day Care Centers	21	1,608
Family Day Care	32	254
Group Family Day Care	17	266

Four of the 21 Day Care Centers and 29% of the slots are Head Start or Early Head Start slots. In addition, a fifth Day Care Center is an Early Head Start – Child Care Partner. Chautauqua County is considered a child care desert by the Center for American Progress and Child Care Aware. After accounting for school-aged slots in the table above, there are only 612 slots for children under the age of five that are not provided with Head Start or Early Head Start funding.

The 2010 U.S. census counted 3,141 three and four year olds in the county, indicating that just over a third of all children ages 3 or 4 (36%) are enrolled in a formal early education program.

TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS

COI's center based services are located in the main population centers of Chautauqua County: Jamestown and Dunkirk, and are currently at full enrollment. In past years, COI has experienced under enrollment in



its Head Start services. This under enrollment coincided with the increase in state supported pre-kindergarten programs. Enrollment in Head Start services was also affected by the increase in the NY State minimum wage, which reduced the number of families meeting income eligibility criteria that is based on Federal Poverty Guidelines. In accordance with Head Start Performance Standards, COI increased its eligibility criteria from 100% of poverty to 130% of poverty.

COI's period of under enrollment in Head Start also correlated to a program decision to eliminate bussing as partnerships with school districts increased and transportation costs increased. COI re-instated bussing for the 2018-2019 school year and saw an 18% increase in enrollment.

Head Start has a Performance Standard that states "A program must ensure at least 10 percent of its total funded enrollment is filled by children eligible for services under IDEA, unless the responsible HHS official grants a waiver." (Part 1302.14). Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. has consistently met this standard without requesting a waiver. 20% of COI's currently enrolled students have an identified disability. To better serve children with special needs, COI began a partnership in the 2018-2019 school year with a private child care program that provides special education pre-kindergarten services in Chautauqua County. The partnership has increased the availability of integrated special education classroom settings by three classrooms. Coordination of funding sources extended the program from half day for 128 days to a full day, full year program.

COI has addressed this gap between need and availability by partnering with local school districts to collaborate on pre-kindergarten programs, combining

resources to serve more children while at the same time improving the quality of programming. COI currently has pre-kindergarten partnerships with the Dunkirk and Jamestown school districts. A third district has submitted a grant proposal in partnership with COI for NY State funding to create a three year old pre-kindergarten program in that district that will integrate Universal Pre-K services with Head Start services.



6% each year between 2017 and 2021, annual increases in funding for Head Start and Early Head Start are typically 2%. COI regularly reviews its salary scale to be to ensure that salaries remain in line with other Community Action Agencies throughout the country. To support a quality staff, COI has also instituted pay grade raises for classroom staff based on their level of educational attainment and state certification.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- The number of children served by Head Start and Early Head Start has consistently increased over the past two years.
- New York State has increased pre-kindergarten program funding each of the past five years and supports school and community based organization collaboration.

CHALLENGES

- Chautauqua County is designated as a child care desert that lacks sufficient licensed child care, particularly outside the City of Jamestown.
- Rising minimum wage in New York has outpaced

grant funding increases for Head Start and Early Head Start.

- The increase in the numbers of pre-kindergarten programs has intensified competition for qualified teachers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- If available, apply for funding to expand Early Head Start services.
- Expand Head Start services by partnering with local pre-kindergarten programs whenever possible to maximize the number of children served, provide programming in local communities and allow for the enrollment of children from economically diverse backgrounds.
- Seek funding for transportation in order to meet the needs of underserved families.



JAMESTOWN

ESPRI

Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative

Contributing to the improved quality of life in the
City of Jamestown
by reducing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency through
Workforce Development.

**Educational
Support for
Employment**

**Support for
Employers**

**Securing &
Retaining
Employment**

**Community
& Family
Support
for Employment**



EMPIRE STATE POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVE

In September 2016, United Way of Southern Chautauqua County (UWSCC) was selected as the lead agency for the City of Jamestown's Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative (ESPRI) grant of \$1,000,000.

With the Mayor's office, UWSCC convened a Taskforce of key stakeholders in the community, including those with lived experience in poverty. During a year-long planning phase, the Taskforce examined demographics, labor statistics, held community conversations and listening sessions, and hosted a series of community-improvement and capacity-building workshops. In December 2018, the Taskforce selected seven catalytic and innovative projects, all with a focus on workforce development – providing the support and services to get individuals employed or enrolled in education/certification programs. In May 2018, these programs began offering services.

63

Individuals enrolled in education or certification programs
Since May 2016

Improved Employee Retention

14

Local employers with ESPRI-supported employees
Since May 2018

Access To A Coach, Mentor Or Other Support Services

To secure and retain employment
273 participants
Since May 2018

323

Households Served

Emergency Assistance Available

54 individuals assisted
Since May 2018

294 Barriers to employment overcame

98

Individuals secure employment
Since May 2018

Collaborative & Innovative ESPRI Programs

Community Helping Hands Grit to Great

Participants work with a bilingual Work Success Coordinator to develop soft skills, work experience and find the support they need to know their strengths, build self confidence and obtain the skills they need to find employment success. Includes access to flexible funding to overcome barriers to employment. A key program is a 14 hour workshop called "Grit to Great" that utilizes the tools of self-awareness to build the foundation needed for communication skills, conflict management, and creating employment action plans.

Joalexis Martir: coordinator.chh@gmail.com
716-467-1488 ext. 5

Jamestown Community College

Single Parents Reaching Education to Employment (SPREE)

Offers comprehensive, specialized services to empower and engage single parents so they may achieve academic, professional and personal success while getting an education or credential at Jamestown Community College. Emergency assistance funds available to overcome barriers to completing education, including help with books, transportation, child care and housing issues.

Eligible participants: current or potential single parent students at JCC

Deborah Deppas, Project Navigator, deborahdeppas@mail.sunylcc.edu
716-338-1430

Jamestown Community Learning Council

Parents as Teachers + Linkages Until Success (PAT PLUS)

Addresses two generations by combining the evidence-based Parents As Teachers program which helps young mothers understand and support their child's development, along with the PLUS component that provides additional services that support the Mother's employment and/or educational goals. The program provides PAT curriculum related home visits along with additional visits that focus primarily on the mother's needs. Services such as guidance for accessing educational programs and obtaining employment, arranging for childcare scholarships or subsidies, and addressing transportation barriers.

Eligible participants: teen mothers

Melissa Mallaber: melissa.mallaber@jpsny.org
716-467-1685

Jamestown Public Schools

SUCCESS

Success is an evidence-based enhancement to the Jamestown High School Career Academies, adding the creation of small group and one-to-one lessons to develop life skills, opportunities for students to volunteer in the community to explore work opportunities and paid internships to apply classroom experiences to real life situations. Chautauqua Works has adapted the successful summer employment model to the school year creating the opportunity for participants to focus on skills development during the school day.

Eligible participants: JHS students

Danni Hannon: danni.hannon@jpsny.org
716-483-3470 ext. 2249

Mental Health Association

Occupational Peer Empowerment Network (OPEN)

Works with people who have used public services to get through a difficult time in their lives due to substance use disorder or other mental health concerns. Assists them in gaining back control of their lives. Peer coaches prepare participants for work, gain a solid footing in recovery, create resumes, overcome other obstacles to gaining employment, and continue working with them for a year or more to make sure they have and will continue to succeed at work. Flexible funding available to help participants overcome barriers to employment or educational attainment.

Eligible participants: Individuals with a mental health diagnosis or substance abuse disorder

Sheridan Smith: sheridan.smith@mhachautauqua.org
716-490-4438

The Resource Center

Supporting & Facilitating Employee Retention (SAFER)

This program supports local businesses who may not otherwise have access to resources or knowledge of issues associated with the effective management of at risk employees. SAFER targets employees who are considered "vulnerable" due to generational poverty and complex personal and work-related issues. SAFER provides an on-site resource for employees to help overcome their barriers to successful employment.

Beth Jermain: beth.jermain@resourcecenter.org
716-661-1557

YWCA

Women 2 Women

Women2Women is a mentoring program that matches a mentee with a volunteer coach to assist in meeting her goals. The program promotes one-on-one relationships to receive assistance with finding a job, meeting an educational goal, making good life choices, and reducing generational poverty. Coaches and mentees are matched based on interests, values, and personalities by the Women2Women Coordinator who maintains strong communication with both parties.

Misty Johnson: w2wcoord@ywcaofjamestown.com
716-317-0654



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Father Luke Fodor
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

David Wilkinson
Jamestown Area Labor Council

Len Faulk
Retired SUNY/JRC Board

Candy White
Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union

Jon Felton
Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union

Dorothy Carlson
Community Advocate

Patricia McClennan
UPMC Chautauqua

Nicole Spontaneo
Artone

Josiah Lamp
COI

Lori Cornell
Governor's Office

Daniel DeMarte
Jamestown Community College

Mayor Sam Teresi
City of Jamestown

EVALUATION

Bruce Dudgeon
MD Electronics

Ann Abdella
Chautauqua County Health Network

Linda Swanson
Sheldon Foundation

Matt Hanley
City of Jamestown

Tory Irgang
Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

Cecil Rhoades
Cummins

Bree Agett
Chautauqua County Government

Marge Fiore
Community Advocate

Michael McElrath
Jamestown Public Schools

Kelly Potter
HOPE Coalition

Kate Ebersole
Kee Consulting

Amy Rohler
United Way

PUBLIC POLICY

Andy Goodell
NY State Assembly

Jon Anderson
Chautauqua County HHS

Bret Apthorpe
Jamestown Public Schools

Shannon Bessette
Jamestown Community College

Christina Marsh
Family Service

Joalexis Martir
Community Helping Hands

Charlie Hodges
UCAN/Christ First UMC

Katie Geise
Workforce Investment Board

Liz Jones
Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

Carrie Snow
Community Advocate

Jennifer Alcorn
Community Advocate

Christine Schuyler
Chautauqua County Government

Harry Snellings
Jamestown Police Department

Nicole Drozdiel
United Way



July 22, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

To The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo:

As representatives of New York State's health and human services, arts and cultural, and philanthropic nonprofits, we are unified in calling for your urgent attention to the rapidly deteriorating financial condition of the State's nonprofit contracting partners that is now accelerating into a crisis for many as result of Executive Order 202.48.

Executive Branch leadership is desperately needed to mitigate both the immediate and longer-term toll the pandemic and State budget crisis is having upon the individuals and communities we serve, our workforce, and the very survival of many organizations that are essential for a healthy recovery. To demonstrate this toll, attached to this letter are brief impact summary statements by fourteen (14) of the umbrella organizations and a list of 715 nonprofits from across the state who signed on to this letter.

We understand and are attuned to the budget challenges that the State faces due to the pandemic. We also share your hope that federal relief will soon be on the way. Although the issued Budget Bulletin directed certain State agencies to be flexible with respect to nonprofit contractual obligations, the State Budget Director's decision to intentionally delay payments beyond what is already a serious chronic systemic problem and freeze new or renewed contract commitments is proving to be devastating. The recent announcement suspending prompt payment laws in Executive Order 202.48 will make the situation for nonprofits much more untenable. The fact that this executive order was put out with no advance notice or consultation from those impacted is gravely disappointing and not respectful of importance and value of nonprofits across the State. The sector cannot provide the necessary services and jobs New York needs to recover if the State is unwilling to honor its financial commitments to pay for the services it has contracted nonprofits to provide, while also asking nonprofits to continue to provide those services at great financial risk.

Many nonprofits entered this pandemic at a breaking point caused by underfunded and late contracts, late payments, high staff turnover, stagnant wages, fully tapped out credit lines, and limited or nonexistent cash reserves. COVID-19 has dramatically increased the need for human

services at a time where our workforce and program capacity has been greatly diminished and de-stabilized.

Nonprofits represent the largest private sector employer in the State, employing (pre-COVID) 1.3 million people (18% of the state's workforce) and generating \$260.26 billion in annual revenue. The vast majority of nonprofits are community-based with a workforce that is comprised of low-income workers who are predominately people of color. The people we serve are also those most impacted by COVID-19; the virus has hit low-income communities of color at a staggering rate with Black and Latinx New Yorkers dying of COVID at twice the rate of white residents. Nonprofit jobs and services will be key to the recovery in these communities, and at a time they are needed more than ever, budget cuts and payment delays results in service reductions and layoffs. These unfortunate choices by the State disproportionately effects communities that have been hardest hit by the pandemic due to structural racism, ableism, and income inequality.

The lack of leadership and progress in prompt contracting is our sector's underlying economic condition that is glaringly exposed by the pandemic and the State's recent actions. Nonprofits would have been in a much better position to absorb some of the emergency cash measures being taken by the State, if the State had taken the actions necessary to resolve chronic delays in procurement as is well-documented annually by the State Comptroller.

There are actions that can be taken now by the State to mitigate the direct as well as collateral damage. Responsible actions would better position all of us to move forward in combatting the pandemic and moving quickly to a solid recovery. Our sector needs real support and systemic change to fully recover from the impacts of COVID-19 and to continue to build the wellbeing of New Yorkers. We look forward to a quick response and the opportunity to meet to discuss the needs of our communities.

We, the undersigned nonprofits, on behalf of the people and communities we serve, urge the Executive Branch to provide the leadership necessary to immediately act upon the following:

1. Fully implement the recommendations made by the State Comptroller in the 2019 report on state contracting and payments with not-for-profit organizations. These recommendations are as follows:

- o State agencies should take responsibility for their critical roles, and make prompt contracting a priority. This remains the most important action needed to achieve on-time contracts and payments.

- o The Not-for-Profit Contracting Advisory Committee should meet regularly to address new and continuing barriers to prompt contracting success.

- o State agencies and NFPs should increase their use of the Grants Gateway and use the contract tracking tools in the Gateway to identify and address processing delays.

- o State agencies should use electronic means to pay prompt contracting interest and ensure that the NFPs receive what is due as required by law.

- o State agencies should pay any interest due with the first payment under a contract to help NFPs avoid cash flow problems.

2. Rescind Executive Order 202.48 which suspends prompt payment laws and prioritize and pay out invoices on existing contracts promptly and remove additional barriers, like DOB review, that have significantly and seemingly intentionally delayed payment. The July 6, 2020 Executive Order suspending prompt payment puts nonprofits in an impossible position; provide lifesaving services with no assurance of when and if the State will pay, or close programs that communities need to survive. It jeopardizes untold millions of dollars of charitable assets that may be lost as nonprofits may be forced to bankruptcy and/or dissolution. Many nonprofits that have been able to manage or borrow the cash to cover receivables from State delays, can no longer do so and are no longer in a position to effectively loan money to the State. Philanthropic sources are only a drop in the sector's dollar bucket and cannot backfill what the State owes. The unintentional consequence of this practice continuing will be economic devastation for many valued nonprofit partners and significant harm to the people and communities served.

3. Register all pending contracts and do not impose retroactive cuts. Nonprofits put mission first and often continue to operate without a registered contract because shutting down programs and laying off employees while waiting on government delays would negatively impact communities. This goodwill should not result in providers being asked to take a loss because of State delays. Again, as with the aforementioned action, the financial wherewithal of nonprofits to take and absorb such a risk is no longer there. Contracts need to be registered immediately so providers do not continue to operate at risk and without funding.

4. End the policy and practice of financially penalizing nonprofits that have successfully secured bank loans from the Payroll Protection Program. The reason why many nonprofits doing business with the State have been able to financially stay afloat during the peak of the COVID-19 crisis is that they were able to secure money from a bank through PPP. Although there does not appear to be a unified State policy in this regard, some State agencies have informed nonprofits that they will be recouping PPP loan money where the loan is based on employees being covered under State contract. In essence, this bureaucratic practice is exploiting and further exacerbating the distressed financial condition of nonprofits in this crisis for the purpose of taking their loan money, which may or may not be forgiven by the SBA, to subsidize the State. The consequences of the State taking these dollars from its nonprofit partners will be further reductions in workforce and services and an increase in nonprofits going out of business.

5. Streamline executive branch approval process for licensed program transfers, mergers, acquisitions and dissolutions and commit to process applications within 90 days. The nonprofit corporate and economic landscape is rapidly and dramatically changing as a result of the crisis and the financial hardships created by the State's systemic and most recent contracting and payment policies toward its nonprofit partners. The times require that nonprofits be able to pivot quickly to effectuate restructuring strategies that best preserve mission and charitable assets and help ensure sustainability. These strategies include divesting in licensed or regulated programs to

other providers, merging and affiliating, and, where appropriate, responsibly dissolving the corporation. The State's systems are not at all prepared to effectively meet the need and surge in demand that is forthcoming. Executive Branch approval processes in this regard are incredibly burdensome and expensive to navigate as they are decentralized, complicated, lacking in transparency, are not consistent across agencies, and when there are multiple State agencies involved, there is no central coordination or integration. Obtaining such approvals can often take a year or more to secure.

6. Create a Nonprofit COVID-19 Recovery Advisory Committee and re-install a nonprofit representative agency as Co-chair. The State will need to make timely decisions as we learn more about federal funding and economic recovery, and the various nonprofit subsectors need to be consulted as to how to move forward as experts in their fields. The State lacks a coherent and strategic approach on how to partner with our sector on COVID-19 recovery efforts, how to mitigate budget impacts on our communities, and on common issues that cross State agency bureaucracies and the many siloed funding streams. The Not-for-Profit Contracting Advisory Committee, which is mandated by statute, and the nonprofit liaison's office have not been given the staff or authority to make change across State agencies and are not the central place for the COVID-19 discussions we need. The Committee has been meeting infrequently and the community/nonprofit representative chair recently stepped down in frustration with the lack of progress. Our sector needs to be taken seriously, now more than ever. It is imperative that we be regularly at the table with real decision-makers at the State, to develop and monitor the economic conditions of the nonprofit sector, inform the State policies of the impact of policies, and how to partner on COVID-19 recovery efforts, and how best to mitigate budget impacts on our communities. We are all in this together and nonprofits have much to offer in information, advice, connections and resources that can be leveraged. We have our boots on the ground in every community and are acutely attuned to needs, trends and opportunities.

ATTACHED IMPACT STATEMENTS

IMPACT – HUMAN AND HEALTH SERVICES

Human Services Council

Human service nonprofits support New Yorkers from all walks of life, and are the key to COVID-19 recovery, as more people will be in need of eviction prevention, job assistance, food security, and health services. Providers entered this pandemic at a breaking point, with underfunded contracts, high staff turnover rates due to stagnant wages, and limited or nonexistent cash reserves. State funding for human services has been slashed by twenty-six (26) percent since 2008, resulting in rates lower than in 1980. COVID-19 has had a profound impact on New Yorkers and has expanded the need for the human services sector to innovate and provide additional services to communities. Sixty-four (64) percent of surveyed nonprofit human services organizations believe they will have to start scaling back services, and over seventy (70) percent will need to lay off staff as a result of budget shortfalls. Lack of payment by the State is derailing the sector and will lead to agency and program closures.

Early Care and Learning Council (ECLC)

ECLC represents the 35 Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&Rs) programs across New York State. The CCR&Rs are on the front lines, providing direct assistance and support to parents, childcare providers, and employers in their communities. There are 19,000 regulated childcare programs in NYS and around 10,000 care currently open. Since the onset of the pandemic our network has worked to assist providers in serving the children of essential workers through the administration of CARES childcare scholarships. In addition, the CCR&Rs continuously work to ensure that children and parents have access to quality and affordable childcare. Office of Children and Family Services contracts each year with ECLC and its 35 member agencies for approximately \$22 million annually. Delays in quarterly payments will dramatically impact our network and its ability to support early childhood programs throughout the state as NY moves forward with reopening.

Coalition for Behavioral Health

Behavioral health is a major public health issue and business and psychological recover go hand-in-hand. Our sector is struggling and simply cannot withstand additional financial challenges. New York cannot recover from COVID-19 without a strong behavioral health sector that is ready to help New Yorkers combat their anxiety, depression, grief and trauma as people are dealing with loss of loved ones, unemployment, fear and anxiety about their futures and the futures of their families. This is leading to depression, increased alcoholism and substance use, trauma, and family dysfunction. The impact on adults and children alike is enormous.

New York Association of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers (ASAP)

Heroic, essential workers in substance use disorders prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery programs are working to address the Coronavirus pandemic AND, simultaneously, the addiction pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic appears to be contained after months of hard work and a huge investment by the state and federal government. The addiction pandemic is still raging out of control without a sufficient investment of resources from the state or federal government. In spite of spiking rates of overdose (42% increase) during the Coronavirus pandemic, addiction program budgets are barely keeping pace with inflation. Delaying any part of the local assistance needed by addiction programs will make it harder for programs to save lives.

New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH)

NYSARH's members include numerous private, not-for-profit organizations engaged in health and human services, research, and education, all equally dedicated to the health and well-being of rural New Yorkers and their communities. Many of these not-for-profits are contracted with various NYS agencies to do the essential business of the State on a cost-reimbursement basis. Although these organizations have made a tremendous effort to continue meeting their contractual obligations during the pandemic, they have not been reimbursed for the costs associated with those efforts for many months, creating serious cash flow issues that are impacting their workforces and, in some cases, threatening their very existence. Moreover, there is a great deal of uncertainty about whether those NYS contracts will be renewed and in what amounts; while cuts are promised, the magnitude of those cuts and their timing remains unclear, which seriously hampers the ability of our not-for-profit members to plan and adjust.

NYSARH is concerned that the network of organizations serving NY's rural people and places, which has taken decades to develop and refine, will be significantly diminished should the key partner and funder of their efforts, NYS, continue to withhold reimbursement and delay contracting; already, many organizations are laying off or furloughing staff in the absence of clear and convincing evidence that payments and contracts are forthcoming. NYSARH hopes that the State's leadership will recognize that making its not-for-profit partners bear the brunt of the State's fiscal crisis will ultimately undermine its ability to adequately serve its rural residents for many years to come. Those not-for-profit partners must be sustained—by prompt repayment of expenses already incurred and by clear and timely communication about contracting—so they may continue to deliver the essential services of the State on its behalf.

The New York LGBT Network

The New York LGBT Network is one of the largest providers of health and human services, education and advocacy services for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the tri-state area. Its service region of over 6 million people serves as a home and a voice for LGBT

people, their families, and support systems. The New York LGBT Network's community centers and affordable senior housing help LGBT people to be themselves, stay healthy, and change the world. Since 1993, the New York LGBT Network has been pioneering advocacy and social change to create safe spaces where LGBT people live, learn, work, play, and pray.

Since the onset of the pandemic in March, the New York LGBT Network has made sure to not waste a minute in helping LGBTQ families. We launched our Virtual LGBT Centers providing a variety of programs to help support the community, keep people connected and emotionally close while we were physically distancing, provided health insurance and census enrollment, hate crimes advocacy, COVID-19 information and support, HIV test at home kits and much more.

In addition to continuing and reinventing our services virtually, we also conducted a community study and collected data on the impact of the coronavirus on LGBTQ people and families. The data collected from hundreds of families, was startling and included the following alarming numbers: a) 67% were experiencing depression due to isolation; b) 42% were fighting anxiety; c) more than ¼ were facing immediate financial hardship; d) 25% identify as immune-suppressed; e) over 30% cannot treat other health conditions due to COVID-19; f) nearly 1/3 were facing food insecurity issues and g) 20% have immediate housing needs. This data demonstrates the need for additional resources for services and programs to be offered as nonprofits are providing essential services and are on the frontlines 365 days a year.

During the same time a national study was conducted on the impact on LGBT Community Centers nationwide including over a dozen from New York State. Due to slow and/or non-payment from government sources and the cancellation of fundraising events, nearly 1/3 of all LGBT Centers will close if no intervention happens by the end of July. If government funding does not pay or delays payments into late fall, over 90% of LGBT Centers will close their doors. This will be a tragic loss for all communities throughout New York State and we will be taking a giant leap backwards that will result in poor health outcomes, unsafe schools and communities, increase in hate violence and a lot of other conditions that will put our New York LGBT families at great risk.

We fully support all that is outlined in this letter and stand together in solidarity with our partners throughout the nonprofit sector. It is the nonprofits that are on the ground, on the frontlines and New York needs us. We urge New York State to deliver on its promise and responsibility to the nonprofit sector and work with us together as partners in developing and implementing the strategies needed to help those who need it most.

IMPACT - HOUSING

Supportive Housing Network of New York

The Supportive Housing Network of New York (the Network) represents more than 200 nonprofit organizations that collectively run more than 52,000 units of supportive housing – affordable housing with onsite services for formerly homeless people who also cope with

disabling conditions including mental illness and HIV/AIDS. 100 of these 200 organizations are in the former COVID epicenter, New York City. Our nonprofit members were already financially strapped and coping with staff shortages due to underfunded and stagnant contracts. The pandemic compounded these issues: tenants and staff fell ill causing even greater staffing shortages while nonprofits had to find and fund PPE as well as computers and phones to effect telehealth, all with even less funding than usual due to cancelled fundraisers. Meanwhile, supportive housing workers were determined to be essential.

Our community – mission driven to care for New York’s most vulnerable -- is quite literally hanging by a thread. The state’s policy of deliberately slowing payments is fraying that thread. As an example, one Syracuse area nonprofit providing housing and services to formerly homeless individuals with HIV/AIDs has furloughed nearly 50% of their staff: they have not received payments on their state contracts -- which help pay rent on tenants’ apartments -- for over six months.

The supportive housing nonprofits that have consistently been operating throughout the pandemic feel they have a moral duty to keep the covenant with their staff and tenants; we feel the state has a similar covenant with our sector.

IMPACT - ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Arts New York

Due to COVID-19, the arts, culture and heritage industries have experienced acute disruption to operations and service capacity. These venues, which often rely on engagement with a live audience, were among the first to close and most have not yet re-opened. As a result, earned income from audience attendance, admissions and membership fees is critically imperiled. Furthermore, contributed income ordinarily derived from grants, service contracts, and public support remains in jeopardy. Many of these organizations are owed money for work that has already been completed and are often unable to fulfill existing contracts with their collaborators. Cumulatively, the arts sector represents a \$114 billion-dollar statewide industry, and plays a central role to ensure the cultural and economic vitality of all New Yorkers.

Museum Association of New York (MANY)

New York’s museums have an annual economic impact of \$5.4B and have shouldered a loss of more than \$455M in the last 130 days. The Paycheck Protection Program helped many through the first part of the pandemic health crisis, but the thousands of museum employee layoffs we now see reflect those funds running out. With the loss of two-thirds (2/3rds) of earned income, new expenses incurred to reopen safely under state guidelines, and little hope for restored visitation capacity in the near future, the financial picture for NY's museum sector is dire. As many as 20% of museums in our state will not be opening in 2020 and may never be able to

reopen in the future. We envision a need for mergers, charter revisions, new partnerships, and new ways in which museums can safely and legally turn over to other museums the care of collections and facilities in which they are entrusted by the State of NY. The State needs to assist the Charter Office to prepare and increase their capacity to guide museums through these difficult transitions in the timely manner needed.

IMPACT - PHILANTHROPY

Philanthropy New York

Philanthropy New York is a trusted community of nearly 300 grant making organizations in the New York Metro area. In 2019, PNY members gave \$7billion in grants for local, national and global causes. Philanthropy New York and its members are committed to supporting the work of our nonprofit partners and asks that government take action to ensure adequate funding for the nonprofit sector.

Despite significant early and ongoing COVID relief funding and new substantial commitments of increased grantmaking over the next three years from the philanthropic sector in New York City, philanthropic efforts will not come close to meeting the urgent needs of a sector deprived of basic working capital. We urge New York State government to ensure on-time contracting and payments to nonprofits to ensure the sustainability of our safety net.

NY Funders Alliance

NY Funders of Alliance is a collaborative community of nearly 100 grantmaking organizations who serve local regions across New York State from Jamestown to Lake Placid to Westchester. Our grantmakers have responded to the health and economic crises associated with the coronavirus pandemic by leading the way in creating, supporting, and continuing to grow emergency COVID response funds in every county in New York State. Already, these funds alone have contributed more than \$17 million to local nonprofits to address the immediate impacts of the pandemic.

These rapid response funds, most established during the very first days of the crisis, have assisted local nonprofits to secure PPE to stay open providing vital care, made sure childcare was available and safe for essential workers, that local food pantry shelves had food for the influx of new clients in communities across the state, and supported nonprofits as they transitioned to serve clients remotely.

New York nonprofit and philanthropic organizations represent a vital link in our communities' resiliency by mobilizing quickly when it was needed most and providing critical services in a time of crisis. Now, their continued existence is threatened by a significant loss in state revenue from unpaid contracts. We understand, completely, the perilous financial circumstances that New

York State finds itself in. And we share your message that more must be done in Washington, D.C. to provide funding to our State and local governments who, themselves, have been on the front line of this crisis.

However, as we all begin to turn our attention to the breadth and depth of the health, economic and social crisis that we are facing, New York State's nonprofit partners are essential to our ability to sustain our communities through this time of need. Therefore, we urge you to please consider implementation of the recommendations herein to provide needed relief to these critical service providers.

We realize that these are challenging times for New York State. However, our local communities will not come through this crisis without support for our front-line nonprofit partners.

United Way of New York State (UWNYS)

UWNYS's membership is comprised of the 35 Local United Ways in our state. 211 New York State (211NYS), a subsidiary of UWNYS, is a statewide information and referral source offering web-based, text and telephone support for individuals seeking assistance, in addition to maintaining the largest directory of services in the state.

In response to COVID-19, Local United Ways (LUWs) have been in the forefront of tracking, supporting, surveying and meeting community needs throughout the state and raising more than \$30 Million to meet local community needs from COVID-19. 211 has handled nearly 178,000 calls outside of New York City in the first three months of the pandemic; a 160% increase in call volume for this time period. 211 tracks data on caller needs, available community resources and unmet needs. NYS is withholding payment on our contract for this work, causing cash flow hardships for us, our 10 lead organizations and 8 contact centers.

We and LUWs are finding that many nonprofits are struggling to fully assess their financial situation and plan for the future, due to lack of clarity on re-opening, conflicting guidance on safety protocol requirements, lack of communication from state agencies, and state contract reimbursement and timing. This results in several human service agencies adopting a "wait and see" approach to assessing options beyond insolvency, which will ultimately limit their options for collaboration, affiliation, merger or dissolution. This will result in a late-notice rush for such options when funds run out.

General Operating Revenue for Local United Ways and other human services agencies is predicted to be "severely impacted" by the COVID-19 shut down, resulting in cuts to staffing, services and funding available for community programs.

IMPACT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON)

The New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) has a membership of 3,000 community-based charities across the state. Through a family of affiliates, we provide education and direct training on best practices and direct technical assistance in the areas of governance, management and strategic matters; legal services; mergers, acquisitions and dissolutions; and insurance and other products to nonprofits of all missions. NYCON has a proven track record of partnering with the State of New York and philanthropy in addressing the immediate (crisis), short- and long-term organizational capacity of their grantees/contractors and nonprofits in general.

The nonprofit community is entering deeper into a state of crisis than the sector has never been experienced before. Nonprofits of every mission, type and scale is being dramatically affected. NYCON is on the ground working directly with individual nonprofits to help them navigate through this crisis to preserve mission, protect charitable assets, and pursue paths for sustainability. For virtually every nonprofit: business models, fundraising plans, and strategic plans have been up-ended; workforce, governance and operational processes have been seriously disrupted; the capacity to effectively perform and meet contractual obligations is diminishing; and financial viability is threatened. Many have closed their doors altogether and more closures are to come.

We anticipate a surge in nonprofit corporate dissolutions that community constituents, funders and regulatory stakeholders are not at all prepared for. Although program divestment, mergers and acquisitions may be a responsible strategic action for some, untimely and burdensome state regulatory and approval processes serve as significant and expensive barriers. State bureaucratic processes must be streamlined to adapt to these transformative times. The rapid erosion of community and civic infrastructure that is occurring tears into the core social, health and economic fabric of our communities, deepens the unacceptable economic and racial disparities that exist, and lessens the prospects of a timely recovery for all.

