

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Lakeside Medical Center



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Prepared By:

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Partnering Organizations

A special thank you is extended to the members of the Lakeside Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment Advisory Council, whose leadership and insights were instrumental in shaping the needs assessment process. Your dedication and collaboration have laid the groundwork for continued progress toward a healthier Community.

211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast
America Heart Association
Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce
Boldin Community Impact, Inc.
Career Source
CHW on Demand
City of Pahokee
City of South Bay
Community Partners of South Florida – Bridges at Belle Glade
Delta Sigma Theta
Drug Abuse Foundation
Empower Healthcare
Florida Atlantic University College of Nursing
Florida Community Health Centers, Inc.
Florida Crystals
Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County
Florida Federation of Families
Glades Area Ministerial Association
Health Care District of Palm Beach County

Healthier Glades
Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies
Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network
Lakeside Health Advisory Board
Lakeside Medical Center
L.O.T. Health Services
Pahokee Housing Authority
Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Palm Beach County Library System – Belle Glade Library
Palm Beach County Office of Community Revitalization
Palm Beach County Victim Services
Palm Health Foundation
RevaMed Primary Care Associates
Sunshine Health (Ambetter, Wellcare)
The Glades Initiative, Inc.
The Lord's Place
The Recovery Community HUB of Palm Beach County

Executive Summary

In early 2025, Lakeside Medical Center contracted the Health Council of Southeast Florida (HCSEF) to facilitate the development of its 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). A CHNA is both a process and a product—it involves identifying the health needs of the community and producing a formal document that outlines those findings. This process incorporates input from individuals and organizations that reflect the broad interests of the community, ensuring that a wide range of perspectives help shape the assessment.

The 2025 CHNA integrates both secondary data and primary data to develop a comprehensive view of health in Lakeside Medical Center's service area. Secondary data were gathered from reputable national, state, and local sources and include demographic, socioeconomic, health status, and health resource and availability indicators. To complement this, HCSEF collected primary data from community conversations and key informant interviews to capture lived experiences and local insights directly from members of the community.

The CHNA serves multiple functions. It prioritizes key health issues, encourages community engagement, and helps define opportunities for collaboration and partnerships. Additionally, the process supports a better understanding of health differences across populations and the underlying factors that influence health outcomes. The assessment results provide the foundation for the development of an actionable Implementation Plan that reflects community recommendations, considers available resources, and includes measurable goals, strategies, and activities. Completing the CHNA also helps fulfill federal requirements that all not-for-profit (501(c)(3)) hospitals must complete to maintain their tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

In spring 2025, HCSEF convened an Advisory Council made up of individuals representing the broad interests of both current and potential patients in Lakeside Medical Center's service area. Members included representatives from the local health department, subject matter experts, elected officials, faith-based and charitable organizations, community-based agencies, residents, and other key stakeholders. Between May and June 2025, the Advisory Council met three times to review and interpret local health data, offer additional context, and take part in a facilitated Prioritization Voting Exercise. Additionally, the Lakeside Health Advisory Board (LHAB) received two presentations throughout the process, with opportunity to provide feedback and input. This resulted in the identification of shared priority areas for action among both residents and stakeholders throughout Lakeside Medical Center's service area.

The 2025 CHNA is organized into four key sections: (1) Demographic and Socioeconomic Profile, (2) Health Status Profile, (3) Health Resource Access and Availability, and (4) Community Perspective. The report sections, including their descriptions and highlights, are summarized in the table below.

Table 1: Community Health Needs Assessment Key Highlights

REPORT SECTION	KEY HIGHLIGHTS
Demographic and Socioeconomic Profile includes data on key demographic and social and economic status indicators, including: population, income, poverty status, educational attainment, employment, housing and transportation.	Population - In 2024, individuals from 359 ZIP codes visited Lakeside Medical Center. In this report, the primary service area is defined as Belle Glade (33430) and Pahokee (33476), and the secondary service area is defined as South Bay (33493) and Clewiston (33440) based on Lakeside Medical Center's 2024 visitation data. - In 2023, there were 53,093 residents living in Lakeside's Primary and Secondary Service Area (Service Area). Age - In 2023, 25.4% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area were under the age of 18 (compared to 89.1% statewide). - In 2023, 14.0% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area were 65 years and older, which was less than the statewide proportion (19.6%). Race/Ethnicity - In 2023, 41.0% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area were Black (compared to 15.3% statewide). - Additionally, in 2023, 39.1% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area identified as Hispanic or Latino, compared to 26.7% statewide. Population that Speaks a Language Other than English - In 2023, 43.9% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area spoke a language other than English (compared to 30.1% statewide). - In 2023, 23.2% of South Bay residents, 33.9% of Pahokee residents, 44.5% of Belle Glade residents, and 51.6% of Clewiston residents reported that they spoke a language other than English at home. Income/Poverty - In 2023, the median household income among residents living in Lakeside's Service Area was \$48,818, compared to \$71,711 in the state overall. - In 2023, 29.4% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area were living below the poverty level (compared to 12.6% in the state overall). - In 2023, 21.5% of Clewiston residents, 27.8% of Belle Glade residents, 31.3% of South Bay residents, and 36.8% of Pahokee residents reported that they were living below the poverty level.

REPORT SECTION	KEY HIGHLIGHTS
	Educational Attainment - In 2023, 69.8% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area had a high school diploma or higher (compared to 89.6% statewide). - In 2023, educational attainment varied across Lakeside's Service Area: - In South Bay, 57.8% of residents had a high school diploma or higher - In Belle Glade, 70.7% of residents had a high school diploma or higher - In Clewiston, 71.8% of residents had a high school diploma or higher - In Pahokee, 72.2% of residents had a high school diploma or higher
Health Status Profile provides details on various indicators, including: morbidity and mortality trends, maternal and child health, infectious diseases, behavioral health, and hospital utilization.	Leading Causes of Death in 2023 - In 2023, heart disease and cancer ranked as the top two leading causes of death among residents of Palm Beach County and those living in Lakeside's service area. - Other notable causes of death included unintentional injuries, cerebrovascular diseases (such as stroke), and chronic lower respiratory disease. Maternal and Child Health - In 2023, Lakeside's Service Area recorded 739 live births and six infant deaths among resident families. - In 2023, 39.5% of mothers in the service area received adequate prenatal care, compared to 64.4% of mothers statewide. Hospital Utilization Data Note: All hospital utilization data reflects the ZIP code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where care was received. - In 2023, mental health conditions (including substance use) were the primary cause for 2.0% of all emergency department (ED) visits and 5.3% of inpatient admissions among service area residents. Additionally, these conditions were a contributing cause for 6.3% of ED visits and 4.4% of inpatient cases. - In 2023, 39.5% of mental health-related ED visits involved substance use; 66.3% of those involved alcohol among residents of Lakeside's Service Area. - In 2023, diabetes, whether listed as the primary reason or a contributing condition, accounted for 5.9% of emergency department (ED) visits and 6.5% of inpatient admissions among residents of Lakeside's Service Area.

REPORT SECTION	KEY HIGHLIGHTS
	- In 2023, Sepsis (A41.9) accounted for 5.3% of inpatient discharges (among residents of Lakeside's Service Area). Single Liveborn Infant, Delivered Vaginally (Z38.00) accounted for 6.8% of discharges among residents of Lakeside's service area. - In 2023, the top reasons for ED visits among residents of Lakeside's Service Area included respiratory illness, viral infection, Influenza, COVID-19, UTI, and headache.
Health Resources Availability and Access Profile presents information regarding the obtainability of health care resources in lakeside's service area, including: health insurance coverage, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and Medically Underserved Populations and Areas (MUPs/MUAs).	Insurance Coverage - In 2023, 79.6% of residents living in Lakeside's Service Area were insured, which was lower than the statewide average of 88.1%. Coverage varied throughout the Service Area: - In Belle Glade, 77.0% of residents were insured. - In South Bay, 79.9% of residents were insured. - In Clewiston, 81.3% of residents were insured. - In Pahokee, 83.9% of residents were insured. - Additionally, in 2023, 24.5% of individuals aged 18 years or younger in the Lakeside Service Area were uninsured, compared to 13.1% statewide. Licensed Facilities Serving the Area - As of June 2025, the service area included two hospitals—Lakeside Medical Center and Hendry Regional Medical Center—with a combined total of 90 beds. - As of June 2025, two nursing homes—Glades Health Care Center and Vivo Healthcare Clewiston—provided a combined total of 175 beds. - As of June 2025, the area was also served by five Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) or look-alikes, including a mobile unit. Medically Underserved Populations and Areas (MUPs/MUAs) - Lakeside Medical Center's service area is federally designated as both a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and a Medically Underserved Population (MUP) for multiple services, including primary care, dental, and mental health.
Community Perspectives Section highlights insights gathered from individuals and organizations across the community through key	In addition to the foundational secondary data, primary data was collected and analyzed to provide additional and necessary insight into the evolving needs, barriers, and challenges faced by the community. Insight was gleaned strategically and methodically from stakeholders who either resided in Lakeside

REPORT SECTION	KEY HIGHLIGHTS
informant interviews and resident focus groups.	Medical Center's service area, who provided services to those residing in the services areas, or who had a vested interest in the service area. Community Conversations • In May and June 2025, HCSEF spoke with 237 residents and community members across fifteen community conversation sessions to glean resident and stakeholder insight and feedback on health in Lakeside Medical Center's primary and secondary service areas. • Health is holistic, accessible in our own community, and inclusive of the built environment. • Chronic illnesses, mental and behavioral health conditions, and respiratory issues emerged as key health concerns in the community. • Challenges included local availability of primary and specialty care, patient-provider relationships, transportation, and other external factors. • Identified opportunities for support included economic and social support and health literacy and navigation support. • Insights related to where and how residents find care, especially preventative care, showed a preference for local and familiar sources of care. • Gaps were identified in services such as transportation, access to providers, language options and access to translators, geriatric care, and health literacy. • Ideas for improvement focused on a holistic approach to health improvement that addresses both medical care and supports the community. Key Informant Interviews • In Spring 2025, HCSEF conducted eight interviews with key community stakeholders and members. • A healthy community includes the expectation that basic needs are met and healthcare is available locally. • Current strengths and resources included the sense of community and the commitment of community partners. • Key health issues included chronic disease, reproductive health, behavioral health, and additional issues related to environmental factors, respiratory issues, access to healthy food, and more.

REPORT SECTION	KEY HIGHLIGHTS
	• Current barriers and gaps included themes such as access, health literacy and education, and other factors that influence health. • Opportunities for Lakeside Medical Center included community involvement, collaboration with partners, and connections with patients.

Overview of Lakeside Medical Center

As the only public hospital and acute-care facility in the Glades region, Lakeside Medical Center serves as a critical access point for healthcare services in western Palm Beach County. Owned and operated by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, in conjunction with a new management agreement with Tampa General Hospital, Lakeside Medical Center offers a comprehensive range of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency care, critical care, surgery, pediatrics, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, and radiology.

Accredited by The Joint Commission, the 70-bed hospital is equipped with a 24/7 physician-staffed emergency room, radiology services (MRI, CT, mammography, ultrasound, and more), intensive care units, and modern surgical facilities. The hospital also plays a vital role in physician training through its Family Medicine Residency Program in partnership with NOVA Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Lakeside Medical Center continues to prioritize high quality, patient-centered care in a safe, supportive, and community-focused environment. With an emphasis on wellness and preventive care, the hospital serves as both a healthcare provider and an advocate for healthier living in the Glades.

Lakeside Medical Center Previous CHNA Cycle

Lakeside Medical Center remains deeply committed to enhancing the health and well-being of the communities they serve by continuously assessing local needs and refining approaches to community health improvement. The previous Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Strategy reflects the hospital's most recent efforts to better understand and respond to the evolving health landscape in Belle Glade, South Bay, Pahokee, Clewiston, and surrounding areas. Notably, the CHNA process is cyclical, and continuous development is essential. Importantly, the 2022–2025 CHNA process prioritized two interconnected areas of focus:

- Goal 1: Focus on Prevention through Workshops and Nutrition Education
- Goal 2: Participate in Health Fairs and Community Events

Over the course of the previous cycle, Lakeside Medical Center partnered with schools, community groups, and community-based organizations to provide workshops and education related to diabetes prevention, nutrition and healthy eating, stress management, and prenatal care. Several sessions were conducted, including a women's health lunch and learn discussion on breast cancer, two college/career readiness monthly mini-series presentations at the local Boys and Girls Club, and a health and wellness lunch and learn and Welcome Back event at the Palm Beach State College Belle Glade Campus.

Simultaneously, the hospital took part in community events and health fairs to provide health screenings, educational health content, and fitness demonstrations. Successful collaborative activities included the LMC FM Residency Program, a diabetes health screening event, the City of South Bay Wellness Fair, two Palm Beach State College Belle Glade Campus lunch and learns (focused on radiology and quality), and a Diabetes and Brain Health Screening event in partnership with local community organizations.

The cyclical nature of the Community Health Needs Assessment provides an opportunity to reflect on these activities and continue efforts while adjusting to the current needs of the community.

Service Area

Lakeside Medical Center's service area spans rural western Palm Beach County and neighboring communities, serving residents who rely on the hospital for acute, emergency, and specialty care. The region's unique geographic and socioeconomic characteristics require tailored approaches to healthcare delivery and community engagement. For the purposes of the Community Health Needs Assessment, the Primary Service Area is defined as the ZIP Codes that make up approximately 75% of unique patients (and encounters) at the hospital based on Lakeside Medical Center's 2024 data. The Secondary Service Area in this assessment is defined as the ZIP Codes that make up an additional approximately 15% beyond the Primary Service Area. The Primary Service Area and Secondary Service Area ZIP Codes comprise of approximately 90% of all unique patients (and encounters) at the hospital in the 2024 calendar year.

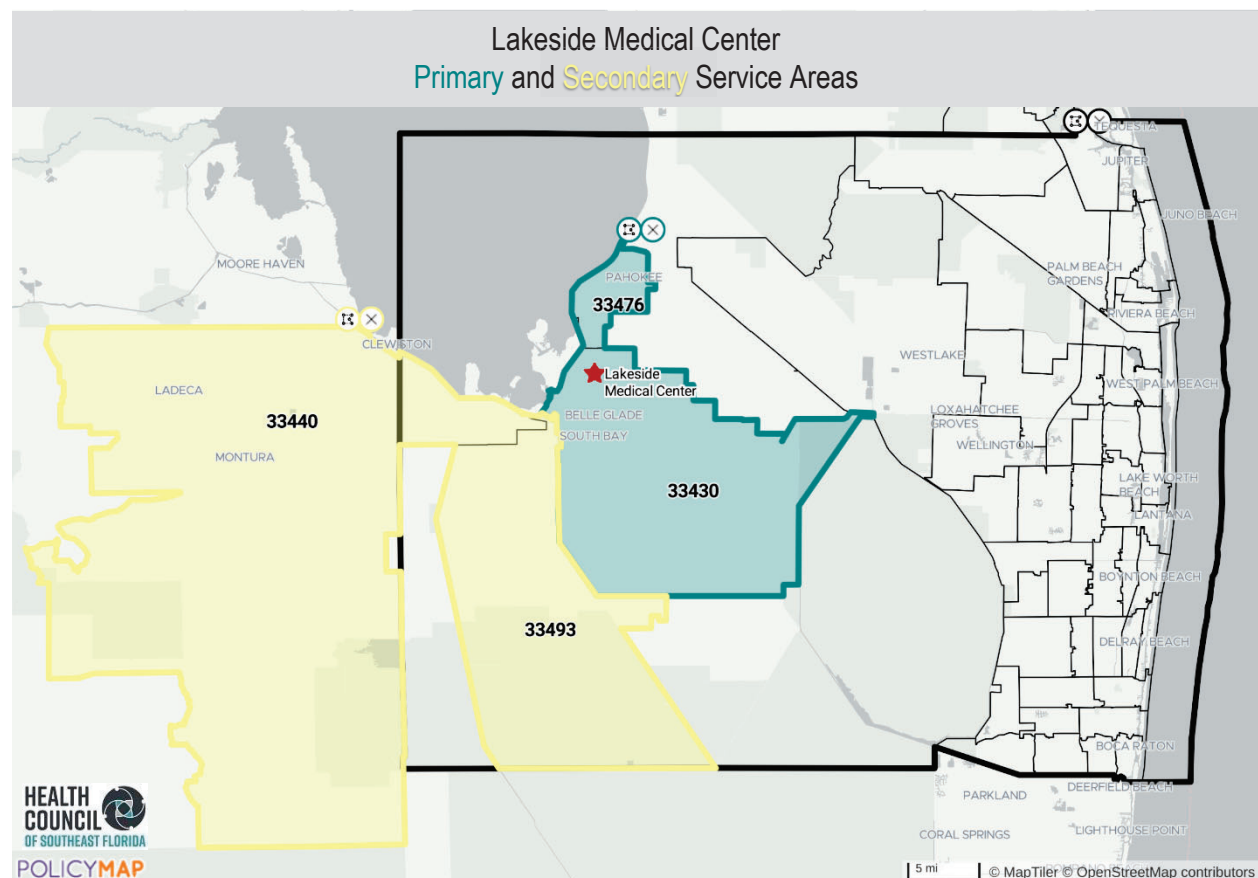
The hospital's Primary Service Area, for the purposes of this report, include:

- Belle Glade (ZIP code 33430)
- Pahokee (ZIP code 33476)

The Secondary Service Area, for the purposes of this report, include:

- South Bay (ZIP code 33493)
- Clewiston (ZIP code 33440)

Figure 1: Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2025



Community Health Needs Assessment Methodology

To support Lakeside Medical Center's ongoing commitment to identifying and addressing local health needs, this comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment was conducted in alignment with the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requirements for not-for-profit hospitals. This assessment process serves as a strategic tool to better understand the health landscape of the community and inform future planning efforts that are responsive to the evolving needs of residents.

Importantly, not-for-profit hospitals must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment every three years, based on IRS requirements. The assessment must include several components, such as: convening an advisory group of stakeholders representing various interest in the community; gathering primary and secondary data; and identifying priorities, goals, strategies, and specific activities.

Lakeside Medical Center contracted with the Health Council of Southeast Florida (HCSEF) to lead and facilitate the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment process. HCSEF worked alongside Lakeside Medical Center, the Lakeside Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment Advisory Council, and local residents to collect and vet both qualitative and quantitative data. This information is used to provide a well-rounded depiction of the current health landscape and opportunities for improvement. Quantitative, secondary data included key health indicators and demographic trends drawn from publicly available datasets. Secondary data sources for this assessment included, but were not limited to: the U.S. Census Bureau, Florida Department of Health CHARTS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), AIDSVU, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), and the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. These data sources were used to analyze demographic patterns, environmental and social influences, chronic disease prevalence, access to care, and utilization of services in the region.

Qualitative, primary data reflected the lived experiences, perceptions, and priorities of local stakeholders and residents. Primary data collection occurred between May and early June 2025. This phase included a series of group conversations with community residents and one-on-one key informant interviews with individuals representing various sectors and populations. These conversations were designed to capture insight into local barriers, strengths, and opportunities related to health and well-being in the community.

Additionally, the Lakeside Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment Advisory Council, composed of community leaders and organizational partners, convened three times between May and June 2025. During these meetings, council members reviewed and vetted data findings, shared insights from their respective sectors, and helped guide the development of recommendations and priority focus areas for the CHNA.

Together, the data findings and Advisory Council discussions provided a comprehensive understanding of health in the community. This CHNA report synthesizes those findings to inform future strategic planning and community-driven efforts aimed at improving access, outcomes, and overall quality of life for residents.

Demographic and Socioeconomic Profile

Lakeside Medical Center is located in the Western Region of Palm Beach County. For the purposes of this report, data is disaggregated by ZIP code to explore trends and insights in the communities of Belle Glade, Pahokee, South Bay, and Clewiston based on hospitalization data used to determine the CHNA service area. Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay sit along the southeastern edge of Lake Okeechobee in the Glades region of Palm Beach County, while Clewiston lies just west of the Palm Beach County line in Hendry County. These areas are known for their strong agricultural roots and small-town atmosphere, with a mix of incorporated municipalities and surrounding rural neighborhoods. Each community has a unique history and plays a role in the broader identity of the region.

This section highlights several key demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the service area population, disaggregated by ZIP Code. Where relevant, data are compared to county and state benchmarks to provide context for local patterns and inform future planning efforts. The demographic data includes indicators related to population characteristics such as sex, age group, race, ethnicity, age, language spoken, and more. Socioeconomic indicators, such as income, education, business and employment, and factors related to housing and built environment are also included. By examining these indicators in the context of the Lakeside Medical Center service area, this section provides helpful background for understanding the broader conditions that may affect health within the community.

Demographics

Demographics refer to the characteristics of populations, including age, sex, race, ethnicity, and more. These data are essential for understanding population trends and guiding the development of public services, policies, and planning efforts that align with community needs.¹ This section presents demographic data for residents in the Lakeside Medical Center service area. Where relevant, county and state-level data are also included to provide reference and comparison. The analysis includes indicators relation to total population, as well as population by sex, age group, race, ethnicity, age, and more.

Total Population

The table below shows the total population across Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, Clewiston had the largest population with a total of 21,119 residents, followed by Belle Glade (19,773), Pahokee (7,131), and South Bay (5,070).

Table 2: Total Population, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Total Population	19,773	7,131	5,070	21,119	1,507,453	21,928,881

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

¹ Boyce, P., & Boyce, P. (2023, May 23). Demographics: BoyceWire. Retrieved July 22, 2025 from <https://boycewire.com/demographics/>

Total Population by Sex

The table below presents the population distribution by sex among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, Belle Glade, South Bay, and Clewiston had larger percentages of males compared to female residents. In contrast, in 2023, Pahokee had a slightly higher percentage of females (53.7%) than males (46.3%). Similarly, Palm Beach County and Florida had a slight female majority in 2023.

Table 3: Population by Sex, Lakeside Medical Center Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area										Palm Beach County				Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)									
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
	Total Population	19,773	100.0%	7,131	100.0%	5,070	100.0%	21,119	100.0%	1,507,453	100.0%	21,928,881	100.0%			
Male	10,305	52.1%	3,299	46.3%	3,675	72.5%	10,893	51.6%	735,143	48.8%	10,773,620	49.1%				
Female	9,468	47.9%	3,832	53.7%	1,395	27.5%	10,226	48.4%	772,310	51.2%	11,155,261	50.9%				

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Total Population by Age

The table below displays population by age for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Overall, the service area had a relatively younger population, with a higher concentration of adults in their prime working years (aged 25 to 54). This age range made up 58.5% of the total population in South Bay, 40.3% in Belle Glade, 37.4% in Clewiston, and 36.1% in Pahokee, compared to 35.6% across Palm Beach County, and 37.6% across Florida. In contrast, older adults (65 years and older) made up a smaller percentage of the service area compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 4: Population by Age, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)					
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total Population	19,773	100.0%	7,131	100.0%	5,070	100.0%	21,119	100.0%	1,507,453	100.0%	21,928,881	100.0%
Under 5	1,949	9.9%	723	10.1%	171	3.4%	1,540	7.3%	74,364	4.9%	1,114,328	5.1%
5 to 9 years	1,796	9.1%	338	4.7%	204	4.0%	1,192	5.6%	77,673	5.2%	1,166,775	5.3%
10 to 14 years	860	4.3%	626	8.8%	273	5.4%	1,777	8.4%	81,504	5.4%	1,262,613	5.8%
15 to 19 years	1,385	7.0%	505	7.1%	202	4.0%	1,718	8.1%	83,779	5.6%	1,265,431	5.8%
20 to 24 years	922	4.7%	486	6.8%	116	2.3%	1,423	6.7%	78,533	5.2%	1,269,435	5.8%
25 to 34 years	3,119	15.8%	980	13.7%	1,135	22.4%	2,289	10.8%	173,874	11.5%	2,779,896	12.7%
35 to 44 years	2,137	10.8%	804	11.3%	1,115	22.0%	2,635	12.5%	177,752	11.8%	2,738,113	12.5%
45 to 54 years	2,702	13.7%	794	11.1%	717	14.1%	2,973	14.1%	185,243	12.3%	2,725,323	12.4%
55 to 59 years	1,145	5.8%	280	3.9%	355	7.0%	1,372	6.5%	102,102	6.8%	1,484,346	6.8%
60 to 64 years	890	4.5%	458	6.4%	261	5.1%	1,280	6.1%	101,832	6.8%	1,491,888	6.8%
65 to 74 years	1,735	8.8%	710	10.0%	374	7.4%	1,734	8.2%	181,626	12.0%	2,566,979	11.7%
75 to 84 years	803	4.1%	253	3.5%	117	2.3%	801	3.8%	130,437	8.7%	1,499,278	6.8%
85 years and over	330	1.7%	174	2.4%	30	0.6%	385	1.8%	58,734	3.9%	564,476	2.6%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Population Change by Age – Belle Glade (33430)

The table below shows population change by age group for Belle Glade (33430), Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. Percent change values are color-coded to help with readability: population decline or negative values are in red text, population growth or positive values are in green. Overall from 2021 to 2023, the total population decreased in Belle Glade (-4.1%) whereas it grew across Palm Beach County (+1.8%) and Florida (+2.8%). In 2023, there were the largest percent changes among youth aged 10 to 14 years old (-35.9%) and older adults aged 60 to 64 years old (-24.0%) living in Belle Glade. Notably, across all geographies, the median age of the residents increased between 2021 and 2023.

