Fulmont community Action
Helping People. Changing Lives.

2020 Community Needs Assessment

Our mission is to improve and expand human services and programs in order to promote self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life of the socially and economically disadvantaged, and provide services to promote economic efficiency and stability in Fulton, Montgomery and surrounding Counties.

FULTON COUNTY
Fulmont Community Action Agency

Race & Poverty
White	15.0% (7,486)
African American	31.0% (263)
Hispanic/Latino	27.9% (423)

VALUES REPRESENT THE PERCENT OF POPULATION IN POVERTY BY RACE.

Education & Poverty
Adult Population 25+: 37,984

Educational Attainment
No Degree	High School	Associate	Bachelors or Higher
12.4% (4,707)	35.5% (13,485)	34.2% (12,988)	17.9% (6,804)
Total*	Total*	Total*	Total*
28.5% (1,342)	13.9% (1,870)	9.6% (1,248)	3.5% (239)
Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty

*DUE TO ROUNDING, PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD UP PRECISELY TO 100%.

Employment & Poverty
Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child Household **$25.95**

Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apartment **$14.85**

Median Income **$34,735**

Median Income w/High School Diploma **$30,815**

Health & Poverty
No Health Insurance
Employed 8.9%
Unemployed 31.2%

Free/Reduced Lunch Program 68%

Gender & Poverty
High School Diploma Only
Median Earnings $36,314
Median Earnings $25,234

Of Those Families with Female Heads of Household and Children Present **44.8% Live in Poverty**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Fulmont Community Action Agency

Race & Poverty
White	17.1% (7,278)
African American	31.4% (292)
Hispanic/Latino	41.0% (2,738)

VALUES REPRESENT THE PERCENT OF POPULATION IN POVERTY BY RACE.

Education & Poverty
Adult Population 25+: 33,496

Educational Attainment
No Degree	High School	Associate	Bachelors or Higher
14.0% (4,694)	34.9% (11,676)	33.5% (11,218)	17.6% (5,908)
Total*	Total*	Total*	Total*
39.1% (1,833)	14.9% (1,738)	14.0% (1,567)	6.2% (368)
Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty

*DUE TO ROUNDING, PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD UP PRECISELY TO 100%.

Employment & Poverty
Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child Household **$26.05**

Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apartment **$15.15**

Median Income **$34,448**

Median Income w/High School Diploma **$30,957**

Health & Poverty
No Health Insurance
Employed 8.1%
Unemployed 17.2%

Free/Reduced Lunch Program 78%

Gender & Poverty
High School Diploma Only
Median Earnings $38,116
Median Earnings $21,115

Of Those Families with Female Heads of Household and Children Present **51.1% Live in Poverty**

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

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Fulmont Community Action Agency prepared this community needs assessment as part of its regular planning and reporting requirements under the Community Services Block Grant program and Head Start Program.

The focus of this assessment is to collect and analyze data and solicit input describing conditions faced by low and moderate income citizens and their advocates in Fulton and Montgomery County, New York and to identify actions that can be taken to positively address the conditions identified.

In addition to developing the Community Needs Assessment, Fulmont Community Action Agency has been engaged in an agency-wide, board-led strategic planning process to determine the best strategy to manage the new actions chosen for agency focus in the next five years. The strategic plan, summarized in Section IV of this assessment, identifies those goals that the Agency can take to positively address the conditions identified. -

This assessment helps to fulfill planning and evaluation requirements for FCAA and its Head Start Program. For FCAA the assessment considers the criteria identified in the CSBG Self-Assessment Tool provided by the New York State Department of State which includes the following strategies:

- The organization analyzes information collected directly from low-income individuals as part of the community assessment.
- The organization utilizes information gathered from key sectors of the community in assessing needs and resources, during the community assessment process or other times. These sectors include at minimum: community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, private sector, public sector, and educational institutions.
- The organization conducts a community assessment and issues a report every three years.
- As part of the community assessment, the organization collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).
- The organization collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.
- The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.
- The governing board formally accepts the completed community assessment.
- The organization's Community Action plan is outcome-based, anti-poverty focused, and ties directly to the community assessment.
- Customer satisfaction data and customer input, collected as part of the community assessment, is included in the strategic planning process.

For the Head Start Program, the guidance states:

Community wide strategic planning and needs assessment (community assessment):

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

   i. The number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool age children and expectant mothers, including the geographic location, race, ethnicity, and languages they speak, including:

      A. Children experiencing homelessness in collaboration with, to the extent possible, McKinney-Vento Local Agency Liaisons

      B. Children in foster care; and

      C. Children with disabilities, including the types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies,

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

   iii. Typical work, school, training schedules of parents with eligible children.

   iv. Other child development, childcare centers and family childcare programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local pre-schools and the approximate number of eligible children served.

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

   vi. strengths of the community.

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


https://www.facebook.com/Fulmont-Early-Childhood-Services-providing-Head-Start-UPK-programming-208241765997911

II. PROCESS TO COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENT

The planning process for the Community Needs Assessment began with a conference call in January 2020, between Fulmont executive staff members Anne Black and Marianne Suchocki and River Street Planning's Principal Margaret Irwin. River Street has completed numerous assessments for the agency and is familiar with the approach, contracting requirements, the timetable, opportunities for collaboration, the budget and public participation process. The COVID-19 epidemic was obviously not anticipated at the time of this discussion. Fulmont has included available data to the greatest degree possible. Similarly, the long-term impacts of the pandemic on our customers and families, as well as our staff and programs, is not fully known and response to these needs is expected to be very challenging.

Steps taken to produce the assessment included:

- Development of a Community Profile describing conditions in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.
- Focus groups on February 5, 2020 with Fulmont Employees and with Board members/Policy Board Members and Head Start Policy Board Members.
- Online and paper surveys with community partners and with consumers.
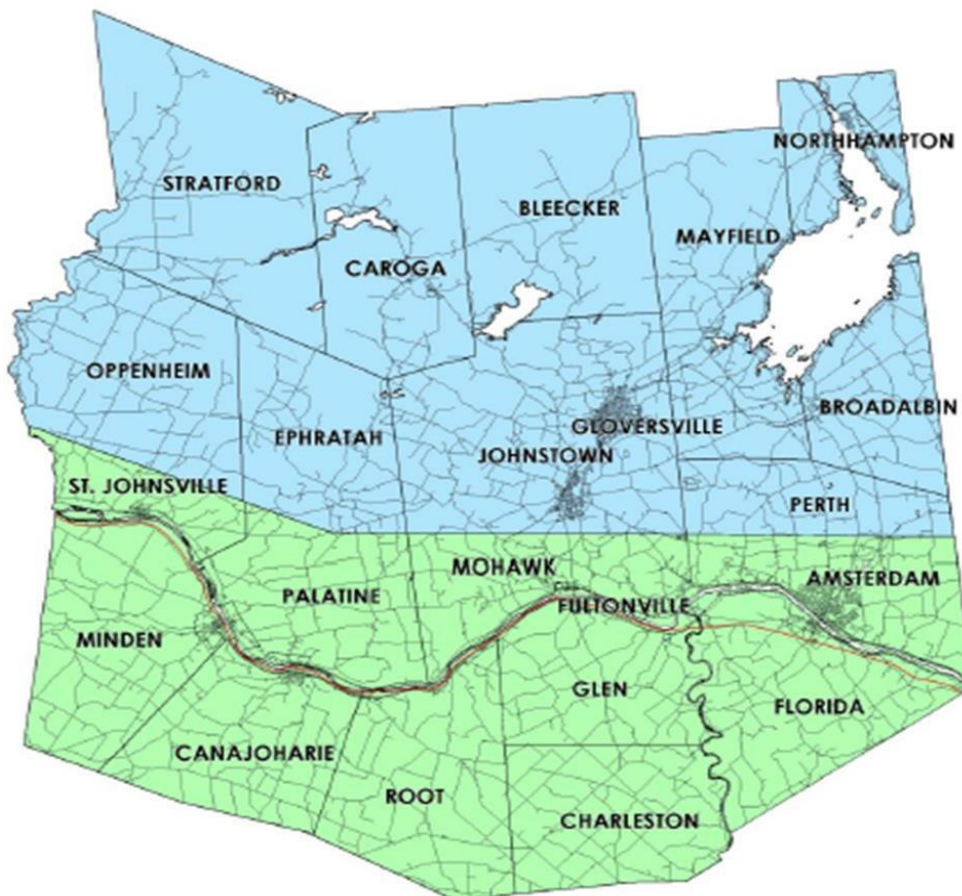
Source: 2017 FCAA Community Needs Assessment analysis.

III. COMMUNITY ISSUES OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Fulmont is preparing an evaluation of the experience, impact and needs of Fulton and Montgomery Counties related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It's expected that demand for services will increase, perhaps significantly. For purposes of this needs assessment it's important to note that many data sources (employers and schools, for example) either are not reporting or are experiencing closures and interruptions that interrupt long term trends, making comparison to past data impossible. The following is a summary of the key findings which the Fulmont Community Action Agency (FCAA) will build upon to improve the quality of life, the health of the community and competitive environment for consumers.

SUMMARY OF SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Population Changes
Fulton and Montgomery Counties, like other counties in New York State, are continuing to experience a slight decline in their population. According to the Cornell Program on Applied Demographics (PAD), the Fulton County population is projected to decline by 1.7% and Montgomery County population is projected to decline by 3.9% between 2020 and 2030. Combined, the two county populations are projected to decline by 5.3% between 2030 and 2040.

Aging Population Segments
The population of Fulton and Montgomery is aging. The median age in the counties combined is 42.6 (up from 41.9 in 2015). Both median ages have continued to rise, and the counties are older compared to the New York State median of 39 years. All age segments in Fulton County declined except for people ages 65 and over, which saw growth by over 5%. Montgomery County saw growth in age segments under 5 and 5-9 years old (1.9% and 7.5% respectively), as well as over 65 (3.7%). Both counties saw the greatest decline in ages 10-19, down by 7% on average. The impact, primarily in Fulton County, is a declining preschool and school age population as well as those in peak earning years.

Population by Race
Both counties are seeing noticeable growth in a range of populations by race. In Fulton County, a significant increase was seen in the American Indian/Alaska Native population by 300%; followed by a 25% increase in Black or African American population and nearly 17% increase in 'Asian alone' population. Asian and Hispanic populations saw the most growth in Montgomery County since 2015 (15% and 11.4% respectively). The American Indian and Alaska Native population decreased by 50% in Montgomery County.

Housing Changes
The number of households in each county has remained relatively steady, while increases were seen in the number of total housing units (up 2.8%) and vacant units (up 4.7%) in the Fulmont area. Owner-occupied units comprise 70% of all households (up by 1.7%) and renter-occupied units make up 30.1$ (down by 1.7%) between 2015 and 2019.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing cost burden is measured by the percentage of gross income a family spends on rent or mortgage costs. The accepted benchmark is 30%. When people pay more than 30%, they are at risk of not covering other costs such as food, medicine, gas, utilities, and other needs. Approximately 31.3% of all owner-occupied units and 52.3% of renter-occupied units in the area are cost-burdened. Significant cost burden is impacting renters in Gloversville (60% of renters), in Johnstown (54.7%) and in Amsterdam (58.6%).

Single Parent Households

Since 2015, the number of households where parents are married, have never married, or are separated; and those with a single divorced parent or a divorced female have remained relatively steady (less than 5% change in all categories).

Grandparents as Caregivers

Fulton County has seen an increase in households headed by a grandparent living with (35.7%) and caring for (4.9%) school age children, while Montgomery County has seen a decline in grandparent-headed households since 2015 (down by 16.8%).

Children in Poverty

The 2020 threshold of poverty in the U.S. for a household with two adults and two children is $26,200. Children under 18 years make up approximately 22% of the population in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. In 2020, 8,119 people lived in poverty in Fulton County and 9,649 lived in poverty in Montgomery County, a 7% percent decrease from 2015. Approximately 5,650 are 17 years old or younger, including 1,541 children under five years of age; this means roughly 25% percent of all children in Fulmont are living in poverty.

In comparison with NYS' 61 counties, Fulton ranked 40th overall in the number of people living in poverty and 15th in the percentage of people in poverty. For Montgomery County, the situation was much worse: The County ranked 35th for the number of people living in poverty but 3rd overall for the percent of population living in poverty (19.93%) according to the New York State Community Action Association.

Food Insecurity

Households or individuals who worry about running out of food, having to reduce meal and nutritional content or size, skip a meal or go without eating are considered food insecure. Single parent households with low to very incomes are more likely to experience food insecurity. Over 30% of female heads of households with children under six years old and 26% of other households (including grandparents or complex living arrangement) experience food insecurities.

Health Insurance Coverage

Nearly 94% of the population have some form of health insurance in 2020 (increase of 6% from 2015).

Incomes are Rising

Overall, income is rising in both counties. The median income for the Fulmont Area of $48,042 has risen by 7% between 2015 and 2018. Approximately 21,500 households earn less than that amount. The mean income (or the average income) is $62,672 and has risen by 8.4% over the same period.

Workforce is Declining

Prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, the workforce in both Counties continued to gradually decline. The unemployment rate in May 2020 is reported by the NYS Department of Labor at 11% for both counties. The likelihood and level of long-term job, workforce and wage losses is unknown.

The makeup of jobs in the two counties has changed. Both counties saw growth in production and transportation sectors. While jobs in Fulton County increased in all other sectors, Montgomery County saw a decline in jobs related to natural resources & construction, sales and office and service. The private sector has grown its workforce by 2.6% in the region since 2015. Self-employment declined significantly in Montgomery County, though it saw small gains in Fulton. Government worker employment has declined by 7.6% since 2015 in the Fulmont area. Unpaid family workers decreased by almost 61% in Fulton County and increased by almost 84% in Montgomery County.

Place of Work and Commute

The number of workers commuting out of the Fulmont area for work has risen as they seek better paying employment. Among employed workers in Fulton and Montgomery counties, 44.6% work outside the county of their primary residence. Workers are commuting an average of 25 minutes to work, up 5.5% since 2015. Over 17% of the employed workers travel 30 to 45 minutes, and 18.5% travel 45 minutes or more. Approximately 47% of the workers travel less than 20 minutes to work. Despite being close to work, transportation instability is identified as a significant barrier to both work and education in survey and focus group results.

Wages

In the Fulmont area, the average wage has risen 31% from $25.59 in 2000 to $33.54 in 2014, across all sectors. The number of businesses has declined by 2.8% and the number of employees has declined by 7.4%. However, the total payrolls have increased by 17.6% over the same period. In May 2020, during the COVID 19 pandemic average hourly wage was reported at $20.60 reflecting the high unemployment rate (11%) in both counties.

Education and Job Training

Data on educational attainment reveal that an estimated 86.6% of residents over the age of 25 have a high school diploma. Only 17.7% of Fulton and Montgomery County residents have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 37.2% statewide, although this does represent an overall increase of almost 9% within Fulmont. There are six school districts in Fulton County and five school districts in Montgomery County and all currently offer pre-kindergarten classes. The shortage of workers with advanced degrees is a concern for economic development and business recruitment. Job training services are available to residents, but there is high demand and the neediest residents often face the greatest obstacles getting to training and school.

Health & Mental Health

Residents of Fulton and Montgomery County are well served by local hospitals, Public Health Departments and Departments of Social Services. In comparison to New York State, both counties continue to have a higher incidence of post neonatal deaths, lung cancer, cerebrovascular disease, obesity, unintentional injuries, and heart disease. Montgomery County has higher rates of infant deaths and teenage pregnancies in

comparison to Fulton County and New York State. A higher rate of children with disabilities in the counties requires enhanced services and an increased role for providers, including Head Start to provide specialized parenting support and service.

A total of 2,600+ Fulton and Montgomery residents participated in the WIC program in 2019. Of the 2,600+ participants served, 51.4% were children, 25.6% were infants, 9.4% were pregnant women, 19.2% were breastfeeding women, and 9% were postpartum women. Key issues identified include the need for pre-natal care for pregnant women, smoking cessation for pregnant women and parents, children at high risk for obesity, and lack of family dental care. WIC Staff are currently working to promote physical activity and portion control for children. The WIC program serves a significant number of Hispanic families, particularly in the Amsterdam site. While many recipients bring a translator to WIC appointments, and Fulmont Community Action bilingual staff who work in other departments who can help translate, bi-lingual staff are needed.

Disability Services

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, there are a total of 16,402 residents in Fulton and Montgomery Counties with a disability, a decrease of 18% since 2015. Approximately 9% of youth between the ages of 5 and 17 have a disability. The Early Intervention Program is a statewide program that provides many different types of early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families including 109 children in Montgomery County and 97 children in Fulton County.

Transportation Issues

The City of Gloversville Transit System and the City of Amsterdam Department of Transportation provide public transportation service Brown Coach provides chartered bus transportation to Downtown Albany and General Electric in Schenectady. Montgomery County Area Xpress (MAX) provides transportation within Montgomery County. The lack of affordable transportation was identified as a major impediment faced by low- and moderate-income residents in finding and keeping a job, accessing health care, remaining involved in their children's education, seeking job training, or even accessing social services. The lack of public transit and the cost of other means of transport (gas for cars and the cost of taxis) were identified as the core problems.

Children's Services

In Fulton County, there are currently eight licensed day care center with combined capacity of 361day care slots including a minimum of 7 infant, 31 toddler, 302 pre-school, and 21 school age; located in the Cities of Johnstown, Gloversville, and Broadalbin. There are nine licensed day care centers located in Montgomery County, most located in Amsterdam. These centers offer 797-day care slots including a minimum of 44 infant, 104 toddler, 567 pre-school, and 82 school age.

There is a total of 400 school-age slots available in School-Age Child Care Centers in Fulton County. The Mental Health Association in Fulton & Montgomery Counties SACC program in Gloversville has the largest capacity at 150. In comparison, there is one School-Age Child Care Center listed for Montgomery County, the Fonda-Fultonville AASP in Fonda with 160 school-age slots available.

Summary of Head Start Services and Needs

TABLE 1. ESTIMATED ELIGIBLE CHILDREN FOR HEAD START AND POTENTIAL EARLY HEAD START		
Location	Estimated Income Eligible Head Start Children Age 3-5	Estimated Income Eligible Early Head Start Children 0 -2
FULMONT	982	896
Fulton County	386	335
Montgomery County	596	561

- The Fulmont Community Action currently serves 285 children through the Head Start Program at sites located in Gloversville, Amsterdam, Canajoharie, Fort Plain and Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville school districts.

- The number of young children is declining across Fulton and Montgomery Counties, but there is growth in the 0-2 age segment in both counties (almost 9% combined). Montgomery County has seen growth in the age 5 group by 20.5% since 2015.

- In the 2018-2019 school year, there were 104 students experiencing homelessness in Fulton County and 241 in Montgomery County. This represents a decrease by over 10% in Fulton County and an increase of over 20% in Montgomery County since 2015.

- The number of students enrolled in universal pre-kindergarten programs has decreased from 830 enrolled students in 2016-2017 to 804 enrolled students in 2018-2019, according to the school districts.

https://www.facebook.com/Fulmont-Early-Childhood-Services-providing-Head-Start-UPK-programming-208241765997911

IV. INPUT TO THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

2020 Fulmont Partner Organization Survey

A survey was distributed by FCAA to partner organizations listed below both electronically and in hard copy. Input was received from the ten partners marked with an "*" as well as one anonymous survey taker:

- AARP/IRS Tax Aide Program
- Calvary Assembly of God Church
- Canajoharie Central School District
- **Catholic Charities of Fulton & Montgomery Counties ***
- Centro Civico
- City of Johnstown
- Empower Federal Credit Union
- First Congregational Church
- First Niagara Bank NA
- FMS Workforce Solutions
- Fort Plain School District
- Fulton County
- **Fulton County DSS ***
- Fulton County Health Department
- **Fulton County Office for the Aging ***
- Fulton Montgomery Community College
- Fulton Montgomery County Catholic Charities
- Fulton, Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Gloversville Community Development Agency
- Gloversville Enlarged School District
- Gloversville Senior Center
- Greater Amsterdam School District
- HFM Prevention Council
- JC Smith, Inc.
- **Johnstown School District ***

- Kenneth Israel Synagogue
- Lexington Center
- Mohawk Valley Population Health Improvement Program
- **Montgomery County ***
- Montgomery County United Way
- Montgomery County DSS
- Montgomery County Emergency Management/Services
- Montgomery County Public Health Department
- **Montgomery County Office for the Aging ***
- **Montgomery County Sheriff ***
- Nathan Littauer Hospital
- National Grid
- **NBT Bank ***
- OESJ School District
- Regional Food Bank
- Salvation Army, Fulton County
- Salvation Army, Montgomery County
- Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP)
- **St. Ann's Episcopal Church ***
- St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Sacred Heart
- St. Mary' s Hospital
- The Family Counseling Center
- **United Way of Fulton County ***
- United Way of Montgomery County

The 11 respondent organizations:

- Provide a variety of services including family services, advocacy, housing services, spiritual guidance, legal services, case management, nutrition services and education, senior transportation, counseling and dispute resolution, public education, caregiver services, law enforcement and emergency response.
- Employ anywhere from 4 to 250 employees.
- Serve a wide variety of people from all ages, income levels and ethnicities, including seniors, low-income and poor residents, students, and youth.

- Serve families (90%), the elderly (90%), children (80%), youth (80%), Latino community (70%) and disabled persons (70%) as targeted consumer groups.
- Do not typically provide housing for their consumers (78%).
- Do not typically provide employment opportunities to their consumers (63%).

Regarding FCAA services and locations respondents are:
- Most aware (91%) of Head Start, Community Services Emergency Funds, Emergency Food Pantry, FEMA rent/mortgage or utility assistance, HEAP assistance and WIC.
- Likely to refer consumers most often to Community Services Emergency Funds, Free Income Tax Preparation, Emergency Food Pantry, WIC and Universal PreK.
- Satisfied or very satisfied with all the FCAA programs of which they were aware and consider relevant to their own services.
- Referring consumers to FCAA Head Start within the past three years (63%), at locations in Amsterdam (50%), Canajoharie (38%), Fort Plain (38%), Gloversville (38%) and Johnstown (13%).

Community Resources & Actions

- **Leadership and Identity**: Respondents rate grassroots community leadership, active non-profit organizations, cooperation to achieve common goals, public/private partnerships, positive community identity and civic spirit among residents as positive attributes.

- **Quality of Life:** Respondents rate physical location, multicultural diversity, schools, public safety, open space and recreation facilities, availability of buildings for reuse, availability of affordable shops and retail and activities for youth as good overall. Vacant and abandoned buildings, the breakdown of the family and inadequate transportation (including access to public transit) are the most serious problems related to quality of life. Other problems include children left unattended, streets in poor condition and racial tension/discrimination. Slow emergency services, inadequate street lighting, lack of recreational facilities parking shortage, lack of identity and charm are generally considered minor or not a problem at all. Improved access to public transportation was considered the most important solution to improving quality of life and community character. Other important actions included road and street repair, improved lighting and security, improved parks and playgrounds and developing community centers. Streets fairs and festivals were considered somewhat important.

- **Housing:** Availability of buildings for reuse is rated as good or very good and attractiveness of housing stock and availability of affordable family housing are considered mostly satisfactory. Housing and shelter for people who are homeless, availability of affordable senior housing and availability of supportive housing for people with disabilities are important concerns. One respondent wrote, "*Seniors often have to live in conditions that are not ideal for their situation*."

The majority identified declining property values, absentee landlords and lack of affordable housing as additional serious problems. Vacant buildings need for housing rehabilitation and homelessness were identified as moderate to serious problems. Increasing the quality affordable housing for seniors was

considered a very important action for improving housing conditions. Other important actions included increased quality affordable housing for families, community-based health care, and more special needs housing. Increased residential code enforcement and more opportunities for homeownership varied from being considered somewhat to very important.

High quality housing and housing with access to transportation is considered by most to be not very available or not available to their specific consumers. Housing that is affordable, accessible, safe, and in a desired location was largely seen as somewhat available to their consumers.

- **Housing-Related Needs:** Respondents indicated that their consumers most frequently need utility assistance, supportive services, home care assistance, and help with furniture or furnishings. They somewhat frequently need rent assistance, help with home repair and housing searches. Lease negotiation and housing-related counseling are viewed as being needed less frequently. Responding agencies indicated they do not typically provide housing for their consumers (78%).

- **Economy & Workforce:** Access to public transportation was rated as the least adequate resource for the workforce in the counties. Special education programs and skilled workforce were considered satisfactory, and school to work programs received ratings across the spectrum from fair to very good. Expensive day care and residents not being "ready to work" were identified as serious problems related to employment. Other problems include inadequate day care services, jobs not paying enough and lack of work skills. High unemployment, availability of only part-time work and inability to read English to access jobs and services were considered mostly minor problems.

Mentoring programs for youth were very important for improving the economic livability of the region. The majority considered other important solutions or actions to include developing neighborhood-based businesses, private sector job commitments, entrepreneurship opportunities and training, encouraging businesses to hire residents, creating incubators to grow small businesses and public sector job commitments. Attracting a large corporation or retail chains was identified as somewhat important to important.

Employment opportunities available to consumers were rated as primarily 'satisfactory' in terms of choice, location, supervision, safety, benefits, advancement, mentoring and on-the-job training. The majority rated wages as 'fair' (less than satisfactory). Ratings for access to transportation, access to childcare and continuing education varied along the range from poor to satisfactory. Obstacles to consumers in finding employment were identified as lack of willingness of employers to hire older adults, lack of education or skill, unwillingness to work, unavailability of full-time work, and confusion about how to seek employment. The majority of responding agencies do no provide employment opportunities to their consumers (63%).

- **Education:** Most respondents considered pre-school education and after school programs to be good or very good. The dropout rate is viewed as a moderate problem in the counties. Minor problems included classrooms/playgrounds in poor condition, poor quality education, schools not meeting students' needs and English being a second language for residents.

- **Safety and Crime:** Drug dealing, and child abuse and neglect are considered serious problems by most respondents. Some respondents view these as immediate crises, along with widespread fear of crime. Property and personal crime, fear of crime, vandalism of buildings and cars and domestic violence are mostly viewed as moderate problems. Prostitution, gangs, and rape are considered primarily a minor to moderate problem. Important or very important actions for increasing safety in the region included school violence prevention programs, structured programs for youth, community policing and increased residential code enforcement. More opportunities for homeownership was viewed as somewhat to very important, while gun buy-back programs were being somewhat important.

- **Health:** The most serious health problems identified included drug/alcohol abuse and the need for addiction services. Hunger and teenage pregnancy were also viewed as important problems. Other problems identified included AIDS and lead poisoning. Increased early intervention services for young children was the most important action to improve health in the counties. Other important possible solutions included increased community-based health care and developing additional childcare.

- **Child Care:** While most respondents indicated their customers have a need for childcare, they also indicated they were "neutral" regarding the availability, affordability, and accessibility of childcare in the region, including whether there is an adequate supply of center-based and home-based childcare. A majority agreed that local childcare is safe, and many agreed that "many of our customers use unlicensed childcare providers."

Fulmont Community Action Agency Consumer Survey 2020

An online and paper survey was available to FCAA programs. Staff were available to help consumers to complete a survey and use the online portal. This was a very successful effort, with a total of 324 different respondents:

Of the 324 total survey respondents, most:
- Reside in Fulton (57.5%) and Montgomery (35.9%) Counties. A small number of respondents are from Hamilton (6%) and Saratoga (.6%) Counties.
- Reside in Gloversville (39.5%). A total of 28 cities, towns and villages are represented in the survey, including Fort Plain (10%), Amsterdam (9.5%), Johnstown (8%), Mayfield (6%) and St. Johnsville (5.5%).
- Are female (60%).
- Are age 60+ (32%) or between 50-59 (20%).
- Are a single person household (42%) or two+ adults with no children (21%)? Single parents represent 16% of respondents and 15% are two parent households.
- Have at a minimum graduated high school or obtained a GED (46%).
- Earn under $25,000 a year (81%). [*Note that only 16% of survey takers responded to this question*]
- Indicate that everyone in their household has health insurance (87%).
- Feel they have enough money to meet their families' needs (58%).

Community/FCAA Services

Many respondents have recently received services via food stamps/SNAP, Medicaid, food pantry, HEAP, school lunches and WIC. The vast majority (91%) of respondents feel their family is better off now since receiving Fulmont services, including assistance with taxes, employment assistance, clothing, food, electric bills, food stamps and information on public services. They also mention that these services are provided by kind and helpful staff, help families to feel they will be better off and allows them to feel hope.

