

# Graham County

Graham County has a population of 8,686, a decrease of 2.1% over the past decade.

## We all thrive when we ...



### Expand Access to Health Services

- 17.1% of people do not have health insurance.
- The average life expectancy for newborns is 77.8 years.
- There is one mental health provider for every 1061 residents.



### Provide Affordable Housing for All

- Rent is unaffordable for 37.2% of renters.
- 5.8% of people spend more than half of their income on rent.
- The median hourly wage is only 93.4% of what's needed for 1 adult and 2 children to make ends meet (LIS\*).



### Address Structural Barriers to Equality

- 48.2% of residents are considered low-income (less than \$50,200 for a family of four).\*\*
- The richest 5% of households make an average of 24 times more than the poorest 20% of households.

... make the investments needed to promote shared prosperity for everyone in every county in N.C.

Poverty and Economic Hardship			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of people living in poverty	18.9%	14.1%	2014-2018
Black	100%	23.5%	
White	17.3%	10.6%	
Latinx	43%	28.5%	
Asian	***	11.9%	
American Indian	17.1%	25.1%	
Child poverty rate	26.3%	20.2%	

Healthy Lives and Communities			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of residents without health insurance	17.1%	11.1%	2014-2018
Life expectancy	77.8 years	77.6 years	2016-2018
Black	***	75.2 years	
White	78 years	78.4 years	
Mental health provider : residents	1 : 1061	1 : 409	2019
Percentage of residents receiving SNAP	12.8%	12.1%	2019

Jobs and Ability to Afford the Basics			
	County	State	Year
Jobless worker : Job openings	198 : 110	182,598 : 283,392	Feb. 2020
Unemployment rate	5.4%	3.3%	2019
Change in number of people employed since December 2007	1,354 fewer	611,291 more	2007, 2019
Living Income Standard* wage (1 adult, 2 kids)	\$17.72	\$22.94	2019
Hourly median wage	\$16.54	\$17.19	2019
Change in median wage since 2009 recovery began	grew \$2.56	grew 38 cents	2009, 2019
Median Household Income	\$39,502	\$53,922	2018

Educational Attainment			
	County	State	Year
Graduation rate	84%	86.5%	2018-2019
Black	***	83.7%	
White	81.8%	89.6%	
Latinx	***	81.1%	
Asian	***	94.5%	
American Indian	>95%	81.2%	
Percentage of adults with Bachelor's degrees	11%	29.5%	2014-2018
Bachelor's degree, men	8.4%	26.4%	
Bachelor's degree, women	14.9%	32.7%	
Median salary, men with at least a Bachelor's	\$42,946	\$61,426	
Median salary, women with at least a Bachelor's	\$39,423	\$41,197	

Access to Affordable Housing			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of people paying more than 30% of income toward rent	37.2%	52.9%	2014-2018
Percentage of people paying more than 50% of income toward rent	5.8%	23.9%	2014-2018
Fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit	\$679	\$881	2019
Number of hours needed to work to afford a two-bedroom unit at fair market rate	72 hours a week	94 hours a week	2019

\* The Living Income Standard is a measure of what a family needs in order to cover the basic expenses. See more at [NCJustice.org/LIS](http://NCJustice.org/LIS).  
 \*\* A family of four is considered low-income if they make below 200% of the federal poverty line, or \$50,200 in 2018.  
 \*\*\* Insufficient data

Note: This County Snapshot provides a pre-COVID-19 economic picture of counties throughout North Carolina.

**For data sources or other counties, visit [NCJustice.org/snapshots](http://NCJustice.org/snapshots)**