We urge the State of New York to recognize that community-based nonprofits are not merely vendors or contracting organizations, but are genuine partners serve the public's interest. The nonprofit sector can bring tremendous talent, knowledge, innovative thinking, community connections and resources to the table. If we truly are all in this together, than it is imperative that the State of New York honor its responsibility to its residents by working very closely with our sector in developing and implementing the effective strategies that are in this crisis to rebuild our communities.

Sincerely,

171 Cedar Arts Center
3DPhotoWorks LLC
82nd Street Academics
Abbott house

Abilities Movement
Ability Beyond
Acacia Network
ACHIEVE
ACR Health
Adirondack Architectural Heritage
Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation
Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York
African American Cultural Center
Afro Brazil Arts
AIM Services, Inc.
Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club
Albany Housing Coalition Inc
Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County, Inc.
Algonquin Sports for Kids
Alice Austen House
Aligned Medicine, PC
Allegany County Community Opportunities and Rural Dev. Inc.
Allegany County United Way, Inc.
Alliance for Positive Health
Alliance of New York State YMCAs
American Cancer Society
Andrew S. London, Ph.D.
Animal Farm Foundation
Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC)
Aperture Foundation
Arbor Park child care center
Arc of Steuben
Ardent Solutions, Inc.
ARISE Child and Family Service
Arkell Museum & Canajoharie Library
ARTS COUNCIL FOR WYOMING COUNTY
Arts Horizons New York
Arts Services Initiative of Western New York (ASI)
ArtTable
Asian American Arts Alliance
AspireHope NY, Inc.
Association of Nonprofit Specialists
Aston Magna foundation for Music & Humanities Inc
Astor Services for Children & Families

Auburn Public Theater
Auburn YMCA-WEIU
Authentic Voice Consulting
Baker Victory HealthCare Center/OLV Human Services
Basilica Hudson
BellXcel
Beth Morrison Projects
Beyond My Battle
Binghamton Philharmonic
Board of Directors, The ARC of Dutchess
Boerum Hill Association
Bottomless Closet
Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh, Inc.
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Northtowns
Braata Productions
Brain Injury Association of New York State
BRC
Breaking Ground
Bridge Arts and Education, Inc.
BRIDGES- Madison County Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse, Inc.
Brightside Up
Bronx Arts Ensemble
Bronx Council on the Arts Inc.
Bronx Impact
Bronx River Art Center Inc
Brooklyn Arts Council
Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project
Brooklyn Community Foundation
Brooklyn Community Services
Brooklyn Perinatal Network, Inc.
Brooks-LC Hospital System, Inc.
Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center
Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network
Buffalo Urban League
Burnt Hills Oratorio Society Inc. 501C3
CALL/City as Living Laboaratory (aka Mary Miss - City as Living Laboratory (MM/CALL)
Callen-Lorde Community Health Center
Cameron Community Ministries Inc
Campus and Community Children's Center
Canandaigua YMCA

Canterbury Choral Society
CAPE
CAPE of DC, Inc.
CAPE of Dutchess County
Capital District Y
Capital Region Nordic Alliance
CAPTAIN Community Human Services
CAREERS Support Solutions
Carroll Gardens Association
CASA of New York State
Casita Maria
Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga
Catholic Migration Services
Catskill Art Society
Catskill Center
Catskill Mountain Housing Development Corporation
Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.
Cayuga Community Health Network
Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc. DBA: Community Action Programs Cayuga/Seneca
CCBQ
Center for Children's Initiatives
Center for Community Alternatives
Center for Employment Opportunities
Center for Performance Research
Central New York Community Foundation
Central New York Jazz Arts Foundation, Inc.
Central New York Library Resources Council (CLRC)
Central New York Services
Champlain Valley Family Center
Charles Settlement House
Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center
Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.
Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
Chautauqua Striders, Inc.
CHDFS, Inc.
Chemung County Child Care Council, Inc.
Chemung County Historical Society
Chenango Health Network Inc.
Chenango Nursery School
Chenango United Way

Child and Family Resources, Inc.
Child and Family Services of Erie County
Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.
Child Care Council of Orange County Inc.
Child Care Council of Suffolk, Inc.
Child Care Network (Child Care Coalition of the Niagara Frontier, Inc.)
Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.
Child Care Solutions
Child Development Council of Central New York, Inc.
Children's Aid
Chinese-American Planning Council
Christian Neighborhood Center Of Norwich (The Place)
Circare
Classic Stage Company
Clemens Center
Cloudsplitter Foundation
CNY Arts, Inc.
CNY Fair Housing, Inc.
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
Coalition for Hispanic Family Services
Columbia County Historical Society
Columbia Opportunities, Inc.
Community Access, Inc.
Community Action of Greene County, Inc.
Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, Inc.
Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc.
Community Action Program for Madison County Inc.
Community Development Inc.
Community Dispute Resolution Center
Community Emergency Corps
Community Foundation for South Central New York
Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes
Community Foundation of Tompkins County
Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley
Community Housing Innovations
Compass House
Compeer Rochester, Inc.
Comprehensive Development, Inc. (CDI)
Comunilife, Inc.
Concrete Temple Theatre

Coney Island Museum
Coney Island USA
Cornwall on Hudson Village Museum
Cortland County Family YMCA
Council of Agency Executives (COAE)
Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies
Council on Addiction Prevention and Education
Council on Addiction, Prevention & Education of Dutchess County, Inc.
Council on Alcoholism and Addictions of the Finger
Council on Human Needs
Covenant House New York
Cradle Beach, Inc.
Crandall Public Library
Creative Music Foundation
Credentialing Network Institute
Cub Care Children's Center/Recess Resources, Inc.
David Dorfman Dance
David Hochstein Memorial Music School, Inc.
Day Care Council of New York
Day One
Delaware Valley Arts Alliance
Diaspora Community Services
Dixon Place
DREAM
Dress for Success Rochester
Dutchess County Addiction Prevention and Education
Dynamic Forms, Inc.
EAC Network
Earlville Opera House
Early Music Foundation, Inc
Education Success Foundation
Educational Alliance
Empire Justice Center
Empire State Youth Orchestra
EMPOWERED PATHWAYS INC
EnCompass: Resources for Learning
Ensemble Studio Theatre
Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York, Inc.
Epiphany Scholarship Pageant, Inc.
Erie Canal Museum

Erie Canalway Heritage Fund, Inc.
Evergreen Health
ExpandedED Schools
Family Help Center
Family of Woodstock, Inc.
Family Resource Network, Inc
Family Ties of Westchester, Inc
Family YMCA of the Glens Falls Area
FASNY Museum of Firefighting
Finger Lakes Grant Information Center
Finger Lakes Performing Provider System
Five Towns Community Center
Foreign Press Association
Fort Edward Free Library
Franklin Stage Company
Friends of Historic Onondaga Lake
Friends of the Genesee alley Greenway
Friends of the North Country, Inc.
Friends of WHEELS
FSA of SUNY Adirondack
Gamelan Kusuma Laras, Inc.
Garden of Hope
Gebbie Foundation
Genesee Country Village & Museum
Genesee Valley Council on the Arts
Geneva Family YMCA
Geneva Historical Society
Geva Theatre Center
Girl Vow, Inc.
Girls Inc. of Long Island
Girls Set the Ground Rules NYC, Incorporated
Glow YMCA
GMHC
Goddard Riverside
Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)
Good Shepherd Services
Goodwill Industries of Greater NY and Northern NJ, Inc.
Gospel Assembly – Queens
Governance Matters, Inc.
Grand Street Settlement

Greater Bethel Community Development Corporation
Greater OLEAN Chamber
Greater Oneonta historical society
Greater Rochester After-School & Summer Alliance
Green Guerillas
Greenwich House
Greenwood Residences, Inc
Greene County Rural Health Network
Habitat for Humanity of New York State
Hallockville Museum Farm
Hamburg Natural History Society/Penn Dixie
Hamilton-Madison House
Hammond Museum
HANAC, Inc.
Hancock Community Education Foundation
Harlem Commonwealth Council, Inc.
Harlem Dowling-West Side Center
Harlem United
Harriman Summer Camp S-11, Inc
Hart Cluett Museum
Hartley House, Inc
HCCA dba/ CNY Living History Center
HealthRight International
Healthy Community Alliance, Inc.
Hearts and Hands: Faith In Action, Inc.
Helio Health
Henry Street Settlement
Historic Albany Foundation
Historic Cherry Hill
Historic Palace Theatre Inc
Historic Richmond Town
Historical Society of the Massapeguas
Holding o to Hope
Homecrest Community Services, Inc.
Homeless and Travelers Aid Society
Horizon Health Services
Hornell Area Family YMCA
Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc.
Housing Works
Howland Store Museum

Hubbard Hall Center for the Arts and Education
Hudson Headwaters Health Network
Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway
Hudson Valley Community Services
Hunger Solutions New York
Hunt Charitable Foundation
Huntington Arts Council, Inc.
Ibero Early Childhood Services
ICD-Institute for Career Development
ICL
IHealth
IlluminArt Productions
Indian Lake Theater
Innovative Charitable Initiatives, Inc.
Insight House Chemical Dependency Services
Inspire
Institute of Nonprofit Leadership and Community Development
Integrated Community Planning of Oswego County, Inc.
InterAgency Council
InterExchange Inc
InterFaith Works
International Institute of Buffalo
Inundated Historical Society
Inwood Art Works
Inwood Community Services, Inc.
Ithaca & Tompkins County YMCA
Ithaca YMCA
JACK Quartet
Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement
Jamestown Community Learning Council
JASA
JCCA
Jefferson Historical Society
Jeffrey James Arts Consulting
Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island
Jewish Family Service of Buffalo and Erie County
Jewish Family Services of Ulster County
Jezebel Productions
John Brown Lives!
Journey's End Refugee Services

Keen Theater Company
Keuka Housing Council, Inc.
Kids Creative 404 Inc.
King Urban Life Center
Kopernik Observatory & Science Center
Korea Art Forum
Lackawanna Housing Development Corporation
Lake Plains Community Care Network
Land to Lean
League of Women Voters NYC
LEAP
Learning Disabilities Assoc. of CNY dba LAUNCH
Learning through an Expanded Arts Program, Inc
Legal Action Center
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
Lehman College Adult Learning Center
Liberty Resources, Inc.
Lifespan of Greater Rochester
LIFT-NY
Light Work
Literacy Assistance Center
Literacy New York Buffalo-Niagara, Inc.
Literacy Volunteers of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties
LiteracyCNY
Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York
Long Island Advocacy Center
Long Island Crisis Center
Long Island Library Resources Council
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council
Lower West Side Household Services
Lowville Food Pantry, Inc.
Lutheran Social Services of NY
Madison County Rural Health Council, Inc.
Magic Penny Early Literacy Institute
Manna of Life Ministries
Marie C. and Joseph C. Wilson Foundation, Inc.
Martin DePorres Group Homes
Maspeth Town Hall, Inc.
Massachusetts Avenue Project Inc.
Maternal Infant Services Network (MISN)

Max's Kansas City Project
Mechanicville Area Community Services Center (MACSC)
Media Alliance Inc
Memorial Art Gallery
Mental Health America of Dutchess County
MercyFirst
Mohawk Valley CAA
Mohawk Valley Collective, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Library System
Morningside Retirement and Health Services
Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network of SCNY, Inc.
Museum at Eldridge Street
Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust
Museum of the Moving Image
Museum Village of Old Smith's Clove, Inc.
music conservatory of westchester
Music From Japan, Inc.
MusicalFare Theatre
NAMI Westchester
National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum
National Dance Institute
National Guild for Community Arts Education
Naturally Occurring Cultural Districts NY
Nazareth Housing Inc.
NCBI Rochester NY Inc.
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter
Neighborhood SHOPP
New Beginnings MSC, Inc.
NEW Pride Agenda
New Rochelle YMCA
New York City Anti-Violence Project
New York City Arts in Education Roundtable
New York City Children's Theater
New York City Fire Museum
New York City Museum Educators Roundtable
New York Council on Adoptable Children, Inc.
New York Edge
New York Route 20 Scenic Byway Association
New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA)
New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare

New York State Dispute Resolution Association, Inc. (NYSDRA)
New York State Literary Center
New York State Network for Youth Success, Inc.
New York State Public Health Association
New York State Tourism Industry Association
New York StateWide Senior Action Council
Newtown Italian Neighborhood Senior Center
Niagara Community Action Program, Inc
NMIC
Nonprofit Finance Fund
Nonprofit New York
Nonprofit Westchester
North Country Behavioral Healthcare Network
North Country Freedom Homes, Inc.
North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association
North Side Learning Center of Syracuse
North Tonawanda History Museum
Northeast Community Council, Inc.,
Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation
Northern Regional Center for Independent Living, Inc.
Northern Rivers Family of Services
Northwest Buffalo Community Center
New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (NYAPRS)
NYC Employment and Training Coalition
NYCCD
NYFA
NYS Association for Rural Health
NYS Rural Advocates
NYS Senate - 57th District
NYSARH
Old Forge Library
Oliver Scholars
Oneonta Family YMCA
Onondaga Community Living, Inc.
Onondaga Council on Alcoholism & Addictions, Inc.
Ontario County Historical Society Museum
Open Source Gallery
Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow
Opportunities for Otsego, Inc.
Origin Theater Company

Osborne Association
Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.
Oswego YMCA
Pacem in Terris
Page Seventy-Three Productions, Inc.
PAGNY Health & Research
Palace Performing Arts Center
Parallel Exit Inc.
Park Foundation
Partners in Learning, Inc.
PathStone Corporation
Peace Of The City
Performance Space New York
Piatigorsky Foundation
Pine Hill Community Center
Pinnacle Community Services
Plattsburgh Public Library
Plattsburgh YMCA
Polish and Slavic Center
Polish Community Center of Buffalo, Inc
Preservation Long Island
Prevent Child Abuse New York
Prevention Works, Inc.
Princess Janae Place Inc
Printed Matter, Inc.
Prison Communities Int'l (dba) RTA
Protect the Adirondacks
Providence House, Inc
Providence Services of Syracuse Inc
Public Health Solutions
Queens Community House, Inc.
Queens Volunteer Lawyers
Quintet of the Americas, Inc.
Radio Kingston
Raga Massive, Inc
Rainbow Access Initiative Inc.
Rainbow Heights Club, project of Heights Hill Mental Health Service SBPC Community Advisory Board, Inc.
REACH CNY, Inc.
Recess Activities
Redhouse Arts Center

Regional Economic Community Action Program, Inc.
Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc.
Rhinebeck Writers Retreat
Richard S. Shineman Foundation
RiseBoro Community Partnership, Inc.
Riverside Language Program, Inc.
Roberson Museum and Science Center
Robina Niaz
Rochester Accessible Adventures
Rochester Area Community Foundation
Rochester Museum and Science Center
Rochester/Monroe County Homeless CoC
Rockland Community Services
Rockland Conservatory of Music
Rockland County YMCA
Rockwell Falls Public Library
ROcovery Fitness, Inc.
Rome alliance for education/CONNECTED Community Schools
RUPCO, Inc
Rural Health Network of SCNY
Rural Preservation Company of Clinton County, Inc.
Rural Revitalization Corporation
Rye YMCA
Samaritan Daytop Village
Saratoga Center for the Family
Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.
Schenectady Community Action Program
Schoharie County Community Action Program
Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
SCO Family of Services
Sculpture Space Inc
Seamen's Society
Seaway Valley Prevention Council
Seneca museum of waterways and industry
Seneca-Babcock Community Association, Inc.
Service Program for Older People, INC
Sheltering Arms
Siena College's McCormick Center for the Study of the American Revolution
Silver Bay YMCA

Single Parent Empowerment Program, Inc
Snow Belt Housing Company, Inc.
SOPHIST LLC
South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (SoBRO)
South Buffalo Community Association
South Street Seaport Museum
Southern Adirondack Child Care Network
Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center
southern queens park association inc.
Southern Tier AIDS Program
Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc
Southern Tier Independence Center
Southtowns Rural Preservation Co., Inc
Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corp
St Lawrence County Arts Council
St. Francis Friends of the Poor
St. Joseph's Addiction Treatment & Recovery Centers
St. Lawrence County Community Development Program,
St. Lawrence County Health Initiative, Inc.
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
St. Nicks Alliance
St. Paul's Center
Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center
Staten Island Arts
Sullivan County Child Care Council, Inc.
Sunset Spark, Inc.
SUNY Orange Foundation
Sylvan Winds
Syracuse Northeast Community Center
Taconic Resources for Independence Inc.
TakeRoot Justice
Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum
TAP Inc.
Teaching and Restoring Youth Inc.
Teens for Food Justice
Thalia Spanish Theatre, Inc.
The 52nd Street Project
The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes
The Center for Community Justice
The Center for Youth Services Inc

The Child Abuse Prevention Center
The Child Center of NY
The Children's Village
The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region
The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc.
The Community Place of Greater Rochester, Inc.
The Council on Addiction Prevention and Education of Dutchess County, Inc. (CAPE)
The D&H Canal Historical Society
The Dale Association, Inc.
The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier
The Dorothy and Marshall M. Reisman foundation
The Florence M. Muller Foundation
The Fortune Society
The Greene County Council on the Arts, Inc.
The HOPE Program
The Institute for Human Services, Inc.
The Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services
The Korean American Family Service Center
The Lake George Arts Project
The Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY
The LOFT LGBT Center
The Marfan Foundation, Inc
The New Group
The New York Foundling
The New York Pops
The New York State Rural Housing Coalition, Inc.
The Norman Howard School
The Ricky J. Parisian Memorial Scholarship Foundation
The Rockwell Museum
The Rural Outreach Center Inc
The Service Collaborative of WNY, Inc
Theater Three Collaborative, Inc.
Theatre for a New Audience
Thousand Islands Arts Center ~ Home of the Handweaving Museum
Tioga County REAP
Tioga Opportunities, Inc.
Tompkins Community Actin
Tompkins County Public Library Foundation
Topfield Equestrian Center
Town of Wallkill Boys & Girls Club, Inc

Trail Blazers
Transitional Services Association, Inc
Trauma and Resiliency Resources, Inc.
Tri County Arts Council
Tri-Cities Opera Company, Inc.
Trillium Health
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc.
Triskelion Arts
Troy Area United Ministries
Troy Bike Rescue
Troy Savings Bank Music Hall Corp.
Troy Youth Association, Inc.
TSA, INC
Villa of Hope
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
Underground Railroad Education Center
Unison Arts Center
United Neighborhood Houses
United Way of Broome County
United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
United Way of Cayuga County
United Way of Greater Rochester
United Way of Long Island
United Way of New York City
United Way of New York State
United Way of Northern Chautauqua County
United Way of Northern New York Inc.
United Way of Ontario County
United Way of Seneca County, Inc.
United Way of Southern Chautauqua County
United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region
United Way Of The Greater Capital Region
United Way of Westchester and Putnam
Unity House Of Troy, Inc.
University Settlement
Upstate Films Limited
Urban Justice Center
Urban League of Rochester
Urban Pathways
UrbanGlass

USA Mali Charitable Association of NYC
Valley Community Association
Venture Foundation, LTD
Vera House, Inc.
Veterans & Community Housing Coalition
Veterans One-stop Center of WNY, Inc.
VIA Visually Impaired Advancement
Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk
Vital Theatre Company Inc
Voelker Orth Museum
Walkway Over the Hudson
Warren-Hamilton Counties ACEO, Inc.
Warwick Valley Community Center
Washington County EOC, Inc. d.b.a. L.E.A.P.
Water for South Sudan, Inc.
Watertown Family YMCA
Waterville Historical Society
Wayne County Action Program, Inc.
Weeksville Heritage Center
Welfare Research Inc.
WellLife Network
Westchester Institute for Human Development
Westchester Jewish Community Services
Western New York Foundation
WHEDco
Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys & Girls Club of Jamestown
WNY Rural Area Health Education Center INC
WNY United Against Drug & Alcohol Abuse
WNY Women's Foundation
Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation
Wyoming County Community Health System
YMCA Buffalo Niagara
YMCA of Broome County
YMCA of Central New York
YMCA of Greater New York/ Bronx
YMCA of Greater Rochester
YMCA of Ithaca & Tompkins County
YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County
YMCA of Long Island
YMCA of the Twin Tiers

Yonkers Family YMCA
Young Audiences of Western New York, Inc.
Young Men's and Women's Community Center Of Rome, New York, Inc.
Young Men's Christian Association of Greater Rochester
Youth Action Programs and Homes, Inc.
Youth Ideas At Work
Youth Represent
Youth Shelter Program of Westchester
YWCA Cortland
YWCA Mohawk Valley
YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County
YWCA of Genesee County
YWCA of Rochester & Monroe County
YWCA of the City of New York
YWCA Western New York
YWCAs of New York State

ALICE IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

2016 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 129,504 • **Number of Households:** 51,705

Median Household Income: \$42,204 (state average: \$62,909)

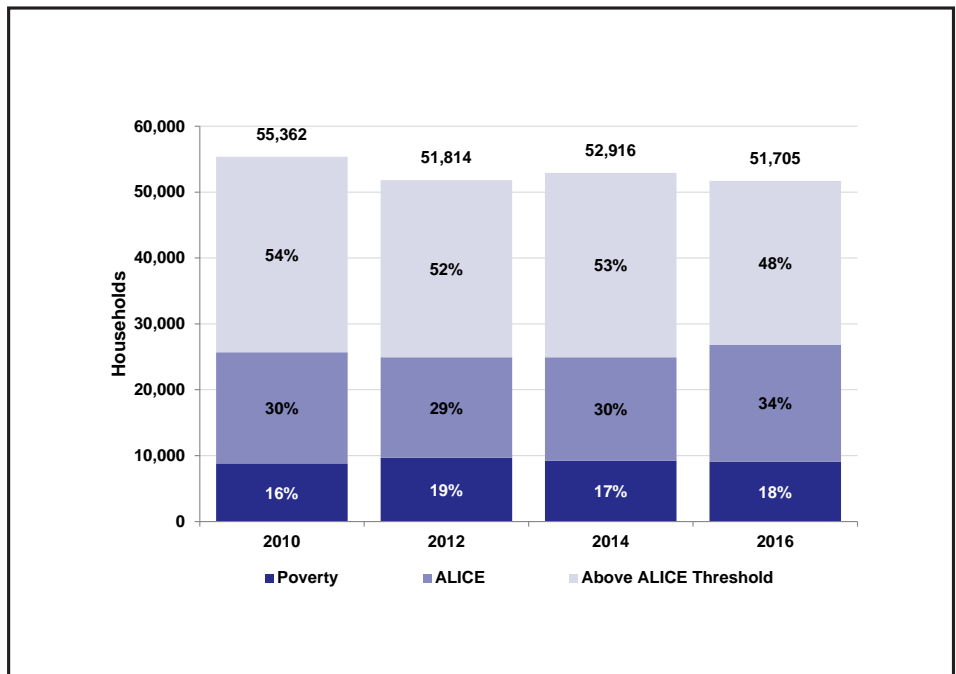
Unemployment Rate: 7.8% (state average: 5.9%)

ALICE Households: 34% (state average: 31%) • **Households in Poverty:** 18% (state average: 14%)

How has the number of ALICE households changed over time?

ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). Combined, the number of ALICE and poverty-level households equals the total population struggling to afford basic needs. The number of households below the ALICE Threshold changes over time; households move in and out of poverty and ALICE status as their circumstances improve or worsen. The recovery, which started in 2010, has been uneven across the state. Conditions have improved for some families, but with rising costs, many still find themselves struggling.

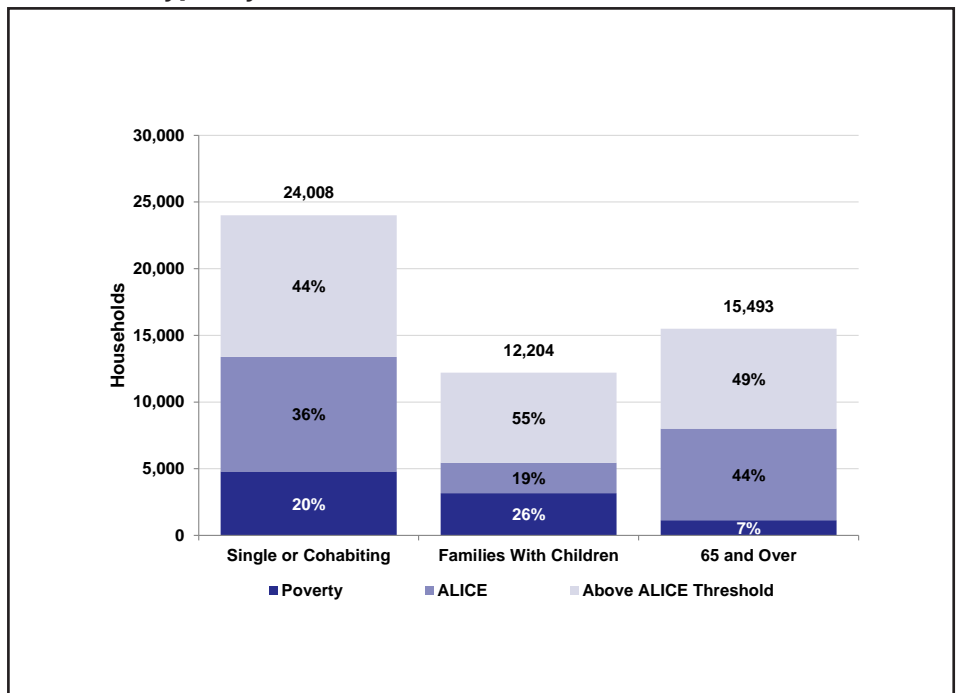
Households by Income, 2010 to 2016



What types of households are struggling?

The way Americans live is changing. There are more different family and living combinations than ever before, including more adults living alone, with roommates, or with their parents. Families with children are changing: There are more non-married cohabiting parents, same-sex parents, and blended families with remarried parents. The number of senior households is also increasing. Yet all types of households continue to struggle: ALICE and poverty-level households exist across all of these living arrangements.

Household Types by Income, 2016



Why do so many households struggle?

The cost of living continues to increase...

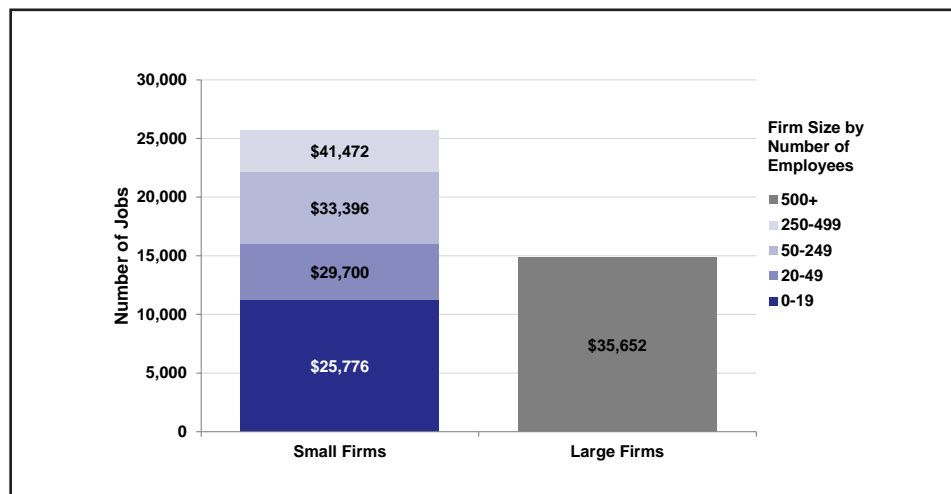
The Household Survival Budget reflects the bare minimum that a household needs to live and work today. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college. In 2016, costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$11,880 for a single adult and \$24,300 for a family of four. Family costs increased by 22 percent statewide from 2010 to 2016, compared to 9 percent inflation nationally.

Household Survival Budget, Chautauqua County		
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$536	\$674
Child Care	\$-	\$1,250
Food	\$182	\$603
Transportation	\$341	\$682
Health Care	\$213	\$792
Technology	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$159	\$467
Taxes	\$263	\$597
Monthly Total	\$1,749	\$5,140
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$20,988	\$61,680
Hourly Wage	\$10.49	\$30.84

...and wages lag behind

Employment and wages vary by location; firms generally pay higher wages in areas with a higher cost of living, although those wages still do not always cover basic needs. Employment and wages also vary by firm size: Large firms tend to offer higher wages and more job stability; smaller businesses can account for more jobs overall, especially in rural areas, but may pay less and offer less stability. Medium-size firms pay more but typically employ the fewest workers.

Private-Sector Employment by Firm Size With Average Annual Wages, 2016



Sources: 2016 Point-in-Time Data: American Community Survey. ALICE Demographics: American Community Survey; the ALICE Threshold. Budget: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Bureau of Labor Statistics; Internal Revenue Service; Tax Foundation; and New York State Office of Children & Family, 2016.

Chautauqua County, 2016		
Town	Total HH	% ALICE & Poverty
Arkwright (SD)	406	37%
Bemus Point (P)	131	54%
Brocton (P)	682	56%
Busti (SD)	3,116	42%
Busti CDP (P)	109	31%
Carroll (SD)	1,485	43%
Cassadaga (P)	275	46%
Celoron (P)	577	52%
Charlotte (SD)	681	55%
Chautauqua (SD)	1,762	41%
Chautauqua CDP (P)	182	19%
Cherry Creek (P)	161	47%
Cherry Creek (SD)	360	44%
Clymer (SD)	522	48%
Dunkirk (P)	5,113	63%
Dunkirk (SD)	490	48%
Ellery (SD)	1,950	45%
Ellicott (SD)	3,753	41%
Ellington (SD)	606	45%
Falconer (P)	1,085	58%
Forestville (P)	248	42%
Fredonia (P)	3,547	46%
French Creek (SD)	342	47%
Frewsburg CDP (P)	920	36%
Gerry (SD)	742	42%
Hanover (SD)	2,769	42%
Harmony (SD)	842	46%
Jamestown (P)	12,694	66%
Jamestown West CDP (P)	969	29%
Kennedy CDP (P)	185	60%
Kiantone (SD)	570	38%
Lakewood (P)	1,366	49%
Mayville (P)	528	47%
Mina (SD)	406	47%
North Harmony (SD)	835	36%
Panama (P)	178	54%
Poland (SD)	864	51%
Pomfret (SD)	4,978	44%
Portland (SD)	1,633	57%
Ripley (SD)	944	55%
Ripley CDP (P)	398	61%
Sheridan (SD)	1,075	39%
Sherman (P)	289	59%
Sherman (SD)	552	53%
Silver Creek (P)	1,065	48%
Sinclairville (P)	255	58%
Stockton (SD)	819	46%
Sunset Bay CDP (P)	318	37%
Villanova (SD)	374	44%
Westfield (P)	1,347	48%
Westfield (SD)	2,015	50%

Note: Municipal-level data is 1 or 5-year averages for Places (P) and County Subdivisions (SD), which include Census Designated Places (CDPs). Totals do not match county-level numbers because some places cross county borders, geographies may overlap, data is not available for the smallest towns, and county-level data is often 1-year estimates.

American Community Survey

Narrative Profiles

2014—2018 ACS 5-Year Narrative Profile

Jamestown City, New York

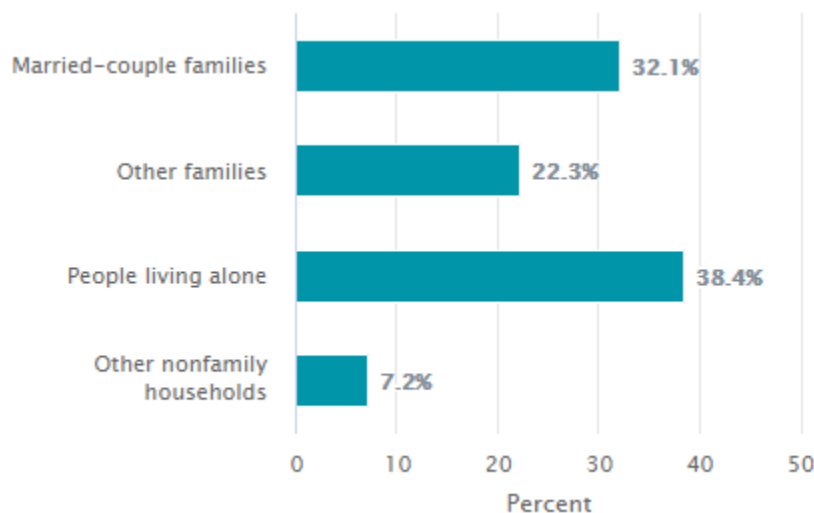
Households and Families

In 2014-2018, there were 12,652 households in Jamestown city, New York. The average household size was 2.30 people.

