



Let's Improve Community Health!



PUBLIC HEALTH
SAUK COUNTY
Together we thrive



Reedsburg
AREA MEDICAL CENTER



SSM Health
St. Clare Hospital
DARKESS

sauk prairie
HEALTHCARE



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Conduct a Community Health Assessment every three years in partnership with area healthcare systems
- Collected data via:
 - Confidential and Anonymous Survey
 - Focus Groups
 - One-on-One Key Informant Interviews
 - Secondary data from credible local, state, national sources



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY RESULTS



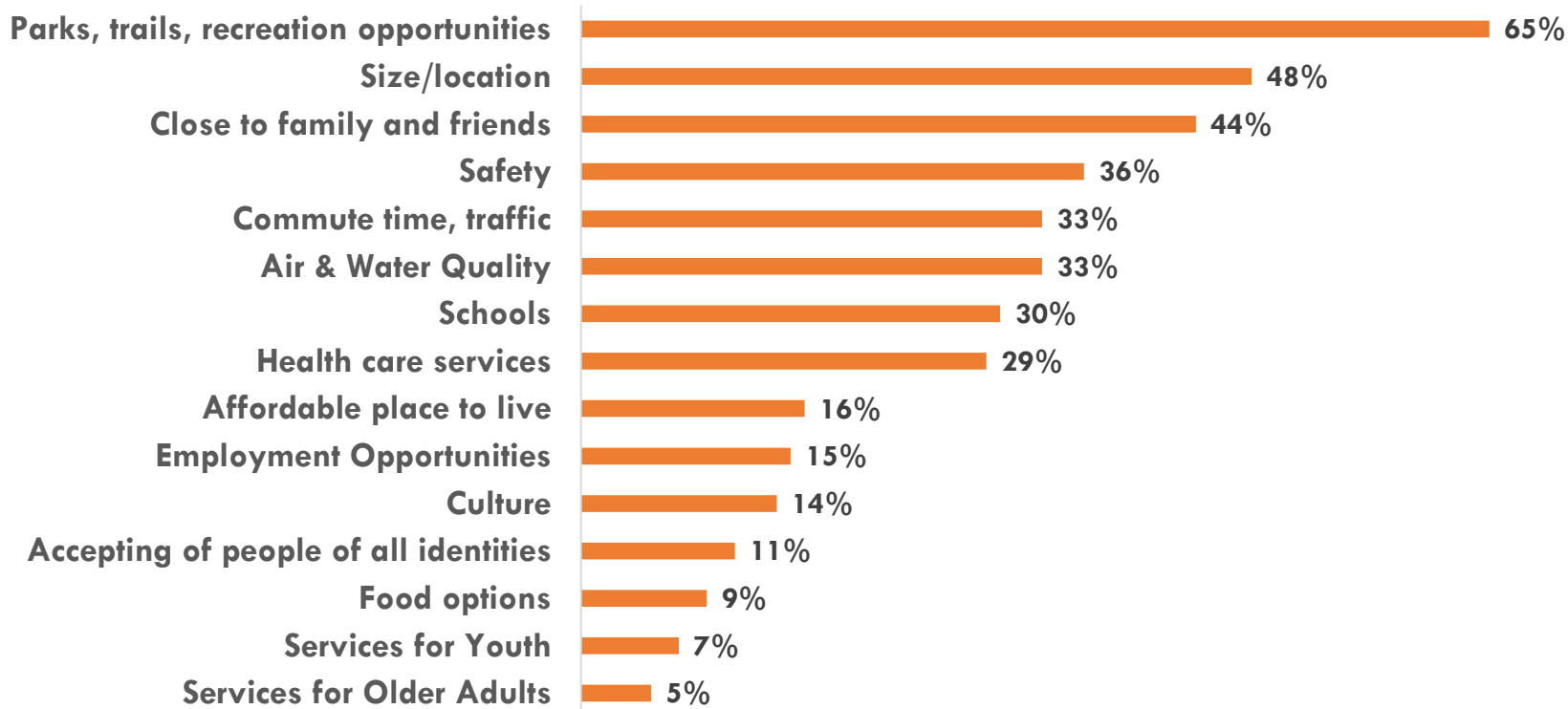
HOW REPRESENTATIVE WAS THE SURVEY?

1,106 responses, about 1.6% of the Sauk County population.

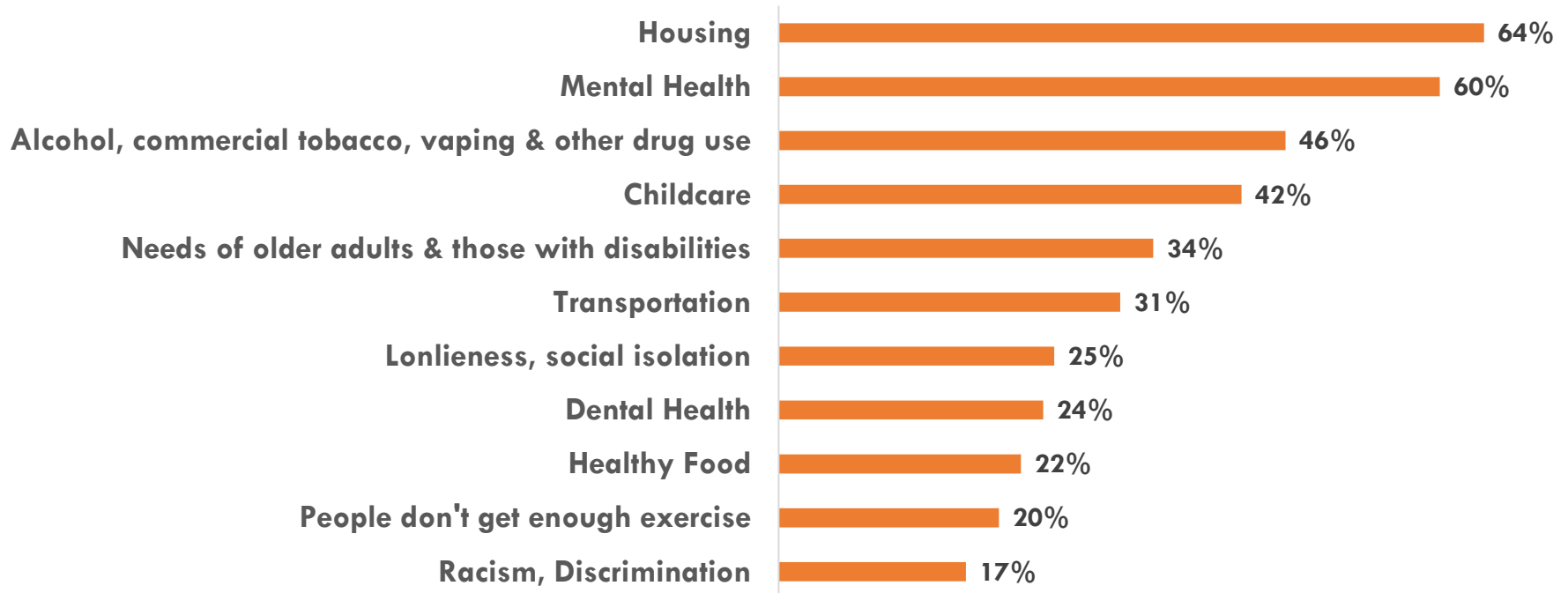
Under-Represented in the Survey	% of Survey Respondents	% of Sauk County Population ¹	Over-Represented in the Survey
Men	21%	50%	Women
Youth	1%	22%	Adults Ages 18-64
No High School Degree, High School Degree as Highest Educational Attainment	16%	39%	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Hispanic, American Indian, Black, 2 or More Races	5%	11%	White
Other Language Speakers	2%	7%	English Speakers
Renters	23%	30%	Homeowners
Below Median Income	38%	50%	Higher Income Levels

1. Census QuickFacts. (2023) Sauk County, Wisconsin. Retrieved August 1, 2024 from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/saukcountywisconsin/>

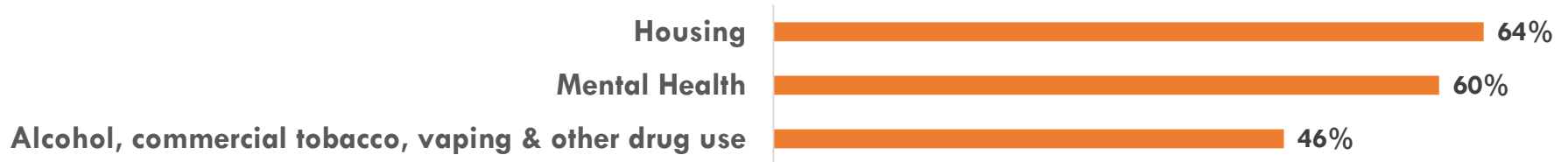
THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY: WHERE YOU LIVE, LEARN, WORK, AND PLAY. WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT IT?



THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY: WHERE YOU LIVE, LEARN, WORK, AND PLAY. WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS?



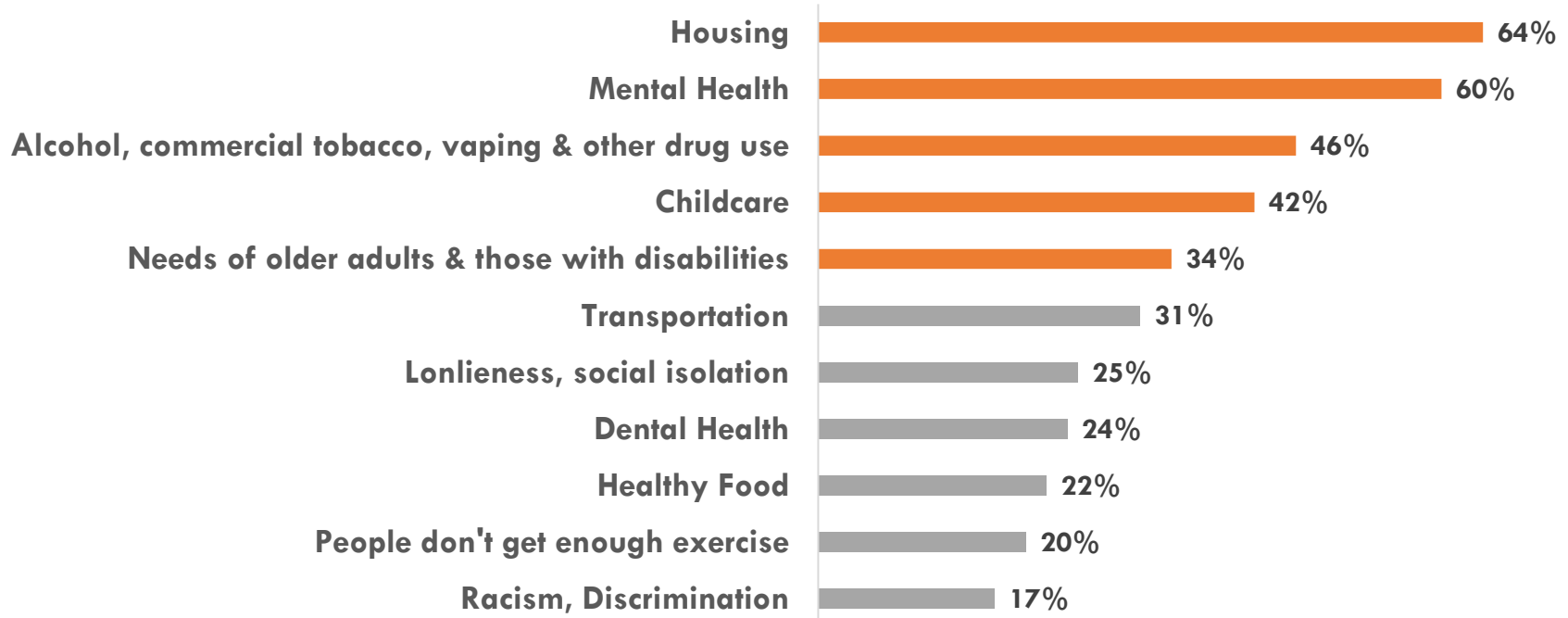
**THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY:
WHERE YOU LIVE, LEARN, WORK, AND PLAY.
WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS?**



