



Putnam County
Hospital

PUTNAM COUNTY HOSPITAL 2025 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Prepared By:



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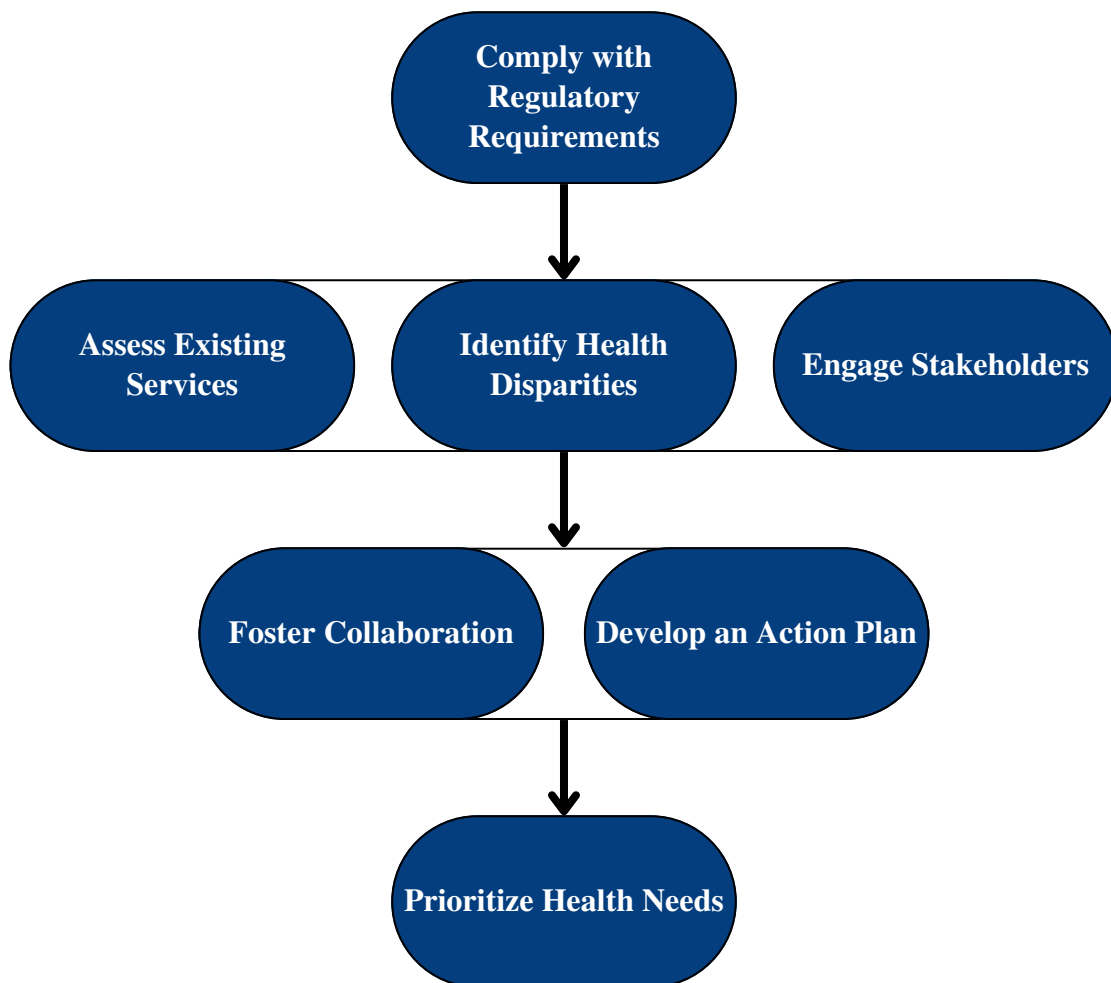
IRS REQUIREMENTS

IRS Form 990, Schedule H Compliance table provides an overview of requirements for the provisions of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act of 2010. The table below allows for cross-referencing the requirements and related sections in this CHNA.

IRS Form 990, Schedule H (2022) <u>Part V, Section B</u>	Refer to Page
<u>Line 3a</u> - A definition of the community served by the hospital facility	4
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<u>Line 3i</u> - The impact of any actions taken to address the significant health needs identified in the hospital facility's prior CHNA(s).	Included in PCH's Response Plan

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is to provide a comprehensive and data-driven understanding of the health needs within Putnam County Hospital's (PCH) service area. This assessment is conducted with the primary aim of improving the health and well-being of individuals within our community by identifying and addressing the most pressing health issues. The graphic below describes the CHNA goals.



By conducting this CHNA, the hospital aims to enhance its ability to deliver high-quality, patient-centered healthcare services that are responsive to the unique needs of our community. This assessment will also facilitate transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in the efforts to promote health and well-being while reducing health disparities within the hospital's service area.

PROCESS

Comply with Regulatory Requirements

- Putnam County Hospital contracted with the Indiana Rural Health Association.
- Completed CHNA is publicly posted on Putnam County Hospital's website.
- Hard copies of the report are available upon request.

Assess Existing Services

- Defined community served through conversations with hospital staff, reviewed zip codes within geographic area of Putnam County.

Identify Health Disparities

- Quantifiably described community through the US Census Bureau, Indiana Business Research Center, Indiana University, Robert Wood Johnson, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Indiana Department of Transportation, US Bureau of Economic Analysis, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indiana State Cancer Registry, and others.

Engage Stakeholders

- In-Person focus group of Putnam County representatives coordinated with PCH's Director of Marketing & Community Relations, Brooke Trissel, and VP of Human Resources, Erin Mullin.
- Community leaders, county health department representatives, business owners, local officials, healthcare providers, minority leaders, clergy, and other stakeholders were invited to attend.
- List of attendees with respective organizations available in Appendix A.
- Utilized Putnam County Health Department's health needs survey to understand various health factors and available services and facilities. Available in Appendix B.

Foster Collaboration

- Collaborate with healthcare facilities to identify resources and services available in the community. See Appendix C for existing community resources.

Develop an Action Plan

- Analyzed data from survey responses and focus group feedback.
- Provided opportunities for development and growth to improve health outcomes and healthcare services.

Prioritize Health Needs

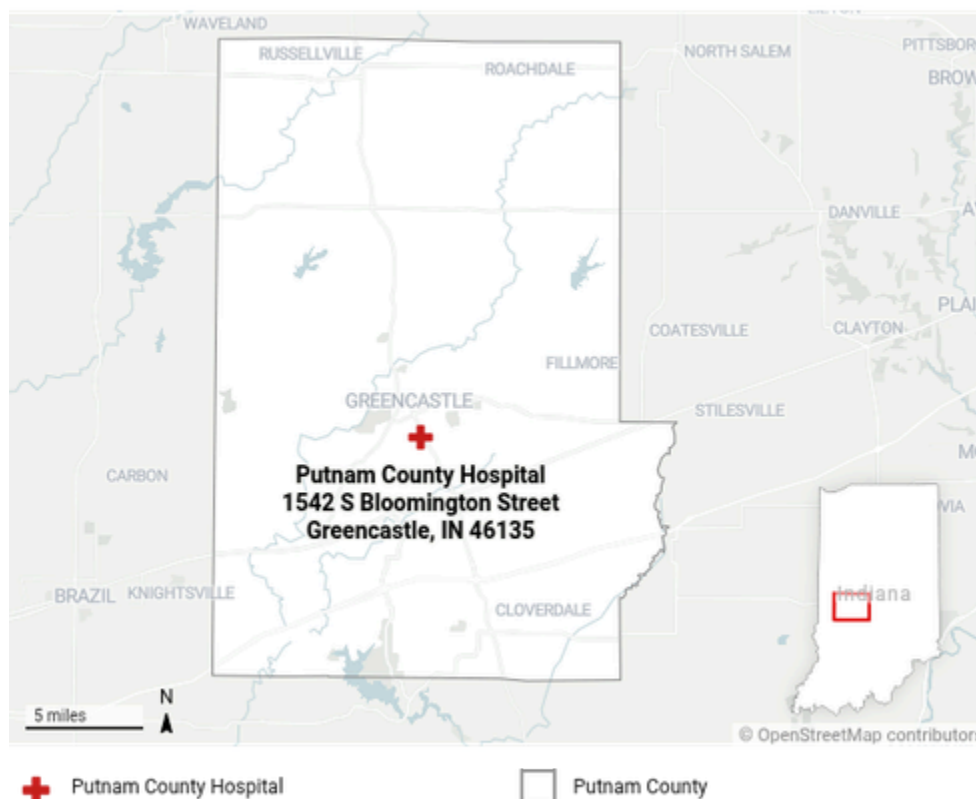
- Identified priorities.
- Community Health Needs Assessment data allows for the community to understand needs, strengths, and values to collaborate with community members and agencies.