Families made up 54.4 percent of the households in Jamestown city, New York. This figure includes both married-couple families (32.1 percent) and other families (22.3 percent). Female householder families with no husband present and own children under 18 years are 9.8 percent of all households. Nonfamily households made up 45.6 percent of all households in Jamestown city, New York.

In Jamestown city, New York, 28.2 percent of all households have one or more people under the age of 18; 28.9 percent of all households have one or more people 65 years and over.

Types of Households in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Married-couple families	32.1
Other families	22.3
People living alone	38.4
Other nonfamily households	7.2

Marital status

Among persons 15 and older, 38.6 percent of males and 35.8 percent of females are currently married.

Population 15 years and over	Males	Females
Never married	42.3	32.7
Now married, except separated	38.6	35.8
Separated	2.8	3.2
Widowed	2.6	11.6
Divorced	13.7	16.7

Grandparents and grandchildren

In Jamestown city, New York, 668 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of those grandparents, 43.4 percent were responsible for the basic needs of their grandchildren.

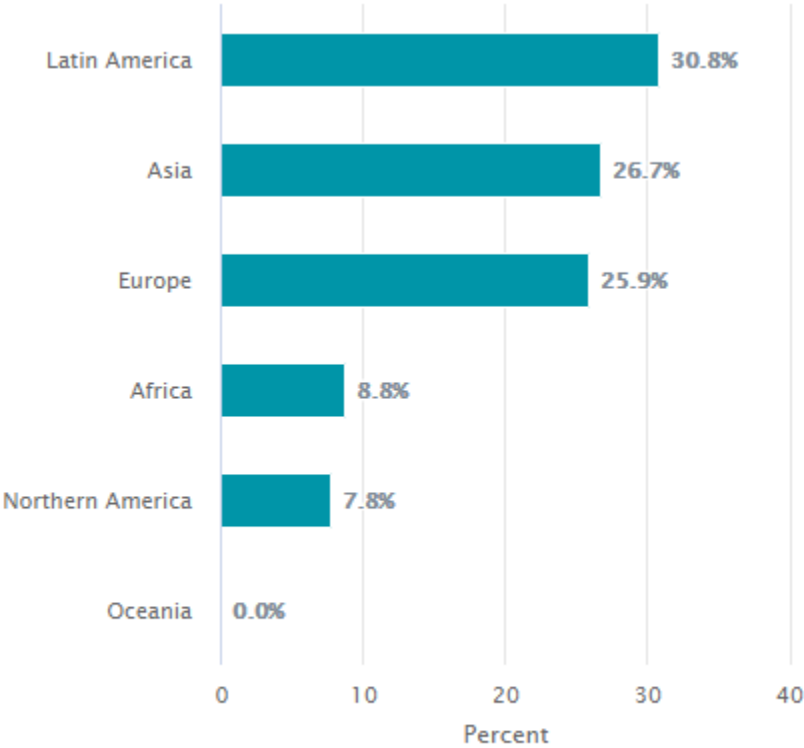
Nativity and Foreign Born

In 2014-2018, an estimated 98.2 percent of the people living in Jamestown city, New York were U.S. natives. 77.5 percent of the Jamestown city, New York population were living in the state where they were born.

Approximately 1.8 percent of Jamestown city, New York residents in 2014-2018 were foreign-born. 53.4 percent of foreign born were naturalized U.S. citizens and an estimated 83.2 percent entered the country before the year 2010.

Foreign-born residents of Jamestown city, New York come from different parts of the world. The bar graph below displays the percentage of foreign born from each world region of birth in 2014-2018 for Jamestown city, New York.

Region of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018

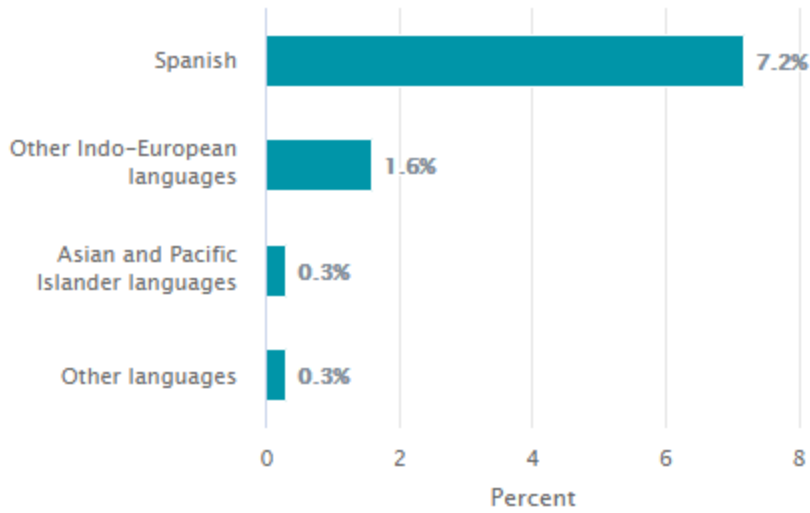


	Percent
Latin America	30.8
Asia	26.7
Europe	25.9
Africa	8.8
Northern America	7.8
Oceania	0.0

Language

Among people at least five years old living in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018, 9.4 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Spanish was spoken by 7.2 percent of people at least five years old; 3.6 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

Percent of the Population 5 years and over who Speak a Language other than English in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018

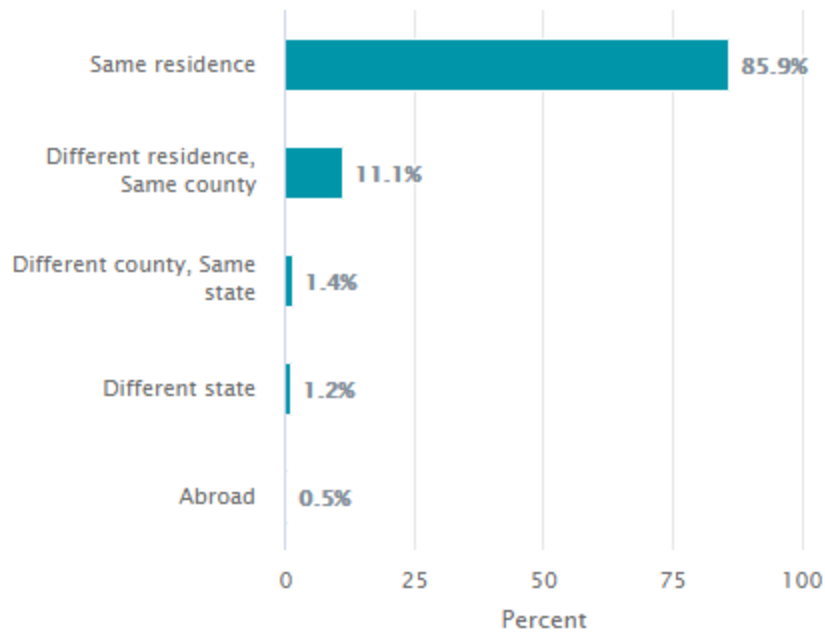


	Percent
Spanish	7.2
Other Indo-European languages	1.6
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	0.3
Other languages	0.3

Geographic Mobility

In 2014-2018, 85.9 percent of the people at least one year old living in Jamestown city, New York were living in the same residence one year earlier.

Geographic Mobility of Residents of Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



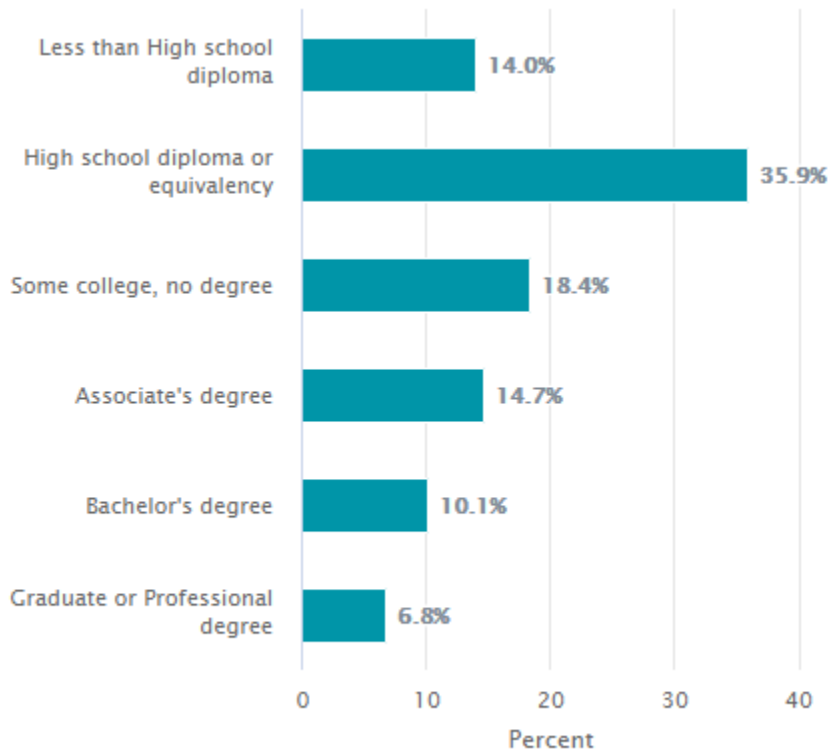
	Percent
Same residence	85.9
Different residence, same county	11.1
Different county, same state	1.4
Different state	1.2
Abroad	0.5

Education

In 2014-2018, 85.9 percent of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school and 16.9 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. An estimated 14.0 percent did not complete high school.

The total school enrollment in Jamestown city, New York was 6,914 in 2014-2018. Nursery school enrollment was 446 and kindergarten through 12th grade enrollment was 4,885. College or graduate school enrollment was 1,583.

Educational Attainment of People in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Less than High school diploma	14.0
High school diploma or equivalency	35.9
Some college, no degree	18.4
Associate's degree	14.7

	Percent
Bachelor's degree	10.1
Graduate or Professional degree	6.8

Disability

In Jamestown city, New York, among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in 2014-2018, 19.2 percent reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 8.4 percent of people under 18 years old, to 18.3 percent of people 18 to 64 years old, and to 38.7 percent of those 65 and over.

Employment Status and Type of Employer

In Jamestown city, New York, 52.0 percent of the population 16 and over were employed; 43.6 percent were not currently in the labor force.

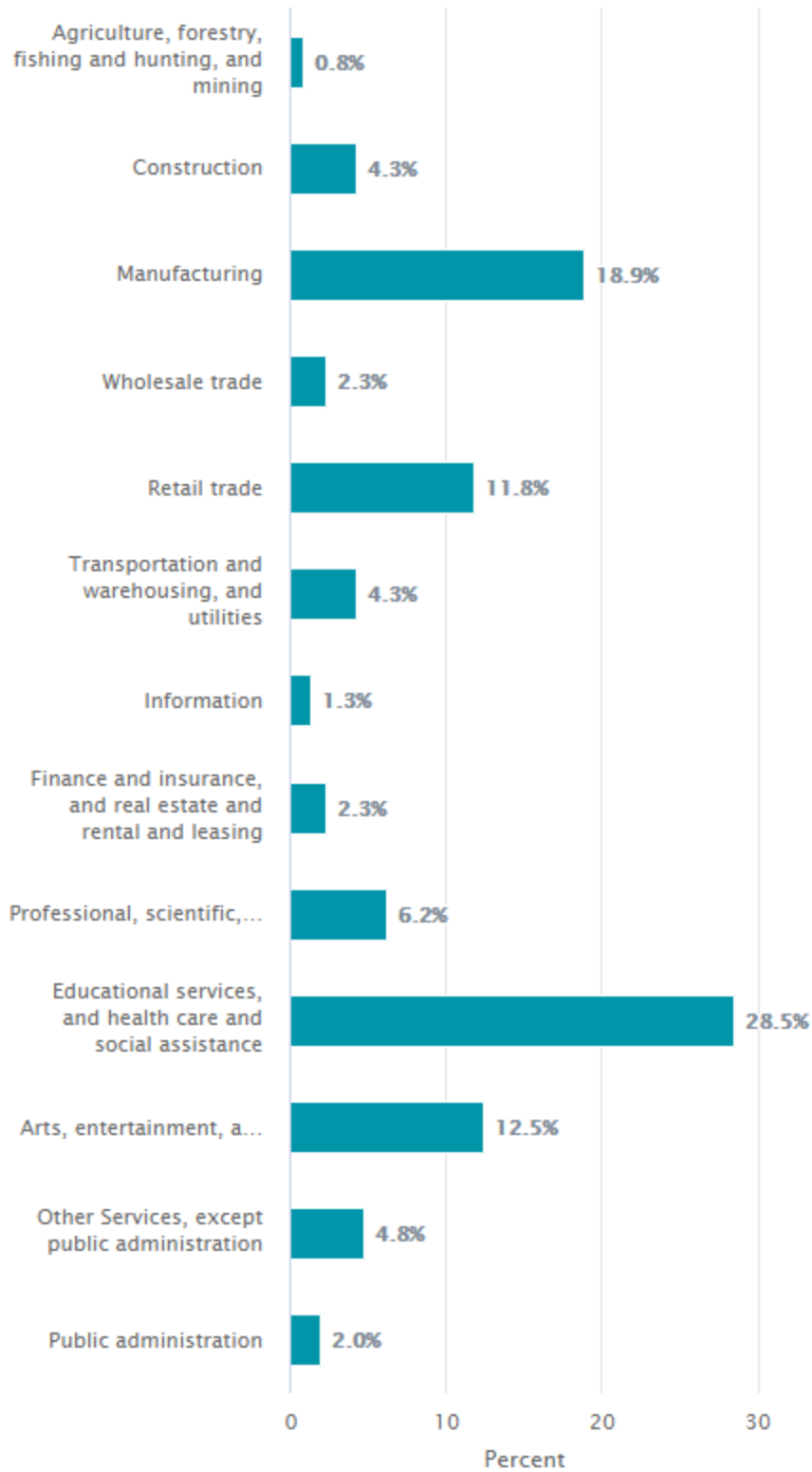
An estimated 82.6 percent of the people employed were private wage and salary workers; 12.0 percent were federal, state, or local government workers; and 5.2 percent were self-employed in their own (not incorporated) business.

Class of worker	Number	Percent
Private wage and salary workers	10,079	82.6
Federal, state, or local government workers	1,469	12.0
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	637	5.2

Industries

In 2014-2018, the civilian employed population 16 years and older in Jamestown city, New York worked in the following industries:

Percent by Industry in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0.8
Construction	4.3
Manufacturing	18.9
Wholesale trade	2.3
Retail trade	11.8
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	4.3
Information	1.3
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	2.3
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	6.2
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	28.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation, and food services	12.5
Other Services, except public administration	4.8
Public administration	2.0

Occupations

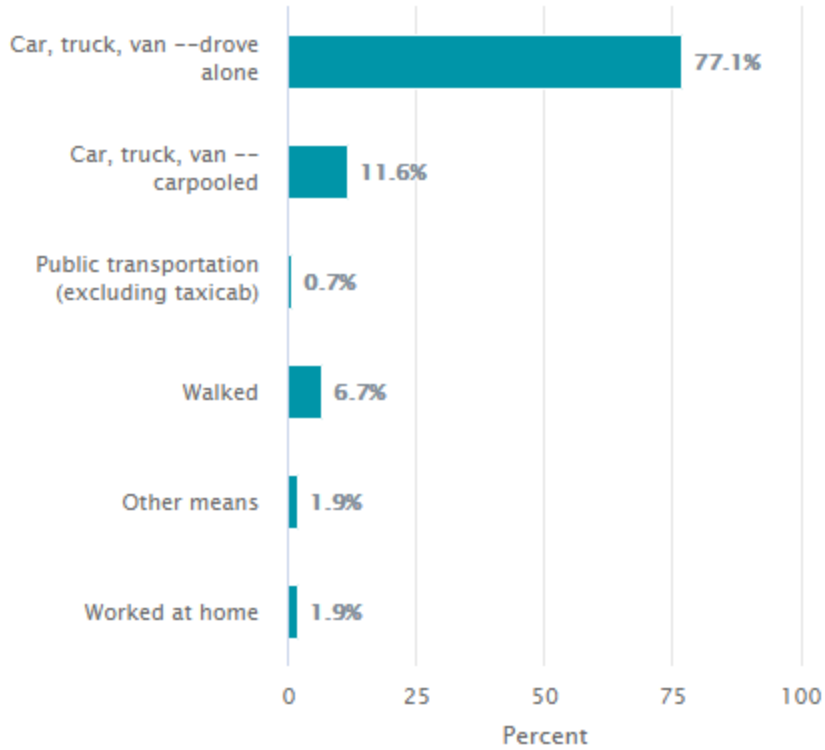
Occupations for the Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and over in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018

Civilian employed population 16 years and over	Number	Percent
Management, business, sciences, and arts occupations	3,121	25.6
Service occupations	2,595	21.3
Sales and office occupations	2,895	23.7
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	780	6.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	2,812	23.0

Commuting to Work

An estimated 77.1 percent of Jamestown city, New York workers drove to work alone in 2014-2018, and 11.6 percent carpooled. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average 14.7 minutes to get to work.

Percent of Workers 16 and over Commuting by Mode in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018

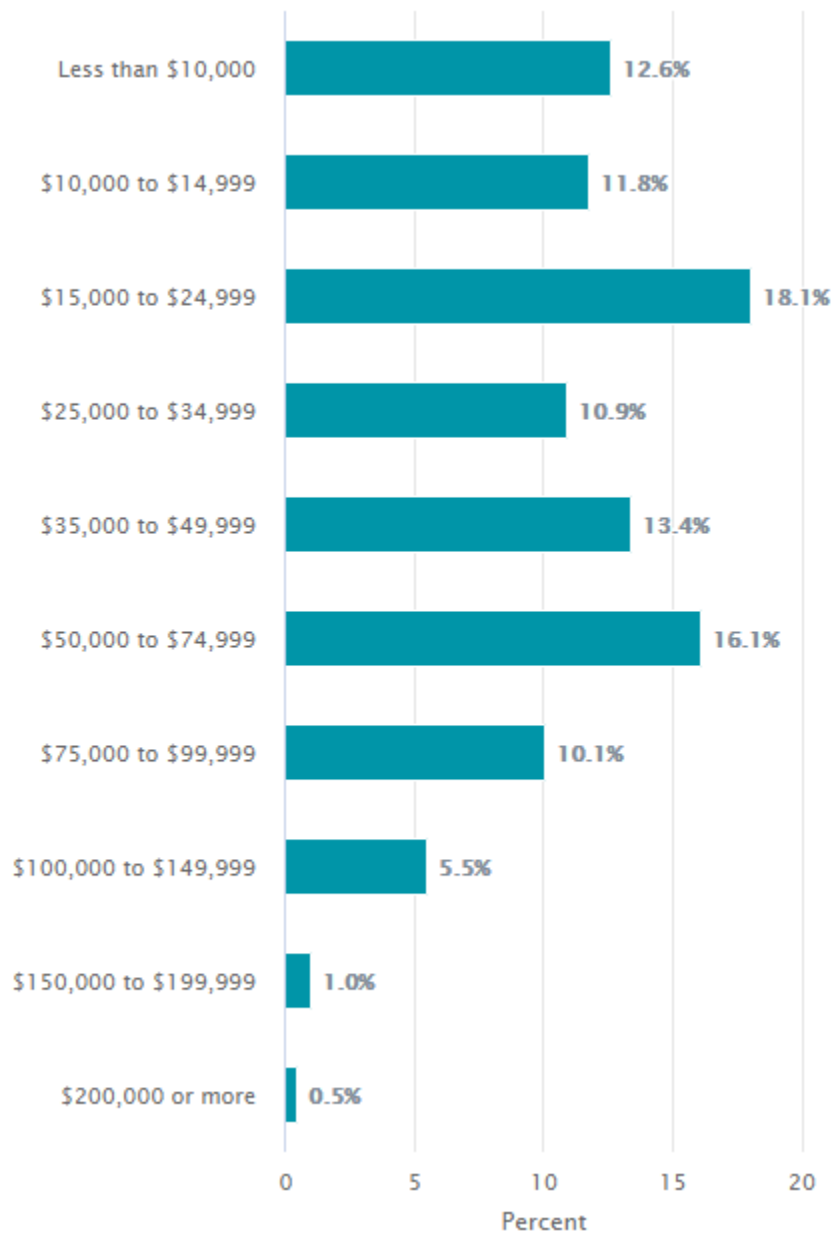


	Percent
Car, truck, van -- drove alone	77.1
Car, truck, van -- carpooled	11.6
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	0.7
Walked	6.7
Other means	1.9
Worked at home	1.9

Income

The median income of households in Jamestown city, New York was \$31,595. An estimated 12.6 percent of households had income below \$10,000 a year and 0.5 percent had income over \$200,000 or more.

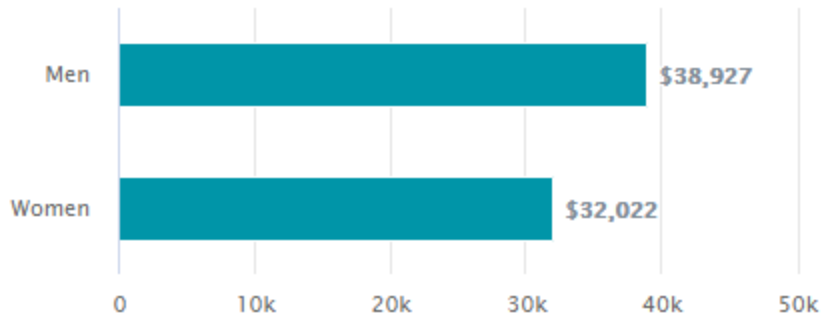
Household Income in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Less than \$10,000	12.6
\$10,000 to \$14,999	11.8
\$15,000 to \$24,999	18.1
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10.9
\$35,000 to \$49,999	13.4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	16.1
\$75,000 to \$99,999	10.1
\$100,000 to \$149,999	5.5
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1.0
\$200,000 or more	0.5

Median earnings for full-time year-round workers was \$35,469. Male full-time year-round workers had median earnings of \$38,927. Female full-time year-round workers had median earnings of \$32,022.

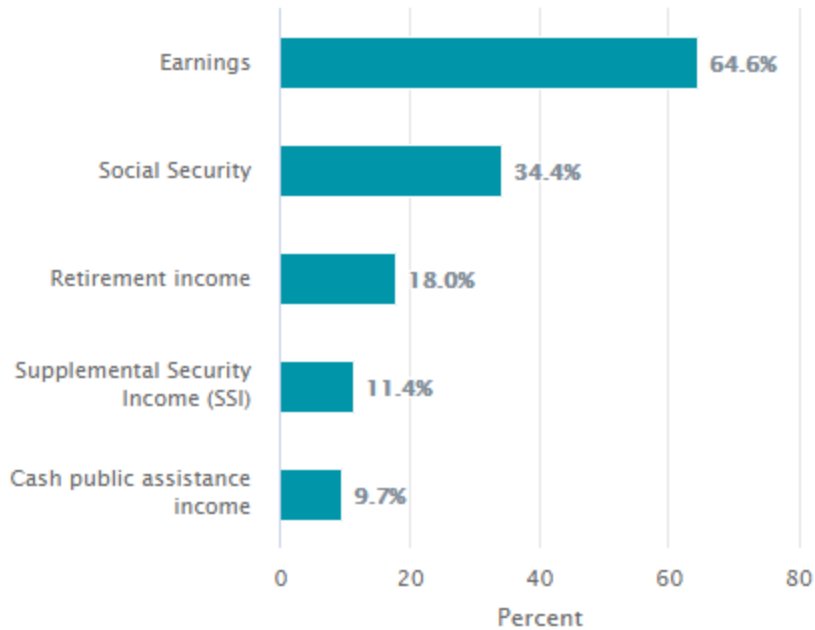
Median Earnings for Full-Time Year-Round Workers by Sex in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Dollars
Male	38,927
Female	32,022

An estimated 64.6 percent of households received earnings. An estimated 34.4 percent of households received Social Security and an estimated 18.0 percent of households received retirement income other than Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$16,944. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

Proportion of Households with Various Income Sources in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018

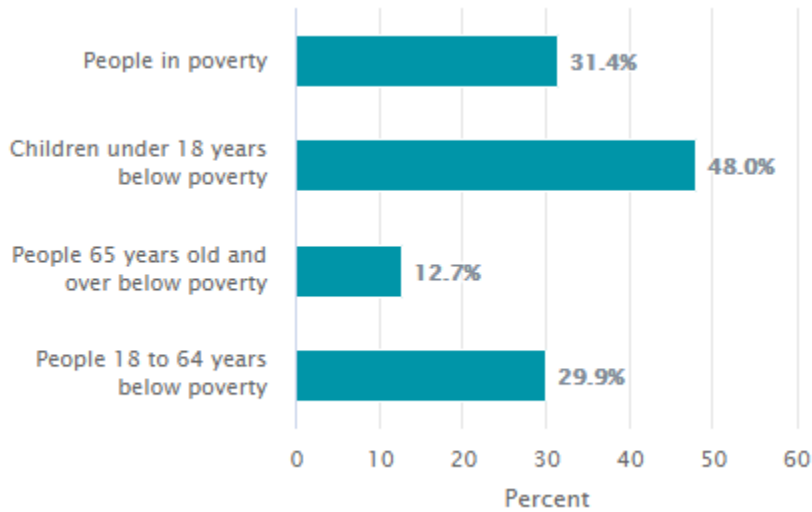


	Percent
Earnings	64.6
Social Security	34.4
Retirement income	18.0
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	11.4
Cash public assistance income	9.7

Poverty and Participation in Government Programs

In 2014-2018, 31.4 percent of people were in poverty. An estimated 48.0 percent of children under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 12.7 percent of people 65 years old and over. An estimated 29.9 percent of people 18 to 64 years were below the poverty level.

Poverty Rates in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
People in poverty	31.4
Children under 18 years below poverty	48.0
People 65 years old and over below poverty	12.7
People 18 to 64 years below poverty	29.9

In 2014-2018, 33.8 percent of households received SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). An estimated 40.1 percent of households that received SNAP had children under 18, and 33.4 percent of households that received SNAP had one or more people 60 years and over. An estimated 27.5 percent of all households receiving SNAP were families with a female householder and no husband present. An estimated 18.0 percent of households receiving SNAP had two or more workers in the past 12 months.

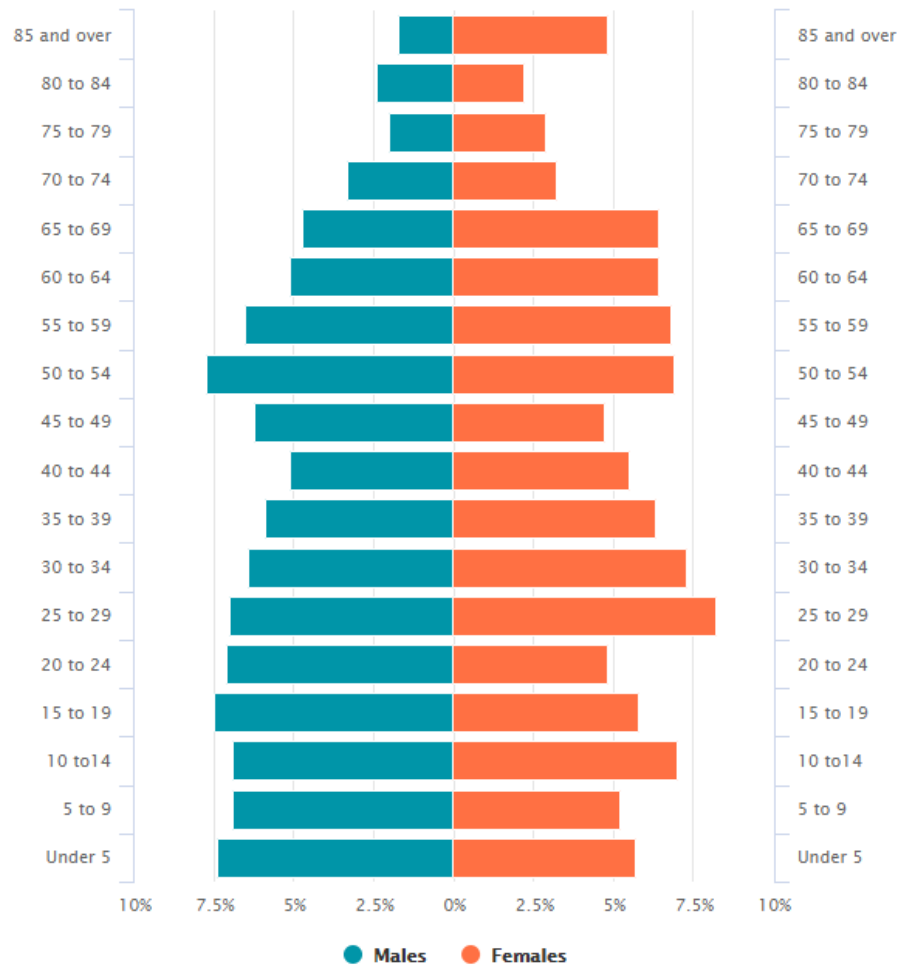
Health Insurance

Among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018, 94.6 percent had health insurance coverage and 5.4 percent did not have health insurance coverage. Private coverage was 52.4 percent and government coverage was 56.9 percent, respectively. The percentage of children under the age of 19 with no health insurance coverage was 3.4 percent.

Population

In 2014-2018, Jamestown city, New York had a total population of 29,799 – 15,156 (50.9 percent) females and 14,643 (49.1 percent) males. The median age was 37.7 years. An estimated 23.5 percent of the population was under 18 years, 34.5 percent was 18 to 44 years, 25.2 percent was 45 to 64 years, and 16.9 percent was 65 years and older.

Population by Age and Sex for Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent Male	Percent Female
Under 5	7.4	5.7
5 to 9	6.9	5.2
10 to 14	6.9	7.0
15 to 19	7.5	5.8
20 to 24	7.1	4.8
25 to 29	7.0	8.2
30 to 34	6.4	7.3
35 to 39	5.9	6.3
40 to 44	5.1	5.5
45 to 49	6.2	4.7
50 to 54	7.7	6.9
55 to 59	6.5	6.8
60 to 64	5.1	6.4
65 to 69	4.7	6.4

	Percent Male	Percent Female
70 to 74	3.3	3.2
75 to 79	2.0	2.9
80 to 84	2.4	2.2
85 and over	1.7	4.8

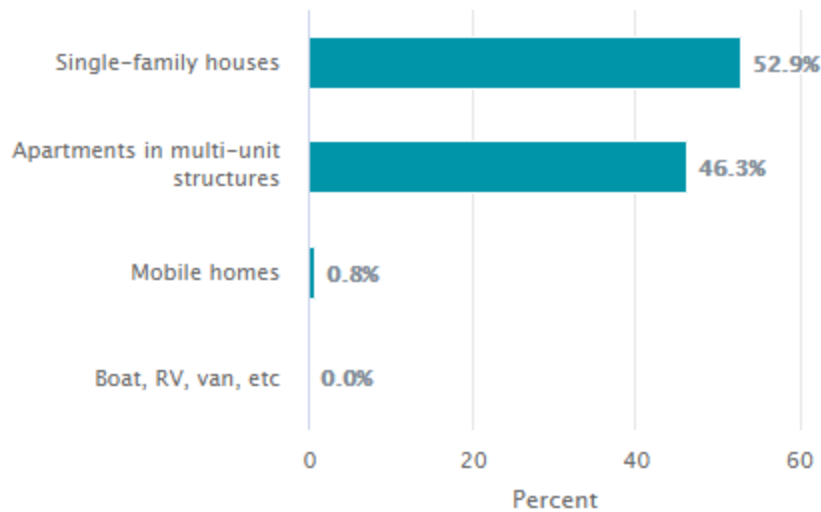
Race and Hispanic origin

For people reporting one race alone, 86.0 percent were White; 4.7 percent were Black or African American; 0.4 percent were American Indian and Alaska Native; 0.5 percent were Asian; 0.1 percent were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 3.9 percent were some other race. An estimated 4.4 percent reported two or more races. An estimated 8.7 percent of the people in Jamestown city, New York were Hispanic. An estimated 82.0 percent of the people in Jamestown city, New York were White non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Housing Inventory Characteristics

In 2014-2018, Jamestown city, New York had a total of 15,035 housing units. Of these housing units, 52.9 percent were single-family houses either not attached to any other structure or attached to one or more structures (commonly referred to as “townhouses” or “row houses”). 46.3 percent of the housing units were located in multi-unit structures, or those buildings that contained two or more apartments. 0.8 percent were mobile homes, while any remaining housing units were classified as “other,” which included boats, recreational vehicles, vans, etc.

