# 2016

# Jackson County Community Health Assessment



With Collaboration from Black River Memorial Hospital and Jackson County Public Health

Wisconsin Population Health Institute

## Table of Contents

Structure of the County Health Rankings	3
Demographics	4
Population Growth.	5
Length of Life	7
Cause of Death.	8
Infant Mortality	9
Quality of Life	10
Low Birth Weight.	11
Cancer	12
Suicide and Self-Injury.	13
Heart Disease	15
Health Behaviors	16
Tobacco	17
Physical Activity	18
Obesity	19
Alcohol	20
Drug Abuse	21
Sexually Transmitted Diseases.	22
Teen Births	23
Health Care	24
Insurance	25
Oral Health Care.	26
Mental Health Care	27
Hospitalizations	28

## Table of Contents Continued

References	36
Poverty	35
Unemployment	
Education	
Social and Economic Factors	32
Immunizations	31
Diabetes	30
Prenatal Care	29

## Structure of the County Health Rankings<sup>1</sup>

#### **Health Outcomes**

- Population Statistics
- Premature Death
- Health Status

#### **Health Determinants**

- Health Care
- Health Behaviors
- Socioeconomic Factors
- Physical Environment

#### Socioeconomic Factors

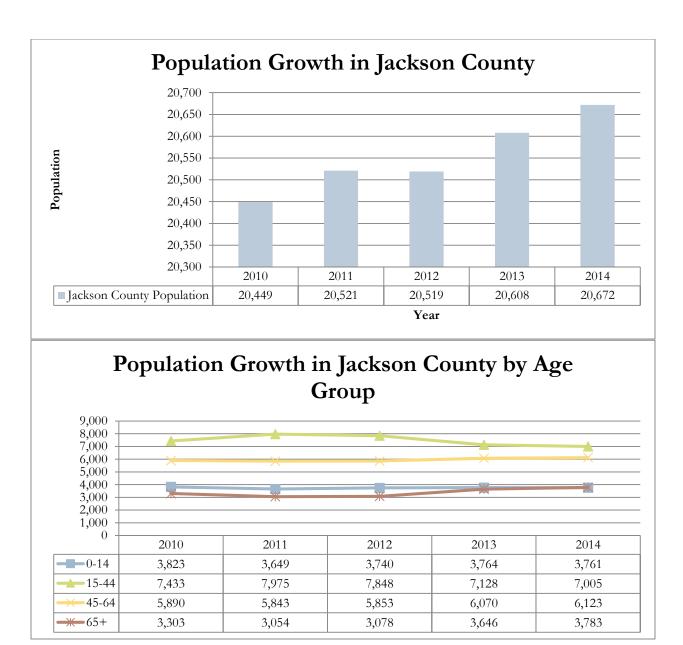
- Education
- Income
- Social Disruption

#### **Physical Environment**

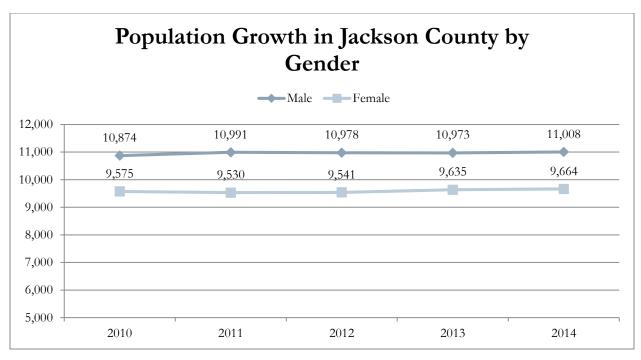
- Air Quality
- Water Quality
- Built Environment

### Demographics





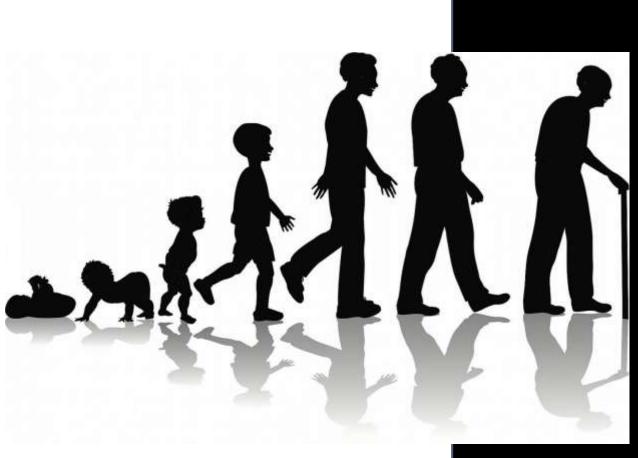
- Jackson County saw an increase of 223 people between 2010 and 2014.6
- Also between 2010 and 2014, the population ranging in ages 0 to 44 declined slightly while the population ranging in ages 45 to more than 65 has increased. People age 45 and older now make up nearly half (48%) of the population in Jackson County.<sup>6</sup>

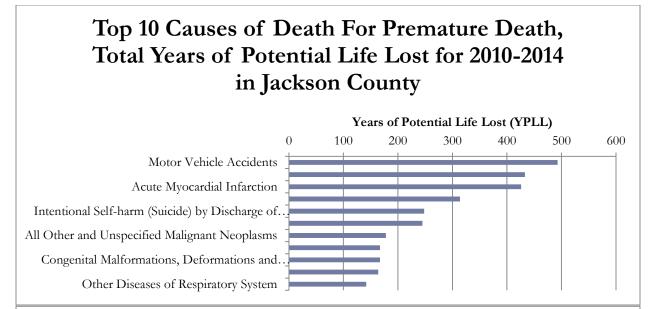


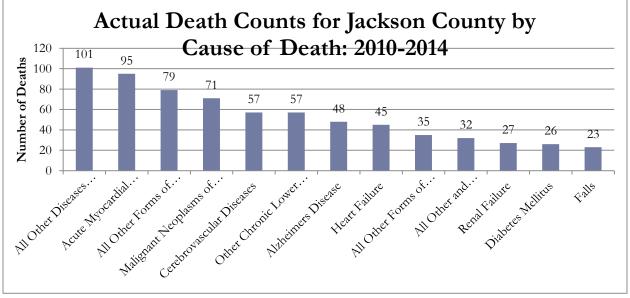
Year	White	Black	American Indian	Asian
2010	18,550	428	1,384	86
2011	18,464	506	1,457	93
2012	18,410	514	1,496	99
2013	18,517	502	1,488	102
2014	18,518	512	1,529	113

- Between 2010 and 2014 both female and male populations steadily increased in Jackson County.6
- Also between 2010 and 2014, the White population saw a decrease in numbers while Black, American Indian, and Asian populations increased.<sup>6</sup>

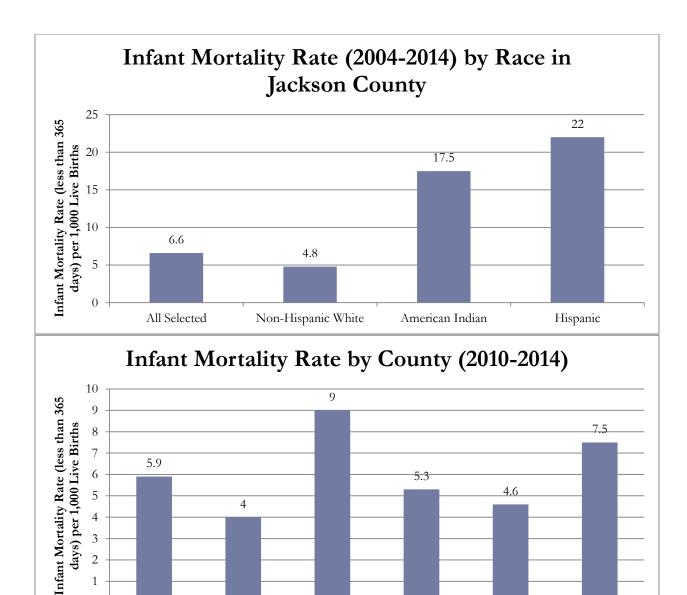
# Length of Life







- Premature death is presented in Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL), which is the measure of years of life lost when someone dies before the age of 75. For example, a person dying at the age of 72 would contribute 3 years to their county's YPLL index. The first graph shows the top cause of premature death (in YPLL) for Jackson County between 2010 and 2014 is motor vehicle accidents followed by heart attacks and then suicide by discharge of a firearm. 6
- Actual death counts show heart attacks, cancer, and cerebrovascular diseases (such as strokes) as Jackson County's leading causes of death between these same years. 6



The infant mortality rate refers to the death of a baby less than 365 days old out of 1,000 live births.

