Highland County Community Assessment
A summary of data from a comprehensive community survey
July 2012
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Highland County Community Assessment

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Introduction
Highland County Community Assessment
Introduction

The Highland County Health Collaborative focus for 2011 and 2012 was to cooperatively address issues impacting the lives of Highland County residents. The Health Collaborative had extensive discussions about the health needs and service gaps in Highland County. The Collaborative participants consisted of non-profit organizations, health organizations, government agencies, school representatives, parents, and interested citizens who assembled to identify and address needs in Highland County.

The 2012 Highland County Community Assessment Report provides an overview of a variety of factors that affect the health and well-being of Highland County residents. This information will be used as a tool to evaluate issues and concerns as they relate to the areas of health, wellness, community needs and service gaps.

Objectives

The overall goal of the community assessment is to provide a report to the community that will inform leaders about current behaviors, practices, and issues, in an effort to improve the quality of life for Highland County residents.

The objectives of this Community Assessment:

- Build partnerships to address the needs and service gaps in the community
- Develop a comprehensive survey tool, utilizing community input
- Assess the data and report the findings to the community

The final report was shared with the community in a public meeting on July 19, 2012.

The information contained in this report will enable organizations, businesses, local leaders, government agencies and residents, to better understand the population, needs and service gaps of the health care and social service programs in the county and to subsequently develop goals and plans of action to meet community needs.
Executive Summary
Highland County Community Assessment
Executive Summary: Highland County Community Assessment

Introduction

During 2011-2012, a community health collaborative, consisting of health care professionals in Highland County, assembled to focus on gathering data regarding a variety of health and community related issues. The health collaborative included representatives from a variety of health organizations including medical centers, physicians, dentists, optometrists, social service and health agencies, local school districts, community colleges, other educational and health-related agencies and organizations, as well as community leaders. The health collaborative represented a cross-section of leaders working in health care and education in Highland County.

Partnering with Ohio State University Extension, Community Development, the collaborative developed two questionnaires. The first questionnaire measured the perceptions and practices of those providing health care and educational services. The second survey was provided to Highland County residents. This questionnaire asked participants to respond to questions about their health care practices, their health (and the health of their immediate family), financial concerns, and other behaviors and attitudes related to health and well-being.

Questionnaires: Health Partner Survey

Health Partner Survey Questions

1. List the top three issues about the health care system in your county that you would like to see changed.
2. What works well in the health care system in your county?
3. If your services are not free, how do most of the clients pay for the services they receive at your agency/facility?
4. Is there a policy that limits your ability to meet the health needs of your clients?
5. Is there a policy that positively impacts your ability to meet the health needs of your clients?
6. Overall, how would you describe the health of individuals in your county?
7. In your opinion, what are the top three factors that influence a person’s overall health?
8. Rate the top health issues you consider to be a problem in your community (from provided list).
9. In your opinion, what are the top three issues in your community that impact health?
10. In your opinion, what are the top three issues in your community that impact well-being?
11. Where do you think most people in your community go for health care when they are sick?
12. Please select the top three financial constraints you hear from community members.
13. In your opinion, what are the top three medically underserved groups in your county?
14. In your opinion, what are the top three health care services for which people travel out of the county to receive?
Members of the health collaborative worked closely with OSU Extension to develop the questions for the health partner survey. Over the course of many meetings in 2011, the survey was developed and launched in January 2012. Forty-two health care professionals in Highland County responded to the survey.

When asked to rank the top issues in the health care system in Highland County that they would like to see changed, the health professionals cited these top 10 responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 Issues: Health Professionals Would Like to See Changed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Underinsured patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. High cost of medical services and procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Lack of needed medical services and procedures in county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Access to necessary physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Lack of available mental health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Large number of obese clients/obesity treatment and prevention needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Lack of Medicaid/Medicare providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. More preventive care and education needed for healthy lifestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Large number of patients affected by illegal drug use and prescription drug abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Lack of pediatricians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highland County health professionals were also asked to identify the components of the health care system that worked well, from their perspective. The top responses include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 Responses: What’s Working Well in the Highland County Health Care System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Cooperation among health care professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Professionalism of health care professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Caring health care professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Good local (or local branches) of hospitals in community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Good programs and staff at county health department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Established and functioning health collaborative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Good relationships between medical centers and health agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Small community: friendly, familiar, welcoming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Good emergency services and EMS staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. A strong unified approach to health care among professionals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to Highland County health professionals, the top groups of medically underserved individuals include uninsured adults, mentally handicapped individuals, seniors, and uninsured children.

Health care professionals indicated that the top three health services their clients travel outside of the county to receive are cardiac services (heart catheterization, open heart surgeries, seeking cardiologists), cancer treatment/oncology services, and dental services.

According to health care professionals, the leading financial constraints in Highland County include being unable to find gainful employment, not being able to afford medical insurance, and not having enough money to buy medications.
The health collaborative also developed a web-based survey to be shared with Highland County residents. This survey focused on health practices, health needs, health concerns/issues, barriers to seeking health care, health-related educational resources, physical and mental well-being, and issues related to financial well-being. The survey was open to the public from February to May 2012. Two hundred and forty-one residents completed the survey.

Among the respondents, 74% were female, 67% were between the ages of 35-64 years, 98% were white/Caucasian, and 67% were married. More than 70% of respondents indicated that they had attended at least some college, with 37% attaining a Bachelor’s degree or better. Thirty seven percent of respondents listed their family income between $50,000 and $99,000, while nearly 50% indicated that they have a family income of less than $50,000. Twenty-seven percent indicated that they are currently unemployed or underemployed and looking for full time employment. Ten percent of respondents are military veterans.

