

COVID-19 Impact Survey Results by Social Determinants of Health Regions

United Way of North Carolina



Modern Metrics Barn
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United Way of North Carolina

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Executive Summary

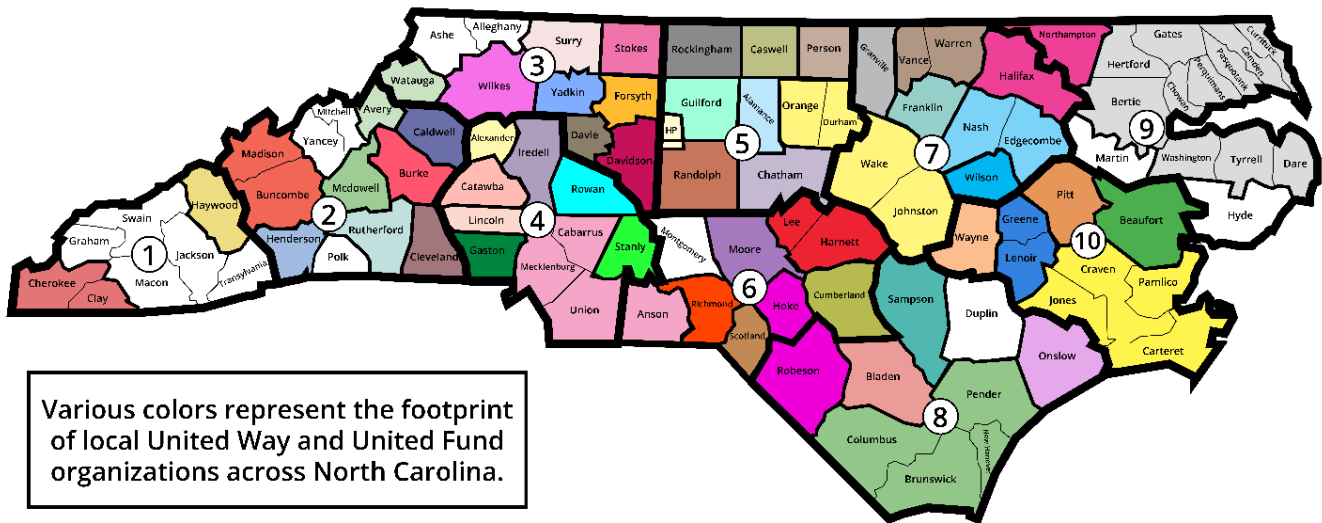
United Way of North Carolina, in partnership with local United Ways across the state, recruited volunteer respondents from July 27 to August 31, 2020 for COVID-19 impact survey completion. Responses were collected through an online survey with a total of 8,583 completed responses from across North Carolina. The statewide summary findings have already been completed and are available [here](#).

This report focuses on COVID-19 impact by Social Determinants of Health Regions in North Carolina. The Self-Sufficiency Standard, North Carolina Social Determinants of Health, and North Carolina Institute of Medicine indicators and data sets were retrieved to report on the economic, health and education status of North Carolina regions as well as compare and contrast possible pandemic impacts.

Survey results reflect challenges of North Carolina families who completed the survey and offer insight on specific areas of need by Social Determinants of Health footprint. The results will help inform local funding priorities and refine strategy development to support the economic mobility of North Carolina families impacted by COVID-19.

EXHIBIT 1

NC United Way Footprints and Social Determinants of Health Regions



Data Available

Four sources of data were culled to provide a broader picture for each SDOH region and illustrate insights into the needs of these communities.

United Way of North Carolina Self Sufficiency Standard

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for North Carolina 2020 (SSS) tracks the true cost of living faced by North Carolina families today. It highlights the growing gap between sluggish wages and ever-increasing expenses, clearly illuminating the economic “crunch” experienced by many families. The SSS also allows for comparisons of family composition, geographic location, and historical trends documentation. The family structure used for this report analyses is two adults, one school-aged child, one preschool child, and one infant. This family unit of five allowed for the greatest variety of cost items. More information on the SSS can be found [here](#).

EXHIBIT 2

Self-Sufficiency Standard Estimated Cost by Category: Two Adults, One School-Aged Child, One Preschooler, One Infant

<i>SDOH Region</i>	Housing Cost	Child Care	Food	Transportation	Health Care	Annual Income Threshold	Population
1	981	1,734	854	510	677	68,696	234,263
2	1,137	1,955	803	515	690	74,809	747,803
3	1,002	1,974	833	522	622	72,219	899,452
4	1,312	2,457	859	558	587	86,729	2,483,863
5	1,213	2,305	881	529	627	82,867	1,515,438
6	1,076	1,894	827	551	687	73,666	809,103
7	1,367	2,544	883	539	614	89,784	1,735,319
8	1,121	1,909	845	543	732	75,683	959,644
9	1,099	1,765	874	519	684	71,996	259,142
10	1,071	1,982	824	535	694	74,910	620,849

North Carolina Social Determinants of Health

The [North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics](#) provides regional-level data available through a useful user interface. Throughout this report, maps ([found here](#)) are used to visually reflect associated data points. The ten regions were created by the [North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors](#) and are used to examine Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) at a regional level. These health indicators are outside of physical health yet contribute to overall wellness. The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) define social determinants of health as “conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.”

North Carolina Institute of Medicine

For more than 30 years, the [North Carolina Institute of Medicine](#) (NCIOM) has shaped health policy in North Carolina by identifying solutions to its health challenges. The goal of NCIOM is to improve health through evidence-based solutions. NCIOM created a database of county-level measures from various sources available [here](#). For the purposes of this project, the data points below were selected to describe living conditions in each North Carolina county.

Data from the SSS and the NCIOM was available on a county level. When the evaluated area covers multiple counties (i.e., region or United Way), estimates were produced by creating an average of the counties adjusted by population size. This method allows counties with a larger population to have a bigger impact than sparsely populated counties.

EXHIBIT 3

Data Points Selected NCIOM

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Source</i>
<i>Financial Stability</i>			
<i>Poverty</i>	2016	% of individuals living in poverty (100% Federal Poverty Level)	US Census - Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates
<i>Unemployment</i>	2017	Unemployment rate (%)	US Department of Labor
<i>Food Insecurity</i>	2015	% of population that is food insecure	Feeding America
<i>Low Access to a Grocery Store</i>	2015	% of population with low access to a grocery store (more than one mile in an urban area and ten miles in a rural area.	USDA Economic Research Service
<i>Housing Cost Burden</i>	2013-2017	% of households spending 30% or more of household income on housing costs (Owner and Renter)	US Census - American Community Survey
<i>Health</i>			
<i>Uninsured Adults</i>	2016	% of adults age 18 to 64 years without health insurance	US Census - Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
<i>Uninsured Children</i>	2016	% of children age 18 and under without health insurance	US Census - Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
<i>Education</i>			
<i>High School Graduation</i>	2016-2017	% of high school students who graduate on time	NC Department of Instruction
<i>Early Reading Proficiency</i>	2016-2017	% of third-grade students reading at grade-level	NC Department of Instruction
<i>Population</i>	2017		US Census - Population Estimates Program

Regional estimates were produced by creating an average of the counties adjusted by population size. This method allows counties with a larger population to have a bigger impact than sparsely populated counties. The results should reflect the approximate average for the SDOH region by family unit.

EXHIBIT 4

Measures of Financial Stability by Region

<i>SDOH Region</i>	Poverty	Unemployment	Food Insecurity	Low Grocery Store Access	Housing Cost Burden
1	17%	4.7%	15%	12%	21%
2	15%	4.2%	13%	21%	23%
3	17%	4.3%	15%	22%	24%
4	13%	4.3%	15%	19%	25%
5	16%	4.4%	16%	20%	27%
6	18%	5.5%	18%	21%	27%
7	13%	4.6%	20%	15%	26%
8	19%	5.2%	16%	18%	27%
9	18%	5.7%	18%	17%	27%
10	19%	4.8%	18%	16%	28%
State	15.4%	4.6%	15.4%	N/A	25.6%

EXHIBIT 5

Health Care Measures by SDOH Region

<i>SDOH Region</i>	Uninsured Adults	Uninsured Children
1	18%	6%
2	16%	5%
3	16%	5%
4	14%	5%
5	15%	5%
6	16%	4%
7	13%	4%
8	17%	5%
9	15%	5%
10	16%	5%
State	15.1%	4.7%

EXHIBIT 6

Education Measures by SDOH Region

<i>SDOH Region</i>	High School Graduation	Reading Proficiency
1	88%	61%
2	89%	61%
3	88%	58%
4	89%	59%
5	86%	53%
6	83%	55%
7	87%	60%
8	85%	55%
9	86%	51%
10	85%	53%
State	86.5%	57.8%

United Way of North Carolina COVID-19 Survey

The [United Way of North Carolina](#) produced the [COVID-19 Impact Survey](#). This survey offers results on how North Carolina families, who responded to the survey, have been impacted by COVID-19 and provides data for comparison by location in the state, race and ethnicity, age groups, and other demographics. Survey respondents were recruited from across the state and results are reported based on individual respondents. Some categories were not reported with small sample size.

The **COVID-19 impact measure** was achieved by adding the 14 categories of concerns and 9 categories of needs reported by the respondents. Respondents reporting the most concerns and needs (27% statewide) were determined to have a “high impact” of the pandemic.

The initial list of **concerns** were consolidated for area and subgroup reports. First, “fear of self or loved-one” was so prevalent that it remained its own category. The remaining concerns were consolidated into four groups, including medical (mental health, other medical, & obtaining prescriptions), money/resources (other bills, food supplies, & rent/mortgage), child issues (my children, remote learning, child care, & summer camp) and community (reopening & economic health).

No home internet resulted from two questions. Respondents first indicated that they had no home broadband and second indicated that they did not buy new internet capacity to respond to the pandemic.

Findings by Region

The following section discusses the notable issues unique to each SDOH region of the state. The method is to combine the data sources mentioned above.