Eau Claire

Trempealeau

Monroe

Clark

While infant mortality rates are actually low in Jackson County<sup>1</sup>, there are still considerable discrepancies among the rates by race. We see the highest rate of infant mortality among Hispanics followed by American Indians<sup>6</sup>

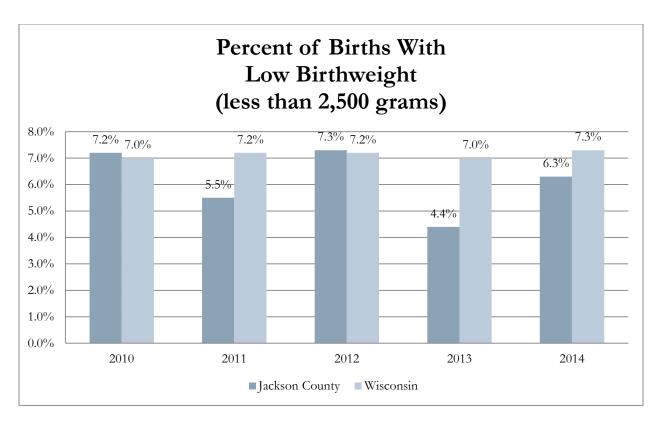
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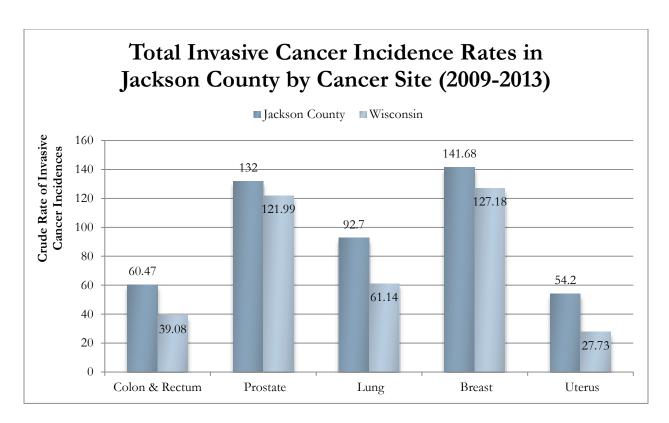
Jackson

# Quality of Life

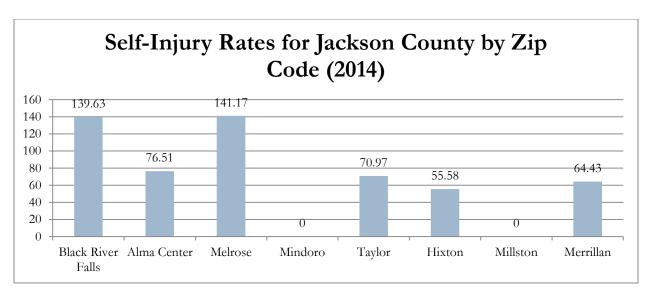




Between 2010 and 2014, Jackson County has remained below or approximately equal to the statewide percent of births with low birthweight<sup>6</sup>

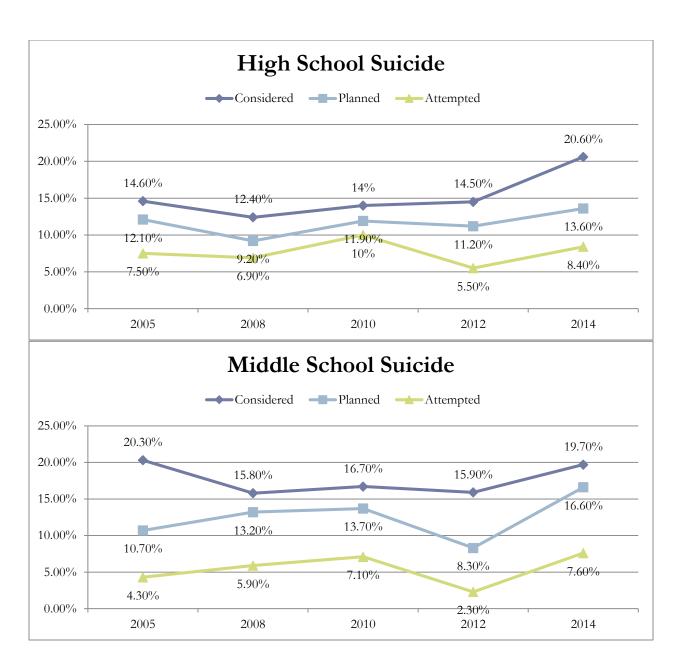


Between the years of 2009 and 2013 Jackson County has had consistently higher incidence rates than the state of Wisconsin for all the cancer sites shown above. Jackson County's incidence rate for uterine cancer is nearly double the rate for Wisconsin. 3

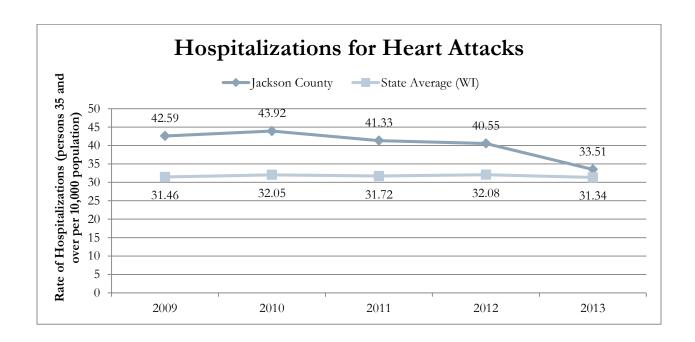


Year of Death	Male Rate per 100,000	Female Rate per 100,000
2004	94.8	0
2005	56.42	0
2006	27.97	0
2007	27.91	0
2008	36.86	10.67
2009	27.72	0
2010	27.59	31.11
2011	9.1	10.49
2012	36.44	0
2013	45.57	0

- Self-injury rates in Jackson County for 2014 were highest in Melrose, followed closely by Black River Falls. Both Mindoro and Millston zip codes had a rate of 0 for the year.<sup>4</sup>
- Suicide rates in Jackson County are extremely higher in the male population when compared to the female population. Males had a total combined suicide rate for 2004 to 2013 of 39.04; females had a rate of 5.23 <sup>7</sup>



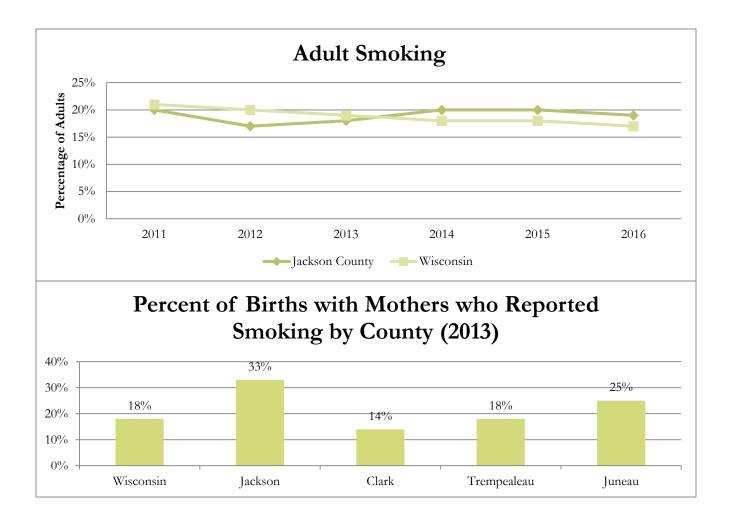
- For Jackson County high school youth there has been an increase of considering, planning, and attempting suicide. The percentage of those considering has remained the highest and increased significantly between 2012 and 2014 8
- There has also been an increase of considering, planning, and attempting suicide for Jackson County youth in middle school. Between 2012 and 2014 the percentage planning suicide doubled and the percentage attempting suicide tripled.8



The rate of hospitalizations for heart attacks in Jackson County has stayed considerably higher than the state of Wisconsin up until 2013 where we saw a decrease, bringing our rate nearly equal to Wisconsin 6

