

Snapshot of Poverty, Income, and Health Coverage in North Carolina

2008 Census Data

	2000 (percent)	2007 (percent)	2008 (percent)
TOTAL NORTH CAROLINIANS LIVING IN POVERTY (ACS)	13.1%	14.3%	14.6%
TOTAL NORTH CAROLINA CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY (ACS)	18.1%	19.2%	19.5%
TOTAL NORTH CAROLINA FAMILIES LIVING POVERTY (ACS)	9.6%	10.6%	10.9%
	2000 (2008 dollars)	2007 (2008 dollars)	2008
NORTH CAROLINA MEDIAN INCOME (ACS)	\$ 47,241	\$ 46,386	\$ 46,549
	2000 -2001 2 year avg	2007 -2008 2 year avg	
SHARE OF NORTH CAROLINIANS W/OUT HEALTH INSURANCE (CPS)	13.4%	15.90%	

Additional Indicators

	August 2008 (percent)	August 2009 (percent)	Percent Change
UNEMPLOYMENT	6.6%	10.8%	63.6%
	August 2008 (# of individuals)	August 2009 (# of individuals)	Percent Change
FOOD STAMP PARTICIPATION	993,081	1,231,868	24%
	2 Person Family (1 Adult, 1 Child)	3 Person Family (1 Adult, 2 children)	4 Person Family (2 Adults, 2 Children)
NC LIVING INCOME STANDARD 2008	\$ 31,067	\$ 37,509	\$ 42,841

Sources: Poverty Data (American Community Survey, 2008), Median Income Data (American Community Survey 2008), Health Coverage Data (state: Current Population Survey 2008; county: American Community Survey 2008), Living Income Standard (NC Justice Center), Unemployment Data (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Food Stamp Data (NC DSS Individual Data)

Poverty, Income, and Health Coverage in North Carolina's Largest Counties

2008 Census Data

County*	2007 & 2008 ACS Total Poverty			ACS Median Income	2008 ACS Health Coverage
	2007 (percent)	2008 (percent)	% point change in Poverty Rate since 2007	2008 (\$)	Uninsured (percent)
Alamance	13.1%	17.7%	4.6%	\$ 42,822	16.9%
Brunswick	16.8%	9.6%	-7.1%	\$ 46,179	26.8%
Buncombe	14.1%	13.7%	-0.4%	\$ 43,640	15.8%
Burke	16.6%	15.6%	-1.0%	\$ 35,520	16.0%
Cabarrus	12.5%	10.5%	-1.9%	\$ 56,782	15.5%
Caldwell	13.0%	15.4%	2.4%	\$ 43,421	16.8%
Catawba	10.4%	14.7%	4.2%	\$ 43,009	16.1%
Cleveland	22.1%	17.4%	-4.7%	\$ 36,748	16.0%
Craven	14.2%	15.7%	1.5%	\$ 46,259	10.4%
Cumberland	16.8%	14.8%	-2.0%	\$ 44,786	11.8%
Davidson	15.9%	15.1%	-0.7%	\$ 43,997	14.8%
Durham	16.2%	13.6%	-2.6%	\$ 51,028	14.5%
Forsyth	14.1%	15.3%	1.1%	\$ 46,912	15.3%
Gaston	15.0%	15.1%	0.1%	\$ 46,353	16.5%
Guilford	15.7%	13.3%	-2.4%	\$ 47,553	15.0%
Harnett	17.6%	13.9%	-3.6%	\$ 43,547	19.5%
Henderson	10.2%	13.8%	3.6%	\$ 45,695	17.7%
Iredell	10.7%	13.8%	3.2%	\$ 50,343	16.0%
Johnston	12.2%	12.0%	-0.2%	\$ 52,484	18.4%
Lincoln	9.0%	13.7%	4.7%	\$ 49,279	20.3%
Mecklenburg	10.7%	10.5%	-0.2%	\$ 57,033	15.8%
Moore	7.7%	10.3%	2.7%	\$ 46,697	15.1%
Nash	14.0%	15.4%	1.4%	\$ 45,482	13.6%
New Hanover	13.6%	13.8%	0.2%	\$ 51,223	14.6%
Onslow	13.6%	12.7%	-0.9%	\$ 48,017	11.6%
Orange	14.1%	14.5%	0.4%	\$ 54,390	10.9%
Pitt	23.2%	22.2%	-1.0%	\$ 40,025	16.4%
Randolph	19.7%	15.2%	-4.4%	\$ 41,989	19.2%
Robeson	28.7%	30.8%	2.1%	\$ 30,932	22.8%
Rockingham	15.1%	16.2%	1.1%	\$ 37,678	15.8%
Rowan	11.4%	16.4%	5.0%	\$ 42,540	16.1%
Surry	20.0%	15.3%	-4.7%	\$ 36,679	16.0%
Union	7.4%	8.5%	1.1%	\$ 62,087	14.4%
Wake	8.3%	9.1%	0.8%	\$ 65,180	12.8%
Wayne	17.4%	19.2%	1.8%	\$ 39,388	15.6%
Wilkes	15.4%	25.2%	9.8%	\$ 29,705	17.4%
Wilson	17.1%	22.7%	5.6%	\$ 38,004	15.7%

