

# FAIRFIELD COUNTY

## 2025 COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT



### Overview

The Fairfield County Community Health Assessment (CHA) identifies trends, health needs, and areas where Fairfield County needs to prioritize for funding and program development over the next 3 years.

### Top 10 Community Conditions As Identified by Community Members

- 1 **Housing and Homelessness**
- 2 **Access to Healthcare**  
e.g., doctors, specialists, health insurance coverage, etc.
- 3 **Substance Misuse**
- 4 **Income/Poverty and Unemployment**
- 5 **Food Insecurity**  
e.g., not being able to access and/or afford healthy food.
- 6 **Adverse Childhood Experiences**  
e.g., childhood abuse, mental health, trauma, etc..
- 7 **Nutrition and Physical Health/Exercise**  
Includes overweight and obesity.
- 8 **Crime and Violence**
- 9 **Transportation**  
e.g., public transit, cars, walkability, etc.
- 10 **Education**  
e.g., early childhood education, post-secondary, etc.

### Key Findings



**11% of Fairfield County Residents experience severe housing problems.**

Defined as having at least one of the following issues: overcrowding, high housing costs, or having inadequate kitchen or plumbing facilities.

**Nearly 1 in 4 (23%) of Fairfield County Residents did not have a routine checkup in the prior year.**



**39% of Fairfield County residents are obese.**

This ranks slightly higher than the state average of 38%.

**27% of respondents say that recreational spaces are lacking, in addition to 28% of Fairfield County adults being sedentary, compared to the 24% Ohio average.**



**9% of Fairfield County households, 29% of single moms with children, and 39% of senior households receive food stamps.**

### Substance Access in Fairfield County Youth

<b>22%</b>	of Fairfield County 12 <sup>th</sup> graders have frequently used alcohol in the past month
<b>75%</b>	of Fairfield County 12 <sup>th</sup> graders rated their ease of <b>access to alcohol</b> .
<b>15.0</b>	Years old is the <b>average of first use of alcohol</b> for 12 <sup>th</sup> graders in Fairfield County.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CHIP) PRIORITY PLANNING

Potential health needs priorities for the 2026 CHIP,  
as identified by Fairfield County residents.



## Safe Housing Availability, Infrastructure, and Services

- Most residents reported having inadequate kitchen or plumbing facilities.
- 25% of residents spend more than 35% of their income on housing, leaving less money to fix housing problems.
- 10% of residents are seniors who live alone, may not have adequate support, and live on a fixed income, adding another layer of difficulty to fix housing problems.
- Of the homeless population, 23% live with mental illness, and 14% have chronic substance abuse challenges.



## Substance Use Treatment and Education for Youth

- Youth are more impacted by substance use due to their developing brains.
- More residents under 18 (57%) feel substance use is a top health concern in the community than residents of other ages.
- Boys are more likely than girls to try drinking alcohol at a younger age.
- Survey responses express concern for the lack of treatment programs serving kids with significant mental health and addiction issues.



## Accessibility for Public Spaces to Increase Physical Activity

- Survey responses express frustration with the lack of walking paths and parks, in addition to the lack of gym accessibility for free physical activity options.
- 27% of respondents say that recreational spaces are lacking.
- 36% of adult residents have hypertension, and 13% have diabetes, higher than the state average.
- Lower-income people are at higher risk of developing many chronic conditions.
- Heart disease is the second leading cause of death in Fairfield County.



## Transportation Access for Older Adults and Rural Areas

- 18% of respondents noted that transportation is lacking in Fairfield County. 40% of Amanda and Millersport respondents feel transportation is lacking, more than other areas.
- Responses reflect frustration that older adults and residents in rural areas have less access to public transit and must travel further for essential services.
- Lack of transportation services for those leaving emergency rooms, accessing homeless shelters, or childcare services.
- Transportation was identified as the top barrier to access to healthcare from interviews.
- Lack of transportation was identified as a top barrier for income/poverty and employment.