**Using Medical Services**

Among respondents, 81% indicated that they have a family doctor, 73% have a dentist, and 78% have an eye care provider.
The table below lists the rate of medical visits reported by public respondents for each medical professional:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Professional</th>
<th>Within the last 1-12 months</th>
<th>Within the last 13-24 months</th>
<th>Within the last 25-36 months</th>
<th>Not in the last 3 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Doctor</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye Doctor</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sixty-one percent of respondents indicated having a child 17 years old or younger living in the home. The table below shows the frequency visits for children to medical professionals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Professional</th>
<th>Last 3 months</th>
<th>4-6 months</th>
<th>7-9 months</th>
<th>10-12 months</th>
<th>12+ months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric/Family Doctor</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye Doctor</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of respondents with children, 54% reported visiting the doctor’s office when the child is sick; 18% visit a urgent care center; 18% try home or traditional remedies; 8% visit a hospital emergency room; and 1% visit a retail clinic (such as CVS, Walgreens, etc.). Of the 61% of respondents with children, 14% have a child enrolled in Head Start.

Fourteen percent of respondents with children indicate that their child is limited because of physical challenges. The incidence of reported mental or emotional challenges among children is cited at a rate of 17%.

**Lifestyle Choices**

In regard to personal exercise habits, 40% of respondents reported exercising once in a while; 27% reported exercising one to two times per week; 24% reported exercising four to seven times per week; and 9% reported that they never exercise.

Twenty-three percent of respondents smoke. Of those, 90% report smoking one pack per day and 10% report smoking two packs per day. Six percent report that they use smokeless tobacco. Of those 89% report using one can daily, while 11% report using two cans daily.
Illness/Diseases Reported

The chart below outlines the incidence of disease among respondents or their immediate family members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Incidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Disease</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental/Emotional</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Issues

Respondents were asked to evaluate a list of potential financial issues.

Public response: Financial issues

- Not enough money for food: 27% Sometimes an issue, 14% A major issue
- Unable to find work: 23% Sometimes an issue, 13% A major issue
- Needing education/training to find work: 22% Sometimes an issue, 13% A major issue
- Not affording transportation: 24% Sometimes an issue, 16% A major issue
- Not affording medical expenses: 28% Sometimes an issue, 20% A major issue
- Not affording medications: 25% Sometimes an issue, 19% A major issue
- Not affording medical insurance: 31% Sometimes an issue, 10% A major issue
Seven percent of respondents reported that they had received a notice of foreclosure on their home in the last three years. Of respondents, 13% indicated using a payday loan or cash advance service within the past year. Seven percent of those utilize the service monthly.

**Comparing Health Care Professionals & Public Responses**

Top health issues in the community:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Health Professional (% responding)</th>
<th>Public Response (% responding)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illegal drug use</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco use</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not having health insurance</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart disease</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription drug abuse</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen births</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical inactivity</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comparing responses: Factors affecting well-being**
Comparing responses: Issues that impact health

- Lack of chronic health management: 18% Public, 18% Health Professionals
- Lack of vision services: 0% Public, 8% Health Professionals
- Lack of substance abuse services: 27% Public, 55% Health Professionals
- Lack of local specialists: 29% Public, 42% Health Professionals
- Lack of residential mental treatment: 24% Public, 50% Health Professionals
- Lack of mental health services: 26% Public, 64% Health Professionals
- Lack of Medicare/Medicaid providers: 29% Public, 46% Health Professionals
- Lack of health services for seniors: 18% Public, 22% Health Professionals
- Lack of dental services: 26% Public, 30% Health Professionals

Health professional opinions and public actual practices: Treatment practices when sick

- Doctor’s Office: 72% Public, 94% Health Professionals
- Hospital ER: 7% Public, 0% Health Professionals
- Health Department: 6% Public, 3% Health Professionals
- Free Clinic: 2% Public, 6% Health Professionals
- Retail Clinic: 19% Public, 15% Health Professionals
- Home Remedies: 3% Public, 1% Health Professionals
- Alternative Care Providers: 1% Public, 3% Health Professionals

Guardian of Health® (GoHealth®)
Community Snapshot: Stats & Demographics
Highland County Community Assessment
Community Snapshot: Demographics & Statistics

The following information includes demographic and statistical data related to Highland County residents. This information provides a snapshot of the county as it relates to state and national data. In 2010, the Highland County population was 43,589. The population is projected to continue to grow through 2030.

Population Growth

Below is an analysis of the county population by race and ethnicity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>42,005</td>
<td>96.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more Races</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total minority population in Highland County is 1,722 (3.9%). The median age for Highland County residents is 38.3 years old.

The percent of individuals aged 5+ years, who speak a language other than English, in 2006 – 2010, was 2.1% for Highland County and 6.3% for Ohio statewide.
In 2010, females comprised 51% of the population in Highland County. Likewise, males comprised 49% of the county’s population. These data are very close to the state gender make up of 51.2% female and 48.8% males.

Educational Attainment

- No high school diploma (5,780)
- High school graduate (13,087)
- Some college, no degree (5,272)
- Associate degree (1,621)
- Bachelor’s degree (1,621)
- Master’s degree or higher (1,167)
Family Type by Presence of Own Children Under 18

- Families w/no children (6,567) - 55.7%
- Female householder, no husband present, w/own children (1,233) - 10.5%
- Male householder, no wife present, w/own children (475) - 4.0%
- Married-Couple families w/own children (3,520) - 29.8%

Household Income
Total Households: 16,638
Median household income: $39,844

- Less than $10,000: 15.0%
- $10,000 to $19,999: 13.1%
- $20,000 to $29,999: 12.5%
- $30,000 to $39,999: 9.5%
- $40,000 to $49,999: 10.0%
- $50,000 to $59,999: 10.5%
- $60,000 to $69,999: 11.5%
- $70,000 to $79,999: 9.2%
- $80,000 to $89,999: 6.7%
- $90,000 to $99,999: 1.0%
- $100,000 to $149,999: 0.9%
- $150,000 or more: 1.0%
The number of veterans living in Highland County between 2006-2010 was 3,834 with a total of 936,383 in the state of Ohio.
Poverty Status of Families - By Family Type and by Presence of Related Children

*Family income above poverty level - 10,328 (87.6%)*
*Family income below poverty level - 1,467 (12.4%)*

![Poverty Status Pie Chart]

