
BROWARD COUNTY HEALTH PLAN

Chapter V: Benchmarks



2025

BROWARD REGIONAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL (BRHPC)
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The Broward County Health Plan is a living document, regularly updated to provide the most current and relevant information. It encompasses a wide range of topics—from labor force statistics to immunization rates—capturing the range of factors that influence public health. The Plan also emphasizes the critical connection between socioeconomic conditions and community health outcomes. To reflect the complexity of Broward County’s healthcare landscape, the Health Plan is organized into six chapters, each addressing a key aspect of the local health system:

Chapter I: Regional Profile provides demographic and socioeconomic indicators that shape health status and impact the distribution of health resources—factors that contribute to service utilization and the availability of healthcare financing.

Chapter II: Health Status outlines community health status through six health categories: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health, Environmental and Community Health, Access to Care, Oral Health, and Morbidity and Mortality.

Chapter III: Health Resources provides an overview of the health resources currently available in Broward County, emphasizing the range and accessibility of services that support the community’s healthcare needs.

Chapter IV: Healthcare Utilization reviews data on healthcare utilization throughout Broward County’s hospital systems. Broward County’s seasonal fluctuations and yearly totals are analyzed.

Chapter V: Benchmarks measures progress toward achieving the health improvement goals outlined in Healthy People 2030 and compares Broward County’s performance to state and national trends. Additional indicator data trends are reviewed, and community interventions implemented across each health sector are highlighted.

Chapter VI: Health Data Warehouse analyzes key Health Indicator modules from the Health Data Warehouse, including: (1) Prevention Quality Indicators and avoidable hospital admissions, (2) inpatient chronic conditions categorized by ICD-9 codes, (3) incidence of suicide, (4) emergency department acuity stratification based on CPT codes, and (5) the NYU Algorithm for identifying preventable or avoidable emergency department admissions.

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Introduction

The Broward Regional Plan, Chapter V, presents a measure on progress of health priorities identified throughout the County. This chapter reviews key health indicators across major categories, examines data trends over recent years, and highlights community interventions aimed at improving health outcomes in each sector.

This chapter is organized into 5 main categories: **Maternal and Child Health; Communicable Diseases; Chronic Diseases; Injury, Violence, and Safety;** and **Social, Behavioral, and Mental Health Indicators**. Each section reviews important indicators within the context of related **Healthy People 2030** objectives and targets, serving as benchmarks for comparison, along with trend analyses at the county and state levels. At the end of each section, available community resources and interventions addressing key indicators are summarized. For a comprehensive list of Broward County community resources, refer to **Chapter III** of this Health Plan.

Data supporting these indicators and benchmarks are also presented in **Chapter II** of the Broward County Health Plan. While Chapter II provides detailed data for each indicator, Chapter V focuses on comparing recent trends and assessing progress toward the benchmarks established by the **Healthy People 2030** initiative.

Healthy People 2030: A Review

Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) is a national initiative launched by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Population health data are reviewed and analyzed to create 10-year measurable objectives for a wide-variety of health topics. HP2030 Objectives establish measurable targets to be achieved by the year 2030. These objectives serve as specific and measurable guiding benchmarks for improving health outcomes throughout the entire country.

The Healthy People Objectives are updated every ten years. Some data points reviewed in the following sections do not have a corresponding HP2030 Objective. The number of 2030 Objectives has been reduced compared to the Healthy People 2020 Objectives; this was done to minimize overlap and focus on the most pressing public health priorities (HP2030, Health.gov).

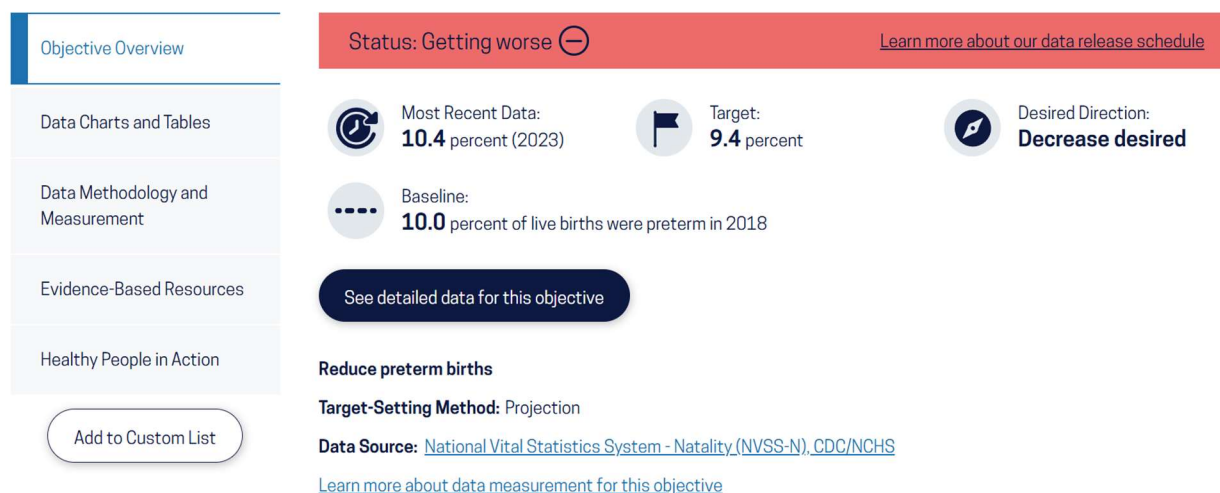
The HP2030 Objectives are valuable tools for assessing community health data and monitoring progress towards national goals. These objectives allow for comparison of health trends over time and across geographic regions. In the following sections, Broward County's rates will be compared to statewide and national rates and the target for each objective's rate, which serves as a benchmark.

When reviewing individual Healthy People 2030 objectives online, the following information is displayed:

1. **Baseline national level** – the initial national value upon which the specific HP2030 objective is based
2. **Most recent national data** – the latest available data showing progress toward (or away from) the target objective
3. **Target objective** – the specific level that HP2030 aims to achieve by the year 2030
4. **Desired direction** – indicates whether the national level should **increase or decrease** by 2030 to meet the target objective
5. **Objective status (national level)** – reflects the current progress at the national level, showing whether there has been **improvement, little change, or regression** comparing the last measure and most recent national level towards the target for the objective

Example of Healthy People 2030 Objective Data online:

Reduce preterm births — MICH-07



Link: <https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data>

Overall Indicator Trends

Table 1 presents a combined list of all health indicator factors analyzed to assess changes in community health and progress over the most recent two years of available data. The indicators are grouped according to the magnitude and direction of change, those that increased or decreased by more than 5% compared to the previous year, and those that changed minimally (less than 5%). Indicators shown in **red** represent unfavorable changes, meaning increases or decreases that indicate worsening performance. Indicators shown in **green** represent favorable changes, reflecting improvements in performance that move the measure in the desired direction. Indicators with minimal change are **not color-rated** due to the limited

significance of their variation. Throughout the entire remainder of this chapter, indicator factors will be reviewed within their respective subsections.

Table 1: Trends in Health Indicators by Percent Change from 2022 - 2023, Broward

*Note: Factors marked with an asterisk * compare 2023 to 2024 data, for “***” see endnote*

Increasing (> +5% Change)	Minimal Change (<5% Change)	Decreasing (> -5% Change)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat Births to Teens • Maternal Mortality Rate • Chlamydia Rate • Gonorrhea Rate • Chronic Hepatitis B Rate • Chronic Hepatitis C Rate • Shigellosis Rate • Tuberculosis Rate* • Campylobacteriosis Rate • Firearms Discharge Death Rate • Index Crime Rate • Adult Drug Arrests • Youth Arrests • Current Marijuana Use Among Youth** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teen Birth Rate • Preterm Birth Rate • Low Birth Weight • % Normal Weight Mothers pre-pregnancy • Cesarean sections • Prenatal care initiation in the first trimester • HIV Diagnoses* • Salmonellosis Rate • Stroke Death Rate • CLRD Death Rate • Hypertension Death Rate • Violent Crime Rate • Sedentary Adults** • Current Alcohol Use Among Youth** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Birth Rate • Infant Mortality Rate • Fetal Mortality Rate • Syphilis (all Stages) Rate • Death Rate (all causes) • Heart Disease Death Rate • Cancer Death Rate • Diabetes Death Rate • Alzheimer’s Disease Death Rate • Kidney Disease Death Rate • Suicide Death Rate • Unintentional Injury Death Rate • Motor Vehicle Death Rate • Drug Poisoning Death Rate • Falls Death Rate • Suicide Death Rate • Obesity Among Adults & Youth** • Cigarette Smoking Among Adults & Youth** • Hospitalizations from Alcohol**

Sources: FL Health Charts, 2022-2023

***Indicates indicators from Social, Behavioral and Mental Health section which compares data across most recent years of data available. See Table 6 for specific years this data comes from.*

Maternal & Child Health Indicators

Maternal and child health indicators reflect the overall health of communities and the strength of health systems. In the United States, women remain more likely to die from childbirth than those in other developed nations. Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) Objectives emphasize preventing pregnancy complications and maternal deaths, improving women’s health before, during, and after pregnancy, and supporting positive outcomes for infants.

This section highlights progress in maternal and child health indicators through reviewing recent data, and performance toward key HP2030 objectives aimed at improving the health and well-being of women, infants, and children. Data throughout this section is compared to statewide rates, and national rates to assess progress towards HP2030 objectives (HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Maternal & Child Health Indicator Overview

Table 2 summarizes the changes in maternal and child health indicators in Broward County between 2022 and 2023. The table presents the rates for both years, along with the direction of change (positive or negative) and the corresponding percentage change over this one-year period. In subsections below, each indicator is reviewed individually to provide a more detailed review of recent trends and progress.

Table 2: Maternal & Child Health Indicator Changes, Broward 2022 to 2023

Maternal & Child Health Indicators	Rate or %		Difference (2023- 2022)	% Change
	2022	2023		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 total population)	10.8	10.1	-0.7	-6.5%
Teen Birth Rate (Mothers 15-19) (per 1,000 total population)	4.2	4.1	-0.1	-2.4%
Repeat Births to Teens	10.8%	12.4%	+1.6%	14.8%
Preterm Birth	10.8%	11.0%	+0.2%	1.9%
Low Birth Weight (LBW)				
LBW <5.5 lb	9.8%	9.6%	+0.2%	-2.0%
Very LBW <3.3 lb	1.8%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Prenatal care Initiation in 1 st Trimester	70.7%	71.1%	+0.4%	0.6%
Fetal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 deliveries)	7.7	7.2	-0.5	-6.5%
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	5.3	5.0	-0.3	-5.7%
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000 live births)	0.0	24.8	+24.8	*

Mothers Pre-pregnancy BMI Normal (18.5-24.9)	40.8%	40.9%	+0.1%	0.2%
Cesarean Sections	40.2%	40.3%	+0.1%	0.2%

*Percent change cannot be calculated with an initial value of "0."

Source: FL Health Charts, 2022-2023

Between 2022 and 2023, the data show a decline in the live birth rate and teen birth rate, while repeat teen births increased. Both fetal and infant mortality rates decreased during this period; however, the maternal mortality rate increased.

Preterm Births

Preterm births, or premature births, are those that occur before 37 weeks of gestation. Early delivery means that the infant has not had the usual amount of time to develop in the womb. Children born preterm are at greater risk of medical complications, long-term disability, and mortality (CDC, 2025).

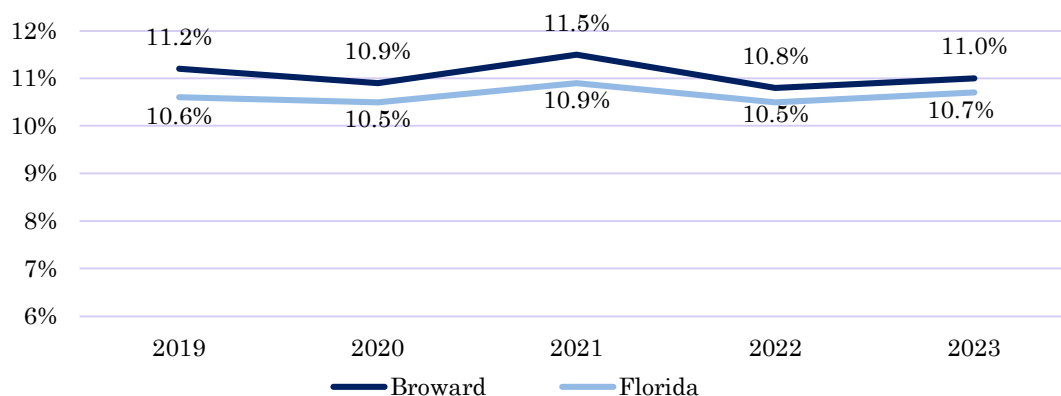
Healthy People 2030 Objective: Preterm Births Rate

Objective MICH-07: Reduce Preterm births		Target Preterm Birth Rate: 9.4%
		Desired Direction: Decrease
		National Status: ⚠️ Getting worse
Percent of Births that were Preterm:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
11.0%	10.7%	10.4%
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-07, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The Healthy People 2030 objective for preterm births aims to reduce the national rate to 9.4% or lower by 2030. Recent data reflects that the national preterm birth rate has increased. Since 2019, Broward has consistently reported a slightly higher preterm birth rate than the statewide average (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Percent of Preterm Births, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Adolescent Pregnancy

Babies born to teen mothers face higher risk of preterm birth, low birth weight, and mortality. Teen mothers often experience additional challenges such as health impacts and impacts on employment and educational opportunities. Evidence shows that educational and outreach programs are effective in reducing teen pregnancy rates (Florida Health Charts, 2025; HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Healthy People 2030 Objective: Adolescents Pregnancy Rate

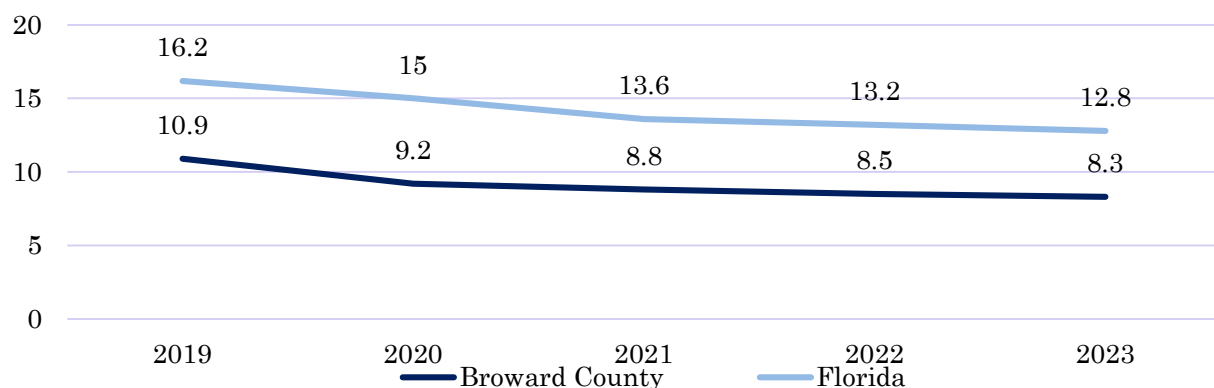
Objective FP-03: Decrease Rate of Adolescent Pregnancy (females 15-19)		Target: 31.4 per 1,000 females Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Target Met or Exceeded
Teen birth rate (per 1,000) per 1,000 females aged 15-19:		Pregnancy Rate (per 1,000) among Mothers aged 15-19:
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2017)
8.3 per 1,000	12.8 per 1,000	31.0 per 1,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Target Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Target Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Target Met/Exceeded

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective FP-03, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

HP2030 targets for reducing adolescent pregnancy have been met and exceeded at the local, state and national levels. The target was met at the national level in 2017 and from 2019-2023 the target has been met at the local and state levels (Figure 2).

The standardized teen birth rate reflects births among mothers aged 15 to 19 years. Figure 2 illustrates the teen birth rate over the last 5 years in Broward and Florida for mothers aged 15 to 19. Florida has consistently had a higher teen birth rate than Broward County. Both the county and state have had a steady decline in teen birth rate from 2019 to 2023 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000, Mothers 15-19), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care encompasses regular checkups to monitor pregnancy and identify any health problems for both the mother and the baby at each stage. Due to this monitoring, mothers who receive prenatal care have healthier pregnancies and lower risk of complications at birth. The trimester when prenatal care begins can also impact pregnancy, with earlier prenatal care being most beneficial and having the most favorable outcomes for mother and child.

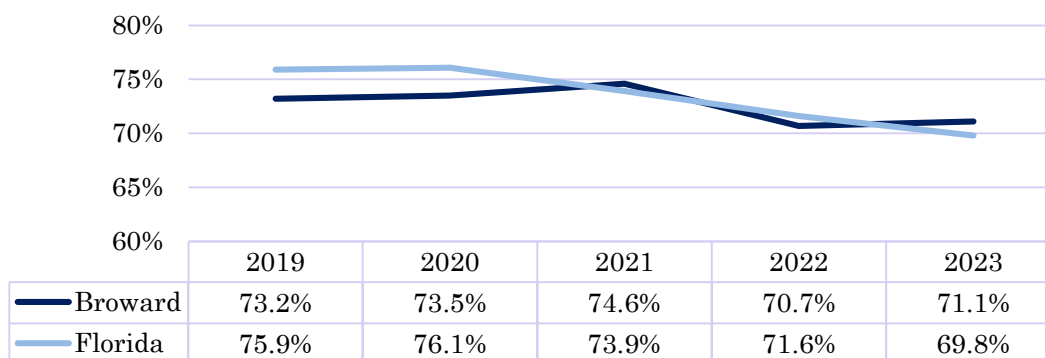
Healthy People 2030 Objective: Early Prenatal Care Initiation

Objective MICH-08: Increase the proportion of pregnant women who receive early and adequate prenatal care		Target Rate: 80.5% Desired Direction: Increase National Status: ⚠️ Getting worse
Rate of Prenatal Care initiation in the first Trimester:		Proportion of pregnant women who receive early and adequate prenatal care:
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
71.1%	69.8%	75.2%
⚠️ Below Target	⚠️ Below Target	⚠️ Below Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-08, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Current county, state, and nationwide rates are falling below the HP2030 target to increase early prenatal care initiation. At the national level, prenatal care initiation in the early stages has shown a decline rather than the desired increase needed to meet the target. More than 70% of Broward mothers have initiated prenatal care during the first trimester in each of the past 5 years, shown in Figure 3. Some fluctuations have occurred during this period, with the highest rate of first-trimester prenatal care initiation recorded in 2021, and the lowest in 2022 (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Percent of Mothers who Initiated Prenatal Care in 1st Trimester of Pregnancy, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

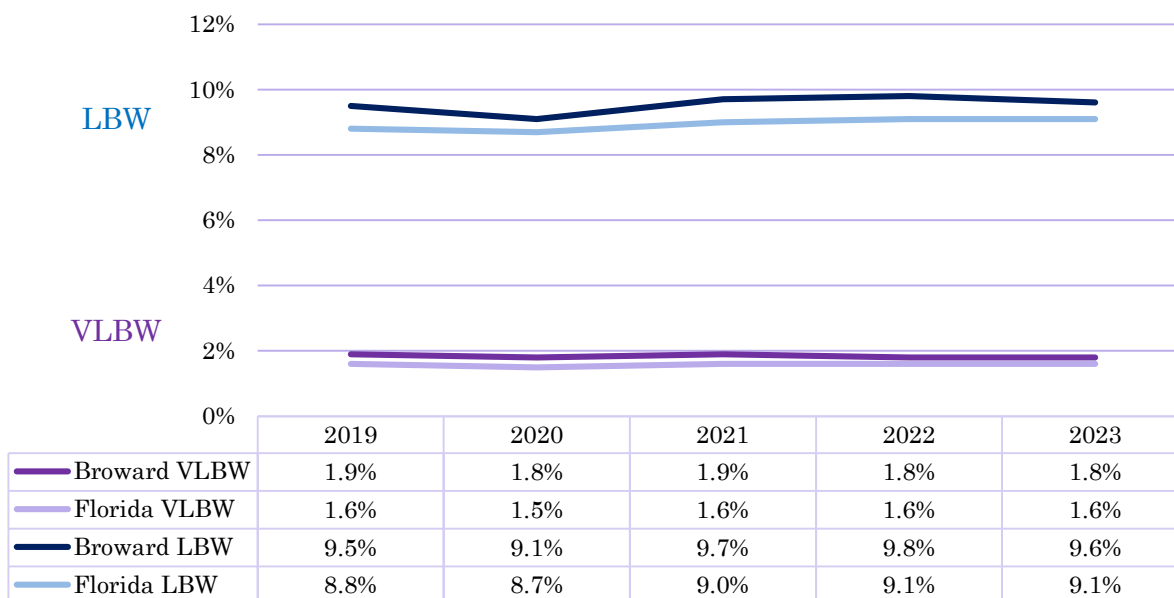
Low Birth Weight

Birth weight is a key indicator of an infant's overall health and likelihood of survival. Low birth weight (LBW) is defined as a birth weight of less than 5.5 pounds (< 2,500 grams), while very low birth weight (VLBW) is defined as a birth weight of less than 3.3 pounds (< 1,500 grams). One of the primary causes of LBW is preterm birth. LBW is a risk for long-term health complications for the baby. High-quality prenatal care reduces the risk of LBW. For additional information on LBW and VLBW, see Chapter 2 of the Broward County Health Plan.

