

Community Health Assessment

Cochran County

Prepared by:

F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and the
Department of Political Science—Angelo State University

Principal Investigator:

Billy U. Philips, Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H.

West Texas AHEC Director:

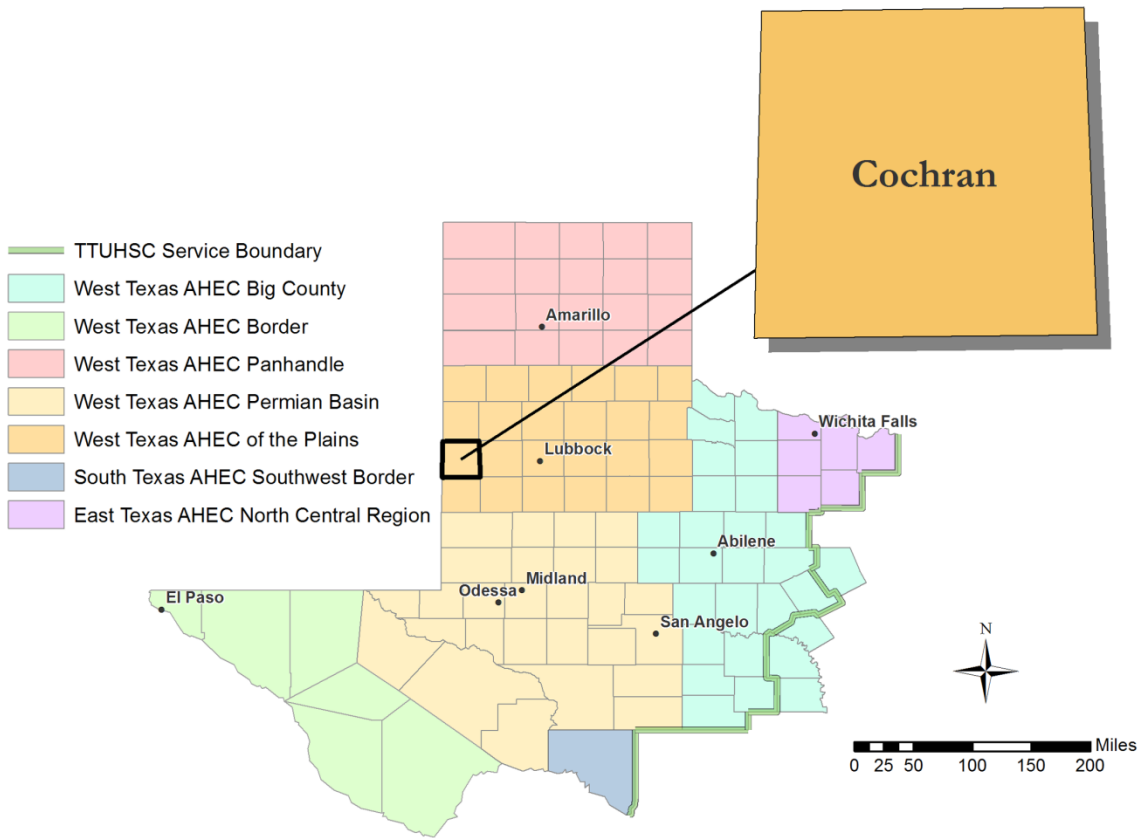
Becky Conditt, M.I.S.

Senior Analyst:

Jim Conditt



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
F. Marie Hall Institute for
Rural and Community Health



Demography and Population

Population

Cochran County estimate population	3,127
Population Rank Among Texas' 254 Counties	228
Population per Square Mile	4.0
Area in Square Miles	775.15

Ethnicity

	% of County
White persons	73.2%
Black persons	4.0%
American Indian/Alaskan	1.2%
Asian	0.2%
Two + Races	2.7%
Hispanic/Latino	52.9%
White Not Hispanic	42.5%

Gender	% in County
Female	50.9%
Male	49.1%

Age	% of County
<05 Years	7.9%
<18 Years	29.4%
18-64 Years	55.7%
65+ Years	14.9%

Source: www.census.gov

The median age for Texas was 34 years in 2010, the Cochran County area had a median age of 36 according to the 2010 Census.

Population and Gender

The gender distribution of an area can provide additional insight into the region's overall distribution in the population by male and female. Of the area's population, 1,535 were male which represents 49.1 percent and 1,592 were female which represents 50.9 percent. This compares to the statewide percentage of 49.6 percent for male and 50.4 percent for female.

Special Age Groups and Gender

Youth and Older Workers: Other age cohorts may be of special interest for Workforce Development Board's summer youth programs and older worker programs. The Cochran County region has 467 persons age 15-24 representing 14.9 percent of the population. This compares with 14.7 percent statewide. For the potential older age cohort, 620 persons or 19.8 percent are 55 or over in the Cochran County region based on the 2010 Census. This compares to 20.7 percent statewide.

Ages 25-44: If the population cohort 45 and over is higher than the state average, this suggests a stable, mature population comprised of mainly "empty-nesters," retirees and the aged. When the 25-44 age cohort is higher than the state average, this is a healthy economic situation since this group contains the greatest share of the labor force. Decreases over time in this group, especially when similar changes are not occurring statewide, can be an indication that people are moving out of an area they consider to be a poor labor market. In Cochran County the total number in the age groups of 25 to 44, was 530 or 16.9 percent. This compares to a statewide percentage of 42.5 percent based on the 2010 Census.

Ages 18 and Older: For the population generally considered in the ages to participate in the labor market, the total population who were 18 years and over totaled 18,279,737 in Texas which represented 72.7 percent of the total population. In this study area, the total persons in this age group was 2,209 or

70.6 percent of the total population. Within this age group in Texas the number of males in 2010 who were 18 years and over represented 8,962,031 persons or 35.6 percent of the total population while females age 18 years and over represented 9,317,706 or 37.1 percent. In the Cochran County area, males 18 and over represented 1,089 or 34.8 percent in comparison and females totaled to 1,120 or 35.8 percent.

Veteran Status: According to the U.S. Bureau of Census, the area had 2,554 persons in the population age 18 years and older in the year 2000. Of that number, 234 or 9.2 percent responded as being a civilian veteran, compared to 11.8 percent statewide. A "civilian veteran" is a person 18 years old or over who has served (even for a short time), but is not now serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or military Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps.

Disability Status: From the 2000 Census, data on Disability Status were derived when respondents reported long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment, (sensory disability) and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying (physical disability). Disability status was also derived if the individuals in the working age range of 21 to 64 years had a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more that made it difficult to perform certain activities such as: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating (mental disability); (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home (self-care disability); (c) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office (going outside the home disability); and (d) working at a job or business (employment disability).

It was reported in the 2000 Census that the area had an estimated 1,044 persons residing there between the ages of 5 to 20 years of age with approximately 62 or 5.9 percent with a disability. In Texas, the percent with disabilities in this same age bracket was 7.9 percent. In the working age population group - ages 21 to 64 years, the area had approximately 1,819 persons, of which 393 were categorized to be in a disability status. This represented 21.6 percent compared to 19.9 percent in the state overall. For those persons in this age group that had a disability, approximately 157 or 39.9 percent were employed. For those who had no disability, an estimated 994 or 69.7 percent were employed. For the retirement age group of 65 years of age and older, 522 persons resided of which 257 were disabled. The percent of this age group with a disabled status was 49.2 percent and this compared to 44.8 percent in Texas overall.

