



Spartanburg Racial Equity Index

A Review of Predictors and Outcomes

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Metropolitan Studies
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Spartanburg Racial Equity Index

The following study is a comprehensive analysis of demographic and wellbeing data that reflect community conditions related to racial equity in Spartanburg County. Commissioned by the Spartanburg Community Indicators Project (SCIP), the original intent of this study was a review of health equity data. However, it became immediately apparent that issues of health equity are actually driven by issues of racial equity. Therefore, the project was broadened and reconceived as a review of the data that drive and / or reflect racial equity generally.

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 Spartanburg County. The findings are intended to spark important conversations and to inform the work of many individuals, project partners, and organizations in Spartanburg 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 Spartanburg County have been included insofar as quantitative data exist for them. Narrative and information relative to equity generally are also included. 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 the U.S. Census¹ and from 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.

Special thanks are extended to the SCIP partnership for investing in this project, and to very helpful and generous data friends, especially Karen Fradua (Spartanburg Regional Health System), Kara Davis (the Metropolitan Studies Institute at USC Upstate), Beth Thompson (Spartanburg Academic Movement), and Natalia Rosario (the City of Spartanburg). The University of South Carolina Upstate and Chancellor Brendan Kelly provided the internal support for this work.

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

Table of Contents

Introduction	5
The Language of Equity	6
Racial Inequity	7
Demographics	7
Employment and Income	11
Income and Income Inequality	12
• Per Capita Income	13
• Household Income	13
Wages and Earnings	16
• Living Wage	17
Poverty	18
• Child Poverty	21
Employment	23
Minority-Owned Business and Entrepreneurship	24
Economic Mobility	25
Housing	28
Homelessness or Housing Instability	29
Homeownership and Affordability	30
• Affordability	32
Residential Segregation by Race	34
Concentrated Poverty / Income Inequality	36
Democracy and Inclusion	39
Voting	40
Idleness	43
Family Composition	44
Social Capital	46
Criminal Justice	47
Arrests	48
Sentencing	50
Incarceration Rates	51
School-to-Prison Pipeline	53
Felony Disenfranchisement	54

Health	57
Social Determinants of Health	58
Health Conditions	59
• Infant Mortality	60
• Prenatal Care	60
• Low Birth Weight	61
• Diabetes	61
• Obesity	62
• Cancer	65
Behavioral Health	66
• Adverse Childhood Experiences	66
• Mental Health / Depression	67
Health Behaviors	68
• Food Environment	68
• Teen Birth	69
Access to Care	70
• Health Insurance Coverage	70
• Healthcare Utilization	71
Life Expectancy	73
Premature Death Rate / Years of Potential Life Lost	76
Environment	77
Social Vulnerability	78
Neighborhood Amenities	79
• Access to Healthy Food	79
• Access to Transportation	80
Pollution	80
• Brownfields	80
• Superfunds	81
• Lead	82
Education	84
Educational Attainment	85
School Readiness	86
Dropout	88
Social Mobility	88
Attribution	91
Equity Indicators by Census Tract	97

Introduction: What is Equity and Why is it Important?

Race and place determine largely whether people have the 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.

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 Atlas of Equity² 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.* Spartanburg County has untapped social and economic potential that will be realized when the inequities reflected in this document are meaningfully addressed.



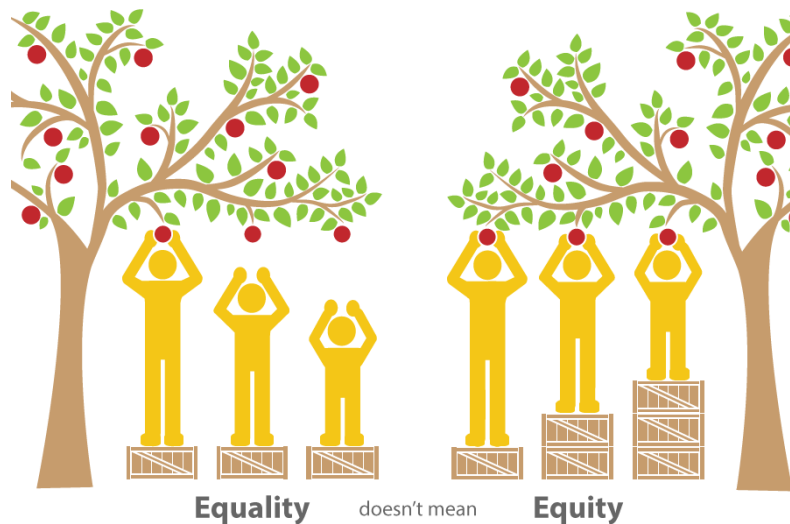
Credit: King County Office of Equity and Social Justice

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 two populations have different amounts of goods or a different quantifiable outcome. 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 had, 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”.

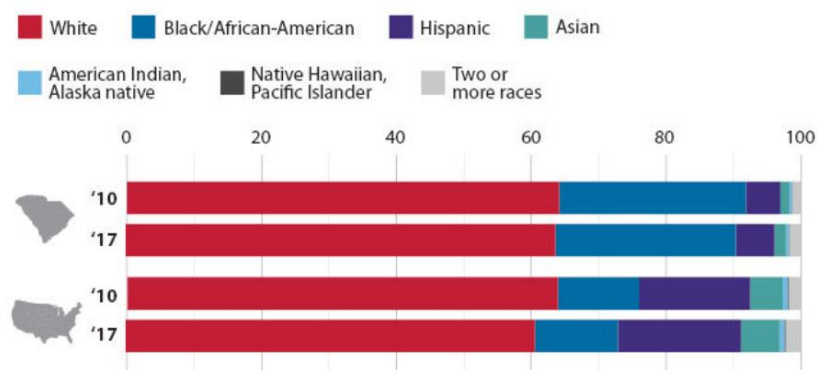
Racial Inequity

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.

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, a majority of 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 analysis³, 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, while the rest of the country combined gained 248,645. The infographic contained in the article, comparing SC racial demographic shifts to those of the U.S., is copied below.

Comparing South Carolina and the rest of the U.S.



Source: Charleston Post and Courier³

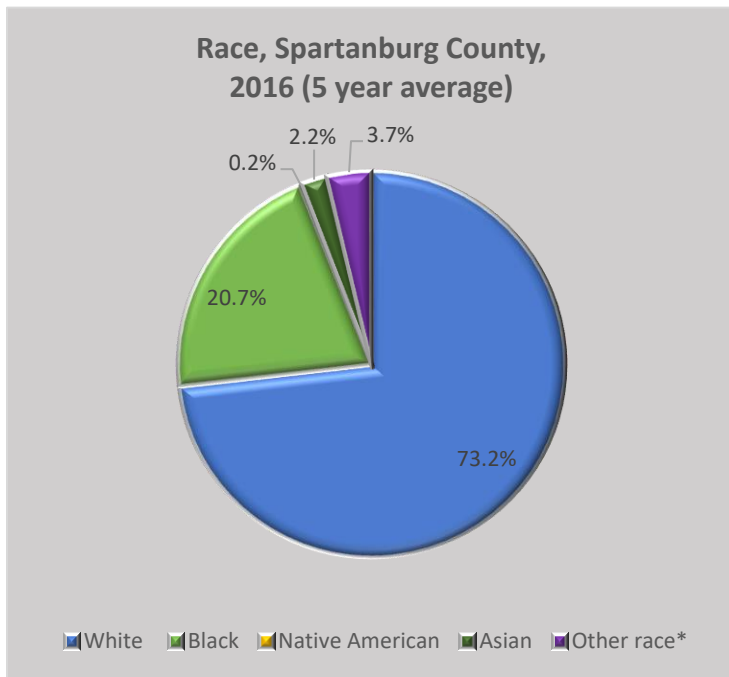
The population of Spartanburg County is 294,229 (2016 five year average). Spartanburg, Greenville, and Anderson Counties are fairly comparable in terms of racial and Hispanic diversity. The City of Spartanburg, however, is much more racially diverse compared to the three counties. The counties are less racially diverse than the state and less diverse, in terms of Hispanic residents, than the nation.

Racial Composition / Hispanic Ethnicity, 2016 (5 year average)						
	White, Non-Hispanic	Black, Non-Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Two or more races	Hispanic of any Race
Spartanburg County	69.1%	20.5%	0.1%	2.2%	2.3%	6.3%
Spartanburg City	44.8%	48.1%	0.2%	1.6%	1.2%	3.7%
Greenville County	69.3%	18.1%	0.2%	2.1%	1.5%	8.7%
Anderson County	77.8%	16.0%	0.2%	0.9%	1.6%	3.4%
SC	63.9%	27.1%	0.3%	1.4%	1.8%	5.3%
US	62.0%	12.3%	0.7%	5.2%	2.3%	17.3%

**Includes Hispanic Ethnicities*

Source: U.S. Census DP05

98.2% of Spartanburg County residents are described as being of one race. 6.3% are Hispanic / Latino, regardless of race. The distribution of race for the total county population is illustrated in the graph below.

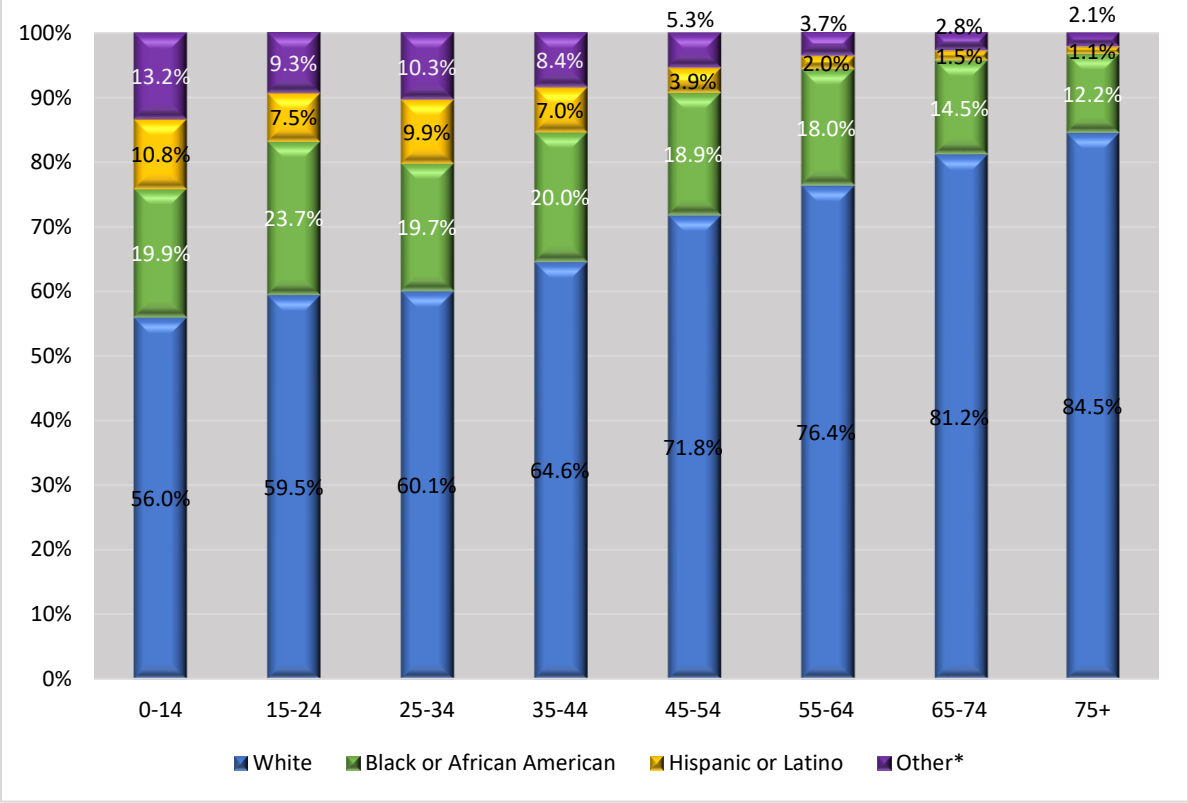


However, the following graph illustrates that racial demographics in Spartanburg County are also shifting. Whereas approximately 85% of the county population age 75 and older is white, only 56% of the population age 0-14 is white. The Hispanic / Latino population and the population comprising other races are the most rapidly growing demographics in Spartanburg County.

Source: U.S. Census DP05

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

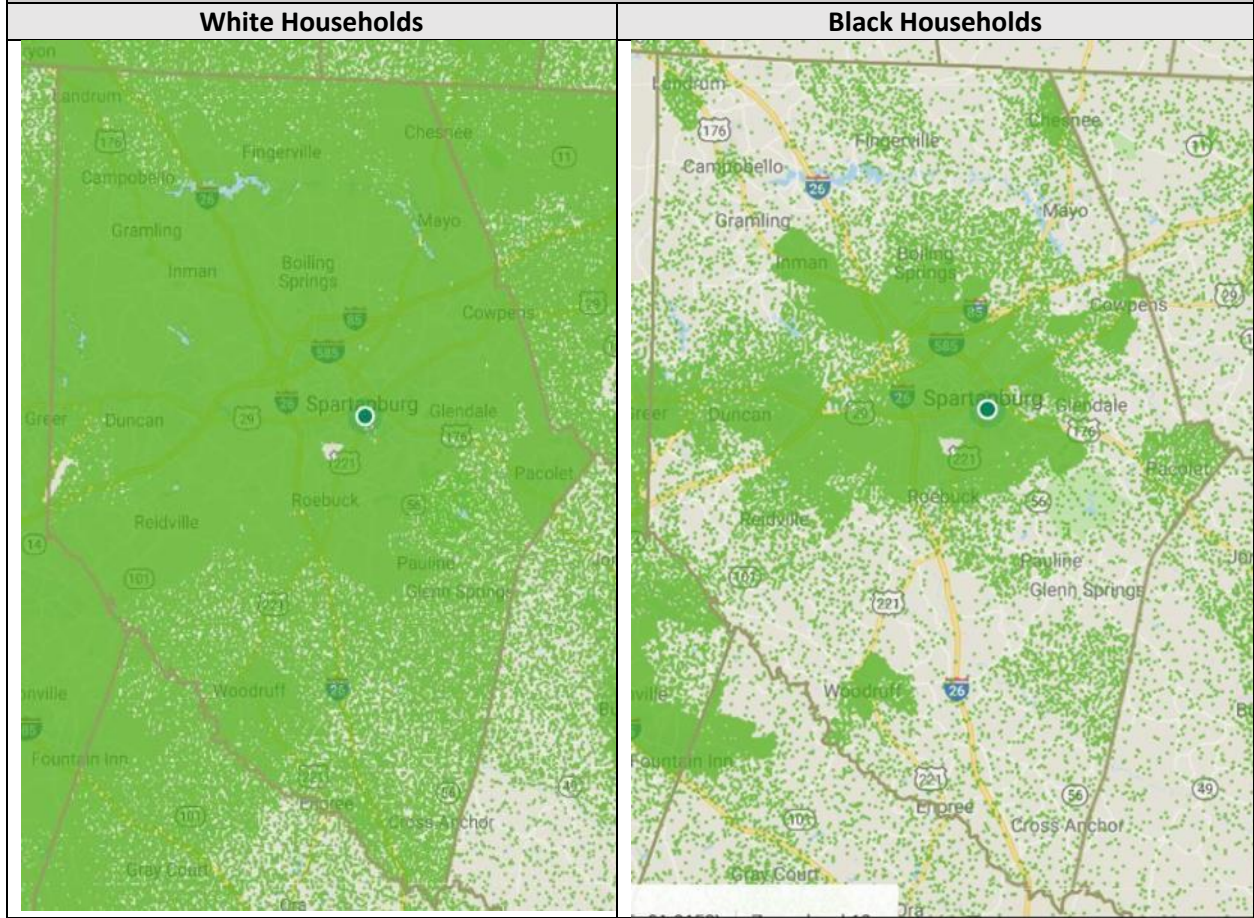
Distribution Age by Race, Spartanburg County 2017



Source: Business Analyst, 2017 US Census Data
 *Other includes Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, and Multiple Races

The maps below show the distribution of white households and black households across Spartanburg County.

Distribution of Households by Race, Spartanburg County 2016



Source: City of Spartanburg



Credit: FitforWork.org

Employment and Income

Why is this important?

There is an extreme racial wealth gap in the United States. In families whose head of the 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.⁴

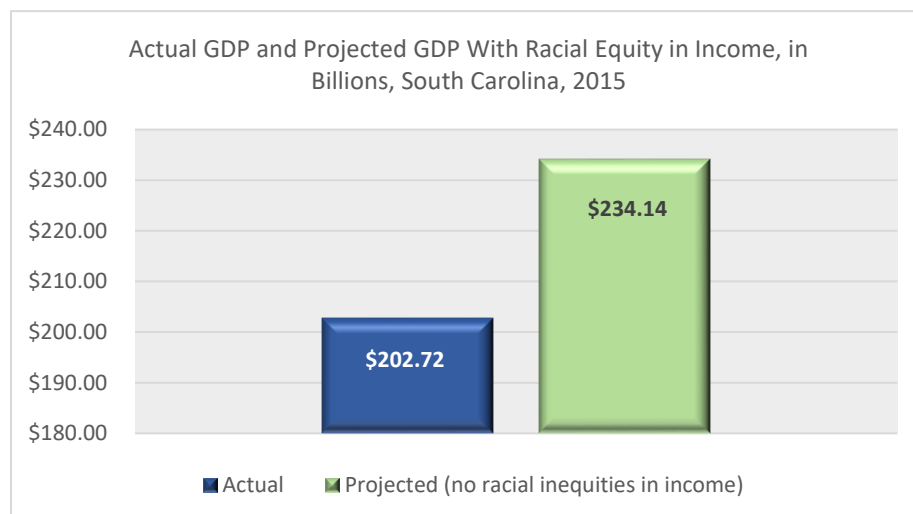
There has long been evidence that a diverse population is a tremendous economic asset in the global economy, and economists are increasingly purporting that equity drives superior local economic growth. Inequality and lack of diversity actually hinder economic growth. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute⁵ estimate 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 that allows for better allocation of talent will further increase economic growth locally and across the U.S.

