

Quality of Life and Safety

Key Findings

About 1 in 4 (23%) of Allen County adults in 2009 reported they were limited in some way because of a physical, mental or emotional problem. The assessment identified that 10% of Allen County adults were abused in the past year.

Impairments and Care Giving Needs

- ◆ About one in four (23%) of Allen County adults are limited in some way because of a physical, mental or emotional problem, increasing to 28% of those over the age of 65 and 34% of those with incomes less than \$25,000.
- ◆ 3% of adults needed help handling their personal care needs such as eating, bathing, dressing, or getting around the house, due to a health impairment or problem, increasing to 7% of those with incomes less than \$25,000.
- ◆ 9% of adults needed help handling their routine needs such as everyday household chores, doing necessary business, shopping, or getting around for other purposes, due to a health impairment or problem, increasing to 18% of those with incomes less than \$25,000.
- ◆ The following were reported as the most limiting health problems: back or neck problems (17%), arthritis (17%), walking problems (10%), lung/breathing problem (5%), and depression (5%).

Food Security in the United States

- ◆ In 2007, 11.1% of households were uncertain of having, or unable to acquire, enough food to meet the needs of all of their members because they had insufficient money or other resources for food (food insecure).
- ◆ Approximately 36.2 million people lived in food insecure households in 2007, including 12.4 million children.
- ◆ Some groups had higher rates of food insecurity than the national average of 11.1%. These groups were:
 - Household with incomes below official poverty line (\$21,027 for a family of four in 2007) (37.7%)
 - Households with children, headed by a single woman (30.2%)
 - Black households (22.2%)
 - Hispanic households (20.1%)

(Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Security; Statistics and Graphics, 2007)

Safety and Violence

- ◆ 61% of adults considered their neighborhood to be extremely or quite safe from crime. 29% of adults considered their neighborhood to be slightly safe and 8% said not safe at all.
- ◆ 5% of adults were threatened to be abused either physically, sexually, emotionally, or verbally in the past year and 10% of adults had been abused.
- ◆ Of those who were threatened or abused, 52% were by their spouse or partner, 8% by their parent, 6% by another family member and 34% were threatened or abused by someone else.
- ◆ 2% of adults were hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose in their home.

Quality of Life

- ◆ 14% of adults needed help meeting their general daily needs such as food, clothing, shelter, or paying utility bills, increasing to 24% of those under the age of 30 and 29% of those with incomes less than \$25,000.
- ◆ Allen County adults would have a problem getting the following if they needed them today: someone to loan them \$50 (12%), someone to help if they were sick or in bed (11%), someone to talk to about problems (11%), and someone to take them to a clinic or doctor's office (9%).

2002 Allen County Comparison Data

- ◆ 7.9% of Allen County residents needed help with daily chores due to a disability or health problem.
- ◆ 1.5% of Allen County residents needed help with self-care due to a disability or health problem.
- ◆ 14.1% of Allen County residents reported having a disability.
- ◆ 9.3% of Allen County residents had experienced violence in the past year.
- ◆ 6.6% of Allen County residents had been frightened for the safety of themselves, family, or friends because of the anger or threats of an intimate partner.

(Source: Allen County Assessment 2002)