Ages 65 and Older: For the population who are considered to be at the age of retirement or older - 65 years and older, the total number of persons in Texas was 2,601,886 or 10.3 percent of the total population in 2010. This region had a total of 465 or 14.9 percent in this older age group. In the same age group of 65 years and over, males in Texas represented 1,135,664 or 4.5 percent of the total population and females totaled to 1,466,222 or 5.8 percent, while in this study area, males totaled to 213 or 6.8 percent of all persons in this area and females represented 252 or 8.1 percent of all persons.

For other general and special population information from the 2010 Census as well as specific populations topics, link to <http://www.census.gov/census2000/states/tx.html>.

Population Projections

The Office of the State Demographer for the State of Texas distributes the most widely used population projections for Texas. Projection estimates in these tables and the methodology for migration scenarios have been revised as of 2008 by the Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer - now housed at University of Texas San Antonio. Each projection series includes three scenarios resulting in three alternative sets of population values for the State and each county are presented in these projections. These scenarios assume the same set of mortality and fertility assumptions in each scenario but differ in their assumptions relative to net migration. The net migration assumptions made for four scenarios are derived from 1990-2000 patterns which have been altered relative to expected future population trends. This is done by systematically and uniformly altering the adjusted 1990-2000 net migration rates by age, sex and race/ethnicity. The scenarios so produced are referred to as the zero migration (0.0) scenario, the one-half 1990-2000 (0.5) scenario, the 1990-2000 (1.0) scenario, the 2000-2004 (2.0) scenario and the 2000-2007 (3.0) scenario.

The recommended scenario for most county based projection reporting used is believed to be the 0.5 scenario as most appropriate scenario for most counties in Texas. This scenario has been prepared as an approximate average of the zero (0.0) and 1990-2000 (1.0) scenarios. It assumes rates of net migration one-half of those of the 1990s. The reason for including this scenario is that many counties in the State are unlikely to continue to experience the overall levels of relatively extensive growth of the 1990s. A scenario which projects rates of population growth that are approximately an average of the zero and the 1990-2000 scenarios is one that suggests slower but steadier growth than occurred during 1990-2000 (For a more detailed discussion see <http://txsdc.utsa.edu>).

Using this projection scenario, the following table represents population projections for Cochran County as computed in 2008 by The Office of the State Demographer for the State of Texas:

Year	Total	Pct Chg	Anglo	Pct Chg	Black	Pct Chg	Hispanic	Pct Chg	Other	Pct Chg
2000	3,730	---	1,872	---	183	---	1,646	---	29	---
2005	3,932	5.4	1,880	0.4	196	7.1	1,827	11.0	29	0.0
2010	4,177	12.0	1,890	1.0	216	18.0	2,042	24.1	29	0.0
2015	4,366	17.1	1,872	0.0	234	27.9	2,231	35.5	29	0.0
2020	4,487	20.3	1,834	-2.0	241	31.7	2,383	44.8	29	0.0
2025	4,575	22.7	1,788	-4.5	242	32.2	2,517	52.9	28	-3.4

2030	4,615	23.7	1,732	-7.5	240	31.1	2,615	58.9	28	-3.4
2035	4,646	24.6	1,672	-10.7	242	32.2	2,704	64.3	28	-3.4
2040	4,646	24.6	1,589	-15.1	242	32.2	2,787	69.3	28	-3.4

* Anglo, Black, and Other excludes Hispanic counts.

For comparison purposes, the Texas population projections, using the same scenario methodology, are as follows:

Population Projections and Percent Change Since 2000*

Year	Total	Pct Chg	Anglo	Pct Chg	Black	Pct Chg	Hispanic	Pct Chg	Other	Pct Chg
2000	20,851,820	---	11,074,716	---	2,421,653	---	6,669,666	---	685,785	---
2005	22,556,046	8.2	11,327,873	2.3	2,588,605	6.9	7,820,842	17.3	818,726	19.4
2010	24,330,646	16.7	11,533,976	4.1	2,754,751	13.8	9,080,459	36.1	961,460	40.2
2015	26,156,723	25.4	11,694,520	5.6	2,913,062	20.3	10,436,546	56.5	1,112,595	62.2
2020	28,005,740	34.3	11,796,448	6.5	3,052,417	26.0	11,882,980	78.2	1,273,895	85.8
2025	29,897,410	43.4	11,830,578	6.8	3,170,964	30.9	13,448,459	101.6	1,447,409	111.1
2030	31,830,575	52.7	11,789,274	6.5	3,268,623	35.0	15,140,100	127.0	1,632,578	138.1
2035	33,789,697	62.0	11,682,022	5.5	3,345,687	38.2	16,934,464	153.9	1,827,524	166.5
2040	35,761,165	71.5	11,525,089	4.1	3,403,163	40.5	18,804,311	181.9	2,028,602	195.8

* Anglo, Black, and Other excludes Hispanic counts.

County to County Migration

Out-Migration: Using Internal Revenue Service (IRS) information regarding changes in residences between two filing years 2008 and 2009, statistics regarding moving in and out of counties can reveal patterns of migration as well as patterns of out-of-state and foreign migration to and from selected counties. During this time Cochran County reported 1,116 total tax returns were matched to tabulate outflow migration. Of these returns approximately 9.1 percent showed a change in residences by moving out from their originating county in 2008 to another county in 2009. Of these who moved out of their original county, 88.1 percent moved to another county within Texas, while 11.9 percent moved to a different state but within the U.S. Those who moved from their originating county in the year 2008 to a foreign country in 2009 was approximately 0.0 percent.

The IRS county migration data reports income by the number of returns and the number of exemptions. The number of returns - as a unit of analysis may be used as a proxy for household income and the

number of exemptions may be used as a proxy for the number of individuals in a family. Using the number of returns for household income, the Cochran County overall has an average household earnings of \$45,586. Of those households which remained in the same area, an average reported non-migrating household income of \$47,231 during the period 2008 to 2009. Total income earned by 101 households leaving the region was \$2,914,000 which represents an average income of \$28,851.

The top 2 counties showing the most households and their average income leaving Cochran County to other counties during 2008 to 2009 were:

County and State	Households Moving Out	Average Income Moving Out
Hockley County, TX	32	\$30,250
Lubbock County, TX	18	\$35,500

In-Migration: During the period 2008 to 2009, there were approximately 1,110 total tax returns were matched to calculate inflow migration. Of these returns approximately 7.4 percent showed a change in residences by moving in from their originating county in 2008 to a county in the study area in 2009. Of these who moved into the study area from another county, 81.7 percent moved from other counties in Texas, while 18.3 percent moved from a county in a different state but within the U.S. Those who moved into the study area during the 2008-2009 period from a foreign country was approximately 0.0 percent.

Using the number of returns as a proxy for household income, the Cochran County overall has an average household earnings of \$45,863. Of those households which remained in the same area, had an average reported non-migrating household income of \$47,231 during the period 2008 to 2009. Total income earned by 82 households entering the region was \$2,355,000 which represents an average income of \$28,720.

The top 2 counties showing the most households and their average income migrating into Cochran County from other counties during 2008 to 2009 were:

County and State	Households Moving In	Average Income Moving In
Lubbock County, TX	15	\$29,600
Hockley County, TX	14	\$24,929

Change in Aggregated Earnings: Gains and losses of residential earnings and buying power due to a migration can be reflected in observed differences in aggregate dollars entering and leaving an area. County to county migration information from the IRS shows a net change for the Cochran County region of \$-559,000.00. A positive value represents an increase in earnings for an area and a negative value represents a loss of income during the 2008 - 2009 period.