Respondents suggest that the addition of the following services and programs would help them to become more successful:

- Better healthcare options
- Better funded education
- Transportation for all ages
- Employment services, including job training centers
- Food shopping services
- Assisted Living facility
- More affordable housing
- Truck maintenance assistance
- Food pantries
- Clothing

Consumer Employment

- **Employment Status:** Just over half the respondents indicated they are not currently employed. Barriers to obtaining or keeping the employment desired include being disabled, financial issues, lack of training or education, mental health and health issues, age, lack of transportation, seasonality of work, being in school, lack of childcare, caring for elderly parents, and debt.
- **Work Conditions:** The majority (85%) of those who are working indicated they are satisfied with their employment situation.
- **Job training:** Most respondents indicate do not have any special skills or training (67%). Those with training mentioned a wide range of fields from medical secretary, horticulture, corrections training to culinary school, caregiving, armed security, and real estate licensing.
- **Career Goals:** Respondents indicated interest in a range of jobs/professions: PCA, theater, self-employment, own private counseling center, clerical/data entry, at home medical billing, automotive, accountant, RN, managing a ski shop, truck driver, working from home, vet, teacher, forklift operator, receptionist, phlebotomist, nurse, carpenter, construction, outside maintenance, sculptor, painter, CNA, novelist, nurse, court officer, labor worker, ultrasound technician, healthcare, receptionist, cook, food service management, cleaning, garden center, interior designer, management.

Housing

- **Tenure:** Most respondents are renters (53%) and have not faced problems finding affordable housing (90%). Thirty-three percent (33%) of respondents own their home.
- **Homelessness:** Close to 5% are housed in "other permanent housing" and 1% are currently experiencing homelessness. Within the past 12 months, 8% of respondents have experienced homelessness.

- **Housing Condition:** Most respondents (96%) find their current housing situation to be adequate and does not pose a threat to their health or safety.

Transportation

- The majority (71%) state that their household has its own means of transportation. More than half (52%) indicate that public transportation is not available. Where it is available, 74% of respondents believe public transit adequate to meet their needs.
- Where public transit is not considered adequate, respondents provided reasons such as lack of service, rural area, inconvenient or infrequent travel times, inconvenient stops (e.g., not helping residents access food shopping), or difficulty using transit with children.
- Of the 63% who believe that public transportation should be increased in their area, they would use it for doctor's appointments, errands, grocery shopping, shopping, bringing children to school, getting medications, seeing family, and job seeking.

Child Care

- A majority (75%) say that availability of childcare would not be a factor in considering entering the workforce or enrolling in an educational/training program.
- 95% of those who are employed indicate that they have not typically had problems due to childcare difficulties.
- More than half of respondents believe that $30.00 or less is an affordable weekly amount for full time childcare (per child). A quarter of respondents believe childcare would be affordable at a cost of $10.00 or less per week.

Family & The Future

- **Family Strength:** Respondents see their families as close-knit and strong; looking out for each other with love, support, and teamwork; and pushing themselves to get what they want and need. Their families draw strength from job security, good work ethics, faith, and education. They help each other to budget, communicate, care and are willing to do the right thing.
- **Family Problems:** Respondents identify financial issues (e.g., lack of retirement funds, lack of well-paid jobs, tight budgets with no extra room) and health issues (e.g., disability, medical problems, cost of health insurance) as their greatest family problems. Other problems mentioned include lack of education, lack of trust, difficulty communicating and children living far away.
- **Changes:** Many respondents (66%) indicated they don't plan to make changes in the future to improve their family's quality of life. Of those who do want to make changes (34%), most said they do not want to participate in a guidance/support program (75%).

Fulmont Community Action Agency Parent Survey 2020

Parents of Head Start Early Childhood Services students were polled regarding their work, school, and training schedules. A total of 80 parents (out of 300) responded to the survey, indicating the following:
- 64% of respondents (51 parents) indicated that they work
- 36% of responding parents stated they do not work

- 85% of responding parents indicated that the FCAA program hours meet their family needs
- 9% indicated that the FCAA program hours do not meet their needs (Program hours of 8:00 am to 3:00 pm was specifically requested in Canajoharie)

Focus Group Input

Two focus groups were conducted on February 5, 2020 to gain insight from volunteers and staff working with the Fulmont Community Action Agency and its programs. Twelve employees and five Board/Council Members participated. Most issues remained consistent with those identified in 2017. Note that these discussions took place before the risk of COVID-19 was known or protections were put in place. We expect that needs and answers may change. Focus group feedback includes:

Focus Group with Fulmont Board Members, Advisory Council Members, Head Start Policy Council Members

What challenges is Fulmont facing?
- **Income limitations** restrict some families from participating fully. Some families are on the border line and can't access help for care. This makes it hard for them to transition to self-sufficiency.
- **We take pride that the Agency always does the right thing even** reaching into their own pockets.
- In every meeting and across every program the conversation moves to the absolute challenge people who do not have **reliable transportation** face. The public bus service isn't available everywhere. Though it may be getting a little better, the **routes don't get the people who have jobs where they need to go in time to get to work or school** on time. We need to focus more – though it's very hard – to help people gain their own car. Otherwise everything else we help people put in place also falls apart.
- There is and always has been **inconsistency in funding** - in the amount given, rules , and knowing what programs will be available from year to year. Fulmont staff work wonders despite this insecurity.
- We need to **advertise and promote** Fulmont and its services more. Hard to believe but some people don't know what is available- maybe in paper, through radio interviews, TV?
- There are "start-up costs" for some jobs - like **uniforms which are expensive** and a challenge.
- We know our families want to work. One more challenge is giving them access to **proper clothing for interviews** and when they work in some office settings.

If Money Was No Object What Would You Do for Fulmont:

- **Get more space** for some programs that run in very small space. People need professional space to see consumers from. If we want to reward performance and grow a program – they are land locked.
- Keep trying to **understand the community needs** – they change – sometimes just a little and we need to adjust. I'd give programs an ability to ask for more funding to meet needs as they are identified if I could.
- I'd rent or buy a separate building for WIC and the Food Pantry. They need **more space to serve more** people but mostly so people know they will be confidential.
- Buy more food. From the Regional Food Bank and other places. We give people as much as we can and its almost never enough. If money doesn't matter – **I'd feed people**. That's what I'd do.
- "Fill the bus" programs could help with that, but I'd make sure food collected in a school district first be used to help families in that district – **kids helping their neighbors**.

Focus Group with Employees

What is Working Well?

- **Head Start is great** and the level of parent engagement is incredible. Having full day three-year-old care would be great.
- The **Food Pantry works very well**. They always help in emergency situations.
- Interdepartmental coordination and interagency **referral are very strong** and helps people get comprehensive services.
- The FCAA **tax preparation program really helps** people.
- **HEAP** assistance is essential.
- Having a **school nurse is great** and helps people feel comfortable asking for help, for example, getting access to headlice kits (which are is expensive.)

What is not working well?

- Schools have cut most extra-curricular activity. Middle class families can pay for their kids to play soccer or basketball or learn computer. We need to be able to **give scholarships to kids for after school programs**. This is where real friendships are made.
- We've been at this a long time, but some people don't know we're here – we need to **market the programs** more. Groups try to send information home with kids abut so much goes missing and the actual schoolwork gets missed too. We need another way than school packets.
- There are **so many guidelines** and they are not the same for each program and that confuses staff and even more it confuses clients. It makes it seem bad to become more self-sufficient – when you do the support programs aren't there anymore. Programs, including FEMA emergency assistance, are so essential for emergency food, rent, utilities, but funding is inconsistent.
- **Transportation is a huge issue for consumers**. Families are motivated to work and finish their education, but transportation is probably the biggest limitation to consumers moving on with their life and improving their family circumstances. The existing public transit routes and schedules do not work with jobs' locations and shifts, job training, school or childcare.
- **Wheels to Work** is a great program but it can only help 5-6 people a year, and only if they have children.
- **No school bus service to Head Start**. People must walk. Children are working more than NYS Ed distances. Carpooling needs attention. Gloversville has lottery for middle and high schoolers to get city bus. It may be fairer but leaves many kids out.
- It's **hard for people to get car seats**. The County Public Health Department program that has provides car seats is in flux due to staff changes. AAA has a program that is helping in some communities.
- Even **more grandparents are raising kids** than a few years ago and they need support.
- Sometimes there is so much paperwork to do I miss old time **face to face communication**.
- **Kids are not properly dressed for winter**. Classes need to have access to boots or snow pants. They are not distributed until mid-winter. Need more basics for kids: coats, gloves, hats, boots, etc. Personal care items and cleaning products are also in short supply and expensive for people to buy.
- Head Start parents are challenged to find and keep work because of a **lack of aftercare**. Fonda and Canajoharie have aftercare, but other centers don't.

- **Services for children with mental health needs** through St. Mary's Children's clinic, but there can be long wait times. Children under three need to go to Albany which is difficult and expensive for parents and this is especially problematic in the cases of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect.
- There is **more homelessness than the statistics show**, especially undercounting people who are doubled or tripled up. They are the invisible homeless.
- There are more jobs paying well but **people must be dressed right and show up on time**.
- **Transportation. Transportation. Transportation.** Without its people can't keep the job – then that makes it harder to get the next one.

FULMONT COMMUNITY ACTION STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Fulmont's annual Strategic Planning Meeting took place on May 24, 2018 and was facilitated by Wally Hart, Division Director of Community & Business Development for Lexington Center and Executive Director of the Lexington Foundation. A total of 35 diverse individuals attended the meeting, including representatives of Fulmont Management and Hourly Staff; Fulmont Board of Directors and Head Start Policy Council; and Consumers of Community Services, Head Start, and Weatherization. In addition, representatives of the following Community Partners were present: Fulton County Public Health, Montgomery County Office for the Aging, Nathan Littauer Hospital, Fulton & Montgomery Counties' Departments of Social Services, the Village of Ames, and St. Mary's Healthcare. These participants helped the Agency to develop a strategic plan. The Board of Directors adopted the plan summarized here at the June 3, 2019 Board of Directors' meeting. The strategy presents a range of information about FCAA, community opportunities and challenges and goals until the next plan update, which is anticipated to be reviewed by the Board in August 2020.

Purpose
The Fulmont Community Action Agency undertook the development of this community needs assessment and strategic plan as part of its regular reporting requirements to its State and Federal government funders. The focus of the assessment is to collect and analyze data and solicit input describing conditions faced by low and moderate-income citizens and their advocates in Fulton, Montgomery, and surrounding counties in New York State. The strategic plan identifies those goals that the Agency can take to positively address the conditions identified.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. is to improve and expand human services and programs in order to promote self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life of the socially and economically disadvantaged, as well as provide services to promote economic efficiency and stability in Fulton, Montgomery and surrounding Counties.

Value Statement
The vision statement of the Agency is "to provide empowering and compassionate support to create self-respect, self-sufficiency, hope and the opportunity to meet the challenges of a changing environment for all the lives we touch; To recognize the strengths, goals, diversity and needs of families and communities in order to empower them through collaboration, research, education and advocacy; To promote innovative and ethical business practices, and maintain high standards of excellence and quality in all aspects of our operations and hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve and our funding sources."

Core Functions

Core functions for the Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. include advocacy, community coordination, and respectful delivery of anti-poverty services to all income levels to prevent poverty. Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. is one of nearly 50 Community Action programs or agencies in New York State and one of over 1,000 in the United States. The agency was incorporated in 1965 and receives core funding from the New York State Department of State - Division of Community Services through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).

FCAA employs a staff of approximately 115 professionals who provide quality services to the residents of Fulton, Montgomery, and surrounding counties. Professional affiliations include membership in the following local, state, and national organizations:

- Society of Human Resource Management
- Fulton County Emergency Food & Shelter Board
- Montgomery County Emergency Food & Shelter Board
- Capital District Head Start Directors Cluster
- New York State Community Action Association
- National Community Action Foundation
- New York State Weatherization Directors Association
- New York State WIC Association
- New York State Department of State Division of Community Services, CSBG Advisory Council
- Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Amsterdam Rotary Club
- Building Performance Institute, Inc.
- Montgomery County Long-Term Coordinating Care Council
- Mohawk Valley Population Health Improvement Program (MV PHIP) Mental Health Work Group
- VITA Coalition of Fulton and Montgomery Counties
- Gateway
- Human Resources Consortium
- Regional Executive Directors Group
- Workforce Investment Board Partners' Coalition
- Fulton County Long-Term Care Coordinating Council

The agency is governed by a tripartite Board of Directors, which ensures equal representation for the private, public and consumer sector. Much of FCAA's success is attributed to thousands of hours of service from dedicated volunteers who donate their time and expertise to the community through the agency. FCAA promotes self-sufficiency in programming, helping its customers to achieve their own success by focusing on the positive aspects of their lives. The agency's plans build on identified strengths to address challenges and capture opportunities (See Tables 1 and 2 on following pages.)

The first table focuses on what is happening in the **communities**.

TABLE 2. SWOT IN THE COMMUNITY

STRENGTHS	THREATS
Continued efforts of Economic Development to bring in jobs	Few living wages jobs with adequate health insurance
Strong Community College, BOCES, PTECH, & school districts	Poor quality housing /absentee ownership of rentals
Strong support from and networking with other agencies	Lack of affordable housing
Strong support from Montgomery County Legislature and the County Executive	Nature and causes of poverty (low wage/low skill job, lack of affordable childcare, high cost of health care/ insurance, high energy costs, family instability)
Responsive community and local government	Complexity of access to Social Services (DSS)
Availability of natural resources and infrastructure to support economic development	Lack of health care providers and services who accept Medicaid without a managed care plan
Strong local law enforcement	Accessibility and expense of youth programming
Geographic location and tourism	Lack of transportation and consumer mobility
Strong dedicated workforce	Lack of opportunities for mental health care
Strong local hospital systems	Availability of dental providers who accept Medicaid
New collaborations make things better in the community	The level of un/underemployment and unemployable
Collaboration with other Community Action Programs	Limited access to transportation in Fulton and Montgomery Counties
Mohawk Valley Employer Resource Network (MVERN)	Increase in individuals suffering from addiction in both counties, resulting in poor health & family outcomes
Continuum Care in Fulton and Montgomery Counties	Pessimism, negative reputation of area
Opportunities through Economic Development	Lack of referral programs (e.g., home rehabilitation programs) in urban settings in Montgomery County
	Lack of consumer knowledge of educational/training/skill-building opportunities
	Nutrition

The following table summarizes what's happening at **Fulmont Community Action Agency**.

Fulmont Organization Goals

The following reflect the agency's goals to increase management capacity and effectiveness to meet the demonstrated needs of the community, partners and customers as outlined in the full strategic plan available by request from FCAA and on the agency's website.

- **Financial Management** – The agency will continually update and maintain a sound, reliable and dependable management system, which ensures the cooperation and support of funding sources, vendors, staff, and managers. The agency will continually seek to implement improvements to cost management techniques, continue to operate efficiently so audits are clean and the agency is transparent.

TABLE 3. FCAA IDENTIFICATION OF AGENCY STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES		
Strengths	**Weaknesses/ Threats/Challenges**	**Opportunities**
Financially stable and accountable	**Weaknesses**	Current/future partnerships
Technology for kids at Head Start	Flood zone location of facilities	Grass roots advocacy
Effective marketing	**Threats**	Improving technology
Ability to generate revenue and great relationship with funders	Lack of access to funds from Fulton County	Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA)
Commitment to excellence, non-judgmental, strength-based service	Competition from other agencies	Potential partnerships with new and established employers
Decentralized and mobile	Changing demographics	Potential County growth
High satisfaction/annual survey	Natural disasters	School district collaborations
Bi-lingual staff capable of meeting needs of Hispanic community	Wage compression	Marketing/outreach impact
Flexibility of management and succession plan	Increased cost of health care	Diversify with private foundation and local funding
Confidentiality	Increase in minimum wage	Revenue from energy services
Cost-effective programming	**Challenges**	Recruit next generation of volunteers
Executive Director connections and varied memberships	Multi-lingual/cultural needs/language barriers	Expansion of Senior Transportation into Montgomery County
Strong base of dedicated volunteers and support via donations & in-kind	125% poverty guide for CSBG limits eligible consumers	
Committed Board of Directors	Monitoring operational costs	
Teamwork & staff cooperation	Ongoing marketing costs	
Inter-agency case management	Funding shortage and competition	
Staff expertise, training, longevity, problem-solving skills, creativity, and compassion	Head Start staff turnover and differences in degree qualifications between Head Start and state education requirements	
Low administrative costs	Maintaining technological resources	
Staff ability to provide referrals	UPK impact on eligible 4-year olds	
Education reimbursement for employees	Minimum wage increase and associated eligibility issues	
Utilization of subcontractors to resolve labor shortages in the Energy Services Department	Shrinking volunteer due to aging population	
Highly regarded/respected within the community	Credentialing and certification requirements for certain positions	
Ability to subcontract with County agencies (e.g., HEAP)	Funding and support for that funding	

- **Funding Diversification** – The agency will continually try to diversify revenues to reduce dependency on single sources of funds and advocate for the financial support of anti-poverty programs.

- **Human Resource - Staff Development** – The agency will encourage the development of employee's skills and abilities, so that they may carry out the agency's mission. The agency will also encourage their professional development through training, higher educational opportunities, and organizational development. The Human Resource Department will ensure that all required trainings, such as safety and workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, are conducted. Community Services teaches Family Development credentials and most staff are required to have the credentials. Head Start teachers develop a Professional Development Plan. In the weatherization program, employees, to maintain their positions, are required to have and maintain certain certifications, as required by New York State. WIC ascertains that the nutritionist receives 24 hours of continuous education and the nutrition assistant receives 15 hours, over a 2-year period. All other staff will receive New York State Department of Health mandated training. Senior Transportation drivers must fulfill initial training upon employment and periodically throughout the year per Department of Motor Vehicles to maintain their positions.

- **Leadership** - The agency will empower staff to undertake leadership roles in their communities and within the agency.

- **Quality Services/Holistic Programming** – Providing high quality service to consumers and the public will continue to be the primary objective of FCAA work. The agency's approach throughout the agency will be to deal with the whole needs of families, which come to the agency for assistance. The agency will continue to meet the expectations of all funding sources.

- **Decentralized and Accessible Services** – The agency will continue to provide decentralized services through its numerous satellite centers and to continue the operation of the mobile outreach office.

- **Response to Community Needs** - The agency will integrate structural, staff, and organizational changes that reflect the community needs assessment plan and address the strategic plan and goals, as well as conduct an annual review and update of the plan. These efforts will help fulfill the agency's mission to assist its consumers to achieve self-sufficiency.

- **Governance** – The agency will maintain Board involvement including providing/participating in board training, adopting the strategic plan, and marketing. Each member of the Board of Directors serves on a committee, the Head Start Policy Council and/or Community Services Advisory Council.

- **Advocacy** – The agency will advocate for financial support of existing programs and partner with others to advocate for community-based solutions to issues including income insufficiency, housing needs, transportation solutions, health and wellness, and local economic development/job creation issues.

- **Program Marketing** – The agency will target services, conduct marketing and outreach for all programs, based upon potential need identified in this plan and geographically underserved areas.

  The agency will continue marketing efforts of all the programs and services the agency offers. Focus on marketing is needed through word of mouth, partnerships with other agencies, news media, public speaking, and posters.

- **Head Start** – The agency will continue to expand Head Start, Early Head Start and UPK programming.

- **WIC Participation** – The agency will continually expand WIC participation, so that funding will remain stabilized and potentially grow.

- **Community Services** – Maintenance of existing service levels and supporting staff who work independently in satellite offices is the core priority. As appropriate and financially feasible, the agency will consider expansion of services to geographic areas based upon data contained in the needs assessment through the operation of the mobile office. The agency will continue to provide methods to assist the unemployed.

- **Senior Transportation** – Maintaining funding for this program is a priority as the cost of transportation escalates and service demands increase. The agency will investigate different funding sources to support a similar program in Montgomery County.

- **Energy Services** - The agency will focus on increasing service levels, reducing health and safety concerns while improving the housing stock. This will be accomplished by geographically targeting services and broadening the base of funding including new grant partnerships with NYSERDA, as the agency takes advantage of any additional funding to expand the service area. The agency will focus on outreach. It will continue to develop a business model that will serve communities at the highest level possible in compliance with government regulations.

- **Family Development Services** – The agency will work to increase the number of local human service workers in the agency and outside agencies who are credentialed through the program. The agency will conduct training sessions at appropriate times to meet participants' schedules.

- **Disaster Preparedness** – The agency will review and update the current Disaster Preparedness Plan on an annual basis.

V. COMMUNITY PROFILE

INTRODUCTION

Fulmont must submit a full Community Needs Assessment every three years under the CSBG and Head Start Programs. This assessment identifies and describes social and demographic characteristics of the people living in Fulton and Montgomery Counties, economic, child services and Head Start, employment and job training, housing, health indicators, nutrition, disability services, social services, transportation and other components.

UNDERSTANDING INCOME AND POVERTY

Determining the wisest course to accomplish Fulmont's mission is to improve conditions faced by low income and poor families begins with understanding income and poverty.

Measuring Poverty

The Federal Government has two measures of poverty: the poverty thresholds and the poverty guidelines. Each year the U.S Census Bureau sets the **Federal Poverty Threshold** as the statistical measure used to determine how many Americans live in poverty. Once a family dips below the threshold it's assumed that they do not have the minimum level of resources necessary to meet basic needs. Thresholds vary by the number and age of adults and the number of children under age 18, but they are the same for all states – they do not reflect regional cost of living differences. The thresholds are adjusted annually to account for inflation using the consumer price index. It's set in September of each year for the preceding year, so the 2019 Federal Poverty Threshold is the most recent available.

TABLE 4: POVERTY THRESHOLDS/ FAMILY SIZE AND # OF RELATED CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS									
Size of family unit	**Related children under 18 years**								
	None	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8+**
One person									
> Age 65	$13,300								
Aged 65 (+)	$12,261								
Two people:									
Householder > 65 yrs.	$17,120	$17,622							
Householder < 65 yrs.	$15,453	$17,555							
Three people	$19,998	$20,578	$20,598						
Four people	$26,370	$26,801	**$25,926**	$26,017					
Five people	$31,800	$32,263	$31,275	$30,510	$30,044				
Six people	$36,576	$36,721	$35,965	$35,239	$34,161	$33,522			
Seven people	$42,085	$42,348	$41,442	$40,811	$39,635	$38,262	$36,757		
Eight people	$47,069	$47,485	$46,630	$45,881	$44,818	$43,470	$42,066	$41,709	
Nine people or more	$56,621	$56,895	$56,139	$55,503	$54,460	$53,025	$51,727	$51,406	$49,426
Source: U.S. Census Bureau									

The **Federal Poverty Guidelines** are the other measure. Often referred to as the "poverty level" They are set annually each January by the U.S. Health and Human Services by household size. For example, in 2020 a family of four earning less than $26,200 lives below the poverty level. Larger families add $4,480 for each additional person in the household and smaller families deduct the same amount per person to calculate the level. The thresholds and guidelines do not always matchup: the threshold for the same four-person family is lower, at $25,926.

TABLE 5. FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES BY FAMILY SIZE AT VARIOUS PERCENTAGES (2020)								
Persons in Household	**Contiguous 48 States and District of Columbia**							
	100%	**133%**	**138%**	**150%**	**200%**	**250%**	**300%**	**400%**
1	$12,760	$16,970	$17,608	$19,140	$25,520	$31,900	$38,280	$51,040
2	$17,240	$22,929	$23,791	$25,860	$34,480	$43,100	$51,720	$68,960
3	$21,720	$28,887	$29,973	$32,580	$43,440	$54,300	$65,160	$86,880
4	**$26,200**	$34,846	$36,156	$39,300	$52,400	$65,500	$78,600	$104,800
5	$30,680	$40,804	$41,418	$46,020	$61,360	$76,700	$92,040	$122,720
6	$35,160	$46,762	$48,520	$52,740	$70,320	$87,900	$105,480	$140,640
7	$39,640	$52,721	$54,703	$59,460	$79,280	$99,100	$118,920	$158,560
8	$44,120	$58,679	$60,885	$66,180	$88,240	$110,300	$132,360	$176,480
Add $4,480 for each person over 8. U.S. Health and Human Services								

Table 5 shows percentages of the guidelines at various levels. Some Federal programs offer subsidies that allow them to serve people who earn above the poverty level. For example, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program helps families earning up to 130% of the poverty level, while Medicaid is available to families earning up to 138% of the poverty level. The Affordable Care Act provides insurance subsidies for households earning between 100% and 400% of the poverty level. Other programs that use the federal poverty guidelines include Head Start, the National School Lunch Program, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Terminology describing poverty and income vary by government, agency, and program. Most Fulmont programs use the HHS Federal Poverty Guidelines to determine eligibility; this assessment uses the HHS definitions by family size:

- A family living at 100% of the poverty level is **"living in poverty".** Occasionally reference will be made to 50% or 30% of the poverty guidelines to reflect the depth of poverty.
- A family earning between 100% and 130% of the poverty level is described as **"very low income".**
- A family earning between 130% and 150% of the poverty level is described as **"low income".**
- A family earning between 150% and 200% of the poverty level is described as **"moderate income"**.
- A family earning over 200% of the federal poverty level is considered **"upper income" or "over income".**

The term **"low-mod income"** has a specific programmatic context within the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which is not calculated using the federal poverty guidelines.

U.S. Housing and Urban Development Measurement of Incomes by Census Tract

The U.S. Census defines median income as the amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half with 50% of incomes falling above the median, and half having income below the median. The mean income (average) is the amount obtained by dividing the total combined income of a group by the number of units in that group. The median incomes for households, families, and unrelated individuals are based on all households, families, and unrelated individuals. The medians are based on people 15 years old and over with income.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Renewal (HUD) annually designates areas (census tracts) with poverty rates above 20% and incomes less than 60% of the Average Median Income (AMI). The qualified census tracts are characterized by declining values, high vacancy rates, higher crime rates, and a diminishing amount of commercial services. Many of these areas represent high proportions of both renters and families in poverty and experience the worst impacts of physical and socio-economic decline.
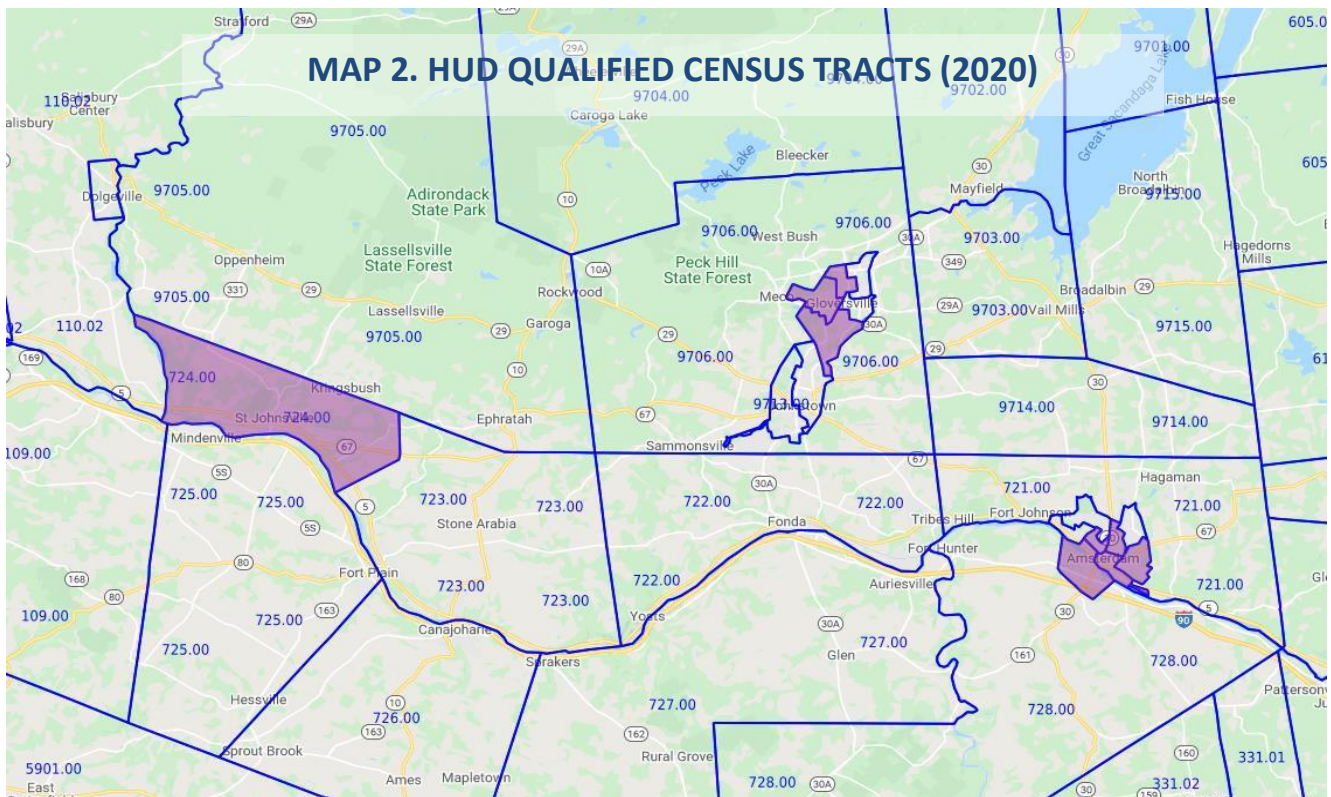
Source: HUD User Office of Policy Development & Research: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sadda/sadda_qct.html

There are nine HUD Qualified Census Tracts (QCT) in the Fulmont area; since 2015, a new qualified tract was added in Gloversville (9711) and the Town of Minden (725.00) is no longer a qualified tract. In Fulton County tracts 9707.00, 9708.00, and 9711.00 are qualified. In Montgomery County tracts 702.00, 703.00, 706.00, 708.00 , 709.00 and 724.00 are qualified.

