UPSON
Regional Medical Center

Upson County, Georgia

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2024

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INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Family, Friends, and Neighbors of URMC:

On behalf of all involved in creating this 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), I invite you to review this document as we collaboratively strive to meet the health and medical needs in our community.

The 2024 CHNA process identifies local health and medical needs, and the subsequent implementation plan communicates how Upson Regional Medical Center (URMC) plans to respond to the prioritized needs. This 2024 CHNA also reports the efforts regarding the focus areas identified in the prior CHNA.

As you review this 2024 CHNA document, please consider how, together, we can further improve the health and medical services our area needs. URMC does not have adequate resources to solve all the problems identified. Some issues are beyond the mission of URMC, and action is best suited for a response by others. Some improvements will require personal actions by individuals rather than the response of an organization. We view this as a process for how we, along with other organizations and agencies, can collaborate to bring the best each has to offer to address the more pressing, identified needs.

We invite you to review the CHNA documents, provide feedback and join us in creating a healthier community. We all live and work in this community together, and our collective efforts can make living here a more enjoyable and healthier experience.

Thanks again,

Jeffrey Tarrant
CEO
Upson Regional Medical Center

ABOUT UPSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Upson Regional Medical Center is a full service, DNV Healthcare accredited organization located in Thomaston, Georgia. We are committed to providing exceptional, safe and compassionate care to our patients and families. We have proudly served a multi-county area of middle Georgia for over 70 years, constantly growing and expanding our facilities, technology and expertise, all to better serve those who need us. On behalf of our boards, medical staff, volunteers, and over 700 dedicated employees, we are honored you have chosen us.

Upson Regional Medical Center is community-based hospital with more than 40 providers bringing expertise in multiple specialties.

MISSION OF UPSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

The mission of Upson Regional Medical Center (URMC) follows.

Upson Regional Medical Center is committed to providing quality health care services to all patients based on the health needs of our population. Our goal is to be the employer of choice for healthcare workers, by creating a culture where employees feel valued and are inspired to be advocates for patients.

VISION OF UPSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

To Be A Top 100 Hospital

VALUES OF UPSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

- Constancy of Purpose
- Integrity & Honesty
- Quality Care & Professionalism
- Respect & Teamwork
- Customer Service
- Patient Safety

APPROVAL OF CHNA

URMC Board of Directors approved and adopted the 2024 CHNA in December 2024.

AVAILABILITY OF CHNA TO THE PUBLIC

This report will be made available to the public on the URMC website, www.URMC.org. Paper copies may be obtained at no charge from either Administration or the Public Relations department by calling (706) 647-8111 or contacting the hospital at the following address.

Upson Regional Medical Center, 801 W Gordon St, Thomaston, GA 30286.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Steering Committee

The CHNA steering committee established the methodology for conducting the CHNA and provided guidance and direction throughout the process.

The URMC steering committee members were:

- Jeff Tarrant, CEO
- Jessica Hudson, Marketing Director
- Marsha White, Executive Assistant

Consultant

URMC contracted with HealthTech to assist in conducting the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment. HealthTech is a healthcare consulting and hospital management company based in Brentwood, Tennessee. HealthTech principal consultant was Julie Haynes.

Photos

Photo credits of images found in this report are to the CHNA steering committee members, URMC's website and Facebook account.

GAP ANALYSIS

Qualitative and quantitative data were used to complete the 2024 CHNA and identify community health priorities. The assessment was designed to provide a comprehensive and broad picture of the health in the overall community served. However, there may be several medical conditions that are not specifically addressed in this report due to various factors, including but not limited to, publicly available information or limited community input. In addition, certain population groups might not be identifiable or might not be represented in numbers sufficient for independent analysis. Examples include homeless, institutionalized persons, undocumented residents and members of certain ethnic groups who do not speak English. Efforts were made to obtain input regarding these specific populations through the key stakeholder survey.

OVERVIEW OF PROCESS

The Affordable Care Act requires nonprofit hospitals to complete a community health needs assessment (CHNA) process every three years. While CHNAs are a recent requirement, community health assessments (CHAs) have long been used as a tool by hospitals, public health departments, and other social service agencies to identify key community health concerns. A CHNA is a systematic process involving the community to identify and analyze community health needs and assets, prioritize those needs, and then implement a plan to address significant unmet needs.[1] Upon completing the assessment, URMC will develop implementation strategies to address the significant community health needs identified in the CHNA.

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1 Catholic Health Association of the United States. (2015). *Assessing and addressing community health needs.*
Retrieved from https://www.chausa.org/communitybenefit/assessing-and-addressing-community-health-needs

Community Health Needs Assessment Process Graph:

SOURCE: http://www.healthycommunities.org/Resources/toolkit.shtml

DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

A multi–faceted approach was used to gather information about the health needs of the community and to develop priorities for health improvement. The process focused on gathering and analyzing secondary data as well as obtaining input from community members to identify and define significant health needs, issues, and concerns.

Both quantitative and qualitative methods were utilized to gather data.

SECONDARY DATA

A variety of secondary data sources were used to obtain data about both health trends and health disparities including but not limited to the following.

- County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
- Georgia 2016–2021 State Health Improvement Plan

- Georgia's District 4 Public Health (D4PH) Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2023-2028

- The Better and Worse Than Georgia Reports Reflect data from the following sources:
    o US Census Bureau, American Community Survey & Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates
    o US Department of Education
    o Feeding America
    o Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System
    o Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool
    o Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
    o Dartmouth College Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice, Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care
    o US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System
    o US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, HRSA - Area Health Resource File
- Social Vulnerability Index (https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html)
- Causes of Death (https://www.worldlifeexpectancy.com)

Every effort was made to obtain the most current data. Data was analyzed for comparison purposes with the United States, the state of Georgia, and counties within the State when comparative data was available.

Pertinent secondary data captured is found in the appendices.

PRIMARY DATA

A key stakeholder survey was conducted to acquire input from community members who represent the broad interest of the community. The results of the survey are included in the appendices.

EVALUATION OF PRIOR CHNA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The prior CHNA and resulting implementation plan identified the following priorities.

- Access to Care
- Obesity and Chronic Disease
- Mental Health

Below is a status report on the initiatives associated each of the above along with the appropriate results from the key stakeholder survey. Specifically, the key stakeholders invited to take the survey were asked the following question for each of the CHNA priorities: "Upson Regional Medical Center (URMC) chose several initiatives to work on in 2021. How do you think we did since then?" All the key stakeholder survey questions and results are found in Appendix 2.

ACCESS TO CARE

Ensured adequate emergency medical services (EMS):

- o URMC began a contract with MedPro EMS in January 2023
- o Increased ability to provide emergent and non-emergent transport
- o Total transports for 2023: 1,535
- o Total transports for 2024 through September: 1,251

Constructed helipad on URMC campus:

- o 1st transport in July 2022
- o 479 transports through September 2024
- o Average minutes from skids down to skids up: 37.35

Grew the healthcare workforce within the URMC service market:

Year	Employees	Turnover	Percentage of Filled Positions
2022	802	14.85%	79%
2023	808	10.95%	82%
2024 (YTD)	815	10.40%	82%

Provided urgent/emergent Cardiac Catherization interventions to ensure community needs are met.

- o Interventional cath lab services began in December 2020
    - Arteriograms
    - Cardiac Cath
    - Coronary Angioplasty/Stents
    - Pacemaker/cardiac monitor insertion
    - Peripheral Vascular Interventions
    - Stent Placement
- o Heartbeat of Upson event held in February 2024
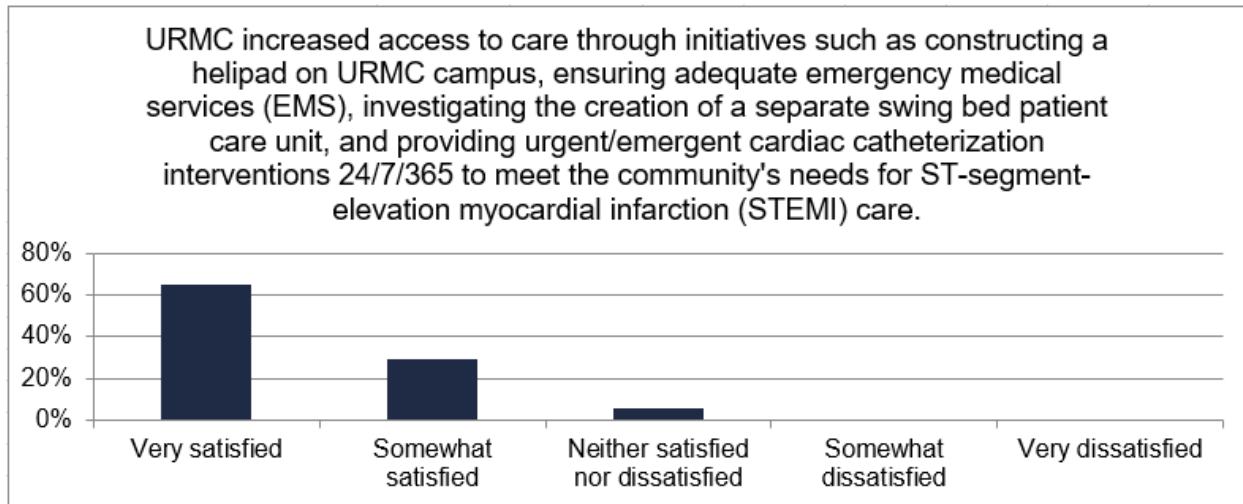
Source: URMC's 2024 "URMC chose several initiatives to work on in 2021. How do you think we did since then?" key stakeholder survey question 16.

OBESITY & CHRONIC DISEASE

- o Provided monthly diabetes education on disease management and nutrition.
- o Provided blood glucose screenings at community health fairs. Conduct blood pressure checks at community events.
- o Provided insulin to uninsured/underserved patients.
- o Provided resources to online health education resources via www.urmc.org.

o Provided healthy eating education material at community health fairs with special emphasis on weight management and chronic conditions.
o Held regular meetings with local ambulance provider(s) to review pre-hospital stroke measures.
o Cardiac CT scan for Coronary Calcium Studies.
o Promoted TeleSpecialist virtual support group for stroke survivors and worked toward establishing a URMC community stroke survivor network.
o Provided educational sessions with community groups (i.e. church, civic, etc.) to promote early stroke recognition and stroke risk factors.
o Nutrition for a Healthy Start provided education for obesity and/or excessive weight gain during pregnancy.

URMC improved education and screening regarding obesity and chronic disease via initiatives such as diabetes education, offering blood glucose screenings, giving insulin to uninsured/underserved patients, providing health education resources online and in the community, and conducting blood pressure checks at community events.
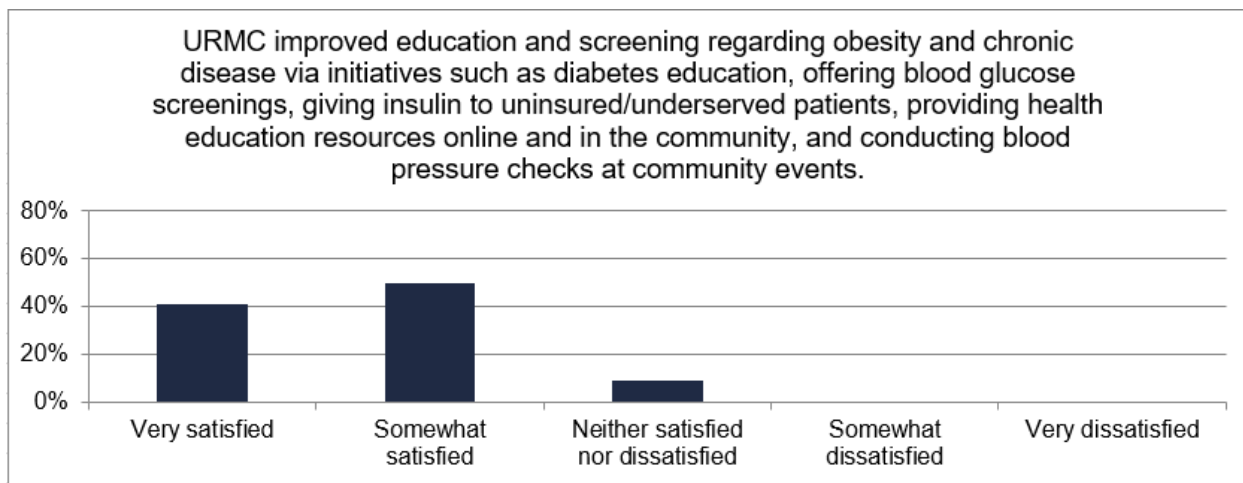
Source: URMC's 2024 "URMC chose several initiatives to work on in 2021. How do you think we did since then?" key stakeholder survey question 17.

MENTAL HEALTH

o Promoted the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health Co-Responder Program with local law enforcement departments.
o Promoted 9-8-8 line that connects individuals with suicide prevention and mental health crisis resources.
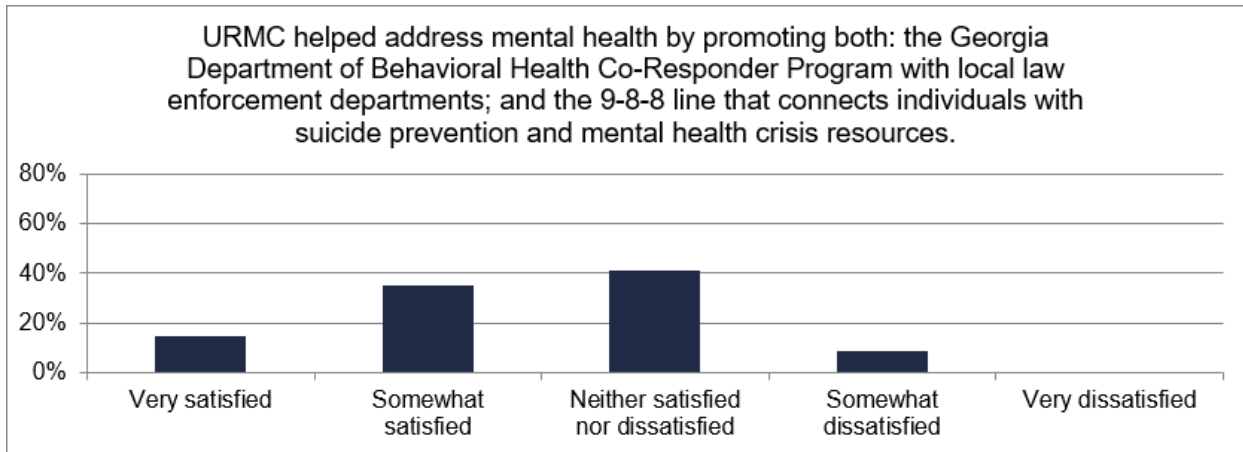
Source: URMC's 2024 "URMC chose several initiatives to work on in 2021. How do you think we did since then?" key stakeholder survey question 18.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH PROFILE OF COMMUNITY SERVED

GEOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT AREA DEFINED

The majority of URMC's patients are from ZIP Codes in Upson County. It is therefore reasonable to utilize Upson County as the CHNA geographic area. Upson County includes medically underserved, low-income and minority populations. All patients were used to determine CVRMC's CHNA geographic area.

URMC'S CHNA SERVICE AREA
Upson County

Source: https://www.vectorstock.com/royalty-free-vector/map-upson-county-in-georgia-vector-37411963
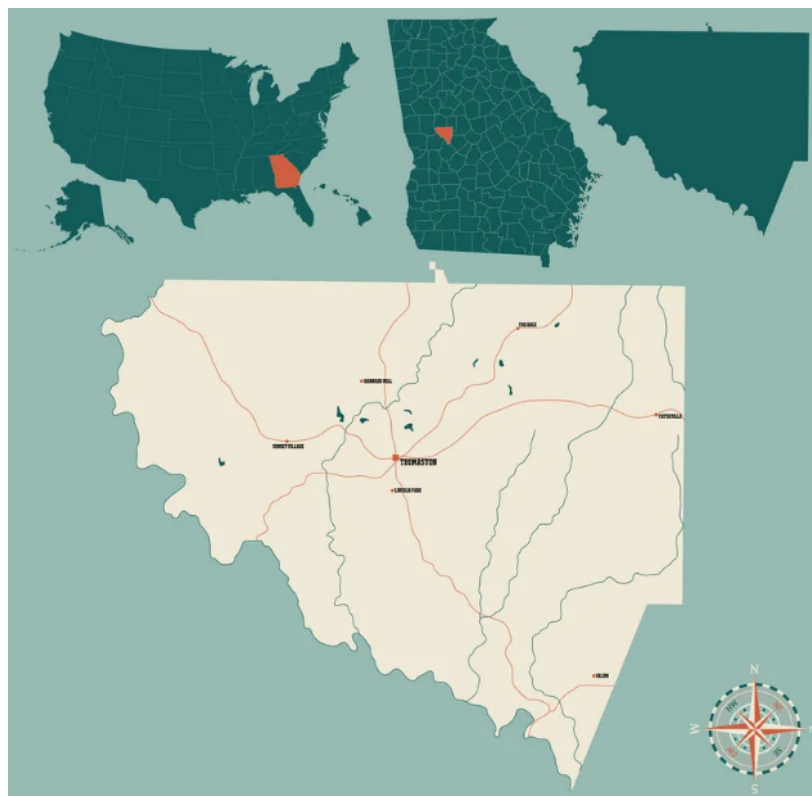
DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

The following tables provide a summary regarding the demographics of Upson County. The data tables show total population of the community, as well as the breakout of the population between male and female and age distribution. Also below are charts reflecting Upson County population as compared to the state of Georgia and the USA for adult education, race/ethnicity distribution, and average household income distribution. Additional details about the demographics for the county is in Appendix 7.

