Schenectady County
Community Needs Assessment

2023

SCAP
Schenectady Community
Action Program
Creating Opportunity in Partnership

2023 Schenectady County Community Needs Assessment

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I.   Introduction

The **Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP)** is Schenectady County's **Community Action Agency (CAA)**. Incorporated in 1965, with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status granted in 1966, SCAP was established to provide services and operate programs that address the causes and effects of poverty. **Community Action Agencies** are federally designated as the frontline resource for people living in poverty, providing direct services and support for low-income individuals and families. In addition to the direct services they provide, Community Action Agencies (CAAs) promote community economic development through partnerships and inter-agency collaborations.

> ***Community Action Promise***
> *Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*

Regular assessment of needs and resources at the community level continues to be the foundation of Community Action and a vital management tool used to set the course for agency resources, confirming the need for existing programs and services, predicting future needs, and guiding strategic initiatives. SCAP conducts an extensive Community Needs Assessment every three years, with annual updates in between. Results of the assessment are utilized to inform SCAP's **Community Action Plan**. The Community Needs Assessment is also utilized by multiple community-based organizations and groups, as well as local government entities, to guide program and planning efforts.

II.   Strategic Planning

SCAP's current **Strategic Plan** is the compass that guides the agency's work through the year 2028. It provides a clear direction and focus, ensuring that our efforts are aligned with our mission and vision.

Mission:
In partnership with the community, SCAP develops and implements lasting solutions for people of all ages to move out of poverty.

Vision:
SCAP envisions a community without poverty where everyone's health, wellness and safety is a priority and where everyone:
- has safe and affordable housing;
- has quality education and learning experiences;
- seeking employment can earn a livable wage;
- is treated with dignity and respect; and
- feels invested in and connected to the community.

SCAP's Strategic Plan identified six (6) areas of focus for 2023-2028:
1. Adaptability – SCAP builds new and refines existing strategies to sustain and improve the Agency. SCAP builds new levels of resilience that strengthens, restores, and rebuilds the community.
2. Service Expansion - SCAP meets changing needs by expanding services and resources when a gap exists.
3. Community Engagement- SCAP develops and shares expertise through partnership, advocacy, leadership, and participation in community initiatives.

4. Data, Analysis & Quality Improvement – SCAP implements comprehensive systems to guide internal & external efforts.
5. Facilities and Agency Footprint – SCAP locations meet comprehensive community and Agency needs.
6. 21st Century Workforce – SCAP is committed to developing our human potential and investing in our workforce

SCAP's **Strategic Work Plan** is directing efforts to achieve identified goals. The Work Plan calls for the systematic utilization of this community assessment (and subsequent updates) to inform SCAP's work.

III.   Executive Summary

This community needs assessment considers the indicators of need for Schenectady County and its low-income residents, as well as the strengths and resources in place, to support residents. It includes both quantitative and qualitative data. It provides an overview of SCAP and its programs and an overview of the area served. It incorporates detailed demographics, an economic profile, and the most up-to-date data available regarding poverty, employment, education, housing, homelessness, early childhood, health, nutrition, food insecurity, and other community and social service need indicators. The data presented, combined with community engagement activities, as well as information regarding community resources, has provided the basis for a thorough analysis of community needs and the presentation of key findings. The resulting conclusions and recommendations will guide SCAP operations for the next three years. The assessment will be updated annually to reflect any significant changes or developments.

Needs & Challenges
17,556 residents in Schenectady County live below the federal poverty level, with 71.0% of these residents residing in the City of Schenectady. The city's poverty rate is 20.1%. The percentage of residents outside the City of Schenectady living in poverty has slightly decreased. While many residents may have incomes above the poverty rate, they continue to struggle to make ends meet. County-wide: 17.0% of households make less than $25,000 per year, and 23.5% make less than $35,000 per year. Within the City of Schenectady, 27.9% of households make less than $25,000 annually, and 36.6% earn less than $35,000 annually. According to the most recent ALICE Report for New York (2023 release, using 2021 data), 41% of the 55,262 households in Schenectady County were below the ALICE Threshold (including 11% below the Federal Poverty Level and 30% ALICE). Housing, education, training, employment, health, nutrition, transportation, and childcare barriers continue to affect the ability to achieve long-term economic stability and well-being. While the most recent data suggests a slight improvement in overall economic conditions compared to previous years, significant economic challenges persist, particularly in the City of Schenectady.

Strengths and Resources
Schenectady County providers continue to engage in strategic partnerships to provide support for low-income individuals and families. SCAP leads partnership efforts in each of the agency's service areas. SCAP's program development activities feature collaboration, as evidenced by its leadership role in the Schenectady County COVID-19 Emergency Response Coalition, which later transitioned to "One Schenectady" to ensure coordinated support without duplication of resources.

Resource navigation, case management, and therapeutic supports utilize evidence-based practices, including the Family Development model, Trauma-Informed Care, Housing First, Peer Mentoring, Solution-Focused Therapy/Case Management, Two-Generation/Whole Family Approach, and ROMA (Results-Oriented Management and Accountability).

Agency expertise includes coordinating resources with several eligibility requirements, in combination with more flexible funding resources, to provide holistic support and complete solutions. The Community Resource Network (CRN) Emergency Fund, led by SCAP, provides flexible financial support when no other resources are available.

One of SCAP's biggest strengths remains its ability to adapt to changing needs quickly and problem-solve as needed to address both immediate and longer-term community needs. This was demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic, where SCAP created new ways to operate safely, initially utilizing a remote workforce while effectively responding to community needs.

SCAP's integrated, whole-family approach to service provision gives customers seamless access to a continuum of supports and programs. The agency has enhanced this approach with the implementation of an agency-wide outcome matrix to measure overall customer well-being progress in six domains: job skills, employment, housing, child care, health, and income.

Each household served has its own unique set of circumstances that contribute to its challenges. SCAP's involvement with a family may be over a short period to address a one-time need or continue for an extended period to address multiple complex needs. The agency's integrated services and newly implemented online portal, accessible 24/7 in multiple languages, further enhance its ability to provide comprehensive, accessible support to the community.

Key Findings: *Conditions and Causes of Poverty*
- Schenectady County is populated by 160,377 people, with 66,135 of those residents living in the City of Schenectady. The towns of Glenville and Rotterdam remain the most populated municipalities outside of the city. Overall, the total county population has increased by 13,822 people since the 2000 Census. 3.6% of those residing in the county are non-United States citizens (5,735 people) with 59.5% of these residents (3,411) living in the City of Schenectady. 17,218 residents of Schenectady County were born outside of the United States.
- Age cohort data from the United States Census Bureau shows the population of residents ages 45-54 in Schenectady County at 19,496 and the population of county residents age 65 and over at 27,622, aligning closely with previous projections.
- In Schenectady County, an estimated 17,556 people (11.3%) are living below the poverty level. The highest level of poverty in Schenectady County is found in the City of Schenectady, with 12,458 people (20.1%) living below the poverty level. Of all Schenectady County residents living below the poverty level, 71.0% reside in the City of Schenectady.
- The highest concentration of children under age five in poverty, 71.1%, is found in the City of Schenectady. This percentage is slightly higher than the 70% reported in the previous assessment but still significantly lower than the 87.4% reported in SCAP's 2018 Community Needs Assessment. While the percentage of economically disadvantaged students remains highest for the Schenectady City School District (79%, 7,183 students), the trend of increasing numbers of economically disadvantaged students attending public schools outside the city continues.

- According to the most recent ALICE Report for New York (2023 release, using 2021 data), 41% of the 55,262 households in Schenectady County were below the ALICE Threshold (including 11% below the Federal Poverty Level and 30% ALICE).
- The average unemployment rate in Schenectady County for the most recent 12-month period is 3.4%. It remains the highest within the four-county Capital Region area including Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties.
- Homelessness continues to be significant. The most recent annual Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) report indicates that 1,459 individuals in 1,171 households in Schenectady County received one or more homeless-related supportive services, including 377 children under 18. 181 of these households (15.5% of all households served) were chronically homeless.
- Lack of safe and affordable housing within the City of Schenectady continues to be a primary concern. In SCAP's surveys, both customers and staff overwhelmingly identified Safe, Affordable Housing as the most pressing need faced by the low-income population in Schenectady County.
- There are 9,761 children under the age of five in Schenectady County, 1,755 of whom live in poverty. There continues to be a shortage of infant and toddler care in Schenectady County. For every 100 children aged 0-1, there are only 10 childcare slots available.
- Based on the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment, the Schenectady Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group selected Preventing Communicable Diseases and Promoting Well-Being and Preventing Mental and Substance Use Disorders as priority areas of need requiring focus.

IV. **Conclusions & Recommendations:** *Summary Analysis of Qualitative and Quantitative Data*

- SCAP should continue to monitor demographic trends, particularly the growing linguistic diversity in Schenectady County, to identify and help ensure any associated areas of need are met
- While poverty rates have slightly decreased overall, resource development and expansion efforts should continue to address persistent poverty, especially in the City of Schenectady, where poverty rates remain high.
- Employment supports remain essential and should continue to focus on training and education needed for in-demand career pathways that offer the attainment of a livable wage. The gap between the hourly wage needed to afford housing and the county's mean renter wage has widened, highlighting the need for these supports.
- Services and supports to address and prevent homelessness should continue to focus on meeting the multifaceted, complex needs of this population. This includes ongoing support to prevent future crises, especially in light of the significant increase in homelessness observed in the 2023 Point-in-Time count.
- SCAP should continue working with community partners to address the priority need for safe and affordable housing, which remains the most pressing need identified by both customers and staff.
- SCAP should continue focusing on the development and implementation of mental and behavioral health supports, aligning with the priorities identified in the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment.
- Services and supports should continue to be integrated and accessible to successfully address the multifaceted needs of low-income families, featuring a two-generation, whole-family approach. The success of SCAP's online portal and integrated services approach demonstrates the importance of this strategy.

- SCAP should continue focusing on agency-wide integration, assessment, and evaluation activities, building on the success of its agency-wide outcome matrix to measure customer well-being progress.
- Given the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, SCAP should maintain its flexibility and adaptability in service delivery, continuing to offer both in-person and virtual support options to meet diverse community needs.

V.   Methodology

The qualitative and quantitative data collected for this 2023 Community Needs Assessment represents the most current and relevant information available related to the people and communities of Schenectady County. Data sources utilized to inform the assessment include:

- **Qualitative:** Surveys (102) and focus groups (four) conducted for this assessment, SCAP Early Learning 2020-21 Parent/Guardian Satisfaction Surveys, SCAP Career Readiness Class Surveys, SCAP 2020 Customer Technology Survey, Homeless Services Planning Board (HSPB) Strategic Plan (2018), SCAP Customer Outcome Matrices, and City of Schenectady 2020 – 2024 Consolidated 5-Year Strategic Plan.

- **Quantitative:** Local, statewide and national data sources, including: United States Census Bureau, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), National Low Income Housing Coalition, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Living Wage Calculator, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), New York State Department of Education, New York State Department of Labor (DOL), New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), New York State Division of Criminal and Justice Services (DCJS), New York State Department of Health (DOH), New York State Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS), New York State Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), Brightside Up, Capital Region Economic Development Council (CREDC), Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC), Healthy Capital District Initiative (HCDI), 2020 ALICE Report (United Way), Schenectady County, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), City of Schenectady, Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority (SMHA), and SCAP's centralized data collection and program management system (CAP60).

Key Sector Information
SCAP continually utilizes information from key sectors of the community to assess needs and resources. Keys sectors that inform SCAP's assessment processes include:

- **Community-based Organizations/Entities/Coalitions:** Schenectady County Homeless Services Planning Board, One Schenectady, Brightside Up, Healthy Capital District Initiative, YWCA Northeastern NY, and United Way of the Greater Capital Region.

- **Faith-based Organizations:** Community Resource Network (CRN) faith-based partners, including Schenectady Community Ministries (SiCM), City Mission, Catholic Charities, and area congregations.

- **Private Sector:** SCAP's Board of Directors' Program & Evaluation Committee, including private sector representation, participated in a meeting/discussion to help inform the assessment process. Private sector early childhood information is detailed in the Capital District Child Care Council's Child Care Landscape (2019).

- **Public Sector:** Information provided by both the City and County of Schenectady informed multiple areas of this assessment.

- **Educational Institutions:** New York State Department of Education, Schenectady City School District, and Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District.

VI.   Schenectady Community Action Program Overview

SCAP serves the community and its residents in three program areas:

- **Community Services:** Community Resource Navigation/Emergency Services (Community Resource Network - CRN), Case Management, Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-housing, Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing, and Employment Services. Community Resource Navigation and Supportive Case Management are provided at SCAP's primary resource center at 913 Albany Street as well as multiple satellite locations throughout the community. Many customers come into SCAP with an emergency need and are first assisted through the CRN's Emergency Fund and/or SCAP's Homeless Prevention or Rapid Re-housing programs. Longer-term Case Management support and Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities help households develop skills and strategies to effectively address and manage multiple family needs, permanently stabilize their living conditions, and work towards greater self-reliance. Employment Services include assessment of skills and needs, career readiness training/soft skills development, connection to educational and occupational training, goal planning, career counseling, reentry supports, and job placement/retention supports. These services support career pathways that assist individuals and families achieve long-term economic self-reliance. In addition to the primary service area of Schenectady County, Employment Services are provided in neighboring Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

- **Early Learning:** Head Start, Pre-K, and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships for children from birth to age five. These early learning programs provide comprehensive education, special needs, health, nutrition, mental health, parent engagement, and family development services for low-income children and families in Schenectady County. SCAP also collaborates with the Albany Community Action Partnership to facilitate Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership services in Albany County. SCAP's Project LAUNCH serves children from birth to age eight. Program components include behavioral/mental health assessments and screenings, intervention and treatment, parent education and training, and professional development and support for staff in child-serving organizations.

- **Behavioral Health Services:** Provides a wide range of therapeutic mental and behavioral health resources for low-income individuals and families, as well as professional development and consultation support for case management staff.

SCAP is governed by a tripartite Board of Directors that includes low-income representatives, business and community leaders, and local elected officials. This ensures SCAP is representative of Schenectady County's diverse communities and meets our obligation to the communities and low-income population we serve. SCAP's data and program management system, CAP60, is a confidential, centralized, fully integrated web-based data collection and assessment system. Services are provided utilizing the evidence-based **Family Development** model, an empowerment, strengths-based approach to working with families. SCAP also utilizes the evidence-based practice of **Trauma Informed Care**. This treatment

framework involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma. Additional evidence-based practices implemented include Housing First, Peer Mentoring, Solution-Focused Therapy/Case Management, Two-Generation/Whole Family Approach, and ROMA (Results Oriented Management and Accountability). SCAP maintains several community partnerships to ensure comprehensive resources for customers and is engaged in numerous key community initiatives.

Integration

SCAP is implementing an integration initiative that is transforming capacity to measure agency-wide outcomes. Internally, an **Integrated Services Committee** meets bi-weekly to oversee centralized and integrated program delivery. Internal referral systems have been enhanced to ensure customers accessing SCAP services participate in intake and assessment processes that ensure awareness of and access to all SCAP supports available.

All SCAP customers can now access services and maintain updated information in SCAP's Online Portal, which is connected to SCAP's web based CAP60 Data Management and Reporting System. The portal is accessible seven days a week/24 hours a day, in multiple languages. Since SCAP began offering the online portal in July 2020, 93% of customers accessing services through the portal have been able to register themselves, with 93% reporting no concerns with the process.

While all SCAP programs have been and will continue to be required to adhere to specific service outcome measures, SCAP has developed an agency-wide outcome matrix to measure overall customer well-being progress in six domains – job skills, employment, housing, child care, health, and income. This baseline matrix is being completed for every household served. Following the completion of the baseline matrix, updates are completed at six-month intervals. Between 07/01/2020 and 06/30/2022, 1,787 baseline matrices were administered. From the summary of SCAP's ***Outcome Matrix Years 1-2 Report*** compiled by independent evaluator Dr. Ken Robin of Helgerson Solutions:
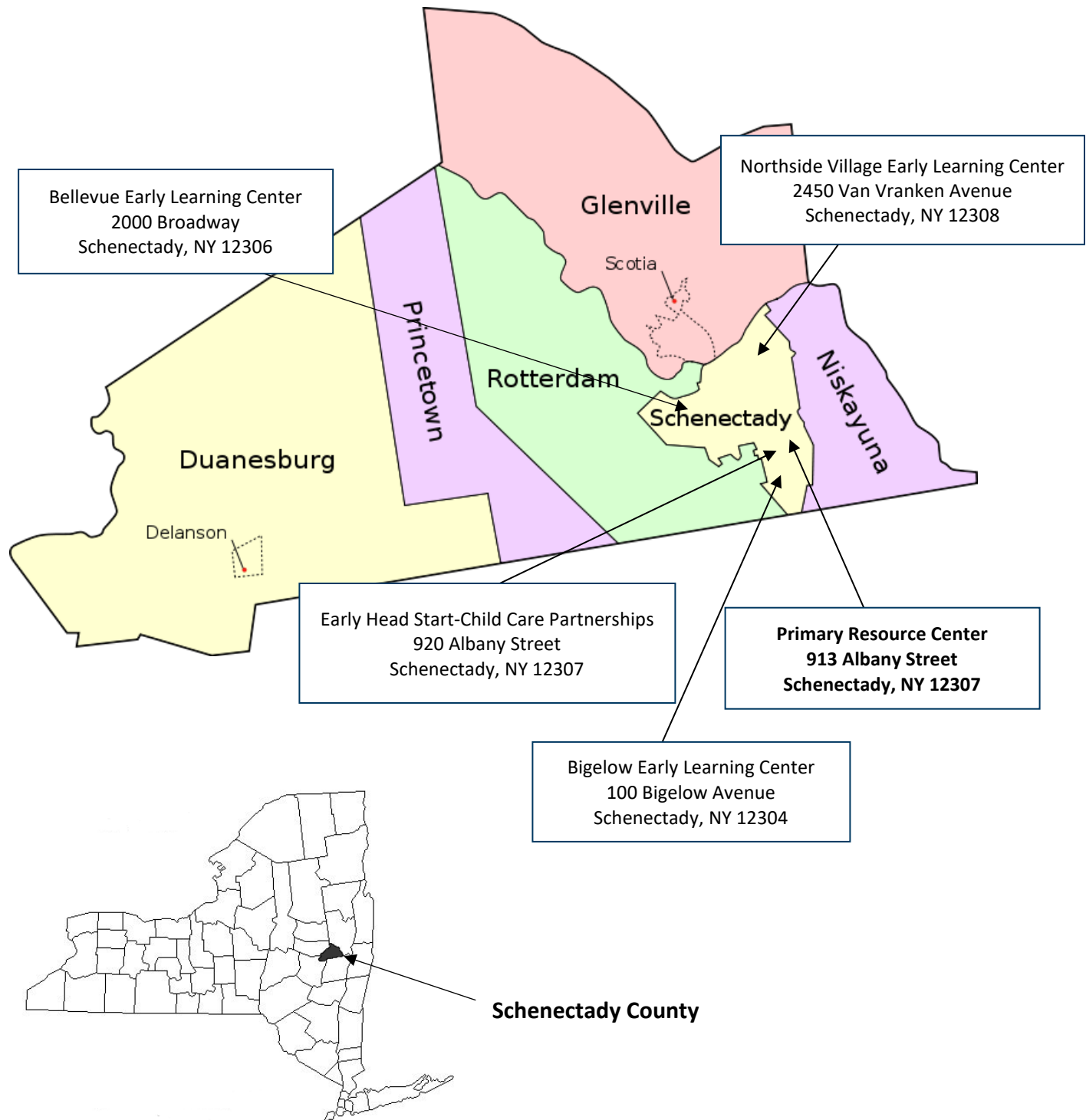
> *As part of an ongoing and multi-year data infrastructure project at SCAP, results suggest progress in collection, integration, and analysis capabilities. Further improvements to service records will strengthen and expand reporting options in the future. Initial findings show that most SCAP clients present with significant and complex needs across multiple domains when they engage with the agency. Need profiles differ somewhat by client demographics, but SCAP is clearly accessing a high-risk population.*
>
> *After two years of AOM administration, client-reported status improvement is uneven across domains, and most likely to be reported in the areas of Child Care and Housing. Clients with the most urgent need are those most likely to report improvement in all domains except for Job Skills and Employment, suggesting that service prioritization may be targeted more appropriately in some areas than others. Findings related to the "north star" metric of Income are mixed, with most clients living in poverty at baseline reporting improvement, but those with relatively higher income at baseline often reporting greater need at 6 months or 1 year. The next phase of AOM matrix evaluation should include development of strategies to better understand and respond programmatically to the data.*

SCAP is also working to align all program data tracking processes in CAP60 to increase capacity for agency-wide reporting and analysis functions, as well as planning and quality improvement activities.

