

**Alger County  
Health Care  
Needs Assessment  
2022**

**Munising Memorial Hospital**

# PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT

Over the years, Munising Memorial Hospital (MMH) has used numerous methods to assess the health needs of Alger County residents and has adjusted its services to meet those identified needs. Federal laws governing nonprofit hospitals like MMH require the organizations to coordinate a community-wide health needs assessment every three years and report the outcome of those evaluations as part of their corporate tax filing with the Internal Revenue Service.

Through a joint effort between the Alger County Chamber of Commerce/Greater Munising Bay Partnership for Commerce Development (GMBPCD) and MMH, a community health care needs assessment was conducted by evaluating health data, meeting with health care leaders, and administering an online survey which was open to the public and advertised for two months. This has given both entities the opportunity to identify and address the healthcare needs in the area.

# EXISTING HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES

## Munising Memorial Hospital

Munising Memorial Hospital (MMH) was first established in 1910 when the original hospital was built on Maple Street in Munising. It was funded by Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. as one of many major gifts made by the company throughout the region by the company during that era. In 1947, the hospital shifted and became a nonprofit organization when it obtained its 501(c)3 status from the Internal Revenue Service. From that point forward, it was and has continued to be a community hospital.

The structure along Maple Street was replaced in 1961 when another facility opened along Sand Point Road. In 2008, that clinic was torn down and replaced by a new state of the art hospital complex. The current principal facilities are located at 1500 Sand Point RD in Munising and consist of a hospital building comprised of the Bay Care Medical Center, Urgent Care, and a medical office building that are all adjacent to each other.

MMH is an 11-bed critical access hospital that provides outpatient diagnostic services, swing beds, and Level 4 Emergency Services, with an average of one inpatient per day. Urgent Care walk-in services were established in September 2015 to provide a lower cost alternative to the ER during afterhours and weekends.

The mission of MMH is to be the provider of choice for primary medical and hospital care for Alger County residents. MMH employees and practitioners provide the highest level of quality care within our resources and abilities with unsurpassed personal and professional integrity.

MMH services are limited to primary care medical services. Many secondary (specialty) and tertiary care treatments are provided either in Marquette or outside of the Upper Peninsula.

MMH has become the primary employer of physicians and mid-level providers in Alger County, providing services to the community through the Bay Care Clinic.

## Munising Memorial Organizational Information

The hospital is owned by a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of Michigan, which is exempt from federal income taxation as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The corporation is licensed to operate the hospital by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). Various hospital functions are licensed by other governmental authorities. The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contracts with MDCH to provide surveys to address quality and operational matters. Three of the hospital functions are currently accredited:

- American College of Radiology Accreditation for Mammography service.
- Community Hospital Laboratory Accreditation (COLA) of the laboratory.
- Bay Care - American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities

Munising Memorial Hospital is a member of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association.

## Munising Memorial Hospital Quality Metrics

MMH has made an organization-wide commitment to improving patient safety and the overall quality of patient care. The hospital has routinely earned Governor's Awards for Improving Patient Safety and Quality of Care in the Critical Access Hospital Setting. As a Critical Access Hospital (CAH), the hospital receives payments from BCBSM in part based upon pay for performance quality measures. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services measures are collected and reported, however, the majority have insufficient volume to be publicly reported. In 2019, MMH was listed as a Top 20 Critical Access Hospital Best Practice in Patient Satisfaction recipients by the National Rural Health Association.

## Munising Memorial Hospital Facilities and Services

The corporation owns and operates the hospital, which, as a CAH, is licensed for 11 acute care beds and five dual licensed swing beds to provide rehabilitation services. All acute care beds are situated in six rooms facing Munising Bay of Lake Superior. All inpatient care and most outpatient services are delivered under one roof in the hospital facility. An independent physician office and space for visiting specialists are attached to the hospital facility.

The scope of services provided by MMH is generally similar to that provided by other CAHs. The hospital facility contains the following areas:

- Completely digitized, the **Radiology Department** now includes a digital X-ray room, CT, Fluoroscopy, 4D Ultrasound, Dexascan and digital mammography.
- **Laboratory** services were designed to accommodate two private drawing rooms and several upgrades to equipment, computer systems and space.

- The **Outpatient Rehabilitation** department allows for easier access for patients including a complete gym, four treatment rooms and a shower for gym participants.
- The **Emergency Department** includes three private exam rooms and a three-bay trauma room. The two-bay ambulance garage includes a decontamination area.
- Six **inpatient rooms** display a hotel-like, comfortable atmosphere. The rooms are equipped with flat panel televisions and face the lake for a beautiful view.
- Two **conference rooms** can be used for support groups, educational programs and administrative meetings.
- **Bay Care Medical Center** has eighteen exam rooms and one procedure room and is open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There's also a small clinic in Grand Marais, along with school-based clinics.
- Munising Memorial offers a swing bed program to patients over the age of 65 needing to recover/ rehabilitate after an acute hospital stay. MMH went from having 2 Swing Bed Licenses in late October 2020 to now having **5 Swing Bed Licenses**.
- Munising Memorial partnered with **Great Lakes Recovery** in the summer of 2021 to provide services at the hospital for those individuals seeking substance abuse treatment.

Inpatient beds are used for observation, hospitalization, and short-term rehabilitation. The hospital's emergency department is classified as a Level IV trauma center by the American College of Surgeons. A Level IV trauma center provides initial evaluation, stabilization, diagnostic capabilities, and transfer to a higher level of care. MMH maintains a transfer agreement with UP Health System-Marquette, which operates a Level II trauma center, to which nearly all transfers are directed.

The county's emergency medical service (EMS) is operated by the Alger County Sheriff's Department. In many situations, serious trauma cases, especially those resulting from incidents occurring west of the hospital facility, will be transported directly to UP Health System-Marquette.

The hospital also offers diabetes education and programming and telemedicine services to those patients who require, and can benefit from, healthcare services outside of the area.

## Munising Memorial Medical Staff

Regarding medical staffing, MMH currently has:

- Chief Medical Doctor who is an MD
- Emergency Department Director, a DO with Board Certification in Emergency Medicine
- Chief of Staff, a DO that provides Family Practice Services
- An MD hospitalist that will soon offer Family Practice Services in the spring or summer of 2023
- One PA in Hospitalist, Family Practice and Peds
- One PA coming in February who will provide women's health services and family practice
- One NP who is coming in early January who will provide Mental Health Services
- Seven NP/PA's that provide Urgent Care Services/ Emergency Room Service

## Other Alger County Health Services and Facilities

Besides MMH, there are several Alger County health care facilities/services in Munising, including:

- Two dental offices
- Four mental health services
- Two primary care clinics and walk-ins
- One tribal health center
- The health department servicing Alger County
- One chiropractic office
- One optometrist office

There are two small primary care clinics with limited hours located in Grand Marais and Trenary. The facility in Trenary is operated by UP Health System, offering the following services:

- Office Exams
- Urgent Care Visits
- Allergy Injections
- Laboratory Services
- Routine Immunization Program
- Electrocardiograms
- Sports Physicals
- Minor Outpatient Surgery
- Referrals to Home Health, Specialists, or Mental Health Services

Long-term facilities in Alger County include:

- One nursing home
- Six adult foster care apartments in one facility
- One adult day care center
- One assisted living facility

In addition, there is one home health care and hospice organization in Munising, diabetes educational programming and the Alger County Commission on Aging.

## Recent Achievements

MMH uses data and information obtained through Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) to help plan for future services to better serve the community. Since the 2019 CHNA, MMH has implemented the following to address concerns:

- MMH went from having 2 Swing Bed Licenses in late October 2020 to now having 5 Swing Bed Licenses.
- Bay Care hired an RN Case Manager to help individuals with chronic illness navigate through healthcare systems and manage their disease.
- Munising Memorial partnered with Great Lakes Recovery to provide substance abuse services at the hospital. MMH intends to implement educational programming regarding substance abuse in conjunction with Great Lakes Recovery, whether that be virtual, in-person or both.
- Held discussions with Pathways Mental Health services to come up with solutions regarding mental health treatment needs in Alger County.
- UPHP will be partnering with MMH to embed mental health services with family practice medicine.
- MMH participates in federal 340B, thus reducing costs of prescriptions for patients.
- MMH works with Putvin Drug Store, Alger County's local pharmacy, to provide educational materials that make customers aware of options available to reduce the cost of their prescriptions.
- MMH provides the community with educational programs on how to find low-cost insurance and how to sign up for insurance.
- MMH has continued purchasing bus tickets from local transportation service ALTRAN and has collaborated with ALTRAN to transport area residents to MMH programming.

# **GREATER MUNISING BAY PARTNERSHIP FOR COMMERCE DEVELOPMENT/ ALGER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

The Greater Munising Bay Partnership for Commerce Development (GMBPCD) /Alger County Chamber of Commerce was chosen to assist in facilitating the community health needs assessment due to the office's relationship with the Alger County community, organizations, businesses, and leaders. GMBPCD staff, Dr. Katherine A Reynolds, chief executive officer, Pat Sanderson, officer manager, and Jaymie Depew, communications and special project assistant, held meetings with local health care leaders, created and promoted an online survey to help gather data from Alger County residents, and prepared the overall report.

Dr. Reynolds has a Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University and is well versed in research, writing, and community relations. She also has previous work experience in rural health services and higher education. Pat Sanderson brings over 35 years of customer service experience in both office and retail management. She provides administrative management support and acts as a liaison to the chamber members and DDA district businesses. Pat is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office and organizations, as well as assisting with or coordinating any special events or projects. Jaymie Depew has 7 years of experience in research and professional writing, including covering topics for MMH and UPHS-Marquette. Along with our office, she also works for the Munising Visitors Bureau.

The GMBPCD promotes tourism and economic development in Alger County, which contributes to the overall wellbeing of the municipalities, townships, and villages in Alger County. The office collaborates with and supports the area and its businesses by formulating sound economic programs and policies that attract, maintain, and provide incentives to business and property owners. They also help mobilize the area's resources, creating consistent marketing strategies to increase tourism by promoting natural resources, attractions, and events throughout the area. The GMBPCD works to enhance and open more lines of communication between public and private businesses, associations, agencies, and organizations.

The Greater Munising Bay Partnership for Commerce Development/Alger County Chamber of Commerce is located at 129 E. Munising Ave., Munising. The office is also known as the Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center and is ideally located in the center of town along the main state highway and adjacent to Munising's waterfront and Binsfeld Bayshore Park.

# COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION & MARKET AREA

Munising Memorial Hospital is in the city of Munising, Michigan in Alger County near the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (PRNL) and Hiawatha National Forest. According to the United States Census Bureau's 2020 statistics, the population of Alger County is 9,098. MMH defines its market area as all residents of Alger County. The area economy is supported by small businesses, industries and corporations, and tourism.

Unlike many other small rural towns across the Midwest, Alger County is fortunate to have a diversified economy. Neenah Paper in Munising is one of the most successful paper and packaging manufacturing businesses in the Midwest targeting specialized products. Other large employers in the area are Timber Products and Alger Max Correctional Facility.

Approximately 800,000 – 1.3 million visitors annually travel from all over the world to Alger County to see the PRNL. The large influx of visitors over the past decade has led to a boom in small business growth throughout the county, making tourism the largest economic driver in the area.



# COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION & MARKET AREA

The hospital is in the City of Munising, MI (Alger County). The population (according to United States Census Bureau 2020 statistics) of Alger County is 8,842. The estimated population for 2021 is 8,821. The Hospital defines its market area as the County. The market area is rural in nature. The area's economy is supported by small businesses, industries, and tourism.

## Townships within Alger County

### American Community Survey 2020 Population Statistics

Au Train Township	1,200
Burt Township	438
Grand Island Township	19
City of Munising	1,991
Munising Township	2,887
Onota Township	460
Limestone Township	503
Mathias Township	519
Rock River Township	1,081

**Total Population of Alger County 9,098**

**\*Since the last health needs assessment in 2019, those that increased in population in Alger County (according to ACS 2020) were Au Train Township, Limestone Township and Onota Township.**

## **Characteristics of Population & Households**

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Housing Units	6,694
Homeownership rate	80%
Median Gross Rent	\$650
Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units	\$141,900
Households	3,246
Persons per Household	2.5
Per Capita Money Income	\$21,675
Median Household Income	\$45,184
Persons Below Poverty Level	10.7%

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**Largest Employment Sector: Accommodation, Food Services & Recreation**

**Second Largest Employment Sector: Manufacturing**

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<b>Major Employers in Alger County &amp; 2022 Employment Statistics (FTEs)</b>	
Neenah Paper	260
Michigan Department of Corrections	206
Timber Products	132
Munising Public Schools	93
Christmas Kewadin Casino	63
MediLodge	55
Munising Memorial Hospital	71
County of Alger	55
Superior Central Schools	46
Family Fare Market	29
Peoples State Bank	37
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	23
Hiawatha Communications	34
Paddling Michigan	27
Pictured Rocks Cruises	45
Pictured Rocks Kayaking	18

## Educational Attainment (25 years and over)

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Less than high 9th grade	3.1%
9th to 12th grade	7.4%
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	44.3%
Some college, no degree	19.1%
Associate degree	7.9%
Bachelor's degree	12.8%
Graduate or professional degree	5.3%

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<b>Population by Sex/Age (ACS 2020)</b>	
Male	56%
Female	44%
0-9	8%
10-19	10%
20-29	11%
30-39	10%
40-49	11%
50-59	15%
60-69	18%
70-79	11%
80+	6%
Median Age	49.6
Married	48%
Women Who Gave Birth During the Past Year	2.3%
Foreign-born Population	1.9%
U.S. Citizens	99.2%
Veteran Status	10.8%

<b>Population by Race (2020 U.S. Census Bureau)</b>	
White	7,363
African American	587
Asian	26
American Indian and Alaska Native	328
Hispanic or Latino	115
Identified by two or more	491
Pacific Islander	1
Other	46

<b>HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE (National Health Expenditure Data)</b>	
Uninsured	5.51%
Employer Coverage	35.1%
Medicaid	19.5%
Medicare	20.7%
Non-group	16.9%
Military or VA	2.27%
Patient to Primary Care Physician Ratio--1,300 to 1	

# PRIMARY DATA

At the beginning of the development of the 2022 Alger County Health Care Needs Assessment, the Greater Munising Bay Partnership met with key Alger County healthcare stakeholders. There were two meetings where topics covered were: the healthcare needs of the county, the healthcare needs assessment process and their input on questions for the survey participants.

## Munising Memorial Hospital Health Needs Assessment (MMH HNA) Zoom Meeting Notes August 1, 2022

In attendance:

Kathy Reynolds – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
Pat Sanderson – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
Jaymie Depew – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
Sandy McGovern – Munising Memorial Hospital  
Rondi Olson – Superior Walk-in Center  
Bobbi Ayotte – LMAS Health Dept  
Johanna Bogater – Mayor Pro-tem  
Kris Lindquist – Alger County Commission on Aging  
Pam McKenna – MediLodge  
Christi Salo – Munising Memorial Hospital

Kathy explained that not-for-profit hospitals are required by federal laws to conduct a local community health needs assessment, following specific guidelines, every three years. She said the plan is to hold two of these meetings with stakeholders in the county that deal with different aspects of health care, one public meeting to get feedback from the community (probably in September) and conduct a survey. During the 2019 MMH HNA, the greatest number of survey respondents were in the 55- to 65-year-old bracket, and more than half earned \$45,000 or more. We are hoping to get a wider range of respondents this year.