POPULATION 2023	Upson County		GEORGIA
Male Population	13,644	48%	49%
Female Population	14,547	52%	51%
Total	28,191	100%	100%

Source: HealthTech, August 2024; ESRI

POPULATION 2023 DISTRIBUTION BY AGE	Upson County		GEORGIA
0 - 24 years	8,175	29%	32%
24 - 44 years	6,423	23%	27%
45 - 64 years	7,568	27%	25%
65+ years	6,025	21%	16%
Total	28,191	100%	100%

Source: HealthTech, August 2024; ESRI

Adult Education Levels
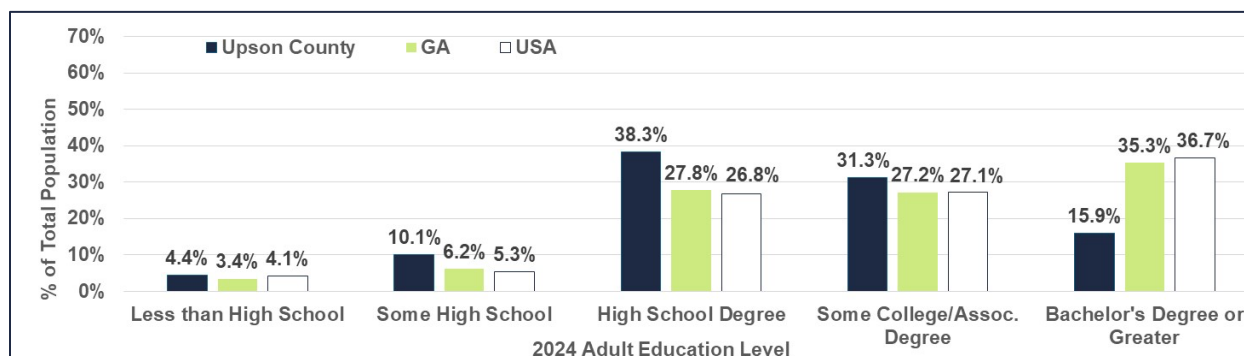
Source: HealthTech, August 2024; ESRI

Race/Ethnicity Distribution
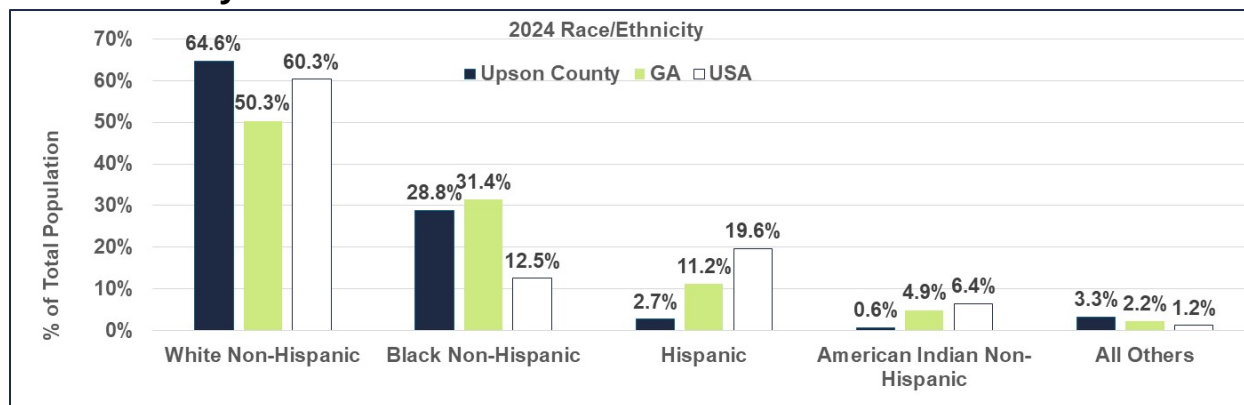
Source: HealthTech, August 2024; ESRI

Average Household Income Distribution
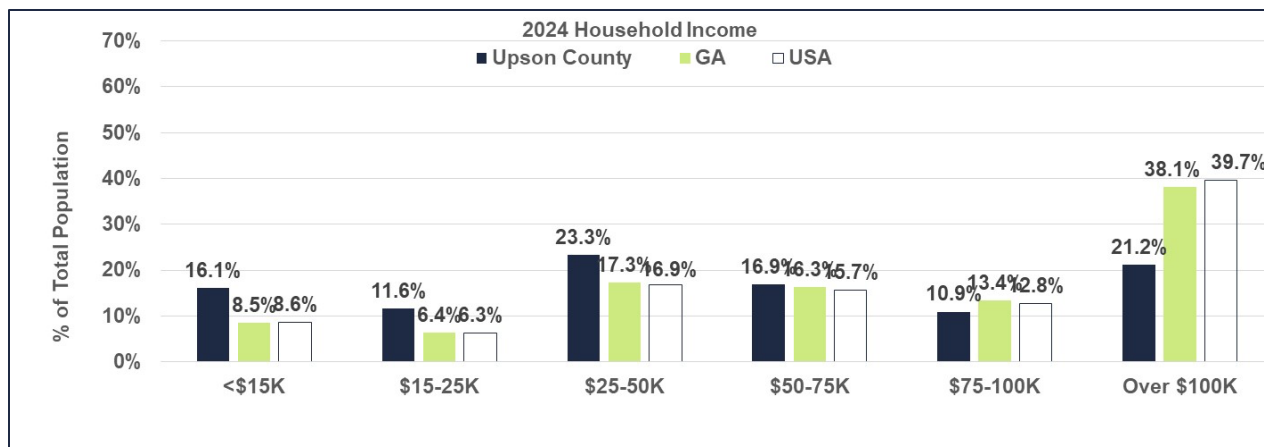
Source: HealthTech, August 2024; ESRI

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND HEALTH DATA

Information from a variety of secondary sources was reviewed and analyzed to develop a comprehensive picture of the health status and social determinants of health (SDOH) of the residents of Gila County.

SDOH are conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. SDOH include the social environment, physical environment, health services, and structural and societal factors. By applying what we know about SDOH, we can improve individual and population health.

Healthy People 2030 use a place-based framework that outlines five key areas of SDOH[2]:

- Healthcare access and quality
- Education access and quality
- Social and community context
- Economic stability
- Neighborhood and built environment

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[2] *Healthy People 2030; https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health*
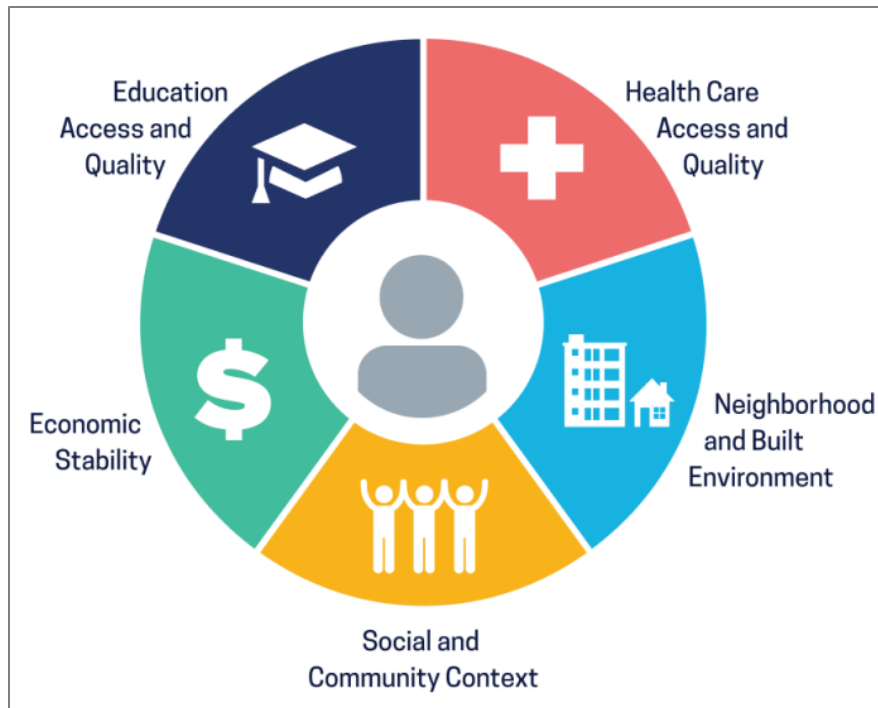
In addition to various data sources used to learn about the SDOH of the residents of Upson County, the implications of the SDOH found in both the 2016–2021 State Health Improvement Plan (Appendix 3) and Georgia's District 4 Public Health (D4PH) Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2023-2028 (Appendix 4) were also considered when identifying the priorities for URMC's CHNA.

Also, attendees of URMC's Community Health Summit meeting reviewed and considered data from the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps website that is found in Appendix 5. The County Health Rankings are based on a model of community health that emphasizes the many factors that influence how long and how well we live. The Rankings use more than 30 measures that help communities understand how healthy their residents are today (health outcomes) and what will impact their health in the future (health factors).

Below is an image of the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps model[3]. At URMC's Community Health Summit meeting the remark was made that eighty percent (80%) of what affects health outcomes is associated with factors outside the traditional boundaries of healthcare delivery - health behaviors (e.g. tobacco use and sexual activity), social and economic factors (e.g. employment, education, and income), and physical environment (e.g. air and water quality).

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[3] *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings/county-health-rankings-model*

County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPHI

Robert Wood Johnson & University of Wisconsin Public Health Institute
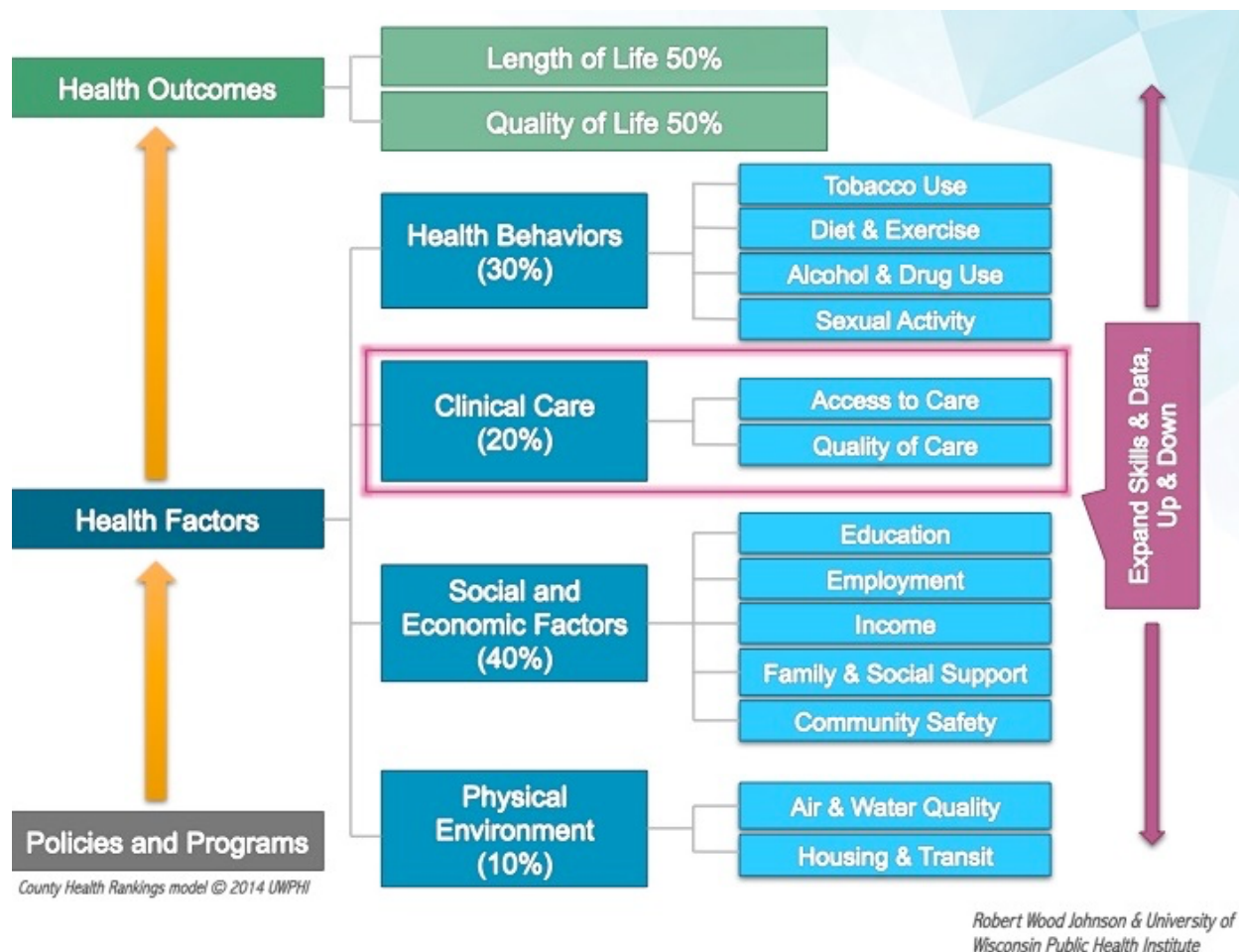
The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps model was used as the framework when presenting, reviewing and considering the various health outcomes and health factors data from a multitude of sources that is found compared to the State of Georgia in both a better than report (Appendix 6) and a worse than report (Appendix 7). This data was also reviewed and considered by URMC's Health Summit meeting attendees when establishing the priorities.

SDOH data from the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) (Appendix 8) was also presented to the Community Health Summit attendees before establishing the CHNA priorities.

Health outcomes are measured in part by the length of life in the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps model so the primary causes of death in Upson County were reviewed and compared to the rates of both the state of Georgia and United States. The causes of death figures are found in the table below.

	Cause of Death		Rank amoung all counties in GA	Rate of Death per 100,000 age adjusted			Observation (Upson County compared to U.S.)
GA Rank	Upson Rank	Condition	(#1 rank= worst in state)	US	GA	Upson	
5	1	Stroke	1 of 159	41.14	47.89	95.69	*Higher than expected*
12	2	Liver Disease	3 of 159	14.47	13.3	16.17	*Higher than expected*
6	3	Lung Disease	6 of 159	34.71	41.09	76.11	*Higher than expected*
14	4	Influenze/Pnemonia	6 of 159	10.53	11.31	39.28	*Higher than expected*
1	5	Heart Disease	14 of 159	173.78	195.21	283.71	*Higher than expected*
3	6	COVID-19	25 of 159	104.12	135.91	220.21	*Higher than expected*
7	7	Alzheimer's	34 of 159	30.96	44.52	44.12	*Higher than expected*
2	8	Cancer	37 of 159	146.55	151.53	200.53	*Higher than expected*
9	9	Nephritis/Kidney	43 of 159	13.55	20.02	25.1	*Higher than expected*
8	10	Diabetes	51 of 159	25.41	25.06	28.56	*Higher than expected*
13	11	Hypertension/Renal	54 of 159	10.69	12.99	14.62	*Higher than expected*
10	12	Blood Poisoning	62 of 159	10.22	15.5	20.12	*Higher than expected*
11	13	Suicide	73 of 159	14.09	15.25	13.7	*Lower than expected*
15	14	Parkinson's	102 of 159	9.84	10.46	6.08	*Lower than expected*
4	15	Accidents	113 of 159	64.71	58.82	47.62	*Lower than expected*

KEY STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

URMC requested input from a wide variety of key stakeholders regarding the health needs of Upson County. Details about those invited to participate in the survey are in Appendix 1. All the questions asked, and the responses provided are in Appendix 2. The data was shared at the Community Health Summit meeting to be considered when determining the priorities.

PRIORITIZATION OF HEALTH NEEDS

COMMUNITY HEALTH SUMMIT

A group of individuals that represented the interests of the county and/or had specific expertise regarding the health needs of vulnerable and underserved populations were asked to participate in identifying priority health needs and services.   The 30 people who attended and participated included representatives from the public health, local government, the school system, medical providers, URMC board of directors, and URMC. Details about the attendees are in Appendix 1.

The Community Health Summit meeting was held at URMC on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to review the data collected and prioritize the health needs. Julie Haynes, a consultant with HealthTech, facilitated the meeting.

PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

To identify the significant health needs and services of Upson County, Community Health Summit meeting participants were asked to consider the following criteria when identifying their top three selections after reviewing the status of the prior CHNA efforts, as well as the primary and secondary data collected for the 2024 CHNA.

- **Magnitude/scale of the problem**
  The health need affects a large number of people within the community
  - How big is the problem?
  - How many people does the problem affect, either actually or potentially?
  - In terms of human impact, how does it compare to other health issues?

- **Seriousness of Consequences**
  The health need has serious consequences (morbidity, mortality, and/or economic burden) for those affected
  - What degree of disability or premature death occurs because of this problem?
  - What would happen if the issue were not made a priority?
  - What is the level of burden on the community (economic, social or other)?

- **Feasibility**
  The community can make a meaningful contribution to addressing the health need because of its relevant expertise and/or assets as a community and because of an organizational commitment to addressing the need. Opportunity to collaborate with existing community partnerships working to address the health need, or to build on current programs, emerging opportunities, etc.
  - Is the problem preventable?
  - How much change can be made?
  - What is the community's capacity to address it?
  - Are there available resources to address it sustainably?
  - What's already being done, and is it working?
  - What are the community's intrinsic barriers and how big are they to overcome?

PRIORITIZATION INPUT

After small and large group discussion about priorities selected, each participate submitted their final votes. The following category headings were created and the number of votes in the form of a post-it note for each are indicated below.

- **Mental Health**
  (28 post-it notes/votes)
- **Chronic Disease** – including stroke/heart disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and prevention of chronic disease (25 post-it notes/votes)
- **Education**
  (20 post-it notes/votes)
- **Poverty/Under Insured**
  (12 post-it notes/votes)
- **Other**
  (2 post-it notes/votes)

PRIORITIZED HEALTH NEEDS

To prioritize the significant health needs and services of Upson County, the top three selections made by each meeting participant were submitted and then grouped together by like topic. The group discussed the outcome and determined that the topics with the highest number of selections were the top priorities.

The consensus of the Community Health Summit meeting participants was to focus on the top two categories that received the most votes. The idea of splitting the votes associated with category that received the third highest number of votes, education, evenly into the top two categories was mentioned.

Below are the prioritized health needs and services for Upson County that were generated by the Community Health Summit meeting participants.

- **Mental Health**
- **Chronic Disease** – including stroke/heart disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and prevention of chronic disease

NEXT STEPS

Over the next several months, URMC, in collaboration with community partners, will develop an implementation plan for each of the priority health needs. The implementation plan will be published in a separate report.

APPENDIX 1: PARTICIPANTS

Strong efforts were made to select participants to represent the broad interests of the community, including at risk, minority and vulnerable. People from the following list of organizations were invited to participate in an electronic survey and/or attend the Community Health Summit.

- AmeriPro EMS
- Auxiliary
- City Manager
- County Manager
- Fletcher-Day Funeral Home
- Housing Authority
- Lamar County Health Department
- MedPro EMS
- Pastor
- Police Chief
- Project SEARCH intern
- Recreation Department
- School Superintendent
- Sheriff
- Thomaston-Upson Arts Council
- Thomaston-Upson Chamber of Commerce
- Upson Beacon
- Upson County Health Department
- Upson Family Connection
- Upson-Lee High School students
- URMC Administration Team Members
- URMC Board members
- URMC Case Management
- URMC Physician Representatives

APPENDIX 2: KEY STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

An email was sent to a wide variety of people in different stakeholder groups inviting each to participate in an electronic survey. Details about the recipients of the key stakeholder survey are in Appendix 1. The initial email was sent September 18, 2024. Reminders were communicated before closing the survey on October 27th, five weeks later. All the questions asked and the responses provided are in this appendix.

Q1. When answering the survey questions, please consider the community and area of interest to be the county/counties you select below. Please select which county/counties you primarily serve or are most familiar with.

Upson County (Thomaston, Yatesville, The Rock, Hannahs Mill, Lincoln Park, Salem, Sunset Village)	100%	34
Pike County (Zebulon, Concord, Williamson, Meansville, Molena, Hilltop)	21%	7
Lamar County (Barnesville, Milner, Aldora)	18%	6
Meriwether County (Greenville, Warm Springs, Woodbury, Luthersville, Gay, Lone Oak)	12%	4
Monroe County (Forsyth, Juliette, Smarr, Culloden, Bolingbroke)	12%	4
Taylor County (Butler, Reynolds, Howard)	6%	2
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q2. How would you rate the general health of our community? (Please indicate your response on the scale below.)

