

# Adams County Community Needs Assessment

2024 Update



**UNITED WAY**  
Adams County



**B** *BLESSING*  
*HEALTH*

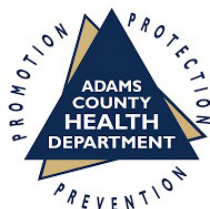


# Adams County Community Needs Assessment 2024 Update

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**UNITED WAY**  
Adams County



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*HEALTH*



**Jenna Hull**, *Executive Director*

**Amanda Goings**, *Finance & Administration*

**Natalie Slater Cornwell**, *Community Impact & Resource Reinvestment*

**Reggie Freel**, *Programs & Services*

**Kate Kimber**, *Development & Communication*

**Ashley Houghton**, *Office Coordinator*

## History, Process and Team

In 2001, United Way of Adams County, University of Illinois Extension, and the Adams County Health Department initiated a comprehensive Community Assessment for Adams County, Illinois. This collaborative effort expanded in 2010 when Blessing Health joined, following the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, mandating non-profit hospitals to have a community health improvement plan.

In 2021, United Way of Adams County received the R3 – Restore, Reinvest, Renew – Assessment and Planning Grant to further assess community needs and develop a plan for addressing economic development, violence prevention, re-entry, youth development, and civil legal aid services. This assessment process involved collecting and analyzing data from various public and private entities, including government agencies, faith-based organizations, educational systems, nonprofits, and health services. The resulting data highlighted critical issues such as mental health, poverty, housing, transportation and infrastructure, while also recognizing strengths like social service agencies, cultural amenities, and collaborative development.

Ongoing efforts aim to leverage this data to inform and implement community-wide initiatives and strategies for improving the overall well-being of Adams County residents. The 2024 Adams County community needs assessment update builds upon the progress made, revisits the identified challenges, and ensures continuing efforts for sustainable outcomes for the Adams County community.



**UNITED WAY**  
Adams County

**COMMUNITY  
BUILDING  
COUNCIL**

### COMMUNITY BUILDING COUNCIL

Julie Shepard (*Blessing Health*)

Ellen Vonderheide (*Adams County Health Department*)

*In response to the needs, challenges and problems identified in the Community Needs Assessment, the Community Building Council (CBC) is United Way of Adams County's volunteer strategic leadership response team that oversees the Community Building Council's Behavioral Health, Housing and Poverty solution teams.*

The CBC guides the community needs assessment and planning process by developing programs, partnerships, and collaborations to address the priorities that emerge from the Community Health Needs Assessment. The CBC strategically directs community efforts toward fostering systemic change, focusing on top priorities in areas such as health, education, and financial stability. Acting as a central hub for collaboration, the CBC brings together a range of community stakeholders, including United Way of Adams County, Blessing Health, and the Adams County Health Department, among others, to implement a shared, three-year community plan. This plan mobilizes resources and promotes accountability across the community.

Key functions of the CBC include assisting in the recurring Community Assessment every three years, forming specialized Community Solution Teams that target issues like poverty, housing, and behavioral health, and ensuring public engagement and outreach. The CBC also monitors progress and fosters cooperation among diverse agencies to inspire collective action. Its members represent a broad spectrum of experiences, reflecting the diversity of Adams County, and ensuring that the strategies and solutions are inclusive and responsive to local needs.

Members: Dr. Mary Frances Barthel, Blessing Health; Barb Baker Chapin, Transitions of Western Illinois; Natalie Slater Cornwell, United Way of Adams County; Dr. Megan Duesterhaus, Quanada; Ricci Dula, Scouting America, MVC; Kent Embree, Community Foundation; Debbie Fitzgerald, Horizons; Jerry Gille, Quincy Housing Authority; Anita Hanke, Advocacy Network for Children; Paul Havermale, Veterans Assistance Commission; Heidi Howard, The Salvation Army; Diane Hughes, SIU Medicine; Jenna Hull, United Way of Adams County; Chuck Johnson, Blessing Health; Melissa McKelvie, Cornerstone Foundations for Families; Erica Maynard, Quincy Public Schools; Kyle Moore, Great River Economic Development Foundation; Dawn Morris, American Red Cross; Tracy Orne, John Wood Community College; Jeremy Oshner, Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials; Erica Perry-Brockmeier, Young Life; Cassie Phillips, Quincy University; Heath Richmond, Retired Senior Volunteer Program; Ryan Roberts, YWCA; Matt Schmidt, The Salvation Army; Curtis Sethaler, Quincy Family YMCA; Julie Shepard, Blessing Health; Kaitlyn Shively, Clarity Healthcare; Blanche Shoup, Workforce Development; Raymond Steadman, Horizons Addicts Victorious; Selena Stegeman, Quincy Medical Group; Julie Stratman, Regional Office of Education; Carrie Trowbridge, Early Childhood and Family Center; Ellen Vonderheide, Adams County Health Department; Sharon Tweedell, The Moorman Foundation; Jessica White, Cheerful Home; Tim White, Trinity Church; Marla Willard, West Central Child Care Connection; Cheryl Williams, Bella Ease.

## Community Building Council Teams



**CBC**  
Behavioral Health Team

### COMMUNITY BUILDING COUNCIL: Behavioral Health Team

Jessica Peters (*Transitions of Western Illinois*)

Stacey Juilfs (*Clarity Healthcare*)

*The goal of the Community Building Council Behavioral Health Team is to improve awareness, access and education of mental health and substance use disorder services. Key strategies include raising awareness to normalize treatment and removing barriers to accessing these services.*

Members: Dr. Mary Frances Barthel, Blessing Health; Tracy Bugh, Quincy Public Schools; Natalie Slater Cornwell, United Way of Adams County; Kathi Dooley, Community Member; Gabrielle Esselman, Bella Ease; Debbie Fitzgerald, Horizons; Tara Hamann, Transitions of Western Illinois; Annette Heinecke, Blessing Health; Heidi Howard, The Salvation Army; Maggie Hoyt, General Assistance; Chuck Johnson, Blessing Health; Shandi Joubert-Kanz, Clarity Healthcare; Stacey Juilfs, Clarity Healthcare; Kris Kutcher, Community Member; Melissa McKelvie, Cornerstone Foundation for Families; Stacy Melton, SIU Medicine; Chattie Miranda, Adams County Health Department; Jessica Peters, Transitions of Western Illinois; Mark Philpot, Blessing Health; Julie Shepard, Blessing Health; Nikki Shields, Quincy Medical Group; Carrie Sohn, Regional Office of Education; Raymond Steadman, Horizons Addicts Victorious; Selena Stegeman, Quincy Medical Group; Mike Tyler, Quincy Police Department; Jennifer Vancil, Quanada; Ellen Vonderheide, Adams County Health Department; Johanna Voss, Adams County Health Department; Kim Wheelock, Chaddock; Dennis Williams, Bella Ease.



**CBC**  
Poverty Team

### COMMUNITY BUILDING COUNCIL: Poverty Team

Blanche Shoup (*Workforce Development*)

Kaitlyn Shively (*Clarity Healthcare*)

*The goal of the Community Building Council Poverty Team is to lift families out of poverty by fostering sustained financial stability. Key strategies include increasing access to affordable childcare, enhancing financial literacy for low-income individuals, including youth and young adults, providing individualized case management programming, and offering transportation solutions for low-income community residents.*

Members: Dr. Mary Frances Barthel, Blessing Health; Jasmine Blum, Adams County Health Department; Angela Caldwell, Bella Ease; Natalie Slater Cornwell, United Way of Adams County; Shelby Crow, University of Illinois Extension; Kent Embree, Community Foundation; Debbie Fitzgerald, Horizons; Monica Foster, John Wood Community College; Reggie Freel, United Way of Adams County; Carol Harlow, Transitions of Western Illinois; Dawn Hattey, SIU Medicine; Jenny Heinecke, Quanada; Mary Hensley, Bella Ease; Heidi Howard, The Salvation Army; Maggie Hoyt, General Assistance; Howard Kirchner, Western Illinois Works; Kathryn McDaniel, Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials; Jeremy Oshner, Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials; Toni Park, Transitions of Western Illinois; Sharadan Parks, Quincy Public Schools; Julie Shepard, Blessing Health; Kaitlyn Shively, Clarity Healthcare; Blanche Shoup, Workforce Development; Sharon Tweedell, The Moorman Foundation; Ellen Vonderheide, Adams County Health Department; Brittany Weise, Blessing Health; Jessica White, Cheerful Home; Marla Willard, West Central Child Care Connection; Michelle Zech, Blessing Health.



CBC  
Housing Team

### COMMUNITY BUILDING COUNCIL: Housing Team

Jerry Gille (*Quincy Housing Authority*)

Kyle Moore (*Great River Economic Development Foundation*)

*The goal of the Community Building Council Housing Team is to increase the number of residents in affordable, safe, and livable housing. Key strategies include identifying the availability of affordable housing units in Adams County and increasing access while removing barriers for low-income residents.*

Members: Bret Austin, ACB/All Phase Property; Dr. Mary Frances Barthel, Blessing Health; Jessica Bowen, Quanada; Angela Caldwell, Bella Ease; Barb Baker Chapin, Transitions of Western Illinois; Terri Clayton, Transitions of Western Illinois; Natalie Slater Cornwell, United Way of Adams County; Elaine Davis, Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials; Kent Embree, Community Foundation; Marla Ferguson, Housing Solutions; Mark Geissler, Horizons; Jerry Gille, Quincy Housing Authority; Carol Harlow, Transitions of Western Illinois; Heidi Howard, The Salvation Army; Maggie Hoyt, General Assistance; Chattie Miranda, Adams County Health Department; Kyle Moore, Great River Economic Development Foundation; Lacy Moore, SIU Medicine; Jason Parrot, City of Quincy; Mark Philpot, Quincy Human Rights Commission; Ryan Roberts, YWCA; Ali Scott, Transitions of Western Illinois; Julie Shepard, Blessing Health; Aaron Stevenson, Transitions of Western Illinois; Ellen Vonderheide, Adams County Health Department; Brittany Weise, Blessing Health; Dennis Williams, Bella Ease; Crystal Young & Robert Young, Impact Global; Michelle Zech, Blessing Health.

## Executive Summary

The 2024 Community Needs Assessment for Adams County includes over 100 data points. This assessment offers an in-depth exploration of critical areas including health, poverty, youth, and financial security. It expands on the findings from 2021, which highlighted the pressing issues of behavioral health, housing instability, and economic disparities. As Adams County emerges from the long-lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, this assessment seeks to provide a more nuanced understanding of the challenges facing the community.

A comprehensive survey is planned for 2027, allowing community stakeholders to reassess these challenges and evaluate the effectiveness of current and ongoing efforts. This future assessment will offer a valuable opportunity for key partners to reflect on progress, refine strategies, and collaborate to address the most pressing needs. The goal is to ensure that community-driven solutions continue to evolve in response to Adams County's most urgent concerns.

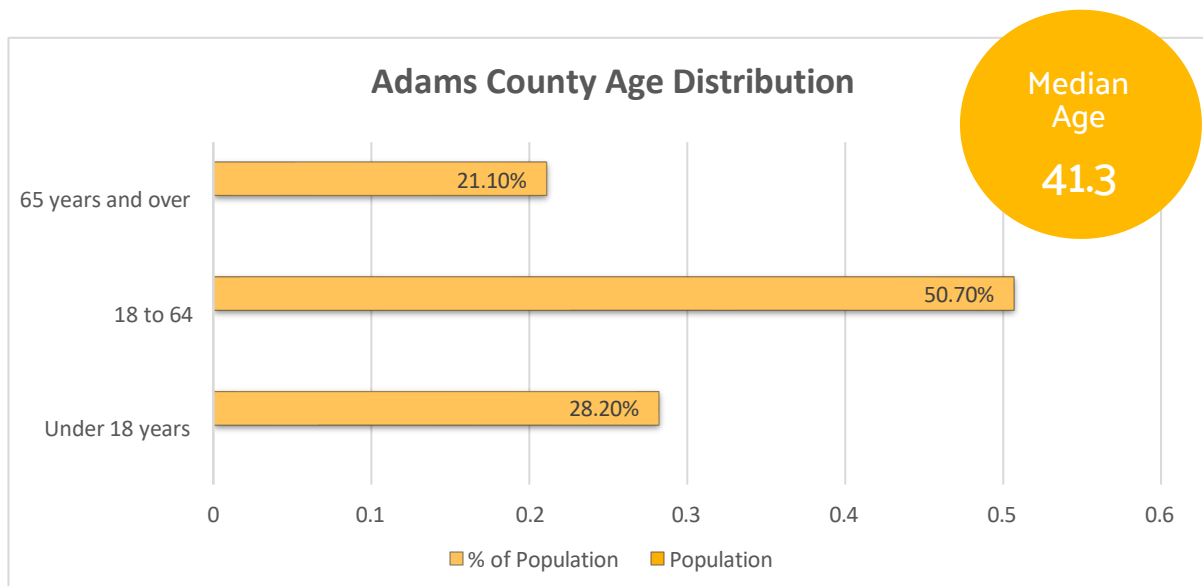
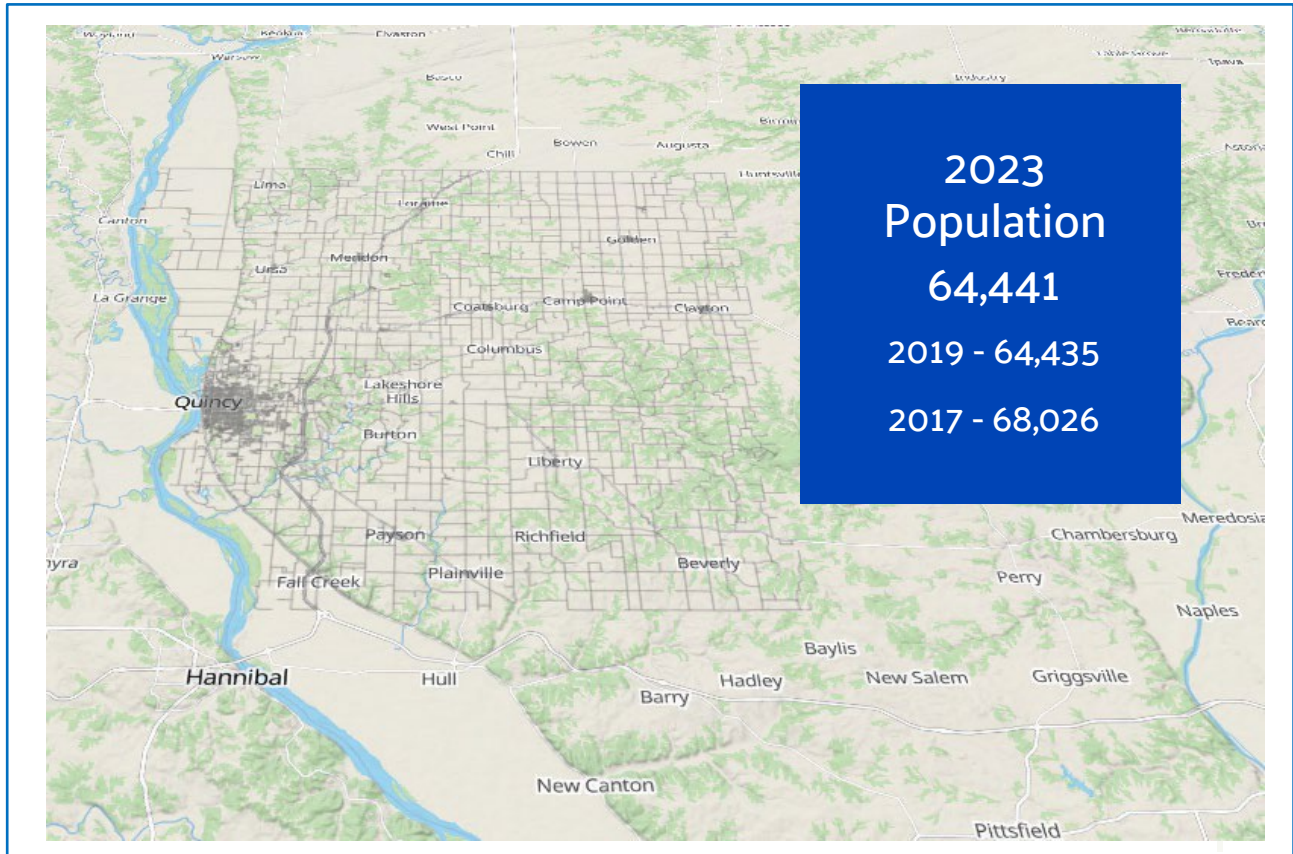


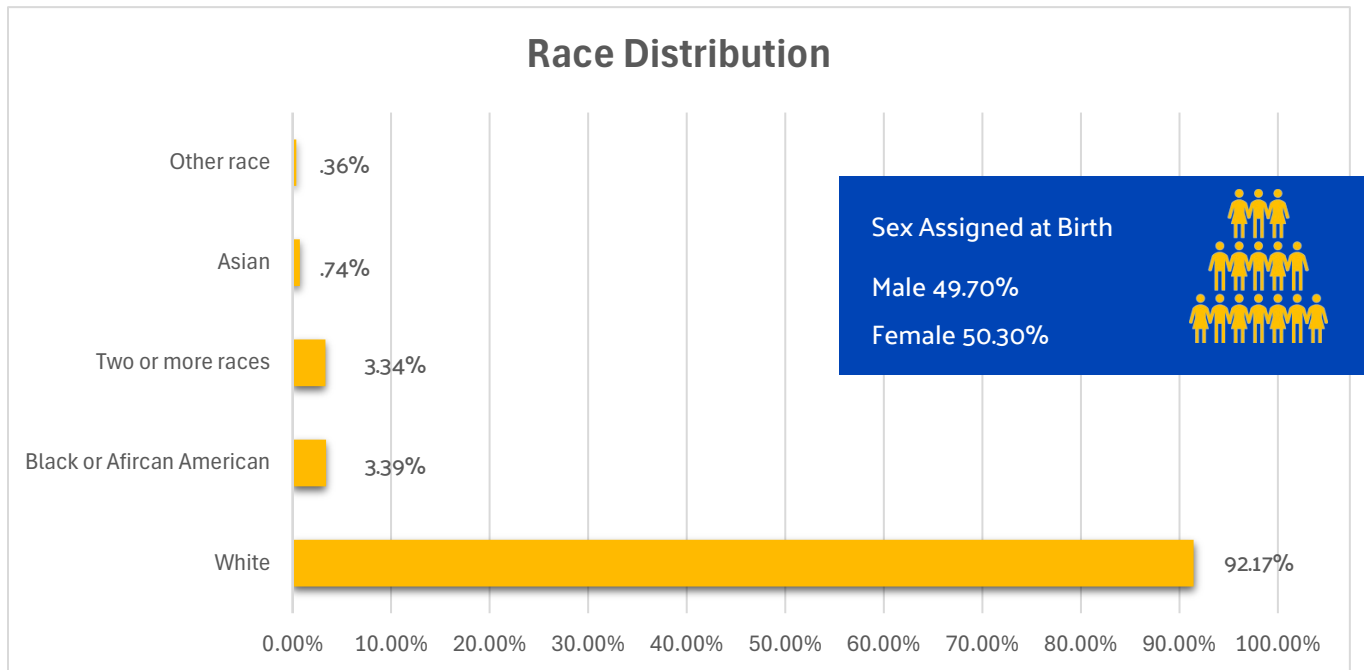
*Thank you! On behalf of United Way of Adams County, the Adams County Health Department and Blessing Health, we extend our appreciation to the many organizations, agencies, and nonprofits that actively support, participate in and guide the work of the Community Building Council and its teams. Your dedication and collaboration have been instrumental in addressing the needs identified through the Community Needs Assessment, and your continued efforts are critical in driving systemic change across Adams County. The insights and partnerships you bring to the CBC, particularly through the Behavioral Health, Housing, and Poverty solutions teams, are making a meaningful impact on the well-being of our community. Together, we are laying the foundation for sustainable solutions that will benefit Adams County for generations to come.*

*Special appreciation to Ashley for her diligent work in bringing our vision to life through her formatting efforts, as well as Blessing Health Communications Staff and CBC team members, for their valuable contributions in proofreading, editing, and revision suggestions.*



Adams County's population has remained stable since 2019, with 21% of residents now aged 65 or older, marking a 1% increase. Despite this, the median age has slightly decreased. The median household income has risen, and the percentage of individuals living in poverty has remained stable at 12%. The average household size has stayed the same, but homeownership has increased, with 72.2% of residents owning their homes, up from 67.8%. Veterans make up 8.3% of the population, notably higher than Illinois' statewide rate of 4.3%. However, the labor force decreased from 34,082 to 30,495. Educational attainment has improved, with 27% of residents now holding a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 23.9% in 2019.





Median Household Income		
Year	Illinois	Adams County
2022	\$76,708	\$63,767
2019	\$69,187	\$55,727
2017	\$62,992	\$48,679



Total Households: 27,490

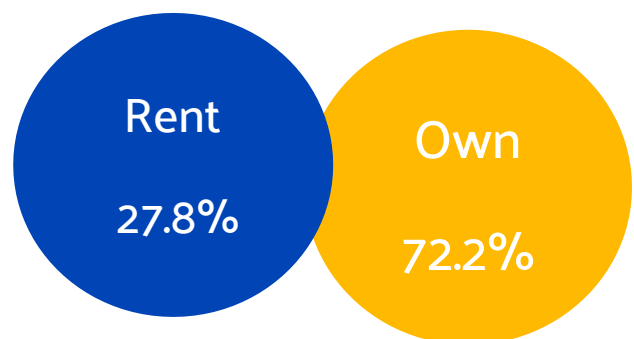


Average Household Size: 2.33



Average Family Size: 2.95

Median Home Value		
2017	2022	Increase
\$128,200	\$151,300	18%



Population  
with Veteran Status

4,233 or 8.3%

Educational Attainment  
25 years and older

Postgraduate	9.0%
Bachelor's Degree	17.9%
Associate's degree	9.8%
Some College, no degree	22.1%
High School	34.5%
No Degree	7.0%

Population with Disabilities

Illinois	Adams County
12.3%	17%

Language other than English  
spoken at home 2.7%.

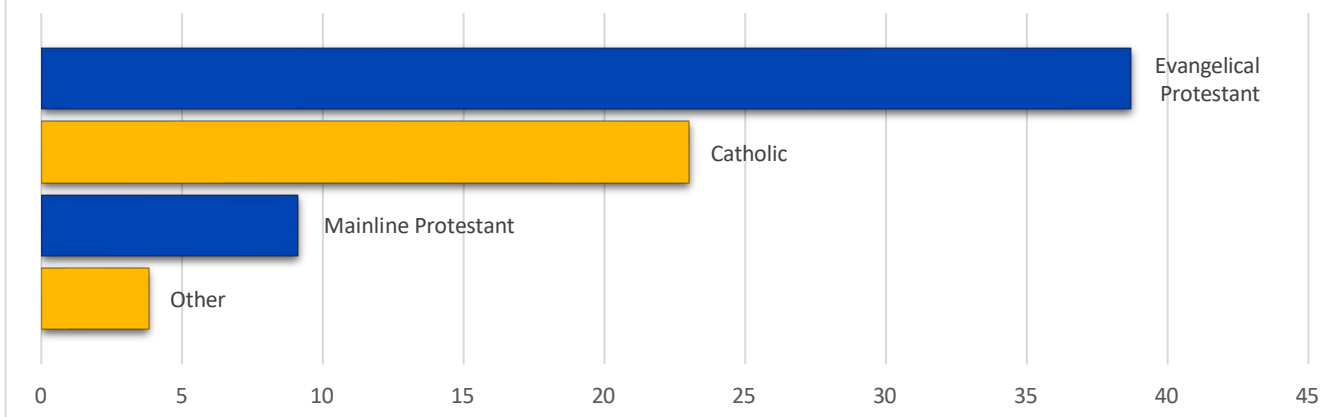
Labor Force

(2022)

age 16 years+

30,495

Religious Traditions - Population Percentage in 2020



The adherent totals of the religious groups listed above (49,036) included 74.6% of the total population in 2020. The adherence rate is the number of adherents of a given group per 1,000 people in the general population.

Data downloaded from the Association of Religion Data Archives, [www.theARDA.com](http://www.theARDA.com), The Association of Religion Data Archives

# ALICE IN ADAMS COUNTY

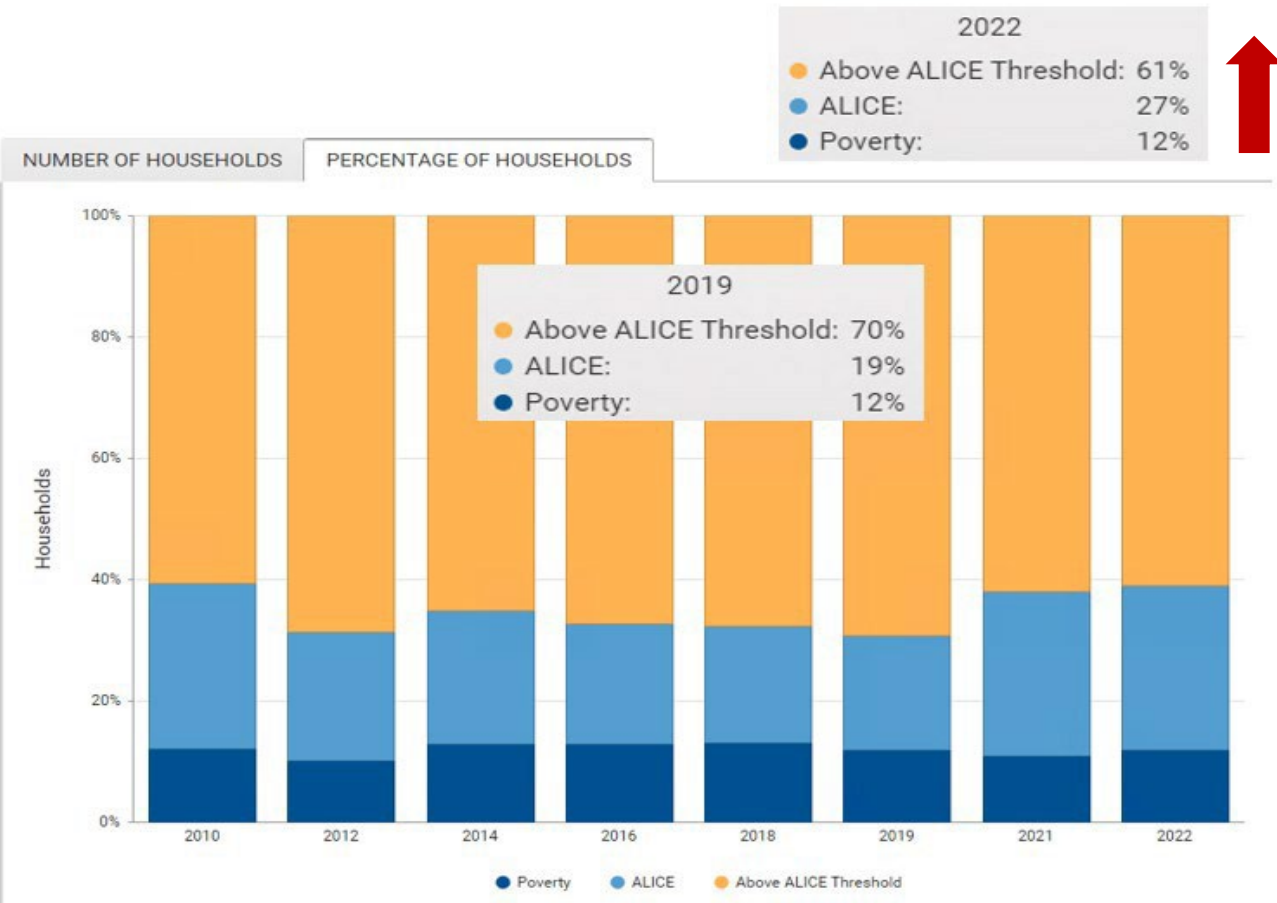


## 2022 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 65, 583 • Number of Households: 27, 490  
 Median Household Income: \$63,767 (state average: \$76, 708)  
 Labor Force Participation Rate: 65.9% (state average: 65%)  
 ALICE Households: 27% (state average: 24%) • Households in Poverty: 12% (state average: 12%)

**ALICE** is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the rising cost of household essentials (housing, childcare, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan). Households below the ALICE Threshold – ALICE households plus those in poverty – cannot afford the essentials.

## Financial hardship has changed over time in Adams County

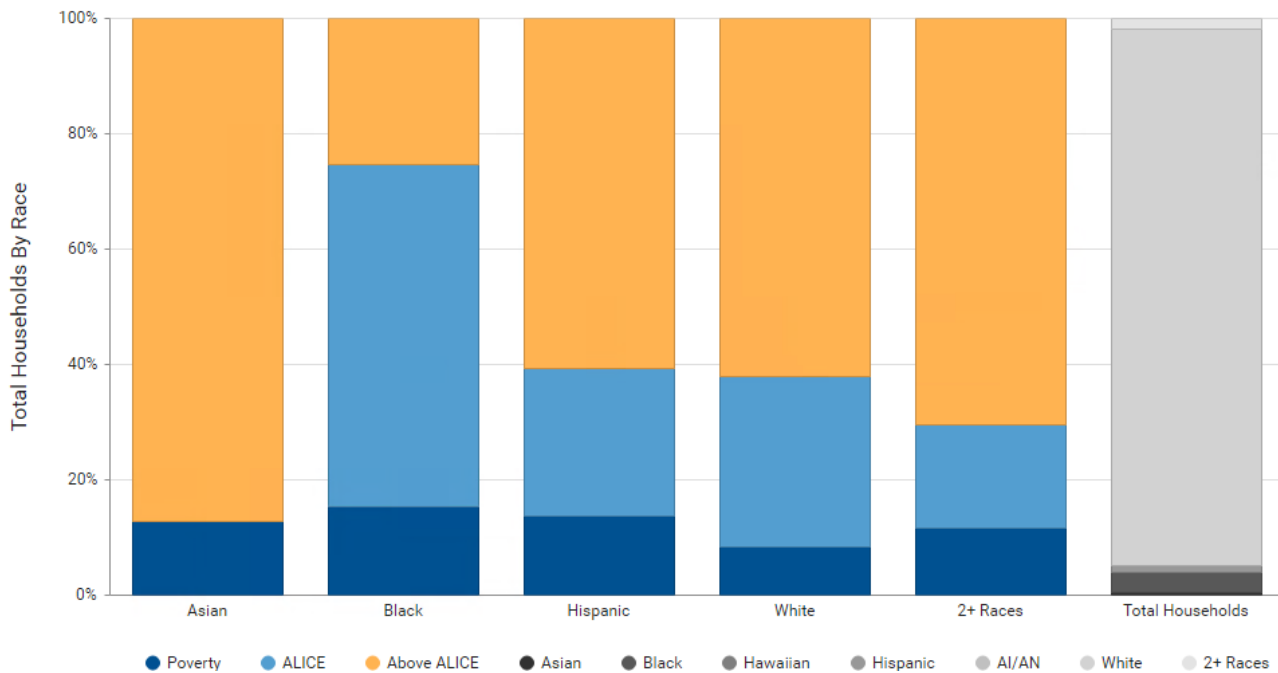


ALICE Threshold, 2010-2022; American Community Survey, 2010-2022

## Financial Hardship is Not Equally Distributed

By total number, groups with the largest population of households below the ALICE Threshold tend to also be in the largest demographic groups. However, when looking at the population of each group that is below the ALICE Threshold, it is clear that some groups are more likely to be ALICE than others.