Table 5: Population Change by Age, Belle Glade (33430), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021 and 2023

	Belle Glade (33430)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change
Total population	20,628	19,773	-4.1%	1,481,233	1,507,453	+1.8%	21,339,762	21,928,881	+2.8%
Under 5 years	2,112	1,949	-7.7%	74,632	74,364	-0.4%	1,118,794	1,114,328	-0.4%
5 to 9 years	1,780	1,796	+0.9%	76,577	77,673	+1.4%	1,147,901	1,166,775	+1.6%
10 to 14 years	1,342	860	-35.9%	82,833	81,504	-1.6%	1,252,281	1,262,613	+0.8%
15 to 19 years	1,299	1,385	+6.6%	82,363	83,779	+1.7%	1,227,017	1,265,431	+3.1%
20 to 24 years	1,117	922	-17.5%	77,801	78,533	+0.9%	1,244,479	1,269,435	+2.0%
25 to 34 years	3,366	3,119	-7.3%	174,048	173,874	-0.1%	2,742,442	2,779,896	+1.4%
35 to 44 years	2,039	2,137	+4.8%	172,761	177,752	+2.9%	2,626,930	2,738,113	+4.2%
45 to 54 years	2,677	2,702	+0.9%	188,252	185,243	-1.6%	2,735,230	2,725,323	-0.4%
55 to 59 years	1,026	1,145	+11.6%	101,588	102,102	+0.5%	1,481,932	1,484,346	+0.2%
60 to 64 years	1,171	890	-24.0%	98,281	101,832	+3.6%	1,415,791	1,491,888	+5.4%
65 to 74 years	1,698	1,735	+2.2%	175,270	181,626	+3.6%	2,442,673	2,566,979	+5.1%
75 to 84 years	701	803	+14.6%	118,830	130,437	+9.8%	1,359,110	1,499,278	+10.3%
85 years and over	300	330	+10.0%	57,997	58,734	+1.3%	545,182	564,476	+3.5%
Median age (years)	32.9	34.4	+4.6%	45.0	45.4	+0.9%	42.3	43.0	+0.7%

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2021 and 2023

Population Change by Age – Pahokee (33476)

The table below shows population change by age group for Pahokee (33476), Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. Percent change can be used to evaluate population changes: population decline or negative values are in red text, population growth or positive values are in green. Overall from 2021 to 2023, the total population increased across Pahokee (+1.9%), Palm Beach County (+1.8%), and Florida (+2.8%). In 2023, the percent changes increased the most among residents of Pahokee 85 years and older (+47.5%), 5 to 9 years (46.3%), and those aged 65 to 74 years old (+44.3%). Notably, the median age of the population living in Pahokee decreased by 7.5% between 2021 and 2023.

Table 6: Population Change by Age, Pahokee (33476), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021 and 2023

	Pahokee (33476)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change
Total population	7,001	7,131	+1.9%	1,481,233	1,507,453	+1.8%	21,339,762	21,928,881	+2.8%
Under 5 years	653	723	+10.7%	74,632	74,364	-0.4%	1,118,794	1,114,328	-0.4%
5 to 9 years	231	338	+46.3%	76,577	77,673	+1.4%	1,147,901	1,166,775	+1.6%
10 to 14 years	625	626	+0.2%	82,833	81,504	-1.6%	1,252,281	1,262,613	+0.8%
15 to 19 years	512	505	-1.4%	82,363	83,779	+1.7%	1,227,017	1,265,431	+3.1%
20 to 24 years	651	486	-25.3%	77,801	78,533	+0.9%	1,244,479	1,269,435	+2.0%
25 to 34 years	781	980	+25.5%	174,048	173,874	-0.1%	2,742,442	2,779,896	+1.4%
35 to 44 years	1,153	804	-30.3%	172,761	177,752	+2.9%	2,626,930	2,738,113	+4.2%
45 to 54 years	744	794	+6.7%	188,252	185,243	-1.6%	2,735,230	2,725,323	-0.4%
55 to 59 years	265	280	+5.7%	101,588	102,102	+0.5%	1,481,932	1,484,346	+0.2%
60 to 64 years	577	458	-20.6%	98,281	101,832	+3.6%	1,415,791	1,491,888	+5.4%
65 to 74 years	492	710	+44.3%	175,270	181,626	+3.6%	2,442,673	2,566,979	+5.1%
75 to 84 years	199	253	+27.1%	118,830	130,437	+9.8%	1,359,110	1,499,278	+10.3%
85 years and over	118	174	+47.5%	57,997	58,734	+1.3%	545,182	564,476	+3.5%
Median age (years)	35.8	33.1	-7.5%	45.0	45.4	+0.9%	42.3	43.0	+0.7%

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2021 and 2023

Population Change by Age – South Bay (33493)

The table below shows population change by age group for South Bay (33493), Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. Percent change can be used to evaluate population changes: population decline or negative values are in red text, population growth or positive values are in green. Overall from 2021 to 2023, the total population decreased across South Bay (-19.5%), meanwhile, it increased across Palm Beach County (+1.8%), and Florida (+2.8%). Between 2021 and 2023, there was an almost two-thirds percent change (-61.2%) in the number of residents aged 20 to 24 living in South Bay as well as reductions in residents aged 35 up to 84 years old. As a result, the median age of the population living in South Bay decreased by 7.6% between 2021 and 2023.

Table 7: Population Change by Age, South Bay (33493), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021 and 2023

	South Bay (33493)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change
Total population	6,298	5,070	-19.5%	1,481,233	1,507,453	+1.8%	21,339,762	21,928,881	+2.8%
Under 5 years	131	171	+30.5%	74,632	74,364	-0.4%	1,118,794	1,114,328	-0.4%
5 to 9 years	245	204	-16.7%	76,577	77,673	+1.4%	1,147,901	1,166,775	+1.6%
10 to 14 years	238	273	+14.7%	82,833	81,504	-1.6%	1,252,281	1,262,613	+0.8%
15 to 19 years	198	202	+2.0%	82,363	83,779	+1.7%	1,227,017	1,265,431	+3.1%
20 to 24 years	299	116	-61.2%	77,801	78,533	+0.9%	1,244,479	1,269,435	+2.0%
25 to 34 years	1,060	1,135	+7.1%	174,048	173,874	-0.1%	2,742,442	2,779,896	+1.4%
35 to 44 years	1,470	1,115	-24.1%	172,761	177,752	+2.9%	2,626,930	2,738,113	+4.2%
45 to 54 years	1,067	717	-32.8%	188,252	185,243	-1.6%	2,735,230	2,725,323	-0.4%
55 to 59 years	548	355	-35.2%	101,588	102,102	+0.5%	1,481,932	1,484,346	+0.2%
60 to 64 years	398	261	-34.4%	98,281	101,832	+3.6%	1,415,791	1,491,888	+5.4%
65 to 74 years	432	374	-13.4%	175,270	181,626	+3.6%	2,442,673	2,566,979	+5.1%
75 to 84 years	190	117	-38.4%	118,830	130,437	+9.8%	1,359,110	1,499,278	+10.3%
85 years and over	22	30	+36.4%	57,997	58,734	+1.3%	545,182	564,476	+3.5%
Median age (years)	42.0	38.8	-7.6%	45.0	45.4	+0.9%	42.3	43.0	+0.7%

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2021 and 2023

Population Change by Age – Clewiston (33440)

The table below shows population change by age group for Clewiston (33440), Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. Percent change can be used to evaluate population changes: population decline or negative values are in red text, population growth or positive values are in green. Overall from 2021 to 2023, the total population increased across Clewiston (+3.3%), Palm Beach County (+1.8%), and Florida (+2.8%). Between 2021 and 2023, the population under five years old living in Clewiston increased by 64.9% and residents aged 60 to 64 years old increased by 28.1%. Overall, however, the median age of the population living in Clewiston decreased by 1.0% between 2021 and 2023.

Table 8: Population Change by Age, Clewiston (33440), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021 and 2023

	Clewiston (33440)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change	2021	2023	Percent Change
Total population	20,438	21,119	+3.3%	1,481,233	1,507,453	+1.8%	21,339,762	21,928,881	+2.8%
Under 5 years	934	1,540	+64.9%	74,632	74,364	-0.4%	1,118,794	1,114,328	-0.4%
5 to 9 years	1,118	1,192	+6.6%	76,577	77,673	+1.4%	1,147,901	1,166,775	+1.6%
10 to 14 years	1,957	1,777	-9.2%	82,833	81,504	-1.6%	1,252,281	1,262,613	+0.8%
15 to 19 years	1,575	1,718	+9.1%	82,363	83,779	+1.7%	1,227,017	1,265,431	+3.1%
20 to 24 years	1,285	1,423	+10.7%	77,801	78,533	+0.9%	1,244,479	1,269,435	+2.0%
25 to 34 years	2,560	2,289	-10.6%	174,048	173,874	-0.1%	2,742,442	2,779,896	+1.4%
35 to 44 years	2,562	2,635	+2.8%	172,761	177,752	+2.9%	2,626,930	2,738,113	+4.2%
45 to 54 years	3,267	2,973	-9.0%	188,252	185,243	-1.6%	2,735,230	2,725,323	-0.4%
55 to 59 years	1,289	1,372	+6.4%	101,588	102,102	+0.5%	1,481,932	1,484,346	+0.2%
60 to 64 years	999	1,280	+28.1%	98,281	101,832	+3.6%	1,415,791	1,491,888	+5.4%
65 to 74 years	1,603	1,734	+8.2%	175,270	181,626	+3.6%	2,442,673	2,566,979	+5.1%
75 to 84 years	901	801	-11.1%	118,830	130,437	+9.8%	1,359,110	1,499,278	+10.3%
85 years and over	388	385	-0.8%	57,997	58,734	+1.3%	545,182	564,476	+3.5%
Median age (years)	38.6	38.2	-1.0%	45.0	45.4	+0.9%	42.3	43.0	+0.7%

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2021 and 2023

Population by Race and Ethnicity

The table below shows the population in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida by race and ethnicity in 2023. Compared to the county and state of Florida, Lakeside Medical Center's service area had a higher percentage of residents who self-identified as Black or African American, with 53.8% in Belle Glade, 58.5% in Pahokee, and 63.0% in South Bay. In contrast, the majority of residents in Clewiston self-identified as White (47.2%), followed by Black or African American (18.0%). In terms of ethnicity, the majority of residents across the service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida self-identified as non-Hispanic or Latino.

Table 9: Population, by Race and Ethnicity, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area						Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total Population	19,773	100.0%	7,131	100.0%	5,070	100.0%	21,119	100.0%	21,928,881	100.0%
Race										
One race	17,205	87.0%	5,813	81.5%	4,298	84.8%	15,734	74.5%	1,288,517	85.5%
White	4,184	21.2%	1,169	16.4%	901	17.8%	9,960	47.2%	864,974	57.4%
Black or African American	10,628	53.8%	4,173	58.5%	3,196	63.0%	3,794	18.0%	278,621	18.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	124	0.6%	95	1.3%	119	2.3%	696	3.3%	3,715	0.2%
Asian	220	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	389	1.8%	42,754	2.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	673	0.0%
Some other race	2,049	10.4%	376	5.3%	82	1.6%	895	4.2%	97,780	6.5%
Two or more races	2,568	13.0%	1,318	18.5%	772	15.2%	5,385	25.5%	218,936	14.5%
									1,222,567	5.6%
									3,497,792	16.0%

Ethnicity												
Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)	6,101	30.9%	1,993	27.9%	1,084	21.4%	11,557	54.7%	358,640	23.8%	5,865,737	26.7%
Non-Hispanic or Latino	13,672	69.1%	5,138	72.1%	3,986	78.6%	9,562	45.3%	1,148,813	76.2%	16,063,144	73.3%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP05, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Foreign-born Population

The table below shows the foreign-born population in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, the percentage of the total population that were foreign-born was 16.4% in Pahokee, 18.2% in South Bay, 28.0% in Belle Glade, and 29.6% in Clewiston. Most foreign-born residents in these areas were from Latin America, and more specifically from Caribbean countries such as Haiti, Jamaica, and Cuba. Notably, in 2023, there was a larger percentage of foreign-born residents from Latin America living in Belle Glade (24.6%) and Clewiston (25.8%) compared to Palm Beach County (20.0%) and Florida (16.2%). Additionally, in 2023, there was a larger percentage of foreign-born residents from Central America living in Lakeside Medical Center's service area compared to Palm Beach County (4.5%) and Florida (3.1%).

Table 10: Foreign-born Population, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area										Palm Beach County				Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)									
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
Total Population	19,773	100.0%	7,131	100.0%	5,070	100.0%	21,119	100.0%	1,507,453	100.0%	21,928,881	100.0%				
Total Foreign-Born Population	5,530	28.0%	1,168	16.4%	922	18.2%	6,245	29.6%	406,163.00	26.9%	4,694,298	21.4%				
Europe	38	0.2%	24	0.3%	4	0.1%	392	1.9%	45,031	3.0%	436,834	2.0%				
Asia	621	3.1%	9	0.1%	8	0.2%	371	1.8%	38,837	2.6%	496,707	2.3%				
Africa	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	14	0.3%	0	0.0%	7,312	0.5%	85,618	0.4%				
Oceania	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	28	0.1%	820	0.1%	9,227	0.0%				
Americas	4,871	24.6%	1,135	15.9%	896	17.7%	5,454	25.8%	314,163	20.8%	3,665,912	16.7%				
Latin America	4,871	24.6%	1,135	15.9%	896	17.7%	5,454	25.8%	301,535	20.0%	3,556,054	16.2%				

Caribbean	2,951	14.9%	348	4.9%	428	8.4%	2,329	11.0%	154,321	10.2%	1,843,557	8.4%
Bahamas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	15	0.3%	0	0.0%	1,317	0.1%	18,256	0.1%
Barbados	56	0.3%	0	0.0%	12	0.2%	56	0.3%	641	0.0%	5,918	0.0%
Cuba	456	2.3%	0	0.0%	72	1.4%	2,016	9.5%	40,509	2.7%	1,015,286	4.6%
Dominica	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	190	0.0%	4,960	0.0%
Dominican Republic	41	0.2%	0	0.0%	18	0.4%	55	0.3%	8,687	0.6%	142,737	0.7%
Grenada	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	164	0.0%	3,004	0.0%
Haiti	1,937	9.8%	149	2.1%	91	1.8%	9	0.0%	69,148	4.6%	351,094	1.6%
Jamaica	461	2.3%	181	2.5%	220	4.3%	193	0.9%	28,175	1.9%	231,429	1.1%
St. Lucia	0	0.0%	18	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	265	0.0%	4,051	0.0%
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	118	0.0%	2,954	0.0%
Trinidad and Tobago	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4,131	0.3%	45,405	0.2%
West Indies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	217	0.0%	2,719	0.0%
Other Caribbean	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	759	0.1%	15,744	0.1%
Central America	1,889	9.6%	787	11.0%	403	7.9%	2,845	13.5%	68,072	4.5%	671,667	3.1%
South America	31	0.2%	0	0.0%	65	1.3%	280	1.3%	79,142	5.3%	1,040,830	4.7%
Northern America	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12,628	0.8%	109,858	0.5%
Canada	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12,593	0.8%	108,733	0.5%
Other Northern America	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	35	0.0%	1,125	0.0%

Sources: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, B05006, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Population by Language Spoken at Home

The following table shows languages spoken at home and those who speak English less than “very well” for the population aged five and older in Lakeside Medical Center’s service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. The majority of the population across all geographies, spoke English only. Notably, there was a substantial percentage of the population living in the service area that self-reported that they spoke a language other than English at home, particularly in Clewiston (51.9%) and Belle Glade (44.5%). Furthermore, 21.6% of Clewiston residents and 18.4% in Belle Glade self-reported that they spoke English less than “very well.” Spanish was the most common non-English language self-reported among residents of Lakeside Medical Center’s service area, with 48.4% of Clewiston residents reporting they spoke Spanish at home, followed by 30.5% in Pahokee, 27.2% in Belle Glade, and 18.5% in South Bay.

Table 11: Population, by Language Spoken at Home, Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County				Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent								
Population 5 years and over	17,824	--	6,408	--	4,899	--	19,579	--			1,433,089	--	20,814,553	--		
English only	9,897	55.5%	4,233	66.1%	3,764	76.8%	9,426	48.1%			953,350	66.5%	14,548,731	69.9%		
Language other than English	7,927	44.5%	2,175	33.9%	1,135	23.2%	10,153	51.9%			479,739	33.5%	6,265,822	30.1%		
Speak English less than "very well"	3,279	18.4%	817	12.7%	535	10.9%	4,236	21.6%			204,322	14.3%	2,517,985	12.1%		
Spanish	4,845	27.2%	1,956	30.5%	905	18.5%	9,477	48.4%			280,545	19.6%	4,618,042	22.2%		
Speak English less than "very well"	1,817	10.2%	723	11.3%	465	9.5%	4,135	21.1%			128,617	9.0%	1,962,878	9.4%		
Other Indo-European languages	2,478	13.9%	177	2.8%	213	4.3%	391	2.0%			160,228	11.2%	1,156,727	5.6%		
Speak English less than "very well"	1,334	7.5%	85	1.3%	62	1.3%	0	0.0%			61,550	4.3%	377,252	1.8%		
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	80	0.4%			21,488	1.5%	330,572	1.6%		
Speak English less than "very well"	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	76	0.4%			10,034	0.7%	139,225	0.7%		
Other languages	604	3.4%	42	0.7%	17	0.3%	205	1.0%			17,478	1.2%	160,481	0.8%		
Speak English less than "very well"	128	0.7%	9	0.1%	8	0.2%	25	0.1%			4,121	0.3%	38,630	0.2%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP02, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Socioeconomic Characteristics

Socioeconomic characteristics play a key role in shaping individual and community health, influencing access to resources, health behaviors, and overall quality of life.² Where relevant, county and state-level data are also included to provide reference and comparison. The analysis includes indicators related to poverty, income, public assistance, employment, and more. Additional indicators such as housing cost burden, substandard housing, transportation, food access, and availability of recreational facilities are analyzed to help illustrate the environmental and structural factors that may shape health opportunities. Together, these data provide important context for understanding the socioeconomic challenges and strengths within the community.

Income Poverty

The 2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines, published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, outline income thresholds used to determine eligibility for various assistance programs. As shown in the table below, the poverty threshold began at \$15,650 for a single-person household and increased by \$5,500 for each additional person.

Table 12: Federal Poverty Guidelines, 2025

Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline
1 Person	\$15,650
2 Persons	\$21,150
3 Persons	\$26,650
4 Persons	\$32,150
5 Persons	\$37,650
6 Persons	\$43,150
7 Persons	\$48,650
8 Persons	\$54,150

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2025

² Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). (2024, January 17). About CDC. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/about/priorities/why-is-addressing-sdoh-important.html>

Individuals in Poverty

The table below shows the percentage of the population living below the poverty level in the past 12 months by sex and age for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, the percent of those living below the poverty level in Belle Glade (27.8%), Pahokee (36.8%), South Bay (31.3%), and Clewiston (21.5%) were significantly higher compared to Palm Beach County (11.1%) and Florida (12.6%). Notable differences in poverty levels between the service area compared to the county and state were observed among children aged 5 to 17 years, young adults ages 18 to 34, and related children of householder under 18. In 2023, a higher percent of female residents of Pahokee (37.7%) and Belle Glade (31.7%) lived below the poverty level compared to male residents living in the area. In contrast, a higher percent of male residents of South Bay (34.8%) and Clewiston (25.3%) lived below the poverty level in 2023 compared to female residents living in the area.

Table 13: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, by Sex and Age, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

		Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level
		Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level				
Population for whom poverty status is determined		19,081	27.8%	6,698	36.8%	2,724	31.3%	20,932	21.5%	1,481,929	11.1%	21,459,978	12.6%
Age													
Under 5		1,922	26.3%	723	34.9%	171	19.3%	1,540	14.2%	72,443	16.7%	1,092,168	18.2%
5 to 17 years		3,351	40.1%	1,290	59.1%	656	45.9%	3,684	31.5%	207,208	15.0%	3,144,416	16.4%
18 to 34 years		4,333	23.5%	1,473	37.9%	622	33.8%	4,685	21.4%	276,190	12.0%	4,352,443	13.9%
35 to 64 years		6,610	25.4%	2,158	30.6%	947	25.0%	8,244	21.1%	563,167	9.0%	8,342,108	10.5%
65 years and over		2,865	26.1%	1,054	21.5%	328	22.0%	2,779	13.9%	362,921	10.2%	4,528,843	11.4%
Related Children of Householder under 18 years		5,265	35.0%	2,013	50.4%	827	40.4%	5,207	26.2%	278,711	15.2%	4,217,373	16.5%
Sex													
Male		9,708	23.9%	2,930	35.6%	1,329	34.8%	10,828	25.3%	722,488	9.7%	10,500,257	11.6%
Female		9,373	31.7%	3,768	37.7%	1,395	28.0%	10,104	17.5%	759,441	12.4%	10,959,721	13.6%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1701, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Population Below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

The table below presents the percentage of individuals living below 200% of the federal poverty level in 2023 for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida in 2023. The percentages across the service area were higher than those at the county and state levels. More than half of the population in Belle Glade (52.4%) and Pahokee (59.0%) lived below 200% of the federal poverty level, and South Bay (47.2%) and Clewiston (47.6%) also had elevated percentages. In contrast, 27.2% of Palm Beach County residents and 30.7% of Florida residents were below 200% of the federal poverty level.

Table 14: Population Below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Population for whom poverty status is determined	19,081	6,698	2,724	20,932	1,481,929	21,459,978
Population with Income at or Below 200% FPL	9,993	3,955	1,286	9,972	403,354	6,593,294
Percent Population with Income at or Below 200% FPL	52.4%	59.0%	47.2%	47.6%	27.2%	30.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1701, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Families in Poverty

The table below displays families living in poverty in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Overall, poverty rates among families were higher in the Lakeside Medical Center service area compared to the county and state. Compared to 7.5% of families in Palm Beach County and 8.9% in Florida, the percent of families below the poverty level was 16.1% in Clewiston, 24.0% in Belle Glade, 27.6% in South Bay, and 32.4% in Pahokee. Additionally, when looking at families with related children under 18 years, poverty levels increased in the service area, with approximately half of families in Pahokee (50.7%) living below the poverty level, followed by South Bay (36.2%), Belle Glade (30.6%), and Clewiston (25.7%). 5% of families in Palm Beach County and 8.9% of families in Florida were below the poverty level, rates were notably higher across all ZIP Codes in the service area. When focusing on families with related children under 18, poverty rates were even more elevated throughout the service area.

Table 15: Family Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level
	Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level	Total	Percent below poverty level				
Families	4,517	24.0%	1,501	32.4%	637	27.6%	5,338	16.1%	376,296	7.5%	5,524,460	8.9%
With related children of householder under 18 years	2,661	30.6%	747	50.7%	370	36.2%	2,652	25.7%	149,723	11.8%	2,235,700	14.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1702, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Per Capita Income

The table below displays the per capita income for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. The per capita income in the service area was considerably lower than the county and state, ranging from \$11,489 in South Bay to \$25,444 in Clewiston. The per capita income across the service area was considerably lower than the county and state. The per capita income in South Bay was \$11,489, \$17,431 in Pahokee, \$21,506 in Belle Glade, and \$25,444 in Clewiston. In comparison, the per capita income was \$50,998 in Palm Beach County and \$41,055 in the state of Florida.