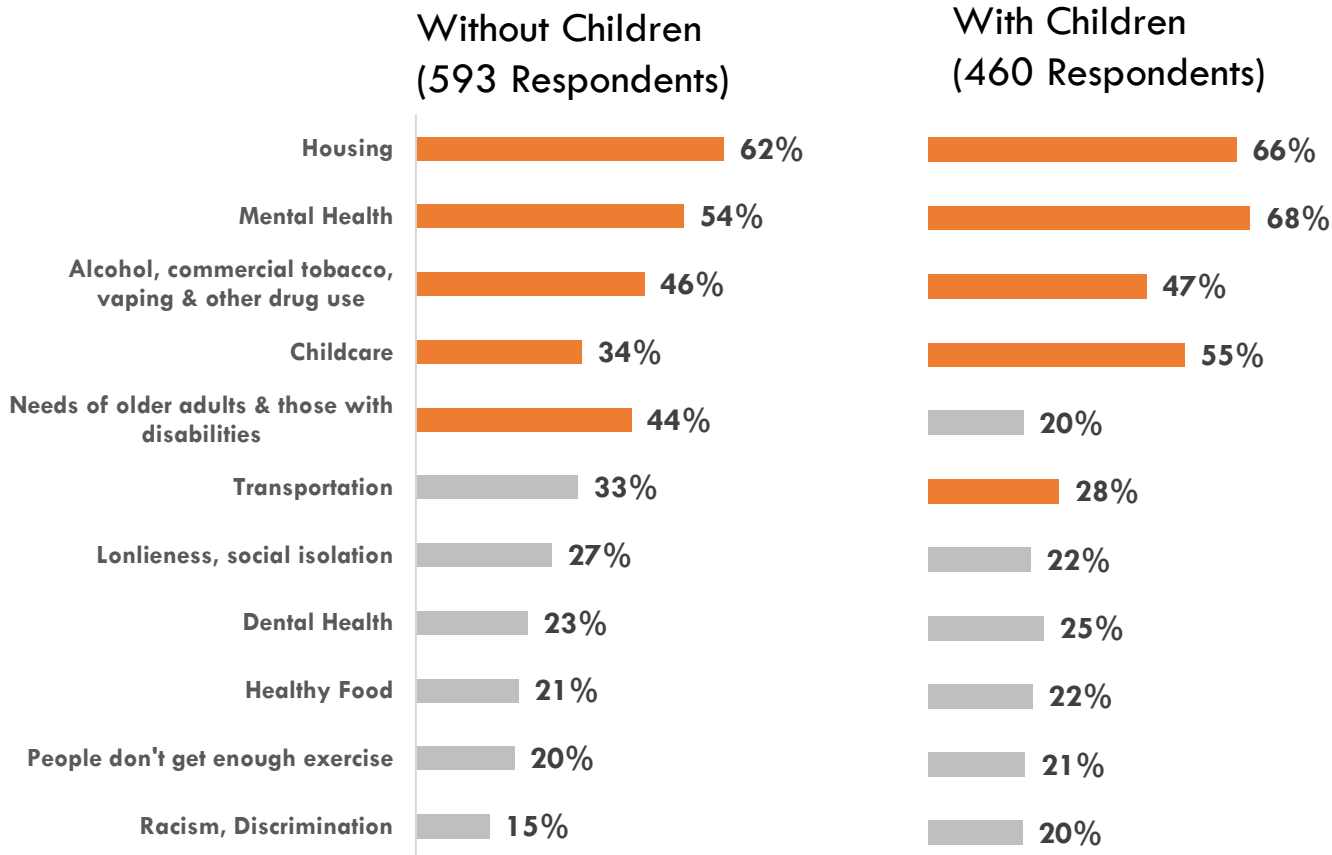
**The Top 3 Responses
to this question were selected as
Health Priority Areas**

**WE RECOGNIZE THAT DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE
HAVE DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES AND HEALTH OUTCOMES**

THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY: WHERE YOU LIVE, LEARN, WORK, AND PLAY. WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS?



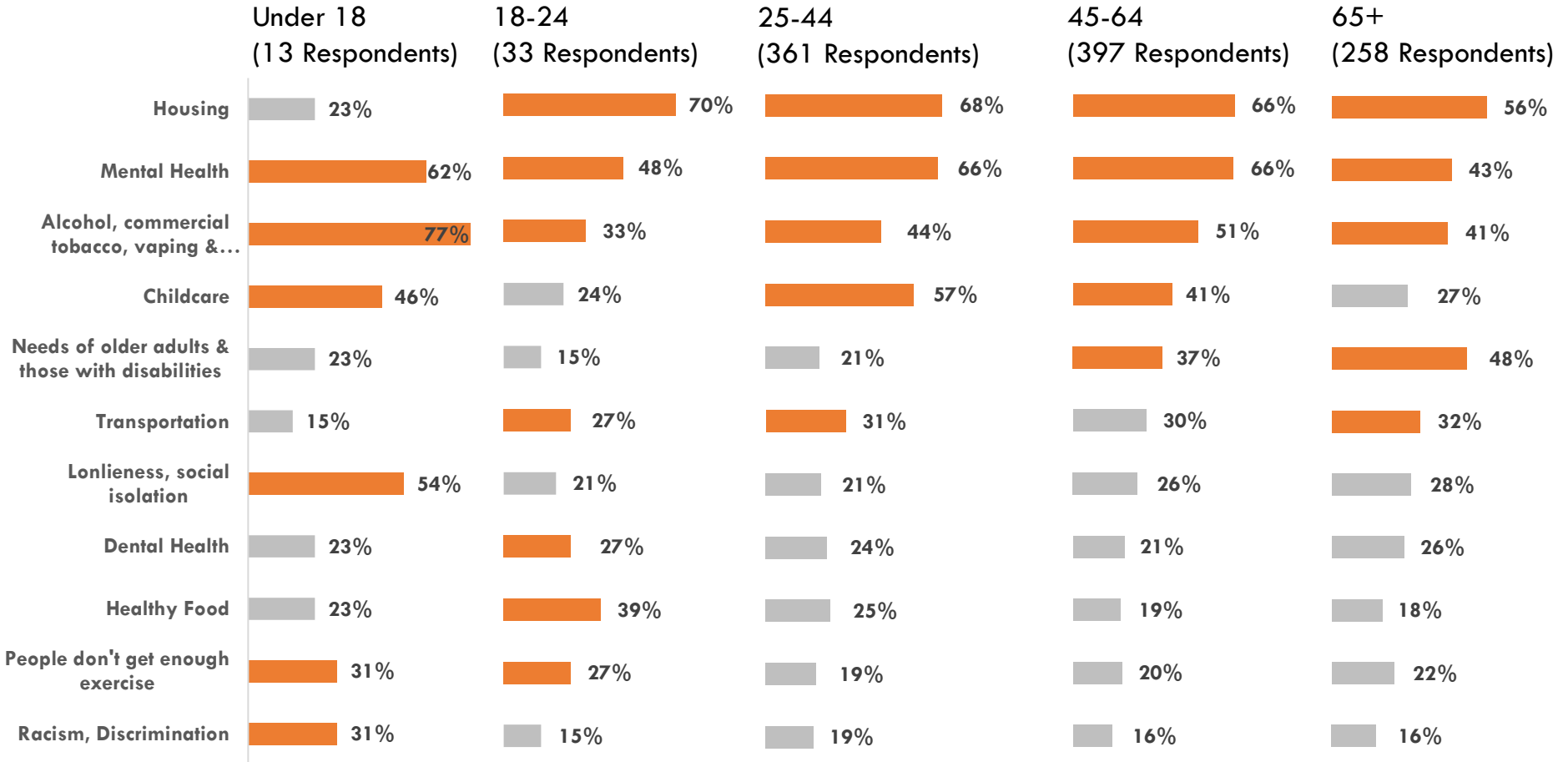
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: HOUSEHOLDS WITH/WITHOUT CHILDREN



“We spent \$26K in daycare costs for two kids in 2023. That does not leave extra money for other things like healthy foods or contributing to savings or retirement.” –Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 381

