

# GREENVILLE COUNTY RACIAL EQUITY INDEX

AN EXAMINATION OF RACE AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

JUNE 2020

# Greenville Racial Equity Index

The following study is a comprehensive analysis of demographic and wellbeing data that reflect community conditions related to racial equity in Greenville County, South Carolina, with emphasis on how these data predict economic mobility by race.

The data gathered here will serve to help promote greater awareness and understanding of the depth and breadth of the differences between the white and black experience in Greenville County. The findings are intended to spark important conversations and to inform the work of many individuals, project partners, and organizations in Greenville County. These data, taken together, can inform the design of programs and policies that will improve community conditions and people's lives.

The primary factors that influence racial equity in Greenville County have been included insofar as quantitative data exist for them. General information and narrative relative to equity are also included to provide a compelling story. Although the data contained in this report are comprehensive and contextual, there is much more that can be discovered to measure community conditions relative to racial equity, especially in qualitative terms. It is clearly insufficient to provide a few data points when describing indicators of equity or wellbeing;

therefore, multiple measures are reported, and context is provided through longitudinal (trend) measures and city, county, state, and national comparisons for many measures where helpful and possible. Data are taken from many other sources as identified. Some very granular data or data for smaller geographies, may require care in interpretation due to small sample sizes and resulting wider margins of error. Most data are reported in average 5-year estimates for greater accuracy.

The language used in this report to distinguish between the two primary races for which the data are collected – “blacks” and “whites,” is the language used by the US Census<sup>1</sup> and other primary sources. The same is true for “Hispanics,” for which some ethnicity data are provided.

Special thanks are extended to United Way of Greenville County for commissioning this study and to other partners, including Hollingsworth Funds and the Greenville Chamber of Commerce for their support of this work.

Any questions may be addressed to the author of this study:

Kathleen Brady, Ph.D., Community Research Group  
[kathleen@communityresearchgroup.com](mailto:kathleen@communityresearchgroup.com)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>4</b>		
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>		
The Language of Equity	6		
Racial Inequity	7		
Demographics	7		
<b>Employment and Income</b>	<b>11</b>		
Income and Income Inequality	12		
• Per Capita Income	14		
• Household Income	14		
Wages and Earnings	17		
• Living Wage	20		
Poverty	21		
• Child Poverty	24		
Employment	26		
Minority-Owned Business and Entrepreneurship	28		
Mobility out of Poverty	29		
<b>Housing</b>	<b>34</b>		
Homelessness	35		
Homeownership	39		
• Affordability	41		
• Severe Housing Problems	43		
Residential Segregation by Race	43		
Concentrated Poverty	47		
<b>Democracy and Inclusion</b>	<b>50</b>		
Voting	51		
Family Composition	52		
Social Capital	55		
<b>Criminal Justice</b>	<b>56</b>		
Arrests	57		
Sentencing	60		
Incarceration Rates	60		
Civil Asset Forfeitures	64		
School-to-Prison Pipeline	64		
Felony Disenfranchisement	65		
<b>Health</b>	<b>67</b>		
Social Determinants of Health	69		
Health Conditions	70		
		• Infant Mortality	70
		• Prenatal Care	72
		• Low Birth Weight	74
		• Obesity	75
		• Cancer	77
		Behavioral Health	79
		• Adverse Childhood Experiences	79
		Physical and Overall Health	80
		Food Environment	81
		Births to Teens	81
		Access to Care	83
		• Health Insurance Coverage	83
		• Healthcare Utilization	85
		Life Expectancy	87
		• Premature Death Rate / Years of Potential Life Lost	89
		<b>Environment</b>	<b>91</b>
		Social Vulnerability	92
		Neighborhood Amenities	93
		• Access to Healthy Food	93
		• Access to Transportation	94
		Pollution	95
		• Brownfields	95
		• Superfunds	95
		• Lead Exposure	96
		• Air and Water Quality	97
		<b>Education</b>	<b>98</b>
		Educational Attainment	99
		School Readiness	100
		Third Grade Reading	101
		Eighth Grade Math	102
		Graduation Rate	103
		Dropout	103
		• Idleness	104
		Social Mobility	105
		<b>Attribution</b>	<b>108</b>
		<b>Equity Indicators by Census Tract</b>	<b>112</b>

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are strong ties between economic mobility and racial equity, evident across most domains. Communities can only reach their economic potential through resolving entrenched, often systemic and structural racism. Greenville County, and especially the City of Greenville, is thriving – but not for all residents. In fact, Greenville County is worse than almost every county in the nation for helping poor and minority children out of poverty and up the economic mobility ladder.

This study demonstrates that black residents fare worse than white residents in Greenville County on multiple measures:

- Per capita income for whites in the City of Greenville is almost three times higher than for blacks. Per capita income for blacks in the county is 67% that of whites. This is a larger gap than in the state overall.
- Black household income is 56% of white household income. This is worse than the state and U.S. averages, and the trend is not improving. The gap is even wider in the City of Greenville.
- There is a persistent gender-based and race-based pay gap, with black males earning 51% of white males. Earned income for top earners has increased over the past 30 years, while earned income for lower- and middle-class workers has declined.
- Female, black, and Hispanic residents have higher poverty rates compared to male and white residents. Compared to peer counties and the state average, poverty rates are better for blacks but worse for Hispanics.
- Blacks and Hispanics have higher “deep poverty” rates, compared to whites.
- Although poverty rates for married couple families and single female householder families are the same for black families and white families, Hispanic families have the higher poverty rates, regardless of family composition.
- Poverty rates for black and Hispanic children are consistently and significantly higher than for white children.
- Labor force participation rate is higher for Hispanics and blacks compared to whites, but unemployment rate is higher for blacks, compared to whites.
- Whites have greater home ownership rates compared to blacks – whites occupy 83% of owner-occupied housing.
- In the Upstate, 56% of the homeless population is black.
- Greenville County had high residential segregation; there is more residential diversity in the City of Greenville.
- 22.5% of black children and 30.2% of Hispanic children live in areas of concentrated poverty, compared to 4.8% of white children.
- Increasing proportions of voters are non-white; however, rates do not reach proportional demographic representation.
- 83% of white families are headed by a married couple, compared to 67% of black families and 68% of Hispanic families.
- Black males constitute a higher proportion of Detention Center, jail, and prison inmates compared to their demographic representation.

- The infant mortality rate is twice as high for black babies compared to white babies.
- Rates of births to mothers who had no prenatal care have been increasing, and there is persistent racial inequity, with the latest rate for white mothers at 17 per 1,000 births, compared to black mothers at 41.8 per 1,000 births.
- 16% of black babies are born with low birth weight, compared to 7% of white babies.
- 49% of black children are overweight or obese, compared to 36% of white children.
- Although cancer incidence and mortality rates are lower for blacks, there are several cancers that have significantly higher mortality for blacks, even though incidence is higher for whites.
- 73% of blacks report Adverse Childhood Experiences, compared to 57% of whites.
- Low income residents and people of color are at higher risk for food insecurity and lack access to healthy foods.
- Black teens have higher birth rates compared to white teens.
- 8.9% of white residents lack health insurance, compared to 13.6% of black residents and 36.2% of Hispanic residents.
- Blacks seek care in emergency departments for non-emergent conditions 2.33 times more frequently than whites.
- There is wide variation in life expectancy by census tract, with low income and minority census tracts having shorter life expectancy.
- 15% of black workers do not have their own transportation to work, compared to 10% of white workers.
- Adverse neighborhood environmental conditions disproportionately impact low-income communities and communities of color.
- 39% of whites hold a 4-year degree, compared to 17% of blacks and 14% of Hispanics.
- 69% of white students meet or exceed the 3rd grade reading standard, compared to 31% of black students and 37% of Hispanic students.
- 54% of white students meet or exceed the 8th grade math standard, compared to 17% of black students and 29% of Hispanic students.
- The four-year high school graduation rate is 87% for white students, 77% for black students, and 82% for Hispanic students.

Positive findings show that:

- The minority-owned business rate is increasing in South Carolina, and 18.3% of businesses in Greenville County are minority-owned.
- There is no evidence of a school-to-prison-pipeline.
- There is no difference by race on self-reported physical and mental health.
- The drop-out gap and idleness gap are small and narrowing.
- A local university is in the top quartile of 4-year colleges for promoting social and economic mobility for low income students



# INTRODUCTION

## What is Equity and Why is it Important?

Race and place determine largely whether people have opportunity to thrive. Rising income inequality and persistent gaps in health, wealth, income, employment, education, and opportunity prevent low-income people and people of color from realizing their full potential, and in places where inequities are ignored and perpetuated, quality of life is limited for all residents.

Inequities do not exist in isolation but are part of a reciprocal and complex web of problems associated with inequality on multiple fronts. Although most would assert that there should be no differences in outcomes based on factors for which people cannot be held responsible, it is often difficult to strike a balance between viewpoints of meritocracy – the belief that societal position and rewards reflect differences in effort and ability – with viewpoints that some goods and services are necessities and should be distributed solely according to level of need. When we look at our communities through an equity lens, we understand that the attendant issues are immeasurably more complex, deeply rooted in, and inseparable from, historical context.

A multitude of reports, fact sheets, and media stories show how well Greenville is doing in terms of the enviable quality of life enjoyed by its residents. The problem is that these findings are aggregated – in fact, not all of Greenville's residents are doing well. The differences, when examined by race, are stark.

Analysis of equity and what should be done to achieve it cannot be a shallow undertaking if communities are to decide how to distribute goods and services, holding governments, nonprofit entities, and community leaders responsible for ensuring fair treatment for all citizens. The National Equity Atlas<sup>2</sup> defines an equitable region as one *where all residents – regardless of their race/ethnicity or nativity, neighborhood of residence, or other characteristics – are fully able to participate in their region's economic vitality, contribute to their region's readiness for the future, and connect to their region's assets and resources.*

Greenville County has untapped social and economic potential that will be realized when the inequities reflected in this document are meaningfully addressed.



Credit: King County Office of Equity and Social Justice

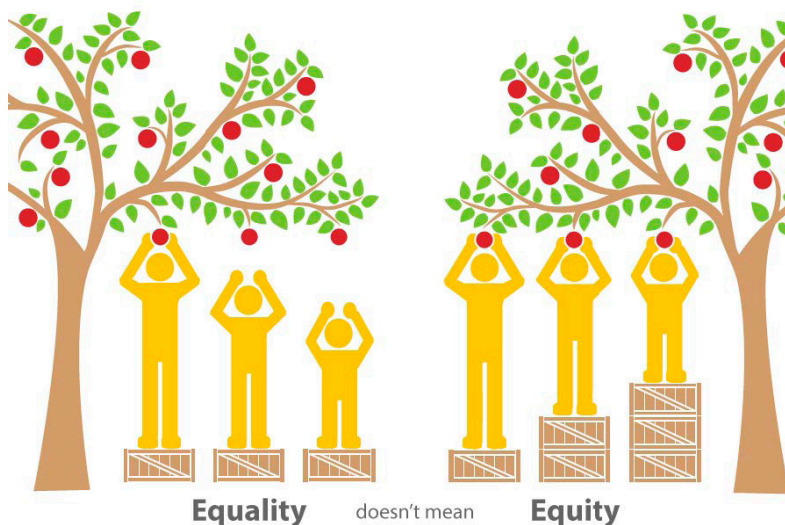
## The Language of Equity

The language we use when we consider issues of equity is important. The terms “disparity”, “inequity”, and “equality” have quite different implications. Disparity is a difference in a given condition that is not caused by unfair or inequitable conditions (e.g. genetic predisposition for a disease). An inequity is a disparity that occurs due to distribution differences in social, economic, or environmental resources (e.g. poor educational outcomes aligned with lower public school funding in poor neighborhoods). Equality, in its usual connotation, means that each individual has the same amount of some measurable good, such as income. Inequality means that individuals have different amounts of goods or different quantifiable outcomes. Although equity is not the same as equality, the two are related and, quite often, used interchangeably. Equity is an abstract

concept covering philosophical issues such as fairness and social justice, making its definition and measurement complex. Equality, on the other hand, is simple to measure.

In justice terms, an inequity is a condition that results from systematic and unjust distribution of social, economic, and environmental resources, and equity is when groups are treated fairly according to their respective needs. Sometimes equity means that rectifying a historic imbalance necessitates a new policy that may give one group advantage over another, at least temporarily. The prevailing wisdom tells us that if equity in opportunity exists, equality will be more closely achieved.

The bottom line is, if equality is the hoped-for end, equity is the means.



Source: Bethelsd.org

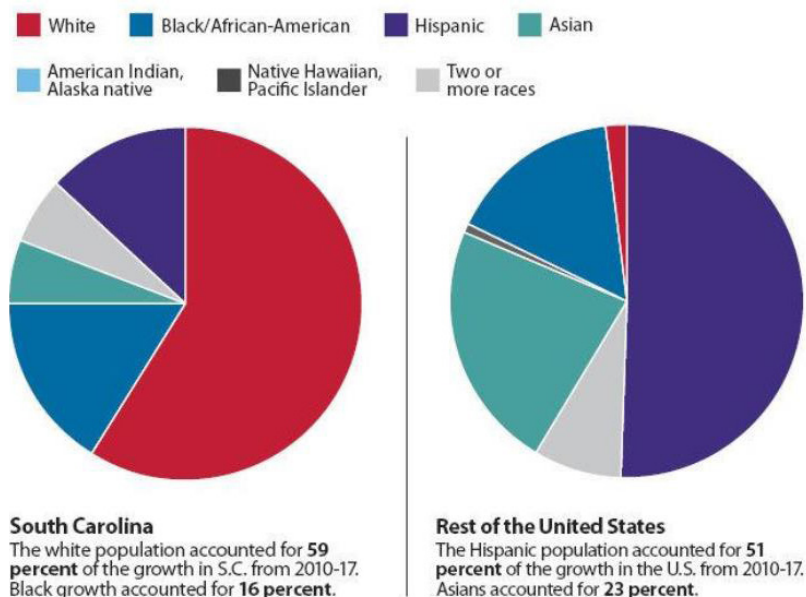
The language of equity takes many other forms including “health disparities,” “achievement gaps,” “disproportionate minority contact,” and “undue burdens.”

## Racial Inequity

Racism has been part of the American landscape since the European colonization of North America beginning in the 17th century. Even in the post-emancipation era and late into the 20th century, discriminatory laws, social practices, and criminal behavior directed toward blacks barred them from owning property or voting, consigned them to segregated schools and housing, and barred them from well-paying jobs. Historic systems and policies of white advantage and black oppression have resulted in a legacy of disproportionate outcomes across many measures. Because blacks have not had the same privileges of generational accumulation of wealth and power, they continue to have less opportunity compared to whites. Further, discriminatory practices continue in American society, whether consciously or unconsciously, often determining who has access to opportunities to thrive and who does not.

## Demographics

Racial demographics are shifting, and as the nation becomes more diverse, the costs of inequity will grow. National data demonstrate that in 1980, 80% of the population was white. However, by 2044, most Americans will be people of color. The racial demographics of South Carolina are projected to shift in the same way, but not nearly as markedly. In South Carolina, 59% of the state's population increase since 2010 has been in non-Hispanic whites. In a recent analysis<sup>3</sup>, the Charleston Post and Courier referred to the statistics as "stunning," particularly the fact that South Carolina accounted for nearly half the estimated growth of the entire nation's non-Hispanic white population, since 2010. The state gained an estimated 235,482 non-Hispanic whites, while the rest of the country combined gained 248,645. The infographic contained in the article, comparing South Carolina racial demographic shifts to those of the U.S., is copied below.



In South Carolina, 75% of the population increase since 2010 has been non-Hispanic, while in the rest of the nation, 74% of the growth was in Hispanic residents (of any race), and to non-Hispanic Asians. Much of the state's demographic shifts are attributable to people in-migrating from the Northeast, rather than from natural increase – the difference between births and deaths.

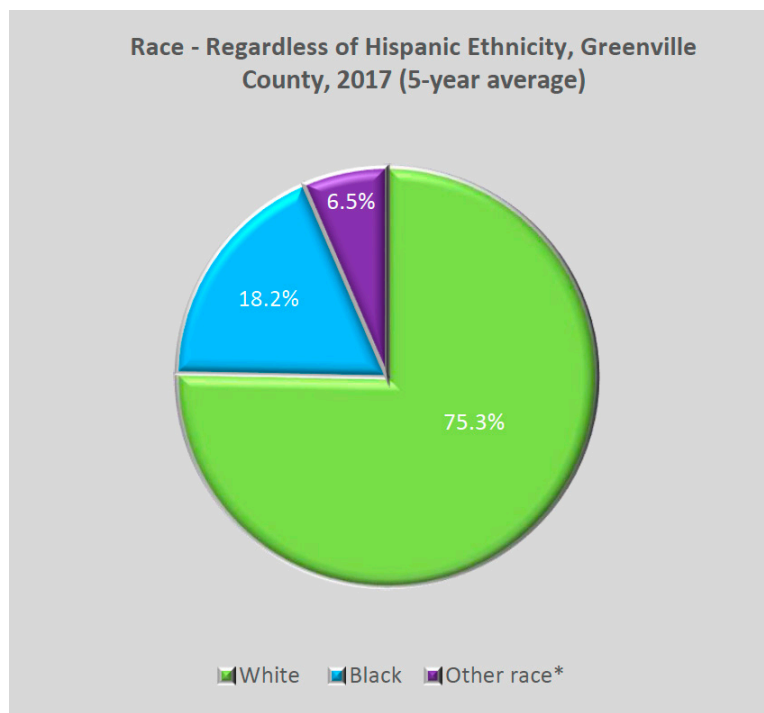
Source: Charleston Post and Courier<sup>3</sup>

The population of Greenville County is 490,332 (2017 five-year average). Greenville City and County, Richland County, and Charleston County differ somewhat in terms of racial and Hispanic diversity. Greenville County is the “most white” of these geographies, followed by Greenville City. However, Greenville County is also the “most Hispanic.” Generally, Richland County is the most diverse of these state geographies, but the nation has a significantly higher proportion of Hispanic residents.

Racial Composition / Hispanic Ethnicity, Greenville and Other Geographies, 2017 (5-year average)						
	White Alone, Non-Hispanic	Black Alone, Non-Hispanic	American Indian, Non-Hispanic	Asian	Two or more races, Non-Hispanic	Hispanic of any Race
Greenville County	69.0%	18.0%	0.2%	2.2%	1.7%	8.8%
Greenville City	65.4%	25.4%	0.2%	2.1%	1.4%	5.2%
Richland County	43.3%	46.2%	0.1%	2.7%	2.3%	5.0%
Charleston County	63.9%	27.6%	0.1%	1.3%	1.9%	5.0%
SC	63.8%	27.0%	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	5.5%
US	61.5%	12.3%	0.7%	5.3%	2.3%	17.6%

Source: U.S. Census DP05

The distribution of race, regardless of ethnicity, for the total Greenville County population is illustrated in the graph below. 97.9% of Greenville County residents are described as being of one race. Of those, 8.8% are Hispanic / Latino.

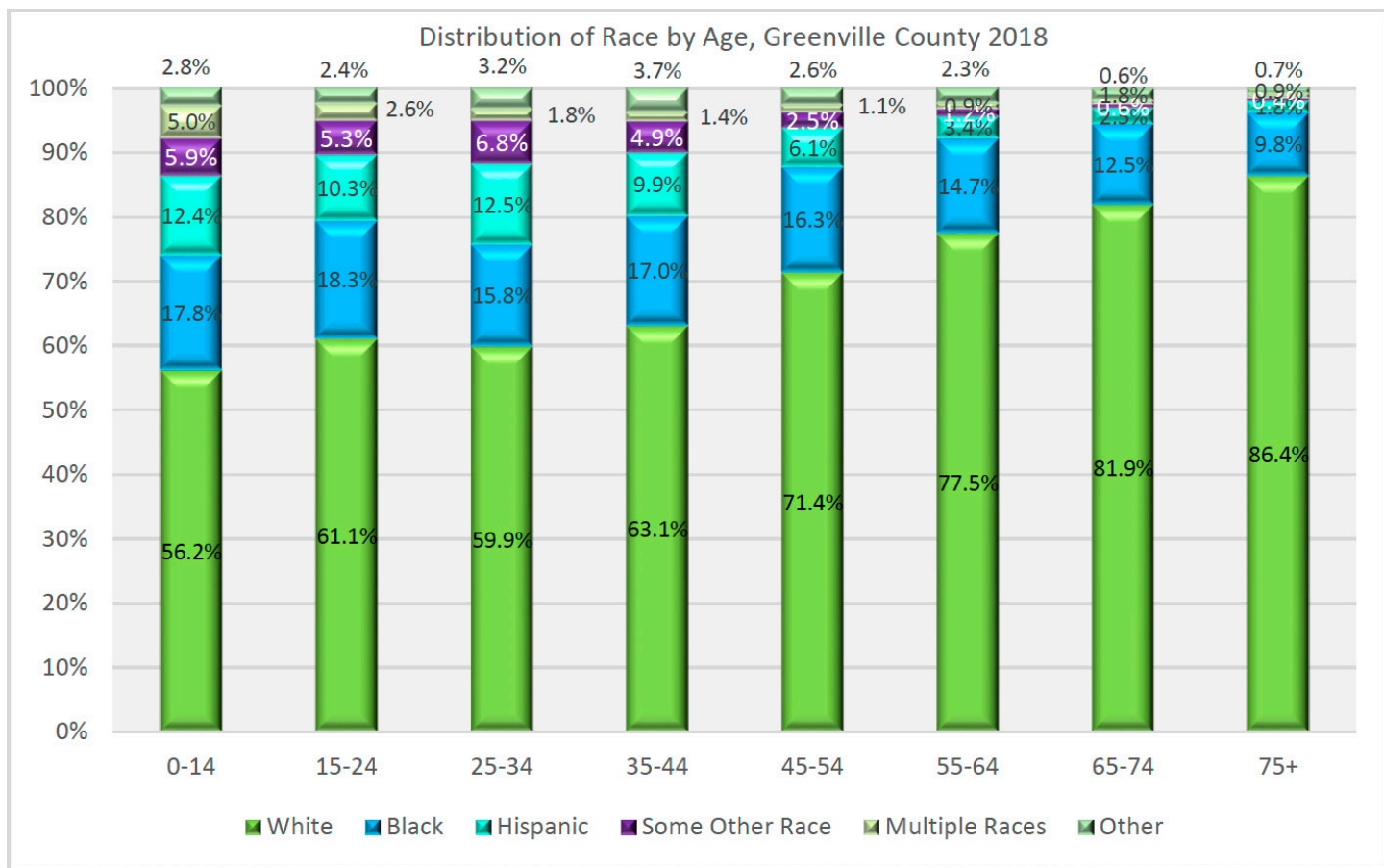


Note that 6.5% of Greenville County residents are either Asian (2.2%), two or more races (2.1%), American Indian or Native American (0.3%), Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.1%), or some other race (1.8%).

However, the following graph illustrates that racial demographics in Greenville County are also shifting. Whereas over 86% of the county population age 75 and older is white, only 56% of the population age 0-14 is white. The Hispanic / Latino population is the most rapidly growing demographic in Greenville County.

Source: U.S. Census DP05

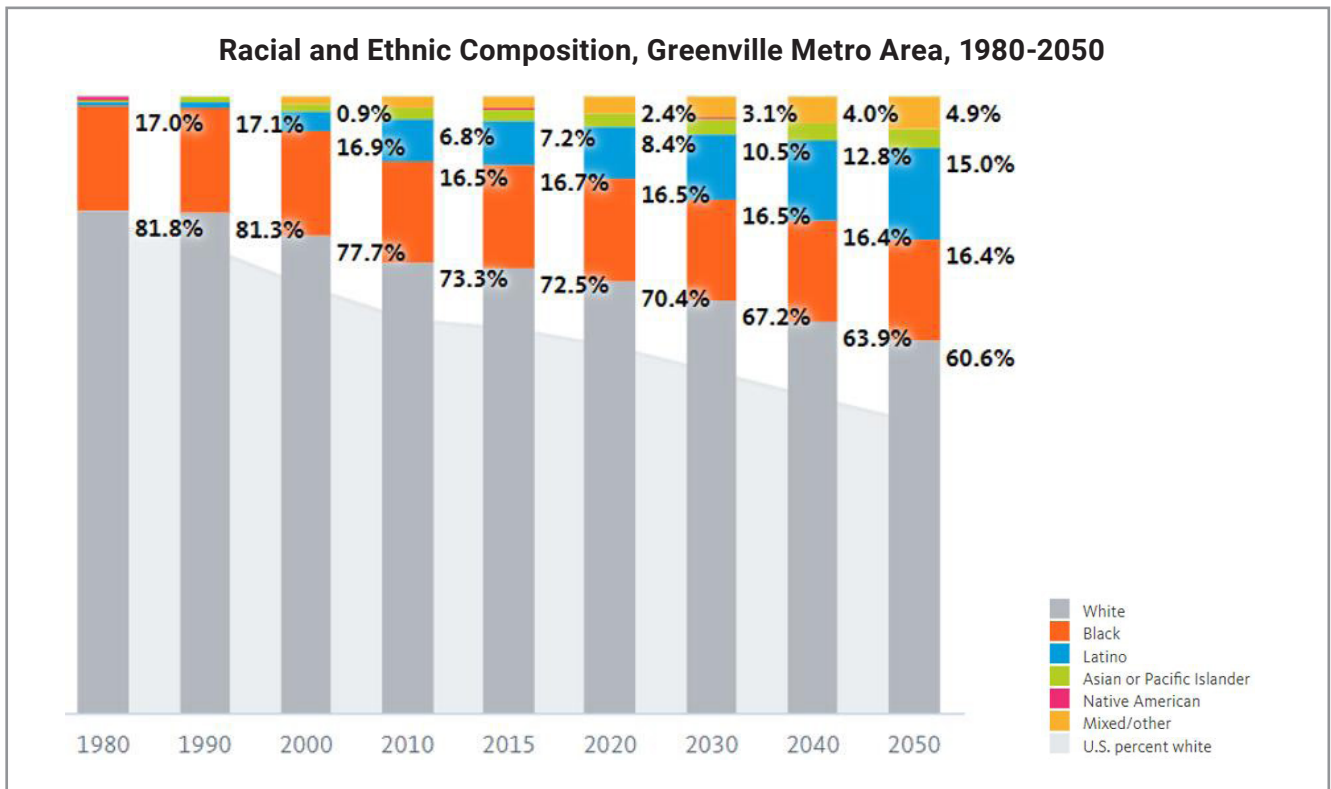
\*Other includes Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, and Multiple Races



Source: Business Analyst, 2018 US Census Data

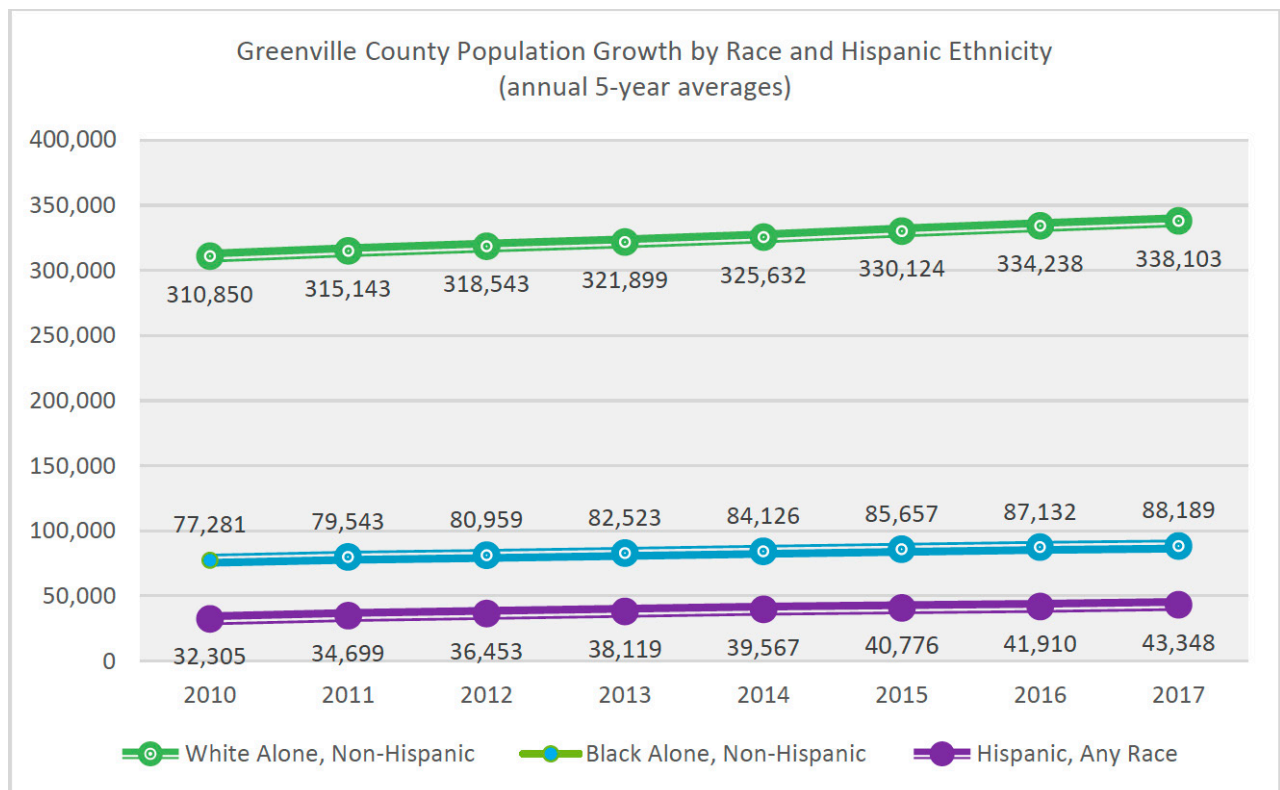
\*Other includes Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, and Multiple Races

According to Policy Link<sup>4</sup>, by 2044, the majority of Americans will be people of color. By 2050, the population of Greenville County is estimated to be 688,849, and 43.0% of residents will be people of color. By decade, the changing racial and ethnic composition of the Greenville metro area is demonstrated in the graph that follows. Notably, Greenville has a higher percentage of white residents compared to the national average, and this trend is projected to continue.



Source: National Equity Atlas

Even though the percentages of Hispanics and mixed/other race residents are increasing in Greenville County, white residents will constitute the greatest number of residents as illustrated in the following graph.



Source: US Census DP05



# EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME



*Credit: greenvilleonline.com*

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

There is an extreme racial wealth gap in the United States. In families whose head of household is employed, white families have 10 times the wealth of black families. Estimates suggest that this wealth gap could take two centuries to close.<sup>6</sup>

There has long been evidence that a diverse population is a tremendous economic asset in the global economy, and economists are increasingly purporting that equity drives superior local economic growth. The evidence shows that inequality and lack of diversity hinder economic growth. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute<sup>6</sup> estimated in 2018 that racial disparities account for \$42 billion in untapped productivity in the U.S. In fact, they estimate that more than 25% of the growth in productivity from 1960 through 2008 was associated with reducing occupational barriers faced by blacks and women.

Specifically, 15%-20% of growth in aggregate output per worker may be explained by the improved allocation of talent. Further reducing the barriers to opportunity allows for better allocation of talent, economic growth, and personal economic mobility.

## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

As with most other geographies, Greenville County has a long history of racial inequities for most economic indicators, with whites doing better than blacks and Hispanics. All measures of income show significant inequities that cannot be explained by labor force participation rates. Blacks also fare far worse on all measures of poverty, compared to whites, and the likelihood of poor children in Greenville County moving out of poverty is almost the lowest in the nation. In addition to historic discrimination and resultant inability of blacks to accrue wealth that can be passed to the next generation, wage inequality, the nuances of poverty, and other predictors of economic immobility may go far to explain the failure of black and Hispanic Greenville County residents to achieve economic parity with white residents.

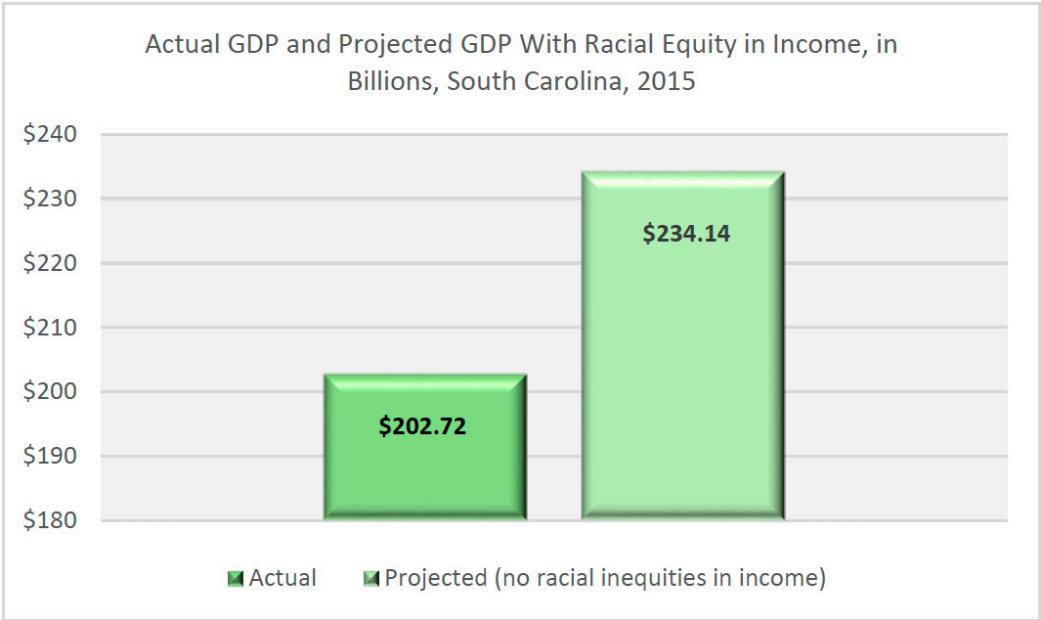
While economic inclusion has not been a historic priority, the research and data show that it is increasingly important to foster economic growth and wellbeing for all residents of Greenville County, since cities and regions that offer greater equality of opportunity maximize the potential of their human capital and minimize the fiscal costs of exclusion. This mounting evidence suggests that local systems, policies, and traditions should be examined and mitigated to afford all residents equitable economic opportunity. Greenville's efforts, such as the recent focus on economic mobility and intensive investment in underperforming schools, address this evidence.

## Income and Income Inequality

Income inequality in the United States has increased significantly since the 1970s after several decades of stability, meaning the share of the nation's income received by higher income households has increased disproportionately to lower income households. The U.S., compared to other developed countries, exhibits high levels of income inequality. In fact, economists estimate that 70% of the world's countries exhibit more income equality than the U.S.<sup>8</sup>

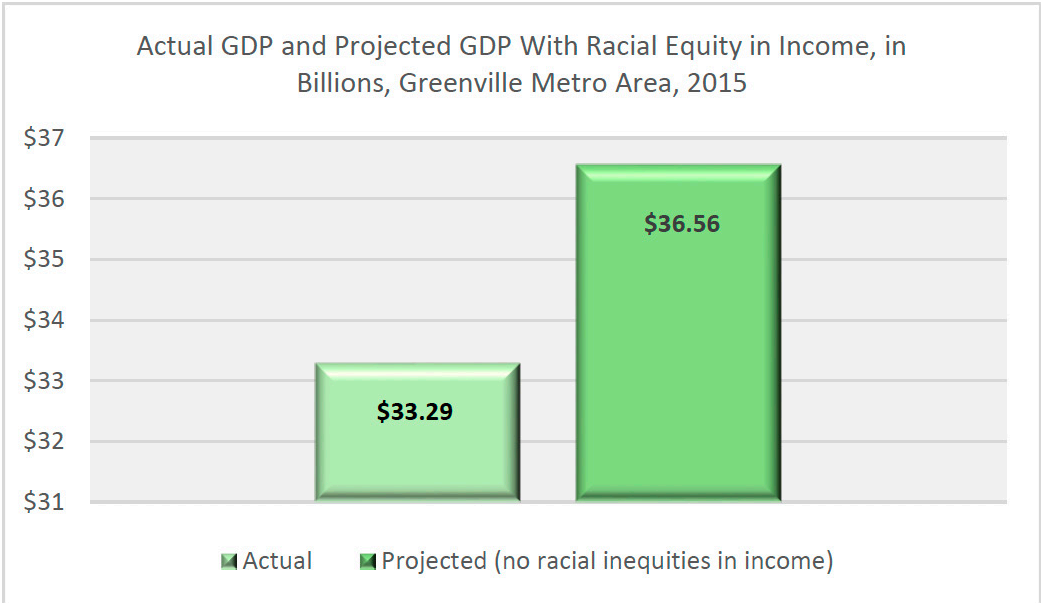


Race has historically determined income and, therefore, class. Income inequality continues to be inextricably tied to race. The Brookings Institution<sup>8</sup> reported in 2018 that U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) would have been \$2.5 trillion higher in 2015 if people of color had earned the same as their white counterparts, millions fewer would have lived in poverty, there would be billions more in tax revenue, and there would now be a smaller Social Security deficit overall. In South Carolina, if people of color had earned the same as their white counterparts in 2015, the state's GDP would have been over \$30 billion higher.<sup>2</sup>



Source: National Equity Atlas

In South Carolina, Charleston is singled out for its significant and widening gap between rich and poor. In the last several years, only four other cities in the U.S. saw gaps between their rich and poor residents grow faster than in Charleston.<sup>9</sup> Despite a booming economy, the wealth gap between white and black families in Charleston is as large today as it was a half-century ago.<sup>10</sup>

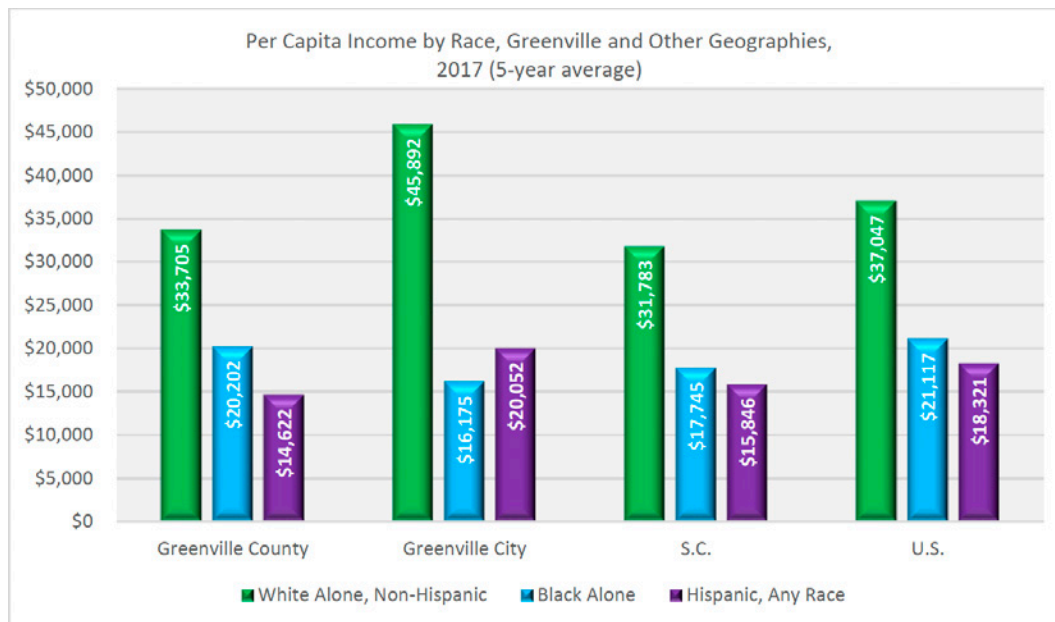


Source: National Equity Atlas

In the Greenville metro Area, the 2015 actual and projected GDP gap is smaller (9.8%), compared to the state overall (15.5%).

## PER CAPITA INCOME

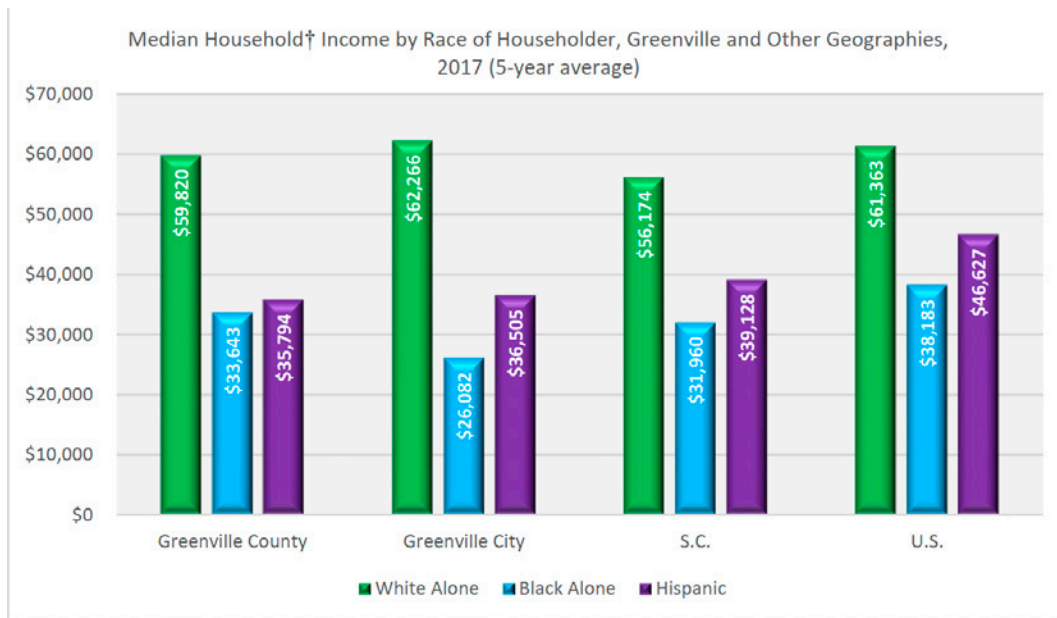
There are multiple measures of income for a population, and all must be considered to obtain the most informative picture of wellbeing for the community. Likewise, the data must be disaggregated and examined by race to get a clear picture of inequities. The following graph demonstrates per capita (mean) income, which includes every man, woman, and child living in each geography. The extreme racial inequities in per capita income are evident across geographies, most remarkably in the City of Greenville. Note that the largest income gap is between whites and blacks in the City of Greenville, with whites having 184% higher income, close to three times higher on average, than blacks. In Greenville County the income gap is also large, with black resident income 67% of white resident income, larger than the state overall, where black resident income is 79% of white resident income.



Source: US Census S1902

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Household income is a basic measure of the extent to which a household (all persons living under one roof) can provide for itself and build wealth. It is also a measure of overall economic wellbeing in a community, including tax base and potential support for local business. Household income is extremely inequitable by race across the U.S. and most single geographies. In Greenville County, black households have approximately 56% of the income of white households, slightly worse than the state average (57%) and worse than the U.S. average (62%). In the City of Greenville, household income inequity is more extreme, with black households having only 42% of the income of white households. Hispanic households have higher income than black households across each of the geographies, likely partially attributable to many Hispanic households having two or more working adults.

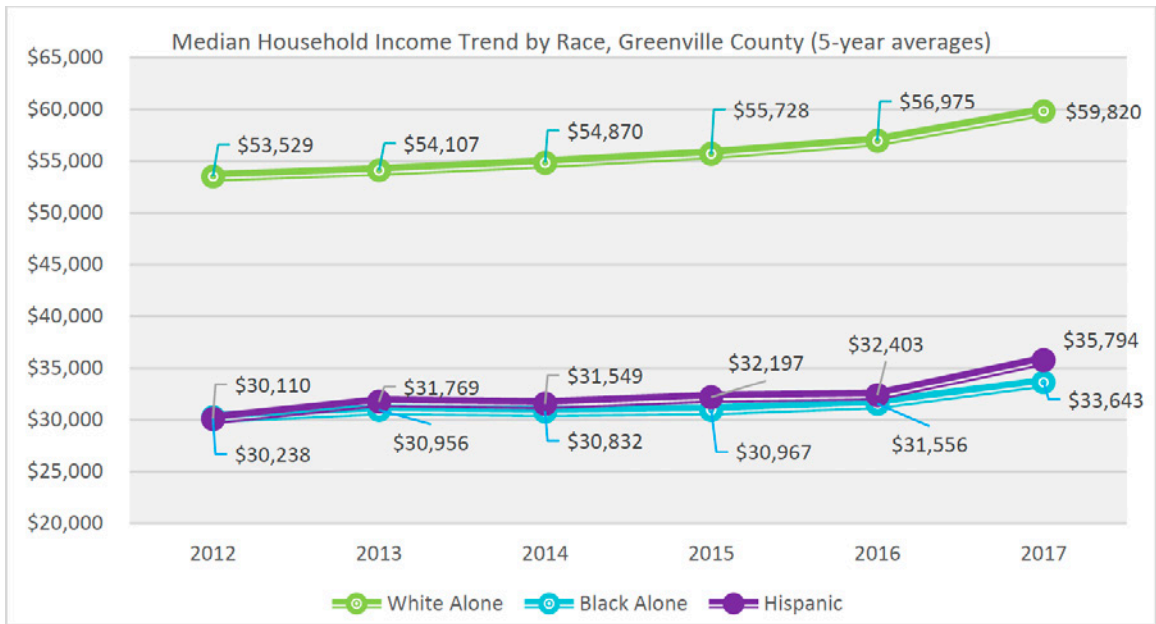


†Household income includes income of the householder and all other people 15 years and older in the household, whether or not they are related to the householder.

