

# **Alexander County**

Alexander County has a population of 39,100, an increase of 5.1% over the past decade.

## Our communities thrive when we ...



### Provide Jobs and Opportunities

There were 665 people looking for work compared to 228 job openings.

In the past year, the county's unemployment rate has gone from 4.1% to 3.7%.



Ensure Access to Affordable Housing and Health Services

Rent was unaffordable for 50.3% of renters.

11.5% did not have health insurance.

There are 2,879 residents for every mental health provider.



#### Address Structural Barriers to Equality

42.3% of residents are lowincome (\$48,600 or less for a family of four).

The richest 5% of households have an average income 19 times greater than the poorest fifth and 5 times the typical household.

#### ... make the investments needed to power prosperity for more people and places in our state.

The Budget & Tax Center's Economic Snapshots provide a look at how well counties in North Carolina are faring across key indicators of economic well-being and opportunity.

Contact Brian Kennedy II at briank@ncjustice.org or 919-856-2153 for media inquiries or other questions. For data sources, visit www.ncjustice.org/snapshots

Poverty and Economic Hardship				
		County	State	Year
Percentage of people living in poverty		15%	15.4%	
	Black	14.4%	26.1%	
	White	15.6%	11.5%	2012- 2016
	Latinx	56.7%	31.5%	2010
	Asian	26%	12.9%	
	American Indian	0%	28.1%	
Child poverty rate		23%	21.7%	2016

Jobs and Ability to Afford the Basics				
	County	State	Year	
Jobless worker : Job openings	665 : 228	150,919 : 141,253	Jan. 2018	
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.3%	Dec. 2017	
Change in number of people employed since December 2007	129 more	422,055 more	2016	
Living Income Standard* wage (1 adult, 2 kids)	\$21.10	\$21.95	2016	
Hourly median wage	\$14.11	\$16.31	2016	
Change in median wage since the recovery began	fell \$1.02	fell 15 cents	2009, 2016	
Median Household Income	\$46,385	\$50,595	2016	

Access to Affordable Housing				
	County	State	Year	
Percentage of people paying more than 30% of income toward rent	50.3%	50.6%	2012- 2016	
Fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit	\$680	\$821	2017	
Two-bedroom housing wage (Number of hours/ week a minimum wage worker would need for a two-bedroom unit)	\$13.08	\$15.79	2017	

Healthy Lives and Communities				
		County	State	Year
Percentage of residents without health insurance		11.5%	13.2%	2012- 2016
Life expectancy		77.7 years	78 years	2014
	Black	81.2 years	75.6 years	2014- 2016
	White	77.7 years	78.8 years	
Mental health provider : residents		1:2,879	1:464	2017

Educational Attainment				
		County	State	Year
Graduation rate		86.2%	86.5%	
	Black	90.9%	83.9%	
	White	86.5%	89.3%	2016-
	Latinx	80%	80.5%	2017
	Asian	>95%	93.8%	
	American Indian	***	84.3%	
	age of adults with or's degrees	13.3%	29%	
Bachel	or's degree, men	13.7%	28.2%	
Bachelor's degree, women		12.9%	29.8%	2012-
Median salary, men with at least a Bachelor's		\$38,271	\$57,765	2010
Median salary, women with at least a Bachelor's		\$40,585	\$38,851	

Work and Income Supports to Avoid Poverty				
	County	State	Year	
Percentage of residents receiving SNAP	11.2%	13.5%	Dec. 2017	
Number of people eligible for state Earned Income Tax Credit**	3,312	1,204,039	2013	

\* The Living Income Standard is a measure of what a family needs in order to cover the basic expenses. \*\* Lawmakers allowed the state EITC to expire in 2013. \*\*\* Insufficient data