There are currently **no Healthy People 2030 objectives** specific to LBW or VLBW rates among newborns.

Over the past 5 years in Broward County, just under 10% of births have been classified as LBW and just under 2% as VLBW annually. Figure 4 presents LBW and VLBW rates over the past 5 years in Broward and Florida. Compared to statewide rates, Broward has consistently reported higher rates of both LBW and VLBW. These rates have shown minimal fluctuation, indicating consistent trends (Florida Health Charts).

Figure 4: Percent of Low & Very Low Birth Weight Births, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Additionally, the data show that Black mothers in Broward experience significantly higher rates of LBW and VLBW births compared to White and Hispanic mothers in Broward (Figure 8, Chapter 2 Broward County Health Plan, FL Health Charts).

Mother's Weight

Maternal weight at the time of pregnancy plays a significant role in determining birth outcomes. Being overweight or obese during pregnancy increases the risk of preterm birth and other complications. These risks include long-term health risks for the child, such as a greater likelihood of developing chronic diseases later in life.

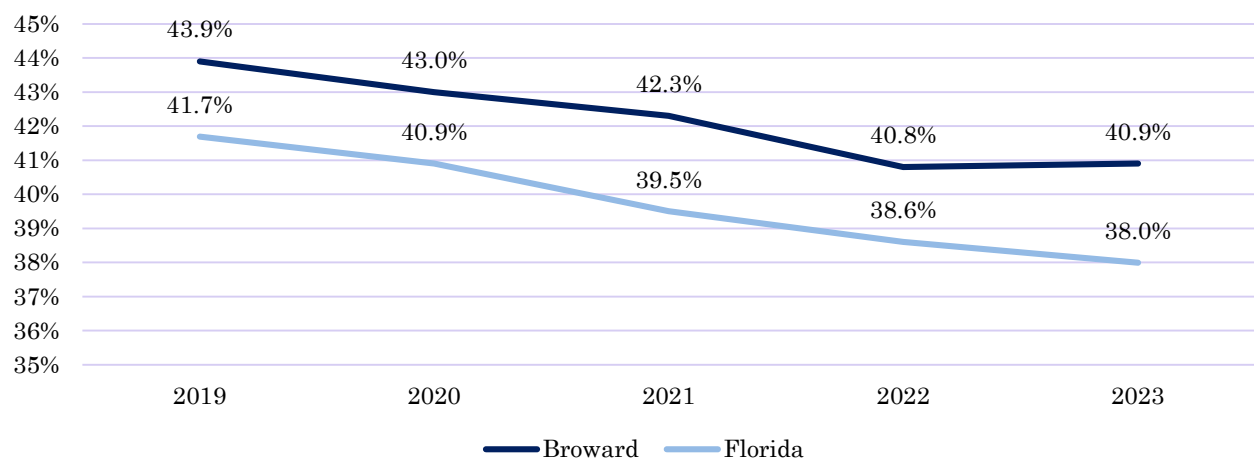
Healthy People 2030 Objective: Mother's Weight Before Pregnancy

Objective MICH-13: Increase the proportion of women who had a healthy weight (normal BMI) before pregnancy			Target Rate: 47.1%
			Desired Direction: Increase
			National Status: ⚠️ Getting worse
Percentage of mothers at a healthy weight pre-pregnancy:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
40.9%	38.0%	37.6%	
⚠️ Below Target	⚠️ Below Target	⚠️ Below Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-13, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Local, state and nationwide rates all remain below the target range for this HP2030 objective. National data indicate that the status of this objective is worsening, reflecting a continued decline in the proportion of women at a healthy weight prior to pregnancy. In 2023, Broward had the highest rate compared to the state and national levels. Figure 5 shows the percentage of mothers in Broward and Florida who had a normal pre-pregnancy Body Mass Index (BMI) over the past 5 years. Reflected in Figure 5 below, there is a decreasing trend in the percentage of mothers entering pregnancy at a normal weight, both locally and statewide.

Figure 5: Percent of Mothers with Normal BMI Pre-Pregnancy, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Cesarean Sections

Cesarean delivery, or C-section, is a surgical procedure used to deliver a baby. Typically, cesarean sections are performed when vaginal delivery poses a risk to the mother or infant. Common reasons for a cesarean section include maternal high blood pressure, obstructed labor, breech presentation, multiple gestation (e.g., twins), and complications involving the placenta or umbilical cord.

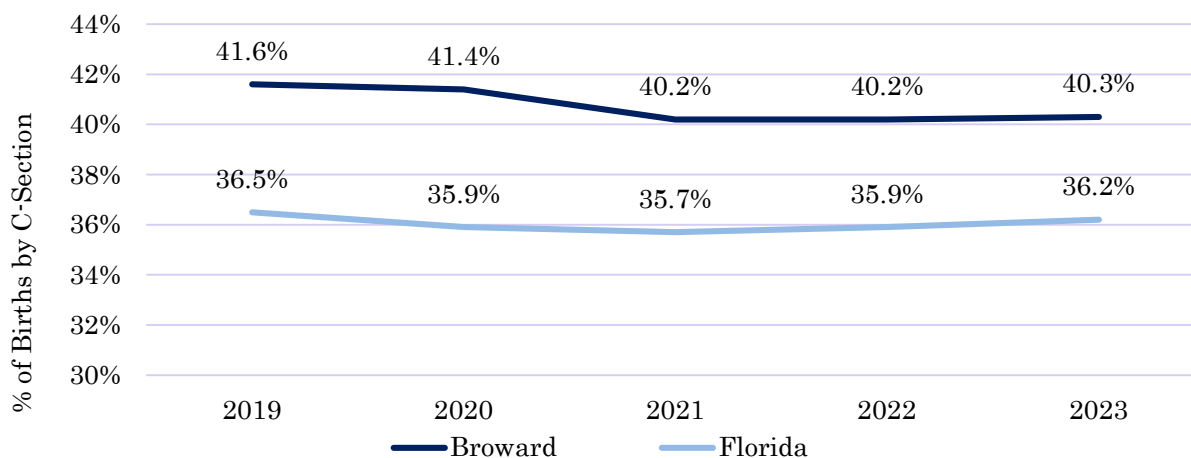
Healthy People 2030 Objective: Cesarean Sections

Objective MICH-06: Reduce cesarean births among low-risk women with no prior births		Target: 23.6%
		Desired Direction: Decrease
		National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Percentage of cesarean section deliveries:		Cesarean births among low-risk women with no prior births:
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
40.3%	36.2%	26.6%
*Cannot compare these Statistics directly, as they are measured differently compared to the to HP2030 Objective Target		⚠️ Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-06, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

HP2030 data show that the national rate of Cesarean delivery remains above the objective target. Recent data indicate that the cesarean births among low-risk women with no prior births are increasing at the national level – in contrast to the objective to decrease. In Broward, cesarean sections have consistently accounted for over 40% of deliveries during the past 5 years. Broward has a higher rate of cesarean deliveries than Florida by nearly 5% each year during this period (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Percentage of Cesarean Deliveries, Broward & Florida, 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Fetal Mortality

Fetal mortality is the death of the fetus in the womb at 20 weeks gestation or later.

Healthy People 2030 Objective: Fetal Mortality Rate

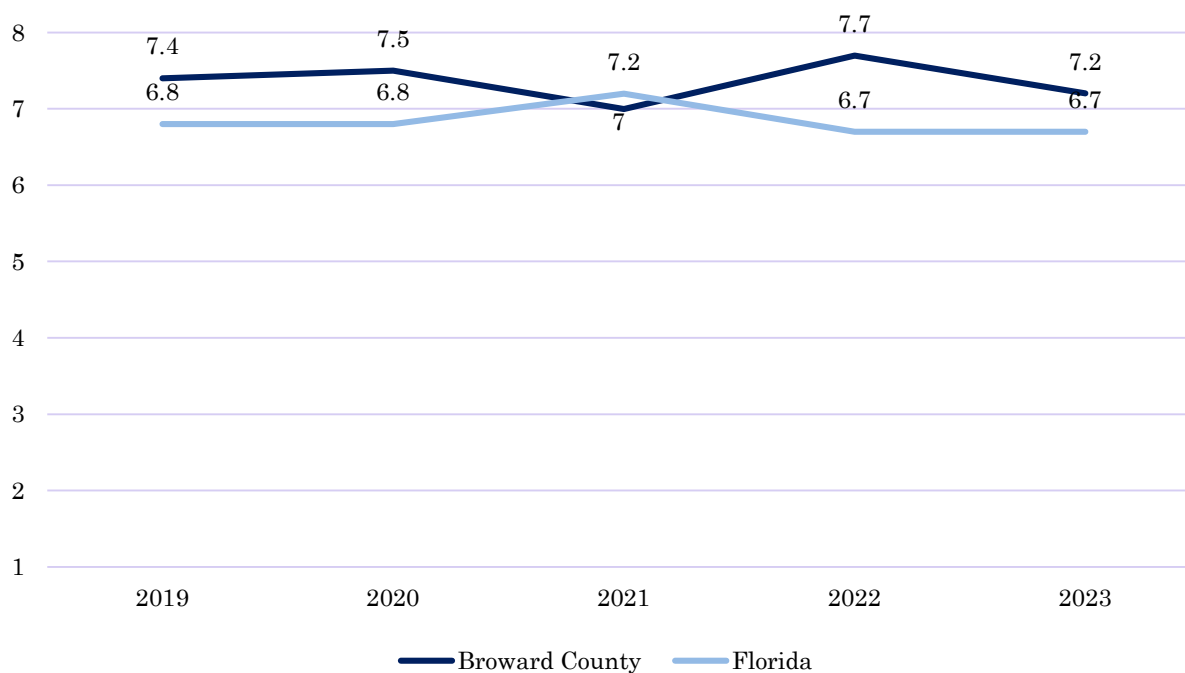
Objective MICH-01: Reduce the rate of fetal deaths at 20 or more weeks of gestation		Target Fetal Mortality Rate: 5.7 per 1,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2021)
7.2 per 1,000	6.7 per 1,000	5.7 per 1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Above Target	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Target	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-01, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

HP2030 shows that at the national level the target has been met to reduce the rate of fetal deaths to 5.7 per 1,000 deliveries. This rate is higher and above the target at the state and local level, indicating a continued need for reduction in these areas.

As shown in Figure 7, the rate of fetal deaths in Broward and Florida has fluctuated over the past 5 years. During most of this period, Broward has reported a higher rate of fetal deaths compared to Florida's statewide average.

Figure 7: Fetal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 deliveries), Broward & Florida, 2019-23



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Infant Mortality

Infant mortality is the death of an infant within the first year of life.

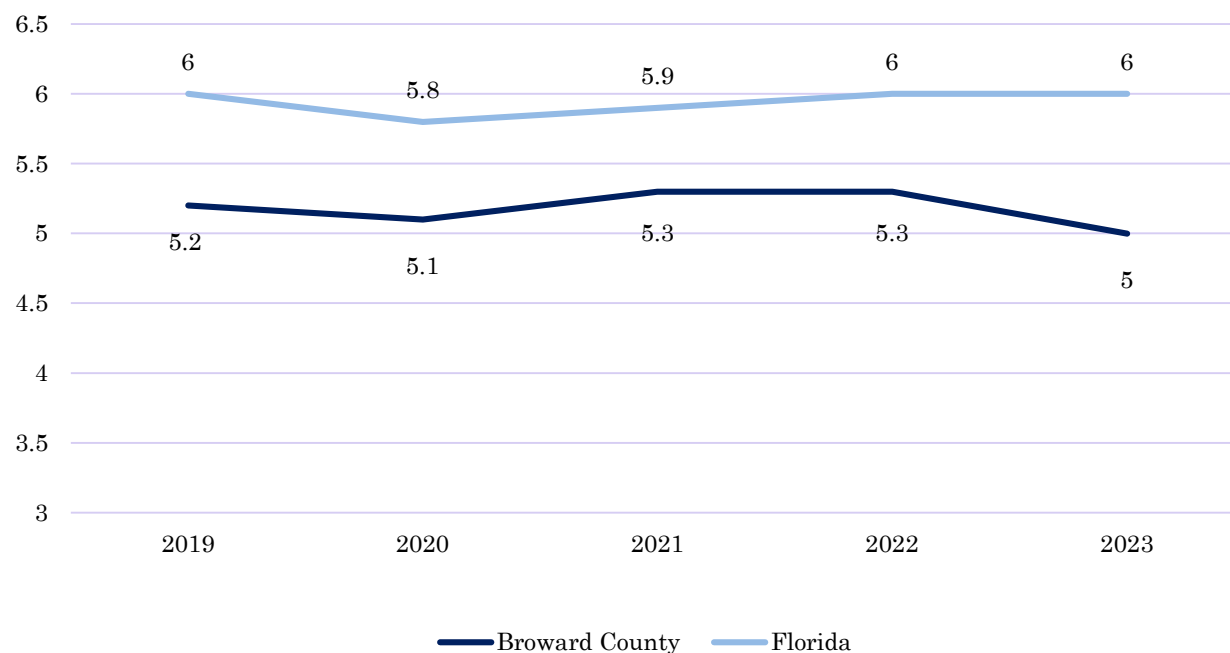
Healthy People 2030 Objective: Infant Mortality Rate

Objective MICH-02: Reduce the rate of infant deaths		Target Infant Mortality Rate: 5.0 per 1,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2022)
5.0 per 1,000	6.0 per 1,000	5.6 per 1,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Target	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Target	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-02, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The HP2030 objective is to reduce infant mortality to 5.0 per 1,000 or under. This goal was met in 2023 in Broward, while the national and state rate remain higher. The data reflects that infant mortality has improved at the nationwide level, showing progress toward the HP2030 objective (HP2030, Health.gov; Florida Health Charts, 2023). Additionally, the infant mortality rate in Broward has remained consistently lower than the statewide rate each year from 2019 to 2023 (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births), Broward & Florida 2019-23



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Maternal Mortality

Maternal mortality is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy termination (World Health Organization). A location's maternal mortality rate represents the risk of maternal death associated with each pregnancy.

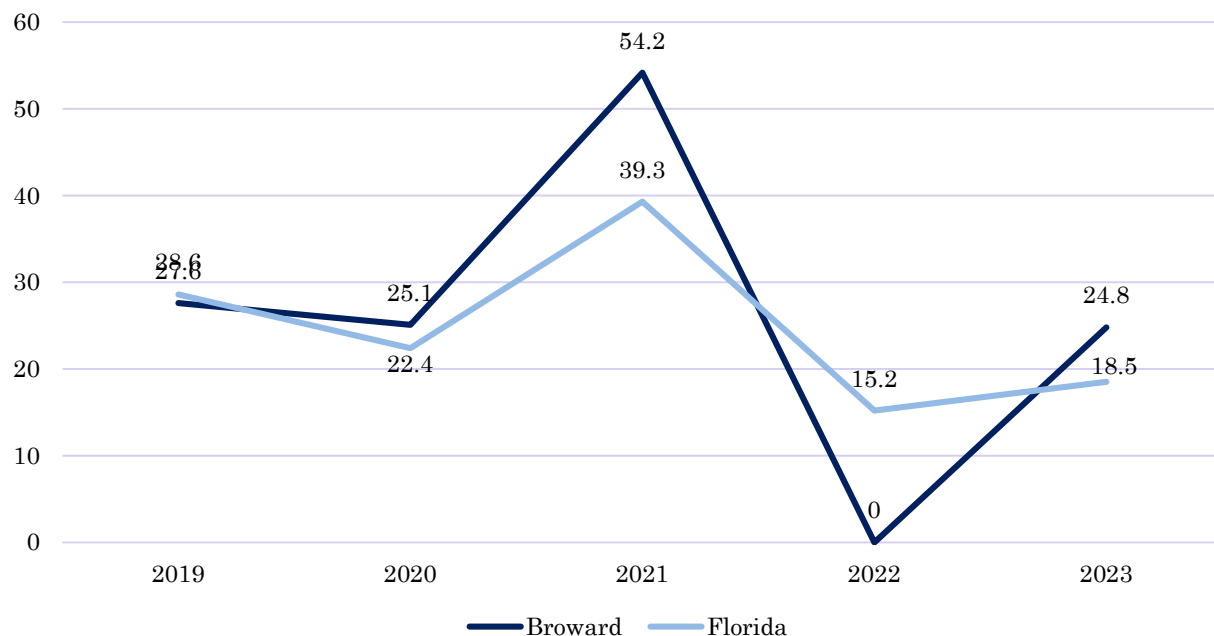
Healthy People 2030: Maternal Mortality Rate

Objective MICH-04: Reduce Maternal Deaths		Target Maternal Mortality Rate: 15.7 Per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little or no detectable change	
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
24.8 per 100,000	18.5 per 100,000	18.6 per 100,000	
⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-04, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The HP2030 target to reduce maternal death rate was not met in 2023 at the local, state, or nationwide levels. This rate fluctuates from year to year, as maternal death are relatively rare and slight increases can significantly affect the overall rate. The objective was met in the prior year (2022) for Florida and Broward County, (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Maternal Death Rate (per 100,000 Live Births), Broward & Florida 2019-23



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Immunizations

Childhood immunizations play a critical role in reducing the prevalence of deadly and dangerous vaccine-preventable disease. Childhood immunization rate data reflect the proportion of children whose parents maintain recommended vaccination schedules – both at the 2-year mark and the kindergarten level.

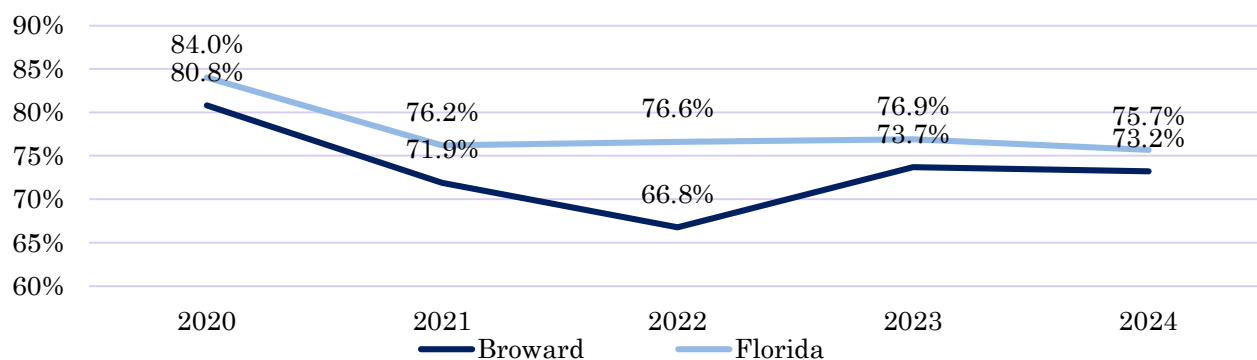
Healthy People 2030: 2-Year-Old Vaccinations

Objective IID-02: Reduce the proportion of children who get no recommended vaccines by age 2 years		Target: 1.3% Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little or no detectable change
Related Measure: % of 2-year-old children <u>not fully immunized</u> with basic vaccinations:		Proportion of children who get <u>no recommended vaccines</u> by age 2 years:
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2020)
26.8%	24.3%	1.4%
*Cannot compare these statistics directly to national level or HP2030 Target, as they are measured differently		⚠ Above Target (close)

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IID-02, Health.gov 2020; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The HP2030 target is nearly met with this objective at the national level, but it is slightly higher. Figure 10 displays the immunization levels among 2-year-old children in Broward and in Florida over the past 5 years. Countywide, there was a low point in 2022 in immunization level followed by an increase (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Percent of Fully Immunized 2-Year-Old Children, Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts (Percent of 2-year-old Children with all Basic Immunizations), 2020-2024

The kindergarten immunization level has never fallen below 90% in either Broward or Florida. However, the data show a declining trend in immunization rates at the kindergarten level in both areas, although Broward did experience a slight increase from 2022 to 2023 (Figure 15, Chapter 2 Broward County Health Plan).