2012 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons in Family/Household</th>
<th>Poverty guideline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$11,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>15,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>19,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>23,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>27,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>30,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>34,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>38,890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $3,960 for each additional person.
Highland County Ratio of Income to Poverty Level
(Persons below poverty level - 16.2%)

- Below 50% of poverty level - 2,821 (6.6%)
- 50% to 99% of poverty level - 4,117 (9.6%)
- 100% to 149% of poverty level - 5,799 (13.5%)
- 150% to 199% of poverty level - 4,751 (11.1%)
- 200% of poverty level or more - 25,454 (59.3%)

Geographical Mobility Among County Residents

- Same house as previous year - 36,387 (84.4%)
- Different house, same county - 4,112 (9.5%)
- Different county, same state - 1,995 (4.6%)
- Different state - 500 (1.2%)
- Abroad - 97 (0.2%)

Housing Units: Highland County
Total housing units 19,166

- Owner occupied - 12,272 (64.0%)
- Renter occupied - 4,366 (22.8%)
- Vacant housing units - 2,528 (13.2%)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Units</td>
<td>19,380</td>
<td>5,127,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeownership rate, 2006-2010</td>
<td>73.8%</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Units in multi-unit structures, 2006-2010</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2006-2010</td>
<td>$106,200</td>
<td>$136,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person Per household, 2006-2010</td>
<td>2.59</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income 2006-2010</td>
<td>$39,844</td>
<td>$47,358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value for Specified Owner - Occupied Housing Units  12,272 Units

- Less than $20,000: 3.9%  
- $20,000 to $29,999: 5.2%  
- $30,000 to $39,999: 7.7%  
- $40,000 to $49,999: 12.6%  
- $50,000 to $59,999: 16.4%  
- $60,000 to $69,999: 16.8%  
- $70,000 to $79,999: 14.6%  
- $80,000 to $89,999: 10.2%  
- $90,000 to $99,999: 8.5%  
- $100,000 to $119,999: 2.6%  
- $120,000 to $139,999: 1.3%  
- $140,000 or more: 0.3%
Health Care Information

Understanding the health care of the county is vital to providing quality health care to the residence of Highland County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physicians (MDs &amp; DOs)</th>
<th>32</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Hospitals</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Number of beds</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Nursing Homes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Number of beds</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Residential Care</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Number of beds</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Employer-Based Insurance</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with Employer-Based Insurance</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highland County Health Rankings

In 2012, Highland County ranked 76 out of 88 counties in health outcomes statistics. The rankings are based on a model of population health that emphasizes the many factors that if improved, can help make communities healthier places to live, learn, work and play. Health outcomes in the county health rankings represent the health of a county. Two types of health outcomes are measured: how long people live (mortality) and how healthy people are (incidence of disease) while alive (morbidity). Premature deaths occur before a person reaches an expected age (e.g., age 75). Many of these deaths are considered to be preventable and are reported as a rate per 100,000 people. See the chart below for the factors that provide these ratings from www.countyhealthrankings.org

Health Outcomes – 76 out of 88 Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mortality (76 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premature death</td>
<td>9,245</td>
<td>7,513</td>
<td>5,466</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morbidity (58 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor or fair health</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor physical health days</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor mental health days</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low birth weight</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Health Factors – 78 out of 88 Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Behaviors (60 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult obesity</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical inactivity</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive drinking</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle crash death rate</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexually transmitted infections</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen birth rate</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rates per 100,000 population*

## Clinical Care (73 out of 88)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Care (73 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uninsured</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary care physicians</td>
<td>1,116:1</td>
<td>859:1</td>
<td>631:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventable hospital stays</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetic screening</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammography screening</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rates per 1,000 population*

## Social & Economic Factors (83 out of 88)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social &amp; Economic Factors (83 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children in poverty</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social support</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in single-parent households</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent crime rate</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rates per 100,000 population*

## Physical Environment (19 out of 88)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Environment (19 out of 88)</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to recreational facilities</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast food restaurants</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rates per 100,000 population*

## Vital Statistics - Highland County *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vital Statistics</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Births/rate per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>70.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen births/rate per 1,000 females 15 to 19</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>64.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths/rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1,062.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriages/rate per 1,000 population</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorces/rate per 1,000 population</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2010 Census*
Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Number of cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cancer Incidence and Mortality

Average annual rates of invasive cancer cases, 2001-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Site Type</th>
<th>Highland County Incidence Rate</th>
<th>Ohio Incidence Rate</th>
<th>U.S. Incidence Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>101.5</td>
<td>121.9</td>
<td>126.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervix</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colon &amp; Rectum</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>52.9</td>
<td>50.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Uterus</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophagus</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung &amp; Bronchus</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>63.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovary</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-Rates are per 100,000

Average annual cancer deaths, 2001-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Site Type</th>
<th>Highland County Mortality Rate</th>
<th>Ohio Mortality Rate</th>
<th>U.S. Mortality Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervix</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colon &amp; Rectum</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Uterus</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophagus</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung &amp; Bronchus</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>54.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovary</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-Rates are per 100,000

* - Rates may be unstable and are not presented when the count 2001 – 2005 is less than five
Cancer Incidence Rates by Census Tract

Average annual (1996-2005) age-adjusted cancer incidence rates for Highland County, by census tract, are presented in Figures 1-4 for cancers of the lung and bronchus; colon and rectum; female breast; and prostate, respectively. These maps can help to identify areas in the county with higher rates and/or risks of developing these cancers.