Source: US Census B19013B, B19013A, B19013I

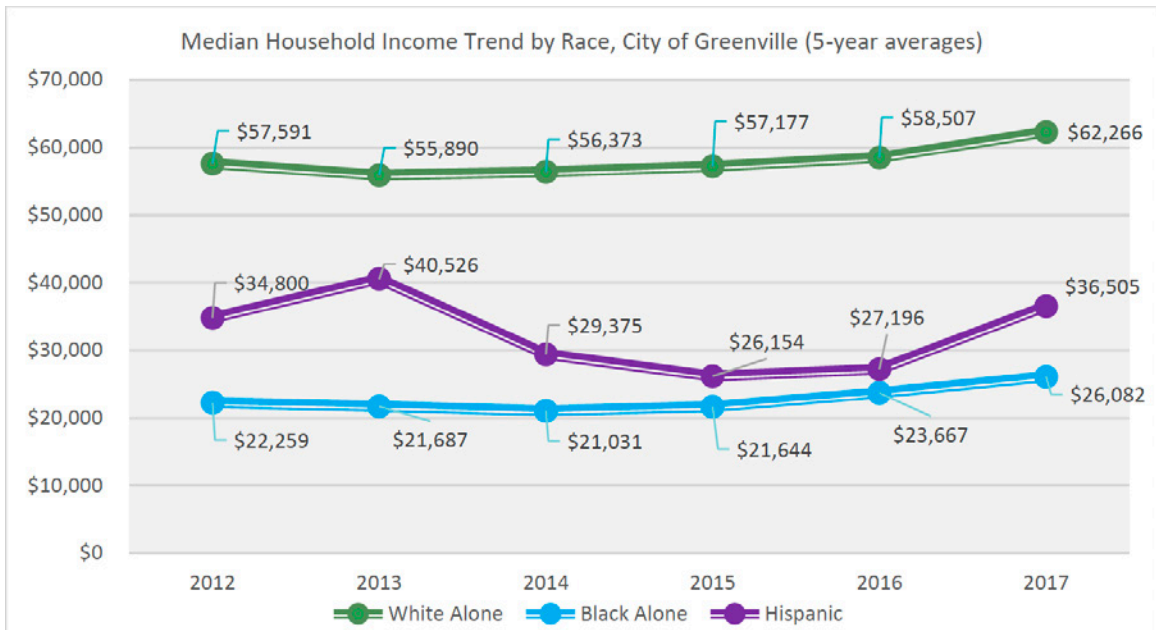
The trend in household income by race and ethnicity for Greenville County, demonstrated in the following graph, shows that household income has been consistently lower for Hispanic and black households compared to white households. In terms of household income increase from 2012 to 2017, whites and blacks experience almost the same percentage growth, but Hispanics saw a significantly larger percentage growth:

- White household income increased by 11.7%
- Black household income increased by 11.3%
- Hispanic household income increased by 18.9%



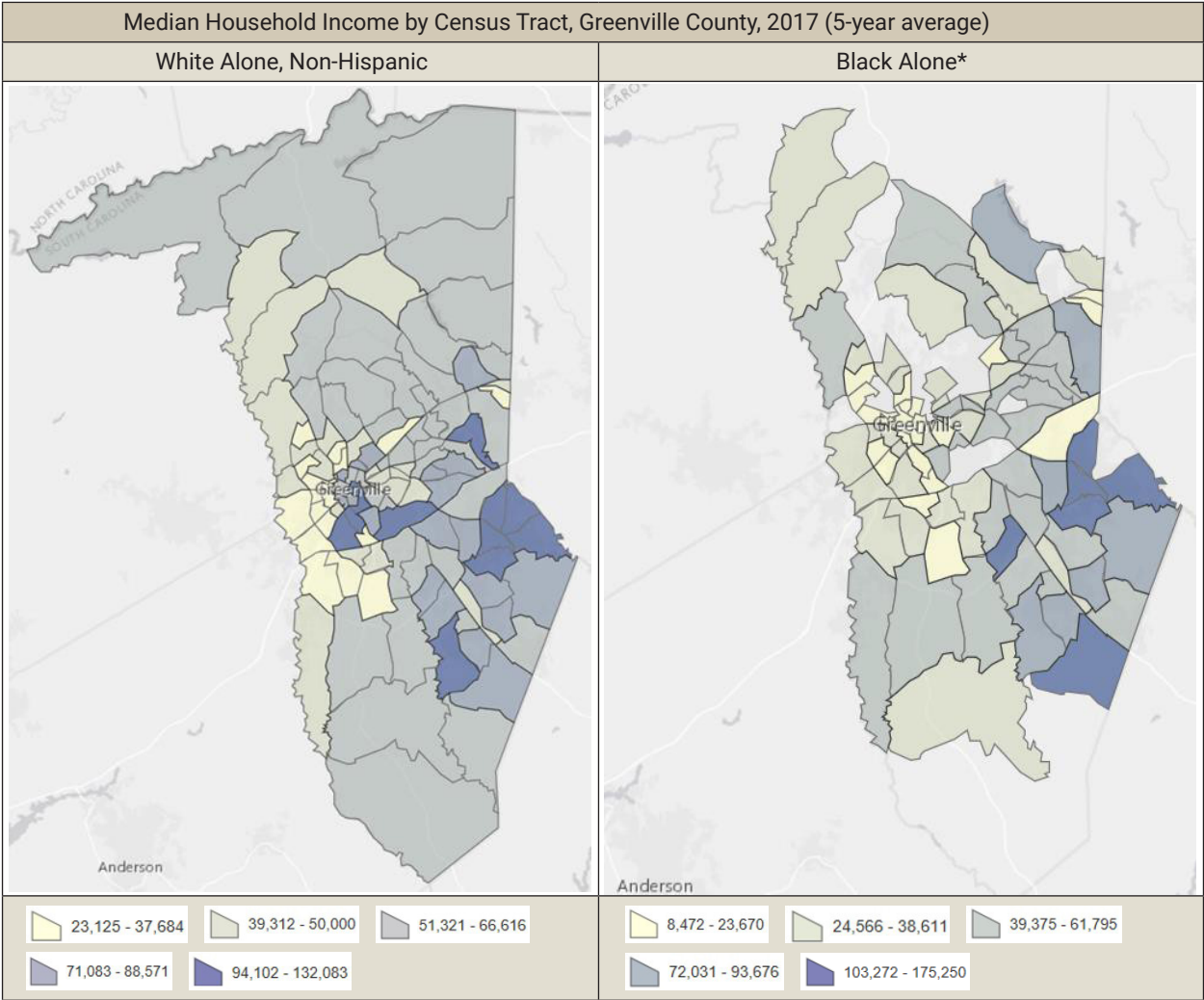
Source: US Census B19013B, B19013A, B19013I

The same metrics for the City of Greenville demonstrate that, whereas household income is higher for whites in the city compared to the county, it is lower for blacks. Income for Hispanics is more variable in the city compared to the county. Nonetheless, household income is consistently and significantly higher for whites.



Source: US Census B19013B, B19013A, B19013I

By census tract across Greenville County, there are extreme differences in median household income, as demonstrated by the maps below. Inequities are so stark that they require the use of different income range distributions for whites and blacks.

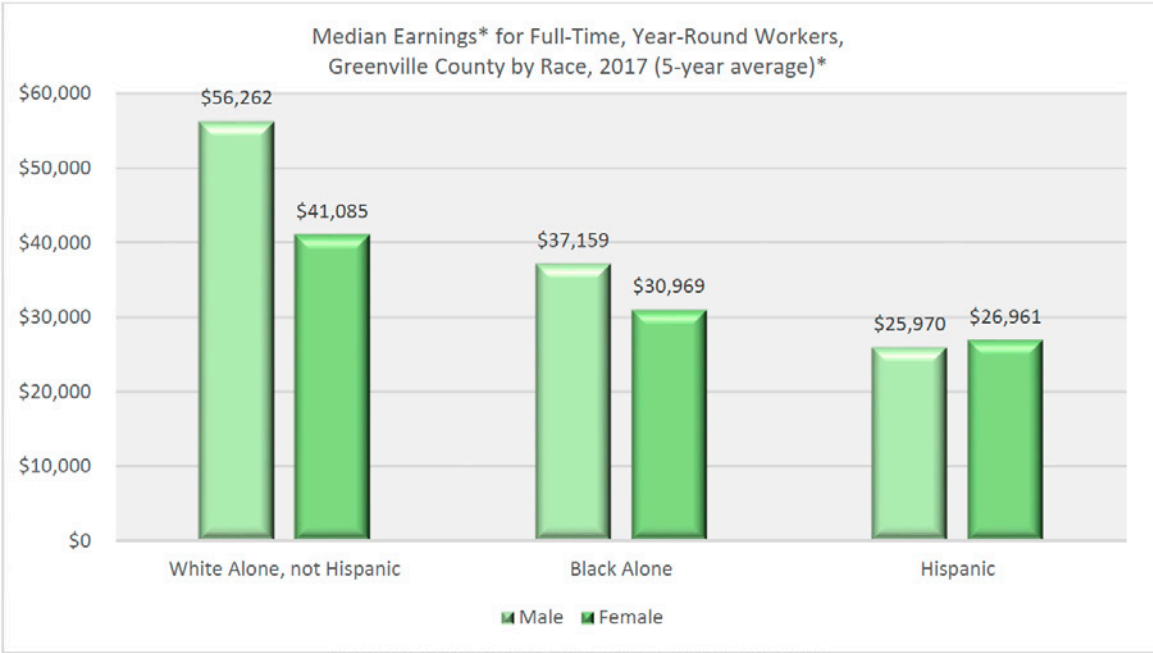


*\*because some census tracts have insufficient black population, they are not reportable for this measure*  
Source: US Census B19013B, B19013H

## Wages & Earnings

There are large wage gaps by race and gender across the U.S., even though they have narrowed in some cases over the years. Among full- and part-time workers in the U.S. in 2015, blacks earned 75% as much as whites (median hourly earnings), and women earned 83% as much as men. In 2015, the average hourly wages for black and Hispanic men were \$15 and \$14, respectively, compared with \$21 for white men. Only the hourly earnings of Asian men (\$24) outpaced those of white men. Although some of the wage gaps can be attributed to the fact that smaller shares of blacks and Hispanics hold college degrees, inequities persist even after controlling for education – white men with a bachelor’s degree or higher earned \$32 per hour, while black men with the same level of education earned \$25 per hour (Asian men earned \$35 and Hispanic men earned \$26) in 2015.<sup>11</sup>

The same race-based and gender-based inequities in wages exist in Greenville County, as demonstrated in the following graphic. Whites earn more than blacks, whether men or women, and blacks earn more than Hispanics, whether men or women. The gender-based pay gap is widest for whites, and Hispanic women earn slightly more than Hispanic men.



\*In 2017 inflation-adjusted dollars  
Source: US Census B20017H, B20017B, B20017I

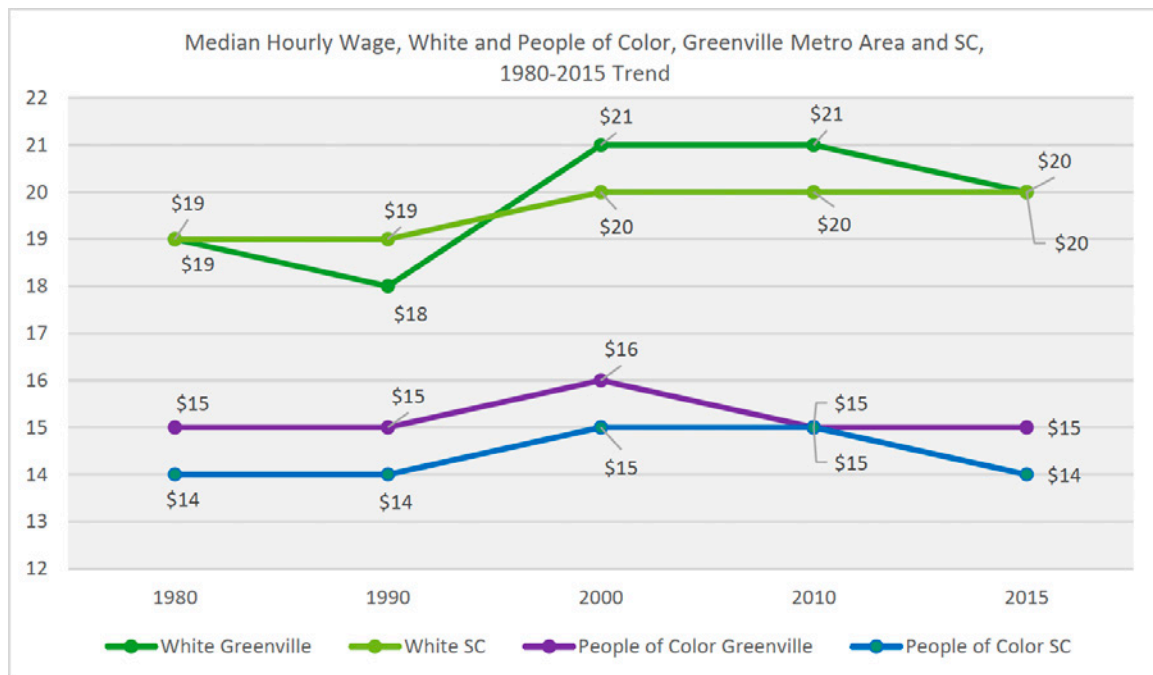
Wage inequities continue to persist over time across the nation. Black and Hispanic men have made no progress in narrowing the wage gap with white men since 1980. As a result, black men earned the same 73% share of white men’s hourly earnings in 2015 as they did in 1980, and Hispanic men earned 69% of white men’s earnings in 2015 compared with 71% in 1980.<sup>11</sup>

A 2017 Federal Reserve study<sup>12</sup> demonstrated that, of measurable characteristics, the black-white wage gap is primarily attributable to differences by race in occupation and educational attainment. Other variables - age, part-time status, and state of residence - have only a modest impact on the wage gap. The impact of differences occupation has declined over time, and the contribution of education has changed little over time. However, the most significant portion of the wage gap between blacks and whites is unexplained within the Federal Reserve’s model. Perhaps more troubling is the fact that the unexplained portion of the white-black wage gap has grown larger over time. For example, in 1979 about eight percentage points of the earnings gap between white men and black men was unexplained by readily measurable factors, accounting for over a third of the gap. By 2016, this portion had risen to almost 13 percentage points, or just under half of the total earnings gap.

“More than half a century since the Civil Rights Act became law, U.S. workers continue to experience different levels of success depending on their race. Analysis using microdata on earnings shows that black men and women earn persistently lower wages compared with their white counterparts and that these gaps cannot be fully explained by differences in age, education, job type, or location. Especially troubling is the growing unexplained portion of the divergence in earnings for blacks relative to whites.”

-Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Income inequality means that people of color have few opportunities for economic security or upward mobility and certainly no opportunity to accumulate wealth to be passed to the next generation. Both Greenville County and South Carolina mirror the nation in terms of the persistent wage gap between whites and people of color, as demonstrated in the following trend data.



Source: National Equity Atlas

Income inequality disproportionately affects workers of color, who are concentrated in low-wage jobs that provide few opportunities for economic security or upward mobility. Moreover, low wage workers and workers of color are more likely to be jobless compared to their white counterparts.

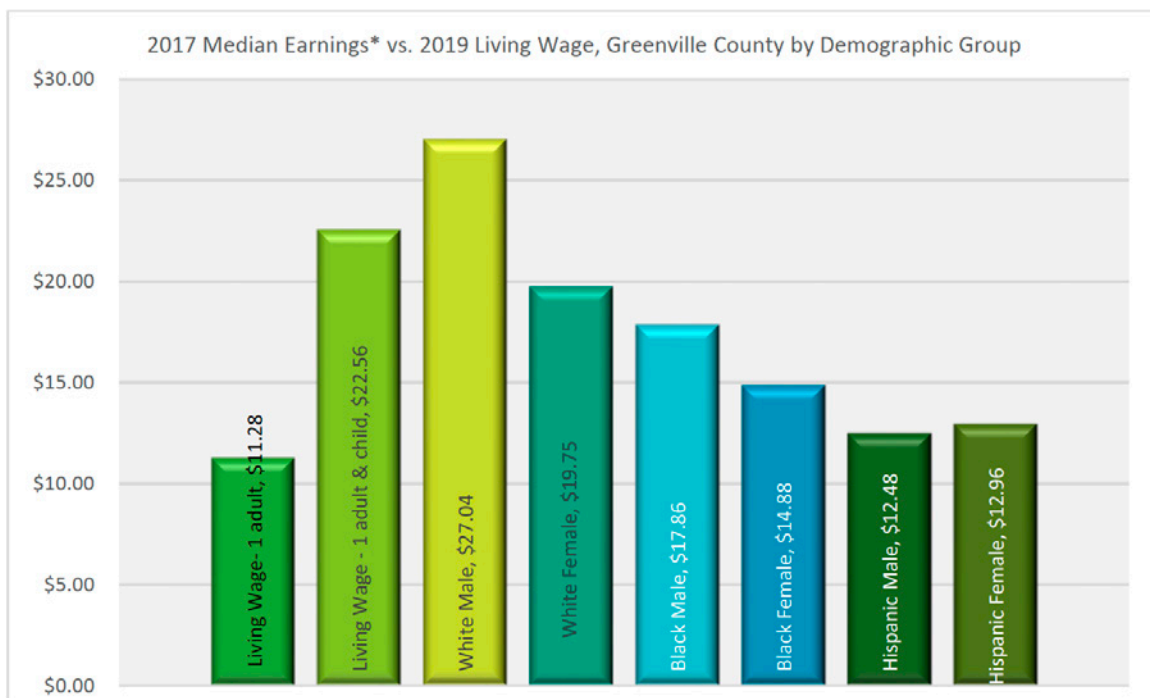


## LIVING WAGE

Low labor force participation, especially in distressed communities and communities of color, may be related to a low financial return from work – lack of a living wage. In many American communities, individuals working in low-wage jobs make insufficient income to live locally or to support their families in a reasonable manner, given the local cost of living. Recently, several communities have successfully argued that the prevailing wage offered by the public sector and key businesses should align with minimum standards of living within those communities and have set their own minimum wage requirements that are higher than the federal minimum wage.

*The Living Wage Calculator*, created by Amy K. Glasmeier and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology<sup>13</sup> is a model for calculating the living wage in communities across the country. The calculations show the 2019 living wage in Greenville County to be \$11.28 per hour for an adult supporting only himself or herself. Living wage for a single parent with one child is \$22.56 per hour in Greenville County.

Median earnings (2017) in Greenville County are above the 2019 hourly living wage for one adult for all demographic groups as indicated in the graph below. A median indicates that half of the workers make above the designated hourly wage and half make below that wage. Thus, for example, half of Hispanic workers in Greenville County make above \$12.48 per hour and half make below \$12.48 per hour. The only demographic group in Greenville County whose median hourly wage would support the worker himself and one child is white males (and that applies to only slightly over half of white male workers). This has significant implications for single-parent families in Greenville County, especially single-parent families headed by blacks, females, and Hispanics.



\*Median annual wage for full-time workers divided by 2,080 work hours per year  
Source: Living Wage Calculator & US Census

Nationally in 2017, median full-time work wages for Hispanic women are well below the qualifying income threshold for receipt of food stamp benefits for a family of four, and Hispanic men and black women earn barely above that threshold.



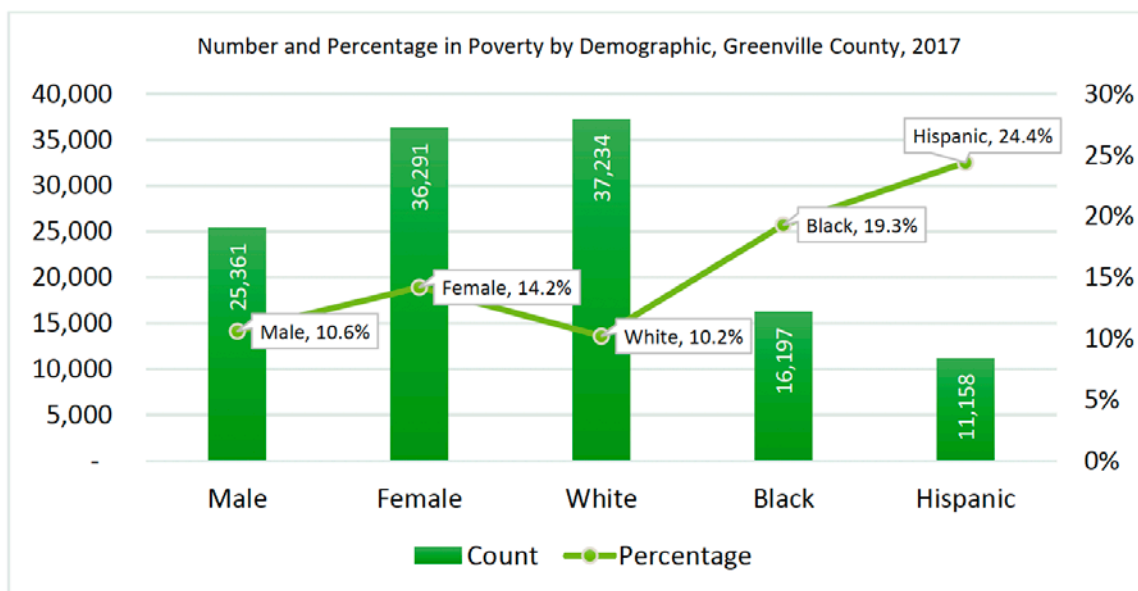
# Poverty

Poverty is a multifaceted concept which may also include social, economic, and political elements. At its most basic, poverty is the scarcity or lack of material possessions or money. However, full understanding of poverty requires consideration of asset poverty, an economic and social condition that is more persistent and prevalent than income poverty. Even when income is sufficient to get by, there is frequently the inability to access and build wealth resources such as homeownership, savings, stocks, and business assets. In this case, assets are unavailable to support basic needs in cases of emergency and are unavailable to pass on to children for intergenerational wealth-building.

“Poverty is not just about a lack of money. It’s about a lack of power.”

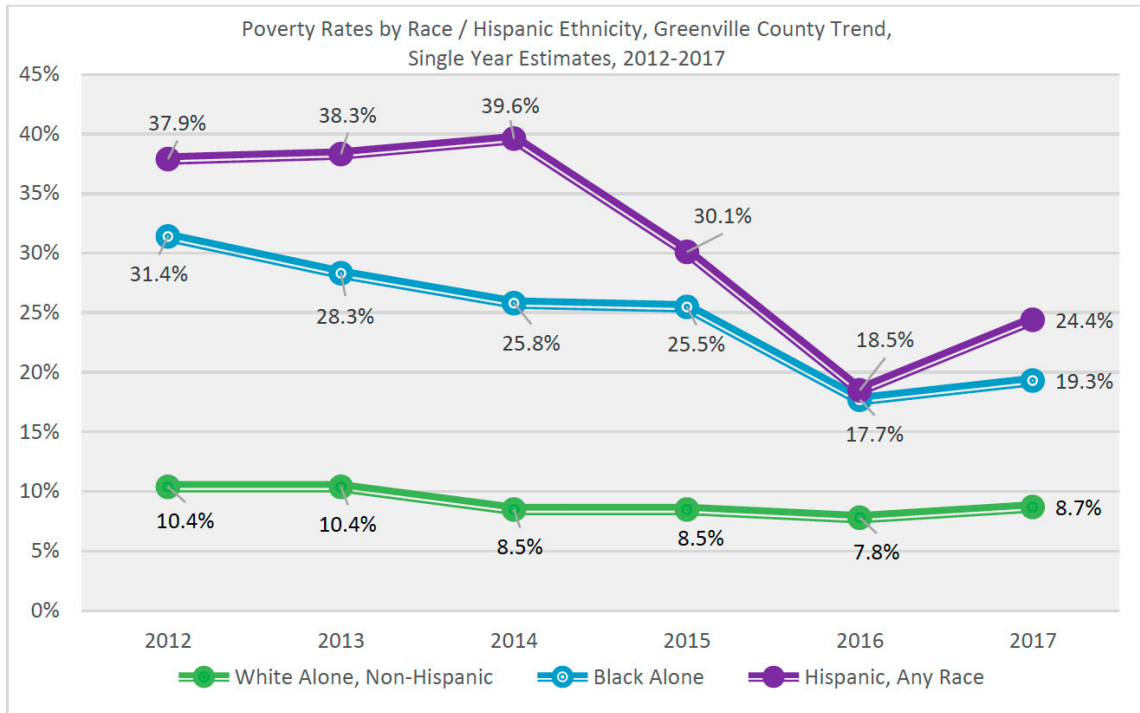
– John Powell, U.S. Partnership on Mobility

Poverty in Greenville County is reflective of most other geographies, with females, blacks, and Hispanics having higher poverty rates compared to men and whites. In Greenville County in 2017 (single year estimate), Hispanics had the highest poverty rates at 24.4% (or nearly 1 in 4). Although whites represent the largest number of residents in poverty, they also represent the lowest percentage in poverty.



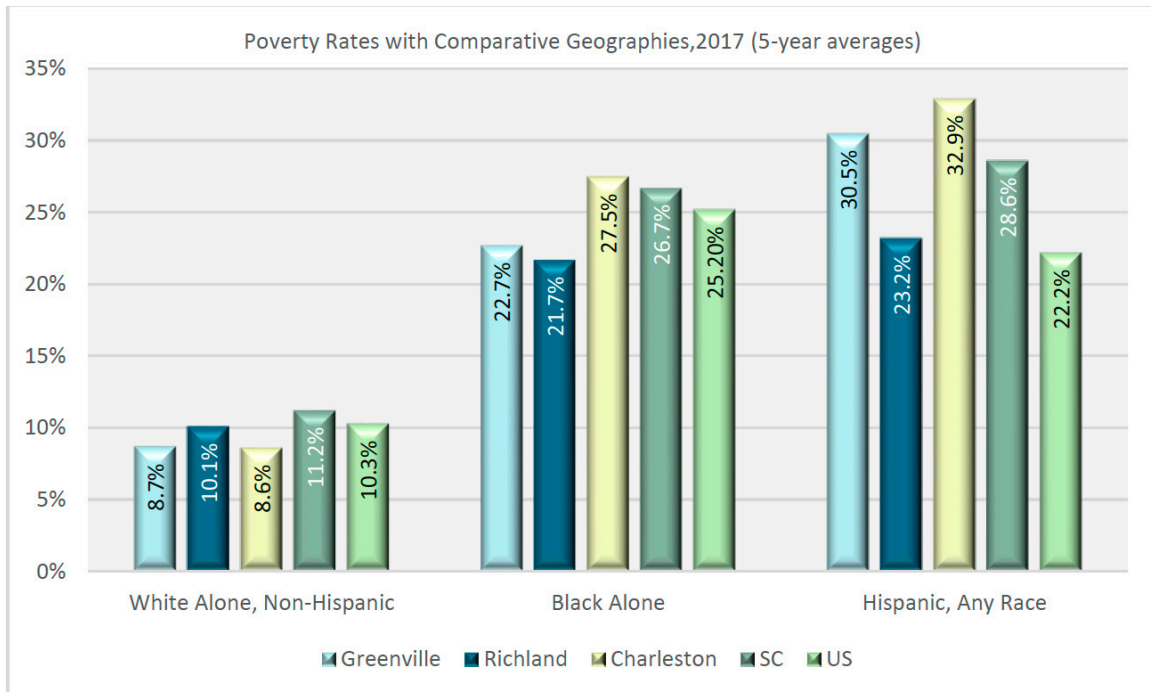
Source: US Census S1701

Blacks and Hispanics in Greenville County have historically borne disproportionate burdens of poverty, although there has been a marked decrease in poverty in recent years, for both groups.



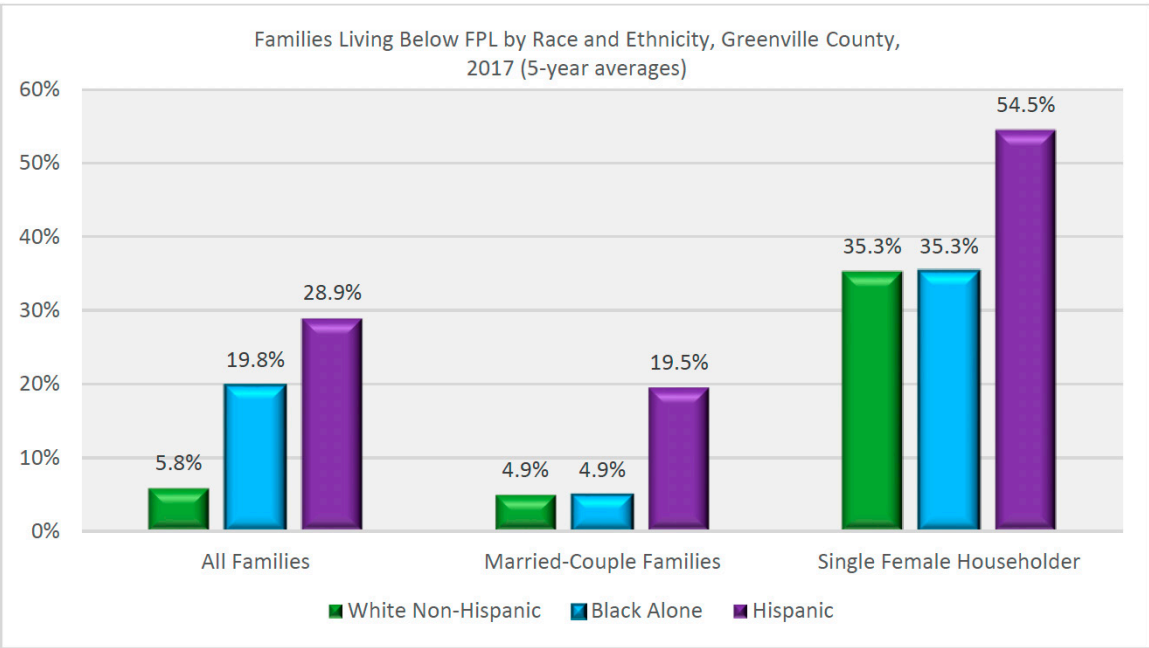
Source: US Census B17001I

Greenville, Richland, and Charleston Counties are comparable in-state geographies. White residents in these counties, the state and the nation have significantly lower poverty rates compared to black and Hispanic residents. Compared to the other geographies, Greenville County has a somewhat better poverty rate for blacks but a worse poverty rate for Hispanics.



Source: US Census S1701

According to U.S. Census definition, families are a subset of households – related individuals living under one roof, rather than all individuals living under one roof. Family composition is a determinant of poverty. For both whites and blacks, married-couple families are at much lower risk of poverty than families headed by single females. Hispanic families in Greenville County have significantly higher poverty rates, regardless of family composition, with over half of Hispanic families headed by single females living in poverty. Over a third of black families headed by single females live in poverty in Greenville County.

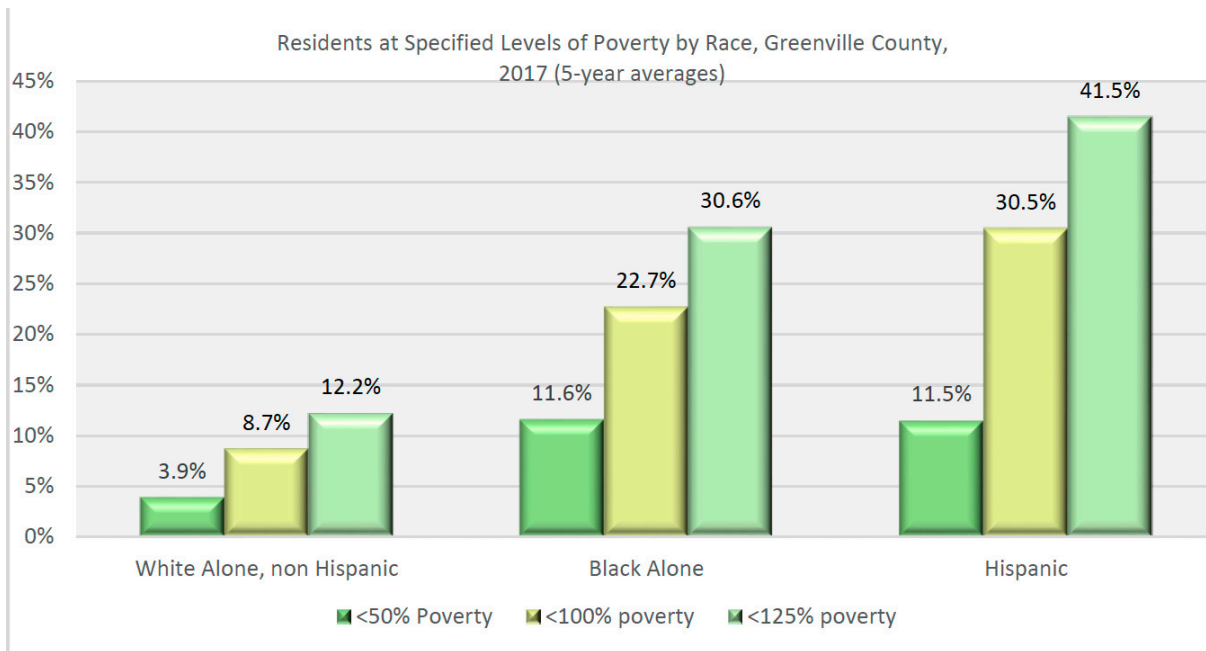


Source: US Census S1702

Although the preceding data describe people living at 100% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) or below, it is instructive to examine the composition of people living at various levels of poverty, since Individuals who live at 125%, 140%, and even 200% of FPL are often also considered to be living in poverty, or at least having low income. They can qualify for various public and nonprofit assistance programs at these levels of poverty. Most subject matter experts report that half of Americans are living in or near poverty.

On the other end of the poverty spectrum, the U.S. Census Bureau defines “deep poverty” or extreme poverty as total household cash income below 50% of the federal poverty threshold. In 2016, according to Census data<sup>14</sup>, 18.5 million people lived in deep poverty. Those in deep poverty represented 5.8% of the total U.S. population and 45.6% of those in poverty.

While poverty thresholds vary by household size, for a single individual under 65 years old, deep poverty would be an income below \$6,243 in 2016. For a family of four with two children, it would be \$12,169. Blacks and Hispanics are most likely to be in deep poverty, at 2016 U.S. rates of 10.8% and 7.6%, respectively. Non-Hispanic whites and Asians are least likely to live in deep poverty, at 2016 U.S. rates of 4.1% and 5.2%, respectively.<sup>14</sup> In Greenville County, the deep poverty rate for white non-Hispanics is below the national average at 3.9%. However, Greenville County deep poverty rates are higher than the national average for blacks and Hispanics at 11.6% and 11.5%, respectively.



Source: US Census S1702

## CHILD POVERTY

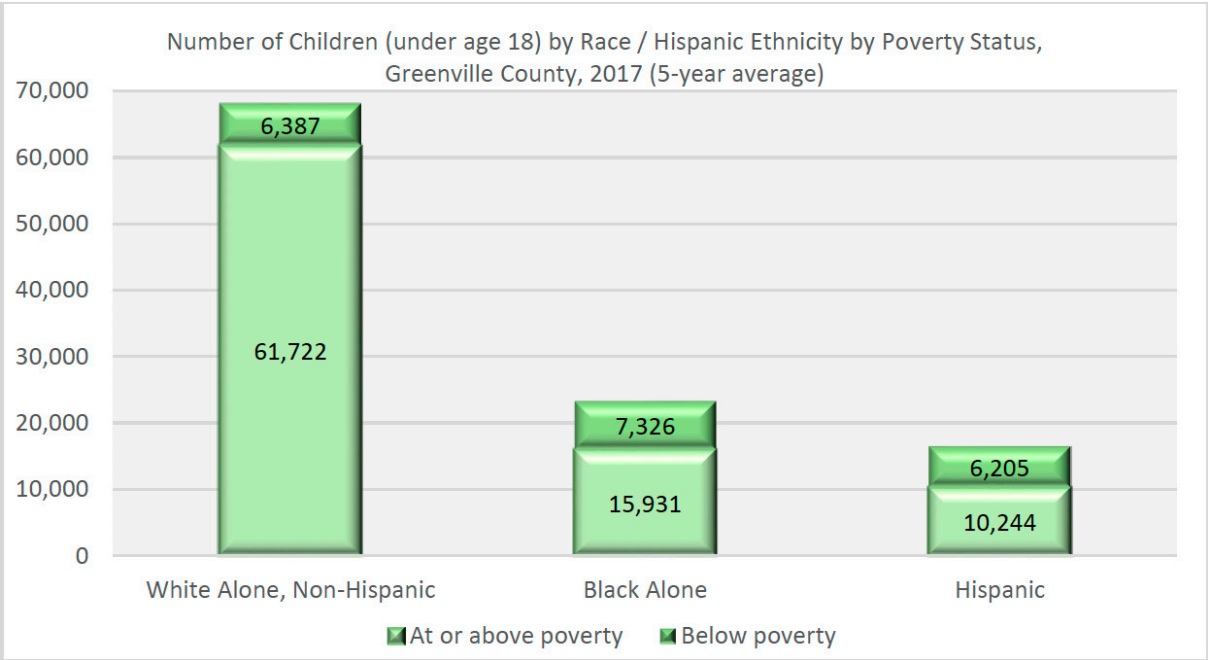
Child poverty is a function of family and household income. Children who live in poverty often experience chronic, toxic stress that disrupts the architecture of the developing brain, resulting in lifelong difficulties in learning, memory, and self-regulation, and poor health outcomes in adulthood. Children in poverty are much more likely to experience exposure to violence, chronic neglect, and the accumulated and synergistic burdens of economic hardship, or “deprivation amplification”.

Using a single year estimate for 2017, there were 20,247 children in Greenville County living in poverty, constituting 17.5% of Greenville’s Children. Compared to Charleston County and Richland County, Greenville fares better on this measure for 2017, although historic data show that has not always been the case.

Children Living Below Federal Poverty Level by County, Annual Estimates 2008-2017										
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Greenville	19,546	23,468	22,723	27,354	25,708	27,135	24,055	19,976	17,518	20,247
	18.5%	21.4%	21.0%	24.8%	23.2%	24.5%	21.5%	17.7%	15.3%	17.5%
Richland	15,307	17,642	17,989	20,701	20,070	21,255	19,184	19,272	19,100	17,468
	18.2%	20.6%	20.9%	23.9%	23.0%	24.6%	22.2%	22.3%	22.0%	20.1%
Charleston	17,160	18,791	18,279	18,860	20,887	19,305	19,567	17,569	16,279	16,019
	21.6%	25.3%	25.4%	25.7%	28.1%	25.8%	25.7%	22.9%	20.8%	20.4%

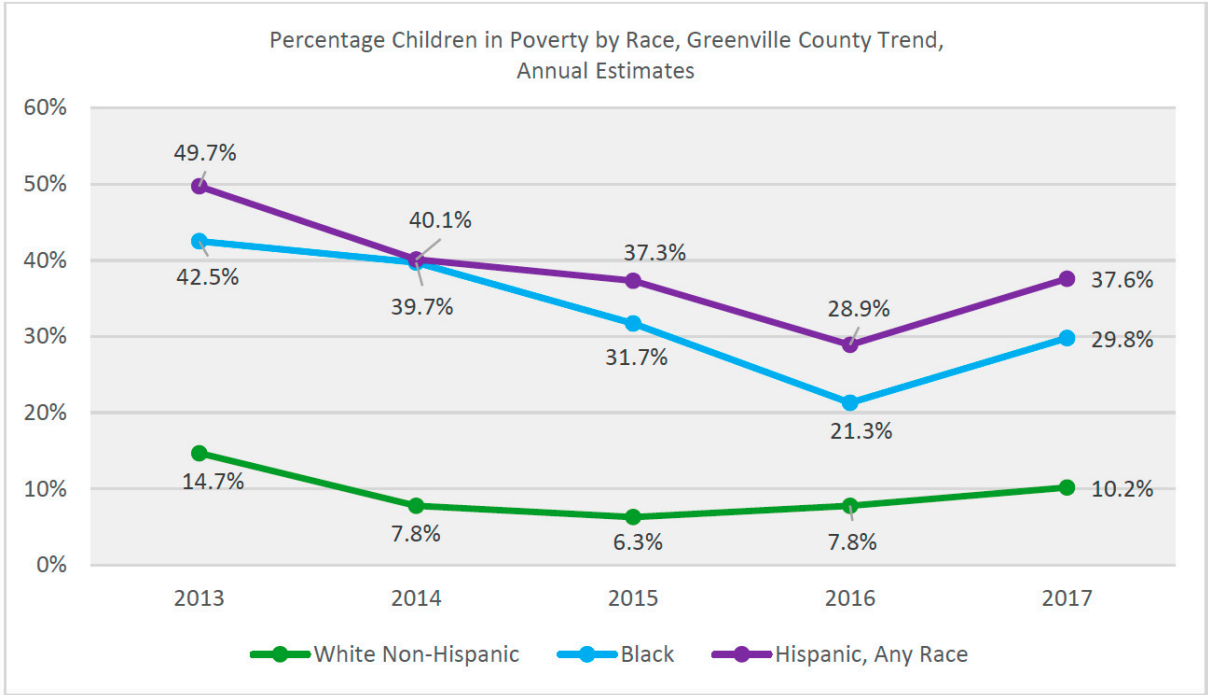
Source: Kid’s Count Data Center

In Greenville County in 2017 (5-year average estimate), there were almost 20,000 children living below FPL. Black and Hispanic children bear a disproportionate poverty burden.



Source: US Census B17020B, B17020H, B17020I

A five-year trend for Greenville County shows that poverty for white, non-Hispanic children is consistently and significantly lower than poverty rates for black children and Hispanic children. Black children now fare better than Hispanic children on this measure, although poverty rates have been variable for both demographics.

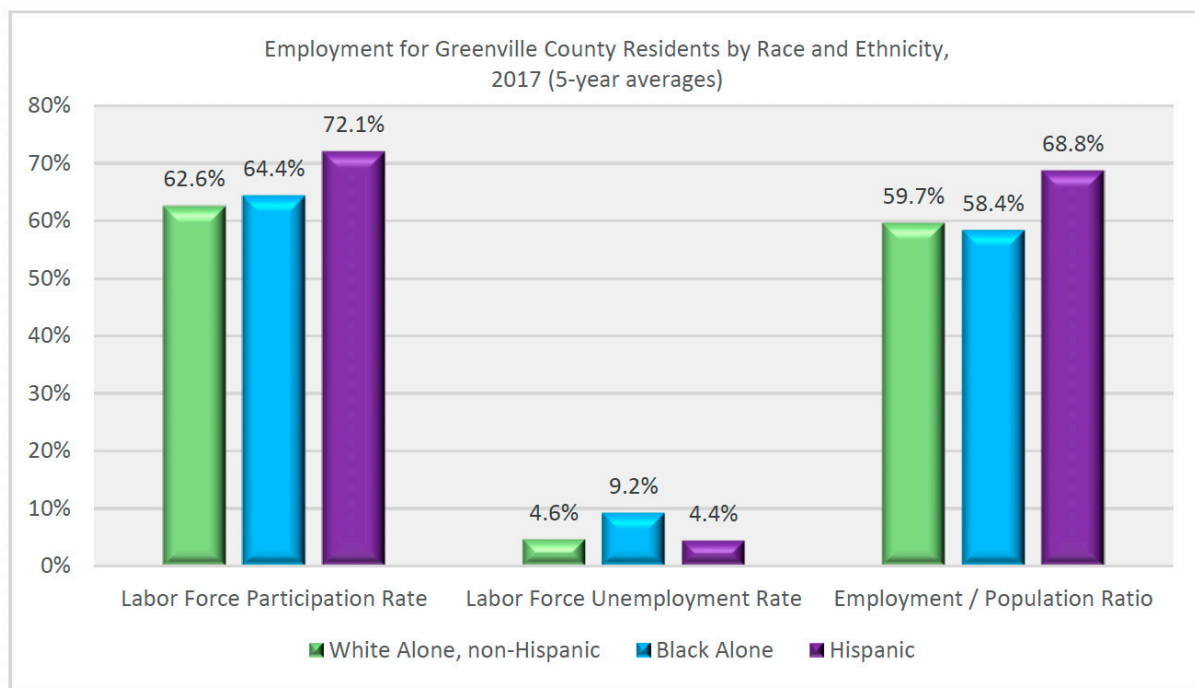


Source: US Census B09001, B01001H

# Employment

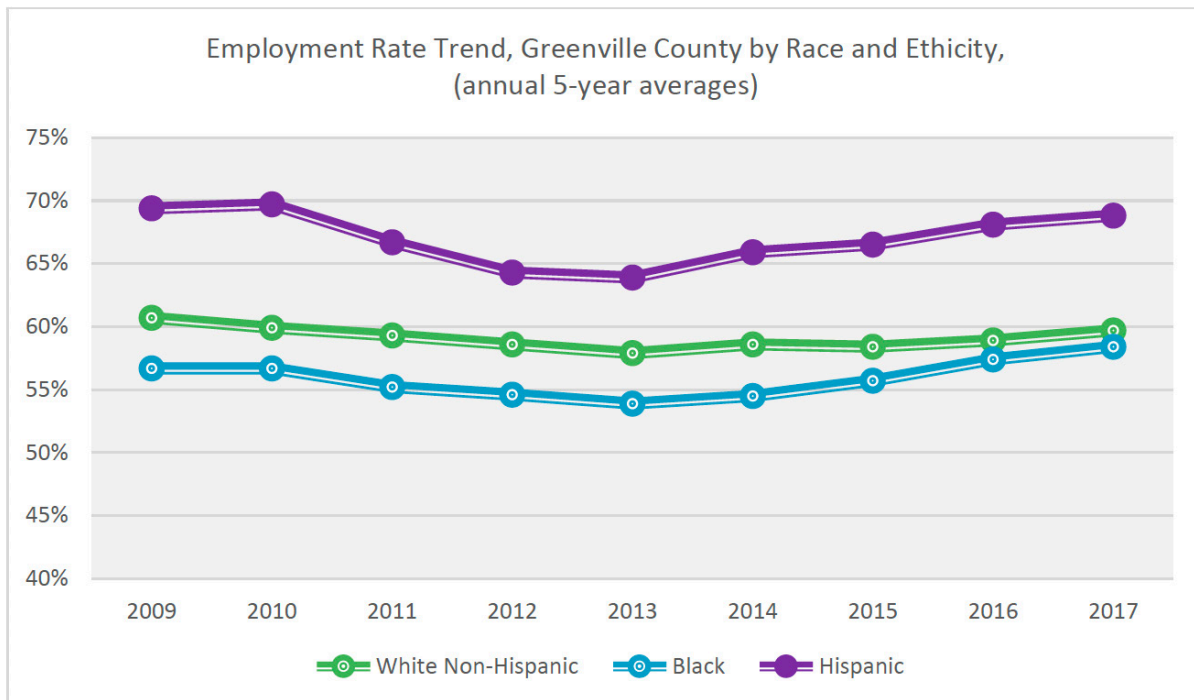
Employment provides income and benefits that can support economic wellbeing and healthy lifestyle choices. Unemployment and underemployment limit these choices and negatively affect quality of life in many ways. The economic conditions in a community, the distribution of structural supports for employment, and an individual's level of educational attainment play important roles in shaping employment opportunities. However, there is continuing widespread discrimination in employment in numerous forms. For example, a 2003 National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER) study<sup>15</sup> found that job applicants with white-sounding names are much more likely to get called for an interview than those with black-sounding names, despite having identical resumes.

To obtain a true picture of employment in a community, multiple measures must be examined. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of working age individuals who are employed or are looking for work. The employment /population ratio is a measure derived by dividing the total working age population by the number in that population who are working for pay. It is also known as the “employment rate.” The labor force unemployment rate is that portion of the labor force that is unemployed. In Greenville County, a larger proportion of Hispanics is either working or looking for work, compared to blacks and whites. Although whites are the least likely to be in the labor force proportionately, they have a lower unemployment rate, compared to blacks.



Source: US Census S2301

The employment rate is considered to be a more representative measure of labor market conditions than the unemployment rate because the employment rate not only reveals the share of the population that is employed but also reflects those who are unemployed but looking for work, and those who are no longer in the labor force at all—many of whom are “discouraged workers.” However, it includes those who may not wish to participate in the labor force, for example, unpaid family workers. In Greenville County, Hispanics have a consistently higher employment rate compared to non-Hispanic whites and blacks.



### SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: CEO ACTION FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION<sup>16</sup>

CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™ is the largest CEO-driven business commitment to advance diversity and inclusion within the workplace. This commitment is driven by a realization that addressing diversity and inclusion is not a competitive issue, but a societal issue. Recognizing that change starts at the executive level, more than 700 CEOs of the world's leading companies and business organizations, are leveraging their individual and collective voices to advance diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

The I Act On Pledge is a key commitment being advanced by CEO Action and a collective opportunity for both CEOs and the workforce to address diversity and inclusion challenges.

#### THE I ACT ON PLEDGE

I pledge to check my bias, speak up for others and show up for all.

- I will check my own biases and take meaningful action to understand and mitigate them.
- I will initiate meaningful, complex, and sometimes difficult, conversations with my friends and colleagues.
- I will ask myself, "Do my actions and words reflect the value of inclusion?"
- I will move outside my comfort zone to learn about the experiences and perspectives of others.
- I will share my insights related to what I have learned.

# Minority-Owned Business and Entrepreneurship

Minority-owned businesses are beneficial to communities they serve. They are more likely than other employers to hire minorities, especially low-income blacks. They tend to invest in their local communities and foster additional economic growth.<sup>17</sup> The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute<sup>6</sup> estimate that 9,000,000 potential jobs would be created if people of color owned businesses at rates comparable to businesses owned by whites.