Acceptable health	59%	20
Poor health	29%	10
Good health	12%	4
Very poor health	0%	0
Very good health	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q3. What are the three (3) best things Upson County offers regarding health and wellbeing?

Church and spiritual opportunities	85%	29
Family friendly events and activities	53%	18
Outdoor recreation opportunities	44%	15
Civic and social groups (Lions Club, etc.)	41%	14
Fitness classes (affordable)	21%	7
Recreation trails (Paved)	15%	5
Nutritious & affordable food options (access)	12%	4
Recreation trails (Unpaved)	12%	4
Activity based clubs (biking, sailing, fishing, running, etc.)	6%	2
Health education access	6%	2
Support groups (access to Grief Group, AA, Al-Alon, Aphasia, Suicide Survivor, etc.)	6%	2
Mental health resource access	0%	0
Safe swimming options	0%	0

Other (please specify)	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q4. What are the three (3) most important health problems that affect the health of the people in our community? Please select up to three (3).

Mental health (depression, anxiety)	74%	25
Chronic diseases (arthritis, heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, etc.)	68%	23
Drug abuse/overdose	56%	19
Obesity (lack of nutrition/exercise)	50%	17
Tobacco/cigarette/vaping use	21%	7
Alcohol abuse	15%	5
Prescription drug abuse	6%	2
Falls	3%	1
Infectious disease (flu, ticks, foodborne, measles)	3%	1
Unintentional injury (ATV/UTV accident, vehicle accident, farm accident, etc.)	3%	1
Reproductive and sexual health (Unintended pregnancy and/or Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)/unsafe sex)	0%	0
Other (please specify)	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q5. What are the three (3) most important social/environmental problems that affect the health of your community? Please select up to three (3).

Mental illness (lack of knowledge/stigma of)	50%	17
Mental healthcare (lack of access)	44%	15
Housing (lack of affordable safe)	32%	11
Healthy foods (limited access)	24%	8
Childcare (lack of affordable)	18%	6
Insurance (availability/access to)	15%	5
Job opportunities (lack of)	15%	5
Transportation problems	15%	5
Child abuse/neglect	12%	4
Health Education (lack of)	12%	4
School dropout/Poor schools	12%	4
Social isolation/loneliness	12%	4
Exercise options (limited places)	9%	3
Domestic violence &/or abuse	6%	2
Motor vehicle safety (accidents, car seat/seat belt safety, cell phone use while driving)	6%	2
Dental care (lack of access)	3%	1
Healthcare (lack of access)	3%	1
Neighborhood safety/violence	3%	1
Racial/ethnicity discrimination	3%	1

Elder abuse	0%	0
Environmental health (water, air pollution)	0%	0
Gender discrimination	0%	0
Other (please specify)	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q6. What would be the three (3) best ways to improve people's health in our community? Please select up to three (3).

Access to mental health providers	76%	26
Awareness of local services	44%	15
Community education	41%	14
Affordable healthy food	35%	12
Access to health insurance	21%	7
Access to dental care	15%	5
Access to exercise options	15%	5
Transportation services	15%	5
School health programs	12%	4
Access to health care	9%	3
Changes to public policy/laws	3%	1
Worksite health programs	3%	1
Remove language barrier	0%	0
Other (please specify)	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q7. Please rate each of the following statements about Health Care Access in the area on a scale of 1 (very dissatisfied) through 5 (very satisfied).

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
Residents in the area are able to access a primary care provider when needed. (Family Doctor, Pediatrician, General Practitioner)	1	1	4	16	12	34
Residents in the area are able to access a medical specialist when needed. (For example Cardiologist, Dermatologist, Neurologist, etc.)	2	8	4	13	7	34
Residents in the area are able to access a dentist when needed.	2	5	8	13	6	34
There is a sufficient number of providers accepting Medicaid and Medical Assistance in the area.	3	5	12	8	6	34
There is a sufficient number of bilingual providers in the area.	3	8	19	4	0	34
There is a sufficient number of mental/behavioral health providers in the area.	15	12	4	2	1	34
Transportation for medical appointments is available to area residents when needed.	3	10	18	2	1	34
					Answered	34
					Skipped	0

Q8. What are the most significant barriers that keep people in the community from accessing health care when they need it? (Select all that apply)

Only seeking medical care when in pain or very sick	82%	28
Lack of finances with Insurance coverage (such as high deductibles, co-pays, out of pocket prescription expenses, etc.)	56%	19
Not understanding the importance of regular check-ups	53%	18
Insufficient health insurance coverage (lack of coverage, poor coverage, provider not covered)	50%	17
Unaware of available services/locations	50%	17
Transportation problems (lack or cost of transportation, too far to go)	38%	13
Basic needs not met (food/shelter)	26%	9

Availability of providers/appointments	24%	8
Don't like, fear or mistrust medical providers	18%	6
Complicated enrollment process for health insurance	15%	5
Appointment wait time	15%	5
Could not get an appointment	15%	5
Internet/technology access	12%	4
Could not get off work for healthcare appointment	9%	3
Lack of Child Care	9%	3
Internet/technology knowledge	9%	3
Language barrier	6%	2
Fear of deportation	3%	1
None /No barriers to accessing healthcare	0%	0
Race/ethnicity barrier	0%	0
Other barrier not listed (please specify)	0%	0
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q9. In your opinion, what would most improve our community's access to healthcare services? Please select up to three (3).

Greater health education about services available	71%	24
More mental health services	65%	22
More medical specialists	32%	11
Transportation assistance	26%	9
More primary care providers	24%	8
Outpatient services expanded hours	24%	8
Telemedicine	15%	5
Cultural sensitivity	6%	2
Interpreter services	6%	2
Urgent Care	6%	2
Other (please specify)	3%	1
specifically more pediatric care (especially <2 yrs)		
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q10. Are there specific populations in this community that you think are not being adequately served by local health services?

Yes	61%	20
No	39%	13
	Answered	33
	Skipped	1

Q11. If you responded yes to the question above, which populations are underserved by local health services? (Please select all that apply.)

Low-income/Poor	61%	14
Uninsured/Underinsured	57%	13
Homeless	57%	13
Children/Youth	22%	5
Black/African-American	17%	4
None of the above	13%	3
Seniors/Aging/Elderly	9%	2
White/Caucasian	4%	1
Hispanic/Latino	4%	1
Immigrant/Refugee	4%	1
Disabled	4%	1
Gender Identity (LGBTQ+)	4%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	0
Asian or Pacific Islander	0%	0
Young Adults	0%	0
Other (please specify)	4%	1
Mentally ill		
	Answered	23
	Skipped	11

Q12. Please rate the degree to which each of the following health issues is a problem in the community Upson Regional Medical Center serves using a scale of "major problem," "moderate problem," "minor problem," or "no problem at all."

	Major problem	Moderate problem	Minor problem	No problem at all	Total
Affordable Healthcare	8	17	7	2	34
Access to Health Care Services	2	14	16	2	34
Cancer	10	20	3	0	33
Coronavirus Disease/COVID-19	0	9	16	9	34
Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease	9	21	3	1	34
Dental/Oral Health	2	17	11	4	34
Diabetes	11	15	5	2	33
Disability & Chronic Pain	7	18	6	3	34
Drug/Substance Abuse	19	12	3	0	34
Heart Disease & Stroke	15	16	1	2	34
Infant Health & Family Planning	4	13	14	3	34
Injury and Violence	3	14	14	2	33
Kidney Disease	4	16	12	2	34
Lung/Respiratory Disease	4	22	6	2	34
Mental Health	22	10	2	0	34
Nutrition, Physical Activity & Weight	12	15	5	1	33

Sexual Health	1	18	12	3	34
Tobacco Use	8	14	11	1	34
Women's Health	3	18	10	3	34
				Answered	34
				Skipped	0

Q13. FOLLOW UP to above question: For those topics with a "major problem" rating, please elaborate on reasons.

There needs to be education on awareness and prevention. Groups that are most effected should be targeted.

These are all concerns that hear often from citizens in the community.

Mental illness is a HUGE problem in our community.   My job (LE) deals with it almost daily.

Obesity related diseases most severe. Access to dental care poor because of payment related issues.

Reasoning being the fact most people are ill-informed.

Nutrition and lack of activity affect so much of patient's health but people don't seem to understand the importance or don't have the education/resources for health diets and exercise. Mental health affects so much of the other concerns we are seeing especially drug use and even obesity and lack of activity. IT also exacerbates chronic pain. Diabetes is so common and despite good resources people are still very lacking in understanding of their disease. We could do a better job on preventing diabetes. Dementia is a huge burden for families in our community and more resources to support families could be a huge relief for them.

There are insufficient resources for mental health r/t depression, suicidal ideations, schizophrenia, drug/alcohol addiction, etc.   There is an increase in dementia d/t our aging population.   We need more senior day care facilities that can assist the caregivers so that they can continue to work and provide for their love ones.

Access to mental health services are needed.

All of these issues plague the community, leading to more serious issues such as stroke, disability, and death. Many of these things could be prevented with proper education and access to the right tools.

Access to services (geography). Patient initiative & practice

Lack of Mental Health Resources

Drug abuse and mental health are our main issues. Every city in the country has problems, but mental health and drug abuse continue to grow.

We have a very large population with these diseases and we do not have specialists in the area for most of them.

Mental Health needs are absolutely #1 due to an absence of available mental health services/providers. Our population is left to deal with mental health issues when in crisis rather than deal with these issues in a proactive way. This leads to a poor quality of life for some folks, some families. There is an alternative but it requires more providers, more services. And sadly, more funding. It's frustrating that we talk about this every time we assess health needs within our population, but at the state or federal levels, we seem to never see progress toward real solutions.

Education, poverty

Cost of healthcare results in many individuals opting for no healthcare coverage.

These are the biggest health issues our population faces. We have great healthcare options for cardiovascular health, but don't offer much in the other areas.		
Obesity and healthy food options are issues here.		
	Answered	20
	Skipped	14

Q14. Related to health and quality of life, what resources or services do you think are missing in the community? (Please select all that apply.)

Mental Health Services	71%	24
Substance Abuse Services	68%	23
Health Education/Information/Outreach	50%	17
Transportation	41%	14
Low-Cost Medical Care	38%	13
Prescription Assistance	38%	13
Medical Specialists	35%	12
Health Screenings (to include mammography, colonoscopy, blood (cholesterol, diabetes,	29%	10
Low-Cost Dental Care	26%	9
Bilingual Services	21%	7
Primary Care Providers	12%	4
None of the above	0%	0
Other (please specify)	6%	2
Oncologist		
Senior Day Care		
	Answered	34
	Skipped	0

Q15. What behaviors put people at risk in our community? (Please select all that apply.)

Overweight or obese	91%	31
Illegal drug use	88%	30
Not managing a chronic disease like diabetes or heart disease	85%	29
Alcohol use	68%	23
Poor eating habits (not eating healthy food)	68%	23
Tobacco use including vaping	56%	19
Driving when intoxicated (drugs or alcohol)	53%	18
Not accessing preventative care including regular doctor visits, immunizations, etc.	47%	16
Risky sexual behaviors (for example not using a condom, multiple partners)	41%	14
Bullying	35%	12
Social media	32%	11
Teen pregnancy	24%	8

School absences			18%	6
Unsafe use of firearms (guns)			18%	6
Youth's unsupervised parties			15%	5
Other (please specify)			0%	0
			Answered	34
			Skipped	0

Q16. Upson Regional Medical Center (URMC) chose several initiatives to work on in 2021. How do you think we did since then?

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
URMC increased access to care through initiatives such as constructing a helipad on URMC campus, ensuring adequate emergency medical services (EMS), investigating the creation of a separate swing bed patient care unit, and providing urgent/emergent cardiac catheterization interventions 24/7/365 to meet the community's needs for STsegment-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) care.	22	10	2	0	0	34
URMC improved education and screening regarding obesity and chronic disease via initiatives such as diabetes education, offering blood glucose screenings, giving insulin to uninsured/underserved patients, providing health education resources online and in the community, and conducting blood pressure checks at community events.	14	17	3	0	0	34

URMC helped address mental health by promoting both: the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health CoResponder Program with local law enforcement departments; and the 9-88 line that connects individuals with suicide prevention and mental health crisis resources.						
	5	12	14	3	0	34
					Answered	34
					Skipped	0

Q17. In your opinion, what is being done well in the community in terms of health and quality of life? (Community Assets/Strengths/Successes)

We have one of the best Rural hospitals in the state. URMC provides great service to our community.

Outdoor spaces to walk and run. The fact that we have a local hospital is invaluable. We are very blessed and fortunate.

This survey. Access to general medical Providers.

Given my specialty not able to assess.

As of now, I will say that what's being done in the community, when referring to health and quality of life, has appreciated (gone up, in means of health and quality) since 2020.

Community engagements events, clubs, etc.

URMC is well equipped for most situations.

The access to medical care is great. We do have several specialties now, that at one time were not offered which is great.

URMC continues to make progress improving services that are needed and continuing to improve access to care.

The local community services like food banks and fundraisers ,held by churches and community centers, help our community.

Our emergency room has made many improvements, people trust the ER more than they did in the past. We have great resources like diabetes education, it's just hard to get people to take advantage of these.

Chest Pain and Stroke Programs.

Adding more specialists for easier access.

Wellness Center | Project Search

Excellent Primary Care Providers.

I think URMC does what it can, but you cannot make people get proper medical care.

Upson Wellness Center.

URMC.

Expansion of URMC's services.

We seem to have more community-wide festivals--parties--which may have a positive influence on quality of life. This obviously has been a focus of the City of Thomaston to the point they now employ basically a party planner in the City offices.		
I think it's wonderful that URMC sees a need in our community and works hard to make changes locally to better serve the people in our community. For example, adding the helipad, STEMI and Cath Lab operations.		
Having a hospital and walk-in clinics available.		
Providing access to healthcare regardless of coverage.		
We are blessed to have a hospital that is growing their service line offerings. We have a lot of new businesses in town. Our Chamber and other entities have lots of family friendly events.		
	Answered	25
	Skipped	9

Q18. What recommendations or suggestions do you have to improve health and quality of life in the community?

Greater Outreach to provide Free Screenings to the community and education on how to combat major medical issues that plaque certain populations of our community.

We need more ways to address mental wellness.

More mental health services.

Somehow educate people regarding benefits of good diet and exercise.

None, as of now.

More programming for youth/teens.

Low-cost options and more information as to health benefits for people.

I think providing some form mental health care would be a great start.

I believe we need better education about health in our schools and in our community.

Making more resources avaliable to patient through their primary care (mental health and financial assistance with medications and insurance information).

Senior Day Care Facilities, Neurology OP Services.

PLEASE do something to help with mental health.

Access to Outpatient Mental Health Providers.

On mental health, most would like a facility, but not here in Upson. They want it out of town.

Better urgent care.

See above.

1) Available, affordable housing is a major quality of life negative in Thomaston. No visible progress in this area. 2) Crime rates continue to grow in Thomaston. Here's a quote from NeighborhoodScout.com website: "With a crime rate of 31 per one thousand residents, Thomaston has one of the highest crime rates in America compared to all communities of all sizes - from the smallest towns to the very largest cities." 3) Our public school system in Thomaston has poor ratings--38/100 rating on GreatSchools.org. Significant disparities of student success when evaluated based on race.

I would love to see more mental health resources available to our community.

Obesity education, increased physical activity before mobility is lost.

Reduce cost and wait times.

Housing is a major issue. We do not have affordable, but nice housing in Thomaston/ Upson County.

	Answered	22
	Skipped	12

Q19. Please answer the following demographic questions.Which one of these categories would you say BEST represents your community affiliation? Please choose only one (1).		
Health Care/Public Health Organization	52%	17
Faith-Based/Cultural Organization	9%	3
Business/Industry Sector	9%	3
Community Member	9%	3
Non-Profit/Social Services/Aging	6%	2
Law Enforcement	6%	2
Education/Youth Services	3%	1
Government	3%	1
Mental/Behavioral Health Organization	0%	0
Other (please specify)	3%	1
Local paper		
	Answered	33
	Skipped	1

Q20. Please tell us if your organization provides services or programs to any of the populations listed below. Feel free to add other populations for which you provide services. Please check all that apply.		
Women and children	81%	25
Teens	77%	24
Individuals over the age of 65	77%	24
Individuals with a chronic disease	65%	20
Adults with mental illness	58%	18
Individuals with limited English proficiency	52%	16
Individuals with an addiction to alcohol or drugs, use tobacco products, marijuana, or illegal drugs	48%	15
Ethnic minorities	48%	15
Homeless	39%	12
Children or teens with mental illness	35%	11
Individuals who are victims of domestic violence; child abuse and neglect; or elder abuse and neglect	32%	10
Other (please specify)	16%	5
All in some manner of speaking.		
Student.		
Hospital		
We distribute URMC and Community Health's information		

Eldercare services		
	Answered	31
	Skipped	3

Q21. Upson Regional Medical Center representatives will be using the information gathered through this survey to develop a community health needs assessment and implementation plan. Please share any other feedback you may have for them below.

I appreciate all URMC does for our community and am willing to help as needed.

Mobility in getting into the hospital is still a concern. The increasing number of severely obese patients is a concern.

APPENDIX 3: PRIORITIES IN GEORGIA 2016–2021 STATE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Georgia 2016–2021 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) is an action-oriented plan that outlines the key health priority areas for the state, and how these priority areas will be addressed to ultimately improve the health of all people in Georgia. The SHIP was created through a statewide, collaborative planning process that engages partners and organizations to develop, support and implement the plan.

The following priorities found in Georgia 2016–2021 SHIP were considered for URMC's CHNA.

Priority Area 1: Access to Care
- Healthcare Workforce
- School-based Health Centers
- Health care Partnerships
- Health care
- Telehealth

Priority Area 2: Maternal and Child Health
- Infant Mortality
- Pediatric Oral Health
- Prevent Maternal Mortality
- Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Congenital Syphilis

Priority Area 3: Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
- Pediatric Asthma
- Cancer Prevention and Control
- Diabetes and Hypertension
- Childhood Obesity
- Tobacco Use Prevention

APPENDIX 4: PRIORITIES IN DISTRICT 4 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) funds, and collaborates with, 18 separate public health districts throughout the state. Each is comprised of one or more of Georgia's 159 counties and county health departments.