COMMUNITY SERVED

Geographic

The community served by Putnam County Hospital includes all people living within Putnam County, Indiana, at any time during the year. To be determined as living within the service area of Putnam County, a person may reside within one of these postal zip codes: 46105, 46120, 46121, 46728, 46135, 46170, 46171, 46172, 46175.

Putnam County, Indiana

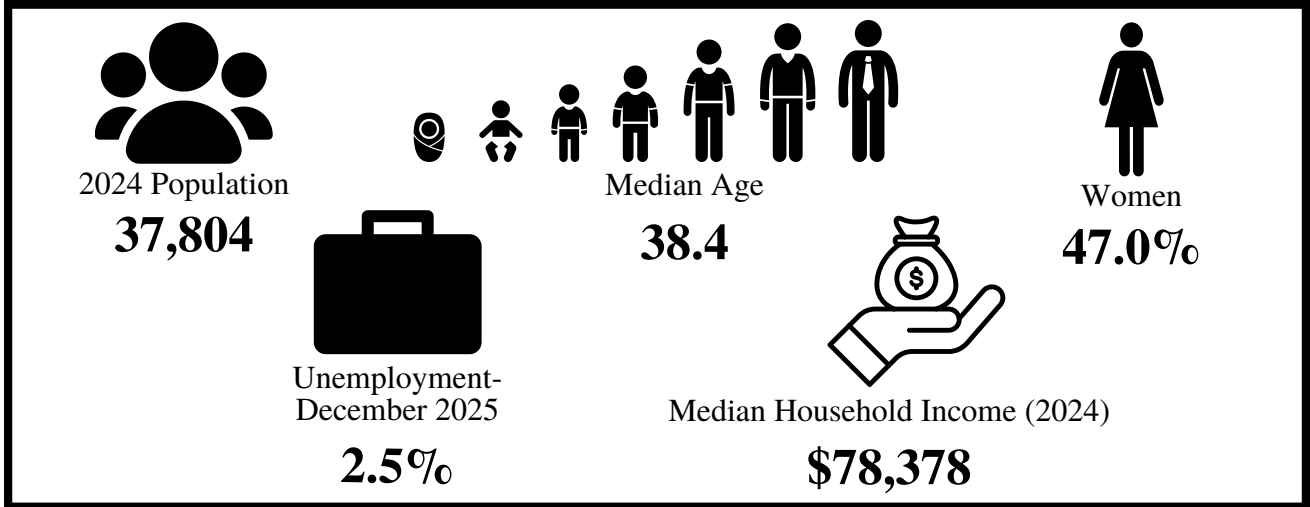


Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Putnam County is in West-Central Indiana. Greencastle is the largest town and is the county seat. The county is predominantly rural and is the 16th largest county in Indiana by area at approximately **480.5 square miles**. Putnam County is bordered by Montgomery, Hendricks, Morgan, Owen, Clay, and Parke counties in Indiana. The Big Walnut Creek runs through the center of the county northeast to southwest, with the Eel River forming in the southwest. Cagles Mill Lake is in southern Putnam County. Putnam County is crossed by several major roadways, including Interstate 70, U.S. Highways 36, 40, and 231, and state roads 42, 75, 236, 240, and 243.

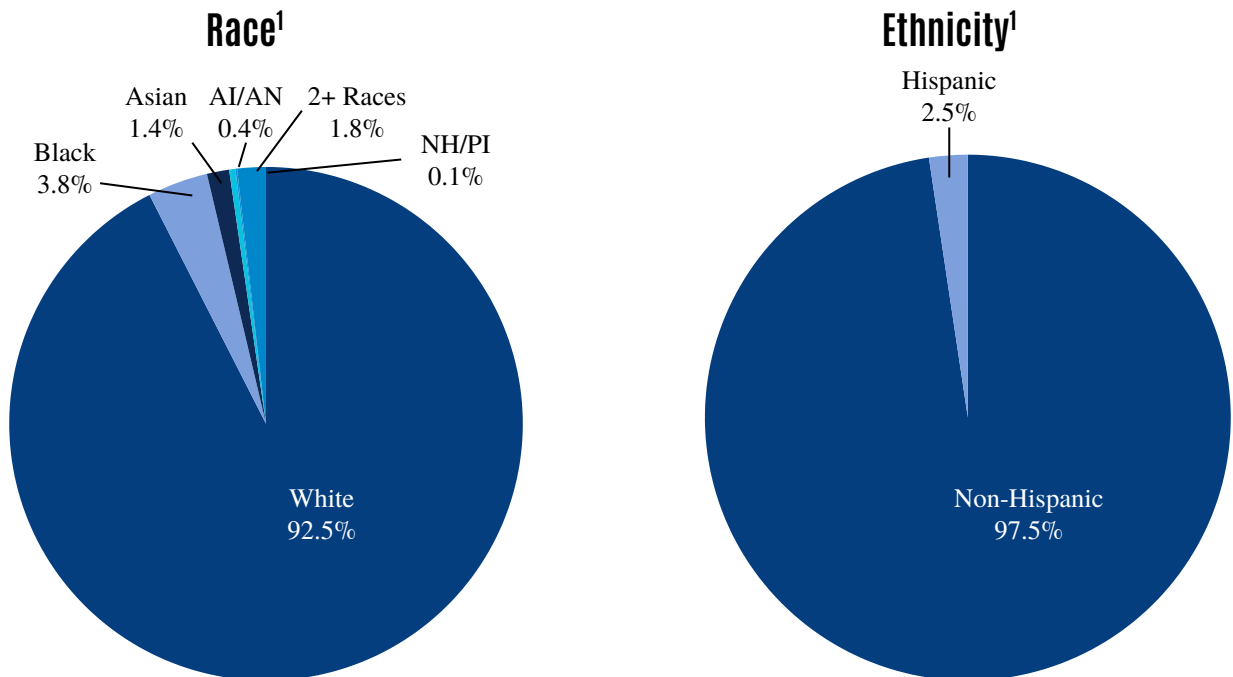
Demographics

The graphics below reflect Putnam County’s demographic data. According to the United States Census Bureau (USCB), Putnam County has an estimated 2024 population of 37,804 residents, with the median age being 38.4, and being comprised of 47.0% women.¹⁻⁴



Minority, Medically Underserved, Low-Income, and At-Risk Populations

Putnam County has a relatively homogenous racial and ethnic profile. Minority populations make up approximately 10.0% of the total Putnam County residents according to 2024 USCB data estimates.¹ English is the primary language spoken at home (96.2%), with only 3.8% of Putnam County speaking a language other than English.¹ The Indiana Department of Transportation reports that the percentage of Putnam County residents who speak English “less than very well” is 1.26%.⁵



AI/AN - American Indian/Alaska Native
 NH/PI - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, veteran populations are at higher risk of substance use and mental health issues, such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).⁶ Putnam County has 2,525 veterans (2020-2024).⁷