The following were viewed as Strengths by those attending today's meeting:

- 1) The pandemic was handled well across the county
- 2) People living in the area take care of each other – there is a cohesiveness in the community
- 3) There is good access to healthcare in Alger County – ER, radiology, lab work, extended hours for urgent care, and good providers
- 4) Also, good access with 3 local dentist offices, an eye doctor, and good communication and collaboration between the offices and providers
- 5) Good partnerships between different entities to get answers and share information
- 6) Able to get referrals from other communities; locally we generally have short wait times and good availability for appointments
- 7) Local access to some specialists – Great Lakes Recovery, dermatology, ENT
- 8) Good access and short wait times for radiology, labs and family doctors; good COVID response

The following were viewed as Weaknesses by those attending today's meeting:

- 1) Emergency preparedness brought to the forefront by COVID
- 2) Lack of qualified local staffing – medical and support staff
- 3) Specialty services for children not readily available; must travel to Marquette or farther
- 4) Lack of some mental health and addiction services

- 5) Some local dentists could be retiring soon
- 6) Lack of specialists across the UP, including psychiatric care, causing long travels for care
- 7) Lack of transportation for appointments or treatments
- 8) Need more mental health services for youths and adults
- 9) Lack of awareness of services that are available; need to make people more aware of what's available
- 10) Lack of specialty care across the UP
- 11) Lack of housing for employees and increased travel costs
- 12) Lack of beds available across the region
- 13) Lack of medical transport for specialty services
- 14) Lack of childcare for employees or someone taking a child or family member for an appointment or treatment
- 15) Emergency preparedness needed for the unknown

Retention of staff:

- 1) If someone stays 5+ years, they will stay longer - newer hires tend to switch jobs frequently
- 2) Lack of LPNs and RNs – traveling medical positions and a large pay increase in Marquette have impacted local hiring
- 3) People are not leaving the medical profession, but not as many are going into the medical profession
- 4) Lower paying positions are tough to fill when employment is available with lower qualifications for the same or higher wages at other businesses

In-person community meeting and survey – how to get more people involved:

- 1) Possibly team up with other entities to get a better turnout
- 2) AC Commission on Aging could deliver paper copies of survey to clients
- 3) Post flyers and/or have paper copies of the survey at Lakeshore Manor, Jericho House, MMH, Superior Walk-in, MediLodge, Putvin Drug Store, Bob's IGA, Family Fare

Munising Memorial Hospital Health Needs Assessment (MMH HNA)  
Zoom Meeting Notes  
August 15, 2022

In attendance:

Kathy Reynolds – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
 Pat Sanderson – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
 Jaymie Depew – Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
 Sandy McGovern – Munising Memorial Hospital  
 Rondi Olson – Superior Walk-in Center  
 Bobbi Ayotte – LMAS Health Dept  
 Kris Lindquist – Alger County Commission on Aging  
 Christi Salo – Munising Memorial Hospital

Kathy reviewed the questions and choice of responses on the community survey. There was discussion on some questions and responses and the survey will be revised as suggested. Need to include space for comments.

The following were suggested as needing further advertisement or education to the public:

- Various non-profit agencies
- Food pantries



- Women's Center
- AA, NA and Families Against Narcotics

There also needs to be further education for youths – including public and private schools and those that are home schooled.

The community needs to be further educated regarding the female providers that are available locally for women's healthcare and pediatrics.

Women's healthcare services need to include pediatrics, transportation and possibly childcare services.

People need to be made aware of the variety of services available through LMAS.

Hard copies of posters and survey cards (with QR code and link to website) will be made available at various places around town.

## SECONDARY DATA

For secondary data, research was obtained from County Health Rankings. This report was a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. According to County Health Rankings and Roadmaps 2022, Alger County, MI is ranked 22 in the state of Michigan for health outcomes.

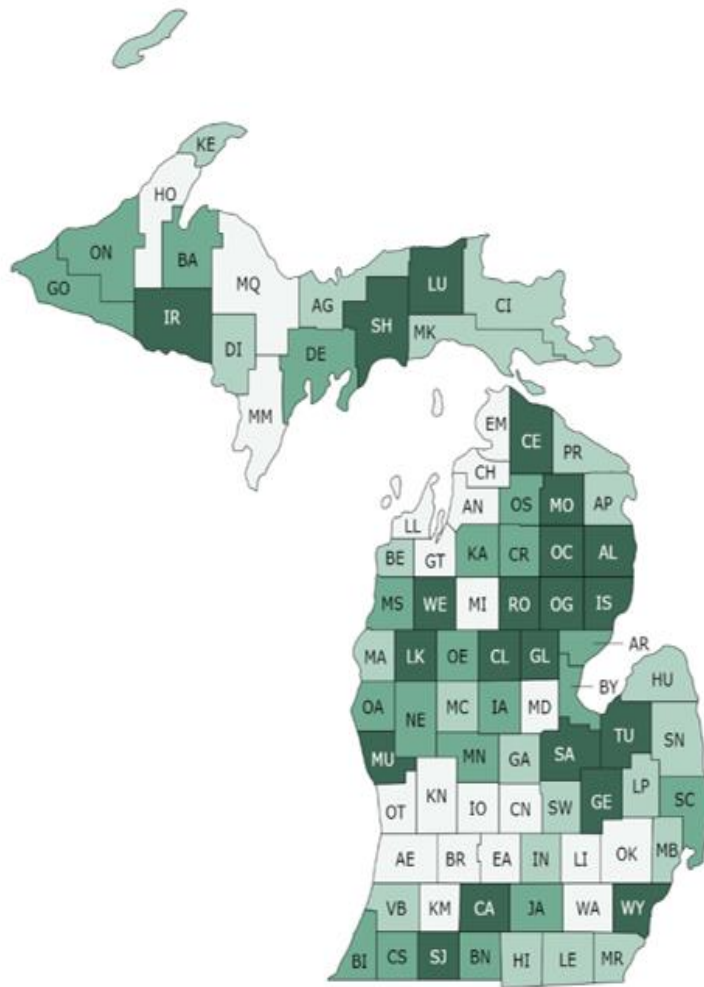
	<b>Alger County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Top U.S. Performers *</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Rank (of 83)</b>
Health Outcomes					22
Health Factors					25
Premature death	5,700	3,700-7,600	5,600	7,900	
<b>Quality of Life</b>					
Poor or fair health	19%	17-22%	15%	18%	
Poor physical health days	4.5	4.2-4.7	3.4	4.2	
Poor mental health days	5.3	5.0-5.6	4.0	5.2	
Low birthweight	9%	6-11%	6%	9%	
<b>Health Behaviors</b>					
Adult smoking	22%	20-25%	15%	20%	
Adult obesity	38%	36-40%	30%	36%	
Food environment index	7.6		8.8	7.1	
Physical inactivity	27%	25-30%	23%	25%	

Access to exercise opportunities	81%		86%	77%
Excessive drinking	21%	20-22%	15%	20%
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	0%	0-20%	10%	29%
Sexually transmitted infections	87.8		161.8	501.7
Teen births	15	9-23	11	17
<b>Clinical Care</b>				
Uninsured	8%	7-10%	6%	7%
Primary care physicians	1,300:1		1,010:1	1,250:1
Dentists	2,250:1		1,210:1	1,290:1
Mental health providers	1,500:1		250:1	330:1
Preventable hospital stays	1,613		2,233	4,357
Flu vaccinations	30%		55%	47%
Mammography screening	45%		52%	45%
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b>				
High school graduation	92%	90-94%	94%	91%
Some college	43%	35-50%	74%	69%
Unemployment	10.7%		4.0%	9.9%

Children in poverty	16%	10-23%	9%	17%
Income inequality	3.8	3.2-4.3	3.7	4.6
Children in single-parent households	11%	6-16%	14%	26%
Social associations	11.0		18.1	9.7
Violent crime	207		63	443
Injury deaths	66	44-94	61	81
<b>Physical Environment</b>				
Air pollution - particulate matter	6.1		5.9	7.4
Drinking water violations	No			
Severe housing problems	11%	8-13%	9%	14%
Driving alone to work	67%	63-72%	72%	81%
Long commute - driving alone	34%	27-41%	16%	34%

**Note:** Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data

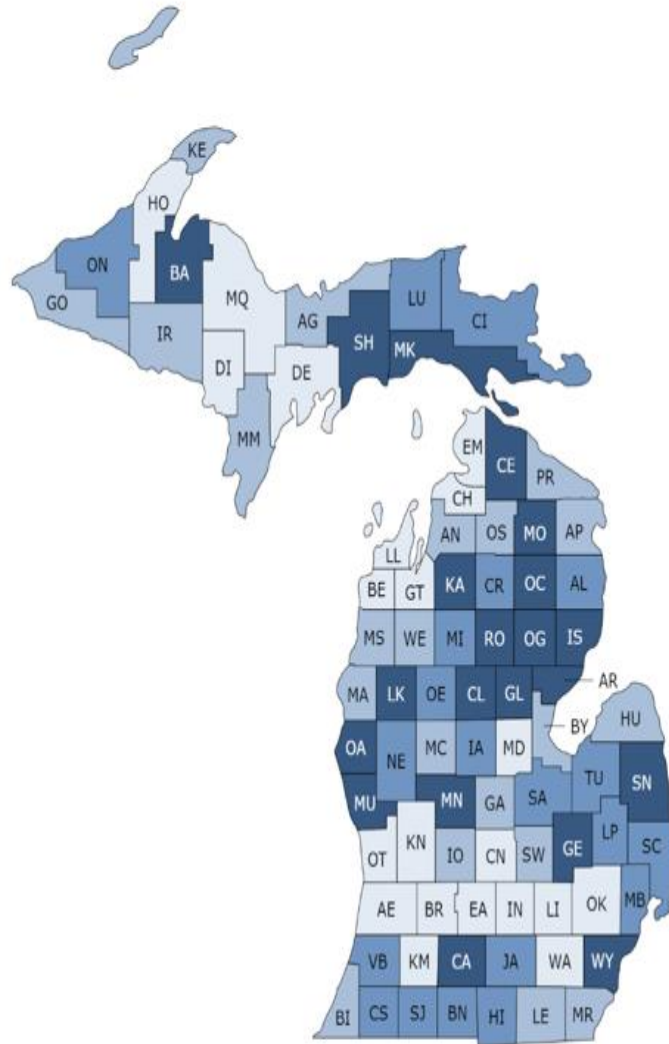
# 2022 Health Outcomes - Michigan



Health Outcome Ranks  1 to 21  22 to 42  43 to 62  63 to 83

County Health  
Rankings & Roadmaps  
Building a Culture of Health, County by County

# 2022 Health Factors - Michigan



Health Factor Ranks  1 to 21  22 to 42  43 to 62  63 to 83



**Source:** County Health Rankings, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

**The total number of hospitalizations for Alger County Residents in 2020 was 703. The ten leading diagnoses for hospitalizations for Alger County Residents for the year 2020 were:**

<b>Principal Diagnosis</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Heart Disease	96	5.3
Newborns and Neonates (Less than 7 days)	66	3.7
Females with Deliveries	61	3.4
Injury and Poisoning	66	3.7
Septicemia	38	2.1
COVID-19	19	1.1
Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	17	.9
Cerebrovascular Diseases	16	.9
Hypertensions	15	.8
Arthropathies	27	1.5

Source: Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Community Health. State of Michigan, 2020.

## Ambulatory Care Sensitive Hospitalizations Trends Alger County Residents, Michigan 2010-2020

YEAR	ALGER COUNTY			MICHIGAN
	AMBULATORY CARE SENSITIVE HOSPITALIZATIONS View ICD-CM Codes	ALL HOSPITALIZATIONS	PERCENT	PERCENT
2020	140	703	19.9	22.6
2019	156	920	17.0	23.7
2018	162	868	18.7	23.6
2017	134	922	14.5	22.8
2016	159	889	17.9	21.6
2015	166	925	18.0	20.5
2014	167	889	18.8	19.9
2013	190	908	20.9	20.1
2012	208	915	22.7	20.2
2011	250	1,005	24.9	20.6
2010	225	1,075	20.9	20.5

**Source: Michigan Resident Inpatient Files created by the Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, using data from the Michigan Inpatient Database obtained with permission from the Michigan Health & Hospital**



## All Causes Deaths and Death Rates Alger County Residents, 2010-20

<b>Year</b>	<b>All Ages</b>	<b>Age Under 50</b>	<b>Age 50-74</b>	<b>Age 75 and Older</b>
2020	97	5	37	55
2019	109	4	36	69
2018	118	6	31	81
2017	105	3	42	60
2016	113	5	37	71
2015	127	5	51	71
2014	137	6	47	84
2013	105	10	32	63
2012	113	4	42	67
2011	106	3	28	75
2010	99	2	41	56

Source: 1989-2020 Michigan Resident Death Files. Alger County Residents. Division for Vital Records & Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services.

## Leading Cause of Deaths for Ten Leading Causes by Age Alger County, Michigan 2020

Cause of Death	All Ages	Under 25 Years	25- 54 Years	55- 64 Years	65- 74 Years	75- 84 Years	85+ Years
<b>All Causes of Death</b>	97	1	11	11	18	22	34
1.Heart Disease	31	-	3	3	3	8	14
2.Cancer	15	-	3	6	3	2	1
3.COVID-19	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
4.Unintentional Injuries	5	-	1	-	1	3	-
5.Stroke	3	-	-	-	1	1	1
6.Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	4	-	-	-	1	1	2
7.Alzheimer's Disease	6	-	-	-	1	1	4
8.Diabetes Mellitus	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
9.Kidney Disease	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
10.Pneumonia/Influenza	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
All Other Causes	28	1	4	2	7		

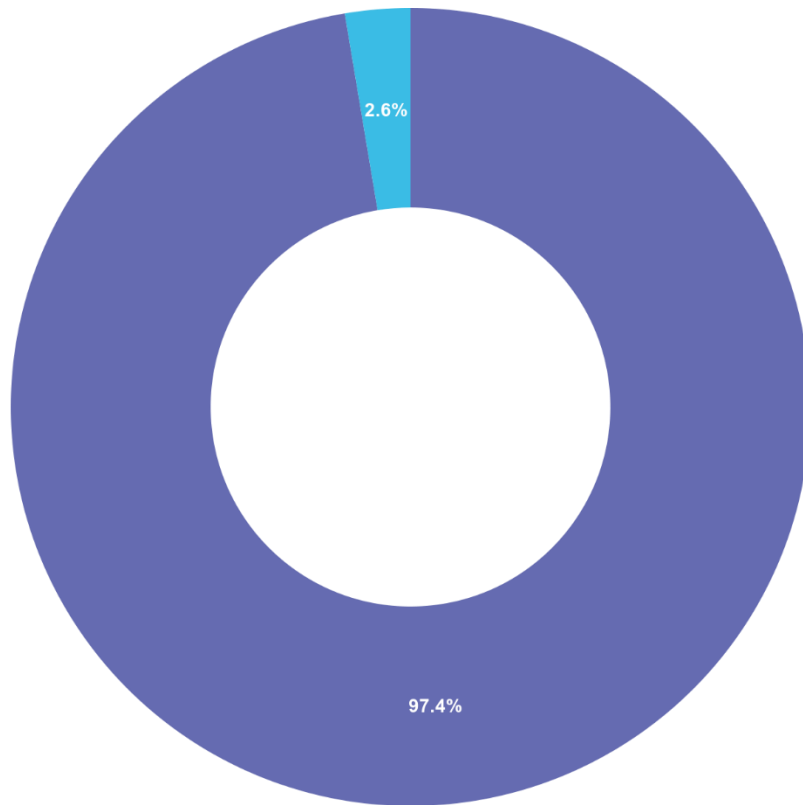
Source: 2020 Geocoded Michigan Death Certificate Registry. Division for Vital Records & Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

# 2022 Alger County Health Needs Survey

Alger County residents, we need your help! We are interested in understanding the health needs of residents in our county. Results will be reported to Munising Memorial Hospital to help assemble a Health Needs Assessment report for the county to be used for future planning, programming, etc. The survey - which is completely anonymous - takes approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. We would greatly appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts and concerns.