Households by Race/Ethnicity, Adams County, Illinois, 2022



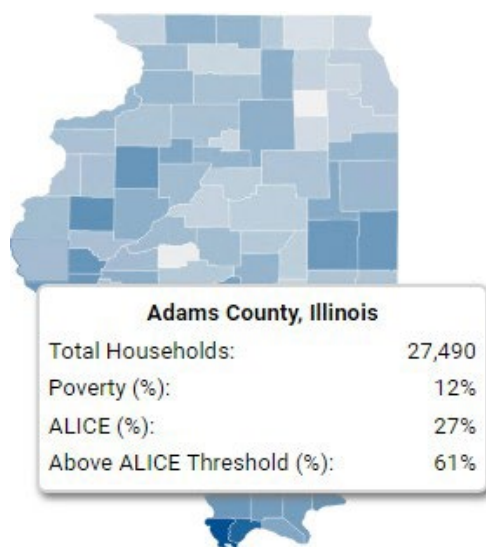
## Financial Hardship by Household Type

Household Type	% Below ALICE Threshold
Single or Cohabiting (no children)	33%
Married (with children)	13%
Single-Female-Headed (with children)	74%
Single-Male-Headed (with children)	57%

## Financial Hardship by Age of Household

Group	% Below ALICE Threshold
Under 25	47%
25 to 44 Years	34%
45 to 64 Years	30%
65 Years and Over	53%

ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county.



Adams County, Illinois, 2022		
County Subdivision	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Burton township, Adams County, Illinois	271	15
Camp Point township, Adams County, Illinois	656	45
Clayton township, Adams County, Illinois	343	42
Columbus township, Adams County, Illinois	260	22
Concord township, Adams County, Illinois	143	40
Ellington township, Adams County, Illinois	994	23
Fall Creek township, Adams County, Illinois	176	30
Gilmer township, Adams County, Illinois	404	28
Honey Creek township, Adams County, Illinois	288	18
Keene township, Adams County, Illinois	274	38
Liberty township, Adams County, Illinois	433	18
Lima township, Adams County, Illinois	226	21
Melrose township, Adams County, Illinois	2393	20
Mendon township, Adams County, Illinois	648	22
Northeast township, Adams County, Illinois	463	44
Payson township, Adams County, Illinois	697	37
Quincy township, Adams County, Illinois	17373	46
Riverside township, Adams County, Illinois	786	16
Ursa township, Adams County, Illinois	352	45

*Note: Data for counties with populations over 65,000 are 1-year estimates. Geographies with fewer than 100 households are not included.*

*Therefore, totals will not match the county-level numbers.*

<https://unitedforalice.org/county-reports/illinois>

## Healthy Community


A healthy community presents key data to help understand the current state of health in Adams County. Well-being, a broad and multifaceted concept, includes physical, mental, emotional, and social dimensions, reflecting how individuals feel about their lives. The World Health Organization (WHO) views well-being as a positive state essential for daily life, shaped by social, economic, and environmental factors. Similarly, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) highlight well-being as a balance of positive emotions, life satisfaction, and the absence of negative emotions, which contribute to a stronger, more engaged community.

Health factors represent community conditions that can be improved to promote longer, healthier lives. These factors include access to quality education, living-wage jobs, healthcare, nutritious food, green spaces, and secure housing—each serving as indicators of future health. Adams County is on par with the average Illinois county and performs better than many other counties nationwide in these areas.

Finally, health outcomes provide insights into life expectancy and the physical and mental health experiences of residents. The data shows that Adams County's health outcomes are aligned with the state average and are stronger than the national average, offering a clear picture of the community's overall well-being.

## Life Expectancy

Life expectancy is the average number of years a person is expected to live, influenced by several key factors. Access to quality healthcare, a nutritious diet, and safe living conditions all help people live longer. Socioeconomic factors, like income and education, also play a role, as they affect access to healthcare and healthy lifestyles. Healthy habits, such as regular exercise, not smoking, and managing stress, contribute to longer life, while poor environmental conditions, violence, and substance abuse can shorten it. Genetics and biological factors, like family history and gender, also influence how long people live.

Life Expectancy in Years		
Adams County	77.2	
Illinois	78.0	
United States	77.6	
<i>"2022 County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps." County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps, 2022.</i>		

- Poor or Fair General Health reported 16.8% in Adams County, 15.9% in Illinois and 19.5% in the United States.
- Poor Physical Health Days reported 3.6 of the last 30 in 2022, an improvement from 4.1 in 2021.

## Premature Death

Premature death refers to death occurring before the average life expectancy, typically around 75 years. Nationally, about 6,900 years of potential life are lost per 100,000 people due to early deaths, while Illinois sees a slightly lower rate of 6,600 years. In Adams County, the rate is higher, at 8,000 years of potential life loss per 100,000 people.

Leading Cause of Death (under age 75) in Adams County	Deaths	Rates per 100,000
Malignant neoplasm	282	160.1
Diseases of heart	160	90.8
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	74	42.0
Accidents	68	38.6
COVID-19	58	32.9
<i>"2022 County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps." CDC WONDER, 2022.</i>		



Leading Causes of Death Adams County	Number of Deaths 2021	Number of Deaths 2022
Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	184	156
Diseases of the Heart	177	164
COVID-19	103	53
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	41	61
Cerebrovascular (stroke)	36	42
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	32	45
Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	23	28
Alzheimer disease	21	18
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (kidney disease)	19	20
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	9	<i>not reported</i>
Influenza and Pneumonia	<i>not reported</i>	11
Total	936	837
<i>"Statewide Leading Causes of Death by Resident County: Adams County, 2022." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2022.</i>		

### Injury Death

Injury death refers to both intentional and unintentional deaths, including poisoning, firearms, falls, motor vehicle traffic accidents, suffocation, fire, drowning, and other injuries. Many of these deaths can often be prevented through safety measures and interventions targeting common risk factors.

Injury Death			
	2020	2021	2022
Adams County	53	38	60
Illinois Department of Public Health. 2021.			



## Preventative Care

Preventative services help you stay healthy, detect health problems early, determine the most effective treatments, and prevent certain diseases. Preventative care also includes programs for health monitoring, counseling, and education to help you take care of your own health.

- According to the 2022 Characteristics of Visits to Health Centers report from the CDC, the majority of health center visits nationwide were for preventive care, accounting for 33.4%, with 74.6% of adults reporting a recent preventive care visit.

### Primary Care Physicians

Adams County	960:1
Illinois	1260:1
United States	1330:1

*"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health  
Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.*

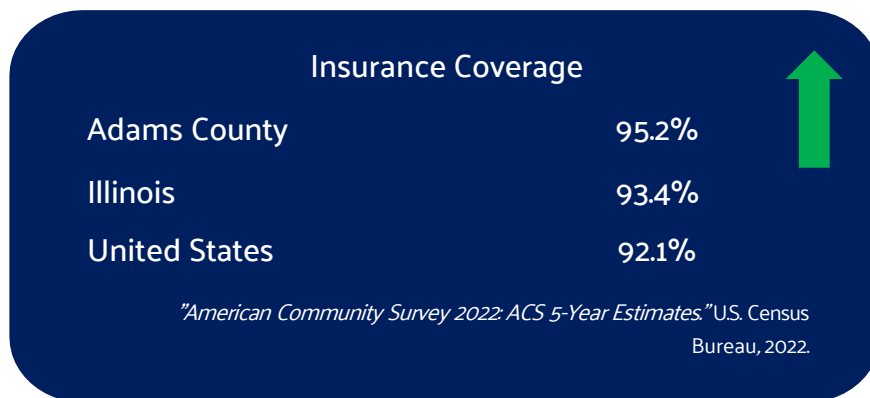
## Mental Health Providers

Mental health providers are authorized by state law to provide mental health services. Mental health providers identify and treat mental health conditions. The most common types of mental health providers include psychiatrists, psychologists, physician assistants, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists.

- There was one mental health provider per 320 people in Adams County (2023).

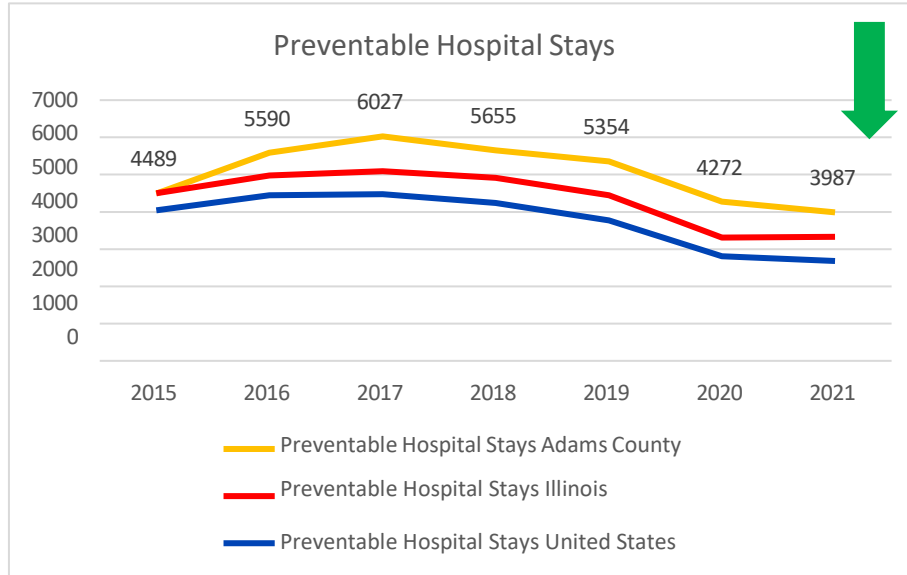
## Insurance

- In Adams County, 95.2% of the population had health insurance coverage from 2018 to 2022.
- In Adams County, 4.8% of the population did not have health insurance coverage from 2018 to 2022.
- Private coverage in Adams County was 70.2%, and public coverage was 38.6% in 2018 to 2022.
- The percentage of children under the age of 19 in Adams County with no health insurance coverage was 3.6% from 2018 to 2022.
- In Illinois, 93.4% of the population had health insurance coverage from 2018 to 2022.
- In the United States, most people (92.1% of the population) had health insurance coverage at some point during the calendar year from 2018 to 2022.



### Preventable Hospital Stays

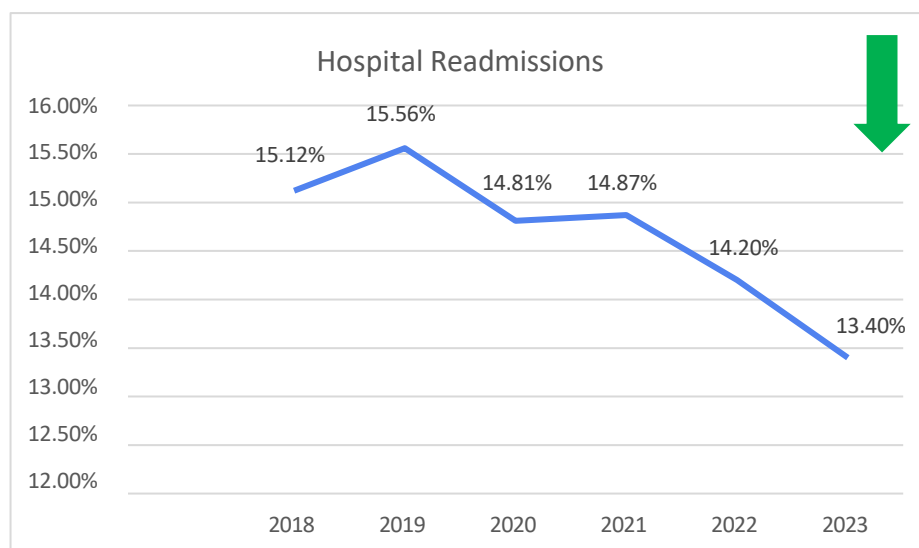
- There were 3,987 hospital stays per 100,000 people enrolled in Medicare in 2021 in Adams County, that might have been prevented by outpatient treatment.



"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.

### Hospital Readmissions

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



"Blessing Health Data Analytics." Blessing Health, 2023.

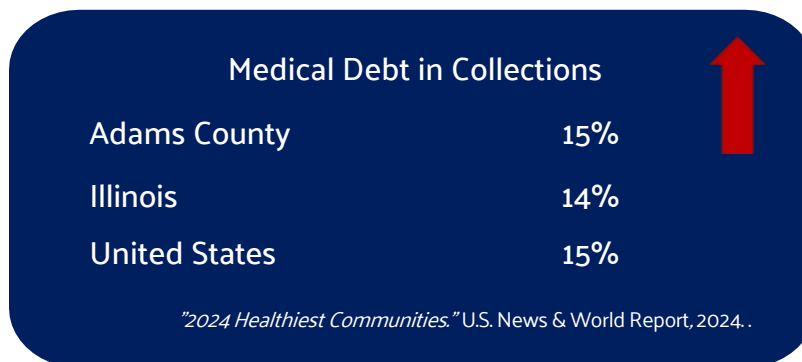


## Medical Debt

Medical debt is a debt that arises from a visit or interaction with a health care provider, such as a hospital, clinic, doctor, or nurse. Two-thirds of medical debts is the result of a one-time or short-term medical expense arising from an acute medical need. Over 90% of the population of the United States has some form of health insurance. According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) 2022 Medical Debt Burden in the United States Report, \$88 billion of outstanding medical bills are currently in collections- affecting one in five Americans. People and families with low or middle-income, limited assets, significant medical needs, in worse health or living with a disability are more likely to report medical debt.

- 21.6% of Adams County residents are paying off medical bills over time.
- 5.9% reported they could not fill a prescription due to cost.

*"Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS). Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.*





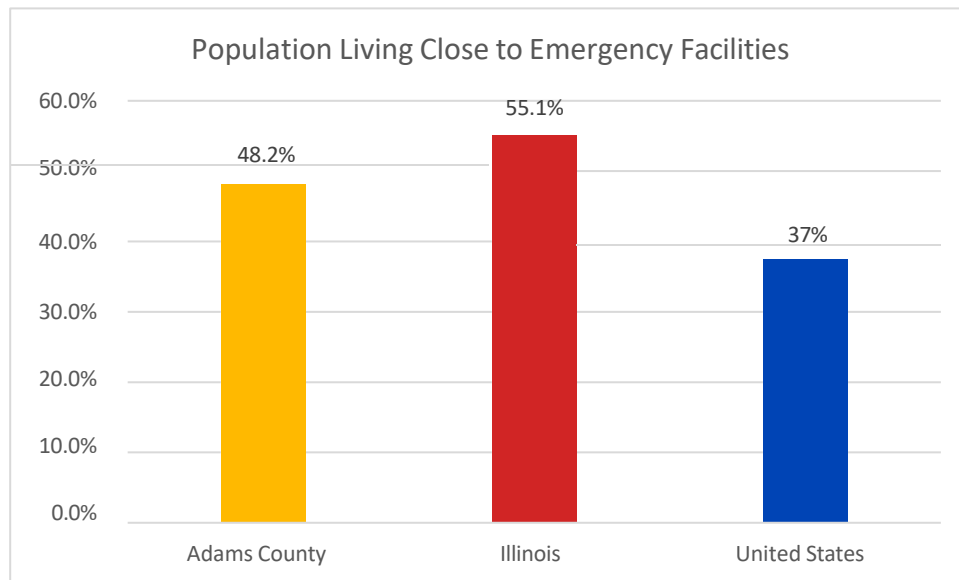
Pew Research Center



### Hospital Proximity

Traveling to a hospital takes longer in rural areas compared to suburbs and cities. Overall, 18% of Americans live more than 10 miles from their nearest hospital, 24% live between 5 and 10 miles away, and 58% live less than 5 miles away. These statistics indicate that a significantly greater proportion of the population resides in suburban and urban areas compared to rural areas.

*"How Far Americans Live from the Closest Hospital Differs by Community Type"* Pew Research Center, 2018.



*"2024 Healthiest Communities."* U.S. News & World Report, 2024.

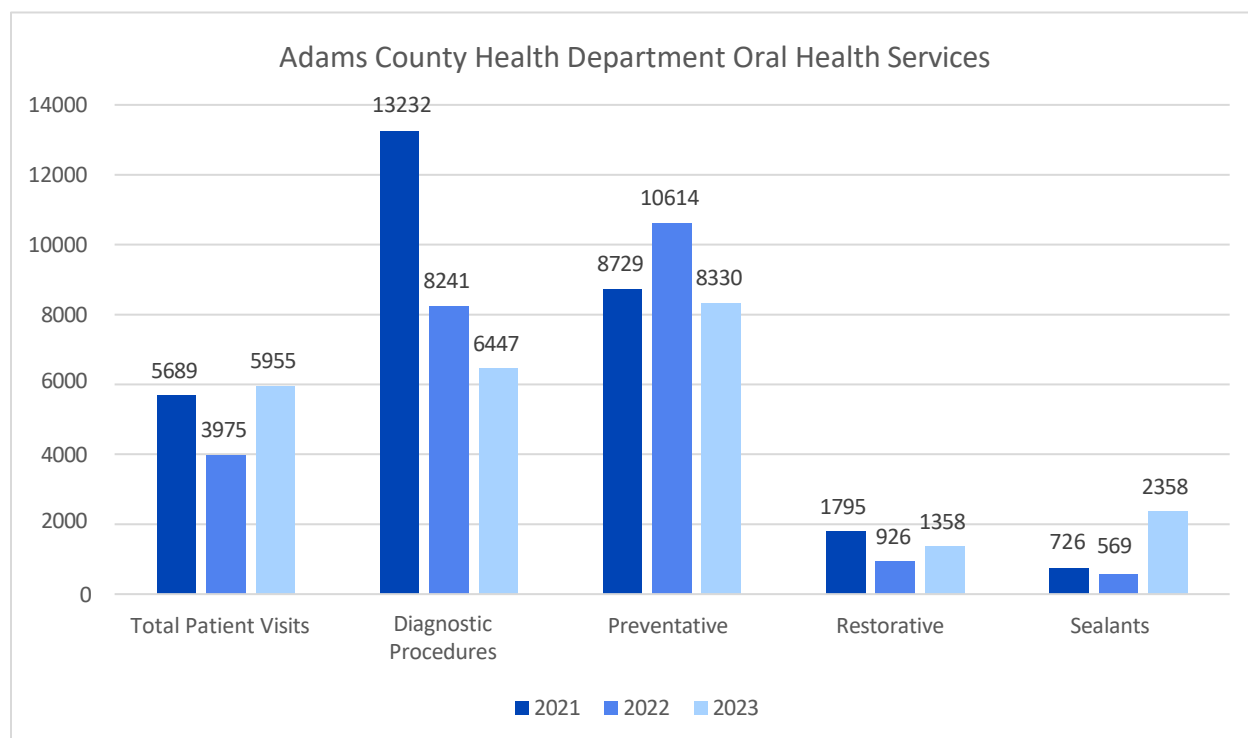
## Oral Health

Oral health is essential for overall health and well-being, and utilizing dental services helps prevent and treat dental diseases while improving oral health. Often viewed as a cosmetic issue, oral health involves the health of the entire mouth, which supports the health of the rest of the body.

- There was one dentist per 1,180 people in Adams County, one per 1,190 people in Illinois; and 1 per 1,360 in the United States according to County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.
- In the past year, 70% of Adams County residents reported a dental visit, 63.1% had their teeth cleaned and 63.2% reported that they have dental insurance coverage.

*"Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS). Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.*

- The Adams County Health Department Dental Clinic serves Illinois Medicaid eligible children and adults. Care is provided by dentists, hygienists and assistants and includes exams, cleanings, fluoride treatment, sealants, x-rays, fillings, extractions and dentures.



*"2023 Adams County Health Department Annual Report." Adams County Health Department, 2023.*



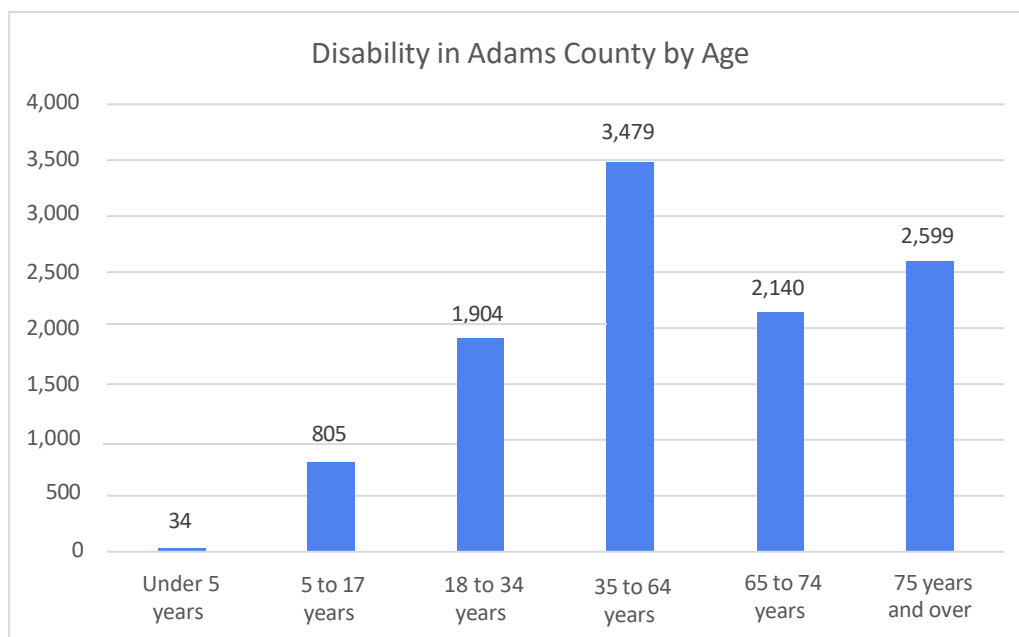
## Disability

A disability is any condition of the body or mind (impairment) that makes it more difficult for a person to do certain activities (activity limitations) and interact with the world around them (participation restrictions). Although the term “disability” is often used to refer to a single population, it encompasses a diverse group of people with a wide range of needs. Two people with the same type of disability can be affected in vastly diverse ways. Some disabilities may be hidden or not easily visible.

According to the World Health Organization, disability has three dimensions: Impairment in a person’s body structure or function, or mental functioning. Examples of impairments include loss of a limb, loss of vision, or memory loss. Activity limitations may affect abilities such as seeing, hearing, walking, or problem-solving, while participation restrictions can hinder engagement in normal daily activities, like working, socializing, and obtaining healthcare and preventive services.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2024.

- The population of Adams County with disabilities is 17%, and the population with disabilities in Illinois is 12.3%.

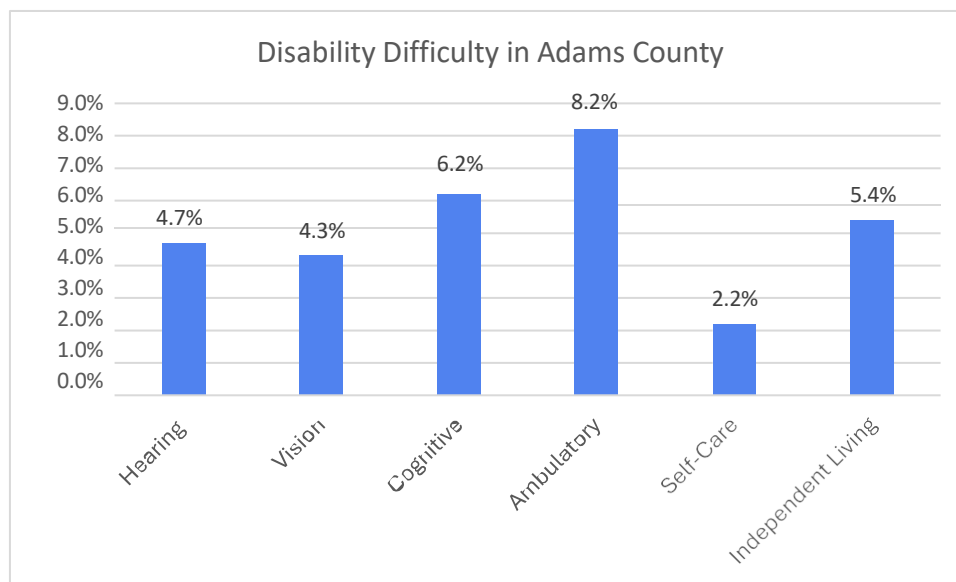


“American Community Survey 2022: ACS 5-Year Estimates.” U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.



## Disability Categories

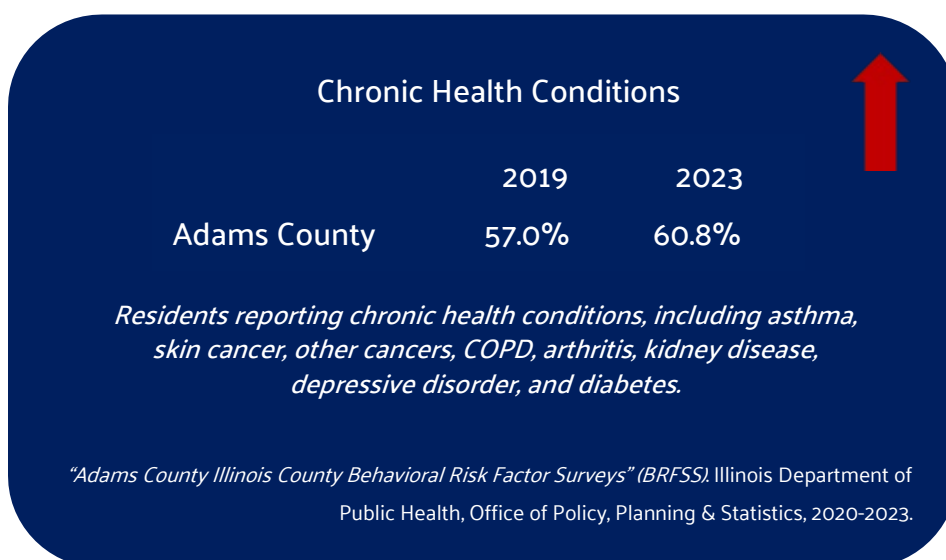
- Hearing loss affects people of all ages and can result from a range of factors. The three basic categories of hearing loss are sensorineural hearing loss, conductive hearing loss and mixed hearing loss.
- The World Health Organization defines “low vision” as visual acuity between 20/70 and 20/400, with the best possible correction, or a visual field of 20 degrees or less. “Blindness” is defined as a visual acuity worse than 20/400, with the best possible correction, or a visual field of 10 degrees or less.
- A cognitive disability describes a person who, according to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), has more than average difficulty with mental tasks. There may be overlaps in defining developmental and cognitive disabilities. The terms are broad labels that do not indicate the level of ability or skills.
- Ambulatory disability includes people who walk with difficulty or who have a disability which affects gait.
- A self-care disability is when someone has difficulty with daily activities due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition that lasts at least six months.



*"American Community Survey 2022: ACS 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

## Chronic Health Conditions

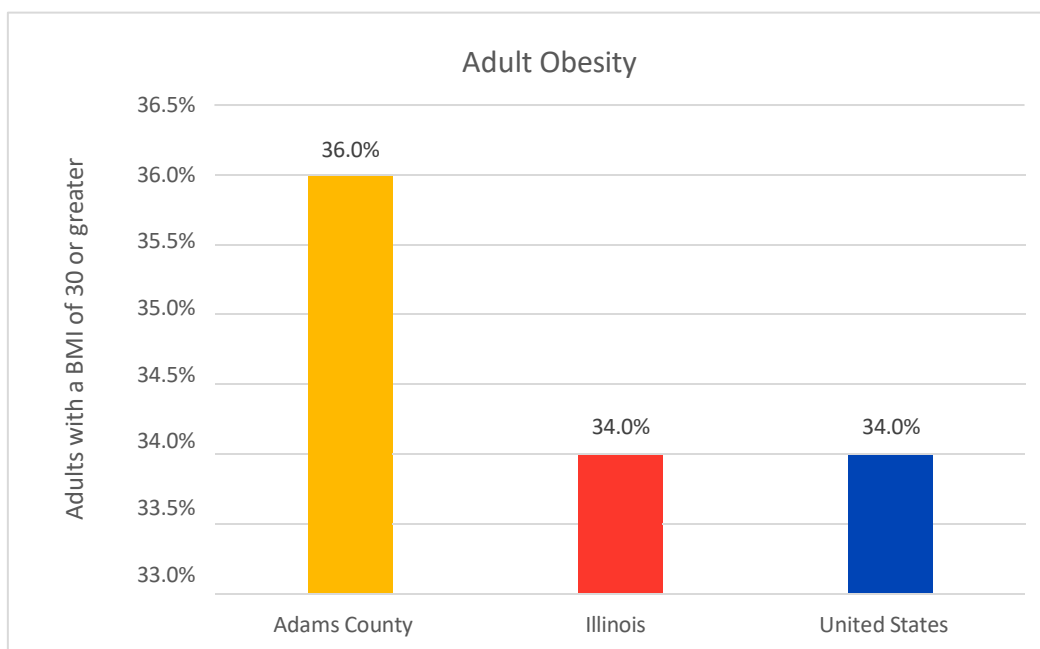
Chronic diseases are long-term health conditions that last a year or more, require ongoing medical care, and often limit daily activities. Although they cannot be cured, they can usually be managed. Common examples include cancer, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, arthritis, Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, and asthma. These conditions significantly impact a person’s quality of life both socially and economically, and many individuals experience multiple chronic conditions simultaneously, a situation known as multimorbidity. The definition of chronic disease is broad, with some considering long-standing functional disabilities, such as developmental disorders and visual impairments, within this category.