As will other geographies, Spartanburg 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. 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 hindrances to economic mobility may go far to explain the failure of black and Hispanic Spartanburg 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 Spartanburg, 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.

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., in particular, 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.⁶



Race has historically determined income and, therefore, class. Income inequality continues to be inextricably tied to race. The Brookings Institution⁷ reports 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.

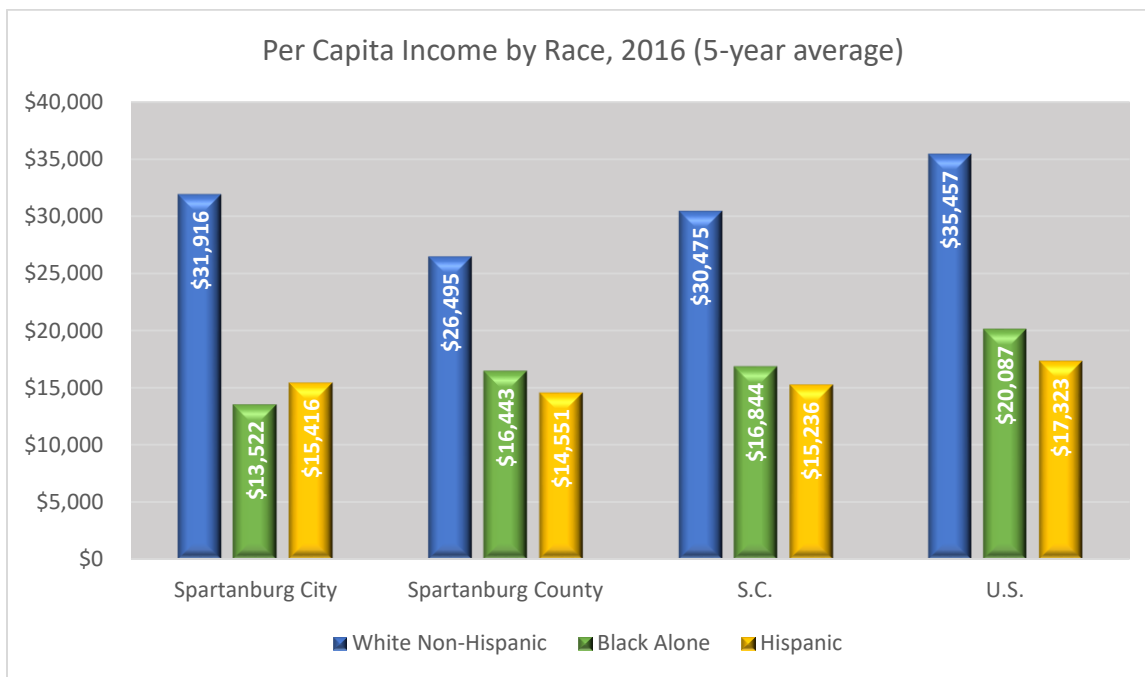
In South Carolina, if people of color had earned the same as their white counterparts in 2015, the state's GDP would have been over \$30 billion higher.²

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.⁸ 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.⁹

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 graph below demonstrates per capita (mean) income, including every man, woman, and child in each geography. The extreme racial inequities in per capita income are evident across geographies, most remarkably in the City of Spartanburg.

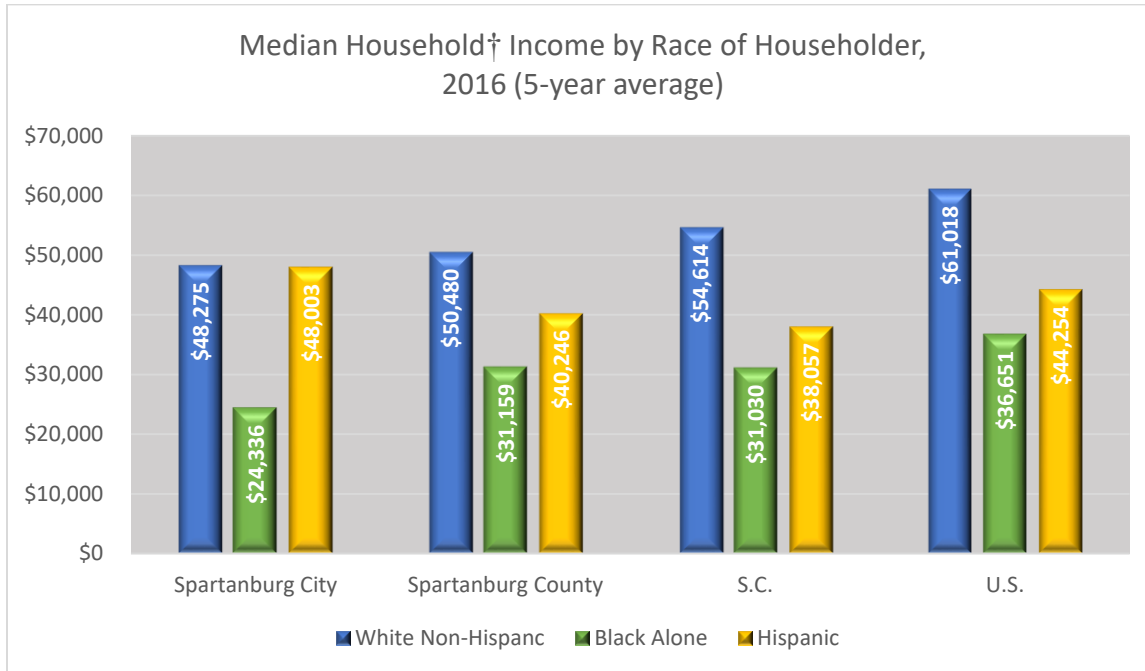


Source: US Census S1902

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. Household income is an indicator of overall economic wellbeing in a community, including tax base and potential support for local business. Household income is extremely inequitable by race across geographies. In Spartanburg County, black households have approximately 62% of the income of white households; however, this is better than the state average (57%) and the U.S. average (60%). In the City of Spartanburg, household income inequity is more extreme, with black households having half 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 have two or more working adults.



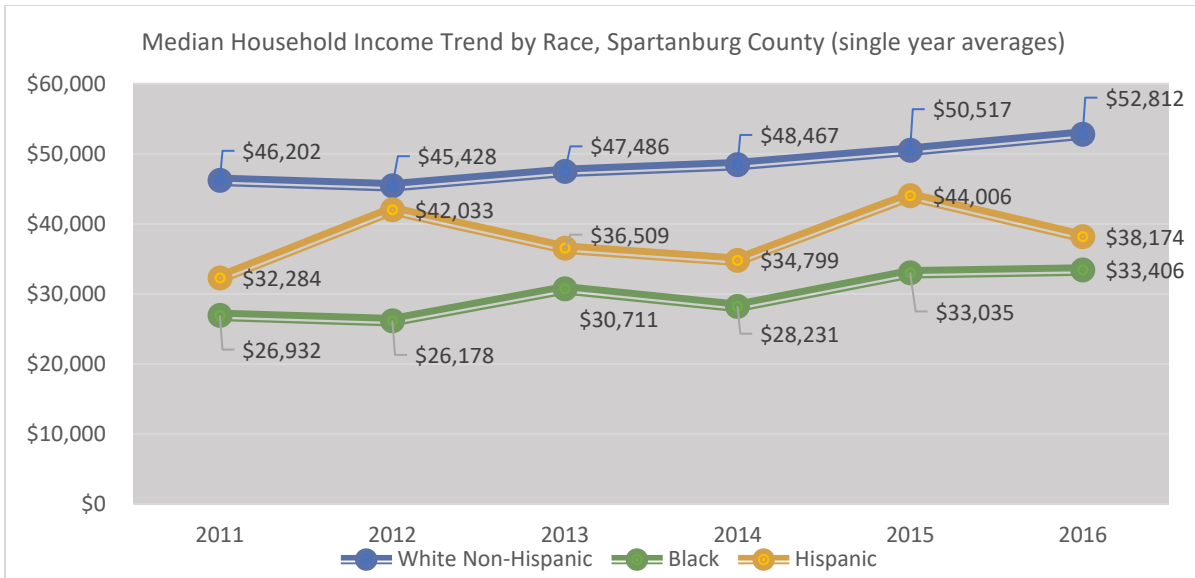
†Household income includes income of the householder and all other people 15 years and older in the household, whether or not they are related to the householder.

Source: US Census

The trend in household income by race and ethnicity for Spartanburg County, demonstrated in the graph below, shows that household income has been consistently lower and more variable for Hispanic and black households compared to white households. In terms of income increase from 2011 to 2016 in single year estimates:

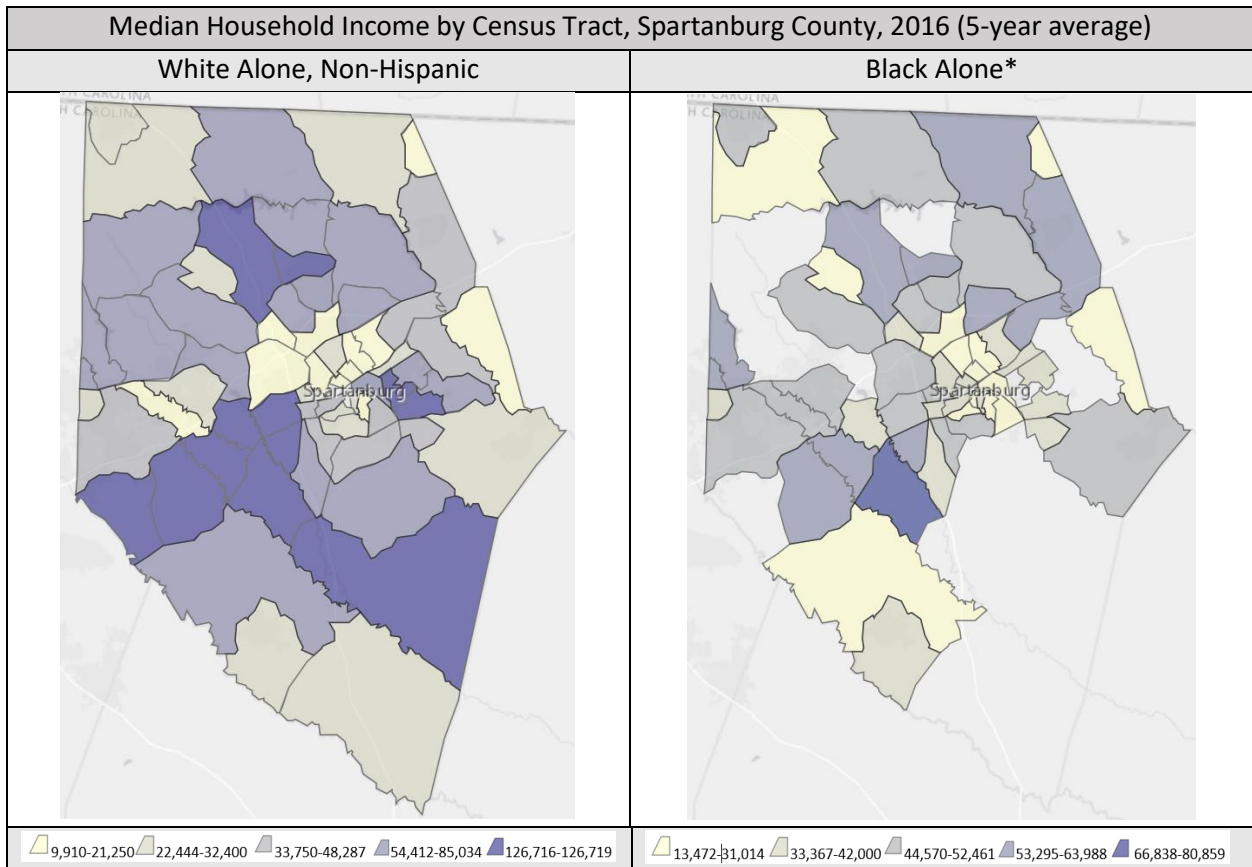
- white household income increased by 14.3%
- black household income increased by 24.0%
- Hispanic household income increased by 18.2%

Regardless of the gains in income of black and Hispanic households, black household income remains only 63% of white household income, and Hispanic household income remains 72% of white household income in 2016.



Source: U.S. Census

By census tract across Spartanburg 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.

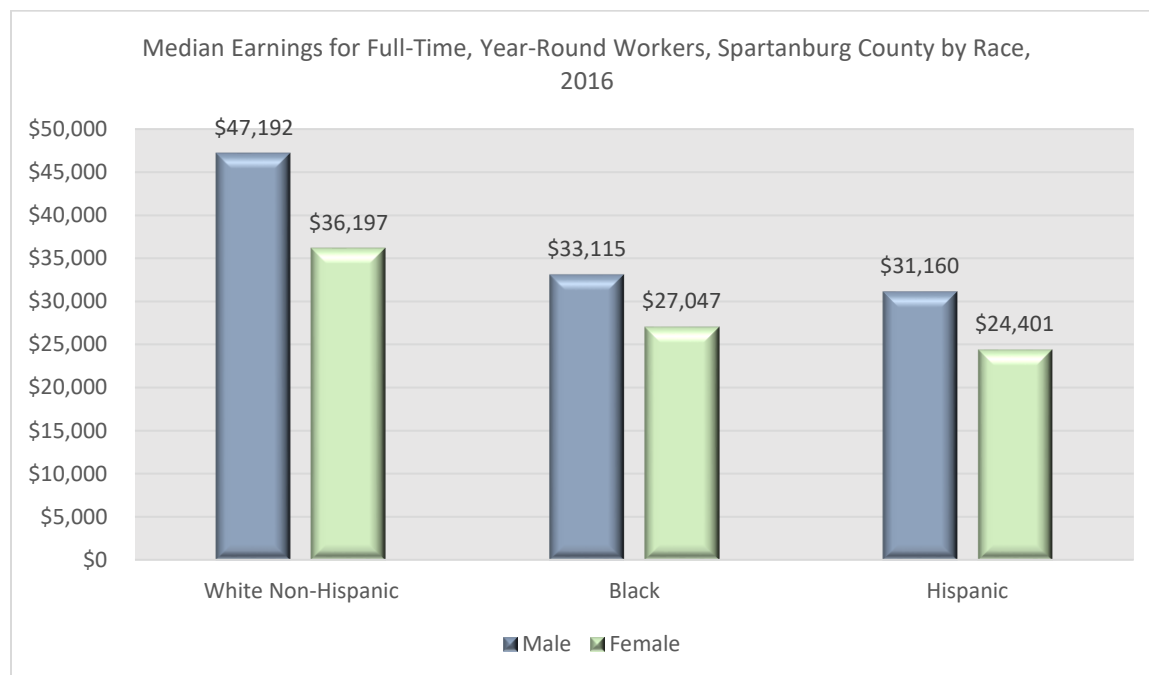


*because some census tracts do not have sufficient black population, they are not reportable for this measure

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 2015.¹⁰

The same race-based and gender-based inequities in wages exist in Spartanburg County, as demonstrated in the graphic below.

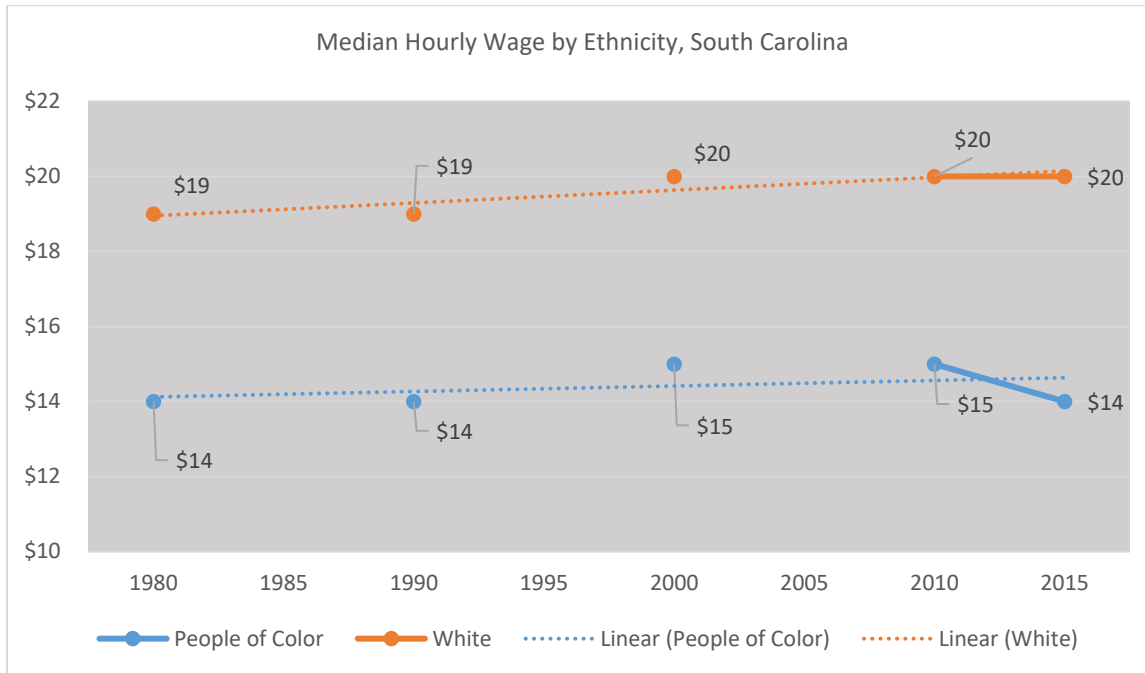


Source: US Census

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 1980.¹⁰

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. South

Carolina mirrors the nation in terms of the persistent wage gap between whites and people of color, as demonstrated in the trend data below.



