Champaign County Community Health Assessment 2022

Striving to make Champaign County a thriving community that works together to promote wellness, prevent disease, and protect from harm





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RECORD OF CHANGE

Champaign County Community Health Assessment 2022							
Revision #:	Summary of Changes	Revision Date	Last Modified By:				
1.0	Document created – Draft review	10/21/2022	Anna Jean Sauter				
1.1	Document reviewed by CHIP Leadership and approved for publication	11/22/2022	Anna Jean Sauter				
2.0	Updated appendix with demographic data; Updated data to describe factors that contribute to health inequities	02/16/2023	Anna Jean Sauter				

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Champaign County Transit

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Champaign Economic Partnership

Champaign Health District

Community Health and Wellness

Family and Children First Council

Hope 4 Good

Mary Rutan Hospital

Memorial Health

Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Services Board

Mercy Health – Urbana Hospital

Sycamore House

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Community Health Assessment (CHA) provides an opportunity for the local public health system to evaluate the health of the population and factors that contribute to high health risks, and subsequently set goals to address these issues through the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). In Champaign County, a CHA has been completed by the Champaign Health District (CHD) every three years since 2012.

This CHA was conducted as part of a collaborative process of collecting and analyzing data, developing priorities, and planning actions to improve Champaign County's health. The results of this CHA will provide the basis for the development of the Champaign County CHIP.

An accepted national model, called Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP), was used to complete this assessment. This is a community-driven strategic planning process that focuses on using the 10 Essential Services of Public Health to strengthen the local public health system in order to create a healthy community and better quality of life.

There are six phases of the MAPP process. The first two phases of the MAPP process, Organize for Success/Partnership Development and Visioning, have been occurring continuously since the community first organized in early 2018. Phases 3 and 4 are covered in this CHA and include:

- Phase 3: The Four MAPP Assessments
- Phase 4: Identification of Strategic Issues

In phase 3, the Steering Committee collected data from existing sources and youth surveys. In phase 4, the data was reviewed to identify the following three priority topics:

- Reproductive Health
- Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
- Mental Health and Substance Use

The Steering Committee also identified the following three cross-cutting factors which influence all three priority areas:

- Health Behaviors and Prevention
- Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)
- Access to Care

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of the Community Health Assessment (CHA) is to learn about the health of the population, factors that contribute to higher health risks or poorer health outcomes, and resources available to improve the community's health status (Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), 2013). In Champaign County, a CHA has been completed by the Champaign Health District (CHD) every three years since 2012.

This CHA was conducted as part of a collaborative process of collecting and analyzing data, developing priorities, and planning actions to improve Champaign County's health. The results of this CHA will provide the general public and policy leaders with information on the health of the community and the broad range of factors that impact health on the population level (PHAB, 2013). This CHA provides the basis for the development of the Champaign County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Methodology

The methodology chosen to guide this CHA was Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). This is a community-driven strategic planning process that focuses on using the 10 Essential Services of Public Health to strengthen the local public health system to create a healthy community and better quality of life.

This report is a continuation of the previous CHA, conducted in 2019. The first two phases of the MAPP process, Organize for Success/Partnership Development and Visioning, have been occurring continuously since the community first organized in early 2018. This report will cover Phase 3 (The Four Assessments) and Phase 4 (Identify Strategic Issues), as outlined in the timeline on page 2.

At core of this report are the four MAPP assessments:

- Community Themes and Strengths Assessment: During this assessment, community thoughts, opinions, and concerns are gathered, providing insight into the issues that are important to the community.
- Local Public Health System Assessment: This assessment uses the local public health performance standards to assess the local public health system's capacity and performance.
- Community Health Status Assessment: This assessment answers the questions, "How healthy are our residents?" and "What does the health status of our community look like?" by collecting data from core indicators.
- Forces of Change Assessment: During this assessment, community partners identify forces that are or will be influencing the health and quality of lie of the community and the work of the local public health system.

2022 Champaign County Community Health Assessment Timeline and Methodology

November 2021

Community Health Status Assessment

 Begun planning and implementation of the Community Health Status Assessment; used existing data sources to compile reports descriptive of Champaign County.

March 2022

Organize and Prepare

- Re-commitment to using Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) as a process model for the Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan
- Begun holding Steering Committee meetings at bi-monthly cadence
- Reassessed Steering Committee membership and recruited new partners

April 2021 – June 2022

Assessments

- Completion of Forces of Change Assessment with Steering Committee; identified forces, policies, that impact health and wellness in Champaign County
- Completion of Local Public Health Systems Assessment with Steering Committee; evaluated the Local Public Health Systems performance in the 10 Essential Services for Public Health
- Completion of the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment;
 Performed focus groups with community stakeholders to gather feedback and insight on community needs and priorities

August – September 2022

Issue Identification and Prioritization

Steering Committee reviewed results of assessments and selected draft priorities

November 2022

Publication of the Champaign County CHA

COMMUNITY THEMES AND STRENGTHS ASSESSMENT

Methods

Understanding the needs of stakeholders within the community is important in order to best address issues facing community members. Focus groups are diverse groups of people with different backgrounds who are asked to participate in a guided discussion on certain subject matters. Focus groups are performed to gather feedback and insight on complicated topics.

Champaign County focus groups took place on four different days and included employees of Champaign County Health Department and members of the Healthy Living Committee (May 18, 2022), Substance Abuse Coalition (May 31, 2022), Suicide Prevention Committee (June 7, 2022), and Early Childhood Collaborative Committee (June 27, 2022).

5 questions were asked during each focus group session:

- 1. What do you believe are the 2-3 most important characteristics of a healthy community?
- 2. What do you believe are the 2-3 most important issues that must be addressed to improve the health and quality of life in our community?
- 3. What would excite you enough to become involved (or more involved) in improving our community?
- 4. Do all residents perceive that they individually and collectively can make the community a better place to live?
- 5. Are you satisfied with the quality of life in our community?

Observations

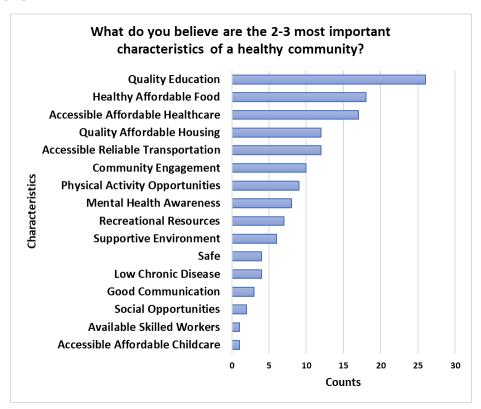


Figure 1: Most important characteristics of a healthy community, CTSA 2022

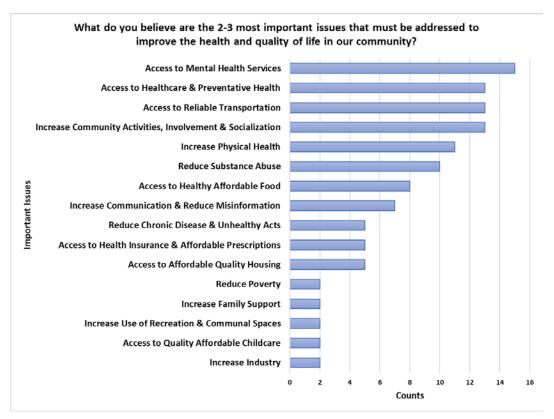


Figure 2: Most important issues to improve health and quality of life, CTSA 2022

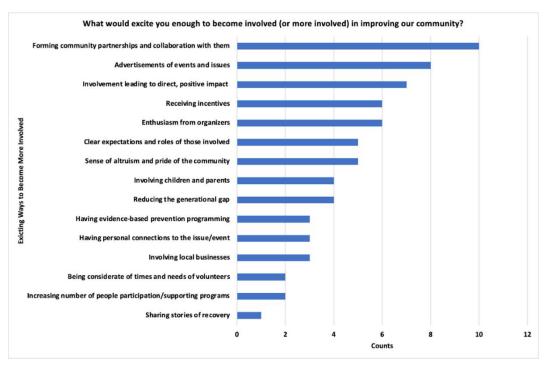


Figure 3: Exciting ways to becoming more involved, CTSA 2022

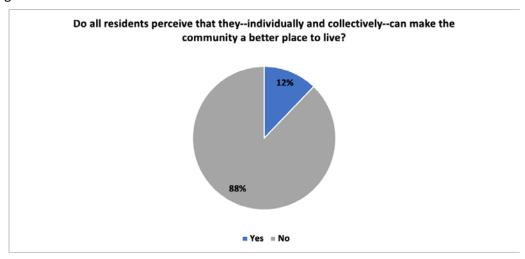


Figure 4: Can residents make the community a better place to live, CTSA 2022

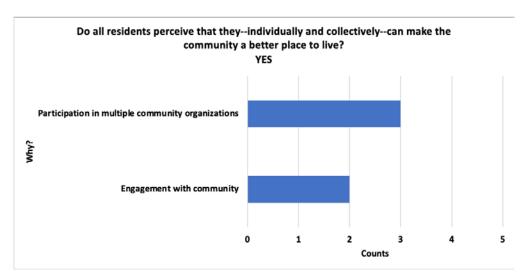


Figure 5: Why residents can make the community a better place to live, CTSA 2022

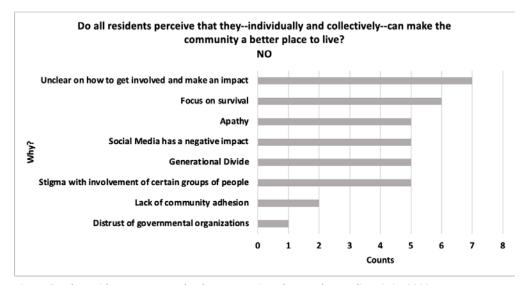


Figure 6: Why residents cannot make the community a better place to live, CTSA 2022

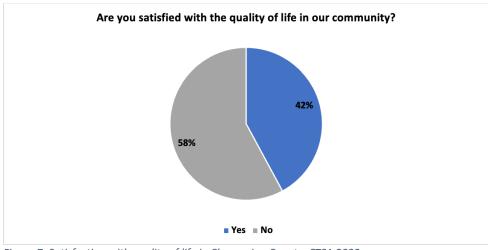


Figure 7: Satisfaction with quality of life in Champaign County, CTSA 2022

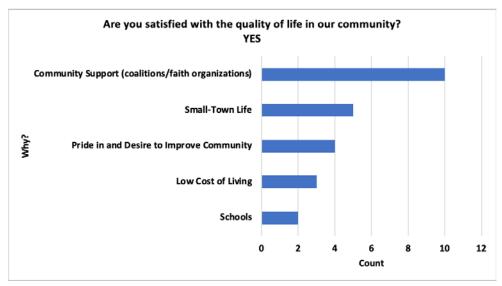


Figure 8: Why residents are satisfied with quality of life in Champaign County, CTSA 2022

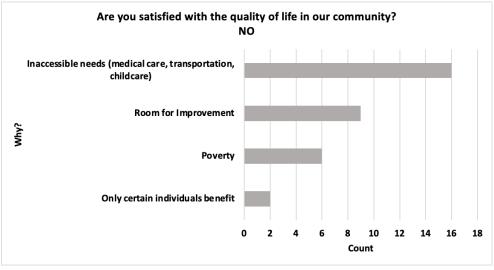


Figure 9: Why residents are not satisfied with the quality of life in Champaign County, CTSA 2022

Common Themes

Key Findings

Successes

- Crime rate is low
- Housing is more affordable than nearby urban areas
- Public green spaces and bike trails are available
- Numerous faith communities are available
- Slower pace of life
- Tight-knit community
- Access to parks for recreational purposes

Areas for growth

- Rates of substance abuse are high, especially for fentanyl and meth
- Low numbers of primary care physicians
- Low numbers of mental health resources and providers
- Poverty impacts community members
- Chronic disease and obesity affect community members
- Public transportation is largely unavailable
- Access to fresh foods is limited
- Year-round physical activity is not accessible to all community members
- Opportunities are limited for social engagement among senior citizens
- Inaccessibility to Medicaid and unaffordability of private insurance
- Limited resources for childcare
- Lack of communication and collaboration between community providers
- Lack of literacy programs

Impressions & Opinions

Successes

- Appreciation of the "small-town" atmosphere of Champaign County
- Cost of living is lower compared to larger cities
- Open-minded communities
- Overall feeling of community safety
- Interpersonal relationships leading to strong community bonds
- Access to green spaces
- Organized community events / activities
- Church community
- Opportunity to create meaningful community connections outside of the church.

Areas for growth

- Disjointed feelings between the generations.
- Opportunity to close the generational gap: there is a requirement for volunteering for high school students to graduate, therefore there is opportunity for community partners to organize their efforts.
- Lack of access to food stores,

- No public transportation,
- Community is not educated on the services available to them
- Workforce shortage
- Not enough focus on preventative care / lack of access to medical care
- Difficulty combating misinformation
- Community stigma with mental health services and drug use/abuse

Recommendations

- Increase community engagement
- Expand public transportation options
- Expand health care resources- specifically preventative care and mental health services
- Increase physical activity opportunities
- Increase availability of fresh produce and healthy foods

There is a desire to better understand the needs of community members. One method to increase community engagement would be a multi-faceted media-based push (e.g., Facebook, newspapers, mail, local radio) to expand public engagement. Another method of increasing community engagement is to go to community stakeholders. One example provided in the focus group was meeting with teachers during their lunch hour to discuss their observations regarding the needs of children in the community. Many individuals cited a generational divide contributing to less community engagement. A solution to this divide would be campaigns designed to reach younger community members. Offering childcare during community functions would allow young parents to get involved and advertising at family-friendly events such as the fair would reach the target audience. A welcoming environment, enthusiastic leadership, mentoring opportunities, and observable outcomes are all necessary to increase community engagement.

Increased availability of public transportation would have an impact on residents of Champaign County. Collaboration between public health personnel and city council member could be vital in introducing and advancing legislation to procure funding that would be crucial in expanding transportation services and creating more reliable, accessible, and safe transportation throughout the county. Awareness campaigns could effectively provide community members with vital information for involvement in promoting services, advocating for community health-oriented funding, or establishing new connections between residents and trustees.

One of the key issues discussed was the lack of physical and mental health resources in the area. Increasing the number of primary health care providers would be one way to combat this issue. There is a need for healthcare to be more affordable and to increase insurance coverage and benefits in the community. Another possible solution includes increasing physical recreation areas that are free for the public. Improving the quality and maintenance of public parks as well an ensuring the safety of these areas could increase their usage. There is also limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables, reducing the community's physical health. Implementing community gardens, farmer's markets, and enticing grocery stores to enter the area would help this problem. Increased marketing for the food resources already offered is needed as well. It was suggested that mental health programs introduced in schools would build healthcare connections at an early age. Campaigns to reduce the stigma of mental illness and substance abuse could ease the burden of seeking care. The current mental health services require additional funding so they can be expanded.

Another barrier communities in Champaign County are facing is a lack of childcare, secondary education, and vocational training. Increased funding towards school districts within the county to introduce facilities for secondary training so adolescents can attend locally rather than attending in a neighboring county is suggested. To combat limited childcare within the county, it is advised to reach out to community stakeholders and faith-based organizations that have childcare options available to promote these services to families within the county.

The current workforce shortage in the community is contributing to the lack of educational opportunities as well as the lack of accessible health care resources. Combating this issue would be the first step in addressing the related issues. Examples of possible solutions could be to increase the benefits of those working in the community as well as programs designed to support low-income workers or build deeper connections between the youth and the community to increase their desire to stay and work. The inclusion of vocational schools in the county could be one way to both increase the educational opportunities, build stronger community connections, and increase the workforce. Addressing these recommendations could serve to positively impact the health and quality of life of Champaign County residents.

FORCES OF CHANGE ASSESSMENT

May 18th to June 10th, 2022, 10 community leaders completed a survey to identify Forces of Change (FOC) in nine different theme areas that are affecting or will affect their communities within the next three years. The theme areas included social, economic, political, technological, environmental, scientific, legal, ethical, and health system forces. Participants were also asked to rank each of these themes by their overall impact on the health of the community and on health disparities within the next three years. The 2022 survey participants included representatives from Champaign Health District, Sycamore House Pregnancy and Life Center, Mercy Health, The Ohio State University Extension- Champaign County, Champaign County Department of Child and Family Services, and Mental Health, Drug, and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties.

FOC Assessment Results

Through the FOC Assessment, participants identified a total of 29 forces falling within 9 theme areas (Table 1). For each force identified, specific threats and opportunities were discussed. Forces were also ranked by impact to the community and impact to health disparities (Figure 10) (Figure 11).

