

**SENECA COUNTY COMMUNITY
PROFILE 2007
HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?**

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Final Report November 2007
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SENECA COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE 2007

HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?

Prepared for:
United Way of Seneca County and Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES

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Final Report November 2007

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HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?

November 2007

SUMMARY

A broad community partnership—Seneca County Partners for Children, Youth and Families - Collaboration for Community Change (SCPCYF-CCC)—has been working effectively for a number of years to strengthen services to children and families throughout Seneca County. It is currently engaged in a strategic planning process designed to set community priorities and effect needed community change. As part of that process, in the spring of 2007, the Partners group, United Way of Seneca County and the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES entered into an agreement with CGR (Center for Governmental Research Inc.) to develop a Seneca County Community Profile as a tool to inform and help guide the community's strategic planning process, assessment of needs, priority setting, and investment strategies.

This initial community profile provides a holistic, objective assessment of Seneca County's performance on a number of key outcomes and indicators of well-being affecting the quality of life in the county. By providing essential data to gauge historical trends and pinpoint areas where the community is both faring well and falling short, the profile serves as a basis for deeper inquiry and discussion about underlying causes and strategies to bring about improvements throughout the county. As the community invests its valuable and finite resources in priority areas, it ultimately needs to be able to determine what impact the investments are having. This community profile, and its anticipated periodic future updates, will provide the Seneca

County community with a valuable tool—a guide or roadmap to the future—to measure progress against desired outcomes over time, thereby allowing for an assessment of where it is on track and where corrective actions may be needed.

This initial profile presents a summary of demographic trends describing the county, as well as current and historical data on 60 measures that describe community progress against the following seven focus areas and 13 priority outcomes:

- ◆ **The Local Economy**
 - ◆ Economically Thriving Community
 - ◆ Financially Secure Families
 - ◆ Available and Affordable Housing
- ◆ **Public Safety**
 - ◆ Safe Environment
- ◆ **Family Wellness**
 - ◆ Stable and Nurturing Families
 - ◆ Healthy Births
 - ◆ Children Ready for School
- ◆ **Youth**
 - ◆ Youth Succeeding in School
 - ◆ Youth Leading Healthy Lives/Making Good Decisions
- ◆ **Primary Health Care**
 - ◆ Access to Health Care
 - ◆ People Enjoying Physical and Emotional Well-Being
- ◆ **Substance Abuse**
 - ◆ Reduced Impact of Substance Abuse
- ◆ **Senior Independence**
 - ◆ Seniors with Adequate Resources

For each of the seven focus areas, an overall interpretive summary is provided of the findings and implications across the various measures, along with overall conclusions and preliminary recommendations suggested by the data for consideration by community policy-makers, service providers, planners and funders.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

CGR gratefully acknowledges the leadership role of the Seneca County Partners for Children, Youth and Families – Collaboration for Community Change (SCPCYF-CCC) and its Community Assessment Team in developing the concept of a Community Profile for Seneca County, and in bringing it to fruition. The United Way of Seneca County and the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES were instrumental in securing the funding which made the project possible.

The Community Assessment Team of about 15 members was instrumental in conceptualizing and designing the project. Their questions, suggestions and insights throughout the process significantly influenced and shaped the scope, focus, goals and appearance of this document.

Special thanks for their leadership, guidance, support and suggestions throughout the project go to: Karen Beals, Executive Director of the United Way of Seneca County; Amy Perry-DelCorvo, Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES; Rebecca Ahouse, Youth Development and Services Coordinator of the United Way and Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES; Susan Backlund, ACT Coordinator (Youth Initiative) of the United Way; Connie Richardson, Director of Community Partnerships, United Way; and Jerry Macaluso, Superintendent of the Seneca Falls School District and Chair of the SCPCYF-CCC collaborative effort.

Staff Team

This project was directed by Donald Pryor, but the day-to-day operations and most of the design, production and final writing and editing of the document were the responsibility of Erika Rosenberg, whose supervision, thoroughness and attention to detail are reflected on every page of the document. Kathiann Willis and intern Sergey Zinger were responsible for much of the background research, development of graphs and tables, and development of draft narratives for most of the indicators

throughout the document. Thanks also to Hung Dang for his technical support and help in developing the appendices.

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

In recent years a national movement has emerged to define and measure community-wide outcomes. In Seneca County, a coalition of community, non-profit, governmental, educational and business leaders—under the stimulus and leadership of the United Way of Seneca County (UWSC)—has taken the lead in developing outcomes and indicators to track how well the community is doing in addressing selected issues and needs. This community profile was designed to objectively assess changes over time in Seneca County’s well-being across a variety of priority issues and concerns.

The Context

A broad community partnership—Seneca County Partners for Children, Youth and Families - Collaboration for Community Change (SCPCYF-CCC)—has been working effectively for a number of years to strengthen services to children and families throughout the county. It has brought together leadership from Seneca County government, the United Way, non-profit service providers, local school districts, and business leaders to advocate for holistic youth- and family-oriented policies and services, help coordinate and integrate services across systems and providers, help set community priorities, and develop innovative programming to address priority needs and opportunities. It is currently engaged in a strategic planning process designed to set community priorities and effect needed community change.

SCPCYF-CCC, with staff leadership from UWSC and funding support grants secured by the United Way and from Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES (WFL-BOCES), created a Community Assessment Team in 2006 to begin to develop the concept of a community profile and determine its potential value to the United Way, SCPCYF-CCC, and the larger community. After a number of meetings in the fall of 2006 and spring of 2007, the Partners group, United Way and WFL-BOCES entered into an agreement with CGR (Center for Governmental Research Inc.) to develop a Seneca County Community Profile as a tool to inform and help

guide the community's strategic planning process, assessment of needs, priority setting, and investment strategies.

Purpose of the Profile

Community profiles provide an objective assessment of a community's performance on key outcomes and indicators of well-being. By providing essential data to gauge trends and pinpoint areas where a community is both faring well and falling short, community profiles serve as springboards for deeper inquiry and discussion about underlying causes and strategies to bring about improvements. As the community invests its valuable and finite resources in priority areas, it ultimately needs to be able to determine what impact the investments are having. Thus, the community needs to be able to measure progress against desired outcomes over time, thereby allowing for an assessment of where it is on track and where corrective actions may be needed.

This document was developed by CGR as part of a collaborative effort with the Community Assessment Team of the SCPCYF-CCC. The profile reflects the consensus of a broad-based group of stakeholders on desired outcomes for county residents and key indicators to measure progress in addressing those outcomes.

The *Seneca County Community Profile* has multiple purposes:

- ❖ To provide an unbiased assessment of how well Seneca County is doing in achieving desired outcomes and an improved quality of life for the county's residents;
- ❖ To educate and inform government, educational, non-profit and business leaders, policy makers, funders, service providers—as well as the community as a whole—about the health and well-being of the community;
- ❖ To be a tool for planning and a catalyst for setting priorities and developing strategies to bring about needed improvements.

Process and Methodology

The Community Assessment Team represented the SCPCYF-CCC in working with CGR to conceptualize and design this project. The Team of about 15 members included individuals representing Seneca County government, the United Way, WFL-BOCES and

local school districts, service providers, and business and community leaders.

Defining Terms

CGR first defined terms to facilitate a common understanding among Assessment Team members:

- ❖ **Focus Area:** A broad substantive area of concern to, and reflecting priorities of, the larger community. Seven focus areas are included in the document, including the following broad areas: the local economy, public safety, family wellness, youth, primary health care, substance abuse, and senior independence.
- ❖ **Outcome:** A valued state of being, or what we all want for our children, families, and communities. A total of 13 outcomes are included in this document. Examples include: healthy births, stable and nurturing families, youth succeeding in school, access to health care, etc.
- ❖ **Indicator:** A measure that helps determine whether progress is being made in achieving the outcome. Multiple indicators are needed to paint the picture of whether progress is being made in a particular outcome area. Indicators should be measurable over time. A total of 60 indicators are included.

Selecting Outcomes and Indicators

The Community Assessment Team met several times with CGR to determine the focus areas, outcomes and indicators. The Team determined an initial set of proposed focus areas, and those were expanded, combined and otherwise modified in subsequent meetings to wind up with the final seven listed above. Within the focus areas, CGR in turn determined the following 13 outcomes to group the indicators under each focus area:

- ◆ **The Local Economy**
 - ◆ Economically Thriving Community
 - ◆ Financially Secure Families
 - ◆ Available and Affordable Housing
- ◆ **Public Safety**
 - ◆ Safe Environment

- ◆ **Family Wellness**
 - ◆ Stable and Nurturing Families
 - ◆ Healthy Births
 - ◆ Children Ready for School
- ◆ **Youth**
 - ◆ Youth Succeeding in School
 - ◆ Youth Leading Healthy Lives/Making Good Decisions
- ◆ **Primary Health Care**
 - ◆ Access to Health Care
 - ◆ People Enjoying Physical and Emotional Well-Being
- ◆ **Substance Abuse**
 - ◆ Reduced Impact of Substance Abuse
- ◆ **Senior Independence**
 - ◆ Seniors with Adequate Resources

CGR then led the Community Assessment Team through a process of selecting indicators for each outcome. CGR provided a list of potential indicators for review and discussion and also encouraged the members of the Team to modify or add to the list, as they saw fit. An initial list of about 95 potential indicators was reviewed by the Assessment Team against the following criteria: (1) the availability and relatively easy accessibility and reliability of existing data that could be obtained and tracked over multiple years (only existing measures were considered for inclusion); (2) how understandable the indicators are likely to be to the general public; and (3) how effectively changes in the indicators will reflect progress within the county in addressing the outcomes. In addition, only indicators that provided community-wide data were considered for inclusion; data pertaining only to individual agencies or programs, and that could not be collected and analyzed for the larger community, were typically excluded.

CGR and the Team ultimately agreed upon 60 indicators that met the criteria and helped describe community progress against the

identified focus areas and outcomes. They are included in this baseline edition of the *Seneca County Community Profile*.

It is important to note that no single indicator or measure should be reviewed in isolation without putting it into a larger context. Rarely does a single indicator in isolation tell a story that sufficiently explains the community's progress or lack of progress around a particular outcome. Thus it is important to keep in mind not just each individual measure under consideration, but also how combinations of indicators across focus areas may interact.

Determining Bases for Comparison

The Assessment Team wished to compare the performance of Seneca County wherever possible against other counties in its region. It decided to use the following three bordering counties as comparisons against which to compare Seneca's performance: Cayuga, Ontario and Wayne. In addition, to the extent the data allowed, we also made comparisons *within* the county, into *North* (Waterloo, Seneca Falls and Fayette areas; Waterloo and Seneca Falls school districts) and *South* (Lodi, Interlaken, Willard, Ovid and Romulus areas; Romulus and South Seneca school districts). Additional benchmark or comparison data were also included where available for goals or standards such as the Healthy People 2010 national improved-health goals.

Compiling, Analyzing and Presenting Findings

Once the indicator list was finalized, CGR collected and analyzed the best available data from state, county, and local agencies and prepared a one-page profile for each of the indicators included in the *Seneca County Profile*. Each indicator profile uses a common format that addresses the following questions:

- ❖ **Indicator Definition** – How is the indicator defined and calculated?
- ❖ **Significance** – Why is the indicator important?
- ❖ **Findings** – How has Seneca County fared on the indicator over a number of years? How does the County's performance on the indicator compare to the comparison counties, and where

possible, how do the North and South portions of the County compare?

- ❖ **Caveats** – Are there any limitations in the data that the reader should be aware of?

Each indicator profile also includes a graph that displays Seneca County and the comparison county trend data. North/South comparisons are also graphed where the data were available at that level. For each indicator, there is a corresponding more detailed data table, with an identical number, presented in the Appendix.

Graphs and tables present data for the most recent year available as well as historical data, typically going back at least to 2000 and often beginning in the mid-1990s, for trending purposes. Future updates of this community profile would be compared and trended against this initial profile's baseline data.

For CGR to suggest that a trend exists, there must be a clear pattern of consistent movement of an indicator in the same direction over several years. Caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions based on fluctuations in data from one year to the next. Such fluctuations, even if substantial, typically are not sufficiently reliable for planning and assessment purposes.

Whenever possible, CGR used New York State sources of data rather than data from local sources, to ensure consistent definitions and reporting, and to enable us to make consistent and reliable comparisons across counties. The data sources for individual measures are cited at appropriate places in the report and Appendix.

To provide a context for the discussion of the indicators, the next chapter of the report provides a summary of demographic trends describing Seneca County, based on Census data. To provide further context and to assist the reader in interpreting the 60 indicators, an interpretive summary of overall trends and implications is presented at the end of each Focus Area chapter.

As a companion to this document, readers should be aware of the December 2006 report, *Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth*, prepared by Search Institute, based on a survey of 1,868 students in grades 6 through 11 in the Seneca County school districts.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN SENECA COUNTY

Drawing on the 1990 and 2000 Census, as well as updated Census estimates where available, this section provides an overview of the changing face of Seneca County. The narrative and graphics to follow describe changes in Seneca's population, racial and ethnic makeup, household and family characteristics, educational attainment, income and poverty distributions and housing features. These data provide a contextual framework for understanding the indicators presented in later sections.

Population

The data presented in this section depict Seneca County both historically and currently, whenever updated statistics were available, and compare Seneca to the three selected comparison counties where the comparisons provide a useful context. Data for the North and South sections of the county are also presented where relevant. Detailed data tables corresponding to the tables and charts to follow are included in the Appendix.

Seneca County has experienced modest population growth since 1990, growing 3.1% to almost 34,725 people in 2006. Seneca's population actually declined slightly between 1990 and 2000 but rebounded between 2000 and 2006 (4.1% growth, due primarily to the new prison population). The recent growth compares favorably with the other counties—Cayuga and Wayne have lost a little population since 2000, and Ontario has grown at the same rate as Seneca since 2000,

Total Population

	1990	2000	2006	Change, 90-06	Change, 00-06
Seneca	33,683	33,342	34,724	3.1%	4.1%
Cayuga	82,313	81,963	81,243	-1.3%	-0.9%
Ontario	95,101	100,224	104,353	9.7%	4.1%
Wayne	89,123	93,765	92,889	4.2%	-0.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

though at a more rapid rate since 1990.

Population, within County

	1990	2000	% Change
North	23,009	23,117	0.5%
South	10,674	10,225	-4.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

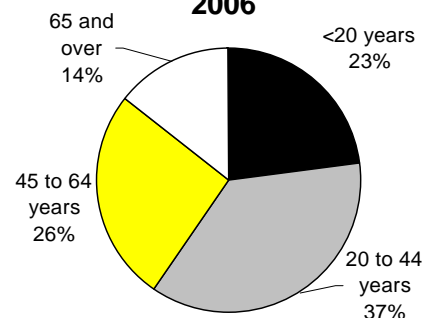
About 69% of Seneca's population in 2000 resided in the North towns (Fayette, Waterloo, Seneca Falls, Junius and Tyre) while the remainder lived in the South towns (Varick, Romulus, Ovid, Lodi and

Covert). Between 1990 and 2000, North towns experienced no change in population, while South towns experienced a decline. (2006 data were not available for towns.)

Age of Population

Seneca, like its sister counties, is growing older. Between 1990 and 2006, the population under 20 declined about 17% (all four counties declined), while the population between 45 and 64 grew by 37%. The comparison counties saw even greater increases than Seneca did in the population 45 to 64 years old, and Ontario and Wayne also saw sizeable increases in the 65 and over group, while the population among this age group changed very little in Seneca and Cayuga. (While Seneca's overall 65+ population has been stable, there have been significant increases in the population 75 and older.) Seneca's population between the ages of 20 and 44 increased slightly since 1990, by 2%, compared to declines of 13% in Cayuga and Wayne and 8% in Ontario. Indeed, Seneca's population *since 2000* has increased by 11% in this key young and middle-aged adult group. However, Seneca lost population in all age groups under 20 years old, especially children 9 and younger.

Seneca County Population, 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population by Age

	1990	2000	2006	Change, 90-06
Seneca County				
<20 years	9,647	8,955	8,038	-16.7%
20 to 44 years	12,432	11,401	12,646	1.7%
45 to 64 years	6,610	7,936	9,058	37.0%
65 and over	4,994	5,050	4,982	-0.2%
Cayuga County				
<20 years	23,977	22,749	19,870	-17.1%
20 to 44 years	32,034	28,846	27,955	-12.7%
45 to 64 years	14,704	18,559	21,729	47.8%
65 and over	11,598	11,809	11,689	0.8%
Ontario County				
<20 years	26,877	28,254	26,112	-2.8%
20 to 44 years	37,484	33,964	34,528	-7.9%
45 to 64 years	18,236	24,806	29,143	59.8%
65 and over	12,504	13,200	14,570	16.5%
Wayne County				
<20 years	27,248	27,928	24,839	-8.8%
20 to 44 years	34,658	32,416	30,242	-12.7%
45 to 64 years	16,909	22,022	25,838	52.8%
65 and over	10,308	11,399	11,970	16.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Race and Ethnicity

Seneca County has experienced growth in its minority populations, but the overall population remains about 93% white, similar to the comparison counties. Seneca does have a slightly larger African American/black population than the comparison counties, with almost 5% of all residents, compared to 4% in Cayuga, 3% in Wayne and 2% in Ontario. Between 1990 and 2006, the black population in Seneca more than tripled (largely a function of the new prison population), from about 540 to about 1,700, but that did not significantly change the overall racial makeup of the county.

Population by Race and Ethnicity

Race	Seneca County		Cayuga County		Ontario County		Wayne County	
	2006	Share of total	2006	Share of total	2006	Share of total	2006	Share of total
White	32,144	92.6%	76,243	93.8%	99,334	95.2%	87,701	94.4%
Black	1,707	4.9%	3,338	4.1%	2,466	2.4%	3,028	3.3%
Indian/Alaskan	97	0.3%	315	0.4%	271	0.3%	274	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific	376	1.1%	440	0.5%	1,042	1.0%	605	0.7%
Two or more races	400	1.2%	907	1.1%	1,240	1.2%	1,281	1.4%
Ethnicity								
Hispanic	987	2.8%	1,682	2.1%	2,820	2.7%	2,785	3.0%
Non-Hispanic	33,737	97.2%	79,561	97.9%	101,533	97.3%	90,104	97.0%

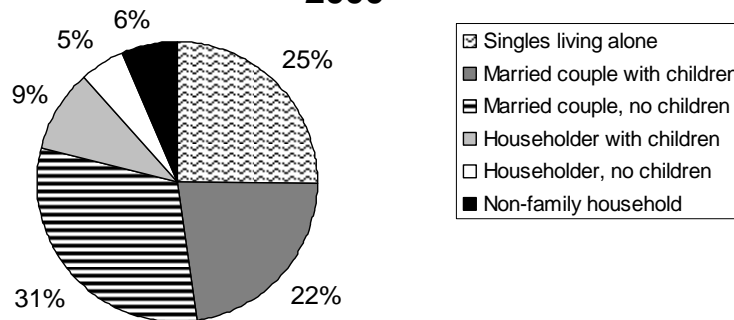
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Seneca also has a small Hispanic population at about 1,000 people or 3% of all residents, in line with the comparison counties. That's a significant increase from 1990, when there were fewer than 400 people reporting Hispanic origin in Seneca County.

Household and Family Types

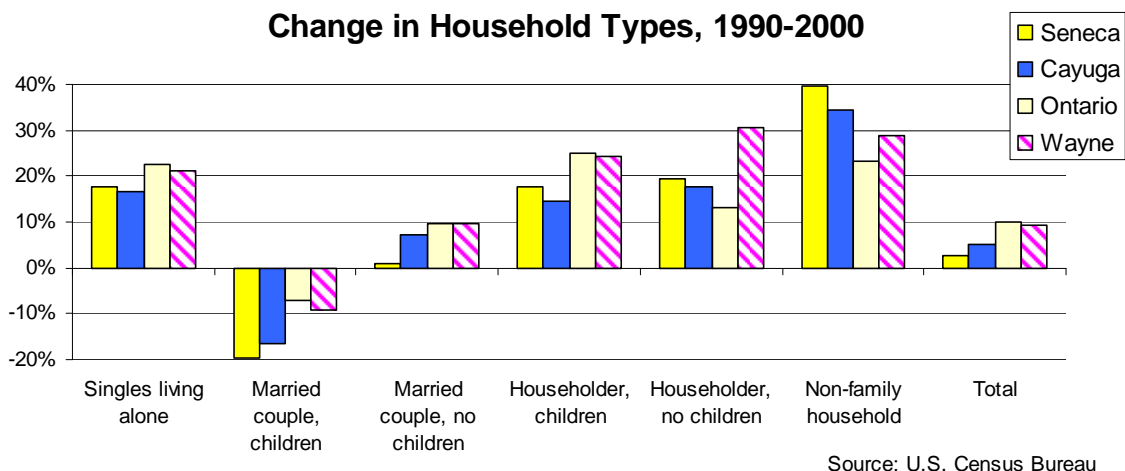
Almost a third of the households in Seneca County are composed of married couples without any children living with them. The second most common household type is singles living alone (25%), followed by married couples with children (22%).

Household Types, Seneca County, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

(Percentages don't add exactly to 100 due to rounding.) A householder without children is someone living with a relative other than a child (siblings living together, for example) and a non-family household is made up of unrelated people living together.



Between 1990 and 2000, Seneca experienced growth in every type of household, except for married couples living with children, a trend experienced by all three of the comparison counties. The number of married couples with children in Seneca declined nearly 20% over the decade. In 1990, they represented 29% of the total households, and in 2000 that dropped to 22%. Married couples with no children experienced only a very small growth between 1990 and 2000. Together, married couples (with or without children) declined from 60.4% of all households in 1990 to just over half (53.6%) in 2000.

The biggest proportionate gain was in the number of non-family households, which grew about 40%. However, these households still make up a small share of the total, at 6%. The number of single householders living with children grew about 18% in Seneca County. The majority of these households were headed by females, about 70% in 2000. Altogether these single households with children made up 9% of the total in 2000, compared to 8% in 1990.

Household Types, within County

	2000, Share of Total		% change, 1990-2000	
	North	South	North	South
Singles	26%	24%	17%	20%
Married couple with children	22%	24%	-18%	-24%
Married couple, no children	31%	32%	1%	0%
Householder with children	10%	9%	23%	6%
Householder, no children	6%	4%	23%	9%
Non-family household	7%	6%	44%	28%
Total households	100%	100%	4%	-1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

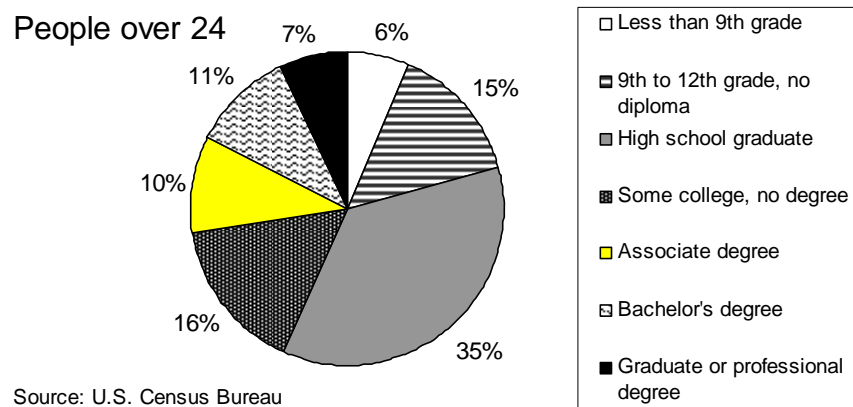
North and South towns in Seneca had similar distributions of household types. The two sections of the county experienced similar changes in numbers of households belonging to each

type between 1990 and 2000, except that North towns saw greater growth in households headed by non-married people, both with and without children, and in non-family households.

Educational Attainment

About 79% of Seneca County residents 25 and older have at least a high school education, and the numbers earning college degrees have been growing. Between 1990 and 2000, the numbers with associate's degrees increased 15%, those with bachelor's degrees rose 24% and people with graduate or professional degrees increased 31%. The share of the population with at least an associate's college degree grew from 23% in 1990 to 28% in 2000.

Educational attainment, Seneca County, 2000



Seneca was in line with two of the three comparison counties in share of residents 25 and over with college degrees in 2000 (26% in Cayuga, 27% in Wayne), but behind Ontario (36%).

Within the county, South towns had a higher proportion of residents lacking a high school education (24%) than did North towns (19%), as of the 2000 Census. South towns experienced more growth between 1990 and 2000 in the numbers of residents with graduate or professional degrees, though they also saw growth in the population with high school experience but no degree. North towns had faster growth in the number of residents with some college (no degree) and those with associate's degrees.

Educational Attainment, within County

	2000, Share of Total		% Change, 1990-2000	
	North	South	North	South
Less than 9th grade	6%	7%	-19%	-27%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	13%	17%	-14%	26%
High school graduate	37%	32%	3%	-10%
Some college, no degree	16%	15%	12%	-17%
Associate degree	11%	9%	19%	5%
Bachelor's degree	10%	11%	24%	23%
Graduate or professional degree	6%	9%	23%	42%
Total	100%	100%	4%	0%

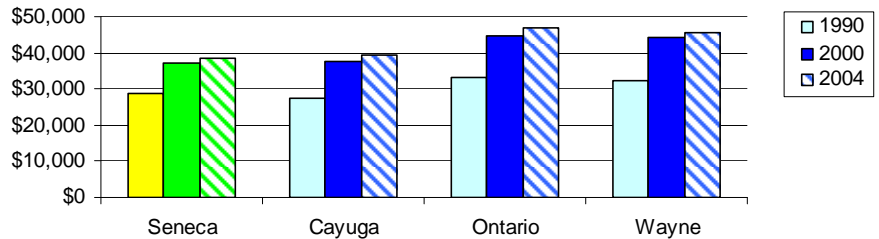
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Income

Seneca County’s median household income rose between 1990 and 2004, but it did not keep pace with inflation. The unadjusted figure rose 35% from \$28,600 in 1990 to \$38,600 in 2004. But in real dollars (adjusted for inflation), the income figure actually declined 7%.

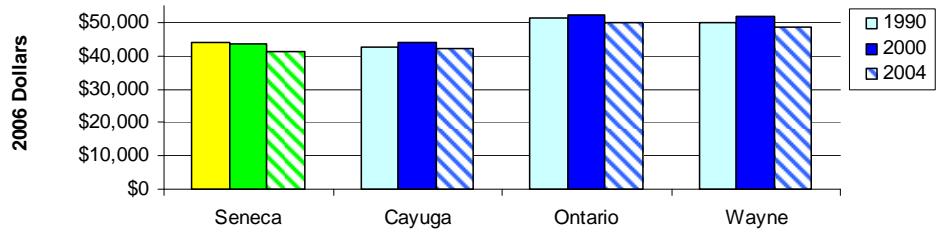
This was true to a lesser extent in the comparison counties. In real dollars, median household incomes fell 1% in Cayuga, 2% in Ontario and 3% in Wayne between 1990 and 2004.

Median Household Income



U.S. Census Bureau

Median Household Income, Adjusted for Inflation



U.S. Census Bureau

Distribution of Incomes, within County

	2000, Share of Total	
	North	South
Less than \$10,000	8%	5%
\$10,000 to \$24,999	24%	24%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	32%	36%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%	18%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	10%	9%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	4%	6%
More than \$150,000	1%	2%

U.S. Census Bureau

The distribution of incomes was relatively similar in North and South towns in 2000—though South towns had a higher proportion of households earning between \$25,000 and \$49,999 and proportionately more households earning more than \$100,000. North towns had proportionately more households earning less than \$10,000 a year.

Poverty

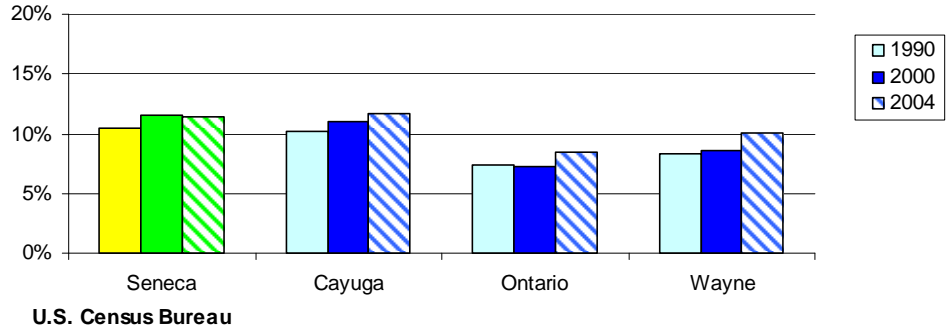
The percentage of people of all ages, and of children in Seneca County living below the federally-defined poverty level, did not change much between 1990 and 2004. The proportion of all residents living in

poverty rose from 10.4% in 1990 to 11.4% in both 2000 and 2004, while the proportion of children living in poverty remained steady at almost 16%. In 2004, that translated to 3,690 Seneca residents who were officially poor, including 1,171 children.

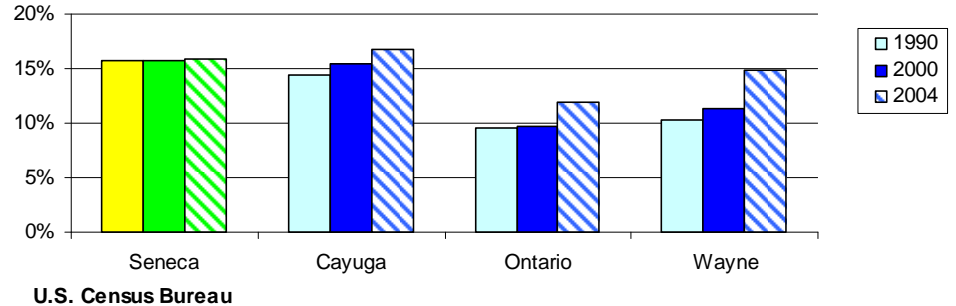
The comparison counties experienced more of an increase in children living below poverty, but Seneca still had a higher child poverty rate than all but Cayuga County.

The Census threshold for poverty varies depending upon family size and composition. In 2004, for a family of four with two children the threshold was \$19,157.

People Living Below Poverty Level



Children Under 18 Living Below Poverty Level



Poverty, within County

	% Poor, 2000		% Change, 1990-2000	
	North	South	North	South
Under 5	16%	19%	-49%	-30%
5 to 17	15%	17%	11%	38%
18 to 64	11%	10%	21%	25%
65 and over	8%	6%	-12%	5%
Total	13%	13%	4%	18%

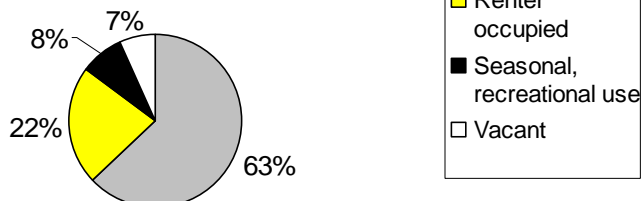
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

North and South towns within Seneca had similar poverty rates in 2000, but South towns experienced more growth in poverty between 1990 and 2000.

Housing Characteristics

Almost two-thirds of all housing units in Seneca County in 2000 were occupied by owners, while 22% were occupied by renters, 8% were used seasonally and 7% were vacant. These figures were largely unchanged from 1990 and did not vary much from the comparison counties, except

Status of Housing Units, Seneca County, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

that owner-occupied units made up 70% of all units in Wayne County.

About 74% of owner-occupied units in Seneca in 2000 were occupied by people who had been living there for at least five years. This too was virtually unchanged from 1990, when the figure was 72%.

Within the county, North towns had a higher share of housing units that were owner-occupied and renter-occupied than did South towns in 2000. South towns had higher proportions of units dedicated to seasonal or recreational use. The overall number of housing units grew more in North towns between 1990 and 2000, and North towns gained in every category except for seasonal/recreational use. Vacant units increased in both North and South.

Status of Housing Units, within County

	2000, Share of Total		% Change, 1990-2000	
	North	South	North	South
Owner-occupied	72%	65%	42%	30%
Renter-occupied	21%	13%	13%	-18%
Seasonal, recreational use	3%	15%	-23%	6%
Vacant	5%	6%	9%	17%
Total	100%	100%	30%	16%

U.S. Census Bureau

Both North and South towns had high proportions of owner-occupied units occupied by the same residents for at least five years, 73% and 76%, respectively.

FOCUS AREA 1 – THE LOCAL ECONOMY: ECONOMIC TRENDS

The first of the seven focus areas is designed to track how well the Seneca County community is doing in creating an economic infrastructure in which businesses, individuals and families can thrive. The economic focus area emphasizes three broad outcomes and provides an understanding of the economic context in which county residents exist, and of how the economic environment is changing over time. The largest of the focus areas in terms of indicators being measured, it includes the following 17 indicators grouped under three broad outcomes:

Outcomes and Indicators

Outcome: Economically Thriving Community

- ❖ 1.1 – Average Annual Unemployment Rate
- ❖ 1.2 – Labor Force Participation Rate
- ❖ 1.3 – Annual Change in Jobs
- ❖ 1.4 – Employment by Sector
- ❖ 1.5 – Employer Size
- ❖ 1.6 – Number of People Coming Into County and Leaving County for Work
- ❖ 1.7 – Per-capita Revenues for County Government
- ❖ 1.8 – Per-capita Revenues for Local Government
- ❖ 1.9 – Per-capita Revenues for School Districts

Outcome: Financially Secure Families

- ❖ 1.10 – Annual Average Salary
- ❖ 1.11 – People Receiving Temporary Assistance

- ❖ 1.12 – People Receiving Emergency Food

Outcome: Available and Affordable Housing

- ❖ 1.13 – Median Home Value (Inflation-Adjusted)
- ❖ 1.14 – Ratio of Home Value to Household Income
- ❖ 1.15 – Median Rent (Inflation-Adjusted)
- ❖ 1.16 – Rent as a Percentage of Household Income
- ❖ 1.17 – Single-Family Home Sales

In addition to these 17 indicators, data on household income, poverty rates and housing characteristics discussed in the preceding demographics chapter also have relevance to understanding the economic profile of the county. Their implications are addressed in the summary at the end of this chapter.

