



# Clinton County Health Department

133 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York 12901-2926

“Working Together for a Healthier Community”

[www.clintonhealth.org](http://www.clintonhealth.org)



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**Health Planning & Promotion Division**

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June 30, 2023

Dear Community Partner,

In early 2022, we asked municipalities for assistance in reaching community members for the **2022 Community Health Assessment Resident Survey**. The survey asked residents to share their thoughts and opinions about their health experiences and concerns. Results from the survey were used to develop the [2022-2024 Community Health Assessment](#).

CCHD has developed an individualized report and infographic of responses from residents who indicated they reside within your municipality comparing their responses to those from across the county. Please feel free to share this report and its data.

After reviewing your report, please visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCHDMunicipalReportSurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCHDMunicipalReportSurvey) and complete a short survey. Your feedback will help us ensure we are providing you with information you find useful. Please share the survey link with all staff within your municipality who have the opportunity to review your report.

We thank you for supporting collaborative health planning in our region. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Molly Flynn  
Principal Public Health Educator  
Clinton County Health Department  
[Molly.Flynn@clintoncountygov.com](mailto:Molly.Flynn@clintoncountygov.com)



“Persons who have any physical mobility or other needs, call the telephone number above to arrange for accommodations”

# 2022 Community Health Assessment

## Resident Survey Key Findings—Town of Plattsburgh\*



As part of the **2022-2024** Community Health Assessment process, the Clinton County Health Department asked county residents for their opinions on health, social and environmental issues in the community. To learn more about the survey and compare your township's data to county level findings, please visit <https://bit.ly/3JobieC>.



**Half** feel their physical health is **good or excellent**.

**46%**

identified **substance abuse** as a top health challenge in the community.



The **top two** responses for **environmental challenges** in the community were:



**aging infrastructure**

and



**stream, river, lake quality**



Almost **half** of respondents feel **obesity** is a top health issue in the community.

**37%**

reported **mental health** as a top health issue for themselves or their family.



**39%**

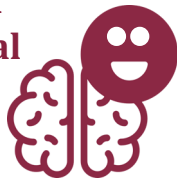
of respondents **agree or strongly agree** that they live in a healthy community.



**Top ranked features of a healthy community:**

- Affordable housing
- Healthcare services
- Livable wages
- Clean environment
- Good schools

More than **half** feel their **mental health** is **good or excellent**.



**42%**

of respondents feel **affordable housing** is a social challenge in the community.



**2 out of every 3** respondents faced at least 1 **barrier** to receiving **medical care in the past year**.



**1 in 4** respondents identified lack of a **livable wage** as a top social issue for themselves or their family.

\*During survey fielding, a concentrated effort was made to reach a representative sample of residents, mirroring census population data, from each of the townships in Clinton County. The above results are based on **173** respondents who indicated they reside in the **Town of Plattsburgh**.

## Introduction

In the spring of 2022 the Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) surveyed Clinton County residents to provide perspective about community health. Residents were asked to identify features of a strong, vibrant, healthy community; for their opinions on health, social and environmental challenges in the community; to identify health and social challenges and any barriers to medical care experienced by themselves or a family member within the past year; and, for demographic information about individual respondents and their households. The summary below outlines what respondents who indicated they reside in the Town of Plattsburgh identified as features, challenges or barriers and highlights how they compare to the responses of all Clinton County respondents.

## Findings

A total of 1,081 responses were received from Clinton County residents. One hundred and seventy-three (173) of the respondents indicated they reside in the Town of Plattsburgh.