Resources for Maternal & Child Health

Maternal and child health in Broward County is supported by an integrated network of community agencies that provide clinical care, education, home visiting, and social services to mothers, infants, and young children. The **Broward Healthy Start Coalition (BHSC)** serves as the lead agency coordinating maternal and child health policy, programming, and funding oversight through partnerships with the Florida Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care Administration, and various local subcontractors. BHSC's system of care connects pregnant women and families with home visiting, prenatal, and early childhood services designed to reduce infant mortality, prevent low birth weight, and strengthen family well-being. Through continuous quality assurance and collaboration with key partners, BHSC ensures that families most at risk are identified early and referred to appropriate community programs for ongoing support.

Complementing this infrastructure, organizations such as **Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Broward County (HMHB)**, the **Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)**, and **Broward Community & Family Health Centers (BCOM)** provide direct, wraparound support that addresses both medical and social determinants of health. HMHB offers education, case management, and essential needs assistance through programs such as M.O.M.S., Healthy Families, and the Fatherhood Mentorship Program.

The **Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)** extends this continuum by pairing at-risk mothers with trained nurses who deliver evidence-based home visiting services focused on prenatal care, infant health, and maternal self-sufficiency. These initiatives are further supported by accessible community health centers such as BCOM, which provide prenatal, pediatric, dental, and behavioral health services, ensuring continuity of care across the lifespan. Together, these collaborative resources form a coordinated system of care that empowers families, promotes healthy pregnancies, and nurtures the development of Broward's youngest residents. For more details on the many community resources for maternal and child health, see Chapter 3 of this Broward County Health Plan.

Communicable Disease Indicators

Communicable disease indicators provide critical insight into community health, prevention efforts, and the effectiveness of public health systems. Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) objectives focus on efforts to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, increase vaccination coverage, improve early detection and treatment, and strengthen public health preparedness. This section reviews progress in communicable disease indicators by analyzing recent data, trends, and performance toward key HP2030 objectives (HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Communicable Disease Indicator Overview

Table 3 summarizes the changes in the most recent years of data 2022 to 2023, and for some indicators with available data the 2023 to 2024 data, for specific communicable disease indicators in Broward County. The rates for 2022 and 2023 (and for select indicators, 2023 and 2024), are reviewed and compared, along with the direction of change (increase or decrease) and the percentage change over each one-year period. In subsections below, each factor is reviewed individually.

Table 3: Communicable Diseases Indicator Changes, Broward 2022 to 2023 & 2024

Communicable Disease Indicators	Rate per 100,000			Difference (most recent- prior year)	% Change
	2022	2023	2024		
HIV					
Diagnoses	29.3	28.1	28.2	0.1	0.4%
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)					
Chlamydia	584.0	690.1	n/a	106.1	18.2%
Gonorrhea	264.9	340.6	n/a	75.7	28.6%
Syphilis (all stages)	147.1	125.4	n/a	-21.7	-14.8%
Hepatitis					
A	0.4	0.4	n/a	0	0.0%
B (Chronic)	26.8	40.0	n/a	13.2	49.3%
C (Chronic)	45.2	54.5	n/a	9.3	20.6%
Salmonellosis	45.5	43.4	n/a	-2.1	-4.6%
Shigellosis	7.6	11.2	n/a	3.6	47.4%
Tuberculosis	2.2	3.5	4.2	0.7	20.0%
Campylobacteriosis	12.2	13.7	n/a	1.5	12.3%

Source: FL Health Charts, 2022-2024

From 2023 to 2024 the rate of new HIV diagnoses slightly increased. Among sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from 2022 to 2023, chlamydia and gonorrhea increased by over 18%, while syphilis (all stages) decreased by nearly 15%. From 2022 to 2023, hepatitis B and shigellosis experienced a nearly 50% increase.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) spreads mainly through unprotected sexual contact or sharing needles with someone who is infected. The virus gradually weakens the immune system, and when immune function is severely compromised, the infection progresses to Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Though there is no cure, effective treatment can effectively control the virus and significantly extend life expectancy.

There are several Healthy People 2030 objectives related to HIV, three of which are highlighted below. Other objectives not reviewed relate to increasing the knowledge of HIV status (HIV-02) and reducing the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission (HIV-06).

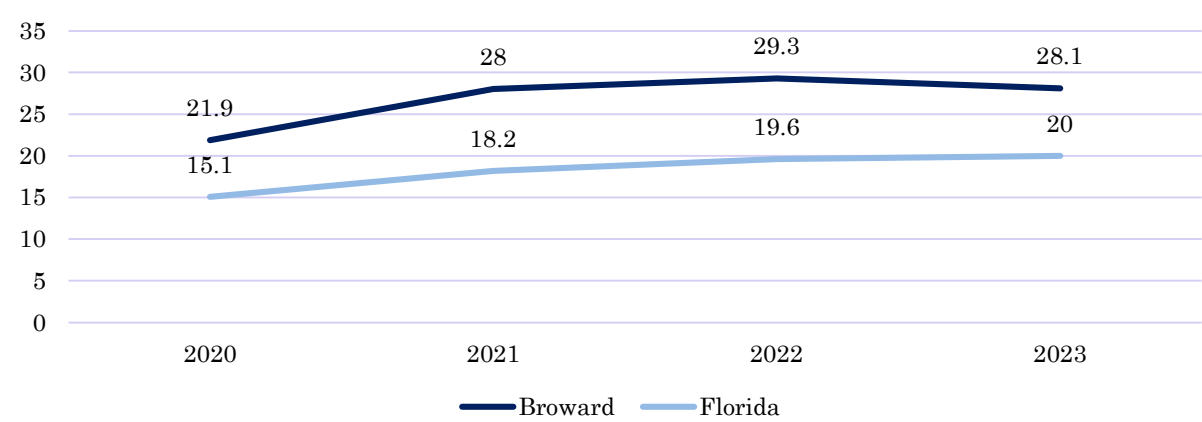
Healthy People 2030: HIV Diagnoses

Objective HIV-03: Reduce the number of new HIV diagnoses			Target: 3,835 persons diagnosed Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little to no detectable change		
Broward County (2023)		Florida (2024)		National (2022)	
558 diagnoses		4,541 diagnoses		37,601 diagnoses	
		⚠ Above Target for US		⚠ Well Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HIV-03, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023 & 2024

Nationwide in 2022, 37,601 people were diagnosed with HIV, which was over 10 times the HP2030 objective target for nationwide new diagnoses. Florida’s total diagnoses in 2024 also exceeded this target. The rate of new HIV diagnoses is consistently higher in Broward than in Florida, evident over the past 4 years of data (Figure 11).





Figure 11: HIV Diagnoses Rate (Per 100,000), Broward and Florida, 2020-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2020-2023

The next HP2030 objective reviewed focuses on increasing linkage to medical care. Linking individuals with HIV to care soon after diagnosis is essential for reducing the risk of progression into AIDS. Linkage to care within the first month post-diagnosis is the key measure used to track progress towards this objective.

Healthy People 2030: HIV Medical Care




Objective HIV-04: Increase linkage to HIV medical care			Target: 95%
			Desired Direction: Increase
			National Status:  Improving
Percentage of people with newly diagnosed HIV linked to care in 30 days:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2022)	
82%	81%	81.6%	
 Below Target	 Below Target	 Below Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HIV-04, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts (PWH “Linked to Care in 30 Days” after diagnosis, Broward & Florida), 2023 & 2024

National, state and county levels are below the HP2030 target for this objective, and the national rate shows little to no detectable change towards achieving the target to reach 95% PWH (persons with HIV) linked to care within one month of diagnosis.

The next HP2030 HIV-related objective is to increase viral suppression among individuals with HIV. Taking HIV prescription medication can reduce the amount of virus in the body very low, or at undetectable levels, which is referred to as viral suppression. People with HIV who achieve viral suppression can remain healthy and have effectively no risk of transmitting the virus to sexual partners. When HIV is virally suppressed, the progression of HIV into AIDS is prevented reflecting the importance of early detection and treatment (HP2030, Health.gov).

Healthy People 2030: HIV Viral Suppression Rate

Objective HIV-05: Increase viral suppression			Target: 95%
			Desired Direction: Increase
			National Status: Little to no detectable change
The percentage of Persons with HIV (PWH) that have reached viral suppression:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2022)	
68%	70%	65.1%	
 Below Target	 Below Target	 Below Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HIV-05, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts (HIV Diagnoses Continuum, Suppressed Viral Load, Broward & Florida), 2023

National, state and county viral suppression rates remain below the target range, and the national rate has shown no recent change towards reaching the target.

Sexually Transmitted Infections

Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis, are three of the most common bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STIs). If left untreated, these infections can cause serious reproductive health complications, particularly among women. Syphilis can be transmitted from an infected mother to her baby during pregnancy, making early diagnosis and treatment essential. See Chapter 2 for more information on STIs.

There are six STI-specific Healthy People 2030 Objectives. Three are reviewed below that relate to Gonorrhea and Syphilis. STI Objectives not reviewed include increasing chlamydia screening among sexually active female adolescents and young women (STI-01) and reducing pelvic inflammatory disease for young women (STI-07).

Healthy People 2030: Gonorrhea

Objective STI-02: Reduce gonorrhea rates in male adolescents and young men (15-24 y/o)		Target: 471.2 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Improving
Rate of new gonorrhea cases per 100,000 males aged 15 to 24:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
1,226 Cases *Est. 1,074 per 100,000	9,146 Cases *Est. 670.8 per 100,000	512.8 per 100,000
Well Above Target	Above Target	Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective STI-02, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (Gonorrhea Rate & Population Query System (Males 15-24), Broward and Florida), 2023

*Note: State and County rates are estimated from calculation of estimated population and the number of cases among this population. Rates were not on FL Health Charts because “enough data points were not available”

At all levels—local, state, and national—the estimated rate of gonorrhea diagnoses among males 15-24 years are above the HP2030 objective target. Although, the national level has seen improvement towards reaching the objective target. The estimated rate among this group in Broward is higher than the state and national levels and is more than double the HP2030 target objective rate.

Healthy People 2030: Syphilis

Objective STI-03: Reduce the Syphilis rate in females (15 to 44)		Target: 4.6 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Getting Worse
Rate of new syphilis cases per 100,000 females aged 15 to 44:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
474 Cases *Est. 126.2 per 100,000	4,767 Cases *Est. 115.6 per 100,000	17.7 per 100,000
Well Above Target	Above Target	Above Target

Objective STI-04: Reduce Congenital Syphilis		Target: 33.9 per 100,000 live births Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
93.7 per 100,000 deliveries**	105.4 per 100,000 deliveries**	105.8 per 100,000 live births**
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Well Above Target	⚠️ Well Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective STI-03 & STI-04, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (Syphilis, All Stages, Congenital Syphilis Rate, & Population Query System (Females 15-44), Broward and Florida), 2023;

*Note: State and County rates are estimated from calculation of estimated population and the number of cases among this population. Rates were not on FL Health Charts because “enough data points were not available”

**On FL Health Charts the rate includes stillbirths and live births, so state and county rate include all deliveries, where HP2030 gives the national rate & target rate per 100,000 live births

For both Syphilis related HP2030 objectives, all levels – local, state and national – remain above the target rate desired. At the national level, for both objectives, there is regression from the target ranges for syphilis cases among females and congenital syphilis cases. For Objective STI-03, which aims to reduce the rate of syphilis among females aged 15 to 44, Broward County reported the highest rate compared to the state and national rates in 2023. For Objective STI-04, which aims to reduce the rate of congenital syphilis, the rate was lowest in Broward County compared to the state and national levels. Rates for both objectives are over three times higher at all levels compared to the HP2030 objectives’ target values.

Figure 12 presents the rates of chlamydia, syphilis, and gonorrhea over the past 5 years for both Broward and Florida. The data indicates increases in chlamydia and gonorrhea in Broward in recent years. For all three infection types, Broward reported higher rates than the state average each year. Chlamydia consistently had the highest rate compared to gonorrhea and syphilis (all stages).

Figure 12: Chlamydia, Syphilis, & Gonorrhea Rates (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B & Hepatitis C

Hepatitis A, B, and C are viral infections that affect the liver but differ in their transmission and disease progression. Most people fully recover from Hepatitis A infection, and the rate is lower compared to Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. Hepatitis B is the 3rd leading communicable disease in Broward County, while Hepatitis C ranks as the 1st leading communicable disease in Broward, (Florida Health Charts, 2023). Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C are primarily bloodborne infections that begin as acute infections but can progress to chronic disease. Infections lasting fewer than 6 months are considered acute, while chronic Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C occur when the body fails to clear the virus, leading to long-term infection and an increased risk of liver cirrhosis, cancer and death. For more information on these conditions, see Chapter 2 of the Broward County Health Plan.

Healthy People 2030 objectives for Hepatitis A, B, and C (acute forms) are reviewed below, focusing on reducing new Hepatitis infections across the population. Additional objectives not covered in this section include reducing deaths from Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C (IID-15 & IID-16), both of which show national-level progress toward their targets. Since most Hepatitis-related deaths result from chronic infections, another Healthy People 2030 objective aims to increase the proportion of individuals who are aware of their Chronic Hepatitis B status (IID-13).

Healthy People 2030: Hepatitis A

Objective IID-10: Reduce the rate of Hepatitis A			Target: 0.4 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
The rate of Hepatitis A cases per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2021)	
0.4 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	
✅ <i>At Target</i>	✅ <i>At Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IID-10, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Compared to the national level, Broward County and Florida have lower rates of Hepatitis A and have met the HP2030 Target of reducing the rate of Hepatitis A to 0.4 per 100,000 population. The national level data indicates that there are increases in Hepatitis A infections, while local and state rates remain low (HP2030, Health.gov).

Healthy People 2030: Acute Hepatitis B

Objective IID-11: Reduce the rate of Acute Hepatitis B		Target: 0.1 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Improving
The rate of Acute Hepatitis B cases per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2021)
2.9 per 100,000	3.8 per 100,000	0.6 per 100,000
Above Target	Above Target	Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IID-11, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The local, state and national level Acute Hepatitis B rates are above the HP2030 target rate, and highest rate observed at the state level. The chronic form of Hepatitis B occurs at a much higher rate than new (acutely diagnosed) cases.

Healthy People 2030: Acute Hepatitis C

Objective IID-12: Reduce the rate of Acute Hepatitis C		Target: 0.1 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Getting Worse
The rate of Acute Hepatitis C cases per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2021)
6.9 per 100,000	7.0 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000
Above Target	Above Target	Above Target

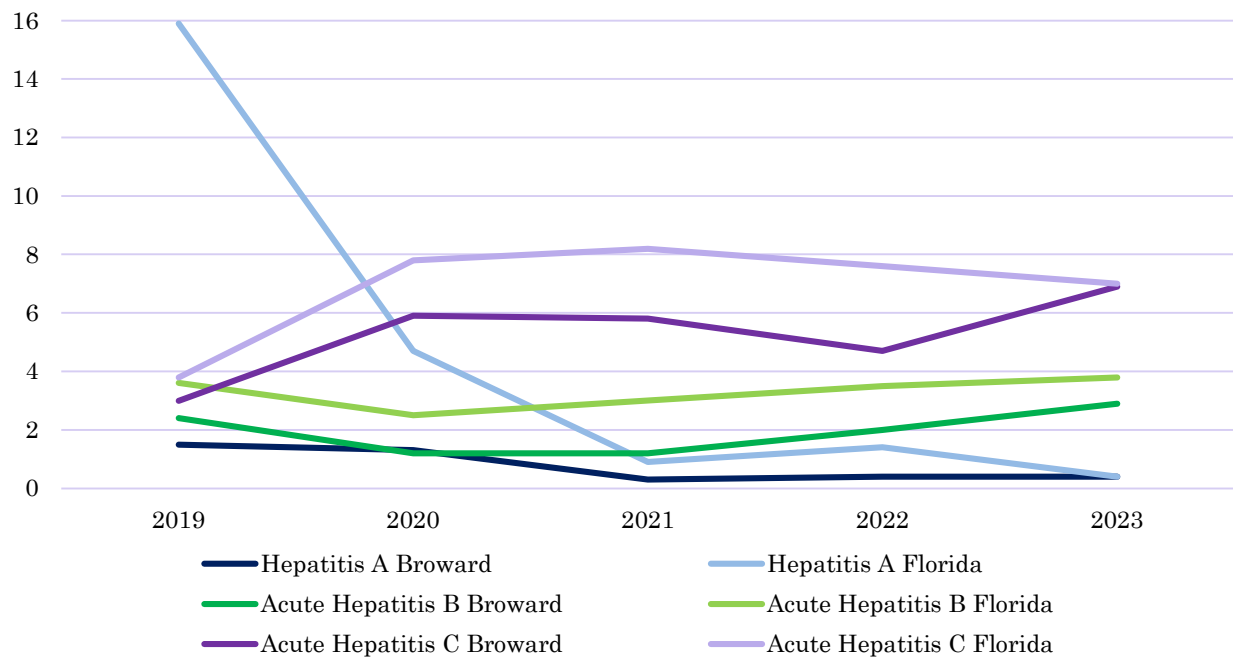
Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IID-12, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The county, state and national rates of acute Hepatitis C remain above the HP2030 objective target rate, and highest at the state level with Broward closely following. The Chronic form of Hepatitis C occurs at a much higher rate than new (acutely diagnosed) cases.

Figure 13 presents the rates of Hepatitis A, Acute Hepatitis B, and Acute Hepatitis C over the last 5 years in both Broward County and Florida. On average, Florida has reported higher rates than Broward County for these hepatitis conditions during this period.