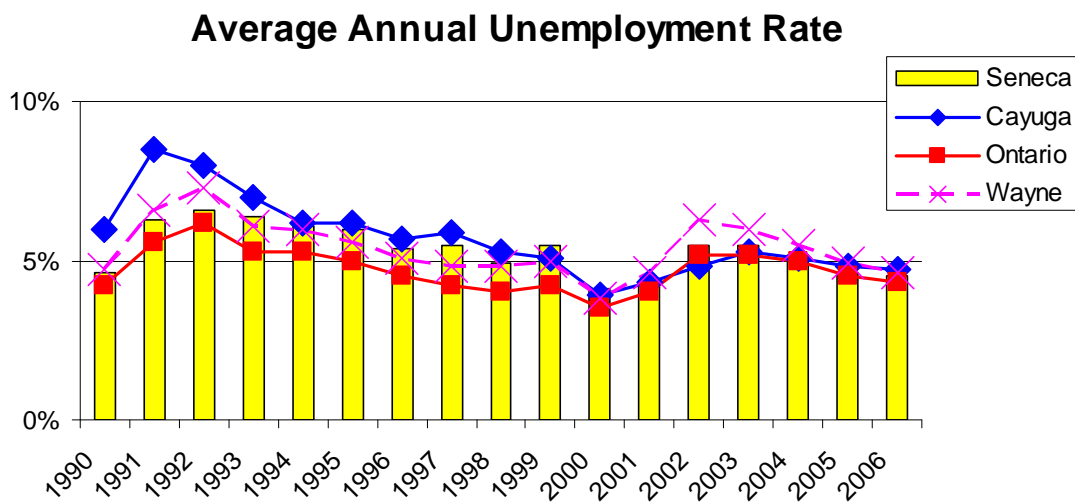
Two other indicators related to housing were thought to be important for possible inclusion for potential future community profile updates—homelessness and home foreclosures—but they were not included in this initial baseline document because of insufficient reliable historical trend data. As trend data become available for these indicators in the future, the Seneca County Community Assessment Team believes that they should be considered for additions to the above list of Economic Trend indicators.

The 17 individual indicator profiles follow, after which an overall summary of trends concludes the chapter.

Indicator 1.1: Average Annual Unemployment Rate

Definition. Unemployed individuals are those without jobs who are able, available and actively seeking work. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the total labor force (the total number of employed and unemployed individuals 16 or older and not in prisons, mental hospitals or nursing homes). Rates represent the annual average.

Significance. Unemployment rates are a key indicator of local economic conditions, particularly employment opportunities and the potential need for local employment and training services.



Source: NYS Department of Labor

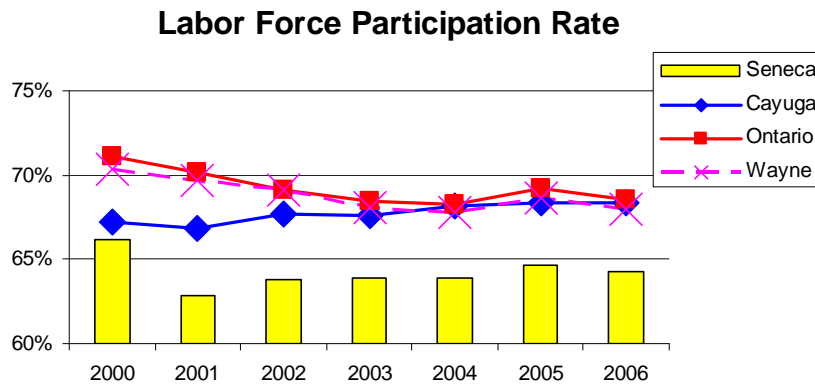
Findings: Seneca's unemployment rate has followed the regional trend, rising in the early 1990s, tapering off in the late '90s, reaching 15-year lows in 2000 and 2001, rising again, and declining again since 2003. The Seneca County 2006 rate of 4.5% was slightly below the 4.6% rate in 1990, and was the lowest annual rate for the county since 4.3% in 2001.

Caveats: The unemployment rate represents only those who are actively seeking employment and does not account for under-employment or discouraged workers who have stopped looking for jobs.

Indicator 1.2: Labor Force Participation Rate

Definition. The total number of persons employed or looking for work (unemployed) divided by the total labor pool (persons 16 or older who are not institutionalized).

Significance. The labor force participation rate is an important measure of individuals' willingness to work outside the home.



Source: NYS Department of Labor

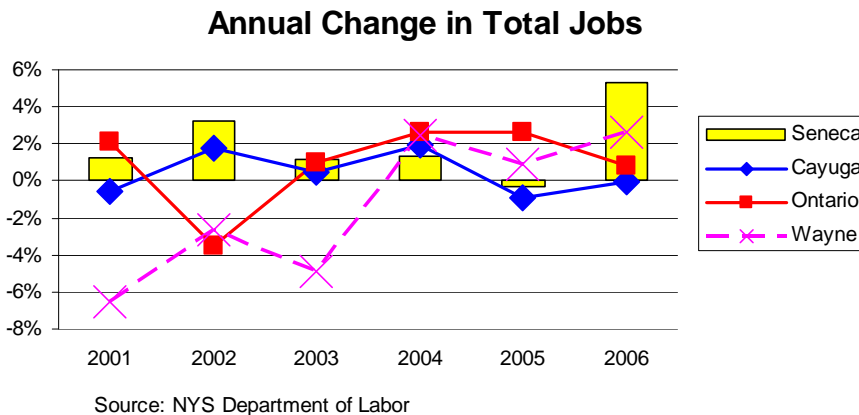
Findings: Seneca's labor force participation rate has consistently been below that of the comparison counties and has declined over the past seven years from a high of 66% in 2000 to 64% in 2006. By contrast, Ontario County had a 71% labor force participation rate in 2000, which declined to about 69% in 2006. In 2006, the rates in comparison counties were all near 68%, while Seneca's was 64%. The actual number of people in the labor force in Seneca has actually increased by about 6% (almost 1,000 people) since 2000, but that increased number represents a smaller proportion of the total potential labor pool.

Caveats: This measure does not provide estimates of underemployment, nor does it account for discouraged workers who are no longer actively seeking employment.

Indicator 1.3: Annual Change in Jobs

Definition. This measure represents the net growth or decline in new jobs. The chart shows the percentage gain or loss in total jobs from the previous year.

Significance. Job growth is a key indicator of economic health and vitality and reveals whether and how much an economy is expanding.



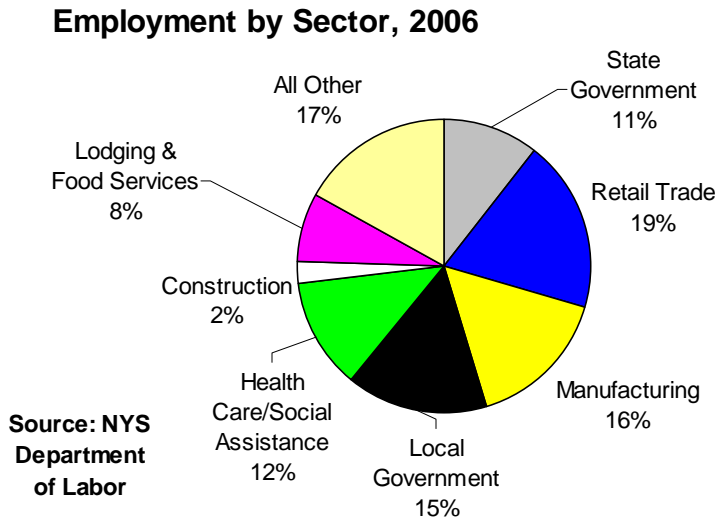
Findings: Seneca has experienced ups and downs in the number of jobs during this decade, as did the comparison counties. However, Seneca outperformed the comparison counties as a whole in net job increases. The changes in Seneca ranged from a slight decline in 2005 of 0.3% to a gain in 2006 of 5.3%. Seneca ended the period with an overall 12% increase in the number of jobs (from 10,136 in 2000 to 11,398 in 2006)—a significantly higher rate of growth than in the comparison counties. Ontario gained 6%, Cayuga 3%, and Wayne had 8% fewer jobs in 2006 than in 2000.

Caveats: These data are from the state Labor Department's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages and include only workers covered by unemployment insurance laws, which account for about 97% of all non-farm employees. Employee categories not accounted for include some agricultural workers, railroad workers, private household workers, student workers, the self-employed and unpaid family workers.

Indicator 1.4: Employment by Sector

Definition: The percentage of the workers employed in various sectors of the economy.

Significance: The percentage of workers across various sectors is a measure of economic diversity and provides an understanding of the local economy. Greater diversity is preferable, reflecting greater options and sources of jobs and income for residents.



Findings: Seneca's economy is heavily dependent for jobs upon retail trade (2,126 in 2006), manufacturing (1,830), local (1,763) and state (1,216) government, and healthcare/social assistance (1,393). Relatively few workers in Seneca are employed in construction, transportation, information, finance and

insurance, or real estate. Between 2000 and 2006, manufacturing jobs declined 11% in the county, and accommodations and food services declined 8%, while retail jobs increased 28%, health care/social assistance jobs rose 27% and employment in state government more than doubled, with the impact of the new state prison.

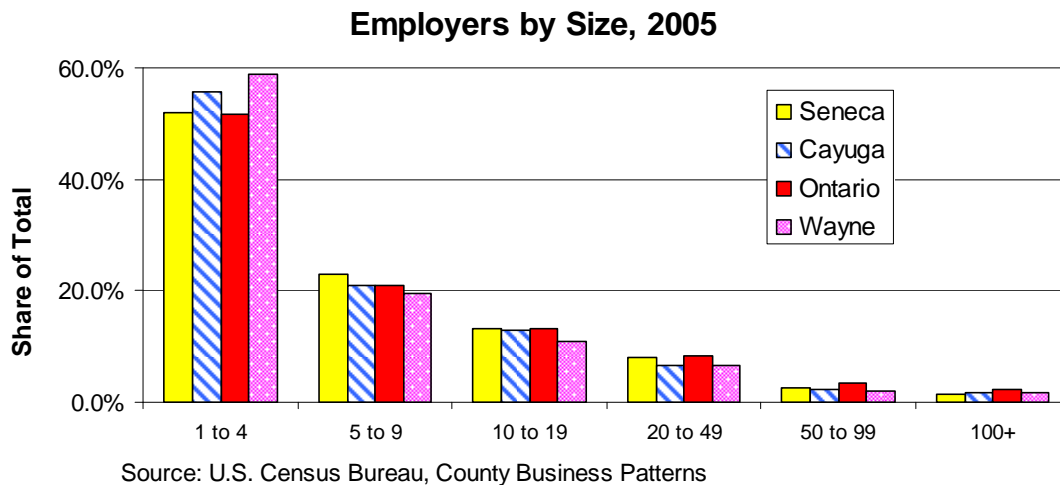
The composition of Seneca's economy has not changed much since 2000, though the proportion of jobs in manufacturing fell (from 20% to 16% of all jobs) and the proportion of jobs in state government increased (from 6% to 11%). Seneca's overall employment profile is similar to the comparison counties; all have moderate concentrations of workers in manufacturing, health care/social assistance, retail trade and local government. However, Seneca's growth in state government jobs far exceeded that of the comparison counties. By contrast, Ontario and Wayne experienced significant growth in accommodation and food services jobs, while such jobs in Seneca were declining.

Caveats: Some data are not disclosed by the state Labor Department because too few workers are listed in a category.

Indicator 1.5: Employer Size

Definition: Employers grouped by the number of people they employ, as a share of the total.

Significance: Large changes in the number of small or large employers could indicate upheaval and unpredictability in the local economy and labor market.



Findings: The majority of employers in Seneca are small, employing 1 to 4 people, as is the case in the comparison counties. About 52% of employers in Seneca fall into this category, even with Ontario and slightly less than Cayuga (56%) and Wayne (59%). Seneca and the comparison counties have a very small share of large employers with 100 or more employees. These overall profiles have not changed appreciably since 1998. However, there have been some shifts of note. In Seneca, 55% of employers in 1998 employed 1 to 4 people, compared to the 52% in 2005, and the number of employers of 100 or more has increased from nine to ten during that time (Ontario's larger employers increased from 57 to 67, but Wayne's 100+ employers declined during that time from 39 to 32). Employers of 50 to 99 employees also increased in Seneca from 10 to 17 between 1998 and 2005.

Caveats: The data do not include self-employed individuals, employees of private households, railroad employees, agricultural production employees and most government employees.

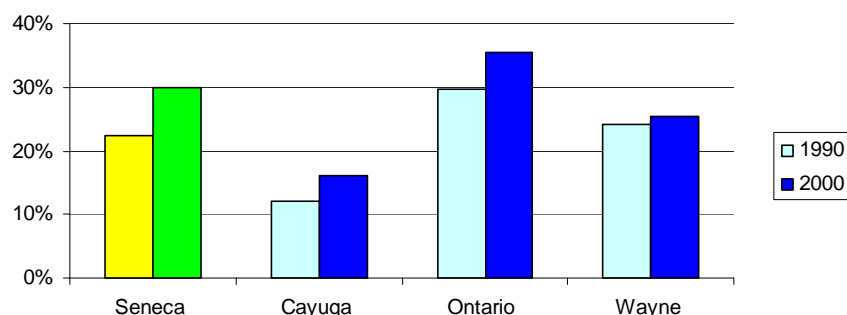
Indicator 1.6: Number of People Coming Into County and Leaving County for Work

Definition. The proportion of workers 16 or older who came into a county from another county for work or who left their home county for work.

Significance. County-to-county worker flows can show whether a county is drawing an increasing number of workers or losing workers to other counties.

Findings: Seneca drew an increasing proportion of workers into the county between 1990 and 2000, from 22% to 30% (a total of about 450 additional workers). Seneca drew a higher

Percent of Workers Coming from Outside County



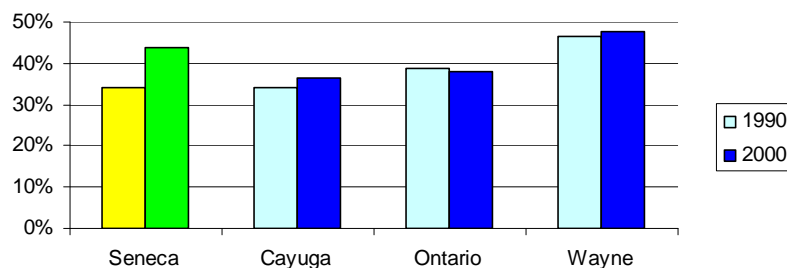
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Transportation Planning Package

proportion of workers than Cayuga and Wayne in 2000, but fewer than Ontario.

Seneca also sent a higher proportion of its resident workers to other counties, rising from 34% in 1990 to 44% in 2000—a larger change than in any of the comparison counties. A higher percentage of Seneca

residents traveled outside the county for work in 2000 than was true for residents of Cayuga or Ontario, but not Wayne. More than 1,000 more Seneca County residents worked outside the county in 2000 than had done so in 1990.

Percent of Residents Leaving County for Work



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Transportation Planning Package

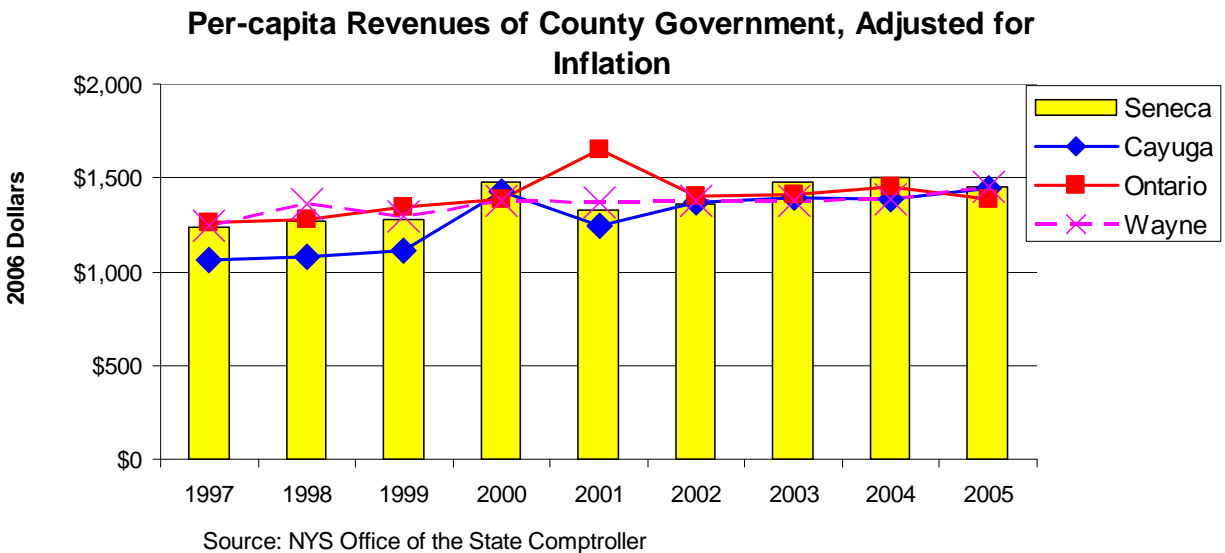
Caveats: Out-of-state residents are not included in the figures. Data were only available for Census years

1990 and 2000.

Indicator 1.7: Per-capita Revenues for County Government

Definition: The annual per-capita revenues for county government, adjusted for inflation.

Significance: Government provides critical services to communities, but the cost to taxpayers can become burdensome.



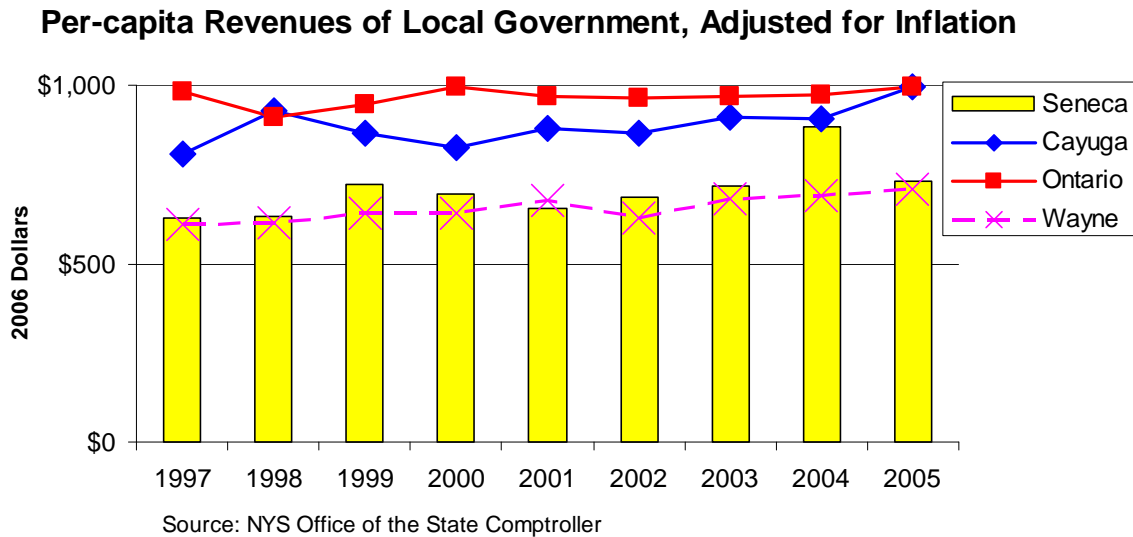
Findings: Seneca's per-capita revenues to county government were 17% higher in 2005 than in 1997, adjusted for inflation—from \$1,240 to \$1,450. That was the second highest rate of growth among the regional counties: Cayuga per capita revenues rose 36% during that period, Wayne 16% and Ontario 10% (Ontario's per capita rate actually declined 16% since peaking in 2001).

Caveats: The figures are presented per-capita to make a rough adjustment for the size of the county. They include all revenues, not just those from property taxes. State and federal aid, as well as fees and other types of tax revenue, are included.

Indicator 1.8: Per-capita Revenues for Local Government

Definition: The annual per-capita revenues for cities, towns and villages within a county, adjusted for inflation.

Significance: Local governments provide critical services to their communities, but the cost to taxpayers can become burdensome.



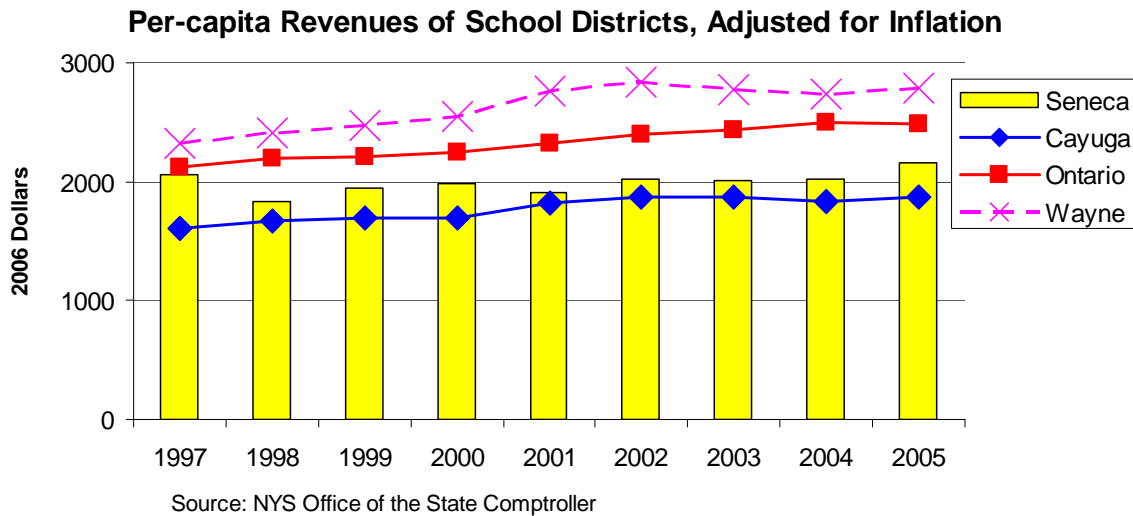
Findings: Seneca's per-capita revenues to local government were 16% higher in 2005 than in 1997, up from \$629 to \$730. That was tied for the second-highest rate of growth among the counties, below the 23% increase in Cayuga County and even with Wayne County. Per-capita revenues rose just 1% in Ontario County. Seneca's total local government costs per person were lower than in Ontario and Cayuga and about even with Wayne, in large part due to the fact that Ontario and Cayuga both have cities in addition to towns and villages, and Seneca and Wayne do not. If only towns and villages are compared, Seneca's per-capita revenues have been consistently higher over the years than in any of the comparison counties.

Caveats: The figures are presented per-capita to make a rough adjustment for the size of the county. They include all revenues, not just those from property taxes. State and federal aid, as well as fees and other types of tax revenue, are included.

Indicator 1.9: Per-capita Revenues for School Districts

Definition. The annual per-capita revenues of all school districts within a county, adjusted for inflation.

Significance. Education is a critical need in any county. Schools must prepare the next generation to become productive members of society and compete in the global economy. Yet the cost of schools can become a burden to taxpayers, particularly those on fixed incomes or whose incomes are not keeping pace with tax increases.



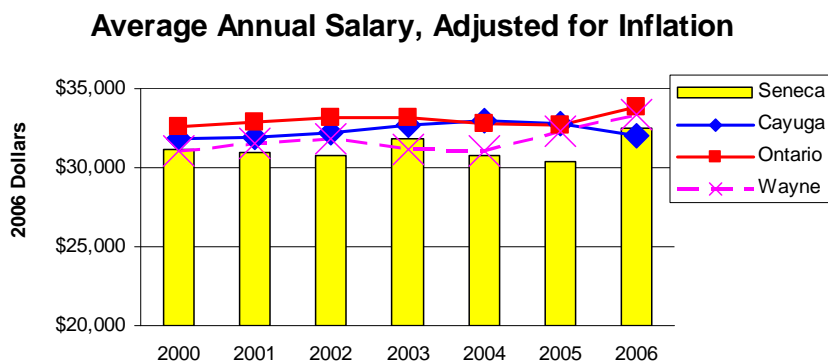
Findings: Seneca's per-capita revenues for school districts have been consistently below those of Ontario and Wayne and above Cayuga's. Seneca had the smallest increase among the counties, rising 5% from \$2,055 in 1997 to \$2,156 in 2005. During that time, per-capita revenues rose 20% in Wayne, 17% in Ontario and 16% in Cayuga.

Caveats: The figures are presented per-capita to make a rough adjustment for the size of the county. They include all revenues, not just those from property taxes. State and federal aid, as well as fees and other types of tax revenue, are included.

Indicator 1.10: Average Annual Salary

Definition: The average salary paid to employees in all industry types. These data provide an average annual wage per worker (not family) and have been adjusted to 2006 dollars.

Significance: Salaries are a gauge of overall economic health, as well as a measure of the degree that employees are sharing in any prosperity in a community.



Source: NYS Department of Labor

Findings: Salaries in Seneca and the comparison counties kept up with inflation and improved a bit beyond inflation between 2000 and 2006. The inflation-adjusted salary in Seneca County grew 4%, from \$31,111 to \$32,470. Average

salaries increased 1% in Cayuga, 4% in Ontario and 7% in Wayne.

However, Seneca's average annual salary was consistently below that of the comparison counties in most years and was not high enough to meet the basic needs of all family types, according to a "self-sufficiency standard" developed by researchers working with statewide nonprofits and advocates for the poor. Their 2000 study concluded a parent and infant would need \$28,656 but a parent with two children (one infant and one preschooler) would need \$36,408.¹ The study took into account food, housing, child care, transportation, health care and miscellaneous costs, as well as taxes and tax credits.

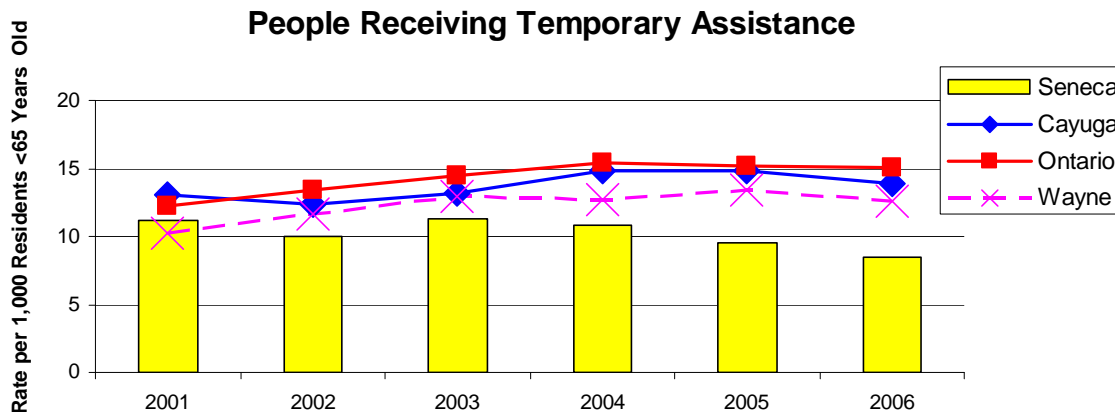
Caveats: These data are from the state Labor Department's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages and include only workers covered by unemployment insurance laws, which account for about 97% of all non-farm employees. Employee categories not accounted for include some agricultural workers, railroad workers, private household workers, student workers, the self-employed and unpaid family workers.

¹ *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for New York*, Sept. 2000, Diana Pearce.

Indicator 1.11: People Receiving Temporary Assistance

Definition. The average number of people (adults and children) receiving Temporary Assistance each month, expressed as a rate per 1,000 residents under age 65.

Significance. This measure represents the numbers of individuals dependent upon government support for their basic economic needs.



Source: New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

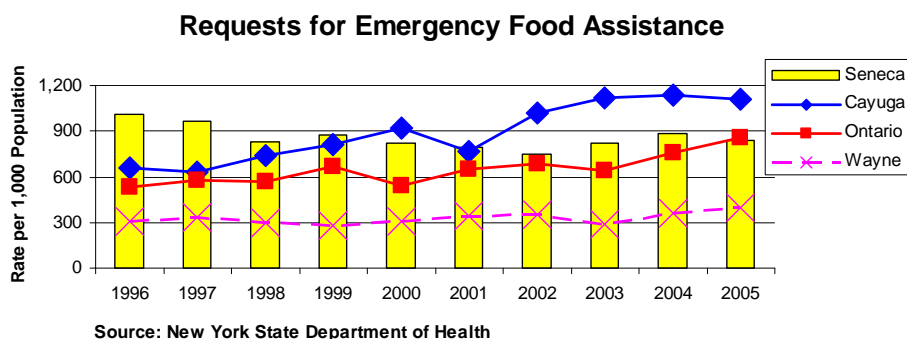
Findings: The rate of people receiving Temporary Assistance in Seneca County decreased by 24% (from 11.1 to 8.5 per 1,000) between 2001 and 2006. From 2002 to 2006, Cayuga, Ontario, and Wayne counties all had higher rates than did Seneca. The data indicate that after significant declines in welfare caseloads following legislative reforms in 1996, the number of people receiving welfare began to rise again after 2000 in several counties, including the three regional comparison counties, each of which experienced increases from 2001 to 2006: 7% in Cayuga and 23% in Ontario and Wayne. The trend in Seneca has been significantly in the opposite direction. In 2006, 253 individuals received Temporary Assistance in Seneca, down from 331 in 2001.

Caveats: It cannot be determined from the data to what extent reductions in numbers of people receiving temporary assistance indicate that fewer people are in need of assistance because more have found satisfactory employment, or whether barriers to opening cases and/or accessing services account for much of the decline, or some combination of these or other factors.

Indicator 1.12: People Receiving Emergency Food

Definition. The number of annual requests for emergency food assistance, expressed as a rate per year per 1,000 residents. These involve requests for emergency food served by any Emergency Food Relief Organization (food pantry, soup kitchen, shelter) that receives funding from the Hunger Prevention Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP). State regulations require a food pantry to count all people in the household receiving food each time a visit to the pantry is made, even if only one person collects the food. Soup kitchens count each person served a meal at each mealtime. If a person is served breakfast and lunch at the site on the same day, he or she is counted as two persons served. No unduplicated count of individuals served was available.

Significance. Hunger has obvious negative effects on anyone, especially children who are still developing and the elderly who may be frail. According to America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest organization of emergency food providers, in 2006, nearly two-thirds of client



households had annual household incomes at or beneath the poverty line and more than one-third of these households had at least one child under 18 years of age.

Providers characterize a significant portion of those seeking assistance as chronic users of their services rather than needing emergency or one-time assistance, as was often the case in the past.

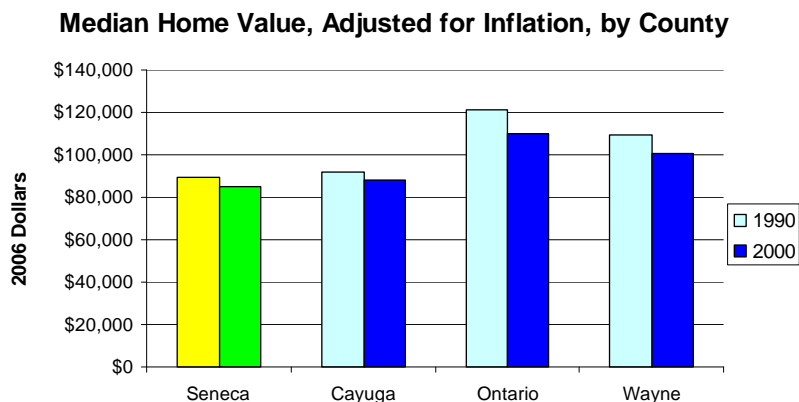
Findings: In Seneca County, the rate of requests for emergency food decreased between 1996 and 2002. The rate has increased again since then, but has not returned to levels from the mid-1990s. Seneca has had consistently higher rates of use of emergency food than Ontario and Wayne (until 2005 when Ontario caught up with Seneca). Wayne's rate has remained well below the other three counties. Cayuga experienced a significant increase in its rate beginning in 2002 and has significantly exceeded the rate in the other counties since then.

Caveats: Increases and decreases in requests for emergency assistance over time could reflect changes in need and/or issues related to the accessibility and availability of services. Also, people receiving food multiple times are counted multiple times.

Indicator 1.13: Median Home Value (Inflation-Adjusted)

Definition. The home value reported by the homeowner to the Census Bureau. The median represents the mid-point of home values (half the values are above the median and half below).

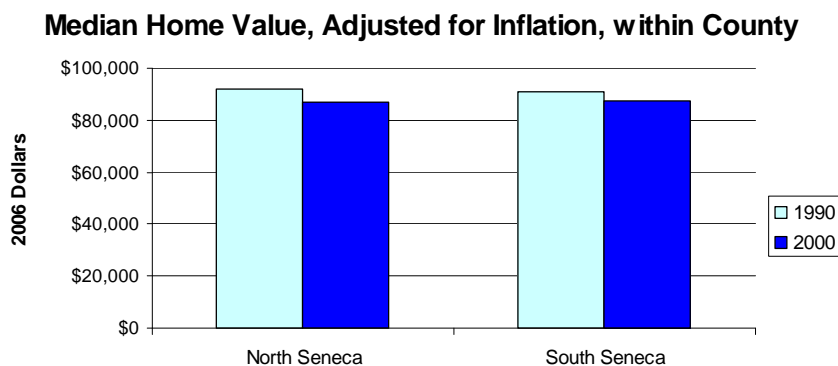
Significance. A home is usually a person or family's highest valued possession. Home values are also an indicator of the region's cost of living, relative wealth and general prosperity.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Findings: Adjusted for inflation, the median home value for Seneca County decreased about 5% between 1990 and 2000. Home values dropped in the comparison counties as well, falling the most in Ontario and Wayne counties (9% and 8%, respectively). Seneca's median home

value remained similar to Cayuga County's and less than Ontario's and Wayne's. Within Seneca County, there is little discernable difference between values in the North and South parts of the county. While falling home values make housing more affordable in a



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Chart shows average of median home values for North and South towns.

community, they can also indicate general economic decline.