### Adult Obesity

Obesity is defined as having an excess of body fat. The body consists of water, fat, protein, carbohydrates, various vitamins, and minerals. Obesity is a serious, common, and costly chronic disease. More than 2 in 5 U.S. adults have obesity, making it a major risk factor for health problems such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. Certain groups are disproportionately affected by obesity, including non-Hispanic Black adults and adults with lower levels of education.

- In 2021, in Adams County, 10,883 adults aged 20+ were considered obese with a body mass index of 30 or greater, a slight decrease from 37% in 2019.



*"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.*



### Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes occurs when the body struggles to regulate and use glucose, resulting in high blood sugar levels. It happens when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin, and cells become resistant to insulin. Though more common in older adults, rising obesity rates have led to increased cases in younger people. While there is no cure, weight loss, healthy eating, and exercise can help manage the disease. If these measures are insufficient, medications or insulin therapy may be needed.

- The prevalence of diabetes has increased significantly in the United States over the past two decades, with an estimated 38.4 million people or 11.6% of the population diagnosed by 2021.

#### Diagnosed Diabetes

Adams County	7.9%
Illinois	9.7%
United States	11.6%

*"United States Diabetes Surveillance System: Diagnosed Diabetes - Total, Adults Aged 18+ Years, Age-Adjusted Percentage, Illinois." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021.*

The increase in diabetes cases can be attributed to several factors, including higher rates of diagnosis, lifestyle changes, and advancements in healthcare services, which have allowed more individuals with diabetes to live longer. Despite these improvements, the burden of diabetes remains disproportionately high among socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, highlighting ongoing racial and ethnic disparities.

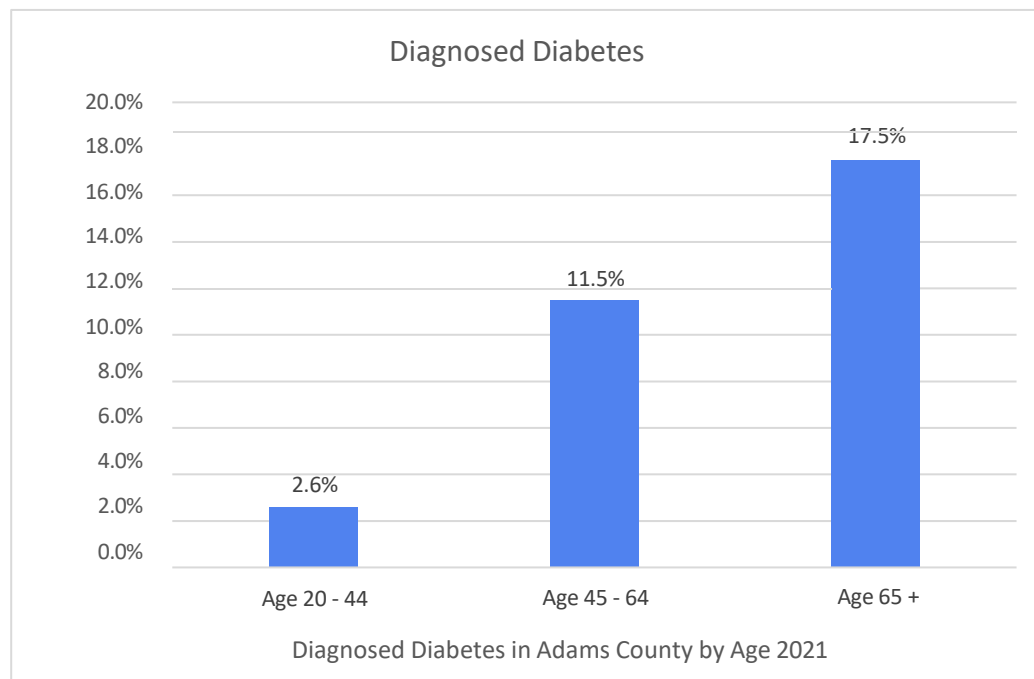
Among young adults aged 18 to 44, a significant proportion of diabetes cases go undiagnosed. Additionally, the elevated incidence of diabetes in certain regions may be influenced by variations in dietary habits, levels of physical activity, and the availability of healthcare infrastructure.



## Diabetes

Diabetes is a significant health concern among Americans aged 54 and older, affecting 16.5 million individuals, or 29.2% of this age group, both diagnosed and undiagnosed. Each year, 1.2 million Americans are newly diagnosed with diabetes, highlighting its growing prevalence. In 2021, diabetes was the eighth leading cause of death in the United States, underscoring the serious impact of this disease on public health.

*"Statistics about Diabetes."* American Diabetes Association, 2021.

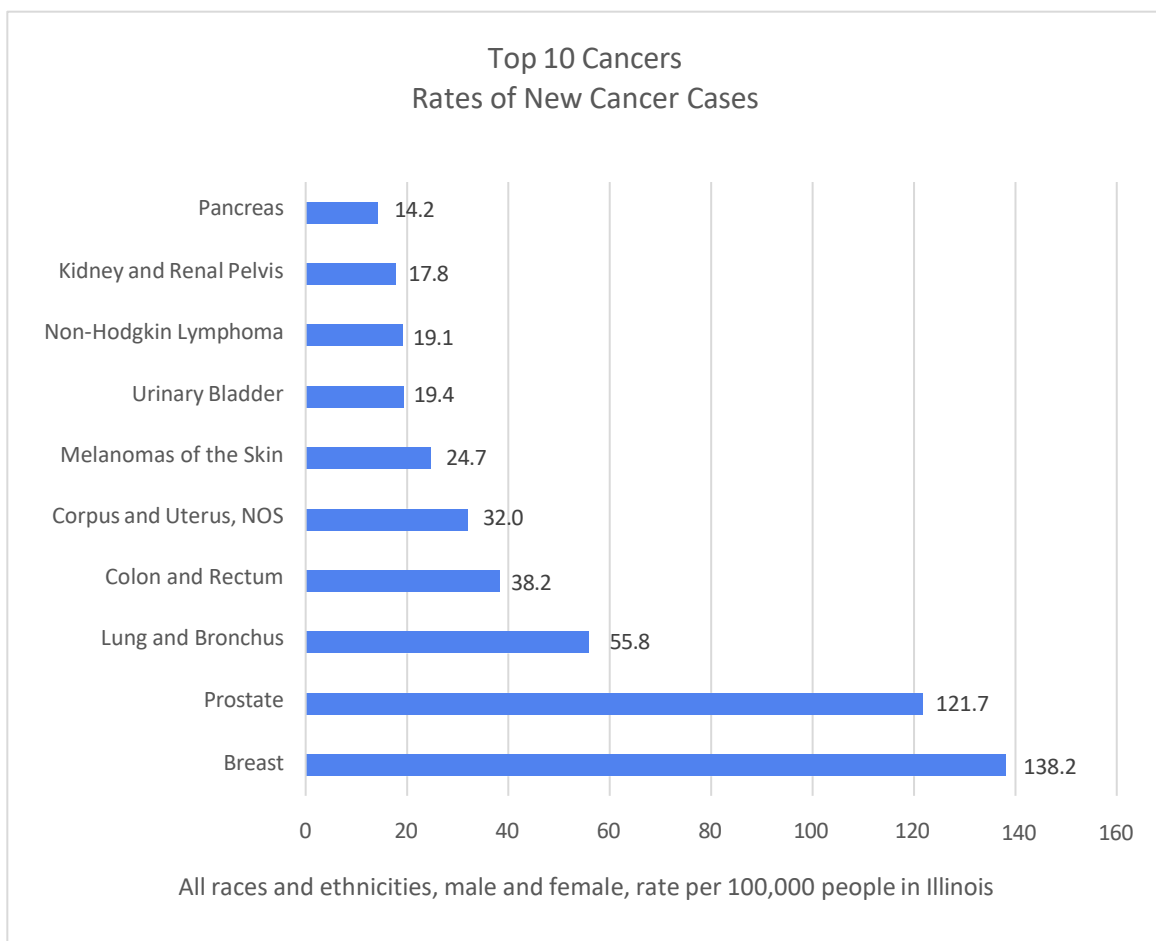


*"United States Diabetes Surveillance System: Diagnosed Diabetes - Total, Adults Aged 18+ Years, Age-Adjusted Percentage, Illinois,"* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021.



## Cancer

- In 2021, the latest year for which incidence data are available, 1,777,566 new cases of cancer were reported in the United States. For every 100,000 people, 439 new cancer cases were reported.
- In Adams County, from 2017 to 2021, there were 2,338 new cases of cancer. For every 100,000 people, 517 new cancer cases were reported.
- From 2018 to 2022, there were 835 people who died of cancer. For every 100,000 people in Adams County, 169 died of cancer.



*Submission, released in June 2024, includes new cancer cases diagnosed in 2020 and 2021, the first and second years of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted health services, leading to delays and reductions in cancer screenings and diagnoses. This may have contributed to the decline in new cancer cases for many sites in 2020. The numbers of new cases diagnosed in 2021 are still a little lower than expected for some cancer types but have returned to pre-pandemic counts for other cancer types.*

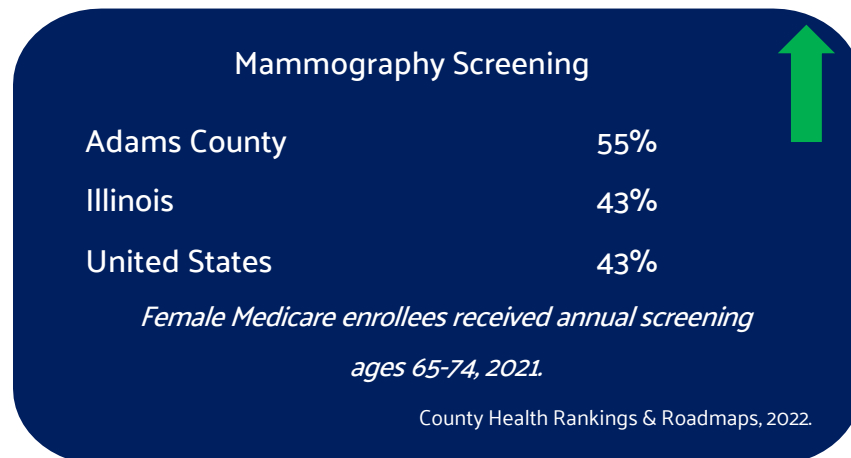
U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. *U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021.

## Mammography, Prostate and Colorectal Screening

Approximately 40,000 U.S. women die from breast cancer each year. Mammography is recommended to screen for breast cancer and reduce breast cancer mortality. Adverse social determinants of health and health related social needs can be barriers to receiving mammograms. Social isolation, life dissatisfaction, and cost barrier to health care access were strongly associated with decreased mammography use.

- In Illinois 57.3% of women aged 40-49 years reported having had a mammogram within the previous 2 years, and 70% of women aged 50-74 reported having had a mammogram within the previous 2 years.

Miller, J. W., King, J. A., Trivers, K. F., et al. "Vital Signs: Mammography Use and Association with Social Determinants of Health and Health- Related Social Needs Among Women – United States, 2022." *MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 73, 2024, pp. 351-357. doi:10.15585/mmwr.mm7315e1.

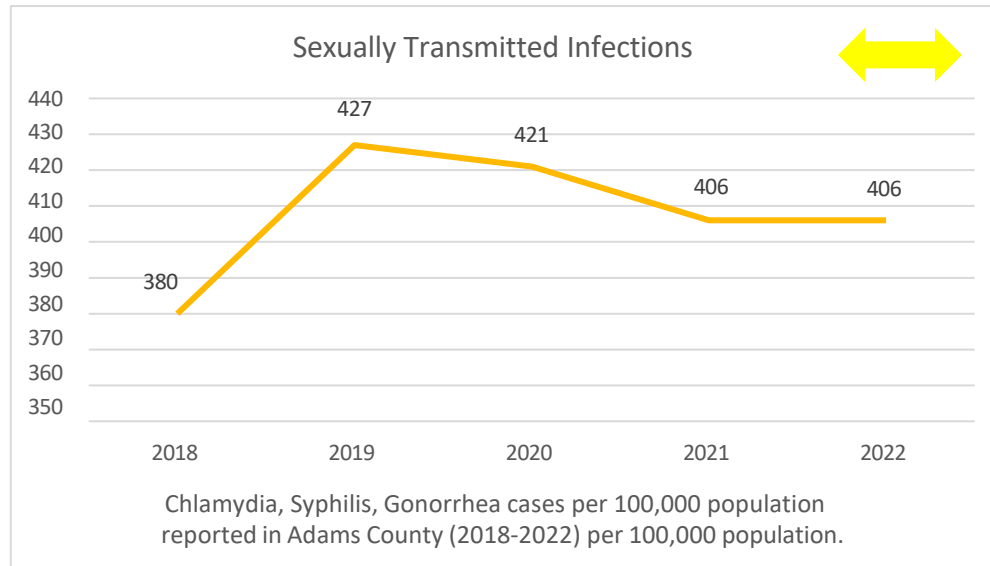


In Adams County, 79.2% of women age 40+ reported having a mammogram in the past two years, while 48.8% of men age 40+ reported having a PSA test for prostate screening during the same period. Additionally, 79.3% of residents reported having a colonoscopy in the past 10 years.

*Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS).* Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.

### Sexually Transmitted Infections

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are among the most reported diseases in the United States, with an estimated nearly 20 million new infections occurring each year. Approximately half of these new infections are among young people aged 15 to 24. While many STIs can be easily diagnosed and treated, a significant number of individuals may not show any symptoms when infected. This absence of symptoms highlights the importance of regular screening for STIs to prevent serious health issues that can arise from untreated infections.



"STI Section." Illinois Department of Public Health, Feb. 2022.

### HIV and AIDS

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is a virus that attacks the body's immune system. Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) occurs at the most advanced stage of infection. HIV targets the body's white blood cells, weakening the immune system, which makes it easier to become ill with diseases like tuberculosis, infections, and some cancers.

- Adams County had zero cases of HIV diagnosed in 2023, and a total of 16 cumulative cases diagnosed since 2016. The prevalence rate for this period is 3.36.
- Adams County had zero cases of AIDS diagnosed in 2023, and a total of six cumulative cases diagnosed since 2016. The prevalence rate for this period is 1.26.
- Adams County had 26 HIV (Non-AIDS) cases living as of January 31, 2023, and a total of 29 AIDS cases living as of January 31, 2023.

"2023 HIV Surveillance Update Report." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2023.



## Food Environment Index

The food environment index is a list of factors that contribute to a healthy food environment. The food environment index ranges from a scale of 0 (worst) to 10 (best) and equally weighs two indicators of the food environment, limited access to healthy foods and food insecurity.

*Limited Access to Healthy Foods* estimates the percentage of the population that is low income and does not live close to a grocery store. Low income is defined as having an annual family income of less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold for the family size. Living close to a grocery store is defined differently in rural and non-rural areas; in rural areas it means living less than 10 miles from a grocery store whereas in non-rural areas it means less than 1 mile.

*Food Insecurity* estimates the percentage of the population without access to a reliable source of food during the past year. A two-stage, fixed-effects model was created using information from the Community Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and American Community Survey to estimate Food Insecurity.

### Food Environment Index

Adams County	8.5
Illinois	7.7
United States	8.4

*Scale of 0-10 which includes access to healthy foods  
and food insecurity.*

*"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings  
& Roadmaps, 2022.*

## Social Determinants of Health

Blessing Health began screening all patients for Social Determinants of Health Needs in February 2024. Through June 30, 2024, 3% of the patients screened positive for Food Insecurity.

## Food Insecurity

Food Insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food Insecurity is associated with numerous adverse social and health outcomes and is increasingly considered a critical public health issue. Key drivers of Food Insecurity include unemployment, poverty and income shocks, which can prevent adequate food. Alternatively, multiple interventions have shown to reduce Food Insecurity, including participation in food assistance programs and broader societal-level improvements in economic stability.

- According to Feeding America in 2022, 8430 adults or 12.8% of the population in Adams County were Food Insecure.
- In Adams County, 18.4% of residents reported that their food did not last until they could afford more, while 17.8% said they couldn't afford to eat balanced, healthy meals. Additionally, 25.9% reported experiencing both issues.

*"Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS). Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.*

### Adams County Households Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Total Households	3,518	
Children under 18 years	1,609	45.7%
No Children under 18 years	1,909	54.3%

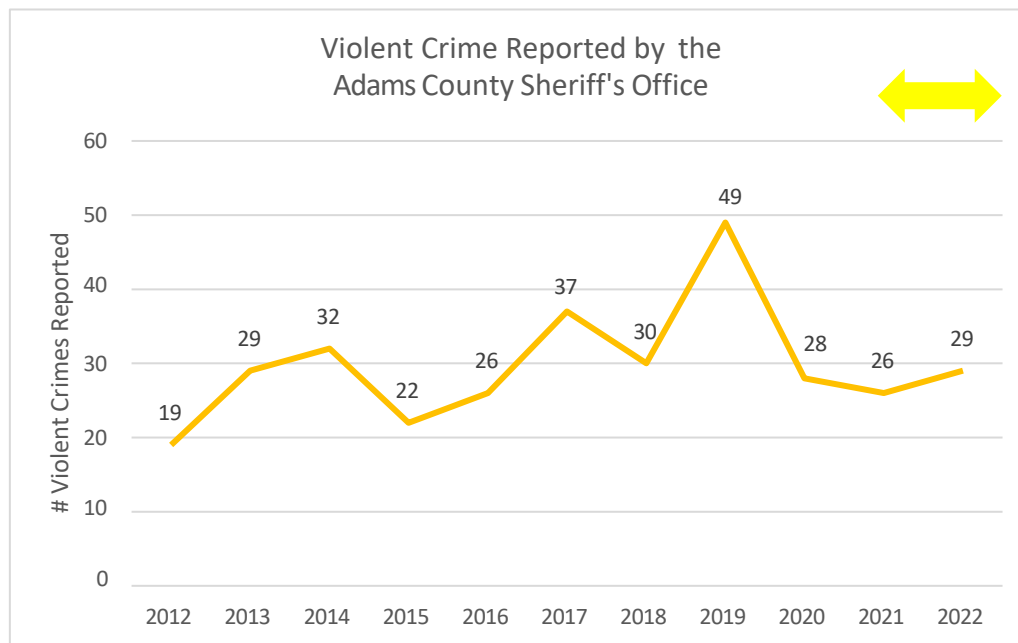
*"American Community Survey 2022: ACS 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- In 2022, 1-in-5 children aged 0-17 received SNAP benefits.
- 80% of SNAP recipients had health insurance through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program.
- 49% of households with income below their poverty threshold got SNAP. The SNAP receipt rate for all renter-occupied households was 60%. The SNAP receipt for owner-occupied households was 34%.

## Crime

The Adams County Illinois, Sheriff's Office voluntarily submits crime totals to the FBI using the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This data reflects the hierarchy rule, which requires that only the most serious offense in a case be counted. The descending order of violent crimes are homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, followed by the property crimes of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. Although arson is a property crime, the hierarchy rule does not apply to it. In cases in which arson occurs in conjunction with another violent or property crime, both crimes are reported.



"Crime Data Explorer." Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2022.

## Violent and Property Crime

Property crime is much more common than violent crime in the United States. In 2022, the FBI reported 1,954.4 property crimes per 100,000 people, compared to 380.7 violent crimes per 100,000 people.

- In Adams County there were 2,301.4 property crimes per 100,000 people, compared to 346.3 violent crimes per 100,000 people.



## Public Safety

Public safety professionals are the people who protect and serve the community in times of crisis, disaster, or emergency. They work in various fields, such as law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical services, public health, and homeland security. They are responsible for preventing, responding to and recovering from incidents that threaten public safety and security.

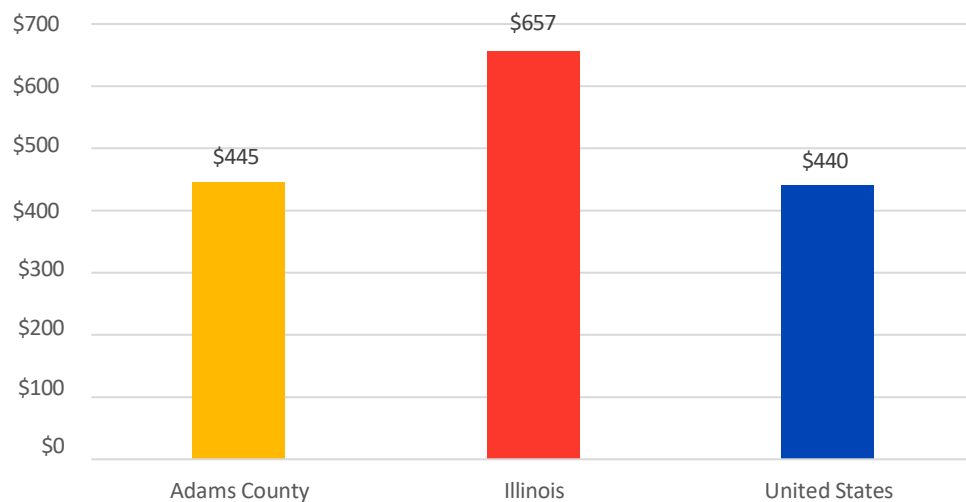
### Public Safety Professionals in the Population



Adams County	1.13%
Illinois	0.85%
United States	0.82%

*"2024 Healthiest Communities." U.S. News & World Report, 2024.*

### Per Capita Spending on Health and Emergency Services



*"2024 Healthiest Communities." U.S. News & World Report, 2024.*

## Drinking Water

Water contaminants such as arsenic, lead and nitrates have been strongly linked to gastrointestinal illnesses, cancer and neurodevelopmental damage in children.

- According to the 2024 County Health Rankings, Adams County had at least one community water system in the county receive at least one health-based violation for 2022.
- The drinking water violation rate was 2.54 per 1,000 population in Adams County, according to EPA standards, compared to 1.31 for Illinois and 1.6 for the United States.

## Air Quality

Air quality hazard is the potential risk of developing serious respiratory complications over the course of a lifetime. Smaller values indicate reduced risk. Adams County had a .22 risk, compared to .30 for Illinois, and .25 for the United States.

## Walkability

Walkability is a measure of how easy it is to walk around a community, the number of daily services and amenities within a mile walk or so.

### Walkable Destinations

Adams County	60.1%
Illinois	77.0%
United States	34.0%

*Population within 0.5 miles of walkable destinations such as a library, museum or playground.*

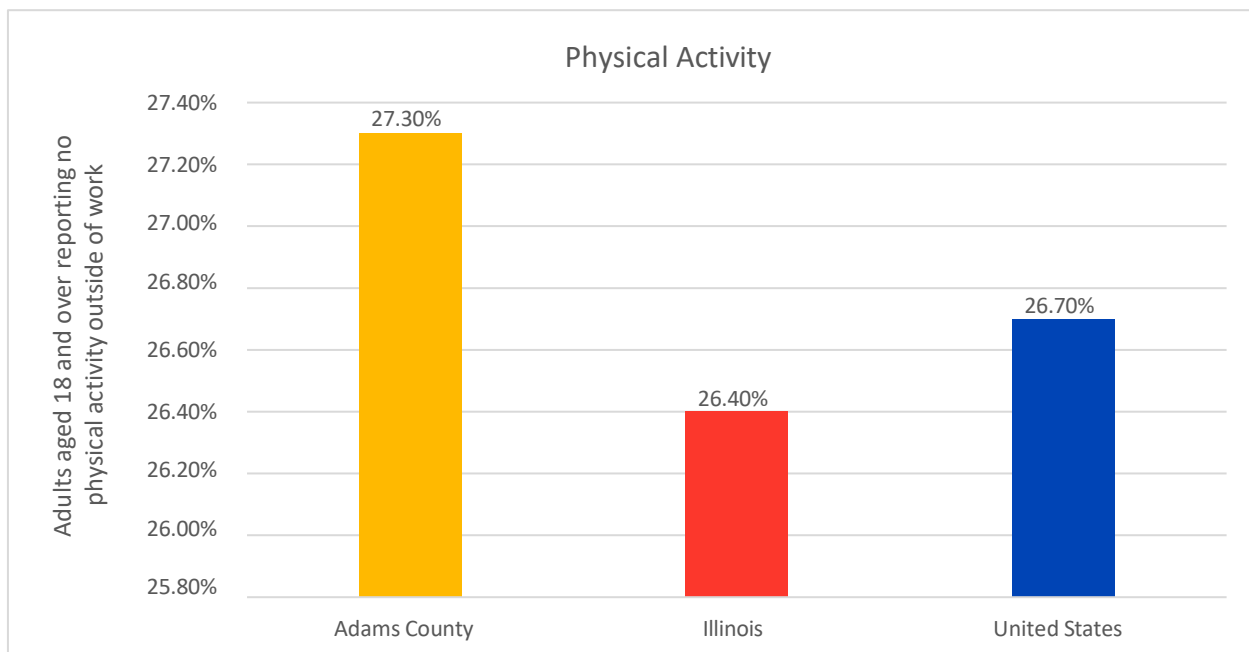
*"2024 Healthiest Communities" U.S. News & World Report, 2024.*

## Physical Activity

The environments in which we live, learn, work, and play affect our access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity. These environments, along with genetic factors and personal choices, shape our health and our risk of being overweight and obese.

Increased physical activity is associated with lower risks of type 2 diabetes, cancer, stroke, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and premature mortality, independent of obesity. The role of the “built environment” is important for encouraging physical activity, meaning individuals who live closer to sidewalks, parks, and gyms are more likely to exercise.

- In Adams County 77% of the population lives close to a park or a recreation facility with adequate access to locations for physical activity, compared to 91% for Illinois, and 84% for the United States.



*2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps.* County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.

- The Adams County Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Survey reports 23.3% of Adams County residents engaged physical activity in the past 30 days (2020-2023).

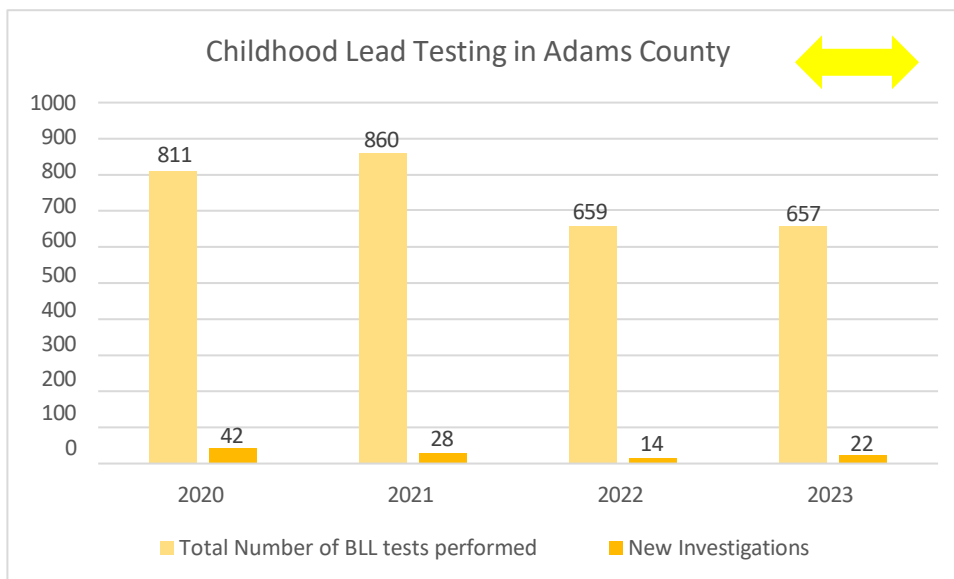
## Lead Levels

There is no safe level of lead in blood. Childhood exposure is known to contribute to learning disabilities, developmental delays, and behavioral problems. Illinois childhood lead exposure rates remain among the highest in the nation. In 2022, approximately 194,000 Illinois children were tested for lead exposure, indicating an 18% decrease in testing rate compared to COVID-19 pre-pandemic year 2019.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) identified risk factors in Adams County, including homes built before 1978, and products like paint, soil, drinking water, antique toys, and imported items. The IDPH recommends early testing for lead exposure because symptoms and cognitive delays may not be immediately apparent.

IDPH added several Adams County zip codes to its list of high- risk zip codes for pediatric blood lead poisoning including 62301, 62320, 62324, 62339, 62346, 62348, 62349 and 62365.

*"Illinois Lead Program 2021 Annual Surveillance Report." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2021.*



*"Adams County Health Department Annual Report." Adams County Health Department, 2023.*

## Mental and Behavioral Health

Mental health is about how your psychological state affects your well-being, while behavioral health is about how actions affect your well-being. For many people, including mental health professionals, the terms are interchangeable, but there is more to mental health than behaviors, and behaviors affect more than mental health.

Mental health refers to your psychological state. Feelings, perceptions, thoughts and how they shape psychological state, absent of any action, defines your mental health. Mental health can and does affect behavior, but it is not synonymous with behavioral health.

Behavioral health is interlinked with mental health, but behavioral health looks at everyday behaviors and how they influence both physical and mental well-being. Mental health is a component of behavioral health, often the “why” behind certain behaviors, and can overlap with behavioral health.

Substance use is considered a significant factor in both behavioral and mental health because it often co-occurs with mental health disorders, referred to as “dual diagnosis,” and requires integrated treatment to address both issues simultaneously.



## Mental Distress and Depression

In Adams County, 19.4% of residents reported experiencing 8 or more days of poor mental health in the last 30 days, while 14.7% reported 8 or more days of poor physical health. Additionally, 13.4% indicated that poor physical and mental health affected their activities for 8 or more days in the same period.

*"Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS), Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.*

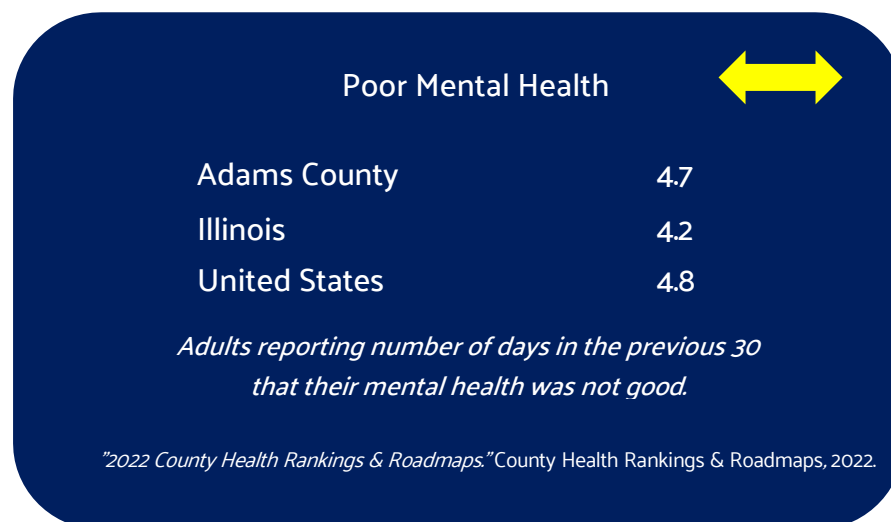


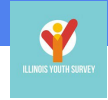
- In Adams County, 15.2% of the population reports experiencing frequent mental distress, higher than Illinois' 13.4% but slightly below the national rate of 15.8%. This marks an increase from 14% in Adams County and 12% in Illinois in 2018.



