

Understanding Lake County's Human Service Needs

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Rob Paral
rob@robparal.com

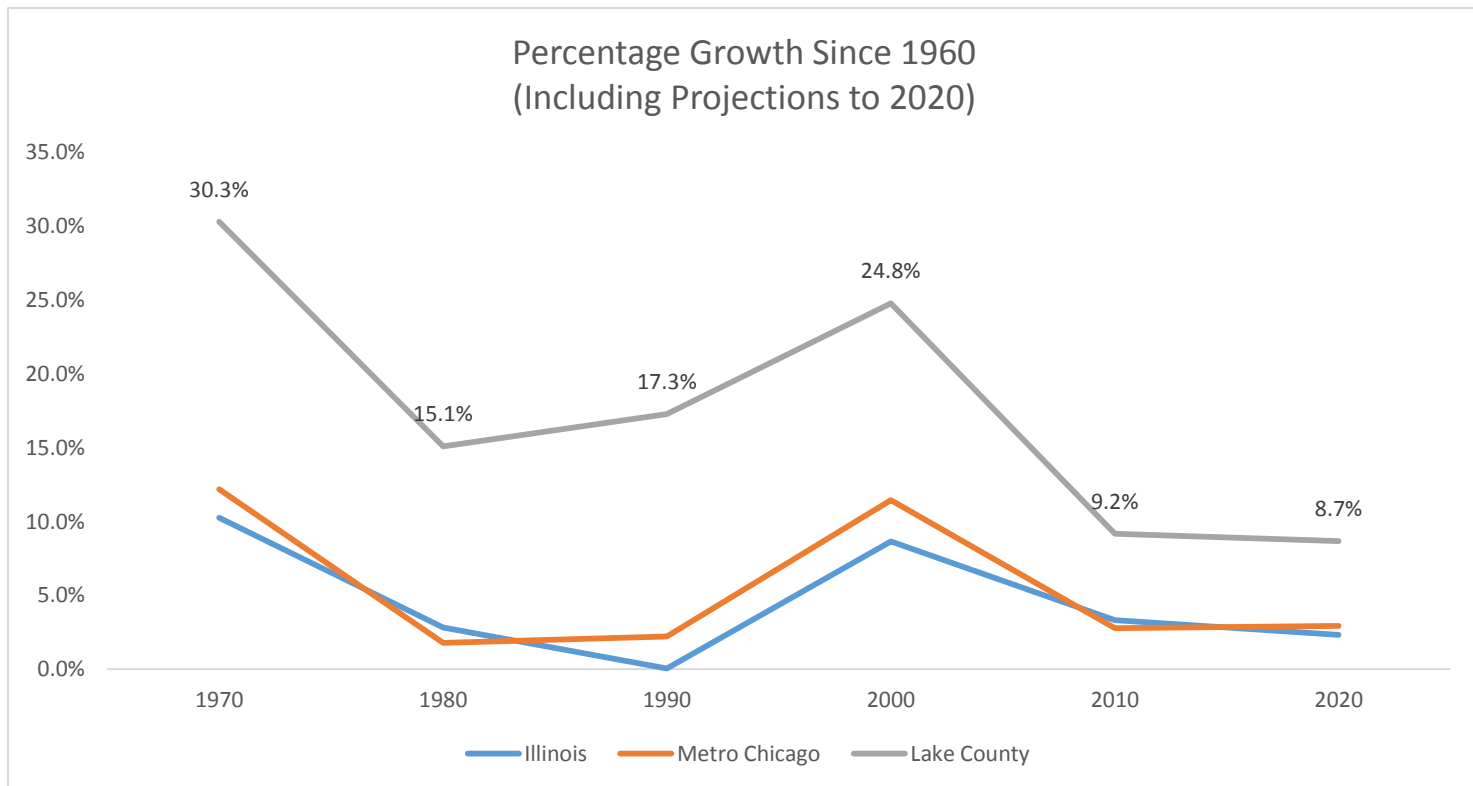
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Lake County: One of Illinois' Most Dynamic Counties