The Point-in-Time Count is defined by the [Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority](#) as the number of people who are experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. Putnam County is included in Indiana's Region 7 cohort. When the count was completed on January 29, 2025, Putnam County had a total of 27 people who were counted as unhoused.⁸

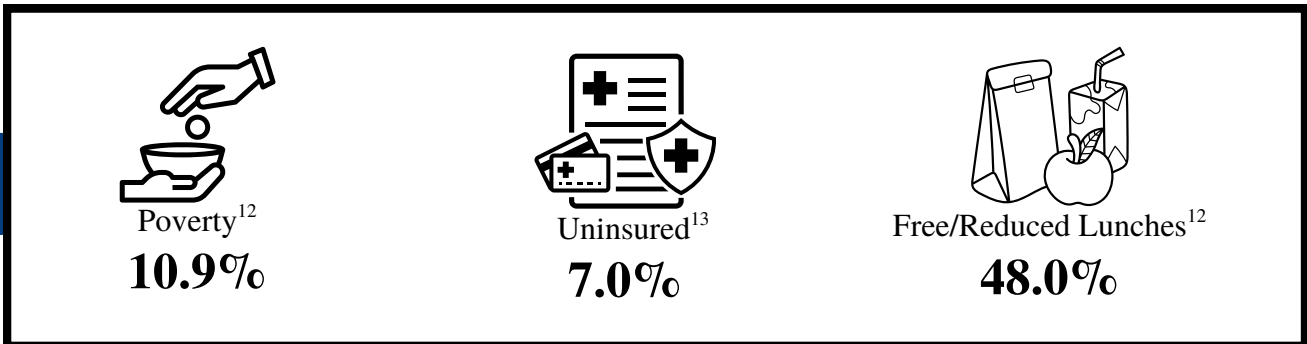
Disability is an important indicator due to the impact it has on an individual's overall life span and contributes to daily limitations and poorer health outcomes.⁹ The state rate for Indiana is 15.0%, while Putnam County is only very slightly higher at 15.1%.^{1,10} Of the Putnam County population with a disability, the following disabilities are the most prevalent: ambulatory difficulty (8.2%), cognitive difficulty (5.6%), independent living difficulty (6.9%), hearing difficulty (3.4%), vision difficulty (2.1%), and self-care difficulty (2.6%).¹⁰

While county-level and youth population data is not yet available, the Williams Institute at UCLA reports that approximately **4.5% of Indiana residents identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community**. This data provides a starting point for identifying a proportion within the target service area. The LGBTQ+ youth population is at particular risk of mental health issues, including suicidal ideation and suicide attempts. A 2022 report by the Trevor Project states that 45% of LGBTQ+ youth seriously considered suicide in the previous year and that 60% of LGBTQ+ youth who wanted mental healthcare in the past year were unable to get it.¹¹

Social Drivers of Health (SDOH)

Economic Factors

Putnam County experiences a poverty rate of 10.9%, which is lower than the 2024 state and national percentage of 12.1%.¹² The December 2025 unemployment rate in Putnam County was 2.5%, which was slightly lower than Indiana’s December 2025 unemployment rate of 2.7%.² In 2023, the per capita income is reported at \$48,687, which falls behind Indiana’s reported average of \$61,243.¹²



Housing¹⁴

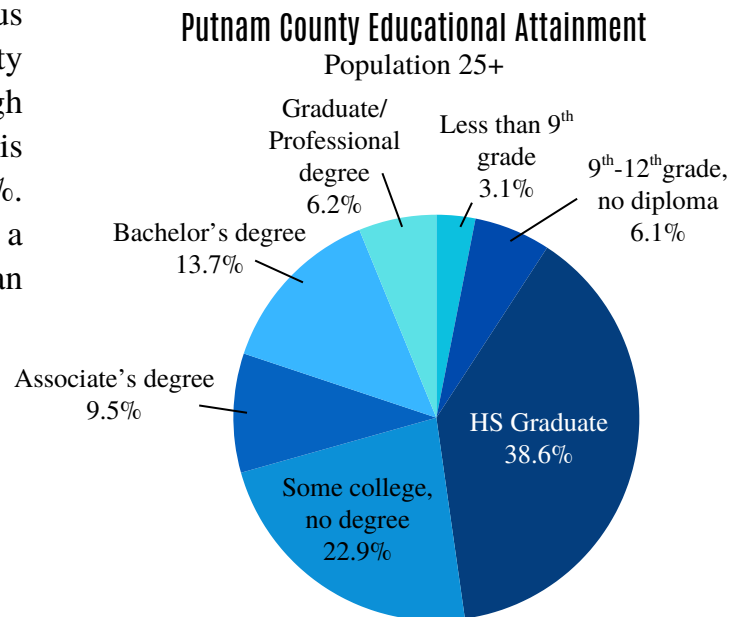
Of the 10,283 owner-occupied housing units in Putnam County, 16.3% are valued under \$100,000 and 6.8% are valued at \$500,000 or more, with the median value equaling \$205,800. As of the 2020 Census, the median gross rent was \$883 and 26.4% of housing units are renter-occupied.



Housing Values	Percentage in County
Under \$50,000	6.4%
\$50,001-\$199,999	41.5%
\$200,000-\$499,999	45.5%
\$500,000+	6.8%

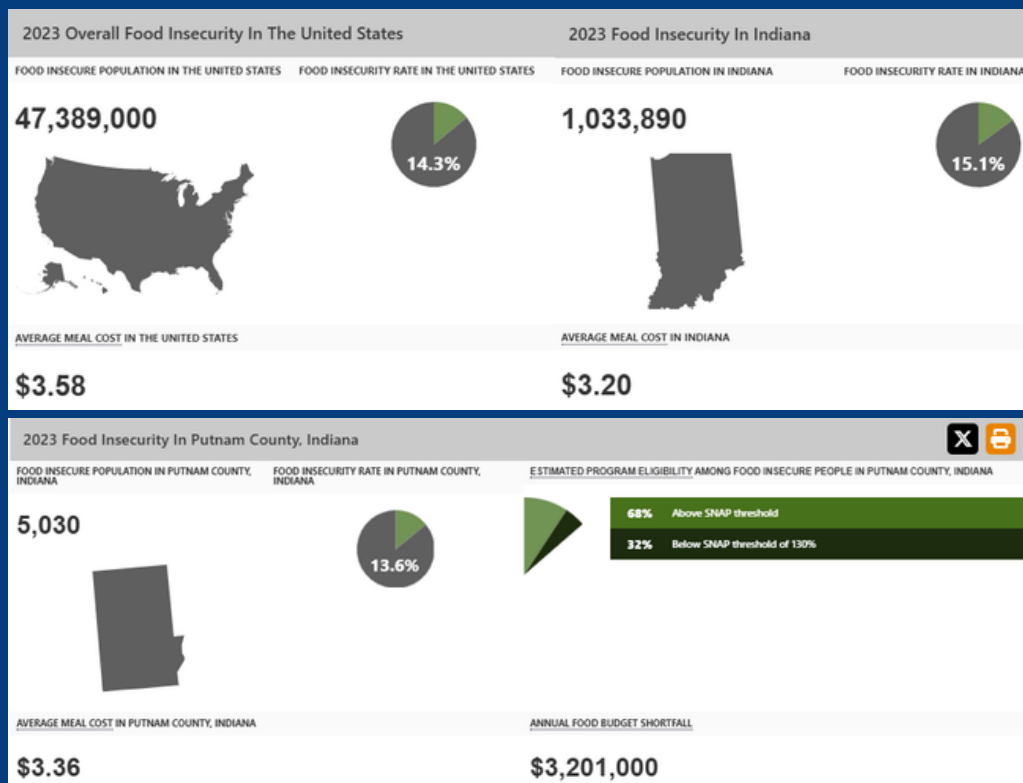
Education¹⁵

According to the 2023 United States Census Bureau, the percentage of Putnam County adults aged 25 years or older who are high school graduates or higher is 90.8%, which is slightly above Indiana's percentage of 90.2%. However, adults aged 25 years or older with a bachelor's degree is 4.7%, which is lower than the state's percent of 30.2%.