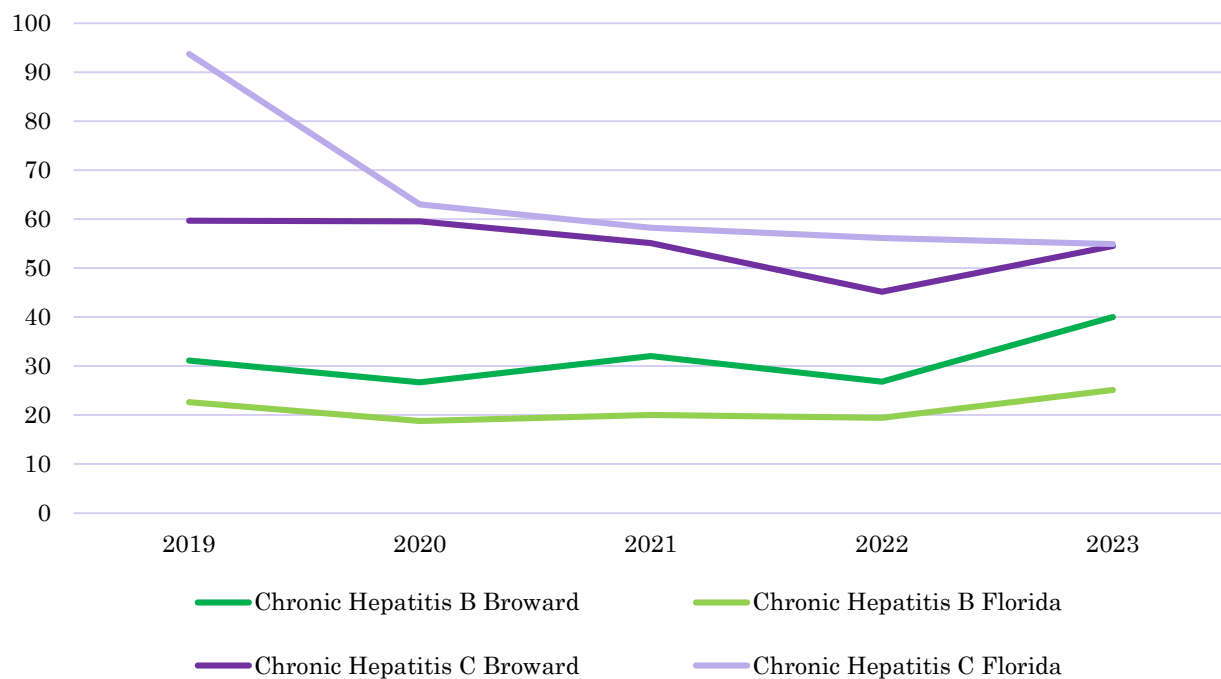
Figure 14 presents the Chronic Hepatitis B and C rates, comparing Broward and Florida over the past 5 years. The chronic forms of both infections occur at higher rates than their acute forms. Additionally, Florida reports higher rates of Chronic Hepatitis C, than Broward, while Broward County reports higher rates of Chronic Hepatitis B than Florida (Figure 14).

Figure 13: Hepatitis A, Acute Hepatitis B and Acute Hepatitis C Rates (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Figure 14: Chronic Hepatitis B and Chronic Hepatitis C Rates (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023






Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Salmonellosis

Salmonellosis is the second most commonly reported communicable disease in Broward County (Florida Health Charts, 2023). Salmonellosis is a bacterial infection caused by *Salmonella*, typically spread through food contaminated with animal feces. Common sources include meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, and occasionally produce. Symptoms—including diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps—usually begin 12 to 72 hours after infection and last 4 to 7 days. Most people recover without treatment.

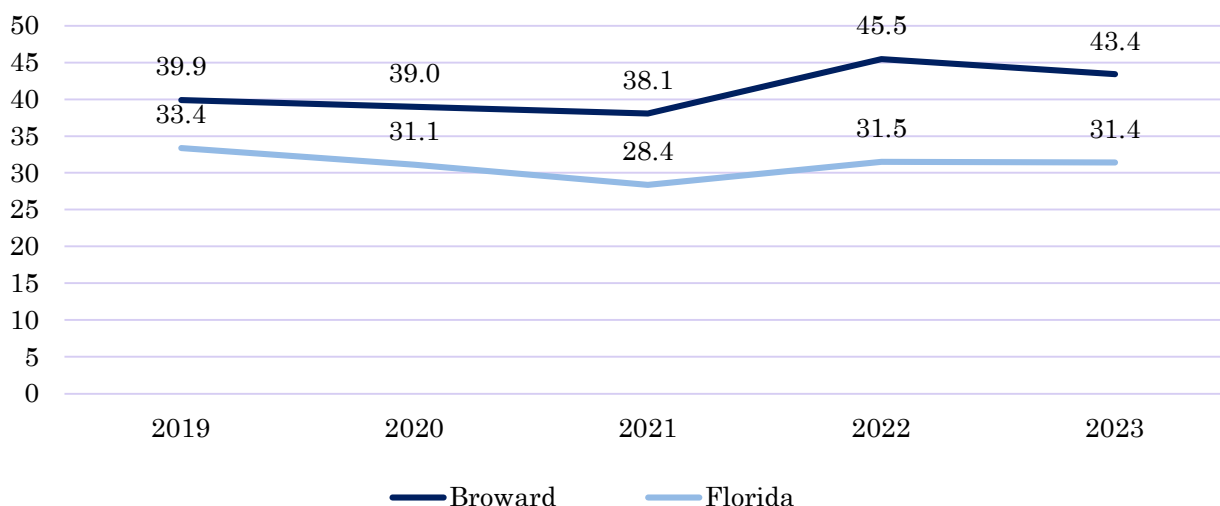
Healthy People 2030: Salmonellosis

Objective FS-04: Reduce infections caused by <i>Salmonella</i>			Target: 11.5 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving
The rate of new <i>Salmonella</i> cases per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2022)	
43.4 per 100,000	31.4 per 100,000	14.4 per 100,000	
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective FS-04, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Local, state and national rates of Salmonellosis are above the HP2030 target rate. National data indicate improvement in the rate of salmonellosis infection, suggesting improvements in achieving the HP2030 target for this objective. Figure 15 shows the rate of Salmonellosis throughout Broward and Florida over the last 5 years. Each year, Broward reported a higher rate than the state. The local and state rate decreased from 2022 to 2023 slightly.

Figure 15: New *Salmonella* Cases Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

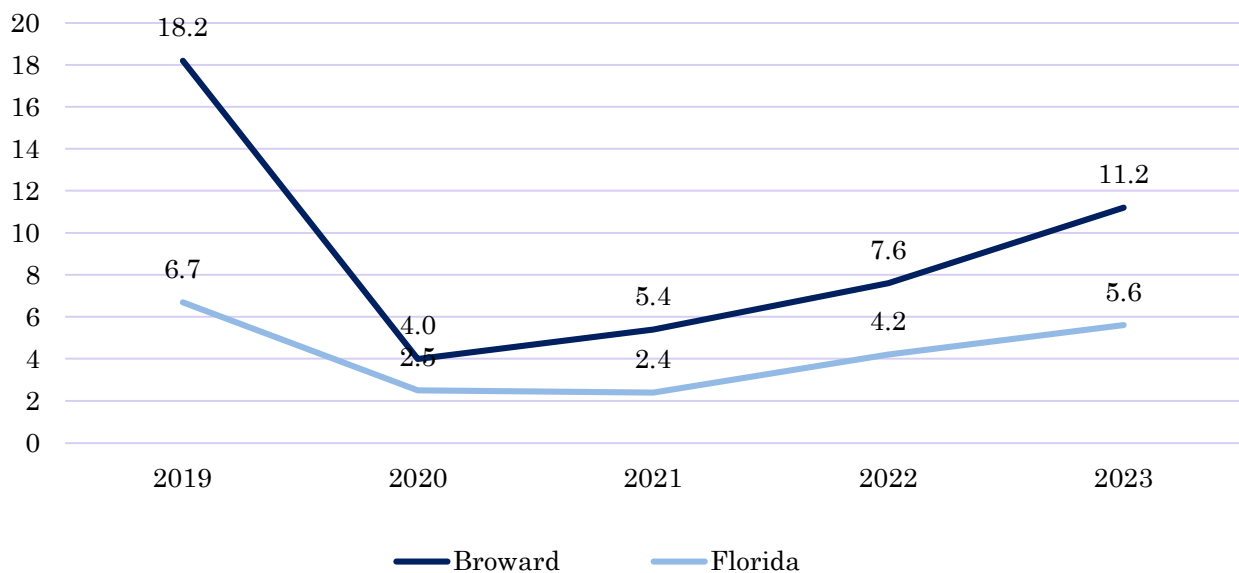
Shigellosis

Shigellosis is the fifth most commonly reported communicable disease in Broward County. Shigellosis is a bacterial infection caused by *Shigella*, spread through contact with contaminated stool, often due to poor hygiene or inadequate handwashing. Most cases resolve without treatment, though severe infections – particularly in young children and older adults – may require antibiotics or hospitalization (Florida Health Charts, 2023).

There are no specific **Healthy People 2030 Objectives** related to Shigellosis.

Figure 16 presents the annual rate of shigellosis infection in Broward County and Florida from 2019 to 2023. The data indicate a sharp decrease in infections from 2019 to 2020 at both the local and state level, followed by a gradual increase in shigellosis rates from 2020 to 2023. Each year during the period, Broward had a higher rate than Florida (Figure 16).

Figure 16: New Shigellosis Cases Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis, a bacterium that mainly attacks the lungs but can spread to other parts of the body. Most TB cases in Broward County are associated with infections acquired outside the United States. Tuberculosis is the eighth most commonly reported communicable disease in Broward County. About one-third of the global population carries the bacterium, though only around 5% develop active disease. Active TB can appear weeks after infection or remain dormant for years if latent TB isn’t treated (Florida Health Charts, 2023).

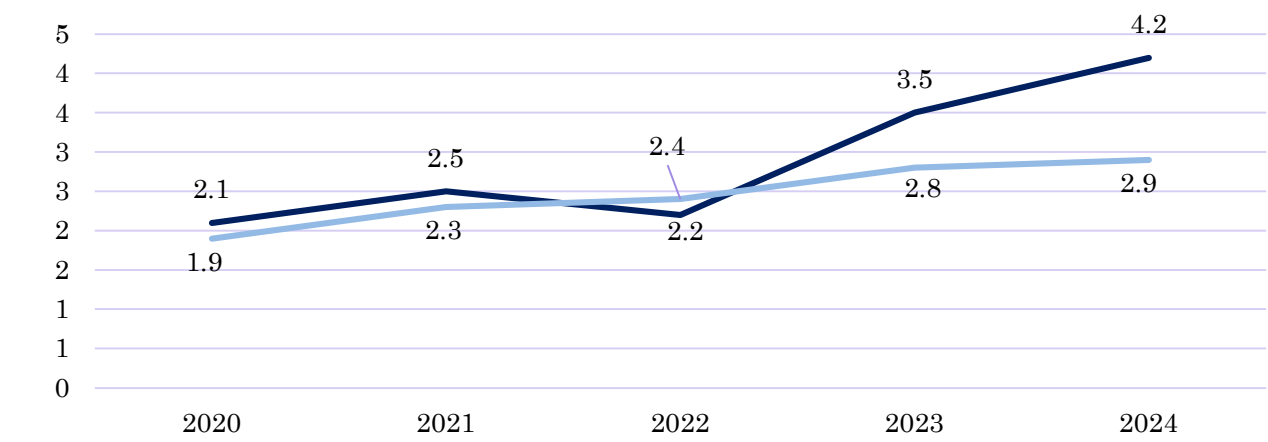
Healthy People 2030: Tuberculosis

Objective IID-17: Reduce Tuberculosis cases			Target: 1.4 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: Little or no detectable change
The rate of new Tuberculosis cases per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2023)	
4.2 per 100,000	2.9 per 100,000	2.9 per 100,000	
⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IID-17, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2024

The HP2030 target rate for Tuberculosis is 1.4 cases per 100,000 population or lower by 2030. Broward’s rate of Tuberculosis in the most recent year was approximately three times higher than this rate. Local, state and national level tuberculosis rates all remain above the target. Figure 17 shows the rate of Tuberculosis in Broward and Florida over the last 5 years. The data reveals an increasing trend in Tuberculosis rate over the last three years. The rate nearly doubled from 2022 to 2024 in Broward.

Figure 17: New Tuberculosis Cases Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2020-24



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2020-2024

Campylobacteriosis

Campylobacteriosis is a bacterial infection caused by *Campylobacter*. Campylobacteriosis was the fourth most commonly reported communicable disease in Broward in 2023. The illness usually lasts about a week and is most often linked to handling or eating raw or undercooked poultry (Florida Health Charts, 2023).

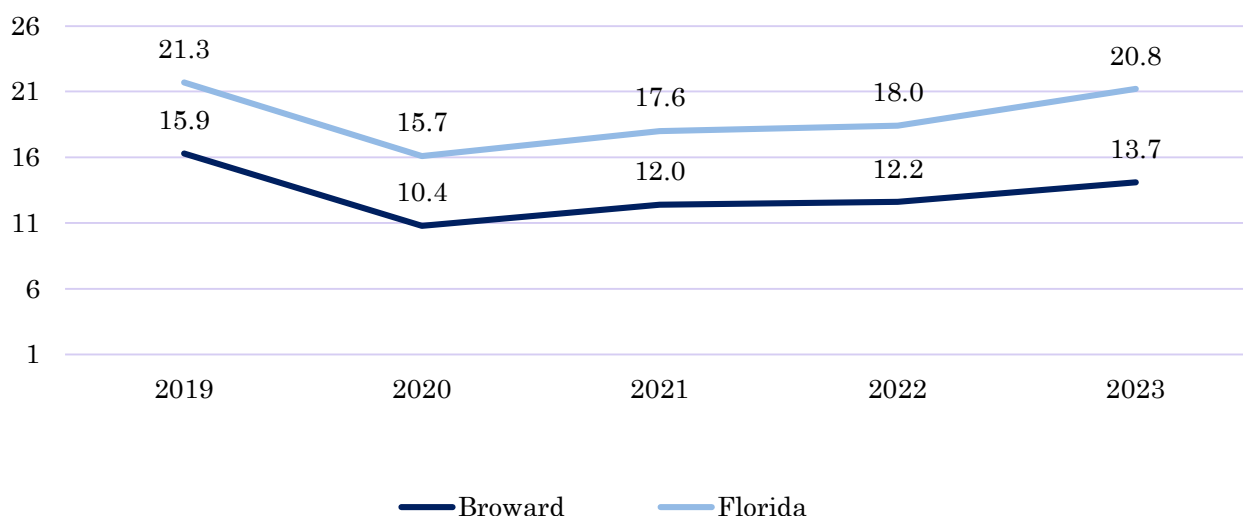
Healthy People 2030: Campylobacteriosis

Objective FS-01: Reduce infections caused by Campylobacter		Target: 10.9 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little or no detectable change
The rate of new Campylobacter infection cases per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2022)
13.7 per 100,000	20.8 per 100,000	17.2 per 100,000
⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective FS-01, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Local, state and national Campylobacteriosis rates are above the HP2030 target of 10.9 per 100,000 population. In recent years, the national level of campylobacteriosis infection has shown little change. Figure 18 presents the local and state rate for campylobacteriosis infection over the past 5 years. Both the state and county rates increased from 2020 to 2023. During this period Florida had a higher rate each year than Broward (Figure 18).

Figure 18: New Campylobacteriosis Cases Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Communicable Disease Resources in the Community

Broward County's healthcare infrastructure is a coordinated network of public health agencies, hospitals, clinics, and community organizations that work collectively to prevent, detect, and manage communicable diseases. The **Florida Department of Health in Broward County (DOH-Broward)** leads communicable disease surveillance and response efforts by conducting disease monitoring, outbreak investigations, and public health education while promoting vaccination and preventive care. DOH-Broward oversees vital statistics, epidemiology, environmental health, and emergency preparedness, including the **Health and Medical Response (Emergency Support Function #8)** at the County's Emergency Operations Center. These efforts are supported by major health systems including the two large hospital groups **Broward Health** and **Memorial Healthcare System**, which provide hospital-based infectious disease treatment, testing, and specialty care across a wide regional service area. Together, these institutions ensure that disease detection, reporting, and response systems remain strong and well-coordinated.

Community-based organizations further strengthen Broward's communicable disease prevention and treatment network by improving access to screening, education, and primary care for underserved populations. The **Light of the World Clinic**, **Living Waters Care Center**, and the **Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center (CDTC)** provide outreach, testing, and treatment for infectious diseases including HIV, hepatitis, and tuberculosis. **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** play a vital role in the rapid identification and transport of patients with acute infectious conditions, while **retail health clinics** offer convenient options for vaccinations and care for minor illnesses, helping to reduce strain on hospitals. Collectively, these resources form an integrated public health safety net that strengthens surveillance, expands access to care, and enhances Broward County's capacity to prevent and control communicable diseases throughout the community.

Chronic Disease Indicators

Chronic disease indicators offer valuable insight into the overall health of communities and the effectiveness of prevention, management, and health promotion strategies. Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) objectives emphasize reducing the burden of chronic conditions, improving early detection and treatment, promoting healthy behaviors, reducing death rates from these conditions, and strengthening health systems to support long-term disease management. This section examines progress in chronic disease indicators by analyzing recent data, trends, and performance toward key HP2030 objectives. Comparisons to statewide and national rates help assess progress, and identify opportunities for continued improvement (HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Chronic Disease Indicators Overview

Table 4 summarizes changes in the most recent years of data, from 2022 to 2023, for specific chronic disease indicator data in Broward County. The rates for 2022 and 2023 are reviewed and compared, as well as the positive or negative change, and the percentage change over this one-year period. In subsections following, these indicators are reviewed individually.

Table 4: Chronic Diseases Indicator Changes, Broward 2022 to 2023

Chronic Disease Indicators	Rate, per 100,000		Difference (2023-2022)	% Change
	2022	2023		
Death Rate (All Causes)	678.5	601.7	-76.8	-11.3%
Deaths from Heart Diseases	142.5	133.5	-9	-6.3%
Deaths from Cancer	133.3	123	-10.3	-7.7%
Deaths from Stroke	60.3	59.4	-0.9	-1.5%
Deaths from CLRD	24.6	23.4	-1.2	-4.9%
Deaths from Diabetes	21.2	17.7	-3.5	-16.5%
Deaths from Alzheimer's Disease	12.9	10.1	-2.8	-21.7%
Deaths from Hypertension	9.8	10	0.2	2.0%
Deaths from Kidney Disease (nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis)	12.2	10	-2.2	-18.0%
Deaths from Suicide	10.6	9.3	-1.3	-12.3%

Source: Florida Health Charts, 2022-2023





Nearly all chronic disease related death rates decreased from 2022 to 2023, with the exception of the hypertension death rate.

Heart Disease

Heart disease is a broad term that refers to several conditions that affect the normal function of the heart and blood vessels. Heart diseases collectively remain the leading cause of death in Broward County, Florida, and the United States.

Coronary heart disease (CHD), also known as coronary artery disease (CAD), is the most common form of heart disease. It occurs when the coronary arteries become narrowed or blocked due to a buildup of plaque, in a process called atherosclerosis. Congestive Heart Failure (CHF), another form of heart disease which is often simply called heart failure, is a condition in which the heart becomes too weak or stiff to pump blood effectively throughout the body. These two conditions have related HP2030 objectives.





Healthy People 2030: Coronary Heart Disease

Objective HDS-02: Reduce coronary heart disease deaths			Target: 71.1 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status:  Improving
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Coronary Heart Disease per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
75.5 per 100,000	79.9 per 100,000	82.2 per 100,000	
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HDS-02, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The county reports the lowest rate for coronary heart disease deaths compared to the state and national levels. The national level shows improvements in this rate in recent years, progressing towards the HP2030 objective target.

