

Economic Health

2003/04 Updates Noted
12/2006 & 07 Updates Noted

Key Word	Indicator	Source
homeless-ness	see "System"	
employment	When agency staff were asked to identify the most pressing needs of the low income population in Cayuga, education/training, jobs, were highest need cited by local agencies. Also, respondents most often described the job crisis (40.4%) as the major problem in the community. In 2003, agencies and CSCAA agency staff cited better jobs as the number one need of low income residents. (The 2000 and 2003 assessments did not provide this information for Cayuga County alone, but for Seneca and Cayuga combined.)	1997, 2000 and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
disability, employment, state, county	Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 16-64 in the state, 65% reported an employment disability (41% reported a going outside of the home disability). Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 16-64 in Cayuga County, 11.7% (105) reported an employment disability.	US Census, 2000. 2003 NYS Data Book. 11/2003.
disability, education, college, state	Of those noninstitutionalized persons age 18-34 in the state without a disability, 24.1% were enrolled in college or graduate school and 21.7% were not currently enrolled but had a bachelors or higher degree. In comparison, of those noninstitutionalized persons age 18-34 in the state with a disability, 16.6% were enrolled in college or graduate school and 11.4% were not currently enrolled but had a bachelors or higher degree.	US Census, 2000. 2003 NYS Data Book. 11/2003.
employment, welfare reform	In 2000, of the 323 C/SCAA program participants responding, 22% reported that someone in their household had gone off public assistance in the last two years. Of the 22%, 51% found full-time employment and 18% found part-time employment. In 2003, of the 361 C/SCAA program participants responding, 21% reported that someone in their household had gone off public assistance in the last two years. Of the 21%, 26% found full-time employment and 26% found part-time employment.	2000 and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency

employment, welfare reform	<p>In 2000, of the 22% C/SCAA program participants who reported that someone in their household had gone off public assistance in the last two years, 56% indicated that leaving public assistance created hardships for their households (difficulty meeting basic expenses and having adequate resources to maintain family and remain employed). In 2003, 39% indicated that leaving public assistance created hardships for their households.</p>	<p>2000 and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency</p>
job training	<p>Of the 323 program participants who responded to the assessment survey in 2000, more than 70% lived in Cayuga County. Approximately 12% of the participants indicated that at least one of their household members participated in a job training program within the last year. Of the 361 program participants who responded to the assessment survey in 2003, 81% lived in Cayuga County. Approximately 16% of the participants indicated that at least one of their household members participated in a job training program within the last year. (In the 1997 Needs Assessment 21.4% reported having participated in job training.)</p>	<p>2000and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency</p>
employment, youth	<p>Youth who fail to make a successful transition into the labor force are at greater risk of being dependent on public assistance when they become adults. This is especially likely for youth in families receiving welfare and in other low-income families.</p>	<p>Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001</p>
employment, youth	<p>Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens' (ages 14-17) family history with welfare seemed to be a determining factor in whether they work and, if so, how much they work. Teens in families receiving welfare benefits are much less likely to have jobs than those in families that have left welfare rolls. Moreover, working teens in families that have recently left the welfare rolls are much more likely to work long hours (20 hours per week or more) than any other group.</p>	<p>Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001</p>