Types of Housing Units in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Single-family houses	52.9
Apartments in multi-unit structures	46.3
Mobile homes	0.8
Boat, RV, van, etc	0.0

0.6 percent of the housing inventory was comprised of houses built since 2010, while 55.8 percent of the houses were first built in 1939 or earlier. The median number of rooms in all housing units in Jamestown city, New York was 5.5 rooms, and of these housing units 49.8 percent had three or more bedrooms.

Occupied Housing Characteristics

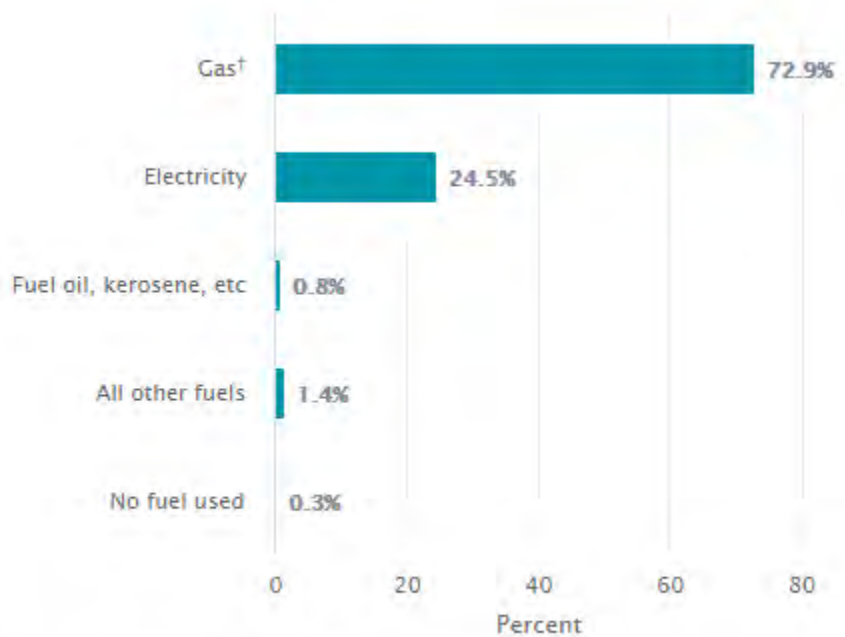
In 2014-2018, Jamestown city, New York had 12,652 housing units that were occupied or had people living in them, while the remaining 2,383 were vacant. Of the occupied housing units, the percentage of these houses occupied by owners (also known as the homeownership rate) was 50.9 percent while renters

occupied 49.1 percent. The average household size of owner-occupied houses was 2.48 and in renter-occupied houses it was 2.11.

15.4 percent of householders of these occupied houses had moved into their house since 2015, while 16.2 percent moved into their house in 1989 or earlier. Households without a vehicle available for personal use comprised 21.4 percent and another 7.4 percent had three or more vehicles available for use.

The following chart provides the primary fuel used to heat houses in Jamestown city, New York:

House Heating Fuel Used in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



†This category includes utility, bottled, tank, or LP gas.

	Percent
Gas †	72.9
Electricity	24.5
Fuel oil, kerosene, etc	0.8

	Percent
All other fuels	1.4
No fuel used	0.3

Financial Characteristics and Housing Costs

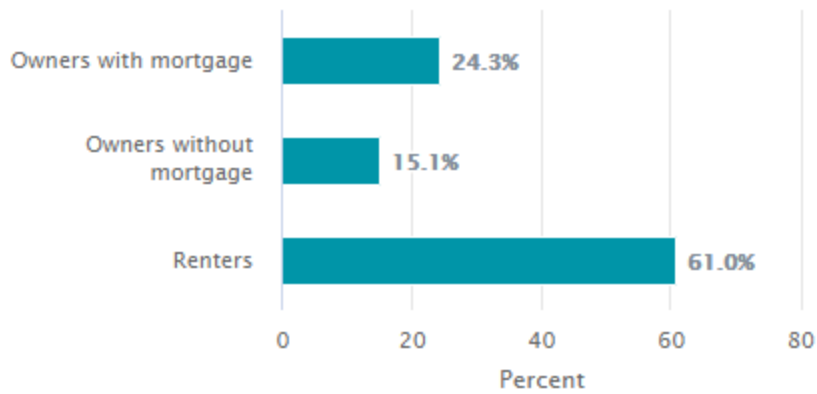
In 2014-2018, the median property value for owner-occupied houses in Jamestown city, New York was \$64,400.

Of the owner-occupied households, 54.6 percent had a mortgage. 45.4 percent owned their houses “free and clear,” that is without a mortgage or loan on the house. The median monthly housing costs for owners with a mortgage was \$842 and for owners without a mortgage it was \$394.

For renter-occupied houses, the median gross rent for Jamestown city, New York was \$603. Gross rent includes the monthly contract rent and any monthly payments made for electricity, gas, water and sewer, and any other fuels to heat the house.

Households that pay thirty percent or more of their income on housing costs are considered cost-burdened. In 2014-2018, cost-burdened households in Jamestown city, New York accounted for 24.3 percent of owners with a mortgage, 15.1 percent of owners without a mortgage, and 61.0 percent of renters.

Occupants with a Housing Cost Burden in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



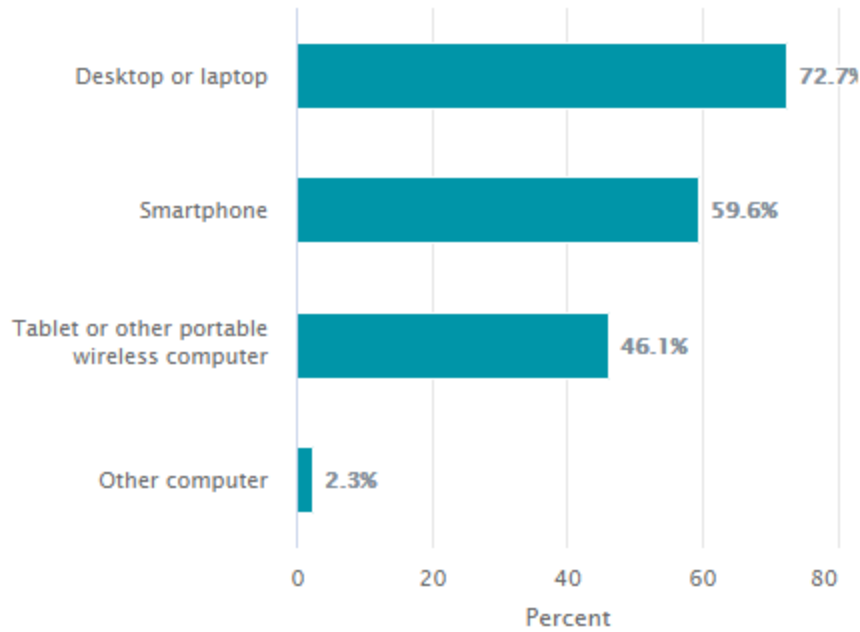
	Percent
Owners with mortgage	24.3
Owners without mortgage	15.1
Renters	61.0

Computer and Internet Use

In 2014-2018, 82.9 percent of households in Jamestown city, New York had a computer, and 71.2 percent had a broadband internet subscription.

An estimated 72.7 percent of households had a desktop or laptop, 59.6 percent had a smartphone, 46.1 percent had a tablet or other portable wireless computer, and 2.3 percent had some other computer.

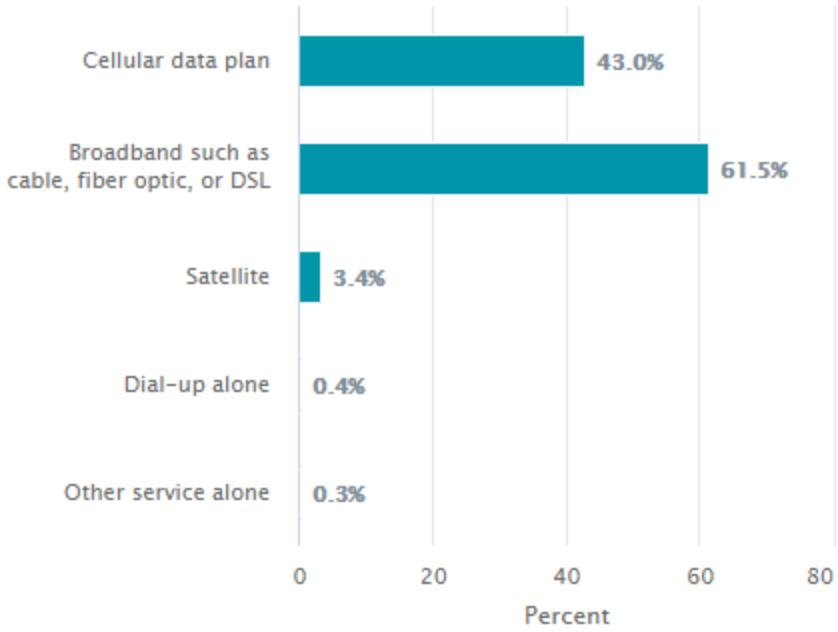
Types of Computers in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Desktop or laptop	72.7
Smartphone	59.6
Tablet or other portable wireless computer	46.1
Other computer	2.3

Among all households, 43.0 percent had a cellular data plan; 61.5 percent had a broadband subscription such as cable, fiber optic, or DSL; 3.4 percent had a satellite internet subscription; 0.4 percent had dial-up alone; and 0.3 percent had some other service alone.

Types of Internet Subscriptions in Jamestown city, New York in 2014-2018



	Percent
Cellular data plan	43.0
Broadband such as cable, fiber optic, or DSL	61.5
Satellite	3.4
Dial-up alone	0.4
Other service alone	0.3

Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy ("CHAS") data

Summary Level: City

Created on: November 14, 2020

Data for: Jamestown city, New York

Year Selected: 2013-2017 ACS

Income Distribution Overview	Owner	Renter	Total	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	650	2,490	3,140	
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	710	1,465	2,175	
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	1,155	1,050	2,205	
Household Income >80% to less-than or=100% HAMFI	745	530	1,275	
Household Income >100% HAMFI	3,170	825	3,995	
Total	6,430	6,360	12,790	
Housing Problems Overview 1	Owner	Renter	Total	
Household has at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems	1,225	3,745	4,970	
Household has none of 4 Housing Problems	5,170	2,540	7,710	
Cost burden not available, no other problems	30	75	105	
Total	6,430	6,360	12,790	
Severe Housing Problems Overview 2	Owner	Renter	Total	
Household has at least 1 of 4 Severe Housing Problems	535	2,410	2,945	
Household has none of 4 Severe Housing Problems	5,865	3,875	9,740	
Cost burden not available, no other problems	30	75	105	
Total	6,430	6,360	12,790	
Housing Cost Burden Overview 3	Owner	Renter	Total	
Cost Burden less-than or= 30%	5,215	2,665	7,880	
Cost Burden >30% to less-than or= 50%	720	1,385	2,105	
Cost Burden >50%	470	2,230	2,700	
Cost Burden not available	30	85	115	
Total	6,430	6,360	12,790	
Income by Housing Problems (Owners and Renters)	Household has at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems	Household has none of 4 Housing Problems	Cost Burden not available, no other housing problem	Total
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	2,785	250	105	3,140

Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	1,375	795		2,175
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	630	1,575		2,205
Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	65	1,210		1,275
Household Income >100% HAMFI	115	3,880		
Total	4,970	7,710	105	12,790
Income by Housing Problems (Renters only)	Household has at least 1 of 4	Household has none of	Cost Burden not available,	Total
	Housing Problems	4 Housing Problems	no other housing problem	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	2,275	140	75	2,490
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	1,050	415		1,465
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	345	705		1,050
Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	40	490		530
Household Income >100% HAMFI	40	785	0.0	825
Total	3,745	2,540	75	6,360
Income by Housing Problems (Owners only)	Household has at least 1 of 4	Household has none of	Cost Burden not available,	Total
	Housing Problems	4 Housing Problems	no other housing problem	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	510	110	30	650
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	325	380		710
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	285	870		1,155
Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	25	720		745
Household Income >100% HAMFI	75	3,095		3,170
Total	1,225	5,170	30	6,430
Income by Cost Burden (Owners and Renters)	Cost burden > 30%	Cost burden > 50%	Total	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	2,750	2,375	3,140	
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	1,365	245	2,175	
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	545	55	2,205	

Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	60		1,275	
Household Income >100% HAMFI	75	15	3,995	
Total	4,795	2,700	12,790	
Income by Cost Burden (Renters only)	Cost burden > 30%	Cost burden > 50%	Total	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	2,240	2,010	2,490	
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	1,050	200	1,465	
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	280	20	1,050	
Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	35		530	
Household Income >100% HAMFI	10		825	
Total	3,615	2,230	6,360	
Income by Cost Burden (Owners only)	Cost burden > 30%	Cost burden > 50%	Total	
Household Income less-than or= 30% HAMFI	515	370	650	
Household Income >30% to less-than or= 50% HAMFI	315	45	710	
Household Income >50% to less-than or= 80% HAMFI	270	40	1,155	
Household Income >80% to less-than or= 100% HAMFI	25		745	
Household Income >100% HAMFI	65	15	3,170	
Total	1,190	470	6,430	

1. The four housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than 1 person per room, and cost burden greater than 30%.

2. The four severe housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than 1 person per room, and cost burden greater than 50%.

3. Cost burden is the ratio of housing costs to household income. For renters, housing cost is gross rent (contract rent plus utilities). For owners, housing cost is "select monthly owner costs", which includes mortgage payment, utilities, association fees, insurance, and real estate taxes.



ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING: JAMESTOWN, NY 2020

DRAFT



Mayor Eddie Sundquist

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) is a review of housing data and demographic information, analysis of public and private sector policies and programs that impact housing decisions in the City of Jamestown, New York, identification of impediments that restrict fair housing choice for residents, and a series of recommended actions to remove the identified impediments.

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 requires that any jurisdiction receiving United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds to affirmatively further fair housing.

Municipalities receiving HUD entitlement funds are required to:

- Examine and attempt to alleviate housing discrimination within their jurisdiction
- Promote fair housing choice for all persons
- Provide opportunities for all persons to reside in any given housing development, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin
- Promote housing that is accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities
- Comply with the non-discrimination requirements of the Fair Housing Act.

These requirements can be achieved through the preparation of an AI. An AI is a review of a jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures, and practices affecting the location, availability, and accessibility of housing. It is also an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice.

An impediment to fair housing choice is defined as any action, omission, or decision that restricts or has the effect of restricting the availability of housing choices to members of the protected classes. The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, and disability. These are referred to as protected classes because they are groups of individuals protected by fair housing law.

Table 1: State and Federal Protection Summary, Source, New York State, FFHL

	New York State Human Rights Law	Federal Fair Housing Law
Race	X	X
Color	X	X
National Origin	X	X
Religion	X	X
Family Status	X	X
Disability Status	X	X
Sex	X	X
Age		X
Creed		X
Sexual Orientation		X
Marital Status		X
Military Status		X
Gender Expression/Identity		X
Gender		
Source of Income		X

Ultimately, the City of Jamestown AI serves as the basis for fair housing planning and provides essential information to policy makers and leaders in support of fair housing.

Assessment of Past Goals and Actions

The City of Jamestown's last Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing was completed in 2015. Prior to that, the most recent version was completed in 1996, with updates in 2001. That 14-year gap created ongoing fair housing issues and signified a de-prioritization of fair housing as an important policy focus.

The City of Jamestown welcomed in a new administration in 2020. This new administration has clearly prioritized access to safe and affordable housing and increasing rates of homeownership amongst all demographic groups, as demonstrated in the creation of the 2020-24 HUD Comprehensive Plan and administration of COVID-19 related HUD assistance in 2020. In addition, administration has reactivated the Human Rights Commission to serve as voice for and source of information on housing and other rights as recommended in the 2015 analysis. However, there are still many observations that

have not been addressed from that analysis. Most of these past recommendations would be addressed by the actions outlined in the 2020 Fair Housing Action Plan.

As many of the 2015 recommendations are outstanding, that year's "Fair Housing Issues and Recommendations" are included after the 2020 action plan. The current administration is well-positioned to address many of these issues and should consult both sets of recommendations. Both documents should be used as guides moving forward.

In identifying these issues and recommendations, it is understood that the City of Jamestown has limited resources and faces significant economic challenges. These traditional challenges will be amplified by the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these recommendations, especially renovation and abatement of housing stock, or the creation of new housing of any kind, will require annual dedication of HUD funds as well as additional funding. However, many of the recommendations require policy-based and legislative attention.

2020 Fair Housing Action Plan

The Fair Housing Action Plan includes recommended actions for the City of Jamestown, recognizing certain impediments requiring the resources and efforts of organizations beyond the City's scope of control, corresponding with the City of Jamestown's five-year HUD Consolidated Plan. The following action plan is recommended for affirmatively furthering fair housing choice within the over the next five years.

2020 Fair Housing Action Plan

Table 2: 2020 Jamestown Fair Housing Action Plan

	Impediment: Persons with lower incomes, who are disproportionately members of the protected classes, are less able to afford safe, decent affordable housing.			
1	Action	Detail	Evaluation	Timeline
	Preserve and increase the number and quality of affordable housing throughout the City.	The City should continue to invest federal, state, and local funds in a manner that is consistent with current and past HUD comprehensive plans. The dual strategies of improving housing and the quality of life in areas of high poverty while increasing access to affordable housing in areas of higher opportunity are consistent with the Fair Housing Act and affirmatively further fair housing choice. The recommendation is based on the analysis of CDBG and HOME funds. To ensure that the City continues to invest funds in ways that affirmatively further fair housing choice, the City should monitor expenditures for mapping and data analysis purposes on an annual basis. To the extent possible, the City should also monitor the benefit to members of the protected classes.	Maps and summary data analysis showing investment locations and beneficiaries.	Ongoing

Impediment: More fair housing education, outreach, investigation, and enforcement is needed.				
	Action	Detail	Evaluation	Timeline
2	Develop an easy to navigate webpage with fair housing information on the City's website.	Include a fair housing link on the bottom of the www.jamestownny.gov homepage. Further, and more importantly, create a new fair housing subpage, linked to the homepage, that provides information, including: What is fair housing? What is housing discrimination? Legal recourse? Who is protected under fair housing laws at all levels of legal jurisdiction? What are some examples of housing discrimination? How do I file a complaint? The website should also include the name and contact person for a City staff person to provide further guidance.	Completion and launch of new web page.	2021
3	Make the City's new fair housing webpage accessible for persons who are visually impaired and translate it into Spanish.	Disability status is the most frequently referenced basis of housing discrimination, making fair housing information available in an accessible format is an important component of education and outreach.	Make the new website accessible for persons who are visually impaired provide a version in Spanish and launch.	2021
4	Designate a City staff liaison for Fair Housing and provide contact information on the Fair Housing webpage.	Personal contact is critical, even in a growingly virtual society. People do not file a housing complaint because they either do not know how to do so or are unaware of their rights. A liaison would help answer questions about housing discrimination and	Designation of Fair Housing liaison, with contact info displayed on City's new Fair Housing webpage.	2021-22

		refer people to where they can submit a formal complaint.		
5	Work with Empire Justice, the local Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Coalition, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), New York Federal Reserve and/or others to identify discriminatory lending practices (e.g., mortgage denials, high price loans, etc.) and engage lenders to address.	While the City does not have jurisdiction over the private market, it is incumbent upon the City, as a HUD grantee, to affirmatively further fair housing choice, which includes identifying lending discrimination locally and working with partners and lenders to address it.	Discriminatory practices further understood, and lenders engaged by local partners to address.	2021-22
6	Develop City guidelines, policies, or other actions that help to enforce fair housing standards.	More stringent enforcement of housing violations was identified as a priority during stakeholder outreach. The City should explore guidelines, policies, or other actions it could take that would help to enforce fair housing standards, including not doing business with individuals or organizations that have unresolved fair housing cases or complaints.	City fair housing enforcement guidelines, policies, or other actions are identified and implemented.	Ongoing
	Impediment: A need to update policies and procedures.			
	Action	Detail	Evaluation	Timeline
7	Draft City of Jamestown Human Rights Law	The City of Jamestown recently reestablished a Human Rights Commission, which is an important step towards community-based leadership. Approval of a Jamestown Human Rights Law, led by the local commission, will help safeguard the housing and access rights of all residents, complimenting the	Draft and adopt City of Jamestown Human Rights Law.	2022

		existing Federal Fair Housing Law, and New York State Human Rights Law.		
8	Draft Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan	Per CPD Notice 94 16, grantees receiving HOME funds are required to have an Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan even if the participating jurisdiction's HOME-assisted projects will not result in the demolition or conversion of a low/moderate-income dwelling. Additional details are found in 24 CFR 42.325	Completion and Public Display of Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan.	2022
9	Develop a collaborative Section 3 Plan with other HUD funded agencies and jurisdictions.	This could help ensure that employment and other economic/business opportunities generated by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding programs are directed to public housing residents and other low-income persons, particularly recipients of government housing assistance, to the greatest extent possible.	Development and completion of collaborative local Section 3 Plan.	2022-23

2015 Fair Housing Issues and Recommendations

Table 3: Jamestown Fair Housing Action Plan, Source: 2015 Jamestown AI

Fair Housing Issue	Observations	Recommendations
<p>No 1. There is insufficient fair housing and enforcement.</p>	<p>1. Between 2010 and 2015, only a handful of fair housing complaints were investigated by the Division of Human Rights, most resulting in no probable cause determinations. 2. There has been no complaint-based or random fair housing testing conducted in Jamestown. 3. The options for someone with a fair housing complaint are not clear or widely known. 4. There is evidence to suggest that landlords are denying reasonable accommodations and are particularly not sympathetic to the rights of people with emotional support animals. 5. There is a lack of fair housing knowledge in the community. 6. No clear direction for people in the community on where to go if you are a victim of discrimination.</p>	<p>1. Work to develop a better partnership and contract with HOME of Buffalo, the only qualified fair housing enforcement organization serving the region. 2. Implement a systemic testing program to serve as a deterrent to housing providers that may discriminate and to identify a baseline by which further fair housing efforts can be measured. 3. Develop localized fair housing informational materials that direct an individual to local fair housing support services. 4. Develop a training service provider with protected class members to help them identify potential discrimination experienced by clients. 5. Review and monitor current outreach efforts and areas where future resources should be directed. 6. Conduct fair housing education programs directly to consumers in locations where people already congregate such as churches, community centers and tenant associations. 7. Develop and conduct education programs specifically related to individuals with disabilities and reasonable accommodations.</p>

<p>No. 2 There is a lack of understanding of the City's obligation to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing</p>	<p>1. Jamestown had not completed an Analysis of Impediment for 19 years. 2. The City devotes no resources to fair housing education and enforcement efforts. 3. The City's Human Rights Commission is no longer active. 4. Comments made in City planning documents identify "social" and "cultural" changes as contributing to the deteriorating neighborhoods, a problematic statement given the changing racial and ethnic demographics of the community.</p>	<p>1. Pass a Fair Housing ordinance to demonstrate the City's commitment to fair housing in the community. 2. Reactive the Human Rights Commission to serve as a voice and source for information on housing and other rights. 3. Develop training for City staff and elected officials on fair housing and the obligation to AFFH. 4. Conduct careful analysis of City documents to ensure no message exists that does not promote a culture of inclusion in the community that celebrates the diversity of Jamestown residents.</p>
<p>No 3. The poor quality of the housing stock has a disparate impact on protected classes.</p>	<p>1. There are well documented issues with the local housing stock, particularly at rental properties, including the presence of lead paint, code violations, and unresponsive landlords. 2. African Americans, Hispanics, and people with disabilities are much more likely to be low-income and renters. 3. 84% of Hispanic households in Jamestown experience a housing burden compared to 34% of non-Hispanic White households. 4. The presence of lead paint due to the age of the City's housing stock negatively impacts families with children. 5. The City's policy of placing prominent signs on condemned properties likely reduces housing values on nearby properties and increases the sense of blight in neighborhoods. These signs are much more likely to appear in high minority neighborhoods.</p>	<p>1. Continue and increase efforts to provide more proactive code enforcement. 2. Change policy of placing prominent signs on condemned properties while ensuring the safety of nearby residents. 3. Increase utilization of rental rehabilitation program. 4. Develop programs to increase local ownership of rental properties such as investor lending programs or incentives for local landlords purchasing land bank properties. 5. Explore feasibility of improving the enforcement of the rental registry, possibly including inspections for code violations and infestations.</p>

<p>No. 4. There is insufficient protections and education regarding tenants' rights.</p>	<p>1. Tenants living in substandard housing, which are more likely to be members of protected classes, have few options to get landlords to address habitability issues. 2. Tenants are often left in the precarious position of having to withhold rent and then face eviction to enforce their right to a safe and habitable dwelling. 3. Many rental properties are owned by out of town landlords and/or LLCs, making the enforcement of code violations more difficult.</p>	<p>1. Work to develop localized bedbug informational materials to assist tenants and housing providers in dealing with infestations. 2. Explore options for creating a housing court to allow tenants to bring affirmative habitability cases against housing providers. 3. Work to increase tenants' rights counseling to include proper procedures for rent withholding. 4. Create tenants' rights training program for local human service providers working with low-income tenants. 5. Work to improve protections for tenants facing retaliatory evictions.</p>
<p>No. 5. Homeownership rates among African Americans and Hispanic Households</p>	<p>1. Only 33% of Black households own their own homes compared to 52% of White households. 2. Median household incomes for Black households are not significantly lower than that of White households, indicating that factors other than household income account for low homeownership rates for this group. 3. Only eight home purchase applications for Black and Hispanic applicants were recorded in HMDA data for 2014.</p>	<p>1. Increase affirmative marketing of homeownership programs for African Americans and Hispanics. 2. Work to increase the number of African American and Hispanic real estate professionals. Grants may be available for local realtor associations. 3. Explore programs to offer down payment and closing cost assistance for low-income borrowers. 4. Work to increase the number of households utilizing the Section 8 homeownership program. 5. Explore programs to offer alternative financing for first time homebuyers in place of limited traditional financing.</p>

<p>No. 6. A lack of support for affordable housing development by city officials may limit housing choices.</p>	<p>1. In planning documents, the City called for a moratorium on new senior and low-income housing. 2. City officials have indicated a desire to severely restrict where multi-family housing can be developed in Jamestown.</p>	<p>1. Reconsider proposed zoning changes that would severely restrict where multi-family housing could be built. 2. Work to support subsidized housing developers that are building quality, low-income housing. 3. Work to develop better coordination and improved service delivery among subsidized housing providers.</p>
<p>No. 7. Affordable housing choices for families with children and especially large families are limited.</p>	<p>1. A significant portion of the subsidized rental housing in Jamestown is restricted to seniors and/or individuals and disabilities and some projects that are open to families do not have families living there. 2. Family households with more than five people are much more likely to experience housing problems than families with less than five people. 3. There is a substantial wait for the Housing Choice Voucher program, the most widely used housing subsidy program for families with children. 4. Language in information on the voucher program from Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. implies there may be a residency requirement to apply.</p>	<p>1. Work to support subsidized housing developers that are building units for low-income families. 2. Conduct research on the extent to which rental housing providers discriminate based on source of income. 3. Based on results of source of income analysis, consider legislation to ban source of income discrimination.</p>

Introduction

Fair housing is a basic and essential right. Equal and unimpeded access to residential housing is a fundamental civil right that enables members of protected classes, as defined in the federal Fair Housing Act, to pursue personal, educational, employment, or other goals.

The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on a person's race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin. Persons who are protected from discrimination by fair housing laws are referred to as members of the protected classes.

HUD awards funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership. directly to the City of Jamestown.

As administrators of HUD funding, the City has specific fair housing planning responsibilities including:

- Conducting an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
- Developing actions to overcome the effects of identified impediments to fair housing
- Maintaining records to support initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing

HUD interprets these three certifying elements to include:

- Analyzing housing discrimination in a jurisdiction and working toward its elimination
- Promoting fair housing choice for all people
- Providing racially and ethnically inclusive patterns of housing occupancy
- Promoting housing that is physically accessible to and usable by all people, particularly individuals with disabilities
- Fostering compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act.

Purpose of the Analysis of Impediments

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 requires that any community receiving HUD funds affirmatively further fair housing. Communities receiving HUD entitlement funds are required to:

- Examine and attempt to alleviate housing discrimination within their jurisdiction
- Promote fair housing choice for all persons
- Provide opportunities for all persons to reside in any given housing development, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin
- Promote housing that is accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities
- Comply with the non-discrimination requirements of the Fair Housing Act.

These requirements can be achieved through the preparation of an AI. An AI is a review of a jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures, and practices affecting the location, availability, and accessibility of housing. It is also an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice.

This AI will:

- Evaluate population, household, income, and housing characteristics by protected classes
- Evaluate public and private sector policies that impact fair housing choice
- Identify blatant impediments to fair housing choice where any may exist
- Recommend specific strategies to overcome the effects of any identified impediments.

An impediment to fair housing choice is defined as any action, omission, or decision that restricts or has the effect of restricting the availability of housing choices to members of the protected classes.

This AI:

- Serves as the basis for fair housing planning
- Provides essential information to policy makers, administrative staff, housing providers, lenders, and fair housing advocates
- Assists in building public support for fair housing efforts.

The Relationship between Fair Housing and Affordable Housing

To the extent that members of the protected classes tend to have lower incomes, then access to fair housing is related to affordable housing. In many areas across the United States, a primary impediment to fair housing is a relative absence of affordable housing. Often, the public policies implemented in towns and cities can contribute to the lack of affordable housing in these communities, thereby disproportionately affecting housing choice for members of the protected classes.

The Federal Fair Housing Act

The Federal Fair Housing Act covers most housing, though some owner-occupied buildings with no more than four units, single family housing sold or rented without the use of a broker, and housing operated by organizations and private clubs that limit occupancy to members are exempt. In the sale and rental of housing, the Federal Fair Housing Act stipulates that no one may take any of the following actions based on race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin:

- Refuse to rent or sell housing
- Refuse to negotiate for housing
- Make housing unavailable
- Deny a dwelling
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for the sale or rental of a dwelling
- Provide different housing services or facilities
- Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection, sale, or rental

- Persuade owners to sell or rent at a loss (“blockbusting”) and/or
- Deny anyone access to or membership in a facility or service (such as a multiple listing service) related to the sale or rental of housing.

In mortgage lending, no one may take any of the following actions based on race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin:

- Refuse to make a mortgage loan
- Refuse to provide information regarding loans
- Impose different terms or conditions on a loan, such as different interest rates, points, or fees
- Discriminate in appraising property
- Refuse to purchase a loan and/or
- Set different terms or conditions for purchasing a loan

The Fair Housing Act also includes other prohibitions. It is illegal for anyone to:

- Threaten, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with anyone exercising a fair housing right or assisting others who exercise that right
- Advertise or make any statement that indicates a limitation or preference based on race, color, religion, gender, disability, familial status, or national origin

This prohibition against discriminatory advertising applies to single family and owner-occupied housing that is otherwise exempt from the Fair Housing Act.