Table 1: Forces of Change Affecting Health in Champaign County, Ohio

Theme	Forces	Threats	Opportunities		
		Increased cost of living contributing to increased poverty			
	Inflation rates	High food costs contributing to food insecurity and			
	illiation rates	unhealthy food choices			
		High health insurance costs			
	Poverty	Lingering effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the economy			
Economic	COVID 10 pandamic	Supply chain disruptions resulting in shortages of important			
ECOHOITIC	COVID-19 pandemic	goods			
	International conflicts-	Food shortages, increased gas prices, and economic			
	war in Ukraine	instability			
		Uninsured rate	Potential for growth from new partnerships		
	Cost of healthcare	High cost of preventative care services			
		Lack of public health funding			
		Transportation issues limits healthcare access for some	Increasing access to resources for healthy		
Environmental	County size and location	community members	living improving health equity		
		High radon levels			
	Climato chango	Increased insects and other pests impacting crops			
	Climate change	Fertilizer shortages			

Theme	Forces	Threats	Opportunities
Ethical		Unequal distribution of resources	Growing understanding of how social inequalities impact health
	Equity	Unequal access to health care services among community members	
		Employer-sponsored high-deductible health insurance options barrier to access health care services	
	Information sharing health use		Greater collaboration between organizations allows leaders to better advocate for community needs
	Insurance coverage	Potential reduction in Medicaid coverage	
	Community infrastructure	Need for new/updated health care buildings	Growth of services available through Mercy Health
Health System		Need for more trained health care personnel	
	Provider shortages	Nursing wage wars	
		Burnout among health professionals	
	Response to COVID-19	Poor response to health mandates in the community	
	Health data	HIPPA laws limit sharing of protected health information	
		Healthcare workers threatened by lawsuits	Employment-based mandatory vaccinations increasing vaccination rates
	Legal system	Possible decriminalization and legalization of recreational marijuana	
Legal		Delays from continuances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic	
	Police interactions with	Need for improved behavioral health policies in schools	
	people who have behavioral health issues	Need greater mental and behavioral health training and support for law enforcement personnel	
	Elections	Political division and corruption	
	International war	International governmental instability impacting food production and distribution	
		Government limiting public health authority	Increased awareness of LGBTQ+ topics

Theme	Forces	Threats	Opportunities
Influence of society on government			Growing emphasis on diversity and inclusion issues
		Need for more evidence-based guidance	Longer lifespans
Scientific	Advancements	Need for more practical green energy solutions	Improvements in vaccine development and use
		Need for breakthroughs in eco-friendly farming and industrial processes	
	Remote Working	Social isolation challenges	Increased employment opportunities
	Return to in-person activities	Increased risk of infectious diseases without masking	Fairs and other large gatherings promote community
Social	Social media use	Misinformation influencing public opinion and policy	Avenue for social connection
	Societal trends	Increased suicide rates	Increased awareness of LGBTQ+ topics
	Drugues	Overdose	
	Drug use	Family division	
	Changes in family structure	Need more support for non-traditional family units	Greater appreciation for family diversity
	Information protection	Cyberterrorism threats	Improved cybersecurity
	information protection		Increased sharing of health information
Technological	Data analysis		Improvements in data mining and analysis of telehealth information
		Decreased personable interactions	Improved communication
	In average distribution of	Need to teach older adults to use technology to access	
	Increased digitalization of the world	goods and services	
	the world	High screen time	
		Cyberbullying	





Figure 11: Forces of change impacting the community

Figure 10: Forces of change impacting health disparities

Conclusion

Community leaders have identified many factors within the broader economic, environmental, ethical, health system, legal, political, scientific, social, and technological domains that influence the health of community members in Champaign County. Economic and social forces were ranked as the domains with the greatest impact on health and health disparities in Champaign County, followed by the health system, political, technological, and environmental factors, with ethical, legal, and scientific factors having the lowest influence on community health. The emphasis placed on economic and social factors may reflect the amount of recent change in these areas as well as the degree that these factors influence changes in the other domains. Economic factors, such as rising inflation and changes to health insurance coverage, directly impact health systems, environmental factors like the availability of health care services, political involvement in the regulation of the economy and health systems, and socioeconomic issues like poverty. Recent social movements, such as the increased awareness and support for members of the LGBTQ+ community, have an influence on health disparities and ethical, legal, and political implications.

Community leaders are particularly concerned about the effects of inflation, international conflict, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on health. All these factors contribute to supply chain disruption and increased poverty that impact employment opportunities and economic stability. People with low incomes are less able to access preventative and healthcare resources, more often experience delays in care, and are less able to follow through on treatment plans. Improving economic conditions in the county will improve community health by increasing the ability of community members to seek preventative health care services and receive health care treatment. Factors and changes at the health system level also have a great influence on the availability and access to care. Champaign County is primarily rural, and transportation concerns stand as a major barrier to seeking preventative care and other health services. There have been efforts to improve access to care in Champaign County, such as the Champaign County Transit Service, which offers low-cost public transportation to residents of Champaign County and through the expansion of services offered by Mercy Health.

Technology and the influence of social media have changed the way that people communicate with one another and search for information. There are increased opportunities for social connection using technology, but technology also contributes to misinformation. It is important for community members to utilize trusted sources to learn about health topics. Innovation in technology contributes to scientific advancement and lowers barriers to accessing care, such as through the widespread implementation of Telehealth services and by increasing employment opportunities. However, with these advancements,

there are challenges in ensuring that older adults are trained to use new technologies, that electronic data is protected, and that it is possible to share electronic health information for health care and public health use.

The health of a community is not limited to the medical care offered. Health beliefs, knowledge, and literacy shape the way that individuals approach their own health and treatment. There are many forces producing positive changes that are improving the health of people living in Champaign County. Some changes produced by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as increased availability of work-from-home positions and Telehealth services have allowed for greater employment opportunities and opportunities to receive healthcare services. Technological information and data protections for information sharing between organizations allow for greater collaboration between healthcare organizations and public health. With greater information availability, community leaders can be preemptive in addressing threats to health in the community. There are continual scientific advancements in preventative services like vaccinations, disease screening, and in medical treatments, all allowing people to live longer and healthier lives. Continued efforts to expand the health care services available and to reduce barriers to receiving health care in Champaign County will further improve the health of community members and contribute to reductions in health disparities within the county.

LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM ASSESSMENT

The local public health system (LPHS) is defined as "All entities that contribute to the delivery or public health services within a community (National Association of County and City Health Officials (NAACHO))." Throughout this meeting, the group used the 10 Essential Services of Public Health to identify strengths and weaknesses of Champaign County's LPHS. Each Essential Service was given a score from 0 (No Activity) to 5 (Optimal). Overall, the Champaign County LPHS scored an average of 3.2, between Significant and Optimal activity. The LPHS scored the highest in Essential Service (ES) #2, Diagnose and Investigate.

LPHS Assessment Results

Essential Service #1: Monitor Health Status: The average score for ES#1 was 3.3.

Strengths include:

- · Reviewing and updating data
- Regular completion of community health assessments

Opportunities for improvement include:

- Taking effective action to positively change health trends
- Better communication with community members
- Improve community awareness of health services provided

Essential Service #2: Diagnose and Investigation Health Problems and Hazards: The average score for ES#2 was 3.9.

Strengths include:

- Thorough plans in place for hazards and emergencies
- Adequate COVID-19 response

Opportunities for improvement include:

- Faster and more effective communication across agencies
- Expand proactive services/screenings

Essential Service #3: Inform, Educate, and Empower People about Health Issues: The average score for ES#3 was 3.1.

Strengths include:

• Use of social media platforms

Opportunities for improvement include:

- Increase number of people receiving health education and frequency
- Improve health education retainment

Essential Service #4: Mobilize Community Partnerships to Identify and Solve Health Problems: The average score for ES#4 was 3.3.

Strengths include:

• Collaboration with various populations and organizations

Weaknesses and opportunities for improvement include:

- Lack of awareness of existing coalitions and resources
- Re-establishing partnerships placed on hold during peak COVID-19

Essential Service #5: Develop Policies and Plans that Support Individual and Community Health Efforts: The average score for ES#5 was 3.4.

Strengths include:

Collaboration with local hospitals

Opportunities for improvement include:

- Increase knowledge on existing policies and regulations
- Adopt policies from the Ohio Department of Health

Essential Service #6: Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Ensure Safety: The average score for ES#6 was 3.1.

Strengths include:

• Appropriate and reasonable enforcement of laws and regulations

Weaknesses and opportunities for improvement include:

- Communication across agencies and with the public
- Expanding oversight and monitoring

Essential Service #7: Link People to Needed Personal Health Services and Assure the Provision of Healthcare when Otherwise Unavailable: The average score for ES#7 was 3.2.

Strengths include:

Collaboration among organizations and residents

Weaknesses included:

- Limited access to health resources
- Increase resident awareness of closest health resources

Essential Service #8: Assure a Competent Public Health and Personal Healthcare Workforce: The average score for ES#8 was 2.9.

Strengths include:

Knowledgeable staff

Opportunities for improvement include:

• Offering leadership and educational opportunities

Essential Service #9: Evaluate Effectiveness, Accessibility, and Quality of Personal and Population-Based Health Services: The average score for ES#9 was 3.1.

Strengths include:

- Willingness to partner with other organizations
- Sufficient access to health services

Opportunities for improvement include:

• More frequent evaluation of health services

Essential Service #10: Research for New Insights and Innovative Solutions to Health Problems: The average score for ES#10 was 2.8.

Strengths include:

• Follow standard practices set by the state and federal agencies

Weaknesses included:

Resistance to change

COMMUNITY HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

The Community Health Status Assessment (CHSA) consists of primary and secondary data that was analyzed to identify community health issues and determine where the community stands in relation to state and national data. Data collection for the CHSA began in the winter of 2021 and continued through the summer of 2022. The topics in this chapter are ordered based on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings organization.

Demographic Characteristics

The majority of the Champaign County population is white, non-Hispanic (93%) (Figure). Non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic multi-race, Hispanic/Latino, and non-Hispanic other minorities range between 1-2% (Figure 12).

Age and Birthrate

57.8% of the Champaign County population is at least 35 years of age, and 24.9% are under 19 years of age (Figure 13).

Between 2010 and 2020, there has been some slight fluctuation in the birth rate in Champaign County between 9.6 and 10.9 births per

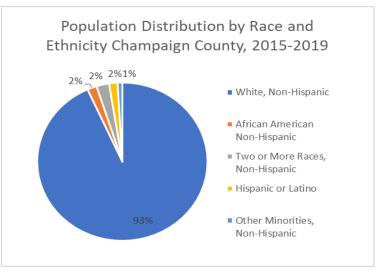


Figure 12: Population distribution by Race and Ethnicity, Champaign County, Ohio, American Community Survey 2015-2019

1,000 population (Figure 14). The birth rate broken down by race and ethnicity in Champaign does not show any obvious trends (Table 2). This could be due to the low percentages of races and ethnicities that are not non-Hispanic white.

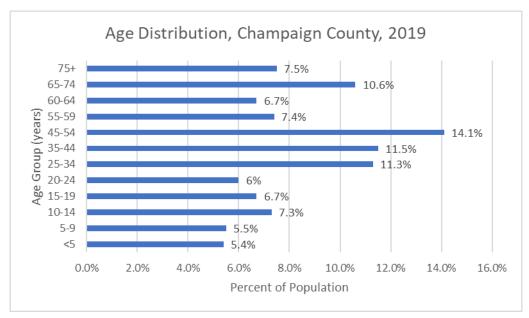


Figure 13: Age Distribution, Champaign County, 2019, American Community Survey

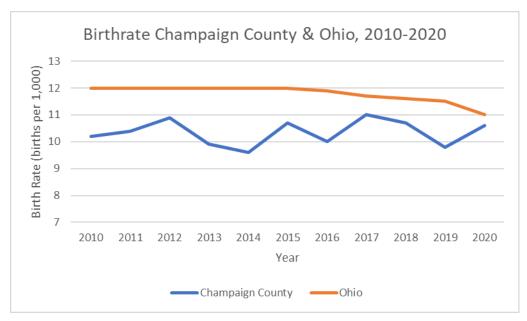


Figure 14: Birthrate, Champaign County, Ohio, 2010-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Table 2: Birth rates by race and ethnicity, Champaign County & Ohio, 2016-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Champaign County					Ohio					
	NHW	NHB	NH Asian or Pacific Islander	NH American Indian or Alaska Native	Hispanic	NHW	NHB	NH Asian or Pacific Islander	NH American Indian or Alaska Native	Hispanic
2016	10.2	4.3	4.8	11.0	5.2	10.8	15.3	16.1	8.0	17.3
2017	10.9	11.4	23.0	11.0	5.0	10.7	15.3	15.6	7.7	16.8
2018	11.1	8.7	17.9	0.0	6.4	10.6	15.1	14.9	6.1	16.1
2019	9.8	10.4	4.0	18.1	11.0	10.4	15.3	14.7	6.3	16.3
2020	10.6	10.8	8.5	5.6	9.5	10.0	14.6	13.2	6.7	15.7

Population Projections

From 2010 to 2050, there is an expected decrease of 10.7% in the Champaign County population, projected from the Ohio Development Services Agency (Figure 15). This contrasts with the state of Ohio and the United States' populations, both expected to increase over time (0.95% and 29.7%, respectively) (Figure 16, Figure 17). Between 2015 and 2050, the 65-85+ population is expected to increase by 21.9%, while the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups are expected to decline by 12.7% and 10.5%, respectively (Figure 18).

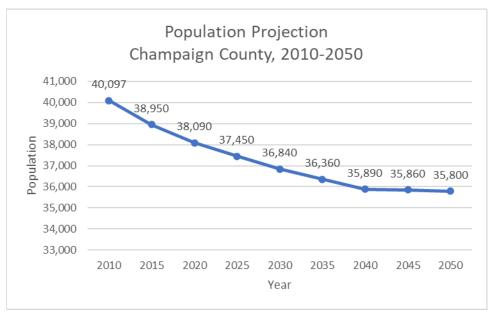


Figure 15: Population projection for Champaign County, 2010-2050, Ohio Development Services Agency, 2018

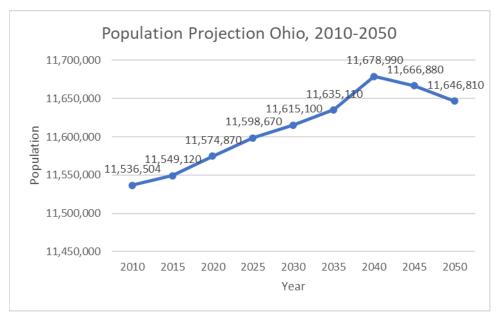


Figure 16: Population projection for Ohio, 2010-2050, Ohio Development Services Agency, 2018

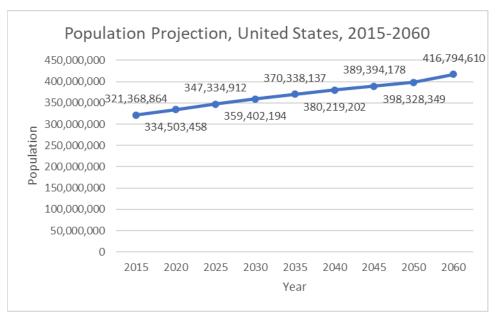


Figure 17: Population projection for the United States, 2015-2060, CDC Wonder

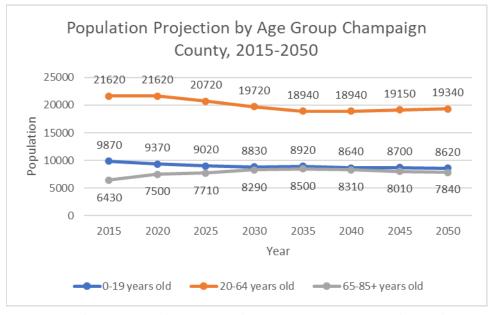


Figure 18: Population projection by age group, Champaign County, 2015-2050, Ohio Development Services Agency 2018

Health Outcomes

Length of Life

The average life expectancy for Champaign County is 77.2 years, based on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Rankings, this is slightly higher than the state of Ohio (77.2), but lower than the United States (78.8) (Table 3).

Table 3: Average life expectancy, Champaign County, Ohio & US, 2018-2020, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings, 2021.

Location	Average Life Expectancy (Years)
Champaign County	77.2
Ohio	77
US	78.8

Infant Mortality

Between 2016 and 2020, the state of Ohio infant mortality has experienced a decrease of 8.1% (Figure 19). Champaign County had its highest value in 2017 at 7.0; however, the values for 2016 and 2018-2020 fall between 4.7 and 5.2 (Figure 19). The leading causes of infant death between 2016-2020 is both prematurity related and congenital anomalies with a rate of 1.5 deaths per 1,000 births (Figure 20). Black infants have the highest rates of mortality for all categories of infant death (Table 4).

