2019 Community Assessment









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Services / Planning
CCS-EHS Policy Council-June 27, 2019



Purpose

- To present CCS-EHS Policy Board and staff with a thorough assessment of the current state of the physical, social and economic welfare of families with very young children in Catawba County, and provide an understanding of factors affecting this population.
- The assessment includes a variety of maps to illustrate how various forms of hardship are experienced in communities throughout Catawba County.
- The assessment also compares changes in the demographic and economic makeup of very young children and their families in Catawba County which have occurred in the five years since the last publication of this assessment in 2014.

Organization

- I. General Area Description & Demographics
- II. CCS-EHS Eligible Families:
 Demographic, Economic &
 Social Characteristics
- III. CCS-EHS-Eligible Families: Health & Nutrition Characteristics
- IV. Catawba County Housing Characteristics

- V. Catawba County Child Care Characteristics
- VI. CCS-EHS-Eligible Families: Transportation & Communication
- VII. CCS-EHS Enrollment
- VIII. CCS-EHS Staff
- IX. Community Needs Survey
- X. Comprehensive Need Index

Maps

One goal of the community assessment is to determine geographic areas of Catawba County, NC in which to concentrate outreach and enrollment efforts of the Early Head Start Program.

The assessment makes extensive use of WPCOG's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis of various sources of data, including:

- US Census ACS Estimates
- 2005-09, 2008-12 and 2013-17 Birth Certificate Data (from NC DHHS SCHS)
- NC Department of Public Instruction school data
- CDC, NC Dept of Public Health,...many others

Section I: Area Description

Population by Age

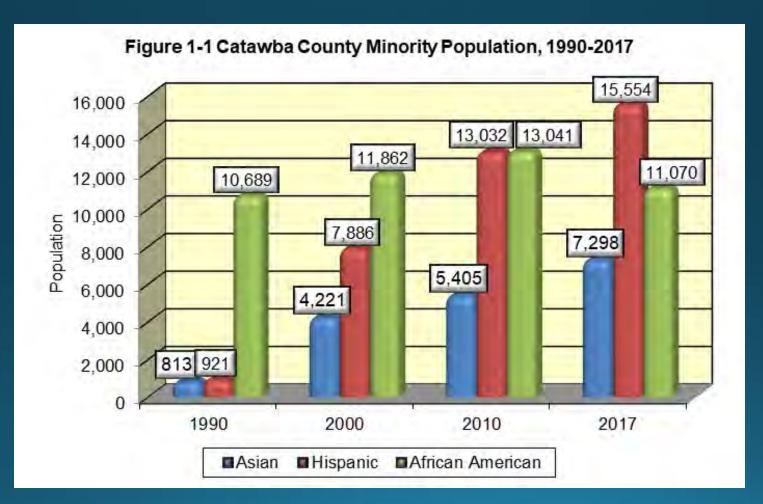
• After growing by 8.9% (+12,673) from 2000 to 2010, estimated recent growth of the overall population in Catawba County has only slowly increased, from 2010 (154,358) to 2017 (157,974).

Table 1-3.									
Catawba County Population Change by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2000-2017									
			Change		% Chg.	2017 ACS			
Population Group	2000	% of	2010	% of	2000-	2000-	Population	% of	
	Pop	Pop	Pop	Pop	2010	2010	Estimate	Pop	
Total Population	141,685	100.0	154,358	100.0	12,673	8.9	157,974	100.0	
One Race	140,068	98.9	151,481	98.1	11,413	8.1	153,351	97.1	
White	120,422	85.0	126,151	81.7	5,729	4.8	123,204	78.0	
Black or African American	11,862	8.4	13,041	8.4	1,179	9.9	11,070	7.0	
American Indian	365	0.3	489	0.3	124	34.0	406	0.3	
Asian, Native Hawaiian &	4,221	3.0	5,405	3.5	1,184	28.1	7,298	4.6	
Other Pacific Islander	4,221	3.0	5,405	3.3	1,104	20.1	7,290	4.0	
Some Other Race	3,198	2.3	6,395	4.1	3,197	100.0	11,373	7.2	
Two or More Races	1,617	1.1	2,877	1.9	1,260	77.9	4,623	2.9	
Hispanic or Latino (any race)	7,886	5.6	13,032	8.4	5,146	65.3	15,554	9.8	
Not Hispanic or Latino	133,799	94.4	141,326	91.6	7,527	5.6	142,420	90.2	
White, Not Hispanic	116,326	82.1	120,388	78.0	4,062	3.5	119,729	77.6	

Source: US Census Bureau, 2018. The 2017 Census Bureau population estimate differs slightly from the North Carolina Office Budget and Management Estimate.

Section I: Area Description

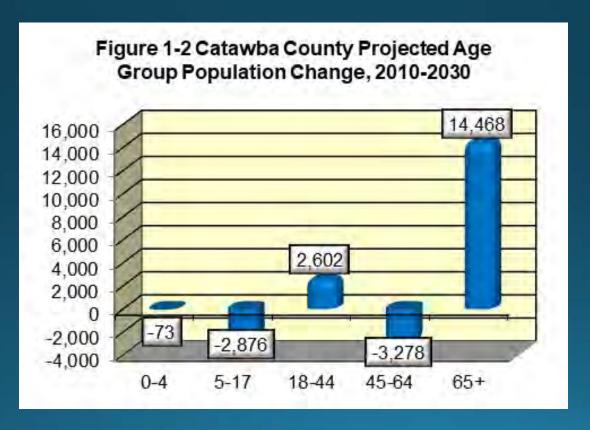
The growth of ethnic and racial minority populations in Catawba County has generally been slower since 2010, except for Asian-Americans.

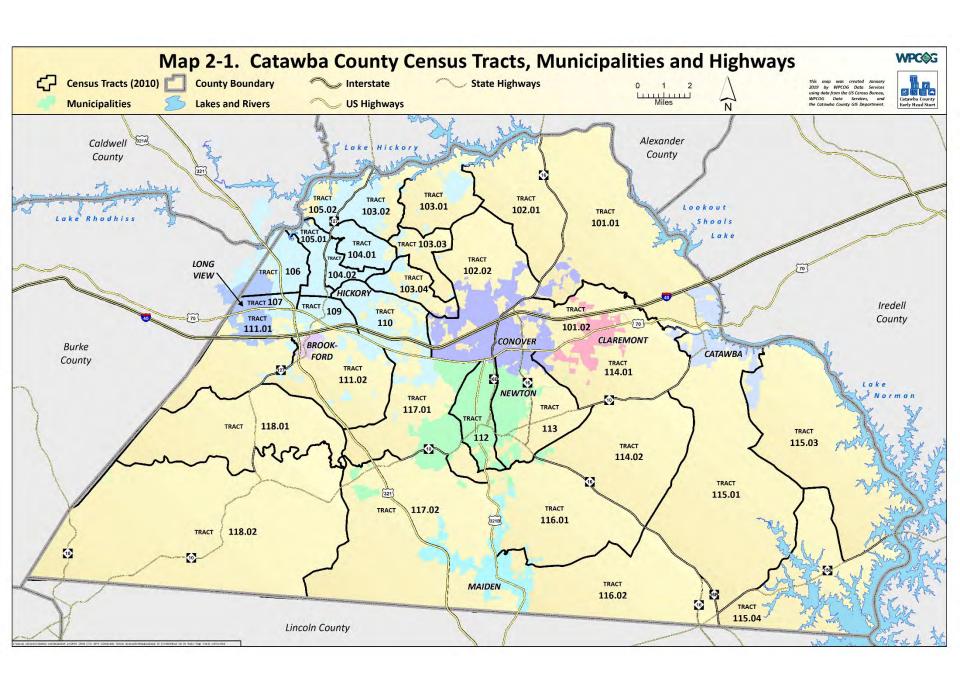


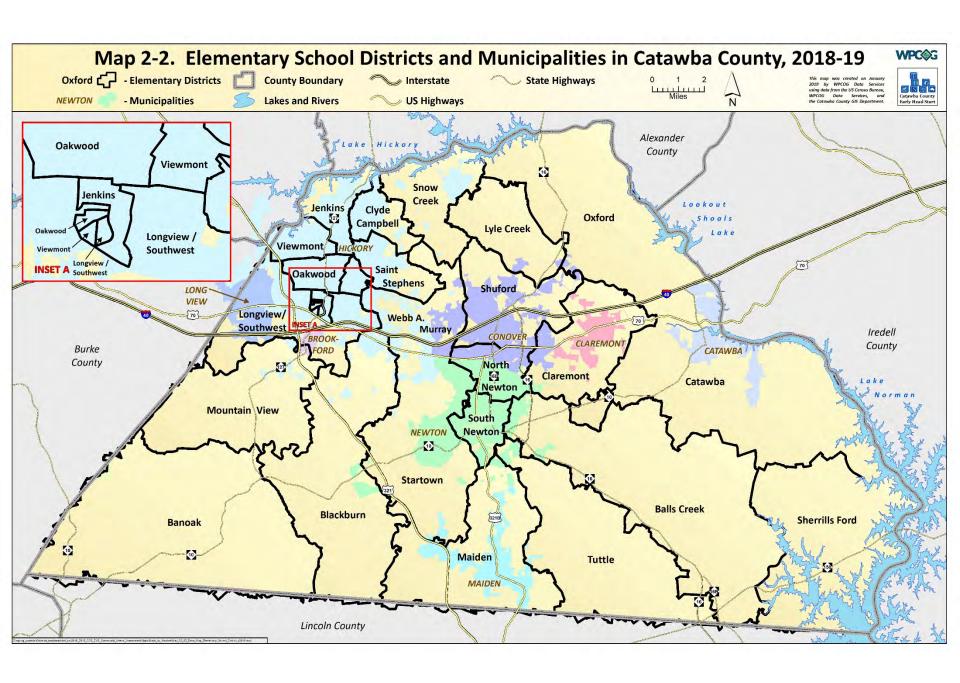
Section I: Area Description

Growth Projections by Age

• From 2010 to 2030, only the age 65+ population is projected to grow significantly.

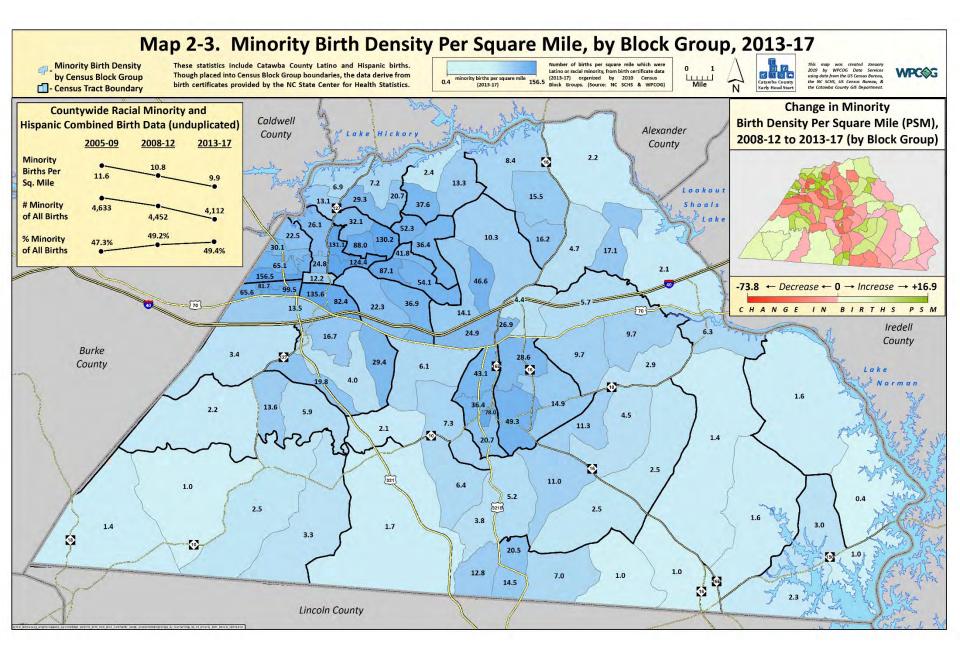




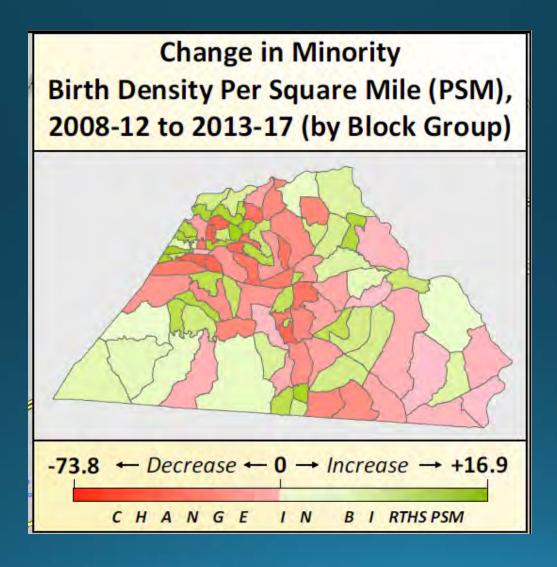


Birth Certificates

- 10 years of Catawba County birth certificate data 2005 through 2017. Compared 2008-12 data to 2013-17 data.
 - No overlapping years of data.
 - Measures 0-4 pop. at last Assessment vs this Assessment.
 - Improvement over measuring births vs Census figures, so "apples-to-apples."
 - Small Chart on maps compares all 3 time periods.
- 9,055 births from 2008-12.
- 8,306 births from 2013-17.
- Unduplicated minority births fell from 4,452 to 4,112 (-11.2%).

