



MERRICK MEDICAL CENTER COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT



Approved: December 20, 2018

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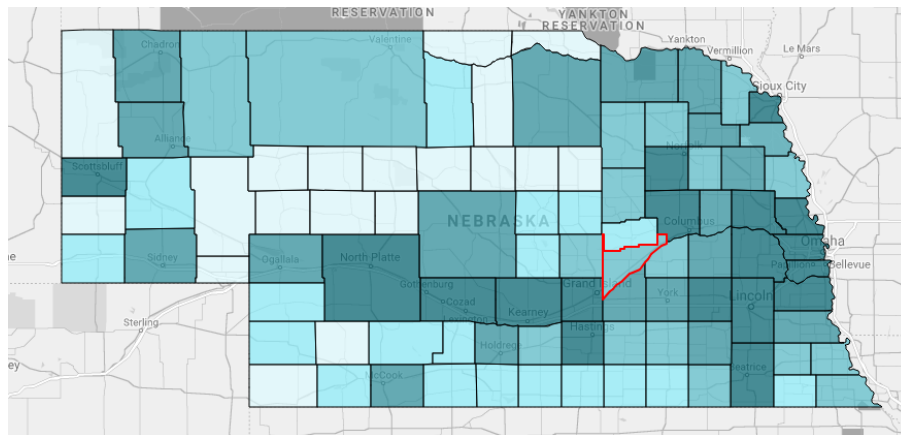
I. Introduction

This Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report is prepared and submitted by Merrick Medical Center. Merrick Medical Center is a 25-bed critical access hospital with two physician clinics located in Central City and Fullerton. Previously known as Litzenberg Memorial County Hospital, the health system was acquired by Bryan Health on July 1, 2017 and is now known as Merrick Medical Center. For the purposes of this report, the community served is all of Merrick County, as well as Fullerton, which is in Nance County. Merrick Medical Center was part of a CHNA in 2016 in partnership with the Central District Health Department located in Grand Island, Nebraska. The Central District Health Department also partnered and provided guidance for this project.

This report fulfills the requirements established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requiring that non-profit hospitals conduct CHNA at least every three years. This assessment and accompanying attachments include input from various individuals representing the broad interests of our community. This is the first year Merrick Medical Center has been required to conduct a CHNA since becoming a non-profit on July 1, 2017.

II. Description of Community Served

The following communities are located in Merrick County: Central City, Clarks, Chapman, Palmer, Silver Creek, Archer and Worms. For the purposes of this report, Fullerton is also included in our service area, which is northeast of Central City.



2017 census population estimates for Merrick County are 7,882, which is a 0.3% increase from the 2010 census, which estimated population to be 7,845. 23% of the population is under the age of 18, while approximately 20% is over the age of 65. The community is almost a 50/50 split of male to female. Merrick County is 96% white. The census further estimates that income levels in Merrick County are approximately \$53,536 per household, with an estimated 10.2% of the community living at or below poverty levels.

2017 census population estimates for Fullerton are 1,262, which is a 3.44% decrease in population from the 2010 census. The population under the age of 18 is higher than Merrick County, coming in at just under 28%, but the population over the age of 65 is similar at 20%. There are also an estimated 58% females to 42% males living in Fullerton. Fullerton is also predominantly white at 98.5%. Household income is estimated at just under \$39,000, while the poverty levels are higher at 14.3%.

Merrick County as well as residents in Fullerton are served by Merrick Medical Center, Central City Medical Clinic and Fullerton Medical Clinic. Boone County Health System also serves the residents of Fullerton with a Clinic located in their community as well as a hospital approximately 25 miles north in Albion. Genoa Medical Facilities is the sole hospital located in Nance County and also provides care for its residents. Merrick County is served by the Central District Health Department, which has a three county service area including Hall and Hamilton counties. Nance County is served by the East Central District Health Department.

The two largest employers in Central City are Merrick Medical Center and Central City Public Schools. Census data indicates that there are 233 total employer establishments in Merrick County.

III. Merrick Medical Center and Community Assets

Merrick County has several community assets. First, Merrick Medical Center, a critical access hospital and subsidiary of Bryan Health, is licensed for 25 beds. In addition to our physician clinics located in Central City and Fullerton, Merrick Medical Center offers general surgery procedures, physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehab, a level 4 certified trauma program in addition to an outpatient clinic area featuring over 15 visiting specialists.

For fiscal year 2017, Merrick Medical Center performed 240 surgical procedures, as well as served 274 acute and swing bed patients. Clinic visits for the Central City Clinic totaled 13,253, while clinic visits in Fullerton totaled 1,467. Total specialty clinic visits were 3,030 and we served just under 1500 patients in our Emergency Room.

The **Central City Senior Center** offers congregate meals, meals on wheels and a robust city transit system that is operated via bus. The bus will take residents of all ages to and from wherever they need to go including school activities, babysitters, medical appointments and more. They serve all of Merrick County, in addition to those who may live slightly outside the county but need assistance.

Litzenberg Memorial Long Term Care is a skilled nursing, rehabilitation and long term care facility that is managed by Good Samaritan Society, and located in the same building as

Merrick Medical Center. There are licensed for 46 beds, provide 24 hour nursing care and offer private and semi-private rooms.

Central City Care Center offers another option for residents in Central City and surrounding communities by offering skilled nursing, rehabilitation and long term care services. They also offer a program specific to people with Alzheimer's or related dementias.

The **Central District Health Department** serves a three county area including Merrick County. As a health department, it offers the following services: breastfeeding peer counselor programs, immunization clinics, public health messaging, refugee services, health services and screenings, Women, Infants & Children (WIC), in addition to environmental health services, emergency preparedness and various other health projects.

The **Heartland United Way** serves a four county area including Merrick County, and partners with close to 20 "Community Partners" to provide various services throughout the 4 county area. Each year, with funding from the United Way, these partner agencies provide programs, services and resources to over 60,000 people. While a large majority of those served are in Hall County, Merrick County also has access to the same resources if needed.

IV. How Was The Assessment Conducted

Merrick Medical Center participated in the Community Health Needs Assessment that was completed in 2016 and led by the Central District Health Department. We used part of that report as a basis for this Community Health Needs Assessment as it was completed not quite two years ago. In addition to that Assessment, we launched a survey to both our community and our employees, in addition to hosting an onsite meeting with leaders in our community. Information was also obtained from the County Health Rankings website; a project of the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Information was also provided by the Central District Health Department based on information they received from the 2017 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, which is conducted by the Centers for Disease Control.

The results of the community survey as well as the feedback from the group meeting and the documents provided from the Central District Health Department are provided at the end of this document.

V. 2018-2021 Community Health Needs Assessment

According to the County Health Rankings data, Merrick County ranks 67th in health outcomes out of 80 ranked counties in Nebraska. 13 counties in Nebraska are not ranked due to not having enough data to make an accurate assessment. Nance County ranks 66th in health outcomes out of 80 counties ranked in Nebraska. Things to consider from this source is that

several measures are based upon responses received during the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) which is the premier telephone survey in the nation that reaches all 50 states and over 400,000 adults. Other data is based on information received from Medicare reporting. In all cases, the possible error rate is listed.

Merrick County has several areas of strength listed within the survey including a significantly lower number of alcohol related driving deaths at 17%, compared to the state of Nebraska at 37%. Socioeconomic factors that are strengths include the number of residents with some college (71%), our unemployment rate (3.8%), children in poverty (14%), income inequality (3.8%) and social associations (21.8).

Nance County also has several areas of strength listed including a lower than average number of teen births, those reporting they have some college education (71%), the unemployment rate (2.8%) and the percentage of children living in a single parent household (18%).

Merrick County areas of opportunity were listed as the number of adults who smoke (15%), which is lower than the Nebraska average (17%), yet higher than the national average (14%). Adult obesity comes in at 33%, which is 7 points higher than the national average. Physical inactivity is listed at 29%, which is higher than both the state (23%) and national (20%) averages. Excessive drinking also comes in as an areas of concern at 21%, which is 8 points higher than the national average. The number of primary care physicians is 2600:1, while the state of Nebraska is at about 1300:1. The number of mental health providers is 7830:1, whereas Nebraska is 420:1. Preventable hospital stays, which are defined as those conditions, as long as appropriate care is given, can normally be treated without the need for a hospital stay is listed at 74, which is higher than both the state (48) and national (35) averages.

Nance County areas of opportunity were listed as the number of adults who smoke (16%), which is two points higher than the national average. Adult obesity at 30% is close to the Nebraska average but about four percentage points higher than the national average. Preventable hospital stays is listed at 83, which is higher than both the state (48) and national (35) averages. The number of primary care and mental health providers is not listed as a metric at all. Lastly, the number of injury related deaths is more than double the state and national averages.

VI. Priority Community Health Needs Identified

A meeting was held on November 29, 2018, with representation from the following stakeholders:

Representative	Role in Community, Organization
Paul Clark	CEO, Merrick Medical Center
Jason Buss	Director of Clinics, Merrick Medical Center Board Member, Dark Island Trail

Jacey Schwarz	Community Wellness Coordinator, Merrick Medical Center
Kendra Jefferson	Marketing & Public Relations, Merrick Medical Center
Renee Hutsell	School Nurse, Central City Public Schools
Kim Wagner	Social Worker, Merrick Medical Center Social Worker, Litzenberg Memorial Long Term Care Senior Center/Meals on Wheels
Andrea Green	Merrick Foundation
Tina Schnitzler	Clinic Lead, Merrick Medical Center
Dr. Traci Dieckmann	Family Practice Physician, Merrick Medical Center
Robb Schnitzler	Director of Rehab, Merrick Medical Center
Stephanie Scott	Dietitian, Merrick Medical Center
Sharon Butt	Director of Health Information, Merrick Medical Center
Talia Petersen	Chief Nursing Officer, Merrick Medical Center
Michelle Heins	Assistant Manager, Merrick County Child Development Center
Chris Anderson	City Administrator
Teresa Anderson	Health Director, Central District Health Department
Jennifer Hubl	Accreditation Coordinator, Central District Health Department
Shauna Graham	Director of Professional Services, Merrick Medical Center

The participants in our community meeting were led through a presentation that provided current health rankings data, areas for improvement, areas of strength, and the results of the community survey, in addition to a summary of the community health needs assessment priority areas from 2016. In 2016, the following subjects were identified as areas that need improvement: accidental death, the aging population, birth to teen mothers and those that are overweight/obese. The participants were asked three main questions:

1. Do the needs identified in 2016 still apply?
2. What is missing, if anything?
3. What areas do you see, as a concern?

VII. Identified Priorities

As a result of the information provided to the group, the following top needs were identified:

1. Access to care
2. Behavioral health
3. Obesity/Inactivity

VIII. Next Steps

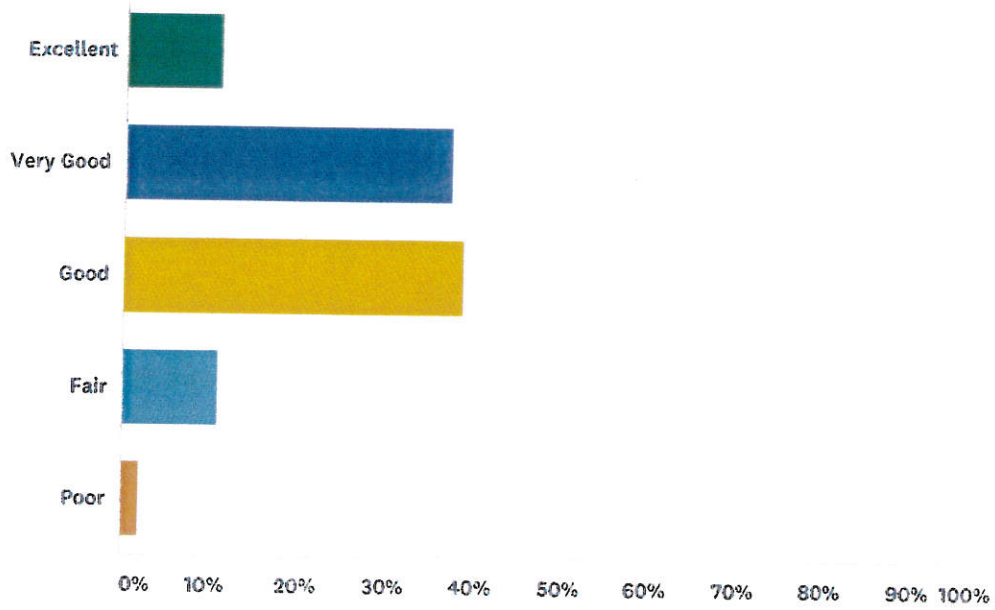
Merrick Medical Center will work closely with the Central District Health Department as well as community groups with expertise and assistance in the identified areas. The determined objectives will be reflected in the Merrick Medical Center Implementation Strategy. The implementation strategy will identify current resources, as well as additional resources needed to secure improved outcomes for both our hospital and community.

IX. Adoption/Approval

The Community Health Needs Assessment was approved and adopted by the Merrick Medical Center Board of Trustees on Thursday, December 20, 2018.

Q1 In general, how would you rate your overall health?

Answered 139 Skipped 0



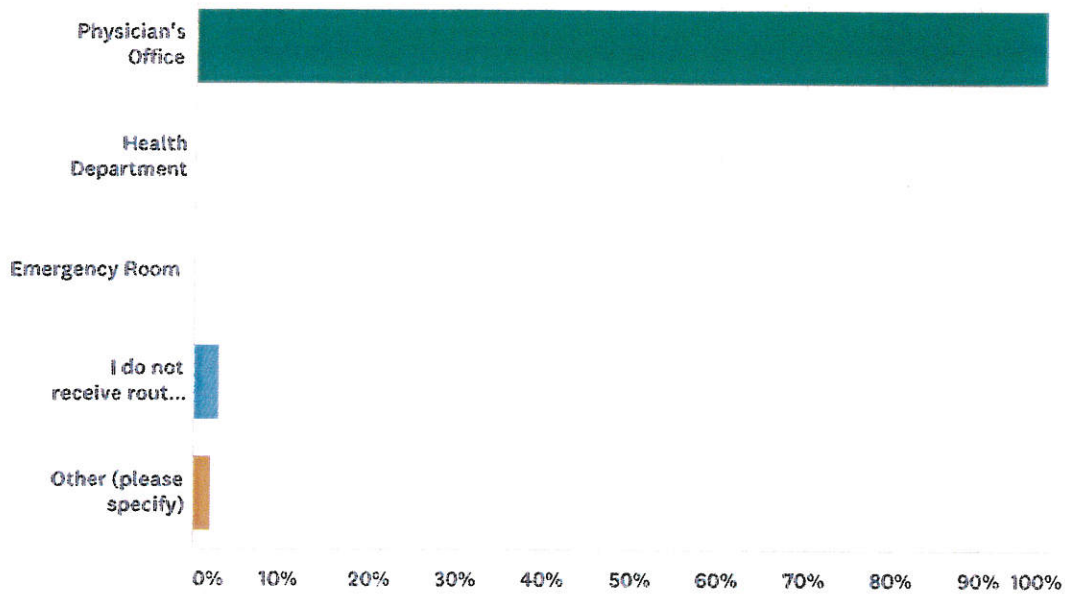
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

Excellent	10.79%	15
Very Good	37.41%	52
Good	38.85%	54
Fair	10.79%	15
Poor	2.16%	3
TOTAL		139