Lung and Bronchus Cancer 1-4

![Lung and Bronchus Cancer Map]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17.7 - 58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58.2 - 71.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71.2 - 84.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.0 - 105.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105.7 - 399.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colon and Rectum Cancer 1-4

![Colon and Rectum Cancer Map]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.7 - 44.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.1 - 52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.4 - 60.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.8 - 72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72.1 - 317.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Female Breast Cancer 1-4

Prostate Cancer 1-4

[2] Rates are per 100,000 and were calculated using vintage 2006 estimates for July 1, 1996-1999 and estimates for July 1, 2000-2005, (U.S. Census Bureau, 2007). Rates are direct age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population.
[3] NOTE: Large census tracts may appear to have higher rates and risks due to their size—interpret with caution.
[4] Cut points for rate quartiles were derived from the distribution for the State of Ohio.
*Rates may be unstable and are not presented when the count for 1996-2005 is less than five (i.e., average annual count is <1). A small number (less than 1%) of unusually high outlying incidence rates are also not presented.
Cancer Screening Test: Estimated Prevalence (self-reported) of select Cancer Screening Tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonoscopy/Sigmoidoscopy in Past Five Years (Age 50+)</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate-specific Antigen (PSA) Test in Past Year (Age 50+)</td>
<td>60.7%</td>
<td>57.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Rectum Exam (DRE) in Past Year (Age 50+)</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pap Smear in Past Three Years (Age 18+, Intact Cervix)</td>
<td>81.2%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Civilian Labor Force

![Employment](chart)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Employed</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>20,100</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>17,400</td>
<td>3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>16,600</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>16,300</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Child Care Centers in Highland County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Enrollment Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Presbyterian Preschool</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenfield Head Start</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belfast Head Start Center</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgewood Child Care Center</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Learning Center, LLC</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsboro Head Start</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Lamb Christian Preschool</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSCC Patri-tots Learning Center</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunrise Sunset Childcare &amp; Development Center, Inc.</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wee Care Preschool</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Preschools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bright Elementary</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenfield Elementary</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hills and Dales</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsboro Elementary</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynchburg Elementary</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary Catholic Church</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-Ohio Department of Education and Region 14/Hopewell Center, Hillsboro, Ohio

Business Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private nonfarm establishments, 2009</th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private nonfarm employment, 2009</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>256,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private nonfarm employment - % change 2000-2009</td>
<td>-18.1%</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturers’ shipments, 2007 ($1,000)</td>
<td>642,974</td>
<td>295,890,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchant wholesaler sales, 2007 ($1,000)</td>
<td>79,847</td>
<td>135,575,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail sales, 2007 ($1,000)</td>
<td>370,494</td>
<td>138,816,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail sales per capita, 2007</td>
<td>$8,679</td>
<td>$12,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation &amp; food services sales, 2007 ($1,000)</td>
<td>36,108</td>
<td>17,779,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building permits, 2010</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13,710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abuse/Neglect/Violence

Each year in Highland County:
150 – 220 Children are abused or neglected

366 Reports of abuse or neglect are filed with children’s services

134 Children are placed in custody

320-420 Adults are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner

130 People are arrested for intimate partner violence

104 People file petitions for civil protection orders
Adults seek shelter in county domestic violence shelter

Seniors in the community are abused, neglected or financially exploited

Seniors in Long-term care facilities are abused, neglected or financially exploited

Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in the county

Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in Long-term care facilities

The Children’s Defense Fund-Ohio Ohio’s KIDS COUNT: 2011 Data Book, an annual compilation of data that provides yearly snapshots of the well-being of Ohio’s children at both the state and county levels reports the follow data:

- **Economic Security** - Children’s poverty has continued to climb, with 23.1% of Ohio’s children living below the poverty line in 2010. The Appalachian and metropolitan areas of the state have the highest children’s poverty rates, at 26.5% and 25.9%, respectively. The burden is highest among black children, who live in poverty at a staggering rate of 45.3%.

- **Food Access and Obesity** - 28% of Ohio children were enrolled in free and reduced lunch in 2010. In Appalachia, that rate is 50.5%, which contributes to the region’s overweight and obesity rate of 39.9%. Children enrolled in free and reduced lunch are 30% more likely to be overweight or obese than other students.

- **Health Insurance** - 44.9% of Ohio children are enrolled in Medicaid. Suburban counties have the lowest rate of enrollment at 32.3%; however, the total uninsured rate for suburban children is 20% higher than any other region.

- **Dental Care** - Dental care is the greatest unmet medical need among Ohio’s children. In rural non-Appalachian counties 20.2% of children have no dental coverage. Ohio also has 68 Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). The problem of Dental HPSAs is the worst in Appalachian counties, as indicated by 27% of Appalachian third graders having untreated tooth decay.
Help Me Grow reports that 186 Part C children (Diagnosed Medical Conditions or a Developmental Delay) have been served from July 2010 to July 2012. These children are birth to three years of age. The Board of Development Disabilities has a caseload of nine children. Eight of those children have Diagnosed Medical Conditions and one has a Developmental Delay. Six were born prematurely; one has Hirschsprung’s Disease; one has Encephalopathy, Global Delays and Visual Impairment; and one delayed communication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Highest</th>
<th>Lowest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median Income</td>
<td>Delaware County ($85, 628)</td>
<td>Meigs County ($33,194)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Poverty Rate</td>
<td>Pike County (36.9%)</td>
<td>Delaware County (6.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade Overweight/Obesity</td>
<td>Hardin County (51.5%)</td>
<td>Geauga County (23.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babies Born at Low Birth Weight</td>
<td>Cuyahoga County (10.5%)</td>
<td>Mercer County (3.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
<td>Auglaize County (98.4%)</td>
<td>Marion County (57.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology

Questionnaire Design

Two surveys were developed to gather information about community needs. The first survey was designed for professionals working in any aspect of health care to compile information about their experiences, opinions, and practices related to the Highland County health care system. The second survey was designed to gather information from the general public to measure the needs, behaviors, and health status of Highland County residents. The assessment results are based on data collected through a web-based, electronic survey of residents living in Highland County. Both surveys were developed by the Highland County Health Coalition, with the assistance and facilitation of Ohio State University Extension, Community Development.

Sampling Design

Two web-based surveys were designed through SurveyMonkey, an online survey development and hosting company. The health care provider survey was made available to all health care businesses, agencies, facilities, and organizations in the county. The survey, designed to gather general public information, was made available and marketed to the general public through a variety of means, including Chamber of Commerce newsletters, pay check statements with various organizations and businesses, Facebook pages, College websites, Senior Citizens Centers, church bulletins, local newspaper articles, businesses/organizations websites, Family & Children First Council, local libraries, Web Entertainment, health fairs, and health care providers offices. Participation was completely voluntary.