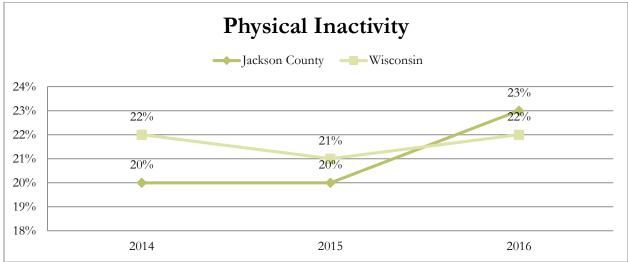
#### Health Behaviors



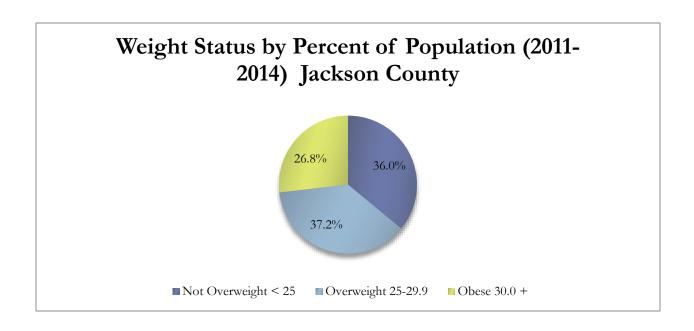


- Jackson County's percentage of adults who smoke has slightly decreased over the last couple of years.<sup>1</sup>
- When asked what products are being used, cigarettes continue to be the most popular, but there has also been an increase in the prevalence of E-cigarettes.<sup>8</sup>
- Although our adult smoking has decrease, the percentage of mothers smoking while pregnant is still strikingly high. Jackson County's percentage is not only higher than surrounding counties, but nearly double the percentage for the state of Wisconsin<sup>3</sup>



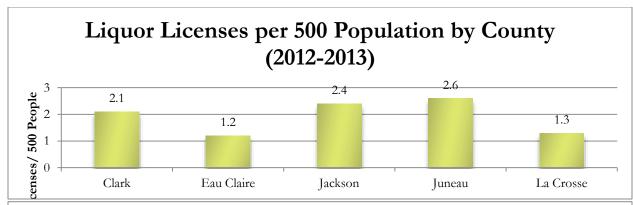


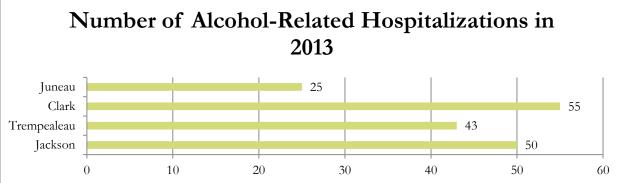
- The food environment index takes in to account access to healthy foods for those who are low income and do not live close to a grocery store and for those who do not have a reliable source of food for the year. Jackson County has stayed consistently below Wisconsin. A high index number means a greater access to healthy foods.1
- Physical inactivity has stayed pretty consistent for both Wisconsin and Jackson County.<sup>1</sup>

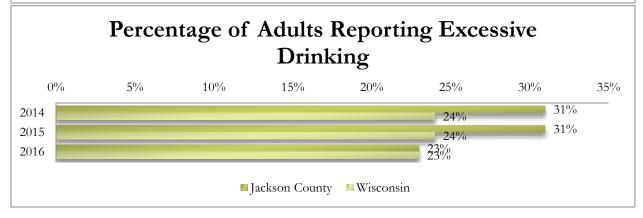


Year	Year Jackson County State of Wisc	
2010	31%	27.4%
2011	31%	27.7%
2012	33%	29.7%

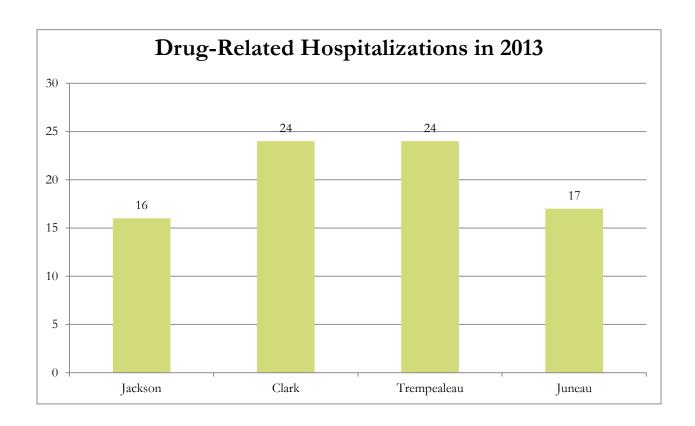
- Between the years of 2011 and 2014 37% of Jackson County adults were classified as overweight with a BMI of 25-29.9. 27% of adults were classified as obese with a BMI of 30 or greater. <sup>6</sup>
- The table shows the percentage of Jackson County residents who are obese compared to the state of Wisconsin. 6



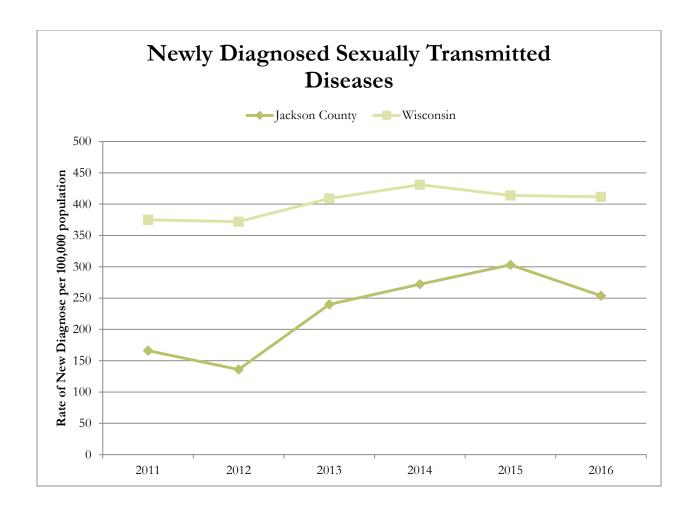




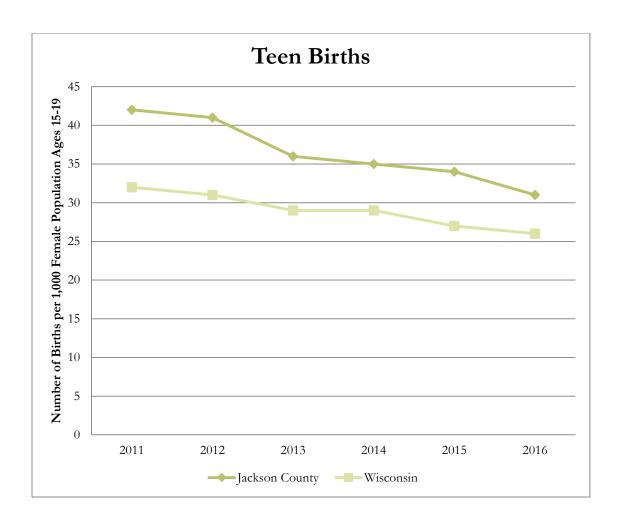
- The percentage of Jackson County adults reporting excessive drinking has decreased from 31% in 2014 to 23% in 2016. 1
- The number of liquor licenses issued per 500 people is considerably high in Jackson County compared to surrounding counties. 3
- The number of alcohol-related hospitalizations in 2013 is also considerably high in Jackson County when compared to surrounding counties. 3



The number of drug-related hospitalizations in 2013 was low in Jackson County compared to surrounding counties. 3



The rate of newly diagnosed sexually transmitted diseases has remained lower than the state of Wisconsin for Jackson County over the past several years. Between 2015 and 2016 the rate stayed consistent for Wisconsin and actually decreased for Jackson County. <sup>1</sup>



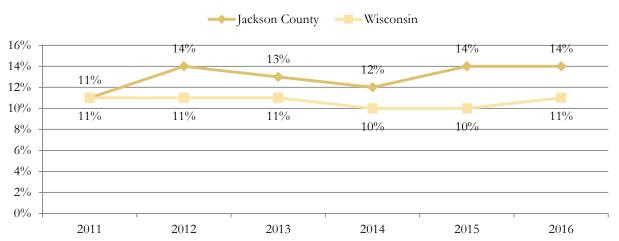
In Jackson County the rate of teen births has been consistently higher than the state of Wisconsin. However, it has still been steadily decreasing since 2011. <sup>1</sup>

#### Health Care

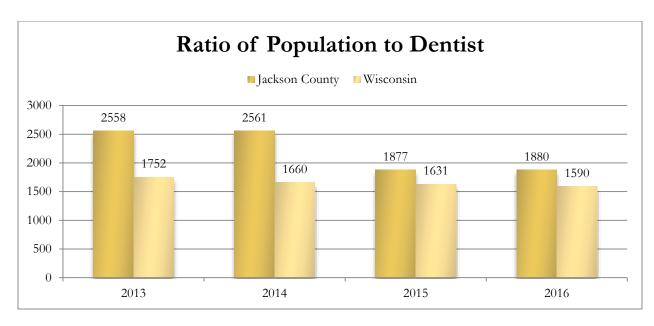


Survey: Insurance	#	%
Employer (mine or my family member)	404	73.9%
Medicare	42	7.7%
Medicaid/BadgerCare	46	8.4%
Marketplace (mine or my family member)	16	2.9%
Private Health Insurance (self-employed)	13	2.4%
Do not have health insurance	13	2.4%
Other	13	2.4%