Source: https://dph.georgia.gov/public-health-districts

Georgia's District 4 Public Health (D4PH) account for 887,712 people in the state of Georgia and is composed of the following 12 counties located in West Georgia:

- Butts
- Carroll
- Coweta
- Fayette
- Heard
- Henry
- Lamar
- Meriwether
- Pike
- Spalding
- Troup
- Upson

Counties inside District 4 Public Health (GA)
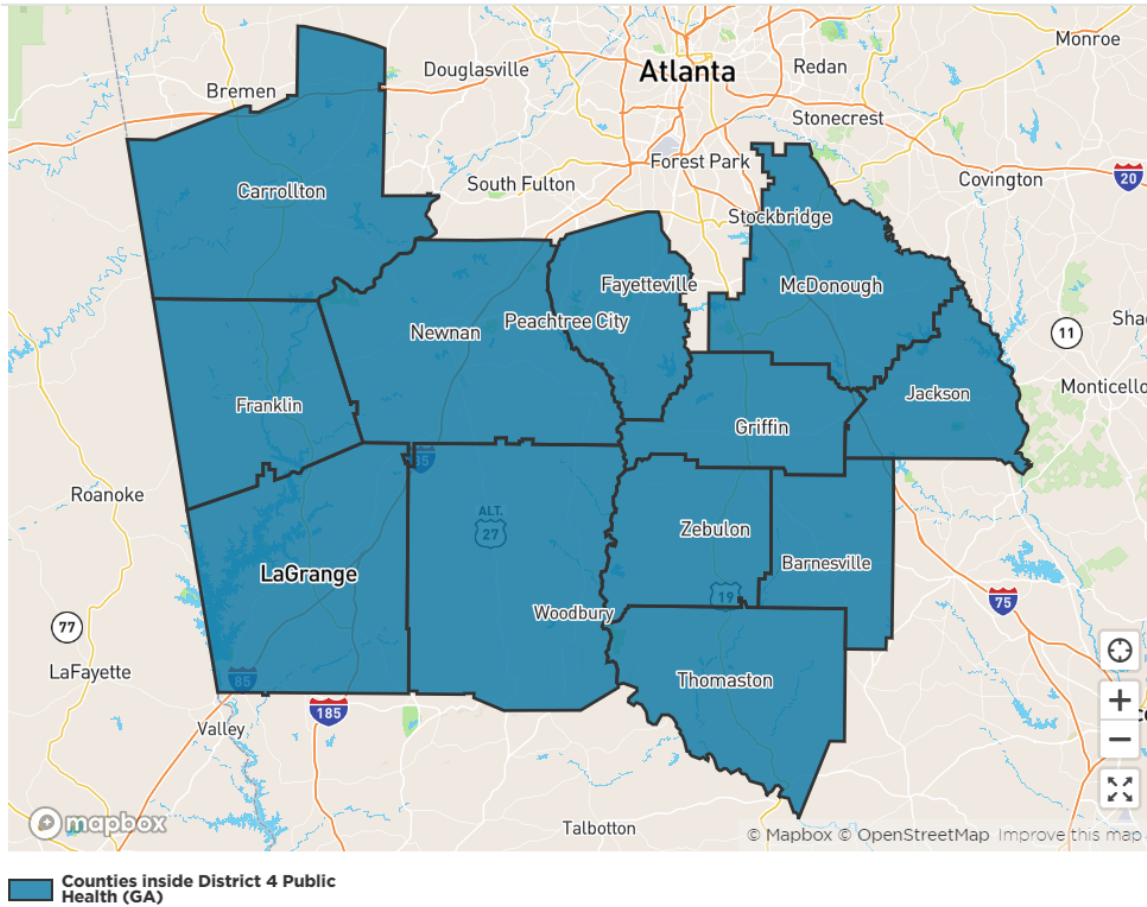
The District 4 Public Health (D4PH) Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health problems in communities throughout the 12-county district.

CHIP purpose is to improve the overall health status and health outcomes of the community.

The CHIP four priority areas for July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028, per a vote on 11-17-2022 are listed below.

- o   Access to Care
- o   Behavioral and Mental Health
- o   Social Determinants of Health
- o   Wellness & Healthy Lifestyles

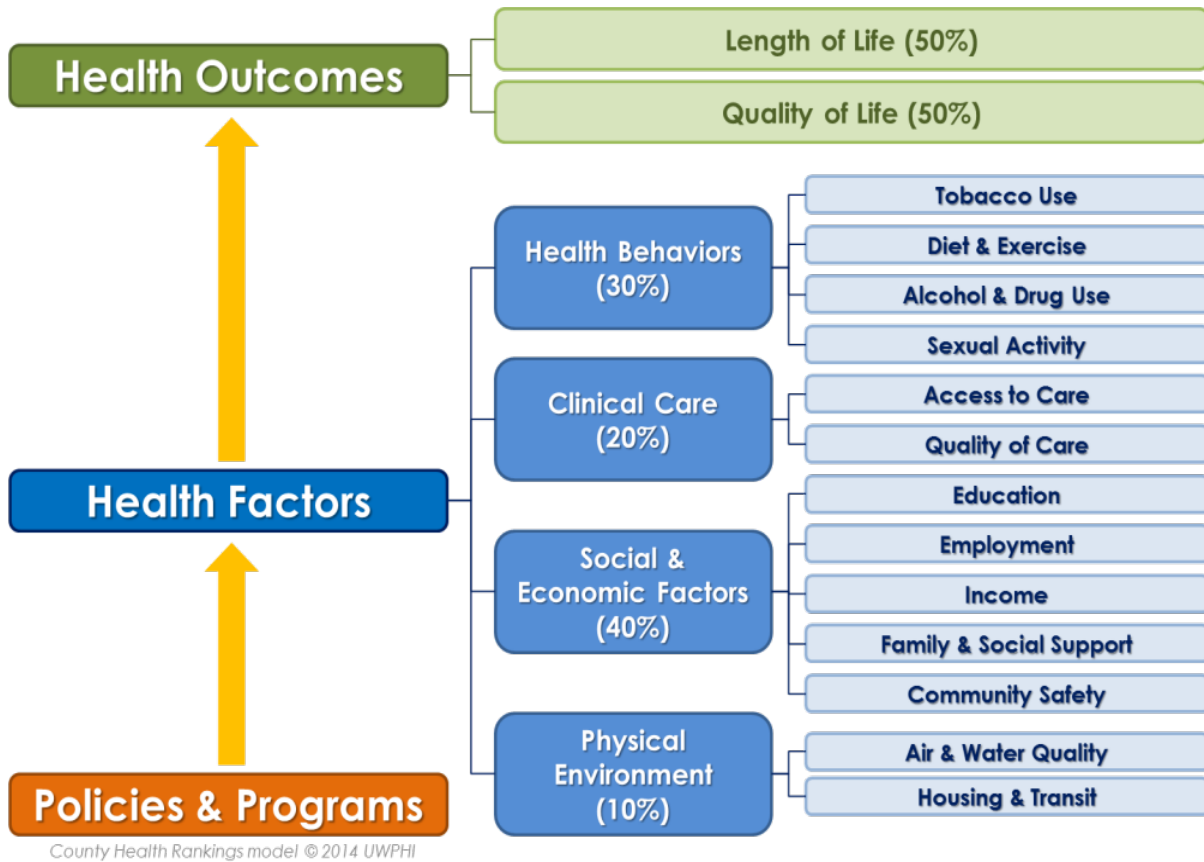## APPENDIX 5: COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS & ROADMAPS

The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Program is a collaborative between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The rankings are determined by the following factors:

Health Outcomes: "The overall rankings in health outcomes represent how healthy counties are within the state. The healthiest county in the state is ranked #1. The ranks are based on two types of measures: how long people live and how healthy people feel while alive."

Health Factors: "The overall rankings in health factors represent what influences the health of a county. They are an estimate of the future health of counties as compared to other counties within a state. The ranks are based on four types of measures: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors."[1]

The rankings are based on a model of population health that emphasizes the many factors that, if improved, can help make communities healthier places to live, learn, work, and play.

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1 www.countyhealthrankings.org

Health Outcomes — Length of Life (50%) | Quality of Life (50%)

Health Factors:
- Health Behaviors (30%): Tobacco Use, Diet & Exercise, Alcohol & Drug Use, Sexual Activity
- Clinical Care (20%): Access to Care, Quality of Care
- Social & Economic Factors (40%): Education, Employment, Income, Family & Social Support, Community Safety
- Physical Environment (10%): Air & Water Quality, Housing & Transit

Policies & Programs

County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPHI

The table below shows how Upson County ranks out of the 159 counties in Georgia. A ranking of one (1) represents the healthiest county.

	Upsons's rank of 159 counties in GA	Upson County's Quartile
Health Outcomes	140	4th
Length of Life	150	4th
Quality of Life	112	3rd
Health Factors	96	3rd
Health Behaviors	116	3rd
Clinical Care	82	3rd
Social & Economic Factors	86	3rd
Physical Environment	118	3rd

Ranking quartiles: 1-40, 41-80, 81-119, 120-159
Source: www.countyhealthrankings.org; 2023
Source: https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings

	Upson County	Trend	Georgia	United States
Health Outcomes				
Length of Life				
Premature Death	13,700	Worse	8,900	8,000
Quality of Life				
Poor or Fair Health	21%		18%	14%
Poor Physical Health Days	4.6		3.6	3.3
Poor Mental Health Days	5.8		4.8	4.8
Low Birthweight	12%		10%	8%
Additional Health Outcomes (not included in overall ranking)				
COVID-19 age-adjusted mortality				
Life expectancy	70.3		76.1	77.6
Premature age-adjusted mortality	760		440	390
Child mortality	70		60	50
Infant mortality			7	6
Frequent physical distress	14%		11%	10%
Frequent mental distress	19%		15%	15%
Diabetes prevalence	13%		11%	10%
HIV prevalence	275		657	382

	Upson County	Trend	Georgia	United States
Health Factors				
Health Behaviors				
Adult smoking	22%		16%	15%
Adult obesity	38%		34%	34%
Food environment index	7.1		6.4	7.7
Physical inactivity	30%		23%	23%
Access to exercise opportunities	70%		74%	84%
Excessive drinking	15%		17%	18%
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	28%	Worse	20%	26%
Sexually transmitted infections	616.9	Worse	629.1	495.5
Teen births	37		20	17
Additional Health Behaviors (not included in overall ranking)				
Food insecurity	14%		11%	10%
Limited access to healthy foods	8%		10%	6%
Drug overdose deaths			18	27
Insufficient sleep	40%		36%	33%

	Upson County	Trend	Georgia	United States
Health Factors				
Clinical Care				
Uninsured	16%	Better	15%	10%
Primary care physicians	1,980:1		1,520:1	1,330:1
Dentists	4,680:1	Worse	1,860:1	1380:1
Mental health providers	2,810:1		560:1	320:1
Preventable hospital stays	2,703	Better	3,076	2,681
Mammography screening	31%		41%	43%
Flu vaccinations	36%	Worse	43%	46%
Additional Clinical Care (not included in overall ranking)				
Uninsured adults	19%	Better	18%	12%
Uninsured children	6%	Better	7%	5%
Other primary care providers	800:1		740:1	760:1

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	Upson County	Trend	Georgia	United States
Health Factors				
Social & Economic Factors				
High school completion	84%		89%	89%
Some college	51%		65%	68%
Unemployment	3.2%		3.0%	3.7%
Children in poverty	29%		17%	16%
Income inequality	6		4.8	4.9
Children in single-parent households	37%		31%	25%
Social associations	10.8		8.9	9.1
Injury deaths	73		73	80
Additional Social & Economic Factors (not included in overall ranking)				
High school graduation	88%		85%	86%
Disconnected youth			8%	7%
Reading scores	2.7		3	3.1
Math scores	2.8		2.9	3
School segregation	0		0.25	0.24
School funding adequacy	($6,902)		($6,772)	$634
Median household income	$48,100		$72,700	$74,800
Living wage	$35.65		$46.15	
Children eligible for free or reduced price lunch				51%
Residential segregation - black/white	38		57	63
Children cost burden	24%		24%	27%
Childcare centers	6		10	7
Homicides	9		9	6
Suicides	17		14	14
Firearm fatalities	17		17	13
Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths	18		15	12

	Upson County	Trend	Georgia	United States
Health Factors				
Physical Environment				
Air pollution - particulate matter	9.7	Better	9.4	7.4
Drinking water violations	No			
Severe housing problems	14%		15%	17%
Driving alone to work	87%		74%	72%
Long commute - driving alone	32%		42%	36%
Additional Physical Environment (not included in overall ranking)				
Traffic volume	29		104	108
Homeownership	65%		65%	65%
Severe housing cost burden	17%		14%	14%
Broadband access	80%		88%	88%

Color Legend	
areas of strength =	
areas to explore =	

APPENDIX 6: BETTER THAN GEORGIA STATE DATA

Appendix 5 contains the "better than" Georgia state data while Appendix 6 reflects the "worse than" Georgia state data. Several data categories were collected and considered but the data found in this appendix include only those categories that Upson County has a more significant difference as compared to Georgia state and/or the United States.

The information presented in this Appendix reflects the framework used by the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, a collaborative between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The data presented in this Appendix uses the following outline for the report.

- Education
- Physical Environment
- Clinical Care and Prevention
- Health Risk Behaviors
- Health Outcomes

Upson County CHNA BETTER than Georgia State Report

Education

This category contains indicators that describe the education system and the educational outcomes of report area populations. Education metrics can be used to describe variation in population access, proficiency, and attainment throughout the education system, from access to pre-kindergarten through advanced degree attainment. These indicators are important because education is closely tied to health outcomes and economic opportunity.

Access - Head Start

Head Start is a program designed to help children from birth to age five who come from families at or below poverty level. The program's goal is to help children become ready for kindergarten while also providing the needed requirements to thrive, including health care and food support.

This indicator reports the number and rate of Head Start program facilities per 10,000 children under age 5. Head Start facility data is acquired from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 2024 Head Start locator. Population data is from the 2020 US Decennial Census. The report area has a total of 3 Head Start programs with a rate of 19.19 per 10,000 children under 5 years old.

Report Area	Children Under Age 5	Total Head Start Programs	Head Start Programs, Rate (Per 10,000 Children Under Age 5)
Upson County, GA	1,563	3	19.19
Georgia	614,218	457	7.44
United States	18,515,341	20,847	11.26

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA - Administration for Children and Families. 2024.

Head Start Programs Rate (Per 10,000 Children Under Age 5)

- Upson County, GA (19.19)
- Georgia (7.44)
- United States (11.26)
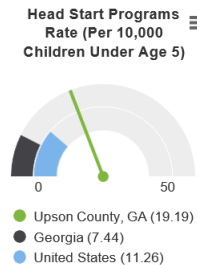
Attainment - High School Graduation Rate

The adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) is a graduation metric that follows a "cohort" of first-time 9th graders in a particular school year, and adjusts this number by adding any students who transfer into the cohort after 9th grade and subtracting any students who transfer out, emigrate to another country, or pass away. The ACGR is the percentage of the students in this cohort who graduate within four years. In the report area, the adjusted cohort graduation rate was 88.1% during the most recently reported school year. Students in the report area performed better than the state, which had an ACGR of 86.9%.

Report Area	Adjusted Student Cohort	Number of Diplomas Issued	Cohort Graduation Rate
Upson County, GA	303	267	88.1%
Georgia	110,210	95,818	86.9%
United States	3,448,175	2,795,415	81.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Education, EDFacts, Additional data analysis by CARES. 2020-21.
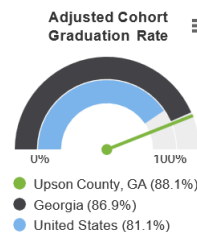
Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

- Upson County, GA (88.1%)
- Georgia (86.9%)
- United States (81.1%)

Physical Environment

A community's health also is affected by the physical environment. A safe, clean environment that provides access to healthy food and recreational opportunities is important to maintaining and improving community health.

Climate & Health - Drought Severity

Drought is defined as a moisture deficit bad enough to have social, environmental or economic effects. The Drought Monitor map identifies areas of drought and labels them by intensity[1]. D1 is the least intense level and D4 the most intense. In the report area, 4.82% of weeks during the 2021-2023 period were spent in drought (any level). An additional 14.32% of weeks were categorized spent in "abnormally dry conditions" (D0) indicating that drought could occur, or that the area is recovering from drought but are not yet back to normal.

Report Area	Time Period	Weeks in D0 (Abnormally Dry), Percent	Weeks in D1 (Moderate Drought), Percent	Weeks in D2 (Severe Drought), Percent	Weeks in D3 (Extreme Drought), Percent	Weeks in D4 (Exceptional Drought), Percent	Weeks in Drought (Any), Percent
Upson County, GA	2021-2023	14.32%	4.30%	0.52%	0.00%	0.00%	**4.82%**
Georgia	2021-2023	16.55%	7.35%	2.77%	0.24%	0.05%	10.42%
United States	2021-2023	16.99%	12.18%	8.92%	5.04%	2.14%	28.28%

Weeks in Drought (Any), Percent
0% — 100%
● Upson County, GA (4.82%)
● Georgia (10.42%)
● United States (28.28%)
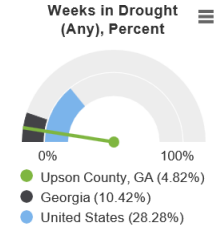
Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Drought Monitor. 2021-2023.

Climate & Health - National Risk Index

The FEMA National Risk Index provides a holistic view of community-level risk nationwide by combining multiple hazards with socioeconomic and built environment factors. It calculates a baseline relative risk measurement for each United States county and census tract for 18 natural hazard types as a composite score from the summation of all 18 hazard types (as shown in the main table) as well as individual scores for each hazard type (as shown in the breakout tables).

This indicator displays the composite FEMA National Risk Index score and the scores of the three components - Expected Annual Loss, Social Vulnerability, and Community Resilience. All the scores are constrained into a scale ranging from 0 (lowest risk) to 100 (highest risk) describing a community's relative position among all other communities. For example, a county's Risk Index score (as shown in the table below) and rating (as displayed in the map inset) is relative to all other counties in the United States. Similarly, a Census tract's Risk Index score and rating is relative to all other Census tracts in the United States.
Note: Use caution when comparing data for custom areas to national averages. View methodology for more information.

Report Area	National Risk Index Score	Expected Annual Loss Score	Social Vulnerability Score	Community Resilience Score
Upson County, GA	**18.87**	16.65	70.78	34.44
Georgia	74.70	73.46	64.87	42.10
United States	84.39	84.47	58.54	57.95

National Risk Index Score
0 — 100
● Upson County, GA (18.87)
● Georgia (74.70)
● United States (84.39)
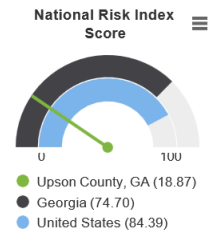
Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
*Data Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Risk Index. 2023.*

Food Environment - Fast Food Restaurants

This indicator reports the number of fast food restaurants per 100,000 population. The prevalence of fast food restaurants provides a measure of both access to healthy food and environmental influences on dietary behaviors. Fast food restaurants are defined as limited-service establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating.
Note: Counts of establishments < 3 are suppressed.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Establishments	Establishments, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,700	22	**79.42**
Georgia	10,711,908	9,479	88.49
United States	331,449,275	265,179	80.01

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2022.

Fast Food Restaurants, Rate per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (79.42)
- Georgia (88.49)
- United States (80.01)
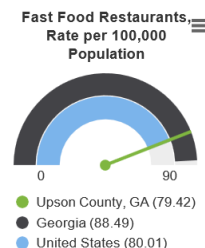
Food Environment - Grocery Stores

Healthy dietary behaviors are supported by access to healthy foods, and Grocery Stores are a major provider of these foods. There are 6 grocery establishments in the report area, a rate of 21.66 per 100,000 population. Grocery stores are defined as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Delicatessen-type establishments are also included. Convenience stores and large general merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Establishments	Establishments, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,700	6	**21.66**
Georgia	10,711,908	1,755	16.38
United States	331,449,275	62,647	18.90

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2022.