Survey Implementation

The SurveyMonkey questionnaire for the health care providers was published and advertised on January 5, 2012 and was open for health care providers to complete the survey through March 1, 2012. A total of 42 health care providers completed the survey. A total of 241 county residents completed the public survey. The survey was conducted from February 1 through April 30, 2012.

Data Analysis

Once the surveys were completed, data was compiled into the Community Assessment Report. Additional data sources were used to gather information about Highland County residents then compared to state and national statistics. The most recent state and national information available was used.
Limitation

A limitation to the surveys is that they were based on self-reported information and may reflect respondents’ likelihood of reporting a particular behavior; however, since the same methodology is utilized for the state and national survey, the same bias applies. In addition, the survey was web-based, which may have excluded participation among some groups. Efforts to mitigate this limitation were made by making available computers at local libraries, the Community Action Organization, and other health partner agencies.

Sample Demographics

The survey was advertised through a variety of resources and venues in an effort to gain a representative sample of the county’s demographics. The public survey was directed to the general public, so advertisements for the survey were directed to sources that would collect respondents from all socio-economic, ethnic, and age groups, as well geographic locations throughout county. The health care provider’s survey was directed to all health care organizations and businesses.
Results: Health Data – Public Survey

Highland County Community Assessment
Community Issues Impacting Health and Well-Being

Top 5 responses: In the following list, please check the top health issues you consider to be a problem in your community: (Check all that apply)

- Illegal drug use: 81.0%
- Obesity: 63.6%
- Cancer: 55.4%
- Tobacco use: 53.2%
- Not having health insurance: 49.8%

All other responses (from above)

- Heart disease: 47.6%
- Dementia: 21.0%
- Falls (elderly): 17.9%
- Mental health: 14.8%
- Physical inactivity: 13.1%
- Stroke: 14.0%
- Alcohol use: 44.5%
- Prescription drug abuse: 46.7%
- Diabetes: 38.4%
- Eating disorders: 29.3%
- Nutrition: 16.6%
- Access to prenatal care: 7.0%
- Other: 2.6%
Top responses: In your opinion, what are the top 3 issues in your community that impact health? (Please select 3)

- Lack of doctors: 50.2%
- Lack of substance abuse services: 41.5%
- Lack of information about managing chronic health conditions: 30.2%
- Lack of providers accepting Medicaid/Medicare: 29.3%
- Lack of mental health services: 29.3%
- Lack of dental health services: 25.9%
- Lack of health services for seniors: 22.0%
- Lack of local specialists (please specify): 18.0%

Top responses: In your opinion, what are the top 3 issues in your community that impact well-being? (Please select 3)

- Unemployment: 76.6%
- Poverty: 44.5%
- Lack of affordable health insurance: 44.0%
- Lack of affordable health care: 33.0%
- Lack of affordable places to exercise (bike paths, etc.): 20.6%
- Education level: 18.3%
- Abuse and violence: 16.1%
- Lack of affordable housing: 13.8%
Self-Reported Health Behaviors

Generally, how would you describe your health?

38% Excellent
35% Very Good
12% Good
11% Fair
4% Poor

Female responses only: Self-description of health
- Excellent: 14%
- Very Good: 3%
- Good: 12%
- Fair: 3%
- Poor: 41%

Male responses only: Self-description of health
- Excellent: 10%
- Very Good: 7%
- Good: 5%
- Fair: 29%
- Poor: 48%
Please answer the following about use of medical services.

- Do you have a family doctor? 85.4% Yes, 13.6% No
- Do you have a dentist? 78.6% Yes, 21.4% No
- Do you have an eye care provider? 81.8% Yes, 18.3% No

How long has it been since you have seen:

- Family Doctor: 70.8% Within the last 1-12 months, 14.8% Within the last 13-24 months, 9.4% Within the last 25-36 months, 4.9% Not in the last 3 years
- Dentist: 66.1% Within the last 1-12 months, 24.4% Within the last 13-24 months, 9.5% Within the last 25-36 months
- Eye Doctor: 44.8% Within the last 1-12 months, 21.1% Within the last 13-24 months, 22.9% Within the last 25-36 months, 11.2% Not in the last 3 years
Do you currently smoke?

Females Responses Only: Do you currently smoke?

Males Responses Only: Do you currently smoke?
How much do you smoke daily?

- 1 pack: 90%
- 2 packs: 10%

Do you use smokeless tobacco?

- Yes: 6%
- No: 94%
How much smokeless tobacco do you use daily?

Top responses: Behaviors you or an immediate family member have experienced in the last year
Top 3 responses (all others < 2%): Where do you usually go for health care when you are sick? (Please select only 1)

- Doctor's office: 73%
- Home or traditional remedies: 15%
- Hospital/Emergency Room: 7%

How often do you exercise?

- Never: 9%
- Every once in a while: 41%
- 5-7 times/week: 9%
- 3-4 times/week: 15%
- 1-2 times/week: 27%
Children and Health

Do you have children age 17 or younger who live in your household?

- Yes: 38%
- No: 62%

Are any of your children limited in any way because of physical challenges?

- Yes: 14%
- No: 86%
Are any of your children limited in any way because of mental or emotional challenges?

- Yes: 18%
- No: 82%

Top responses: What do you usually do when your child is sick? (Please select only 1)

- Doctor's office: 54%
- Urgent care center: 18%
- Home or traditional remedies: 18%
- Hospital/Emergency Room: 8%
Do you have children currently enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start?

- Yes: 14%
- No: 86%
Heart Disease and Stroke

Have you or a family member ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or healthcare professional that you have/had any of the following? (Check all that apply)

- Heart attack: 12.1%
- Angina or coronary/heart disease: 12.6%
- Stroke: 9.3%
- None of the above: 79.5%

Do you feel you have all the necessary resources to manage your or your family member’s heart disease?

- Yes: 59.2%
- No: 40.8%
In caring for your own or a family member’s heart disease, what has been most helpful?