Additional protections for persons with disabilities are provided. If someone has a disability (including but not limited to hearing; mobility and visual impairments; chronic alcoholism; chronic mental illness; HIV/AIDS, AIDS-related complex; and intellectual disability) that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such a disability, or is regarded as having such a disability, a landlord may not:

- Refuse to let the person with a disability make reasonable modifications to a dwelling or common use areas at the person’s expense, if necessary, for the person to use the housing. Where reasonable, the landlord may permit changes only if the person agrees to restore the property to its original condition when that person moves

- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services if necessary, for the person with a disability to use the housing. Housing opportunities for families with children are protected. Unless a building or community qualifies as housing for older persons, it may not discriminate based on familial status. That is, it may not discriminate against families in which one or more children under the age 18 live with a parent, a legal custodian, or a designee of the parent or legal custodian with written permission. Familial status protection also applies to pregnant women and anyone securing legal custody of a child under age 18.

Housing for older persons is exempt from the prohibition against familial status discrimination if:

- The HUD Secretary has determined that it is specifically designed for and occupied by elderly persons under a federal, state, or local government program
- It is occupied solely by persons who are 62 or older or
- It houses at least one person who is 55 or older in at least 80% of the occupied units and adheres to a policy that demonstrates the intent to house persons who are 55 or older, as previously described.

Recent Changes to HUD Program Regulations

On March 5, 2012, HUD implemented policies to ensure that its core programs are open to all eligible individuals and families regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. In response to evidence suggesting that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and families were being arbitrarily excluded from housing opportunities in the private sector, HUD's aim was to ensure that its own programs do not allow for discrimination against any eligible person or household, and that HUD's own programs serve as models for equal housing opportunity. This change to HUD program regulations does not amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit all discrimination in the private market based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. Further, it prohibits discrimination of those types by any housing provider who receives HUD funding, including public housing agencies, those who are insured by the Federal Housing Administration (including lenders), and those who participate in federal entitlement grant programs through HUD.

Methodology used for the AI

The following sources were utilized:

- The most recently available demographic data regarding population, household, housing, income, and employment at the census tract and municipal level
- Public policies affecting the siting and development of housing
- Administrative policies concerning housing and community development
- Financial lending institution data from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) database

Data Analysis

The primary data sources analyzed were the United States Decennial Census, 2000-2010 and the American Community Survey (ACS), 2013-2017. Broader HUD data, New York State Department of Education, New York State Division of Human Rights, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Fair Housing Act was also analyzed.

Document/Data Review

Several documents and studies were reviewed to inform this analysis, including:

- City of Jamestown, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, 2015
- City of Jamestown, DRAFT FY 2020-24 Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
- City of Jamestown, FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan
- City of Jamestown, FY 2019 Action Plan
- City of Jamestown, 2019 Municipal Budget
- City of Jamestown, City Charter and Code
- City of Jamestown, Online Assessment Roll System
- City of Jamestown, Vacant and Abandoned Property Prevention Program Overview
- City of Jamestown, New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application
- HUD, Integrated Disbursement, and Information System

- HUD, Exchange Website
- New York State School Report Card (2018-19), Jamestown
- Chautauqua Area Regional Transit System Jamestown City-Fixed Routes
- Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020
- Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., 2019 Annual Impact Report
- Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., and Chautauqua Opportunities for Development Plan, 2016-18
- Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Fair Housing Initiative for Chautauqua County, New York
- Chautauqua County, Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, 2019-21
- Chautauqua County, Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, 2016-18
- Chautauqua County, Geographic Information System Website
- Chautauqua County, Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention Program Overview
- Chautauqua County, Administrative Code
- Jamestown Renaissance Corporation, Urban Design Plan 2.0
- Jamestown Renaissance
- New York State Division of Human Rights, Housing Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- New York State Division of Human Rights, Fair Housing Guide
- HUD Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, “Voluntary Compliance Agreement, City of Jamestown”
- HUD, Fair Housing Planning Guide, Volume One
- United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2020 Report
- New York State Department of Education Data

Engagement

Outreach was carried out jointly for the City’s Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, with the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the FY 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan. Across all outreach initiatives, the most frequently cited needs include the following:

- Affordable housing
- Home Ownership
- Increased municipal services

- Infrastructure and public facilities
- Housing rehabilitation and homeownership initiatives

Limits to Analysis

The purpose of this analysis is to identify fair housing impediments and make recommendations to City of Jamestown policy makers and leaders. As stated in the 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, the City of Jamestown does not exist in a vacuum. Regional and national housing and economic trends impact the choices available to individuals. The recommendations of the 2015 analysis also have not been fully executed. This 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing attempts to clearly identify current challenges and recommendations while emphasizing the importance of the recommendations made in 2015.

Profile

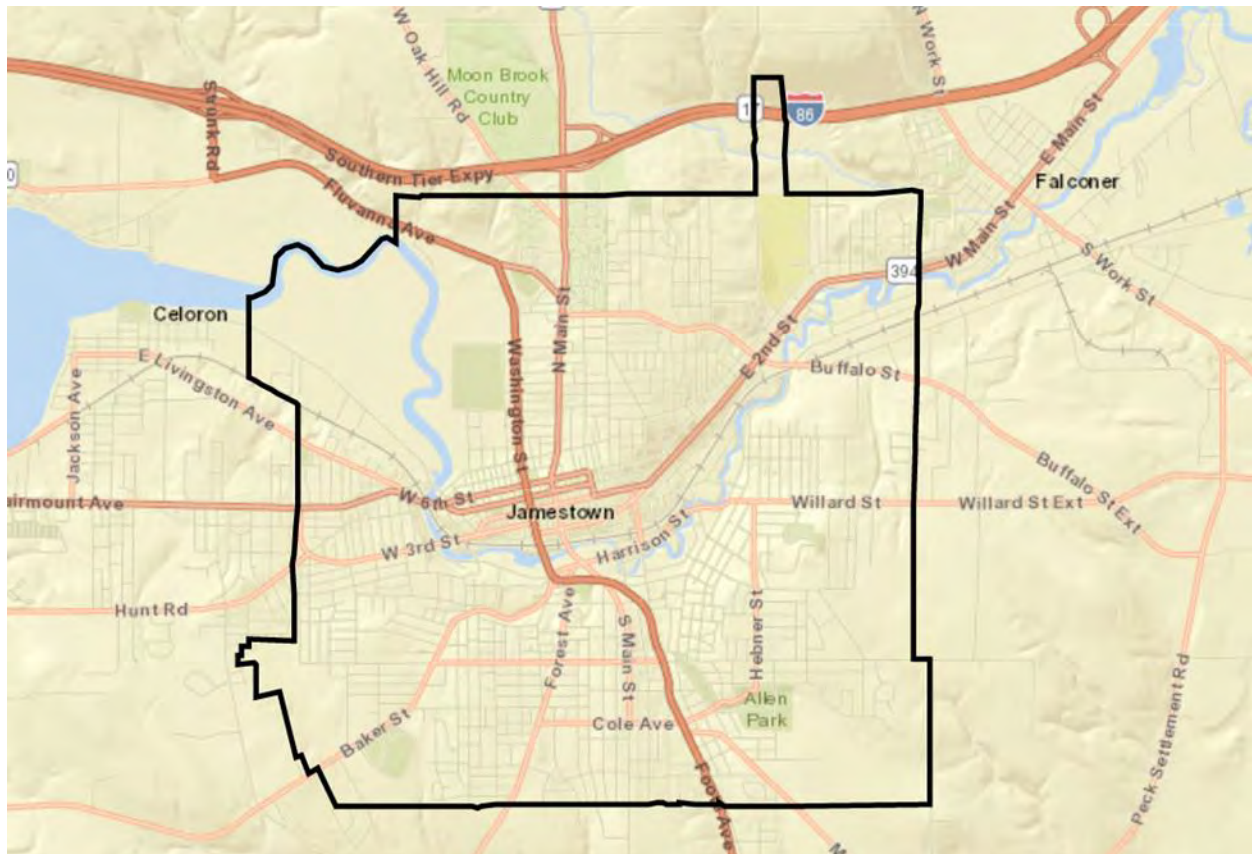
Introduction

This section of the AI analyzes the geographic, historic, and socioeconomic characteristics of the City of Jamestown's residents, focusing on members of the protected classes. The data utilized in the AI is primarily the Five-Year estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) published by the United States Census Bureau.

Geography

The City of Jamestown is the largest city in Chautauqua County, New York, located in the southwest region of the state. The City's total area of 8.9 square miles.

Map 1: City of Jamestown, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 2: Chautauqua County, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 3: Jamestown's location in New York State, Source: HUD CPD MAPS

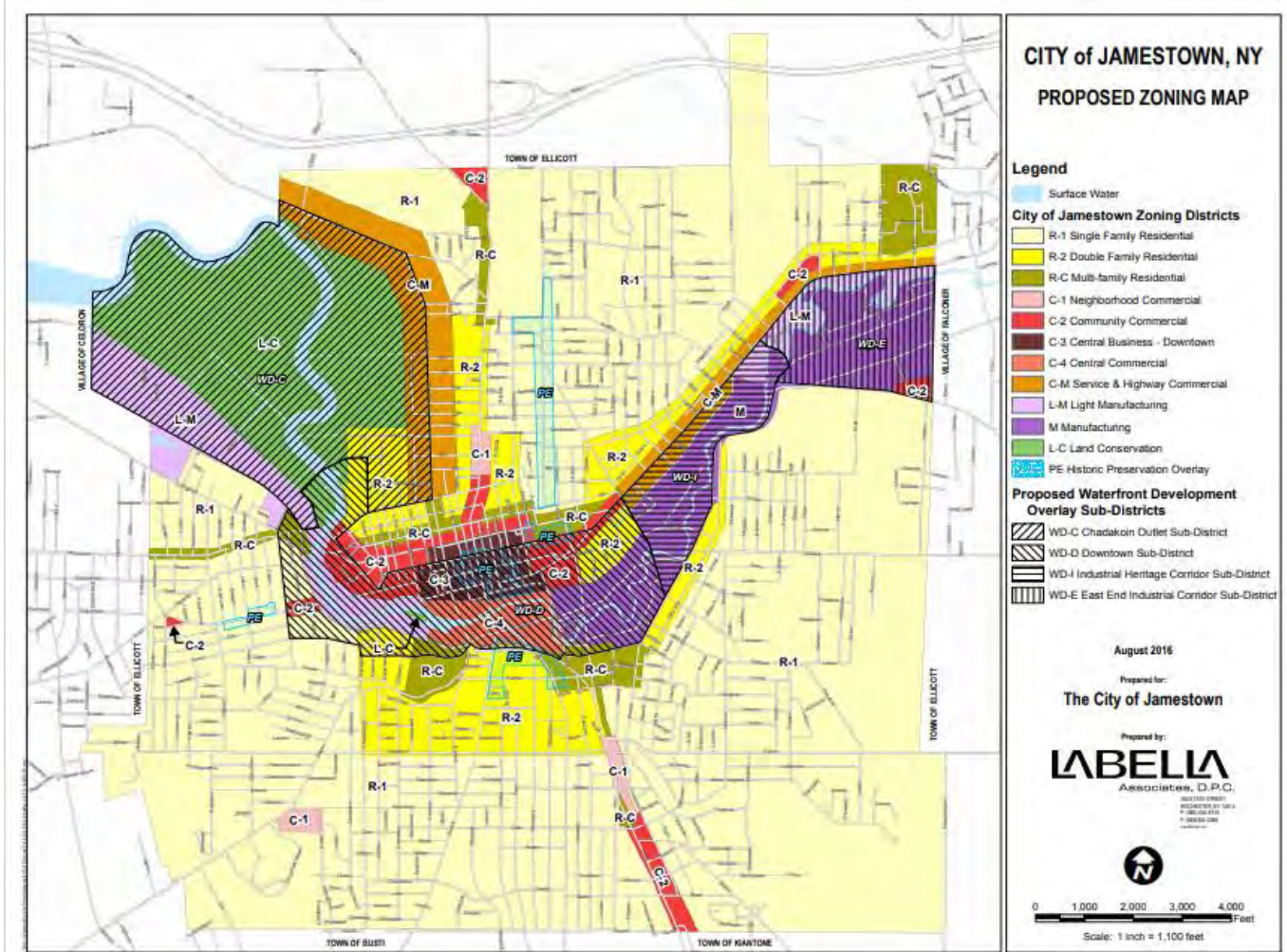


The County is largely rural with its major urban centers in Dunkirk, Fredonia, and Jamestown.

Map 4: Jamestown's location as an urban center, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 5: Jamestown Zoning Map, Source: City of Jamestown



The City of Jamestown hosts a central commercial district surrounded by residential zones, light commercial and manufacturing sectors.

Demographic Summary

According to the U.S. Census' American Community Survey (ACS), the City of Jamestown has a total population of 29,799, a median household income of \$31,595 and a poverty rate of 31.4 percent. The following tables provide summary data for the City of Jamestown's current population.

Figure 1: Jamestown: People and Population, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

People and Population

Age and Sex

37.7 +/- 1.6

Median age in Jamestown city,
New York

37.9 +/- 0.1

Median age in the United States

Table: DP05
Table Survey/Program: 2018
American Community Survey 5-
Year Estimates

Population by Age Range in Jamestown city, New York

Under 5 years - 6.5%



18 years and older - 76.5%



65 years and older - 16.9%



0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

Figure 2: Jamestown: Race and Ethnicity, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Race

29,799 +/- 34

Total population in Jamestown city, New York

322,903,030 +/- *****

Total population in the United States

Table: DP05
Table Survey/Program: 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Population by Race in Jamestown city, New York

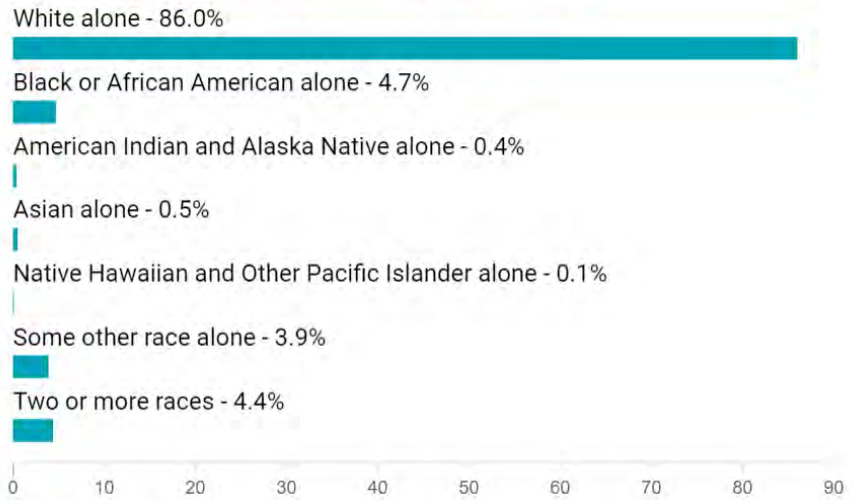


Figure 3: Jamestown Place of Birth, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Place of birth

1.8%

Foreign-born population

about 80 percent of the rate in the Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY Micro Area: 2.3% †

about 10 percent of the rate in New York: 22.6%

Place of birth for foreign-born population

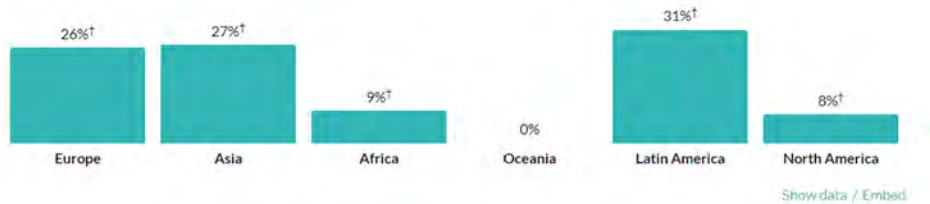


Figure: 4 Jamestown: Household Type, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Households

12,652

Number of households

the Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY Micro Area: 52,572

New York: 7,316,537

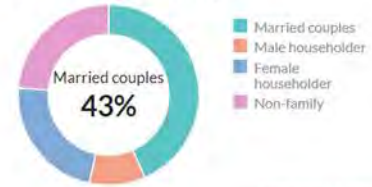
2.3

Persons per household

about the same as the figure in the Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY Micro Area: 2.4

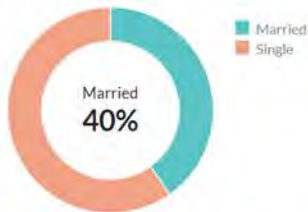
about 90 percent of the figure in New York: 2.6

Population by household type



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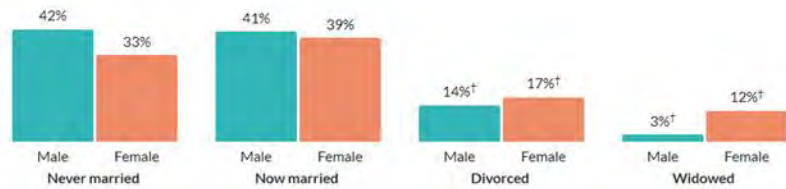
Marital status



* Universe: Population 15 years and over

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Marital status, by sex



Show data / Embed

Figure 5: Jamestown: Income and Poverty, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Income and Poverty

Earnings

\$32,022 +/- \$2,306

Female median year-round, full-time earnings in Jamestown city, New York

\$41,690 +/- \$70

Female median year-round, full-time earnings in the United States

Table: S2001
Table Survey/Program: 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Median Earnings for Fulltime, Year-Round Workers by Sex in Jamestown city, New York

Male - \$38,927

Female - \$32,022



Figure 6: Jamestown: Employment Transportation, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Employment

Commuting

14.7 +/- 0.8

Average commute to work (in minutes) in Jamestown city, New York

26.6 +/- 0.1

Average commute to work (in minutes) in the United States

Table: DP03
Table Survey/Program: 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Means of Transportation to Work in Jamestown city, New York

Drove alone - 77.1%

Carpool - 11.6%

Public transportation - 0.7%

Walked - 6.7%

Other means - 1.9%

Worked at home - 1.9%



Figure 7: Jamestown: Health, Source: 2018 ACS 5-year Estimates

Health

Disability

19.2% +/- 1.6%

Disabled population in
Jamestown city, New York

12.6% +/- 0.1%

Disabled population in the United
States

Table: DP02
Table Survey/Program: 2018
American Community Survey 5-
Year Estimates

Types of Disabilities in Jamestown city, New York

Hearing difficulty - 4.9%

Vision difficulty - 3.3%

Cognitive difficulty - 8.9%

Ambulatory difficulty - 10.6%

Self-care difficulty - 4.8%

Independent living difficulty - 9.5%

0 2 4 6 8 10 12

Demographic Detail

The following table provides a more detailed demographic summary of the current population of the City of Jamestown.

Table 4: Jamestown: Demographics, Source: ACS

Label	Estimate	Percent
HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE		
Total households	12,788	12,788
Family households (families)	7,144	55.9%
With own children of the householder under 18 years	3,385	26.5%
Married-couple family	4,181	32.7%
With own children of the householder under 18 years	1,592	12.4%
Male householder, no wife present, family	986	7.7%
With own children of the householder under 18 years	523	4.1%
Female householder, no husband present, family	1,977	15.5%
With own children of the householder under 18 years	1,270	9.9%
Nonfamily households	5,644	44.1%
Householder living alone	4,663	36.5%
65 years and over	1,563	12.2%
Households with one or more people under 18 years	3,880	30.3%
Households with one or more people 65 years and over	3,556	27.8%
Average household size	2.29	(X)
Average family size	2.99	(X)

RELATIONSHIP		
Population in households	29,312	29,312
Householder	12,788	43.6%
Spouse	4,224	14.4%
Child	8,382	28.6%
Other relatives	1,627	5.6%
Nonrelatives	2,291	7.8%
Unmarried partner	1,210	4.1%
MARITAL STATUS		
Males 15 years and over	11,596	11,596
Never married	4,575	39.5%
Now married, except separated	4,551	39.2%
Separated	397	3.4%
Widowed	313	2.7%
Divorced	1,760	15.2%
Females 15 years and over	12,507	12,507
Never married	3,969	31.7%
Now married, except separated	4,610	36.9%
Separated	485	3.9%
Widowed	1,324	10.6%
Divorced	2,119	16.9%
GRANDPARENTS		

Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	570	570
Grandparents responsible for grandchildren	245	43.0%
Years responsible for grandchildren		
Less than 1 year	19	3.3%
1 or 2 years	92	16.1%
3 or 4 years	9	1.6%
5 or more years	125	21.9%
Number of grandparents responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years	245	245
Who is female	192	78.4%
Who are married	160	65.3%
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	7,049	7,049
Nursery school, preschool	360	5.1%
Kindergarten	317	4.5%
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	3,168	44.9%
High school (grades 9-12)	1,668	23.7%
College or graduate school	1,536	21.8%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 years and over	20,331	20,331
Less than 9th grade	791	3.9%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,989	9.8%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	7,239	35.6%

Some college, no degree	3,900	19.2%
Associate degree	2,863	14.1%
Bachelor's degree	2,075	10.2%
Graduate or professional degree	1,474	7.3%
Percent high school graduate or higher	(X)	86.3%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	(X)	17.5%
VETERAN STATUS		
Civilian population 18 years and over	22,876	22,876
Civilian veterans	1,936	8.5%
DISABILITY STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION		
Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population	29,719	29,719
With a disability	6,104	20.5%
Under 18 years	7,181	7,181
With a disability	702	9.8%
18 to 64 years	17,916	17,916
With a disability	3,663	20.4%
65 years and over	4,622	4,622
With a disability	1,739	37.6%
RESIDENCE 1 YEAR AGO		
Population 1 year and over	29,614	29,614
Same house	24,890	84.0%
Different house in the U.S.	4,604	15.5%

Same county	3,594	12.1%
Different county	1,010	3.4%
Same state	452	1.5%
Different state	558	1.9%
Abroad	120	0.4%
PLACE OF BIRTH		
Total population	30,094	30,094
Native	29,562	98.2%
Born in United States	28,448	94.5%
State of residence	23,071	76.7%
Different state	5,377	17.9%
Born in Puerto Rico, U.S. Island areas, or born abroad to American parent(s)	1,114	3.7%
Foreign born	532	1.8%
U.S. CITIZENSHIP STATUS		
Foreign-born population	532	532
Naturalized U.S. citizen	315	59.2%
Not a U.S. citizen	217	40.8%
YEAR OF ENTRY		
Population born outside the United States	1,646	1,646
Native	1,114	1,114
Entered 2010 or later	229	20.6%
Entered before 2010	885	79.4%

Foreign born	532	532
Entered 2010 or later	21	3.9%
Entered before 2010	511	96.1%
WORLD REGION OF BIRTH OF FOREIGN BORN		
Foreign-born population, excluding population born at sea	532	532
Europe	153	28.8%
Asia	147	27.6%
Africa	0	0.0%
Oceania	0	0.0%
Latin America	186	35.0%
Northern America	46	8.6%
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME		
Population 5 years and over	28,214	28,214
English only	25,737	91.2%
Language other than English	2,477	8.8%
Speak English less than "very well"	903	3.2%
Spanish	1,946	6.9%
Speak English less than "very well"	771	2.7%
Other Indo-European languages	446	1.6%
Speak English less than "very well"	86	0.3%
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	65	0.2%
Speak English less than "very well"	46	0.2%

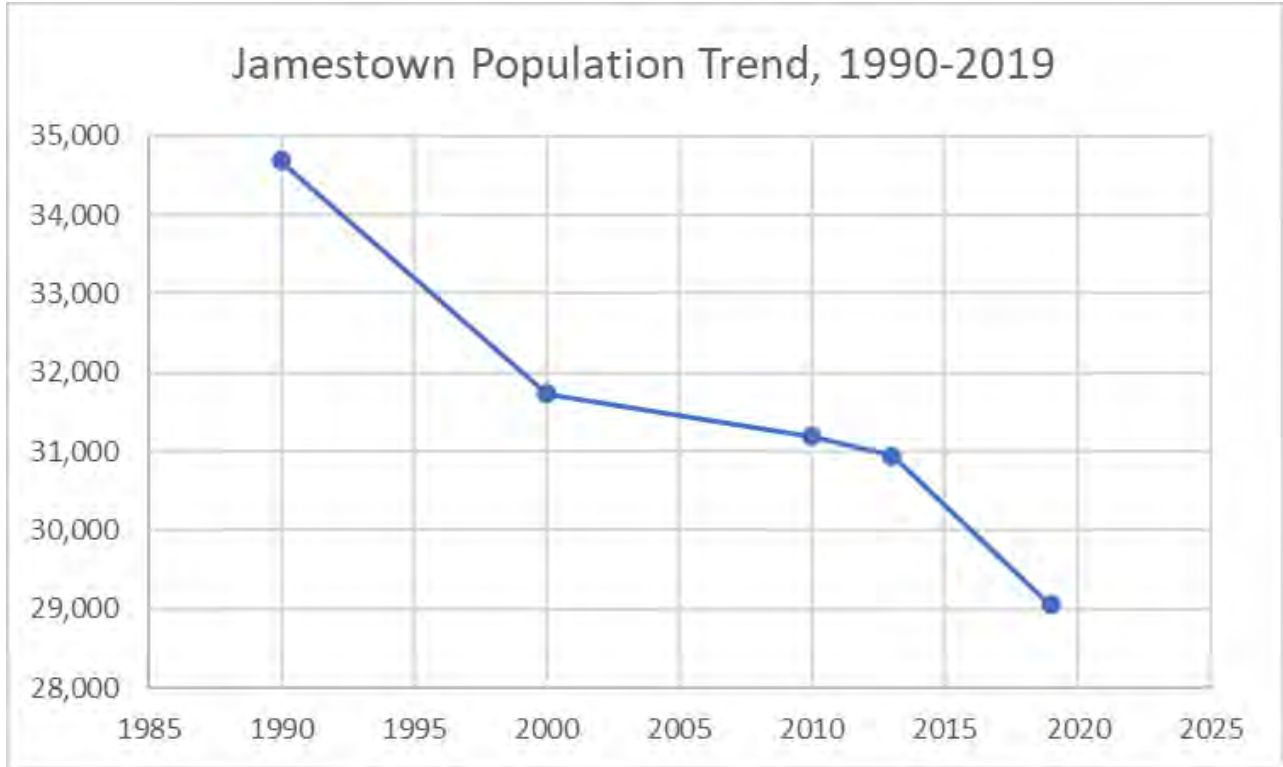
Other languages	20	0.1%
Speak English less than "very well"	0	0.0%
ANCESTRY		
Total population	30,094	30,094
American	1,084	3.6%
Arab	39	0.1%
Czech	7	0.0%
Danish	150	0.5%
Dutch	384	1.3%
English	2,838	9.4%
French (except Basque)	751	2.5%
French Canadian	234	0.8%
German	4,698	15.6%
Greek	98	0.3%
Hungarian	170	0.6%
Irish	4,047	13.4%
Italian	4,944	16.4%
Lithuanian	34	0.1%
Norwegian	141	0.5%
Polish	1,529	5.1%
Portuguese	10	0.0%
Russian	112	0.4%
Scotch-Irish	416	1.4%

Scottish	438	1.5%
Slovak	19	0.1%
Sub Saharan African	101	0.3%
Swedish	4,675	15.5%
Swiss	51	0.2%
Ukrainian	139	0.5%
Welsh	202	0.7%
West Indian (excluding Hispanic origin groups)	82	0.3%
COMPUTERS AND INTERNET USE		
Total households	12,788	12,788
With a computer	10,411	81.4%
With a broadband Internet subscription	8,659	67.7%

Population Trends

Population decline has, and will continue to, impact housing choice as well as all social and demographic indicators. Decades of sustained population loss leads to decay and depreciation of housing stock and broader economic opportunities. This analysis examines multiple factors that can impede fair housing. It is important to note that a legacy of population loss is the main focal point to start from.

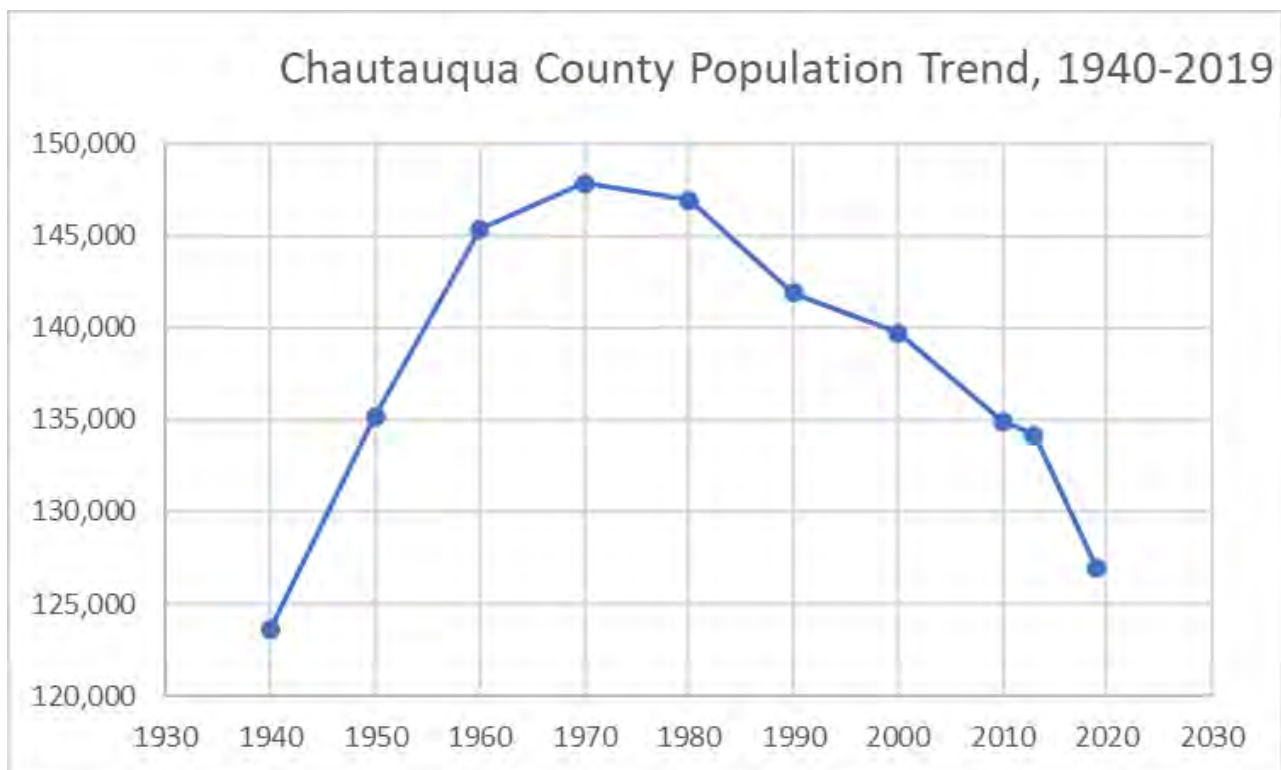
Figure 8: Jamestown Population Loss, Source: U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS



Year	Population
1990	34,681
2000	31,730
2010	31,186
2013	30,944
2019	29,058

As communicated in past community profiles, the City of Jamestown has experienced sustained population loss and economic decline. These trends are not specific to Jamestown, especially within the upstate region of New York State. The City's population reached its highest number in the 1920s and has seen consistent decline since the 1950s. The City of Jamestown's has occurred while Chautauqua County has experienced population loss as well, like many Northeastern counties.

Figure 9: Chautauqua Population Loss, Source, U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS



Year	Population
1940	123,580
1950	135,189
1960	145,377
1970	147,854
1980	146,925
1990	141,895
2000	139,750
2010	134,905
2013	134,156
2019	126,903

The City of Jamestown's population decreased by 6.82% from 2010 to 2019, outpacing population loss of both Chautauqua County and New York State. This analysis is being conducted in advance of the complete 2020 Decennial Census, and 2019 are based on 2019 estimates. This number can vary but both the City of Jamestown and the County of Chautauqua are losing significant population.