The U.S. Department and Urban Development Income Limits

HUD calculates Median Income for each metropolitan area, MSA and County (the "Area") annually using the five-year estimates of the American Community Survey to measure household income. To determine whether a family is eligible for various housing programs a family's income is compared to a percentage of the AMI. HUD defines terms related to AMI:

- **Extremely Low Income**: At or below 30% of area median family income
- **Very Low Income**: At or below 50% of the area median family income
- **Low Income**: At or below 80% of the area median family income
- **Low/Mod Income:** At or below 80% of area median family income
- **Moderate Income:** Between 80 % and 120% of area median family income
- **Middle Income**: Between 120 and 160% of area median family income
- **High Income:** Over 160% of area median family income

Communities where 50% or more of the population low-mod income are eligible for most HUD programs. HUD reports that 44.64% of Fulton County Residents and 46.74% of Montgomery County residents are low-mod income. Federal Housing vouchers are generally available for families earning 30 percent AMI. Affordable housing developments cap rents below market rate to ensure that families can live in these units without spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent.

HUD develops income limits based on Median Family Income estimates and Fair Market Rent area definitions for each metropolitan area, parts of some metropolitan areas, and each non-metropolitan county

TABLE 6. U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT INCOME LIMITS FOR PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY								
PERSONS PER FAMILY								
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**
Fulton County, NY - FY 2020 MFI: $63,000								
Extremely Low	$14,150	$17,240	$21,720	$26,200	$30,680	$35,160	$39,640	$44,120
Very Low	$23,550	$26,900	$30,250	$33,600	$36,300	$39,000	$41,700	$44,400
Low Income	$37,650	$43,000	$48,400	$53,750	$58,050	$62,350	$66,650	$70,950
Montgomery County, NY - FY 2020 MFI: $62,600								
Extremely Low	$14,150	$17,240	$21,720	$26,200	$30,680	$35,160	$39,640	$44,120
Very Low	$23,550	$26,900	$30,250	$33,600	$36,300	$39,000	$41,700	$44,400
Low Income	$37,650	$43,000	$48,400	$53,750	$58,050	$62,350	$66,650	$70,950

Source: HUD User FY 2020 Income Limits Documentation System at
https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2020/select_Geography.odn

The income limits that determine eligibility for assisted housing programs including the Public Housing, Section 8 project-based, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Section 202 housing for the elderly, and Section 811 housing for persons with disabilities programs. NYS housing program income limits vary by program and are based on income limits issued by HUD.

SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Fulton and Montgomery Counties are located on the southern edge of the Adirondack Park approximately 40 miles northwest of Albany. The counties are about 158 miles north of New York City and 90 miles east of Syracuse, NY. In 2018, the population of Fulton County was 53,743 and Montgomery County was 49,426, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Please refer to the full table on page 60 for selected social and demographic characteristics data for both counties as referenced.

Population Characteristics

Fulton and Montgomery Counties, like other counties in New York State, are continuing to experience a slight decline in their population. According to the Cornell Program on Applied Demographics (PAD), the Fulton County population is projected to decline by 1.7% and Montgomery County population is projected to decline by 3.9% between 2020 and 2030. Combined, the two county populations are projected to decline by 5.3% between 2030 and 2040.

Changes in Age Segments

The median age in the counties combined is 42.6 (up from 41.9 in 2015). Both have continued to rise, and the counties are older compared to the NYS median of 39 years. All age segments in Fulton County declined except for people ages 65 and over, which saw growth by over 5%. Montgomery County saw growth in age segments under 5 and 5-9 years old (1.9% and 7.5% respectively), as well as over 65 (3.7%). Both counties saw the greatest decline in ages 10-19, down by 7% on average.

Race

The Fulton and Montgomery County population remains primarily White (93% and nearly 82% respectively.) However, since the 2017 assessment, Fulton County has seen a 300% increase in the American Indian/Alaska Native population, 25% increase in Black or African American population and nearly 17% increase in 'Asian alone' population. Montgomery County has seen an increase by 11.4% of the Hispanic or Latino population and roughly 14% increase of the Asian population. The American Indian and Alaska Native population decreased by 50% in Montgomery County.

Disability

Approximately 16% of the population has some form of disability. According to the 2014-2018 ACS, there are a total of 16,402 residents in Fulton and Montgomery Counties with a disability. Approximately 9.4% of youth between the ages of 5 and 17 have a disability; while this represents a minor increase in Fulton County, it is just over a 20% increase in Montgomery County since 2015. Roughly 32% of elderly residents 65 and older have a disability, with a 27% increase in the 65 to 74-year-old age segment in Montgomery County since 2015. Of the 15,013 adults age 16 and over who have a disability, 18.8% are employed. Except for White and

Hispanic populations in Fulton County, all races/ethnicities saw an increase in percent of population with disabilities between 2015 to 2018.

Heads of Household

Heads of household include married couples, grandparents, and single parents (i.e., never married, separated, widowed, and divorced). Since 2015, the number households who have married, never married, or separated increased; and those with a single divorced parent or a divorced female remained steady (less than 5% change).

Fulton County households with school aged children living with (+35.7%) and being raised by (+4.9%) their grandparents continues to increase. Since 2015, in Montgomery County the percentage of grandparents living with (-6.2%) and raising/responsible for (-16.8%) their grandchildren have decreased.

Poverty Profiles

Fulton County's poverty profiles is summarized:

- 8,119 people live in poverty (2020)0.9% of all families live in poverty
- Over 21.9% of children under age 18 live in poverty
- The percentage of people by race who live in poverty is:
    - Over 30% of Black/African American residents
    - 28% of Hispanic residents
    - 22.4% of American Indian/Alaska Native residents
- 15% of Caucasian residents.
- Ranked 15th in the percentage of people living in poverty among NY counties

Montgomery County's poverty profile is summarized:

- 9,649 people live in poverty (2020)
- 15.3% of all families live in poverty
- 25% of children under age 18 live in poverty
- The percentage of people by race who live in poverty is:
    - 31.4% of Black/African American residents
    - 41% of Hispanic residents
    - 22.8% of Asian residents
    - 15.6% of American Indian/Alaska Native residents
    - 17% of Caucasian residents.
- Ranked 3rd in the percentage of people living in poverty among NY counties Census Tracts with High Poverty Rates

FULMONT SERVICE AREA CHILDRTEN IN POVERTY

- Children represent 32% of all people living in poverty in the two counties
- 5,650 children live in poverty
- 1,541 of those children are under five years old
- 4,108 of school age children (5-17 years) live in poverty
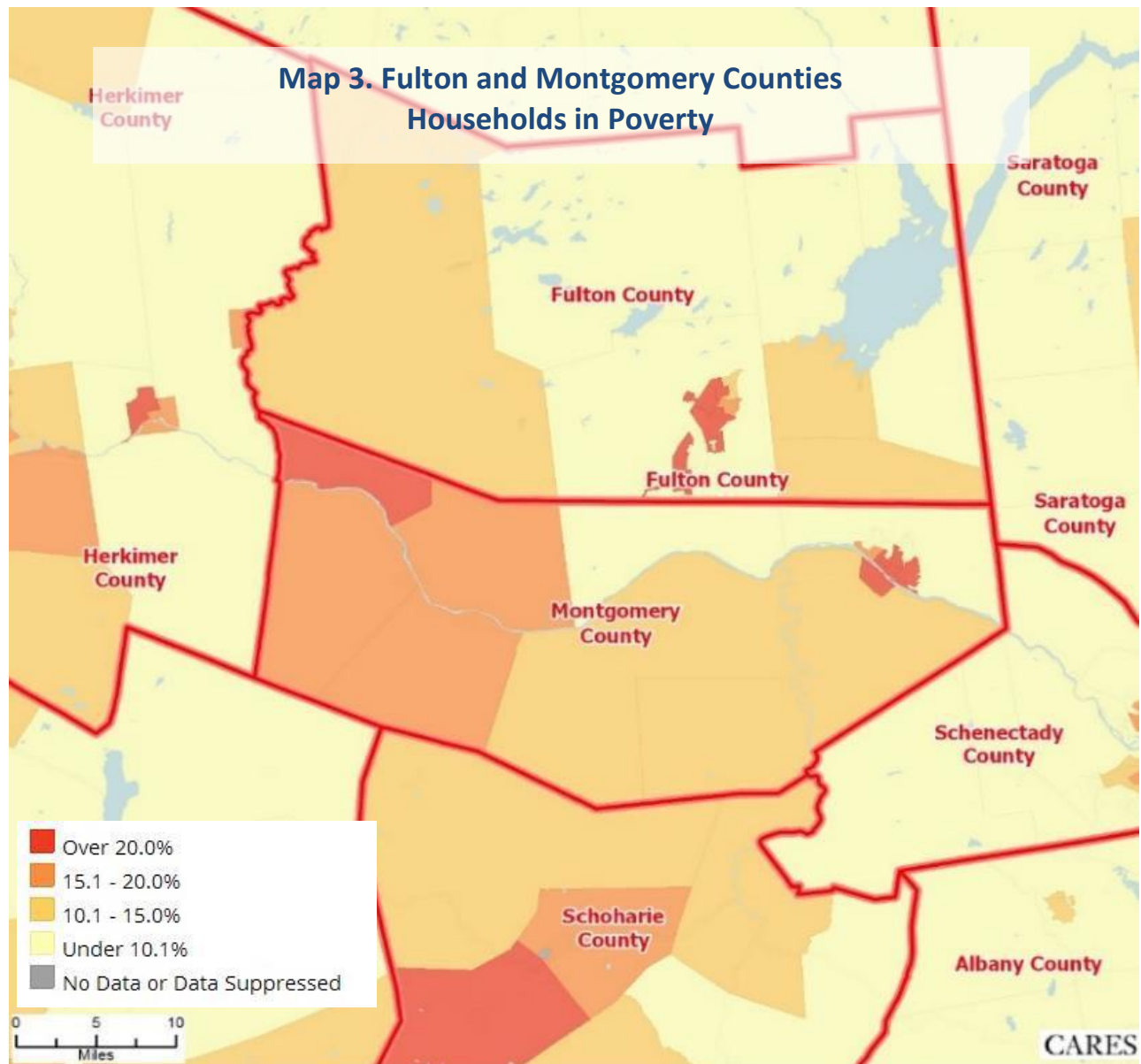
Source: New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) Data Hub – Map Room
https://nyscaa.engagementnetwork.org/map-room/

CHILDREN AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

School Age Populations

According to the Census ACS for 2014-2018, the Fulton and Montgomery County populations 3 years and older attending school has declined by 7.9% overall between 2015 and 2019. Nursery and preschool population have declined by 21%, while kindergarten attendance has increased by 15.9%. Elementary students and high

school students (grades 9-12) in Fulmont have declined by 7.7% and 3.4% respectively, although Montgomery County did see a slight increase in high school attendance. According to New York State Education Department (NYSED) 2018-2019 Report Cards, Fulton County has 7,612 and Montgomery County has 7,655 students enrolled in PreK-12. The percentage of students eligible for free lunch has increased by almost 50% for the Fulmont area, while those eligible for reduced price lunch have decreased by 66%.

Fulton County has a total of 3,294 pre-school children aged 5 and under in 2018, accounting for 6.1% of the County's overall population. Since 2015, the County has experienced a 5.2% decrease in the pre-school population. Fulton County has experienced decreases in all the pre-school age groups, except for those under 3 years old, which grew by 5%. The 3-4 years old age group had the largest decline at 15.8%.

According to the 2018 American Community Survey (ACS), Montgomery County has a total of 3,793 pre-school children aged 5 and under, accounting for 7.7% of the County's overall population. Since 2015, the County has experienced a 5.1% increase in the pre-school population. The under three years old population increased 12.8%, while the three- and four-year olds had a decline of 11.3%. The five-year old age group experienced a 20.5% increase.

Children in Poverty

The National Center for Children in Poverty outlines a range of national thresholds to describe the impact of child poverty. Fulton and Montgomery approach or exceed many. They conclude that "Research is clear that poverty is the single greatest threat to children's well-being."

- About 15 million children in the United States – 21% of all children – live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold, a measurement that has been shown to underestimate the needs of families. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties combined 32% of children live in poverty.
- Most of these children have parents who work, but low wages and unstable employment leave their families struggling to make ends meet. It should be noted that most FCAA consumers responding to the survey question about income had an annual income below $25,000.

Improving the Lives of Poor Children: The Role of Head Start

Head Start is a federally funded, comprehensive early childhood program that serves children between three and five years of age and their families. The program has enrolled more than 36 million children nationwide since 1965. Its mission is to help low-income children start school ready to learn by providing early childhood education, child development, comprehensive health, and social services.

The federal program provides grants to public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies to provide child development services to low income children and families, with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop the early reading and math skills they need to be successful in school. In FY 1995, the Early Head Start program was established to serve children from birth to three years of age in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years matter a great deal to children's growth and development.

Head Start programs promote school readiness by enhancing social and cognitive development through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social, and other services to enrolled children and families.
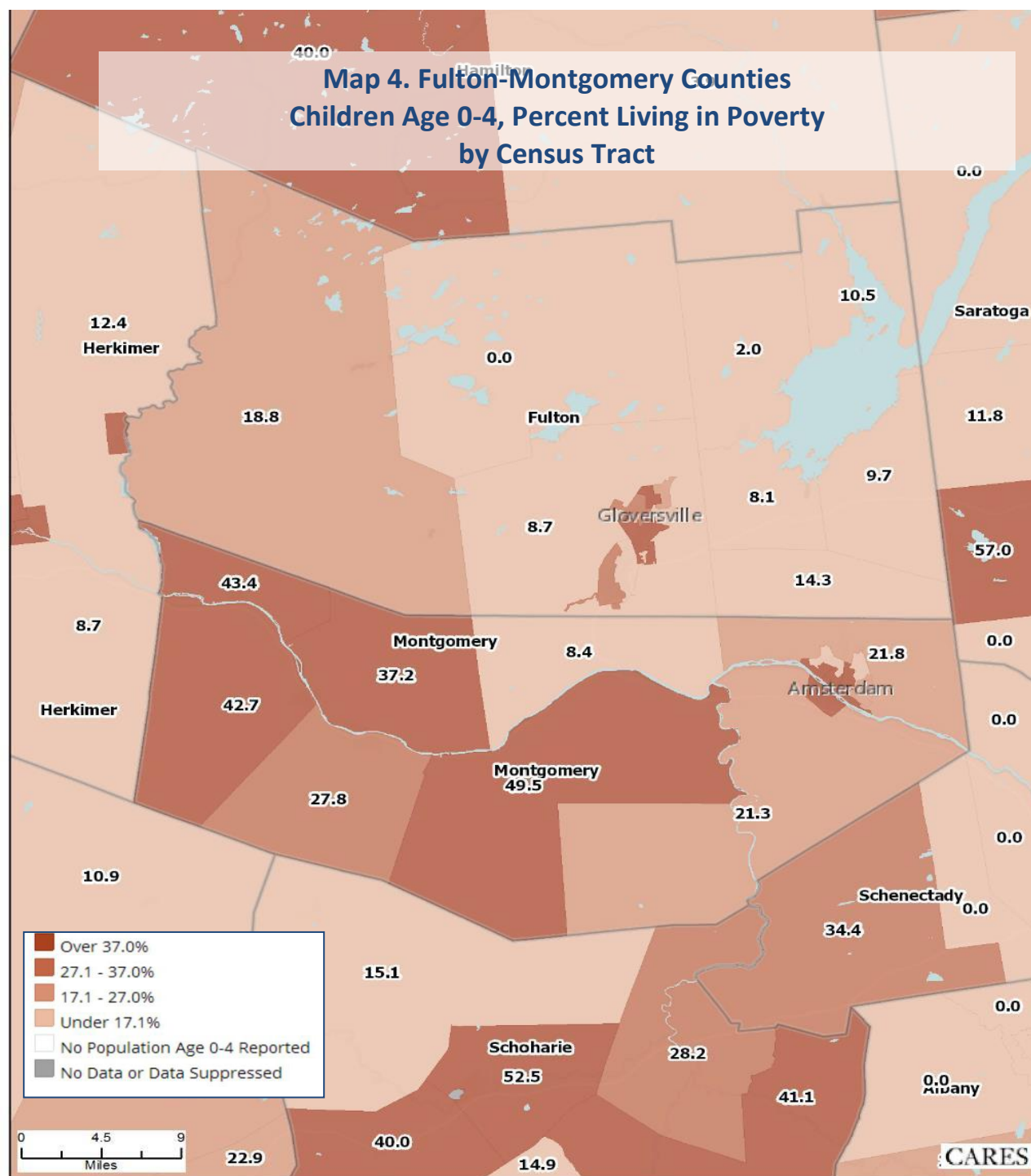
Map 4. Fulton-Montgomery Counties Children Age 0-4, Percent Living in Poverty by Census Tract

Source: New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) Data Hub – Map Room
https://nyscaa.engagementnetwork.org/map-room/

**Map 5. Fulton-Montgomery Counties
Children Age 5-17, Percent Living in Poverty
by Census Tract**

Legend:
- Over 29.0%
- 21.1 - 29.0%
- 13.1 - 21.0%
- Under 13.1%
- No Population Age 5-17 Reported
- No Data or Data Suppressed
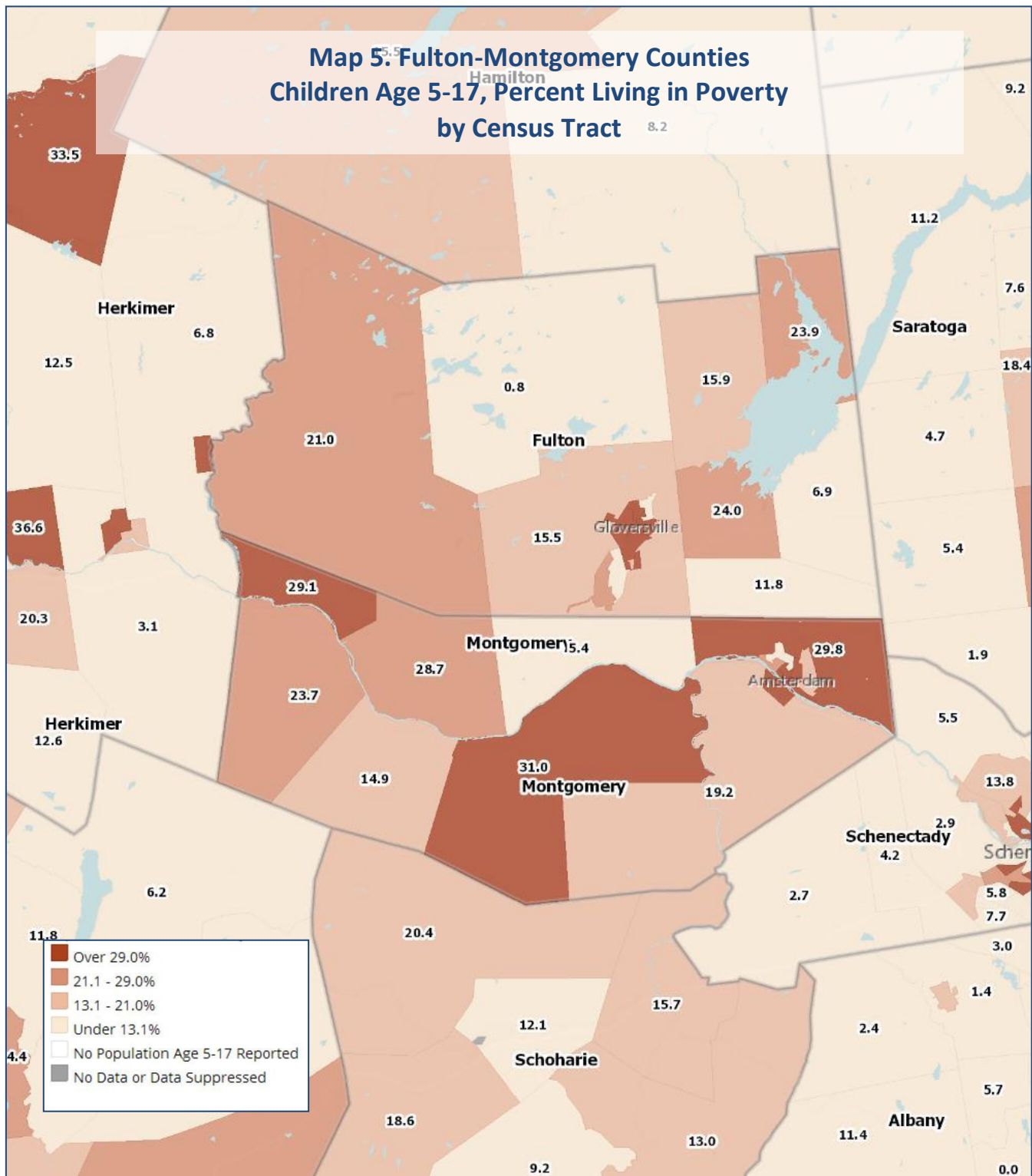
Source: New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) Data Hub – Map Room
https://nyscaa.engagementnetwork.org/map-room/

The program also provides a wide range of services in the areas of education (school readiness and social skills) medical, dental, mental health, nutrition, disabilities, and transition planning to school. Nutritious meals are served to the children daily, and educational field trips, parent training, advocacy and community involvement opportunities are offered.

Significant emphasis is placed on the involvement of parents in the administration of local Head Start programs. It engages parents in their children's learning and help them in making progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals. Parents are assisted with setting individualized goals that provide direction and identify opportunities for them to pursue and new avenues of life and become self-sufficient.

Eligibility for Head Start is income based. Head Start regulations provide that: At least 90% of enrolled children be from families that meet the federal income guidelines. Up to 35% of children may be from families who earn between 100% and 130% of the guidelines and 10% of space must be available to children with disabilities.

Table 7. 2020 HHS Federal Poverty Guidelines			
Household Size	100%*	125%	130%
1	$12,760	$15,950	$16,588
2	$17,240	$21,550	$22,412
3	$21,720	$27,150	$28,236
4	$26,200	$32,750	$34,060
5	$30,680	$38,350	$39,884
6	$35,160	$43,950	$45,708
7	$39,640	$49,550	$51,532
8	$44,120	$55,150	$57,356
For each family unit with more than 8 members, add $4,480 for each additional member.			

Fulmont Head Start

The Head Start Program has been a part of Fulmont Community Action since 1966. Throughout the years, the Head Start program has promoted self-advocacy and self-sufficiency in over 10,000 families in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Fulmont receives federal funding to provide early education for 285 three- and four-old children. Its five Head Start sites are center-based and operate 10 months each year.

TABLE 8. HEAD START SITES 2020-2021		
Location	Students	Structure of Program
FULTON COUNTY		
Gloversville McNab School	115	3-full day classrooms with Gloversville School District UPK program and 2 half day classrooms.
MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
Amsterdam	108	7-full day classrooms with Amsterdam School District UPK
Canajoharie	30	2 full day classrooms with Canajoharie School District.
Fort Plain	16	1-full day classroom.
St. Johnsville	16	1-full day classroom.

MAP 6. Fulmont Community Action Agency
HEAD START CENTERS
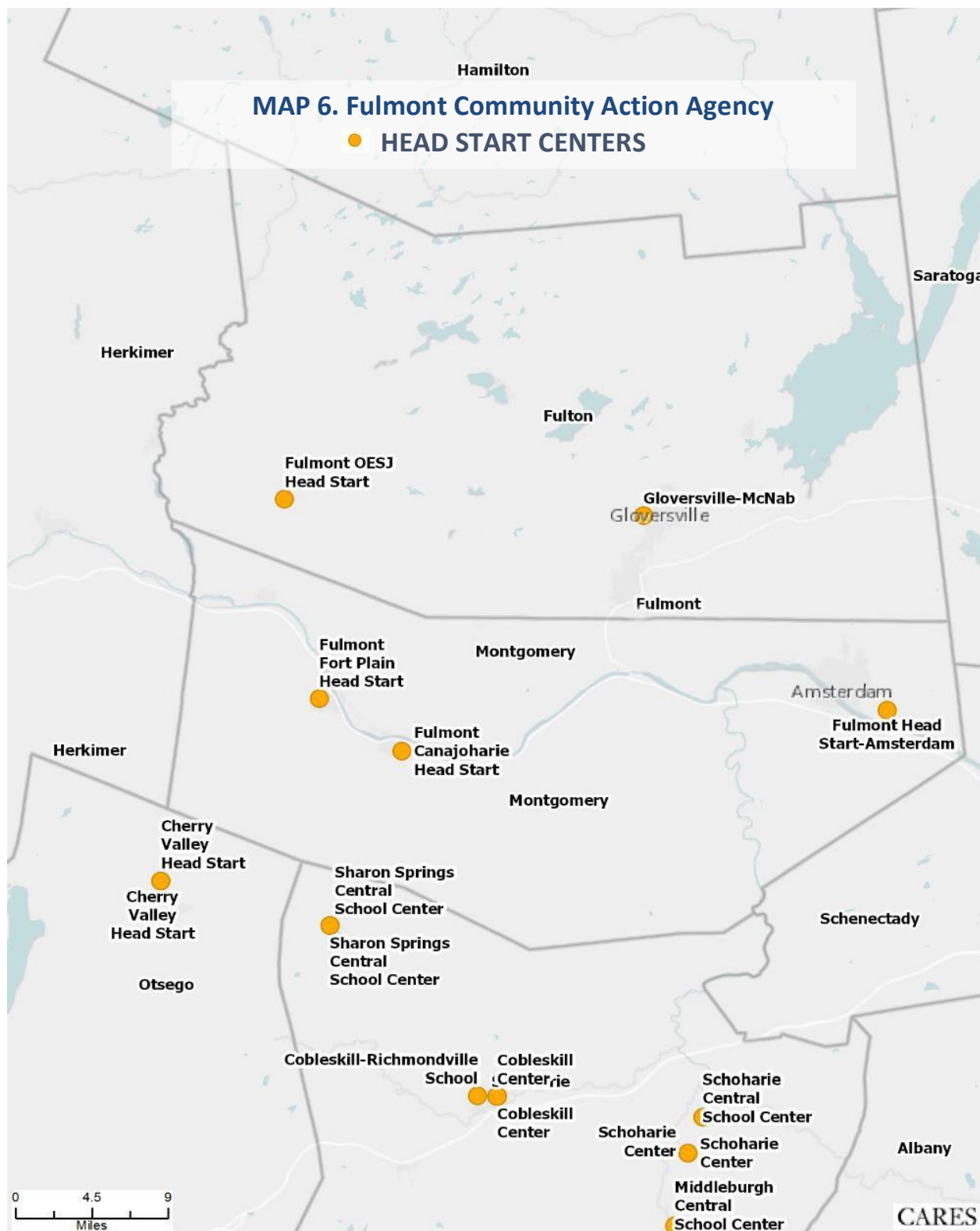
Source: New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) Data Hub – Map Room
https://nyscaa.engagementnetwork.org/map-room/

Head Start staff have seen an increase in homelessness, child abuse, children in foster care, and incarceration, correlating with an increase in substance abuse and need for mental health services.

They are working to raise awareness of mental health needs of children and families including working with their Mental Health Consultant and the Child District Child Care Council and referring children to St. Mary's Health Care Children's Mental Health Services, which has prioritized Head Start children and their families for services.

The program invites families to parenting classes, GED preparation, behavior management training and child development training. They offer on-site activities that engage parents in their child's education. The Community Partnership Manager works to expand collaborations and supports the policy council and parent meetings.

Children Eligible for Head Start & Early Head Start

Fulmont's Head Start Program currently serves children between the ages of 3 and 5 years old. In addition to identifying potential need for Early Head Start services, this section provides an analysis of the current population of Head Start eligible children based on the most recent Census data.

Children between the ages of 3 to 5 years represent 16.2% of the school age population in Fulton County and 17.3% in Montgomery County. The under 3 years' segments show that 14% of Fulton County's and 16% of Montgomery County's populations will enter this target population over the next 2-3 years, making them an appropriate target for an Early Head Start program.

