

# Mecklenburg County

Mecklenburg County has a population of 1,131,342, an increase of 22.5% over the past decade.

## We all thrive when we ...



### Expand Access to Health Services

- 11.9% of people do not have health insurance.
- Life expectancy for white newborns is 82.3 years; life expectancy for Black newborns is 77.2 years.
- There is one mental health provider for every 347 residents.



### Provide Affordable Housing for All

- Rent is unaffordable for 46.2% of renters.
- 21.8% of people spend more than half of their income on rent.
- The median hourly wage is only 74.6% of what's needed for 1 adult and 2 children to make ends meet (LIS\*).



### Address Structural Barriers to Equality

- 29.5% of residents are considered low-income (less than \$50,200 for a family of four).\*\*
- The richest 5% of households make an average of 30 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	11.7%	14.1%	2014-2018
Black	17.2%	23.5%	
White	6.4%	10.6%	
Latinx	24%	28.5%	
Asian	12%	11.9%	
American Indian	23.1%	25.1%	
Child poverty rate	17.5%	20.2%	

Jobs and Ability to Afford the Basics			
	County	State	Year
Jobless worker : Job openings	21,782 : 63,601	182,598 : 283,392	Feb. 2020
Unemployment rate	3.1%	3.3%	2019
Change in number of people employed since December 2007	170,013 more	611,291 more	2007, 2019
Living Income Standard* wage (1 adult, 2 kids)	\$26.92	\$22.94	2019
Hourly median wage	\$20.08	\$17.19	2019
Change in median wage since 2009 recovery began	grew 39 cents	grew 38 cents	2009, 2019
Median Household Income	\$64,509	\$53,922	2018

Access to Affordable Housing			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of people paying more than 30% of income toward rent	46.2%	52.9%	2014-2018
Percentage of people paying more than 50% of income toward rent	21.8%	23.9%	2014-2018
Fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit	\$1,028	\$881	2019
Number of hours needed to work to afford a two-bedroom unit at fair market rate	109 hours a week	94 hours a week	2019

Healthy Lives and Communities			
	County	State	Year
Percentage of residents without health insurance	11.9%	11.1%	2014-2018
Life expectancy	80.4 years	77.6 years	2016-2018
Black	77.2 years	75.2 years	
White	82.3 years	78.4 years	
Mental health provider : residents	1 : 347	1 : 409	2019
Percentage of residents receiving SNAP	9.9%	12.1%	2019

Educational Attainment			
	County	State	Year
Graduation rate	85.5%	86.5%	2018-2019
Black	85.2%	83.7%	
White	92.4%	89.6%	
Latinx	74.5%	81.1%	
Asian	92.6%	94.5%	
American Indian	92.9%	81.2%	
Percentage of adults with Bachelor's degrees	46.9%	29.5%	2014-2018
Bachelor's degree, men	44%	26.4%	
Bachelor's degree, women	49.6%	32.7%	
Median salary, men with at least a Bachelor's	\$69,722	\$61,426	
Median salary, women with at least a Bachelor's	\$45,915	\$41,197	

\* 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)**