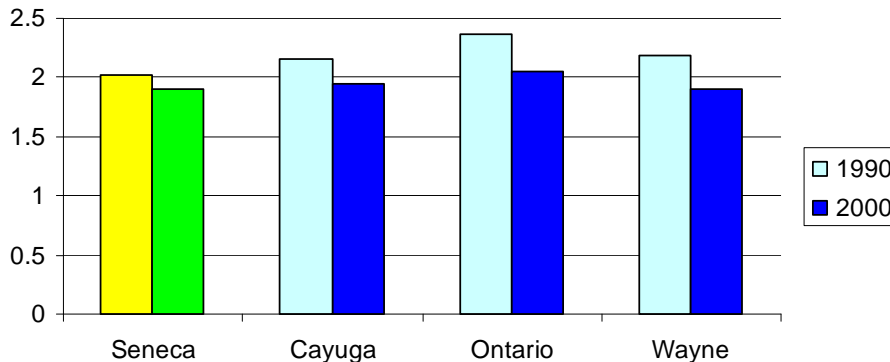
Caveats: A long-term trend cannot be tracked since data were only available for Census years 1990 and 2000.

Indicator 1.14: Ratio of Home Value to Household Income

Definition: The median home value divided by the median household income.

Significance: This ratio provides a rough estimate of the affordability of homes in a community. A ratio less than 2 or 3 is considered affordable.

Ratio of Home Value to Household Income, by County

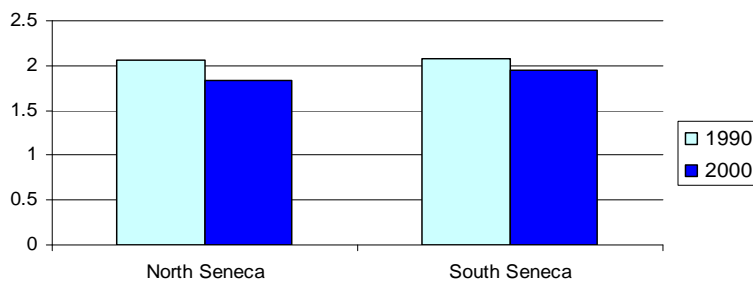


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Chart shows ratio of median home value to median household income.

Findings: Seneca and surrounding counties were all below 2.5, indicating homes are generally

Ratio of Home Value to Household Income, within County



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Chart shows averages of ratios of median home values to median household incomes for North and South towns.

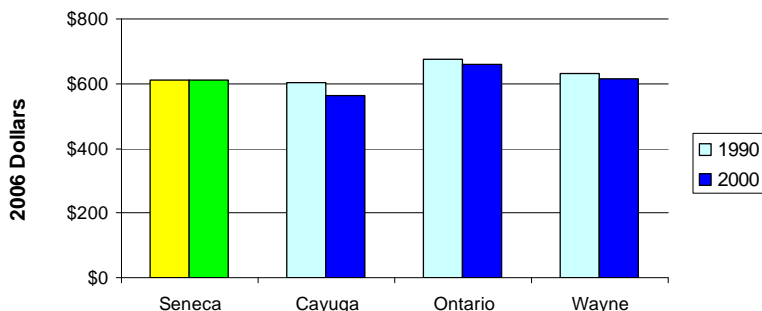
affordable for the people living in these communities. Between 1990 and 2000, homes became even more affordable as the ratio dropped below 2.0. The decrease was smaller in Seneca County (about 6.4%) than it was in the other counties. But Seneca had the lowest ratio (i.e., most affordable homes) of the counties in both 1990 and 2000. Within the county, homes in towns in the North were slightly more affordable in 2000 than those in the South.

Caveats: A long-term trend cannot be tracked since data were only available for Census years 1990 and 2000.

Indicator 1.15: Median Rent (Inflation-Adjusted)

Definition: The most recent monthly rent, as reported to the Census Bureau. The median represents the mid-point of home values (half the values are above the median and half below).

Median Gross Rent, Adjusted for Inflation, by County



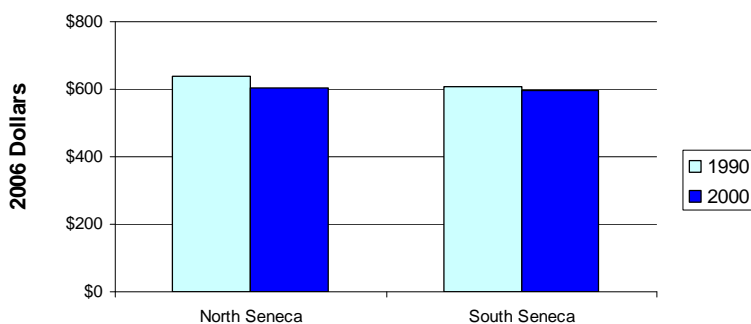
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Significance: For those who do not own their own home, rent is a necessary expense. The higher a family’s rental expenses, the less they have to spend on their other needs. However, higher median rental

values can also be indicative of a better home and community.

Findings: Median gross rent adjusted for inflation for Seneca County did not change between 1990 and 2000, while it dropped in the comparison counties. Rent in Seneca County is comparable to Wayne County, higher than Cayuga and lower than Ontario. Within Seneca, there is little discernable North/South difference in rental values. However, North Seneca showed a somewhat greater decrease from 1990 to 2000 than did South Seneca (5% and 1% respectively).

Median Gross Rent, Adjusted for Inflation, within County



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Chart shows average of median gross rent for North and South towns.

Like home values, flat or declining rents make housing more affordable but can also indicate a community is not gaining in attractiveness as a place to live.

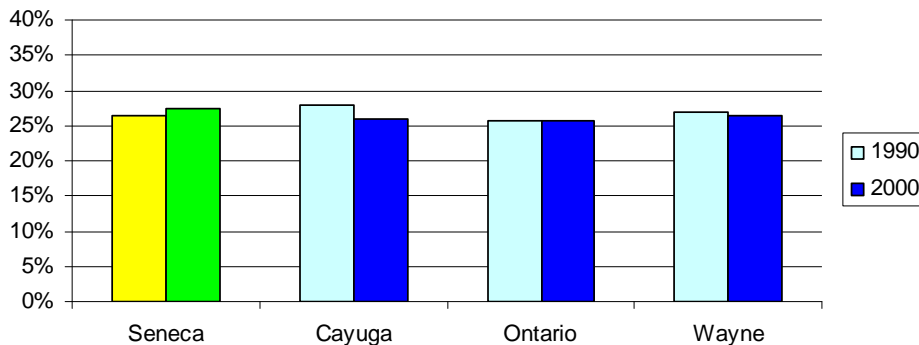
Caveats: A long-term trend cannot be tracked since data were only available for Census years 1990 and 2000.

Indicator 1.16: Rent as a Percentage of Household Income

Definition: The proportion of household income that goes towards monthly rent.

Significance: This figure indicates how affordable housing is for renters. The federal Housing and Urban Development Department guideline for affordability is that rent should consume no more than 30% of household income.

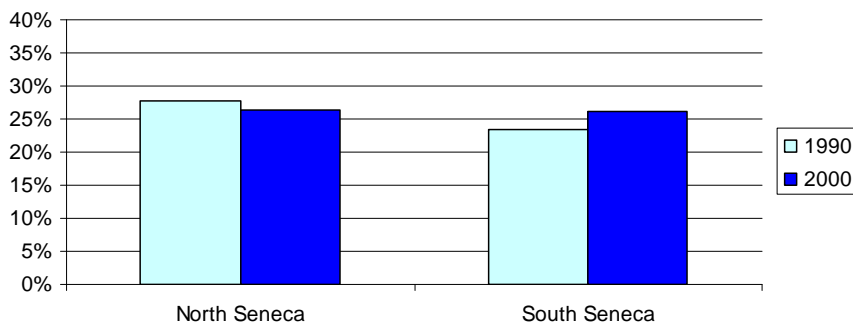
Median Gross Rent, as a Percentage of Household Income, by County



Source: US Census Bureau

Findings: Seneca and surrounding counties were all below (better than) the federal standard in

Median Gross Rent, as a Percentage of Household Income, within County



Source: US Census Bureau

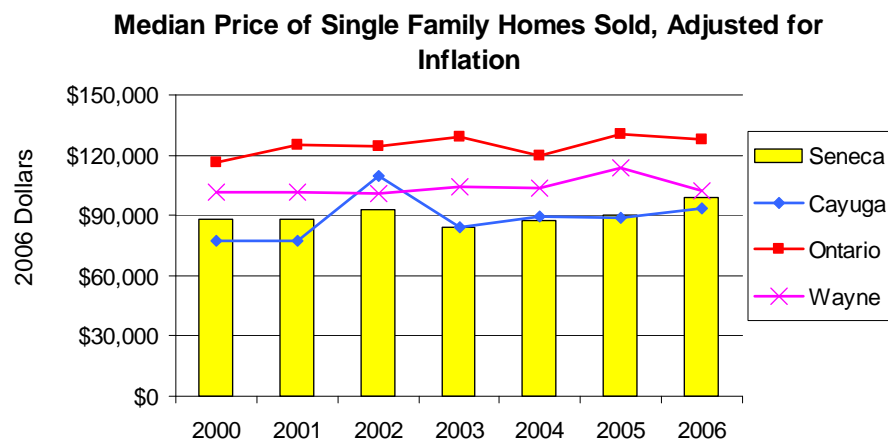
1990 and 2000, indicating that housing is relatively affordable for renters. Seneca's proportion increased slightly from 26.4% in 1990 to 27.5% in 2000. Seneca was the only one of the four counties to show any increase, though it was too small to have practical significance. Within Seneca, the cost of rent took an increasing share of income in South towns and a decreasing share in the North, though both were below the 30% guideline.

Caveats: A long-term trend cannot be tracked since data were only available for Census years 1990 and 2000.

Indicator 1.17: Single-Family Home Sales

Definition: The median price (adjusted for inflation) and number of single family homes sold.

Significance: Home sales are one measure of consumer spending and the overall health of the community. Home ownership increases the stability of a community.

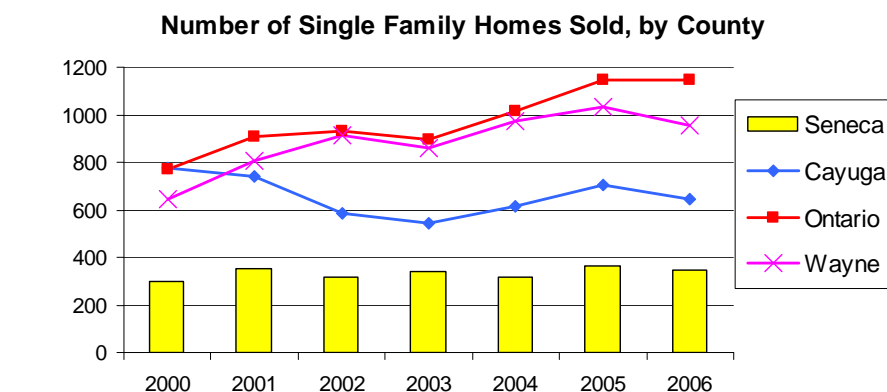


Source: NYS Association of Realtors

After adjustment for inflation, the median price of homes sold in Seneca County was 13% higher in 2006 than in 2000, with most of the increase between 2005 and 2006. That was a lower rate of increase than in Cayuga (21%), but higher than in Ontario (10%) and Wayne (1%). Seneca prices have consistently remained lower than Ontario and Wayne and comparable since 2003 to Cayuga.

The number of homes sold in Seneca County was 15% higher in 2006 (344) than in 2000. Only Cayuga experienced a decline in the number of homes sold, while Ontario and Wayne both saw 2006 home sales up by just under 50% compared with 2000 sales.

Caveats: An increasing number of home sales is not necessarily an indicator of economic health. It may simply measure high turnover of homes in a community.



Source: NYS Association of Realtors

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the 17 indicators presented in this chapter, along with related other demographic information, some trends and themes emerge from the data. The overall themes are briefly summarized by outcome area:

Economically-Thriving Community

Seneca County's economy has been hard hit over the past two decades. Many of the economic trends are discouraging, but there are also some encouraging signs:

- ❖ Unemployment rates in the county have been relatively low, and consistent with the comparison counties in the region.
- ❖ The total number of county residents in the labor force has increased since 2000, though the *proportion* of eligible county residents actually in the labor force (willing to work outside the home) has declined, and remains consistently lower than in the comparison counties.
- ❖ Despite the loss of many manufacturing jobs, Seneca has the highest overall net new job creation rate among the four regional counties since 2000. However, many of the new jobs pay less and may offer fewer benefits. Primary job growth areas are in retail, health care/social assistance, and state government jobs, with the advent of the new state prison in the county.
- ❖ Although the majority of employers in the county employ no more than four people, there has been an increase from 10 to 17 since 1998 in the number of mid-sized employers (50 to 99 employees), and an increase from 9 to 10 in the number of employers with 100 employees or more.
- ❖ Between 1990 and 2000, Seneca drew an increasing proportion of workers into the county from other areas, but also sent a growing proportion of its resident workers, almost 45%, to jobs in other counties (more than 1,000 more than ten years earlier). Thus the county appears to be growing enough jobs to attract workers from other counties, but not enough to retain large proportions of its own residents.
- ❖ Revenues to county and local governments are increasing, but at per-capita levels consistent with or below other counties.

Revenues to school districts have the lowest rate of growth of any of the four regional counties.

Financially-Secure Families

As with the overall economic infrastructure, the indicators related to the financial security of households are mixed, though on balance they are not overly encouraging:

- ❖ The *average annual salary* paid to employees by county employers has increased somewhat since 2000 and has exceeded the rate of inflation. On the other hand, the average annual salary has typically been lower than in the comparison counties. In terms of *total household income* from all sources (see demographic chapter), Seneca's median income has increased, but not enough to keep pace with inflation. Median household income adjusted for inflation is lower in Seneca than in each of the comparison counties.
- ❖ The overall poverty rate has increased slightly from 10% to 11% from 1990 to 2004, but the rate is 16% among children under 18. Both rates are higher than two of the comparison counties.
- ❖ Although income and poverty levels have not improved, the numbers and proportions of persons receiving temporary assistance has declined in the county in recent years, while the numbers have tended to increase in the comparison counties. It is not clear whether the declines represent fewer people in need of assistance or barriers to accessing services.
- ❖ Requests for emergency food assistance have increased in recent years, but remain below levels from the mid-1990s.

Available and Affordable Housing

Housing indicators are subject to differing interpretations:

- ❖ Almost two-thirds of the housing units in the county are owner-occupied, roughly similar to the comparison counties.
- ❖ The median home value in the county, adjusted for inflation, declined 5% between 1990 and 2000, but the median price of homes sold in the county was 13% higher in 2006 than in 2000, adjusted for inflation, and total sales are up somewhat in recent years. County homes on the average are priced within federal

affordability guidelines and are the most affordable of those in the four regional counties. Relatively low housing prices can be an advantage for buyers, but are not necessarily a sign of economic health across the community.

- ❖ Rental prices in the county have remained relatively constant over the years, adjusted for inflation, and remain well below federal affordability guidelines. Flat rental values represent a plus on affordability but may also indicate a community not greatly in demand as a place to live.

Conclusions

Overall, the economic climate of Seneca County is relatively stagnant. The county needs an economic boost parallel to that provided by the recent creation of the new state prison in Romulus. Even though there has been a net increase in new jobs since 2000, most have been lower-paying jobs, often with lower benefits, that are reflected in overall lower purchasing power of most households in the county. In conjunction with creation of new job opportunities, expanded workforce preparation is needed to better expose young people to employment opportunities within the county. Ways of strengthening economic supports may be needed for the almost one in six children living in poverty in the county. For example, expanded subsidized child care may help low-income families as well as helping create more employment opportunities among low-income parents. Expanded after-school programming may also help parents obtain and maintain full-time employment. Also, although the numbers of those receiving temporary assistance have declined, it is not clear to what extent this reflects reduction of need/demand for assistance, or barriers creating problems with accessing available services. Consideration should perhaps be given to testing on a pilot basis the establishment of a satellite DHS office, or outstationing one or more intake staff on at least an occasional basis in settings apart from the county government office complex. This could perhaps involve an arrangement such as co-locating staff a day a week, for example, in a non-profit agency, in one or more rural areas of the county, as a means of making support services more accessible to those who may legitimately need them.

FOCUS AREA 2 – PUBLIC SAFETY

The second of the focus areas is designed to track how well the community is doing in reducing crime and creating a safe environment within which to live. It includes one overall outcome and four indicators:

Outcome and Indicators

Outcome: Safe Environment

- ❖ 2.1 – Reported Part I Crimes
- ❖ 2.2 – Reported Part II Crimes
- ❖ 2.3 – Adult Felony Arrests
- ❖ 2.4 – Adult Felony Convictions

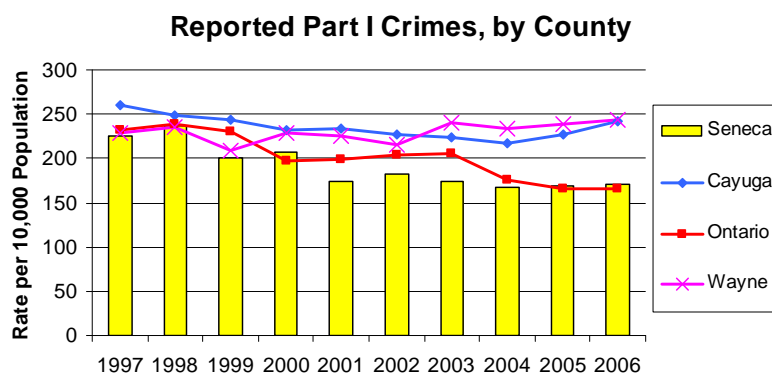
In addition to these four indicators, three other indicators addressed in other focus areas—Drug-Related Arrests and DWI Arrests in Focus Area 6, Substance Abuse, and Domestic Violence in Focus Area 3, Family Wellness—also have relevance to Public Safety and the Safe Environment outcome. Their implications are addressed in the summary at the end of this chapter.

The four indicator profiles follow, followed in turn by the summary of trends at the conclusion of the chapter.

Indicator 2.1: Reported Part I Crimes

Definition. The number of reported serious crimes, defined as Part I violent or property crimes per 10,000 population. Part I crimes include murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. Part I crimes are defined by the FBI for consistent reporting purposes across jurisdictions and reported by law enforcement agencies on Uniform Crime Reports.

Significance. Crime statistics are basic indicators of public safety. Crime affects the quality of life of those who directly experience and witness it, but it also impacts the lives of others in a community who may feel threatened by it. Low crime rates may promote connections within the community, housing stability, and a community's attractiveness as a place to live, work and do business.



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

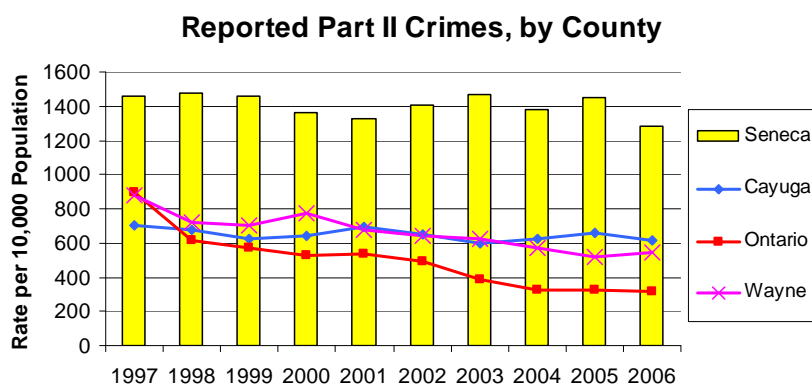
Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, Seneca County has shown a 24% decline in the number of Part I crimes reported relative to population. That was the second largest decline among the four counties: Ontario's reported crime rate fell 29%, Cayuga's declined 7% and Wayne's rose 6%. Seneca has consistently had a lower Part I crime rate than the other counties. For the past six years, Seneca has averaged about 600 reported Part I crimes per year.

Caveats: Not all Part I crimes are actually reported to law enforcement agencies. For example, rape tends to be underreported.

Indicator 2.2: Reported Part II Crimes

Definition. Number of reported Part II crimes per 10,000 population. Part II crimes include simple assault, disorderly conduct, DWI, sale/use of controlled substances, criminal mischief, fraud, forgery, stolen property, unauthorized possession of weapons, prostitution, sex offenses other than forcible rape, arson, kidnapping, extortion, gambling, embezzlement, family offenses, unauthorized use of motor vehicle, bribery, loitering, disturbing public order, breaking liquor laws, and various other offenses.

Significance. While still negatively impacting the community, Part II crimes are not typically as severe in their consequences as their Part I counterparts. However, offenses such as assault, drug sales, gambling and disturbing the public order detract from a community's sense of togetherness and touch the lives of many.



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

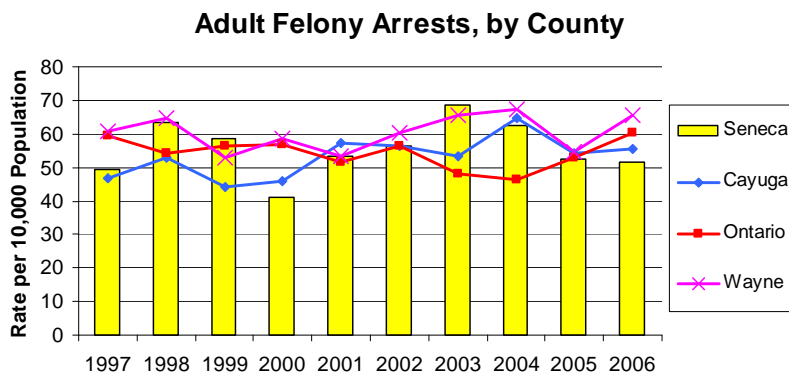
Findings: In direct contrast to more serious (Part I) crime rates, Seneca County has consistently had a far higher Part II reported crime rate than all of the comparison counties. The rates fell between 1997 and 2006 in all four counties—12% in Seneca and Cayuga counties, 65% in Ontario and 38% in Wayne—but Seneca's rates have remained more than twice the rates of the other counties throughout the past decade. In the past six years, Seneca has averaged about 4,825 reported Part II crimes per year.

Caveats: As with Part I offenses, not all Part II incidents are reported to the police.

Indicator 2.3: Adult Felony Arrests

Definition. Number of adult felony arrests per 10,000 population. A felony is a serious crime such as murder, kidnapping or extortion, which is usually punishable by a prison term of more than one year. These data reflect actual arrests, irrespective of numbers of reported crimes.

Significance. Arrests are an indicator of both the level of crime in a community and police activity in pursuing and capturing crime suspects.



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

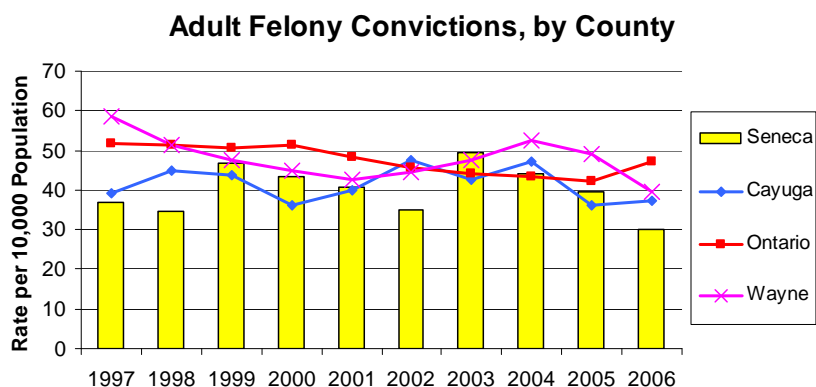
Findings: The arrest rate in Seneca County has fluctuated between 41 and 69 per 10,000 residents over the last 10 years, fluctuating up and down in cycles. Seneca's felony arrest rate has declined steadily since 2003 (during which time comparable rates increased by varying amounts in the other three counties). Seneca's rate was lower than the comparison counties in the last two years, though higher in some of the earlier years. The number of felony arrests in the county has averaged about 180 in each of the past two years.

Caveats: Not all crimes are reported to the police and not all reports lead to an arrest. Not all arrests result in convictions. Arrest figures do not take into account the residence of the accused, merely where the crime took place. An arrest may not happen in the same year as the crime with which it is associated. These data by themselves cannot confirm whether changes in the numbers of arrests reflect changes in numbers of felony crimes committed from year to year, or changes in law enforcement resources or priorities, or some combination of both.

Indicator 2.4: Adult Felony Convictions

Definition. Number of adult felony convictions per 10,000 population. A felony is a serious crime such as murder, kidnapping, or extortion, which is usually punishable by a prison term of more than one year.

Significance. Convictions indicate both the level of crime in a community and the activity of law enforcement and courts in convicting individuals.



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

Findings: Seneca County's felony conviction rate has generally been lower than in the comparison counties. The rate rose as high as 50 in 2003 before dropping to 30 in 2006—consistent with the decline in felony arrests during that period. While the last ten years do not show a clear trend, Seneca and the three comparison counties all had lower felony conviction rates in 2006 compared to 1997, although felony arrest rates actually increased slightly during that period.

Caveats: Convictions are displayed for the year that they occurred, regardless of the date of the arrest or crime. The chart shows all convictions that resulted from plea bargains or trials, and may include convictions for offenses other than those charged at arrest (e.g., a felony arrest may result in a misdemeanor conviction).

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the four indicators presented in this chapter, along with three other related indicators from other focus areas, some trends and themes emerge from the data. They are briefly summarized below:

Safe Environment

Trends vary, depending on the seriousness and types of crimes.

- ❖ Reported Part I crimes, generally considered to be the most serious crimes, have declined significantly in Seneca County since the late 1990s. The rate of reported serious crimes is consistently lower than in the comparison counties.
- ❖ However, by contrast, rates of reports of all other crimes (Part II crimes) have been more than twice as high in Seneca as in the comparison counties for the past decade. And they affect seven to eight times the number of county residents as do the Part I crimes.
- ❖ The rates of felony arrests and convictions have declined since 2003 in Seneca, during which time felony arrest rates increased in the comparison counties. This may suggest fewer felony crimes, consistent with fewer reported Part I crimes, or it could reflect changes in law enforcement practices.
- ❖ Felony drug-related arrests are up in Seneca County, but typically below rates in comparison counties, while rates of DWI arrests in the county have been higher than in the other counties. The numbers of such arrests have been relatively small from year to year. The data do not make clear whether changes in arrest rates reflect changes in prevalence of the problems, or changes in law enforcement practices, or some combination of both.
- ❖ Reported cases of domestic violence have increased significantly in the county, and are consistently more than twice the rates in comparison counties. Domestic violence per capita has become almost as prevalent in recent years as the Part I reported crime rates.

Conclusions

Although serious reported crime is down in the county, and is consistently lower than in comparison counties, the cumulative total of myriad other reported crimes has remained more than twice as high per capita as in the other counties, with many more

county residents directly affected. Rates of reported domestic violence have been increasing and also remain more than twice as high as in comparison counties. Arrest patterns are up and down, depending on the types of crimes—patterns which may be as much related to changes in law enforcement as to changes in actual crime patterns. Though the data suggest no panaceas or clear patterns of response, it would appear that serious crime is not a major concern in Seneca County, compared to other areas, but that consideration may need to be given to ways of curtailing and preventing the supposedly “less serious” crimes, which may have less serious consequences than Part I crimes, but which are much more pervasive in touching more lives and detracting from a community’s sense of safety and well-being. Beyond such preventive efforts, expanded domestic violence prevention and response efforts may also need to be considered in the county.

FOCUS AREA 3 – FAMILY WELLNESS

The third focus area is designed to track how well the community is doing in developing and maintaining stronger, more stable family units. The focus area includes three outcomes and eight specific indicators:

Outcomes and Indicators

Outcome: Stable and Nurturing Families

- ❖ 3.1 – Indicated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect
- ❖ 3.2 – Children Admitted to Foster Care
- ❖ 3.3 – Reports of Domestic Violence

Outcome: Healthy Births

- ❖ 3.4 – Early Prenatal Care
- ❖ 3.5 – Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies

Outcome: Children Ready for School

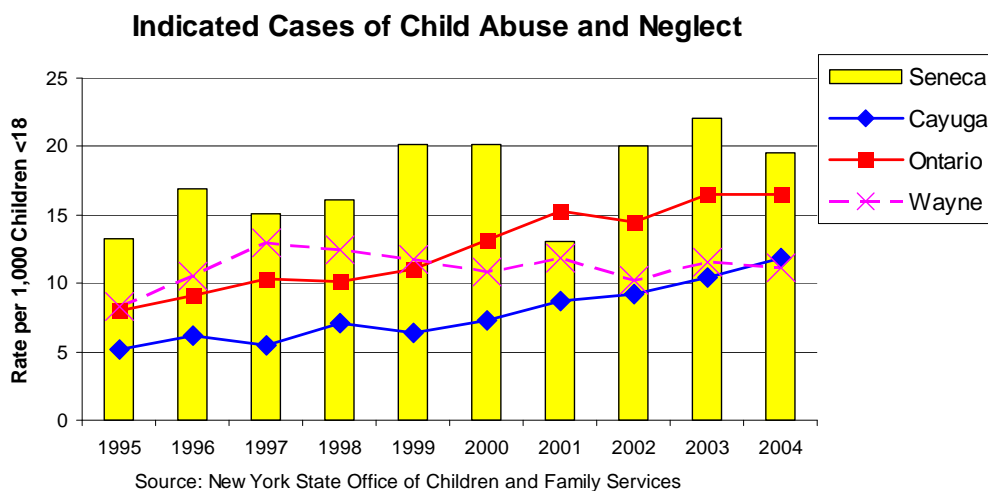
- ❖ 3.6 – Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels
- ❖ 3.7 – Children Receiving Early Intervention Services
- ❖ 3.8 – Preschoolers Receiving Special Education Services

In addition to these eight indicators, several Census measures from the second chapter also have relevance to the Family Wellness focus area, including: household/family types, median household income and poverty, and home-ownership. In addition, various indicators from other focus areas also have relevance, including indicators related to Financially-Secure Families and Affordable Housing in Focus Area 1, Public Safety Focus Area 2, PINS petitions and placements in Focus Area 4, and Access to Health Care indicators in Focus Area 5. The implications of these related indicators and Census measures are addressed in the summary at the end of this chapter, following the eight indicator profiles.

Indicator 3.1: Indicated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

Definition: The number of indicated Child Protective Service reports expressed as a rate per 1,000 children under age 18. A report becomes “indicated” when there is credible evidence that a child has experienced abuse, neglect or maltreatment from a parent or legal guardian.

Significance: Children who have been abused or neglected may experience long-term psychological and emotional/behavioral consequences. Victims of abuse are also at higher risk of abusing their own children when they become parents.



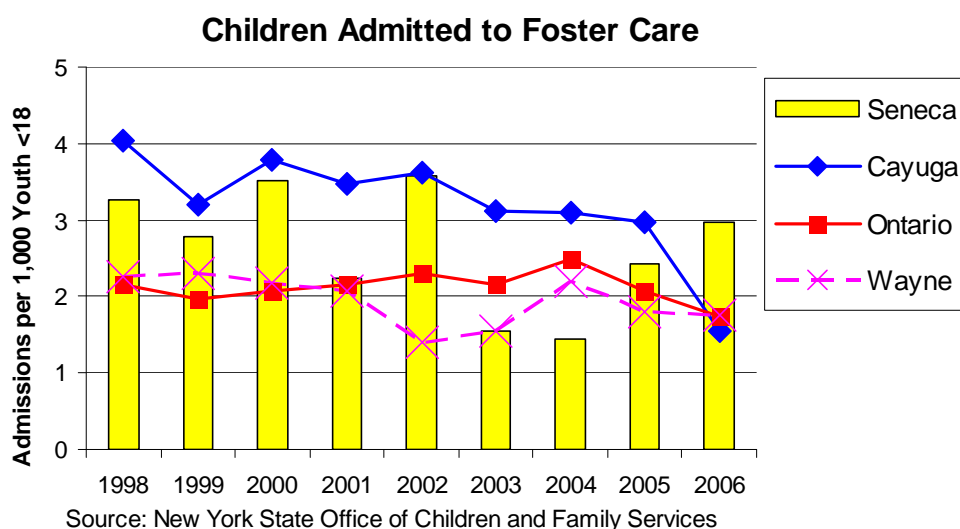
Findings: Seneca County's child abuse rate was 54% higher in 2004 (the latest year for which data were available) than in 1995, and was consistently higher than neighboring counties' rates throughout the ten years. The rates in the other three counties all were also higher in 2004 than in 1995, but they have consistently remained well below Seneca's rates per 1,000 children. Since 1999, about 150 or more child abuse cases have been indicated in Seneca County each year except 2001. In the four years between 1995 and 1998, Seneca's rate of child abuse cases per 1,000 children never approached 20; in five of the next six years, it reached or exceeded that level.

Caveats: Reports of abuse or neglect may be influenced by many factors such as outreach, education and media publicity. An indicated report may contain more than one child (e.g., siblings); therefore, the numbers and rates presented here may understate the number of individual children abused or neglected. Additionally, it is unknown how many cases of abuse or neglect are never reported to authorities.

Indicator 3.2: Children Admitted to Foster Care

Definition: Admissions to foster care reflect the annual number of children under age 18 placed in the care and custody of the Commissioner of the local Department of Social Services. The indicator is reported as a rate of admissions per 1,000 youths under 18. Those admitted to foster care may be cared for in congregate care facilities, foster boarding homes, approved relative homes or other facilities such as a Supervised Independent Living Program.

Significance: This is an indicator of families' inability to care for their children in a healthy and/or safe environment.



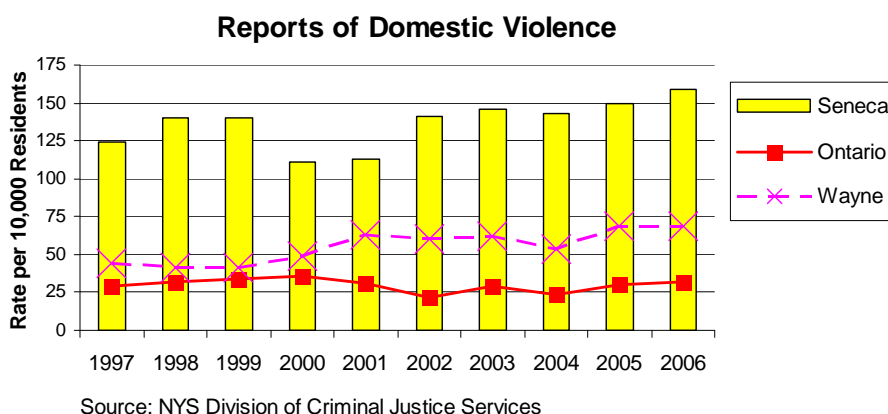
Findings: Seneca's foster care rate fluctuated from 1.5 to 3.3 over the past nine years, ending about 9% below where it began. Although all four counties have experienced similar year-to-year fluctuations, the three comparison counties all experienced greater declines from 1998 to 2006 than did Seneca: 23% in Ontario, 22% in Wayne and 62% in Cayuga. While the rate in all three comparison counties has declined in recent years, Seneca's foster care admission rate has *increased* since 2003 and 2004. It should be noted, however, that these rates represent relatively small numbers (11 in 2004, 22 in 2006).

