

# ...And How Are the Children?: A Snapshot of Child Well-Being in North Carolina

Whitney Tucker, MPH | Research Director | NC Child

## TODAY'S Agenda

- About NC Child
- KIDS COUNT North Carolina
- Data Snapshots
- Questions?



## **About NC Child**







NC Child focuses on policy areas that support children's development and ensure the future prosperity of our state.





**Family Economic Security** 



**Healthy** Children



**High-Quality Education** 



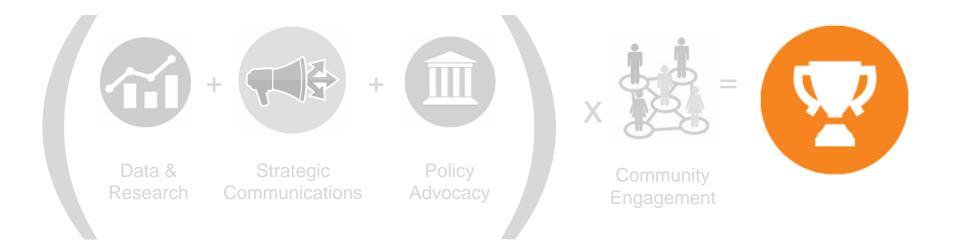


## **Our Approach**





## Our Approach

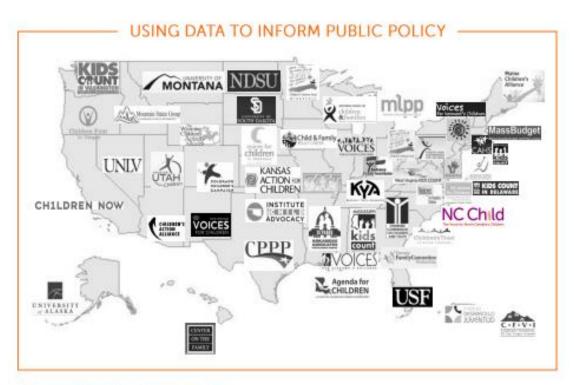




# KIDS COUNT North Carolina



## Program Purpose



For more information, visit www.aecf.org



## Finding Data





Access more than 100 indicators of child well-being at the state and community level.





# Data Snapshots

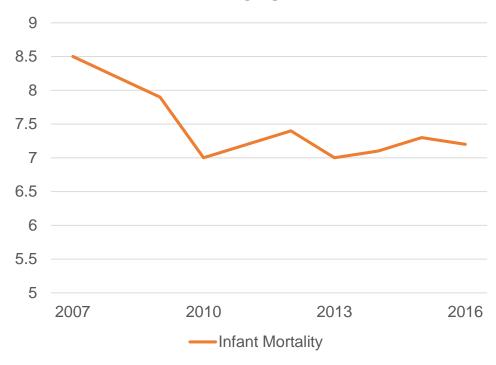


#### **Health and Wellness**

# N.C. ranks 44<sup>th</sup> in the nation for infant mortality.

Fetal and infant mortality are thought to be driven by causes with roots in maternal well-being. Health insurance that protects and promotes maternal health may help to move the needle on these birth outcomes.

## NC Infant Death Rates\*, 2006-2016



NC Department of Health and Human Services, North Carolina Selected Vital Statistics: 2006-2016. \*Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births; fetal mortality rate per 1,000 live births + fetal deaths.

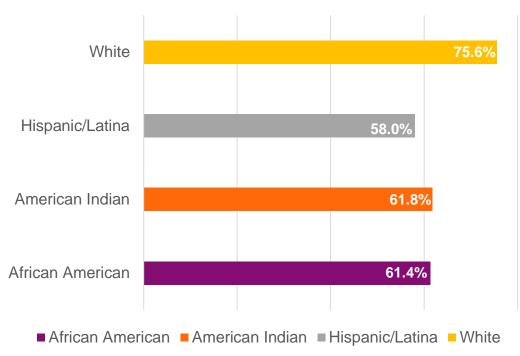


### A Strong Start

Nearly one third (31%) of N.C. women receive late or no prenatal care.

Babies born to mothers without prenatal care are more likely to have low birthweight and health complications later in life.

## N.C. Women 18-44 With Health Insurance, By Race/Ethnicity



U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Table B27001.

#### **Health and Wellness**

Nearly all (96%) children in the state have health insurance coverage.