Of the 1,764 children in the 3-5-year-old age segment in Fulton County, 386 of them are estimated to be eligible for the Head Start Program based on poverty rates for children under 18. This is a decrease in eligibility of more than 20% since 2015. Almost 600 children ages 3-5 years old in Montgomery County are estimated to be eligible as well, representing a decrease in eligibility of 7% since 2015.

TABLE 9. FULMONT HEAD START PROFILE 2018-2019	
Enrollment	
Monthly Enrollment Maintained	100%
Total Children Served	338
Total Families Served	321
Foster Families	1%
Homeless Families	3%
Age of Children	
Three Years Old	35.3%
Four Years Old	64.7%
Family Income Level	
Income Eligible	54%
TANF or SSI Eligible	23%
Incomes Between 100% & 130% Level	9%
Above Income Levels	10%
Services Provided	
% of Families Receiving Family Services	20.6%
% Children Receiving Medical Exams	100%
% Children Receiving Dental Exams	90%
Most Frequently Needed Services	
Emergency or Crisis	5.4%
Housing	4.1%
Mental Health	2.5%
Adult Education	2.5%
Families of Incarcerated Individuals	3.2%
Disability Services	
Children Eligible for Special Education	16.4%
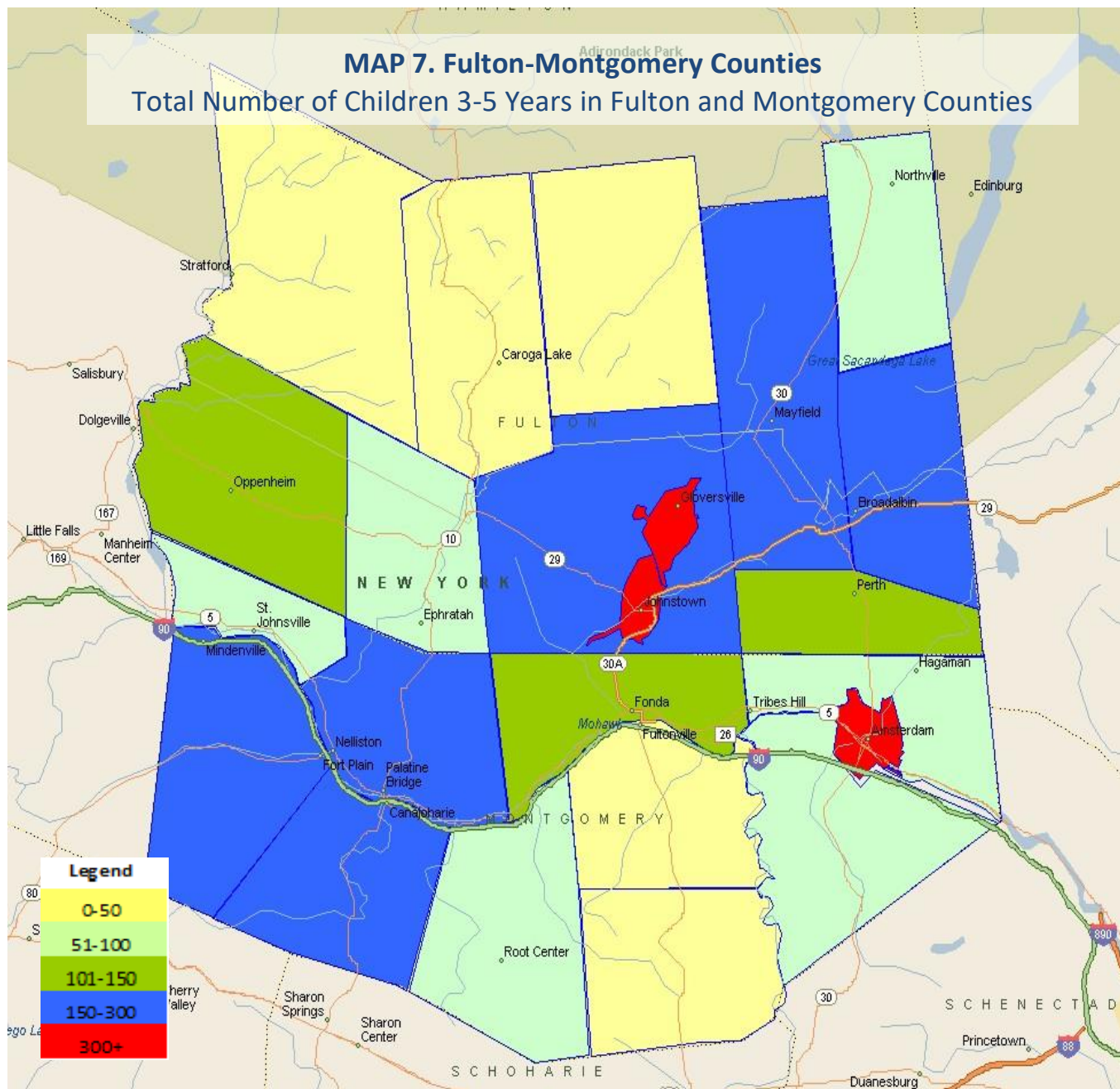
MAP 7. Fulton-Montgomery Counties
Total Number of Children 3-5 Years in Fulton and Montgomery Counties

Legend
- 0-50
- 51-100
- 101-150
- 150-300
- 300+

Source: Data for individual tract level based on 2017 FCAA Community Needs Assessment analysis.
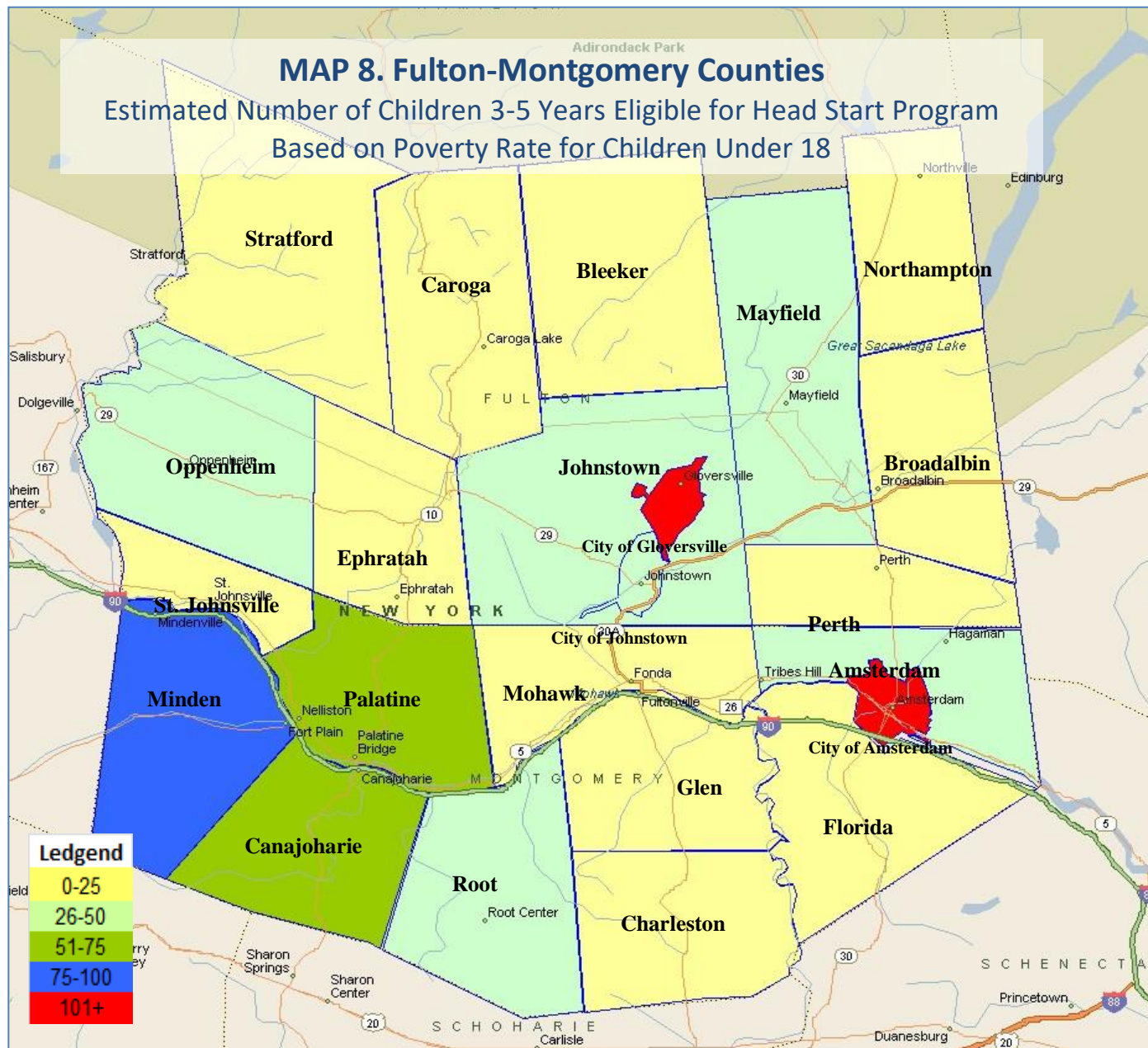
Source: Data for individual tract level based on 2017 FCAA Community Needs Assessment analysis.

Early Head Start

In addition to the goal of providing additional full day classes for the Head Start Program, Fulmont has found there is need for an Early Head Start Program. Although funding is not currently available, the agency would consider applying should funding become available. As with traditional Head Start, Early Head Start offers children between the ages of 0 and 2 years of age and their families' comprehensive child development services.
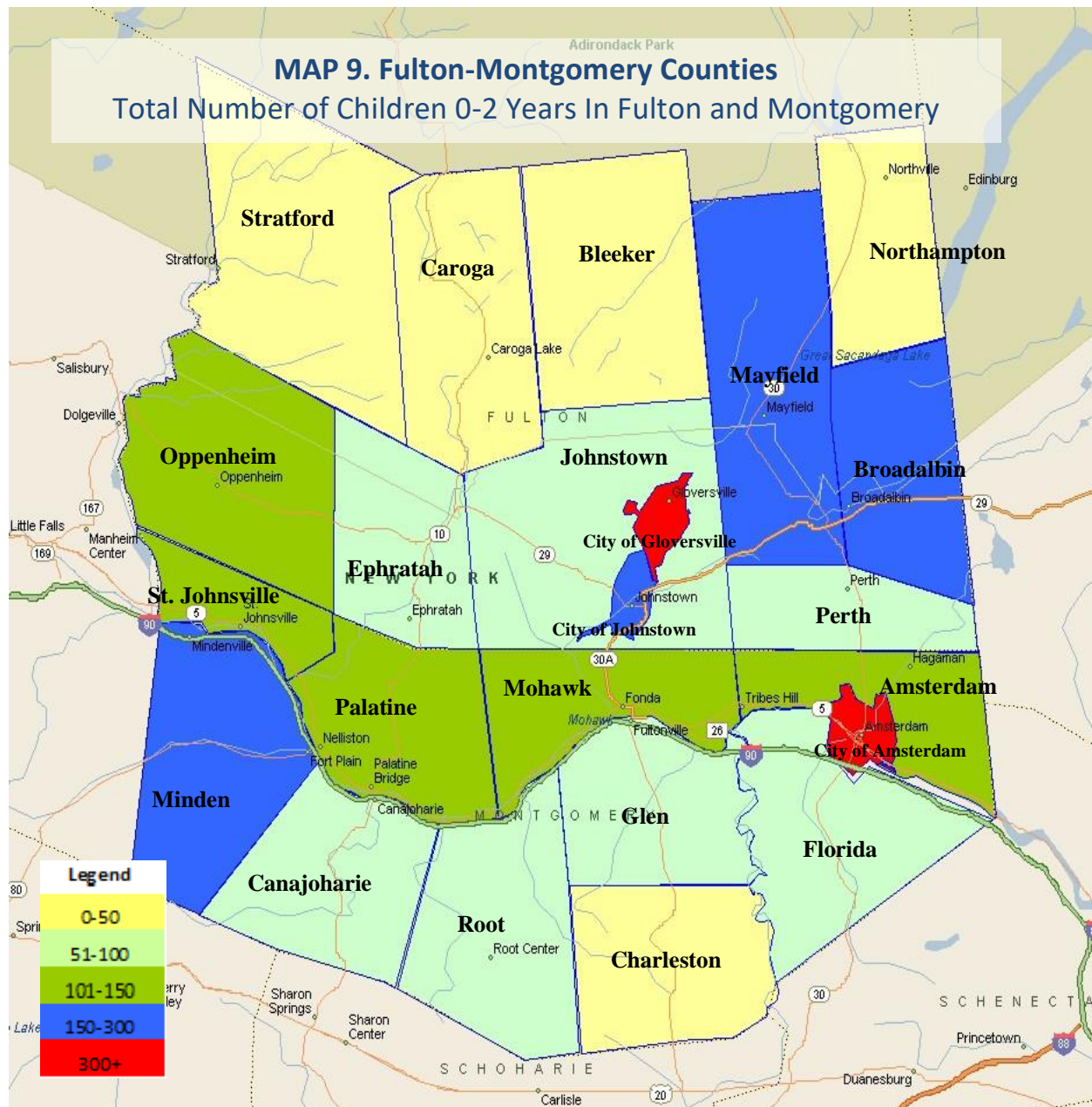
MAP 9. Fulton-Montgomery Counties
Total Number of Children 0-2 Years In Fulton and Montgomery

Source: Data for individual tract level based on 2017 FCAA Community Needs Assessment analysis.

Eligibility is based on poverty income guidelines by household size established for Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

- In Fulton County, 335 children are estimated to be eligible for Early Head Start based on the most recent Census data, a decrease of 5.4% in 2018.
- In Montgomery County, 561 children are estimated to be eligible, an increase of 6.3% in 2018.
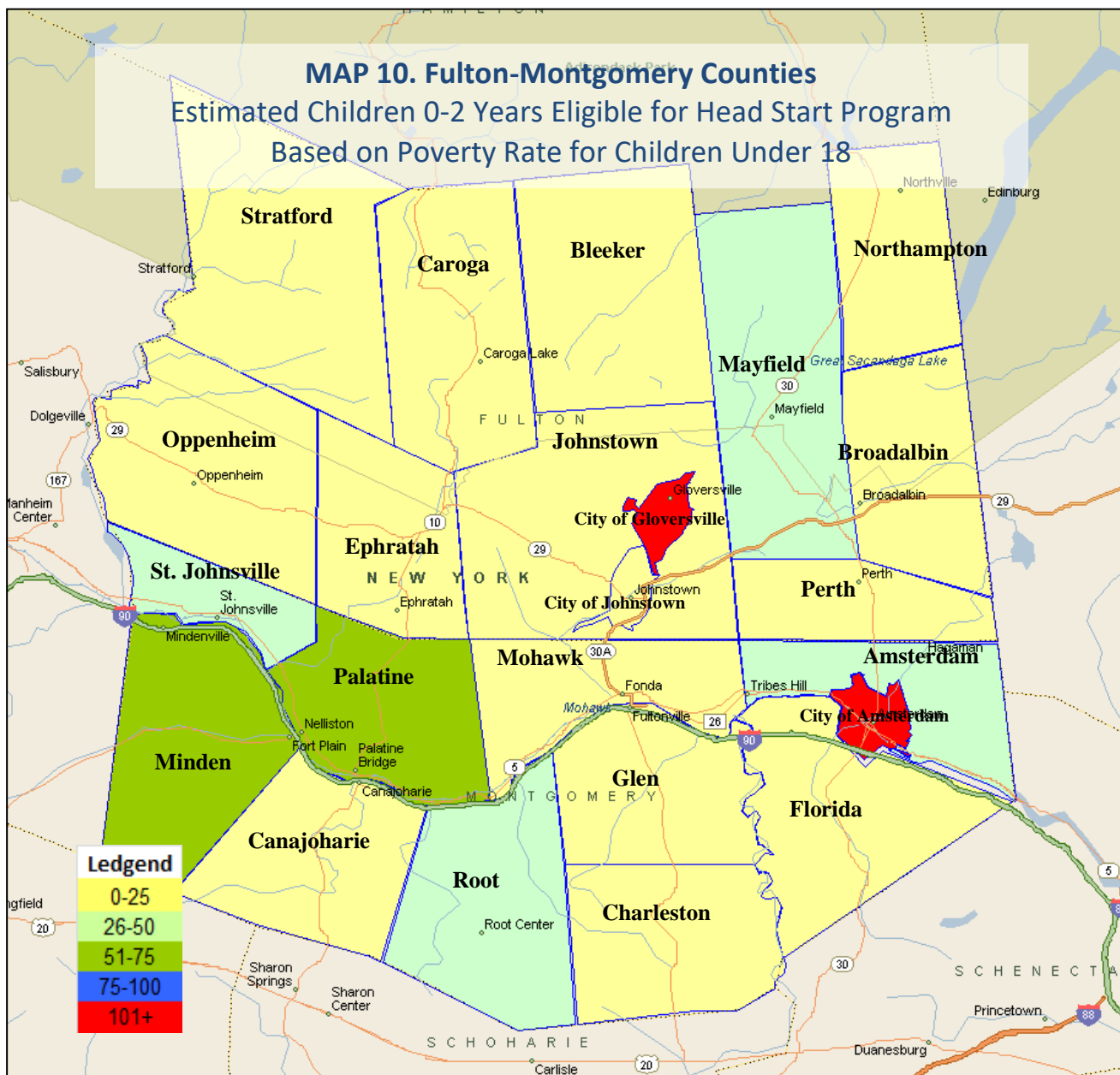
MAP 10. Fulton-Montgomery Counties
Estimated Children 0-2 Years Eligible for Head Start Program
Based on Poverty Rate for Children Under 18

Source: Data for individual tract level based on 2017 FCAA Community Needs Assessment analysis.

Head Start Provisions on Homelessness and Children Experiencing Homelessness

In 2007, the federal government enacted the "Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007" into law. The legislation reauthorizes the Head Start Act and contains numerous provisions on homelessness and foster care.

Those provisions include, among others, that children experiencing homelessness are categorically eligible for Head Start services and that Head Start agencies are instructed to ensure that homeless children are identified and prioritized for enrollment; allow homeless families to apply to, enroll in, and attend Head Special consideration is also given to accommodating children in foster care, and children referred to Head Start programs by child welfare agencies.
.
As part of this effort local Head Start agencies are expected to make efforts to understand the local needs of homeless children and help families as well as other at-risk children. While Fulton County saw an overall decrease in total students identified as homeless (down roughly 10% since 2015), Montgomery County saw an overall increase of 20.5% since 2015. Both Johnstown and Mayfield School Districts in Fulton County saw an increase in students identified as homeless (up by 7.1% and 3.8% respectively) since 2015.

Gloversville City School District and Northville Central School District saw decreases (down by 14% and 50% respectively). Montgomery County saw large increases for Amsterdam City School District, with homeless students up by 60%, and for Oppenheim, Ephratah-St. Johnsville, up by 100%. Both Canajoharie and Fonda-Fultonville saw significant decreases in the number of homeless students (down 100% and almost 67% respectively).

Early Childhood Public School Education

Public School Pre-Kindergarten - The Head Start needs assessment requires evaluation of kindergarten and pre-kindergarten trends. The most recent year with final data available for pre-kindergarten programs is 2018-2019. There was an overall decline (-8.5%) in total pre-kindergarten enrollment in Fulton County and a slight uptick in Montgomery County (1.3%). Gloversville City School District, Mayfield Central School District and Wheelerville Union Free School all experienced a slightly increase in enrollment (up 2.3%, 2% and 4.3% respectively) since 2015. In Montgomery County, Amsterdam City School District saw an increase in enrollment by 7.5%, while Fort Plain School district saw a decrease of 28% compared to 2015.

Child Care - There are a total of 400 school-age slots available in School-Age Child Care Centers in Fulton County. The Mental Health Association in Fulton & Montgomery Counties SACC program in Gloversville has the largest capacity at 150. In comparison, there is one School-Age Child Care Center listed for Montgomery County, the Fonda-Fultonville AASP in Fonda with 160 school age slots available.

Some of the common types of childcare programs in New York State include Day Care Centers, Family Day Care Homes, Group Family Day Care Homes, and School Age Child Care Programs. Each program is regulated by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Day Care Centers provide care for more than six children at a time, not in a personal residence. Day Care Centers can serve children ages six weeks through twelve years and operate for more than three hours a day.

In Fulton County, there are currently eight **licensed day care centers**. All day care centers are in Gloversville, Johnstown, and Broadalbin. Combined, there is a capacity of 361-day care slots including 7 infant, 31 toddler, 302 pre-school, and 21 school age.

The largest facility is Fulmont Community Action Agency in Gloversville (capacity of 85), followed by Bright Future Learning Center (capacity of 67). There are nine licensed day care centers located in Montgomery County. Most of the day care facilities are in the City of Amsterdam. Combined, there is a capacity of 797-day care slots including 44 infant, 104 toddler, 567 pre-school, and 82 school age. The largest facility is Whispering Pines Preschool, Inc. in Amsterdam (capacity of 298).

TABLE 10. CHILD CARE CENTERS, FULTON COUNTY						
Name	Type	Infant	Toddler	Pre-	School	Total
Bright Adirondack Adventures Childcare	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	8
Dolgeville Future Learning Ctr, Gloversville	DCC	7	19	41	0	67
Care-A-Lot Early Dev. Center,	GFDC	2	2	2	5	11
Conner's Friends Daycare, Johnstown	GFDC	3	3	3	3	12
Country Kids Daycare, Johnstown	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	8
Curiosity Corner, Johnstown	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	16
1st Friends Pre-School /Daycare,	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	16
Fulmont (Gloversville)	DCC	0	0	85	0	85
Fulmont (Johnstown)	DCC	0	0	22	0	22
Fulmont Gloversville Head Start	DCC	0	0	35	0	35
Fulmont Kingsborough Head Start	DCC	0	0	0	21	21
Fulton Cty. YMCA- Blvd. Gloversville	SACC	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	70
Georges Jungle, Gloversville	FDC	2	2	2	2	8
Hillier, Sharon, Johnstown	FDC	2	2	2	2	8
Houser, Misty, Johnstown	FDC	2	2	2	2	8
Lady Bug Day Care, Johnstown	GFDC	2	2	2	2	8
Little Bear Daycare, Hagaman	FDC	3	3	3	7	16
Mental Health Assoc., East Blvd.	SACC	0	0	0	80	80
Mental Health Assoc., West 11th, Gloversville	SACC	0	0	0	150	150
Miss Penny's Childcare, Gloversville	GFDC	2	2	2	6	12
Park Terrace AASP SACC, Gloversville	SACC	0	0	0	100	100
Rainbow Play School, Gloversville	DCC	0	0	35	0	35
Sweet, Jaidene, Mayfield	FDC	2	2	2	2	8
Wee Care Playcare, Broadalbin	DCC	0	12	28	0	40
Whispering Pines, Gloversville	DCC	0	0	56	0	56
Total Capacities		27	51	322	382	900
Notes: DCC-Day Care Center, FDC-Family Day Care, GFDC – Group Family Day Care, SACC-School Age Child Care, Nd – No data						
Source: NYS Office of Children and Family Service; Child Care Services						

TABLE 11. CHILD CARE CENTERS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY						
Name	Type	Infant	Toddler	Pre-School	School Age	Total
Buds & Blossoms Child Care, Johnstown	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Building Blocks Child Care & Learning Center LLC, Hagaman	DCC	8	22	15	15	60
Carousel Kids, Tribes Hill	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Creative Minds Childcare Program, Fultonville	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Crum Creek Kids Connection Day Care, St Johnsville	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Fonda-Fultonville AASP, Fonda	SACC	0	0	0	160	160
Fulmont Canajoharie Head Start	DCC	0	0	30	0	30
Fulmont St. Johnsville	DCC	0	0	14	0	14
Fulmont Head Start, Amsterdam	DCC	0	0	147	0	147
Fulmont Fort Plain Head Start	DCC	0	0	21	0	21
Fulton County YMCA FMCC Playmates, Johnstown	DCC	4	10	15	0	29
Gros, Debra, Palatine Bridge	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	2	8
Lil Firecrackers Daycare, Amsterdam	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	2	8
Little Hearn Playskool, Fort Plain	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Little Ones Childcare, Amsterdam	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Little Rascals Daycare, Amsterdam	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Little Red Wagon Family Daycare	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Little, Tammy, Amsterdam	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	2	8
Memory Lane Daycare, Amsterdam	DCC	8	24	19	33	84
Smiling Faces, Johnstown	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Smiling Faces II, Amsterdam	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Springtime Day Care, Fort Johnson	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Sunflower Safari Childcare, Amsterdam	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Sunshine's Kids Corner Inc., Amsterdam	DCC	24	24	32	34	114
Wee Care Daycare, Palatine Bridge	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Wee Folks Day Care, Fonda	GFDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	4	16
Wee Wittle Wascals, PalatineBridge	FDC	Nd	Nd	Nd	2	8
Whispering Pines Preschool Inc., Amsterdam	DCC	0	24	274	0	298
Total Capacities		**44**	**104**	**567**	**306**	**1213**
Notes: DCC-Day Care Center, FDC-Family Day Care, GFDC – Group Family Day Care, SACC-School Age Child Care, Nd – No data Source: NYS Office of Children and Family Service; Child Care Services						

There are 3 family day care providers, including group family day care, in Fulton County. Each provider has a capacity of 6 children (ages 6 weeks to 12 years) and 2 additional school age children. Each group family day care provider either has a total capacity of 11 or 12 children (ages 6 weeks to 12 years) and 2 or 4 school age children. In Montgomery County, there are 5 family day care providers and 13 group family day care providers.

School-Age Child Care Programs
These programs provide care for more than six children from kindergarten through age twelve during non-school hours and may provide care during school vacation periods and holidays.

Services to Children with Disabilities

Services to children with disabilities are provided by:

Community Health Center - Certified Home Health Care Agency (CHHA), a program of St Mary's Healthcare & Nathan Littauer Hospital provides developmental services (birth to age 5) to children who live in Fulton, Montgomery, Herkimer or Saratoga counties who have a developmental disability or delay and are in need of in-home services. Early Intervention Services (birth to age 3) include Special Education, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy; Speech; Counseling (MSW); Registered Dietician; and service coordination. Preschool (age 3- 5) Services include Physical Therapy; Occupational Therapy; Speech; Special Education and Psychology.

Child & Adolescent Program Services (CAPS) - Lexington Early Intervention and Preschool Program in Johnstown provides speech/language pathology, occupational therapy and physical therapy to children who are referred by the Fulton County Department of Public Health for Early Intervention or Preschool Services (age 3-5 with a disability). Early intervention Assessments are also offered (birth to age 5).

Fulton County Public Health in Johnstown provides Early Intervention (birth through 2 years): Services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families including special education, physical, occupational and speech therapy, medical social work, registered dietician, service coordination. Preschool services (3-5 years): Services include physical, occupational and speech therapy, special education, psychological services. Fulton County Public Health contracts with the Community Health Center, The Center for Disability Services, the Lexington Center, and the school systems for provision of services.

Child Find Program is a voluntary statewide program available in both counties that ensures children (birth to 3 years of age) are monitored if they are at risk of having a developmental delay. Enrolled children's families receive information about development milestones at 3,6,12,18,24, and 36 months of age.

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program serves children from birth to 21 who may have a serious physical, intellectual or developmental disability and/or behavioral or emotional condition. This referral program works with families to meet the medical and non-medical needs of their children.

Early Intervention Programs

The New York State Early Intervention Program (EIP) is part of the national Early Intervention Program for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. According to the New York State Department of

Health, the mission of this program is to identify and evaluate as early as possible those infants and toddlers whose healthy development are compromised and provide for appropriate intervention to improve child and family development. Goals of the program are as follows:

- **Family-Centered**: Support parents in meeting their responsibilities to nurture and enhance their children's development.
- **Community-Based:** Create opportunities for full participation of children with disabilities and their families in their communities by ensuring services are delivered in natural environments to the maximum extent appropriate.
- **Coordinated Services**: Ensure early intervention services are coordinated with the full array of early childhood, health and mental health, educational, social, and other community-based services needed by and provided to children and their families.
- **Measurable Outcomes for Children & Families**: Enhance child development and functional outcomes and improve family life through delivery of effective, outcome- based high quality early intervention services.
- **Early Intervention & the Medical Home**: Ensure early intervention services complement the child's medical home by involving primary and specialty health care providers in supporting family participation in early intervention services.

- **Local Control, Fiscal Reform & Programmatic Accountability**: Assure equity of access, quality, consistency, and accountability in the service system by ensuring clear lines of public supervision, responsibility, and authority for the provision of early intervention services to eligible children and their families.

Children are eligible for the Early Intervention Program if they are under three years old, have a confirmed disability or established developmental delay, as defined by the State, in one or more of the following areas of development: physical, cognitive, communication, social-emotional, and/or adaptive.