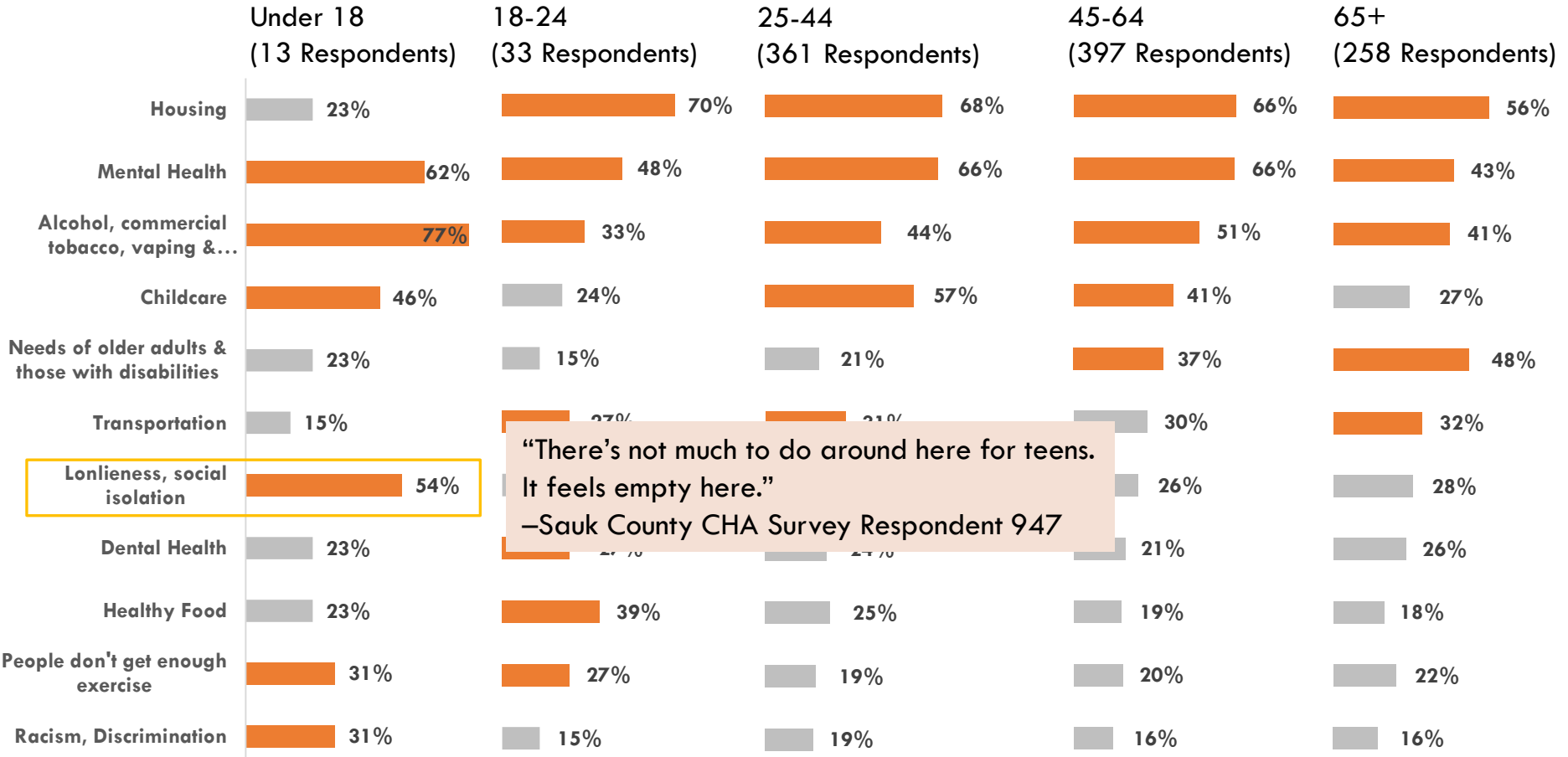
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON:

AGE



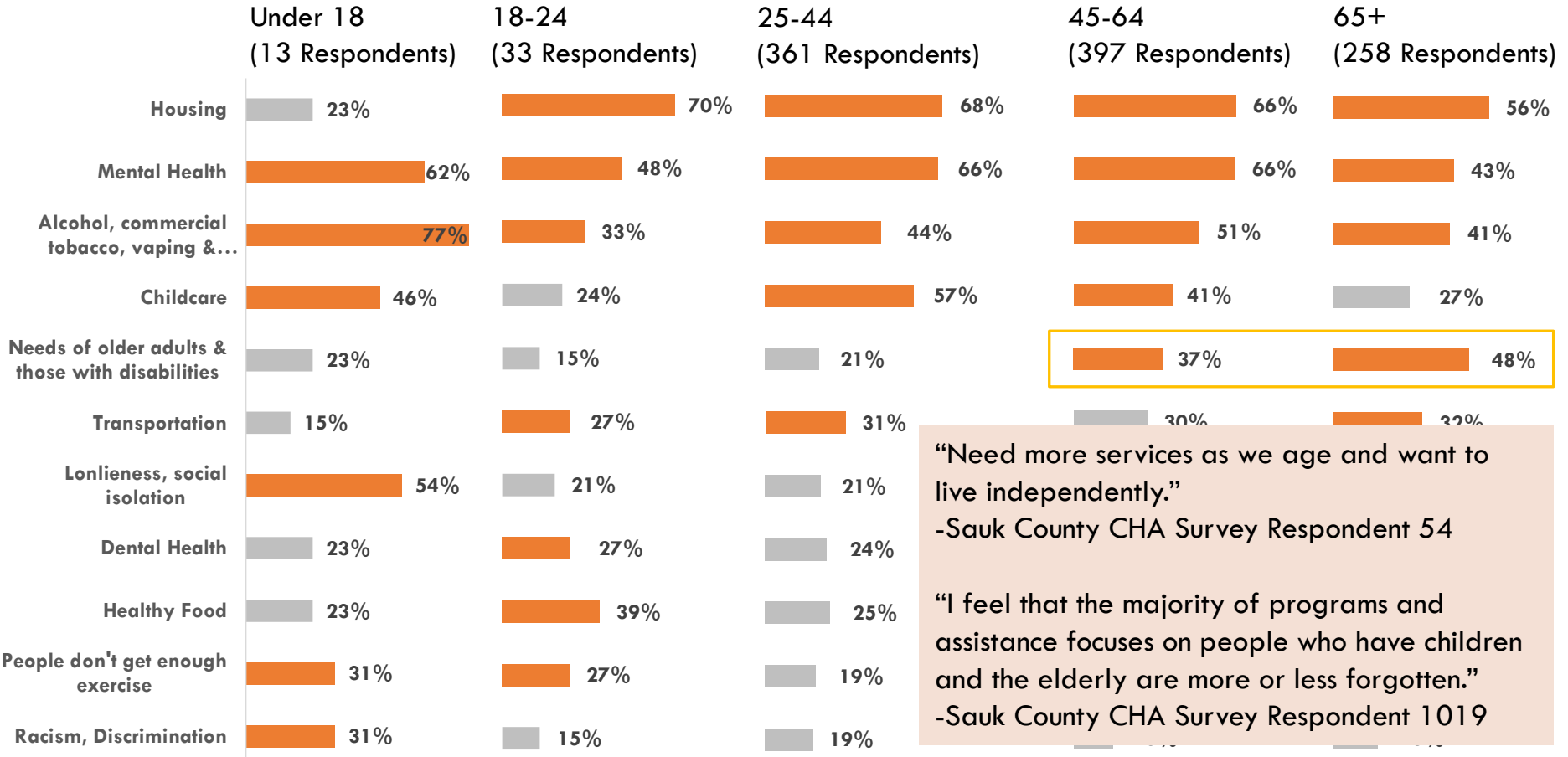
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON:

AGE



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AGE

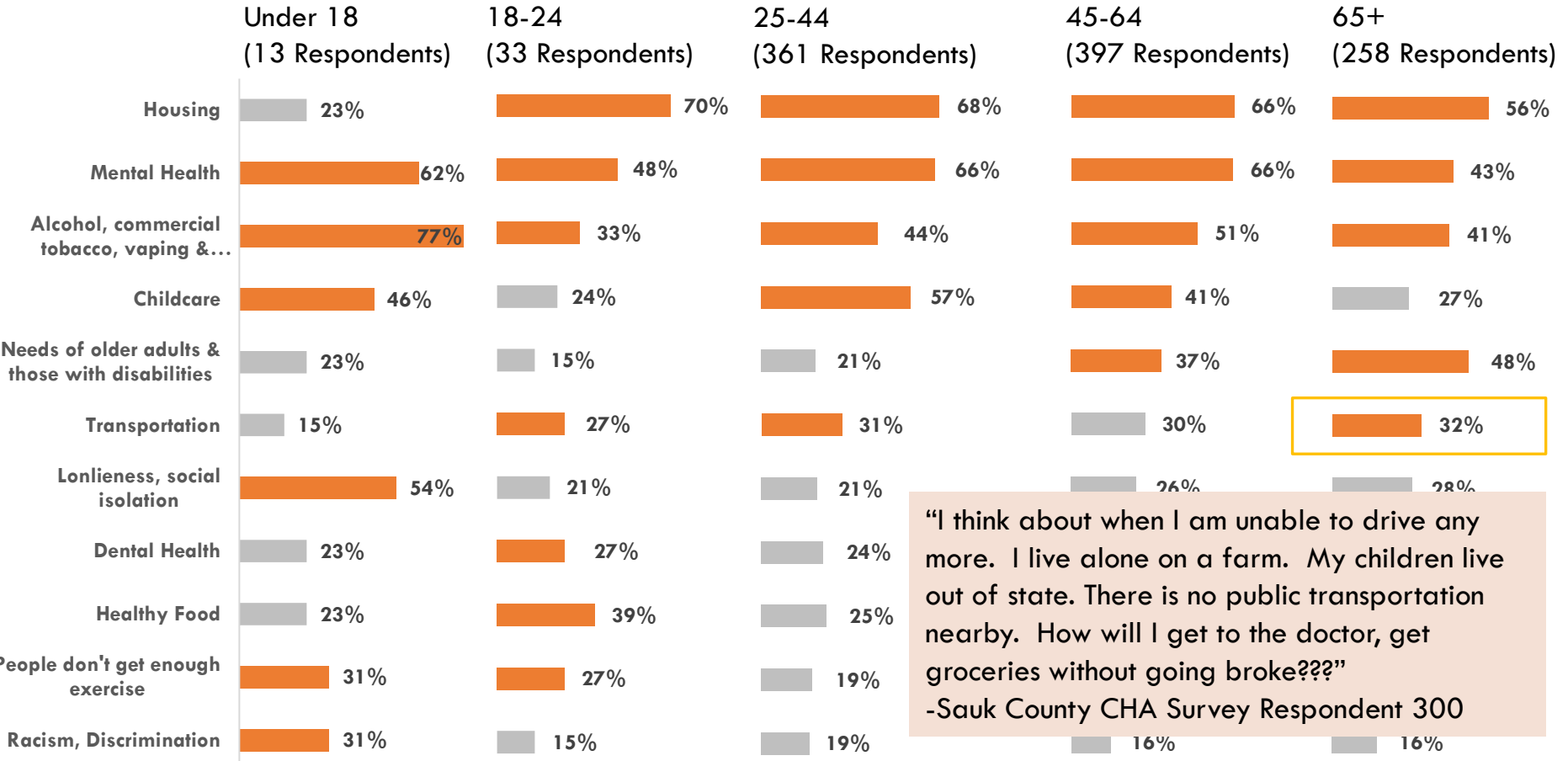


“Need more services as we age and want to live independently.”
 -Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 54