Children without health insurance coverage are less likely than insured children to have a regular health care provider and to receive care when they need it.

## **HIGHEST:**

	Percent of Children with Health Insurance
Tyrrell	98.05%
Alexander	97.55%
Gates	97.45%
Camden	97.32%
Chowan	96.56%

## LOWEST:

	Percent of Children with Health Insurance
Dare	89.02%
Pamlico	88.56%
Macon	88.31%
Graham	85.77%
Swain	82.56%

Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey



#### **Health and Wellness**

An estimated 64% of children in N.C. with at least one behavioral health service need are receiving services in an LME/MCO.

Local Management
Entity/Managed Care
Organizations (LME/MCOs)
provide authorization of
services, care coordination,
provider network credentialing,
and provider reimbursement.

Rank (100 is lowest % in services)	County	LME/MCO	Children Receiving Services (Estimated % of Prevalence)
100	Washington	Trillium	39%
99	Greene	Eastpointe	46%
98	Duplin	Eastpointe	46%
97	Mecklenburg	Cardinal	46%
96	Hertford	Trillium	47%
95	Bladen	Eastpointe	48%
94	Gates	Trillium	48%
93	Hyde	Trillium	50%
92	Forsyth	Cardinal	52%
91	Yancey	Vaya	52%

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Strategic Plan for Improvement of Behavioral Health Services. Report to the Joint Oversight Legislative Committee on Health and Human Services.



### **Family Economic Security**

## 1 in 5 N.C. children live in poverty.

Growing up in poverty increases the likelihood that a child will be exposed to factors that can impair brain development and lead to poor cognitive, health and academic outcomes.



U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. Table B17024..

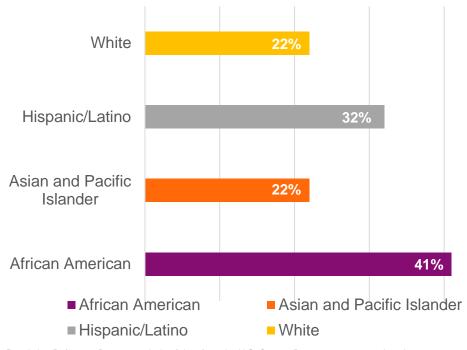


### **Family Economic Security**

3 in 10 N.C. children live in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment.

When parents are unemployed or earn low wages, they are limited in the investments they can make in their children's development.

## Children Whose Parents Lack Secure Employment, By Race/Ethnicity



Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2016 American Community Survey.



#### Family Economic Security

# Median family income varies widely by race in N.C.

At too low a wage, even a fulltime job does not necessarily lift a family out of poverty.

## Median Family Income Among Households with Children, By Race/Ethnicity



Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013 2014, 2015, 2016 American Community Survey.

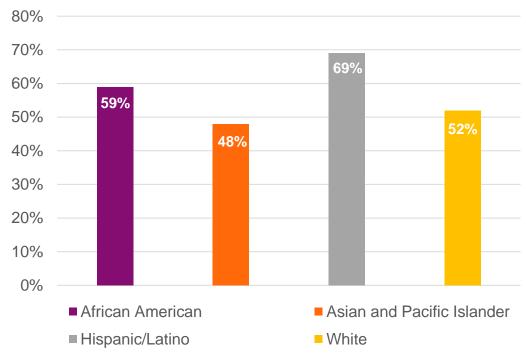


### **High-Quality Education**

More than half (57%) of 3- and 4-year-olds in N.C. are not enrolled in school.

Well-implemented, high-quality Pre-K can narrow the achievement gap, reduce grade repetition, increase graduation rates, reduce crime and lead to greater employment and higher earnings as adults.

## Young Children Not Enrolled in School, By Race/Ethnicity



Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, pooled 2007-09 to 2014-16 one-year American Community Survey.



More than 16,000 N.C. children were in foster care in 2016.

A national study\* found in 2014 that children in non-parental care are ~30 times as likely as children living with two biological parents to have had ≥4 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), putting them at higher risk of negative outcomes in adulthood.

16,255
of North Carolina's children lived in

foster care in 2016

Duncan, D.F., Kum, H.C., Flair, K.A., Stewart, C.J., Vaughn, J.S., Guest, S., Rose, R.A., Malley, K.M.D. and Gwaltney, A.Y. (2018). Management Assistance for Child Welfare, Work First, and Food & Nutrition Services in North Carolina (v3.2). University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Jordan Institute for Families.