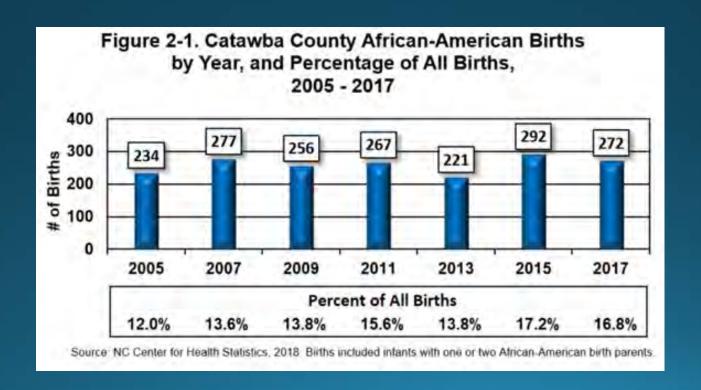


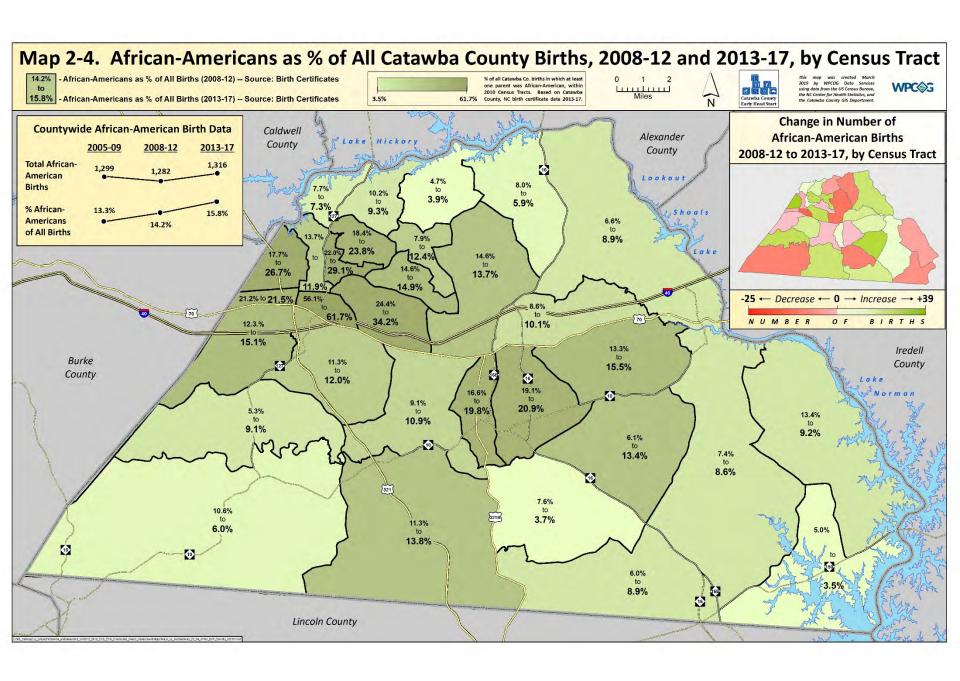




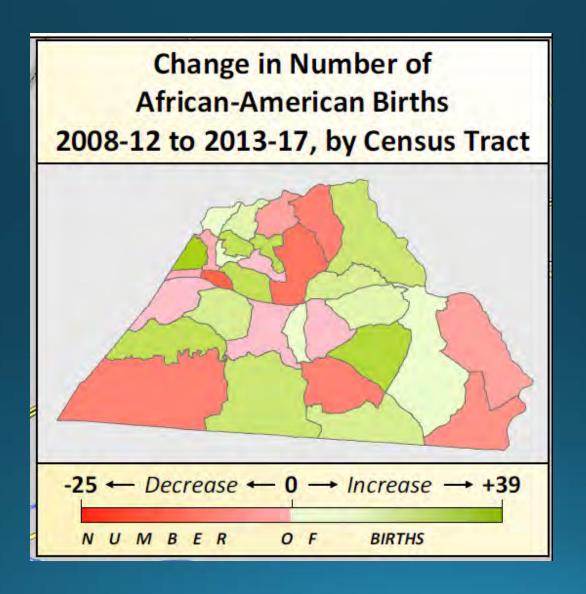
African-American Births

- Overall, increase from 234 in 2005 to 272 in 2017.
- As a percent of all births, African-Americans increased from 12.0% to 16.8%.



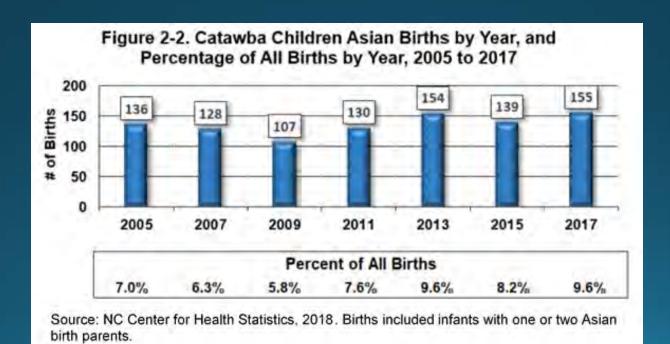


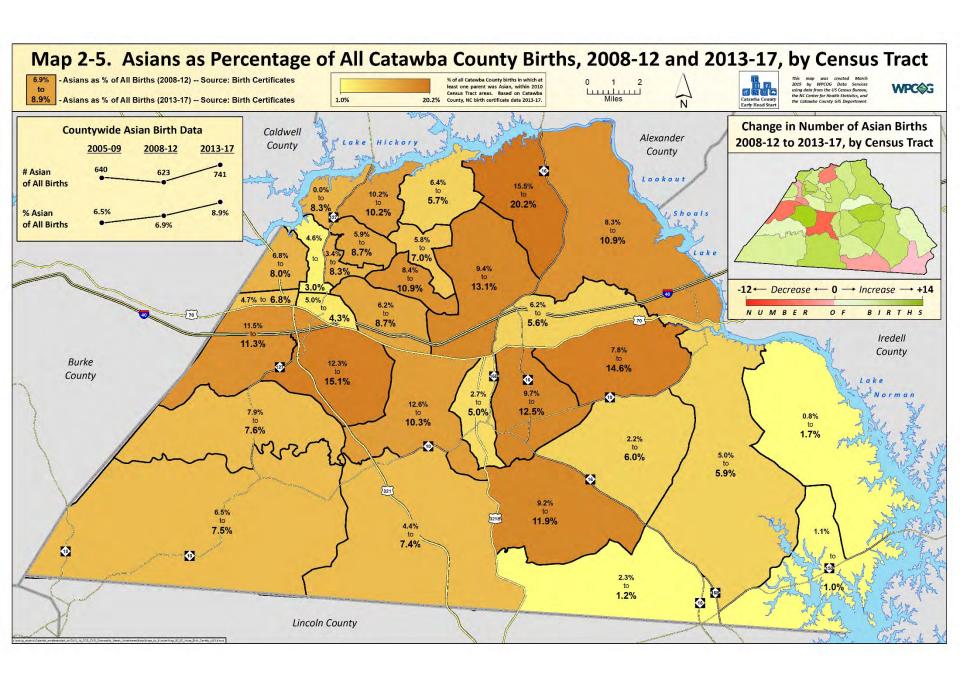




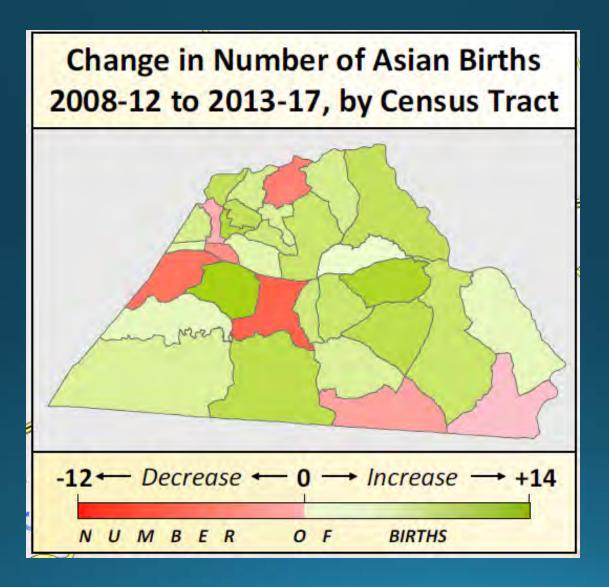
Asian Births

- After falling to 107 in 2009 the number of Asian births has since increased in 155 in 2017
- Asian births accounted for nearly 10% of all births in Catawba County in 2017.



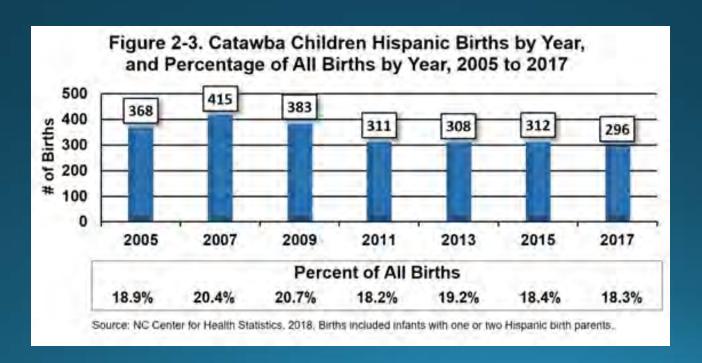


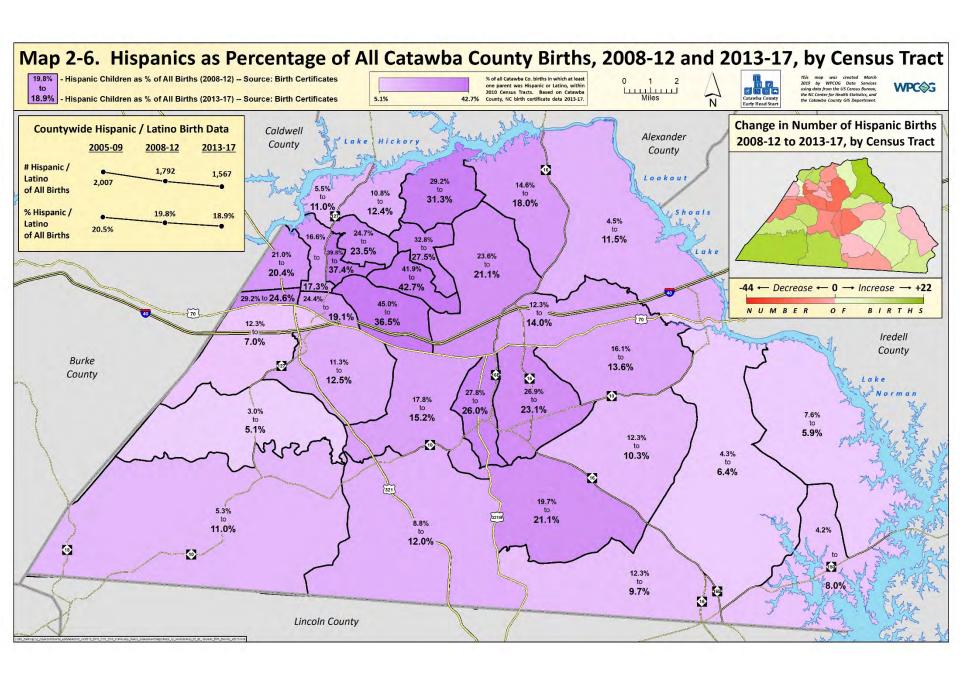




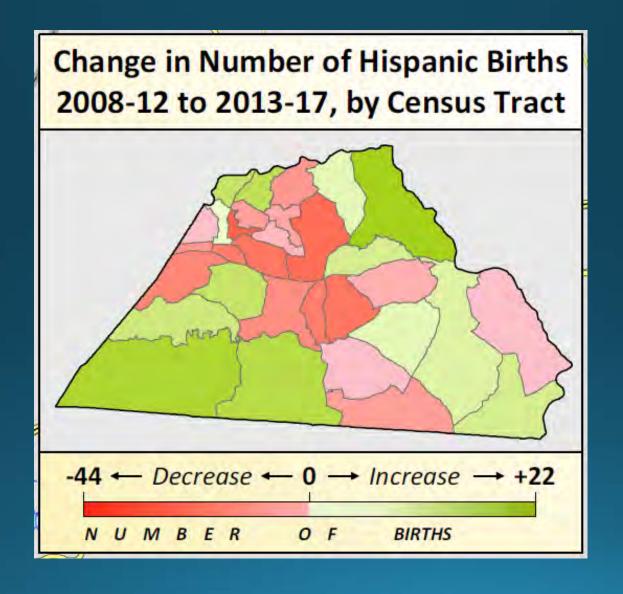
Hispanic Births

- The number of Hispanic births in Catawba County has fallen from 414 in 2007 to 296 in 2017
- Hispanic births still constitute the largest minority among County births.