- 20.2% of the Adams County Medicare population reports depression, higher than 16.7% in Illinois and 18% in the United States.

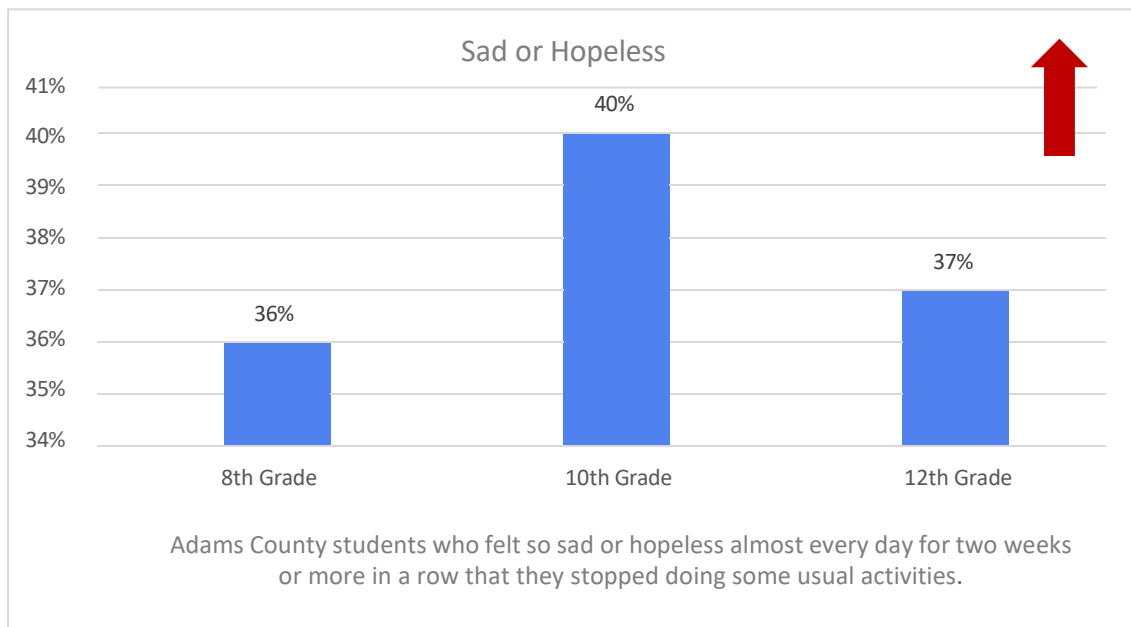
*"Healthiest Communities 2022," U.S. News & World Report, 2022.*





## Sad or Hopeless

The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) includes questions about feelings of sadness and hopelessness to assess adolescent mental health and emotional well-being. This data helps identify at-risk populations, informs policy and program development, and promotes awareness of mental health issues among youth. By understanding these emotional states, stakeholders can create targeted interventions to support students facing mental health challenges.



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*



## Interpersonal Safety

Violence and abuse by family members or friends can cause physical and/or emotional harm. Even insults or threats of violence or abuse can be detrimental to an individual's health. Domestic violence encompasses intimate partner violence, child abuse, elder abuse and adolescent dating violence. The impact of the lack of interpersonal safety increases the risk of physical injuries, disabilities, chronic conditions, sexually transmitted diseases, other infectious diseases, post-traumatic stress disorders, depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, attempted suicide, substance use disorders, opioid use disorders, and mortality.

*"Violence Prevention, 2022." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022.*

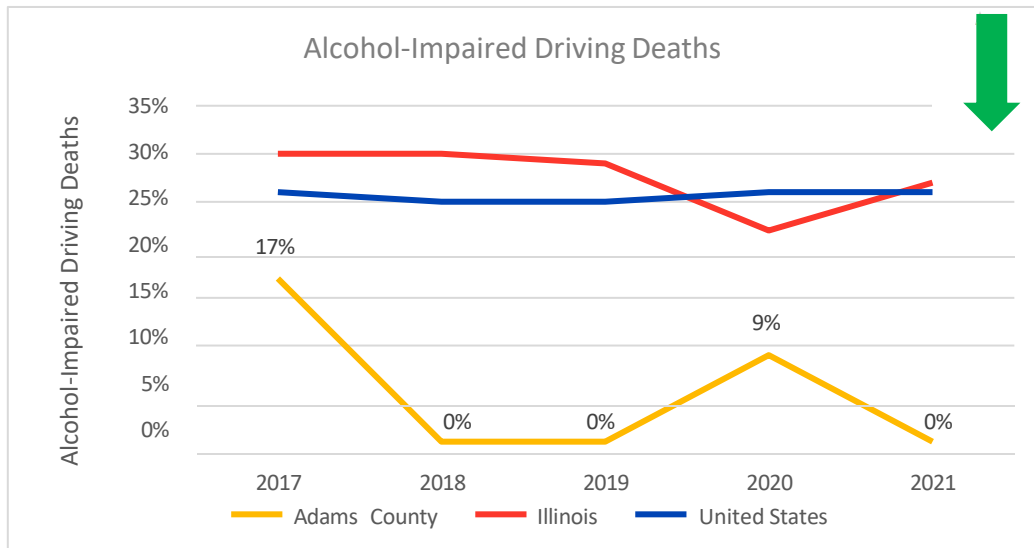
### Interpersonal Safety

6%

*"Rate of Hospital Inpatients Who Screen Positive for Interpersonal Safety." Blessing Health Social Determinants of Health Needs, 1 Feb. 2024 - 30 June 2024.*

## Alcohol Use

- 17% of the Adams County population is at-risk for binge drinking (5 or more drinks on one occasion for men, 4 or more drinks on occasion for women) in 2021. This continues to decline from 22% in 2018, and 18% in 2020.



"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.

- The Adams County Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Survey reports 53.9% of Adams County residents drank alcohol in the past 30 days (2020-2023). Data from the Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Survey between 2015 and 2019 showed slightly higher alcohol consumption at 54.8%.

## Cigarette Smoking, Vaping, Tobacco



- 18% of the Adams County population of adults are current cigarette smokers; 13% in Illinois and 15% in the United States as of 2021. This continues to decline from 21% in 2018, and 19% in 2020.

*"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.*

### Tobacco & E-Cigarettes

Current Smoker	14.1%
Former Smoker	17.3%
E-Cigarettes User	6.5%
E-Cigarettes Never	81.1%

*"Adams County Illinois County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys" (BRFSS). Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Policy, Planning & Statistics, 2020-2023.*

## Marijuana

Marijuana use has generally increased over time in both Illinois and the United States. This trend reflects growing marijuana legalization, changes in public perception, and accessibility in many states, including Illinois, which legalized recreational marijuana in 2020.

- The Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Survey reports 20% of the Adams County population reported using marijuana in the past 30 days (2020-2023).
- According to the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 16.9% of adults in Illinois and 18% of adults in the United States reported using marijuana in the past year.

## Opioids

Opioids are a class of drugs that includes heroin, prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone and hydrocodone, and dangerous synthetic opioids such as fentanyl, carfentanil, and other analogues. Opioids work in the brain to reduce pain and can also produce feelings of relaxation and euphoria.

Opioids are addictive. Taking opioids at high doses for extended periods of time increases the risk of developing opioid use disorder (OUD). Characteristics of OUD include developing physical tolerance, as early as two days following continuous use, being unable to stop using opioids consistently, and experiencing painful withdrawal symptoms when abruptly stopping use.

Opioids are deadly. High doses can cause people to stop breathing and die. Drug overdoses are now the leading cause of death for people under the age of 50.

### Adams County Overdose Deaths

2021 -2022

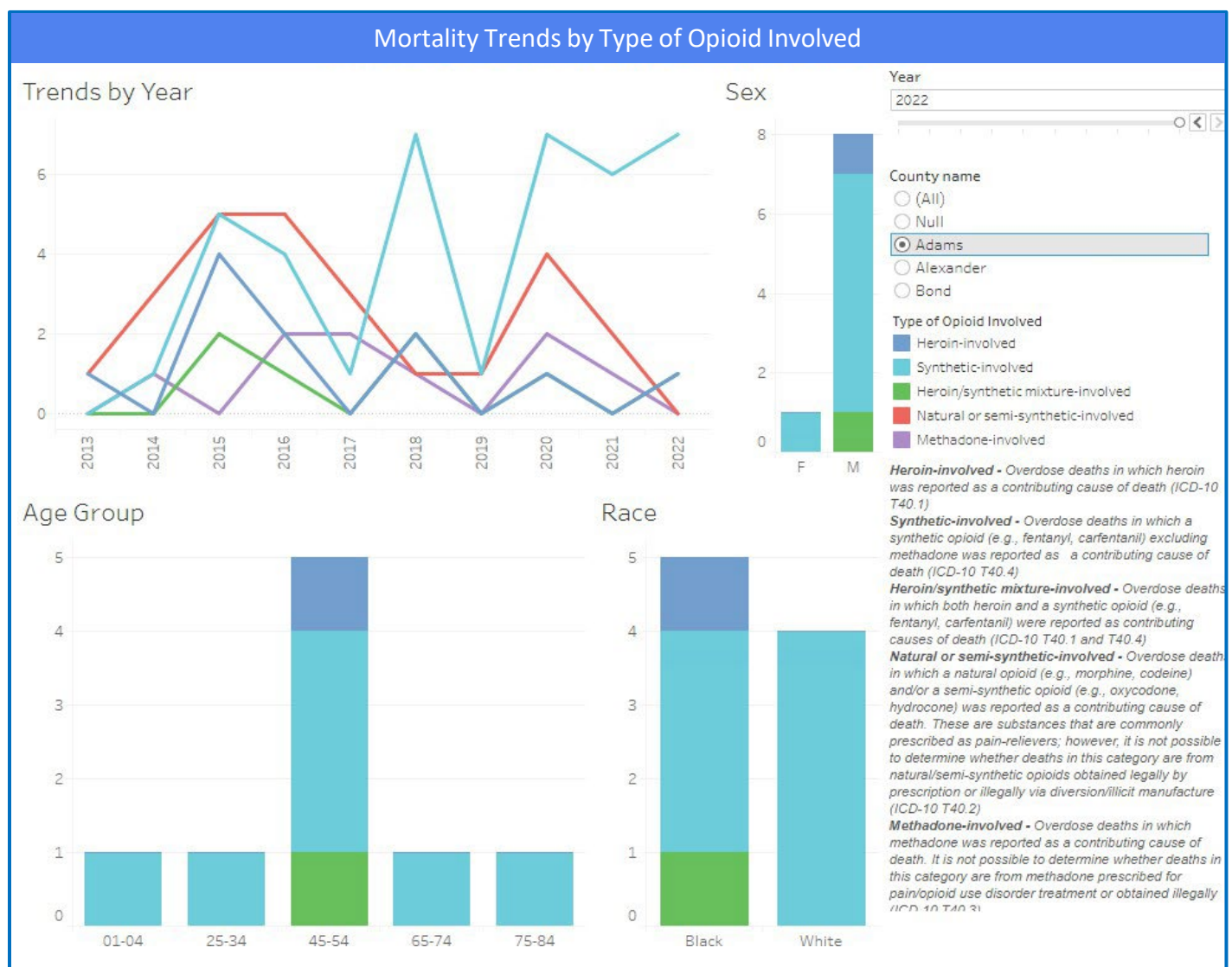
		2021	2022
Any Drug		12	13
Involving Opioids	Any Opioid	8	6
	Synthetic	6	6
	Heroin	0	1
	Natural & Semisynthetic	1	0
Involving Other Substances	Cocaine	1	0
	Alcohol	0	0
	Psychostimulants	6	8
	Benzodiazepines	0	2
	Xylazine	0	0

"Opioid Data Dashboard." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2022.

## Opioids

- In 2018, 16,390 total patients were prescribed a total of 40,782 opioid prescriptions in Adams County.
- There were 2.7 times more opioid deaths than car deaths in 2022 in Illinois.
- There were 2.5 times more opioid deaths than homicide in 2022 in Illinois.
- There were 3,261 opioid deaths in Illinois in 2022, an 8.21% increase from 2021.
- Since 2013, synthetic opioid overdose deaths have increased by 3,341%.
- Of all the Illinois overdose deaths in 2022, 83% involved opioids.

"Opioid Data Dashboard." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2022.



"Opioid Data Dashboard." Illinois Department of Public Health, 2022.



## Gambling

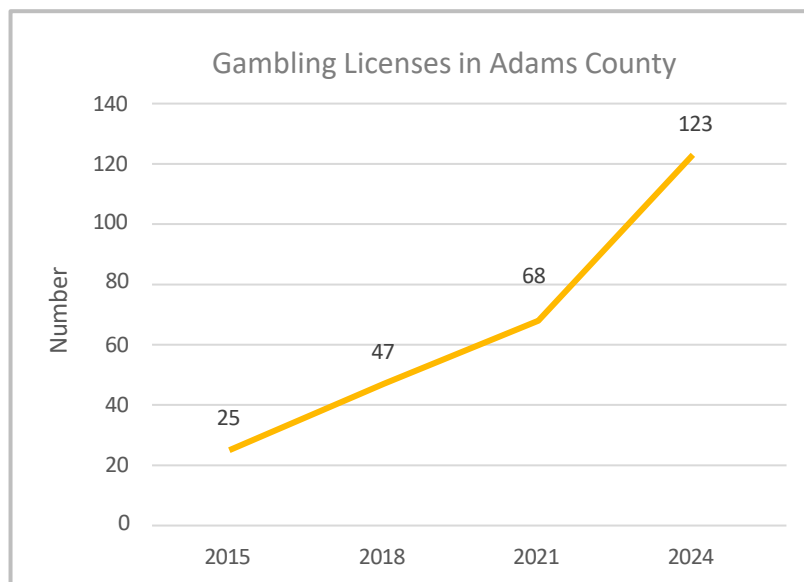
Commissioned by the Illinois Department of Human Services and conducted by researchers at Health Resources in Action (HRIA), the Statewide Gambling and Problem Gambling Needs Assessment reports on the prevalence of different types of gambling in the state, the availability of treatment and other services, the prevalence of problem gambling among different groups, and overall attitudes about gambling.

Overall, the study found that 68% of adult Illinoisans reported gambling in the past year, with the State lottery being the most popular form. Following legalization and expansion, gambling at video gaming terminals and online sports betting showed significant growth over time. While most adults engage in responsible gambling behaviors, some experience significant impact on their economic, social, and mental well-being, developing problem gambling and gambling disorder.

*"Statewide Gambling and Problem Gambling Needs Assessment." Illinois Department of Human Services, 2022.*

Statewide, the assessment found:

- 3.8% of adult Illinoisans, approximately 383,000 people, are considered to have a gambling problem.
- An additional 7.7%, approximately 761,000 people, are at risk for developing a gambling problem.
- In Adams County, as of July 1, 2024, there were 123 gambling licenses reported by the city of Quincy for a total of 540 machines.



*"City of Quincy, Illinois." City of Quincy, 1 July 2024.*



## Suicide

- On average, a person in Illinois dies by suicide every 5 hours and 41 minutes, and in the United States, every 11 minutes.
- The total number of deaths by suicide in Illinois increased by 7%, and in the United States, by 2.6% from 2021 to 2022.
- Individuals of different genders are disproportionately impacted by suicide deaths. The suicide rate among males was 3.6 times higher than the rate among females in Illinois and 3.9 times higher in the United States in 2022.
- People ages 75–84 had the highest rates of suicide in Illinois (16.0 per 100,000 persons) and ages 85 and older in the United States (22.4 per 100,000 persons) in 2021.

### Injury Deaths - Suicide

	2020	2021	2022
Adams County	6	4	10
Illinois	1,358	1,440	1,541

*"2020-2022 Injury Deaths by Resident County and Intent."* Illinois Department of Public Health.

- Firearms are the most common method used in suicides. In 2013, 37.5% of all Illinois suicide deaths were caused by firearms. By 2022, that percentage had increased to 46% of all Illinois suicide deaths.
- In the United States, firearms were used in more than 50% of all suicide deaths.

*"2024 Fiscal Year Suicide Prevention Report."* Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance, 2024.

### Illinois Suicide Decedent Demographics

**Who?** Age 65-74 - 52.7% Male - 78% White - 76.8%

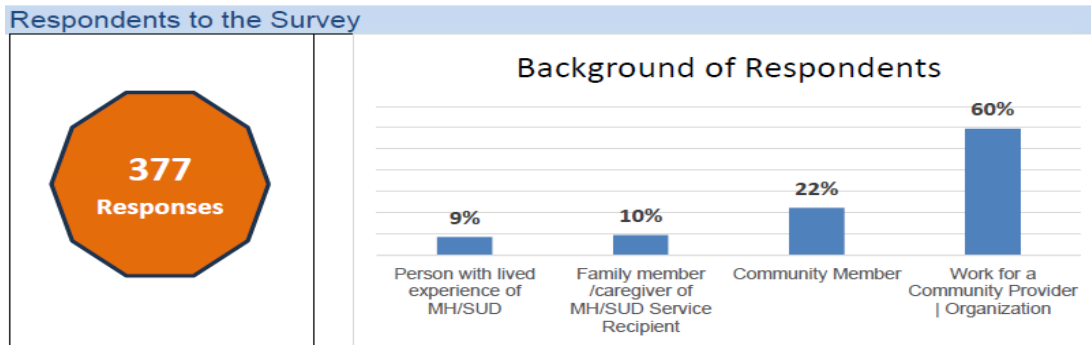
**Where?** Rural - 83.8%

**How?** Firearm - 44.9% Hanging - 30.7% Overdose - 12.5%

*"2022 Illinois Violent Death Reporting System."* Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, 2022.

February 2024: Transitions of Western Illinois (TWI) was approved to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) to enhance access to and improve the quality of mental health and substance use disorder services. The CCBHC model requires organizations to provide comprehensive care for individuals in crisis and those with complex behavioral health needs, meeting strict criteria for access, quality, and coordination. To support this effort, TWI conducted a needs assessment to identify community strengths, gaps, and opportunities.

Full survey: <https://twi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Community-Needs-Assessment-for-UW-06-24.pdf>



## Respondents to the Survey – Representative of community demographics

Outreach efforts were made to assure that survey respondents included groups who might be underrepresented by race, gender identification, and veteran status.

Reponses by race.	Adams County is 92% white or Caucasian only based on the most recent US Census and 8% identifying as other race. Of survey respondents who identified a race, 90% were white only and the remainder were other races.		
	<b>Identification by Race</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percent</b>
	White or Caucasian	256	90%
	Black or African American	12	4%
	Hispanic or Latino	7	2%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	5	2%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	3	1%
	Two or more races	2	1%
		285	100%

Reponses by gender identification.	The US Census, 2023 Household Pulse Survey estimated 8% of the population of the United States identifies as LGBTQ. That is the same percentage of respondents who identified as LGBTQ in our survey.		
	<b>Identification as LGBTQ?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percent</b>
	Yes	26	8%
	No	235	70%
	Not Answered	75	22%
		336	100%

## Key Findings:

- Expand service system capacity: Demand for behavioral health services exceeds the existing capacity of service providers.
- Improve types of care available: There are gaps in available services, with some evidence-based treatments either missing or insufficient in volume.
- Improve outreach and engagement of underserved groups: Barriers such as transportation, housing status, minority status, language, or gender identification prevent some individuals from accessing services.

## Children and Youth

Children are born with incredible potential to thrive when they are nurtured in secure, healthy environments. A child's early years are particularly crucial, as they rely on developing immune systems and proper care to protect them from illness. Vaccinations are an essential component of this care, ensuring that babies and children receive the protection they need from serious diseases while also preventing the spread of illness within their communities.

The child welfare system also plays a pivotal role, aiming to ensure safe, permanent, and stable environments that support both the immediate well-being and the long-term development of children. Public and private services work in tandem to foster family resiliency, enabling children to grow up in environments that allow them to thrive.

However, not all children have access to these foundational elements of care, putting many at risk of involvement with the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. A stable environment, adequate nutrition, and emotional support are critical for their development. Food insecurity, for example, can have devastating effects on a child's physical, emotional, and cognitive development. From poor health outcomes and behavioral issues to lasting impacts on brain architecture and academic performance, the consequences of inadequate nutrition can be profound.

Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach that integrates youth development programming, which aims to create positive environments that foster competence, confidence, character, connection, and caring—elements essential for young people to grow into successful, contributing members of their communities.



Births

Births in Illinois declined by about 4,400 in 2023, almost four times the previous year’s drop of 1,100. In the United States, the number of births in 2023 decreased by 2% from the previous year.

Vital Statistics – Birth Data

	2021	2022	2023
Total Births in Adams County	1,020	1,018	1,152
Born in Hospital	1016	1017	1148
Born Outside Hospital	4	1	4
Quincy	479	464	504
Adams County	140	137	121
Other Illinois Counties	210	227	301
Out of State	192	190	226
1st Child Births	335	357	443

"2023 Adams County Health Department Annual Report."Adams County Health Department, 2023.

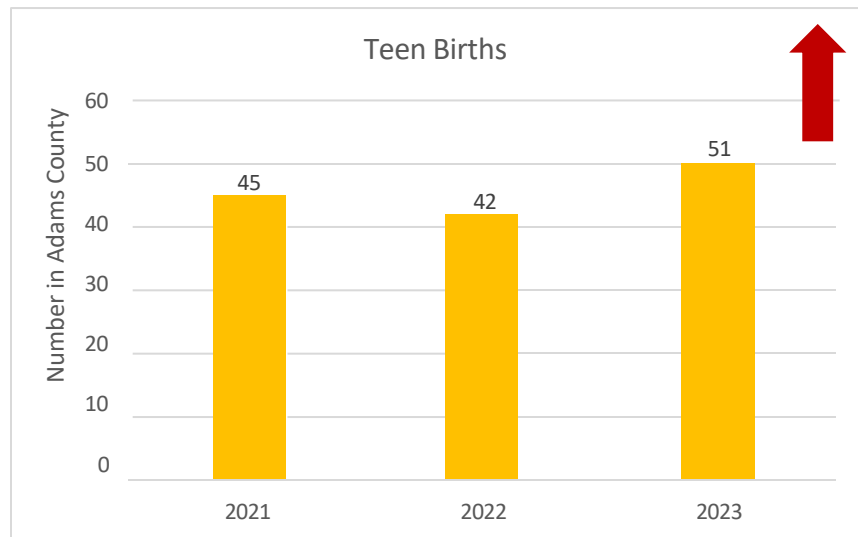
Prenatal Care

- 61% of Adams County births (625) in 2021 had adequate or above prenatal care utilization.
- In 2021, 68 births in Adams County were preterm, meaning they were born with a gestational period of less than 37 complete weeks.

Illinois Department of Public Health, 2021.

## Births to Teens

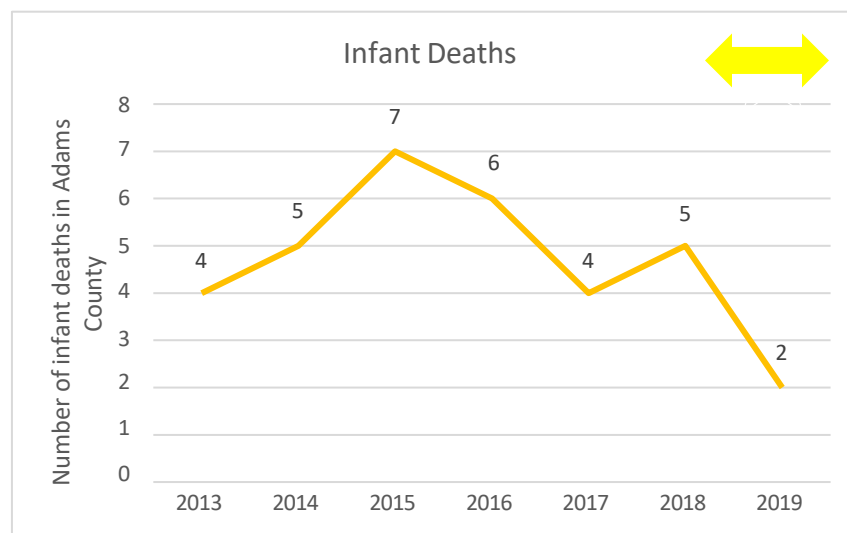
A teenage pregnancy is defined as a pregnancy that occurs in a woman under the age of 20. The U.S. teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years) has declined by 78% from 1991 to 2021.



"2023 Adams County Health Department Annual Report." Adams County Health Department, 2023.

## Infant Mortality

Infant mortality is the death of an infant before his or her first birthday. The infant mortality rate is an important marker of the overall health of society. In 2021, the infant mortality rate in the United States was 5.4 deaths per 1,000 live births. In that year, almost 20,000 infants died in the United States. In Illinois, 743 infants died before reaching their first birthday in 2021.

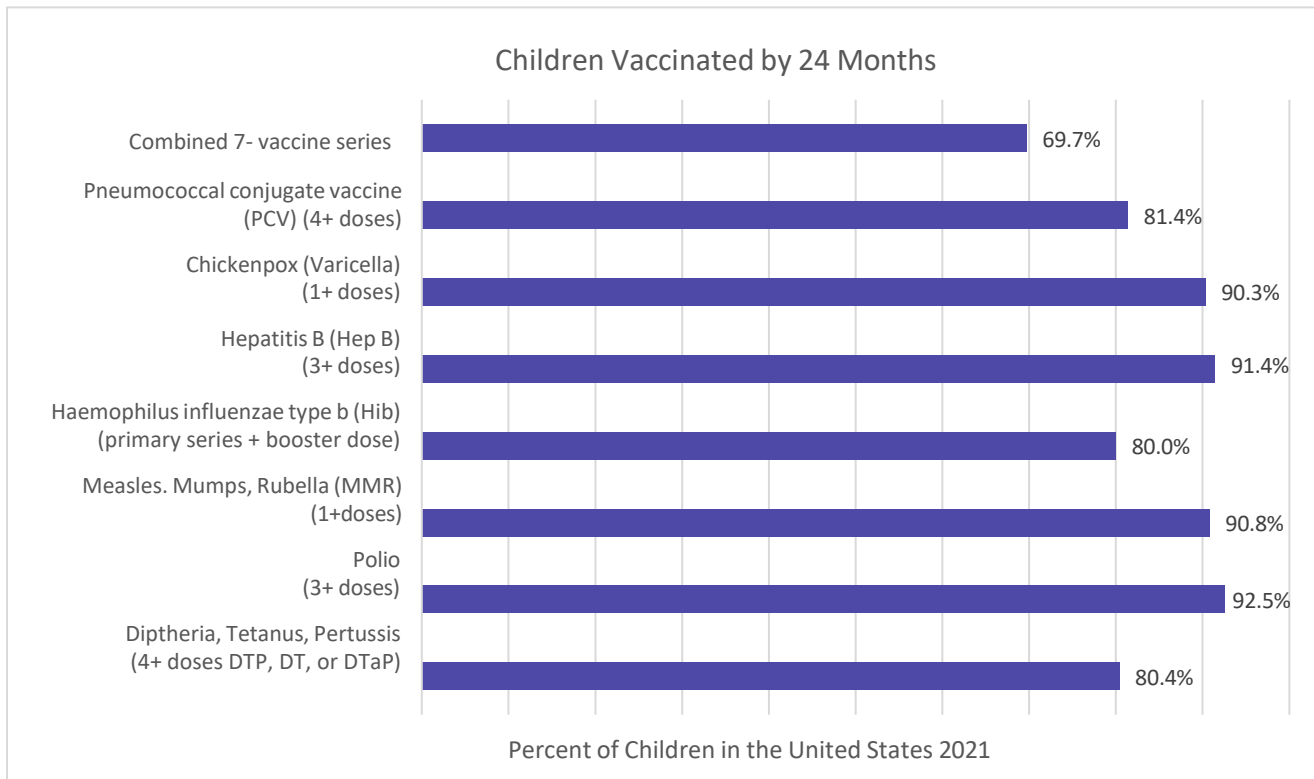


Illinois Department of Public Health, 2021.

## Immunization

Immunization in the United States is a process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination. A vaccine is a preparation used to stimulate the body's immune response against disease. The term "immunization" is often used interchangeably with "vaccination" or "inoculation". Vaccination is one of the best ways parents can protect infants, children, and teens from 16 potentially harmful diseases.

According to the Adams County Health Department, 79.9% of children in Adams County completed the 7-vaccine series. The vaccination data for Adams County is based on a sample of 593 children covered under the Vaccines for Children program, excluding those with private insurance. This sample does not represent the total population of children in either Adams County or Illinois, but provides a snapshot similar to the state's data, which also uses sample-based reporting.