employment, youth	Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens' (ages 14-17), the percentage of teens who had worked the four weeks previous varied greatly among the 13 states surveyed (ranging from 22-49%). New York State (at 26%) was one of the five states which ranked significantly below the national average of 32%. In regard to the percentage of teens working 20 hours or more per week, New York State reported 23% (the national average was 29%).	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment, youth	Existing research indicates that programs emphasizing well-structured, work-based learning, and effective school-to-work links are needed to develop the skills, self-confidence, and formal labor force connections that many at-risk youth need to make a successful transition to the world of work.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
employment, youth	Drawing data from a National Survey of America's Families, teens from prosperous families (incomes 200% or more above poverty) were twice as likely to be employed than those from poor families. The percentage of those who had worked the four weeks previous were as follows: 17% Hispanic, 16% Black, non-Hispanic, and 40% White non-Hispanic. Among all employed teens, however, black youth were much more likely than white youth to be working 20 or more hours per week.	Teens, Jobs, and Welfare, Child Trends Research Brief, August, 2001
health insurance	Lack of, or inadequate health insurance, limits access to mental health services.	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.7
housing/low income	Cayuga County has an old housing stock. There were waiting lists for housing or housing repair programs. In 1997, low income families reported spending a large percentage (33%) of their household income on rent & mortgage. In 2003, low income families continued to report spending a large percentage (32%) of their household income on rent & mortgage.	1997 and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency. 12/06
housing/low income	Approximately 50% of the homes visited by the Healthy Neighborhood program needed repairs to improve the safety of their homes.	Healthy Neighborhood Program (Mentz, Locke, Moravia), DHHS, 11/00
state, poverty level	In 1999, 30.3% of the state's population was under 185% of the federal poverty level and 14.1% was under 100%.	NYSDOH, Community Health Data Set, Current Population Survey, Percent of Population Below Poverty, NYS, 1999. 12/2003

county, poverty level	According to the 2000 census there were 8,544 persons living below poverty in the county. Those living in poverty represented 10.4% of the county's population.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.
county, poverty level, elderly	Of those living below poverty in the county, 920 or 10.8% were age 65 and older. This represents 8.2% of those age 65 plus in the county as compared to 11.3% state-wide.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.
county, poverty level, disability, elderly	In Cayuga County, of those non-institutional persons age 65 and older, 920 or 8.2% were living below poverty. Of the 920, 54% (494) had a reported disability.	US Census, 2003 NYS Statistical Yearbook. 11/2003.
poverty	As in 1997, areas of C/SCAA program participants lives which they would like or need assistance in 2000 were direct financial assistance, job opportunities and housing.	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
poverty	In 1997, 59.8% of program participant respondents mentioned that they had to choose between purchasing essential food items and paying a bill necessary to meet their basic needs. In 2000 it was 42%.	1997 and 2000 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency
poverty	As of 1997, 46.3% of Auburn's rental households were "cost-burdened," meaning they were paying nearly 1/3rd of their income in rent.	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6 (from a 1997 housing market analysis)
median household income, county	The median household income in Cayuga County as of the 2000 Census was \$37,487. At the time of the census the median household income for NYS was \$43,393.	Data prepared by Robin Blakely, Cornell University Community and Rural Development Institute for the 2007 Rural Aging Summit, Ithaca College.
median household income, elders, county	The median household income for persons 65 to 74 years of age in Cayuga County as of the 2000 Census was \$28,485, approximately 24% below the overall median household income. Throughout NYS, this cohort was 25.5% below the median household income. For those county residents age 75 and older the disparity in household income was even greater. These households had a median income of \$19,653, or 48% less than the county's median income. Throughout NYS, this cohort was 50% below the median household income.	Data prepared by Robin Blakely, Cornell University Community and Rural Development Institute for the 2007 Rural Aging Summit, Ithaca College.