Summary of Birth Changes

• From 2008-12 to 2013-17, African-American and Asian-American births increased for in Catawba County, while Hispanic and White (non-Hispanic) fell:

• African-American: 2.7%

• Asian: 18.9%

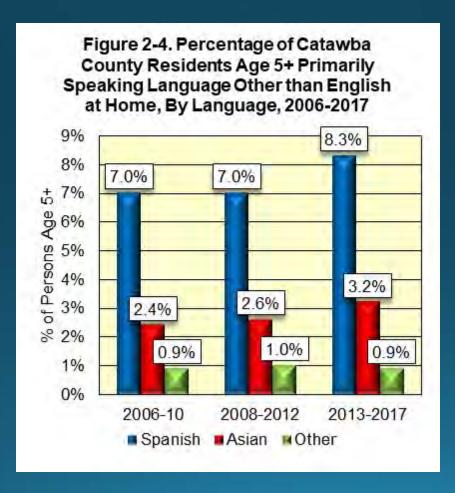
• Hispanic: -14.4%

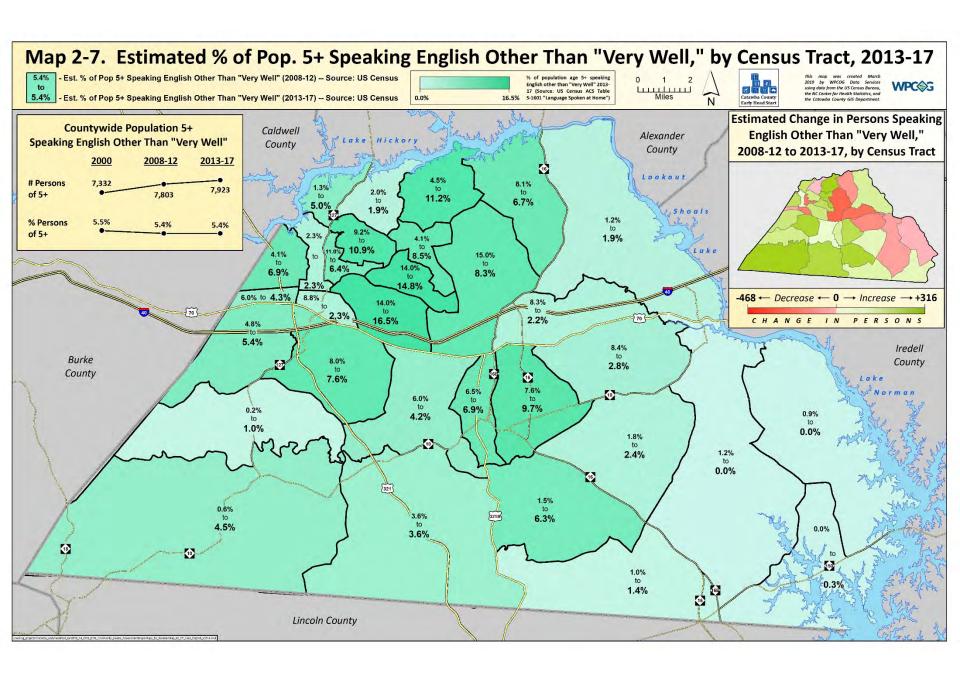
White (non-Hispanic): -8.9%

•49.4% of all Catawba County births were from minority groups in 2013-17 compared to 49.2% in 2008-12

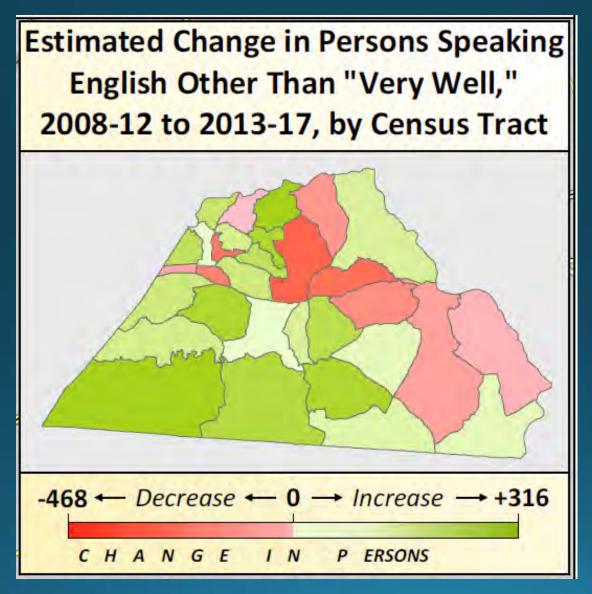
<u>Languages</u>

Other languages at home were most often Spanish, Hmong and Hindi.



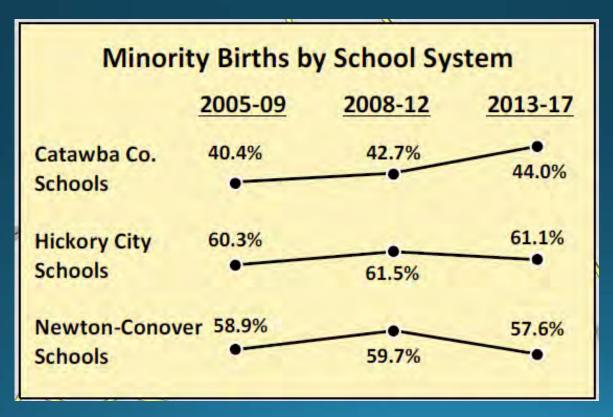


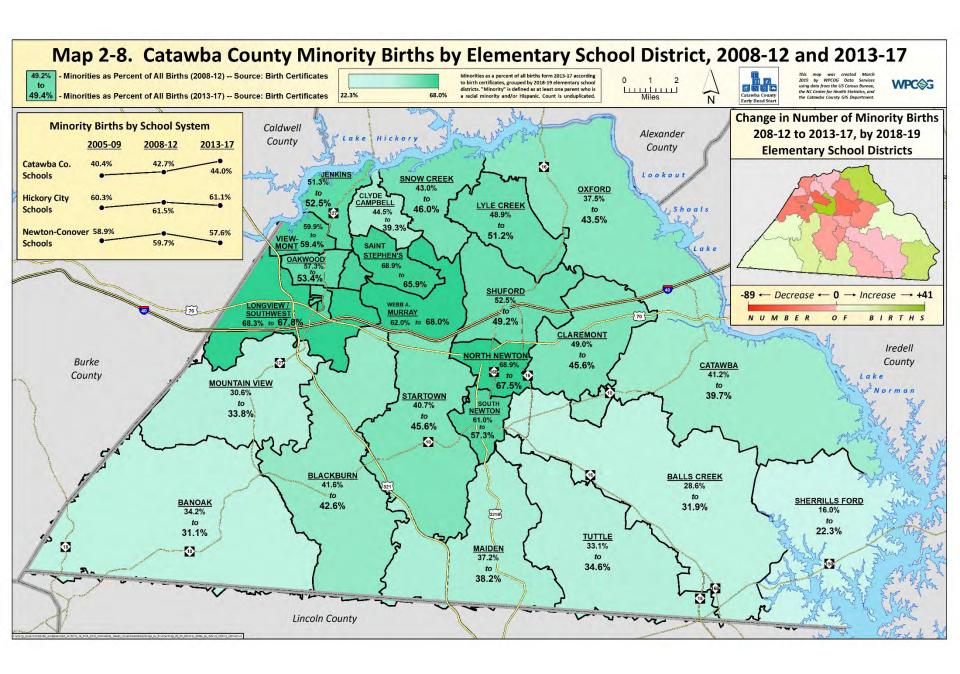




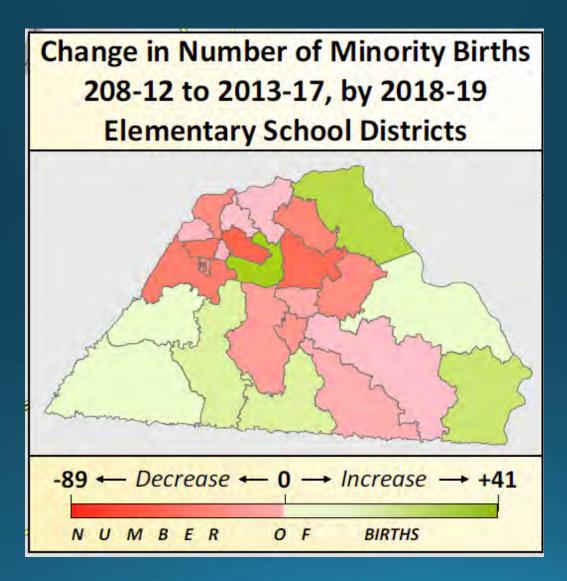
Elementary School Minority Enrollment

 Though the number of minority births fell, minorities as a % of births in each school district rose from 2005-09 to 2013-17. Minorities as % of births fell slightly in the Hickory and Newton-Conover school districts between 2008-12 and 2013-17.





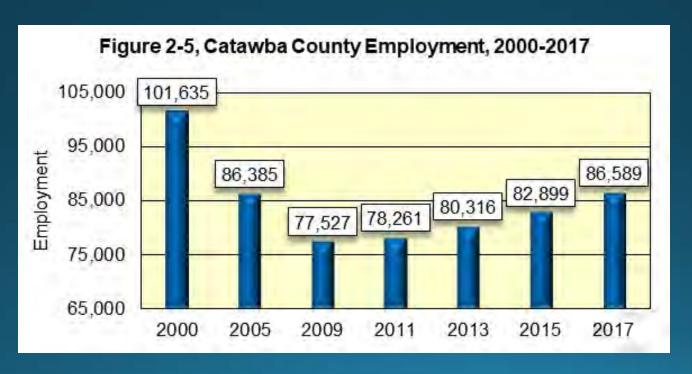




Rank State / Nation			ommon Sta	ites/Nation	s of Mothe	ar'e Dirth					
Rank State / Nation	II Calawba		Table 2-2. Most Common States/Nations of Mother's Birth, from Catawba County Birth Certicificates, 2013-2017 (Total Births = 8,306)								
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total Births					
1 NC	882	982	973	911	930	4,678	56.3%				
2 Mexico	159	171	150	139	118	737	8.9%				
3 CA	59	73	81	82	63	358	4.3%				
4 NY	38	37	37	48	37	197	2.4%				
5 FL	33	40	38	36	40	187	2.3%				
6 WV	31	35	19	21	24	130	1.6%				
7 PA	22	34	22	20	29	127	1.5%				
8 OH	22	22	21	23	12	100	1.2%				
9 VA	14	26	21	19	20	100	1.2%				
10 SC	16	26	20	13	24	99	1.2%				
11 GA	14	16	22	16	13	81	1.0%				
12 NJ	14	21	17	14	15	81	1.0%				
13 TX	17	15	8	15	15	70	0.8%				
14 MI	14	13	14	12	15	68	0.8%				
15 IL	11	8	17	7	6	49	0.6%				
WA: 12 MT: 6 ND: 2 MN: 31 WI: 40 NY: 10 III. III.											

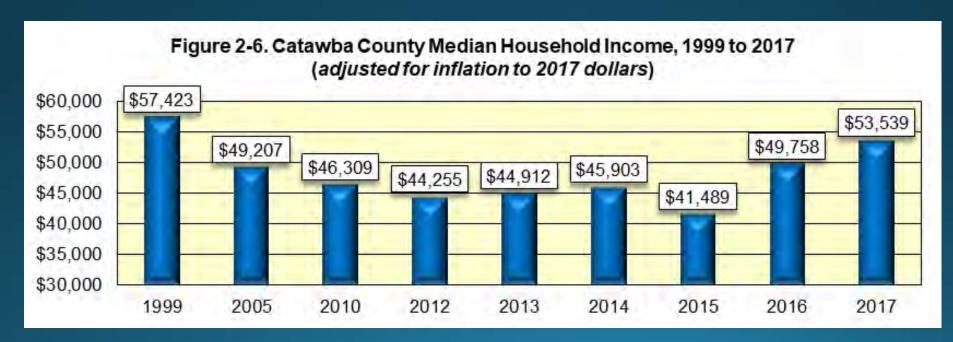
Employment

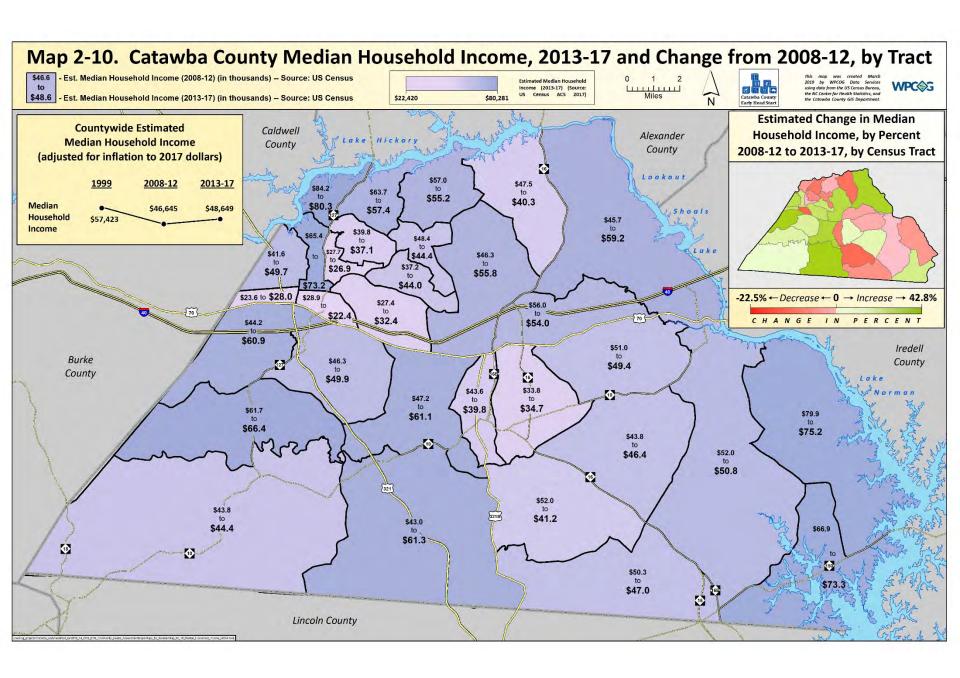
- Catawba County has experienced significant growth in employment since 2009, but it is still below 2000 levels.
- 2013-17: Furniture mfg. growth (5%) / Textile mfg. declining (-23%)