For each of the 10 regions:

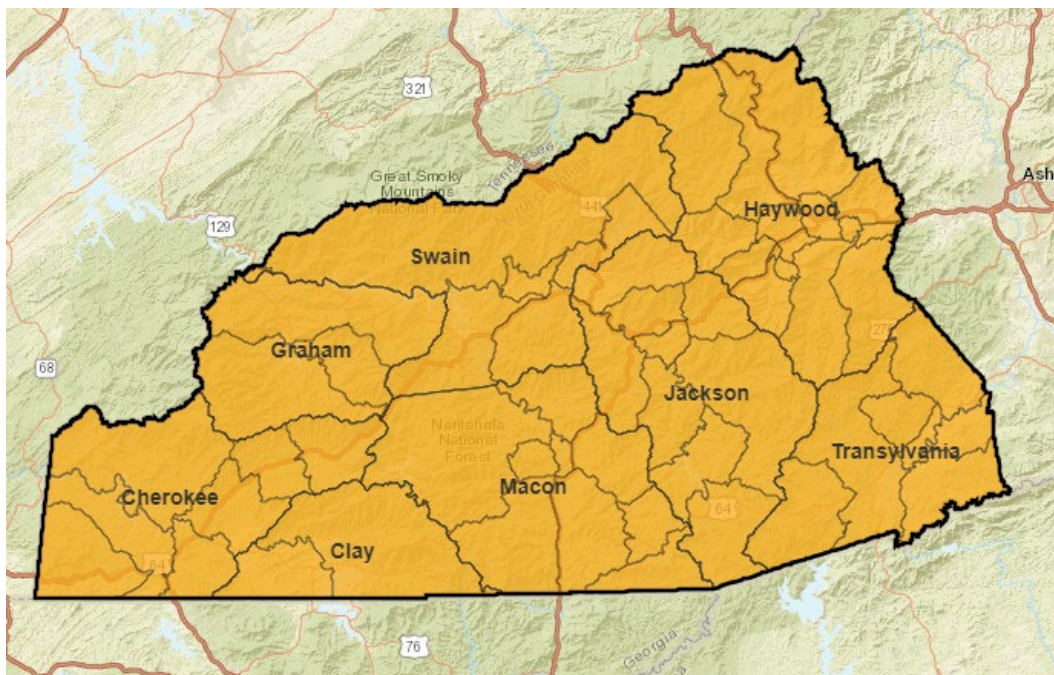
- The SSS benchmark of income for a family with two adults, one school-aged child, one preschooler, and one infant is provided and found [here](#). While other family structures may experience different virus effects, the five-person family was chosen as the best comparison unit.
- Maps culled from the [SDOH web page](#) are presented to offer information on remarkable data points such as food deserts, concentrated poverty, education status, etc.
- NCIOM data is reported, when notable, on housing cost, uninsured, early reading proficiency, low access to groceries, and more. NCIOM data can be found [here](#).
- COVID-19 impact survey results are discussed if differences occur between the SDOH region and the rest of the state.

Region One

SDOH Region One includes the westernmost point of North Carolina and hosts the smallest population (234,000) of all ten regions. As a result, SSS costs are among the lowest in the state, including housing, child care, and transportation. The projected SSS threshold of \$68,700 is the lowest in the state as well.

EXHIBIT 7

Region One

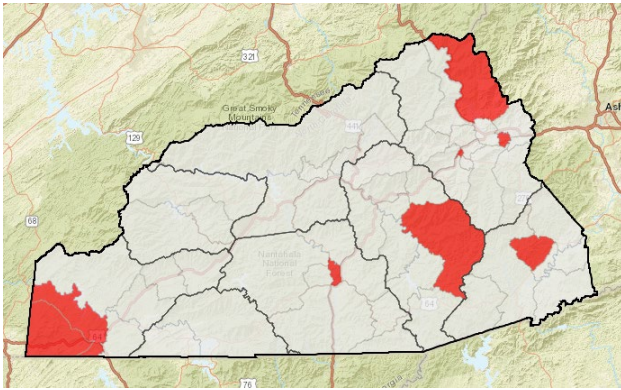


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

It is not surprising that the housing cost burden (21%) was the lowest in the state. The region is home to the highest percentage of adults (18%) and children (6%) without health insurance. Simultaneously, the region can boast one the highest early childhood reading proficiencies in the state (61%). While the SDOH indicated some food deserts, the region has the lowest percentage (12%) of homes with low access to groceries.

EXHIBIT 8

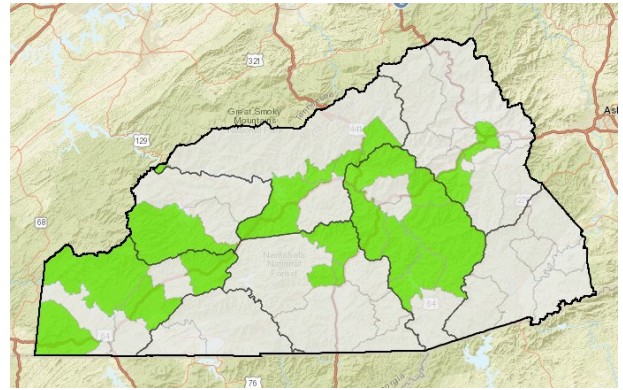
Food Deserts in SDOH Region One



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 9

Areas of concentrated poverty in SDOH Region One



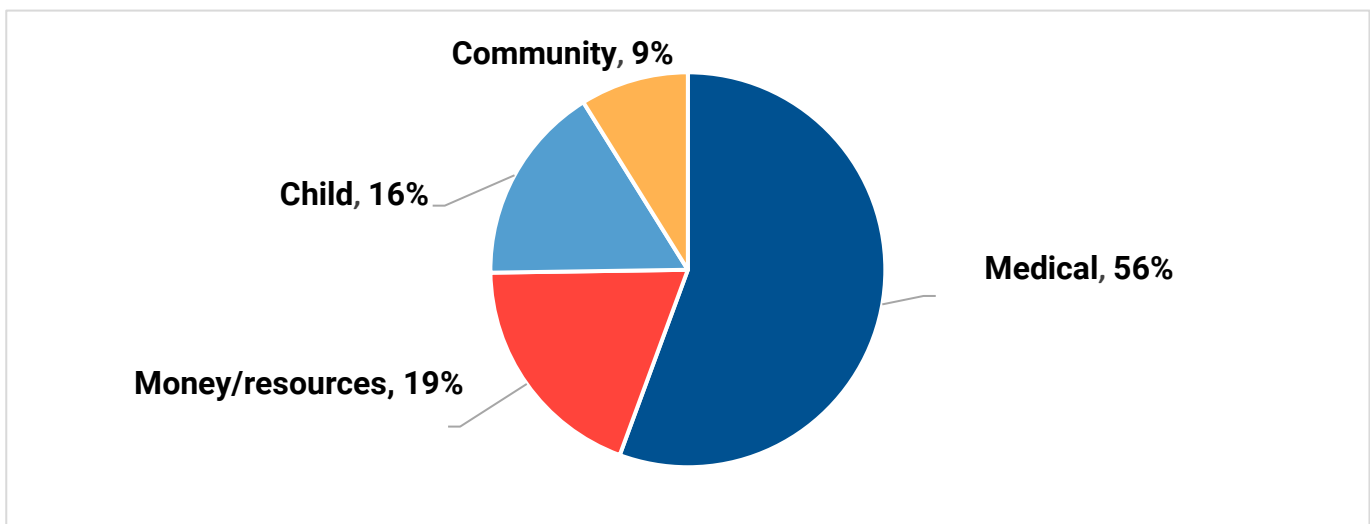
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Of the 238 COVID-19 Impact Survey respondents from Region One, 37% (highest in the state) reported a high impact of COVID-19 and the related shutdown. In particular, there was a significant difference in the number of people reporting concerns over being able to pay bills, including rent, utilities, food, and others.

Region One's top concerns were similar to the rest of the state. Even after eliminating the dangers of COVID – most respondents' top concern was medical issues (56%), money and other resources (19%) followed by concerns for their children (16%).

EXHIBIT 10

Most Important Concern of Those in Region One



While job losses (38%) were consistent with outside the region, child care changes impacted significantly more respondents (66%) than outside the region. Staying at home with children would have been exasperated as Region One had significantly more homes without internet (19%) than the rest of the state.

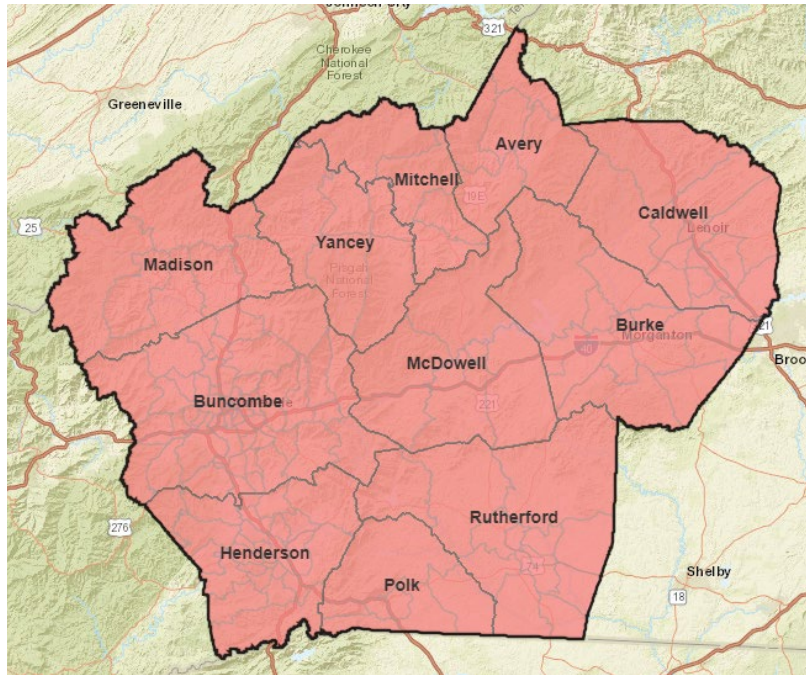
In summary, Region One has a history of educating its children with high early literacy (61%) and a high school graduation rate of 88%. At the same time, it faces the challenges of adequate child care, home internet, and health insurance. COVID-19 may be working to make these problems, if not worse, more of an issue than ever before.

Region Two

SDOH Region Two is the second most westerly area of the state and the fourth smallest population (747,000). The region has the lowest SSS projected food costs (\$803) and transportation costs (\$515). The projected SSS threshold salary (\$74,809) is near the median for the state.

EXHIBIT 11

Region Two

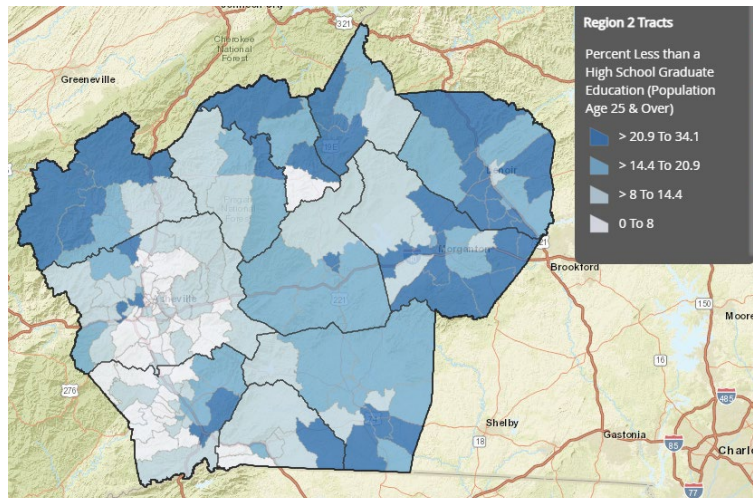


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The region has some of the lowest levels of housing cost burden (23%), pre-pandemic unemployment (4%), and food insecurity (13%). Region Two supported the top high school graduation rate (89%) and early reading proficiency (61%).