Vital Statistics: According to the Texas Department of State Health Services for vital statistics for the year 2004, the Cochran County area had a total of 67 live births which represents a live birth rate of 19.0 births for every 1,000 persons in the study area compared to a statewide rate of 17.0 births per 1,000 persons in the population. The area had a total of 39 deaths representing a rate of 11.1 for every 1,000 persons compared to a statewide rate of 6.8.

Employment

Civilian Labor Force (CLF): The most recent civilian labor force estimates from TWC for Texas statewide in April 2012 is 12,547,852 which is an increase in the labor force of 139,139 persons since April 2011. This represents a 1.1 percent change in Texas during this time period. These estimates are not seasonally adjusted. Cochran County had a civilian labor force of 1,388 for April 2012 which was a change of -9 in CLF since April 2011. This change represented a decrease of -0.6 percent for the study area. For another glimpse into TWC/LMI's Texas and County information, link to: <http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Labforce>.

Economic Diversification: Relative to the Texas economy, the LMCI economic diversification index measures the degree to which a county economy is diversified. Significant concentrations of employment in only one or two industrial sectors makes an area less diversified and more susceptible to widespread economic decline should a key sector suffer a significant loss. While economic diversification or a balanced distribution of employment across all major industry sectors, is generally desirable, in some cases, especially where a region is exploiting a comparative advantage (such as access to raw materials, access to transportation routes, etc.) a statistically diverse economy does not necessarily correlate with higher growth. Of the three levels of diversification ranging from below average, average and above average, Cochran County had an economic base which is of below average diversity.

Employment By Major Industry Sector: The most recent employment data from TWC by major industrial sector for Cochran County compared to Texas are shown below in a table for two years. The Department of Labor calls these major categories "Super Sectors". One advantage in reviewing employment changes at broad industrial levels is that it allows for a unique snapshot of major differences in the total employment for a selected study area when compared to any larger statewide trend. When employment changes at a higher rate than the state, there may be comparative advantages in the local economy which are driving these changes. Conversely, when change is at a lower rate, then the Super Sector is showing less change in comparison to the state and may consequently have a smaller comparative change impact.

Cochran County Industry Sector	AREA EMPLOYMENT				STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT				US EMPLOYMENT			
	2010 3rd Qtr	2011 3rd Qtr	Emp Chg	Pct Chg	2010 3rd Qtr	2011 3rd Qtr	Emp Chg	Pct Chg	2010 3rd Qtr	2011 3rd Qtr	Emp Chg	Pct Chg
Total, All Industries	739	731	-8	-1.08	10,172,064	10,434,252	262,188	2.58	127,653,230	129,386,158	1,238,338	0.96
Natural Resources & Mining	NA	NA	NA	NA	265,882	298,224	32,342	12.16	1,942,433	2,038,712	49,203	2.66
Construction	NA	NA	NA	NA	604,529	606,705	2,176	0.36	5,913,961	5,914,110	-63,755	-1.11
Manufacturing	NA	NA	NA	NA	818,521	847,734	29,213	3.57	11,625,347	11,852,448	217,317	1.89
Trade, Transport. & Utilities	125	136	11	8.80	2,143,082	2,202,201	59,119	2.76	25,740,265	26,105,630	315,529	1.23
Information	NA	NA	NA	NA	202,207	203,238	1,031	0.51	2,850,053	2,819,004	-31,210	-1.09
Financial Activities Group	NA	NA	NA	NA	622,938	636,133	13,195	2.12	7,504,336	7,540,122	340	0.00
Prof., Business & Other Svcs	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,295,982	1,367,174	71,192	5.49	17,085,848	17,654,216	567,084	3.36
Education & Health Svcs.	265	278	13	4.91	2,409,110	2,432,847	23,737	0.99	28,768,729	29,056,521	220,420	0.72
Leisure & Hospitality Group	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,048,766	1,087,138	38,372	3.66	14,008,113	14,300,161	269,835	1.96
Other Services	NA	NA	NA	NA	298,005	305,273	7,268	2.44	4,442,871	4,495,171	52,466	1.19
Public Administration	NA	NA	NA	NA	457,522	442,736	-14,786	-3.23	7,622,849	7,417,090	-432,784	-5.54

Compared to Texas, the table above shows employment sectors in Cochran County changed at a higher rate for Trade, Transport. & Utilities and Education & Health Svcs. between 3rd quarter 2010 and 3rd quarter 2011. During that same time period, area employment for no sectors changed at a lower rate when compared to Texas.

Occupations: The best source of occupational information at the county level is from the 2000 Census. The total number of persons 16 years of age or older who were employed in Cochran County during the 2000 Census was 1,334. The following presents a table of those employed by occupational categories for this region compared to statewide percentages:

Occupational Categories	Count	Area Percent	Statewide Percent
Mgmt., Professional Occs.	418	31.3	33.3
Service Occupations	252	18.9	14.6
Sales and Office Occupations	238	17.8	27.2
Farming/Fishing/Forestry Occs.	161	12.1	0.7
Constr., Extraction Occs.	108	8.1	10.9
Production, Transport. Occs.	157	11.8	13.2

Class of Worker: Another way to view the types of workers in an area's labor force is by class of worker. According to the 2000 Census, the area had 828 employees who were private wage and salary workers representing 62.1 percent of all workers. The region had another 296 persons who were government workers or 22.2 percent, 204 who were self-employed workers or 15.3 percent and 6 who were unpaid family workers representing 0.4 percent. This compares to the Texas statewide distribution of 78.0 percent for private wage and salary workers, 14.6 percent for government workers, 7.1 percent for self-employed, and 0.3 percent for unpaid family workers.

Unemployment: According to TWC unemployment figures for April 2012 Cochran County had an unemployment estimate of 104 persons which represents a rate of 7.5 compared to a Texas statewide unemployment rate of 6.5 for the same month. For the study area these estimates represent a decrease from April 2011 unemployment rate of 8.2 percent. The Texas statewide unemployment rate was 7.6 for April 2011. For the latest unemployment rates, see TWC's LMI website - Unemployment Rates (LAUS): <http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Labforce> and for a description of methodology link to: <http://www.tracer2.com/article.asp?ARTICLEID=148>.

Reporting Establishments: The TWC indicates 132 business reporting units operating in Cochran County in the third quarter of 2011 with an average of 5.54 workers per unit. Average firm size makes a difference for job hunting and job development strategy because larger firms tend to have better defined ports of entry and in-house training capabilities. Although definitions vary greatly, small business can be defined as less than 50 workers and medium sized is 250 or less. The Texas average is 17.89 workers per unit. Regions with higher than average number of workers per unit tend to be dominated economically by a few very large employers.

Commuting to Work: Commuting to work for workers 16 years and over has a number of implications for transportation and municipal services study. Cochran County had a total of 1,004 or 76.3 percent who drove their car to work alone, 184 or 14.0 percent who car pooled, 6 or 0.5 percent used public transportation, 51 or 3.9 percent who walked to work, 22 or 1.7 percent of regional workers who used other means to work, and 49 or 3.7 percent who worked at home. These methods of commuting to work compare to the Texas statewide results by: car alone (77.7%), car pool (14.5%), public transportation (1.9%), walked (1.9%), other means (1.3%), and worked at home (2.8%). The average travel time to work in minutes was 18.50 for the region as compared to an overall statewide average of 25.4 minutes.