Healthy People 2030: Heart Failure

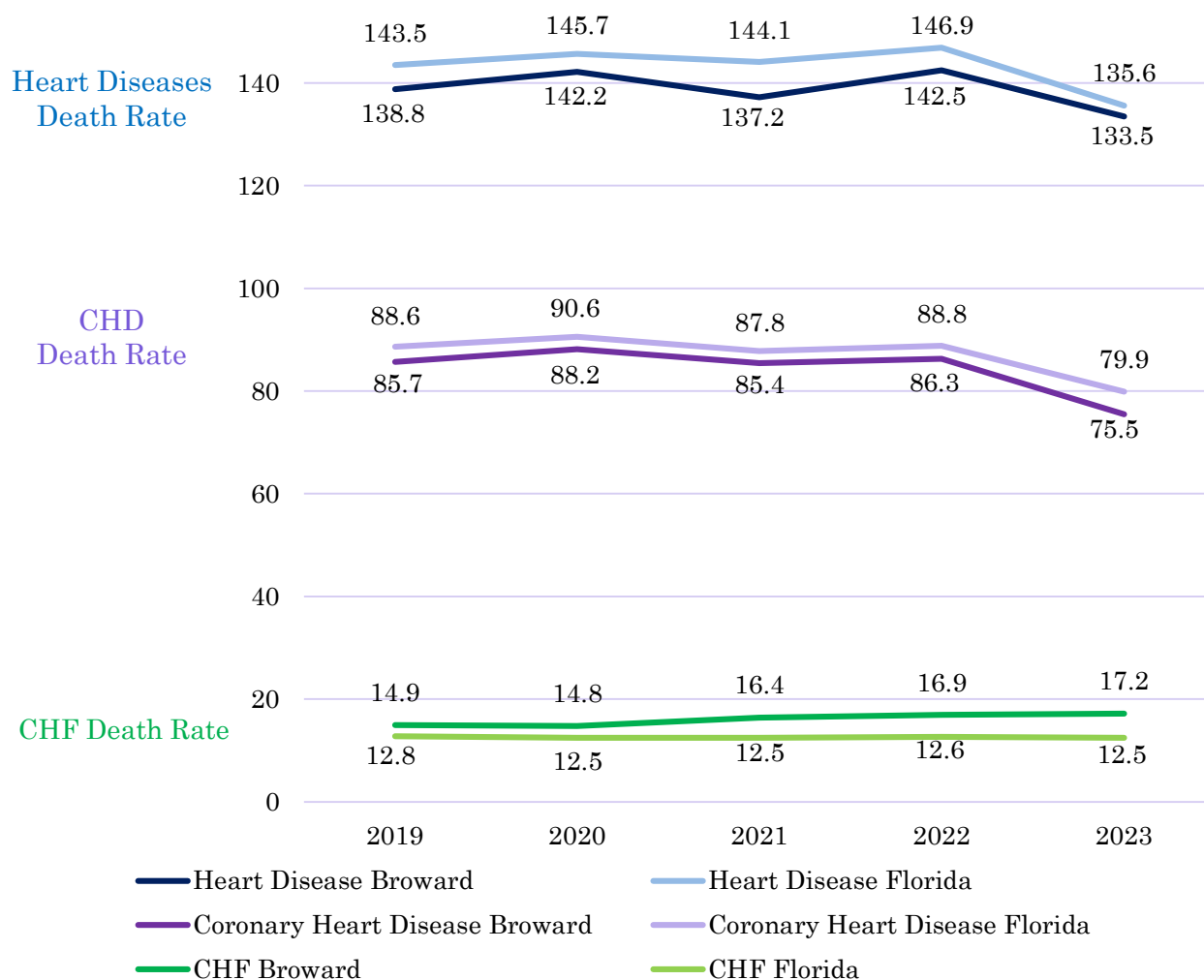
Objective HDS-09: Reduce heart failure hospitalizations in adults			Target: 330.2 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status:  Getting Worse
Hospitalization Rate from Heart Failure per 100,000 adult population:			
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2021)	
1,244.4 per 100,000	1,506.5 per 100,000	374.0 per 100,000	
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target	
*Data may not be comparable to HP2030 Target as source for these rates includes any hospitalization with CHF as a listed diagnosis, not just hospitalizations caused by CHF directly			

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HDS-09, Health.gov 2021; Florida Health Charts("Hospitalizations from CHF or with CHF as any listed diagnosis," Broward & Florida), 2024

Local, state, and national levels of Heart Failure hospitalizations are above the HP030 target for this objective. At the national level, the recent data show regression the target objective to decrease this rate.

Figure 19 shows the death rate for heart diseases overall as well as the death rates for coronary heart disease, and heart failure specifically in Florida and Broward over the past 5 years. In both Broward and Florida, the data indicate recent decreases in the overall death rate from heart diseases and coronary heart disease (CHD). For both heart diseases overall and CHD, Florida has a higher death rate than Broward from 2019 to 2023. Broward had a higher rate of deaths from 2019-2023 for congestive heart failure (CHF). For CHF over the 5-year period, Broward experienced an increase in the death rate, whereas Florida's CHF death rate remained relatively unchanged (Figure 19).

Figure 19: All Heart Diseases, Coronary Heart Disease, and Heart Failure Death Rates (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023






Source: Florida Charts, 2019-2023

Cancer

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Broward County, Florida and the United States. It is a group of diseases characterized by uncontrolled cell growth and spread of abnormal cells in the body. The four deadliest cancers in the U.S. are lung cancer (accounting for 20% of all cancer deaths in the U.S.), colorectal cancer (9%), pancreatic cancer (8%) and breast cancer (7%). The most diagnosed cancers in the U.S. in 2025 were breast (16%), prostate (15%), lung (11%), and colorectal cancer (8%) (NCI, 2025). Many HP2030 objectives are related to cancer, and four are reviewed.

Healthy People 2030: Cancer

Objective C-01: Reduce the overall Cancer death rate		Target: 122.7 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Improving
Age Adjusted Death Rate from all Cancers per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
123.0 per 100,000	133.4 per 100,000	141.8 per 100,000
<i>At/Near Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>
Objective C-02: Reduce the Lung Cancer death rate		Target: 25.1 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease Status: Improving
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Lung Cancer per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
22.5 per 100,000	28.5 per 100,000	29.5 per 100,000
<i>Below Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>
Objective C-04: Reduce the Female Breast Cancer death rate		Target: 15.3 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Improving
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Female Breast Cancer per 100,000 females:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
17.0 per 100,000	18.1 per 100,000	18.7 per 100,000
<i>Above Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>	<i>Above Target</i>
Objective C-06: Reduce the Colorectal Cancer death rate		Target: 8.9 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Improving
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Colorectal Cancer per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
13.8 per 100,000	12.4 per 100,000	13.1 per 100,000

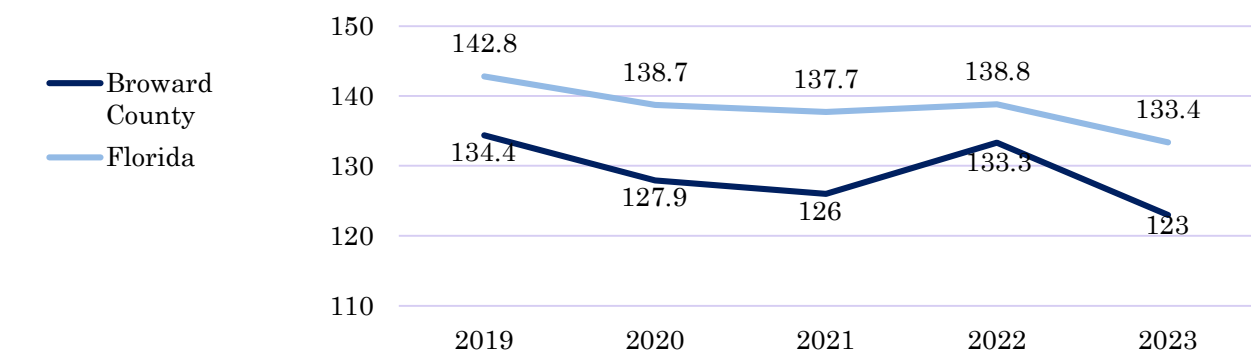
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target
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Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective C-01, C-02, C-04 & C-06 (AADR for National Rates of Cancer Death), Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (AADR for Broward & Florida: All Cancer Death Rate, Female Breast Cancer Rate of Death, Colorectal Cancer Death Rate, Lung Cancer Death Rate), 2023

Broward has met the HP2030 target to reduce the overall cancer death rate and the lung cancer death rates, whereas the state and national rates remain above these objective targets. Broward is also the closest, compared to the state and national levels, to the target objective for reducing the female breast cancer death rate. The colorectal cancer death rate is highest at the county level, with all levels above the target level.

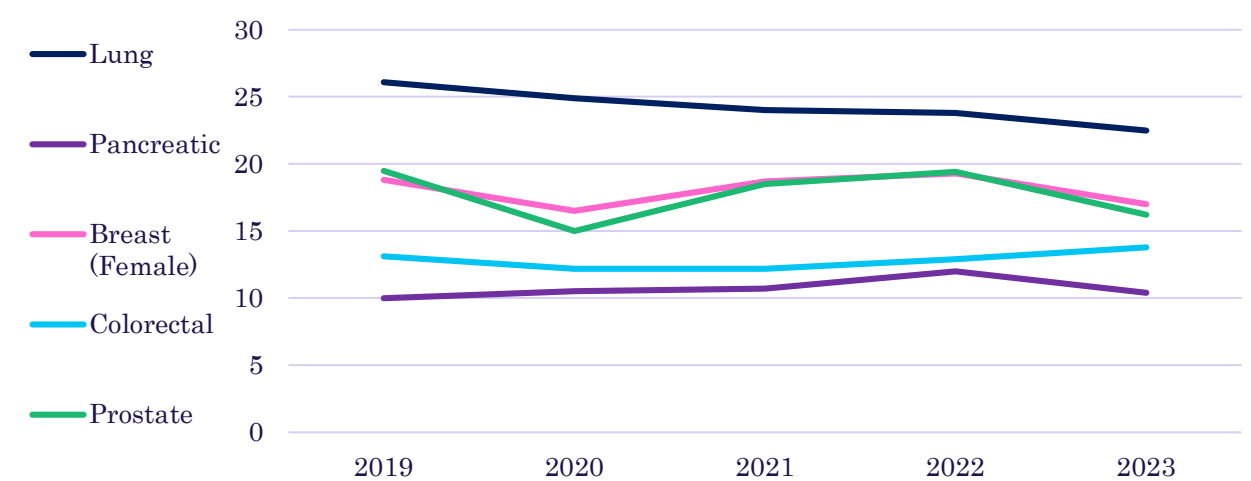
Figure 20 presents the overall cancer death rate in Broward & Florida over the past 5 years. Over this period, there has been a decreasing trend in the overall rate of cancer death and Florida has had a higher rate than Broward all years (Figure 20). Figure 21 shows cancer death rate over the past 5 years by cancer type in Broward. The data shows a decrease in lung cancer death (Figure 21).

Figure 20: All Cancer Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Figure 21: Cancer Death Rate (per 100,000) by Cancer Type, Broward 2019-2023



Source: Florida Charts, 2019- 2023

Stroke

Stroke ranks as the third leading cause of death in Broward County. A stroke occurs when blood flow to a portion of the brain is interrupted or reduced, depriving brain tissue of oxygen and nutrients which causes brain cells to begin dying within minutes.

Healthy People 2030: Stroke

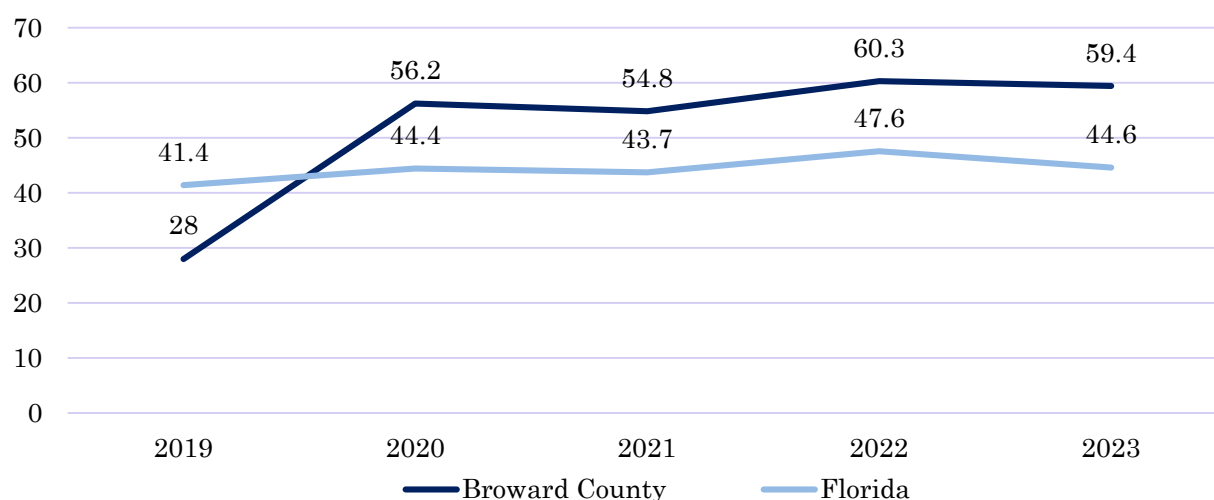
Objective HDS-03: Reduce stroke deaths			Target: 33.4 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Stroke per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
59.4 per 100,000	44.6 per 100,000	39.0 per 100,000	
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective HDS-03, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

National, state, and local rates of Stroke death are higher than the HP2030 Objective Target, with Broward having the highest rate among the three levels. The recent national data shows that this rate has increased, showing regression from the target.

Figure 22 presents the Stroke rate in Broward and Florida from 2019 to 2023. The data indicate that, in recent years, Broward County has consistently reported higher stroke death rates than Florida.

Figure 22: Stroke Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Respiratory Disease

Respiratory disease encompasses conditions that affect the lungs such as asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), and Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (CLRD). Asthma is a chronic lung disease that causes inflammation and narrowing of the airways, leading to difficulty breathing, wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a progressive lung disease that causes airflow obstruction and breathing difficulties due to inflammation and long-term damage to the airways, often resulting from smoking or prolonged exposure to environmental irritants.

Healthy People 2030 includes several objectives relating to respiratory disease. Two are reviewed in this section. Additional HP2030 objectives not reviewed here include objectives to reduce the death rate and hospitalization rate of COPD (RD-05 & RD-D04), reduce the asthma hospitalization rate among children 5 and under (RD-D01), and to reduce the number of days people are exposed to unhealthy air (EH-01).

Healthy People 2030: Asthma

Objective RD-01: Reduce Asthma deaths			Target: 8.9 per 1,000,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: Little or no detectable change
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Asthma per 1,000,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
6 per 1,000,000	7 per 1,000,000	9.6 per 1,000,000	
✓ <i>Below Target</i>	✓ <i>Below Target</i>	⚠ <i>Above Target</i>	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective RD-01, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (rates per 100,000 converted to rates per 1,000,000 for Broward & Florida), 2023

County and state rates for asthma deaths are below the HP2030 objective target. The national level is higher than the target.

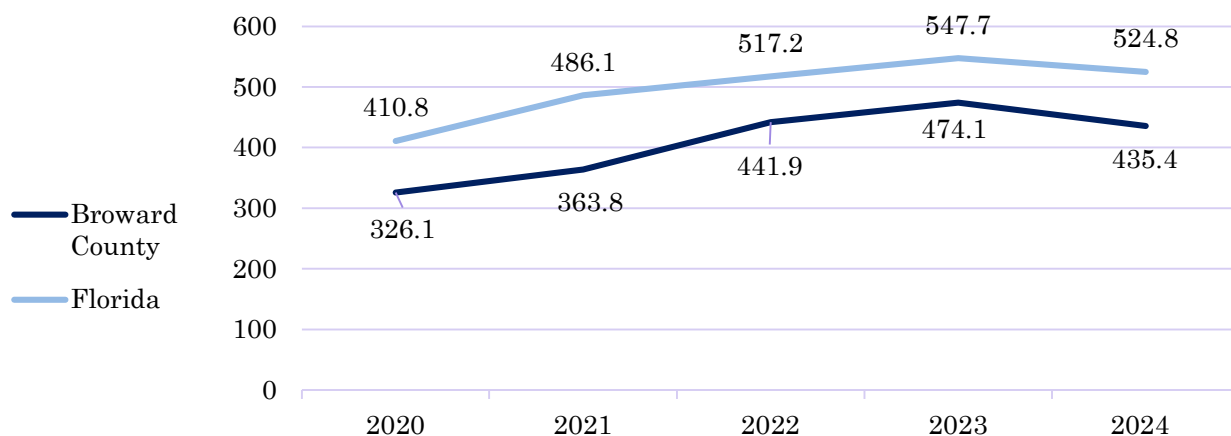
Healthy People 2030: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Objective RD-06: Reduce emergency department visits for COPD in adults			Target: 64.0 per 10,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: ✓ Target met or exceeded
Emergency Department visit rate from COPD per 10,000 adults over 44 years:			
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2021)	
43.5 per 10,000	52.5 per 10,000	58.3 per 10,000	
✓ <i>Target met/exceeded</i>	✓ <i>Target met/exceeded</i>	✓ <i>Target met/exceeded</i>	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective RD-06, Health.gov 2021; Florida Health Charts (rates per 100,000 converted to rates per 10,000 for Broward & Florida), 2024

The HP2030 target objective to reduce emergency department visits for COPD among adults was achieved at all levels – local, state and national. Figure 23 shows the hospitalization rate (per 100,000 – different than the HP2030 objective rate above which was per 10,000) has shown an increase in recent years in Broward and Florida, but it's below the objective each year. In the 5 years prior, all were above the target. This reflects meaningful progress in reducing the impact and healthcare burden of COPD. The rate has been higher in Florida than Broward each year over this period.

Figure 23: COPD Hospitalization Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Chronic Disease Resources in the Community

Many of Broward County's communicable disease resources also play a vital role in preventing and managing **chronic diseases**, reflecting the integrated infrastructure of the county's healthcare system. Hospitals, community clinics, and public health programs that provide testing, vaccination, and early detection services also deliver long-term care and chronic disease management. The **Light of the World Clinic** and the **Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center (CDTC)** continue to serve as key providers for uninsured and high-risk populations, offering primary and specialty care for chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. Additionally, Broward's **31 nursing homes** and numerous **home healthcare agencies** provide ongoing medical management, rehabilitation, and support for individuals living with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Together, these resources create a comprehensive continuum of care that addresses both communicable and chronic diseases through prevention, treatment, and sustained community support. See Chapter 3 of the Broward County Health Plan for additional information on community resources that support chronic disease prevention and management in Broward County.

Injury, Violence, & Safety Indicators

Injury, violence, and safety indicators provide important insight into the safety and well-being of individuals and communities. Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) objectives emphasize reducing deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits related to unintentional injuries and violence, while promoting safer environments and behaviors. This section reviews progress in injury and violence prevention indicators by analyzing recent data, trends, and performance toward key HP2030 objectives. Comparisons to statewide and national rates help assess progress and identify areas for continued improvement (HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Injury, Violence, & Safety Indicator Overview

Table 5 provides a summary of the changes in the most recent years of data, 2022 to 2023, and for some factors with available data 2023 to 2024 data, for specific injury, violence, and safety indicator data in Broward County. The rates for 2022 and 2023 reviewed and compared, as well as the positive or negative change, and percentage change over each one-year period. In subsections below, factors are reviewed individually.