### *Demographics of Survey Respondents*

The overall demographics of survey respondents who reside in the Town of Plattsburgh varied only slightly from those of Clinton County respondents overall. Four-fifths of survey respondents (79.19%) identified as female and 16.18% of respondents identified as male (4.05% of respondents chose not to answer this question and 0.58% selected 'other'). In regards to age, the majority of respondents were ages 45-64 (38.15%), followed by ages 25-44 (34.68%), ages 65-79 (13.87%), ages 18-24 (6.94%), 80 years and older (5.78%), and age 17 and younger (0.58%). All respondents indicated that the primary language spoken in their household was English. Ninety percent of respondents reported their race/ethnicity as white, while 2.89% selected as Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin, 1.73% American Indian, 1.73% Asian or Pacific Islander, 1.16% Black or African American, and 1.16% selected 'other'. The highest level of education completed by survey respondents was diverse; 2.31% completed some high school but did not finish; 9.83% obtained a high school diploma or GED; 29.47% completed some college, obtained a technical or trade school certificate, or an Associate's degree; 26.59% obtained a Bachelor's degree; and 30.60% obtained a Master's degree or higher. The household annual income reported by respondents also varied; 12.72% reported a household annual income of less than \$24,999; 19.08% reported \$25,000-\$49,000; 21.97% reported \$50,000-\$99,999; and 31.21% reported \$100,000 or more. The majority of respondents are employed full-time (56.65%), retired (18.50%), or employed part-time (6.94%). When asked if they had a primary care provider (PCP), 92.29% indicated they were being followed by a PCP, while only 7.51% indicated they were not. The breakdown for all respondents' responses to demographic questions can be found in *Table 1*.

### *Definition of a Healthy Community*

When asked whether they believed they live in a healthy community, 38.72% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they live in a healthy community; 28.33% disagreed or strongly disagreed with this

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statement and 32.95% of respondents felt neutral toward this statement. Respondents were then asked to identify the top three features of a strong, vibrant, healthy community. The top features reported by residents were affordable housing (34.68%); health care services (35.26%); livable wages (34.10%); a clean environment (32.37%); and good schools (26.59%). The lowest ranked features were senior housing (4.05%); diverse populations (5.78%); transportation (6.36%); equality (6.94%); and good childcare (6.94%). See *Figure 1* for perceptions of living in a healthy community by residents and *Figure 2* for the top features of a strong, vibrant, healthy community.

### *Health Challenges of Concern and Experienced*

Town of Plattsburgh residents identified overweight/obesity (48.55%); substance abuse (45.66%); access to mental health services (41.04%); mental health (40.46%); and access to a health care specialist (32.95%) as the top health related challenges of concern in the community. More than 91% of respondents reported they or a family member experienced one or more health challenge in the past year. The top challenges experienced were mental health (40.25%); overweight/obesity (38.99%); access to a health care specialist (32.70%); issues related to aging (31.45%); and chronic disease (29.56%).

Almost half of respondents identified substance abuse as a health challenge in the community, while just over 10% of respondents reported that they or a family member experienced it as a health challenge within the past year. Similarly, 41.04% of respondents identified access to mental health services as a challenge in the community, though only a quarter of them reported they or a family member had difficulty accessing mental health services within the past year. Additionally, two-fifths of respondents reported mental health was a health issue they or a family member experience in the past year, slightly higher than all Clinton County respondents (34.73%). Furthermore, 28.90% of respondents identified access to health care services as a top health challenge in the community, while only 18.24% reported having trouble accessing healthcare services. However, almost 65% of respondents reported they or a family member experienced at least one barrier to receiving medical care in the past year. The most reported barriers included; no specialist appointment was available (41.96%), there was no specialist locally (40.18%), did not accept my insurance (32.14%), could not leave work/school (24.12%), did not have vision or dental insurance (24.12%), and no primary care appointment was available (24.12%). See *Figure 3* for health challenges identified in your community, *Figure 4* for health challenges experienced by residents, and *Figure 8* for barriers to receiving medical care.

### *Social Challenges of Concern and Experienced*

Town of Plattsburgh residents identified the same top three social challenges in the community as all Clinton County residents surveyed, lack of a livable wage (42.77%), affordable housing (41.66%), and access to healthy foods (26.01%). Respondents also identified childcare (23.70%) and child abuse/neglect (23.12%) as social issues in the community. Almost three-quarters of respondents (72.83%) reported they or a family member experienced at least one social challenge in the past year. 2 in 5 (41.66%) respondents identified affordable housing as a top social concern in the community, while only a quarter (26.98%) of respondents or their family members experienced issues with affordable housing within the past year. Conversely, more than 30% of respondent or their family members experience issues with street safety in

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the past year, though only 16% identified it as a social issue in the community. Other social issues experienced by respondents of their family members in the past year included; lack of a livable wage (34.92%), lack of employment opportunities (26.98%), and opportunities for physical activity (23.81%). See *Figure 5* for social challenges of concern in your community and *Figure 6* for social challenges experienced by residents.