EXHIBIT 12

High School Graduation Distribution in SDOH Region Two

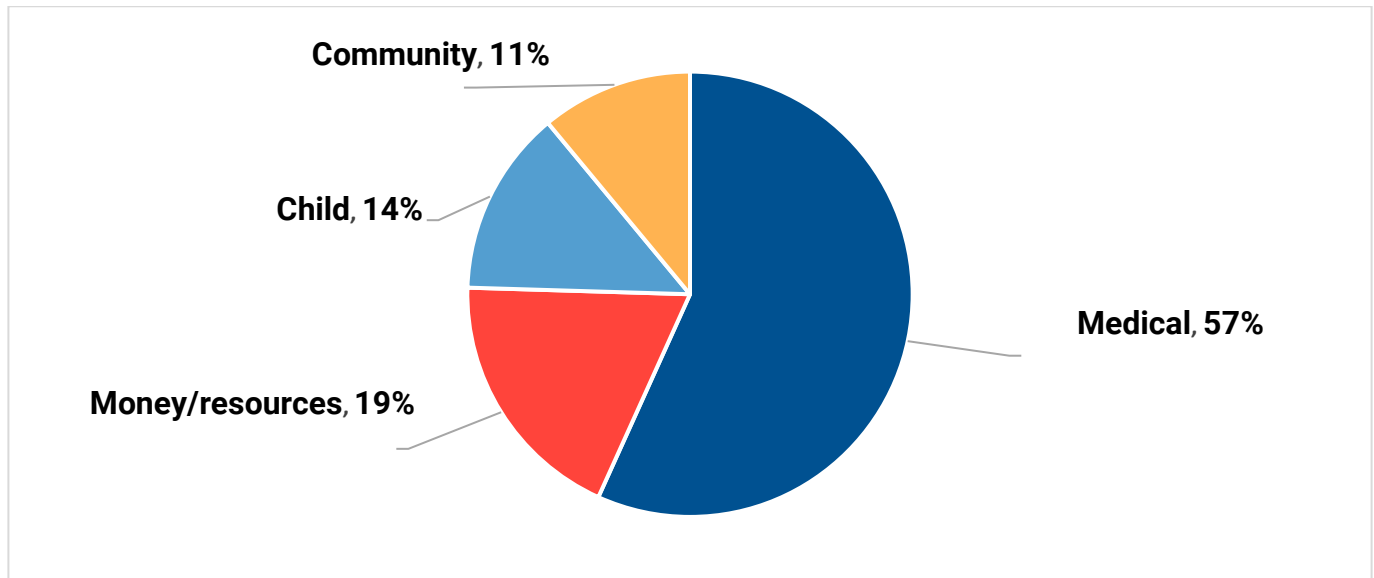


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

There were 929 respondents in Region Two. The respondents reported significantly greater medical concerns (67%) and concerns for their children (51%) than the rest of the state. Worries over paying bills (44%) were consistent with others in the state. The top concern was medical issues (57%), followed by money/resources (19%), children’s issues (14%), and community (11%).

EXHIBIT 13

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Two



Respondents from Region Two were significantly less likely to be facing eviction/foreclosure (3%) than the rest of the state. They were less likely to purchase technology (36%) and major technology purchases (computer/tablet/cell, 21%).

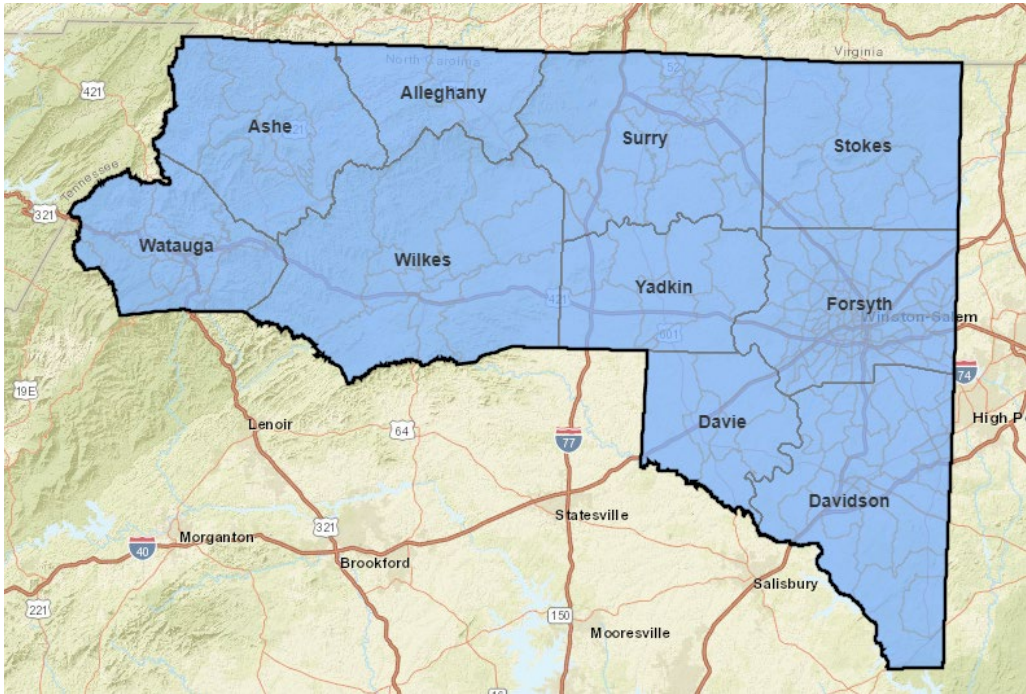
In summary, Region Two demonstrates a moderate cost of living and lower eviction/foreclosure with lower housing cost effects than the rest of the state. The region historically had success with pre-pandemic education efforts. Survey participants were less likely to buy technology to accommodate stay-at-home needs.

Region Three

SDOH Region Three includes mainly the northwest corner of the state. The SSS calculate housing cost (\$1,002) is the second-lowest in the state, and the SSS threshold (\$72,200) is the third-lowest in the state.

EXHIBIT 14

Region Three

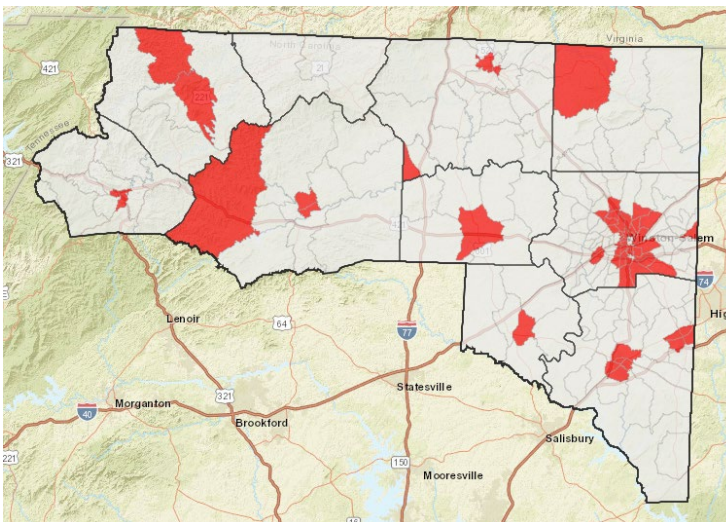


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The pre-pandemic unemployment rate (4.3%) was among the lowest in the state. However, the Region was highest at “low access to a grocery store” (22%). SDOH data indicates areas of food deserts in the region.

EXHIBIT 15

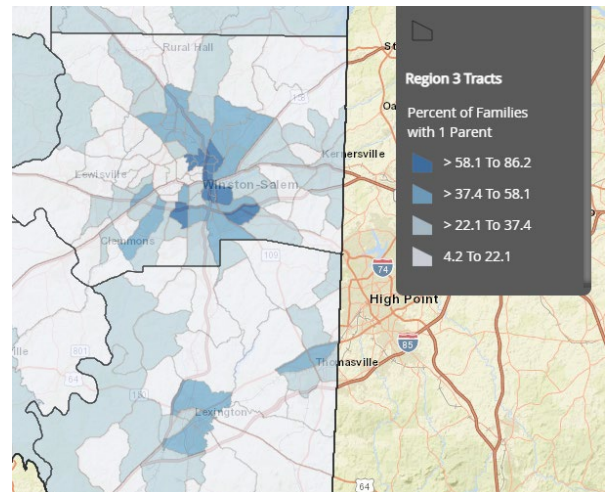
Food Deserts in SDOH Region Three



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 16

Concentration of Single Parent Households in Winston-Salem

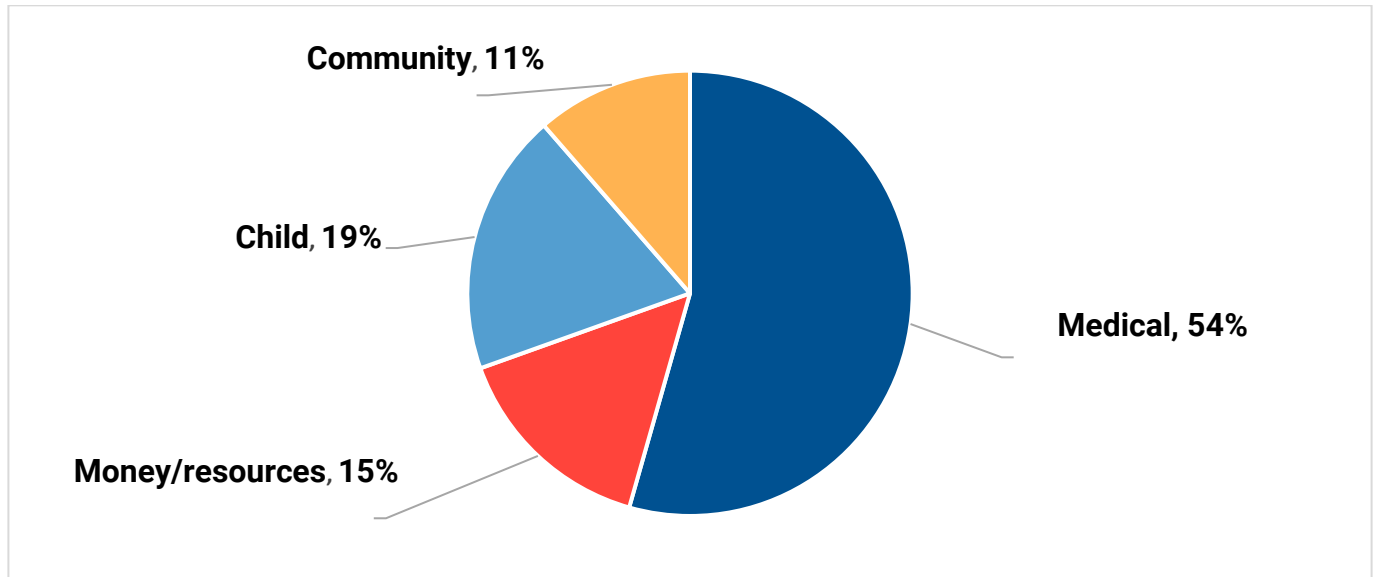


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics

There were 1,025 respondents from Region Three who differed from others in the state in several ways. More respondents from the Region indicated concerns affecting their children (58%), and 19% indicated that children were their top concern. Notably, Winston-Salem and Lexington have significant food deserts corresponding to the higher percentage of single-parent families.