Schenectady County

SCAP Primary Resource Center & Early Learning Locations

Bellevue Early Learning Center
2000 Broadway
Schenectady, NY 12306

Northside Village Early Learning Center
2450 Van Vranken Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12308

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
920 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307

**Primary Resource Center
913 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307**

Bigelow Early Learning Center
100 Bigelow Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12304

Schenectady County

VII.   Community Overview

SCAP's primary service area of **Schenectady County** is geographically one of the smallest counties in New York State. It is the smallest most densely populated county in the eight-county area covered by the Capital Region Economic Development Council (CREDC). Based on the latest U.S. Census Bureau data, the estimated population of Schenectady County as of July 1, 2022, is 158,083. Although the smallest county in size in the CREDC area, Schenectady County contains the region's second-largest city - the City of Schenectady, which is populated by 66,877 people. There are eight municipalities in Schenectady County:

- **Duanesburg**: The westernmost town in the county, Duanesburg, includes 73.5 square miles. It is bordered by Montgomery County in the north, Schoharie County in the west and southwest, and Albany County in the south. The **Village of Delanson** is located in the town.

- **Glenville**: Located north of the Mohawk River, the Town of Glenville covers an area of 50.9 square miles and includes the **Village of Scotia**.

- **Niskayuna**: At 15.1 square miles, Niskayuna is geographically the smallest town in Schenectady County. It is located in the southeastern part of the county, east of the City of Schenectady, and is the easternmost town in the county.

- **Princetown**: Located in the central part of the county, west of the City of Schenectady, Princetown is bordered by Montgomery County to the north and Albany County to the south.

- **Rotterdam**: Also located in the central part of Schenectady County, bordering the City of Schenectady, Rotterdam covers 36.5 square miles. The Mohawk River defines the northeast town line, and the New York State Thruway passes through the town.

- **City of Schenectady**: The county seat, the City of Schenectady, covers 11 square miles. The county's most densely populated municipality includes the following neighborhoods: Bellevue, Central State Street, Downtown, Eastern Ave, Hamilton Hill & Vale, Mont Pleasant, Northside, Stockade, Union Street, and Woodlawn.
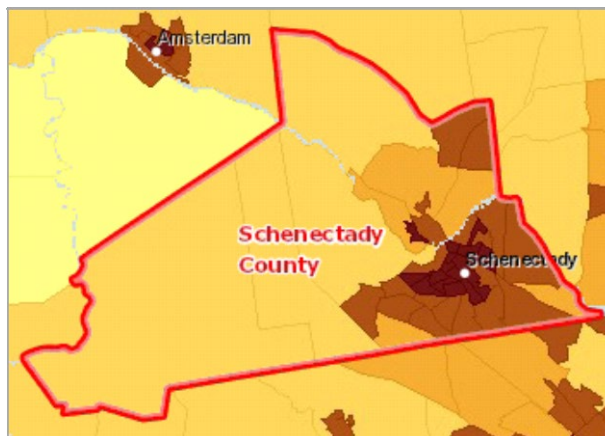
Schenectady County Population Density

**Persons per square mile
by Census Tract**
2015-2019 American Community Survey

- ■ Over 5,000
- ■ 1,001 – 5,000
- ■ 501 – 1,000
- ■ 51 – 500
- ■ Under 51
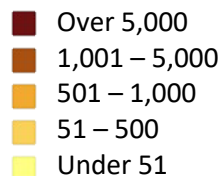
City of Schenectady Neighborhoods
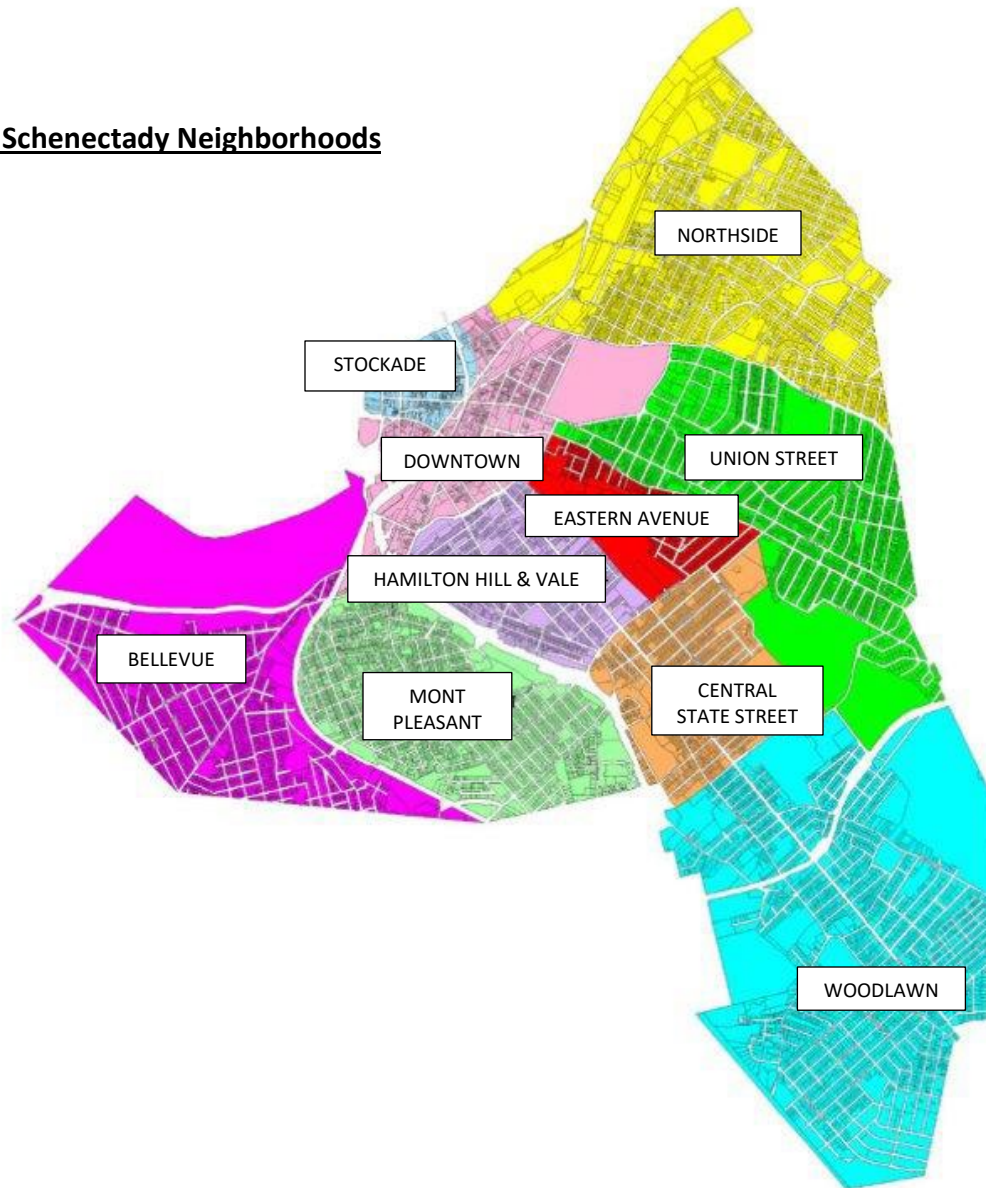
The Healthy Capital District Initiative (HCDI) published its *2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment*, which examines the relationship between socioeconomic and health indicators across the Capital Region's neighborhoods. This assessment covers a six-county region: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties.

The report uses various indicators to assess community health needs, including years of potential life lost (YPLL), area deprivation index (ADI), and specific health outcomes. The report highlights significant disparities within Schenectady County, particularly in the City of Schenectady.

Key findings for Schenectady County include:

1. Persistent High-Need Areas: The City/Stockade and Hamilton Hill neighborhoods in Schenectady continue to be identified as high-need areas.

2. Health Disparities: These neighborhoods show significantly higher rates of various health issues compared to the rest of the county and state averages. For example:
   a. The City/Stockade neighborhood had an age-adjusted infant mortality rate of 17.5 per 1,000 births, which is 3.6 times higher than the New York State (excluding NYC) rate of 4.9 per 1,000 births.
   b. Hamilton Hill had a neonatal mortality rate of 11.0 per 1,000 births, 3.3 times higher than the state average.
3. Chronic Disease: Compared to state averages, both neighborhoods showed significantly higher rates of emergency department visits for conditions like asthma, COPD/CLRD, and diabetes.
4. Mental Health and Substance Abuse: These areas had the highest rates of ED visits and hospitalizations due to mental diseases and disorders in the Capital Region.
5. Socioeconomic Factors: While specific ADI percentages are not provided in the summary, the persistence of these neighborhoods as high-need areas suggests ongoing socioeconomic challenges related to income, education, employment, and housing quality.

This updated assessment continues to highlight the significant health inequities in certain Schenectady neighborhoods, particularly in the City of Schenectady. The consistent identification of these areas as high-need underscores the importance of targeted interventions and resources to address these persistent health and socioeconomic disparities.

Immigration: The number of non-United States citizens residing in Schenectady County is estimated at 5,735, with 59.5% (3,411) residing in the City of Schenectady. Of note is that 75% of United States citizens born in Puerto Rico or United States island areas live in the City of Schenectady.

Nativity and Citizenship Status

	Schenectady County	City of Schenectady
Total Population	160,093	66,990
US Citizen, born in the US	137,884	53,846
US Citizen, born in Puerto Rico or US Island Areas	1,055	792
US Citizen, born abroad of American Parent(s)	3,047	2,440
US citizen by naturalization	10,368	6,501
Not a US Citizen	5,735	3,411

Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Foreign-Born Population: 17,218 residents in Schenectady County were born outside of the United States, representing 10.8% of the county's total population. 11,429 foreign-born residents reside in the City of Schenectady, representing 66.4% of the county's foreign-born population. 5,802 of the foreign-born residents in Schenectady County were born in Guyana, representing 33.7% of the county's foreign-born population. 5,244 of these Guyanese-born residents live in the City of Schenectady, representing 90.4% of the county's Guyanese-born population. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05006 "Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States")

VIII. **Demographics**

According to the 2022 Population Estimates from the US Census Bureau, Schenectady County is populated by 160,377 people, with 66,135 people (41.2%) of residents living in the City of Schenectady. The towns of Glenville and Rotterdam remain the most populated municipalities outside of the city. Overall, the total county population has increased by 13,822 people since the 2000 Census, which reported a population of 146,555 for Schenectady County.

Total Population: Decennial Census

Municipality	2022 Census Data	2020 Census	2010 Census	2000 Census
Schenectady County	160,377	158,061	154,727	146,555
City of Schenectady	66,135	67,047	66,135	61,821
Duanesburg	5,876	5,863	6,122	5,808
Village of Delanson	336	335	377	385
Glenville	29,947	29,326	29,480	28,183
Village of Scotia	7,461	7,272	7,729	7,957
Niskayuna	23,783	23,278	21,781	20,295
Princetown	2,047	2,024	2,115	2,132
Rotterdam	30,340	30,523	29,094	28,316

Sources U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (Release Date: March 2023). Annual Resident Population Estimates for Counties in New York: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022

Age Distribution: According to the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 48.7% of Schenectady County's population is male and 51.3% is female. The lowest median age occurs in the City of Schenectady (37.8 years). The highest median age occurs in Princetown (48.1 years). While the City of Schenectady continues to have the greatest number of individuals in each age category, municipalities with the highest percentage of their total population by age category vary. The three highest percentages in each age category are found in the following municipalities (not including the Villages of Delanson and Scotia):
- **Under 5 years:** City of Schenectady (6.6%), Rotterdam (6.3%), and Niskayuna (6.2%)
- **5-17 years**: Niskayuna (19.4%), Duanesburg (18.7%) and Glenville (17.6%)
- **18-64 years:** City of Schenectady (65.1%), Duanesburg (62.8%) and Rotterdam (61.3%)
- **64 years and above:** Princetown (24.7%), Glenville (20.8%) and Niskayuna (19.6%)

Regarding the age cohort projections, the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates show:
- Population of residents ages 45-54: 19,496
- Population of residents age 65 and over: 27,622

These figures align closely with the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) as noted in previous Community Needs Assessments prepared by SCAP, confirming their accuracy (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0101 "Age and Sex").

Age Distribution and Percent of Population

Municipality	Under 5 Years	% of Total	5 – 17 Years	% of Total	18 – 64 Years	% of Total	65+ Years	% of Total	Median Age (Years)
Schenectady County	9,761	6.2%	23,038	15.4%	93,468	60.9%	26,603	17.5%	40.4
City of Schenectady	3,957	6.6%	9,097	13.6%	40,604	65.1%	8,612	14.5%	37.8
Duanesburg	390	6.0%	1,209	18.7%	4,063	62.8%	815	12.6%	38.6
Village of Delanson	19	5.7%	70	21.0%	224	67.2%	20	6.0%	38.6
Glenville	1,338	4.6%	5,122	17.6%	16,685	57.0%	5,650	20.8%	42.5
Village of Scotia	500	6.5%	1,251	16.3%	4,667	60.9%	1,225	16.3%	38.4
Niskayuna	1,377	6.2%	4,282	19.4%	12,191	54.8%	4,209	19.6%	44.1
Princetown	80	4.2%	242	13.8%	1,087	57.4%	467	24.7%	48.1
Rotterdam	1,841	6.3%	4,198	14.4%	18,152	61.3%	5,179	17.9%	42.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0101 "Age and Sex"

Race and Ethnicity: The City of Schenectady remains the most diverse community in the county, while residents outside the city continue to identify primarily as White. Niskayuna maintains its position as the municipality with the most diversity outside the City of Schenectady, particularly due to its significant Asian population.

Race and Ethnicity (Race alone or in combination with one or more other races)

Municipality	White		Black / African American		Asian		Some Other Race		Hispanic/ Latino	
Schenectady County	114,886	72.7%	15,175	9.6%	8,592	5.4%	8,824	5.6%	12,491	7.9%
City of Schenectady	34,537	51.6%	12,827	19.1%	2,682	4.0%	6,310	9.4%	8,586	12.8%
Duanesburg	6,293	97.2%	48	0.7%	28	0.4%	79	1.2%	436	6.7%
Village of Delanson	323	97.0%	7	2.1%	3	0.9%	0	0%	14	4.2%
Glenville	27,340	93.6%	397	1.4%	52	1.8%	424	1.5%	1,196	4.1%
Village of Scotia	7,231	94.6%	194	2.5%	51	0.7%	43	0.6%	422	5.5%
Niskayuna	18,622	84.4%	508	2.3%	2,384	10.8%	377	1.7%	685	3.1%
Princetown	1,868	99.6%	4	0.2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Rotterdam	26,266	89.4%	1,391	4.7%	588	2.0%	497	1.7%	1,554	5.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP05 "ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates

Veterans: There are 7,704 veterans living in Schenectady County, representing 6.2% of the civilian population 18 years and over. Of those, 1,808 (23.5%) have a disability (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S2101 "Veteran Status").

IX. Economic Profile

Schenectady County's median household income of $70,712 is below the NYS median income of $74,314. There continue to be significant variations in median incomes across municipalities within the county. The median income of the municipality with the highest income (Niskayuna – $116,673) is more than double the median income of the municipality with the lowest median income (City of Schenectady – $49,993).

Median Household Income by Municipality

Municipality	Median Income
Schenectady County	$70,712
City of Schenectady	$49,993
Duanesburg	$90,833
Glenville	$85,376
Niskayuna	$116,673
Princetown	$89,464
Rotterdam	$75,601

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1901

The City of Schenectady's median income of $49,993 remains significantly higher than what its lowest-income residents earn. For example, as of December 31, 2022, New York State's minimum wage increased to $14.20/hour. A family of four supported by one full-time minimum wage earner would earn $29,536 annually (based on 2,080 hours per year), which falls below the 2023 federal poverty level of $30,000 for a family of this size.

Household Income by Municipality

	Less than $10,000	$10,000 to $14,999	$15,000 to $24,999	$25,000 to $34,999	$35,000 to $49,999	$50,000 to $74,999	$75,000 to $99,999	$100,000 to $149,999	$150,00 to $199,999	$200K+
New York State	6.8%	4.2%	7.0%	6.9%	9.5%	14.7%	11.9%	16.3%	9.2%	13.5%
Schenectady County	5.4%	4.4%	7.2%	6.5%	10.8%	14.8%	14.3%	20.1%	8.6%	7.9%
City of Schenectady	9.1%	7.2%	11.6%	8.7%	13.5%	14.7%	11.5%	15.6%	4.4%	3.7%
Duanesburg	1.9%	1.3%	4.3%	6.6%	7.1%	15.9%	16.3%	24.7%	13.7%	8.2%
Village of Delanson	2.0%	0.0%	5.9%	10.9%	9.9%	17.8%	21.8%	19.8%	11.9%	0.0%
Glenville	2.0%	3.5%	4.8%	6.0%	9.5%	15.8%	15.1%	23.2%	11.3%	8.8%
Village of Scotia	3.8%	6.5%	9.1%	8.0%	14.2%	15.7%	14.6%	19.1%	6.1%	2.9%
Niskayuna	1.6%	1.4%	3.0%	3.2%	6.0%	11.4%	12.4%	25.2%	15.5%	20.3%
Princetown	1.1%	2.0%	2.5%	7.0%	9.0%	15.9%	18.6%	23.1%	10.5%	10.3%
Rotterdam	3.2%	2.9%	7.0%	6.1%	11.2%	16.5%	18.3%	22.2%	8.0%	4.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03

Countywide, 17.0% of households make less than $25,000 per year, and 23.5% make less than $35,000. These percentages increase significantly within the City of Schenectady, where 27.9% of households make less than $25,000 annually, and 36.6% of households earn less than $35,000 per year. After the City of Schenectady, the communities with the highest percentage of households with incomes less than $25,000 per year are the Village of Scotia (19.4%), the Village of Delanson (7.9%), and the Town of Rotterdam (13.1%). Key observations:
- The City of Schenectady continues to have the highest percentage of low-income households.
- The Village of Scotia has the second-highest percentage of households earning less than $25,000 per year, but this percentage has decreased from the previous data.
- The Village of Delanson shows a significant decrease in the percentage of low-income households compared to the previous data.
- The Town of Rotterdam maintains its position as having the third-highest percentage of households earning less than $25,000 per year among the listed communities.

These updated figures show some changes in the income distribution across Schenectady County, with some areas showing improvement in lower-income brackets. However, significant income disparities still exist between different municipalities within the county (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03 "Selected Economic Characteristics").

Regional Economic Development Councils
The 10 Regional Economic Development Councils established by New York State in 2011 to implement long-term strategic plans for economic growth for their regions remain in place. The Councils are public-private partnerships made up of local experts and stakeholders from business, academia, local government, and non-governmental organizations. Through New York State's annual **Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)** process, which incorporates review by the Regional Councils, applicants are considered for multiple funding sources for economic development projects through submission of one application. The **Capital Region Economic Development Council (CREDC)** represents eight counties: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington counties.

CREDC Vision
"To foster an ecosystem in which the private sector, academia, and government work in harmony to stimulate economic growth. Locally collaborative. Globally competitive. Economically vibrant."

New York State's **Workforce Development Initiative** utilizes a similar Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process to support strategic regional efforts that meet short-term workforce needs, address long-term industry needs, improve regional talent pipelines, enhance flexibility and adaptability of local workforce entities, and expand workplace learning opportunities. This initiative, established in 2019, continues to operate. In 2023, New York State announced a $150 million investment in workforce development initiatives, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to this program.

Schenectady County Economic Development
Schenectady County's Economic Development and Planning Department provides advice and technical assistance to the County Manager, the Schenectady County Legislature, and municipal governments. The Schenectady County **Metroplex Development Authority** was established in 1998 as a public benefit corporation by the State of New York to institute a comprehensive, coordinated program of economic development activities in the Route 5 and Route 7 corridors of Schenectady County, with a focus on downtown Schenectady. The mission of the Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority is to:

- enhance the long-term economic and social vitality as well as overall quality of life in Schenectady County through a comprehensive, coordinated program of economic development within the Metroplex service district with particular emphasis on downtown Schenectady;
- attract, incentivize (when necessary), and leverage private investment through various forms of financial assistance;
- assist with site acquisition assemblage, development, and revitalization; and
- provide cooperative technical assistance and support through its participation in projects, programs, and other initiatives.

Opportunity Zone Community Development Program

New York State continues to participate in the federal Opportunity Zone community development program, offered through the Tax Cuts and Job Acts of 2017. An Opportunity Zone is an economically-distressed community where new investments, under certain conditions, may be eligible for preferential tax treatment. Localities qualify as Opportunity Zones if they have been nominated by the state and that nomination has been certified by the Secretary of the United States Treasury via delegation of authority to the Internal Revenue Service. In Schenectady County, three census tracts have been designated as Opportunity Zone areas; all are within the City of Schenectady: 202, 210.01, and 335. However, it's important to note that the Opportunity Zone program has a defined lifespan. The tax benefits are designed to encourage long-term investments, with the program set to end on December 31, 2047, unless extended by new legislation. As of 2023, there have been ongoing discussions at the federal level about potential modifications or extensions to the Opportunity Zone program, but no significant changes have been enacted. The program continues to operate under its original framework as established by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

X.   Poverty

In Schenectady County, an estimated 17,556 people (11.3%) are living below the poverty level. The highest level of poverty in Schenectady County is still found in the City of Schenectady, with 12,458 people (20.1%) living below the poverty level. According to the 2021 ACS 1-Year Estimates, the percentage of people living below the poverty level in New York State is 13.9%. While this rate is higher than the rate of 11.3% reported for Schenectady County residents, both rates are lower than the 20.1% of residents in the City of Schenectady that live below the poverty level. Of all Schenectady County residents living below the poverty level, 71.0% reside in the City of Schenectady. This is 5.9% less than the 76.9% reported in the previous assessment.