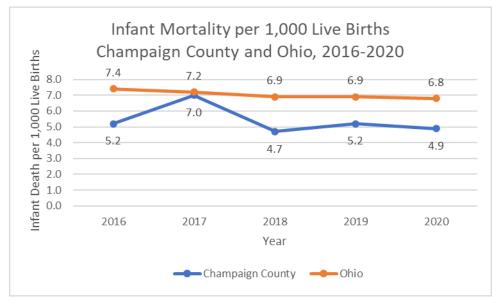


Figure 19: Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births, Champaign County and Ohio, 2016-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

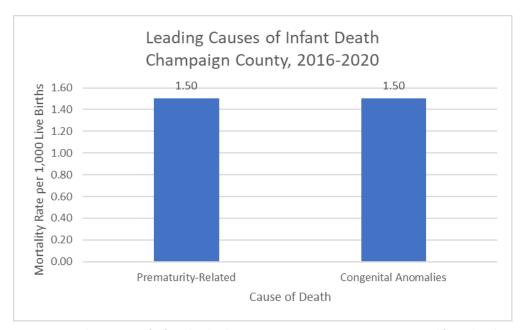


Figure 20: Leading causes of infant death, Champaign County, 2016-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Table 4: Leading causes of infant death by race, Champaign County, 2016-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Cause of Infant Death	All Races	Black	White
Prematurity-Related	2.0	4.0	1.4
Congenital Anomalies	1.3	1.5	1.3
Obstetric Conditions	0.5	1.0	0.3
External Injury	0.8	1.4	0.7
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)	0.4	0.9	0.3
Perinatal Infections	0.4	1.2	0.2
Other infections	0.3	0.6	0.2
Birth Asphyxia	0.1	**	**

^{**}Suppressed due to less than 10 deaths

Leading Causes of Death

Between 2014-2020, heart disease and cancer were the top two leading causes of death in Champaign County annually; however, both have seen a decline in mortality rate (16.3% and 9.6%, respectively). Unintentional injuries, chronic lower respiratory diseases, stroke, diabetes mellitus, and Alzheimer's have all seen increases in their mortality rates (Table 5)(Figure 21).

Table 5: Top 10 leading causes of death, Champaign County, 2014-2020, age-adjusted mortality rate. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Cause of Death	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Heart Disease	195.3	195.6	169.1	178.9	157.3	178.7	163.4
Cancer	212.7	173.3	195.7	168.8	183.4	151.6	192.3
Unintentional Injuries	54.5	48.4	60.4	78.9	54.4	60.0	70.2
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	34.9	63.4	67.1	58.1	57.2	55.6	60.7
Stroke	46.4	39.7	48.2	40.5	41.7	60.3	71.2
Diabetes Mellitus	19.1	32	24.5	35.2	34.7	21.4	23.7
Alzheimer's Disease	29.3	37.6	28.9	20.3	30.8	18.6	34.4
Septicemia	-	22.0	20.1	12.3	18.5	-	18.4
Suicide	-	27.1	21.5	16	16.6	24.3	12.3
Influenza & Pneumonia	21.4	10.1	15.8	13.5	14.1	11.5	10.7

^{*}Drug Overdose Deaths are included in the Unintentional Injuries Category

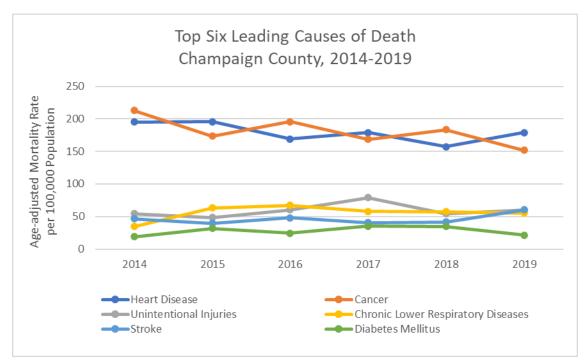


Figure 21: Top six leading causes of death, Champaign County, 2014-2019. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions

Quality of Life

Overall Health

Based upon the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System conducted in 2019, 19% of Champaign County residents have a fair or poor health status, which is higher than both the state of Ohio and the United States (Table 6). Champaign County has a higher average of poor physical health and mental health days compared to Ohio and the United States; however, Champaign County and Ohio are within 0.2 days (Table 7).

Table 6: Fair or poor health status among adults, Champaign County, Ohio & US, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2019.

Location	Percent of Respondents		
Champaign County	19.0%		
Ohio	18.0%		
US	15.0%		

Table 7: Poor health days in the past 30 days among adults, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Ohio State Health Assessment, 2019.

Type of Poor Health Day	Location	Number of Days	
	Champaign County	4.4	
Poor Physical Health Days	Ohio	4.2	
	US	3.4	
	Champaign County	5.4	
Poor Mental Health Days	Ohio	5.2	
	US	4	

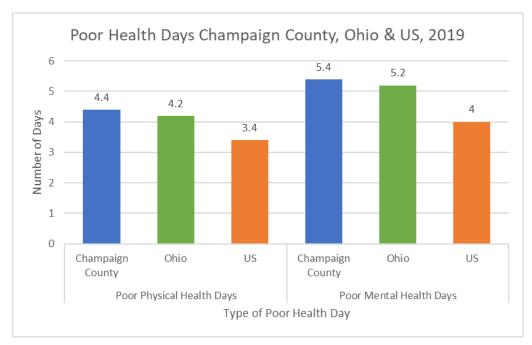


Figure 22: Poor health days in the past 30 days among adults, 2019, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Ohio State Health Assessment, 2019

Birth Outcomes

Between 2016-2020, non-Hispanic white residents of Champaign County have seen a 92.1% increase in live births with low birthweight, while non-Hispanic Black residents have seen a 23% decrease (Table 8). Both white and Black residents have higher percentages of live births with low birthweights compared to Ohio (Table 8). Consistent with the statewide trend, there is a racial disparity in low birthweight between White and Black residents in Champaign County. In 2016, Hispanic residents have 33.3% of live births with low birthweight and 0% between 2017-2020 (Table 8).

Between 2012-2020, non-Hispanic white residents have seen an overall 1.7% decrease in percentage of preterm births; however, the lowest percent was 8.2% in 2017 which then increased to 13.1% the following year in 2018. Non-Hispanic Black residents have had inconsistent values during the same time period, their lowest percentage of preterm births was 10.0% in 2018 and their highest percentage was 37.5% in 2013 (Table 9).

Table 8: Percent of live births with low birthweight by race and ethnicity, Champaign County & Ohio. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Champaign County				Ohio			
Year	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	
2016	5.1%	20.0%	33.3%	7.4%	14.2%	8.7%	
2017	6.0%	15.4%	0.0%	7.3%	14.3%	8.6%	
2018	8.9%	20.0%	0.0%	7.2%	13.7%	7.5%	
2019	7.5%	16.7%	0.0%	7.3%	13.7%	7.8%	
2020	9.8%	15.4%	0.0%	7.1%	14.0%	7.7%	

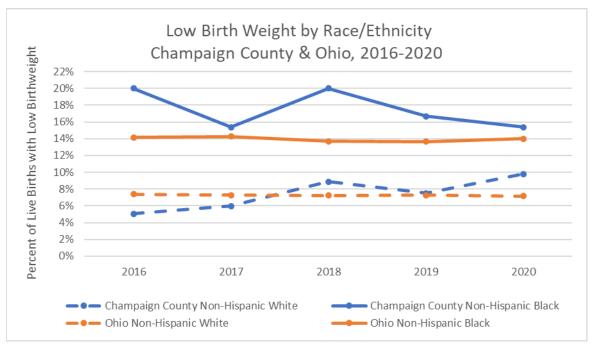


Figure 23: Percent of live births with low birthweight by race and ethnicity, Champaign County and Ohio, 2016-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Table 9: Percent of preterm births by race and ethnicity, Champaign County & Ohio, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Champaign County				Ohio			
Year	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	
2012	11.6%	0.0%	0.0%	9.6%	14.3%	10.1%	
2013	9.2%	37.5%	0.0%	9.6%	13.9%	10.5%	
2014	9.3%	0.0%	0.0%	9.5%	13.8%	10.1%	
2015	8.8%	0.0%	0.0%	9.4%	14.1%	10.4%	
2016	8.8%	20.0%	33.3%	9.6%	14.3%	10.1%	
2017	8.2%	15.4%	0.0%	9.4%	14.5%	10.5%	
2018	13.1%	10.0%	25.0%	9.5%	13.8%	11.1%	
2019	11.1%	16.7%	0.0%	9.7%	14.0%	10.5%	
2020	11.4%	0.0%	0.0%	9.4%	14.3%	10.2%	

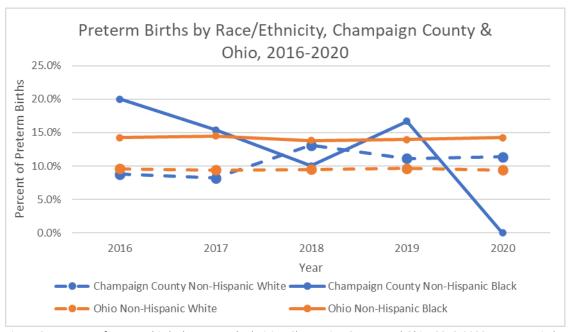


Figure 24: Percent of preterm births by race and ethnicity, Champaign County and Ohio, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Cancer Incidence

The top five cancer types in Champaign County are breast, colon and rectum, lung and bronchus, melanoma of the skin, and prostate cancer. Breast (8.8%), lung and bronchus (1.4%), and prostate cancer (6.3%) have seen a decline in their incidence between 2012 and 2020. During the same time period, colon and rectum (18.3%) and melanoma of the skin (59.0%) have seen an increase in their incidence (Figure 25).

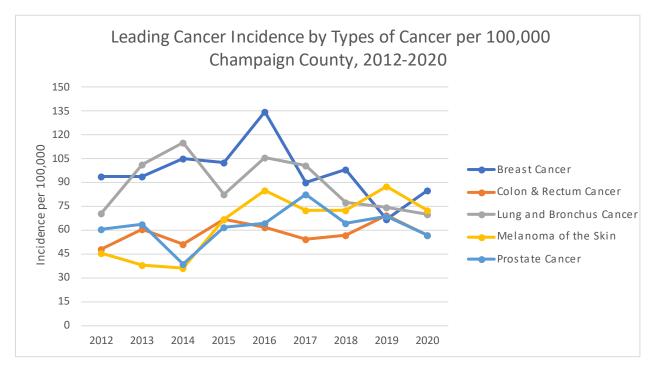


Figure 25: Leading cancer incidence per 100,000, Champaign County, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions

Table 10: Leading cancer incidence per 100,000, all stages, Champaign County, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Cancer Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Breast Cancer	93.51	93.77	104.93	102.69	134.3	90.15	97.98	66.86	85.24
Colon & Rectum Cancer	48.02	60.82	51.18	66.75	61.99	54.09	56.72	69.44	56.83
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	70.76	101.37	115.17	82.15	105.89	100.45	77.35	74.58	69.74
Melanoma of the Skin	45.49	38.01	35.83	66.75	85.23	72.12	72.19	87.44	72.33
Prostate Cancer	60.66	63.36	38.39	61.62	64.57	82.42	64.46	68.44	56.83

Disability

Between 2015-2019, Champaign County had higher disability status for all age groups compared to Ohio and the US (Figure 26). Table 11 shows the prevalence of six disability types within Champaign County, Ohio, and the US for total population, under 18 years old, 18-64 years old, and 65+ years old.

Within Champaign, 8.5% of the population has an ambulatory disability and 7.2% have a disability but are independently living (Table 11). The 65+ age group has the highest disability status across all disability types, except for cognitive (Table 11). Within the cognitive disability, the under 18 age group has the highest disability status (Table 11). Within the ambulatory disability, 21.8% are 65+ years old. More information about disabilities can be found in Appendix A.

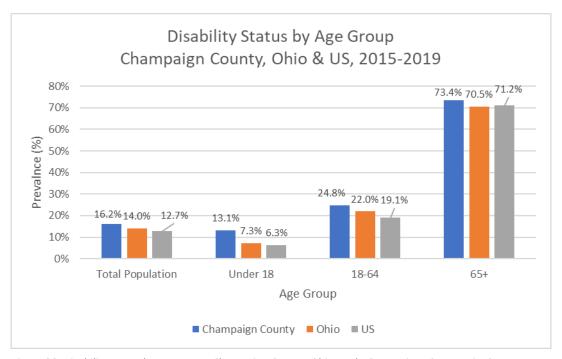


Figure 26: Disability status by age group, Champaign County, Ohio, and US. American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2015-2019

Table 11: Prevalence of disability type within the total population, Champaign County. American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

Disability Type	Age Group	Champaign County	Ohio	US
	Total Population	8.5%	7.5%	6.9%
Ambulatory	Under 18	0.9%	0.6%	0.6%
Ambulatory	18-64	6.7%	5.7%	4.9%
	65+	21.8%	21.5%	21.9%
	Total Population	6.9%	5.8%	5.1%
Cognitivo	Under 18	8.8%	5.3%	4.2%
Cognitive	18-64	6.5%	5.4%	4.4%
	65+	6.4%	7.9%	8.6%
Hearing	Total Population	4.5%	3.8%	3.6%
	Under 18	1.7%	0.6%	0.6%
	18-64	2.5%	2.2%	2.0%
	65+	14.7%	14.1%	14.3%
1	Total Population	7.2%	6.3%	5.8%
Independent Living	18-64	4.9%	4.3%	3.7%
Living	65+	14.7%	13.8%	14.2%
	Total Population	3%	2.8%	2.6%
Self-Care	Under 18	1%	1.1%	1.0%
	18-64	2%	2.0%	1.8%
	65+	8.1%	7.4%	7.9%
Vision	Total Population	2.9%	2.4%	2.3%
	Under 18	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%
VISION	18-64	2.4%	2.0%	1.9%
	65+	6.4%	5.9%	6.3%

Communicable Diseases

Between 2020 and 2021, the annual disease totals will be greatly increased due to COVID-19 cases. There is a separate figure for totals including COVID-19 cases (Figure 27) and a figure for totals not including COVID-19 cases (Figure 28). There has been a 34.7% decline in annual communicable disease cases from 2017 to 2021, not including COVID-19 cases (Figure 28). During the same period, there has been an increase in Campylobacteriosis cases (Figure 29) and a slight increase in salmonellosis cases (Figure 30).

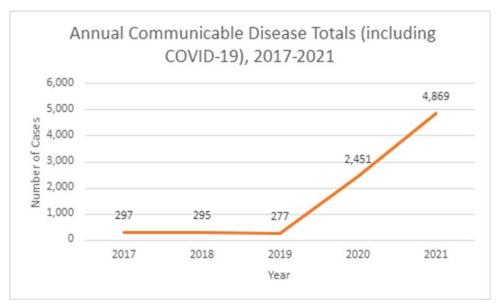


Figure 27: Annual communicable disease totals including COVID-19, Champaign County, 2017-2021. Data queried from Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS).

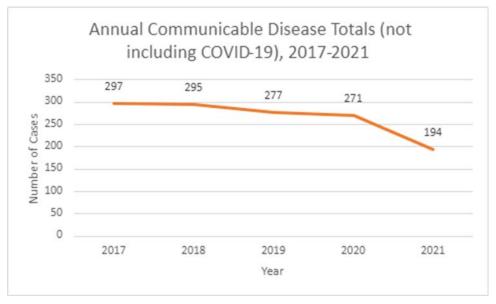


Figure 28: Annual communicable disease totals not including COVID-19, Champaign County, 2017-2021. Data queried from Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS).

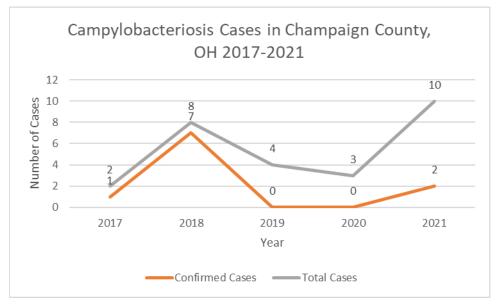


Figure 29: Campylobacteriosis cases, Champaign County, 2017-2021. Data queried from Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS).

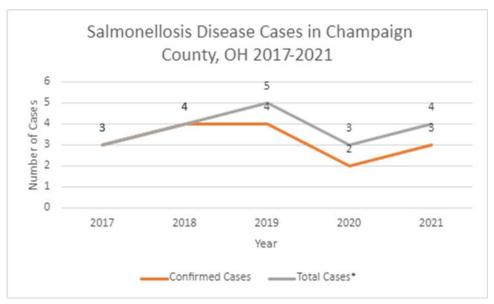


Figure 30: Salmonellosis disease cases, Champaign County, 2017-2021. Data queried from Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS).

Key Events in Communicable Disease – COVID-19

During 2020-2021, there were almost 7,000 cases within Champaign County. 54.7% of COVID-19 cases were female (Figure 31), 64.3% were white (Figure 32), and 18.1% were in the 0-19 age group with a majority of cases occurring between 0-69 years of age (Figure 33).

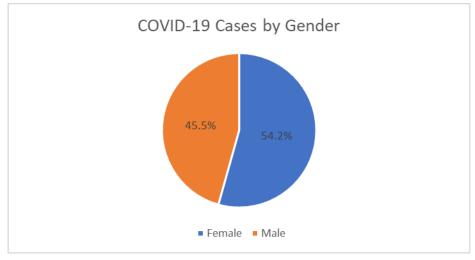


Figure 31: COVID-19 cases by gender, Champaign County, 2020-2021. Champaign County COVID-19 Report.

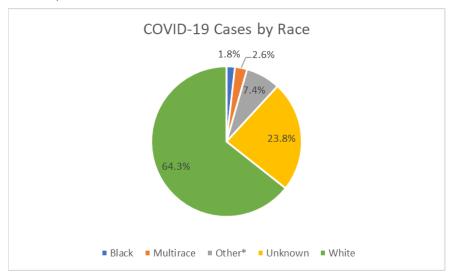


Figure 32: COVID-19 cases by race, 2021-2021, Champaign County COVID-19 Report.