Employers by Employee Size Class: Employer contact information and employee size ranges are collected and updated by the Analyst Resource Center – Employer Database - InfoGroup/Government Division. The most current release is a product called the Employer Database 2012 2nd Edition. This product shows that the area had approximately 25 establishments which employed 10 or more employees. Of these employers, approximately 0.0 percent employed over 1000 employees. 0.0 percent employed between approximately 500 and 999 employees, 4.0 percent employed between approximately 100 and 499 employees, 28.0 percent employed between 50 and 99 employees, 28.0 percent employed between 20 and 49 employees, and 40.0 percent employed between approximately 10 and 19 employees.

Top 2 Manufacturers for the Cochran County Region:

- Beltex
- Texas Industrial Plating Inc

Income

Personal Income: According to the most recent data released by the BEA 2005, Cochran County's total personal income, excluding farm, was \$72,654,000 which represented an increase of \$4,306,000 when compared to the 2004 total personal income, excluding farm, of \$ 68,348,000. For Statewide personal income, the total of \$686,943,289,000 for 2004 and \$741,099,703,000 for the year 2004, shows an increase of \$54,156,414,000. This indicates that Cochran County has a personal income showing a rate change of 6.3 percent compared to the statewide income at a rate change of 7.9 percent for the same period. Income from all government and government enterprises for the area was a total of \$13,897,000 for the year 2005. This was an increase of 2.6 percent from the 2004 figure of \$13,551,000. Texas statewide had an increase of 5.7 percent for government income. Military income, excluding federal civilian income, for 2005 was \$301,000 compared to \$273,000 in 2004 for the study area. This was an increase of 10.3 percent compared to a statewide change of no change percent for the same period. For further information link to: <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Per Capita Income: Total personal income is a widely used measure of regional economic health while per capita income is generally used to compare the relative well-being of residents across areas (not accounting for differences in area cost of living). The per capita personal income for 2005 was \$31,232 in Cochran County while Texas statewide had a per capita income of \$32,460. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Government Transfer Payments: The Cochran County region received over \$20,429,000 in transfer of payments in FY2005 which reflected a \$6,191 per capita transfer payment compared to the Texas per capita payment of \$4,194. Transfer payments includes the total amount of government allocations to people who qualify for income assistance. This consists largely of supplemental security income payments, family assistance, general assistance payments, food stamp payments, and other assistance payments, including emergency assistance. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis>.

Residence Adjustment: Some areas function as major employment centers and others serve as "bedroom communities". This means that residents may work in one region but live, pay taxes and spend most of their income in their resident region. The degree to which a regional area serves as a bedroom community can be measured by a "residence adjustment" to the area personal income. The residence adjustment in the Cochran County region was \$-252 in 2005. By 2006 the adjustment represented an increase to \$1,267. A negative number implies that workers commute into the region to

earn income but do not reside there. Growth over time of negative residence adjustments generally implies an eroding tax base for the region. Similarly, a positive figure implies that on balance the region exports jobs and income to residents of other regions. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bean/regional/reis>.

Average Weekly Wage: TWC reported an average weekly wage during 3rd quarter 2010 for all covered wages and salaried employment in the Cochran County region to be \$615.81. Average weekly wages for 3rd quarter 2011 was \$661.72, an increase of 7.5 percent. This is compared to an increase of 6.3 percent statewide for the same period of time. The Texas statewide average weekly wage in the 3rd quarter of 2010 was \$931.50. These wage data are the result of the reported quarterly wages and salaries paid by employers divided by 13 weeks. For the most current information, link to: <http://www.tracer2.com/cgi/dataanalysis/AreaSelection.asp?tableName=Industry>

UI Benefits: The region had \$86,447 in Unemployment Insurance benefits paid during calendar year 2008. In the Cochran County region, the average duration before exhausting regular UI benefits in calendar year 2008 was approximately 14.3 weeks, while the statewide average duration before exhausting regular UI benefits in calendar year 2008 was approximately 13.4 weeks. The most likely interpretation of longer duration times is greater difficulty finding a job. Therefore, duration can serve as a good barometer for local general economic conditions. The average weekly benefits payment for Regular UI in 2008 was \$211.67 for the Cochran County region compared to \$307.5 in Texas statewide.

Personal Income by Place of Residence: Personal income by place of residence, based on the 2000 Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) estimates was roughly \$61,838 for the Cochran County region. This compares to \$78,626 statewide. This figure is much higher than the per capita income level because it includes all wage earners living within a single household. Also, income data from BEA will be different than income data from other agencies due to that fact the BEA includes other sources of income such as farm wages, dividends, interest, rent and transfer payments. For more information on this data, please go to <http://www.bea.gov/bean/regional/reis>.

Poverty Population: The U.S. Department of Census estimated a 2002 poverty population for the Cochran County region for people of all ages at 744 persons. That figure represents 21.1 percent of the non-institutional population compared to a Texas percentage of 15.4 percent for people of all ages. The estimated number of people under the age of 18 in the study area in poverty was 426 in 1999. This figure was 8.8 percent of all people under 18 in the study area compared to Texas statewide which was 6.0 percent of all people under 18 as estimated in 1999. According to the 2000 Census, the number of families living below poverty status in 1999 were 219 which was 21.4 percent of all families in the study area. This compared to 12.0 percent of all families statewide living in poverty status in 1999. The total number of individuals living below poverty status was 985 in 1999 which was 31.5 percent of all individuals in the study area. This compared to 12.4 percent of all individuals living below poverty status statewide. For the most recent Poverty information, see: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/county.html>.

Gross Retail Sales: Income can be viewed in several ways and under different definitions. Per capita income tends to have a direct relationship with the growth of gross sales and most service sector industries in an area. Gross sales for the region estimated by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts were \$4,786,806 in the 3rd quarter 2010 which represented an increase of 25.7 percent to \$6,018,558.00 by the 3rd quarter 2011. The statewide change for the same period was an increase of 9.1 percent in gross sales. The total number of reporting outlets for the same period was 25 in the 3rd quarter 2010 and 27 in the 3rd quarter 2011. This region had an increase of 8.0 percent in the study area compared to the statewide change for the same period of an increase of 4.2 percent. For the most recent Gross Retail Sales information, please see: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/sales/>.

Socioeconomic Indicators

	County	State
Per Capita Personal Income	\$16,018	\$24,870
Median Household Income	\$37,446	\$49,646

Source: www.census.gov

Unemployment Rate	8.2%	8.2%
Average Monthly TANF Recipients (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)	0	104,693
Average Monthly SNAP Recipients (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)	609	2,819,469
Unduplicated Medicaid Clients	984	4,762,787
Average Monthly CHIP Enrollment	80	466,242

	#County	%County	#State	%State
Without Health Insurance				
<18	194	23.2%	1,375,714	19.5%
<65	817	32.7%	5,765,126	26.8%

	#County	%County	#State	%State
Persons Living Below Poverty Level				
	612	21.5%	4,143,077	17.1%

Source: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/>

Housing

Household Units and Size: The total number of housing units in 2000 in Cochran County according the Census was 1,309 with an average household size of 2.8 persons. The average household size for Texas was 2.7 persons for the same period. Home ownership rates for this area was 73.6 percent compared to

Texas statewide which had a rate of 63.8 percent. While in Texas statewide the percent of households with persons under 18 years of age in 2000 was 40.9 percent, this study area had a percent of 42.4. The percent of households with persons 65 years of age or older was 19.9 percent in Texas statewide while 29.7 percent of Cochran County had households with individuals 65 years of age and older.