**Q1** Are you a resident of Alger County?

*Multiple Choice*

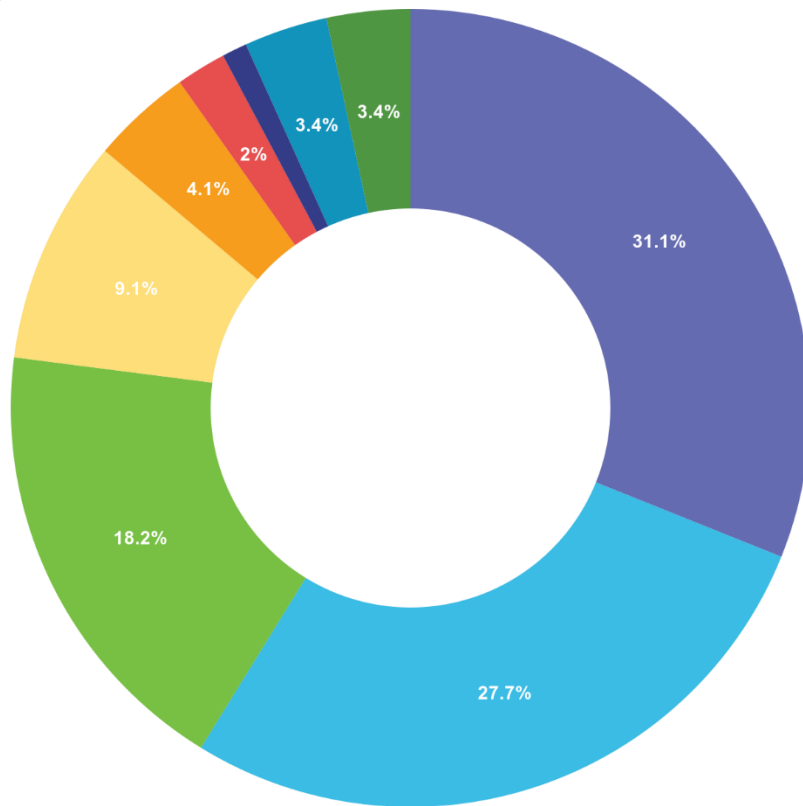


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
•	Yes	296
•	No	8

Responses 304   Answered 304   Unanswered 0

**Q2** Where do you live in Alger County?

Multiple Choice

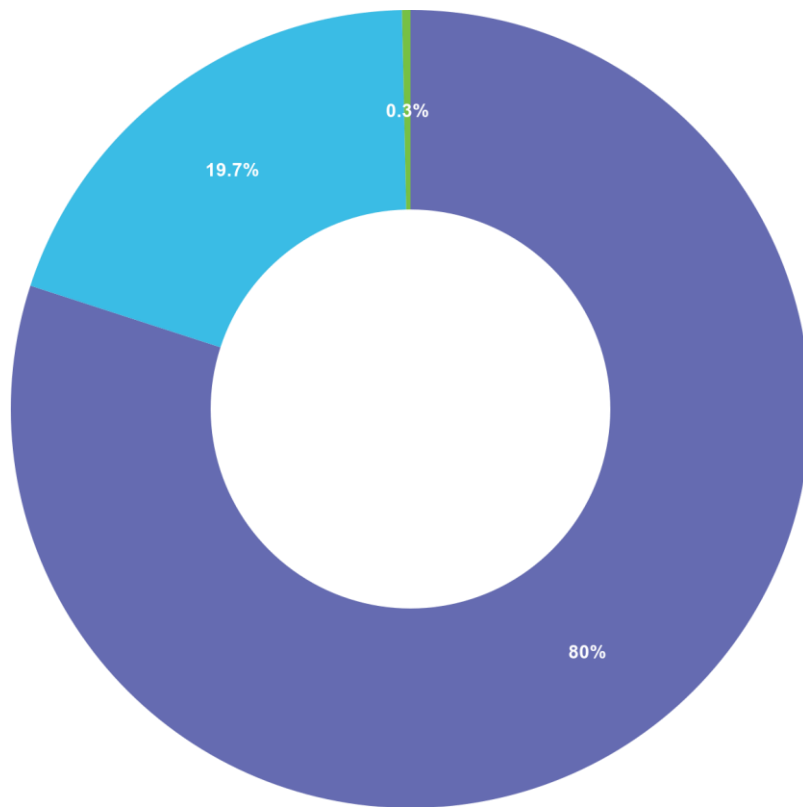


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
•	The City of Munising	92
•	Munising Township	82
•	Au Train Township	54
•	Rock River Township	27
•	Onota Township	12
•	Burt Township	6
•	Grand Island Township	3
•	Mathias Township	10
•	Limestone Township	10

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 296 **Unanswered** 8

**Q3** What is your gender?

Multiple Choice

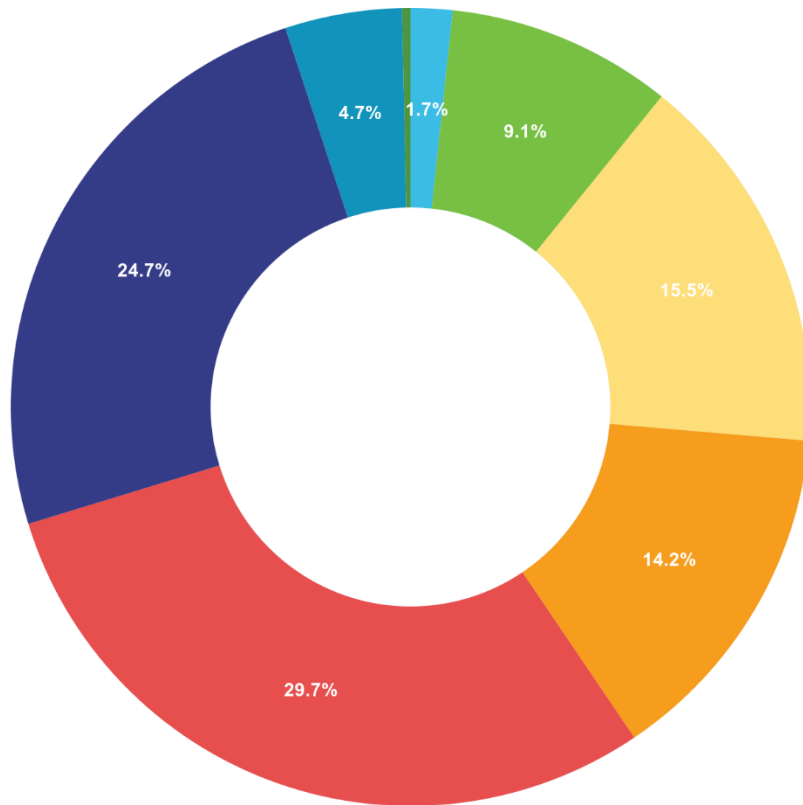


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Female	236
●	Male	58
●	Non-binary	1

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 295 **Unanswered** 9

**Q4** What is your age?

Multiple Choice



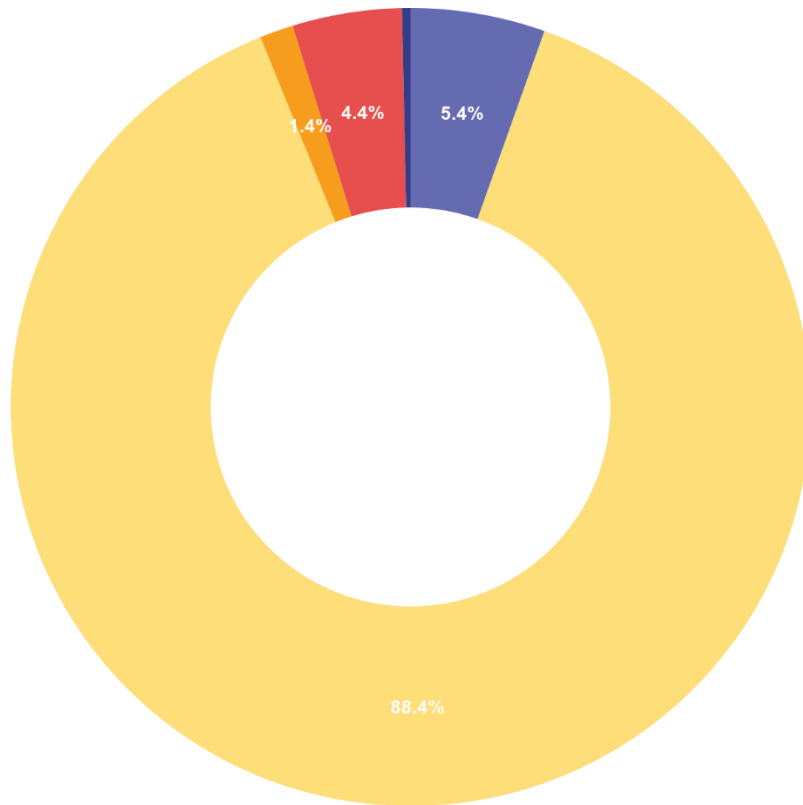
	Choice	Totals
●	Under 18	0
●	18-25	5
●	26-35	27
●	36-45	46
●	46-55	42
●	56-66	88
●	67-75	73

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	76-85	14
<input type="radio"/>	86 and over	1

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 296 **Unanswered** 8

**Q5** What is your race?

Multiple Choice



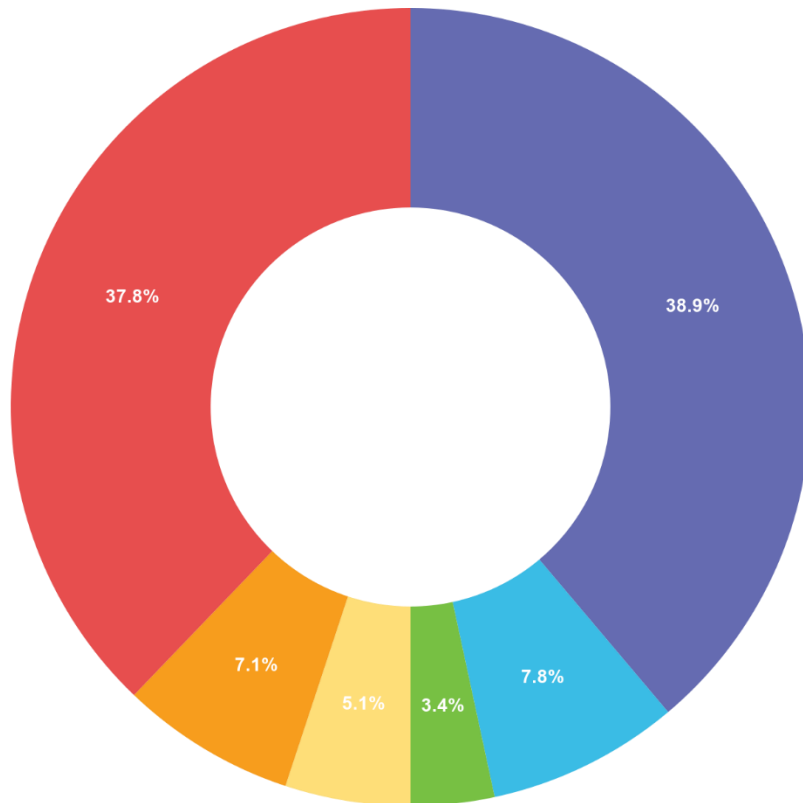
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	American Indian or Alaska Native	16
●	Asian	0
●	Black or African American	0
●	White	260
●	Multiracial	4
●	Prefer not to disclose	13
●	Other	1

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 294 **Unanswered** 10



**Q6** Are you currently employed?

Multiple Choice

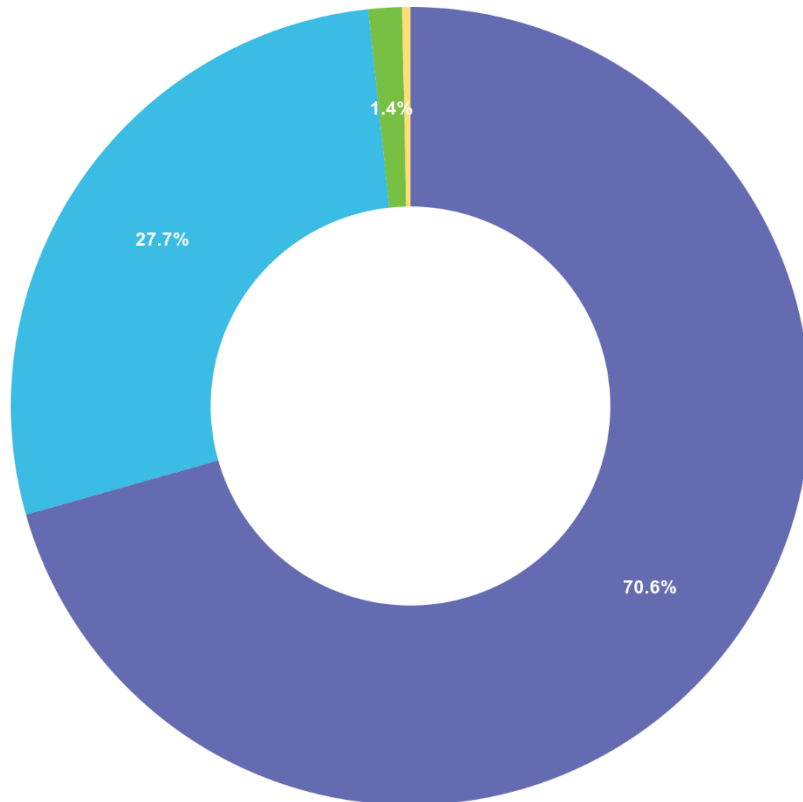


	Choice	Totals
●	I work full-time	115
●	I work part-time	23
●	I work seasonally	10
●	Self-employed	15
●	No	21
●	Retired	112