“I feel that the majority of programs and assistance focuses on people who have children and the elderly are more or less forgotten.”
 -Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 1019

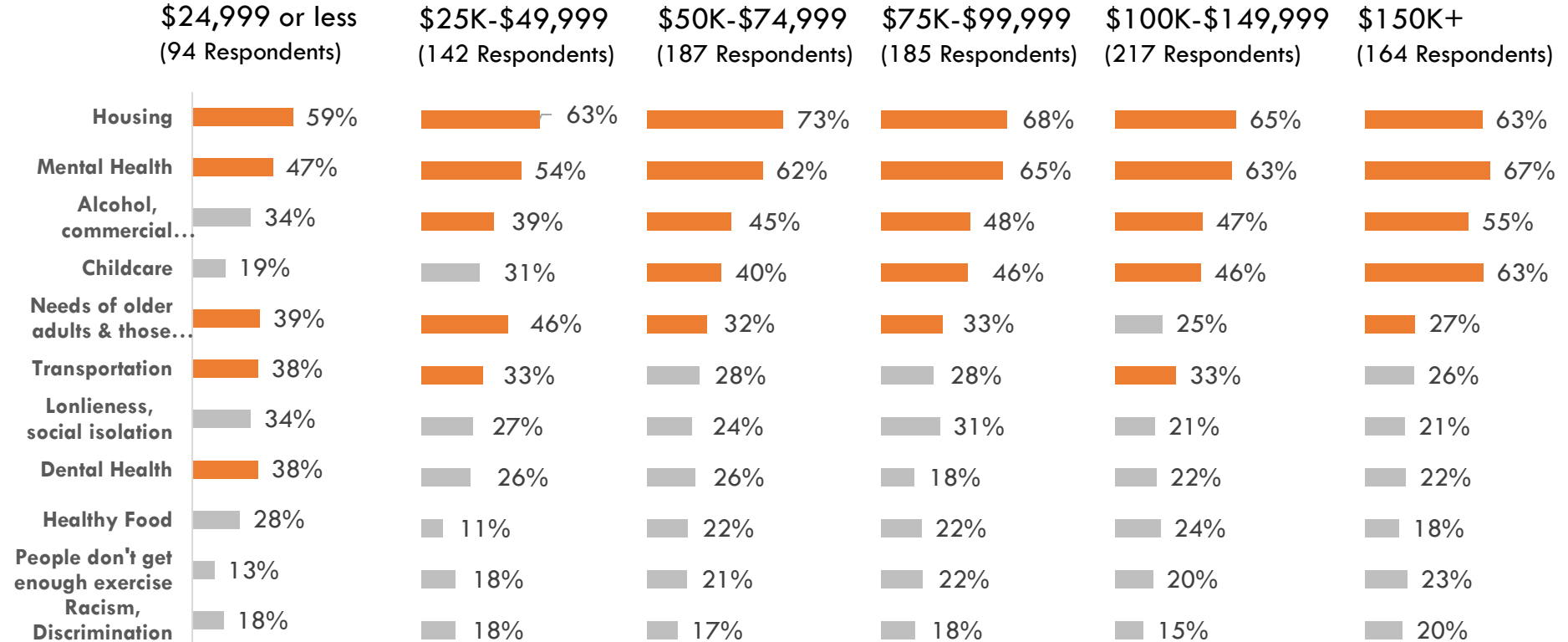
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON:

AGE



“I think about when I am unable to drive any more. I live alone on a farm. My children live out of state. There is no public transportation nearby. How will I get to the doctor, get groceries without going broke???”
 -Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 300

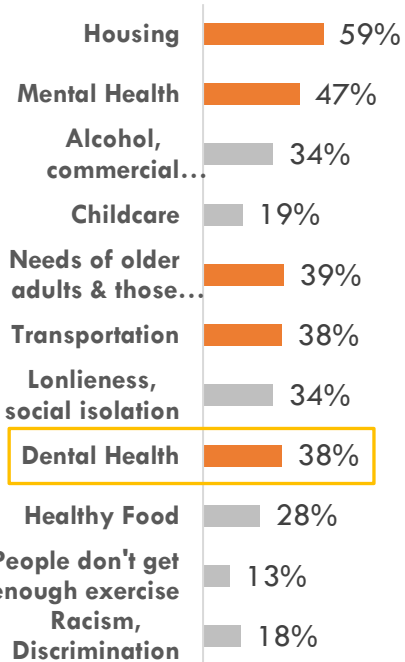
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: HOUSEHOLD INCOME



COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON:

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$24,999 or less
(94 Respondents)

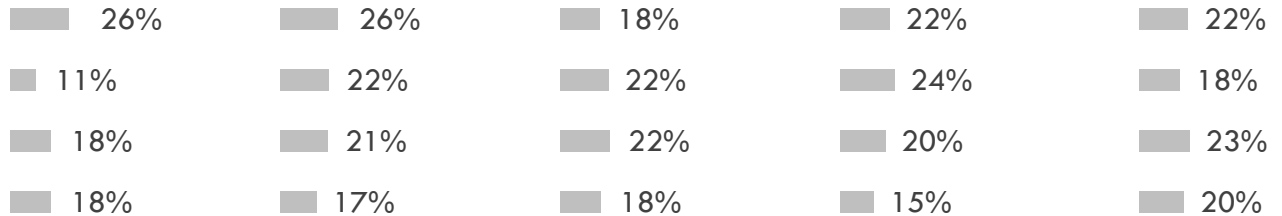


“We need more dentists to take BadgerCare. They don't take it, because they lose money if they do. The state doesn't reimburse them enough. We also need affordable dentists. Most people don't have an extra \$600 to fill a cavity. Maybe a list of actual BadgerCare accepting places and places that will take payments or reduce rates.”

-Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 472

“Dental health is too expensive and most who do not even have insurance can't afford to go to the dentist. They get their teeth pulled instead of fixed.”

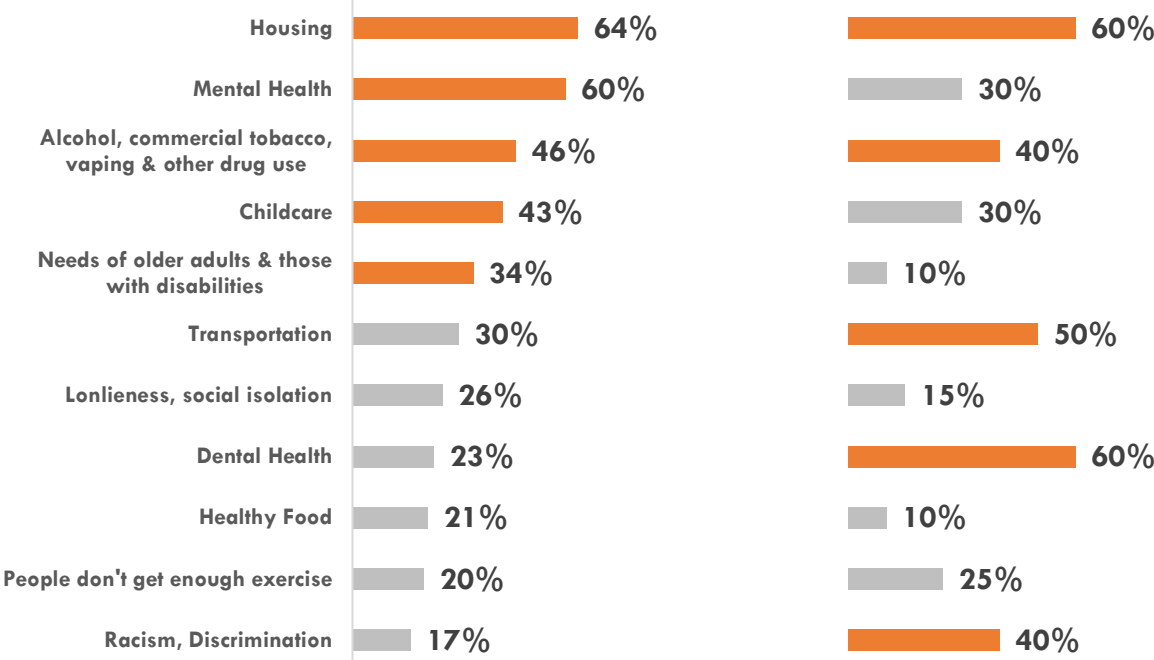
-Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 648



COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: LANGUAGE RESPONDENT MOST OFTEN SPEAKS

English Speakers
(1,068 Respondents)

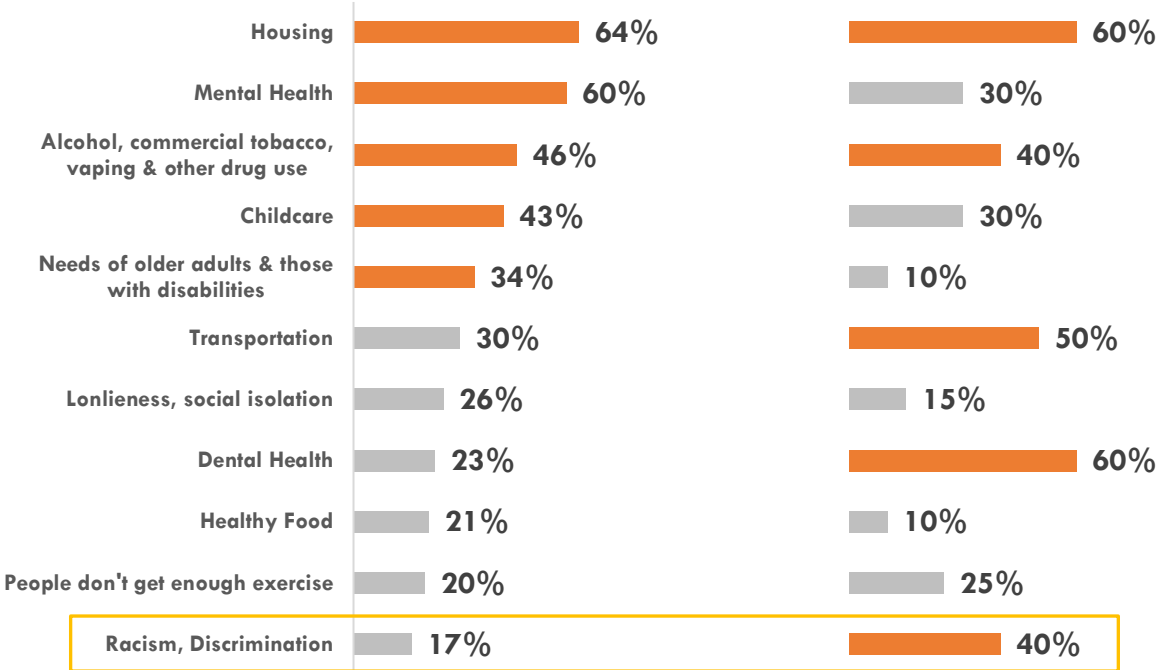
Other Language Speakers
(20 Respondents)



COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: LANGUAGE RESPONDENT MOST OFTEN SPEAKS

English Speakers
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Other Language Speakers
(20 Respondents)

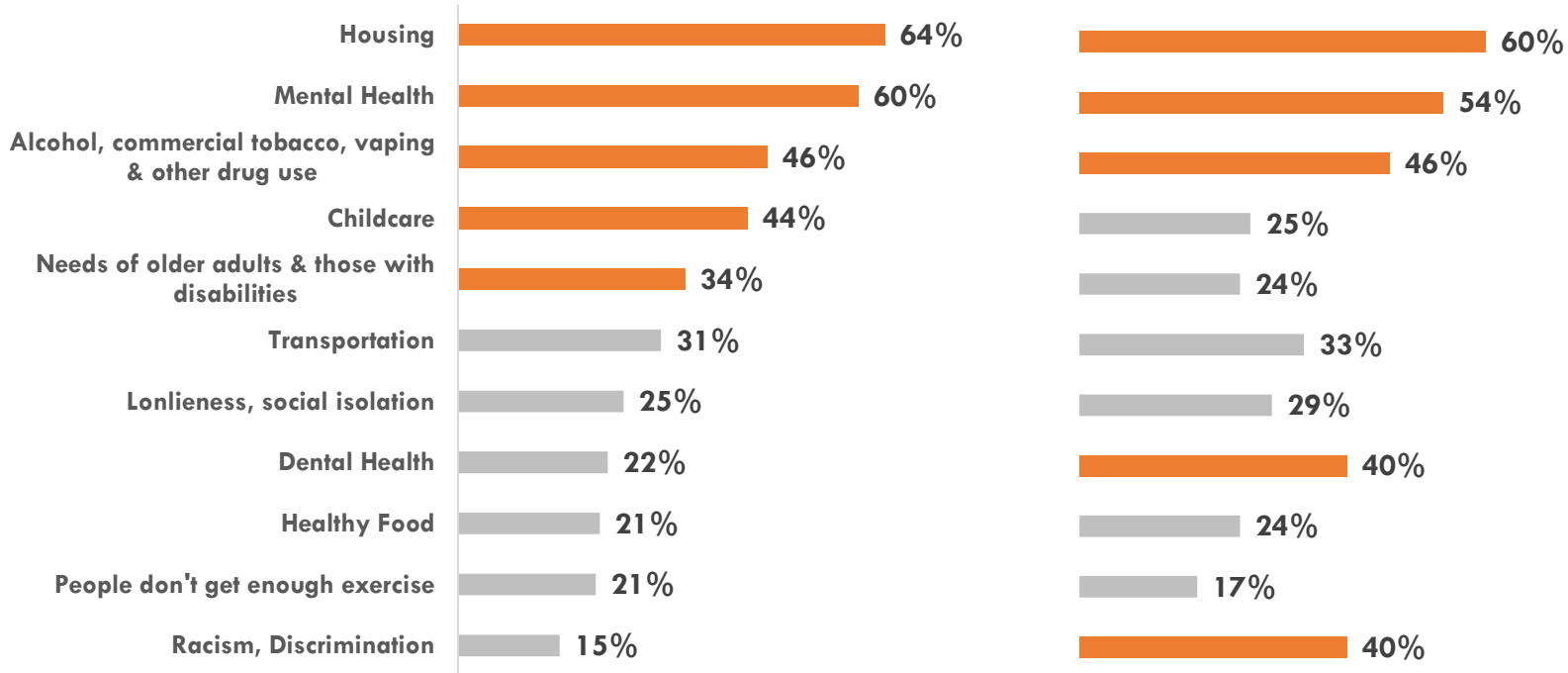


Translation from Spanish:
 “Racism because we are Hispanic and some people from the US treat us poorly, rejection.”
 –Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 1105

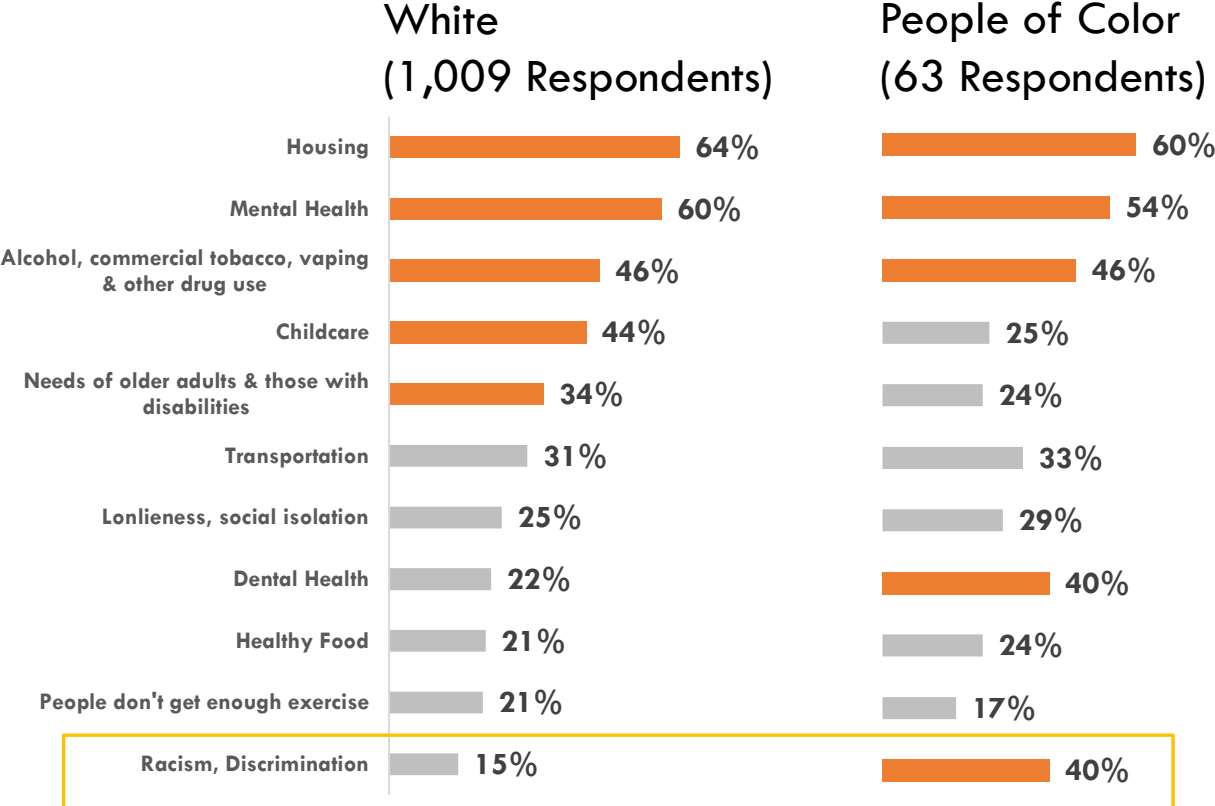
COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: RACE/ETHNICITY

White
(1,009 Respondents)

People of Color
(63 Respondents)



COMMUNITY PROBLEMS COMPARISON: RACE/ETHNICITY



“Many in the area are totally distrustful and unwilling to accept people of color. Anyone that resembles someone from south of the border (even those here legally) are distrusted at best and hated at worse.”
-Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 704

“Racism and discrimination continue to be a very real issue in Sauk and it would be great to do more DEI workshops and have more conversations about this.”
-Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 471

Sara Jesse
Community Health
Manager

Jodie Molitor
Health Educator

Kate Hansen
Health Educator

Hannah Erdman
Health Educator

**COMMUNITY
HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAMS
2024**



**PUBLIC HEALTH
SAUK COUNTY
WISCONSIN**
Together we thrive



2024-2027 PRIORITIES

Continue to be the same as in
2021-2024:

- Housing
- Mental health
- Substance use





PRIORITY AREA: HOUSING

64% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Housing** as a **community problem** that we should work to improve.

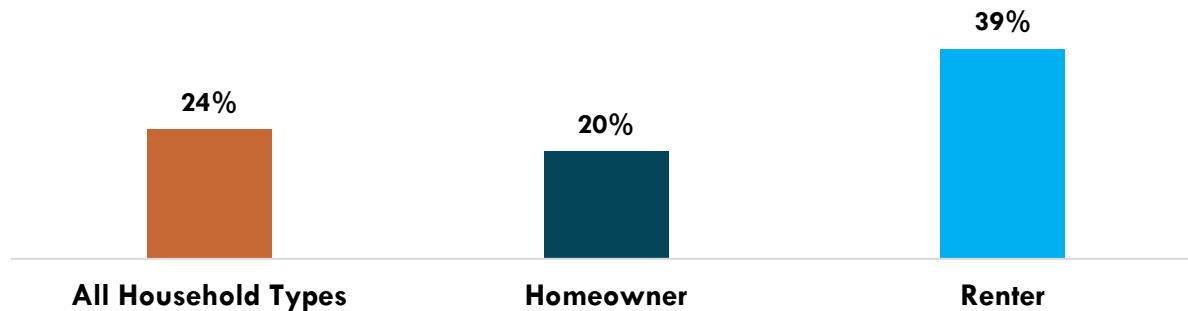
Housing was the top ranked community problem.

Only 16% of Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Affordable place to live** as something **they like best** about their community.

PROBLEM: 1 IN 4 SAUK COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS ARE STRESSED BY HIGH HOUSING COSTS

Housing Insecure or Burdened Households are those paying 30% or more of their household income on housing. An estimated **6,637 (1 in 4) Sauk County families are Housing Insecure**^{1,2}.

% of households paying 30% or more of their income on housing: Renters are more likely to be housing insecure.



“My low-income elderly mother-in-law had to move to Columbia county to get low-income handicap accessible housing. Moving away from friends and family has increased her isolation.” –Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 116

1. U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). Household Income by Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B25074. Retrieved September 23, 2024, from <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2022.B25074?q=B25074&g=050XX00US5111>

2. U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). Household Income by Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B25095. Retrieved September 25, 2024, from <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2022.B25095?q=B25095&g=050XX00US5111>.