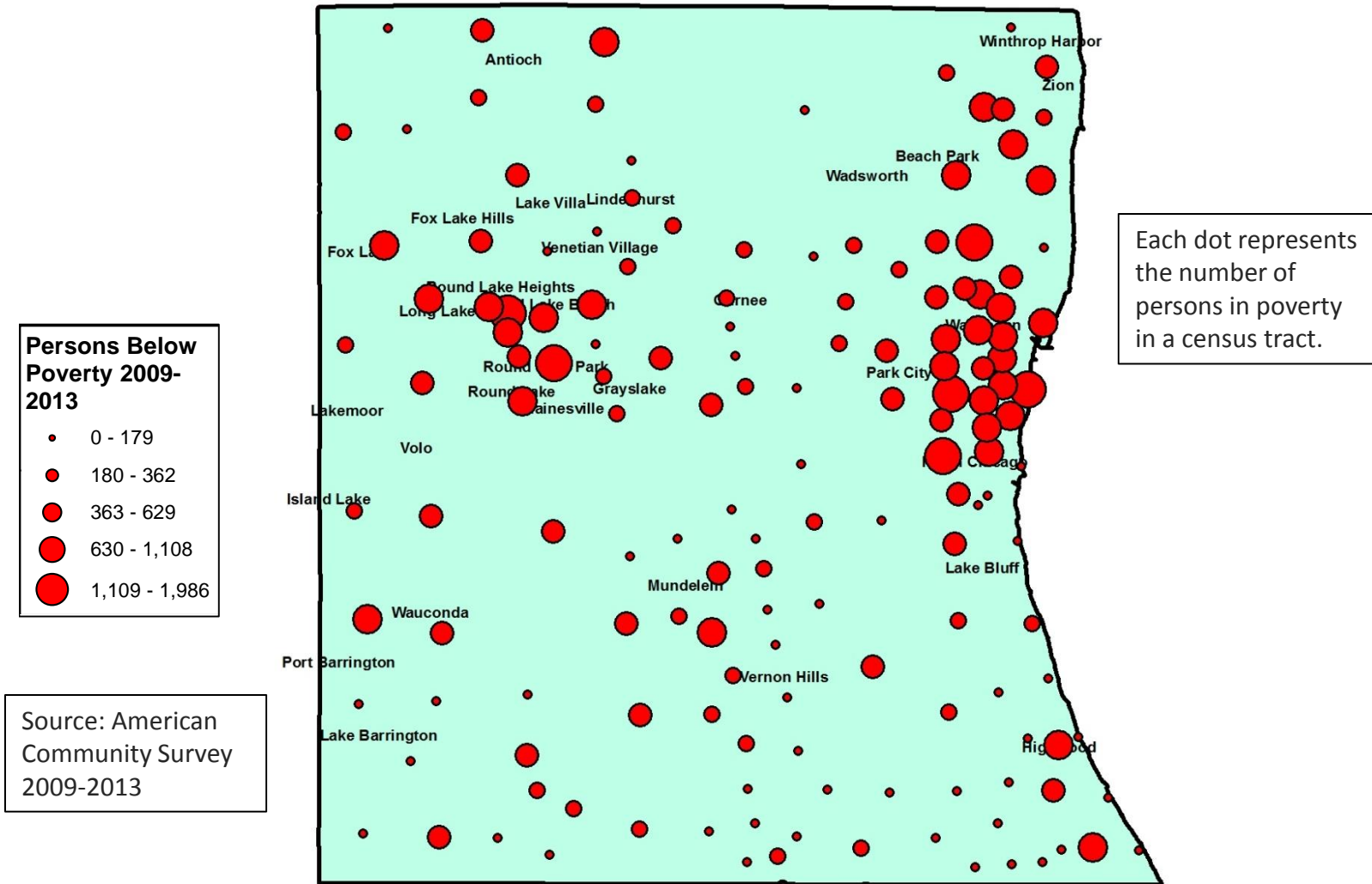
Lake is the third largest county in Illinois, with an estimated 732,633 residents as of 2015.¹ The county has been growing faster than the statewide average and faster than metro Chicago for many decades, but its double-digit growth rates of the 70s, 80s and 90s – the county grew by 25 percent in the 90s – have fallen off markedly and are projected to remain modest into the near future.²



¹Data in this report are mainly from the U.S. Census Bureau unless otherwise noted.

