

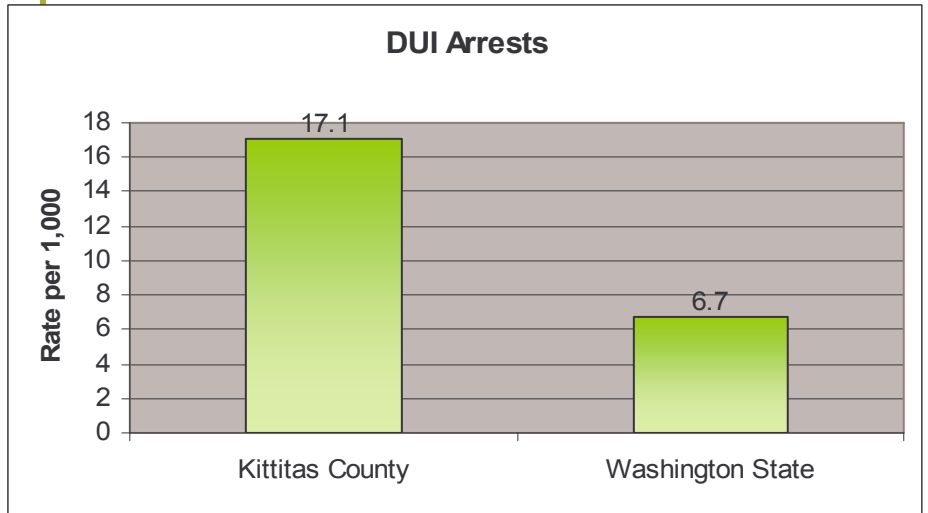
SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

DUI Arrests

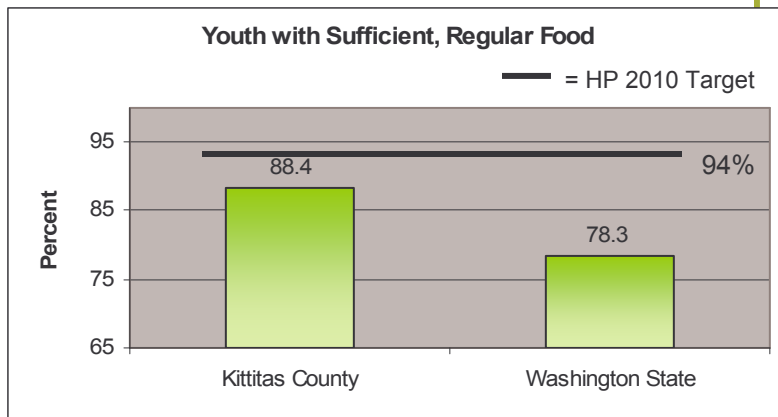
This is a measure of arrests for Driving Under the Influence, or DUI.

The DUI arrest rate is higher in Kittitas County (17.1 per 1,000)⁴² than Washington State (6.7 per 1,000).⁴² National data is not available for this indicator. There is no Healthy People 2010 target for this indicator.

It is not known if the DUI rate is higher in Kittitas County due to a higher incidence of drunk driving, or because the police force has made a targeted effort to curb drunk driving. Any change in this indicator must be carefully evaluated.



Youth with Sufficient, Regular Food: Not Met ☹



This is a measure of 10th grade students who report never skipping meals or eating less due to financial shortcomings.

More students in Kittitas County have sufficient, regular food (88.4%)⁴³ than students in Washington State (78.3%).⁴³ National data is not available for this indicator. Kittitas County has not met the Healthy People 2010 Target of 94% of students with sufficient, regular food.⁵⁹