Table 16: *Per Capita Income, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023*

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Total Population	19,773	7,131	5,070	21,119	1,507,453	21,928,881
Total Income (\$)	\$425,238,138	\$124,300,461	\$58,249,230	\$537,351,836	\$76,877,088,094	\$900,290,209,455
Per capita income (\$)	\$21,506	\$17,431	\$11,489	\$25,444	\$50,998	\$41,055

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1701, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Household Income

The table below presents the count and percent of households per income bracket and households receiving benefits for Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Overall, the household income in the service area was substantially lower compared to the county and state. The median household income in the service area in 2023 was \$35,619 in Pahokee, \$48,690 in Belle Glade, \$52,404 in South Bay, and \$58,559 in Clewiston, compared to \$81,155 in Palm Beach County and \$71,711 statewide. When focusing on household benefits, a higher percentage of households in the service area relied on public assistance and food stamps/SNAP benefits than the county and state. Notably, nearly half of households in Pahokee (49.4%) received food stamps/SNAP, 44.5% in South Bay, 39.0% in Belle Glade, and 25.7% in Clewiston, compared to 10.0% of households in Palm Beach County and 12.6% in Florida. This pattern was consistent with the lower mean household incomes, lower mean earnings, and higher percentage of households relying on supplemental security income across the service area versus the county and state.

Table 17: Household Income and Benefits, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)							
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total Households	6,229	100.0%	2,047	100.0%	821	100.0%	7,391	100.0%	597,053	100.0%	8,550,911	100.0%		
Less than \$10,000	483	7.8%	204	10.0%	57	6.9%	415	5.6%	28,952	4.8%	435,628	5.1%		
\$10,000 to \$14,999	520	8.3%	305	14.9%	40	4.9%	404	5.5%	16,571	2.8%	293,838	3.4%		
\$15,000 to \$24,999	743	11.9%	262	12.8%	193	23.5%	805	10.9%	37,418	6.3%	595,960	7.0%		
\$25,000 to \$34,999	736	11.8%	228	11.1%	56	6.8%	996	13.5%	41,089	6.9%	655,567	7.7%		
\$35,000 to \$49,999	709	11.4%	243	11.9%	52	6.3%	766	10.4%	61,265	10.3%	992,519	11.6%		
\$50,000 to \$74,999	1,149	18.4%	305	14.9%	193	23.5%	1,115	15.1%	93,311	15.6%	1,478,145	17.3%		
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,1003	16.1%	140	6.8%	65	7.9%	995	13.5%	74,706	12.5%	1,124,411	13.1%		
\$100,000 to \$149,999	416	6.7%	187	9.1%	103	12.5%	1,265	17.1%	103,364	17.3%	1,434,832	16.8%		
\$150,000 to \$199,999	307	4.9%	83	4.1%	26	3.2%	393	5.3%	52,175	8.7%	680,439	8.0%		

\$200,000 or more	163	2.6%	90	4.4%	36	4.4%	237	3.2%	88,202	14.8%	859,572	10.1%
Median Household Income (dollars)	\$48,690	--	\$35,619	--	\$52,404	--	\$58,559	--	\$81,115	--	\$71,711	--
Mean Household Income (dollars)	\$63,413	--	\$55,777	--	\$62,355	--	\$72,404	--	\$124,934	--	\$102,130	--
With earnings	4,844	77.8%	1,321	64.5%	676	82.3%	6,042	81.7%	426,483	71.4%	6,275,146	73.4%
Mean earnings (dollars)	\$64,583	--	\$60,546	--	\$57,970	--	\$71,474	--	\$119,134	--	\$101,631	--
With Social Security	2,053	33.0%	768	37.5%	288	35.1%	2,371	32.1%	238,281	39.9%	3,139,979	36.7%
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	\$19,241	--	\$20,243	--	\$17,778	--	\$18,729	--	\$25,885	--	\$24,048	--
With retirement income	1,133	18.2%	340	16.6%	210	25.6%	1,315	17.8%	155,355	26.0%	2,207,584	25.8%
Mean retirement income (dollars)	\$21,741	--	\$22,001	--	\$22,860	--	\$19,579	--	\$41,322	--	\$35,449	--
With Supplemental Security Income	835	13.4%	296	14.5%	99	12.1%	335	4.5%	20,369	3.4%	423,462	5.0%
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	\$10,673	--	\$13,200	--	\$13,516	--	\$12,557	--	\$11,245	--	\$11,190	--
With cash public assistance	307	4.9%	71	3.5%	6	0.7%	190	2.6%	12,807	2.1%	205,188	2.4%
Mean cash public assistance	\$1,931	--	\$2,099	--	N	--	\$1,417	--	\$4,113	--	\$3,495	--

income (dollars)																				
With Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits in the past 12 months	2,429	39.0%	1,011	49.4%	365	44.5%	1,899	25.7%	59,511	10.0%	1,078,978	12.6%								

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Family Income

The U.S. Census Bureau defines a family as a group of two or more individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption who reside together.³ The table below presents the distribution of family income levels across Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida for 2023. In 2023, the median family income was \$38,750 in Pahokee, with nearly a quarter of families earning less than \$15,000 annually. In 2023, the median family incomes for the other areas was \$59,193 among families of South Bay, \$61,341 among families of Clewiston, and \$63,151 among families of Belle Glade. All well below the median family incomes of Palm Beach County (\$99,093) and Florida (\$86,127).

Table 18: Family Income, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area												Palm Beach County			Florida		
	Belle Glade (33430)				Pahokee (33476)				South Bay (33493)				Clewiston (33440)					
	Count	Percent			Count	Percent			Count	Percent			Count	Percent		Count	Percent	
Families	4,517	100.0%			1,501	100.0%			637	100.0%			5,338	100.0%		5,524,460	100.0%	
Less than \$10,000	332	7.4%			182	12.1%			15	2.4%			179	3.4%		175,462	3.2%	
\$10,000 to \$14,999	168	3.7%			182	12.1%			0	0.0%			325	6.1%		93,980	1.7%	
\$15,000 to \$24,999	401	8.9%			123	8.2%			161	25.3%			545	10.2%		250,539	4.5%	
\$25,000 to \$34,999	579	12.8%			152	10.1%			32	5.0%			683	12.8%		336,858	6.1%	
\$35,000 to \$49,999	428	9.5%			156	10.4%			29	4.6%			610	11.4%		580,458	10.5%	
\$50,000 to \$74,999	950	21.0%			255	17.0%			170	26.7%			718	13.5%		950,765	17.2%	
\$75,000 to \$99,999	844	18.7%			134	8.9%			65	10.2%			748	14.0%		785,496	14.2%	

³ U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). Subject Definitions. Retrieved July 2025 from <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/technical-documentation/subject-definitions.html#family>

\$100,000 to \$149,999	380	8.4%	153	10.2%	117	18.4%	1,016	19.0%	73,879	19.6%	1,090,087	19.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	289	6.4%	74	4.9%	12	1.9%	310	5.8%	41,480	11.0%	546,708	9.9%
\$200,000 or more	146	3.2%	90	6.0%	36	5.7%	204	3.8%	71,080	18.9%	714,107	12.9%
Median family income (dollars)	\$63,151	--	\$38,750	--	\$59,193	--	\$61,341	--	\$99,093	--	\$86,127	--
Mean family income (dollars)	\$72,663	--	\$63,153	--	\$71,777	--	\$77,039	--	\$147,097	--	\$118,620	--

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Households with Cash Public Assistance Income

The table below breaks down the households who received cash public assistance income in the Lakeside Medical Center service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, 4.9% of households in Belle Glade, 3.5% of households in Pahokee, 2.6% of households in Clewiston, and 0.7% of households in South Bay received cash public assistance compared to 2.1% of households in Palm Beach County and 2.4% of households in Florida.

Table 19: Households with Cash Public Assistance Income, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area					Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)			
Total Households	6,229	2,047	821	7,391		597,053	8,550,911
Households with Cash Public Assistance	307	71	6	190		12,807	205,188
Percent Households with Cash Public Assistance Income	4.9%	3.5%	0.7%	2.6%		2.1%	2.4%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Population Receiving SNAP Benefits

The table below presents the percentage of households that received SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits in the Lakeside Medical Center service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. The percentage of households that received SNAP benefits in the service area were substantially higher than in the county and state. In 2023, nearly half of all households (49.4%) in Pahokee received SNAP benefits, followed by South Bay at 44.5% and Belle Glade at 39.0%. Clewiston, which had the lowest percentage within the service area, reported 25.7% of households receiving SNAP benefits, which was more than twice that observed in Palm Beach County (10.0%) and Florida overall (12.6%).

Table 20: Population Receiving SNAP Benefits, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Areas					Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)			
Total Households	6,229	2,047	821	7,391		597,053	8,550,911
Households Receiving SNAP Benefits	2,429	1,011	365	1,899		59,511	1,078,978
Percent Households Receiving SNAP Benefits	39.0%	49.4%	44.5%	25.7%		10.0%	12.6%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S2201, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Education

Educational attainment is a strong predictor of long-term health outcomes. Research consistently shows that individuals with higher education levels experience better physical and mental health, including lower rates of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and depression. This relationship, known as the “education-health gradient,” suggests that each additional level of education is linked to improved health and reduced risk of early death. Higher education often leads to better employment opportunities, higher income, and safer living conditions, which in turn reduces exposure to health risks and increases access to resources that support overall well-being.⁴

Highest Level of Educational Attainment

The table below presents the highest level of educational attainment for adults aged 25 and older across Lakeside Medical Center’s service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. While over 89.0% of adults in Florida and Palm Beach County had a high school diploma or higher, rates were substantially lower in South Bay (57.8%), Belle Glade (70.7%), Clewiston (71.8%), and Pahokee (72.2%). Similarly, bachelor’s degree attainment was lower in the service area, with 8.3% of South Bay residents and 10.7% of Clewiston residents who held a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 39.6% in Palm Beach County and 33.2% statewide. Belle Glade and Pahokee reported slightly higher rates of residents with a bachelor’s degree within the service area, at 13.1% and 17.8%, respectively.

Table 21: Highest Level of Educational Attainment, Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Population 25 years and over	12,861	100.0%	4,453	100.0%	4,104	100.0%	13,469	100.0%	1,111,600	100.0%	15,850,299	100.0%		
High school graduate or higher	9,089	70.7%	3,213	72.2%	2,372	57.8%	9,666	71.8%	990,795	89.1%	14,206,862	89.6%		
Bachelor’s degree or higher	1,690	13.1%	793	17.8%	341	8.3%	1,443	10.7%	439,656	39.6%	5,263,931	33.2%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1501, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

⁴ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2020). *School Success: An Opportunity for Population Health: Proceedings of a Workshop*. The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/25403>

Highest Level of Educational Attainment by Sex

The table below presents the highest level of educational attainment by sex for adults age 25 and older in the Lakeside Medical Center service area and Palm Beach County in 2023. Overall, females in the service area displayed higher rates of educational attainment compared to males, though both sexes fell below the county average. Among males, the percentage with at least a high school diploma ranged from 53.2% in South Bay to 69.6% in Clewiston, substantially lower than Palm Beach County's 88.0%. Bachelor's degree attainment for males was also notably lower in the service area, with 4.9% in South Bay and 7.4% in Pahokee, compared to 39.9% in the county. Females showed slightly higher educational attainment levels, particularly in Pahokee, where 28.4% had a bachelor's degree or higher, which was more than double the rate for males in the same area. However, in other ZIP Codes such as Clewiston (11.4%) and Belle Glade (14.2%), the percentage of females with a bachelor's degree remained well below the county average of 39.2%.

Table 22: Highest Level of Educational Attainment, by Sex, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area								Palm Beach County			
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)					
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Male												
Population 25 years and over	6,711	--	2,238	--	3,211	--	7,049	--	533,381	--		
High school graduate or higher	4,356	64.9%	1,379	61.6%	1,709	53.2%	4,909	69.6%	469,604	88.0%		
Bachelor's degree or higher	816	12.2%	165	7.4%	157	4.9%	711	10.1%	212,865	39.9%		
Female												
Population 25 years and over	6,150	--	2,215	--	893	--	6,420	--	578,219	--		
High school graduate or higher	4,733	77.0%	1,834	82.8%	663	74.2%	4,757	74.1%	521,191	90.1%		
Bachelor's degree or higher	874	14.2%	628	28.4%	184	20.6%	732	11.4%	226,791	39.2%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S1501, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Business and Employment

Employment plays a critical role in shaping individual health and well-being, and further, that both unemployment and underemployment are associated with increased risks for physical and mental health issues. Individuals who are unemployed are more likely to report higher levels of stress and depression, along with a greater likelihood of developing chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and heart disease.⁵ Research shows that individuals who were unemployed for shorter periods face the greatest difficulty accessing healthcare, including lower rates of insurance coverage and fewer routine medical visits. Meanwhile, those who were unemployed long-term or unable to work altogether report significantly worse health, including higher rates of chronic disease, obesity, and depression.⁶

Employment Status

The table below shows the employment status of the population aged 16 years and over across Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. The labor force participation rate within the Lakeside Medical Center service area varied, with Clewiston and Belle Glade (60.4% each) closely aligned with the participation rates of Palm Beach County (59.7%) and the state average (59.6%). In contrast, South Bay (27.7%) had a substantially lower percentage of those in the labor force. Additionally, unemployment rates were considerably higher in the service area ZIP Codes than those in the county and state. Pahokee had the highest unemployment rate at 18.5%, followed by Belle Glade at 12.1%, South Bay at 8.0%, and Clewiston at 4.7%. Meanwhile, Palm Beach County and Florida reported lower rates at 5.4% and 4.8%, respectively.

Table 23: Employment Status, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Population 16 years and over	14,902	100.0%	5,326	100.0%	4,383	100.0%	16,433	100.0%	1,255,736	100.0%	18,129,301	100.0%	10,803,556	100.0%
In labor force	9,001	60.4%	2,699	50.7%	1,213	27.7%	9,927	60.4%	749,384	59.7%	10,803,556	59.6%		
Civilian labor force	9,001	60.4%	2,699	50.7%	1,213	27.7%	9,927	60.4%	748,874	59.6%	10,725,531	59.2%		
Employed	7,913	53.1%	2,200	41.3%	1,116	25.5%	9,461	57.6%	708,437	56.4%	10,209,399	56.3%		
Unemployed	1,088	7.3%	499	9.4%	97	2.2%	466	2.8%	40,437	3.2%	516,132	2.8%		
Armed Forces	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	510	0.0%	78,025	0.4%		
Not in labor force	5,901	39.6%	2,627	49.3%	3,170	72.3%	6,506	39.6%	506,352	40.3%	7,325,745	40.4%		
Civilian Labor force (Count)	9,001		2,699		1,213		9,927		748,874		10,725,531			

⁵ Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. (2023). *Employment: Literature Summary*. Healthy People 2030. <https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health/literature-summaries/employment>

⁶ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). (2021). *NIOSH study examines relationship between employment status, healthcare access, and health outcomes*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-11-18-21.html>

Unemployment Rate (Percent)	12.1%	18.5%	8.0%	4.7%	5.4%	4.8%
Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023						

Employment by Industry

The table below shows employment by industry among the civilian employed population in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. The service area had a higher percentage of employment in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining, with 15.7% of Clewiston civilians working in these industries, 13.7% in Belle Glade, 4.7% in South Bay, and 4.5% in Pahokee, compared to 0.9% in Palm Beach County and 0.8% in Florida. Manufacturing was also more prevalent in the service area than the county and state. In contrast, industries where the service area had a notable lower percentage of workers employed compared to the county and state include finance and insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing, as well as professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services. Across the service area, county, and state, the industry with the highest percentage of workers was educational services, healthcare, and social assistance, with 22.3% of civilians in Clewiston, 22.6% in Belle Glade, 27.5% Pahokee, 32.1% in South Bay, and 21.0% in both Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 24: Employment by Industry, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)							
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	7,913	100.0%	2,200	100.0%	1,116	100.0%	9,461	100.0%	708,437	100.0%	10,209,399	100.0%		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1,086	13.7%	98	4.5%	52	4.7%	1,485	15.7%	6,182	0.9%	80,736	0.8%		
Construction	585	7.4%	134	6.1%	81	7.3%	585	6.2%	59,935	8.5%	835,732	8.2%		
Manufacturing	592	7.5%	170	7.7%	111	9.9%	850	9.0%	31,450	4.4%	533,477	5.2%		
Wholesale trade	236	3.0%	0	0.0%	8	0.7%	325	3.4%	17,528	2.5%	245,923	2.4%		
Retail trade	861	10.9%	240	10.9%	154	13.8%	987	10.4%	84,222	11.9%	1,234,558	12.1%		
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	372	4.7%	68	3.1%	43	3.9%	452	4.8%	38,990	5.5%	638,909	6.3%		

Information	55	0.7%	46	2.1%	25	2.2%	42	0.4%	11,765	1.7%	162,445	1.6%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	222	2.8%	76	3.5%	16	1.4%	431	4.6%	59,230	8.4%	821,315	8.0%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	567	7.2%	284	12.9%	123	11.0%	958	10.1%	111,556	15.7%	1,425,662	14.0%
Educational services, and healthcare and social assistance	1,788	22.6%	606	27.5%	358	32.1%	2,113	22.3%	148,712	21.0%	2,143,708	21.0%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	1,024	12.9%	147	6.7%	50	4.5%	421	4.4%	75,786	10.7%	1,132,531	11.1%
Other services, except public administration	263	3.3%	108	4.9%	49	4.4%	412	4.4%	39,194	5.5%	519,739	5.1%
Public administration	262	3.3%	223	10.1%	46	4.1%	400	4.2%	23,887	3.4%	434,664	4.3%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Employment by Occupation

The table below shows employment by occupation among the civilian employed population in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Production, transportation and material moving occupations were more prevalent in the service area than in Palm Beach County and Florida, with 16.4% of civilians in Pahokee employed in those occupations, 17.6% in Belle Glade, 18.5% in Clewiston, and 24.1% in South Bay, compared to 8.5% in the county, and 10.6% in the state. Employment in natural resources, construction and maintenance were also substantially higher in the service area than in Palm Beach County and Florida. Additionally, there were 25.1% of civilians in Belle Glade who worked in management, business, science, and arts occupations, 28.4% in South Bay, 28.7% in Clewiston, and 28.8% in Pahokee, compared to 40.8% in Palm Beach County, and 39.1% in Florida.

Table 25: Employment by Occupation, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	7,913	100.0%	2,200	100.0%	1,116	100.0%	9,461	100.0%	708,437	100.0%	10,209,399	100.0%	10,209,399	100.0%
Management, business, science, and arts occupation	1,986	25.1%	634	28.8%	317	28.4%	2,720	28.7%	288,833	40.8%	3,988,327	39.1%		
Service occupations	1,878	23.7%	665	30.2%	228	20.4%	1,120	11.8%	142,406	20.1%	1,876,830	18.4%		
Sales and office occupations	1,083	13.7%	321	14.6%	125	11.2%	1,986	21.0%	153,546	21.7%	2,337,572	22.9%		
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	1,575	19.9%	220	10.0%	177	15.9%	1,883	19.9%	63,169	8.9%	925,012	9.1%		
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	1,391	17.6%	360	16.4%	269	24.1%	1,752	18.5%	60,483	8.5%	1,081,658	10.6%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Employment by Class of Worker

The table below shows the employed population by class of worker in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Across the service area, county and state, the large majority of the civilian employed population were private wage and salary workers, followed by government workers, self-employed individuals, and unpaid family workers. In 2023, 62.5% of civilians in Pahokee were classified as private wage and salary workers, 75.2% in South Bay, 77.5% in Belle Glade, 79.5% in Clewiston, 82.8% at the county level, and 81.8% statewide.

Table 26: Class of Worker, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	7,913	100%	2,200	100%	1,116	100%	9,461	100%	708,437	100%	10,209,399	100%		100%
Private wage and salary workers	6,130	77.5%	1,375	62.5%	839	75.2%	7,521	79.5%	586,280	82.8%	8,349,583	81.8%		
Government workers	1,472	18.6%	691	31.4%	229	20.5%	1,543	16.3%	72,245	10.2%	1,190,427	11.7%		
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers	288	3.6%	134	6.1%	43	3.9%	354	3.7%	48,490	6.8%	647,653	6.3%		
Unpaid family workers	23	0.3%	0	0.0%	5	0.4%	43	0.5%	1,422	0.2%	21,736	0.2%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP03, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Housing and the Neighborhood Environment

Housing Cost Burden

The table below shows cost-burdened households in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Cost-burdened households refers to those spending more than 30% of their household income on housing expenses such as rent and utilities.⁷ The percentage of cost-burdened households in Belle Glade (34.7%) and Pahokee (37.9%) were relatively similar to Palm Beach County (38.5%) and the state of Florida's (35.6%) households. In 2023, 41.8% of households in South Bay were considered cost-burdened, and 21.9% in Clewiston.

Table 27: Housing Cost Burden, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Total Occupied Housing Units	6,229	2,047	821	7,391	597,053	8,550,911
Cost Burdened Households	2,160	775	343	1,622	230,057	3,041,668
Percentage of Cost Burdened Households	34.7%	37.9%	41.8%	21.9%	38.5%	35.6%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP04, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

⁷ Acolin, A., & Reina, V. (2022). Housing cost burden and life satisfaction. *Journal of housing and the built environment: HBE*, 37(4), 1789–1815. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-021-09921-1>

Substandard Housing

The table below displays housing units with substandard conditions in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. More than half of the residents in Belle Glade (50.6%), Pahokee (50.4%), and South Bay (57.9%) experienced one or more substandard housing conditions, which was considerably higher than the county and state. More than half of the residents in Belle Glade (50.6%), Pahokee (50.4%), and South Bay (57.9%) experienced one or more substandard housing conditions, which was considerably higher than the county (42.8%) and state (39.8%).

Table 28: Substandard Housing, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Total Occupied Housing Units	6,229	2,047	821	7,391	597,053	8,550,911
Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions	3,151	1,031	475	2,089	255,528	3,403,232
Percent Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions	50.6%	50.4%	57.9%	28.3%	42.8%	39.8%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP04, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Note: This indicator reports the number and percentage of owner- and renter-occupied housing units having at least one of the following conditions: 1) lacking complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacking complete kitchen facilities, 3) with 1.01 or more occupants per room, 4) selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30%, and 5) gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30%.

Households with No Motor Vehicle

The table below presents the percentage of households with no motor vehicle in the Lakeside Medical Center service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Households in the service area are more likely to be without a vehicle compared to the county and state overall. Pahokee had the highest percentage of households without a motor vehicle at 21.4%, followed by Belle Glade at 16.9%, South Bay at 12.7%, and Clewiston at 9.2%. In 2023, the percentage of households without a motor vehicle across Lakeside Medical Center's service area remains higher than the percentages reported for Palm Beach County and Florida (5.9% each). These elevated rates of households without vehicles may indicate transportation-related barriers to accessing employment, education, healthcare, and other essential services in these communities.

Table 29: Households with No Motor Vehicle, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area			Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)		
Total occupied households	6,229	2,047	821	597,053	8,550,911
Households with no motor vehicle	1,050	439	104	35,147	504,857
Percent of Households with no motor vehicle	16.9%	21.4%	12.7%	5.9%	5.9%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, DP04, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Availability of Recreational and Fitness Establishments

The table below shows measures of recreation and fitness accessibility in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2019 and 2023. In 2019, a lower percentage of residents who lived in Lakeside Medical Center's service area lived within a 10-minute walk to a park or an off-street trail system compared to Palm Beach County and Florida. In 2023, there were no recreational and fitness establishments within Belle Glade, Pahokee, or South Bay but there were five facilities within Belle Glade.