Source: *Atlas of Equity*

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.

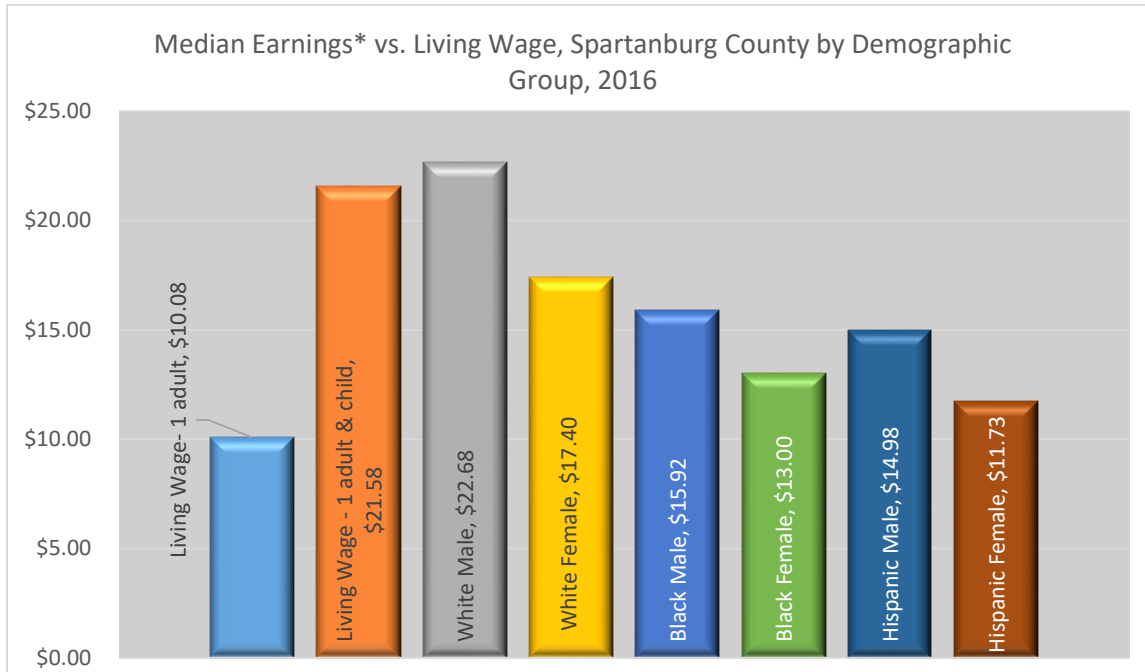
Living Wage

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, a number of 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.

The Living Wage Calculator, created by Amy K. Glasmeier and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology¹¹ is a model for calculating the living wage in communities across the country. The calculations show the living wage in Spartanburg County to be \$10.08 per hour for an adult supporting only himself or herself. Living wage for a single parent with one child is \$21.58 per hour in Spartanburg County.

Median earnings in Spartanburg County are above the 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 white males make above \$22.68 per hour and half make below \$22.68 per hour. The only demographic group in Spartanburg

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 Spartanburg 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

Poverty

At its most basic, poverty is the scarcity or lack of material possessions or money. However, full consideration 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.

Poverty is a multifaceted concept which may also include social, economic, and political elements.

Poverty is not just about a lack of money. It's about a lack of power.

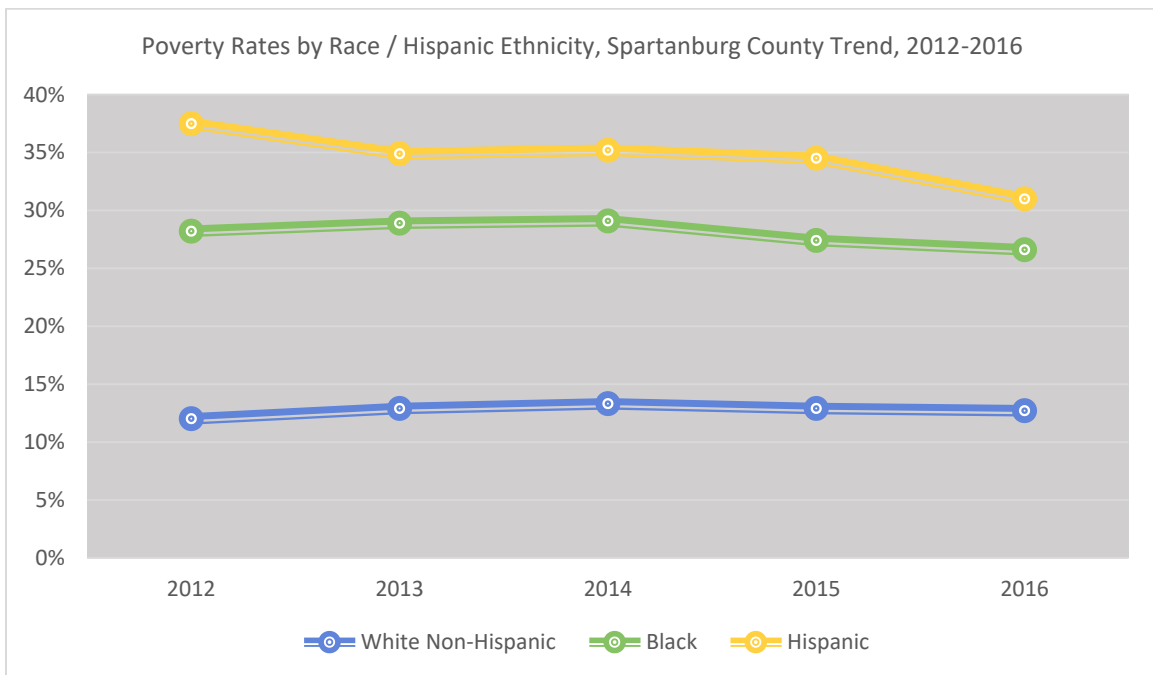
—John Powell, U.S. Partnership on Mobility

By race, in Spartanburg County blacks have more than double the rate of poverty, compared to non-Hispanic whites, and Hispanics fare even worse.

Individuals Below Federal Poverty Level, Spartanburg County, 2016 (5-year average)			
	Total Number	Number below FPL	Percent below FPL
Total*	286,108	48,747	17%
White, Non-Hispanic	198,260	25,110	12.7%
Black, single race	58,279	15,482	26.6%
Hispanic, any race	18,209	5,648	31.0%
Two or more races	5,145	1,836	35.7%

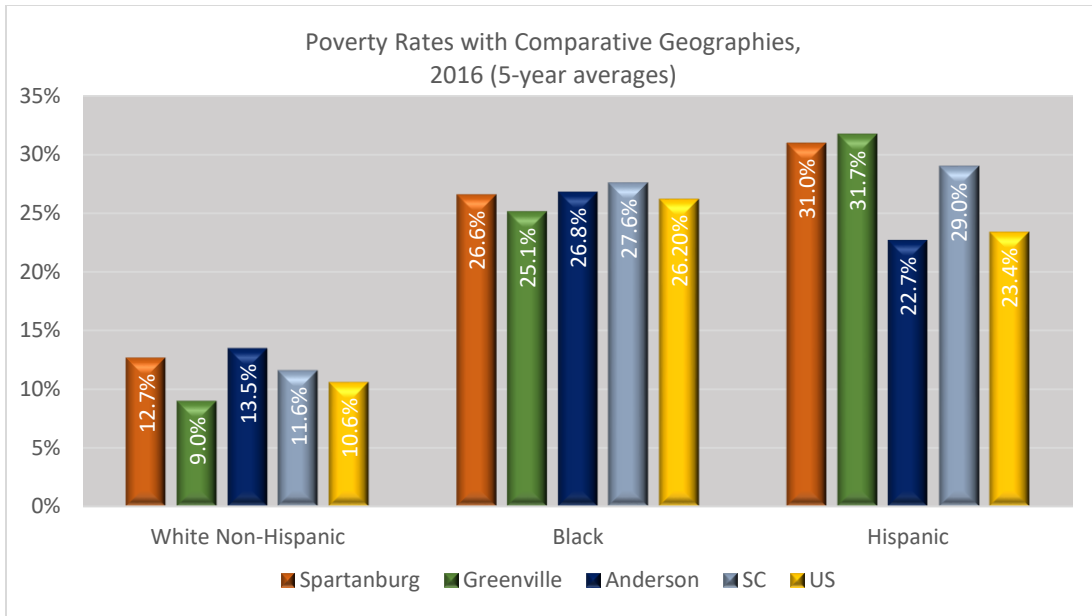
*for whom poverty status is determined
 Source: US Census

Blacks and Hispanics in Spartanburg County continue to bear disproportionate burdens of poverty, although there has been a slight decrease in poverty, for both groups.



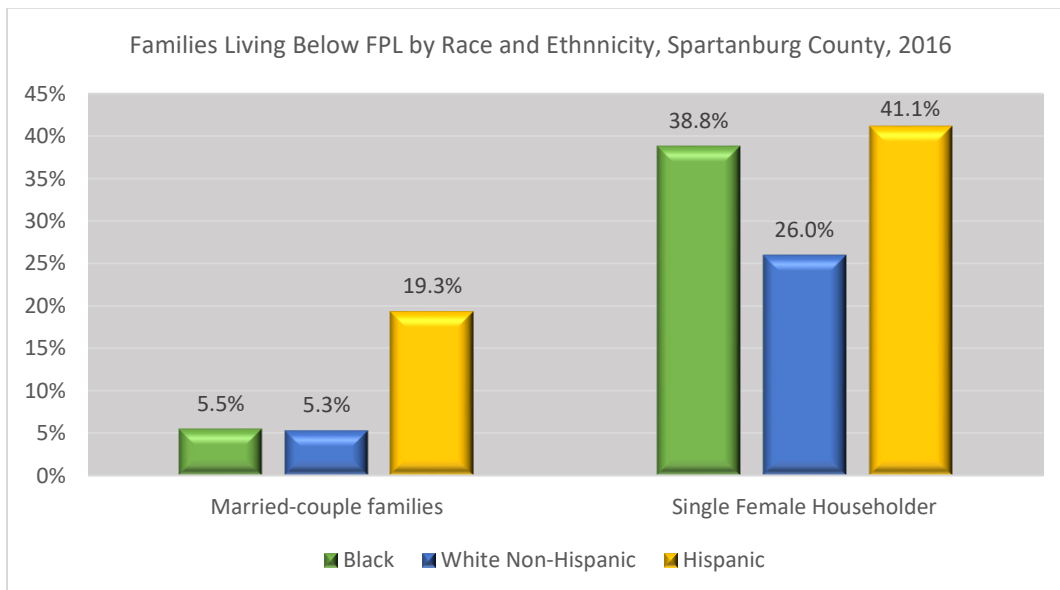
Source: US Census

In the aggregate, a greater percentage of Spartanburg County residents live below Federal Poverty Level (FPL), compared to Greenville and Anderson Counties and the nation. However, Spartanburg fares slightly better than the state on this measure. As illustrated in the graph below, the state, the U.S. and Greenville and Anderson Counties have fairly comparable rates of poverty for blacks – and all significantly higher than for whites. Hispanic poverty rates are more variable by geography.



Source: US Census

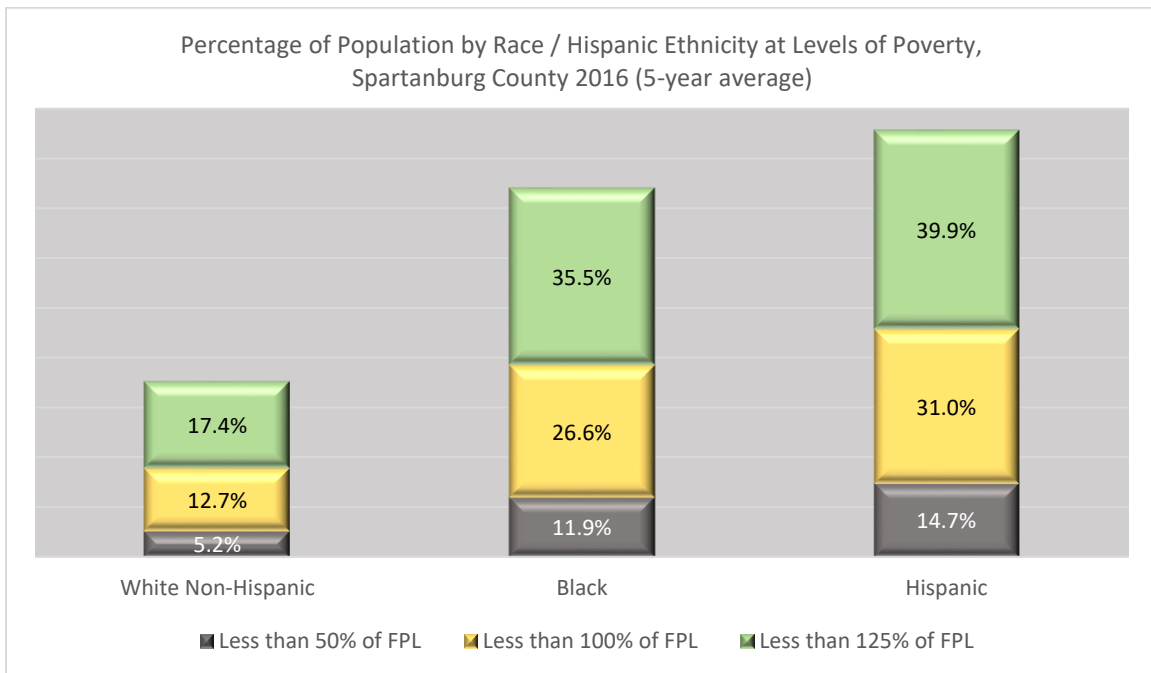
According to U.S. Census definition, families are a subset of households – related individuals living under one roof, rather than all individuals living under one roof. Family composition is a determinant of poverty. For both whites and blacks, married-couple families are at much lower risk of poverty than families headed by single females. Interestingly, there is very little difference in poverty rates between black married-couple families and white married-couple families in Spartanburg County. However, among single female householders in Spartanburg County, black families have much higher poverty rates. Hispanic families have much higher poverty rates for both married-couple families and single female families.



Source: US Census

Although the above data report on people living at 100% of FPL or below, it is instructive to examine the composition of people living at various levels of poverty, since Individuals who fall at 140%, 150% and 200% of FPL are often also considered to be living in poverty, or at least low income, and can qualify for various public and nonprofit assistance programs. On the other end of the poverty spectrum, the U.S. Census Bureau defines “deep poverty” as total household cash income below 50% of its poverty threshold. In 2016, according to Census data, 18.5 million people lived in deep poverty. Those in deep poverty represented 5.8% of the total 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%.¹² In Spartanburg County, the deep poverty rate for white non-Hispanics is the same as the national average at 5.2%. However, Spartanburg County rates are higher for blacks and Hispanics at 11.9%, and 14.7%, respectively.

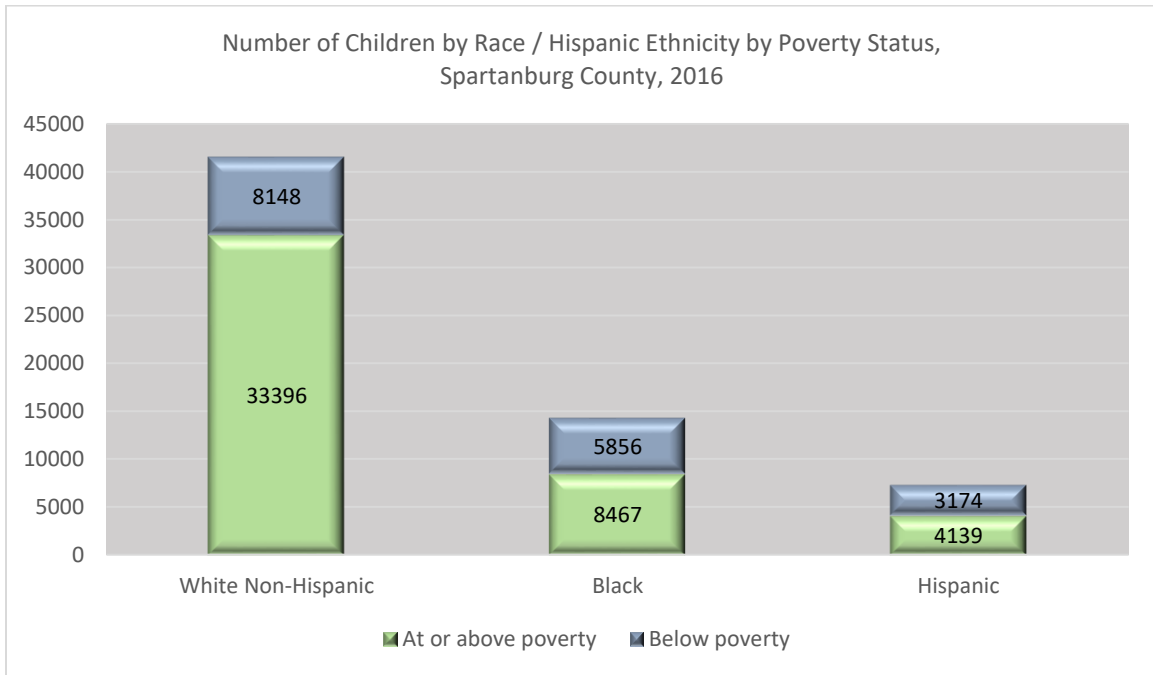


Source: US Census

Child poverty

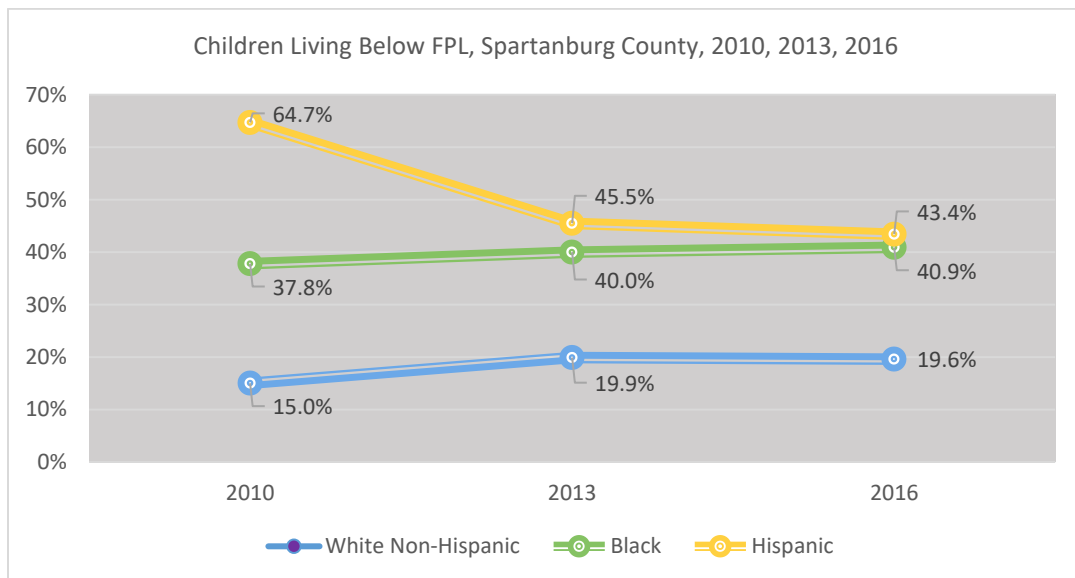
Child poverty is a function of family and household income. Children who live in poverty often experience chronic, toxic stress that disrupts the architecture of the developing brain, resulting in lifelong difficulties in learning, memory, self-regulation, and poor health outcomes in adulthood. Children 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”. In Spartanburg County in 2016

(single year estimate), there were over 17,000 children living below FPL. Black and Hispanic children bear a disproportionate poverty burden.