Table 5: Injury, Violence, & Safety Indicator Change, Broward 2022 to 2023

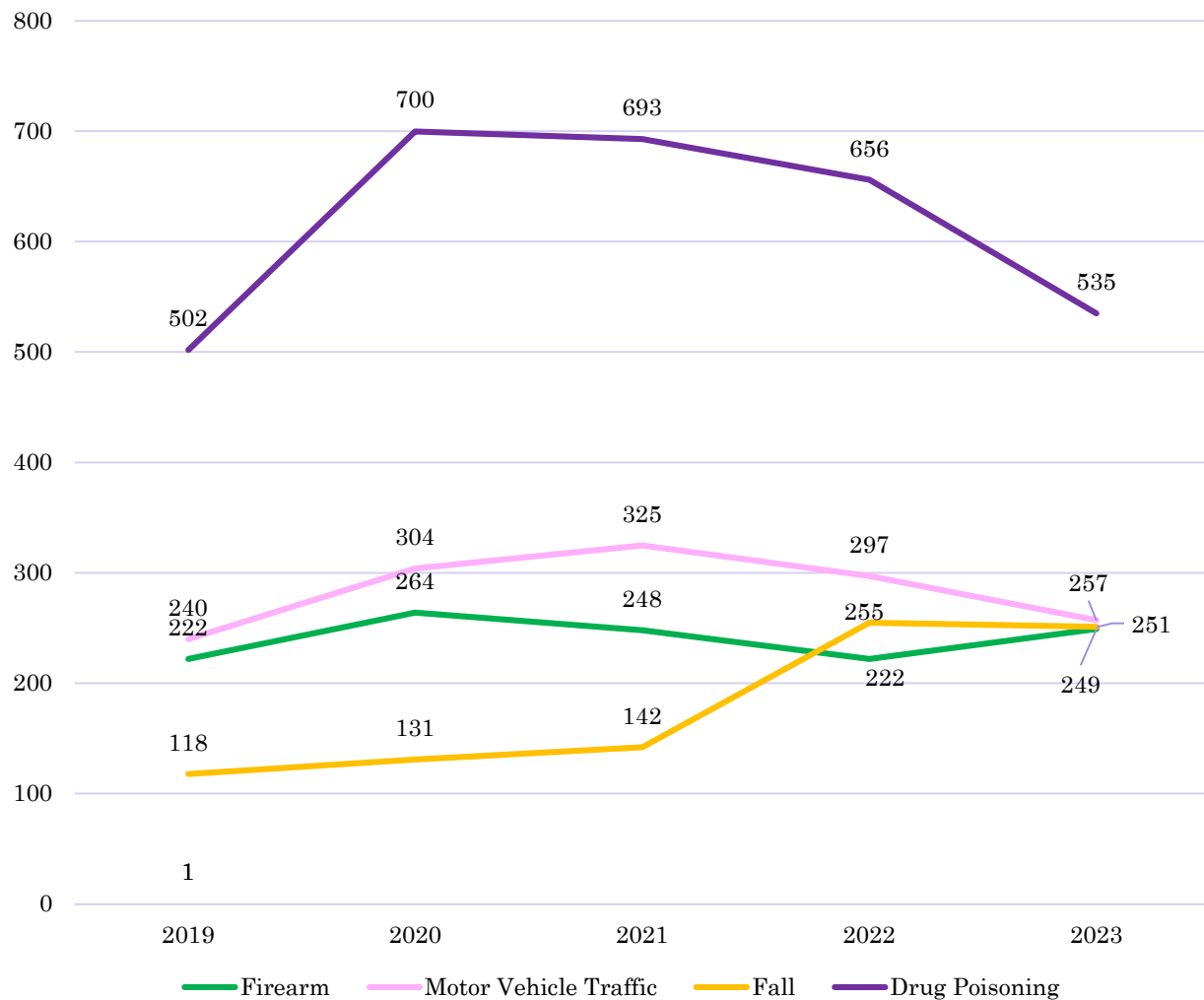
Injury, Violence, & Safety Indicators	Age Adjusted Death Rate, per 100,000		Difference (2023- 2022)	% Change
	2022	2023		
Unintentional Injury Death Rate	60.8	52.7	-8.1	-13.3%
Death Rate from Unintentional Injury by Motor Vehicle Accident	14.4	12.6	-1.8	-12.5%
Death Rate from Drug Poisoning (all)	32.1	26.0	-6.1	-19.0%
Death Rate from Unintentional Falls	9.1	8.4	-0.7	-7.7%
Death Rate from Firearms Discharge	11.3	12.6	1.3	11.5%
Crime Rate				
Index	401.2	424.6	23.4	5.8%
Violent	124.6	127.3	2.7	2.2%
Adult Drug Arrests Rate	212.3	234.6	22.3	10.5%
Youth Arrests Rate (aged 10-17) *(rate per 1,000)	10.1*	12.2*	2.1*	20.8%

Source: Florida Health Charts, 2022-2023

Table 5 presents death rates across multiple causes. Between 2022 and 2023, all causes of death listed in the table experienced a decrease of more than 5%, except for firearm-related deaths, which increased by over 11%. Crime-related indicators, including the index crime rate, violent crime rate, adult drug arrests, and youth arrests, showed increases during this period.

Figure 24 displays the fatal injury death rates by cause in Broward County from 2019 to 2023. These top four causes of injury deaths are examined individually in the sections that follow. Drug poisoning remains the leading cause of fatal injury death in Broward County during this 5-year period (Figure 24).

Figure 24: Leading Causes of Fatal Injury by Count, Broward 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, Leading Causes of Fatal Injury Profile, 2023

Unintentional Injury Death Rate

Unintentional injury is the fourth leading cause of death in Broward, and it includes all unintentional fatal injuries. Subsequent sections break down the unintentional injury death rate by specific cause.

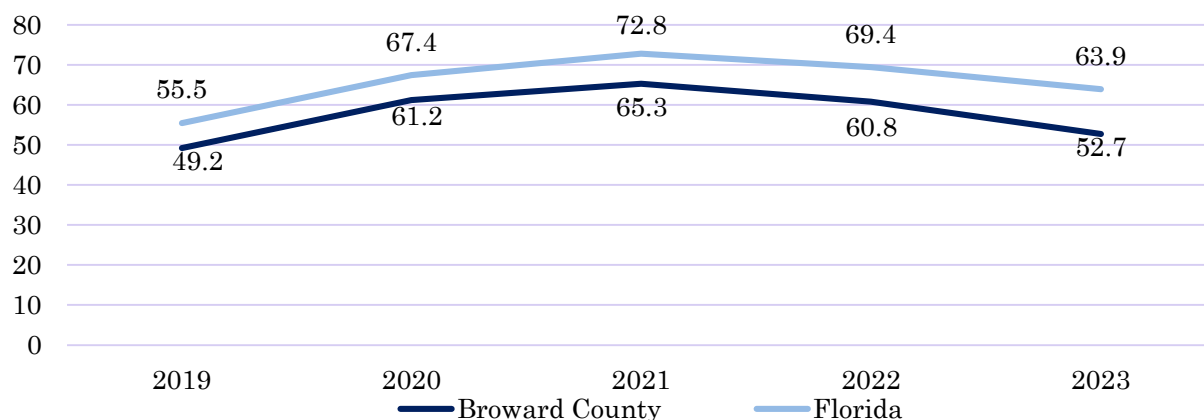
Healthy People 2030: Unintentional Injury Death

Objective IVP-03: Reduce unintentional injury deaths			Target: 43.2 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Age Adjusted Death Rate from Unintentional Injury per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
52.7 per 100,000	63.9 per 100,000	62.3 per 100,000	
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IVP-03, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The HP2030 objective target has not been met at the national, local or state level. Among these levels, the rate is highest at the state level and lowest at the county level. At the national level, recent data shows that the death rate from motor vehicle crashes has increased, indicating regression from the HP2030 target. Figure 25 presents the death rate from all unintentional injuries in Broward and Florida over the past 5 years. Florida had a higher rate of unintentional injury death each year than Broward over this period, with both having a high point in 2021 which is also when motor vehicle injury death rate was highest in this period (Figure 25).

Figure 25: Unintentional Injury Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

For more information on unintentional injury data, see Chapter 2, Figure 18 which shows the leading causes on unintentional injury death by age group.

Drug Poisoning/Overdose Deaths

Drug poisoning deaths are the number one cause of fatal injury deaths in Broward. These deaths can be prevented and often are unintentional. Measuring the rate of drug poisoning deaths allows public health professionals to identify locations and populations most affected and to develop targeted prevention and intervention strategies.

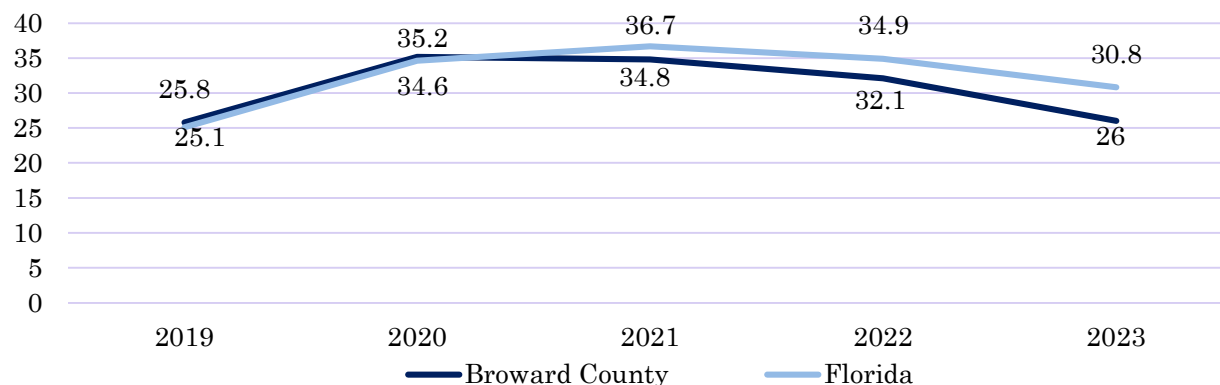
Healthy People 2030: Drug Overdose Death

Objective SU-03: Reduce drug overdose deaths		Target: 20.7 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
AADR from drug poisoning:		AADR from drug overdose:
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
26.0 per 100,000	30.8 per 100,000	31.3 per 100,000
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target
*Data may not be directly comparable to HP2030 Target as source for these rates includes death from overdose of any drug		*Includes overdose deaths from opiates

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective SU-03, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (Deaths from Drug Poisoning Broward & Florida), 2023 *Note: Rate data for Broward and Florida includes deaths resulting from unintentional or intentional overdose of a drug, being given the wrong drug, taking a drug in error, or taking a drug inadvertently – called “drug poisoning,” which includes drug overdose from opiates.

The HP2030 objective target is not reached at any level, and the drug overdose death rate is highest at the national level. At the national level, the recent data shows that the death rate from drug overdose has been increasing showing a regression from the objective target. Figure 26 shows the death rate from drug poisoning in Broward and Florida over the past 5 years. Both County and state rates, however, have shown decreases in the past 3 years, reflecting some progress in reducing drug overdose/poisoning deaths (Figure 26).

Figure 26: Drug Poisoning Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Motor Vehicle Injury Death

The second leading cause for unintentional injury death in Broward is motor vehicle accidents, which accounted for 257 deaths in 2023. When measuring motor vehicle accident deaths, the number of deaths includes pedestrians, cyclists and vehicle occupant deaths.

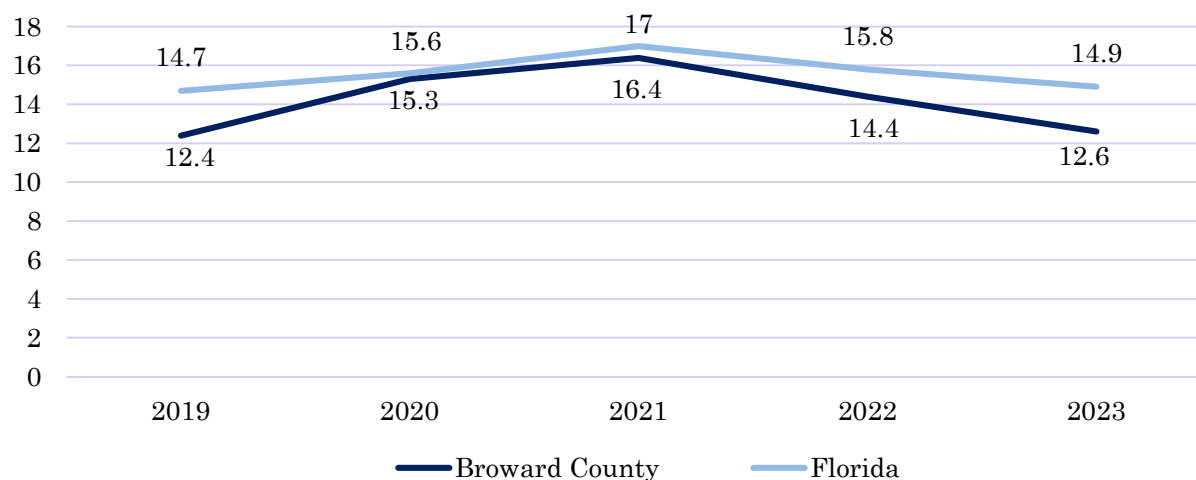
Healthy People 2030: Motor Vehicle and Injury Death

Objective IVP-06: Reduce deaths from motor vehicle crashes (MVC) Target: 10.1 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse		
Age Adjusted Death Rate (AADR) from MVC per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
12.6 per 100,000	14.9 per 100,000	12.5 per 100,000
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IVP-06, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The HP2030 objective target is not met at the national, local or state level. Among these levels, it is highest at the state level. Florida is known for having higher rates of motor vehicle accidents and related deaths. At the national level, the recent data shows that the death rate from motor vehicle crashes has been increasing showing regression from the objective target. Figure 27 shows the death rate from motor vehicle crashes in Broward and Florida over the past 5 years. Florida has consistently reported a higher rate of death from motor vehicle accidents than Broward over this period, with both reaching a peak in 2021 (Figure 27).

Figure 27: Motor Vehicle Injury Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Falls

Across the entire Broward population, Falls are the 3rd leading cause of fatal injury death, accounting for 251 falls in 2023. Among those 65 and older, falls are the number one cause of fatal injury deaths in Broward. (FL health Charts 2023; *See Chapter 2 Table 18*).

Healthy People 2030 have two fall-related objectives. They have measured a baseline for their objective to decrease the rate of emergency department visits due to falls among older adults (A-03), which will not be reviewed due to a lack of comparable county and state levels for this indicator.

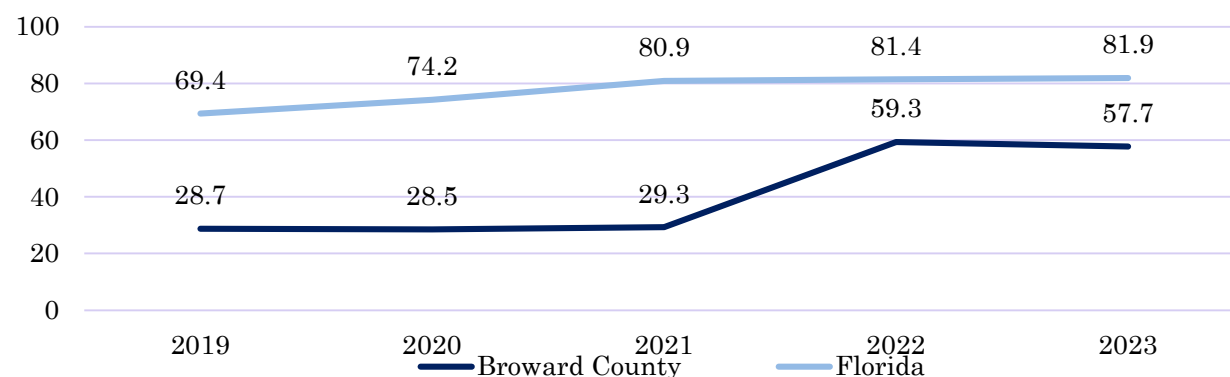
Healthy People 2030: Falls

Objective IVP-08: Reduce Fall-related deaths among older adults (65+) Target: 63.4 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse		
AADR from Falls per 100,000 adults 65 and older:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
57.7 per 100,000	81.9 per 100,000	78.2 per 100,000
✅ <i>Below Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IVP-08, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (crude rate of unintentional falls death rate among those 65 and older, Broward & Florida), 2023

National and state levels are above the HP2030 target objective to reduce the death rate due to falls. Broward is doing well in this objective and is below the baseline and has not surpassed the HP2030 objective target in the last 5 years; however, in recent years there has been a large increase in the fall death rate in Broward starting in 2022. Each year in this period, Florida has remained above the target (Figure 28).

Figure 28: Unintentional Falls Death Rate (per 100,000) Among 65 and Older Population, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Firearms

Firearms are the fourth leading cause of fatal injury death in Broward and the first leading cause of injury death among those aged 10-24 in Broward (FL health Charts 2023; *See Chapter 2 Table 18*). Firearms deaths result in years of potential life loss, and reduced productivity.

Healthy People 2030: Firearms

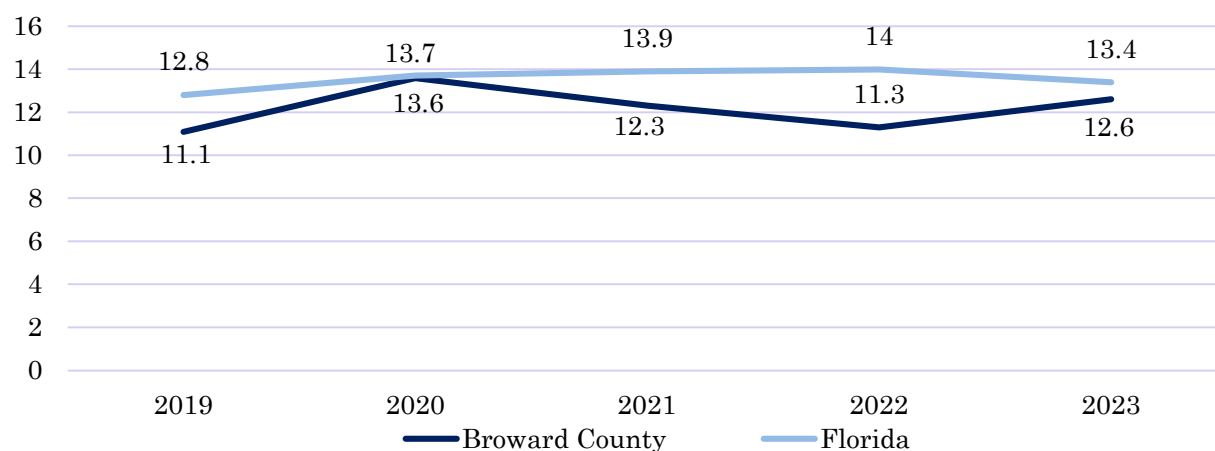
Objective IVP-13: Reduce Firearm-related deaths			Target: 10.7 per 100,000
			Desired Direction: Decrease
			National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
AADR from Firearms Discharge per 100,000 population:			
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)	
12.6 per 100,000	13.4 per 100,000	13.7 per 100,000	
⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	⚠️ Above Target	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective IVP-13, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

Note: Data includes all deaths from firearms, regardless of intent (includes homicides and suicides).

National, state and local levels of firearms death rate all remain above the HP2030 objective target. At the national level, these rates have shown recent increases instead of the desired decrease. Comparing all levels, Broward had the lowest rate in 2023. In Figure 29, the firearms discharge death rate for county and state levels over the last 5 years is shown. Every year, Florida had a higher firearms discharge death rate than Broward. Broward had a recent increase in this rate from 2022 to 2023. The highest point for this rate in Broward during this period was in 2020 (Figure 29).

Figure 29: Firearms Discharge Death Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

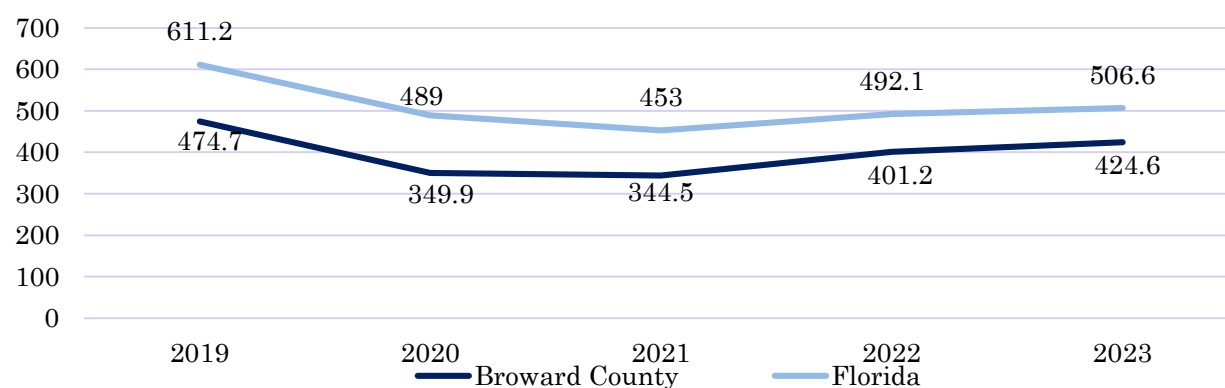
Note: Data includes all deaths from firearms, regardless of intent (includes homicides and suicides).

Crime Rate

There are no specific **Healthy People 2030 objectives** related to crime. Index and violent crime rates provide valuable insight into changes in the level of crime each year, and are reviewed in this section

Index crime is a broad category of crime which includes the following crimes: murder, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. Florida has consistently reported a higher index crime rate than Broward, by nearly 100 points each year over the past 5 years. The index crime rate reached a low point in 2021 and in subsequent years, this rate slightly increased (Figure 30).