Table 5: City of Jamestown, Chautauqua County, New York State Population Source: 2000-10; ACS

	2000	2010	2019		
	Number	Number	Percentage Change 2000-2010	Number	Percentage Change 2010-2019
Jamestown	31,730	31,186	-1.71%	29,058	-6.82%
Chautauqua County	139,750	134,905	-3.46%	126,903	-5.93%
New York State	18,976,457	19,378,102	2.12%	19,450,000	-0.36%

Chautauqua County Summary Profile

As stated earlier in this analysis, the City of Jamestown's social-economic challenges illustrate broader regional concerns. Analyzing county level data provides important insight. Chautauqua County has median income (\$44,304) well below that of New York State (\$62,765) and below those of the nearby counties of Cattaraugus, Erie, Wyoming, and Niagara. According to Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.'s Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020, as incomes in Chautauqua County remain low, a need for public assistance persists for many of the county's residents that is exacerbated by attributes other than income, such as age and disability status. Public assistance is defined as "assistance programs that provide either cash assistance or in-kind benefits to individuals and families from any governmental entity." Several programs exist at the federal level to aid in areas such as food, housing, and healthcare. There are many programs in New York State that also provide a range of benefits for residents. Poverty levels in Chautauqua County continue to be higher than the state and national averages.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.5% of Chautauqua County residents live in poverty, more than the percentage of 15.1% for New York State and 12.3% across the nation. A higher level of poverty means that more people will rely on public assistance as a means of paying for food, rent, and other needs. The Census Bureau also reports that 18.9% of households in Chautauqua County received SNAP benefits in 2016, a stark increase from the 2011 figure of 14.4%. Additionally, they report that 4.6% of households in Chautauqua County received cash public assistance and 7.4% of households received SSI benefits in 2016.

Table 6: Chautauqua County Population, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020

	#	%
Total Population	130,846	
Gender		
Males	64,652	49.4%
Females	66,194	50.6%
Race		
One Race	128,266	98.0%
White	121,359	92.7%
Black/African American	3,459	2.6%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	411	.3%
Asian	781	.6%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	41	.03%
Some other race	2,215	1.7%
Two or More Races	2,580	2.0%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic (of any race)	9,427	7.2%

Table 7: Chautauqua County Age, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020

	#	%
Age Groups		
Under 5 Years	7,083	5.4%
5 to 9	6,751	5.2%
10 to 14	8,313	6.4%
15 to 19	9,458	7.2%
20 to 24	8,999	6.9%
25 to 34	15,141	11.6%
35 to 44	13,834	10.6%
45 to 54	17,622	13.5%
55 to 59	10,187	7.8%
60 to 64	9,228	7.1%
65 to 74	13,237	10.1%
75 to 84	7,781	5.9%
85 and over	3,212	2.5%

Table 8: Chautauqua County Population, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020

	All Households	Family Households	Non-Family Households
Total number of households	52,983	32,986	19,997
Annual Income:			
< \$10,000	7.9	5.4	13.3
\$10,000 - \$14,999	7.2	3.6	13.5
\$15,000 - \$24,999	13.5	9.4	21.5
\$25,000 - \$34,999	11.4	10.1	14.3
\$35,000 - \$49,999	15.5	14.9	15.6
\$50,000 - \$74,999	18.4	21.3	12.5
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.2	15.7	5.6
\$100,000 - \$149,999	10.1	14.4	2.4
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.3	3.4	.4
> \$200,000	1.4	1.8	.8

Table 9: Chautauqua Home Values, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020

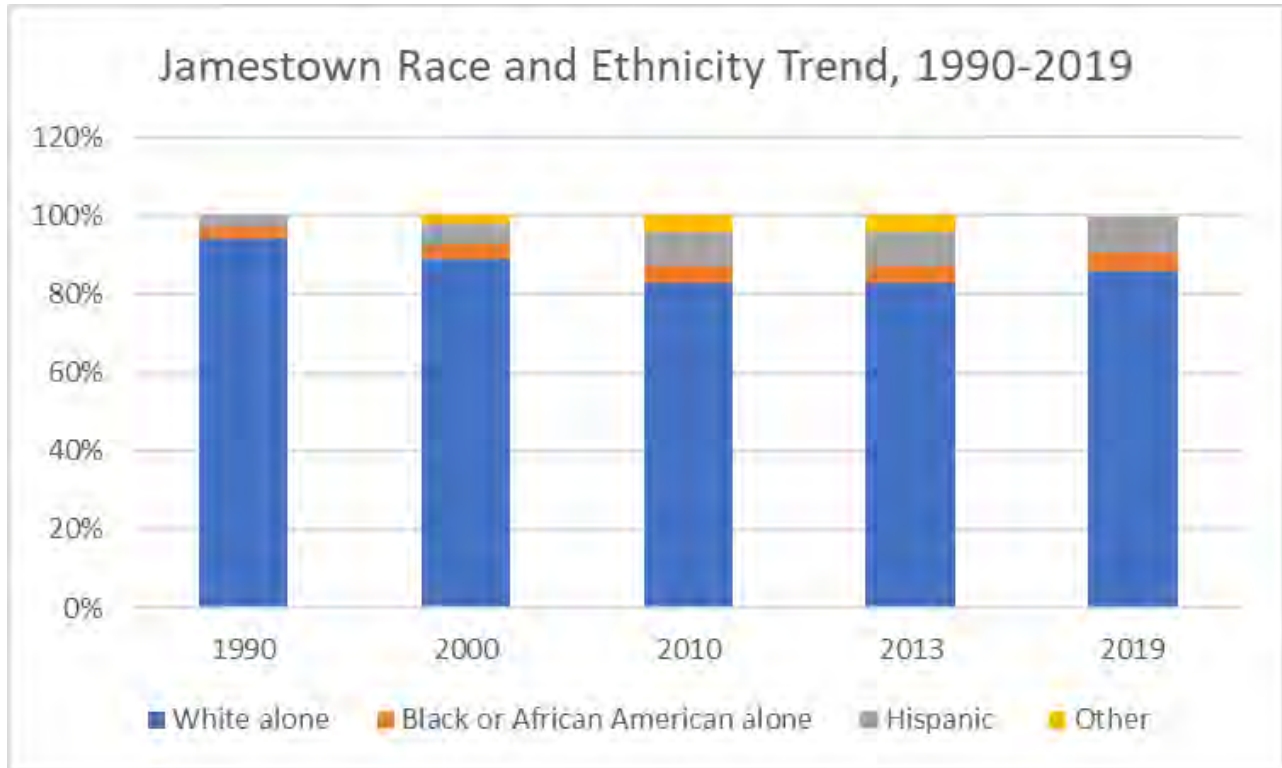
Year	Chautauqua County	NY	US
2005	\$75,000	\$258,900	\$167,500
2010	\$79,600	\$303,900	\$188,400
2014	\$84,100	\$283,700	\$175,700
2017	\$85,800	\$293,000	\$193,500

Table 10: Chautauqua County Population, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020

Chautauqua County				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	69.3%	68.0%	69.9%	70.0%
Rented	30.7%	32.0%	30.1%	30.0%
New York State				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	53.0%	53.3%	53.8%	54.0%
Rented	47.0%	46.7%	46.2%	46.0%
U.S.				
	2000	2010	2014	2017
Owned	66.2%	65.1%	64.4%	63.8%
Rented	33.8%	34.9%	35.6%	36.2%

Race and Ethnicity

Figure 10: Jamestown Race and Ethnicity Trend, U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS

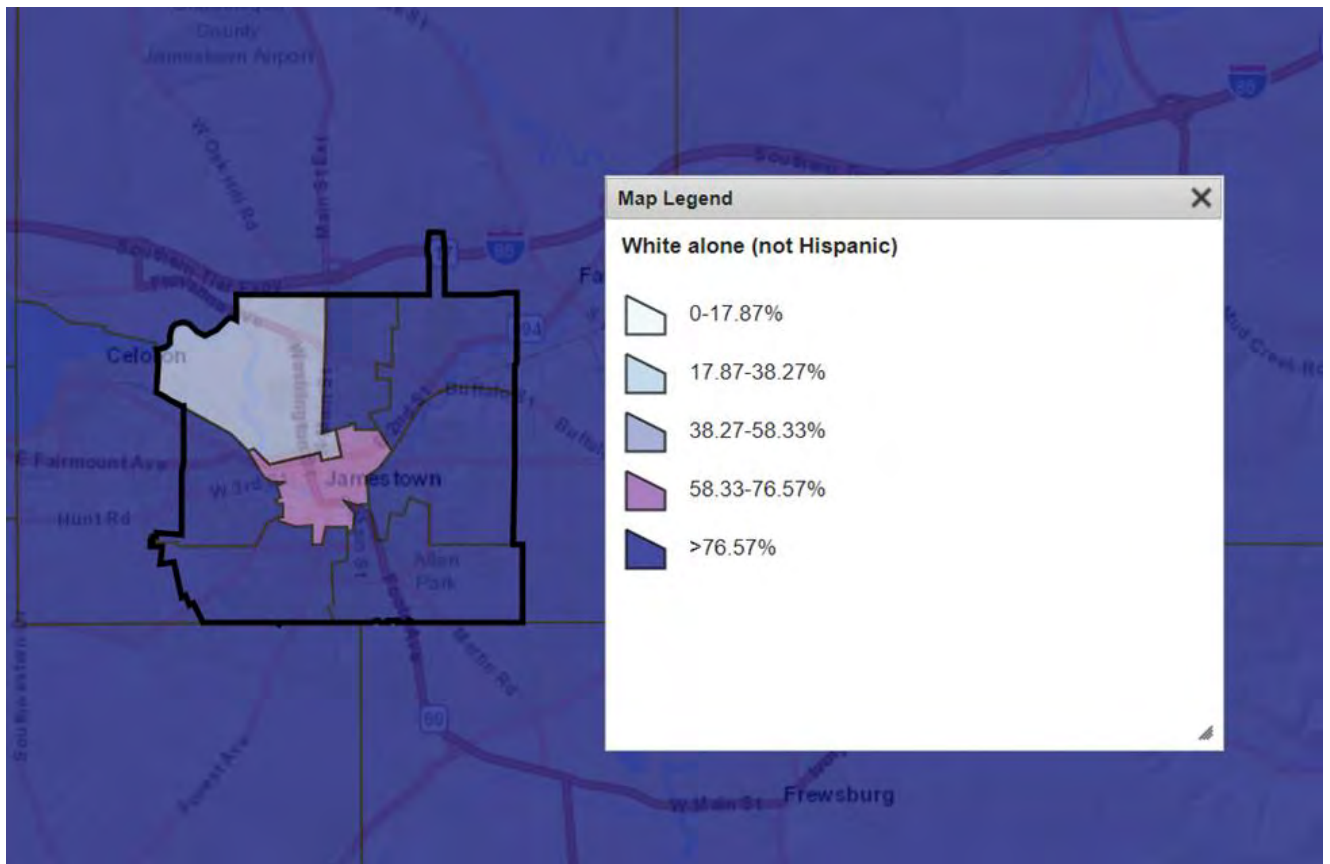


*Hispanic is not considered an ethnicity by the U.S. Census Bureau. Table 10's Hispanic percentage is based on self-identification. Table 2, provided earlier in the analysis, provides traditional US Census Bureau classifications.

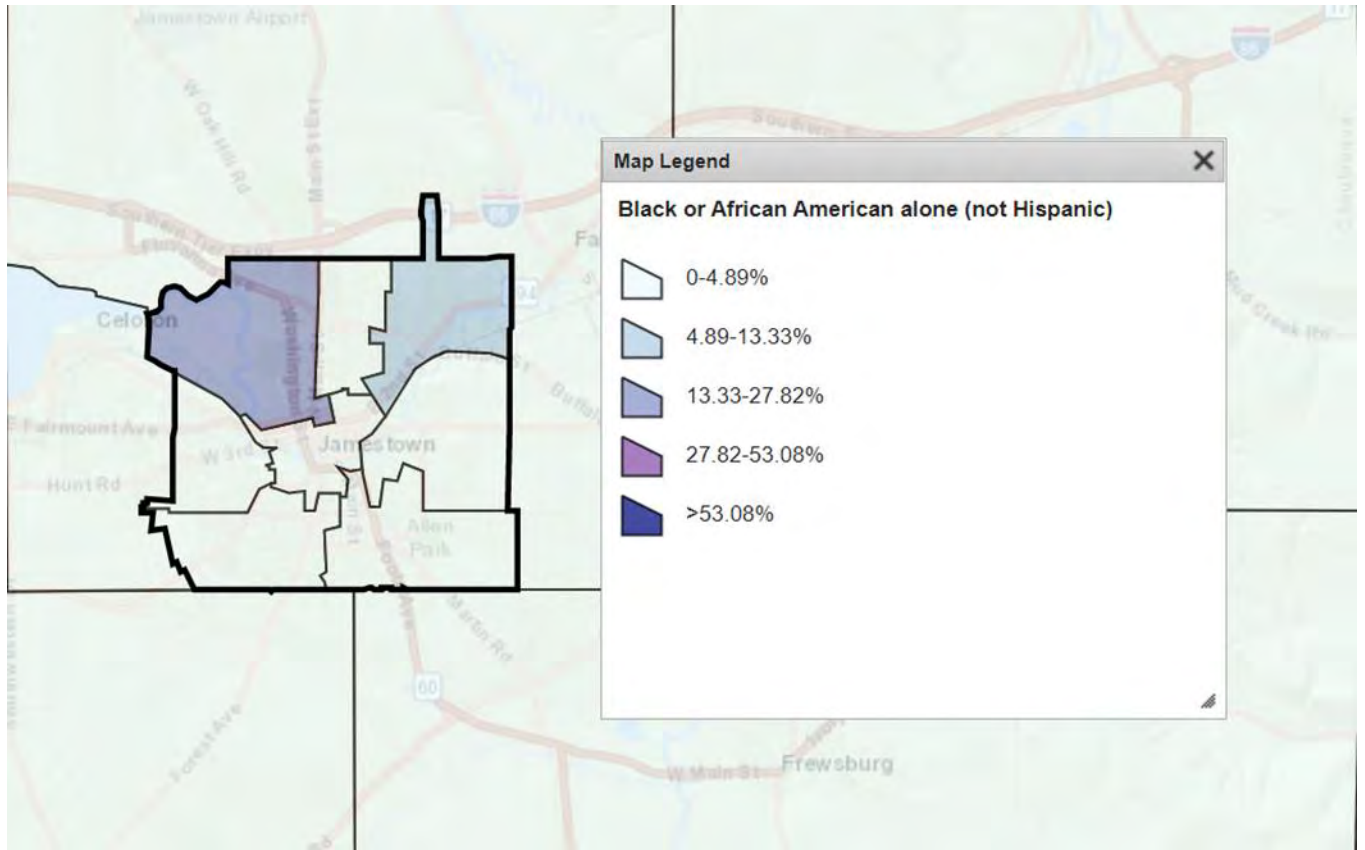
	1990	2000	2010	2013	2019
White alone	94%	89%	83%	83%	86%
Black or African American alone	3%	4%	4%	4%	4.70%
Hispanic	3%	5%	9%	9%	9%
Other		2%	4%	4%	

While the City of Jamestown is still predominantly white, the community has become consistently more diverse. The growth in the Hispanic community is significant. The maps below illustrate the City's racial and ethnic distribution. There are clearly racial divides along geographic lines. Black/African American residents are primarily located in the north western section of the city, and the north eastern section to a lesser extent. Hispanic residents are primarily located in the center of the city and the north western section. White residents are primarily located in all sections of the city, other than those listed above.

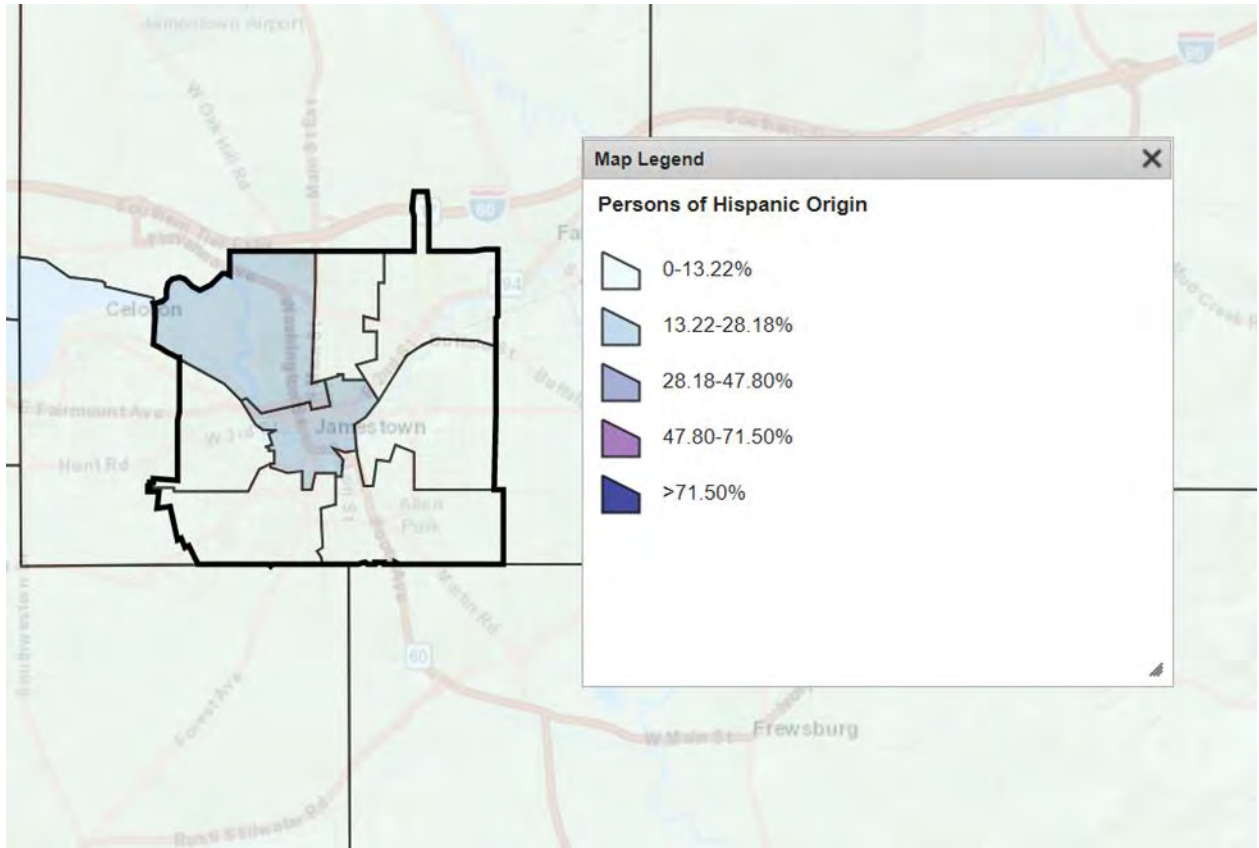
Map 6: Racial/ethnic distribution-white, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



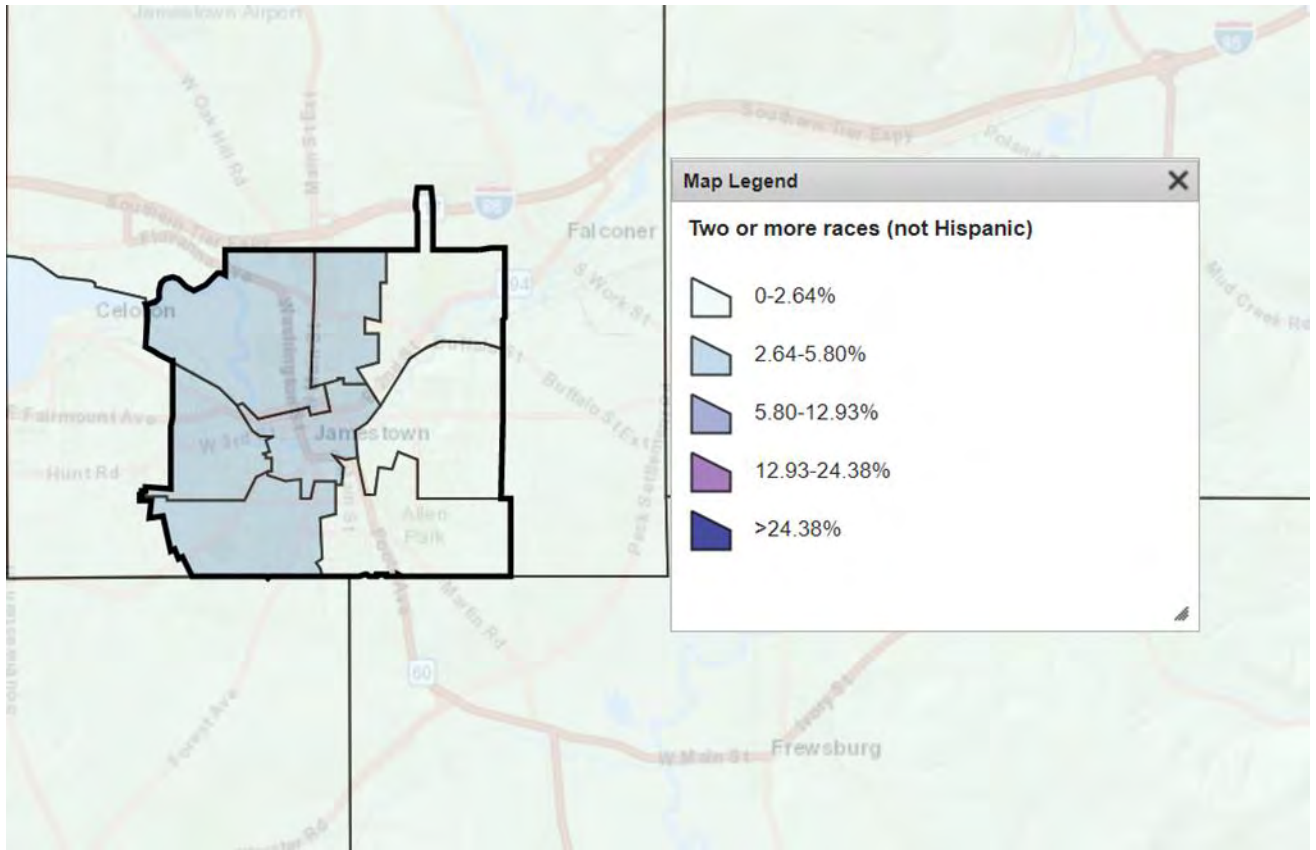
Map 7: Racial/ethnic distribution-black or African Americans, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



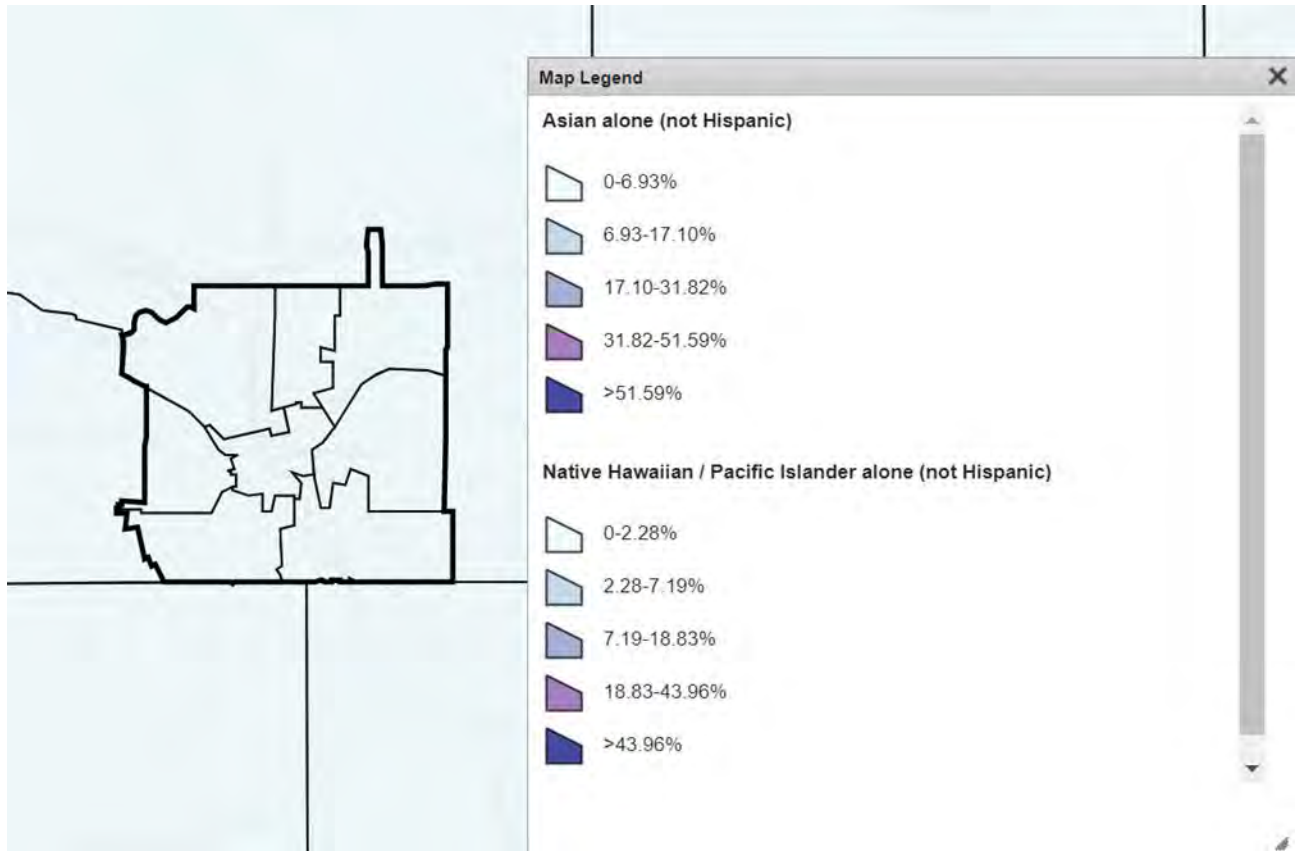
Map 8: Racial/ethnic distribution-Hispanic Origin. Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 9: Racial/ethnic distribution-Two or more races, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 10: Racial/ethnic distribution- Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: HUD CPD MAPS



Disparities in Access to Opportunity

HUD identifies five areas identified as opportunity indicators:

- Poverty
- Education
- Employment
- Transportation
- Health

Table 11: HUD Opportunity Index, Source: US Decennial Census

	Low Poverty Index	School Proficiency Index	Labor Market Index	Transit Index	Low Transportation Cost Index	Jobs Proximity Index	Environmental Health Index
Jamestown, NY CDBG							
Total Population							
White, Non-Hispanic	14.56	41.84	27.71	86.83	45.47	39.41	62.71
Black, Non-Hispanic	9.83	41.78	17.30	85.38	46.59	52.82	62.70
Hispanic	9.38	41.09	16.74	86.51	48.41	49.56	61.37
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	14.95	42.97	28.85	86.97	46.26	43.11	62.03
Native American, Non-Hispanic	7.83	41.70	14.74	86.24	49.08	55.23	61.13
Poor Population							
White, Non-Hispanic	9.19	40.45	16.88	86.61	46.80	47.89	62.43
Black, Non-Hispanic	11.36	44.68	23.82	83.62	47.48	56.51	60.44
Hispanic	6.89	40.98	13.67	86.64	49.54	52.50	58.16
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	2.00	36.09	7.00	84.00	41.00	59.69	55.00
Native American, Non-Hispanic	2.00	41.00	0.00	77.00	44.00	88.31	69.00
Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY CBSA							
Total Population							
White, Non-Hispanic	38.08	49.18	41.91	40.31	24.09	47.31	80.80
Black, Non-Hispanic	24.72	40.14	30.43	63.66	33.31	53.19	73.31
Hispanic	21.92	37.08	33.26	69.01	35.14	57.51	71.97
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	39.93	48.76	49.06	42.10	28.87	51.94	78.22
Native American, Non-Hispanic	33.39	42.19	32.58	49.09	26.74	51.82	79.88
Poor Population							
White, Non-Hispanic	30.96	47.72	36.94	49.46	27.18	51.39	78.43
Black, Non-Hispanic	26.67	45.48	35.40	61.29	33.91	58.25	73.94
Hispanic	15.85	34.39	29.60	74.47	37.34	57.56	70.09
Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	4.44	29.25	31.44	82.37	39.37	76.53	63.96
Native American, Non-Hispanic	14.37	41.59	25.86	59.03	29.04	54.76	81.35

This analysis provides statical data on each of these areas to support the 2020 Fair Housing Action Plan and further reinforces the importance of addresses all of the complete Fair Housing Issues and Recommendations outlined in the 2015 Jamestown Analysis to Fair Housing.

As a small municipality, these traditional measures are limited, but still indicate disparities. There is a difference in poverty rate and exposure to poverty by race. African Americans and Hispanics have higher poverty rates and are more likely to live in higher poverty neighborhoods than Non-Hispanic Whites. There is also an age disparity, with children more likely to live in poverty. Poverty rates are higher in Jamestown than its surrounding County and, further, poverty rates vary within the city as well. Neighborhoods in the downtown area, and north of the downtown area, have much higher poverty rates, with over 40% of households living in poverty.

In education, there is a difference in educational outcomes by race and ethnicity measured by standardized test scores. Within employment, African Americans and Hispanics have less labor market engagement, but that varies based on job type. Measures of transportation access do not illustrate a variation in transit access, given the concentration of services in the appropriate areas for a small city (downtown core). There is also not a significant disparity to exposure to environmental toxins within the City, however there is some variation in more regional measurement.

Poverty

There are differences in poverty levels and exposure to poverty by race and ethnicity as well as age in the City of Jamestown. The highest rates of poverty are found in sections of the City identified as racial and ethnic minority centers as a part of this analysis.

