

**Annual Review and Update of the Community Assessment  
May 2018**

Percent Population Change: 2010 to 2018

*County: Cayuga -3.52%*

Cayuga County Houses 3 Correctional Facilities:

Cayuga Correctional Facility – Moravia, NY

Auburn Correctional Facility – Auburn, NY

Cayuga County Jail- Auburn, NY

Races in Cayuga County, New York:

- White Non-Hispanic Alone (90.3%)
- Black Non-Hispanic Alone (4.1%)
- Hispanic or Latino (2.8%)
- Two or more races (2.0%)

Home Language:

94.4% of residents of Cayuga speak English at home.

2.4% of residents speak Spanish at home

1.4% of residents speak other Indo-European language at home

0.4% of residents speak Asian or Pacific Island language at home

0.9% of residents speak other language at home

**Continued Strengths**

- The local service provider networks are collaborative and expansive. Many resources are available to help individuals and families in need.
- Close-knit communities comprised of generous, neighborly residents willing to lend a hand.
- Communities are generally safe, friendly, quiet and uncongested.

**Continued Challenges**

- The rural nature of both counties presents inherent challenges in accessing resources and services by individuals and families in need without transportation.
- Community resources are lacking in the areas of public transportation, affordable rental housing, homeless housing, child care and living wage employment.
- Notable gaps exist within the service network including health care, substance abuse treatment, housing assistance and at-risk youth programming.

**Changes as noted in Community Needs Assessment 2016**

- Increasingly complex family dysfunctions are undermining healthy development of children in poverty and creating long-term barriers to self-sufficiency at a young age. Mental health issues, chemical dependencies, incarceration, illiteracy, child abuse and neglect, and welfare dependency are among the most concerning issues impacting child development and well-being. These dysfunctions often pass from parent to child and play out repeatedly in the generational poverty arena.
- Service providers are more often working with kinship families in which children are in the care of relatives or close family friends.
- Substance abuse has been elevated to one of the most pressing, unmet needs within the community and across the nation as a result of the heroin epidemic.
- The population is aging and people are living longer than ever before.

**Poverty Issues**

a) Transportation continues to be a concern as the cost to own a reliable vehicle is out of reach for many families we work with (cost of vehicle, fuel, maintenance, insurance, etc). Public transportation is provided via bus by Centro in Cayuga County- no increase in transportation loops.

b) Homelessness

- 26 Head Start children experienced homelessness during the 2016/2017 program year.
- In 2017, Auburn Rescue Mission served 37 homeless families.
- According to the Housing and Homeless Coalition of CNY in 2016 there was an estimated 440 homeless individuals living in Cayuga County. This number is anticipated to be higher as many homeless go unknown. In 2016, 91 families lived in transitional housing.

c) Foster care

13 foster care children were enrolled in CSCAA Head Start during the 2016/2017 program year.

Cayuga County Kinship Placement- continues to increase

2013	16
2015	27

d) Disabilities

During the program year 2016/2017 Head Start provided services to 48 preschool children with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) (Cumulative enrollment 313-15%). 13 infant and toddlers with Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) received Early Head Start services. (Cumulative enrollment 88- 14%). The majority of children receiving services received speech.

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e) Housing and Energy

There are 15 low income housing apartment complexes which contain 942 affordable apartments for rent in Cayuga County, New York. Many of these rental apartments are income based housing with about 734 apartments that set rent based on your income. Often referred to as "HUD apartments", there are 481 Project-Based Section 8 subsidized apartments in Cayuga County. There are 208 other low income apartments that don't have rental assistance but are still considered to be affordable housing for low income families.

f) Food and Nutrition

Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency is the recipient of a Walmart Foundation State Giving Grant in the amount of \$50,000, to address hunger relief by collaborating with nine food pantries and soup kitchens in Cayuga County. \$7500.00 was allocated to the Early Childhood Backpack Program in the 2017/2018 PY. 149 Head Start/Early Head Start families benefited from the backpack program that was funded by this grant.

At the end of 2016, the number of children on SNAP

Cayuga County	23.6%
New York State	25.7%

In 2016/17, 47.2% public school students in grades K-12 living in Cayuga County received free or reduced-price school lunch.

g) Health and Safety

- 34.7% of elementary children living in Cayuga County are obese.
- In 2016, 30.4% of children under the age of 18 were enrolled in public health insurance.
- Limited number of dental providers that accept Medicaid in Cayuga County- During program year 2016/2017 over 10% of Head Start children did not have a dental home.

h) Children and Youth

Decrease in the number of children under the age of 5 living in Cayuga County

2010	5.3%
2016	5%

Cayuga County Children/Youth in Indicated Reports of Abuse/Maltreatment - 2016

Cayuga County	18.7 per 1000
New York State	16.2 per 1000

i) Childcare: ABC Cayuga conducted a survey of Cayuga County families the results are as follows:

- 68% of respondents replied they had a difficult time finding care for their infant/toddler.

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- 49% of respondents replied they needed wrap around care for their preschooler

**UPK:**

Auburn and Jordan-Elbridge have increased their UPK slots, also adding 3PK slots.

January 23, 2017- Auburn Enlarged School district started 3PK programming with 148 children. CSCAA received funding to provide 3PK services to 32 -3 year olds.

For the school year 2017/2018 Auburn Enlarged School district UPK funded 293 slots. CSCAA received funding to provide UPK services to 111 -4 year olds. This number decreased from 129 the previous year.

**j) Income and Employment**

- February 2018 unemployment rate 6.5% an increase of 1.6% from November 2017 (4.9%)- 3 month time period
- Decrease in poverty in Cayuga County

2013	14.2%
2014	12.7%
2016	11.4%

**Community Strength:**

Since the beginning of the ABC Cayuga initiative (a **community-wide initiative**), parents, community members and early childhood educators have expressed concern about the lack of indoor community places dedicated to young children and their families. Parents with young children report feeling isolated as though they are "parenting on an island". With the long winter season, most families with young children stay indoors which can make creating engaging play difficult. The county also struggles with high obesity rates among its young children and adults.

In early 2017, ABC Cayuga opened the ABC Cayuga Play Space to create a dedicated safe environment that provides resources for early childhood learning and development. CSCAA Head Start and Early Head Start have a strong community partnership with ABC Cayuga. Home Base Socializations and field trips for center base children provide children, parent, and staff the opportunity to enrich young children's lives through play and active movement.

[http://www.city-data.com/county/Cayuga\\_County-NY.html#ixzz5EGHbVP2n](http://www.city-data.com/county/Cayuga_County-NY.html#ixzz5EGHbVP2n)

[http://www.nyskwic.org/get\\_data/county\\_report\\_detail.cfm?countyID=36011](http://www.nyskwic.org/get_data/county_report_detail.cfm?countyID=36011)

<http://www.healthecny.org>

<https://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-search/New-York/Cayuga-County>