

St. Joseph's Hospital, Buckhannon, WV

# Upshur County 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment

Prepared by the WVU School of Public Health

Submitted: March 31, 2016

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## Introduction

Provisions in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 require tax-exempt (non-profit) hospitals to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Implementation Plan to address the needs at least every three years. The regulations for the CHNA include defining the hospital's service area and compiling demographics and analysis of health indicators; taking into account input from the community and public health; identifying resources; and prioritizing needs. After completing the CHNA, hospitals develop an Implementation Plan on those needs they will address; justify those they do not address; and describe strategies, collaborators, resources, and evaluation plans.

The 2016 Upshur County CHNA incorporates the requirements described above and identifies the following prioritized needs:

1. Access to Wellness Opportunities
2. Obesity/ Diabetes

Additionally, it was a goal of the St. Joseph's Hospital (SJH) Leadership Team to incorporate sensitivity to issues of limited transportation and poverty, especially children in poverty, into the overall CHNA.

This document should serve as a roadmap in the development of the Implementation Plan, which will be developed during the months following the completion of the 2016 CHNA and specify planned actions to be taken by St. Joseph's Hospital and collaborators, available resources, anticipated actions, and a plan for evaluating these activities.

Because St. Joseph's Hospital recently became a part of the West Virginia United Health System, Inc. ("WVUHS"/ WVU Medicine system), it was important that a CHNA be completed in the first quarter of 2016 (three-month period). Thus, the CHNA presented below could be considered a "rapid" CHNA.

## About St. Joseph's Hospital

Founded in 1838, the Pallottine Missionary Society was created to assist Roman Catholic Priest Vincent Pallotti with his life's mission of serving the sick and poor. The first Pallottine Sisters made their way to the United States in 1912, passing the wreckage of the Titanic, as their own ship, the Bremen, made its way safely between the icebergs and debris field.

In 1920, they were invited to open a hospital in Buckhannon, West Virginia. Four Sisters followed the call and on February 15, 1921, purchased the beautiful Barlow estate on a hilltop overlooking the town. “The Overlook” consisted of a four-story wooden building faced with yellow brick on nine acres of land. The rather large private home was converted into an eight-bed hospital and convent for the Sisters with the help of good friends and benefactors.

Over the past 95 years, St. Joseph’s Hospital has developed from an eight-bed hospital to a medical community dedicated to serving the needs of the residents of central West Virginia. The Hospital’s Vision statement: “St. Joseph’s Hospital will be the best small-town hospital in West Virginia” reflects the belief that the size of an organization is only important if organizations apply limitations.

St. Joseph’s Hospital remains committed to its mission with an ever-vigilant focus on its Christ values. With the addition of new physicians and the opening of a new Skilled Nursing Facility, the organization is working to ensure that St. Joseph’s Hospital continues to meet the long-term needs of the communities it serves. The transfer of sponsorship to United Hospital Center (UHC), a founding member of West Virginia United Health System (WVUHS), in the fall of 2015 provides patients high quality care with easy and coordinated transfer of care when more specialized care is needed. By joining forces with WVUHS/United Hospital as part of WVU Medicine, St. Joseph’s Hospital can ensure its long-term sustainability.

### Previous CHNA Findings

St. Joseph’s Hospital completed a Community Health Needs Assessment during the 2012-13 calendar years. SJH engaged Arbor Associates, Inc. to gather data on the topics of: utilization of healthcare, physicians, and medical care services available beyond the local area including identification of unmet healthcare needs, financial and transportation barriers to care, and willingness to use SJH for available care.

A total of 200 phone interviews were completed at random from residents from the primary service area. Secondary data on disease incidence and mortality, as well as behavioral risk factors were also gathered from the West Virginia Department of Health, the West Virginia Cancer Registry, the US Census Bureau, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. A “Community Advisory Group” convened three times in the summer of 2013 to gather data and validate findings.

The following issues were identified as priority areas of focus in the 2012-13 CHNA:

1. access to primary care services;
2. perceived lack of access to cardiology services;
3. perceived lack of access to urology services;
4. lack of orthopedic services;
5. improved coordination of oncology services;
6. weight management programs; and
7. tobacco cessation programs.

The SJH Board adopted areas of focus for strategy and program development on September 19, 2013. The final report included an “Action Strategies and Plan” section with tables that divided the report findings into two priority groups. The first table included priority areas with resources and strategies available. The second table included areas of needs identified as beyond current resources to pursue. These items included: dermatology, non-emergent transportation, substance abuse, mental health services, and gastroenterology coordination of care. It is important to note that the 2012-13 CHNA was published prior to the requirement for an in depth implementation plan.

### Definition of Community Served

For the 2016 process, the CHNA Leadership Team, in collaboration with SJH defined the community served as the Upshur County geographic area. The CHNA presented here includes the perceived and data-supported health needs of the entire geographic county with special attention in data collection focused on the vulnerable populations of those living in the more rural areas of Upshur County. This special area was defined by the Leadership Team as being outside of the Buckhannon, WV city limits. The entire county of Upshur is designated rural by the Health Research Services Administration’s (HRSA) Office of Rural Health Policy.<sup>1</sup> However, the population of Buckhannon is more dense than the rest of the county. The following table is from the US Census Bureau and shows “Quickfacts” of Upshur County:

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<sup>1</sup> <ftp://ftp.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/Eligibility2005.pdf>

**Table 1 - Select Demographics**

**Source: US Census Quickfacts**

<b>Population 2015</b>	24,758
<b>Under 18</b>	20.6%
<b>Race non-white or more than 1 race</b>	2.6%
<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>	1.0%
<b>High School Education or Higher</b>	83.7%
<b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>	15.8%
<b>Under 65 Uninsured</b>	18.0%
<b>Persons in Poverty</b>	19.7%

Summarizing these demographics, Upshur County is a largely rural county with a small population. It is overwhelmingly white in race and has few ethnic or racial minorities. The percentage of Upshur County residents living below the poverty rate is also significantly higher than the national average. The number of individuals with a high school diploma or more is slightly lower than the national average as well.

### Methodology and Community Input Process

St. Joseph's Hospital partnered with West Virginia University's School of Public Health (WVU SPH) to complete this Needs Assessment using a robust community based process. This process was led by Dr. Lillian Smith in the Department of Health Policy, Management, and Leadership. The CHNA process began with a thorough review of the previous cycle's needs assessment report. Although there were very pertinent and important findings in the report, it was agreed that this CHNA process would try to surpass the input from the previous needs assessment and focus on reaching a substantial number of individuals for input outside of the Buckhannon area. The process included review of secondary data and the collection of primary data, with a survey of community members' perceptions of health issues and a community event on forces and assets that impact community health.

## Secondary Data

The Leadership Team reviewed secondary data related to Upshur County including Census data (Table 1), County Health Rankings Data (Appendix B), the CDC Community Health Status Indicators (Appendix C) and, Community Commons.<sup>2</sup> Presentation of these reports started the initial discussion around critical health needs in Upshur County.

## Primary Methods of Collecting and Analyzing Information

The SPH used an iterative process to develop the public input survey. During the initial Leadership Team meeting, each member was asked to develop a list of three of the most pressing health priorities facing the county. This list was used for dual purposes, first to see if the Leadership Team's assessment would match public input solicited later. Second, the list helped make sure no major health need would be missed during the survey development period. As a result of the initial meeting of the Leadership Team, it was decided to take a very broad look at the community's health needs via input from the public.

An electronic survey was developed (Appendix A) and collected both online and through hard copies. The survey link was distributed through email lists, social media, and local media such as newspapers. It was also mentioned in at least one television news coverage piece and posted on SJH's website. Leadership Team members distributed hard copies at local meetings such as the Chamber of Commerce, and surveys were also collected in the SJH main lobby and the emergency department.

The survey was not intended to be a representative, scientific sample of Upshur County residents but rather a mechanism to solicit the community's perception of their health needs. The survey asked participants to assess the overall quality of health in Upshur County, highest priority areas around health, and risk factors associated with health. A total of 547 surveys were completed by community members, far surpassing the original goal of 200.

Additional information was collected through a community meeting held at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon. This session, open to the public and with broad stakeholder representation, solicited input on community health needs, including forces of change in Upshur County, and to identified groups and organizations already providing essential services around the identified priority areas. Approximately 50 community members (including the Leadership Team) were present at this session.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.communitycommons.org/chna/>

The survey results were reported back to the Leadership Team in aggregate, but also broken down between those who lived in Buckhannon and outside, as well as by income and age, to ensure there were no significant differences in responses between the two areas. Community input from the event was compiled into several documents summarizing the work of that day. This input was compiled in a fashion to make prominent priorities mentioned multiple times for dissemination to the leadership group.

### Identifying Priorities

From the initial meeting of the Leadership Team, a preliminary list of priorities was identified as described above. Figure 1 shows the priorities ranked by the number of times it was mentioned with larger text indicating greater number of times a particular word or issue was mentioned.

*Figure 1 Leadership Team Priorities Identified at Initial Meeting*



SJH partnered with WVU-SPH to obtain community input about residents’ perspective on the most pressing public health needs in Upshur County. A survey was developed by the WVU-SPH and shared with the Leadership Team for input at the first meeting in February, 2016. The priorities identified at this meeting were used in the survey.



## Community Organizations Involved

A Leadership Team was convened by SJH and included members from the following groups listed below. SJH selected representatives from multiple sectors to serve on the Leadership team.