Table 30: Recreational Accessibility, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2019 and 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Belle Glade (33430)		
Population living within a 10 min walk (1/2 a mile) of a park (2019)	5.7%	9.7%	2.3%	1.5%	44.5%	40.1%
Population living within a 10 min walk (1/2 a mile) of an off-street trail system (2019)	3.4%	10.5%	2.1%	7.3%	12.5%	18.2%
Total Population (2023)	19,773	7,131	5,070	21,119	1,507,453	21,928,881
Number of Recreational & Fitness Establishments (2023)	0	0	0	5	1,048	11,208
Recreational & Fitness Establishments, Rate per 100,000 (2023)	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.7	69.5	51.1

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Environmental Public Health Tracking, 2019 and U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2023

Note: 2017 NAICS Code 71 - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation facilities

Food Accessibility

The table below show measures of food accessibility in 2019 and restaurant density in 2023 in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida. In 2019, very small percentages of the population who lived in Lakeside Medical Center service area lived within a half mile of a healthy food source or a fast food restaurant compared to Palm Beach County and Florida, likely due to the rural nature of the service area. Notably, in 2023, there were no registered accommodation or food establishments in South Bay. Additionally, in 2023, the rate of available accommodation and food establishments per 100,000 population was lower in Lakeside Medical Center's service area compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 31: Food Accessibility, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County and Florida, 2019 and 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Population living within ½ a mile of a healthy food source (2019)	2.2%	2.6%	0.0%	0.4%	34.7%	27.7%
Population living within ½ a mile of a fast food restaurant in (2019)	1.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.2%	34.9%	29.3%
Total Population (2023)	19,773	7,131	5,070	21,119	1,507,453	21,928,881
Number of Accommodation and Food Establishments (2023)	29	3	0	34	3,374	48,853
Accommodation and Food Establishments, Rate per 100,000 Population (2023)	146.7	42.1	0.0	161.0	223.8	222.8

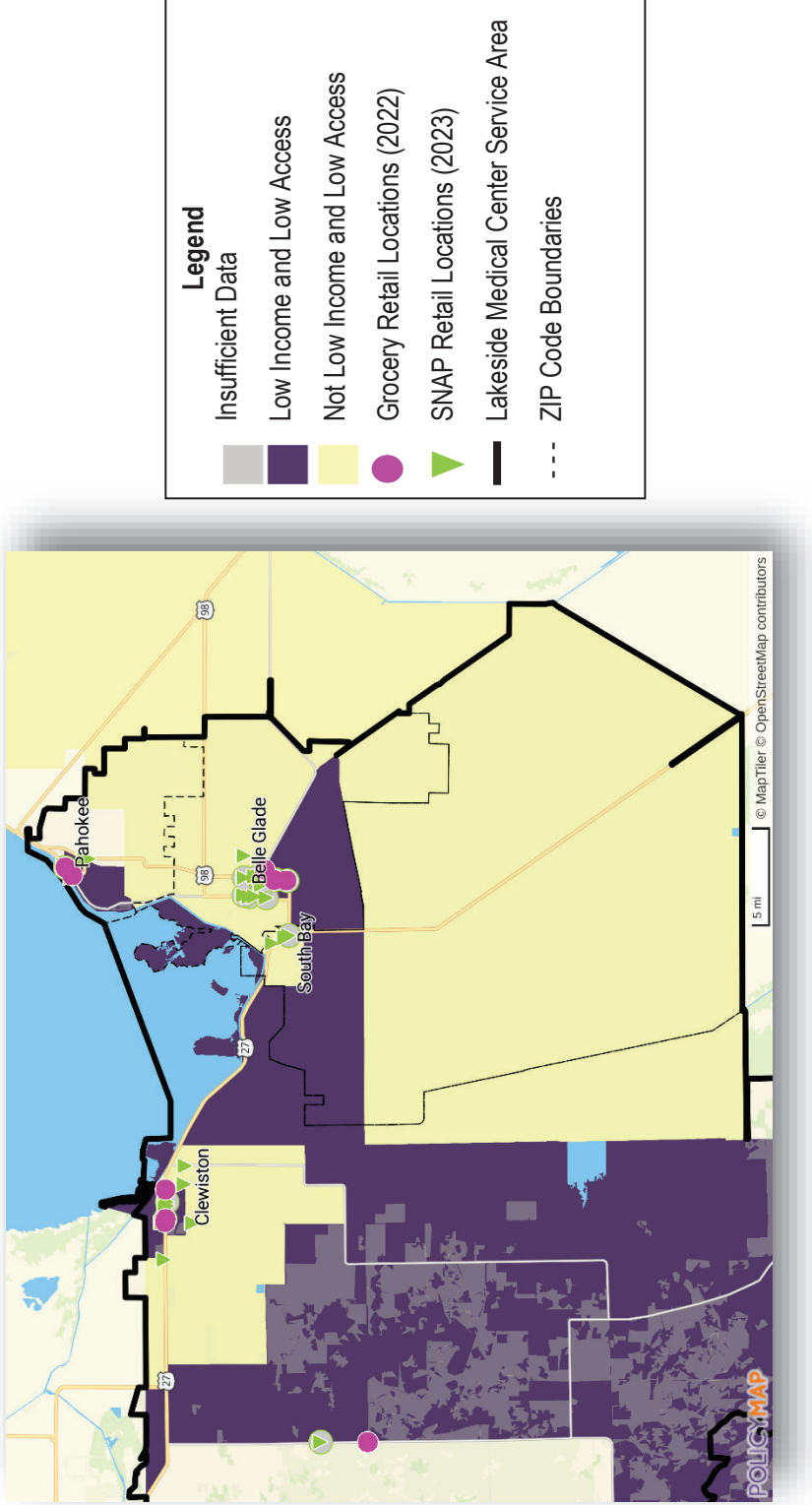
Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Environmental Public Health Tracking, 2019 and U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2023

Note: 2017 NAICS Code 72 – Accommodation and Food Services

Low Income and Low Food Access

The figure below shows areas of low food access in Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, based on 2019 United States Department of Agriculture data identifying low-income, low-access (LILA) census tracts, the most recent available data for this measure. The map also displays grocery retail locations as of 2022 and SNAP-authorized retailers as of 2023, offering a point-in-time comparison of retail availability relative to areas with limited food access.

Figure 2: Low Food Access Compared to Available Grocery Retail Locations and SNAP Retail Locations, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023



Source: PolicyMap, United States Department of Agriculture, Low Income and Low Access Tracts, 2019; SNAP Retail Locations, 2023
NielsenIQ TDlinx, Grocery Retail Locations, 2022

2024 AARP Livability Index

The table below shows scores from the AARP Livability Index for communities in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida in 2024. The total index score reflects how well a community supports the needs of people of all ages, particularly older adults. The score is based on real-life factors such as housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement and opportunity. Higher scores indicate stronger community supports in that category. Overall, in 2023, the total index score across the service area was lower than the county and state: Belle Glade and South Bay both scored a 44, Clewiston a 45, and Pahokee scored a 46, whereas Palm Beach County's total index score was 50, and Florida's was 52. Among the service area, housing had the highest score. This category measures affordability, availability of options, and accessibility features. In 2024 Belle Glade scored a 95, Pahokee an 88, South Bay an 83, and Clewiston a 62. In the same housing category, Palm Beach County scored a 58, and Florida scored a 57, both notably lower than the service area. In contrast, transportation, health, engagement, and opportunity domains had relatively low scores across the service area.

Table 32: AARP Livability Index, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2024

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Total Index Score	44	46	44	45	50	52
Housing	Provides an overall snapshot of how livable a community is for people of all ages					
	Measures affordability, availability of options (rental, ownership, multigenerational), and accessibility features that allow residents to remain in their homes as they age.					
	95	88	83	62	58	57
Neighborhood	Considers access to amenities like parks, libraries, grocery stores, and safe public spaces, as well as overall neighborhood safety and walkability.					
	33	42	48	42	53	49
Transportation	Evaluates the availability of public transit, traffic safety, and ease of getting around without a personal vehicle.					
	27	36	31	47	43	49
Environment	Looks at air and water quality, exposure to pollution, and disaster risk, reflecting how clean, healthy, and sustainable the area is.					
	59	59	59	59	46	56
Health	Assesses access to healthcare providers, quality of preventative care, and health behaviors such as physical activity and smoking rates.					
	38	36	31	40	52	45
Engagement	Captures civic and social participation, including access to arts, culture, voting, volunteerism, and broadband internet.					
	23	22	22	30	56	56
Opportunity	Reflects economic and educational opportunity, including access to jobs, and high school graduation rates.					
	32	41	34	34	45	50

Source: AARP, 2024

Health Status Profile

The Health Status Profile serves to provide a robust depiction of community well-being and offers insight into the factors that influence daily life and long-term outcomes for Lakeside Medical Center's service area. This section highlights key health indicators, such as maternal and child health, oral health, behavioral and mental health, and other chronic and acute medical conditions. Together, these measures present a view of the population's health and offer insight into areas where residents may experience a higher burden of illness or face gaps in accessing care. When relevant, data for Palm Beach County and Florida are also presented for comparison. By compiling and analyzing trends across indicators, communities can gain a better understanding of their current health landscape and identify where needs are most pressing. This data can support informed local planning efforts, provide context for resource allocation, and guide initiatives aimed at improving population health through evidence-based strategies.

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and child health indicators may help shed light on the overall function of health systems and support structures for families. Key health measures related to births, access to prenatal care, and rates of fetal and infant deaths offer important context for evaluating maternal health outcomes and infant survival. Monitoring these trends helps reveal strengths and limitations of the services available to parents during pregnancy and early childhood.¹ This section presents maternal and child health data for residents within Lakeside Medical Center's service area and includes key indicators such as total live births, preterm births, low and very low birthweight, births to teen mothers and repeat teen births, maternal weight status, prenatal care access, and fetal and infant mortality. By examining trends and variations across ZIP Codes, this section offers insight into emerging challenges and opportunities for improving birth outcomes and maternal and child health in the area.

Total Resident Live Births

The table below shows total live births among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the crude rate of live births per 1,000 total population fluctuated across Lakeside Medical Center's service area with all areas seeing the highest crude rates of live births per 1,000 total population in 2022. Notably, between 2021 and 2023, the crude rate of live births per 1,000 total population remained higher for Lakeside Medical Center's service area compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 33: Total Resident Live Births, Count and Crude Rate per 1,000 Total Population, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area						Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
2021	309	15.0	84	12.0	41	6.5	227	11.1	14,489	9.8
2022	359	17.5	97	13.9	64	12.7	240	12.1	15,513	10.4
2023	323	16.3	91	12.8	48	9.5	277	13.1	15,072	9.8

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Preterm Births

The table below shows the count and percentage of preterm births, defined as births occurring before 37 weeks gestation, among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. During this period, the percentage of preterm births decreased among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston and increased among residents of Pahokee and South Bay. Throughout these years, residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area consistently had higher rates of preterm births compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 34: Preterm Births (<37 weeks gestation), Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area						Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	48	15.5%	11	13.1%	4	9.8%	28	12.3%	1,525	10.5%
2022	52	14.5%	11	11.3%	10	15.6%	26	10.8%	1,628	10.5%
2023	45	13.9%	13	14.3%	8	16.7%	30	10.8%	1,578	10.7%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Live Births Under 2500 Grams

The table below presents the number and percentage of live births under 2,500 grams (low birth weight) in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. During this period, the percentage of births that were under 2500 grams declined among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and Clewiston, and increased among residents of South Bay. In 2023, the percentage of births that were under 2500 grams were higher among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay compared to Palm Beach County and Florida; in contrast, in 2023, the proportion of low weight births among residents of Clewiston was lower than residents of Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 35: Live Births Under 2500 Grams (Low Birth Weight), Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)							
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	42	13.6%	13	15.5%	3	7.3%	23	10.1%	1,249	8.6%	19,525	9.0%		
2022	45	12.5%	8	8.2%	9	14.1%	23	9.6%	1,429	9.2%	20,405	9.1%		
2023	32	9.9%	12	13.2%	9	18.8%	19	6.9%	1,380	9.2%	20,055	9.1%		

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Live Births Under 1500 Grams

The table below shows live births with a very low birth weight in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births that were very low birth weight decreased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay; meanwhile, it increased among residents of Pahokee and fluctuated among residents of Clewiston. In 2023, the percentage of births that were classified as very low birth weight was higher among residents of Belle Glade and Pahokee and lower among residents of South Bay and Clewiston compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 36: Live Births Under 1500 Grams (Very Low Birth Weight), Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County				Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)									
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	14	4.5%	1	1.2%	1	2.4%	1	0.4%			205	1.4%	3,461	1.6%		
2022	14	3.9%	3	3.1%	2	3.1%	10	4.2%			255	1.6%	3,586	1.6%		
2023	10	3.1%	5	5.5%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%			224	1.5%	3,581	1.6%		

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Births to Mothers Ages 15-19

The table below shows births to mothers aged 15 to 19 in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers aged 15 to 19 decreased among residents of Pahokee, increased among residents of South Bay, and fluctuated among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston. In 2023, the percentage of births to mothers aged 15 to 19 was higher across Lakeside Medical Center's service area compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 37: Births to Mothers Ages 15-19, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	16	5.2%	6	7.1%	2	4.9%	12	5.3%	498	3.4%	8,090	3.7%
2022	28	7.8%	5	5.2%	6	9.4%	19	7.9%	515	3.3%	8,138	3.6%
2023	19	5.9%	4	4.4%	6	12.5%	19	6.9%	515	3.4%	8,109	3.7%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Repeat Births to Mothers Ages 15-19

The table below shows repeat births to mothers aged 15 to 19 in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the total number of births to mothers aged 15 to 19 increased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, meanwhile it decreased among residents of Pahokee and Clewiston. In 2023, the percentage of repeat births to mothers aged 15 to 19 was zero among residents of Clewiston, and higher among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 38: Repeat Births to Mothers Ages 15-19, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	2	0.6%	2	2.4%	0	0.0%	4	1.8%	84	0.6%	1,067	0.5%
2022	3	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	2.1%	79	0.5%	1,052	0.5%
2023	3	0.9%	1	1.1%	2	4.2%	0	0.0%	64	0.4%	1,050	0.5%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Births to Mothers who were Overweight at Time Pregnancy Occurred

The table below shows births to mothers who were overweight at the time pregnancy occurred. Specifically, they had a pre-pregnancy BMI of 25.0-29.9. between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers who were overweight at the time pregnancy occurred fluctuated among residents of Belle Glade and increased among residents of Pahokee, South Bay, and Clewiston. Notably, the percentage of births to mothers who were overweight at the time pregnancy occurred was lower across Lakeside Medical Center's service area compared to Palm Beach County and Florida for all years.

Table 39: Births to Overweight Mothers at Time Pregnancy Occurred, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	76	24.6%	20	23.8%	10	24.4%	64	28.2%	4,136	28.5%	58,315	27.0%
2022	95	26.5%	20	20.6%	12	18.8%	65	27.1%	4,405	28.4%	61,675	27.5%
2023	79	24.5%	25	27.5%	17	35.4%	78	28.2%	4,463	29.6%	63,052	28.5%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Prenatal Care Access

Births to Mothers with Less than Adequate Prenatal Care

The table below shows births to mothers with less than adequate prenatal care in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers with less than adequate prenatal care increased among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area. While the percentage of births to mothers with less than adequate prenatal care consistently rose among residents of South Bay between 2021 and 2023, the percentages fluctuated among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and Clewiston similar to the trend seen across Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 40: Births to Mothers with Less than Adequate Prenatal Care (Kotelchuck Index), Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	66	21.4%	13	15.5%	9	22.0%	39	17.2%	4,453	30.7%	73,972	34.2%
2022	130	36.2%	32	33.0%	17	26.6%	70	29.2%	5,288	34.1%	79,186	35.3%
2023	96	29.7%	27	29.7%	13	27.1%	84	30.3%	4,822	32.0%	75,281	34.0%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Trimester Prenatal Care Initiated

Percent of Births to Mothers by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care – Belle Glade

The table below shows percent of births to mothers by when they initiated prenatal care among residents of Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Belle Glade who initiated prenatal care ultimately increased across all trimesters. In 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Belle Glade who initiated prenatal care was highest in the first trimester but slightly less than Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 41: Births to Mothers, by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care, Percent, Belle Glade (33430), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Belle Glade (33430)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Births to Mothers with 1 st Trimester Prenatal Care	64.1%	62.4%	64.4%	69.1%	64.0%	67.4%	68.7%	67.7%	66.9%
Births to Mothers with 2 nd Trimester Prenatal Care	12.3%	19.8%	21.4%	17.4%	19.8%	19.1%	16.5%	18.1%	19.4%
Births to Mothers with 3 rd Trimester Prenatal Care	2.9%	7.5%	4.0%	6.5%	8.1%	6.8%	5.1%	5.8%	6.1%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Percent of Births to Mothers by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care – Pahokee

The table below shows percent of births to mothers by prenatal care among residents of Pahokee, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Pahokee who initiated prenatal care increased across all trimesters. In 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Pahokee who initiated prenatal care was greatest in the first trimester and higher than that of Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 42: Births to Mothers, by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care, Percent, Pahokee (33476), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Pahokee (33476)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Births to Mothers with 1 st Trimester Prenatal Care	64.3%	67.0%	71.4%	69.1%	64.0%	67.4%	68.7%	67.7%	66.9%
Births to Mothers with 2 nd Trimester Prenatal Care	14.3%	18.6%	20.9%	17.4%	19.8%	19.1%	16.5%	18.1%	19.4%
Births to Mothers with 3 rd Trimester Prenatal Care	3.6%	4.1%	4.4%	6.5%	8.1%	6.8%	5.1%	5.8%	6.1%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Percent of Births to Mothers by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care – South Bay

The table below shows percent of births to mothers by prenatal care among residents of South Bay, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the proportion of births to mothers in South Bay who initiated prenatal care in any of the trimesters decreased. In 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in South Bay who initiated prenatal care was greatest in the first trimester and slightly higher than that of Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 43: Births to Mothers, by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care, Percent, South Bay (33493), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	South Bay (33493)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Births to Mothers with 1 st Trimester Prenatal Care	75.6%	75.0%	68.8%	69.1%	64.0%	67.4%	68.7%	67.7%	66.9%
Births to Mothers with 2 nd Trimester Prenatal Care	14.6%	14.1%	16.7%	17.4%	19.8%	19.1%	16.5%	18.1%	19.4%
Births to Mothers with 3 rd Trimester Prenatal Care	4.9%	6.3%	4.2%	6.5%	8.1%	6.8%	5.1%	5.8%	6.1%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Percent of Births to Mothers by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care – Clewiston

The table below shows percent of births to mothers by prenatal care among residents of Clewiston, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Clewiston who initiated prenatal care in the first trimester decreased, meanwhile it increased for those mothers initiating care in the second or third trimester. In 2023, the percentage of births to mothers in Clewiston who initiated prenatal care was greatest in the first trimester equaling that of Palm Beach County and slightly less than Florida.

Table 44: Births to Mothers, by Trimester Initiating Prenatal Care, Percent, Clewiston (33440), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Clewiston (33430)			Palm Beach County			Florida		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Births to Mothers with 1 st Trimester Prenatal Care	69.1%	64.0%	67.4%	69.1%	64.0%	67.4%	68.7%	67.7%	66.9%
Births to Mothers with 2 nd Trimester Prenatal Care	12.3%	18.3%	24.2%	17.4%	19.8%	19.1%	16.5%	18.1%	19.4%
Births to Mothers with 3 rd Trimester Prenatal Care	2.2%	3.3%	4.3%	6.5%	8.1%	6.8%	5.1%	5.8%	6.1%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Fetal and Infant Mortality

Fetal Deaths (Stillbirths)

The table below displays fetal deaths out of total deliveries in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, there were zero reported fetal deaths among residents of South Bay, and the number of fetal deaths among residents of Belle Glade decreased from six reported deaths in 2021 to one reported death in 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, while the number of reported fetal deaths among residents of Pahokee was one or two deaths, the rate of fetal deaths per 1,000 deliveries remained higher in Pahokee than Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 45: Fetal Deaths, Count and Rate per 1,000 Deliveries, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area									Palm Beach County			Florida		
	Belle Glade (33430)			Pahokee (33476)			South Bay (33493)			Clewiston (33440)					
	Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate	
2021	6	19.0		2	23.3		0	0.0		1	4.4		106	7.3	
2022	3	8.3		1	10.2		0	0.0		2	8.3		100	6.4	
2023	1	3.1		2	21.5		0	0.0		0	0.0		102	6.7	

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Note: Use caution when interpreting rates based on small numbers of events. Rates are considered unstable if they are based on fewer than five events or if the denominator (population at risk) is fewer than twenty.

Infant Mortality (Aged 0-364 Days)

The table below shows infant mortality in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the number of reported infant deaths among residents of Belle Glade fluctuated, decreased among residents of South Bay and Clewiston, and increased among residents of Pahokee. In 2023, despite the low number of reported infant deaths, the rate of infant deaths per 1,000 live births was higher among residents of Pahokee and Belle Glade compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 46: Infant Mortality (Aged 0-364 Days), Count and Rate per 1,000 Live Births, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area									Palm Beach County			Florida		
	Belle Glade (33430)			Pahokee (33476)			South Bay (33493)			Clewiston (33440)					
	Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate		Count	Rate	
2021	4	12.9		1	11.9		1	24.4		2	8.8		72	5.0	
2022	7	19.5		0	0.0		1	15.6		0	0.0		71	4.6	
2023	3	9.3		2	22.0		0	0.0		1	3.6		82	5.4	

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Note: Use caution when interpreting rates based on small numbers of events. Rates are considered unstable if they are based on fewer than five events or if the denominator (population at risk) is fewer than twenty.

Morbidity

Morbidity refers to the presence of illness or disease within a population and helps illustrate the burden of health conditions that impact daily life and require medical attention.⁸ This section highlights common health conditions affecting residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, using hospital utilization data primarily from 2021 to 2023 provided by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). In addition to overall Emergency Department and inpatient trends, this section presents data on specific areas of concern, including oral health, behavioral and mental health, and selected chronic and acute conditions, to provide a fuller picture of the health issues affecting residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area.

The following analysis focuses on the leading causes of emergency department visits and inpatient hospital admissions, offering insight into how residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area used hospital services during that time. It is important to note that hospital utilization data in this section reflects de-identified records of visits or discharges and were based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where care was received. Additionally, emergency department visit data included cases where patients were treated and released, while inpatient discharges reflected admissions that typically required at least one overnight stay. Diagnoses were classified either as the principal condition, the main reason for the emergency department visit or admission, or "Other diagnosis," meaning it was a contributing condition that was present or addressed during hospitalization.