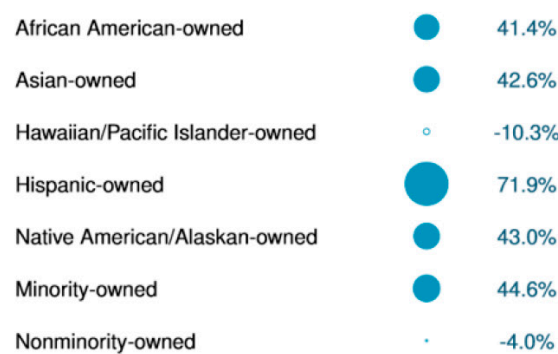
“To remain competitive in a global economy, we need the full creative and economic potential of all our people. Greater racial equity will not only improve individual lives, it will increase the size of the economic pie for everyone.”

-Ani Turner, Lead Author, The Business Case for Racial Equity: A Strategy for Growth

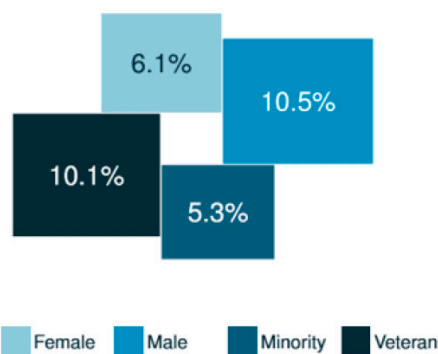
A 2018 survey of 2,165 U.S. entrepreneurs by the Kauffman Foundation<sup>18</sup> showed that, of the start-ups within the last year, business owners are more likely to be between ages 18 and 44 and are more likely to be black or Hispanic. This supports 2012 Census data that showed minority-owned businesses are growing significantly faster than nonminority-owned businesses. The number of minority business enterprises (MBEs) increased 39% between 2007 and 2012 (from 5.8 million to 8.0 million), or more than three times faster than population growth among minorities. Further, employment at minority-owned firms increased 33% to 7.7 million jobs, and gross receipts were up 53% from 2007.<sup>19</sup>

In South Carolina, the same trend holds true – minority-owned business increased by 44.6% from 2007 to 2012, while non-minority business ownership decreased by 4.0%. In fact, Hispanic business ownership increased by 71.9%. Still, 10.5% of white workers are self-employed while only 5.3% of black workers are self-employed.<sup>20</sup>

Change in SC Business Ownership by Race And Ethnicity 2007-2014



South Carolina Self-Employment by Demographic, 2014



Source: US Census S2301



The latest county level data (2012) for Greenville County show that 18.3% of businesses are minority owned; 9.6% are black-owned, and 5.3% are Hispanic-owned. The county's minority-owned businesses employ 7,240 individuals. Details are found in the following table.

Select Business Data by Ownership Race, Greenville County, 2012					
	Number of Firms	# of firms with paid employees	# of paid employees	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	Sales, receipts or value of shipments, firms with paid employees (\$1,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,898</b>	<b>9,379</b>	<b>209,078</b>	<b>\$8,669,168</b>	<b>\$46,086,357</b>
White	34,426	7,527	100,320	\$3,784,697	\$15,658,899
Black	4,045	172	1,637	\$27,777	\$67,348
Hispanic	2,226	170	1,233	\$24,900	\$141,971
Minority*	7,683	800	7,240	\$165,753	\$657,850

\*includes all but non-Hispanic white ownership

Source: US Census 2012 Survey of Business Owners SB1200CSA01

### SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: GREENVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MINORITY BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

As part of its focus on diversity and inclusion, the Greenville Chamber's Minority Business Accelerator (MBA) aids minority business owners in developing their three-year Strategic Growth Action Plan™ customized to their individual business. Taught over a six-to-seven-month period and using award-winning and internationally-recognized StreetWise 'MBA'™ curriculum, the MBA aids business owners in developing the strategies and tactics the owner and staff will take to increase revenue, hone financial management skills, and improve access to capital. Participants complete 13 class sessions, CEO peer mentoring, and live case analyses of their businesses. This work transitions business owners from working in their business to strategically working on their business. At the end of the program, participants have a strategically-sound growth plan and the knowledge to execute it.

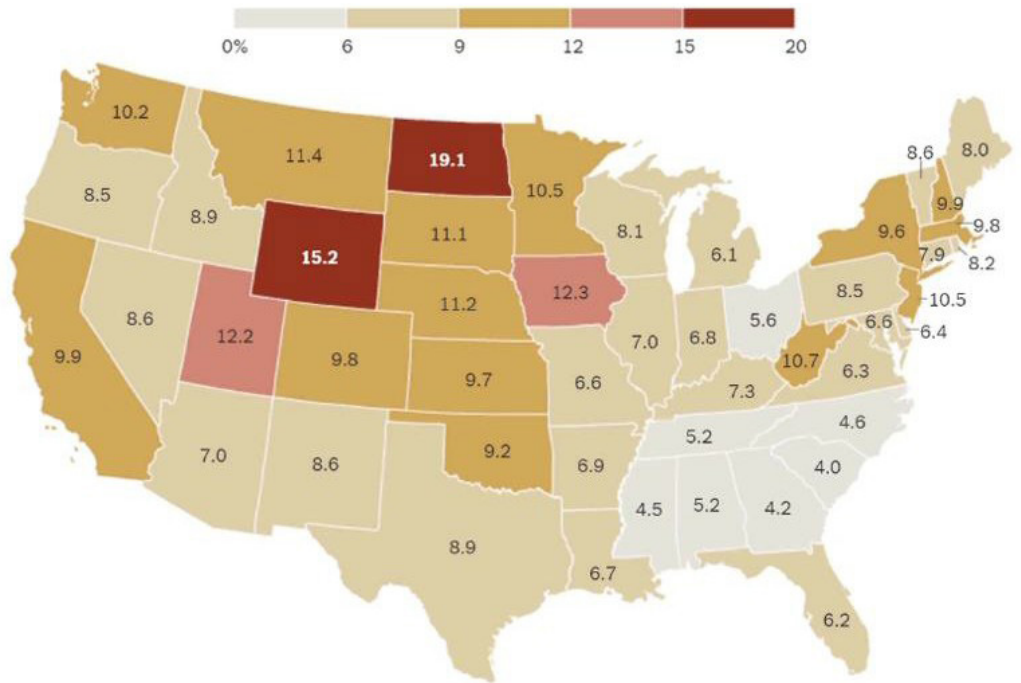
## Mobility Out of Poverty

"When the rungs of the income ladder get too far apart, it is harder to climb."

-Isabel Sawhill, Brookings Institution

Economic mobility has significant relevance for communities of color since they tend to have the lowest income and fewest opportunities to move up on the economic ladder. In their recent Equality of Opportunity Project,<sup>21</sup> three Harvard economists used "big data" to map upward mobility across the country. The results showed wide variation among the nation's states, cities and counties in intergenerational mobility, leading the researchers to conclude that some areas provide significantly more opportunity for children to move out of poverty, and other areas offer children few opportunities for escape. Among states, South Carolina ranks lowest for intergenerational mobility.

## PERCENTAGE CHILDREN IN LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE THAT MOVE TO HIGHEST QUARTILE

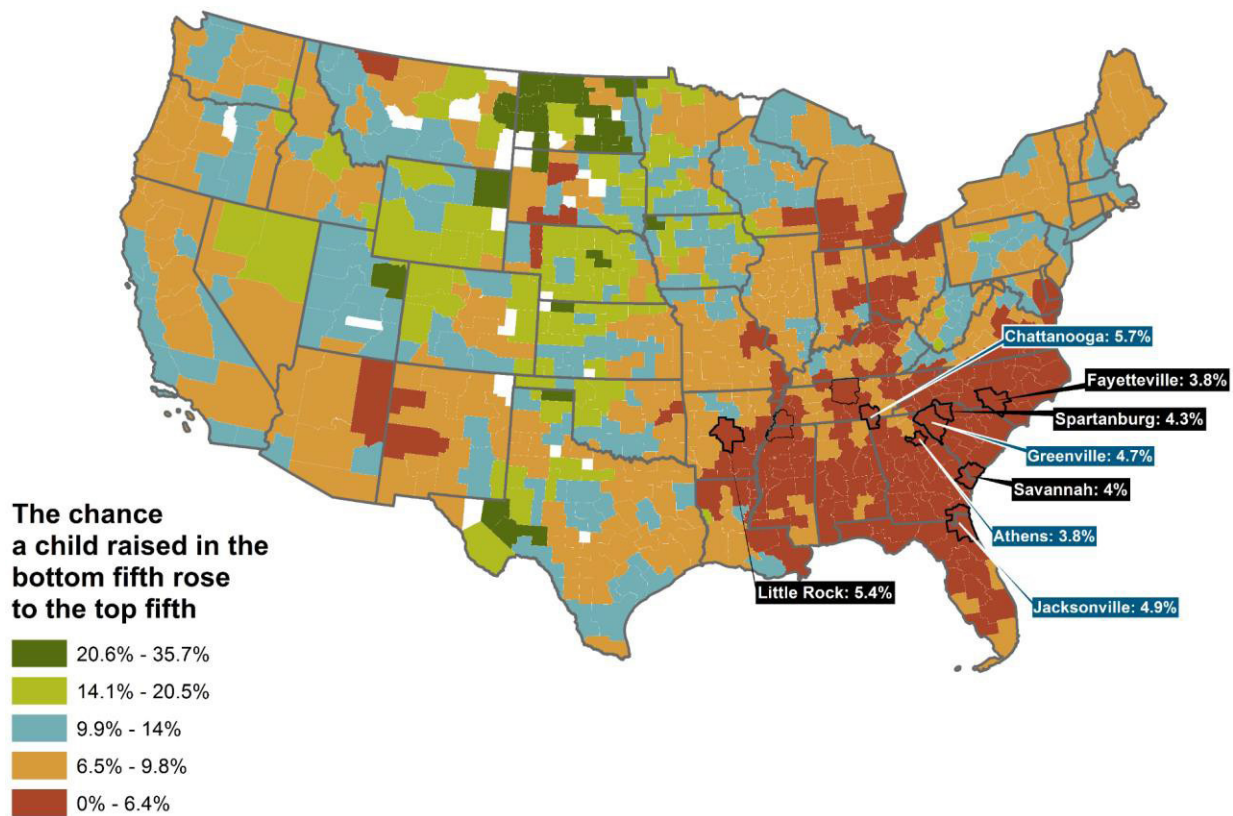


Source: New York Times / Harvard<sup>22</sup>

The cities and counties where children are raised has a significant impact on their chances of moving up economically. The research found that cities with high levels of upward mobility tend to have five characteristics:

- lower levels of residential segregation by race
- a larger middle class (lower levels of income inequality)
- stronger families and more two-parent households
- greater social capital
- higher quality public schools

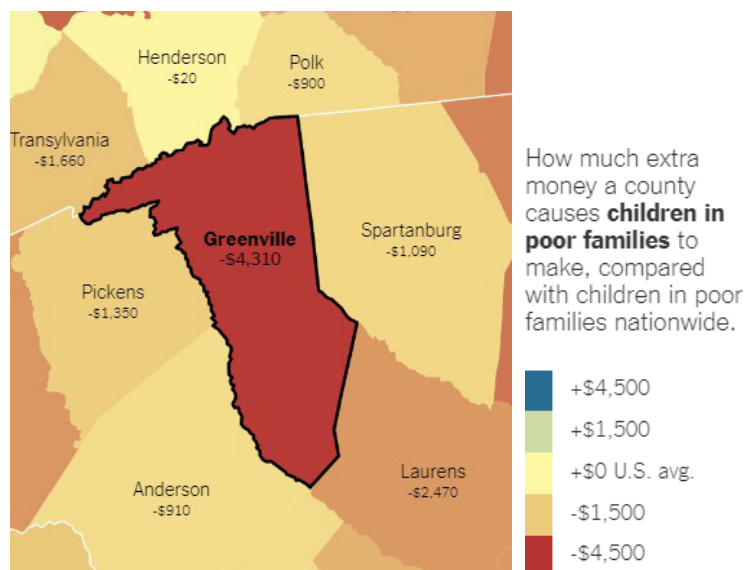
The latest calculations and comparisons of the 2,478 counties in the U.S. show that South Carolina counties rank among the lowest in the country for chances of upward mobility for poor children. Greenville County is considered to be “extremely bad” in helping poor children up the income ladder. It ranks 24<sup>th</sup> worst out of 2,478 counties, better than almost no county in the nation. Further, Greenville metro area ranks 94<sup>th</sup> out of the 100 largest metro areas in the country for upward mobility for poor children.



Source: MDC and Equality of Opportunity Project

If a child grows up in Greenville County, rather than in an “average” place, he or she would make \$4,310, or 17%, less at age 26.

Neighboring Spartanburg County is considered “pretty bad,” ranking better than about 22% of counties nation-wide. Neighboring Anderson County is also considered “pretty bad” but ranks slightly higher, better than about 24% of counties nation-wide.



Source: Equality of Opportunity Project

The following graphic estimates how much 20 years of childhood in Greenville County adds or takes away from a child's income (compared with an average county) at age 26, along with the national percentile ranking for each.

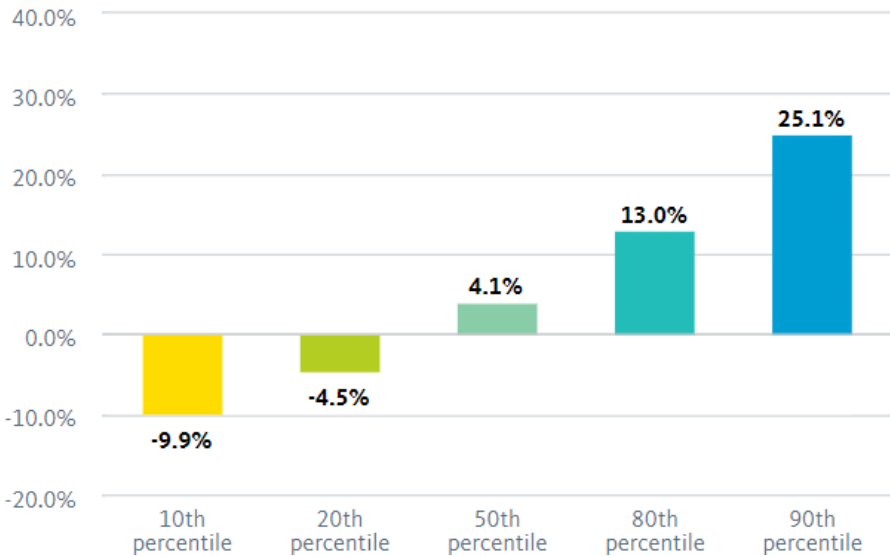
What a Childhood in Greenville County Does to Future Income

For poor kids			For average-income kids			For rich kids			For kids in the top 1%		
GROUP	INCOME CHG.	NAT. PCT.	GROUP	INCOME CHG.	NAT. PCT.	GROUP	INCOME CHG.	NAT. PCT.	GROUP	INCOME CHG.	NAT. PCT.
All kids	-\$4,310	<1%	All kids	-\$3,590	<1%	All kids	-\$2,520	3%	All kids	-\$1,370	11%
Boys	-\$4,760	<1%	Boys	-\$4,980	<1%	Boys	-\$4,770	<1%	Boys	-\$4,140	2%
Girls	-\$3,620	4%	Girls	-\$1,810	10%	Girls	+\$270	34%	Girls	+\$2,100	61%

Source: Equality of Opportunity Project

Part of the reason for Greenville County’s extremely bad ranking for economic mobility is its income inequality. Nationally over the past three decades, gains in income and wages have gone largely to the top earners, while wages and income of lower-class and middle-class workers have declined or stagnated. The following graph demonstrates this trend for the Greenville Metro Area.

Earned income growth for full-time wage and salary workers: Greenville, SC Metro Area, 1980-2015



Source: National Equity Atlas

The US Partnership on Mobility From Poverty<sup>23</sup> asserts that we need to rethink how we define mobility out of poverty. If we continue to focus narrowly on income, we consider it a success when families move one dollar above the poverty level, even though they would likely continue to struggle despite this minimal improvement. The Partnership asserts that power and autonomy are as important to mobility as are material resources. Power is a person’s ability to influence their environment, other people, and their own outcomes. Autonomy is a person’s ability to act according to their own decisions, rather than according to other’s decisions. Power and autonomy can both drive and result from social mobility.

### SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: GVL NETWORK FOR SOUTHERN ECONOMIC MOBILITY<sup>24</sup>

*In 2016 Greenville joined Chattanooga, Athens, and Jacksonville in MDC's Network for Southern Economic Mobility (NSEM) to help improve economic mobility for the most disadvantaged youth in Greenville County. Facilitated by MDC, a social-impact think tank based in Durham, North Carolina, the goal of the network is to help each city develop a long-range plan for improving economic mobility in their community by providing opportunities for cross-site and community level learning, systems analysis and strategy development, and implementation coaching. Network members examine how well existing systems are working to support economic mobility for young people facing the most difficult barriers to advancement, analyze the policies, systems, and culture that impede or accelerate their progression, and adapt relevant systems to improve pathways. A committed Greenville leadership team strives to develop a targeted, cross sector approach that will culminate in the development of an Integrated Action Plan, or a long-term outlook on how Greenville can improve economic mobility. The current focus is on four key strategies that will significantly change the conversation around economic mobility and begin to transform outcomes at a systemic level.*

**Educate and Equip:** *Engage key organizations and community leaders by making presentations, convening strategic conversations, and developing a mobility focused media stream*

**Highlight Critical Policies:** *Apply national and regional data to our local context. Developing a policy landscape to identify the key federal, state, and local policies shaping mobility outcomes in Greenville.*

**Listen and Share stories:** *Host conversations to learn first-hand from community members struggling to advance in Greenville and from youth imagining their future in our community.*

**Sustain Action:** *Develop and resource a strategic network of leaders, organizations, and community partners that can collectively sustain the work of improving mobility outcomes for those in need.*





*Credit: Homes of Hope*

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

Housing is the single largest expense for households. Housing has been shown to be as important as education and labor force readiness to economic mobility, especially as it addresses issues of concentrated poverty. Housing conditions impact the wellbeing of the homes' occupants as well as the wellbeing of the surrounding neighborhood. Housing stock, affordability, and quality seem to be equally important considerations. Homeownership can be an important means of achieving residential stability and has been shown to be related to improved psychological health and greater participation in social and political activities. Boosting the supply of affordable housing in opportunity-rich areas allows people to access jobs, higher-performing schools, and social amenities, all of which influence economic mobility. However, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reports<sup>25</sup> that racism continues in the housing industry, even if it is less obvious than it was in the Jim Crow era.

## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

In Greenville County, as throughout the U.S., there is significant racial inequity in home ownership, with whites having much greater ownership rates. Compared to other counties in South Carolina, Greenville has a high homelessness rate, and neighborhood racial segregation and areas of concentrated poverty are also a significant concern in Greenville County, fueling poor prospects for economic mobility for the county's poor and minority children.

## Homelessness

Homelessness is the condition of people lacking “a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence” as defined by the federal McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act.<sup>26</sup> Homelessness reduces the quality of life in cities and drastically affects those who are homeless, especially children. It worsens their health, exacerbates mental illness, makes ending substance abuse difficult, and promotes victimization. Although accurate data are difficult to obtain, it is estimated that between 200,000 and 600,000 people in the U.S. are homeless.

“Homelessness is fundamentally about a lack of housing that is affordable to households at different income levels.”

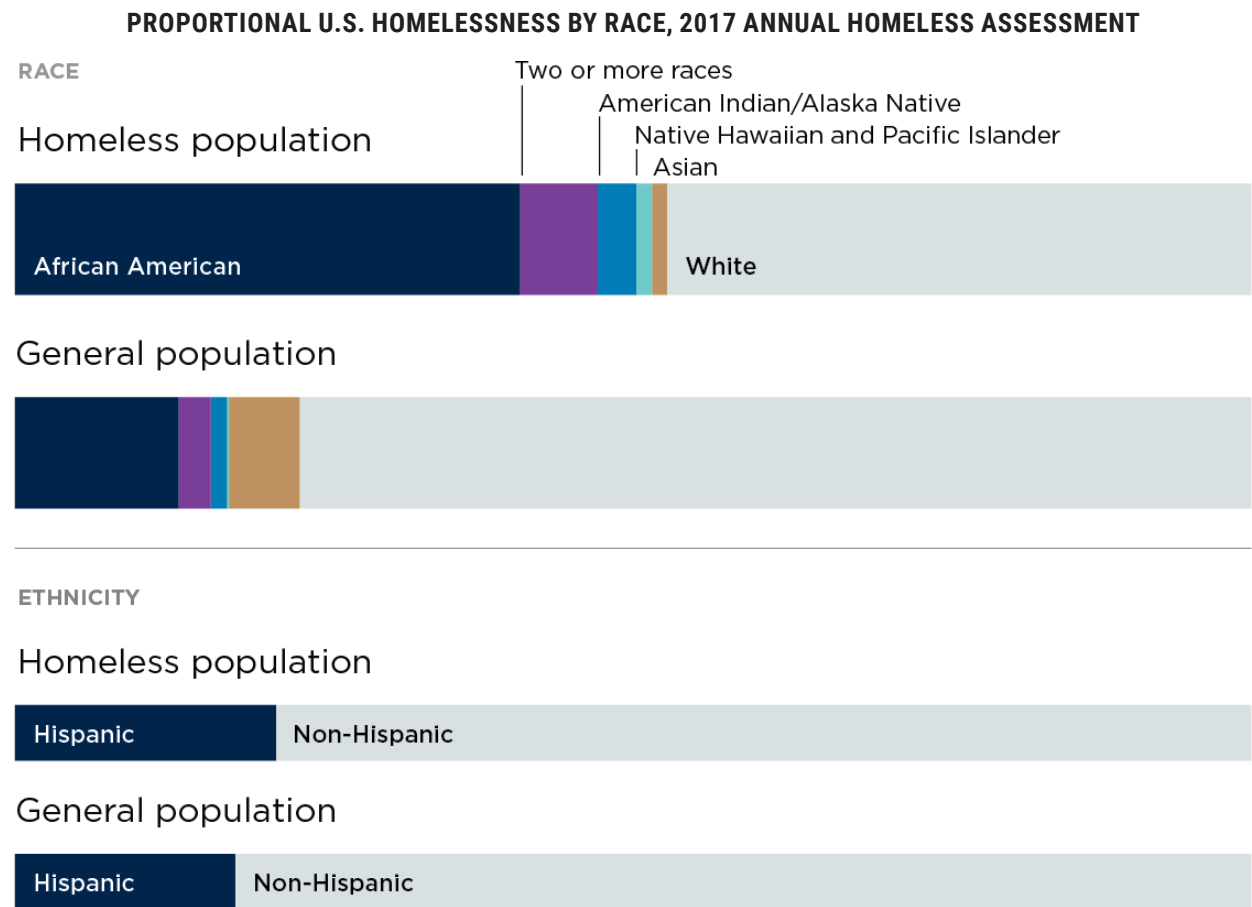
—South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness

Homelessness is counted and reported in two primary ways— the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), with information gathered over a 12-month period, and a homeless census gathered on one night during the last week of January and known as the “Point in Time Count” (PIT). Results of both are submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide an indication of the size and characteristics of the nation’s homeless population. In South Carolina, all four of the state’s homeless program regions, called Continuums of Care (CoC), conduct these annual counts of individuals and families who experience homelessness in their jurisdictions. The resulting reports,<sup>27</sup> are produced by the South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness.

The state’s 2019 PIT Count, conducted on January 23, 2019, identified 4,172 persons as experiencing homelessness. However, the population experiencing homelessness isn’t static – some individuals included in the January count date find housing while some others who had housing on the count night later experience homelessness. Nonetheless, the 2019 PIT Count revealed a 6% increase from the 2018 count, resulting entirely from an increase in “unsheltered” persons living on the streets, in their cars, or other places not fit for human habitation. However, since 2014, the overall PIT Count has decreased by 17.5%

Although useful, a single night count vastly underrepresents the homeless population. The AHAR identified 11,338 persons in South Carolina who were served through homeless housing projects from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. These data showed that homelessness disproportionately affects blacks, males, and persons with disabilities.

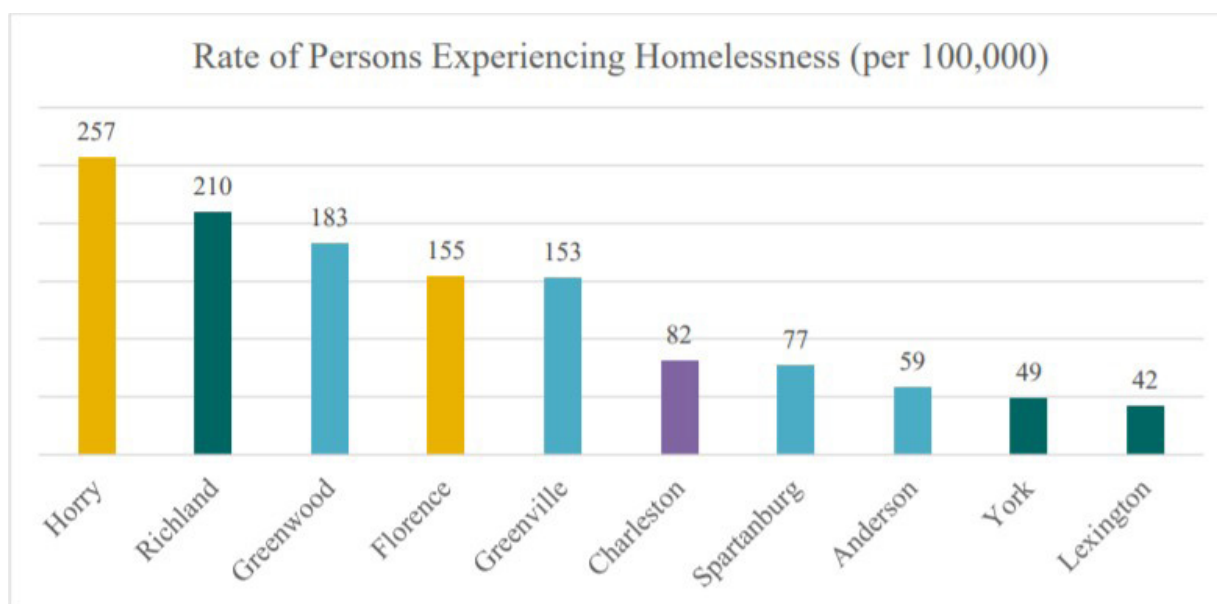
Likewise, national data show that homelessness in the U.S. is a racial issue. The National Alliance to End Homelessness<sup>28</sup> provides the following infographic based on national 2017 PIT Count data and posits that long-standing discrimination of blacks perpetuate disparities in housing, among other areas. The disproportionate burdens of poverty, rental housing discrimination, and incarceration borne by blacks are evident in inequities by race and impact homelessness.



Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness

Among South Carolina counties, Greenville County has the fifth highest rate of persons who are homeless. The 2019 PIT Count identified in 753 people in Greenville County as homeless, 242 of whom are unsheltered homeless, and 193 of whom are chronically homeless. In the 13-County Upstate region, the PIT Count identified 1,401 homeless persons, 506 of whom are unsheltered homeless, and 321 of whom are chronically homeless.



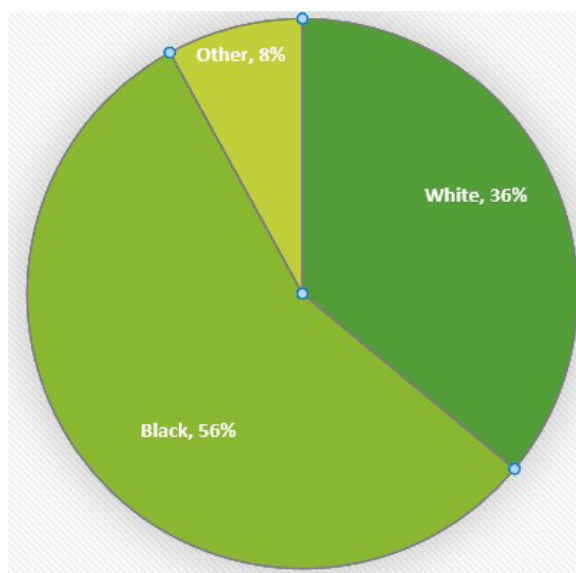


Source: 2019 South Carolina PIT Count

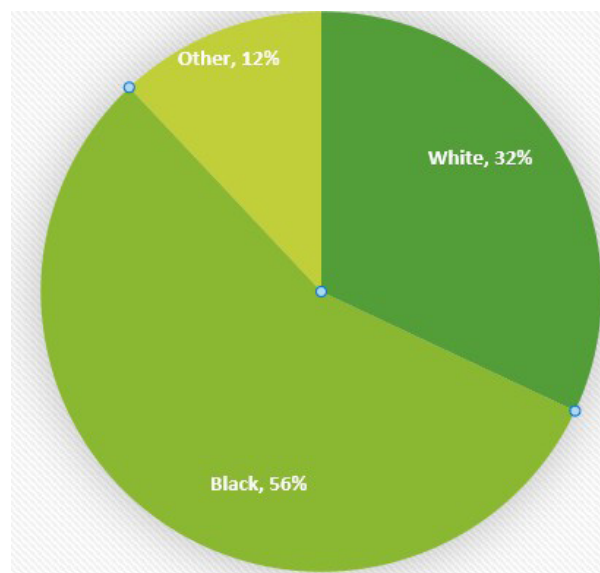
In South Carolina, blacks constitute 27.2% of the population (2017 5-year estimate) but constitute 56% of the homeless population according to the AAHAR. Hispanics constitute 5.5% of the state's population but only 3% of its homeless population. In the 13-county Upstate region, the findings are almost the same – homelessness is 56% black, 32% white, and 5% Hispanic. PIT Count data are somewhat different.

### AAHAR RACIAL COMPOSITION\* OF HOMELESS POPULATION, 2019

**SOUTH CAROLINA**



**UPSTATE REGION (13 COUNTIES)**



\*by primary race

Source: 2019 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report

The following table provides Upstate 2019 PIT Count homelessness data further disaggregated by race. There were 1,401 individuals counted as homeless. PIT Counts for Greenville County alone show 753 homeless persons (242 sheltered and 511 unsheltered). Note that a higher percentage of whites (51%) were counted as homeless, compared to blacks (44%) on the PIT Count.

PIT Count: Homelessness by Race and Hispanic Status, Upstate Region, 2019			
RACE	SHELTERED	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
White	451	260	711
Black / African American	400	213	613
Asian	1	3	4
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	7	11
Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander	0	3	3
Multiple Races	39	20	59
ETHNICITY	SHELTERED	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
Hispanic or Latino	30	15	45
Not Hispanic / Latino	865	491	1,356

Source: 2019 South Carolina Point in Time Count Report

Obviously, homelessness is tied to poverty, but social and structural issues also predict homelessness (as they predict poverty). These include lower educational attainment among blacks - particularly black males; barriers to employment - especially to qualifying for jobs in well-compensated sectors; fewer financial assets - including low intergenerational transfer of wealth; disproportionate representation in the criminal justice system; wage inequities that persist even with educational advancement; and other barriers to employment, education, health care, and housing not experienced by whites.

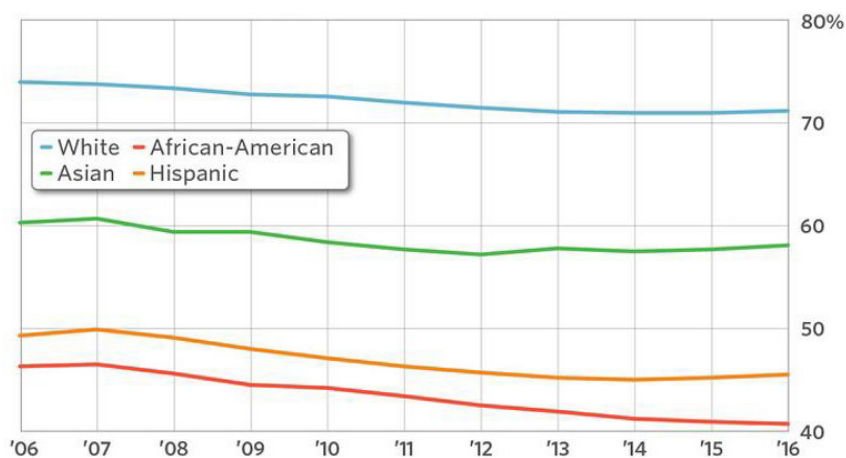
“Homelessness did not always exist in America the way it does today, and a response focused exclusively on shelter is both expensive and ineffective. We have learned much about what works, and it is time to invest in solutions.”

-South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness

## BEST PRACTICE: BUILT FOR ZERO INITIATIVE COORDINATED BY COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS<sup>29</sup>

Over the past three years, nine communities in the United States have reached a rigorous standard known as “functional zero” for either veteran or chronic homelessness — a standard that indicates that homelessness is nonexistent or very rare in their communities. They are doing it by making whole systems smarter, collecting and maintaining real-time data on people experiencing homelessness, and by providing intensive personalized services.

“We’ve gone to a centralized system and extremely expanded our outreach,” said Jennifer Jaeger, Community Services Director in Rockford, Ill., the first community in the United States to reach the functional zero level for veterans and the second to do so for chronic homelessness. Every person who is homeless becomes well-known to the whole community of providers who can help by trying to figure out what is important to each individual and to meet those needs. They stop being “the homeless” and become people everyone knows with uniquely tailored services they need to stay housed.



Source: Market Watch

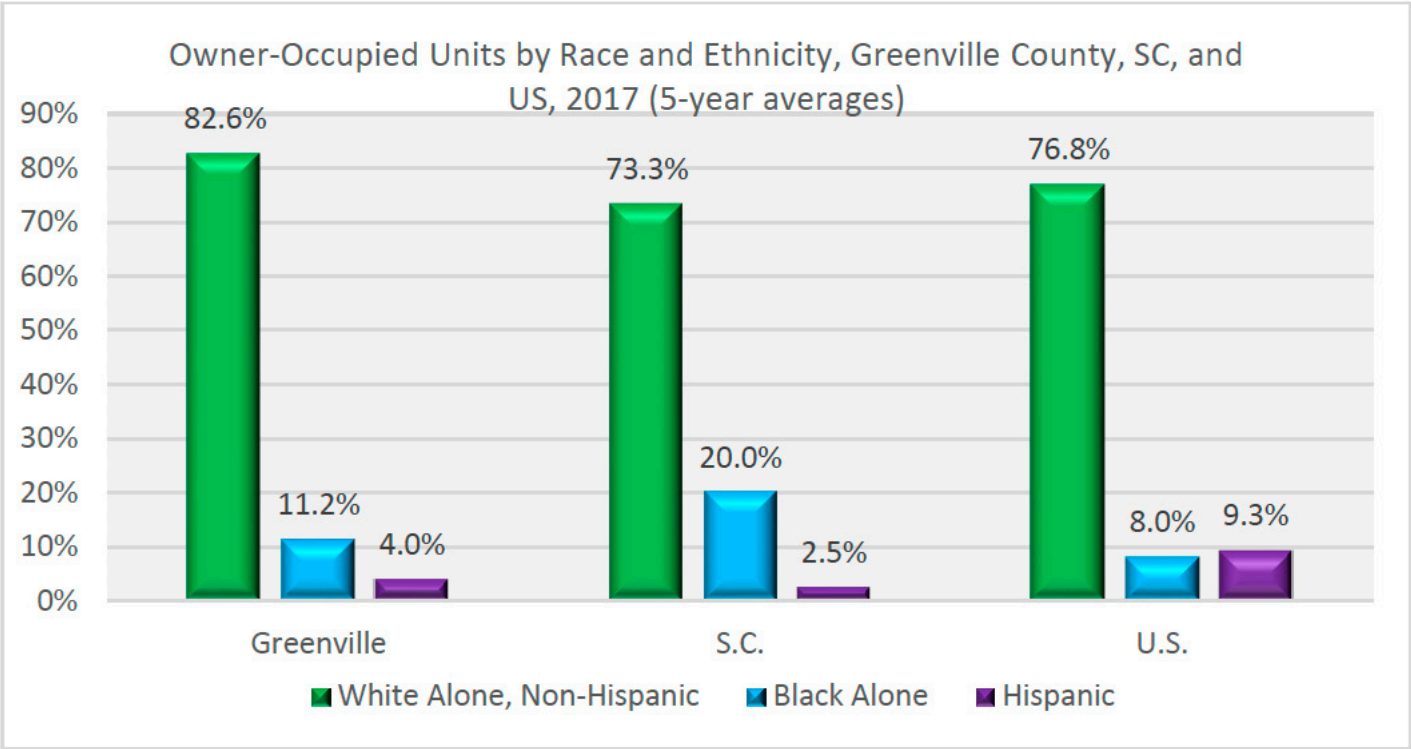
## Home Ownership & Affordability

Current data show that there are still deep racial inequities in the housing market.<sup>30</sup> As demonstrated in the chart below, black home ownership declined nearly six percentage points in the decade from 2006 – 2016, more than declines in any other racial group and double the decline among whites. For the duration of the decade, blacks had the lowest homeownership rate of primary demographic groups.

In fact, blacks received a far smaller share of mortgages (6%) in 2017, relative to their share of the population (13%) than other racial groups. The data show that when blacks do borrow, they are often given costlier loans with less favorable terms than other racial groups.<sup>30</sup> A number of studies have shown that discriminatory practices in the real estate and banking industries are still common and present an obstacle to homeownership for many people of color.

Home ownership requires a stable or growing income which is also unequal by race; however, even during times when racial gaps in mortgage lending should have been narrowing — such as in 1992 when interest rates began an unprecedented decline below double-digit rates — the racial gaps persisted. Few minority individuals refinanced their loans during this period, even though loan refinancings became the most frequent form of mortgage loan during that period. Not only were minority individuals less likely to obtain refinancings when they applied, they were less likely to apply.<sup>31</sup>

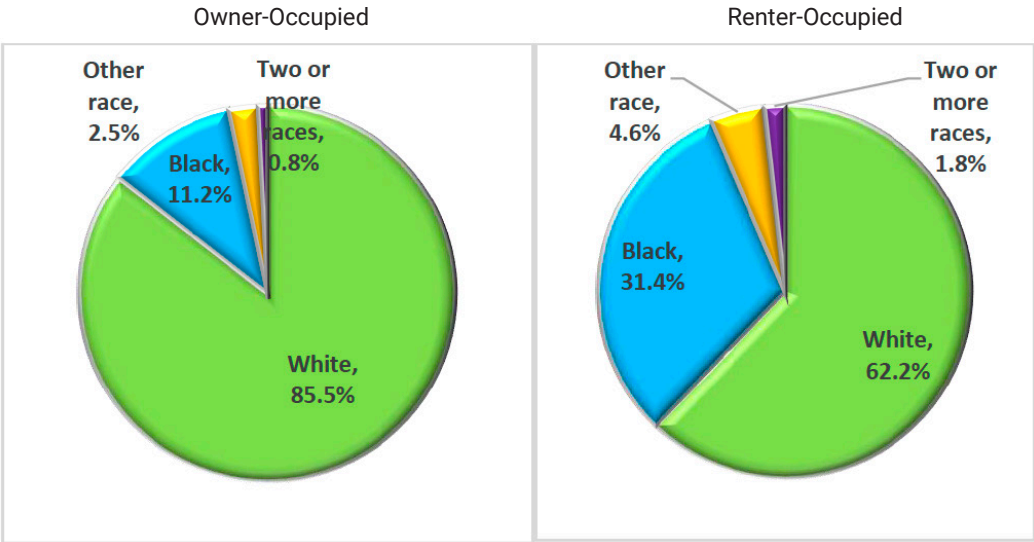
In Greenville County, as throughout the U.S., there is a significant racial inequity in home ownership overall, with approximately 83% of owner-occupied housing units having white, non-Hispanic householders, compared to 11% black householders and 4% Hispanic householders. This constitutes a greater equity gap than those of the state and the nation.



Source: US Census S2502

In Greenville County, as throughout the U.S., there is a significant racial inequity in home ownership overall, with approximately 83% of owner-occupied housing units having white, non-Hispanic householders, compared to 11% black householders and 4% Hispanic householders. This constitutes a greater equity gap than those of the state and the nation.

**RACIAL COMPOSITION OF OWNER-OCCUPIED AND RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS, GREENVILLE COUNTY, 2017 (5-YEAR AVERAGE)**

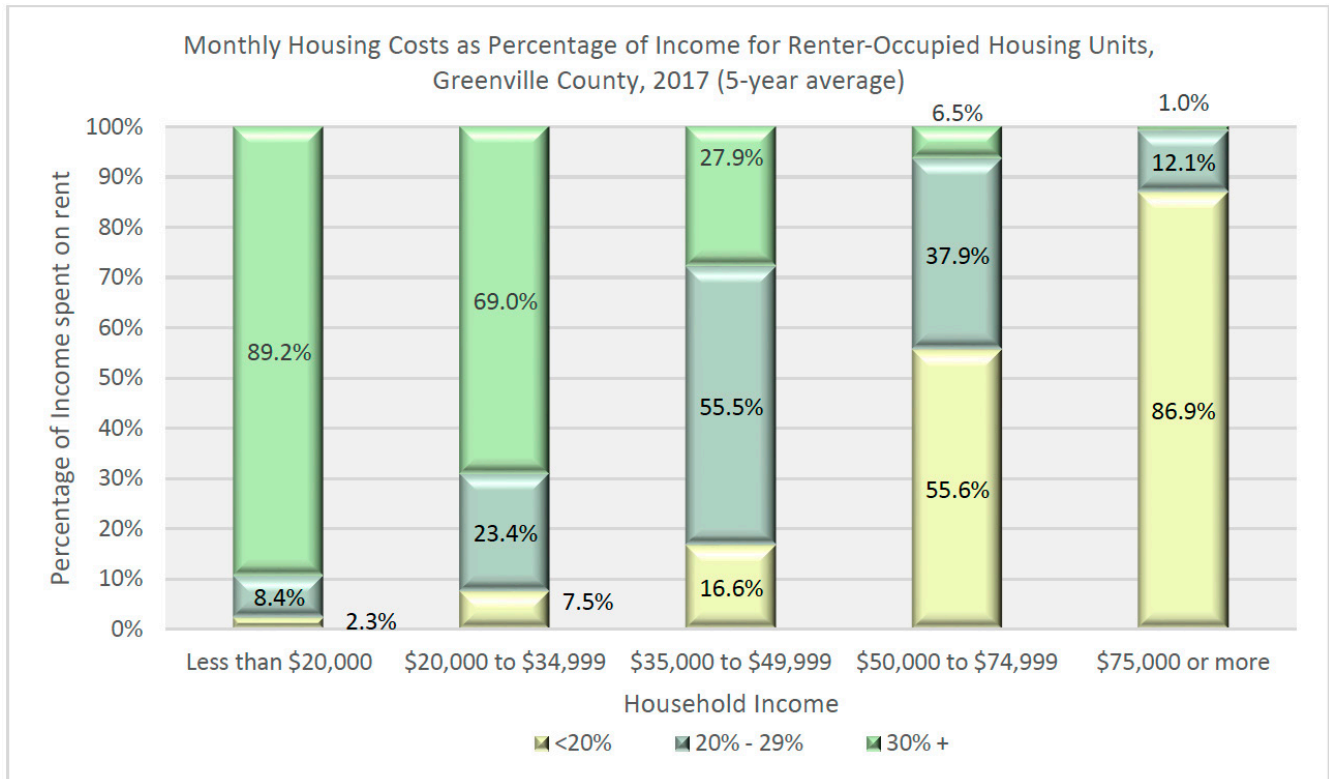


Source: US Census S2502

## AFFORDABILITY

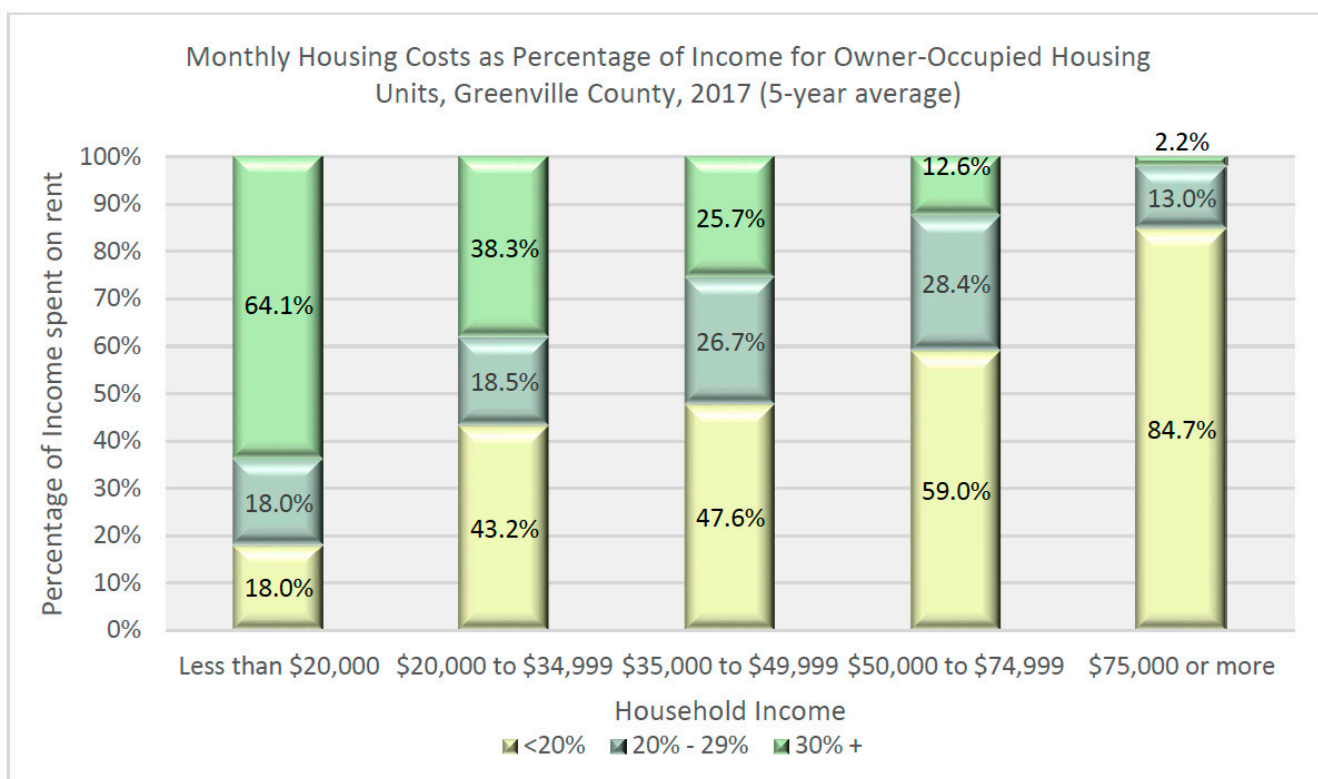
According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),<sup>32</sup> the generally accepted definition of affordable housing is that for which the occupants are paying no more than 30% of gross income for housing costs, including utilities. According to this definition, one in three U.S. households are paying too much for housing, the preponderance of those being low income households and households of color.

In Greenville County, there are an estimated 185,837 housing units with 63,028 being renter-occupied and 122,809 being owner-occupied. Almost 43% of the county's residents are not in affordable housing situations, spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs. As the following graphic demonstrates, for renters, the lower the household income, the greater proportion is spent on housing costs. For households with less than \$20,000 in income, over 89% spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. On the other end of the spectrum, for households with \$75,000 in income, approximately 1% spend more than 30% on housing costs.