²The source of the population projections in the above graph is the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Human Need is Concentrated, but Widespread



Diversity is Happening and Rapidly

	2000	2009-2013	Number Change	Percent Change
Total	644,356	702,099	57,743	9%
Asian, not Latino	24,866	44,268	19,402	78%
Black, not Latino	43,580	46,043	2,463	6%
Latino	92,716	141,538	48,822	53%
White, not Latino	472,968	454,790	-18,178	-4%
Other, not Latino	10,226	15,460	5,234	51%

Diversity Has Implications for Human Service Need

The diverse populations have different needs for human services. Latinos, for example, have a relatively high poverty rate. While they are only 20 percent of the county, they are 33 percent of persons in poverty. In other words, Latinos are overrepresented among the poor. Note, however, that the White population still represents the largest portion of persons in poverty.³

Some Groups are Overrepresented Among the Economically Needy in Lake County

	Percent of Total Population	Percent of Poverty Population
Asian, not Latino	6%	3%
Black, not Latino	7%	17%
Latino	20%	33%
White, not Latino	65%	35%
Other, not Latino	2%	11%

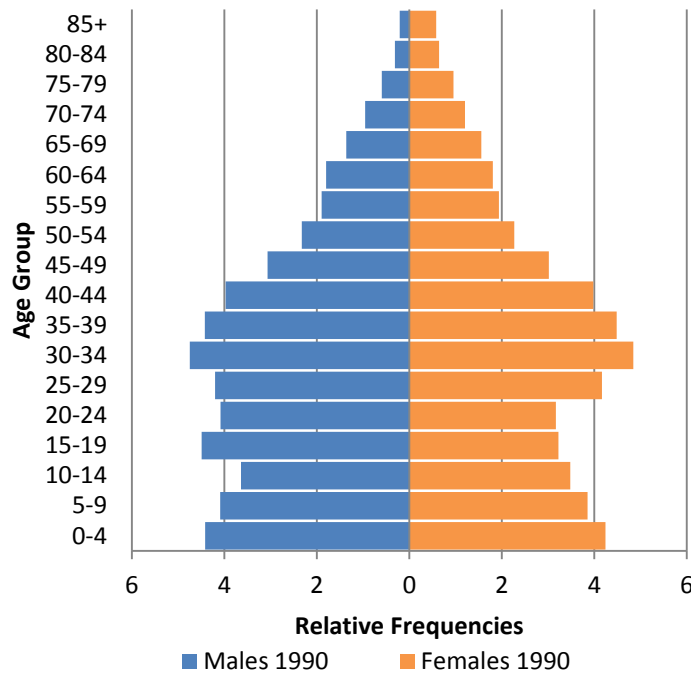
Data are for 2009-2013

³ The level of income that places a household above or below the poverty level is adjusted annually by the federal government, and depends on the size of a person's household. In 2015, a household of four with less than \$24,250 in income is deemed to be below the poverty level.

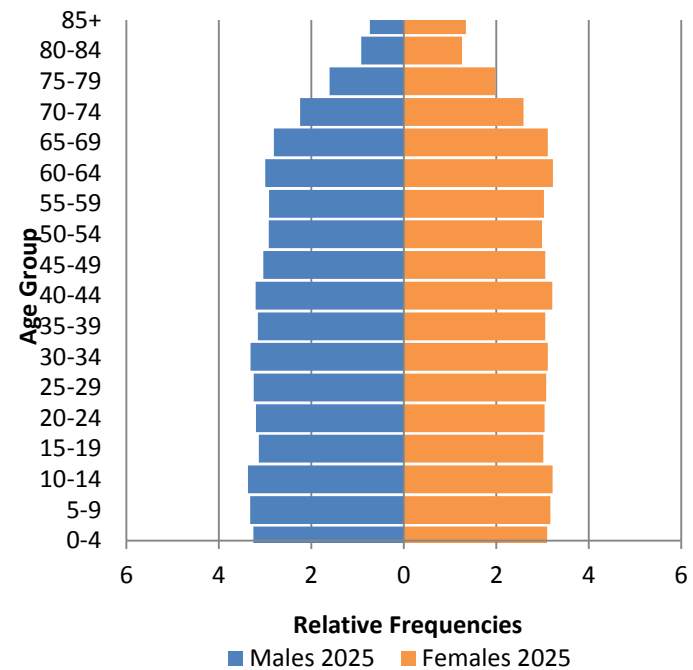
Powerful Aging Trends are Reshaping the County