- A community oriented doctor: Robert Blake, Physician - Emergency Medicine/Board Member (SJH)
- SJH Board member: Steve Foster
- Public health representative: Sara Chua, Physician - Family Practice (SJH)
- Person in charge of hospital foundation, community outreach: Lisa Wharton, Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing & Foundation SJH
- Several community members representing vulnerable populations:
  - Alicia Rapping, Parish House Buckhannon
  - Kathy McMurray, Mountain CAP
  - Lori Ulderich Harvey, Upshur County Family Resource Network
  - Kathy White, United Way of Gilmer, Lewis, and Upshur Counties
- Person in charge of reporting community benefit: Lisa Wharton (above) or Renee Hofer, Chief Financial Officer SJH
- Person who can provide hospital data: Renee Hofer (above)
- Person in charge of hospital website: Brian Williams, Service Leader for Corporate Information Systems (SJH)

The Leadership Team members selected potential priorities to include in the community survey and finalized the priorities using the community input survey and available data. Additionally, Leadership Team members proved instrumental in obtaining the 547 community input survey responses and mobilizing community members to attend the community event.

A community event was held on March 14, 2016 at West Virginia Wesleyan College. A flyer (Appendix D) was circulated by Leadership Team members and approximately 50 community members attended. The following organizations and individuals attended and provided input:

### St. Joseph's Hospital

- Eric Strother, Director of Pharmacy, SJH
- Lisa Wharton, VP Marketing, Public Relations & Foundation - SJH
- Brian Williams, Site IT Manager, WVU Medicine - SJH
- Dennis Xander, Board Member (SJH and UHC)
- Brenda Bauer, Quality and Survey Readiness Director- SJH

- Terry Cronin, St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Trustees
- Angela Heavner, Retired Recruitment, SJH
- Amberly Rolenson, Director of Obstetrics, SJH

Other Community Members and organizations representing medically underserved, low-income, and/or minority populations

- Carol Bush, Navigator in Upshur County
- Robin Criss, Caring Manor (Legally Unlicensed Health Care Home)
- Buck Edwards, Community Volunteer
- James Farrell, Upshur County OEM
- Patty Hewitt, Retired Educator
- Kathy McMurray, Executive Director, Mountain CAP
- Mary Alice Andrews, Director of In Home Care Services, Mountain CAP
- Matt Kerner, Executive Director, Opportunity House
- Heather Kessler, Professional Photographer
- Yvonne Loudin, Horizons Celebrate Recovery
- Mindy Mall, Nutrition Outreach Instructor, Upshur County Extension
- Shannon McDaniels, Owner, Sealcoat Concepts
- Joseph Reed and Sue McKisic, Upshur County Health Department
- Laura Meadows, Executive Director, Upshur County Visitor's Bureau
- Melissa Parsons, Aerobics instructor at Buckhannon Fitness Center
- Ron Pugh, Buckhannon City Council member
- Sue Pugh, Community Member
- Alicia Rapping, Director - Parish House - Buckhannon
- Linda Reigel, Retired educator
- Dawn Robinson, Retired FBI
- Joe Second, WV Hospice
- Rick Simon, Executive Director, Community Care of West Virginia
- Donna Woody, Homemaker

The following organizations provided input at the community event and have missions that incorporate serving potentially underserved, low income, and minority populations in Upshur County.

**Community Care of West Virginia** is a non-profit corporation, managing primary healthcare centers throughout north central West Virginia. Community Care offers a sliding fee scale program for people who are uninsured or underinsured, as well as offering outreach for enrollment through the Health Insurance Marketplace. The sliding

fee scale is based on family size and income and subsidies through the Marketplace are available for individuals and families up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level.

**Opportunity House** is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment to those working to recover from addiction, offering holistic care for those in recovery.<sup>3</sup>

**Horizons Celebrate Recovery** is “a Christ-centered 12-step program that focuses on recovery through the “8 Recovery Principles...” offered through Horizons Church.<sup>4</sup>

**The Parish House** provides a variety of resources to individuals, local churches and other organizations including office space for the Buckhannon River Habitat for Humanity, supplies for eligible parents of newborns, youth outreach, after school programs, and religious reference materials.<sup>5</sup>

**Mountain CAP of WV** is a community development corporation (CDC) focused on local and state leader advocating for positive growth in rural communities in West Virginia. According to their website, they “promote and empower family and individual success through a comprehensive approach to education, employment, community health, social involvement and safe, affordable housing” and “create partnerships within our communities to maximize existing resources, to improve infrastructures and to encourage long-term economic expansion.”<sup>6</sup>

**Caring Manor** is a “legally unlicensed health care home” that provides accommodations, personal assistance, and supervision for elderly community members.<sup>7</sup>

The mission of the **Upshur County Health Department** is to protect, promote, and maintain the health of the entire population of Upshur County. They provide a variety of health services to community members who may not otherwise have access (including immunizations, family planning, STD testing, blood pressure tests).

**Upshur County Extension** “provides programs in 4-H Youth Development, Families and Health, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Community, Economic and Workforce Development with support from West Virginia University faculty and staff.”<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <http://opphousewv.org/housing-programs.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.horizonschurch.net/celebrate-recovery/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.upshurparishhouse.org/NewPage>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.mountaincapwv.org/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://thecaringmanor.wix.com/personalcare>

<sup>8</sup> <http://upshur.ext.wvu.edu/>

Navigator in Upshur County from **WV Healthy Start Navigation Project** is a unit of the WV Healthy Start/ HAPI Project funded by the Health REsources and Services Administration (HRSA), one of 96 Healthy Start Projects nationally focused on prenatal and postpartum women in several WV counties including Upshur. The Navigator Project employs a navigator focused on Upshur County, aimed at enrolling residents in health insurance plans through the Health Insurance Marketplace.<sup>9</sup>

Additionally, the survey received responses from 53 individuals with incomes less than \$20,000 and 42 between \$20,000 and \$29,999. One definition of low income is working families earning up to twice the federal poverty level (2016-- \$24,300 for a family of four)<sup>10, 11</sup>.

### Significant Community Health Needs Identified

The Leadership Team met in March, 2016 after the community event to review results of community input from the event and the survey, as well as review publicly available health data. The WVU SPH presented the data collected in the survey, including responses to the three most important health problems or issues in Upshur County (see Appendix E). The top five priorities identified through public input were:

1. Drug abuse by adults
2. Drug abuse by youth
3. Obesity
4. Diabetes
5. Cancers

Additionally, the survey results indicated that residents feel there are inadequate access to health and wellness opportunities, as well as insufficient public transportation. This is consistent with the 2012-13 CHNA.

Leadership Team members were separated into two groups to review and discuss the results presented in Appendix E. The groups then reported noteworthy points to the larger group where results were written on a large sheet of paper. These large, umbrella issues were:

- Drug abuse
- Obesity
- Diabetes

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<sup>9</sup> <http://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/obgyn/the-wv-healthy-startthapi-project/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.nccp.org/profiles/US\\_profile\\_6.html](http://www.nccp.org/profiles/US_profile_6.html)

- Transportation
- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Access to exercise opportunities
- Access to specialist care in the county
- Children in poverty

Next, the two groups reviewed County Health Rankings data for Upshur County, Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI), and WV Department of Health and Human Services Behavioral Health and Epidemiological County data for trends. After small group discussion, the teams reported back to the larger group to highlight items where the county data supported community survey results. These items were highlighted for the group to share. These items were:

- Diabetes
- Access to exercise opportunities
- Access to specialist care in the county
- Children in poverty

Of substantive note is that data were very difficult to find related to substance abuse in Upshur County. Although it was identified by community members and the Leadership Team as a significant issue facing the county, data at the county level is not very forthcoming. The federal government does not report these data at the county level and state public health indicators were not sufficient to address the question of substance abuse in-depth.

Finally, the two groups were given prioritization matrices (Appendix F) to identify each health issue and score it based on a series of criteria listed below.

<u>Criteria</u>
Size: how many people are affected?
Seriousness: death, hospitalizations, disability
Equity: are some groups affected more than others?
Importance
Control

Figure 2 was presented to illustrate the relationship between knowledge of the issue (importance) and control, aiming to help the Leadership Team focus on health issues where they had more control over possible interventions.

*Figure 2*

### **Prioritization of Health Issues**

	Control	No Control
Knowledge	<b>Do It</b>	<b>Influence</b>
No Knowledge	<b>Get Help</b>	<b>Stay Away</b>

The prioritization matrix was filled out by each group and reported to the larger group for discussion. Results of the prioritization exercise are presented in Table 2. Note that averages are used where both groups ranked the same issue. The group highlighted the issues with the highest scores and discussed each.

**Table 2 Results of Leadership Team Prioritization Exercise**

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Health Issue</b>	
Access to Wellness Opportunities	35
Obesity/ Diabetes	31
Drug Abuse	28
Children/ poverty	27
Transportation	23
Specialty Services	22

The two highest scoring issues identified were:

1. Access to Wellness Opportunities
2. Obesity/ Diabetes

Leadership Team members felt that the health issues of diabetes and obesity were intertwined and could very likely be addressed using complementary interventions. Additionally, access to wellness opportunities was identified as a highly ranked issue that leadership team members felt they had the capacity to address through the implementation planning process.

Substance abuse was recognized to be a top community health priority by all three data prioritization activities (Leadership Team meeting, community event, and community survey). At the same time, there were limited secondary data to describe or further investigate the issue in a county-wide fashion. Additionally, the Leadership Team felt St. Joseph’s may have minimal control over the issue and thus would not choose to prioritize it for purposes of this report.