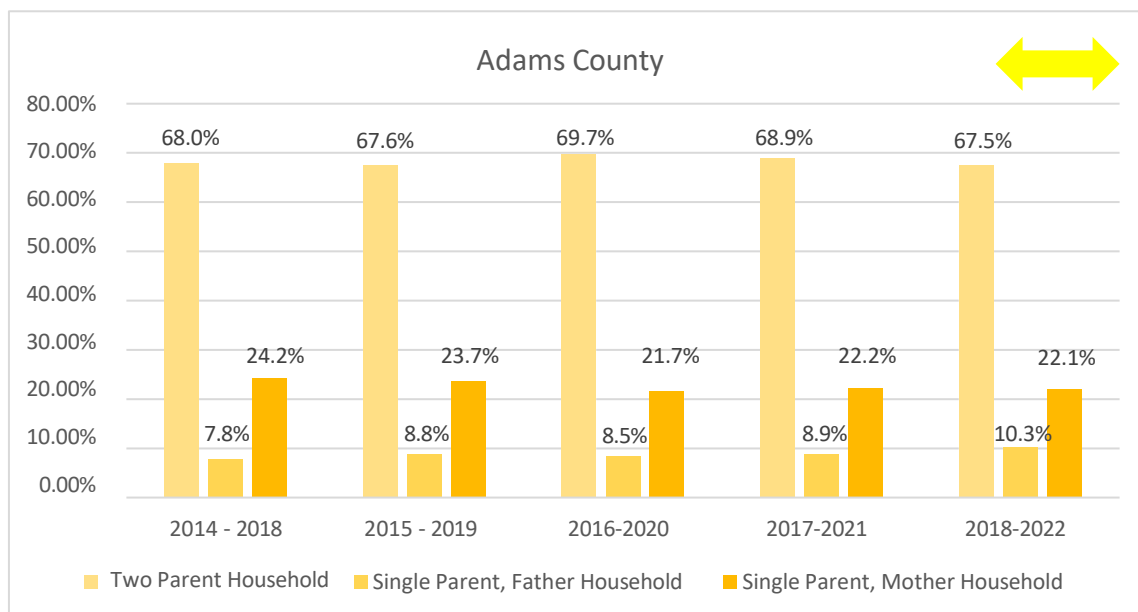
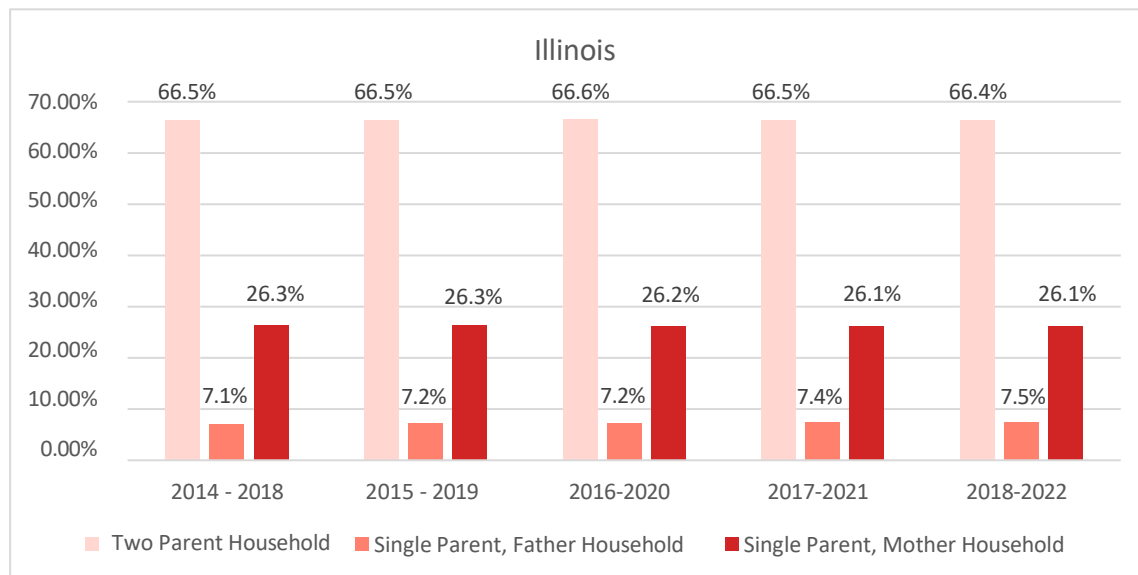


"Health, United States, 2020-2021, Table VaxCh." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2020-2021.

PDF file. Data for the 2016 birth year from survey years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

## Children Living Arrangements by Household

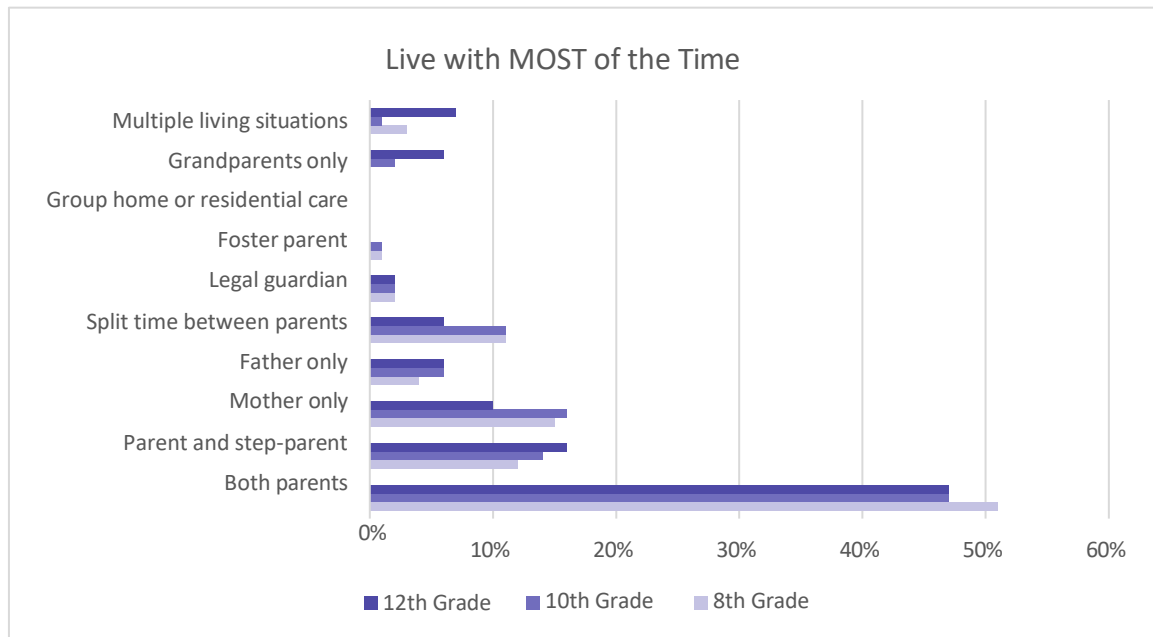
The percentage of children in the United States under the age of 18 who live with two parents decreased steadily for several decades from approximately 85% in 1970 to approximately 68% by the mid-1990's. Beginning in the mid-1990s, this decrease leveled off, and the proportion of U.S. children who live with two married parents has since remained at approximately 68%. Despite relatively little change over the last decade, the proportion of U.S. children living in a single parent household has more than doubled since 1970, rising from approximately 12% to 28%.



"Age of Own Children Under 18 in Families and Subfamilies by Living Arrangements by Employment Status of Parents, 5-Year Estimates." 2023.

American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, 2023.

## Youth Living Location



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report."* Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

## Youth Sleep and Location

Good sleep is essential for health and emotional well-being. Both the quantity and quality of sleep are crucial for maintaining healthy sleep patterns. The amount of sleep needed changes with age. For high school students, the recommended amount of sleep is 8 hours each night.

- In the United States, the percentage of high school students who do not get enough sleep is highest among certain groups, including 80% of female students, 84% of 12th grade students and 84% Black students.

*"2009-2021 CDC National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)."* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021.

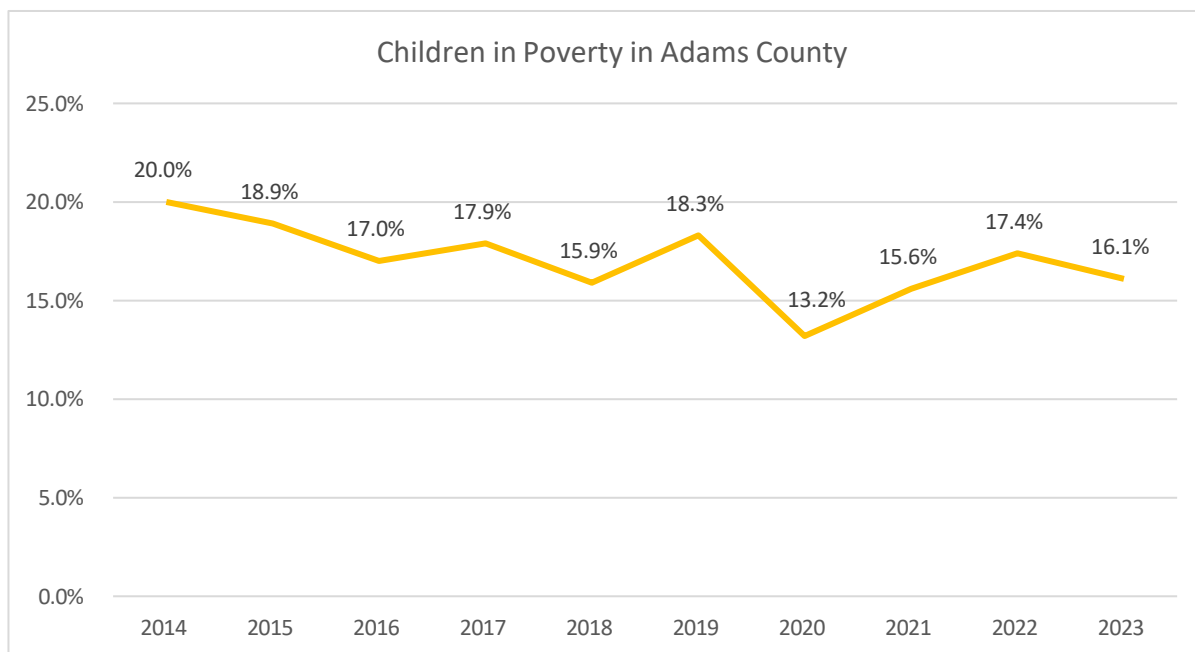
- The 2024 Illinois Youth Survey indicates that 98% of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students, 99% of 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students, and 96% of 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students in Adams County slept in their parent or guardian's home in the past 30 days.
- 77% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Adams County said that their parents or guardians would know if they did not come home on time.
- When asked how many days they ate dinner at home with at least one parent or guardian during the past seven days, 60% of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students, 44% of 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students, and 32% of 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students in Adams County indicated "yes".



## Youth Poverty

Growing up in poverty has wide-ranging and long-lasting repercussions. Poverty elevates a child's risk of experiencing behavioral, social, emotional, and health challenges. Additionally, child poverty reduces skill-building opportunities and academic outcomes, undermining a young student's capacity to learn, graduate from high school and succeed in life.

- Currently, 16% of all children in the United States –11.6 million total – live in poverty.
- A family of four with annual earnings below \$29,678 is considered poor.
- In the last decade, the percentage of U.S. children in poverty peaked at 23% in 2012 and fell to 16% in 2022.



*"American Community Survey 2022: ACS 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

*"Kids Count Data Center." Annie E. Casey Foundation.*

### Children in Poverty

Adams County	16.1%
Illinois	15.7%
United States	16.0%



*Percentage of children younger than 18 years who live in households below the poverty threshold.*

## Juvenile Detention

Juvenile detention is short-term confinement, primarily used after a youth has been arrested, but before a court has determined the youth's innocence or guilt. A juvenile detention center is generally a secure facility operated by local authorities or the state. Nationally, 195,000 young people were placed in detention centers in 2018.

The Adams County Juvenile Detention Center in Quincy, Illinois, provides detention services and behavioral programming for troubled youth from ages 10 through 17. To be detained, a juvenile must be a danger to the community or themselves, likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court, or have been taken into custody under a warrant. In addition to working with Adams County youth, the Juvenile Detention Center also provides detention services to 11 surrounding counties in Illinois and Missouri.

- According to the Juvenile Monitoring Information System (JMIS) for calendar year 2022, Adams County Youth Home had 21 total admissions between the ages of 12-and-17 years.
- In 2019, Adams County had a rate of 15.5 children, ages 10 through 17, per 1,000 population in juvenile detention, defined as the temporary care of a minor alleged or adjudicated as delinquent who requires secure custody for his or her own or the community's protection, by county.

## Substitute Care

Substitute care is the care of children who require placement away from their families or private guardians. Substitute care includes foster family care, care provided by placement with a relative, care provided in a group home, care provided in a maternity center or a child care facility, mental health or other institution, and care provided in an independent living arrangement.

*"Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM)." Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Human Services. 2024.*

Substitute Care in Adams County				
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Children	218	232	215	192

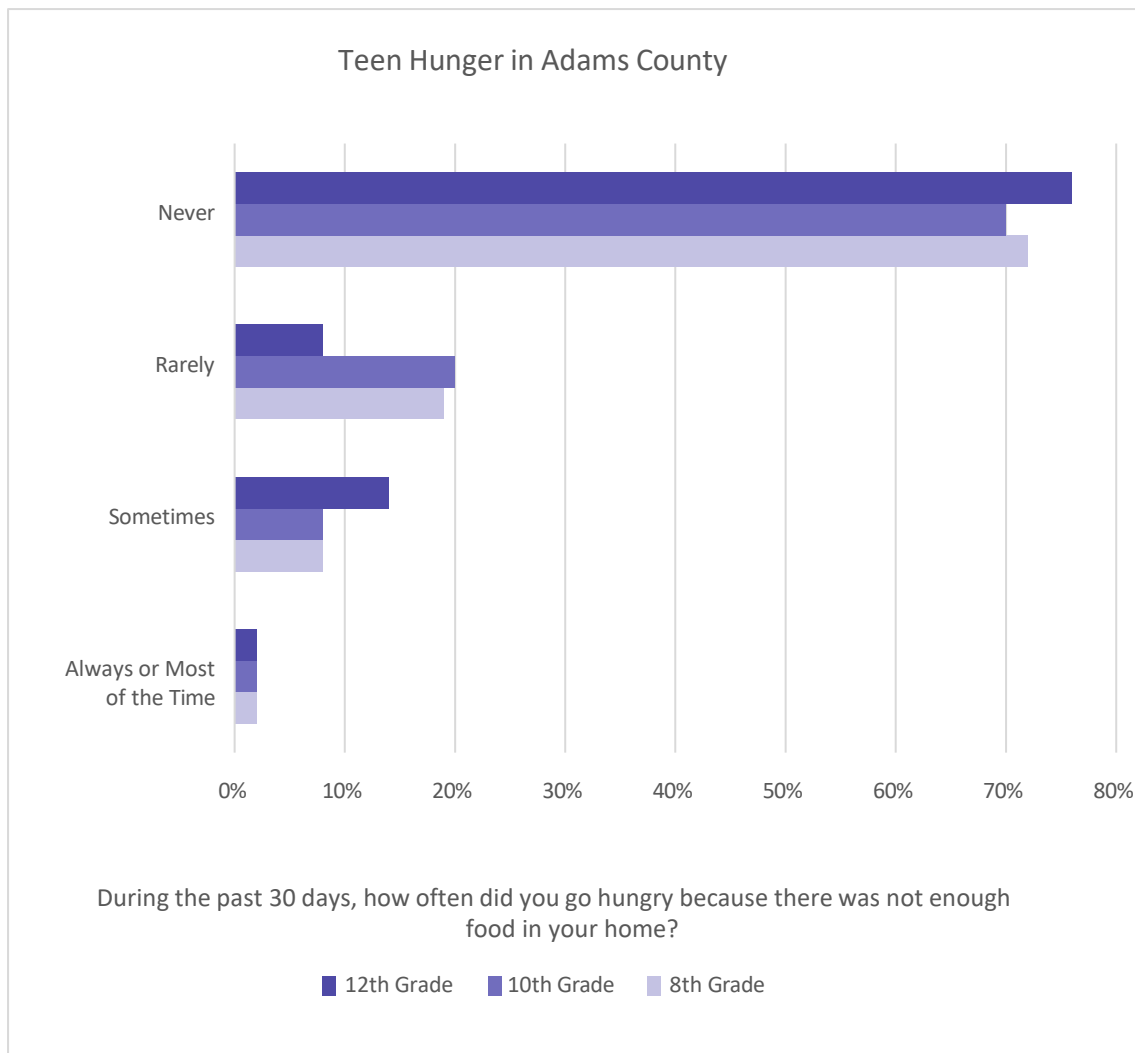
*"Illinois Children & Family Research Center Outcome Indicator Tables." University of Illinois Children & Family Research Center, 2023.*

## Food Insecurity

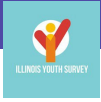
Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is associated with numerous adverse social and health outcomes and is increasingly considered a critical public health issue. Key drivers of food insecurity include unemployment, poverty, and income shocks, which can prevent adequate access to food.

- The average meal cost in Adams County is \$3.91.
- The food-insecure population in Adams County is 8,430, or 12.8%.
- Estimated program eligibility among food-insecure individuals in Adams County is 41% above the SNAP threshold and 50% below the SNAP threshold of 165%.

*"Feeding America Map the Meal Gap." Feeding America, 2022.*



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report" Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

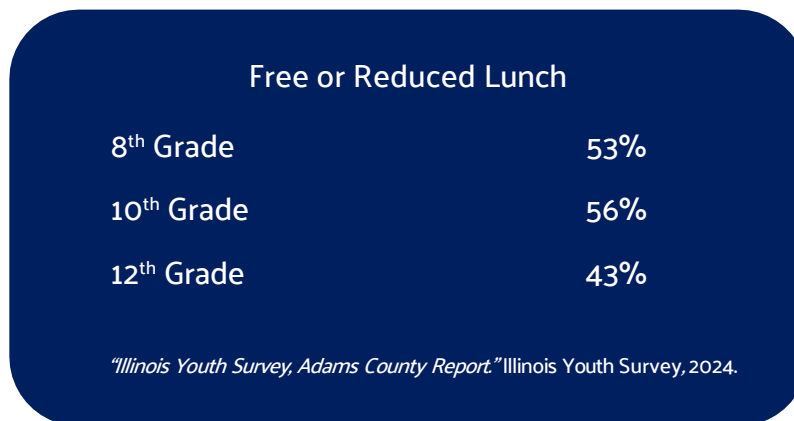


### National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Free and Reduced Lunch

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers the NSLP at the federal level. A student from a household with an income below 130% of the poverty income threshold qualifies for free lunch. In addition, some groups of children– such as foster children and those participating in the Head Start and Migrant Education programs– are also eligible for free lunches through the National School Lunch Program. A student from a household earning between 130%-and-185% of the poverty threshold qualifies for a reduced-price lunch.

- 49% of Illinois students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches.
- 61% of Quincy Public Schools District 172 students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches.

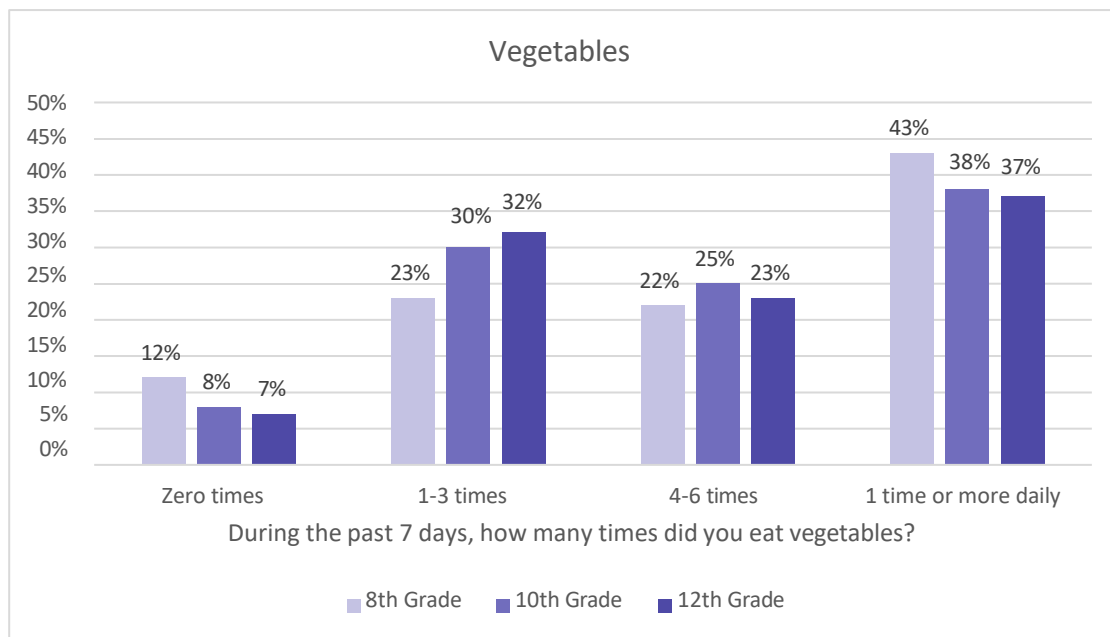
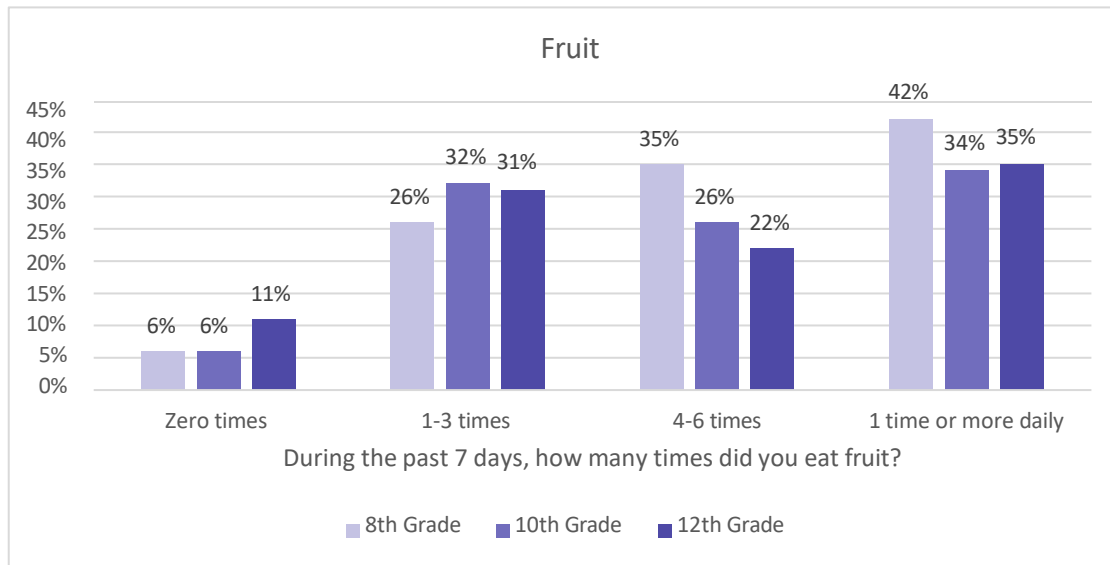
The Illinois Youth Survey is a self-report survey administered in school settings and is designed to gather information about a variety of health and social indicators. The chart below shows the percentage of students in Adams County who indicated that they receive free or reduced lunch at school.





## Nutrition

Proper nutrition is essential across life stages, from infant and child growth and brain development to healthy and safer pregnancies and healthy aging. Children benefit from healthy eating, including support for brain development, healthy growth, and immunity. Adults with healthy eating patterns live longer and are at lower risk for serious, costly health problems.



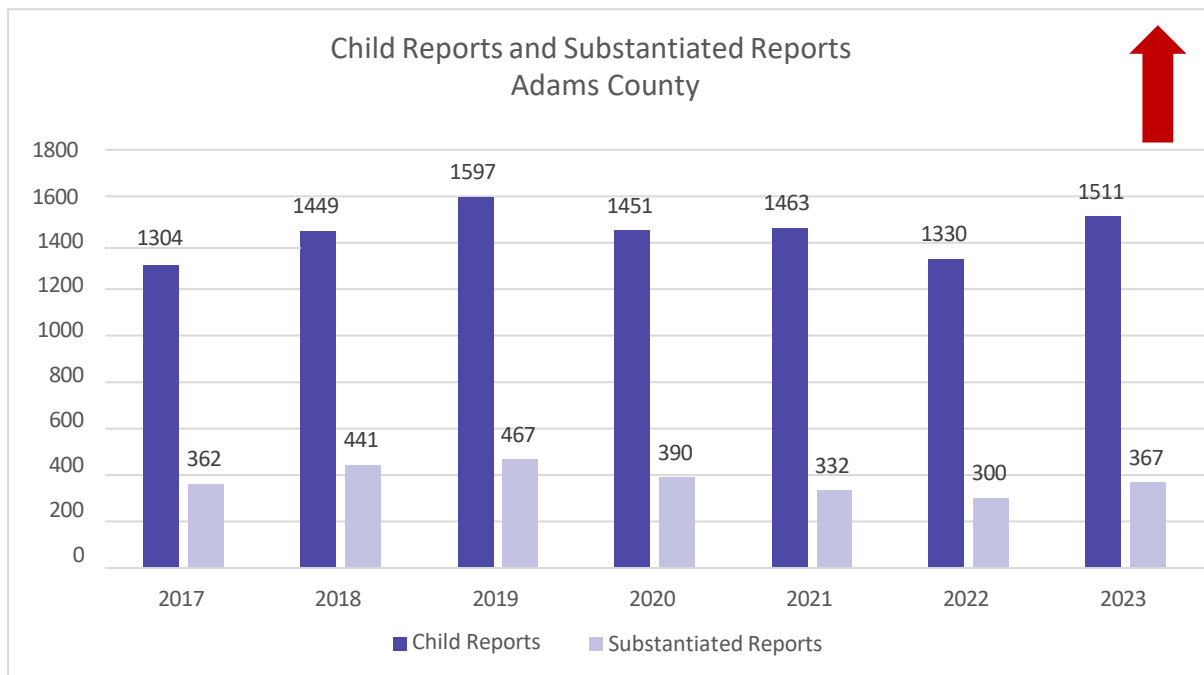
*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report"* Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

## Child Abuse and Neglect

The Illinois Department of Children & Family Services defines child abuse and neglect as the mistreatment of a child under the age of 18 by a parent or their romantic partner, an immediate relative, or someone living in their home, a caretaker such as a babysitter or daycare worker, or any person responsible for the child's welfare, such as a health care provider, educator, coach, or youth program volunteer. Mistreatment can either result in injury or put the child at serious risk of injury. Child abuse can be physical (bruises or broken bones), sexual (fondling or incest) or mental (emotional injury or psychological illness).

Neglect is the failure of a parent or caretaker to meet “minimal parenting” standards for providing adequate supervision, food, clothing, medical care, shelter, or other basic needs.

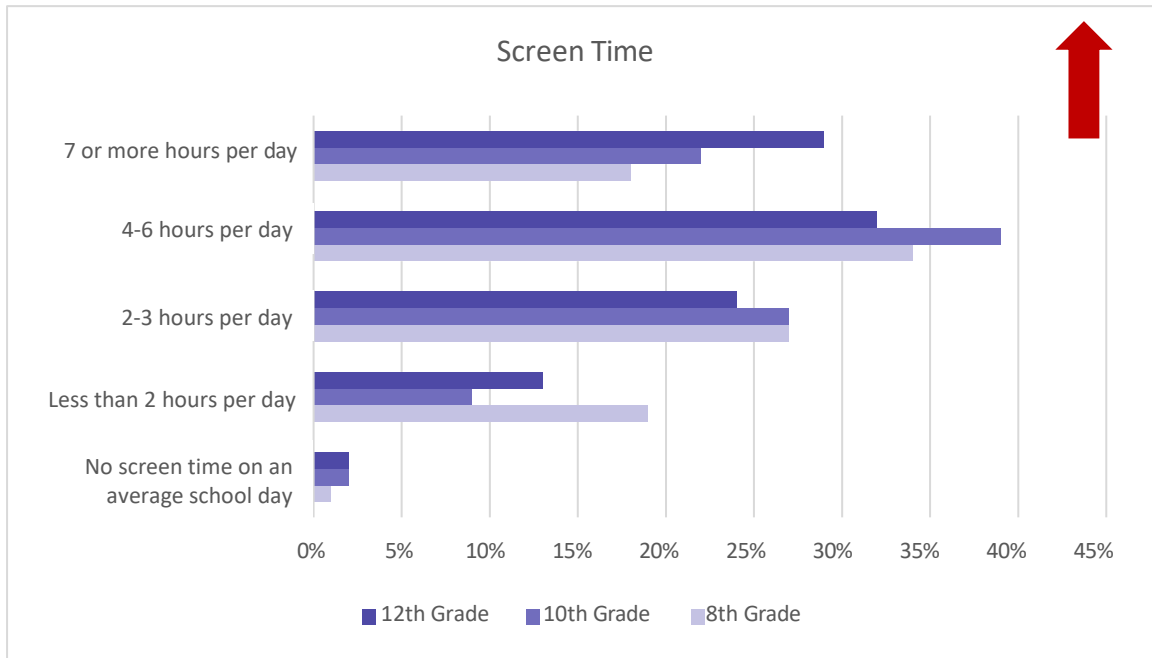
Substantiated reports are investigations of suspected child abuse or neglect that have revealed credible evidence that the abuse or neglect occurred.



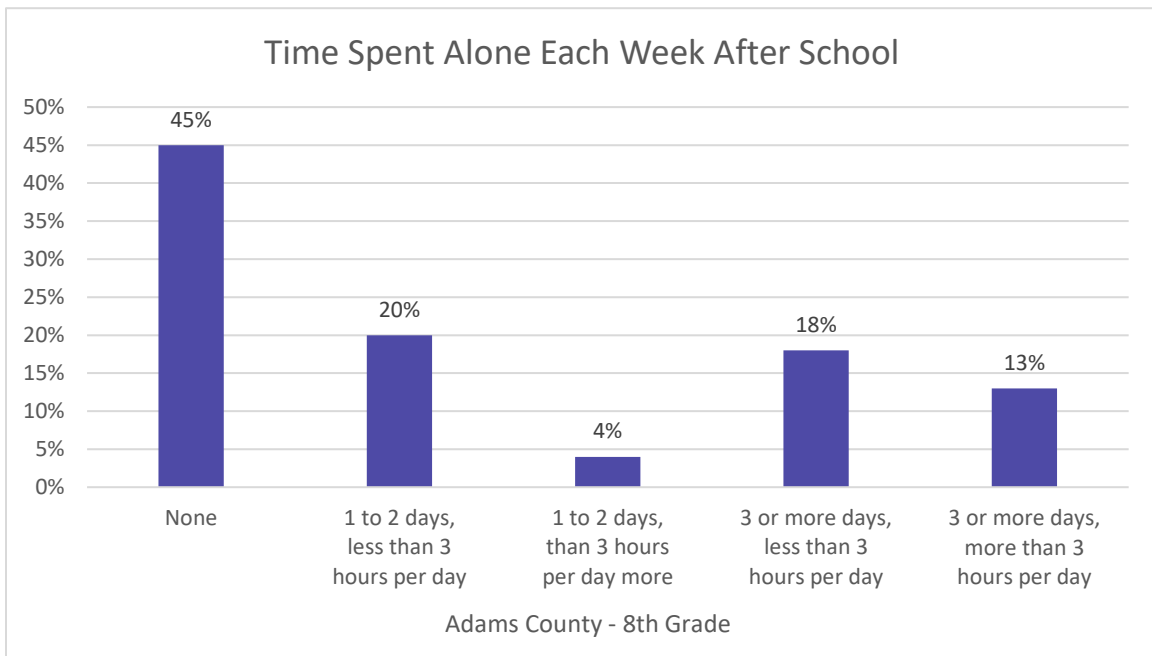
*"Data Center." School of Social Work, Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2024.*

## Screen Time

Screen time is time spent using an electronic device with a screen such as a smartphone, computer, television, video game or tablet.