Comparable to the nation in general and particularly the Midwest, Lake County's population is aging. In 1990 the county's median age was 31.5 years but by 2025 it will be 38.9 years. Much of this is due to the aging of Baby Boomers who began entering retirement years in 2005. Seniors (persons aged 65 years or more) were eight percent of the county's residents in 1990, but by 2025 they will be 18 percent of all residents. The age pyramids below show that while the population over 50 is increasing, the population below 40 is decreasing.⁴

Age Pyramid for Lake County: 1990

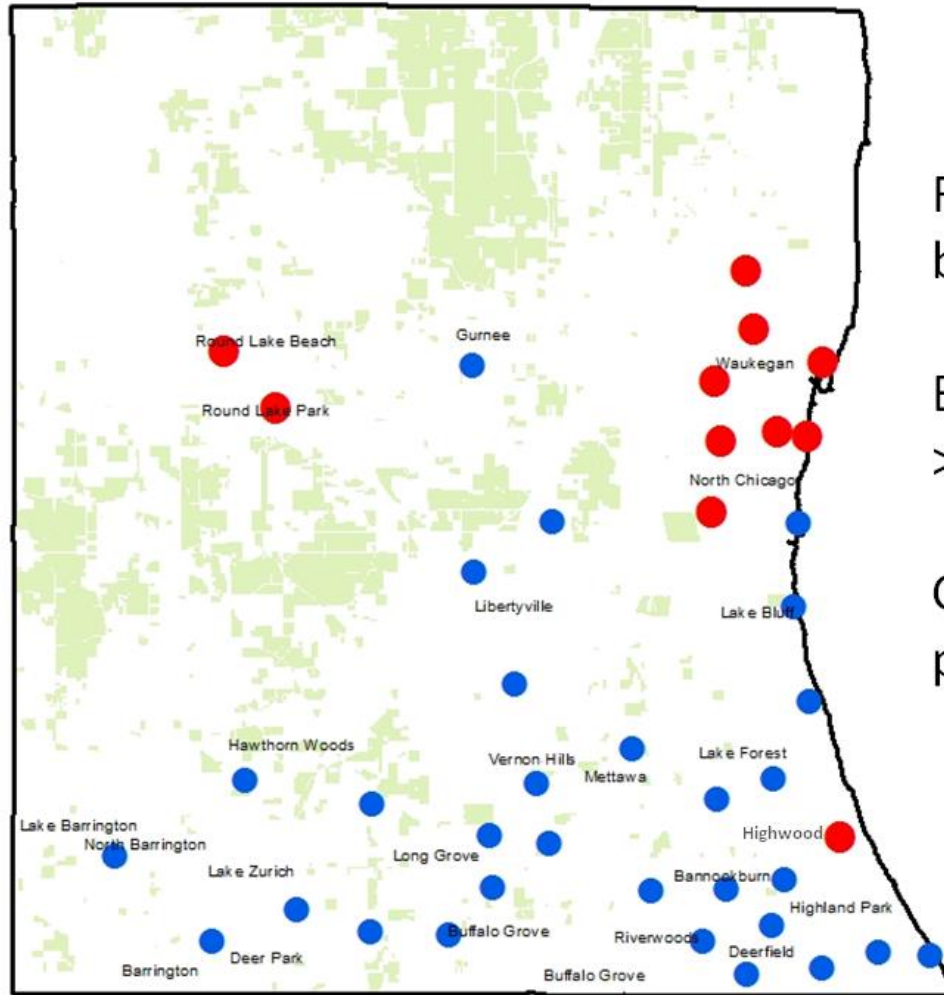


Age Pyramid for Lake County: 2025



⁴The source of this data is the Illinois Department of Public Health. "Relative Frequencies" in these charts refers to how large one population segment is in relation to another.