Sources: Poverty Data (American Community Survey, 2008), Median Income Data (American Community Survey 2008), Health Coverage Data (state: Current Population Survey 2008; county: American Community Survey 2008)

*Census data available for the 37 NC counties with a population of 65,000 or more

** County level data only dates back to 2005. 2000-2001 is a better comparison for state poverty rates, etc.

Poverty, Income, and Health Coverage in North Carolina's Largest Counties

Additional Indicators

County	NC Living Income Standard	Unemployment			Food Stamp Participation		
	2008 4 Person Family (2 Adults, 2 Children) Annual LIS	July 2008 Unemployment	July 2009 Unemployment	Percent Change	August 2008 Food Stamp participation	August 2009 Food Stamp participatio	Percent Change
Alamance	\$ 42,128	6.9%	12.6%	83%	13,736	18,547	35%
Brunswick	\$ 42,128	6.6%	10.8%	64%	8,627	11,577	34%
Buncombe	\$ 39,911	4.8%	8.8%	83%	21,455	27,612	29%
Burke	\$ 38,324	8.4%	15.0%	79%	9,722	12,528	29%
Cabarrus	\$ 45,174	6.2%	11.6%	87%	15,202	19,425	28%
Caldwell	\$ 38,674	9.1%	15.6%	71%	10,832	13,744	27%
Catawba	\$ 38,674	7.7%	14.9%	94%	17,505	22,431	28%
Cleveland	\$ 41,569	8.8%	15.3%	74%	15,643	19,589	25%
Craven	\$ 40,889	6.1%	10.1%	66%	10,056	12,331	23%
Cumberland	\$ 39,763	6.8%	9.6%	41%	43,513	51,338	18%
Davidson	\$ 39,286	7.8%	13.5%	73%	19,167	23,762	24%
Durham	\$ 47,775	5.3%	8.4%	58%	24,586	30,370	24%
Forsyth	\$ 41,990	6.2%	10.0%	61%	31,902	40,642	27%
Gaston	\$ 43,433	7.8%	14.4%	85%	26,506	34,719	31%
Guilford	\$ 43,787	6.2%	11.7%	89%	52,912	65,853	24%
Harnett	\$ 39,893	7.3%	12.0%	64%	12,727	16,199	27%
Henderson	\$ 39,911	5.1%	9.2%	80%	6,554	8,871	35%
Iredell	\$ 42,204	6.8%	13.0%	91%	10,780	14,468	34%
Johnston	\$ 44,965	6.0%	10.5%	75%	16,349	20,672	26%
Lincoln	\$ 41,347	8.0%	14.5%	81%	7,186	9,719	35%
Mecklenburg	\$ 46,402	6.5%	11.7%	80%	89,710	117,822	31%
Moore	\$ 40,965	6.8%	10.1%	49%	7,105	8,293	17%
Nash	\$ 40,580	8.2%	12.9%	57%	11,664	13,984	20%
New Hanover	\$ 44,999	5.5%	9.5%	73%	15,939	19,222	21%
Onslow	\$ 38,808	6.5%	8.8%	35%	12,547	14,164	13%
Orange	\$ 50,180	4.8%	7.1%	48%	6,847	8,499	24%
Pitt	\$ 39,424	7.5%	10.9%	45%	20,972	24,582	17%
Randolph	\$ 41,739	7.4%	11.8%	59%	16,175	20,068	24%
Robeson	\$ 39,664	8.9%	12.5%	40%	28,744	33,999	18%
Rockingham	\$ 38,014	7.8%	13.0%	67%	10,785	13,478	25%
Rowan	\$ 42,322	7.9%	13.8%	75%	14,386	18,949	32%
Surry	\$ 38,054	8.4%	12.7%	51%	9,307	11,246	21%
Union	\$ 45,037	5.9%	10.8%	83%	11,883	16,945	43%
Wake	\$ 51,856	5.0%	8.8%	76%	48,253	60,746	26%
Wayne	\$ 38,605	6.6%	9.8%	48%	15,657	18,344	17%
Wilkes	\$ 39,083	9.1%	13.2%	45%	8,762	11,007	26%
Wilson	\$ 41,228	8.8%	13.7%	56%	11,008	13,104	19%

Sources: Living Income Standard (NC Justice Center), Unemployment Data (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Food Stamp Data (NC DSS Individual Data)

Prepared by: Meg Gray Wiehe, NC Budget and Tax Center (meg@ncjustice.org or 919.856.3192)