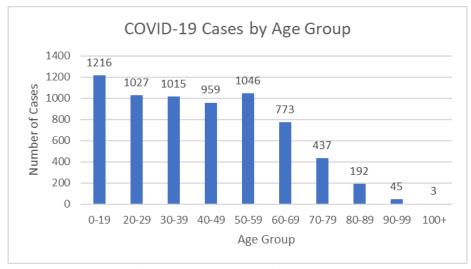


Figure 33: COVID-19 cases by age group, 2020-2021, Champaign County COVID-19 Report.

Health Behaviors

Sexual Activity

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Sexually transmitted disease rates in Champaign County have been increasing for gonorrhea and syphilis, while slightly decreasing for chlamydia. All three of these STD rates are lower than the state. There has been a 2% decrease in the chlamydia rate between 2015-2019 (Figure 34). There has been a 122.6% increase in the gonorrhea rate (Figure 35) and a 496.2% increase in the syphilis rate (Figure 36).

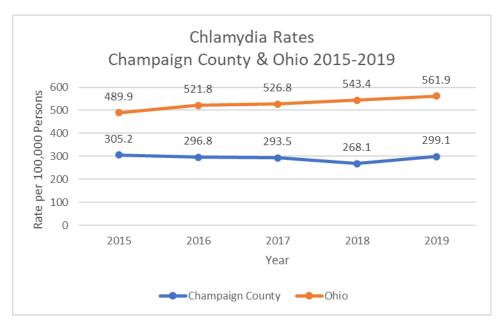


Figure 34: Chlamydia rates per 100,000, Champaign County and Ohio, 2015-2019. Ohio Department of Health STD Surveillance Program

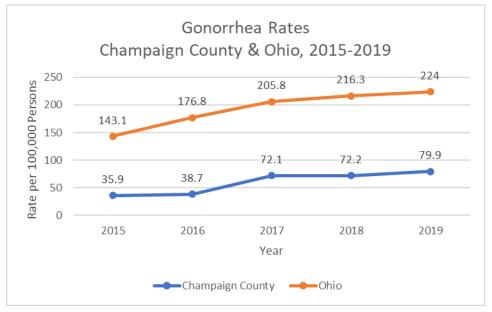


Figure 35: Gonorrhea rates per 100,000, Champaign County and Ohio, 2015-2019. Ohio Department of Health STD Surveillance Program

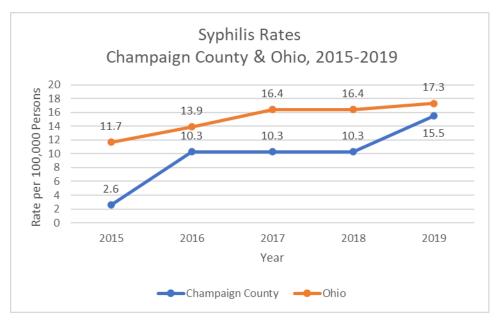


Figure 36: Syphilis rates per 100,000, Champaign County and Ohio, 2015-2019. Ohio Department of Health STD Surveillance Program

Teen Births

There has been a 4.3% increase in overall teen birth rates for Champaign County between 2012-2020; however, the teen birth rate peaked in 2013 at 41.0 births per 100,000 live births (Figure 37). Champaign's teen birth rate has been consistently higher than the states during this period.

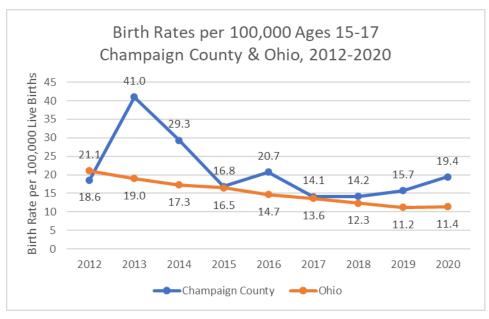


Figure 37: Birthrates per 1,000 births for ages 15-17, Champaign County and Ohio, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Smoking

All smoking status in Ohio has remained relatively constant with never smoked having the highest prevalence (Figure 38), according to the BRFSS conducted by the CDC.

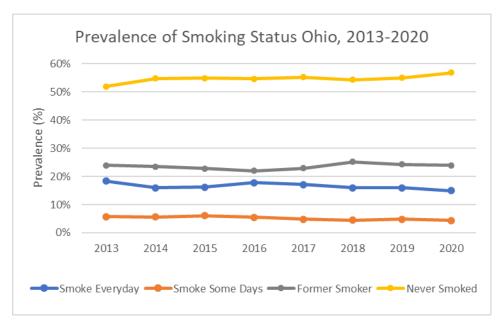


Figure 38: Prevalence of smoking status, Ohio, 2013-2020, CDC BRFSS

Smoking During Pregnancy

While Champaign County has a higher percentage of pregnant mothers who have smoked during pregnancy compared to Ohio, there has been an overall decline in percentages for both Champaign County and Ohio (Figure 39).

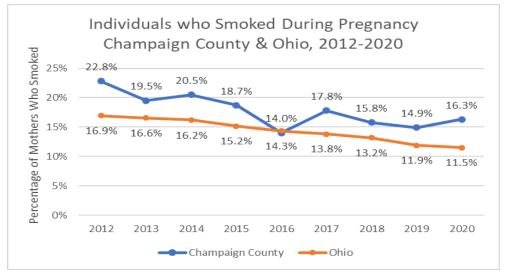


Figure 39: Individuals who smoked during pregnancy, Champaign County and Ohio, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Diet and Exercise

Champaign County has a slightly higher percentage of physical inactivity (29%) and adult obesity (29%) compared to Ohio (Table 12).

Table 12: Behavioral risk factors for diet and exercise, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings, 2021. Data from 2017.

	Champaign County	Ohio
Physical Inactivity	29%	28%
Adult Obesity	38%	35%

Other Health Behaviors

Car Crashes

Between 2016 and 2020, there has been a decrease in the total number of injuries related to traffic crashes in Champaign County (Figure 40). There has been a decrease in the total number of traffic deaths (Table 13). There has been an increase in both the percent of traffic fatalities involving no seatbelt as well as injuries related to traffic crashes involving no seatbelt use (Table 14).

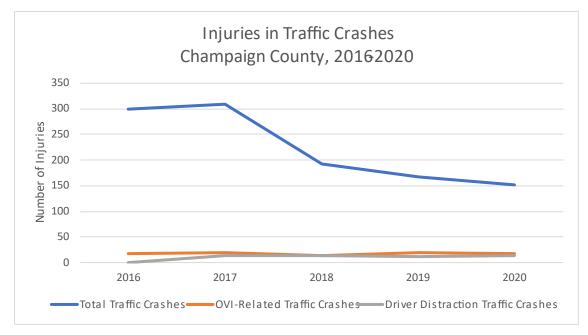


Figure 40: Traffic crashes with an injury, Champaign County, 2016-2020. Ohio State Highway Patrol Statistical Analysis Unit. Note: OVI-related includes alcohol &/or drug related traffic crashes. Driver distraction includes any crash in which one or more drivers were distracted by: manually operating an electronic communication device, talking on hand-held communication device, other activity with communication device, passenger, or other distraction inside the vehicle.

Table 13: Fatal traffic crashes by type, Champaign County, 2016-2020. Ohio State Highway Patrol Statistical Analysis Unit. Note: OVI-related includes alcohol &/or drug related traffic crashes. Driver distraction includes any crash in which one or more drivers were distracted by: manually operating an electronic communication device, talking on hands-free communication device, talking on hand-held communication device, other activity with communication device, passenger, or other distraction inside the vehicle.

	Traffic Crashes - Fatalities				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Traffic Crashes	10	5	4	8	1
OVI-Related Traffic Crashes	4	2	0	1	0
Driver Distraction Traffic Crashes	0	0	1	1	0

Table 14: Percent of traffic crashes involving no seatbelt use, Champaign County, 2016-2020. Ohio State Highway Patrol Statistical Analysis Unit. Note: Seatbelt usage includes only passengers in unit types 1-5, 14-15, & 17-18 (excludes motorcycles, ATVs, buses, Amish buggies, other non-specified units, and non-motorists such as pedestrians). Unbelted includes none, unknown, and other non-applicable categories.

	Seat Belt Use in Traffic Crashes - Unbelted %				_
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
No Seat Belt Use, Traffic Fatalities	30%	60%	50%	38%	100%
No Seat Belt Use, Traffic Injuries	15%	19%	14%	22%	19%

Alcohol and Drug Use

Overdose Deaths

There has been an increase in the death rate for unintentional drug overdoses within Champaign County (7.9%) as well as the state of Ohio (26.8%) (Figure 41). The death rates per drug type is lower in Champaign compared to Ohio for opiates, fentanyl and analogues, cocaine, and heroin (Figure 42).

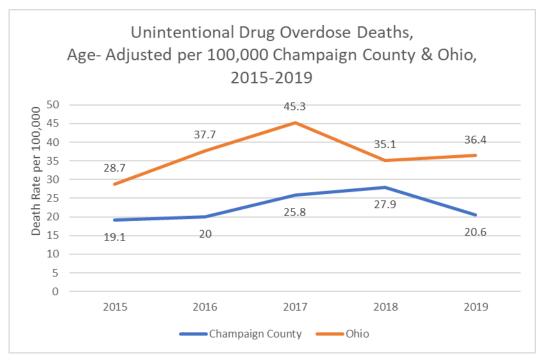
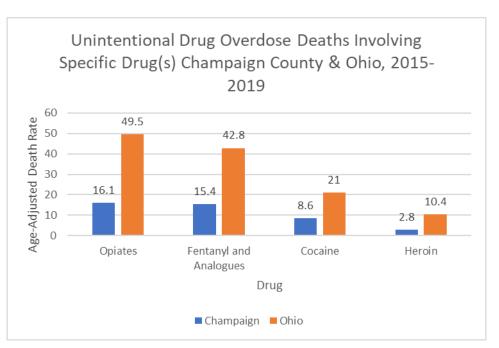


Figure 41: Unintentional drug overdose deaths, ageadjusted per 100,000, Champaign County and Ohio, 2015-2019. Champaign County data collected during County Drug Death Review. Ohio Department of Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Figure 42: Unintentional drug overdoses involving specific drugs, Champaign County and Ohio, 2015-2019.
Champaign County data collected during County Drug Death Review. Ohio Department of Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.



Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

The rate at which babies are being discharged from the hospital for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in Champaign (8.85) is lower than the rate for Ohio (13.97) (Table 15).

Table 15: Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) discharges, 2016-2020, ODH NAS County Hospital Discharge Report.

	Champaign County	Ohio
2016-2020	18	9417
Birth Rate per 1000 live births	8.85	13.97

Alcohol Use

Compared to Ohio, Champaign County has a lower percentage of alcohol-impaired driving deaths and excessive drinking for 2021, based on data from 2019 (Table 16).

Table 16: Behavioral risk factors for alcohol use, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings 2021, Data from 2019.

	Champaign County	Ohio
Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths	27%	33%
Excessive Drinking	19%	21%

Clinical Care

Access to Care

Dentists, primary care physicians, and mental health providers within Champaign County have a higher number of residents per 1 provider compared to Ohio (Table 17).

All of Champaign County falls within the 1-13 score range for areas designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA).

Table 17: Health resource availability, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings, 2021. Data from 2019-2021.

	Champaign County	Ohio
Population per Dentist	3,000:1	1,570:1
Population per Primary Care Physician	4,860:1	1,290:1
Population per Mental Health Provider	930:1	350:1

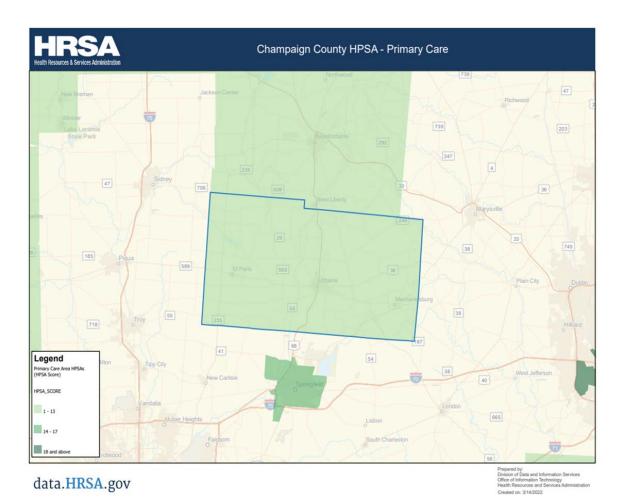


Figure 43: Champaign County HPSA Primary Care, Health Resources and Services Administration Map Tool

Health Insurance

A majority of residents in Champaign County, Ohio, and the US are covered by health insurance (Table 18). In Champaign County, 56.5% of residents have private insurance, compared to 55.2% of Ohio residents and 54.3% of the US (Table 19).

Table 18: Health insurance coverage, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

	Champa	ign County	(Ohio	US	
By Age	Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured
<6	97.1%	2.9%	95.6%	4.4%	95.9%	4.1%
6-18	97.7%	2.3%	95.1%	4.9%	94.5%	5.5%
19-25	92.2%	7.8%	89.6%	10.4%	85.3%	14.7%
26-34	94.2%	5.8%	87.7%	12.3%	84.0%	16.0%
35-44	90.9%	9.1%	90.1%	9.9%	86.4%	13.6%
45-54	93.2%	6.8%	92.7%	7.3%	89.2%	10.8%
55-64	93.9%	6.1%	93.7%	6.3%	92.1%	7.9%
65-74	100.0%	0.0%	99.4%	0.6%	99.0%	1.0%
75+	100.0%	0.0%	99.7%	0.3%	99.5%	0.5%
By Household Type						
Married Couple	96.4%	3.6%	95.3%	4.7%	93.1%	6.9%
Single Male Family	89.7%	10.3%	89.0%	11.0%	84.0%	16.0%
Single Female Family	95.6%	4.4%	92.4%	7.6%	88.0%	12.0%
Non-Family Household	92.6%	7.4%	92.4%	7.6%	90.3%	9.7%
By Household Income						
<\$25,000	95.7%	4.3%	91.2%	8.8%	86.3%	13.7%
\$25,000-\$49,999	90.8%	9.2%	90.9%	9.1%	86.7%	13.3%
\$50,000-\$74,999	96.0%	4.0%	93.1%	6.9%	89.4%	10.6%
\$75,000-\$99,999	94.9%	5.1%	95.0%	5.0%	92.3%	7.7%
\$100,000+	98.0%	2.0%	97.0%	3.0%	95.7%	4.3%

Table 19: Health insurance coverage by type, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

Health Insurance Coverage Alone					
	Champaign County	Ohio	US		
Public Health Insurance Alone	19.3%	22.0%	20.5%		
Medicare Coverage	5.6%	5.8%	5.2%		
Medicaid/means tested coverage	13.6%	15.9%	15.0%		
VA Health care coverage	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%		
Private Health Insurance alone	56.5%	55.2%	54.3%		
Employer-based health insurance	52.2%	50.0%	46.7%		
Direct-purchase health insurance	3.7%	4.7%	6.6%		
Tricare/military health coverage	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%		

Quality of Care

Immunizations

The percent of school age children with the require immunizations has slightly decreased each academic year since 2016-2017 for 7th grade and 12th grade. (Figure 44). The percent of school age children with a reason of conscience or religious objection to immunizations has increased between 1-2% (Figure 45).

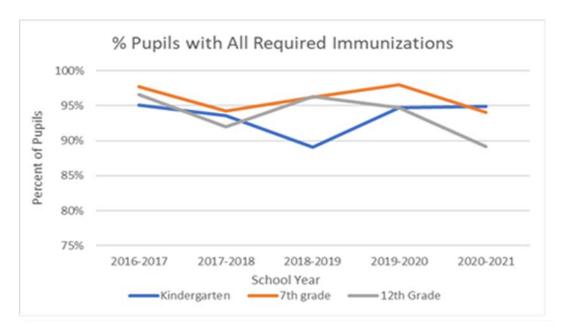


Figure 44: Percent of pupils with all required immunizations for kindergarten, 7th grade & 12th grade, Champaign County, 2016-2021, ODH School Immunization Level Assessment

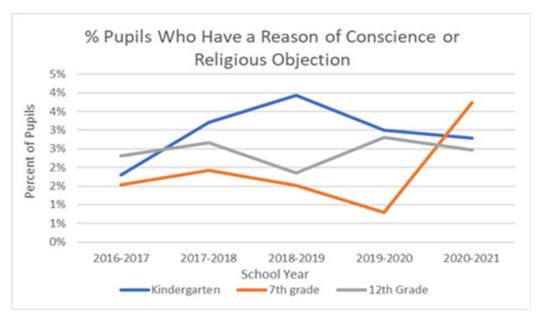


Figure 45: Percent of pupils who have a reason of conscience or religious objection for kindergarten, 7th grade & 12th grade, Champaign County, 2016-2021, ODH School Immunization Level Assessment.