Food Insecurity¹⁶

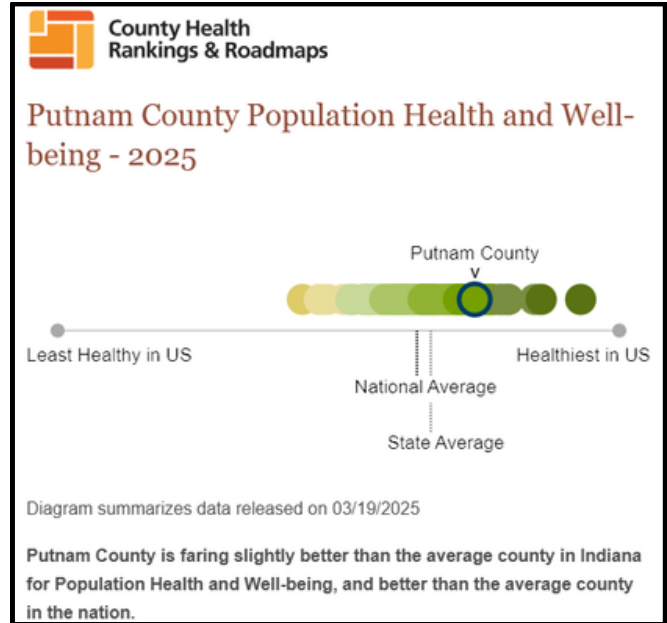
Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap study reported that in 2023, there were 5,030 people who were food insecure in Putnam County, with a rate of 13.6%. The Indiana statewide rate is 15.1%, and the national rate is 14.3%. The average meal in Putnam County costs \$3.36. This is slightly above the average meal cost for the state, but less than the average meal cost nationally of \$3.58. It is worth noting that these data are from 2023 and will likely be exacerbated by the inflation that has impacted groceries and food costs.



HEALTH REPORT SUMMARIES

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps - Population Health and Well-being¹³

Putnam County, Indiana is performing in the top third of the 92 counties for Health Outcomes and is above the average county in Indiana and the average county in the nation for Population Health and Well-being. The following metrics represent Putnam County's outcomes compared to Indiana and the United States. Some of the factors positively impacting the county's ranking include a lower percentage of low birthweight births (6%) compared to Indiana (8%) and the U.S. (8%) and a lower HIV prevalence (159 residents/100,000) compared to Indiana (223) and the U.S. (387).



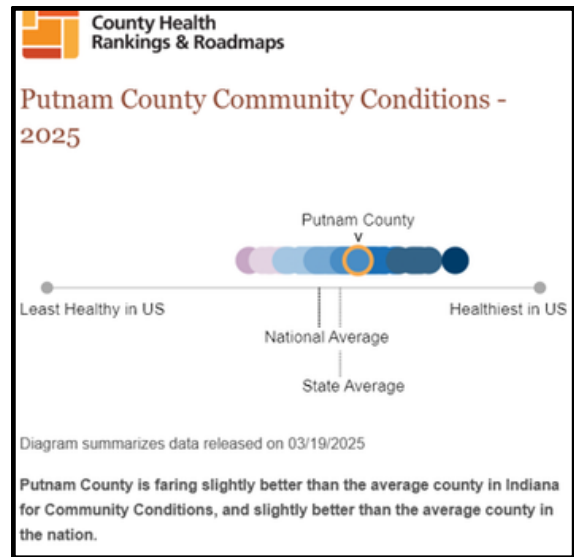
This is one metric which impacts the Population Health and Well-being ranking in which Putnam County underperformed compared to the state and national rates: poor mental health days. Putnam County has a slightly higher number of poor mental health days (5.6 days out of the previous 30 days) compared to the state (5.5 days) and nation (5.1 days).

Metric	Putnam	State	US
Premature Death <75 years	440 deaths/100,000	460	390
Poor or Fair Health	18%	19%	17%
Poor Physical Health Days	4.2 days/previous 30 days	4.2 days	3.9 days
Poor Mental Health Days	5.6 days/previous 30 days	5.5 days	5.1 days

Metric	Putnam	State	US
Low Birthweight	6%	8%	8%
Life Expectancy	76.2 years	75.6	77.6
Diabetes Prevalence	11%	11%	10%
HIV Prevalence	159 residents/100,000	223	387

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps - Community Conditions¹³

Putnam County, Indiana is performing above the state and national averages for Community Conditions. Some of the factors positively impacting the county's ranking include a lower rate of teen births (13 births/1,000 females age 15-19), a lower rate of drug overdose deaths (21 drug overdose deaths/100,000), and less new cases of chlamydia (265.4 new cases per 100,000) compared to the state and nation. Putnam County has rankings worse than the state and nation, including less access to primary care physicians (3,730:1), less access to dentists (2,210), less access to mental health providers (820:1), less access to broadband (86%) and higher smoking rates (19%) compared to the state and nation.



Metric	Putnam	State	US	Metric	Putnam	State	US
Adult Smoking	19%	17%	13%	Primary Care Physicians	3,730:1	1,510:1	1,310:1
Adult Obesity	39%	38%	34%	Dentists	2,210:1	1,650:1	1,340:1
Sexually Transmitted Infections	265.4 new cases of chlamydia/100,000	495.2	495.0	Mental Health Providers	820:1	440:1	290:1
Teen Births age 15-19	13 births/1,000 females	19	16	Mammogram Screenings	45%	47%	44%
Food Insecurity	13%	14%	14%	Air Pollution - Particulate Matter	8.9 µg/cubic meter	8.6	7.3
Drug Overdose Deaths	21 drug overdose deaths /100,000	38	32	30+ Minute Commute	42%	32%	37%
Injury Deaths*	88 deaths /100,000	96	87	Broadband Access	86%	88%	90%

*Homicides, suicides, car crashes, poisonings

CLINICAL HEALTH INDICATORS

Clinical Care¹⁷

Putnam County is identified as a Health Professional Shortage Area ([HPSA](#)) in the areas of Primary Care, Dental Health, and Mental Health. HPSA's are designated by type which can include geographic, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), and others. HPSA's are scored from 0 - 26, with 26 being the area of highest need.

Discipline	HPSA Name (Designation Type) - Score
Primary Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putnam County (Geographic HPSA) - 9 • Putnamville Correctional Facility (Correctional Facility) - 12 • Grace Clinic: Hamilton Center Inc, (Federally Qualified Health Center Look-alike) - 17
Dental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putnamville Correctional Facility (Correctional Facility) - 6 • Grace Clinic: Hamilton Center Inc, (Federally Qualified Health Center Look-alike) - 25
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putnamville Correctional Facility (Correctional Facility) - 12 • Grace Clinic: Hamilton Center Inc, (Federally Qualified Health Center Look-alike) - 17



Maternal, Infant, & Child Health¹⁸

The number one health indicator in the world is infant mortality, which is the death of a baby before their first birthday. Putnam County's infant mortality rate (IMR) from 2020-2024 was **4.5 deaths** per 1,000 live births, which is lower than Indiana's 2020-2024 IMR of 6.7 per 1,000 live births and the United States IMR (5.6 per 1,000 live births).