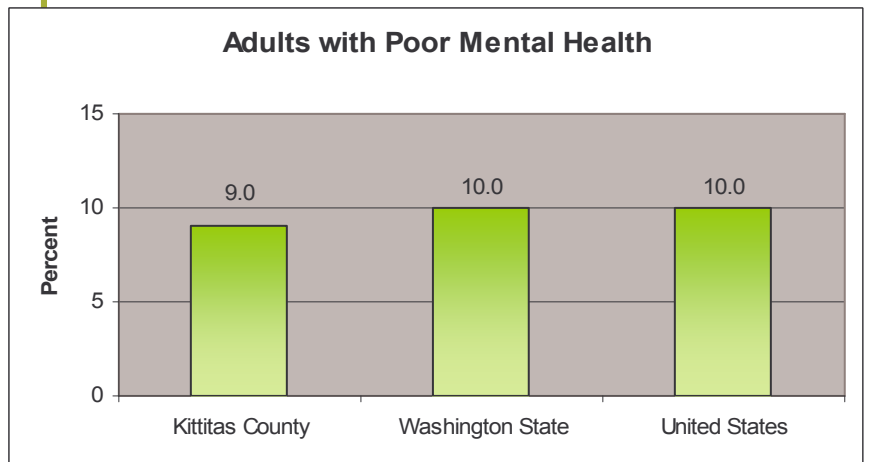
While food banks and other charities help address this issue, food access is still a worry for more than one in ten Kittitas County youth.

Adult Mental Health

This is a measure of adults ages 18 and older who report poor mental health for 14 or more days in the last month. Mental health includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions.

Fewer Kittitas County adults report poor mental health (9.0%)⁴⁴ than adults in Washington State (10.0%)⁴⁴ or the United States (10.0%).⁴⁴ There is no Healthy People 2010 target for this indicator.

Mental health is an indicator of quality of life.



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Social and mental health indicators are difficult to track and interpret because they are so complex and impacted by a variety of factors. For example, a changing rate of DUI arrests could be due to an increase or decrease in the number of drunk drivers, or it could be caused by an increase or decrease in police DUI patrols. These indicators are to be used as benchmarks to provide a snapshot of Kittitas County. Community organizations and individuals are welcome to investigate the cause and effect relationship behind the indicators, but for purposes of this report we will report only the rates and percentages associated with each indicator.

Adult Mental Health is a self-reported measure, which in some aspects makes it more accurate and in others less accurate. If an individual believes they have poor mental health, regardless of a professional's opinion, they will likely live their life with the handicap a mental illness can produce. Alternatively, some individuals may not know they have poor mental health, or may not identify the issue as such. As there is no way to avoid this problem when collecting mental health data, the reader must keep this caveat in mind.

Indicator		DUI Arrests	Youth with Sufficient, Regular Food	Adult Mental Health
Source		WA Courts	Healthy Youth Survey	BRFSS
		2006	2006	2004-2006
Total				
	Kittitas County	17.1 per 1,000	88.4%	9.0%
	Washington State	6.7 per 1,000	78.3%	10.0%
	United States	n/a	n/a	10.0%
	HP 2010 Target	n/a	94.0%	n/a
Sex				
	Male		84.8%	
	Female		92.1%	
Race				
	Caucasian		87.1%	
	Hispanic		n/a	
Location				
	Upper County		89.7%	
	Lower County		87.8%	

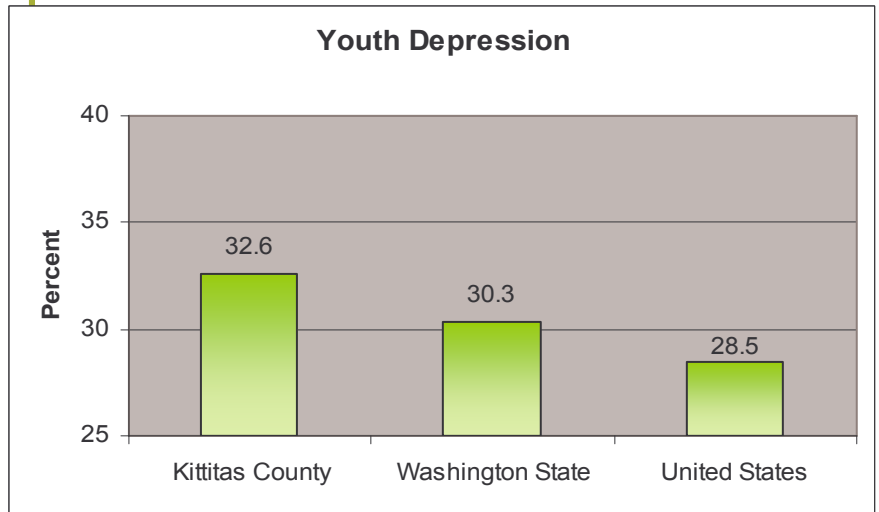


SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Youth Depression

This is a measure 10th grade students who report feeling so sad or hopeless every day for at least two weeks that they stopped doing some normal activities. This is called a depressive episode, which is used to measure youth depression.