Prenatal Care

There has been a steady increase in the percentage of live births receiving 1st trimester prenatal care in both Champaign County and Ohio from 2014 to 2020 (Figure 46). While Black live births receiving 1st trimester prenatal care has fluctuated in Champaign County, it is slightly lower than Black births in Ohio. White live births receiving 1st trimester prenatal care in Champaign and Ohio has been steadily increasing (Figure 47).

The Kotelchuck Index uses when prenatal care began (initiation) and the number of prenatal visits from when prenatal care began until delivery (received services) to measure adequacy of prenatal care. A ratio of observed to expected visits is calculated and grouped into four categories: 1) Inadequate (less than 50% of expected visits), 2) Intermediate (50-75%), 3) Adequate (80-109%), and 4) Adequate Plus (110% or more). All categories have increased in Champaign County from 2019-2020, except for Adequate which slightly decreased (Figure 48).

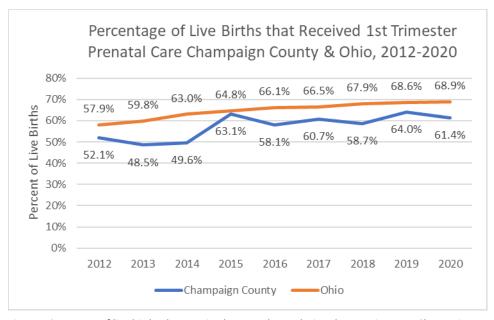


Figure 46: Percent of live births that received prenatal care during the 1st trimester, Champaign County & Ohio, 2012-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

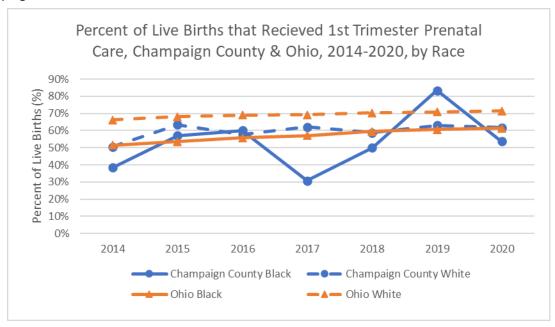


Figure 47: Percent of live births that received prenatal care during the 1st trimester, Champaign County & Ohio, 2014-2020 by race. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

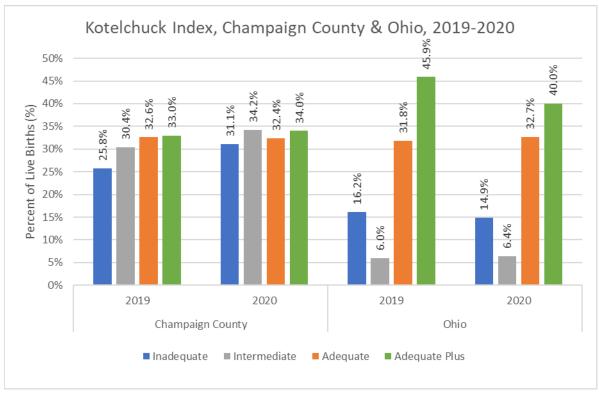


Figure 48: Average Kotelchuck Index for Champaign County, 2019-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Table 20: Kotelchuck Index for Champaign County & Ohio, 2014-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

Location	Year	Inadequate (<50%)	Intermediate (50-79%)	Adequate (80-109%)	Adequate Plus (110%+)
	2014	25.8%	18.7%	19.1%	20.1%
	2015	20.2%	25.2%	28.1%	28.5%
Chamasian	2016	23.5%	24.3%	25.3%	24.7%
Champaign	2017	30.5%	31.8%	27.5%	26.7%
County	2018	43.2%	35.4%	35.0%	33.0%
	2019	25.8%	30.4%	32.6%	33.0%
	2020	31.1%	34.2%	32.4%	34.0%
	2014	16.4%	7.3%	29.4%	35.5%
	2015	15.6%	6.8%	29.8%	37.6%
	2016	16.0%	6.3%	29.8%	39.7%
Ohio	2017	16.1%	6.0%	29.2%	40.9%
	2018	15.6%	6.1%	29.9%	41.8%
	2019	16.2%	6.0%	31.8%	45.9%
	2020	14.9%	6.4%	32.7%	40.0%

Socioeconomic Characteristics

Education

Champaign County and Ohio have the same high school graduation rate (91%) (Table 21). Mechanicsburg Exempted Village Schools and West Liberty-Salem Local have had the highest graduation rates by school districts from the 2015-2016 to the 2019-2020 school years (Table 22). From the 2020-2021 school year, Mechanicsburg Exempted Village Schools had the highest kindergarten readiness (54.7%), followed by West Liberty-Salem Local (43.2%) (Figure 49).

Between 2015-2019, 43.9% of 18–24-year-olds in Champaign County have graduated with a high school diploma and 38.4% have some college or an associate's degree. Clark County has more high school graduates in this age group compared to the state of Ohio and the United States, but less people who have some college or an associate degree compared to Ohio and the US. Of those 25 years or older, 46.2% have a high school diploma and 19.7% have attended some college but did not receive a degree. The 25+ year old age group has a higher percentage of high school graduates and a lower percentage of some college attendees than Ohio and the United States (Table 23).

Table 21: High school graduation rate, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings, 2021. Data from 2016-2020.

	High School Graduation Rate
Champaign County	91%
Ohio	91%

Table 22: High school graduation rates (four-year graduation) by school district, Ohio Department of Education (ODE) School Report Cards, 2020.

School District	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Graham Local	92.8%	91.0%	93.3%	95.8%	87.2%
Mechanicsburg Exempted Village Schools	98.5%	98.5%	100.0%	95.7%	98.4%
Triad Local	91.9%	93.8%	93.6%	89.2%	97.4%
Urbana City School district	88.3%	81.7%	85.7%	82.0%	84.6%
West Liberty-Salem Local	100.0%	98.9%	97.7%	97.5%	97.2%

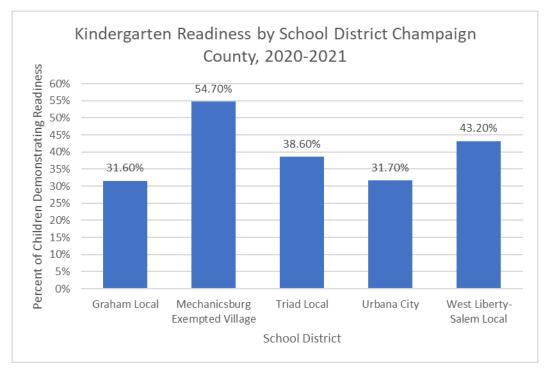


Figure 49: Percentage of children participating in the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) who demonstrated readiness for kindergarten by school district, Champaign County, 2020-2021, Ohio Department of Education (ODE).

Table 23: Educational attainment by age group, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

	Educational Attainme	nt		
		Champaign County	Ohio	US
18-24 years old				
	< High School Graduate High School Graduate (or	12.5%	13.1%	12.6%
	equivalent)	43.9%	34.0%	31.4%
	Some college or Associates Degree	38.4%	42.6%	44.8%
	Bachelor's Degree or higher	5.2%	10.4%	11.2%
25+ years old				
	Less than 9th grade	2.4%	2.8%	5.1%
	9th grade - 12th grade, no diploma	6.4%	6.8%	6.9%
	High School Graduate (or			
	equivalent)	46.2%	33.0%	27.0%
	Some College, No degree	19.7%	20.4%	20.4%
	Associates Degree	9.2%	8.7%	8.5%
	Bachelor's Degree	10.6%	17.6%	19.8%
	Graduate or Professional Degree	5.5%	10.7%	12.4%

Employment

The unemployment rate for both males and females within Champaign County is lower than Ohio and the US (Table 24).

Table 24: Unemployment rate, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

	Unemployment Rate		
Champaign County	Male	4.50%	
Champaign County	Female	3.70%	
Ohio	Male	5.1%	
Onio	Female	4.6%	
US	Male	5.0%	
	Female	4.9%	

Income

The median household income in Champaign County (\$60,112) is higher than Ohio (\$56,602) and lower than the US (\$62,843). The mean income is lower compared to Ohio and the US (Table 25).

Table 25: Household income for Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

	Champaign County	Ohio	US
Median Household Income	\$60,112	\$56,602	\$62,843
Mean Household Income	\$69,841	\$76,958	\$88,607

In Champaign County, 8.4% of all families are living below the poverty level. This is lower than Ohio (9.2%) and the US (8.6%). 33.0% of single mother households in Champaign County are living below the poverty level, higher than Ohio (28.4%) and the US (24.1%) (Table 26).

In 2019, 46% of children in Champaign County were eligible for free or reduced lunch, which is higher than the state of Ohio (36%) (Figure 50).

Table 26: Percent of families with income below poverty level, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

	Champaign County	Ohio	US
All Families	8.4%	9.2%	8.6%
With related children of the householder under 18 years	14.1%	15.7%	13.8%
With related children of the householder under 5 years	16.9%	16.5%	13.0%
Married Couple families	3.0%	3.5%	4.2%
With related children of the householder under 18 years	3.4%	4.9%	5.7%
With related children of the householder under 5 years	5.8%	3.9%	4.5%
Single mother household	33.0%	28.4%	24.1%
With related children of the householder under 18 years	37.0%	38.4%	33.5%
With related children of the householder under 5 years	31.8%	46.6%	37.6%

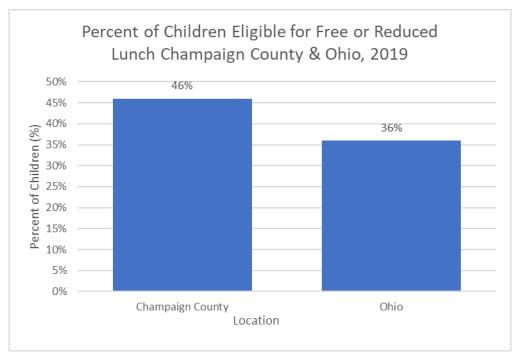


Figure 50: Percent of children enrolled in public schools that are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, Champaign County & Ohio, Ohio Department of Education (ODE), 2019.

Family and Social Support

The percent of children in single-parent households in Champaign County (25%) is lower than the state (27%) (Table 27).

Table 27: Percent of children that live in a household headed by a single parent, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings 2021. Data from 2016-2020.

	Percent of Children in Single-Parent Households
Champaign County	25%
Ohio	27%

Domestic violence

The total number of domestic violence reports with injury in Champaign County decreased 21.4% between 2014-2020. The total number of domestic violence reports without injury decreased 58.9%; however, there was a spike in 2018 (124 victims) (Figure 51).

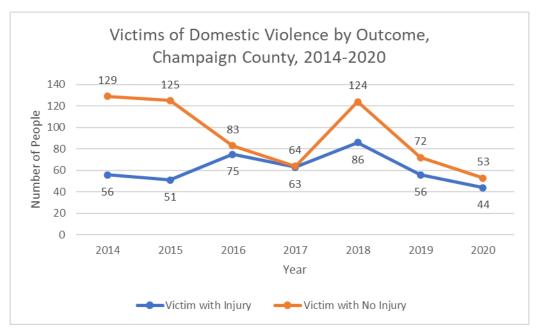


Figure 51: Victims of domestic violence by outcome, Champaign County, 2014-2020, Ohio Attorney General Domestic Violence Reports.

Marital status and household type

57% of Champaign County residents are married, followed by 25.1% who have never been married (Figure 52). Households within Champaign County are 53.8% married couple with family, followed by 25.8% individual living alone (Figure 53).

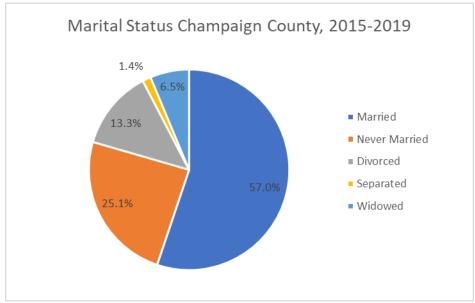


Figure 52: Marital status, Champaign County, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

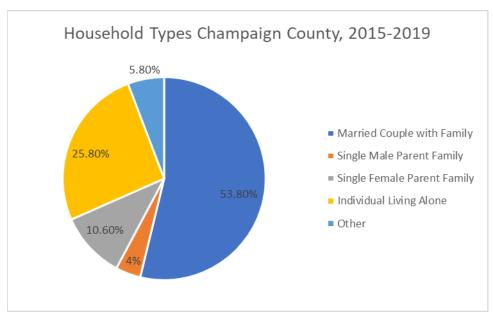


Figure 53: Household types, Champaign County, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

Community Safety

Violent crimes are defined as offenses that involve face-to-face confrontation between a victim and a perpetrator, including homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The violent crime rate for Champaign County is lower than the violent crime rate for Ohio (Table 28).

Table 28: Number of reported violent crime offenses per 100,000 population, Champaign County & Ohio, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings 2021. Data from 2014 & 2016.

	Violent Crime Rate
Champaign County	105
Ohio	293

Food Insecurity

In 2019, 1% of Champaign County residents were low-income and did not live close to a grocery store. This is lower than Ohio (7%) (Figure 54).

The food environment index for Champaign (8.3) is higher than the state (6.8) (Figure 55).

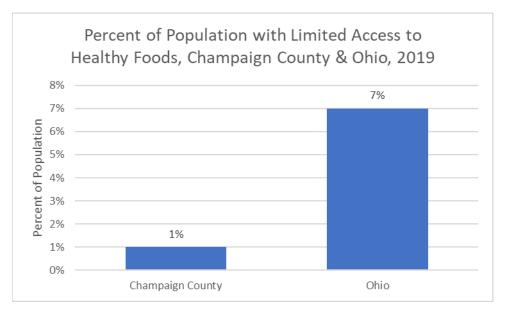


Figure 54: Percent of population who are low-income and do not live close to a grocery store, Champaign County & Ohio, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Environment Atlas, 2019.

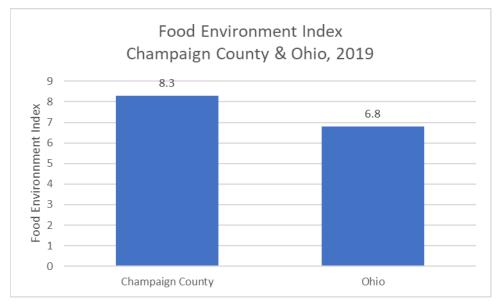


Figure 55: Food Environment Index, Champaign County & Ohio, USDA Food Environment Atlas. Food Environment Index is an index of factors that contribute to a healthy food environment O(worst) to 10 (best).

Physical Environment

Air and Water Quality

Champaign County has a slightly higher average daily density of fine particulate matter (9.5) compared to Ohio (9.0) (Table 29).

Table 29: Average daily density of fine particulate matter in micrograms per cubic meter (PM2.5), Champaign County & Ohio, 2018, CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.

	Air Pollution-Particulate Matter
Champaign County	9.5
Ohio	9

Housing

The percent of households that spend 50% or more of their household income on housing in Champaign is 9%, which is lower than 13% for the state (Table 30). The percent of households that experience at least one housing problem in Champaign (6%) is lower than the state (12%) (Table 30).

Table 30: Severe housing problems and cost burden, Champaign County & Ohio, Severe housing problems: Percentage of households that spend 50% or more of their household income on housing, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings 2021, data from 2014-2018. Severe housing cost burden: Percentage of households with at least 1 of 4 housing problems; overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities, Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings 2021, data from 2016-2020.

	Severe Housing Problems	Severe Housing Cost Burden
Champaign County	9%	6%
Ohio	13%	12%

Other Environmental Factors

Blood Lead Level

Blood lead levels in Champaign County children between 0-15 years old has been increasing between 2015 and 2020. (Figure 56). Females between 0-5 years of age had a higher incidence of blood lead compared to males in the same age group between 2018-2020 (Figure 57).

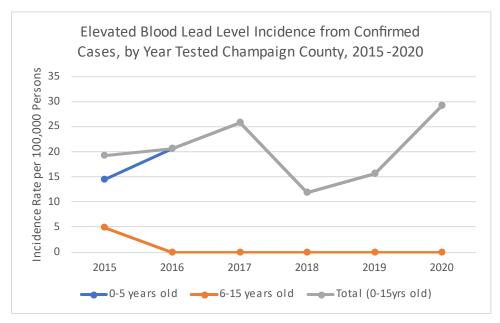


Figure 56: Elevated blood lead level incidence by year tested, highest BLL test, Champaign County, 2015-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

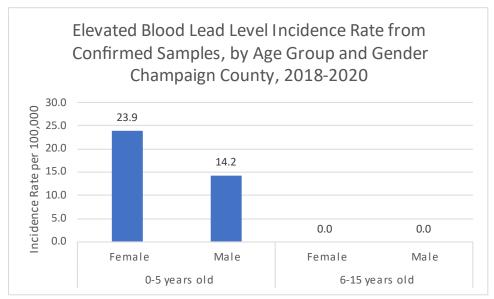


Figure 57: Elevated blood lead level incidence from confirmed cases, highest BLL test, in children by age group and gender, Champaign County, 2018-2020. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions

Windshield and Walking Survey

A Windshield and Walking Survey was conducted in several different locations throughout Champaign County. A windshield survey is a systematic observation made from a moving vehicle and a walking survey is a systematic observation made on foot. The observations for this section were obtained in each community on two separate occasions. When possible, surveyors spoke with some community members to better understand how residents perceive their communities. The observations in this report are limited to what was found on the two survey visits to the community and are not a comprehensive evaluation of all assets that may be available within each community.