poverty, food pantry	Food stamps & Medicaid/Medicare are programs used by a large percentage of C/SCAA participants. Yet, nearly one-half of respondents indicated that they accessed an emergency food pantry in the last 12 months suggesting severe financial problems. In 1997, 33% never used the food pantry and 64% of those who did use the food pantry used it less than three times per year. In 2000, 36% never used the food pantry and 42% who did use it did so less than three times per year. In 2003, 56% of respondents indicated that they accessed an emergency food pantry in the last 12 months suggesting severe financial problems. Only 1% never used the food pantry, 45% used it monthly and 47% who did use it, did so less than three times per year.	1997, 2000 and 2003 Low Income Community Needs Assessment, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency. 12/06
poverty, children	In 1993, 19.8% (4,540) of Cayuga's children lived below the Federal Poverty level as opposed to 16.4% in upstate New York. The County numbers improved by 1995. In 1995, the percent of the County's children living below the Federal Poverty level declined to 18.4% (4,250), a drop of 1.4%. In 1995, in upstate New York, the rate of childhood poverty declined to 15.8%, a .8% drop. While there were slightly fewer children in poverty in Cayuga County by 1998 (4,159), the percent of children in poverty went up to 18.9%. By comparison, in 1998, the upstate poverty rate for children was 17%. In 2003, 16.4% (2,992) of Cayuga's children lived below the Federal Poverty level as opposed to 13.5% in upstate New York and 20.2% state wide..	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6 (Census), NYS Kids Count 2000, 2002 and 2006 Data Books. 12/06
poverty, children, school lunch	In 1998, 39+ % of all school lunches and 91.4% of all school breakfasts, are served free or reduced fee.	Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998
poverty, children, school lunch	In 1997-98, 23.7% of Auburn students and 25.8% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches. In 1999, 30.7% of Auburn students and 27.7% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches. In 2000, 28.7% of Auburn students and 25.6% of Port Byron students were eligible for free lunches.	Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.6; Auburn School District, 9//1999 & 11/2000; Port Byron School System, 9/1999 & 12/2000.

unemployment, rate	The unemployment rate in Cayuga County had been turning around. The County's 1999 unemployment rate was 5.3% and that compared with a rate of 5.2% statewide. For 2000 the rate was 4.6%. The 2000 rate compares with NYS (excluding NYC) which had an unemployment rate of 3.8%. However, according to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, in November of 2002, the rate was 6% and it was 6.1% in 2003.	NYS Department of Labor, 11/2000. County Health Indicator Profiles (1996-2000), NYSDOH, 2002. Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment, www.bls.gov, 12/2002.
unemployment, rate	The unemployment rate in 1994 was 6.2%. In 1995 it was 6.3%. Through 1998, persistently high levels of unemployment plagued Cayuga County. In 1998 the County had 1,970 persons unemployed. As late as March, 1998 the unemployment rate was 28% higher than the rest of upstate New York.	Coordinated Transportation Project Study (Human Services Coalition), 1998; Safe Schools/Healthy Students – P.3 ; Partners for a Healthy Community, 1998; Community Health Status Report, Cayuga County, HRSA, 7/2000.
poverty, children, uninsured, state	Over the course of 1999 –2001, the state of New York averaged 5,002,000 children (under age 19). Of the total, an average of 2,048,000 were at or below 200% of poverty (40.9%). The number of children at or below 200% of poverty and uninsured averaged 358,000 (or 7.2% of all children in the state).	U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 1999, 2000, and 2001.
poverty	Number of Medicaid Service Recipients in 1999: 8,702 or approximately 11% of the County's population.	Cayuga County Medicaid Claims Data Analysis, 2/01
poverty, food stamps	The average number of persons who received food stamps per month in Cayuga County has decreased steadily since 1997. The average number per month in 2000 (3,990) was approximately 29.2% (1,649) less than the average per month during 1997 (5,639).	DHHS, Human Services, 1/2001.
poverty, children, food stamps	In 1998, the number of Cayuga County children receiving food stamps was 2,211 or 10% of all children 0-17 years. This represented a sharp decline (35%) from 1994 when there were 3,424 children receiving food stamps or 15.1% of the County's children 0-17 years. In 2000, the number of children receiving food stamps was 1,881 or 9.1% of children age 0-17 years. The percent of children receiving food stamps in Cayuga County was above that of children throughout upstate New York (7.9%). In 2004, the number of children receiving food stamps was up to 2,742 or 14.9%. The upstate percent was 10.8 and the state percent was 16 in 2004.	NYS Kids Count 2000, 2002 and 2006 Data Books. 12/06