Percent Below Poverty Level by Municipality

Municipality	Below Poverty Level	Percent Below Poverty Level 2017-21 ACS (2023 Update)	Percent Below Poverty Level 2015-19 ACS (2021 CNA)	Percent Below Poverty Level 2012-16 ACS (2018 CNA)
Schenectady County	17,556	11.3%	11.4%	12.0%
City of Schenectady	12,458	20.1%	19.4%	21.1%
Duanesburg	329	5.1%	8.5%	5.1%

Village of Delanson	19	5.7%	14.4%	4.2%
Glenville	1,359	4.7%	5.8%	5.2%
Village of Scotia	678	8.9%	9.1%	7.7%
Niskayuna	1,094	5.0%	3.4%	5.4%
Princetown	80	4.3%	4.8%	3.9%
Rotterdam	2,227	7.6%	7.4%	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Key observations:
- The overall poverty rate in Schenectady County has decreased slightly from previous years.
- The City of Schenectady continues to have the highest poverty rate in the county.
- Municipalities like Niskayuna and Rotterdam have seen slight increases in their poverty rates.
- The Village of Delanson's poverty rate has significantly decreased since the 2021 CNA data.
- The percentage of county residents in poverty who reside in the City of Schenectady has decreased, suggesting a slight redistribution of poverty across the county.

<u>Age</u>
When compared to Schenectady County's other municipalities (city and towns), the City of Schenectady continues to have the largest percentage of individuals living in poverty in all age categories: children under 18 years (29.2%), adults ages 18 to 64 (17.5%) and residents 65 and over (11.9%). The municipalities with the highest percentage of total population in each age category living in poverty are:
- Under 18 years: City of Schenectady (29.2), Rotterdam (9.4%), and Glenville (7.4%)
- 18 to 64 years: City of Schenectady (17.5%), Rotterdam (7.1%), and Niskayuna (4.4%)
- 65 and over: City of Schenectady (11.9%), Rotterdam (6.4%), and Niskayuna (3.9%)

Poverty by Age

Municipality	Under 18 years			18 to 64			65 and Over		
	Total	# Below Poverty Level	% In Poverty	Total	# Below Poverty Level	% In Poverty	Total	# Below Poverty Level	% In Poverty
Schenectady County	32,838	4,199	12.5%	95,183	10,914	11.5%	27,280	2,443	9.0%
City of Schenectady	13,054	3,811	29.2%	41,592	7,269	17.5%	8,988	1,072	11.9%
Duanesburg	1,599	64	4.0%	3,948	170	4.3%	930	95	10.2%
Glenville	6,460	476	7.4%	16,512	636	3.9%	6,223	247	4.0%
Niskayuna	5,659	216	3.8%	12,034	526	4.4%	4,366	170	3.9%
Princetown	322	14	4.3%	1,007	35	3.5%	547	31	5.7%
Rotterdam	6,039	566	9.4%	17,326	1,228	7.1%	5,992	381	6.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Key observations:
- The City of Schenectady continues to have the highest poverty rates across all age groups.
- There have been some changes in the ranking of municipalities with the highest poverty rates, particularly for the under-18 and 18- to 64-year-old age groups.
- Rotterdam has moved up in the rankings for poverty rates across all age groups.
- Duanesburg has seen a significant decrease in its poverty rates, particularly for the under-18 age group.
- Niskayuna has seen a slight increase in poverty rates for the 18 to 64 and 65 and over age groups.

Low-income Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool-Age Children

The table below utilizes 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) poverty data to estimate the number of birth to two, and three- and four-year-old children in Schenectady County living in poverty. There are 9,761 children under the age of five in the county, 1,755 of whom live in poverty. The highest concentration of children under age five in poverty, 71.1%, is found in the City of Schenectady. This percentage is slightly higher than the 70% reported in the previous assessment but still significantly lower than the 87.4% reported in SCAP's 2018 Community Needs Assessment.

Children Under Age Five in Poverty

Municipality	Total # of Children		% < 5 in Poverty	Estimated # in Poverty	
	0-2 years	3 & 4 years		0-2 years	3 & 4 years
City of Schenectady	2,559	1,398	33.7%	862	471
Town of Duanesburg	196	194	8.5%	17	16
Town of Glenville	814	524	8.3%	68	43
Town of Niskayuna	842	535	6.0%	51	32
Town of Princetown	53	27	17.5%	9	5
Town of Rotterdam	1,165	676	12.6%	147	85
Total:	5,629	3,354	---------	1,154	652

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B17001

This updated table reflects the most recent data available and shows some changes from the previous version:
- The total number of children has been updated for each municipality.
- The poverty percentages have been adjusted based on the new data.
- The estimated numbers of children in poverty have been recalculated accordingly.
- Data is now available for the Town of Princetown, which was previously missing.

These updates provide a more current picture of child poverty in Schenectady County and its municipalities.

Gender

There are 256 more females than males in Schenectady County living in poverty:

Poverty by Gender

	Male	Female
Total in Poverty	8,650	8,906
% of Total Males/Females	11.4%	11.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Single-Parent Families (female head of household): Poverty rates for single-parent female head-of-household families remain significantly higher than those for married couple families. 30.2% of Schenectady County's single-parent female head-of-household families with related children under 18 years old live in poverty. This percentage increases to 42.4% in the City of Schenectady and 38.8% in the Town of Duanesburg.

Percentage of Families Living in Poverty by Type and Municipality

Municipality	All Families	% in poverty	With Related Children < 18	% in poverty	Married Couple Families	% in poverty	With Related Children < 18	% in poverty	Families w/Female Head of Household	% in poverty	With Related Children < 18	% in poverty
Schenectady County	32,964	7.1%	13,517	12.2%	24,411	2.2%	8,345	2.7%	6,098	21.6%	3,720	30.2%
City of Schenectady	11,896	12.6%	5,070	22.1%	7,264	3.6%	2,349	5.1%	3,321	29.6%	2,048	42.4%
Duanesburg	1,561	3.5%	729	6.6%	1,297	0.5%	544	1.1%	165	22.4%	116	38.8%
Glenville	6,803	3.5%	2,712	6.2%	5,442	1.1%	1,885	1.1%	1,052	11.9%	669	16.6%
Niskayuna	5,541	2.4%	2,256	3.2%	4,883	1.4%	1,880	1.4%	462	9.7%	292	14.4%
Princetown	462	2.6%	134	9.0%	407	0.7%	114	2.6%	35	17.1%	16	37.5%
Rotterdam	6,701	6.4%	2,616	9.6%	5,118	2.7%	1,572	2.7%	1,063	17.8%	579	24.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1702

Key changes:
- The gender gap in poverty has significantly decreased.
- The overall percentage of families living in poverty has slightly decreased in most municipalities.
- The poverty rate for single-parent female-headed households with children under 18 has decreased in Schenectady County overall and in most municipalities but remains significantly higher than other family types.
- Duanesburg has seen a substantial decrease in poverty rates across most categories.

These updates reflect the most recent data available and show some improvements in poverty rates, though significant disparities still exist, particularly for single-mother households.

Race and Ethnicity

Schenectady County Poverty by Race: Percent in Poverty

	White	Black/African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Multiple Races
% in Poverty	7.5%	25.4%	22.1%	22.0%	48.0%	21.6%	25.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

At 48.0%, the racial group with the highest poverty rate in Schenectady County remains Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, followed by the Hispanic or Latino population at 29.1%. The Black/African American population has the fourth-highest poverty rate at 25.4%

Key observations:
- The poverty rate for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders has increased from 42.9% to 48.0%.
- The poverty rate for Black/African Americans has decreased slightly from 28.1% to 25.4%.
- The Asian population has seen a significant increase in poverty rate, from 10.1% to 22.0%.
- The poverty rate for those of Multiple Races has decreased from 25.7% to 21.6%.
- The Hispanic or Latino population continues to experience a high poverty rate at 29.1%, which is significantly higher than the overall county poverty rate.

It's important to note that some of these racial/ethnic groups represent small populations in Schenectady County, which can lead to higher margins of error in the estimates. However, these figures continue to highlight significant racial and ethnic disparities in poverty rates within Schenectady County, underscoring the need for targeted interventions and support for these communities.

Poverty by Ethnicity Alone

Total Population Hispanic/Latino in Poverty	Total Population Not Hispanic/Latino in Poverty	Percent Hispanic/Latino Population in Poverty	Percent Not Hispanic/Latino Population in Poverty
3,631	13,925	29.1%	9.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Minority populations continue to disproportionately live in the City of Schenectady. The updated poverty rates for different racial and ethnic groups in the City of Schenectady are as follows: White (not Hispanic or Latino) – 11.8%; Black/African American – 28.5%; Hispanic or Latino (of any race) – 34.3%; Two or More Races – 29.3%

Key observations:
- The poverty rate for the Hispanic/Latino population in Schenectady County has slightly increased from 28.4% to 29.1%.
- The poverty rate for the non-Hispanic/Latino population in the county has slightly decreased from 10.2% to 9.6%.
- In the City of Schenectady:
  - The poverty rate for Black/African Americans has decreased from 31.7% to 28.5%, but remains significantly higher than the rate for White residents.
  - The poverty rate for White residents has slightly decreased from 13.1% to 11.8%.
  - The poverty rate for Hispanic or Latino residents has decreased from 38% to 34.3%, but

remains the highest among the groups listed.
  o The poverty rate for those of Two or More Races has decreased from 33.6% to 29.2%.

These updated figures continue to show significant disparities in poverty rates among different racial and ethnic groups, with minority populations experiencing disproportionately higher rates of poverty, especially in the City of Schenectady. While there have been some improvements since the last assessment, the disparities remain substantial and underscore the need for targeted interventions and support for these communities.

Poverty Status in the Past 12 months, Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin

Area	White			Black/African American		
	Total	# in Poverty	%	Total	# in Poverty	%
New York State	11,805,933	1,141,237	9.7%	2,986,194	595,835	19.9%
Schenectady County	114,886	8,623	7.5%	16,626	4,231	25.4%
City of Schenectady	34,537	4,075	11.8%	14,283	4,071	28.5%
Duanesburg	6,293	283	4.5%	48	0	0%
Village of Delanson	323	19	5.9%	7	0	0%
Glenville	27,340	1,246	4.6%	397	37	9.3%
Village of Scotia	7,231	639	8.8%	194	0	0%
Niskayuna	18,622	877	4.7%	508	46	9.1%
Princetown	1,868	80	4.3%	4	0	0%
Rotterdam	26,266	1,963	7.5%	1,391	77	5.5%

Area	Hispanic/Latino			Two or more races		
	Total	# in Poverty	%	Total	# in Poverty	%
New York State	3,815,376	779,307	20.4%	658,250	117,830	17.9%
Schenectady County	12,491	3,631	29.1%	13,728	2,962	24.6%
City of Schenectady	8,586	2,945	34.3%	5,630	1,645	29.2%
Duanesburg	436	0	0%	91	46	50.5%
Village of Delanson	14	0	0%	0	0	0%
Glenville	1,196	253	21.2%	654	60	9.2%
Village of Scotia	422	222	52.6%	145	39	26.9%
Niskayuna	685	74	10.8%	552	57	10.3%
Princetown	0	0	0%	4	0	0%
Rotterdam	1,554	359	23.1%	1,000	165	16.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Key Observations:
- Poverty rates have generally decreased for most racial groups across Schenectady County since the previous assessment.

- However, significant disparities in poverty rates among different racial and ethnic groups persist
- The City of Schenectady continues to have higher poverty rates across all racial and ethnic groups compared to the county average.
- Despite some improvements, minority populations continue to experience disproportionately higher poverty rates, especially in the City of Schenectady.
- Schenectady County's poverty rates for minority groups are generally higher than the New York State averages.

Educational Attainment and Poverty: The general trend of higher education levels correlating with lower poverty rates continues. The percentage of residents in Schenectady County municipalities living in poverty who have not graduated from high school ranges from 0% to 26.4%, with four municipalities over 20%. The range for residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher living in poverty is much smaller, from 0% to 6.6%.

Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, Educational Attainment (Population 25 Years and Over)

Area	Less than High School Graduate			High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)		
	Total	Below Poverty Level	%	Total	Below Poverty Level	%
New York State	1,656,639	432,079	26.1%	3,359,077	451,379	13.4%
Schenectady County	8,594	2,021	23.5%	30,290	3,347	11.0%
City of Schenectady	5,878	1,549	26.4%	14,451	2,184	15.1%
Duanesburg	170	16	9.4%	1,431	72	5.0%
Village of Delanson	16	0	0%	45	2	4.4%
Glenville	773	92	11.9%	4,859	273	5.6%
Village of Scotia	301	64	21.3%	1,420	146	10.3%
Niskayuna	219	57	26.0%	2,008	155	7.7%
Princetown	102	24	23.5%	516	35	6.8%
Rotterdam	1,452	283	19.5%	7,025	628	8.9%

Area	Some College, Associate's Degree			Bachelor's Degree or Higher		
	Total	Below Poverty Level	%	Total	Below Poverty Level	%
New York State	3,225,430	298,851	9.3%	5,297,292	242,416	4.6%
Schenectady County	30,704	2,479	8.1%	36,899	1,264	3.4%
City of Schenectady	12,434	1,641	13.2%	10,621	701	6.6%
Duanesburg	1,451	80	5.5%	1,114	25	2.2%
Village of Delanson	92	8	8.7%	64	1	1.6%

Glenville	6,069	256	4.2%	8,819	227	2.6%
Village of Scotia	1,636	38	2.3%	2,050	113	5.5%
Niskayuna	3,099	180	5.8%	10,466	174	1.7%
Princetown	419	0	0%	424	0	0%
Rotterdam	7,232	322	4.5%	5,455	137	2.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701

Key Observations:
- This data underscores the persistent relationship between educational attainment and poverty rates while also highlighting the variability across different municipalities.
- The City of Schenectady consistently shows higher poverty rates across all educational levels compared to the county average.
- Having a bachelor's degree or higher significantly reduces the likelihood of living in poverty.

Income and Disabilities: Individuals with disabilities are more likely to have low incomes. The differential in median income for residents with disabilities vs. those who are not disabled is substantial.

Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months by Disability Status by Gender for the Civilian Non-institutionalized Population 16 Years and Over with Earnings

	New York	Schenectady County
Median Earnings	$44,127	$39,940
With a disability	**$28,706**	**$22,753**
Male	$32,723	$24,421
Female	$25,015	$20,951
Without a disability	**$45,024**	**$41,169**
Male	$50,871	$47,046
Female	$39,488	$35,816

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B18140

Key observations:
- The earnings gap between individuals with and without disabilities persists.
- In Schenectady County, individuals with disabilities earn approximately 55% of what individuals without disabilities earn.
- The gender gap in earnings is present for both disability statuses, with males consistently earning more than females.
- The earnings disparity between those with and without disabilities is more pronounced in Schenectady County than in New York State as a whole.

The data continues to highlight the significant income challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, as well as the persistent gender-based income disparities.

SSI (Supplemental Security Income): While many individuals with disabilities can support themselves through work, many cannot and must rely on public support. As of December 2022, 5,674 individuals in Schenectady County were receiving SSI. Maximum SSI benefit amounts for 2023, which include both federal and state SSI benefits, are shown below (not all recipients receive maximum benefit amount).

Maximum Monthly SSI Payments effective January 1, 2023

Category	Maximum
Individual Living Alone	$951
Individual Living with Others (paying own expenses)	$887
Individual Living with Others (receiving free or subsidized food & shelter)	$609.67
Couple Living Alone	$1,398
Couple Living with Others (paying own expenses)	$1,340
Couple living with Others (receiving some amount of free or subsidized food & shelter)	$926.33

Source: NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

While the maximum monthly SSI payments have increased across all categories, reflecting adjustments for cost of living and inflation, it's important to note that even with these increases, many SSI recipients may still struggle to meet basic needs, especially in areas with high living costs.

Living Wage: The 2023 living wage for Schenectady County shows the hourly rate an individual must earn to support their family if they are the sole provider and working full-time (2,080 hours per year). The poverty rate is typically quoted as gross annual income. In the chart that follows, it has been converted to an hourly wage for the sake of comparison.

Schenectady County Hourly Living Wage: 2023 Update

Hourly Wages	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, 2 Children	1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults (1 working)	2 Adults (1 working), 1 Child	2 Adults (1 working), 2 Children	2 Adults (1 working), 3 Children
Living Wage	$17.87	$36.75	$46.22	$58.44	$28.03	$33.85	$37.88	$44.70
Poverty Wage	$7.07	$9.56	$12.05	$14.54	$9.56	$12.05	$14.54	$17.02
NYS Minimum Wage (as of 12/31/22)	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20	$14.20

Source: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage Calculator (2023 data)

Key Observations: Despite the increase in minimum wage, it still falls short of the living wage for all family types in Schenectady County. The substantial gap between the living wage and both the minimum wage and poverty wage underscores the ongoing economic challenges faced by many families in Schenectady County, particularly single-parent households and larger families.

Income/Public Benefits: The decreasing number of SNAP, TANF, and Safety Net Assistance recipients in Schenectady County from 2015 to 2020 has generally continued, with some fluctuations. The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic recovery have likely influenced these numbers in recent years.

Schenectady County Public Benefits, August 2014 – 2022

Program	August 2014	August 2015	August 2016	August 2017	August 2018	August 2019	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022
SNAP Total Recipients	25,673	24,764	23,259	22,096	21,009	20,528	20,930	22,714	20,651
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Total Recipients	4,536	4,207	3,738	3,522	3,279	3,016	2,352	2,145	2,037
Safety Net (SN) Assistance Total Recipients	2,072	1,899	1,681	1,601	1,391	1,317	1,069	985	1,045
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Total Recipients	5,758	5,971	6,027	5,885	5,875	5,846	5,796	5,708	5,674

Source: NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Key Observations: These trends reflect the complex interplay of economic conditions, policy changes, and the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The temporary increase in SNAP recipients in 2021 likely reflects the economic challenges many families faced during the pandemic, while the subsequent decrease may indicate some economic recovery.

ALICE Report

ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) is a United Way initiative to raise awareness of the challenges faced by low-income working families and to help initiate strategies and policies that alleviate them. The ALICE Threshold represents the basic cost of living in a county.

According to the most recent ALICE Report for New York (2023 release, using 2021 data):

- In Schenectady County, 41% of 55,262 households were below the ALICE Threshold (including 11% below the Federal Poverty Level and 30% ALICE).
- This is a slight improvement from the 45% reported in the 2020 ALICE Report.

2023 Self-Sufficiency Standard

The Self-Sufficiency Standard, prepared by the Center for Women's Welfare at the University of Washington, provides a more comprehensive measure of income adequacy than the federal poverty level. It calculates the income required to meet basic needs without public or private assistance for various family types across all New York counties.

Unfortunately, the 2023 Self-Sufficiency Standard for New York is not yet available. The most recent data available is from 2021.

2021 Self-Sufficiency Standard for Schenectady County

	Adult	Adult Preschooler	Adult Infant Preschooler	Adult Preschooler School-age	Adult School-age Teenager	2 Adults Infant	2 Adults Infant Preschooler	2 Adults Preschooler School-age
MONTHLY COSTS								
Housing	$871	$1,067	$1,067	$1,067	$1,067	$1,067	$1,067	$1,067
Child Care	$0	$1,028	$2,103	$1,638	$610	$1,075	$2,103	$1,638
Food	$288	$436	$573	$659	$765	$681	$804	$887
Transportation	$313	$322	$322	$322	$322	$617	$617	$617
Health Care	$194	$485	$496	$505	$537	$544	$554	$563
Miscellaneous	$167	$334	$456	$419	$330	$398	$515	$477
Taxes	$378	$719	$1,108	$871	$558	$861	$1,192	$1,006
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	$0	$0	$0	$0	($75)	$0	$0	$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	$0	($50)	($100)	($100)	($100)	($50)	($100)	($100)
Child Tax Credit (-)	$0	($167)	($333)	($333)	($333)	($167)	($333)	($333)
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE								
Hourly	$12.56	$23.72	$32.34	$28.68	$20.90	$14.28 per adult	$18.24 per adult	$16.54 per adult
Monthly	$2,211	$4,174	$5,692	$5,047	$3,679	$5,026	$6,419	$5,821
Annual	$26,535	$50,087	$68,302	$60,564	$44,150	$60,318	$77,027	$69,856
Emergency Savings Fund (Monthly)	$44	$96	$197	$146	$108	$56	$74	$71

While the 2023 report for New York is not yet available, we can provide the most recent data and adjust it for inflation to give an estimate for 2023. Using the 2021 data and adjusting for inflation (approximately 8.7% from 2021 to 2023):

Estimated 2023 Self-Sufficiency Standard for Select Family Types in Schenectady County:

Adult	Adult Preschooler	Adult Infant Preschooler	Adult Preschooler School-Age	Adult School-Age Teenager	2 Adults Infant	2 Adults Infant Preschooler	2 Adults Preschooler School-Age
$32,327	$58,635	$79,929	$71,190	$51,825	$70,507	$90,415	$82,037

Note: These figures are estimates based on 2021 data adjusted for inflation and should be used cautiously.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard continues to provide a more nuanced view of economic sufficiency than the federal poverty measure, accounting for regional variations in the cost of living and a broader range of essential expenses.