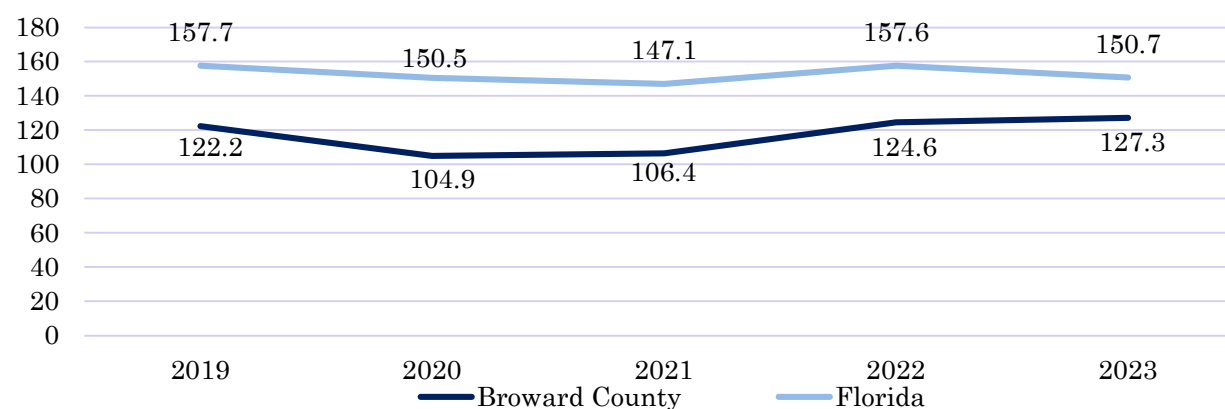
Figure 30: Index Crime Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Violent crime is a category of crime which includes more serious crimes including murder, rape, aggravated assault, and robbery. In the last 5 years, this rate was lowest in 2020 and increased each subsequent year thereafter in Broward. During this same period, Florida consistently had a higher violent crime rate than Broward by more than 20 points each year (Figure 31).

Figure 31: Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Adolescent Death

Adolescent death is primarily caused by unintentional injury death, and most often motor vehicle accidents or firearms. In Broward County, there were 106 deaths among those aged 1 to 19 years (Florida Health Charts, 2023).

Healthy People 2030: Adolescent Deaths

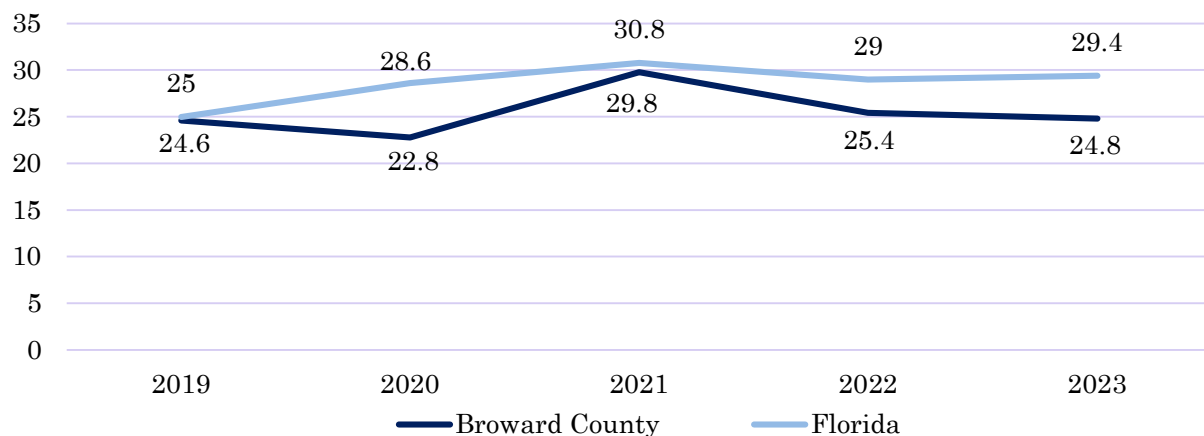
Objective MICH-03: Reduce the rate of deaths in children and adolescents aged 1 to 19 years		Target: 18.4 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Death rate per 100,000 among children and adolescents aged 1 to 19:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
24.8 per 100,000	29.4 per 100,000	29.3 per 100,000
⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MICH-03, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (crude death rate from all causes among those 1-19 years old, Broward & Florida), 2023

Nationwide, the adolescent death rate has increased in recent years, regressing away from the HP2030 objective target to reduce this rate. Florida's adolescent death rate was slightly higher than the nationwide rate in 2023. Broward's rate was over 4 points lower than the state and national rates in the same year. All levels remained above the HP2030 target for this objective.

Figure 32 shows the adolescent death rate in Florida and Broward each year from 2019 to 2023. This rate peaked in Broward and Florida in 2021 but has decreased slightly since then. Each year during this period, Broward had a smaller adolescent death rate, among those 1 to 19 years old than Florida (Figure 32).

Figure 32: Children & Adolescents Death Rate (per 100,000 of the 1-19 years population), Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Injury, Violence, & Safety Community Resources

Broward County's system of community safety resources consists of a coordinated network of **law enforcement, emergency medical services (EMS), hospitals, and social service organizations** that work together to prevent violence, reduce injury, and ensure timely emergency response. The **Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO)** and municipal police departments serve as the primary public safety agencies responsible for crime prevention, law enforcement, and community engagement programs such as youth mentorship, neighborhood watch, and domestic violence prevention initiatives. EMS and **Fire Rescue departments** throughout the County—operating from dozens of stations across 31 municipalities—provide rapid response, triage, and life-saving medical care for injury, trauma, and overdose incidents. These emergency responders collaborate closely with Broward County's healthcare system to ensure continuous pre-hospital and hospital-based care for victims of violence, accidents, and medical emergencies.

Beyond first response, several **community and healthcare partners** contribute to violence prevention, injury recovery, and long-term safety through outreach and supportive services. The **Light of the World Clinic** provides free medical care and counseling to uninsured residents, including those recovering from injury or trauma. The **Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center (CDTC)** offers pediatric rehabilitation and social services for children affected by violence, accidents, or neglect. **Women in Distress of Broward County** serves as the county's certified domestic violence center, offering 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter, and counseling services for survivors. **Homeless Assistance Centers** and **Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA)** programs address the intersection of housing instability, safety, and health, connecting vulnerable individuals to secure environments and healthcare. Together, these agencies—along with public safety personnel, EMS, and hospital systems—form a comprehensive network that strengthens community resilience, reduces preventable injuries, and supports recovery and protection for all Broward County residents.

Social, Behavioral & Mental Health Indicators

Social, behavioral, and mental health indicators reflect the overall emotional well-being, coping capacity, physical activity, and resilience of individuals and communities. Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) objectives emphasize reducing rates of depression, suicide, and substance use disorders, while promoting positive mental health, access to behavioral health services, and social connectedness. This section reviews progress in social, behavioral and mental health indicators by analyzing recent data, trends, and performance toward key HP2030 objectives. Comparisons are made to statewide and national rates to assess progress and identify areas for continued improvement (HP2030, Health.gov, 2025).

Social and Behavioral Health Indicators Overview

Table 6 provides a summary of recent changes in **social, behavioral and mental health** indicators in Broward County. Data were not available for every indicator each year; therefore, the most recent year's data for each measure are compared to the most recent prior year of data available. The rates are reviewed and compared for positive or negative changes, and percentage changes over these years. In the following subsections, these factors are reviewed individually.

Table 6: Social, Behavioral & Mental Health Indicator Change, Broward 2019-2024




Social, Behavioral & Mental Health Indicators	Rate or %		Difference (most recent-prior year)	% Change
	Next Prior Year's Data	Most Recent Year Data		
Sedentary Adults	24.1% (2019)	25% (2022)	0.9%	3.7%
Physical Activity	32.7% (2019)	N/A	-	-
Obesity	Adults	27.1% (2019)	-4.1%	-15.1%
	Youth	15.5% (2022)	-4.2%	-27.1%
Cigarette Smoking	Adults	12.6% (2019)	-2.8%	-22.2%
	Youth	1.9% (2022)	-0.8%	-42.1%
Current Marijuana Use Among Youth	3.9% (2022)	4.8% (2024)	0.9%	23.1%
Alcohol Use Hospitalizations (Adults)	111 per 100,000 (2023)	100.3 per 100,000 (2024)	-10.7	-9.6%
Current Alcohol Use Among Youth	8.6 (2022)	8.9 (2024)	0.3	3.5%
Suicide Deaths	10.6 per 100,000 (2022)	9.3 per 100,000 (2023)	-1.3	-12.3%
Suicide Attempts Among Youth	N/A	7% (2024)	-	-

Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2024

Sedentarism/Physical Activity

Doing regular physical activity provides major health benefits for people of all ages. Sedentary behavior, or lack of physical activity, increases the risk of developing many chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and cancer. This section reviews two Healthy People 2030 objectives related to physical activity levels.





Healthy People 2030: Sedentary Behavior

Objective PA-01: Reduce the proportion of adults who do no physical activity in their free time		Target: 21.8%
		Desired Direction: Decrease
		National Status: Little or no change
Percentage of adults (18+) who had no leisure time physical activity:		
Broward County Rate (2022)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2024)
25.0 %	25.4%	25.2%
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective PA-01, Health.gov 2024; Florida Health Charts (BRFSS, Adults Who Are Sedentary, Broward & Florida), 2022-2023

The national, state, and local rates for sedentary behavior have been relatively consistent over recent years, showing little or no change towards reaching the objective of lowering the rate of people who do no physical activity in their free time.

Healthy People 2030: Aerobic Physical Activity

Objective PA-04: Increase the proportion of adults who do enough muscle-strengthening activity		Target: 36.6%
		Desired Direction: Increase
		National Status:  Improving
Percent of Adults who meet muscle strengthening recommendations (BRFSS):		Percent of adults (18+) performed muscle-strengthening activities on 2 or more days of the week during leisure time:
Broward County Rate (2019)	Florida Rate (2019)	National Rate (2024)
32.7%	38.1%	32.9%
 Below Target	 Above Target	 Below Target
*May not be measured the same way as HP2030 measured the target and national rates, so may not be directly comparable		

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective PA-04, Health.gov 2024; Florida Health Charts (BRFSS, Adults Who Meet Muscle Strengthening Recommendations, Broward & Florida), 2019

Although the data sources may not be directly comparable, the HP2030 target for this objective has been met at the state level and is below target at national and county levels. The percentage is lowest at the county level, indicating room for improvement.

Obesity

Obesity is considered a chronic disease and is a major health risk for many other chronic conditions such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes. Healthy People 2030 have objectives to reduce the percentage of adults, children and adolescents with obesity, reviewed below.

Healthy People 2030: Adult Obesity

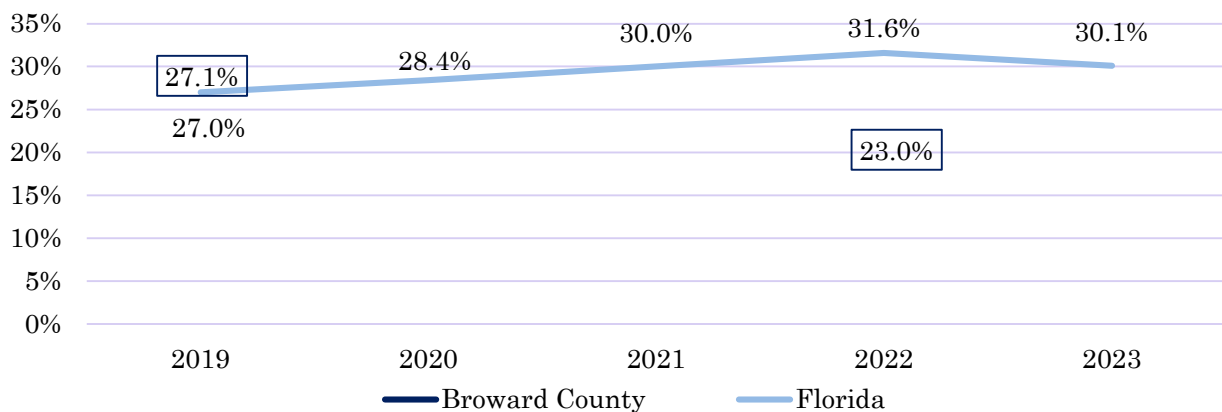
Objective NWS-03: Reduce the proportion of adults with obesity Target: 36% Desired Direction: Decrease Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse		
Percent of adults with Obesity (BMI ≥ 30.0):		
Broward County Rate (2022)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2017-2020)
23%	30.1%	41.8%
Confidence Interval: (18.3-27.7%)	Confidence Interval: (28.4-31.7%)	
✅ <i>Below Target</i>	✅ <i>Below Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective NWS-03, Health.gov 2020; Florida Health Charts (BRFSS, Adults Who Are Obese, Broward & Florida), 2022 & 2023

The national adult obesity rate is over the target, while the state and county levels are below the target level. To note, the state and county level data source is different than the national and HP2030 source, and data may not be measured the same.

Figure 33 shows the percentage of adult obesity among Broward and Florida from 2019-2023. Every year the state rate is recorded, but the county level is recorded every few years, and in the figure the county rate has no line, but the rates are outlined in dark blue. The county has shown a decrease over the two years when data was recorded, and Florida showed an increase in recent years (Figure 33).

Figure 33: Percent of Adult Obesity (BMI > 29.9) Among Population, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts (BRFSS, Adults Who Are Obese), 2019-2023

*Note: County level rates not recorded each year for this statistic

Healthy People 2030: Children and Adolescent Obesity

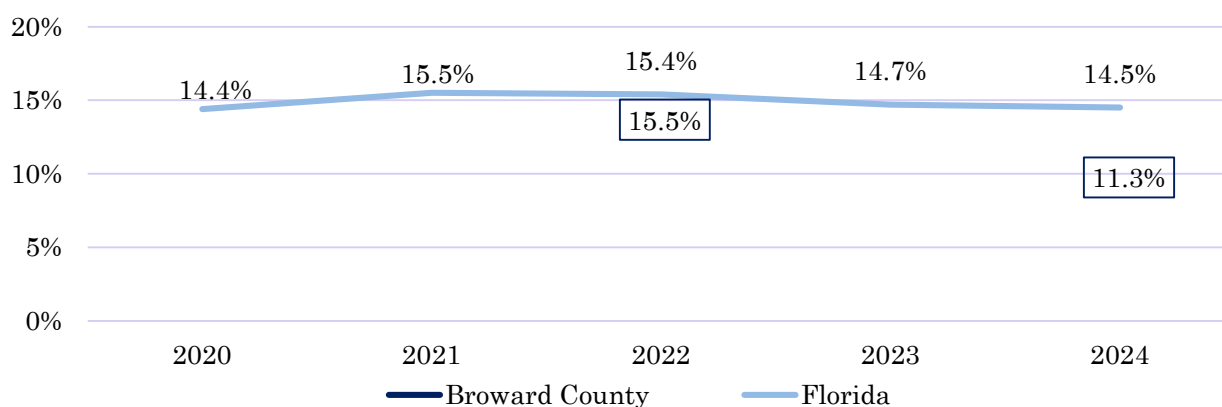
Objective NWS-04: Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents with obesity		Target: 15.5%
		Desired Direction: Decrease
		National Status: Little or no detectable change
Percent of middle and high school youth who are Obese:		Percent of Obese children and adolescents (2-19):
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2017-2020)
11.3%	14.5%	19.7%
✓ Below Target	✓ Below Target	⚠ Above Target
*Different sources where data is measured differently and not directly comparable to HP2030 National and target measures		

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective NWS-04, Health.gov 2020; Florida Health Charts (FYTS, Students Who Are Obese, Broward & Florida), 2024

The national rate of children and adolescent obesity is showing little to no change in recent years towards reducing to reach the target for this objective. The county and state-wide levels, obtained from a different source than the target and national rate, were lower than the target level for both Middle and High school adolescents. Broward had lower rates of adolescent obesity for each of these groups than Florida.

Figure 34 shows the level of high school and middle school youth in Broward and Florida who had obesity. Florida's level of obesity among these students fluctuated by 1% during this time period. During this period, Broward was only surveyed 2 times, in 2022 and 2024. The data shows that the measure decreased during this period with a decrease by over 4% (Figure 34).

Figure 34: Percent of Middle & High School Youth Students Who are Obese, Broward & Florida 2020-2024






Source: Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS), Middle and High School Students Who Are Obese, Broward & Florida) 2020-2024

*Note: County level rates not recorded each year for this statistic

Cigarette Smoking

Cigarette smoking is one of the most preventable health risk behaviors. It has been linked to many chronic health conditions and, most notably, to lung cancer.

Healthy People 2030: Adult Cigarette Smoking

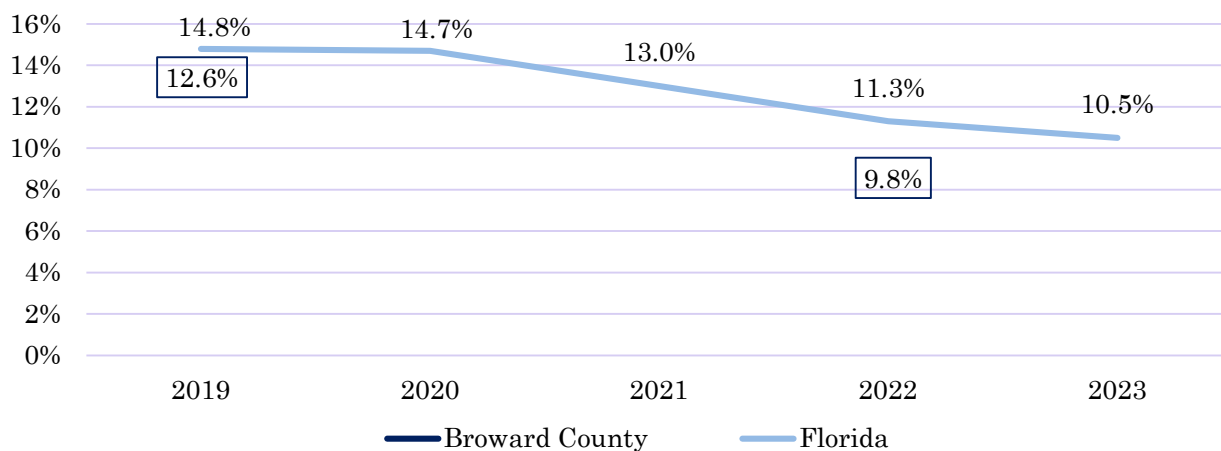
Objective TU-02: Reduce current cigarette smoking in adults Target: 6.1% Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving		
Percent of adults (18+) who are current cigarette smokers:		
Broward County Rate (2022)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
9.8%	10.5%	11.0%
Confidence Interval: (6.4-13.1%)	Confidence Interval: (9.4-11.7%)	
 Above Target	 Above Target	 Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective TU-02, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts (BRFSS Survey Adults Who Are Current Smokers, Broward & Florida), 2022-2023

The data indicates a recent reduction in cigarette smoking at the national level, reflecting progress toward the HP2030 objective. However, at all levels — county, state, and national — the proportion of adults who currently smoke remains higher than the HP2030 target.

Figure 35 shows the percentage of current adult smokers in Broward and Florida from 2019 to 2023. Every year the state rate is recorded, but the county level is recorded every few years. Because of this, in the figure the county rate has no line but is outlined in dark blue. The county has shown a decrease over the two years where data was recorded, and Florida showed a decrease over the period as well (Figure 35).

Figure 35: Percent of Adult Current Smokers, Broward & Florida 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts (BRFSS Survey, Adults Who Are Current Smokers), 2019-2023

*Note: County level rates not recorded each year for this statistic

Cigarette smoking during adolescence can disrupt normal brain development—which continues until about age 25—affecting regions of the brain involved in learning, mood regulation, attention, and impulse control. Early use of tobacco greatly increases the chance of developing lifelong nicotine dependence. Smoking during adolescence is also associated with respiratory issues, reduced physical fitness, and increased risk of chronic diseases later in life, including heart disease, stroke, cancer, and lung disorders.