Source: US Census S2503

Owner-occupied units fare markedly better. As demonstrated in the following graph, homeowners spend a much lower proportion of income on housing costs, even at lower levels of income. Although, as with renters, the higher the income, the proportionately less is spent on housing costs.



Source: US Census S2503

High housing costs put undue stress on household budgets and leave few resources for other expenses, savings, long-term investments, financial cushions for emergencies, and transgenerational wealth. People of color are disproportionately low income, and low-income people spend disproportionately more on housing costs.

Compared to Richland and Charleston Counties, a consistently lower percentage of Greenville County residents, whether homeowners or renters, spend 30% or more of their income on housing.

Percent of Housing Units Where Householders Spend at Least 30% of Income on Housing								
	2006-10	2007-11	2008-12	2009-13	2010-14	2011-15	2012-16	2013-17
Greenville	23.6	23.1	22.9	22.1	20.8	19.4	18.0	17.3
Richland	25.8	26.3	26.1	26.2	25.5	24.1	22.6	22.1
Charleston	35.3	35.3	34.4	32.9	31.1	29.3	27.6	26.6

Source: Kids Count Data Center



### BEST PRACTICE: POLICIES TO ENSURE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL

The national Equity Atlas<sup>2</sup> suggests that these public policies will grow an equitable economy in communities through affordable housing:

- Raise funds to increase the supply of affordable homes through housing trust funds and housing bonds
- Require or incentivize the inclusion of affordable housing within new development using inclusionary zoning, community benefits agreements, density bonuses or other tools
- Preserve affordable rental housing, particularly apartments located near job centers, public transit, and services
- Ensure strong tenant protections such as “just cause” eviction ordinances, anti-harassment policies, and rent control to prevent displacement
- Implement a renters tax credit to help reduce rents for low-income families

### SEVERE HOUSING PROBLEMS

Not all housing meets standards for habitability, primarily because of overcrowding, high cost, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities. The 2019 County Health Rankings<sup>33</sup> reports that 14% of Greenville County households have at least one of these four “severe housing problems.” Low income and minority households experience a greater burden of severe housing problems. For other comparable geographies:

- 15% of all South Carolina households have at least one of these four housing problems
- The counties within the state range from 9% to 20% on this measure
- 18% of Richland County households have at least one of these four housing problems
- 20% of Charleston County households have at least one of these four housing problems
- The top US County performers are at 9% on this measure

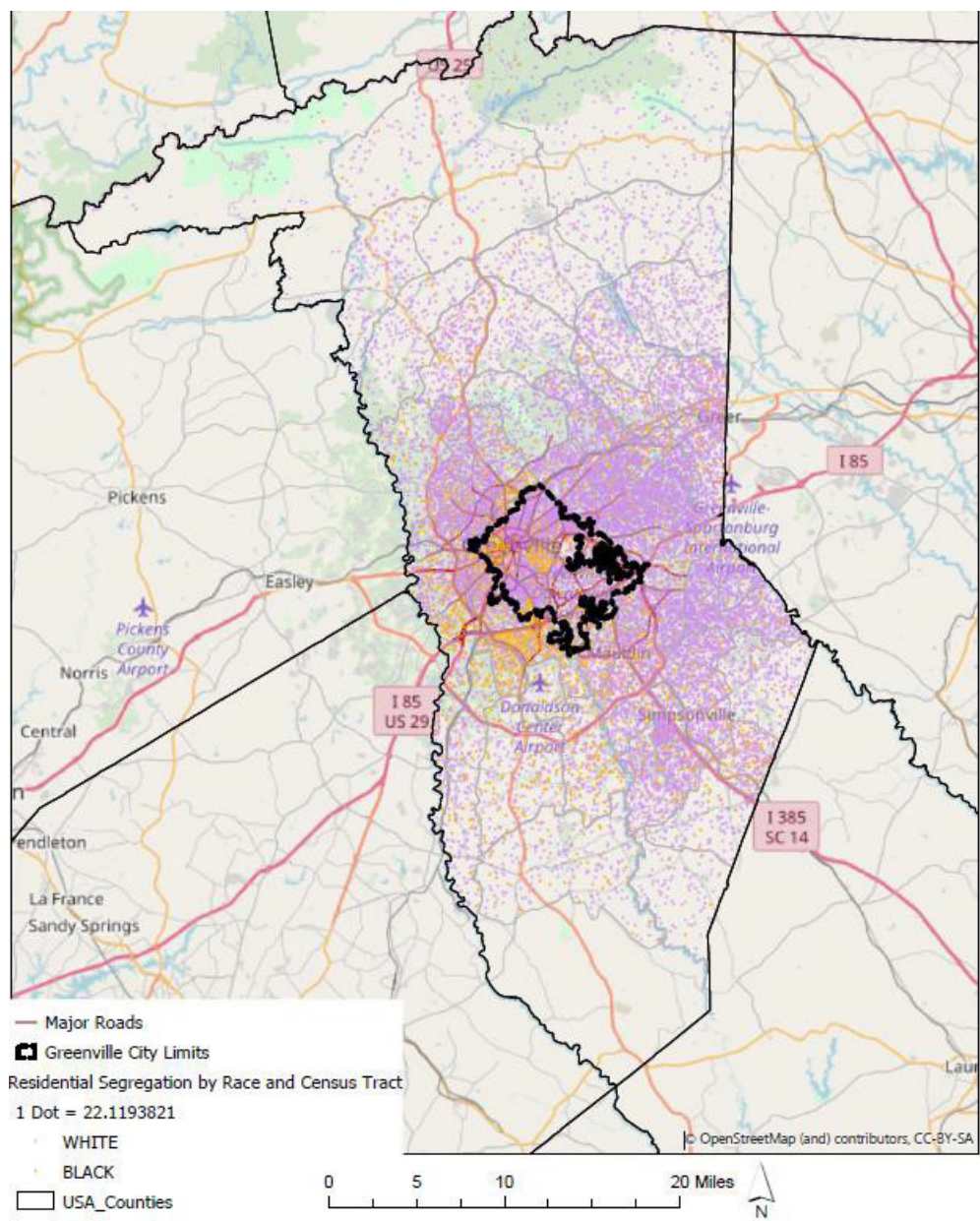
## Residential Segregation by Race

The racial composition of cities is highly predictive of the ability of residents to break the cycle of poverty. Specifically, where there is less racial segregation, poor residents have a greater chance of moving up the economic ladder without affecting the economic potential of wealthy residents. That is, communities that are better for the poor are not worse for the rich. Residential segregation, which affects black households to a greater extent than other minorities,<sup>34</sup> perpetuates poverty patterns by isolating blacks in areas that lack employment opportunities and services. These areas also have higher crime and poverty rates.

Raj Chetty and his colleagues<sup>21</sup> mapped rates of upward mobility for children born in the 1980s for 741 metro and rural areas (“commuting zones”) in the U.S., measured by the fraction of children who reach the top fifth of the national income distribution, conditional on having parents in the bottom fifth. Atlanta and Charlotte had upward mobility rates lower than all developed countries in the world. One reason is the distinct residential segregation in each city.

In Greenville, the city in general is more racially diverse than the county, in terms of numbers of white and black residents. However, the patterns of segregation by race are clear for both geographies in the dot maps that follow.

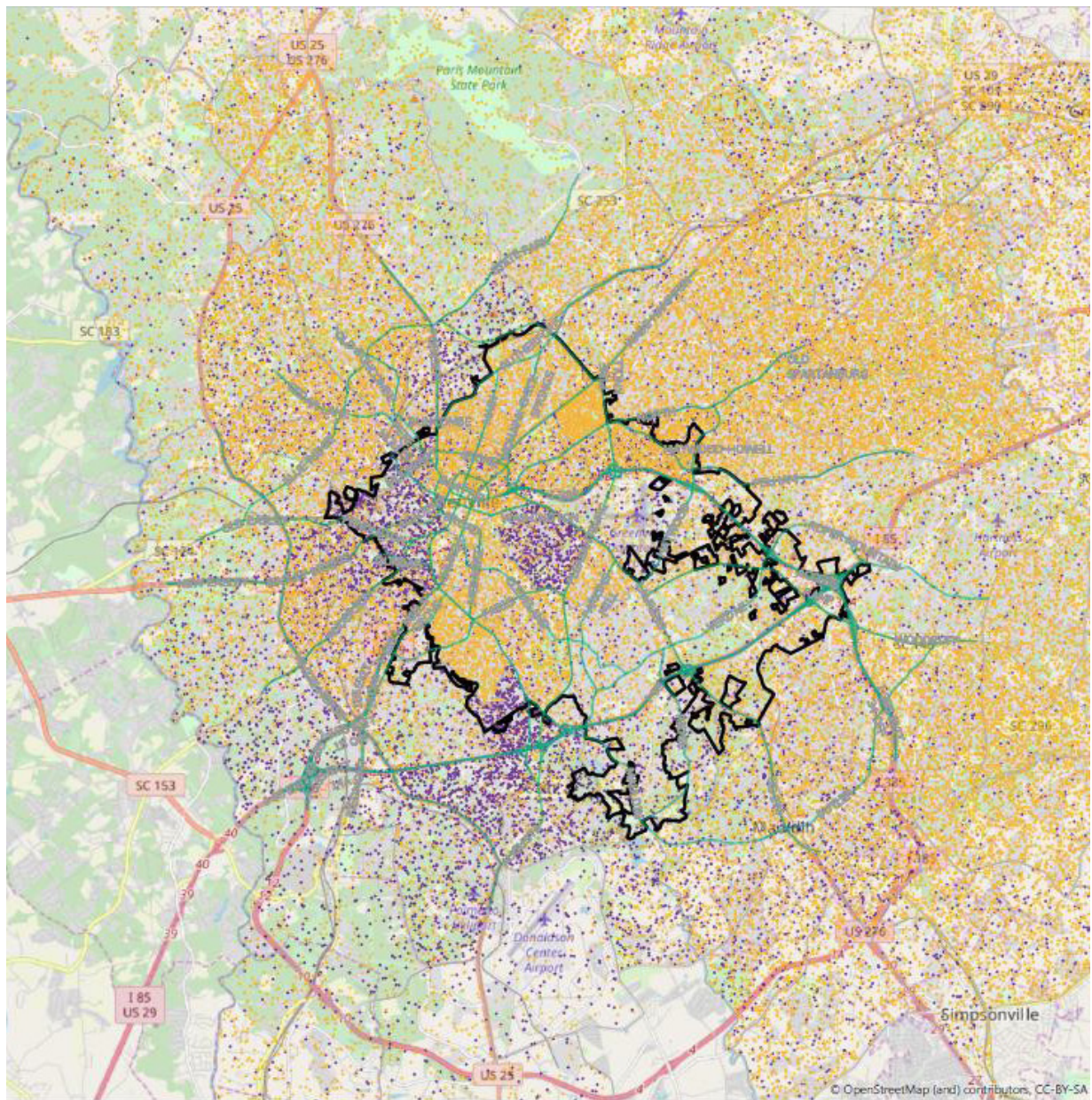
GREENVILLE COUNTY RESIDENTS BY RACE, 2017



Source: US Census, 2017 1 dot = 5 individuals  
 Purple dots represent White residents  
 Orange dots represent Black residents

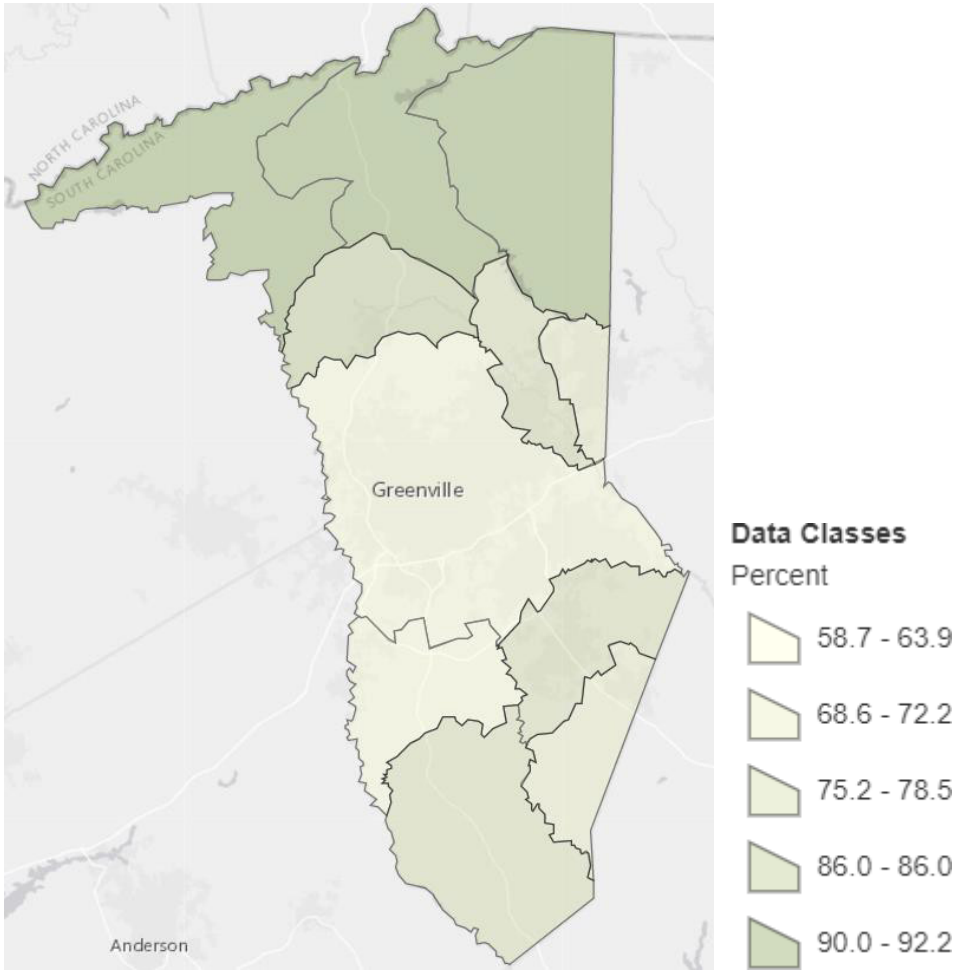


## GREENVILLE CITY RESIDENTS BY RACE, 2017



Neighborhood racial segregation is a significant concern, but larger geographies within Greenville County are also highly segregated by race. The following map shows Greenville County Census subdivisions for percentage of residents who identify as “white alone”, single race, non-Hispanic. The areas of least residential racial diversity are Highland and Slater-Marietta (92.2% and 90.6% white, non-Hispanic, respectively).

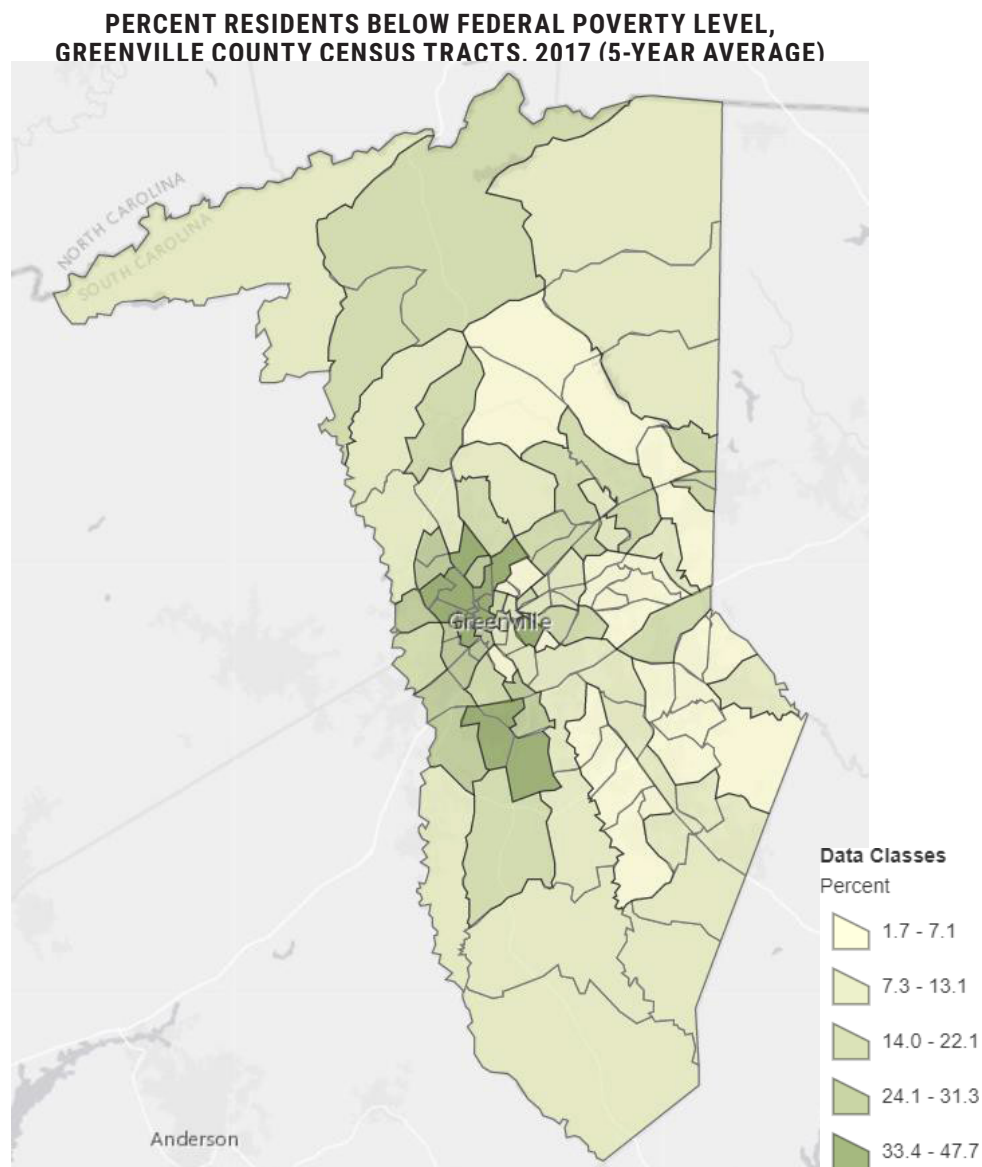
**PERCENTAGE OF WHITE ALONE RESIDENTS BY GREENVILLE COUNTY  
SUBDIVISION, 2017 (5-YEAR AVERAGE)**



Source: US Census DP05

## Concentrated Poverty

In the report *The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America*,<sup>35</sup> the Federal Reserve and the Brookings Institution studied communities where poverty is geographically concentrated at rates of 40% and above, finding that concentrated poverty is nuanced from place to place, and that place matters. There are common themes across all communities struggling with concentrated poverty: lack of human capital development, high rates of unemployment, and inadequate housing. The map of Greenville County by census tract shows that percentage of poverty ranges from less than 2% in some areas of the county to almost 48% in other areas of the county.

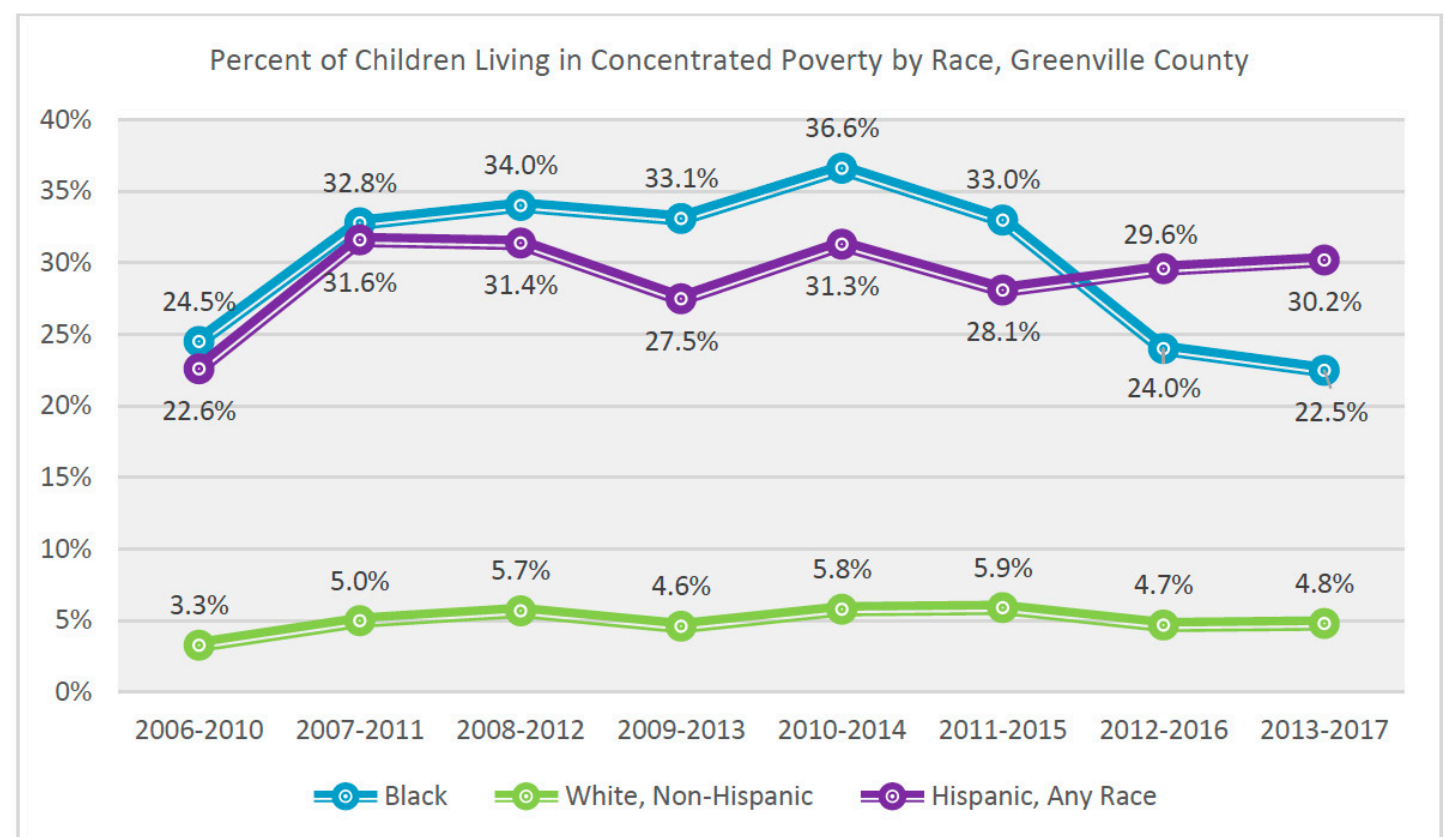


Source: U.S. Census S1701



A large middle class is one of the five predictors of communities with good social and economic mobility. Large disparities in income, or income inequality, means that there is a small middle class in a given community. When children live to adulthood in communities with income inequality, lifetime earnings potential is low, and the cycle of poverty endures. Conversely, the literature shows that multiple benefits derive from mixed income housing developments and income-diverse neighborhoods,<sup>36</sup> including safer environments, access to more and improved services, good quality housing, and neighborhood amenities. In addition, as low-income neighborhoods become more economically diverse, poverty is alleviated, property values increase, and residents demonstrate an increased tolerance of diversity for neighbors of all incomes.

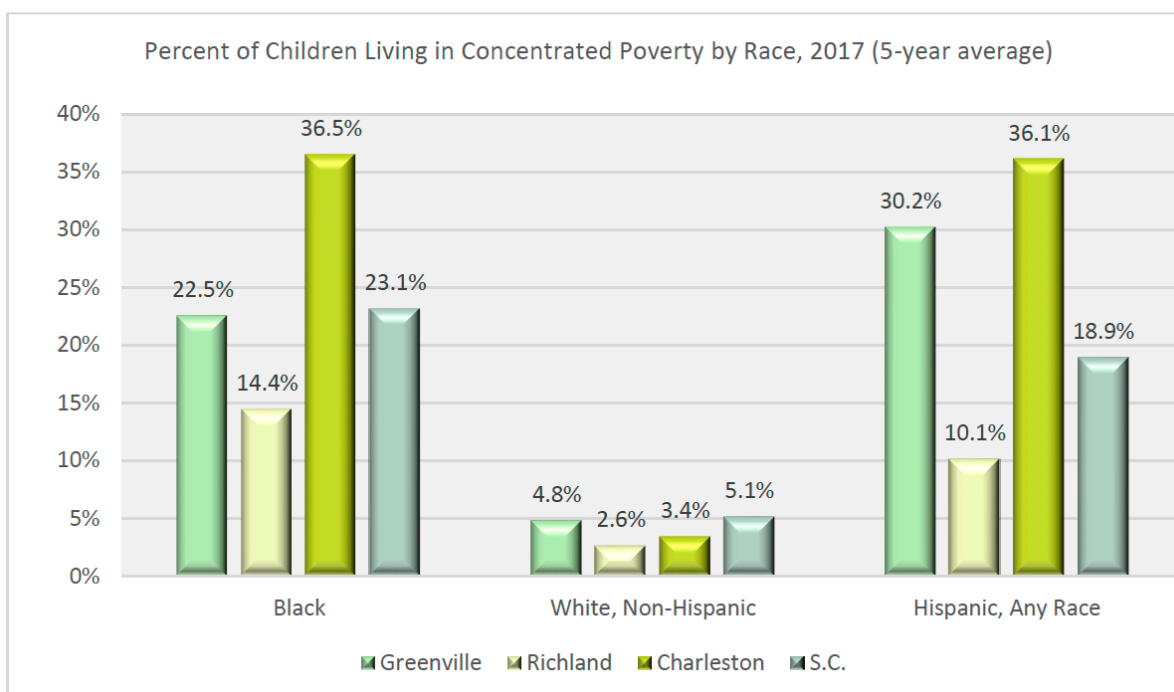
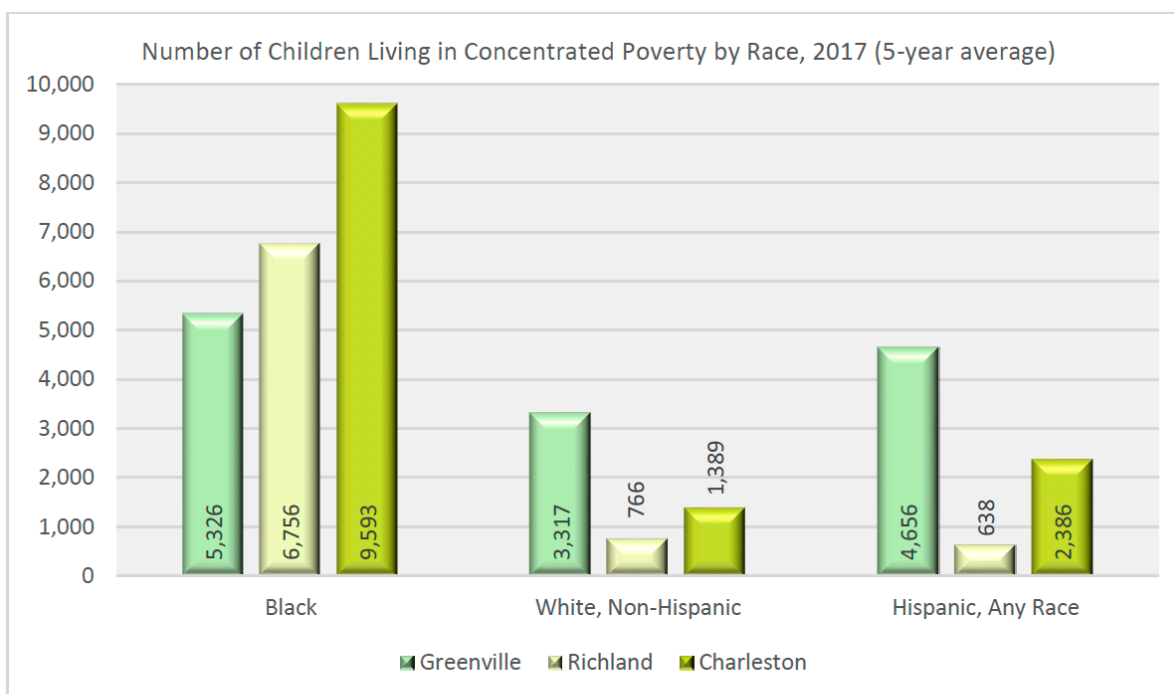
Aggregated poverty data (see page 24) do not show how poverty is distributed across Greenville County and other geographies. The data reported in the following graph show that, in Greenville County, black and Hispanic children are significantly more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty, compared to white, non-Hispanic children. This trend is consistent over time, although concentrated poverty rates are more variable for black and Hispanic children.



Source: Kids Count Data Center

Comparative geographies show that, in 2017 (5-year average estimate), numbers of children living in concentrated poverty are highest by race for black children in Greenville, Richland and Charleston Counties. However, percentages of children living in concentrated poverty by race are similar for blacks and Hispanics, although they differ significantly across the three counties. Percentages are highest in Charleston County.





Source: Kids Count Data Center

The Equality of Opportunity Project<sup>21</sup> has demonstrated that the younger a child is when he or she moves to a neighborhood with more opportunity, the greater the boost in their chance of economic success as an adult. This dosage effect means that, with every year of exposure to a better environment, a child's chance of economic success as an adult improves. Simply put, children who move to better communities at earlier ages are less likely to become single parents, more likely to go to college and more likely to earn more as adults.

# DEMOCRACY AND INCLUSION



*Credit: Greenvilleonline.com*

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

Access to and interaction with key institutions are shaped by power balances in the political, economic and social spheres. Limited access of one group over another often leads to social exclusion and unequal opportunity to advance economically. As patterns of inequality reinforce each other through intergenerational transmission and formal and informal entrenchment, inequalities between groups and geographical regions become stark. Structural racism has marginalized blacks in having voice into the policies and representatives that govern us, from the legacy of enslavement and forced servitude, to post- emancipation Jim Crow policies. Participation in the democratic process has long been more difficult for blacks who have been thwarted by registration and voting restrictions, poll taxes, literacy tests, and white- only primaries.

Racial inclusion is good for families, good for communities, and good for the economy. Voting, the primary expression of civic engagement in a democratic society, contributes to the shaping of public policy that can mitigate and resolve power imbalances – or reinforce them. Increases in voter participation among historically disenfranchised voters can be an important step toward more inclusive and equitable policies and more equitable opportunity for economic mobility.

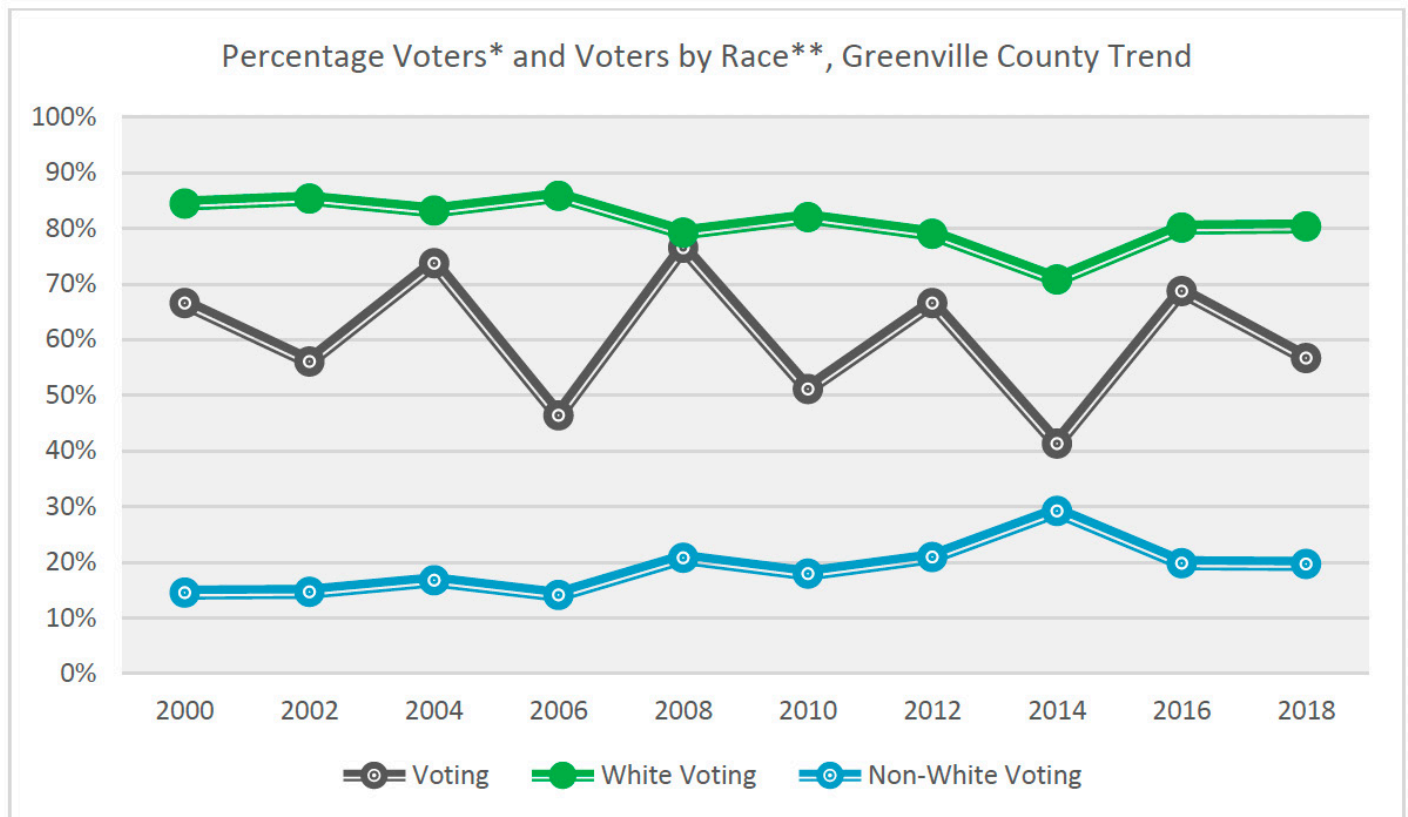
## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

Although voter registration for Greenville County residents is not inequitable by race, voting is. Family composition by race shows significant racial inequities with inequitable repercussions on family income. Although the proportion of married couple families in Greenville County is higher than the state average, 32% of the county's children currently live in single parent families. Black families are more likely than not to be headed by single householders. This has a huge financial impact on these families, with black families having a significantly higher rate of poverty and low income compared to white families.

Although there are reliable, valid, and culturally equivalent measures of social capital, a determinant of power balances in communities, comprehensive measures have not been undertaken in Greenville County.

## Voting

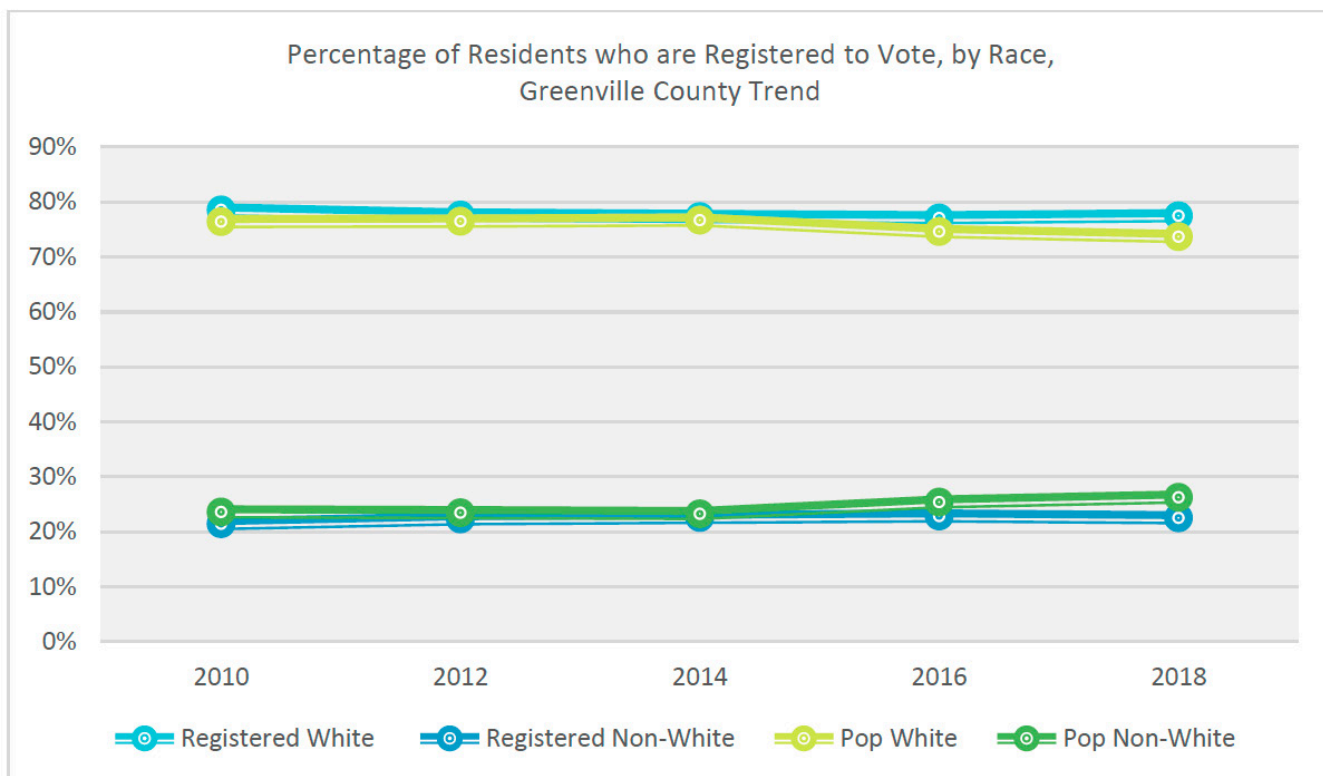
Voting patterns in Greenville County, as across the nation, show that significantly larger percentages of registered voters turn out in national election years. Generally, increasing proportions of Greenville County voters are non-white. In the 2016 election, 80.2% of Greenville County voters were white (a slight increase from 79% in 2012). This indicates that whites turn out to vote in national elections at proportionally higher rates than they constitute in the Greenville population (76.0% of county residents in 2016 and 76.5% in 2012 were white). The inverse is true for non-whites. Because election commission data are reported for "non-whites" in the aggregate, disaggregated data for blacks and Hispanics is not available.



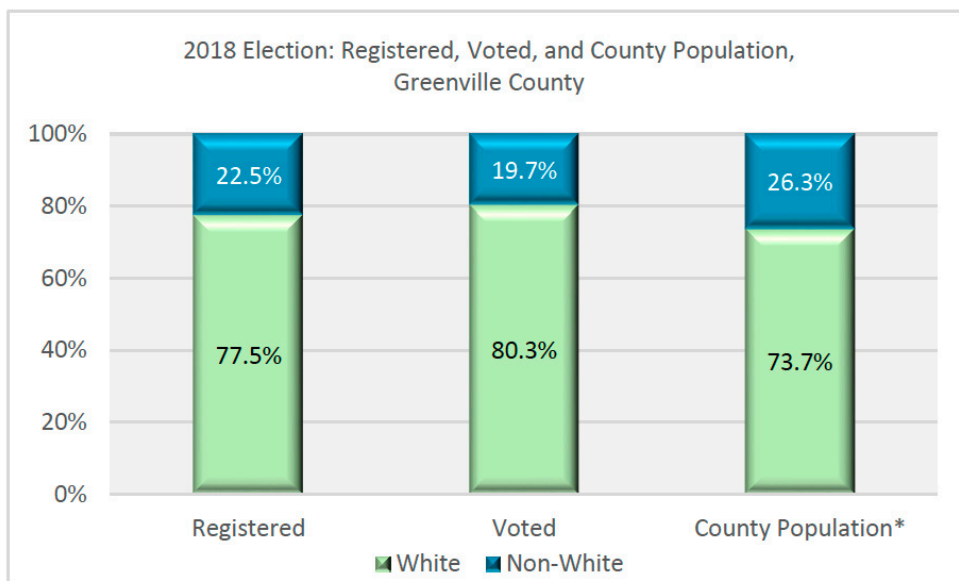
\*Voting = percentage of registered voters who voted

\*\*of voters, percentage white voters and non-white voters

In addition to the racial composition of voters, it is important to examine the racial composition of those who register to vote in the first place. Data are not available for the percentages of residents, by race, who are eligible to vote and then register to vote. However, of those Greenville County residents who are registered to vote, 22.5% are non-white and 77.5% are white. The trend is fairly flat and generally consistent with overall population demographics, although a slightly higher percentage of whites were registered (77.5%) than they constituted in the population (73.7%). The inverse is true for the non-white registrants (22.5%) and the non-white population (26.3%).



Source: SC Election Commission



Source: SC Election Commission & US Census \*Single race only, all residents, all ages

These data taken together show that the non-white proportions of registered voters and actual voters (2018) are lower than the non-white proportion of the county population. Conversely, the proportions of registered white voters and those who voted are higher than the county population of white residents.

There are 151 precincts in Greenville County, and voting data can be disaggregated by precinct and used to inform voter registration and participation efforts at the neighborhood level.

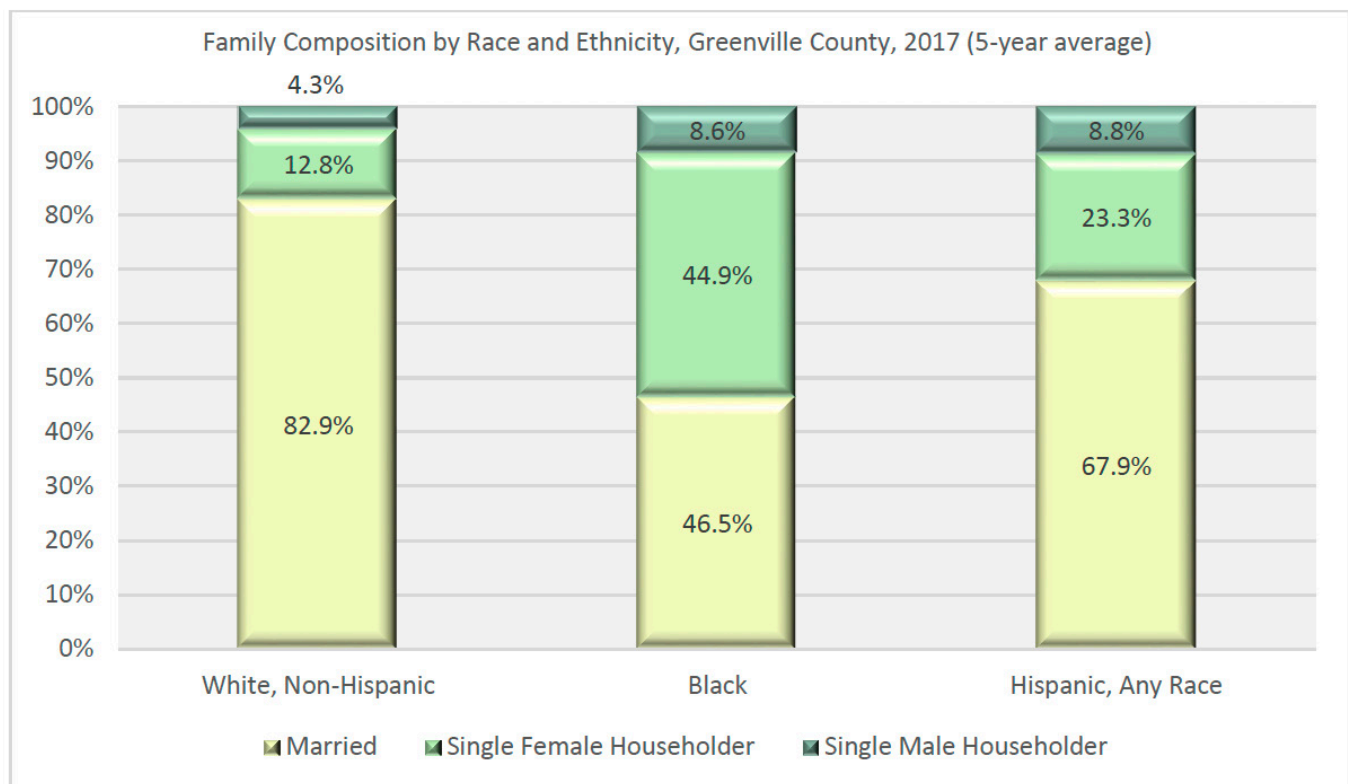
## Family Composition

Strong families and two-parent households are a predictor of economic mobility, strong neighborhoods, and strong cities. The table below demonstrates that approximately 76% of families in Greenville County are married-couple families, higher than the state and U.S. averages. Family composition in the City of Greenville does not fare as well.

Family Composition, City, County, SC and US, 2017 (5-year average)								
	Greenville City		Greenville County		SC		US	
Total families	13,789		123,867		1,238,361		78,298,703	
Mean family size	2.99		3.18		3.12		3.24	
Married couple	9,604	69.6%	93,657	75.6%	881,602	71.2%	57,459,352	73.4%
Male head*	863	6.3%	6,684	5.4%	83,365	6.7%	5,747,150	7.3%
Female head**	3,322	24.1%	23,526	19.0%	273,394	22.1%	15,092,201	19.3%

\*no wife present    \*\*no husband present  
Source: US Census S1101

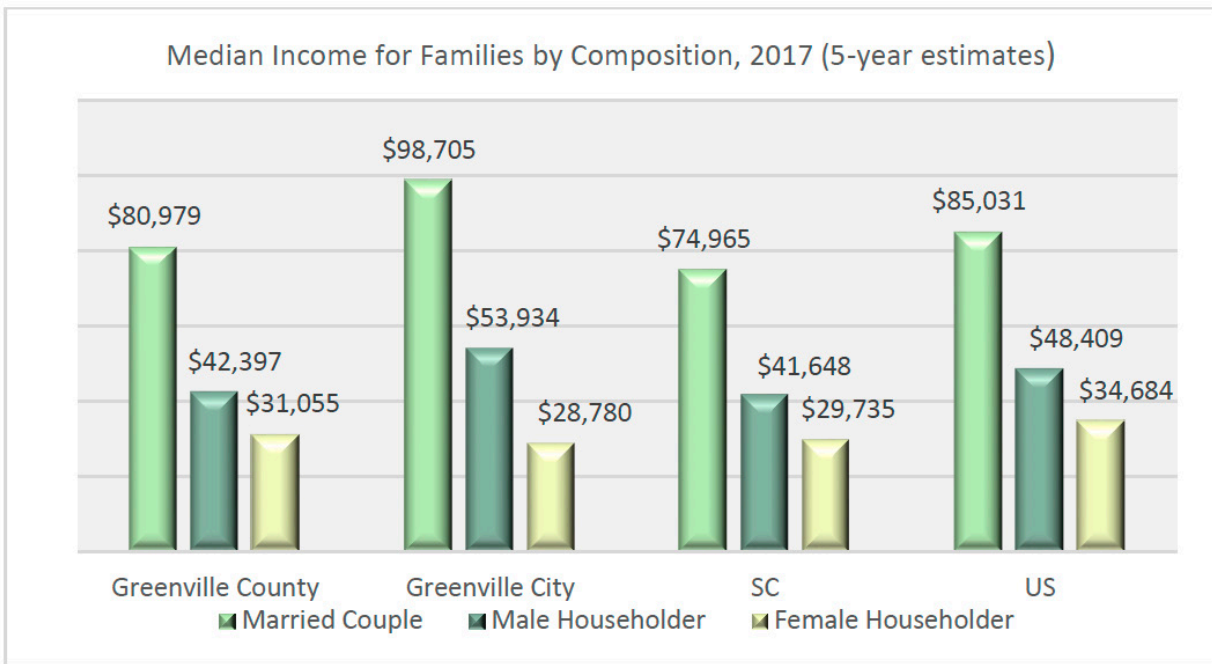
In Greenville County, as in most other geographies, there are significant racial differences in family composition with approximately 83% of white non-Hispanic families headed by a married couple. For black families, 47% are headed by a married couple, and for Hispanic families, 68% are headed by a married couple.