### *Environmental Concerns*

More than three-fifths (63.01%) of residents identified aging infrastructure as a top environmental concern in the community. Thirty-eight percent identified stream, river or lake quality as a top environmental concern, while 36.42% identified climate change. Town of Plattsburgh residents were more likely to select failing septic systems (18.50%) and less likely to select home safety (13.87%) than county residents (10.74% and 20.19% respectively). See *Figure 7* for environmental concerns among respondents from the Town of Plattsburgh.

### *Self- Perceived Physical and Mental Health*

The majority of respondents self-reported their physical health as average (40.46%) or good (38.15%). Only 8.09% reported their physical health as poor or extremely poor and 13.29% reported their physical health as excellent. A similar pattern in responses was seen for self-reported mental health with 87.86% of respondents reporting their mental health as average, good or excellent, 12.14% of respondents reported their mental health as poor or extremely poor. See *Figure 9* for the self-perceived physical health and *Figure 10* for the self-perceived mental health among respondents from the Town of Plattsburgh.

## Learn More

A full report for all Clinton County respondents, including methodology, considerations/limitations and conclusions, can be found included in the 2022-2024 Clinton County Community Health Assessment at [http://www.clintonhealth.org/pdf%20files/CHA\\_CHIP.pdf](http://www.clintonhealth.org/pdf%20files/CHA_CHIP.pdf).

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Tables & Figures

<b>Table 1. 2022 Clinton County Community Health Assessment Community Survey, Demographics of Respondents</b>			
Demographic		Plattsburgh (Town) % (#)	Clinton County % (#)
Gender (n=173)/(n=1,081)*	Female	79.19% (137)	76.04% (822)
	Male	16.18% (28)	19.15% (207)
	Non-Binary	0.00% (0)	0.46% (5)
	Other	0.58% (1)	0.74% (8)
	*Note: Of all 173 Town of Plattsburgh respondents, 4.05% (7) declined to answer. Of all Clinton County respondents, 3.61% (39) declined to answer.		
Age (n=173)/(n=1081)	17 years and younger	0.58% (1)	0.37% (4)
	18-24 years	6.94% (12)	4.07% (44)
	25-44 years	34.68% (60)	35.43% (383)
	45-64 years	38.15% (66)	35.25% (381)
	65-79 years	13.87% (24)	17.95% (194)
	80 years and older	5.78% (10)	6.94% (75)
Primary language spoken in household (n=173)/(n=1081)	English	100.00% (173)	99.54% (1076)
	Chinese	0.00% (0)	0.09% (1)
	French	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)
	Haitian-Creole	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)
	Italian	0.00% (0)	0.09% (1)
	Korean	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)
	Polish	0.00% (0)	0.09% (1)
	Russian	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)
	Spanish	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)
Other	0.00% (0)	0.19% (2)	
Race/ethnicity (n = 173)/(n=1081)*	American Indian	1.73% (3)	1.39% (15)
	Asian or Pacific Islander	1.73% (3)	0.74% (8)
	Black or African American	1.16% (2)	1.20% (13)
	Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin	2.89% (5)	1.67% (18)
	White	89.60% (155)	91.86% (993)
	Other	1.16% (2)	0.56% (6)
	*Note: Of all 173 Town of Plattsburgh respondents, 6.63% (11) declined to answer. Of all 1081 Clinton County respondents, 5.27% (57) declined to answer. For this question respondents were asked to select all that apply; therefore, responses will not total 100%.		