Grocery Stores, Rate per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (21.66)
- Georgia (16.38)
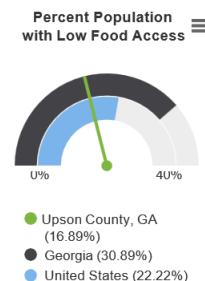- United States (18.90)
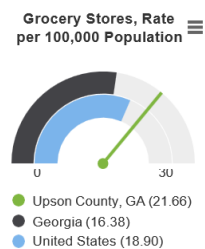
Food Environment - Low Food Access

This indicator reports the percentage of the population with low food access. Low food access is defined as living more than 1 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural) from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store. Data are from the 2019 Food Access Research Atlas dataset. This indicator is relevant because it highlights populations and geographies facing food insecurity.

16.89% of the total population in the report area have low food access. The total population in the report area with low food access is 4,587.

Report Area	Total Population (2010)	Population with Low Food Access	Percent Population with Low Food Access
Upson County, GA	27,153	4,587	**16.89%**
Georgia	9,687,653	2,992,914	30.89%
United States	308,745,538	68,611,398	22.22%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA - Food Access Research Atlas. 2019.

Percent Population with Low Food Access
- Upson County, GA (16.89%)
- Georgia (30.89%)
- United States (22.22%)

50

Clinical Care and Prevention

A lack of access to care presents barriers to good health. Supply of facilities and physicians, the rate of uninsurance, financial hardship, transportation barriers, cultural competency, and coverage limitations affect access.

Rates of morbidity, mortality, and emergency hospitalizations can be reduced if community residents access services such as health screenings, routine tests, and vaccinations. Prevention indicators can call attention to a lack of access or knowledge regarding one or more health issues and can inform program interventions.

Hospitalizations - Opioid Use Disorder (ER Visits)

This indicator reports the rate of emergency department utilization for opioid use disorder among the Medicare population. Figures are reported as age-adjusted to year 2000 standard. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because opioid use disorder is an indicator of poor health.

Report Area	Medicare Beneficiaries	Opioid Use Disorder Emergency Department Utilization, Rate per 100 Beneficiaries
Upson County, GA	6,587	26
Georgia	1,680,680	40
United States	58,652,883	41

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool. 2021.

Opioid Use Disorder Emergency Department Utilization, Rate per 100 Beneficiaries

● Upson County, GA (26)
● Georgia (40)
● United States (41)
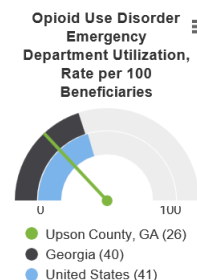
Health Risk Behaviors

Health behaviors such as poor diet, a lack of exercise, and substance abuse contribute to poor health status.

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) - Chlamydia Incidence

This indicator reports the number chlamydia cases occurring in the report area. Rates are presented per 100,000 population. The number of cases is based on laboratory-confirmed diagnoses that occurred between January 1st and December 31st of the latest reporting year. These data are delivered to and analyzed by the CDC as part of the Nationally notifiable STD surveillance system.

Report Area	Total Population	Chlamydia Infections	Chlamydia Infections, Rate per 100,000 Pop.
Upson County, GA	28,086	150	534.07
Georgia	10,912,876	72,662	665.84
United States	333,287,557	1,649,716	495.0

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. 2022.

Chlamydia Infection Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

● Upson County, GA (534.07)
● Georgia (665.84)
● United States (495.0)
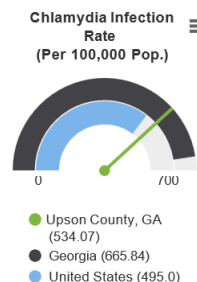
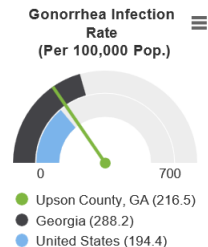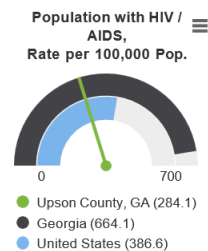## Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) - Gonorrhea Incidence

This indicator reports the number gonorrhea cases occurring in the report area. Rates are presented per 100,000 population.

The number of cases is based on laboratory-confirmed diagnoses that occurred between January 1st and December 31st of the latest reporting year. These data are delivered to and analyzed by the CDC as part of the Nationally notifiable STD surveillance system.

Report Area	Total Population	Gonorrhea Infections	Gonorrhea Infections, Rate per 100,000 Pop.
Upson County, GA	27,720	60	**216.5**
Georgia	10,912,876	31,450	288.2
United States	333,287,557	648,056	194.4

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. 2022.

Gonorrhea Infection Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

- Upson County, GA (216.5)
- Georgia (288.2)
- United States (194.4)

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) - HIV Prevalence

This indicator reports the prevalence of HIV in the report area as a rate per 100,000 population over age 13. The data reflect persons living with diagnosed HIV infection at the end of the latest reporting year, or persons living with infection ever classified as stage 3 (AIDS) at the end of the latest report year.

Report Area	Population Age 13+	Population with HIV / AIDS	Population with HIV / AIDS, Rate per 100,000 Pop.
Upson County, GA	23,583	67	**284.1**
Georgia	9,170,559	60,902	664.1
United States	282,494,087	1,092,023	386.6

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. 2022.

Population with HIV / AIDS, Rate per 100,000 Pop.

- Upson County, GA (284.1)
- Georgia (664.1)
- United States (386.6)

Health Outcomes

Measuring morbidity and mortality rates allows assessing linkages between social determinants of health and outcomes. By comparing, for example, the prevalence of certain chronic diseases to indicators in other categories (e.g., poor diet and exercise) with outcomes (e.g., high rates of obesity and diabetes), various causal relationship may emerge, allowing a better understanding of how certain community health needs may be addressed.
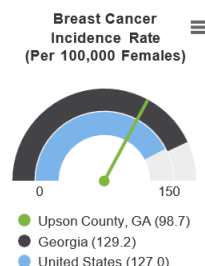
Cancer Incidence - Breast

This indicator reports the age adjusted incidence rate (cases per 100,000 population per year) of females with breast cancer adjusted to 2000 U.S. standard population age groups (Under Age 1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85 and older).

Within the report area, there were 18 new cases of breast cancer. This means there is a rate of 98.7 for every 100,000 females.

Report Area	Estimated Total Population (Female)	New Cases (Annual Average)	Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Females)
Upson County, GA	18,237	18	**98.7**
Georgia	6,241,486	8,064	129.2
United States	196,653,543	249,750	127.0

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

Breast Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Females)

- Upson County, GA (98.7)
- Georgia (129.2)
- United States (127.0)

Cancer Incidence - Prostate

This indicator reports the age adjusted incidence rate (cases per 100,000 population per year) of males with prostate cancer adjusted to 2000 U.S. standard population age groups (Under age 1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85 and older).

Within the report area, there were 23 new cases of prostate cancer. This means there is a rate of 129.9 for every 100,000 males.

Report Area	Estimated Total Population (Male)	New Cases (Annual Average)	Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Males)
Upson County, GA	17,705	23	**129.9**
Georgia	5,724,573	7,711	134.7
United States	192,519,457	212,734	110.5

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

Prostate Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Males)
- Upson County, GA (129.9)
- Georgia (134.7)
- United States (110.5)
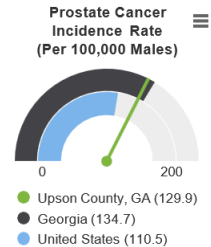
Chronic Conditions - High Cholesterol (Medicare Population)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of the Medicare Fee-for-Service population with hyperlipidemia, which is typically associated with high cholesterol. Data are based upon Medicare administrative enrollment and claims data for Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in the Fee-for-Service program.

Within the report area, there were 1,296 beneficiaries with hyperlipidemia based on administrative claims data in the latest report year. This represents 38.2% of the total Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries.

Report Area	Total Medicare Fee-for-Service Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries with High Cholesterol	Percent with High Cholesterol
Upson County, GA	3,391	1,296	**38.2%**
Georgia	922,696	461,974	50.1%
United States	33,499,472	15,965,312	47.7%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services - Chronic Conditions. 2018.

Percentage of Medicare Beneficiaries with High Cholesterol
- Upson County, GA (38.2%)
- Georgia (50.1%)
- United States (47.7%)
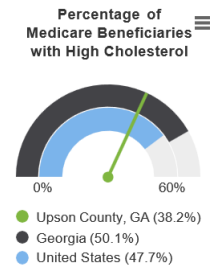
Chronic Conditions - Obesity (Adult Trends)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults aged 20 and older self-report having a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30.0 (obese). Respondents were considered obese if their Body Mass Index (BMI) was 30 or greater. Body mass index (weight [kg]/height [m]2) was derived from self-report of height and weight. Excess weight may indicate an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues.

Within the report area, there are a total of 4,550 adults age 20 and older who self-reported having a BMI greater than 30.0. This represents a 21.7% of the survey population.
Note: In 2021, the CDC updated the methodology used to produce estimates for this indicator. Estimated values for prior years (2004 - 2017) have been updated in this platform to allow comparison across years. Use caution when comparing with saved assessments generated prior to November 10, 2021.

Report Area	Population Age 20+	Adults with BMI > 30.0 (Obese)	Adults with BMI > 30.0 (Obese), Percent
Upson County, GA	20,872	4,550	**21.7%**
Georgia	7,979,399	2,382,343	29.7%
United States	232,757,930	70,168,831	30.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2021.

Percentage of Adults Obese (BMI > 30.0), 2021
- Upson County, GA (21.7%)
- Georgia (29.7%)
- United States (30.1%)
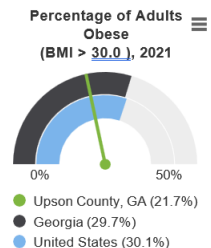
APPENDIX 7: WORSE THAN GEORGIA STATE DATA

Appendix 6 contains the "better than" Georgia state data while Appendix 7 reflects the "worse than" Georgia state data. Several data categories were collected and considered but the data found in this appendix include only those categories that Upson County has a more significant difference as compared to Georgia state and/or the United States.

The information presented in this Appendix reflects the framework used by the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, a collaborative between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The data presented in this Appendix uses the following outline for the report.

- Demographics
- Income and Economics
- Education
- Housing and Families
- Other Social and Economic Factors
- Physical Environment
- Clinical Care and Prevention
- Health Risk Behaviors
- Health Outcomes
- Access to Healthcare

# Upson County CHNA WORSE than Georgia State Report

Demographics

Current population demographics and changes in demographic composition over time play a determining role in the types of health and social services needed by communities.

Population with Any Disability

This indicator reports the percentage of the total civilian non-institutionalized population with a disability. The report area has a total population of 27,167 for whom disability status has been determined, of which 4,499 or 16.56% have any disability. This indicator is relevant because disabled individuals may require targeted services and outreach by providers.

Report Area	Total Population (For Whom Disability Status Is Determined)	Population with a Disability	Population with a Disability, Percent
Upson County, GA	27,167	4,499	**16.56%**
Georgia	10,531,900	1,336,645	12.69%
United States	326,147,510	41,941,456	12.86%

Population with a Disability, Percent

● Upson County, GA (16.56%)
● Georgia (12.69%)
● United States (12.86%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.
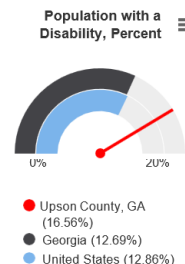
Income and Economics

Economic and social insecurity often are associated with poor health. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of educational achievement affect access to care and a community's ability to engage in healthy behaviors. Without a network of support and a safe community, families cannot thrive. Ensuring access to social and economic resources provides a foundation for a healthy community.

Employment - Labor Force Participation Rate

The table below displays the labor force participation rate for the report area. According to the 2018 – 2022 American Community Survey, of the 22,142 working age population, 11,715 are included in the labor force. The labor force participation rate is 52.91%.

Report Area	Total Population Age 16+	Labor Force	Labor Force Participation Rate
Upson County, GA	22,142	11,715	**52.91%**
Georgia	8,504,181	5,406,476	63.57%
United States	266,411,973	169,093,585	63.47%

Labor Force Participation Rate

● Upson County, GA (52.91%)
● Georgia (63.57%)
● United States (63.47%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.
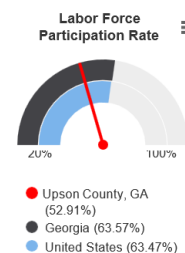
Income - Median Household Income

This indicator reports median household income based on the latest 5-year American Community Survey estimates. This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income. There are 10,412 households in the report area, with an average income of $69,603 and a median income of $48,740.

Report Area	Total Households	Average Household Income	Median Household Income
Upson County, GA	10,412	$69,603	**$48,740**
Georgia	3,946,490	$99,345	$71,355
United States	125,736,353	$105,833	$75,149

Median Household Income

● Upson County, GA ($48,740)
● Georgia ($71,355)
● United States ($75,149)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.
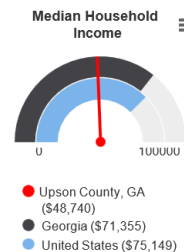
Income - Per Capita Income

The per capita income for the report area is $27,905. This includes all reported income from wages and salaries as well as income from self-employment, interest or dividends, public assistance, retirement, and other sources. The per capita income in this report area is the average (mean) income computed for every man, woman, and child in the specified area.

Report Area	Total Population	Total Income ($)	Per Capita Income ($)
Upson County, GA	27,638	$771,254,100	**$27,905**
Georgia	10,722,325	$405,686,281,800	$37,835
United States	331,097,593	$13,661,572,219,300	$41,261

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Per Capita Income ($)
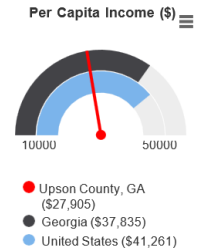
- Upson County, GA ($27,905)
- Georgia ($37,835)
- United States ($41,261)

Poverty - Population Below 100% FPL

Poverty is considered a *key driver* of health status.

Within the report area 22.44% or 6,007 individuals for whom poverty status is determined are living in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This indicator is relevant because poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.
Note: The total population measurements for poverty reports are lower than population totals for some other indicators, as poverty data collection does not include people in group quarters. See "Show more details" for more information.

Report Area	Total Population	Population in Poverty	Population in Poverty, Percent
Upson County, GA	26,765	6,007	**22.44%**
Georgia	10,462,430	1,415,573	13.53%
United States	323,275,448	40,521,584	12.53%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Population in Poverty, Percent

- Upson County, GA (22.44%)
- Georgia (13.53%)
- United States (12.53%)
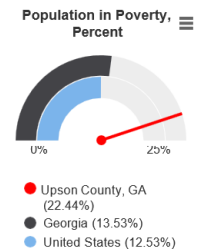
Poverty - Children Below 100% FPL

In the report area 30.49% or 1,792 children aged 0-17 are living in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This indicator is relevant because poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

Report Area	Total Population	Population < Age 18	Population < Age 18 in Poverty	Population < Age 18 in Poverty, Percent
Upson County, GA	26,765	5,877	1,792	**30.49%**
Georgia	10,462,430	2,477,290	467,018	18.85%
United States	323,275,448	72,035,358	12,002,351	16.66%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Population < Age 18 in Poverty, Percent

- Upson County, GA (30.49%)
- Georgia (18.85%)
- United States (16.66%)
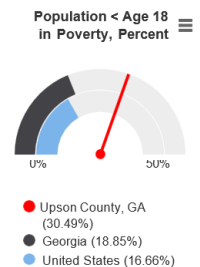
Poverty - Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch

Free or reduced price lunches are served to qualifying students in families with income between under 185 percent (reduced price) or under 130 percent (free lunch) of the US federal poverty threshold as part of the federal National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

Out of 4,060 total public school students in the report area, 3,453 were eligible for the free or reduced price lunch program in the latest report year. This represents 85.0% of public school students, which is higher than the state average of 59.6%.
Note: States with more than 80% records "not reported" are suppressed for all geographic areas, including hospital service area, census tract, zip code, school district, county, state, etc.

Report Area	Total Students	Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch	Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch, Percent
Upson County, GA	4,060	3,453	**85.0%**
Georgia	1,750,972	1,043,080	59.6%
United States	46,791,755	24,677,523	53.5%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics. NCES - Common Core of Data. 2022-2023.
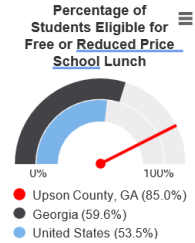
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
- Upson County, GA (85.0%)
- Georgia (59.6%)
- United States (53.5%)

Education

This category contains indicators that describe the education system and the educational outcomes of report area populations. Education metrics can be used to describe variation in population access, proficiency, and attainment throughout the education system, from access to pre-kindergarten through advanced degree attainment. These indicators are important because education is closely tied to health outcomes and economic opportunity.

Access - Childcare Centers

This indicator reports the number of childcare centers per 1,000 population under 5 years old. Data are acquired from the 2010-2022 Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data (HIFLD) and are used in the 2024 County Health Rankings.

Within the report area there is a total of 12 childcare centers or a rate of 6.00 childcare centers per 1,000 population under 5 years old, which is less than the state rate of 14.33.

Report Area	Population under 5	Total Childcare Centers	Rate of Childcare Centers per 1,000 Population Age < 5
Upson County, GA	2,000	12	**6.00**
Georgia	648,718	8,072	14.33
United States	19,515,983	132,071	8.14

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data. 2010-2022.

Childcare Centers Rate per 1,000 Pop. Age < 5
- Upson County, GA (6.00)
- Georgia (14.33)
- United States (8.14)
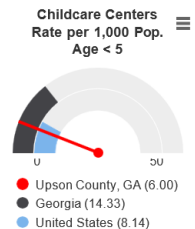
Attainment - Associate's Level Degree or Higher

25.29% of the population aged 25 and older, or 4,819 have obtained an Associate's level degree or higher. This indicator is relevant because educational attainment has been linked to positive health outcomes.

Report Area	Total Population Age 25+	Population Age 25+ with Associate's Degree or Higher	Percent Population Age 25+ with Associate's Degree or Higher
Upson County, GA	19,052	4,819	**25.29%**
Georgia	35,931,967	15,058,093	41.91%
United States	226,600,992	97,567,079	43.06%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
*Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.*

Percent Population Age 25+ with Associate's Degree or Higher
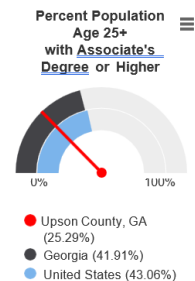- Upson County, GA (25.29%)
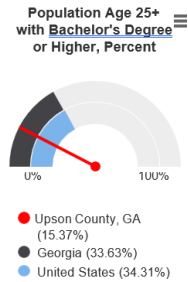- Georgia (41.91%)
- United States (43.06%)

Attainment - Bachelor's Degree or Higher

15.37% of the population aged 25 and older, or 2,929 have obtained a Bachelor's level degree or higher. This indicator is relevant because educational attainment has been linked to positive health outcomes.