Surveys were conducted in Mechanicsburg, North Lewisburg, St. Paris, Urbana, and West Liberty. Surveys from Mechanicsburg do not contain 'community voices' as there was not an opportunity to interact with community members. The full report can be found in Appendix B.

Common Strengths:

- Low crime
- Green space/outdoor amenities
- Sense of community

Common Areas for Improvement

- Public transportation
- Groceries
- Healthcare

Factors that Contribute to Inequities

Health equity means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. The following section aims at identifying and describing factors that contribute to inequities in Champaign County.

Ohio Opportunity Index

The Ohio Opportunity Index helps us understand where we need to target resources aimed at improving conditions for Ohioans who are the most vulnerable (Ohio Opportunity Index, 2021). This map of Champaign County shows us opportunity level from very high to very low measuring seven factors that impact health and well-being (Figure 58). The higher the level in the index, the better the opportunities to thrive. According to this map, the delivery of crucial services should be first guided towards Urbana.

Social Vulnerability Index

Social vulnerability refers to the potential negative effects on communities caused by external stresses on human health. Such stresses include natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) social vulnerability index (SVI) uses US Census data to determine the social vulnerability of every census tract by ranking each tract on 16 social factors to help identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters (CDC/ATSDR, 2020).

Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events, whether a natural disaster like a tornado or a disease outbreak, or an anthropogenic event such as a harmful chemical spill. The degree to which a community exhibits certain social conditions, including high poverty, low percentage of vehicle access, or crowded households, may affect that community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in the event of disaster. These factors describe a community's social vulnerability.

ATSDR's Geospatial Research, Analysis, & Services Program (GRASP) created the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Social Vulnerability Index

(CDC/ATSDR SVI or simply SVI) to help public health officials and emergency response planners identify and map the communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event.

SVI indicates the relative vulnerability of every U.S. Census tract. SVI ranks the tracts on 16 social factors, including unemployment, racial and ethnic minority status, and disability, and further groups them into four related themes: socioeconomic status, household characteristics, racial and ethnic minority status, and housing type/transportation.

Overall, Champaign County's SVI score is low (0.18). There are, however, certain areas of the county with overall SVI scores falling in the low-to-medium, medium-to-high, and high categories, with the City of Urbana and North Lewisburg scoring the highest (Figure 59). Figure 60 shows additional vulnerabilities in socioeconomic status, household characteristics, racial and ethnic minority status, and housing type/transportation in the Urbana and North Lewisburg areas.

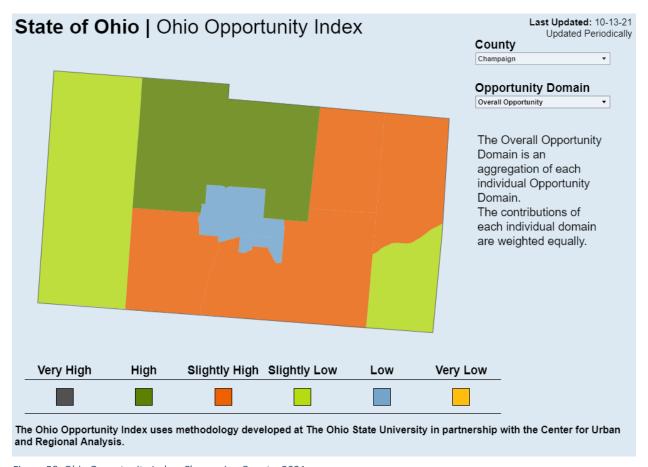


Figure 58: Ohio Opportunity Index, Champaign County, 2021

CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index 2020

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO

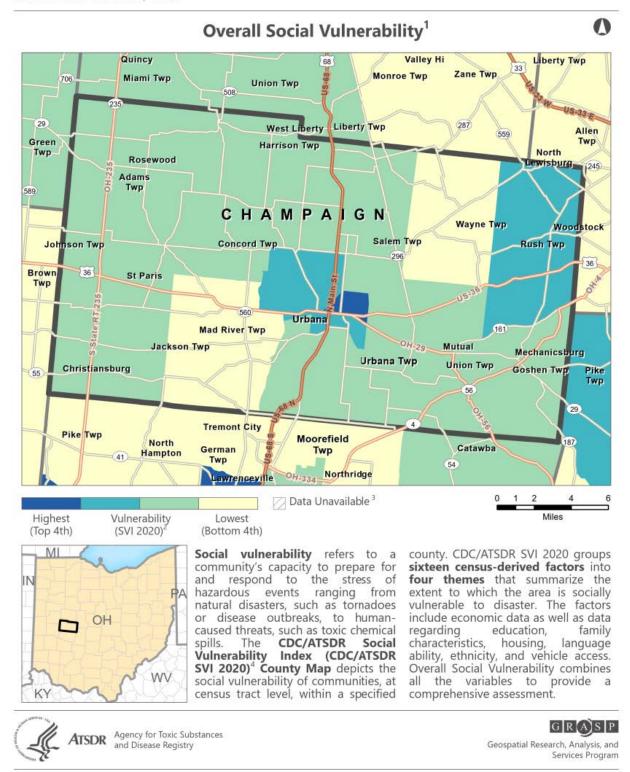
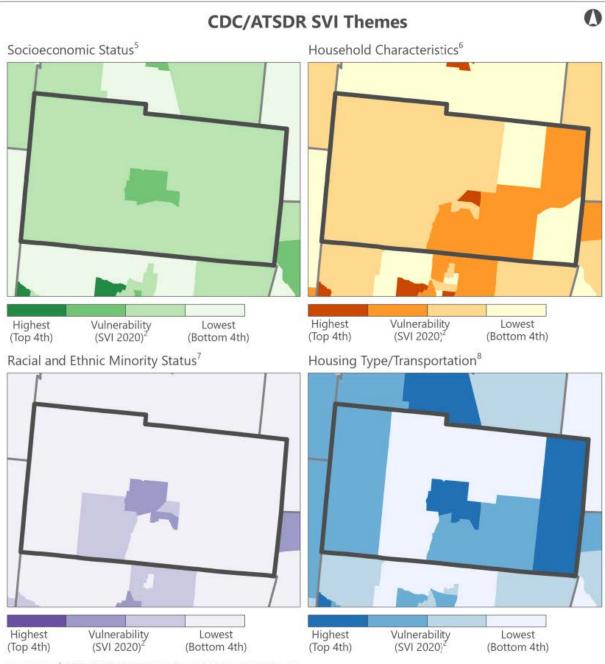


Figure 59: CDC/ATSDR Overall Social Vulnerability Index, Champaign County, 2020





Data Sources: ²CDC/ATSDR/GRASP, U.S. Census Bureau, Esri® StreetMapTM Premium.

Notes: ³Overal Social Vulnerability: All 16 variables, ³Census tracts with 0 population. ⁴The CDC/ATSDR SVI combines percentile rankings of US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 2016-2020 variables, for the state, at the census tract level. ⁵Socioeconomic Status: Below 150% Poverty, Unemployed, Housing Costs Burden, No High School Diploma, No Health Insurance. ⁶Household Characteristics: Aged 65 and Older, Aged 17 and Younger, Civilian with a Disability, Single-Parent Household, English Language Proficiency. 7Rce/Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino (of any race); Black and African American, Not Hispanic or Latino; American Incian and Alaska Native, Not Hispanic or Latino; Asian, Not Hispanic or Latino; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Not Hispanic or Latino; Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or Latino; Other Races, Not Hispanic or Latino; Other Races, Not Hispanic or Latino, Bhousing Type/Transportation: Multi-Unit Structures, Mobile Homes, Crowding, No Vehicle, Group Quarters.

Projection: Ohio NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N, CM shifted to -82.

References: Flanagan, B.E., et al., A Social Vulnerability Index for Disaster Management. Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, 2011. 8(1). CDC/ATSDR SVI web page: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html.

Figure 60: CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index Themes, Champaign County, 2020

Search Institute Survey

The Search Institute surveys youth about how their experience the 40 Developmental Assets, a research-based framework that identifies basic building blocks of human development. The Search Institute identifies 1) the supports, opportunities, and relationships young people need across all aspects of their lives (called "external assets"), and 2) the personal skills, self-perceptions, and values they need (called "internal assets"), to make good choices, take responsibility for their own lives, and be independent and fulfilled.

This report summarizes the results of the most recent Search Institute survey, which was conducted in Champaign County schools in May of 2022. The full report is available upon request to info@mhdas.org.

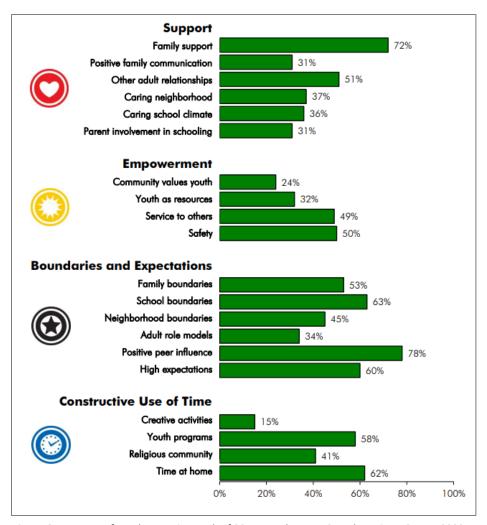


Figure 61: Percent of youth reporting each of 20 external assets, Search Institute Survey 2022

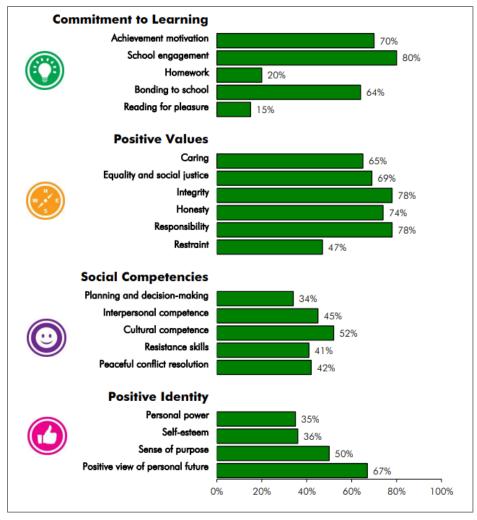


Figure 62: Percent of youth reporting each of 20 internal assets, Search Institute Survey, 2022

Table 31: Percent of youth reporting developmental deficits, Search Institute Survey, 2022

Deficit	Percentage
Alone at home	40
TV overexposure	36
Physical Abuse	21
Victim of violence	23
Drinking parties	25

Table 32: Percent of youth who report risk-taking behaviors related to substance use, Search Institute Survey, 2022

Category	Definition	Percentage
Alcohol	Used alcohol once or more in the last 30 days	18
Alcohol	Got drunk once or more in the last two weeks	10
Tobacco	Smoked cigarettes once or more in the last 30 days	3
TODACCO	Used smokeless tobacco once or more in the last 12 months	4
Vaping	Vaped tobacco, nicotine, or marijuana once or more in the last 30 days	17
Marijuana	Used marijuana or hashish once or more in the last 12 months	9
Driving and	Drove after drinking once or more in the last 12 months	3
Driving and alcohol	Rode (once or more in the last 12 months) with a driver who had been drinking	22

IDENTIFY STRATEGIC ISSUES

Preliminary data from the four assessments were reviewed by the CHA Steering Committee and discussed in relation to the priority topics selected for the 2019 CHA. The Committee selected the following three health priorities:

Reproductive Health

- Sexually transmitted infections
- Prenatal care and birth outcomes

Chronic Disease Prevention and Management

- · Smoking rate
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- Cancer

Mental Health and Substance Use

- Suicide rates
- Overdose incidence and mortality

The Steering Committee also identified the following three cross-cutting factors which influence all three priority areas:

Health Behaviors and Prevention

Health behaviors are actions that people take to keep themselves healthy, such as eating healthy food and being physically active, or actions people take that harm their health or the or the health of others, such as smoking. Prevention refers to addressing health problems before they occur.

- Healthy eating
- Physical activity

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

Conditions in the social, economic, and physical environments that influence individual and group differences in health and quality of life. SDOH are health promoting factors found in an individual's living or working conditions, rather an individual risk factors that influence risk for disease or injury.

- Education
- Housing
- Economics

Access to Care

Access to care means having timely use of comprehensive, integrated, and appropriate health services to achieve the best health outcomes. This includes the availability of appropriate health services and the availability and accessibility of transportation to those health services.

- Transportation
- Health resource availability

Next Steps

Using the results from this Community Health Assessment, the Steering Committee will identify goals and strategies for each of the priority areas listed above. These goals and strategies will form the basis for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

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APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL DATA

Cancer Detection by Stage

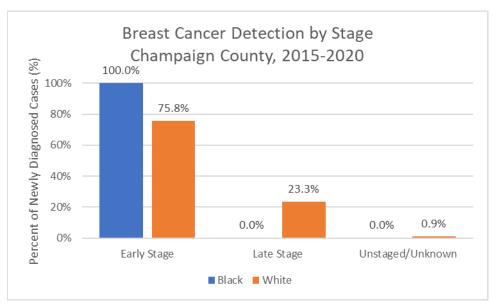


Figure 63: Breast cancer detection by stage, Champaign County, 2015-2020, Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

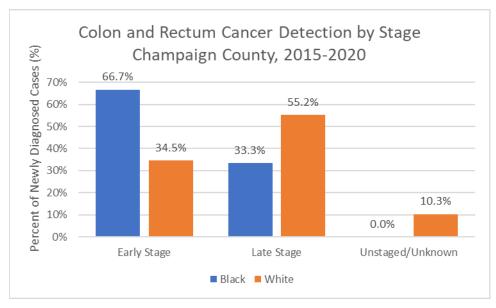


Figure 64: Colon and rectum cancer detection by stage, Champaign County, 2015-2020, Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

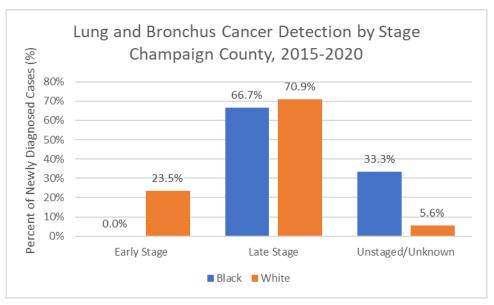


Figure 65: Lung and bronchus cancer detection by stage, Champaign County, 2015-2020, Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

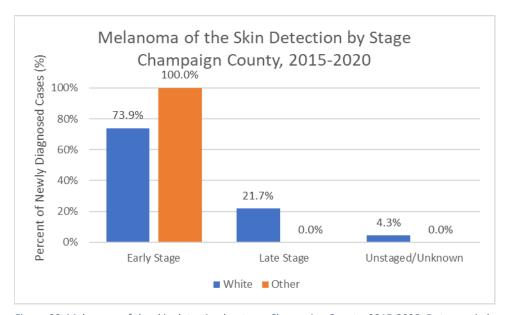


Figure 66: Melanoma of the skin detection by stage, Champaign County, 2015-2020, Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

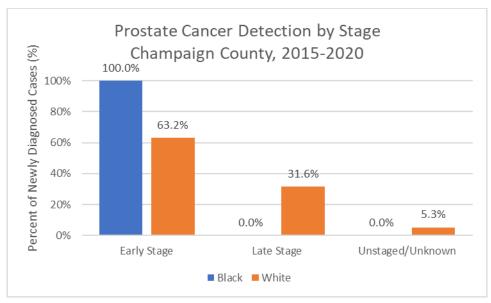


Figure 67: Prostate cancer detection by stage, Champaign County, 2015-2020, Data queried from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

White people had higher cancer incidence rates than Black people, while Black people had higher cancer mortality rates than white people in Champaign County (Table 33).