Source: US Census B11001I, B11001B, B11001H

Income is directly related to family composition, as demonstrated in the following graph. Regardless of geography, married couple families have significantly higher income compared to families headed by single parents. Further, single parent families headed by male householders have significantly higher income compared to single parent families headed by female householders.

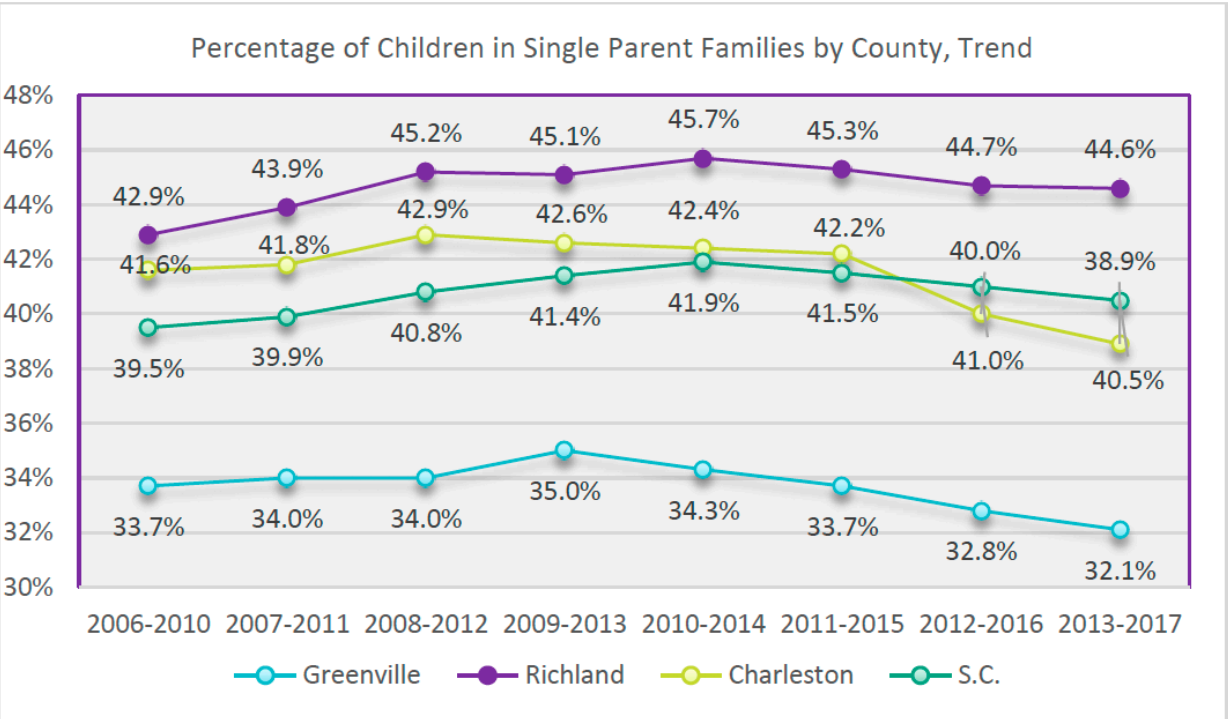




Source: U.S. Census S1903

Although federal and state financial assistance is available to low income single parent families, other social supports are critical to building strong families, including coaching and mentoring programs, Head Start, school-based family supports, and other interventions. Place-focused investments improve economic opportunity for families. Investments that address the unique needs of children in single-parent families can be especially impactful.

Greenville County has a consistently lower percentage of children living in single parent families, compared to similar geographies. Currently, 32% of the county's children live in single parent families. There has been a steady decrease in this percentage over the last five years, similar to those in the other geographies.



Source: Kids Count Data Center



Family composition is exemplary of how policy has driven inequity. Modern breakdown of families is often attributed to social safety net policy. When Aid to Dependent Children (later Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC) was developed out of earlier programs in the 1950s and 1960s, it actually encouraged fathers to desert their families, since a family could not receive ADC if the father was present, even if he was unemployed or disabled.

## Social Capital

Social capital is a web of relationships within a community that has economic benefits. A related concept is a person's sense that they belong and are included among family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, other communities, and society. Being valued in community facilitates access to material and cultural resources—including access to nutritious food, clean water, and safe environments. At the same time, not being valued in community increases exposures to pollution, violence, and other forms of trauma.

Although there are reliable, valid, and culturally equivalent measures of being valued in community, such measures have not been undertaken in Greenville County. However, there is evidence that nonprofit leaders and others understand the value of building social capital. In fact, a March 2013 Health Impact Assessment of Park, Trail and Green Space Planning in the West Side of Greenville<sup>37</sup> includes a priority around social cohesion/social capital with the rationale that with the *creation of a new and/or expanded park, green space, and/or trails in Greenville's west side, there will be increased access to places for community and recreational events. These events can increase social cohesion/social capital, therefore improving the overall mental health and well-being of the community.* This project was overseen by a large advisory committee of Greenville leaders.



*Credit: greenvillecounty.org*

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

Social and economic conditions and policies lead to inequitable involvement with the justice system, with people of color and people of low income experiencing disproportionate outcomes at every point of interaction with the system. Racial minorities are more likely than white Americans to be arrested; once arrested, they are more likely to be convicted, and once convicted, they are more likely to face harsher sentences. Incarceration has enduring economic effects by stifling employment and suppressing labor force participation. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute<sup>6</sup> estimate that state and federal prison costs would be cut \$30 billion annually if blacks and Hispanics were incarcerated at the rate of whites. In addition to economic effects, incarceration introduces instability within families, and inequitable distribution of justice can foster mistrust of the criminal justice system and negatively affect public safety.

Criminal justice policy and economic mobility are inextricably tied. Reforming the criminal justice system by promoting positive learning environments helps ex-offenders reenter public life with skills to lead successful lives and to provide better opportunity for their children and families. Initiatives such as records expungement and helping offenders find stable housing reduces recidivism through reintegration and second chances to become productive citizens.

Growing up in safe neighborhoods directly influences children's future educational attainment, income, and contribution to society. Comprehensive school safety initiatives that forge partnerships between educators, law enforcement, and mental health providers ensure that students can learn in secure and positive environments that are gateways to opportunity — not pipelines to prison.

## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

Greenville County data reflect racial inequities in the criminal justice. Blacks (and especially black males) are very much overrepresented in county jails, detention centers, and in other correctional facilities. Inequities are long-standing and likely reflect enduring racial and political bias in policies and practices. Racial inequities are also evident in local civil asset forfeitures. Although local data aren't publicly available disaggregated by race for arrests and sentencing, racial inequities can be inferred from state-level data.

A positive finding is that current local data do not support arguments for a school-to-prison pipeline in Greenville County.

## Arrests

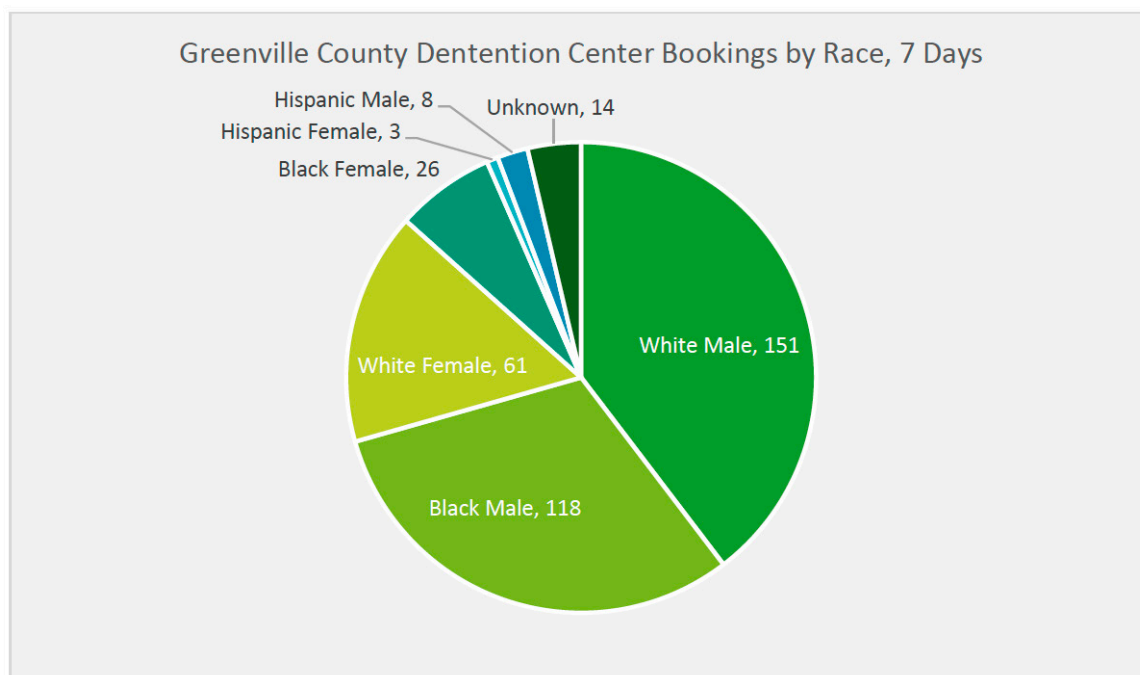
In South Carolina, 67.3% of the population is white, and 27.2% of the population is black (2017 5-year average). It would be expected that arrests by race would follow the same general racial composition; however, they clearly do not. In the following table, disproportionate (by state racial demographics) arrests are highlighted in yellow. Calculations were not made for charges with fewer than 25 arrests, indicated in gray. Blacks are arrested at disproportionately high rates in all but three of the remaining cases – pornography/ obscene material for adults, and liquor laws violations and drunkenness for juveniles.

South Carolina Arrests by Race and Charge, 2017						
Charge	Juveniles			Adults		
	Black	White	Other	Black	White	Other
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter	6	1	0	242	80	3
Sexual Battery	27	35	1	193	244	2
Robbery	103	20	0	890	366	4
Aggravated Assault	156	69	4	3,208	2,192	46
Kidnapping / Abduction	19	3	0	379	277	3
Fondling	13	24	0	75	142	2
Burglary / Breaking & Entering	272	162	3	1,445	2,000	20
Motor Vehicle Theft	95	36	0	395	739	5
Larceny / Theft Offenses	868	695	13	7,327	13,003	153
Arson	10	10	1	63	62	0
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	6	3	0
Drug Law Violations	491	664	16	18,218	21,144	242
Weapon Law Violations	285	157	0	3,424	1,508	28
Sexual Exposure	5	6	0	147	92	2
Sex Offenses, Nonforcible	0	1	0	31	39	0
Simple Assault	1,284	534	14	6,787	7,450	89
Destruction / Damage / Vandalism of property	249	235	1	1,797	1,838	32
Intimidation	95	47	0	464	521	7
Harassing Telephone Calls	7	17	1	139	287	5
Extortion / Blackmail	0	0	0	1	15	0
Embezzlement	5	0	0	239	170	3
Counterfeiting / Forgery	3	3	0	538	756	23
Fraud Offenses	30	11	0	1,279	2,264	44
Bribery	0	0	0	0	2	0
Stolen Property Offenses	112	26	0	1,131	1,740	10
Prostitution Offenses	2	1	0	197	241	6
Animal Cruelty	0	0	0	23	34	0
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0	37	18	1
Pornography / Obscene Material	16	18	0	18	93	5
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	6	5	0

South Carolina Arrests by Race and Charge, 2017 (continued)						
	Juveniles			Adults		
Charge	Black	White	Other	Black	White	Other
Using Motor Vehicle Without Consent	29	13	0	115	222	1
Driving Under the Influence	3	15	0	5,418	11,117	466
Peeping Tom	0	3	0	8	15	0
Trespassing	116	90	2	2,956	2,911	48
Bad Checks	1	1	0	229	300	1
Liquor Law Violations	20	150	1	2,549	4,077	86
Drunkenness	3	36	0	2,293	5,060	49
Disorderly Conduct	900	387	7	4,174	5,279	67
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	7	1	0	676	799	7
Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor	0	4	0	79	123	2
Resisting Arrest	75	22	0	1,045	841	12
All other Group B Offenses	437	418	8	9,625	16,768	442
Curfew / Loitering/ Vagrancy violations	30	9	0	258	345	3
Truancy	0	2	0	1	1	0

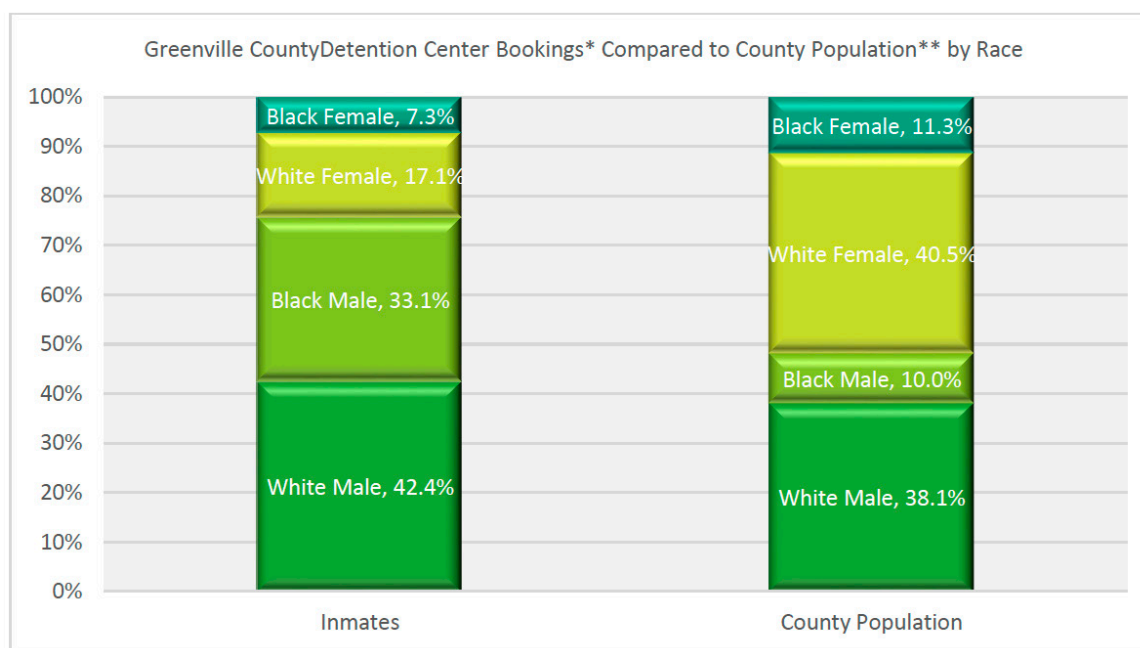
Source: SC Law Enforcement Division<sup>38</sup>

Although arrest data by race is not publicly available for Greenville County, point-in-time snapshots for a given week (August 1-7, 2019) of bookings into Greenville County Detention Center<sup>39</sup> shows that bookings comprise mostly males and mostly whites.



Source: SC Law Enforcement Division<sup>38</sup>

However, compared to the county population, black males are highly overrepresented in Detention Center bookings, and white males are somewhat overrepresented. In fact, black males experience more than three times the expected rate of incarceration compared to their population demographic. Females are underrepresented in jail bookings, although white females are significantly more underrepresented compared to black females.



Sources: Greenville County Detention Center and US Census PEPSR5H

\*Calculations do not include Hispanic and unknown races (August 1-7, 2019)

\*\*Calculations for only black and white races

# Sentencing

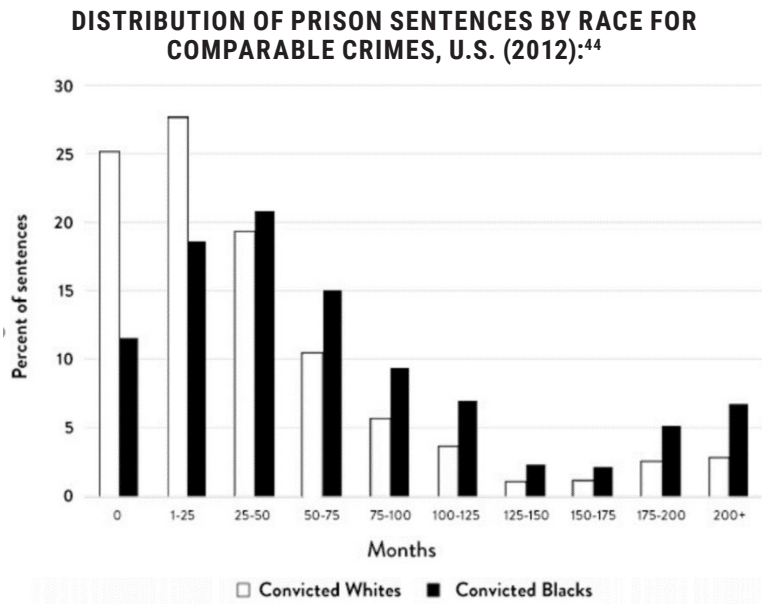
A study of criminal sentencing patterns in South Carolina, published in 2014 in the Journal of Quantitative Criminology,<sup>40</sup> found that blacks experience consistently harsher penalties in sentencing compared to white counterparts. The researchers chose to study data from South Carolina because the state’s judges have greater discretion in sentencing offenders due to lack of sentencing guidelines. The review of 17,671 sentencing decisions identified clear patterns of racial bias in court sentencing across the state. The data show that blacks who commit petty crimes are almost 50% more likely to be jailed compared to their white counterparts, and black offenders will likely serve longer sentences for low severity crimes. There is no sentencing by race data publicly available for Greenville County.

“We’re not saying it’s intentional, but there is a troubling disparity there.... It is particularly concerning that this pattern of disparity appears to be affecting African American offenders with limited criminal histories or for less severe crimes.”

-Todd Hartman, Co-Author, Conditional Race Disparities in Criminal Sentencing<sup>41</sup>

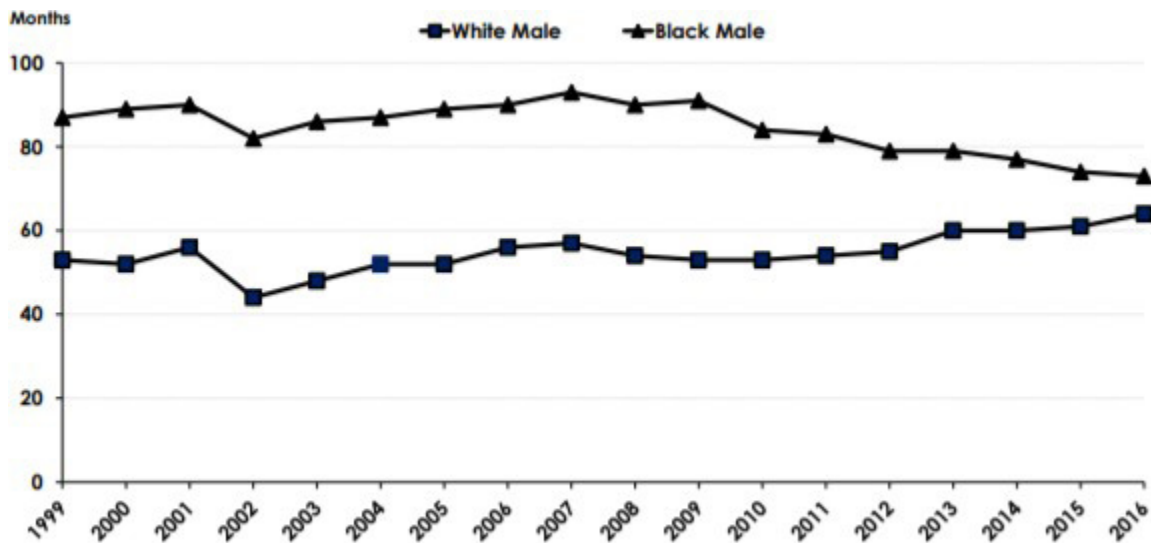
## Incarceration Rates

In October 2013, the incarceration rate in the U.S. was the highest in the world, at 716 per 100,000 of the national population. While the United States represents about 4.4% of the world’s population, it houses approximately 22% of the world’s prisoners.<sup>42</sup> In 2016, the Prison Policy Initiative<sup>43</sup> estimated that in the United States, about 2,298,300 people were incarcerated out of a population of 323.1 million. This means that 0.71% of the population was behind bars.



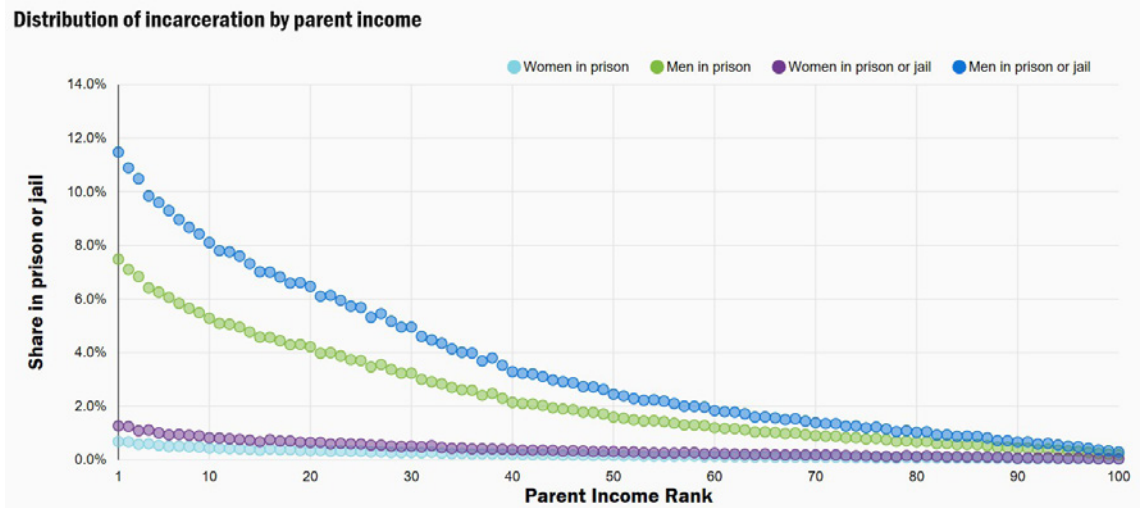
Currently, black men are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of white men, while Hispanic men are incarcerated at twice the rate of white men. Research suggests that key drivers of racial disparities in jail incarceration rates are discrimination in policing and judicial decision- making.<sup>17</sup> Further, lower educational attainment and lack of employment opportunities for black men, especially young black men, result in a greater likelihood of being caught up in the criminal justice system, where they are likely to have longer sentences than white offenders for comparable crimes. Some data show that the average sentence for white males and black male offenders are narrowing (see following graphic)<sup>45</sup>. While that is true, it does not mean that racial differences in sentencing are decreasing since these data do not take into consideration factors that affect sentence length such as types of offenses, criminal history, and weapon possession.





SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 1999 - 2016 Datafile, USSCFY 99 - USSCFY16.

Incarceration is inextricably tied to poverty. A recent Brookings Institution study<sup>46</sup> shows that growing up in poverty dramatically increases the likelihood of incarceration. Boys who grow up in families in the bottom 10% of the income distribution are 20 times more likely to be in prison on a given day in their early 30s than children born in top 10% of families. As income becomes more extreme, the difference becomes starker – boys from the poorest families are 40 times more likely to end up in prison compared to boys from the richest families. Moreover, neighborhood conditions influence incarceration rates. The Brookings study shows that prisoners are disproportionately likely to have grown up in socially isolated and segregated neighborhoods with high rates of child poverty and in predominantly black or Native American neighborhoods.



Source: Brookings Institution

When people who have served time for a criminal offense and reenter society, they are frequently unable to get a good job or a place to live. The result is often ultimately a return to prison. About one third of all 30-year-old men who are not working are either in prison, in jail, or are unemployed ex-prisoners.<sup>46</sup> Almost half of ex-prisoners have no reported earnings in the first several years after leaving prison; among those who do find work, half earn less than \$10,090 a year or less than a full time job at minimum wage.

In South Carolina, racial disparities in imprisonment are stark. The Sentencing Project<sup>47</sup> reports the black to white ratio in adult imprisonment is 4.3 to 1. The overall imprisonment rate for the state is 386 per 100,000 residents. By race and ethnicity, the rates are:

- 1,030 per 100,000 blacks
- 238 per 100,000 whites
- 172 per 100,000 Hispanics

For juveniles in custody in South Carolina, the overall rate is 161 per 100,000 juvenile residents. By race and ethnicity, the rates are:

- 242 per 100,000 black juveniles
- 89 per 100,000 white juveniles
- 335 per 100,000 Hispanic juveniles

The U.S. Census reports in the 2010 decennial census numbers that, of the 2,197 adults in correctional facilities located in Greenville County, 53% were black, 43% were white non-Hispanic, and 4% were Hispanic of any race. The following graph demonstrates the racial inequities by race for this time period for all county-located correctional facilities, state prisons, and local jails. Compared to the 2010 county population, blacks are significantly over-represented, whites are significantly under-represented, and Hispanics are somewhat under-represented.



Source: US Census, 2010 decennial census PCT20, PCT 20I, PCT20B, PCT20H

The South Carolina Department of Corrections<sup>48</sup> reports that in 2017, there were 6,999 new admissions from the courts to correctional facilities in the state. Those admissions comprised:

- 46.47% black males
- 37.10% white males
- 3.22% black females
- 10.74% white females
- 2.47% other males and females

## SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: CSG JUSTICE CENTER'S REENTRY AND EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

Each year, approximately 10 million people in the United States return to their communities from jail or prison. This makes up part of the estimated 70 million people in country who have an arrest or conviction record, the consequences of which can last much longer than the initial incarceration, especially with respect to employment.

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center's Reentry and Employment Project provides resources to corrections, workforce, and reentry administrators and practitioners navigating the coordinated planning and delivery of employment-related services for people returning to communities after incarceration. The project also provides strategies for engaging and educating employers on the benefits of hiring those with records, as well as familiarizes public- and private-sector leaders with state laws and policies regarding the consideration of criminal records in hiring processes.

The CSG Justice Center's Reentry and Employment Project is supported by the leadership and support of a public-private partnership involving the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, with guidance from the Employment and Training Administration at the U.S. Department of Labor.

For more information: <https://csjusticecenter.org/nrrc/reentry-and-employment/>

## Civil Asset Forfeitures

A recent investigation by the Greenville News<sup>49</sup> found that South Carolina's civil asset forfeitures disproportionately impact black men. Law enforcement agencies in the state seized over \$17 million in cash and property between 2014 and 2016 with the intention of combating crime by seizing assets resulting from, and being used to fund, criminal activities. However, 65% of people targeted in asset forfeitures were black men, yet black men comprise only 13% of the state's population. Moreover, one-fifth of people who had their assets seized were not charged with a related crime, and another fifth were charged but not convicted. The burden of recovering assets is placed on the individual, often requiring costly legal fees. Over half of the seizures of cash are in amounts less than \$1,000, suggesting that major criminals are not being targeted.

## School-to-Prison Pipeline

In the United States, minors and young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds are at a disproportionately high risk to become incarcerated, arguably attributable to increasingly harsh school and municipal policies. This "school-prison-pipeline" is a topic of debate among criminologists and sociologists. These experts cite factors such as school disturbance laws, zero tolerance policies and practices, media coverage of youth violence, and increased school policing in creating this pipeline.

Zero tolerance policies and other policies that remove students from the school environment are associated with lower academic performance, failure to graduate on time, increased probability of dropout and increased probability of young people being incarcerated. In fact, a high school dropout is eight times more likely to be incarcerated than a high school graduate.<sup>50</sup> These disciplinary policies and practices disproportionately affect disabled, Hispanic and black students and are later reflected in the inequitable rates of incarceration. In 2014, the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights issued a brief reporting that black students are suspended and expelled at a rate three times greater than white students and the problem is worse in southern states.<sup>51</sup> On average, 5% of white students are suspended, compared to 16% of black students.<sup>52</sup>

Suspension and expulsion data are available by South Carolina school districts; however, they are not disaggregated by race. The following table reports the latest data for Greenville County School District by grade and nature of offense. For the latest school year, there were a total of 28 suspensions and three expulsions. These small numbers constitute less than 1% of students in Greenville County public schools.

Suspensions and Expulsions, Greenville County School District, School Year 2017-2018																								
Grade	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
Suspension/ Expulsion	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E
Aggravated Assault																								
Drug Distribution															4		1	1					7	1
Forced Sex																					4		4	
Homicide																								
Kidnapping/Abduction																								
Robbery																								
Firearms																								2
All other Weapons	2		1		1		4		5						1		1				2		17	
Total all Districts	2		1		1		4		5						5		2	1			6		28	3

Source: SC Department of Education<sup>41</sup>

There is no recent evidence of a school-to-prison pipeline phenomenon in Greenville County. Over the last four years, fewer than 1% of students annually were suspended and fewer than 1% were expelled.

- In school year 2016-2017 there were 39 suspension and 8 expulsions.
- In school year 2015-2016, there were 29 suspensions and 16 expulsions.
- In school year 2014-2015, there were 13 suspensions and 8 expulsions.

## Felony Disenfranchisement

Felony disenfranchisement occurs when people who have been convicted of a felony-level criminal offense are excluded from voting. States vary as to whether they make such disenfranchisement permanent or restore suffrage after a person has served a sentence or completed parole or probation. The District of Columbia and 14 states automatically restore voting rights to felons after they have completed their sentences, but South Carolina and 21 others wait for probation and parole to be complete, at which time reinstatement of voting rights is automatic. Felons in Maine and Vermont never lose voting rights, but felons in the remaining 12 states have a complete and indefinite loss of voting rights.

The latest (2016) data for South Carolina<sup>53</sup> show that 1.24% of the state's population, or 47,238 individuals, are disenfranchised because of a felony. Of those individuals, 82% are black, equating to 38,916 individuals or 3.84% of the state's black population. Nationally, one out of every 13 black adults has lost their right to vote, compared to one out of every 56 non-black adults. Given the inequities in arrests, convictions, and sentencing, blacks experience a disproportionate share of voting disenfranchisement. This collateral consequence of a criminal conviction substantially affects civic participation.

Some states require special petitions to restore voting rights, barring felons from voting unless officials approve a request to have those rights restored. In some states, the governor has the arbitrary power to approve or disapprove each petition, without any legal standard. The constitutionality of this practice has come into question. In 2018 Florida passed a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment to automatically restore the voting rights of felons after completion of their sentences (including parole and probation). Prior to this amendment, nearly 1.5 million people in Florida were barred from voting, even though their sentences had been completed.<sup>54</sup> Even so, those convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense must still apply to the governor for voting rights restoration on a case by case basis. Before the amendment, anyone convicted of a felony had to have voting rights restored by a full pardon, conditional pardon, or restoration of civil rights by the governor.<sup>55</sup>

In summary, although local data relative to racial inequities in the justice system are difficult to obtain, general extrapolations can be made from the national data<sup>44</sup> that reflect inequities throughout the system. For example:

- Police are three times more likely to search the cars of stopped black drivers than stopped white drivers.
- Police arrest black Americans for drug crimes at twice the rate of whites, despite the fact that whites use drugs at comparable rates and sell drugs at comparable or even higher rates.
- Black Americans are more likely to be jailed while awaiting trial, even after controlling for the seriousness of charges and prior record. This is often due to the fact that black defendants cannot afford to pay bail.
- Black defendants are 13% more likely to be offered plea deals that include prison time than whites or nonblack minorities, even after controlling for the seriousness of charges and prior record.
- Black men's sentences are, on average, 10% percent longer than those of their white peers. This is partly explained by the fact that prosecutors are about twice as likely to file charges against blacks that carry mandatory minimum sentences than against whites.
- Black Americans are more likely to have restricted voting rights because of a felony conviction – 2.5% of all Americans and 7.7% of blacks are disenfranchised due to a current or past felony conviction. This is attributable primarily to blacks being overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- Blacks have their probation revoked more often than whites and other minorities, even when probationers' age, crime severity, and criminal history are controlled for.





Credit: [localharvest.org](http://localharvest.org)

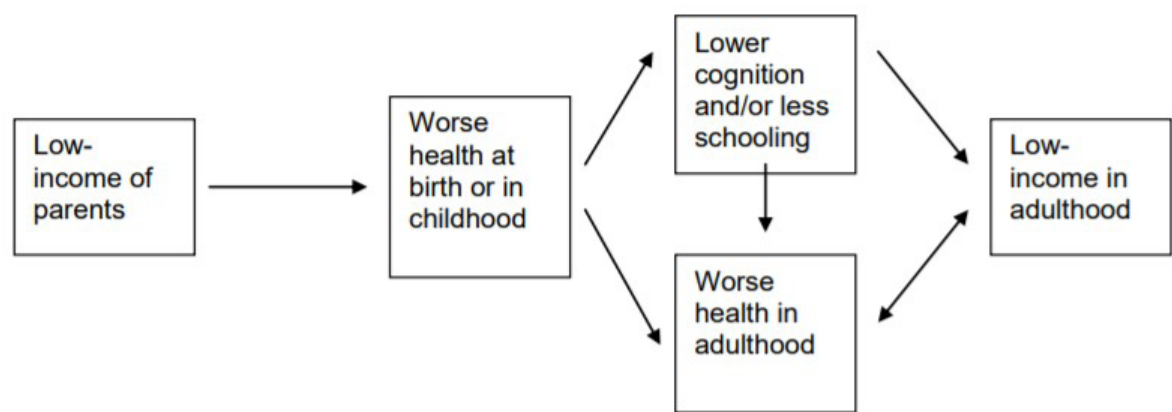
## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

Many health outcomes – including infant mortality, life expectancy, obesity, and access to care – are linked to economic health and mobility. Where health-promoting factors do not exist, the cost to the individual and the community is high. Social and economic factors are the strongest determinants of health outcomes. If people do not have access to safe places to live and be active, to healthy food, to clean air and water, and to preventive care and treatment, they will not be healthy. When community conditions are not health-promoting, there is a lower quality of life for everyone. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarum Institute<sup>6</sup> estimate that racial disparities account for \$93 billion in excess medical care costs in the U.S. Inequities based on race and ethnicity are, however, the most persistent and difficult to address<sup>56</sup> since systems play a critical role in increasing or maintaining inequities resulting from discriminatory practices and policies.



There is ample evidence that health and wealth are related; health helps drive—or hinder— economic mobility. Further, high levels of inequality negatively affect the health of even the affluent, likely due to inequity reducing social cohesion, a dynamic that leads to more stress, fear, and insecurity for everyone. Health could affect intergenerational mobility to the extent that health status is passed on from one generation to another. Health also affects mobility since economic status helps to determine childhood health and gives some children advantages or disadvantages that may continue later in life. The hypothesis that health can impact future socioeconomic class is known as health selection or social drift.<sup>57</sup> The effect of health status on intergenerational wealth status is summarized in the diagram below.

**Pathways between Health and Income in Adulthood**



Source: The Urban Institute

**HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?**

Inequitable distribution in the conditions and resources that predict good health outcomes means, in Greenville as in most other communities, that residents with low income and residents of color have poorer health outcomes. In Greenville County there is significant racial inequity in infant mortality, prenatal care, and birth weight. Black adults and children have higher rates of overweight and obesity and teen birth. Black residents are less likely to have health insurance and more likely to seek care in emergency departments for primary care-preventable conditions. Compared to whites, blacks report higher rates of adverse childhood experiences and likely have higher rates of food insecurity. A positive finding is little difference by race in self-reported physical and mental health status.

## Social Determinants of Health



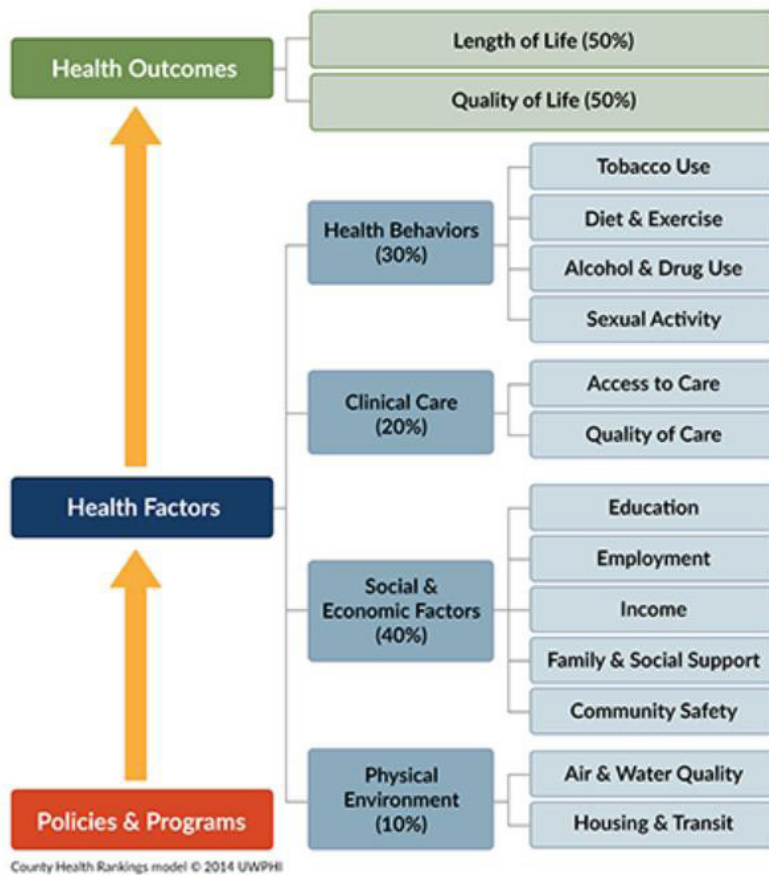
Source: CDC, Healthy People 2020

Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. These conditions are known as social determinants of health (SDOH). It is these nonmedical factors such as housing, educational attainment, and access to transportation that predict most strongly our health status. Social and physical environments vary widely from community to community and within communities themselves. Differences in income, housing quality, community safety, educational opportunities, and others are striking. Where these social determinants are positive, population health is good and health equity advances. Social determinants are so powerful that the CDC has included “creating social and physical environments that promote good health for all” as one the four overarching goals for its Healthy People 2020 campaign. The American Public Health Association reports that “Social Determinants of Health” has “transcended buzzword status” with 80% of health plan executives reporting that they have begun tackling the social needs of their members.<sup>58</sup>

“For some people, the essential elements for a healthy life are readily available; for others, the opportunities for healthy choices are significantly limited.”

-County Health Rankings

As demonstrated by the County Health Rankings<sup>33</sup> model that follows, a wide range of factors influences how long and how well we live. In fact, social and economic factors – education, employment, income, family and social support, and community safety – account for 40% of health outcomes. Health care - access and quality - accounts for 20% of our health outcomes; health behaviors account for 30%, and our physical environments account for 10%.



The preponderance of population health data shows that health inequities are due, in large part, to poverty, structural racism, and discrimination. Racism is a key determinant of socioeconomic status (SES) in the United States, and SES, in turn, is a fundamental cause of racial inequities in health.<sup>59</sup> Interestingly however, racial inequities in health are not solely tied to disparities in income and education since racial differences in health often persist even at equivalent socioeconomic levels. The lived experience of blacks seems to predispose them to poor health outcomes, while being white seems to be a protective factor in and of itself. Experts in the field purport that individual and institutional discrimination, along with the stigma of inferiority, adversely affects health. Institutional and structural racism directly and indirectly affect health in multiple ways. Residential segregation by race, racial bias in medical care, the stress of experiences of discrimination and the acceptance of the societal stigma of inferiority can have deleterious effects on health.<sup>60,61</sup>

## Health Conditions

Many health conditions and outcomes demonstrate inequities by race, with people of color bearing much higher burdens of incidence and prevalence, as well as mortality. Many cancers, diabetes, and cardiac disease are more common in blacks and Hispanics, and even where whites are more frequently diagnosed with diseases, blacks die of the same diseases at higher rates. Local health data are limited in terms of equity measures, often because incidence frequencies are too small for many conditions to allow for statistically meaningful analysis by race. However, the data below are available at the county level and show concerning health inequities.

### INFANT MORTALITY

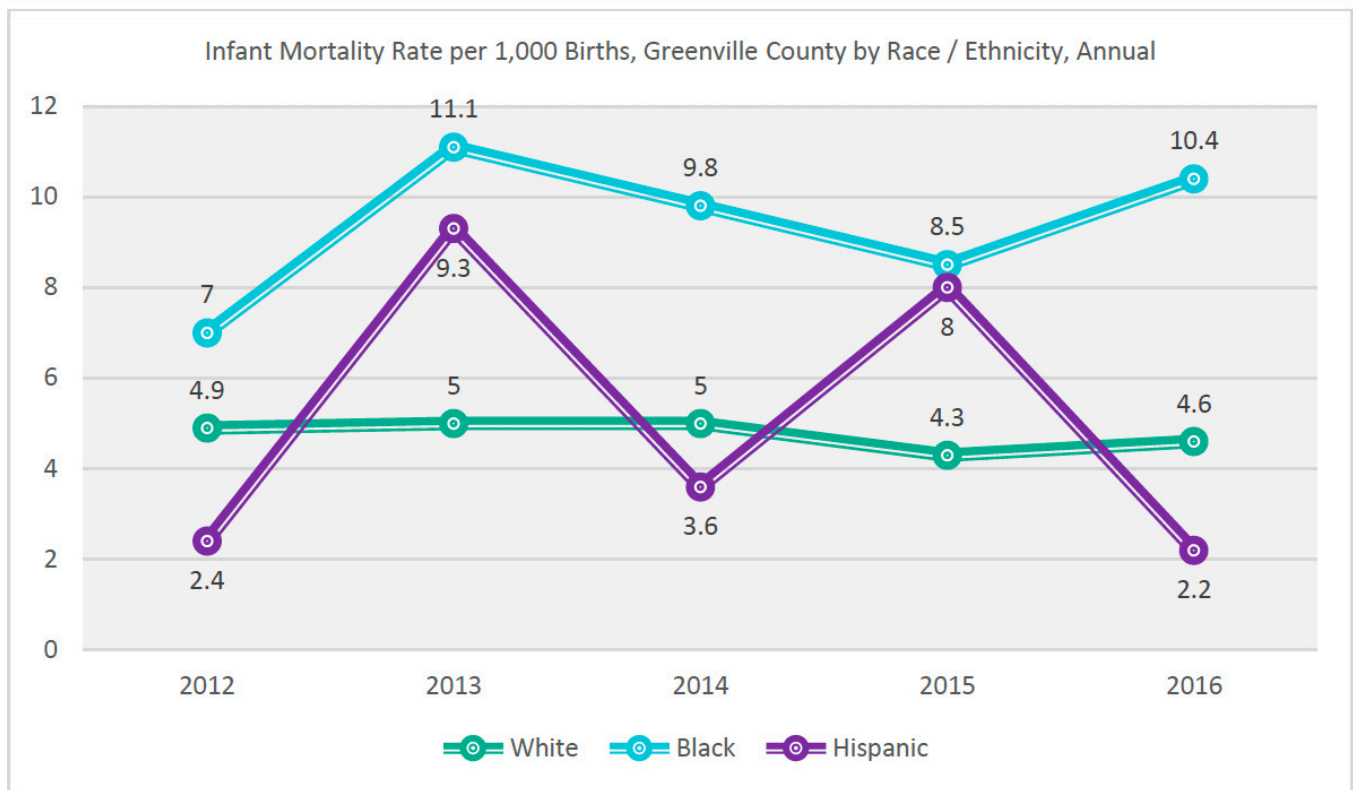
Infant mortality is a good measure of population health since it reflects the economic and social conditions that impact health in a community. Black infants in the U.S. are now more than twice as likely to die as white infants – 11.3 per 1,000 black babies, compared to 4.9 per 1,000 white babies.<sup>62</sup> This racial inequity is wider than in 1850 and in one year constitutes 4,000 inequitable deaths of black babies. Education and income do not mitigate this inequity – a black woman with an advanced degree is more likely to lose her baby in its first year of life than a white woman with less than an eighth-grade education.

The infant mortality rate in Greenville County is twice as high for black babies compared to white babies, as demonstrated in the following table. However, the disparity is markedly greater in Richland and Charleston Counties and in the state as a whole. It is concerning that infant mortality rates are not decreasing in any geography for white or black babies and that the equity gap continues to persist over time.

Infant Mortality Rates* and Frequencies by SC County and State Aggregate					
			2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017
Greenville	Black	Number	38	37	38
		Rate	9.8	9.6	9.8
	White	Number	68	67	69
		Rate	4.8	4.6	4.7
Richland	Black	Number	103	95	86
		Rate	13	12.1	11.1
	White	Number	26	27	30
		Rate	4.2	4.4	4.9
Charleston	Black	Number	44	44	47
		Rate	9.6	9.8	10.8
	White	Number	22	27	22
		Rate	2.2	2.7	2.2
All S.C. Counties	Black	Number	593	589	579
		Rate	10.9	11	10.9
	White	Number	551	558	567
		Rate	4.9	4.9	5

\*Rates per 1,000 live births  
Source: SC DHEC SCAN

The following graph demonstrates these persisting gaps in annual rates in Greenville County; however, small annual numbers do not lend themselves to robust analysis of infant mortality – combined year averages, as in the preceding table, “smooth” the variability in the data.