Source: US Census

A six year trend for Spartanburg County shows that poverty for black children has increased slightly, while Hispanic children have experienced a decrease in poverty. Still, both black and Hispanic children have significantly higher poverty rates compared to white non-Hispanic children.

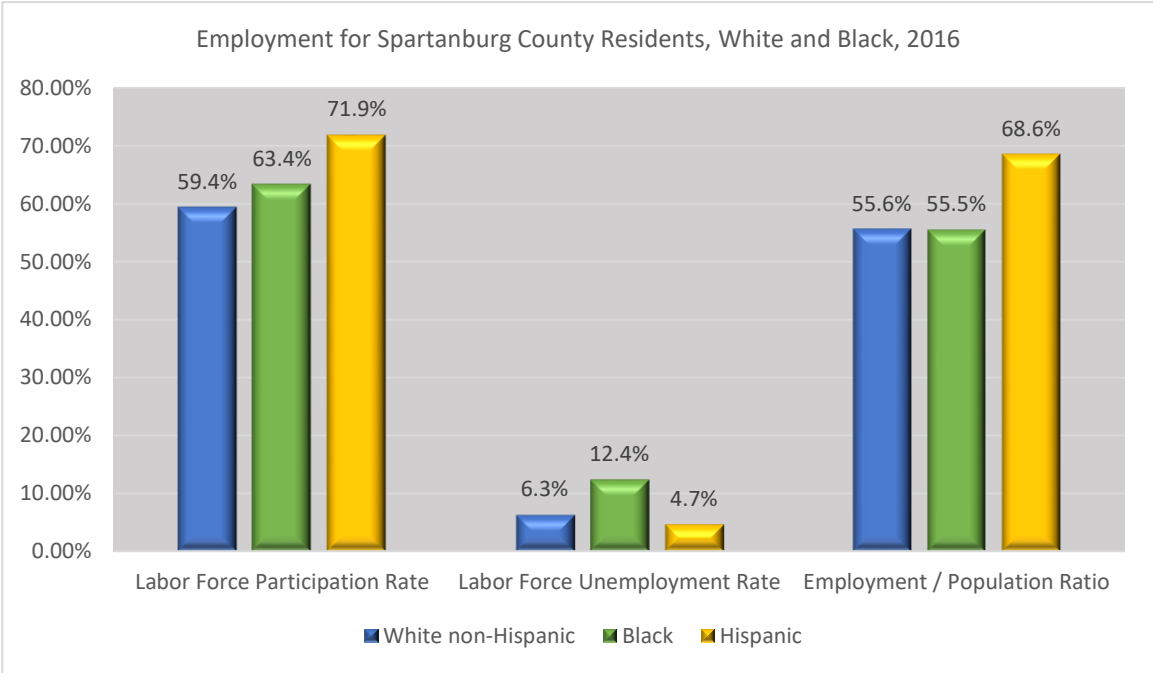


Source: US Census

Employment

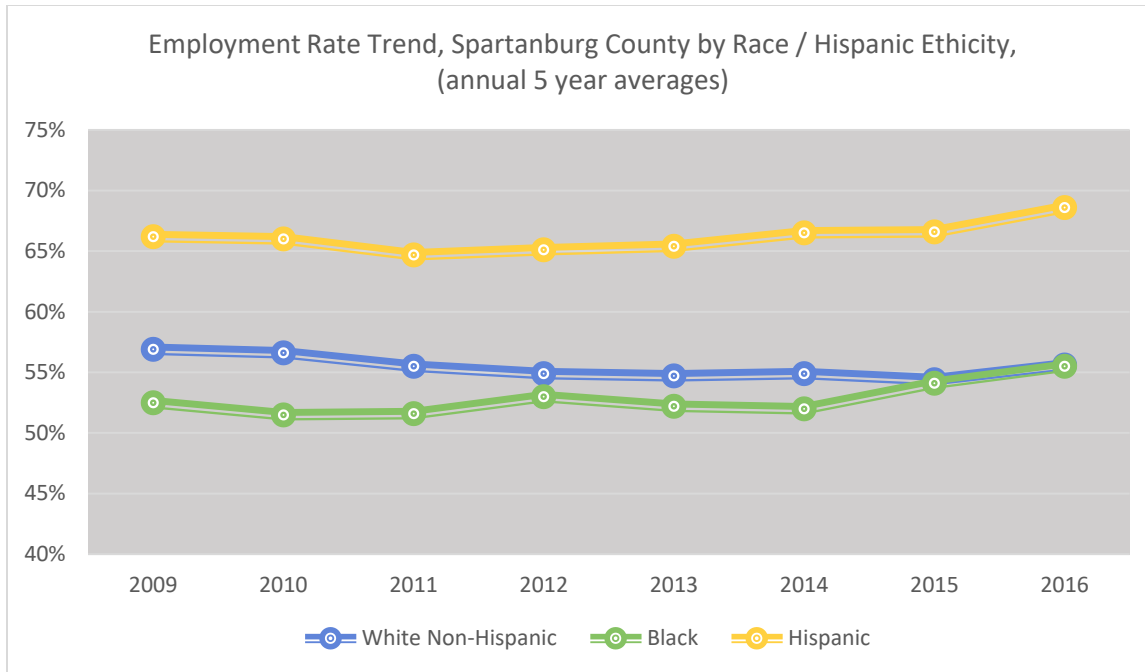
Employment provides income and benefits that can support economic wellbeing and healthy lifestyle choices. Unemployment and underemployment limit these choices, and negatively affect quality of life in many ways. The economic conditions in a community, the distribution of structural supports for employment, 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) study¹³ 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. The labor force unemployment rate is that portion of the labor force that is unemployed. In Spartanburg 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 the percentage of the working age population currently working for pay, and is considered to be a more representative measure of labor market conditions than official unemployment rates 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.” In Spartanburg County, Hispanics have a consistently higher employment rate compared to non-Hispanic whites and blacks.



Source: US Census S2301

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.¹⁴ The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute⁵ 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~

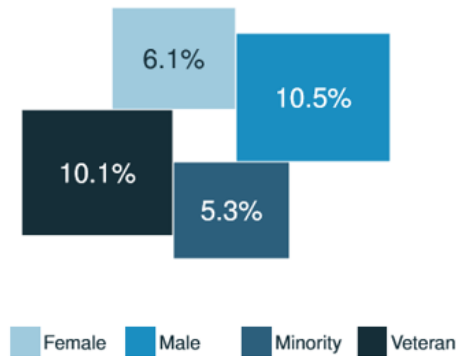
A 2018 survey of 2,165 U.S. entrepreneurs by the Kauffman Foundation¹⁵ showed that, of the start-ups within the last year, business owners are more likely to be between ages 18 and 44, and are more likely to be black or Hispanic. This supports 2012 Census data that showed minority-owned businesses are 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 2007.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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



South Carolina Self-Employment by Demographic, 2014



Source: SC Small Business Administration

The latest county level data (2012) for Spartanburg show that 16.6% of businesses are minority owned; 11.1% are black-owned, and 2.6% are Hispanic-owned. Spartanburg’s minority-owned businesses employ 4,672 individuals. Details are found in the table below.

Select Business Data by Ownership Race, Spartanburg County, 2012					
	Number of Firms	# of firms with paid employees	# of paid employees	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	Sales, receipts or value of shipments (\$1,000)
TOTAL	21,249	4,621	107,211	4,243,385	\$33,381,840
White	17,475	3,678	49,210	\$1,746,007	\$12,296,305
Black	2,366	108	709	\$11,625	\$76,757
Hispanic	553	30	233	\$5,107	\$55,724
Minority*	3,525	331	4,672	\$132,759	\$431,691

*includes all but non-Hispanic white ownership

Source: US Census 2012 Survey of Business Owners

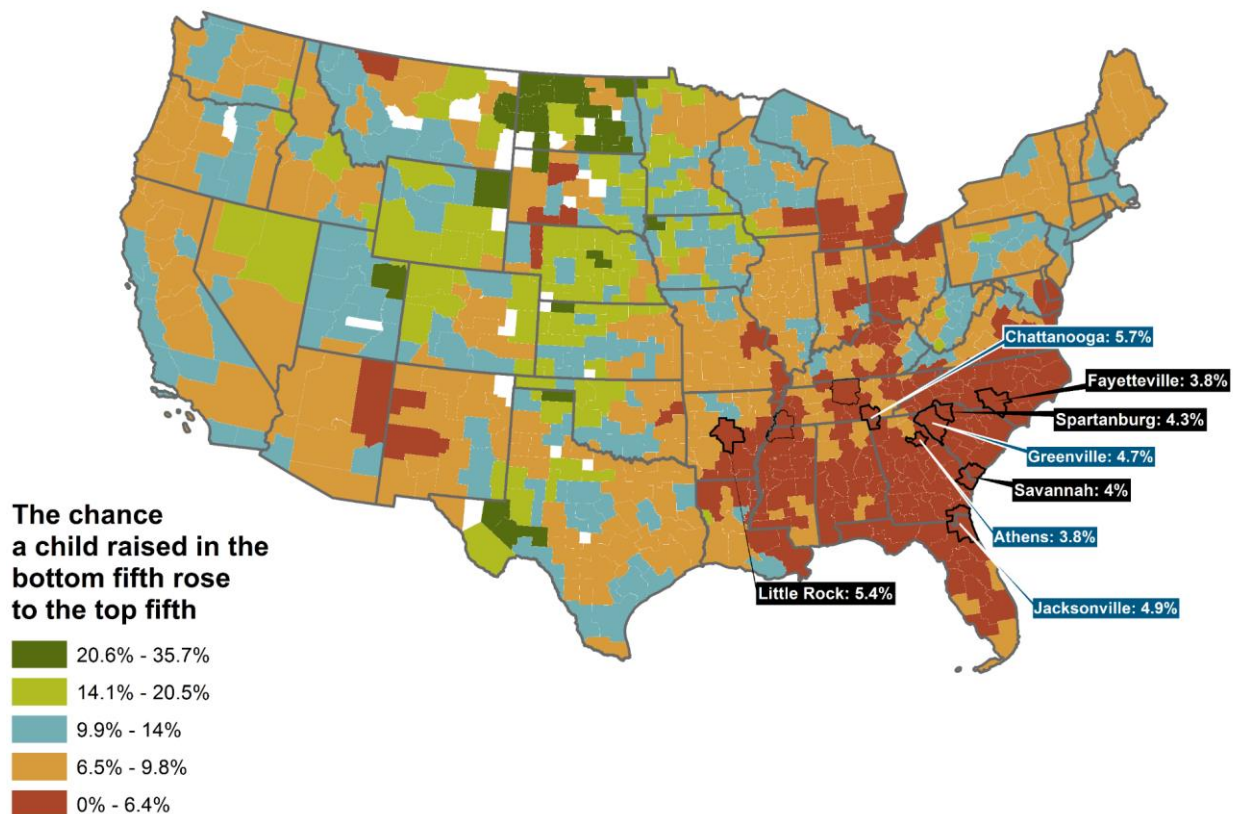
Economic Mobility

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 Project¹⁸, three Harvard economists used “big data” to map upward mobility across the country. The results showed wide variation among the nation’s 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. 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. Spartanburg County is considered to be “pretty bad” in helping poor children up the income ladder. It ranks 547th worst out of 2,478 counties, better than about 22 percent of counties. Neighboring Greenville County is among the worst counties in the U.S. in helping poor children up the income ladder. It ranks 24th worst out of 2,478 counties, better than only 23 counties in the nation, and 94th out of the 100 largest metro areas in the country.



Source: MDC and Equality of Opportunity Project

The US Partnership on Mobility From Poverty¹⁹ 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 with 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.



Credit: sbheritage.org

Housing

Why is this important?

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. However, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reports²⁰ that racism continues in the housing industry, even if it is less obvious than it was in the Jim Crow era.

In Spartanburg County, as throughout the U.S., there is a significant racial inequity in home ownership, with whites having much greater ownership rates. Almost half of renters in Spartanburg County, who are much more likely to be black or Hispanic, spend more than 30% of their income on rent, leaving very little for other necessities. Neighborhood racial segregation and areas of concentrated poverty are also a significant concern in Spartanburg County, fueling poor prospects for economic mobility for the county's poor children.

Homelessness or Housing Instability

Homelessness is the condition of people lacking "a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence" as defined by the federal McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act.²¹ 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.

The 2017 Point in Time Report²², produced by the South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness (SCICH) in August 2017, estimates that there were 227 homeless people in Spartanburg County on the homeless count night in January 2017. However, subject matter experts view this as a drastic undercount.

Although there are no local race data for homelessness, national data show that homelessness in the U.S. is a racial issue. According to research released in 2012 by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness,²³ blacks were seven times more likely than whites to seek refuge in a homeless shelter in 2010. Black people in families made up 12.1% of the U.S. family population in 2010, but represented 38.8% of family shelter beds. In comparison, 65.8% percent of people in families in the general population in 2010 were white, while white family members occupied only 28.6% of family shelter beds.

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 and 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.

Best Practice: Built for Zero initiative coordinated by Community Solutions²⁴

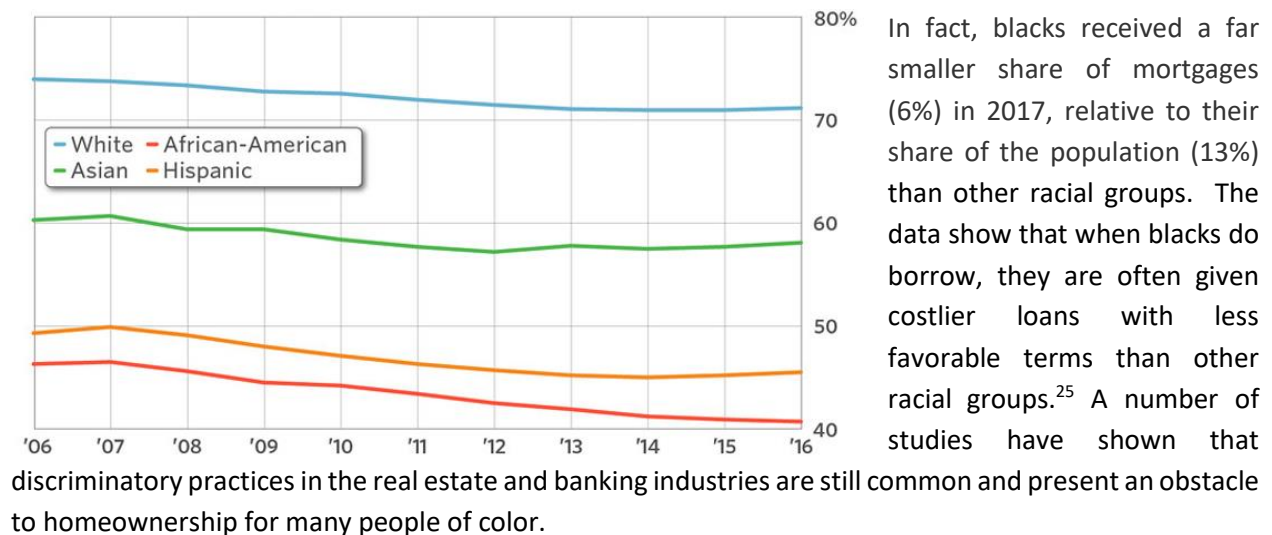
Over the past three years, nine communities in the United States have reached a rigorous standard known as "functional zero" for either veteran or chronic homelessness — a standard that indicates that homelessness is nonexistent or very rare in their communities. They are doing it by making whole systems

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.