Caveats: Capacity limitations and changes in policy (for example, an emphasis on cost reduction or keeping families together) may affect placement decisions and be reflected in a lower rate of children entering foster care.

Indicator 3.3: Reports of Domestic Violence

Definition: The number of domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement authorities, regardless of whether a formal complaint was filed or an arrest made, per 10,000 residents.

Significance: This indicator is a strong measure of family dysfunction. There is also a known correlation between being abused or witnessing abuse as a child and becoming an abuser as an adult.



Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, Seneca County's rate of domestic violence has been consistently and significantly higher than that of Ontario and Wayne counties. The number of domestic

violence reports made to law enforcement agencies in Seneca County was 34% higher in 2006 than in 1997—up from 414 to 553. Ontario and Wayne counties experienced increases during those years of 14% and 54%, respectively, but their rates were substantially lower than Seneca County's.

Cayuga County numbers were not included because of large annual fluctuations due to reporting anomalies from the Auburn City Police Department.

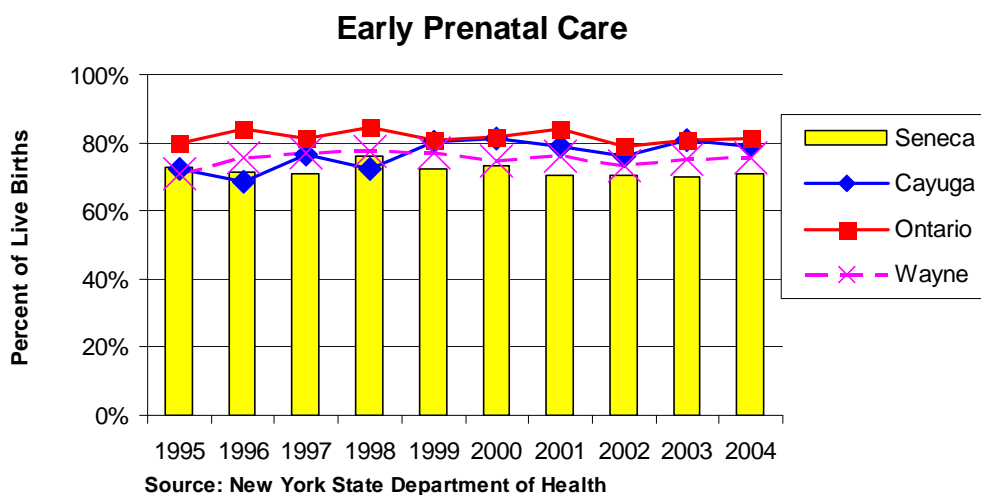
Caveats: Seneca officials could not provide an explanation as to why their rates were so much higher, but they suspect differences in reporting practices may play a part. Seneca officials tend to characterize any incident between people who have a relationship as a domestic incident, including cases of child abuse.

In general, reports represent only a fraction of all cases; not all victims report abuse to law enforcement officers, for various reasons. Domestic violence definitions may differ between and within police departments. Reporting may also be influenced by factors such as education, outreach efforts, and media publicity.

Indicator 3.4: Early Prenatal Care

Definition: The number of births occurring to women who initiated prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy (before 13 weeks gestation), expressed as a percentage of all live births.

Significance: Early, high-quality prenatal care is critical to reducing risks for complications of pregnancy or birth and improving birth outcomes.



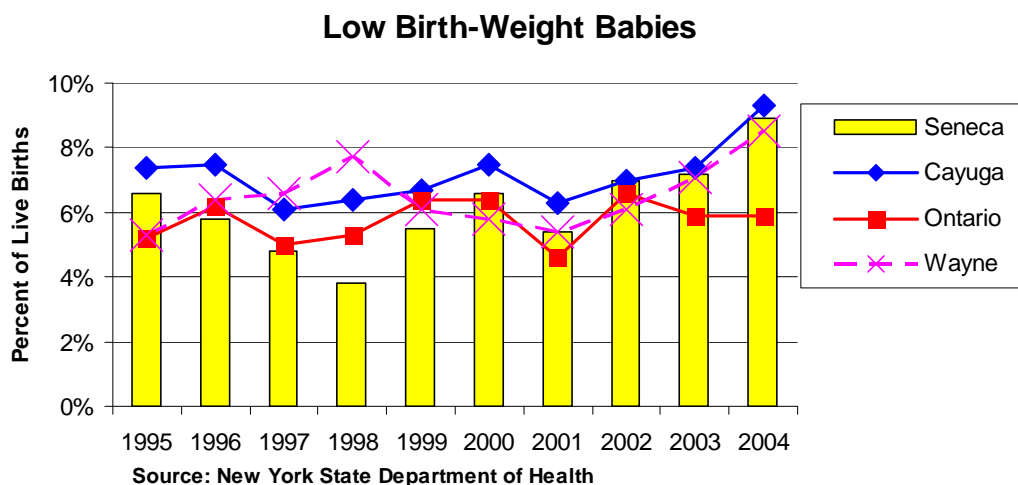
Findings: Seneca's early prenatal care rate fell from 72.6% to 70.7% between 1995 and 2004 and was below the comparison counties for most of that time period. The rate reached a high of 75.9% in 1998, but has declined since. Since 1999, Seneca's proportion of early prenatal care has been consistently 8 to 10 percentage points lower than in Cayuga and Ontario counties, and about 3 to 5 points below Wayne. All four counties, but especially Seneca, have consistently been well below the Healthy People 2010 goal of having 90% of births start with prenatal care in the first trimester.

Caveats: The rate excludes the number of live births for which the date of entry into prenatal care is unknown. In addition to when prenatal care began, it is also important to consider the quality and continuity of care received throughout the pregnancy.

Indicator 3.5: Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies

Definition: The number of babies born with low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams or about 5.5 pounds) expressed as a percentage of all live births.

Significance. Low birth weight is a leading cause of neonatal death. Low-birth-weight infants are also more likely than normal-birth-weight infants to experience long-term developmental and neurological disabilities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that maternal smoking is the cause of 20% to 30% of all low-weight births in the United States.



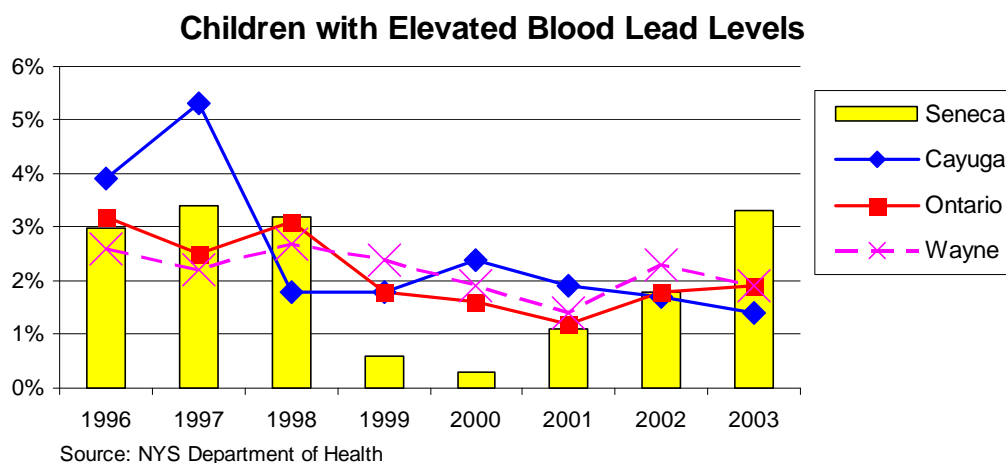
Findings: The rate of low-weight births in Seneca County declined steadily from 6.6% in 1995 to 3.8% in 1998, before beginning a steady climb to 8.9% in 2004 (the most recent year for which data exist). After having proportions below those of the comparison counties in the late 1990s, Seneca's proportions of low-weight births have been at or higher than the rates in most of the counties in most of the more recent years. For most of the years reported, all the counties were above the Healthy People 2010 goal of no more than 5% low-weight births. In Seneca, the actual numbers of low-weight births averaged about 25 per year since 2000.

Caveats: Seneca's rates for 1997 and 1998 are considered unstable by the Health Department because the number of low weight births fell below 20.

Indicator 3.6: Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

Definition: The proportion of all children under age six who had a finger stick or venous blood screening lead test within the calendar year and had elevated blood lead levels (EBL) greater than or equal to 10 micrograms per deciliter.

Significance: Exposure to lead, even small amounts, significantly increases a child's risk of developing long-lasting cognitive, physiological and behavioral problems.



Findings: Seneca's rate of elevated blood lead levels declined in the late 1990s but rose since 2000 to reach 3.3% in 2003, the latest year for which data were available. After having lower rates than other counties for several years, Seneca's rate was higher than the three comparison counties in 2003. This represented 13 children in 2003, compared to two and one in 1999 and 2000, respectively. The Healthy People 2010 goal is no children with exposure to lead.

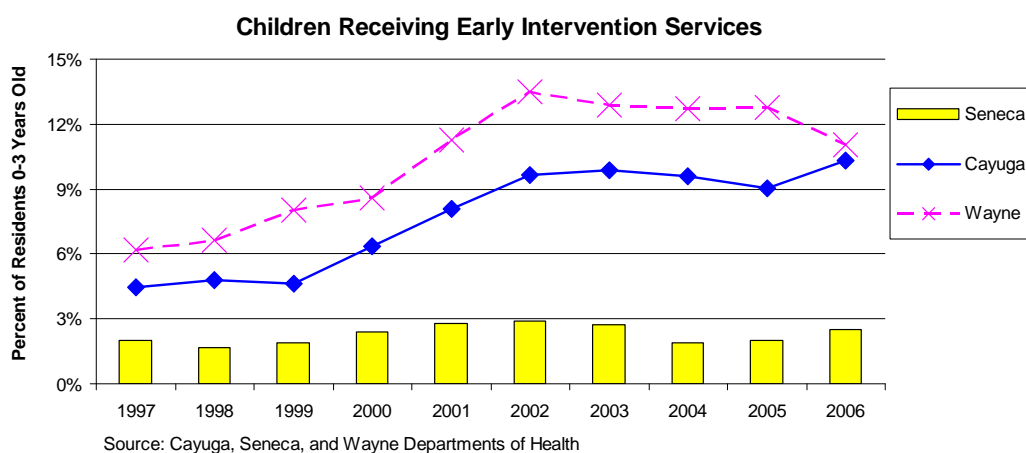
Caveats: Not all children are tested for lead, despite a state law requiring them to be tested. Seneca had a particularly low screening rate, testing less than half of all children under 3 in 1997, 1998 and 1999, the latest years for which such data were available. Also, Seneca's rates of elevated lead levels are not considered stable by the Health Department because fewer than 20 children in each year tracked had elevated levels.

Indicator 3.7: Children Receiving Early Intervention Services

Definition: The percentage all young children who are receiving Early Intervention services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy, in a variety of settings, as of December 31 of each year. The data generally include children from birth to age 3, but some children older than 3 who are still receiving services are included. The percentage was calculated out of all children from birth to 3 years old.

Significance: Exposure to Early Intervention services is likely to reduce the duration and severity of developmental delays experienced by infants and toddlers (including cognitive, physical, communication, social/emotional or adaptive delays). As such, participation in Early Intervention may lead to reductions in the number of preschool and school-age children needing special education services.

Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, Seneca had fewer than 3% of its young children receiving



Early Intervention services, and the percentage remained fairly stable from year to year. Since 2000, between 55 and 80 Seneca County children per

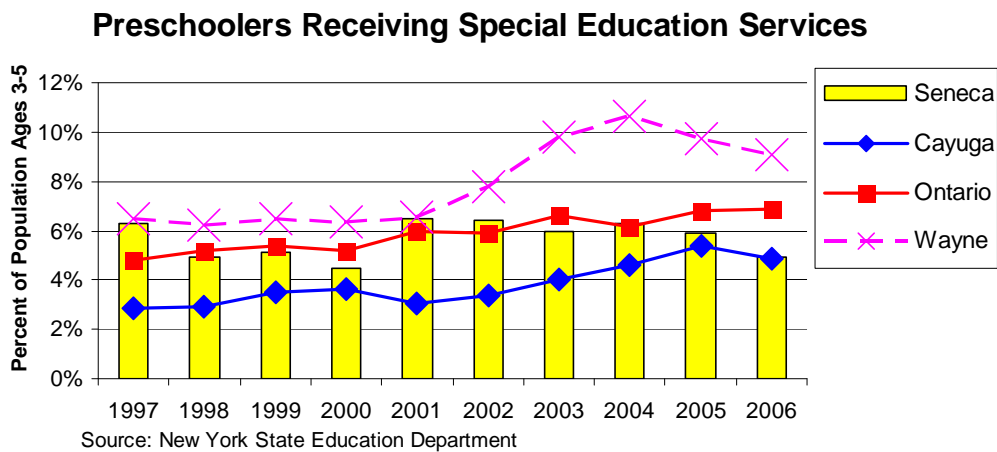
year received these services. In the same period, Cayuga and Wayne counties experienced significant increases in the proportions of young children receiving services, rising to 10% in Cayuga and 11% in Wayne. Comparable data based on the same definitions and age groups were not available from Ontario County.

Caveats: It cannot be determined from the data whether Seneca County has a smaller incidence of children with special needs who need Early Intervention services, or whether fewer parents seek out such services for their children, or whether fewer services are readily available to the public.

Indicator 3.8: Preschoolers Receiving Special Education Services

Definition: The number of children ages 3-5 with disabilities receiving special education services on December 1 of the given year, as authorized by a school district's Committee on Preschool Special Education, expressed as a percentage of all 3- to 5-year-olds.

Significance: Preschool special education services can improve children's cognitive performance, reduce the need for special education services in grades K-12, and improve the likelihood of success in school.



Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, Seneca's proportion of 3- to 5-year-olds receiving services fluctuated between 4.5% and 6.5%, reaching a 6-year low of 5% in 2006. These rates reflect a total of 58 children in Seneca County receiving special education services in 2006, down from an average of about 75 children per year between 2001 and 2004. During the years when Seneca's proportion of preschool children receiving special education services was declining, Cayuga, Ontario, and Wayne counties all experienced increases in the number and rate of children receiving preschool special education services.

Caveats: Classification rates may vary between schools due to different standards applied by the various Committees on Preschool Special Education. Parents' roles, particularly the extent to which a parent advocates for his or her child to be classified, and the district's responsiveness to the parent may also impact rates. It is impossible from the data alone to determine if changes and proportions reflect changes in numbers of children with special needs, parental demand for services, or available and accessible services.

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the eight indicators in this chapter, along with related other demographic measures and additional indicators from other focus areas, some trends and themes emerge from the data. They are briefly summarized below:

Stable and Nurturing Families

The overall trend in Seneca County appears to be toward smaller proportions of stable, secure families.

- ❖ Traditional married couple families in Seneca declined between 1990 and 2000, according to Census data, from 60.4% to 53.6% of all households. There was very little change in numbers of married couples without children, but a 20% reduction in married-couple families with children. At the same time, single-parent families increased by 18%.
- ❖ Household income failed to keep pace with inflation, or with other counties in the region, with fewer good-paying jobs. Increasing numbers of job-holders must leave the county to find employment.
- ❖ On the positive side for families, almost two-thirds of housing units are owner-occupied, and housing is relatively affordable in the county, whether owned or rented.
- ❖ Families must deal with much less easy access to health care than in neighboring counties.
- ❖ Families are more exposed to much higher levels of a variety of relatively low-level crime than in neighboring counties.
- ❖ Indicated child abuse and neglect cases have grown in recent years, and rates consistently exceed those in comparison counties. Numbers of children placed in foster care have increased in recent years, while rates have declined in comparison counties. On the other hand, the numbers are relatively small, ranging between 11 and 22 in recent years. Although child abuse cases have increased, the numbers of PINS petitions and placements have declined in recent years.

- ❖ Reports of domestic violence have increased in the county, and reported rates are more than twice the comparable rates in comparison counties.

Healthy Births

The County has not made progress in this area in recent years.

- ❖ Seneca is consistently well below neighboring counties and the Healthy People 2010 national goal on the proportion of births in which early prenatal care was obtained.
- ❖ The proportion of low-weight births, after steadily declining to below (better than) the Healthy People goal, has reversed itself since 1998 and now significantly exceeds (is worse than) both the national goal and, in most years, the rates in neighboring counties.

Children Ready for School

The indicators in this area are somewhat ambiguous in their interpretation.

- ❖ The county's rate of elevated blood lead levels has been increasing, but the numbers of children identified remains relatively small.
- ❖ The county has much smaller proportions of children receiving early intervention services than do the comparison counties, and declining proportions of preschoolers receiving special education services at a time when the rates in neighboring counties were increasing. It is not clear whether these lower proportions reflect fewer needs in the county, fewer resources, or a lower level of parental demand for services.

Conclusions

The overall stability of families in Seneca County seems less secure and somewhat more threatened in higher proportions of cases than was true five to ten years ago. Expanded efforts are likely to be needed to significantly improve community healthy birth outcomes. There are currently fewer traditional two-parent families with children, and more single-parent families. These realities—coupled with increases in child abuse and neglect cases and in reports of domestic violence—suggest the needs for expanded family intervention and prevention efforts, expanded parenting skills educational programs, expanded services to address the effects of domestic violence, and the possible need for

more comprehensive strength-based family-focused programs such as family resource centers.

With low proportions of county infants, toddlers and preschool children in both early intervention and preschool special education programs—compared with proportions of children in neighboring counties—it may be important to analyze the reasons for these significant differences. It would be important to attempt to determine whether these lower levels of involvement reflect actual differences in needs in Seneca compared with other counties, or whether resources or levels of parental demands are different. It would also be helpful to track the relationship between involvement or lack of participation in such early intervention and preschool programs and subsequent classification and involvement in special education services in grades K-12, to see if the earlier involvement has any impact on reducing the extent of subsequent costly placement in school-aged special education services.

FOCUS AREA 4 – YOUTH

The fourth of the focus areas is designed to track how well the community is doing in helping youth succeed in school and in preparing for their future through making sound decisions and staying healthy in their elementary school and adolescent years. The focus area includes two outcomes and 16 indicators:

Outcomes and Indicators

Outcome: Youth Succeeding in School²

- ❖ 4.1 – Student Attendance Rates
- ❖ 4.2 – School Suspension Rates
- ❖ 4.3 – Eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Lunch
- ❖ 4.4 – School-Aged Residents Receiving Special Education Services
- ❖ 4.5 – High School Dropouts
- ❖ 4.6 – High School Cohort Graduation Rate
- ❖ 4.7 – Plans of High School Graduates

Outcome: Youth Leading Healthy Lives/Making Good Decisions

- ❖ 4.8 – Teen Pregnancy
- ❖ 4.9 – PINS Intakes
- ❖ 4.10 – PINS Petitions
- ❖ 4.11 – PINS Petitions Resulting in Out-of-Home Placements
- ❖ 4.12 – Juvenile Delinquency Intakes

² The Community Assessment Team decided not to include standardized test results in this document since they are readily available in various formats and can be accessed through the NYS Department of Education report card website: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard/>.

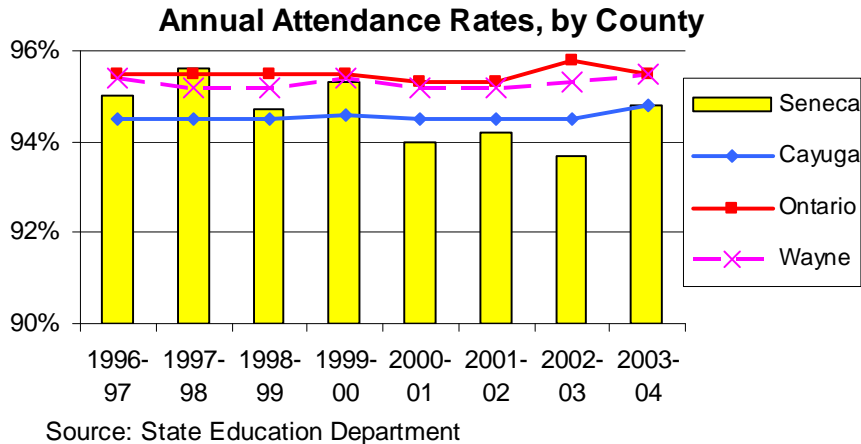
- ❖ 4.13 – Juvenile Delinquency Petitions
- ❖ 4.14 – Out-of-Home Placements of Juvenile Delinquents
- ❖ 4.15 – Arrests of 10-to-15-Year-Olds
- ❖ 4.16 – Youth Arrests for Part I Crimes

In addition to these 16 indicators, Census data from the demographics chapter on age profiles, youth in poverty, and single-parent families also have relevance to this Youth focus area, as do school district revenues and child abuse data from previous chapters. Also, data on developmental assets from the December 2006 report by Search Institute, *Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth*, are directly relevant. The implications of these related indicators and Census measures are addressed in the concluding summary, which follows the 16 individual indicator profiles at the end of this chapter.

Indicator 4.1: Student Attendance Rates

Definition: The average daily attendance at school as a percentage of the possible total average daily attendance.

Significance: Youths who do not regularly attend school are at higher risk of failing and dropping out, exhibiting delinquent behavior and engaging in various forms of risky behaviors.



Findings: Seneca and surrounding counties all had attendance rates consistently above 94% in the eight years reported. Seneca's rate fell slightly for three years starting in 2000-01 but rebounded to 95% in 2003-04. The comparison counties have remained stable over the measurement period. Seneca was typically roughly one percentage point below the comparison counties in the last four years. Within Seneca, all districts with the exception of South Seneca had attendance rates in the 95% range. South Seneca slipped as low as 89% in 2002-03, but rebounded to 95% in 2004-05.

Caveats: North/South Seneca comparisons could not be made because attendance rates were only available by individual school district, with no raw data upon which to aggregate data. Similarly, countywide data were not yet available for years subsequent to 2003-04.

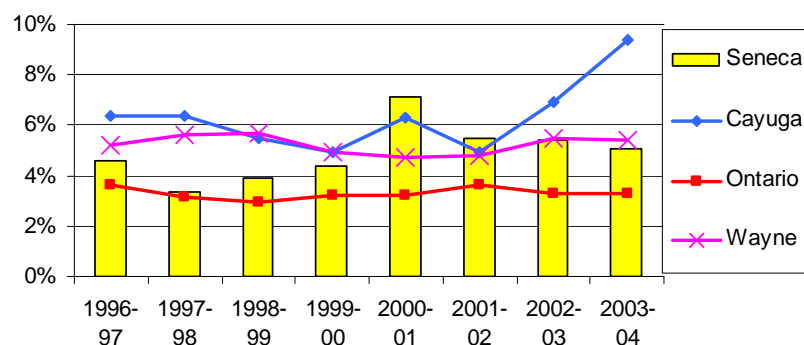
Indicator 4.2: School Suspension Rates

Definition. The number of students who were suspended from school for at least one full day divided by the total enrollment at that school. Data pertain only to out-of-school suspensions; both short-term and long-term suspensions count as one suspension.

Significance. Suspensions are an indication of the level of misbehavior in schools, which impacts negatively on the education of both suspended and non-suspended students.

Findings: Seneca's suspension rate fluctuated between 3.4% and 5.5% between 1996-97 and 2003-04, with the exception of a 7.1% rate in 2000-01.

School Suspension Rate, by County



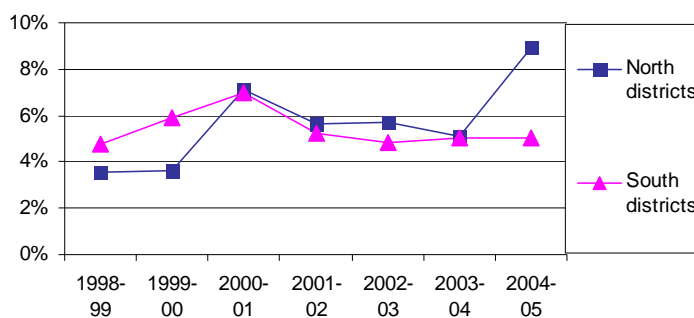
Source: NYS Education Department

2003-04, with the exception of a 7.1% rate in 2000-01. Wayne and Ontario rates remained relatively stable while Cayuga's rate has increased in more recent years. Seneca's average 4.9% rate over the eight years was higher than Ontario's 3.3%, lower than Cayuga's 6.3% and similar to Wayne's 5.2%.

Within Seneca, suspension rates for both North and South school districts spiked to about 7% in 2000-01. They subsequently declined in both North and South districts but then went up again in North districts to 8.9% in 2004-05. South districts had higher cumulative suspension rates in the late 1990s, but since 2001-02 the North district rates have exceeded those of the South.

Caveats: Suspension rates may vary by policy and enforcement between schools; thus lower rates do not necessarily mean that students are behaving better. Countywide data for 2004-05 were not available at the time of this report, though individual district data were available.

School Suspension Rate, within County



Source: NYS Education Department

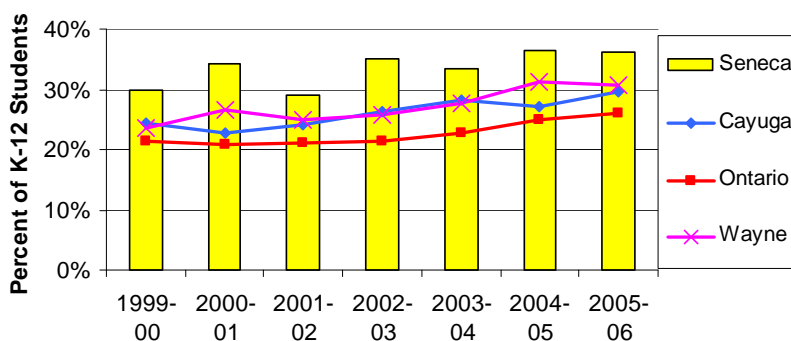
Indicator 4.3: Eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Lunch

Definition: The number of students eligible for free or reduced price lunch as a percentage of total K-12 enrollments. Students are eligible for free lunch if their family's income is at or below 130% of the national poverty level. They are eligible for reduced price lunch if that same statistic is between 130% and 185%.

Significance: Eligibility for free/reduced price lunch is an indicator of family economic status. Higher proportions of eligible students can also pose additional challenges to schools since low-

income students tend to perform more poorly on tests.

Eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Lunch, by County



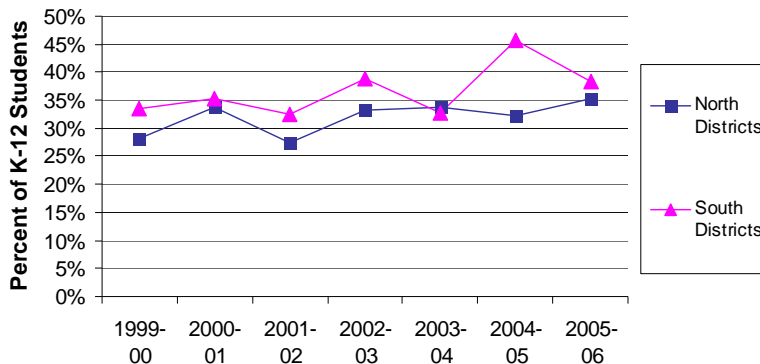
Source: NYS Education Department

Findings: Seneca County has experienced an overall increase in the percent of students eligible for free or reduced price lunch over the past seven years, from 30% to 36% (1,773 students in 2005-06).

Seneca County's proportion of eligible students has consistently been 5 to 10 percentage points higher than in the three comparison counties. Within the county, the South districts have

consistently had slightly higher levels of eligibility than the North districts.

Eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Lunch, within County



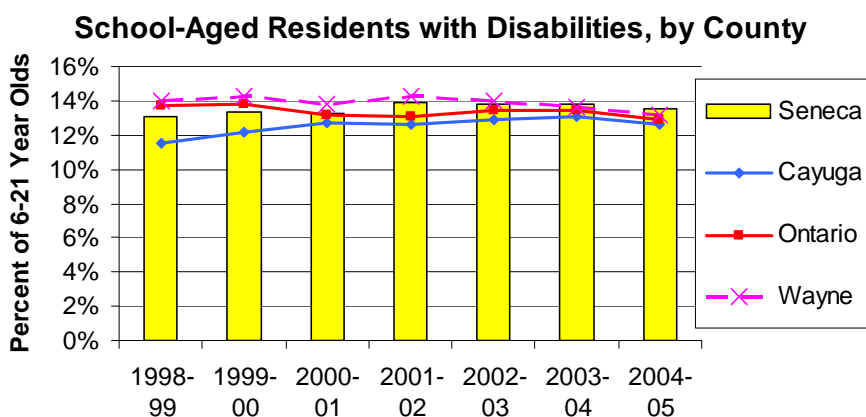
Source: NYS Education Department

Caveats: Not all students who are eligible for free or reduced priced lunch participate in the program.

Indicator 4.4: School-Aged Residents Receiving Special Education Services

Definition: Percent of school-aged (ages 6 – 21) residents classified with disabilities and receiving special education services.

Significance: Students receiving special education services can be at greater risk for poor school performance, including lower test scores and a higher chance of dropping out. The proportion of students in special education can significantly impact a school district's budget, and it can be an indicator of the effectiveness of earlier intervention programs aimed at addressing problems in early years and preventing students from being classified as disabled.



Source: NYS Education Department

Findings: Seneca County has had a relatively steady proportion of school-aged residents classified with disabilities and receiving special education services. The share has remained between 13% and 14%. Area comparison counties also did not see dramatic fluctuations in the share of students in special education programs, though Cayuga County experienced a slight increase (11.5% to 13%). Seneca's rate in 2004-05 of 13.5% was slightly above the other counties. Within Seneca, the South Seneca school district had the highest proportion of school-aged residents classified with disabilities with a rate in the high teens over the seven-year period, while the other three districts maintained rates between 10% and 13%.

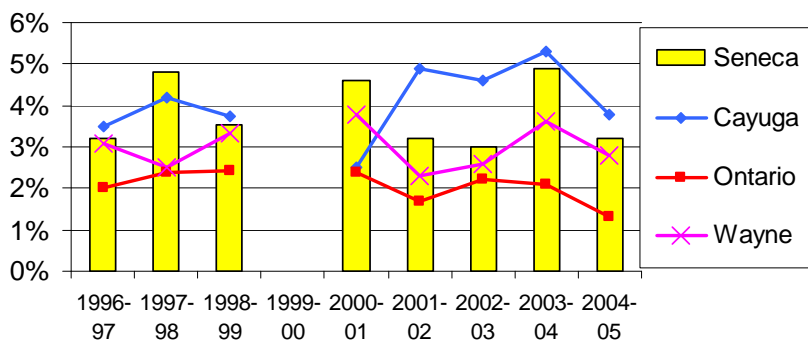
Caveats: Varying school district practices on classifying students as disabled can impact the numbers. Also, school districts known for effective special education programs may attract more students.

Indicator 4.5: High School Dropouts

Definition: A dropout is any student who left school prior to graduation for any reason except death and did not enter another school or an approved high school equivalency preparation program. The dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of students who dropped out in a given year by the fall enrollment in grades 9-12.

Significance: Youth who drop out of high school face the likelihood of reduced employment opportunities and earnings potential and may be at a greater risk for needing public assistance. High school dropout rates have also been correlated with increased likelihood of teen pregnancy.

Annual High School Dropout Rate



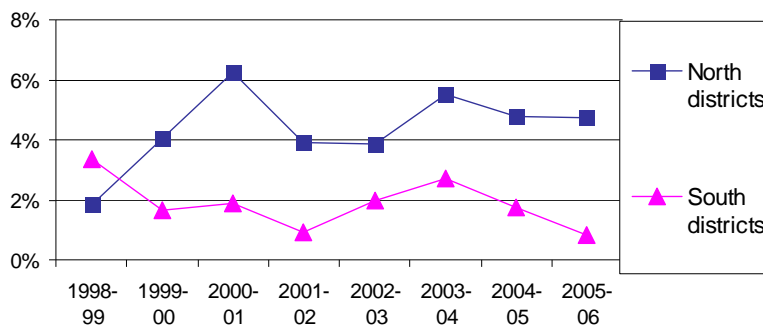
Source: NYS Education Department

discernable trend in recent years.

Within Seneca County, students attending school in North districts have tended to drop out more frequently than students in South districts.

Caveats: Data for the 1999-00 and 2005-06 school years were not available at the county level.

High School Dropout Rate, within County



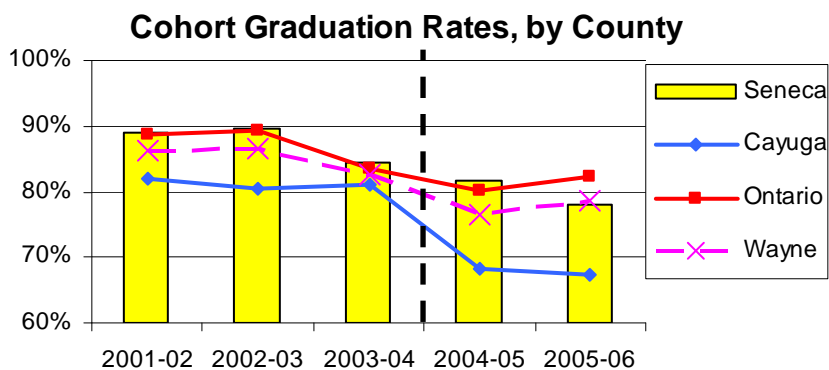
Source: NYS Education Department

Findings: The dropout rate for Seneca County has fluctuated between 3% and 4.9% since 1996-97. Over the eight years shown, Seneca's rate averaged 3.8%, second to Cayuga at 4.1%. Seneca has generally had higher dropout rates than Ontario and Wayne counties. There has been no

Indicator 4.6: High School Cohort Graduation Rate

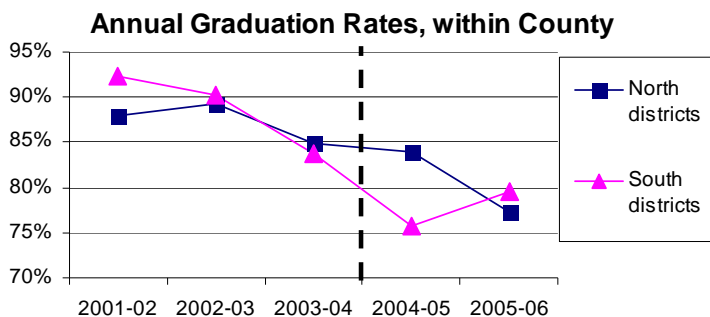
Definition. The number of students graduating as a percentage of their cohort. A student's cohort is the 9th grade class within which he/she entered high school.