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 296 **Unanswered** 8

**Q7** How many people are in your household?

Multiple Choice

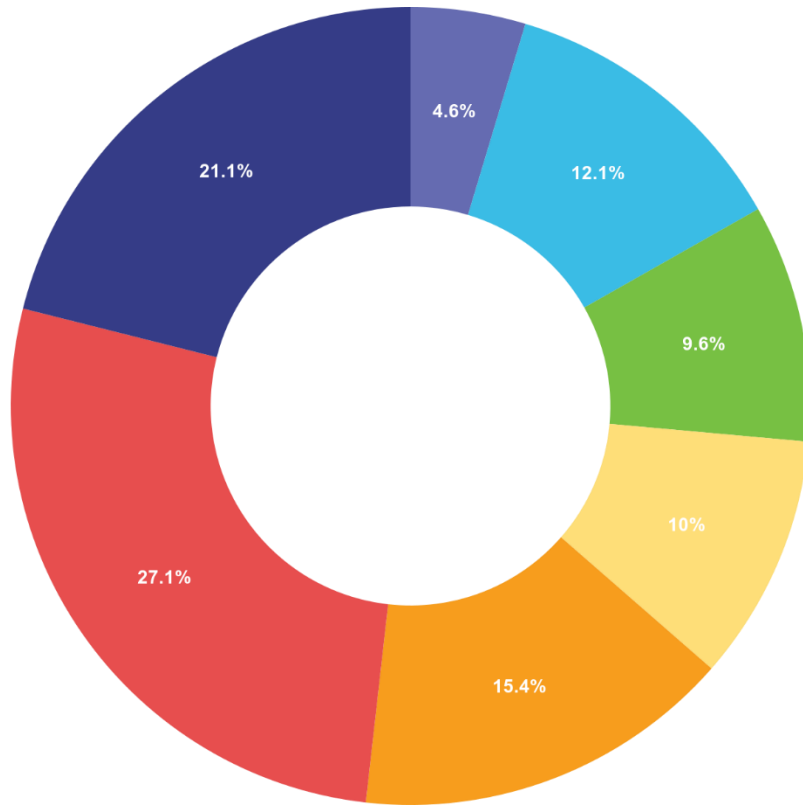


	Choice	Totals
●	1-2	209
●	3-5	82
●	6-8	4
●	More than 8	1

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 296 **Unanswered** 8

**Q8** What is your average household income?

Multiple Choice

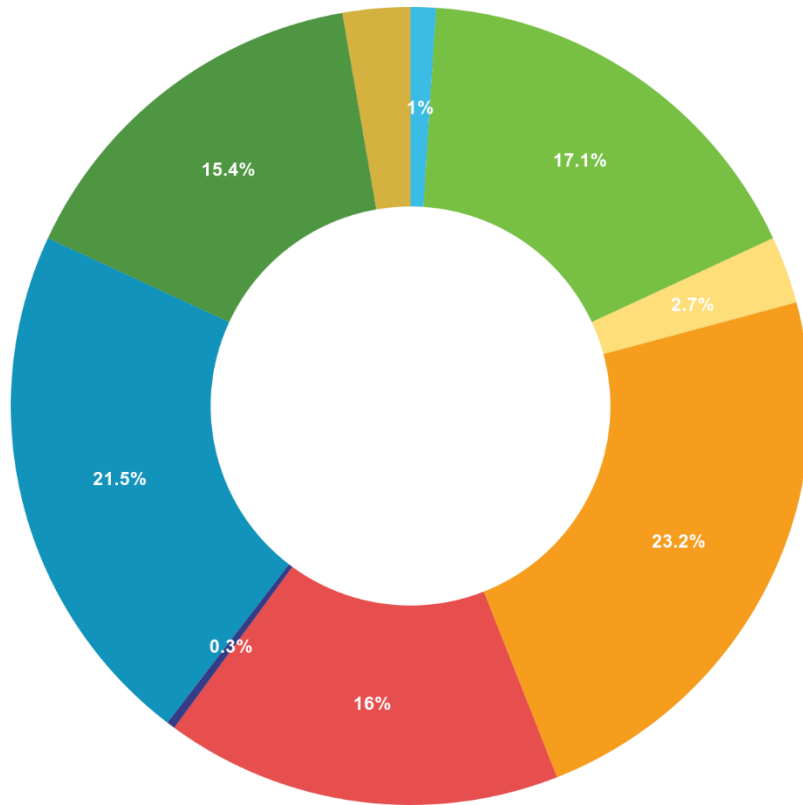


	Choice	Totals
●	Below \$15,000	13
●	\$15,000 - \$25,000	34
●	\$26,000 - \$35,000	27
●	\$36,000 - \$45,000	28
●	\$46,000 - \$60,000	43
●	\$61,000 - \$100,000	76
●	Above \$100,000	59

Responses 304 Answered 280 Unanswered 24

**Q9** What is your highest level of education?

Multiple Choice



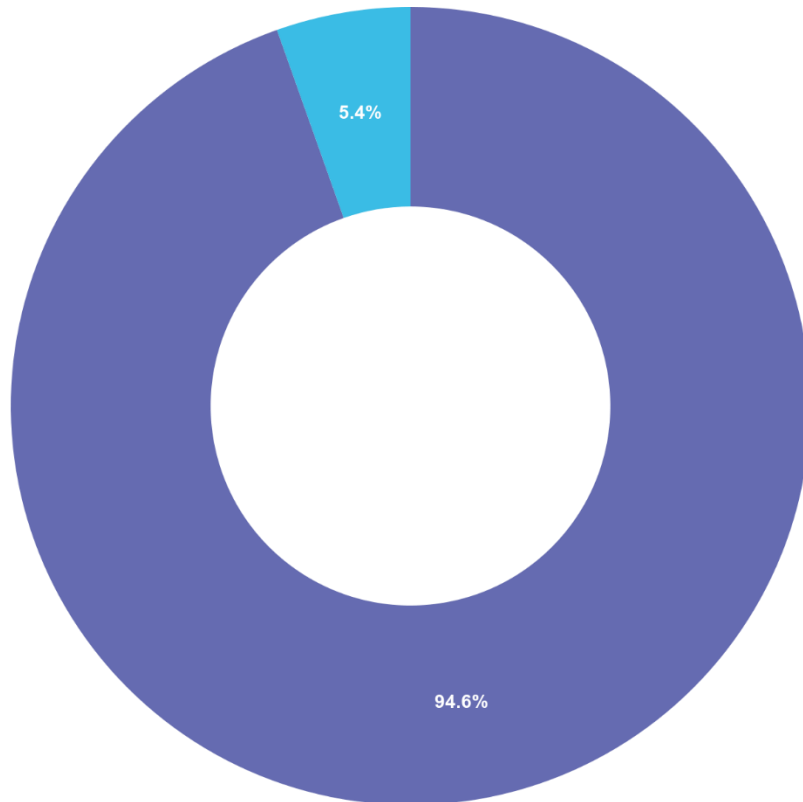
	Choice	Totals
●	K-8 grade	0
●	Some high school	3
●	High school graduate/GED certificate	50
●	Technical/Trade school	8
●	Some college	68
●	Associate's degree	47

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Professional degree	1
●	Bachelor's degree	63
●	Master's degree	45
●	Doctorate degree	8

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 293 **Unanswered** 11

**Q10** Do you have healthcare insurance?

Multiple Choice

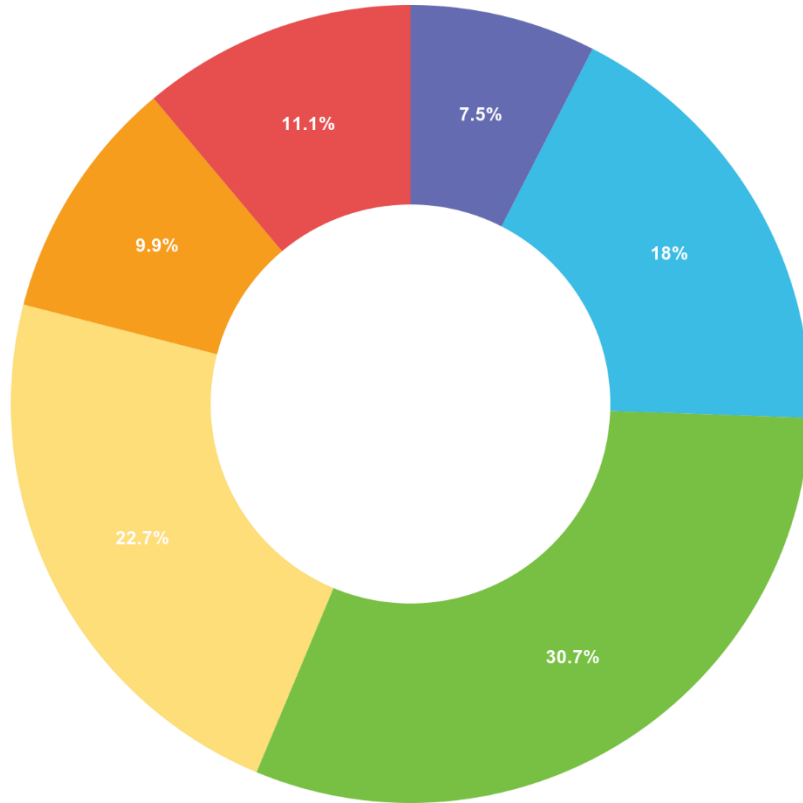


	Choice	Totals
●	Yes	279
●	No	16

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 295 **Unanswered** 9

**Q11** How satisfied are you with your healthcare insurance?

Rating

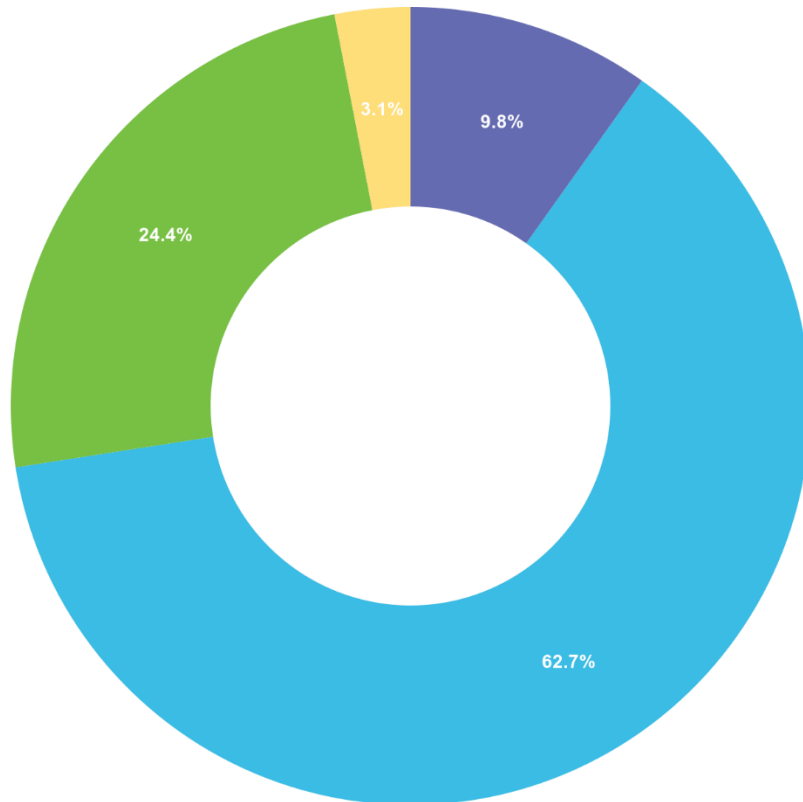


	Value	Label	Rating	Total
●	1	Extremely satisfied	61	61
●	2	Very satisfied	146	73
●	3	Satisfied	249	83
●	4	Somewhat satisfied	184	46
●	5	Not satisfied	80	16
●	6	I don't have insurance	90	15

Responses 304 Answered 294 Unanswered 10 Rating Average 3 — Satisfied

**Q12** How would you rate your overall physical health?

Multiple Choice



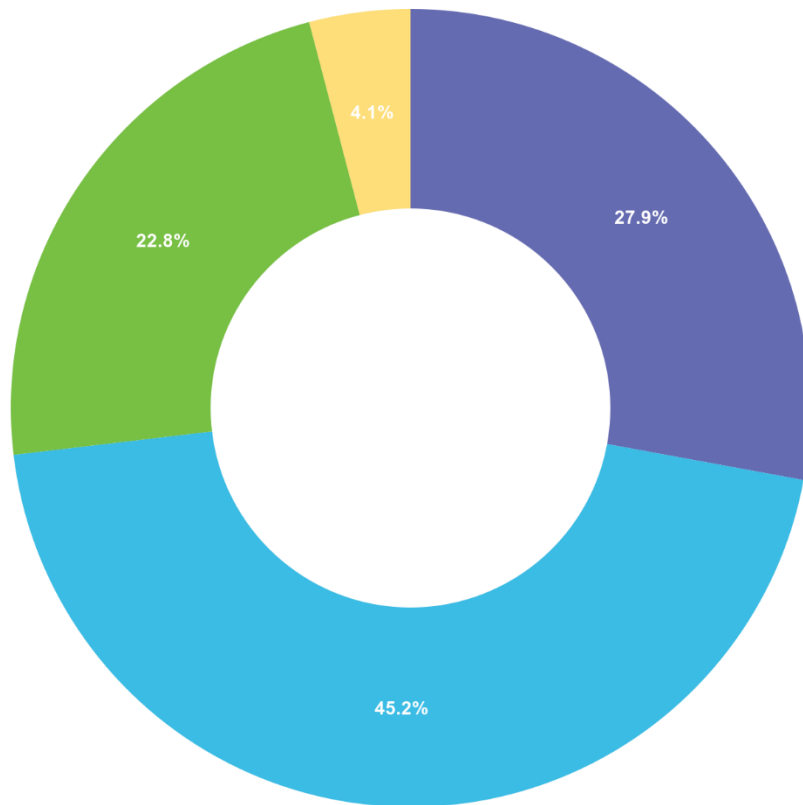
	Choice	Totals
●	Excellent	29
●	Good	185
●	Fair	72
●	Poor	9

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 295 **Unanswered** 9



**Q13** How would you rate your overall mental health?

Multiple Choice

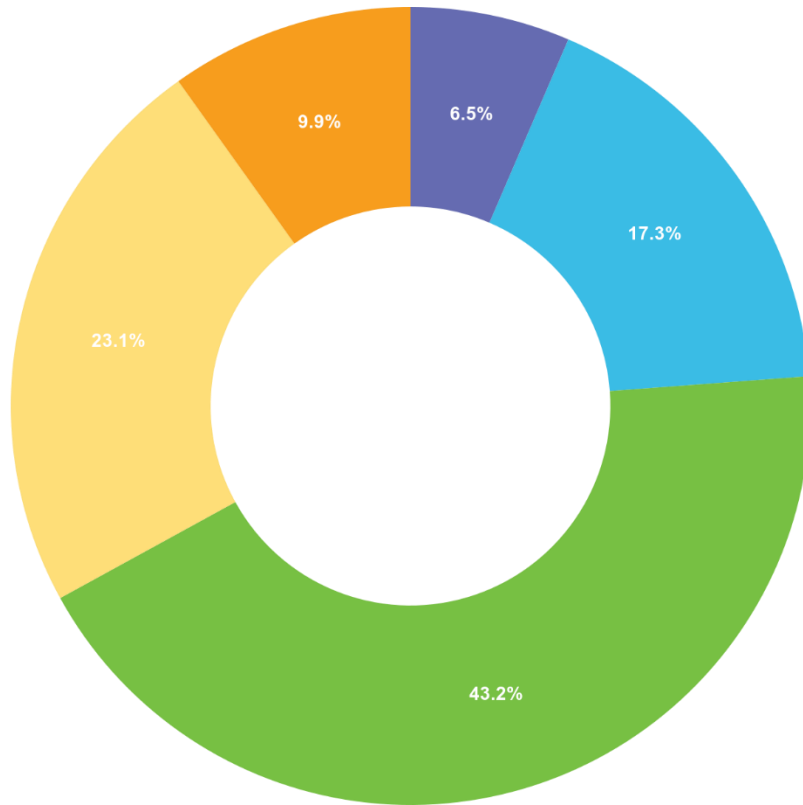


	Choice	Totals
●	Excellent	82
●	Good	133
●	Fair	67
●	Poor	12

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 294 **Unanswered** 10

**Q14** On a scale from 1-5, 1 being the lowest, how would you rate the quality of healthcare services (dental, eye care, mental health, access to doctors, etc.) in Alger County?

