

Wake County

Wake County has a population of 1,045,502, an increase of 25.0% over the past decade.

Our communities thrive when we ...



Provide Jobs and Opportunities

There were 22,569 people looking for work compared to 37,673 job openings.

In the past year, the county's unemployment rate has gone from 4% to 3.7%.



Ensure Access to Affordable Housing and Health Services

Rent was unaffordable for 46.3% of renters.

10.4% did not have health insurance.

There are 377 residents for every mental health provider.



Address Structural Barriers to Equality

25.3% of residents are low-income (\$48,600 or less for a family of four).

The richest 5% of households have an average income 22 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.

Poverty and Economic Hardship			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of people living in poverty	9.2%	15.4%	2012-2016
Black	17.2%	26.1%	
White	6.2%	11.5%	
Latinx	27.2%	31.5%	
Asian	9.7%	12.9%	
American Indian	14%	28.1%	
Child poverty rate	11.5%	21.7%	2016

Healthy Lives and Communities			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of residents without health insurance	10.4%	13.2%	2012-2016
Life expectancy	81.5 years	78 years	2014-2016
Black	77.6 years	75.6 years	
White	82.4 years	78.8 years	
Mental health provider : residents	1 : 377	1 : 464	2017

Jobs and Ability to Afford the Basics			
	County	State	Year
Jobless worker : Job openings	22,569 : 37,673	150,919 : 141,253	Jan. 2018
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.3%	Dec. 2017
Change in number of people employed since December 2007	124,152 more	422,055 more	2016
Living Income Standard* wage (1 adult, 2 kids)	\$27.52	\$21.95	2016
Hourly median wage	\$18.56	\$16.31	2016
Change in median wage since the recovery began	grew 23 cents	fell 15 cents	2009, 2016
Median Household Income	\$76,173	\$50,595	2016

Educational Attainment			
	County	State	Year
Graduation rate	88.5%	86.5%	2016-2017
Black	83%	83.9%	
White	94.1%	89.3%	
Latinx	76%	80.5%	
Asian	>95%	93.8%	
American Indian	83.3%	84.3%	
Percentage of adults with Bachelor's degrees	50.1%	29%	2012-2016
Bachelor's degree, men	49.7%	28.2%	
Bachelor's degree, women	50.5%	29.8%	
Median salary, men with at least a Bachelor's	\$69,873	\$57,765	
Median salary, women with at least a Bachelor's	\$42,742	\$38,851	

Access to Affordable Housing			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of people paying more than 30% of income toward rent	46.3%	50.6%	2012-2016
Fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit	\$993	\$821	2017
Two-bedroom housing wage (Number of hours/week a minimum wage worker would need for a two-bedroom unit)	\$19.10	\$15.79	2017

Work and Income Supports to Avoid Poverty			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of residents receiving SNAP	7.1%	13.5%	Dec. 2017
Number of people eligible for state Earned Income Tax Credit**	61,584	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