Significance. High school graduation is the culmination of a successful K-12 education and the gateway to college or employment. Students who do not graduate face the prospect of unemployment or low-paying jobs.



Findings: Seneca County's graduation rate fell from 89% in 2001-2002 to 84% in 2003-04. In 2004-05, the state began calculating the cohort graduation rate differently to capture more of the original 9th grade class (see note below). Under the new policy,

Seneca's rates fell to 82% and 78% for the most recent two years. But Seneca's average graduation rate of 85% over the five years was higher than the average rate for Wayne and Cayuga and virtually identical to that of Ontario.



Within Seneca County, cohort graduation rates in both the North and South districts have declined since 2001-02, though reversing directions in the past two years.

Caveats: Before 2004-05, some students who dropped out or left school to attend a GED program were removed from the state's analysis of graduation rates and test results. Beginning in 2004-05, those students are included. In general, results for 2004-05 and 2005-06 are lower and cannot strictly be compared to prior years.

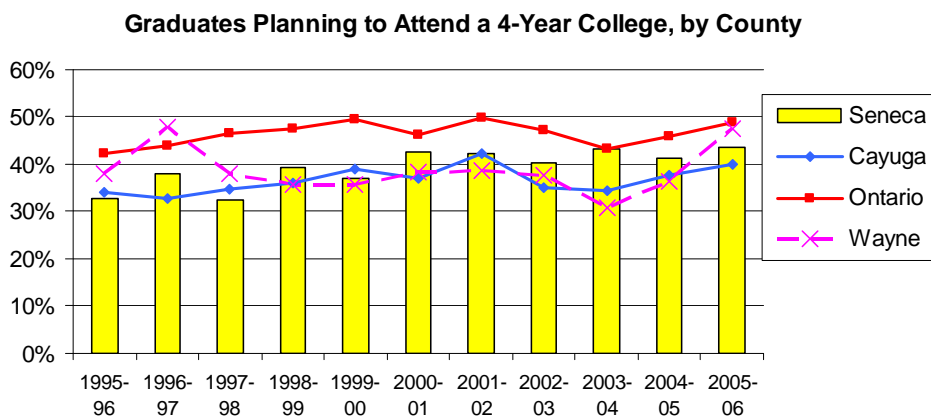
Indicator 4.7: Plans of High School Graduates

Definition: The self-reported post-graduation plans of high school seniors reported in a state survey.

Significance: A high school diploma in and of itself is no longer the ticket to economic well-being. Education or training beyond high school has become necessary for most people to

secure well-paying jobs and obtain a prosperous adult life.

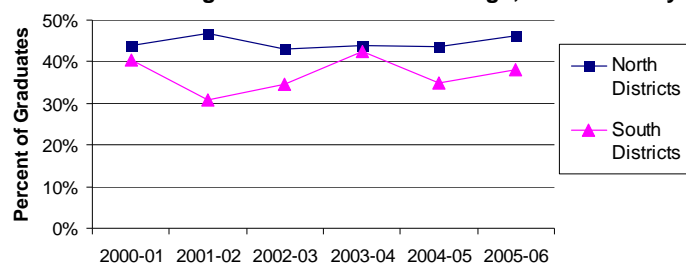
Findings: Seneca County's proportion of graduating students planning to go to a four-year college post-graduation has increased from 33% in 1995-96 to 44% in



Source: State Education Department

2005-06. Seneca is now in the middle of the pack of area counties when it comes to the four-year college rate, and the proportion of graduates planning to attend a two-year institution has remained steady, while the proportion intending to find work directly after high school has decreased.

Graduates Planning to Attend a 4-Year College, within County



Source: State Education Department

Within the county, the four-year rates have not changed significantly between 2000-01 and 2005-06. North districts have consistently had a higher percent of graduates planning on going to a four-year institution. Rates for two-year colleges and employment have not

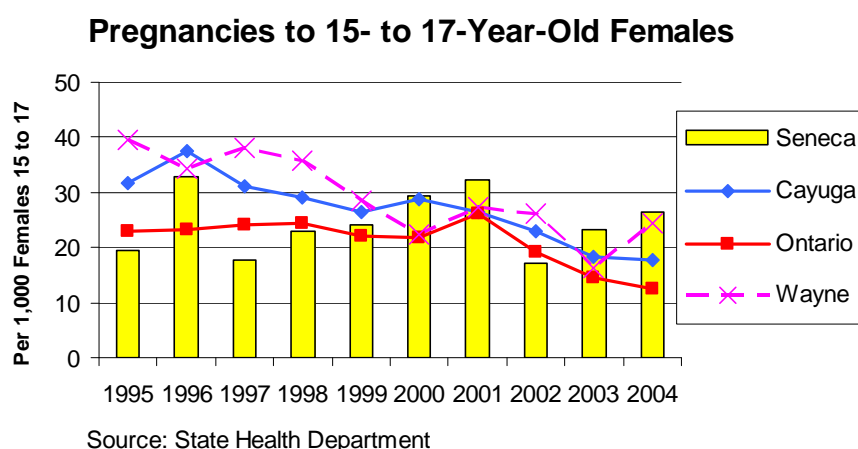
shifted significantly during the previous six years for either the North or South districts.

Caveats: The plans of a high-school senior may not come to fruition because of several reasons, including finances, lack of admission opportunities, or a change of plans between the survey and graduation.

Indicator 4.8: Teen Pregnancy Rate

Definition: The number of pregnancies among females ages 15 to 17, per 1,000 females in that age group.

Significance: Teen pregnancy can derail a young woman's life, preventing her from furthering her education or growing up to be self-sufficient. Babies born to teen mothers are at higher risk of having a low birth weight and of infant mortality compared to babies born to older mothers. They are also at risk of having lower cognitive development, poor educational outcomes and living in poverty.



Findings: Seneca County's teen pregnancy rate has fluctuated between 17 and 33 per 1,000 females, and shows no clear trend up or down. The rates have been lower in the most recent three years than in the previous two, though they have nonetheless

increased during that time. That's in contrast to the surrounding counties, which show a general downward trend. In 2004, the latest year for which statistics are available, Seneca's teen pregnancy rate was 26.4, higher than the area comparison counties. The Seneca 15-17 rate has been higher than rates in the surrounding counties in four of the past five years.

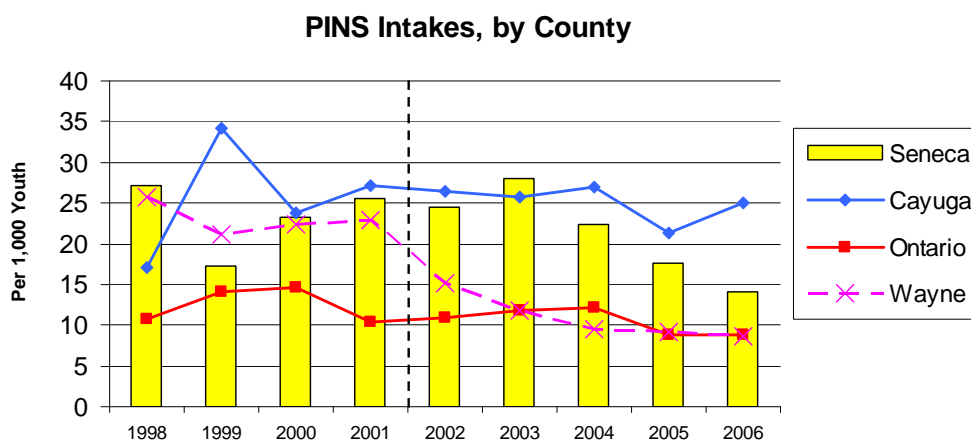
Data are also available on pregnancies among females ages 15 to 19. The findings are largely the same: The other three counties show more of a consistent downward trend while Seneca's rate fluctuated between 42 and 56. Since 2001, Seneca's 15-19 pregnancy rate has been consistently higher than the rates in all the neighboring counties, except in 2004, when Seneca's rate was 42.8, higher than two of the three other counties.

Caveats: More recent data might show a changing trend. Data from the state Health Department tend to be two or more years old.

Indicator 4.9: PINS Intakes

Definition. A PINS child is a “person in need of supervision,” or someone for whom a complaint has been filed due to non-criminal misconduct such as truancy, incorrigibility, disobedience or running away from home.. Counties (usually the probation department) are the point of entry for a PINS case, and each case brought to the county by police, parents, school or another source is called an “intake.” This indicator reflects the number of intakes for youths under 18 per 1,000 county residents 10 to 17 years old. Prior to July 2002, PINS were limited to youth under 16, and the rates for those years reflect intakes per 1,000 youths 10 to 15 years old.³

Significance. The PINS program was instituted to reach children who are at high risk of socially-unacceptable behavior and/or committing crime later in their lives. PINS statistics indicate the level of youth disobedience in the community, family dysfunction and the job that



Source: Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Probation Workload System

counties are doing to curb disruptive or criminal tendencies in these high-risk children.

Findings:

Seneca County's rate of PINS intakes fell 48%

from 1998 to 2006, second only to Wayne, which saw a 66% drop. In 2006, Seneca processed 54 PINS intakes, just under half the 9-year high total of 111 in 2003. In most years, Seneca's rate has been considerably higher than in Ontario and Wayne, and lower than in Cayuga.

Caveats: These data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the PINS system, as a person may have more than one case opened during a year. For half of 2002, cases of 16- and 17-year-olds were included in intakes, so the rate was calculated using the population of 10- to 17-year-olds. This likely results in somewhat understating the rate for 2002.

³ Youth under age 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of cases among young children.

Indicator 4.10: PINS Petitions

Definition. A PINS child is a “person in need of supervision,” as defined in the previous indicator. Petitions represent PINS cases that go to Family Court. This indicator reflects the number of petitions filed per 1,000 county residents 10 to 17 years old. Prior to July 2002, PINS were limited to youth under 16, and rates reflect petitions per 1,000 youths 10 to 15 years old.⁴

Significance. PINS petitions show how many cases were serious enough to go to court rather than be handled through a diversion program. PINS statistics indicate the level of youth disobedience in the community, family dysfunction and the job that counties are doing to curb disruptive and criminal tendencies in high-risk children.

Findings: Seneca County had the highest rate of PINS petitions from 1997 through 2005 among the four counties. However, the rate peaked at 25.8 in 2001, but then fell 61% to 10 per 1,000 youth in 2005. The actual number of petitions declined from a high of 93 in 2002 to a 9-

year low of 38 in 2005. Cayuga and

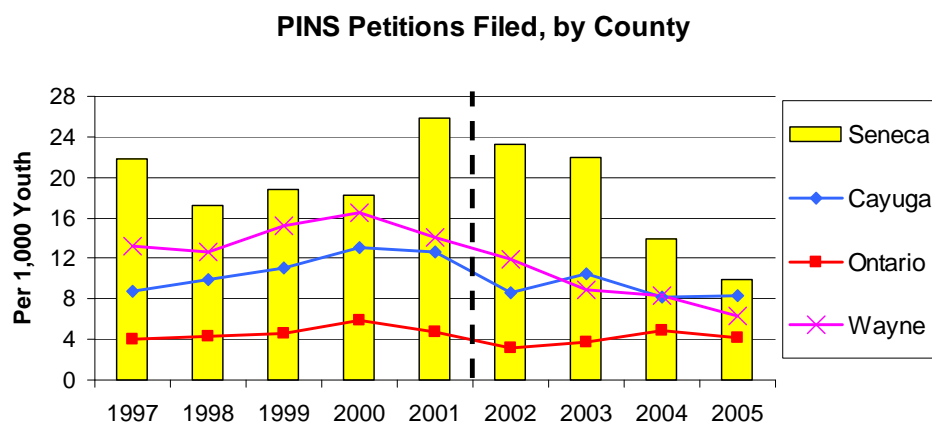
Ontario

experience little net change over the period, despite

year-to-year

fluctuations, while the petition rate in

Wayne declined almost as much as in Seneca.



Source: NYS Unified Court System

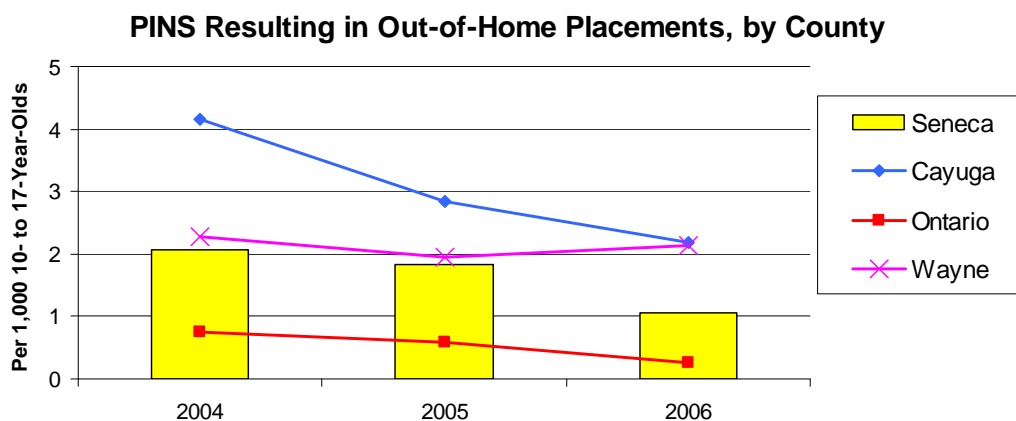
Caveats: These data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the PINS system; as an individual may have multiple petitions within a single year. These data also do not reflect the ultimate disposition of the case. For half of 2002, cases of 16- and 17-year-olds are included in intakes, so the rate was calculated using the population of 10- to 17-year-olds. This likely results in somewhat understating the rate for 2002.

⁴ Youth under age 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of cases among young children.

Indicator 4.11: PINS Petitions Resulting in Out-of-Home Placements

Definition. This indicator shows PINS cases serious enough to result in a court taking a child out of his or her parent’s home. A PINS child is a “person in need of supervision,” as previously defined. This indicator reflects the number of out-of-home placements of PINS youth per 1,000 county residents 10 to 17 years old.⁵ Children may be placed in foster care, group homes or residential treatment facilities.

Significance. As the most serious PINS cases, these statistics show the youths most at risk of committing crimes or failing to function productively in society later in life.



Source: NYS Unified Court System

Findings: Seneca County’s rate of out-of-home placements for PINS case has fallen by about half over the last three years. The comparison counties have seen similar declines, except for Wayne, where the rate remained virtually the same. The actual numbers of youth placed outside the home in a given year are quite small in Seneca, ranging from eight in 2004 to four in 2006.

Caveats: These data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the PINS system. Data on out-of-home placements were not aggregated prior to 2004.

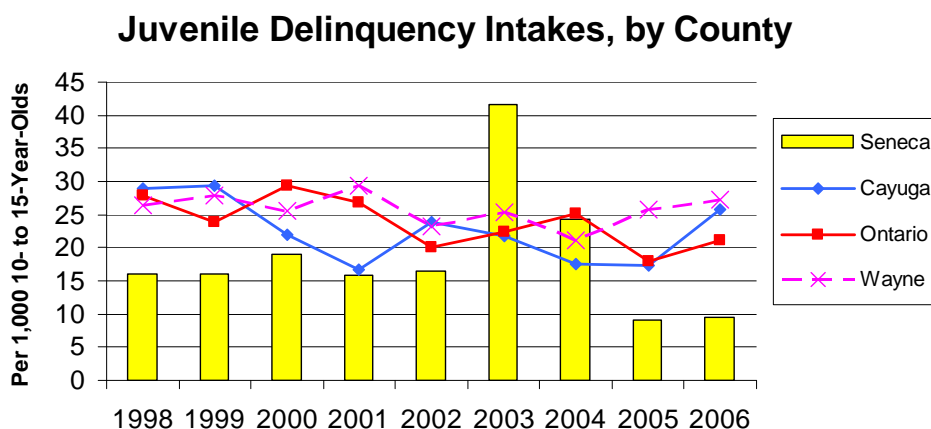
⁵ Youth under age 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of cases among young children.

Indicator 4.12: Juvenile Delinquency Intakes

Definition. A juvenile delinquent is a child 7 to 16 years old who has committed an act that, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime. County probation departments are the point of entry for a juvenile delinquency case, and each case brought to probation by police or another source is called an “intake.” This indicator reflects the number of delinquency intakes per 1,000 county residents 10 to 15 years old.⁶

Significance. Individuals who commit crimes in their youth are more likely to commit other offenses later in life.

Findings: Seneca County’s rate for juvenile delinquency intakes was consistent through most of



Source: Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Probation Workload System

the nine years shown, except for a spike in 2003. In 2005 and 2006, intake rates dropped to about 9 per 1,000 after having been as high as 42 in 2003 and 24 in 2003. JD intake rates in Seneca have been consistently below the comparison counties for all years except for 2003 and 2004. In 2005 and 2006, there were a total of 26 and 27 JD intakes, respectively, in Seneca County.

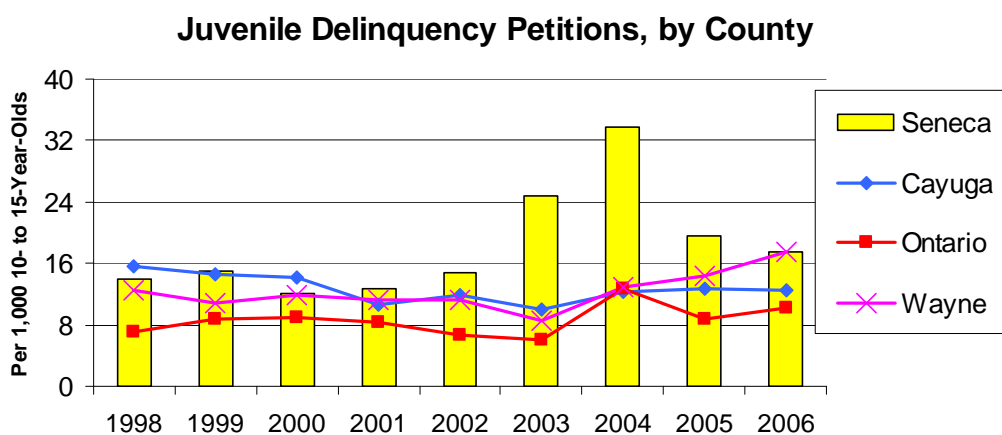
Caveats: All intakes do not turn into juvenile delinquency cases; some are diverted into programs and never reach a court. These data do not reflect the ultimate disposition of the case. The data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the juvenile delinquent system.

⁶ Youth under 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of intakes of young children.

Indicator 4.13: Juvenile Delinquency Petitions

Definition. A juvenile delinquent is a child 7 to 16 years old who has committed an act that, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime. The numbers of petitions represent the number of cases brought to Family Court. This indicator reflects the number of delinquency petitions per 1,000 county residents 10 to 15 years old.⁷

Significance. Individuals who commit crimes in their youth are more likely to commit other offenses later in life.



Sources: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, NYS Unified Court System

Findings: In contrast to juvenile delinquency intakes, the proportions of JD cases resulting in petitions to Family Court have been consistently *higher* in Seneca than in the comparison counties. Seneca County's rate of delinquency petitions was 27% higher in 2006 than in 1998, after spiking in 2004. That was the third-highest increase over the time period; Ontario rose 40% and Wayne increased 38%. Cayuga's rate declined 19% over the time period. A total of 50 cases wound up as JD petitions in 2006.

Caveats: These data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the juvenile delinquent system; an individual may have multiple petitions within a single year. These data also do not reflect the ultimate disposition of the case.

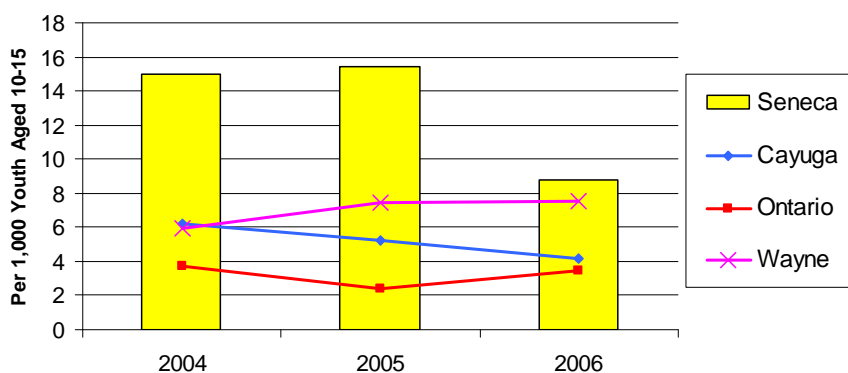
⁷ Youth under age 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of petitions of young children.

Indicator 4.14: Out-of-Home Placements of Juvenile Delinquents

Definition. This indicator shows juvenile delinquency cases serious enough to result in a court taking a child out of his or her parent's home. Children may be placed in foster care, group homes, residential treatment facilities or state placement facilities. A juvenile delinquent is a child 7 to 16 years old who has committed an act that, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime. This indicator reflects the number of out-of-home placements per 1,000 county residents 10 to 15 years old.⁸

Significance. Individuals who commit crimes in their youth are more likely to commit other offenses later in life.

Delinquency Petitions Resulting in Out-of-Home Placements, by County



Source: NYS Unified Court System

Findings: During the past three years, Seneca County has seen a drop in the rate of out-of-home placements from 15 in 2004 to 8.8 in 2006 (in actual numbers, a decline from 43 to 25). The other three counties have held their rates relatively stable throughout the period. Not surprisingly, given the higher rates of JD petitions, Seneca also had higher rates of JD placements in each of the past three years

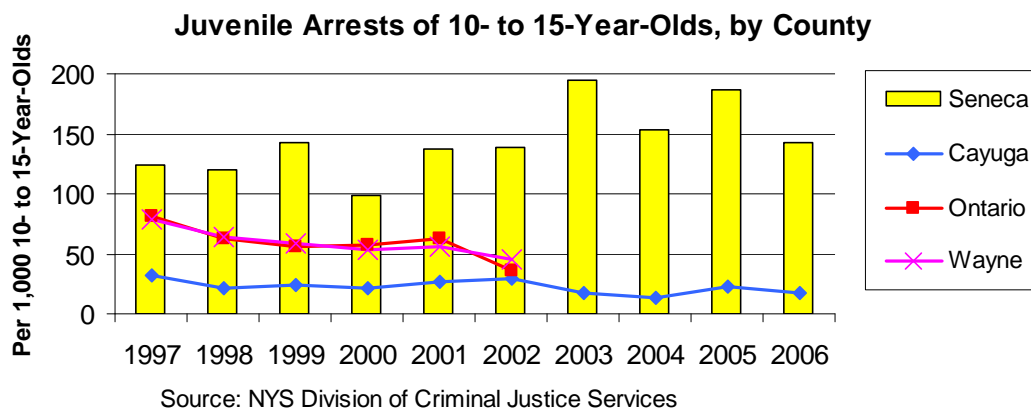
Caveats: These data do not reflect an unduplicated count of youth involved with the juvenile delinquent system. Data for this indicator were not centrally collected and aggregated prior to 2004.

⁸ Youth under age 10 are included in the numerator but not the denominator of the rate calculation due to the low number of cases among young children.

Indicator 4.15: Arrests of 10- to 15-Year-Olds

Definition: The number of arrests of 10- to 15-year-olds per 1,000 county residents of that age.

Significance: Juvenile arrests reflect the extent to which youth are engaging in unacceptable and illegal behavior. This indicator is also a measure of community safety.



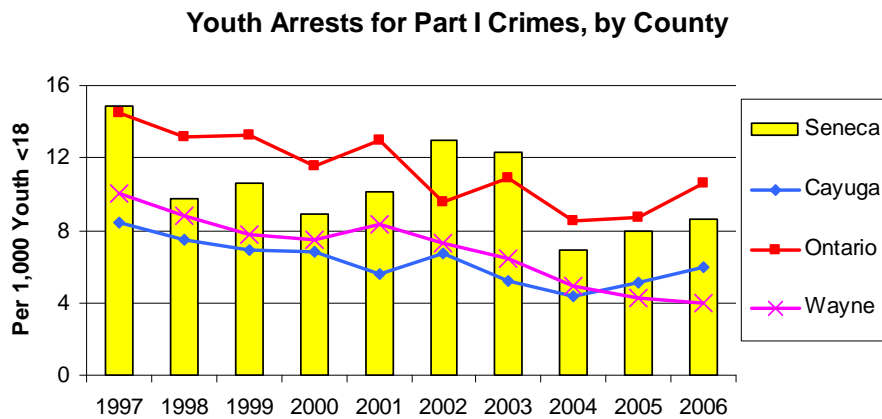
Findings: Seneca County has experienced much higher juvenile arrest rates than the comparison counties. Data are unreliable for Ontario and Wayne counties for 2003 – 2006, due to incomplete data from specific law enforcement agencies in those counties. However, the large differences in rates were apparent between the counties even in the years prior to 2003. Seneca County increased from a low rate of 99.2 youth arrests per 1,000 youth 10-15 in 2000 to current levels hovering at or above 150 arrests per 1,000 youth. In each of the past six years, this has represented more than 400 Seneca youth 10-15 years of age arrested per year, with a high of 571 in 2003.

Caveats: Many reported crimes do not result in arrests. Arrest rates can be affected by changes in law enforcement policies, staffing patterns, etc. Data reflect the number of arrests, and some youth can be arrested more than once, so the rates may overstate the number of individual youth arrested. Arrests are recorded where they occur and do not necessarily reflect the youth's residence.

Indicator 4.16: Youth Arrests for Part I Crimes

Definition: Arrests of youths under the age of 18 for Part I crimes, expressed as a rate per 1,000 youth. Part I crimes, defined for consistent reporting purposes across jurisdictions by the FBI, include murder, negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor-vehicle theft. Part I arrests reflect youth arrested and prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system, rather than in Family Court.

Significance: Youth arrests reflect the extent to which youth are engaging in unacceptable and illegal behavior. Juvenile crime is often associated with family violence and mental health problems.



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

Findings: The rate of youth arrests for Part I crimes was 42% lower in Seneca County in 2006 than it was in 1997, the second-largest decline among the counties. The rate of arrests fell 60% in Wayne, 29% in Cayuga and 27% in Ontario. However, Seneca had the second-highest rate among the counties in most of the years, typically below Ontario's rate. Despite having lower rates than earlier years, Part I youth arrest rates have been edging upward again since 2004.

Caveats: Not all Part I crimes are reported and not every reported crime leads to an arrest. Police department practices for dealing with youths may vary, affecting the reported rates.

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the 16 indicators in this chapter, along with related other measures and developmental assets data, some trends and themes emerge from the data. For context, the number of children and youth in the county under the age of 20 has declined since 1990 by about 1,600 (minus 17%) to just over 8,000 youth in 2006. Other trends are briefly summarized below:

Youth Succeeding in School

The Community Assessment Team decided not to include standardized test results in this document, since they were readily available elsewhere in the community and through the NYSED website. Beyond that, the indicators that were used in this community profile, supplemented by the Assets survey, provided mixed messages on this outcome area.

- ❖ Almost two-thirds of the students in the Assets survey (grades 6 – 11) in the county said they were motivated to do well in school; only 43% reported spending as much as an hour of homework per day.
- ❖ One-third of those surveyed said their school provided a “caring, encouraging environment,” and 41% said their parents are “actively involved in helping” their child succeed in school.
- ❖ On average attendance and rates of suspensions, Seneca’s overall performance is typically acceptable, though not quite as good as in the comparison counties.
- ❖ Higher proportions of students in county schools (36%) are eligible for free or reduced price lunch than in neighboring counties, consistent with slightly higher poverty rates among children.
- ❖ Although much smaller proportions of children in Seneca are in early intervention and preschool special education services than is true in comparison counties, the county has a slightly higher proportion of students classified with disabilities and receiving K-12 special education services than is true in the other counties.
- ❖ Dropout rates have fluctuated from year to year, but have typically been higher in Seneca than in comparison counties.

- ❖ Nonetheless, in terms of proportions of entering student cohorts who graduate, Seneca's graduation rates are typically higher than in the comparison counties. Seneca is about in the middle regionally in terms of proportions of graduates with plans to go on to a four-year college.
- ❖ Per-capita revenues for school districts in the county have consistently been lower than two of the three comparison counties, and have grown at a slower rate than in any of the other counties.

*Youth Leading Healthy
Lives/Making Good
Decisions*

The indicators of how youth are functioning in their non-academic lives reveal mixed messages.

- ❖ Teen pregnancy rates are lower than at the beginning of the decade, but have been increasing, while the comparison county rates have been declining. County rates have exceeded those in all three comparison counties in four of the past five years.
- ❖ Child abuse rates have grown and consistently exceed those in comparison counties. Beyond what is reported, one-third of those surveyed in the assets survey reported having been physically harmed by someone in or living with their family. A similar proportion reported having been a victim of violence within the past two years.
- ❖ PINS intakes have been declining, though rates of intakes have remained higher than in two of the three comparison counties. PINS petitions have also been declining, though rates remain higher than in neighboring counties. Few petitions result in out-of-home placements.
- ❖ By contrast to PINS cases, while juvenile delinquency intakes have also been declining, their rates have consistently been lower than in neighboring counties. However, higher proportions go to petitions and to out-of-home placements than is true in the other counties (though the numbers of placements declined in 2006).
- ❖ Juvenile arrest rates in Seneca have consistently been significantly higher than in any of the neighboring counties, with an average of more than 150 arrests per 1,000 youth in recent years. And youth

arrests for Part I crimes, though lower than ten years ago, have increased since 2004, and typically exceed the rates in two of the three comparison counties. More than a quarter of those in the assets survey indicated that they had had trouble with the police in the past 12 months.

- ❖ The assets survey suggests that although two-thirds of the students receive “high levels of love and support” from family, only about one-third reported positive communications with parents and seeking parental advice and counsel, and only about one-fourth believe that “adults in the community value youth.” The same proportion view parents and other adults as modeling “positive, responsible behavior.”
- ❖ Almost a third of 11th-graders reported having been drunk within the past two weeks, and 39% said they had used marijuana within the past year.
- ❖ Just 40% of the youth reported that they can “resist negative peer pressure,” feel that they have control over what happens to them, and seek “to resolve conflict nonviolently.” Yet 70% of the students reported being optimistic about their personal future.

Conclusions

Generally the overall level of education performance in Seneca has been slightly lower on the reported indicators compared with other counties in the region, *except* that on the ultimate indicator—graduation rates—the county’s performance has exceeded that of the comparison counties. Most students, however, don’t report feeling especially supported in their school or by their parents in helping them succeed academically.

The data suggest that there are significant issues facing youth, including high reported child abuse, high juvenile arrest rates, higher rates of juvenile delinquency petitions and placements than in other counties. Moreover, significant numbers of youth reported being victims of violence, and in turn using violence to resolve conflicts. Few indicated having strong adult role models in or outside their families, and most reported difficulty resisting peer pressure.

All of this would seem to suggest the need for those who are in positions to support and counsel with youth to consider how they can more effectively communicate and “connect with” young people, as few adults seem to be able to do so in the eyes of today’s middle and high school students. More effective ways of helping parents deal with teenage youth may be needed, including, as noted in the previous chapter, expanded family intervention and prevention efforts, parenting skills education, expanded services to address the effects of domestic violence, and the possible need for more comprehensive strength-based family-focused programs such as family resource centers. Sustaining and expanding community after-school programs should also be supported.

Better ways appear to be needed to reach youth who are in trouble with the law. For example, even though the number of juvenile delinquency intakes is relatively small in the county, relatively high numbers wind up in Family Court petitions and placements. Consideration should perhaps be given to creating diversion or other alternative programs addressing root causes of juvenile criminal behavior both among JD youth as well as those arrested as juveniles. Programs designed to focus on conflict resolution and helping to provide youth with improved decision-making and coping skills may also be important to consider.

In general, given the fact that 60% of the students in the county who completed the assets survey reported having less than half of a possible 40 assets, with even fewer assets reported in upper grades, additional emphasis is likely to be needed throughout the community on the development and strengthening of assets and resources for children, youth and families. Such assets should include expanded focus on primary prevention and early intervention services, mentoring and other activities designed to help youth and families build on existing strengths and learn to make more informed decisions that will positively affect the ability of young people to lead healthy, productive lives.

FOCUS AREA 5 – PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

The fifth focus area is designed to track how well the community is doing in improving health and emotional well-being, and access to health care among the general public. The focus area includes two outcomes and six indicators.

Outcomes and Indicators

Outcome: Access to Health Care

- ❖ 5.1 – Percent Lacking Health Insurance
- ❖ 5.2 – Supply of Doctors

Outcome: People Enjoying Physical and Emotional Well-Being

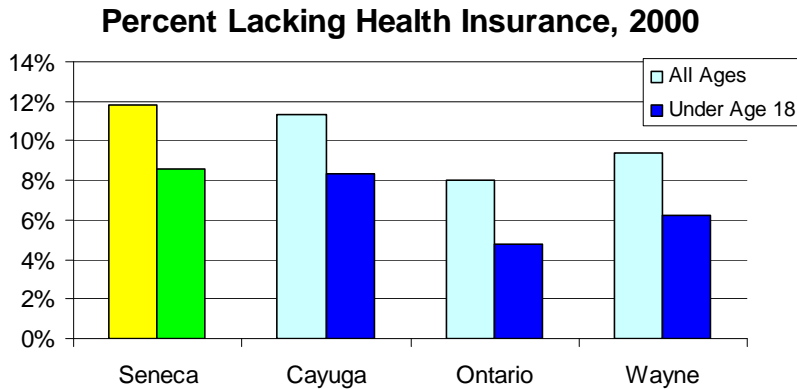
- ❖ 5.3 – Mortality Rate
- ❖ 5.4 – Leading Causes of Death
- ❖ 5.5 – Rates of Sexually Transmitted Disease
- ❖ 5.6 – Psychiatric Center Inpatient Admissions

In addition to these six indicators, data on healthy births and teen pregnancies from earlier focus areas, and the Substance Abuse focus area which follows this chapter, also have relevance to the Primary Health Care focus area. The implications of all these indicators are address in the concluding summary, which follows the six individual indicator profiles at the end of the chapter.