Q2 Where do you go for routine healthcare?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

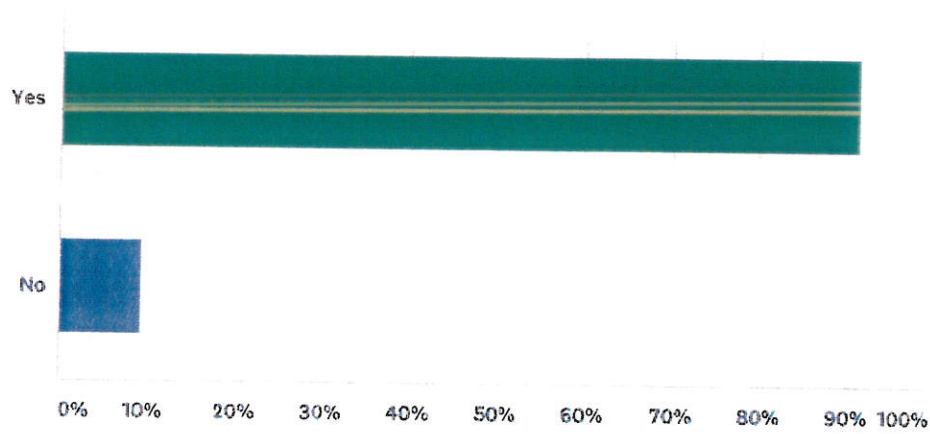
RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Physician's Office	97.84%	136
Health Department	0.00%	0
Emergency Room	0.00%	0
I do not receive routine healthcare	2.88%	4
Other (please specify)	2.16%	3
Total Respondents: 139		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Virtual care via FaceTime	11/8/2018 1:35 AM
2	cancer treatment CHI	11/7/2018 9:35 PM
3	VA	11/7/2018 5:44 PM

Q3 Are you able to visit a medical provider when needed?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

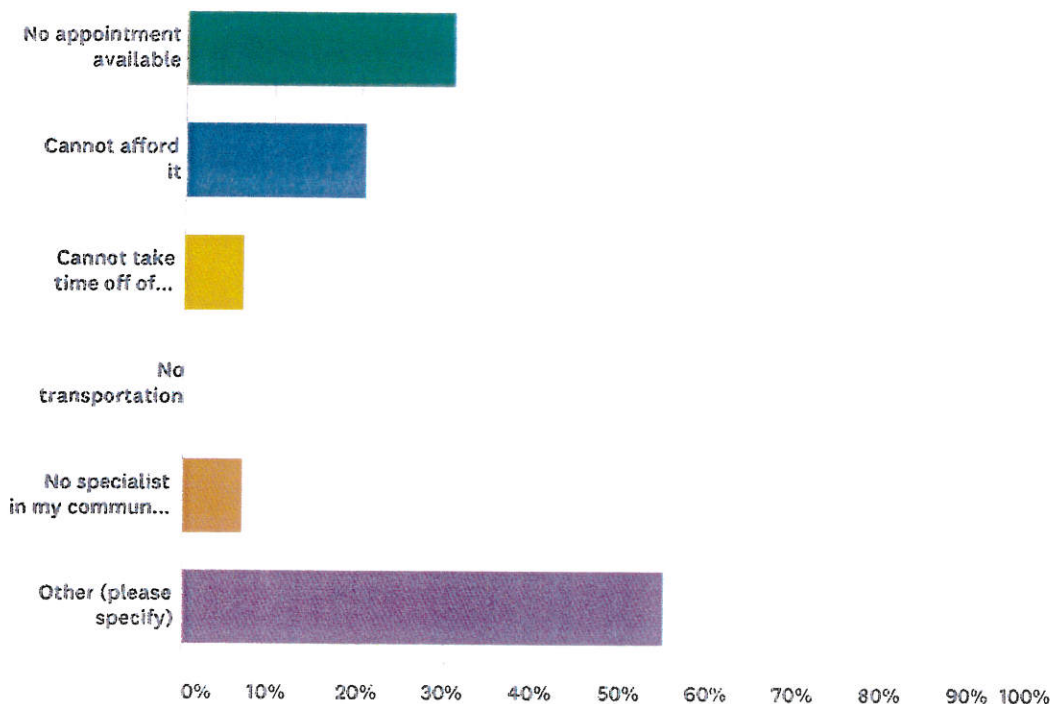
Yes
No
Total Respondents: 139

RESPONSES

Yes	91.37%	127
No	9.35%	13

Q4 If you answered "No" to question 3, please choose all that apply:

Answered 29 Skipped 110



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

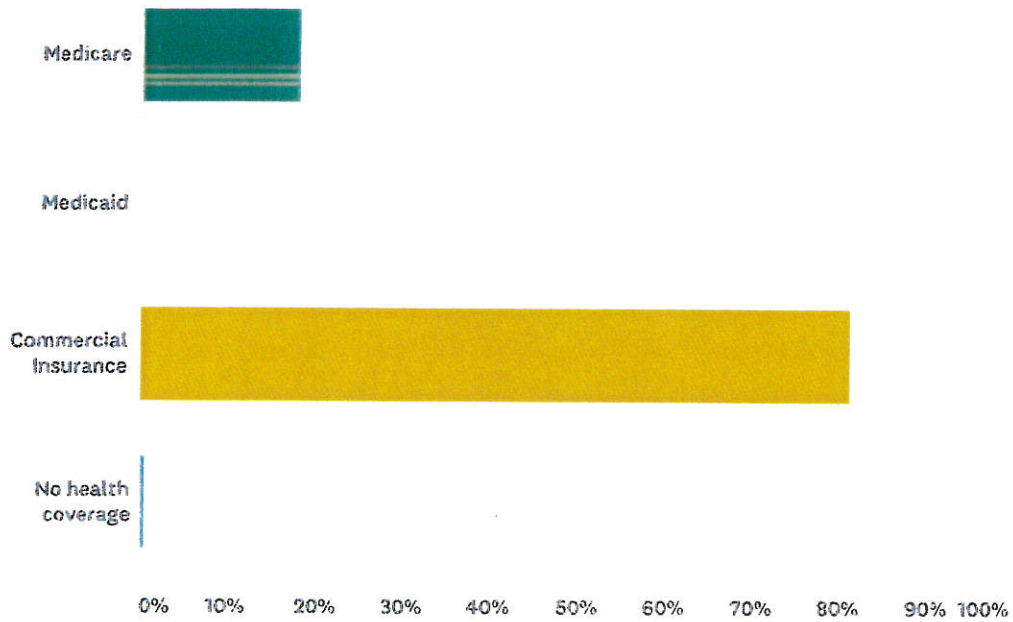
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No appointment available	31.03%	9
Cannot afford it	20.69%	6
Cannot take time off of work	6.90%	2
No transportation	0.00%	0
No specialist in my community for my condition	6.90%	2
Other (please specify)	55.17%	16
Total Respondents: 29		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Not an issue	11/27/2018 6:06 PM
2	Chose yes	11/15/2018 8:26 PM
3	Xxx	11/15/2018 8:21 PM
4	Hard to get into the provider we want to see when we especially like on provider.	11/13/2018 7:09 AM
5	n/a	11/9/2018 7:49 AM
6	None	11/8/2018 5:45 PM
7	na	11/8/2018 2:16 PM
8	None	11/8/2018 10:54 AM
9	Depending on the problem, I can't always afford it even with insurance	11/8/2018 8:50 AM

10	Na	11/8/2018 5:32 AM
11	Doctors are always busy and usually have to wait for 2 weeks	11/7/2018 11:12 PM
12	should not have been checked	11/7/2018 9:35 PM
13	I did not answer No to question 3.	11/7/2018 9:22 PM
14	n/a	11/7/2018 7:20 PM
15	None	11/7/2018 6:44 PM
16	na	11/7/2018 2:46 PM

Q5 What type of healthcare coverage do you have?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

Medicare
 Medicaid
 Commercial Insurance
 No health coverage

RESPONSES

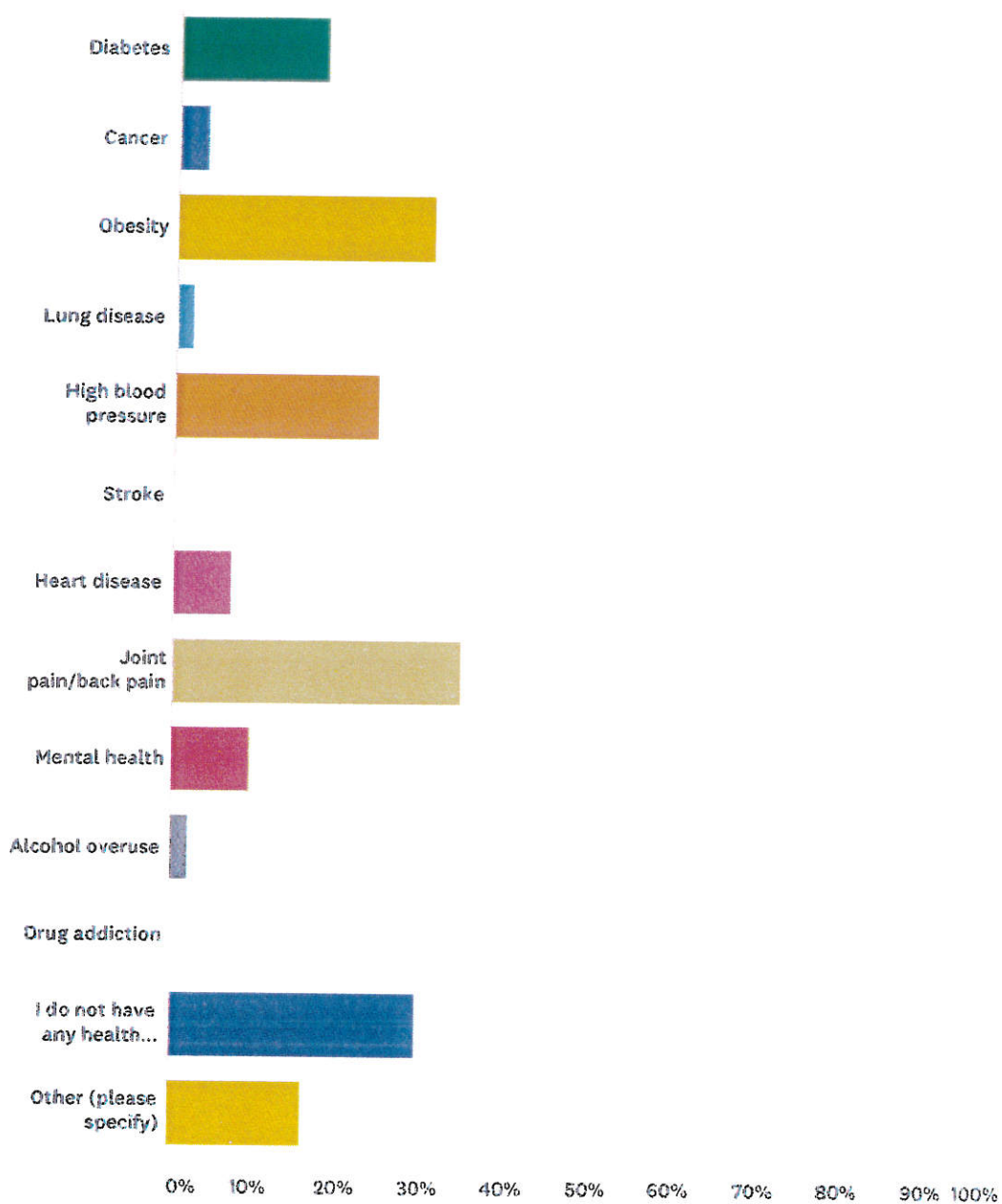
17.99% 25
 0.00% 0
 81.29% 113
 0.72% 1

TOTAL

139

Q6 Please select the top 3 health challenges you face:

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Obesity
- Lung disease
- High blood pressure
- Stroke

RESPONSES

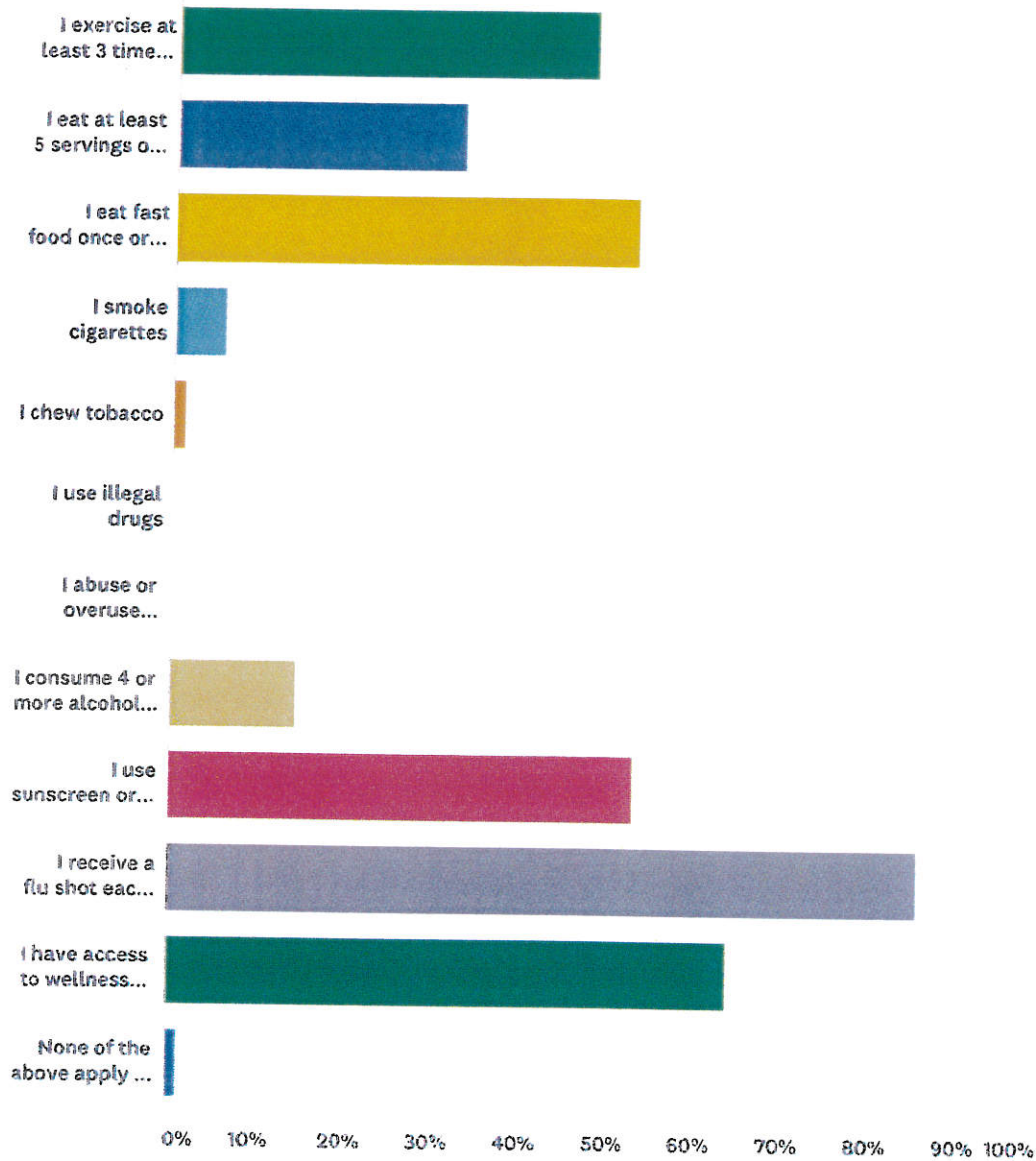
Percentage	Count
17.99%	25
3.60%	5
30.94%	43
2.16%	3
24.46%	34
0.00%	0

