

## DISCRIMINATION

### Quality of Life

*Every woman, man, youth and child has the human right to freedom from discrimination based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other status, and to other fundamental human rights dependent upon realization of the human right to freedom from discrimination. These human rights are explicitly set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other widely adhered to international human rights treaties and declarations -- powerful tools that must be put to use in efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination.*

### About the Indicator

*Local and state-level data related to demographics and poverty comes from the US Census Bureau, Census 2000; as reported in the Allegany County Department of Health, Community Health Assessment 2005-2010. The definition of economic deprivation as a basic human right was obtained through the United Nations.*

### Human Rights and Poverty

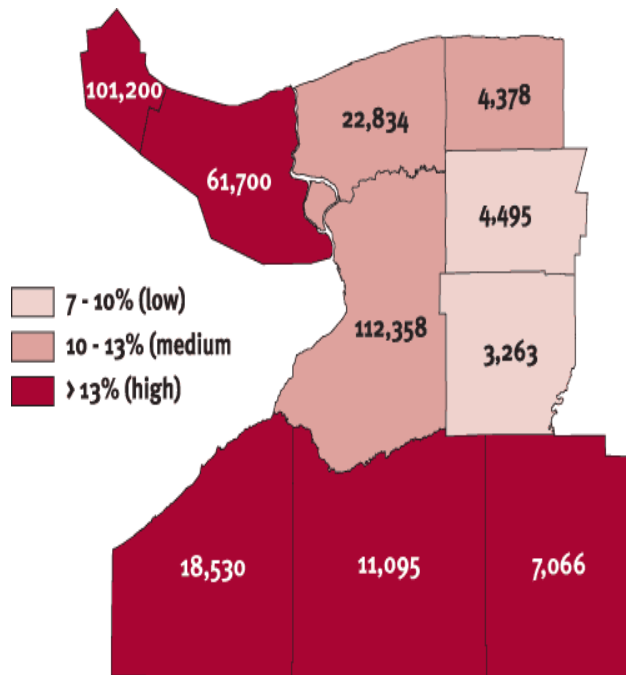
*Economic deprivation – lack of income – is a standard feature of most definitions of poverty. But this in itself does not take account of the myriad of social, cultural and political aspects of the phenomenon. Poverty is not only deprivation of economic or material resources but a violation of human dignity too. (United Nations)*

- The human right to an adequate standard of living.*
- The human right to work and receive wages that contribute to an adequate standard of living.*
- The human right to a healthy and safe environment.*
- The human right to live in adequate housing.*
- The human right to be free from hunger.*

- The human right to safe drinking water.*
- The human right to primary health care and medical attention in case of illness.*
- The human right to access to basic social services.*
- The human right to education.*
- The human right to be free of gender or racial discrimination.*
- The human right to participate in shaping decisions that affect oneself and one's community.*
- The human right for children to develop in an environment appropriate for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.*

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### Western New York Persons in Poverty and Poverty Rate 2000



### Allegany County Demographics

97% of the population is Caucasian. African-Americans and Asians comprise 1.4% of the population and 1.6% are categorized as Native American or "other", allowing for little cultural diversity. 4.1% of the population report speaking a language other than English at home.

Male to female ratio is 49.1% to 50.9%, respectively. 14% of the county population is 65 years of age and older.

Western New Yorkers living in poverty has dropped only slightly over the past decade, falling from 12.2% in 1989 to 11.9% in 1999.

2000 US Census Bureau

### Poverty in Allegany County

- Allegany County had 2.2% more people living below the poverty level in 2000 (15.5%) than in 1990 (13.3%).
- The median household income in 2000 was \$32,106, while the median income for NYS was \$41,763, and the national median income was \$41,990.
- The average annual growth rate of total personal income in Allegany County was 3.2% from 1992-2002. The state growth rate was 4.2% and the national rate was 5.2%.
- In 2002, the Medicaid/Self-Pay Labor and Delivery rate of 43.8% was more than double the state rate of 21.2%.

- In August of 2004, Allegany County's unemployment rate was 7.1% while the state rate was 5.9% and the national rate was 5.4%. The rates are consistently higher than NYS and national rates.

- The Retirement Living Information Center ranks New York State at #1 for tax burden (state and local tax burden as a percentage of income) in the country for 2004, at 12.9%.

- In 2002, Allegany County ranked 62nd of 62 counties in New York for average per capita income (APCI) at \$19,925. This is only 56% of the state APCI of \$35,805, and 64% of the national APCI of \$30,906.

Allegany County Department of Health  
2005-2010 Community Health Assessment