Metric (2024)	Putnam	State	US
Low Birthweight	4.1%*	8.5%	8.6%
Preterm	6.7%	10.9%	10.4%
No Early Prenatal Care (1st Trimester)	13.4%	27.3%	23.9%
Not Breastfeeding	16.5%	15.6%	15.2%
Mother on Medicaid	29.4%	40.4%	41.5%
Infant Mortality Rate	4.5*	6.7	5.6

*Unstable

Putnam County has limited access to physicians that provide clinical care for women and infants, such as obstetricians/gynecologists, and pediatricians.¹⁹

Provider	Patient Provider Ratio
Obstetrics/Gynecology	17,114
Pediatrics	No reported provider FTE

Mental & Behavioral Health

Putnam County adults reported **5.6 poor mental health days** (out of the previous 30 days) compared to 5.5 in Indiana and 5.1 nationally. Putnam County reported **19%** of adults experienced **frequent mental distress** for 14+ days out of the previous 30 days, which is higher than Indiana (18%) and the nation (16%).¹³

Metric	Putnam	State
Frequent Suicide Ideation per 100,000 ²¹	42.6	50.1
Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injury Deaths per 100,000 ¹³	27.7	15.8

Compared to the state, Putnam County has limited access to mental health care providers. The table below lists the Patient Provider Ratios for mental health counselors and social workers.²⁰

Provider	Putnam	State
Mental Health Counselors	4,766	339
Social Workers	2,852	156

The following mental health data from Mental Health America (MHA) was collected from MHA screening from January 2020 through September 2025. It should be noted that data may be updated and changed if MHA adds additional months.²¹

The number of people who were identified as having severe depression via the PHQ-9 Mental Health screening tool in Putnam County was 49.1 per 100,000. This is higher than Indiana's rate of 35.1.²¹ Putnam County's trauma survivors per 100,000 of the county's population is 101.8, which is higher than Indiana's trauma survivor rate of 90.9 per 100,000.²¹ Putnam County's number of people scoring positive for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) per 100,000 of the county's population is 25.8, which is higher than Indiana's positive PTSD rate of 22.2 per 100,000 of the state's population.²¹

Substance Use²²

According to the Next Level Recovery Data Dashboard from the Indiana Commission to Combat Substance Use Disorder, there were 2,221 deaths from all drug overdoses in Indiana in 2023, with an age-adjusted rate of 33.8. Putnam County had **7 deaths** from any drug in 2023, with an age-adjusted rate of **20.9 deaths** per 100,000. Putnam County has two state programs offered for substance use response: First Responder Naloxone and LHD Naloxone. The following table reflects Putnam County’s metrics related to substance use.

Metric	Putnam	State
Emergency Department visits due to any drug per 100,000 (2022)	216.0	256.9
Hospitalizations due to any drug overdose per 100,000 (2022)	56.1	81.5
Drug arrests per 10,000 residents (2025)	52	67
Opioid analgesics prescriptions per 1,000 residents (2025)	576.1	540
Naloxone rate per 10,000 residents (2025)	7.1	17.3

Putnam County has limited access to behavioral health professionals.²⁰

Provider	Patient Provider Ratio
Addiction Counselors	No Reported Provider
Clinical Addiction Counselors	No Reported Provider

Chronic Disease

Putnam County’s chronic disease metrics are worse than Indiana’s averages for heart disease deaths, Type II Diabetes diagnosis, and deaths due to hypertensive disorders.

Metric	Putnam	State
Heart disease deaths per 100,000, 35+ years old ²⁵	417	361
Stroke Deaths per 100,000, 35+ years old ²⁵	78	83
Type II Diabetes ²⁶	13.7%	11.5%
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) ^{23,24}	7.8%	8.1%
Hypertensive disorder deaths per 100,000 (2018-2024) ²⁷	36.6	34.7

Cancer²⁸

Putnam County has higher than the state’s new cancer rates for all cancers, lung and bronchus, and kidney and renal cancers. Putnam County also has a cancer death rate that is statistically significantly higher than the state.

Metric per 100,000 (2018-2022)	Putnam	State
New Cancers	490.8	466.8
Cancer Deaths	197.9*	162.6
New Lung and Bronchus Cancers	76.0	66.8
New Colorectal Cancers	38.6	42.1
New Kidney and Renal Cancers	23.7	19.7

*Rate is statistically significantly higher or lower than the state rate (p<0.05).

HOSPITAL DISCHARGE & PAYER MIX

Most Common Diagnoses

Putnam County Hospital generated a report for the most common diagnoses for inpatient and outpatient discharges from January 1 - December 31, 2025. The diagnoses are prioritized by the top ten most common diagnoses, ranked from the most common diagnosis, and the Medicare and Medicaid Payer Mix are included below.

Outpatient Diagnosis	Medicare & Medicaid Payer Mix	Inpatient Diagnosis	Medicare & Medicaid Payer Mix
Z00.129 - Routine Child Health Examination without Abnormal Findings	55.3%	I10 - Essential (Primary) Hypertension	62.9%
I10 - Essential (Primary) Hypertension	64.7%	Z1231 - Encounter for Screening Mammogram for Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	52.3%
Z23 - Encounter for Immunization	41.5%	M5450 - Low Back Pain, Unspecified	61.3%
E11.9 - Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Without Complications	60.0%	E119 - Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Without Complications	69.7%
Z00.00 - General Adult Medical Examination (Annual Physical) without Abnormal Findings	48.0%	E785 - Hyperlipidemia, Unspecified	66.3%
J02.9 - Acute Pharyngitis, Unspecified	39.7%	R300 - Dysuria	63.6%
R05.9 - Cough, Unspecified	47.4%	D649 - Anemia, Unspecified	75.9%
J06.9 - Acute Upper Respiratory Infection, Unspecified	52.1%	Z139 - Encounter for Screening, Unspecified	20.5%
R30.0 - Dysuria	52.4%	E039 - Unspecified Hypothyroidism	61.3%
F41.9 - Unspecified Anxiety Disorder	48.2%	Z5181 - Encounter for Therapeutic Drug Level Monitoring	56.4%

Note - It is important to understand the key characteristics of Putnam County's population including low-income, disabled, and senior populations. Population trends help provide an indication of patterns, needs, and outcomes within residents of the community.

EXISTING HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

Local Agencies, Facilities, and Pharmacies

Putnam County Hospital updated a list of currently available healthcare agencies, facilities, and pharmacies in Putnam County. This list includes the Critical Access Hospital, physicians' offices and clinics, specialty clinics, county health department, dentists, nursing facilities, community organizations, and more. PCH can utilize the list when creating its action plan to fully incorporate all available resources. See Appendix C for a complete listing of the locations.

Anytime Fitness - Greencastle	Mental Health America of West Central Indiana
B&C Home Services	North Putnam Community Schools
Banner Graphic	Dr. Perry A. Wainman, DDS
Beyond Homeless, Inc.	Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program
Cloverdale Community Schools	Putnam County Board of Health
Cloverdale Drug	Putnam County Community Foundation
Crossroads Care Pharmacy	Putnam County Council
Cummins Behavioral Health Systems, Inc.	Putnam County EMS
DePauw University	Putnam County Hospice and Palliative Care Association
Greencastle Community School Corporation	Putnam County Hospital
Gobin Church	Putnam County Jail
Greencastle Fire Department	Putnam County Sheriff's Office
Hamilton Center - Greencastle	Roachdale Police Department/Fire Department/PMH
Hendricks Regional Health	South Putnam School Corporation
Hometown Dental	Vantage Point Consulting
Indiana Department of Health	The Warehouse - Greencastle
Indiana Health Information Exchange	West Central Solid Waste District
Indiana University School of Medicine	YMCA
Kirsch Family Dental	
Ivy Tech Community College	
LNS Psychological Services, LLC	



IDENTIFYING HEALTH & SERVICE NEEDS

Survey²⁹

The Putnam County Health Department (PCHD) collaborated with community agencies to disseminate a community partner survey and a community health experience survey. Both surveys were distributed during in-person events, virtually through websites, email listservs, and social media platforms. Additional methods of distribution included using local newspapers, radio, and mailings, as well as QR codes located on flyers at clinics and community events.