### [Resources Potentially Available to Address the Significant Health Needs Identified](#)

One of the major findings from the community event at WV Wesleyan and the following conversations among the Leadership Team was that many significant and important resources exist in the community, especially around social services. These resources, outlined in the forces of change and essential health service documents available as Appendices G and H, provide support for many of the community health priorities identified through this Rapid CHNA. Discussions also indicated, however, that these resources are often underutilized and

the public (including target recipients of these services) may not be aware of the scope or number of services available. Future activity in Upshur County needs to focus on increasing awareness of these services, especially in disseminating consistent information across multiple entities. The list of essential services created by the working groups at the community event will serve as a baseline for creating avenues of increasing awareness and aligning activities of multiple organizations tackling the priorities addressed.

Many services in the community existed that, at least in some form, touched on the issues of poverty (including childhood poverty) and transportation. While these were seen as top priorities of the Leadership Team, it seems as though they are largely being addressed from outside St. Joseph's hospital. There was a clear decision made to not include these as specific priority issues, but rather keep them as considerations in all activities by St. Joseph's hospital moving forward to address community health needs. For example, when addressing the priority of "Access to Wellness Activities", each decision would have to clearly consider the implications of limited transportation and the number of individuals within Upshur County living at or below the poverty level. Then, targeted activities would be accessible to as many people in the community as possible.

An extraordinary number of service providers were identified across all ten essential services as a result of the community meeting, especially considering the small population base of Upshur County. During the implementation planning phase, the Leadership Team will identify specifically which essential service providers can address the main priority areas chosen as focus areas in this CHNA. As the Implementation Plan is developed, the team will sort, coordinate, and describe the activities of these resources around the areas of diabetes/obesity and access to wellness opportunities.

## Conclusion

The 2016 CHNA process successfully identified two priorities in which SJH will focus on impacting community health:

1. Access to Wellness Opportunities
2. Obesity/ Diabetes

It was important to keep this list small in order to make it manageable and to focus the forthcoming implementation plan around items that could be tackled successfully and with sufficient resources, rather than overcommitting to many different issues. Additionally, it was determined that all activities aimed at impacting these two significant health needs would incorporate special concern for the lack of transportation and high number of individuals living



below the poverty level within Upshur County. In the coming months, this process will lead to the completion of an implementation plan for activities centered on these health needs. A cornerstone of this plan will involve coordination and awareness of existing resources and partners in the community.

## Approvals

As supported by the Upshur County Community Health Needs Assessment Leadership Team dated March 31, 2016.

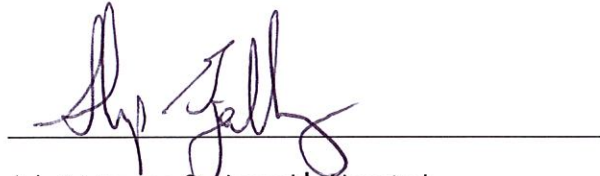
Approved by the Board of Trustees at its May 19, 2016 meeting of the Board.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Chairman, St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Trustees

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Secretary, St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Trustees

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Administrator, St. Joseph's Hospital

# Appendices

**Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey**

**Please take a moment to complete the following survey. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. The purpose of this survey is to get your input about community health topics and concerns in your community. This survey will be used to help guide the Community Health Needs Assessment taking place in Upshur County. The community partners will use the results of this survey and other information to identify the most pressing health issues which can be addressed through community action. Your responses will NOT be associated with you in anyway. If you have previously completed this survey, please ignore this. Remember, your opinion is important to us! Thank you for your time and please contact us if you have any questions concerning this survey. Our contact information is at the end of this survey.**

1. Are you a Upshur County resident?

- Yes
- No

**Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey**

**Health Issues in Upshur County**

2. In your opinion, what is the most important health problem or health issue for residents of Upshur County?

**Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey**

**Upshur County Citizens' Thoughts on Health**

3. How would you rate Upshur County as a "Healthy Community"?

- Very Unhealthy
- Unhealthy
- Somewhat Healthy
- Healthy
- Very Healthy

\* 4. In the following list, what do you think are the **3 most important "health problems" or "health issues"** in Upshur County?

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air quality  | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug abuse by youth                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Infectious diseases   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging problems (e.g. arthritis, hearing/vision loss)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly support (in home care, nursing facilities, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health problems  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol abuse by adults  | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment access  | <input type="checkbox"/> Motor vehicle crash injuries  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol abuse by youth   | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Insecurity/ Hunger                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Obesity   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle Safety   | <input type="checkbox"/> Gun-related injuries                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian Safety   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease/ stroke                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory/ lung disease/ asthma   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse/ Neglect   | <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexually transmitted diseases   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connectivity to infrastructure through public transit/ walking/ biking | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS   | <input type="checkbox"/> Teenage pregnancy   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Problems  | <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness   | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco use   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes ("sugar")   | <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate housing                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors (access to provider care)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Income (low income)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence (e.g. crime, sexual assault, domestic violence, rape, homicide, suicide) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug abuse by adults   | <input type="checkbox"/> Infant death   |  |

Other (please specify)

## Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey

### Quality of life in Upshur County

5. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about Upshur County:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't know/ Not applicable
I am satisfied with the quality of life in Upshur County.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All residents believe that they, individually or collectively, can make Upshur County a better place to live.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is sufficient, safe, and affordable housing in Upshur County.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are jobs available in Upshur County.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County is a safe place to live.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Neighbors know and trust one another and look out for one another.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are support networks for individuals and families (neighbors, support groups, faith community, outreach, agencies, and organizations) during times of stress and need.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County is a good place to raise children.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The public education system in Upshur County adequately meets the health needs of our children. (e.g. school food, PE, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are an adequate number of safe places for children to play and exercise in Upshur County.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County has adequate and safe access to recreation and exercise opportunities for adults.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County has adequate access to affordable healthy foods.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County has adequate health and wellness activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County is a safe place to walk and bike.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upshur County has sufficient public transportation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are adequate sidewalks in Upshur County.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey**

Access to healthcare and medical needs in Upshur County

6. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about Upshur County:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't know/ Not applicable
I have easy access to the medical specialists I need.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am very satisfied with the medical care I receive.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have access to adequate healthcare.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sometimes it is a problem for me to cover my share of the cost for a medical care visit.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am able to get medical care whenever I need it.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey

### Risky Behaviors in Upshur County

7. In your opinion, from the following list, what do you think are the most important "risky behaviors" in Upshur County? Risky behaviors have the greatest impact on the overall health in a community.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol abuse by adults | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of exercise  | <input type="checkbox"/> Texting/cell phone while driving                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol abuse by youth  | <input type="checkbox"/> Overeating  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco use/ or electronic cigarette use by adults |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dropping out of school  | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor eating habits  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco use/ or electronic cigarette use by youth  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse by adults    | <input type="checkbox"/> Not getting "shots" to prevent disease  | <input type="checkbox"/> Not using seat belts and/ or child safety seats    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse by youth     | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Exclusion and discrimination (e.g. exclusion of a group based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsafe sex   |

Other (please specify)

## Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey

**Please provide the following information. It will be used for demographic purposes only. Keep in mind you will NOT be identified in any way with your answers.**

8. Which elementary school is closest to your home?

- Union Elementary
- Buckhannon Academy Elementary
- Tennerton Elementary
- French Creek Elementary
- Hodgesville Elementary
- Rock Cave Elementary
- Washington District Elementary

9. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male

10. What is your age range?

- 18 to 25 Years
- 26 to 39 Years
- 40 to 54 Years
- 55 to 64 Years
- 65 to 80 Years
- Over 80 Years

11. What is your marital status?

- Married/ cohabitating
- Divorced
- Never married
- Separated
- Widowed

Other (please specify)



12. How many children under the age of 18 live in your household?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Greater than 5

13. Do you care for an elderly adult in your household?

- Yes
- No

14. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

- Yes, Hispanic or Latino
- No, not Hispanic or Latino

15. Which of these groups would you say best describes your race?

- White/ Caucasian
- Asian
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Other (please specify)

16. What is your approximate average household income?

- Less than \$20,000
- \$20,000 To \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- Over \$100,000

17. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Less than high school graduate
- High School Diploma or equivalent
- College degree or higher

Other (please specify)

18. How do you pay for your health care?

- I pay cash
- I have health insurance (e.g. private insurance, Blue Cross Blue Shield, HMO, through my employer)
- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Veterans Administration
- Indian Health Services

Other (please specify)

## Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey

Thank You & Community Event!