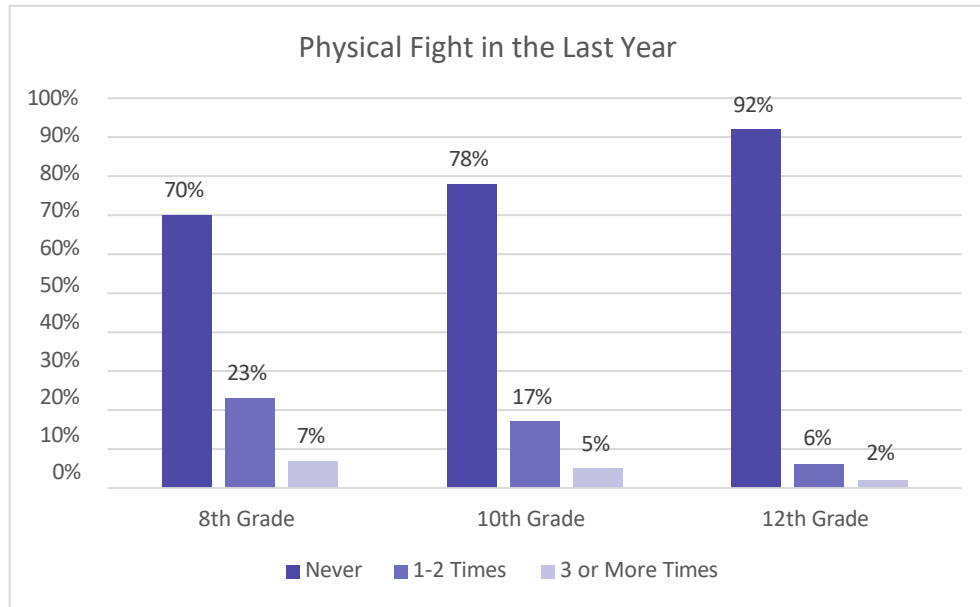
"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.



"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

## Physical Fighting

A physical fight between teens is generally defined as a situation in which two or more people exchange blows, or when one person assaults another. Fighting occurs when a disagreement escalates into aggression.



*"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

## Weapons

According to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, in 2019, 13.2% of all high school students in the United States carried a weapon, including a gun, knife, or club.

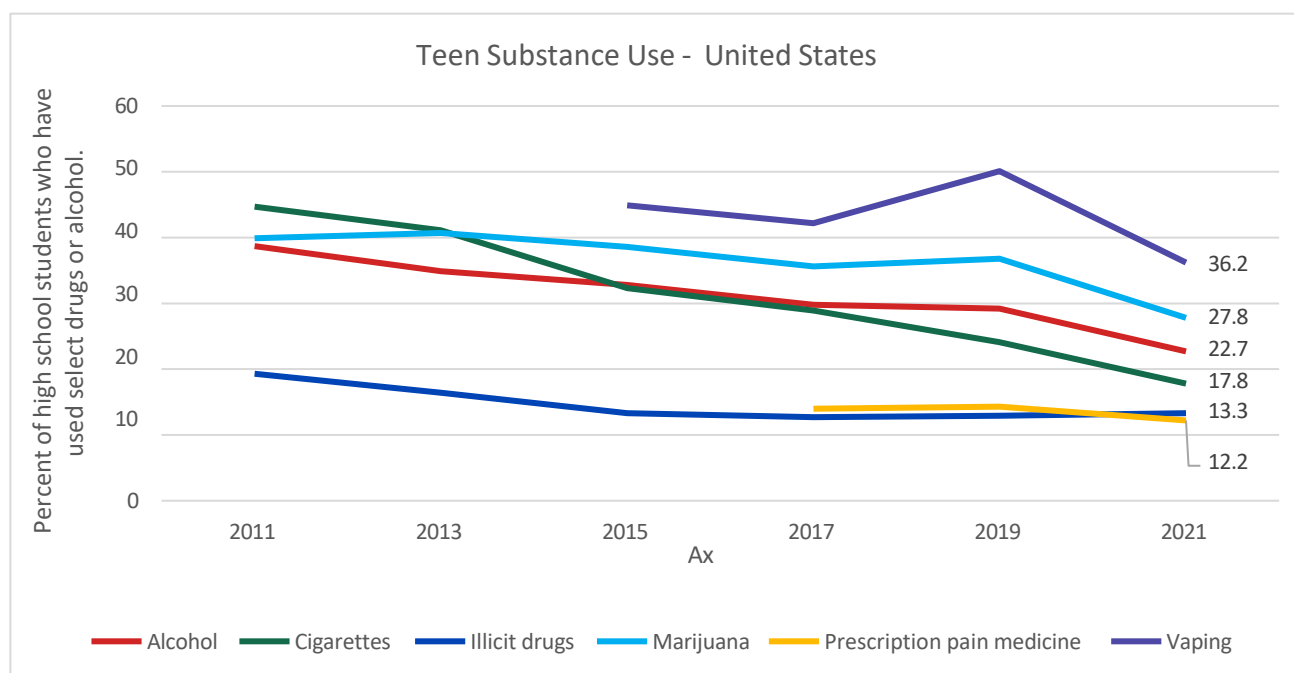
- 22% of Adams County 8th-grade students, 17% of 10th-grade students, and 15% of 12th-grade students have carried a weapon such as a handgun, knife, or club in the last year.



## Drugs

Young people's brains continue developing until their mid-20s, particularly the prefrontal cortex, which is crucial for decision-making. Drug use during this period can disrupt brain development and lead to poor decision-making, increasing the likelihood of risky behaviors like unsafe sex and dangerous driving. Starting drug use early also heightens the risk of addiction and can lead to adult health issues such as heart disease and sleep disorders.

Commonly used substances among young people include alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana, with vaping becoming more prevalent despite unknown potential dangers. Young people may turn to drugs for various reasons, such as fitting in with peers, seeking pleasure or relief from mental health issues, enhancing academic or athletic performance, or experimenting with new experiences.



Alcohol data reflects students who currently drink (at least 1 drink in the last 30 days). All other data reflects students who have ever used the substance. Illicit drugs counted in this survey are cocaine, inhalants, heroin, methamphetamines, ecstasy, or hallucinogens.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that teenagers are trying alcohol, certain drugs, and other substances less than they did a decade ago.

- In 2021, 22.7% of United States teenagers reported drinking alcohol at least once during the 30 days before the YRBS survey – 26.8% of female students and 18.8% of male students. In 2011, these numbers were 37.9% for girls and 39.5% for boys.
- In 2024, 4% of Adams County 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students, 8% of 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students, and 3% of 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students reported being drunk or high at school in the last year.



### Alcohol

- When asked how many times in the last 12 months they had driven a car or other vehicle after drinking alcohol, 97% of 10th-grade students in Adams County said never, 1% said 1-2 times, and 1% said 6+ times.

#### Driving Under the Influence - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students in Adams County

Never	93%
1-2 Times	5%
6+ Times	2%

*Students who reported driving a car or other vehicle in the last 12 months when they had been drinking.*

*"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

### Smoking

- When asked how frequently they had smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days, 100% of 8th-grade students said never, 98% of 10th-grade students said never, and 95% of 12th-grade students said never.

#### E-Cigarettes or Vape - Students in Adams County

8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students - Never	96%
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students - Never	85%
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students - Never	86%

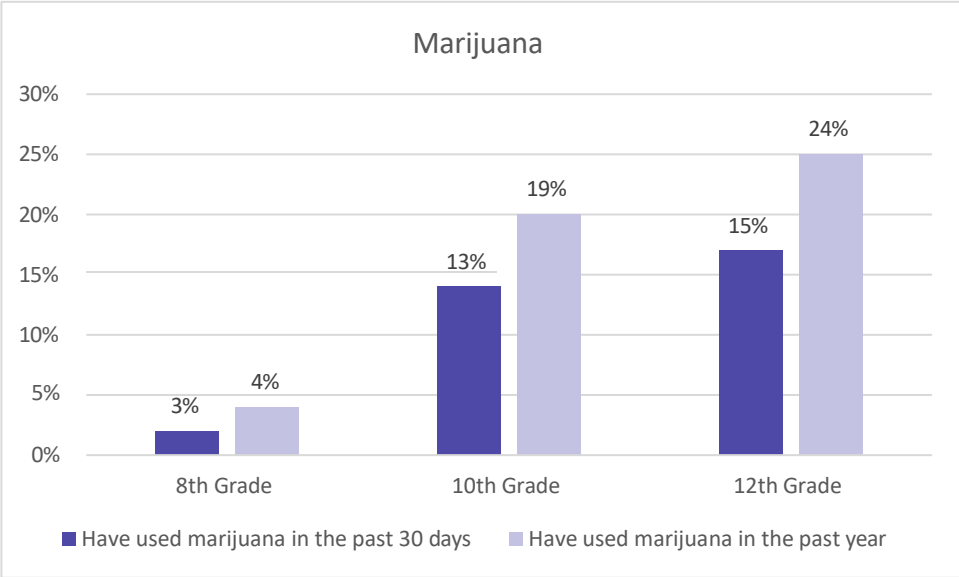
*Students asked how frequently they had smoked E-cigarettes or vaped in the last 30 days.*

*"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

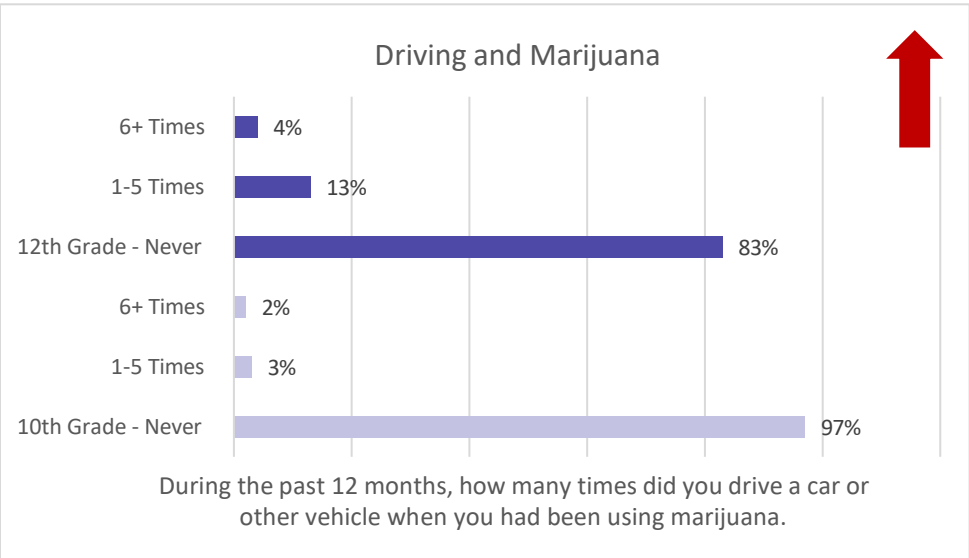


Marijuana

- When asked what percentage of students they think have used marijuana in the past 30 days, 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students responded 48%, and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students responded 44%. Actual reported use was 13% among 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students and 15% among 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students.



"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.



"2024 Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

## Child Care

Child care in the United States refers to services provided for the care and supervision of young children, typically while their parents or guardians are at work or otherwise unavailable. It can take place in various settings, including daycares, preschools, or in-home care by a nanny or family member. Child care providers are responsible for ensuring the safety, education, and well-being of children, often following state regulations and licensing requirements. The cost and availability of child care can vary greatly, making it a significant concern for many families.

In Illinois, child care follows the general structure of child care in the United States. However, there are some differences due to state-specific regulations, funding, and programs. Illinois has its own licensing requirements for child care providers, which may be stricter or more detailed than those in other states. The state also offers specific programs like the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), which helps low-income families afford child care.

Additionally, Illinois monitors child care facilities to ensure they meet safety, staff-to-child ratios, and educational standards, which can differ slightly from the rules in other states. Overall, the basic concept of child care is the same, but the specifics can vary depending on state policies.

## Child Care

Since June 2020, there are 334 fewer full-time, year-round child care slots available in Adams County, creating a growing concern for many parents who now find the lack of child care options more pressing than the cost itself. Although inflation has kept childcare costs high, ongoing federal grants, which Illinois used to stabilize child care, have helped maintain more stable costs for parents since the onset of COVID-19. These grants are set to expire in September 2024, potentially leading to cost increases if new funding is not established. Our data includes information on families with working parents who have children under age 5 and are most likely to require full-time, year-round care of 35–40 hours per week.

*"Adams County Child Care Profile." West Central Child Care Connection, June 2024.*

### Adams County Population & Family Characteristics

Children Ages 5 and under	4,885
Children Ages 6 thru 12	5,356
Percentage of Children 0-5 with Working Parents	74.3%
Median Weekly Family Income	\$1226

## Overview

- 100 licensed family child care providers with 884 slots for children
- 10 license exempt home providers caring for 22 children
- 5 full-year licensed child care centers with 883 slots for children
- 13 exempt preschool & child age centers with 496 slots for children – school year only
- 2 exempt centers with 200 slots – summer only

### Families Seeking Child Care by Age

Infants	19%
1-2 Years	30%
3-4 years	21%
5 years	7%
School Age	23%

*"Adams County Child Care Profile." West Central Child Care Connection, June 2024.*

## Licensed Child Care Programs and Slots in Adams County

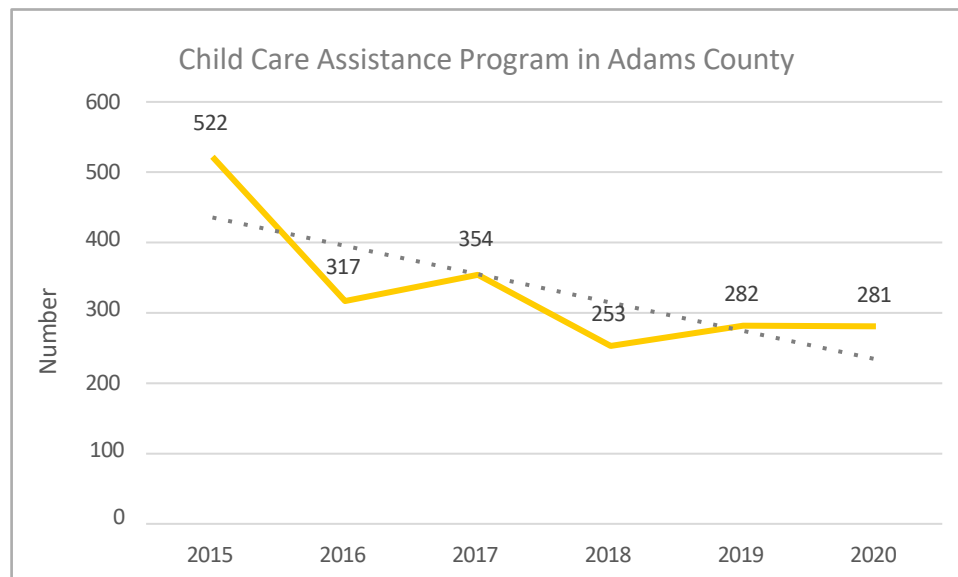
	2020		2024	
Family Child Care	130	1218	100	884
Child Care Centers	5	883	5	883
Exempt Child Care Centers	1	100	2	200
Before and After School	1	60	2	105
	<i>Programs</i>	<i>Slots</i>	<i>Programs</i>	<i>Slots</i>

5-year change in child care programs and need in Adams County.

"West Central Child Care Connection." June 2024.

## Capacity

- Of the 3,615 children under the age of 5 in Adams County with all parents in the home working who need year-round child care, there are 2,069 children without child care slots. This is a 57% deficit.



"Children Aged 5 and Under Receiving Child Care Assistance by Family in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)."

Annie E. Casey Foundation, January 2022.

## Child Care Cost Burden

- In 2023, in Adams County, the average household spent 27% of its median household income on child care for two children, the same as the United States.
- In 2023, in Illinois, the average household spent 28% of its median household income on child care for two children.

*"2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022.*

### Cost of Child Care – Child Under 6

	Average Monthly Price	Percentage of Median Family Income	Average Yearly Price of Child Care	Percentage of 100% FPL for a family of 3
Adams County	\$707	16%	\$8,463	41%
Illinois	\$821	15%	\$9,852	48%

*"In Illinois, Can Families Afford Child Care?" Child Care Aware of America, 2020.*



IllinoisReportCard.com is the state's official source for information about public schools across Illinois. The information from the Illinois Report Card will help you act as an informed partner in the education of our community's children. Families, researchers, policy makers, and community members can use the information on the site to find school data, including academic performance, school environment, educators, students, and highlights provided by principals.



The Illinois Youth Survey - The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) has funded the administration of the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) biennially since 1990. The IYS is a self-report survey administered in school settings and is designed to gather information about a variety of health and social indicators including substance use and perceptions, bullying, school climate, nutrition, and physical activity.

The administration of the IYS has two major goals:

- To supply local data to schools and school districts throughout Illinois. During state-funded survey years (e.g., 2018, 2020, etc.), the survey is available to all eligible public and private schools in the state at no cost. Each participating school is eligible to receive a report specific to their own students' responses. These local reports provide critical information to school administrators, prevention professionals, and community members as they work to address substance use issues in their communities.
- To provide a scientific estimate of health and social indicators for the state of Illinois. The scientific estimate is based on a random sample representing the state populations of 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students in Illinois public schools.

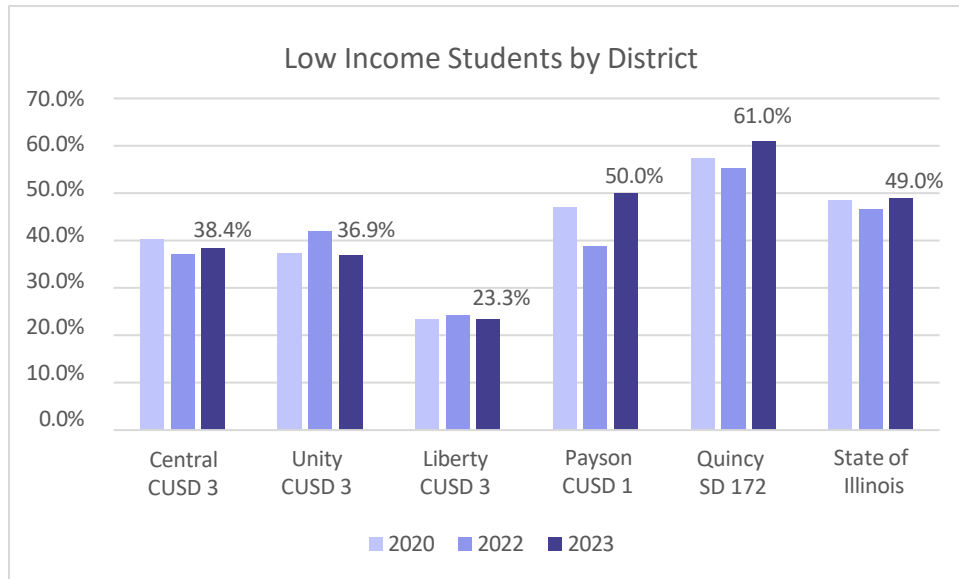
*"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023."* Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.

*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report."* Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

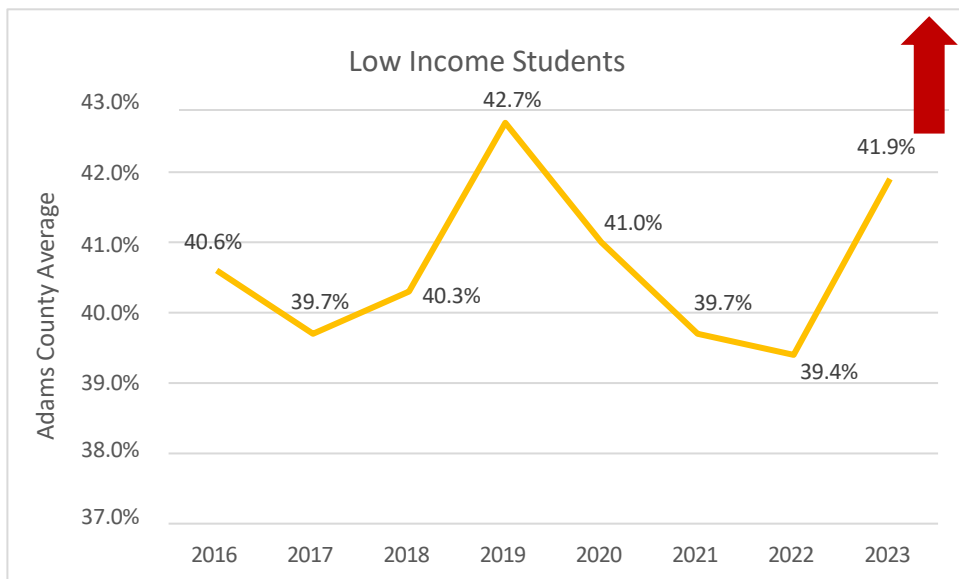


## Low Income Students

The percentage of students ages 3-to-17 who receive, or live in households that receive, public aid from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). Low-income students are classified as homeless, migrant, runaway, Head Start, or foster children; or live in a household where the household income meets (USDA) guidelines to receive free or reduced-price meals. Low income can affect a student's ability to learn in several ways, including health, literacy, access to resources, and mobility.



"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023." Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.



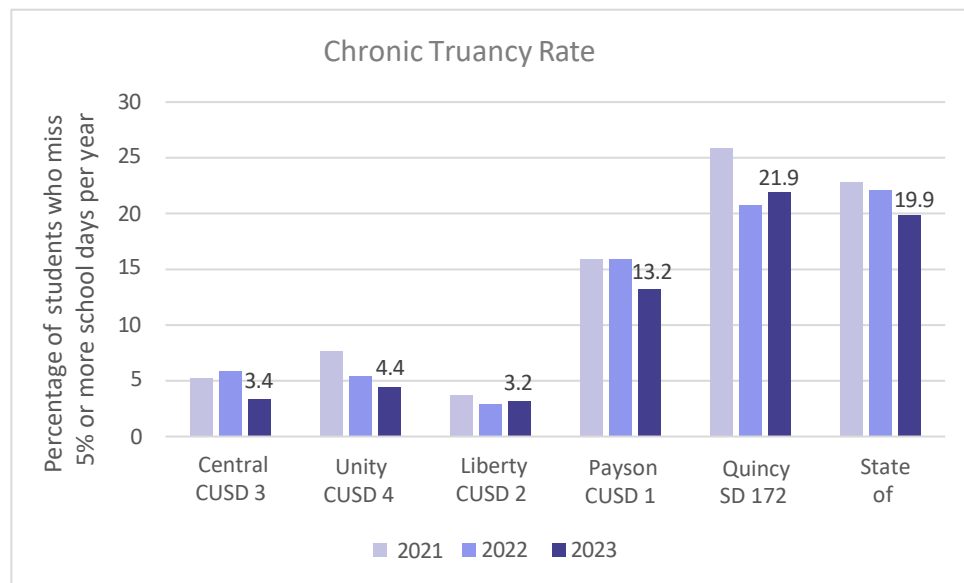
"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023." Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.



### Chronic Truancy Rate

Illinois law defines a “chronic truant” as a student who misses 5% of school days within an academic year without a valid excuse. This equates to nine days in an average 180-day school year. The count of chronically truant students does not include those with excused absences.

Chronic truants are at risk for both academic and behavioral problems. Research shows that chronic truancy is linked to serious delinquent activity in youth and to significant negative behavior and characteristics in adults.

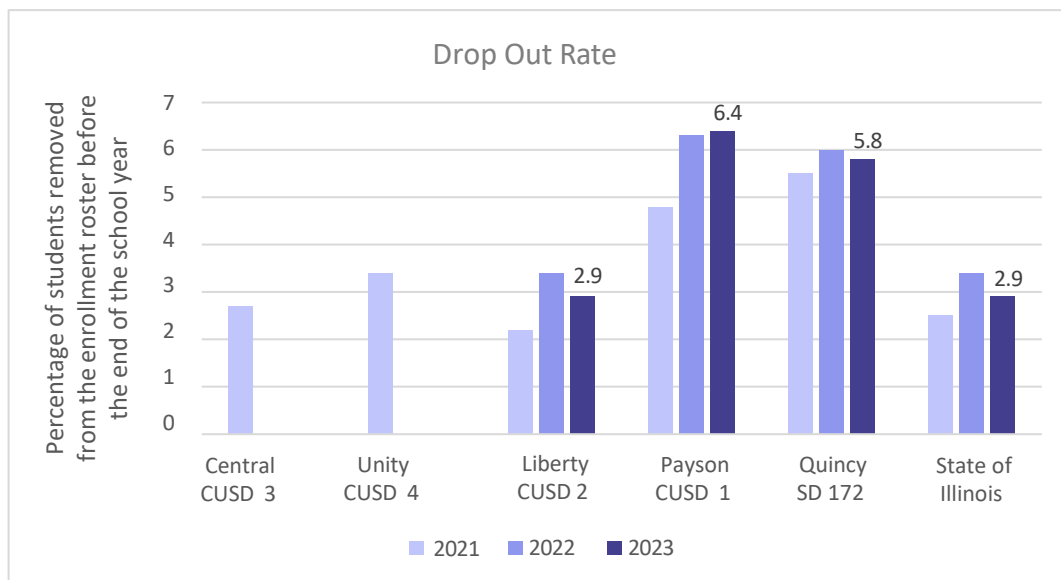


*"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023," Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.*

## Drop Out Rate

Dropouts include students in grades 9-12 whose names have been removed for any reason, including moving with no known continuation, transferring to a GED program, or aging out. The percentage does not include death, extended illness, graduation/completion of a program of studies, transfer to another public/private/home school, or expulsion.

The most significant disadvantage high school dropouts face is lower expected income. Without a high school diploma, enrolling in a college or trade school can be difficult or even impossible. The increased likelihood of low income, combined with limited access to higher education and career opportunities, tends to make high school dropouts more susceptible to crime, substance abuse, and other conditions associated with poverty.



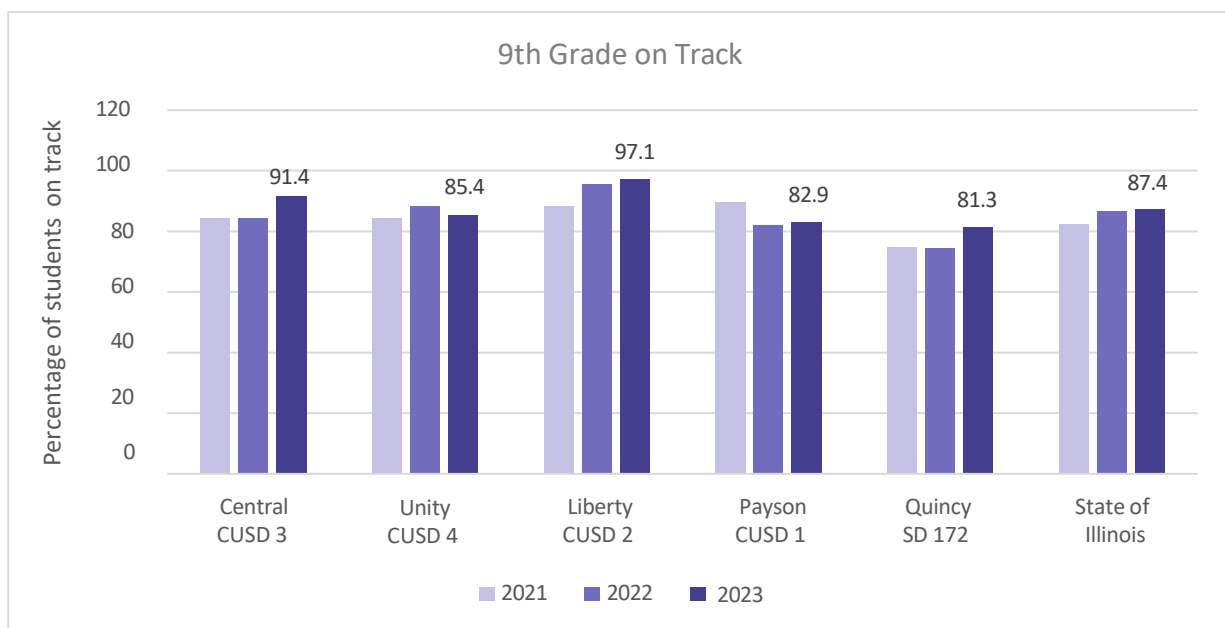
*"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023."* Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.



### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade on Track

Students identified as “on track” have earned at least five full-year course credits (10 semester credits) and earned no more than one semester “F” in a core course (English, math, science, or social science). Course credits from summer sessions are not included in this calculation. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade on Track is a key predictor of high school success.

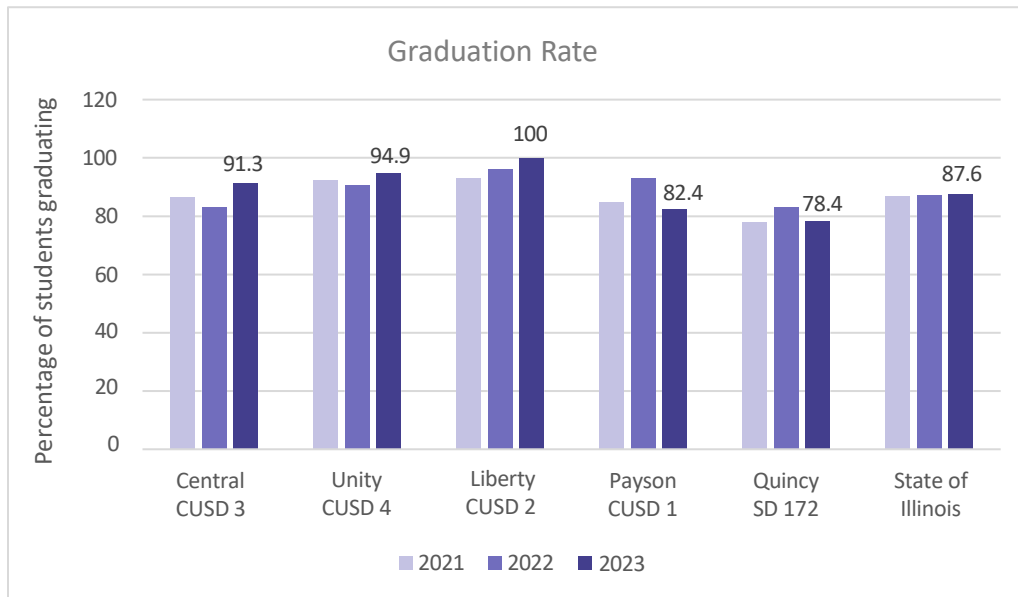
Students who finish the ninth-grade year on track are almost four times as likely to graduate from high school than those who are not on track. Research shows that both the number of students on track and the graduation rate increase when schools actively intervene by identifying at-risk freshmen and provide tutoring, additional instruction, and other individualized services.