Types of Structures: While Texas had approximately 63.4 percent of the housing units in the category of one detached structures in 2000 according to the census, the study area had approximately 82.1 percent. Mobile homes in the area made up 13.4 percent when compared to a statewide percentage of 9.0 percent. More recently built housing structures in the area shows new development has taken place in the region. The total number of new housing structures built between 1995 and March 2000 was 69 or 4.3 percent in Cochran County compared to 13.2 percent statewide.

Owner and Renter Occupied: According to the 2000 Census, the percent of owner-occupied units with a value of \$100,000 or greater in Cochran County was 5.0 percent compared to 36.7 percent for the state. The percent of renter-occupied units with rent values of \$500 per month or greater was 10.4 percent as compared to the Texas percentage of 60.4 percent. The median home value in Cochran County according to the 2000 census was \$25,700.00 compared to a statewide median value of \$82,500.00. Median rent for the area was \$381.00 compared to \$574.00 for the state. For this area, the total number of renter-occupied housing units was 345 which represented 26.4 percent of all occupied housing units in 2000. This compares to a Texas statewide percentage of 36.2 percent for the same period.

Education

The total number of public independent school districts in Cochran County for the school year 1999-2000 was 2 according to the Texas Education Agency. The overall average daily attendance for the same year was 940.

Enrollment: School enrollment data from the 2000 Census showed that there were 1,081 persons in the population who were 3 years of age and older and enrolled in school in the study area during the census collection period. Of this population, the following table shows a breakdown of what types of schools persons were enrolled compared to similar statewide information:

Type of School	Count	Area Percent	Statewide Percent
Nursery school or preschool	51	4.7	6.6
Kindergarten	37	3.4	5.9
Elementary School (grades 1-8)	561	51.9	45.5
High School (grades 9-12)	347	32.1	21.9
College or graduate school	85	7.9	20.2

Educational Attainment: The total number of persons 25 years of age or older who responded to the level of educational attainment during the 2000 Census was 2,236. Of those persons, the following presents a table on various levels of educational attainment for this region compared to statewide percentages:

Educational Attainment	Count	Area Percent	Statewide Percent
Less than 9th Grade	480	21.5	11.5
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	355	15.9	12.9
H.S. graduate (inc. equiv.)	631	28.2	24.8
Some college, no degree	446	19.9	22.4
Associate Degree	97	4.3	5.2
Bachelor's Degree	126	5.6	15.6
Graduate or Prof. Degree	101	4.5	7.6

Another useful grouping of these statistics shows that the percent of high school graduates or higher was 62.7 percent for the area compared to 75.7 percent for Texas. Also, the percent with bachelor's degree or higher was 10.2 percent as compared to 23.2 percent for Texas.

Dropout and Attrition Rates: Information from the Texas Education Agency on student dropouts from public schools for 2004-2005 shows that 7 students, grades 7-12, dropped out of school in this study area. This represents a dropout rate of 1.43 percent as compared to a Texas statewide percentage of 0.90 percent of all students who dropped out during this period. Attrition rates are often viewed as measures of the percentage of students that begin high school but do not graduate with a diploma. It is arguably a more reasonable way to view dropouts from an economic viewpoint. One way to view educational progress in a region is to estimate the number of persons who persist to high school graduation as opposed to standard dropout statistics. Attrition rates are calculated by the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA). IDRA conducts research and development activities; creates, implements and administers innovative education programs; and provides teacher, administrator, and parent training and technical assistance. The attrition rates for Cochran County during the period 2004-2005 by race and ethnicity were 32 percent for all students, 65 percent for Blacks, 11 percent for Whites, and 41 percent for Hispanics. In order to review the latest Secondary Schools Enrollment and Dropouts information posted on the Texas Education Agency, link to: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/research/>.

Health

Health Facilities - The number of acute and psychiatric care hospitals in Cochran County as of October 2007 was 1, with an average total beds capacity of approximately 18.0 compared to a statewide ratio of 123.1 beds per hospital according to statistical reports from the Texas Department of State Health Services. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data reporting on health care facilities. The Texas State Board of Pharmacy data for October 2007 shows there are 1 licensed pharmacies in the study area. The total number of licensed pharmacies statewide is 5,919. For additional information on Texas Pharmacies, link to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy at <http://www.tsbp.state.tx.us/index.htm>.

Health Practitioners - According to the Texas Department of State Health Services October 2007 report, there were 2 direct patient care and primary care physicians who practiced in the region. The ratio of total persons to each physician in the area was 2,008.5 residents per each physician. This compares to a statewide ratio of 460.5 persons for each physician in Texas. Another way of reporting these figures is by showing the number of physicians as a ratio per 100,000 residents. In this study area, the ratio in direct patient care was 4,017.0 as compared to the statewide ratio of 638.3 in direct patient care physicians per 100,000 population as of 2007. The ratio of physicians in primary care was 4,017.0 compared to a statewide ratio of 1,472.0 physicians in primary care per 100,000 persons in the population statewide. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data.

The study area had a total of 11 registered nurses (RN) working in the study area, representing a ratio of 365.2 persons for each RN in the area. The statewide ratio was 152.2 persons for each RN in the state. For the same time period, the ratio of RNs per 100,000 population was 273.8 compared to 657.0 per 100,000 statewide. Link to <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for more data.

The number of licensed vocational nurses (LVN) who practiced in the area was 12 representing a ratio of 334.8 persons per each LVN in the area. This compared to 363.8 persons per each LVN statewide. The ratio of LVNs per 100,000 population was 298.7 compared to 274.9 per 100,000 population statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services information for October 2007 also reports that there were 0 dentists in the study area, with a ratio of n/a persons for each dentist in the area. The ratio of dentists per 100,000 residents was n/a. By comparison, there was a statewide ratio of 42.8 dentists per 100,000 residents, with a total of 10,151 dentists statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

According to data from the Texas Department of State Health Services for October 2007, there were 10 licensed Emergency Medical Technicians, or EMTs, for the study area; a ratio of 248.9 licensed EMTs per 100,000 residents. The statewide ratio was 218.0 EMTs per 100,000 residents, with a total of 51,718 EMTs statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

Also, according to the October 2007 report from the Texas Department of State Health Services, there were 1 pharmacists in this area, which is a ratio of 4,017.0 persons for each pharmacist. Texas has 18,138 pharmacists statewide, or a ratio of 1,308.2 persons for each pharmacist in the area. The ratio of pharmacists per 100,000 residents was 24.9 compared to 76.4 per 100,000 residents statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services information for October 2007 shows that for the study area there were 0 occupational therapists; a ratio of n/a persons for each occupational therapist. The statewide ratio was 11,072.6 persons for each occupational therapist, with a total of 2,143 occupational therapists statewide. The ratio of occupational therapists per 100,000 residents was N/A compared to 9.0 statewide. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Health Professionals and related information.