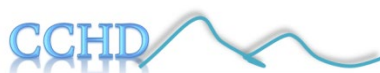
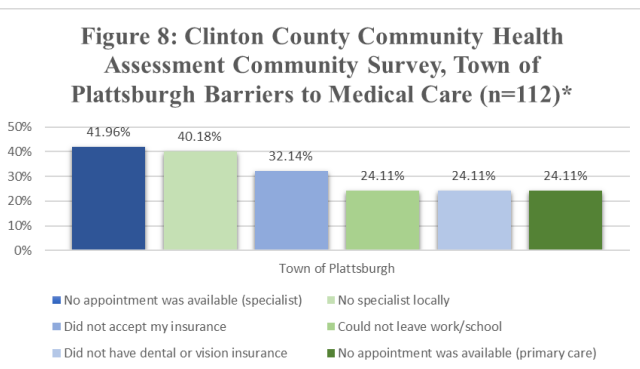
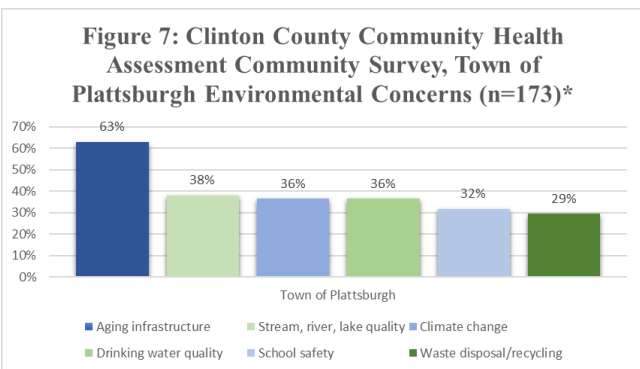
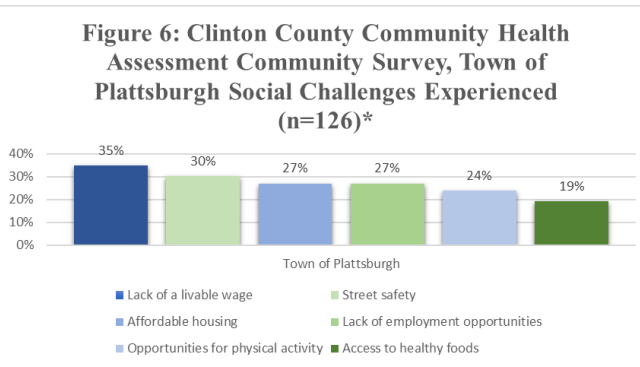
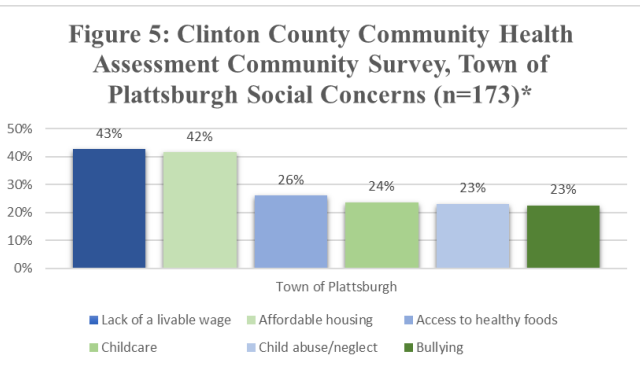
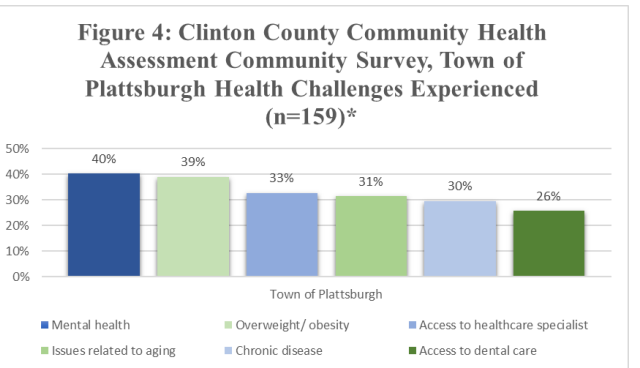
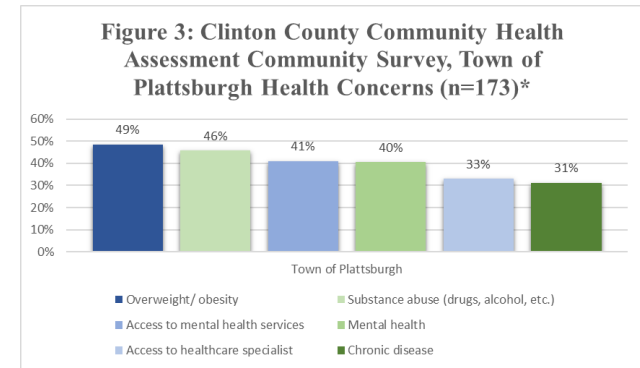
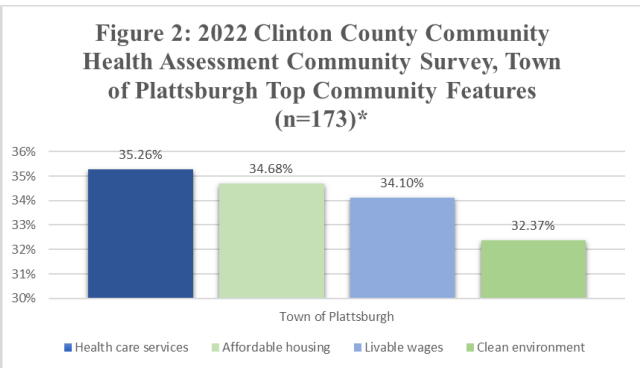
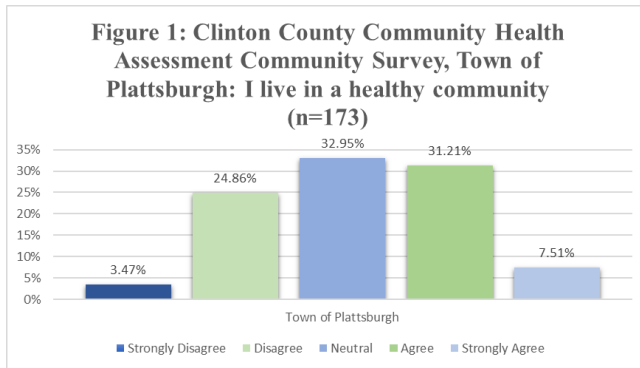


