

Economic Health

2003/04 Updates Noted
12/2002 Updates Noted

Key Word	Indicator	Source
elders, health care	The high cost of prescriptions and medications is a issue for elders, most of whom are on fixed incomes.	Human Services Coalition of Cayuga County Position Paper on Issues & Needs of the Elderly, 1997.
employment	Community assessments found critical, high priority needs for job training linked to jobs that pay a livable wage, job readiness, transportation to training, jobs, education, and supports for those working (i.e. affordable child care).	City of Auburn Planning Needs Assessment, March 1995; Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998.
employment	A high priority need identified was semi-skilled workers in Auburn, workers with good working habits (arriving on time, working full days).	City of Auburn Planning Needs Assessment, March 1995
employment	The work force has problems with transportation and child care	Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998
employment	1/3rd of the work force commute to jobs outside the county.	Coordinated Transportation Project Study (Human Services Coalition), 1998
employment	When agency staff were asked to identify the most pressing needs of the low income population in Cayuga, education/training, jobs, were highest need cited by local agencies. Also, respondents most often described the job crisis (40.4%) as the major problem in the community. (The 2000 assessment did not provide this information for Cayuga County alone, but for Seneca and Cayuga combined.)	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
disability, employment, state, county	Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 16-64 in the state, 65% reported an employment disability (41% reported a going outside of the home disability). Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 16-64 in Cayuga County, 11.7% (105) reported an employment disability.	US Census, 2000. 2003 NYS Data Book. 11/2003.
disability, education, college, state	Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 18-34 in the state without a disability, 24.1% were enrolled in college or graduate school and 21.7% were not currently enrolled but had a bachelors or higher degree. In comparison, of those noninstitutionalized persons age 18-34 in the state with a disability, 16.6% were enrolled in college or graduate school and 11.4% were not currently enrolled but had a bachelors or higher degree.	US Census, 2000. 2003 NYS Data Book. 11/2003.

employment, welfare reform	Of the 323 C/SCAA program participants responding, 22% reported that someone in their household had gone off public assistance in the last two years. Of the 22%, 51% found full-time employment and 18% found part-time employment.	2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
employment, welfare reform	Of the 22% C/SCAA program participants who reported that someone in their household had gone off public assistance in the last two years, 56% indicated that leaving public assistance created hardships for their households (difficulty meeting basic expenses and having adequate resources to maintain family and remain employed).	2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
job training	Of the 323 program participants who responded to the assessment survey in 2000, more than 70% lived in Cayuga County. Approximately 12% of the participants indicated that at least one of their household members participated in a job training program within the last year. In the 1997 Needs Assessment 21.4% reported having participated in job training.	2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
employment, youth	Youth who fail to make a successful transition into the labor force are at greater risk of being dependent on public assistance when they become adults. This is especially likely for youth in families receiving welfare and in other low-income families.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment, youth	Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens' (ages 14-17) family history with welfare seemed to be a determining factor in whether they work and, if so, how much they work. Teens in families receiving welfare benefits are much less likely to have jobs than those in families that have left welfare rolls. Moreover, working teens in families that have recently left the welfare rolls are much more likely to work long hours (20 hours per week or more) than any other group.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment, youth	Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens' (ages 14-17), the percentage of teens who had worked the four weeks previous varied greatly among the 13 states surveyed (ranging from 22-49%). New York State (at 26%) was one of the five states which ranked significantly below the national average of 32%. In regard to the percentage of teens working 20 hours or more per week, New York State reported 23% (the national average was 29%).	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001

employment, youth	Existing research indicates that programs emphasizing well-structured, work-based learning, and effective school-to-work links are needed to develop the skills, self-confidence, and formal labor force connections that many at-risk youth need to make a successful transition to the world of work.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment, youth	Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens from prosperous families (incomes 200% or more above poverty) were twice as likely to be employed than those from poor families. The percentage of those who had worked the four weeks previous were as follows: 17% Hispanic, 16% Black, non-Hispanic, and 40% White non-Hispanic. Among all employed teens, however, black youth were much more likely than white youth to be working 20 or more hours per week.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment	Youth out-migration results from a lack of good jobs.	Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998
employment, minority	The transition of African-American males to higher education or employment can be less successful than for non-minority youth.	Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998
health insurance	Lack of, or inadequate health insurance, limits access to mental health services.	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.7
housing/low income	Cayuga County has an old housing stock. There were waiting lists for housing or housing repair programs. Low income families report spending a large percentage (33%) of their household income on rent & mortgage.	1997 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
housing/low income	Approximately 50% of the homes visited by the Healthy Neighborhood program needed repairs to improve the safety of their homes.	Healthy Neighborhood Program (Mentz, Locke, Moravia), DHHS, 11/00
state, poverty level	In 1999, 30.3% of the state's population was under 185% of the federal poverty level and 14.1% was under 100%.	NYSDOH, Community Health Data Set, Current Population Survey, Percent of Population Below Poverty, NYS, 1999. 12/2003
county, poverty level	According to the 2000 census there were 8,544 persons living below poverty in the county.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.
county, poverty level, elderly	Of those living below poverty in the county, 920 or 10.8% were age 65 and older. This represents 8.2% of those age 65 plus in the county as compared to 11.3% state-wide.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.
county, poverty level, disability, elderly	In Cayuga County, of those non-institutional persons age 65 and older, 920 or 8.2% were living below poverty. Of the 920, 54% (494) had a reported disability.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.