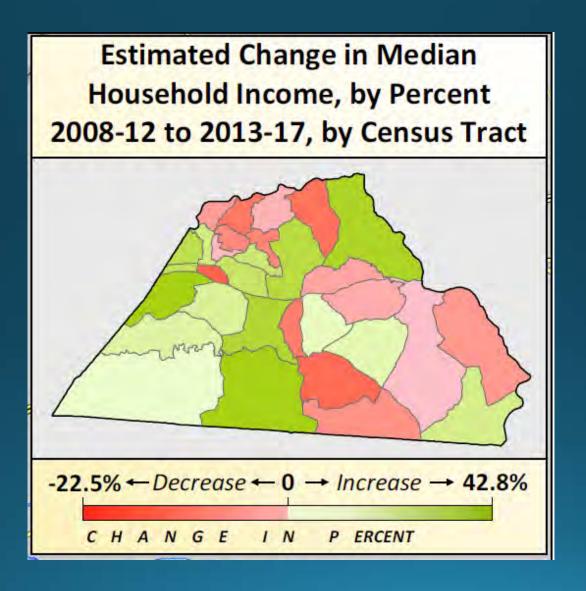
Median Household Income

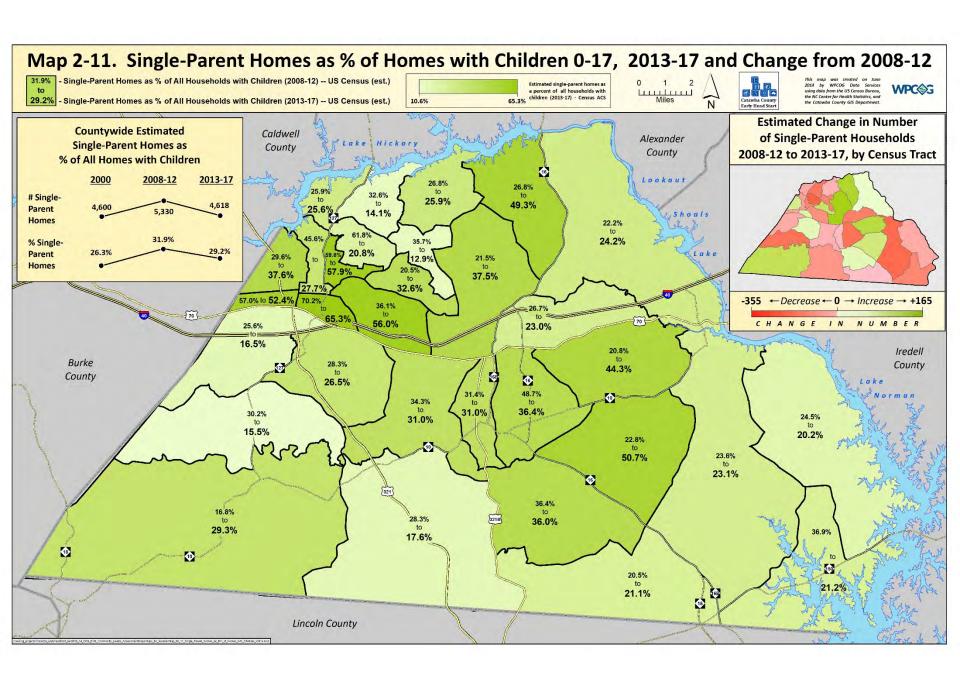
- Catawba County median household income declined between 1999 and 2015 (adjusted for inflation). Between 2015 and 2017, median household income has increased from \$41,489 to \$53,539.
- From 2012 to 2017, Catawba Co MHI was been growing faster (21.0%) than the State (9.4%) and Nation (10.0%). (adj. for inflation)







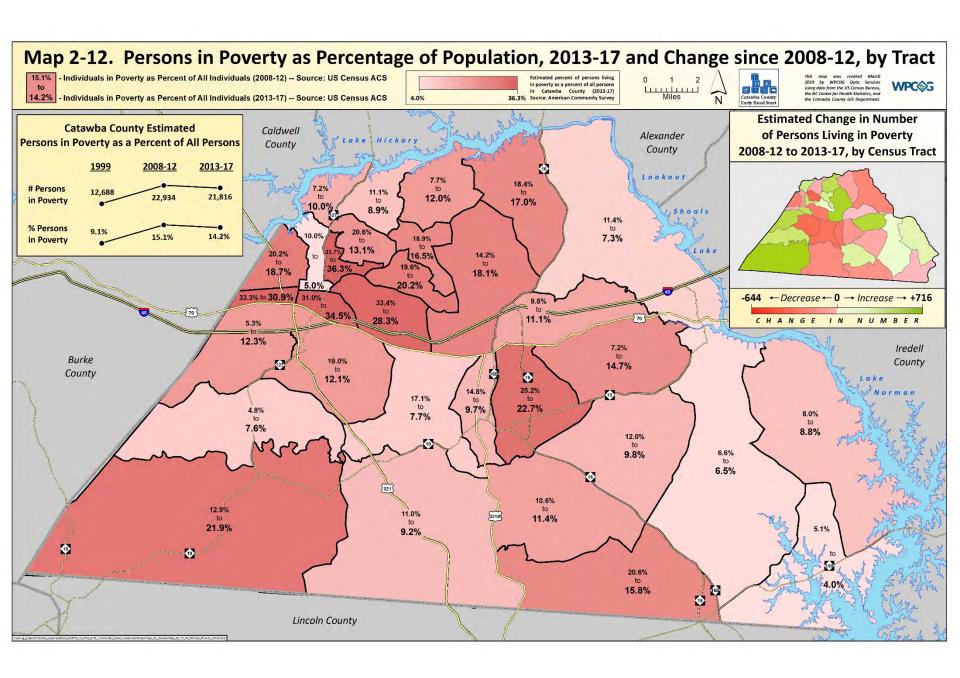




Catawba Co. Poverty (2008-12 to 2013-17)

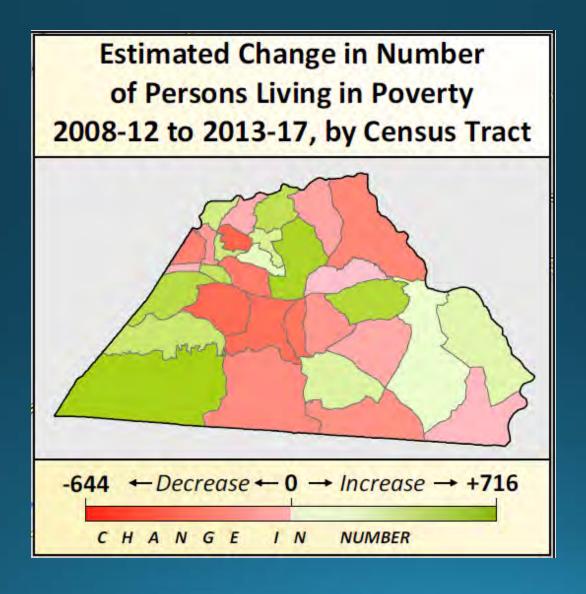
• Federal poverty level for household with one parent and one child was \$17,308.

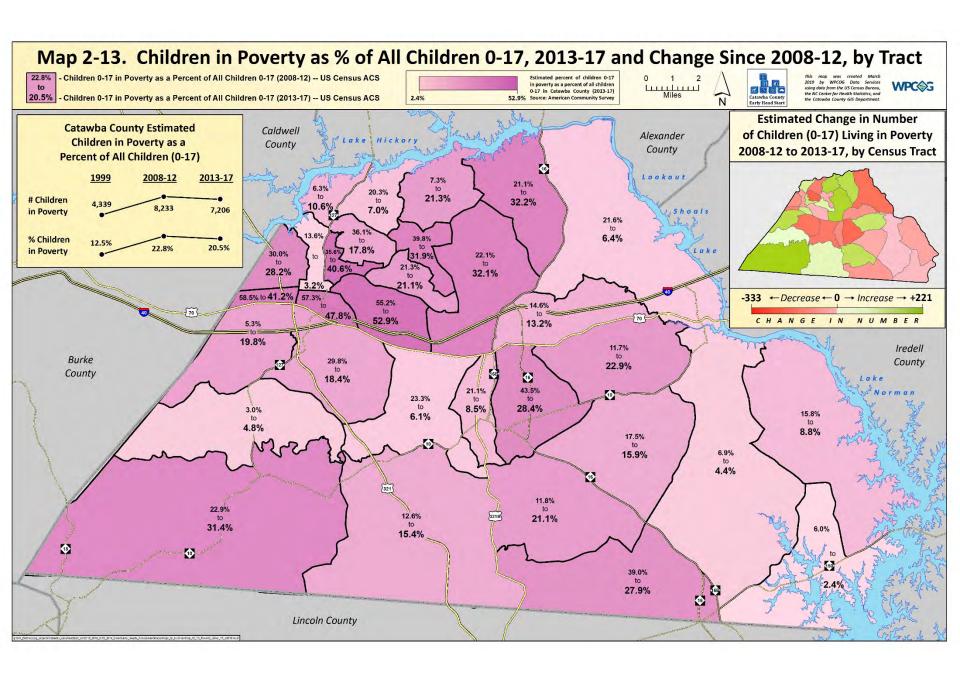
Table 2-4.									
Catawba County Poverty Estimates, 2008-12 and 2013-17									
	2008-2012		2013-2	017	Change 2008-12 to 2013-2017				
Category	Persons in Poverty	Percent	Persons in Poverty	Percent	Change	Percent Change			
All Ages	22,934	15.1%	21,816	14.2%	-1,118	-4.9%			
Children Ages 0-17	8,233	22.8%	7,206	20.5%	-1,027	-12.5%			
Children Ages 0-4	2,405	25.4%	2,072	23.6%	-333	-13.8%			
Children Ages 0-17 in Single- Parent Led Households	4,905	43.1%	4,478	42.7%	-427	-8.7%			
Children Ages 0-4 in Single- Parent Led Households	1,573	53.9%	1,345	49.2%	-228	-14.5%			





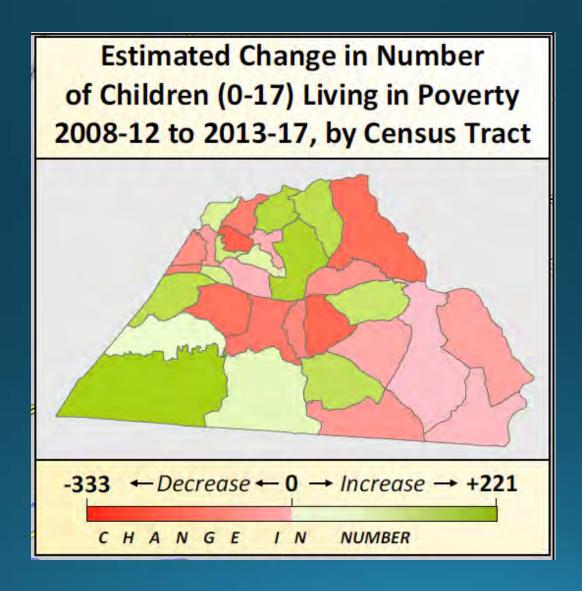
Change Through Time...







Change Through Time...



Section II: CCS-EHS Eligible Family Data

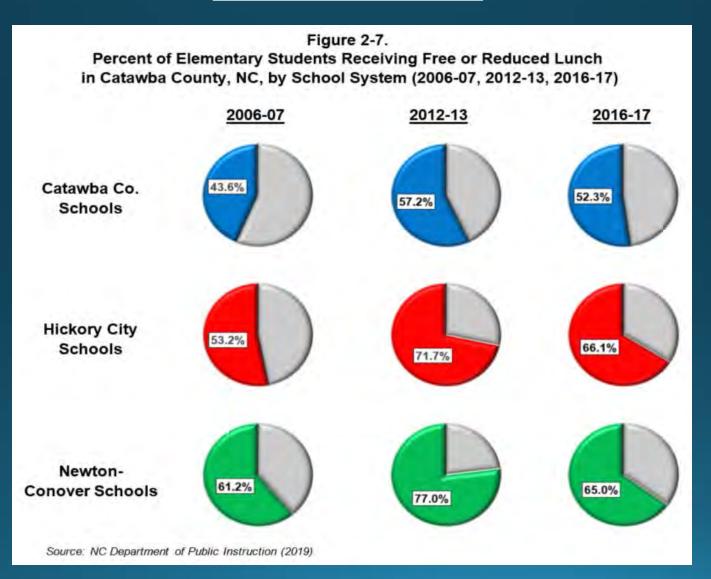
Public Assistance

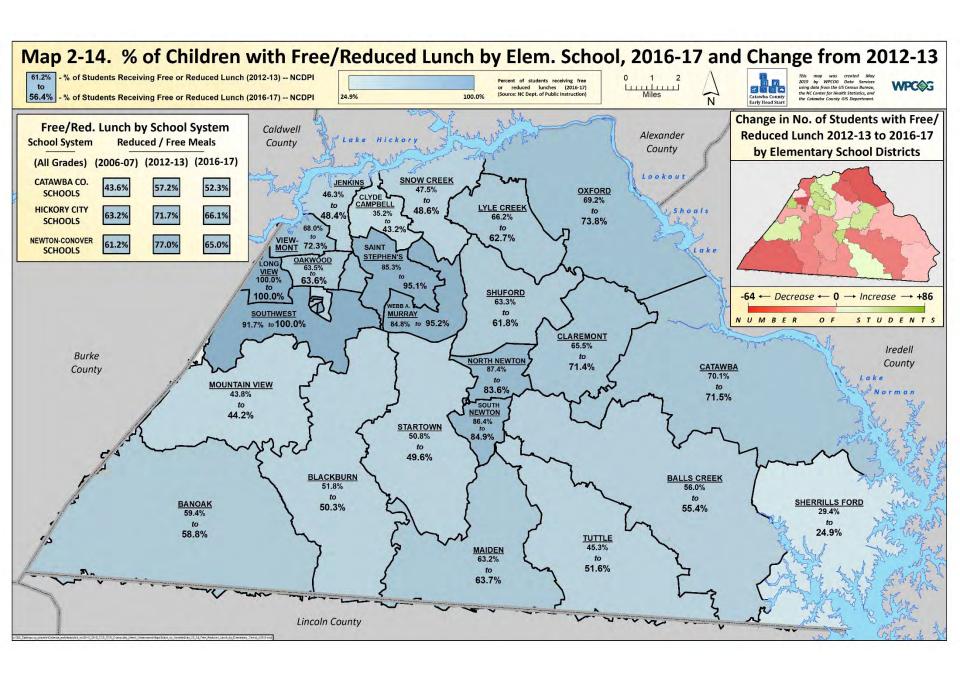
- Between 2013 and 2017, the number of (SNAP) recipients in Catawba County has decreased by 30.8%, from 30,855 to 21,329.
- Annual expenditures of the program dropped from \$43.4 in 2013 to \$31.8 million in 2017.