Heart disease	7.19%	10
Joint pain/back pain	34.53%	48
Mental health	9.35%	13
Alcohol overuse	2.16%	3
Drug addiction	0.00%	0
I do not have any health challenges	29.50%	41
Other (please specify)	15.83%	22
Total Respondents: 139		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Low blood pressure, Tachycardia, Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS)	11/29/2018 11:57 AM
2	HypoThyroid	11/28/2018 5:52 PM
3	Osteoporosis	11/24/2018 11:45 AM
4	Hypothyroidism	11/15/2018 8:26 PM
5	T1D and Addisons Disease	11/10/2018 10:42 AM
6	hypothyroid	11/9/2018 2:51 PM
7	Lupus	11/8/2018 3:48 PM
8	Kidney Disease	11/8/2018 1:01 PM
9	arthritis	11/8/2018 10:49 AM
10	Rheumatoid Arthritis	11/8/2018 9:56 AM
11	High cholesterol	11/8/2018 8:50 AM
12	History of DVT	11/8/2018 8:45 AM
13	Hypothyroidism	11/8/2018 7:56 AM
14	Lipedema	11/7/2018 9:57 PM
15	allergys	11/7/2018 6:28 PM
16	Thyroid	11/7/2018 6:13 PM
17	Trigeminal Neuralgia	11/7/2018 5:42 PM
18	Renal decline	11/7/2018 4:59 PM
19	pre diabetes	11/7/2018 4:11 PM
20	Hyperthyroidism	11/7/2018 4:00 PM
21	thyroid	11/7/2018 3:02 PM
22	autoimmune disease	11/7/2018 2:47 PM

Q7 Please choose all the statements below that apply to you:

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

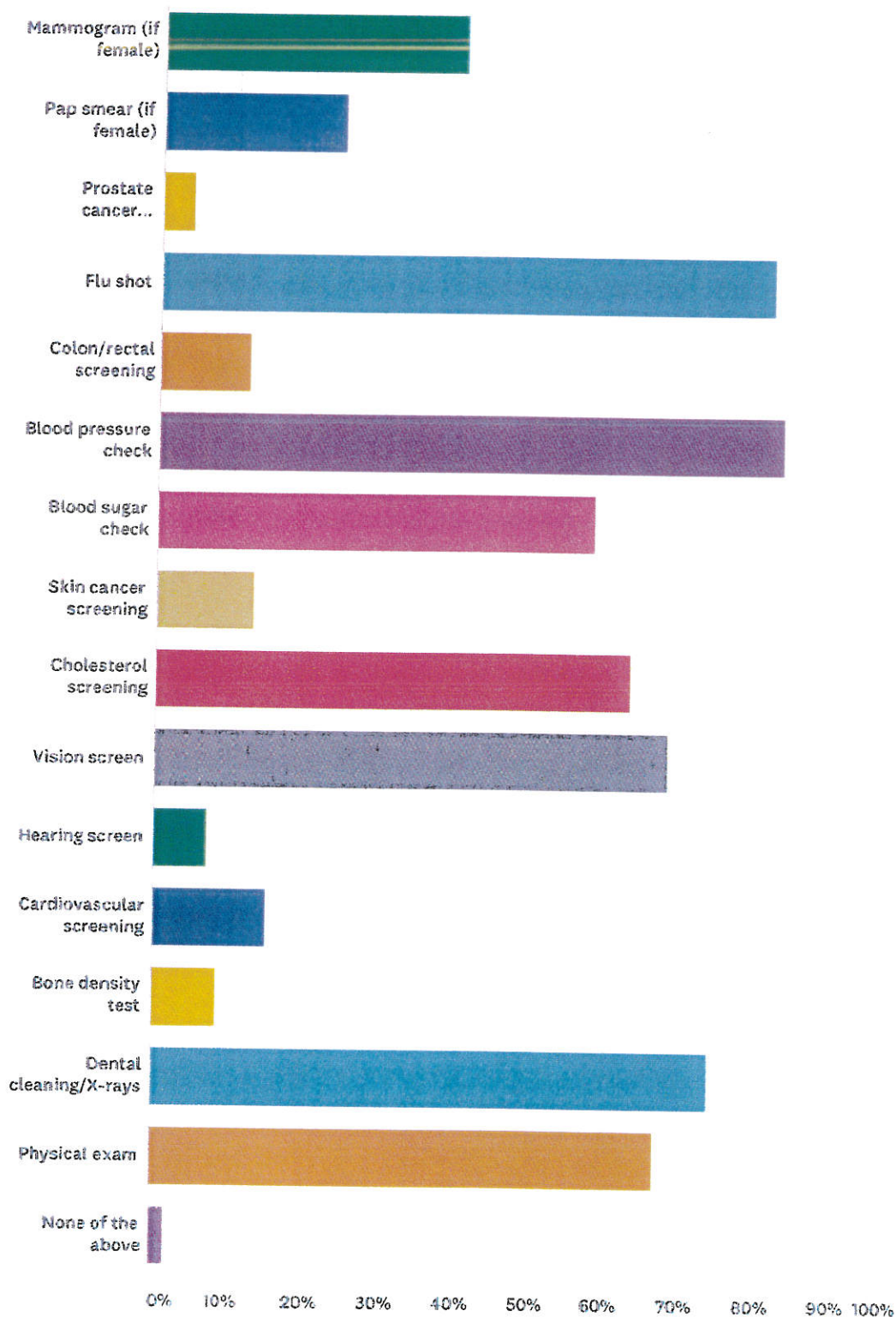
RESPONSES

I exercise at least 3 times per week	48 20%	67
I eat at least 5 servings of fruits and veggies a day	33 09%	46
I eat fast food once or more per week	53 24%	74
I smoke cigarettes	5.76%	8
I chew tobacco	1.44%	2
I use illegal drugs	0.00%	0
I abuse or overuse prescription drugs	0.00%	0
I consume 4 or more alcoholic drinks per week	14.39%	20

I use sunscreen or protective clothing when in the sun	53.24%	74
I receive a flu shot each year	85.61%	119
I have access to wellness programs	64.03%	89
None of the above apply to me	1.44%	2
Total Respondents: 139		

Q8 Which of the following preventative procedures have you had in the last 12 months?

Answered 139 Skipped 0



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

Mammogram (if female)	40.29%	56
Pap smear (if female)	24.46%	34
Prostate cancer screening (if male)	4.32%	6
Flu shot	82.01%	114
Colon/rectal screening	12.23%	17
Blood pressure check	83.45%	116
Blood sugar check	58.27%	81
Skin cancer screening	12.95%	18
Cholesterol screening	63.31%	88
Vision screen	68.35%	95
Hearing screen	7.19%	10
Cardiovascular screening	15.11%	21
Bone density test	8.63%	12
Dental cleaning/X-rays	74.10%	103
Physical exam	66.91%	93
None of the above	2.16%	3
Total Respondents: 139		

Q9 What additional services need to be offered in order to meet the health challenges in our community?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Minor surgeries to alleviate travel. Open MRI, digital mammograms	11/29/2018 1:34 PM
2	mental health practitioners	11/29/2018 12:23 PM
3	Programs to educate people on what a healthy, well balanced diet looks like. Programs to teach food stamp participants on how to cook a healthy meal vs buying frozen, premade meats. Childhood obesity prevention/programs. Weight loss support groups and/or classes.	11/29/2018 11:57 AM
4	The price of health care, just to see the doctor for a common cold is way out of my price range and I even have insurance. So my children and I have to be deathly ill before we go to the clinic.	11/29/2018 9:08 AM
5	Urgent Care facility in Central City	11/28/2018 5:52 PM
6	None	11/28/2018 11:30 AM
7	none	11/28/2018 11:17 AM
8	More Mental Health options	11/28/2018 9:01 AM
9	unknown	11/28/2018 8:01 AM
10	None	11/28/2018 7:52 AM
11	none	11/28/2018 6:25 AM
12	Mental Health services.	11/27/2018 9:16 PM
13	Rheumatology specialist	11/27/2018 7:55 PM
14	OB for the younger generation	11/27/2018 7:40 PM
15	More providers for available appointments	11/27/2018 7:34 PM
16	I think it's great!	11/27/2018 6:06 PM
17	Pediatrics	11/27/2018 5:19 PM
18	None that I can think of	11/24/2018 7:29 PM
19	None	11/24/2018 5:23 PM
20	I wish we had an urgent care type of service. Many things fall between the clinic and ER I have heard an ad for something like this for Bryan in Lincoln - would be nice to have here	11/24/2018 11:45 AM
21	Easier access to physician	11/21/2018 7:32 PM
22	after hours clinic	11/17/2018 9:07 PM
23	none	11/16/2018 1:07 PM
24	NONE	11/16/2018 10:42 AM
25	OBGYN	11/16/2018 6:46 AM
26	Seem adequate	11/15/2018 8:26 PM
27	Xx	11/15/2018 8:21 PM
28	Not sure	11/14/2018 8:58 PM
29	None that I can think of	11/14/2018 8:36 PM
30	need to meet the needs of the younger generation	11/13/2018 4:18 PM
31	pediatric DR	11/13/2018 4:11 PM

32	Additional transportation after hours/weekends.	11/13/2018 7:42 AM
33	Allowing the PA's to be in the office more to see Patients.	11/13/2018 7:09 AM
34	/	11/12/2018 8:56 AM
35	Good Endocrinologist availability without having to drive to Omaha	11/10/2018 10:42 AM
36	ENT clinic	11/10/2018 7:40 AM
37	urgent care after clinic hours	11/9/2018 8:24 PM
38	clinic open in evening hours to stop a lot of the senseless ER visits	11/9/2018 7:36 PM
39	Would be very nice if we have a pediatrician here in town to care for our your children instead of driving to grand island for that specialty.	11/9/2018 4:02 PM
40	A urgent care facility.	11/9/2018 2:51 PM
41	Not sure	11/9/2018 2:38 PM
42	I feel we are currently offering what is needed . Need to reach out/ advertise to all communities not just central city and make other communities feel they're important to us.	11/9/2018 1:31 PM
43	The hospital side of the billing needs updated. Can't believe they are still sending bills out on letterhead instead of updating to a new system.	11/9/2018 11:59 AM
44	better quality facility	11/9/2018 7:49 AM
45	Maternity	11/8/2018 7:04 PM
46	None	11/8/2018 5:45 PM
47	I don't know	11/8/2018 5:32 PM
48	.	11/8/2018 3:48 PM
49	?	11/8/2018 3:39 PM
50	more appointments.	11/8/2018 2:16 PM
51	I really have no answer for this as I get seen by the doctor and have not had any major illnesses at this time	11/8/2018 1:49 PM
52	none	11/8/2018 1:04 PM
53	Everything in town and around is just too expensive for Low-Income Working Families! Groceries, Gym, Fitness classes, Youth Sport Activities, etc.	11/8/2018 1:01 PM
54	nutritionist on site	11/8/2018 12:43 PM
55	none	11/8/2018 11:42 AM
56	Open MRI / Neuropathy physician available	11/8/2018 11:25 AM
57	When calling the clinic to make an appointment, it would be nice not to be put on hold immediately after they answer the phone.	11/8/2018 10:57 AM
58	None	11/8/2018 10:54 AM
59	Not sure	11/8/2018 10:49 AM
60	ENT services	11/8/2018 10:27 AM
61	?	11/8/2018 10:10 AM
62	Better access to specialists and outpatient surgeries	11/8/2018 9:59 AM
63	not sure	11/8/2018 9:56 AM
64	wellness coaching - helping people making long lasting changes in their lifestyle choices	11/8/2018 9:14 AM
65	None that come to mind	11/8/2018 8:54 AM

66	We have a very large aging and obese population that they like to be able to get out and walk, but we don't have a place they can do that unless they have a fitness center membership. Many people are struggling financially and are not able to afford a membership. I think it would be nice to have some kind of walking facility where people can walk laps, especially in the winter to get their exercise and help promote preventive medicine.	11/8/2018 8:50 AM
67	Less expensive charges from local healthcare providers!	11/8/2018 8:45 AM
68	Just primary dr availability	11/8/2018 8:23 AM
69	unsure	11/8/2018 7:56 AM
70	ENT,	11/8/2018 7:49 AM
71	arthritic screening	11/8/2018 7:31 AM
72	?	11/8/2018 7:28 AM
73	none	11/8/2018 6:28 AM
74	Na	11/8/2018 5:32 AM
75	Health education and preventive programs for people in our community who live in poverty.	11/8/2018 1:35 AM
76	More Dr.'s available for visits. You should not have to go to the ER which is 2 times the cost. Get more Dr.'s to cover the growing community	11/7/2018 11:12 PM
77	I can't think of anything at this time.	11/7/2018 10:04 PM
78	I would appreciate it if the physical therapy department had someone trained in MLD massage for lipedema/lymphedema. At least 10% of women in this county have lipedema which causes pain and can affect mobility, but there is no treatment for it here in Merrick county.	11/7/2018 9:57 PM
79	None! The health care here is awesome!!	11/7/2018 9:52 PM
80	maternity	11/7/2018 9:40 PM
81	don't know	11/7/2018 9:35 PM
82	Cheaper immunization for children closer. Columbus is too far!	11/7/2018 9:22 PM
83	More compassion from providers	11/7/2018 8:55 PM
84	I am satisfied now.	11/7/2018 8:53 PM
85	Appis in Saturdays	11/7/2018 8:51 PM
86	unsure since I don't have a lot of health issues. Possibly a diabetic educator.	11/7/2018 8:45 PM
87	More affordable mental health options. Less discrimination at clinic and hospital. Community wide activities, low cost healthcare	11/7/2018 8:43 PM
88	Unknown	11/7/2018 8:06 PM
89	stress to the public that we are a speciality practice of family medicine, dermatology. more surgical options done here not sent out, OB, more staff and room at clinic level to accomodate more patients and faster turn around time	11/7/2018 7:41 PM
90	Some type of group fitness programs.	11/7/2018 7:27 PM
91	I think we already have a lot.	11/7/2018 7:25 PM
92	can not think of anything. It is sad that people take their health for granted in this town.	11/7/2018 7:20 PM
93	Free health checks for kids	11/7/2018 7:09 PM
94	OB/GYN	11/7/2018 7:06 PM
95	Unknown	11/7/2018 7:00 PM
96	Breastfeeding support	11/7/2018 6:44 PM
97	Additional specialist visits to save traveling time	11/7/2018 6:35 PM
98	Fitness for seniors or beginners	11/7/2018 6:33 PM
99	Later dr office open	11/7/2018 6:32 PM