A multidisciplinary evaluation is completed to determine if a child is eligible for the Early Intervention Program. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is then written. The IFSP includes the outcomes for each child and family, describes the early intervention services the child and family will get to help them reach their outcomes, describes who will provide services and where, when, and how often, and identifies the ways services will be used to help the family to reach those outcomes.

Early Intervention services are provided to children only by qualified professionals (individuals who are licensed, certified, or registered in their discipline and approved by the State of New York). These services can be provided in a variety of settings including home-and community-based visits; facility-or center-based visits; parent-child groups; family support groups; and group developmental intervention.

Additionally, the Early Intervention Program offers many types of early intervention services to children and their parents. Services include assistive technology services and devices; family education and counseling, home visits, and parent support groups; nursing services; nutrition services; occupational therapy; physical therapy; psychological services; service coordination; social work services; special instruction; speech pathology and audiology; and vision services.

In 2018, 109 children were enrolled in the Early Intervention Program in Montgomery County, according to the NYS Department of Health. The pre-school program offers special education services for children aged three to five. The local county program works with each school district to provide and coordinate services for eligible children. NYS DOH municipality performance data shows that in 2018, 84% of eligible children received services

within 30 days from the date of their authorized Individual Family Service Plan. All participating families reported that early intervention services helped the family to understand their rights, helped their children develop and learn and helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs.

Fulton County Public Health also provides an Early Intervention Program and Preschool Education Program to Fulton County residents. Children with health problems, or who are not developing at the same rate as other children their age, receive services to assure each child reaches his or her full potential. Children must meet qualifying criteria to receive these services. In 2018, 97 children were enrolled in the EIP program. NYS DOH municipality performance data shows that in 2018, 91% of eligible children received services within 30 days from the date of their authorized Individual Family Service Plan. All participating families reported that early intervention services helped the family to understand their rights, helped their children develop and learn and helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs.

Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services provides educational services, on a shared basis, to fifteen school districts comprising in Fulton, Montgomery, and Hamilton Counties. The HFM BOCES Special Education Division offers students with disabilities a variety of educational and occupational programs as well as related services. This division is committed to the development and continuation of programs that assist students with disabilities in becoming productive members of society.

Special education classes are offered in Basic Educational and Skills Training, Life Sills, Pupils Adjusting to Community Environment-PACE, Multiple Disabled Program, Pervasive Developmental Disorders Program (PDDP), Children in Crisis Program-CICP, Hearing Impaired Program, and Academic Preparation Program (APP).

In addition to the special education classes, BOCES provides a number of supportive services including behavior support services, health services, counseling services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, social work services, speech, language and hearing services, career assessment/transition, vision services, work study program, and special education itinerant services.

Special Education Services and Challenges

Local schools including Head Start are required to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which requires that children with disabilities ages 3 to 21 receive special education services and related services. Head Start and Fulmont staff work closely with families, teachers, school districts and the committees established to assess special education needs in both counties. They report that too many children who are certified as eligible to receive special education services cannot access them due to provider shortages.

TABLE 12. EARLY INTERVENTION MUNICIPALITY PERFORMANCE - FULTON COUNTY									
Evaluation Criteria - NOTE "%" = "% of children"	**Federal Fiscal Year**								
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
1	% receiving services 30 days or less from the date of the authorizing Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP	91%	100%	100%	100%	100%	87%	100%	76%	71%
2	% receiving services in natural environments	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%	100%	100%	100%	100%
3A1	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in positive social-emotional skills who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited program	61%	67%	100%	*	67%	71%	*	*	57%
3A2	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in positive social-emotional skills who were functioning within age expectations by the time they exited program	28%	50%	100%	*	33%	0%	*	*	33%
3B1	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in acquisition & use of knowledge and skills who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	63%	80%	0%	*	60%	71%	*	*	57%
3B2	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in acquisition & use of knowledge and skills who were functioning within age expectations by the time they exited program	44%	50%	0%	*	33%	0%	*	*	21%
3C1	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited program	40%	86%	100%	*	83%	71%	*	*	55%
3C2	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs who were functioning within age expectations by the time they exited program	33%	50%	100%	*	50%	0%	*	*	21%
4A	% families participating in Part C who report that EI services have helped the family know their rights	*	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*
4B	% families participating in Part C who report EI service helped them effectively communicate their needs	100%	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*
4C	% families participating in Part C who report that EI services helped their children develop and learn	100%	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*
5	% (ages birth to 1 year) served by EI	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
6	% (ages birth to 3 years) served by EI	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%
7	% with IFSP developed within 45 days of referral	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	89%	88%	96%
8A	% exiting EI who had transition steps and services	100%	100%	100%	95%	100%	75%	*	*	*
8B	% exiting EI potentially eligible for Part B where the school district was notified	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	88%	*	*	*
8C	% exiting EI potentially eligible for Part B who had a transition conference or Committee on Pre-school Special Education meeting	100%	100%	100%	*	*	*	*	*	*
Note: Indicators 1, 3, 7 & data is sample based per State Performance Plan (SPP). Indicator 4 sample based prior to FFY 2018. *Data not available.									

TABLE 13. EARLY INTERVENTION MUNICIPALITY PERFORMANCE – MONTGOMERY COUNTY										
Evaluation Criteria - NOTE "%" = "% of children"		Federal Fiscal Year								
		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
1	% receiving services 30 days or less from date of authorizing Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)	84%	93%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	87%	83%
2	% receiving services in natural environments	96%	98%	96%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
3A1	% who entered or exited program below age expectations in positive social-emotional skills) who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited program	83%	67%	100%	*	*	82%	*	*	69%
3A2	% who entered or exited the program below age expectations in positive social-emotional skills who were functioning within age expectations by the time they exited the program	31%	67%	67%	*	*	9%	*	*	33%
3B1	% who entered or exited the program below age expectations in acquisition and use of knowledge and skills who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	92%	67%	100%	*	*	82%	*	*	78%
3B2	% who entered or exited the program below age expectations in acquisition and use of knowledge and skills who were functioning within age expectations by the time they exited the program	47%	67%	100%	*	*	36%	*	*	48%
3C1	% who entered or exited the program below age expectations in use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	74%	67%	100%	*	*	64%	*	*	71%
3C2	% who entered or exited below age expectations in use of appropriate behaviors to meet needs who functioned within age expectations by time they exited the program	38%	67%	100%	*	*	9%	*	*	38%
4A	% families participating in Part C who report EI services have helped the family know their rights	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	67%	*
4B	% families participating in Part C who report that EI services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	67%	*
4C	% families participating in Part C who report that EI services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	100%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	67%	*
5	% (ages birth to 1 year) served by EI	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
6	% (ages birth to 3 years) served by EI	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
7	% with IFSP developed within 45 days of referral	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	89%	95%	100%
8A	% exiting EI who had transition steps and services	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	*	*
8B	% exiting EI potentially eligible for Part B where the school district was notified	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	*	*
8C	% exiting EI potentially eligible for Part B who had a transition conference or Committee on Pre-school Special Education meeting	100%	100%	100%	*	*	*	*	*	*
Note: Indicators 1, 3, 7 and data is sample based per State Performance Plan (SPP). Indicator 4 was sample based prior to FFY 2018. * Data not available.										

TABLE 14. STUDENT ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL EDUCTAION, FULTON AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NY - 2018-2019	Autism	Deafness	Emotional Disturbance	Hearing Impairment	Intellectual Disability	Learning Disability	Multiple Disabilities	Orthopedic Disability	Other Impairment	Speech or Language Impairment	Traumatic Brain Injury	Visual Impairment	Total Students with Disabilities
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DISTRICTS													
Amsterdam City School	54		13		32	182	36	1	196	93		4	611
Canajoharie Central School	10		9		4	42	5		16	5		1	92
Fonda-Fultonville Central School	17		3	3	1	70	5		43	38	1		181
Fort Plain Central District	12		8		5	77	8		29	32			171
Oppenheim-Ephrata-St. Johnsville	5		11	1	5	53	5	1	37	23	1	2	144
FULTON COUNTY DISTRICTS													
Broadalbin-Perth Central School	25	1	7	2	3	68	4	1	60	21	1	3	196
Gloversville City School	57	1	28	5	27	196	29		161	45	1		550
Johnstown City School	28		9	1	15	88	6		51	21		1	220
Mayfield Central School	11		2		2	54	7		36	20		1	133
Northville Central School			1		3	25	1		24	11			65
Wheelerville Union Free School			1			8			1				10

Please see the tables that follow documenting Early Intervention performance for each County from the New York State Education Department for more information.

Family Day Care Homes
These programs provide care for three to six children at a time in a residence and may add one or two school-age children. The maximum number of children depends on how many infants are in care. Family Day Care can serve children ages six weeks through twelve years and operate for more than three hours a day.

Group Family Day Care Homes
These programs provide care for seven to twelve children in a residence and may add one or two school-age children. The maximum allowable number of children will depend on whether there are and how many infants are in care. A provider must use an assistant when more than six children are present. Group Family Day Care can serve children ages six weeks through twelve years and operate for more than three hours a day.

TABLE 15. FULTON AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY SERVICES – 2020*		
DISABILITY SERVICES		
Description	**Fulton County 2019***	**Montgomery County 2019***
**Pre-School Children Receiving Special Education (5-Year Trend) **		
# of Children by School Year		
2014 - 2015	72	61
2015-2016	71	66
2016-2017	78	65
2017-2018	55	75
2018-2019	62	74
Disability Characteristics/Children with Disabilities		
AGE (2014-2018 ACS)		
Total Population with Disability	15.9%	16.4%
Population under 5 with Disability	1.9%	.8%
Population 5-17 with Disability	10%	8.7%
With a Hearing Difficulty (Total Pop.)	4.8%	4.1%
Population < 5	1.9%	.8%
Population 5-17	1.4%	.9%
Population < 18	1.6%	.9%
With a Vision Difficulty (Total)	2.5%	3.0%
Population < 5	1.9%	0%
Population 5-17	2.1%	1.3%
Population < 18	2%	.9%
With a Cognitive Difficulty (Total)	6%	7.1%
Population < 18	7.8%	7%
With an Ambulatory Difficulty (Total)	8.8%	8.6%
Population < 18	2.5%	.9%
With Self-Care Difficulty (Total)	3.8%	3.1%
Population < 18	3.6%	1.8%

* Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates unless otherwise specified

**Source: NYSED, State & District Data Summaries of Special Education at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sedcar/state.htm

Fulmont Community Action Head Start Service to Disabled Children

As required by program regulations, 10% of the enrollment needs to be available for disabled students. participants served by the Head Start Program serve children with disabilities. In 2018-2019 Head Start enrolled 54 children with disabilities (16.4% of total enrollment). Once a child is enrolled in the Head Start Program, the child is then screened. If it is determined that a child has a disability that needs further evaluation, parents are provided with a list of agencies to that provide screenings/evaluations and services for their children. The following is a summary of referral agencies used by Fulmont Community Action.

TABLE 16. STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (2018-2019)						
	Percent of students with disabilities in general education program for:				Percent of preschoolers by program type:	
School District	**80% or more of the day**	**40% to 79%**	**Less than 40% of the day**	**Separate e/Other Settings**	**Special Ed. Student - Regular Setting**	**Special Ed. Pre-schooler in Special Program or Facility**
Fulton County						
Broadalbin-Perth Central School (Pre-K/12)	69.8%	12.8%	12.3%	5%	46.4%	10.7%
Gloversville City School (Pre-K/12)	47.6%	22.5%	24.4%	5.6%	47.4%	3.5%
Johnstown City School (Pre-K/12)	66.3%	15.1%	15.6%	2.9%	55.2%	3.5%
Mayfield Central School (Pre-K/12)	64.6%	13.8%	13.8%	7.7%	57.1%	0%
Northville Central School (Pre-K/12)	75%	20%	5%	0%	14.3%	28.6%
Wheelerville Union Free School (Pre-K to 8)	33.3%	55.6%	11.1%	0%	NA	NA
Montgomery County						
Amsterdam City School (Pre-K to 12)	50.7%	21.5%	25%	2.8%	32.1%	2.6%
Canajoharie Central School (Pre-K to 12)	59.6%	12.4%	21.3%	6.7%	27.3%	0%
Fonda-Fultonville Central (Pre-K to 12)	88.2%	6.5%	3.6%	1.8%	63%	0%
Fort Plain Central School (Pre-K to 12)	44%	23.3%	32.1%	.6%	44.4%	0%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville (Pre-K/12)	48.6%	20%	27.1%	4.3%	53.9%	0%

https://data.nysed.gov/specialed/?year=2019&instid=800000051614#EnrollmentandClassificationRate

Crossroads Center for Children is a school for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Based on techniques of applied behavior analysis, the staff provides five and a half hours per day of intensive instruction in all important areas of a child's development. All needed services are provided including speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychology, and parent and sibling support.

Crossroads Center for Children offers five integrated preschool classrooms that operate five and one-half hours each day, Monday through Friday. Children are placed in classrooms based on their individual strengths and needs. Each classroom provides unique learning opportunities that are matched to the skills of the students. Each classroom offers a continuum of services suited to meet the spectrum of needs that students with autism present with. For example, the kindergarten readiness room focuses on academics, social skills, and self-management. Students in this room receive instruction mainly in small and large groups with zero to one hour of individualized instruction.

This contrasts with another preschool room that focuses on behavior management and functional communication. Students in this classroom are less prepared to learn incidentally and instead, receive greater practice and repetition through two to three hours of individualized instruction and a lower frequency of small groups. Although the intensity varies from classroom to classroom, each works on the development of

language skills, small group instruction, social skills, academic skills, and self-management. The goal of Crossroads Center for Children is to transition preschoolers into their home school district. As such, the program aims to prepare students for typical school activities such as learning to buy lunch and attending field trips so that they may be prepared for a less restrictive placement.

Whispering Pines Preschool is a private preschool, approved as a NYS Early Intervention Service Provider (EIP), which provides educational and therapy services to young children with special needs, as well as a preschool early learning experience for typical children. The Whispering Pines curriculum is grounded in the educational premise that all children must be actively involved in the environment for learning to occur. Children learn more effectively in environments that draw from their own experiences and ideas. Their curriculum provides children with new information and challenges, which can be assimilated into their new learning experiences.

Utilizing a team approach, the programs provide educational opportunities for young children by allowing them to develop to their fullest capabilities. The programs provide: an environment that encourages peer to peer socialization; a play-based curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for each child; staff that will facilitate the learning skills that foster successful transition and interactions with peers; comprehensive support services as an integral part of the learning process; an environment that encourages direct parent involvement as an integrated part of the learning process; an environment that is responsive to the diversities of the children and presents material in a non-biased manner; an environment that nurtures each child's level of self-esteem, independence, and respect of others. Whispering Pines has three locations in Delanson, Amsterdam and Cobleskill, New York.

Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) associated with the Fulton County Public Health Department evaluates children between the ages of 3-5 who are suspected of having development delays. After evaluation, a CSPE meeting is held at the school district to review results and determine eligibility and potential services.

Special Education Practitioner Shortages

The shortage of practitioners in language and speech and development, adaptive education, visually impaired & orientation/mobility, occupational and physical therapy (OT/PT), deaf and hard of hearing/audiological services, psychological counseling and other services is caused by two national trends: shortages in trained teachers and increasing levels of medically underserved areas, especially rural communities.

For example, the demand for speech-language pathologists (SLPs) is rising, with projected job growth at 21% through 2024, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Yet a shortage of SLPs has put the squeeze on schools and healthcare organizations. The BLS notes that the increasing demand stems from the need to meet the needs of children as well as aging baby boomers who suffer strokes and other brain injuries.
https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/bteachershortageareasreport201718.pdf

Both state and federal governments provide public data on shortage designations to improve access to primary care, dental, and mental health providers. In NYS, Regents-Designated Physician Shortage Areas (RPSAs) consist of both Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as approved by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and designated health care facilities within New York State. HPSAs are defined by whole counties, one or more townships within rural areas, or one or more census tracts within urban areas.

NYS has designated all of Fulton and Montgomery Counties to be Medicaid Eligible Physician Shortage Areas for Primary Care. Both Fulton and Montgomery Counties face shortages in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine.

Montgomery County:
- City of Amsterdam is designated as a Medically Underserved Area for primary care.
- Schenectady Family Health Services is listed as the only HRSA-approved provider in Montgomery County.
- St. Mary's Hospital in Amsterdam is the only Hospitals Designated as Regents Physician Shortage Areas for Primary Care Physicians, Emergency Medicine Physicians, and Psychiatrists.

Fulton County:
- The Town of Oppenheim is designated as a Medically Underserved Area for primary care.
- There are no HRSA-approved providers listed in Fulton County.
- Nathan Littauer in Gloversville is the only hospital Designated as Regents Physician Shortage Areas for Primary Care Physicians, Emergency Medicine Physicians, and Psychiatrists in Fulton County.
- For non-primary care needs Fulton County is classified as a shortage area for pathology.

TABLE 17. HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA (HPSA) - FULTON COUNTY & MONTGOMERY COUNTY NY (2019)					
Discipline	**HPSA ID**	**HPSA Name**	**Designation Type**	**HPSA FTE Short (1)**	**HPSA Score (2)**
MONTGOMERTY COUNTY					
Primary Care	1364060206	ME - Montgomery County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	5.36	18
Mental Health	7363049879	ME - Montgomery County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	1.27	18
Dental Health	6365856067	ME - Montgomery County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	3.96	20
Primary Care	13699936D6	Schenectady Family Health Services (Amsterdam Ctr.)	Federally Qualified Health Ctr.	0	20
Dental Health	636999361Q	Schenectady Family Health Services (Amsterdam Ctr.)	Federally Qualified Health Ctr.	0	23
Mental Health	7369993680	Schenectady Family Health Services (Amsterdam Ctr.)	Federally Qualified Health Ctr.	0	21
FULTON COUNTY					
Primary Care	1363496318	ME - Fulton County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	5.95	17
Mental Health	7369425481	ME - Fulton County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	1.32	17
Dental Health	6368788115	ME - Fulton County	Medicaid Eligible Pop. HPSA	4.36	18
(1) Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) practitioners needed to achieve the population to practitioner target ratio.					
(2) National Health Corps score range 0 to 26 - Higher score represents higher need for clinician assignment.					

Source: https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/hpsa-find

Teacher Shortages In New York State

The U.S. Department of Education has designated 17 teacher shortage areas in New York for 2019-20, according to the Nationwide Teacher Shortage Area website. While the federal agency's classifications have varied from year to year, the

number of teacher shortage areas in New York has increased every year in the last decade based on data reported by the State Education Department. The state's 2019-20 shortage areas include (note data at district or County level could not be located):

- General Teacher Education – Grades 5-12
- General Teacher Education (Bilingual): All Grades
- Career and Technical Education: All Grades
- Students with Disabilities: All Grades
- Special Education (Not Bilingual): Elementary Grades
- Special Education (Not Bilingual): Middle/Secondary Grades
- Special Education (Bilingual): All Grades
- Special Education Practice Area Shortages:
  - Blind/Visually Impaired
  - Deaf/Hard of Hearing
  - ESL
  - ESL with Bilingual Extensions
  - Language and Speech

Shortage areas vary in degree across regions and districts within the state. Growing anecdotal evidence demonstrates that teacher shortages are hitting many other certificate titles as well, with high-need and rural districts experiencing the most difficulty attracting appropriately certified individuals.

https://www.nysut.org/resources/all-listing/research/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-teacher-shortage-in-new-york-state

Effect of Reimbursement Rates

The cost of providing special education and state mandated reimbursement rates for practitioners also contributes to this problem. In February 2020 the Citizens Committee For Children and over three dozen statewide and local organizations submitted a letter to NYS asking that the reimbursement rates for preschool special education programs and evaluations be increased by 10% in 2021 citing the "growing number of preschoolers with disabilities who have a legal right to a preschool special education program, but who are going without the class they need because inadequate reimbursement rates have created a shortage of these vital programs" and lack of preschool special education class. They cite that "over the past several years, more than 60 preschool special education programs around the State have closed, including nearly 30 outside of New York City." They also observe that "in addition to the lack of seats in appropriate classes, more than one in ten preschoolers with disabilities (12%) do not receive timely evaluations, often due to a shortage of providers." The most recent data available show that in a number of districts around the State, such as New York City and Poughkeepsie, more than 30% of preschoolers were not evaluated within the legally mandated timeframe during the 2017-18 school year—delays that meant children went without the critical services they needed

https://www.cccnewyork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/preschool_special_ed_sign_on_letter_021820.pdf

ECONOMY

Labor Force

According to the U.S. Census the workforce in Fulmont Area has declined by 11% between 2015-2020. There are 44,971 people in the labor force, 42,147 of whom are employed, representing 50.5% of the population over 16 years of age. The New York Labor Department reports unemployment rates have risen to 6.3% in the

Fulmont area as of March 2020, with a total of 2,824 unemployed in the region.

The average commuting times to work varies between communities. The average commute time for the Fulmont area has increased to 25 minutes.

In 2018, Fulton County saw growth in all sectors, with the greatest growth in sales & office (14.9%) and production & transportation (12.7%) occupations. Montgomery County saw growth in production & transportation as well (9.6%), with minor growth in management & professional (2.6%). Jobs related to natural resources & construction, sales and office and service declined in Montgomery County.

The private sector has grown its workforce by 2.6% in the region since 2015. Self-employment within this sector declined significantly by 20% in Montgomery County, though it saw small gains in Fulton (2.8%). Government worker employment has declined by 7.6% since 2015 in the Fulmont area. Unpaid family workers decreased by almost 61% in Fulton County and increased by almost 84% in Montgomery County.

Wages

The highest paying occupations were professional management, computer, and mathematical operations, legal, architecture and engineering. The lowest paying occupations were food preparation and service, building, grounds and maintenance, healthcare support and personal care and service occupations with $28,350 up to $33,270 in income. It should be noted that most FCAA consumers responding to the survey question about income had an annual income below $25,000.

Places to Work

The combined workforce in Fulton and Montgomery Counties has declined by 11% between 2015 and 2020. Growing sectors in Fulton County include construction; transportation; information; finance; professional, scientific & management; arts and entertainment; other services and public administration, while agricultural, manufacturing and wholesale trade continue to decline. Retail trade and educational services & health care & social assistance have declined as well since 2015.

The major employers in Fulton County are:
- Benjamin Moore Paints
- Crystal Geyser
- DHL Logistics
- EPIMED International
- Euphrates Cheese
- FAGE USA Dairy Industry, Inc.
- Frontier Communications
- Lexington Center
- Nathan Littauer Hospital
- Pioneer Windows
- Townsend Leather
- Vireo Health
- Walmart Food Distribution Center
- Fulton- Montgomery Community College

In Montgomery County, the growing employment areas are manufacturing; transportation; finance and insurance; professional, scientific & management services; and other services. Since 2015, agriculture, construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, educational services; arts, entertainment, and recreation services; and public administration have declined. Major employers in Montgomery County are:

- Beech-Nut Nutrition Corp
- DAIM Logistics, Inc.
- Florida North, Inc.
- Fulton-Montgomery Community College
- Hill and Markes, Inc.
- Kasson & Keller, Inc.
- Keymark Corp.
- St. Mary's Healthcare
- Target Distribution Center

Job Training

There are several job training programs available in the Fulmont area including:

- **The Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties Workforce Solutions System** offers a variety of services and resources including resume preparation, telephone and mail service, placement assistance and job referral, readiness training, occupational training, skills assessment testing, priority services to veterans, and self-directed computer training. program.

- **Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery Board of Cooperative Educational Services (HFM BOCES)** strives to enhance education through collaborative partnership and innovative leadership, services, and programs, enabling individuals, school districts and the community to achieve their standards of excellence. Adult Literacy services, including Pre-GED and GED preparation classes are available in Amsterdam and Gloversville. English as a Second Language classes are available in Amsterdam.

- **Montgomery County Office for the Aging, Inc.** offers job placement, employment referral, and subsidized employment training for eligible people 55 and older.

- **Fulton County Office for Aging** employment program provides the following services: job preparation and support, classroom training, recruitment of older workers, placement services for Title Positions in the private sector.

- **Fulton-Montgomery Community College (FMCC)** offers tailored training to provide local companies with skilled workers, including a wide range of certificate and degree programs.

- **Lexington Employment Resources offers Employment Resources** supporting approximately 200 individuals, over 100 of whom are employed in the community. Others receive support to prepare for, find and retain jobs. The program specializes in working with people have difficulty finding a job, people with disabilities and people receiving temporary assistance and/or food stamps.

School to Work Programs

Local school to work programs include:

- **Bridging Academics and the Workplace** is an apprentice program enables students to split time between the classroom and the workplace, offering work opportunities at seven local companies. Students hold paid part-time positions and gain valuable experience. In 2015 (its first year) 26 students worked at seven local companies. The program has been rolled into the P-TECH program

- **Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) – Preparing Students for a Technology Economy** led by Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES sponsored by NYS Education Department helps define new ways of educating students in partnership with regional businesses (the apprenticeship program will be folded in to this effort.). Moving beyond being a regional high school, graduates of the program earn both a high school diploma and an associate degree in one of the following areas: Information Technology, Health Care, Advanced Manufacturing and Clean Energy or Business Administration. There is no charge to the students for the college credits. Each spring there are 50 slots open in each PTECH for the following school year.

- **Smart Scholars – Placing At-Risk Youth on the Road to Success** is a collaborative program between the Greater Amsterdam School District and FMCC targeting at-risk students who are "college capable" but are not considering college. Beginning in ninth grade, Smart Scholars complete high school courses and are enrolled in college-level courses in addition to high school courses.

- **Career Day – An Introduction to Opportunity** exposes 8th graders to job opportunities and the FMCC campus developed by the Fulton-Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce created Education Committee. The Committee was formed in 2014 to improve the discussions and interactions between area business leaders and education leaders and sponsors.

- **Pathways Development – Coordination Among School Districts** is operated by the Tri-City Education Partnership - a collaborative program between Amsterdam, Gloversville and Johnstown School Districts that offers high school students' clear pathways to jobs in targeted clusters in partnership with FMCC. Students move between districts to take the pathway courses, allowing districts to build strengths and reduce duplication of programming.

- **Engineering/Technology Camp – Introducing the Advanced Technologies of the Workplace** is conducted each year by FMCC offering students the opportunity to work in the electronics lab, advanced manufacturing lab and cleanroom, allowing them to explore the various technologies and develop an appreciation of the products and processes that fuel the County's advanced economy.

EDUCATION

Fulton County has six school districts educating around 9,000 students in 22 schools. Districts include Broadalbin-Perth School District, Gloversville City School District, Johnstown City School District, Mayfield School District, Northville Central School District, and the Wheelerville Union Free School District. Together the districts employ 22 principals, 7 assistant principals, 51 professional staff and 712 full time teachers. Overall graduation rates have increased slightly over the past few years, with an average graduation rate of 79% compared to 79% in 2015. Gloversville City School District and Northville Central have seen the greatest

increases, by roughly 19% and 18% respectively. The number of students going on to higher education has decreased by roughly 8%.

The largest school district in Fulton County remains Gloversville City (2,597 students), followed by Broadalbin-Perth (1,664 students) and Johnstown City (1,592 students). Overall, Fulton County school districts saw large increases in the percentage of high school dropouts. The Gloversville City School District has the highest percentage of high school dropouts (13%). Northville Central has the lowest dropout rate at 0%. In comparison, the NYS dropout rate was 6%.

Within Montgomery County, there are five school districts, including Amsterdam City District, Canajoharie Central District, Fonda-Fultonville Central District, Fort Plain Central District and Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville Central District. The Amsterdam City District is the largest school district in Montgomery County with 3,669 students (during the 2018-2019 academic year.) This school district also has the highest high school dropout rate (12%), which represents a 100% increase from 2015. Only Fonda-Fultonville CSD saw a decrease in the dropout rate, with a total rate of 0% in 2018.

The number of young adults attending high school decreased by 8% in Fulton County and increased by 1% in Montgomery County. Attendance at college/graduate school has decreased by 13% since 2015. The number of kindergarteners has increased by 16% (2015- 2018). High school graduation has declined by 5.8%. Students with a BA or higher has increased by 9%. Students dropping out with no diploma has declined by 10.2% (2015-2018). Over the same period, the number of students gaining their Associates Degree increased in Fulton County by 16.4% but decreased in Montgomery County by almost 4%. Those gaining a graduate or professional degree in Fulmont area increased by 20%.