Table 2-6.						
Catawba County and North Carolina SNAP Program Recipients, 2000-2017						
Year	Catawba Co.	% of	Expenditures	NC	% of	Expenditures
	Recipients	Population	(\$ millions)	Recipients	Population	(\$ millions)
2000	5,322	3.8%	\$4.1	506,736	6.3%	\$381.6
2005	12,967	9.2%	\$14.5	787,756	9.8%	\$867.9
2010	23,457	14.8%	\$38.5	1,294,732	13.6%	\$2,137.5
2011	27,260	17.6%	\$42.8	1,528,945	15.8%	\$2,376.7
2012	26,617	17.1%	\$44.1	1,651,472	16.9%	\$2,488.2
2013	30,855	19.9%	\$43.4	1,670,428	16.9%	\$2,465.3
2014	28,492	18.3%	\$38.3	1,620,115	16.3%	\$2,345.3
2015	26,716	17.1%	\$37.9	1,751,973	17.4%	\$2,322.3
2016	23,467	15.0%	\$36.3	1,610,898	15.9%	\$2,221.6
2017	21,329	13.6%	\$31.8	1,406,024	13.7%	\$1,949.9

Section II: CCS-EHS Eligible Family Data

Free/Reduced Lunch





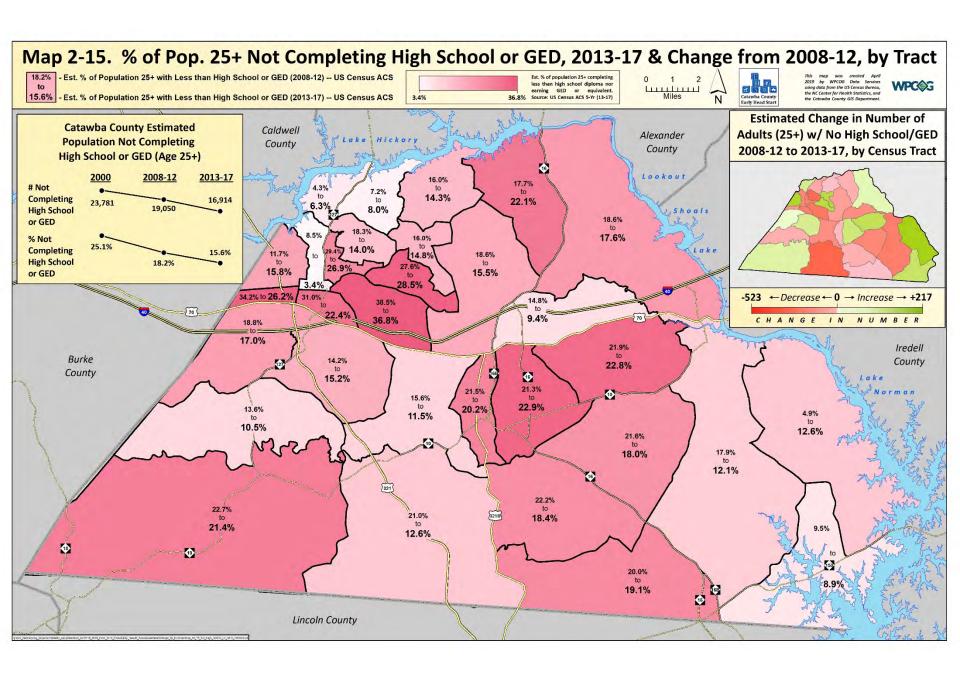
Section II: CCS-EHS Eligible Family Data

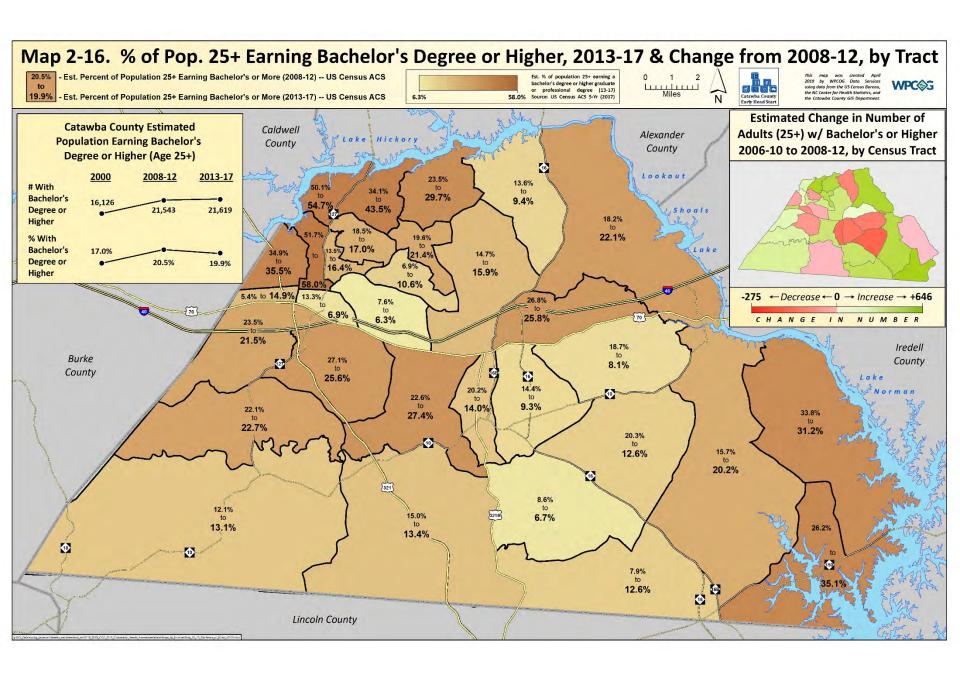
Educational Attainment

- Educational attainment of adults age 25+ in Catawba County continues to improve at all levels, especially higher education.
- The County still lags the State and Nation in all attainment levels.

Table 2-7 Educational Attainment in Catawba County, 1990-2017					
% of Population Age 25 and Over Attaining at Least	1990	2000	2012	2017	
8th Grade or Less	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
9th to 12th Grade	87.0	91.5	93.8	94.0	
High School Graduate	66.6	74.8	83.3	84.4	
Some College, No Degree	36.6	43.5	52.4	54.4	
Associate Degree	21.6	24.0	30.4	32.2	
Bachelor's Degree	14.1	17.0	20.7	19.9	
Graduate Degree	3.3	4.7	7.5	6.6	

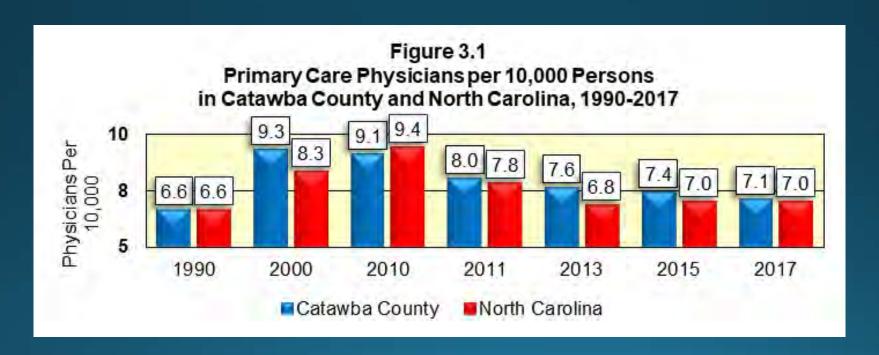
Source: US Census (1990 and 2000) & Census ACS (2012 & 2017).





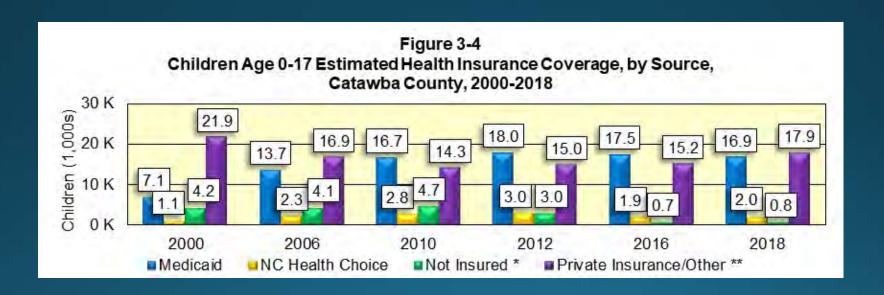
Physician Access

• Since 2000, the number of primary care physicians in Catawba County decreased relative to the population.



Children's Health Insurance Coverage

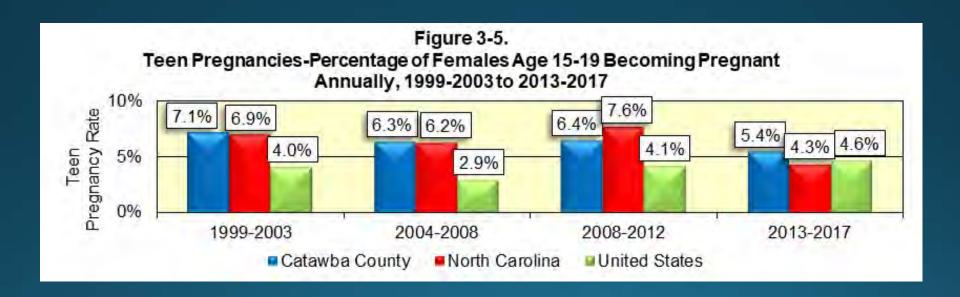
- In 2018, about half of Catawba County children were covered by Medicaid or NC Health Choice.
- As of 2018, Catawba has less than 1,000 uninsured children



^{*} NC Health Choice provides insurance to children through age 18. Sources: Medicaid data – NCDMA: "Title XIX Authorized Medicaid Eligible", online at https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/documents/reports/enrollment-reports/medicaid-and-health-choice-enrollment-reports. Categories included: Infants & Children, Foster Care, AFDC and MCHIP. NC Health Choice Data from NC Div. of Medical Assistance, Annual Utilization Reports. Uninsured children estimate from NC Institute of Medicine, accessed at: http://www.nciom.org/nc-health-data/uninsured-snapshots/. "Private Insurance / Other" figures are remainder of Catawba County child (0-17) population estimates provided by NC OSBM via NC LINC.

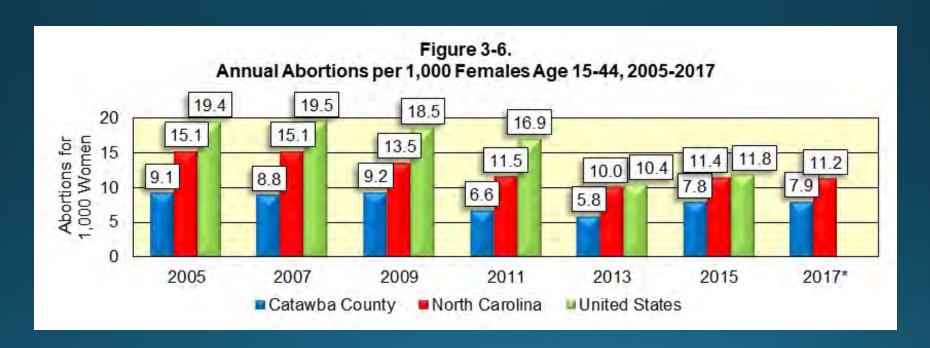
Teen Pregnancies

 Catawba County has reduced its teenage pregnancy rate over the past 20 years.



Abortions

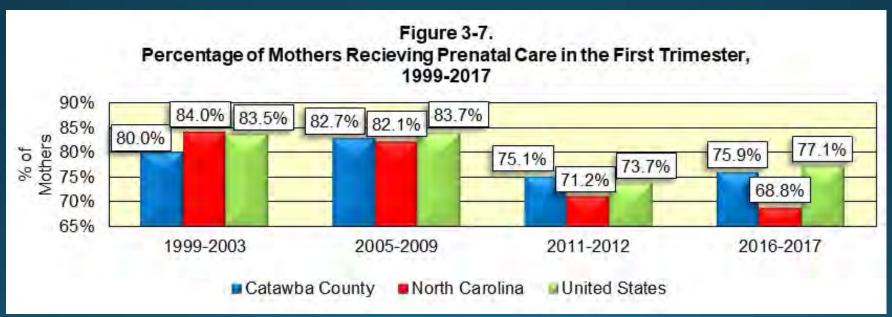
• From 2005 to 2017, the rate of abortions declined in Catawba County, and is much lower than National and State figures.



*2017 United State data is not available. The US Centers for Disease Control has not provided national statistics on abortion since 2015. Source: Abortion figures for Catawba County and North Carolina from NC DHHS via NC OSBM and NC LINC. County and State population figures from NC OSBM via NC LINC. Statewide data for 2009 were unavailable from NC LINC and were instead calculated on a county-by-county basis and may differ slightly from an official National abortion data from Guttacher Institute: Facts on Induced Abortion in the United States (March 2014). Population estimates for US from US Census Bureau ACS Survey Estimates Program, 2004-2017.

Section III: CCS-EHS Eligible Health & Nutrition Prenatal Care

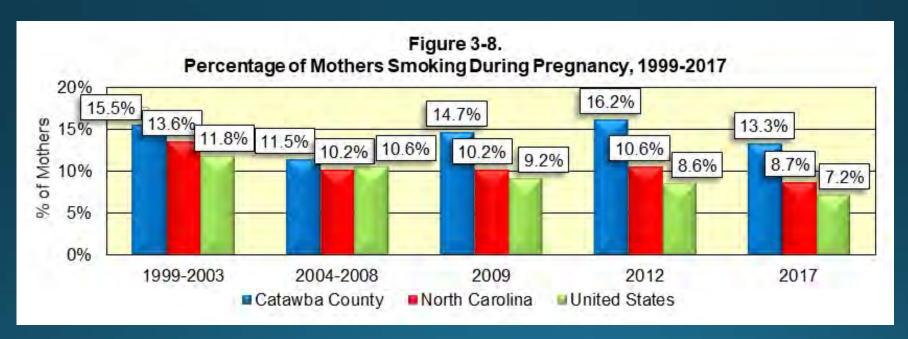
 A lower perecentage of Catawba County mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester between 2011 and 2017 than between 1999 and 2009.



Source: State and County first trimester care rates are from NCDHHS "NC County Trend Reports 2010" accessed at: http://www.epi.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/trends/pdf/Catawba.pdf. US figures from Selected Risk Factors - 1994 to 2008." National Vital Statistics System, CDC, Data download from http://205.207.175.93/ vital stats/ReportFolders/ReportFolders.aspx , 2010. State and County source for 2011-2012: http://www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/data/births/bd.cfm. Federal data for 2011-12 from USDHHS, Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Maternal and Child Health, "Child Health USA 2013," accessed at: http://mchb.hrsa.gov/chusa13/health-services-utilization/p/prenatal-care-utilization.html.