100	Access to Dermatologist	11/7/2018 6:30 PM
101	none	11/7/2018 6:28 PM
102	More specialist, and place for them to do surgery here	11/7/2018 6:13 PM
103	none	11/7/2018 6:04 PM
104	Less wait time for test results	11/7/2018 5:44 PM
105	Neurologist	11/7/2018 5:42 PM
106	Don't know	11/7/2018 5:35 PM
107	Lower rates for healthcare	11/7/2018 5:15 PM
108	Women's health in general	11/7/2018 5:15 PM
109	In and out patient surgery	11/7/2018 4:59 PM
110	INFANT DELIVERY	11/7/2018 4:59 PM
111	Modern facility	11/7/2018 4:56 PM
112	Nice new Nursing home with Alzheimer's Care	11/7/2018 4:46 PM
113	More accessibility to doctors	11/7/2018 4:37 PM
114	consistent indoor walking facility/location that is cost effective for people on a fixed income-- weather changes can influence people's ability to remain active during the cold, wet, hot, humid, months. In addition to and often along with low income are mental health issues. Having access to mental health care providers would greatly benefit this immediate area especially for those that fall into the 19-64 age group with limited insurance without Medicaid and before Medicare eligibility.	11/7/2018 4:35 PM
115	new hospital and a prompt care	11/7/2018 4:35 PM
116	N/A	11/7/2018 4:29 PM
117	Have Speciality Doctors here more than every other week.	11/7/2018 4:21 PM
118	None	11/7/2018 4:20 PM
119	We need an urgent care	11/7/2018 4:18 PM
120	unknown	11/7/2018 4:17 PM
121	none	11/7/2018 4:17 PM
122	health fair	11/7/2018 4:11 PM
123	unknown at this time	11/7/2018 4:11 PM
124	An OB that was not from a different clinic would be good	11/7/2018 4:10 PM
125	I feel we could benefit from a pulmonary program with RT and PT input. I feel we could benefit from a lymphedema program as we send multiple people out of our community to area places for services that we should be able to provide. Orthotics fitting and assessments is another lost revenue. warm water pool therapy would be very beneficial for many people. having more surgical opportunities in new hospital I hope will definitely be visited. having a wellness/fitness area at new hospital would be of great value to transition from skilled/outpt/to indep programs with atleast minimal supervision of trained staff,	11/7/2018 4:02 PM
126	incentives for our community to be active.	11/7/2018 4:01 PM
127	Onsite dermatologist	11/7/2018 4:00 PM
128	an urgent care	11/7/2018 3:59 PM
129	not sure	11/7/2018 3:59 PM
130	More affordable care, it costs more to have an office visit here at the clinic than it does in Grand Island. The visit in GI includes a strep test and the visit and is around 160 when a 15 minute visit for a child cost almost 200.	11/7/2018 3:37 PM

131	The unvaccinated people are very high in Nance county and as an outside employee we need to try and increase the availability of flu vaccine to as many areas in Fullerton as possible, like the school for children, try to do it next on next years agenda, or senior centers, assisted living areas, low income apartments, several times early in the year for Merrick Medical Clinic or even a evening shot clinic from 6-8 at night for daytime workers???? Just some suggestions.	11/7/2018 3:24 PM
132	longer clinic hours	11/7/2018 3:22 PM
133	Mental health services. People are crazy in Central City.	11/7/2018 3:14 PM
134	More providers on Mondays and Fridays	11/7/2018 3:02 PM
135	ear nose throat doctor, provide obstetrical services, more womens services and support, proper child care services	11/7/2018 3:01 PM
136	more inpatient mental health for patients that present to the ER	11/7/2018 2:53 PM
137	Urgent Care	11/7/2018 2:51 PM
138	Easier access to healthy food choices.	11/7/2018 2:47 PM
139	na	11/7/2018 2:46 PM

Q10 What can Merrick Medical Center specifically do to better meet the health needs of our community?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Add fluoroscopy for radiology services so more procedures can be done here.	11/29/2018 1:34 PM
2	hire a psychiatrist	11/29/2018 12:23 PM
3	Offer healthier choices with pot lucks	11/29/2018 11:57 AM
4	I'm trying not to complain. but I have the hospital insurance and neither my children nor I can afford to be seen by a doctor other than for our physical's, because they are covered 100%. For anything else thought to be seen through out the year it is normally 168.00 for an office visit. you would think that employees whom work for the hospital would be able to have some type of discount. Sorry for the complaint. Otherwise I am satisfied with the quality of care we do receive.	11/29/2018 9:08 AM
5	Add an urgent care facility to off set coming to ER	11/28/2018 5:52 PM
6	I think Men's night is great	11/28/2018 11:30 AM
7	promote/advertise about easier access for counseling for mental health for employees, on how to get started and ask for help without involving a lot of people.	11/28/2018 11:17 AM
8	?	11/28/2018 9:01 AM
9	unknown	11/28/2018 8:01 AM
10	N/A	11/28/2018 7:52 AM
11	na	11/28/2018 6:25 AM
12	I think you are doing a great job.	11/27/2018 9:16 PM
13	Birthing and minor surgeries	11/27/2018 7:55 PM
14	Remember "our" roots and stay small town friendly. Don't let the hospital become "citified".	11/27/2018 7:40 PM
15	Bigger clinic	11/27/2018 7:34 PM
16	Walk-in clinic would be awesome in the afternoons	11/27/2018 6:06 PM
17	Deliver Babies	11/27/2018 5:19 PM
18	They are doing a good job already	11/24/2018 7:29 PM
19	None	11/24/2018 5:23 PM
20	I believe that MMC does a great job for a community this size. I have heard that ambulance service could be upgraded but don't know about this personally.	11/24/2018 11:45 AM
21	Easier access	11/21/2018 7:32 PM
22	like an urgent care	11/17/2018 9:07 PM
23	nothing	11/16/2018 1:07 PM
24	GET INTO YOUR OWN DOCTOR NOT JUST UTILIZE A PA TO GET IN	11/16/2018 10:42 AM
25	New Hospital	11/16/2018 6:46 AM
26	Seems adequate	11/15/2018 8:26 PM
27	C.f	11/15/2018 8:21 PM
28	Improve the hospital	11/14/2018 8:58 PM
29	none that I can think of	11/14/2018 8:36 PM

30	meet the needs of the younger generation ie need to be more open with young families have the clinic stay open longer one or two days a week for the working family	11/13/2018 4:18 PM
31	serve the younger generation needs	11/13/2018 4:11 PM
32	Offer additional specialty clinics either in person or via telemedicine.	11/13/2018 7:42 AM
33	Later office hours for those that have hard time getting off of work	11/13/2018 7:09 AM
34	/	11/12/2018 8:56 AM
35	More specialists that aren't just "visiting" every month. A better facility and education to meet the patients in this area.	11/10/2018 10:42 AM
36	advertise	11/10/2018 7:40 AM
37	urgent care	11/9/2018 8:24 PM
38	have a evening clinic til 2200	11/9/2018 7:36 PM
39	?	11/9/2018 4:02 PM
40	Urgent care facility, this would possibly keep ER for emergencies.	11/9/2018 2:51 PM
41	Not sure	11/9/2018 2:38 PM
42	have friendlier people at clinic office making appointments and greeting pts when they come in. have heard several complaints and pts don't feel welcome. many pts end up in the ER because they can't get in to clinic.	11/9/2018 1:31 PM
43	I hate the billing system that the hospital has. They send a bill on letterhead but do not send out an itemized bill showing what was billed to insurance and then what insurance paid.	11/9/2018 11:59 AM
44	better quality facility/clinic	11/9/2018 7:49 AM
45	Get that new hospital built.	11/8/2018 7:04 PM
46	It's okay	11/8/2018 5:45 PM
47	I don't know	11/8/2018 5:32 PM
48	.	11/8/2018 3:48 PM
49	?	11/8/2018 3:39 PM
50	More outreach to other towns besides Central City.	11/8/2018 2:16 PM
51	i'm not sure as I don't frequent the health center as much as I should	11/8/2018 1:49 PM
52	none	11/8/2018 1:04 PM
53	Offer scholarships or discounts for fitness memberships, youth sports activities, healthy eating options (bountiful baskets. etc.).	11/8/2018 1:01 PM
54	expanded hours	11/8/2018 12:43 PM
55	none	11/8/2018 11:42 AM
56	New Hospital. Staff is excellent!!	11/8/2018 11:25 AM
57	Get in sooner than 10 days when making an appointment.	11/8/2018 10:57 AM
58	With the new hospital being built in the near future I feel like updated facilities will be a huge benefit for the community and surrounding towns.	11/8/2018 10:54 AM
59	Not sure	11/8/2018 10:49 AM
60	Recrui more physicians	11/8/2018 10:27 AM
61	It takes way too long to get in to see the doctor!	11/8/2018 10:10 AM
62	Consider the patient's perspective in making improvements	11/8/2018 9:59 AM
63	not sure	11/8/2018 9:56 AM
64	Provide health and wellness coaching	11/8/2018 9:14 AM
65	Nothing that comes to mind	11/8/2018 8:54 AM

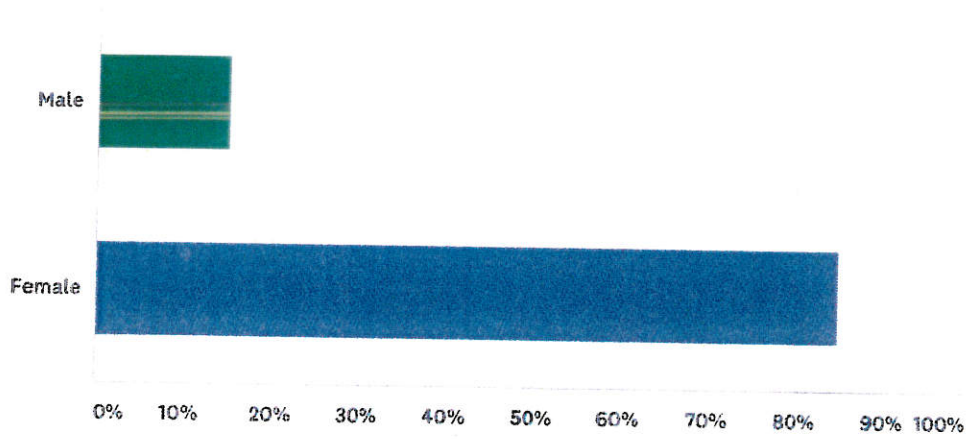
66	I love how involved and forward focused Merrick Medical Center is with the community. I would say keep that focus and don't let up. The more involvement in the community and educational they can be the better our community will continue to be.	11/8/2018 8:50 AM
67	Less expensive charges from local healthcare providers!	11/8/2018 8:45 AM
68	Dr needs to be available	11/8/2018 8:23 AM
69	unsure	11/8/2018 7:56 AM
70	Offer more specialty clinics and have a place for people to work out that is supervised by a nurse.	11/8/2018 7:49 AM
71	clinic hours	11/8/2018 7:31 AM
72	?	11/8/2018 7:28 AM
73	don't know	11/8/2018 6:28 AM
74	Doing great	11/8/2018 5:32 AM
75	improve community education regarding prevention of chronic diseases.	11/8/2018 1:35 AM
76	More Dr.'s available for visits!!!!	11/7/2018 11:12 PM
77	Larger patient rooms with rounded counter tops and corners.	11/7/2018 10:04 PM
78	Therapist trained in MLD therapy. Better education for women who suffer with lipedema. Support group for women with lipedema.	11/7/2018 9:57 PM
79	N/a	11/7/2018 9:52 PM
80	too expensive	11/7/2018 9:40 PM
81	another doctor	11/7/2018 9:35 PM
82	See last question. And mental health issues	11/7/2018 9:22 PM
83	More compassionate providers	11/7/2018 8:55 PM
84	Strongly promote life-long nutrition/healthy habits in the community.	11/7/2018 8:53 PM
85	Appts later in the evening and on Saturdays	11/7/2018 8:51 PM
86	Again unsure since I do not have health issues.	11/7/2018 8:45 PM
87	Affordable mental health care options Free testing/screenings more often. Offer lower costs to people who do not have health coverage if they use the clinic and hospital on regular basis and do not abuse the opportunity	11/7/2018 8:43 PM
88	Unknown	11/7/2018 8:06 PM
89	continue to promote what we are capable of providing to recruit patients who think because we are small town they can only get it elsewhere. Extra hours for an urgent-type care for evenings and/or weekends to accommodate those that can't make it into the clinic during regular hours and don't need ER care so we don't lose those patients to other towns.	11/7/2018 7:41 PM
90	Fitness programs	11/7/2018 7:27 PM
91	I dont know	11/7/2018 7:25 PM
92	Merrick Medical has done plenty and has gone above and beyond to help the community. People need to be held accountable for their health. As health care we can't "hold everyone's hand" to make sure they continue to make health choices or decisions.	11/7/2018 7:20 PM
93	Free health checks for kids	11/7/2018 7:09 PM
94	Quicker access to med clinic appointments. Have had to wait up to two weeks or more for an appointment	11/7/2018 7:06 PM
95	Unknown	11/7/2018 7:00 PM
96	Support groups, be more cost effective	11/7/2018 6:44 PM
97	More availability of physicians	11/7/2018 6:35 PM
98	Offer night classes for cooking healthier, yoga, or stretching for beginners weight training or resistance training	11/7/2018 6:33 PM

99	Nothing	11/7/2018 6:32 PM
100	Continue a good relationship within the community. No hidden agendas.	11/7/2018 6:30 PM
101	dont know	11/7/2018 6:28 PM
102	Provide surgeons here	11/7/2018 6:13 PM
103	nothing	11/7/2018 6:04 PM
104	Less wait time to see an MD	11/7/2018 5:44 PM
105	More satellite clinics	11/7/2018 5:42 PM
106	Don't know	11/7/2018 5:35 PM
107	Lower cost services	11/7/2018 5:15 PM
108	Offer more classes in the evening	11/7/2018 5:15 PM
109	update facilities	11/7/2018 4:59 PM
110	NOT MUCH MORE OTHER THAN INFANT DELIVERY	11/7/2018 4:59 PM
111	Just keep our awesome medical staff.	11/7/2018 4:56 PM
112	Modernize Facilities	11/7/2018 4:46 PM
113	More doctors, earlier and later hours open once or twice a week	11/7/2018 4:37 PM
114	Offering free screenings for low income families that may not be able to afford healthcare to address issues before we are writing costs off at ER and inpatient levels. Find and make available resources for lower cost medications to help increase patient compliance and do more that say, "Well they will probably be back because they can't afford their meds." It creates an unfortunate cycle for their health and we end up eating a lot of their healthcare costs. This is a problem that will likely continue to grow in the near and distant future and we need a way to better address it. Being comfortable with having difficult conversations with patients to ensure they are aware of their conditions and not put it off to another provider or "specialist" or until their next visit. Having an understanding among frontline staff to recognize and appropriately address or refer patient's with mental health concerns and not say "They are here for their leg, not that". Provide annual competencies on mental health issues and dementia and signs of various diagnoses across the facility. Not pinch pennies so hard with patients who may need further testing or procedures because it's on our dime when they are in swingbed especially. We need to keep the needs of the patient FIRST and not leave them inconvenienced and uncertain of their steps after discharge with tests and followups (even with a transition visit) to figure out how to proceed based on test results that happen after they leave.	11/7/2018 4:35 PM
115	The present hospital is quite outdated. Build a new hospital	11/7/2018 4:35 PM
116	N/A	11/7/2018 4:29 PM
117	They are a great resource to our community.	11/7/2018 4:21 PM
118	None	11/7/2018 4:20 PM
119	Have more clinic appointments available	11/7/2018 4:18 PM
120	unknown	11/7/2018 4:17 PM
121	none	11/7/2018 4:17 PM
122	not waste money on new hospital	11/7/2018 4:11 PM
123	Unknown at this time	11/7/2018 4:11 PM
124	None	11/7/2018 4:10 PM
125	See above	11/7/2018 4:02 PM
126	Continue to inform and offer wellness programs	11/7/2018 4:01 PM
127	n/a	11/7/2018 4:00 PM
128	provide an urgent care so non-emergent cases stop flooding the ER	11/7/2018 3:59 PM
129	not sure	11/7/2018 3:59 PM