**Thank you for your time and response!**

**If you would like to participate in a community event to share additional feedback, please contact us for further information:**

**[eavasile@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:eavasile@hsc.wvu.edu) or 304-293-0580**

**WVU School of Public Health**

**PO Box 9190, Health Sciences Center  
Morgantown, WV 26505**

# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

## Upshur (UP)




	Upshur County	Error Margin	Top U.S. Performers <sup>^</sup>	West Virginia	Rank (of 55)
<b>Health Outcomes</b>					<b>7</b>
<b>Length of Life</b>					<b>16</b>
Premature death	8,086	6,739-9,433	5,317	9,351	
<b>Quality of Life</b>					<b>4</b>
Poor or fair health	19%	15-24%	10%	22%	
Poor physical health days	3.7	2.9-4.4	2.5	4.9	
Poor mental health days	3.2	2.2-4.1	2.4	4.4	
Low birthweight	7.3%	6.2-8.5%	6.0%	9.5%	
<b>Health Factors</b>					<b>25</b>
<b>Health Behaviors</b>					<b>10</b>
Adult smoking	21%	16-26%	14%	26%	
Adult obesity	32%	26-37%	25%	33%	
Food environment index	8.2		8.7	7.7	
Physical inactivity	37%	31-43%	21%	34%	
Access to exercise opportunities	59%		85%	52%	
Excessive drinking			10%	10%	
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	46%		14%	35%	
Sexually transmitted infections	160		123	232	
Teen births	34	30-39	20	45	
<b>Clinical Care</b>					<b>40</b>
Uninsured	20%	17-22%	11%	18%	
Primary care physicians	1,871:1		1,051:1	1,306:1	
Dentists	2,720:1		1,392:1	2,130:1	
Mental health providers	1,748:1		521:1	1,291:1	
Preventable hospital stays	84	73-95	46	103	
Diabetic monitoring	74%	65-84%	90%	83%	
Mammography screening	58.7%	48.9-68.5%	70.7%	57.4%	
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b>					<b>29</b>
High school graduation	70%		93%	78%	
Some college	39.0%	32.7-45.3%	70.2%	52.1%	
Unemployment	7.1%		4.4%	7.3%	
Children in poverty	27%	19-35%	13%	25%	
Inadequate social support	19%	15-25%	14%	19%	
Children in single-parent households	27%	20-34%	20%	31%	
Violent crime	57		64	305	
Injury deaths	76	61-93	49	86	
<b>Physical Environment</b>					<b>38</b>
Air pollution - particulate matter	13.3		9.5	13.2	
Drinking water violations	5%		0%	3%	
Severe housing problems	10%	7-12%	9%	11%	
Driving alone to work	85%	83-87%	71%	82%	
Long commute - driving alone	33%	28-38%	15%	32%	

<sup>^</sup> 10th/90th percentile, i.e., only 10% are better.  
Note: Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data



## Upshur County, WV

The following Summary Comparison Report provides an “at a glance” summary of how the selected county compares with **peer counties** on the full set of **Primary Indicators**. Peer county values for each indicator were ranked and then divided into quartiles.

	Better  (most favorable quartile)	Moderate  (middle two quartiles)	Worse  (least favorable quartile)
Mortality	<u>Alzheimer's disease deaths</u> <u>Coronary heart disease deaths</u> <u>Male life expectancy</u> <u>Motor vehicle deaths</u> <u>Unintentional injury (including motor vehicle)</u>	<u>Cancer deaths</u> <u>Chronic kidney disease deaths</u> <u>Diabetes deaths</u> <u>Female life expectancy</u> <u>Stroke deaths</u>	<u>Chronic lower respiratory disease (CLRD) deaths</u>
Morbidity	<u>Alzheimer's diseases/dementia</u> <u>Cancer</u> <u>Gonorrhea</u> <u>HIV</u> <u>Preterm births</u> <u>Syphilis</u>	<u>Adult obesity</u> <u>Adult overall health status</u> <u>Older adult depression</u>	<u>Adult diabetes</u> <u>Older adult asthma</u>
Health Care Access and Quality	<u>Cost barrier to care</u>	<u>Older adult preventable hospitalizations</u> <u>Primary care provider access</u> <u>Uninsured</u>	
Health Behaviors	<u>Adult physical inactivity</u> <u>Adult smoking</u> <u>Teen Births</u>		<u>Adult female routine pap tests</u>
Social Factors	<u>Children in single-parent households</u> <u>High housing costs</u> <u>Inadequate social support</u> <u>Unemployment</u> <u>Violent crime</u>	<u>Poverty</u>	<u>On time high school graduation</u>
Physical Environment	<u>Access to parks</u> <u>Housing stress</u> <u>Limited access to healthy food</u>	<u>Annual average PM2.5 concentration</u> <u>Living near highways</u>	

# What do you see as the Major Health Challenges Facing Upshur County?



Join us for a Round Table Discussion  
Monday, March 14th, 2016

9 am to 11 am

West Virginia Wesleyan College  
Social Hall, Benedum Campus Center  
A light breakfast will be provided

*Your Input is Needed!*



RSVP to  
[Eavasile@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:Eavasile@hsc.wvu.edu)  
or to 304-293-0580  
by March 11, 2016

*Facilitated by the WVU School of Public Health  
as part of the Upshur County Community Needs Assessment  
for St. Joseph's Hospital*

Appendix E

# **Upshur County Community Health Perception Survey**

Monday, March 21, 2016

# 498

Total Responses

Date Created: Wednesday, February 10, 2016

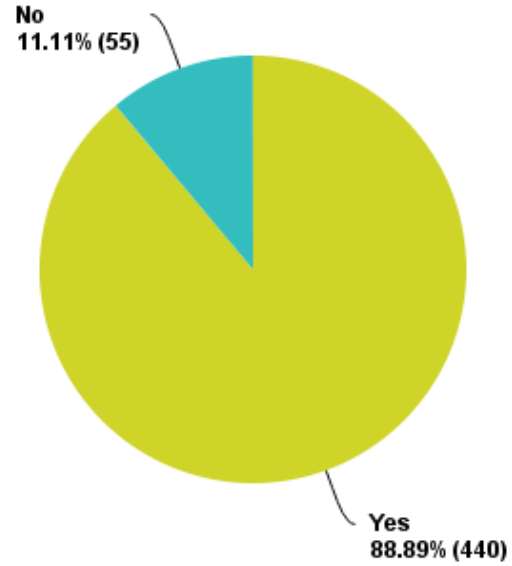
Complete Responses: 401



# Q1: Are you an Upshur County resident?

---

Answered: 495 Skipped: 3



**Q2: In your opinion, what is the most important health problem or health issue for residents of Upshur County?**

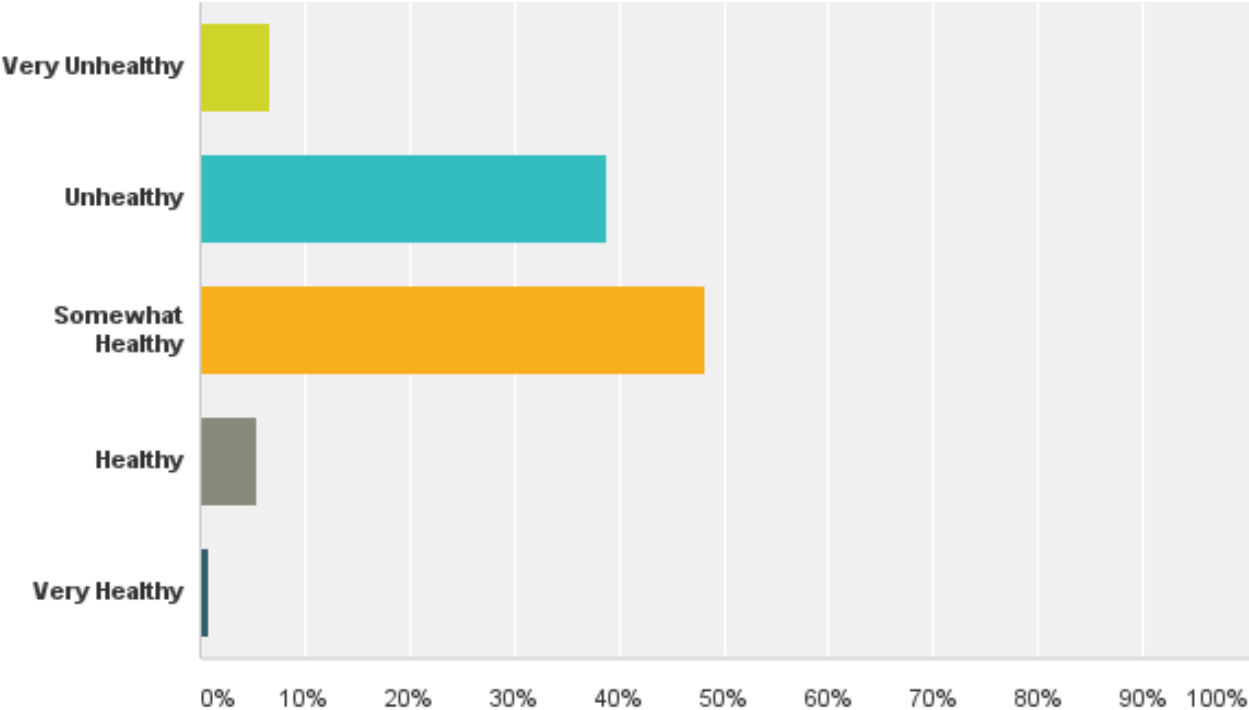
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**Answered: 369 Skipped: 129**

Sick Weight Physicians Poverty Insurance Fat  
Smoking Diet Cancer Hospital Care Eating  
Obesity Community Drug Overweight  
Health Specialists Diabetes Education  
Doctors Heart Attacks Heart Disease Sugar  
Afford Family Practice Substance Abuse

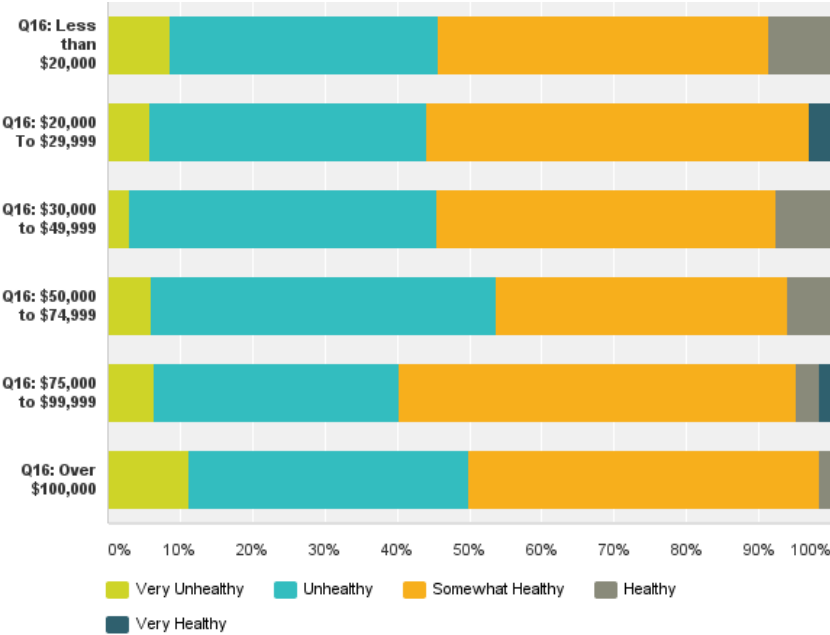
# Q3: How would you rate Upshur County as a "Healthy Community"?