2023 Total Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents the total number of emergency department visits across Lakeside Medical Center's service area in 2023. Clewiston recorded the highest number of visits (14,942), followed by Belle Glade (13,514), Pahokee (5,419), and South Bay (2,794). In 2023, there were a total of 36,669 emergency department visits among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 47: Emergency Department Visits, by Total Principal Diagnosis Groupings, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area								Total Emergency Department Visits	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
	Emergency department visits	13,514	36.9%	5,419	14.8%	2,794	7.6%	14,942	40.7%	
									36,669	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

⁸ Bassaraba, S. (2024, October 3). Morbidity vs. Mortality: What's the Difference? Verywell Health. <https://www.verywellhealth.com/what-is-morbidity-2223380>

2023 Total Emergency Department Visits by Sex

The table below presents 2023 emergency department visit data by sex for residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area. Female residents accounted for the majority of visits across the service area, with 56.8% in Pahokee, 56.6% in Belle Glade, 54.7% in Clewiston, and 54.0% in South Bay. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 48: Emergency Department Visits, by Sex, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area							
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	13,514	100.0%	5,419	100.0%	2,794	100.0%	14,942	100.0%
Female	7,649	56.6%	3,078	56.8%	1,510	54.0%	8,178	54.7%
Male	5,865	43.4%	2,341	43.2%	1,284	46.0%	6,764	45.3%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

2023 Total Emergency Department Visits by Age

The table below shows the age distribution of residents living in Lakeside Medical Center's service area who were treated in an emergency department in 2023. Residents aged 25–34 years accounted for the largest share of visits in all areas: 18.3% in both Belle Glade and Pahokee, 17.6% in South Bay, and 14.4% in Clewiston. Children under 10 and adults aged 35–64 years also made up a significant portion of visits throughout the region. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 49: Emergency Department Visits, by Age, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area							
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	13,514	100.0%	5,419	100.0%	2,794	100.0%	1,4942	100.0%
Less than 1 year old	573	4.2%	124	2.3%	108	3.9%	108	0.7%
1-4 years	1,295	9.6%	474	8.7%	182	6.5%	1,288	8.6%
5-9 years	1,005	7.4%	330	6.1%	181	6.5%	1,235	8.3%
10-14 years	599	4.4%	274	5.1%	146	5.2%	799	5.3%
15-17 years	404	3.0%	144	2.7%	98	3.5%	580	3.9%
18-20 years	566	4.2%	205	3.8%	96	3.4%	661	4.4%
21-24 years	927	6.9%	343	6.3%	133	4.8%	849	5.7%
25-34 years	2,479	18.3%	990	18.3%	493	17.6%	2,158	14.4%
35-44 years	1,726	12.8%	758	14.0%	436	15.6%	1,772	11.9%
45-54 years	1,097	8.1%	651	12.0%	440	15.7%	1,559	10.4%
55-64 years	1,316	9.7%	468	8.6%	232	8.3%	1,613	10.8%
65-74 years	886	6.6%	407	7.5%	151	5.4%	1,099	7.4%
75-84 years	491	3.6%	166	3.1%	74	2.6%	638	4.3%
85 years and older	150	1.1%	85	1.6%	24	0.9%	239	1.6%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Emergency Department Visits

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Emergency Department Visits - Belle Glade

The table below shows the top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency department visits among Belle Glade residents in 2023. In 2023, acute upper respiratory infection ranked highest, accounting for 4.3% of visits, followed by influenza (3.0%), viral infection (2.6%), and COVID-19 (2.1%). Other common diagnoses included urinary tract infections, headaches, back pain, and various forms of pharyngitis. Together, these top 10 conditions accounted for 20.2% of all emergency department visits in 2023 among residents of Belle Glade. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 50: Emergency Department Visits, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Belle Glade (33430), 2023

Emergency Department Visits - Belle Glade (33430)		
Total Emergency Department Visits		Percent
		100.0%
Top 10 principal diagnoses		20.2%
All other diagnoses		79.8%
Top 10 Principal Emergency Diagnoses		
1. Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified (J06.9)	581	4.3%
2. Influenza due to other identified influenza virus with other respiratory manifestations (J10.1)	404	3.0%
3. Viral infection, unspecified (B34.9)	358	2.6%
4. COVID-19 (U07.1)	284	2.1%
5. Urinary tract infection, site not specified (N39.0)	225	1.7%
6. Headache, unspecified (R51.9)	222	1.6%
7. Acute pharyngitis, unspecified (J02.9)	170	1.3%
8. Low back pain, unspecified (M54.50)	167	1.2%
9. Streptococcal pharyngitis (J02.0)	165	1.2%
10. Chest pain, unspecified (R07.9)	154	1.1%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Emergency Department Visits - Pahokee

The table below shows the top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency department visits among Pahokee residents in 2023. In 2023, acute upper respiratory infection (3.9%) ranked highest, followed by influenza (2.6%) and viral infection (2.6%). Chronic conditions such as stage 5 kidney disease and hypertensive disorders, along with COVID-19 and pain-related visits, were also among the top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency department visits among Pahokee residents in 2023. In total, these top 10 diagnoses accounted for 20.7% of all emergency department visits in 2023 among residents of Pahokee. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 51: Emergency Department Visits, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Pahokee (33476), 2023

Emergency Department Visits – Pahokee (33476)		
Total Emergency Department Visits		Percent
		100.0%
Top 10 principal diagnoses		20.7%
All other diagnoses		79.3%
Top 10 Principal Emergency Diagnoses		
1. Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified (J06.9)	210	3.9%
2. Influenza due to other identified influenza virus with other respiratory manifestations (J10.1)	139	2.6%
3. Viral infection, unspecified (B34.9)	139	2.6%
4. Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or end stage renal disease (I12.0)	126	2.3%
5. COVID-19 (U07.1)	114	2.1%
6. Urinary tract infection, site not specified (N39.0)	91	1.7%
7. Headache, unspecified (R51.9)	82	1.5%
8. Chest pain, unspecified (R07.9)	81	1.5%
9. Other chest pain (R07.89)	75	1.4%
10. Low back pain, unspecified (M54.50)	66	1.2%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Emergency Department Visits - South Bay

The table below shows the top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency department visits among South Bay residents in 2023. In 2023, type 2 diabetes with diabetic chronic kidney disease accounted for the highest share of visits (5.1%), followed by acute upper respiratory infections (3.5%) and influenza (2.8%). Other common diagnoses included COVID-19, viral infections, various injuries, and pharyngitis. These top 10 diagnoses represented 22.5% of all emergency department visits in 2023 among residents of South Bay. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 52: Emergency Department Visits, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, South Bay (33493), 2023

Emergency Department Visits – South Bay (33493)		
Total Emergency Department Visits		Percent
		100.0%
Top 10 principal diagnoses		22.5%
All other diagnoses		77.5%
Top 10 Principal Emergency Diagnoses		
1.	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease (E11.22)	5.1%
2.	Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified (J06.9)	3.5%
3.	Influenza due to other identified influenza virus with other respiratory manifestations (J10.1)	2.8%
4.	COVID-19 (U07.1)	2.3%
5.	Viral infection, unspecified (B34.9)	2.1%
6.	Urinary tract infection, site not specified (N39.0)	1.5%
7.	Laceration without foreign body of scalp, initial encounter (S01.01XA)	1.5%
8.	Unspecified injury of head, initial encounter (S09.90XA)	1.3%
9.	Headache, unspecified (R51.9)	1.2%
10.	Streptococcal pharyngitis (J02.0)	1.2%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Emergency Department Visits - Clewiston

The table below shows the top 10 principal diagnoses for emergency department visits among Clewiston residents in 2023. In 2023, acute upper respiratory infection accounted for the highest percentage of visits (5.0%), followed by viral infection (2.3%) and urinary tract infection (1.9%). Other common diagnoses included COVID-19, streptococcal pharyngitis, headache, and gastrointestinal conditions. These top 10 diagnoses made up 19.5% of all emergency department visits in 2023 among residents of Clewiston. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 53: Emergency Department Visits, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Clewiston (33440), 2023

Emergency Department Visits – Clewiston (33440)		
Total Emergency Department Visits		Percent
		100.0%
Top 10 principal diagnoses		19.5%
All other diagnoses		80.5%
Top 10 Principal Emergency Diagnoses		
1. Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified (J06.9)	742	5.0%
2. Viral infection, unspecified (B34.9)	343	2.3%
3. Urinary tract infection, site not specified (N39.0)	278	1.9%
4. COVID-19 (U07.1)	272	1.8%
5. Streptococcal pharyngitis (J02.0)	271	1.8%
6. Headache, unspecified (R51.9)	220	1.5%
7. Other chest pain (R07.89)	212	1.4%
8. Nausea with vomiting, unspecified (R11.2)	198	1.3%
9. Influenza due to other identified influenza virus with other respiratory manifestations (J10.1)	193	1.3%
10. Noninfective gastroenteritis and colitis, unspecified (K52.9)	179	1.2%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

2023 Total Inpatient Discharges

The table below presents total inpatient discharges among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area for 2023. In 2023, Belle Glade and Clewiston had the highest discharge counts, with 2,511 and 2,036 discharges respectively, followed by Pahokee (1,015) and South Bay (574). In 2023, a total of 6,136 residents across the service area were admitted and treated. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 54: Total Inpatient Discharges, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area							
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Inpatient Discharges	2,511	40.9%	1,015	16.5%	574	9.4%	2,036	33.2%
Total Inpatient Discharges							6,136	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

2023 Total Inpatient Discharges by Sex

The table below presents the sex distribution of inpatient discharges in Lakeside Medical Center's service area in 2023. In 2023, female residents accounted for the majority of discharges in Belle Glade (54.5%), Pahokee (56.5%), and Clewiston (58.1%). In contrast, in 2023, there were a higher percentage of discharges among male residents of South Bay (55.1%) compared to females (44.9%). All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 55: Total Inpatient Discharges, by Sex, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area							
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	2,511	100.0%	1,015	100.0%	574	100.0%	2,036	100.0%
Female	1,369	54.5%	573	56.5%	258	44.9%	1,183	58.1%
Male	1,142	45.5%	442	43.5%	316	55.1%	853	41.9%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

2023 Total Inpatient Discharges by Age

The table below presents the age distribution of inpatient discharges in Lakeside Medical Center's service area in 2023. Infants under one year accounted for the highest percentage of discharges in Clewiston (13.9%). In contrast, adults aged 25-34 made up the highest percentage of discharges in Pahokee (13.8%) and South Bay (15.3%) and Belle Glade (15.3%). In 2023, across Lakeside Medical Center's service area, older adults and infants accounted for a higher percentage of inpatient care needs. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 56: Total Inpatient Discharges, by Age, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area							
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	2,511	100.0%	1,015	100.0%	574	100.0%	2,036	100.0%
Less than 1 year old	355	14.1%	101	10.0%	50	8.7%	282	13.9%
1-4 years	43	1.7%	11	1.1%	7	1.2%	17	0.8%
5-9 years	25	1.4%	11	1.1%	0	0.0%	17	0.8%
10-14 years	43	1.7%	25	2.5%	21	3.7%	25	1.2%
15-17 years	38	1.5%	13	1.3%	10	1.7%	36	1.8%
18-20 years	40	1.6%	15	1.5%	7	1.2%	47	2.3%
21-24 years	97	3.8%	27	2.7%	17	3.0%	78	3.8%
25-34 years	385	15.3%	140	13.8%	88	15.3%	265	13.0%
35-44 years	244	9.7%	124	12.2%	78	13.6%	176	8.6%
45-54 years	239	9.5%	104	10.2%	69	12.0%	213	10.5%
55-64 years	314	12.5%	140	13.8%	74	12.9%	254	12.5%
65-74 years	350	13.9%	173	17.0%	80	13.9%	311	15.3%
75-84 years	237	9.4%	85	8.4%	58	10.1%	211	10.4%
85 years and older	101	4.0%	46	4.5%	15	2.6%	104	5.1%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Inpatient Discharges by ZIP Code

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Inpatient Discharges - Belle Glade

The table below lists the top 10 principal diagnoses for inpatient discharges among Belle Glade residents in 2023. Childbirth-related diagnoses were the most common, with 7.5% of residents discharged following vaginal delivery and 4.6% after a cesarean section. Other common conditions included sepsis (5.2%), sickle cell crisis (2.5%), pneumonia (1.7%), and heart-related conditions such as Non-ST elevation (NSTEMI) myocardial infarction and hypertensive heart disease. Altogether, these top 10 diagnoses accounted for 28.6% of all inpatient discharges in 2023 among residents of Belle Glade. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 57: Inpatient Discharges, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Belle Glade (33430), 2023

Inpatient Discharges - Belle Glade (33430)		
Total Inpatient Discharges		
Top 10 principal diagnoses		2,511
All other diagnoses		719
		1,792
Top 10 Principal Inpatient Discharges		
1.	Single liveborn infant, delivered vaginally (Z38.00)	189
2.	Sepsis, unspecified organism (A41.9)	130
3.	Single liveborn infant, delivered by cesarean (Z38.01)	115
4.	Hb-SS disease with crisis, unspecified (D57.00)	64
5.	Maternal care for low transverse scar from previous cesarean delivery (O34.211)	53
6.	Pneumonia, unspecified organism (J18.9)	42
7.	Post-term pregnancy (O48.0)	39
8.	Non-ST elevation (NSTEMI) myocardial infarction (I21.4)	35
9.	Acute kidney failure, unspecified (N17.9)	26
10.	Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure (I11.0)	26

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Inpatient Discharges - Pahokee

The table below lists the top 10 principal diagnoses for inpatient discharges among residents of Pahokee in 2023. Sepsis (5.9%) and vaginal delivery (5.1%) ranked highest, followed by cesarean delivery (3.2%) and acute kidney failure (1.8%). Heart-related conditions and complications from chronic diseases also appeared frequently among the top 10 principal diagnoses for inpatient discharges among residents of Pahokee in 2023. These top 10 diagnoses accounted for 24.2% of all inpatient discharges in 2023 among residents of Pahokee. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 58: Inpatient Discharges, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Pahokee (33476), 2023

Inpatient Discharges - Pahokee (33476)		
Total Inpatient Discharges	Count	Percent
Top 10 principal diagnoses	1,015	100.0%
All other diagnoses	246	24.2%
	769	75.8%
Top 10 Principal Inpatient Discharges		
1. Sepsis, unspecified organism (A41.9)	60	5.9%
2. Single liveborn infant, delivered vaginally (Z38.00)	52	5.1%
3. Single liveborn infant, delivered by cesarean (Z38.01)	32	3.2%
4. Acute kidney failure, unspecified (N17.9)	18	1.8%
5. Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure (I11.0)	17	1.7%
6. Hb-SS disease with crisis, unspecified (D57.00)	15	1.5%
7. Maternal care for low transverse scar from previous cesarean delivery (O34.211)	14	1.4%
8. Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure and stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease (I13.0)	13	1.3%
9. COVID-19 (U07.1)	13	1.3%
10. Acute respiratory failure with hypoxia (J96.01)	12	1.2%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Inpatient Discharges - South Bay

The table below presents the top 10 principal diagnoses for inpatient discharges among South Bay residents in 2023. Sepsis (7.7%) and vaginal delivery (5.2%) ranked highest, followed by sickle cell crisis (3.3%) and cesarean delivery (3.1%). Other leading diagnoses included pneumonia, major depressive disorder, hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure. Altogether, these top 10 diagnoses represented 26.8% of all inpatient discharges in 2023 among residents of South Bay. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 59: Inpatient Discharges, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, South Bay (33493), 2023

Inpatient Discharges - South Bay (33493)		
Total Inpatient Discharges	Count	Percent
Top 10 principal diagnoses	574	100.0%
All other diagnoses	154	26.8%
	420	73.2%
Top 10 Principal Inpatient Discharges		
1. Sepsis, unspecified organism (A41.9)	44	7.7%
2. Single liveborn infant, delivered vaginally (Z38.00)	30	5.2%
3. Hb-SS disease with crisis, unspecified (D57.00)	19	3.3%
4. Single liveborn infant, delivered by cesarean (Z38.01)	18	3.1%
5. Pneumonia, unspecified organism (J18.9)	8	1.4%
6. Major depressive disorder, recurrent severe without psychotic features (F33.2)	8	1.4%
7. Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure and stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease (I13.0)	7	1.2%
8. Acute kidney failure, unspecified (N17.9)	7	1.2%
9. Maternal care for low transverse scar from previous cesarean delivery (O34.211)	7	1.2%
10. Pyonephrosis (N13.6)	6	1.0%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Top 10 Principal Diagnoses for Inpatient Discharges - Clewiston

The table below presents the top 10 principal diagnoses for inpatient discharges among Clewiston residents in 2023. Vaginal deliveries ranked highest, accounting for 7.1% of discharges, followed by cesarean deliveries and sepsis, each at 4.6%. Other frequent diagnoses included NSTEMI (2.3%), acute kidney failure (1.6%), and COVID-19 (1.3%). Together, these top 10 diagnoses accounted for 27.4% of all inpatient discharges in 2023 among residents of Clewiston. All data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 60: Inpatient Discharges, Top 10 Principal Diagnoses, Count and Percent, Clewiston (33440), 2023

Inpatient Discharges - Clewiston (33440)		
Total Inpatient Discharges	Count	Percent
Top 10 principal diagnoses	2,036	100.0%
All other diagnoses	557	27.4%
	1,479	72.6 %
Top 10 Principal Inpatient Discharges		
1. Single liveborn infant, delivered vaginally (Z38.00)	145	7.1%
2. Single liveborn infant, delivered by cesarean (Z38.01)	94	4.6%
3. Sepsis, unspecified organism (A41.9)	94	4.6%
4. Non-ST elevation (NSTEMI) myocardial infarction (I21.4)	46	2.3%
5. Maternal care for low transverse scar from previous cesarean delivery (O34.211)	34	1.7%
6. Acute kidney failure, unspecified (N17.9)	33	1.6%
7. Post-term pregnancy (O48.0)	30	1.5%
8. Pneumonia, unspecified organism (J18.9)	28	1.4%
9. Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure (I11.0)	27	1.3%
10. COVID-19 (U07.1)	26	1.3%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Oral Health

Dental Conditions – Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents emergency department (ED) visits from or with dental conditions among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of ED visits related to dental conditions increased among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston, but declined for residents of Pahokee and South Bay. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 61: Emergency Department Visits from or with Dental Conditions, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis from or with Dental Conditions								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	126	1.1%	68	1.5%	35	1.5%	8	0.5%	86	
2022	31,723	48	0.4%	30	0.7%	8	0.3%	29	0.2%	129	
2023	36,668	165	1.2%	66	1.2%	24	0.9%	209	1.4%	178	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): K02, K03, K04, K05, K06.0, K06.1, K06.2, K08, K09.8, K12, K13, M27.6, and A69.0. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Dental Conditions – Inpatient Discharges

The table below presents inpatient discharges from or with dental conditions among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of inpatient discharges related to dental conditions increased among residents of Belle Glade, decreased among residents of Pahokee, and fluctuated among residents of South Bay and Clewiston. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 62: Inpatient Discharges from or with Dental Conditions, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	1	0.2%	1	0.0%	21
2022	6,476	5	0.2%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	27
2023	6,136	8	0.3%	1	0.1%	1	0.2%	1	0.0%	20

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: K02, K03, K04, K05, K06.0, K06.1, K06.2, K08, K09.8, K12, K13, M27.6, and A69.0. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Behavioral Health

Substance Use – Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents emergency department (ED) visits related to substance use among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of ED visits for which substance use was the principal diagnosis declined among residents of Belle Glade and Pahokee, increased in Clewiston, and fluctuated in South Bay. Over the same period, visits with substance use listed as an "other diagnosis" steadily increased throughout the service area. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 63: Emergency Department Visits from or with Substance Use, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	20,012	98	0.9%	42	0.9%	10	0.4%	6	0.3%		2,831
2022	31,723	61	0.5%	33	0.8%	18	0.7%	115	0.9%		3,616
2023	36,669	69	0.5%	35	0.6%	12	0.4%	172	1.2%		3,597

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F10-F19. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Substance Use – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with substance use among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Across this time, the percentage of discharges decreased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, while fluctuating among residents of Pahokee and Clewiston. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 64: Inpatient Discharges from or with Substance Use, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis										Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent			
2021	6,855	17	0.6%	4	0.3%	3	0.5%	32	1.3%	752		
2022	6,476	5	0.2%	8	0.8%	3	0.5%	40	1.7%	650		
2023	6,136	9	0.4%	1	0.1%	2	0.3%	29	1.4%	752		

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F10-F19. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Drug Poisoning – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with drug poisoning among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits decreased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, while it increased among residents of Pahokee. In Clewiston, the percentage remained consistent at 0.3% from 2021 to 2023. Across the service area, the number of visits listing drug poisoning as an "other diagnosis" rose. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 65: Emergency Department Visits from or with Drug Poisoning, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	24	0.2%	11	0.2%	7	0.3%	5	0.3%	48
2022	31,723	21	0.2%	14	0.3%	6	0.2%	41	0.3%	93
2023	36,669	18	0.1%	14	0.3%	3	0.1%	46	0.3%	75

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): T36-T50. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Drug Poisoning – Inpatient Discharges

The table below displays inpatient discharges related to drug poisoning among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges increased among residents of Pahokee and South Bay, while it decreased among residents in Belle Glade and Clewiston. Across the service area, the number of discharges listing drug poisoning as an "other diagnosis" declined. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 66: Inpatient Discharges from or with Drug Poisoning, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	7	0.3%	1	0.1%	1	0.2%	14	0.6%	85
2022	6,476	7	0.3%	3	0.3%	0	0.0%	11	0.5%	73
2023	6,136	4	0.2%	3	0.3%	3	0.5%	7	0.3%	74

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): T36-T50. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Mental Health

Mental Health Condition – Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents emergency department (ED) visits from or with mental health conditions among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits decreased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, and it increased in Pahokee and Clewiston. Additionally, the number of visits with mental health conditions listed as an "other diagnosis" increased. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 67: Emergency Department Visits from or with Mental Health Condition, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis							
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	20,012	213	1.9%	79	1.7%	36	1.5%	25	1.4%
2022	31,723	145	1.2%	74	1.7%	38	1.5%	286	2.2%
2023	36,669	211	1.6%	98	1.8%	36	1.3%	385	2.6%
								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
								3,638	
								4,897	
								4,553	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F01-F69; F90-F99; Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Mental Health Condition – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with mental health conditions among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of discharges from or with mental health conditions listed as a principal diagnosis steadily increased among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 68: Inpatient Discharges from or with Mental Health Condition, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis							
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	6,855	84	3.1%	44	3.8%	28	4.8%	98	4.0%
2022	6,476	85	3.3%	43	4.4%	16	2.7%	124	5.3%
2023	6,136	117	4.7%	61	6.0%	31	5.4%	118	5.8%
								Other Diagnoses 1-6	
								1,347	
								1,164	
								1,364	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F01-F69; F90-F99; Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS Prevalence

The table below presents the number of cases and rate of persons living with HIV per 100,000 population among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2022. Prevalence is determined by the most recent known address, not the location in which a person was originally diagnosed, and rates can be used to understand differences due to the actual indicator while controlling for differences in population size.

In 2022, the rate per 100,000 population living with HIV was 626 per 100,000 population in Florida and 636 per 100,000 population in Palm Beach County. Notably, the rate per 100,000 population living with HIV in Clewiston (531 per 100,000) was less than Florida and Palm Beach County; however, in 2022, the rate was higher among residents of South Bay (1,077 per 100,000), Pahokee (1,455 per 100,000), and Belle Glade (2,731 per 100,000).

Table 69: HIV Prevalence, Cases and Rate per 100,000 Population, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2022

	Cases	Rates (Rate of Persons Living with HIV per 100,000 Population)
Florida	120,385	626
*Palm Beach County	8,397	636
**Belle Glade (33430)	449	2,731
**Pahokee (33476)	87	1,455
**South Bay (33493)	46	1,077
**Clewiston (33440)	84	531

Source: AIDSvu.org, 2022

Notes: Prevalence data reflect persons aged 13 years and older living with diagnosed HIV infection or persons living with HIV infection ever classified as stage 3 HIV (AIDS) at the end of a given year (i.e. 2022).

*The HIV prevalence and new diagnoses data displayed on AIDSvu include state and federal correctional populations. Their inclusion may artificially inflate the HIV prevalence rate and case count of counties that house institutions.

**ZIP Code prevalence data represent persons living with HIV in Palm Beach County (a division in the Miami MSA) at the end of 2022 and reported as of 12/31/2023. Cases are based on residence at diagnosis.

New HIV/AIDS Cases

The table below presents the number of new HIV/AIDS cases and rates per 100,000 population among residents of Lakeside Medical Center’s service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2018 and 2022. Between 2018 and 2022, the rate of person’s newly diagnosed with HIV per 100,000 population was 22 per 100,000 in Florida and Palm Beach County. Notably, the rates of newly diagnosed individuals were higher across the service area compared to Florida and Palm Beach County. Additionally, new cases are based on primary residence at time of diagnosis, not the location in which a person was tested or diagnosed.

Table 70: New HIV/AIDS Cases and Rate per 100,000 Population, Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2022

	New Cases	Rates (Rate of Persons Newly Diagnosed with HIV per 100,000 Population)
Florida	4,290	22
*Palm Beach County	285	22
**Belle Glade (33430)	60	365
**Pahokee (33476)	10	167
**South Bay (33493)	5	177
**Clewiston (33440)	13	82

Source: AIDSvu.org, 3-Year Rolling, 2022

Notes: Only ZIP Codes with three or more new HIV cases are collected. The data reflect people newly diagnosed with HIV infection, defined as a diagnosis of HIV infection regardless of the stage of disease (stage 0, 1, 2, 3 [AIDS], or unknown) and refers to all people with a diagnosis of HIV infection during a given one-year time period (i.e. 2022). *The HIV prevalence and new diagnoses data displayed on AIDSvu include state and federal correctional populations. Their inclusion may artificially inflate the HIV prevalence rate and case count of counties that house institutions.

**Data represent persons newly diagnosed with HIV in Palm Beach County (a division in the Miami MSA) between 2018 and 2022 and who were reported as of 12/31/2023. Cases are based on residence at diagnosis. Cases from department of corrections and federal correctional institutions are excluded from ZIP Code level analysis.

HIV/AIDS – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows emergency department (ED) visits from or with HIV/AIDS among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits with HIV/AIDS listed as a principal diagnosis was zero across the service area. Additionally, the number of ED visits with HIV/AIDS listed as an "other diagnosis" decreased from 357 ED visits in 2021 to 220 visits in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 71: Emergency Department Visits from or with HIV/AIDS, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis										Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent			
2021	20,012	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	357		
2022	31,723	4	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	337		
2023	36,668	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	220		

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): B20, Z21. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

HIV/AIDS– Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with HIV/AIDS among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Notably, the percentage of inpatient discharges with HIV/AIDS listed as a principal diagnosis was zero among residents of South Bay, and remained consistently low across the service area. Additionally, across the service area, the number of discharges in which asthma was listed as an "other diagnosis" decreased from 102 discharges in 2021 to 82 discharges in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 72: Inpatient Discharges from or with HIV/AIDS, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	10	0.4%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	102
2022	6,476	4	0.2%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	119
2023	6,136	5	0.2%	3	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	82

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): B20, Z21. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Additional Chronic & Acute Conditions

Asthma – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows emergency department (ED) visits from or with asthma among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of asthma-related ED visits decreased among residents of Pahokee and South Bay, and it increased for residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston; additionally, the number of visits with Asthma listed as an "other diagnosis" decreased. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 73: Emergency Department Visits from or with Asthma, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	115	1.0%	75	1.7%	24	1.0%	8	0.5%	871
2022	31,723	170	1.5%	74	1.7%	32	1.3%	128	1.0%	937
2023	36,668	167	1.2%	85	1.6%	42	1.5%	149	1.0%	655

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): J45. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Asthma – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with asthma among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Notably, the percentage of inpatient discharges increased among residents of Belle Glade, South Bay, and Clewiston, and it decreased among residents of Pahokee. Across the service area, the number of discharges in which asthma was listed as an "other diagnosis" rose from 188 in 2021 to 194 in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 74: Inpatient Discharges from or with Asthma, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	7	0.3%	9	0.8%	2	0.3%	3	0.1%	188
2022	6,476	10	0.4%	5	0.5%	1	0.2%	10	0.4%	174
2023	6,136	10	0.4%	7	0.7%	3	0.5%	7	0.3%	194

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): J45. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Bacterial STDs – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with bacterial STDs among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. The percent of visits due to bacterial STDs as a principal diagnosis remained relatively stable among residents of the service area between 2021 and 2023. Notably, the number of visits listing bacterial STDs as an "other diagnosis" rose from 65 ED visits in 2021 to 83 visits in 2023.