130	Review your charging criteria, make healthcare more affordable	11/7/2018 3:37 PM
131	Continue with as many outpatient clinics as possible so people don't have to travel a distance to see a specialist.	11/7/2018 3:24 PM
132	hire or be able to access more doctors and PAs	11/7/2018 3:22 PM
133	Quit treating healthcare like it's fast food service. It's a medical clinic, not an minute clinic.	11/7/2018 3:14 PM
134	do more promoting	11/7/2018 3:02 PM
135	have more providers who are more trustworthy	11/7/2018 3:01 PM
136	Keep working on diabetes care, has improved a great deal	11/7/2018 2:53 PM
137	Provide better facilities for cardio-therapy, integrate services for a more fluid process with physicals and mammograms, provide urgent care services with extended hours.	11/7/2018 2:51 PM
138	teach people how to cook healthy meals	11/7/2018 2:47 PM
139	more doctors	11/7/2018 2:46 PM

Q11 What is your gender?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

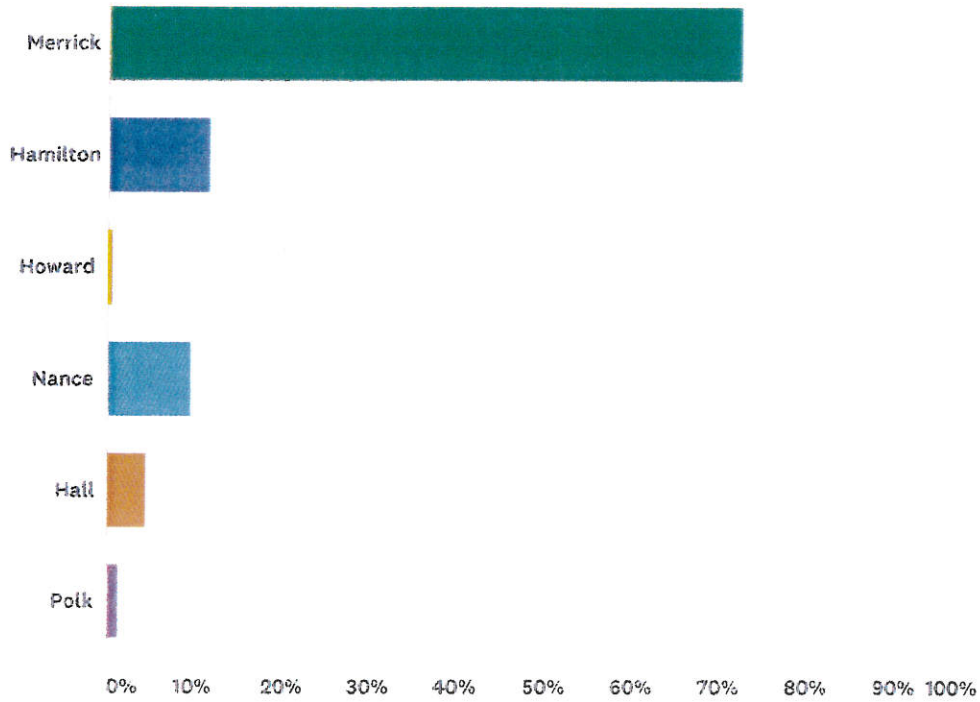
Male
Female
TOTAL

RESPONSES

Male	15.11%	21
Female	84.89%	118
TOTAL		139

Q12 What is your county of residence?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



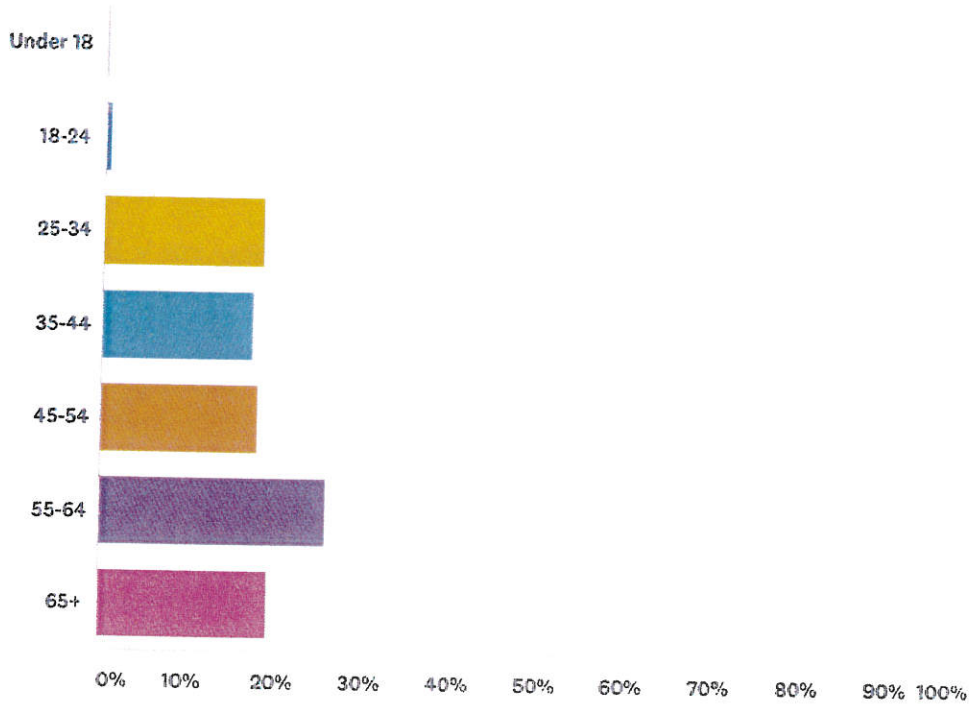
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

Merrick	72.66%	101
Hamilton	11.51%	16
Howard	0.72%	1
Nance	9.35%	13
Hall	4.32%	6
Polk	1.44%	2
TOTAL		139

Q14 What is your age?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



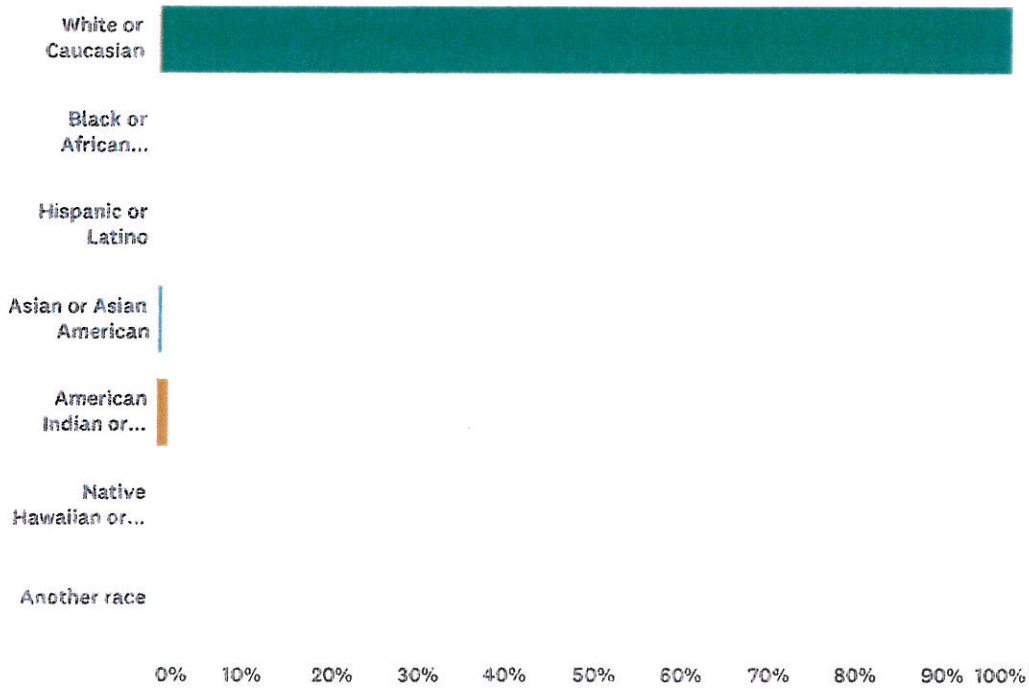
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.72%	1
25-34	18.71%	26
35-44	17.27%	24
45-54	17.99%	25
55-64	25.90%	36
65+	19.42%	27
TOTAL		139

Q15 What is your race?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



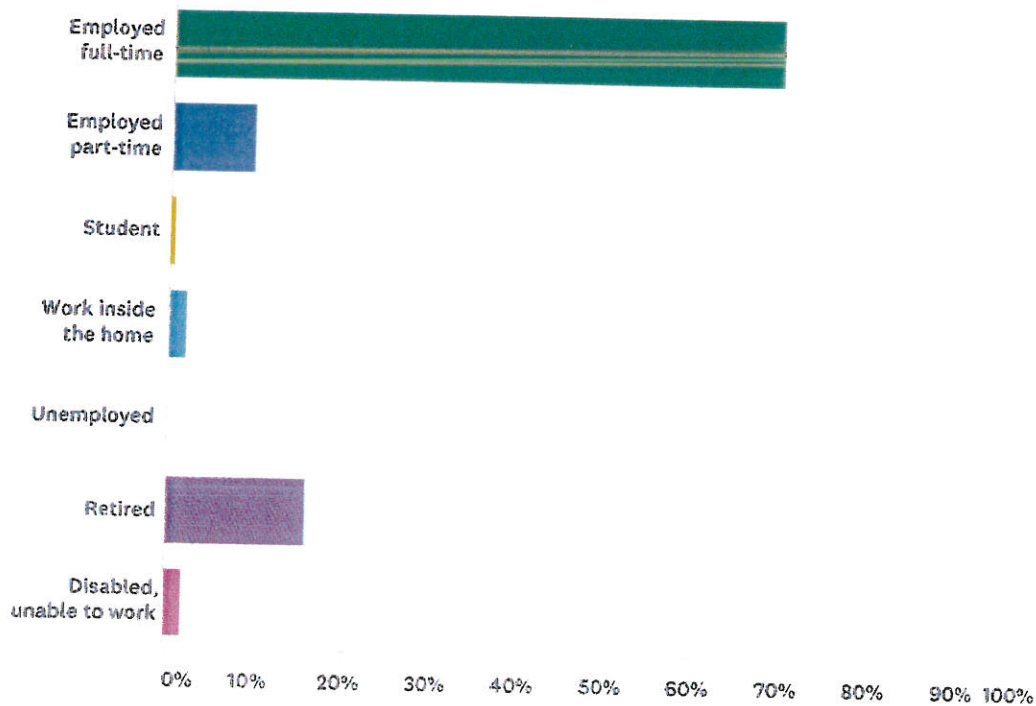
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	PERCENTAGE	RESPONSES
White or Caucasian	97.84%	136
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic or Latino	0.00%	0
Asian or Asian American	0.72%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.44%	2
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Another race	0.00%	0
TOTAL		139

Q16 Which of the following categories best describes your employment status?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



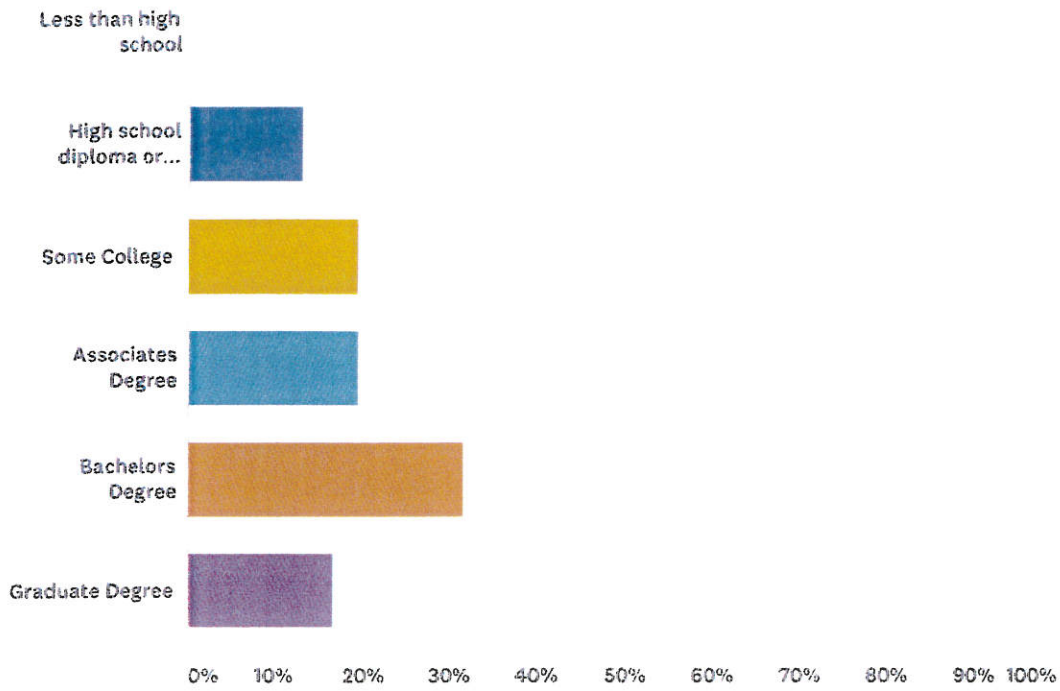
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	Count
Employed full-time	69.78%	97
Employed part-time	9.35%	13
Student	0.72%	1
Work inside the home	2.16%	3
Unemployed	0.00%	0
Retired	15.83%	22
Disabled, unable to work	2.16%	3
TOTAL		139

Q17 What is the highest level of education you have received?