EXHIBIT 17

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Three



There is reason for optimism in the region. Region Three had the lowest percentage of people reporting a high impact of COVID-19 (23%). Respondents in the Region were significantly less likely to report concerns over bills (39%), fewer lost jobs (32%), and less impact on child care (42%). The reported eviction/foreclosure rate (2%) was significantly lower than the rest of the state, and fewer respondents report no home Internet (6%).

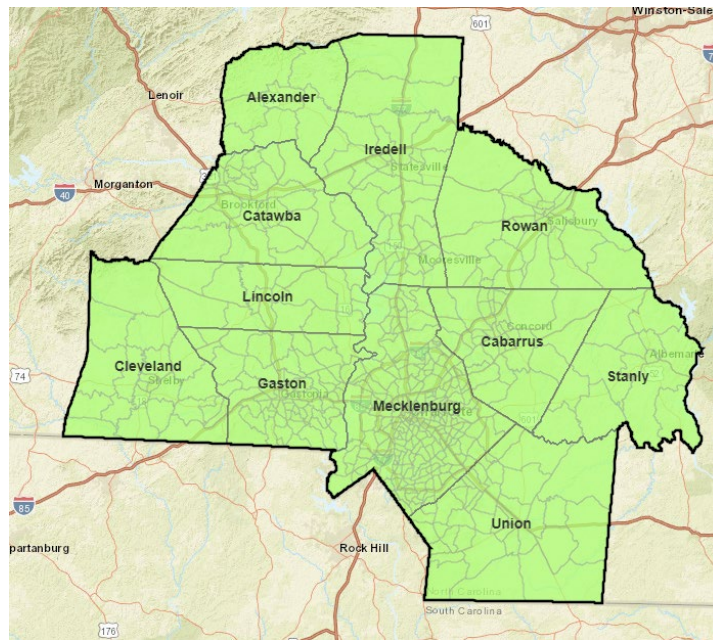
Region Three has historically experienced greater food insecurity, and it may be exasperated by a combination of food deserts and single-parent households. The respondents were more concerned for their children than other regions, even though child care was not as strongly impacted as other parts of the state. As a result, there is reason to conclude that the concern is for other areas of child concerns such as nutrition and education.

Region Four

Region Four is in the southwest-central part of the state, including the city of Charlotte. The region is the largest in the state by population (2,483,000). With population comes higher SSS costs, including the highest or near highest projected costs for housing (\$1,312), child care (\$2,457), and transportation (\$588). Naturally, it also has the highest SSS income threshold in the state (\$86,700). On the other hand, the region enjoys the lowest health care cost (\$587).

EXHIBIT 18

Region Four

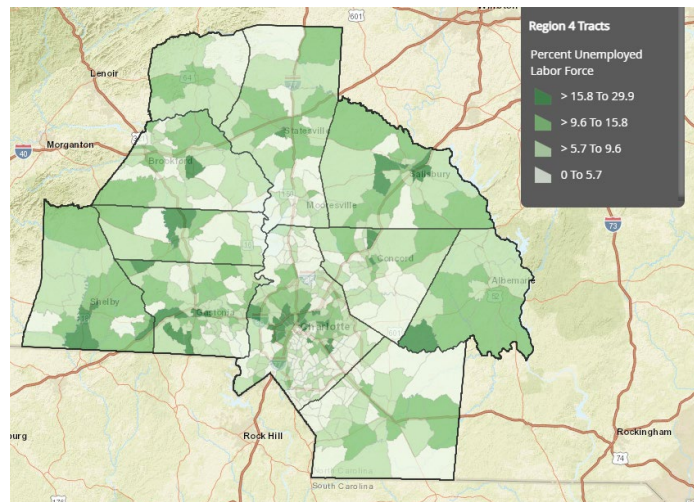


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Historically, Region Four has experienced a low unemployment rate (4.2%), Low level of uninsured adults (14%), and low poverty rate (13%). The high school graduation rate (89%) has been one of the highest in the state.

EXHIBIT 19

Percent Unemployed in SDOH Region Four



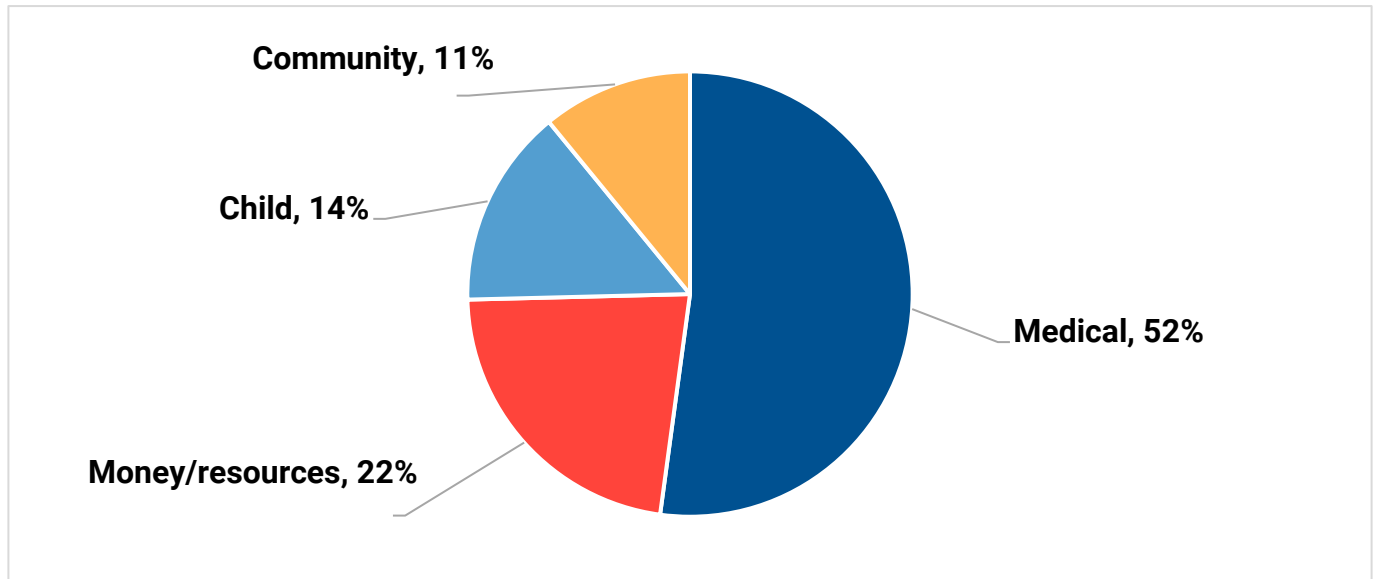
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

There were 1,441 respondents from Region Four. There were no significant differences between those inside and outside the region except respondents reported significantly more job loss (41%). A follow-up study may look at where the job losses occurred to see if they were associated with already high unemployment or associated with a particular industry. Simultaneously, respondents were significantly less likely to report homes with no home internet (6%).

As in other Regions, survey participants were most concerned with medical issues (52%) followed by money/resources (22%), child concerns (14%), and their community (11%).

EXHIBIT 20

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Four



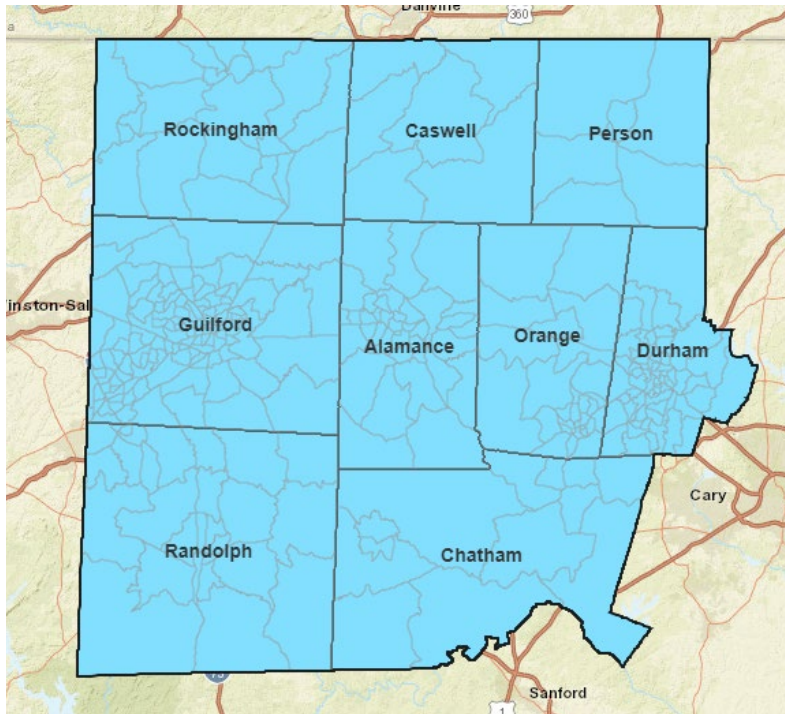
Region Four enjoys many advantages indicating a lower poverty rate, low uninsured level, and a strong education system. At the same time, a more extensive job loss than outside the region may threaten the success. Job loss may include loss of health insurance and an increase in poverty. Understanding the nature of the job loss could be very important to this region.

Region Five

Region Five in the north-central part of the state is home to 1,515,000 people with large population centers in Greensboro and Durham. The region experiences high costs for housing (\$1,213), child care (\$2,305), and food (\$881). As a result, the region projects a high SSS income threshold (\$82,800).

EXHIBIT 21

Region Five

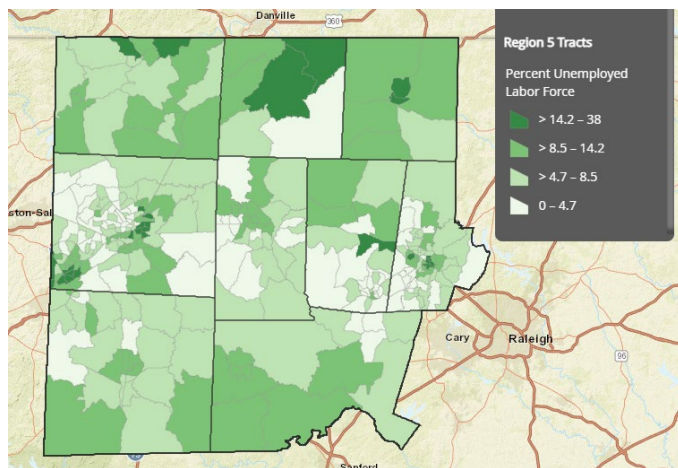


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Historically, the region reported lower unemployment (4.3%) and low poverty (16%) but also struggled with lower early childhood reading proficiency (53%). According to SDOH data, poverty is more of an issue outside major population centers. The same is true for the percentage of people who did not graduate high school.