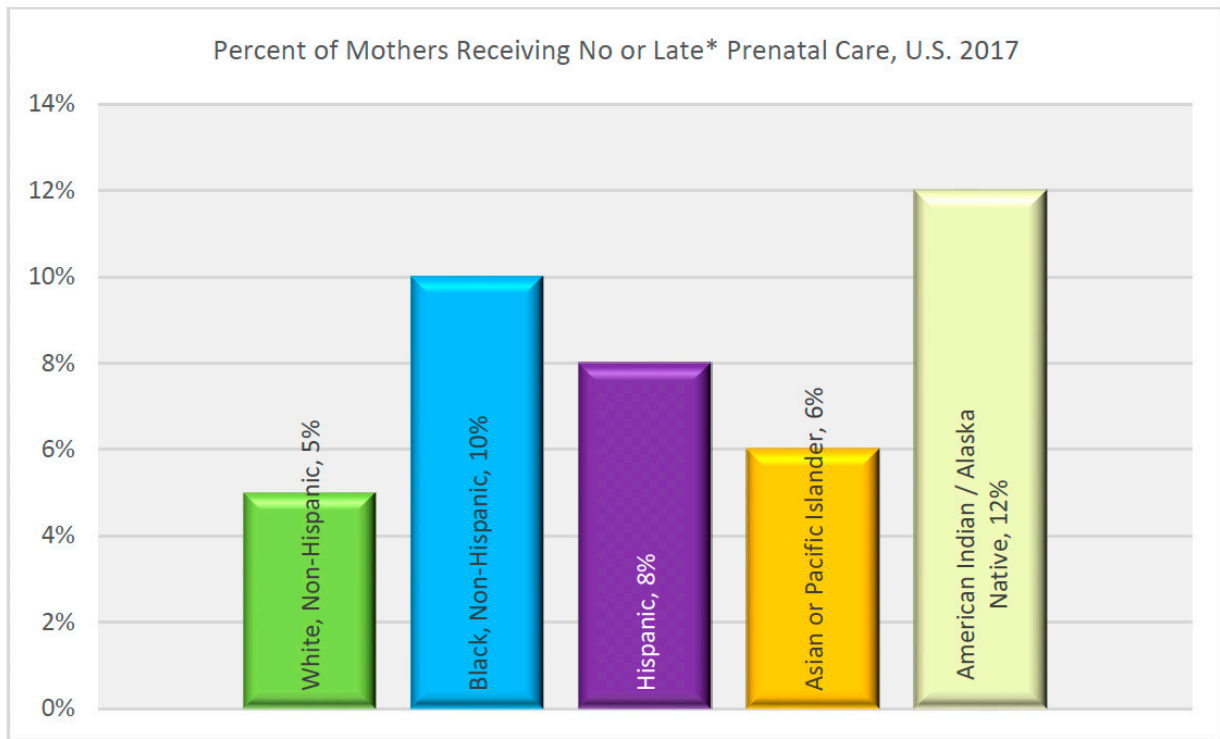


Source: SC DHEC SCAN

## PRENATAL CARE

One reason that infant mortality is significantly higher among blacks is inequity in prenatal care. The Kotelchuck Index, also called the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) Index, determines whether prenatal care has been adequate based on two elements-when prenatal care began (initiation) and the number of prenatal visits from when prenatal care began until delivery (received services). Pregnant women meet the standards of “adequate” prenatal care when they see a doctor by the fourth month of pregnancy and when they attend at least 80% of recommended appointments. More than 1,196 women gave birth in South Carolina in 2018 having received no prenatal care at all - the highest number and rate per 1,000 live births since 1990 when reporting began.<sup>63</sup> In Greenville County, 532 babies were born in 2014-2018 to mothers who received no prenatal care at all. In 2018 alone, the rate of no prenatal care in Greenville County was 23.9 per 1,000 live births, constituting 149 births – also the highest number and rate reported since 1990 when reporting began.<sup>63</sup>

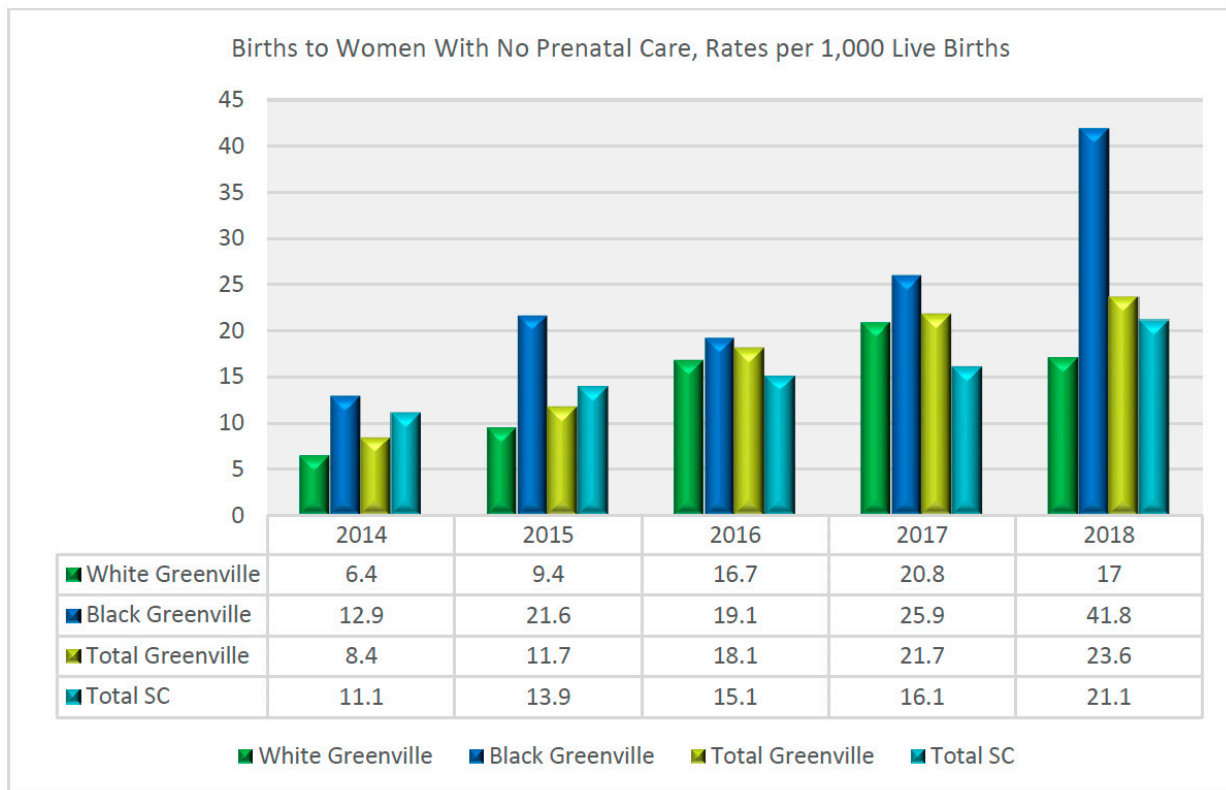
Nationally, black mothers receive inadequate or no prenatal care at twice the rates of white mothers. In fact, rates of inadequate or no prenatal care are higher for all minority groups as indicated in the following graph.



Source: Child Trends<sup>64</sup>

\*No prenatal care or care only in the third trimester

In Greenville County, rates of births to women who had no prenatal care have increased each year since 2014, as they have for the state as a whole. There is a persistent inequity between white and black mothers on this measure.



Source: SC DHEC



## LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

When mothers do not receive adequate prenatal care, their babies are often born at low weight. Low birth weight, in turn, puts infants at greater risk of death. In Greenville County, 8% of newborns have low birth weight.<sup>33</sup> However, disaggregated by race, the inequity is stark: 7% of white newborns have low birth weight, and 14% of black newborns have low birth weight. For Hispanic newborns (any race), 7% have low birth weight. The following table presents geographic comparisons for low birth weight by race. In South Carolina, black babies have double the rate of low birth weight, compared to white babies. This trend is not improving. The inequities in Charleston and Richland Counties are as stark as in Greenville County.

Percent Babies Born with Low Birth Weight, Greenville County and Comparative Geographies											
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Greenville	Total	8.8	9.4	8.3	8.7	7.8	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.8
	White	7.1	7.9	6.5	7.1	6.4	6.8	6.1	6.9	6.5	7.0
	Black	14.8	15.4	14.4	14.7	13.3	12.3	15.2	13.3	13.7	15.5
Richland	Total	12.0	10.1	11.7	11.0	11.1	11.2	10.5	10.7	10.8	10.6
	White	8.1	5.9	6.8	6.7	6.4	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.9	6.4
	Black	15.2	13.9	15.6	14.6	15.1	14.4	13.2	14.2	14.3	13.9
Charleston	Total	8.9	10.1	8.7	8.6	8.6	9.5	9.1	9.7	8.9	9.3
	White	6.1	6.7	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.9	6.0	6.5	6.0	6.1
	Black	13.7	15.7	12.6	13.9	13.3	15.3	15.7	16.5	15.7	16.6
S.C.	Total	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.9	9.5	9.7	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.7
	White	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.2
	Black	14.5	14.7	14.9	14.7	14.4	14.3	14.3	14.6	14.6	15.1

Source: SC Kids Count

Babies with low birth weight are often pre-term. In South Carolina in 2016:

- 8.4% of white, non-Hispanic babies were pre-term
- 14.7% of black, non-Hispanic babies were pre-term
- 9.3% of Hispanic babies were pre-term

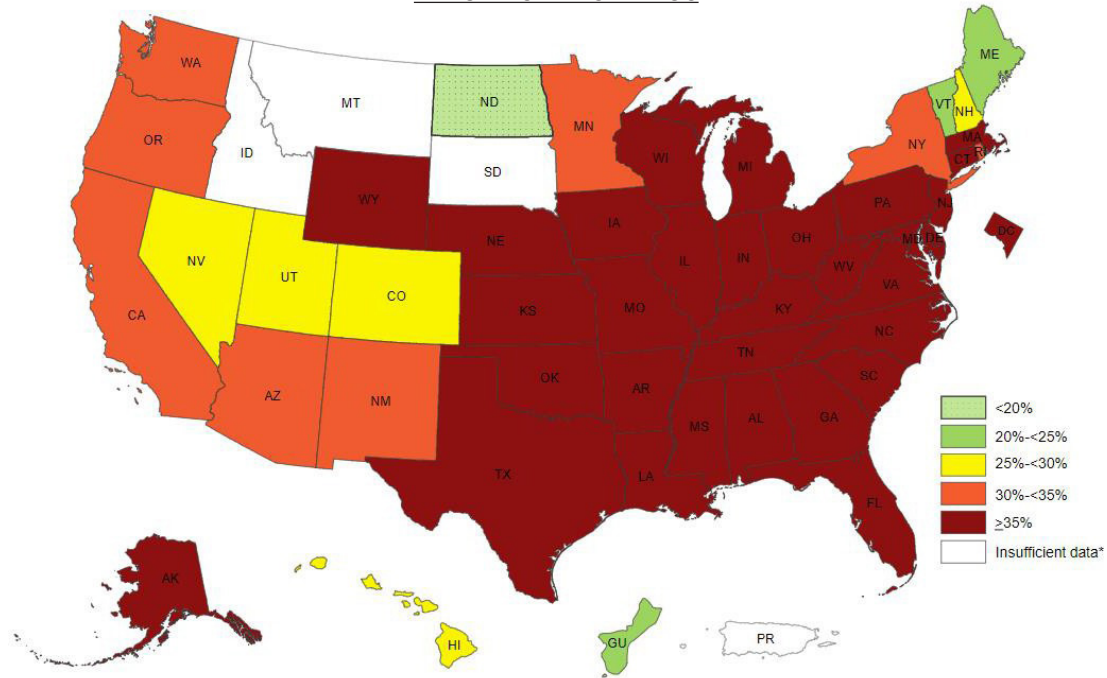
Obesity is a leading cause of chronic health problems. It is considered a “double burden” of ill health since it is typically a coexistence of under-nutrition and overweight. In South Carolina, the 2017 self-reported obesity prevalence is much higher for non-Hispanic blacks (42.0%), compared to non-Hispanic whites (29.6%) and Hispanics of any race (27.8%).<sup>65</sup> Obesity is highly correlated with socioeconomic status. The CDC reports that the prevalence of obesity decreases with increasing level of education,<sup>66</sup> and low income neighborhoods are generally associated with higher obesity rates.<sup>67</sup> The relationship between obesity and race is even stronger. CDC data<sup>68</sup> show that for black and Hispanic men, obesity rates actually increase with income. For women, as income increases, obesity rates for both black and white women decrease, although rates for white women end up much lower. Also, black and Hispanic women are much more likely to be obese to begin with – between 7 and 20 percentage points higher than those of white women in all income groups.

### PREVALENCE OF SELF-REPORTED OBESITY AMONG U.S. BLACK AND WHITE NON-HISPANIC ADULTS, 2015-2017\*

Legend:

- <20%
- 20%<25%
- 25%<30%
- 30%<35%
- ≥35%
- Insufficient data\*

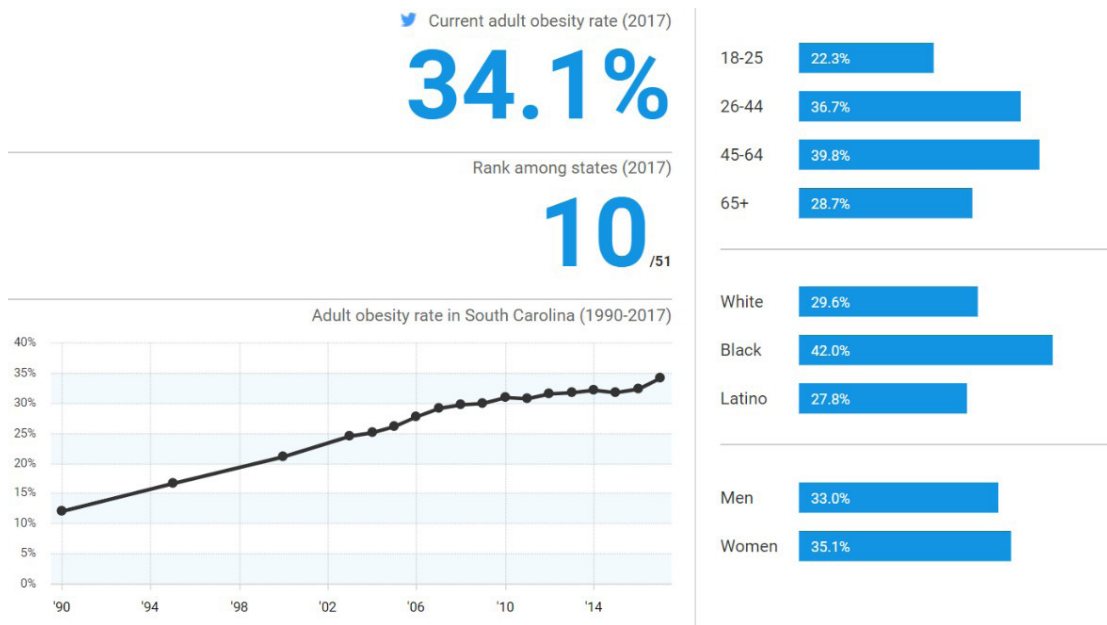
## BLACK NON-HISPANICS



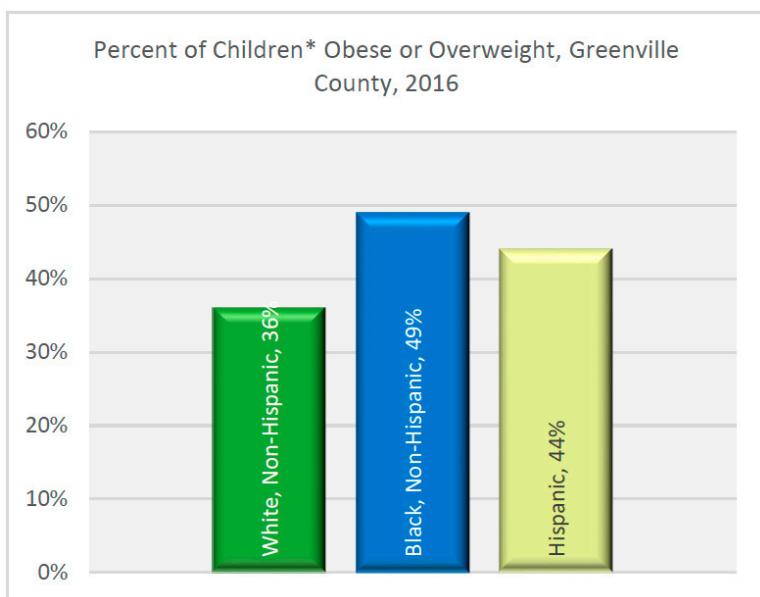
Source: BRFSS

Adult obesity data, disaggregated by race are not publicly available through BRFSS at the county level; however, it is likely that Greenville County is reflective of the state measures for adult obesity as reported in the following graph. The current overall adult obesity rate for Greenville County is 28%.<sup>33</sup>

## SELECT OBESITY DATA, SOUTH CAROLINA, 2017



Source: The State of Obesity



\*Grades 3,5,7,9

Source: Piedmont Health Care Foundation

Inequities in obesity prevalence by race are also clear for children in Greenville County. A “Childhood Obesity Baseline” was produced by Furman University with support from the Piedmont Health Care

Foundation in 2016.<sup>69</sup> Body Mass Index was calculated for a representative sample of the county’s school children – 1,600 children in grades 3, 5, 7, and 9 across 19 schools. The primary findings were that 41% of the children were overweight or obese. Although no significant differences were found between genders, significantly more black children were overweight or obese (49%), compared to white children (36%). Additionally, 44% of Hispanic Children were overweight or obese.

## CANCER

Greenville County ranks 15<sup>th</sup> among the state’s 46 counties for all-cancer incidence rates, but it ranks 39<sup>th</sup> for all-cancer mortality rates (1<sup>st</sup> being highest / worst). This is likely due to greater access to care in Greenville, given its metropolitan status. Poor, rural counties have the highest cancer mortality rates. There are clear racial inequities in cancer incidence and / or mortality for many cancers; however, it is difficult to obtain county-level data by race for each cancer.

The following data from the S.C. Central Cancer Registry<sup>70</sup> show that for all cancers combined, Greenville County has lower cancer incidence for blacks than for whites. The same holds true for cancer mortality by race. Incidence rates are averaged over five years since cancers with low incidence numbers will not provide meaningful comparative data, especially when disaggregated by race.

All Cancer Incidence 2012-2016 5-year Averages				All Cancer Mortality 2013-2017 5-year Averages			
	S.C.	Greenville County			S.C.	Greenville County	
	Rate**	Rate**	New Cases		Rate**	Rate**	Deaths
All*	553.2	527.4	12,717	All*	205.4	176.2	4,320
White	601.4	568.1	10,675	White	219.3	187.4	3,575
Black	451.7	405.7	1,863	Black	183.1	149.0	697

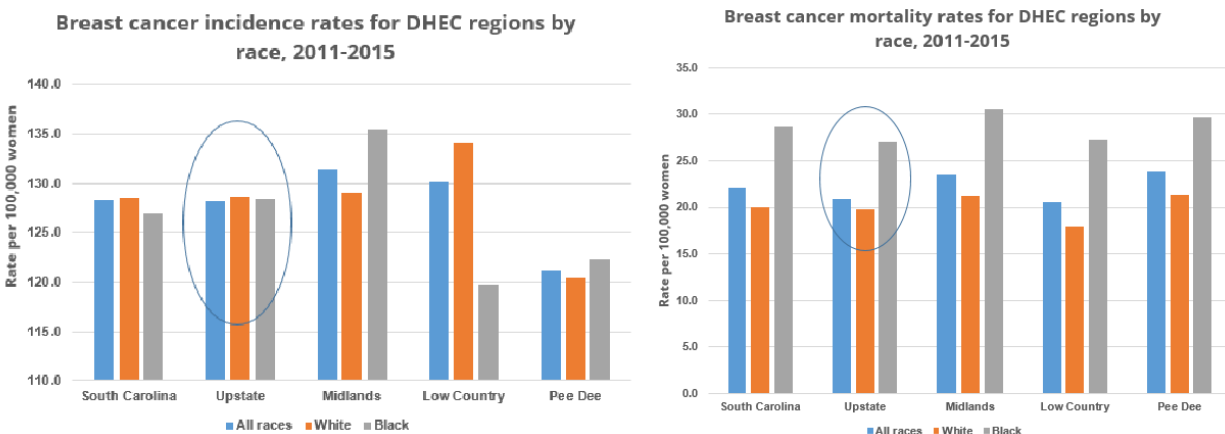
Source: SC DHEC, SC Central Cancer Registry

\*Includes other races and unknown races

\*\*per 100,000 population, age adjusted to the 2000 US standard population

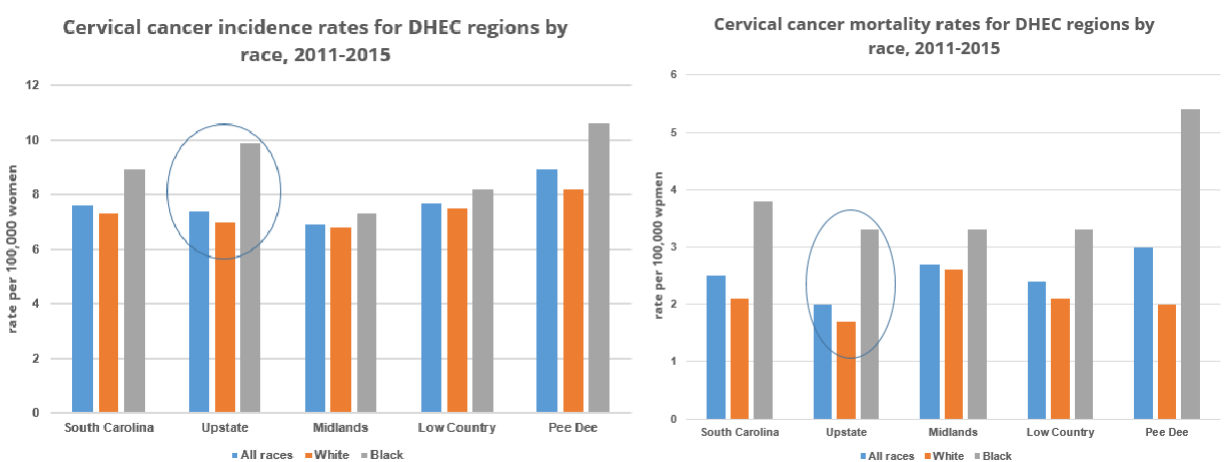
Statistics do not include in situ cancers, except for bladder

Many cancers have significantly higher mortality for blacks, even when incidence is higher for whites. The following data, specific to cancer types, are provided by S.C. DHEC for the Upstate region (including Greenville County) and illustrate clear cancer inequities by race. Breast cancer incidence in the Upstate is slightly higher for white women, but breast cancer mortality is 36% higher for black women.



Source: SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

Cervical cancer incidence in the Upstate is 41% higher for black women, but mortality is 94% higher for black women.



Source: SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

## Behavioral Health

### ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACEs)

Childhood experiences, both positive and negative, have a tremendous impact on future victimization, violent behavior, and lifelong health and opportunity. As such, early experiences are an important public health issue. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are traumatic events that occur in a child's life prior to the age of 18. ACEs include emotional, physical and sexual abuse; domestic violence; substance use and mental illness of someone in the household; being separated from parents, including incarceration and divorce; food insecurity; and homelessness.

Researchers have recently discovered a dangerous biological syndrome caused by abuse and neglect during childhood. The toxic stress that characterizes childhood adversity can trigger hormones that cause damage to the brains and bodies of children, putting them at a greater risk as adults for disease, homelessness, incarceration, and early death. Further, childhood adversity often harms a child's brain and its development, which can result in long-term negative health and social outcomes.

Many states are collecting information about ACEs through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), an annual telephone survey generally conducted by state health agencies through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Some states started including ACEs questions in BRFSS in 2009, and 42 states and the District of Columbia now have included ACE questions for at least one year on their surveys. Of the 10 ACEs questions, a score of 4 or more indicates a high risk of negative health outcomes.

South Carolina ACEs data show significant racial inequities, with 57% of whites in SC DHEC Region 1 reporting one or more ACEs, while 73% of blacks report one or more ACEs. The gap, however, is much narrower for high ACEs scores.

SC DHEC Region 1* ACEs Responses, 2014-2016				
	% of Survey	No ACEs	1 or More ACEs	4 or More ACEs
All	100%	40%	60%	17%
White Non-Hispanic	76%	43%	57%	16%
Black Non-Hispanic	16%	27%	73%	18%
Hispanic Any Race	5%	25%	75%	18%

Source: SC DHEC, Children's Trust of South Carolina

\*Spartanburg, Greenville, Cherokee, Union, Pickens Counties

The types of ACEs experienced by children differ by race. The data in the following table were reported by South Carolina adults through the BRFSS questionnaire. They reported their own ACEs by type. The racial differences in parental divorce / separation are especially wide and higher for black children. The differences in household mental illness are also wide and higher for white children.



Adverse Childhood Experiences s by Type by Race, South Carolina			
	White	Black	Hispanic
Percentage of Children in SC	55%	30%	9%
Number of Children in SC	603,030	332,934	98,767
Physical Abuse	15%	10%	25%
Sexual Abuse	13%	11%	17%
Emotional Abuse	31%	26%	34%
Household Mental Illness	18%	10%	12%
Household Substance Abuse	29%	26%	29%
Parental Incarceration	7%	14%	8%
Parental Divorce / Separation	28%	40%	33%
Domestic Violence	17%	21%	34%

Source: Children's Trust of SC and SC DHEC



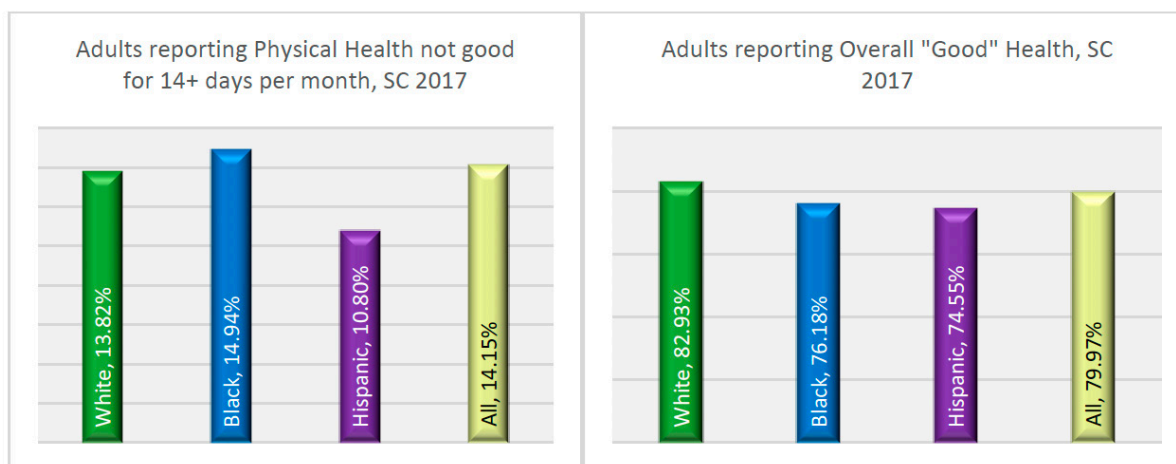
Source: 100 Million Healthier Lives<sup>72</sup>

## Physical and Overall Health

State-level data disaggregated by race and self-reported through BRFSS shows that there is no significant difference in rates of blacks and whites reporting poor physical health in South Carolina. The same is true for overall health.

Other significant measures for behavioral health are not available disaggregated by race for Greenville County. However, at the state-level, there is not a large racial inequity for adults who report poor mental health in South Carolina.

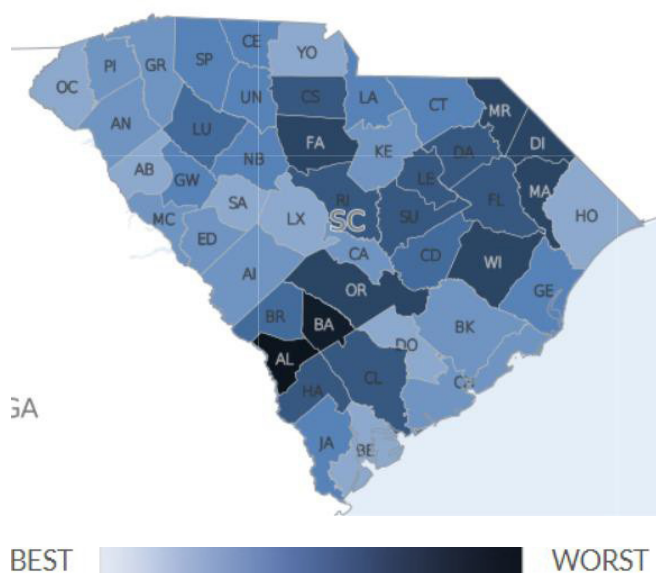
Although these self-report BRFSS data do not indicate that there are racial inequities in depression and poor mental health in South Carolina, the American Psychological Association asserts that minority communities are actually at greater risk for mental and behavioral health problems but that they may go undiagnosed or underdiagnosed in these populations for "cultural, linguistic or historical reasons."<sup>73</sup> Of additional concern is new national research (data are not available for Greenville County) that suggests the suicide rate is roughly two times higher for black children ages 5-12 compared with white children of the same age group (although suicide among young children is quite rare).<sup>74</sup>



## Food Environment

The Food Environment Index, reported annually by the County Health Rankings,<sup>33</sup> ranges from 0 (worst) to 10 (best) and equally weights two indicators of the food environment:

- Limited access to healthy foods: the percentage of the population that is low income and does not live close to a grocery store.
- Food insecurity: the percentage of the population that did not have access to a reliable source of food during the past year.



Although the data are not disaggregated by race, low income people and people of color are generally the most at-risk populations for food insecurity and limited access to healthy foods. Greenville's 2019 food environment index rating is 7.6, where 11% of residents are food insecure and 13% lack access to healthy foods. This is better than South Carolina's Food Index Rating (6.3), but not as good as the U.S. top performers (8.7).

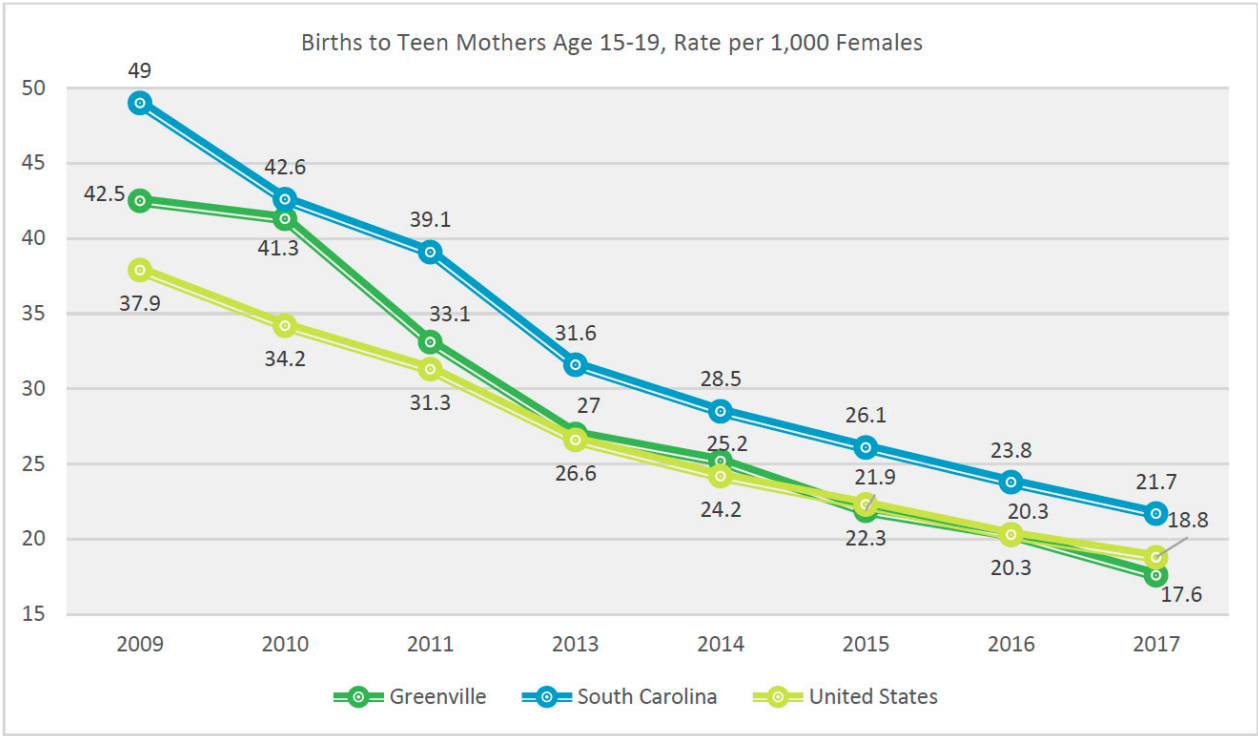
(See page 94 for information on food deserts)

Source: County Health Rankings and Roadmaps

## Births to Teens

Teen pregnancy has substantial implications for educational and socioeconomic outcomes for the teen mother. Parenthood is the leading reason that teen girls drop out of school. More than 50% of teen mothers never graduate from high school, whereas approximately 90% of women who do not give birth during their teenage years will graduate from high school. Additionally, less than 2% of teen moms earn a college degree by age 30.

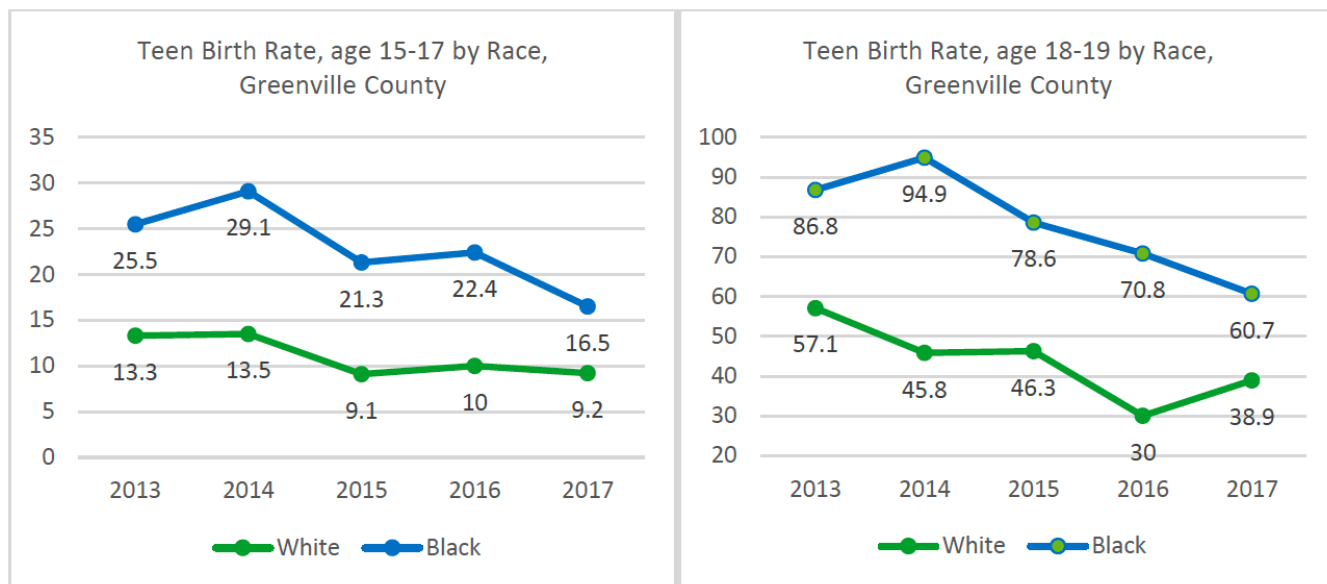
According to the SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy,<sup>75</sup> more than two decades of investments in prevention programs and services have led to significant declines in unplanned pregnancies and birth rates among teens in South Carolina and across the nation. The state's teen birth rate has declined by 70% since peaking in 1991. The following graph demonstrates the consistent decrease in teen births in Greenville County using single year data, with state and national comparisons. Greenville County has performed better than the state average since these data have been published, and since 2015, the annual teen birth rate has been equal to or lower than the national average.



Source: SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy & CDC

The 2017 teen birth rate for females age 15-19 Greenville County was 17.6 per 1,000 females, equating to 278 babies born to teen mothers. Greenville County had the sixth lowest teen birth rate among the state's counties, with Charleston County having the lowest (13) and Richland County having the second lowest (13.1).

Although teen birth rates have fallen consistently over the past ten years, disparities exist by race with black teenagers having higher birth rates than their white counterparts for both age groups (15-17 and 18-19) as they are typically reported.



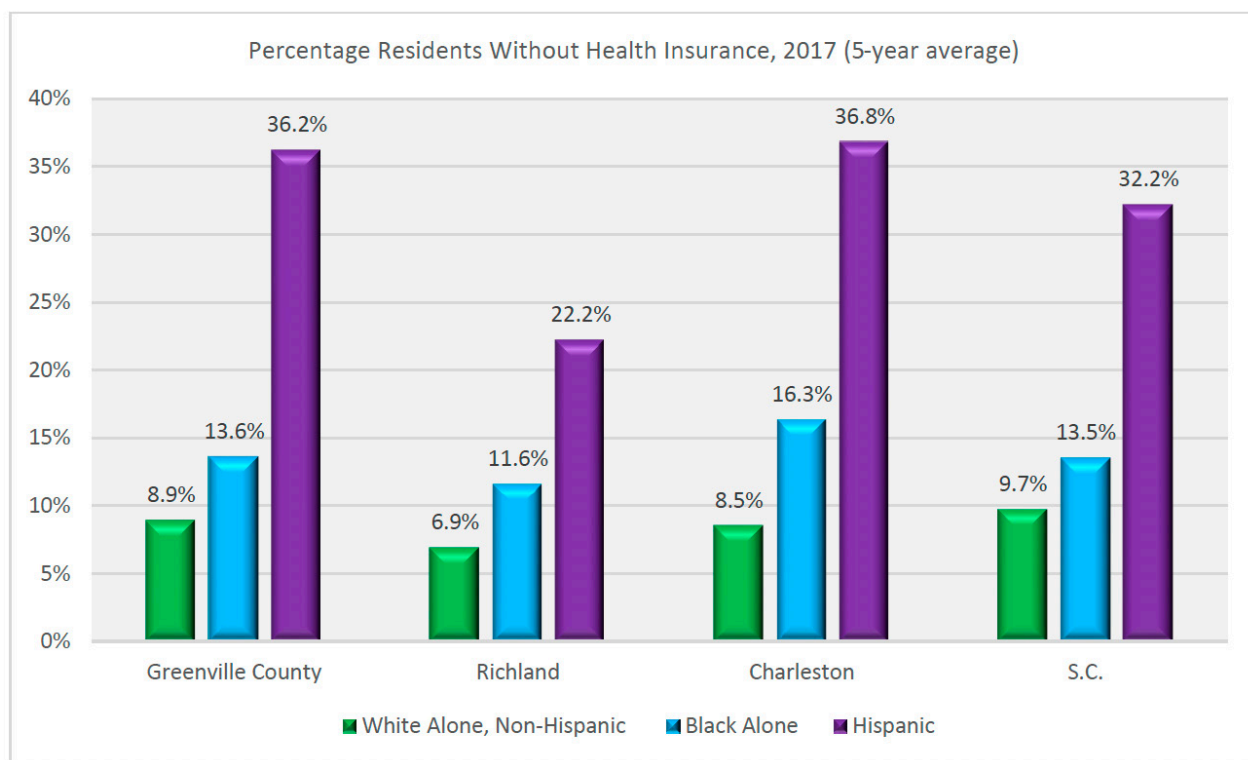
Source: SC DHEC

## Access to Care

### HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

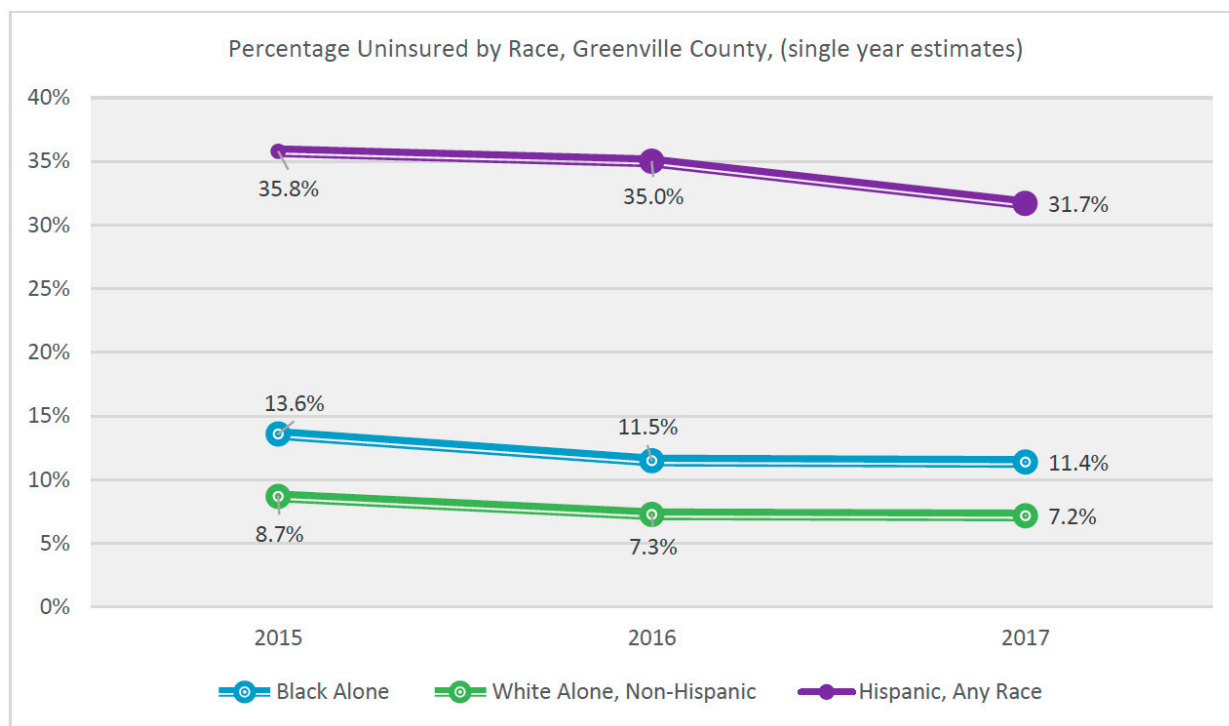
Health insurance coverage is a strong indicator of access to health care and the likelihood of receiving quality care. Rates of health insurance coverage in a community speak not only to the health status of that community, but also to the economic status of the community and the distribution of well-paying jobs. Further, when health insurance coverage is low, costs to society are often high since the uninsured frequently seek treatment in emergency departments for non-emergent conditions and often do not get timely treatment for chronic illnesses, resulting in higher costs and lost worker productivity.

The following graph shows uninsured rates (for any type of insurance, public or private) in Greenville County and other comparative geographies. Blacks are more likely than whites to be uninsured, and Hispanics are much more likely to be uninsured. There are 59,376 uninsured residents of Greenville County, constituting 12.2% of the county population.



Source: U.S. Census S2701

The 3-year trend in uninsured rates, post-Affordable Care Act, shows that Hispanics have consistently higher uninsured rates, although these have fallen somewhat. Whites have the lowest uninsured rates.



Source: U.S. Census S2701

Children living in poverty and individuals of Social Security age are eligible for publicly funded health insurance through Medicaid and Medicare. Thus, adults of working age (19-64) are at higher risk of being uninsured. Overall, almost 18% of working age adult residents of Greenville County are uninsured. By race, the majority (54%) of working age Hispanics do not have health insurance. Approximately 20% of black residents and 13% of white residents of working age do not have health insurance.

Greenville County Residents by Race by Health Insurance Status, 2017 (5-year average)				
		White Alone, Non-Hispanic	Black Alone	Hispanic, Any Race
Age	Total	335,528	87,670	43,117
Under 19	With insurance	69,049	23,594	14,303
	Without insurance	3,651	1,230	1,836
19-64	With insurance	178,085	43,578	11,701
	Without insurance	25,895	10,642	13,696
65 +	With insurance	58,603	8,577	1,495
	Without insurance	245	49	86

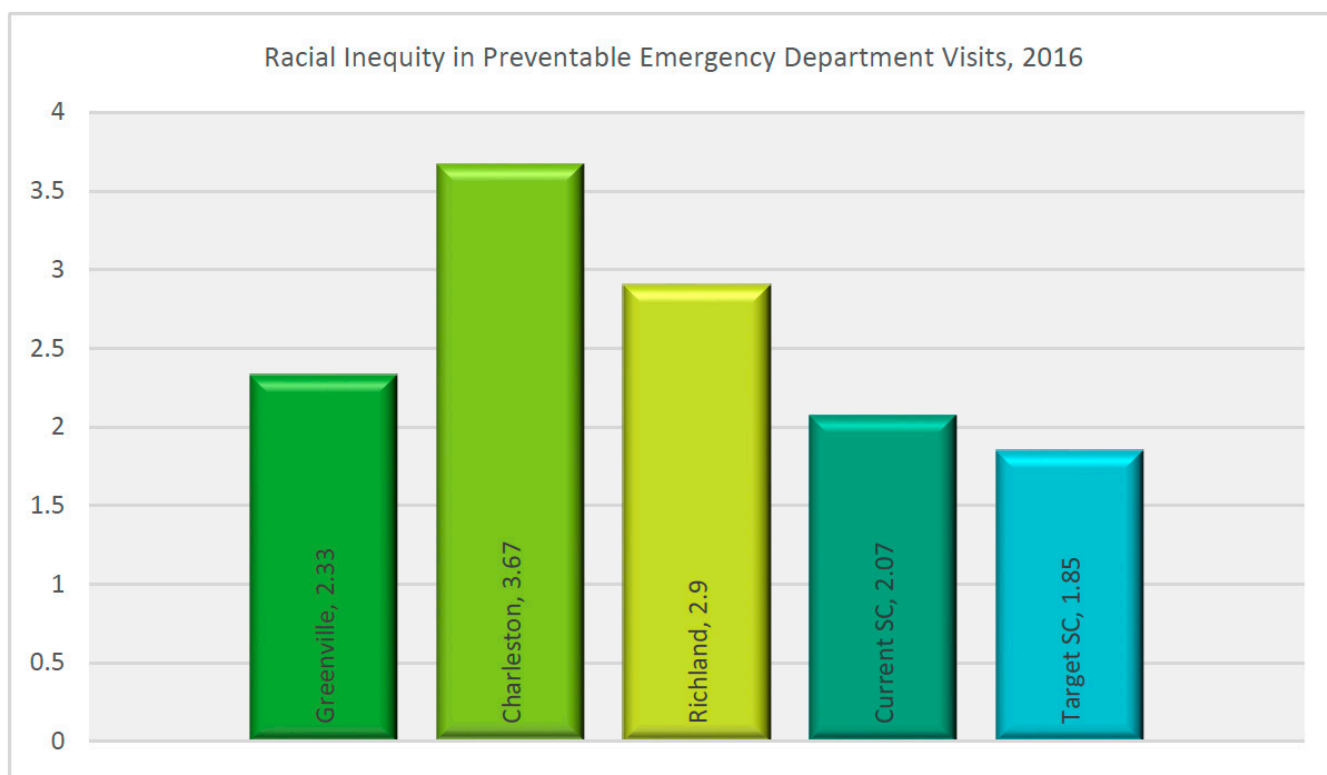
Source: US Census C27,001H, C27001B, C27001I

## HEALTHCARE UTILIZATION

The Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina<sup>76</sup> has adopted a goal of *reducing the existing “Racial Disparity Gap” in preventable emergency department (ED) visits from the current (2016) statewide average of 2.07 to 1.85 by 2020*. This gap is defined by the ratio of non-Hispanic blacks to non-Hispanic whites visiting EDs due to ambulatory care sensitive conditions, per 1,000 population. Ambulatory care sensitive conditions (ACSC) are health conditions where appropriate ambulatory care prevents or reduces the need for hospital admission (or inpatient care). Thus, the state average of 2.07 means that blacks sought care in EDs 2.07 times more than whites for primary care preventable conditions such as diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and hypertension.

Greenville’s 2016 Racial Disparity Gap is 2.33 for preventable ED usage. This reflects a lesser inequity than peer counties Richland, and Charleston, but a slightly higher inequity than the state average. All exceed the target of 1.85.





Source: Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP THAT ADDRESSES SOCIAL DETERMINANTS**

The Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center is a partnership between a health system and the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. It is a level-three primary care clinic that integrates wellness and prevention programs in a city recreational center, improving access to routine primary care, regardless of the patient's ability to pay. This public-private partnership exemplifies the integration of social determinants of health within a population health strategy, going beyond healthcare to address potential barriers to better health, including housing, nutrition and transportation. Multiple stakeholders and community health workers offer culturally relevant services. Risk factors for chronic disease are addressed through physical activity and access to healthy food.