Multiple Choice

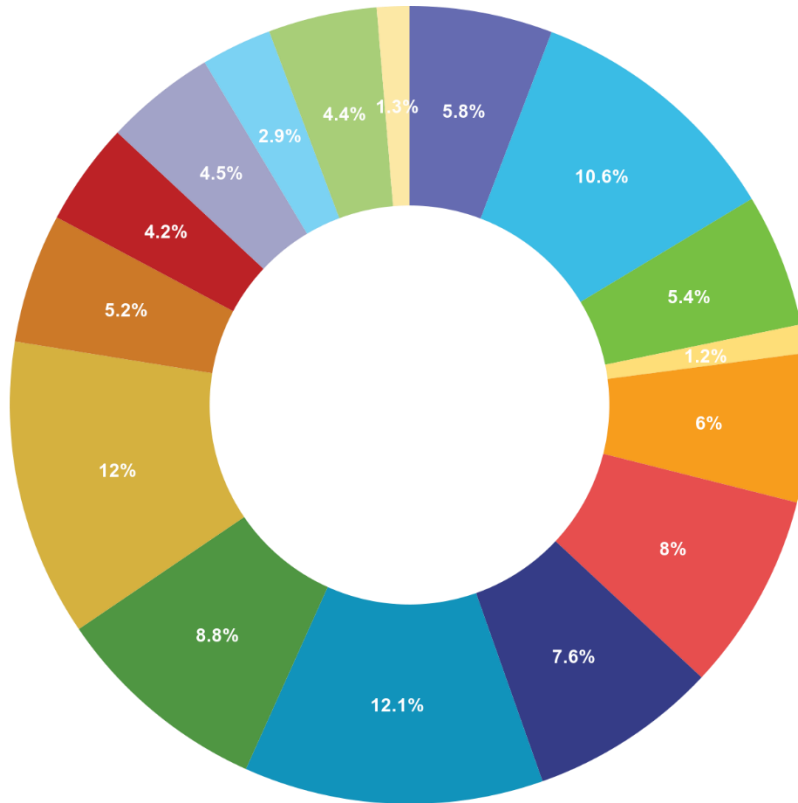


	Choice	Totals
●	5	19
●	4	51
●	3	127
●	2	68
●	1	29

Responses 304 Answered 294 Unanswered 10

**Q15** What do you see as major strengths in healthcare services/resources in Alger County? (Check all that apply)

Multiple Choice



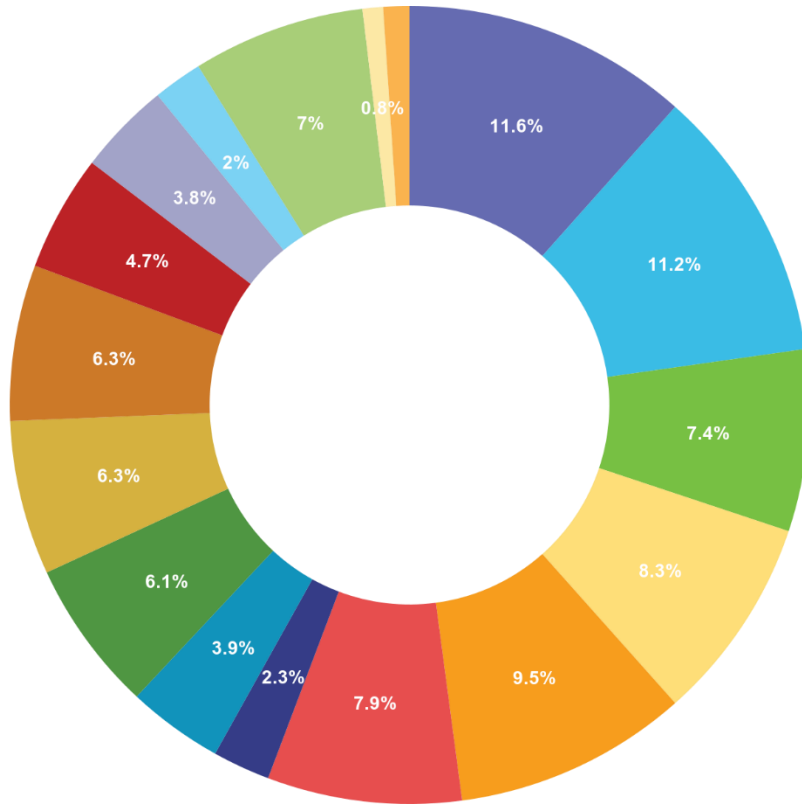
	Choice	Totals
●	Access to services	75
●	Physical therapy	137
●	Senior services	70
●	Youth services	15
●	Dental care	78

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Eye care	104
●	Food pantry	99
●	Munising Memorial Hospital	157
●	LMAS District Health Department	114
●	Superior Walk-in Clinic	156
●	Munising Tribal Community Center	68
●	Get Away Drop-in Center	54
●	Pathways Community Mental Health	58
●	Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous	37
●	Women's Center	57
●	Other	17

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 279 **Unanswered** 25

**Q16** What do you see as major healthcare concerns in Alger County over the next five years?  
 (Check all that apply)

Multiple Choice



	Choice	Totals
●	Drugs, alcohol or substance abuse	209
●	Mental health/Depression/Suicide	202
●	Cancer	133
●	Insurance costs/Lack of insurance	150
●	Healthcare cost	171
●	Prescription cost	142

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	COVID-19	42
●	Diabetes	70
●	Obesity/Nutrition	111
●	Senior care	113
●	Lack of emotional support in schools/Crisis intervention	114
●	Tobacco use/Vaping	85
●	Stroke/Heart disease	68
●	Asthma/Lung disease	36
●	Access to services	126
●	I don't know	15
●	Other	19

**Responses 304   Answered 294   Unanswered 10**

**Q17** What type of services/programs could be developed to improve health and healthcare in Alger County?

**Essay**

Date	Response
November 7, 2022 7:36 PM	Senior advocacy and support.
November 5, 2022 12:36 PM	A real doctor, real treatment real screening, testing and real hospital period
October 31, 2022 10:53 AM	Youth center
October 31, 2022 1:17 AM	Doctors instead of PA's and Nurse Practitioners. The ER needs help
October 30, 2022 11:51 PM	Maternity
October 29, 2022 6:14 PM	In school tobacco/ drug/alcohol education. Mental health services
October 29, 2022 1:05 AM	Better education on the programs that are available. So many people are eligible for these programs but are unaware that they are even available. We are a small town, we should be able to reach everyone within it.
October 29, 2022 12:42 AM	Suicide prevention
October 28, 2022 10:34 PM	Mental health services, especially for children and the elderly
October 28, 2022 9:18 PM	Vision and Veterinarian services available
October 28, 2022 8:37 PM	Rehab for people with addictions. Also a lot more all around for mental health.
October 27, 2022 11:04 PM	I wish there was dancing in this community - good for physical and mental health!

Date	Response
October 27, 2022 5:39 PM	Oral surgery
October 27, 2022 12:28 PM	Drs and nurses who won't leave every 2-3 yrs.
October 26, 2022 2:07 PM	Mental health services
October 25, 2022 2:45 PM	More community exercise classes in Trenary. A walking group.
October 25, 2022 1:07 PM	The local Dr's (optometrist, dentist) won't take my UPHP/Medicare. I have to go to Marquette for a dentist, and Manistique for eyeglasses. I usually do my shopping while I'm there as it's so much cheaper.
October 25, 2022 4:57 AM	Better care, more wellness options
October 24, 2022 9:33 PM	Services / programs in the outlying communities. Educational info. Continued vax clinics. Visiting Dr for rural reaches of the county
October 24, 2022 2:54 PM	More options for mental health services
October 23, 2022 10:41 AM	Plantbased nutrition to address the CAUSE of heart disease, diabetes, obesity, etc. Integrate with farmers market, pantry etc. Maybe bring a Plantpure communities Jumpstart to Alger?!
October 23, 2022 1:22 AM	More MD's
October 22, 2022 11:56 PM	Mental health services and drug/addiction services
October 22, 2022 7:04 PM	Home visits for seniors or those unable to drive or commute. Quality Healthcare providers - not firing the excellent ones that were here.
October 21, 2022 12:37 PM	More doctors. Doctors in the ER



Date	Response
October 20, 2022 4:43 PM	Create another home health service. Northwoods reputation has declined over the years. This company is also not as reliable as it was several years ago.
October 19, 2022 5:03 PM	Healthcare Specialist having office hours at MMH. Orthopedics, cardiologist OB/GYN
October 18, 2022 9:43 PM	More family care, primary care (“My doctor is ....”) physicians.
October 16, 2022 7:16 PM	It would be nice to have some physical exercise programs held at the schools in each township for adults in the evening.
October 14, 2022 6:11 PM	Community education
October 14, 2022 5:13 PM	I don’t know
October 14, 2022 5:10 PM	Don’t know
October 14, 2022 4:23 PM	I believe that there is a general across the board need for better cheaper better access to mental health care.
October 14, 2022 11:34 AM	We desperately need a Plantbased nutrition program following the PlantPure Communities model to help people and businesses embrace a food lifestyle that addresses the CAUSE (rather than placating symptoms) of the main diseases (cancer, heart disease, diabetes, hypertension) plaguing our community. This is the KEY. Whole Food Plant Based Docs like Campbell, Esselstyn, Barnard & Gregor (google them) can help us reinvigorate our health in Alger County, while also making us a WFPB mecca for tourists (right now there are VERY limited food options at restaurants — it’s mostly meat, fat, and sugar).
October 13, 2022 6:59 PM	More specialty doctors

Date	Response
October 13, 2022 11:25 AM	More doctors
October 12, 2022 11:39 PM	Better mental health services.
October 12, 2022 9:02 PM	I think we are pretty lucky with the services provided in our community
October 12, 2022 4:48 PM	Low cost/free clinic for healthcare.
October 10, 2022 11:10 PM	qualified doctors not pa's or nurse practitioners
October 10, 2022 9:51 PM	Dental care
October 9, 2022 2:54 AM	Better doctors
October 8, 2022 1:09 PM	Rehabilitation Services
October 7, 2022 11:59 AM	A real hospital not just a cheesy clinic that calls itself a hospital. That place is a joke
October 7, 2022 11:10 AM	Ophthalmology, more dentists, more mental health providers, more primary care doctors, get rid of Sara Carter at MMH ER, urology provider, gynecology provider
October 7, 2022 11:03 AM	Better dental care. Our doctor was in Alger County and was very good. You fired her and now we have to go to Harvey to see her. When you have good doctors don't get rid of them.
October 7, 2022 1:53 AM	Diff docs in the Er, many folks are not crazy about who they end up seeing should they have to go there
October 6, 2022 10:46 PM	More hospital services.
October 6, 2022 9:59 PM	A program to assist with getting seniors and high-risk individuals' fresh fruits and vegetables at reasonable cost. They need more of this. What

Date

Response

is in local stores is poor quality. Food costs are as bad as lack of housing in our county. Elders are going without. A check in where people go to elders to check in make sure they have needs met. Make sure we are housing our own as that will mess with mental health being homeless. Perhaps a soup kitchen run by volunteers or church and youth where high school students can get credits for assisting homeless and hungry by working the kitchen that is available twice a week. Hunters can donate meat if they like, or maybe volunteer group of hunters can harvest and donations to help. High-cost food and poor-quality food has people out buying staples and not getting all nutritional needs met. People do what they can to make it, but poor health and mental health can be improved by providing assistance. Guidelines could be set, and individual basis exceptions made. We need more specialist local as well. Most go without because of travel or not having family. A good citizen group to assist sure might make a difference.

October 6, 2022 9:45 PM

More plant-based nutrition education and information and plant-based physicians.

October 6, 2022 7:55 PM

More health fairs in other towns I do not go to Munising for anything

October 6, 2022 6:34 PM

Mental health services

October 6, 2022 6:20 PM

Better access to behavioral therapy. More specializations.

October 6, 2022 5:47 PM

Children are now smoking weed....better frame of mind for young.....kids need to learn to volunteer and then little jobs.....young adults need to work....

October 6, 2022 5:33 PM

I'm not sure

October 6, 2022 2:46 AM

We need more dental care that take little kids with bad teeth the eye doctor is great, but we

Date	Response
	only have the one option. The one we have does great and so does the office staff don't want ya to think otherwise.
October 4, 2022 4:00 PM	having people understand that getting massages and chiropractic care is good for your health and you should do it more often. this could be done at a health fair. Also, we should have a Munising mental health day where we bring in the counselors in Munising who offer services who they can go to. also remind people that there are lots of online therapy options
October 1, 2022 3:25 AM	The hospital board staying out of the doctors' lives! When the board tries to determine who a person has their physician, with no consent from the patient, there is a major problem! There are many major problems with the board of directors at Munising Memorial Hospital! It is a real shame!
September 30, 2022 5:37 PM	Counseling
September 29, 2022 10:04 PM	More Counseling services and more drug awareness for youth/ young adults.
September 29, 2022 9:56 PM	More doctors, dentists and eye doctors.
September 29, 2022 2:39 AM	Outreach to the public through health fairs, CPR training, insurance education for the elderly
September 29, 2022 2:35 AM	Mental Health
September 29, 2022 2:11 AM	Mental health
September 28, 2022 3:15 PM	No
September 27, 2022 3:57 PM	More doctors needed. Shouldn't have to wait 5 weeks to get an appointment.
September 27, 2022 12:50 PM	Bring in more specialists or real doctors that can do more than look you over and ship you to

Date	Response
	Marquette in middle of night while your family has to travel 45 miles behind ambulance on dark maybe snowy nights.
September 27, 2022 10:13 AM	I'm not sure there is any particular program that will solve the issues. One of my issues for a long (until two years ago at age 37) was the lack of insurance for working people who didn't make quite enough money. One of the things I appreciated during this time was the dentist that gave a free exam and estimate on needed dental work. When paying cash, it is important to know what it is going to cost you.
September 27, 2022 1:08 AM	A YMCA would work real well in our community, some kind of after school program for teens to keep them occupied physically and mentally and not on a device.
September 26, 2022 10:24 PM	BayCare has a complete turnover so frequently and there are not nearly enough female providers for primary care doctors in this town. It would also be nice to have a pediatrician available rather than having to go to Marquette.
September 26, 2022 8:08 PM	Free health care for all
September 24, 2022 10:35 AM	Rural clinics Youth centered Transportation
September 23, 2022 9:29 PM	Things that are open in the evening for working people. Even people that work have a horrible time making ends meet
September 23, 2022 5:54 AM	Stronger anti-vape services. Strong recreational, chess, drama, movies, recreational center, etc. types of programs to keep kids out of drugs, because - quite frankly - small towns have few interests for teens and drugs occupy the failure to provide those interests.

Date	Response
September 22, 2022 9:57 PM	A decent diabetic endocrinologist. MRI equipment. A "real" hospital (not just outpatient and emergency).
September 22, 2022 8:27 PM	Recruiting new doctors.
September 22, 2022 6:12 PM	More mental health, doctors at the hospital, NOT just PAs.
September 22, 2022 11:30 AM	Programs for kids and elderly to continue
September 22, 2022 1:49 AM	Pediatricians, specialists, birthing unit
September 21, 2022 6:53 PM	Mental health
September 21, 2022 3:31 PM	We need oncology/cardiology/rheumatology/keeping family doctors in this town is top priority
September 21, 2022 1:42 PM	Good quality physicians, losing Dr. Ray was a major loss for our county!
September 21, 2022 1:12 PM	Transportation and affordable health care
September 21, 2022 11:54 AM	Mental health
September 21, 2022 11:17 AM	We are fairly new to the area so I'm not even sure what's available here. In Wisconsin where we used to live, programs and services were better advertised so you knew what was around. We now live in AuTrain and don't know where to go for eye or dental services (other than driving to Marquette).
September 21, 2022 11:02 AM	Doctors and nurses we can count on at the MMH.
September 20, 2022 9:43 PM	bring in more specialty doctors - dermatology, dental, ... especially those for the elderly

Date	Response
September 20, 2022 5:04 PM	Some better doctors and staff at MMH. Along with lack of housing in our area for working class people so we can afford and support this.
September 20, 2022 4:15 PM	More mental health services available for school aged children.
September 20, 2022 3:51 PM	keeping doctors longer. Real doctors, not just PA's or NP's.
September 20, 2022 3:27 PM	Unknown at this time.
September 20, 2022 2:53 PM	Incentives to lure and keep providers local - more providers equals better and quick access to care.
September 20, 2022 2:37 PM	expand current programs to more hours.
September 20, 2022 1:58 PM	Paula Ackerman and Dr. Ray to return to MMH
September 20, 2022 1:41 PM	Continue with what we currently have. Not to lose them to retirements, lack of employees, etc. Recreational opportunities continue to expand as have been done over the last several years.
September 20, 2022 1:31 PM	Eye care clinics for free or reduced exams. People today are making hard choice (get prescriptions or eye care?). Need some basic services as most insurances don't cover much on eye care or dental. my last glasses and exam were \$700 out of pocket and they were the cheapest frames i could find.
September 20, 2022 1:25 PM	Mental Health Services, especially for children,
September 20, 2022 12:52 PM	Pediatric speech/ OT Special need services
September 20, 2022 12:49 PM	Establishing with a provider who cares for the community's needs and wants and not rotating providers consistently. I don't like to switch providers constantly, it seems as soon as I get comfortable with a provider Bay Care lets them

Date	Response
	go. Thankfully my last provider who Bay Care fired, moved her practice close and I am still seeing her and plan to continue to see her. Bay Care made a huge mistake firing her.
September 20, 2022 11:18 AM	Drug counseling/ mental health care hospitals nearby.
September 20, 2022 10:59 AM	Increase in senior services and specialty care within the community
September 20, 2022 1:33 AM	Help beyond the messy social services system for youth in Alger County
September 20, 2022 12:36 AM	We need more mental health services available.
September 20, 2022 12:10 AM	mental health for youth.
September 19, 2022 10:05 PM	More youth programs
September 19, 2022 9:55 PM	We need more doctors and services
September 19, 2022 9:35 PM	Actively seek for medical professionals (such as psychiatrists) to strengthen mental health care... especially for those who can't travel to Marquette.
September 19, 2022 8:59 PM	Mental health More doctors not just practitioners. People that actually listen to you
September 19, 2022 8:43 PM	Better health/mental services for the youth in our community.
September 19, 2022 7:39 PM	Downtown medical clinic.
September 19, 2022 7:01 PM	I think we are too small of a community to have the quality health care as larger cities or counties.