There is a higher rate of youth depression in Kittitas County (32.6%)⁴⁵ than in Washington State (30.3%)⁴⁵ or the United States (28.5%).⁴⁵ There is not a Healthy People 2010 target for this measure.

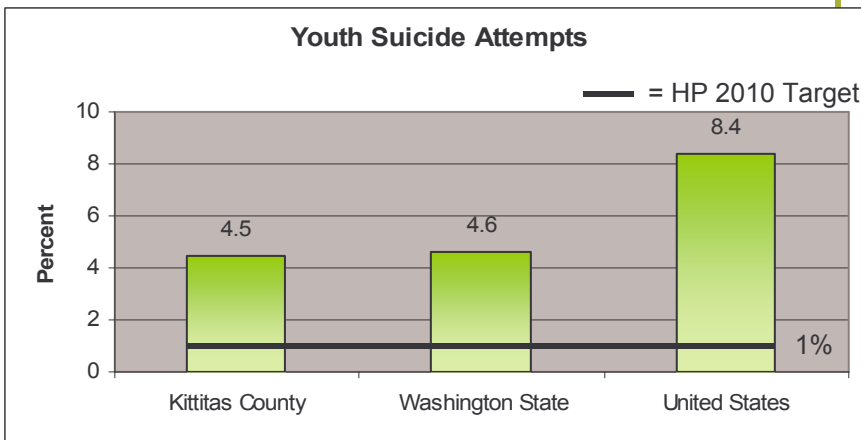


Youth Suicide Attempts: Not Met ☹️

This is a measure of 10th grade students who report attempting suicide in the last 12 months.

Fewer students in Kittitas County report attempting suicide (4.5%)⁴⁶ than in Washington State (4.6%)⁴⁶ or the United States (8.4%).⁴⁶ Kittitas County has not met the Healthy People 2010 target of 1% of 10th grader attempting suicide.⁵⁹

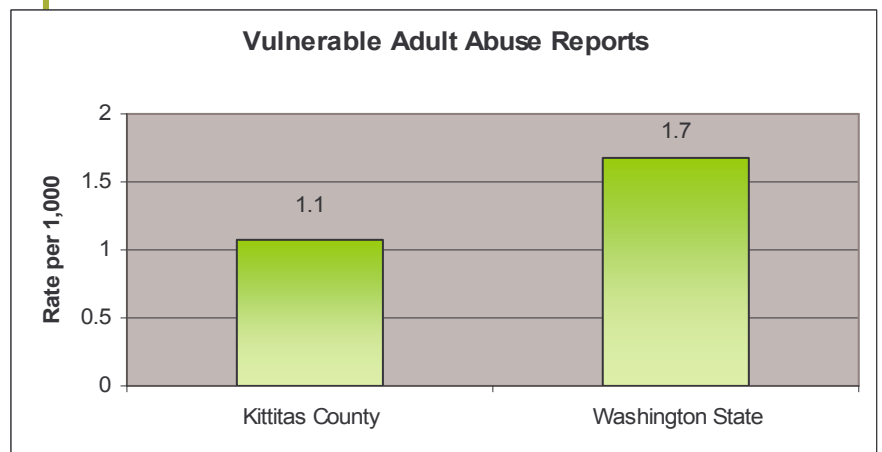
Generally youth depression and youth suicide attempts follow the same trends, as depression often appears as the precursor to attempted suicide.



Vulnerable Adult Abuse Referrals

This is a measure of abuse referrals accepted by the Department of Social and Human Services for vulnerable adults. Vulnerable adults include seniors and those with developmental or other disabilities. Abuse can be physical, emotional, financial, neglectful, or sexual.

Fewer vulnerable adult abuse referrals were accepted in Kittitas County (1.1 per 1,000 population)⁴⁷ than in Washington State (1.7 per 1,000 population).⁴⁷ There is no national data or Healthy People 2010 target for this indicator.



