

ALLEGANY COUNTY, NEW YORK

A Statistical Outline

This document, prepared by members of *Your NY 23rd*, is meant to provide voters of Allegany County in the 23rd Congressional District with the necessary information and data to effectively counter the generalities and misstatements Congressman Tom Reed so frequently offers as fact. We hope that voters in the district, Democrats, Republicans, and Independents alike, will find it useful when talking with family and friends, when questioning Tom Reed at town hall meetings and campaign events, and in drafting letters to the editor and/or editorial comments for local newspapers

The major source for this data sheet is “Allegany County Profile, 2017: A Collection of recent demographic, social and economic data”

Accessible at: <https://pad.human.cornell.edu/profiles/Allegany.pdf>

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POPULATION

2000: 49,927
2010: 48,946 (-2%)
2014: 47,736 (-2.5%)
2016: 47,077 (-1.3%) Estimate
2000-2016 population decline: just under 6%

Vital Statistics, 2014:

- Births: just over 500
- Deaths: just under 500

Race (2014):

- White: 95.4%
- Hispanic/Latino (any race): 1.4%
- Black: 1.0%
- Asian: 0.9%
- 2 or more races: 1%
- American Indian/Alaska native: 0.25%
- Some other race: 0.15%

Households (2014):

- Family households (two parents, plus children) 65.9%
- Female-headed households: 9.4%
- Single person household: 28.1%

EDUCATION

Level achieved by residents 25+ (30,568 individuals):

(As estimated by 2011-2015 American Community Survey)

- Less than 9th grade: 3.4%
- 9th to 12th grade: 8.0%
- High School graduate: 38.7%
- Some college, no degree: 16.8%
- Associate's degree: 13%
- Bachelor's degree: 9.8%
- Graduate/Professional degree: 10.2%

Percent:

- High school or higher: 88.6%
- Bachelors or higher: 20.0%

*Given the on-going technological transformation of work that allows far fewer workers to perform far more work, how well do our schools prepare the rising generation for this new economy?

*What is Congressman Reed doing to sponsor and pass legislation to fund initiatives for Allegany County and other schools throughout the 23rd District to prepare this generation and the next to succeed in this new economy?

ECONOMY

Non-Agricultural:

Labor Force, employed/unemployed, 2017:

<u>Estimated # by age:</u>	<u>In labor force:</u>	<u>Employed</u>	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>
16-19: 4,360	33.1%	25.2%	23.7%
20-24: 4,495	68.8	58.6	14.8
25-29: 2,516	80.4	69.0	14.1
30-34: 2,414	80.3	70.8	11.9
35-44: 4,874	78.4	72.2	7.9
45-54: 6,292	79.1	76.0	3.9
55-59: 3,332	70.0	67.0	4.3
60-64: 3,270	52.8	50.0	5.3
65-74: 4,340	21.3	20.3	5.0
75+: 3,530	5.5	5.2	5.2

*As of early 2017, the estimated unemployment rate for the county (Jan Vink) was **9.2%**, with a margin of error +/- 0.8%

*The term, labor force, includes both employed and unemployed.

*The more than 14,000 County residents between 16 and 34 years old, who together have a high unemployment rate, might well reflect the necessity of having neither a college degree or the specialized technical training widely demanded in today’s economy. What has Congressman Reed done to address this central issue for the County, and indeed the nation?

Income and Occupations:

- Income, 2009-2013
 - Average: \$20,978
 - Median: \$42,445
- Income, 2015
 - Median: \$43,917
- Occupations, 2015:
 - Educational services: 25%
 - Health Care and Social Assistance: 23%
 - Construction: 13%
 - Retail trade: 9%
 - Accommodation and food services: 8%
 - Manufacturing: 6%
 - Public administration: 3%

Agricultural:

[Data from 2012-13, in Gaquin & Ryan, *2015 County and City Extra, Annual Metro, City, and County Data Book 23rd edition*, pp. 469-70.]

- Number of farms in County: 784

- Average size of farm: 192 acres
- 23.3% are 50 acres or less
- 6.9% are 500 acres or more.