Smoking During Pregnancy

• The percent of Catawba expectant mothers who smoke is greater than the State and Nation, but has decreased since 2012.



Source: Data for Catawba County and North Carolina from NC State Center for Health Statistics, NC and County figures for 1994 to 2008 from "NC County Trend Reports 2010" accessed at: http://www.epi.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/trends/pdf/Catawba.pdf. State and County figures for 2009 accessed at: http://www.healthstats.publichealth.nc.gov/indicator/view_numbers/PregTobacco.County.html. State and County figures for 2012 accessed at: http://www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/data/databook/ National data for 1994 to 2008 from "Selected Risk Factors - 1994 to 2008." National Vital Statistics, CDC, accessed at: http://205.207.175.93/vitalstats/ReportFolders.aspx, 2010. 2009 and 2012 National data from US Centers for Disease Control, "CDC Wonder" at: http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html.

Children with Disabilities

• As of 2013-17, Catawba County children age 5-17 suffered most often from cognitive difficulties.

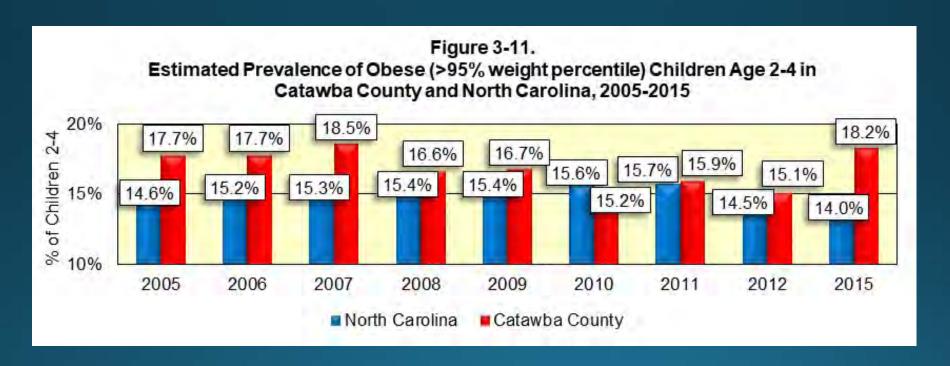
		Table 3	3-2.			
Number of Catawba County Non-Institutionalized Children Age 5 to 17 with						
Disabilities, by Type of Disability, 2008-2012 and 2013-2017						

Type of Disability	2008-12 Estimated # of Children with Type of Disability	2008-12 Percentage of All Disabled Children	2013-17 Estimated # of Children with Type of Disability	2013-17 Percentage of All Disabled Children	Change in # of Children with Type of Disability 2008- 12 to 2013-17
ALL TYPES	1,169	100.0%*	1,151	100.0%*	-18
Hearing Difficulty	99	8.5%	173	15.0%	74
Vision Difficulty	189	16.2%	206	17.9%	17
Cognitive Difficulty	860	73.6%	757	65.8%	-103
Ambulatory Difficulty	52	4.4%	94	8.2%	42
Self-Care Difficulty	254	21.7%	205	17.8%	-49

^{*}Number of children with each type of disability exceeds total number of children with disabilities because children can experience more than one type of disability. Source: US Census American Community Survey Table S1810, (2008-12, 2013-2017 Five Year Averages).

Childhood Obesity

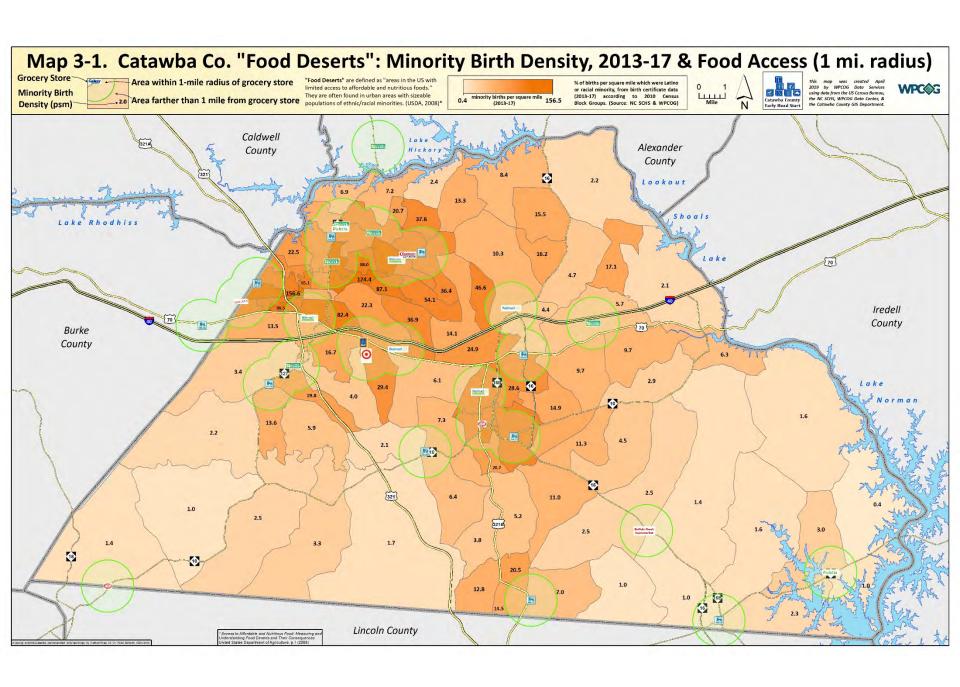
• From 2012 to 2015, obesity in Catawba County children age 2-4 increased from 15.1% to 18.2%.

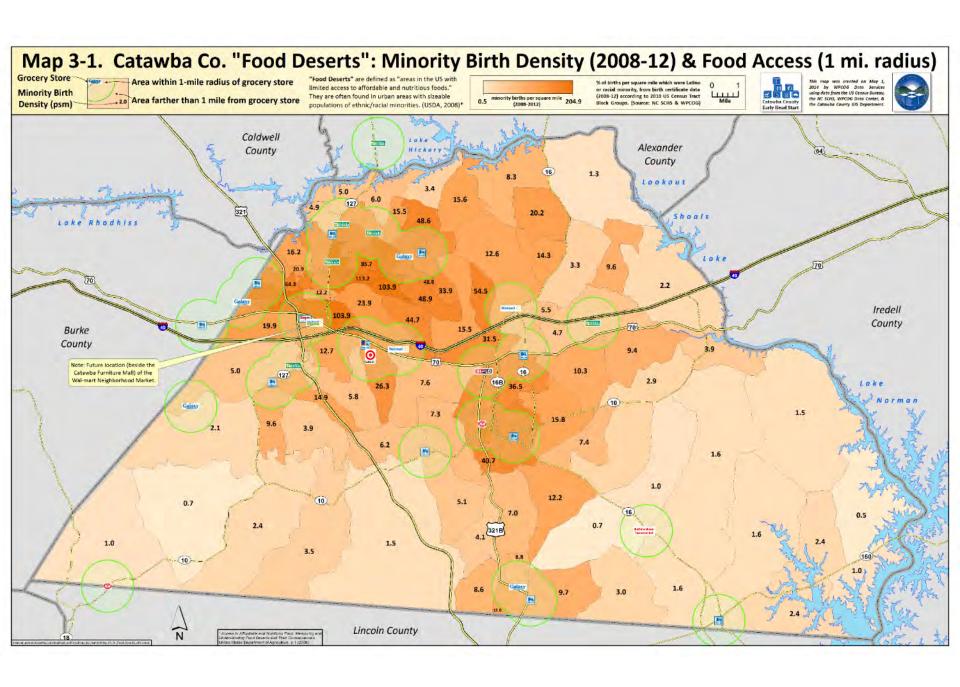


Sources: Data for years 2005-2012 is derived from the North Carolina-Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System (NC-NPASS). Data for year 2015 is derived from the North Carolina Pediatric Nutrition and Epidemiology Surveillance System (NC-PedNESS). Both sources are overseen by NC Eat Smart/Move More.

Food Deserts

- "Food Deserts" are urban areas of elevated poverty which do not have easy access to a supermarket.
- Often found in areas of large minority populations.
- Healthy food is either unavailable or too expensive at small convenience stores.
- Families often faced with choosing cheaper foods in small food stores, which contain high amounts of fat and calories, or eat inexpensive items at fast-food outlets, which are also often unhealthy.
- Can lead to health problems and obesity.





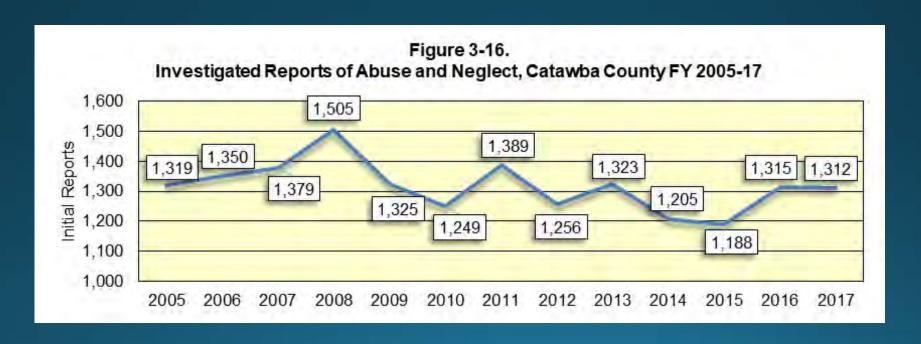
Substance Abuse

• In Catawba County, sales of liquor at ABC stores increased each year from 2007 to 2017, growing from \$10.6 million to \$19.3 million.



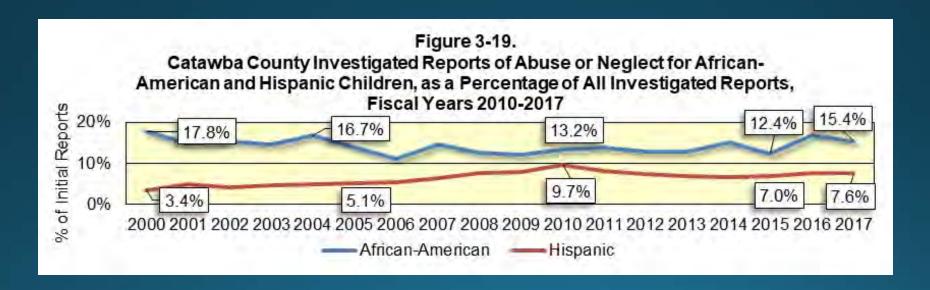
Child Abuse and Neglect

• Initial reports of child abuse and neglect in Catawba County increased from 1,256 in 2012 to 1,312 in 2013 (4.5% increase).



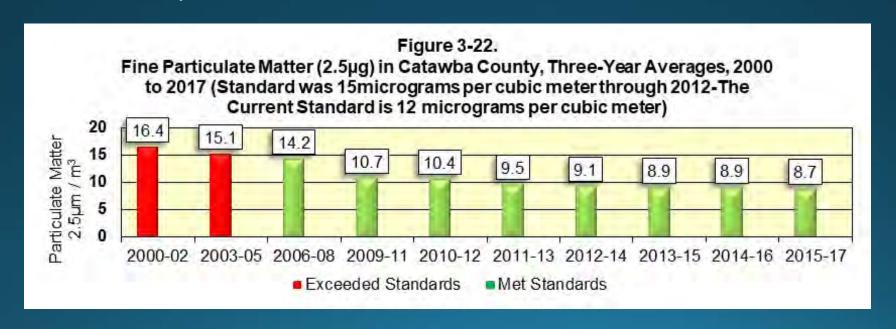
Child Abuse and Neglect (cont.)

• The percentage of child abuse investigated reports for Hispanic Children in 2017 (7.6%) is less than half of the actual Hispanic proportion of the Catawba County child population (16.9%).



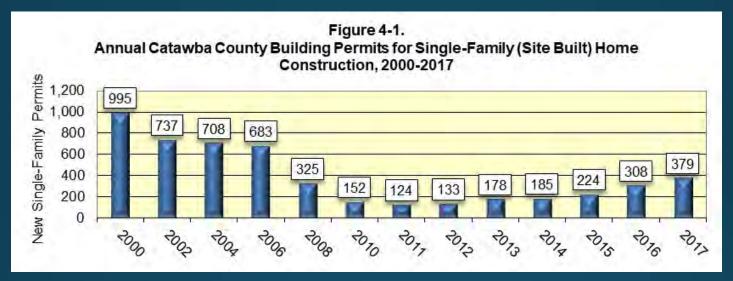
Natural Environment

- Since 1999, air pollution, both Particulate Matter (2.5) and Ground-Level Ozone, has fallen steadily in the Hickory Metro.
- This is due largely to better environmental standards, as well as to fewer factory and automobile emissions.

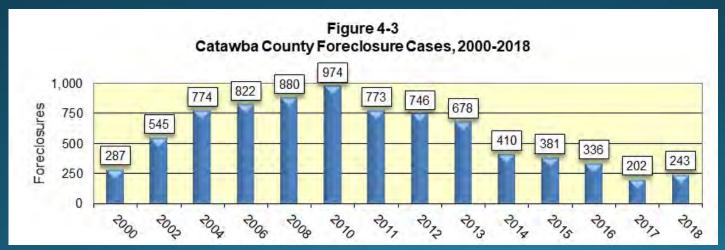


Section IV: Housing in Catawba County

New Home Construction & Foreclosures



Source: US Census, Building Permits Survey, 2019. Accessed at: http://censtats.census.gov/bldg/bldgprmt.shtml

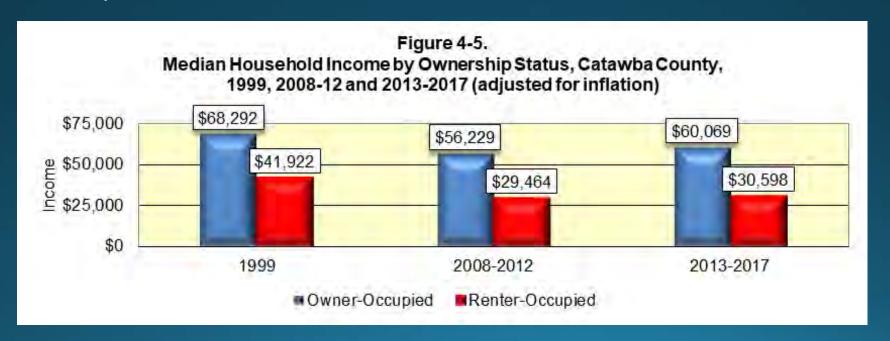


Source: North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts, 2019.