Medical & Health Services Employment*

Area			Statewide		
2010 3rd Qtr	2011 3rd Qtr	Pct Change	2010 3rd Qtr	2011 3rd Qtr	Pct Change
83	79	-4.82%	1,286,605	1,321,803	2.74%

* Includes: Public and Private Hospitals, Medical/Health Offices; Home Health, Nursing, Elderly Residential facilities; Individual/Family, Emergency & Other Relief Svcs., Vocational Rehab. Svcs.
[NAICS: 6211,6212-19,6221-23,6231-33,6239,6241-43]
Due to confidentiality, employment for small areas may be suppressed and reported as zero.

Health Statistics - Some of the leading causes of mortality in Texas include malignant neoplasms or cancer, heart disease, and chronic lower respiratory disease. From information gathered by Texas Department of State Health Services for 2004, the study area had a total of 8 reported deaths from malignant neoplasm cancer. On a statewide level, Texas had 33,836 reported deaths from malignant neoplasm cancer. Texas Department of State Health Services reports that for 2004 there were 15 deaths from heart disease, and 1 deaths from lower respiratory disease in the selected study area. By contrast, Texas statewide had 40,091 deaths from heart disease and 7,387 deaths from chronic lower respiratory disease. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

Several state agencies collect statistics on health status indicators that can be used to assess the strengths or weaknesses of public health in a local area or community. For this study area, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported for August 2004 there were 0 infant deaths, as compared with a statewide rate of 2,398. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported that for August 2003 there were 5 total teen pregnancies in this area. There were different teen pregnancy rates in the study area depending on race,

with 0 for Black teens, 4 for Hispanic teens and 1 for White teens. Statewide rates for teenage pregnancy were 19,730 for total teenage pregnancies, with 3,003 for Black teens, 12,693 for Hispanic teens and 4,034 for White teens. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us> for a wider variety of Texas health, disease and related information.

In the Health and Human Services 2003 Data Book, figures show that the number of children under 19 in this area whom were not covered by health insurance is 241, which is 5.0% of the reported population in that age group. The number of uninsured children statewide is 885,999, or 7.1% of the reported population for children under 19. For more information, or to view or download the entire data book, see <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us>.

Source: www.texasindustryprofiles.com

	Type	Score
Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas		
No HPSAs in Cochran County	N/A	N/A

Source: <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/>

Hospital Information

# of Hospitals	1
Ownership	Public
Staffed Beds	13
Admissions	29
Average Length of Stay	1.9 Days
Bad Debt Charges	\$62,232
Charity Charges	\$33,218
Total Uncomp Care	\$95,450
Gross Patient Revenue	\$1,268,040
Uncomp Care as % of Gross Patient Revenue	7.5
Emergency Room Visits	560

Source: 2010 Cooperative DSHS/AHA/THA Annual Survey of Hospitals and Hospital tracking Database

Health Indicators

	Cochran County	Error Margin	National Benchmark*	Texas	Rank (of 221)
Health Outcomes					121
Mortality					109
Premature death			5,466	7,186	
Morbidity					123
Poor or fair health			10%	19%	
Poor physical health days			2.6	3.6	

Poor mental health days			2.3	3.3
Low birthweight	8.5%	5.8-11.2%	6.0%	8.2%
Health Factors				137
Health Behaviors				126
Adult smoking			14%	19%
Adult obesity	30%	23-38%	25%	29%
Physical inactivity	29%	21-39%	21%	25%
Excessive drinking			8%	16%
Motor vehicle crash death rate			12	17
Sexually transmitted infections	403		84	435
Teen birth rate	62	50-75	22	63
Clinical Care				157
Uninsured	33%	30-36%	11%	26%
Primary care physicians	1,490:1		631:1	1,050:1
Preventable hospital stays			49	73
Diabetic screening	79%	57-100%	89%	81%
Mammography screening			74%	62%
Social & Economic Factors				120
High school graduation	90%			84%
Some college	37%	3-71%	68%	56%
Unemployment	8.2%		5.4%	8.2%
Children in poverty	34%	24-44%	13%	26%
Inadequate social support			14%	23%
Children in single-parent households	14%	6-21%	20%	32%
Violent crime rate	154		73	503
Physical Environment				117
Air pollution-particulate matter days	0		0	1
Air pollution-ozone days	0		0	18
Access to recreational facilities	0		16	7
Limited access to healthy foods	9%		0%	12%
Fast food restaurants	50%		25%	53%

* 90th percentile, i.e., only 10% are better. Note: Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data

Source: www.countyhealthrankings.org

Community Health Needs Assessment Index

AHEC developed the Community Health Needs Assessment Index as a checkup on the public health conditions in Cochran County. The best use of the Index is to focus discussion between community members about improving the public health.

Twenty-one indicators comprise the Community Health Needs Assessment Index. Each indicator is based on the most recent available data for each Texas county and the overall state. The indicator data in the report are from public access files available over the internet and originally produced by a variety of state and federal agencies such as the Census Bureau, Department of State Health Services, and Texas Department of Health & Human Services. There are no personal identifiers in any of the public access files. A list of data sources is provided at the end of the Community Health Needs Assessment Index report.

The indicator data for Cochran County are described in the text notations inside the colored columns in the following charts. The Index also scores each indicator in a manner that compares Cochran County with all other Texas counties. AHEC uses a 100-point scaling method for this. The method assigns the county in Texas with the most positive indicator result a score of 100 while other counties in the state get lesser scores ranging down to zero. Counties with better outcomes get higher scores. The numerical scores on the 100-point scale for Cochran County are reported at the top of the columns in the following charts. These scores also determine the height of the columns in the charts.

The 21 indicators that make up the Community Health Needs Assessment Index are grouped into three distinct categories, each with seven indicators. The categories cover vulnerable populations, demographic risk factors, and health outcomes. The Index report for Cochran County includes a chart for each category, plus a summary figure. The report begins with the summary.

Figure 1 provides a Community Health Needs Assessment Summary for Cochran County. Moving from left to right, the first three columns in this chart give Cochran County's average score on the 7 indicators making up each of the three previously noted categories. The fourth and fifth columns to the right represent the average of all 21 indicator scores for Cochran County and the State of Texas respectively.

The color-coding follows a protocol for all charts included in the Community Health Needs Assessment Index report. The protocol is described below:

- The Texas column is always coded burnt orange to signify the statewide score as a benchmark for the overall data reported in the summary or categorical chart.
- The column representing the county's average score is coded red if it falls below the statewide score. This shows that overall statewide outcomes are better than the county's results.
- The column representing the county's average score is coded green if it exceeds the statewide score. This means the county's outcomes are better than the statewide results.
- Indicator columns are coded red if the score is below the county's average. Code red indicators are bringing down the county's average.
- Indicator columns are coded green if the score exceeds the county's average. Code green categories are lifting up the county's average.