Table 75: Emergency Department Visits from or with Bacterial STDs, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	26	0.2%	8	0.2%	3	0.1%	3	0.2%	65	
2022	31,723	24	0.2%	12	0.3%	4	0.2%	8	0.1%	61	
2023	36,668	25	0.2%	12	0.2%	6	0.2%	7	0.0%	83	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): A50-A64. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Bacterial STDs – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with bacterial STDs among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. In this time, there were no discharges with bacterial STDs listed as the principal diagnosis among residents of Pahokee, South Bay, and Clewiston. The number of discharges with bacterial STDs listed as an "other diagnosis" slightly declined across the service area from 28 discharges in 2021 to 25 discharges in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 76: Inpatient Discharges from or with Bacterial STDs, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	28
2022	6,476	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	29
2023	6,136	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	25

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): A50-A64. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Congestive Heart Failure – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with congestive heart failure among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. In 2023, the percentage of ED visits stayed at 0.0% among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay. There was a slight increase to 0.1% among residents of Clewiston. Across the service area, the number of visits in which congestive heart failure was listed as an "other diagnosis" increased from 315 in 2021 to 331 in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 77: Emergency Department Visits from or with Congestive Heart Failure, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	4	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	315
2022	31,723	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12	0.1%	278
2023	36,668	4	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	14	0.1%	331

Coronary Heart Disease – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits related to coronary heart disease (CHD) among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits with CHD listed as a principal diagnosis increased among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston, while remaining stable among residents of South Bay and Pahokee. From 2021 to 2023, the number of ED visits with CHD listed as an "other diagnosis" ranged from 431 to 512. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 79: Emergency Department Visits from or with Coronary Heart Disease, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	39	0.3%	25	0.6%	14	0.6%	5	0.3%	512	
2022	31,723	30	0.3%	22	0.5%	14	0.5%	82	0.6%	431	
2023	36,668	52	0.4%	30	0.6%	17	0.6%	59	0.4%	506	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I20-I25. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Coronary Heart Disease – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with CHD among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges with CHD listed as a principal diagnosis increased among residents of Clewiston, decreased among residents of Pahokee and South Bay, and remained relatively stable among residents of Belle Glade. The number of discharges with CHD listed as an "other diagnosis" remained consistent throughout the period. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 80: Inpatient Discharges from or with Coronary Heart Disease, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	6,855	60	2.2%	29	2.5%	22	3.7%	69	2.8%	557	
2022	6,476	45	1.8%	20	2.1%	20	3.4%	70	3.0%	584	
2023	6,136	55	2.2%	16	1.6%	11	1.9%	75	3.7%	549	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I20-I25. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Cancer – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with cancer among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits with cancer listed as a principal diagnosis decreased among residents of Pahokee and Belle Glade, and remained relatively stable among residents of South Bay and Clewiston. The number of discharges with cancer listed as an "other diagnosis" increased across the service area during the same period. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 81: Emergency Department Visits from or with Cancer, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	32	0.3%	14	0.3%	6	0.3%	4	0.2%	183	
2022	31,723	44	0.4%	8	0.2%	10	0.4%	28	0.2%	245	
2023	36,668	35	0.3%	7	0.1%	10	0.4%	23	0.2%	216	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): C00-C26, C30-C41, C43-C58, C60-C96, D00-D49. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Cancer – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with cancer among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2023, the percentage of inpatient discharges with cancer listed as a principal diagnosis increased among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay, and remained relatively stable among residents of Clewiston. The number of discharges with cancer listed as an "other diagnosis" decreased across the service area during the same period. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 82: Inpatient Discharges from or with Cancer, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	73	2.7%	29	2.5%	9	1.5%	83	3.4%	468
2022	6,476	91	3.5%	28	2.9%	21	3.6%	85	3.6%	499
2023	6,136	97	3.9%	34	3.3%	21	3.7%	74	3.6%	432

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): C00-C26, C30-C41, C43-C58, C60-C96, D00-D49. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Diabetes – Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents diabetes-related ED visits among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits increased among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay, while the percentage remained stable among residents of Clewiston. Across the service area, visits listing asthma as an "other diagnosis" fluctuated but rose overall. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 83: Emergency Department Visits from or with Diabetes, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	110	1.0%	52	1.1%	67	2.9%	12	0.7%	2,549
2022	31,723	134	1.2%	70	1.6%	141	5.5%	102	0.8%	2,238
2023	36,668	171	1.3%	96	1.8%	154	5.5%	108	0.7%	3,263

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): E08-E11, E13. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Diabetes – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with diabetes among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges increased in Belle Glade and Pahokee, while decreases were observed among residents in South Bay and Clewiston. Across the service area, the number of inpatient discharges in which diabetes was listed as an "other diagnosis" declined. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 84: Inpatient Discharges from or with Diabetes, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	68	2.5%	36	3.1%	23	3.9%	62	2.5%	1,355
2022	6,476	62	2.4%	39	4.0%	14	2.4%	58	2.5%	1,158
2023	6,136	66	2.6%	43	4.2%	11	1.9%	44	2.2%	1,185

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): E08-E11, E13. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Gastroenteritis – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with gastroenteritis among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits due to gastroenteritis listed as a principal diagnosis increased slightly among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, South Bay and Clewiston, with the largest increase observed among residents of Clewiston. Additionally, the number of ED visits listing gastroenteritis as an "other diagnosis" increased in this time. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 85: Emergency Department Visits from or with Gastroenteritis, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	73	0.6%	24	0.5%	6	0.3%	13	0.8%	31
2022	31,723	46	0.4%	25	0.6%	15	0.6%	117	0.9%	26
2023	36,668	97	0.7%	32	0.6%	15	0.5%	181	1.2%	39

Kidney/Urinary Tract Infections – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits related to kidney/urinary tract infections among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits due to kidney/urinary tract infections listed as a principal diagnosis declined among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston, increased among residents of South Bay, and remained consistent among residents of Pahokee. The number of visits with kidney/urinary tract infections listed as an "other diagnosis" remained relatively stable across the service area. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 87: Emergency Department Visits from or with Kidney/Urinary Tract Infections, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	20,012	18	0.2%	6	0.1%	0	0.0%	4	0.2%	13
2022	31,723	16	0.1%	9	0.2%	0	0.0%	12	0.1%	10
2023	36,668	15	0.1%	4	0.1%	5	0.2%	22	0.1%	12

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): N10-N12. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Kidney/Urinary Tract Infections – Inpatient Discharges

The table below presents inpatient discharges from or with kidney/urinary tract infections among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over this period, the total number of residents treated for kidney/urinary tract infections as a primary diagnosis was low. The percentage of inpatient discharges decreased among residents of Pahokee, South Bay and Clewiston, while remaining consistent among residents of Belle Glade. Similarly, the number of discharges in which asthma was listed as an "other diagnosis" declined overall between 2021 and 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 88: Inpatient Discharges from or with Kidney/Urinary Tract Infections, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
2021	6,855	3	0.1%	3	0.3%	1	0.2%	9	0.4%	39
2022	6,476	2	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	5	0.2%	44
2023	6,136	2	0.1%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	4	0.2%	36

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): N10-N12. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Stroke – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits from or with stroke among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits due to stroke as a principal diagnosis increased in Pahokee and South Bay, remained relatively stable in Clewiston, and showed slight fluctuation in Belle Glade. Notably, the number of ED visits with stroke listed as an "other diagnosis" declined from 119 in 2021 to 97 in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 89: Emergency Department Visits from or with Stroke, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	28	0.2%	7	0.2%	4	0.2%	5	0.3%	119	
2022	31,723	48	0.4%	6	0.1%	10	0.4%	30	0.2%	95	
2023	36,668	45	0.3%	22	0.4%	12	0.4%	37	0.2%	97	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I60-I69. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Stroke – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with stroke among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges with stroke listed as a principal diagnosis increased among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, declined among residents of Clewiston, and remained stable among residents of Pahokee at 2.9%. The number of discharges with stroke listed as an "other diagnosis" decreased slightly between 2021 and 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 90: Inpatient Discharges from or with Stroke, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		
								Count	Percent	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent			
2021	6,855	75	2.8%	33	2.9%	9	1.5%	66	2.7%	266
2022	6,476	79	3.1%	28	2.9%	20	3.4%	72	3.1%	248
2023	6,136	103	4.1%	29	2.9%	20	3.5%	53	2.6%	248

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I60-I69. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Alzheimer's – Emergency Department Visits

The table shows ED visits from or with Alzheimer's disease among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits with Alzheimer's disease listed as a principal diagnosis remained relatively stable at 0.0% with total counts of four or less. However, visits with Alzheimer's listed as an "other diagnosis" increased from 26 visits in 2021 to 34 in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 91: Emergency Department Visits from or with Alzheimer's, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	20,012	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	26	
2022	31,723	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	0.0%	45	
2023	36,669	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	34	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): G30. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Alzheimer's – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with Alzheimer's disease among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three years, the percentage of inpatient discharges with Alzheimer's disease listed as a principal diagnosis remained relatively stable at 0.3% or less. The number of discharges attributed to Alzheimer's listed as "other diagnosis" fluctuated, ultimately decreasing from 21 discharges in 2021, to 16 in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 92: Inpatient Discharges from or with Alzheimer's, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
2021	6,855	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.1%	21	
2022	6,476	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	0.3%	25	
2023	6,136	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	16	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): E10, E11, E13. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Dementia – Emergency Department Visits

The table below presents ED visits from or with dementia among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of emergency department visits with dementia listed as the principal diagnosis remained low and relatively stable across the service area. Notably, the number of emergency department visits where dementia appeared as an "other diagnosis" increased from 106 visits in 2021 to 190 in 2022, before declining to 164 visits in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 93: Emergency Department Visits from or with Dementia, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-9	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	20,012	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
2022	31,723	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
2023	36,669	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	5	0.0%	5	0.0%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F01-F03. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Dementia – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with dementia among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges with dementia listed as a principal diagnosis remained low and stable across the service area. However, the number of discharges with dementia listed as an "other diagnosis" increased from 112 in 2021 to 125 in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 94: Inpatient Discharges from or with Dementia, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	6,855	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
2022	6,476	4	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
2023	6,136	4	0.2%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): F01-F03. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-6

Sepsis – Emergency Department Visits

The table below shows ED visits related to sepsis among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of ED visits with sepsis listed as a principal diagnosis declined among residents of Belle Glade and South Bay, remained stable among residents of Pahokee, and increased slightly among residents of Clewiston. Additionally, the number of emergency department visits where sepsis appeared as an "other diagnosis" steadily decreased from 40 visits in 2021 to 18 visits in 2023. The data reflect ED visits tied to the patient's place of residence rather than the facility location, and does not include individuals treated in urgent care centers.

Table 95: Emergency Department Visits from or with Sepsis, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021-2023

	Total Visits	Principal Diagnosis										Other Diagnoses 1-9
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent			
2021	20,012	30	0.3%	19	0.4%	7	0.3%	2	0.1%	40		
2022	31,723	8	0.1%	11	0.3%	4	0.2%	33	0.2%	21		
2023	36,669	22	0.2%	22	0.4%	5	0.2%	43	0.3%	18		

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): A40 - A41. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1-9

Sepsis – Inpatient Discharges

The table below shows inpatient discharges from or with sepsis among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of inpatient discharges with sepsis listed as a principal diagnosis decreased among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee, Clewiston, while increasing among residents of South Bay. Additionally, the number of discharges with sepsis listed as an "other diagnosis" also decreased over the three years, from 195 discharges in 2021 to 147 discharges in 2023. The data are based on the ZIP Code of the patient's residence, not the location of the hospital where services were received.

Table 96: Inpatient Discharges from or with Sepsis, Count and Percent, Residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, 2021 - 2023

	Total Discharges	Principal Diagnosis								Other Diagnoses 1-6	
		Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	6,855	208	7.8%	97	8.5%	43	7.4%	168	7.0%	195	
2022	6,476	167	6.6%	81	8.4%	38	6.6%	152	6.6%	160	
2023	6,136	171	6.9%	73	7.3%	50	8.8%	121	6.0%	147	

Source: Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA), 2021 - 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): A40 - A41. Principal and Other Diagnoses 1 - 6

Mortality

Mortality refers to the incidence of death within a population and is a key indicator used to assess overall health status and identify the leading causes of premature death in a community.⁹ This section presents mortality data for residents of Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, using information from the Florida Department of Health's Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management. The analysis includes the top 10 leading causes of death by ZIP Code based on 2023 counts and percentages, providing a snapshot of the most common conditions contributing to loss of life among residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area. To complement this point-in-time view, the section also examines trends in death rates for selected chronic and age-related conditions, including but not limited to Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, cancer, stroke, chronic respiratory illnesses, and cardiovascular diseases, from 2021 to 2023. Together, these data offer valuable insights into both current and evolving patterns in mortality and can help inform targeted efforts to reduce preventable deaths in the community.

⁹ Basaraba, S. (2024, October 3). Morbidity vs. Mortality: What's the Difference? Verywell Health. <https://www.verywellhealth.com/what-is-morbidity-2223380>

2023 Leading Causes of Death

Leading Causes of Death – Belle Glade

The table below presents the top 10 leading causes of death among residents of Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, there were a total of 153 reported deaths among the residents of Belle Glade, consisting of 19 distinct causes. In 2023, heart disease was the leading cause of death across all three geographies, accounting for 24.2% of deaths among residents of Belle Glade and Palm Beach County, compared to 21.4% of deaths statewide. Notably, in 2023, the percentage of deaths due to unintentional injuries, diabetes, and homicide in Belle Glade were higher than Palm Beach County and Florida; however, it is important to note that the total counts of deaths due to these causes were low.

Table 97: Leading Causes of Death, Count and Percent, Belle Glade (33430), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Belle Glade (33430)		Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
All Causes	153	100.0%	16,011	100.0%	229,045	100.0%
1. Heart Disease (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	37	24.2%	3,866	24.2%	48,961	21.4%
2. Malignant Neoplasm (Cancer) (C00-C97)	29	19.0%	3,271	20.4%	47,088	20.6%
3. Other Causes of Death	17	11.1%	--	--	--	--
4. Unintentional Injury (V01-X59, Y85-Y86)	15	9.8%	1,144	7.2%	16,435	7.2%
5. Cerebrovascular Diseases (I60-I69)	14	9.2%	1,630	10.2%	16,485	7.2%
6. Diabetes Mellitus (E10-E14)	10	6.5%	395	2.5%	7,288	3.2%
7. Homicide (U01-U02, X85-Y09, Y87.1)	6	3.9%	74	0.5%	1,336	0.6%
8. Alzheimer's Disease (G30)	4	2.6%	306	1.9%	5,974	2.6%
9. Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrosis (N00-N07, N17-N19, N25-N27)	3	2.0%	217	1.4%	3,482	1.5%
10. Suicide (U03, X60-X84, Y87.0)	3	2.0%	223	1.4%	3,558	1.6%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management, 2023

Leading Causes of Death – Pahokee

The table below presents the top 10 leading causes of death for Pahokee (ZIP 33476), Palm Beach County and Florida in 2023. In 2023, there were a total of 71 reported deaths among the residents of Pahokee, encompassing 18 distinct causes. In 2023, all cancers (21.2%) accounted for the largest percent of death among residents of Pahokee, greater than the percent of deaths from cancer across Palm Beach County (20.4%) and Florida (20.6%). Additionally, in 2023, unintentional injuries, diabetes, and septicemia accounted for a higher percent of deaths among residents of Pahokee compared to Palm Beach County and Florida; however, it is important to note that the total counts of deaths due to these causes were low.

Table 98: Leading Causes of Death, Count and Percent, Pahokee (33476), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Pahokee (33476)		Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
All Causes	71	100.0%	16,011	100.0%	229,045	100.0%
1. Malignant Neoplasm (Cancer) (C00-C97)	15	21.1%	3,271	20.4%	47,088	20.6%
2. Heart Diseases (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	14	19.7%	3,866	24.2%	48,961	21.4%
3. Unintentional Injury (V01-X59, Y85-Y86)	9	12.7%	1,144	7.2%	16,435	7.2%
4. Cerebrovascular Diseases (I60-I69)	7	9.9%	1,630	10.2%	16,485	7.2%
5. Other Causes of Death	5	7.0%	--	--	--	--
6. Diabetes Mellitus (E10-E14)	5	7.0%	395	2.5%	7,288	3.2%
7. Septicemia (A40-A41)	3	4.2%	138	0.9%	2,666	1.2%
8. Homicide (U01-U02, X85-Y09, Y87.1)	2	2.8%	74	0.5%	1,336	0.6%
9. Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis (K70, K73-K74)	2	2.8%	191	1.2%	3,529	1.5%
10. Alzheimer's Disease (G30)	1	1.4%	306	1.9%	5,974	2.6%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management, 2023

Leading Causes of Death – South Bay

The table below presents the top nine leading causes of death for South Bay, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, there were a total of 31 reported deaths among the residents of South Bay, encompassing nine distinct causes. In 2023, all cancers accounted for the largest percent of death among residents of South Bay, while heart disease accounted for the largest percent of deaths across Palm Beach County and Florida. Additionally, in 2023, cerebrovascular diseases, homicides, and chronic lower respiratory diseases accounted for a higher percent of deaths among residents of South Bay compared to Palm Beach County and Florida; however, it is important to note that the total counts of deaths due to these causes were less than five and should be interpreted with caution.

Table 99: Leading Causes of Death, Count and Percent, South Bay (33493), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	South Bay (33493)		Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
All Causes	31	100.0%	16,011	100.0%	229,045	100.0%
1. Malignant Neoplasm (Cancer) (C00-C97)	10	32.3%	3,271	20.4%	47,088	20.6%
2. Heart Diseases (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	6	19.4%	3,866	24.2%	48,961	21.4%
3. Cerebrovascular Diseases (I60-I69)	4	12.9%	1,630	10.2%	16,485	7.2%
4. Other Causes of Death	4	12.9%	--	--	--	--
5. Homicide (U01-U02, X85-Y09, Y87.1)	2	6.5%	74	0.5%	1,336	0.6%
6. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (J40-J47)	2	6.5%	591	3.7%	11,214	4.9%
7. Unintentional Injury (V01-X59, Y85-Y86)	1	3.2%	1,144	7.2%	16,435	7.2%
8. Diabetes Mellitus (E10-E14)	1	3.2%	395	2.5%	7,288	3.2%
9. Influenza and Pneumonia (J09-J18)	1	3.2%	177	1.1%	2,864	1.3%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management, 2023

Leading Causes of Death – Clewiston

The table below presents the top 10 leading causes of death for Clewiston, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. In 2023, there were a total of 167 reported deaths among the residents of Clewiston consisting of 21 distinct causes. In 2023, heart disease was the leading cause of death across all three geographies, accounting for 24.0% of deaths among residents of Clewiston, 24.2% in Palm Beach County, and 21.4% of deaths statewide. Notably, in 2023, the percent of deaths from any of the categories, with the exception of unintentional injury, was higher in Clewiston compared to Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 100: Leading Causes of Death, Count and Percent, Clewiston (33440), Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Clewiston (33440)		Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
All Causes	167	100.0%	16,011	100.0%	229,045	100.0%
1. Heart Diseases (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	40	24.0%	3,866	24.2%	48,961	21.4%
2. Malignant Neoplasm (Cancer) (C00-C97)	37	22.2%	3,271	20.4%	47,088	20.6%
3. Other Causes of Death	16	9.6%	--	--	--	--
4. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (J40-J47)	13	7.8%	591	3.7%	11,214	4.9%
5. Unintentional Injury (V01-X59, Y85-Y86)	11	6.6%	1,144	7.2%	16,435	7.2%
6. Cerebrovascular Diseases (I60-I69)	9	5.4%	1,630	10.2%	16,485	7.2%
7. Diabetes Mellitus (E10-E14)	7	4.2%	395	2.5%	7,288	3.2%
8. Alzheimer's Disease (G30)	7	4.2%	306	1.9%	5,974	2.6%
9. Essential Hypertension and Hypertensive Renal Disease (I10, I12, I15)	5	3.0%	197	1.2%	3,478	1.5%
10. Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrosis (N00-N07, N17-N19, N25-N27)	4	2.4%	217	1.4%	3,482	1.5%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management, 2023

2021-2023 Deaths by Cause

Alzheimer's Disease Deaths

The table below presents deaths attributed to Alzheimer's disease for residents of Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida between 2021 and 2023. During this period, the percentage of Alzheimer's disease-related deaths increased among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee and Clewiston. Notably, there were no reported deaths due to Alzheimer's among residents of South Bay during this period. In 2023, the percentage of deaths among residents of Belle Glade and Clewiston were higher than that of Palm Beach County, while percentages in Pahokee and South Bay remained below the county and state averages.

Table 101: Alzheimer's Disease Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)							
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	2.5%	297	1.7%	6,707	2.6%		
2022	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	1.8%	295	1.8%	6,397	2.7%		
2023	4	2.6%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	7	4.2%	306	1.9%	5,974	2.6%		

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): G30

Respiratory Disease Deaths

The table below displays deaths due to respiratory disease for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. Respiratory disease includes conditions such as COPD, pneumonia, asthma, lung diseases, sleep-disordered breathing and pulmonary hypertension.¹⁰ Over the three-year period, the percentage of respiratory disease-related deaths increased among residents of South Bay and Clewiston. In 2023, the percentage of deaths among residents in South Bay and Clewiston were higher than that of Palm Beach County and Florida. Conversely, the percentage of deaths in Belle Glade declined from 5.6% in 2021 to 2.6% in 2023 and in Pahokee, from 3.8% to 1.4%, which were lower than the county and state averages.

Table 102: Respiratory Disease Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area						Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	12	5.6%	4	3.8%	3	7.5%	14	5.8%	1,002	5.7%
2022	5	3.0%	4	4.7%	0	0.0%	16	9.6%	999	6.1%
2023	4	2.6%	1	1.4%	4	12.9%	17	10.2%	1,037	6.6%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): J00-J99

Cardiovascular Disease Deaths

The table below presents deaths attributed to cardiovascular disease for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Over this period, the percentage of cardiovascular disease-related deaths increased across the service area, the county and the state. In 2023, the percentage of cardiovascular disease deaths was higher among residents of Belle Glade (37.3%), South Bay (32.3%), and Clewiston (33.5%) than in the state overall (31.0%), while Pahokee and Florida both reported rates of 31.0%. Overall, the percentage of deaths in Palm Beach County exceeded that of the state, Pahokee, South Bay and Clewiston throughout all three years.

Table 103: Cardiovascular Disease Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area						Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)			
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2021	59	27.4%	24	23.1%	11	27.5%	54	22.2%	5,739	32.5%
2022	65	39.2%	27	31.8%	13	32.5%	43	25.9%	5,862	35.7%
2023	57	37.3%	22	31.0%	10	32.3%	56	33.5%	5,823	36.8%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I00-I99

¹⁰ Levine, S. M., & Marciniuk, D. D. (2022). Global Impact of Respiratory Disease: What Can We Do, Together, to Make a Difference? *Chest*, 161(5), 1153–1154. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chest.2022.01.014>

Stroke Deaths

The table below displays stroke-related deaths for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Over the three-year period, the percentage of deaths attributed to stroke increased across the service area, Palm Beach County and the state of Florida. In 2023, the percentage of deaths among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay were higher than that of the state. Conversely, the percentage of stroke-related deaths among residents in Clewiston remained consistently lower than that of the county and state.