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Social and mental health indicators are difficult to track and interpret because they are so complex and impacted by a variety of factors. For example, a change in Vulnerable Adult Abuse Referrals Accepted could be caused by an increase or decrease in actual vulnerable adult abuse, or it could be impacted by an increased vigilance of mandated reporters and other concerned friends, family, or neighbors. Without further investigation it is difficult to determine the cause of a social and mental health trend.

Youth depression and suicide attempts are self reported measures on the Healthy Youth Survey. The questions asked specifically “During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?” and “During the past 12 months, did you actually attempt suicide?” One in three tenth graders reported a depressive episode and one in twenty reporting attempting suicide. Significantly more Hispanic students report a depressive episode than their non-Hispanic counterparts.

Indicator		Youth Depression	Youth Suicide Attempts	Vulnerable Adult Abuse Referrals Accepted
Source		Healthy Youth Survey	Healthy Youth Survey	DSHS
		2006	2006	2004
Total				
	Kittitas County	32.6%	4.5%	1.1 per 1,000
	Washington State	30.3%	4.6%	1.7 per 1,000
	United States	28.5%	8.4%	n/a
	HP 2010 Target	n/a	1.0%	n/a
Sex				
	Male	28.0%	1.4%	
	Female	36.0%	7.9%	
Race				
	Caucasian	32.5%	4.2%	
	Hispanic	33.3%	7.1%	
Location				
	Upper County	36.9%	10.0%	
	Lower County	30.6%	2.2%	



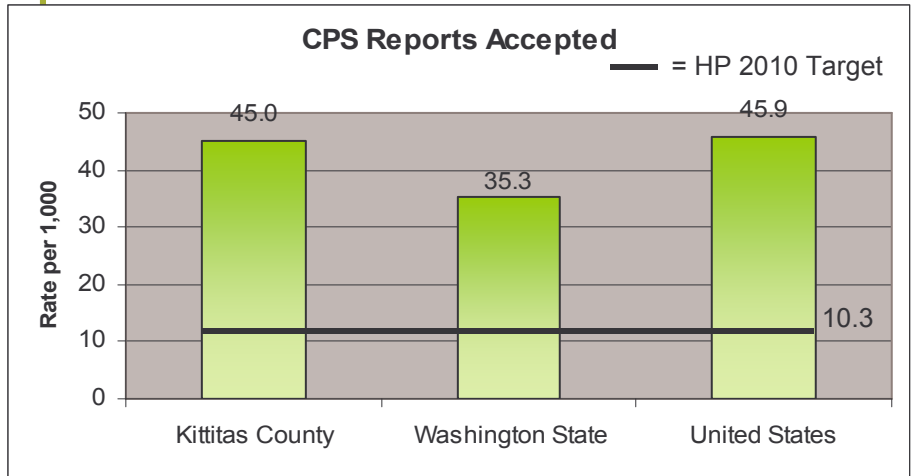
For more information, please contact the Kittitas County Public Health Department Assessment Coordinator at 509-962-7515 or communityassessment@co.kittitas.wa.us.

SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

CPS Reports Accepted: Not Met ☹️

This is a measure of reports accepted by Child Protection Services, and captures both child abuse and neglect, and the audacity of abuse reporters.

More CPS reports are accepted in Kittitas County (45.0 per 1,000 population)⁴⁸ than in Washington State (35.3 per 1,000 population),⁴⁸ but similar to the United States (45.9 per 1,000).⁴⁸ Kittitas County has not met the Healthy People 2010 target of 10.3 referrals per 1,000 population.⁵⁹

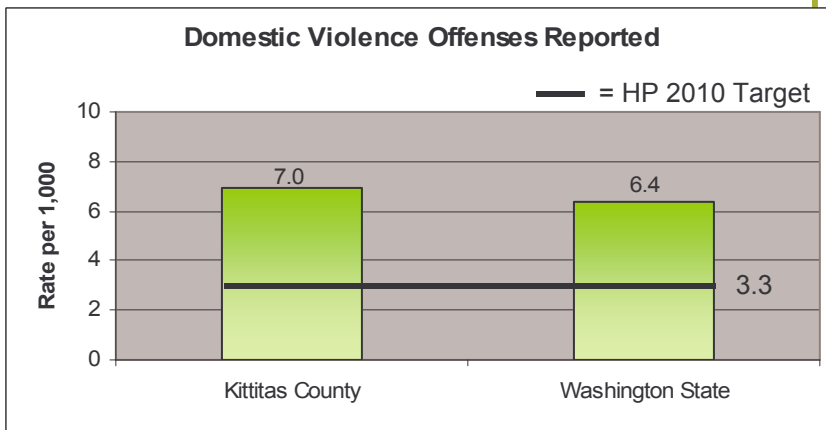


Domestic Violence Offenses: Not Met ☹️

This is a measure of domestic violence incidents for which the police were called.