poverty, children, public assistance	<p>In 1998, the number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance was 748 or 3.4% of all children 0-17 years. This represented a sharp decline (47%) from 1994 when there were 1,420 children receiving public assistance or 6.3% of the County's children 0-17 years. In 2000, the number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance was 553 or 2.7% of all children 0-17 years, approximately 1/3rd the number of six years earlier. In 2000, the percent of children receiving public assistance in Cayuga County was approximately 40% less than other children in upstate New York (2.7% vs. 4.5% for upstate children). In 2004, the number of Cayuga County children receiving public assistance was 640 or 3.5%. The upstate percent was 4.2 and the state percent was 7.7 in 2004.</p>	NYS Kids Count 2000, 2002 and 2006 Data Books. 12/06
poverty, children, school lunch	<p>In the 1998/99 school year, 1,767 children in grades K-6 received free or reduced school lunches. That represented 27.4% of all K-6 graders. The subsidized lunch percent for upstate New York for K-6 graders was 26.5% in the 1998/99 school year. In the 1999/00 school year, 1,979 children in grades K-6 received free or reduced school lunches. That represented 33% of all K-6 graders. The subsidized lunch percent for upstate New York for K-6 graders was 32.4% in the 1999/00 school year. In the 2003/04 school year, 2,005 children in grades K-6 received free or reduced school lunches. That represented 34.5% of all K-6 graders. The subsidized lunch percent for upstate New York for K-6 graders was 31.7 and the state percent was 50.4.</p>	NYS Kids Count 2000, 2002 and 2006 Data Books. 12/06
poverty, children, school lunch	<p>For the 5 school years from 1997/98 - 2001/02 the percent of the county's school children who were eligible for free lunch never reached 20%. However, from the 2002/03 school year on, with the exception of 2004/05 (with a rate of 19.8%), the percent of children qualifying for free lunch has remained above 20%. It is, however, substantially below the statewide rate (e.g. in 2004/05 the state rate was 37% and the County's rate was 21.9%).</p>	NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2007
poverty, children, school lunch	<p>In the 1999/00 school year, 2,238 County children, in all grades, qualified for free school lunches for a rate of 18%. By the 2005/06 school year the number of children qualifying for free lunches grew to 2,429 or 21.9%.</p>	NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001

poverty, children, school lunch	For the 3 years from 1997-2000, the district with the highest % of children qualifying for free school lunches in Cayuga County is Moravia. By the 2005/06 school year Auburn had the highest percent of children qualifying for free lunches at 26%. With Port Byron next with 24%, followed by Cato-Meridian at 23% and Moravia at 22%.	NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001
poverty, children, school lunch	Families in 2 school districts appear to be significantly better off, financially, than most of the County. In the 1999/00 school year, Union Springs and Weedsport had 1/2 to 1/3rd the % of children qualifying for free school lunches than did the balance of the County districts.	NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001
poverty, children, school lunch	The 4 years of free school lunch program data, covering the 1997-2000//2001 school years, reveals a decrease in those eligible for free school lunches in Cayuga County. Those eligible for free school lunches dropped from nearly 20% (19.9%) of all enrolled children in 1997/98 to 16.6% in the 2000/2001 school year. All school districts experienced a decrease.	NYS Education Department's School Report Cards 3/2001 and 11/2002.
depression, welfare	In a study sampling experimental evaluations of welfare-to-work programs in the US and Canada, one-third showed that the programs produced changes in symptoms of depression. Seventy percent of these were unfavorable, in that they increased the symptoms.	Symptoms of Depression Among Welfare Recipients: A Concern for Two Generations, Child Trends Research Brief, December 2001.
births, financial coverage	Between 1998 -2000 there were 2,758 live births in Cayuga County. Of these 37.6% (1,036) were Medicaid/self-pay. The region average was 35% and the state average was 41%. Between 2001 - 2003 there were 2,550 live births in Cayuga County. Of these 40.4% (1,030) were Medicaid/self-pay. The region average was 36.9% and the state average was 41.5%.	NYSDOH Community Health Data Set, 1998-2000 Vital Statistics Data as of August, 2002. CHDS 2001-2003 as of August, 2005. 12/06.
median income, county	In 1999, the median family income was \$44,973.	U.S. Bureau of Census, 2002 Summary File 3, 9/2002