## Percentage of Uninsured Adults

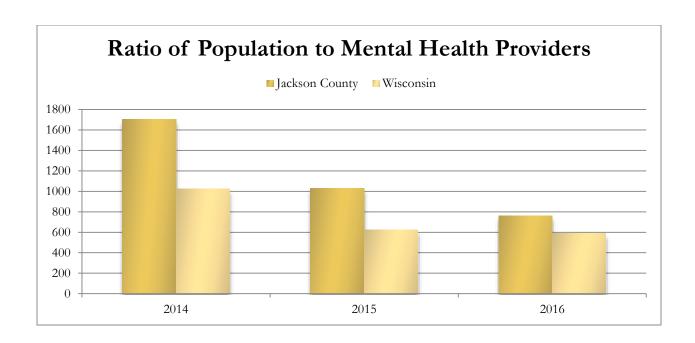


- According to a survey for Jackson County, 97.6% of residents have insurance of some kind. The majority (74%) have insurance through their employer, and 16% have insurance through medicare and Medicaid. 8
- Even though the survey reports a high level of residents having insurance, the percentage of uninsured adults in Jackson County has risen since 2014. 1

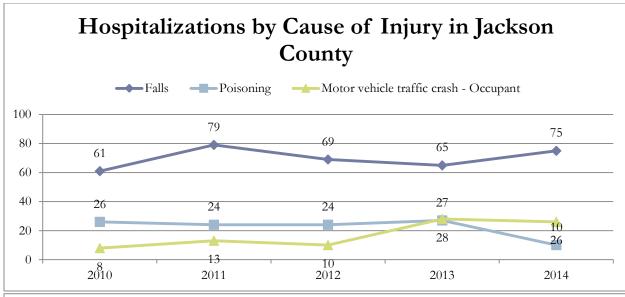


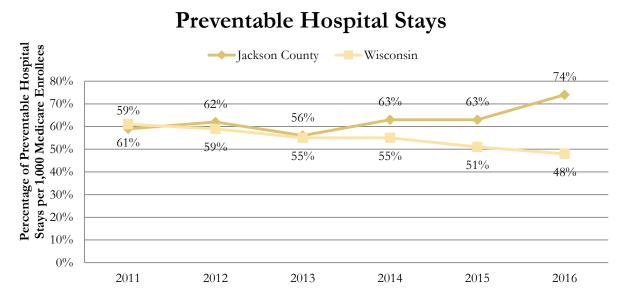
Survey: Do you have a dentist available to you for regular check-ups or dental care?	#	0/0
Yes	489	92.3%
No	41	7.7%
Total	530	100%
Survey: Does your child/children have a dentist available for regular check ups or dental care?	#	0/0
Yes	165	95.4%
No	8	4.6%
Total	173	100%

- The ratio of population to dentist in Jackson County has decreased considerably since 2013, meaning there are more providers per resident. <sup>1</sup>
- According to a survey of Jackson County residents, 92% have a dentist available to them and 95% of children have a dentist available to them.

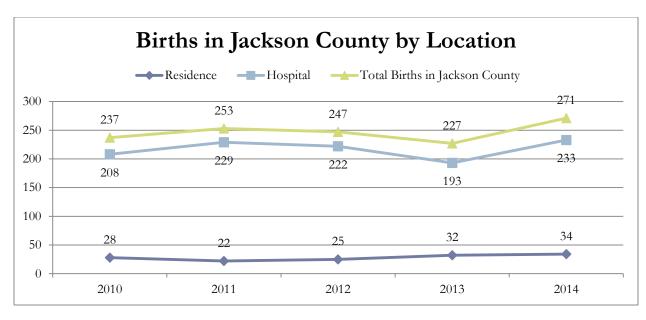


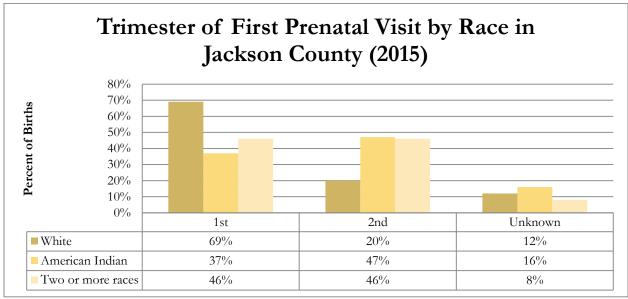
■ The ratio of population to mental health provider in Jackson County has decreased considerably since 2014, meaning there are more providers per resident. ¹



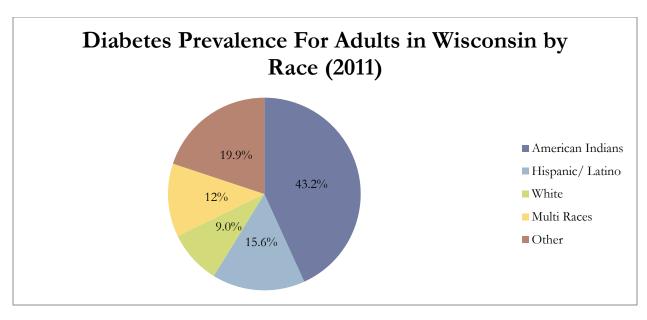


- Falls continue to be the main cause of injury for hospitalizations in Jackson County and have risen to 75 hospitalizations in 2014 from 61 in 2010. 6
- The percentage of hospital stays per 1,000 Medicare enrollees deemed preventable has increased in Jackson County since 2011 while the state of Wisconsin has seen a decrease in this same timeframe. <sup>1</sup>



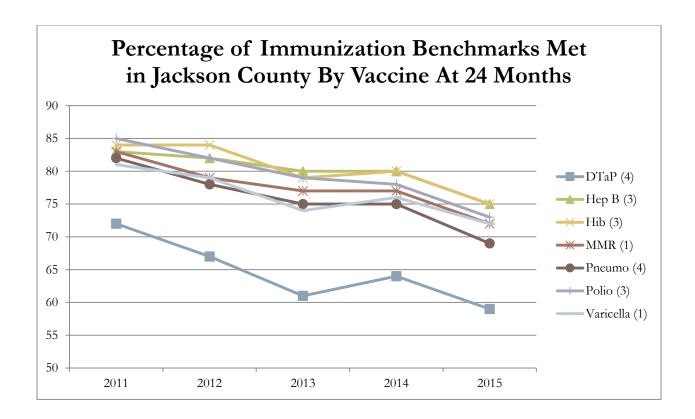


- The hospital continues to be the location the majority of mothers choose when giving birth in Jackson County. Home births remain small but have been increasing since 2010. 6
- The majority of white mothers received prenatal care during their first trimester, while the majority of American Indian mothers did not receive care until their second trimester in 2015. It was unknown when 36% of all mothers received prenatal care, meaning they could have received no care at all.  $^3$



Age	Jackson County	Wisconsin
18-44	4.2%	3.2%
45-64	13.8%	13.9%
65+	27.2%	25.6%
All Adults	10.7%	10.1%

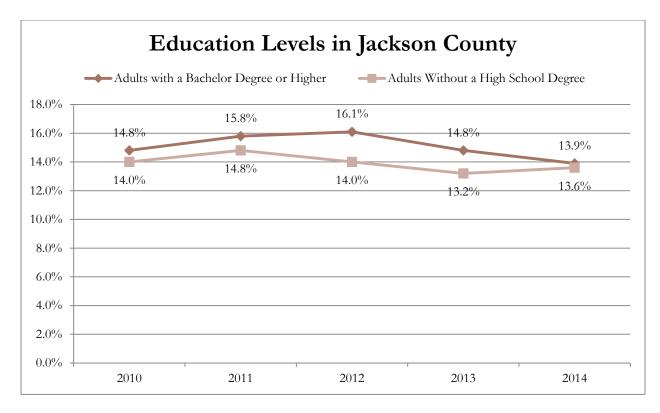
- Diabetes continues to have a huge prevalence among American Indians in Wisconsin. <sup>1</sup>
- The age group with the highest prevalence of diabetes in both Jackson County and Wisconsin is adults aged 65 and older. 9



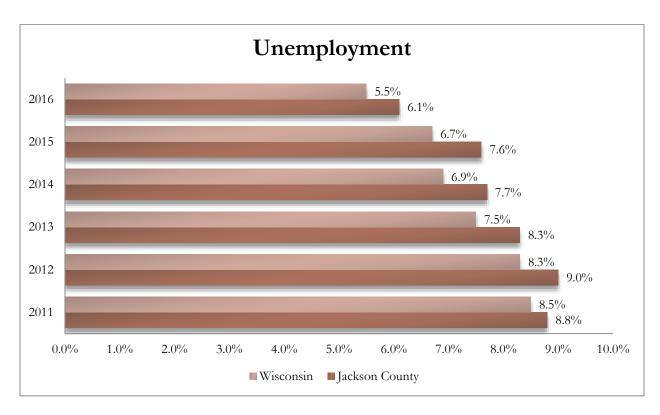
• The percentage of children who are up to date on their vaccinations by the age of 2 years old has been decreasing since 2011. The DTaP vaccine continues to be the vaccine that is unmet a higher percentage of the time. <sup>5</sup>