The County has a Unique Spatial Pattern of Assets and Development



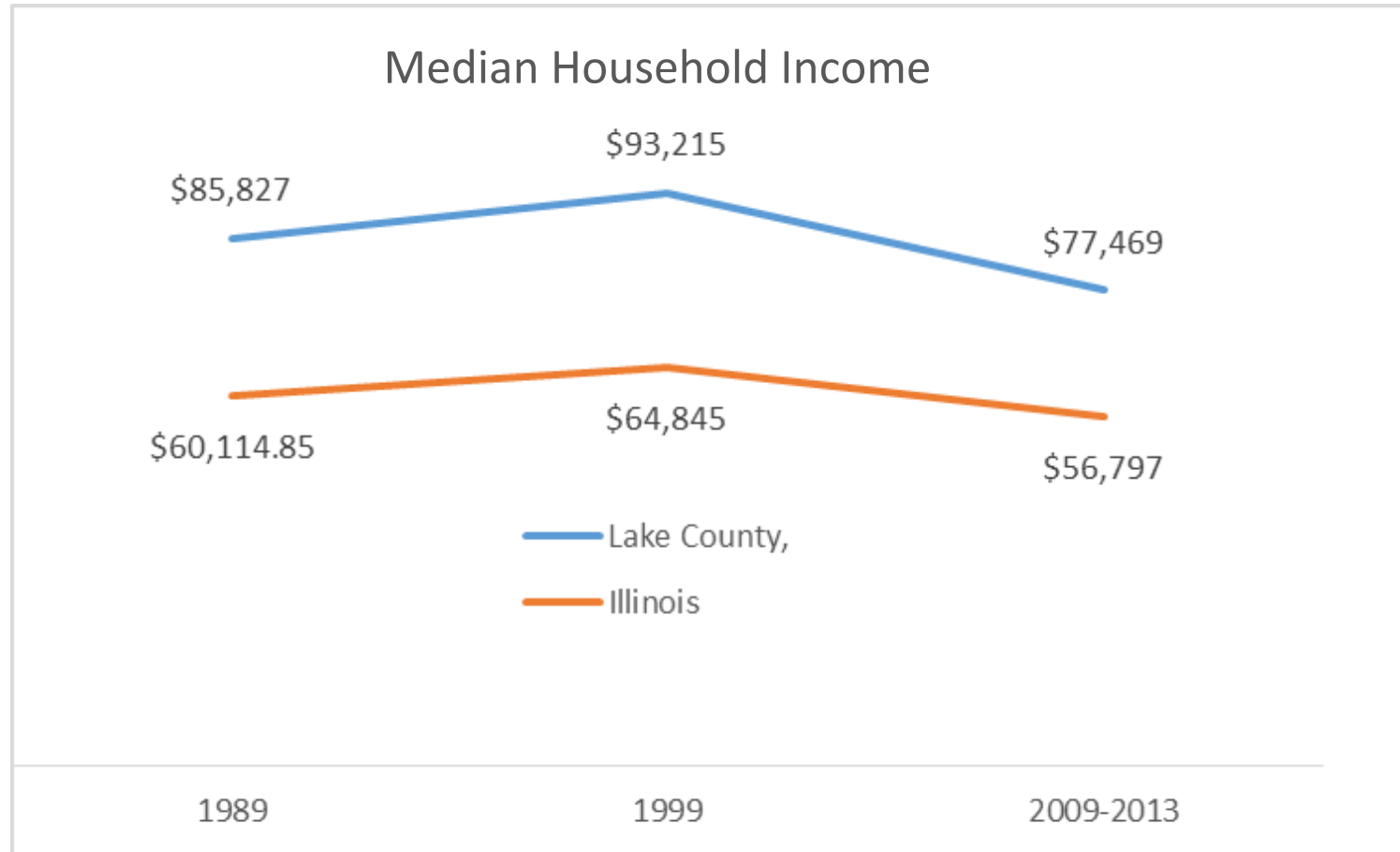
Red = 1,000+ persons
below poverty

Blue = median income
>\$125,000

Green = land use
primarily rural

Data in this map are based on census tracts. Some municipalities with large populations below poverty may not display.

The “Bubble” of the 90s has Not Re-Inflated



Dollar amounts are inflation-adjusted to 2013.