Answered: 388 Skipped: 110

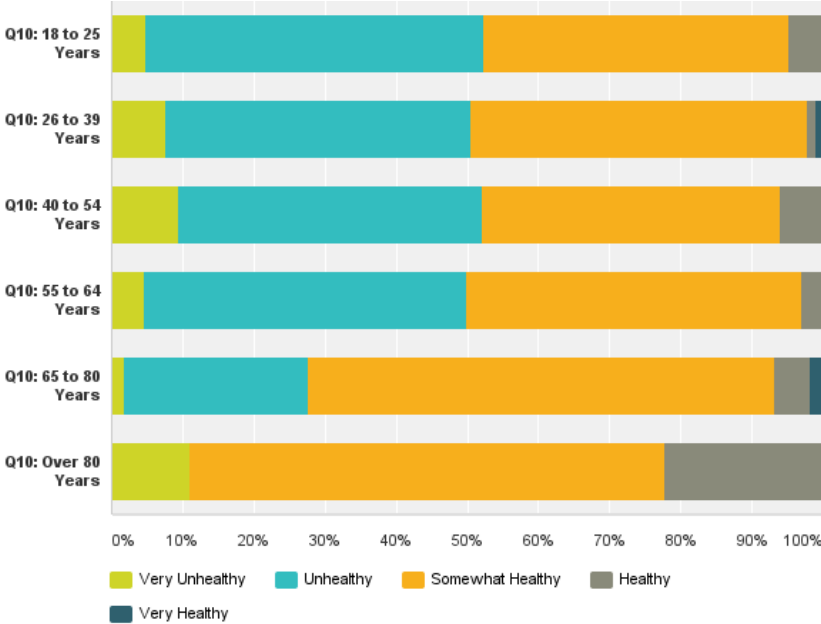


# Q3: How would you rate Upshur County as a "Healthy Community"?

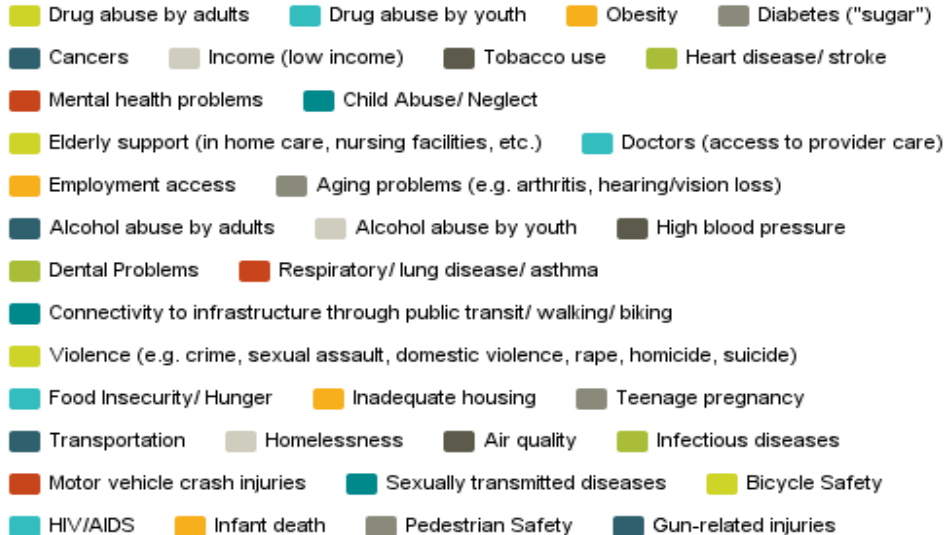
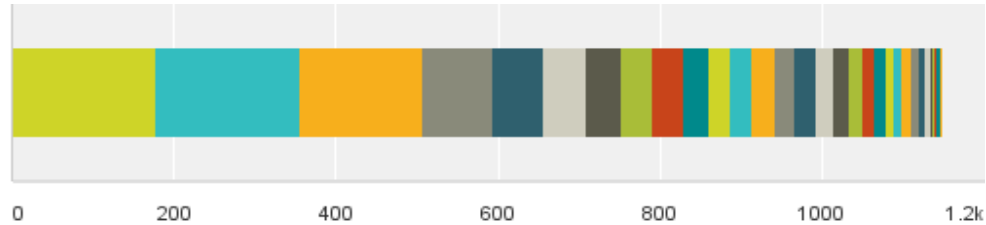
## Income