## Social and Economic Factors

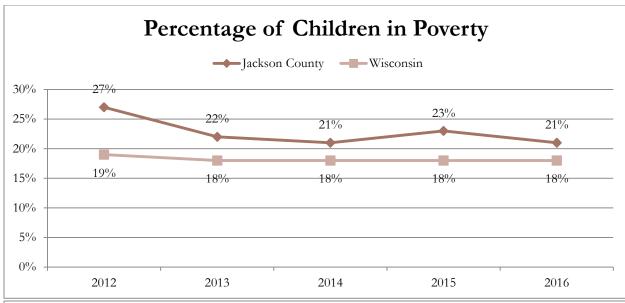


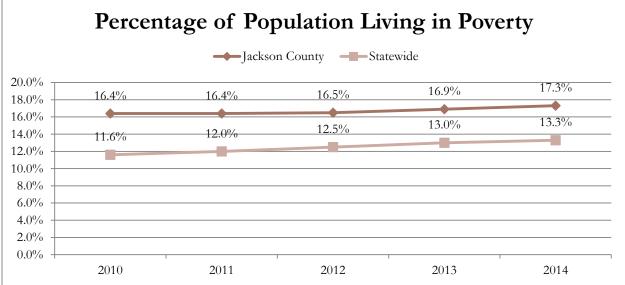


The percentage of adults without a high school degree in Jackson County has stayed pretty consistent since 2010. The percentage of adults with a Bachelor degree or higher increased in 2012 and has been steadily declining since then. <sup>6</sup>

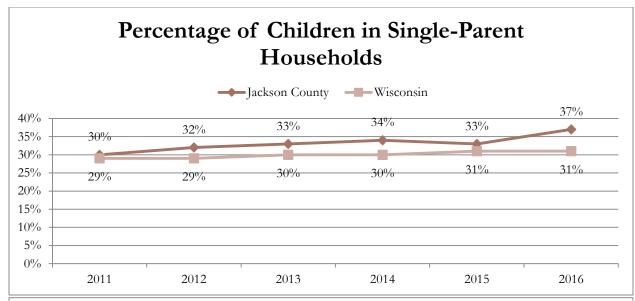


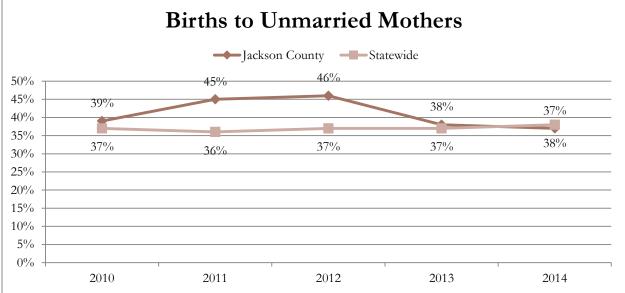
 Unemployment in Jackson County has remained higher than the state of Wisconsin since 2011 but both Jackson County and Wisconsin has steady a steady decrease in the percentage of residents unemployed. <sup>1</sup>



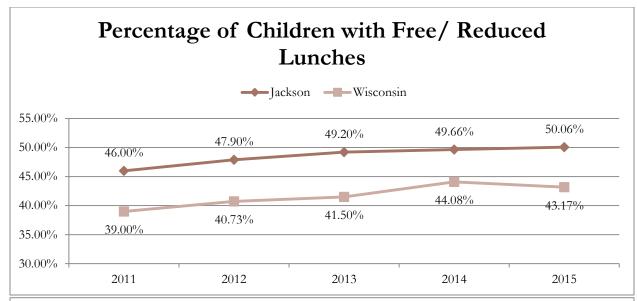


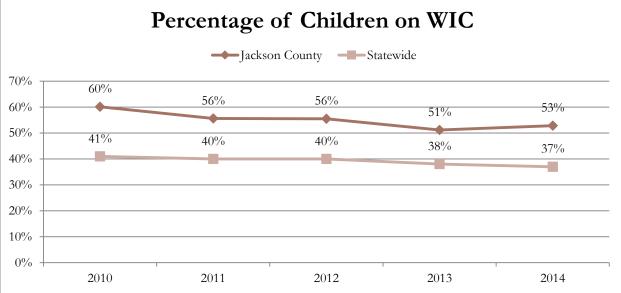
- The percentage of children living in poverty in Jackson County has decreased from 27% in 2012 to 21% in 2016. 1
- However, the percentage of the total population living in poverty has been increasing since 2010. 6





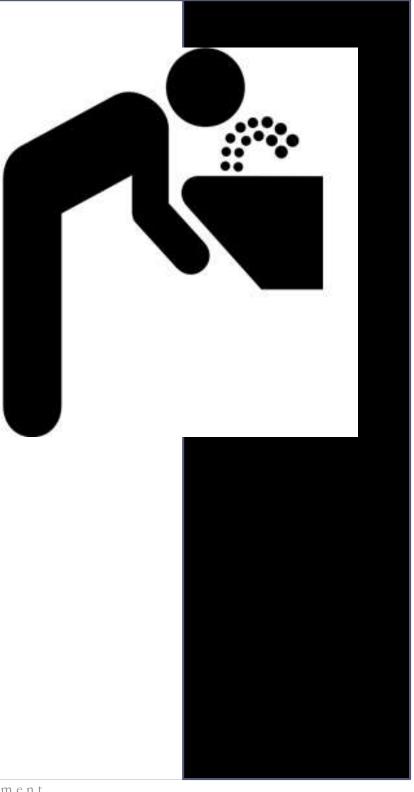
- The percentage of children in single-parent households has been increasing in both Jackson County and the state of Wisconsin. 1
- The percentage of births to unmarried mothers reached a high of 46% in 2012 for Jackson County but has decreased to 37% in 2014. 6

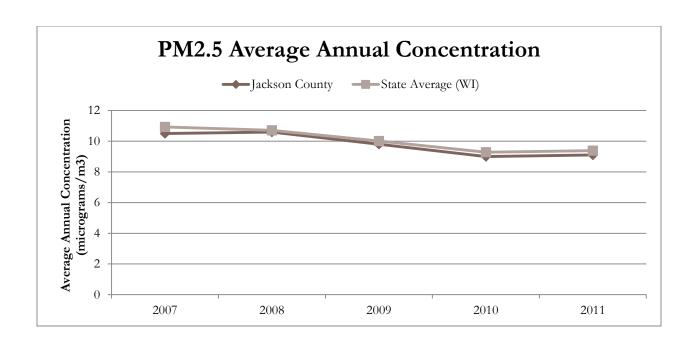




- The percentage of children with free and reduced lunches in Jackson County has remained higher than the state of Wisconsin and has increased by 4% since 2011. <sup>2</sup>
- The percentage of children on WIC in Jackson County has also remained higher than the state of Wisconsin but it has decreased 7% since 2010. 6

# Physical Environment

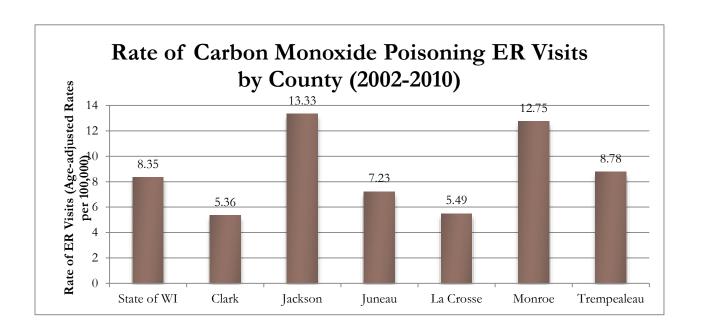




The air quality for Jackson County has remained consistent with the state of Wisconsin since 2007. <sup>3</sup>

Have you had your private well tested within the last year?	#	0/0
Yes	135	36.5%
No	235	63.5%

- When asked if their private well had been test within the last year an overwhelming 64% of Jackson County residents responded "no." 8
- When asked why not, the majority stated that they didn't know it needed to be tested every year, followed by that they did not feel it was necessary every year. 8



- Jackson County had extremely high rate of carbon monoxide poisoning ER visits between 2002 and 2010 compared to surrounding counties.
- When surveyed, 71% of Jackson County residents responded that they have a working carbon monoxide detector. 29% said that they did not. 8

Has your home been tested for Radon?	#	%
Yes	86	22.4%
No	298	77.6%

- When surveyed, 78% of Jackson County residents said that their home had not been tested for Radon. 8
- There are at home kits available for purchase at the Jackson County Health and Human Services front desk. Many residents have taken advantage of this opportunity since it was implemented.