Answered: 139 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

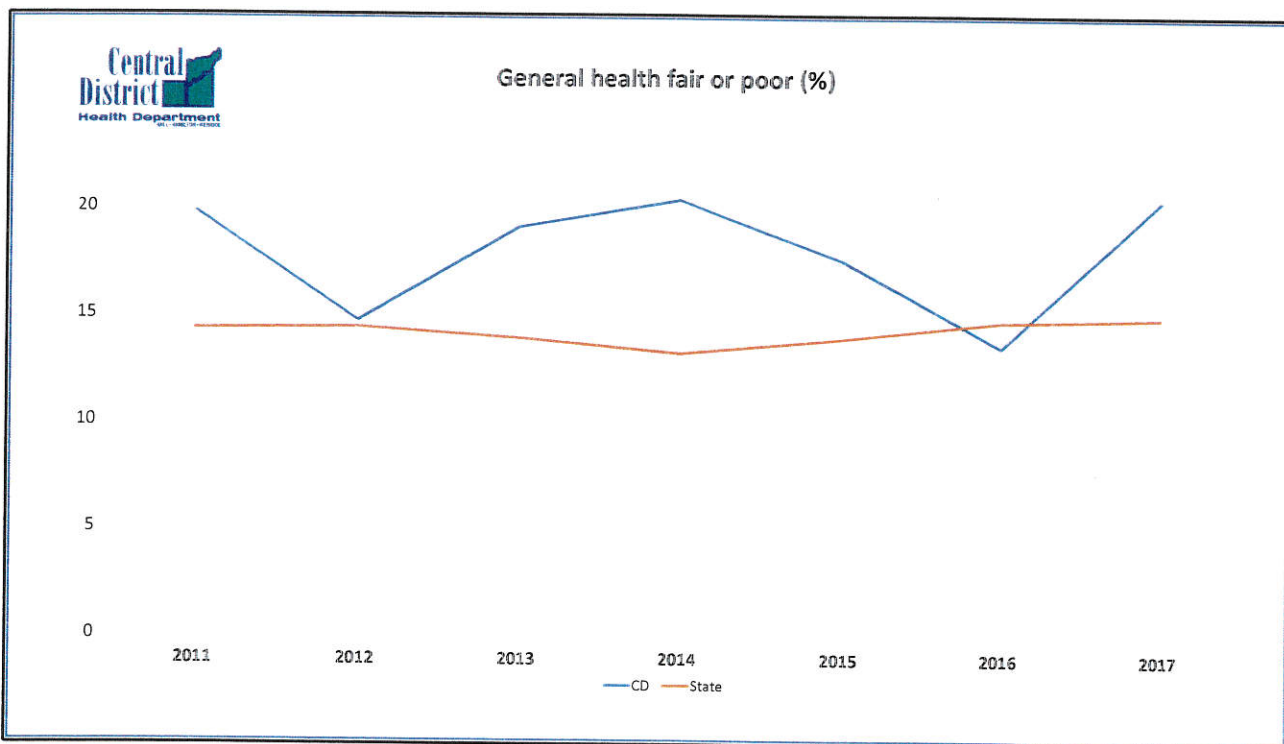
Less than high school	0.00%	0
High school diploma or equivalent	12.95%	18
Some College	19.42%	27
Associates Degree	19.42%	27
Bachelors Degree	31.65%	44
Graduate Degree	16.55%	23
TOTAL		139

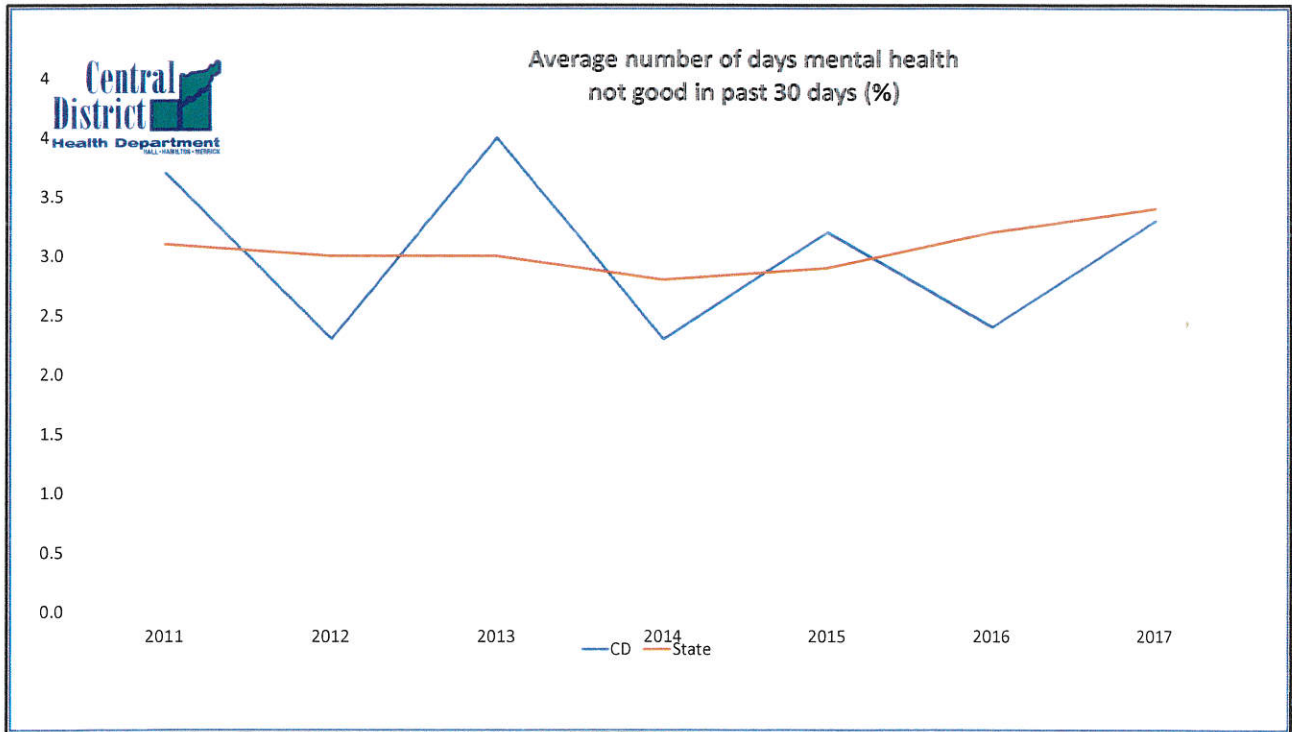
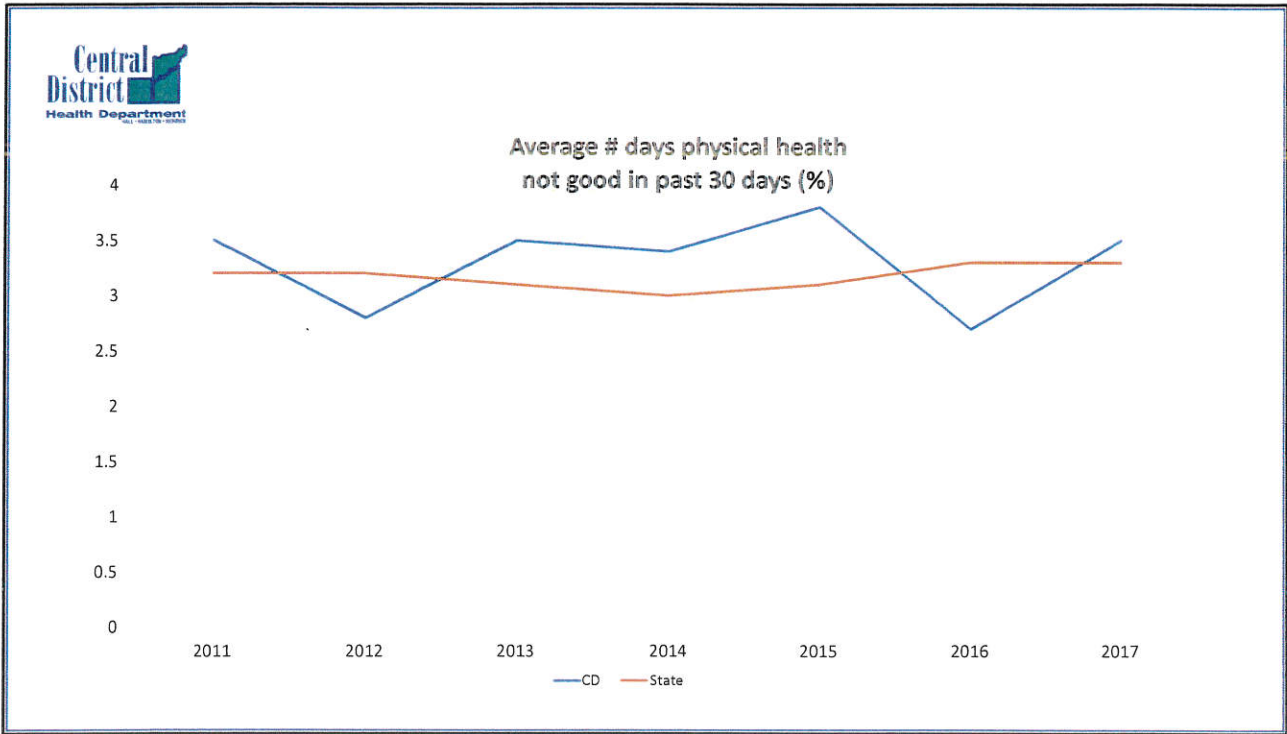


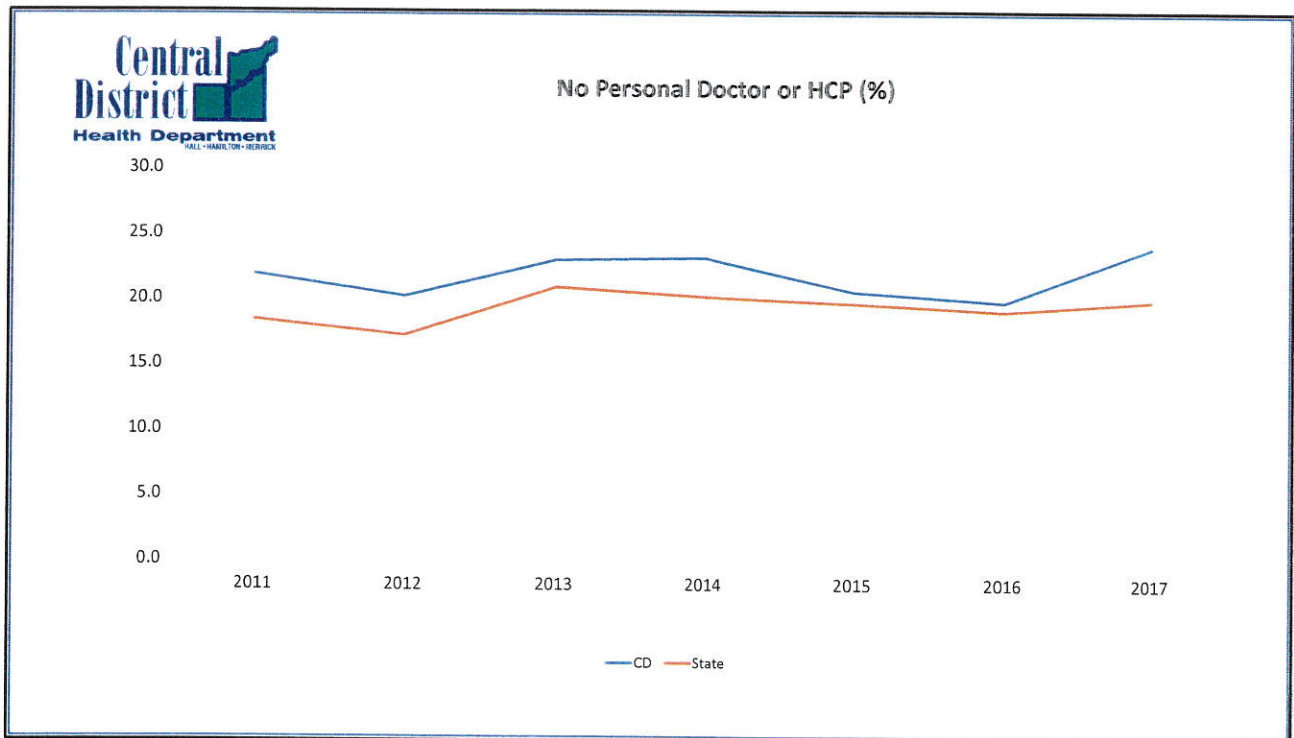
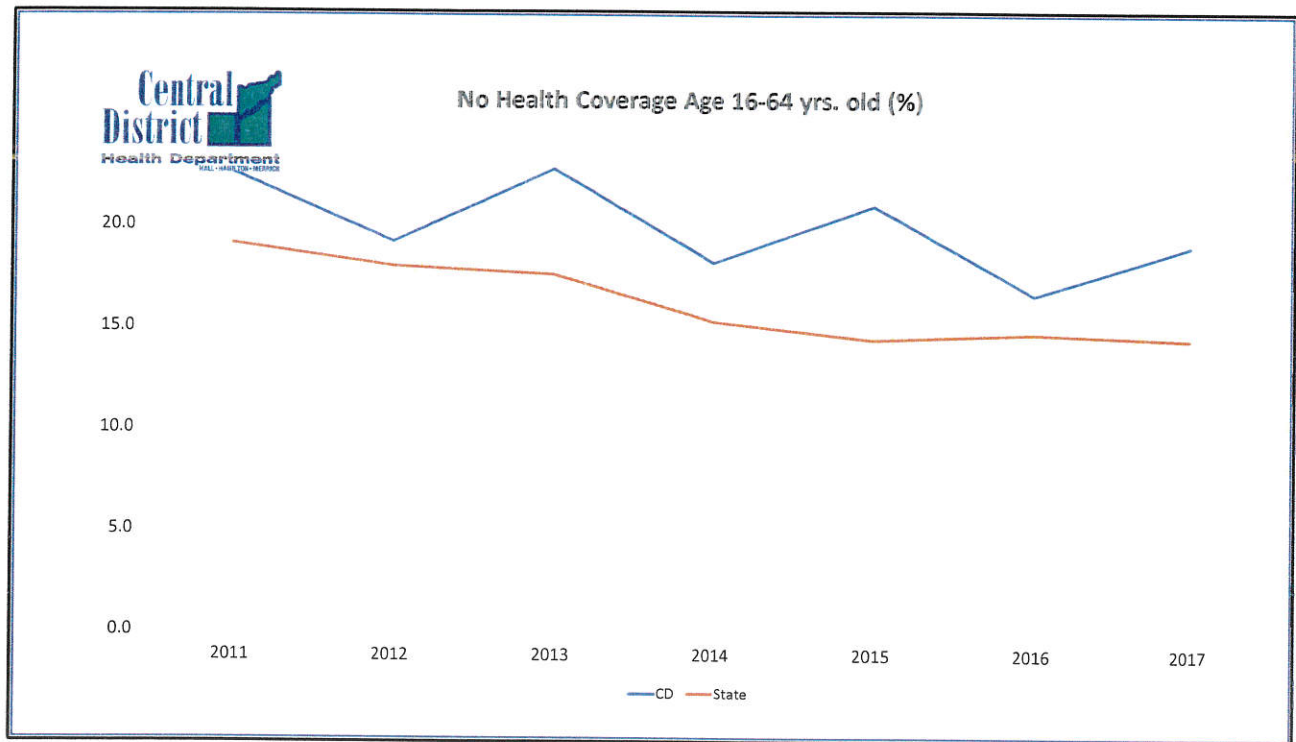
Central District Data