HOUSING

Fulton County has 29,052 housing units and Montgomery County has 23,493. The number of units has increased by 2.8% since 2015: occupied units increasing by 1.3% (2015-2018). Occupied units grew by 4.2%, renter-occupied units decreased by 5.1% and vacant units increased by 9.4%. A total of 22,439 were occupied in Fulton County and 19,655 in Montgomery County. In **Fulton County** housing is 71.5% owner occupied and 28.5% renter occupied. 2018 ACS reports the homeowner vacancy rate was 2.8% and the rental vacancy rate was 4.4%. Rental vacancy rates have dropped slightly since 2015. In **Montgomery County**, owners make up 68% of the occupied housing and renters make up 32%. The county's homeowner vacancy rate was 1.9% and the rental vacancy rate was 5.3%; both rates have dropped since 2015. Over 78% of all housing stock was built prior to 1980, and 63% of housing stock is over 50 years old. Aging housing often does not meet today's building standards and can pose health and safety risks for families including lead and toxin exposures.

Owner-Occupied Units

Owner-occupied units make up 70% of all occupied housing units and they have increased since 2015 by 4.2% throughout the region. The median value of owner-occupied units in Fulton County is $108,700 in 2019. The median mortgage payment is $1,127**.** The median value of owner-occupied units is $101,000 in Montgomery County in 2019. The median mortgage payment is $1,221. Approximately 31% of all owner-occupied units are cost burdened, paying more than 30% of their income towards their mortgage. The cities Gloversville and Amsterdam have less than 50% owner-occupied units, and median home values at $75,200 and $85,700, making them more affordable, but still far out of reach from most FCAA eligible consumers.

Renter-Occupied Units

Renter-occupied units make up 30.1% of all occupied housing units in the Fulmont Area. Since 2015 the number of renter-occupied units has decreased by 5.1% throughout Fulmont. In the cities of Gloversville, Johnstown and Amsterdam, renter-occupied households have grown. In Gloversville and Amsterdam renter-occupied units' makeup over 50% of all households. The median rent is $759 per month in 2018 in Fulton County and $749 in Montgomery county. Over 52% of renter-occupied households are cost burdened. Households that pay over 30% of their income for rent experience a decline in their standard of living and recurring challenges to provide nutritious food, regular meals, and other necessary items.

Affordable Housing

Subsidized housing in Fulton County is concentrated in Gloversville, Johnstown, and Mayfield. The Gloversville Housing Authority manages three public housing facilities in the City. Forest Hill Towers is a 108- unit housing facility that serves senior citizens age 62 and older and persons with disabilities age 50 and over. Kingsboro Towers is a 100-unit senior high rise that serves the same population. Dubois Gardens is an 85-unit building that serves non-elderly families. Section 8 units are provided to residents of the City of Gloversville and the City of Johnstown, however, the exact number of units by bedroom size was not available from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (See Tables on Following Page).

TABLE 18. SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY, FULTON COUNTY								
Facilities	Unit	0 BR	1 BR	2 BR	3BR	4+BR	Subtotal Elderly/ Disabled	Subtotal Non-Elderly
Forest Hill Towers (Gloversville)	108	27	81	0	0	0	108	0	0
Dubois Gardens (Gloversville)	85	0	0	23	43	19	0	0	85
Kingsboro Towers (Gloversville	100	78	20	2	0	0	100	0	0
Gloversville Housing Authority	251	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gloversville Mod Rehab Program	23	0	6	8	7	2	6	0	17
Trackside Homes (Johnstown)	95	0	95	0	0	0	95	0	0
City of Johnstown Section 8	132	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
180 Briggs Street Ext.	24	0	20	4	0	0	24	0	0
Mtn. View Townhouse (Mayfield)	16	0	8	4	4	0	0	0	16
Hillside Place Apts. (Johnstown)	24	0	20	4	0	0	24	0	0
305 CR 155 (Mayfield)	41	0	41	0	0	0	41	0	0
309 CR 155 (Mayfield)	41	0	40	1	0	0	41	0	0
Kingsborough Apts (Gloversville)	40	0	11	29	0	0	40	0	0
Petoff Gardens Apts II (Mayfield)	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	0
Estee Senior Apts (Gloversville)	37	0	37	0	0	0	37	0	0
Totals	**1041**	**105**	**403**	**75**	**54**	**21**	**500**	**0**	**118**

Source: U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and New York State Affordable Housing Directory and Gloversville Housing Authority: https://www.gloversvillehousingauthority.com/

Within Montgomery County, subsidized housing units are in Amsterdam, Canajoharie, Fonda, Palatine, Hagaman, Fort Johnson, and St. Johnsville. Over one-half of the units are in Amsterdam.

TABLE 19. SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY									
Facilities	Units	0 BR	1 BR	2 BR	3BR	4+BR	Subtotal Elderly/ Disabled		Subtotal Non-Elderly
Rivercrest Dev Corp.	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
Theodore Roosevelt Apts.	68	0	68	0	0	0	68	0	0
Woodrow Wilson (Amsterdam)	20	0	0	0	10	10	0	0	20
Highland Gardens (Amsterdam)	30	0	15	10	5	0	25	0	5
Holland Gardens (Amsterdam)	55	0	14	25	16	0	55	0	0
Stratton Apartments (Amsterdam)	75	1	72	2	0	0	75	0	0
Amsterdam Rehab (53 Wall St)	18	9	0	3	6	0	9	0	9
Amsterdam Rehab (74 Wall St.)	8	4	0	0	0	4	4	0	4
Amsterdam Mod Rehab Program	64	2	18	23	13	8	20	0	44
Wallins Corner Apts. (Amsterdam)	24	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	24
Amsterdam 202 Project	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	0
Fonda Terrace Apts. (Fonda)	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	0
Riverview Apartments (Fonda)	24	0	0	8	16	0	0	0	24
Fort Plain Mod Rehab Program	49	0	25	16	6	2	25	0	24
11 Barber Street (Fonda)	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	0
102 Lafayette Street (Palatine)	32	0	32	0	0	0	32	0	0
Palatine Village Apts. (Palatine)	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	0
New Dimensions in Living	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	0
Wallins Corners (Hagaman)	24	0	10	12	2	0	0	0	24
Midtown Estates (St. Johnsville)	26	0	26	0	0	0	26	0	0
Old Meadow (St. Johnsville)	42	0	6	18	18	0	0	0	42
Totals	669	16	396	141	92	24	435	6	228

Source: U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and New York State Affordable Housing Directory

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

Fulton County
Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.
www.fulmont.org

Park St. County Annex Bldg.
Fonda, NY 12068
518-853-3011

County Population:
53,743

Population for whom poverty status is determined:
Overall
52,533
Population Under 18
10,434
Population 25 & Over
37,984
Population over 65
9,659

15.5% COUNTY POVERTY RATE

Living In Poverty

Individuals
15.5%   8,119
Children (Under 18)
21.9%   2,289
Adults 25+
12.4%   4,699
Senior Citizens 65+
7.8%   750

Race & Poverty
White	15.0% (7,486)
African American	31.0% (263)
Hispanic/Latino	27.9% (423)

VALUES REPRESENT THE PERCENT OF POPULATION IN POVERTY BY RACE.

Education & Poverty
Adult Population 25+: 37,984

Educational Attainment
No Degree	High School	Associate	Bachelors or Higher
12.4% (4,707)	35.5% (13,485)	34.2% (12,988)	17.9% (6,804)
Total*	Total*	Total*	Total*
28.5% (1,342)	13.9% (1,870)	9.6% (1,248)	3.5% (239)
Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty	Living in Poverty

*DUE TO ROUNDING, PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD UP PRECISELY TO 100%.

Employment & Poverty

Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child Household
$25.95

Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apartment
$14.85

Median Income
$34,735

Median Income w/High School Diploma
$30,815

Health & Poverty

No Health Insurance
Employed
8.9%
Unemployed
31.2%

Free/Reduced Lunch Program
68%

Gender & Poverty
High School Diploma Only
Median Earnings $36,314
Median Earnings $25,234

Of Those Families with Female Heads of Household and Children Present
44.8%
Live in Poverty

US Poverty Rate: 14.1% ● State Poverty Rate: 14.6%

2020

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

Montgomery County
Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.
www.fulmont.org

Park St. County Annex Bldg.
Fonda, NY 12068
518-853-3011

County Population:
49,426

Population for whom poverty status is determined:
Overall
48,412
Population Under 18
11,011
Population 25 & Over
33,496
Population over 65
8,418

19.9%
COUNTY POVERTY RATE

Living In Poverty

Individuals
19.9%   9,649
Children (Under 18)
30.5%   3,360
Adults 25+
16.4%   5,506
Senior Citizens 65+
10.6%   894

Race & Poverty

White	17.1% (7,278)
African American	31.4% (292)
Hispanic/Latino	41.0% (2,738)

VALUES REPRESENT THE PERCENT OF POPULATION IN POVERTY BY RACE.

Education & Poverty

Adult Population 25+: 33,496

Educational Attainment

No Degree	High School	Associate	Bachelors or Higher
14.0% (4,694)	34.9% (11,676)	33.5% (11,218)	17.6% (5,908)
Total*	**Total***	**Total***	**Total***
39.1% (1,833)	14.9% (1,738)	14.0% (1,567)	6.2% (368)
Living in Poverty	**Living in Poverty**	**Living in Poverty**	**Living in Poverty**

*DUE TO ROUNDING, PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD UP PRECISELY TO 100%.

Employment & Poverty

Living Wage for 1 Adult, 1 Child Household
$26.05

Hourly Wage for FMR, 2BR Apartment
$15.15

Median Income
$34,448

Median Income w/High School Diploma
$30,957

Health & Poverty

No Health Insurance
Employed
8.1%
Unemployed
17.2%

Free/Reduced Lunch Program
78%

Gender & Poverty
High School Diploma Only

Median Earnings
$38,116

Median Earnings
$21,115

Of Those Families with Female Heads of Household and Children Present
51.1%
Live in Poverty

US Poverty Rate: 14.1% ● State Poverty Rate: 14.6%

The following table summarizes a wide array of data discussed in the report. It is intended to facilitate comparison and illustrate trends for Fulton and Montgomery Counties and for the service area Fulmont serves. The most current data available was used for each characteristic: as a result, the base year varies. U.S Census Data and various New York State agency reports are used in addition to data and mapping provided by the New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA). See page 85 for a full list of data sources.

TABLE 20. COMMUNITY PROFILE FOR FULTON & MONTGOMERY COUNTIES

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS						
Total Population	54,606	53,743	-1.6%	49,779	49,426	-0.7%
Median Age	42.8	43.8	2.3%	41.0	41.4	1%
Population by Age Segments						
<5	2,795	2,677	-4.2%	2,978	3,034	1.9%
5-9	3,198	3,099	-3.1%	3,011	3,238	7.5%
10-19	6,803	6,307	-7.3%	6,483	6,040	-6.8%
20-44	16,069	15,675	-2.5%	14,838	14,749	-0.6%
45-64	16,267	16,004	-1.6%	13,826	13,400	-3%
65>	9,474	9,981	5.4%	8,643	8,965	3.7%
Population by Race						
White alone	95.2%	93%	-2.3%	83.6%	81.9%	-2%
Black or African American	1.6%	2%	25%	2.1%	2%	-4.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.1%	0.4%	300%	0.2%	0.1%	-50%
Asian alone	0.6%	0.7%	16.6%	0.7%	0.8%	14.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Some other race	0.7%	0.9%	28.6%	5.4%	6.2%	14.8%
Two or More Races	1.7%	1.4%	-17.6%	2.7%	2.9%	7.4%
Hispanic or Latino	2.7%	2.9%	7.4%	12.3%	13.7%	11.4%
School Age Populations						
By Segment/Years						
<3	1,457	1,530	5%	1,630	1,838	12.8%
3-4	1,338	1,126	-15.8%	1,348	1,196	-11.3%
5	680	638	-6.2%	630	759	20.5%
6-8	1,999	1,939	-3%	1,784	1,959	9.8%
9-11	2,024	1,688	-16.6%	2,062	1,932	-6.3%
12-14	1,834	1,990	8.5%	1,867	1,626	-12.9%
15-17	2,081	1,971	-5.3%	2,041	1,961	-3.9%
Pre-school (0-5)	3,475	3,294	-5.2%	3,608	3,793	5.1%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Head Start Programs Eligibility						
Head Start Eligibility: Children 3-5 Years Old	2,018	1,764	-12.6%	1,978	1,955	-1.2%
Poverty Rates (% children under 18 in poverty)	24.3%	21.9%	-9.9%	32.4%	30.5%	-5.9%
Estimated Eligible Children for Head Start Program	490	386	-21.2%	641	596	-7%
Potential Need for Early Head Start: Children 0-2 Years	1,457	1,530	5%	1,630	1,838	12.8%
Poverty Rates	24.3%	21.9%	-9.9%	32.4%	30.5%	-5.9%
Estimated Eligible Children for Early Head Start (0-2 Years Old)	354	335	-5.4%	528	561	6.3%
Universal Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment Trends						
Total PreK Students (2016-2017 v. 2018-2019)	**378**	**346**	**-8.5%**	**452**	**458**	**1.3%**
Fulton School Districts						
GLOVERSVILLE CITY SD Total Pre-K Students	132	135	2.3%			
JOHNSTOWN CITY SD Total Pre-K Students	81	54	-3.3%			
MAYFIELD CSD Total Pre-K Students	46	37	2%			
NORTHVILLE CSD Total Pre-K Students	22	21	-4.5%			
BROADALBIN-PERTH CSD Total Pre-K Students	90	89	-1.1%			
WHEELERVILLE SD Total PreK-Students	7	10	4.3%			
Montgomery School Districts						
Amsterdam City SD				268	288	7.5%
Canajoharie CSD				48	49	2%
Fonda-Fultonville CSD				54	54	0%
Fort Plain CSD				50	36	-28%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St Johnsville CSD				32	31	-3%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Total Students Identified as Homeless by District (2015-2016 and 2018-2019) ***						
Fulton School Districts						
Wheelerville UFSD	NA****	NA	NA			
Gloversville City SD	43	37	-14%			
Johnstown City SD	28	30	7.1%			
Mayfield CSD	21	29	3.8%			
Northville CSD	14	7	-50%			
Broadalbin-Perth CSD	NA	NA	NA			
Montgomery School Districts						
Amsterdam City SD				118	189	60%
Canajoharie CSD				14	0	-100%
Fonda-Fultonville CSD				42	14	-66.7%
Fort Plain CSD				17	20	17.6%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St Johnsville CSD				9	18	100%
Total Students Identified as Homeless by Grade (2015-2016 v. 2018-2019)***						
Pre-School (Receiving CPSE Services)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pre-K/3 YEARS TO KINDERGARTEN	NA	NA	NA	7	16	128.6%
KINDERGARTEN	6	8	33.3%	22	26	18.2%
Grade 1	15	6	-60%	20	25	25%
Grade 2	11	13	18.2%	18	24	33.3%
Grade 3	8	9	-12.5%	14	19	35.7%
Grade 4	12	5	-58.3%	18	14	-22.2%
Grade 5	14	NA	NA	15	18	20%
Grade 6	7	10	-42.9%	11	20	81.8%
Grade 7	9	7	22.22%	13	10	-23%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Grade 8	6	7	16.7%	6	16	166.7%
Grade 9	5	11	120%	16	12	-25%
Grade 10	8	5	-37.5%	19	9	-52.6%
Grade 11	NA	8	NA	6	12	100%
Grade 12	7	NA	NA	12	11	-8.3%
Total by Grade	**116**	**104**	**-10.3%**	**200**	**241**	**20.5%**
Doubled Up	96	97	1%	157	200	27.4%
Hotel/Motel	NA	NA	NA	21	31	47.6%
Sheltered	15	5	-66.7%	NA	NA	NA
Unsheltered (e.g. cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned buildings)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total by Primary Nighttime Residence	**116**	**104**	**-10.3%**	**200**	**241**	**20.5%**
HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS						
Households	22,281	22,439	0.7%	19,539	19,665	.6%
Housing by Occupancy						
Total Units	28,617	29,052	1.5%	23,184	23,493	1.3%
Occupied Units	22,281	22,439	0.7%	19,539	19,655	.6%
Owner Occupied	15,684	16,036	2.2%	13,109	13,375	2%
Renter Occupied	6,597	6,403	-2.9%	6,430	6,290	-2.2%
Median Rent per Month	$711	$759	6.8%	$702	$749	6.7%
Vacant Units	6,336	6,613	4.4%	3,645	3,828	5%
Vacant – for rent	364	298	-18.1%	369	361	-2.2%
Vacant – for sale	447	456	2%	317	256	-19.2%
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.7	2.8	3.7%	2.3	1.9	-17.4%
Rental vacancy rate	5.1	4.4	-13.7%	5.4	5.3	-1.9%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Heads of Household						
By Marital Status						
Population 15 years and over	45,274	44,811	-1%	40,457	40,114	-0.8%
Never married	12,807	13,318	4%	13,199	13,059	-1%
Now married, except separated	22,312	21,213	-4.9%	18,020	17,958	-.3%
Separated	1,487	1,533	3%	1,238	1,195	-3.5%
Widowed	3,329	3,488	4.8%	3,394	3,317	-2.3%
Widowed Female	2,610	2,686	2.9%	2,703	2,576	-4.7%
Divorced	5,339	5,259	-1.5%	4,606	4,585	-5.2%
Divorced Female	2,775	2,706	-2.5%	2,554	2,474	-3.1%
Grandparents as Caregivers						
Grandparents living in household with one or more grandchildren under 18 years	844	1,145	35.7%	947	888	-6.2%
Grandparents responsible for grandchildren	461	688	4.9%	310	258	-16.8%
ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS						
INCOME						
Median household income	$45,722	$50,248	9.9%	$43,764	$45,837	4.7%
Mean household income	$58,147	$63,186	8.7%	$57,536	$62,158	8%
Total Households - by Income	22,440	22,439	0%	19,539	19,665	.6%
< $10K	1,716	1,234	-28%	1,651	1,475	-10.7%
$10K to $14.9K	1,377	1,391	1%	1,496	1,278	-14.6%
$15K to $24.9K	2,807	2,536	-9.6%	2,837	2,655	-6.4%
$25K to $34.9K	2,657	2,715	2.2%	1,964	2,320	-18.1%
$35K to $49.9K	3,560	3,254	-8.6%	2,972	2,753	-7.4%
$50K to $74.9K	4,356	4,555	4.6%	3,576	3,795	6.1%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
$75K to $99.9K	2,453	2,850	16.2%	2,240	2,124	-5.2%
$100K to $149.9K	2,670	2,580	-3.4%	1,886	2,104	11.6%
$150K to $199.9K	455	808	77.6%	588	787	33.8%
$200,000K >	389	494	27%	329	393	19.5%
POVERTY						
Poverty rate for individuals	17.1%	15.5%	-9.4%	20.6%	19.9%	-3.4%
Poverty rate for families	12.5%	10.9%	-12.8%	15.5%	15.3%	-1.3%
Population living at or above poverty level	44,198	44,414	.5%	38,698	38,763	.2%
Population living below poverty level	9,100	8,119	-10.8%	10,053	9,649	-4%
Age of people living in poverty						
<5	624	538	-13.8%	1,075	1,003	-6.7%
5-17 years	2,027	1,751	-13.6%	2,499	2,357	-5.7%
18-34 years	2,569	2,243	-12.7%	2,483	2,282	-8.1%
35-64 years	3,105	2,837	-8.6%	3,017	3,113	3.2%
65> years	775	750	-3.2%	979	894	-8.7%
Children under 18 years old in poverty	2,651	2,289	-13.7%	3,574	3,360	-6%
LABOR FORCE						
Population 16 years and over	44,744	44,067	-1.5%	39,698	39,377	-.8%
In labor force	26,824	22,800	-15%	23,856	22,171	-7%
In civilian labor force (16+)	26,819	25,934	-3.3%	23,800	23,337	-1.1%
Employed	24,133	21,410	-11.3%	21,683	20,737	-4.4%
Unemployed	2,686	1,390	-48.3%	2,117	1,434	-3.2%
Unemployment rate	5.2%	6.1%	17.3%	5.1%	6.5%	27.5%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Average commute to work	23.4	24.9	6.4%	24.0	25.1	4.6%
Occupation						
Management & Professional	6,680	7,178	7.5%	6,439	6,605	2.6%
Service	4,858	4,934	1.7%	4,161	4,010	-3.6%
Sales & Office	6,083	5,178	14.9%	5,073	4,774	-5.9%
Natural Resources & Construction	2,373	2,404	1.3%	2,295	2,076	-9.5%
Production & Transportation	4,139	4,666	12.7%	3,715	4,071	9.6%
Class of workers						
Private workers	18,690	19,194	2.7%	16,576	16,991	2.5%
Government workers	4,234	3,977	-6%	3,769	3,445	-9.2%
Self-employed workers	1,125	1,156	2.8%	1,307	1,043	-20%
Unpaid family workers	84	33	-60.7%	31	57	83.9%
DISABILITY CHARACTERISTICS						
Total population with a disability	8,667	8,420	-2.8%	7,603	7,982	5%
Male	4,456	4,128	-7.4%	3,591	3,963	-10.4%
Female	4,211	4,292	1.9%	4,012	4,019	.2%
Population with a disability by race						
White alone	8,339	7,960	-4.5%	6,764	6,931	2.5%
Black or African American alone	107	156	45.8%	120	200	66.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	17	31	82.4%	17	54	217.6%
Asian alone	24	32	33.3%	51	71	39.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Some other race alone	74	103	39.2%	527	515	-2.3%
Two or more races	106	138	30.2%	124	211	70.2%
Hispanic or Latino (any race)	190	171	-10%	1,137	1,264	11.2%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Population with a disability by age						
Under 5 years	40	52	30%	70	25	-64.3%
5 to 17 years	809	826	2.1%	592	717	21.1%
18 to 34 years	919	749	-18.5%	860	939	9.2%
35 to 64 years	3,742	3,722	-.5%	3,162	3,258	3%
65 to 74 years	1,312	1,210	-7.8%	1,082	1,375	27%
75 years and over	1,845	1,861	.9%	1,837	1,668	-9.2%
EDUCATION						
School Enrollment ***** (2015 and 2019)						
TOTAL School Enrollment (PreK-12)	**7,776**	**7,612**	**-2.1%**	**7,698**	**7,655**	**-.6%**
Total PreK	388	346	-10.8%	460	458	-.4%
Pre-K (Half Day)	158	104	-34.2%	65	0	-100%
Pre-K (Full Day)	230	242	5.2%	395	458	15.9%
K (Full Day)	513	522	1.8%	544	529	-2.8%
1st Grade	497	521	4.8%	556	498	-10.4%
2nd Grade	595	574	-3.5%	588	540	-8.2%
3rd Grade	522	494	-5.4%	577	529	-8.3%
4th Grade	578	525	-9.2%	542	557	2.8%
5th Grade	568	589	3.7%	570	576	1%
6th Grade	574	591	3%	547	581	6.2%
7th Grade	583	589	1%	558	541	-3%
8th Grade	612	571	-6.7%	533	586	9.9%
9th – 12th Grades	2,346	2,238	-4.6%	2,223	2,173	-2.2%
Eligible for Free Lunch (2016 & 2019)	3,488	4,936	41.5%	3,845	6,060	57.6%
Eligible for Reduced Price Lunch (2016 & 2019)	456	205	-55%	288	66	-77%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Educational Attainment (*Attend School*)						
Pop. 3 yrs. plus in school	11,923	10,614	-11%	11,574	11,016	-4.8%
Nursery school, preschool	922	697	-24.4%	752	616	-18%
Kindergarten	513	574	11.9%	579	694	19.9%
Elementary school (grade 1-8)	5,535	4,794	-13.4%	4,989	4,885	-2%
High school (grades 9-12)	2,740	2,520	-8%	2,692	2,724	1.2%
College or graduate school	2,213	2,029	-8.3%	2,562	2,097	-18.1%
Educational Attainment (*Attain HS or College degree*)						
Population 25 years+	38,758	38,600	-.4%	34,275	34,213	-.9%
Less than 9th	1,539	1,192	-22.5%	1,644	1,606	-2.3%
No High School Diploma (9-12ᵗʰ)	3,984	3,680	-7.6%	3,721	3,246	-12.8%
High School Graduate	14,898	13,795	-7.4%	12,561	12,028	-4.2%
Some College, No degree	7,588	7,666	1%	6,154	6,715	9.1%
Associate degree	4,650	5,414	16.4%	4,659	4,642	-3.6%
Bachelor's Degree	3,344	3,660	9.4%	3,472	3,407	-1.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	2,755	3,193	15.9%	2,064	2,569	24.5%
HS Diploma or higher (25+)	86%	87.4%	1.6%	84.3%	85.80%	1.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher (25+)	16.2%	17.8%	9.9%	16.2%	17.50%	8%
High school graduation rates*** (2015 and 2019)**						
Fulton School Districts	78%	79%	1.3%			
Broadalbin-Perth Central	91%	86%	-5.5%			
Gloversville City	62%	74%	19.4%			
Johnstown City	78%	74%	-5.1%			
Mayfield Central	90%	85%	-5.6%			
Northville Central	82%	97%	18.3%			
Wheelerville Union Free SD	NA	NA	NA			

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Montgomery School Districts				73%	77%	5.5%
Amsterdam City SD				64%	68%	6.3%
Canajoharie CSD				79%	85%	7.8%
Fonda-Fultonville CSD				81%	97%	19.8%
Fort Plain CSD				85%	86%	1.2%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville CSD				72%	73%	1.4%
High School Dropout***(2015 and 2019)**						
Fulton School Districts						
Broadalbin-Perth Central	3%	6%	100%			
Gloversville City	7%	13%	85.7%			
Johnstown City	4%	11%	175%			
Mayfield Central	2%	8%	300%			
Northville Central	4%	0%	-100%			
Wheelerville Union Free SD	NA	NA				
Montgomery School Districts						
Amsterdam City SD				6%	12%	100%
Canajoharie CSD				3%	5%	66.7%
Fonda-Fultonville CSD				5%	0%	-100%
Fort Plain CSD				5%	9%	80%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville CSD				5%	9%	80%
Number of Students K-12***(2016 and 2019)**						
Fulton School Districts						
Broadalbin-Perth Central	1,721	1,664	-3.3%			
Gloversville City	2,659	2,597	-2.3%			
Johnstown City	1,640	1,592	-2.9%			

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Mayfield Central	870	874	.5%			
Northville Central	436	424	-2.8%			
Wheelerville UFSD	132	115	-12.9%			
Montgomery School Districts						
Amsterdam City SD				3,656	3,669	.4%
Canajoharie CSD				905	857	-5.3%
Fonda-Fultonville CSD				1,335	1,225	-8.2%
Fort Plain CSD				732	768	4.9%
Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville CSD				697	678	-2.7%
Enrollment by Poverty Status						
Total	**51,863**	**51,026**	**-1.6%**	**47,173**	**46,574**	**-1.3%**
Income in the past 12 months below the poverty level	**$8,755**	**$7,745**	**-11.5%**	**$9,479**	**$9,052**	**-4.5%**
Enrolled in school	**2,708**	**2,233**	**-17.5%**	**3,056**	**2,728**	**-10.7%**
Enrolled in nursery school, preschool	201	134	-33.3%	275	163	-40.7%
Enrolled in kindergarten	147	163	10.9%	166	209	25.9%
Enrolled in grade 1 to grade 4	649	566	-12.8%	888	744	-16.2%
Enrolled in grade 5 to grade 8	628	486	-22.6%	705	639	-9.4%
Enrolled in grade 9 to grade 12	534	431	-19.3%	597	679	13.7%
Enrolled in college undergraduate years	492	344	-30%	383	253	-33.9%
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	57	109	91.2%	42	41	-2.4%
Not enrolled in school	**6,047**	**5,512**	**-8.8%**	**6,423**	**6,324**	**-1.5%**
Income in the past 12 months at/above the poverty level	**$43,108**	**$43,281**	**.4%**	**$37,694**	**$37,522**	**-.5%**
Enrolled in school	**8,323**	**7,933**	**-4.7%**	**8,279**	**8,027**	**-3%**
Enrolled in nursery school, preschool	569	547	-4%	446	427	-4.3%
Enrolled in kindergarten	283	320	13.1%	392	461	17.6%
Enrolled in grade 1 to grade 4	1,868	1,706	-8.7%	1,544	1,663	7.7%

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERISTIC	FULTON COUNTY			MONTGOMERY COUNTY		
	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018	2015*	2018**	% change 2015-2018
Enrolled in grade 5 to grade 8	1,937	1,828	-5.6%	1,688	1,638	-3%
Enrolled in grade 9 to grade 12	1,947	1,959	.6%	2,072	2,035	-1.8%
Enrolled in college undergraduate years	1,429	1,377	-3.6%	1,761	1,382	-21.5%
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	290	196	-32.4%	376	421	12%
Not enrolled in school	**34,785**	**35,348**	**1.6%**	**29,415**	**29,495**	**.3%**

*Source: Fulmont Community Action Agency March 2017 Community Needs Assessment unless otherwise noted.

**Source: U.S. Census ACS 2014-2018 and/or New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) Fulmont 2018-2020 unless otherwise noted. For labor force data, March 2020 data from NYSCAA and NYS DOL used wherever available.