EXHIBIT 22

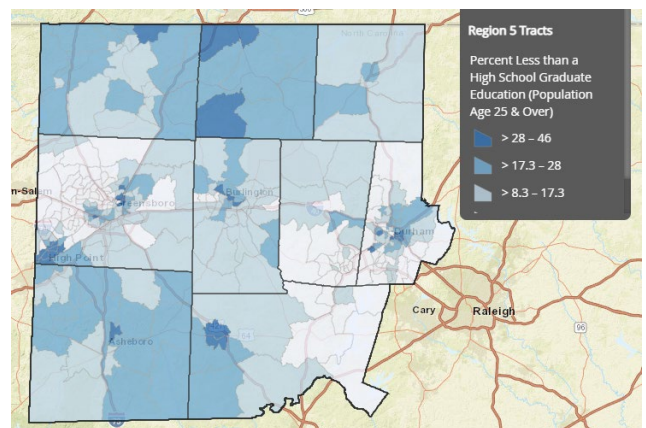
Percent Unemployed in SDOH Region Five



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 23

High School Graduation Distribution in SDOH Region Five



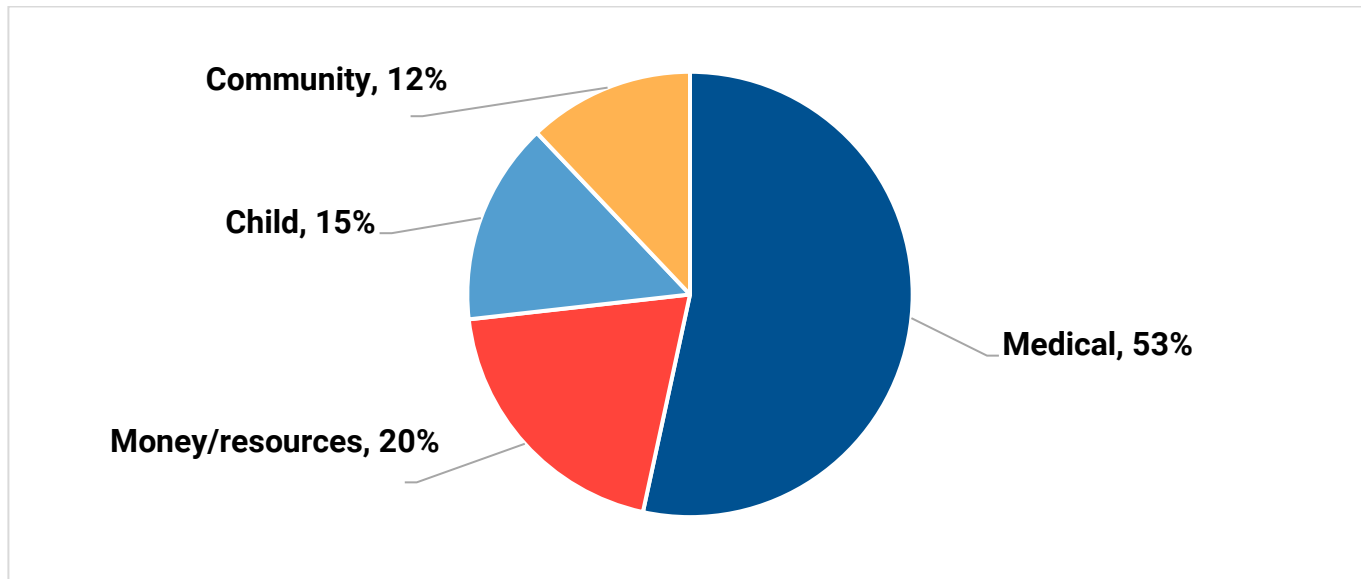
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The 1,243 respondents of Region Five did not report significantly different COVID-19 effects from the rest of the state. The one exception is that the respondents were more likely to report no home internet (10%) than the rest of the state.

Top concerns in Region Five align with the rest of the state. The most commonly mentioned concern involved medical issues (53%). The remaining respondent's concerns were divided between money/resources (20%), Child issues (15%), and Community concerns (12%).

EXHIBIT 24

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Five



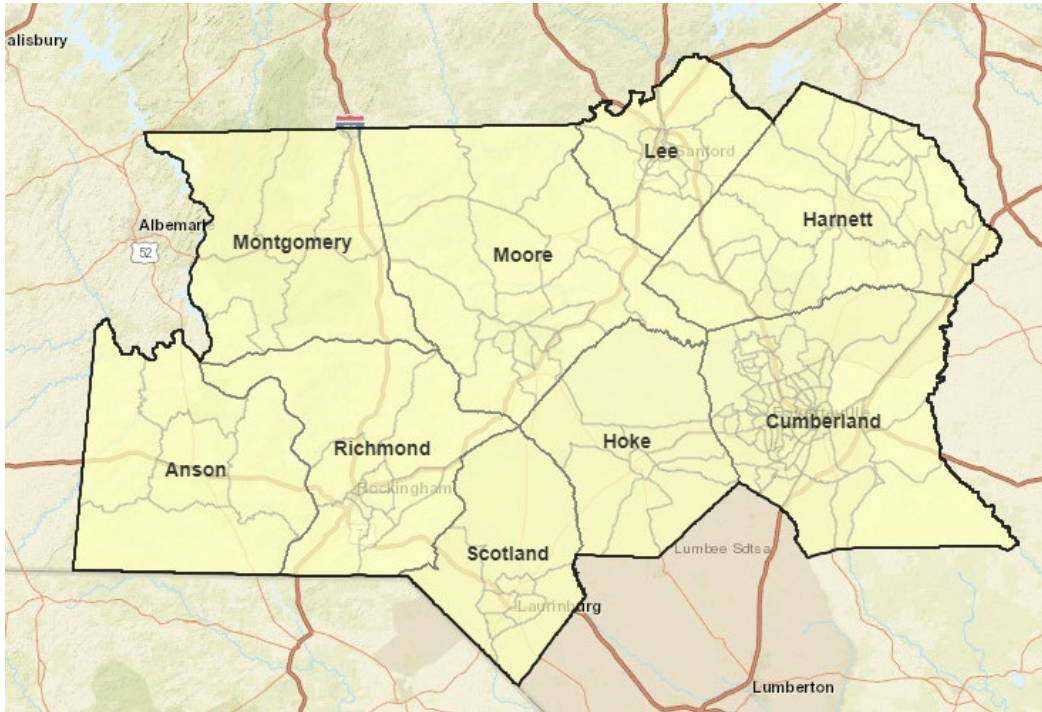
Region Five may be struggling with income disparity characterized by deep poverty regions – especially outside the metro areas. Because these areas also seem to have low high school graduation rates, poverty may be impacting education. The survey indicates an increased issue with internet capability – a key problem for stay-at-home education.

Region Six

Region Six in South Central North Carolina is home to 809,000 people, with a large concentration in Fayetteville. The region has higher transportation (\$551) and health care (\$687) yet lower than average costs for housing (\$1076, child care (\$1,894), and food (\$827).

EXHIBIT 25

Region Six

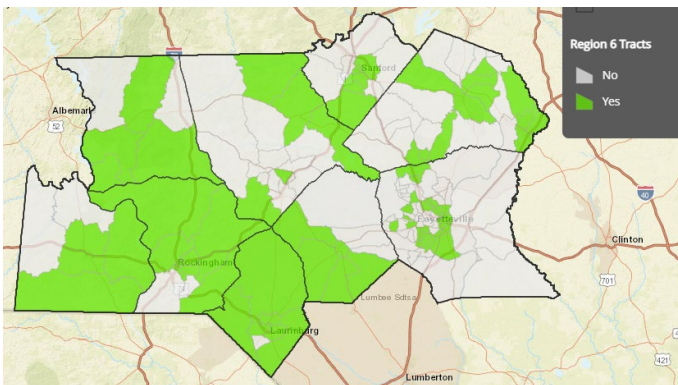


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Historically, Region Six has higher unemployment (5.5%) and somewhat higher housing cost burden (27%), poverty (18%), food Insecurity (18%), and low access to grocery stores (21%). The region has more children insured (4% uninsured), while the high school graduation rate is the lowest of the regions at 83%. There are large areas of concentrated poverty, especially in the southwest portions of the region, according to SDOH.

EXHIBIT 26

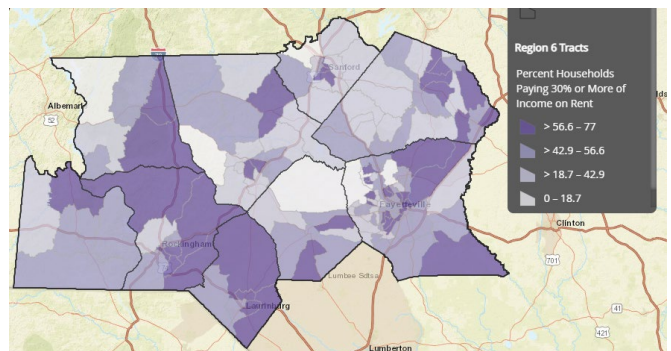
Areas of Concentrated Poverty in SDOH Region Six



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 27

Areas with High Housing Cost Burden in SDOH Region Six



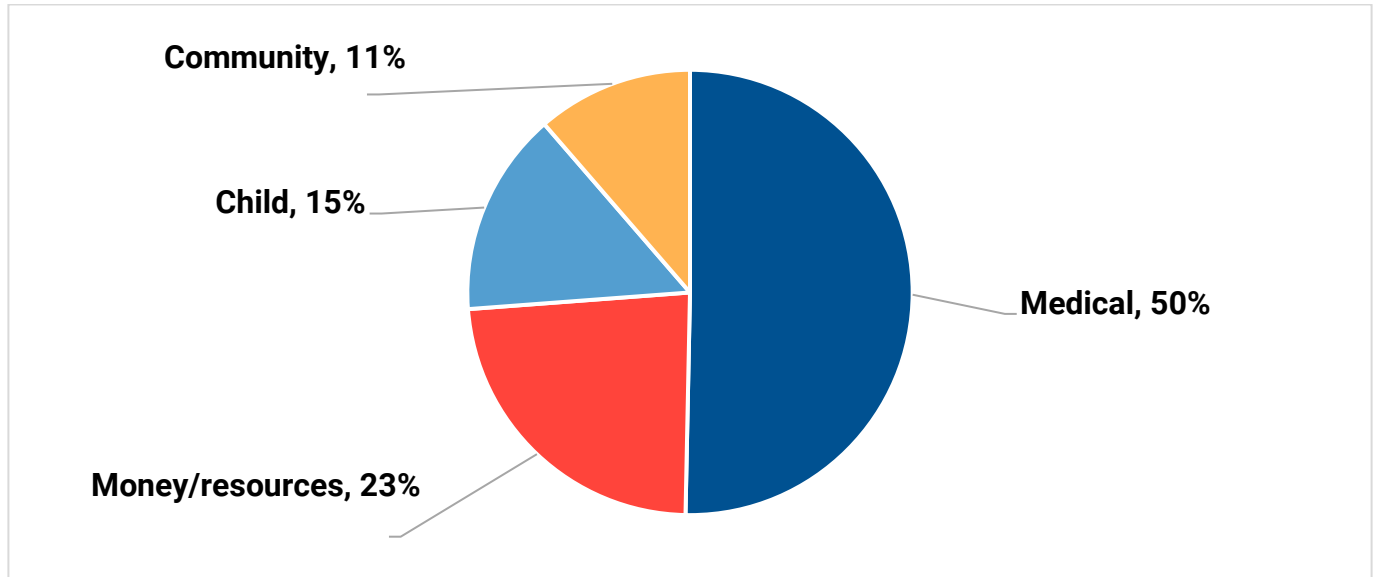
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Region Six was represented by 825 respondents with several significant differences from the rest of the state. The economic effect seemed to be of greatest concern in this region. The number of households facing eviction/foreclosure (8%) is double outside the region. Child-related issues were elevated among the respondents (60%), while medical issues (59%) were significantly lower than outside the region.