Report Area	Total Population Age 25+	Population Age 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Population Age 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Percent
Upson County, GA	19,052	2,929	**15.37%**
Georgia	7,158,620	2,407,707	33.63%
United States	226,600,992	77,751,347	34.31%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Population Age 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Percent

● Upson County, GA (15.37%)
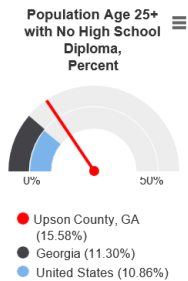● Georgia (33.63%)
● United States (34.31%)

Attainment - No High School Diploma

Within the report area there are 2,969 persons aged 25 and older without a high school diploma (or equivalency) or higher. This represents 15.58% of the total population aged 25 and older. This indicator is relevant because educational attainment is linked to positive health outcomes (Freudenberg & Ruglis, 2007).

Report Area	Total Population Age 25+	Population Age 25+ with No High School Diploma	Population Age 25+ with No High School Diploma, Percent
Upson County, GA	19,052	2,969	**15.58%**
Georgia	7,158,620	808,639	11.30%
United States	226,600,992	24,599,698	10.86%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Population Age 25+ with No High School Diploma, Percent

● Upson County, GA (15.58%)
● Georgia (11.30%)
● United States (10.86%)

Housing and Families

This category contains indicators that describe the structure of housing and families, and the condition and quality of housing units and residential neighborhoods. These indicators are important because housing issues like overcrowding and affordability have been linked to multiple health outcomes, including infectious disease, injuries, and mental disorders. Furthermore, housing metrics like home- ownership rates and housing prices are key for economic analysis.

Household Structure - Single-Parent Households

This indicator reports the percentage of children who live in households where only one parent is present.

Report Area	Population Age 0-17	Children in Single-Parent Households	Percentage of Children in Single-Parent Households
Upson County, GA	6,279	2,299	**36.61%**
Georgia	2,507,638	766,556	30.57%
United States	73,025,646	18,206,449	24.93%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage of children that live in a household headed by single parent

● Upson County, GA (36.61%)
● Georgia (30.57%)
● United States (24.93%)

Household Structure - Older Adults Living Alone

This indicator reports the percentage of households occupied by a single older adult (age 65+). This indicator is important because older adults who live alone are vulnerable populations who may have challenges accessing basic needs, including health needs.

Report Area	Total Occupied Households	Total Households with Seniors (Age 65+)	Households with Seniors Living Alone	Percentage of Total Households	Percentage of Senior Households
Upson County, GA	10,412	3,539	1,550	14.89%	**43.80%**
Georgia	3,946,490	1,100,720	389,278	9.86%	35.37%
United States	125,736,353	38,775,247	14,433,125	11.48%	37.22%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
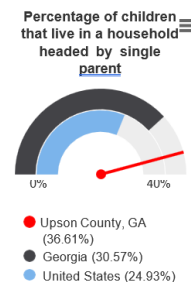*Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.*

Other Social & Economic Factors

Economic and social insecurity often are associated with poor health. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of educational achievement affect access to care and a community's ability to engage in healthy behaviors. Without a network of support and a safe community, families cannot thrive. Ensuring access to social and economic resources provides a foundation for a healthy community.

Area Deprivation Index

This indicator reports the average (population weighted) Area Deprivation Index (ADI) for the selected area. The Area Deprivation Index ranks neighborhoods and communities relative to all neighborhoods across the nation (National Percentile) or relative to other neighborhoods within just one state (State Percentile). The ADI is calculated based on 17 measures related to four primary domains (Education; Income & Employment; Housing; and Household Characteristics). The overall scores are measured on a scale of 1 to 100 where 1 indicates the lowest level of deprivation (least disadvantaged) and 100 is the highest level of deprivation (most disadvantaged).

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	State Percentile	National Percentile
Upson County, GA	27,700	85	**82**
Georgia	10,711,908	50	54
United States	331,129,211	51	46

Area Deprivation Index Score (National Percentile)
- Upson County, GA (82)
- Georgia (54)
- United States (46)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, Neighborhood Atlas. 2022.
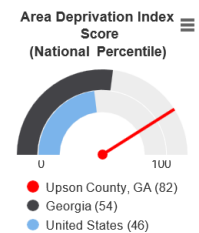
Food Insecurity Rate

This indicator reports the estimated percentage of the population that experienced food insecurity at some point during the report year. Food insecurity is the household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food.

Report Area	Total Population	Food Insecure Population, Total	Food Insecurity Rate
Upson County, GA	27,644	4,810	**17.4%**
Georgia	10,723,704	1,371,420	12.79%
United States	331,148,169	42,657,200	12.88%

Percentage of Total Population with Food Insecurity
- Upson County, GA (17.4%)
- Georgia (12.79%)
- United States (12.88%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Feeding America. 2022.
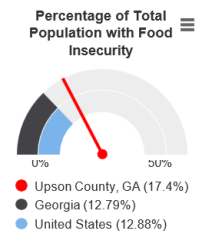
Households with No Motor Vehicle

This indicator reports the number and percentage of households with no motor vehicle based on the latest 5-year American Community Survey estimates. Of the 10,412 total households in the report area, 1,243 or 11.94% are without a motor vehicle.

| Report Area	Total Occupied Households	Households with No Motor Vehicle	Households with No Motor Vehicle, Percent
Upson County, GA	10,412	1,243	**11.94%**
Georgia	3,946,490	236,816	6.00%
United States	125,736,353	10,474,870	8.33%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage of Households with No Motor Vehicle

- Upson County, GA (11.94%)
- Georgia (6.00%)
- United States (8.33%)
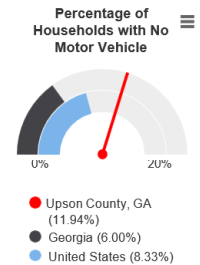
Households with No Computer

This indicator reports the percentage of households who don't own or use any types of computers, including desktop or laptop, smartphone, tablet or other portable wireless computer, and some other type of computer, based on the 2018-2022 American Community Survey estimates. Of the 10,412 total households in the report area, 1,079 or 10.36% are without a computer.
Note: The ACS 2018-22 questions about internet/computer usage are not asked for the group quarters population, so data do not include people living in housing such as dorms, prisons, nursing homes, etc.

Report Area	Total Households	Households with No Computer	Households with No Computer, Percent
Upson County, GA	10,412	1,079	**10.36%**
Georgia	3,946,490	231,015	5.85%
United States	125,736,353	7,603,749	6.05%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage of Households with No Computer

- Upson County, GA (10.36%)
- Georgia (5.85%)
- United States (6.05%)
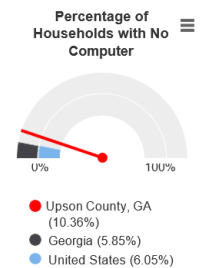
## Insurance - Insured Population and Provider Type

Health insurance coverage is considered a *key driver* of health status.

In the report area 23,833 total civilians have some form of health insurance coverage. Of those, 63.89% have private insurance, e.g. insurance purchased through an employer or union, through direct purchase (e.g. on a health exchange) or have Tricare or other military health insurance. In addition, 47.93% have a form of public health insurance. Public health coverage includes the federal programs Medicare, Medicaid, and VA Health Care (provided through the Department of Veterans Affairs), as well as the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This indicator is relevant because insurance provides access to healthcare, including regular primary care, specialty care, and other health services that prevent poor health status.

Note: Percentages may exceed 100% as individuals may have more than one form of health insurance.

Report Area	Total Population (For Whom Insurance Status is Determined)	Population with Health Insurance	Percentage with Private Insurance	Percentage with Public Insurance
Upson County, GA	27,167	23,833	**63.89%**	47.93%
Georgia	10,531,900	9,170,520	75.90%	36.52%
United States	326,147,510	297,832,418	74.02%	39.28%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percentage with Private Insurance

- Upson County, GA (63.89%)
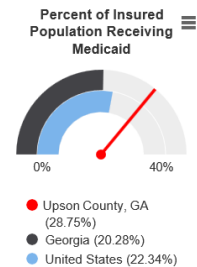- Georgia (75.90%)
- United States (74.02%)
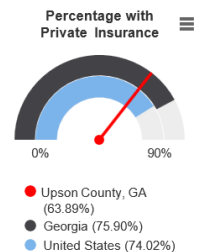
Insurance - Population Receiving Medicaid

This indicator reports the percentage of the population with insurance enrolled in Medicaid (or other means-tested public health insurance). This indicator is relevant because it assesses vulnerable populations which are more likely to have multiple health access, health status, and social support needs; when combined with poverty data, providers can use this measure to identify gaps in eligibility and enrollment.

Report Area	Total Population (For Whom Insurance Status is Determined)	Population with Any Health Insurance	Population Receiving Medicaid	Percent of Insured Population Receiving Medicaid
Upson County, GA	27,167	23,833	6,851	**28.75%**
Georgia	10,531,900	9,170,520	1,859,799	20.28%
United States	326,147,510	297,832,418	66,532,218	22.34%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Percent of Insured Population Receiving Medicaid

- Upson County, GA (28.75%)
- Georgia (20.28%)
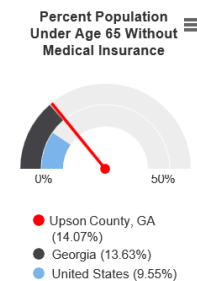- United States (22.34%)

Insurance - Uninsured Population (Annual Trends)

The lack of health insurance is considered a *key driver* of health status.

This indicator reports the percentage of adults under age 65 without health insurance coverage. This indicator is relevant because lack of insurance is a primary barrier to healthcare access including regular primary care, specialty care, and other health services that contributes to poor health status.

Report Area	Total Population Age 0-64	Pop. Age 0-64 w/ Insurance	Pop. Age 0-64 w/ Insurance, Percent	Pop. Age 0-64 w/o Insurance	Pop. Age 0-64 w/o Insurance, Percent
Upson County, GA	22,224	19,098	85.93%	3,126	**14.07%**
Georgia	8,957,948	7,736,737	86.37%	1,221,211	13.63%
United States	269,100,387	243,405,665	90.45%	25,694,722	9.55%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. 2022.

Percent Population Under Age 65 Without Medical Insurance

- Upson County, GA (14.07%)
- Georgia (13.63%)
- United States (9.55%)

SNAP Benefits - Population Receiving SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, is a federal program that provides nutrition benefits to low-income individuals and families that are used at stores to purchase food. This indicator reports the average percentage of the population receiving SNAP benefits during the month of July during the most recent report year.

Report Area	Total Population	Population Receiving SNAP Benefits	Population Receiving SNAP Benefits, Percent
Upson County, GA	27,700	6,665	**24.1%**
Georgia	10,711,908	1,590,273	14.9%
United States	331,449,281	41,030,381	12.4%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. 2021.

Percentage of Total Population Receiving SNAP Benefits

- Upson County, GA (24.1%)
- Georgia (14.9%)
- United States (12.4%)
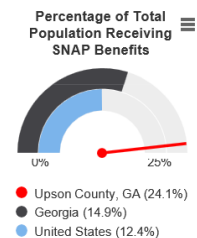
Teen Births

This indicator reports the seven-year average number of births per 1,000 female population age 15-19. Data were from the National Center for Health Statistics - Natality files (2016-2022) and are used for the 2024 County Health Rankings.

In the report area, of the 5,548 total female population age 15-19, the teen birth rate is 37.1 per 1,000, which is greater than the state's teen birth rate of 19.6.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 10 teen births in the time frame.

Report Area	Female Population Age 15-19	Teen Births, Rate per 1,000 Female Population Age 15-19
Upson County, GA	5,548	**37.1**
Georgia	2,522,349	19.6
United States	72,648,322	16.6

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via County Health Rankings. 2016-2022.

Teen Birth Rate Per 1,000 Female Population, Ages 15-19
- Upson County, GA (37.1)
- Georgia (19.6)
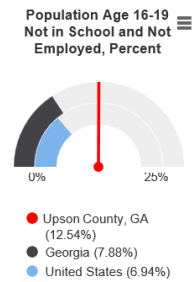- United States (16.6)
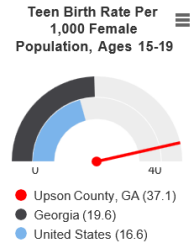
Young People Not in School and Not Working

This indicator reports the percentage of youth age 16-19 who are not currently enrolled in school and who are not employed. The report area has a total population of 1,388 between the ages, of which 174 are not in school and not employed.

Report Area	Population Age 16-19	Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed	Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed, Percent
Upson County, GA	1,388	174	**12.54%**
Georgia	602,479	47,447	7.88%
United States	17,571,402	1,220,306	6.94%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Population Age 16-19 Not in School and Not Employed, Percent
- Upson County, GA (12.54%)
- Georgia (7.88%)
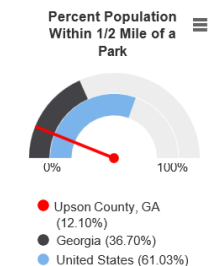- United States (6.94%)

Physical Environment

A community's health also is affected by the physical environment. A safe, clean environment that provides access to healthy food and recreational opportunities is important to maintaining and improving community health.

Community Design - Park Access (CDC)

This indicator reports the percentage of population living within 1/2 mile of a park. This indicator is relevant because access to outdoor recreation encourages physical activity and other healthy behaviors.

Report Area	Total Population, 2016-20	Population Within 1/2 Mile of a Park	Percent Within 1/2 Mile of a Park
Upson County, GA	26,329	3,185	**12.10%**
Georgia	10,516,579	3,859,584	36.70%
United States	326,569,308	199,317,503	61.03%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. 2020.

Percent Population Within 1/2 Mile of a Park
- Upson County, GA (12.10%)
- Georgia (36.70%)
- United States (61.03%)

Clinical Care and Prevention

A lack of access to care presents barriers to good health. Supply of facilities and physicians, the rate of uninsurance, financial hardship, transportation barriers, cultural competency, and coverage limitations affect access.

Rates of morbidity, mortality, and emergency hospitalizations can be reduced if community residents access services such as health screenings, routine tests, and vaccinations. Prevention indicators can call attention to a lack of access or knowledge regarding one or more health issues and can inform program interventions.

Cancer Screening - Mammogram (Medicare)

This indicator reports the percentage of female Medicare beneficiaries age 35 and older who had a mammogram in most recent reporting year. The American Cancer Society recommends that women age 45 to 54 should get a mammogram every year, and women age 55 and older should get a mammogram every other year. In the latest reporting period there were 3,502 female Medicare beneficiaries in the report area, and 25% of female beneficiaries age 35 or older had a mammogram in the past year. The rate in the report area was lower than the state rate of 33% during the same time period.

Report Area	Female Medicare Beneficiaries	Female Beneficiaries with Recent Mammogram, Percent
Upson County, GA	3,502	**25%**
Georgia	914,121	33%
United States	31,591,876	33%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, *Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool*. 2021.

Percentage of Female Medicare Beneficiaries Age 35+ with Recent Mammogram

- Upson County, GA (25%)
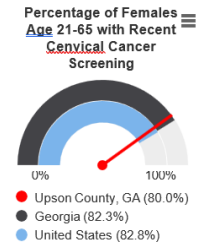- Georgia (33%)
- United States (33%)
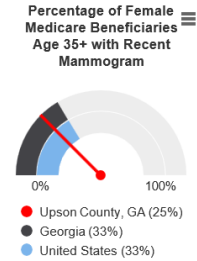
Cancer Screening - Cervical Cancer Screening

This indicator reports the percentage of females age 21–65 years who report having had recommended cervical cancer screening test.

Within the report area there are 80.0% women age 21-65 who have had recommended cervical cancer screening test of the total female population age 21-65.

Report Area	Total Population	Females Age 21-65 with Cervical Cancer Screening Test (Crude)	Females Age 21-65 with Cervical Cancer Screening Test (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	26,527	**80.0%**	80.8%
Georgia	10,710,017	82.3%	82.8%
United States	331,449,281	82.8%	83.7%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Accessed via the *PLACES Data Portal*. 2020.

Percentage of Females Age 21-65 with Recent Cervical Cancer Screening

- Upson County, GA (80.0%)
- Georgia (82.3%)
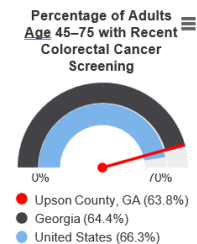- United States (82.8%)

Cancer Screening - Sigmoidoscopy or Colonoscopy

This indicator reports the percentage of population age 45–75 years who report having had 1) a fecal occult blood test (FOBT) within the past year, 2) a FIT-DNA test within the previous 3 years, 3) a sigmoidoscopy within the previous 5 years, 4) a sigmoidoscopy within the previous 10 years with a FIT in the past year, 5) a colonoscopy within the previous 10 years, or 6) a CT colonography (virtual colonoscopy) within the previous 5 years.

Within the report area there are 63.8% population age 45–75 who have received a recommended colorectal cancer screening test within the appropriate time interval of the total population age 45-75.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 45-75 with Adequate Colorectal Cancer Screening (Crude)	Adults Age 45-75 with Adequate Colorectal Cancer Screening (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**63.8%**	58.5%
Georgia	10,912,876	64.4%	60.5%
United States	333,287,557	66.3%	54.1%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Accessed via the *PLACES Data Portal*. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 45–75 with Recent Colorectal Cancer Screening

- Upson County, GA (63.8%)
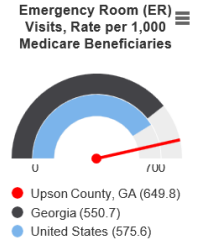- Georgia (64.4%)
- United States (66.3%)

65

Hospitalizations - Emergency Room Visits

This indicator reports the number and rate of emergency room (ER) visits among Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older. This indicator is relevant because emergency room visits are "high intensity" services that can burden on both health care systems and patients. High rates of emergency room visits "may indicate poor care management, inadequate access to care or poor patient choices, resulting in ED visits that could be prevented"[1].

In the latest reporting period there were 6,350 Medicare beneficiaries in the report area. Beneficiaries had 1,616 emergency room visits, and the rate of visits per 1,000 beneficiaries was 649.8. The ER visit rate in the report area was higher than the state rate of 550.7 during the same time period.

Report Area	Medicare Part A and B Beneficiaries	Emergency Room Visits	Emergency Room Visits, Rate (per 1,000 Beneficiaries)
Upson County, GA	6,350	1,616	**649.8**
Georgia	1,703,148	426,615	550.7
United States	59,319,668	17,059,786	575.6

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - Geographic Variation Public Use File . 2022.

Emergency Room (ER) Visits, Rate per 1,000 Medicare Beneficiaries

- Upson County, GA (649.8)
- Georgia (550.7)
- United States (575.6)

Prevention - Annual Wellness Exam (Medicare)

This indicator reports the percentage of Medicare beneficiaries who had one or more annual wellness visits in most recent reporting year. Annual wellness visits are visits to develop or update a personalized prevention plan and perform a health risk assessment. These services are fully covered once every 12 months. In the latest reporting period there were 6,587 Medicare beneficiaries in the report area, and 26% had an annual wellness visit. The rate in the report area was lower than the state rate of 40% during the same time period.

Report Area	Medicare Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries with Annual Wellness Visit, Percent
Upson County, GA	6,587	**26%**
Georgia	1,680,680	40%
United States	58,652,883	36%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool. 2021.