Table 104: Stroke Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	17	7.9%	5	4.8%	3	7.5%	11	4.5%	1,289	7.3%	15,567	6.0%
2022	18	10.8%	4	4.7%	3	7.5%	8	4.8%	1,519	9.3%	16,372	6.9%
2023	14	9.2%	7	9.9%	4	12.9%	9	5.4%	1,630	10.3%	16,485	7.2%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): I60-I69

Cancer Deaths

The table below presents cancer-related deaths for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Over this three-year period, the percentage of deaths attributed to cancer increased across the service area, the county and state. In 2023, the percentage of cancer-related deaths among residents of Pahokee, South Bay, and Clewiston were higher than those of Palm Beach County and Florida, while the reported percentage of deaths for Belle Glade remained lower than the county and state level.

Table 105: Cancer Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	34	15.8%	10	9.6%	3	7.5%	42	17.3%	3,323	18.8%	46,889	17.9%
2022	29	17.5%	14	16.5%	5	12.5%	30	18.1%	3,198	19.5%	46,978	19.7%
2023	29	19.0%	15	21.1%	10	32.3%	37	22.2%	3,271	20.7%	47,088	20.6%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): C00-C97

Diabetes Deaths

The table below displays diabetes-related deaths for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. During this time, the percentage of diabetes-related deaths increased in Belle Glade and South Bay, while declining among residents in Pahokee and Clewiston. Despite these shifts, the service area consistently reported higher percentages of diabetes-related deaths than both Palm Beach County and Florida overall.

Table 106: Diabetes Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	11	5.1%	10	9.6%	1	2.5%	12	4.9%	465	2.6%	8,032	3.1%
2022	4	2.4%	7	8.2%	6	15.0%	7	4.2%	450	2.7%	7,550	3.2%
2023	10	6.5%	5	7.0%	1	3.2%	7	4.2%	411	2.6%	7,288	3.2%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): E10-E14

Unintentional Injury Deaths

The table below displays deaths due to unintentional injury for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2022, the percentage of deaths due to unintentional injury increased across the service area, then fluctuated in 2023. The percentage of deaths among residents of Belle Glade (9.8%) and Pahokee (12.7%) in 2023 remained higher than the county (7.2%) and state (7.2%) averages. Conversely, the percentage in Clewiston and South Bay fell to 6.6% and 3.2%, respectively, which was lower than Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 107: Unintentional Injury Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	13	6.0%	5	4.8%	0	0.0%	22	9.1%	1,223	6.9%	17,654	6.8%
2022	18	10.8%	10	11.8%	2	5.0%	18	10.8%	1,178	7.2%	17,123	7.2%
2023	15	9.8%	9	12.7%	1	3.2%	11	6.6%	1,144	7.2%	16,435	7.2%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): V01-X59, Y85-Y86

Firearm Discharge Deaths

The table below presents deaths due to firearm discharge for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida between 2021 and 2023. In Clewiston, the percentage of deaths attributed to firearm discharge was consistently higher than the county and state. There were few to no firearm-related deaths in Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay, with percentages lower than those in Palm Beach County and Florida.

Table 108: Deaths due to Firearm Discharge, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	1.6%	110	0.6%	1,964	0.8%
2022	0	0.0%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	3	1.8%	116	0.7%	2,031	0.8%
2023	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.2%	120	0.8%	2,116	0.9%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): W32-W34, X72-X74, Y22-Y24

Homicide Deaths

The table below presents deaths due to homicide in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida from 2021 to 2023. While the percentage of homicide deaths remained consistent at the county and state levels between 2021 and 2023, there was an overall increase in the percentage of deaths due to homicide in Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay. In Pahokee, the percentage increased from 1.9% in 2021 to 2.8% in 2023, from 1.9% to 3.9% in Belle Glade, and 0.0% to 6.5% in South Bay. In 2023, the percentage of deaths due to homicide among residents of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay exceeded county and state levels, whereas the percentage among residents of Clewiston (0.0%) remained lower than the county and state.

Table 109: Homicide Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	4	1.9%	2	1.9%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	100	0.6%	1,462	0.6%
2022	6	3.6%	3	3.5%	2	5.0%	2	1.2%	94	0.6%	1,472	0.6%
2023	6	3.9%	2	2.8%	2	6.5%	0	0.0%	74	0.5%	1,336	0.6%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): U01-U02, X85-Y09, Y87.1

Drug Poisoning Deaths

The table below displays deaths due to drug poisoning for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida between 2021 and 2023. At the county and state levels, the percentage of drug poisoning remained relatively stable over the three years. In contrast, drug poisoning deaths in the service area increased slightly over time, particularly in Pahokee and Clewiston. In 2023, the percentages of deaths due to drug poisoning among residents of Pahokee (4.2%) and Clewiston (4.8%) were higher than Palm Beach County (3.0%) and Florida (3.0%), whereas the percentages for residents in Belle Glade (0.7%) and South Bay (0.0%) were lower than the county and state.

Table 110: Drug Poisoning Deaths, Count and Percent, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2021-2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area								Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)		Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
2021	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	9	3.7%	555	3.1%	7,713	3.0%
2022	1	0.6%	4	4.7%	1	2.5%	6	3.6%	491	3.0%	7,548	3.2%
2023	1	0.7%	3	4.2%	0	0.0%	8	4.8%	478	3.0%	6,828	3.0%

Source: Florida Health CHARTs, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2023

Notes: ICD-10-CM Code(s): X40-X44, X60-X64, Y10-Y14

Health Resources Availability and Access Profile

Factors related to health resources availability and access are vital indicators of a community's ability to access and maintain health care, which play an important role in overall health outcomes. Notably, access to health services improves overall health, helps prevent and manage illness, and lowers the risk of death or disability.¹¹ Barriers to access may include high healthcare costs, lack of insurance coverage, and limited availability of services, particularly in geographically isolated areas.¹² This section highlights key indicators of health resource availability and access in the Lakeside Medical Center service area, including health insurance coverage, licensed healthcare facilities, Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), Medically Underserved Areas and Populations (MUA/Ps), as well as the availability of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Look-Alike facilities. Together, these topic areas provide an indication of the health service landscape in Lakeside Medical Center's service area.

Health Insurance Uninsured Population

The table shows the uninsured population in Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County, and Florida in 2023. Overall, the percentage of uninsured individuals was higher in the service area compared to both the county and state of Florida. Notably, the percentage of uninsured individuals in Belle Glade (23.0%) and South Bay (20.1%) were nearly twice the percentage of those in Florida (11.9%).

Table 111: Uninsured Population, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Areas				Palm Beach County	Florida
	Belle Glade (33430)	Pahokee (33476)	South Bay (33493)	Clewiston (33440)		
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	19,205	6,698	2,724	20,962	1,493,156	21,591,588
Total Uninsured Population	4,426	1,076	547	3,912	196,856	2,569,710
Percent Uninsured Population	23.0%	16.1%	20.1%	18.7%	13.2%	11.9%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S2701, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

¹¹ 2021 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report [Internet]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (US); 2021 Dec. ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND DISPARITIES IN ACCESS. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK578537/>

¹² Access to Health Services Workgroup - Healthy People 2030 | odphp.health.gov/about/workgroups/access-health-services-workgroup

Uninsured Population by Age

The table below presents the uninsured population by age group for Lakeside Medical Center's service area, Palm Beach County and Florida in 2023. In 2023, the percentage of uninsured individuals in the Lakeside Medical Center service area was generally higher than in Palm Beach County and Florida across most age groups. The highest percentages were seen among adults aged 26 to 34 in Belle Glade (40.9%) and South Bay (45.1%), and among adults aged 35 to 44 in Pahokee (46.4%). Clewiston's highest rate occurred in the 19 to 25 age group (37.4%). In contrast, the lowest percentages were found among residents aged 65 to 74 and those 75 years and older, with some ZIP codes, such as Pahokee and South Bay, reporting no uninsured individuals in the oldest age group.

Table 112: Uninsured Population, by Age, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2023

	Lakeside Medical Center Service Area										Palm Beach County		Florida	
	Belle Glade (33430)		Pahokee (33476)		South Bay (33493)		Clewiston (33440)				Count	Percent	Count	Percent
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	19,205	100.0%	6,698	100.0%	2,724	100.0%	20,962	100.0%	1,493,156	100.0%	21,591,588	100.0%		
Age														
Under 6 years	336	13.9%	60	8.3%	51	23.5%	34	1.8%	6,565	7.3%	76,880	5.7%		
6 to 18 years	566	17.0%	205	14.2%	49	7.9%	590	15.7%	22,944	10.8%	261,036	8.1%		
19 to 25 years	407	31.8%	92	15.2%	35	28.2%	798	37.4%	27,418	24.6%	351,657	20.2%		
26 to 34 years	1,102	40.9%	104	14.6%	219	45.1%	652	30.8%	39,470	25.6%	545,940	22.4%		
35 to 44 years	731	37.3%	331	46.4%	82	22.5%	879	33.4%	39,549	22.5%	499,800	18.7%		
45 to 54 years	791	29.9%	157	20.4%	18	5.3%	679	22.8%	32,201	17.5%	425,769	15.8%		
55 to 64 years	389	19.4%	113	16.7%	93	38.6%	251	9.5%	24,863	12.3%	359,518	12.2%		
65 to 74 years	88	5.1%	14	2.1%	0	0.0%	29	1.7%	2,564	1.4%	34,810	1.4%		
75 years and older	16	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1,282	0.7%	14,300	0.7%		

Source: U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey, S2701, 5-Year Estimate, 2023

Licensed Facility Overview

Hospitals

The table below lists the licensed hospitals located within Lakeside Medical Center's service area as of July 2025: Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade and Hendry Regional Medical Center in Clewiston. Together, the two hospitals offered a total of 95 beds and are both not-for-profit institutions.

Table 113: Licensed Hospitals, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

Name	City	Licensed Beds	Profit Status
Lakeside Medical Center	Belle Glade	70	Not-For-Profit
Hendry Regional Medical Center	Clewiston	25	Not-For-Profit

Source: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2025

Nursing Homes

The table below lists the licensed nursing homes within Lakeside Medical Center's service area as of July 2025. In July 2025, two nursing homes served the Lakeside Medical Center's service area, providing a combined total of 275 licensed beds. Glades Health Center in Pahokee operated as a not-for-profit facility with 120 beds. Vivo Healthcare Clewiston, based in Clewiston, a for-profit facility, offered 155 beds.

Table 114: Licensed Nursing Homes, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

Name	Street City	Licensed Beds	Profit Status
Glades Health Center	Pahokee	120	Not-For-Profit
Vivo Healthcare Clewiston	Clewiston	155	For-Profit

Source: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2025

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)

Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations represent a shortage of primary care, dental, or mental health providers in a specific geographic area or among a specific population.¹³ HPSA designations are determined using a scoring system for each specialty. The three scoring components that remain across all disciplines include: population to provider ratio, percent of population below 100% of the federal poverty level, and travel time to the nearest source of care (NSC) outside the HPSA designation area.^{14,15}

Primary Care

The table below shows the primary care HPSA in the Lakeside Medical Center's service area. As of July 2025, the service area contained one designated primary care HPSA, the Low-Income Migrant Farmworker Population in Belle Glade/Pahokee. This HPSA received a score of 16 on a scale of 0 to 25; higher scores indicate greater need. Scores are based on four factors: the population-to-provider ratio, percentage of the population living below 100% of the federal poverty level, infant health indicators (such as infant mortality or low birth rates), and travel time to the nearest source of care outside the HPSA area.

Table 115: Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

HPSA Name	ID	Type	Score
Low Income Migrant Farmworker Population- Belle Glade/Pahokee	1125137609	Low Income Migrant Farmworker Population HPSA	16

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, 2025

Dental Care

The table below displays the dental health HPSA in Lakeside Medical Center's service area as of July 2025. During this time, the service area had one designated dental health HPSA, which was the Low-Income Population in Belle Glade. This HPSA received a score of 23 on a scale of 0 to 26, which indicated a high level of need. The score is determined by factors including the population-to-provider ratio, percentage of the population living below 100% of the federal poverty level, water fluoridation status, and travel time to the nearest source of care outside the HPSA area.

Table 116: Dental Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

HPSA Name	ID	Type	Score
Low Income- Belle Glade	6128922241	Low Income Population HPSA	23

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, 2025

¹³ Bureau of Health Workforce. (2023, June 1). What is shortage designation? Retrieved from <https://bhwh.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation>
¹⁴ KFF. (2025, February 4). Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) Retrieved from <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/primary-care-health-professional-shortage-areas-hpsas/>
¹⁵ Bureau of Health Workforce. (2023, June 1). What is shortage designation? Retrieved from <https://bhwh.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring>

Mental Health

The table below presents the mental health HPSA in Lakeside Medical Center’s service area. As of July 2025, the service area had one designated mental health HPSA, which was the Low-Income Population within the Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network-Circuit Area 15. This HPSA received a score of 16 on a scale of 0 to 25, with higher scores indicating greater need. The score is based on factors such as the population-to-provider ratio, percentage of the population living below 100% of the federal poverty level, ratios of elderly and youth populations, prevalence of alcohol and substance abuse, and travel time to the nearest source of care outside the HPSA area.¹⁶

Table 117: Mental Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area, as of July 2025

HPSA Name	ID	Type	Score
Low Income- Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network-Circuit Area 15	7127699663	Low Income Population HPSA	16

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, 2025

Medically Underserved Areas and Populations (MUAP)

Medically Underserved Areas and Populations are defined as geographic areas or specific populations that experience limited access to healthcare services. This designation is determined using the Index of Medical Underservice (IMU), which scores areas from 0 to 100 based on the provider per 1,000 population ratio, percent of the population at 100% of the federal poverty level, percentage of residents 65 years and over, and infant mortality rate. Areas or populations with an IMU score of 62 or below qualify for designation as an MUAP.¹⁷ Such areas are typically characterized by a large elderly population, high infant mortality rate, high level of poverty, or a shortage of primary care providers.¹⁸ Barriers to healthcare may be cultural differences, financial constraints or language.¹⁹ Identifying medically underserved populations is essential for assessing healthcare gaps and improving health outcomes.

The table below presents the MUAP in Lakeside Medical Center’s service area. As of July 2025, the Low Income/Migrant Farmworkers population in Belle Glade and Pahokee was designated a Medically Underserved Population, based on an IMU score of 53.6.

Table 118: Medically Underserved Populations and Areas, Lakeside Medical Center’s Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

Name	ID	Type	Designation Date	Update Date	IMU Score
Low Income/Migrant Farmworkers- Belle Glade/ Pahokee	07531	MUP Low Income	05/11/1994	03/23/2006	53.6

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, 2025

¹⁶ Bureau of Health Workforce. (2022, December 1). Scoring shortage designations. Retrieved from <https://bhwh.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring>
¹⁷ Bureau of Health Workforce. (2022, December 1). Scoring shortage designations. Retrieved from <https://bhwh.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring>
¹⁸ Definitive Healthcare. (n.d.). Definition of medically underserved populations. Retrieved July 22, 2025, from <https://www.definitivehc.com/resources/glossary/medically-underserved-population>
¹⁹ Karp, J., Chung, C., Bhagwanani, A., & Sailer, A. (2023). Helping Medically Underserved Populations: Guide for U.S. radiology trainees to get involved at home. *Radiographics*, 44(1). <https://doi.org/10.1148/rg.230119>

Federally Qualified Health Centers, Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alikes

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are community-based health care providers that receive funds from the HRSA Health Center Program to provide primary care services in areas with limited resources. Centers must meet a strict set of requirements, including providing care on a sliding fee scale based on ability to pay and operate under a governing board that includes patients. FQHC Look-Alikes are community-based health care providers that meet the requirements of the HRSA Health Center Program, but do not receive Health Center Program funding. These centers provide primary care services in underserved areas, provide care on a sliding fee scale based on ability to pay and operate under a governing board that includes patients. The table below shows the FQHCs and Look-Alikes in Lakeside Medical Center's service area. As of July 2025, there were a total of four FQHC and look-alikes operating within the service area.

Table 119: Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and Look-Alikes, Lakeside Medical Center's Service Area, as of July 23, 2025

Site Name	Street Address	City	Site Designation	Web Address
Health Care District of Palm Beach County Community Health Center- Belle Glade	39200 Hooker Hwy, STE 101	Belle Glade	FQHC	https://www.hcdpbc.org/for-patients/primary-care-clinics
FoundCare Belle Glade	1500 NW Ave L	Belle Glade	FQHC	https://foundcare.org/
Florida Community Health Centers, Inc. – Belle Glade	941 SE 1 st St	Belle Glade	FQHC	https://www.fchcinc.org/locations/belle-glade/
Florida Community Health Centers, Inc – Clewiston	315 W C Owen Ave	Clewiston	FQHC	https://www.fchcinc.org/locations/clewiston/
Florida Community Health Centers, Inc. – Mobile Unit 2	315 S W C Owen Ave	Clewiston	FQHC	https://www.fchcinc.org/

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, 2025

Community Perspective

The Health Council of Southeast Florida (HCSEF) conducted community conversations and key informant interviews to gain additional insight into the needs and opinions of the community members and leaders. Ultimately, eight key informants and 237 residents participated in the primary qualitative data collection efforts between May and June 2025. The following section highlights the methodology and themed key findings from these sessions.

Community Conversations

Methodology

As a fundamental piece of the Community Health Needs Assessment process, HCSEF conducted 15 community conversation sessions with 237 participants to glean resident insight and feedback on health in Lakeside Medical Center's primary and secondary service areas. To guide conversations with resident groups, HCSEF developed a standardized tool, including an introductory script that described the process, and a set of questions to facilitate the conversation. The open-ended questions were carefully designed to encourage discussion around health in the community to glean resident perspective based on lived experience. Throughout the conversations, residents were encouraged to share their perspectives and ideas to foster healthy living in the community.

Each session lasted approximately 60-90 minutes, and sessions were offered in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole. When possible, the sessions were conducted in collaboration with trusted, local community partners to ensure accessibility, and to reach specific priority populations such as uninsured and underinsured individuals, lower-income households, families, those with limited English proficiency, seniors, and those living in Lakeside Medical Center's service areas. Participants were given a gift card as a token of appreciation for their insight and participation, and light refreshments were provided. In order to ensure openness and encourage participation, residents were reminded that all sessions would remain confidential. HCSEF staff maintained detailed notes and recordings of the conversations, and later used that qualitative data collected to analyze key themes from the aggregated discussions.

The table below provides information from the community conversation sessions.

Table 120: Session Date, Site, Number of Participants, and Language

Session Date	Session Site	Number of Participants	Session Language
05/07/2025	Pahokee Housing Authority	43	English
05/13/2025	Harlem Gardens	17	English
05/14/2025	LSF Head Start	15	English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole
05/14/2025	Mount Calvary Baptist Church	33	English
05/20/2025	P.A.T.C.H.	6	English
05/21/2025	Faith-Based Health Educators Group	7	English
05/27/2025	Chair Yoga Group	9	English
05/30/2025	Glades Initiative	23	English and Spanish
06/05/2025	Farmworkers Coordinating Council	64	English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole
06/05/2025	BRIDGES at Belle Glade	20	Haitian Creole

IMPORTANT NOTE: With the exception of specific instances, the information in this section (i.e. issues, barriers, opportunities, and suggestions) were not specific to Lakeside Medical Center, but rather represented general sentiments around the systems of health care.

Table 121: Personal Definitions of Health

Question #1: What does 'health' mean to you?
When discussing their perceptions of health, participants emphasized a holistic view that encompassed physical, mental, and emotional well-being, access to care within the community, and the importance of the built environment in shaping overall health outcomes. Holistic • Participants emphasized that good health and wellbeing go hand in hand, noting it is not just the absence of illness, but also having all their basic needs met. Many participants shared that everything from access to employment opportunities, to reduced stress, and to time focused on healthy activities impacts their health and wellbeing. One participant mentioned, “you’ve got health, you’ve got excellent quality of life. If your health is poor, then it limits you.” The sentiment of health leading to improved quality of life and overall wellbeing was reflected in several sessions. • Participants also mentioned the importance of including mental and behavioral health when discussing their definition of “health” and their vision for a healthier community. Residents noted that although physical health is important, emotional and mental health can have lasting effects that can help or hinder their quality of life. One participant from a Spanish-language session shared, “I love life, so I am healthier because of it.” (Yo amo la vida, eso es lo que me mantiene más saludable). Several participants also mentioned that when their mental health declined, they were less likely to prioritize their physical health and wellbeing. This broad understanding of health reflects the community’s desire for balanced approaches that support their daily lives and long-term wellness. Accessible in our own community Residents highlighted the need to maintain community health accessible in their own neighborhoods. They stated that being healthy should mean accessing care in the community where they live, work, and play. • However, some residents reported having to travel out of the county to access care, citing locations such as West Palm Beach, Broward, and St. Lucie. The need to find other locations was primarily true for residents in need of specialists. • Residents also shared that health symbolizes longevity, and the ability to age honorably in their own community. Some participants expressed desire to age in place and remain independent, knowing that they have access to resources and support in their own neighborhood. • When discussing resources, residents mentioned that health is more than just healthcare providers, but also community organizations, spaces for residents, and support groups to build trust and community. When services are not available locally, residents often face barriers such as transportation, time, or having to access childcare. These challenges can lead to delays in care and missed appointments. Having resources embedded in the community allows residents freedom of access while building a sense of trust and community.

Built Environment

When sharing their vision for a healthier community, residents mentioned the direct impact of the built environment on individual and collective health.

- Participants pointed to the importance of affordability in meeting their basic needs such as food, childcare, clothing, and utilities. Housing emerged as a recurring theme across several sessions. Many residents noted rising rental prices, and needing to pay for rent often took precedent over paying for healthcare. One resident, who mentioned this is especially true for those working seasonally, shared, “There’s six months of work, and the other six your hours are cut drastically.”
- Some residents also mentioned available spaces that allow them to be physically active such as safe parks, sidewalks, shaded areas, and community spaces with fitness equipment encourage them to focus on their physical wellbeing.

These discussions introduced the impact infrastructure and the built environment has on community health and wellbeing.

These themes and perspectives reflect the lived realities of individuals and families who experience health not only through medical care, but also through access to safe housing, nutritious food, and meaningful social support. Recognizing these definitions helps ensure that health improvement efforts align with what matters most to the people they are designed to serve.

Table 122: Key Health Issues

Question #2: What are some specific illnesses or health issues you see in your community?
Across all community conversation sessions, participants identified chronic illnesses, mental and behavioral health, cognitive and neurodevelopmental disorders, and respiratory conditions as major health concerns in the community. Chronic illnesses Chronic illnesses were discussed in all sessions as a primary health concern in the community. • Conditions such as cancer, high blood pressure, and diabetes were reported as the main concerns. When discussing these illnesses, participants noted that education on healthy food sources as well as long-term effects of daily habits could benefit the community, providing an opportunity for healthcare providers to implement preventative interventions and treatment locally. • When discussing illnesses and concerns prevalent in specific age groups, many participants mentioned autism and overall neurodevelopmental disorders among younger residents, and Alzheimer's and Dementia among senior residents. Mental and behavioral health issues The participants emphasized the growing need to address mental and behavioral health in the community. • Participants mentioned anxiety, and depression as the most common issues, however, they noted PTSD, schizophrenia, and other mental health illnesses are still prevalent. • Some participants shared their lived and observed experiences are often coupled with an inability to access mental and behavioral health support outside of their personal network. This lack of access can lead to delayed care and in some cases, physical health consequences. One participant opened up about her experience with mental health, "if you're the leader of your home, you don't have the opportunity to not be strong. You're not allowed to say today I feel depressed, today I feel weak. You're literally dying on the inside". • Residents also mentioned this is affecting youth and seniors in the community. Several participants shared feeling dismissed when talking about emotional wellbeing, and emphasized a desire to encourage community leaders to increase care and address concerns in this space. Some participants then shared their desire to increase the number of support groups in the community. Respiratory Residents mentioned respiratory health issues such as allergies and asthma are prevalent in the community. This was particularly mentioned by families with young children, but many participants raised concerns about the environmental factors that might contribute to these conditions. One participant said, "we are breathing all the air from the sugar cane. That's harmful." Many residents noted dust, mold, agricultural activity, and poor air quality as the main reasons for this health concern.