*"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023."* Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.

## Graduation Rate

The graduation rate is the percentage of students who graduate within four years of entering 9th grade for the first time. A high school diploma is crucial for both students who plan to attend college and those who plan to enter the workforce. To ensure graduates are prepared for college and careers, it is important to evaluate the graduation rate in the context of student achievement, college readiness, and career readiness.

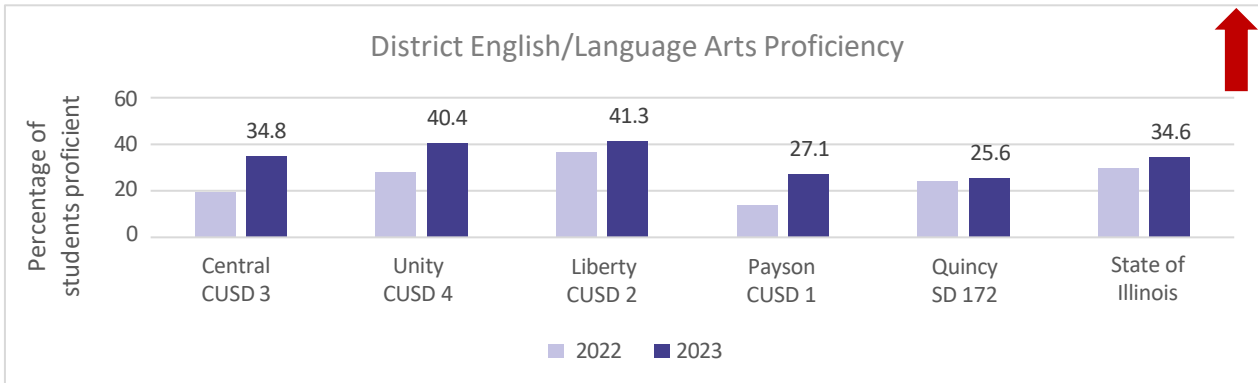


*"Illinois Report Card 2021–2023."* Illinois State Board of Education, 2021–2023.

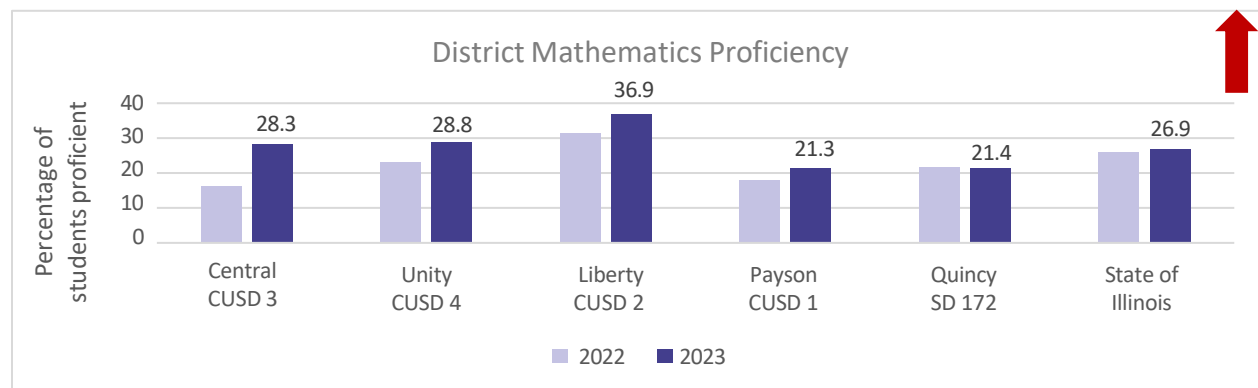


## Proficiency

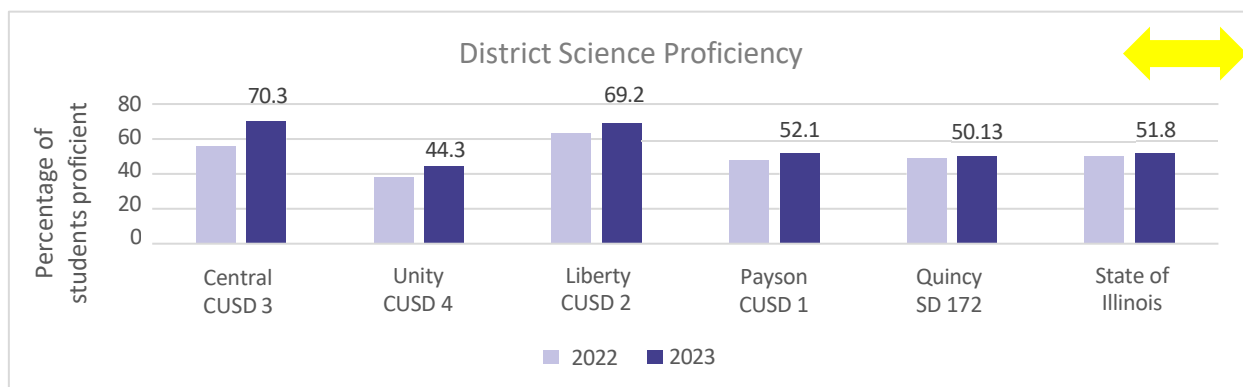
Proficiency refers to whether students demonstrate that they are “well advanced in a branch of knowledge” (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). It can be measured in various ways, but for the purposes of the Illinois Report Card, it represents students’ success in achieving levels on standardized testing that indicate proficiency in English language arts (ELA), math, or science. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires states to assess their learning standards for ELA, mathematics, and science.



"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023." Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.



"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023." Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.









"Illinois Report Card 2021-2023." Illinois State Board of Education, 2021-2023.

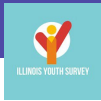
### Adams County Public Libraries

Public libraries provide free access to information, knowledge, and resources for the entire community, supporting education and lifelong learning through books, digital media, classes, and workshops. They promote literacy with programs such as story hours and book clubs for all ages and serve as community hubs by hosting meetings, events, and cultural activities. Libraries also bridge socio-economic gaps by offering equal access to technology and research materials while preserving local history through archived documents and records. As vital community spaces, they foster inclusion and development. Library circulation specifically refers to the lending of various library-owned materials to users.

Adams County Public Libraries: Quincy Public Library, Camp Point Public Library District, Four Star Public Library District (Mendon), Greater West Central Public Library District, and Clayton Public Library District.

Circulation	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 YTD
Greater West Central Public Library District 	2,188	2,347	3,139	3,570	2,580
Clayton Public Library District 	1,664	3,100	3,900	4,109	3,978

Circulation	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Locker Usage 	3,491	2,719	2,813	2,279
Quincy Public Library 	405,191	373,662	377,011	381,547
Camp Point Public Library 	7,872	6,762	9,148	10,286
Four Star Public Library District 	11,301	10,270	13,354	11,695



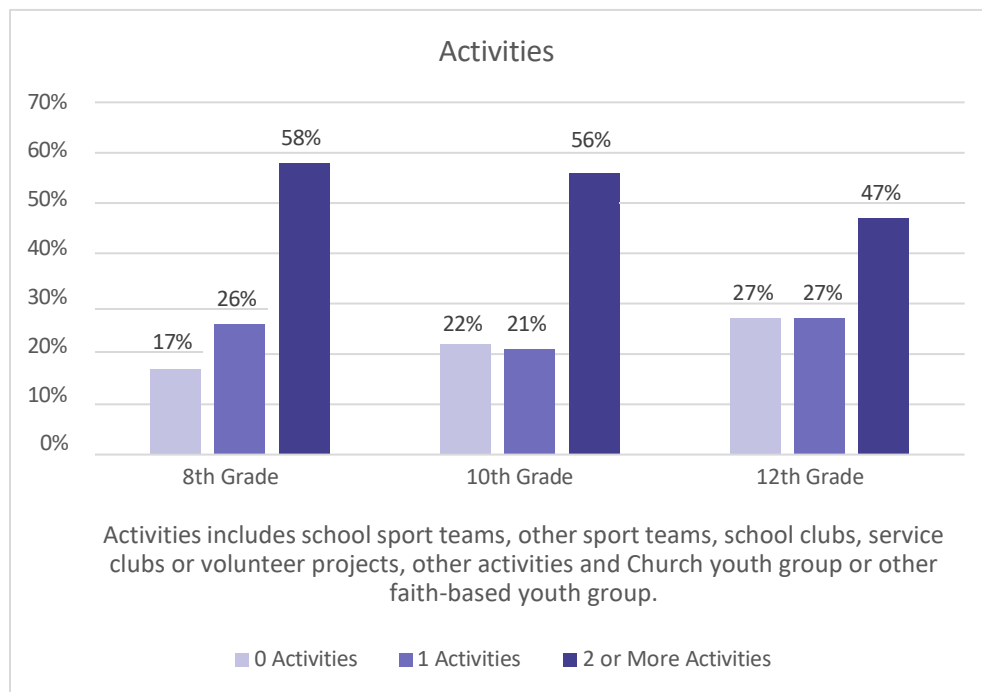
### Public School Proximity

Adams County	86%
Illinois	97%
United States	80%

*Youth within 5 miles of a public school*

### Youth Activities

Activities and opportunities at school provide children with valuable experiences that foster social, emotional, and cognitive development. Engaging in various programs helps children build essential skills, explore their interests, and develop a sense of belonging and confidence.



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

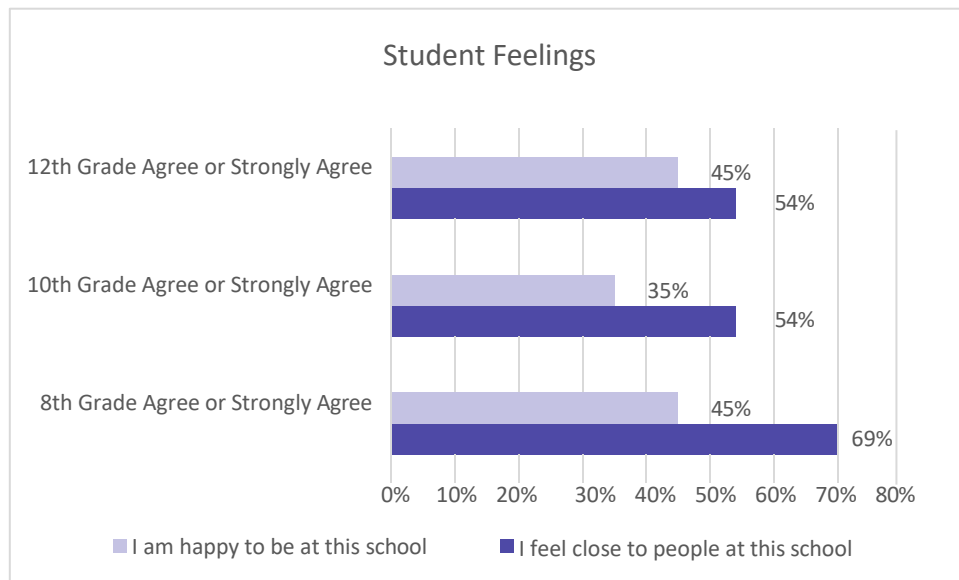
### Youth Opportunities

- 42% of 10th-grade students and 73% of 12th-grade students indicated they worked in a paid or unpaid job in Adams County.
- 13% of 10th-grade students and 10% of 12th-grade students do not participate in activities or work.

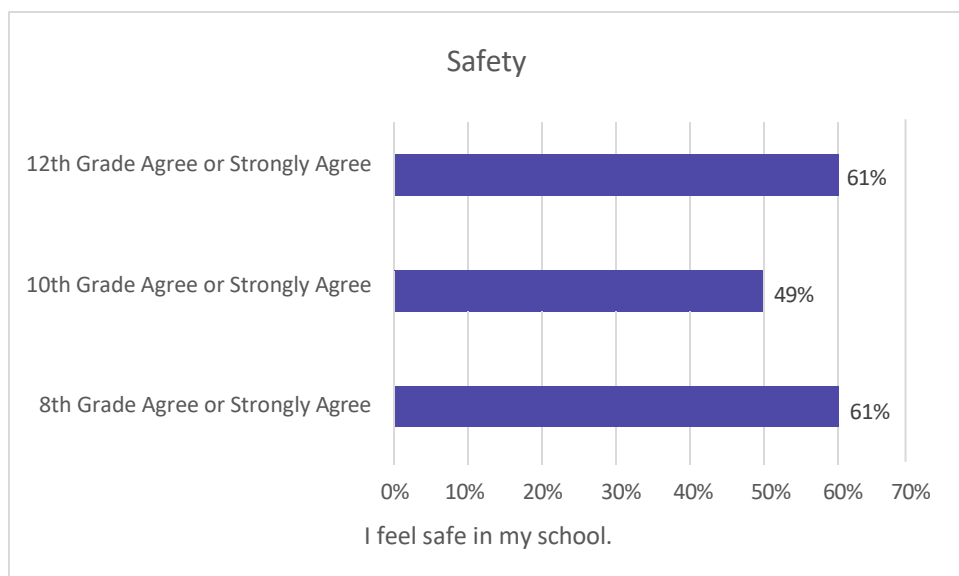


## School Climate

School climate refers to the quality and character of school life, shaped by the experiences of students, parents, and staff. It reflects the school's norms, goals, values, relationships, teaching practices, and organizational structures. A positive and sustainable school climate supports youth development and learning, preparing students for productive and fulfilling lives in a democratic society.



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

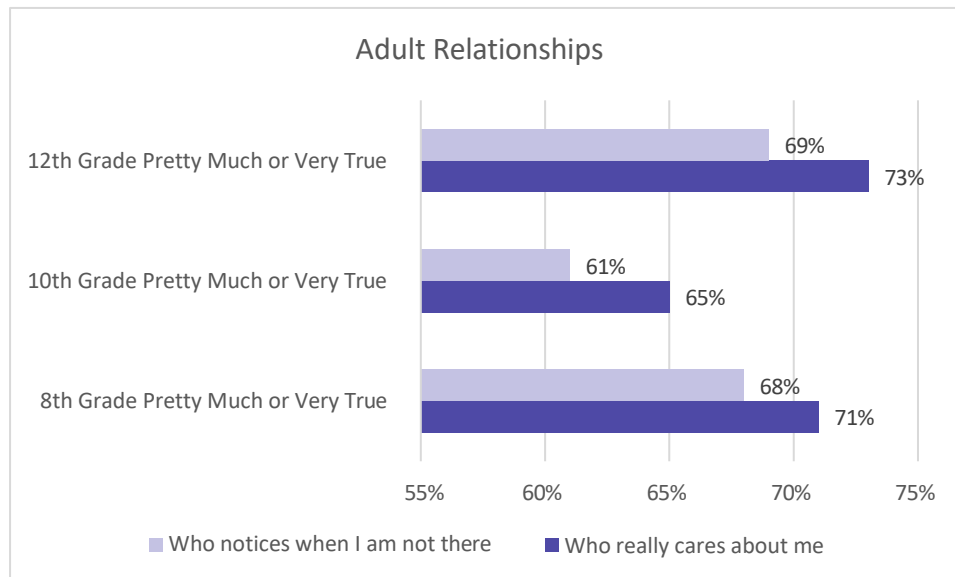


*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

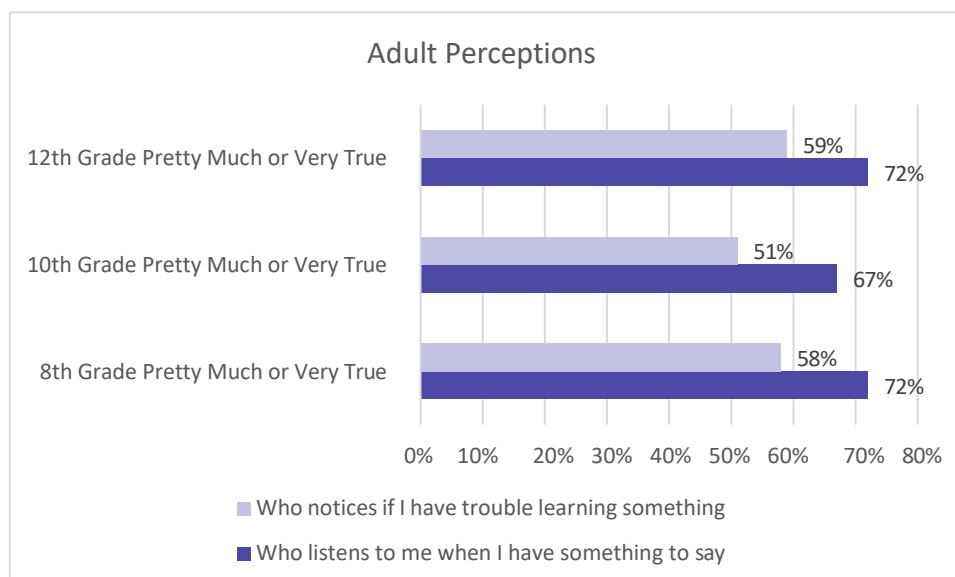


### Adult Relationships

Students who have a caring adult to talk to about educational and career decisions are more likely to experience positive social and emotional outcomes, avoid risky behaviors, and achieve better academically. Strong relationships with an adult can significantly enhance students' learning, leading to long-term benefits in academic achievement, engagement, and social development.



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report."* Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.



*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report."* Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.

## Bullying Experiences

Bullying is aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a power imbalance and is often repeated. It can cause serious, long-term problems for both those who are bullied and those who bully.

- In Adams County, 50% of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students, 41% of 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students, and 37% of 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students reported experiencing bullying within the past 12 months. This includes incidents such as name-calling, threats of harm, physical aggression (being hit, punched, kicked, or pushed), harassment, or rumors spread about them online, on social media, or through text messages.

### Bias Based Bullying Experiences – Past 12 Months

		Never	1-5 Times	6+ Times
Appearance or Disability	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	55%	29%	17%
	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	72%	19%	9%
	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	71%	21%	8%
What someone assumed about your religion, sexual orientation, or race/ethnicity	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	82%	12%	6%
	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	76%	17%	7%

*"Illinois Youth Survey, Adams County Report." Illinois Youth Survey, 2024.*

## Financial Security

Financial security is the ability of individuals, families, and communities to meet basic needs, such as food, shelter, health care, and education, in a sustainable manner. It relies on having a stable income or assets that provide long-term stability, and creates access to opportunities like education, training, and better employment. Financial security means having sufficient savings to cover unexpected emergencies.

Without financial security, individuals are at risk of falling into poverty, which negatively impacts their quality of life and self-worth, particularly for those already vulnerable or disadvantaged. Lack of financial security often results in constant worry about money and an inability to plan for the future.

### Financial Security and Education

A strong positive correlation exists between education, employment, and financial security, indicating that higher levels of education are statistically associated with better employment outcomes and increased financial stability. Data show that individuals with more education typically secure higher-paying jobs, experience lower unemployment rates, and have greater access to benefits such as health insurance and retirement plans, all of which contribute to improved financial security.

### Financial Security and Technology

Technology enhances financial security by providing tools and resources for better financial understanding and management. It simplifies banking, often with lower fees, and offers valuable information through financial news, investment platforms, and budgeting tools. Without technology, underserved populations may face greater challenges in achieving financial stability.

### Financial Security and Transportation

Inadequate transportation can significantly affect financial security by limiting employment opportunities and increasing commuting times. The cost of owning a private vehicle can reduce the funds available for essential expenses like housing, food, and childcare. Additionally, inconvenient public transportation can make it challenging to reach grocery stores, night classes, and third-shift jobs, further impacting financial stability.

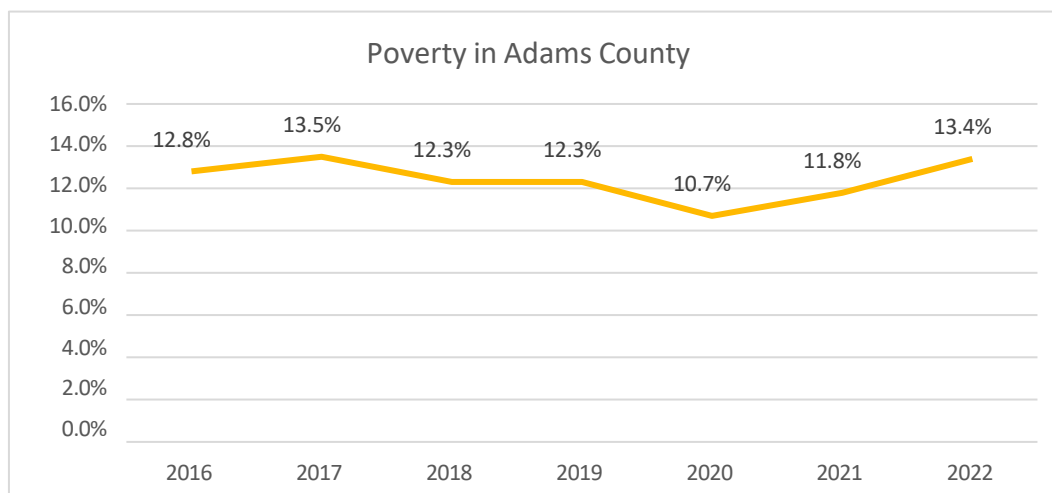
## Poverty

The federal government defines poverty based on family size and income, using measures set at the federal level that do not account for the varying costs of living across different regions. Poverty can be assessed in two primary ways:

1. **Federal Poverty Guidelines:** Issued annually by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), these guidelines are used to determine eligibility for certain programs and benefits.
  2. **Poverty Thresholds:** The original version of the federal poverty measure, these thresholds are updated each year by the Census Bureau and are used primarily for statistical purposes, serving as the official count of the poverty population.
- In 2022, there were 8,475 residents of Adams County living in poverty representing 13.4% of the population, higher than Illinois at 11.9% and the United States at 12.6%.

Persons in Family/Household	Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2024
1	\$15,060
2	\$20,440
3	\$25,820
4	\$31,200
5	\$36,580
6	\$41,960

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

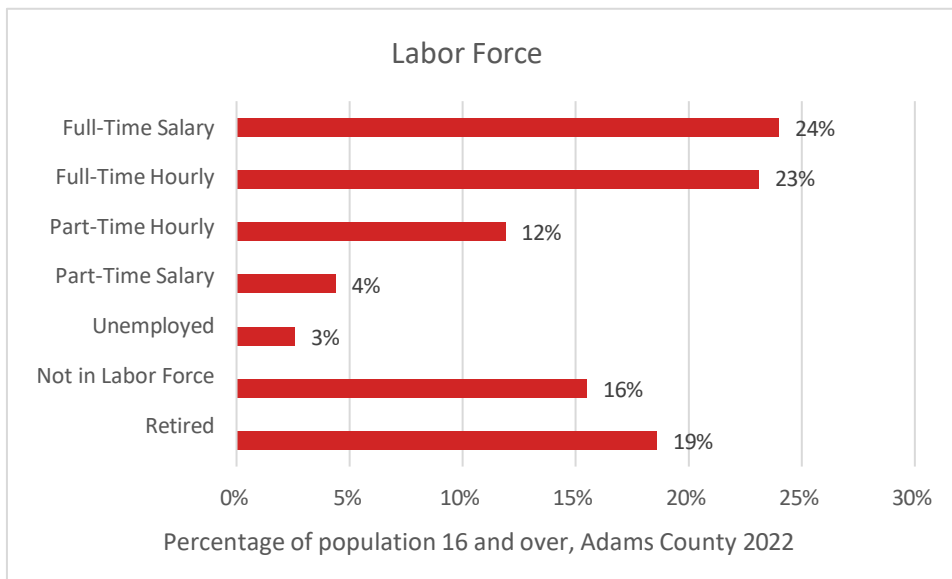


*"Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates"* U.S. Census Bureau, 2023.

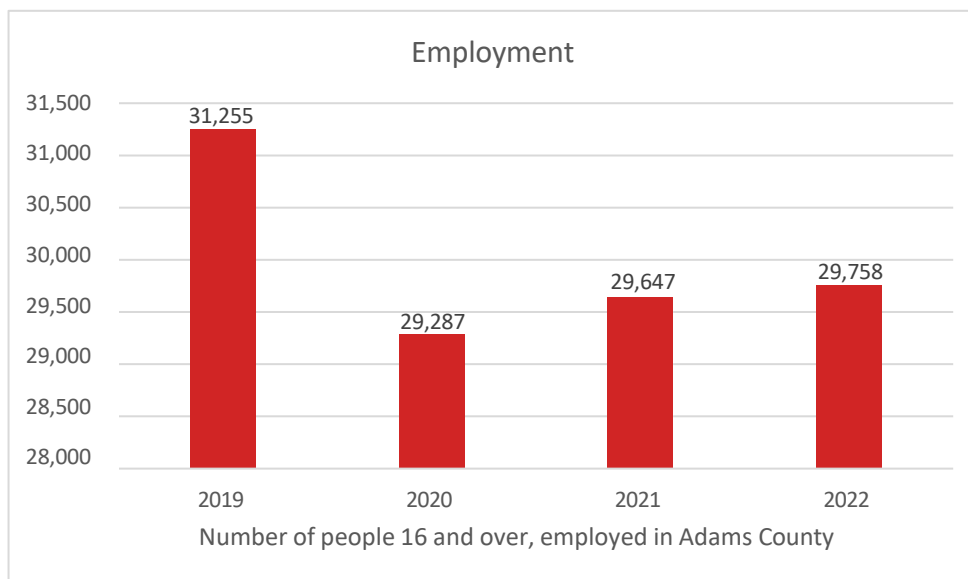
## Labor Force

The labor force encompasses all individuals who are either employed or actively seeking employment, excluding those not looking for work, such as retirees or discouraged workers. Employment data specifically addresses the number of people currently employed and includes details such as total employment, industry distribution, job types, and working hours. It does not account for those who are unemployed or not in the labor force.

- In May 2024, there were 30,248 employed persons in Adams County, Illinois.



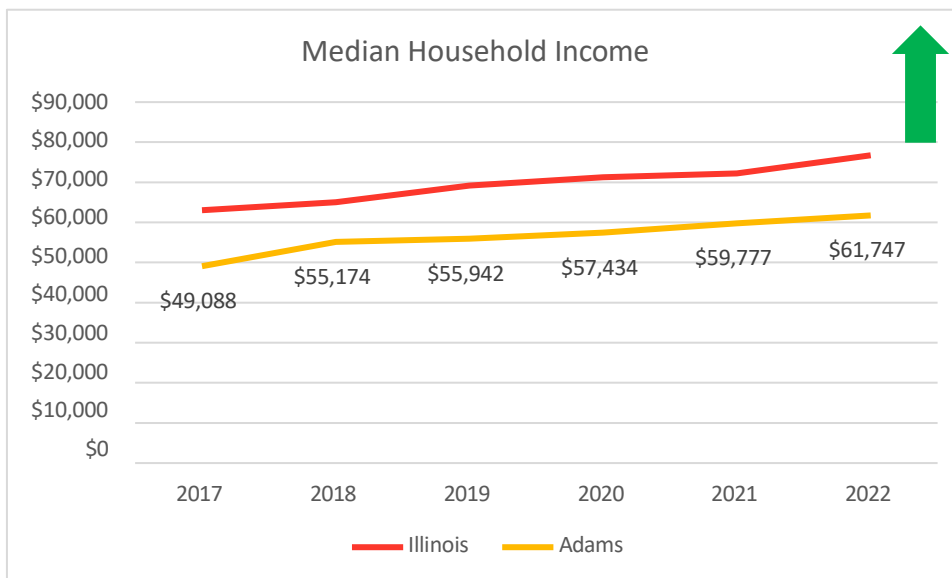
*"U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics." U.S. Department of Labor, 2023.*



*"2023 Number of People Employed in Adams" The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2023.*

## Income and Wages

Median household income is the income level that divides households in a specific area into two equal groups: half earn more than this amount, while the other half earn less. This measure is widely recognized and serves as a reliable indicator of the typical income level for an area.



*"Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates: Adams County, Illinois"* U.S. Census Bureau, 2023.

## Average Weekly Wages

Average weekly wages data represent the average earnings of employees in a specific region per week. This measure provides insight into the overall standard of living and potential economic trends within that area. Average weekly wages are a key economic indicator, reflecting changes in employment and earnings over time.

### Average Weekly Wages

Adams County

\$1,092

United States

\$1,435

*"Average Weekly Wages by County in Illinois, Fourth Quarter 2023: Adams County"* U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2023.

## Occupation

An occupation refers to the type of work a person does to earn a living, encompassing the job they hold. Individuals within the same occupation typically share similar training and perform comparable tasks. Occupations span a broad spectrum, from manual labor to professional services, playing a vital role in human health and well-being. They provide not only financial stability, but also meaning, identity, and structure to people’s lives. Additionally, occupations influence social interactions, personal development, community engagement and reflect society’s values and culture.