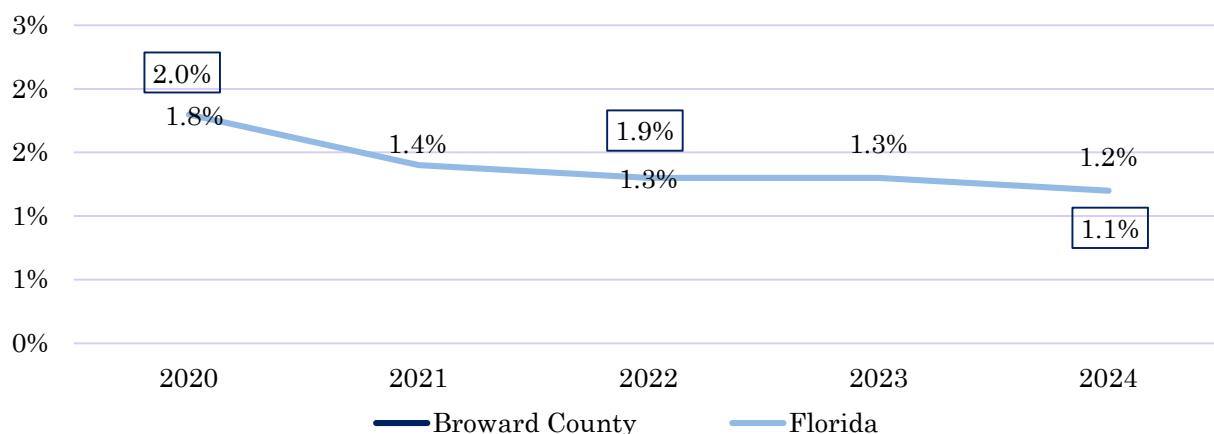
Healthy People 2030: Children and Adolescent Cigarette Smoking

Objective TU-06: Reduce current cigarette smoking in adolescents (grades 6 through 12)		
Target: 3.4% Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Target met or exceeded		
Percent of middle and high school youth who are current smokers (used in last 30 days prior to the survey):		
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2020)
1%	1.2%	3.3%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Below Target	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Below Target	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Below Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective TU-06, Health.gov 2020; Florida Health Charts (FYTS, High School and Middle School Students Who Are Current Cigarette Smokers, Broward & Florida), 2024

At all levels – local, state and national – the target has been met to decrease the proportion of students currently smoking cigarettes. Figure 36 shows a clear decline in this proportion over the past 5 years in both Broward County and Florida, indicating continued progress toward the HP2030 objective to reduce adolescent smoking.

Figure 36: Percent of Middle and High School Youth who used Cigarettes in the Last Month (prior to survey), Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS), Students Who Have Smoked Cigarettes the past 30 days, Broward & Florida), 2020-2024

*Note: County level rates not recorded each year for this statistic

Marijuana Use

Marijuana, or cannabis, is the most commonly used drug in the United States, and its use among youth poses particular health risks. Adolescent marijuana use can impair attention, memory, learning, and decision-making. Youth who use marijuana are at greater risk for poor academic performance, the development of mental health problems, and developing cannabis use disorder, a form of addiction. Smoking marijuana can also harm lung health, and impair coordination and reaction time which increases the risk of injury and accidents.

Healthy People 2030 include objectives to reduce the use of marijuana among adolescents (reviewed below), and to reduce the proportion of adults who use marijuana almost daily (not reviewed, objective SU-08).

Healthy People 2030: Adolescent Marijuana Use

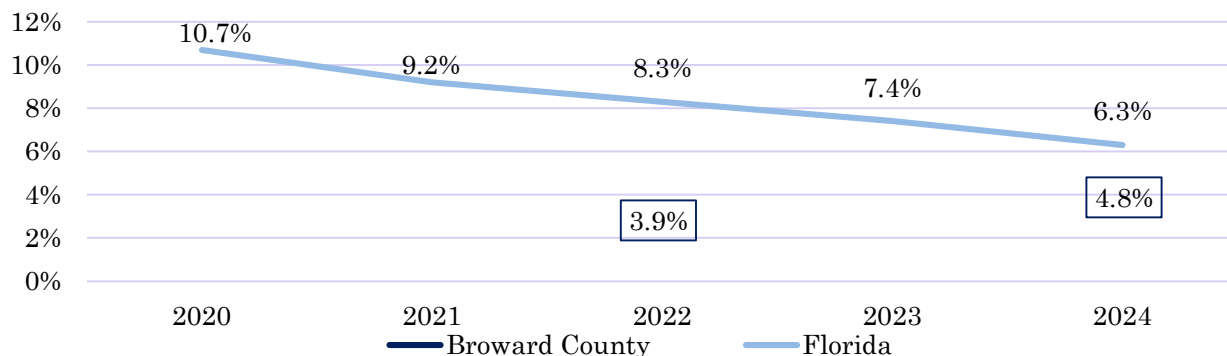
Objective SU-06: Reduce the proportion of adolescents who used marijuana in the past month		Target: 5.0% Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little to no detectable change
Percent of high & middle school students who have used marijuana or hashish in the past 30 days:		% of adolescents aged 12 to 17 years reported use of marijuana in the past 30 days:
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2022)
4.8%	6.3%	6.4%
✓ <i>Below Target</i>	⚠ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠ <i>Above Target</i>
*Different source where data is measured differently and not directly comparable to HP2030 National and target measures		

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective SU-06, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts (FYSAS - Students Who Have Used Marijuana or Hashish in the past 30 days), 2024

National and state levels remain above the HP2030 target for this objective. Broward County is below the target, showing that there is less marijuana use among youth in Broward than at the state and national levels.

Figure 37 shows the percentage of adolescents in Broward and Florida who used marijuana in the last month prior to the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey from 2020 to 2024. There is a clear downward trend in statewide marijuana use among students over the past 5 years. In Broward, there were only 2 years when this data was measured, and both years the percentage was below Florida; however, the percentage did increase from 2022 to 2024 among Broward students reporting marijuana use (Figure 37).

Figure 37: Percent of Middle and High School Students who used Marijuana in the Last Month (prior to survey), Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS), Students Who Have Used Marijuana or Hashish in the past 30 days – Broward & Florida), 2020-2024

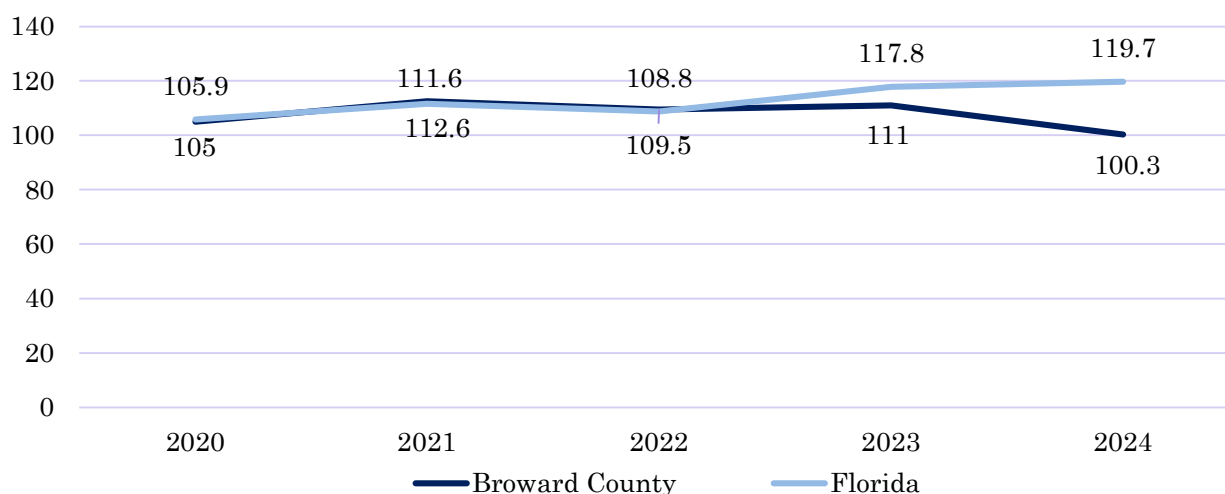
*Note: County level rates not recorded each year

Alcohol Use

Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to serious safety and health consequences such as stroke, cancer, and cirrhosis. In Broward there were 91 deaths attributed to alcoholic liver disease in 2023. Additionally, there were 5 motor vehicle fatalities confirmed to be alcohol related during this same year in Broward. The rates for both statistics were lower than Florida's rate in the same year.

Figure 38 shows that the age adjusted hospitalizations rate from alcohol use has decreased slightly in recent years in Broward, but for Florida, each year this rate has increased in this 5-year period.

Figure 38: Hospitalizations from Alcohol Use, Abuse, and Dependency, Age Adjusted Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2020-2024

Alcohol use during adolescence poses increased risks of dependence later in life as well as developmental problems. Alcohol use among youth is associated with increased risks of accidental injury, suicide and homicide, some of the leading causes of death in adolescents.

Healthy People 2030 have objectives to reduce the use of alcohol among adolescents (reviewed below), and to reduce the proportion of adults who have alcohol use disorder (not reviewed, HP2030 Objective SU-08).

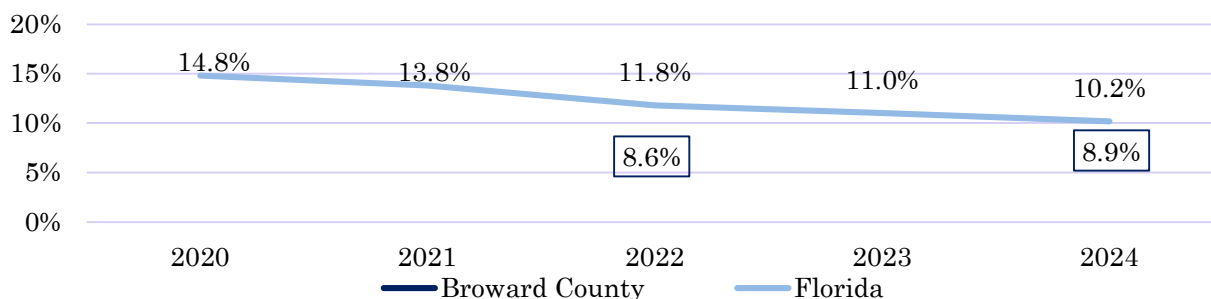
Healthy People 2030: Adolescent Drinking

Objective SU-04: Reduce the proportion of adolescents who drank alcohol in the past month		Target: 4.8%
		Desired Direction: Decrease
		National Status: Little or no detectable change
Percent of middle and high school students (age 12 to 17) who are current alcohol drinkers (used in last 30 days prior to the survey):		
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2022)
8.9%	10.2%	6.8%
⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target	⚠ Above Target

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective SU-04, Health.gov 2022; Florida Health Charts (FYSAS Percent of Middle & High School Students Who Drank Alcohol in the past 30 days), 2024

At all levels, the percentage of students drinking alcohol within a month prior to the survey remains above the HP2030 target for this objective, with the highest rate at the state level, followed by county level. Figure 39 shows the percentage of youth in Broward County and Florida who drank alcohol in the 30 days prior to the survey. Over a 5-year period, Florida had a consistent downward trend each year. Broward County's rate was only measured twice during this period but showed a slight increase from 2022 to 2024; however, the county rate remained lower than the state rate (Figure 39).

Figure 39: Percent of Middle and High School Students Who Drank Alcohol in the Past Month (prior to survey), Broward & Florida 2020-2024



Source: Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS), Percentage of High School & Middle School Students Who Drank Alcohol in the past 30 days – Broward & Florida), 2020-2024

*Note: County level rates not recorded each year

Suicide

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in Broward. Throughout Broward, there were 210 deaths from suicide in 2023.

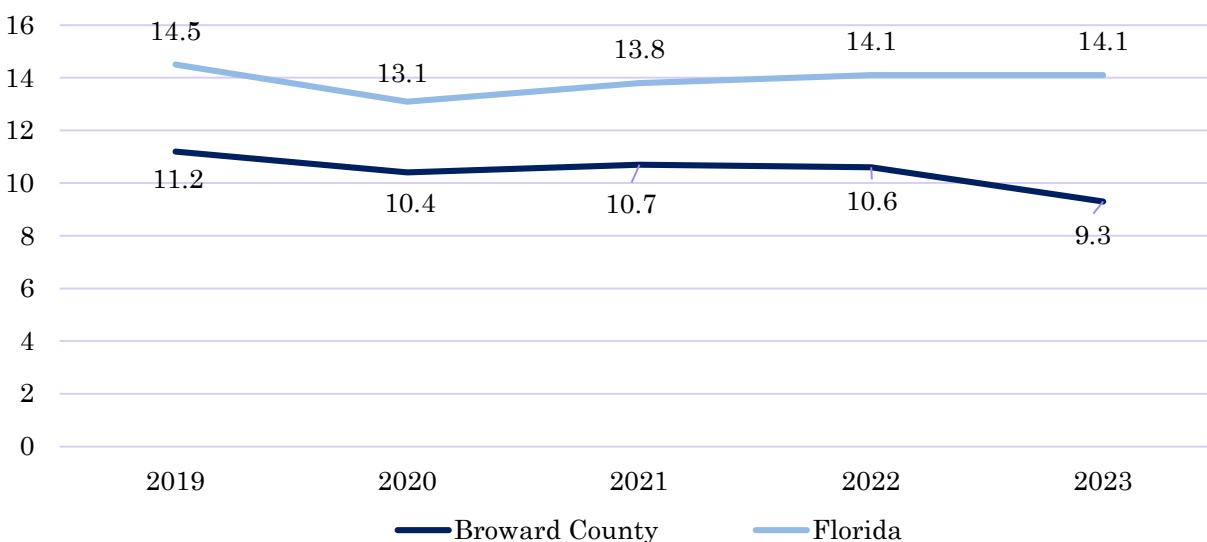
Healthy People 2030: Suicide Rate

Objective MHMD-01: Reduce the suicide rate		Target: 12.8 per 100,000 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: Little or no detectable change
Suicide death rate per 100,000 population:		
Broward County Rate (2023)	Florida Rate (2023)	National Rate (2023)
9.3 per 100,000	14.1 per 100,000	14.1 per 100,000
✓ <i>Below Target</i>	⚠ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠ <i>Above Target</i>

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MHMD-01, Health.gov 2023; Florida Health Charts, 2023

The state and national rate are the same and both are over the target for this HP2030 objective. However, the county rate is below the target threshold, showing that the objective has been achieved locally. Figure 40 shows the suicide death rate over the past 5 years in Broward and Florida. This rate has decreased over this period in Broward. In Florida, this rate had a low point in 2020 but showed increases in following years (Figure 40).

Figure 40: Deaths from Suicide, Rate (per 100,000), Broward & Florida, 2019-2023



Source: Florida Health Charts, 2019-2023

Over the past 5 years in Broward, 2023 was the year with the least amount of recorded suicide deaths, with 210 deaths (Table 16, Chapter 2 of the Broward County Health Plan).

In Broward, Suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among those aged 15-34 (FL Health Charts, 2023). Nationwide, youth and young adults, aged 10-24 years old, account for 15% of all suicides (CDC, 2025).

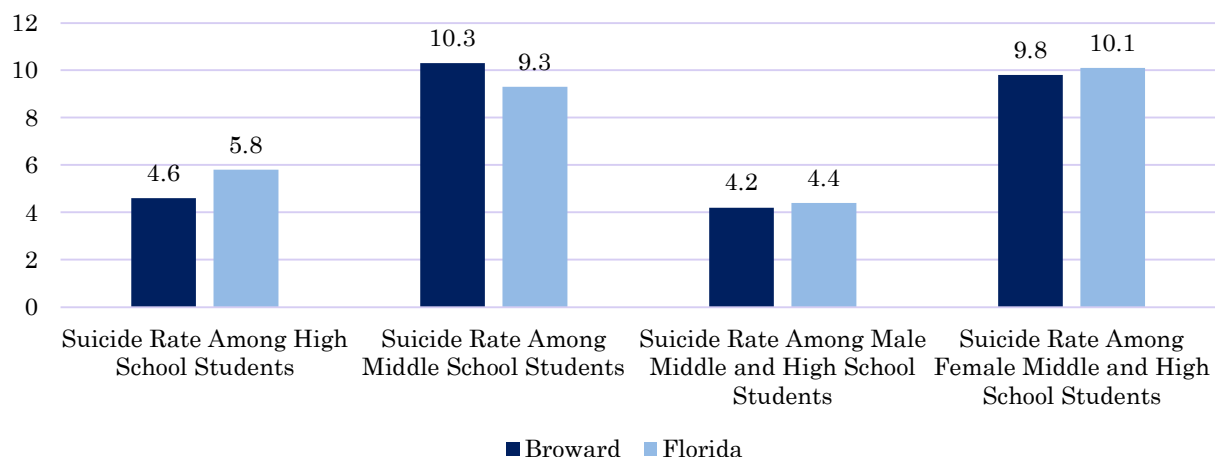
Healthy People 2030: Adolescent Suicide Attempts

Objective MHMD-02: Reduce suicide attempts by adolescents (grades 9-12)			Target: 1.8 per 100 Desired Direction: Decrease National Status: ⚠️ Getting Worse
Rate of suicide attempts per 100 high schoolers:			
Broward County Rate (2024)	Florida Rate (2024)	National Rate (2021)	
4.6 per 100	5.8 per 100	10.2 per 100	
⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	⚠️ <i>Above Target</i>	

Sources: Healthy People 2030 Objective MHMD-02, Health.gov 2021; Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, Middle and High School Students, Students Who Attempted Suicide), 2024

The HP2030 objective target to reduce suicide deaths is not reached at any level, national, state or local. It is lowest at the county level at 4.6%, and highest at the national level at 10.2%. Figure 41 shows the rate of suicide attempts per 100 students in Broward and Florida in 2024. Broward had a lower rate of suicide attempts by high school students than Florida; however, the suicide attempt rate among middle school students is higher in Broward than in Florida. Suicide rate is higher in Broward and Florida among female students compared to male students as well (Figure 41).

Figure 41: Suicide Attempts Rate (per 100) Among Middle and High School Students, Broward & Florida, 2024



Source: Florida Health Charts (Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS), Middle and High School Students, Students Who Attempted Suicide), 2024

Social, Behavioral, and Mental Health Resources in the Community

Broward County's behavioral health system encompasses a wide network of organizations that work collaboratively to promote mental wellness and provide accessible care for residents. The **Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC)**, in partnership with the **Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)**, serves as the managing entity overseeing behavioral health services across the region. Through its partnerships with numerous community providers, BBHC supports a comprehensive continuum of care that includes prevention, intervention, and treatment programs. Behavioral health institutions throughout the County deliver a wide array of services such as addiction recovery, adolescent intervention, counseling, case management, life coaching, crisis stabilization, psychiatric care, and housing assistance. BBHC's resource directory provides residents with detailed information on available behavioral health services, helping connect individuals and families to the support they need. See Table 4, Chapter 3 of the Broward County Health Plan, for a list of resources.

In addition to these behavioral health services, Broward County residents benefit from **community programs** focused on promoting social and emotional well-being. **Nonprofit organizations, peer support networks, and community centers** play a key role in promoting resilience, physical health, healthy coping mechanisms, and life skills development. These organizations often partner with schools, faith-based institutions, and healthcare providers to deliver outreach and education initiatives. These efforts help reduce stigma surrounding mental illness and substance use. Collectively, these efforts strengthen the County's social support infrastructure and foster a more inclusive and compassionate approach to mental health.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) also play an essential role in the community's behavioral and mental health response system. EMS personnel provide rapid assessment, stabilization, and life-saving treatment during mental health crises, substance use emergencies, or other critical incidents. These pre-hospital services ensure that individuals experiencing psychiatric or behavioral emergencies receive timely and appropriate care, including safe transport to emergency departments or crisis stabilization units. EMS and Fire Rescue facilities operated throughout the County work in coordination with hospitals and behavioral health providers to protect the safety and well-being of residents. See Chapter 3 of the Broward County Health Plan for more details on these programs and facilities.