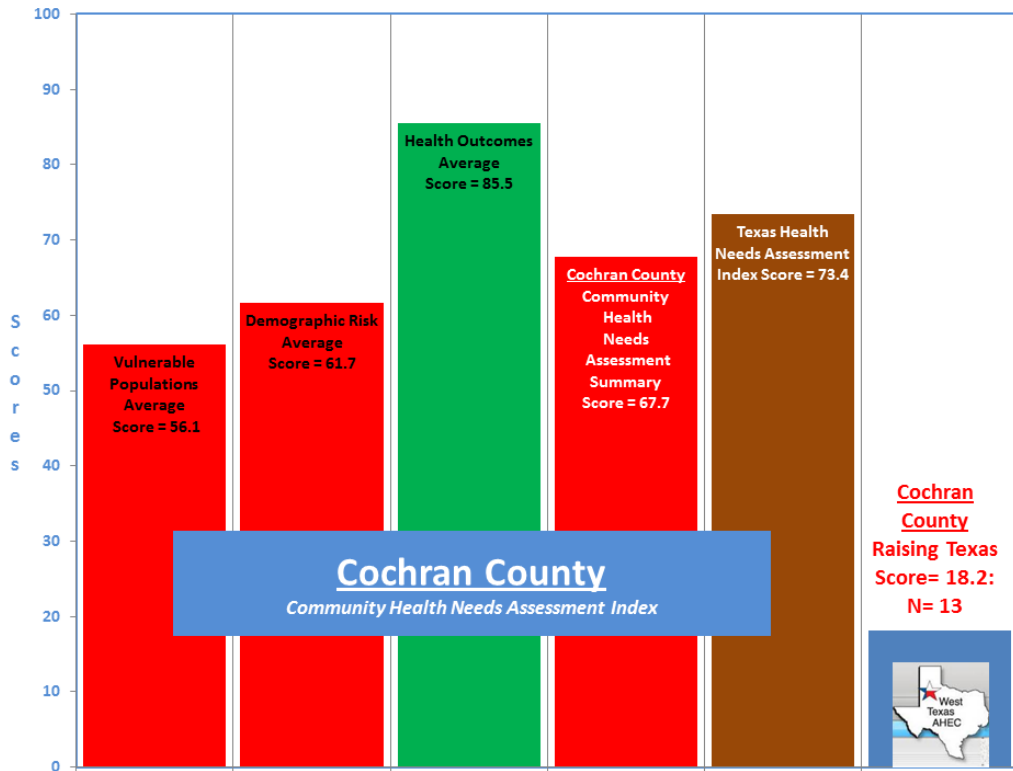


Figure 1: Community Health Needs Assessment Index Summary

The “Raising Texas Score” column on the far right summarizes the “Raising Texas Goals” for specific indicators in the categorical charts covering vulnerable populations, demographic risk, and health outcomes. This column in Figure 1 tells the average difference between the county and state scores for indicators on which the county scores lower (i.e. has worse outcomes than the state). The “N” gives the number of indicators involved.

In the case of Cochran County, the Raising Texas Score column shows that Cochran scored lower than the state as a whole on 13 of the total 21 indicators in the Index. On average, the county scored 18.2 points lower than the state for these 13 indicators. Details on Cochran County’s 13 Raising Texas Goals are in the following charts covering the vulnerable populations, demographic risk, and health outcomes categories.

Vulnerable Populations Index

Seven indicators reported in Figure 2 measure the prevalence of vulnerable populations in Cochran County. Vulnerable populations are social groups whose members are likely to “fall through the cracks” when it comes to providing health and social services that help maintain or improve public health. The indicators on the prevalence of these groups are the percent of children enrolled in CHIP, the percent of population (excluding elders) on Medicaid, the percent of children using SNAP, the percent of elders using SNAP, the working-age population that is disabled, the rate of abuse for elders and disabled persons in the county, and the rate of child abuse.

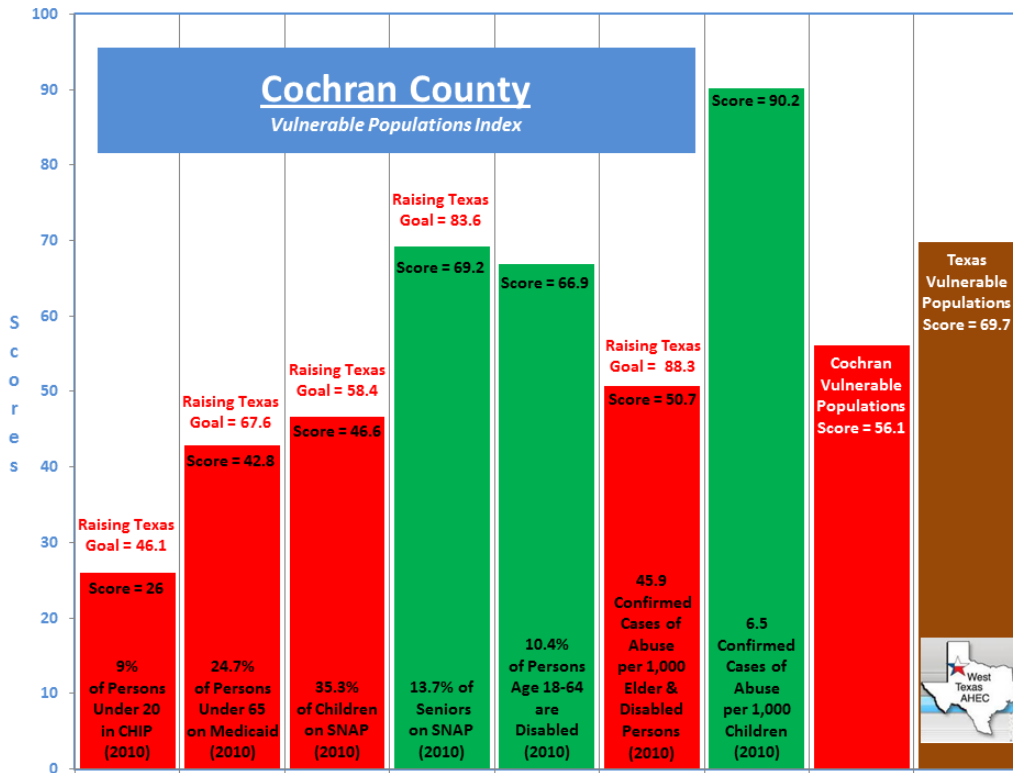


Figure 2: Vulnerable Population Index

Cochran County’s average score for the seven indicators on vulnerable populations is 56.1. The county’s average is pulled down by the percentages of children on CHIP, Medicaid enrollment, children on SNAP, and abuse rates for elderly and disabled persons. The percentages of seniors on SNAP, the disability rate, and abuse rates for children are factors improving the county’s average. Overall, Cochran County results for these indicators fall below the state as a whole.

Specifically, five Raising Texas Goals for the indicators on vulnerable populations are appropriate for discussion in Cochran County. The county can improve the state of public health by working to reduce the need for public assistance support from CHIP, Medicaid, and SNAP. The county should also consider actions to reduce the abuse of vulnerable populations, especially the elderly and disabled. By working to improve in these areas, the community can better its public health and that of the State of Texas.

Demographic Risk Index

The seven indicators in Figure 3 focus on the prevalence of population that shares demographic characteristics creating risk of lower health outcomes at both the personal and community level. The indicators include the poverty rate, the percent of medically uninsured population (excluding elders), the percentage of households headed by females with children, the percentage of mothers giving birth who are unwed, the percent of population age 25 and over who did not complete high school, and the percent of households burdened by housing costs that exceed 30 percent or more of household income.