ROOT CAUSE: INSUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF HOUSING AT DIVERSE PRICE POINTS. ACTUAL RENT IS HIGHER THAN 2024 FAIR MARKET RENT RATES

Many families cannot find rental units in the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fair Market Rent¹ price ranges. Anecdotal reports list most 2-bedroom units in the \$1,200-\$1,600 price range².

HUD Fair Market Rent Rates in Sauk County



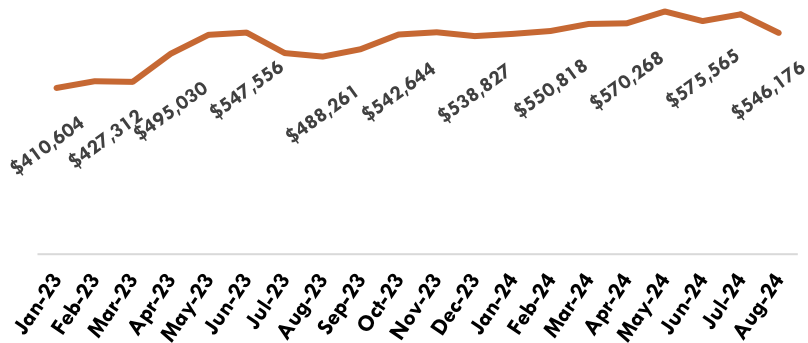
1. HUD FY 2024 Fair Market Rent Documentation System, Retrieved Sept 23, 2024 from <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr.html#year2024>.

2. Anecdotal reports from community members and searches on www.ApartmentFinder.com.

ROOT CAUSE: INSUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF HOUSING AT DIVERSE PRICE POINTS. INCREASING HOUSING AVERAGE LISTING PRICE

In August 2024, the median listing price of a house in Sauk County was **\$546,176**.¹

Median listing prices for houses have increased over time.



A mortgage on a \$546,000 home is \$3,347 per month. (30- year fixed, 20% down, 6% interest rate). **To afford this, a household would need an income of \$133,880, or two adults working full time each earning \$32.18 per hour.** This is well over Sauk County's median household income of \$80,070².

Between insufficient rentals and lack of starter homes, Sauk County families are struggling to find affordable housing at a variety of price points.

1. Realtor.com, Housing Inventory: Average Listing Price in Sauk County, WI [AVELISPRI55111], retrieved September 23, 204 from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/AVELISPRI55111>.

2. Census Profiles. Sauk County, Wisconsin. Retrieved September 16, 2024 from https://data.census.gov/profile/Sauk_County,_Wisconsin?q=050XX00US55111.

HOUSING ACTION TEAM

Our vision: Affordable,
equitable, safe, and
diverse housing options
for all in Sauk County



Problem: 1 in 4 Sauk County households are stressed by high housing costs.



Root Cause: Insufficient supply of housing at diverse price points.



Strategies: Quarterly newsletter and other education for municipalities that highlights best practices and current/planned innovative housing developments in our county.

HOUSING ACTION TEAM

Monthly Virtual Meetings

3rd Tuesday of the month

1 pm – 2 pm





PRIORITY AREA: MENTAL HEALTH

60% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Mental Health** as a **community problem** that we should work to improve, making it the 2nd most selected community problem.

PROBLEM: ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS IS LIMITED, LEADING TO LONG WAITS

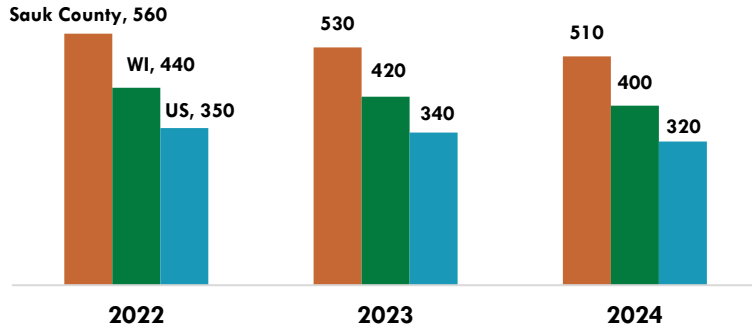


1 in 4 of Sauk County adults have ever **been told by a health professional that they had depression¹**.

The ratio of **Population to Mental Health Providers in Sauk County is improving**, though still higher than **state** and **national** rates².

We are getting more mental health providers

(The # of people per mental health provider is decreasing)



“Mental health resources are extremely limited. Many people don't know where to begin. In-person appointments are almost impossible to schedule, and virtual appointments come with their own set of problems. These challenges can be overwhelming for someone who is already stressed. There is also a stigma to mental health, making people feel that asking for mental health help is a sign of weakness.”
-Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 40

1. PLACES. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Interactive Map. Accessed September 24, 2024. <https://arcg.is/1HmX800>

2. County Health Rankings, Mental Health Providers. Retrieved September 16, 2024, from <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/wisconsin/sauk?year=2024#health-factors>

MENTAL HEALTH: LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Initially focused on increasing access to mental health care.

While access to mental healthcare is increasing, there are still wait lists. This can lead to mental health challenges getting worse while people wait. To address this need, Prevent Suicide Sauk County selected the CredibleMind platform to provide mental health support to Sauk County area residents.

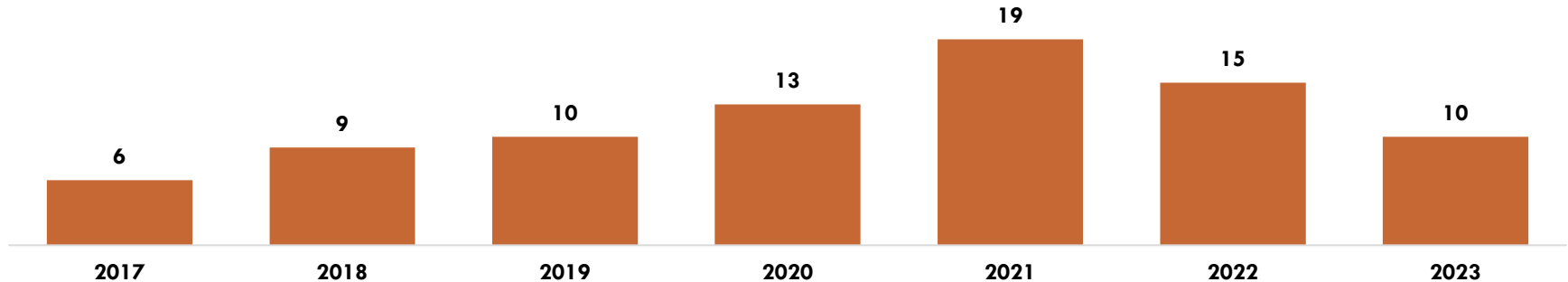
The CredibleMind website is free and confidential and has thousands of expert mental health resources to help you. Check it out at <https://saukcounty.crediblemind.com/>.



SAUK COUNTY HAS HIGH RATES OF SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AND DEATHS

At **17 Suicide Deaths per 100,000 population**, Sauk County continues to **have More Suicide Deaths** than state (15 per 100,000) and national (14 per 100,000) rates¹. (2017-2021 Data)

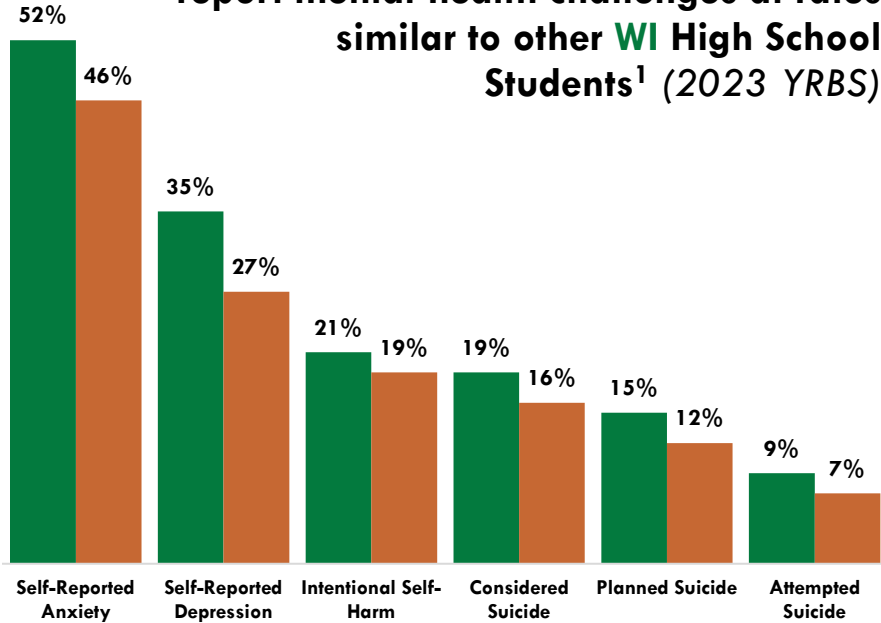
Suicides in Sauk County



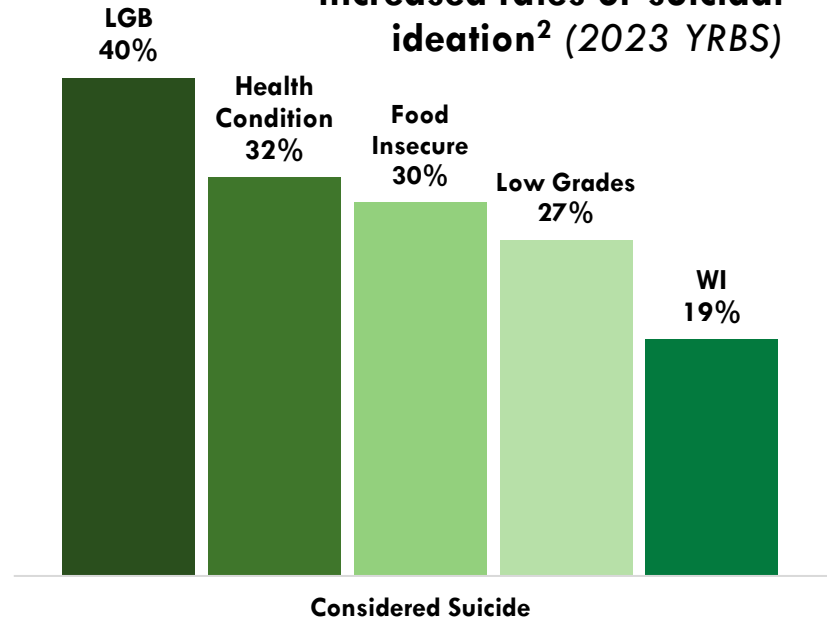
1. County Health Rankings, Suicides. Retrieved September 20, 2024 from <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/health-factors/social-economic-factors/community-safety/suicides?year=2024&county=55111>

SOME POPULATIONS ARE AT HIGHER RISK

Sauk County High School Students report mental health challenges at rates similar to other **WI** High School Students¹ (2023 YRBS)



High risk groups have greatly increased rates of suicidal ideation² (2023 YRBS)



1. Sauk County YRBS Results compiled from Baraboo - Baraboo High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), River Valley - River Valley High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), and Reedsburg - Reedsburg Area High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version). Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2023. Data compiled by Public Health Sauk County Staff, August 2024.

2. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2024. "2023 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Report." Retrieved September 13, 2024, from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbbs>

Problem: Sauk County has high rates of suicide attempts and deaths

Root Cause: Access to lethal means

Local Condition: People in distress have ready access to firearms

Strategies Include: policy/procedure change for gun shops, hunter safety courses, gun clubs to offer staff/member training on warning signs and provide/train on safe storage options

prevent suicide
SAUK COUNTY
PARTNERS SAVING LIVES IN WISCONSIN

PREVENT SUICIDE SAUK COUNTY

Monthly Virtual Meetings

3rd Monday of the month

11 am – 12 pm

📞 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL, TEXT, OR CHAT 988 🗨️

prevent suicide[®]
WISCONSIN
PARTNERS SAVING LIVES IN OUR STATE

Sauk County

Prevent Suicide Sauk County

Contact: Jodie Molitor

✉️ jodie.molitor@saukcountywi.gov



PRIORITY AREA: SUBSTANCE USE

46% of 2024 Sauk County CHA Survey respondents selected **Alcohol, Commercial Tobacco, Vaping, & Other Drug Use** as a community problem that we should work to improve, making it the 3rd most selected community problem.



PROMOTION

Creating and maintaining environments that support healthy behaviors.



PREVENTION

Interventions intended to reduce risky behaviors and encourage healthy decisions to prevent substance misuse.



TREATMENT

Services to improve or reverse the effects of substance use in those diagnosed with SUD (substance use disorder).



RECOVERY

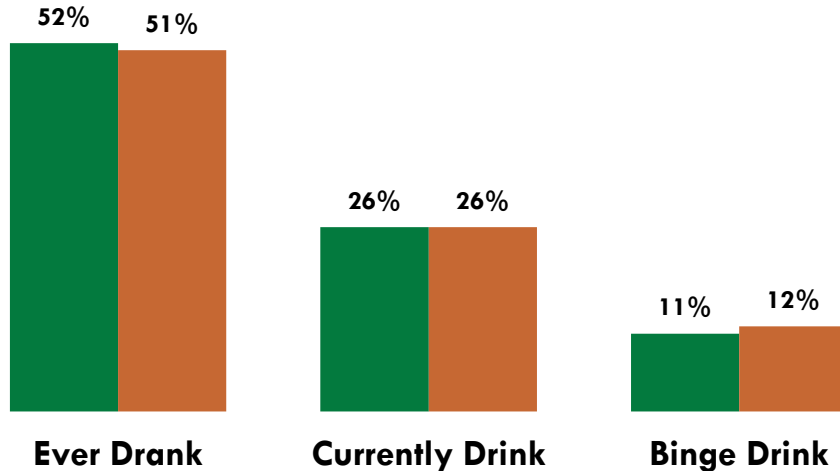
Long-term treatment that focuses on reducing relapse events and supporting individuals in leading productive lives.

“VERY disappointing to see a vaping store right across the street from the Baraboo public swimming pool, tennis courts, and skate park area where kids and families gather.”

—Sauk County CHA Survey Respondent 494

PROBLEM: SAUK COUNTY YOUTH ARE USING ALCOHOL

Sauk County High School Students Use Alcohol at rates similar to other WI High School Students^{1,2} (2023 YRBS)



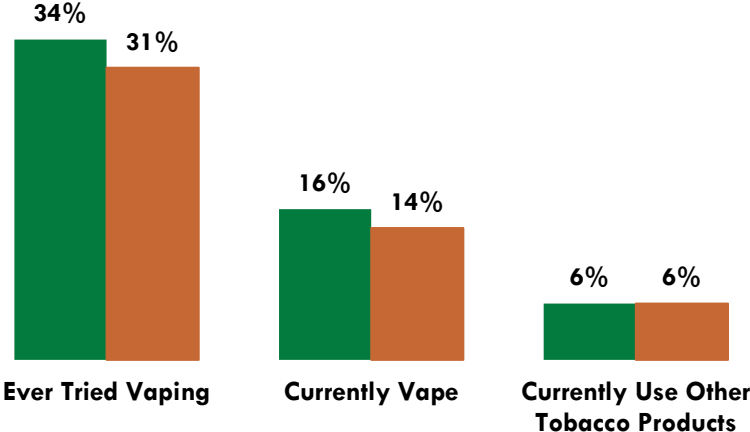
26% of Sauk County High School Students Currently Drink (have had at least one drink in the past 30 days).

Among Sauk County high school students who drank in the past 30 days, **35% had their first drink before age 13**. Wisconsin: 16%

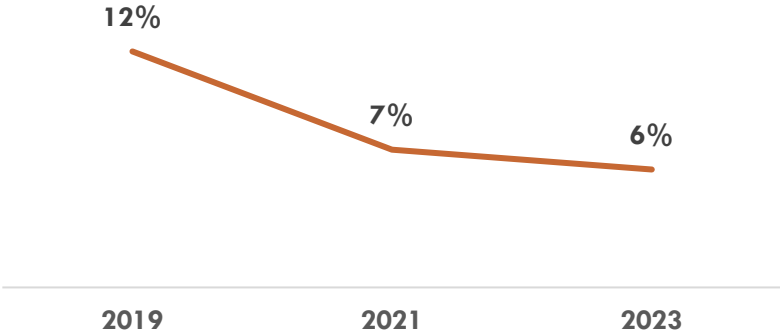
1. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2024. "2023 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Report." Retrieved September 13, 2024 from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs>
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PROBLEM: SAUK COUNTY YOUTH ARE USING TOBACCO

Sauk County High School Students Use Tobacco at rates similar to other WI High School Students (2023 YRBS)



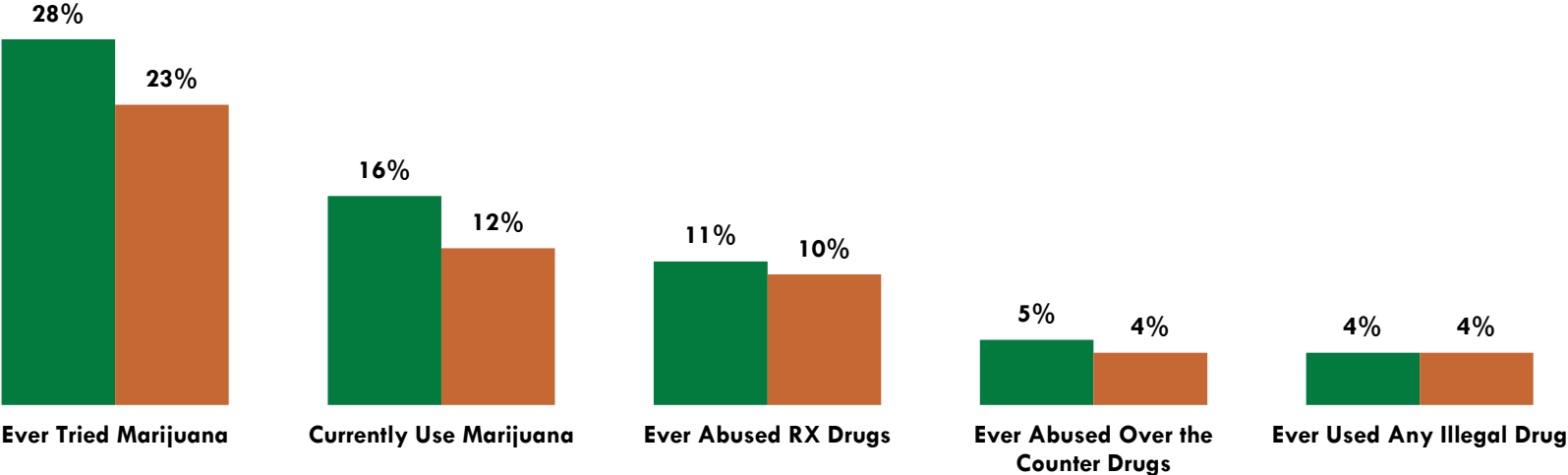
The % of **Sauk County High School Students Using Other Tobacco Products** (Cigarettes, Cigars/Cigarillos, Chew, Smokeless Tobacco) **is Decreasing**



1. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2024. "2023 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Report." Retrieved September 13, 2024 from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs>
2. Sauk County YRBS Results compiled from Baraboo - Baraboo High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), River Valley - River Valley High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), and Reedsburg - Reedsburg Area High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version). Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2023. Data compiled by Public Health Sauk County Staff, August 2024.

PROBLEM: SAUK COUNTY YOUTH ARE USING OTHER DRUGS

Sauk County High School Students Use Other Drugs at rates similar to other **WI** High School Students (2023 YRBS)



1. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2024. "2023 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Report." Retrieved September 13, 2024 from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs>
2. Sauk County YRBS Results compiled from Baraboo - Baraboo High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), River Valley - River Valley High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version), and Reedsburg - Reedsburg Area High 2023 YRBS Results (High School Version). Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2023. Data compiled by Public Health Sauk County Staff, August 2024.



- Community-based coalition, est. 2017
- **Priority areas:** Underage use of alcohol, Underage use of tobacco (including nicotine vapes and other products) and prescription drug misuse across the lifespan.
- **Mission:** Through collaborative and strategic action, we empower communities to prevent the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

STRATEGIES



- Increase community strengths through a coalition framework to address youth substance use.
- Conduct compliance checks to ensure local businesses do not sell alcohol and tobacco (vapes) to youth.
- Encourage parents and other adults to say “Not in My House” to underage drinking parties.
- Provide education and support to youth and parents.

STRATEGIES



- Enhance safe storage of prescription medications by distributing medication lock boxes or bags
- Enhance responsible disposal of prescription and non-prescription medication by distributing at home medication disposal kits (Deterra) and promoting the Drug Drop Boxes located at area Law Enforcement centers.

PARTNERSHIP FOR PREVENTION

Empowering Sauk County to prevent substance misuse.

Hybrid Meetings: 4th Thurs of the month

1 - 2:15pm at West Square Bldg. Rm. 213

or online

**Small Talks,
BIG Results**

**LET'S TALK
VAPES+ALCOHOL**

Tuesday, October 22 from 6-7pm

Free webinar for parents of youth in grades 3-12.