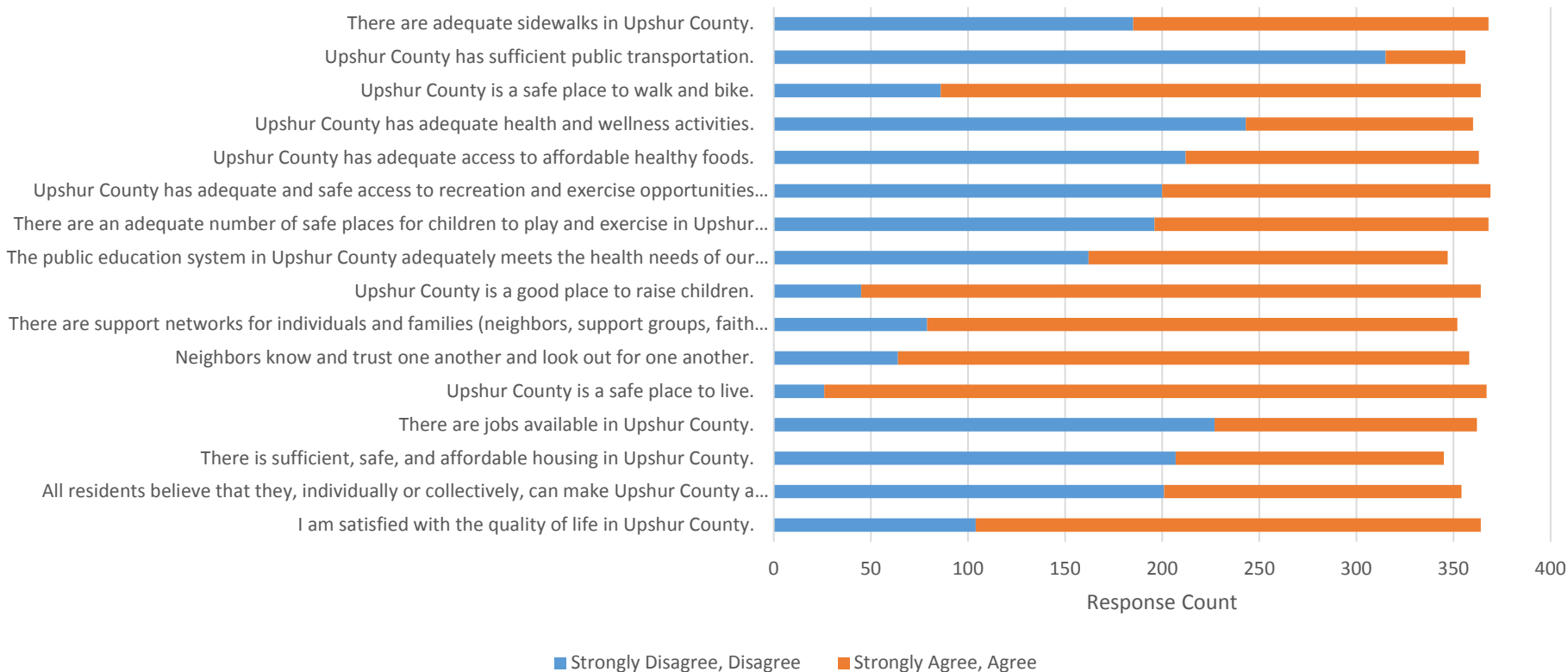
## Age



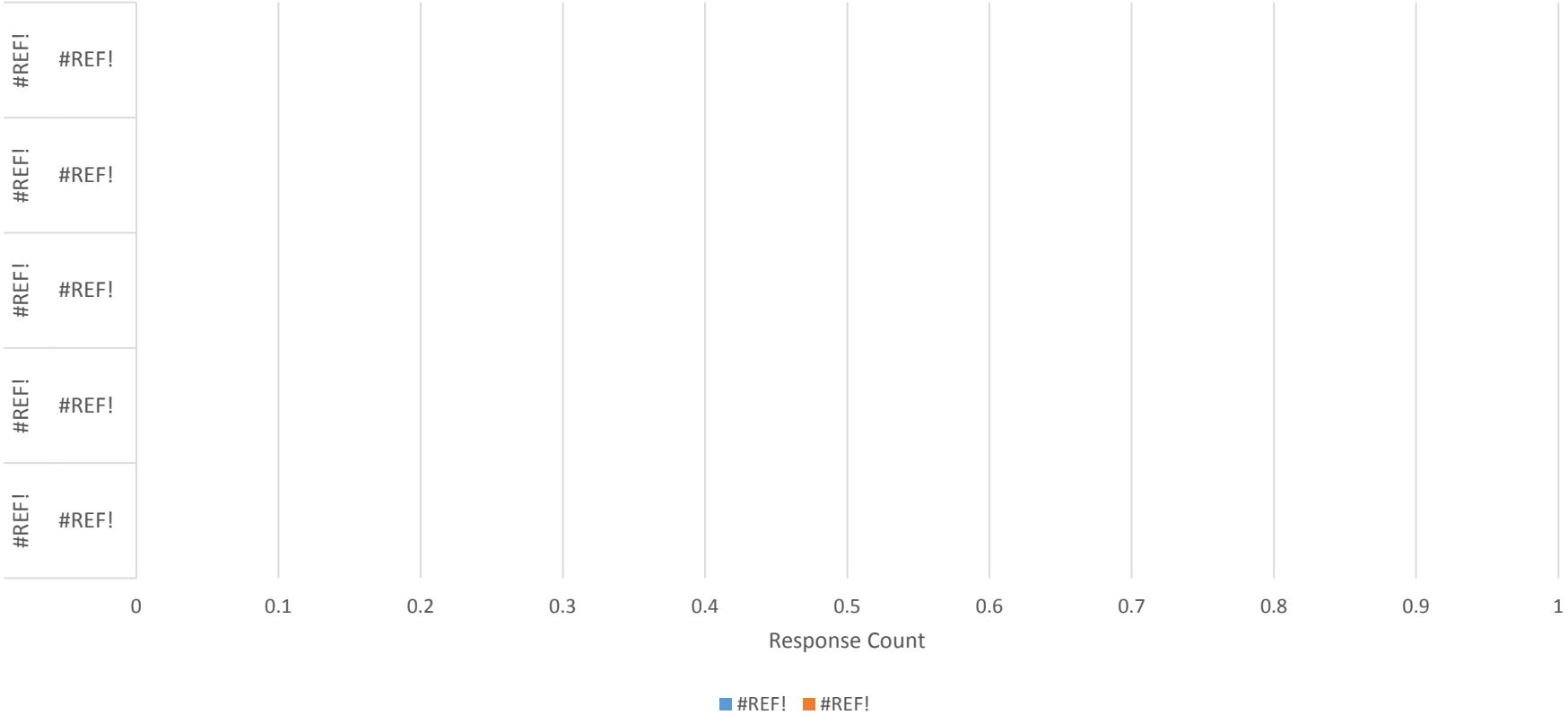
## Q4: In the following list, what do you think are the 3 most important "health problems" or "health issues" in Upshur County?



## Q5: Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about Upshur County:

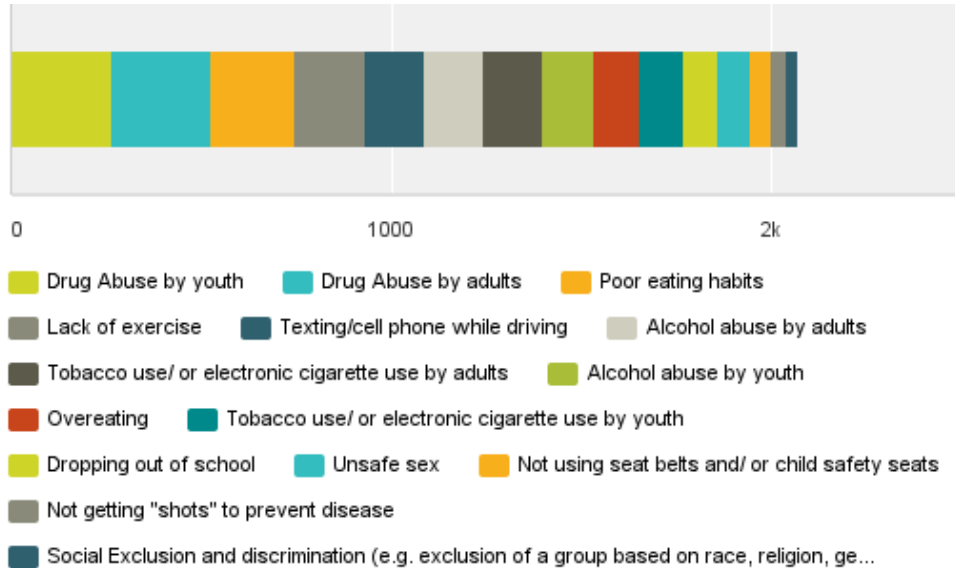


**Q6: Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about Upshur County:**



# Q7: In your opinion, from the following list, what do you think are the most important "risky behaviors" in Upshur County? Risky behaviors have the greatest impact on the overall health in a community.

Answered: 372 Skipped: 126



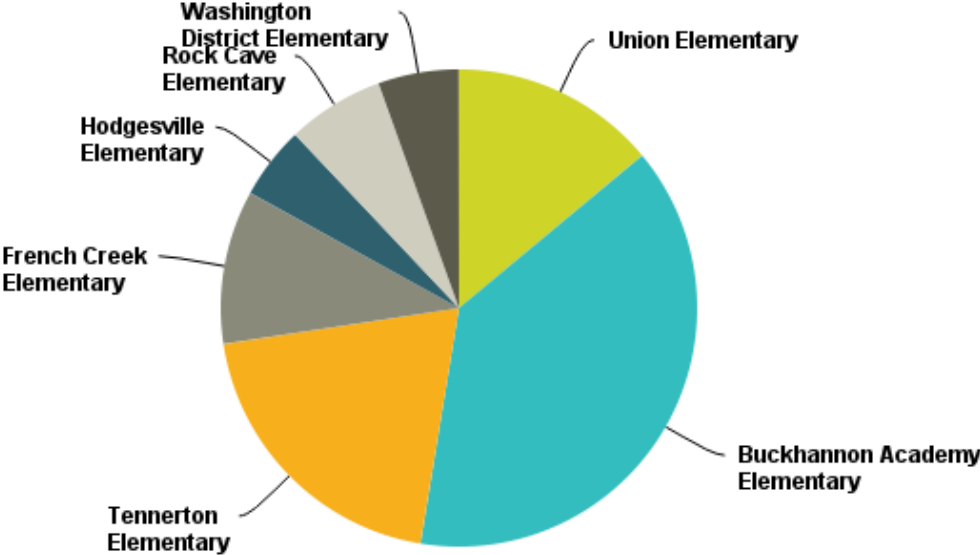


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# Demographics

# Q8: Which elementary school is closest to your home?

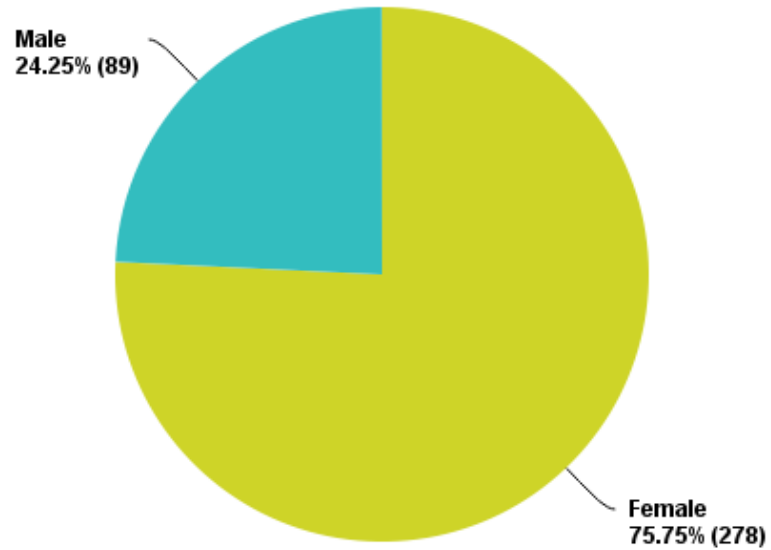
Answered: 365 Skipped: 133



## Q9: What is your gender?

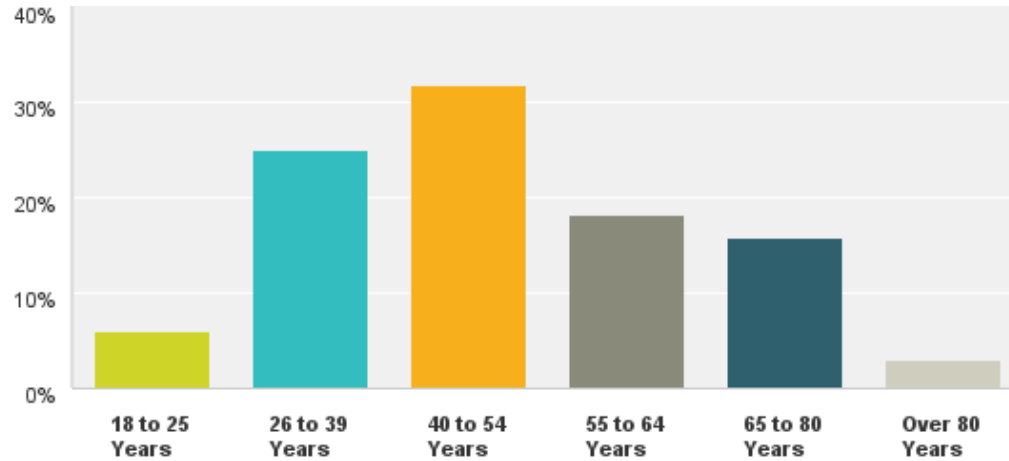
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Answered: 367 Skipped: 131