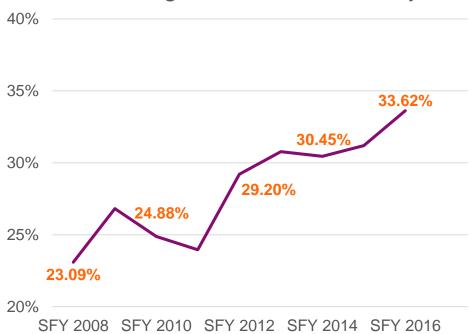


<sup>\*</sup>Bramlett, M. D., & Radel, L. F. Adverse family experiences among children in nonparental care, 2011-2012. (2014). National Health Statistics Reports, no. 74, 1-8.

34% of N.C. children in foster care do not exit to permanency within 2 years

Children do best in stable, supportive families, but longer periods of time in foster care are associated with greater risk for children of never achieving permanency.

## NC Children in Foster Care Remaining in Care after 720 Days



Duncan, D.F., Kum, H.C., Flair, K.A., Stewart, C.J., Vaughn, J.S., Guest, S., Rose, R.A., Malley, K.M.D. and Gwaltney, A.Y. (2018). Management Assistance for Child Welfare, Work First, and Food & Nutrition Services in North Carolina (v3.2). University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Jordan Institute for Families.



County rates of juvenile delinquency vary broadly from the state average (19.16 per 1000).

Behavioral research shows that most youth offenders will stop breaking the law as part of the normal maturation process and that adolescents are less able than adults to weigh risks and consequences and resist peer pressure.

## **HIGHEST:**

	Delinquent Rate per 1,000 Age 6 to 15
Chowan	73.78
Halifax	50.35
Avery	49.22
Martin	44.12
Cleveland	39.76

### LOWEST:

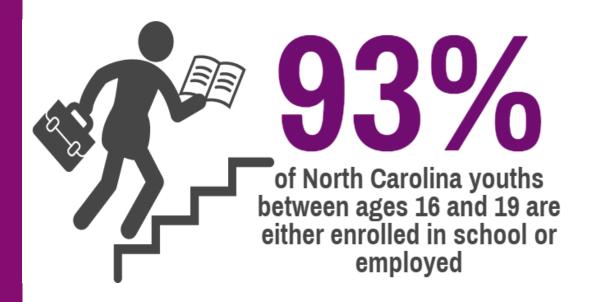
	Delinquent Rate per 1,000 Age 6 to 15		
Gates	6.43		
Bladen	6.35		
Johnston	6.06		
Orange	5.39		
Camden	1.47		

North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. "2016 County Data Book."



Approximately 40,000 teenagers 16-19 years old in N.C. are neither in school or working.

Detached youth need academic and professional on-ramps to reconnect to vital skills, knowledge and networks that can help them achieve financial stability and success.



Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2016 American Community Survey.



State data can mask some variation in child well-being. Children's well-being depends on the well-being of their families and communities, including the county in which she or he is born and raised.



### 2018

## **County Data Cards**

## NORTH CAROLINA

#### 2018 NC DATA CARD

Child population: 2,432,812
Percent under age six: 30%
Number of live births: 120,756



Women who receive 🔻 early prenatal care:

69%

2016

67.8% 2015

Babies born at a low birthweight:

9.2%

2016

9.2% 2015

Babies born pre-term:

10.4%

2016

- - 2015



Children living in poor or low-income homes:

48.2%

48.9% 2015

Children in households that are food insecure:

22.6%

2015

24.6% 2014

Median family income:

48,256

2012-16

\$57,856 2011-15



Children in foster care per 1,000:

7.1

2016

6.8 2015

Children assessed for abuse or neglect per 1,000:

56.3

2016

57.2 2015

Teen births per 1,000 girls ages 15-17:

9.7

2016

14.3 2015



#### NC CHILD

## **Staff**

T: 919-834-6623 @nckidscount www.facebook.com/ncchildorg Contact NC Child for research, data, and analysis of the latest policy issues affecting children and families:

Whitney Tucker, Research Director whitney@ncchild.org
919-834-6623 x229

Michelle Hughes, Executive Director michelle@ncchild.org

Rob Thompson, Deputy Director Rob@ncchild.org

Adam Sotak, Public Engagement Director adam@ncchild.org