This data underscores the ongoing challenges faced by many households in Schenectady County, even those earning above the federal poverty level. Despite some improvement since the 2020 report, a significant portion of the county's households still struggle to meet basic living costs.

XI.   Employment & Education

Unemployment: According to the New York State Department of Labor, the average unemployment rate in Schenectady County for the most recent 12-month period (November 2022 to October 2023) is 3.4%. Here's how it compares to the other counties in the Capital Region:

- Schenectady County: 3.4%
- Albany County: 3.0%
- Rensselaer County: 3.0%
- Saratoga County: 2.6%

Schenectady County continues to have the highest unemployment rate among these four counties.

Average Unemployment Rates
November 2022 - October 2023
NYS and Capital Region Counties
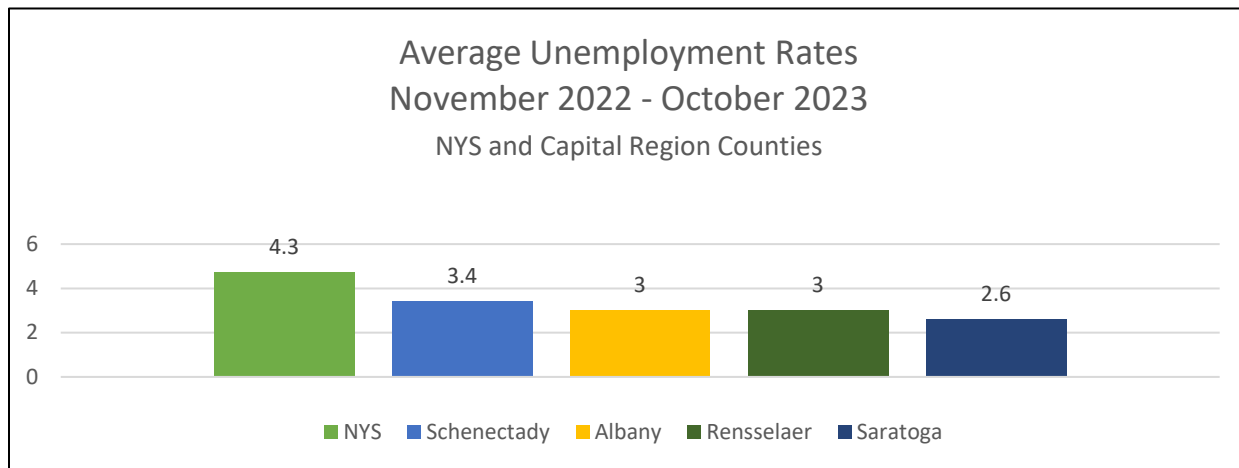
Data for Schenectady County from the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates with workforce implications includes:

- 9.5% of residents speak a language at home other than English (a slight decrease from the previous 9.7%)
- 32.2% of residents over age 25 have only a high school diploma or less (an improvement from the previous 34.9%)
- The poverty rate within the City of Schenectady is 20.1% (an increase from the previous 19.4%)
- The labor force participation rate for Schenectady County is 63.9%
- The median household income in Schenectady County is $70,712
- 11.3% of the county population lives below the poverty line

These updated figures show some improvements in educational attainment and a slight decrease in the percentage of non-English speakers at home. However, the poverty rate in the City of Schenectady has increased slightly, and the county's unemployment rate remains the highest in the Capital Region. These factors continue to have significant implications for workforce development and economic stability in the area.

Education: The four-year graduation rate for the Schenectady City School District continues to be the lowest in the county. The trend of increasing numbers of economically disadvantaged students attending public schools outside the city also continues.

The New York State Department of Education defines economically disadvantaged students as *"those*

who participate in, or whose family participates in, economic assistance programs, such as the free or reduced-price lunch programs, Social Security Insurance (SSI), Food Stamps, Foster Care, Refugee Assistance (cash or medical assistance), Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Safety Net Assistance (SNA), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), or Family Assistance: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). If one student in a family is identified as low income, all students from that household (economic unit) may be identified as low income."

2021-2022 New York State School Report Card Data

Student Group	Schenectady CSD	Niskayuna CSD	Duanesburg CSD	Rotterdam-Mohonasen CSD	Schalmont CSD	Scotia-Glenville CSD	Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake CSD
2018 Cohort Four – Year Graduation Rate – as of August 2022	80% of 684	96% of 315	95% of 56	90% of 230	92% of 183	93% of 225	96% of 275
Total # of students in the district	9,138	4,125	632	2,709	1,731	2,425	2,973
White	1,744 / 19%	2,682 / 65%	585 / 93%	1,996 / 74%	1,428 / 82%	2,125 / 88%	2,684 / 90%
Black/African American	2,651 / 29%	217 / 5%	7 / 1%	150 / 6%	44 / 3%	94 / 4%	37 / 1%
Multiracial	823 / 9%	261 / 6%	13 / 2%	206 / 8%	96 / 6%	81 / 3%	116 / 4%
Asian or Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	1,820 / 20%	719 / 17%	6 / 1%	93 / 3%	37 / 2%	34 / 1%	49 / 2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29 / 0%	10 / 0%	0 / 0%	7 / 0%	5 / 0%	2 / 0%	2 / 0%
Hispanic or Latino	2,071 / 23%	236 / 6%	21 / 3%	257 / 9%	121 / 7%	89 / 4%	85 / 3%
English Language Learners	802 / 9%	118 / 3%	1 / 0%	40 / 1%	6 / 0%	12 / 0%	6 / 0%
Students with Disabilities	1,720 / 19%	525 / 13%	79 / 13%	447 / 17%	265 / 15%	384 / 16%	450 / 15%
Economically Disadvantaged Students	7,183 / 79%	777 / 19%	176 / 28%	1,354 / 50%	584 / 34%	879 / 36%	516 / 17%

Source: NYS Department of Education

The Schenectady City School District (SCSD) continues to have the lowest graduation rate, although it has improved from 74% to 80%. SCSD graduation rates by student group for the 2018 cohort as of August 2022:

Student Group	% Grad Rate (2018 cohort as of August 2022)	Student Group	% Grad Rate
Female	85%	General Education Students	85%
Male	75%	Students with Disabilities	60%
Black/African American	77%	English Language Learners	66%
Hispanic	75%	Not Economically Disadvantaged	86%
White	84%	Economically Disadvantaged	78%

Source: NYS Department of Education

Key observations:
- SCSD's graduation rate has improved from 74% to 80%.
- The percentage of economically disadvantaged students has increased in most districts.
- The achievement gap between economically disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students persists but has narrowed slightly in SCSD.
- The percentage of English Language Learners in SCSD has increased from 5% to 9%.

These updates show some improvements in graduation rates and slight changes in demographic composition but also highlight the continuing challenges faced by economically disadvantaged students and English Language Learners.

XII.   Housing & Homelessness

Housing

Housing Occupancy, Conditions, and Affordability: In Schenectady County, the most recent five-year American Community Survey estimates indicate that 43.8% of all housing units are located in the City of Schenectady. The city also contains the largest percentage (56.4%) of the county's vacant units. Of note is the fact that 72.9% of the city's housing stock was constructed prior to 1960, with 53.4% of the housing stock constructed prior to 1940.

Housing Occupancy

County	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units	Homeowner Vacancy Rate	Rental Vacancy Rate
Schenectady County	70,384	55,262	15,122	1.1%	4.2%
City of Schenectady	30,829	23,217	7,612	1.8%	4.7%
Duanesburg	2,486	1,970	516	0.6%	0.0%
Glenville	13,209	10,776	2,433	0.8%	4.0%

Niskayuna	8,894	8,057	837	0.6%	2.7%
Princetown	864	653	211	1.2%	0.0%
Rotterdam	12,752	10,588	2,164	1.3%	4.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04

Key observations:
- The total number of housing units in Schenectady County has increased to 70,384, up from 69,615 in the previous estimate.
- The City of Schenectady's share of total housing units has decreased slightly from 46% to 43.8%.
- Vacancy rates have generally decreased across the county:
  - The homeowner vacancy rate for Schenectady County decreased from 2.0% to 1.1%.
  - The rental vacancy rate for Schenectady County decreased from 7.2% to 4.2%.
- The City of Schenectady still has the highest vacancy rates in the county, but they have improved:
  - The homeowner vacancy rate decreased from 3.4% to 1.8%.
  - The rental vacancy rate decreased from 7.5% to 4.7%.
- The age of housing stock in the City of Schenectady remains a concern, with only a slight decrease in the percentage of older homes.

These updates show some improvements in housing occupancy rates across the county, particularly in the City of Schenectady. However, the city's high proportion of older housing stock continues to be a potential issue, potentially requiring ongoing maintenance and renovation efforts.

Current Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data published by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, which demonstrates the extent of housing problems and housing needs by income bracket, is based on the Census Bureau's 2014-2018 American Community Survey:
- 54,360 occupied housing units in Schenectady County are inhabited by 36,845 homeowner and 17,515 renter households (32.2% rental households). In the City of Schenectady, the percentage of rental units remains higher than countywide; 22,795 occupied units include 11,665 homeowner units and 11,130 rental units (48.8% rental units).
- The percentage of households in the City of Schenectady with incomes at 80% or below the HUD Area Median Family Income (60.4%) remains significantly higher than the percentage of Schenectady County households with incomes below 80% of the HUD Area Median Family Income (44.9%).
- 29.1% of all households in Schenectady County are cost-burdened, defined as over 30% of income expended on housing-related costs. In the City of Schenectady, 36.8% of households are cost-burdened. Approximately 47.7% of renters in the county and 50.6% of renters in the city are cost-burdened. Comparatively, 20.3% of homeowners in the county and 23.6% of homeowners in the city are cost-burdened.
- 76.4% of the lowest income households in Schenectady County – 6,085/7,965 households with incomes at or below 30% of the HUD Area Median Family Income – experience at least one of four "housing problems", defined as incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, and cost burden greater than 30%. The majority of these lowest-income households, 65.7%, are located in the City of Schenectady.

- Renters in the City of Schenectady continue to be more likely to experience housing problems than homeowners. 51.8% of renters experience housing problems, and 31.3% of renters experience severe housing problems. 25.1% of homeowners experience housing problems and 10.2% of homeowners experience at least one of four "severe housing problems", defined as incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room and cost-burden greater than 50%.

Regarding lead-based paint hazards:
As of 2023, the City of Schenectady continues to address lead-based paint hazards in its older housing stock. The city was awarded an additional $3.5 million in federal funding in 2022 to address lead hazards in approximately 175 housing units over the next 42 months. This is in addition to the $3,406,500 awarded in 2020 to address lead issues in 203 housing units.

These updates show slight improvements in some areas, such as a small decrease in the percentage of cost-burdened households. However, housing affordability and quality remain significant challenges, particularly in the City of Schenectady and for low-income households. The ongoing efforts to address lead-based paint hazards demonstrate a continued commitment to improving housing quality in the area.

Fair Market Rents (FMR) are estimated annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

FY2023 Fair Market Rents (FMR) for Schenectady County & Albany-Schenectady-Troy MSA and Hourly Wage to Afford a Fair Market Rent

	Efficiency	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms
FMR	$948	$1055	$1,285	$1,590	$1,746
Hourly Wage Needed for FMR	$18.23	$20.29	$24.71	$30.58	$33.58

Sources: HUD FY2023 Fair Market Rent Documentation System and National Low Income Housing Coalition

The hourly wage needed to afford an apartment at FMR defines affordable as not more than 30% of gross income spent on gross housing costs. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition's 2023 Out of Reach report:
- The maximum affordable monthly rent for Schenectady County families with an annual income at 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) is $885 per month.
- The 2023 FMR for a two-bedroom unit in Schenectady County is $1,285.
- A family in Schenectady County would need to earn at least $51,400 per year, with an hourly wage of $24.71, to afford a two-bedroom rental unit at Fair Market Rent.
- The county's hourly mean renter wage is $18.82.

Key observations:
- Fair Market Rents have increased across all unit sizes since the 2022 data.
- The hourly wage needed to afford FMR has also increased for all unit sizes.
- The gap between the hourly wage needed to afford a two-bedroom unit ($24.71) and the county's mean renter wage ($18.82) has widened, indicating growing affordability challenges.

- The maximum affordable rent for families at 30% AMI has increased from $795 to $885, but this is still significantly below the FMR for even a one-bedroom apartment.

These updates highlight the continuing affordability challenges in the Schenectady County rental market, particularly for low-income renters. The widening gap between wages and rental costs suggests a need for continued focus on affordable housing initiatives and wage growth in the county.

Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority (SMHA): SMHA continues to operate seven conventional public housing developments in the City of Schenectady, managing over 1,000 units of public housing. The properties serving different populations remain the same:
- Three properties serve the elderly and disabled:
  - Schonowee Village
  - Ten Eyck Apartments
  - Lincoln Heights
- Four properties serve families with children:
  - Yates Village/Northside Village
  - Steinmetz Homes
  - MacGathan Townhouses
  - Maryvale Apartments

SMHA's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program serves approximately 1,400 households. It helps residents afford apartments by paying a portion of their rent directly to the landlord. The waitlist for this program remains long, and it is not currently open for new applications. The most recent application period was from March 7, 2023, through March 11, 2023. During these five days, SMHA received 3,577 applications. The high number of applications received during the brief application window in March 2023 continues to underscore the significant demand for affordable housing in Schenectady.

2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing: There hasn't been a more recent comprehensive Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the City of Schenectady since the 2020 report which was reported on in SCAP's last CNA. However, the findings from the 2020 analysis remain relevant, with the city continuing to address the identified impediments:
- Aging housing stock remains a concern, with a significant portion of homes built before 1960.
- Lead hazards continue to be addressed through federal and local initiatives.
- Affordability of single-family homes for low to moderate-income households remains a challenge.
- Vacant and abandoned properties are still being targeted for redevelopment or demolition.
- Property tax rates continue to be a concern for residents.

As highlighted in the 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing: "According to HUD, a neighborhood can be a R/ECAP (Racial or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty) if it has a poverty rate that exceeds 40% or is three or more times the average tract poverty rate for the metropolitan/micropolitan area, whichever threshold is lower. Census tracts with this extreme poverty that satisfy the racial/ethnic concentration threshold are deemed as R/ECAPs." The analysis identifies three census tracts within the city that meet the criteria to be considered an R/ECAP: 209, 210.01, and 210.02. These census tracts identified in the 2020 analysis likely remain areas of concern. However, updated poverty and demographic data would be needed to confirm their current R/ECAP status.

Fair Housing Actions: As of the latest available information:
- The City of Schenectady has not faced any formal actions regarding fair housing violations.

- The city continues to support fair housing initiatives as outlined in the 2020 analysis:
  - Incentives for affirmative housing actions are still being promoted.
  - Lead hazard reduction efforts are ongoing, with additional federal funding received in 2022 for lead abatement in approximately 175 housing units.
  - The Capital Region Land Bank continues its work to address vacant and abandoned properties.
  - The city maintains its support for affordable housing development and homeownership programs.

Recent Developments:
- In 2022, the city received a $3.5 million federal grant for lead hazard reduction, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to addressing this issue.
- The Capital Region Land Bank continues to be active in property rehabilitation and demolition efforts.
- The city has been supporting various affordable housing initiatives, including the renovation of existing properties and the development of new affordable units.

While the core challenges identified in the 2020 analysis persist, the city continues to work on addressing these impediments through various programs and initiatives.

Affordable Housing Development and Rehabilitation: Local entities continue to play a crucial role in affordable housing development and rehabilitation activities in the City of Schenectady and Schenectady County. Key organizations include:
1. Better Community Neighborhoods, Inc. (BCNI):
   - BCNI continues its work following the 2020 merger.
   - Recent projects include the renovation of 22 properties in the Eastern Avenue neighborhood, creating 50 affordable housing units.
   - They are also involved in the ongoing Hillside View Apartments project, which aims to create 85 mixed-income apartments.
2. Habitat for Humanity of Schenectady County:
   - Continues to build and renovate homes for low-income families.
   - In 2023, they completed their 59th home in Schenectady County.
   - They have ongoing projects in various neighborhoods, including Hamilton Hill and Mont Pleasant.

Additional entities involved in recent or ongoing housing development efforts include:
3. DePaul Properties:
   - Completed the Barrett Street Apartments in 2022, providing 52 units of affordable housing.
4. The Community Builders (TCB):
   - Continue work on the Yates Village redevelopment project, which will ultimately provide 211 mixed-income apartments.
5. Home Leasing:
   - Completed the rehabilitation of 150 scattered-site affordable housing units in 2022.
6. Pennrose:
   - Ongoing work on the Elmer Avenue Apartments, a 26-unit affordable housing project expected to be completed in 2024.
7. Capital Region Land Bank:

- Continues efforts to rehabilitate vacant properties and support affordable housing initiatives.
- In 2023, they announced plans to rehabilitate six two-family homes in the Hamilton Hill neighborhood.
8. Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority:
    - Ongoing management and maintenance of over 1,000 public housing units.
    - Continues to administer the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program.

Recent developments:
- The City of Schenectady received $5.7 million in 2023 from the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative, part of which will be used for mixed-use and affordable housing projects.
- Ongoing efforts to address lead hazards in older housing stock, supported by federal grants.
- Increased focus on mixed-income developments to promote diverse, sustainable neighborhoods.

These organizations and initiatives demonstrate a continued commitment to addressing affordable housing needs in Schenectady. The focus remains on rehabilitating existing properties and developing new affordable units, with an emphasis on creating mixed-income communities and addressing the challenges of aging housing stock.

The threat of eviction for low-income renters remains a significant concern in Schenectady, particularly as COVID-19-related eviction protections have ended. While exact current figures are not publicly available, eviction filings have likely returned to pre-pandemic levels or potentially increased due to the backlog of cases and ongoing economic challenges faced by many renters.

The City of Schenectady's **2020 – 2024 Consolidated plan**, which outlines strategies for utilization of federal CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds allocated to the city, includes three goals, one of which focuses specifically on housing:

1. Goal: Housing Opportunities
2. Goal: Expand Economic and Workforce Development
3. Goal: Strengthen Local Neighborhoods

Recent developments and updates related to the city's housing opportunity objectives include:
1. Support Housing Rehabilitation:
    - The city continues to offer rehabilitation programs, including a First-Time Homebuyer Program and Home Improvement Program.
    - In 2022, the city received additional federal funding for lead hazard reduction in approximately 175 housing units.
2. Emergency Housing Services:
    - The city has utilized Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to support organizations providing emergency shelter and homelessness prevention services.
    - COVID-19 relief funds have been used to supplement rental assistance programs.
3. Provide Wraparound Services for Public Housing Residents:
    - The Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority continues to provide support services to residents.

- Partnerships with local organizations have been maintained to offer mental health, addiction, and employment services.
4. Address Dilapidated Properties:
   - The Capital Region Land Bank remains active in addressing vacant and blighted properties.
   - In 2023, the Land Bank announced plans to rehabilitate six two-family homes in the Hamilton Hill neighborhood.
5. Offer Homeownership Incentives:
   - The city continues to offer its First-Time Homebuyer Program, providing down payment and closing cost assistance.
   - Local organizations like Better Community Neighborhoods, Inc. (BCNI) continue to offer homeownership counseling and assistance programs.

Additional updates:
- The city received $5.7 million in 2023 from the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative, part of which will be used for mixed-use and affordable housing projects.
- Efforts to create mixed-income housing developments have continued, with projects like the Yates Village redevelopment ongoing.
- The city has been working on updating its zoning code to facilitate more diverse housing options and promote affordable housing development.
  While the core strategies of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan remain in place, the city has had to adapt to the changing landscape post-COVID-19, particularly in addressing the potential surge in evictions and the ongoing need for affordable housing. The focus on rehabilitation, emergency services, addressing blight, and promoting homeownership continues to guide the city's housing efforts.

Homelessness

The most recent annual Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) report available for the federal fiscal year of 2022 (October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022) indicates that 1,459 individuals in 1,171 households in Schenectady County received one or more homeless-related supportive services, including 377 children under the age of 18. From the report:
- 181 households (15.5% of all households served) were chronically homeless.
- 956 people were served in emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, with an additional 603 served in rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing programs.
- 866 households served reported conditions that met the criteria to be considered a disability.
- 94 children under the age of five spent time in emergency or transitional housing arrangements.