Map 11: Jamestown Poverty Rate, Source: HUD CPD MAPS

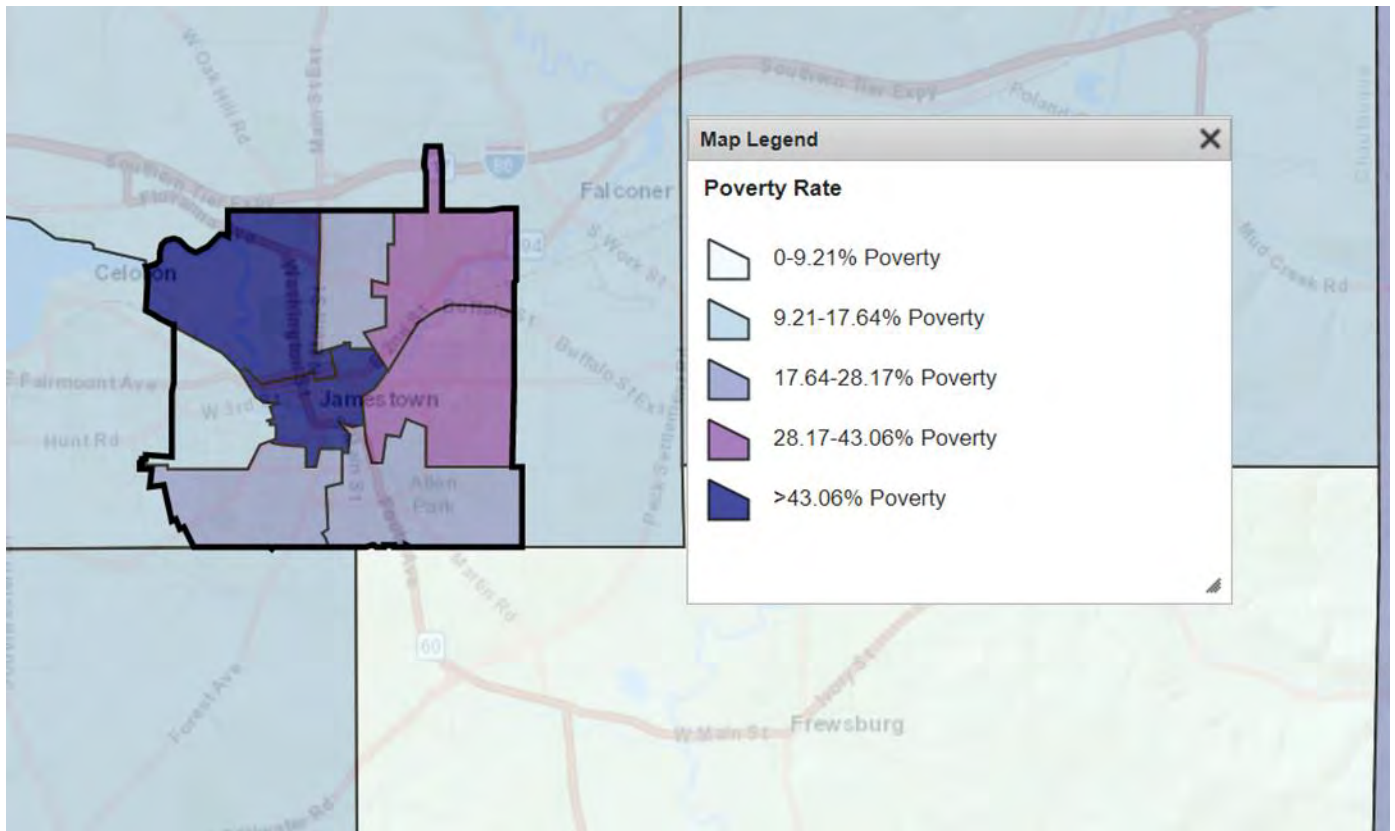


Table 12: 30% HAMFI, Source: HUD CPD Maps

% of households with income = 30% HAMFI	Tract
23.22	30700
11.66	30800
23.76	30100
16.25	30600
9.7	37200
7.75	37000
21.7	30200
11.95	30400
7.23	37500
10.38	37300
54.17	30500
43.02	30300

Table 13: 50% HAMFI, Source: HUD CPD Maps

% of households with income = 50% HAMFI	Tract
74.44	30500
38.52	30700
22.8	37300
23.41	37200
25.97	30400
17.05	37000
58.1	30300
19.52	37500
34.28	30200
40.07	30600
29.53	30800
37.29	30100

Segregation/Integration

Residential segregation is a measure of the degree of separation of racial or ethnic groups living in a neighborhood or community. Factors such as attitudes, or overt factors, such as real estate practices, can limit the range of housing opportunities for non-White persons and other members of the protected classes. A lack of racial or ethnic integration in a community creates other problems, such as reinforcing prejudicial attitudes and behaviors, narrowing opportunities for interaction, and reducing the degree to which community life is considered harmonious. Racial segregation has been linked to diminished employment prospects, poor educational attainment, increased infant and adult mortality rates and increased homicide rates.

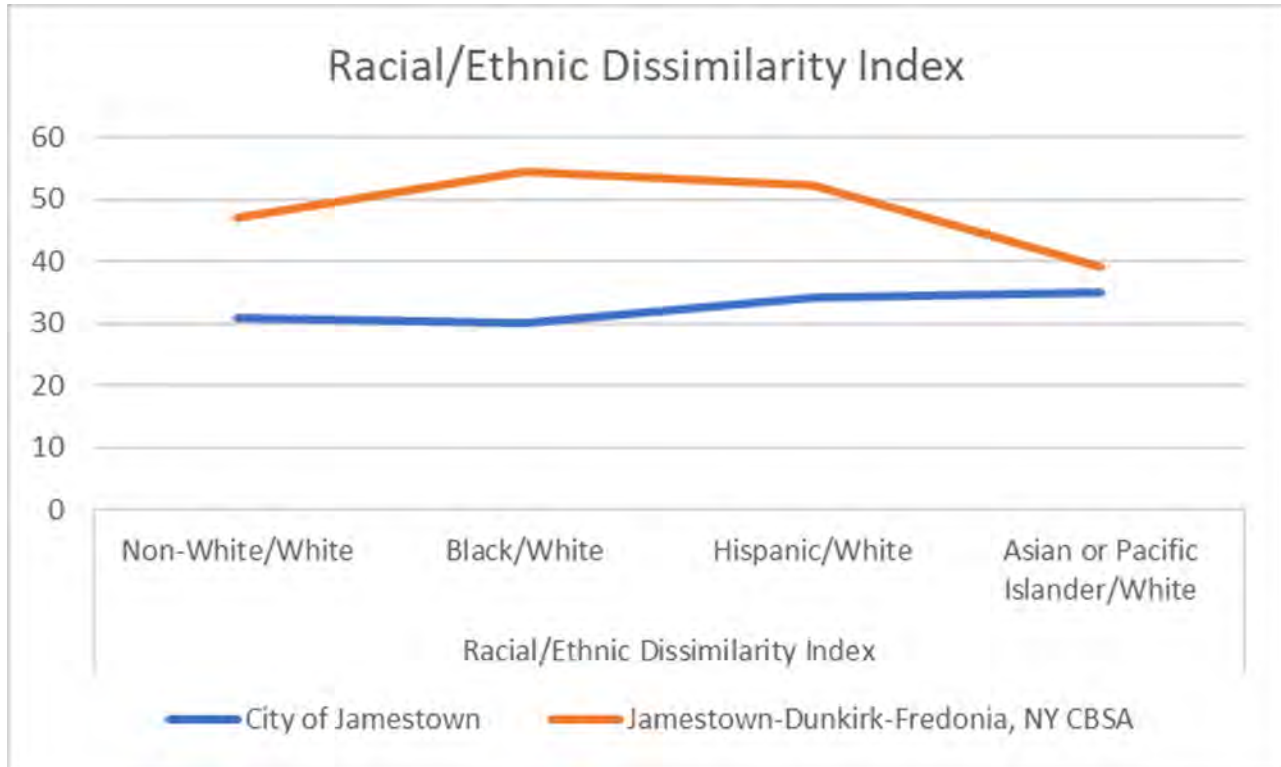
Segregation can be measured using a statistical tool called the dissimilarity index. This index measures the degree of separation between racial or ethnic groups living a community. For this analysis, the racial statistics for each census tract in City of Jamestown were compared to totals for the City as a whole. Since White residents are the

most prevalent race even if they do not constitute a majority, all other racial and ethnic groups are compared to Whites as a baseline.

The dissimilarity index allows for comparisons between subpopulations (i.e. different races/ethnicities) indicating how much one group is spatially separated from another within a community. In other words, it measures the evenness with which two groups are distributed across the neighborhoods that comprise a community. The index of dissimilarity is rated on a scale from 0 to 100, in which a score of 0 corresponds to perfect integration and a score of 100 represents total segregation. According to HUD, a score under 40 is considered low, between 40 and 54 is moderate, and above 55 is high segregation.

Table 14: Racial/Ethnic Dissimilarity Index, Source: Decennial Census

Racial/Ethnic Dissimilarity Index				
	Non-White/White	Black/White	Hispanic/White	Asian or Pacific Islander/White
City of Jamestown	30.74	29.92	34.05	34.94
Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY CBSA	47.02	54.54	52.13	39.09



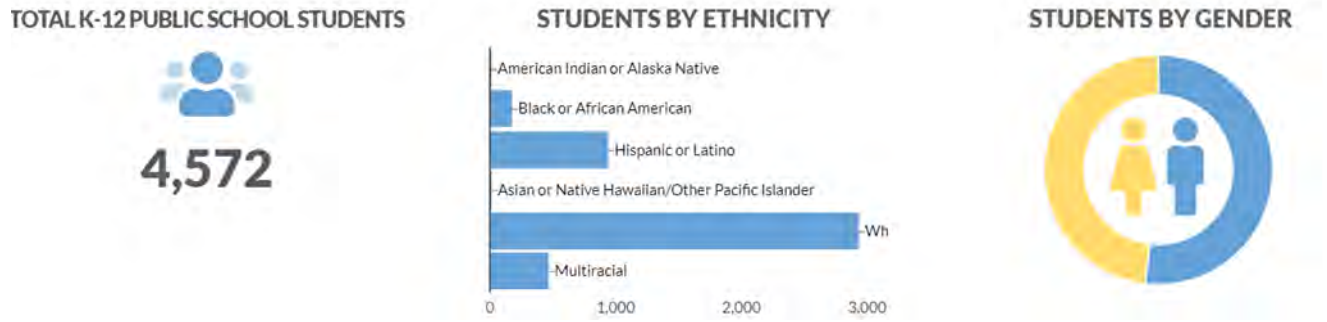
Changing demographics are creating patterns of segregation, as illustrated by the mapping in this analysis. Between 1990 and 2020, patterns of segregation for Black and Hispanic residents decreased while segregation between White, Hispanics and Blacks has increased. Per the Decennial Census, the dissimilarity index for the entire Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia CBSA was nearly 50% higher than the City of Jamestown itself.

Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty.

HUD defines R/ECAPs as census tracts with a non-White population of at least 50% and a poverty rate that either exceeds 40% or is three times the average tract poverty rate for the metropolitan/micropolitan area, whichever is lower. By combining these data, it is possible to determine geographic patterns where there are concentrated areas of poverty among racial/ethnic minorities. According to this standard, Jamestown has no census tracts that are more than 50% minority.

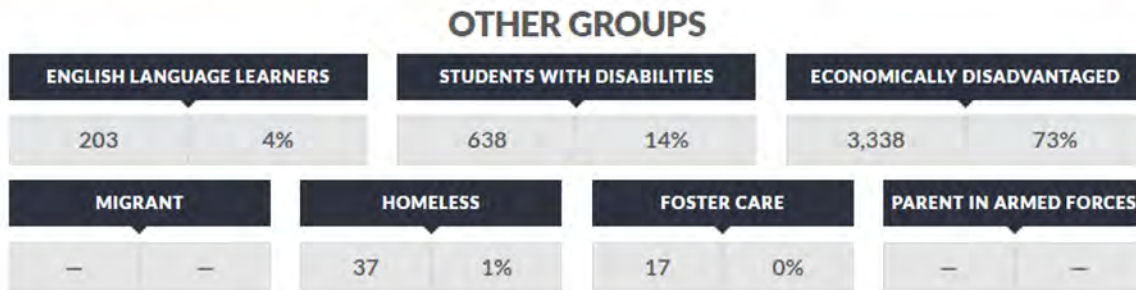
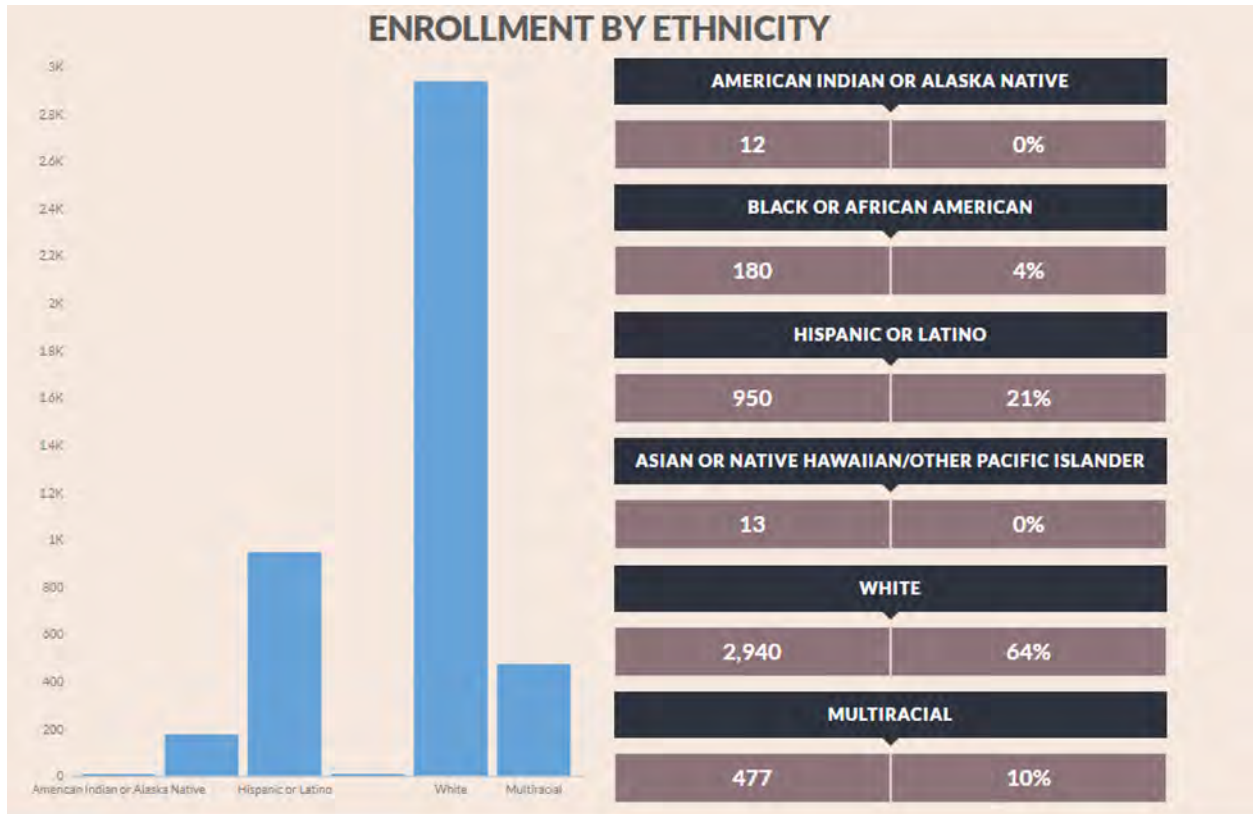
Education

Figure 11: Jamestown Educational Overview, Source: New York State Education Department



The City of Jamestown is served by the Jamestown City School District. The district has a high proportion of economically disadvantaged students and is among the poorest districts in New York State.

Figure 12: Jamestown Enrollment by Ethnicity, Source: New York State Education Department



In addition to the indexed information provided earlier in this analysis, the following table illustrates testing disparities.

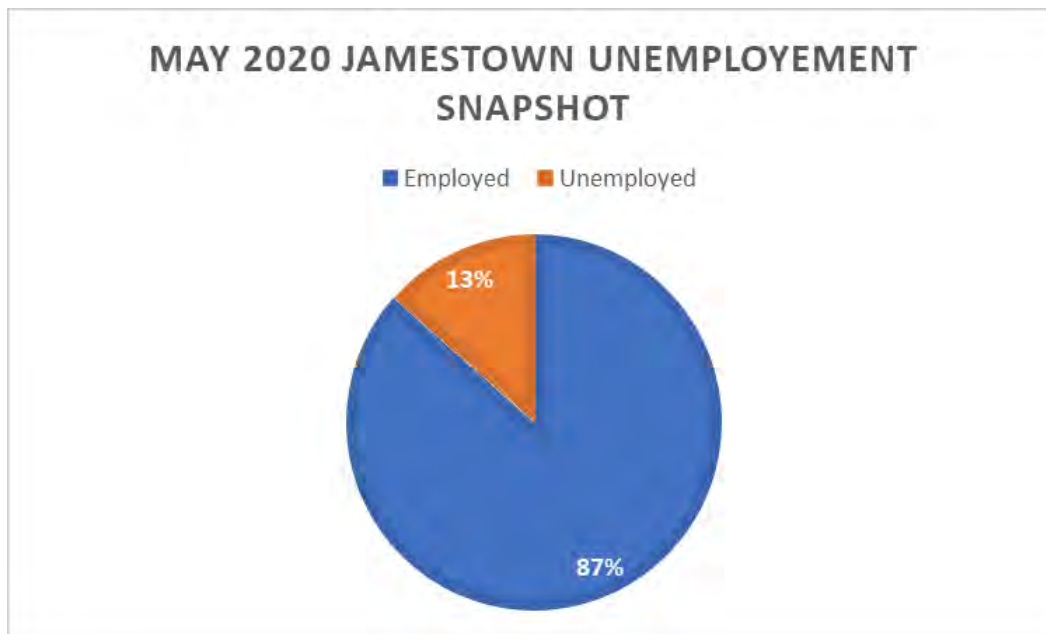
Table 15: Jamestown Secondary Graduation Rate, Source: New York State Education Department

SECONDARY GRADUATION RATE											
Subgroup	Cohort	Baseline	Number In Cohort	Grad Rate	School MIP	State MIP	Long-Term Goal	Exceed Long-Term Goal	End Goal	Level By Cohort	Level By Subgroup
All Students	4-Year	76.7%	344	76.7%	77.4%	82.3%	84.4%	89.7%	95%	1	1
	5-Year	80.6%	340	77.9%	81.2%	84.5%	86.4%	91.2%	96%	1	
	6-Year	78.7%	340	82.1%	79.4%	84.6%	86.7%	91.9%	97%	2	
American Indian or Alaska Native	4-Year	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5-Year	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	6-Year	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Asian or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4-Year	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5-Year	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	6-Year	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Black or African American	4-Year	74.4%	39	82.1%	75.2%	72.4%	76.2%	85.6%	95%	4	3
	5-Year	65.6%	38	81.6%	66.8%	75.9%	79.3%	87.7%	96%	4	
	6-Year	75.6%	31	67.7%	76.5%	76%	79.5%	88.3%	97%	1	
Hispanic or Latino	4-Year	51.6%	56	58.9%	53.3%	72.2%	76%	85.5%	95%	2	1
	5-Year	65.6%	67	58.2%	66.8%	74.8%	78.3%	87.2%	96%	1	
	6-Year	72.9%	58	69%	73.9%	75.2%	78.8%	87.9%	97%	1	
Multiracial	4-Year	79%	54	85.2%	79.6%	83.2%	85.2%	90.1%	95%	4	3
	5-Year	79.4%	62	79%	80.1%	84.5%	86.4%	91.2%	96%	1	
	6-Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
White	4-Year	82.8%	239	79.1%	83.3%	90%	90.8%	92.9%	95%	1	1
	5-Year	85.8%	224	82.6%	86.2%	91.3%	92.1%	94.1%	96%	1	
	6-Year	81.9%	230	86.5%	82.5%	91%	92%	94.5%	97%	2	
English Language Learners	4-Year	0%	24	20.8%	3.8%	51.2%	58.5%	76.8%	95%	2	2
	5-Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	6-Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Students with Disabilities	4-Year	37.5%	41	41.5%	39.8%	58.2%	64.4%	79.7%	95%	2	2
	5-Year	52.3%	50	42%	54%	61.6%	67.4%	81.7%	96%	1	
	6-Year	47.9%	43	53.5%	49.9%	59.9%	66.1%	81.6%	97%	2	
Economically Disadvantaged	4-Year	72.6%	212	68.9%	73.5%	76.1%	79.2%	87.1%	95%	1	2
	5-Year	79.6%	235	74.5%	80.3%	79.7%	82.4%	89.2%	96%	1	
	6-Year	81%	213	82.6%	81.6%	80%	82.8%	89.9%	97%	3	

Labor Force and Unemployment

The labor force consists of persons who are either employed or looking for work. The unemployment rate is the percentage of people in the labor force without a job. This means that a retired person or a person who has stopped looking for work will not be counted as unemployed because they are not in the labor force. According to the May 2020 United States Bureau of Labor Statistics Report, the City of Jamestown's unemployment rate was 13.5%. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on this rate, but as the current health crisis has changed all businesses sectors, unemployment rates are expected to remain high.

Figure 13: Jamestown Unemployment, Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Map 12: Unemployment % Point Change, Source: HUD CPD MAPS

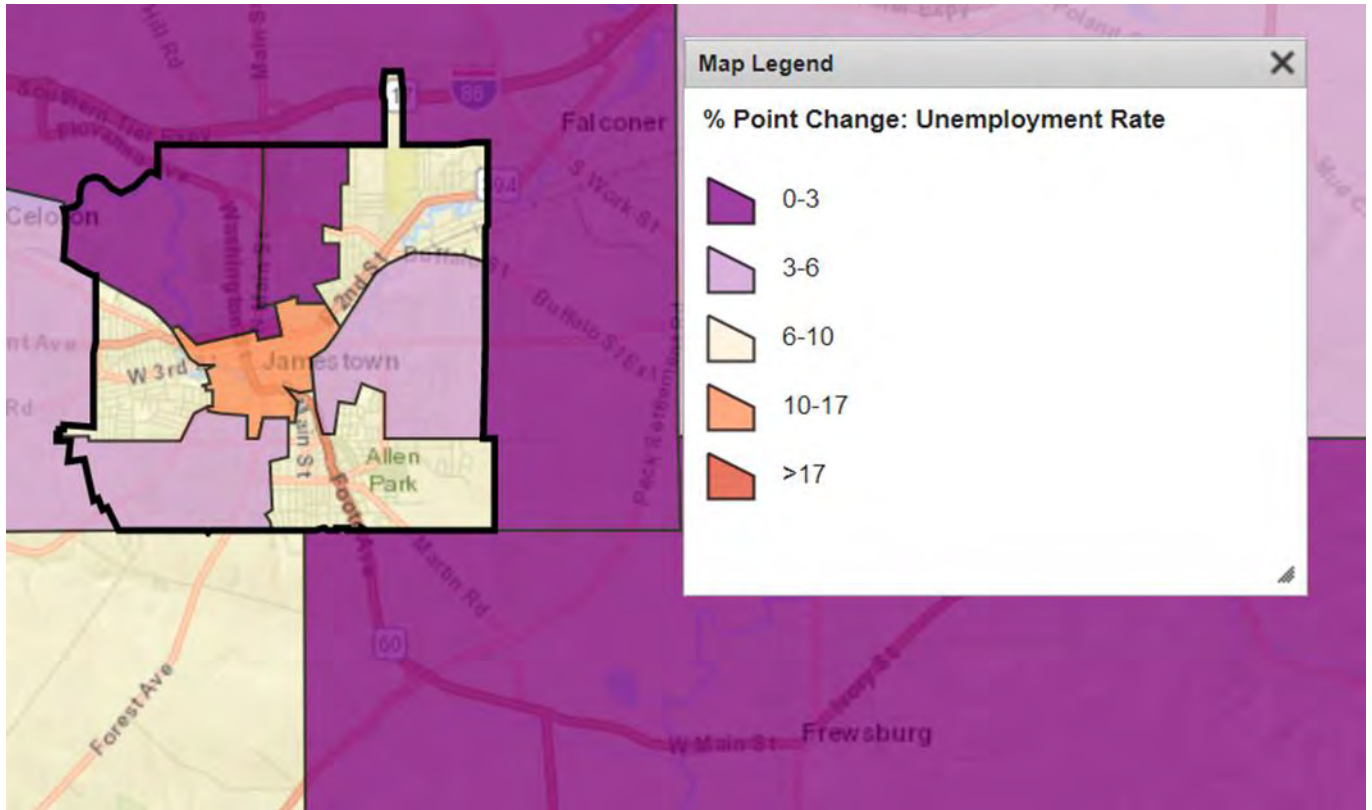
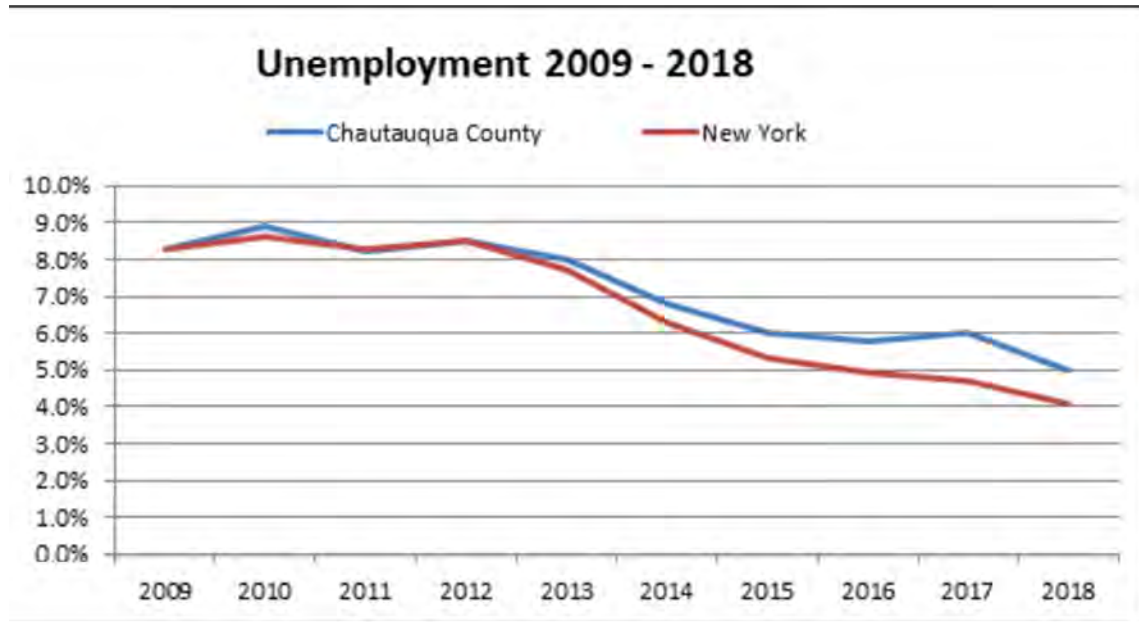


Figure 14: Chautauqua County Unemployment Rate, Source: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua County Needs Assessment 2020



Transportation

Access to transportation can be a significant factor in determining an individual's access to opportunity. As a small city, Jamestown has limited public transportation options available for its residents. The City is served by a county-wide public transportation system, Chautauqua Area Regional Transit System (CARTS). CARTS offers a bus service within Jamestown and to surrounding communities. For individuals who work in certain types of jobs such as the service industry, public transportation would not be an option for getting to and from work.

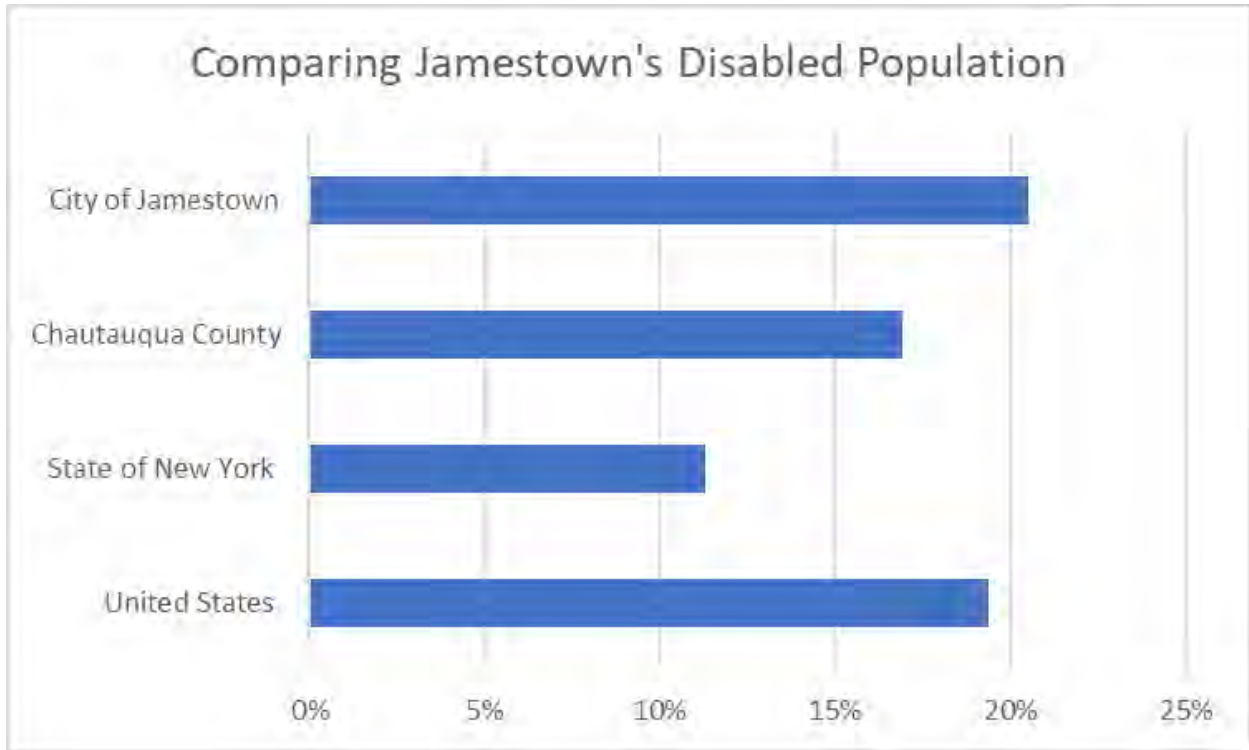
Health

Disability and Access

As defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, a disability is a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition that can make it difficult for a person to engage in activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning or remembering. This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on physical, mental, or

emotional disability, provided “reasonable accommodation” can be made. This may include changes to address the needs of persons with disabilities, such as adaptive structural (e.g., constructing an entrance ramp) or administrative changes (e.g., permitting the use of a service animal).

Figure 15: Comparison of Jamestown’s Disability Populations, Source: U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS



	Percentage
United States	19%
State of New York	11%
Chautauqua County	17%
City of Jamestown	21%

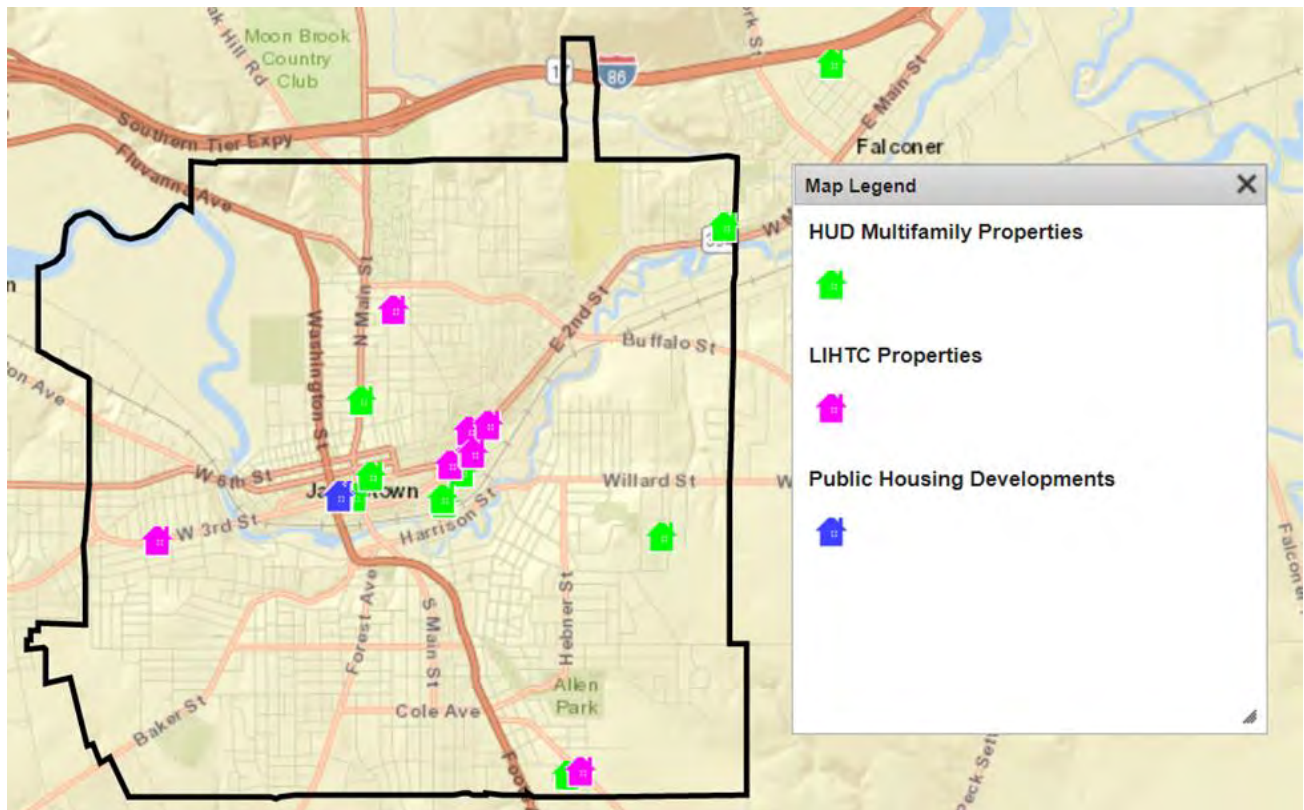
According to the American Community Survey, the median earnings for persons with a disability are \$13,586 compared to \$25,600 for persons without disabilities. Among the population with a disability, 45.3% of persons have incomes that are less than 100% of the poverty level compared to 30.4% of the population without a disability. Lower earnings contribute to the higher poverty rates among persons with disabilities and, to

the extent that housing choice is linked to the availability of affordable housing, persons with disabilities have restricted housing choice.