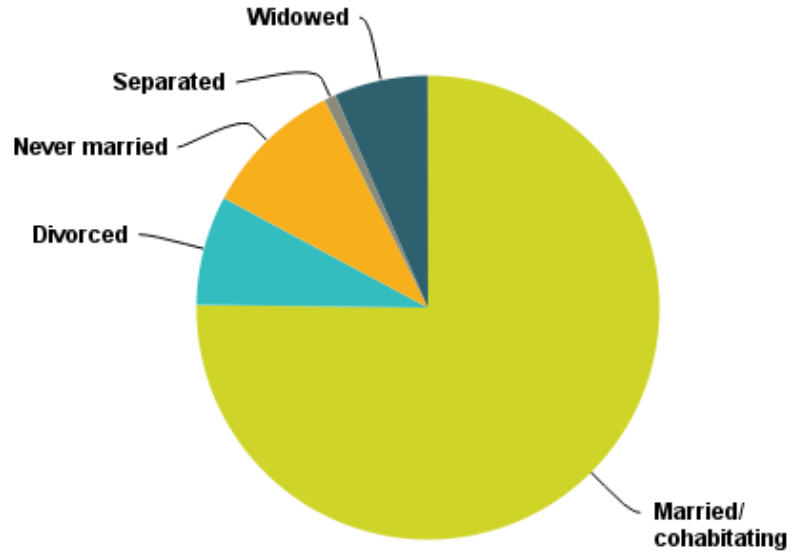
## Q10: What is your age range?

Answered: 367 Skipped: 131



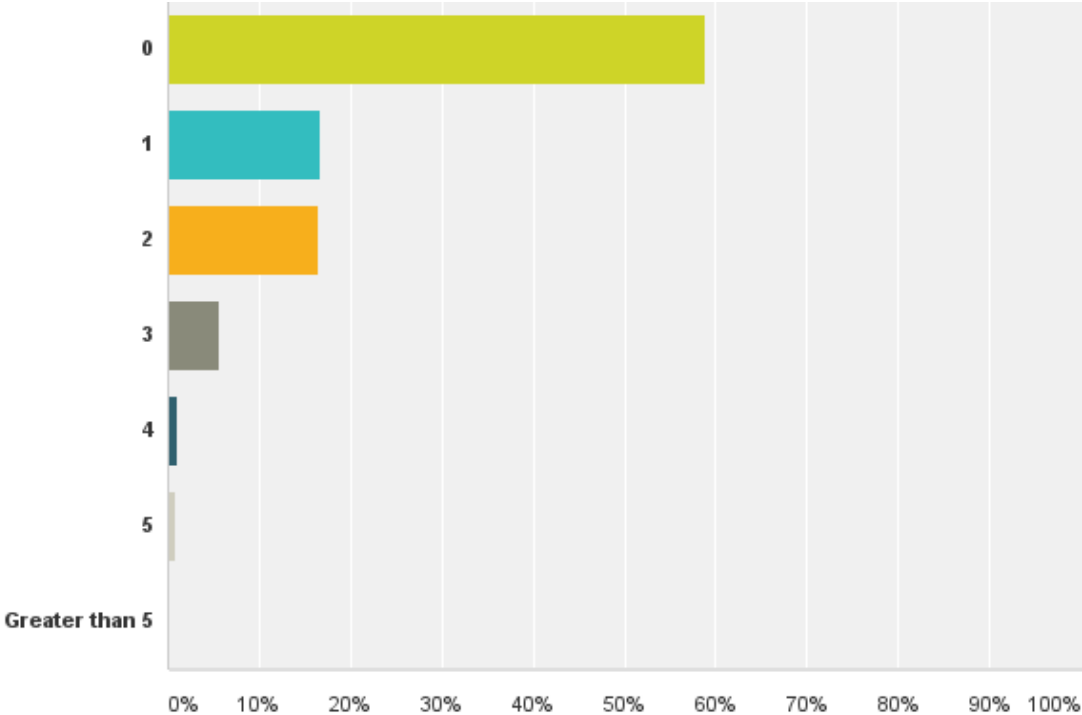
# Q11: What is your marital status?

Answered: 367 Skipped: 131



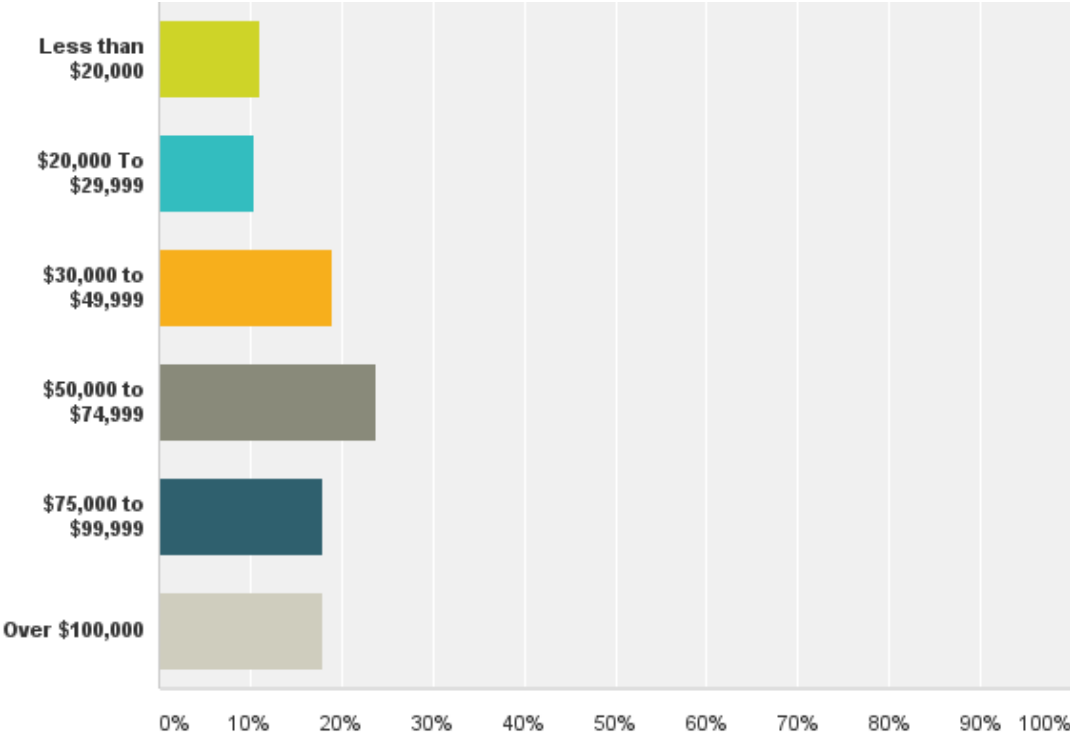
# Q12: How many children under the age of 18 live in your household?

Answered: 370 Skipped: 128



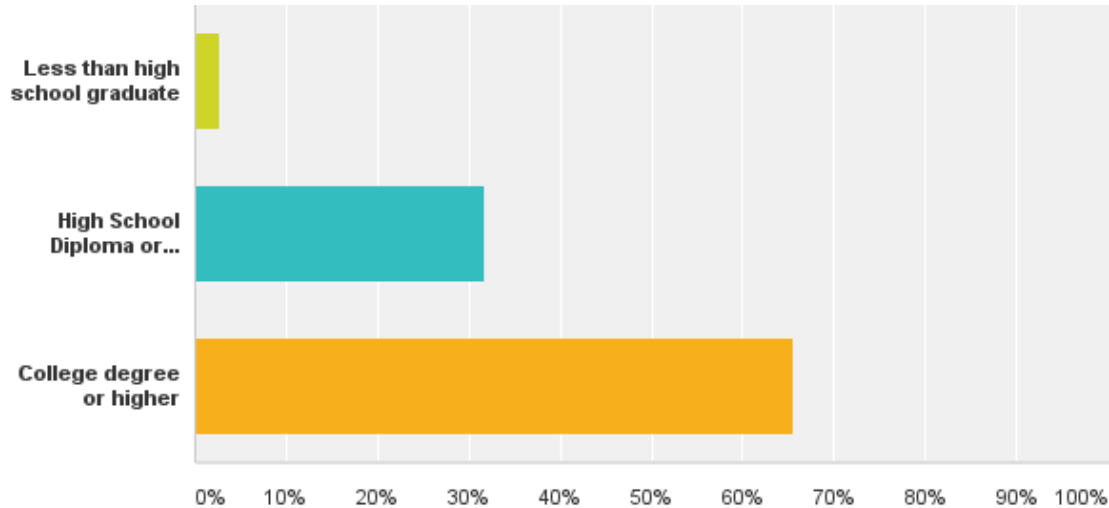
# Q16: What is your approximate average household income?

