

Charlotte County, Florida

Top 3 Health & Wellness Strategic Issues*

1. Child Abuse, Neglect & Well-being

- Charlotte County is ranked 2nd highest in the state for rates of **children experiencing child abuse ages 5-11** (2019, Department of Children and Families, Florida Safe Families Network Data Mart)
- Charlotte County has a rate 3 times the state rate for **children in school grades K-12 with emotional/behavioral disability** (2020, Florida Department of Education, Education Information and Accountability Services)
- Charlotte County has a rate of **83 per 10,000 children in foster care** compared to the state rate of 55 per 10,000 children. (September 2020, fostercourtimprovement.org/fl/County/Charlotte/) 40-50% of child removal cases involve substance abuse. (charlottecounty.floridaweekly.com/articles/child-welfare-strained/)
- 22.9% of Charlotte County **children under 18 years of age live in poverty** (2019, American Community Survey)
- 38% of Charlotte County **third grade students were not reading on grade level**. (Spring 2021, FSA) 56% of Charlotte County students were **not ready for kindergarten**. (Fall 2021, FLKRS)

2. Behavioral, Social, Emotional Health & Trauma

- Charlotte County is ranked 11th highest in the state for **deaths due to suicide** (2019, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics)
- The average number of **mentally unhealthy days** reported in past 30 days for Charlotte County residents was 4.9, higher than the state average of 4.2 (2021 County Health Rankings)
- The rate per 100,000 of **Index Crimes** in Charlotte County was 1,361 compared to Florida at 2,543. These rates have seen a significant decline since a peak in 2006. (Index crimes include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.) (2019, Florida Department of Law Enforcement)

3. Healthcare

- 89.1% of Charlotte County residents have **health insurance coverage** (2019, American Community Survey)
- Charlotte County has a lower rate of **physicians** for the population than the state average (Charlotte County 226.5 per 100,000 vs. Florida 314.0 per 100,000) (FY 20-21, Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance)
- Charlotte County has fewer **births that received 1st trimester prenatal care** than the state average (Charlotte County 66% vs. Florida 75.9%) (2019, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics)

****as identified by the 2020 Charlotte County Community Health & Needs Assessment:
www.unitedwayccfl.org/blog/community-health-needs-assessment-2020***