Indicator 5.1: Percent Lacking Health Insurance

Definition: The percent of the population lacking health insurance.

Significance: People without health insurance are at risk of not receiving timely and appropriate health care, particularly preventative care that may mitigate more serious health problems.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

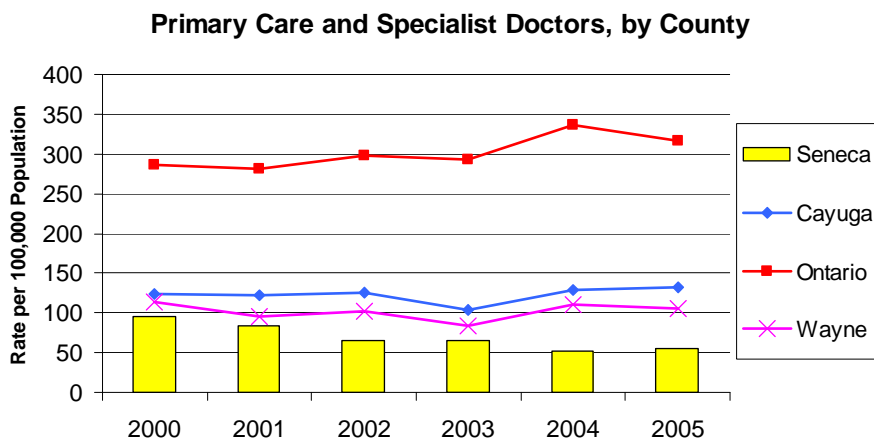
Findings: Nearly 12% of Seneca County residents (about 3,800 individuals) did not have health insurance in 2000, the highest rate among the four counties. Similarly, a smaller proportion of children lacked health insurance: almost 9% in Seneca (almost 700 children under 18), compared with 8% in Cayuga, and about 5% and 6% in Ontario and Wayne, respectively.

Caveats: Data were only available for 2000 in a consistent way. While the state Health Department generated estimates for 2005, it used a different definition of children, looking at those under 19. In addition, the state estimates merely applied the 2000 rates of uninsured to updated county population estimates, making it impossible to truly track a trend.

Indicator 5.2: Supply of Doctors

Definition: Number of primary care and specialist doctors, per 100,000 population.

Significance: The number of doctors in a community is an indicator of its ability to promote health, treat problems and maintain a healthy population. It is also a measure of how prepared the region is to combat health-related emergencies.



Source: NYS Department of Health

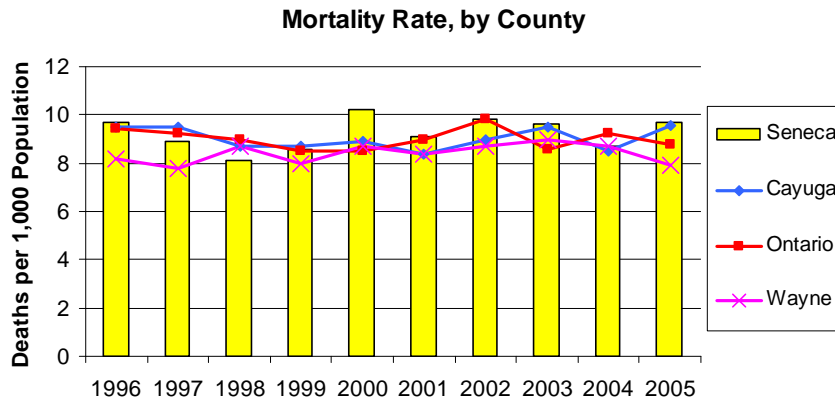
Findings: Seneca County has fewer doctors than the comparison counties, even when a rate is calculated to adjust for differences in population. This discrepancy has increased during the measurement period, as the actual reported number of doctors in Seneca declined from 32 in 2000 to 19 in 2005 (a rate of 55 per 100,000 residents), while Ontario gained doctors (going from 286 to 329) and Wayne and Cayuga remained steady (at about 100 each). In terms of physicians per county residents, Seneca's number of doctors represents only about half the coverage of Wayne, 40% of Cayuga's coverage, and about one-sixth that of Ontario.

Caveats: Seneca does not have a hospital within county limits, while Ontario has three and Cayuga and Wayne each have one. Hospitals are the primary location for a high density of doctors. However, one of the Ontario hospitals is located near the county's border with Seneca and serves many Seneca residents.

Indicator 5.3: Mortality Rate

Definition: The number of deaths per 1,000 residents of all ages.

Significance: Mortality rates are a measure of the overall health of a community, particularly since some of the most common causes of death, such as heart disease, can be prevented or mitigated through lifestyle changes, prevention efforts, early intervention, and better health care.



Source: NYS Department of Health

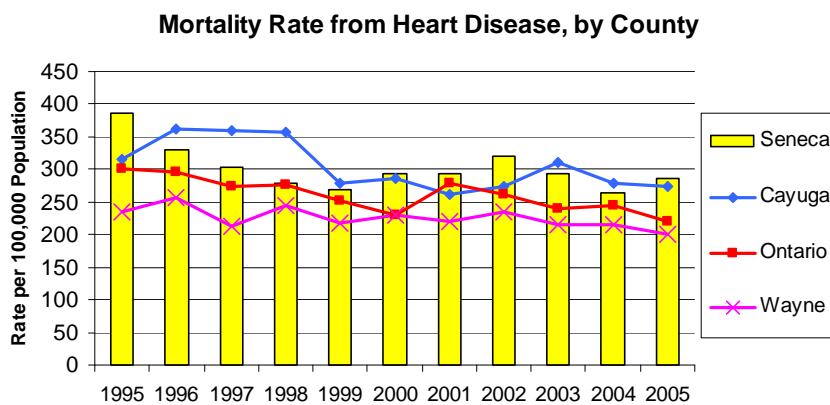
Findings: Seneca County's mortality rate has fluctuated between 1996 and 2005 from 8.1 to 10.2 deaths per 1,000 residents. In the past five reported years, this has translated into an average of about 330 deaths in the county per year. The rate has mostly been in line with the three comparison counties, though it was substantially higher in 2000 and slightly higher in 2005.

Caveats: Mortality rates will tend to be higher in communities with a high proportion of elderly residents. Rates would need to be adjusted for age and gender differences in the population to determine whether there are true differences in the mortality rates.

Indicator 5.4: Leading Causes of Death

Definition. The leading causes of death in New York State are heart disease, cancer and stroke. Mortality rates are given per 100,000 residents.

Significance. Mortality rates for specific causes of death can show to what extent a community is embracing advances in prevention, care and treatment of specific ailments.



Source: NYS Department of Health

Findings. Seneca County's mortality rate from heart disease decreased 26%, from a rate of 387 in 1995 to a rate of 287 deaths per 100,000 residents in 2005 (this represents 100 actual deaths in the county from heart disease in 2005, down

from a high of 134 in 1995). That rate of decline was in line with Ontario County and exceeded the rate of decline in Cayuga and Wayne counties. However, Seneca's mortality rate from heart disease has typically exceeded that of the other counties, and remains far above the Healthy People 2010 goal of 166 per 100,000 residents.

Seneca's mortality rates from cancer and stroke—shown in Appendix Tables 5.4 (a) and (b)—both increased over the time period while the comparison counties saw fluctuations but overall slight decreases. The number of cancer deaths in the county in 1995 was 65, and was 85 in 2005. Deaths from strokes increased from 14 in 1995 to 20 in 2005. Seneca's cancer mortality rate of 244 per 100,000 in 2005 was far above the Healthy People 2010 goal of 160, as were the comparison counties. The county's mortality rate per 100,000 from stroke of 57 in 2005 was above the Healthy People 2010 goal of 48, after being below the goal in the mid-1990s.

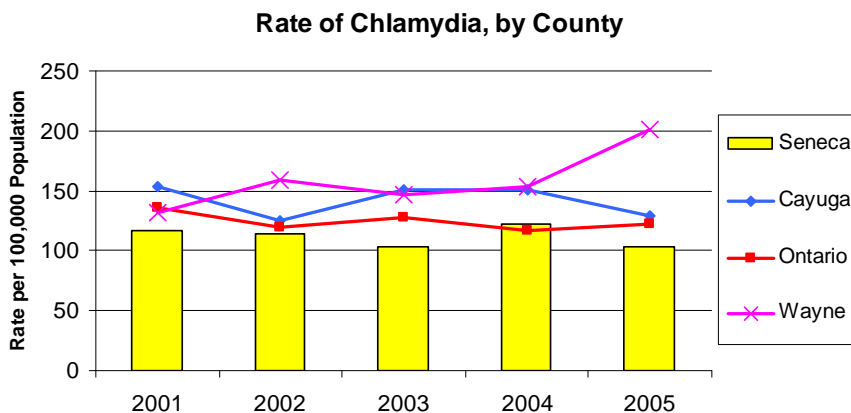
In 2005, cancer was the primary killer of 45- to 74-year-olds, while heart disease was the leading cause of death for those 75 and older in Seneca County.

Caveats: Mortality rates will tend to be higher in communities with a high proportion of elderly residents. Rates would need to be adjusted for age and gender differences in the population to determine whether there are true differences in the mortality rates.

Indicator 5.5: Rates of Sexually Transmitted Disease

Definition: Rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis per 100,000 residents.

Significance: Sexually transmitted diseases are preventable ailments that can cause harmful and costly complications, including reproductive health problems, fetal and perinatal health problems, and cancer.



Source: NYS Department of Health

Findings: Seneca County's chlamydia rate dipped from 117 in 2001 to 103 in 2005 and has typically been lower than in the comparison counties. The actual number of reported infections was relatively low, fluctuating from 36 to 43 over the five years. (Healthy People 2010 goals were set for specific populations by gender and age and so cannot be compared with Seneca's overall numbers.)

In the past 10 years, Seneca County has not had more than 10 reported cases of either gonorrhea or syphilis—as shown in Appendix Tables 5.5 (a) and (b). When small numbers are involved, rates become unstable. But Seneca's gonorrhea rate of 11 per 100,000 in 2005 (a total of four cases) was below the Healthy People goal of 19 per 100,000 residents. Only one or two new cases of syphilis have been reported in each of the past four years.

Caveats: Not all sexually transmitted disease cases are reported. Data for chlamydia rates were not available prior to 2001.

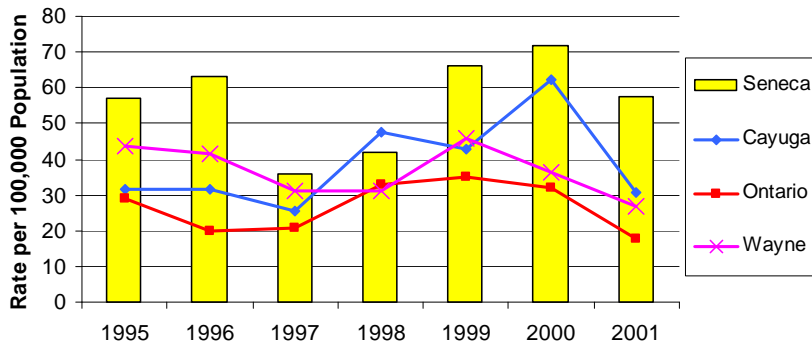
[County mental health data were not available for inclusion in this initial community profile. Such data should be available and included in subsequent updates of the profile.]

Indicator 5.6: Psychiatric Center Inpatient Admissions

Definition: Admissions of county residents to state psychiatric centers throughout the state on an inpatient basis. Rates are given per 100,000 residents.

Significance: Psychiatric center inpatient admissions help measure a county's overall mental health.

State Psychiatric Center Inpatient Admissions, by County of Residence



Source: NYS Department of Mental Health

Findings: Seneca County has historically maintained a higher rate of state psychiatric center inpatient admissions than the three comparison counties. 1997 and 1998 were the only years for which this relationship did not hold, as during those years, Seneca showed a significant drop in its inpatient admission rate. 2001 was the latest year for which data were available. The number of admissions of Seneca County residents typically ranges between 20 and 25 per year.

Caveats: The number of actual state psychiatric inpatient admissions is small so a small fluctuation in the number leads to a relatively large change in its rate per 100,000 population. Data for years later than 2001 were not readily available.

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the six indicators in this chapter, along with related indicators from other focus areas, some clear trends and themes emerged from the data. They are briefly summarized below:

Access to Health Care

Access to health care is a major problem in Seneca County.

- ❖ More than 3,800 people were identified by the Census Bureau as lacking health insurance in 2000, the most recent data available. That represents 12% of the total county population, considerably higher than either of the comparison counties. Although the proportion of children without insurance was lower (about 9%), that proportion was also higher than the other counties.
- ❖ The county's supply of doctors is way below the per capita numbers in the surrounding counties. Moreover, the county is without a hospital, emergency room or urgent care center.

People Enjoying Physical and Emotional Well-Being

Seneca gets mixed grades in this area, but has considerable work to do to improve on these indicators.

- ❖ The overall mortality rate is about on par with the comparison counties.
- ❖ Deaths due to heart disease have declined, though the rates remain higher than in the comparison counties in most years, and well above the Healthy People 2010 goal. Death rates due to cancer and stroke are both up somewhat while comparison counties are trending slightly downward. Both remain above the Healthy People goals, though the stroke rate was at one point below (better than) the goal in the mid-1990s.
- ❖ The county has relatively few sexually transmitted diseases, and compares well with the comparison counties and with the Healthy People goals.
- ❖ County rates of healthy births and teen pregnancy both trail the performance of neighboring counties.
- ❖ The available measure on psychiatric center inpatient admissions is based on old data, but it indicates that more county residents per capita are admitted to state centers than are residents in

comparison counties. Substance abuse treatment is discussed in the next chapter.

Conclusions

Access to health care is a problem at two basic levels: (1) there are significant numbers of adults and children who do not have health insurance, and (2) health care providers and facilities are scarce within the county. Efforts are needed to attempt to get more residents enrolled in health insurance, perhaps through educating and providing incentives to small businesses to encourage those not now offering health insurance to do so. The numbers of children without health insurance may have declined since 2000 with the expansion of Child Health Plus. The community may need to consider ways of pooling resources to provide incentives which make the county more attractive to physicians who might consider establishing a practice in the county.

Educational efforts should be undertaken through employers and various community groups to emphasize preventive health care and to promote healthy life styles and regular exercise as ways of helping to reduce mortality rates. Increased educational efforts should also be considered to improve healthy birth outcomes and to reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy.

FOCUS AREA 6 – SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The sixth focus area is designed to track how well the community is doing in addressing issues related to alcohol and substance abuse. The focus area includes just one outcome and four indicators:

Outcome: Reduced Impact of Substance Abuse

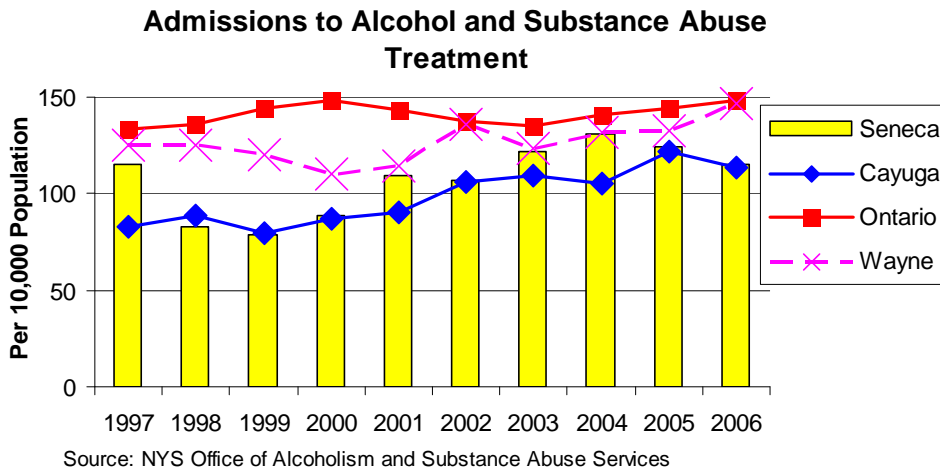
- ❖ 6.1 – Admissions to Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment
- ❖ 6.2 – Felony Drug-Related Arrests
- ❖ 6.3 – Felony DWI Arrests
- ❖ 6.4 – Motor Vehicle Accidents Involving Alcohol

There are also some indicators of youth use of various substances from the assets survey. There are no comparable data available on the extent of use of controlled substances among the adult population.

Indicator 6.1: Admissions to Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment

Definition: The number of admissions of county residents to alcohol and substance abuse treatment facilities anywhere in the state, expressed as a rate per 10,000 home county residents. The majority of placements are for outpatient treatment, though the totals also include crisis, inpatient and residential treatment.

Significance: Long-term excessive drinking and illicit drug use increase an individual's risk of poor health outcomes, including accidents and injuries, and is often a contributing factor in child abuse, domestic violence, suicide and homicide.



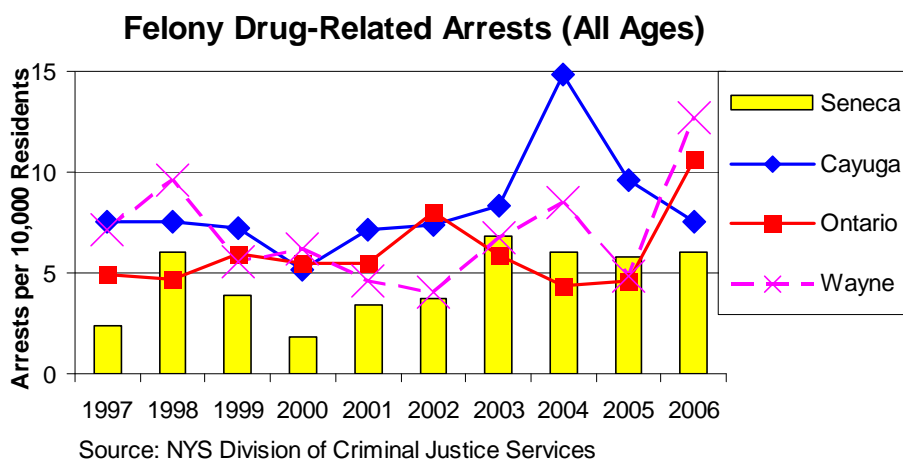
Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, Seneca's rate of treatment admissions initially decreased, but then increased steadily to peak in 2004. By 2006, it had returned to the rate observed in 1997 of 115 per 10,000 residents (representing 399 admissions in 2006). The three comparison counties all saw increases in their rates, compared with 1997. Seneca's rates have typically been lower than those of Ontario and Wayne counties but similar to or slightly above Cayuga's.

Caveats: The data do not necessarily reflect an unduplicated count of individuals entering treatment in a given year, as a person entering treatment more than once in a year would be counted each time. Admissions to treatment may be influenced by both an individual's willingness to seek treatment and the accessibility and availability of services.

Indicator 6.2: Felony Drug-Related Arrests

Definition: The number of felony arrests of persons of all ages for drug-related offenses, per 10,000 residents.

Significance: Drug use and other illegal drug-related activity can have immediate as well as long-term negative health, social and economic consequences, both for individuals and for neighborhoods and communities.



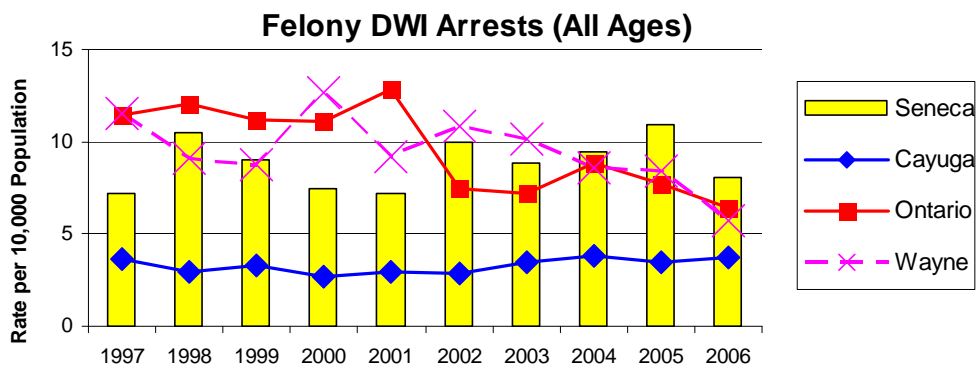
Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, the rate of felony drug-related arrests in Seneca County more than doubled and increased more than any of the comparison counties. However, Seneca's arrest rate was the lowest among all the counties for six of the last ten years and lower than Cayuga's for the entire period. For the past four years, an average of about 20 felony drug-related arrests have been made per year.

Caveats: Relatively few individuals were arrested for felony drug offenses in Seneca, ranging from 8 in 1997 to 24 in 2003. Rates calculated from such small numbers can be unreliable. Arrest rates may be affected by increased or decreased surveillance by law enforcement agencies, or they may reflect changes in the prevalence of drug sales or use. Data reflect the number of arrests, and some individuals may be arrested more than once during a single year. Arrests are recorded where they occur, and do not necessarily reflect an individual's residence.

Indicator 6.3: Felony DWI Arrests

Definition: Arrests for felony driving while intoxicated (DWI), per 10,000 residents.

Significance: Alcohol impairs both cognitive and physiological functions, and individuals who drink and drive put themselves and others at greater risk of accidents, injury and death.



Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

Findings: Between 1997 and 2006, the rate of DWI arrests in Seneca County fluctuated between 7.2 and 10.9, ending in 2006 12% higher than in 1997. The rates of the comparison counties declined or remained about the same during that period. Actual numbers of felony DWI arrests in Seneca County ranged between 24 and 38, including 28 in 2006. Since 2004, Seneca's rate has been the highest among the four counties. The arrest rate in Cayuga County was less than half the rate in Seneca for the 10-year period. Ontario and Wayne counties generally had higher arrest rates than Seneca County prior to 2002, but their rates have since declined significantly, and in recent years have been lower than Seneca's.

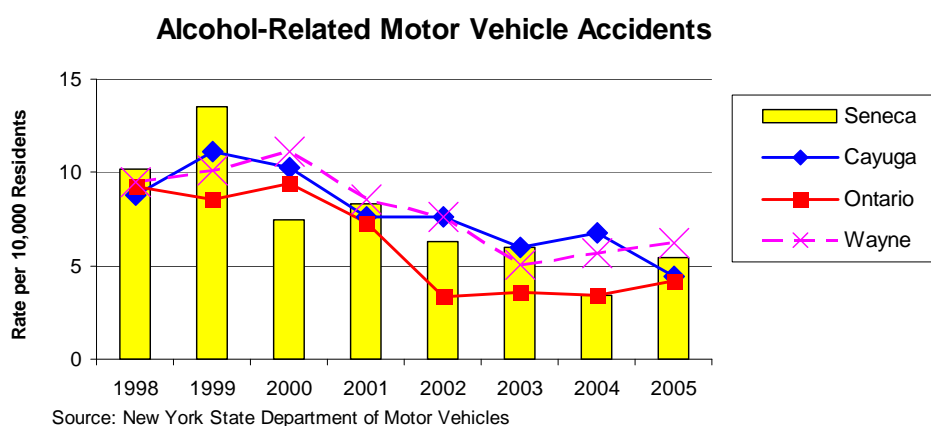
Caveats: Arrest rates may be affected by increased or decreased surveillance by law enforcement agencies, or they may reflect changes in the prevalence of drunk-driving. Data reflect the number of arrests, and some individuals may be arrested more than once during a single year. Arrests are recorded where they occur, and do not necessarily reflect an individual's residence.

Indicator 6.4: Motor Vehicle Accidents Involving Alcohol

Definition: The number of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents, expressed as a rate per 10,000 residents.

Significance: Property damage, injuries and death caused by alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents are all preventable through the reduction in drinking and driving. In addition to causing millions of dollars' worth of property damage every year, alcohol-related crashes also exact a high toll in terms of death and both short- and long-term physical impairment, resulting

in added costs in the provision of health care and public services.



was 46% lower in 2005 than in 1998—and 59% lower than the 1999 peak rate. In 2005, there were 19 alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents in the county (compared to the 1999 peak of 45). Cayuga, Ontario, and Wayne counties experienced similar declines. However, changes in data collection and reporting noted below could account for part or all of the decreases recorded in all counties beginning in 2001. Seneca's rates were generally roughly in line with Cayuga and Wayne, except for 2004, and in almost every year higher than Ontario.

Caveats: Data reported for 2001 and following years are not strictly comparable to data reported prior to that time due to changes in data collection and reporting that began in mid-2001. These changes resulted in fewer property damage crashes being captured in the statewide system maintained by the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles. Changes in the number of alcohol-related crashes may also be affected by factors such as varying levels of awareness regarding the dangers of drinking and driving, increased or decreased use of designated drivers, and targeted surveillance by law enforcement agencies.

Findings:

The rate of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents in Seneca County

Summary of Trends

Reduced Impact of Substance Abuse

In reviewing the four indicators in this chapter, along with related information from the youth assets survey, the following themes appeared from the data:

The results in this outcome area appear somewhat mixed.

- ❖ Admissions to alcohol and substance abuse treatment facilities from Seneca County have ranged between about 400 and 450 per year in recent years. Admission rates have typically been lower than in two of the three comparison counties and similar to the third.
- ❖ Felony drug-related arrests have increased somewhat, though rates have remained below the comparison counties in most years. About 20 such arrests are typically made per year in the county.
- ❖ Felony DWI arrest rates in the county typically exceed the comparison county rates, with an average of about 30 per year.
- ❖ Motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol have trended somewhat downward in the county, even factoring in changes in how data are collected. They average between 15 and 20 per year.
- ❖ Among youth, 29% of all surveyed students in grades 6 through 11 reported using alcohol at least once in the previous 30 days (49% among 11th graders), and 20% reported being drunk in the past two weeks (31% of 11th-graders). About one-third reported having ridden at least once in the past year with a driver who had been drinking.
- ❖ About one in five students reported having used marijuana in the past year, including 39% of 11th-graders. Fourteen percent had used “illicit drugs” (including marijuana, LSD, cocaine, heroin, amphetamines, without distinguishing which was used) three or more times in the past year (including 29% of 11th-graders).

Conclusions

Adult abuse of substances does not seem to result in significant numbers of accidents or arrests in the county, compared to comparison counties, with the exception of felony DWI arrests. On the other hand, more than 400 county residents are admitted to expensive treatment facilities each year. Among youth, sizable

minorities report abusing alcohol, being in a car with a driver who had been drinking, and using drugs multiple times. While these proportions may be lower than in some other counties, the numbers are of sufficient magnitude, especially among the older students, that they should be attracting attention among parents and those working with youth in the community.

FOCUS AREA 7 – SENIOR INDEPENDENCE

The last of the focus areas is designed to track how well the community is doing in ensuring that seniors have adequate resources and are able to remain as independent as possible. The focus area includes one outcome and five indicators.

Outcome: Seniors with Adequate Resources

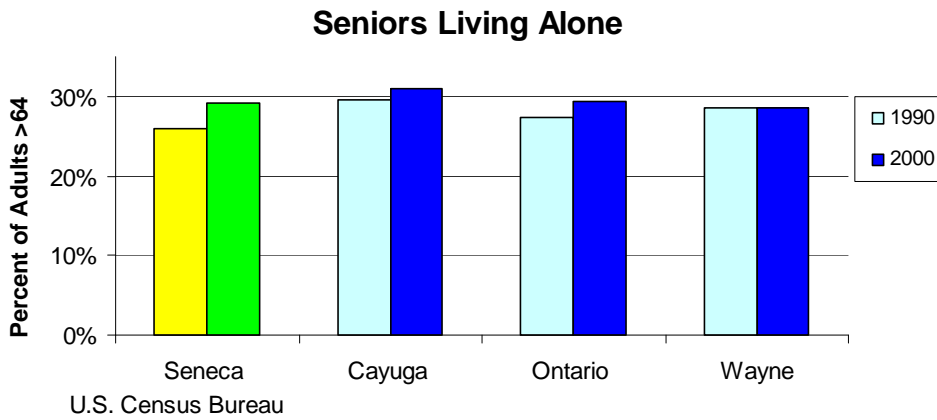
- ❖ 7.1 – Seniors Living Alone
- ❖ 7.2 – Seniors Receiving Supplemental Security Income
- ❖ 7.3 – Participation in the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC)
- ❖ 7.4 – Home-Delivered Meals to Seniors
- ❖ 7.5 – Referrals to Adult Protective Services

In addition to these five indicators, Census data also have relevance to this focus area. The implications of these indicators and demographic data are addressed in the summary, which follows the indicators at the end of the chapter.

Indicator 7.1: Seniors Living Alone

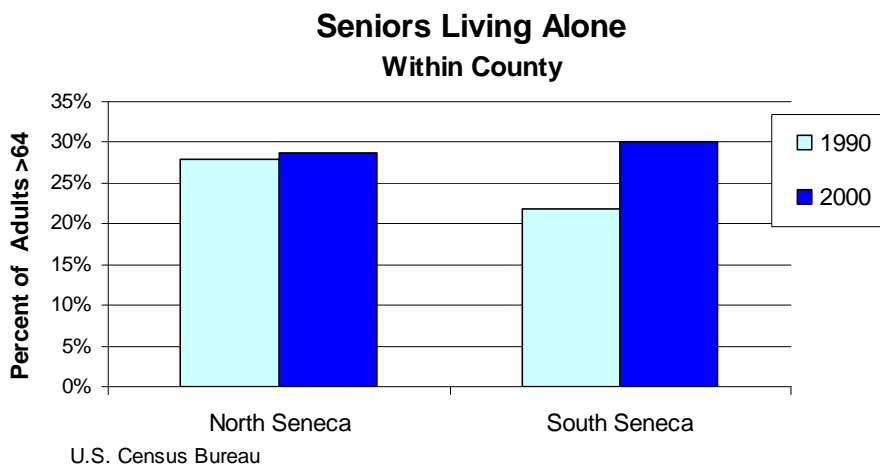
Definition: Seniors 65 and older living alone, as a percentage of all seniors 65 and older.

Significance: As more seniors live independently in the community and for longer periods of time, there may be increasing needs for various services provided by agencies.



Findings: The proportion of seniors living alone in Seneca grew slightly from 26% in 1990 to 29% in 2000. The comparison counties saw similar increases, except for Wayne where the proportion remained flat. The 2000 Census identified 1,469 persons 65+ living alone in Seneca.

Within Seneca, South towns experienced a significant increase in the proportion of seniors living alone, from 22% to 30%.

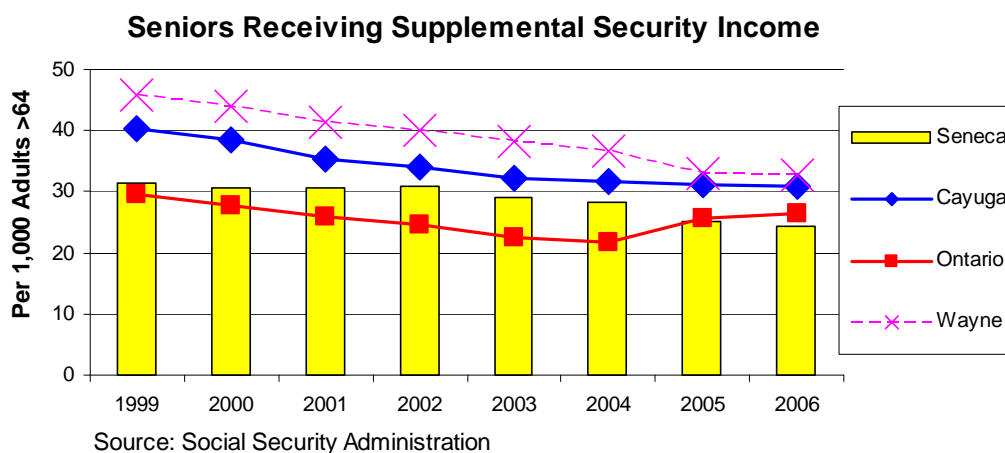


Caveats: A long-term trend cannot be tracked since data were only available for Census years 1990 and 2000.

Indicator 7.2: Seniors Receiving Supplemental Security Income

Definition: The total number of low-income, blind and disabled seniors receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits in December of each year, per 1,000 seniors age 65 and older. The SSI program is administered by the Social Security Administration according to uniform national standards, and payment level is determined by the recipient's income, living arrangements and marital status. In 2006, the federal SSI benefit for an individual living alone with no other countable income was \$603/month. For a couple, it was \$904/month.

Significance: SSI benefits are intended to meet the basic economic needs of low-income aged, blind and disabled persons. Eligible seniors receive monthly cash assistance through SSI rather than through public assistance. The rate of seniors receiving such assistance indicates how needy seniors in the community are.



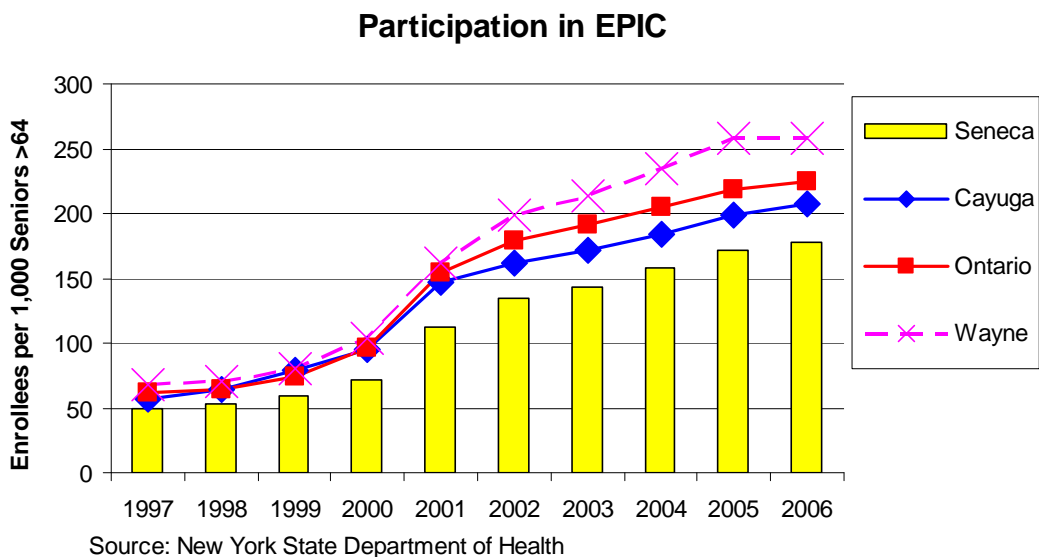
Findings: From 1999 to 2006, the rate of seniors receiving SSI in Seneca County declined from 31 to 24 per 1,000 persons 65 and older. In 2006, 123 Seneca County seniors received SSI benefits, compared to 159 in 1999, a decline of 23%. Comparison county rates have also declined during this period. Cayuga and Wayne counties, while declining, maintained consistently higher rates than Seneca. Ontario County had rates lower than Seneca until 2005, when Ontario's rate began to slightly exceed Seneca's.