#### References

- <sup>1</sup> County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
- <sup>2</sup> Program Statistics. In *School Nutrition*. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2011-2015.
- <sup>3</sup> Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics, Health Analytics Section. Public Health Profiles, Wisconsin 2015 (P-45358-15). September 2015.
- <sup>4</sup>Wisconsin Hospital Association
- <sup>5</sup> Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)
- <sup>6</sup> Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health. Wisconsin Department of Health Services and County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
- <sup>7</sup>Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting Systems
- <sup>8</sup> YRBS Survey of Jackson County 2015. University of Population Health Institute
- <sup>9</sup> The 2011 Burden of Diabetes in Wisconsin, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

## Acknowledgements

The priorities and objectives identified in this CHIP were decided through analysis of data from the Jackson County Community Health Survey, Jackson County Community Health Assessment, and through a community health forum composed of Jackson County professionals from many sectors.

Special thanks for their time, resources and assistance in developing the plan goes to Black River Memorial Hospital, Jackson County Public Health, UW Madison Population Health Institute and Sarah Hale, Health Administration Intern. Without collaboration from these entities in particular, data and collation of this plan would not have been possible.

The following people are recognized and thanked for participating in the forum and giving their expertise on what the improvement plan should focus on for the next six years.

- Christina Baurichter, Jackson County IT DHHS
- Melissa Bergerson RN CNO, BRMH
- Randy Bjerke, Jackson County Veterans Service Officer
- Barbara Brower, Community Relations Coordinator, BRMH
- Gina Brown, Workforce Connections
- Shawn Callisto RN, Hospice/Homecare Director, BRMH
- Tammy Danielson RN ,Jackson County Public Health DHHS
- Bob Daley CFO, BRMH
- Del DeBerg, Superintendent, Melrose Mindoro School District
- Jay Eddy, Mayor, City of Black River Falls
- Karen Foust, Director, Jackson County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
- Lyn Gates, Jackson County Aging DHHS
- Sydney Garavalia, Jackson County Public Health Intern
- Karla Gearing, Jackson County Behavioral Health Unit-DHHS
- Mindy Gilbertson, Krohn Clinic
- Teri Gjerseth RN, Footprints in Time Midwifery Services
- Michelle Goetting SW, BRMH Patient & Family Services
- Candice Green, Ho-Chunk Health Care

- Kristi Hanson RN, Jackson County Public Health DHHS
- Chris Hardie, Executive Director, Black River Area Chamber of Commerce
- Peggy Holmgreen, American Red Cross Scenic Bluffs Chapter
- Christine Hovell RN, Executive Director, Jackson County Department of Health & Human Services
- Amy Kleifgen, Manager-Parkside Residence
- Miranda Kunes, Co-op Credit Union
- Anita Leis, Jackson County Public Health Birth-3 Teacher/Coordinator
- Lisa Listle, Program Director-Together For Jackson County Kids
- Luane Meyer, Jackson County UWEX
- Dr. Esteban Miller, BRMH CMO
- Diane Moen-Ross, Center Director-Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley-Jackson County Center
- Ellen Moldenhauer RN, BRMH Board Member
- Ray Ransom, Jackson County Board of Supervisors Chairman
- Mary Jo Rozmenoski Jackson County H.O.P.E. Court
- Kathy Rumsey RN, Jackson County Public Health Nurse DHHS
- Lynda Savage, Western Technical College
- Nicole Schweitzer OTR, BRMH Rehabilitation Director
- Gavin Scray, Director Lunda Community Center
- Beth Smetana SW, BRMH Board of Directors
- Brittney Stelpfly, Atrium Post-Acute Care of Black River Falls
- Jody Stoker, Black River Falls Emergency Medical Service
- Rob Voss, EHS Ho-Chunk Nation Healthcare Center
- Mary Beth White-Jacobs RN, CEO BRMH
- Holly Winn, COO, BRMH
- Susie West, EHS Jackson County Public Health DHHS
- Amy Yaeger, BRMH Director of Marketing and Business Development
- Chelsey Yeskie, Jackson County Public Health DHHS

## **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	5
Jackson County Demographics	/
Public Health Issues and Strategies	
Issue One: Access to Health Services	8
Issue Two: Healthy Eating/Active Living for Chronic Disease Prevention	12
Issue Three: Drug and Alcohol Misuse	16
Issue Four: Intentional/Unintentional Injuries	19
Next Steps	23

## **Executive Summary**

The Jackson County Public Health Department presents the following Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) after a year-long process of identifying and prioritizing community issues. The process for creating this document involved conducting a Community Health Survey, with the support of the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, data analysis with the help of Sarah Hale, Health Administration Intern, and a community health forum. This plan was created in collaboration with Black River Memorial Hospital to meet statutory and regulatory requirements.

This document is for the entire community: residents, community leaders, and organizations. In order to make progress on issues identified, the entire community will need to engage in the process of implementation.

The Community Health Assessment (CHA) was structured after the *County Health Rankings*, a publication of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the UW Population Health Institute that ranks the 72 counties in Wisconsin on overall health outcome measures and also on health factors (behaviors, clinical care, social and economic and physical environment) that contribute to the overall health outcomes of a community. Data was pulled from multiple sources and local data was used whenever possible. Data sources utilized for the Community Health Improvement Plan included:

- Wisconsin County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health
- U. S. Census
- WISH Data
- Local Health Care Agencies
- Federal Reserve Bank Outreach Director Minneapolis, MN
- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
- Bureau of Economic Analysis
- American Community Survey
- Wisconsin Department of Health Sciences
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Modern Healthcare Magazine, 11/23/15 Issue
- Community Benefit Connect

The data in the CHA was presented to the community in a community health forum on July 13, 2016. The participants (listed previously) identified four issues as health priorities. They are:

- **Access to Health Services**
- Active Living/Healthy Eating for Chronic Disease Prevention
- **Drug and Alcohol Misuse**
- **Intentional/Unintentional Injuries**

Goals and objectives relating to these issues are listed as well as possible strategies to impact the problem. Community resources and barriers are also listed.



Figure 1 Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services is one of many agencies in Jackson County that offers preventive programming and other services for citizens of Jackson County.

## **Jackson County Demographics**



Jackson County is located in Western Wisconsin. It is primarily a rural county with a population of 20,554 (US Census January 2015). The population is mostly Caucasian; however there are also Native American, African American, White Hispanic, and Asian populations. Jackson County saw an increase of 223 persons between 2010 and 2014. Persons aged 65 and older saw the greatest increase in numbers from 2010 to 2016, with persons 45 to 64 as the second highest population growth. Persons aged 15 to 44 noted a decline in population.

While Jackson County has many beneficial programs and community resources, the county faces significant challenges. Some of these challenges include high rate of poverty within families, the need for increased behavioral health resources and an increasing aging population. The 2016 *County Health Rankings*, an annual publication produced by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation ranks counties within Wisconsin, ranked Jackson County 45<sup>th</sup> out of 72 Wisconsin counties based on health outcomes. Within this category, Jackson County ranked 65 out of **72** counties for quality of life which includes a higher percentage of residents reporting poor physical and mental health days, and a higher rate of smoking among pregnant women and a higher number of low birthweight births compared to most Wisconsin counties.

## Issue one:

## **Access to Health Services**

#### Access to Health Services:

Data noted in the Jackson County Community Health Assessment, from the Jackson County Health Survey and from information noted from a community health forum, highlighted that access to behavioral health services and increased services for long term care for Dementia/Alzheimer's or behavioral health needs was the most important issue to address in Jackson County.

## What is the community currently doing to address the issue?

There are several resources that provide access to health services in Jackson County. The Krohn Clinic, Black River Memorial **Hospital and Ho-Chunk Health Clinic** provide behavioral health and medical services in Jackson County. Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) recently added an outpatient behavioral health clinic to provide counseling, case coordination, AODA counseling and nurse prescriber services. Several counseling agencies have been added within Jackson County including Stein Counseling, Northwest Journey, and Family and Children's Center. At this time there is

only one residential treatment facility for AODA clients.

Together for Jackson County Kids (TFJCK) and UW-Extension have collaborated to implement resources for anti-bullying and coping skills for children within Jackson County schools and are currently working toward streamlined referral and assessments for behavioral health needs. Jackson County's DHHS Behavioral Health Unit and TFJCK have implemented community wide Taking Care of You (TCY) Classes designed to provide additional resources to Jackson County residents for coping.

Transportation services currently available include Jackson Count Interfaith Caregivers, Jackson County Aging Unit and BRF taxi service.