The community partner survey was distributed to community-based organizations to collect perceptions of community health and issues prevalent across Putnam County. This survey was available to community-based organizations from April 22, 2025 through June 30, 2025, and included seven main questions, offered in both English and Spanish. The survey asked respondents to rate the biggest ongoing health concerns for the people they serve, top resources needed for people they serve, health screenings or education needed to keep people healthy, where health information comes from in the community, major health challenges, and demographic information. A total of 28 responses were collected for the community partner survey.

The community health experience survey was distributed to community members across Putnam County to collect perceptions of community needs, barriers, and issues regarding pertinent health issues. This survey was available to community members from April 22, 2025 through July 31, 2025, and included 26 main questions, offered in both English and Spanish. Survey respondents were asked to identify the top health concerns, barriers to care, greatest needs, top resources needed, location where health information is received, major health challenges, and demographic information. A total of 631 responses were collected for the community health experience survey.

More information regarding the PCHD's Community Health Assessment can be found here: <https://www.in.gov/localhealth/putnamcounty/files/PutnamCommunityHealthAssessment2025.pdf>.



Focus Group

A focus group comprised of Putnam County representatives was organized with the help of the Putnam County Hospital's Director of Marketing & Community Relations, Brooke Trissel and VP of Human Resources, Erin Mullin. Community leaders, a county health department representative, business owners, local officials, healthcare providers, minority leaders/representatives, and any other interested parties were invited to attend the meetings to discuss the health-related needs of the county with the intent to identify areas of greatest concern. Appendix A includes the complete list of all meeting attendees, along with the organizations they represent.

The focus group was encouraged to brainstorm the top priorities identified from the PCHD's Community Health Assessment and others in two categories for Putnam County: Challenges and Strengths. The top strengths and challenges are below in alphabetical order. See Appendix A for the complete attendee list and list of areas determined to be the greatest strengths and needs in Putnam County.

Strengths

- Community Assets
 - Fitness Facilities
 - Non-Profits
 - Senior Center
- Mental Health Officer at Sheriff's Department
- Putnam Cares Coalition

Challenges

- High Costs
 - Health
 - Living
 - Resources in county
- Transportation
 - Inter-Facility
 - Out-of-County Primary Care Provider Access
 - Skilled Nursing Facilities



Priorities

The top priorities were identified utilizing the PCH focus group and PCHD's health needs surveys. The PCHD's priority issues were selected based on magnitude of the issue, trend, disparity, community concern, feasibility, and alignment with the state's priorities. The PCH focus group ranked the top challenges and identified two priority sub-areas, both of which fall under Access to Care. It is important to note that Transportation is found in the Access to Care topic area in the PCHD Community Needs Assessment. The following boxes below include the priority list and a sampling of quotes from the focus group by topic.

Putnam County's Top Priorities

- Mental Health & Suicide Prevention
- Trauma & Injury Prevention
- Chronic Disease Prevention & Management
- Maternal & Child Health
- Access to Care
 - Transportation
 - Cost [Healthcare, Living, Community Resources]



Access to Care

"We do not have great internet services across our county, so telehealth can be an issue with the areas that are lacking..."

"We only have a women's homeless shelter, we have no men's shelter."

"Healthcare has changed, people have lost their healthcare."

"We'll get questions about where do I go for specialists, not just primary care..where's the endocrinologist, where's the oncologist, where are these different facilities?"

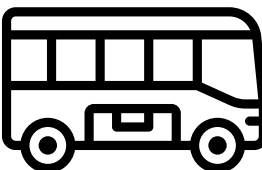


Cost

"Healthcare cost is always an issue."

"We have a lot of things available in our community, but there are costs... we find that the cost is prohibited... we have families we work with that they could take their children to the park pool, but they can't afford the admission."

"Cost should be in all capital..not just healthcare costs, everything, even if your kids want to be in a sport, you have to have money. A lot of kids are missing out."



Transportation

"The people that have transportation issues are also the same people that have internet issues, that have housing issues and all of the above."

"We can typically get patients to the hospital here because we do have a transportation system here, it's hard to get patients to other counties to receive specialist care back and forth to the skilled nursing facilities."

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Based on the information gathered as part of the Community Health Needs Assessment and the Putnam County Health Department's Community Health Assessment, the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) has identified the areas of greatest need in Putnam County. Through the collection of health data and community input on the county's strengths and challenges, IRHA has identified **seven** areas of the highest importance.

Opportunities

Based on the findings of this assessment, IRHA presents the following opportunities for each priority. Putnam County Hospital may use these suggestions to develop an effective action plan to target identified needs.

Mental Health & Suicide



- Evaluate Zero Suicide Framework, which includes staff training and evidence-based protocols to reduce suicides throughout Putnam County.
- Collaborate with local and regional mental health providers and agencies to create safety plans to identify coping strategies and support systems, provide counseling to patients to reduce access to lethal means, and create seamless referrals and care coordination to mental health services.
- Consider standardized screenings and risk assessments for all patients over 12 years old.
- Establish and/or integrate a mobile crisis team to provide immediate on-site care and divert patients from emergency departments.
- Modify EHR to provide real-time notification of suicide risk and to flag patients for standardized screenings and risk assessments.

Trauma & Injury Prevention



- Utilize local injury data to identify high-risk areas, which will allow for creation of local educational programming efforts.
- Launch initiatives that target local injury trends by identifying common injuries and collaborating with other community organizations to offer educational programs in schools, community centers, clinics, or work places.
- Implement Falls Prevention initiatives such as, patient alarms, bedside assessments, and patient education, especially in senior populations.
- Target high-risk behaviors found in the Emergency Department through situations such as, alcohol abuse, workplace injuries, and mental health.
- Adopt Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) across the healthcare system to assist in treating psychological effects of trauma.

Chronic Disease Prevention & Management



- Enhance patient digital health through adopting remote patient monitoring (RPM), including telehealth platforms, wearable devices, or AI-driven predictive models to track patient health in real-time.
- Leverage data and referrals into strategy through local chronic disease data to inform community health initiatives and integrate into the hospital's community health improvement plan.
- Utilize Indiana Department of Health's Telehealth Diabetes Self-Management Education & Support [<https://www.in.gov/health/cdpc/diabetes/>].
- Complete the University of Southern Indiana's Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, which trains healthcare and supportive care workforces to improve health outcomes for seniors [<https://www.usi.edu/health/bronstein-center-for-healthy-aging-and-wellness/geriatrics-workforce-enhancement-program>].
- Partner with community organizations, such as Purdue Extension to represent the healthcare sector, on a coalition.

Maternal & Child Health



- Consider tele-obstetrics to connect patients with Obstetricians or Maternal Fetal Medicine specialists.
- Integrate maternal mental health services through enhancing screening, treatment, and referrals for perinatal mental health disorders.
- Utilize the Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program for women who have Medicaid and are/have been impacted by substance use disorders.
- Review maternal and infant health metrics regularly to identify trends and gaps in care and ensure equitable maternal and infant health care.
- Support workforce development opportunities such as, trainings and certifications for midwives, doulas, and Women's Health Nurse Practitioner.

Access to Care



- Increase marketing efforts for specialists available at Putnam County Hospital or in Putnam County through another healthcare facility.
- Utilize or evaluate new Telehealth Access Points (TAPs), such as libraries, community centers, or clinics that are already equipped with high-speed internet, for community residents to access a telehealth appointment with non-local specialists.
- Utilize organizations with insurance navigators who help the uninsured explore options including public assistance such as [Indiana Healthy Families Alliance](#).
- Collaborate with [My Wellness Putnam County](#) to provide basic healthcare services for employees of participating companies.
- Host informational sessions on healthcare insurance options for the community. Utilize your Patient Financial Services (PFS), Insurance Navigator Officers, Billing Office, and select community organizations to lead these events to share options and information regarding benefit updates with community residents.