The City of Jamestown has a disproportionate percentage of disabled residents. According to the American Community Survey, 20.5% of residents are disabled. Of all those with disabilities, approximately 10% have ambulatory difficulty, 9% have cognitive difficulty, and 7% have independent living difficulty. Comparatively, the state-wide disability rate is 11.3%. The disability rate increases to 37.6% for residents 65 and older.

Publicly Supported Housing Patterns

Map 13: Jamestown Public Housing, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



There are approximately subsidized housing units in the City of Jamestown, constituting percent of total units. Most of the HUD-subsidized housing is available for seniors and individuals living with a disability. Most are two-bedroom units, limiting options for renters with children, especially large families. Project based subsidized housing is concentrated in the downtown area. Use of the housing choice voucher

program is also largely concentrated in the downtown area, although it is also used in other neighborhoods, unlike the project base voucher program.

Disproportionate Housing Needs

Figure 16: Jamestown Units and Occupancy, Source: U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS

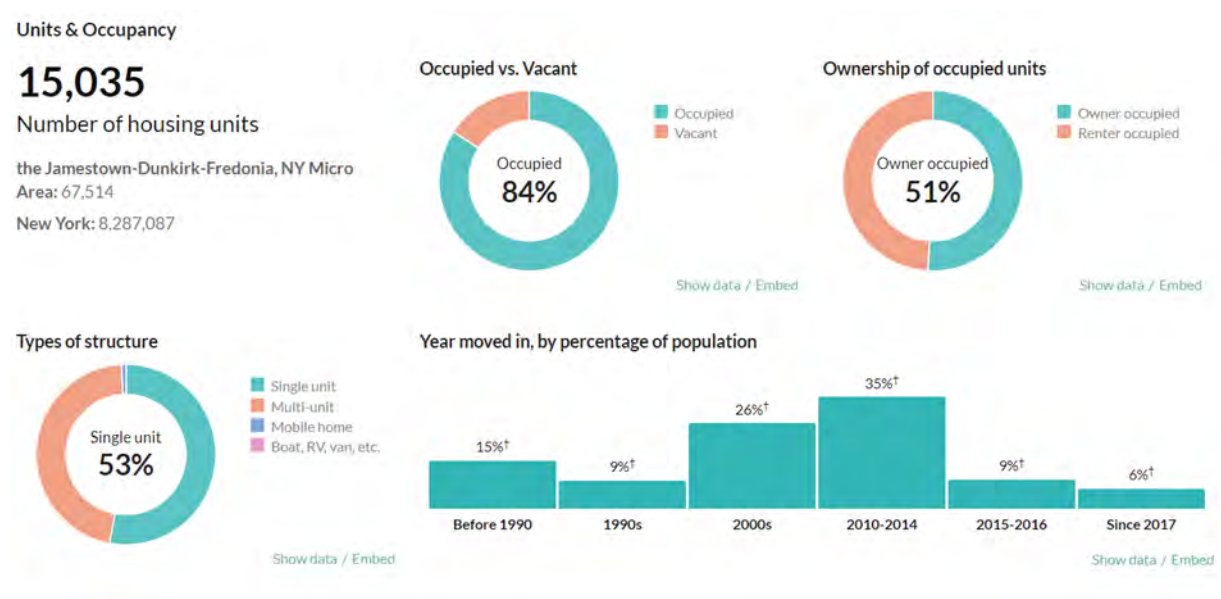
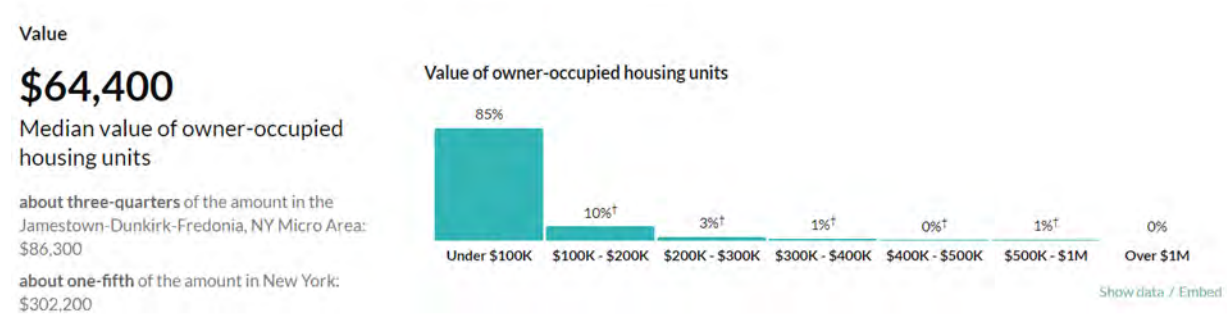


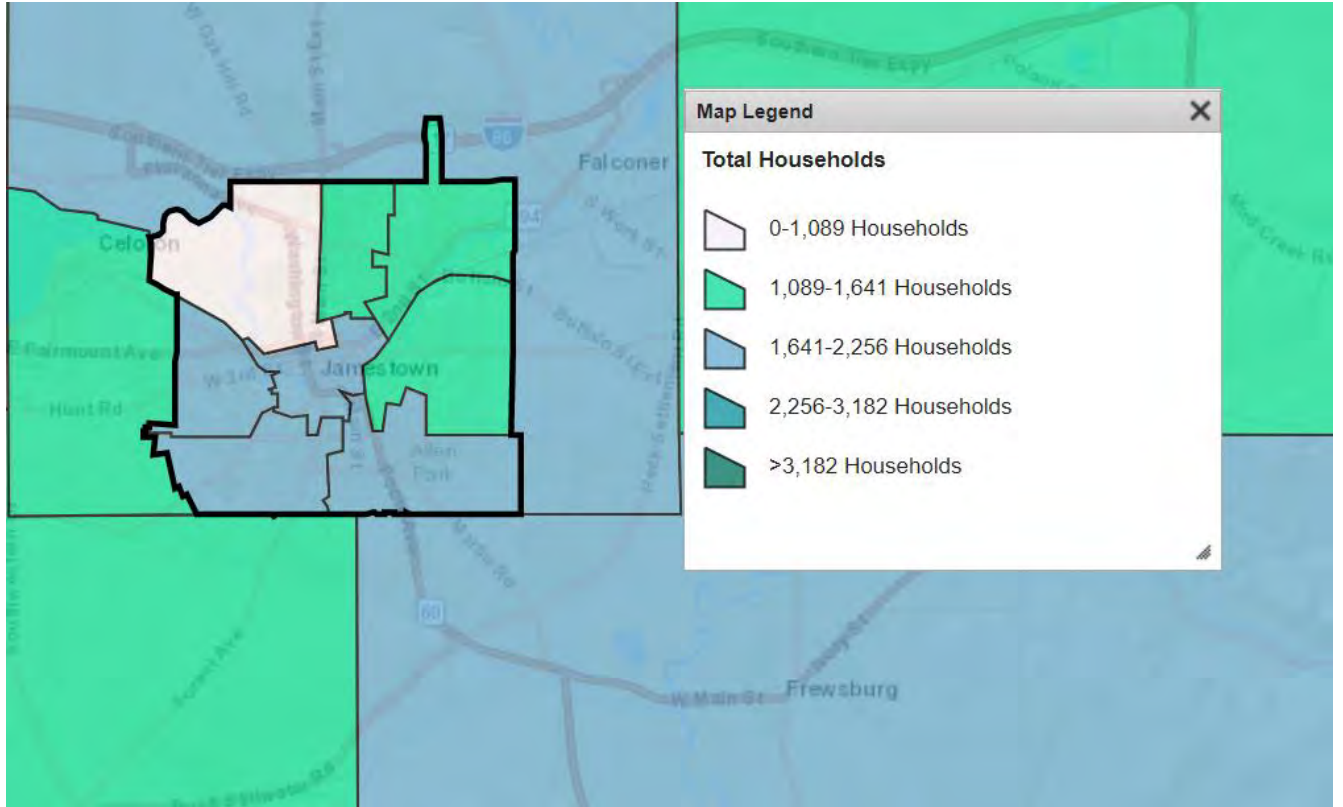
Figure 17: Jamestown Housing Values, Source: U.S. Decennial Census, 2000-10; ACS



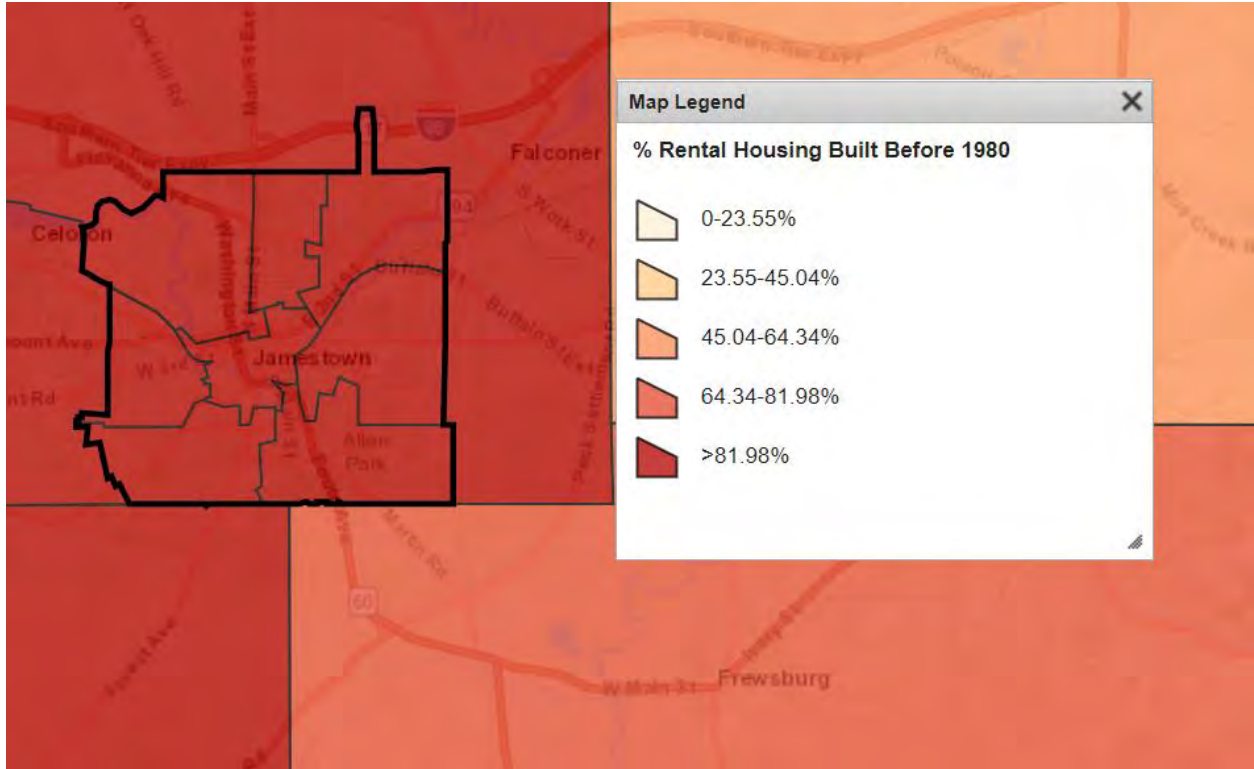
Like many northeastern cities, the City's housing stock is aging beyond the rate of consistent repair, reflecting the economic faced by the community and its residents. There are consistent issues with vacant, substandard housing, particularly among rental properties. These housing deficiencies impact low to moderate income families disproportionately. Concerningly, these sub-standard housing units also pose a disproportionate threat of lead poisoning to low income families with children. The City and its partners have engaged, and plan to further efforts, to identify and repair substandard housing units, with a special concentration on lead paint abatement. The City also recognizes that more programs and initiatives are necessary to have a significant impact.

The cost of both owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing is relatively low in the City, compared to other communities. Still, there is a clear need for more homeownership support and stimulation for low to moderate income residents as well as the need for quality, affordable housing. As referenced in the 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing – Jamestown, New York, past moratoriums on the construction of new low-income and senior housing and zoning restrictions on multi-family housing has compounded these issues. However, the current City administration, in consultation with HUD, is focused on housing standards, enforcement, lead paint abatement and housing renovation. Still, like many comparable cities, there is not enough available funding or local investment to address most of these issues.

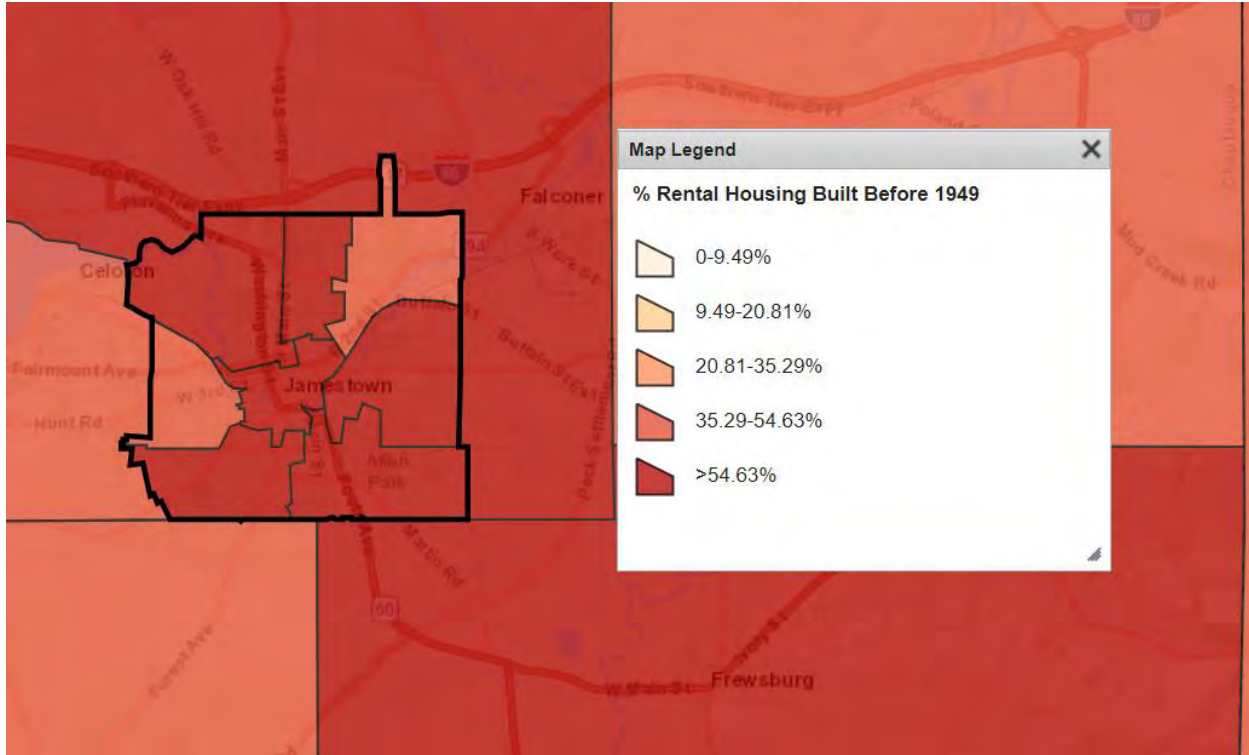
Map 14: Jamestown Total Households, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



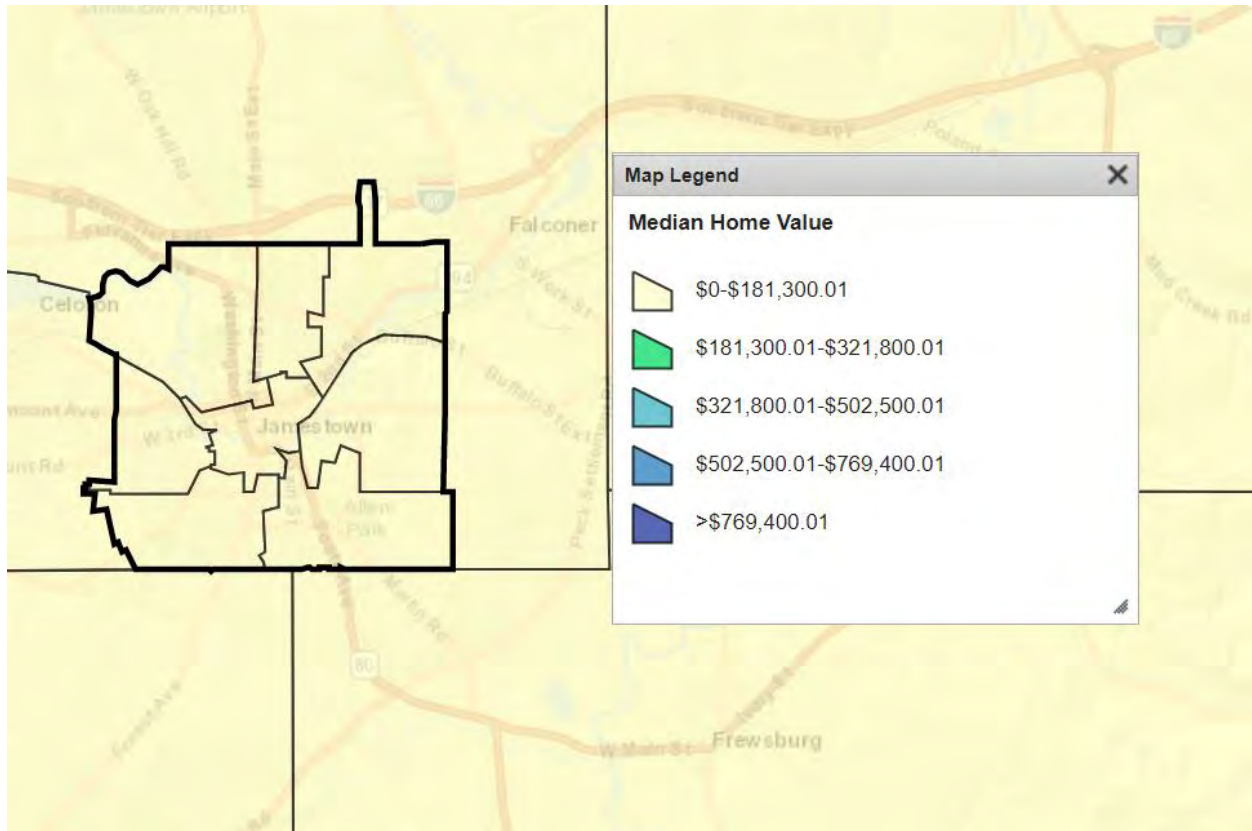
Map 15: Jamestown Pre 1980 Rental Housing, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



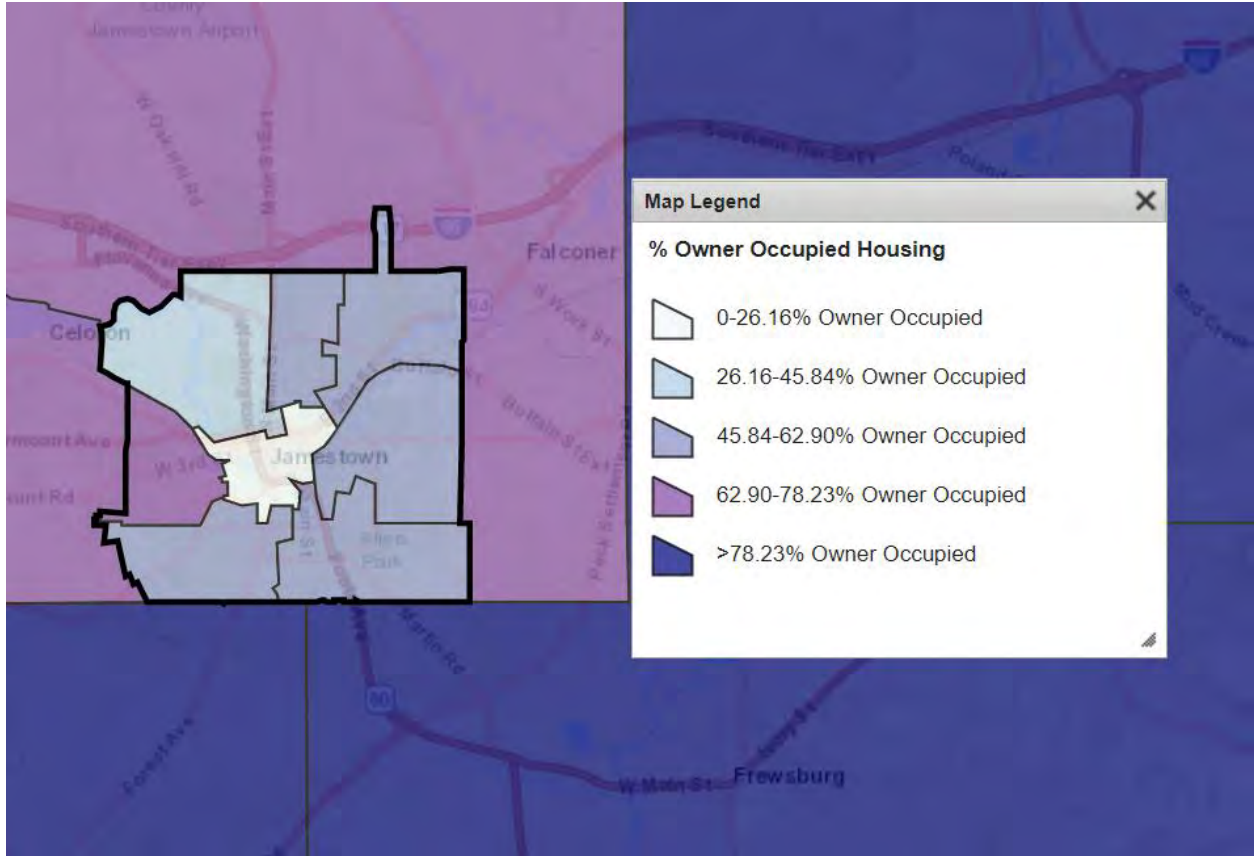
Map 16: Jamestown Pre 1949 Rental Housing, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



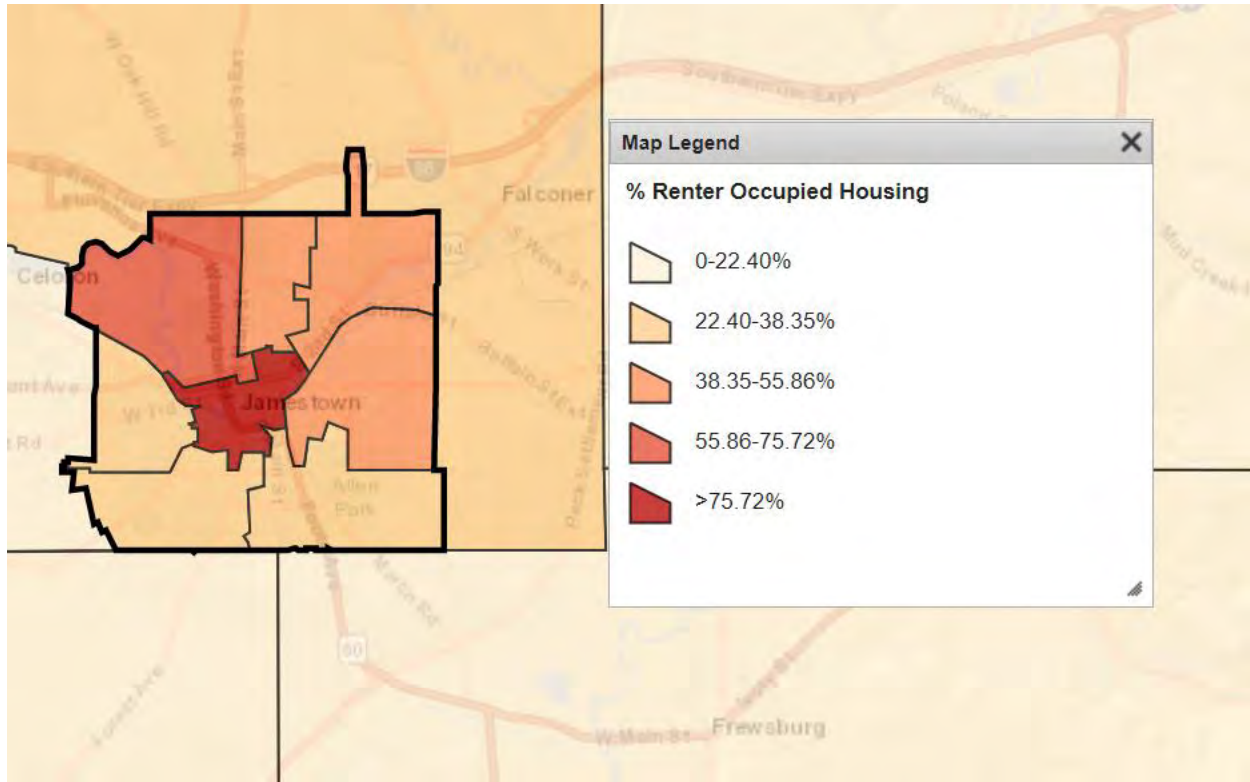
Map 17: Jamestown Median Home Value, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



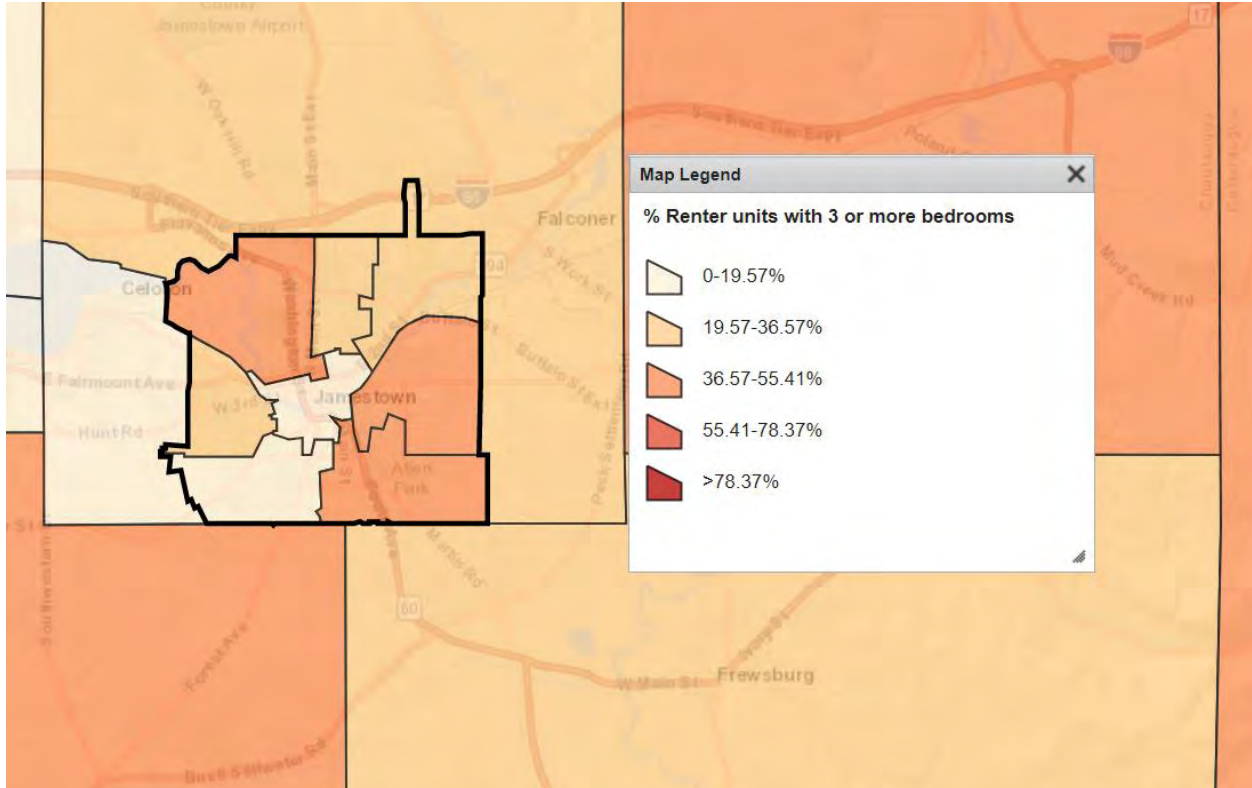
Map 18: Jamestown % Owner Occupied Housing, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 19: Jamestown % Renter Occupied Housing, Source: HUD CPD MAPS



Map 20: Jamestown % Renter Units 3+ Bedrooms, Source: HUD CPD MAPS





Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
--	--	--

* 3. Date Received: <input type="text" value="01/28/2021"/>	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>
--	--

5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input style="background-color: yellow; color: red; text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; padding: 5px; border: 2px solid red;" type="text"/>
--	---

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>
---	---

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="16-6002545"/>	* c. Organizational DUNS: <input type="text" value="0302241740000"/>
--	---

d. Address:

* Street1:
Street2:
* City:
County/Parish:
* State:
Province:
* Country:
* Zip / Postal Code:

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: <input type="text"/>	Division Name: <input type="text"/>
--	--

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: * First Name:
Middle Name:
* Last Name:
Suffix:

Title:

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14-218

CFDA Title:

Community Development of Housing and Urban Development

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

14-218

* Title:

Community Development Block Grant / Entitlement Grants

13. Competition Identification Number:

B-15-MC-36-0015

Title:

Community Development Block Grant / Entitlement Grants

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

FY 2020 Annual Action Plan and 5 Year Consolidated Plan

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant

* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

* b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,540,516.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value=""/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value=""/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value=""/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value=""/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value=""/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,540,516.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

Yes No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:
Middle Name:
* Last Name:
Suffix:

* Title:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative: 

* Date Signed:

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.


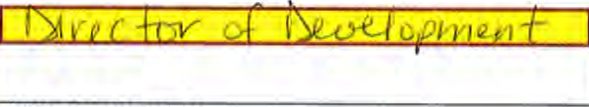


PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE 
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION 	DATE SUBMITTED 

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;


2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.


Signature of Authorized Official

1/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) _____ [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

OPTIONAL Community Development Block Grant Certification

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

Edward A Sundquist
Signature of Authorized Official

01/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Edward A. Sandquist
Signature of Authorized Official

01/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

Edward A Sundquist
Signature of Authorized Official

01/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

Emergency Solutions Grants Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion/renovation – If an emergency shelter’s rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation.

If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion.

In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the recipient will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the recipient serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The recipient will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal State, local, and private assistance available for these individuals.

Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The recipient has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the recipient will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the recipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with its consolidated plan.

Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Certifications

The HOPWA grantee certifies that:

Activities -- Activities funded under the program will meet urgent needs that are not being met by available public and private sources.

Building -- Any building or structure assisted under that program shall be operated for the purpose specified in the consolidated plan:

1. For a period of not less than 10 years in the case of assistance involving new construction, substantial rehabilitation, or acquisition of a facility,
2. For a period of not less than 3 years in the case of assistance involving non-substantial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.

Edward A. Sundquist
Signature of Authorized Official

01/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

Edward A. Sundge
Signature of Authorized Official

01/27/2021
Date

Mayor - City of Jamestown
Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.