Answered: 346 Skipped: 152



## Q17: What is the highest level of education you have completed?

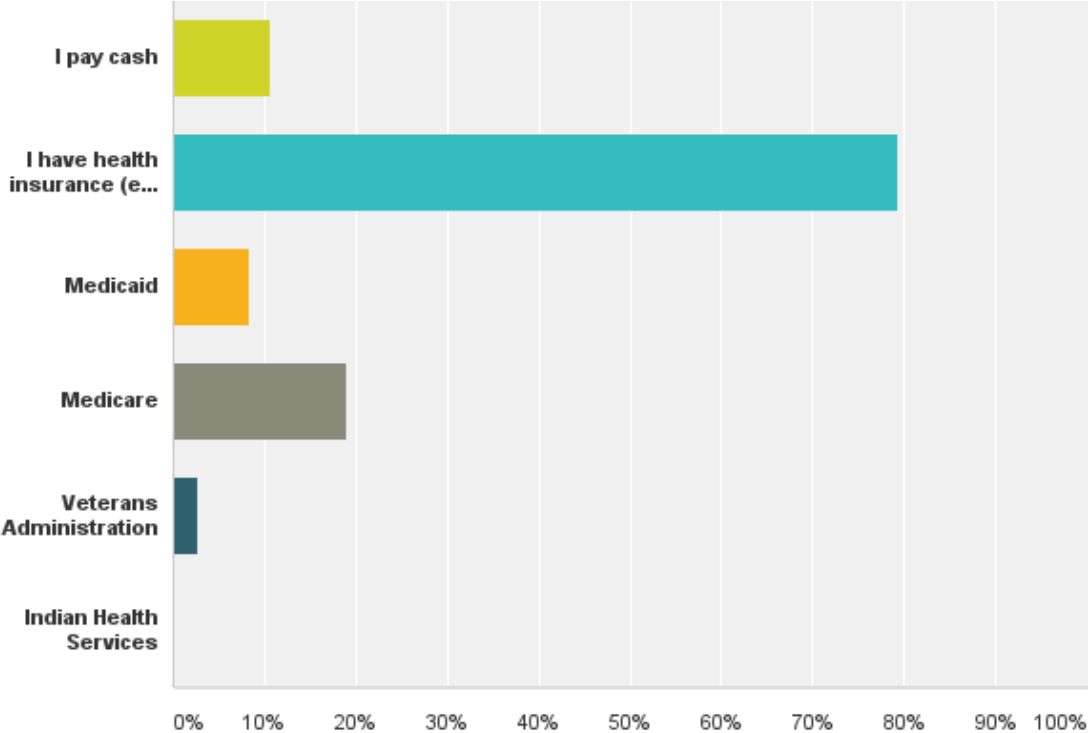
Answered: 360 Skipped: 138





# Q18: How do you pay for your health care?

Answered: 363 Skipped: 135





## Appendix G

# Upshur County Community Health Needs Assessment for St. Joseph's Hospital

Local Public Health Systems (what businesses/services are already in the area that address the 10 essential public health services) – Results

### **Essential service #1: Monitor health status to identify community health problems**

- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Upshur Co. Health Department
- State office of Epidemiology
- WV Healthy Start Navigation Project (304) 614-6848 (US Dept. HHS/ Marketplace Navigation and Education Insurance)
- Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT)

### **Essential service #2: Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community**

- Office of Emergency Management
- Red Cross
- Upshur Co. Health Department
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- City Council
- Community Care of WV

### **Essential service #3: Inform, educate, and empower individuals and communities about health issues**

- WVU Extension
- WV Healthy Start Navigation Project – Carol Bush (304) 614-6848 (Marketplace Insurance and Medicaid Assistance/ Health education and outreach)
- Fitness Centers
- Create Buckhannon (Healthy Eating and Try This partnership)
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Upshur Co. Health Department
- Rotary
- County schools

- Head Start
- Opportunity House
- Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA)
- Celebrate Recovery (Horizons Church, Living Word Church of God)
- Mountain CAP
- Right from the Start
- Chamber of Commerce
- WV Hospice
- Community Care of WV

**Essential service #4: Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems**

- Upshur Co. Health Department
- Family Resource Network
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Major employers of Upshur County
- WV BHHF
- US Attorney
- Mountain CAP of WV – Kathy McMurray (304) 472-150 (WV Housing Policy Task Group)

**Essential service #5: Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts**

- Upshur Co. Health Department
- City of Buckhannon Planning Commission
- Office of Emergency Management
- Fitness Centers
- City Council
- County Commission
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Units of local government
- Mountain CAP of WV – Kathy McMurray (304) 472-150

**Essential service #6: Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety**

- Upshur Co. Health Department
- Local police
- County inspectors
- Federal oversight agencies
- DHHR (child and adult protective services)

**Essential service #7: Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable**

- Create Buckhannon
- Central WV Aging Services
- St. Joseph's Hospital – dietitian
- DHHR
- St. Joseph's Hospital – social worker
- Mountain CAP
- WV Health Start Navigator Project – Carol Bush (304) 614-6848 (Marketplace Insurance and Medicaid Assistance/ Health education and outreach)
- Upshur Co. Health Department
- Right from the Start (in home education and referral to community services) this program is within Mountain CAP of WV – Lora Mathes (304) 472-1500
- Head Start
- Family Resource Network (FRN)
- Cardiac program in Elementary Schools – School nurses coordinate
- Opportunity House
- Parrish House
- Senior Center
- County School System
- WV Hospice

**Essential service #8: Assure a competent public and personal health care workforce**

- WV Wesleyan Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program
- Fred W. Eberle Technical Center Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Program
- County Health Care
- Upshur Co. Health Department
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Behavioral Health Providers
- WV Hospice
- WVU Dept. of Food and Nutrition for dietetic majors

**Essential service #9: Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services**

- Upshur Co. Health Department
- St. Joseph's Hospital (Abor Evaluation)
- WVU
- Mountain CAP
- DHHR

**Essential service #10: Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems**

- Upshur Co. Health Department
- Emergency Management Services
- WV Healthy Start Navigation Project – Carol Bush (304) 614-6848 [ccbush@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:ccbush@hsc.wvu.edu)
- WV Wesleyan College
- WVU
- City Council
- Mountain GAP of WV (2015 pilot program for health homes related to asthma/COPD)

# Upshur County Community Health Needs Assessment for St. Joseph’s Hospital

## Forces of Change Brainstorming Results

<b>Forces (trends, events, factors)</b>	<b>Threats Posed</b>	<b>Opportunities Created</b>
Social & Educational	Underemployment and unemployment	Palatine Foundation
	Youth leaving the state	Meals on Wheels – in the city
	Access to healthy food and food insecurity	Backpack program for students
	Substance abuse	Destination graduation
	Lack of reliable transportation	School Health to be implemented in 2 – 3 years
	Volunteer restrictions for Meals on Wheels which may hinder some county residents from benefiting from this service	Social media
	No quality education	Family engagement
	Teaching mandated from the feds to the state, etc.	Church programs for community outreach
	Social media	Peer interaction
	Lack of family engagement	Community groups
	Mental health stigma	Summer food program
	Limited resources	Increase the number of afterschool programs
	Technology & Environmental	Lack of public transportation
Rural population		Increase affordable/low income housing
Lack of safe walkways/parks, bike trails, etc. to exercise		Electronic medical records
The NRAO is a hard barrier to call service, especially in the southern part of the county.		Develop/implement a prescription drug monitoring program
Telehealth		Telehealth
Aging populations/communication challenges		
Medical & Scientific	Internet access is expensive, limited service (which might be due to topography)	
	Emergency Medical Records	Emergency Medical Records

Economics & Business

Coordination of information between hospitals/etc.	New CEO/transition to WVUH
Coordination between hospital and colleges (both WVU and Wesleyan)	School based health centers
No chronic disease support groups	Expansion of medical specialties through WVU hospital system and foundation
Drug issues/substance abuse	Need registry for special population that does not interfere with HIPPA regulations
Lack of off hour appointment times for area doctors except for urgent care	
Lack of local mental health services such as substance abuse detox	
Lack of Employees (drug testing, work ethic)	Businesses cater to aging population
Aging population	Have Upshur Co. recognized as "all age friendly community"
Unreliable power supply	Have businesses recognize seniors as valuable employees
Limited grants for community outreach	Increase the business diversity
Decline in Oil & Gas Industry	Increase the number of skilled trade workers
Lack of business diversity	Support and promote local business and small farmers
Lack of skilled trade workers	Start an adult daycare to give caregivers a rest
WV Contractor's License too hard to obtain and costly	Increased tourism with the completion of Corridor H
Lack of growth in unskilled labor workforce	Better collaboration between service business to provide better overall services to the community (share information, refer client/customer to another service or business that they would benefit from)
	Improve food service distribution (partnerships with WVDA, WVU, Local Economic Development, locally grown foods, aggregation center, food coop, warehousing and distribution, access to health local food)



	Healthcare reform/peel with elections	Increase addiction and treatment centers in the communities
	Purchasing "Obamacare" is financially hurtful	Initiate 2 <sup>nd</sup> chance driver's license program
	Insurance scale, fees, enrolment – conflicting opportunities	Review, improve, and implement a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan
	Reporting challenges, increasing costs	Develop and implement a way for local business to provide affordable health insurance to full and part-time employees
Political & Legal	Classifying patients as "drug seekers"	Enforce no smoking policy in the workplace
	Drug programs/centers limited	
	No control with legislation of "Obamacare"	
	Regulation of illegal drugs/intent	
	Issues – drugs, education, unemployment	
	Over regulation – "one size does not fit all"	
	Grant reporting overly complicated	
	Coding for insurance billing is too complicated and cumbersome	