Caveats: Not all seniors who are eligible for SSI payments apply for and receive them.

Indicator 7.3: Participation in the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC)

Definition. The number of seniors age 65 and over enrolled in New York State's Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC) on September 30th of each year, expressed as a rate per 1,000 seniors 65 and older. EPIC provides comprehensive prescription drug coverage to low- and moderate-income senior citizens, covering approximately 80% of their prescription drug costs.

Significance. Many seniors lack comprehensive prescription benefits and face huge prescription drug costs. Prescription drug coverage allows low- and moderate-income seniors greater access to often expensive prescription drugs, which can enhance their physical well-being and improve their quality of life.



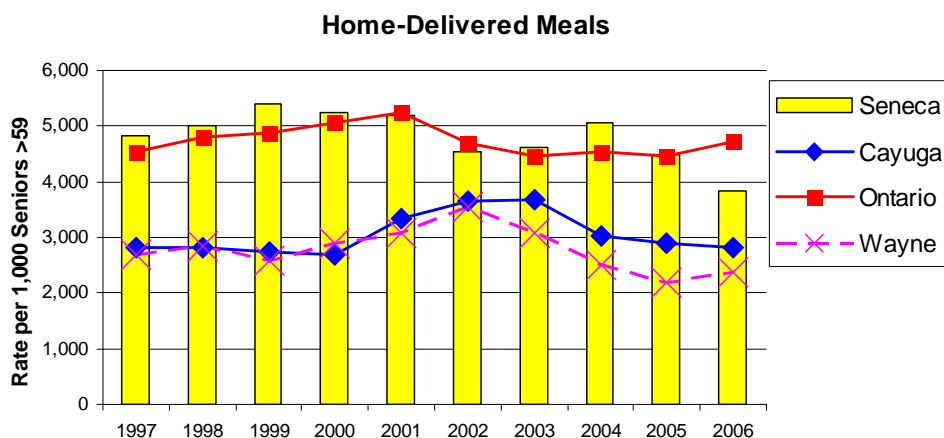
Findings. The EPIC enrollment rate per 1,000 seniors in Seneca County increased steadily between 1997 and 2006, but remained below Cayuga, Ontario, and Wayne counties, rates of which were also increasing rapidly during this period. The actual number of seniors in Seneca County age 65 and older enrolled in EPIC increased from 252 in 1997 to 901 in 2006.

Caveats. Data are not directly comparable over time due to changes in program eligibility. The numbers could be influenced by a combination of changing economic circumstances, changing awareness of the program, and changes in federal legislation relating to prescription drug coverage.

Indicator 7.4: Home-Delivered Meals to Seniors

Definition. The number of home-delivered meals in a year to seniors, expressed as a rate per 1,000 seniors 60 or older.

Significance. Home-delivered meals are available to homebound persons 60 and older (including spouses and disabled dependents of any age). Programs are designed for seniors who are homebound by functional impairments or who otherwise require help in cooking/preparing meals or shopping. In addition, seniors may often need modified or therapeutic diets related to



Sources: Cayuga, Ontario, Seneca, and Wayne County Offices for the Aging

chronic conditions or illnesses.

Findings: The rate of seniors who receive meals delivered at home in Seneca County decreased 20% between 1997 and 2006 and was at its lowest point in

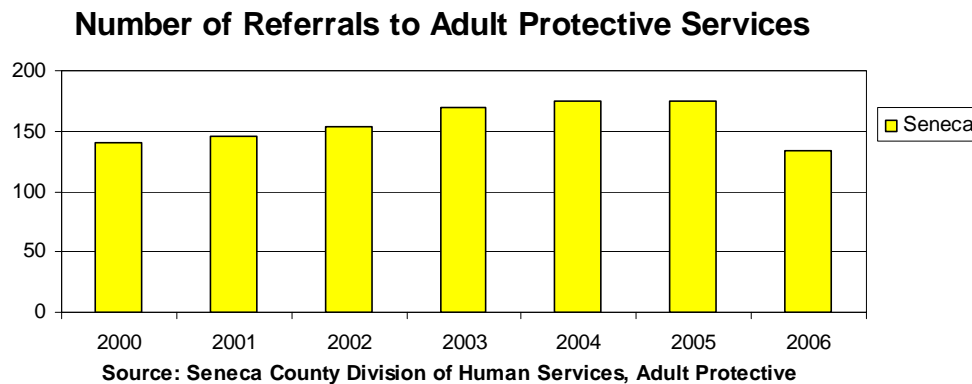
2006, during which 31,647 meals were delivered to seniors in their homes. That was a far larger decrease than the other comparison counties experienced, and Ontario's rate actually went up 4%. Seneca's rate was consistently higher than that of Cayuga and Wayne and consistent with Ontario (except for 2006).

Caveats: This measure reflects the level of need for this type of service, as well as the community's ability to respond to the need. That is, a decrease in the number of seniors receiving home-delivered meals may mean reduced hunger in the community, or it could mean resources available for these services may have declined as well, or some combination of factors. Similarly, an increase in the number of home-delivered meals may or may not reflect an increasing need for this service. These data are limited to those agencies funded by the NYS Office for the Aging.

Indicator 7.5: Referrals to Adult Protective Services

Definition. This measure is intended to represent services to individuals 60 years of age and older who are unable to protect their own interests and/or who are harmed or threatened with harm. (See caveats below about the limitations of the available data.) This harm can be caused either by the individual himself or herself or through the action or inaction of another person. The harm can take the form of physical or mental injury, including domestic violence; neglect or maltreatment; failure to receive adequate food, shelter or clothing; or deprivation of entitlements due to the individual or wasting their resources (exploitation).

Significance. One out of every 14 Americans over the age of 60 may be suffering from some sort of abuse. Agencies may need to provide additional help for these individuals as the population ages and family ties become strained by distance and the burden of chronic illness.



Findings: Between 2000 and 2005, the number of referrals to Adult Protective Services in Seneca County increased 25%. This number decreased significantly in 2006, falling from 175 referrals to 134. Comparable information was not collected from comparison counties because Seneca’s data includes referrals for those 60 years of age and older as well as those referred for “other adult services.”

Caveats: The data are not a precise measure of the need for adult protective services for seniors because the numbers include people younger than 60 and people seeking other services than protective services. The data on seniors in need of protective services need to be broken out separately in the future for this indicator to be accurately tracked.

Summary of Trends

In reviewing the indicators in this chapter, along with related information from the Census, the following trends and themes appeared from the data:

Seniors with Adequate Resources

The results in this outcome area appear relatively positive, though trends in some of the data are difficult to interpret.

- ❖ The number of seniors overall has remained constant in the county, with little change from 1990 to 2006.
- ❖ The proportions of seniors living alone has increased somewhat, to about 29% of all seniors in the 2000 Census. This represents just under 1,475 individuals.
- ❖ The numbers of seniors receiving home-delivered meals has been declining. It is not clear whether this reflects changing needs or changing resources within the community to respond to the needs.
- ❖ Poverty rates of seniors have declined, to about 7% of the 65+ population in 2000. Since then, the proportions of seniors receiving SSI payments has also declined, suggesting that in the aggregate, seniors in the county may be somewhat better off financially than in previous years.
- ❖ The numbers of seniors enrolled in EPIC and receiving help in paying for prescription drugs has more than tripled in the past decade, as the program has grown. This could indicate a growing need for the program, but it is also likely to mean, at least in part, that the awareness of the program has increased over time.

Conclusions

Although the interpretation of some of the trends is somewhat ambiguous, the overall profile of seniors appears to be relatively positive, with apparent reductions in the numbers of poor seniors in recent years. More seniors are able to have help in paying for expensive drugs, though fewer home-delivered meals have been served in recent years to seniors. There appear to be no obvious service implications from the data, but as the number of seniors is expected to increase in future years, especially among those 75 and older, it will be important to monitor the economic circumstances

and access to services of that growing population in order to ensure that necessary resources are provided.

APPENDIX A: DETAILED DEMOGRAPHICS TABLES

The data source for the following tables is the U.S. Census Bureau's Factfinder website: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts
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Seneca County Population, 2006

	<20 years	20 to 44 years	45 to 64 years	65 and over
2000	8,955	11,401	7,936	5050

Population by Age, Seneca County

	1990	2000	2006	Change, 90-06
<5 years	2492	1857	1734	-30.4%
5 - 9 years	2445	2387	1787	-26.9%
10 - 14 years	2317	2538	2218	-4.3%
15 - 19 years	2393	2173	2299	-3.9%
20 - 24 years	2075	1807	2692	29.7%
25 - 34 years	5283	4311	4990	-5.5%
35 - 44 years	5074	5283	4964	-2.2%
45 - 54 years	3437	4744	5155	50.0%
55 - 59 years	1540	1763	2202	43.0%
60 - 64 years	1633	1429	1701	4.2%
65 - 74 years	2829	2647	2391	-15.5%
75 - 84 years	1582	1786	1906	20.5%
85 years and over	583	617	685	17.5%

Household Types, Seneca County, 2000

Singles living alone	3,190	25.3%
Married couple with children	2,832	22.4%
Married couple, no children	3,933	31.1%
Householder with children	1,191	9.4%
Householder, no children	676	5.4%
Non-family household	808	6.4%
Total	12,630	100.0%

Change in Household Types, 1990-2000

	Seneca			Cayuga		
	1990	2000	Change	1990	2000	Change
Singles living alone	2,708	3,190	17.8%	6,874	8,017	16.6%
Married couple, children	3,522	2,832	-19.6%	8,287	6,924	-16.4%
Married couple, no children	3,899	3,933	0.9%	8,373	8,972	7.2%
Householder, children	1,011	1,191	17.8%	2,663	3,047	14.4%
Householder, no children	566	676	19.4%	1,604	1,886	17.6%
Non-family household	579	808	39.6%	1,274	1,712	34.4%
Total	12,285	12,630	2.8%	29,075	30,558	5.1%
	Ontario			Wayne		
	1990	2000	Change	1990	2000	Change
Singles living alone	7,716	9,466	22.7%	6,443	7,814	21.3%
Married couple, children	10,034	9,336	-7.0%	10,043	9,119	-9.2%
Married couple, no children	10,758	11,785	9.5%	9,744	10,673	9.5%
Householder, children	2,593	3,243	25.1%	2,801	3,480	24.2%
Householder, no children	1,758	1,990	13.2%	1,373	1,794	30.7%
Non-family household	2,070	2,550	23.2%	1,573	2,028	28.9%
Total	34,929	38,370	9.9%	31,977	34,908	9.2%

Educational attainment, Seneca County, 2000

Less than 9th grade	1,449	6%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	3,278	15%
High school graduate	8,053	36%
Some college, no degree	3,583	16%
Associate degree	2,274	10%
Bachelor's degree	2,377	11%
Graduate or professional degree	1,571	7%
Total	22,585	100%

People Living Below Poverty Level, Numbers and Percentages

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
1990	3,383	10.4%	7,932	10.2%	6,784	7.4%	7,273	8.3%
2000	3,639	11.5%	8,544	11.1%	7,106	7.3%	7,929	8.6%
2004	3,690	11.4%	9,094	11.7%	8,638	8.4%	9,376	10.1%

Children Under 18 Living Below Poverty Level, Numbers and Percentages

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
1990	1,349	15.7%	3,045	14.4%	2,239	9.5%	2,528	10.3%
2000	1,270	15.8%	3,080	15.4%	2,417	9.6%	2,835	11.3%
2004	1,171	15.9%	3,009	16.7%	2,817	11.9%	3,446	14.8%

Median Household Income

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	\$ 28,604	\$ 27,568	\$ 33,133	\$ 32,469
2000	\$ 37,140	\$ 37,487	\$ 44,579	\$ 44,157
2004	\$ 38,617	\$ 39,454	\$ 47,004	\$ 45,417

Median Household Income, Adjusted for Inflation

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	\$ 44,121	\$ 42,523	\$ 51,106	\$ 50,082
2000	\$ 43,481	\$ 43,887	\$ 52,190	\$ 51,696
2004	\$ 41,213	\$ 42,107	\$ 50,164	\$ 48,470

Status of Housing Units, 2000

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
Owner occupied	63.0%	62.1%	66.2%	69.9%
Renter occupied	22.4%	24.0%	23.8%	20.1%
Seasonal, recreational use	8.1%	7.2%	5.0%	4.4%
Vacant	6.5%	6.6%	5.0%	5.5%

APPENDIX B: DETAILED INDICATOR TABLES

Focus Area 1 - The Local Economy: Economic Trends

Table 1.1: Average Annual Unemployment Rate

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	4.60%	6.00%	4.20%	4.70%
1991	6.30%	8.50%	5.60%	6.60%
1992	6.60%	8.00%	6.20%	7.30%
1993	6.40%	7.00%	5.30%	6.10%
1994	6.10%	6.20%	5.30%	6.00%
1995	6.00%	6.20%	5.00%	5.60%
1996	5.40%	5.70%	4.50%	5.10%
1997	5.50%	5.90%	4.20%	4.80%
1998	4.90%	5.30%	4.00%	4.80%
1999	5.50%	5.10%	4.20%	5.00%
2000	4.10%	3.90%	3.50%	3.80%
2001	4.30%	4.30%	4.00%	4.60%
2002	5.50%	4.80%	5.20%	6.30%
2003	5.50%	5.30%	5.20%	6.00%
2004	5.20%	5.10%	5.00%	5.50%
2005	4.60%	4.80%	4.50%	4.90%
2006	4.50%	4.70%	4.30%	4.60%

Source: New York State Department of Labor

<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/apps.asp?reg=nys&app=laus>

Note: Percentages provided by source.

Table 1.2: Labor Force Participation Rate

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000	16,400	66.2%	40,400	67.2%	54,600	71.1%	49,000	70.4%
2001	16,600	62.8%	40,200	66.8%	54,800	70.2%	49,100	69.7%
2002	17,100	63.8%	41,200	67.7%	55,000	69.1%	49,100	69.1%
2003	17,200	63.9%	41,400	67.6%	55,200	68.5%	48,700	68.1%
2004	17,300	63.9%	41,900	68.2%	55,700	68.2%	48,600	67.7%
2005	17,500	64.7%	42,200	68.3%	57,300	69.2%	49,400	68.7%
2006	17,400	64.3%	42,200	68.3%	56,800	68.6%	48,900	68.0%

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/apps.asp?reg=nys&app=laus>

Note: Percentages based on individuals 16+ who are not institutionalized. Calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 1.3: Annual Change in Total Jobs

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000	10,136		25,930		46,678		31,394	
2001	10,259	1.21%	25,791	-0.54%	47,658	2.10%	29,355	-6.49%
2002	10,589	3.22%	26,250	1.78%	46,000	-3.48%	28,574	-2.66%
2003	10,712	1.16%	26,369	0.45%	46,470	1.02%	27,173	-4.90%
2004	10,851	1.30%	26,888	1.97%	47,711	2.67%	27,847	2.48%
2005	10,822	-0.27%	26,639	-0.93%	48,960	2.62%	28,103	0.92%
2006	11,399	5.33%	26,637	-0.01%	49,343	0.78%	28,845	2.64%

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/apps.asp?reg=nys&app=ins>

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR.

Table 1.4: Employment by Sector, Leading Industries

	Seneca			Cayuga		
	2000	2006	% change	2000	2006	% change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	102	120	17.6%	639	689	7.8%
Construction	292	284	-2.7%	860	1,051	22.2%
Manufacturing	2,058	1,830	-11.1%	4,178	3,565	-14.7%
Wholesale Trade	156	219	40.4%	708	679	-4.1%
Retail Trade	1,658	2,126	28.2%	3,357	3,754	11.8%
Transportation and Warehousing	174	234	34.5%	1,205	1,166	-3.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,097	1,393	27.0%	3,479	3,697	6.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	932	858	-7.9%	1,903	1,832	-3.7%
State Government	584	1,216	108.2%	1,611	1,480	-8.1%
Local Government	1,707	1,763	3.3%	3,912	4,381	12.0%
All Other	1,376	1,356	-1.5%	4,078	4,343	6.5%
Total, All Industries	10,136	11,399	12.5%	25,930	26,637	2.7%
	Ontario			Wayne		
	2000	2006	% change	2000	2006	% change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	547	607	11.0%	1,265	1,422	12.4%
Construction	2,987	2,663	-10.8%	1,040	1,270	22.1%
Manufacturing	7,915	6,986	-11.7%	7,771	5,856	-24.6%
Wholesale Trade	1,243	1,694	36.3%	1,003	719	-28.3%
Retail Trade	8,244	8,464	2.7%	3,777	3,089	-18.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	892	1,222	37.0%	207	228	10.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,578	6,188	10.9%	2,641	2,627	-0.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	3,777	4,500	19.1%	1,315	1,515	15.2%
State Government	318	323	1.6%	1,656	1,710	3.3%
Local Government	6,718	6,646	-1.1%	5,244	5,906	12.6%
All Other	8,459	10,050	18.8%	5,475	4,503	-17.8%
Total, All Industries	46,678	49,343	5.7%	31,394	28,845	-8.1%

Source: NYS Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/apps.asp?reg=nys&app=ins>

Note: Percentage changes calculated by CGR.

Table 1.5: Employers by Size, 2005

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total
1 to 4	354	51.8%	908	55.6%	1,439	51.7%	1,077	58.9%
5 to 9	157	23.0%	343	21.0%	581	20.9%	359	19.6%
10 to 19	90	13.2%	209	12.8%	370	13.3%	202	11.0%
20 to 49	55	8.1%	108	6.6%	233	8.4%	122	6.7%
50 to 99	17	2.5%	37	2.3%	96	3.4%	38	2.1%
100+	10	1.5%	29	1.8%	67	2.4%	32	1.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, <http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html>

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR.

Table 1.5(a): Employers by Size, 1998

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 to 4	362	55.0%	879	56.3%	1280	50.8%	952	57.9%
5 to 9	150	22.8%	333	21.3%	572	22.7%	314	19.1%
10 to 19	83	12.6%	174	11.1%	326	12.9%	201	12.2%
20 to 49	44	6.7%	114	7.3%	208	8.3%	105	6.4%
50 to 99	10	1.5%	34	2.2%	75	3.0%	32	1.9%
100+	9	1.4%	27	1.7%	57	2.3%	39	2.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, <http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html>

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR.

Table 1.6: Percent of Workers Coming from Outside County

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1990	2,939	22.3%	3,191	12.1%	11,993	29.7%	7,091	24.2%
2000	3,492	30.0%	4,435	16.0%	16,957	35.4%	7,969	25.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census Transportation Planning Package, <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ctpp/countyflo.htm>

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR.

Table 1.6(a): Percent of Residents Leaving County for Work

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1990	5,314	34.1%	11,929	33.9%	17,907	38.7%	19,438	46.6%
2000	6,346	43.8%	13,461	36.6%	19,058	38.2%	21,337	47.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census Transportation Planning Package, <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ctpp/countyflo.htm>

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR.

Table 1.7: Per-capita Revenues of County Government, Adjusted for Inflation

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita
1997	\$41,328,819	\$1,240	\$87,016,418	\$1,062	\$126,221,080	\$1,259	\$117,037,464	\$1,248
1998	\$42,373,312	\$1,271	\$88,224,005	\$1,076	\$128,420,387	\$1,281	\$127,950,810	\$1,365
1999	\$42,653,342	\$1,279	\$91,436,433	\$1,116	\$135,066,990	\$1,348	\$121,742,708	\$1,298
2000	\$49,336,095	\$1,480	\$117,126,176	\$1,429	\$138,803,941	\$1,385	\$129,393,426	\$1,380
2001	\$46,199,928	\$1,328	\$101,261,963	\$1,245	\$167,011,767	\$1,652	\$128,575,337	\$1,369
2002	\$47,573,271	\$1,361	\$111,604,253	\$1,370	\$142,882,838	\$1,403	\$129,408,399	\$1,380
2003	\$51,592,037	\$1,474	\$113,576,987	\$1,394	\$144,728,986	\$1,409	\$129,282,944	\$1,376
2004	\$52,695,055	\$1,505	\$113,209,175	\$1,390	\$150,008,064	\$1,451	\$129,564,110	\$1,382
2005	\$50,546,427	\$1,450	\$117,388,912	\$1,441	\$145,085,138	\$1,389	\$135,976,643	\$1,453

Source: New York State Office of the State Comptroller, http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/datanstat/findata/index_choice.htm
 Note: Per-capita figures calculated by CGR using Census population figures; inflation adjustment by CGR.

Table 1.8: Per-capita Revenues of Local Government, Adjusted for Inflation

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita
1997	\$20,961,317	\$629	\$66,121,920	\$807	\$98,309,800	\$981	\$57,259,417	\$611
1998	\$21,016,734	\$630	\$75,982,580	\$927	\$91,373,721	\$912	\$57,752,409	\$616
1999	\$24,052,694	\$721	\$70,883,851	\$865	\$94,687,532	\$945	\$60,123,164	\$641
2000	\$23,165,629	\$695	\$67,490,707	\$823	\$99,729,820	\$995	\$60,026,323	\$640
2001	\$22,711,646	\$653	\$71,622,223	\$881	\$98,000,514	\$970	\$63,710,663	\$679
2002	\$23,926,742	\$684	\$70,480,287	\$865	\$98,161,409	\$964	\$59,063,340	\$630
2003	\$25,042,888	\$716	\$74,220,265	\$911	\$99,430,338	\$968	\$63,969,164	\$681
2004	\$30,925,196	\$883	\$73,750,425	\$906	\$100,591,933	\$973	\$64,686,629	\$690
2005	\$25,439,554	\$730	\$81,096,462	\$996	\$103,774,653	\$993	\$66,127,876	\$706

Source: New York State Office of the State Comptroller, http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/datanstat/findata/index_choice.htm
 Note: Per-capita figures calculated by CGR using Census population figures; inflation adjustment by CGR.

Table 1.9: Per-capita Revenues of School Districts, Adjusted for Inflation

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita	Number	Per-capita
1997	\$68,511,947	\$2,055	\$131,811,636	\$1,608	\$212,437,408	\$2,120	\$218,009,751	\$2,325
1998	\$60,921,610	\$1,827	\$137,312,762	\$1,675	\$219,985,452	\$2,195	\$225,717,908	\$2,407
1999	\$64,871,817	\$1,946	\$139,029,213	\$1,696	\$221,296,424	\$2,208	\$232,262,791	\$2,477
2000	\$66,259,578	\$1,987	\$138,876,492	\$1,694	\$225,545,479	\$2,250	\$238,670,495	\$2,545
2001	\$66,480,203	\$1,911	\$148,405,395	\$1,825	\$235,118,132	\$2,326	\$259,306,229	\$2,762
2002	\$70,524,613	\$2,017	\$152,820,092	\$1,875	\$244,121,909	\$2,396	\$265,723,029	\$2,834
2003	\$70,071,956	\$2,003	\$152,028,875	\$1,865	\$250,532,757	\$2,440	\$260,527,845	\$2,773
2004	\$70,605,209	\$2,017	\$149,202,354	\$1,832	\$257,705,280	\$2,492	\$255,969,577	\$2,731
2005	\$75,139,173	\$2,156	\$152,523,843	\$1,873	\$259,401,386	\$2,483	\$260,328,948	\$2,781

Source: New York State Office of the State Comptroller, http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/datanstat/findata/index_choice.htm
 Note: Per-capita figures calculated by CGR using Census population figures; inflation adjustment by CGR.

Table 1.10: Average Annual Salary, Adjusted for Inflation

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
2000	\$31,111	\$31,826	\$32,641	\$31,050
2001	\$30,941	\$31,894	\$32,865	\$31,566
2002	\$30,753	\$32,213	\$33,142	\$31,817
2003	\$31,866	\$32,648	\$33,216	\$31,114
2004	\$30,779	\$32,942	\$32,813	\$31,024
2005	\$30,423	\$32,817	\$32,705	\$32,275
2006	\$32,470	\$32,030	\$33,808	\$33,371

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/apps.asp?reg=nys&app=ins>

Note: Inflation adjustment by CGR.

Table 1.11: People Receiving Temporary Assistance

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2001	331	11.1	908	13.0	1,075	12.3	844	10.3
2002	301	10.1	863	12.4	1,186	13.4	957	11.6
2003	340	11.4	922	13.2	1,280	14.4	1,068	13.0
2004	323	10.8	1,035	14.8	1,380	15.5	1,038	12.7
2005	283	9.5	1,036	14.9	1,362	15.1	1,100	13.5
2006	253	8.5	966	13.9	1,354	15.1	1,028	12.6

Source: New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, <http://www.otda.state.ny.us/bdma/default.htm>

Note: Rate (per 1,000 residents under 65) was calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 1.12: Individuals Served Emergency Food

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1996	33,655	1,009	54,169	661	53,004	529	28,499	304
1997	32,043	961	51,915	633	57,823	577	30,883	329
1998	27,733	832	61,010	744	56,840	567	27,668	295
1999	29,151	874	66,886	816	66,465	663	26,020	278
2000	27,358	821	75,632	923	53,997	539	28,964	309
2001	27,563	792	62,049	763	65,449	648	32,457	346
2002	26,114	747	82,955	1,018	69,485	682	32,512	348
2003	28,746	822	90,942	1,117	65,613	639	26,762	286
2004	30,976	886	92,737	1,139	78,286	758	33,649	360
2005	29,156	839	90,407	1,111	89,263	857	36,763	395

Source: New York State Department of Health, <http://www.health.state.ny.us>

Note: Rates (per 1,000 residents) calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 1.13: Median Home Value, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	\$89,309	\$91,777	\$121,238	\$109,361
2000	\$84,761	\$88,156	\$110,166	\$100,332

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Census values adjusted for inflation by CGR.

Table 1.13(a): Median Home Value, within County

	North Seneca	South Seneca
1990	\$91,869	\$91,036
2000	\$86,704	\$87,524

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Census values adjusted for inflation by CGR.

Table 1.14: Ratio of Home Value to Household Income, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	2.02	2.16	2.37	2.18
2000	1.90	1.94	2.04	1.90

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Ratio calculated by CGR using Census median values.

Table 1.14(a): Ratio of Home Value to Household Income, within County

	North Seneca	South Seneca
1990	2.05	2.08
2000	1.84	1.95

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Ratio calculated by CGR using Census medians; ratios for towns were averaged.

Table 1.15: Median Rent, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	\$611	\$603	\$674	\$632
2000	\$610	\$564	\$660	\$617

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Census values adjusted for inflation by CGR.

Table 1.15(a): Median Rent, within County

	North Seneca	South Seneca
1990	\$638	\$606
2000	\$604	\$597

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Census values adjusted for inflation by CGR.

Table 1.16: Median Rent, as a Percentage of Household Income, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1990	26.4%	28.0%	25.8%	27.0%
2000	27.5%	25.9%	25.8%	26.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Percentages provided by source.

Table 1.16(a): Median Rent, as a Percentage of Household Income, within County

	North Seneca	South Seneca
1990	28%	24%
2000	26%	26%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en&_ts=

Note: Percentages for towns were averaged.

Table 1.17: Median Price of Single Family Homes Sold

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
2000	\$87,805	\$77,385	\$116,371	\$101,854
2001	\$87,834	\$77,350	\$125,217	\$101,312
2002	\$93,012	\$109,597	\$124,669	\$100,856
2003	\$84,256	\$83,817	\$129,287	\$104,087
2004	\$87,513	\$89,327	\$119,530	\$103,842
2005	\$90,240	\$88,774	\$130,209	\$113,445
2006	\$99,000	\$93,500	\$128,000	\$102,500

Source: NYS Association of Realtors, <http://www.nysar.com>

Note: Values adjusted for inflation by CGR.

Table 1.17(a): Number of Single Family Homes Sold

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
2000	300	774	770	643
2001	351	743	905	806
2002	319	584	930	914
2003	339	544	898	860
2004	319	614	1016	971
2005	365	703	1147	1030
2006	344	647	1145	953

Source: NYS Association of Realtors, <http://www.nysar.com>

Focus Area 2 – Public Safety

Table 2.1: Reported Part I Crimes

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	750	224.9	2138	260.8	2320	231.5	2143	228.6
1998	792	237.5	2033	248.0	2400	239.5	2201	234.7
1999	671	201.2	1996	243.5	2310	230.5	1954	208.4
2000	690	206.9	1903	232.2	1978	197.4	2151	229.4
2001	607	174.4	1906	234.4	2015	199.4	2118	225.6
2002	639	182.8	1845	226.5	2072	203.4	2010	214.9
2003	608	173.9	1816	223.0	2107	205.3	2254	240.6
2004	586	167.6	1770	217.4	1807	174.9	2182	233.5
2005	588	169.2	1849	227.2	1726	165.6	2222	238.5
2006	590	169.9	1961	241.4	1722	165.0	2258	243.1

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

Note: Rates (per 10,000 population) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 2.2: Reported Part II Crimes

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	4860	1457.6	5754	702.0	8979	895.9	8234	878.2
1998	4937	1480.7	5523	673.8	6158	614.4	6756	720.5
1999	4875	1462.1	5103	622.6	5689	567.6	6626	706.7
2000	4549	1364.3	5255	641.1	5268	525.6	7259	774.2
2001	4614	1326.0	5615	690.4	5383	532.6	6364	677.9
2002	4918	1406.8	5304	651.1	5041	494.9	6023	643.9
2003	5123	1465.1	4852	595.7	3982	388.0	5886	628.3
2004	4813	1376.9	5105	627.2	3390	328.1	5329	570.2
2005	5025	1446.2	5368	659.7	3411	327.3	4830	518.5
2006	4470	1287.3	5022	618.1	3298	316.0	5085	547.4

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

Note: Rates (per 10,000 population) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 2.3: Adult Felony Arrests

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	164	49.2	385	47.0	594	59.3	568	60.6
1998	211	63.3	433	52.8	544	54.3	606	64.6
1999	196	58.8	361	44.0	567	56.6	494	52.7
2000	137	41.1	376	45.9	569	56.8	551	58.8
2001	186	53.5	464	57.1	520	51.4	502	53.5
2002	197	56.4	458	56.2	575	56.5	564	60.3
2003	240	68.6	434	53.3	495	48.2	615	65.6
2004	218	62.4	528	64.9	478	46.3	630	67.4
2005	182	52.4	440	54.1	550	52.8	511	54.9
2006	179	51.5	452	55.6	630	60.4	611	65.8

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/dispos/index.htm>)

Note: Rate (per 10,000 population) calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 2.4: Adult Felony Convictions

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	123	36.9	321	39.2	520	51.9	548	58.4
1998	116	34.8	367	44.8	516	51.5	483	51.5
1999	156	46.8	358	43.7	507	50.6	446	47.6
2000	145	43.5	297	36.2	514	51.3	420	44.8
2001	142	40.8	325	40.0	490	48.5	401	42.7
2002	122	34.9	388	47.6	465	45.7	417	44.6
2003	173	49.5	346	42.5	453	44.1	446	47.6
2004	154	44.1	384	47.2	449	43.5	492	52.6
2005	138	39.7	294	36.1	440	42.2	456	48.9
2006	104	30.0	302	37.2	491	47.1	368	39.6

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/dispos/index.htm>)

Note: Rate (per 10,000 population) calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Focus Area 3 – Family Wellness

Table 3.1: Indicated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995	110	13	107	5	204	8	213	8
1996	140	17	126	6	233	9	271	11
1997	125	15	112	5	263	10	333	13
1998	133	16	146	7	259	10	319	12
1999	167	20	132	6	281	11	302	12
2000	167	20	149	7	336	13	278	11
2001	105	13	174	9	381	15	298	12
2002	157	20	178	9	354	15	250	10
2003	170	22	197	10	398	16	276	12
2004	148	20	219	12	393	17	263	11

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

http://www.nyskwic.org/access_data/access_data.cfm

Notes: Rates (per 1,000 children under 18) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures; CGR's rates differs from the state's published rates.

Table 3.2: Children Admitted to Foster Care

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998	27	3.3	83	4.0	55	2.2	58	2.3
1999	23	2.8	66	3.2	50	2.0	59	2.3
2000	29	3.5	78	3.8	53	2.1	56	2.2
2001	18	2.2	69	3.5	54	2.2	52	2.1
2002	28	3.6	70	3.6	56	2.3	34	1.4
2003	12	1.6	59	3.1	52	2.2	37	1.5
2004	11	1.5	57	3.1	59	2.5	52	2.2
2005	18	2.4	54	3.0	49	2.1	42	1.8
2006	22	3.0	28	1.5	41	1.7	41	1.8

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

http://www.nyskwic.org/access_data/access_data.cfm

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth under 18) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 3.3: Reports of Domestic Violence

	Seneca		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	414	124.2	296	29.5	416	44.4
1998	467	140.1	318	31.7	386	41.2
1999	467	140.1	337	33.6	385	41.1
2000	370	111.0	361	36.0	456	48.6
2001	394	113.2	314	31.1	590	62.9
2002	495	141.6	222	21.8	561	60.0
2003	511	146.1	304	29.6	579	61.8
2004	501	143.3	247	23.9	504	53.9
2005	520	149.7	317	30.4	642	68.9
2006	553	159.3	338	32.4	642	69.1

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice, <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us>

Notes: Rates (per 10,000 residents) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures; Cayuga County not shown because of data reporting problems.