Table 33: Average annual age-adjusted cancer incidence and mortality rates by race in Champaign County, 2014-2018, Ohio Department of Health Champaign County Cancer Profile 2021

	Incidence	Mortality
White	481.1	186.3
Black	236.5	209.0

Disability

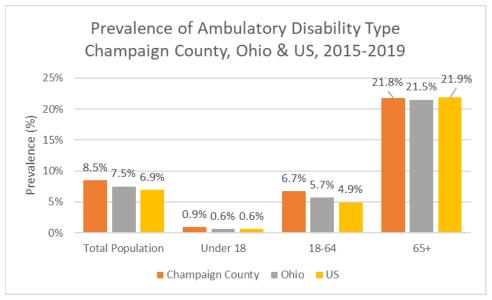


Figure 68: Prevalence of an ambulatory disability type, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

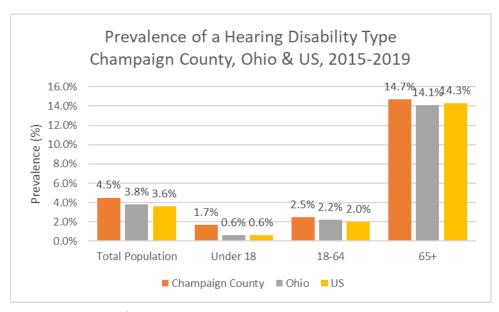


Figure 69: Prevalence of a hearing disability type, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

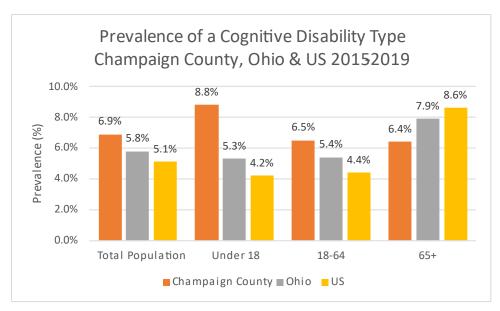


Figure 70: Prevalence of a cognitive disability type, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

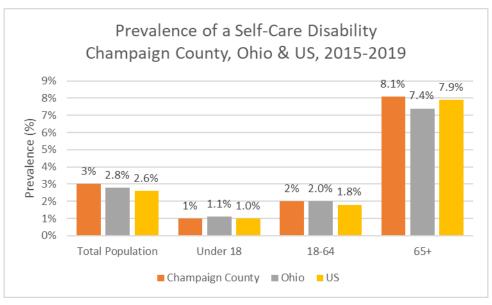


Figure 71: Prevalence of a self-care disability, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2015-2019.

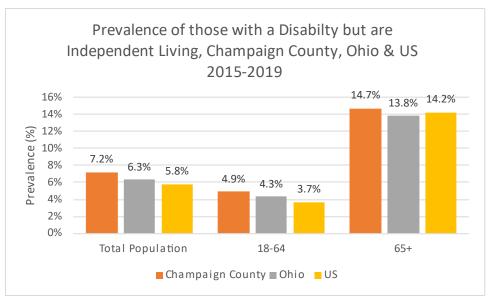


Figure 72: Prevalence of those with a disability but are independent living, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2015-2019.

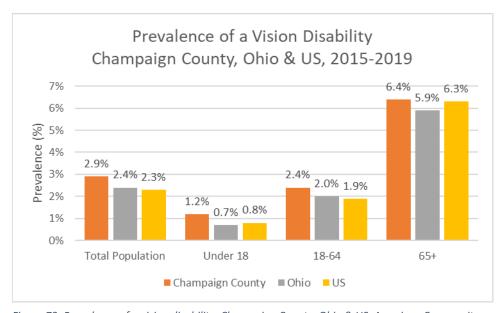


Figure 73: Prevalence of a vision disability, Champaign County, Ohio & US, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2015-2019.

Smoking During Pregnancy

Table 34: Individuals who smoked during pregnancy by trimester, Champaign County & Ohio. Data queried from the Ohio Department of Health Public Health Information Warehouse. The Ohio Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analysis, interpretations, or conclusions.

	Ch	nampaign Coui	nty			
Year	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd
	Trimester	Trimester	Trimester	Trimester	Trimester	Trimester
2012	22.6%	20.5%	16.8%	16.5%	14.3%	13.7%
2013	19.0%	14.9%	14.4%	16.2%	14.0%	13.3%
2014	20.0%	17.9%	16.8%	15.8%	13.6%	13.0%
2015	17.7%	14.4%	14.1%	14.8%	12.7%	12.1%
2016	14.0%	11.4%	10.3%	14.0%	12.0%	11.4%
2017	17.3%	14.3%	11.9%	13.5%	11.6%	11.1%
2018	15.8%	14.4%	13.4%	12.9%	11.2%	10.7%
2019	14.9%	11.2%	10.4%	11.6%	10.0%	9.6%
2020	16.3%	13.8%	12.6%	11.2%	9.7%	9.2%

Demographics

Table 35: Speak a language other than English, Champaign County, Ohio, 2021, 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

	Ohio	Champaign County
Spanish	2.3%	0.6%
Other Indo-European Languages	2.7%	0.3%
Asian and Pacific Island Languages	1.3%	0.2%
Other Languages	1.0%	0.0%

Domestic Violence

Table 36: Victims of domestic violence by outcome and relationship of persons involved, Champaign County, Ohio Attorney General Domestic Violence Reports, 2015-2020.

Year	Outcome	Relationships of Persons Involved									
		Wife	Husband	Parent	Non-Spousal Relationship with Child Involved	Child or Children	Other Family	Former Spouse	Live-in Partner	Other	Total
	Victim with Injury	7	1	13	2	7	3	0	4	7	44
2020	Victim with No Injury	9	1	11	6	7	5	1	11	2	53
2020	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	16	2	24	8	14	8	1	15	9	97
	Victim with Injury	8	2	8	7	12	8	2	8	1	56
2010	Victim with No Injury	15	1	15	3	7	17	0	7	7	72
2019	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	23	3	23	10	19	25	2	15	8	128
2018	Victim with Injury	14	4	11	10	18	11	0	15	3	86
	Victim with No Injury	25	5	20	14	13	32	2	11	2	124
	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	39	9	31	24	31	43	2	26	5	210
	Victim with Injury	7	5	5	5	10	17	0	13	1	63
2047	Victim with No Injury	5	1	23	3	8	12	0	8	4	64
2017	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	12	6	28	8	18	29	0	21	5	127
2016	Victim with Injury	11	3	10	4	10	12	1	20	4	75
	Victim with No Injury	12	8	12	7	8	18	1	16	1	83
	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	23	11	22	11	18	30	2	36	5	158
	Victim with Injury	8	3	8	3	9	7	0	11	0	51
2045	Victim with No Injury	17	5	23	13	15	16	2	31	3	125
2015	Victim Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Victims	25	8	32	20	22	23	3	40	3	176

APPENDIX B: WINDSHIELD AND WALKING SURVEY

This survey was conducted by students at Wright State University.

Mechanicsburg

Visit 1: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Visit 2: Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Impressions

Mechanicsburg is a small town that has the feel of everyone knowing everyone. Most homes and businesses have the American flag hanging proudly, with a population that is predominantly non-Hispanic white with major diversity in the age groups of the population. The community appears tight knit. The aesthetic quality is very rustic. It is a farming community.

Housing

The houses in the suburbs of Mechanicsburg, OH have Victorian aesthetics and decorations, well-maintained yards with some of them being apartment buildings. Houses downtown are small and old with gardens and front door decorations.

On to's Parkview Pizza 1 W Main St Prespect St Chevro NC Prespect St MIXX 165 th Fleritage Cooperative



Infrastructure

Roads and sidewalks are

well cared for. No major potholes identified or obvious need for major construction projects. The roads were wide enough to allow for parallel parking opportunities along most roadways. There are accessible options for entrance to buildings for the disabled population.

Emergency Services

Fire department, EMS, and local municipal buildings are combined into one building. The municipal building houses the public utility department, the street department, and the village government offices.

Healthcare Services

The nearest hospital to Mechanicsburg is around 20 min away in Urbana. There appears to be a small clinic that has a CNP.

Education

Mechanicsburg has one school building, divided into different segments for K-12. The school looks well taken care of. The school building has a lot of space for school-supported sporting activities.

Childcare

KinderCare provides preschool, daycare provider, and before and after school program services to Mechanicsburg. Little league baseball and softball games happening during both community visits gives the impression that the community supports children.

Recreation & Entertainment

Mechanicsburg has a major park, Goshen memorial park. As well as several Ohio historical markers-One of the Ohio historical markers in Mechanicsburg is one dedicated to James Roy Hopkins. Another Ohio Historical marker we saw is the Mechanicsburg United Methodist Church.

Food Access

The grocery stores in the community are Family Dollar and Winners 1 stop which is connected to a gas station. Oasis of Mercy food pantry runs as a non-profit organization located in the Mechanicsburg community. The Plant Kindness Project run by a community member creates a community attraction from sunflower fields and a gourd tunnel. Proceeds from the garden are donated to senior citizens and others in need.

Businesses

There are small businesses in the town, the major corporations in the town are the gas station and a car dealership. There are pizza shops, a spa, a real estate office, a dentist's office, a family dollar, and a floral shop. Mechanicsburg has one bank and a pharmacy.

Industry

The community has a major industry, a farming cooperative. It takes up a major portion of land in the southeastern part of town.

Religious Establishments

There are several churches in the community. Different denominations include Catholic, Pentecostal, Baptist, and Methodist. There is also a Masonic Temple.



Unique Assets

Some of the community's most outstanding assets are the Heritage Farming Cooperative, Goshen Memorial Park, churches, fire department, police department, clinic, martial art center, local businesses, public library, sidewalks, winner 1 stop, family dollar grocery stores, pharmacy, the Park National Bank and solar energy center.

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Strengths

The Mechanicsburg community finds its strengths in low crime, safe feeling, green space, and a healthy environment. The safe feeling is a

product of the low crime rate that is found in Mechanicsburg. While the ample green space feeds into a healthy environment for the population to feel safe exercising or socializing in those green spaces.

Areas for Improvement

There is limited public transportation, and traffic is heavily car-based. The main roads are busy. However, the side roads are not as busy, allowing for children to play. One of the biggest challenges in the community is access to groceries. Mechanicsburg has two grocery stores for approximately 1600 people living in the community. Access to healthcare is another focus for improvement that would increase the quality of life for those in Mechanicsburg.

North Lewisburg

Visit 1: Saturday, May 21, 2022, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Visit 2: Sunday, June 3, 2022, 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Impressions

This seems like a very safe and friendly small-town community. It was noticeably quiet and calm on the occasions that North Lewisburg was visited. There seems to be a profound sense of community pride. Many residents work at the Honda plant in Marysville, and some are farmers or local business owners. Residents are primarily Christian and non-Hispanic white.

Housing

Housing is overall well-kept. There is a sense of community pride in how decorated the yards and porches are. There





are older, more historic-looking homes in the town center, and more recently built houses on the outskirts of town. There are numerous vacant houses, many of which are older homes near the village center. Investment in preserving these older houses and buildings would serve to maintain the charm of North Lewisburg, and some of these homes are under construction. There is a mobile home park and apartments available in the village providing more affordable housing options. Additionally, the retirement community at Cherry Arbors provides housing and activity opportunities for senior citizens.



Infrastructure

The older buildings in the village center display historic architectural and design features. Village space is underutilized with several business properties being vacant. The layout of North Lewisburg Ball Park could be adjusted to maximize the space. There is open land in the area that remains undeveloped, providing opportunities for future expansion of residential areas or the introduction of new community assets. Some older buildings have elevated entrance steps which may be an accessibility concern, however, some businesses with this feature

had signage for secondary handicap entrances. The sidewalk on Maple Street, the main road through town, was well maintained. Outside of the main village center, the sidewalks were in poorer condition with cracks and some areas grown over. Sidewalk coverage did not continue all the way to the park or the library.

Emergency Services

There are police and fire services operated through the North Lewisburg Village Administration building. The fire services are provided through Northeast Champaign County Fire & EMS. This service is primarily composed of volunteers with three full-time firefighters.

Healthcare Services

There is a lack of Healthcare Services available within North Lewisburg village limits. Residents seek Healthcare Services in larger surrounding areas, such as Marysville and Urbana.

Education

Residents of North Lewisburg attend nearby Triad Schools. Residents that were encountered during the visits expressed satisfaction with the education at Triad Schools There is also a YMCA daycare center/preschool located in the North Lewisburg Methodist Church. There are opportunities for vocational training at Ohio Hi-Point Career Center in Bellefontaine.

Childcare

The only formal childcare found in the survey was the daycare center mentioned above in the education section.

Recreation & Entertainment

The town has various parades and events throughout the year. There is ample greenspace that provides recreation. A 2-mile paved trail goes from the town center to the Pottersburg Covered

Bridge. It was reported by residents that the trail is widely used for walking and biking. The park in the center of town has baseball diamonds, as well as a little open green space and a small playground. A resident said that the play equipment is old and sometimes broken and unsafe for children to use.

Food Access

Residents report that primary grocery shopping occurs outside of North Lewisburg with residents traveling to nearby Marysville or Urbana. Staple groceries and other goods are available at Dollar General, Steve's Market & Deli, and Sycamore Market. There is a community food pantry operated through North Lewisburg Methodist Church that serves as a support for residents. Local farmers donate meat and produce to the food pantry.

Businesses

There are a variety of businesses, including small businesses, that provide assets to the community. There are few restaurants, but residents say that it is difficult to keep a restaurant going in the small town, because many people go out to eat in nearby Urbana or Marysville. A business owner stated that recent increases in food prices have made owning a restaurant difficult, especially in a small town where they do not want to pass prices on to fellow residents that they know are also struggling.

Industry

There is farming that takes place in and around the North Lewisburg area. The closest industrial area is the Honda Plant near Marysville, where some North Lewisburg residents work.

Religious Establishments

There are several churches in town which serve as main centers for community gathering. Many activities available to residents are run through the churches. The church bells at North Lewisburg Methodist Church can be heard throughout North Lewisburg.

Community Voices

- Enjoys the small-town feel and community support
- Good place to raise a family
- Difficult to maintain businesses due to the small population size
- Older adults may enjoy more options for gathering and eating out
- Strong community values- giving support to others in need
- Room for community improvement- particularly related to children (new playground equipment and recreation options)
- High food prices and cost increases make it difficult to be a small business owner

Unique Assets

There are several memorials in honor of members of the armed forces throughout the village. A large memorial for service members sits at the front of North Lewisburg Ball Park. There is also a bell displayed outside of the village administration building which was cracked during the celebration of the end of World War II. Additionally, a wall mural overlooking Gregory Street lists the names of armed service members from the area.



Strengths

There is a strong sense of community pride in North Lewisburg. People in the community seem very friendly, and from speaking with residents, it seems like people want to and do help each other out. There are also green spaces that can be easily accessed by residents. Many businesses are within walking distance of the housing in town.

Areas for Improvement

The lack of healthcare facilities and grocery stores creates a huge challenge for those in the area that cannot drive or do not have access to a car. The county transportation options are limited and must be scheduled well in advance. Easier access to larger grocery stores, pharmacies and healthcare would benefit the community. Updating the playground near the baseball diamonds seems like it would be a worthwhile investment for safer and better play for the children that use it. There are some vacant business spaces and open lots that could provide opportunities for improvements in the community for whatever is needed or wanted by residents such as a community garden, new businesses or community gathering spaces.

St. Paris

Visit 1: Monday, May 23, 2022, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Visit 2: Friday, May 27, 2022, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

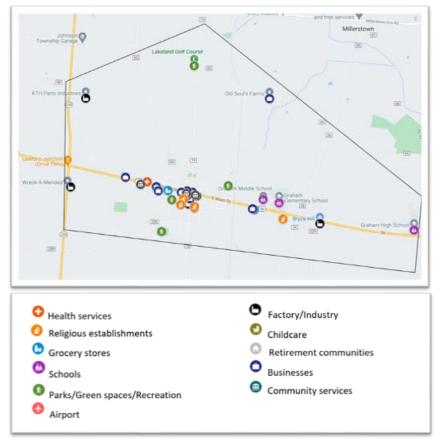
Impressions

Overall, St. Paris is a cute small town. It is generally well maintained and seems safe. The people in the community are kind, friendly, and seem generally happy. The community's aesthetic quality is beautiful and positive. It has a warm and charming small-town vibe. Most residents are non-Hispanic white.

Housing

Most housing (single-family homes) in town and subdivisions are kept up. The grass is cut, flowers planted, and playset/trampolines for children are in yards. Some mobile home areas could use additional maintenance. The apartment complexes

are decent and well maintained.



Infrastructure

Infrastructure is generally good. Sidewalks are available through the village. There is access to necessary and desired services, such as electricity, public water, public sewer, trash/recycling, internet, and other providers.

Emergency Services

St. Paris has its own police and fire departments. Additionally, it has emergency medical crews and ambulances that operate from the St. Paris Fire department and route to area hospitals.

Healthcare Services

Health care services, though limited, are available in the community. Types of services available to the community include health clinics, dentistry, therapy, chiropractic, and pharmacy.

Education

St. Paris has a public institution, Graham Local School District with Elementary, Middle, and High School buildings.

Childcare

There are state-licensed early care and education programs located at Graham Elementary and Middle Schools.

Recreation & Entertainment

St. Paris has several nice outdoor spaces for people of all ages to gather for physical or leisure activities. Some of the outdoor spaces include Kiser Lake State Park and Wetlands (with marina and campground), Davey Woods State Nature Preserve (mature forest woodland), a community park, baseball and softball fields, a golf course, a bowling center, and a local dairy bar. Additionally, there are historical museums and landmarks, such as the Pony Wagon Museum, the Monitor House, the Evergreen Cemetery, and the Wright Stuff Squadron.

Food Access

The options available for accessing food sources include retail grocery stores, the local farmer's market, a local greenhouse, and the community food pantry.

Businesses

The lifestyle of the community is rural, with local family farms on the outer edge of town, and local food and retail shops in town. Some examples of local business services include a local inn, repair shops, hardware, plumbing, interior remodeling, embroidery, hair salon, bargain outlets, and convenience goods. Additionally, St. Paris has a few chains and locally owned restaurants. There is also access to a few fuel stations.

Industry

The types of established industries in St. Paris are automotive, agriculture, and construction supplies related. No noticeable pollution was identified from these entities.