Cost



- Discuss options with the medical staff and financial executives to explore discounted fee models.
- Identify the organizations that employ the underinsured and explore mutually beneficial pricing models that help the patients but do not financially harm any of the parties.
- Optimize operational workflows through mapping of current processes, engaging frontline staff, and leveraging technology, and standardizing practices.
- Monitor key performance indicators (KPIs) to track process towards strategic goals, identify areas of improvement, and make data-driven decisions.
- Establish relationships with community-based organizations to assist in implementing programs and services that address social drivers of health (SDOH), community conditions, and expand access to primary and preventive care.

Transportation



- Consider implementing increased transportation options for Putnam County residents to be taken to specialists in nearby communities.
- Transportation Services for Seniors & the Disabled through the [Indiana Care Planning Council](#).
- Utilize [Indiana 211](#) to locate transportation services.
- Organize neighborhood volunteer “Ride Share” program to organize localized solutions to assist with transportation needs for non-emergency medical appointments.
- Consider participating in a Medical Operations Coordination Center (MOCC) to help manage patient transfers and hospital load balancing for specialized care.

CONCLUSION

The IRHA has worked with the team at Putnam County Hospital in various capacities for many years and highly respects its contributions to the health needs of the residents in Putnam County and beyond. Growth and improvement in any area of need begins with education and collaboration. Communities must join together and align the resources of their organizations and members to address areas of need and explore opportunities.

PCH has a unique opportunity to strengthen its commitment to meet the healthcare needs of Putnam County residents by focusing efforts on the data presented in this document. By identifying priorities and focusing community efforts to mitigate barriers and enhance opportunities, PCH can create strong partnerships to increase health and physical activity, decrease the prevalence of chronic disease, increase mental health services, and help families and residents increase their quality of life.

These efforts can become even more successful by the marketing of available resources and programs to PCH's target population, as well as evaluating different methods to reach them.

PCH has earned the trust and respect of many local residents. Through a focused effort involving collaboration with hospital leadership and other community stakeholders to improve health outcomes, lives will be changed. This can be leveraged by providers, local businesses, and community service organizations to explore the suggestions and other ideas to enhance the quality of life for Putnam County residents.

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Appendix A

Focus Group Materials

Putnam County Focus Group Comments

3/17/26

Putnam County Health Department – Survey-Identified Priorities

1. Mental Health & Suicide Prevention
2. Trauma & Injury Prevention
3. Chronic Disease Prevention & Management
4. Maternal & Child Health
5. Access to Care

Attendee Comments – Priorities are highlighted

Challenges

Transportation – especially between facilities; Skilled Nursing Facilities; out-of-county
Primary Care Provider access

Work-related health care – Prompt Care is not excused; providers may not take employer
insurance

Substance Use Disorder rehabilitation services lacking

Men's shelter – homelessness

High cost of health, living, resources in county

Food insecurity

Workforce – recruiting and retaining

Internet access

Change to benefits, social safety net programs

Lack of specialists

Marketing of existing specialists

Insurance education and navigation

Dialysis

Cost of existing facilities and activities in the county

Affordable/low-income housing

Stigma – Mental Health; SUD; asking for any kind of help

Bias against existing local services/providers

Strengths

Prompt Care and Occupational Health at the YMCA
YMCA

MyWellness

Mental Health Officer at Sheriff's Department

Walking trails

Parks

Non-profit network

Putnam Cares Coalition

Growing Green & Gold housing initiative

Cummins Behavioral Health

Senior Center

Telehealth in schools (acute visits)

School fitness facilities

Arts & culture in community

Mobile Integrated Health through EMS

Community Assets – senior center; fitness facilities; non-profits

Engaged community members

Chamber of Commerce

Appendix B

Survey



Community health assessment survey

Please complete this survey about important health issues in your community. Together, your local healthcare providers and Putnam County Health Department will use the results of this survey and other information to help identify health programs in your community. **Please complete only one survey per adult age 18 years or older.** Your survey responses are anonymous. **Thank you for your participation.**

ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

1. What are the biggest ongoing health concerns in the community where you live? (Please check up to three.)

- Access to vaccinations
- Asthma/lung disease
- Cancer
- Care for the elderly
- Child health and wellness
- Diabetes
- Environmental hazards (water, pollution, air, etc.)
- Falls among the elderly
- Heart disease and stroke
- Infections
- HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections
- Memory loss
- Mental health (e.g., depression/suicide)
- Nutrition/eating habits
- Obesity/weight loss issues
- Premature births
- Preventable injuries
 - car crashes
 - pedestrian injuries
 - other (please specify) _____
- Safety
- Smoking/tobacco use
- Substance misuse (drugs and/or alcohol)
- Teen pregnancy
- Violence
 - in the home or between partners
 - guns
 - murder
 - rape
 - other (please specify) _____
- Vaccine-preventable diseases
- Women’s health and wellness (including maternal health)
- Other (please specify) _____

2. What are the biggest ongoing health concerns for you and your family? (Please check up to three.)

- Asthma/lung disease
- Cancer
- Child health and wellness
- Diabetes
- Environmental hazards (water, pollution, air, etc.)
- Heart disease and stroke
- HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections
- Mental health (e.g., depression/suicide)
- Obesity/weight loss issues
- Safety
 - in the home or between partners
 - guns
 - murder
 - rape
 - other (please specify) _____
- Women’s health and wellness (including maternal health)
- Other (please specify) _____

3. In five years from now, do you think the health and wellness in your community will be:

- Better
- About the same
- Worse

4. What prevents you and your family from getting medical treatment? (Please check up to three.)

- Cultural/religious beliefs
- Don’t know how to find doctors
- Misinformation/lack of health literacy
- Fear/hesitancy (e.g., not ready to face health problem, immigration status)

(Question 4 continued on next page)

- Lack of available doctors
- Language barriers
- No insurance and unable to pay for care
- Transportation
- Unable to pay copays/deductibles
- Other *(please specify)* _____

5. Which of the following is most needed to improve the health of your community? *(Please check up to three.)*

- Access to healthier food
- Affordable housing
- Investments in schools
- Breastfeeding
- Clean air and water
- Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services
- Farmers markets
- Health education programs
- Health screenings
- Home care options
- Insurance enrollment programs
- Job opportunities
- Mental health services
- More grocery stores
- Parks and recreation
- Safer childcare options
- Safer places to walk/play
- Safer workplace
- Smoking cessation programs
- Transportation
- Weight loss programs
- Other *(please specify)* _____

6. What health screenings or education/information services are needed in your community? *(Please check up to three.)*

- Air and water quality
- Antibiotic resistance
- Blood pressure
- Breastfeeding
- Cancer
- Cholesterol
- Chronic disease management
- CPR training
- Dental screenings
- Diabetes
- Disease outbreak prevention
- Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services
- Eating disorders
- Emergency preparedness

- Environments to promote physical activity
- Exercise/physical activity
- Falls prevention for the elderly
- Food security
- Heart disease and stroke
- Hepatitis C virus
- HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections
- Memory loss
- Mental health/depression
- Nutrition
- Other environmental toxins
- Pedestrian/cyclist safety
- Prenatal care
- Routine wellness checkups
- Smoking cessation
- Substance misuse
- Suicide prevention
- Vaccinations/immunizations
- Violence prevention
- Weight loss programs
- Other *(please specify)* _____

7. Where do you and your family get most of your health information? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Doctor/healthcare provider
- Family or friends
- Health department
- Hospital
- Internet
- Library
- Newspaper/magazines
- Radio
- Religious organization
- Social media (e.g., Facebook, X, etc.)
- School or college
- Television
- Worksite
- Other *(please specify)* _____

8. In your own words, what are the major health challenges in your community?

9. In your own words, what are your most significant health challenges?

10. How would you rate your own health?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

11. I identify as:

- Woman
- Man
- Transgender
- Non-binary/non-conforming
- Prefer not to respond

12. What is your age?

- 18 - 24 years
- 25 - 34 years
- 35 - 44 years
- 45 - 54 years
- 55 - 64 years
- 65+ years
- Prefer not to respond

13. ZIP code where you live: _____

14. Town where you live:

15. Where did you spend the majority of your childhood?

- Urban city
- Suburban
- Small town
- Rural area (not on a reservation)
- Reservation
- Prefer not to respond

16. Where do you currently reside?

- Urban city
- Suburban

- Small town
- Rural area (not on a reservation)
- Prefer not to respond

17. What race do you consider yourself?

- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Other race _____
- Two or more races
- Prefer not to respond

18. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Not Hispanic or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino
- Unknown
- Prefer not to respond

19. What language do you speak when you are at home?

(Please check all that apply.)