Table 123: Barriers and Challenges to Care

Question #3: What are some of the challenges that this community faces in staying healthy?
Across all community conversation sessions, residents identified several challenges to a healthy community including limited access to care, weak provider- patient relationships, transportation challenges and other external factors. Local availability of primary and specialty care - One of the themes raised by residents was the need for maternal health services, including a birthing wing in the area. Participants shared concerns when accessing consistent care while pregnant, family planning, or seeking pediatric care after birth. This continuation of maternal and child care was mentioned to be necessary when building relationships with local medical professionals. - When scheduling appointments, residents mentioned the long wait times, forcing them to find other solutions or providers outside their area. - Other participants mentioned long wait time once they had reached the clinic or providers' offices that forced them to miss a work day or impacted other responsibilities. One participant shared, "They tell you to come to the dentist if you don't have an appointment and it's an emergency, be here by 8 o'clock. But you're here by 8 o'clock and sometimes the dentist won't show up until 10 o'clock. Some of these people have to schedule a ride on a train. I schedule a ride, I got there, and I still can't be seen." Patient-Provider Relationships - In some sessions, participants emphasized the need for continuity of care after appointments. They expressed a desire to establish and maintain relationships with doctors and nurses. One participant shared "During the discharge process at LMC, there is an opportunity to increase communication and establish connections before people leave the hospital." Stronger connections with providers can allow patients to share more comfortably during their appointments and ensure they receive appropriate follow-up care afterwards. - Some residents mentioned accessing care within their own community would allow them to build a strong relationship and trust providers. Some mentioned they often prefer going to the emergency room instead of finding primary care and specialist providers since it is closer. Residents mentioned their desire for a centralized location for all their healthcare needs. - Residents emphasized that trust and consistency with providers are essential for managing their health effectively and feeling supported by the healthcare system. Transportation - Transportation was identified as a barrier to care, especially when accessing care outside of the community. One participant noted, "you are already paying for the doctor, then gas and other expenses." Many residents mentioned transportation cost, and long travel times as barriers to care - Residents reported a lack of essential services, particularly in dental, maternal, pediatric, and geriatric care. One participant asked, "I live in the Glades, why do I have to travel an hour and a half to go to the dentist?" Residents shared they regularly travel to areas like West Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Jupiter, among

others to access specialists. This makes it harder for patients to maintain their appointments, build a relationship with their provider, and balance other responsibilities such as child-care or work.

- Residents also mentioned the long travel times caused them to miss medical appointments. In sessions held in Spanish, one participant shared, “The main issue is transportation. There is a service that takes you to the clinic but it takes a long time and when you’re in the bus they drop everyone else off first. It takes hours to get to Belle Glade. And you’re just going for a ride (El transporte es un problema. Hay un servicio de transporte que te lleva a la clínica, pero toma mucho tiempo y dejan a todos los demás primero. Les toma horas llegar a Belle Glade. Y te traen paseando).”

External Factors

- Residents identified external factors that influence their health and ability to access resources in their community. The most prevalent factor cited was the rising costs of healthcare, housing, and transportation. Financial strain and budgeting concerns make it harder for residents to prioritize preventative care.
- When discussing housing, some residents mentioned the state of rental units and the impact that has on their health. One participant said, “Like rent skyrocketed. And a lot of the times it doesn’t reflect what it looks like and what is actually getting charged, so that’s not looking healthy to me.” Others shared similar sentiments, noting mold and poor living conditions have impacted their health.
- Cost of healthcare was present across all sections, and residents mentioned health insurance and coverage as a key aspect. One participant shared, “people are not taking advantage [of the resources provided through insurance] because they are not aware of them.” Others mentioned that although they have insurance, they find it difficult to understand the benefits, and find doctors and pharmacists that accepted their plan
- Residents expressed the need for increased opportunities for physical activity, particularly in free and safe spaces with exercise equipment, and with groups that motivate members to maintain a daily routine. Residents also emphasized the need for parks, outdoor shaded areas, and community spaces, noting that these would be a valuable resource to encourage regular physical activity and community engagement.

Table 124: Suggested Supports

Question #4: What types of support do you believe residents need to overcome these barriers?
Economic and Social Support Participants highlighted the economic and social support they would like to see in their community to reduce the previously mentioned barriers and challenges residents face. • “Most important is having a job,” said one participant. Residents mentioned the main support they would like to receive is access to stable employment opportunities. Many mentioned that an increased salary and the health benefits associated with a stable job, such as reduced stress, and access to health insurance, would allow them to prioritize other aspects of their health. • Similarly, residents mentioned that educational opportunities would allow them to access employment and build long-term stability overall. • Participants also noted affordable and quality housing as a key factor in supporting health. Residents shared that the burden hinders their ability to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Health Literacy and Navigation Support When reflecting on the opportunities for support mentioned above, residents noted there are available resources in the community, but they often are not aware or do not know how to effectively navigate these resources. • Residents shared suggestions that would allow them to better understand the available resources. Residents highlighted the need for navigation support. One of the residents suggested a centralized resource to access this information, stating “we need an information center to get people what they need.” • Residents primarily needed assistance increasing awareness of available services, understanding how the healthcare system works, navigating insurance coverage and benefits, and identifying local providers. • Other participants mentioned that having someone help them navigate the healthcare system would allow them to build trust in the process and increase their usage of healthcare resources. • Some participants mentioned the importance of having health materials in languages other than English. This would allow them to understand the process independently and, provides a sense of agency. • Participants also mentioned increased health advocacy and outreach among community organizations, and access to community navigators and representatives would serve as a great way for residents to better understand the intersection of health and other aspects of their wellbeing.

Table 125: Preventative Care

Question #5: Where do you get your preventive care?
Where residents access care • Participants shared the different locations where they access preventative health care based on availability, convenience, and cost. • Residents reported using the emergency room as their primary source of care, noting it was often their only way to access care locally before being referred to specialists in nearby counties. • In other sessions, residents shared that they regularly rely on primary doctors and specialists outside the area. Residents reiterated that transportation and time constraints are barriers when care is not available locally. • Some residents mentioned they were able to find and connect with local providers when referred through clinics in the area, or by walking into nearby clinics. Overall, residents showed a strong preference for care that is both local and familiar, highlighting the role of trust and accessibility in healthcare choices.

Table 126: Methods for Finding Care

Question #6: How do you find this care/these doctors?
Methods to find care After describing where residents access preventative care, they shared their experiences finding providers in the area. • Residents noted they primarily find healthcare by word-of-mouth. They noted the Glades area is a small tight-knit community that often relies on the experiences of their friends and neighbors to access resources. Spanish and Haitian Creole speaking residents mentioned this is particularly important when finding a provider who speaks their preferred language. Personal referrals are a way for residents to build trust in providers. • Residents mentioned relying on referrals through their insurance providers, often using their directory to find family doctors or primary care providers. • Residents frequently consulted Google or social media platforms to find providers in their area, especially residents looking for providers who speak a certain language. These findings can support outreach efforts in the future, and ensure all Lakeside Medical Center communications are clear and reach trusted social and personal networks in the community.

Table 127: Service Gaps

Question #7: What are some health services you need that are not currently available to you or your community?
Current gaps Residents provided valuable insight into the current gaps present in the Lakeside Medical Center service area. Resident experiences reiterated some of the previously mentioned themes, but provide an opportunity for improving access, outreach, and services. • Transportation: Residents reiterated the need for reliable transportation in the area and to-and-from Lakeside Medical Center. They noted the resource is available and provides a relief for many, but there are opportunities to improve and continue serving the community. • Access to providers: Access to providers remains a key gap in the area. Maternal, dental, and vision care were the needs most often referenced by participants. Residents highlighted the need for local primary providers and specialists who understand the community. Lakeside Medical Center plays an important role, and residents have a desire to build a stronger connection with the organization as a whole. • Language/Access to translators: Effective communication is a key aspect of quality healthcare. Residents who primarily speak Spanish and Haitian Creole shared their positive experiences they have with translators in the area, but emphasized the importance of having providers who speak their preferred language. One participant shared, “Many doctors don’t speak Spanish so I ask them who does and then see those. The translators don’t really understand so the doctor needs to speak Spanish” (Muchos médicos no hablan español entonces les pregunto a los que sí y con esos voy. Los traductores como que no saben bien entonces el medico es el que tiene que hablar español). • Geriatric Care: Residents mentioned geriatric care should be prioritized in the community. They highlighted the need for providers, but also mentioned the need for programs and activities that support aging in place and allow senior residents to maintain a sense of belonging in the community. • Health Literacy: Residents shared that health education resources such as support groups and education sessions would allow them to increase their understanding in health-related topics while building a sense of community and finding support with one another. Overall, residents shared a need for increased health services, and a need to understand the resources already available to the community.

Table 128: Resident Ideas for Community Health Improvement

Question #8: What other ideas do you have to help improve the health of the community?
Ideas for improvement Residents provided a variety of thoughtful ideas and suggestions to enhance the overall health of the community. These suggestions were based on previously discussed challenges, and existing support and resources in the community. - Residents restated that health education should be prioritized through support groups, family classes, and workshops with medical professionals. Residents also mentioned some of the classes available should include education on health insurance and understanding their available benefits. - Several residents noted the opportunity to create community by providing a space for people, particularly senior residents, to connect, host activities, and interact. One resident mentioned, “it is more than just their health. They need a place where people care where they can also like paint their nails, and more. Like do self-care.” Residents noted that that sense of community is what makes the area strong, so they want more opportunities to continue growing. - Residents noted Lakeside Medical Center is in a position where they are able to partner with community organizations and enhance outreach efforts to improve the wellbeing of all residents in the area. They mentioned increased engagement from medical providers would help build trust and strengthen relationships across the community. These recommendations reflect a holistic approach to health improvement, addressing both medical care and support that continues to grow a healthier, more resilient community.

Key Informant Interviews

Methodology

In addition to community conversations, HCSEF conducted eight interviews with key community stakeholders and members. These interviews focused on understanding the available resources across different sectors and the challenges that residents face, as well as the suggestions leaders have on how to improve Lakeside Medical Center services. Informants were selected based on their knowledge, understanding, and involvement in various sectors throughout the local public health system.

HCSEF developed an interview script and questions for the sessions. Each session was scheduled and conducted by a trained facilitator. Prior to the beginning of the interview, informants were provided with an overview of the Community Health Needs Assessment process, including details about the role that the interviews would play in the overall process. All key informants were assured the confidentiality of all comments, names, and other identifying information during the reporting. During the session, each informant was asked to share their insight and knowledge from the perspective of their role, their organization, and the population they serve. Each interview lasted approximately 30 to 45 minutes and was conducted via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. The following section outlines the key themes that emerged after analysis of all sessions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: With the exception of specific instances, the information in this section (i.e. issues, barriers, opportunities, and suggestions) were not specific to Lakeside Medical Center, but rather represented general sentiments around the systems of health care.

Table 129: Vision of a Healthy Community

Vision of a Healthy Community	
To begin the interviews, informants were asked, “what does your ideal ‘healthy community’ look like?” Informants were encouraged to think of the Lakeside Medical Center CHNA Service Area, specially. Understanding the perception that community leaders have of an ideal healthy community can inform future objectives and goals as the collective local public health system looks to improve health throughout the community.	
Question	Key Themes
What does your ideal “healthy community” look like?	When describing their ideal healthy community with the service area in mind, themes related to meeting basic needs and local healthcare accessibility were noted across sessions. Basic needs Key informants described their vision of an ideal “healthy community,” sharing that it is one where residents’ foundational needs are consistently met and allow residents to not only survive, but to truly thrive. Key informants highlighted the following elements of their vision: • Gainful employment opportunities that provide stable income • Safe neighborhoods • Quality, affordable, and available housing within the community • As one informant stated, “I think it looks like a place where people have a safe place to live. They have employment that pays a livable wage so that they can afford to have safe reasonably comfortable homes.” Local healthcare accessibility Informants highlighted accessibility to local healthcare services as a pillar of a healthy community. As one informant stated, a healthy community is one where “individuals living [in the service area] have equal opportunity and access to quality healthcare services – from preventative services to specialized services to emergency services.” Throughout the sessions, informants highlighted services such as primary care, specialty care, behavioral health, and preventative care in these conversations. Notably, informants shared that accessibility would play a key role in addressing barriers such as transportation challenges associated with out-of-town care or transfers and other elements that impact adherence to care and health access.

Table 130: Current Resources and Strengths

Current Resources and Strengths	
Next, informants were asked “what resources or assets (strengths) in the community do you believe contribute to a healthy community now?” and, when appropriate, informants were asked to share additional insights by answering, “how can these strengths you mentioned be used to further reach and improve the health of residents in the community?” These questions provided an opportunity for informants to reflect on current resources and strengths that can be leveraged in the community to continue enhancing health outcomes. Community strengths provide a strong foundation for future health initiatives, and expanding on services residents and providers already trust can lead to more effective and sustainable programs.²⁰	
Question	Key Themes
What resources or assets in the community do you believe contribute to a healthy community now? How can these strengths you mentioned be used to further reach and improve the health of residents in the community?	When speaking about the current strengths within the service area, key informants noted the strong sense of community and dedicated community partners. Sense of community When asked and assets in the community, informants highlighted the tight-knit and caring community. On key informant stated “The communities themselves are one of the strengths.” The connection between neighbors, families, and organizations provides a network of support. One informant shared an example of how supportive residents are. They said, “so for example, our homeless count is always low partly either because they can't find our homeless people or because they're doubling up with other people. So [...] we do have a sense of community.” Community partners Informants shared that the organizations within the service area dedicated to the community and work to bridge the gaps that residents face. Informants noted that in the service area, community organizations, educational organizations, healthcare providers, local leaders, and faith-based organizations have meetings and events to collaborate in reaching residents. Notably, informants highlighted groups such as the Faith-Based Health Educators group, local churches who conduct health events, and other partnerships that increase communication and collaboration in the area currently. Informants shared that these partnerships strengthen the health system by ensuring resources and services are more accessible and coordinated. To exemplify this, one informant said, “I think that's something that's done right. That the community advocates and community stakeholders have actually come to some of us and say we want this or we see a need for that. And that we've been able to try to fill in those gaps with the little resources that we have to do that. I really think that's something that's been done right. There are people who care, have actually stepped forward and try their best to help.”

²⁰ Caiels, J., Milne, A. and Beadle-Brown, J. (2021) 'Strengths-Based Approaches in Social Work and Social Care: Reviewing the Evidence', *Journal of Long Term Care*, 0(2021), p. 401–422. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.31389/jltc.102>.

	Informants mentioned that the support community partners provide and their engagement with residents have built a sense of trust. This allows residents to seek the necessary services, and allows leaders to connect residents to resources. Additionally, informants noted there is an opportunity to further leverage these relationships in the healthcare space to ensure that providers build these types of relationships with patients, as well. One informant shared the impact the connection among residents and providers has, stating “I think the hospital is an asset... It's a community hospital with people who work there that also live in this small community. So, I feel like there should be some sort of... small-town feel to it, where people feel comfortable going there.”
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Table 131: Key Health Issues

Key Health Issues	
Informants were then asked, “what are the key health issues, conditions, and/or diseases the community or those you serve experience in the area?” While quantitative data can show disease trends, this qualitative feedback offered an opportunity for informants to share key insights on health issues that are “bubbling up” within the community, and, in some instances, reflect on potential influencing factors or solutions.	
Question	Key Themes
What are the key health issues, conditions, and/or diseases the community or those you serve experience in the area?	Key informants highlighted key health issues and conditions within the service area, noting that chronic disease, reproductive health, behavioral health, and other conditions stand out within the community. Chronic diseases • Key informants identified chronic diseases as a major health concern in the service area. Many reported metabolic syndrome, diabetes, hypertension, and high cholesterol as current concerns. • Kidney disease was also noted, and informants highlighted needs for additional dialysis resources locally. • Informants also noted cancer as an emerging concern among the community. Notably, these informants shared that awareness and early detection were needs within the service area. Reproductive health • Informants highlighted limitations around maternal health care in the area, noting access issues related to prenatal, postnatal, and obstetric care. • Additionally, sexually transmitted infections were identified as an ongoing health issue. Informants noted that access to regular testing was crucial to the community. Behavioral health • Mental and behavioral health was a recurrent theme throughout interviews. Informants described a need for increased mental health services in the area, as well as support for substance use. Additional issues • Informants also noted environmental factors, such as heat exposure and working conditions, as a concern for health outcomes. • Some informants shared concerns related to respiratory issues such as COPD and asthma. • When speaking about health concerns, informants also noted that there is a general reliance on the emergency department as a primary source of care in the community because of the limited availability of providers or delayed care.

	• Informants also spoke about the limited healthy food sources and costly options in the community, highlighting the tie between healthy lifestyles and health outcomes. • These concerns highlight the importance of an environmental and holistic approach to health that considers external factors.
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Table 132: Current Barriers and Gaps

Current Barriers and Gaps	
Informants were asked to reflect not only on the key health issues the community faces, but also the current barriers and gaps to access care by answering, “What are the barriers, or gaps, that exist in the Glades that make it hard for residents to be healthy, or improve their health, now?” The insights provided by community leaders offer a path forward, highlighting areas where focused attention, partnership, and innovation can make a meaningful difference.	
Question	Key Themes
What are the barriers, or gaps, that exist in the area that make it hard for residents to be healthy, or improve their health, now?	Informants noted key barriers or gaps that make it hard for residents to be healthy in the service area. The key themes that emerged include local access, health literacy and education, and the impact of other factors that influence health on overall health outcomes. Access Key informants noted that access to basic needs served as a barrier to maintaining and improving health in the community. As one key informant stated, “[we need to] start at the basics.” Informants noted limited local access to: • Healthy, affordable food in the community. As one informant noted, “Start at the basics. We know that healthy eating is a lot of times at the root of it. We only have one major grocery store in the area. So, having access to affordable healthy foods is important.” • Specialty and primary care providers, including those who speak languages other than English, within the service area • Prescriptions and pharmacies, especially those that are accepted with health insurance coverage • Health insurance education and enrollment assistance. One informant said, “[residents] have to pay everything until they hit share of costs and then it’s all paid for. So, including what they spent. So yeah, it forces them to need to have more service so that any service they get is covered.” Health literacy and education Key informants also noted that limited health literacy and limited understanding of conditions and available services posed a barrier to maintaining and improving health in the community. When speaking about this, key informants noted: • Communication with medical and service providers in one’s primary language was a current barrier. As one informant noted, there is a need to “Communicate in a language that [residents] understand.” Informants shared that medical jargon and complex systems may cause residents to disengage with the system. • There is an opportunity to provide health literacy education so residents can understand their health conditions, consequences, and preventative or maintenance measures.

	• The unique and timely opportunity to connect patients with wraparound services prior to discharge. Informants highlighted that residents often face barriers when navigating care after discharge, and connections to care, resources, and education prior to discharge can help residents get the information and supplies that they need before they go home. • Continued education around when an emergency room should be utilized, and the importance of accessing preventative and primary care to address health issues before they are exacerbated to an emergency level. Factors that influence health Informants shared that there are factors, such as housing, transportation, and employment, that impact the health of the residents within the service area. Across sessions, informants noted the following: • The impact of local housing conditions on health outcomes. • The role that transportation plays in health outcomes, especially when residents need services that are not within the local community. Informants shared experiences of residents needing to seek care outside of the community, and the challenges they faced in traveling to providers or other hospitals that were an hour or farther away • The impact of employment on individuals' access to healthcare and opportunity to improve health, highlighting barriers related to agricultural work, low wages, and limited local opportunity.
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Table 133: Opportunities in the Community

Opportunities for Lakeside Medical Center's Role in the Community	
After sharing ideas around local strengths, barriers, and key health issues, informants were asked to reflect on Lakeside Medical Center's role within the community and the local public health system. Informants were asked, "what are some other opportunities for Lakeside Medical Center to play a key role in improving the health of the community?" and were probed to provide examples, as appropriate. Then, informants were asked about their existing partnerships with Lakeside Medical Center, as well as ideas focused on opportunities for partnership with the hospital. These questions served to explore how the hospital can continue to evolve as both a healthcare provider and a trusted community partner.	
Question	Key Themes
What are some other opportunities for Lakeside Medical Center to play a key role in improving the health of the community?	Key informants were given an opportunity to share ideas related to Lakeside Medical Center's opportunity to play a key role in improving the health of the community. Across sessions, themes related to community involvement, collaboration with partners, and connections with patients emerged. Community involvement Across the sessions, informants noted that Lakeside Medical Center has an opportunity to establish trust and build connections with the community through engagement opportunities, both inside and outside of the hospital. • Informants noted that a community-based care model may serve to help reach residents who are not currently in care. • Informants also suggested hosting events on-site at the hospital to help residents gain a deeper understanding of the available services and offerings. Informants highlighted that events such as previous Diabetes events at the hospital can help residents engage with the medical system prior to an emergency. • Similarly, informants noted an opportunity to leverage prevention and education opportunities at the hospital to increase health outcomes overall. • Lastly, informants across sessions highlighted an opportunity for Lakeside Medical Center to leverage their unique traits as a teaching hospital to reach residents, provide education, and enhance health outcomes in the community. As one informant stated, "With them being a teaching hospital, I think it's such a great way for medical students to get into the community and really learn about the community that they're learning within, and have an opportunity for some of the residents to be able to go into the community and do education." Collaboration with partners In order to engage with the community, informants mentioned the importance of building connections with community-based organizations in the area. Informants noted current partnerships, as well as opportunities for new or expanded partnerships, as a mechanism to reach and engage with additional community members.

	• Across multiple sessions, informants noted an opportunity for local community-based organizations and Lakeside Medical Center to collaborate on events in the community, such as food distributions, health fairs, and more. Informants noted the opportunity for Lakeside Medical Center to increase engagement with residents and meet them where they are at, to provide health education, screenings to increase awareness of medical issues, and information related to available services. Importantly, informants spoke to previous successful outreach efforts by the hospital and highlighted the positive impact of these, sharing that collaboration on events has been beneficial for the community. • In addition to collaboration outside of the hospital, key informants noted that there is an opportunity to collaborate within the hospital, including while a patient is engaged in care, prior to discharge, and after discharge. Key informants noted the opportunity to connect patients with services and community-based organizations prior to discharge, highlighting the unique opportunity to connect those patients with services before they are released from the hospital to maintain a continuum of care. Ultimately, informant highlighted the necessary connections between the hospital, clinics, providers, and social service and community-based organizations, noting that a connected and collaborative system can enhance the continuum of care for residents. • Notably, key informants expressed excitement to foster and grow partnerships with Lakeside Medical Center, recognizing the key role that community-based organizations, leaders, and healthcare systems such as the hospital play in improving overall community wellbeing. Connection with patients Informants highlighted the importance of building trust and connections with patients. • Informants mentioned the key to building a relationship is promoting patient-centered care to increase awareness of available services. One informant mentioned, “hopefully the community can get more comfortable and be more aware of what is available there and that’ll help them.” • Several informants discussed the opportunity of continuation of care post-discharge either through follow-ups or connections with other organizations prior to discharge. For example, informants shared that connections to maternal and child health programs, substance use programs, home health services, and more would provide an opportunity to connect residents in need before they are sent home, where they may face additional barriers to identifying and obtaining necessary care and resources. • Informants also mentioned health education is a way to build connection through health literacy and understanding. Suggestions were provided to expand health education efforts to reach community members through health fairs, senior centers, community services, and hospital waiting rooms. • Informants also shared the opportunity to connect patients to local organizations for employment, education, and housing where possible while taking a holistic
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	approach to care. Providers can share relevant education, resources, and support for caregivers. • Informants noted by speaking patients' preferred language can also promote relationships and connection.
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Table 134: Additional Thoughts and Suggestions

Additional Thoughts and Suggestions	
Throughout the sessions, informants provided thoughtful insights and suggestions to improve health throughout Lakeside Medical Center's service area. To conclude the sessions, informants were asked to share any additional thoughts or ideas that had not yet been discussed. Informants were asked, "are there any other thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with Lakeside Medical Center that we haven't talked about?"	
Question	Key Themes
Are there any other thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with Lakeside Medical Center that we haven't talked about?	Before concluding the interview, key informants shared final thoughts. The following sentiments emerged as themes throughout the various sessions: • The importance of the relationship between the hospital, community partners, and residents, noting that a cohesive system is vital for a healthy rural and small community. • The importance of considering barriers – such as transportation – when addressing health. • Additional opportunities to serve residents with prenatal classes and maternal health support. • Consideration of home health services after discharge, such as physical therapy and occupational therapy, to ensure that patients have both the resources and knowledge to take care of themselves and be healthy after leaving the hospital. • The opportunity to connect residents with community-based organizations and services before they are discharged from the hospital. When speaking about this, key informants highlighted the unique opportunity to engage and connect residents with necessary care to be healthy and thrive.

Conclusion

The 2025 Lakeside Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) brings together community feedback and existing health data to provide a clearer picture of health across Lakeside Medical Center's primary and secondary service area. This assessment takes a critical look at various indicators of health and influencing factors, including insight into potential gaps and opportunities for improvement. The 2025 CHNA is part of a continuous process that leads to a focused Implementation Plan, which will guide Lakeside's community health efforts in the years ahead. By centering resident voices and sustaining the momentum of this work, Lakeside Medical Center is committed to partnering with local providers and community organizations to develop strategies that support the identified priorities and help improve health and wellbeing throughout the community.