Religious Establishments

Many churches are available. Denominations include Baptist, Catholic, Methodist, Pentecostal, and Protestant. The community seems predominantly Christian.

Unique Assets

The most striking thing about the community is everyone was very friendly. The most unexpected thing about the community was that it is self-sustainable. There is access to fresh produce/meat, groceries, fuel, recreation, health care, library (with free wi-fi internet access in the parking lot), and employment opportunities. Some of these resources may be limited.



Community Voices

- "Everyone knows everyone; We're a close-knit community".
- "Likes the Farmers Market on Fridays!"
- "Loves Graham's local schools."
- "Concerned with the drug problem."
- "Would like to see the downtown revitalized with participation from the younger generations."



Strengths

There is impressive resource availability for such a small community. Additionally, there are many outdoor amenities for recreation, athletics, gathering, and fun activities.

Areas for Improvement

Access to affordable and reliable transportation would enable St. Paris residents the ability to obtain required and

desired needs and services unavailable locally. Adding full-service grocery stores to the village would improve access to goods, including healthy foods. Furthermore, mobile home areas need upgrades and railroad crossings can benefit from adding safety enhancements.

Urbana (East of Highway 68)

Visit 1: Saturday, May 21, 2022, from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

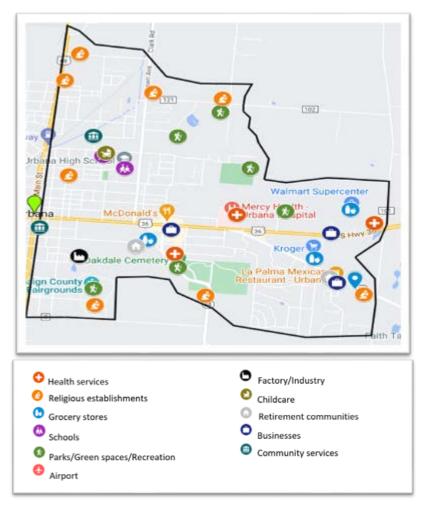
Visit 2: Friday, May 29, 2022, from 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Impressions

Urbana is a small town in western Ohio with historical roots dating back to the 1800s. The town has a majority non-Hispanic white population. The housing in the city is older but appears well-kept, with lawns that were cared for. National pride seems vital to the community. There were many flags in yards and for businesses that were erected for Memorial Day. There seems to be a great amount of community pride. School playgrounds are well-kept.

Housing

Urbana's housing is wellmaintained with many lawn decorations. There are very few



two-story houses on the main streets. However, there appears to be a wealthier area with large multistory homes next to the athletic complex and schools. In addition, there are pockets of small, poorer kept housing. Regardless of the area, the homes look older (the 1970s-1980s feeling, with older brick homes). The community has pride and appears close-knit.

Infrastructure

Roads appear to be well-kept. There are many sidewalks and crosswalks downtown, however, they do not extend to the outskirts of town. Streetlights are evenly distributed around town. Schools and community parks are well-maintained.

Emergency Services

The Champaign County municipal court has fallout shelter for emergency situations. There is the Fire Prevention



Center on Main Street, however there is no physical fire department in the east side of town. There is a police department on Main Street.

Healthcare

Two large hospitals exist in Urbana east of 68. Both are substantial buildings with modern architecture, and one has an emergency center attached. A prominent dentist is nearby the Hospital, with three dentist's offices in the east side. In addition to hospitals, at least four optometrists and at least 5 chiropractors have businesses on the east side of town.

Education

East of 68 there are multiple schools and community libraries. The schools and community libraries have older architecture but are quite tidy. There are at least two elementary schools, junior high, and senior high school. Next to the high school was a large stadium, for school sporting events.

Childcare

There is a Champaign County Head Start Childcare Program as well as 2 independent childcare centers with positive reviews. There is a formal childcare center attached to one of the elementary schools, as well as an independent childcare center attached to the YMCA.

Recreation & Entertainment

One of Urbana's significant community assets east of highway 68 is the Champaign County Fairgrounds. Events, such as the Truck Pull Event are happening regularly. There is plenty of seating at the fairgrounds, suggesting a high turnout for events held. Also present is the 4H building. In the Urbana community, 4H appears to be a significant organization for the youth with seemingly high engagement. Nearby to the Fairgrounds is the OSU Extension and BMV.

Another significant community asset in east Urbana are the city parks and greenspaces. The parks are expansive and well-maintained. The park includes activities for youth and adults, including a skateboard park, a swimming pool, a disk golf course, a well-maintained pond and picnic shelter, an

outdoor playground with plenty of children's play equipment, and fields for soccer and baseball. The parks have posters advertising the Everybody Plays Initiative to create a more accessible play experience.



Food Access

East of 68 in Urbana

has two main retail food establishments for their grocery options. Both options are within one mile to each other. Dotted throughout the downtown are several smaller options for food shopping.

Industry

There is not a substantial industrial area on this side of the town. However, two factories exist. There is an industrial baking and an electronics factory.

Religious Establishments

The community had many churches. Observed were Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, and Baptist Churches. Generally, the churches are well-kept. The community seems predominantly Christian, a majority of the observed churches are Baptist.

Unique Assets

Urbana Fairgrounds is a wonderful community staple, hosting monthly events and bringing in families from all over the county. The Oakdale Cemetery is beautiful and quiet. The graves seem very well kept with flowers and flags on many of the graves. The assortment of local businesses downtown on Main Street adds to the strength of the community.

Community Voices

A community member approached us and introduced herself. She gave us an introduction to harness racing in Urbana and offered to show us around. The horses are stabled in Urbana, and they race in Columbus, Lebanon, and Dayton, in addition to Urbana. The Matinee is for young horses preparing to race at these tracks and provides a great opportunity for building community solidarity.

Strengths

Overall, Urbana seems like a small closed-knit community with many people who care deeply about it. Events like harness horse racing, truck pulls, and other agricultural events held at Champaign County fairgrounds provide ample opportunities for the community to become engaged. Urbana also has plentiful green spaces that help promote healthy living.

Areas for Improvement

The lack of transportation options seems to be a major area for improvement in Urbana. More sidewalks are needed in the residential areas to help the city become more accessible. Another area for improvement is increasing job opportunities for collegiate degree holders.

Urbana (West of Highway 68)

Visit 1: Saturday, May 21, 2022, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Visit 2: Monday, May 23, 2022, 5:40 pm -7:30 pm

Impressions

The community appears to be well-kept and family friendly. The downtown area has a busy, small business hub that welcomes foot traffic. Surrounding neighborhoods have well-manicured lawns and are in good repair. There's also a well-established area on the outer parameter of Urbana with several manufacturers.

Housing

Lower-income areas:

The houses are smaller, with few sidewalks. The houses are in good repair, with well-manicured lawns. A handful of houses are available for sale.

Higher-income areas:

The houses with infrastructure to support the area, such as sidewalks, are bigger. There appears to be a historical district within Urbana that has larger homes

with brick fences. Few houses are available for sale.

Apartments:

The apartment complexes were wellmaintained and in good

Apartments were available for lease.

Airport repair, with families utilizing them. The apartments were surrounded by green areas.

Infrastructure

Roads are repaired but older. Most neighborhoods lack sidewalks. Some roads are bumpy and uneven with large potholes. The main roads are in better condition and have sidewalks. Some of the sidewalks are small, inaccessible, old, and not maintained for wheelchair users. Minimal streetlights were present, and some were functional.

Emergency Services

The county Sheriff Station is located in this community. The fire department and emergency medical services are located on the East side of Urbana.

Healthcare

There are several different health care providers including Optometrists, Chiropractors, Dentists, and Primary Care.





Education

There is a public elementary school with a playground that is well-maintained. The middle school and high school are located on the East Side of route 68. Residents report being satisfied with the education provided.

Childcare

There are a few established childcare facilities in this area. Most of the childcare facilities serve as preschools. Many of the childcare facilities operate out of religiously affiliated organizations.

Recreation & Entertainment

There is a baseball field, biking path, Simon Kenton Trail, small park, Muzzy Lake fishing, fitness centers, and Freedom Grove, which provides green space. There is a youth center. For entertainment, there is a cinema, multiple museums, and seasonal festivals.

Food Access

There is a grocery store within the downtown area that's the primary grocery store for this area of Urbana. The location of the store makes it easily accessible that many residents utilize for groceries and other needs. This corner store contains fresh produce, a deli counter, canned goods, and prepackaged frozen foods. Downtown Urbana is teeming with several local restaurants for residents to dine in, with a few bigger chain restaurants.





Businesses

Various industries are

represented in this area, including aerospace, agriculture, manufacturing, and skilled labor positions. Several welding companies, raw material plants, lumber, plastic, concrete, and gravel plants, a carbide technology company, and multiple manufacturers exist. There are additional plants in the process of being built, and more businesses are moving into the area.

Religious Establishments

There are at least thirteen different religious establishments. Several denominations are represented, including Methodist, Baptist, and non-denominational organizations.

Unique Assets

Urbana houses many of the county facilities, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Champaign County Garage, the Champaign County Engineer, the Transportation Department, and the Champaign Health District. There is also a post office, airport, museums, a funeral home, and a shrimp farm.

Community Voices

"Everybody watches out for each other here, so there's not a lot of crime."

Strengths

Strengths of this area include the unique county resources, including the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Champaign County Garage, the Champaign County Engineer, the Transportation Department, the Champaign Health District, the museums, the airport, and the growing industry. Urbana is a family-friendly community with a plethora of employment opportunities.

Areas for Improvement

Improvements in infrastructure are recommended due to lack of sidewalks and the presence of uneven, damaged roads. Many train tracks lack proper safety measures to warn or prevent cars from passing through the tracks while a train is approaching. The Youth Center's operational hours were limited. More grocery stores are needed for this area with mainly one market for groceries. Urbana has limited public transportation, which could assist lower-income residents who lack consistent and reliable transportation. Urbana University closed in 2020, leaving the campus to be inaccessible to the residents of Urbana. Reopening to the public would allow residents to utilize the green spaces and buildings for meetings or recreational activities.

West Liberty

Visit 1: Saturday, May 21, 2022, 12:00

pm - 2:00 pm

Visit 2: Monday, May 23, 2022, 10:30

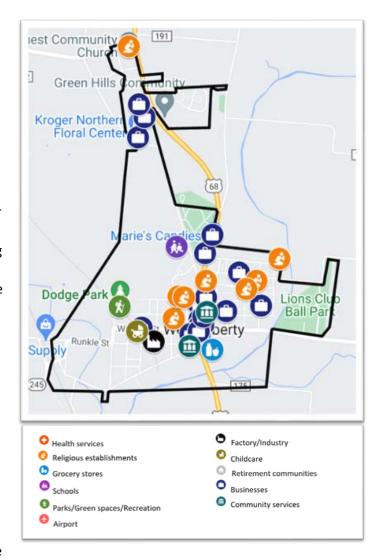
am - 12:00 pm

Impressions

West Liberty is a quiet, well-kept, close-knit community, where many residents spend their entire lives. According to residents, up until the last decade, the population of the town was mainly older individuals. Since then, new families have been moving in and thus increasing the numbers of children and young people. The majority of the residents are non-Hispanic white and Christian.

Housing

Most homes and yards in West Liberty are well kept with neat, grassy lawns, plants, and decorations, and few to no homes appear empty or boarded up. Neighborhoods on the West side approaching the edge of town quickly turn to larger lots, with smaller, onestory homes; road signs also become older and harder to read. The east side of town has more hills with ample greenery, and lots are smaller with more



two-story homes compared to the west side. Despite small differences between sides of town, the area is overall very homogenous. Almost no "for sale" signs are seen on any homes.

Infrastructure

Buildings in the downtown area appear well-maintained; storefronts are attractive and welcoming. All downtown buildings contain businesses, and there are no empty or boarded-up areas.

Advertisements for local businesses fill the walls of downtown.

The streets of West Liberty appear well maintained, with minimal potholes. Some roads between homes are quite narrow and unpaved, but still appear well-kept. Traffic is minimal depending on the day of the week and time. Parallel parking is available in the downtown area, and sidewalks are available in the center of town and neighborhoods. Sidewalks make the area very walkable; however, residents noted they often must go to neighboring towns for groceries, health care,



and school. No public transportation is available in the area, but most homes have at least one vehicle in the driveway, indicating this is the main method of transportation.

Minimal to no litter is seen on the ground. Trash disposal and waste processing plants are noted in the area. A feed mill is located near the downtown area, which is well-kept with frequent truck traffic. There is no smog or noticeable sources of pollution. No cigarette butts were observed on the ground, and no one was seen smoking.

Emergency Services

The fire department, EMS, and police department are all located in the downtown area. The fire department serves an active role in the community and is mostly made up of volunteers. The fire department also serves the farming community surrounding West Liberty. Residents perceive the town as very safe with low crime rates.

Healthcare

There are several healthcare services available in the downtown area including a dentist, chiropractor, and pharmacy. However, there are no pediatrics or family medicine offices in the area, and residents go to nearby towns for primary care. In emergency situations, EMTs take patients to OSU, Miami Valley, or Urbana.

Education

Children in West Liberty primarily attend the local public schools, which are K-12 and located in Urbana. Residents describe this school system as being very good. The only school located in West Liberty is the Adriel School, which is a foster care agency and school founded by Mennonites. There are no private schools in the area.

Childcare

There are two noticeable childcare centers: one that is religiously affiliated and another that is preschool tasked with preparing children for grade school. No advertisements were noted for private childcare.

Recreation & Entertainment

Dodge Park is located on the west side of town and has three baseball fields and an archery area. It is clean and well-maintained, has various signs for local sponsors. Trash cans and public porta potties are available. Many "4-H Family" signs are in yards of homes, indicating participation in 4-H is a popular activity in the area. Neighborhood playgrounds are associated with local churches, but otherwise there are no parks noted that contain play areas. The Simon Kenton Trail runs through West Liberty and there are signs in town directing bikers to the trail access point. There are also caverns located near West Liberty.

Food Access

There are several sources for food within the area, though some are small businesses that primarily sell sweets. There is one grocery store, though it is primarily used to purchase meats or to pick up a few necessary items. Residents often use the nearest Kroger, located in a nearby town outside of West Liberty, to buy groceries. A local food truck is popular in the area and offers as an easily accessible food option. There is one chain restaurant. DoorDash also provides residents food options from Bellefontaine, a neighboring community to the north.

Businesses

The downtown area of West Liberty is home to many small businesses, including a bank, funeral home, chiropractor, law office, dentist, and antique shops. Black Friday, Annual Fire Sales, and Labor Day are the biggest business days for downtown, bringing in people and revenue. Of note, there are no liquor stores as West Liberty is a dry town.

Industry

Industry in the area includes one feed mill. One resident mentioned that while businesses in the area are more diversified now, the farming community has kept West Liberty "alive for decades".

Religious Establishments

Churches in West Liberty are plentiful, with seven churches in the area, all located within neighborhoods and easily within walking distance for many residents. Churches are a good source of community support and are significant contributors to town leadership.



Unique Assets

There are many contributors to leadership and community

building in West Liberty, including town council, local churches, Masonic Halls, and Lions Clubs. Local business owners are invested in promoting West Liberty, and the downtown business association plays a significant role in local leadership. Local events like the Annual Fire Sales and Black Friday bring in new patrons to downtown business. The community also held its second annual Pride Parade this past June. West Liberty shows its patriotism with a recently constructed West Liberty Purple Heart Memorial and signs lining the streets to honor local soldiers. West Liberty also has a large, well-kept cemetery filled with trees, grassy hills, and headstones. Two popular places in town for sweets are Marie's Candies and Stoner's Ice Cream Parlor. Marie's Candies was stated multiple times to be a source of pride for the community. The local ice cream parlor is also popular, and patrons are diverse in age and gender.

Community Voices

- Described West Liberty as "one of the most amazing towns to ever live in" and where people do not want to leave
- Tight-knit community that is incredibly supportive
- Busy days for West Liberty
- Black Friday and Labor Day
- Annual Fire Sales (commemorative of 1880 fire that burned down Main St) when population triples
- Has grown over the years, modernized it with food trucks and porta potties
- Work in progress to bring growth to town as it primarily used to be a farming community
- Influx of new community members during COVID
- Prominent community organizations include the Business Association, Lions Clubs, Masonic Halls, Town Council, church groups, and 4H
- One resident described a school shooting that happened several years ago. A GoFundMe page
 was set up for the child and the resident indicated that this is an example of how tight knit the
 community is

Strengths

West Liberty has a powerful sense of community and pride. Local businesses play an active role in the community and are dedicated and committed to it. Additionally, churches are a pillar of community support, and the farming community is deeply valued. There has been slowly increasing diversity. There are accessible sources of food and crime is low. West Liberty's greenery, parks, and good infrastructure serve as positive environmental factors. It also shares a K-12 public school with a neighboring town, thus providing opportunities for collaboration.

Areas for Improvement

West Liberty has limited public transportation; community members also must leave the area to access necessary Healthcare Services. Additionally, youth departure from the area decreases age diversity, and new residents to the community describe feeling like "outsiders" to the close-knit community. There is also a lack of traffic signs and there are some areas, such as the local bridge and two large, abandoned buildings on the west end of town, that require maintenance.