Percentage of Medicare Beneficiaries with an Annual Wellness Visit

- Upson County, GA (26%)
- Georgia (40%)
- United States (36%)
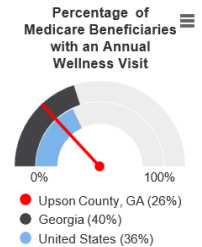
Prevention - Dental Care Utilization

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report having been to the dentist or dental clinic in the previous year.

Within the report area there are 53.0% adults age 18+ who went to the dentist in the past year of the total population age 18+.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with Recent Dental Visit (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with Recent Dental Visit (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**53.0%**	52.8%
Georgia	10,912,876	59.2%	58.8%
United States	333,287,557	63.9%	63.4%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022..

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Dental Visit in Past 1 Year

- Upson County, GA (53.0%)
- Georgia (59.2%)
- United States (63.9%)
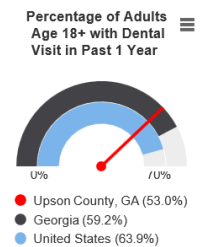
Prevention - Diabetes Management (Hemoglobin A1c Test)

This indicator reports the percentage of diabetic Medicare patients who have had a hemoglobin A1c (hA1c) test, a blood test which measures blood sugar levels, administered by a health care professional in the past year. Data is obtained from the Dartmouth Atlas Data - Selected Primary Care Access and Quality Measures (2008-2019). This indicator is relevant because engaging in preventive behaviors allows for early detection and treatment of health problems. This indicator can also highlight a lack of access to preventive care, a lack of health knowledge, insufficient provider outreach, and/or social barriers preventing utilization of services.

As of year 2019, 276 or 82.39% Medicare enrollees with diabetes have had an annual exam out of 335 Medicare enrollees with diabetes in the report area.

Report Area	Medicare Enrollees with Diabetes	Medicare Enrollees with Diabetes with Annual Exam	Medicare Enrollees with Diabetes with Annual Exam, Percent
Upson County, GA	335	276	82.39%
Georgia	101,932	89,176	87.49%
United States	6,792,740	5,945,988	87.53%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Dartmouth College Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice, Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care. 2019.

Percentage of Medicare Enrollees with Diabetes with Annual A1C Test

- Upson County, GA (82.39%)
- Georgia (87.49%)
- United States (87.53%)

Health Risk Behaviors

Health behaviors such as poor diet, a lack of exercise, and substance abuse contribute to poor health status.

Alcohol & Tobacco - Current Smokers
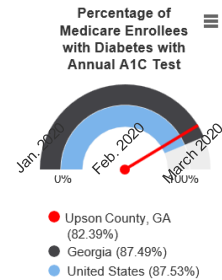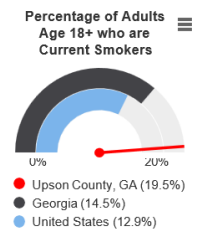
This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoke every day or some days.

Within the report area there are 19.5% adults age 18+ who have smoked and currently smoke of the total population age 18+.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ as Current Smokers (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ as Current Smokers (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	19.5%	19.8%
Georgia	10,912,876	14.5%	14.7%
United States	333,287,557	12.9%	13.2%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022 .

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ who are Current Smokers

- Upson County, GA (19.5%)
- Georgia (14.5%)
- United States (12.9%)

Physical Inactivity

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 18 and older who answered "no" to the following question: "During the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?"

Within the report area there are 32.6% adults age 18+ who have no leisure-time physical activity last month of the total population age 18+.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with No Leisure-Time Physical Activity (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with No Leisure-Time Physical Activity (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**32.6%**	30.7%
Georgia	10,912,876	25.4%	25.1%
United States	333,287,557	23.7%	23.0%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022 .
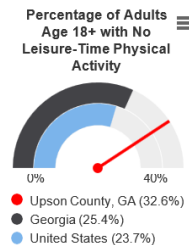
Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with No Leisure-Time Physical Activity ≡

● Upson County, GA (32.6%)
● Georgia (25.4%)
● United States (23.7%)

Health Outcomes

Measuring morbidity and mortality rates allows assessing linkages between social determinants of health and outcomes. By comparing, for example, the prevalence of certain chronic diseases to indicators in other categories (e.g., poor diet and exercise) with outcomes (e.g., high rates of obesity and diabetes), various causal relationship may emerge, allowing a better understanding of how certain community health needs may be addressed.
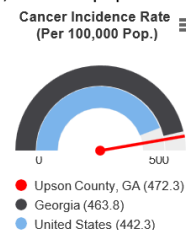
Cancer Incidence - All Sites

This indicator reports the age adjusted incidence rate (cases per 100,000 population per year) of cancer (all sites) adjusted to 2000 U.S. standard population age groups (Under age 1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85 and older).

Within the report area, there were 172 new cases of cancer reported. This means there is a rate of 472.3 for every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Estimated Total Population	New Cases (Annual Average)	Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	36,417	172	**472.3**
Georgia	11,719,275	54,354	463.8
United States	383,976,486	1,698,328	442.3

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.) ≡

● Upson County, GA (472.3)
● Georgia (463.8)
● United States (442.3)

Cancer Incidence - Colon and Rectum

This indicator reports the age adjusted incidence rate (cases per 100,000 population per year) of colon and rectum cancer adjusted to 2000 U.S. standard population age groups (Under age 1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85 and older).

Within the report area, there were 16 new cases of colon and rectum cancer. This means there is a rate of 46.1 for every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Estimated Total Population	New Cases (Annual Average)	Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	34,707	16	**46.1**
Georgia	11,567,430	4,546	39.3
United States	378,139,726	138,021	36.5

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

Colon and Rectum Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.) ≡
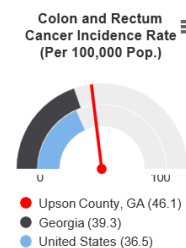

● Upson County, GA (46.1)
● Georgia (39.3)
● United States (36.5)

Cancer Incidence - Lung

This indicator reports the age adjusted incidence rate (cases per 100,000 population per year) of lung cancer adjusted to 2000 U.S. standard population age groups (Under age 1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85 and older).

Within the report area, there were 31 new cases of lung cancer. This means there is a rate of 77.5 for every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Estimated Total Population	New Cases (Annual Average)	Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	39,999	31	**77.5**
Georgia	11,891,191	6,885	57.9
United States	398,716,666	215,307	54.0

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: State Cancer Profiles. 2016-20.

Lung Cancer Incidence Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)
- Upson County, GA (77.5)
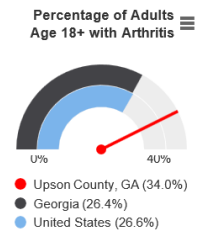- Georgia (57.9)
- United States (54.0)
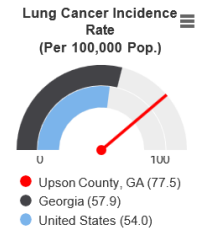
Chronic Conditions - Arthritis

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 18 and older who report having been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they had arthritis.

Within the report area there are 34.0% adults age 18 and older with arthritis of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with Arthritis (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with Arthritis (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**34.0%**	28.3%
Georgia	10,912,876	26.4%	24.7%
United States	333,287,557	26.6%	23.3%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022 .

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Arthritis
- Upson County, GA (34.0%)
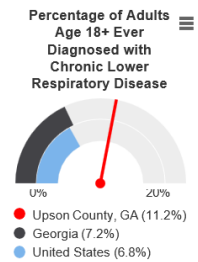- Georgia (26.4%)
- United States (26.6%)

Chronic Conditions - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (Adult)

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report ever having been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema, or chronic bronchitis.

Within the report area, there were 11.2% of adults age 18 and older who reported having chronic obstructive pulmonary disease of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with COPD(Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with COPD (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**11.2%**	9.4%
Georgia	10,912,876	7.2%	6.6%
United States	333,287,557	6.8%	5.9%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022 .

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease
- Upson County, GA (11.2%)
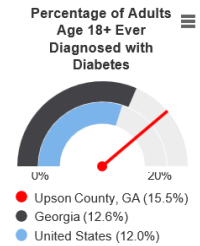- Georgia (7.2%)
- United States (6.8%)

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Chronic Conditions - Diabetes Prevalence (Adult)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 18 and older who report ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they have diabetes other than diabetes during pregnancy.

Within the report area there are 15.5% adults age 18 and older with diabetes of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**15.5%**	12.9%
Georgia	10,912,876	12.6%	11.6%
United States	333,287,557	12.0%	10.4%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes
- Upson County, GA (15.5%)
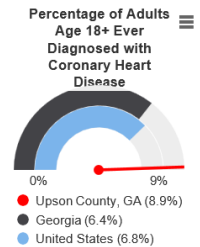- Georgia (12.6%)
- United States (12.0%)

Chronic Conditions - Heart Disease (Adult)

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report ever having been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they had angina or coronary heart disease.

Within the report area, there were 8.9% of adults 18 and older who reported having coronary heart disease of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with CHD (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with CHD (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**8.9%**	7.1%
Georgia	10,912,876	6.4%	5.8%
United States	333,287,557	6.8%	5.7%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ Ever Diagnosed with Coronary Heart Disease
- Upson County, GA (8.9%)
- Georgia (6.4%)
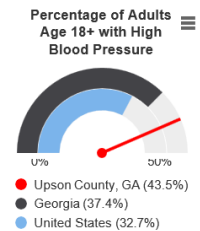- United States (6.8%)

Chronic Conditions - High Blood Pressure (Adult)

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report ever having been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they have high blood pressure (HTN). Women who were told high blood pressure only during pregnancy and those who were told they had borderline hypertension were not included.

Within the report area, there were 43.5% of adults age 18+ who reported having high blood pressure of the total population age 18+.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with HTN (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with HTN (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**43.5%**	38.7%
Georgia	10,912,876	37.4%	35.7%
United States	333,287,557	32.7%	29.6%

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2021.

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with High Blood Pressure
- Upson County, GA (43.5%)
- Georgia (37.4%)
- United States (32.7%)

Chronic Conditions - High Cholesterol (Adult)

This indicator reports the percentage of adults age 18 and older who report having been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that they had high cholesterol.

Within the report area, there were 40.3% of adults age 18 and older who reported having high cholesterol of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with High Cholesterol (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with High Cholesterol (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**40.3%**	34.2%
Georgia	10,912,876	35.3%	32.1%
United States	333,287,557	35.5%	30.4%

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with High Cholesterol
- Upson County, GA (40.3%)
- Georgia (35.3%)
- United States (35.5%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2021.
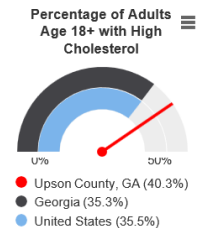
Deaths of Despair (Suicide + Drug/Alcohol Poisoning)

This indicator reports average rate of death due to intentional self-harm (suicide), alcohol-related disease, and drug overdose, also known as "deaths of despair", per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because death of despair is an indicator of poor mental health.

Within the report area, there were 71 deaths of despair. This represents a crude death rate of 52.6 per every 100,000 total population. *Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 20 deaths in the time frame.*

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	71	**52.6**
Georgia	10,711,871	24,619	46.0
United States	330,014,476	922,513	55.9

Deaths of Despair, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
- Upson County, GA (52.6)
- Georgia (46.0)
- United States (55.9)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.
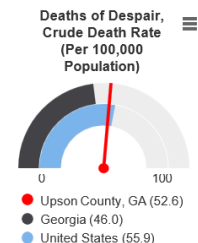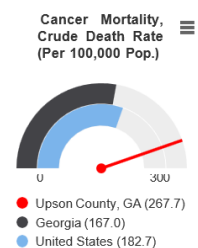
Mortality - Cancer

This indicator reports the 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to malignant neoplasm (cancer) per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because cancer is a leading cause of death in the United States.

Within the report area, there are a total of 361 deaths due to cancer. This represents a crude death rate of 267.7 per every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	361	**267.7**
Georgia	10,711,871	89,418	167.0
United States	330,014,476	3,014,809	182.7

Cancer Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)
- Upson County, GA (267.7)
- Georgia (167.0)
- United States (182.7)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.
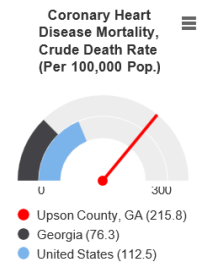
Mortality - Coronary Heart Disease

This indicator reports the 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to coronary heart disease (ICD10 Codes I20-I25) per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because coronary heart disease is a leading cause of death in the United States.

Within the report area, there are a total of 291 deaths due to coronary heart disease. This represents a crude death rate of 215.8 per every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	291	**215.8**
Georgia	10,711,871	40,886	76.3
United States	330,014,476	1,856,446	112.5

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.

Coronary Heart Disease Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

- Upson County, GA (215.8)
- Georgia (76.3)
- United States (112.5)
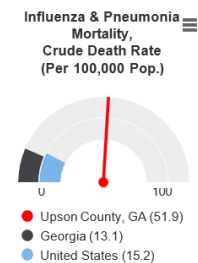
Mortality - Influenza & Pneumonia

This indicator reports the 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to influenza and pneumonia (ICD10 Codes J09-J18) per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because influenza and pneumonia is a leading cause of death in the United States.

Within the report area, there are a total of 70 deaths due to influenza and pneumonia. This represents a crude death rate of 51.9 per every 100,000 total population.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 20 deaths in the time frame.

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	70	**51.9**
Georgia	10,711,871	7,010	13.1
United States	330,014,476	251,416	15.2

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.

Influenza & Pneumonia Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

- Upson County, GA (51.9)
- Georgia (13.1)
- United States (15.2)

Mortality - Life Expectancy

This indicator reports the average life expectancy at birth (age-adjusted to 2000 standard). Data were from the National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files (2019-2021) and are used for the 2024 County Health Rankings.

Of the total 24,794 population in the report area, the average life expectancy during the 2019-21 three-year period is 70.3, which is lower than the statewide rate of 76.1.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 5,000 population-years-at-risk in the time frame.

Report Area	Total Population	Life Expectancy at Birth (2019-21)
Upson County, GA	24,794	**70.3**
Georgia	10,108,188	76.1
United States	307,250,254	77.6

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings. 2019-2021.

Life Expectancy at Birth, 2019-2021

- Upson County, GA (70.3)
- Georgia (76.1)
- United States (77.6)
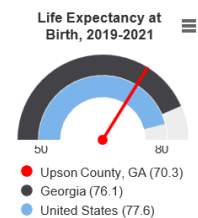
Mortality - <mark>Lung Disease</mark>

This indicator reports the 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to chronic lower respiratory disease per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because lung disease is a leading cause of death in the United States.
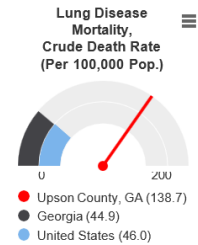
Within the report area, there are a total of 187 deaths due to lung disease. This represents a crude death rate of 138.7 per every 100,000 total population.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 20 deaths in the time frame.

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	187	**138.7**
Georgia	10,711,871	24,054	44.9
United States	330,014,476	758,846	46.0

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.

Lung Disease Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)
- Upson County, GA (138.7)
- Georgia (44.9)
- United States (46.0)

Mortality - Motor Vehicle Crash (NHTSA)

Motor vehicle crash deaths are preventable and are a leading cause of death among young persons. This indicator reports the crude rate of people killed in motor vehicle crashes per 100,000 population. Fatality counts are based on the location of the crash and not the decedent's residence.
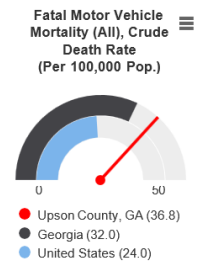
Within the report area, there are a total of 51 deaths due to motor vehicle crash. The crude rate per 100,000 total population is 36.8.
Note: Fatality counts are based on the location of the crash and not the decedent's residence.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Total Crash Deaths (2018-2022)	Fatal Crash Deaths, Annual Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,700	51	**36.8**
Georgia	10,711,908	17,118	32.0
United States	334,735,155	402,034	24.0

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System. 2018-2022.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Mortality (All), Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)
- Upson County, GA (36.8)
- Georgia (32.0)
- United States (24.0)

Mortality - Premature Death

This indicator reports the Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) before age 75 per 100,000 population for all causes of death. Figures are reported as crude rates, and as rates age-adjusted to year 2000 standard. YPLL measures premature death and is calculated by subtracting the age of death from the 75 year benchmark. Data were from the National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files (2019-2021) and are used for the 2024 County Health Rankings. This indicator is relevant because a measure of premature death can provide a unique and comprehensive look at overall health status.

Within the report area, there are a total of 800 premature deaths from 2019 to 2021. This represents an age-adjusted rate of 13,659 years potential life lost before age 75 per every 100,000 total population.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with fewer than 20 deaths in the three-year time frame.

Report Area	Premature Deaths, 2019-2021	Years of Potential Life Lost, 2019-2021	Years of Potential Life Lost, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	800	10,160	**13,659**
Georgia	160,570	2,705,255	8,921
United States	4,535,347	73,613,082	7,986

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via County Health Rankings. 2019-2021.

Years of Potential Life Lost Rate Per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (13,659)
- Georgia (8,921)
- United States (7,986)
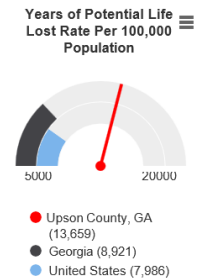
Mortality - Stroke

This indicator reports the 2018-2022 five-year average rate of death due to cerebrovascular disease (stroke) per 100,000 population. Figures are reported as crude rates. Rates are resummarized for report areas from county level data, only where data is available. This indicator is relevant because stroke is a leading cause of death in the United States.

Within the report area, there are a total of 136 deaths due to stroke. This represents a crude death rate of 100.8 per every 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population, 2018-2022 Average	Five Year Total Deaths, 2018-2022 Total	Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	26,974	136	**100.8**
Georgia	10,711,871	24,256	45.3
United States	330,014,476	786,362	47.7

Stroke Mortality, Crude Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

● Upson County, GA (100.8)
● Georgia (45.3)
● United States (47.7)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC - National Vital Statistics System. Accessed via CDC WONDER. 2018-2022.
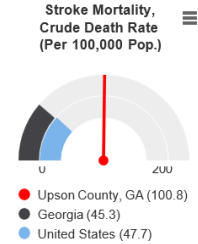
Chronic Conditions - Obesity (Adult)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 18 and older who are obese, defined as having a body mass index (BMI) =30.0 kg/m², calculated from self-reported weight and height.

Within the report area there are 41.7% adults age 18 and older with obesity of the total population age 18 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with Obesity (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with Obesity (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**41.7%**	41.7%
Georgia	10,912,876	36.8%	36.8%
United States	333,287,557	33.3%	33.4%

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Obesity

● Upson County, GA (41.7%)
● Georgia (36.8%)
● United States (33.3%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022.
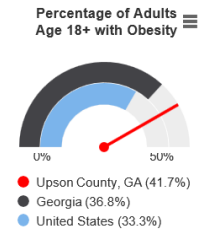
Poor Dental Health (Teeth Loss)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 65 and older who report having lost all of their natural teeth because of tooth decay or gum disease.