poverty	As in 1997, areas of C/SCAA program participants lives which they would like or need assistance in 2000 were direct financial assistance, job opportunities and housing.	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
poverty	In 1997, 59.8% of program participant respondents mentioned that they had to choose between purchasing essential food items and paying a bill necessary to meet their basic needs. In 2000 it was 42%.	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
poverty	In 1998, of the 909 live births, 331 (36.5%) were to low-income mother's covered by Medicaid.	NYSDOH, Bureau of Biometrics, 11/00
poverty	As of 1997, 46.3% of Auburn's rental households were "cost-burdened," meaning they were paying nearly 1/3rd of their income in rent.	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6 (from a 1997 housing market analysis)
poverty	Both key informants (human service agencies) and the general public selected the poor as a population group most seriously in need.	United Way Needs Assessment, Jan. 1994
poverty	Both key informants (human service agencies) and the general public selected Assistance for Basic Needs as one of the most serious need areas.	United Way Needs Assessment, Jan. 1994
poverty	Wage earning limits on social services recipients is a major barrier to economic self-sufficiency.	City of Auburn Planning Needs Assessment, March 1995
poverty	Food stamps & Medicaid/Medicare are programs used by a large percentage of C/SCAA participants. Yet, nearly one-half of respondents indicated that they accessed an emergency food pantry in the last 12 months suggesting severe financial problems. In 1997, 33% never used the food pantry and 64% of those who did use the food pantry used it less than three times per year. In 2000, 36% never used the food pantry and 42% who did use it did so less than three times per year.	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
poverty	12.5%, or 10,290, of the County's 82,314 individuals live below the poverty level. (Estimate based on 1997 figures)	Community Health Status Report, Cayuga County, HRSA, 7/2000

poverty, children	<p>In 1993, 19.8% (4,540) of Cayuga's children lived below the Federal Poverty level as opposed to 16.4% in upstate New York. The County numbers improved by 1995. In 1995, the percent of the County's children living below the Federal Poverty level declined to 18.4% (4,250), a drop of 1.4%. In 1995, in upstate New York, the rate of childhood poverty declined to 15.8%, a .8% drop. While there were slightly fewer children in poverty in Cayuga County by 1998 (4,159), the percent of children in poverty went up to 18.9%. By comparison, in 1998, the upstate poverty rate for children was 17%.</p>	<p>Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6 (Census), NYS Kids Count 2000 Data Book. NYS Kids Count 2002 Data Book.</p>
poverty, children, school lunch	<p>In 1998, 39+ % of all school lunches and 91.4% of all school breakfasts, are served free or reduced fee.</p>	<p>Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998</p>
poverty, children, school lunch	<p>In 1997-98, 23.7% of Auburn students and 25.8% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches. In 1999, 30.7% of Auburn students and 27.7% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches. In 2000, 28.7% of Auburn students and 25.6% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches.</p>	<p>Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6; Auburn School District, 9//1999 & 11/2000; Port Byron School System, 9/1999 & 12/2000.</p>
poverty, work disabled	<p>Based on 1997 census figures, the County had 2,070 persons who are severely work disabled.</p>	<p>Community Health Status Report, Cayuga County, HRSA, 7/2000</p>
unemployment, rate	<p>The unemployment rate in Cayuga County had been turning around. The County's 1999 unemployment rate was 5.3% and that compared with a rate of 5.2% statewide. For 2000 the rate was 4.6%. The 2000 rate compares with NYS (excluding NYC) which had an unemployment rate of 3.8%. However, according to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, in November of 2002, the rate was 6% and it was 6.1% in 2003.</p>	<p>NYS Department of Labor, 11/2000. County Health Indicator Profiles (1996-2000), NYSDOH, 2002. Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment, www.bls.gov, 12/2002.</p>
unemployment, rate	<p>The unemployment rate in 1994 was 6.2%. In 1995 it was 6.3%. Through 1998, persistently high levels of unemployment plagued Cayuga County. In 1998 the County had 1,970 persons unemployed. As late as March, 1998 the unemployment rate was 28% higher than the rest of upstate New York.</p>	<p>Coordinated Transportation Project Study (Human Services Coalition), 1998; Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.3 ; Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998; Community Health Status Report, Cayuga County, HRSA, 7/2000.</p>
uninsured - health	<p>In 1997, it was estimated that there were 11,300 persons without health insurance in Cayuga County.</p>	<p>Community Health Status Report, Cayuga County, HRSA, 7/2000</p>