Date	Response
September 19, 2022 1:03 AM	Nutrition, shopping and cooking, gardening
September 17, 2022 8:51 PM	Mental Health providers are really need in our area.
September 17, 2022 12:39 AM	Better mental health care
September 16, 2022 11:04 AM	more doctors less pa's
September 14, 2022 1:48 PM	A national health care program to reduce cost
September 14, 2022 4:05 AM	We need management at MMH AND BAYCARE to understand the needs of our community is totally different then the needs of their community's Negaunee and Gwinn. These people make poor decisions for our patients then they leave. This community needs caring people in those positions to make sure our patients get health care they deserve.
September 13, 2022 10:21 PM	Outpatient behavioral health clinic at Munising memorial
September 13, 2022 4:11 PM	More dental offices, eye doctors, offer colonoscopy at the hospital.
September 13, 2022 12:28 AM	Better mental health services. Including inpatient
September 12, 2022 12:45 PM	More medical choices
September 12, 2022 10:18 AM	More availability to residents in the western part of the county.
September 12, 2022 9:54 AM	Monthly or weekly satellite clinics in the more remote areas of Alger County
September 12, 2022 12:51 AM	More free health awareness days and free checkups. Alternative medicine discussions. Home grown herbs information.

Date	Response
September 12, 2022 12:31 AM	Clinics to have children vaccinated and seniors' wellness care.
September 11, 2022 9:36 PM	More mental health services or guidance to services. More preventative health services.
September 11, 2022 4:57 PM	More help for addiction
September 11, 2022 4:08 PM	More Doctors & just having specialists come to our hospital even twice a month if possible.
September 11, 2022 2:22 PM	more free clinics
September 11, 2022 1:36 PM	<p>Number ONE: How are you going to make affordable health care available? Now that we have Duke-Life Point \$\$\$ up here, costs are going up. What use to be one bill and one co-pay, is now five bills and only one co-pay.</p> <p>Number TWO: I am rural Au Train and it is very hard to get to services, without a secretary to coordinate everything to make it happen. Why not healthcare at the township office/building..the Au train community Hall use to be busy with senior activities..now it is just an empty heart-less hall,,thank-you Au Train Township board..</p>
September 10, 2022 7:47 PM	Neurology plus Maternity
September 10, 2022 3:07 AM	I am not really sure.
September 10, 2022 1:13 AM	Eye specialists, oral surgeon, heart specialist
September 9, 2022 3:03 PM	Mental health accessibility is a number one concern due to Covid, economic effects of Covid, isolation, poverty, joblessness.
September 9, 2022 11:54 AM	Holistic family services that can help break the generational cycles of addiction, abuse, and poor health.

Date	Response
September 8, 2022 11:24 PM	More access to mental health services
September 8, 2022 9:01 PM	Mental health for ALL AGES!!
September 8, 2022 8:53 PM	Doctors that stay
September 8, 2022 4:10 PM	More female doctors. Better doctors. Diabetic consulting. Honestly improve what was here, before taking on more. Also, doctors coming and going constantly.
September 8, 2022 2:08 PM	Increased school social work Improved nursing
September 8, 2022 10:47 AM	We need a place for our youths to hang out and we need more housing
September 8, 2022 12:13 AM	More mental health services and drug/alcohol/tobacco interventions. An actual safe house or women's center located in Munising. A senior center for seniors and a youth center for youth.
September 7, 2022 11:02 PM	More support for children and teens mental and emotional needs; school social workers and therapists are desperately needed.
September 7, 2022 6:37 PM	They need to start with good doctors
September 7, 2022 5:53 PM	Strengthening and expanding the services available at Munising Memorial Hospital
September 7, 2022 4:07 PM	Weight loss and nutrition and drug abuse
September 7, 2022 3:34 PM	We need internists, not just GP's
September 7, 2022 1:35 PM	Recruitment and retention of qualified MDs. Non-MD professionals serve important functions, however, MDs by definition have additional experience and training. It is questionable whether patients should be made to pay the

Date	Response
	<p>same amount as MD appointments for consultations with non-MDs. There is essentially no specialty care, especially for our elder population. Systemic lack of education and access to opportunities &amp; resources has contributed to a city with serious obstacles to quality healthcare. Most families can't afford to live here and feed themselves and their family's nutritious food, contributing to obesity and higher rates of largely preventable "lifestyle diseases." Basically, we need everything we can get.</p>
September 7, 2022 1:32 PM	real doctors
September 7, 2022 12:55 PM	<p>We have another dentist retiring soon and he commented that there is a shortage of dentists so he may not be replaced.....some kind of dentist incentive program to attract them to the area. We need more affordable mental health services and insurance to cover it.</p>
September 7, 2022 12:38 PM	Dental care, mental health services
September 7, 2022 1:19 AM	<p>More mental health services in more locations. Or maybe some sort of traveling service for dental, doctor, and mental health to visit the many rural, small towns around the county. Especially for those who don't have transportation all the way to Munising or any other major towns. Food/diet/nutrition education and ease of access</p>
September 7, 2022 12:30 AM	Dental, more providers that stay
September 6, 2022 11:45 PM	<p>More specialist care coming to visit Munising health care settings rather than traveling elsewhere.</p>
September 6, 2022 11:20 PM	<p>More physicians accepting Medicaid. MMH have a wellness clinic once a month to check vitals, cholesterol, a1c.</p>

Date	Response
September 6, 2022 10:48 PM	Clinic in rural areas
September 6, 2022 10:45 PM	I need a rheumatologist and psychiatrist. Have not been able to find them yet after moving here in December
September 6, 2022 9:58 PM	Increase mental health services in Alger County and not more of Pathways. Nutritional classes due to increase in diabetes and obesity. We no longer have a diabetic educator in this county.
September 6, 2022 8:44 PM	More dentists
September 6, 2022 8:31 PM	More dental and eye care options
September 6, 2022 8:09 PM	More doctors and dentists needed.
September 6, 2022 7:45 PM	Quit the revolving door of doctors. I do all of my healthcare up in Marquette because I am tired of seeing a new person each time. My Marquette providers have been there for many, many years and they are not leaving anytime soon. I cannot say that about Alger County healthcare services. I honestly won't even try the facilities here anymore. Don't bother unless you get someone planning to stay in this area and be a FAMILY practitioner. I want someone I can bring my family to that actually knows my name instead of reading it off a chart. I do not really care about traveling. I want to have a trusting relationship with my provider and that is ONLY possible with time.
September 6, 2022 7:28 PM	More mental Health services better screening for various diseases More specialists rotating
September 6, 2022 12:32 PM	There should be funding for full-time social workers in each school.
September 5, 2022 3:24 PM	Cardiac rehabilitation services

Date	Response
September 4, 2022 4:22 PM	Better hospital, rentals, cheaper food
September 4, 2022 11:42 AM	More mental health services/programs
September 4, 2022 5:42 AM	Programs to keep doctors as well as a hospital that keeps doctors that support our community.
September 2, 2022 6:42 PM	More dental and mental health services.
September 2, 2022 4:19 PM	We need visiting oncologists and cardiologists on a schedule for patients' appointments. It becomes hardship for older people to go to Marquette for services.
September 2, 2022 3:17 PM	Our hospital is slowly going downhill. I can't even begin to describe how absolutely awful it has been lately. I refuse to seek care here anymore. Baycare needs some major adjustments along with the urgent care down there. I have multiple lab orders messed up as well. We need some improvement or changes before I will try going down there again.
September 2, 2022 3:12 PM	Improved transportation to other counties to receive services that are not available in Alger. Or more services in Alger so individuals are not required to go.
September 2, 2022 2:59 PM	There are various types of services and programs that could be developed to improve health and healthcare in Alger County, however, there is a lack of qualified people to work at the services or programs, so I think we need to identify why we don't have the qualified people to hire before putting anymore services/programs in place. I do know there is a huge need for intensive service group housing for those struggling with recovery from addiction along with mental illness-those who have burned their bridges with family members, social agencies and do not have any income in place. These are the same people that become disqualified from rental assistance and end up homeless, hopeless and feel helpless

Date	Response
	and return to their addiction to continue the cycle over and over.
September 2, 2022 12:57 PM	There is a 2 month wait to get into see the dentist.
September 1, 2022 9:53 PM	Hospital that actually cares about patients and not the money.
September 1, 2022 7:34 PM	Anything is better
September 1, 2022 7:07 PM	The health fair was nice to have. Maybe clinics that are set up every so often for wellness checks for people that have no insurance or high deductibles. They would check cholesterol, blood pressure, etc.
September 1, 2022 6:54 PM	More community mental health programs, substance abuse services, women's health services, more daycare options
September 1, 2022 6:22 PM	Surgery being done at Munising hospital instead of sending to Marquette.
September 1, 2022 5:37 PM	Having doctors at Munising memorial hospital. More mental health specialists
September 1, 2022 5:21 PM	Mental health services for youth through the schools. When a child is falling behind, school personnel should take a stand and help that child get the services they need to succeed. I witnessed firsthand the mental fall of a child who was ignored by the school personnel in their high school years when they had a mental issue to be dealt with. They did not help with any tutors, mental health counselors, etc. The child was sent home with a computer to work on their own! This is a major problem.
September 1, 2022 4:26 PM	more active opportunities for Seniors to socialize, exercise body and mind. An active Senior

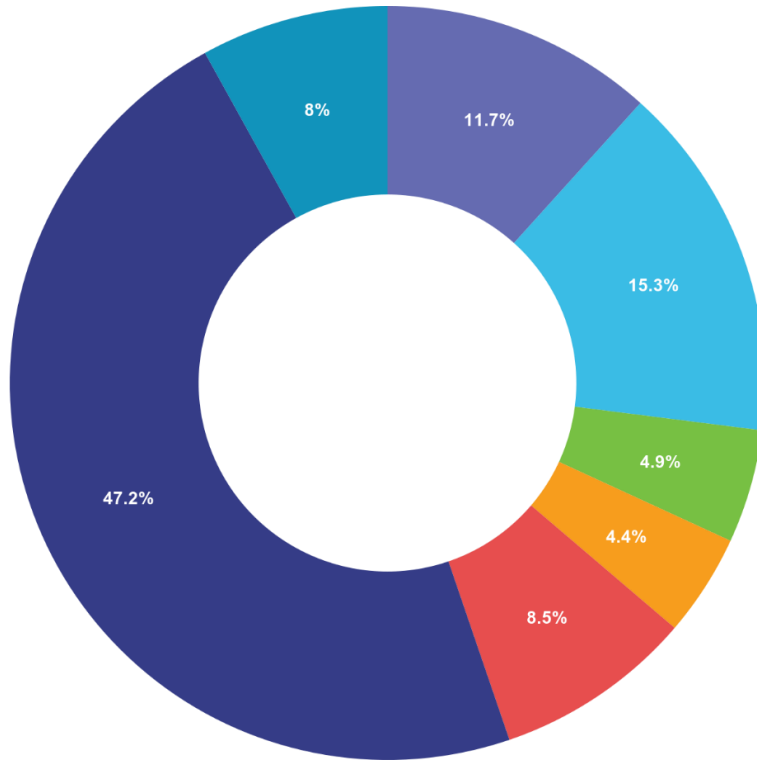
Date	Response
	community and paid leader to organize a program.
August 31, 2022 8:04 PM	More senior care. Mental health - all ages.
August 31, 2022 7:59 PM	Your health fair did some nice things for people for no cost. It's a shame you don't do it any longer.
August 31, 2022 7:28 PM	Get doctors

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 294 **Unanswered** 10



**Q18** What keeps you and family members from seeking medical treatment?

Multiple Choice



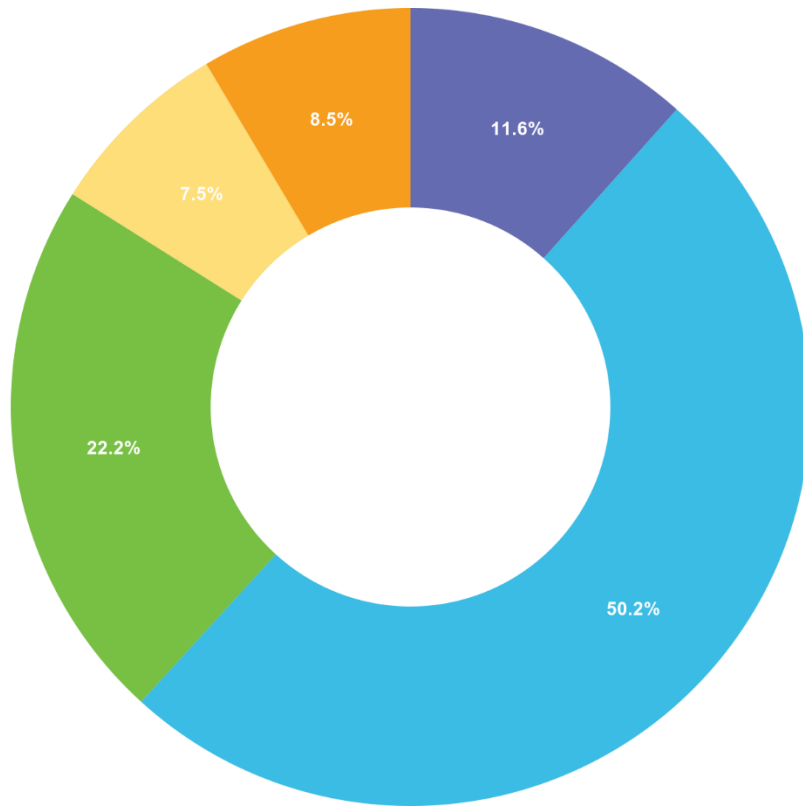
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Lack of insurance/Financial reasons	48
●	Access to services (too far away)	63
●	Transportation	20
●	Cultural or religious beliefs	0
●	Not ready to face problem	18
●	No appointments available	35

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	We do seek medical treatment when necessary	194
●	Other	33