Section IV: Housing in Catawba County

Renting versus Owning

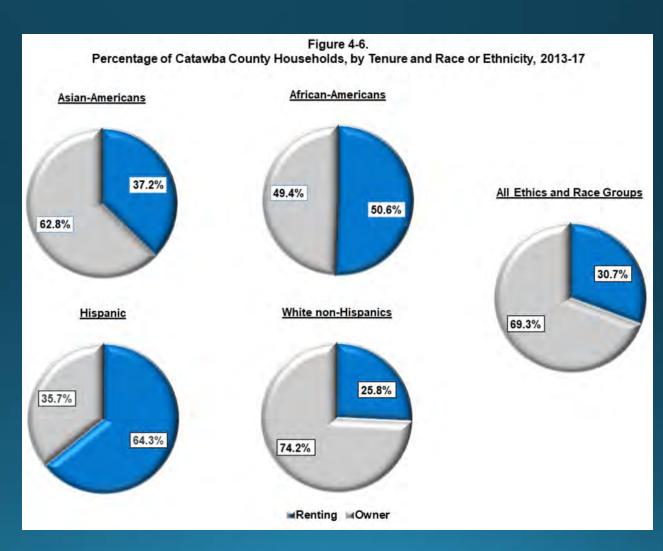
- Catawba County households which rent have median household income of about half of homeowner households.
- Household income increased for both owner- and renteroccupied households between 2008-12 and 2013-17.



Section IV: Housing in Catawba County

Renting versus Owning (cont.)

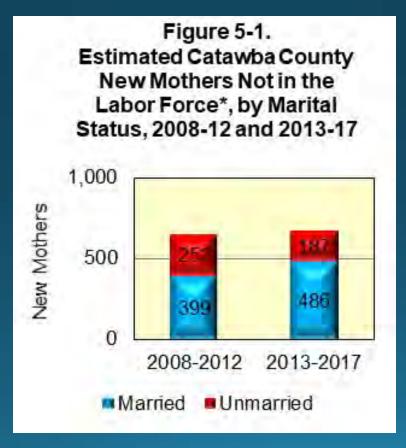
 Catawba County African-American and Hispanic families were more likely to rent homes, while Asian and White (non-Hispanic) families were more likely to be homeowners (2013-17).



Section V: Child Care in Catawba County

Employment of Mothers

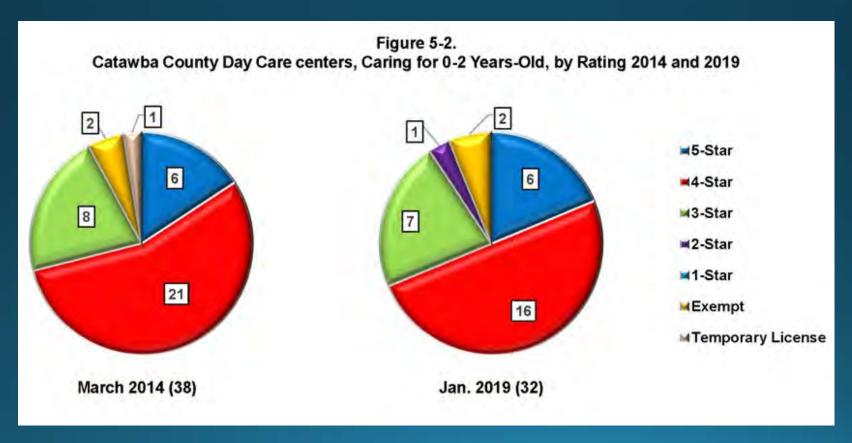
• The number of new mothers not working in Catawba County has declined for unmarried, but increased for married.



Section V: Child Care in Catawba County

Day Care Ratings

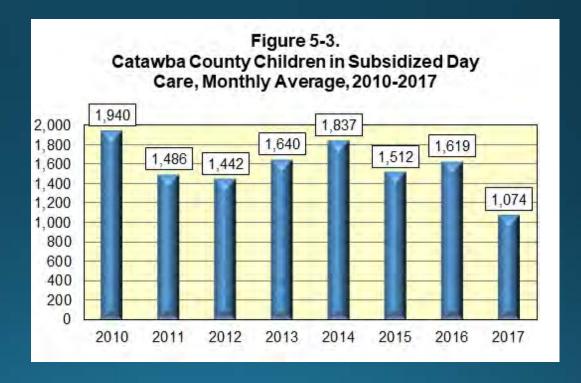
• There was a reduction in 5-star centers between March 2014 and January 2019.

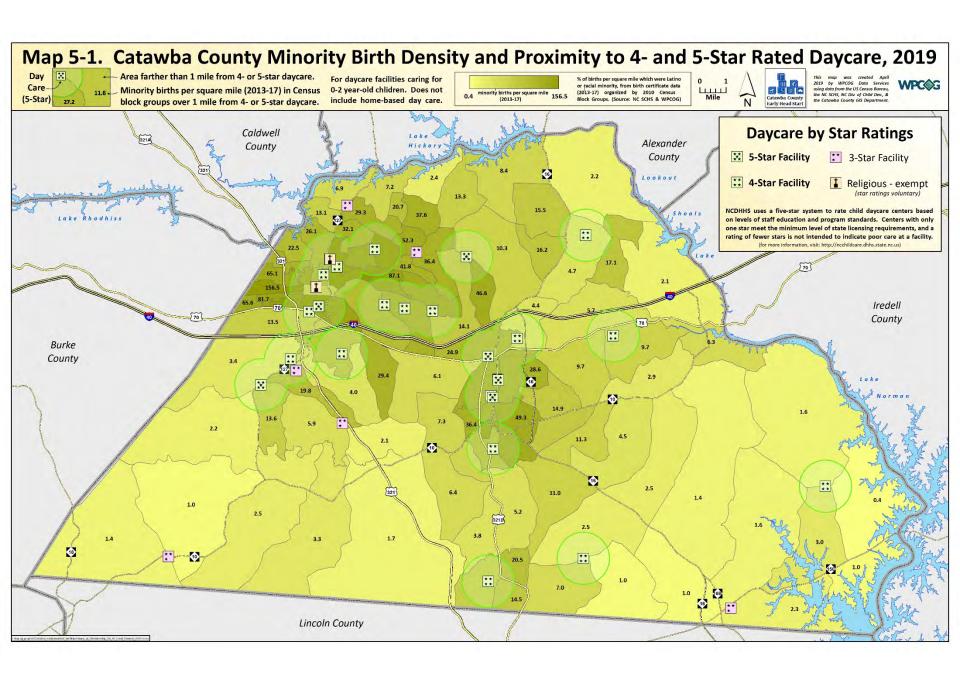


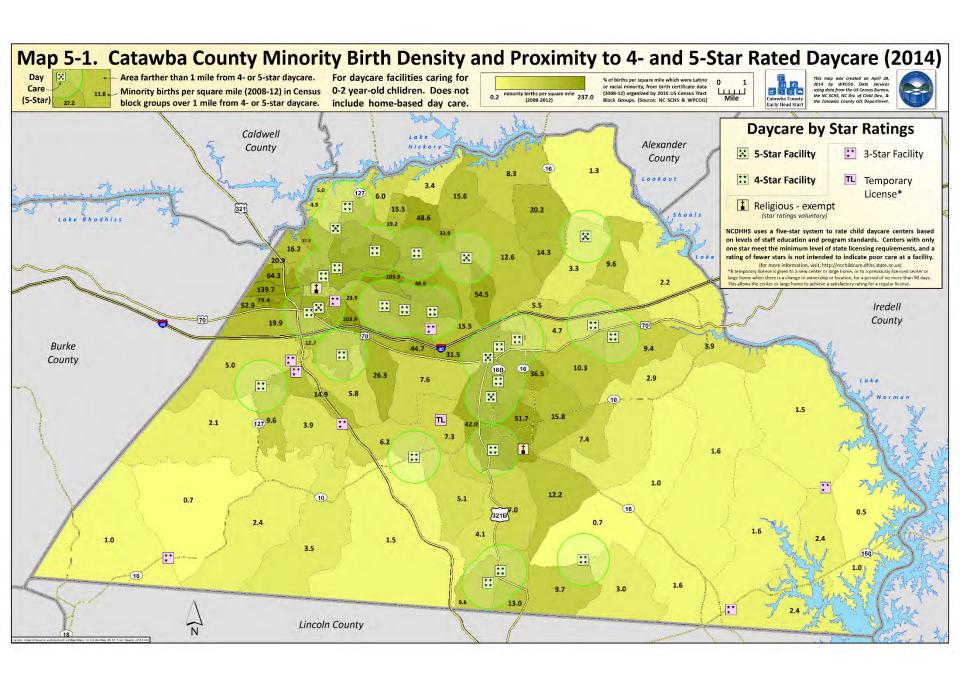
Section V: Child Care in Catawba County

Subsidized Day Care

- The number of children receiving state-subsidized day care in Catawba County has fallen dramatically since 2016.
- In 2018,a Catawba
 County one-star
 center would
 receive \$379 per
 month to care for an
 infant, while a five star center would
 receive \$1,018



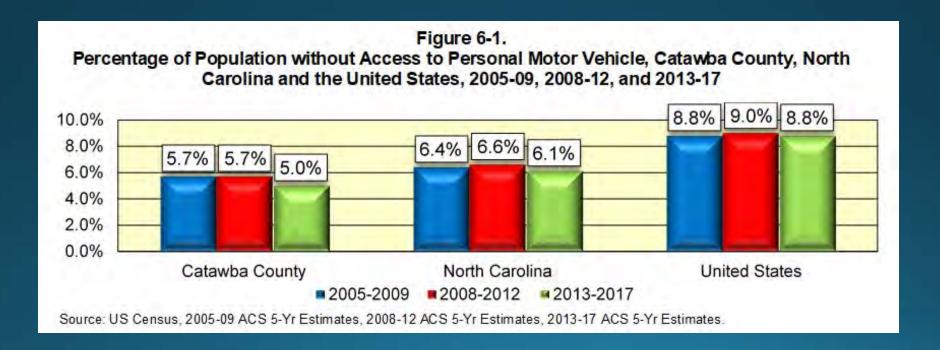


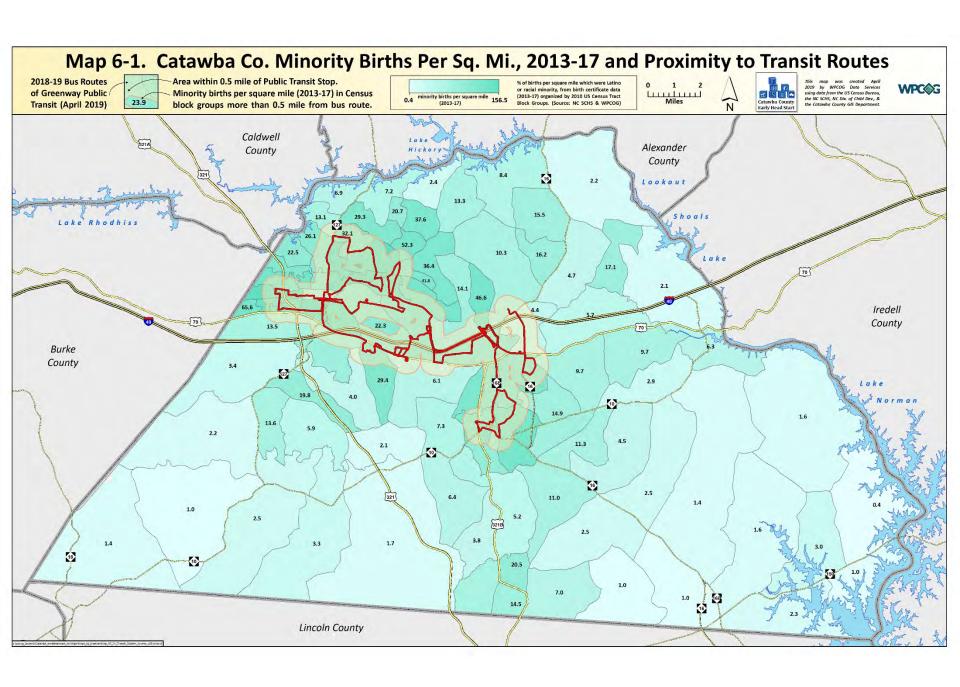


Section VI: Transportation & Communication

Access to Personal Motor Vehicle

• The proportion of County residents with no access to a motor vehicle is lower than in US or NC, and has fallen between 2008-12 and 2013-17.





Section VI: Transportation & Communication

Access to Greenway Transit for Families with Very Young Children

Table 6-1 Percentage of Children Born from 2008 through 2017 Living within 1/2 Mile of Catawba Public Transit Routes, by Race, April 2019

Race or Ethnicity	Within 1/2 Mile			
Race of Ethilicity	2008-12	2013-17		
Hispanic	52.8%	50.1%		
African-American	58.1%	57.8%		
Asian	32.7%	32.3%		
White (non-Hispanic)	23.2%	21.7%		
All Races	35.6%	34.0%		

Section VI: Transportation & Communication

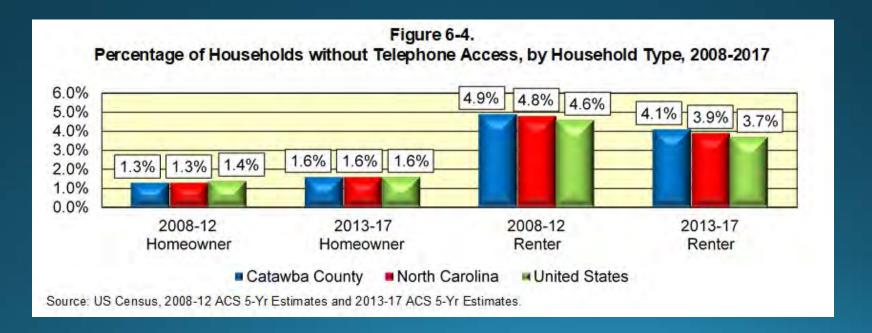
Telephone / Cell Phone Access

 Household access to telephone has improved dramatically from 2005-09 to 2013-17.

