

# CHI Oakes Hospital and Service Area

## 2019 Community Health Needs Assessments

August 2019

Each Critical Access Hospital must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) once every three years, as mandated by law. Local public health units seeking to gain/maintain accreditation conduct an assessment every five years. CHNAs completed by the Center for Rural Health (CRH) include secondary data review, community focus groups, key informant interviews, and a community survey. This fact sheet presents key community strengths and opportunities from the Oakes service area 2019 CHNA.

The Oakes service area comprises Dickey County, population 4,861. Dickey County experienced a population decrease of over 8% between 2010 and 2017 while the state's population saw a 12% increase.

### Community Strengths

The top three assets identified in a community survey included family friendly community, little/no crime, and friendly people. Other community assets include swimming pools, walking paths, park facilities and a fitness center. The community also reports a lower unemployment rate (1.8%) compared to the state overall (2.7%) and the top 10% of U.S. counties (3.3%).

### Health Outcomes and Factors

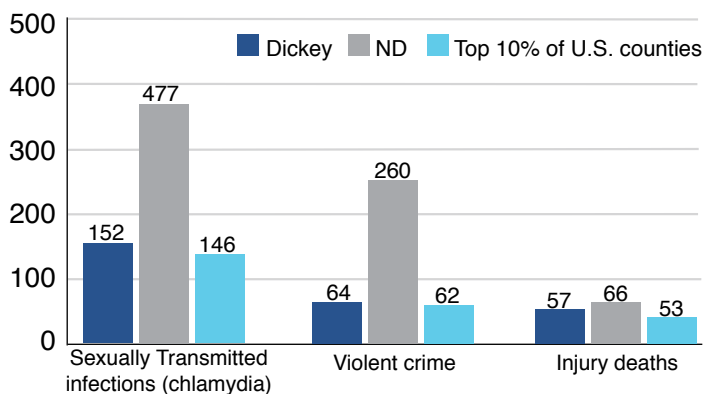
In review of secondary data, only 11% of Dickey County residents reported poor or fair health. Additionally, the county did not report any driving deaths involving alcohol in 2017 while the state averaged 47% of traffic fatalities involving alcohol. However, the county had a greater percentage of residents reporting excessive drinking, physical inactivity, and obesity. See Table 1.

**Table 1. Health Factors by % of Population, 2017**

	Dickey	ND	Top 10% U.S.
Uninsured	10%	9%	8%
Excessive drinking	21%	25%	12%
Access to exercise opportunities	41%	66%	91%
Physical inactivity	26%	23%	19%
Adult obesity	33%	32%	26%
Adult smokers	14%	19%	14%

During 2017, violent crimes were less prevalent in Dickey County (64 per 100,000 residents) than the state overall. Similar was true for the incidences of chlamydia. See Figure 1.

**Figure 1. Cases per 100,000 Population, 2017**



In 2017, Dickey County had 263 licensed daycare spots for the 648 children ages 0-13 with both parents in the labor force. This indicates a shortage of licensed childcare facilities. The proportions of children uninsured, receiving SNAP and other benefits were similar in Dickey and the state overall. See Table 2.

**Table 2. Children's Health Factors by % of Population**

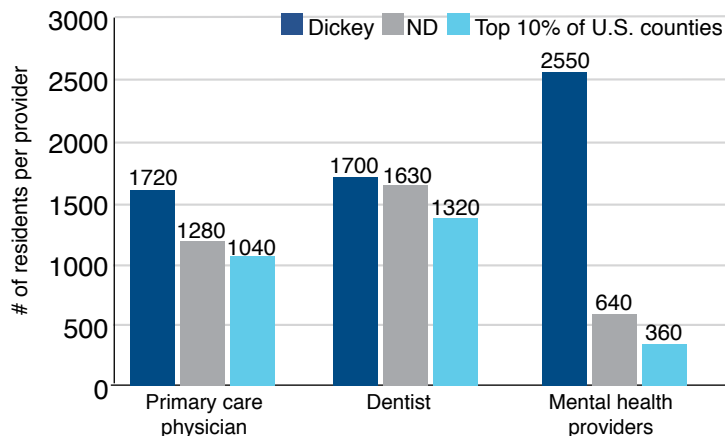
	Dickey	ND
Children uninsured (2016)	10%	9%
Uninsured children below 200% of poverty (% of pop.) (2016)	43%	42%
Medicaid recipients (2017)	28%	28%
Children enrolled in Healthy Steps (2013)	3%	3%
Receiving SNAP (2017)	17%	20%

In 2017, the teen birth rate for Dickey County was 16 births per 1,000 females (15-19 years old). This was lower than the state average of 27 per 1,000 as well as lower than the top 10% of U.S. counties (17 per 1,000).

### Healthcare Access

Based on the provider to population ratio, Dickey County had more residents per single mental health provider (2,550) than the state average (640) and the top 10% of U.S. counties (360). Similar workforce shortages were seen for primary care physicians and dentists. See Figure 2.

**Figure 2. Provider to Population Ratios, 2017**



## Community Concerns

In a survey conducted by the CRH, residents identified up to three primary community concerns. The top two concerns were bullying/cyber-bullying (77%) and jobs with livable wages (53%). See Table 3.

**Table 3. Community Concerns, 2018**

Community Concerns	%
Bullying/cyber-bullying	77%
Jobs with livable wages	53%
Attracting and retaining young families	52%
Cost of long term care	52%
Emotional abuse	49%
Youth alcohol use/abuse	47%
Adult alcohol use/abuse	38%
Adequate childcare services	37%
Availability of resources to help elderly to stay in their homes	36%

### In December 2018, a community focus group identified their top concerns as:

1. Availability of mental health/substance abuse treatment services
2. Attracting and retaining young families
3. Not enough jobs with livable wages
4. Having enough child daycare services

### In the survey, community members also identified perceived barriers (up to three) specifically related to accessing local healthcare. The top five barriers were:

1. No insurance/limited insurance (38% of respondents)
2. Not affordable (34%)
3. Not enough evening or weekend hours (29%)
4. Not enough specialists (25%)
5. Distance from health facility (17%)

Individuals also indicated which specific healthcare services, if any, they felt should be added locally. The most often cited service was mental healthcare. Workforce data support the need for mental health providers with Dickey County reporting nearly four times as many residents per mental health provider as the state average.

## Steps Undertaken Since 2016 CHNA

As a result of the previous (2016) CHNA, the community and associated hospital have responded to local concerns. To address the high cost of healthcare, CHI Oakes Hospital offers assistance for persons to acquire insurance and/or financial assistance. Recognizing the workforce shortage, existing CHI Oakes providers have received training on how to address behavioral health needs. To help encourage pursuit of healthcare careers in the community, CHI Oakes Hospital offers college scholarship(s). To address obesity, providers at CHI Oakes Hospital are counseling patients on healthy lifestyle choices and the community now hosts an annual 5K walk/run. Healthy choices and violence prevention are also addressed through an educational partnership between the local school and hospital.

## Implementation Strategies

Hospitals and local public health units prepare implementation strategies as a blueprint for meeting needs identified in a CHNA. Access the complete and community-specific CHNA Reports and Implementation Strategies at, [ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment/reports](http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment/reports).

### Full Report

Nissen, K. Oakes Service Area: Community Health Needs Assessment, 2019.

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### For More Information

Visit the website, [ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment](http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment) or contact:

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