Within the report area, there were 20.9% of adults 18 and older who reported losing all natural teeth of the total population age 65 and older.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 65+ with Poor Dental Health (Crude)	Adults Age 65+ with Poor Dental Health (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**20.9%**	20.9%
Georgia	10,912,876	14.5%	14.9%
United States	333,287,557	12.2%	12.6%

Percentage of Adults Age 65+ with All Permanent Teeth Removed

● Upson County, GA (20.9%)
● Georgia (14.5%)
● United States (12.2%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022.
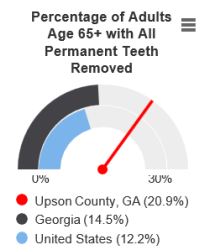
Poor or Fair Health

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults age 18 and older who self-report their general health status as "fair" or "poor." In this report area, the estimated prevalence of fair or poor health among adults aged 18 years and older was 25.3%.

Report Area	Total Population	Adults Age 18+ with Poor or Fair General Health (Crude)	Adults Age 18+ with Poor or Fair General Health (Age-Adjusted)
Upson County, GA	28,086	**25.3%**	23.3%
Georgia	10,912,876	19.1%	18.5%
United States	333,287,557	17.9%	17.0%

Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Poor or Fair General Health

- Upson County, GA (25.3%)
- Georgia (19.1%)
- United States (17.9%)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the PLACES Data Portal. 2022 .
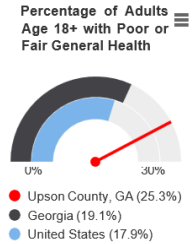
Access to Healthcare

A lack of access to care presents barriers to good health. The supply and accessibility of facilities and physicians, the rate of uninsurance, financial hardship, transportation barriers, cultural competency, and coverage limitations affect access.

Rates of morbidity, mortality, and emergency hospitalizations can be reduced if community residents access services such as health screenings, routine tests, and vaccinations. Prevention indicators can call attention to a lack of access or knowledge regarding one or more health issues and can inform program interventions.

Access to Care - Addiction/Substance Abuse Providers

This indicator reports the number of providers who specialize in addiction or substance abuse treatment, rehabilitation, addiction medicine, or providing methadone. The providers include Doctors of Medicine (MDs), Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs), and other credentialed professionals with a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and a valid National Provider Identifier (NPI). The number of facilities that specialize in addiction and substance abuse treatment are also listed (but are not included in the calculated rate). Data are from latest Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) Downloadable File.

Within the report area there is 1 provider who specialize in addiction or substance abuse. This represents 3.61 providers per 100,000 total population.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Facilities	Number of Providers	Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,700	1	1	**3.61**
Georgia	10,711,908	311	821	7.66
United States	334,735,155	20,911	107,695	32.17

Addiction/Substance Abuse Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population

- Upson County, GA (3.61)
- Georgia (7.66)
- United States (32.17)

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). September 2024.
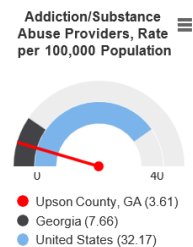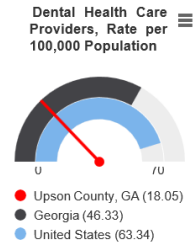
Access to Care - Dental Health Providers (Address)

This indicator reports the number of oral health care providers with a CMS National Provider Identifier (NPI). Providers included in this summary are those who list "dentist", "general practice dentist", or "pediatric dentistry" as their primary practice classification, regardless of sub-specialty. The number of facilities that specialize in oral health care are also listed (but are not included in the calculated rate). Data are from the latest Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Provider Identifier (NPI) downloadable file.

Report Area	Total Population (2020)	Number of Facilities	Number of Providers	Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,700	1	5	**18.05**
Georgia	10,711,908	1,326	4,963	46.33
United States	334,735,155	59,484	212,022	63.34

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). 2024.

Dental Health Care Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (18.05)
- Georgia (46.33)
- United States (63.34)
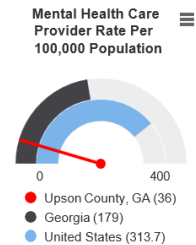
Access to Care - Mental Health

This indicator reports the number of mental health providers in the report area as a rate per 100,000 total area population. Mental health providers are defined as psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, counselors, marriage and family therapists, and mental health providers that treat alcohol and other drug abuse, as well as advanced practice nurses specializing in mental health care. Data from the 2023 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Provider Identifier (NPI) downloadable file are used in the 2024 County Health Rankings.

Within the report area there are 10 mental health providers with a CMS National Provider Identifier (NPI). This represents 36 providers per 100,000 total population.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with population greater than 1,000 and 0 mental health providers.

Report Area	Estimated Population	Number of Mental Health Providers	Ratio of Mental Health Providers to Population (1 Provider per x Persons)	Mental Health Care Provider Rate (Per 100,000 Population)
Upson County, GA	27,778	10	2,777.8	**36**
Georgia	10,911,173	19,531	558.7	179
United States	333,191,688	1,045,210	318.8	313.7

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). Accessed via County Health Rankings. 2023.

Mental Health Care Provider Rate Per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (36)
- Georgia (179)
- United States (313.7)

## Access to Care - Primary Care Providers (Rate)

This indicator reports the number of primary care physicians per 100,000 population. Doctors classified as "primary care physicians" by the AMA include: General Family Medicine MDs and DOs, General Practice MDs and DOs, General Internal Medicine MDs and General Pediatrics MDs. Physicians age 75 and over and physicians practicing sub-specialties within the listed specialties are excluded. This indicator is relevant because a shortage of health professionals contributes to access and health status issues and is used in the 2024 County Health Rankings.

Within the report area there are 14 primary care physicians. This represents 50.51 providers per 100,000 total population.
Note: Data are suppressed for counties with population greater than 2,000 and 0 primary care physicians.

Report Area	Total Population	Primary Care Physicians	Primary Care Physicians, Rate per 100,000 Population
Upson County, GA	27,720	14	**50.51**
Georgia	10,799,566	7,121	65.94
United States	331,893,745	248,730	74.94

Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, HRSA - Area Health Resource File. Accessed via County Health Rankings. 2021.

Primary Care Providers, Rate per 100,000 Population
- Upson County, GA (50.51)
- Georgia (65.94)
- United States (74.94)
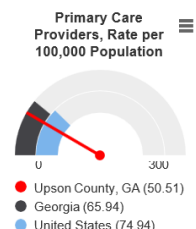
Health Professional Shortage Areas - Primary Care

A **Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)** is a designation given by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the United States to identify geographic areas, populations, or facilities that lack sufficient health care professionals to meet the health needs of the community. HPSAs are categorized into three main types based on the specific type of health professional shortage:

Types of HPSA
- **Primary Care HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of primary care physicians, including family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and gynecology.
- **Dental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of dental health professionals, such as general and pediatric dentists.
- **Mental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of mental health providers, including psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists.

This indicator reports the total population in the report area that is living in a primary care Health Professional Shortage Area, regardless of the degree of shortage, or whether the HPSA covers the entire geographic area or a population subgroup. Indicator data are based on the following calculation:

Percentage = [HPSA Population] / [Report Area Population] * 100

The population figures used in this calculation are from the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Within the report area, there are 11,835 people living in a primary care Health Professional Shortage Area. This represents 45.11% of the total population.

Report Area	Total Population (ACS 2019 5-Year Estimates)	Primary Care HPSA Designation Population	HPSA Designation Population, Percentage of Total	Percentage of HPSA Population Underserved
Upson County, GA	26,236	11,835	**45.11%**	70.02%
Georgia	10,403,847	2,704,257	25.99%	61.02%
United States	324,697,795	72,230,619	22.25%	51.64%
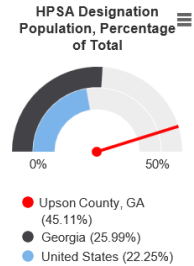
Note: This indicator is compared to the state average.
Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, HRSA - Health Professional Shortage Areas Database. 2024.

Health Professional Shortage Areas - Mental Health Care

A **Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)** is a designation given by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the United States to identify geographic areas, populations, or facilities that lack sufficient health care professionals to meet the health needs of the community. HPSAs are categorized into three main types based on the specific type of health professional shortage:

Types of HPSA
- **Primary Care HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of primary care physicians, including family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and gynecology.
- **Dental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of dental health professionals, such as general and pediatric dentists.
- **Mental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of mental health providers, including psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists.
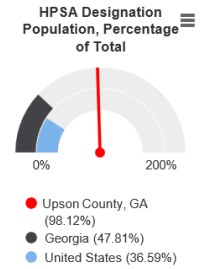
This indicator reports the total population in the report area that is living in a mental health care Health Professional Shortage Area, regardless of the degree of shortage, or whether the HPSA covers the entire geographic area or a population subgroup. Indicator data are based on the following calculation:

Percentage = [HPSA Population] / [Report Area Population] * 100

The population figures used in this calculation are from the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. This indicator is relevant because a shortage of health professionals contributes to access and health status issues.

Within the report area, there are 25,744 people living in a mental health care Health Professional Shortage Area. This represents 98.12% of the total population.

Report Area	Total Population (ACS 2019 5-Year Estimates)	Mental Health Care HPSA Designation Population	HPSA Designation Population, Percentage of Total	Percentage of HPSA Population Underserved
Upson County, GA	26,236	25,744	**98.12%**	1.91%
Georgia	10,403,847	4,973,571	47.81%	36.12%
United States	324,697,795	118,818,005	36.59%	62.78%

HPSA Designation Population, Percentage of Total

0% — 200%

● Upson County, GA (98.12%)
● Georgia (47.81%)
● United States (36.59%)

Health Professional Shortage Areas - Dental Health Care

A **Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)** is a designation given by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the United States to identify geographic areas, populations, or facilities that lack sufficient health care professionals to meet the health needs of the community. HPSAs are categorized into three main types based on the specific type of health professional shortage:

Types of HPSA
- **Primary Care HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of primary care physicians, including family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and gynecology.
- **Dental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of dental health professionals, such as general and pediatric dentists.
- **Mental Health HPSA**: Areas with a shortage of mental health providers, including psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists.
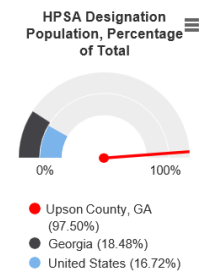
This indicator reports the total population in the report area that is living in a dental health care Health Professional Shortage Area, regardless of the degree of shortage, or whether the HPSA covers the entire geographic area or a population subgroup. Indicator data are based on the following calculation:

Percentage = [HPSA Population] / [Report Area Population] * 100

The population figures used in this calculation are from the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

Within the report area, there are 25,581 people living in a dental health care Health Professional Shortage Area. This means 97.50% of people likely don't have reliable or affordable access to a dentist.

Report Area	Total Population (ACS 2019 5-Year Estimates)	Dental Health Care HPSA Designation Population	HPSA Designation Population, Percentage of Total	Percentage of HPSA Population Underserved
Upson County, GA	26,236	25,581	**97.50%**	50.90%
Georgia	10,403,847	1,922,284	18.48%	82.79%
United States	324,697,795	54,288,291	16.72%	67.52%

HPSA Designation Population, Percentage of Total

0% — 100%

● Upson County, GA (97.50%)
● Georgia (18.48%)
● United States (16.72%)

APPENDIX 8: SOCIAL VULNERABILITY INDEX (SVI)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Social Vulnerability Index (hereafter, CDC/ATSDR SVI or SVI) is a place-based index, database, and mapping application designed to identify and quantify communities experiencing social vulnerability.

The Geospatial Research, Analysis & Services Program (GRASP) maintains the CDC/ATSDR SVI to help public health officials and local planners better prepare for and respond to emergency events with the goal of decreasing human suffering, economic loss, and health inequities.

Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

Overall Vulnerability			
Socioeconomic Status	Below 150% Poverty Unemployed Housing Cost Burden No High School Diploma No Health Insurance	2022 Statewide Socioeconomic Status Score for Upson County: **0.3671**, indicating a **low to medium** level of vulnerability.
Household Characteristics	Aged 65 & Older Aged 17 & Younger Civilian with a Disability Single-Parent Households English Language Proficiency	2022 Statewide Household Characteristics Score for Upson County: **0.2658**, indicating a **low to medium** level of vulnerability.
Racial & Ethnic Minority Status	Hispanic or Latino (of any race) Black or African American, Not Hispanic or Latino Asian, Not Hispanic or Latino American Indian or Alaska Native, Not Hispanic or Latino Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Not Hispanic or Latino Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or Latino Other Races, Not Hispanic or Latino	2022 Statewide Racial & Ethnic Minority Status Score for Upson County: **0.3608**, indicating a **low to medium** level of vulnerability.
Housing Type & Transportation	Multi-Unit Structures Mobile Homes Crowding No Vehicle Group Quarters	2022 Statewide Housing Type & Transportation Score for Upson County: **0.2975**, indicating a **low to medium** level of vulnerability.

2022 Statewide Overall SVI Score for Upson County: **0.2911**, indicating a **low to medium** level of vulnerability.

Possible scores range from 0 (lowest vulnerability) to 1 (highest vulnerability).
Source: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html

APPENDIX 9: COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The following pages reflect a multitude of community resources identified to assist with addressing needs, including those prioritized in this CHNA.

To submit corrections, updates and/or additions for evaluation, please communicate with the Upson Regional Medical Center Marketing Department or Administration via jessica.hudson@urmc.org or 706-647-8111.

Community Asset Inventory/Resource Guide
for 2024 Upson County, GA
Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)

Table of Contents

Public Safety

Police

Thomaston Police Department
1100 Barnesville Hwy
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-5455

Upson County Sheriff
235 Aviation Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-7411

Fire

Thomaston Fire Department
615 N Church St
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-7543

Lincoln Park Fire Department
630 Walton St.
Thomaston, GA 30286
706-741-1320

Northside Fire Department
620 Jeff Davis Road
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 648-6363

Rock Hill Fire Department
79 Rock Hill School Road,
Thomaston, GA 30286
706-647-3222

Thurston Fire Department
4188 Crest Hwy
Thomaston, GA 30286
706-646-3975

EMS Ambulance Services

AmeriPro EMS
104 Hugo Starling Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(800) 633-3593

MedPro EMS
478-974-6000

Access to Care and Chronic Disease

Hospitals

Upson Regional Medical Center
801 W Gordon Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-8111

Health Department

Upson County Health Department
314 E Lee Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-7148

Free Medical & Dental Clinics

None Available

Rural Health Clinics

Upson Family Medical Center Southside
206 Cherokee Road
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 646-5730

Thomaston Medical Clinic, PC
2931 Perryton Parkway
Suite B
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 639-5916

Upson Family Physicians
206 Cherokee Road
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-8111

Upson Family Medical Center Northside
1512 US-19
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-2641

Insurance Assistance

Human Service Department
103 Civic Center Drive
#4232
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-5020

Transportation

Mimbs Taxi
120 West Thompson Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-5411

Obesity – Healthy Eating, Active Living

Thomaston Upson Recreation Department
101 Civic Center Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-9691

Sprewell Bluff Park
700 Sprewell Bluff Road
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 601-6711

Greatest Generation Memorial Park
213 Park Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-4242

Lakeside Park
800 W County Road
Thomaston, GA 30286

Silvertown Ball Park
218 O Street Southwest
Thomaston, GA 30286

Substance Abuse Resources

Upson County Counseling Center
713 Andrews Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(770) 358-5252

Upson Counseling Center
605 W Gordon St
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 646-6038

Tobacco

Georgia Tobacco QuitLine
1-800-270-7867

Mental Health Resources

Upson County Counseling Center
713 Andrews Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(770) 358-5252

Anita C Whitmore LPC
693 Short East Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-4513

Ensocare: Holistic Mental Health Services
96 Balsam Drive
Culloden, GA 31016
(478) 973-1414

On The Path
108 Bird Way
Suite 400
Warner Robins, GA 31088
(478) 953-0368

Win Georgia
1875 Fant Drive
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742
(706) 806-1260

Pregnancy Resources

Heritage Pregnancy Center
501 West Gordon Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-8062

Upson OB/GYN
917 West Gordon Street
Suite A
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-9627

Poverty/Socioeconomic Resources

Thomaston Housing Authority
574 Triune Avenue
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-7420

Youth Villages
3 Corporate Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30329
(470) 498-5600

Education

Thomaston Board of Education
205 Civic Center Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-9621

Upson-Lee Pre-K
216 E Lee Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 646-4729

Upson-Lee Primary School
172 Knight Trail
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-7516

Upson-Lee Elementary
334 Knight Trail
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-3632

Upson-Lee Middle School
101 Holston Drive
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-6256

Upson-Lee High School
268 Knight Trail
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-8171

Upson-Lee Alternative School
300 Adams Street
Thomaston, GA 30286
(706) 647-5738

Skipstone Academy
96 Pickard Rd
Thomaston, GA 30826
770-227-8966

Gordon State College
419 College Drive
Barnesville GA, 30204
(678) 359-5555

Southern Crescent Technical College
1533 US-19
Thomaston, GA 30286
706-646-6148

National Hotlines

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-TALK or 800-237-8255

National Runaway Safeline
1-800-RUNAWAY

National Centers for Disease Control
1-800-232-4636

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender
1-888-843-4564

HIPS Hotline
1-800-676-HIPS

National Sexually Transmitted Disease
1-800-227-8922

Women Alive
1-800-554-4876

AIDS Info
1-800-HIV-0440

Project Inform
1-800-822-7422

DMRS Investigations
1-888-633-1313

Mobile Crisis
1-800-681-7444

Domestic Violence
1-800-356-6767

Spanish Domestic Violence
1-800-942-6908

Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222

Veterans Crisis Line
800-273-8255 Press 1

National Youth Crisis
800-442-HOPE (4673)

National Missing Children
1-800-235-3535

National Sexual Assault
1-800-656-4673

Alcohol Hotline
1-800-331-2900

Alcohol Treatment Referral
1-800-252-6465

National Drug Abuse
1-800-662-4357

Poison Control
1-800-942-5969

National Homeless
1-800-231-6946

National Elder Abuse
1-800-252-8966

Sources

Public Safety
https://www.cityofthomaston.com/163/Police
https://www.cityofthomaston.com/
http://www.thomastongachamber.com/

Access to Care
https://urmc.org/
https://www.district4health.org/locations/upson-county/
http://www.thomastongachamber.com/

Mental Health Services
https://www.mctrail.org/

Insurance Assistance
https://www.cityofthomaston.com/158/Human-Resources

Substance Abuse Resources
https://www.yesquit.org/resources.htm

Chronic Diseases
https://www.district4health.org/locations/upson-county/

Nutrition, Physical Activity, Healthy Living
https://www.upsoncountyga.org/199/Sprewell-Bluff-Park
https://www.district4health.org/locations/upson-county/
https://www.cityofthomaston.com/

Education
https://www.upson.k12.ga.us/

Hotlines
http://www.pleaselive.org/hotlines/

Pictures
https://www.upson.k12.ga.us/
https://urmc.org/
https://www.facebook.com/upsonregionalmedicalcenter/

Update & Change Information

To submit corrections, updates and/or additions for evaluation, please communicate with the Upson Regional Medical Center Marketing Department or Administration via jessica.hudson@urmc.org or 706-647-8111.