According to the **Point in Time (PIT)** count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January in Schenectady County, the following numbers were reported:

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
393	372	434	266	289	430

The following compares detailed PIT data over the past three years:

Point-in-Time Overview					
	Emergency Shelter	**Transitional Housing**	**Total Sheltered**	**Unsheltered**	**Total**
2023	339	84	423	7	430
2022	233	49	282	7	289
2021	189	57	246	20	266
2020	363	46	409	25	434

The New York State Department of Education reports that during the 2021-2022 school year, approximately 84% of children experiencing homelessness in the county were enrolled in the Schenectady City School District.

Schenectady County's **Homeless Services Planning Board (HSPB)** governs Schenectady County's Continuum of Care (coordinating body for federal funding for homeless-related services). The HSPB works to identify community needs and service gaps for the target population, maintain awareness of available supports and services, and oversees a coordinated entry process for households seeking support through a Schenectady County Continuum of Care (CoC)-funded entity. The HSPB's Strategic Plan, approved in May 2018, remains in effect with its seven goals:

- **Goal #1:** Expand community engagement among service providers county-wide to increase and enhance service delivery at a systems level.
- **Goal #2:** Develop resources to support increasing the supply of Permanent Supportive Housing units and continue to develop effective access to these units and Intensive Case Management by prioritizing the most vulnerable.
- **Goal #3:** Increase development of and access to quality affordable housing.
- **Goal #4:** Engage additional partners and seek additional resources to identify and provide necessary support services to homeless households and previously homeless households.
- **Goal #5**: Identify methods to prevent and divert homelessness when appropriate.
- **Goal #6:** Ensure a strong, sustainable, and comprehensive community system of services for homeless households, providing appropriate emergency housing to permanent housing options.
- **Goal #7:** Advocate as a community to address barriers to success in meeting the above goals.

Recent developments and updates include:
- Increased focus on rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention in response to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Enhanced collaboration with health services to address the needs of homeless individuals during the pandemic.
- Continued efforts to increase the supply of Permanent Supportive Housing units, with several new projects in development.
- Expanded use of technology for coordinated entry and service delivery.
- Increased emphasis on addressing racial disparities in homelessness and housing instability.

SCAP continues to maintain a leadership role on the HSPB and participates in multiple committees.

The data above shows a significant increase in homelessness in 2023 compared to the previous two years, possibly reflecting the ongoing economic impacts of the pandemic and the end of various eviction

moratoriums. This underscores the continued importance of the HSPB's strategic goals and the need for ongoing efforts to address homelessness in Schenectady County.

XIII.   Early Childhood

Child Care & Development Programs/Education

According to the *2024 Picture of Child Care in the Capital Region* by **Brightside Up**, licensed/registered child care capacity in Schenectady County includes:

Licensed/registered child care capacity in Schenectady County

	Number of Programs	Enrollment Capacity
Child Care Centers	Not specified	2,561
Family Child Care Homes	32	256
Group Family Child Care Homes	35	420
School Age Programs	Not specified	884

According to this report, the total potential childcare slots in Schenectady County are approximately 4,751. However, this serves only 17% of the county's child population. Based on 80% of the child population (the typical calculation for childcare needs), there is only enough care available to accommodate 21% of the needs in Schenectady County. Additionally, this report indicates that there is a shortage of infant and toddler care in Schenectady County. For every 100 children aged 0-1, there are only 10 childcare slots available.

Child Care Deserts: The document identifies several ZIP codes in Schenectady County as child care deserts, including areas with no slots for more than 48 children under 5 years old. Specific areas mentioned include Lenox Rd/Oakland Avenue, Front Street/Seward, and Campbell Ave.

Pre-Kindergarten: According to the most recent Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) Allocation List for the 2023-2024 school year from the New York State Education Department, there are five school districts in Schenectady County that currently have New York State funding for pre-kindergarten programs:
1. Schenectady City School District (SCSD):
   - 3-Year-Old Full-Day: 40 slots
   - 4-Year-Old Full-Day: 583 slots
   - 4-Year-Old Half-Day: 0 slots
2. Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District:
   - 4-Year-Old Full-Day: 66 slots
3. Duanesburg Central School District:
   - 4-Year-Old Full-Day: 26 slots
4. Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central School District:
   - 4-Year-Old Full-Day: 70 slots
5. Niskayuna Central School District:
   - 4-Year-Old Full-Day: 36 slots

Since SCAP's last CNA, the Schenectady City School District has significantly increased its full-day slots for 4-year-olds (from 242 to 583) and no longer has allocated half-day slots for 4-year-olds. Additionally,

the Niskayuna Central School District now has an allocation for UPK. This data reflects an overall increase in pre-kindergarten capacity in Schenectady County, particularly in the Schenectady City School District. The shift from half-day to full-day slots in SCSD also aligns with research suggesting full-day programs can have more significant benefits for children.

Head Start and Early Head Start: As Schenectady County's Head Start provider, SCAP is funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services for:
1. Head Start: Funded for 297 slots (287 center-based, 10 home-based)
2. Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP): Funded for 94 slots in total (62 in Schenectady County, 32 in Albany County)

According to the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC) - 2023 Program Information Report, Northern Rivers Family of Services (formerly Parsons Child & Family Center) is funded for 94 slots (72 center-based, 22 home-based).

It's important to note that while these are the funded slot numbers, actual enrollment may vary due to ongoing challenges such as workforce shortages.

Education: The Pre-kindergarten, Head Start, and Early Head Start Programs in Schenectady County continue to collaborate to promote an aligned approach to early learning and smooth transitions between programs. Many providers, including SCAP and its partners, continue to use the Creative Curriculum and Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system. The Schenectady City School District uses the HighScope Curriculum for its Pre-K program, promoting active participatory learning. The Schenectady Foundation's "Literacy for All" initiative, launched in 2023, has fostered increased collaboration among early childhood providers. The initiative focuses on literacy from birth to grade 3. QUALITYstarsNY participation by several programs in the county has encouraged shared professional development and quality improvement efforts. The Schenectady County Early Childhood Education Network, a collaboration of various early childhood providers, continues to offer aligned professional development opportunities. SUNY Schenectady's Early Childhood Education program partners with local providers to offer relevant training and education for early childhood professionals.

While specific details about each provider's current practices may vary, the overall trend shows a continued commitment to collaboration, aligned curriculum approaches, and smooth transitions between programs. The significant expansion of Pre-K slots in the Schenectady City School District, in particular, demonstrates an increased focus on early childhood education in the county.

Home-Based Services: Home-based services available in Schenectady County include the 10 home-based slots available through SCAP's Head Start Program and the 22 home-based Early Head Start services available through Northern Rivers (Parsons Child & Family Center). Healthy Families New York (HFNY) Schenectady County (formerly Healthy Schenectady Families) continues to operate in Schenectady County, offering free and voluntary home visiting services. It serves pregnant women and new parents, with services potentially continuing until the child is 5 years old. The program is implemented by Northern Rivers Family of Services in partnership with Schenectady County Public Health Services. Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) is a newer addition to Schenectady County's home visiting services, implemented in 2021. NFP serves first-time mothers from pregnancy until the child's second birthday. It is operated by Schenectady County Public Health Services. Parents as Teachers (PAT)

program was introduced in Schenectady County in recent years. It serves families from pregnancy through kindergarten entry. The program is implemented by the Schenectady City School District.

These programs collectively provide support, education, and resources to help parents navigate the challenges of pregnancy and early parenthood. They focus on promoting healthy child development, positive parenting practices, and family self-sufficiency.

The collaboration between these programs and local organizations like Schenectady County Public Health Services and the Schenectady City School District remains strong, ensuring a comprehensive approach to home-based early childhood services in the county.

Project LAUNCH: SCAP received a **L**inking **A**ctions for **U**nmet **N**eeds in **C**hildren's **H**ealth (Project LAUNCH) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in 2019. As of 2023, Project LAUNCH is in its fourth year of implementation in Schenectady County. The goal of this program is to prepare children to thrive in school and beyond.

Service components include:
- behavioral/mental health assessments and screenings
- intervention and treatment\
- parent education and training
- professional development and support for staff in child-serving organizations

Goals and Achievements:
- Over 1,500 children were screened for developmental and social-emotional concerns
- More than 300 families received mental health consultation services
- Approximately 200 early childhood professionals received training and support

Partnerships: SCAP continues to work with various community partners, including:
- Brightside Up (formerly Capital District Child Care Council)
- Schenectady County Department of Social Services
- Schenectady County Public Health Services
- Local school districts
- Hometown Health Centers
- Ellis Medicine
- Various early learning and daycare providers in the county

Project LAUNCH uses multiple evidence-based practices to provide screening and treatment support, including the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) and the Pyramid Model for supporting social-emotional competence. The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated some adaptations to service delivery, including increased use of telehealth for consultations and virtual training for professionals. While specific annual numbers for screenings, referrals, and training may have fluctuated due to the pandemic and other factors, the program's overall goals and structure remain consistent with its initial design.

Minimum Wage Impact: As of December 31, 2023, the New York State minimum wage for the geographic area that includes Schenectady County is $15.00 per hour. This is a significant increase from the $12.50 rate mentioned in the previous update. The federal minimum wage remains at $7.25 per hour. The $15.00 per hour rate applies to most industries in Schenectady County. Fast food workers

across New York State have been at $15.00 per hour since July 1, 2021. There are still different rates for tipped workers in hospitality and other service industries.

Starting January 1, 2025, the minimum wage will be indexed to inflation, with annual increases based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the Northeast Region.

This increase to $15.00 per hour continues to impact the ability of low-income working families to meet income eligibility for enrollment in Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

Child Care Subsidies: The eligibility threshold for low-income child care subsidies through Schenectady County's Department of Social Services remains at 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. The Workforce Development Institute's (WDI) Child Care Subsidy Program continues to provide assistance for eligible working families. The most current eligibility guidelines (effective June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024) are:

Eligibility Threshold for Child Care Subsidies

Family Size	Maximum Income
2	$57,150
3	$71,880
4	$86,610
5	$101,340
6	$116,070

Eligibility requirements include:
- Each parent in the household must work a minimum of 25 hours a week
- Have children under 13 years of age
- Meet the income guidelines listed above

Sources:
- New York State Department of Labor (for minimum wage information)
- Workforce Development Institute website (for Child Care Subsidy Program information)
- Schenectady County Department of Social Services (for local subsidy threshold confirmation)

Expectant Mothers

The most recent vital statistics available through the New York State Department of Health indicate a total of 2,286 pregnancies in Schenectady County for 2020, in the following age groups:

Pregnancies in Schenectady County: 2020									
Total	< 15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+
2,286	3	35	79	464	656	661	320	65	3

Source: NYS Department of Health, Vital Statistics of New York State 2020

The pregnancy rate for teens aged 15-19 in Schenectady County was 24.3 per 1,000, which is higher than the NYS rate of 16.4 per 1,000. The overall pregnancy rate for women of all ages in Schenectady County

was 72.7/1,000, which is higher than the NYS rate of 68.4/1,000.

Teen Births

	Age < 15	Age 15 to 17	Age 18 to 19	Total Live Births	Total Births to Teens	% Births to Teens
Schenectady County	0	10	38	1,681	48	2.86%
New York State	39	1,042	3,468	209,180	4,549	2.17%

Source: NYS Department of Health, Vital Statistics of New York State 2020

Key observations:
- The total number of pregnancies in Schenectady County decreased from 2,550 in 2018 to 2,286 in 2020.
- The teen pregnancy rate (ages 15-19) decreased from 33.3 per 1,000 in 2018 to 24.3 per 1,000 in 2020 but remains higher than the state average.
- The percentage of births to teens in Schenectady County decreased from 4.47% in 2018 to 2.86% in 2020 but is still higher than the state average of 2.17%.
- The overall pregnancy rate for women of all ages in Schenectady County decreased from 86.1/1,000 in 2018 to 72.7/1,000 in 2020.

These changes may reflect a combination of factors, including ongoing efforts to reduce teen pregnancies and the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on birth rates. Despite the decreases, Schenectady County's rates remain higher than the state averages, indicating a continued need for reproductive health education and services in the county.

Foster Care

In 2021, there were 1,229 reports of child abuse and maltreatment involving children in Schenectady County; 478 of these reports were indicated. Key statistics for 2021:
- 133 children were admitted to foster care
- A total of 203 children were in care at some point during the year
- The number of children in foster care equates to a rate of 4.8/1,000 children in the county population

This rate is higher than the 2021 average rate of 3.5/1,000 for the 15 New York State counties in the comparison group established by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. This comparison group permits meaningful comparison between counties with similar child welfare populations.

Age breakdown of children in foster care:
- **59** of the children admitted to care in 2021 were **age five or under**
- 77 of the total children in care during the year belonged to this age group (0-5 years)

Additional information:
- The median length of stay for children discharged from foster care in 2021 was 16.6 months
- 53.7% of children discharged from foster care were reunified with their parents or caretakers
- 24.4% of children discharged from foster care were adopted

These statistics indicate that while there has been a slight decrease in the number of children entering foster care compared to 2020, Schenectady County's rate remains higher than the comparison group average. The data also shows a continued need for services focused on early childhood, given the significant number of young children in the foster care system.

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services, County-Level Data for 2021

Disabilities & Early Intervention

Preschool Special Education and Early Intervention services in Schenectady County are coordinated through the county's Children with Special Needs Program. To be eligible for **Early Intervention** services, children must be under 3 years of age and have a confirmed disability or established developmental delay, as defined by New York State, in one or more of the following areas of development: physical, cognitive, communication, social-emotional, and/or adaptive. **Preschool Special Education** services are available for children ages three to five who are approved by their individual school district's Committee on Preschool Special Education as eligible for services in accordance with Part 200 of the New York State Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. For the 2022-2023 program year, 41 of the 229 children (17.9%) between the ages of 3 and 5 served through SCAP's Head Start program had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), indicating that they had been determined eligible to receive Preschool Special Education and related services. In comparison, during the 2021-2022 program year, 36 of the 170 children (21%) had an IEP.

According to the 2021-2022 NYS School Report Cards (the most recent available), public school districts with students in Schenectady County provided Preschool Special Education services for a total of 364 children:

District	Preschool Students with Disabilities: 2020-21
Burnt Hills- Ballston Lake Central School District (CSD)	46
Duanesburg CSD	5
Niskayuna CSD	50
Rotterdam-Mohonasen CSD	39
Schalmont CSD	25
Schenectady City School District	149
Scotia-Glenville CSD	50
Total	**364**

Source: NYS School Report Cards 2021-2022

The most recent data from the New York State Department of Health (2021) reports that 1.1% of children in Schenectady County under the age of 1 year received Early Intervention support. 4.2% of children under the age of three received Early Intervention support. Based on the estimated 5,629 children under age three in Schenectady County (2017-2021 ACS), 4.2% equates to approximately 236 children receiving Early Intervention support. For SCAP's Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships program, in the 2022-2023 program year, 2 of the 62 Schenectady children enrolled had an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

Family Schedules

In the 2021-2022 program year, 82% of families seeking early learning services from SCAP are single parent families. 53% of families served by SCAP Head Start during the 2021-2022 program year had at least one caregiver employed. EHS-CCP services provide full-day, full-year support to accommodate work schedules. Head Start center-based slots are full-day, with both extended day and summer program options to accommodate family schedules.

XIV.   Health & Nutrition/Food Insecurity

According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's **2023 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps** program, Schenectady County is ranked in the lower middle range of all counties in New York for Health Outcomes and in the higher middle range for health factors. The county ranks **43** out of New York State's 62 counties for **Overall Health**, which considers length and quality of life. The county's ranking for **Health Factors**, which includes health behaviors, clinical care, social & economic factors, and physical environment is **25**.

As reported by the New York State Department of Health, the leading causes of death in Schenectady County from 2012 to 2021 have consistently been heart disease and cancer, followed by chronic lower respiratory diseases (CLRD) and cerebrovascular disease. The fifth leading cause of death has varied over the years, including diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, and unintentional injury. In 2020 and 2021, COVID-19 emerged as a significant cause of death, ranking as the third leading cause in 2020 and the fifth in 2021.

During SCAP's most recent agency-wide reporting year, 219 (2.92%) out of 7,495 customers did **not** have health insurance. County-wide, 4.8% of residents are uninsured. Approximately 13.35% of SCAP customers had one or more disability. For the 2021-2022 program year, 86.8% of all children ages zero to five enrolled in SCAP's Head Start and EHS-CCP programs were up-to-date on a schedule of preventative and primary health care, and 89.7% of children had an ongoing source of continuous accessible health care.

Health Insurance

Area	Population Under Age 65	Insured	Uninsured	Percent Uninsured
Schenectady County	126,389	121,262	5,127	4.1%

Source: 2021 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates

There are 3.58 Physicians, Physician Assistants/Specialist Assistants per 1,000 persons in Schenectady County; the statewide average is 4.75 per 1,000 persons. *(US Census Bureau American Community Survey & NYS Education Department, 2021)*

The Healthy Capital District Initiative's **2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment** includes summary health needs information for Schenectady County:

Chronic Disease

- Schenectady County's 2018 age-adjusted prevalence of adults with current asthma (15.9%), was the highest in the Capital Region, up from 11.2% in 2016, and was higher than the NYS, excl. NYC rate (10.8%)
- The 2016-18 age-adjusted asthma hospitalization rates were 2.9 times higher among Black non-Hispanic residents (12.6/10,000), and 1.6 times higher among Hispanic residents (7.0), than White non-Hispanic residents (4.3); lower ratios than in NYS, excl. NYC
- City/Stockade (140.4/10,000) and Hamilton Hill (195.4) neighborhoods had 3.2 and 4.6 times higher 2014-18 age-adjusted asthma ED rates than NYS excl. NYC (42.8)
- Schenectady County's 2018 adult smoking rate (11.6%) was the Region's lowest, was below NYS, excl. NYC (13.9%), decreased from 18.4% in 2016, but did not meet the Prevention Agenda 2024 objective (11.0%)
- The 2015-17 age-adjusted lung cancer incidence (72.4) and mortality (39.0) rates, per 100,000, were higher than NYS, excl. NYC (66.1; 37.4)
- The 2015-17 age-adjusted lung cancer incidence increased (from 63.8) and mortality decreased (from 45.1), from 2012-14 to 2015-17
- The 2016-18 age-adjusted COPD/CLRD hospitalization rate (25.0 per 10,000) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (22.2)
- The 2016-18 age-adjusted COPD/CLRD mortality rate (41.1/100,000) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (35.0) but fell by 11%, from 2013-15 to 2016-18
- The 2016-18 age-adjusted COPD/CLRD hospitalization rates were 1.6 times higher among Black (35.9/10,000), than White, non-Hispanic residents (23.1)
- City/Stockade (207.9/10,000) and Hamilton Hill (281.1) neighborhoods had 3.0 to 4.1 times higher 2014-18 age-adjusted COPD/CLRD ED visit rates and 2.3 (54.4 Hamilton Hill) to 2.5 times (58.6 City/Stockade) higher hospitalization rates, compared to NYS excl. NYC
- Approximately 37,720 Schenectady County adults in 2018 (33.7%) were obese, higher than NYS, excl. NYC (29.1%), and did not meet the PA objective (24.2%)
- Approximately 4,600 Schenectady County school-aged children and adolescents (18.8%) in 2017-19 were obese, higher than NYS, excl. NYC (17.3%) and did not meet the PA objective (16.4%)
- Schenectady's 2018 age-adjusted adult diabetes prevalence (10.3%) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (9.2%) and up from 9.0% in 2016
- The 2016-18 diabetes short-term complication hospitalization rate, aged 18+ years (6.9/10,000) was the Capital Region's highest, higher than NYS, excl. NYC (5.1), and was 3.6 times higher among Black (18.2) than White, non-Hispanic residents (5.1)
- Schenectady County had the Capital Region's highest rate of 2016-18 age-adjusted diabetes (primary diagnosis) ED visits, at 36.9 per 10,000, and 2016-18 age-adjusted diabetes mortality, at 21.2 per 100,000
- Hamilton Hill (40.7/10,000) and City/Stockade (32.1) neighborhoods had 2.3 to 3.0 times higher 2014-18 age-adjusted diabetes hospitalization rates and 4.0 (65.9 City Stockade)) to 6.1 times (102.0 Hamilton Hill) higher diabetes ED visit rates, than NYS, excl. NYC
- Schenectady County had Region-high 2016-18 age-adjusted heart attack (16.4/10,000) and coronary heart disease (24.9) hospitalization rates
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted congestive heart failure mortality (17.9 /100,000) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (16.7) and down from 19.4 in 2013-15
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted stroke mortality (32.1 /100,000) was the Region's highest, was higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (27.6), and was up from 30.6 in 2013-15

- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted stroke hospitalization rate (26.8/10,000) was the highest in the Region, and higher than NYS, excl. NYC (21.1)
- Schenectady County's 2015-17 age-adjusted colorectal cancer incidence rate (35.8/100,000) and mortality rate (9.5/100,000) were lower than NYS, excl. NYC (38.6 and 11.9)
- Schenectady County's 2018 colorectal cancer screening rate (68.9%) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (66.5%) and met the Prevention Agenda 2024 objective of 66.3%
- Schenectady County's 2015-17 age-adjusted female breast cancer incidence (153/100,000), late stage incidence (52.8/100,000) and mortality (19.2/100,000) rates were all higher than NYS, excl. NYC (140, 42.1, and 18.3).
- Schenectady County's 2018 female breast cancer screening rate among women 50 to 74 years of age (80.1%) was similar to NYS, excl. NYC, (80.9%)