poverty, children, uninsured, state	<p>Over the course of 1999 –2001, the state of New York averaged 5,002,000 children (under age 19). Of the total, an average of 2,048,000 were at or below 200% of poverty (40.9%). The number of children at or below 200% of poverty and uninsured averaged 358,000 (or 7.2% of all children in the state).</p>	U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 1999, 2000, and 2001.
poverty	<p>Number of Medicaid Service Recipients in 1999: 8,702 or approximately 11% of the County's population.</p>	Cayuga County Medicaid Claims Data Analysis, 2/01
poverty, food stamps	<p>The average number of persons who received food stamps per month in Cayuga County has decreased steadily since 1997. The average number per month in 2000 (3,990) was approximately 29.2% (1,649) less than the average per month during 1997 (5,639).</p>	DHHS, Human Services, 1/2001.
poverty, children, food stamps	<p>The number and percent of children who receive food stamps is declining in Cayuga County. In 2000, the number of children receiving food stamps was 1,881 or 9.1% of children age 0-17 years. In 1998, the number of Cayuga County children receiving food stamps was 2,211 or 10% of all children 0-17 years. This represented a sharp decline (35%) from 1994 when there were 3,424 children receiving food stamps or 15.1% of the County's children 0-17 years. In 2000, the percent of children receiving food stamps in Cayuga County was above that of children throughout upstate New York (7.9%).</p>	NYS Kids Count 2000 Data Book. NYS Kids Count 2002 Data Book.
poverty, children, public assistance	<p>The number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance is in decline. In 2000, the number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance was 553 or 2.7% of all children 0-17 years, approximately 1/3rd the number of six years earlier. In 1998, the number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance was 748 or 3.4% of all children 0-17 years. This represented a sharp decline (47%) from 1994 when there were 1,420 children receiving public assistance or 6.3% of the County's children 0-17 years. In 2000, the percent of children receiving public assistance in Cayuga County was approximately 40% less than other children in upstate New York (2.7% vs. 4.5% for upstate children).</p>	NYS Kids Count 2000 Data Book. NYS Kids Count 2002 Data Book.

poverty,
children,
school lunch

In the 1998/99 school year, 1,767 children in grades K-6 received free or reduced school lunches. That represented 27.4% of all K-6 graders. The subsidized lunch percent for upstate New York for K-6 graders was 26.5% in the 1998/99 school year. In the 1999/00 school year, 1,979 children in grades K-6 received free or reduced school lunches. That represented 33% of all K-6 graders. The subsidized lunch percent for upstate New York for K-6 graders was 32.4% in the 1999/00 school year.

NYS Kids Count 2000 Data Book. NYS Kids Count 2002 Data Book

poverty,
children,
school lunch

In the 1998/99 school year, 2361 children, in all grades, qualified for free school lunches. For specific school districts the counts are as follows: Auburn 1,103 or 22.4% of its students; Cato-Meridian 290 or 21% of its students; Moravia, 301 or 25.3% of its students; Port Byron, 257 or 19.9% of its students; Southern Cayuga, 200 or 15.8% of its students; Union Springs, 131 or 11% of its students; Weedsport, 79 or 7.3% of its students.

NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001

poverty,
children,
school lunch

In the 1999/00 school year, 2,238 County children, in all grades, qualified for free school lunches. For specific school districts the counts are as follows: Auburn 1,071 or 22.4% of its students; Cato-Meridian 299 or 22.1% of its students; Moravia, 259 or 22.8% of its students; Port Byron, 245 or 19.7% of its students; Southern Cayuga, 197 or 16% of its students; Union Springs, 98 or 8.4% of its students; Weedsport, 69 or 6.6% of its students.

NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001

poverty,
children,
school lunch

For the 3 years from 1997-2000, the district with the highest % of children qualifying for free school lunches in Cayuga County is Moravia. For the 1999/00 school year the County school districts with the highest percent of children qualifying for the free lunch program were Moravia, 22.8%; Auburn, 22.4% and Cato-Meridian, 22.1%.

NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001

poverty,
children,
school lunch

Families in 2 school districts appear to be significantly better off, financially, than most of the County. In the 1999/00 school year, Union Springs and Weedsport had 1/2 to 1/3rd the % of children qualifying for free school lunches than did the balance of the County districts.

NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001

poverty,
children,
school lunch

The 4 years of free school lunch program data, covering the 1997-2000//2001 school years, reveals a decrease in those eligible for free school lunches in Cayuga County. Those eligible for free school lunches dropped from nearly 20% (19.9%) of all enrolled children in 1997/98 to 16.6% in the 2000/2001 school year. All school districts experienced a decrease.

NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001 and 11/2002.

depression,
welfare

In a study sampling experimental evaluations of welfare-to-work programs in the US and Canada, one-third showed that the programs produced changes in symptoms of depression. Seventy percent of these were unfavorable, in that they increased the symptoms.

Symptoms of Depression Among Welfare Recipients: A Concern for Two Generations, Child Trends Research Brief, December 2001.

**births,
financial
coverage**

In 1998, 331 (36.4%) of all live births listed Medicaid as the primary payer. In 1999, 328 (36.1%) of all live births listed Medicaid as the primary payer.

NYSDOH 1998 Data Tables, September 2000. 1999 Vital Statistics, as of 9/2002.

**median
income,
county**

In 1999, the median family income was \$44,973.

U.S. Bureau of Census, 2002 Summary File 3, 9/2002