***Source: NYS Education Department 2018-2019: https://nysteachs.org/topic-resource/data-on-student-homelessness-nys/

**** NA in the category "Total Students Identified as Homeless by District or Grade" indicates fewer than 4 students were found to be experiencing homelessness.

*****Sources: NYSDE Report Card 2015-1016 and 2018-2019; NYSCAA Fulmont 2018-2019

VI. OTHER COMPONENTS

HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH (INSURANCE, LITERACY, LEADING HEALTH INDICATORS)

County Health Indicators

The New York Community Health Indicator Reports are summarized selected health statistics for each New York State County as well as New York State, New York City, and New York State exclusive of New York City. Several different data sets were used in these profiles which cover:

- The Perinatal Health using data from the New York State Department of Health extracted from birth, death, and fetal death certificates. Population based rates use population estimates provided by the US ICD-10 codes are used for cause of death. Mortality data was extracted from death files.

- Information is collected through the hospital data system. Data are not available on events that did not result in a hospitalization, such as an emergency room. The NYS Dept. of Health Bureau of Communicable Disease Control maintains surveillance of all reportable communicable diseases and conditions. Laboratories, hospitals, and physicians are required to report cases of these diseases to their local health department. Rates are computed and presented per 100,000 populations.

The Public Health Department in Fulton County "under the direction of the Fulton County Board of Supervisors and the New York State Department of Health, seeks to promote wellness, to protect from disease, to prevent injury/disability, to prepare for emerging illness/disease and to assist Fulton County Residents in attaining and maintaining optimal health."

The Health Department provides Early Intervention, Vaccinations/Immunizations, WIC, Newborn Visits, Safe Haven, Family Planning, Bike Helmet Program, Car Seat Program, Lead Program, Public Health Education Program, Child Find Program, and Communicable / Chronic Diseases Program (Confidential HIV Testing, Sexually Transmitted Disease Diagnosis and Treatment, Tuberculosis (TB) Screening, West Nile Virus and Rabies Vaccination Clinics). Please see pages 47-49 for discussion of medically underserved area status and practitioner shortages.

Montgomery County Public Health Department

The County Public Health Department is "a public agency serving all residents carrying out public health programs through services to prevent disease and injuries and promote and protect health. The agency focuses on identification and surveillance of health threats, community health protection and promotion, screening and prevention services and outreach services."

Services offered include Children's Services, Chronic and Communicable Disease Programs, Health Education, Immunizations, Lead Poisoning Prevention, Maternal Child Health Services, Rabies Prevention Program, Emergency Preparedness, Water Quality & Testing, and Injury Prevention.

TABLE 21. FULTON & MONTGOMERY COUNTIES 2020 HEALTH INDICATORS (INSURANCE, LITERACY, LEADING HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH INDICATORS)					
County Health Rankings (of 62)					
Description	Fulton County 2020	Rank in State 2020	Montgomery County 2020	Rank in State 2020	NYS 2019-2020
Health Outcomes*		46		59	
Length of Life		35		54	
Premature Death	6,700		7,600		5,500
Quality of Life		54		58	
Poor or fair health	16%		17%		17%
Poor physical health days	4.0		4.0		3.5
Poor mental health days	4.4		4.5		3.9
Low birthweight	7%		7%		8%
Life expectancy	78.4		77.7		81.3
Premature age-adjusted mortality	360		380		280
Child mortality	40		50		40
Infant mortality	Nd		5		5
Frequent physical distress	11%		12%		10%
Frequent mental distress	13%		14%		12%
Diabetes prevalence	13%		11%		10%
HIV prevalence	150		180		760
Health Factors		58		61	
Health Behaviors		58		48	
Adult smoking	18%		17%		14%
Adult obesity	34%		35%		26%
Food environment index	8.2		7.8		9.1
Physical inactivity	28%		31%		25%
Access to exercise opportunities	81%		61%		93%
Excessive drinking	18%		19%		19%
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	24%		5%		21%
Sexually transmitted infections	308.1		402.0		588.5
Teen births	27		31		15
Food insecurity	12%		12%		11%
Limited access to healthy foods	3%		8%		2%
Drug overdose deaths	14		20		19
Motor vehicle crash deaths	12		10		6
Insufficient sleep	36%		36%		37%

Clinical Care		52		59	
Uninsured	6%		6%		7%
Primary care physicians	2,570:1		1,890:1		1,220:1
Dentists	3,830:1		1,600:1		1,220:1
Mental health providers	530:1		1,180:1		350:1
Preventable hospital stays (per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	5,417		6,304		4,203
Mammography screening	47%		47%		42%
Flu vaccinations	50%		47%		48%
Uninsured adults	7%		7%		8%
Uninsured children	3%		3%		3%
Other primary care providers	1,165:1		1,075:1		847:1
Social & Economic Factors		57		61	
High school graduation	78%		76%		82%
Some college	55%		59%		68%
Unemployment	5.1%		5.1%		4.1%
Children in poverty	20%		25%		19%
Income inequality	4.2		4.7		5.7
Children in single-parent households	44%		41%		34%
Social associations	8.4		8.5		8.9
Violent crime	204		142		379
Injury deaths	58		59		47
Disconnected youth (*2014-2018 ACS*)	15%		8%		6%
Median household income	$51,400		$43,800		$67,600
Children eligible for free lunch	44%		57%		55%
Residential segregation –black/white	61		59		74
Residential segregation – non-white/white	40		56		61
Firearm fatalities	7		6		4
Birth rate per 1,000 population [*2014-2016*]	1,567		1,837		706,627
Physical Environment		12		42	
Air pollution- particulate matter	8.0		8.2		8.5
Severe housing problems	14%		17%		24%
Driving alone to work	83%		79%		53%
Long commute - driving alone	33%		39%		38%
Severe housing cost burden	13%		15%		20%
Mortality [*2014-2016 data*]					
Total mortality rate per 100,000	1,785		1,747		456,393
Suicide mortality rate per 100,000	23		14		4,984
Cirrhosis mortality rate per 100,000	20		25		4,714
Diabetes Mortality Rate Per 100,000	39		59		12,052
Premature deaths (under 75 years)	776		621		185,890
Years of potential life lost per 100,000	11,719		10,387		3,154,627
Total emergency dept. visit per 10,000	40,978		42,012		8,231,938
Total hospitalization rate per 10,000	6,942		7,414		2,279,361

Childhood Mortality Rate per 100,000 [*2014-2016*]					
Aged 1-4 years	3		4		512
Aged 5-9 years	0		1		343
Aged 10-14 years	2		2		396
Aged 5-14 years	2		3		739
Aged 15-19 years	6		3		1,168
Childhood Hospitalizations [*2016*]					
Asthma hospitalization rate/10,000 *Aged 0-4 years*	NA		8		5,042
Asthma hospitalization rate/10,000 *Aged 5-14 years*	7		ND		4,290
Pneumonia per 10,000 (0-yrs)	14		17		3,585
Childhood Lead Levels [*2013*]					
% of children born in 2013 with lead screening aged 0-8 mos.	9		4		4,295
% of children born in 2013 with lead screening - age 9-17 mos.	406		381		172,012
% of children born in 2013 with lead screening - aged 18-35 mos.	378		427		173,309
% of children born in 2013 with at least 2 lead screenings /36 mos.	318		325		144,435
Incidence of confirmed high blood lead level (rate per 1,000 tested children aged <72 months (2014-2016)	53		44		6,348
Well Child Visits [*2016*]					
% of children with recommended number of well child visits in government sponsored insurance programs	75.4		77.7		74
% of children aged 0-15 months with recommended number of well child visits in government sponsored insurance programs	90.9		92.3		80.1
% of children aged 3-6 years with recommended number of well child visits in government sponsored insurance programs	85.4		86.6		84.3
% of children aged 12-21 years with recommended number of well child visits in government sponsored insurance programs	69		72		68.1
Weight Status* [*2016-2018*]**					
Elementary students (PreK, K, 2nd, and 4th) with weight status information in SWSCRS					
% overweight but not obese (85th – 95th percentile)	14		17.4		15.7
% obese (95th percentile or higher)	16		22.6		16
% overweight or obese (85th percentile or higher)	30.1		40		31.8
Middle and high school students (7th a& 10th grades) w/ weight status in SWSCRS (2012-2014 and 2016-2018					
% overweight but not obese (85th- 95th percentile)	17.6		18.6		17.4
% obese (95th percentile or higher)	22.6		20.1		18.8
% overweight or obese (85th percentile or higher)	40.2		38.7		36.3

Source: *University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, 2020 County Health Rankings,* https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/
** *Source: New York State Community Health Indicator Reports (CHIRS),*
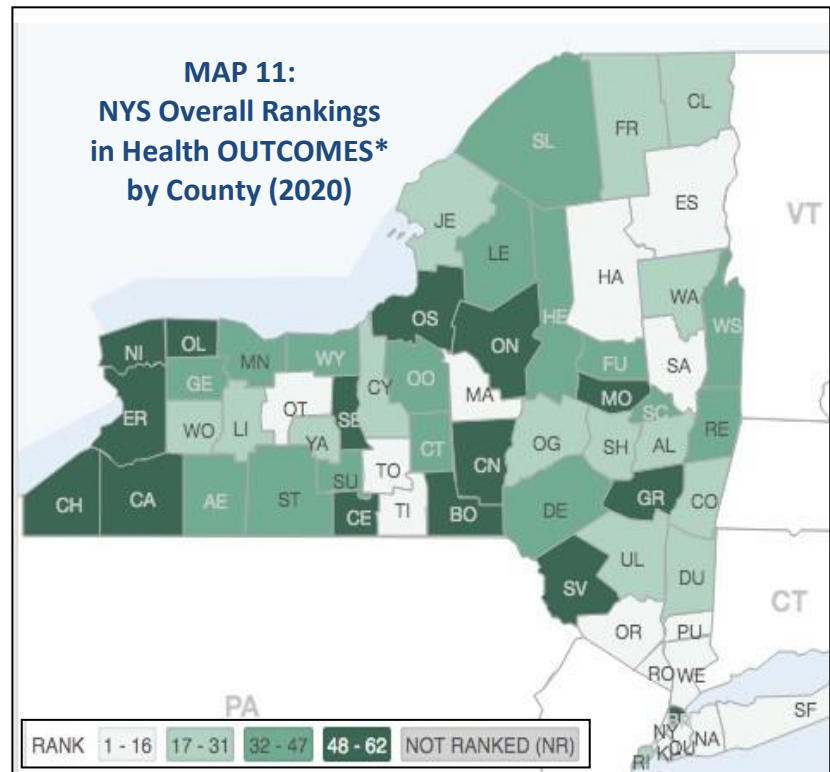*https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/indicators/index.htm#chai*
*** *Source: NYS DOH Student Weight Status Category Reporting,* https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/Student-Weight-Status-Category-Reporting-Results-B/es3k-2aus

Major Health Facilities

The major hospitals serving Fulton and Montgomery County include St Mary's Hospital in Amsterdam and Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville.

St. Mary's Hospital in Amsterdam is the largest acute care hospital in the region and is the largest employer in Montgomery County. The mission of St. Mary's is "to serve all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable."
St. Mary's Hospital is a 123-bed acute care hospital that also provides 10 primary and specialty care centers and over 30 community-based behavioral health programs in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Services include acute inpatient rehabilitation, addiction, adult day care center, cancer center, cardiac rehab., Center for Complementary Therapies, daVinci Robotic Surgery, Diabetes and Nutrition Education Center, Full-Service Emergency Department, Food and Nutrition Education Services, Gastroenterology, Intensive Care,

MAP 11:
NYS Overall Rankings
in Health OUTCOMES*
by County (2020)

RANK   1 - 16   17 - 31   32 - 47   48 - 62   NOT RANKED (NR)

*Overall rankings based on "how long people live & how healthy people feel."
Healthiest county is ranked #1. Source: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

Laboratory, Maternity, Medical Imaging, Mental Health, Occupational Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Palliative Care, Pain Management, Pediatrics, Pastoral Care, Physical Rehabilitation, Physical Therapy, Screen for Life Cancers Services, Surgical Services, Urgent Care, Urology, and the Wilkinson Center.

The Wilkinson Center, located on St. Mary's Hospital Memorial Campus on Route 30, is a long-term care facility. The 160-bed skilled nursing facility offers a full range of services in a caring, residential setting designed to meet the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of each resident. It is the only nursing home in Montgomery County that has a special wing exclusively for patients with dementia, Alzheimer's disease, or other brain disorders.

Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home is a 158-bed health care facility and is the second largest employer in Fulton County. The hospital's mission is to "provide safe, high-quality health and wellness services and improve the health of our communities in a caring, contemporary environment." The facility includes a 74-bed acute care hospital, an 84-bed residential nursing home and medical arts building. The hospital offers a full range of medical and surgical services, supplemented by a state-of-the-art diagnostic
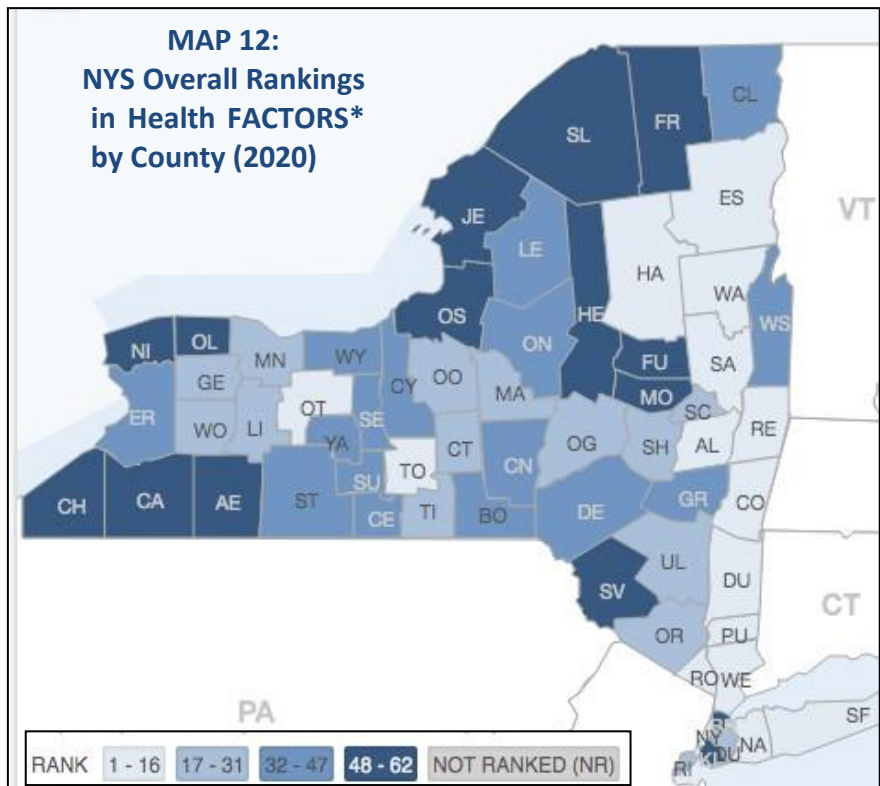
imaging center. The facility is accredited by DNV Health Care and is licensed by the New York State Department of Health and is a member of the Adirondack Rural Health Network as well as the United Laboratory Network. Services offered at the hospital include the Birthing Center at Littauer, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Cardiology, Diagnostic Imaging, Emergency Department, Family Practice, Laboratory, Neurology, Nutritional Services, Patient Services, Pediatrics, Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Rehabilitative Medicine, Gastroenterology, OB/GYN, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Otolaryngology, Podiatry, Sleep Disorders, Urology, and Women's Health Services.

The Hospital also provides Primary/Specialty Care Centers in Caroga Lake, Fonda, Gloversville Center, Gloversville Steel Avenue Center, Johnstown Center, Johnstown Decker Drive Center, Kingsboro GI Center, Mayfield Center, Perth-Broadalbin Center and Speculator Center. These centers provide internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, women's health (obstetrics/gynecology), gastroenterology, neurology, general surgery, urology, occupational medicine, well-childcare, immunizations, laboratory services (blood drawing) and retail pharmacy (prescription services).

MAP 12:
NYS Overall Rankings in Health FACTORS* by County (2020)

RANK 1 - 16 | 17 - 31 | 32 - 47 | 48 - 62 | NOT RANKED (NR)

Overall rankings reflect influences on health of a county, including health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors. Healthiest county is ranked #1. Source: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

The combined Community Health Center of St. Mary's Hospital and Nathan Littauer Hospital, located in Johnstown, serves patients who have just gotten out of the hospital, those who need long term daily care or assistance, and children from birth to 5 years old that need developmental services. Long-term and short-term care services are available 24- hours a day, seven days a week to patients in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

Home-Health Care Partners Corporation, also sponsored by St. Mary's Hospital and Nathan Littauer Hospital, provides services to people whose care needs are not eligible for coverage under Medicare and Medicaid. Home- Health Care services include professional nursing services, home health aide services, and companion/sitter services. Services are available 24-hours a day, seven days a week to patients in ten upstate counties including Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

Nutrition

According to the New York State Department of Health Division of Nutrition and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seven of the ten leading causes of death in the United States are linked to a poor diet. Providing good nutrition for low income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and preschool children; school age children in high risk areas; people in need of emergency food assistance; adults at risk for chronic disease; persons with AIDS; the frail elderly and children up to age 18 and the functionally impaired adults that are in day care are the main focus of the Division of Nutrition.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture's 2018 Food Security Report, 13.9% of households with children under 18 experience food insecurities (down significantly by 16% from the 2015 Food Security Report). Food insecurity is defined as households or individuals who worry about food running out, run out of food, reduce meals size and nutritional content, skip a meal, or go without eating. U.S. households with children, a single parent, women or men living alone, a minority head of household, low to very low incomes, or located in a non-metropolitan area are likely to experience food insecurity at a higher rate than the national average. Roughly 28% of female heads of the household with children under six years old and 21% of other households with children (including grandparents or other complex living arrangement) experience food insecurities.
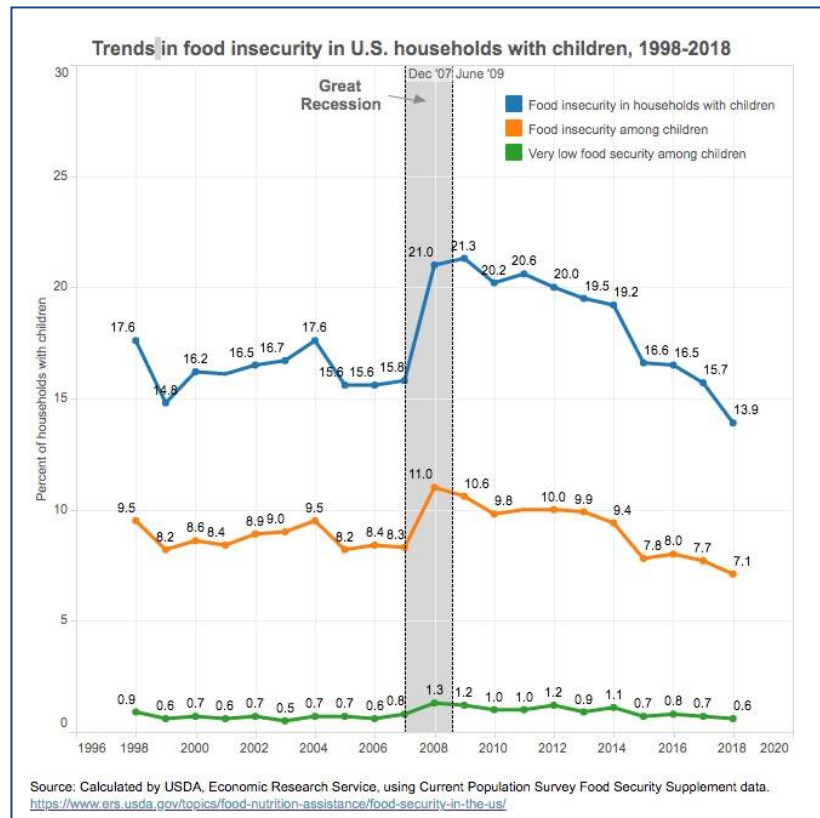
Overall rankings reflect influences on health of a county, including health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors. Source: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

Feeding America's *Map, the Meal Gap* demonstrates food insecurity and food costs at the local level (2018). In Fulton County, there are 6,650 food insecure people or 12.4% of the population. Almost 82% of the population is below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty. These residents pay $2.86 for their average meal. The total County annual food budget shortfall is estimated at $3,214,000. In Montgomery County, there are 6,710 food insecure people or 13.6% of the population. Almost 90% of the population is below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty. These residents pay $2.89 for their average meal. The total County annual food budget shortfall is estimated at $3,384,000. For children, economic insecurity, means food insecurity:

Table 22. ECONOMIC SECURITY					
Fulton County					
Life Area: Economic Security	**2010**	**%**	**2018**	**%**	**NYS %**
Children and Youth Living Below Poverty ages birth-17 years	2,886	24.2%	2,069	19.8%	18.8%
Children and Youth Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits ages birth-17 years	3,284	26.8%	2,256	20.9%	23%
Children and Youth Receiving Public Assistance, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	365	3.0%	217	2%	5.8%
Children and Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	361	2.9%	324	3%	2.1%
Children Receiving Free or Reduced-price School Lunch - Public Schools, percent children in grades K-12	4,011	45.9%	3,732	51%	N/A
Montgomery County					
Life Area: Economic Security	**2010**		**2018**		**NYS**
Children and Youth Living Below Poverty, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	3,214	27.9%	2,715	24.7%	18.8%
Children and Youth Receiving SNAP Assistance Program Benefits, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	3,795	32.1%	3,221	28.6%	23%
Children and Youth Receiving Public Assistance, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	659	5.6%	655	5.8%	5.8%
Children and Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years	329	2.8%	319	2.8%	2.1%
Children Receiving Free or Reduced-price School Lunch - Public Schools percent children in grades K-12	3,110	41.8%	4,236	59%	N/A
Data Provider: NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance compiled at https://www.nyskwic.org/					

Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP

According to the New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA), 4,333 households in Fulton County and 4,267 households in Montgomery County received SNAP benefits in 2019 (a total of 8,600 households in Fulmont). NYSCAA indicates that 2019 SNAP benefits per household amount to $202.7 in Fulton County and $236.94 in Montgomery County, representing a downward trend over the past decade (down 29% and 20% respectively in the counties since 2010.)

Fulton County has seen an overall 8.8% decrease in the number of households receiving SNAP benefits since 2015, including a 26% decrease in married-couple families receiving benefits and an 18.8% decrease for families with children under 18 years. Although there was a roughly 10% decrease for White households receiving SNAP benefits, the County saw a significant 329% increase in solely Black or African American households and 36.6% increase in households of 'some other race alone' receiving SNAP benefits.

Montgomery County has seen an overall 3.1% increase in the number of households receiving SNAP benefits since 2015, including a 16.9% increase in married-couple families receiving benefits and an 4.6% decrease for families with children under 18 years. The county saw a significant 128.5% increase in American Indian/Alaska native households receiving SNAP benefits.

TABLE 23. HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS/SNAP (2018) *					
	Households				
	Married-Couple Family	Other Family	Male Household - No Wife Present**	Female Household - No Husband Present**	With Children Under 18 Years
Fulton County	604	1,173	241	932	1,296
Montgomery County	1,022	1,504	312	1,192	1,883
Fulmont Service Area	1626	2,677	553	2124	3,179

TABLE 24. STATUS OF HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS/SNAP (2018) *					
	Poverty Status		**Disability Status**		**Income**
	Below Poverty Level	At or Above Poverty Level	With One Or More People with A Disability	With No Persons with A Disability	Median Income (Dollars)
Fulton County	1,546	1,691	1,709	1,528	19,512
Montgomery County	2,190	1,797	1,990	1,997	18,399
Fulmont Service Area	3,736	3,488	3,699	3,525	NA

TABLE 25. HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS/SNAP BY ETHNICITY (2018) *					
	Median Income (Dollars)	Hispanic Or Latino Origin (Of Any Race)	Black or African American Alone	American Indian And Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone
Fulton County	19,512	183	30	0	0
Montgomery County	18,399	1,060	172	16	18
Fulmont Service Area	NA	1243	202	16	18

TABLE 26. HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS/SNAP BY ETHNICITY (2018) *						
	Median Income (Dollars)	Native Hawaiian And Other Pacific Islander Alone	Some Other Race Alone	Two Or More Races	White Alone	White Alone, Not Hispanic Or Latino
Fulton County	19,512	0	97	39	3,071	2,992
Montgomery County	18,399	0	510	137	3,134	2,716
Fulmont Service Area	NA	0	607	176	6,205	5,708

* Source: 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates

Fulmont Community Action Agency Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program

WIC is the supplemental food program for pregnant, breast-feeding, and post-partum women, infants, and children up to the age of five. WIC provides nutrition education and nutritious foods (milk, cheese, eggs, juice cereal and formula) to income eligible families. Participants receive these foods in the form of an Electronic Benefit Transfer card (eWIC) redeemable at a grocery store; the introduction of the new WIC computer system is a recent update from paper checks that is much more convenient for WIC participants. The Fulmont Community Action Agency Center hosts WIC clinics in Fort Plain, Fonda, Amsterdam, and Gloversville. In 2019, WIC served more than 2,600 participants in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. A total of 2,600+ Fulton and Montgomery residents participated in the WIC program in 2019. Of the 2,600+ participants served, 51.4% were children, 25.6% were infants, 9.4% were pregnant women, 19.2% were breastfeeding women, and 9% were postpartum women.

According to the Fulmont WIC Director, a variety of major nutritional needs exist for the woman, infants, and children they are currently serving in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Key issues identified include pre-natal care for pregnant women, smoking cessation for pregnant women and parents, children at high risk for obesity, and lack of family dental care. WIC Staff are currently working to promote physical activities for children as well as teaching portion control for children. WIC Staff also encourage parents to keep infants on formula for the first year, and the introduction of solids after six months of age.

The WIC program is challenged by the lack of bi-lingual staff, particularly in the Amsterdam site which has a large Hispanic population. In many cases recipients bring a translator to WIC appointments, and Fulmont Community Action bilingual staff who work in other departments can help translate if needed.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance (OTDA) provides monthly statistics on their caseloads for temporary assistance, family assistance, safety net assistance, food stamps, and supplemental security income. The most recent data available is from 2020.

TABLE 27. NYS OTDA CASELOAD STATISTICS, MARCH 2020					
	Temporary Assistance	**Family Assistance**	**Safety Net Assistance**	**SNAP**	**SSI**
Fulton County					
Cases	241	105	136	4,198	n/a
Recipients	371	193	178	6,926	2,284
Expenditures	$138,440	$53,354	$85,086	$834,436	$1,459,530
Montgomery County					
Cases	428	196	232	4,023	n/a
Recipients	834	412	422	7,815	2,111
Expenditures	$260,530	$102,768	$157,762	$934,043	$1,388,558

TABLE 28. NYS OTDA CASELOAD STATISTICS, MARCH 2020 Continued					
	Temporary	**Family**	**Safety Net**	**SNAP**	**SSI**
Fulton Montgomery					
Cases	**669**	**301**	**368**	**8,221**	**n/a**
Recipients	**1,205**	**605**	**600**	**14,741**	**4,395**
Expenditures	**$398,970**	**$156,122**	**$242,848**	**$1,768,479**	**$2,848,088**
New York State					
Cases	249,522	73,683	175,839	1,476,054	669,143
Recipients	457,969	168,358	289,611	2,561,187	672,265
Expenditures	$166,238,874	$48,391,056	$117,847,818	$355,020,610	$426,291,229

Source: https://otda.ny.gov/resources/caseload/2020/2020-03-stats.pdf

Fulton County Department of Social Services

The Fulton County Department of Social Services provides a variety of services including:

- **Public assistance** – Cash benefits, Medical Assistance and SNAP benefits are available to applicants whose income is insufficient to meet their needs.

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** – The SNAP Program seeks to reduce hunger and malnutrition among low-income, disabled, and senior households by putting healthy food on the table. The authority to operate the SNAP program is based on both federal and state laws and regulations.

- **Medicaid** – Medicaid aids with bills and care of elderly and disabled in nursing homes.

- **Child Care** – Day care services are provided in centers or informally through a variety of funding sources. Childcare is provided to Public Assistance recipients for employment and/or training, Transitional childcare along with Medicaid is offered for one year to recipients whose cases are closed after they find employment. Low income day care is available to working parents who are not eligible for Public Assistance and whose income is less than 160% of the poverty level. Childcare is provided to teen parents to allow them to finish high school. Finally, day care is provided to children who are at risk of foster care placement due to abuse or neglect. Low income day care is limited by available funding.