Know what to say and do to have successful short chats with youth about vapes and alcohol.

Two ways to participate: join LIVE on 10/22/2024 at 6pm OR watch recording at a later date. **Get \$20 in Gas Cards** for participating AND taking a short survey after.

Register: bit.ly/sauktalks2024



Webinar Hosts Include:

Kate Hansen, Sara Jesse, Alysha Basel & Jodie Molitor from

**PARTNERSHIP
FOR PREVENTION**

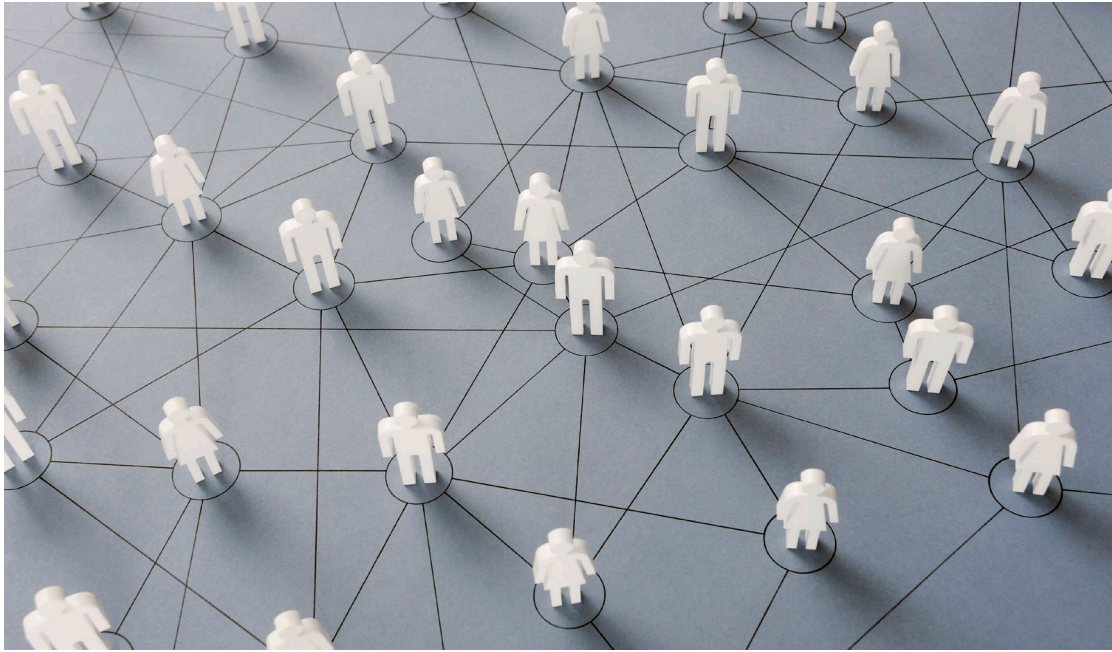
Empowering Sauk County to prevent substance misuse.

Questions? Contact Kate Hansen

kate.hansen@saukcountywi.gov

Call/text 608-477-3609

This is not a school-sponsored activity,
and the Baraboo School District does not fund
or endorse this program/activity.



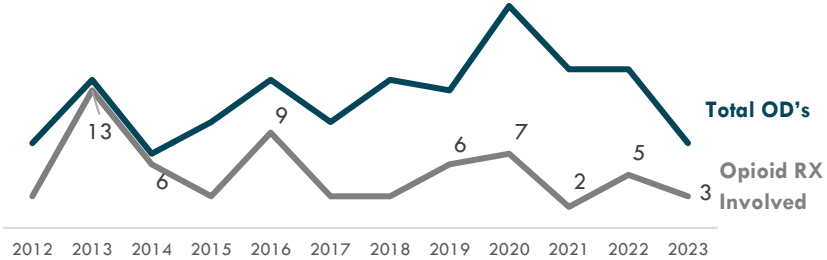
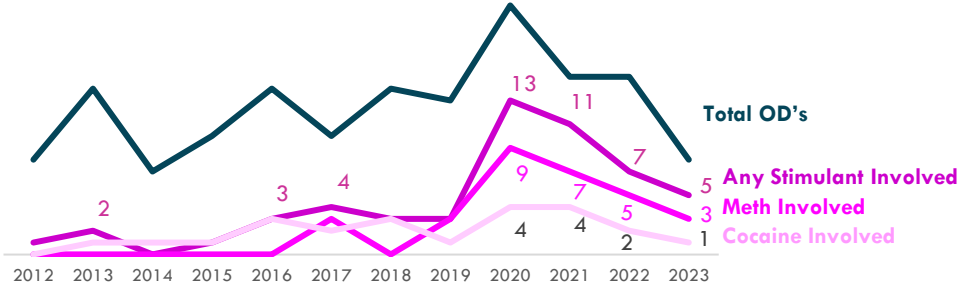
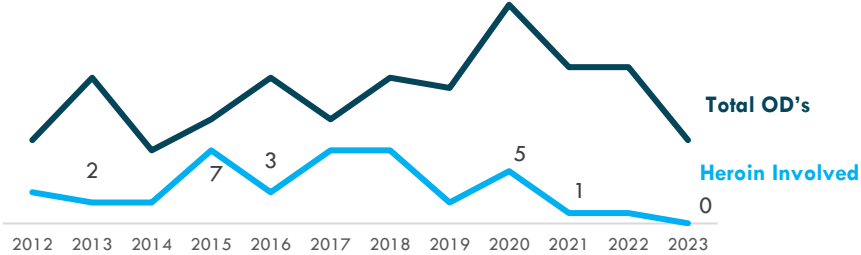
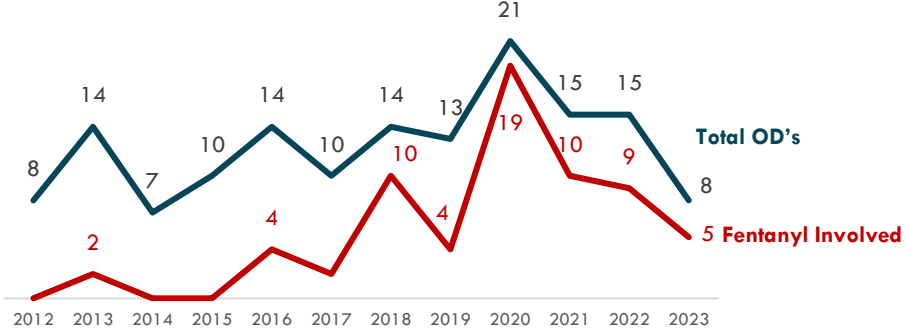
SUBSTANCE USE: CONNECTIONS TO SERVICES

“We need to cultivate more safe, sober places to gather and foster connections.”

-Sauk County CHA Survey
Respondent 388

PROBLEM: SAUK COUNTY RESIDENTS FATALLY OVERDOSE AT HIGH RATES

Overdose deaths in Sauk County from **fentanyl** and **stimulants** spiked in 2020¹.



1. Coroner records accessed by Public Health Sauk County, 2012-2023



Vision: Creating safe, inclusive, and supportive communities where everyone can recover and thrive.

Priority areas: social isolation, transportation, and housing

Accomplishments: 3 large social interaction events to date: Super-Lunch (May 2024) and Day at Devil's Lake (Aug 2023 & July 2024)

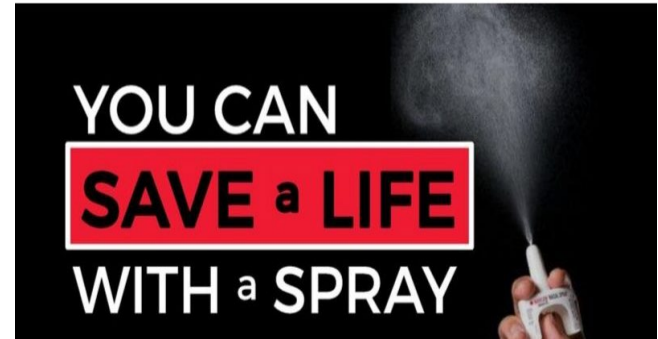
SUBSTANCE USE: HARM REDUCTION

KEEP PEOPLE ALIVE & HELP THEM TAKE A POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS BETTER HEALTH

Narcan can reverse an opioid overdose.

Est. 2017, Sauk County was first rural health dept. to train and equip the community with free Narcan. Trainings are online or in-person. On-demand e-learning class too! Plus EMS Narcan Leave Behind Program.

Free vending machine at entrance of SSM St Clare ER. One to be installed soon at SSM Health Urgent Care - Lake Delton.



SUBSTANCE USE: HARM REDUCTION

KEEP PEOPLE ALIVE & HELP THEM TAKE A POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS BETTER HEALTH

Free Fentanyl Test Strips: test drugs for fentanyl

Cocaine, meth, counterfeit pills and heroin all can be laced with deadly fentanyl. You can't see it, taste it, or smell it.



1 red line = fentanyl detected

Free Xylazine Test Strips

Test any drug for xylazine. Xylazine is a non-opioid tranquilizer that sometimes laces fentanyl.

SUBSTANCE USE:

ENHANCING LINKS TO TREATMENT AND OTHER SERVICES

Sauk County Response Teams

Composed of EMS and a WisHope Peer Recovery Coach, teams make at-home or in-facility visits to those who are seen by EMS for anything substance use related. Goal: streamline a connection to treatment, harm reduction, peer support, and other services. Est. 2021, Sauk County has the first rural Response Teams program in Wisconsin.

SUBSTANCE USE: PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RESPONSE

Sauk County Overdose Death Review Team

Confidentially reviews overdose deaths and recommends changes in policy, programs, and practice to reduce overdose deaths. Est. 2018, 2nd team in WI, first rural.

MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) Providers and Coordinators Meeting to increase access to MAT. Meets First Wednesdays from 10-11 am hybrid (at West Square Building and on Zoom).



Hybrid meetings: 1st Monday of the month, 1 pm – 2pm, both virtually and in person at the new Project WisHope Sauk County Community Center in Baraboo (717 South Blvd)

SUPER

SUPPORT PEOPLE and EMPOWER RECOVERY



HALLOWEEN

Movie Night



Upcoming event:

SUPER Halloween Movie Night

Friday, Oct. 25th at 6pm

Register for event with QR code
or link:

[Bit.ly/SUPERhalloween](https://bit.ly/SUPERhalloween)



READ THE FULL COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT REPORT



bit.ly/SaukCHA2024

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!



PUBLIC HEALTH
SAUK COUNTY

Together we thrive



SSMHealth.

St. Clare Hospital
BARABOO