The top concerns of the respondents in Region Six were significantly different from the rest of the state. Medical concerns (50%) were named less, and money/resources (23%) were named top concerns.

EXHIBIT 28

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Six



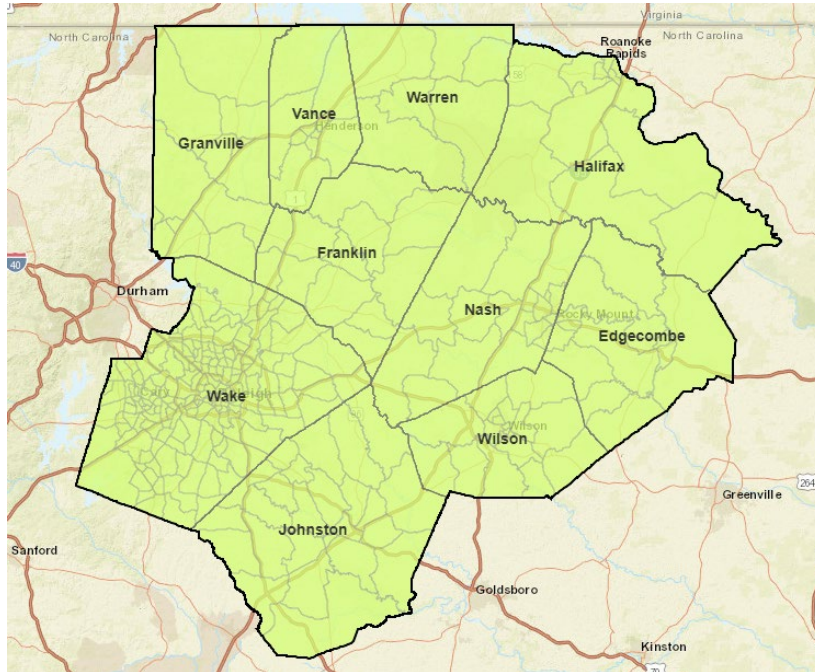
There are indications that large areas of low-income households mark Region Six. Lower housing, food, and child care costs are balanced by the respondents facing eviction/foreclosure, and respondents worry for their children. Areas of concentrated poverty closely reflect the areas of housing cost burden.

Region Seven

Region Seven is in north-central North Carolina, with a population of 1,735,000 centering on Raleigh. The region is marked by some of the highest costs for housing (\$1,367), child care (\$2,544), and food (\$833). The SSS threshold is also the highest in the state at \$89,800.

EXHIBIT 29

Region Seven

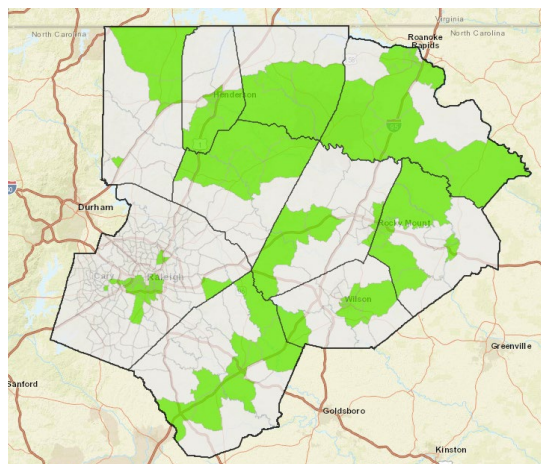


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Historically, the region is marked by the highest level of food insecurity (20%) yet a very low level of those that cannot get to a grocery store (15% low access) and a low poverty rate (13%). Food insecurity combined with good access to food suggests a poverty issue. SDOH indicates large areas of concentrated poverty outside Raleigh – particularly in the northeast part of the region. From the health perspective, the region enjoys a low level of uninsured (adults 13%, children 4%).

EXHIBIT 29

Areas of Concentrated Poverty in SDOH Region Seven



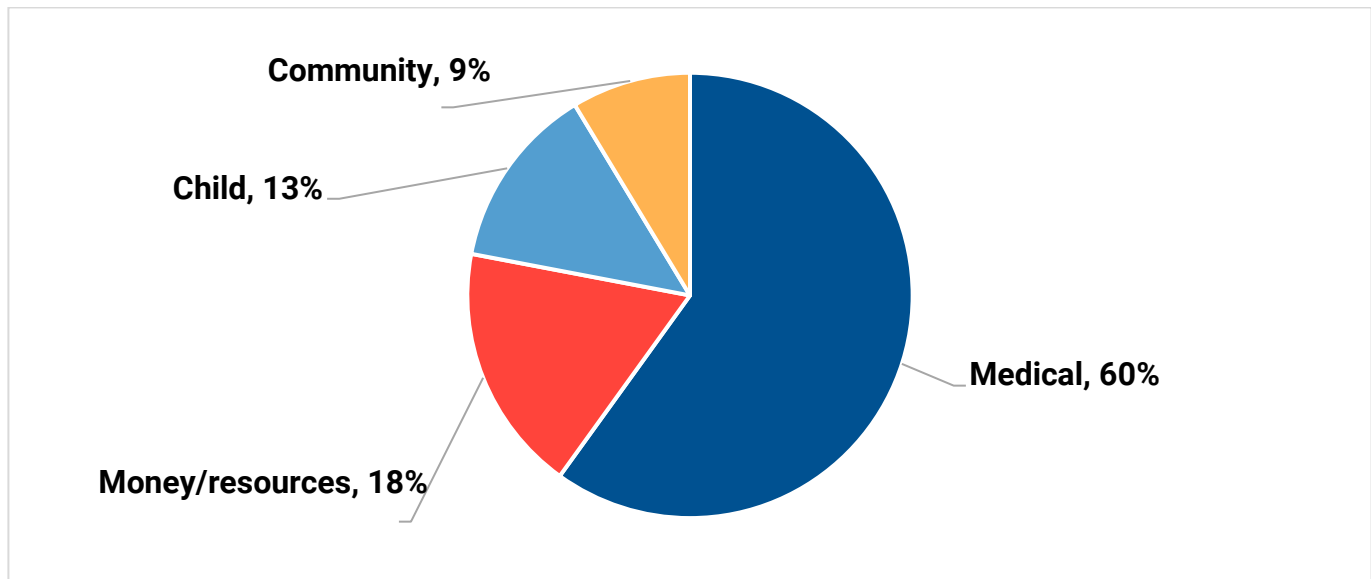
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The 1,168 respondents from Region Seven Indicated a lower impact of COVID than those outside the region. There was a significantly lower percent reporting high impact overall (25%) and a lower percent reporting concerns over bills (42%). While respondents from this region were more likely to purchase technology (45%), the region was less likely to have homes without internet (6%).

The top concerns in Region Seven were significantly different from the rest of the state. Medical issues were the most important concern by a larger percentage of the respondents (60%) than in other regions. As a result, money/resources, children, and community concerns were selected less often than in other parts of the state.

EXHIBIT 30

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Seven

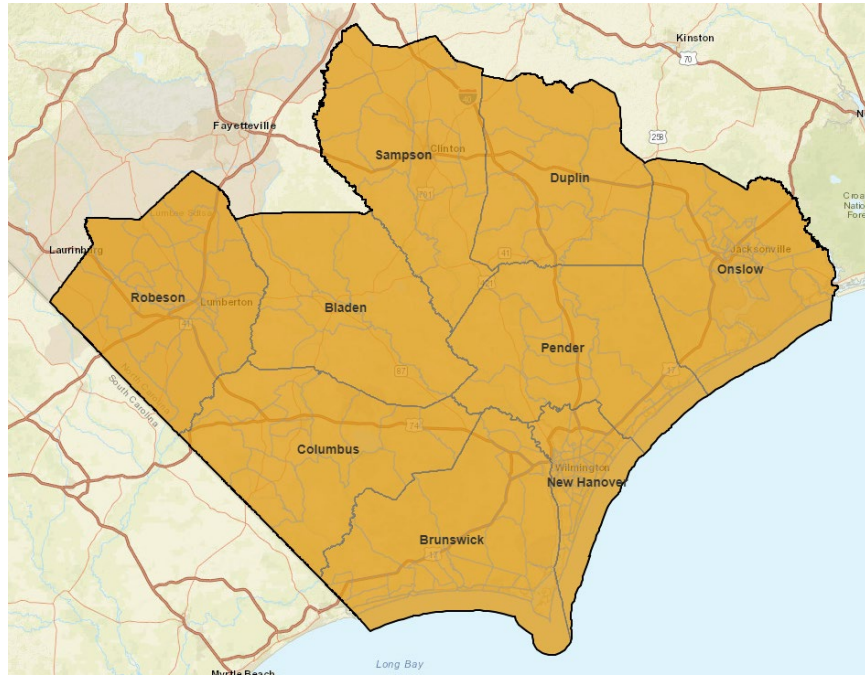


There is reason for optimism in Region Seven. Survey respondents reported fewer effects of COVID than other regions of the state. The respondents were more likely to purchase technology to prepare for staying at home but not more likely to purchase higher-cost computers/tablets/cell phones. The respondents were less likely to live in homes without internet. These facts indicate that they were more likely to spend money on support items like screens, cables, and microphones and already had most of the technology they needed. SDOH data supports the conclusion that there may be pockets of extreme poverty under-represented by the survey results.

Region Eight

Region Eight is in the southwest corner of the state and is home to 959,000 people. The state's SSS indicates the region is marked by relatively low child care costs (\$1,909) but higher costs for health care (\$732), and transportation (\$543). The result is a relatively high SSS threshold of \$75,700.