- Doctor or hospital: 62.2%
- I do my own thing: 20.0%
- Internet website: 11.1%
- Resources at the library: 4.4%
Respiratory Disease

Have you or a family member ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health care professional that you have any of the following?

- Asthma: 28.2%
- Emphysema: 4.3%
- COPD (Chronic Obstructive): 9.6%
- No respiratory conditions: 88.5%

Do you feel you have all the necessary resources to manage your or your family member’s asthma or other respiratory condition?

- Yes: 62.5%
- No: 37.5%
In caring for your own or a family member’s asthma or other respiratory condition, what has been most helpful?

- Special class my doctor suggested: 1.5%
- Special class in the community: 1.5%
- Resources at the library: 4.4%
- Community support: 1.5%
- Internet website: 25.5%
- I do my own thing: 66.2%
Cancer

Have you or a family member ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that you had/have cancer?

Types of cancer you or an immediate family member have been diagnosed with
Do you feel you have the necessary resources to manage your or your family member’s cancer?

Yes: 61.3%
No: 38.7%

In caring for your own or a family member’s cancer, what has been most helpful?

- Doctor or hospital: 77.8%
- Special class my doctor suggested: 13.9%
- Special class in the community: 8.9%
- Resources at the library: 1.4%
- Community support: 15.3%
Diabetes

Have you or another member of your family ever been told that you have diabetes?

- Yes: 35.4%
- No: 64.6%

Do you feel you have all the necessary resources to manage your or your family member's diabetes?

- Yes: 68.1%
- No: 31.9%
Top responses: in caring for your own or a family member’s diabetes, what has been most helpful?

- Doctor or hospital: 70.7%
- I do my own thing: 13.3%
- Special class my doctor suggested: 5.3%
- Internet website: 5.3%
Mental or Emotional Conditions

Have you or a family member ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you have any of the following? (Check all that apply)

- Autism: 0.9%
- Eating disorder: 1.9%
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): 5.2%
- Learning disability: 6.1%
- Substance abuse/addiction: 8.0%
- ADHD/ADD: 10.4%
- Anxiety: 32.5%
- Depression: 43.9%
- None of these: 45.8%

Do you feel you have the necessary resources to manage you or your family member's mental condition?

- Yes: 44%
- No: 56%
In caring for your own or a family member's mental/emotional condition, developmental disorder or substance abuse, what has been most helpful?

- Doctor or Hospital: 57.4%
- Special class my doctor suggested: 40%
- Special class in the community: 20%
- Resources at the library: 5.9%
- Community support: 5.9%
- Internet website: 17.8%
- I do my own thing: 30.7%
Demographics of Respondents

Your gender:
- Female: 72%
- Male: 28%

Your age range:
- Under 18: 0.5%
- 18 to 24: 9.0%
- 25 to 34: 17.0%
- 35 to 54: 49.1%
- 55 to 64: 24.5%
- 65 to 74: 8.5%
- 75 or older: 0.5%
What is your marital status?

- Married: 65.4%
- Single, never married: 16.1%
- Divorced: 11.8%
- Widowed: 4.3%
- Separated: 2.4%

Your race or ethnicity:

- White: 96.7%
- Black or African American: 0.9%
- Spanish/Hispanic/Latino: 0.8%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 0.5%
- Asian: 0.5%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0.5%
- Two or more races: 0.3%
- Don't know: 0.5%
Counting income from all sources (jobs, unemployment, pension, public assistance, etc.) what is your total household income (income from everyone in your home)?

- 32% Less than $5,000
- 14% $5,000-$9,999
- 9% $10,000-$24,999
- 18% $25,000-$34,999
- 8% $35,000-$49,999
- 8% $50,000-$99,000
- 1% $100,000-$199,000
- 10% $200,000 or more

How many total people, both adults and children in your household, does the above income support (for instance, 2 adults and 3 children would be 5 people supported by the income)?

- 40.3% 1 person
- 19.4% 2 people
- 16.6% 3 people
- 9.0% 4 people
- 2.4% 5 people
- 1.4% 6 or more people
Are any of the other adults in your household currently unemployed/underemployed/looking for work?

- Yes: 31%
- No: 69%
Results: Financial Well-Being – Public Survey

Highland County Community Assessment
Issues Related to Financial Well-Being

Financial issues related to health care behaviors/practices

- **Unable to afford medical insurance**
  - Not an issue: 10%
  - Sometimes an issue: 19%
  - A major issue: 56%

- **Unable to afford medications**
  - Not an issue: 20%
  - Sometimes an issue: 25%
  - A major issue: 52%

- **Unable to afford doctor**
  - Not an issue: 16%
  - Sometimes an issue: 28%
  - A major issue: 60%

- **Unable to afford transportation**
  - Not an issue: 16%
  - Sometimes an issue: 24%
  - A major issue: 60%

- **Need education/training for employment**
  - Not an issue: 13%
  - Sometimes an issue: 22%
  - A major issue: 65%

- **Unemployed**
  - Not an issue: 14%
  - Sometimes an issue: 23%
  - A major issue: 63%

- **Unable to afford food**
  - Not an issue: 14%
  - Sometimes an issue: 27%
  - A major issue: 59%
In the last 3 years, have you received a notice of foreclosure on your home?

- Yes: 93%
- No: 7%

Do you have repairs in your home that need to be done, but don’t currently have the money to complete them?

- Yes: 51.4%
- No: 48.6%
Counting income from all sources (jobs, unemployment, pension, public assistance, etc.) what is your total household income (income from everyone in your home)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $5,000</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000-$9,999</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000-$24,999</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000-$34,999</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000-$45,999</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000-$99,999</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000-$199,999</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000 or more</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many total people, both adults and children in your household, does the above income support (for instance, 2 adults and 3 children would be 5 people supported by the income)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 or more</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the last year, how many times have you used a payday loan or cash advance service?

- Almost every week: 0.9%
- A couple of times in the past year: 4.5%
- Almost every month: 7.1%
- Never: 87.5%

---

Are you aware of senior citizens in your community who need home delivered meals?