- **Adult Protective Services** (PSA) – The Adult Protective Services unit investigates reports of adult abuse or exploitation ages 18 and over. Protective services are provided to adults who are at risk of harm and who have no one else to protect or assist them. Financial management and homemakers are also components of the service.

- **Child Protective Services** – Caseworkers respond within 24 hours to all reports made to the State Central Register for Abuse and Maltreatment. If the allegations are found to be true, services are provided to the family to begin the healing process and keep the family together. Sometimes it is necessary to remove children from the family when there is imminent risk of serious harm. Cases involving domestic violence, sexual abuse or serious injury to a child are also prosecuted in civil court.

- **CAP central assessment** – The County has two nurses on staff that provides health assessments to determine the type of help needed.

- **Child Support Unit** – The County provides services such as locating the absent parent to pursue the support, court referral and collection and disbursement of child support monies, and enforcement of existing child support orders.

- **Investigative Unit** – The Investigations Unit investigates all manner of welfare fraud. Investigators investigate allegations of fraud in Public Assistance, Medicaid, as well as other programs administered by DSS.

- **Employment Unit** - Employment services are provided to individuals on assistance. Referrals are made to employers, vocational centers, BOCES and EOC. Caseworkers assess individuals' needs and make referrals for employment or for training when the individual is not employment ready.

- **Foster Care and Adoption Services** - Foster care services are provided when a child is considered at imminent risk of serious harm due to abuse or neglect. A child may be placed in a foster home, group home or institution depending on the child's needs. The Department of Social Services provides services with the goal of rectifying problems and reuniting families.

- **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** - HEAP helps low-income households pay home energy costs and offsets certain essential heating equipment repairs.

- **Long Term Care Services** – Program provides personal care and other services to Medicaid recipients to enable disabled and sick individuals to remain in their homes.

- **Chronic Care Unit** – This unit assists County residents in establishing long term eligibility within the Medicaid framework including placement of residents in nursing homes.

- **Burials** - Financial assistance is available for the burial of indigent individuals.

Montgomery County Department of Social Services

Like Fulton County, the Montgomery County Department of Social Services provides a variety of services including Temporary Assistance, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Childcare, Support Collection Unit, Employment Unit, Adult Protective Services, and Child Protective Services. Services are provided to residents who meet the eligibility requirements for assistance.

TABLE 29. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES - FOSTER CARE		
	FULTON	**MONTGOMERY**
	2018	**2018**
Children in Foster Care on 12/31/18	29	51
Children Admitted to Foster Care by District 12/31/18	17	29
Children Discharged from Foster Care by District 12/31/18	2	10
Source: NYS Office of Children and Family Services, https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cfsr/data/brightspots/2018-Bright-Spots.pdf		

TRANSPORTATION

Transit and Intercity Bus Service

The City of Gloversville Transit System and the City of Amsterdam Department of Transportation provides public transportation service in Fulton County and Montgomery County. Additionally, Brown Coach provides chartered bus transportation to Downtown Albany and General Electric in Schenectady and Montgomery County Area Xpress (MAX) provides transportation within Montgomery County.

The Gloversville Transit System (GTS) serves the Cities of Gloversville, Johnstown and Amsterdam, the Crossroads and Johnstown Industrial Parks and Fulton-Montgomery Community College. GTS operates on a fixed route schedule, but also offers route deviation service (upon reservation) up to ¾ mile to individuals who cannot get to a scheduled stop. Additionally, GTS offers a paratransit service for the disabled of the area. This is a curb-to-curb reservation service to provide transportation to appointments, shopping, etc. The service is available during hours the fixed routes are in operation.

Senior transportation is provided to Fulton County Senior Citizens through a joint program of the Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc., and Fulton County Office for the Aging. Free transportation is provided for seniors age 60 years and older for medical appointments, day care, food sites, shopping, banking, and social events. In 2018-2019, the program provided transportation for 6,191 seniors and completed 622 wheelchair transports across a total of 51,013 miles traveled.

The Amsterdam Transportation Department provides various types of public transportation such as: fixed routes in the City of Amsterdam and Route 30, Commuter Service to the NYSDOT on Wolf Road and the NYS Campus in Albany, County Office Building in Fonda, and Fulton-Montgomery Community College.

The Brown Family of Transportation a full-service transportation organization that offers charter service, group tours, pre-planned individual and group vacations as well as a full- service travel agency. Montgomery Area Xpress (MAX) Bus Service provides intra county service on the Route 5 and 5S corridor which links the various hamlets and villages along this route to the City of Amsterdam and beyond. MAX will deviate from the route up to ¾ of a mile for those individuals who cannot get to a scheduled stop.

Montgomery County completed a Coordinated Transportation Plan in March 2009.

- The Montgomery Area Express will coordinate with Amsterdam Community Transit and the Montgomery County Commuter Run at a hub in Fonda. In this manner, County and City buses can transfer riders at a single point of contact throughout Montgomery County and well as Fulton-Montgomery Community College and the Capital Region. Duplication can be avoided between all providers while increasing transit service efficiency and reducing local tax dollars.

- Both Amsterdam Community Transit and Montgomery County Area Xpress have been working to meet the needs of Montgomery County Department of Social Services (DSS) clients by providing rides to and from the DSS building in Fonda as well as employment, education, training and medical appointment coordination.
- Future coordination with the Gloversville Transit System (GTS) in Fonda has also been discussed. Transit Manager Al Schutz is eager to work with providers in Montgomery County to eventually offer a seamless regional system.
- Additional focus is on expanding service to Johnstown Industrial Park, increasing the number of bus routes, working with all providers that have vehicles and employ drivers to determine the rules and regulations of their transport services and whether or not their runs can be better coordinated with public transportation, extending the hours of service, especially in the evening, possibly on the weekend and increasing access to the City of Amsterdam by western area residents.

VII. APPENDIX

Data Sources

Sources of statistical and other information used for the Community Profile are as follows:

- U.S. Census Bureau (2010)
- 2018 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates
- 2015 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- USDA Economic Research Service – Household Food Security in the United States in 2018
- USDA Food and Nutrition Service
- New York State Community Action Association 2018 Report for Fulmont Community Action Agency
- New York State Affordable Housing Directory
- New York State Community Health Indicators Report (CHIRS)
- New York State Department of Family Assistance – Office of Children & Family Services
- New York State Department of Health Home Health Care Partners Corp.
- New York State Department of Labor
- New York State Department of Labor Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages Program
- New York State Department of Education (NYSED) Report Cards for School Year 2015-2016 and 2018-2019 for the following School Districts:
    - Broadalbin-Perth Central School District
    - Gloversville City School District
    - Johnstown City School District
    - Mayfield Central School District
    - Northville Central School District
    - Wheelerville Union Free School District
    - Amsterdam City School District
    - Canajoharie Central School District
    - Fonda-Fultonville Central District
    - Fort Plain Central School District
    - Oppenheim-Ephratah- St.Johnsville Central School District
- New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
- Cornell University Program on Applied Demographics
- Fulton County Department of Social Services
- Fulton County Public Health
- The Fulton County Office for Aging
- Montgomery County Department of Social Services
- Montgomery County Public Health
- Fulmont Community Action Agency
- Fulton Montgomery Schoharie Counties Workforce Solutions System
- Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery Board of Cooperative Educational Services
- St. Mary's Hospital at Amsterdam
- Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home
- Gloversville Transit System
- City of Amsterdam Transportation Department
- FCAA Focus Group Meetings, Partner Organization Surveys and Consumer Surveys

APPENDIX TABLE 1: 2010 CENSUS DATA FOR SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS - FULTON & MONTGOMERY COUNTIES		
DESCRIPTION	**FULTON COUNTY** 2010 Census or ACS 5-Year Est.	**MONTGOMERY COUNTY** 2010 Census or ACS 5-Year Est.
SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS		
Total Population	55,531	49,945
Median Age	41.8	42.3
Population by Race		
White alone	94.0%	90.6%
Black or African American	1.8%	1.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	.3%
Asian alone	0.6%	.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0%
Two or More Races	1.1%	2%
Hispanic or Latino	2.3%	11.3%
Population by Age Segments (Selected Age Categories)		
Under 5 years	5.5	5.9%
5 to 14 years	12.9%	13.4%
15 to 17 years	4.3%	4.4%
18 to 24 years	7.6%	8.1%
15 to 44 years	37.0%	36.7%
16 years and over	80.5%	79.3%
18 years and over	77.3%	76.2%
60 years and over	21.5%	22.3%
62 years and over	18.9%	19.9%
65 years and over	15.6%	16.7%
75 years and over	7.9%	9.4%
HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS		
Households	22,554	20,320
Housing by Occupancy Total Units	28,562	23,020
Occupied Units	22,554	20,320
Owner Occupied	16,050	14,040
Renter Occupied	6,956	6,280
Vacant Units	6,008	2,700
Vacant – for rent	522	590
Vacant – for sale	359	105
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.2	2.1
Rental vacancy rate	7.3	4.1

Heads of Household (FULMONT)		
By Marital Status		
Population 15 years and over	102,566	102,566
Never married	23,961	23,961
Now married, except separated	42,789	42,789
Separated	2,843	2,843
Widowed	6,794	6,794
Widowed Female	5,412	5,412
Divorced	9,188	9,188
Divorced Female	4,969	4,969
Grandparents as Caregivers		
Grandparents living in household with one or more grandchildren under 18 years	1,724	784
Grandparents responsible for grandchildren	889	303
ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS		
INCOME		
Median household income	$43,240	42,603
Mean household income	$55,790	54,449
Total Households - by Income	23,006	20,320
< $10K	1,875	1,521
$10K to $14.9K	1,527	1,263
$15K to $24.9K	3,115	2,989
$25K to $34.9K	3,002	2,538
$35K to $49.9K	3,649	3,335
$50K to $74.9K	4,379	3,826
$75K to $99.9K	2,817	2,371
$100K to $149.9K	2,035	1,817
$150K to $199.9K	272	439
$200,000K ≥	335	221
LABOR FORCE		
Population 16 years and over	44,683	39,605
In labor force	26,695	24,842
In civilian labor force (16+)	26,619	24,795
Employed	24,117	22,320
Unemployed	2,502	2,475
Average commute to work	22.5	31.3
Occupation		
Management & Professional	6,541	6,553
Service	4,594	4,003
Sales & Office	5,894	5,262
Natural Resources & Construction	2,538	2,729
Production & Transportation	4,550	3,773

Class of workers		
Private workers	17,952	16,313
Government workers	4,534	4,472
Self-employed workers	1,570	1,482
Unpaid family workers	61	53
EDUCATION CHARACTERISTICS		
Educational Attainment (*Attend School*)		
Pop. 3 yrs. plus in school	12,162	11,709
Nursery school, preschool	705	537
Kindergarten	743	715
Elementary school (grade 1-8)	5,625	5,391
High school (grades 9-12)	3,280	2,798
College or graduate school	1,809	2,268
Educational Attainment (*Attain HS or College degree*)		
Population 25 years+	38,702	34,034
Less than 9th	1,906	1,892
No High School Diploma (9-12th)	4,579	4,005
High School Graduate	15,376	12,875
Some College, No degree	7,059	5,865
Associate degree	4,249	3,978
Bachelor's Degree	3,385	3,038
Graduate or Professional Degree	2,148	2,381

FULMONT COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC.
PARTNER ORGANIZATION SURVEY OF NEEDS 2020

Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. (FCAA) is collecting the opinions of community service providers in Fulton and Montgomery Counties as part of preparing a Community Needs Assessment that evaluates the quality and availability of services to alleviate the conditions of poverty in the Counties. Every five years FCAA undertakes this effort to evaluate its effectiveness in the community, understand the complementary services offered by other agencies serving similar consumers, explore new collaborations and identify gaps in services. Your input will help frame a blueprint for community services over the next five years.

All information provided in this survey will be kept confidential. Any analysis of the data gathered will include only summarized results. If you require assistance in accessing this survey or have any other questions related to the planning process, please contact Ann Black, Deputy Executive Director at (518) 853-3011.

You may also take this survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCAAPartnerSurvey2020

ALL RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020.

YOUR AGENCY & SERVICES

1. Contact person:

_____

2. Title:

_____

3. Agency Name:

_____

4. Address:

_____

5. Telephone:

_____

6. Fax:

_____

7. E-mail:

_____

8. Web Site:

_____

9. Please share background information on your agency or organization, such as the age of the organization, number of staff, etc.

10. Please describe the services you provide.

11. Please describe the consumers you serve. Please describe their income, age, ethnicity and any special needs.

12. Does your agency target specific consumers?

□ Families　　　□ Latino Community

□ Children　　　□ Disabled Persons

□ Youth　　　　□ Other. Please specify:

□ The Elderly　_____

13. Are you aware of each of the FCAA services listed below?

Free Income Tax Preparation	□ Yes	□ No
Fulton County Senior Transportation	□ Yes	□ No
Head Start	□ Yes	□ No
Community Services Emergency Funds	□ Yes	□ No
Emergency Clothing/Outerwear	□ Yes	□ No
Emergency Food Pantry	□ Yes	□ No
Homeless Assistance (rent/security deposit)	□ Yes	□ No
FEMA (rent/mortgage or utility assistance)	□ Yes	□ No
HEAP Assistance (Montgomery County)	□ Yes	□ No
Family Services/Case Management	□ Yes	□ No
Energy Services (Weatherization, Empower)	□ Yes	□ No
WIC - Women, Infants & Children	□ Yes	□ No
Wheels To Work/Cars for Careers	□ Yes	□ No
Budgeting	□ Yes	□ No
Holiday Baskets	□ Yes	□ No
Universal Pre-K	□ Yes	□ No

14. Please indicate which Community Action Agency Programs you have referred consumers to in the past 12 months:

1:Referred Often, 2: Referred Sometimes, 3: Referred Occasionally, 4: No Referrals, 5: Not Aware of the Program, 6: N/A

_____ Free Income Tax Preparation
_____ Fulton County Senior Transportation
_____ Head Start
_____ Community Services Emergency Funds
_____ Emergency Clothing/Outerwear
_____ Emergency Food Pantry
_____ Homeless Assistance (rent/security deposit)
_____ FEMA (rent/mortgage or utility assistance)
_____ HEAP Assistance (Montgomery County)
_____ Family Services/Case Management
_____ Energy Services (Weatherization, Empower)
_____ WIC - Women, Infants & Children
_____ Wheels To Work/Cars for Careers
_____ Budgeting
_____ Holiday Baskets
_____ Universal Pre-K
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

15. Please indicate your satisfaction with the following Programs:

1:Very Satisfied, 2: Satisfied, 3: Sometimes Satisfied, 4: Not Satisfied, 5: Not Aware of Program, 6: N/A

_____ Free Income Tax Preparation
_____ Fulton County Senior Transportation
_____ Head Start
_____ Community Services Emergency Funds
_____ Emergency Clothing/Outerwear
_____ Emergency Food Pantry
_____ Homeless Assistance (rent/security deposit)
_____ FEMA (rent/mortgage or utility assistance)
_____ HEAP Assistance (Montgomery County)
_____ Family Services/Case Management
_____ Energy Services (Weatherization, Empower)
_____ WIC - Women, Infants & Children
_____ Wheels To Work/Cars for Careers
_____ Budgeting
_____ Holiday Baskets
_____ Universal Pre-K
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

16. Are there any FCAA services which you feel should be changed or enhanced to better accommodate your agency or customers?

17. Are there any services which you would like FCAA to consider offering in the future?

2

18. How would you prefer to learn more about FCAA services?

☐ Receive agency brochure

☐ Presentation by our staff at your program

☐ Visit to our program by your staff

☐ Other. Please specify: _____

19. Please add any comments you may have about Fulmont Community Action Agency services or future direction.

QUALITY OF COMMUNITY ASSETS/RESOURCES

20. Please rate the following community resources/ assets related to LEADERSHIP and IDENTITY in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

1:Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Grassroots community leadership

_____ Active non-profit organizations

_____ Cooperation to achieve common goals

_____ Public/private partnerships

_____ Positive community identity

_____ Civic spirit among residents

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

21. Please rate the following community resources/ assets related to QUALITY OF LIFE in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

1:Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Good location

_____ Cultural institutions

_____ Good schools

_____ Public safety

_____ Multicultural diversity

_____ Open space and recreation facilities

_____ Access to public transportation options

_____ Availability of buildings for reuse

_____ Availability of affordable shops and retail

_____ Activities for youth

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

22. Please rate the adequacy of the following community resources/assets related to HOUSING in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

1:Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Buildings available for reuse

_____ Attractive housing stock

_____ Availability of affordable family housing

_____ Availability of affordable senior housing

_____ Availability of supportive housing for people with disabilities

_____ Availability of housing and shelter for people who are homeless

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

23. Please rate the adequacy of the following community resources/assets related to WORKFORCE in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

1:Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Special educational programs

_____ Accessibility of public transportation

_____ Skilled workforce

_____ School to work programs

_____ Affordable daycare

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

24. Please rate the adequacy of the following community resources/assets related to EDUCATION in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

1:Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Pre-school education

_____ After School programs

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

25. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to SAFETY and CRIME are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Property Crime
_____ Personal Crime
_____ Domestic violence services
_____ Child abuse and neglect
_____ Widespread fear of crime
_____ Vandalism of buildings/cars

_____ Gangs
_____ Drug dealing
_____ Prostitution
_____ Rape crisis
_____ Other. Specify:

26. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to EMPLOYMENT are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Inadequate day care services
_____ Day care too expensive
_____ High unemployment
_____ Only part-time work available
_____ Jobs don't pay enough
_____ Jobs lack health insurance
_____ Lack of work skills
_____ Many can't read English to access jobs and services
_____ Residents not "ready to work"
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

27. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to HOUSING are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Vacant/abandoned buildings
_____ Need for housing rehabilitation
_____ Declining property values
_____ Homelessness
_____ Lack of affordable housing
_____ Absentee landlords
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

28. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to HEALTH are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Lead posioning
_____ Teenage pregnancy
_____ Hunger
_____ Drug/alchohol abuse
_____ Need for addiction services
_____ AIDS
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

29. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to EDUCATION are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Classrooms/playgrounds in poor condition
_____ Poor quality education
_____ Schools don't meet student needs
_____ Drop out rate
_____ English is a second language for residents
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

30. Please indicate how serious the following PROBLEMS related to QUALITY OF LIFE are in Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

1: Not a Problem, 2: Minor Problem, 3: Moderate Problem, 4: Serious Problem, 5: Immediate Crisis

_____ Vacant/abandoned buildings
_____ Slow emergency services
_____ High incidence of fire
_____ Inadequate street lighting
_____ Lacks recreational facilities
_____ Breakdown of the family
_____ Children left unattended
_____ Streets in poor condition
_____ Parking shortage
_____ Inadequate transportation
_____ Racial tension/discrimination
_____ Area lacks charm
_____ No "identity" for the county
_____ Other. Please specify: _____

31. How important are the following actions to improve the ECONOMIC LIVEABILITY of Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Important, 2: Important, 3: Somewhat Important, 4: Not Very Important, 5: Not Important At All

_____ Developing neighborhood-based businesses

_____ Attracting large retail chains

_____ Attracting a large corporation

_____ Encouraging businesses to hire local residents

_____ Creating an incubator to "grow" small businesses

_____ Public sector job commitments

_____ Private sector job commitments

_____ Entrepreneurship opportunities and training

_____ Mentoring programs for youth

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

32. How important are the following actions related to HEALTH LIVEABILITY in Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Important, 2: Important, 3: Somewhat Important, 4: Not Very Important, 5: Not Important At All

_____ Increased early intervention services for young children

_____ Increased community based health care

_____ Develop additional childcare

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

33. How important are the following actions related to QUALITY OF LIFE and COMMUNITY CHARACTER in Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Important, 2: Important, 3: Somewhat Important, 4: Not Very Important, 5: Not Important At All

_____ Improved parks and playgrounds

_____ Street fairs and festivals

_____ Improved lighting and security

_____ Road and street repair

_____ Developing community centers

_____ Improved access to public transportation

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

34. How important are the following actions related to HOUSING LIVEABILITY in Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Important, 2: Important, 3: Somewhat Important, 4: Not Very Important, 5: Not Important At All

_____ More quality affordable housing for families

_____ More quality affordable housing for seniors

_____ Increased community based health care

_____ Increased residential code enforcement

_____ More special needs housing

_____ More opportunities for homeownership

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

35. How important are the following actions related to SAFETY in Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Important, 2: Important, 3: Somewhat Important, 4: Not Very Important, 5: Not Important At All

_____ Structured programs for youth

_____ Community policing

_____ School violence prevention programs

_____ Increased residential code enforcement

_____ Gun buy-back programs

_____ More opportunities for homeownership

_____ Other. Please specify: _____

36. Please comment on the following statements about childcare:

1: Strongly Agree, 2: Agree, 3: Neutral, 4: Disagree, 5: Strongly Disagree

_____ Child care is widely available in Fulton County

_____ Child care is widely available in Montgomery County

_____ Local child care is affordable

_____ Local child care is safe

_____ Customers know where to get information about child care options

_____ There is an adequate supply of center-based child care

_____ There is an adequate base of home-based child care

_____ Many of our customers use unlicensed child care providers

5

37. Do your customers have a need for childcare:

□ Yes   □ No

38. Have you referred consumers to FCAA Head Start in the past three years?

□ Yes

□ No

□ Not Applicable

□ Other. Please specify: _____

39. If you have referred a consumer to FCAA in the past three years, what program location did you refer them to (you may select more than one site):

□ Amsterdam

□ Canajoharie

□ Fort Plain

□ Gloversville

□ Johnstown

□ St. Johnsville

□ Not Applicable

□ Other. Please specify: _____

HOUSING ISSUES & NEEDS

40. How would you rate the housing usually available to your consumers in Fulton and Montgomery Counties with regard to:

1: Very Available, 2: Available, 3: Somewhat Available 4: Not Very Available, 5: Not Available

—— Affordability

—— Quality/Condition

—— Accessibility

—— Safety

—— Choice

—— Location

—— Access to Transportation

—— Overcrowding

41. What other obstacles do your consumers face in identifying housing?

42. Do you provide housing for your consumers?

□ Yes   □ No

43. Please describe the housing related services needs for your consumers:

1: Needed Very Frequently, 2: Needed Frequently, 3: Needed Somewhat Frequently, 4: Not Needed Frequently, 5: Not Needed

—— Housing Search

—— Lease Negotiation

—— Furniture or Furnishings

—— Home Repair

—— Home Care Assistance

—— Counseling

—— Rent Assistance

—— Utility Assistance

—— Supportive Services

44. What type of additional housing is needed by your consumers?

45. What percentage of your customers are employed?

☐ 0-10%

☐ 10-30%

☐ 30-50%

☐ 50-75%

☐ 75-100%

46. How would you rate the employment opportunities usually available to your consumers in Fulton and Montgomery Counties?

1: Very Good, 2: Good, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Fair, 5: Poor

_____ Wages

_____ Supervision

_____ Advancement

_____ Safety

_____ Choice

_____ Location

_____ Access to transportation

_____ Mentoring

_____ On-the-job training

_____ Continuing education

_____ Benefits

_____ Access to childcare

47. What obstacles do your consumers face in finding employment?

48. Do you provide employment opportunities for your consumers?

☐ Yes   ☐ No

49. What type of additional employment services are needed by your consumers?

NEXT STEPS

50. Please indicate if you would like a copy of the survey findings when they are available.

☐ Yes   ☐ No

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY!

Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.

<u>Survey of Needs</u>

Please take a few moments to respond to the following questions. This information is confidential. DO NOT put your name on this paper. Your assistance with this survey will enable Fulmont to more clearly identify the needs of its service area and provide better programs to the socially and economically disadvantaged. If you require assistance in accessing this survey or have any other questions related to the planning process, please contact Ann Black, Deputy Executive Director at 518-853-3011. THANK YOU.

You may also take the survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCAASurveyofNeeds2020

ALL RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020.

YOUR INFORMATION

1.) County of Residence: _____

2.) City, Town, or Village of Residence: _____

3.) Gender (circle one of the following):   Male   Female   Other

4.) Age (circle one of the following): 15-19   20-29   30-39   40-49   50-59   60+

5.) Number of people in household: _____

6.) Household type (circle one of the following):

A. Single Person   B. Single Parent   C. Two Parent   D. Two or more adults with no children

E. Non-Related adults with children   F. Multigenerational

7.) Ages of household members (Please fill in the appropriate number(s) of persons that make up the total household.

Birth-1 year _____	20-29 years _____
2-4 years _____	30-39 years _____
5-9 years _____	40-49 years _____
10-14 years _____	50-59 years _____
15-19 years _____	60+ years _____

8.) Education (circle one of the following):

A. 0-8th Grade   B. 9-12th Non-Grad   C. High School Grad/G.E.D/H.S.E

D. 12th + Some College   E. College Grad

9.) Do you have any special skills or training?   Yes _____   No _____

If YES, please describe: _____

_____

_____

INCOME

10.) Total Monthly Income: $ _____ (circle ALL that apply):

Pension	Interest/Dividends	SSI/SSD	Social Security
Safety Net	Work Comp/Disability	Unemployment	Alimony/Child Support
TANF	Veterans Benefits	Employment	Other: _____

11.) Is there a member of your household currently without health insurance? Yes _____ No _____

12.) Other resources that you are currently participating in or have participated in within the last 6 months? (circle ALL that apply):

SNAP	Public Housing	Housing Choice	Permanent Support Housing
HEAP	HUD/VASH	Medicaid	Childcare Voucher
EITC	School Breakfast	School Lunch	Affordable Care Act Subsidy

13.) Which of the following Fulmont programs have you received services from in the last 12 months? (circle ALL that apply):

WIC	Head Start	Weatherization	Emergency Clothing
FEMA	Senior Transportation	Food Pantry	Family Development
Wheels to Work			

14.) Do you feel you have enough money to meet your family's needs? Yes _____ No _____

15.) If NO, how much do you feel your monthly income would have to be to meet your family's needs?

$ _____ Check here if not sure _____

Employment

16.) Are you currently employed? Yes _____ No _____

17.) If YES, are you satisfied with your employment situation? Yes _____ No _____

18.) If NO, why? _____

_____

_____

19.) If you could have any job that you wanted, what would that job be? _____

20.) What barriers do you feel prevent you from obtaining/keeping the employment you want?
   (Examples include: lack of transportation, childcare, education/training)

_____

_____

HOUSING

21.) Type of Housing (circle one):   Own   Rent   Other Permanent Housing   Homeless

22.) Have you within the last 12 months been homeless?   Yes _____   No _____

23.) Are you currently or have you in the last 12 months had problems in finding adequate and affordable housing?   Yes _____   No _____

24.) What is the condition of your current housing situation? (circle one of the following):
   A. Adequate (does not pose a threat to health and safety)
   B. Inadequate (overcrowded, poses a threat to health and safety)

TRANSPORTATION

25.) Does your household currently have its own transportation?   Yes _____   No _____

26.) Is public transportation available?   Yes _____   No _____
If YES, is it adequate to meet your needs? Yes _____   No _____

27.) If NO, why? _____

_____

_____

28.) If there is no public transportation, do you feel there should be?   Yes _____   No _____

29.) If YES, what would you use it for? _____

_____

_____

CHILD CARE

30.) If you do not work, would you consider entering the workforce or enrolling in an educational/training program, if adequate child-care was available? Yes _____ No _____

31.) If you are employed, have you consistently had problems with your work because of child-care difficulties?
Yes _____ No _____

32.) How much per week do you feel would be an affordable amount to pay for full-time child care per child? (circle only one)

$10 and Under	$11.00-$20.00	$21.00-$30.00	$31.00-$40.00
$41.00-$50.00	$51.00-$60.00	$61.00-$69.00	$70.00+

FAMILY

33.) What do you see as some of the strengths in your family? _____

_____

_____

34.) What do you see as some of the problems in your family? _____

_____

_____

35.) Are there any changes you would like to make in the future to improve the quality of your life and your family's life? Yes _____ No _____

36.) If YES, would you be interested in participating in a program that would combine guidance and support with your efforts to achieve your desired goals? Yes _____ No _____

37.) Do you feel your family is better off now since you received services from Fulmont? Yes _____ No _____

Please explain:

_____

_____

38.) Based on your needs and your family members' needs, what services/programs in your area would you like to see increased or started in order for you to become more successful?

_____

_____

Thank you for completing this survey!

Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. wants the input of Board Members and Policy Council Members as we update our community needs assessment and action plan. We value your input as we work to improve our services.

All information provided in this survey will be kept confidential. If you require assistance in accessing this survey or have any other questions related to the planning process, please contact Ann Black, Deputy Executive Director at (518) 853-3011.

You may also take this survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCAABoardSurvey2020

PLEASE RESPOND BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020.

1. What challenges do FCAA customers face?

2. What challenges do FCAA programs face?

3. If you had the resources to do one thing to help FCAA, what would you do?

4. What is going right? What are the assets to build upon?

5. What new services should FCAA consider adding?