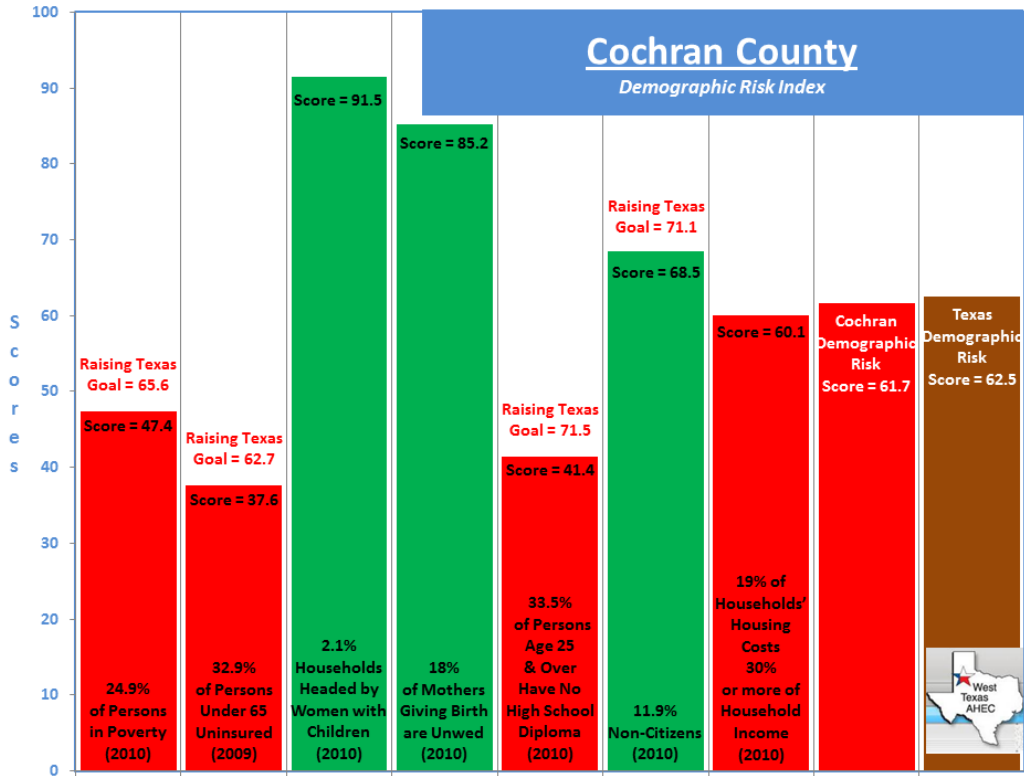


Figure 3: Demographic Risk Index

Cochran County’s average score for the seven demographic risk indicators is 61.7. The county’s average is pulled down by the percentages of persons living in poverty, uninsured persons, individuals age 25 and over who do not have a high school diploma, and cost-burdened households (with 30% or more of income in housing cost). Its percentages of households headed by women with children, mothers giving birth out of marriage, and non-citizens improve the county’s average. Overall, results for the state as a whole are slightly better than those for Cochran County.

Specifically, four Raising Texas Goals from the seven demographic risk indicators are appropriate for discussion in Cochran County. The county can improve the state of public health by working to achieve improvements in the rate of poverty and the percent of non-citizens. The county could also benefit from a reduction in the number of uninsured persons and individuals who do not have a high school diploma. By working to improve in these areas, the community can better its public health and that of the State of Texas.

Health Outcomes Index

Public health outcomes are the basis for these seven indicators. They include the combined death rate from the five leading causes of death in Texas, the combined rate of infant, fetal, and maternal deaths, the rate of suicides and suicide attempts, the traumatic injury rate, the rate of substance abuse treatment admissions, the death rate resulting from diabetic conditions, and the incidence of family violence.

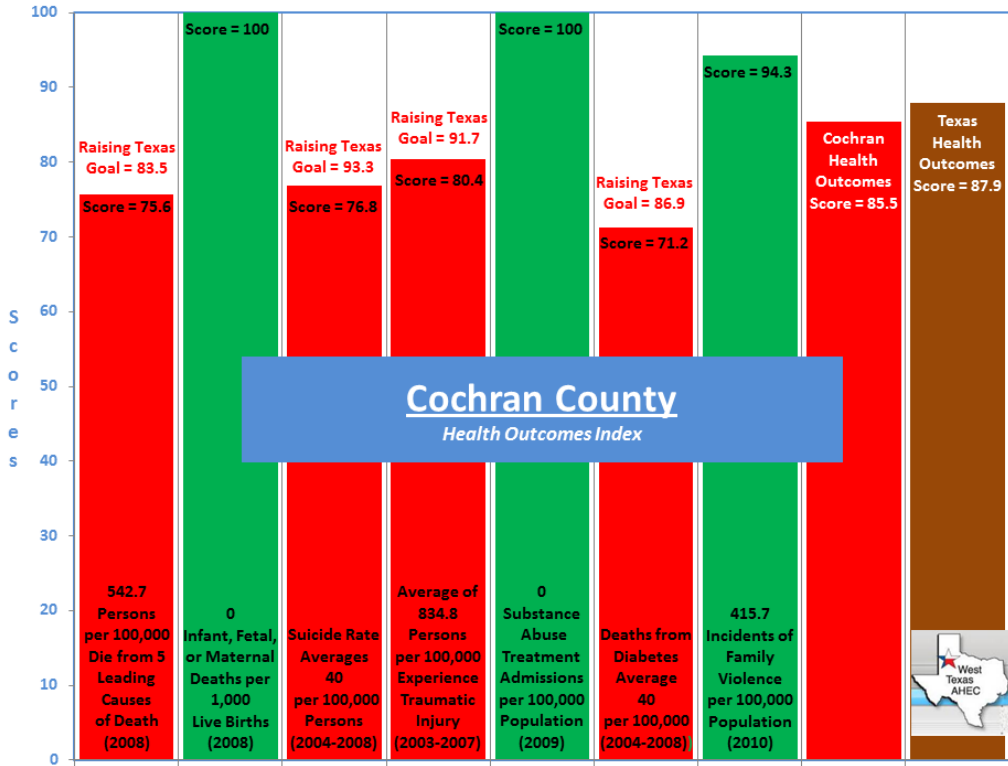


Figure 4: Health Outcomes Index Community Health Needs Assessment Index

Cochran County’s average score for the seven health outcomes indicators is 85.5. The county’s average is pulled down by the death rate from the five leading causes, suicide rate, rate of traumatic injury, and deaths from diabetetic conditions. Rates for Infant, fetal, or maternal deaths, substance abuse treatment admissions, and incidence of family violence improve the county’s average. Overall, statewide results for these indicators are better than those for Cochran County.

Specifically, four Raising Texas Goals from the seven health outcomes indicators are appropriate for discussion in Cochran County. The county can improve the state of public health by working to reduce deaths from the five leading causes and deaths stemming from diabetes. Actions to reduce traumatic injuries and the suicide rate are also appropriate for discussion in Cochran County. By working to improve in these areas, the community can better its public health and that of the State of Texas.

Community Health Needs Assessment Index Data Sources

Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Research and Statistics: Online:
<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/research/index.html>.

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, 2010 Annual Report and Data Book: Online:
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/About/Data_Books_and_Annual_Reports/default.asp.

US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates: Online, American FactFinder: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

US Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2009 Health Insurance Coverage Status for Counties and States, Interactive Tables: Online:
<http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/data/2009/tables.html>.

Texas Department of State Health Services, Center for Health Statistics: Online:
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/datalist.shtm>.

Texas Department of Public Safety, Crime in Texas, The Texas Crime Report for 2010: Online:
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/pages/crimestatistics.htm.

For more information or if there are additional questions not answered by this Community Health Needs Assessment, please contact:

Jim Conditt
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health
3601 4th Street M.S. 6232
Lubbock, Texas 79430
806-743-1338
Jim.Conditt@ttuhsc.edu