48%

of Jackson County citizens

identified that Mental Health was an identified need for services in the 2015 Community Health Survey

Jackson County Community Health Survey, 2015- University of Wisconsin Public Health Institute

# What has the community identified as major problems in this area?

While there have been some increases in access to health services, the community has identified several barriers to access:

- Long waiting list for Behavioral Health Services in Jackson County due to limited psychological and psychiatric specialties.
- 2. Limited reliable transportation to get to appointments, especially in the outlying communities.
- 3. Stigma and fear of using Behavioral Health Services exists in Jackson County. In the Jackson County Health Survey it was identified that persons don't want others to know they are in need of assistance due to being sad, anxious or blue and they deal with these issues themselves.
- 4. No adult daycare programs exist within Jackson County.
- Four community-based residential facilities are licensed within Jackson County with limited beds and only two residential care complexes are available for assisted living needs.

Data received from the 2016 Jackson County Community Health Forum, noted that the need for increased mental health/AODA providers and the need to increase resources for Alzheimer's/Dementia were rated as the top priorities for Jackson County.



## Issue 1 continued...

## **Goal**

- Increase access to behavioral health services within Jackson County by December 2022
- Increase resources for persons and their families needing long term care within Jackson County by December 2022

## **Outcome Objectives/Indicators**

- Development & implementation of a system wide policy/procedure for consistent screening & referral tools for behavioral health services by December 2022
- Increase behavioral health services within Jackson County by adding at least two additional service providers by 2022
- Increase capacity for long term care of dementia and behavioral health/AODA clients by 2022
- Increase coping and resiliency skills for Jackson County Youth by implementing evidence based programming by 2022
- Increase transportation options by adding two additional services by 2022
- Implement screenings for dementia/Alzheimer's at primary care visits by 2022
- Increase resources for caregivers and clients experiencing chronic disease by 2022

## **Contributing Factors/Barriers**

- ✓ Lack of health insurance coverage (or insufficient coverage or high deductibles)
- ✓ Cost for care
- ✓ Unavailability of resources (not sufficient resources for the need)
- ✓ Fear/Stigma related to behavioral health services
- ✓ Lack of employer resources
- ✓ Limited hours

#### **Suggested Intervention Strategies**

- Work collaboratively with TFJCK, BRMH, schools, and law enforcement to create a streamlined referral and assessment tool for behavioral health services
- Locate and contract with specialized transportation services that are available 24/7 within Jackson County
- Assess the feasibility of a Federally Qualified Health Center in Jackson County for behavioral health services
- Collaborate with area providers to increase behavioral health services within their institutions or through other new entities

#### **Resources Available**

- Krohn Clinic
- Jackson County DHHS
- Black River Memorial Hospital
- Essential Health Clinic
- Interfaith Caregivers
- Footprints In Time
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Pine View Care Center
- Atrium Healthcare

## **Impact Objectives**

- Observe a five year decline in the number of reported mentally unhealthy days in past 30 days as documented by County Health Ranking Data by December 2022 (2016 reported mentally unhealthy days noted in County Health Ranking data is 3.6)
- Observe an increased number of behavioral health services and long term care beds/facilities available by December 2022.

## Issue Two:

# Healthy Eating/ Active Living for Chronic Disease Prevention

Jackson County has elevated rates of cancer, diabetes and heart disease. Similar to the rest of Wisconsin, Jackson County anticipates facing an epidemic of persons with Alzheimer's or Dementia. According to data received from 2009-2013 Department of Health Statistics, Jackson County has elevated rates of prostate, colon/rectal, lung, and breast cancer. Uterine cancer is nearly double the rate of Wisconsin. While it is not known how to prevent Alzheimer's/Dementia, it is known that a healthy diet and an active lifestyle may have a positive impact on Alzheimer's /Dementia and decrease the risk of developing chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. In the 2011 WI Burden of Diabetes reported almost 2,000 people or 10% of the population has diabetes. Another 20%, or 5,300 Jackson County residents, 20 years and older have pre-diabetes.

> Colon, Rectal, Prostate, Lung, Breast and Uterine Cancer all have higher rates of incidence in Jackson

# What is the community currently doing to address the issue?

The group identified many community resources that can be built upon in the improvement plan. The Women, Infants, and Children program (WIC) provides an education program to pregnant mothers and to mothers with children up to age 5. Local Farmer's Markets have been expanded for easier access for Jackson County Citizens and accept WIC vouchers. Community gardens and nature trails encourage physical activity. In particular, county parks and the Black River Foundation Trail are available at low or no cost for utilization and have safe & paved areas for hiking, biking and running.

Local high school curriculums incorporate nutrition topics in health classes. The UW Extension nutrition educator provides nutrition education lessons at local elementary schools. Local schools offer free and reduced lunch and universal breakfast for students.

The Friends Sharing Food community program coordinates a weekly food pantry in Black River Falls, monthly food pantries in four outlying communities and a weekend food backpack at two local school districts throughout the school year. There are local weight loss programs such as Weight Watchers and TOPS. Fitness options

Include the new Lunda Community Center, personal trainers, and a 24/7 gym; however these are fee- for-service facilities.

The Jackson in Action Coalition (JIA), formed in 2011, includes a variety of collaborative partners. This coalition provides community education such as the Harvest of the Month (HOM), supports the Annual Pace and Pedal run/bike/walk event, Snow Shoe Shuffle, & Gobbler Giveback. JIA support/coordinate local Farmer's Markets and other educational nutritional venues.

#### **Black River Memorial Hospital (BRMH)**

sponsors a Diabetes Education and Support Group (DESG) that meets monthly and Better Breathers Club that meets bimonthly. Jackson County Public Health (JCPH) and BRMH have collaborated on hosting a free Diabetic Health Fair for the past 18 years within Jackson County. Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshops are offered locally 1-2 times a year.

# What has the community identified as major problems in this area?

The community identified several issues related to community nutrition and education and support groups related to cancer and heart disease to be addressed in the community improvement plan.

- Lack of access to healthy and affordable food options: The current food environment in Black River Falls favors low cost fast food restaurants that currently outnumber available healthy alternatives. Within other communities' limited access to healthy food options exist. Currently the only grocery stores within the county are located in the city of Black River Falls.
- Limited walking paths in Jackson
   County: Safe walking for school aged children in and around elementary schools is limited.
   Outlying Jackson County communities have extremely limited access to safe walking paths.
- Lack of parental involvement in nutrition: There is a need for adult nutrition education in order to pass healthy habits onto the next generation.
- Lack of education and support groups: Jackson County lacks education/support for those diagnosed with cancer, diabetes, and other chronic diseases as well as for their families.

## Goal:

 Provide education and programming to enhance the health and well-being of the citizens of Jackson County.

## **Outcome Objectives/Indicators**

- > Two new community resources for nutrition education for families will be created by December 2022.
- Create awareness and promote increased use of low cost or no cost active living options by December 2022.
- Create at least one support/education venue for those diagnosed with cancer/ cancer survivors by December 2022.
- Create at least one support/education venue for those diagnosed with heart disease/diabetes by December 2020.

## **Contributing Factors**

- ✓ Lack of knowledge about importance of nutrition and healthy food options and understanding of how to prepare quick healthy meals at home
- √ Food deserts throughout Jackson County
- ✓ Lack of time/financial means and understanding of how to exercise at home
- ✓ Lack of resources related to creating and sustaining support groups for chronic disease
- ✓ Poverty

#### **Suggested Intervention Strategies**

- Utilize social marketing for healthy eating and active living media campaign
- Increase the number of nutritional education programs for families including 5210 and Fit Families programming within Jackson County
- Assess and support potential healthy option choices at local grocery & convenience stores
- Create media campaign around free and accessible exercise options within the community and at home
- Create a cancer support group for persons diagnosed with cancer and their families

#### **Resources Available**

- WIC Program
- Jackson County Schools
- Farmer's market
- Food Share program
- Jackson in Action
- UW-Extension Nutrition Educator
- Black River Memorial Hospital
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Forestry and Parks
- Village and City Parks and Rec

## **Impact Objectives**

- Reduce the percentage of adult persons who are obese in Jackson County from 33% to 28% as reported by County Health Ranking data by December 2022.
- Decrease the number of Jackson
   County adult residents who are
   physically inactive from 23% to 20%
   as reported by County Health Ranking
   data by December 2022
- Increase the number of cancer/chronic disease support resources within Jackson County by adding at least one resource within the county by December 2022.



## Issue Three:

## **Drug and Alcohol** Misuse

Substance misuse of heroin. methamphetamine, prescription drugs as well as tobacco and alcohol were identified by the community, the Public Health Department, and data from the 2016 Community Health Assessment as an important area of community focus.