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 282 **Unanswered** 22

**Q19** How many times did you use any healthcare services in Alger County last year?

Multiple Choice

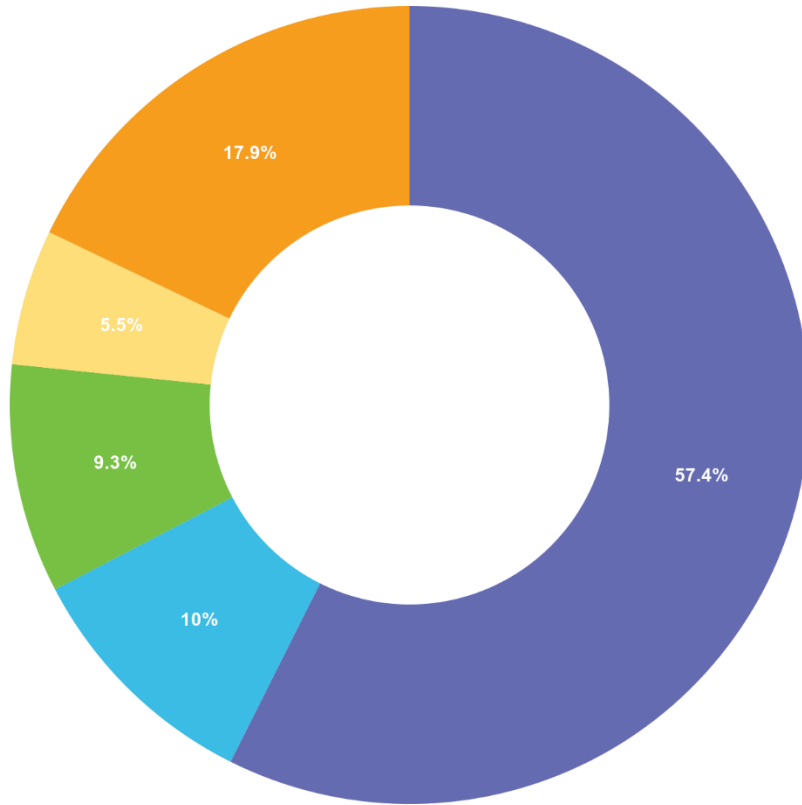


	Choice	Totals
●	0	34
●	1-3	147
●	4-6	65
●	7-10	22
●	Above 10	25

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 293 **Unanswered** 11

**Q20** How often have you traveled outside of Alger County for mental health services in the last five years?

Multiple Choice

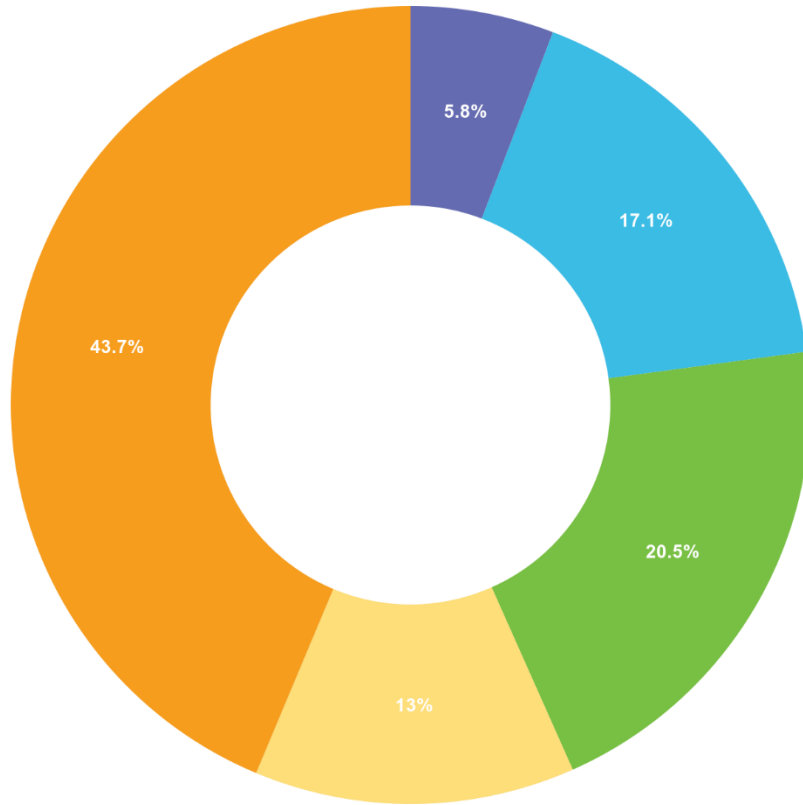


	Choice	Totals
●	0	167
●	1-3	29
●	4-6	27
●	7-10	16
●	Above 10	52

Responses 304   Answered 291   Unanswered 13

**Q21** How often have you traveled outside of Alger County to receive other healthcare services in the last five years?

Multiple Choice

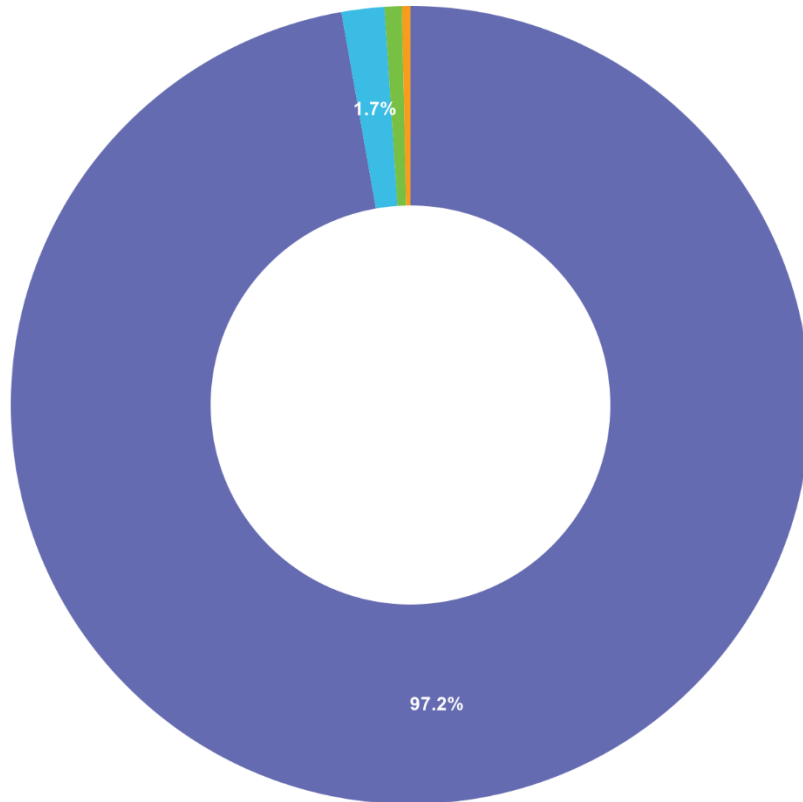


	Choice	Totals
●	0	17
●	1-3	50
●	4-6	60
●	7-10	38
●	Above 10	128

Responses 304   Answered 293   Unanswered 11

**Q22** How often have you traveled outside of Alger County to receive substance abuse services in the last five years?

Multiple Choice

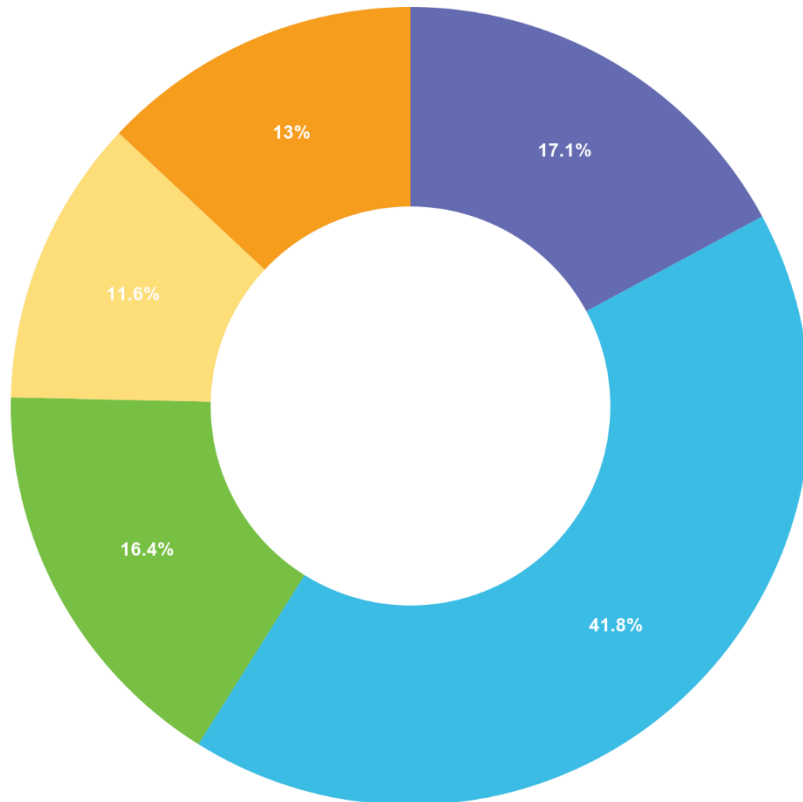


	Choice	Totals
●	0	281
●	1-3	5
●	4-6	2
●	7-10	0
●	Above 10	1

Responses 304 Answered 289 Unanswered 15

**Q23** How far would you travel to receive healthcare services?

Multiple Choice

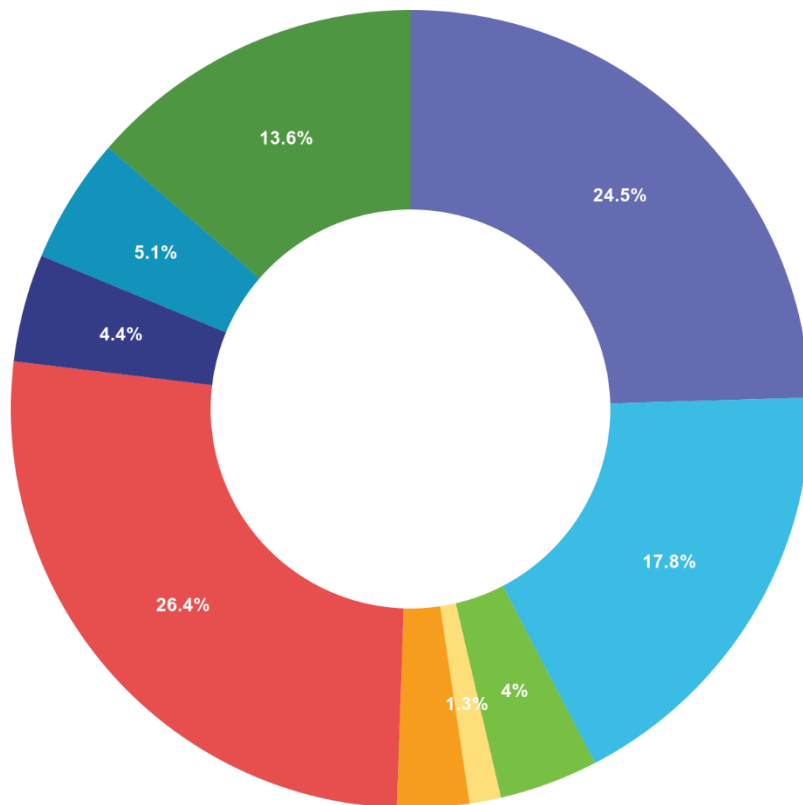


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Under 1 hour	50
●	1-3 hours	122
●	4-6 hours	48
●	7-9 hours	34
●	Above 10 hours	38

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 292 **Unanswered** 12

**Q24** If you or someone in your family were ill and required medical care, where would you go?

Multiple Choice



	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Munising Memorial Hospital/ Bay Care Medical Center	135
●	Superior Walk-in & Family Health in Munising	98
●	Superior Walk-in & Family Health in Marquette	22
●	LMAS District Health Department	7
●	Munising Tribal Health Center	16
●	UP Health System - Marquette	145
●	Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital	24

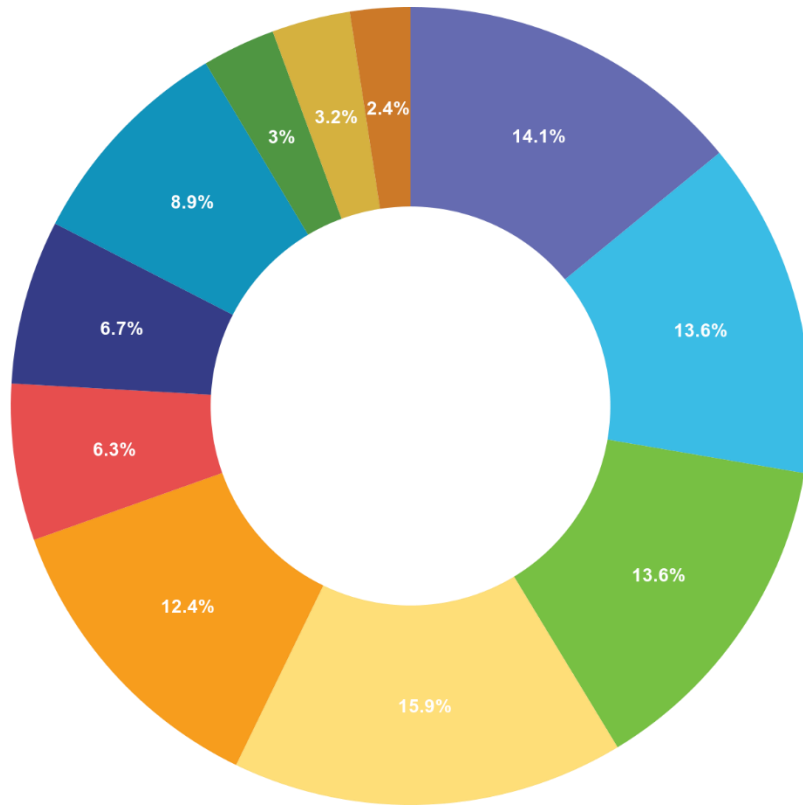


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	OSF St. Francis Hospital & Medical Group	28
●	Other	75

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 294 **Unanswered** 10

**Q25** What is needed to improve the health of your family and neighbors?

Multiple Choice



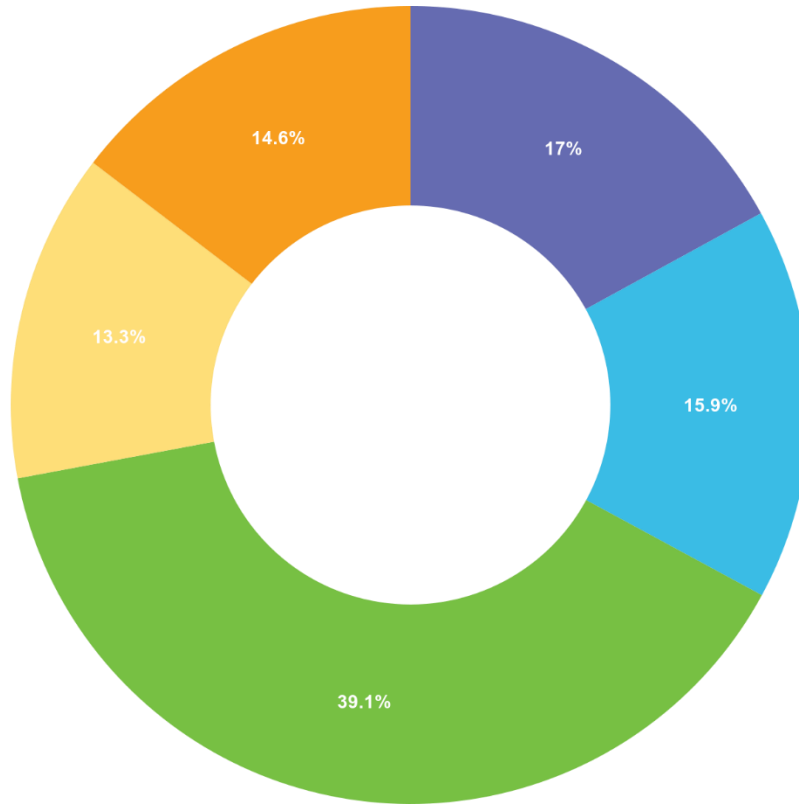
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Affordable health insurance	133
●	Affordable care	129
●	Affordable prescriptions	129
●	Specialty physicians	150
●	Mental health services	117
●	Substance abuse services	60