- Yes: 86%
- No: 14%
Community awareness: Please check all of the services listed below that are available in your community:

- Food Stamps: 95.3%
- WIC: 91.0%
- Food Pantry: 84.4%
- YMCA: 69.2%
- Unemployment Services: 65.9%
- Utility Assistance: 65.4%
- Family Planning: 60.7%
- Transportation Services: 55.5%
- Weatherization: 49.8%
- Free Summer Lunches for Children: 45.0%
- Job Training: 43.1%
- Adult Education: 43.1%
- Affordable Housing: 33.2%
- Parent Education: 29.4%
- Affordable Childcare: 27.0%
- Budgeting Education: 21.8%
Results: Health Care Professionals

Highland County Community Assessment
Highland County Community Partner Survey Summary

Respondent Information

As part of a comprehensive community health survey, health professionals in Highland participated in a web-based questionnaire that asked participants to respond to questions about their experiences, knowledge, and opinions regarding the health of individuals in the county. A total of 42 health professionals working in Highland County responded. Information in this report will focus on the summary of data and outcomes from the Highland County health professionals.

The following is a list of organizations and businesses represented by the respondents:

- Adena Health System
- Adena Greenfield Medical Center
- Bright Local School District
- Clinton Memorial Hospital
- Help Me Grow
- Hillsboro City Schools
- Highland County Health Department
- Highland District Hospital
- Southern State Community College
- Optometrists (self-employed)
- Highland County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Highland County Child Support Enforcement Agency
- Highland County Community Action Agency
- Highland County Community Action Agency, Head/Early Start
- Highland County Department of Jobs & Family Services, Child Protective Division
- Ohio State University Extension, Highland County

Respondents work in a variety of capacities in the previously mentioned agencies. These include:

- Hospital Administrators and CEOs
- Agency Directors
- Case Managers
- Counselors and Patient Coordinators
- Directors of Early Childhood Programs
- Directors of Nursing (hospital and agency)
- Educators/Program Assistants
- Hospital and Agency Department Heads
- Directors of Emergency Services
- Directors of Rehab Services
- Health Service Managers
- Hospital Education Manager
- Hospital Intake Screeners
- Managers of Food & Nutrition Services
- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurses (RN)
- Optometrists
- Physicians
- Program Directors
- Social Workers
More than half of the respondents have worked in their current positions for longer than 10 years.

**Rating the County’s Health Care System**

When asked to identify the top three issues related to the health care system in the county that they’d like to see changed, respondents indicated a wide variety of issues. See summary below:

- Lack of drug abuse/treatment options
- Access to mental health services – for adults and youth
- Large portion of residents are underinsured
- Limited medical options for individuals on Medicare/Medicaid
- Lack of focus on prevention of disease
- Limited access to primary medical care in county
- Increasing cost of medical services
- Lack of an urgent care facility
- Access to and more dental care providers
- Lack of pediatricians in the area
- More opportunities for free screenings/health fairs
- More physicians in specialties
- More physicians willing to serve individuals with developmental disabilities
- Support of ob/gyn services – for all including underinsured and uninsured
- Lack of partnership among medical service providers – especially hospitals/medical centers with social agencies
- Lack of dentists accepting Medicaid
- Lack of affordable services
- Limited sex education programs/services for teens
- Lack of chronic pain management programs/physicians
- Limited transportation services for patients
- Large number of obese patients/prevention services needed

A text analysis of the 10 most often cited responses is illustrated below. The larger the words, the more often they were cited in the responses:

**Access to Physicians**  
**Pediatricians**  
**Cost**  
**Limited Medicaid/Medicare Providers**  
**Lack of Services**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Preventive Care/Education**  
**Drug Abuse**  
**Underinsured**  
**Obesity Prevention**
When asked to cite what works well with the medical system in the county, respondents indicated the following:

- Emergency response teams/EMS
- Outpatient services
- Medicaid transportation funding
- Access to hospitals
- Access to urgent care facilities
- Caring group of medical professionals/providers
- Small community/hometown familiarity
- Unified approach among medical professionals/Collaboration
- Immunizations and services at Health Department
- Good relationships among health care professionals
- Cooperation among pharmacies
- Health Collaborative/Alliance
- Professionalism among medical personnel

A text analysis of the 10 most often cited responses is illustrated below. The larger the words, the more often they were cited in the responses:
**Access to Services**

Sixty percent of respondents stated that the services offered at their agency, hospital or clinic require some form of copayment. The methods of payment include:

- Medicare/Medicaid
- Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services is billed
- Private (or employer provided) Insurance
- Private co-pay by client

More than half of respondents indicated that governmental or agency policies **positively** impact their ability to meet the health care needs of their clients. The policies cited include:

- Gas stipends for transportation when needed
- Directive to ensure health and safety
- Relationships with courts/law enforcement/hospitals
- Medical coverage for children, regardless of income levels
- Childhood vaccine program
- Some fee-based services
- Social workers available for counseling and to explore additional services
Two-thirds of respondents listed at least one government or agency policy that limits their ability to meet the needs of their clients. The policies cited are listed below.

- Cannot pay for direct services (for example, therapy)
- Low or no insurance reimbursements
- Rules don’t always employ “common sense”
- Income-based eligibility
- Lack of funding
- Caps on Medicaid
- Medicare/Medicaid limitations on covered services

Health and Well-Being of Highland County Citizens

Health professionals working in Highland County were asked to rate the general health of residents in the county. More than half of the responses indicate that the health professionals rate the overall health of individuals in the county as fair to poor.