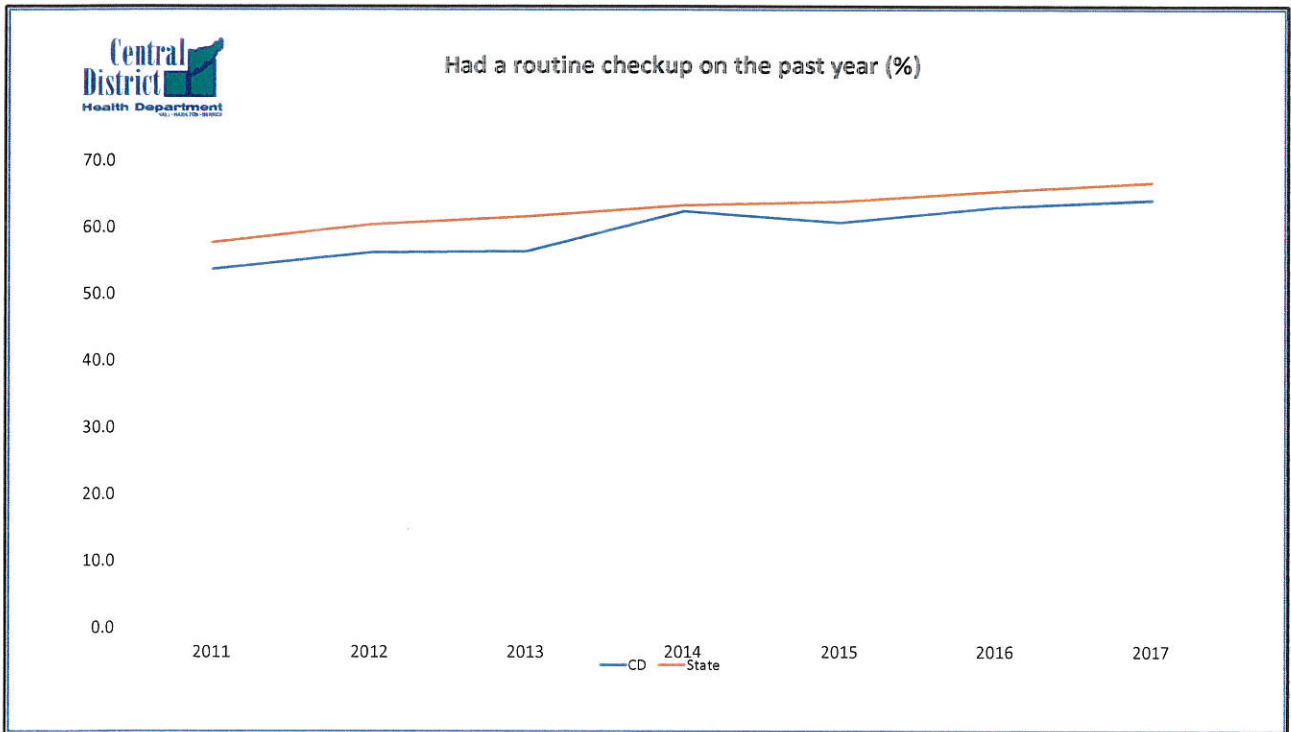
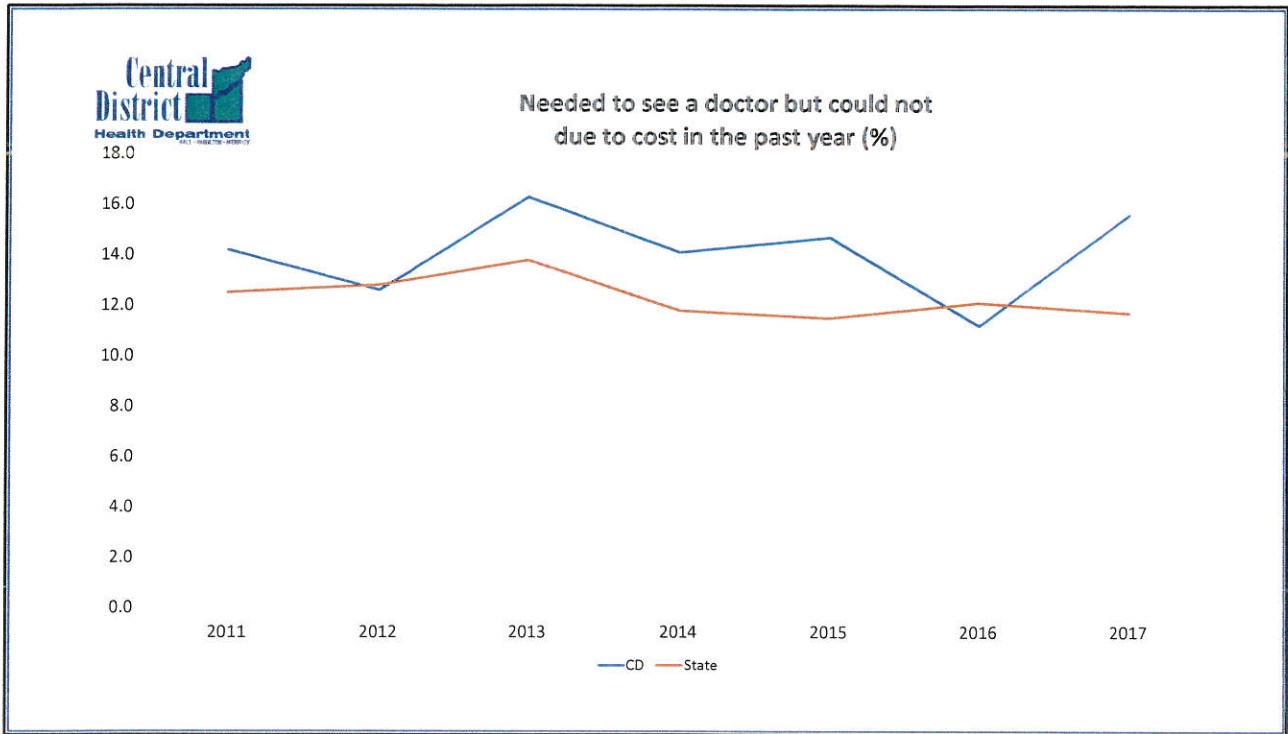
Results of 2017 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey conducted by The CDC
(Centers for Disease Control)

Hamilton Hall Merrick



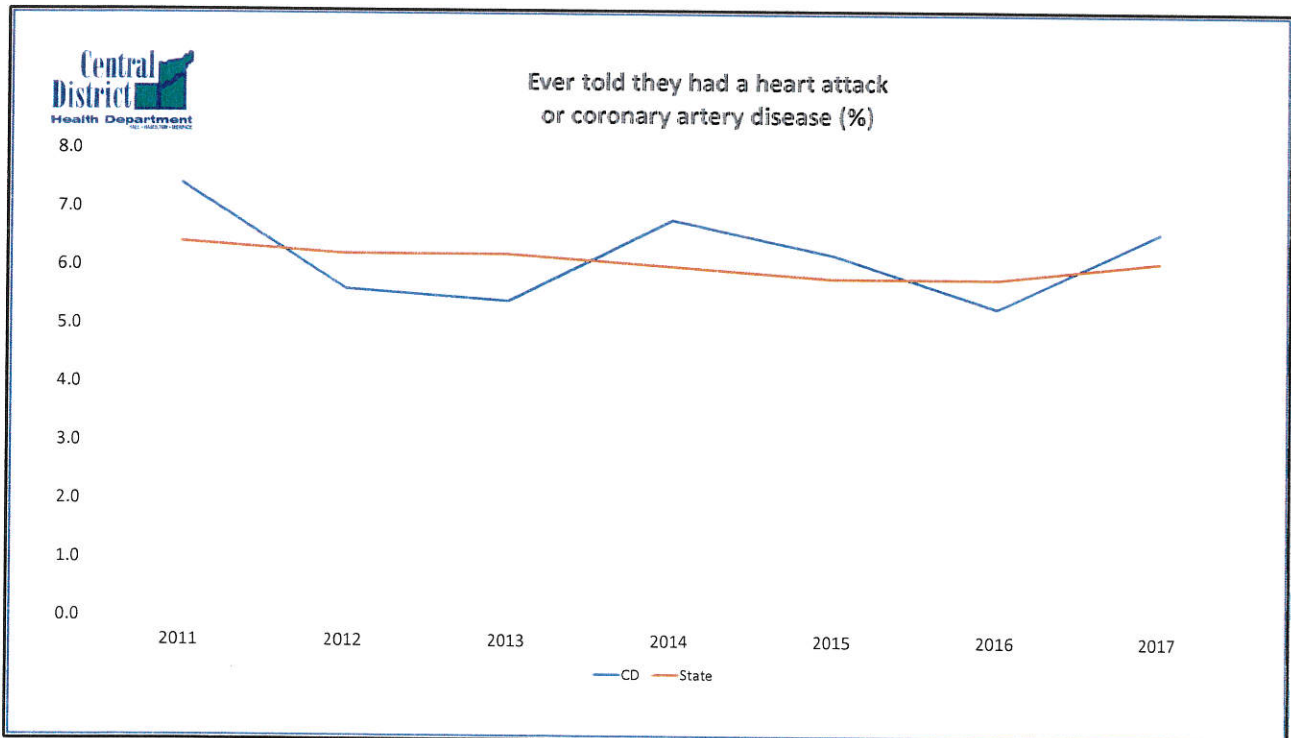


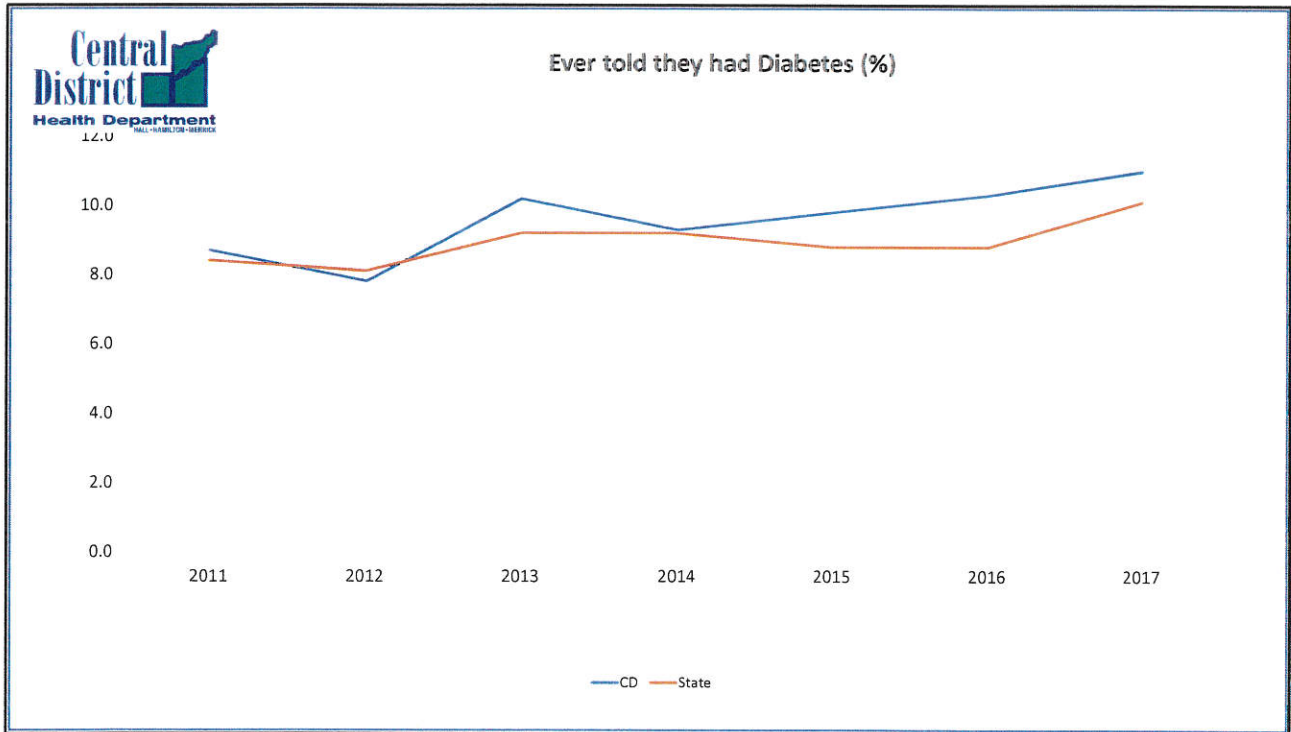
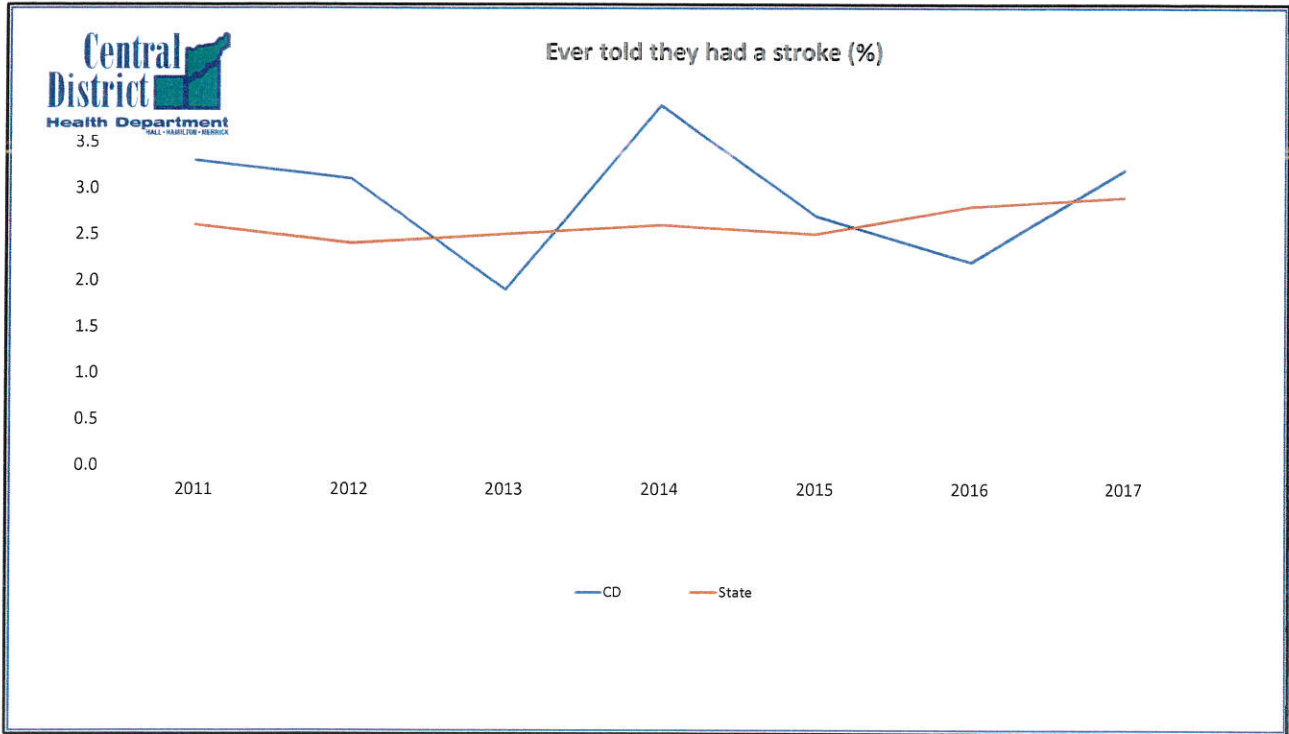