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Transportation	63
●	Healthier food options	84
●	Employment status	28
●	I don't know	30
●	Other	23

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 286 **Unanswered** 18

**Q26** On a scale of 1-5, 1 being the lowest, how concerned are you about COVID-19 in your community?

Rating

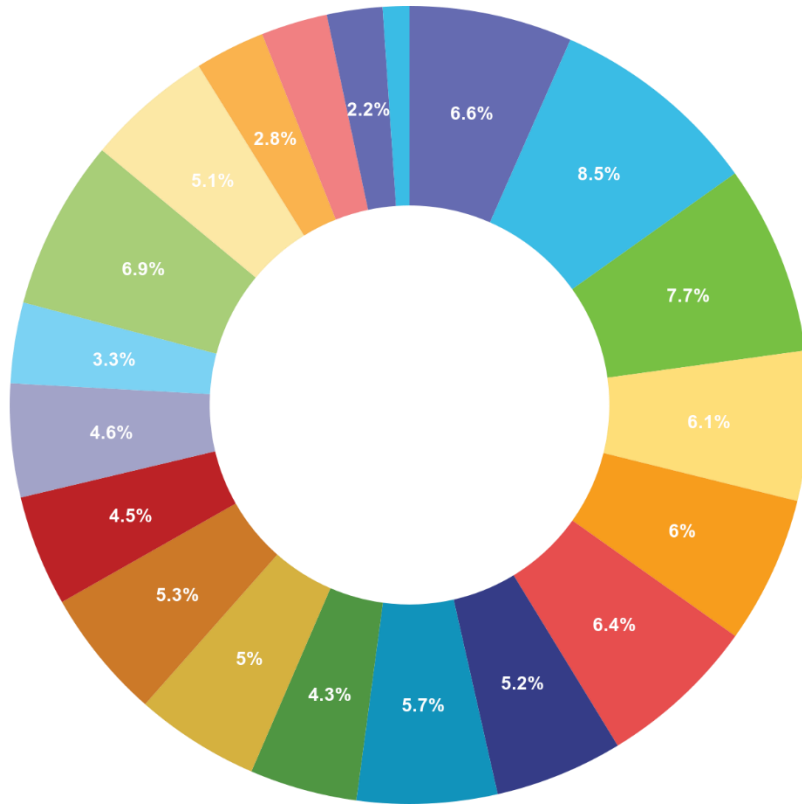


	Value	Label	Rating	Total
●	5	5	120	24
●	4	4	112	28
●	3	3	276	92
●	2	2	94	47
●	1	1	103	103

Responses 304 Answered 294 Unanswered 10 Rating Average 2 — 2

**Q27** What health screenings or education/information services are needed in Alger County?  
 (Check all that apply)

Multiple Choice



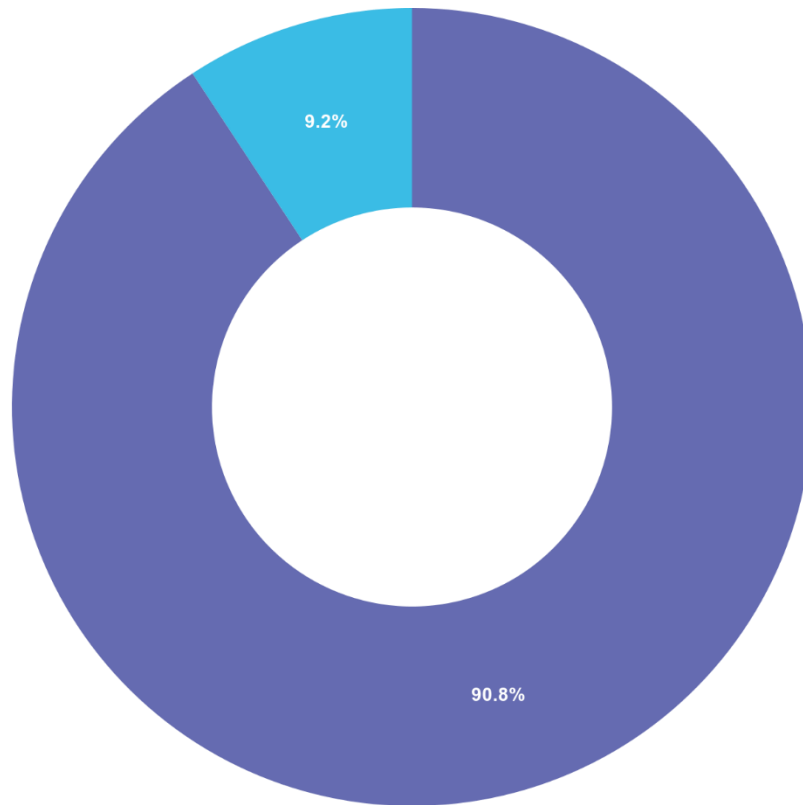
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Cancer	135
●	Mental health	175
●	Substance abuse	157
●	Diabetes	124
●	Heart disease	122
●	Dental	132

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Vision	106
●	Nutrition	116
●	Cholesterol	89
●	Blood pressure	103
●	Exercise	108
●	Prenatal care	92
●	Vaccinations/Immunizations	94
●	Eating disorders	67
●	Women's health	141
●	Youth services	105
●	Fall prevention	58
●	Disease outbreak	55
●	HIV/Sexually transmitted diseases	46
●	Other	22

**Responses 304   Answered 269   Unanswered 35**

**Q28** Have you had a physical exam in the last two years?

Multiple Choice

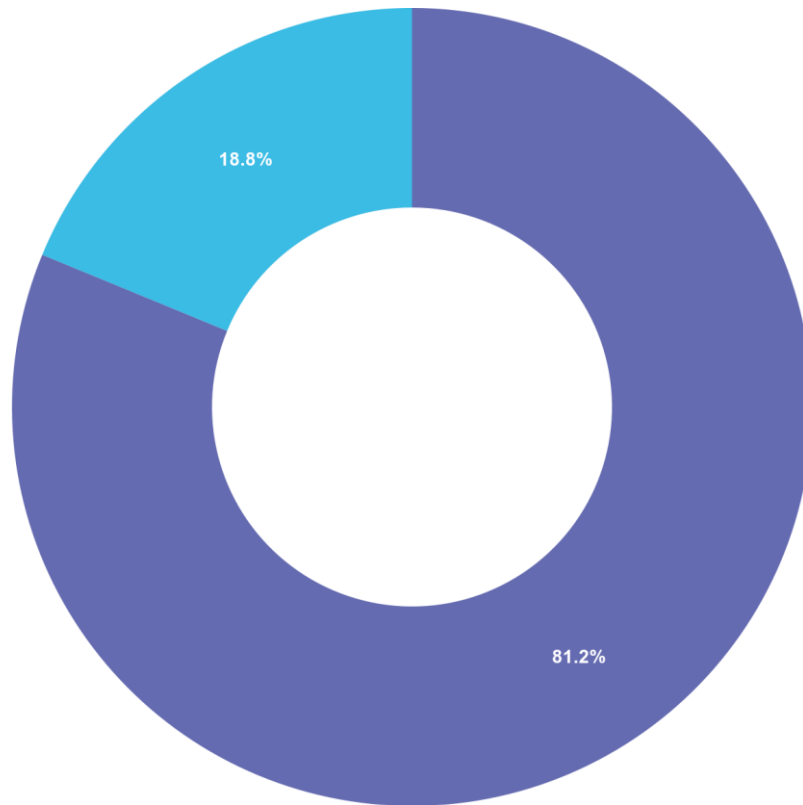


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Yes	265
●	No	27

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 292 **Unanswered** 12

**Q29** Have you been to the dentist in the last two years?

Multiple Choice



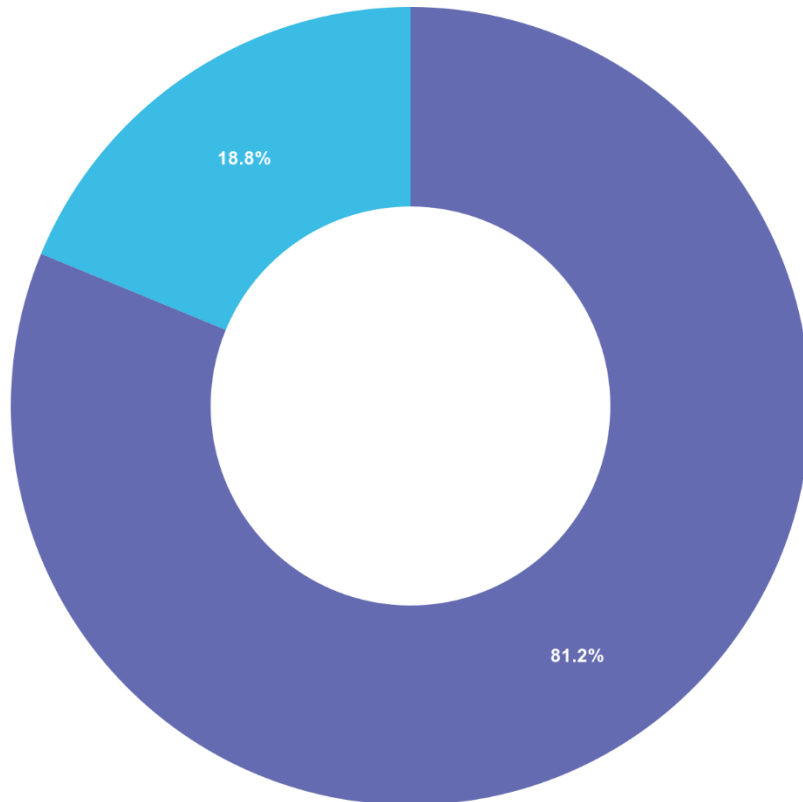
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Yes	238
●	No	55

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 293 **Unanswered** 11



**Q30** Have you had an eye exam in the last two years?

Multiple Choice

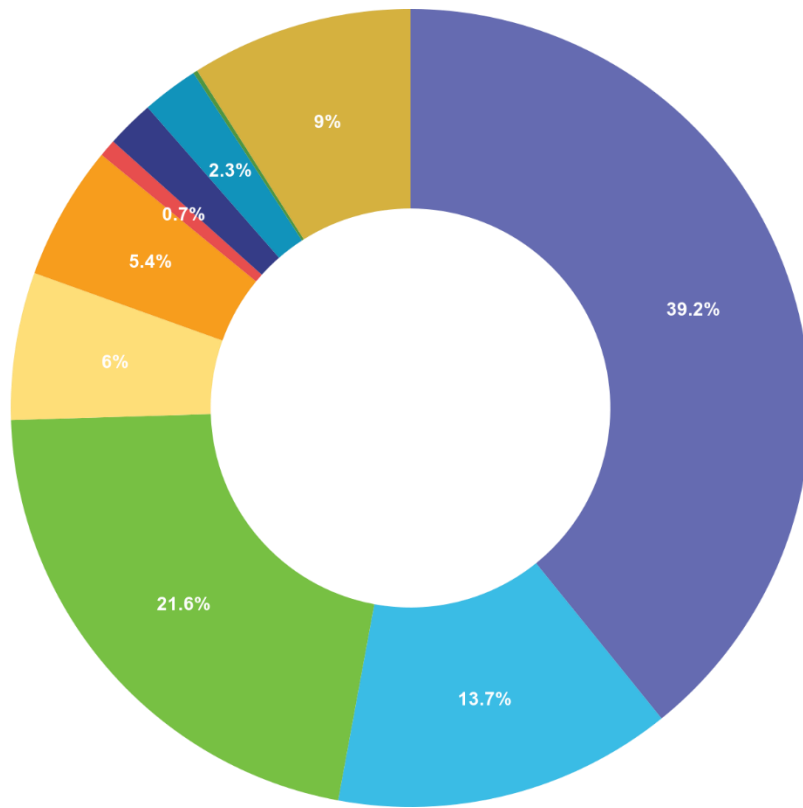


	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Yes	238
●	No	55

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 293 **Unanswered** 11

**Q31** Where do you and your family get most of your information on healthcare services? (Check all that apply)

Multiple Choice



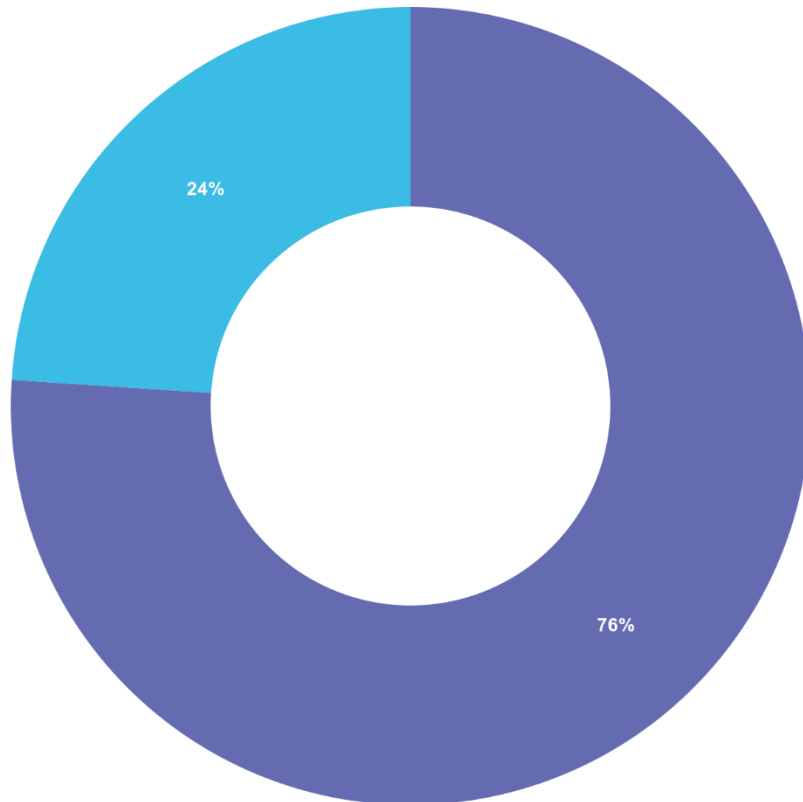
	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Doctor's office	223
●	Social media	78
●	Family or friends	123
●	Newspaper/Magazines	34
●	Television	31
●	School	4

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Library	11
●	Radio	13
●	Religious organization	1
●	Other	51

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 285 **Unanswered** 19

**Q32** Do you think Alger County healthcare providers need to promote their services more often?

Multiple Choice



	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Totals</b>
●	Yes	219
●	No	69

**Responses** 304 **Answered** 288 **Unanswered** 16

# ASSESSMENT SURVEY CONCLUSIONS

This year's Alger County Health Needs Assessment utilized an online survey to obtain more data pertaining to area residents' healthcare needs and opinions. Based on the online survey of 296 Alger County participants, some of the highlights of the survey are listed below.

The highest percentage of survey participants indicated that they:

- Are residents of the City of Munising, Munising Township and Au Train Township
- Are Female
- Are ages 56+
- Are white
- Work full-time or are retired
- Have 1-2 people in their household
- Have an average household income is \$46,000+
- Either have some college or a college degree
- Have insurance
- Felt their insurance was adequate
- Would rate their overall physical health at least good
- Would rate their overall mental health at least good
- Felt the major strengths in healthcare services/resources in Alger County are physical therapy, eye care, Munising Memorial Hospital, LMAS District Health Department and Superior Walk-In & Family Health
- Saw the major healthcare concerns in Alger County over the next five years were Drugs, alcohol or substance abuse, mental health/depression/suicide, cancer, insurance costs, lack of insurance, prescription costs, obesity, senior care, dental, lack of emotional support in schools/crisis intervention and access to services

Also noteworthy:

- 19% of the respondents had not been to the dentist or had an eye exam in the last two years
- 76% of the respondents thought that Alger County healthcare providers needed to promote their services more often