Health care professionals in Highland County were also asked to identify factors related to individual health and well-being. See the charts on the following page.
In your opinion, what are the top 3 issues in your community that impact health? (Please select 3)

- Lack of mental health services: 63.6%
- Lack of substance abuse services: 54.5%
- Lack of providers accepting Medicaid/Medicare: 45.5%
- Lack of dental health services: 30.3%
- Lack of local specialists: 27.3%
- Lack of residential mental health treatment: 24.2%
- Lack of health services for seniors: 18.2%
- Lack of information about managing chronic health conditions: 18.2%

Top responses: In your opinion, what are the top 3 issues in your community that impact well-being? (Please select 3)

- Unemployment: 77.8%
- Poverty: 55.6%
- Lack of affordable health insurance: 52.8%
- Lack of affordable healthcare: 36.1%
- Education level: 25.0%
In your opinion, what are the top 3 medically underserved groups in your county? (Select up to 3)

- Uninsured adults (no Medicaid): 86.5%
- Mentally handicapped individuals: 54.1%
- Seniors: 51.4%
- Uninsured children (no Medicaid): 43.2%

Top responses: In your opinion, what are the top 3 factors that influence a person’s overall health? (Please select 3)

- Bad health practices (smoking, excessive drinking, lack of exercise): 83.3%
- Economic factors: 60.0%
- Access to insurance: 47.2%
- Good health practices (eating health foods, daily exercise): 36.1%
- Access to doctors: 30.6%
- Genetics/family history: 25.0%
- Level of education: 16.7%
Top responses: Top health issues you consider to be a problem in your community

- Obesity: 91%
- Illegal drug use: 86%
- Diabetes: 78%
- Alcohol use: 69%
- Prescription drug abuse: 69%
- Tobacco use: 69%
- Heart disease: 67%
- Physical inactivity: 64%
- Cancer: 64%
- Mental health issues: 61%
- Teen births: 61%
- Access/Dental care: 56%
- Poor Nutrition: 44%
- Alzheimer's/Dementia: 39%
- Other: 28%

Top responses: Please select the top 3 financial constraints you hear from community members. (Please select 3)

- Not being able to find work: 88.6%
- Not having medical insurance: 55.6%
- Not having enough money to buy medications: 60.0%
- Not having enough money to pay the doctor: 33.3%
- Having a job that doesn't provide benefits: 33.3%
Finally, respondents were asked to identify, in their opinion, the top three health care services that residents travel outside of the county to receive. See the chart below:

What are the top three health care services for which people travel outside of the county to receive?

- Cardiac: Surgeries/Heart Cath/Care: 25%
- Pediatric Services: 18%
- Dental Services: 17%
- Psychiatry/Drug Rehab: 12%
- Cancer Treatment/Oncology: 5%
- All Other Responses: 23%
Data Sources
Highland County Community Assessment
Data Sources

Connect Ohio:
http://connectohio.org/blog/post/stu-johnson-presents-ohio-appalachian-task-force

Highland County board of Developmental disabilities
http://highdd.org/

Ohio Department of Development, Office of Policy, Research and Strategic Planning
http://www.development.ohio.gov/research/files/s0.htm

Ohio Department of Education
http://webapp1.ode.state.oh.us/ohio_child/ocsearch.asp

Ohio Department of Health:
http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/hst/std%20surveillance/CT0711.ashx

http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/hst/std%20surveillance/GC0711.ashx

http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/hst/std%20surveillance/TotSyp0711.ashx

http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/opi/cancer%20incidence%20surveillance%20system%20ociss/highland.ashx

Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services:
http://ohiolmi.com/laus/current.htm

http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/cdc/query.asp#def01

Ohio Family Violence Prevention:
www.healthpolicyohio.org/OFVPP_CountyProfiles.html

Ohio Region 14: Hopewell Center, 5350 West New Market Road, Hillsboro, Ohio

U.S. Census Bureau:
http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/39/39071.html

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:
http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/12poverty.shtml#guidelines
Appendix
Highland County Community Assessment

Sample Marketing Flyer
Informal Reproductive Survey
We need your help!!

• Many Highland County community organizations are conducting a survey, and your input is needed. The survey will help inform community leaders about ways to better meet the needs of the residents in the county.

• Confidential and anonymous! The responses will not be linked to any individual or IP address. No identifying info will be collected.

• Go to [http://go.osu.edu/countyfirst](http://go.osu.edu/countyfirst)

• Or take the survey on your smart phone by scanning the QR Tag above.

Thanks for your help!

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• Confidential and anonymous! The responses will not be linked to any individual or IP address. No identifying info will be collected.

• Go to [http://go.osu.edu/countyfirst](http://go.osu.edu/countyfirst)

• Or take the survey on your smart phone by scanning the QR Tag above.

Thanks for your help!
Highland County = green    Clinton County = red

1. What are the top health concerns for your county?
   • Obesity 15  55
   • Access to health care 24  36
   • Substance abuse 17  47
   • Unintended pregnancy
   • Access to mental health services
   • STD/HIV rates
   • Partner violence
   • Access to contraception
   • Teen pregnancy 15  58

2. Where do uninsured women and men obtain family planning services?
   • Emergency room 10  17
   • Urgent care
   • Family planning clinics 23  61
   • Private Practice (MD, Nurse Practitioners, Midwifes)
   • Other ______________
   • Or just do not get care 9  20

3. What are the top three priorities for uninsured women when it comes to reproductive health?
   • Infertility services
   • Easy access to services 29  40
   • Affordability of care 64
   • Prenatal care 51
   • Prescription contraceptive
   • Reproductive screenings (breast and cervical) 16
   • Adoption services
   • Abortion services
   • STD/HIV testing and treatment 18
   • Tubal; ligation
   • Other __________
4. What are the top three priorities for uninsured men when it comes to reproductive health?
   - Cancer screenings (testicular, prostate) 24 49
   - Easy access to services 17 51
   - Affordability of care 29 70
   - Vasectomy
   - Treatment of erectile dysfunction
   - STD/HIV testing and treatment 22 46
   - Diagnosis and treatment of urinary infection
   - Other ____________

5. What barriers do uninsured women and men face in accessing reproductive health care in your county?
   - Limited hours of services 10
   - Location
   - Patient finances 30 56
   - Religious or cultural stigma
   - Transportation 29
   - Childcare
   - Lack of compatibility with providers
   - Stigma associated with walking into a Women’s clinic

6. Gender
   - Male 3 10
   - Female 36 80

7. Age
   - 13-20 years of age 5 29
   - 21-30 years of age 27 33
   - 31-50 years of age 6 26
   - 51-65 years of age 1 2
   - 66 and older

8. County of residence
   - Highland 9 75
   - Clinton 24 5
   - Other 6 1