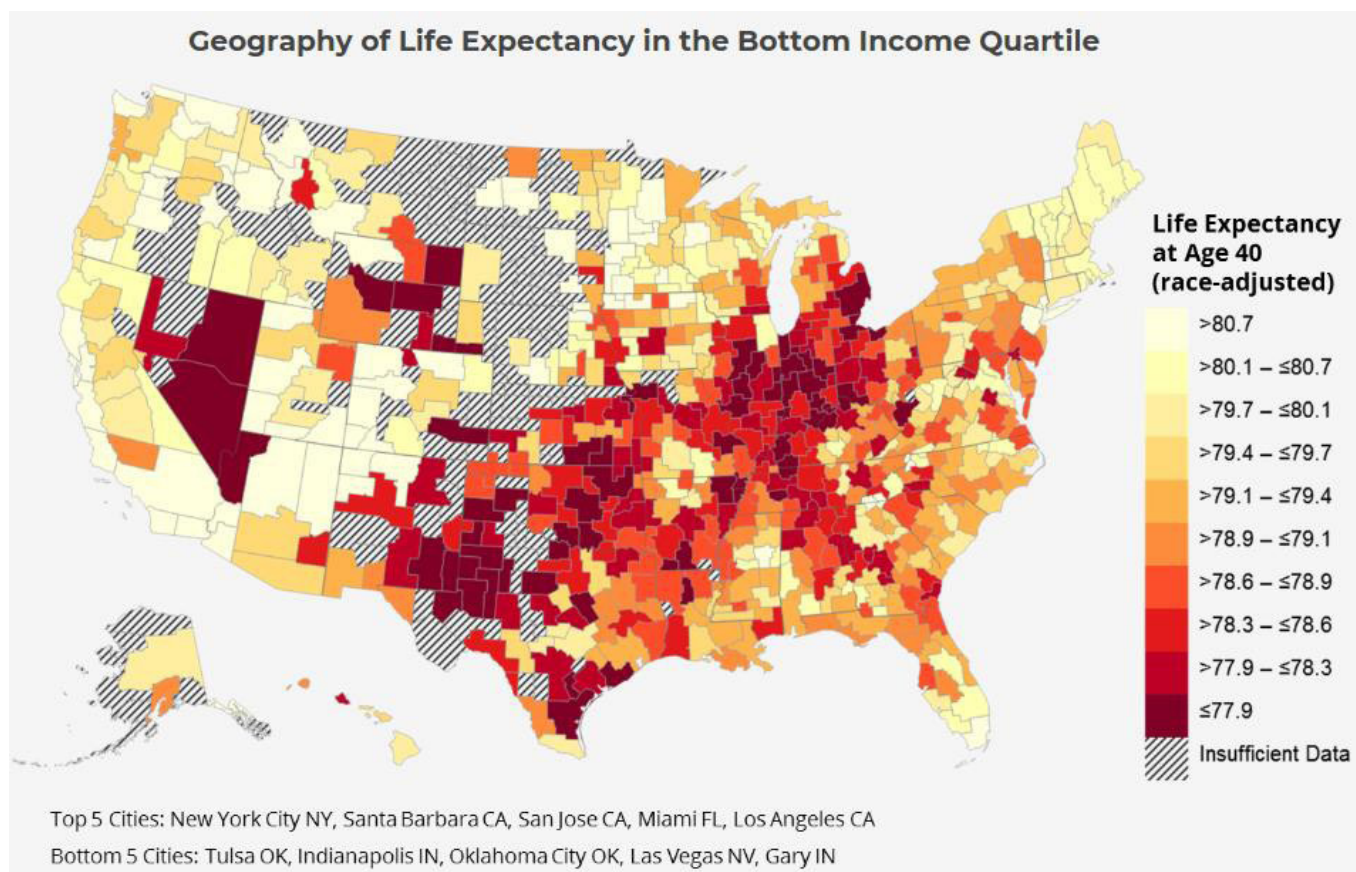
As a result, people who used the center's services showed a reduction in ED use of 21.4% and a reduction in inpatient care of 36.7%, with an average cost decrease of 34.5% and 54.4%, respectively.

For more information:

<https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/pop-health-program-reduced-ed-use-inpatient-hospitalizations/520619/>

## Life Expectancy

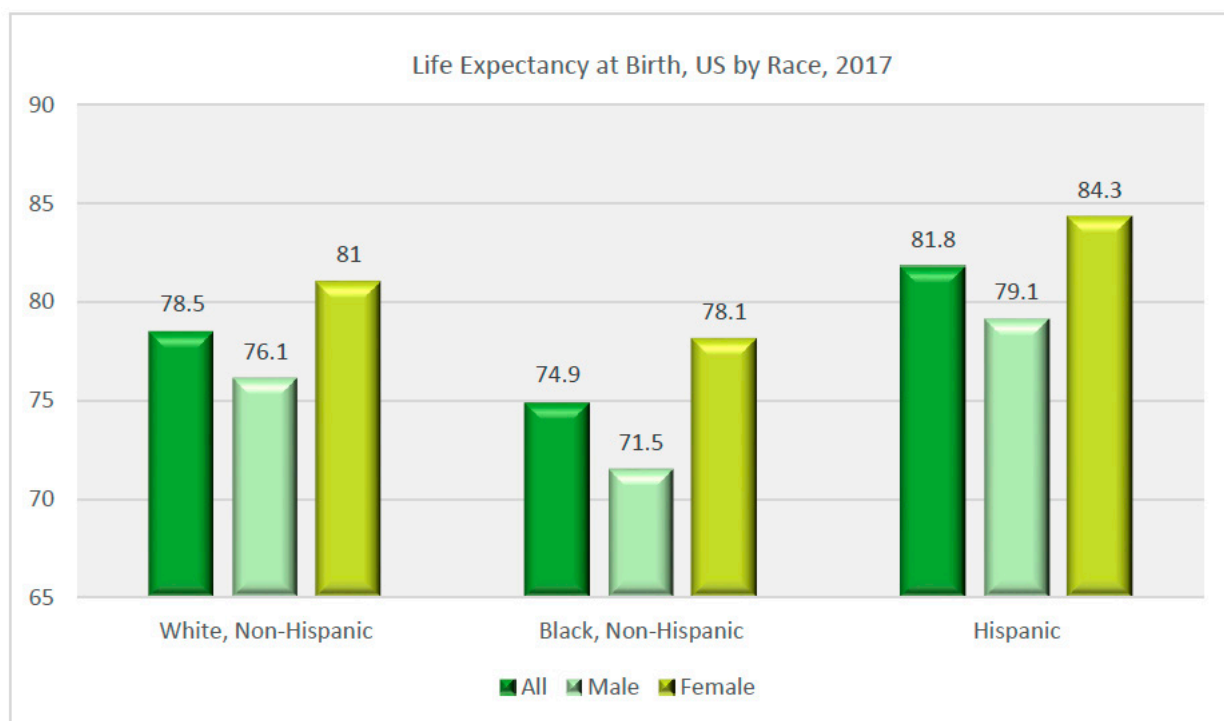
Life expectancy varies substantially from place to place and across cities, especially for low-income people. The gaps in life expectancy are growing rapidly, with the richest Americans gaining approximately 3 years in longevity between 2001 and 2014, while the poorest Americans having no gain at all. Life expectancies for the poor vary significantly across areas; for example, they are 6 years higher in New York than in Detroit. The data show that the poor live longest in affluent, educated cities with amenities that promote healthy behaviors.<sup>77</sup> The following graphic demonstrates the differences life expectancy at the county level for people, at age 40, in the lowest income quartile, 2001-2014, the latest available time frame.



Source: Chetty et. al.<sup>77</sup>

Current life expectancy in the US is 78.6 years - 76.1 years for males and 81.1 years for females (the U.S. is ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in the world for life expectancy).<sup>78</sup> The richest American men live 15 years longer than the poorest men, while the richest American women live 10 years longer than the poorest women.<sup>77</sup> South Carolina ranks 42<sup>nd</sup> of 51 states and the District of Columbia for life expectancy - 74.0 years for males and 79.8 years for females.

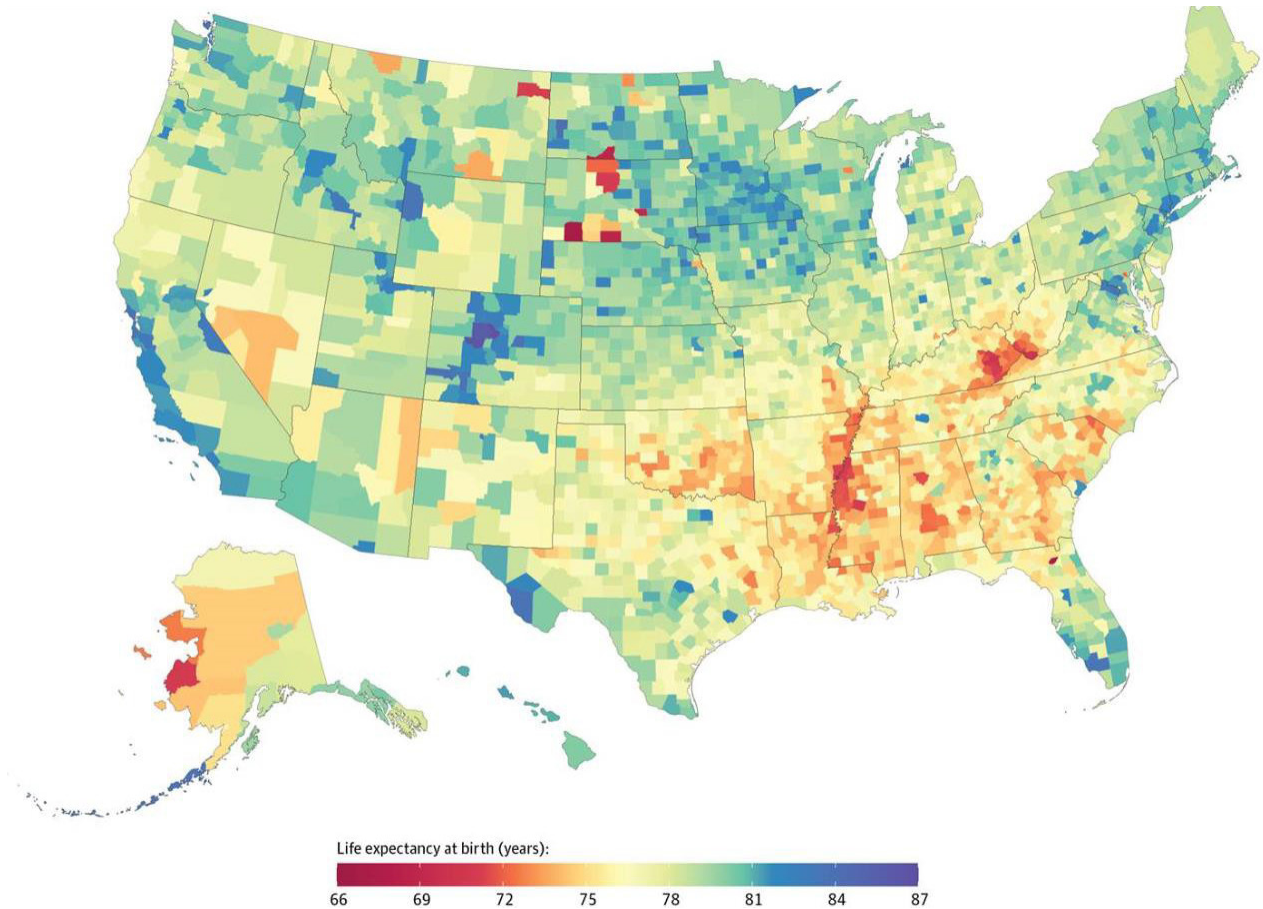
Clearly, people of color bear a greater burden of low income and poverty; thus, these data align closely with racial inequity. As demonstrated in the following graph, 2017 U.S. life expectancy is higher for whites, compared to blacks, but it is highest for Hispanics of any race. Although women live longer than men in the aggregate, black women have lower life expectancy than white men.<sup>80</sup>



Source: Statista

In 2018, the National Center for Health Statistics and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation<sup>79</sup> released first-of-its-kind neighborhood-level data on life expectancy at birth, demonstrating extreme variation even at the census tract, or neighborhood level. These data show that life expectancy for Greenville County is 78.01 years, higher than the state average of 76.8 years. When examined at the census tract level, people in Greenville County (like many other geographies across the nation) have vastly different opportunities to live long lives according to where they live. The range (highest minus lowest) of life expectancy for Greenville County census tracts is 19 years. Life expectancy by census tract can be found in the appendix of this report. Although life expectancy is not reported by race, the correlation with racial demographics for these census tracts is clear.

## LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH FOR U.S. COUNTIES, 2014

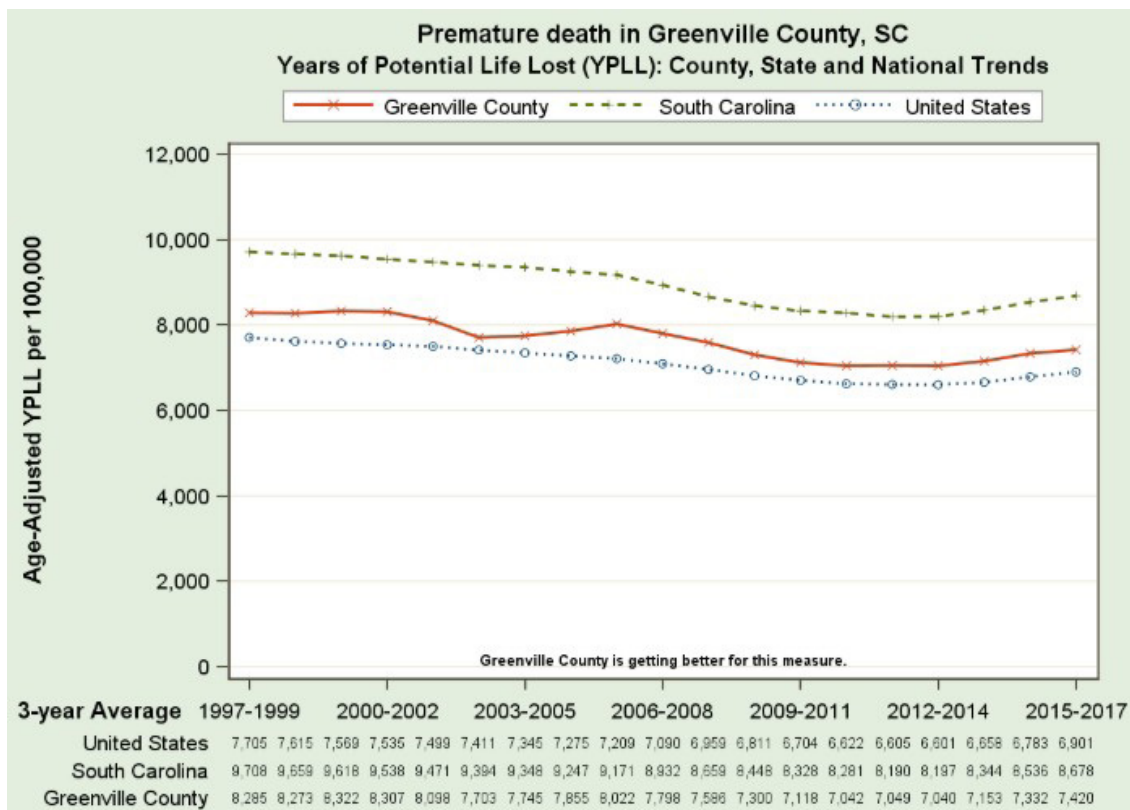


Source: [nbcnews.com](http://nbcnews.com) 2014

### PREMATURE DEATH RATE / YEARS OF POTENTIAL LIFE LOST

The premature death rate, sometimes termed Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL), is a related measure; however, it quantifies premature mortality, rather than overall mortality, focusing attention on deaths that could have been prevented. This rate is calculated as every death in a given geography occurring before age 75. So, a person dying at age 25 contributes 50 years of life lost, whereas a person who dies at age 65 contributes 10 years of life lost. The YPLL measure is presented as a rate per 100,000 population.

For 2015-2017, Greenville County ranks 5<sup>th</sup> among South Carolina counties (1 is best) for YPLL. The rate of YPLL for Greenville County for the 2019 ranking is 7,400 per 100,000 residents. The state's county average is 8,700. Within Greenville County, there is great racial disparity in YPLL with the white YPLL = 7,200 per 100,000 white population, the black YPLL = 10,300 per 100,000 black population, and the Hispanic YPLL = 3,400 per 100,000 Hispanic population. Measuring YPLL allows communities to target resources to high-risk areas and to target causes of premature death.



Source: County Health Rankings





*Credit: railstotrails.org*

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

A growing body of evidence shows that low income people and people of color have borne greater risk to their health and wellbeing because of differential enforcement of environmental rules and regulations and because of the intentional or unintentional targeting of minority communities for the siting of polluting industries and toxic waste disposal. In addition, urban minority communities frequently have fewer or lower quality parks, green spaces, and other safe recreational amenities. Much of this is attributable to historic racism in local policies, formal or informal. Redlining, the systematic denial of various services to residents of specific communities, has resulted in a dearth of necessary services such as banking, health care, and grocery stores. Most communities have a long history of policies that support, or at least fail to address, these forms of environmental racism. These policies have resulted in ongoing marginalizing of low income neighborhoods and neighborhoods of color.

When environmental conditions inhibit opportunities for physical activity and social cohesion, contribute to disease, or cause further vulnerability for already at-risk populations, social and economic mobility is diminished.

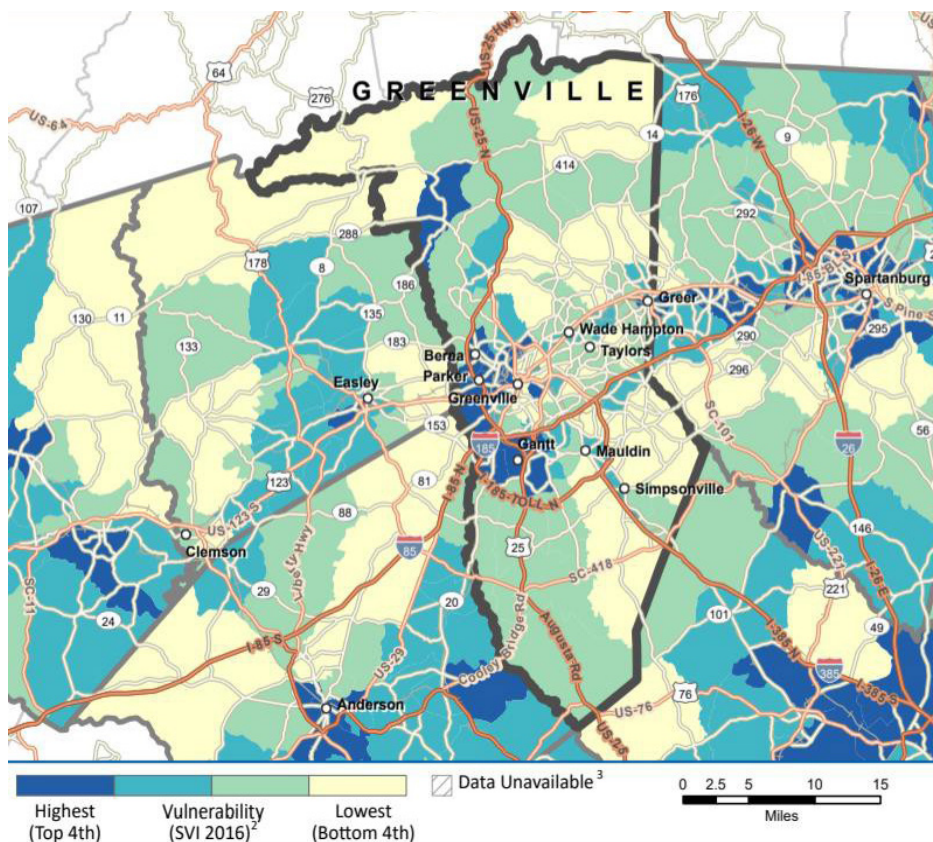


## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

As in most other communities, low income and minority residents in Greenville are more likely to live in or near areas that are polluted, are less likely to have amenities, and are more vulnerable because of multiple community conditions. Black residents are less likely to have their own transportation to work and are more likely to live in neighborhoods with multiple environmental challenges. However, data do not exist comprehensively across indicators to provide a complete picture of race-based inequities.

## Social Vulnerability

The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI),<sup>81</sup> is a geospatial tool that helps community planners assess an area's ability to prepare for and respond to natural and manmade disasters based on 14 factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and overcrowded housing. The SVI determines vulnerability at the census tract level. The heat map to the left demonstrates levels of social vulnerability by census tract in Greenville County. Areas of highest vulnerability are also areas of high social and health inequity, typically areas with high minority populations.



Source: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,  
Division of Toxicology and Human Health Sciences

## Neighborhood Amenities

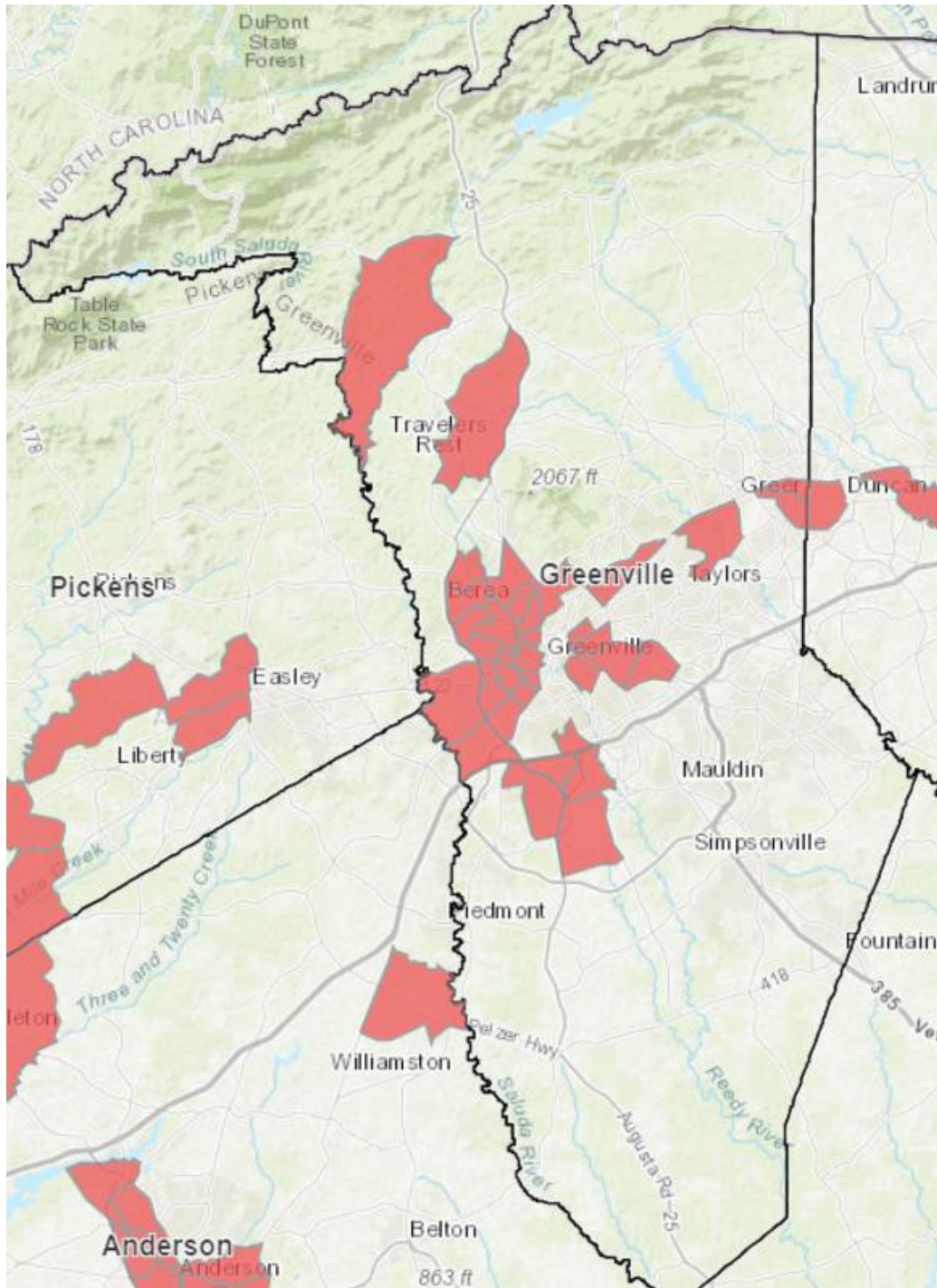
The distribution of facilities and resources differs significantly by neighborhood. National data show that poor and minority neighborhoods tend to have fewer recreation amenities, are less safe, and have a higher concentration of fast food outlets<sup>82</sup> and that the provision of health-related facilities is often inversely associated with population need.<sup>83</sup> It follows that economically disadvantaged and minority populations have substantial environmental challenges to overcome in order to become physically active, to acquire healthy dietary habits, and to access health care. Of course, environmental features are modifiable through new policies, incentives, and investments.

### ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

Certain communities, particularly lower-income or minority communities, often lack supermarkets or other sources of healthy and affordable foods. It is estimated<sup>84</sup> that 63,810 people in Greenville County are food insecure, lacking the resources to purchase, or having limited access to, adequate and safe food. Many of these people are minorities, and two-thirds are single parent families with young children. In recent years, leaders in Greenville have made concerted efforts to provide access to fresh and healthy foods for underserved residents, including children. (See page 86 for more information on the food environment.)

Greenville County has several food deserts, areas in which many residents cannot easily get to stores that sell affordable, healthful foods. These areas are identified for Greenville County in the following SC DHEC map.<sup>85</sup> The highlighted areas are census tracts with low income and low access to healthy foods.

## FOOD DESERTS IN GREENVILLE COUNTY



Source: SC DHEC

## ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION

Another inequitable issue is inadequate transportation. While public transportation may be available in urban areas, policies must be monitored to avoid cuts in service and fare hikes that make it difficult for community residents to access services or pursue employment outside of urban areas. In Greenville County, less than 1% of white non-Hispanic workers age 16 and over rely on public transportation (excluding taxi) to get to work. For blacks, that percentage is only slightly higher at 1.6%. This is likely due, in large part, to limited numbers of routes and schedules, especially in outlying areas of the county. Notably, another 14.3% of black workers in Greenville county rely on carpools, taxis, bicycle, motorcycle, walking, or other means of transportation to work. For whites, 9.7% rely on these alternate means of transportation to work.



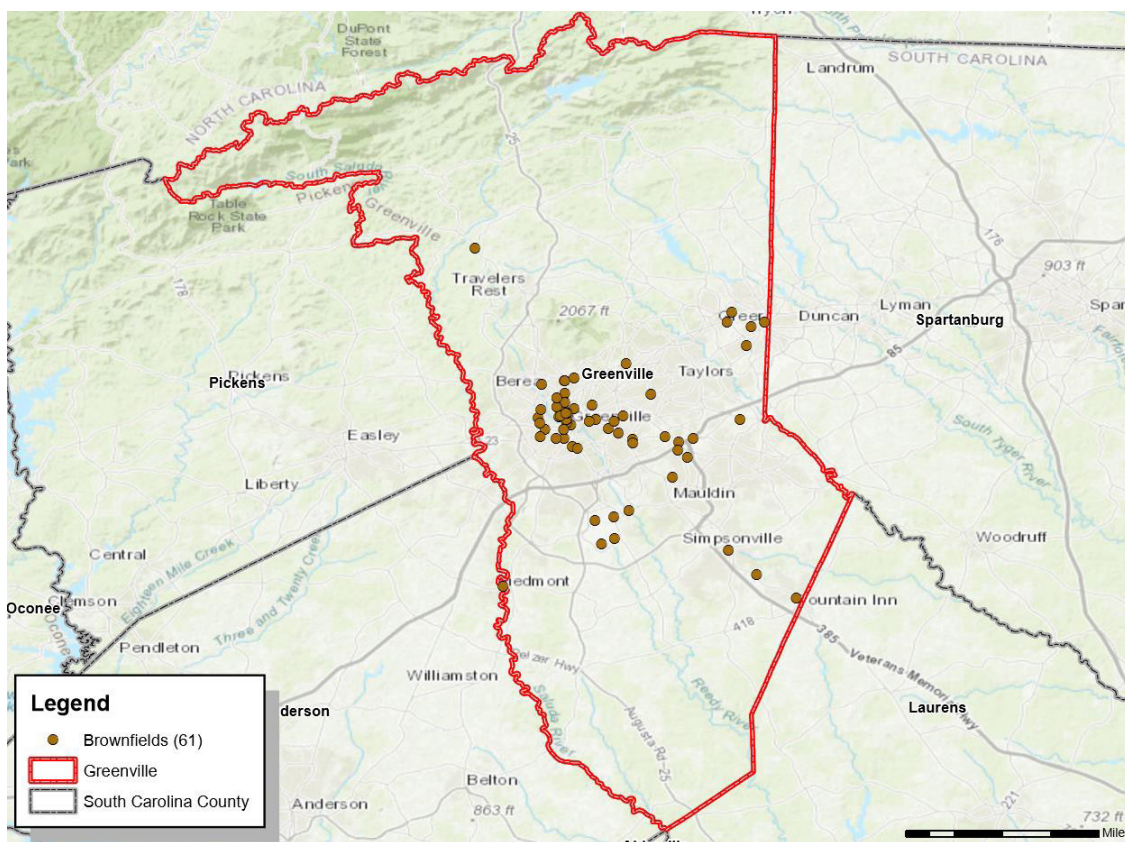
# Pollution

In the 1980s, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began to publicly recognize that a disproportionate number of polluting industries, power plants, and waste disposal areas are sited near low-income or minority communities, compromising the health of community residents. This awareness launched the environmental justice movement which seeks to ensure fair distribution of environmental burdens among all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income.

## BROWNFIELDS

A Brownfields site is any land that has been contaminated by hazardous waste and identified by the EPA as a candidate for cleanup because it may pose risk to human health and/or the environment. Brownfields can be old gas stations, auto shops, dry cleaners, industrial sites – anywhere chemicals, solvents, fertilizers, and fuels may have been used regularly or stored. Spills of these chemicals into the environment may have gone undetected for years but can be costly to clean up. Sale of property or reuse of land may be complicated by the presence, or potential presence, of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The potential for unknown cleanup costs can deter potential development and reuse that is beneficial to the community. Thus, Brownfields may sit underutilized or abandoned for years, usually in districts that have not seen the growth and increase in property value that nearby areas have experienced – these are often high minority and high poverty districts. Brownfields sites often fall into disrepair, become blighted, and decrease surrounding property values.

Generally, the federal government is not involved in Brownfields clean-up, although the state plays a significant role. Brownfields inventories are made publicly available by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA reports 61 Brownfields sites in Greenville County, 9 of which are inactive (see the following map).<sup>86</sup>

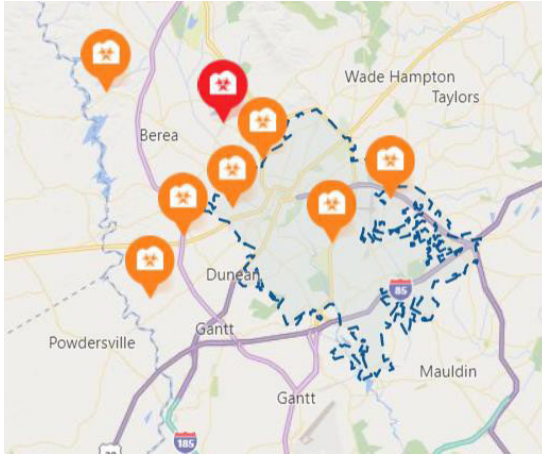


Source: SC DHEC

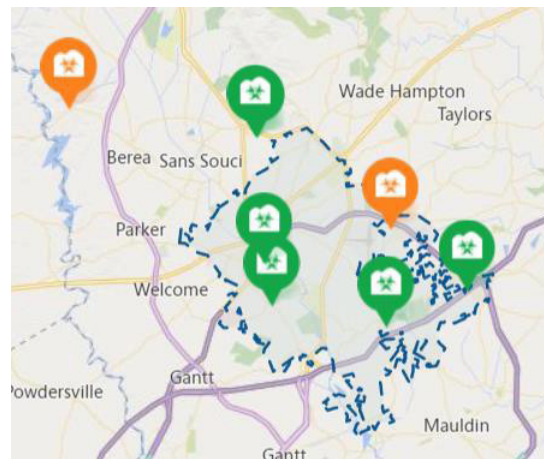
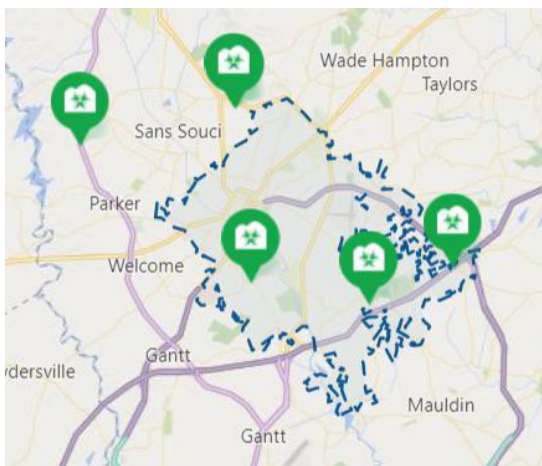
## SUPERFUND SITES

Superfund sites are uncontrolled or abandoned sites or properties where hazardous waste or other contamination is located. A contaminated site is generally considered a Superfund site if the federal government is, or plans to be, involved in cleanup efforts. Some Superfund sites are considered National Priorities List Superfund sites (NPL) and are considered the most hazardous sites where long-term remedial response actions can only be conducted. Superfunds are sub-classified as Active, where site assessment, removal, remedial, enforcement, cost recovery, or oversight activities are being planned or conducted, or Archived, where there is no further action needed.

## SUPERFUND SITES, GREENVILLE COUNTY



In South Carolina there are 280 “active” superfund sites; 30 of these are in Greenville County.<sup>87</sup> There is one active NPL site in Greenville County (the US Finishing Cone Mills site on Old buncombe Road in Greenville), 11 active Non-NPL sites, and 18 Archived sites. These maps show the location of Greenville County Superfund sites, many of which are in low-income, high minority areas.



Source: Homefacts.com

## LEAD EXPOSURE

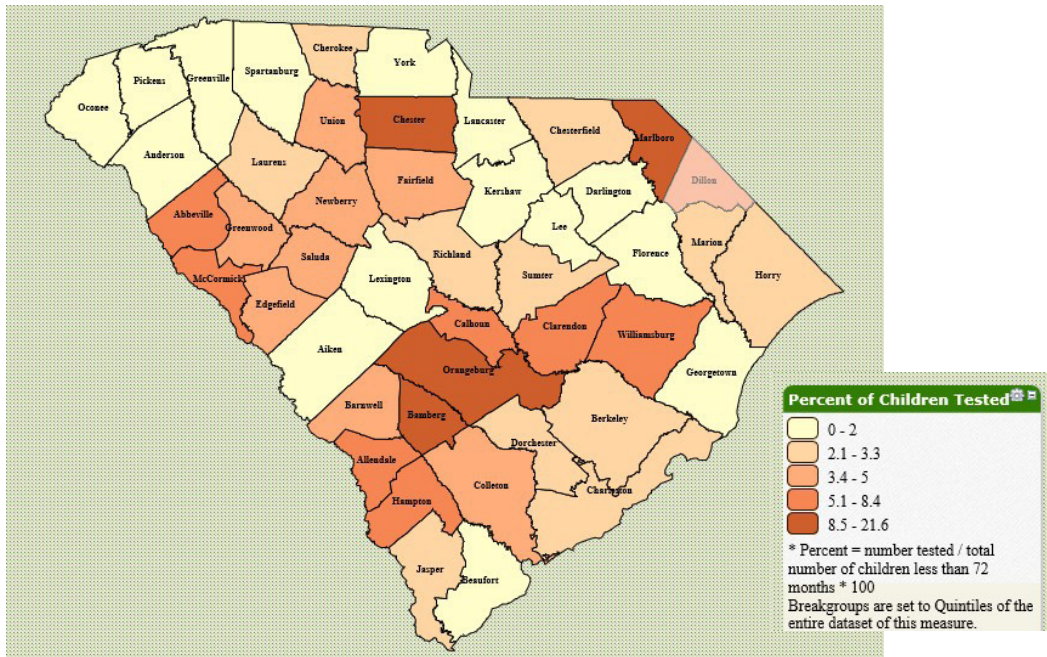
Childhood lead poisoning is considered the most preventable environmental disease among young children, yet approximately 500,000 U.S. children have blood levels higher than the acceptable standard of 5 micrograms per deciliter ( $> 5\mu\text{g/dL}$ ). Because their organs and tissues are rapidly developing, and because they tend to have more exposure to potential sources of lead, children are most at risk for lead poisoning. Lead affects the neurological system, and exposure can cause cognitive impairment. Lead poisoning can cause coma, seizures, and death.

Children who grow up in low income and minority communities are at significantly higher risk for lead exposure since these communities frequently have many older and unsafe homes. Older homes are more likely to have lead-based paint that can chip and find its way into the dust and soil surrounding the home, leading to illness. These houses may also be prone to structural problems, mold, or other hazards that put residents at higher risk of other health problems too, such as asthma and injury. A recent study by SC DHEC<sup>88</sup> confirmed that South Carolina mirrors national findings for elevated pediatric lead levels – non-Hispanic black children and Hispanic children have significantly higher levels.



While the percentage of children who have elevated blood levels for lead has been declining in South Carolina in recent years, here is no safe level of lead exposure for children. Greenville County is among the counties with the lowest percentage of children being tested for lead exposure. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends testing more children at high risk of lead-exposure. This is accomplished with targeted testing, which is based on an evaluation of risk by the child’s regular health care provider, particularly at ages 12 months and 24 months.

### PERCENT OF CHILDREN TESTED FOR LEAD EXPOSURE, 2015



Source: SC DHEC

### AIR AND WATER QUALITY

There are no meaningful data disaggregated by race for air and water quality in Greenville County. Although historically, Greenville County has had worse average air quality, compared to state and national averages for density of fine particulate matter, the County’s outcome on this measure has improved, and in 2014, Greenville County fell below the state average. There is no way, however, to measure air quality on a hyper-local level. Generally, the same holds true for water quality. In 2017, there were no reported drinking water violations for Greenville County.<sup>33</sup>





Credit: Greenville.k12.sc.us

## WHAT IS THE TIE WITH ECONOMIC MOBILITY?

Educational attainment is highly correlated with income, prosperity, and good health. America's future jobs will require ever-higher levels of skills and education, but education and job training systems are not adequately preparing blacks, Hispanics, and other workers of color to succeed in the knowledge-driven economy. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute<sup>6</sup> estimate that the U.S. economy would be \$2.3 trillion larger by 2050 if the educational achievement of black and Hispanic children were raised to that of white children.

Historically, black children did not have equal opportunity to education and educational amenities until the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. Even after that ruling, it took years to enforce integration. To this day, the nation's schools are highly segregated, due in large part to social class isolation, funding inequities, and discrimination. Post-secondary educational attainment is far lower for blacks than for whites, and black children are not as prepared to succeed in school in the early grades.

The preponderance of empirical findings conclude that education is the key to economic mobility and inter-generational economic mobility, simultaneously increasing mobility in this generation and the next. In fact, MDC frames their "Infrastructure of Opportunity" around educational attainment, illustrating the fact that chances of moving up the income ladder are significantly different, depending on educational attainment. The increasing cost of education, however, is creating a block to potential students who are starting out in low income families and is a form of structural inequality.

## HOW IS GREENVILLE DOING?

There are significant racial inequities in Greenville County in educational attainment for adult residents. Black students graduate “on time” at lower rates compared to white students; however, the racial gap in idleness / dropout is narrowing. Black students in Greenville County schools significantly underperform white students on critical learning assessments. Although there are no data focused by race on school readiness, upstream data indicate that fewer black children are ready for school, even though there is no difference by race on the percentage of children enrolled in early learning.

Attainment of a bachelor’s degree is key to economic mobility, and a local university is in the top quartile of 4-year colleges across the U.S. for promoting economic and social mobility in low income students.

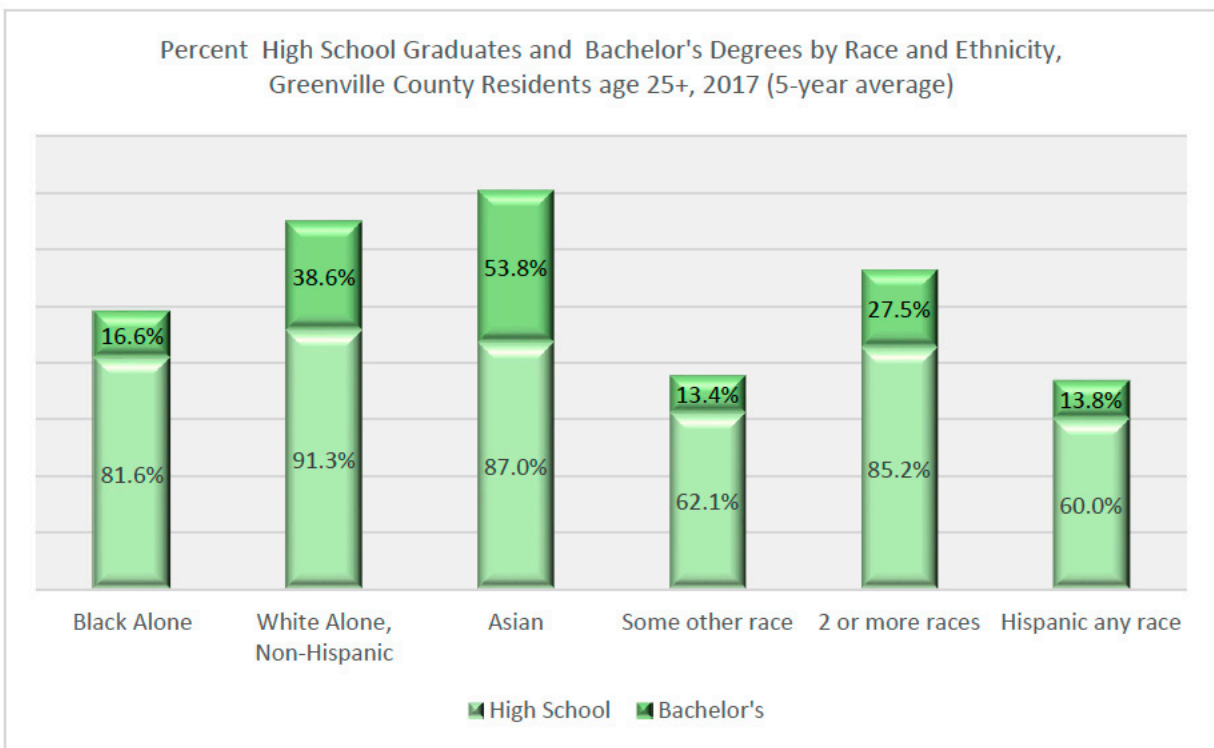
## Educational Attainment

The future demands higher educational attainment of the local workforce if Greenville is to be economically competitive. Nationally by 2020, 43.1% of all jobs will require an associate degree or higher. Today, only 26.7% of U.S.-born Hispanics, 25.9% of blacks, and 14.1% of Hispanic immigrants, have that level of education.<sup>2</sup> Obtaining a post-secondary credential of some kind is critical to opportunity and positive life outcomes.



Source: MDC and the Network for Southern Economic Mobility

In Greenville County, as in other geographies, there are marked racial inequities in educational attainment. The following graph demonstrates that whites graduate from high school at the highest rates, and Asian residents graduate from college at the highest rates. Hispanics and residents of “other race” have extremely low educational attainment, and blacks, Hispanics, and other race residents graduate from college at a small fraction of the rate of whites, Asians, and residents of two or more races.



Source: US Census S1501

However, even with equal educational attainment, economic inequities continue to exist. White Americans with a college degree are on average three times as wealthy as black Americans with the same credential.<sup>5</sup>

## School Readiness

School readiness is a comprehensive connection between children's readiness for school, families' readiness to support their children's learning, and schools' readiness for children. Children are ready for school when they possess the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success as they enter school and for later learning. This requires age-appropriate physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development.

Children's School Readiness is affected by the early care and learning experiences they receive. Research in brain development emphasizes that early learning (especially from birth to five) directly influences a child's ability to succeed in school. These studies have contributed to a growing awareness of the importance of quality early education, pre-kindergarten, and K-4 experiences as predictors of school readiness.

Communities do well when they ensure that children have widespread access to these programs, and especially programs like Head Start, targeted to children most at risk. Children's readiness for successful transition into kindergarten is best viewed as a community responsibility.

“Robust community investment in children now can save higher taxpayer expenses in the future. By investing in early education for our youngest children, we can lay the foundation for their future success.”

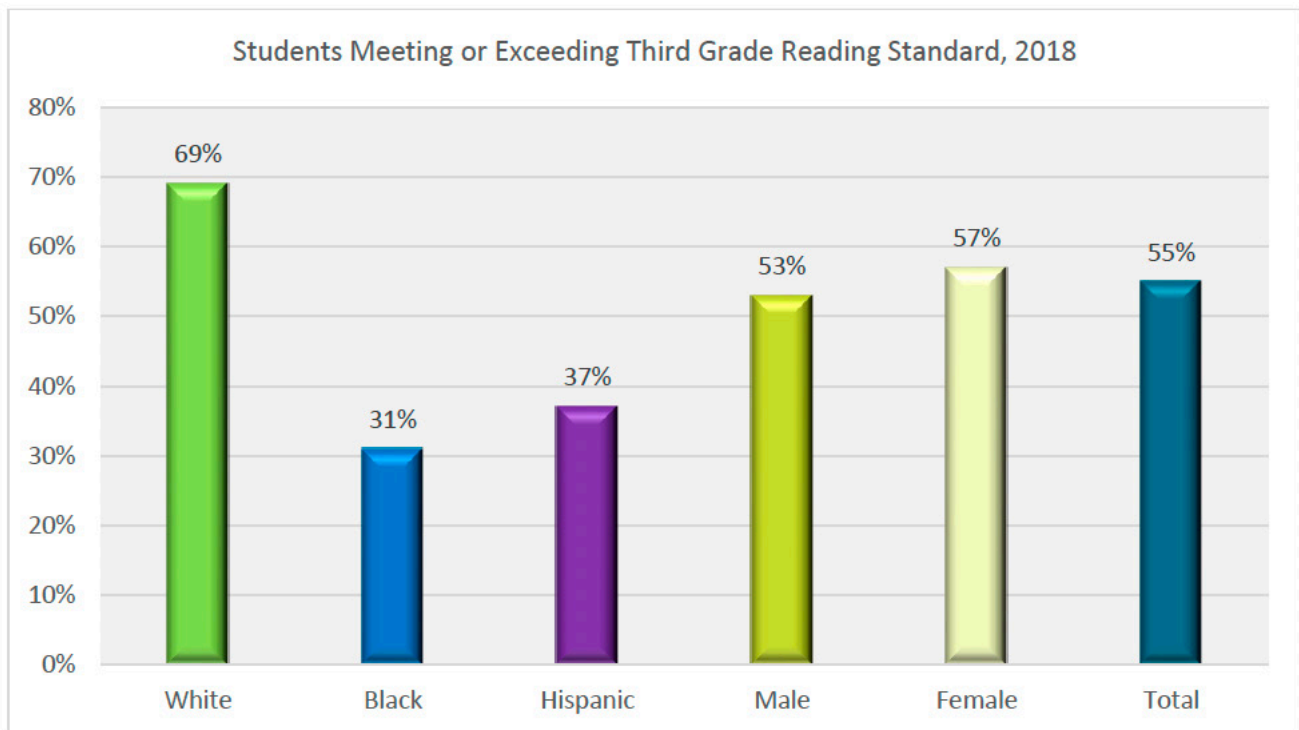
-United Way of Greenville County

SC Kids Count<sup>89</sup> data show that the percentage of 3-and-4-year-old children not enrolled in pre- kindergarten and 4K programs is 51% for non-Hispanic blacks, 54% for non-Hispanic whites, and 62% for Hispanics (2013-2017) for the state of SC. County level data, disaggregated by race, are not publicly available.