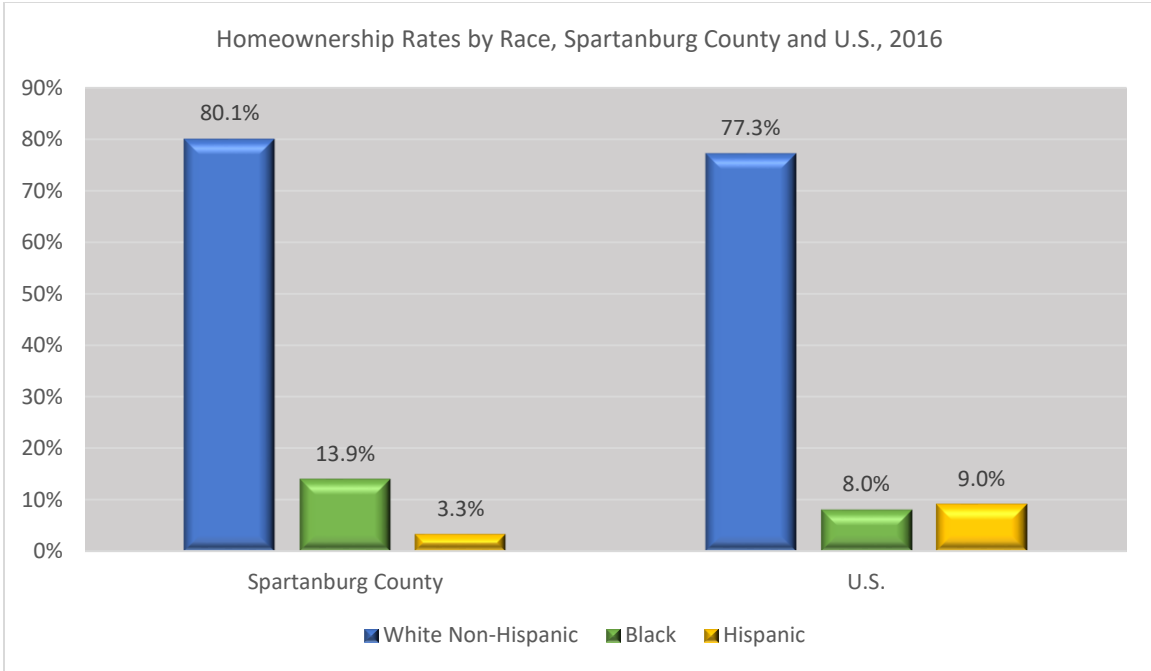
Home Ownership & Affordability

Current data show that there are still deep racial inequities in the housing market.²⁵ As demonstrated in the chart below (Source: Market Watch) 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.



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 the period. Not only were minority individuals less likely to obtain refinancings when they applied, they were less likely to apply.²⁷

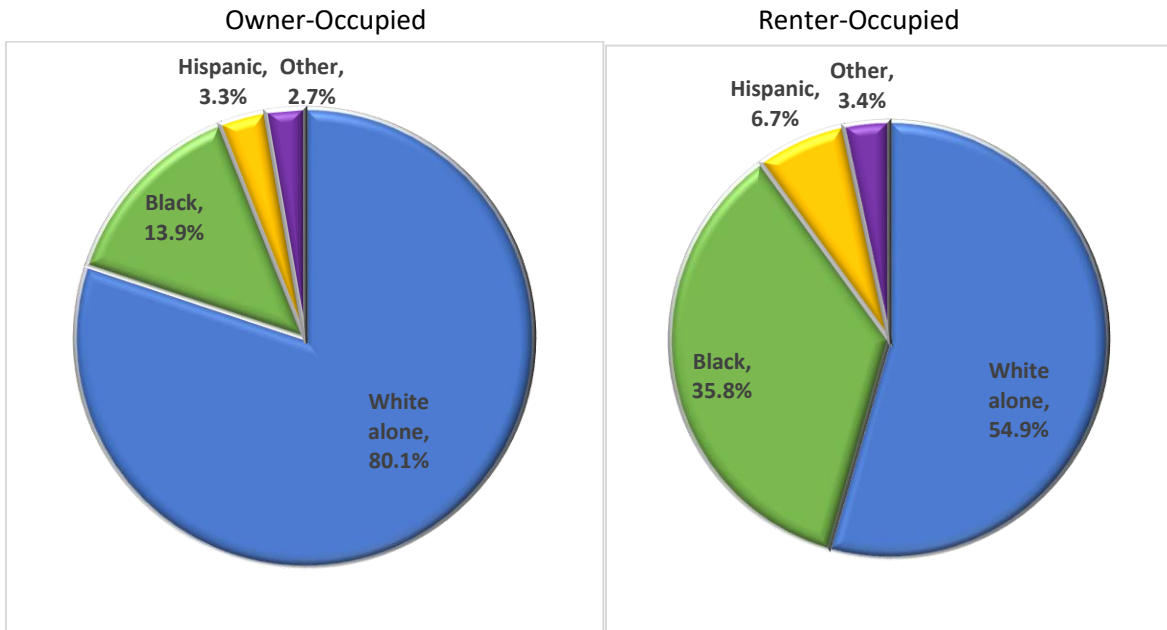
In Spartanburg County, as throughout the U.S., there is a significant racial inequity in home ownership overall, with 80.1% of owner-occupied housing units having white, non-Hispanic householders, compared to 13.9% black householders and 3.3% Hispanic householders.



Source: US Census S2502

For renter-occupied units compared to owner-occupied units, a much lower proportion of residents are white, and a much higher proportion are black.

Racial Composition of Owner-Occupied and Renter-Occupied Housing Units, Spartanburg County, 2016 (5-year average)

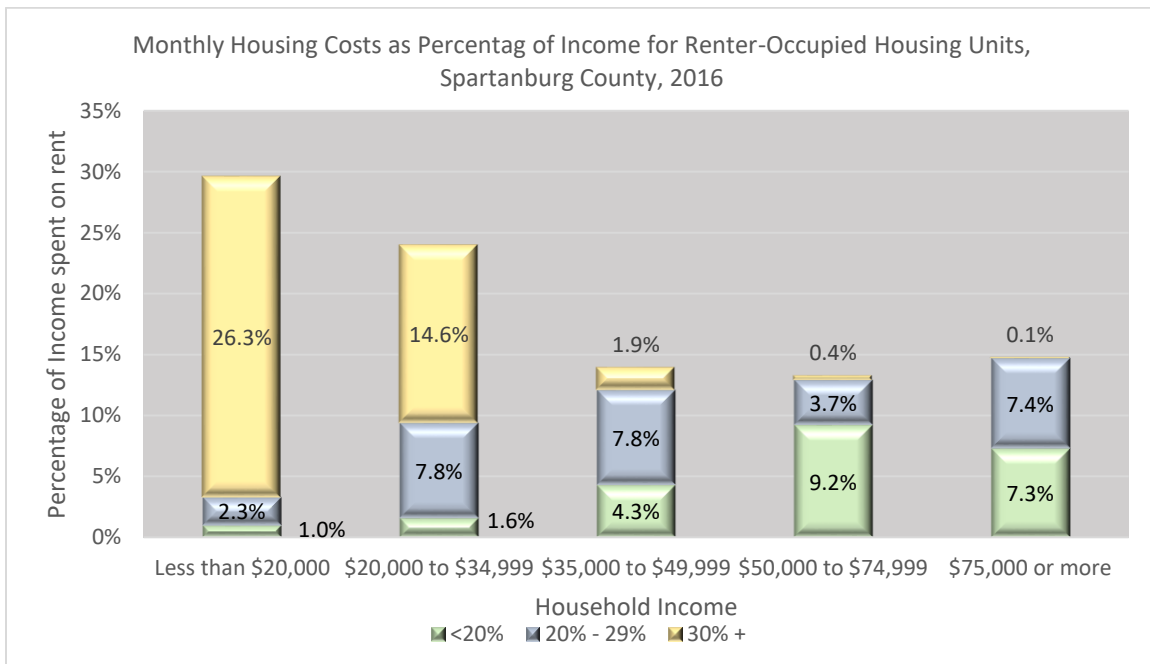


Source: US Census

Affordability

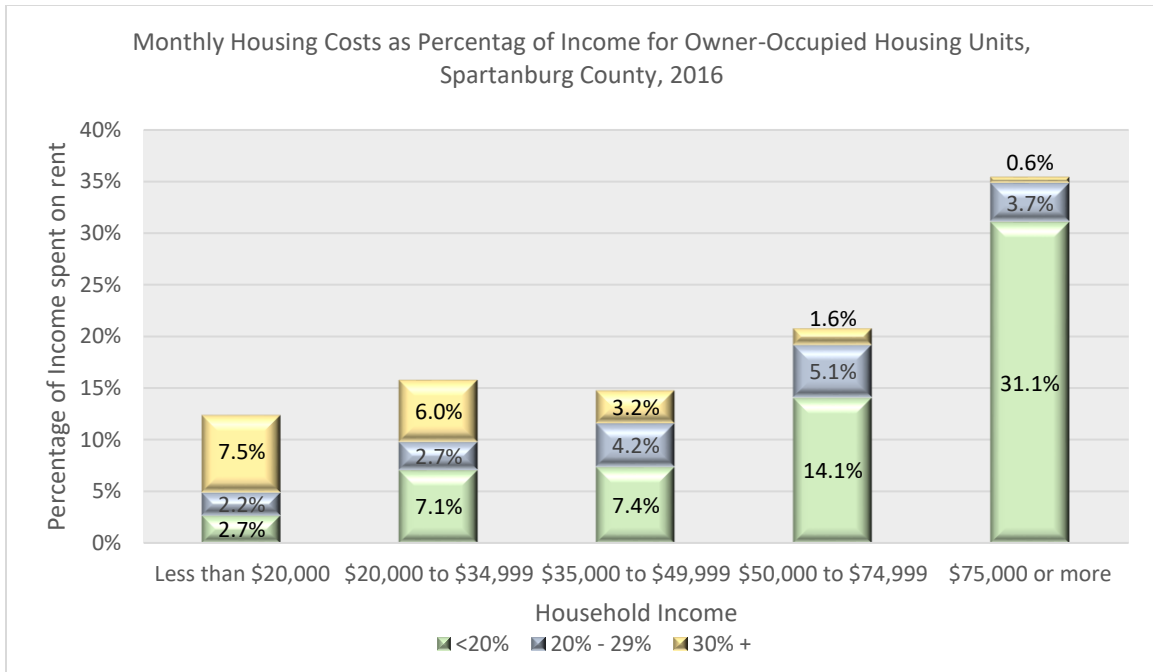
According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),²⁷ the generally accepted definition of affordable housing is that for which the occupants are paying no more than 30% of gross income for housing costs, including utilities. According to this definition, one in three U.S. households are paying too much for housing, the preponderance of those being low income households and households of color.

In Spartanburg County, there are an estimated 31,088 renter-occupied housing units. Almost half of renters (48.8%) spend more than 30% of their income on rent, with 39.2% spending in excess of 35% of income on rent. As the graphic below 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 26% spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. On the other end of the spectrum, for households with \$75,000 in income, less than 1% spend more than 30% on housing costs.



Source: US Census

Owner-occupied units fare markedly better. As demonstrated in the graph below, home owners 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

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.

Best Practice: Policies to Ensure Affordable Housing for All

The national Atlas of Equity² 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

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,²³ perpetuates poverty patterns by isolating blacks in areas that lack employment opportunities and services, and experience higher crime and poverty rates.

Raj Chetty and his colleagues¹⁸ 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, as demonstrated for Atlanta in the map below.

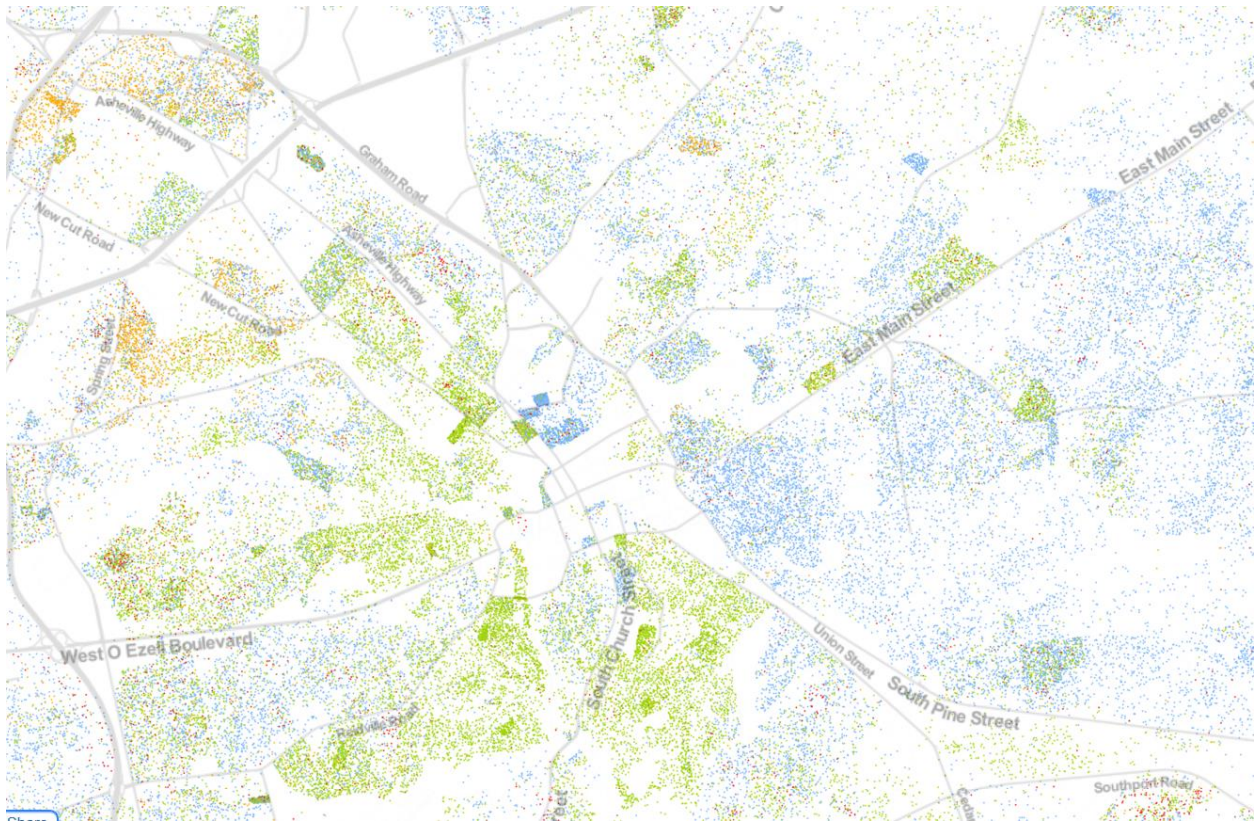
Racial Segregation in Atlanta
Whites = Blue, Blacks = Green, Asians = Red, Hispanics = Orange



Source: Equality of Opportunity Project (based on 2010 Census data)

In Spartanburg, the city in general is much more racially diverse than the county, in terms of white and black residents, although the county has a higher percentage of Hispanic residents. However, as the following map demonstrates,²⁸ within the City of Spartanburg there is still significant neighborhood residential segregation.

Racial Segregation in Spartanburg
Whites = Blue, Blacks = Green, Asians = Red, Hispanics = Orange



Source: Racial Dot Map, University of Virginia (based on 2010 Census data)

Percentage of White Alone Residents by Spartanburg County Subdivision, 2016 (5-year average)



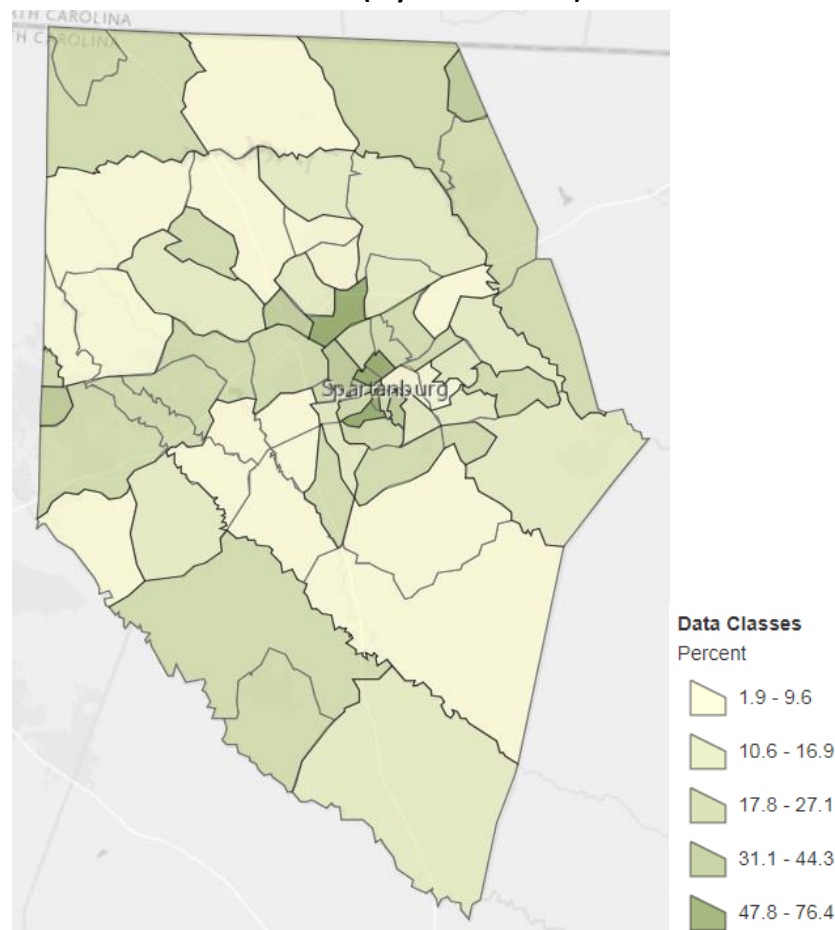
Neighborhood racial segregation is a significant concern, and a number of areas within Spartanburg County are highly segregated by race. For example, within the City of Spartanburg, census tract 213.02 is 96.5% white, and census tracts 208 and 205 are 93.6% black and 93.1% black, respectively. The map to the left shows Spartanburg County subdivisions for percentage of residents who identify as “white alone”, single race, non-Hispanic. The areas of least residential racial diversity are Landrum /Campobello /Gramling, Mayo, and Enoree/ Cross Anchor.