Poverty is Increasing

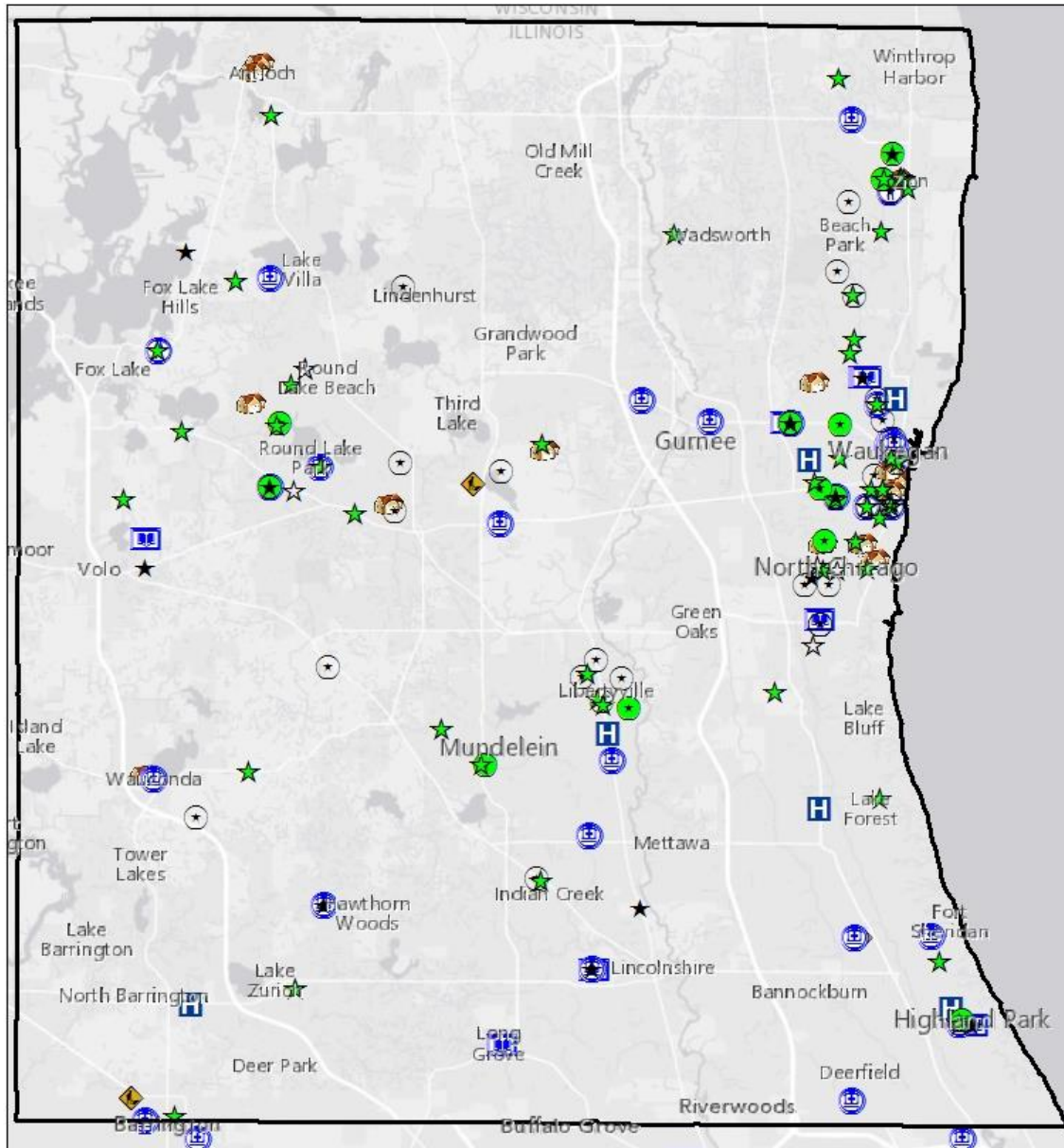
The percent and number of Lake County residents living below the official poverty line is increasing. The poverty rate is four points higher and includes 35,000 more persons than it did in 1990. Some 61,000 residents are below the poverty level.

The federal and state poverty level for a family of four (two adults and two children) is approximately \$24,250 while the living wage for a family of four in Lake County is approximately \$56,000.

	1990	2000	2009-2013 ⁵
Poverty Population	25,557	35,714	61,256
Poverty Rate	5%	6%	9%

⁵The 2009-2013 period in this chart refers to the average of that five-year period.

A County with High-Quality Human Service Providers



- Early Childhood & After School Providers
- Alcohol & Substance Abuse
- Early Childhood
- Food Pantry
- Health Care
- Homeless Shelter
- Hospital
- Mental Health
- Public Housing
- Soup Kitchen
- Workforce Development
- Youth Development