## Third Grade Reading (English Language Arts)

Students who are not on grade level for reading at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are at a higher risk of not graduating high school which has long-term impacts on their future social and economic success. Reading proficiency by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is a strong predictor of a child’s educational development and a make-or-break benchmark. Prior to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, children “learn to read” whereas in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and beyond, children “read to learn.” According to the Children’s Reading Foundation,<sup>90</sup> almost half of the printed 4<sup>th</sup> grade materials are incomprehensible to children who read below level.

In 2018, 55% of Greenville County 3rd graders met or exceeded the reading (ELA) standard; however, there was a significant difference by race with 69% of white students but only 31% of black students meeting or exceeding the reading standard. The best performing school on this standard was Augusta circle (81% meeting or exceeding), and the lowest performing school on this standard was Westcliffe Elementary (38.9% not meeting).<sup>91</sup>



Source: SC Department of Education



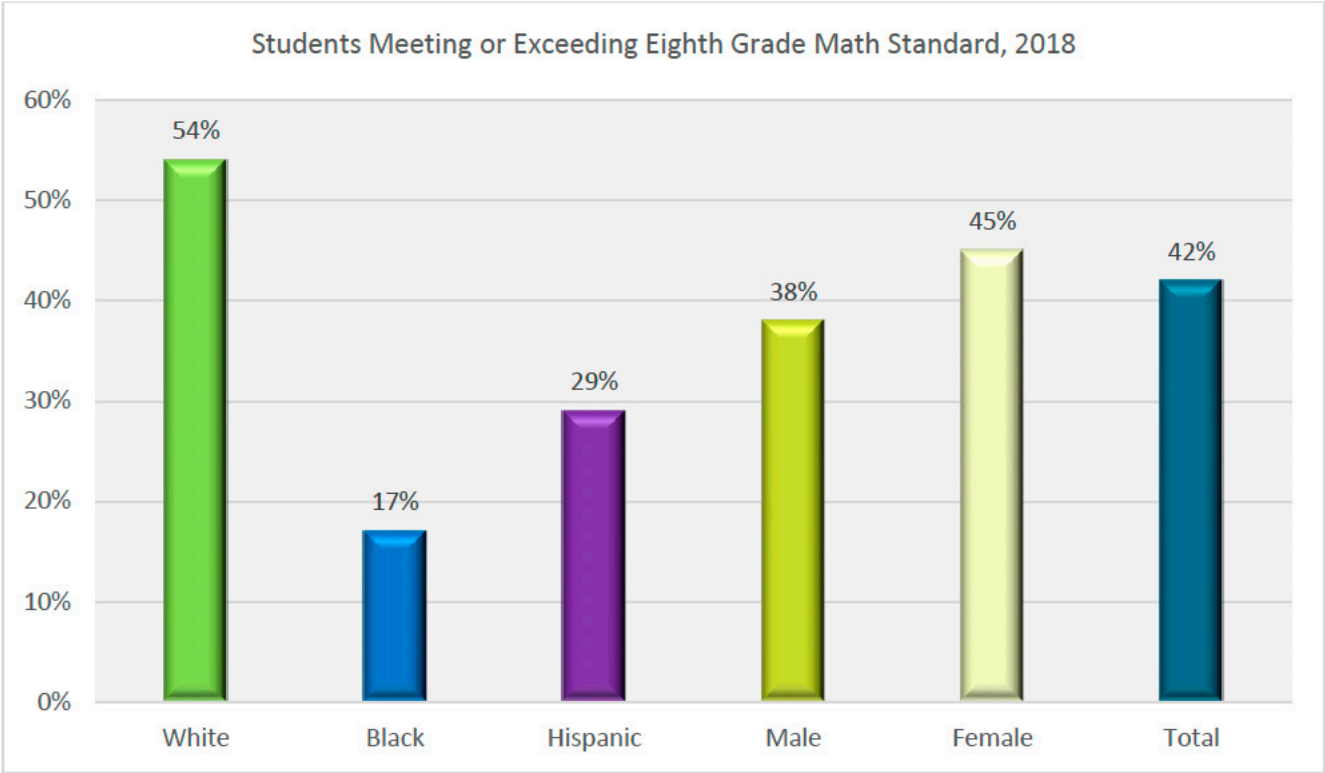
A current priority for the Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina<sup>76</sup> is to reduce the economic disparity gap in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading, as this measure is viewed as critical to public health in the state. The disparity gap between South Carolina 3<sup>rd</sup> graders testing below state standards in 2016 is 3.03 times higher for low income children compared to higher income children. The disparity gap is higher in Greenville County at 3.22. The disparity gap for Charleston is higher at 4.25, and for Richland District 1 it is 3.40, and for Richland District 2 it is 2.83.

## Eighth Grade Math

Math proficiency in high school is highly correlated with graduation, and advanced mathematics courses are considered gatekeeping courses for enrollment in and completion of college. These courses emphasize higher order thinking and complex problem-solving skills, both of which are important beyond the academic realm. Individuals who transition into the workforce with limited mathematic skills likewise have limited professional success.

In 2018, 41.9% of Greenville County 8<sup>th</sup> graders met or exceeded the standard for 8<sup>th</sup> grade math. This was higher than the state average (36.7%). Sterling Elementary had the highest percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standard (98.6%). Lakeview Middle had the lowest percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standard (11.5%).<sup>91</sup>

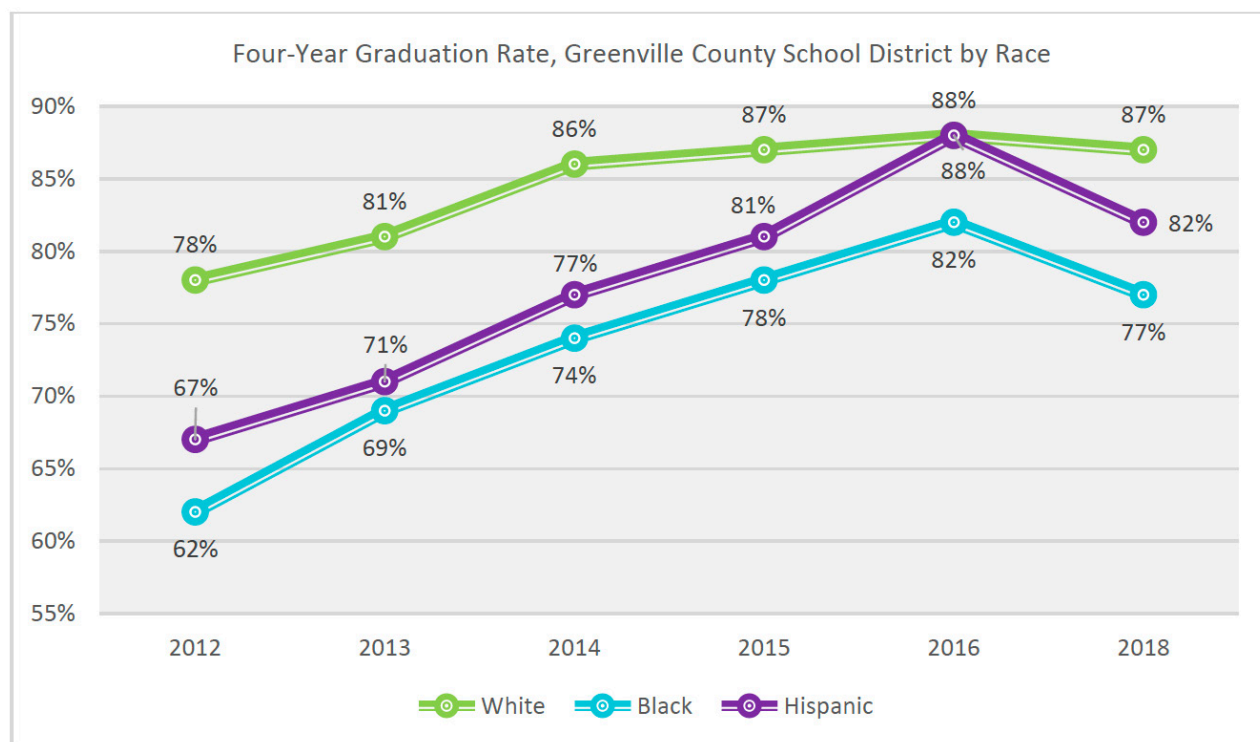
The inequity between white students (51%) and black (17%) and Hispanic (29%) students is stark on this measure. The difference between male (38%) and female (45%) students is also significant.



Source: SC Department of Education

## Graduation Rate

The 2018 “on time” four-year graduation rate for Greenville County School District is 83.6%. Disaggregated by race over time, it is clear that there is a persisting racial inequity in graduation rate, although the gap has narrowed over the last several years.<sup>91</sup>



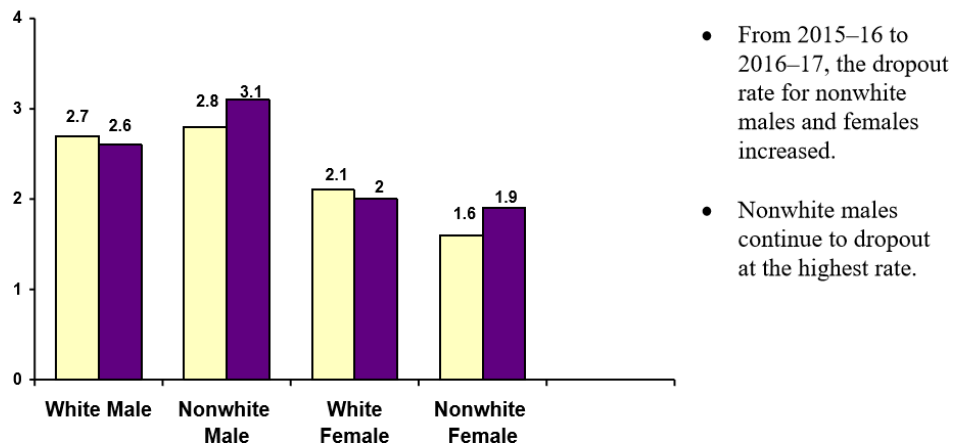
Source: School District of Greenville County

## Dropout

In South Carolina, a “dropout” is defined as a student who leaves school for any reason other than death before graduation or completion of a program of studies and does not transfer to another school or institution. In the following graphic taken from the *2016-2017 Dropout Report*,<sup>92</sup> the S.C. Department of Education provides data that show that males drop out at higher rates than females. Non-white males drop out at the highest rates. Currently, non-white females drop out at the lowest rates.



## DROPOUT RATES BY ETHNICITY/GENDER

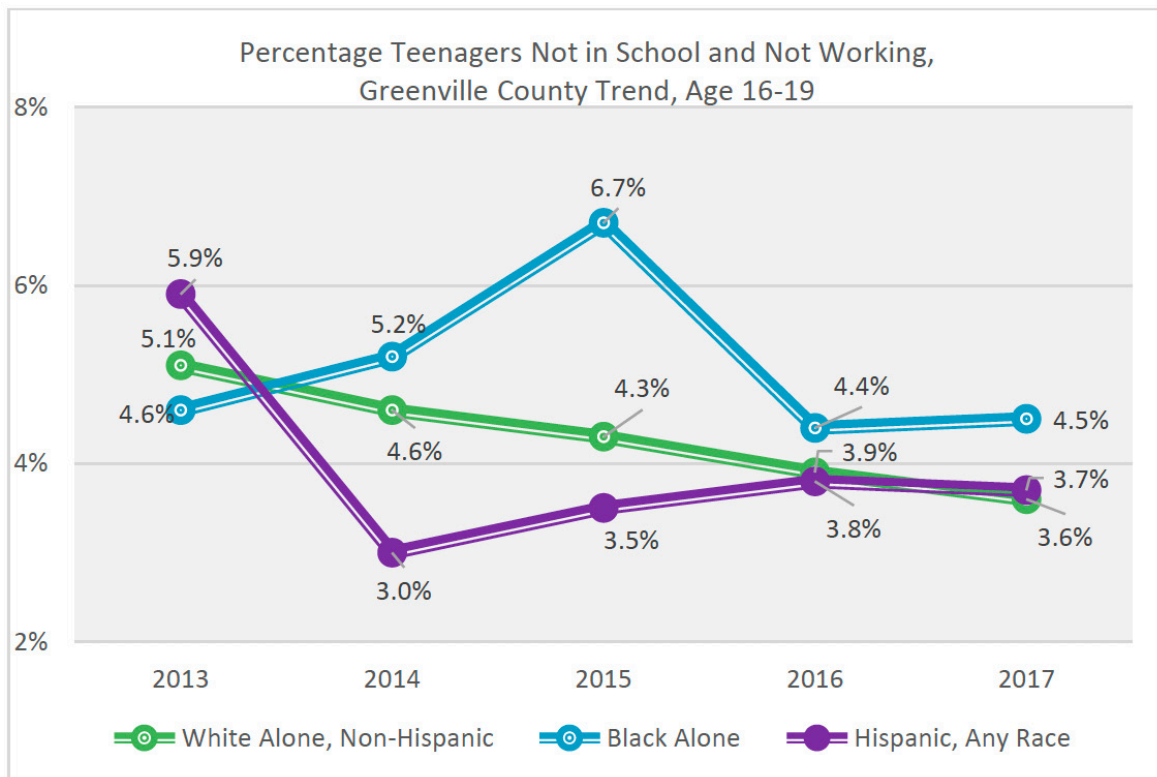


Source: SC DOE

In 2016-2017, the white dropout rate was 2.2% of white enrollment. The non-white dropout rate was 3.5% of non-white enrollment. The 2018 dropout rate for Greenville County School district is 1.8, down from 2.8 the previous year (racial disaggregations are not yet available).

## IDLENESS

The U.S. Census measures “idleness” for teenagers – by definition, residents age 16-19 who are not in school and not working. This measure can be used as a proxy for school dropout. The following graphic demonstrates that of the 24,731 residents age 16-19 in Greenville County, 3.7% are not in school and do not work. This equates to approximately 915 teens. Although the trend is variable, generally, Hispanics have the lowest rate of idleness in Greenville County.



Source: U.S. Census S0902



### SPOTLIGHT ON BEST PRACTICE: UNITED WAY OF GREENVILLE COUNTY'S ONTRACK INITIATIVE

**Together, we can help middle school students stay in school, stay on track and build a successful future.**

Many of the middle school students in Greenville County are at risk of not graduating high school on time, or not graduating at all. OnTrack Greenville is a community initiative, piloted effectively in other communities, that ensures these students stay on track toward high school graduation. It is a whole child approach, using an innovative, evidence-based dropout prevention transformation model, to systematically address the challenges students face – poverty, hunger, family issues, and many more.

In partnership with schools and educators, students and their families, philanthropic community organizations and support networks, the OnTrack Greenville collective impact model brings everyone together to address—in real time—the barriers students face, and to keep them on track to success before they disengage. The Early Warning and Coordinated Response System utilizes real-time data to identify students beginning to disengage from school as indicated by attendance, behavior, and course performance. Once a student is identified, a coordinated team of educators and community experts develop a customized plan to match the student with the right response interventions that eliminate barriers to success and then monitor his/her progress over time. For more information, visit [ontrackgreenville.org](http://ontrackgreenville.org).

## Social Mobility

The 2018 Social Mobility Index (SMI) produced by CollegeNET<sup>93</sup> measures the extent to which a college or university educates more economically disadvantaged students (with family incomes below the national median) at lower tuition, so they can graduate and obtain well-paying jobs. CollegeNET predicates the SMI on the belief that a primary driver of high college costs, and thereby restricted access, is pursuit of traditional institutional rankings and that “one way to stimulate change in higher education is to recast the competition for “prestige” around factors that improve access, affordability, and graduation, and that advance economic mobility for students”.

The SMI is computed from five variables: published tuition, percent of student body whose families are below the U.S. median income, graduation rate, reported median salary 0-5 years after graduation, and endowment. Further, other traditional ranking variables are excluded – Pell grant participation, net tuition, qualitative opinion data, SAT/ACT scores, faculty salary, class size, retention rates (other than graduation rates), and others.

In 2018, the 1,380 U.S. 4-year higher education institutions were ranked for social and economic mobility. A lower rank score means that a college is “contributing in a responsible way to solving the dangerous problem of economic immobility in our country”. In South Carolina, four institutions rank in the highest quartile for social mobility for their graduates. One, USC Upstate, is located in Spartanburg and has a Greenville Campus. It ranks 206<sup>th</sup> of the 1,380 institutions for economic mobility.

### 2018 Social Mobility Index Rankings for SC Four Year Colleges and Universities (of 1,380 US Institutions)

Rank	University / College	City	Tuition	% Low Income	% Grad Rate	Median early career salary
114	SC State	Orangeburg	\$10,420	69.3	38.4	\$42,000
147	Claflin	Orangeburg	\$16,158	93.7	56	\$35,100
206	USC Upstate	Spartanburg	\$11,190	47.2	41.8	\$43,500
249	Francis Marion	Florence	\$10,428	53	40.1	\$40,500
350	Winthrop	Rock Hill	\$14,810	35.1	58.1	\$41,600
421	Lander	Greenwood	\$11,200	37.9	42.9	\$40,900
475	Southern Wesleyan	Central	\$24,110	39	60.1	\$41,600
515	Erskine	Due West	\$34,560	40	63.1	\$43,300
523	USC Aiken	Aiken	\$10,196	34.8	42.4	\$39,100
527	College of Charleston	Charleston	\$11,805	16	69.1	\$44,100
562	Voorhees	Denmark	\$12,630	79.6	26	\$36,400
595	Citadel	Charleston	\$11,734	8.4	69.3	\$56,100
715	Converse	Spartanburg	\$17,000	33.9	55.3	\$37,200
757	Clemson	Clemson	\$14,708	9.6	81	\$54,300
779	USC	Columbia	\$11,454	12.8	73.2	\$46,900
784	Limestone	Gaffney	\$23,900	47.2	33.4	\$42,700
854	Newberry College	Newberry	\$25,600	39.7	44	\$40,600
860	Morris	Sumter	\$13,045	85.2	22.2	\$34,100
863	Columbia College	Columbia	\$28,900	42.7	50.2	\$38,700
882	Presbyterian	Clinton	\$37,142	24	62.5	\$46,000
974	Coastal Carolina	Conway	\$10,876	18.4	41.6	\$41,900
1003	Columbia International	Columbia	\$21,490	25.2	73.5	\$35,200
1025	Charleston Southern	Charleston	\$24,140	37.2	36	\$41,300
1032	Wofford	Spartanburg	\$40,245	15.8	79.9	\$47,200
1084	Coker College	Hartsville	\$27,624	40.2	48.1	\$36,100
1085	Benedict College	Columbia	\$19,566	78.5	21.6	\$35,700
1330	Anderson	Anderson	\$25,880	18.6	52.7	\$38,100
1360	Furman	Greenville	\$47,164	9.2	83.9	\$48,100
	Highest quartile for social mobility of all 1,380 4-year institutions					

Source: CollegeNET

## THE ANALOGY OF THE LAKE

If you notice one fish floating belly-up on the top of a lake, you wonder what happened to that fish – it is a fish problem. If you notice 1,000 fish floating belly-up on top of the lake, you wonder what's wrong with the lake – it is a lake problem.

If you clean the water in the lake and make sure it is healthy, but another 1,000 fish die, you know that there is a groundwater problem – the poisoning is happening from far below. It is a system problem.

# ATTRIBUTION

1. US Census, American Fact Finder: <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
2. National Equity Atlas: <https://nationalequityatlas.org/>
3. Charleston Post and Courier: [https://www.postandcourier.com/news/sc-accounts-for-nearly-half-the-nation-s-growth-in/article\\_501e9cf8-7be6-11e8-88e6-6f9b79d56cb8.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://www.postandcourier.com/news/sc-accounts-for-nearly-half-the-nation-s-growth-in/article_501e9cf8-7be6-11e8-88e6-6f9b79d56cb8.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)
4. Policy Link: <https://www.policylink.org>
5. Harris, A. The Atlantic. White College Graduates Are Doing Great With Their Parents' Money. July 20, 2018. <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2018/07/black-white-wealth-gap-inheritance/565640/>
6. Altarium. The Business Case for Racial Equity: A Strategy for Growth: <https://altarum.org/publications/the-business-case-for-racial-equity-a-strategy-for-growth>
7. Pariona, A. World Atlas, April 25, 2017. Income Inequality By Race And Gender In The U.S. <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/income-inequality-by-race-and-gender-in-the-u-s.html>
8. Shgearer, C and Shah, I. Brookings Institution. Economic inclusion may be the key to lasting growth and prosperity. March 19, 2018: [https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2018/03/16/economic-inclusion-key-growth-prosperity/?utm\\_campaign=Brookings%20Brief&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=61599999](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2018/03/16/economic-inclusion-key-growth-prosperity/?utm_campaign=Brookings%20Brief&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=61599999)
9. Moore, T. Charleston Post and Courier. Charleston's income inequality gap is growing nearly as fast as Seattle's. April 26, 2018. [https://www.postandcourier.com/business/charleston-s-income-inequality-gap-is-growing-nearly-as-fast/article\\_05484ea2-48c1-11e8-b5cf-f751b06d8b2a.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/business/charleston-s-income-inequality-gap-is-growing-nearly-as-fast/article_05484ea2-48c1-11e8-b5cf-f751b06d8b2a.html)
10. Patton, S. College of Charleston Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. The State of Racial Disparities in Charleston County, South Carolina. (2017) <http://rsji.cofc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/The-State-of-Racial-Disparities-in-Charleston-County-SC-Rev.-11-14.pdf>
11. Patten, E. Pew Research Center. Racial, gender wage gaps persist in U.S. despite some progress. July 1, 2016. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/07/01/racial-gender-wage-gaps-persist-in-u-s-despite-some-progress/>
12. Daly, M.C. and Pedtke, J.H. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Disappointing facts about the black-white wage gap. September 5, 2017. <https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/economic-letter/2017/september/disappointing-facts-about-black-white-wage-gap/>
13. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Living Wage Calculator: <http://livingwage.mit.edu/pages/about>
14. University of California at Davis Center for Poverty Research: <https://poverty.ucdavis.edu/faq/what-deep-poverty>
15. Bertrand, M and Mullainathan, S. National Bureau for Economic Research (July 2003). Are Emily and Greg More Employable than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment on Labor Market Discrimination. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w9873>
16. CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion: <https://www.ceoaction.com/>
17. New Orleans Prosperity Index: [https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports\\_analysis/prosperity-index/](https://www.datacenterresearch.org/reports_analysis/prosperity-index/)
18. Breaking Barriers: The Voice of Entrepreneurs, the Kauffman Foundation [https://www.mbda.gov/sites/mbda.gov/files/kauffmanfoundationnationalpolicysurveyofentrepreneurs\\_d226182.pdf](https://www.mbda.gov/sites/mbda.gov/files/kauffmanfoundationnationalpolicysurveyofentrepreneurs_d226182.pdf)
19. IM Diversity. U.S. Minority-Owned Firms Continue to Outpace Growth of Nonminority-Owned Firms: <http://imdiversity.com/diversity-news/u-s-minority-owned-firms-continue-to-outpace-growth-of-nonminority-owned-firms/>
20. SC Small Business Administration: [https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/South\\_Carolina.pdf](https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/South_Carolina.pdf)
21. Chetty, R., Hendren, N. and Katz, L. (2015). The Equality of Opportunity Project: <http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/>

22. *New York Times*: Southerners, Facing Big Odds, Believe in a Path Out of Poverty, July 4, 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/04/business/economy/social-mobility-south.html>
23. US Partnership on Mobility from Poverty: [file:///C:/Users/kbrady/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/5S4BM1QG/measuring\\_mobility\\_paper.pdf](file:///C:/Users/kbrady/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/5S4BM1QG/measuring_mobility_paper.pdf)
24. Greenville Network for Southern Economic Mobility: <https://www.gvlnsem.net/>
25. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Housing Discrimination Against Racial and Ethnic Minorities (2012). [http://www.huduser.gov/portal/Publications/pdf/HUD-514\\_HDS2012\\_execsumm.pdf](http://www.huduser.gov/portal/Publications/pdf/HUD-514_HDS2012_execsumm.pdf)
26. National Center for Homeless Education: <https://nche.ed.gov/legis/mv.php>
27. SC Upstate Continuum of Care and 2019 SCICH State of Homelessness Report: <https://www.upstatecoc.org>
28. National Alliance to End Homelessness: <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/>
29. Bornstein, D. *New York Times*. A growing Drive to Get Homelessness to Zero (June 5, 2018). <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/05/opinion/homelessness-built-for-zero.html>
30. Market Watch. For Black History Month, a Look at African-American Home Ownership (February 14, 2018). <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/for-black-history-month-a-look-at-african-american-home-ownership-2018-02-09>
31. Myers, S and Chung, C. Racial Differences in Home Ownership and Home Equity Among Preretirement-Aged Households *The Gerontologist*, Vol. 36, No. 3, 350-360, 1996 11
32. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: <https://www.hud.gov/>
33. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps: <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings>
34. Racial Dot Map, University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (2013): <https://demographics.coopercenter.org/racial-dot-map-access-and-use-policy>
35. Federal Reserve and the Brookings Institution. "The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America: Case Studies from Communities Across the U.S." (2008). <http://www.frbsf.org/cpreport/>
36. Levy, D, McDade, Z, Dumalo, K. Urban Institute. Effects From Living in Mixed Income Communities for Low Income Families; A Review of the Literature. (November, 2010). <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/27116/412292-Effects-from-Living-in-Mixed-Income-Communities-for-Low-Income-Families.PDF>
37. Institute of Medicine in Public Health. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of Park, Trail, and Green Space Planning in the West Side of Greenville, South Carolina, March 2013. <http://imph.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/27843-REV-HIA-FULL-REPT.pdf>
38. South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division: 2017 Crime in South Carolina Book <http://www.sled.sc.gov/documents/CrimeReporting/SCCrimeBooks/2017%20Crime%20in%20South%20Carolina.pdf>
39. Greenville News, Jail Bookings: <http://data.greenvilleonline.com/apps/news/jail/>
40. Hester, R. & Hartman, T.K. Conditional Race Disparities in Criminal Sentencing: A Test of the Liberation Hypothesis From a Non-Guidelines State. *J Quant Criminol* (2017) 33: 77. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-016-9283-z>
41. Helmore, E. *The Guardian*. Racial bias evident in South Carolina criminal sentences, study reveals. (February 29, 2016) <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/feb/29/racial-bias-criminal-sentencing-south-carolina>
42. Walmsley, R. International Centre for Prison Studies. World Prison Population List (10<sup>th</sup> Edition). (November 21, 2013). [http://www.prisonstudies.org/sites/default/files/resources/downloads/wppl\\_10.pdf](http://www.prisonstudies.org/sites/default/files/resources/downloads/wppl_10.pdf)
43. PrisonPolicy.org: <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/>
44. Kahn, A and Kirk, C. *Slate*. What It's Like to be Black in the Criminal Justice System (August 9, 2015). [http://www.slate.com/articles/news\\_and\\_politics/crime/2015/08/racial\\_disparities\\_in\\_the\\_criminal\\_justice\\_system\\_eight\\_charts\\_illustrating.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/crime/2015/08/racial_disparities_in_the_criminal_justice_system_eight_charts_illustrating.html)



45. Demographic Differences in Sentencing: An Update to the 2012 Booker Report: [https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2017/20171114\\_Demographics.pdf](https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2017/20171114_Demographics.pdf)
46. Brookings Institution: 5 facts about prisoners and work, before and after incarceration: [https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2018/03/14/5-facts-about-prisoners-and-work-before-and-after-incarceration/?utm\\_campaign=Brookings%20Brief&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=61375295](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2018/03/14/5-facts-about-prisoners-and-work-before-and-after-incarceration/?utm_campaign=Brookings%20Brief&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=61375295)
47. The Sentencing Project: <https://www.sentencingproject.org/news/>
48. South Carolina Department of Corrections: <http://doc.sc.gov/research/research.html>
49. Anna Lee, Nathaniel Carey, Mike Ellis. The Greenville News. How police departments make millions by seizing property. June 12, 2019. <https://www.greenvilleonline.com/in-depth/news/taken/2019/01/27/civil-forfeiture-south-carolina-police-property-seizures-taken-exclusive-investigation/2457838002/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=8e5fb71b-8bab-45fa-93fb-33697114f2d9>
50. Schept, W, Brisman, J, Tyler, A. Social Justice. Building, Staffing, and Insulating: An Architecture of Criminological Complicity in the School-to-Prison Pipeline (2015). <https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1G1-428998147/building-staffing-and-insulating-an-architecture>
51. Gonzalez, T. Keeping Kids in Schools: Restorative Justice, Punitive Discipline, and the School to Prison Pipeline. Journal of Law and Education (2012). <http://www.ibarji.org/docs/gonzales.pdf>
52. NAACP. Criminal Justice Fact Sheet: <http://www.naacp.org/criminal-justice-fact-sheet/>
53. South Carolina State Department of Education: <https://www.ed.sc.gov/>
54. National Public Radio. Felons In Florida Want Their Voting Rights Back Without A Hassle (July 5, 2018). <https://www.npr.org/2018/07/05/625671186/felons-in-florida-want-their-voting-rights-back-without-a-hassle>
55. National Conference of State Legislatures. Felon Voting Rights: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights.aspx>
56. National Academy of Sciences. Perspectives on Health Equity & Social Determinants of Health, prepublication copy – uncorrected proof. <https://nam.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Perspectives-on-Health-Equity-and-Social-Determinants-of-Health.pdf>
57. Kronstadt, J. Health and economic mobility. The Urban Institute (ND). <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/31181/1001161-health-and-economic-mobility.pdf>
58. Lowry, M. American Public Health Association. Public Health Newswire. Want healthier communities? Address social factors. (July 5, 2018). <http://www.publichealthnewswire.org/?p=20607>
59. Phelan, J, and Link, B. (2015). Is Racism a Fundamental Cause of Inequalities in Health?. *Annual Review of Sociology*. 41 (1): 311–330.
60. Williams, D (1999). Race, socioeconomic status, and health. The added effects of racism and discrimination. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*. 896 (1): 173–88.
61. Williams, D and Mohammed, S (2008). Discrimination and racial disparities in health: evidence and needed research. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. 32 (1): 20–47
62. New York Times. Why America's Black Mothers and Babies Are in a Life-or-Death Crisis (April 11, 2018). <https://mobile.nytimes.com/2018/04/11/magazine/black-mothers-babies-death-maternal-mortality.html>
63. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control SCAN: <http://scangis.dhec.sc.gov/scan/bdp/tables/birthtable.aspx>
64. Child Trends: <https://www.childtrends.org/indicators/late-or-no-prenatal-care>
65. The State of Obesity: Better Policies for a Healthy America: <https://www.stateofobesity.org/states/SC/>
66. Centers for Disease Control, Childhood Obesity: <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/childhood.html>

67. Science Daily, February 10, 2008. Lower-income Neighborhoods Associated With Higher Obesity Rates. Blackwell Publishing Ltd.
68. Mahapatra, L. International Business Times. Here's How Obesity Relates To Gender, Race And Income In The US. November 13, 2013. <https://www.ibtimes.com/heres-how-obesity-relates-gender-race-income-us-charts-14690566>
69. Piedmont Health Care Foundation. Childhood Obesity Baseline for Greenville County: <http://piedmonthhealthfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/BMIstudysummary.pdf>
70. SC Central Cancer Registry: <http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/DiseasesandConditions/Cancer/CancerStatisticsReports/CancerRegistry/>
71. Children's Trust of South Carolina. ACEs data by race: <https://scchildren.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-South-Carolina-ACE-Data-by-Race-profiles.pdf>
72. Health in South Carolina: <https://www.winmeasures.org/statistics/winmeasures/south-carolina/health>
73. American Psychological Association: <http://www.apa.org/advocacy/health-disparities/health-care-reform.aspx>
74. National Institutes of Health: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/age-related-racial-disparity-suicide-rates-among-us-youth>
75. South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy: <https://www.teenpregnancysc.org/>
76. Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina: <http://healthiersc.org/data/>
77. Chetty, R, Stepner, M, Abraham, S, Lin, S, Scuderi, B, Turner, N, Bergeron, A, and Cutler, D. The Association Between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014 [https://healthinequality.org/documents/paper/healthineq\\_summary.pdf](https://healthinequality.org/documents/paper/healthineq_summary.pdf)
78. Robert Wood John Foundation: <https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/interactives/whereyouliveaffectshowlongyoulive.html>
79. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/>
80. Statista: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/260410/life-expectancy-at-birth-in-the-us-by-race-hispanic-origin-and-sex/>
81. Social Vulnerability Index: <https://svi.cdc.gov/>
82. Swinburn B, Caterson I, Seidall J, James W. Diet, nutrition and prevention of excess weight gain and obesity. Public Health Nutrition. 2004;7:123–146.
83. Panter J, Jones A, Hillsdon M. Sixth Annual Conference of the International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity; Oslo, Norway. 2007. Household deprivation and distance related access to facilities for physical activity in a British city: Oslo. ; p. 128.
84. Loaves and Fishes: <https://loavesandfishesgreenville.com/about-hunger/>
85. SC DHEC Food Desert Maps: <https://gis.dhec.sc.gov/fooddesert/>
86. EPA Brownfields: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>
87. EPA Superfunds: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund>
88. SC DHEC Demographics and Blood Levels Fact Sheet, SC DHEC: <https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-011906.pdf>
89. SC Kids Count Data Center: <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/about/state-providers/details/41-childrens-trust-of-south-carolina>
90. Children's Reading Foundation: <https://www.readingfoundation.org/>
91. SC Department of Education, School Report Cards: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/sc-school-report-card/>
92. SC Department of Education, *Report on Student dropouts 2016-2017*: <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/school-safety/discipline-related-reports/dropout-data/2016-17-state-dropout-report?>
93. CollegeNET Social Mobility Index: <http://www.socialmobilityindex.org/>

## Equity Indicators by Census Tract for Greenville County, 2017 (5-Year Averages\*)

Census Tract	Population	% in Labor Force	Civilian Unemployment Rate %	Median HH Income \$	Median Earnings for Workers \$	% Families Below FPL	% Children Below FPL	% Uninsured	% Bachelor's or Higher	Life Expectancy
1	2,294	38.4	2.4	57,056	40,913	3.8	27.0	11.0	30.3	76.1
2	1,208	61.5	1.7	81,310	71,908	10.6	30.1	8.3	66.3	73.7
4	1,151	64.5	0.3	63,860	52,500	4.1	12.0	9.8	62.1	79.7
5	1,577	53.6	10.5	26,346	26,591	21.0	37.0	16.3	25.9	70.7
7	2,179	62.3	16.4	24,440	22,035	43.0	49.2	17.8	15.1	71.9
8	1,268	51.3	9.1	22,059	16,510	37.3	64.6	17.1	3.5	68.6
9	1,150	60.9	12.3	25,764	26,420	29.8	49.5	21.0	29.0	73.1
10	2,155	64.6	0.9	36,865	42,279	9.8	8.9	7.5	53.2	74.5
11.01	4,014	73.5	0.8	74,042	42,378	1.1	0.0	4.9	57.0	81.7
11.02	1,943	79.6	1.8	76,842	51,667	1.3	0.0	9.2	70.6	78.7
12.03	2,745	61.5	2.7	55,313	5,909	2.3	3.5	10.1	64.6	80.3
12.04	2,757	81.8	0.0	49,126	31,812	4.7	15.4	19.3	33.6	74
12.05	1,374	71.2	5.3	32,130	21,915	7.8	39.8	27.7	28.3	75.2
13.02	1,562	69.3	4.7	50,556	40,945	1.8	2.4	12.9	47.4	77.2
14	3,913	67.6	4.0	69,232	46,742	10.7	7.6	4.7	66.2	82.7
15.01	4,007	71.0	2.4	94,250	54,608	1.1	5.6	7.0	75.7	82.8
15.02	2,186	60.9	6.0	25,923	21,679	28.8	56.7	14.0	15.1	73.3
16	4,796	62.6	4.6	52,407	31,603	13.1	27.4	10.1	38.3	82.6
17	4,076	65.4	0.4	34,308	23,351	12.8	23.3	25.3	19.1	80
18.03	4,095	64.8	9.2	43,185	28,527	17.5	25.6	18.5	16.5	81.9
18.04	4,114	64.4	4.9	56,446	34,556	2.8	3.8	7.6	40.4	83.9
18.05	3,950	61.9	6.1	63,651	39,707	4.7	8.4	12.2	52.3	81.5
18.07	5,409	63.3	3.1	49,112	34,402	2.1	3.6	11.6	42.1	81.6
18.08	3,527	78.7	3.1	43,977	34,674	5.2	8.6	12.2	51.6	79
18.09	3,394	75.1	5.0	47,698	31,366	7.2	17.4	17.9	42.7	78.6
18.10	3,759	82.3	4.1	39,448	25,854	9.1	13.6	18.4	27.5	79.5
19	6,246	60.1	8.4	91,477	50,451	4.6	8.8	3.6	68.1	79.8
20.01	3,583	62.0	15.5	26,786	20,075	34.1	49.2	19.0	9.4	72.6
20.03	4,529	52.4	14.3	28,427	23,838	28.2	49.2	22.9	5.2	74.7
20.05	4,041	59.6	12.0	33,322	23,325	25.6	46.9	19.8	5.6	77.7
21.03	3,534	56.9	10.5	57,591	36,039	14.2	34.5	10.2	42.4	80
21.04	1,814	55.7	11.8	34,487	25,665	13.2	47.0	22.2	9.9	68.6
21.05	2,411	56.9	10.1	24,338	19,575	39.6	77.5	19.5	7.3	74.6
21.06	3,479	53.8	9.6	26,852	24,290	27.2	47.1	24.9	8.8	72.4
21.07	2,583	51.2	5.1	26,723	19,517	22.0	25.9	15.9	12.9	79.3
21.08	1,593	68.4	9.3	36,172	25,956	22.7	42.3	13.2	25.0	72.7
22.01	6,025	53.6	2.5	32,917	20,858	38.2	46.4	36.4	9.0	71.9
22.02	2,468	46.2	8.1	23,983	22,184	39.2	61.1	26.9	5.4	72.6
23.01	4,125	62.7	7.1	34,405	26,814	32.5	64.2	22.6	20.7	77.4
23.02	4,130	61.8	9.9	28,975	20,346	22.4	27.5	31.2	17.3	73.5
23.03	1,980	56.9	10.5	22,071	21,607	42.7	56.0	34.1	7.4	66.4
23.04	2,273	48.0	10.0	24,342	16,689	31.0	38.7	21.3	23.2	68.1

## Equity Indicators by Census Tract for Greenville County, 2017 (5-Year Averages\*) Continued

Census Tract	Population	% in Labor Force	Civilian Unemployment Rate %	Median HH Income \$	Median Earnings for Workers \$	% Families Below FPL	% Children Below FPL	% Uninsured	% Bachelor's or Higher	Life Expectancy
24.02	7,526	65.4	6.4	52,463	31,998	9.8	18.0	17.5	24.1	76.9
24.03	4,658	64.1	3.6	58,640	32,835	6.9	14.9	10.9	22.1	79.2
24.04	3,435	46.0	5.9	56,204	26,679	5.8	14.8	9.7	32.0	81.7
25.03	10,415	71.9	4.1	61,619	32,588	3.6	9.3	14.9	36.0	80.5
25.04	1,913	62.5	5.4	36,875	28,750	18.3	25.9	15.6	24.6	76
25.05	3,366	64.0	5.2	27,635	22,167	19.5	27.2	5.9	15.0	74.4
25.06	3,591	58.1	3.0	71,250	39,773	2.9	5.8	5.9	38.9	81.2
25.07	5,018	63.3	4.4	50,759	32,765	15.0	38.3	5.9	23.1	74.5
26.02	4,407	65.7	4.6	57,601	31,546	6.7	20.1	16.8	25.5	76.1
26.04	5,824	63.5	4.4	50,877	32,005	7.8	11.4	8.2	31.0	82.4
26.06	5,361	65.1	3.7	61,633	44,517	2.6	3.8	6.5	29.6	81.4
26.08	9,109	69.0	2.5	92,258	48,585	6.5	12.4	5.3	59.7	80.2
26.09	6,458	62.0	4.1	65,769	37,479	3.5	6.9	5.7	52.3	81.9
26.10	3,174	76.3	5.5	46,373	27,781	8.7	13.1	10.3	27.9	76.8
26.11	5,317	62.1	4.8	52,761	36,376	10.5	20.1	10.4	18.2	79.2
27.01	4,165	58.9	4.0	65,427	38,285	5.9	9.1	8.0	37.6	80.3
27.02	7,861	56.4	4.9	60,225	34,205	7.5	33.5	11.7	32.0	82.4
28.03	8,746	64.1	4.0	70,500	39,657	3.7	6.2	10.0	49.6	81.2
28.04	2,256	50.2	2.8	83,938	49,563	0.9	4.5	5.0	63.9	83.3
28.05	5,011	68.0	3.1	65,595	37,707	5.0	7.2	6.7	51.3	79.2
28.08	7,716	56.2	5.2	58,978	43,535	13.1	24.8	6.9	50.9	83.2
28.11	8,539	72.7	4.1	68,590	41,866	4.4	15.5	9.3	47.4	77.1
28.12	7,323	67.6	4.5	83,469	48,420	3.9	7.6	7.4	43.8	82.6
28.13	4,343	66.7	5.5	131,528	68,857	1.8	2.5	1.4	67.0	82.7
28.14	6,526	64.7	5.2	112,946	61,250	3.4	7.3	4.9	65.4	78.9
28.15	5,894	75.6	2.5	125,972	56,597	1.9	1.9	3.2	63.0	85.4
28.16	11,496	70.9	5.0	93,881	44,015	5.8	9.6	5.3	50.8	80.9
29.01	6,332	72.9	7.5	47,427	31,622	10.4	26.2	12.4	23.9	77.7
29.03	7,619	66.1	7.2	52,874	30,597	9.6	7.3	11.2	26.9	76.8
29.04	5,462	72.7	8.7	62,552	34,818	3.5	0.0	11.2	30.9	76.8
29.05	4,660	71.4	6.5	83,490	47,739	0.8	12.7	2.5	42.4	79.9
30.05	2,507	63.5	5.2	38,063	36,101	8.7	0.8	11.1	32.4	74.4
30.08	6,700	62.5	3.7	94,883	49,257	0.6	1.0	6.4	56.6	84.4
30.09	7,358	69.2	3.0	86,573	44,579	2.4	1.0	5.7	43.8	83
30.10	6,937	67.2	1.6	75,214	40,230	2.3	1.9	9.2	37.2	80.3
30.11	6,016	65.6	7.5	71,221	37,015	5.2	8.2	8.4	35.6	77.7
30.12	5,291	77.1	2.7	49,125	32,027	3.1	8.6	17.8	22.2	75.5
30.13	6,754	75.0	5.8	74,425	44,669	5.4	12.8	2.8	39.0	81.3
30.14	5,345	68.0	2.3	71,887	39,932	2.8	4.8	6.0	30.4	Unavailable
30.15	9,066	68.7	2.9	90,098	49,821	1.4	4.0	4.5	50.3	82
31.01	7,834	64.4	7.0	53,866	37,287	10.9	17.1	8.7	18.8	75.1
31.03	3,103	66.3	2.0	79,335	33,152	8.1	20.0	9.6	29.0	78.2

## Equity Indicators by Census Tract for Greenville County, 2017 (5-Year Averages\*) Continued

Census Tract	Population	% in Labor Force	Civilian Unemployment Rate %	Median HH Income \$	Median Earnings for Workers \$	% Families Below FPL	% Children Below FPL	% Uninsured	% Bachelor's or Higher	Life Expectancy
31.04	2,225	61.4	5.9	62,222	30,714	8.4	18.6	16.5	14.1	78.4
32.01	6,099	39.5	3.0	49,426	31,003	8.0	7.5	13.7	15.2	79
32.02	3,305	59.1	3.6	50,357	31,293	4.9	11.8	12.9	11.3	76.4
33.01	6,778	59.8	4.4	47,703	29,061	9.9	10.8	13.8	12.5	75.1
33.03	5,555	72.1	5.2	56,386	30,732	14.2	31.8	18.0	19.3	75.7
33.04	6,677	70.2	1.9	54,213	31,934	8.2	8.5	8.6	16.1	80.4
34.01	1,074	60.9	15.2	25,030	25,053	32.4	66.7	23.4	2.8	73.3
35	2,542	60.2	7.2	32,439	23,929	24.1	29.2	15.0	18.9	73.7
36.01	5,592	61.5	9.3	37,981	27,865	13.5	30.1	20.4	12.8	74.7
36.02	2,705	54.0	11.9	26,891	23,403	28.9	47.9	20.9	8.0	75.7
37.01	5,854	62.9	5.3	42,406	34,246	11.0	11.9	6.6	23.1	78.3
37.04	3,931	59.4	8.8	25,085	21,732	33.9	62.7	28.4	5.4	72.1
37.05	1,821	63.9	7.7	36,382	24,833	23.6	36.0	22.1	20.2	75.1
37.06	3,456	57.6	17.7	29,654	25,813	22.1	45.0	25.3	9.0	73.9
37.07	3,749	56.9	6.6	28,474	21,907	23.8	51.3	16.0	7.6	71.9
38.01	7,128	50.1	5.4	63,383	24,193	4.6	16.5	11.1	36.4	79.9
38.02	5,058	65.3	14.3	43,971	29,866	15.8	29.9	13.1	34.5	76.8
39.02	3,858	55.0	3.7	54,946	33,818	3.8	8.3	8.5	26.8	78.8
39.03	4,522	61.8	4.4	45,725	23,624	11.5	14.0	20.1	15.5	75.3
39.04	6,531	67.5	7.7	55,087	32,776	12.3	32.3	13.1	22.1	77.4
40.01	3,169	58.4	5.4	50,417	31,550	5.4	0.0	11.7	13.3	80.9
40.02	5,683	50.9	8.0	57,594	15,056	9.9	21.3	14.2	35.1	79.6
41.01	3,688	51.0	2.7	42,750	30,142	15.2	21.1	18.3	11.2	72.7
41.02	931	52.1	3.8	61,094	41,169	6.6	22.7	6.0	36.2	78.01
42	2,578	63.7	5.0	81,458	55,500	10.4	19.0	11.0	66.7	80.6
43	4,000	56.0	19.1	25,552	26,250	29.2	48.7	20.4	16.7	75.8
44	1,974	67.9	6.5	39,000	31,635	14.8	33.3	18.2	27.9	72.9
<b>County</b>	<b>490,332</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>53,739</b>	<b>33,452</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>78.01**</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>64,061</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>48,984</b>	<b>34,890</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>46.6</b>	
<b>S.C.</b>	<b>4,893,444</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>48,781</b>	<b>31,366</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>24.5%</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>76.8**</b>
<b>Source:</b>	<b>DP05</b>	<b>S2301</b>	<b>S2301</b>	<b>B19013</b>	<b>S2411</b>	<b>S1702</b>	<b>S1701</b>	<b>S2701</b>	<b>S1501</b>	<b>***</b>
Worse than SC average										

\*Life expectancy is a projection not calculated on census 5-year averages

\*\*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: <https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/interactives/whereyouliveaffectshowlongyoulive.html>

\*\*\*Health Inequality Project: <https://healthinequality.org/data/> and National Center for Health Statistics: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/usaleep/usaleep.html>