

Rutherford County

Rutherford County has a population of 67,264, an increase of 1.9% over the past decade.

Our communities thrive when we ...



Provide Jobs and Opportunities

There were 1,592 people looking for work compared to 839 job openings.

In the past year, the county's unemployment rate has gone from 6.2% to 6%.



Ensure Access to Affordable Housing and Health Services

Rent was unaffordable for 48.4% of renters.

14% did not have health insurance.

There are 810 residents for every mental health provider.



Address Structural Barriers to Equality

48.3% of residents are lowincome (\$48,600 or less for a family of four).

The richest 5% of households have an average income 20 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 | | 18.6% | 15.4% | |
| | Black | 27.9% | 26.1% |] |
| | White | 17.6% | 11.5% | 2012- |
| | Latinx | 38.7% | 31.5% | 2010 |
| | Asian | 7.2% | 12.9% | |
| | American Indian | 2.9% | 28.1% | |
| Child poverty rate | | 26.4% | 21.7% | 2016 |

| Jobs and Ability to Afford the Basics | | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------|---------------|--|
| | County | State | Year | |
| Jobless worker : Job openings | 1,592 : 839 | 150,919 : 141,253 | Jan. 2018 | |
| Unemployment rate | 6% | 4.3% | Dec. 2017 | |
| Change in number of people employed since December 2007 | 5,664 fewer | 422,055 more | 2016 | |
| Living Income Standard* wage (1 adult, 2 kids) | \$21.54 | \$21.95 | 2016 | |
| Hourly median wage | \$13.04 | \$16.31 | 2016 | |
| Change in median wage since the recovery began | fell 98 cents | fell 15 cents | 2009, 2016 | |
| Median Household Income | \$38,699 | \$50,595 | 2016 | |

| Access to Affordable Housing | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------------|--|
| | County | State | Year | |
| Percentage of people paying more than 30% of income toward rent | 48.4% | 50.6% | 2012- 2016 | |
| Fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit | \$642 | \$821 | 2017 | |
| Two-bedroom housing wage (Number of hours/ week a minimum wage worker would need for a two-bedroom unit) | \$12.35 | \$15.79 | 2017 | |

| Healthy Lives and Communities | | | | |
|--|-------|------------|------------|---------------|
| | | County | State | Year |
| Percentage of residents without health insurance | | 14% | 13.2% | 2012- 2016 |
| Life expectancy | | 75.3 years | 78 years | 2014 |
| | Black | 73.4 years | 75.6 years | 2014- 2016 |
| | White | 75.7 years | 78.8 years | |
| Mental health provider : residents | | 1:810 | 1:464 | 2017 |

| Educational Attainment | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| | | County | State | Year |
| Gradua | tion rate | 85% | 86.5% | |
| | Black | 87.1% | 83.9% | |
| | White | 83.9% | 89.3% | 2016- |
| | Latinx | 84.6% | 80.5% | 2017 |
| | Asian | >95% | 93.8% | |
| | American Indian | *** | 84.3% | |
| | tage of adults with or's degrees | 16.7% | 29% | |
| Bachel | or's degree, men | 18.0% | 28.2% | |
| Bachelor's degree, women | | 15.3% | 29.8% | 2012- |
| Median salary, men with at least a Bachelor's | | \$49,534 | \$57,765 | 2010 |
| Median salary, women with at least a Bachelor's | | \$33,718 | \$38,851 | |

| Work and Income Supports to Avoid Poverty | | | |
|--|--------|-----------|-----------|
| | County | State | Year |
| Percentage of residents receiving SNAP | 17.3% | 13.5% | Dec. 2017 |
| Number of people eligible for state Earned Income Tax Credit** | 6,443 | 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