Percent of Households Without Telephone Access, Including Cell Phones, 2005-09, 2008-12, and 2013-17					
Area	2005-09	2008-12	2013-17		
Catawba County	3.2%	2.3%	2.4%		
North Carolina	4.9%	2.5%	2.4%		
United States	4.2%	2.4%	2.3%		

Table 6-2.

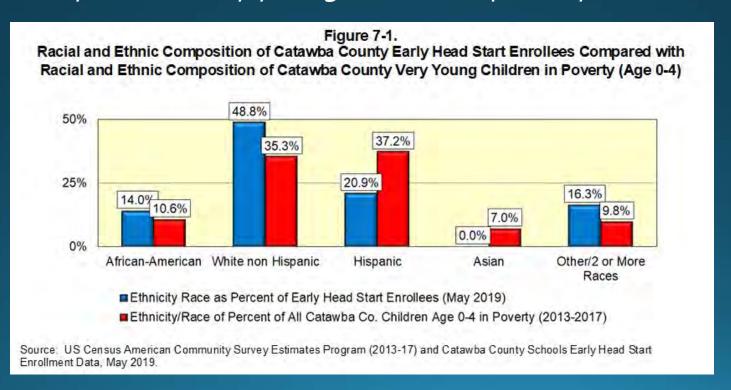
Source: US Census, 2005-09 ACS 5-Yr Estimates, 2008-12 ACS 5-Yr Estimates, 2013-17 ACS 5-Yr Estimates.



Section VII: CCS-EHS Enrollees

Poverty Representation and Enrollment

- CCS-EHS enrollment dropped from 133 children in 2014 to 129 children in 2017 (-3.0%)
- Enrollment in CCS-EHS appears to be generally representative of the ethnicity/race of very young children in poverty in the County.



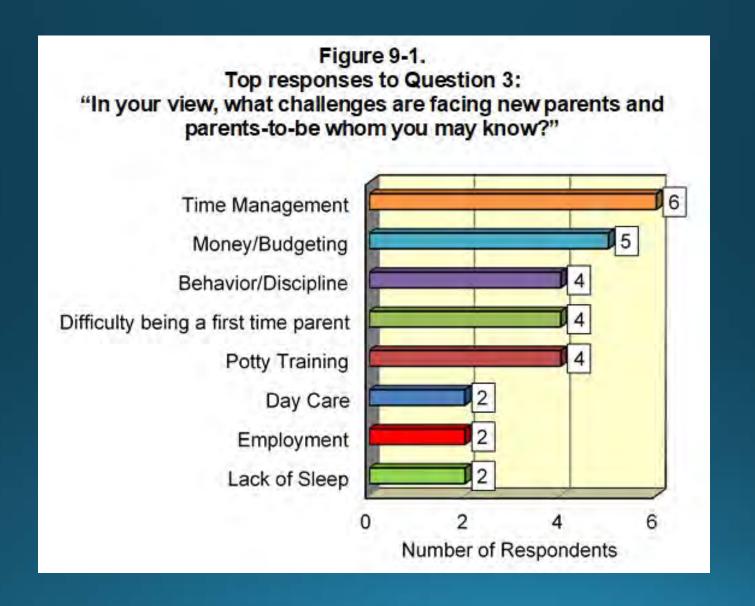
Section VIII: CCS-EHS Staff

Staff Qualifications

- CCS-EHS employs 11 persons
- All (100%) have a bachelor's degree
- One staff member has a master's degree.
- One staff member speaks English and Spanish.

Survey Description

 33 parents/guardians of CCS-EHS enrolled children responded to a one-page survey regarding the challenges faced by Early Head Start in Catawba County and how the program can achieve its goals.



Sample Answers to Question #3:

"In your view, what challenges are facing new parents and parents-to-be whom you may know?"

"they are young parents who need to learn the baby curve and well as continuing to take care of themselves"

"not spending enough time [with my children] because of work"

"lack of information [and] fear of the unknown"

Sample Answers to Question #4:

"In your opinion, what actions can CCS-EHS take to better serve the needs of parents and parents-to be?"

More Parenting Classes

"teach them proper baby techniques as well as teaching them to nurture themselves and their marriage"

"additional resources and educational opportunities"

"teach and show parents"

"Offer more [classes] getting together to learn about parenting"

More Growth and Transportation Needs

"I would like to program to be offered to more families" "Offer transportation to those in need"

Sample Answers to Question #5:

"What obstacles do you see to CCS-EHS serving this population?"

"government funding for the program going away"

"helping children with growth and development"

"it more better if the program had more families"

"just not wanting to participate every week"

"many people are scared or shy to ask about EHS"

"more families than educators"

"one on one attention"

"participates don't commit to home visits"

"providing services between 3 and 5"

"some parents don't take it seriously"

"spread out services for more families to learn about the program"

Figure 9-2.

Question 7 Results:

"Early Head Start staff have assisted us/our child in staying current with well child exams and finding a dentist to see our child"

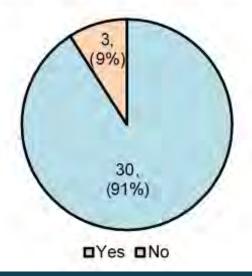


Figure 9-3.
Question 8 Results:
"I am satisfied with Early Head Start services my family receives"



Section X: Comprehensive Need Index for Early Head Start Services

Index Description and Components

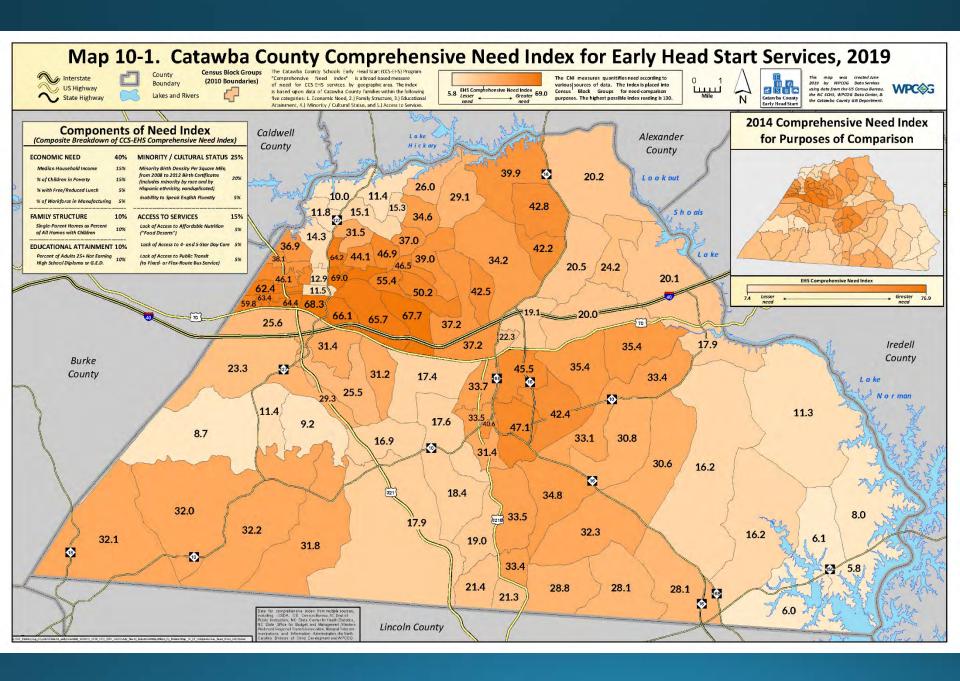
- All sub-county indicators of need for very young children were grouped into Census block group boundaries and indexed using a consistent scoring system: 0 (lowest need) to 100 (highest need)
- Each category was then weighted according to its applicability to the overall need for CCS-EHS services
- The resulting index indicates, from 0 to 100, the need of very young children in each Census block group for CCS-EHS services.
- The index was compared with that from the 2014 Assessment.

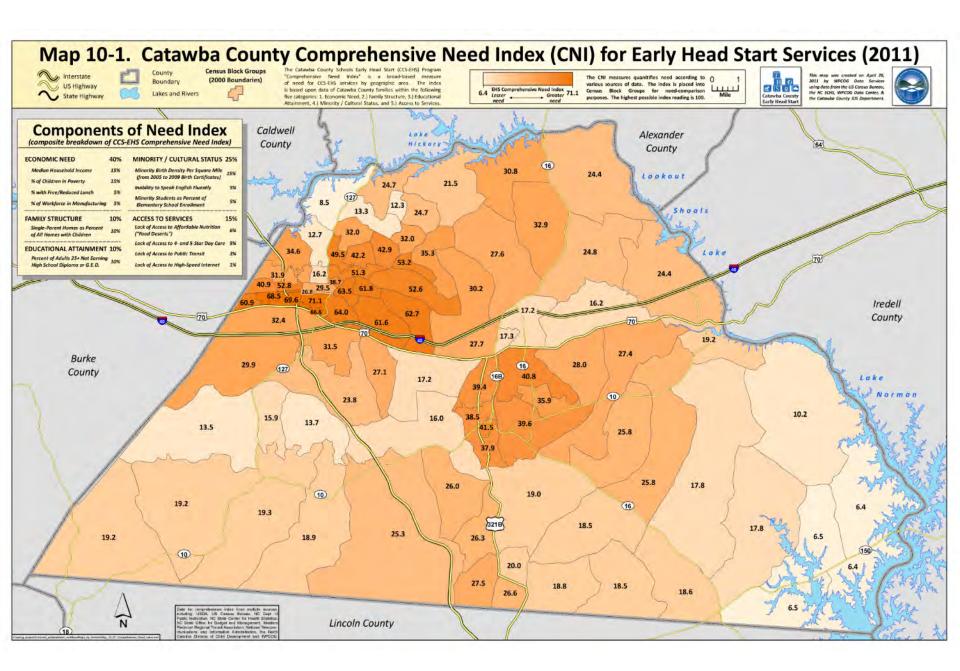
Start Again Here Section X: Comprehensive Need Index for Early Head Start Services

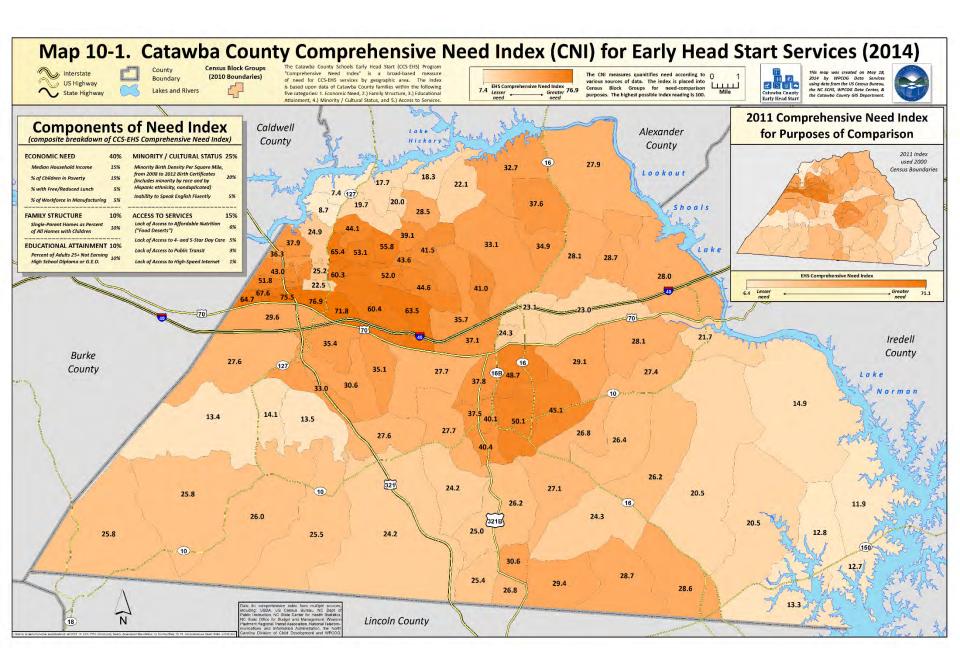
Index Components and Weighting

Table 10-1. Components and Weighting of Catawba County Comprehensive Need Index for Early Head Start Services, 2019

Category	Weight	Category	Weight
Economic Need (total)	40%	Minority / Cultural Status (total)	25%
Median Household Income	15%	Minority Birth Density per Square Mile (2008-2012)	20%
% of Children in Poverty	15%		
% of Children with Free/Reduced Lunch	5%	Inability to Speak English Fluently	5%
% of Workforce in Manufacturing	5%	Lack of Access to Services (total)	15%
Family Structure (total)	10%	Access to Affordable Nutrition ("Food Deserts")	5%
Single-Parent Homes as % of Homes with Children	10%	Access to 4- and 5-Star Day Care	5%
Educational Attainment (total)	10%	Access to Public Transit	5%
% Adults 25+ Not Finishing High School	10%		







Section X: Comprehensive Need Index for Early Head Start Services

Index Results

- Sherrills Ford, Viewmont and Mountain View were areas with lowest index scores (least need).
- South-central Hickory retains highest scores (most need), mostly due to increased poverty rate (though fewer actual children).
- South Long View and section of Newton also indicated higher need.
- Increased need was noted in the Oxford community west of NC
 16.
- Decreased need in west Maiden and surrounding areas.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Decline of births from 2005-09 to 2008-12, increase for African-American and Asian-American births, decrease for Hispanic births.
- Improved economic conditions, but economic hardship remain:
 - Growth in median household income, renter household income half of owner-occupied.
 - Decrease in poverty (poverty rate still 23.6% of 0-4-year-olds).
 - More than half of elementary students eat free/reduced lunch
 - About one-in-seven residents receive SNAP (21,329 persons).
- About half of children on Medicaid or NC Health Choice.
- Lower rates of prenatal care and smoking during pregnancy.
- Subsidized day care is decreasing, is vital to local children.

2019 Community Assessment

Questions?







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