- For 51.8% of farmers, it is their principal occupation

- Average value per farm: \$335,583
- Average value per acre: \$1,750

- Value of products sold: 73.4 million dollars
- Average per farm: \$93, 569
- Crops: 28.5%
- Poultry products and livestock: 71.5%

- 36.4% of farms generate \$10,000+ in income
- 12.8% generate \$100,000+ in income

*The NYS Department of Conservation flatly states that climate change will bring both droughts and severe storms to the Southern Tier. What steps is Congressman Reed taking to encourage the growth of renewable energy sources based on solar, wind, and local hydro resources?

*Our farmers remain very dependent on undocumented immigrants to grow our crops and care for livestock. What steps in the Congressman taking to insure a steady source of farm worker in the Southern Tier?

SOCIAL SERVICES, SOCIAL NEEDS

Social Security and Medicaid:

- Percentage of County residents living in poverty, 2015: 16.6%
- As of 2013:
 - 3,968 residents under age 65 had no health insurance.
 - 11,105 citizens received Social Security (231 out of every 1,000 residents)
 - 1,586 citizens received support from the Supplemental Security plan
 - 22% of Allegany County residents relied on Medicaid and its various subsistence benefits.
- According to Governor Andrew Cuomo's press release (January 4, 2017) on the consequences of repealing the Affordable Care Act, Allegany County would have 6,552 citizens taken off the rolls of Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Exclusive Provide and QHP.
- The figure for the state of New York, if the Affordable Care Act is repealed, is 3,634,793 citizens.

Heroin & Opioid Addictions:

Prescription opioids and heroin are chemically similar, but often treated quite differently; heroin carries a social stigma, while opioid addiction is often a private addiction. Since January 2015, Allegany County has had two deaths caused by an overdose of opioid pain relievers, and 33 outpatient emergency visits, with the majority due to heroin overdose. The Allegany Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Clinic reported in 2017 that about 40% of those treated self-reported that their primary substance was either an opioid or heroin—the same percentage admitted for alcoholism. There are few local options for treatment, and the wait time at clinics in Rochester or Buffalo are usually quite long. When open beds are available, the question remains whether the person-in-need has the insurance needed to pay for treatment.

The populations in the County at higher risk of addiction are: males, 18-35; pregnant and parenting women; vets with post-traumatic stress disorder; subjects of domestic violence and child abuse; those with untreated mental health conditions; and those with prescribed opioids for pain management. [*Olean Times Herald*, November 11, 2016.]

*Given these realities, how could Congressman Reed fully and persistently support the Trump-led effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act and still return to the District claiming to support its citizens. Had the repeal succeeded, a significant number of families would have found themselves without medical coverage for any illness more serious than the common cold. How can he defend this record?

POLITICS

Presidential

2012:

Barack Obama:	38.2%
Mitt Romney:	60.0%
Others:	1.8%

2016:

Donald Trump:	67%
Hillary Clinton:	26%
Others:	7%

Only twice has Allegany County voted for a Democratic presidential candidate since its inception in 1814: in 1852 for Franklin Pierce and in 1964 for Lyndon B. Johnson. Both men were affiliated with the Democratic Party, but it was a dramatically different party by 1964 concerning the role of the federal government, the Party’s position on slavery and, of course, civil rights.

Senate

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>State-wide</u>	<u>Allegany County</u>
2016:		
Chuck Schumer:	70.4%	44.1%
Wendy Long:	27.4%	53.9%
R. Wilson:	1.5%	1.2%
A. Merced:	0.6%	0.8%
2012:		
K. Gillibrand:	4,822,330 (73.2%)	7,635 (48.4%)
Wendy Long:	1,758,702 (26.7%)	8,151 (51.6%)

House of Representatives

2016

Tom Reed	149,779 (58%)	12,589 (71.5%)
John Plumb	107,822 (42%)	5,112 (28.5%)

2014

Martha Robinson	70,242 (38.3%)	3,318 (28.5%)
Tom Reed	113,130 (61.6%)	8,343 (71.5%)

2012

Nate Shinagawa	127,535 (48%)	5,777 (35.9%)
Tom Reed	137,669 (51.9%)	10,382 (64.1%)