Source: US Census

Concentrated Poverty / Income Inequality

In the report *The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America*,²⁹ 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 Spartanburg County by census tract shows that percentage of poverty ranges from less than 2% in some areas of the county to over 76% in other areas of the county.

Percent Residents Below Federal Poverty Level, Spartanburg County Census Tracts, 2016 (5-year estimates)

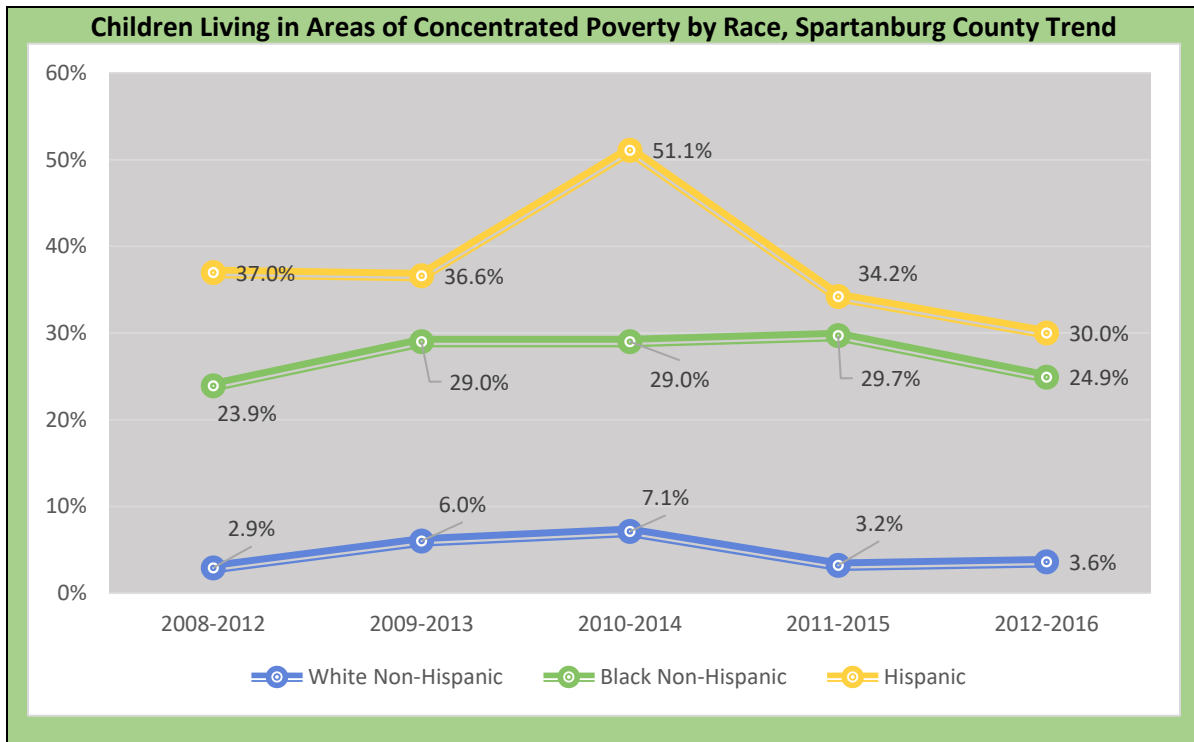


Source: U.S. Census

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,³⁰ 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 18) do not show how poverty is distributed across Spartanburg County and other geographies. The data reported in the table below show that, in Spartanburg County, Hispanic children are significantly more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty, compared to white, non-Hispanic children. Black children and children of other races are also significantly more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty across the state.



Race	2008-2012	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016
White, Non-Hispanic	1,244 2.9%	2,570 6.0%	3,032 7.1%	1,368 3.2%	1,533 3.6%
Black, Non-Hispanic	3,716 23.9%	4,465 29.0%	4,445 29.0%	4,686 29.7%	3,894 24.9%
Some Other Race	1,554 21.9%	1,448 19.7%	1,603 21.8%	1,250 18.7%	849 13.4%
Hispanic or Latino	2,442 37.3%	2,482 36.6%	3,564 51.1%	2,457 34.2%	2,203 30.0%
Total population	7,845 11.3%	9,916 14.3%	11,414 16.5%	8,885 12.8%	7,767 11.2%

Source: Kids Count Data Center

The Equality of Opportunity Project¹⁸ 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.



Credit: publicseminar.org

Democracy and Inclusion

Why is this important?

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 inequities. 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.

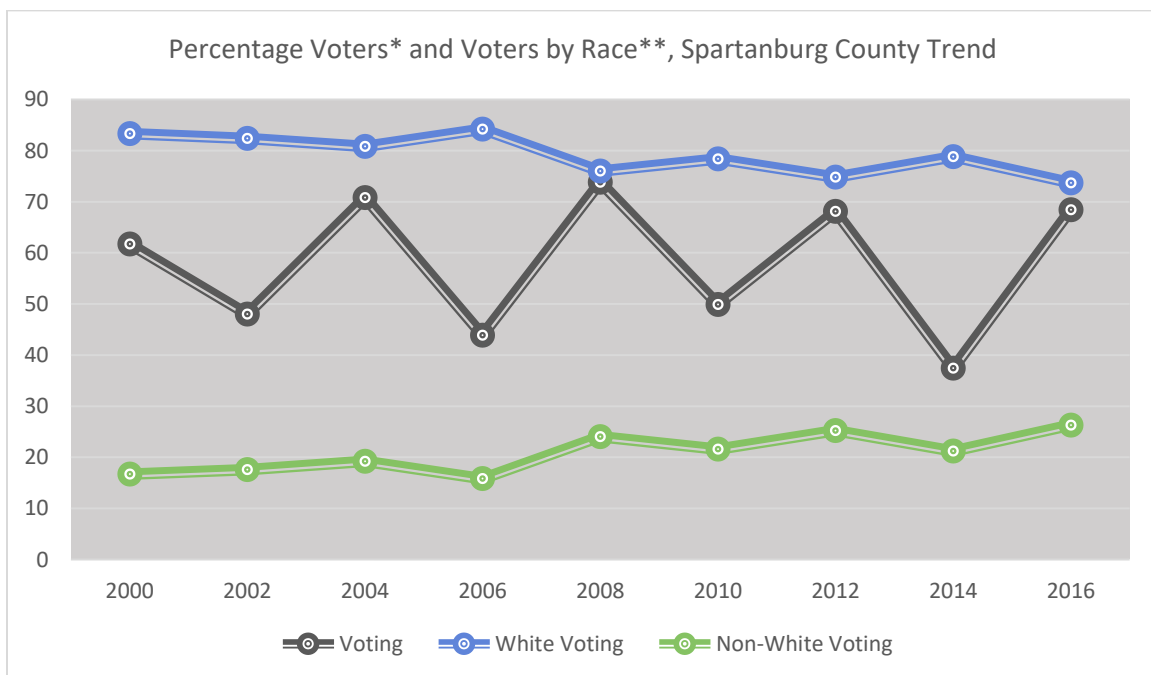
How is Spartanburg doing?

Voter registration and participation in elections for Spartanburg County residents do not demonstrate racial inequities at this point. In fact, the non-white proportions of registered voters and actual voters (2016) are higher than the non-white proportion of the county population. Idleness among teens is not a problem, relative to comparison geographies and is not characterized by racial inequities. However, the proportion of married couple families in Spartanburg County is below the state average. Black families are more likely than not to be headed by single females. 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. Accordingly, 40% of the county's children currently live in single parent families. This rate has been increasing over the last several years, unlike rates in comparison geographies.

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

Voting

Voting patterns in Spartanburg County, as across the nation, show that significantly larger percentages of registered voters turn out in national election years. Increasing proportions of voters are non-white. In the 2016 election, 73.7% of Spartanburg County voters were white (a decrease from 83.3% in 2007), aligning with the county population where 73.2% are "white alone". In 2016, 26.3% of voters were non-white (up from 16.7% in 2000), slightly above the county's non-white population of 24.6%.

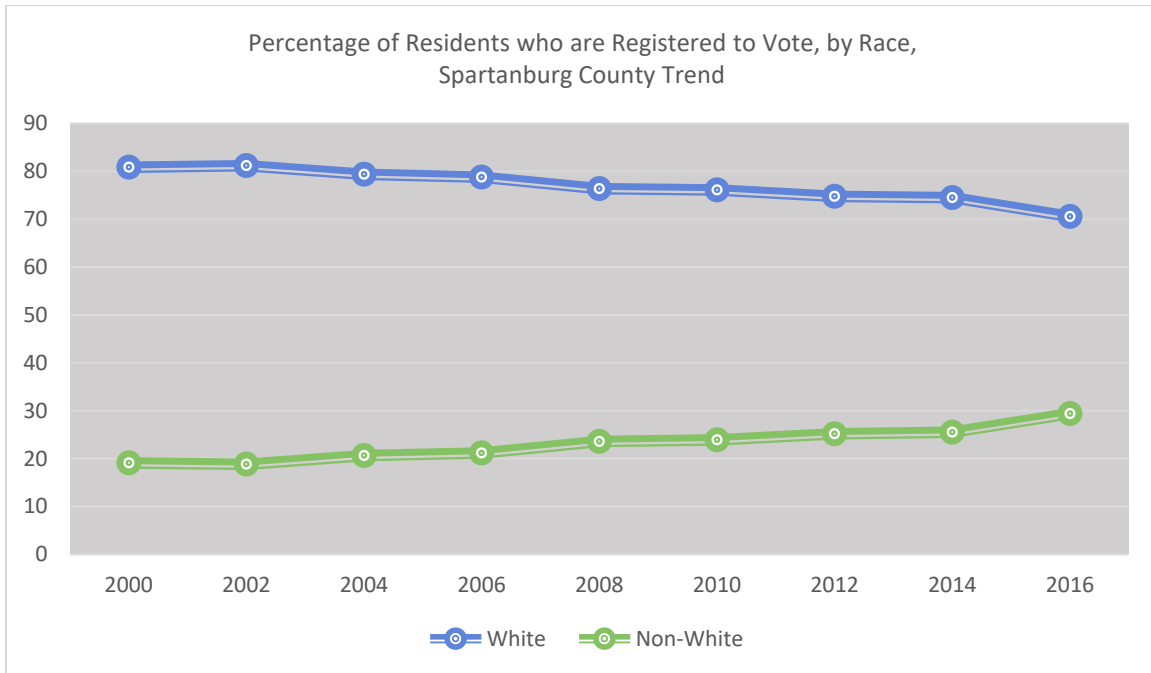


Source: SC Election Commission

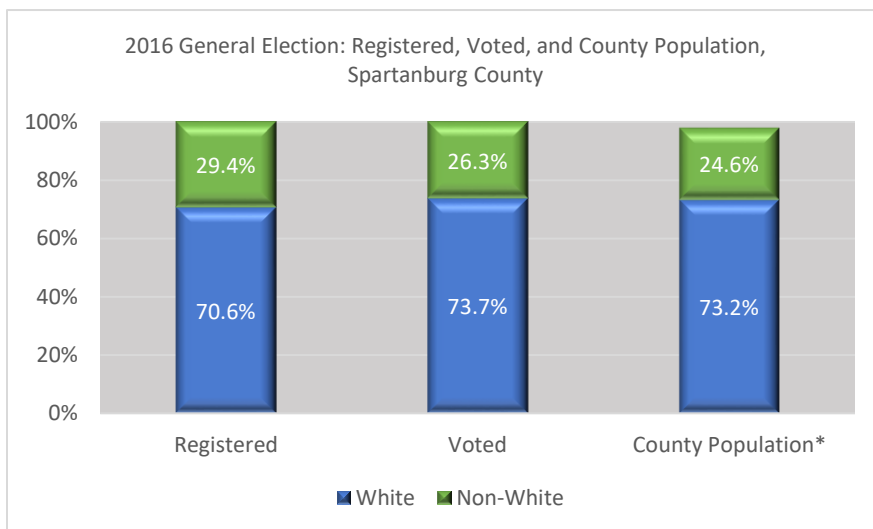
*Voting = percentage of registered voters who voted

**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 Spartanburg County residents who are registered to vote, 29.4% are non-white and 70.6% are white. The trend shows a steady increase in the proportion of registered voters in Spartanburg County who are non-white.



Source: SC Election Commission



These data taken together show that the non-white proportions of registered voters and actual voters (2016) are higher than the non-white proportion of the county population. Although the proportion of registered white voters is lower than the county population of white residents, the proportion of actual voters is equal to the county proportion of whites.

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

The following table provides voting data disaggregated by Spartanburg County precincts in 2016. These data can be used to inform voter registration and participation efforts at the neighborhood level.

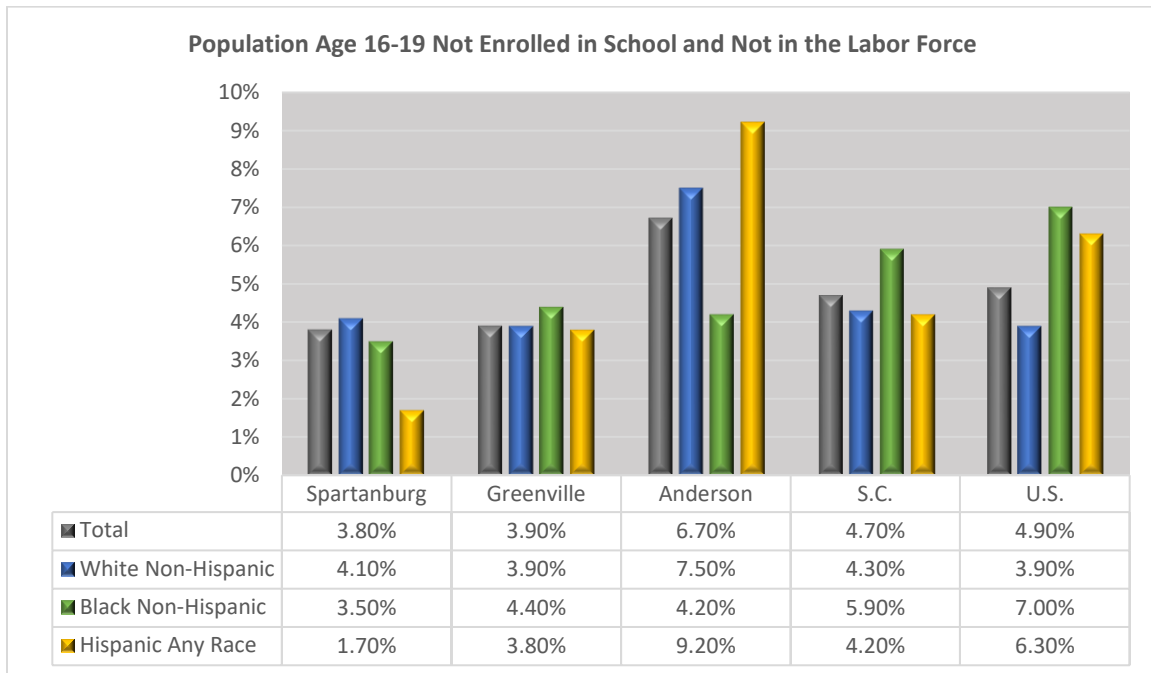
Registration and Voting by Precinct, Spartanburg County, General Election 2016					
Precinct	# Registered	# Voting	% Voting	White	Non-white
Woodruff Leisure Center	1267	682	53.83	570	112
Arcadia Elementary	1001	530	52.94	329	201
Rebirth Missionary Baptist	3112	2161	69.44	1873	288
Friendship Baptist	3691	2512	68.05	2262	250
Morningside	2001	1447	72.31	1248	199
Boiling Springs 9 th Grade	3683	2494	67.71	2018	476
Gable Middle School	2982	2206	73.97	1919	287
Lake Bowen Baptist	3823	2865	74.94	2701	164
Cooley Springs Baptist	2257	1519	67.30	1300	219
Landrum High School	2370	1670	70.46	1597	73
Hendrix Elementary	3519	2363	67.14	1574	789
Cannons Elementary	1116	809	72.49	677	132
Cavins Hobbysville	898	643	71.60	600	43
E.P. Todd Elementary	2188	1486	67.91	919	567
Cherokee Springs Fire Station	1589	1074	67.58	933	141
Clifdale Elementary	842	554	65.79	494	60
Converse Fire Station	1148	773	67.33	634	139
Cowpens Fire Station	1661	1093	65.80	969	124
Cowpens Fire Station	1661	1093	65.80	969	124
Woodruff Fire Station	1113	810	72.77	739	71
Cross Anchor Fire Station	752	490	65.15	413	77
Fairforest Elementary	2441	1736	71.11	1511	225
Abner Creek Baptist	1261	927	73.51	841	86
Drayton Fire Station	1330	790	59.39	516	274
Cedar Grove Baptist	1266	685	54.10	141	544
Enoree First Baptist	1265	824	65.13	729	95
Fairforest Middle School	2645	1748	66.08	1317	431
Travelers Rest Baptist	2994	1965	65.63	1310	655
Glendale Fire Station	1386	982	70.85	921	61
Gramling Methodist	1368	1070	78.21	1056	14
Hayne Baptist	1443	738	51.14	405	333
Holly Springs Baptist	2705	1935	71.53	1863	72
Chapman High School	2742	1934	70.53	1512	422
Landrum United Methodist	2835	1948	68.71	1817	131
Lyman Town Hall	3213	2410	75.00	2026	384
Motlow Creek Baptist	990	749	75.65	714	35
R.D. Anderson Vocational	1561	1196	76.61	1102	94
Swofford Career Center	2930	2051	70	1932	119
Pauline Glenn Springs Elementary	1001	738	73.72	690	48
Pelham fire Station	1580	1209	76.51	1054	155
Poplar Springs Fire Station	2452	1821	74.26	1581	240
Reidville Elementary	2804	2031	72.43	1804	227
Roebuck elementary	2782	1890	67.93	1047	843
Mount Moriah Baptist	1393	846	60.73	184	662
CC Woodson Rec Center	1386	921	66.45	38	883
St. John's Lutheran	1383	1083	78.30	1056	27
Trinity Methodist	1639	1208	73.70	1161	47
Southside Baptist	1194	697	58.37	271	426