Healthy and Safe Environment
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 incidence rate of elevated blood lead levels (≥10 µg/dl), 9.1 per 1,000 tested children under 6 years of age, was 1.4 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (6.5)
- Schenectady County's lead screening rates of one screen for children aged 9-17 months (80.1%) and two screens at 36 months (62.2%) were higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (71.8% and 56.7%) and had increased from 2 years prior
- In 2020, Schenectady County had the Region's highest percentage (10.4%) of school drinking water outlets that exceeded the lead action limit of 15 µg/L, which was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (8.0%)
- Schenectady County had the Region's highest 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visit rates due to motor vehicle accidents (84.2/10,000), higher than NYS, excl. NYC (77.4); the hospitalization rate of 6.7/10,000 was also higher than NYS, excl. NYC (5.9)
- Schenectady County's 2014-18 falls among adults 65 years and older ED visit rate (453.2/10,000) was the highest in the Region' and higher than NYS, excl. NYC (434.5)
- Schenectady County's had the Capital Region's highest 2014-18 age-adjusted assault-related ED visit rate (61.4/10,000), about twice as high as NYS, excl. NYC (34.4)
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted assault-related hospitalization rate (3.5/10,000) was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (2.2) and did not meet the PA objective (3.0)

Healthy Women, Infants, and Children
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 infant mortality rate of 6.9 per 1,000 births was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (4.9) and did not meet the PA objective (4.0)
- Hamilton Hill neighborhood's 2016-18 neonatal mortality rate, at 11.0 per 1,000 births, was 3.3 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (3.3 per 1,000 births)
- City/Stockade neighborhood's 2016-18 infant mortality rate, at 17.5 per 1,000 births, was 3.6 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (4.9 per 1,000 births) and the highest in the Capital Region
- For 2016-18, Schenectady County had a higher rate (5.4%) of late or no prenatal care than NYS, excl. NYC, (4.3%)
- Schenectady County's 2016-18% of births that were premature (<37 weeks gest.) of 9.5% was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (9.0%), and did not meet the PA objective (8.3%)
- Schenectady County had the Capital Region's highest rate of 2016-18 low birthweight births (< 2.5 kg) at 9.3% and higher than NYS, excl. NYC (7.7%)
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 teen pregnancy rate of (38.1 per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years) was twice as high as NYS, excl. NYC, (18.9) but decreased by 43% from 2009 to 2018
- Hamilton Hill neighborhood's 2016-18 teen pregnancy rate (119 per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years) was 6.3 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (18.9) was the Capital Region's highest, but fell by 45% from 2007-09 to 2016-18

- Schenectady County's 2016-18% of infants who exclusively breastfed in the hospital (52.8%) was the lowest in the Capital Region, but met the PA objective (51.6%)

Infectious Disease
- From 1/12/21 to 1/11/22, Schenectady County had the Capital Region's 2nd highest rates of COVID-19 test positivity (123.0/1,000) and mortality (108.1/100,000); the positivity rate was lower than NYS, excl. NYC (146.1), but mortality was higher (94.4)
- Schenectady's 2016-18 age-adjusted HIV case rate of 8.4 per 100,000 was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (6.1) and did not meet the PA objective (5.2)
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted gonorrhea diagnosis rate of 191.1/100,000: was the Region's highest, was higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (101.0), and nearly doubled from in 2013-15
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted chlamydia diagnosis rate of 580/100,000: was the Region's highest, was higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (420), and increased by 13% from 2013-15
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age-adjusted early syphilis diagnosis rate of 14.7/100,000: was the Region's 2nd highest, was higher than NYS, excl. NYC, (10.5), and increased by 67% from 2013-15

Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Schenectady County had the Region's highest rates of 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visits (239.5/10,000) and hospitalizations (108.1) due to mental diseases and disorders (primary diagnosis), both rates about 50% higher than NYS, excl. NYC (156.7, 72.3)
- Hamilton Hill (598.5/10,000) and City/Stockade (577.0) neighborhoods had the Capital Region's 2nd and 3rd highest 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visit rates and 1st and 2nd highest hospitalization rates (City/Stockade 276.3, Hamilton Hill 247.6), due to mental diseases and disorders (primary diagnosis), each about 3.4 to 3.8 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC
- Schenectady County's 2018 age-adjusted % of adults reporting frequent mental distress in the past month of 13.0% was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (11.8%) and did not meet the PA objective (10.7%)
- Schenectady County's 2016-18 age adjusted suicide mortality rate of 10.2 per 100,000 was slightly higher than NYS, excl. NYC (9.9) and did not meet the PA objective (7.0)
- Schenectady County had the Capital Region's highest 2014-18 age-adjusted rate of hospitalizations (5.3), and the 2nd highest rate of ED visits (9.8), per 10,000, due to self-inflicted injuries, both 61-74% higher than NYS, excl. NYC (3.3, 5.6)
- City/Stockade and Hamilton Hill had the Region's 1st and 4th highest rates of 2014-18 age-adjusted self-inflicted injuries hospitalizations (13.1 and 9.0/10,000), which were 2.7 to 4.0 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (3.3/10,000)
- Hamilton Hill and City/Stockade had the Region's 2nd and 4th highest rates of 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visits due to self-inflicted injuries (21.5 and 19.1/10,000), which were 3.4 to 3.8 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (5.6/10,000)
- Schenectady County had the Region's 3rd highest 2016-18 age-adjusted opioid overdose mortality rate (19.7/100,000), which was equal to NYS, excl. NYC, (19.7), was 3.5 times higher than in 2013-15 (5.7, and did not meet the PA objective (14.3)
- Schenectady County's 2017-19 age-adjusted rate for opioid analgesic prescriptions for pain of 445/1000 was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (413) and did not meet the PA objective (350)
- Hamilton Hill and City/Stockade neighborhoods had the Capital Region's 3rd and 4th highest 2014-18 age-adjusted rates, per 10,000, of ED visits (332.1 and 285.2) and hospitalizations (120.8 and 119.1) due to drug abuse, which were each 3.6 to 4.6 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (72.7 and 33.1)

Based on the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment, the **Schenectady Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group** selected the following Prevention Agenda Priority Areas:

1. PRIORITY AREA: Prevent Communicable Diseases
   a. Focus Area: Vaccine Preventable Diseases
      i. COVID-19
   b. Focus Area: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
2. PRIORTY AREA: Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders
   a. Focus Area: Mental and Substance Use Disorders Prevention

Nutrition/Food Insecurity

According to the most recent data from the *Kids' Well-Being Indicators Clearinghouse,* in 2021 7,468 children up to age 18 (22.5%) received SNAP benefits in Schenectady County. This was higher than the statewide rate of 20.9%. 8,963 children in grades K – 12 (42.9%) received free or reduced-price school lunches. SCAP assisted 223 individuals access SNAP benefits during the most recent agency-wide reporting year.

From Feeding America's **Map the Meal Gap** study:

"Food insecurity refers to USDA's measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods. Food-insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household's need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods."

In 2021, 9.8% of Schenectady County residents, approximately 15,260 people, experienced food insecurity, a slight improvement from the 2020 figures.

The **Greater Capital Region Food System Assessment** published by Capital Roots in February 2021 (their most recent assessment) examined four food-related sectors: consumption, distribution, processing, and production. The two top recommendations resulting from the research conducted were:

- **Equity**: Build community food security by ensuring healthy food access at retail outlets for all residents.
- **Economic Resilience:** Grow the local food economy by building capacity in wholesale market channels in the region to purchase more local food.

XV.   COVID-19

Data obtained from health.data.ny.gov indicated the following, as of December 31, 2023, in Schenectady County:

Total Confirmed Cases: 50,297
Total Confirmed Deaths: 347
Total Patients Admitted to a County Hospital: 3,882
Total Vaccinations Completed (first does): 145,721
Total Vaccinations Completed (first does): 125,355

As an early response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the **Schenectady County COVID-19 Emergency Response Coalition** was a coordinated effort between county government services and community stakeholders. The coalition operated a hotline and provided emergency food and basic supplies for residents, primarily for residents under quarantine or isolation, seniors, and others at high risk unable to provide for their basic needs. Representatives from the County Department of Social Services assisted with shelter, temporary assistance programs, and Medicaid issues. Members of the Schenectady County COVID-19 Emergency Response Coalition included: Bethesda House, Better Community Neighborhoods, Boys & Girls Club, Capital Roots, City Mission, Food Pantries for the Capital District, Foundation for Ellis, Habitat for Humanity, Hometown Health, Mohawk Opportunities, Peter Young Housing, Industry & Treatment, Regional Food Bank, Safe Inc., Salvation Army, Save Our Streets, Schenectady ARC, SCAP, Schenectady City School District, Schenectady County, Schenectady JCC, Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority, Schenectady Community Ministries, Schenectady Foundation, Scotia Relief, Union College, YMCA, YWCA, and Animal Protective Foundation. The Schenectady Foundation launched a **Rebuilding Families Fund** and continues to provide financial resources to help keep people safely in their homes while getting them the food and supplies they need.

Weekly, and sometimes daily coordination of the Coalition members resulted in a streamlined, efficient, and non-duplicative response to Schenectady County's emergency needs. As a key member of the Coalition and leader of Schenectady's Community Resource Network, SCAP was responsible for providing a more in-depth assessment of individual and family needs beyond the emergency food, hygiene, and household products provided through the Response Hotline. COVID-19 assistance in Schenectady County remains coordinated, with the emergency coalition continuing to operate as **"One Schenectady"** to ensure maximum support without duplication of resources.

Unemployment claims in Schenectady County and New York State's Capital Region experienced large increases as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The NYS Department of Labor's online filing system experienced multiple issues as a result of unprecedented increases statewide. SCAP's employment services component has provided support for individuals submitting claims. The component also developed a distance learning platform to support the provision of online career readiness instruction; this platform continues to operate.

As a result of COVID-19, SCAP created new ways to operate safely, initially utilizing a remote workforce while at the same time responding effectively to community needs. Significant IT-related work was undertaken to promote remote customer interaction. All SCAP programs have remained operational, fully staffed, and serving customers throughout the pandemic. An agency-wide, integrated online registration system was created, providing customers with 24/7 access to all SCAP services. While SCAP's gradual transition back to a full onsite presence at multiple program sites was completed by the end of March 2021, the virtual opportunities created remain in use as viable options for agency customers on a long-term basis.

Schenectady County is currently offering the Pfizer Bivalent COVID-19 vaccine for ages 2 and up at all vaccine clinics. Pfizer Bivalent booster is now available to anyone 65+ whose last bivalent vaccine was at least 4 months ago or for anyone in need of receiving a primary series. Moderna Bivalent vaccine will be available for a limited time to complete the series for 2-5-year-olds. The county has consolidated its vaccine centers to these locations: Schenectady Community Ministries – SiCM (837 Albany Street, Schenectady 12307) Schenectady County Public Health Services (107 Nott Terrace, Suite 100, Schenectady, NY 12308).

The Schenectady County COVID-19 Emergency Response Coalition, which later transitioned to "One Schenectady", continues to operate, ensuring coordinated support without duplication of resources. The coalition's efforts have evolved to address long-term recovery and ongoing community needs resulting from the pandemic. The Schenectady Foundation's Rebuilding Families Fund continues to provide financial resources to help keep people safely in their homes while getting them the food and supplies they need.

XVI.   Other Community/Social Service Need Indicators

There are multiple other indicators that influence the need for a range of support services in Schenectady County.

Ability to Speak English

A significant number of residents in Schenectady County speak a language other than English. Of those who speak a language other than English at home, 35.5% speak English less than "very well". The majority of residents who speak English less than "very well" (58.7%) reside in the City of Schenectady.

Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English

Subject	Schenectady County	City of Schenectady
Population 5 years and over	147,325	62,187
Speak language other than English	16,124 / 10.9%	8,748 / 14.1%
Speak English less than "very well"	5,727 / 3.9%	3,360 / 5.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP02

The percentage of people who (a) speak a language other than English and (b) who speak English less than "very well" has increased. The City of Schenectady also continues to have a higher percentage of non-English speakers and those with limited English proficiency compared to the county as a whole. These changes suggest a growing linguistic diversity in Schenectady County, particularly within the City of Schenectady, which may have implications for service provision and community engagement strategies.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

There are a notable number of grandparents in Schenectady County living with their grandchildren under 18 years of age.

Grandparents as Caregivers

	Schenectady County	City of Schenectady	Duanesburg	Glenville	Niskayuna	Rotterdam	Princetown
# grandparents living w/own grandchildren	2,616	1,286	53	412	291	565	0

< 18							
Responsible for grandchildren	1,019	644	25	108	43	199	0

Source: US Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1002

Crime

New York State and the FBI use seven Index crime categories as indicators of overall crime trends: murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, which are classified as violent crimes; and the property crimes of burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. According to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the 2021 Overall Crime Rate per 100,000 for Schenectady County was 2,294.9. This is a slight decrease from the 2020 rate of 2,414.3. The Schenectady County Jail housed an average of 163 inmates daily in 2022, a slight increase from 2021.

Jail Population in Schenectady County										
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
314	326	322	329	338	292	275	228	139	154	163

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

The number of county residents sentenced to jail and prison (adult status) annually has decreased from 2018 to 2020:

Sentences: Adults in Schenectady County
Felony and Misdemeanor Categories

	2019		2020		2021	
	Felony	**Misdemeanor**	**Felony**	**Misdemeanor**	**Felony**	**Misdemeanor**
Prison	171	1	115	1	125	0
Jail	127	181	59	30	53	38
Time Served	194	385	134	257	130	229
Jail & Probation	31	5	14	3	13	1
Probation	115	42	73	8	79	17
Fine	69	464	69	325	76	296
Conditional Discharge	73	162	39	77	46	73

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

According to the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), the most recent data available for individuals from Schenectady County released from prison for the first time is from 2020. In 2020, 151 individuals were released. The average age of offenders released was 38. Many of those released from incarceration face homelessness. Please note that the COVID-19 pandemic

has had significant impacts on the criminal justice system, which may have affected these numbers.

Community Resource Network

Schenectady County's Community Resource Network (CRN) utilizes a clearinghouse approach to provide coordinated crisis intervention and resource navigation that maximizes capacity to provide services without duplicating effort and resources. As the lead agency for the CRN, SCAP collaborates extensively with multiple community partners. SCAP utilizes Community Resource Navigators to coordinate and provide assessment, prevention, and intervention support both virtually and at multiple SCAP and community locations. The CRN Emergency Fund is a flexible fund that provides financial support when no other resources are available, helping with fundamentals such as rental assistance/security deposits, utility assistance/emergency fuel, prescription co-payments, work clothing, and transportation, as well as other essential items. It helps to prevent homelessness and stabilize households.

Each household served has its own unique set of circumstances that contribute to its challenges. SCAP's integrated approach to service provision gives customers seamless access to a continuum of supports and programs, ranging from emergency assistance and resource navigation to longer-term support. Involvement with a family may be over a short period to address a one-time need or continue for an extended period of time to address multiple needs. Extended case management support assists families in establishing goals and developing skills and strategies to effectively manage family needs, permanently stabilize their living conditions, and work towards greater self-reliance.

XVII.   Community Engagement

Community Needs Assessment Focus Groups

Four focus groups (three in-person and one virtual) were conducted with a total of **18** SCAP customers:

- ▪ Employment Services – Career Readiness Class (virtual)
- ▪ Sojourn House Customers (in person)
- ▪ Residents at Joseph L. Allen Apartments (in person)
- ▪ Residents at Hillside View Apartments (in person)

Each focus group considered the same four questions posed in the focus groups conducted for SCAP's 2018 Community Needs Assessment:

1. What are the greatest needs in Schenectady County?
2. What will meet those needs?
3. What resources are in place to meet those needs?
4. What are some of the barriers?

Focus group discussions identified the following as needs and barriers, with many identified by multiple groups. The first six listed in BOLD were also identified during the focus groups conducted in 2015:

- • **Transportation**
- • **Affordable, Safe Housing**
- • **Child/Youth Programs**
- • **Child Care** (including extended hours)

- **Jobs** (w/livable wage)
- **Parent Education/Support**
- **Flexible Services** (w/out cut-off when employment obtained)
- **Respectful Support**
- Food Insecurity
- Veterans Programs
- Dental Care (including funds to cover cost)
- Emergency Supplies
- Access to programs for those with disabilities
- Help with Savings
- Community Engagement/Get Everyone Involved
- Knowledge of Resources

Community Needs Assessment Surveys

A total of **101** surveys were completed:
- **50** surveys were completed by SCAP customers
- **51** surveys were completed by employees of SCAP

For comparison purposes, survey questions were similar to the survey administered as part of SCAP's 2018 Community Needs Assessment process. Respondents were asked to identify what they thought were the most pressing individual and family needs, as well as areas where services were not meeting the community demand, using the following list:

Safe, Affordable Housing	Financial Literacy Services
Child Care Services	Transportation Services
Education Services	Youth Programming
Nutrition / Food Services	Services for Senior Citizens
Health Care Services	Safety / Crime Prevention
Mental Health Services	Social Justice Services
Substance Use Recovery Services	LGBTQ+ Services
Disability Services	Economic Development
Veteran's Services	Other

Both customers and staff overwhelmingly identified **Safe, Affordable Housing** as the most pressing need, by far, faced by the low-income population in Schenectady County. Safe, affordable housing services available were also identified the most by both staff and customers as "not meeting the current demand". Other services identified the most by customers as not meeting the current demand included safety/crime prevention, social justice services and youth programming. Other services identified the most by staff as not meeting the current demand included mental health, child care, transportation and substance use recovery services.

The second and third needs identified most by customers as one of the top three individual and family needs were safety/crime prevention and nutrition/food services, respectively, compared to 2018 when the second and third needs identified most by customers as one of the top three individual and family needs were child care and transportation, respectively. The second and third needs identified most by staff as one of the top three individual and family needs were child care and mental health services, respectively, compared to 2018 when the second and third needs identified most by staff as one of the top three individual and family needs were child care and transportation, respectively.

Most Pressing Needs Identified by Customers: Ranked in Top Three

- Nutrition/Food Services (31%)
- Safety/Crime Prevention (33%)
- Safe & Affordable Housing (64%)

Most Pressing Needs Identified By Staff: Ranked in Top Three

- Mental Health Services (53%)
- Childcare Services (59%)
- Safe & Affordable Housing (76%)

Additional Community Input

Multiple existing customer and community engagement activities have also informed this assessment process:

- **Early Learning Program Parent/Guardian Satisfaction Survey**
  At the conclusion of each program year, parents and guardians of children enrolled in SCAP's Early Learning Programs are asked to complete a satisfaction survey. The survey assesses education services and program satisfaction. For the 2021-2022 school year, **38** parents and guardians participated in the survey (a smaller number of parents participating as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic):
  - *Able to communicate with teacher:* **100%** agree/strongly agree
  - *Overall satisfied with services:* **94%** agree/strongly agree
  - *Greater understanding of the importance of involvement in a child's education:* **92%** agree/strongly agree
  - *Positive changes in life as a result of the program:* **82%** agree/strongly agree
  - *Family Service Worker helped me meet my goals:* **82**% agree/strongly agree

▪ **Career Readiness Class Surveys**
At the conclusion of all Career Readiness courses held at SCAP, students are asked to complete a program evaluation. The survey allows participants to provide feedback on their experience with the class as well as personal growth. Responses from participant sessions held between January 2022 and December 2022 indicated that 100% of the students felt that they were more self-sufficient after completing the class, with 100% of students who identified a need for increased computer skills reporting an increase in those skills.

▪ **Technology Survey**
In 2020, SCAP conducted a Technology Survey with 452 agency customers to assess technology related needs. Responses indicated the following with regards to customer access:
   o **72%** always have WiFi access
   o **83%** always have access to a telephone
   o **75%** always have access to a smartphone
   o **44%** always have computer access
   o **45%** always have access to other WiFi enabled devices, i.e. tablets, e-readers

▪ **City of Schenectady 2020 – 2024 Consolidated 5-Year Strategic Plan**
The City of Schenectady's 2020 – 2024 Consolidated 5-Year Strategic Plan incorporates public and service provider input; this input was instrumental in developing the plans goals and objectives, and the identification of the following high priority needs: Housing, Youth Engagement, Workforce Development and Public Infrastructure. The plan's three goals include:

   GOAL #1: Housing Opportunities – Priority 1
   Support programs that provide quality, affordable housing options and initiatives for rehabilitation of the existing housing to help stabilize neighborhoods and meet the needs of all residents.

   GOAL #2: Expand Economic & Workforce Development – Priority 2
   Assist small businesses and non-profit organizations located in the target areas to remove major barriers to the City's growth and prosperity by supporting and increasing access through infrastructure upgrades and programs that provide training, technical assistance and work opportunities.

   GOAL #3: Strengthen Local Neighborhoods - Priority 3
   Enhance community assets and advance cultural and recreational initiatives to engage residents, improve health, safety and education, while creating jobs.