- English
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Prefer not to respond
- Other *(please specify)* _____

20. What is your annual household income from all sources?

- \$0 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$124,999
- \$125,000 to \$249,999
- Over \$250,000
- Prefer not to respond

21. What is your highest level of education?

- K-8 grade
- Technical school
- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college
- College graduate
- Graduate school
- Doctorate
- Prefer not to respond
- Other *(please specify)* _____

22. What is your current employment status?

- Employed for wages
- DePauw student
- Student
- Military
- Self-employed
- Retired
- Out of work, looking for work
- Out of work, but not currently looking
- Out of work, unable to work
- Prefer not to respond

23. Are you a veteran?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to respond

24. Do you currently have health insurance?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to respond

25. What type of insurance do you have? (Please check all that apply.)

- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Insured through employer (including coverage under a spouse)
- Purchase my own insurance
- No insurance
- Other (please specify) _____

26. Do you have reliable internet access in your home?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to respond



Community-based organization survey

Please complete this survey about important health issues in the community you serve. Together, local healthcare providers and Putnam County Health Department will use the results of this survey and other information to help identify health programs in your community. **Your survey responses are anonymous. Thank you for your participation.**

ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

1. What are the biggest health problems for the people/ community you serve? *(Please check up to three.)*

- Access to vaccinations
- Asthma/lung disease
- Cancer
- Care for the elderly
- Child health and wellness
- Diabetes
- Environmental hazards (water, pollution, air, etc.)
- Falls among the elderly
- Heart disease and stroke
- Infections
- HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections
- Memory loss
- Mental health (e.g., depression/suicide)
- Nutrition/eating habits
- Obesity/weight loss issues
- Premature births
- Preventable injuries
 - car crashes
 - pedestrian injuries
 - other *(please specify)* _____
- Safety
- Smoking/tobacco use
- Substance misuse (drugs and/or alcohol)
- Teen pregnancy
- Violence
 - in the home or between partners
 - guns
 - murder
 - rape
 - other *(please specify)* _____
- Vaccine-preventable diseases
- Women’s health and wellness *(including maternal health)*
- Other *(please specify)* _____

2. What would be most helpful to improve the health of the people/community you serve?

(Please check up to three.)

- Access to healthier food
- Affordable housing
- Investments in schools
- Breastfeeding
- Clean air and water
- Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services
- Farmers markets
- Health education programs
- Health screenings
- Home care options
- Insurance enrollment programs
- Job opportunities
- Mental health services
- More grocery stores
- Parks and recreation
- Safer childcare options
- Safer places to walk/play
- Safer workplace
- Smoking cessation programs
- Transportation
- Weight loss programs
- Other *(please specify)* _____

3. Do any people/communities you serve have problems getting needed healthcare?

- Yes *(if “yes,” please answer question #4)*
- No

4. If you answered “yes” to question #3, what do you think the reasons are? (Please check up to three.)

- Cultural/religious beliefs
- Don't know how to find doctors
- Misinformation/lack of health literacy
- Fear/hesitancy (e.g., not ready to face health problem; immigration status)
- Lack of available doctors
- Language barriers
- No insurance and unable to pay for care
- Transportation
- Unable to pay copays/deductibles
- Other (please specify) _____

5. What health screenings and/or education/information services are needed to keep people healthy in the community you serve? (Please check up to three.)

- Air and water quality
- Antibiotic resistance
- Blood pressure
- Breastfeeding
- Cancer
- Cholesterol
- Chronic disease management
- CPR training
- Dental screenings
- Diabetes
- Disease outbreak prevention
- Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services
- Eating disorders
- Emergency preparedness
- Environments to promote physical activity
- Exercise/physical activity
- Falls prevention for the elderly
- Food security
- Heart disease and stroke
- Hepatitis C virus
- HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections
- Memory loss
- Mental health/depression
- Nutrition
- Other environmental toxins
- Pedestrian/cyclist safety
- Prenatal care
- Routine wellness checkups

- Smoking cessation
- Substance misuse
- Suicide prevention
- Vaccinations/immunizations
- Violence prevention
- Weight loss programs
- Other (please specify) _____

6. Where do the people/community you provide care to get most of their health information?

(Please check all that apply.)

- Doctor/healthcare provider
- Family or friends
- Health department
- Hospital
- Internet
- Library
- Newspaper/magazines
- Radio
- Religious organization
- School or college
- Social media (e.g., Facebook, X, etc.)
- Television
- Worksite
- Other (please specify) _____

7. In your own words, what are the major health challenges facing the community you serve?

8. How would you rate the health of the people/ community you serve?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

YOUR DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Your organization

Your title

ZIP code that you primarily serve: _____

Town that you primarily serve: _____

Where did you receive this survey? _____

Which of these groups is part of the population/
community you serve?

- Woman
- Man
- Transgender
- Non-binary/non-conforming
- Prefer not to respond

Which race(s) are part of the population/
community you serve?

- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Other race _____
- Two or more races

Which ethnicity/ethnicities are part of the population/
community you serve?

- Not Hispanic or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino
- Unknown

What is the age range of the population/community
you primarily serve?

- Under 18
- 18 - 24 years
- 25 - 34 years
- 35 - 44 years
- 45 - 54 years
- 55 - 64 years
- 65+ years

Which sector does your organization most accurately
represent?

- Anti-poverty/homelessness
- Childcare
- Disability
- Education
- Food insecurity/nutrition
- Healthcare
- Immigration/refugees
- Mental health/substance misuse
- Social justice
- Transportation
- Other (*please specify*) _____

Appendix C

Existing Resources

Existing Healthcare Resources – Putnam County 2026

B&C Home Services

Banner Graphic

Beyond Homeless, Inc.

Cloverdale Community Schools

Cummins Behavioral Health Systems, Inc.

DePauw University

Greencastle Community School Corporation

Gobin Church

Greencastle Fire Department

Hendricks Regional Health

Indiana Department of Health

Indiana Health Information Exchange

Indiana University School of Medicine

Ivy Tech Community College

LNS Psychological Services, LLC

Mental Health America of West Central Indiana

North Putnam Community Schools

Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program

Putnam County Board of Health

Putnam County Community Foundation

Putnam County Council

Putnam County EMS

Putnam County Hospice and Palliative Care Association

Putnam County Hospital

Putnam County Jail

Putnam County Sheriff's Office

Existing Healthcare Resources – Putnam County 2026

Roachdale Police Department/Fire Department/PMH

South Putnam School Corporation

Vantage Point Consulting

West Central Solid Waste District

YMCA

Pharmacies

Cloverdale Drug

Crossroads Care Pharmacy

Oral Health

Hometown Dental

Kirsch Family Dental

Dr Perry A Wainman, DDS

Fitness Centers

The Warehouse-Greencastle

Anytime Fitness Greencastle

Hamilton Center- Greencastle