

# Milwaukee County Community Health Needs Assessment | 2018-2019

## Issues At-a-Glance



These were identified as the community's top health issues by key informants and survey respondents in 2018. Learn more about the data behind these issues in the [Introduction to the 2018-19 Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#) in [healthcompassmilwaukee.org](http://healthcompassmilwaukee.org)

## Issues to Watch

Among the many CHNA data sources, there are a number of compelling indicators requiring urgent and persistent attention. These ongoing issues have been cited by key informants and survey respondents for several years.

### Infant Mortality



With one of the **worst black-white disparities in infant mortality** in the country, **12.7 / 1,000 African American infants** in Milwaukee County die before their first birthday. That compares to a rate of **7.7** per thousand for the County overall, and **5.9** for the US.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families and Health Compass Milwaukee

### Sexually Transmitted Infections



Milwaukee County has **some of the highest STI rates in the US**, with **1,674 / 100,000 residents** diagnosed in the most recent reporting period.

**40%** of STI cases occur in seven Milwaukee zip codes with the lowest socioeconomic status.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services and City of Milwaukee Health Department

### Alcohol

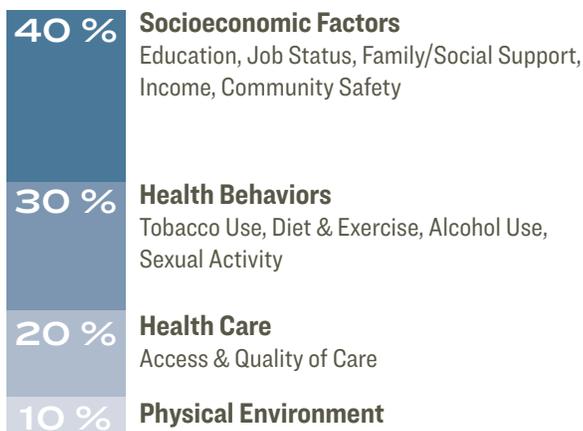


**32%** of survey respondents reported **binge drinking in the previous month**. Since 2006, women in Milwaukee County have increased their rate of binge drinking from **10% to 32%** — on par with men. Wisconsin continues to report the **highest rate of binge drinking in the nation**.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Community Health Survey and Health Compass Milwaukee

## Determinants of Health

Factors that contribute to an individual's overall health.



### ACEs



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) emerged as an important issue among key informants. ACEs include trauma due to child abuse, sexual assault, witnessing violence, and other serious conditions of neglect or family dysfunction.

**67%** of adults in Milwaukee County have experienced **one or more ACEs in childhood**. This rate goes up to **76%** for those living in poverty.

Since 2012, the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership's triennial Community Health Needs Assessment has reported on the top health issues identified by residents and community leaders in Milwaukee County. In that time, the issues that pose the greatest concern — chronic disease, mental health, substance use, violence, and access to health care — have remained the same.

It is our hope that this assessment will help amplify community conversations about the importance of cross-sector collaboration for health improvement. We all have a role to play in countering the systemic barriers to good health. Just as the causes of illness are many and inter-related, the same is true for the paths that lead to better health — for all of us.

## Shared Community Health Needs Assessment in Milwaukee County

Every three years, the Partnership's health system members – Advocate Aurora Health, Ascension Wisconsin, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, and Froedtert and Medical College of Wisconsin — share the funding and design of Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNAs) in six southeastern Wisconsin counties. The CHNAs serve as the foundation from which hospitals and local health departments develop their respective community health improvement strategies. The CHNA findings are also intended to inform a broader audience about the top health issues facing their communities.

The Milwaukee County CHNA is comprised of three data sources:

- **Community Health Survey** — A 14-minute, phone-based survey of 1,312 Milwaukee County residents that addresses adult and child health risk factors, health behaviors and perceptions of pressing community health needs.
- **Key Informant Interviews** — Conducted with 80 individuals representing 40 key informants and 4 focus groups to identify community health needs, contributing social factors and organizations that are best suited to address those issues.
- **Health Compass Milwaukee** — A compilation of numerous publicly reported health data and other sources on one website.

Milwaukee County CHNA reports are developed in collaboration with the Center for Urban Population Health. [cuph.org](http://cuph.org)



Health Compass Milwaukee is a **dynamic website** of the most current health indicators for Milwaukee County. It provides **mapping, reporting** and **comparative analytic tools** to support research and planning for health care, public health, academic, philanthropic and government sectors, as well as the broader community.

Visit [HealthCompassMilwaukee.org](http://HealthCompassMilwaukee.org)

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The Milwaukee Health Care Partnership is a public/private consortium dedicated to improving health care coverage, access, care coordination and community health for underserved populations in Milwaukee County, with the aim of improving health outcomes, reducing disparities and lowering the total cost of care. [mkehcp.org](http://mkehcp.org)