The rate of domestic violence offenses in Kittitas County (7.0 per 1,000 population)⁴⁹ is slightly higher than the Washington State rate (6.4 per 1,000).⁴⁹ National data is not available for this indicator. Kittitas County has not met the Healthy People 2010 target of 3.3 incidents per 1,000 people.⁵⁹

Offenses are not inclusive of all domestic violence incidents, but at this time it is the best available measure. The Healthy People 2010 target measures incidents, not offenses.

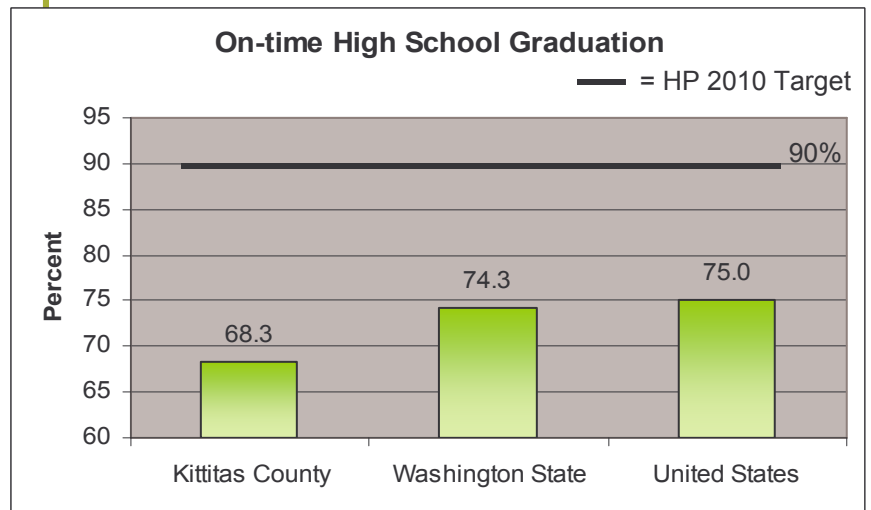


High School Graduation Rates: Not Met ☹️

This is a measure of youth who graduate from high school with a high school diploma in four years.

The high school graduation rate in Kittitas County (68.3%)⁵⁰ is lower than rate in Washington State (74.3%)⁵⁰ and the United States (75.0%).⁵⁰ Kittitas County has not met the Healthy People 2010 target of 90% high school graduation rate.⁵⁹

Adults with at least a high school diploma tend to be healthier, earn higher wages, and live longer than those without a high school diploma.



SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Social and mental health indicators are difficult to track and interpret because they are so complex and are impacted by a variety of factors. For example, a change in the rate of domestic violence offenses or CPS reports accepted could be due to an increase or decrease in the number of actual incidents of domestic violence or child abuse, or it could be the result of increased vigilance by mandated reporters and concerned friends, neighbors, family, and law enforcement. It is impossible know without further investigation; in this report, rates are reported without speculation.

Domestic violence and child abuse are difficult indicators to track accurately because only a fraction of incidents are reported. Often a domestic violence victim will only report an incident if they fear for their safety, or the safety of their children. Domestic violence can be physical, emotional, or mental, and can be perpetrated by and directed toward both men and women. Domestic violence most often occurs between intimate partners, but can also include other family members. High School graduation rates show a commitment by the community to provide adequate educational opportunities for youth to prepare them for the working world.

Indicator		CPS Reports Accepted	Domestic Violence Offenses	High School Graduation
Source		DSHS	WASPC	OSPI
		2005	2005	2005
Total				
	Kittitas County	45.0 per 1,000	7.0 per 1000	68.3%
	Washington State	35.3 per 1,000	6.4 per 1000	74.3%
	United States	45.9 per 1,000	n/a	75.0%
	HP 2010 Target	10.3 per 1,000	3.3 per 1000	90.0%