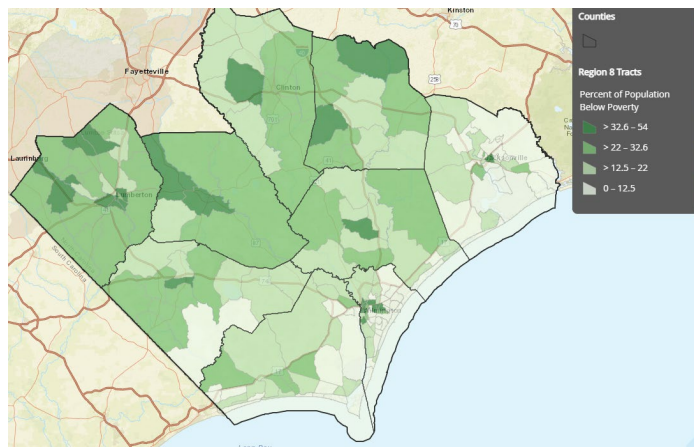
EXHIBIT 31 Region Eight



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

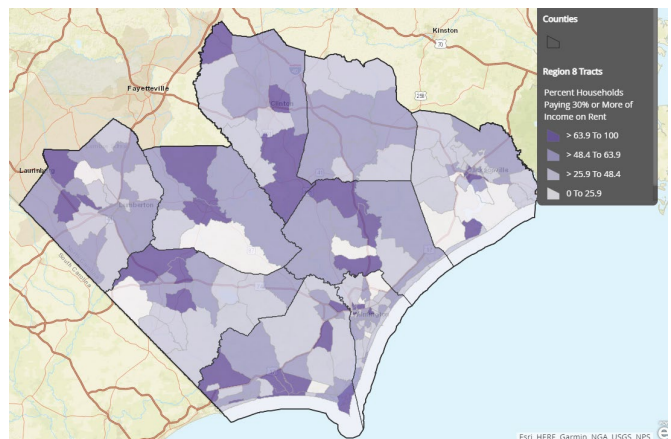
The pre-pandemic poverty rate (19%) was among the highest in the state, with high rates of housing cost burden (27%) and unemployment (5.2%). The region has a high-level uninsured adult (17%) and a low high school graduation rate (85%). SDOH map indicates the clear poverty disparity from the coastline to the inland counties. Inland areas experience larger pockets of families spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

EXHIBIT 32 Areas of Concentrated Poverty in SDOH Region Eight



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 33 Areas with High Housing Cost Burden in SDOH Region Eight



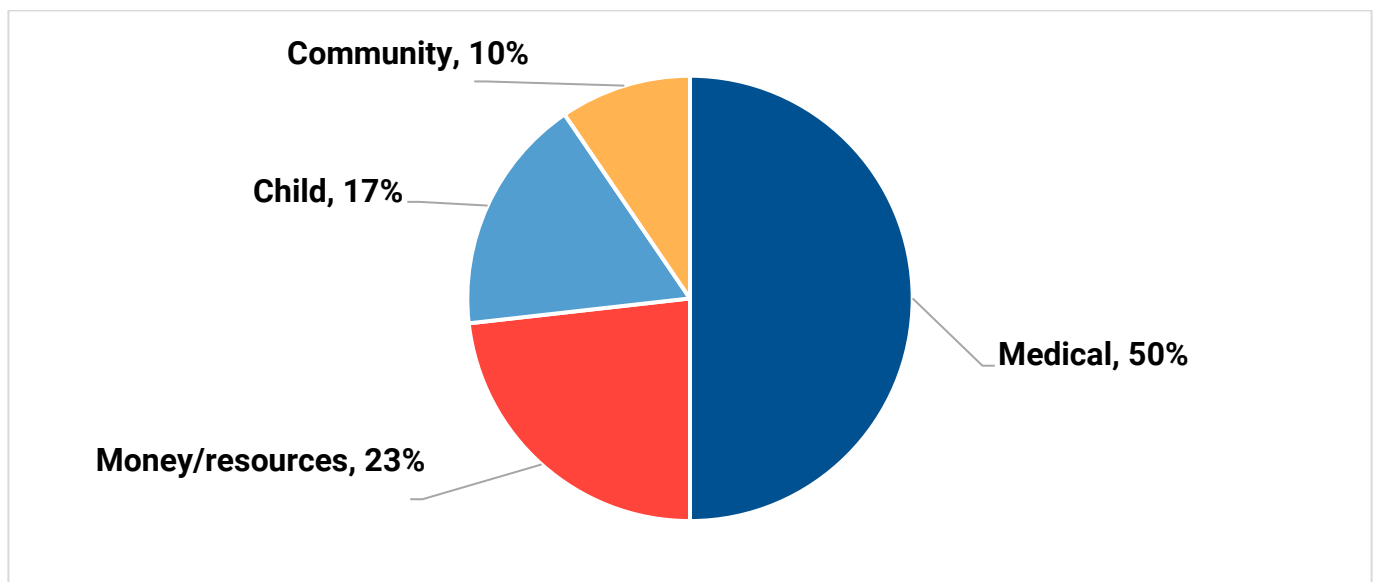
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The survey collected 723 respondents from Region Eight. The respondents reported more distress than those outside the region. A higher percentage of respondents reported a high impact of COVID (34%) than those outside the region – the second highest in the state. Respondents reported significantly greater concerns with children’s issues (59%) and bills (53%). There were other indicators of financial impact such as greater job loss (41%), more households facing eviction/foreclosure (6%), and more households without internet (13%).

The top concerns were significantly different from respondents outside the regions. Medical issues (50%) were still the most common top concern but less common than outside the region. Alternatively, money/resources (23%) and child issues (17%) were elevated.

EXHIBIT 34

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Eight

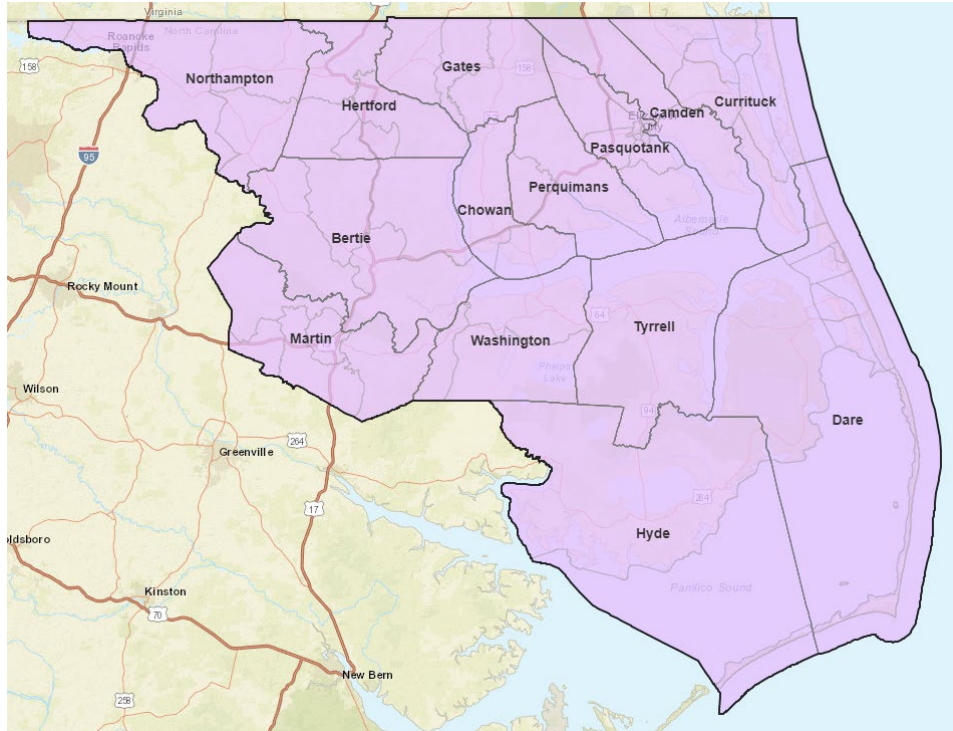


Region Eight has experienced some of the most damaging impacts of the pandemic, including greater impacts on children, job loss, and evictions/foreclosures. There is a strong indication that pre-existing poverty is exasperating the effects on this region.

Region Nine

Region Nine is in the northeast corner of the state and home to 259,000 people. While child care (\$1,765) and transportation (\$519) costs tend to be lower than in other regions, food costs (\$874) are higher for a projected SSS threshold of \$72,000.

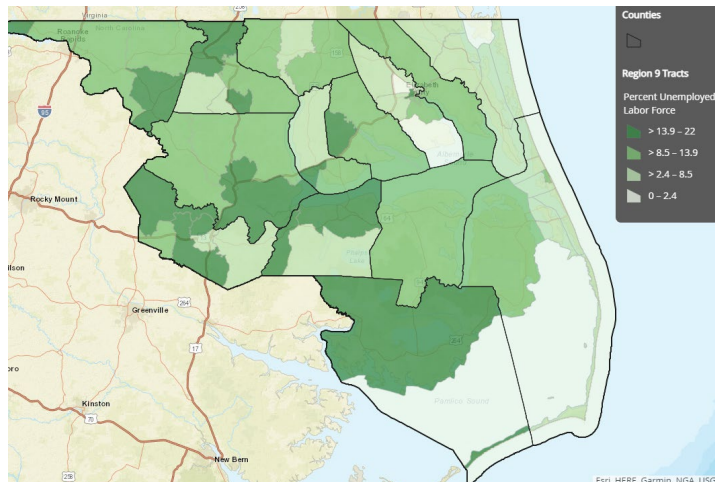
EXHIBIT 35 Region Nine



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

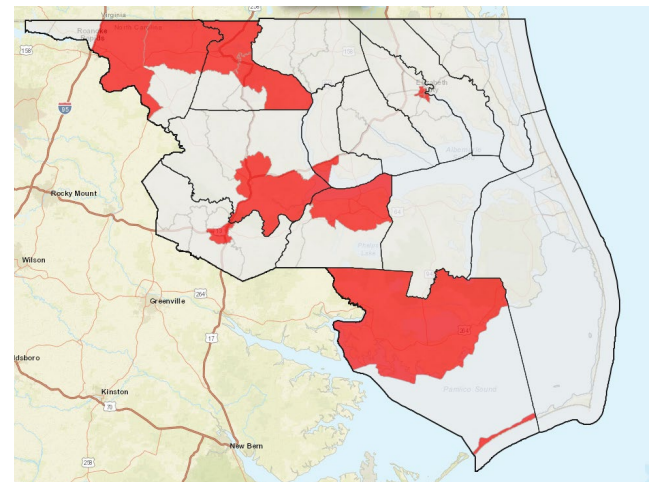
Region Nine has experienced a higher poverty rate (18%), unemployment (5.7%), and housing costs (27%). The predictable result is greater food insecurity (18%). The region does have a lower rate of uninsured adults (15%). However, early reading proficiency is among the lowest in the state (51%).