Spartanburg High School	2315	1647	71.14	1403	244
Cornerstone Baptist	1469	1065	72.49	601	464
Woodland Heights Rec Center	2006	1312	65.40	729	583
Holy Communion Lutheran	1912	1213	63.44	539	674
Beaumont Methodist	663	393	59.27	294	99
Cleveland Elementary	1549	807	52.09	164	643
Ebenezer Baptist	806	518	64.26	32	486
Startex Fire Station	956	581	60.77	323	258
Victor Mill Methodist	1728	1021	59.08	737	284
Mt Calvary Presbyterian	2521	1896	75.20	1826	70
Wellford	2536	1593	62.81	1007	586
West View Elementary	4205	3024	71.91	2408	616
Croft Baptist	1194	728	60.97	403	325
Whitlock Junior High	1556	1035	66.51	793	242
Bethany Baptist	1480	826	55.81	349	477
Eastside Baptist	1453	1147	78.94	952	195
Mount Zion F G Baptist	828	504	60.86	252	201
Jesse Bobo Elementary	1969	1118	56.78	789	418
White Stone Methodist	884	599	67.76	209	271
Cudd Memorial	1329	817	61.47	298	321
Oakland Elementary	2119	1480	69.84	105	673
Boiling Springs Intermediate	33234	2155	66.63	545	963
Carlisle Fosters Grove	1941	1456	75.01	118	709
Cowpens Depot Museum	1134	741	65.34	190	325
Beech Springs Intermediate	1798	1276	70.96	251	524
Greater St. James	2274	1490	65.52	1259	231
Bethany Wesleyan	2544	1900	74.68	1620	280
Reidville Fire Station	2741	1986	72.45	1640	346
Roebuck Bethlehem	1429	979	68.50	668	311
Jesse Boyd Elementary	1567	932	59.47	597	335
Anderson Mill Elementary	4091	2831	69.2	2138	693
Daniel Morgan Tech Center	1283	959	74.74	869	90
Boiling Springs Elementary	3256	2285	70.17	1847	438
Boiling Springs Jr. High	1070	829	77.47	763	66
Chapman Elementary	1725	1168	67.71	899	269
Carlisle Wesleyan	1182	890	75.29	829	61
Boiling Springs High School	1288	921	71.50	792	129
Ben Avon Methodist	1385	1073	77.47	1013	60
Pacolet Elementary School	2066	1424	68.92	1117	307
Chesnee Elementary School	2808	1777	63.28	1455	322
Park Hills Elementary	1494	1011	67.67	240	771
Canaan	1043	741	71.04	584	157
Powell Saxon Una	1692	938	55.43	282	656
Woodruff Elementary	2359	1409	59.72	1041	368
Duncan United Methodist	1339	950	70.94	648	302
River Ridge Elementary	1862	1441	77.38	1155	286
Mayo Elementary	1710	1170	68.42	1114	56
Totals	178,795	122,369	68.44	94,887	27,482

Source: SC Election Commission

Idleness

The U.S. Census measures “idleness” for teenagers – by definition, residents age 16-19 who are not in school and not in the labor force. The table below demonstrates that of the 15,862 residents age 16-19 in Spartanburg County, 3.8% are not in school and do not work. White, non-Hispanic teens have the highest rate of idleness, and Hispanics have the lowest rate in Spartanburg County. Spartanburg and Greenville Counties have the lowest total rate of idleness compared to Anderson County and the state and national averages.



Source: U.S. Census

Family Composition

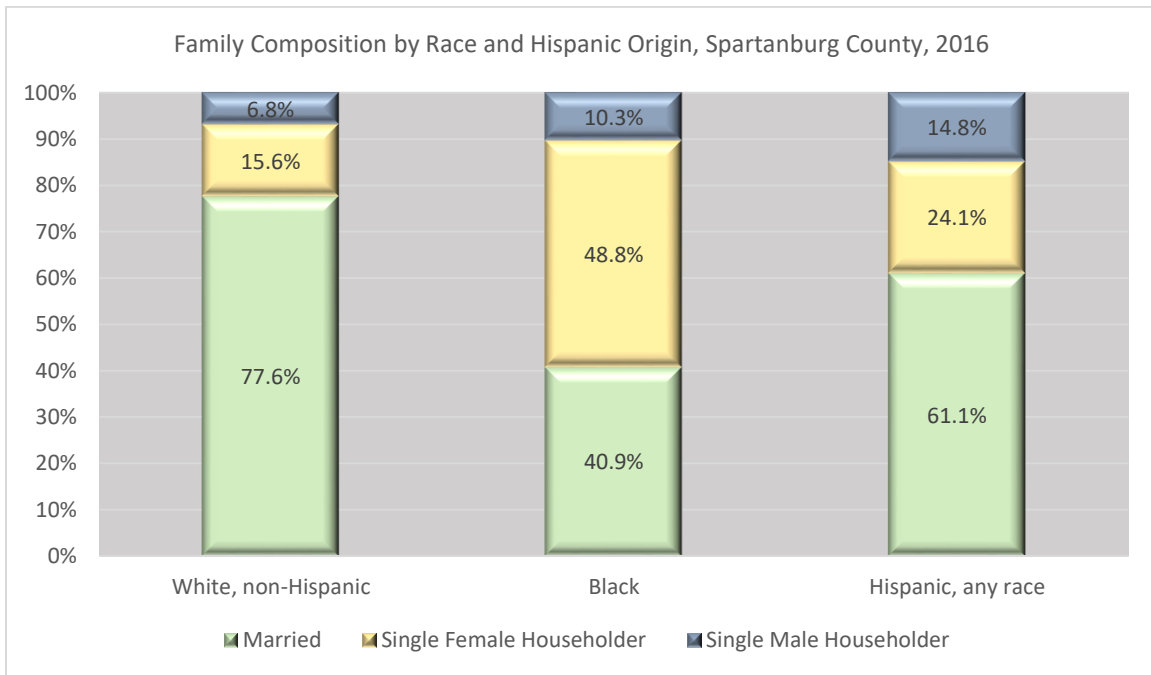
Strong families and two-parent households are a predictor of economic mobility, strong neighborhoods, and strong cities. The table below demonstrates that approximately 70% of families in Spartanburg County are married-couple families, slightly under the state and U.S. averages. Just over half of the families in the City of Spartanburg are married couple families.

Family Composition, City, County, SC and US, 2016 (5 year average)								
	Spartanburg City		Spartanburg County		SC		US	
Total families	8,876		76,248		1,220,791		77,608,829	
Mean family size	3.0		3.12		3.13		3.24	
Married-couple families	4,562	51.4%	53,077	69.6%	863,581	70.7%	56,781,405	73.2%
Male householder*	736	8.3%	5,963	7.8%	84,067	6.9%	5,681,312	7.3%
Female householder**	3,578	40.3%	17,208	22.6%	273,143	22.4%	15,146,112	19.5%

*no wife present **no husband present

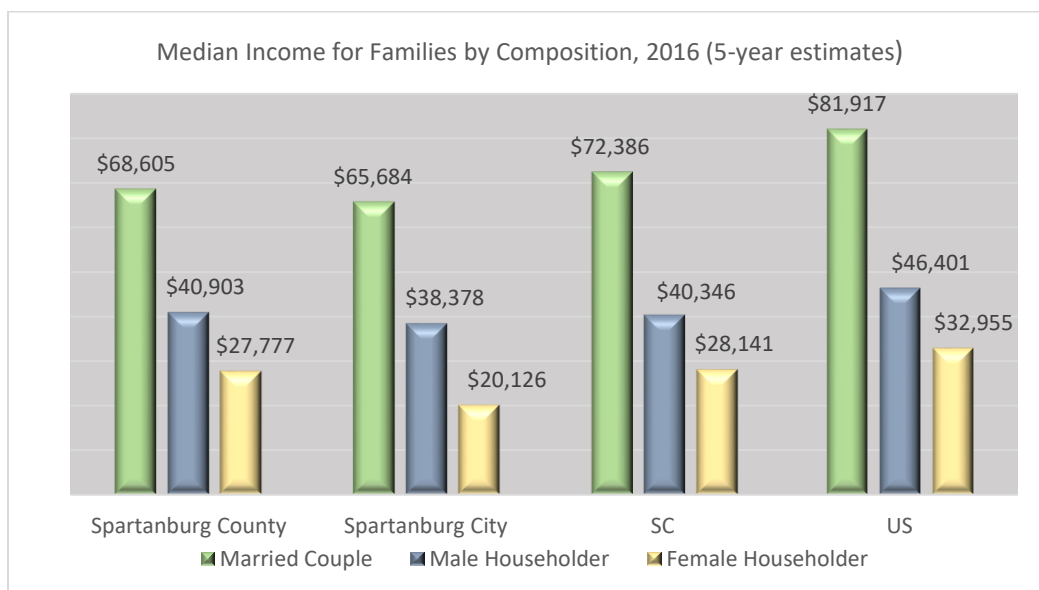
Source: US Census

In Spartanburg County, there are significant racial inequities in family composition with approximately 78% of white non-Hispanic families headed by a married couple. For black families, 41% are headed by a married couple, and for Hispanic families, 61% are headed by a married couple.



Source: US Census S1702

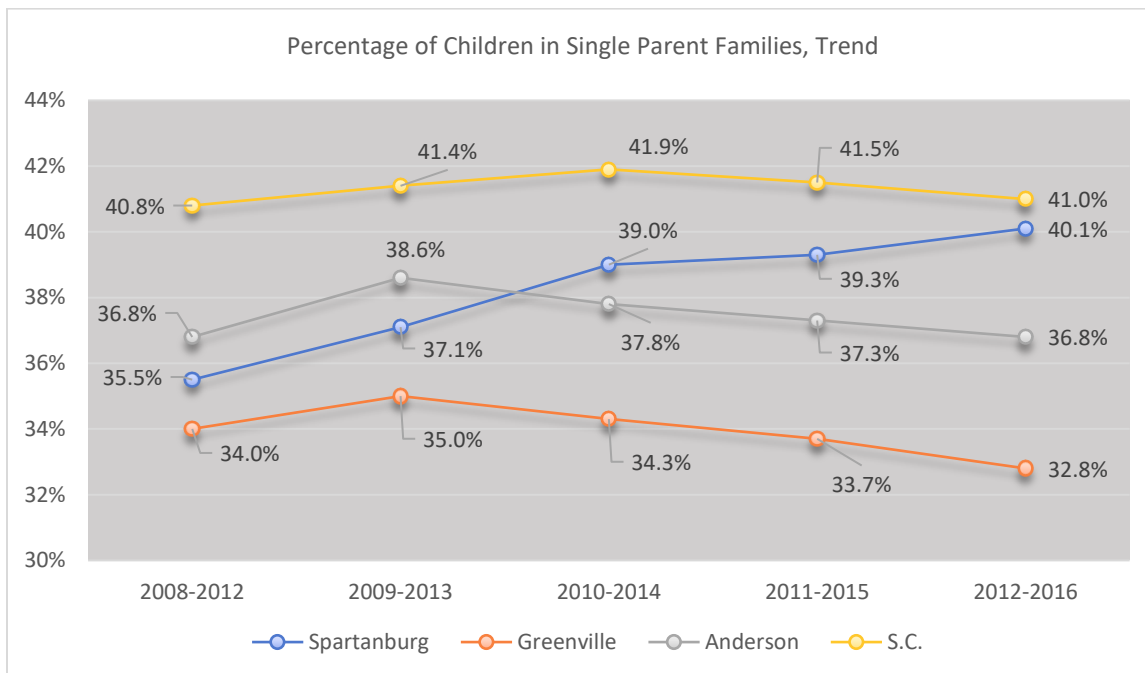
Income is directly related to family composition, as demonstrated in the graph below. Regardless of geography, married couple families have significantly higher income compared to families headed by single parents. Further, single parent families headed by male householders have significantly higher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

In Spartanburg County, 40% of children currently live in single parent families. There has been a steady increase in this percentage over the last five years, while peer counties and the state average have dropped slightly.



Source: Kids Count Data Center

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 Spartanburg County.



Credit: Slate.com

Criminal Justice

Why is this important?

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. Incarceration has enduring economic effects by stifling employment and suppressing labor force participation. The Kellogg Foundation and the Altarium Institute⁵ 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.

Information on race is available for each step of the criminal justice system - from police stops, arrests, the bail system, legal representation, jury selection, trial, sentencing, prison, parole and freedom. At each step, there is evidence of inequitable burden for blacks.

How is Spartanburg doing?

Spartanburg County data reflects racial inequities in the criminal justice. Blacks (and especially black males) are very much overrepresented in local jails, the county detention center, and in other correctional facilities. Inequities are long-standing and likely reflect enduring racial and political bias in policies and practices.

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

Arrests

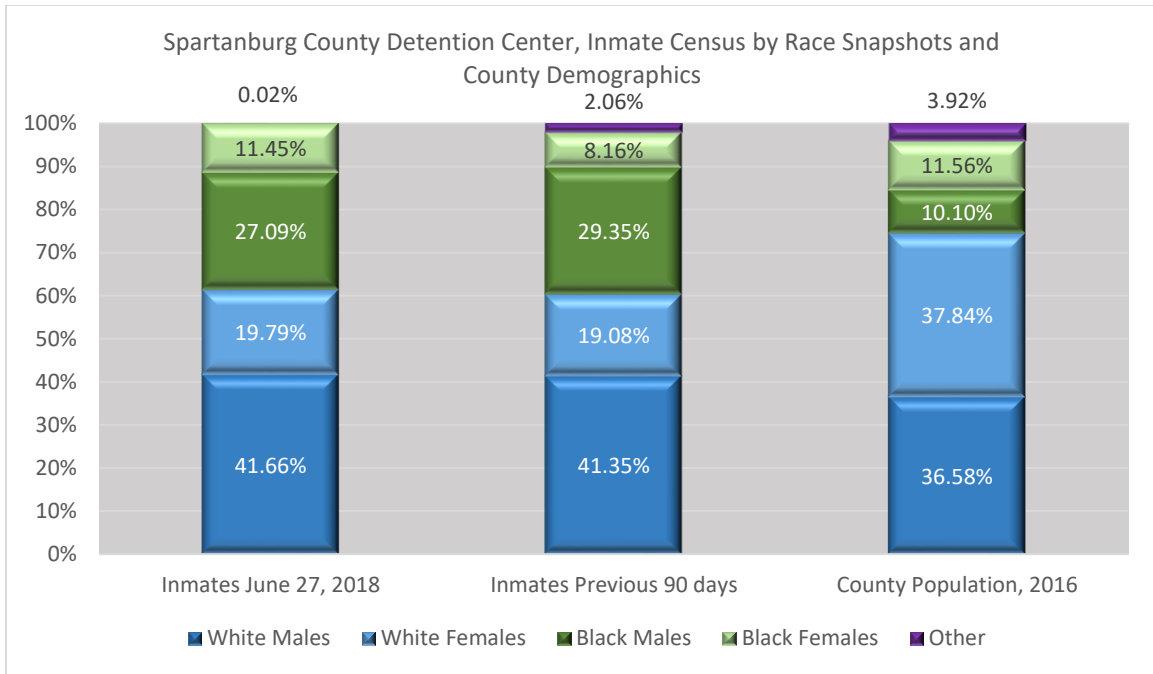
In South Carolina, 67.3% of the population is white, and 27.4% of the population is black. It would be expected that arrests by race would follow the same general racial composition; however, they clearly do not. In the table below, disproportionate arrests of blacks are highlighted in yellow for juveniles and in orange for adults. Calculations were not made for charges with fewer than 25 arrests, indicated in gray. In only two of the remaining cases, are blacks not arrested at disproportionately high rates, indicated in green.