XVIII. Community Resources

SCAP's Resource Navigation component maintains up-to-date knowledge of the range of resources available in Schenectady County; staff in all departments have access to information about the full range of services and supports available. Led by SCAP, Schenectady's Community Resource Network (CRN) assists thousands of local residents annually in meeting basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, utilities, medical care, employment supports, and transportation. The objective is to maximize the resources available while reducing the duplication of services, thereby eliminating the frustrating search for assistance that people in crisis often endure. The network's Emergency Fund helps support individuals and families experiencing crisis when no other community resources are available.

The INFO-OP Community Resource Directory originally created in 2009, was updated by SCAP in 2015 and again in 2021. Schenectady County has also published a Resource Book of Schenectady County services (most recent update was December 2017).

Schenectady County is part of the United Way of the Greater Capital Region's 2-1-1 initiative. 2-1-1 provides free online assistance and confidential telephone referrals that connect users with resources providing food, shelter, rent assistance, clothing, child care options and other types of community assistance. Trained referral specialists are multi-lingual and available to help individuals find the help they need. 2-1-1 is available throughout this region, covering Schenectady, Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Warren, and Washington counties. SCAP participates in this initiative.

XIX.   Fulton and Montgomery Counties

SCAP has provided employment services and supports in Fulton and Montgomery counties since 1978. SCAP's work in these counties complements the work of the **Fulmont Community Action Agency**, which provides the following services for residents of Fulton, Montgomery, and surrounding counties:

Fulton County Senior Transportation
A joint program of the Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. and Fulton County Office for the Aging to provide free transportation to Fulton County Senior Citizens for medical appointments, day care, food sites, shopping, banking and social events.
Early Childhood Services
Comprehensive preschool program that provides children ages 3-5 and their families a wide range of services. All families who are enrolled receive services in the areas of education, health, nutrition, disabilities and family services.
Community Services
Food pantry, clothing, baked goods, and information and referrals to Fulmont programs – WIC, Early Childhood Services (Head Start, UPK), HEAP application assistance (Montgomery County only), Emergency Food and Shelter, Family Development, Weatherization, Employment Support, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) – as well as referrals to other programs within the community.
Energy Services
Energy Services, including Weatherization and EmPower New York for HEAP eligible households in both Fulton and Montgomery counties. These services are open to both homeowners and renters.
Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
Supplemental food program for pregnant, breast-feeding and post-partum Women, Infants & Children up to the age of five (5). WIC provides nutrition education and nutritious foods to income eligible families.

Source: fulmont.org/departments

Fulmont Community Action's **2023 Community Needs Assessment** provides extensive information about the issues, opportunities, and challenges in Fulton and Montgomery counties, informing SCAP's employment-related work in these areas. The assessment and additional information about Fulmont Community Action can be viewed at: https://www.fulmont.org/. Fulmont's mission is *to improve and expand human services and programs in order to promote self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life of the socially and economically disadvantaged, as well as provide services to promote economic efficiency and stability in Fulton, Montgomery and Surrounding Counties*.

Appendix A

NYSCAA
Poverty Report Data

SCAP

Schenectady Community
Action Program

Creating Opportunity in Partnership
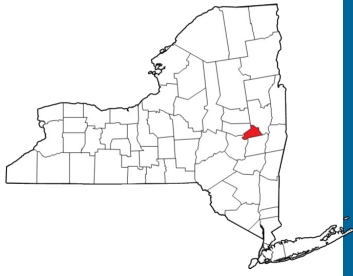
Schenectady County

Schenectady Community Action Program, Inc.

913 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307
518-374-9181 | www.scapny.org

12.0%
Schenectady County Poverty Rate

County Population:
157,515

Population for whom poverty status is determined:

Overall
153,281

Population Under 18
33,876

Population 25 & Over
107,776

Population 65 & Over
25,829

Living In Poverty

Individuals
12.0% (18,349)

Children (Under 18)
16.5% (5,594)

Adults 25 & Over
9.7% (10,477)

Adults 65 & Over
8.9% (2,293)

Education & Poverty

Education Attainment for Adults 25+ (107,776)

	Total Population		Living in Poverty	
No Degree	8.4%	No Degree	30.8%
High School	26.8%	High School	12.1%
Associate	31.2%	Associate	9.2%
Bachelors +	33.6%	Bachelors +	3.0%

Employment & Poverty

Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child	**$36.12**
Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apt	**$23.21**
Median Income	**$47,164**
Median Income w/ HS Diploma	**$33,972**
Male Median Earnings	**$40,608**
Female Median Earnings	**$28,054**

Median Household Income by Race & Ethnicity

Median Household Income ($), 2012-2021

Legend:
- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- Multiracial
- Hispanic or Latino
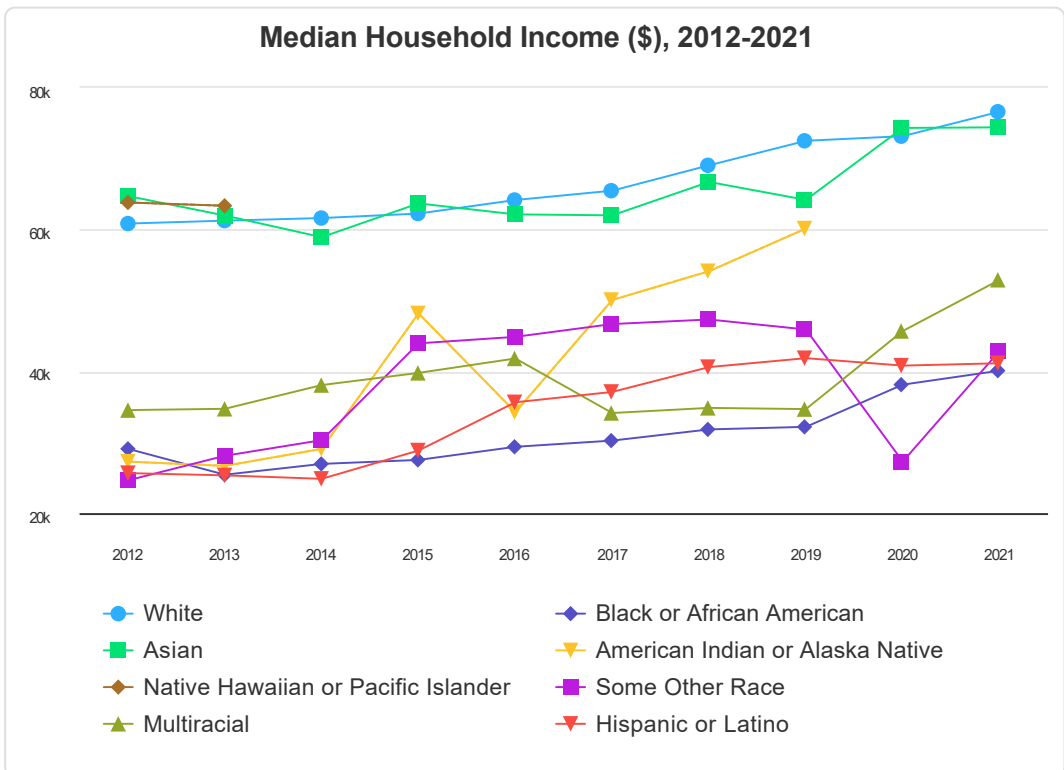
*ALICE: households that are **A**sset Limited, **I**ncome Constrained, **E**mployed.*

22.9%
Households Live Below ALICE Threshold

Total Households:
66,910

ALICE Households by Race & Ethnicity

White
12,851

Black or African American
2,046

Asian
593

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
No data

Multiracial
1,015

Hispanic or Latino
1,307

Health Insurance & Poverty

No Health Insurance

Employed	**4.4%**
Unemployed	**20.8%**

Gender & Poverty

Male	**10.5% (7,896)**
Female	**13.3% (10,453)**

Of those families with
Female Heads of Household and Children Present
33.0%
Live in Poverty

Race, Ethnicity & Poverty

White	**8.5% (9,582)**
Black or African American	**28.3% (4,225)**
Asian	**6.3% (465)**
American Indian or Alaska Native	**44.4% (239)**
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	**44.4% (16)**
Some Other Race	**29.6% (1,627)**
Multiracial	**18.8% (2,195)**
Hispanic or Latino	**28.0% (3,221)**

ALICE Household Monthly Survival Budget

1 Adult	**$2,628**	2 Adults	**$3,827**
1 Senior Adult	**$3,001**	2 Adults, 2 Infants	**$6,843**
1 Adult, 1 Infant	**$4,263**	2 Adults, 2 Pre-K	**$6,327**
1 Adult, 1 Pre-K	**$4,108**	2 Adults, 2 School-age	**$5,273**
1 Adult, 1 School-age	**$3,603**		

Children in Poverty

Children Poverty Rate (%), 2012-2021

Year	Schenectady County, NY	New York	United States
2012	20		21
2013	21.3		21.3
2014	21.9	21.9	
2015	20.8	22.2	
2016	16.9	19.6	18.5
2017	16.9	19.6	18.5
2018	16.9	19.6	18.5
2019	16.9	19.6	18.5
2020	16.3	18.7	17.5
2021	16.5	18.4	16.5

● Schenectady County, NY   ◆ New York   ■ United States

New York State Community Action Association - www.nyscommunityaction.org

City of Schenectady

Schenectady Community Action Program, Inc.

913 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307
518-374-9181 | www.scapny.org

21.3%
City of Schenectady Poverty Rate

City Population:
66,809

Population for whom poverty status is determined:

Overall
63,512

Population Under 18
13,443

Population 25 & Over
44,537

Population 65 & Over
9,500

Living In Poverty

Individuals
21.3% (13,505)

Children (Under 18)
32.7% (4,311)

Adults 25 & Over
17.1% (7,592)

Adults 65 & Over
16.3% (1,474)

Education & Poverty

Education Attainment for Adults 25+ (44,537)

	Total Population		Living in Poverty	
No Degree	14.7%	No Degree	35.8%
High School	29.8%	High School	30.7%
Associate	32.4%	Associate	30.6%
Bachelors +	23.1%	Bachelors +	7.9%

Employment & Poverty

Median Income	**$37,544**
Median Income w/ HS Diploma	**$28,903**

Median Household Income by Race & Ethnicity

Median Household Income ($), 2012-2021

Legend:
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Multiracial
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- White
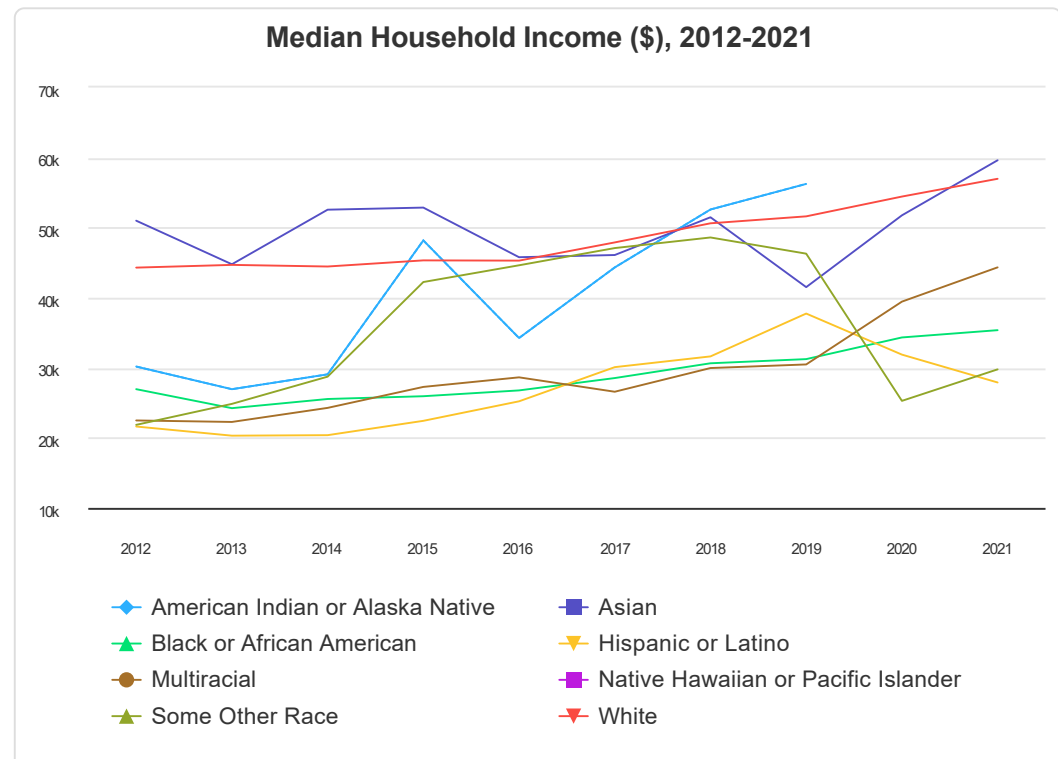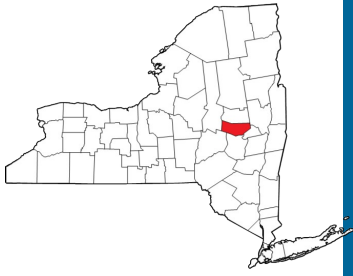
Montgomery County

Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.

20 Park St. P.O. Box 835
Fonda, NY 12068
518-853-3011 | www.fulmont.org

16.7%
Montgomery County Poverty Rate

County Population:
49,539

Population for whom poverty status is determined:

Overall
48,709

Population Under 18
11,373

Population 25 & Over
33,570

Population 65 & Over
8,616

Living In Poverty

Individuals
16.7% (8,153)

Children (Under 18)
26.0% (2,953)

Adults 25 & Over
14.1% (4,721)

Adults 65 & Over
10.2% (878)

Education & Poverty

Education Attainment for Adults 25+ (33,570)

	Total Population		Living in Poverty	
No Degree	11.2%	No Degree	30.4%
High School	35.4%	High School	15.7%
Associate	34.2%	Associate	11.2%
Bachelors +	19.3%	Bachelors +	6.8%

Employment & Poverty

Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child	**$32.14**
Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apt	**$15.77**
Median Income	**$38,733**
Median Income w/ HS Diploma	**$35,156**
Male Median Earnings	**$44,005**
Female Median Earnings	**$26,100**

Median Household Income by Race & Ethnicity

Median Household Income ($), 2012-2021

Legend: White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, Multiracial, Hispanic or Latino

Health Insurance & Poverty

No Health Insurance

Employed	**6.0%**
Unemployed	**12.4%**
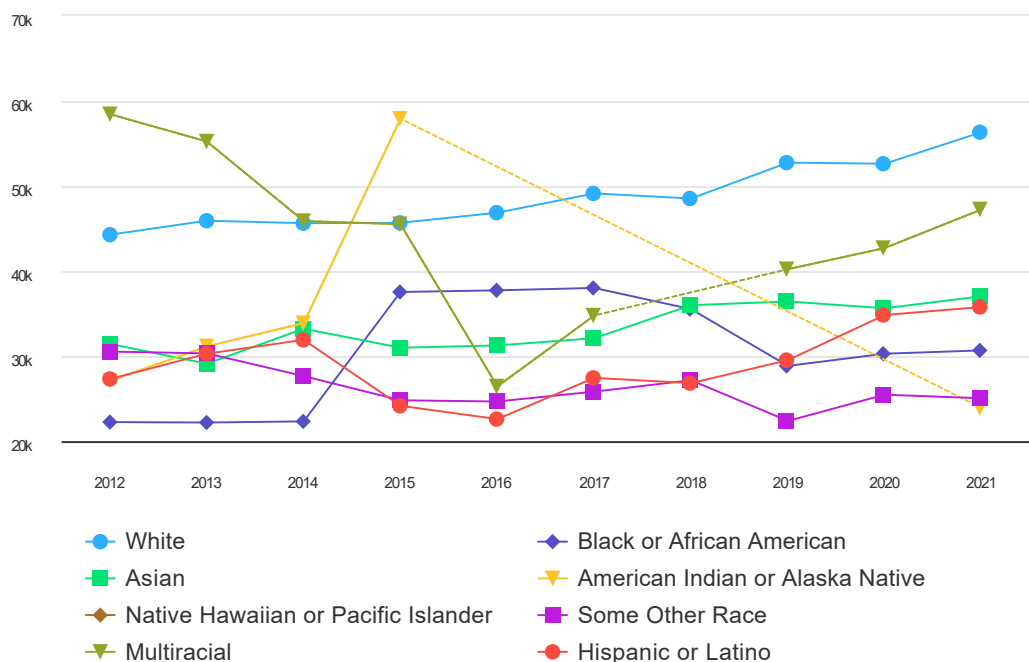
*ALICE: households that are **A**sset Limited, **I**ncome Constrained, **E**mployed.*

31.8%
Households Live Below ALICE Threshold

Total Households:
18,907

ALICE Households by Race & Ethnicity

White
5,406

Black or African American
233

Asian
48

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
No data

Multiracial
178

Hispanic or Latino
871

Gender & Poverty

Male	**16.0% (3,864)**
Female	**17.5% (4,289)**

Of those families with **Female Heads of Household and Children Present**

41.5%

Live in Poverty

Race, Ethnicity & Poverty

White	**13.4% (5,531)**
Black or African American	**40.2% (557)**
Asian	**36.8% (146)**
American Indian or Alaska Native	**13.1% (11)**
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	**0.0% (0)**
Some Other Race	**45.8% (1,384)**
Multiracial	**21.9% (524)**
Hispanic or Latino	**28.9% (2,105)**

ALICE Household Monthly Survival Budget

1 Adult	**$2,282**	2 Adults	**$3,310**
1 Senior Adult	**$2,564**	2 Adults, 2 Infants	**$5,967**
1 Adult, 1 Infant	**$3,657**	2 Adults, 2 Pre-K	**$5,333**
1 Adult, 1 Pre-K	**$3,441**	2 Adults, 2 School-age	**$4,513**
1 Adult, 1 School-age	**$3,051**		

Children in Poverty

Children Poverty Rate (%), 2012-2021

Montgomery County, NY: 32.9, 31.1, 30.3, 32.4, 33.1, 33.1, 33.1, 33.1, 29.1, 26

United States: 21, 21.7, 22.1, 22.2, 19.6, 19.6, 19.6, 19.6, 18.7, 18.4

New York (values tracking near United States line for 2016-2021: 19.6, 19.6, 19.6, 19.6, 18.7, 18.4)

Legend: ● Montgomery County, NY   ◆ New York   ■ United States

New York State Community Action Association - www.nyscommunityaction.org
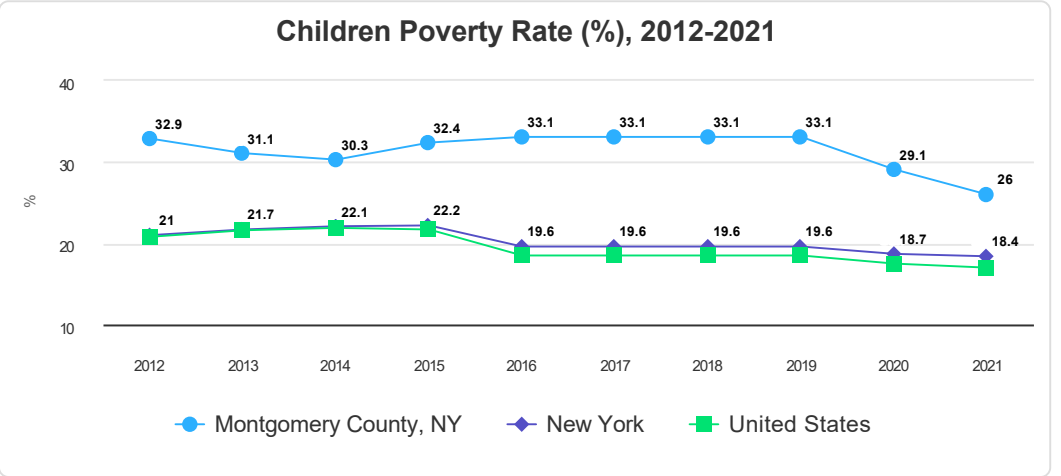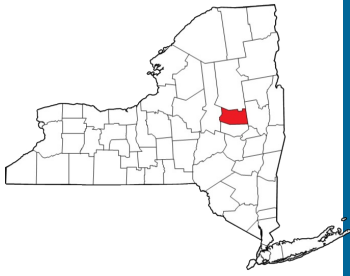
Fulton County

Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.