Table 3.4: Early Prenatal Care

	Seneca County		Cayuga County		Ontario County		Wayne County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1995	278	72.6%	723	72.4%	1016	79.7%	873	71.0%
1996	276	71.5%	670	68.4%	946	83.9%	905	75.5%
1997	259	70.8%	694	76.3%	913	81.1%	925	77.2%
1998	265	75.9%	650	72.1%	950	84.7%	950	77.4%
1999	248	72.3%	719	80.2%	820	80.7%	918	76.9%
2000	244	73.3%	761	81.3%	866	81.8%	827	74.7%
2001	249	70.5%	680	78.8%	884	84.1%	762	75.9%
2002	241	70.5%	615	76.1%	809	78.8%	713	73.4%
2003	239	69.9%	669	80.9%	870	80.6%	773	75.0%
2004	229	70.7%	653	79.1%	807	81.1%	772	75.5%

Source: New York State Department of Health

http://www.nyskwic.org/access_data/access_data.cfm and <http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/chip/index.htm>

Note: Percentages provided by source.

Table 3.5: Low Birth-Weight Babies

	Seneca County		Cayuga County		Ontario County		Wayne County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1995	26	6.6%	75	7.4%	67	5.2%	66	5.3%
1996	23	5.8%	74	7.5%	71	6.2%	78	6.4%
1997	18	4.8%	57	6.1%	59	5.0%	83	6.6%
1998	14	3.8%	58	6.4%	63	5.3%	98	7.7%
1999	20	5.5%	61	6.7%	69	6.4%	76	6.1%
2000	24	6.6%	71	7.5%	74	6.4%	68	5.8%
2001	20	5.4%	56	6.3%	53	4.6%	60	5.4%
2002	26	7.0%	58	7.0%	75	6.6%	67	6.1%
2003	27	7.2%	62	7.4%	68	5.9%	81	7.1%
2004	30	8.9%	78	9.3%	63	5.9%	95	8.5%

Source: New York State Department of Health

http://www.nyskwic.org/access_data/access_data.cfm

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/chip/index.htm>

Notes: Percentages provided by source; Seneca's percentages are not considered stable by the Health Department because the number fell below 20.

Table 3.6: Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

	Seneca County		Cayuga County		Ontario County		Wayne County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1996	16	3.0%	51	3.9%	48	3.2%	35	2.6%
1997	13	3.4%	70	5.3%	34	2.5%	29	2.2%
1998	11	3.2%	26	1.8%	34	3.1%	30	2.7%
1999	2	0.6%	28	1.8%	21	1.8%	29	2.4%
2000	1	0.3%	35	2.4%	23	1.6%	24	1.9%
2001	4	1.1%	28	1.9%	17	1.2%	16	1.4%
2002	7	1.8%	26	1.7%	28	1.8%	29	2.3%
2003	13	3.3%	19	1.4%	28	1.9%	24	1.9%

Sources: New York State Department of Health

http://www.nyskwic.org/access_data/access_data.cfm

http://www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/lead/exposure/report/docs/lead_exposure_status_among_new_york_children_2002-2003.pdf

Notes: Percentages provided by source; Seneca's rates are not considered stable by the Health Department because fewer than 20 children in each year tracked had elevated levels.

Table 3.7: Children Receiving Early Intervention Services

	Seneca		Cayuga		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1997	59	2.0%	125	4.5%	188	6.2%
1998	50	1.7%	134	4.8%	201	6.6%
1999	56	1.9%	129	4.6%	243	8.0%
2000	71	2.4%	178	6.4%	260	8.6%
2001	80	2.8%	218	8.1%	329	11.3%
2002	80	2.9%	252	9.7%	378	13.5%
2003	78	2.8%	252	9.9%	353	12.9%
2004	55	1.9%	238	9.6%	344	12.7%
2005	57	2.0%	221	9.0%	345	12.7%
2006	71	2.5%	253	10.3%	299	11.0%

Source: Cayuga, Seneca and Wayne Departments of Health

Note: Percentages (of children 0-3 years old) calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

CGR extrapolated the number of children up to 3 years old when it was not available.

Table 3.8: Preschoolers Receiving Special Education Services

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1997	77	6.3%	87	2.9%	193	4.8%	251	6.5%
1998	61	5.0%	89	2.9%	207	5.2%	242	6.2%
1999	63	5.1%	106	3.5%	215	5.4%	252	6.5%
2000	55	4.5%	111	3.7%	207	5.2%	247	6.4%
2001	77	6.5%	90	3.1%	229	6.0%	244	6.5%
2002	74	6.4%	96	3.4%	218	5.9%	278	7.8%
2003	70	5.9%	111	4.0%	247	6.6%	343	9.8%
2004	75	6.3%	124	4.6%	232	6.2%	367	10.6%
2005	69	5.9%	144	5.4%	257	6.8%	336	9.7%
2006	58	5.0%	129	4.8%	260	6.9%	314	9.1%

Source: New York State Education Department, <http://www.nysed.gov>

Note: Percentages (of children 3-5 years old) calculated by CGR using Census population figures. CGR extrapolated the number of 3- to 5-year-olds for years when it was not available.

Focus Area 4 – Youth

Table 4.1: Student Attendance Rates

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1996-97	95.0%	94.5%	95.5%	95.4%
1997-98	95.6%	94.5%	95.5%	95.2%
1998-99	94.7%	94.5%	95.5%	95.2%
1999-00	95.3%	94.6%	95.5%	95.4%
2000-01	94.0%	94.5%	95.3%	95.2%
2001-02	94.2%	94.5%	95.3%	95.2%
2002-03	93.7%	94.5%	95.8%	95.3%
2003-04	94.8%	94.8%	95.5%	95.5%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/655report>)

Note: Rates provided by source.

Table 4.2: School Suspension Rate, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1996-97	4.6%	6.4%	3.6%	5.2%
1997-98	3.4%	6.4%	3.2%	5.6%
1998-99	3.9%	5.5%	3.0%	5.7%
1999-00	4.4%	4.9%	3.2%	4.9%
2000-01	7.1%	6.3%	3.2%	4.7%
2001-02	5.5%	4.9%	3.6%	4.8%
2002-03	5.4%	6.9%	3.3%	5.5%
2003-04	5.1%	9.4%	3.3%	5.4%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/655report>)

Note: Rates (percent of students suspended at least one day) provided by source.

Table 4.2(a): School Suspension Rate, within County

	North Districts		South Districts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998-99	129	3.5%	82	4.8%
1999-00	129	3.6%	101	5.9%
2000-01	252	7.1%	116	7.0%
2001-02	196	5.6%	85	5.2%
2002-03	201	5.7%	80	4.8%
2003-04	178	5.1%	79	5.0%
2004-05	303	8.9%	75	5.0%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of students suspended at least one day) calculated by CGR.

Table 4.3: Eligibility for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch, by County

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1999-00	1,601	29.8%	3,114	24.4%	3,884	21.4%	4,467	23.6%
2000-01	1,810	34.3%	2,817	22.7%	3,779	20.8%	4,967	26.5%
2001-02	1,509	29.1%	2,938	24.0%	3,854	21.2%	4,590	24.8%
2002-03	1,791	35.0%	3,164	26.3%	3,875	21.4%	4,688	25.9%
2003-04	1,738	33.5%	3,322	28.3%	4,086	22.7%	4,958	27.8%
2004-05	1,848	36.4%	3,145	27.2%	4,453	25.0%	5,487	31.2%
2005-06	1,773	36.3%	3,351	29.7%	4,572	25.9%	5,318	30.7%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of students eligible for free or reduced priced lunch) calculated by CGR.

Table 4.3(a): Eligibility for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch, within County

	North Districts		South Districts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1999-00	1,024	28.1%	577	33.4%
2000-01	1,209	33.8%	601	35.3%
2001-02	967	27.4%	542	32.6%
2002-03	1,157	33.3%	634	38.8%
2003-04	1,192	33.8%	546	32.9%
2004-05	1,131	32.3%	717	45.7%
2005-06	1,200	35.3%	573	38.3%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of students eligible for free or reduced priced lunch) calculated by CGR.

Table 4.4: Percent of School-Aged Residents with Disabilities

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1998-99	13.1%	11.5%	13.7%	14.0%
1999-00	13.3%	12.2%	13.8%	14.2%
2000-01	13.3%	12.7%	13.2%	13.8%
2001-02	13.9%	12.6%	13.1%	14.3%
2002-03	13.8%	12.9%	13.4%	14.0%
2003-04	13.8%	13.1%	13.4%	13.6%
2004-05	13.5%	12.6%	12.9%	13.2%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/655report>)

Note: Percentages of youth ages 6-21 with disabilities provided by source.

Table 4.5: High School Dropouts, by County

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1996-97	3.2%	3.5%	2.0%	3.1%
1997-98	4.8%	4.2%	2.4%	2.5%
1998-99	3.5%	3.8%	2.4%	3.3%
1999-00	NA	NA	NA	NA
2000-01	4.6%	2.5%	2.4%	3.8%
2001-02	3.2%	4.9%	1.7%	2.3%
2002-03	3.0%	4.6%	2.2%	2.6%
2003-04	4.9%	5.3%	2.1%	3.6%
2004-05	3.2%	3.8%	1.3%	2.8%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/655report>)

Notes: Rates (dropouts out of K-12 enrollment) provided by source; data for 1999-2000 not available.

Table 4.5(a): High School Dropouts, within County

	North Districts		South Districts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998-99	21	1.8%	18	3.4%
1999-00	45	4.1%	8	1.6%
2000-01	70	6.3%	10	1.9%
2001-02	44	3.9%	5	0.9%
2002-03	42	3.8%	10	2.0%
2003-04	59	5.5%	14	2.7%
2004-05	50	4.8%	9	1.8%
2005-06	51	4.7%	4	0.8%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (dropouts out of total 9-12 enrollment) were calculated by CGR.

Table 4.6: High School Cohort Graduation Rate, by County

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2001-02	294	89.1%	671	82.0%	1,075	88.7%	1,046	86.2%
2002-03	300	89.6%	684	80.4%	1,092	89.4%	1,061	86.7%
2003-04	309	84.4%	722	80.9%	1,070	83.5%	1,017	82.6%
2004-05	325	81.7%	651	68.4%	1,158	80.3%	1,040	76.4%
2005-06	282	77.9%	668	67.3%	1,155	82.3%	1,103	78.5%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Graduation rates calculated by CGR using NYS Education Department cohort populations.

Table 4.6(a): Cohort Graduation Rate, within County

	North Districts		South Districts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2001-02	210	87.9%	84	92.3%
2002-03	216	89.3%	84	90.3%
2003-04	201	84.8%	108	83.7%
2004-05	244	83.8%	81	75.7%
2005-06	193	77.2%	89	79.5%

Source: NYS Education Department (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Graduation rates calculated by CGR using NYS Education Department cohort populations.

Table 4.7: Plans of High School Graduates - Four-Year College

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995-96	NA	32.7%	NA	34.2%	NA	42.3%	NA	38.1%
1996-97	NA	37.9%	NA	32.7%	NA	43.8%	NA	47.8%
1997-98	NA	32.5%	NA	34.7%	NA	46.5%	NA	38.1%
1998-99	NA	39.2%	NA	36.2%	NA	47.6%	NA	35.9%
1999-00	NA	37.1%	NA	39.1%	NA	49.6%	NA	35.8%
2000-01	134	42.7%	281	36.9%	507	46.3%	398	38.5%
2001-02	123	42.3%	300	42.1%	562	49.7%	421	38.7%
2002-03	134	40.4%	272	35.0%	531	47.1%	424	37.7%
2003-04	129	43.4%	258	34.4%	570	43.3%	357	30.7%
2004-05	142	41.4%	257	37.6%	540	45.9%	397	36.6%
2005-06	128	43.5%	285	40.0%	588	48.8%	551	47.5%

Source: NYS Department of Education (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of graduates planning to pursue a four-year degree) calculated by CGR; provided by source prior to 2000-01.

Table 4.7(a): Plans of High School Graduates - Four-Year College Within County

	North Districts		South Districts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2000-01	89	43.8%	45	40.5%
2001-02	97	46.9%	26	31.0%
2002-03	98	43.0%	36	34.6%
2003-04	84	44.0%	45	42.5%
2004-05	113	43.5%	29	34.9%
2005-06	91	46.2%	37	38.1%

Source: NYS Department of Education (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of graduates planning to go into the military) calculated by CGR.

Table 4.7(b): Plans of High School Graduates - Two-Year College

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995-96	NA	38.6%	NA	44.2%	NA	35.9%	NA	31.3%
1996-97	NA	34.7%	NA	44.1%	NA	37.6%	NA	29.3%
1997-98	NA	42.7%	NA	43.5%	NA	36.0%	NA	36.6%
1998-99	NA	40.5%	NA	44.1%	NA	35.9%	NA	38.7%
1999-00	NA	35.8%	NA	42.3%	NA	35.2%	NA	28.0%
2000-01	121	38.5%	357	46.9%	407	37.2%	368	35.6%
2001-02	113	38.8%	307	43.1%	387	34.2%	417	38.3%
2002-03	123	37.0%	405	52.1%	416	36.9%	448	39.8%
2003-04	121	40.7%	377	50.3%	529	40.2%	529	45.5%
2004-05	128	37.3%	323	47.2%	436	37.0%	485	44.7%
2005-06	119	40.5%	343	48.2%	450	37.3%	417	35.9%

Source: NYS Department of Education (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of graduates planning to pursue a two-year degree) calculated by CGR; provided by source prior to 2000-01.

Table 4.7(c): Plans of High School Graduates - Military

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995-96	NA	5.4%	NA	4.0%	NA	3.1%	NA	3.1%
1996-97	NA	5.1%	NA	5.7%	NA	3.5%	NA	3.8%
1997-98	NA	4.0%	NA	5.7%	NA	2.5%	NA	4.9%
1998-99	NA	2.4%	NA	3.5%	NA	3.2%	NA	5.4%
1999-00	NA	3.3%	NA	4.3%	NA	3.4%	NA	3.4%
2000-01	3	4.8%	17	3.7%	34	3.0%	41	5.9%
2001-02	17	6.2%	15	3.4%	22	3.1%	41	3.8%
2002-03	13	6.6%	13	4.2%	48	3.4%	59	5.0%
2003-04	22	4.4%	33	1.7%	38	3.7%	56	5.1%
2004-05	18	5.0%	24	2.2%	35	1.9%	41	3.8%
2005-06	15	1.0%	28	2.4%	33	2.8%	61	3.5%

Source: NYS Department of Education (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of graduates planning to go into the military) calculated by CGR; provided by source prior to 2000-01.

Table 4.7(d): Plans of High School Graduates - Employment

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995-96	NA	17.1%	NA	14.3%	NA	12.8%	NA	17.9%
1996-97	NA	20.2%	NA	14.1%	NA	9.8%	NA	11.9%
1997-98	NA	16.4%	NA	11.7%	NA	10.6%	NA	16.3%
1998-99	NA	13.0%	NA	12.2%	NA	11.8%	NA	15.0%
1999-00	NA	15.6%	NA	8.9%	NA	9.0%	NA	11.3%
2000-01	33	9.2%	40	10.2%	81	8.7%	109	15.9%
2001-02	22	7.6%	58	6.6%	82	8.5%	112	14.2%
2002-03	18	12.7%	52	5.4%	104	7.1%	150	13.3%
2003-04	42	6.1%	42	6.9%	80	7.9%	150	12.9%
2004-05	22	6.4%	47	8.5%	96	7.0%	155	10.3%
2005-06	29	11.2%	78	5.6%	95	6.7%	164	9.4%

Source: NYS Department of Education (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard>)

Note: Rates (percent of graduates planning to work) calculated by CGR; provided by source prior to 2000-01.

Table 4.8: Pregnancies of 15- to 17-Year-Old Females

	Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
1995	19.6	31.6	23	39.6
1996	32.9	37.5	23.3	34.2
1997	17.6	31.2	24.1	38.2
1998	23.1	29.1	24.4	35.7
1999	24.1	26.4	22	28.5
2000	29.3	28.7	21.8	22.4
2001	32.2	26.4	26.1	27.3
2002	17.2	23.1	19.3	26.2
2003	23.3	18.4	14.4	16.2
2004	26.4	17.8	12.4	24.4

Source: NYS Department of Health (<http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/chac/birth/tp15175.htm>)

Note: Rates (pregnancies per 1,000 females age 15-17) provided by source.

Table 4.9: PINS Intakes

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998	83	27.1	129	17.0	99	10.8	238	25.7
1999	53	17.3	259	34.2	129	14.1	196	21.1
2000	71	23.2	180	23.7	134	14.6	208	22.4
2001	77	25.6	201	27.1	95	10.3	211	22.9
2002	98	24.6	258	26.4	131	10.9	184	15.2
2003	111	28.1	249	25.7	142	11.8	141	11.7
2004	87	22.4	252	26.9	145	12.2	114	9.6
2005	67	17.6	196	21.4	105	8.8	107	9.1
2006	54	14.2	229	24.9	105	8.8	101	8.6

Source: Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Probation Workload System, data current as of 8/07

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15 through 2002; per 1,000 youth 10-17 for later years) calculated by CGR using figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.10: PINS Petitions

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	65	21.9	65	8.7	36	4.1	118	13.2
1998	51	17.2	74	10.0	38	4.3	112	12.6
1999	56	18.8	82	11.0	40	4.5	136	15.3
2000	54	18.2	97	13.0	52	5.9	147	16.5
2001	76	25.8	93	12.6	42	4.8	126	14.0
2002	93	23.3	85	8.7	38	3.2	144	11.9
2003	87	22.0	102	10.5	45	3.7	107	8.9
2004	54	13.9	76	8.1	59	4.9	99	8.3
2005	38	10.0	76	8.3	49	4.1	74	6.3

Source: NYS Unified Court System

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15 through 2002; per 1,000 youth 10-17 for later years) calculated by CGR using figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.11: PINS Petitions Resulting in Out of Home Placements

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2004	8	2.1	39	4.2	9	0.8	27	2.3
2005	7	1.8	26	2.8	7	0.6	23	2.0
2006	4	1.0	20	2.2	3	0.3	25	2.1

Source: NYS Unified Court System

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-17) calculated by CGR using population figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.12: Juvenile Delinquent Intakes

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998	49	16.0	219	28.9	256	27.9	245	26.4
1999	49	16.0	222	29.3	219	23.9	259	27.9
2000	58	18.9	166	21.9	269	29.3	238	25.7
2001	48	15.9	124	16.7	247	26.9	270	29.3
2002	49	16.6	172	23.9	180	20.1	211	23.2
2003	122	41.6	155	21.8	202	22.5	229	25.3
2004	70	24.4	122	17.5	225	25.2	188	21.1
2005	26	9.1	117	17.4	159	17.9	224	25.7
2006	27	9.5	173	25.7	187	21.0	237	27.2

Source: Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Probation Workload System, data current as of 8/07

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15) calculated by CGR using population figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.13: Juvenile Delinquency Petitions

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	70	23.6	105	14.1	741	84.1	118	13.2
1998	41	13.9	115	15.5	63	7.2	113	12.6
1999	45	15.0	109	14.6	78	8.7	99	10.9
2000	37	12.1	107	14.1	82	8.9	110	11.9
2001	38	12.6	79	10.6	77	8.4	104	11.3
2002	44	14.9	86	12.0	60	6.7	103	11.3
2003	73	24.9	71	10.0	55	6.1	78	8.6
2004	97	33.8	86	12.3	113	12.7	116	13.0
2005	56	19.7	85	12.6	78	8.8	126	14.4
2006	50	17.6	84	12.5	90	10.1	152	17.4

Sources: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, NYS Unified Court System (Years 2004-2006)

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15) calculated by CGR using population figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.14: Out-of-Home Placements of Juvenile Delinquents

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2004	43	15.0	43	6.2	33	3.7	53	5.9
2005	44	15.5	35	5.2	21	2.4	65	7.5
2006	25	8.8	28	4.2	31	3.5	66	7.6

Source: New York State Unified Court System

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15) were calculated by CGR using population figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Table 4.15: Arrests of 10- to 15-Year-Olds

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1996	310	104.9	339	45.9	649	75.0	730	82.8
1997	369	124.2	234	31.5	712	80.8	700	78.5
1998	353	119.8	162	21.9	552	62.8	577	64.3
1999	428	143.0	177	23.8	502	56.2	536	58.8
2000	304	99.2	165	21.8	525	57.3	495	53.4
2001	415	137.8	194	26.1	571	62.2	522	56.6
2002	410	138.7	206	28.7	317	35.4	415	45.7
2003	571	194.5	120	16.9	NA	NA	NA	NA
2004	442	153.9	89	12.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
2005	532	186.9	154	22.9	NA	NA	NA	NA
2006	407	143.0	120	17.8	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/pubs.htm#annrpt>)

Notes: Rates (per 1,000 youth ages 10-15) calculated by CGR using population figures from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; data for 2003-06 for Ontario and Wayne counties was not reliable.

Table 4.16: Youth Arrests for Part I Crimes

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	123	14.9	173	8.4	369	14.5	257	10.0
1998	81	9.8	153	7.4	335	13.2	226	8.8
1999	88	10.6	142	6.9	337	13.2	199	7.7
2000	74	8.9	140	6.8	294	11.5	193	7.5
2001	81	10.1	112	5.6	324	13.0	209	8.3
2002	102	13.0	130	6.7	232	9.5	177	7.3
2003	95	12.3	99	5.2	262	10.9	154	6.4
2004	52	6.9	80	4.3	202	8.5	117	5.0
2005	59	8.0	93	5.1	205	8.7	99	4.3
2006	64	8.7	109	6.0	250	10.6	93	4.0

Source: Department of Criminal Justice Services

Note: Rates (per 1,000 youth under 18 years old) calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Focus Area 5 – Primary Health Care

Table 5.1: Number and Percent Uninsured in 2000

		Seneca	Cayuga	Ontario	Wayne
All Ages	Number insured	28,479	69,194	90,952	84,461
	Number uninsured	3,811	8,775	7,904	8,778
	Percent uninsured	11.8%	11.3%	8.0%	9.4%
Under Age 18	Number insured	7,306	18,003	23,535	23,447
	Number uninsured	689	1,635	1,177	1,556
	Percent uninsured	8.6%	8.3%	4.8%	6.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Table 5.2: Number of Doctors (Primary Care and Non-Primary Care)

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2000	32	96.0	102	124.4	286	285.4	107	114.1
2001	29	83.3	99	121.7	285	282.0	90	95.9
2002	23	65.8	102	125.2	303	297.5	95	101.6
2003	23	65.8	85	104.4	300	292.3	79	84.3
2004	18	51.5	105	129.0	348	336.9	103	110.2
2005	19	54.7	107	131.5	329	315.7	99	106.3

Source: Center for Health Workforce Studies, University at Albany, May 2007.

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 5.3: Mortality Rate

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1996	339	9.7	807	9.5	929	9.4	758	8.2
1997	311	8.9	809	9.5	916	9.2	722	7.8
1998	283	8.1	739	8.7	896	9	804	8.7
1999	305	8.6	744	8.7	851	8.5	746	8
2000	339	10.2	732	8.9	854	8.5	815	8.7
2001	316	9.1	687	8.4	910	9	793	8.4
2002	343	9.8	738	9	992	9.8	814	8.7
2003	338	9.6	778	9.5	879	8.6	840	9
2004	306	8.7	700	8.5	957	9.2	820	8.7
2005	337	9.7	780	9.6	915	8.8	741	7.9

Source: NYS Department of Health (http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/vital_statistics)

Note: Rates (per 1,000 population) were provided by source except for 2005; CGR calculated 2005 using Census population figures.

Table 5.4: Mortality Rate from Heart Disease

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995	134	387.3	267	315.6	296	300.8	216	235.3
1996	115	330.5	307	361.6	293	296.6	237	257.3
1997	106	303.7	307	360.3	272	274.2	229	212.0
1998	98	279.2	304	356.0	276	277.1	227	244.6
1999	95	269.1	238	277.7	251	251.0	202	217.0
2000	98	293.9	235	286.7	230	229.5	216	230.4
2001	102	292.7	214	262.9	281	278.5	207	220.4
2002	112	320.2	223	273.4	265	260.9	222	236.0
2003	103	292.8	254	310.8	246	240.1	202	215.5
2004	93	265.1	228	278.3	253	244.4	202	215.2
2005	100	286.9	223	273.8	231	221.1	188	200.8

Source: NYS Department of Health (http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/vital_statistics)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source except for 2005; CGR calculated 2005 using Census population figures.

Table 5.4(a): Mortality Rate from Cancer

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995	65	187.9	201	237.6	213	216.5	194	211.3
1996	84	241.4	165	194.3	223	225.7	181	196.5
1997	74	212.0	180	211.3	218	219.8	160	173.2
1998	75	213.7	135	158.1	236	237.0	193	208.0
1999	78	221.0	157	183.2	222	222.0	198	212.7
2000	105	314.9	165	201.3	230	229.5	178	189.8
2001	68	195.1	167	205.1	208	206.1	210	223.6
2002	78	223.0	197	241.5	226	222.5	204	216.8
2003	77	218.9	183	223.9	226	220.6	177	188.8
2004	67	191.0	155	189.2	242	233.8	193	205.6
2005	85	243.9	190	233.3	219	209.6	171	182.7

Source: NYS Department of Health (http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/vital_statistics)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source except for 2005; CGR calculated 2005 using Census population figures.

Table 5.4(b): Mortality Rate from Stroke

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1995	14	40.5	60	70.9	58	58.9	56	61.0
1996	15	43.1	53	62.4	49	49.6	53	57.5
1997	14	40.1	50	58.7	49	49.4	43	46.5
1998	19	54.1	47	55.0	46	46.2	40	43.1
1999	15	42.5	65	75.8	53	53.0	45	48.3
2000	18	54.0	49	59.8	56	55.9	56	59.7
2001	17	48.8	40	49.1	53	52.5	58	61.8
2002	19	54.3	36	44.1	57	56.1	52	55.3
2003	13	36.9	46	56.3	46	44.9	55	58.7
2004	20	57.0	32	39.1	51	49.3	51	54.3
2005	20	57.4	46	56.5	50	47.9	41	43.8

Source: NYS Department of Health (http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/vital_statistics)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source, except for 2005; CGR calculated 2005 using Census population figures.

Table 5.5: Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases - Chlamydia

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2001	39	117.0	126	153.7	136	135.7	123	131.2
2002	38	114.0	102	124.4	120	119.7	149	158.9
2003	36	102.9	123	150.8	130	128.0	138	146.7
2004	43	122.2	123	150.5	120	117.1	144	153.6
2005	36	102.6	106	129.4	126	121.7	189	201.4

Source: NYS Department of Health (<http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/diseases/communicable/index.htm>)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source.

Table 5.5(a): Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases - Gonorrhea

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1996	8	23.3	7	8.3	44	44.9	33	36.1
1997	7	20.1	20	23.6	34	34.4	49	53.2
1998	2	5.7	12	14.1	10	10.1	50	54.3
1999	10	28.5	27	31.6	33	33.1	35	37.7
2000	4	12.5	43	52.6	62	62.1	56	58.6
2001	3	9.0	33	40.3	25	24.9	26	27.7
2002	4	12.0	15	18.3	26	25.9	26	27.7
2003	3	8.6	27	33.1	20	19.7	36	38.3
2004	10	28.4	12	14.7	35	34.2	59	62.9
2005	4	11.4	12	14.6	15	14.5	10	21.3

Source: NYS Department of Health (<http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/diseases/communicable/index.htm>)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source.

Table 5.5(b): Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases - Syphilis

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1996	1	2.9	0	1.0	1	1.0	2	3.3
1997	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
1998	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
1999	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	3.2
2000	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
2001	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
2002	1	3.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1
2003	1	2.9	0	0.0	1	1.0	2	2.1
2004	1	2.8	3.7	3.0	1	1.0	4	3.2
2005	2	2.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: NYS Department of Health (<http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/diseases/communicable/index.htm>)

Note: Rates (per 100,000 population) were provided by source.

Focus Area 6 – Substance Abuse

Table 6.1: Admissions to Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	384	115.2	677	82.6	1,341	133.8	1,175	125.3
1998	277	83.1	726	88.6	1,360	135.7	1,175	125.3
1999	263	78.9	653	79.7	1,447	144.4	1,126	120.1
2000	295	88.5	715	87.2	1,488	148.5	1,033	110.2
2001	381	109.5	733	90.1	1,448	143.3	1,075	114.5
2002	375	107.3	863	105.9	1,402	137.6	1,272	136.0
2003	427	122.1	891	109.4	1,390	135.4	1,156	123.4
2004	459	131.3	854	104.9	1,459	141.2	1,235	132.1
2005	431	124.0	989	121.6	1,506	144.5	1,234	132.5
2006	399	114.9	921	113.4	1,549	148.4	1,361	146.5

Source: New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, <http://www.oasas.state.ny.us>

Notes: Rates (per 10,000 residents) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 6.2: Felony Drug-Related Arrests (All Ages)

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	8	2.4	62	7.6	62	6.2	67	7.1
1998	20	6.0	62	7.6	47	4.7	90	9.6
1999	13	3.9	59	7.2	60	6.0	52	5.5
2000	6	1.8	42	5.1	55	5.5	58	6.2
2001	12	3.4	58	7.1	55	5.4	43	4.6
2002	13	3.7	60	7.4	82	8.1	38	4.1
2003	24	6.9	68	8.3	60	5.8	63	6.7
2004	21	6.0	121	14.9	45	4.4	79	8.5
2005	20	5.8	78	9.6	48	4.6	45	4.8
2006	21	6.0	61	7.5	111	10.6	118	12.7

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/arrests/years.htm>

Notes: Rates (per 10,000 residents) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 6.3: Felony DWI Arrests

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	24	7.2	30	3.7	115	11.5	108	11.5
1998	35	10.5	24	2.9	121	12.1	85	9.1
1999	30	9.0	27	3.3	112	11.2	82	8.7
2000	25	7.5	22	2.7	111	11.1	119	12.7
2001	25	7.2	24	3.0	130	12.9	86	9.2
2002	35	10.0	23	2.8	76	7.5	101	10.8
2003	31	8.9	28	3.4	74	7.2	95	10.1
2004	33	9.4	31	3.8	91	8.8	80	8.6
2005	38	10.9	28	3.4	80	7.7	78	8.4
2006	28	8.1	30	3.7	67	6.4	53	5.7

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/ojsa/arrests/years.htm>

Notes: Rates (per 10,000 residents), were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 6.4: Motor Vehicle Accidents Involving Alcohol

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1998	34	10.2	72	8.8	93	9.3	89	9.5
1999	45	13.5	91	11.1	86	8.6	95	10.1
2000	25	7.5	84	10.2	94	9.4	104	11.1
2001	29	8.3	62	7.6	74	7.3	80	8.5
2002	22	6.3	62	7.6	34	3.3	71	7.6
2003	21	6.0	49	6.0	37	3.6	47	5.0
2004	12	3.4	55	6.8	35	3.4	53	5.7
2005	19	5.5	36	4.4	44	4.2	58	6.2

Source: New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/stats.htm>

Notes: Rates (per 10,000 residents) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures;

Data reported for 2001 and following years are not comparable to prior data due to changes in data collection and reporting.

Focus Area 7 – Senior Independence

Table 7.1: Seniors 65 and Older Living Alone

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1990	1,296	26%	3,418	29%	3,414	27%	2,948	29%
2000	1,469	29%	3,647	31%	3,864	29%	3,245	28%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 7.1(a): Seniors 65 and Older Living Alone, within County

	North Seneca	South Seneca
1990	28%	22%
2000	29%	30%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

Note: Percentages calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 7.2: Seniors Receiving Supplemental Security Income

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1999	159	31.5	477	40.4	392	29.7	522	45.8
2000	155	30.7	455	38.5	367	27.8	500	43.9
2001	155	30.7	416	35.5	349	26.0	477	41.3
2002	155	30.8	399	33.9	336	24.6	463	39.9
2003	147	29.2	380	32.3	315	22.6	449	38.3
2004	143	28.3	373	31.8	308	21.7	432	36.6
2005	127	25.0	364	31.0	296	25.7	391	32.9
2006	123	24.2	362	30.9	303	26.4	388	32.7

Source: Social Security Administration, http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_sc/2006/ny.html

Note: Rates (per 1,000 seniors 65 and older) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.

Table 7.3: Participation in EPIC

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	252	49.9	665	56.3	809	61.3	771	67.6
1998	268	53.1	757	64.1	854	64.7	807	70.8
1999	300	59.4	932	78.9	979	74.2	915	80.3
2000	359	71.1	1,121	94.9	1,293	96.3	1,181	103.6
2001	566	112.2	1,725	147.1	2,109	154.7	1,869	161.8
2002	674	134.0	1,909	162.3	2,495	179.4	2,303	198.6
2003	723	143.5	2,019	171.5	2,711	191.1	2,510	214.1
2004	801	158.5	2,154	183.6	2,977	205.3	2,762	234.3
2005	870	171.4	2,337	199.2	3,174	218.9	3,062	258.0
2006	901	177.5	2,431	207.2	3,256	224.6	3,068	258.5

Source: New York State Department of Health, <http://www.health.state.ny.us>

Note: Rates (per 1,000 Seniors > 64) were calculated by CGR using NYS DOH figures.

Table 7.4: Home-Delivered Meals

	Seneca		Cayuga		Ontario		Wayne	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1997	36,530	4,837.8	42,509	2,825.6	78,607	4,536.2	40,553	2,678.2
1998	37,851	5,012.7	42,222	2,806.6	83,314	4,807.8	42,870	2,831.2
1999	40,797	5,402.9	41,201	2,738.7	84,700	4,887.8	38,970	2,573.6
2000	39,648	5,250.7	40,390	2,684.8	87,556	5,052.6	43,770	2,890.6
2001	39,880	5,181.9	50,200	3,339.5	92,544	5,237.1	47,098	3,068.3
2002	35,488	4,537.5	55,617	3,657.1	85,025	4,702.2	55,326	3,556.3
2003	36,802	4,610.0	56,628	3,675.5	83,338	4,456.1	49,409	3,085.9
2004	41,038	5,054.6	46,769	3,036.6	87,104	4,549.2	40,752	2,503.2
2005	36,872	4,482.9	44,633	2,891.9	88,013	4,469.9	36,273	2,203.0
2006	31,647	3,847.7	43,333	2,807.6	93,029	4,724.7	38,883	2,361.6

Sources: Cayuga, Ontario, Seneca, and Wayne County Offices for the Aging

<http://www.co.cayuga.ny.us/aging>, <http://www.co.ontario.ny.us/Aging>,

<http://www.co.seneca.ny.us/dpt-comserv-aging-office.php>, <http://www.co.wayne.ny.us/departments/AgeYouth/ageyouth.htm>

Note: Rates (per 1,000 seniors 60 and older) were calculated by CGR using Census population figures.