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**Table 1 Continued. 2022 Clinton County Community Health Assessment Community Survey, Demographics of Respondents**

Demographic		Plattsburgh (Town) % (#)	Clinton County % (#)
Highest level of education (n=173)/(n=1081)	Some high school (did not finish)	2.31% (4)	3.89% (42)
	High school diploma or GED	9.83% (17)	15.26% (165)
	Technical or trade school certificate	2.89% (5)	3.24% (35)
	Some college	16.18% (28)	13.78% (149)
	Associate's degree	10.40% (18)	10.82% (117)
	Bachelor's degree	26.59% (46)	26.46% (286)
	Graduate degree	30.03% (52)	25.44% (275)
	Other	1.73% (3)	1.11% (12)
Household annual income (n=173)/(n=1081)*	Less than \$10,000	3.47% (6)	4.16% (45)
	\$10,000 - \$24,999	9.25% (16)	10.36% (112)
	\$25,000 - \$49,999	19.08% (33)	16.10% (174)
	\$50,000 - \$99,999	21.97% (38)	29.51% (319)
	\$100,000 - \$149,999	20.23% (35)	16.93% (183)
	\$150,000 or more	10.98% (19)	9.90% (107)
	<i>*Note: Of all 173 Town of Plattsburgh respondents, 15.03% (26) declined to answer. Of all 1081 Clinton County respondents, 13.04% (141) declined to answer.</i>		
Primary Employment Status (n = 173)/(n=1081)	Full-time	56.65% (98)	54.12% (585)
	Part-time	6.94% (12)	7.86% (85)
	Armed forces	0.00% (0)	0.09% (1)
	Disabled	2.31% (4)	4.72% (51)
	Homemaker	5.78% (10)	3.52% (38)
	Retired	18.50% (32)	22.76% (246)
	Student	4.05% (7)	1.94% (21)
	Unemployed	2.89% (5)	2.22% (24)
	Other	2.89% (5)	2.78% (30)
Primary Care Provider (n = 173)/(n=1081)	Yes	92.29% (160)	90.47% (978)
	No	7.51% (13)	9.53% (103)

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