EXHIBIT 36 Food Deserts in SDOH Region Nine



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 37 Early Reading Proficiency in SDOH Region Nine



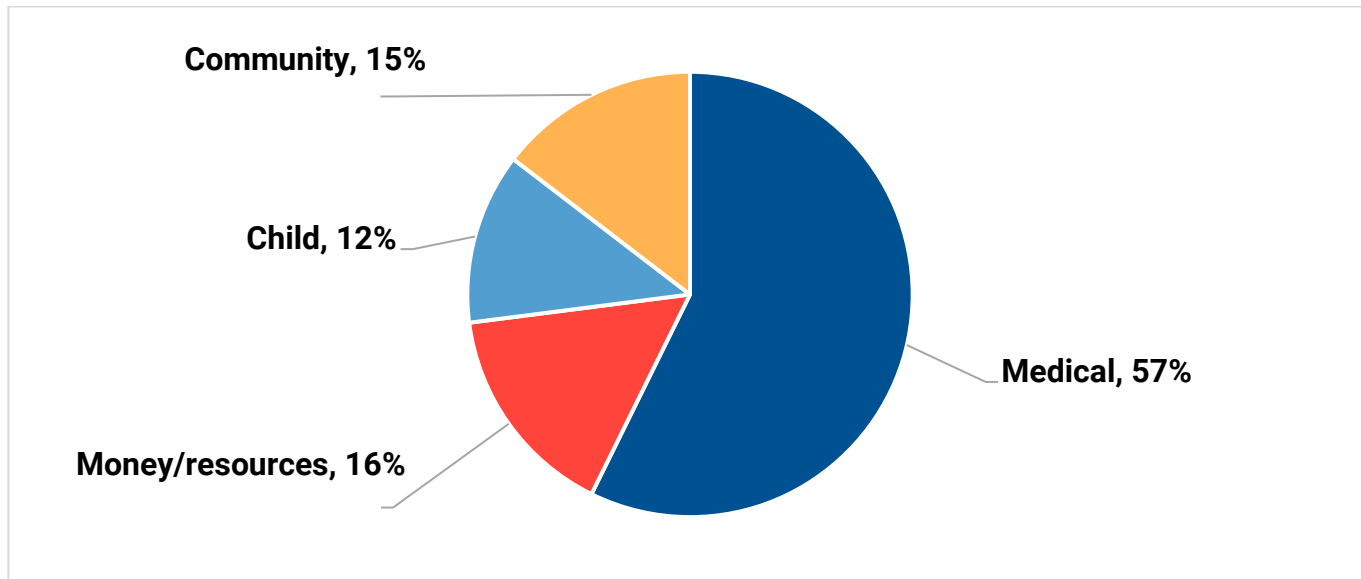
Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

The 196 respondents in Region Nine exhibited lower levels of effects than outside the area. The three areas of significant differences were lower percent of people citing medical concerns (55%), reduced child care impact (36%), and less technology purchased (34%).

The region's primary concern is similar to the rest of the state, with 57% concerned about medical issues, money/resources 16%, community 15%, and child issues 12%. In this region, community issues hold a slight edge over child issues.

EXHIBIT 38

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Nine

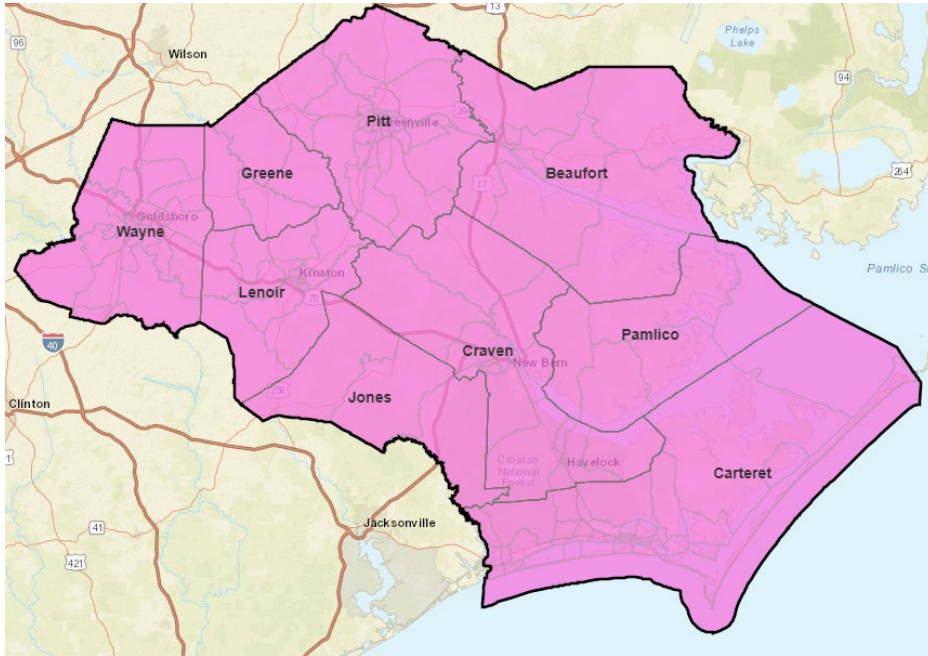


Region Nine is among the second lowest population of the ten regions. With 196 respondents, the survey may not have reached enough people in the higher poverty areas. Out of the 196 respondents, 134 came from the lower-poverty areas in the northeast counties of Pasquotank (54), Currituck (33), Dare (29), Chowan (18) counties. The survey found a relatively low impact of COVID-19 but may not have fully represented those in need. The geographical correlation (see Exhibits 36 & 37 above) between food deserts and reading proficiency suggests areas of great concern.

Region Ten

Region Ten includes the central east coast of the state with a relatively low population of 621,000. Some of the largest population centers are more inland communities of Greenville and Goldsboro. The region experiences low food (\$824) and housing (\$1,071) costs yet higher costs for healthcare (\$694) and child care (\$1,982). The projected SSS threshold for the region is \$75,000 – about the median value for the state.

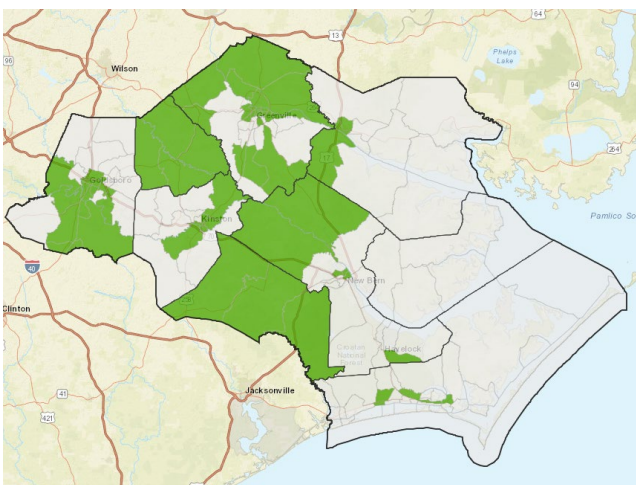
EXHIBIT 39 Region Ten



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

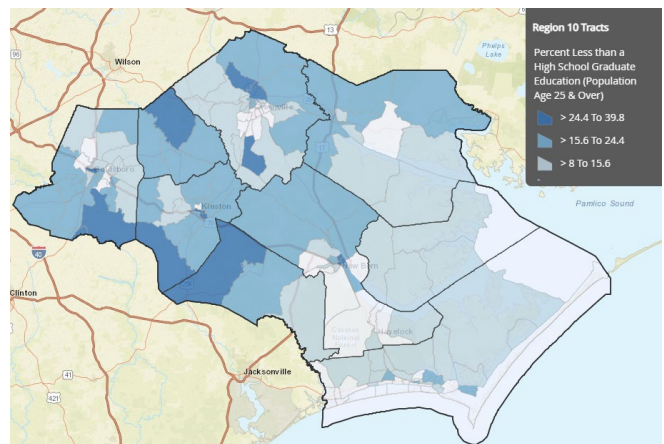
The region has experienced a high poverty rate (19%), housing cost burden (28%), and high food insecurity (18%). The region is also somewhat low on high school graduation rate (85%) and early reading proficiency (53%). The region has large areas of concentrated poverty in the central and west side that visibly correlates with areas of people without high school education.

EXHIBIT 40 Areas of Concentrated Poverty in SDOH Region Ten



Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

EXHIBIT 41 High School Graduation Distribution in SDOH Region Ten

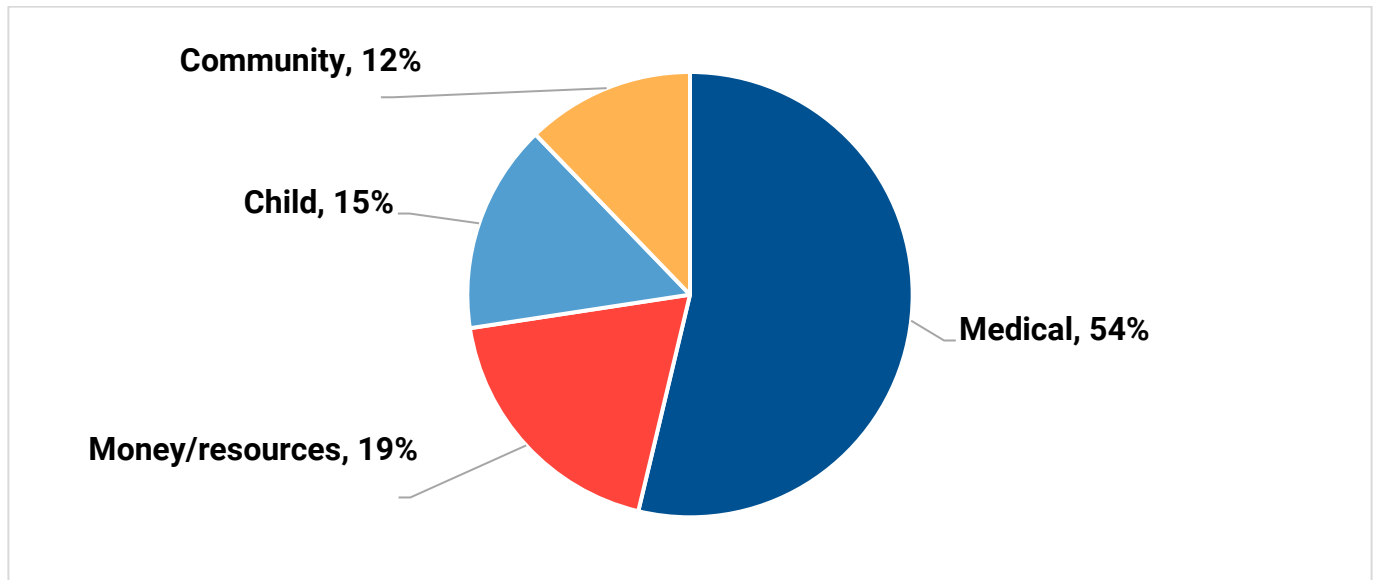


Note. From NC Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics.

Region Ten experienced only one significant difference from outside the area. The 795 respondents reported fewer jobs lost (30%). The top concerns were not significantly different from the rest of the state. The top concerns were medical issues (54%), money/resources (19%), child issues, 15%, and community concerns (12%).

EXHIBIT 42

Most Important Concern of Those in Region Ten



Region Ten has experienced an impact similar to the rest of the state. Medical issues dominated the region’s concerns. The high level of poverty in the region may have increased concern with accessing money and resources. The combination of lower food prices and higher food insecurity suggests a poverty issue is taking a larger than normal toll on the population.

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North Carolina



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