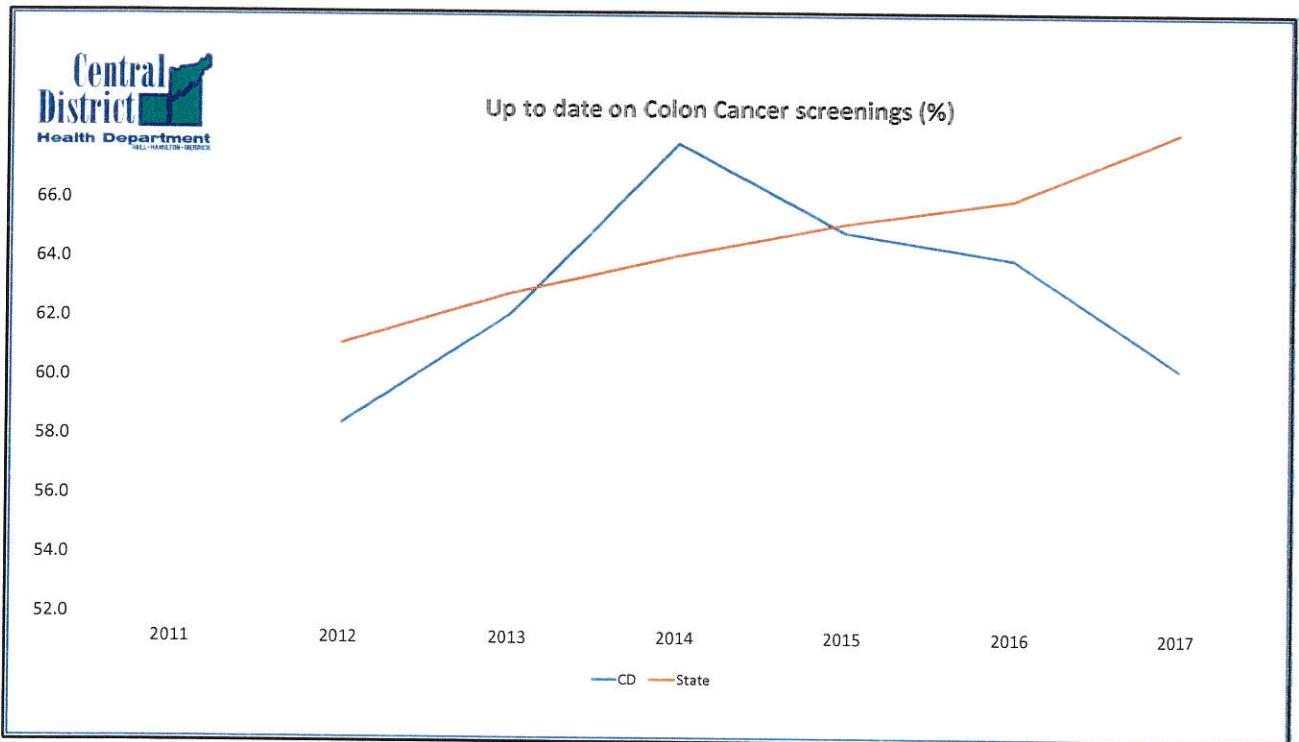
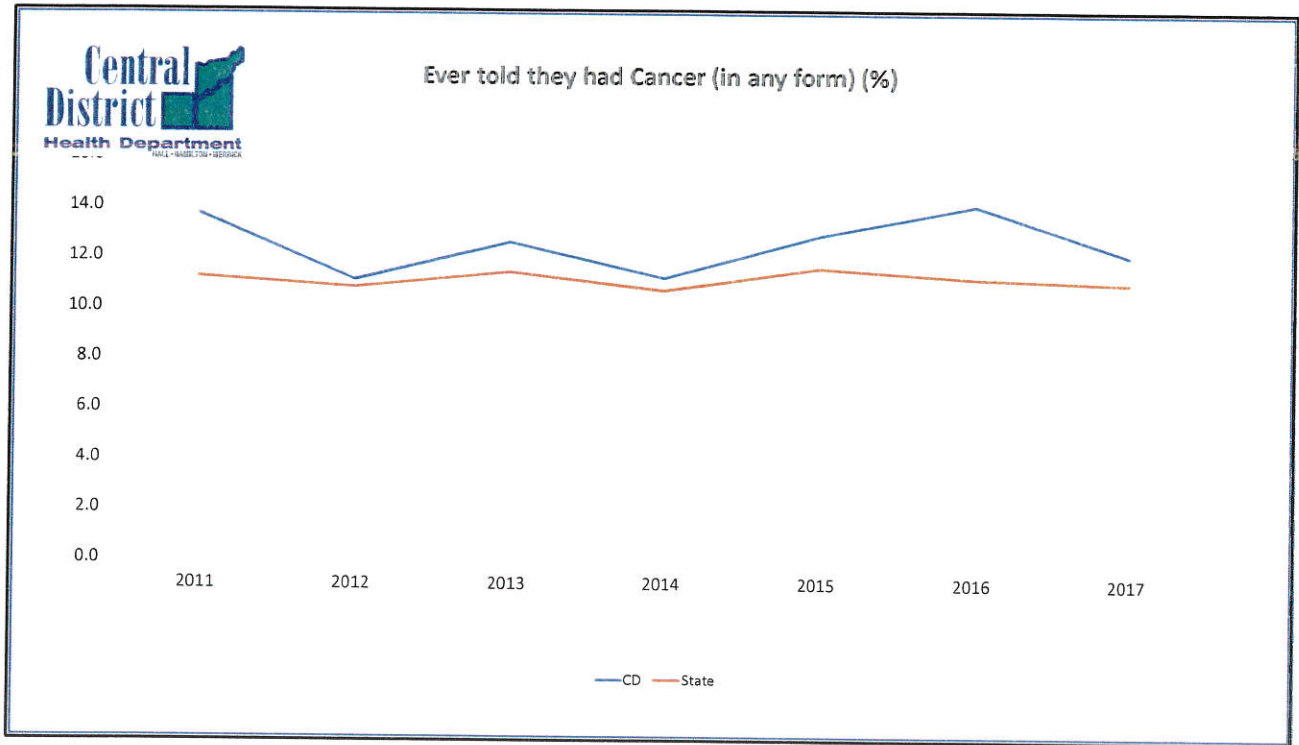


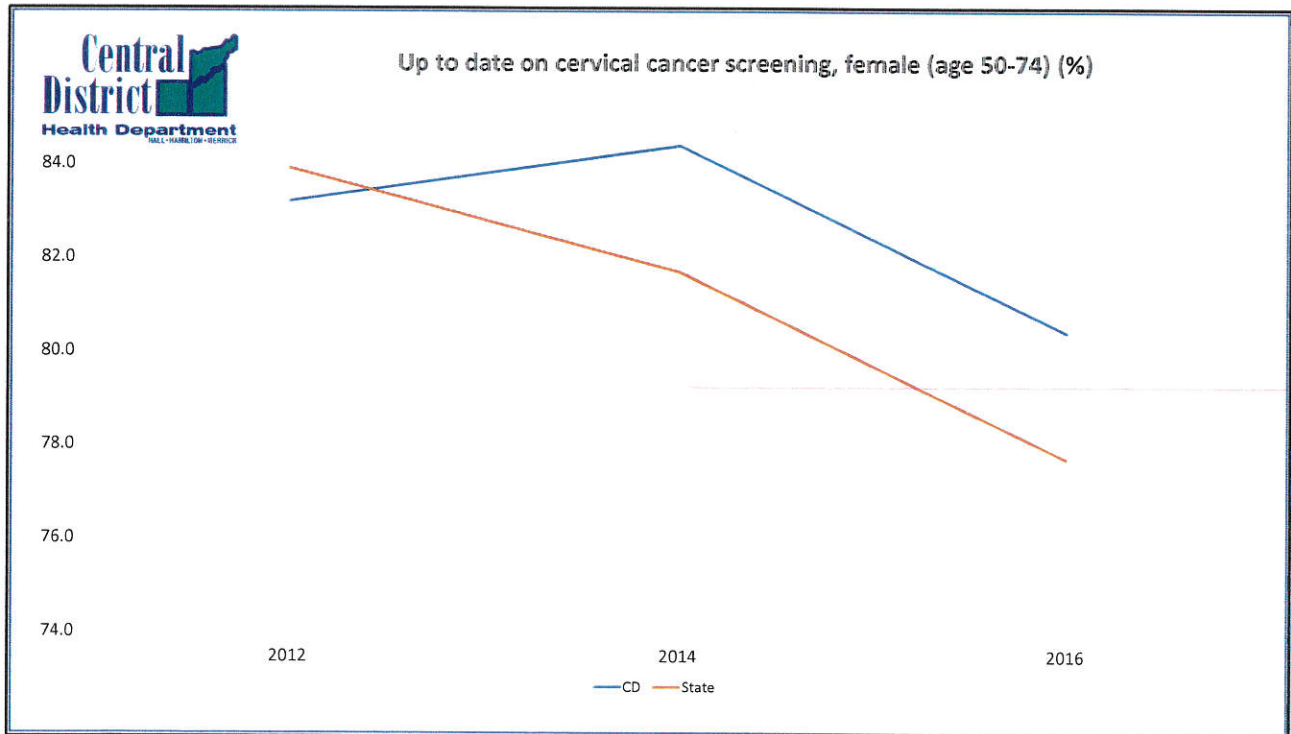
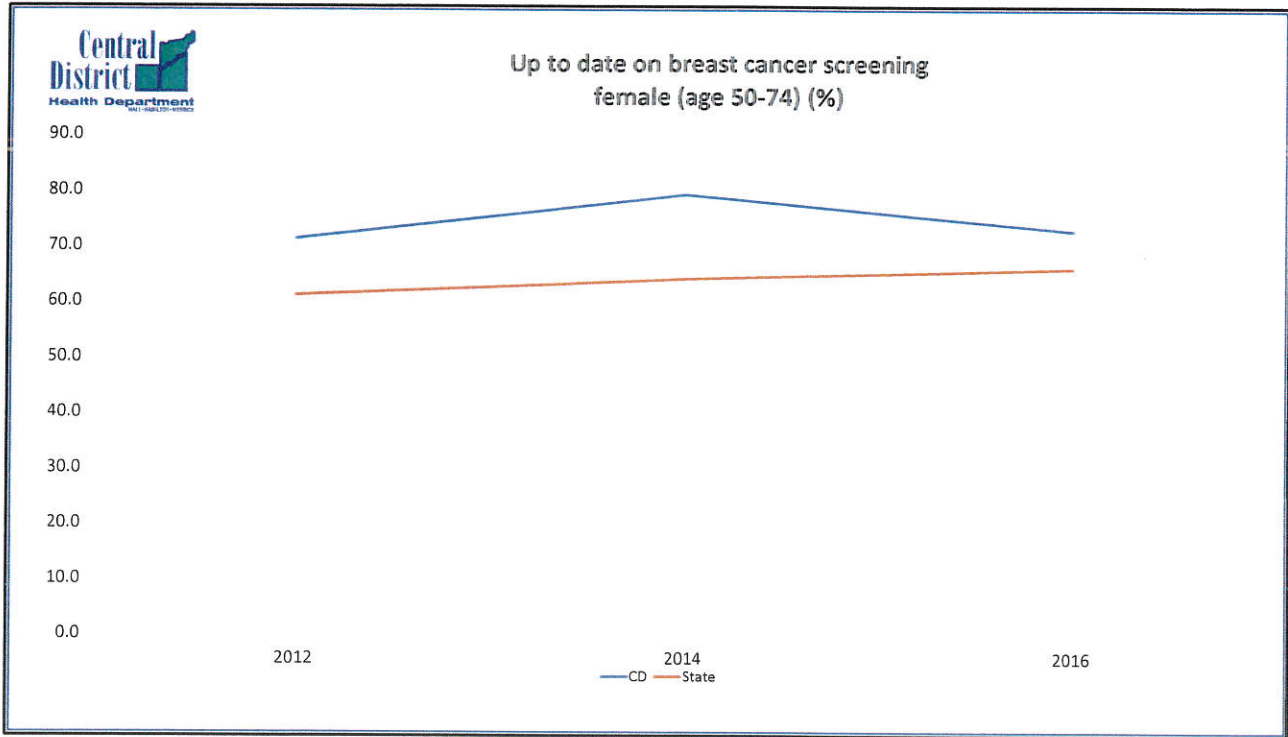
Health Care Access and Use

- In 2017, it was reported:
 - 68.2% visited a dentist
 - 47% age 18 and older got a flu shot
 - 71.5% age 65 and older had ever gotten a flu shot in the past year
 - 82.8% age 65 and older had ever gotten a pneumonia shot
 - 61% had a tetanus shot since 2005
 - 40.6% age 50 and older had ever gotten a shingles shot
- Eye care
 - 42.6% age 40 and older had no health insurance for eye care
 - 67.2% age 40 and older had an eye exam in the past year
- Oral care
 - 68.2% had visited the dentist in the past year
 - 39.6% had any permanent teeth extracted due to tooth decay or gum disease









What we do...

- 39.8% are watching salt intake
- Average fruit serving/day =1
- 39.3% eat less than one fruit serving/day
- Average vegetable serving/day -1.6
- 25.5% eat less than one vegetable serving/day
- 32.6% had no leisure-time physical activity in past 30 days
- 15.4% met both aerobic physical activity and muscle strengthening recommendations
- 72.5 % wear seatbelts when driving or riding in a car
- 31.6% texted while driving in the past 30 days
- 64% talked on cell phone while driving



What we do...

- 50% had any alcohol in the past 30 days
- 5% drank heavily in past 30 days
- 3.4% participated in alcohol impaired driving
- 32.8% took pain meds prescribed by doctor in past year
- 48.3% had leftover pain meds after last prescription filled
- 31.2% get less than 7 hrs. of sleep per day
- 68.7% say it is very easy to get needed medical advice or information about health or medical topics
- 54.9% say it is very easy to understand what medical professionals tell you
- 54.2% say it is very easy to understand written health information



What we do...

- 29.5% age 45 and older had a fall in the past year
- 9.1% age 45 and older were injured due to a fall
- 20% were ever told they have depression
- 29.1% had housing insecurity in the past year among those who own or rent their home
- 23.4% had food insecurity in the past year

Merrick County



Merrick County Priorities

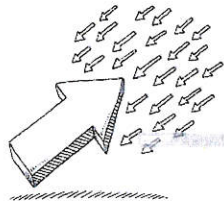
- | | |
|--|--|
| • 2014 Data | • 2016 |
| • Accidental Deaths: 5/year | • Accidental Deaths: unchanged |
| • Birth to Teen Moms 7.3% (state=5.3%) | • Birth to Teen Moms 6.1% (state=4.6%) |
| • Ageing population median age=43.1 (state=36.2) | • Ageing population median age=43.8 (state=36.2) |
| • Obese and Overweight: 70.6% (state 66.7%) | • Obese and Overweight: 70.9% (state:69%) |



Building a Culture of Health

- Downstream Data
 - Health demands
 - Health needs
 - Use of services
 - Those with the greatest need may not be able to access services
- Upstream Data
 - Health determinants and status
 - Community engagement
 - Resources and services
 - Integration and responsiveness

Woodward et al.



Building a Culture of Health

- 3.8% Unemployment rate
- 14% Children live in poverty
- 29% Children live in single-parent households
- Median household income = \$52,100 (state = \$57,000)
- 44% Children eligible for free/reduced lunches
- Injury deaths = 69/100,000 (state = 58/100,000)
- Shortage of primary care, dental care, and mental health providers for geographic area



Building a Culture of Health

Central District Health Department
Teresa Anderson MSN
Health Director
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Notes on Dialogue from Community Leaders Meeting

November 29, 2018

Opportunities/Concerns

- Flexible hours are needed at the Clinic
- Increase the number of mental health and primary care providers
- Ability to exercise is limited in the winter if you don't have a membership to the Fitness Center
- Not everyone is using the free health screenings offered by their insurance. How do we educate?
- Mental health access for kids and adults is needed
- More specialists so care can stay local. IE] Rheumatology
- How do we get kids more active?
- Increased trail access
- Obesity concerns
- Access to healthy food options
- More methods to decrease falls in the elderly
- Tools for increased medication compliance
- Waiting lists for child care
- Health literacy and people understanding what we are trying to educate on
- Cost of services/insurance
- What is the best way to reach people?