### Occupations – Adams County Civilian Employed Population Estimate

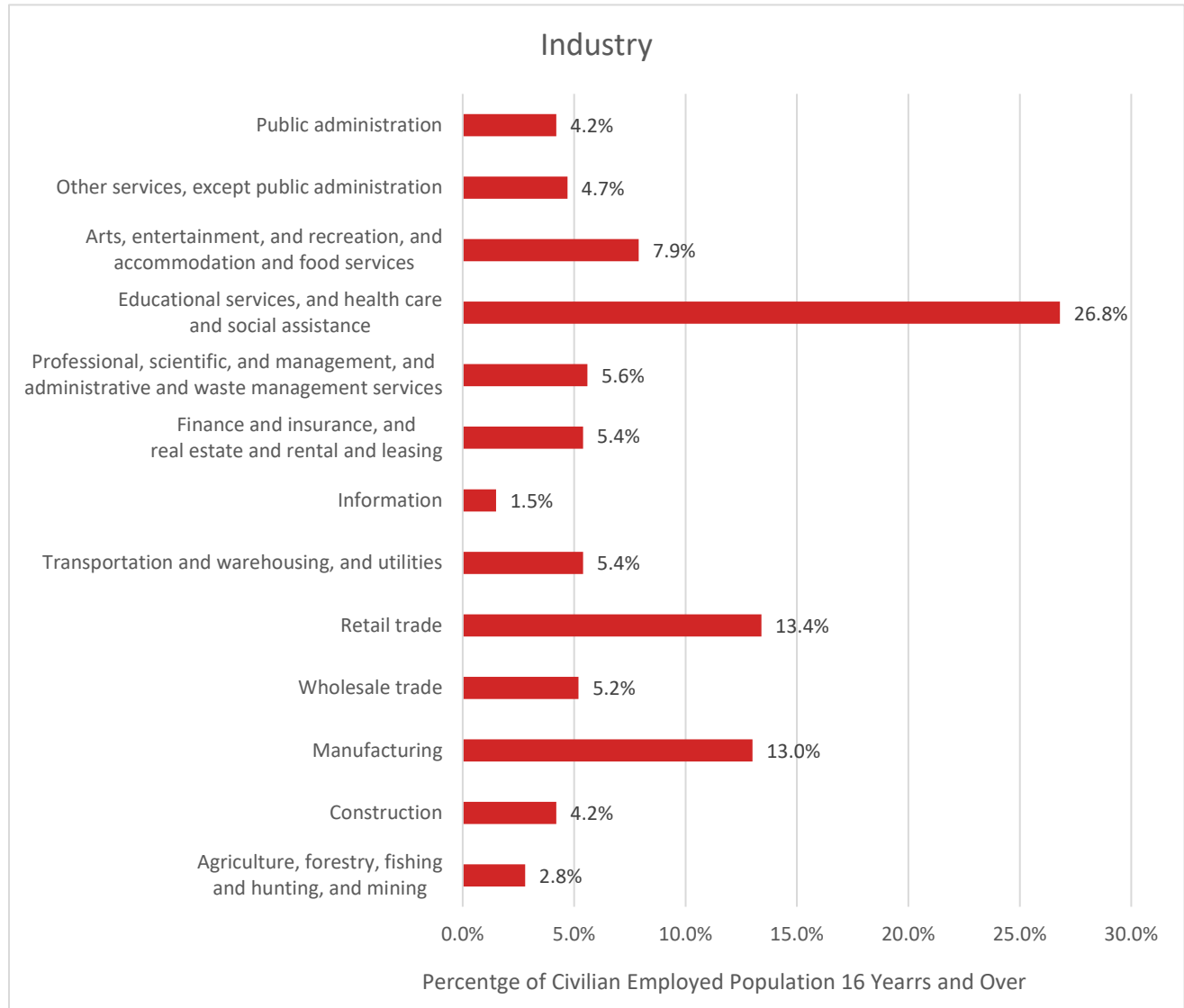
Management, Business, Science and Arts	11,603
Service	6,105
Sales and Office	7,283
Natural Resources, Construction, Maintenance	2,797
Production, Transportation, Material Moving	5,472

*"2022 Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates."*  
U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.



## Industry

Industry encompasses the businesses or activities that produce goods or services. In a community, different stakeholders have related interests: Merchants want to increase local spending, labor groups seek more jobs and better wages, and utility companies aim to sell more power. Real estate owners focus on raising land values, while city officials aim to expand the tax base. Industrialists look for complementary businesses to support their production. These varied interests collectively shape the community's industrial landscape and economic health.



*"2022 Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates" U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

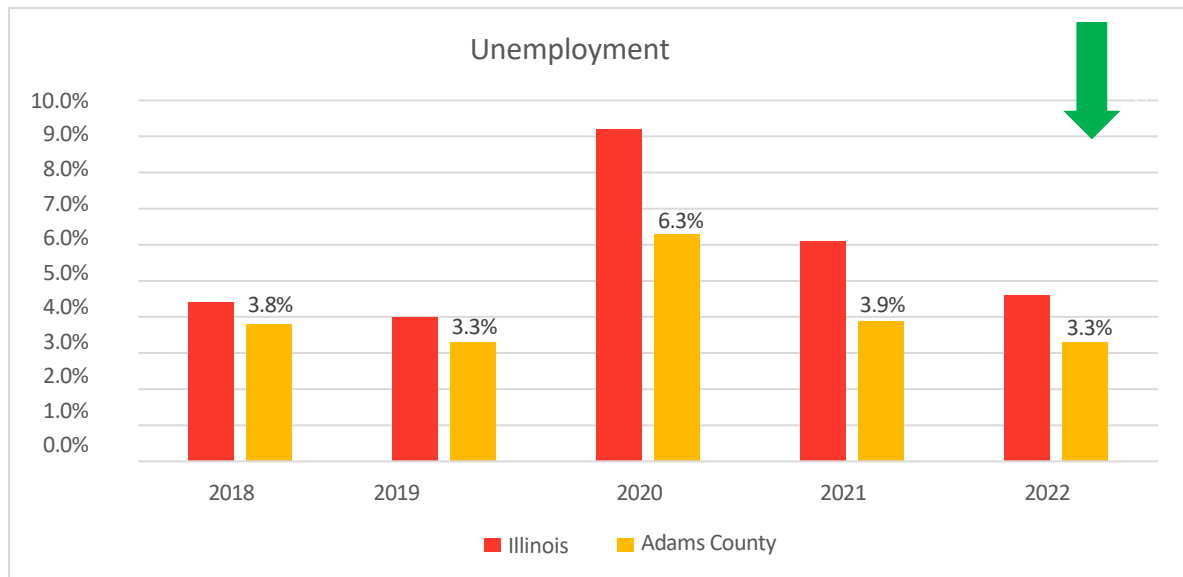
### Unemployment

Unemployment refers to the number of people actively seeking a job but unable to find one. It is a key economic indicator that reveals how many individuals in the workforce are without employment, providing insights into the economy's spare capacity and unused resources.

In contrast, underemployment describes individuals who are working but not in positions that match their skills or abilities, often resulting in lower earnings than they could be receiving. While unemployed individuals work zero hours, underemployed people may work less than they would prefer or hold part-time positions.

Both unemployment and underemployment are important for understanding the health of the job market. Unemployment highlights the challenges faced by those actively looking for work, while underemployment indicates inefficiencies in the labor market where people are not fully utilizing their potential. Together, these metrics help gauge the overall effectiveness of the economy in providing suitable employment opportunities.

- In May 2024, there were 1,201 unemployed persons in Adams County.



*"2023 Number of People Employed in Adams."* The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2023.

## Employment and Education

A strong positive correlation exists between education level, labor force participation, and earnings. Generally, individuals with higher levels of education tend to have higher rates of labor force participation and earn more than those with lower educational attainment. Essentially, more education often leads to better job opportunities and higher income potential.

## Academic Expectations

- 82% of Adams County 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students indicated that it was likely they would *probably* or *definitely* complete a post-high school program, such as a vocational training program, military service, community college, or 4-year degree, according to the *2024 Illinois Youth Survey*.

	Adams County	Illinois	United States
High School Completion	93%	89%	90%
Some College	67%	68%	71%

*Adults aged 25 and older had a high school degree or equivalent.*

*"County Demographics, 2024." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2024.*

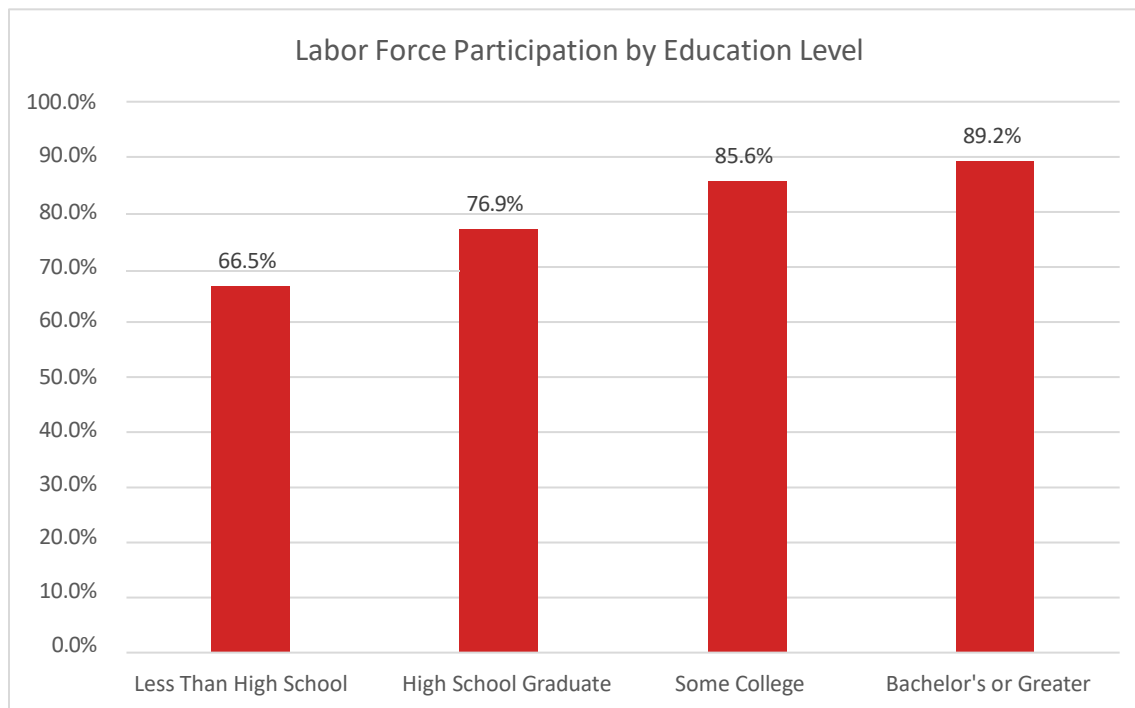
## Degrees Awarded

- Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing & Health Sciences is a private college in Quincy, Illinois, that offers nursing and health care career education. The college was founded 1891 as the Blessing Hospital Training School for Nurses. It was among the first nursing education programs in the Midwest, outside of Chicago. The college awarded 71 degrees in 2022.
- John Wood Community College (JWCC) is a public, two-year college in Quincy, Illinois, and is part of the Illinois Community College System. It was founded in 1974 and awarded 488 degrees in 2022.
- Quincy University (QU) is a small, private, Catholic university in Quincy, Illinois, that was founded in 1860 by Franciscan friars. Quincy University awarded 272 degrees in 2022.

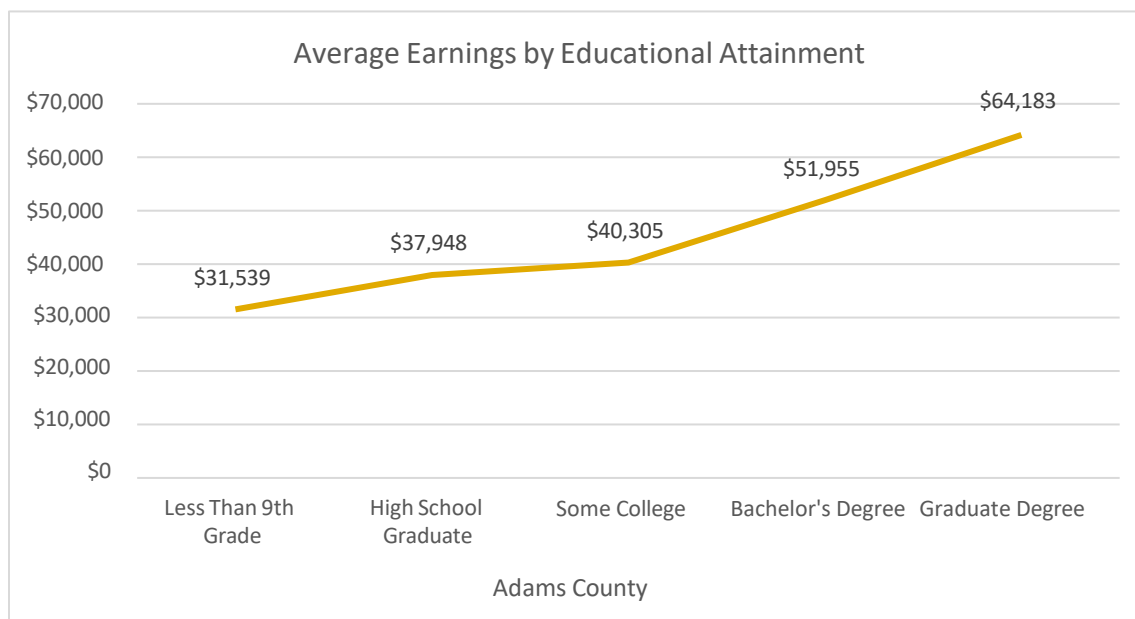


### Labor Force

Labor force participation rates have a strong, direct relationship with educational attainment levels: the higher the level of educational attainment, the higher the labor force participation rate.



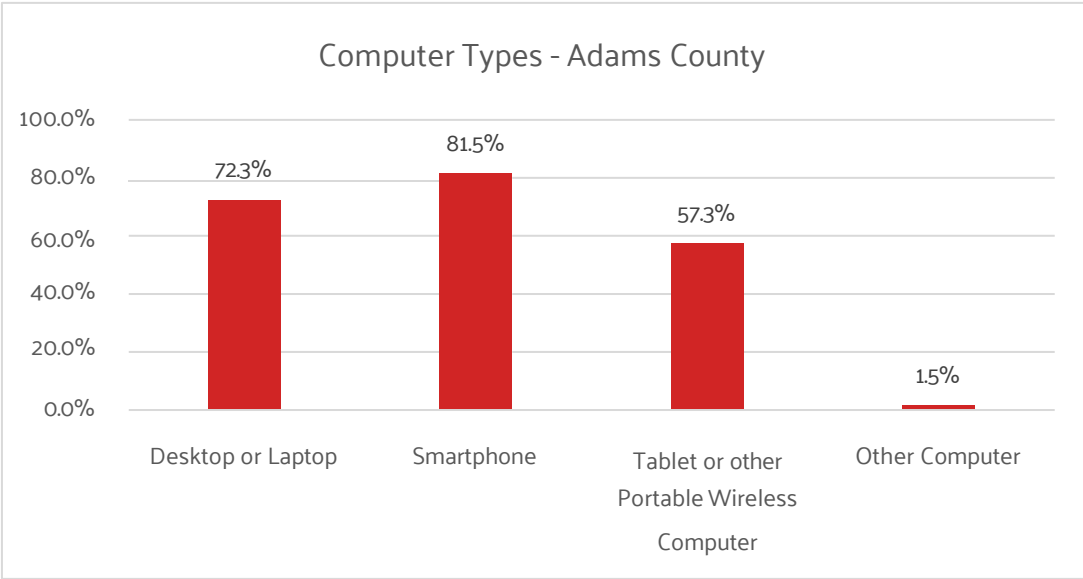
"2022."World Population Review, 2022.



"2022."World Population Review, 2022.

Computer and Internet

Computer use has grown considerably over the past few decades, and the percentage of households using the internet has also increased over time. The internet has impacted work life by facilitating a greater ability to work from home. While many households have home-based internet connections, others rely on a cell phone provider and connect to the internet through their smartphones.



“American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.” U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.

Internet Subscription in Adams County

Cellular Data Plan	68.8%
Broadband	66.1%
Satellite	6.8%
Dial-Up Alone	.3%
Other Service Alone	.4%

“American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.” U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.

### City of Quincy Transit Route Study

In 2023, the City of Quincy Transit System completed a route study involving over 170,000 riders. The study aimed to enhance routes and infrastructure by addressing concerns about efficiency and travel times for work and education. Key findings included a request for nighttime service from 84% of respondents, as well as a need for improved bus stop shelters, newer buses, full county coverage, faster and more frequent service, and additional weekend and holiday service.

### Transportation to Work

- 88.5% of Adams County residents drive a truck, car, or van to work. Of these, 80.5% drive alone, and an additional 8% carpool.
- 1.2% use public transportation.
- 3.2% walk.
- 6% work from home.

*"American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

#### Vehicles Available - Adams County

No Vehicle	10.0%
One Vehicle	39.1%
Two Vehicles	34.4%
Three or More Vehicles	16.4%

*"American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

### Social Determinants of Health

Blessing Health began screening all patients for Social Determinants of Health needs in February 2024. Through June 30, 2024, 3% of the patients screened positive for transportation needs.

## Housing Market

The housing market refers to the supply and demand for houses in a specific area or region. Currently, the housing market is facing challenges due to high mortgage rates, rising prices, and low supply, making it harder for people to afford homes. This situation has reduced purchasing power and kept the market competitive, leading to a decline in affordability.

## Healthy Housing

Healthy housing is more than just a roof over your head; it is about ensuring physical, mental, and social well-being. It creates a sense of belonging, safety, and privacy. A healthy home should be structurally sound, protect from weather, manage moisture, maintain comfortable temperatures, and offer proper sanitation, lighting, and space. It should provide safe energy sources, keep out pollutants, and minimize injury risks, mold, and pests.

The quality of housing also depends on the surrounding community, which supports social interactions and access to services like green spaces, public transportation, and protection from pollution or disasters. Healthy housing considers both the physical structure and the local environment to support overall health.

## Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is housing that costs no more than 30% of a household's income, ensuring that people can cover other essential expenses. This standard is particularly important for low-income households—those earning less than 80% of the area's median income. For homeowners, these costs include mortgage payments, taxes, and insurance, while for renters, they cover rent and utilities.

## Subsidized Housing

Subsidized housing refers to government programs that help lower housing costs for low- and moderate-income individuals, using tools like rent vouchers, down payment assistance, and tax credits. Public housing is a specific type of subsidized housing that offers safe rental options for eligible low-income families, seniors, and people with disabilities.

## Housing Characteristics

- In Adams County, 4.1% of the housing inventory is comprised of houses built since 2010, while 24.4% of the houses were built in 1939 or earlier.
- The median number of rooms in all housing units in Adams County is 5.8. Of these units, 59.1% have three or more bedrooms.

### Types of Housing in Adams County

Single Family Residence	78.8%
Apartments in Multi Unit Structures	16.2%
Mobile Homes	4.9%

*"2022 American Community Survey (ACS): 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles." United States Census, 2022.*

## Housing Inventory

- In 2023, Adams County had a total of 30,330 housing units.
- Of these, 78.8% were single-family houses, either not attached to any other structure or attached to one or more structures (commonly referred to as "townhouses" or "row houses").
- Additionally, 16.2% of the housing units were multi-unit structures, which are buildings that contain two or more apartments.
- Finally, 4.9% were mobile homes, while the remaining housing units were classified as "other," including boats, recreational vehicles, vans, and other similar items.

### Adams County

Median Home Value	\$151,300
Total Housing Units	30,235
Home Ownership Rate	72.2%
Occupied Housing Units	27,313
Vacant Housing Units	2,922

*"2022 American Community Survey (ACS): 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles." United States Census, 2022.*

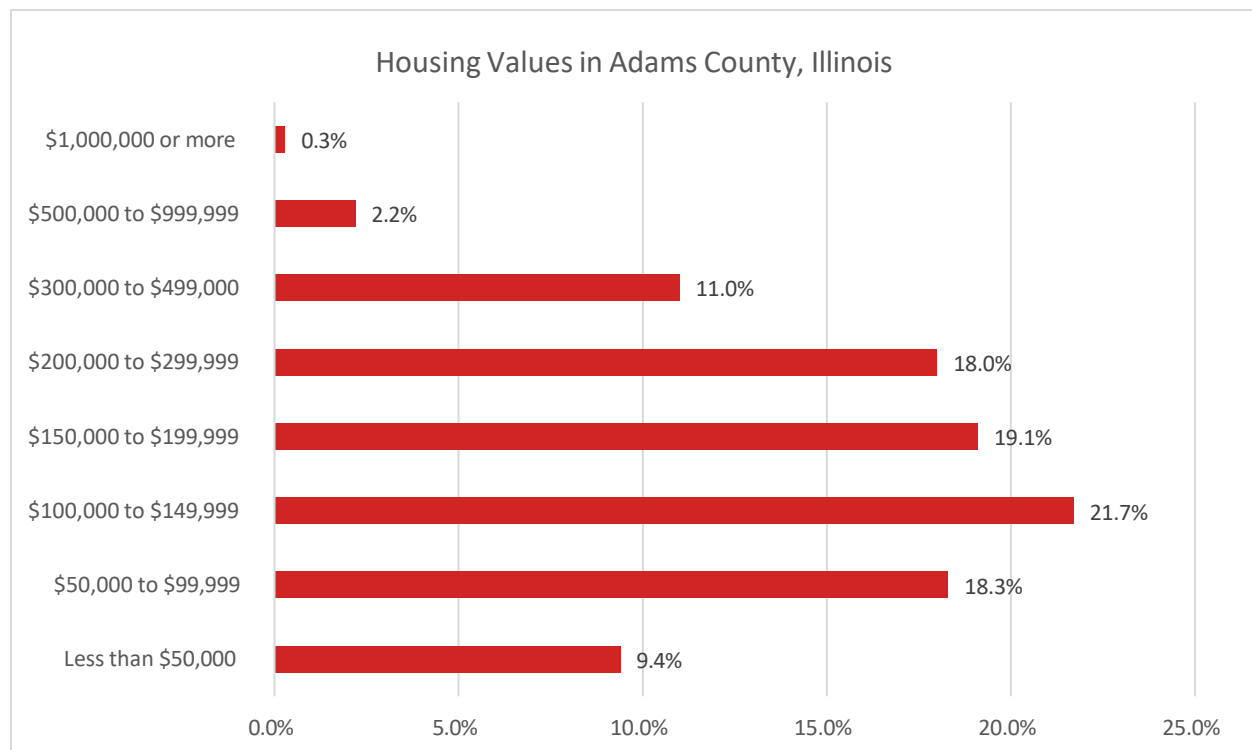




### Adams County Housing Market

- In July 2024, there were 218 homes listed for sale and 10 rentals on realtor.com.
- The median listing price in Adams County in July 2024 was \$174,900, trending up 9.5% year over year. The median listing price in August 2021 was \$132,250.
- The median home sold price in Adams County in July of 2024 was \$185,000. The median home sold price in August of 2021 was \$141,450.
- On average, homes in Adams County sell after 47 days on the market, just slightly up from 45 days in 2021.

*"Home Values and Housing Market." Realtor.com, 2024.*



*"2022 American Community Survey (ACS): 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles." United States Census, 2022.*

### New Private Housing Structures Authorized Building Permits

January 2023	61 units
January 2022	66 units
January 2021	70 units

### Occupied Housing Characteristics

- In 2022, the percentage of housing units in Adams County occupied by owners (also known as the homeownership rate) was 72.2%, while renters occupied 27.8%. In 2020, the homeownership rate was 67.8%, with renters occupying 22.4%.
- Among the households, 31.9% were 1-person households, 37.9% were 2-person households, and 16.9% were households with four or more members.
- Of the householders in these occupied houses, 4.0% had moved in since 2021, while 14.6% had moved in during 1989 or earlier.

*"2022 United States Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates." U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.*

## Housing Costs and Burden

There is strong and growing evidence linking stable and affordable housing to health. As housing costs have outpaced local incomes, households struggle not only to acquire and maintain adequate shelter but also face difficult trade-offs in meeting other basic needs. When a significant portion of a paycheck goes toward rent or mortgage, it becomes challenging to afford doctor visits, healthy foods, utility bills, and reliable transportation to work or school. This can, in turn, lead to increased stress levels and emotional strain.

- In 2018-2022, the median property value for owner-occupied houses in Adams County was \$151,300.
- The median monthly owner costs with a mortgage during this period were \$1,184.
- Of the owner-occupied households, 55.9% had a mortgage, while 44.1% owned their houses "free and clear," meaning without a primary mortgage or loan on the house.
- The median monthly housing costs for owners with a mortgage were \$1,184, while for owners without a mortgage it was \$520.
- In 2022, the percentage of burdened households in Adams County, defined as those households paying 30 percent or more of their household income on housing (such as rent or mortgage expenses), was 19.8%.

*"2022 American Community Survey (ACS): 1-Year Estimates Data Profiles." United States Census, 2022.*

### Severe Housing Cost Burden

*Percent of Households that spend 50% or more of their household income on housing*

Adams County	9%
Illinois	14%
United States	14%

*"County Demographics, 2024." County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2024.*

## Low Income Housing 2024

Low-income housing describes residences designed to support renters struggling to keep up with rising rental costs.

- In Adams County, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$875. In 2021, it was \$776.
- To afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30 percent of income on housing, a household must earn \$35,000 annually.
- Assuming a 40-hour work week and 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly wage of \$16.83.
- Illinois Minimum Wage: \$14.00

*"Out of Reach."* National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2024.

### Median Gross Rent

Adams County	\$ 782
Illinois	\$1170

*"American Community Survey 2022: ACS 5-Year Estimates."*  
U.S. Census Bureau, 2022.

## Rental Households

A rental household is a private household where no one in the household owns the dwelling they live in.

- Adams County: Number of renter households (2021): 7,645 or 28%.
- Number of full-time jobs needed at minimum wage to afford a two-bedroom rental at FMR: 1.2.
- Adams County monthly rent affordable at 30 percent of AMI: \$666.
- Estimated hourly mean renter wage in Adams County in 2024: \$14.33.
- 21% of renter households experienced at least one of four severe housing problems; in 2021, the percentage was 12%.
  - Incomplete kitchen facilities
  - Incomplete plumbing facilities
  - More than 1 person per room
  - Cost burden greater than 50 percent

*"Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (2016-2020)."* Adams County Health Rankings  
and HUD Office of Policy Development and Research.

### Severe Housing Problems

Good health depends on having homes that are safe and free from physical hazards. When adequate housing protects individuals and families from harmful exposures and provides them with a sense of privacy, security, and stability, it can make important contributions to health. In contrast, inferior quality and inadequate housing can significantly contribute to health problems such as infectious and chronic diseases, injuries, and poor development during childhood. Housing measures can also be considered proxy indicators of more general socioeconomic circumstances.

- In Adams County, 11% of households experienced at least one of the following problems:
  - Overcrowding
  - High housing costs
  - Lack of kitchen facilities
  - Lack of plumbing facilities

#### Severe Housing Problems

Adams County	11%
Illinois	16%
United States	17%

*"Social & Economic Factors, 2016-2020."* County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2020.

### Social Determinants of Health

- Blessing Health began screening all patients for Social Determinants of Health needs in February 2024. Through June 30, 2024, 2% of the patients screened positive for housing instability.

# 2023 HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ADAMS COUNTY / QUINCY, IL



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The COVID-19 Pandemic vastly changed the housing needs of the city of Quincy and Adams County. The area witnessed a decline in available housing, while new residential construction has slowed, and more residents sought to change their living accommodations. This study evaluated the need for housing in Adams County with a focus on Quincy and demand for housing in the same area and gaps between supply and demand. The study evaluated the effectiveness of past programs; while engaging stakeholders on specific steps the entities could take to encourage additional investments in housing. For those gaps identified, strategies are offered, enabling the client to help close those gaps. The objective of this study was to gain a better understanding of how the community's area housing market works through data and surveys completed by employers, stakeholders, community members, and people who have relocated to the area recently.

- 58% of the community members surveyed were dissatisfied with the availability of quality homes in Quincy and Adams County.
- 66% of the community members surveyed thought they would be looking for a home in the next 10 years.
- 83% of the stakeholders surveyed thought there were not enough affordable housing units to make near-term demands.
- 68% of stakeholders surveyed did not feel zoning was inhibiting development of housing.
- 62% of stakeholders said supply chain delays affected their ability to build homes.
- 75% of the stakeholders surveyed said the lack of available labor, increased cost of supplies and the lack of supplies have all hindered their ability to build homes.

## PROJECTED HOUSING NEED (IN UNITS):

	2023	2028	2033	TOTAL
SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING	100	150	250	500
CONDOMINIUMS/TOWNHOMES	50	100	100	250
MARKET RATE RENTAL HOMES	75	100	90	265
AFFORDABLE RATE HOUSING	50	75	75	200
SENIOR HOUSING	125	100	150	375
TOTAL:	400	525	665	1,590

**IMPLEMENT INCENTIVES TO REDUCE THE COST TO BUILD NEW HOUSING UNITS** The City of Quincy has had success encouraging investments with incentives offered in their Downtown Rental Rehab Program and Small Rental Rehab Program. The local building community has experienced a drastic increase in costs, a strained supply chain and dwindling labor supply. This has reduced the potential return on investment for builders to a level that serves as a disincentive for home builders to construct new units. The incentive would encourage single-family homes and affordable market rate rentals.

**ADOPT A PROGRAM TO REHABILITATE OLDER HOMES** With over 65% of Adams County seniors still owning their homes and the existing age of the housing stock, one could draw the conclusion there will be an increase in the necessity to rehabilitate homes when a new family moves in. Young professionals in the area state the cost to rehabilitate homes is making it unaffordable to move out of a rental and into a starter home. This causes a logjam in the rental market. Providing a program to encourage rehabilitation would encourage investment in older homes, thus reducing the chance of a property becoming blighted.

**ESTABLISHING COUNTYWIDE HOUSING PROGRAMS** The two most successful housing programs have been limited in Quincy to west of 12th street and downtown. Adams County has many villages which would benefit from similar programs. Housing industry stakeholders also identified many owned properties outside of the City of Quincy's core neighborhoods and would utilize housing programs if offered.

**CREATE A HOME BUYERS REVOLVING LOAN FUND TO LOWER THE COST OF BORROWING** Interest rates have climbed, making monthly mortgage payments more expensive for home buyers. A program offering below-market interest rates, in partnership with the local banking community, could see many renters take advantage of the fund, thus creating more vacancies in the rental market. The City of Quincy has a well utilized Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund, which offers below market interest rates to the business community. That program could serve as a template for such a program in the housing market.

**PARTNER WITH LOCAL BANKS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF STATE AND FEDERAL HOUSING PROGRAMS** There are many programs offered for home buyers of which the consumer and home builder may not be aware. By offering instructional classes and courses the city and county governments could tap into additional state and federal resources.

### Conclusions

- Adams County needs more housing in the \$100,000 - \$200,000 range.
- Incentives would not only encourage more developers to enter the market but would make housing more affordable.
- The city should encourage more dwellings on lots, but overall, zoning seems to be deemed as fair.
- Adams County would grow in population if there was available housing for every open job in the market.
- Access the full housing study: [GREDF-RISE-Housing-Final.pdf](#)

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