20 Park St. P.O. Box 835
Fonda, NY 12068
518-853-3011 | www.fulmont.org

14.8%
Fulton County Poverty Rate

County Population:
53,588

Population for whom poverty status is determined:

Overall
52,394

Population Under 18
10,412

Population 25 & Over
38,162

Population 65 & Over
10,195

Living In Poverty

Individuals
14.8% (7,730)

Children (Under 18)
20.8% (2,160)

Adults 25 & Over
12.4% (4,718)

Adults 65 & Over
7.0% (713)

Education & Poverty

Education Attainment for Adults 25+ (38,162)

	Total Population		Living in Poverty	
No Degree	12.3%	No Degree	30.9%
High School	36.6%	High School	12.3%
Associate	32.6%	Associate	10.7%
Bachelors +	18.5%	Bachelors +	3.2%

Employment & Poverty

Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child	**$32.45**
Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apt	**$16.58**
Median Income	**$38,663**
Median Income w/ HS Diploma	**$35,276**
Male Median Earnings	**$42,788**
Female Median Earnings	**$27,282**

Median Household Income by Race & Ethnicity

Median Household Income ($), 2012-2021

Legend:
- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- Multiracial
- Hispanic or Latino
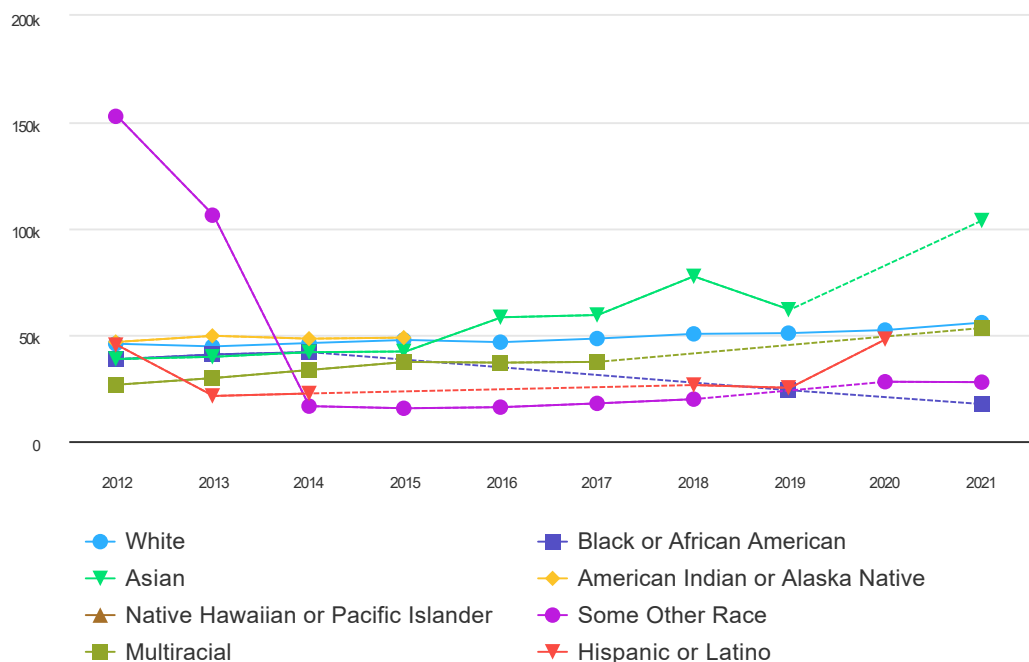
*ALICE: households that are **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed.*

29.0%
Households Live Below ALICE Threshold

Total Households:
21,712

ALICE Households by Race & Ethnicity

White
6,831

Black or African American
90

Asian
0

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
No data

Multiracial
175

Hispanic or Latino
210

Health Insurance & Poverty

No Health Insurance

Employed	**6.4%**
Unemployed	**21.9%**

Gender & Poverty

Male	**15.2% (3,973)**
Female	**14.3% (3,757)**

Of those families with
Female Heads of Household and Children Present

36.1%

Live in Poverty

Race, Ethnicity & Poverty

White	**14.2% (6,914)**
Black or African American	**48.1% (240)**
Asian	**6.6% (25)**
American Indian or Alaska Native	**0.0% (0)**
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	**0.0% (0)**
Some Other Race	**34.8% (143)**
Multiracial	**17.2% (408)**
Hispanic or Latino	**26.2% (465)**

ALICE Household Monthly Survival Budget

1 Adult	**$2,123**	2 Adults	**$3,267**
1 Senior Adult	**$2,407**	2 Adults, 2 Infants	**$5,948**
1 Adult, 1 Infant	**$3,615**	2 Adults, 2 Pre-K	**$5,314**
1 Adult, 1 Pre-K	**$3,400**	2 Adults, 2 School-age	**$4,492**
1 Adult, 1 School-age	**$3,009**		

Children in Poverty

Children Poverty Rate (%), 2012-2021

Fulton County, NY — New York — United States
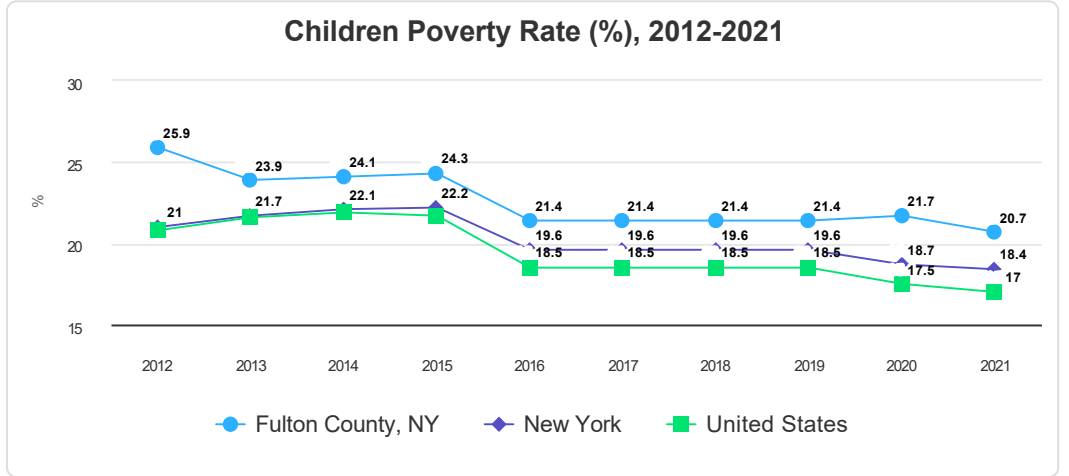
Maps:

On each county profile page, the map of NYS is included, with the county highlighted in red. On city profile pages, the map of NYS is again included, with the county highlighted in grey and the cities noted in red. Inset map is the county, with cities noted.

Population Data:

The population is the official count of people from the US Census Bureau's (USCB) BO1003 report.

The Population for Whom Status is Determined reflects the size of census samples and is provided in USCB report S1701.

Poverty Data:

The poverty rate includes all individuals living in poverty. The numbers are then broken down in three other categories: children under 18, adults age 25 and older and adults age 65 and older.

The percentage of each group living in poverty is followed by the number of individuals that percentage represents.

ALICE Data:

ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) represents the households earning above the poverty level but still struggling to make ends meet. Data from the United for ALICE partnership, data year 2021.

ALL Census Reports cited are from the American Communities Survey FIVE year estimates (2017 - 2021).
Access these reports at:
data.census.gov

Data Key

Please see data.census.gov for more specific definitions for any of the data sourced from USCB reports.

Education & Poverty Data

The first group of numbers reports the percentage of the entire population in each education category. The second group shows the percentage of all people in each education category living in poverty. This data is from USCB Report S1701.

Employment
& Poverty Data

Median Income - Total income is the sum of the amounts reported for wage/salary income, self employment income, interest, dividends, rental income, royalty income, income from estates or trusts, Social Security or Railroad Retirement income, Supplementary Social Security, public assistance or welfare payments, retirement/survivor/disability pensions and all other income. The data is from USCB Report S1501.

Living Wage - The wage listed is the wage an individual would need to earn as the sole provider for a household consisting of themselves and one child based on the typical expenses in that county or city. This wage is a minimum estimate of the cost of living for a low wage family. Data from Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage Calculator (livingwage.mit.edu), and represents 2022 data downloaded March, 2023.

Hourly Wage - The hourly rate listed is that which one person would need to earn working year round, 40 hours per week in order to afford a two bedroom apartment at the fair market rate (FMR) for that county, assuming 30% of income is spent on housing. Data is provided by the National Low Income Housing Coalition's report: Out of Reach 2022 (www.nlihc.org).

Health & Poverty
Insurance

Based on self reporting this includes people who do not have: insurance from a current/former employer, insurance purchased directly from an insurance company, Medicare, Medicaid, Medical Assistance, any government assistance plan for people with low income or disability, TRICARE or military health care, VA, Indian Health Service or any other type of health insurance or health coverage plan. Data from USCB Report S2701.

Gender & Poverty

Female Head of Household Of all households with a female head of household and children under 18, this is the percentage living in poverty. Data from USCB Report S1702.

Race, Ethnicity & Poverty

Data on race is based on self-identification. There are a minimum of five categories from which to select, including White and Black/African American. People are able to self-identify as more than one race. People who identify their origin as Hispanic, Latino or Spanish may be of any race. The data is from USCB Report S1701.

Appendix B

Compliance

Appendix B
Compliance

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Organizational Standards

The CSBG Organizational Standards are a comprehensive set of standards developed with input from the entire CSBG Network through a three year-multi phase process. The Organizational Standards were announced in January 2015 with the release of Information Memorandum (IM) 138, State Establishment of Organizational Standards for CSBG Eligible Entities, directing states to establish organizational standards by fiscal year 2016. The Organizational Standards are organized into three thematic groups comprising nine categories and 58 standards for private, nonprofit entities. The purpose of the organizational standards is to ensure that all agencies have appropriate organizational capacity, in both critical financial and administrative areas, as well as areas of unique importance to the mission of the Community Action network. Standards related to the required **community assessment** process include:

Category 3: Community Assessment
- Standard 3.1: The organization conducted a community assessment and issues a report within the past 3 years.
- Standard 3.2: As part of the community assessment, the organization collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).
- Standard 3.3: The organization collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.
- Standard 3.4: The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.
- Standard 3.5: The governing board formally accepts the completed community assessment.

Head Start Performance Standards

1302.11 Determining community strengths, needs, and resources.

(b) *Community-wide strategic planning and needs assessment (community assessment).*

(1) To design a program that meets community needs, and builds on strengths and resources, a program must conduct a community assessment at least once over the five-year grant period. The community assessment must use data that describes community strengths, needs, and resources and include, at a minimum:

(i) The number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool-age children, and expectant mothers, including their geographic location, race, ethnicity, and languages they speak, including:
(A) Children experiencing homelessness in collaboration with, to the extent possible, McKinney-Vento Local Education Agency Liaisons (42 U.S.C. 11432 (6)(A));
(B) Children in foster care; and
(C) Children with disabilities, including types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies;

(ii) The education, health, nutrition, and social service needs of eligible children and their families, including prevalent social or economic factors that impact their well-being;

(iii) Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children;

(iv) Other child development, child care centers, and family child care programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local preschools, and the approximate number of eligible children served;

(v) Resources that are available in the community to address the needs of eligible children and their families; and,

(vi) Strengths of the community.

(2) A program must annually review and update the community assessment to reflect any significant changes including increased availability of publicly-funded pre-kindergarten (including an assessment of how the pre-kindergarten available in the community meets the needs of the parents and children served by the program, and whether it is offered for a full school day), rates of family and child homelessness, and significant shifts in community demographics and resources.

(3) A program must consider whether the characteristics of the community allow it to include children from diverse economic backgrounds that would be supported by other funding sources, including private pay, in addition to the program's eligible funded enrollment. A program must not enroll children from diverse economic backgrounds if it would result in a program serving less than its eligible funded enrollment.

Appendix C

Community Resources

SCAP

Schenectady Community
Action Program

Creating Opportunity in Partnership

See full Directory for more comprehensive listing

Addiction

Belvedere Addictions Center - (518) 694-9400
info@belvedereservices.com
Conifer Park - 1-800-989-6446 S: (518) 372-7031
conifersm@libertymgt.com
New Choices Recovery Center - (518) 346-4436
info@newchoicesrecovery.org
Project Safe Point - (518) 449-3581 ext. 130 info@ccaidsalbany.org
SPARC - (518) 375-2909 communications@oasas.ny.gov
St. Mary's Healthcare - (518) 842-9111

Baby Supplies

Alpha Pregnancy Center - (518) 688-2677
info@alpha-pregnancycenter.org
Birthright of Schenectady - (518) 370-1532
First United Methodist - (518) 374-4403
fumcschenectady@yahoo.com
Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) - (518) 346-4445 info@sicm.us
Things of My Very Own, Inc. - (518) 630 -5143 info@tomvo.org

Crisis Intervention Services

Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
The Living Room - Ellis Crisis Diversion - (518) 462-1094
Ellis Medicine - (518) 243.3300

Child Care

Brightside Up - (518) 426-7181 info@brightsideup.org
Northern Rivers - (518) 346-5366
communications@northernrivers.org
SCAP Early Learning Centers - (518) 377-8539
preschoolservices@scapny.org
Schenectady Cty. Office of Children & Family Services
(518) 388-4736 info@ocfs.ny.gov
YWCA Northeastern NY - (518) 374-3394 info@ywca-neny.org

Children (birth-12 yrs.)

Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady - (518) 374-4714
tczachor@bgcschenectady.com

Child Guidance Center (Northeast Parent & Child Society) -
(518) 381-8911 info@cgcinc.org
Girls Inc. - (518) 374-9800 communications@girlsinc.org
Ellis Child & Adolescent Treatment - (518) 382-2290
Healthy Schenectady Families/Home Visiting Program -
(518) 386-2824 jpt82@cornell.edu
Schenectady Cty. Office of Children & Family Services -
(518) 388-4736

Clothing

Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Things of My Very Own, Inc. - (518) 630 -6137 info@tomvo.org

Dental Health

Aspen Dental - (518) 356-3300 or (518) 356-3300
Hometown Health Centers - (518) 370-1441

Disability

Capital District Center for Independence - (518) 459-6422
info@cdciweb.com
Concepts of Independent, Inc. - (845) 241-5222 info@coiny.org
GuildCare Adult Day Health Care - (518) 396-3626
gcalbany@lighthouseguild.org
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY - (518) 462-6765
Northeastern Association of the Blind - (518) 463-1211
contact@naba-vision.org
Schenectady ARC - (518) 372-1160 info@arcschenectady.org

Domestic Violence

Community Fathers, Inc. - (518) 346-7546
communityfathersinc@gmail.com
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY - (518) 462-6765
Patty's Place - (518) 723-0232 emcgee@ywca-neny.org
YWCA Northeastern NY - (518) 374-3394 info@ywca-neny.org

Energy Assistance

National Grid Consumer Advocate - (518) 433-3592
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services - (518) 388-4470

Family Planning (birth control/contraception)

Hometown Health Centers - (518) 370-1441
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson - (518) 374-5353

Food Resources

WIC Clinic - (518) 346-8818
Food Pantries
Bethesda House of Schenectady - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org

The Bridge Christian Church - (518) 864-5849
bridgechurchcampus@gmail.com
Harmony Food Pantry - (518) 280-5028
HarmonyfellowshipNY@gmail.com
Scotia-Glenville Pantry - (518) 423-4132 or (518)588-8214
Salvation Army - (518) 346-0222
Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) - (518) 346-4445
info@sicm.us
State Street Food Pantry - (518) 709-9268 statestpres@gmail.com
St. Lukes Food Pantry - (518) 347-1385 slrcc7@gmail.com
Free Community Meals
Bethesda House of Schenectady - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
City Mission of Schenectady - (518) 346-2275 ext. 0
writeus@citymission.com
First United Methodist Church - (518) 374-4403
fumcschenectady@yahoo.com
Salvation Army - (518) 346-0222
SNAP Application Assistance
Catholic Charities - (518) 372-5667 Catholic.Charities@ccrcda.org
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services - (518) 388-4470

Health Insurance Enrollment

Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
Healthy Capital District Initiative - (518) 462-7040
hcdi@hcdiny.org
Hometown Health Centers - (518) 370-1441
The Pride Center of the Capital Region - (518) 462-6138
info@capitalpridecenter.org
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services - (518) 388-4470

Health

Samuel S. Stratton Department of VA Affairs Medical Center -
(518) 626-5000
Belvedere Health Services - (518) 694-9400
info@belvedereservices.com
Ellis Medicine - (518) 243-4000
Hometown Health Centers - (518) 370 -1441
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson - (518) 374-5353
Ridge Health Medical Services Inc. - (518) 372-8178
Whitney Young - (518) 465-4771 info@wmyhealth.org

HIV/AIDS
Alliance for Positive Health - (518) 434-4686 info@alliancefph.org
Damien Center (SICM) - (518) 449-7119
perryj@albanydamiencenter.org
Project Safe Point - (518) 449-3581 ext. 130
info@ccaidsalbany.org

Homelessness
Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518) 374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Soldier On (Veterans) - (866) 406-8449 info@wesoldieron.org
Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services - (518) 388-4470

Walk-in Shelters / Shelter Referral Agencies
City Mission of Schenectady (men only) - (518) 346-2275 ext. 0
Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services - (518) 388-4470
After-hours hotline - 382-0383

Immigrants/Refugees
Catholic Charities - (518) 453-6650 Catholic.Charities@ccrcda.org
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY - (518) 462-6765

Incarceration/Re-entry
Altamont Program - (518) 377-2448
The Center for Community Justice - (518) 346-1281
Community Fathers Inc. - (518) 346-7546
communityfathersinc@gmail.com
Solider On - (866) 406-8449 info@wesoldieron.org
Trinity Alliance - (518) 449-5155

Legal Assistance
Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. - (518) 374-7873
adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org
Community Fathers Inc. - (518) 346-7546
communityfathersinc@gmail.com
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY - (518) 462-6765
Schenectady County Public Defender - (518) 386-2266
webinquiry@schenectadycounty.com

LGBTQ
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson - (518) 374-5353
The Pride Center of the Capital Region - (518) 462-6138
info@capitalpridecenter.org

Mental Health/Counseling
Ellis Child & Adolescent Treatment - (518) 382-2290
Ellis Medicine - (518) 243-4000
Mohawk Opportunities - (518) 374 - 8424
The Pride Center of the Capital Region - (518) 462-6138
info@capitalpridecenter.org

Personal Hygiene
First United Methodist - (518) 374-4403
fumcschenectady@yahoo.com
Things of My Very Own, Inc. - (518) 630 -6137 info@tomvo.org

Pregnancy
Alpha Pregnancy Center - (518) 688-2677
info@alpha-pregnancycenter.org
Birthright of Schenectady - (518) 370-1532
Ellis Medicine - (518) 243-4000
Healthy Schenectady Families/Home Visiting Program - (518) 386-2824
Hometown Health Centers - (518) 370-1441
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson - (518) 374-5353

Rape/Sexual Assault
Sexual Assault Support Services of Planned Parenthood - (518) 346-2266

Seniors
Catholic Charities - (518) 372-5667 Catholic.Charities@ccrcda.org
Schenectady Cty Senior and Long Term Care Services - (518) 382-8481

TASC (previously GED)/ESL
Capital Region BOCES - (518) 862-4707 maria.huntington@neric.org
Washington Irving - (518) 370-8220

Workforce Development
ACCES VR - (518) 473-8097
Northeast Parent & Child Society - (518) 346-1284
SCCC Office of Workforce Development - (518) 595-1101 ext. 3
schelljp@sunysccc.edu
Schenectady Community Action Program - (518)374-9181
SCAPgen@scapny.org
Schenectady County Job Training Agency - (518) 344-2737
Schenectady Works - (518) 346-2275 ext 402
Soldier On - (866) 406-8449 info@wesoldieron.org
SUNY College and Career Counseling Center at SCCC - (518) 631-2257 sunyccc@sunysccc.edu

Veteran/Military
Albany Stratton VA Medical Center - (518) 626-5000
SCCC Office of Workforce Development - (518) 595-1101 ext. 3
Sch'dy County Veterans Service Agency - (518) 377-2423
Soldier On - (866) 406-8449 info@wesoldieron.org

Youth (13-18 yrs.)
Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady - (518) 374-4714
tczachor@bgcschenectady.com
Ellis Child & Adolescent Treatment - (518) 382-2290
Girls Inc. - (518) 374-9800 communications@girlsinc.org

Northeast Parent & Child Society - (518) 346-1284
The Pride Center of the Capital Region - (518) 462-6138
info@capitalpridecenter.org
Safe Inc. of Schenectady - (518) 374-0166
info@safeincofschenectady.org
Schenectady Cty. Office of Children & Family Services - (518) 388-4736

Other
Animal Protective Foundation - (518) 374-3944 ext. 101
Schenectady County Public Library Main Branch - (518) 388-4500 scp-ref@mvls.info
United Way 2-1-1 - Dial 2-1-1 some@unitedwaygcr.org

Emergency Hotlines

Emergency Police, Ambulance, Fire - 911

Alcohol and Substance Abuse - 1-866-829-0564

Child Abuse and Maltreatment - 1-800-342-3720

Crime Victims Assistance - (518)346-2266

Domestic Violence (NYS) - 1-800-942-6906 (English)
                                    1-800-942-6908 (Spanish)

Domestic Violence (YWCA of Schenectady) - (518) 374-3394

Rape Crisis/Sexual Assault - (518) 346-2266

Schenectady Cty. Dept. of Social Services After-hours - (518) 382-0383

Suicide Crisis Hotline - 1-800-273-8255

Sexual Assault hotline - 1-800-656-4673