## What is the community currently doing to address the issue?

The Together for Jackson County Kids (TFJCK) Coalition aims to decrease youth access and increase community awareness of the hazards of heroin, methamphetamines, prescription drug misuse, and alcohol use by forming youth/adult and community partnerships to creatively deal with these threats. The Ho-Chunk Nation and Jackson County **Board of Supervisors** have officially prioritized drug abuse prevention/awareness and support creating

Prescription drug drop off sites are available at the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, Ho-Chunk Nation, and Krohn Clinic pharmacy.

initiatives and collaboration to decrease

drug abuse in the county.

Needle disposal sites have been established at the Jackson County Recycle Center and the Ho-Chunk Nation Social Services.

#### The Jackson County Tobacco -Free

Coalition currently supports education and prevention activities within all 3 school districts. Due to Jackson County's continued high rate of smoking during pregnancy, initiatives such as First Breath have been implemented within the Jackson County WIC and Prenatal Care Program, the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Care System and Black River Memorial Hospital.

## What has the community identified as major problems in this area?

## 1. Drug Abuse:

Use of drugs such as heroin, methamphetamines and prescription drugs have been identified as a problem for both youth and adult populations.

In 2015, due to the high number of Heroin/Opioid overdoses and deaths in Jackson County both the Ho-Chunk Nation and Jackson County Board of Supervisors created resolutions identifying problematic drug issues and the need for drug prevention efforts as a priority for Jackson County and the Ho- Chunk Nation

Support groups exist (Narcotics Anonymous, AA, and Alanon) and the community understands the need for prevention and access to hazardous waste disposal to prevent prescription drug misuse.

#### Goal

Reduce misuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

#### **Outcome Objectives/Indicators**

- Provide two educational events related to Narcan access and its appropriate use within two Jackson County communities by December 2019.
- ➤ Increase the number of AODA providers accessible to Jackson County residents from the current one provider to at least two by December 2022.
- Utilization of the PDMP (Prescription Drug Monitoring Program) by all medical prescribers in Jackson County by December 2022
- Obtain data resources to create a baseline measurement of methamphetamine and heroin use and drug overdose deaths within Jackson County by December 2018.

## **Contributing Factors**

- ✓ Peer pressure
- ✓ Low cost of meth and heroin.
- ✓ Low self-esteem
- ✓ Lack of support for smoking cessation
- ✓ Poverty

## **Suggested Intervention Strategies**

- Education for parents and youth about consequences of substance use and strategies to prevent/quit
- Increase outreach to expectant mothers through programs like First Breath and CO monitoring
- Create social marketing campaign related to dangers of substance use and abuse
- Increase referrals to alcohol/tobacco/drug support groups that already exist in Jackson County
- Increase awareness of legislative initiatives (HOPE legislation) related to drugs and alcohol

## **Resources Available and recent** interventions

- ✓ TFJCK (Together for Jackson) County Kids)
- First Breath (CO monitoring)
- ✓ Community support groups (Quit Line, Narcotics anonymous, AA, Alanon)

## **Impact Objectives**

- Decrease smoking during pregnancy as reported by public health profiles over a 5 year period ending from 29% to 25% by December 2022.
- Decrease by 5% the number of drug overdose deaths of Jackson County residents by December 2022.
- 5% of the Jackson County residents will demonstrate use of social media included in a social marketing campaign related to the dangers of drug and other substance use by December 2019.



## Issue Four:

# Intentional/ Unintentional Injuries

Concerns about intentional and unintentional injuries were voiced by participants at the Community Health Forum. Data from the Community Health Assessment also identifies this topic as a challenge for Jackson County. Specifically, concerns related to suicide and falls are supported by statistical evidence as issues for Jackson County. Suicide data indicate that Jackson County has nearly twice the rate than the State of Wisconsin with a majority of suicide deaths being men. Falls at home accounted for 30% of Jackson County EMS calls in 2015.

# What is the community currently doing to address the issue?

The community is currently working in several areas to address these issues:

Suicide: The community is currently working on reducing suicide. The Zero Suicide program is being developed within the Department of Health and Human Services to assure clients are consistently assessed for suicidal risk. The Medical College of Wisconsin has funded a grant for Together for Jackson County Kids to streamline the referral process for mental

health services as well as increase efficient, effective, and collaborative mental health resources. This grant funds and supports resources to increase healthy coping skills among youth and adults with programming including Mind Up, Taking Care of You, and Mindfulness Matters. Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) trainings, designed to understand the signs and symptoms of suicide and when to get help, occur ongoing in all school districts for faculty. Black River Falls and the Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District train all incoming freshman in QPR.

Falls: A Falls Prevention coalition consisting of community partners, including Jackson County Emergency Medical System, Black River Memorial Hospital, Public Health, Jackson County Aging Unit, and the Ho-Chunk Nation has been recently formed to address this issue. Currently BRMH offers the evidence based programming entitled, "Stepping On," targeted for seniors to increase strength and mobility to decrease falls.

# What has the community identified as major problems in this area?

As mentioned, the most urgent areas are:

- Suicide: Increased resources are needed to identify at risk individuals (primarily men) to provide assistance before suicide is completed. Suicide is often linked to depression, alcohol, and other drugs so addressing these areas will be significant to suicide reduction. The need to locate sustainable resources to continue programming is essential as well as increasing healthy coping and resiliency skill building among citizens of Jackson County.
- Falls: Falls resulting in serious injury creates a strain on limited health care resources within Jackson County and EMS response for non-injurious falls creates decreased response capacity within the county.



According to Jackson County Youth
Risk Behavior Survey Data:

- Between 2012 and 2014, the percentage of middle school students planning suicide doubled and the percentage who attempted suicide tripled.
- In 2014, 20.6% of Jackson County High School students have considered attempting suicide, while 8.4% indicated an attempt.

## Issue 4 continued

## Goal

 Reduce injuries and death from suicide and falls

## **Outcome Objectives/Indicators**

- > At least two new behavioral health services will be added to Jackson County by December 2022
- At least two school districts in Jackson County will implement Mind Up or a similar evidence based curriculum by December 2019
- Evidence based resiliency programming will be provided within at least two Jackson County population groups by December 2022
- Fall prevention programming for senior populations will be implemented in two outlying communities by December 2022
- > At least one local healthcare facility will implement a fall risk assessment tool within their practice by December 2022
- Assistive lifting devices will be readily available for use by local EMS personnel by December 2020

### **Contributing Factors**

- Lack of access to mental health services and resources (suicide)
- Stigma associated with seeking help for depression/mental health (suicide)
- Lack of social support (suicide)
- Aging population
- Impoverished population

## **Suggested Intervention Strategies**

- Increase resources and access for mental health services
- Create increased community awareness for suicide signs and symptoms and response, particularly in males and elderly
- Implement evidence based resiliency/coping skills curriculum within two local school districts
- Implementation of a fall risk assessment tool by local health care providers and other agencies who work with seniors

## **Resources Available**

- ✓ Together for Jackson County Kids (TFJCK)
- ✓ Fall Prevention Coalition (elderly) falls)
- ✓ Jackson County DHHS
- ✓ Black River Memorial Hospital
- ✓ Essential Health Clinic
- ✓ Jackson County Interfaith Caregivers
- ✓ Footprints In Time
- ✓ Ho-Chunk Nation
- ✓ Krohn Clinic
- ✓ Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan Schools
- ✓ Black River Falls Schools
- ✓ Melrose-Mindoro Schools

#### **Impact Objectives**

- Decrease suicide attempts among high school students to below 5% (2014 YRBS--data was 8.4%) by December 2022
- Decrease high schools students who plan to complete suicide to below 10% (2014 YRBS rate was 13.6%) by December 2022
- Decrease adult male rate of suicide to below a 3 year average of 35/100,000 by December 2022. (WI Violent Death Reporting System)
- Decrease rate of suicide in persons 55 and older to below 30/100,000 by December 2022 (WI Violent Death Reporting System)
- Decrease the number of EMS responses for falls at home to below 20% by December 2022 (2015 Jackson County EMS data-28%)

## **Next Steps**

The CHIP Process is a cyclical progression towards improved community health for Jackson County. This document concludes the assessing/planning portion of the cycle, but for the process to succeed a transition to the action phase of the cycle is crucial. This document serves as a call to action for community members and organizations to engage in community health improvement efforts. The assessment and improvement plan were created using community input throughout the entire process and should continue in the action phase. The next step involves assuring that priority objectives and interventions are being addressed within the community and by which agency within Jackson County. A Community Health Improvement Network (CHIN) will come together at least yearly to review and address CHIP priorities and to identify continued gaps and resources and to collaborate in regards to completing initiatives and objectives. The first meeting of the CHIN is slotted for January 2017.

Please contact the Jackson County Public Health Department if you are interested in participating or for more information.