

Executive Summary: The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is conducted every three years as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The following primary and secondary data is compiled to support the St. Luke's Quakertown and Upper Bucks Campuses.

Demographics*

Population: 205,680
Population Density: 516.64
Urban housing: 73.9%
Zip codes (highest serving/county):
 18951- Bucks
 18073- Bucks
 18036- Bucks

Race and Ethnicity

White: 90.2%
 Black: 2.6%
 Asian: 2.6%
 Other Race: 4.6%
 Hispanic: 8.4%

Age

Under 18: 21%
 18-64: 62.2%
 65 and older: 16.8%

Sex at Birth

Male: 49.4%
 Female: 50.6%

ALICE

In Bucks county, 24% of people (Quakertown, 38%) are considered Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed

*Data from ACS 5-year estimates

Key Findings

Overall Network assessment results highlight three main priority focus areas for our community health initiatives:

 **Access to Care**  **Prevention of Chronic Illnesses**  **Mental and Behavioral Health**

These priority areas were determined based on the significant impact the social determinants of health place and provide a guide for our programs and other health initiatives that support our patients, care-workers, and communities. Findings from the 2022 CHNA highlight the differences within communities and systems that contribute to the prevalence of disease and poor health outcomes that contribute to a lack of optimal health for socially disadvantaged populations.

Economic Stability	Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community Safety
Employed: 50.9% Retired: 34.1% Unemployed: 7.8%	78.9% of respondents in the Quakertown and Upper Bucks service area own/mortgage their home	20.6% of survey respondents have only a high school degree	10.6% of children in Bucks county are projected to be food insecure in 2021*	93.9% agreed that their community was safe
54% of patients visiting the ED 5+ times made less than \$14,999 per year	Asthma disproportionately affects low-income survey respondents making less than \$14,999 (17.2%) respondents making \$60,000 and above (8.2%)	1.7% of respondents have not completed a degree	Food insecurity rates: Bucks county: 10.4% in 2020, a 45% increase from 2019*	25% of LGBT individuals in Bucks county reported experiencing violence*
19.2% of Households in the Quakertown and Upper Bucks service area live at 200% below the Federal Poverty Line *	16.7% of LGBT individuals in Bucks county reported ever being homeless*	24.3% of respondents have a graduate degree	7.4% of households in the Quakertown and Upper Bucks service areas receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*	6.8% of students in Bucks county reported being attacked on school property*

*Indicates a secondary data source

Access to Care

Health disparities are heavily influenced by social and economic factors. In the St. Luke's Quakertown and Upper Bucks service areas, significant factors contribute to the health disparities seen in the population.

Access to Care	Total	Income	Ethnicity	Insurance
Primary Care Physician (visit within the past year)	77.9%	Less than \$24,999: 82% \$60,000 and above: 75%	Hispanic: 81% Non-Hispanic: 78%	Private Insurance: 72% Medicare: 91% Medicaid: 77% Uninsured: 60%
Dental Visit (visit within the past year)	73.3%	Less than \$24,999: 54% \$60,000 and above: 79%	Hispanic: 62% Non-Hispanic: 74%	Private Insurance: 64% Medicaid: 5% Uninsured: 30%
Missed Medical Appointment	Share of cost was too high: 7% Thought problem wasn't serious: 6% Couldn't get appointment: 5%	3.9% missed an appointment because they couldn't get time off from work	8% of Hispanic respondents missed an appointment because the share of cost was too high	4.4% missed an appointment because insurance didn't cover what was needed

COVID-19 IMPACT

The impacts of COVID-19 have yet to be fully realized, but the increase in health disparities is already seen in many aspects of care.

- While 19% of adults prior to COVID-19 experienced a mental illness (10.8% of those uninsured), during the pandemic this number grew to a reported 53% of adults.^{1,2}
- More than 50 million people in the nation may experience food insecurity due to COVID-19.³
- The opioid epidemic and increased rates of substance abuse since the start of the pandemic are contributing to drastic increases in need for care and services for mental and behavioral health, with overdose rates increasing 18.2% since the start of the pandemic.⁴

¹<https://www.mhanational.org/issues/state-mental-health-america>

²<https://www.kff.org/>

³<https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>

⁴<https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00438.asp>

Prevention of Chronic Illness

The goal of our Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention is to improve the nutritional status and physical activity levels while reducing the chronic disease burden. These initiatives are driven by the 2022 CHNA survey results below.

Chronic Illness	Percentage of Survey Respondents	Income	Ethnicity	Insurance
Diabetes	11%	Less than \$24,999: 10% \$60,000 and above: 10%	Hispanic: 15% Non-Hispanic: 11%	6% of respondents with Medicare or are uninsured have diabetes
Hypertension	36.1%	Less than \$24,999: 41% \$60,000 and above: 33%	Hispanic: 40% Non-Hispanic: 36%	23% of respondents with Medicare or are uninsured have hypertension
Hyperlipidemia	25.1%	Less than \$24,999: 27% \$60,000 and above: 24%	Hispanic: 24% Non-Hispanic: 25%	18% of respondents with Medicare or are uninsured have hyperlipidemia
Obesity	38.9%	Less than \$24,999: 49% 60,000 and above: 36%	Hispanic: 43% Non-Hispanic: 39%	49% of respondents that have Medicaid or are uninsured live with obesity

Mental and Behavioral Health

Mental and Behavioral Health are critical to the livelihood and welfare of our communities. Mental and Behavioral Health resources are insufficient across the nation. Our network continues to grow and address this need while working with community partners toward improving mental health ratios.

Mental Health	Percentage of Survey Respondents	Income	Ethnicity	Insurance
I have experienced at least one poor mental health day in the last 30 days	38%	Less than \$24,999: 47% \$60,000 and above: 35%	Hispanic: 42% Non-Hispanic: 38%	52% of respondents with Medicaid or are uninsured had at least one poor mental health day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to PAYS, 34% of children in Bucks county report feeling sad or depressed MOST days in the past 12 months • The ratio of mental healthcare providers is 390:1 in Bucks county (compared to 450:1 in PA and 270:1 for U.S. top performers) 				