South Carolina Arrests by Race and Charge, 2015						
Charge	Juveniles			Adults		
	Black	White	Other	Black	White	Other
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter	11	2	0	211	83	0
Sexual Battery	38	29	0	237	248	0
Robbery	109	9	0	889	360	6
Aggravated Assault	170	77	0	3,178	2,408	27
Kidnapping / Abduction	13	4	0	288	223	1
Fondling	14	25	0	115	169	4
Burglary / Breaking & Entering	316	138	2	1,823	2,154	15
Motor Vehicle Theft	48	26	0	356	616	8
Larceny / Theft Offenses	1,251	810	11	9,058	14,450	113
Arson	12	16	0	58	79	1
Drug / Narcotic Offenses	456	636	6	16,370	17,571	119
Weapon Law Violations	249	143	2	2,461	1,222	5
Sexual Exposure	3	4	0	125	100	0
Sex Offenses, Non-forcible	1	1	0	41	47	0
Simple Assault	1,211	633	10	8,302	9,052	73
Destruction / Damage / Vandalism of property	368	260	1	2,129	1,994	10
Intimidation	138	83	0	550	579	0

Telephone Calls	3	14	0	194	328	1
Extortion / Blackmail	0	0	0	3	9	0
Embezzlement	1	4	0	333	227	2
Counterfeiting / Forgery	2	2	0	1,004	931	12
Fraud Offenses	38	15	0	1,725	2,515	15
Bribery	0	0	0	2	3	0
Stolen Property Offenses	106	23	0	1,109	1,563	3
Prostitution Offenses	2	0	0	272	392	21
Gambling Offenses	6	0	0	111	33	10
Pornography / Obscene Material	3	13	0	10	65	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	10	0	0
Using Motor Vehicle Without Consent	13	26	0	125	203	0
Driving Under the Influence	3	14	0	5,279	12,064	134
Bad Checks	1	0	0	439	493	2
Liquor Law Violations	37	177	3	3,169	5,371	77
Drunkenness	14	18	0	3,359	5,958	41
Disorderly Conduct	1,097	412	3	5,045	5,555	61
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	7	2	0	816	793	10
Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor	4	1	0	101	173	5
Resisting Arrest	80	27	1	1,259	826	12
All other Group B Offenses	610	404	7	10,248	17,104	300
Curfew / Loitering/ Vagrancy violations	15	8	0	355	265	0
Truancy	1	0	0	0	0	0

Source: SC Law Enforcement Division³¹

Although arrest data by race is not publically available for Spartanburg County, point-in-time snapshots on a given day (June 27, 2018) and a given 90-day period (prior to July 2, 2018) of Spartanburg County Detention Center inmate census shows that, in comparison to the county population, white males and black males are over represented in the inmate population. Black males experience almost three times the expected rate of incarceration – comparing their 90 day census with population demographics. White males experience a 13% higher rate of incarceration compared with their county population demographic. Females are underrepresented, although white females are significantly more underrepresented compared to black females.



Source: Spartanburg County Detention Center

Sentencing

A study of criminal sentencing patterns in South Carolina, published in 2014 in the Journal of Quantitative Criminology,³² 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.

“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.”

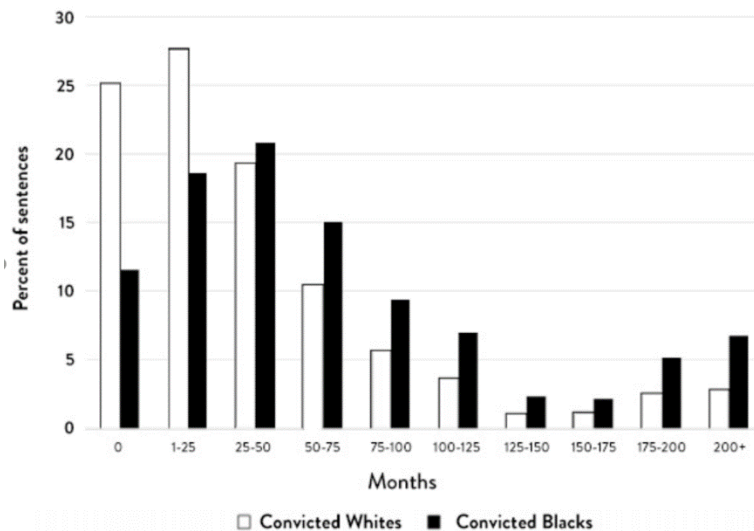
Todd Hartman, Co-Author, Conditional Race Disparities in Criminal Sentencing³³

There are no sentencing by race data publically available for Spartanburg County.

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.³⁴ In 2016, the Prison Policy Initiative³⁵ 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.

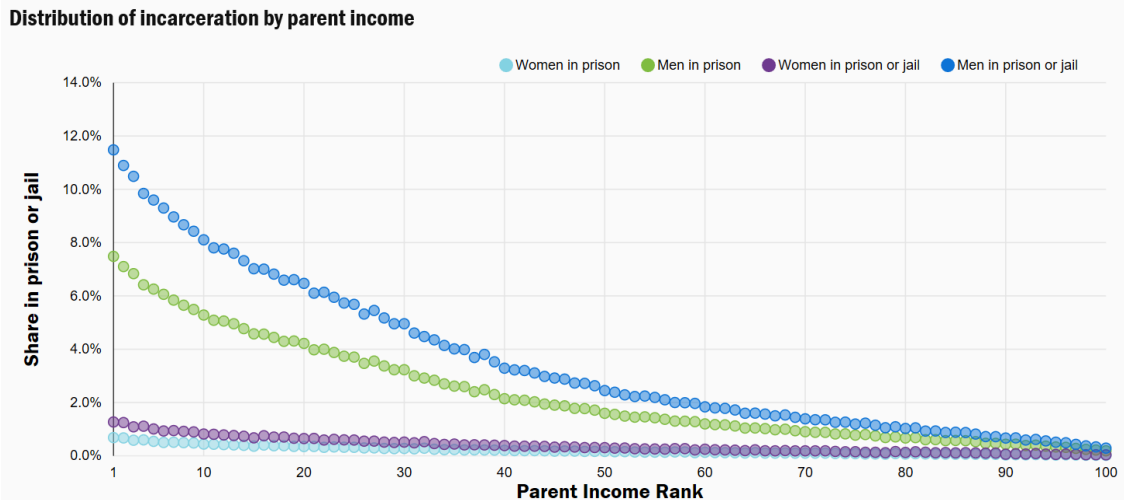
Distribution of Prison Sentences by Race, U.S. (2012):³⁶



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.¹⁴ 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.

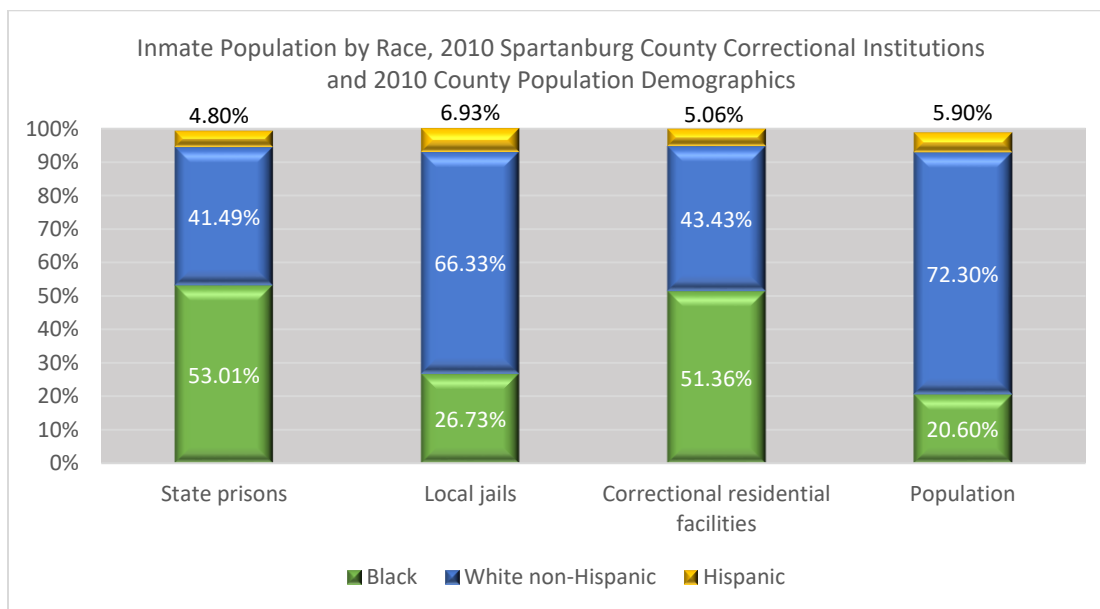
Incarceration is inextricably tied to poverty. A recent Brookings Institution study³⁷ shows that growing up in poverty dramatically increases the likelihood of incarceration. Boys who grow up in families in the bottom 10% of the income distribution are 20 times more likely to be in prison on a given 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.³⁷ 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.

The U.S. Census reports in the 2010 decennial census numbers that, of the 2,600 adults in correctional facilities in Spartanburg County, 51.2% were black, 43.4% were white non-Hispanic, and 5.0% were Hispanic. The graph below demonstrates the racial inequities by race for this time period and for these various facility types.



Source: US Census, 2010 decennial census PCT20

The South Carolina Department of Corrections 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

Best Practice:

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://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/reentry-and-employment/>

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.³⁸ 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.³⁹ On average, 5% of white students are suspended, compared to 16% of black students.⁴⁰

Suspension and expulsion data are available by South Carolina school districts; however, they are not disaggregated by race. The table below report the latest data by district, grade, and nature of offense for all seven Spartanburg County school districts. These small numbers constitute a very small percentage of students in Spartanburg County public schools.

Suspensions and Expulsions, All Spartanburg County School Districts, School Year 2015-2016																									
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																	1								
Drug Distribution																	2							1	
Forced Sex																									
Homicide																									
Kidnapping/Abduction																									
Robbery																									
Firearms																							1	1	
All other Weapons					1		3				1		2		3				2		2		5		
Total all Districts					1		3				1		2		3		3		2		3		7		

Source: SC Department of Education⁴¹

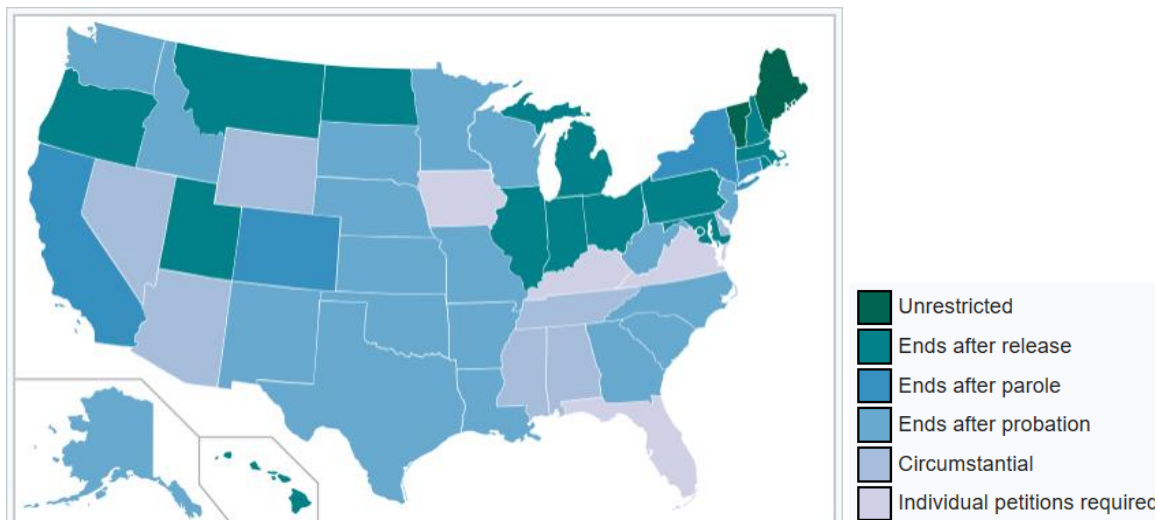
In school year 2015-2016, there were no expulsions across all Spartanburg districts. Additionally, there were no suspensions in grades 1 or 2 across all districts. There were no suspensions in districts 1, 5, and 7. There were 19 total suspensions for weapons other than firearms. There were 2 suspensions for firearms. There were 3 suspensions for drug distribution. There was 1 suspension for aggravated assault. There were 25 total suspensions across all districts.

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. Most states restore voting rights to felons after they have completed their sentences, but some, like South Carolina, wait for probation and parole to be complete. Felons in Maine and Vermont never lose voting rights, but felons in 13 states, including Virginia, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida have a complete and indefinite loss of voting rights.

Some states require special petitions to restore voting rights. Florida, for example, bars felons from voting unless officials approve a request to have those rights restored. The governor has the arbitrary power to approve or disapprove each petition, without any legal standard. That means nearly 1.5 million people in Florida are barred from voting, even though their sentences are complete.⁴²

Restoration of Voting Rights After Felony Convictions



Source: National Conference of State Legislatures⁴³

Critics believe the reason some states require special petitions to reinstate felons’ voting rights is political, aimed at suppressing the vote in minority communities. In Florida, more than 20% of otherwise eligible black adults are unable to vote because of the disenfranchisement law.⁴² 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.

Although local data relative to racial inequities in the justice system are difficult to obtain, general extrapolations can be made from the national data³⁶ 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: photocase.com

Health

Why is this important?

Where health-promoting factors do not exist, the cost to 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 Altarium Institute⁵ 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 address⁴⁵ since systems play a critical role in increasing or maintaining inequities resulting from discriminatory practices and policies. More equitable practices and policies will move society toward greater health equity.

Inequitable distribution in the conditions and resources that predict good health outcomes means, in Spartanburg as in most other communities, that residents with low income and residents of color have poorer health outcomes. In Spartanburg County there is significant racial inequity in infant mortality, inadequate prenatal care, low birth weight, and chronic health conditions and illnesses including diabetes, obesity, cardiac disease, and cancers. 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 worse health behaviors and higher rates of adverse childhood experiences. A positive finding is a significant decrease in teen pregnancy in Spartanburg overall, and a decrease across races such that there are no longer inequities between black teens and white teens.

Social Determinants of Health



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 homelessness, hunger and lack of 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

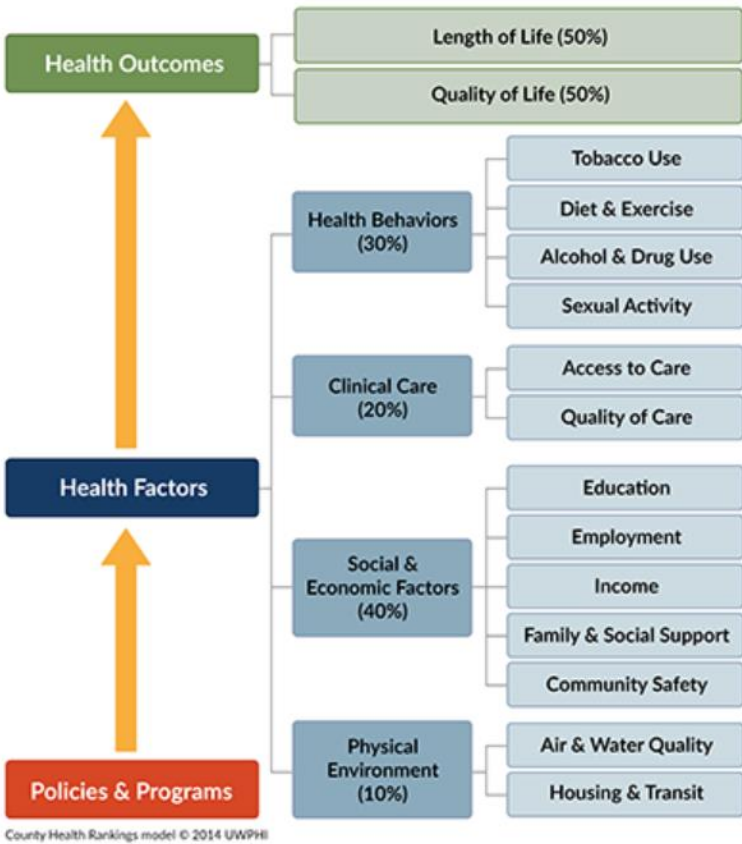
advances. Social determinants are so powerful that the CDC has included “creating social and physical environments that promote good health for all” as one of the four overarching goals for its Healthy People 2020 campaign.

Source: CDC, Healthy People 2020

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.⁴⁶

*“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 Rankings⁴⁷ model that follows, a wide range of factors influence 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 show 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.⁴⁸ 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 consequences for health.^{49,50}

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 inequity data are limited, 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.⁵¹ 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.

Infant Mortality Numbers and Rates , Spartanburg County				
		2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016
Black or other race	Number	22	24	25
	Rate	7.9	9.4	9.0
White	Number	22	34	36
	Rate	2.8	4.3	4.5
Total	Number	44	58	61
	Rate	4.1	5.5	5.6

The infant mortality rate in Spartanburg County is lower than in Greenville and Anderson Counties and the state average; however, there is significant inequity in infant mortality by race, with black / other race babies dying at a higher

rate across all geographies. It is concerning that rates are not decreasing in Spartanburg County over time.

Source: Kids Count Data Center

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 860 women gave birth in South Carolina in 2016 having received no prenatal care at all - the highest number in more than 20 years.⁵²

In Spartanburg County, 135 babies were born in 2012 through 2016 to mothers who received no prenatal care at all. Because these births account for very small annual numbers, when they are further disaggregated by race and converted to rates, they become statistically unreliable and should be interpreted with extreme caution. However, the rates indicate that black mothers may be more likely than white mothers to have received at least some prenatal care. Even at the state level, numbers of

births to mothers with no prenatal care are still small and must be interpreted cautiously. Interestingly, however, rates of no prenatal care are much higher for black mothers than for white mothers statewide. In all cases, mothers in Spartanburg are more likely to get some prenatal care than mothers on average across the state.

Births to Mothers With no Prenatal Care, 2012-2016					Births to Mothers With Inadequate Prenatal Care, 2012-2016				
	Spartanburg County		South Carolina			Spartanburg County		South Carolina	
Race	#	Rate*	#	Rate*	Race	#	Rate*	#	Rate*
White	98	7.4	1,867	9.9	White	2,210	166.6	30,508	161.5
Black	26	6.4	1,437	16.0	Black	817	199.8	21,419	237.8
Other	10	18.5	168	21.8	Other	102	188.9	1,649	214.5
Unknown	1	125.0	17	64.6	Unknown	5	625.0	78	296.6
Total	135	7.5	3,489	12.1	Total	3,134	175.1	53,654	187.0

Source: SC DHEC SCAN

*per 1,000 live births

However, black mothers are at significantly more risk than white mothers for receiving inadequate prenatal care in Spartanburg County and on average across the state. Numbers of women who received inadequate prenatal care are high, and inequities by race are significant.

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 Spartanburg County, 2010-2016 data show that 9% of newborns had low birth weight, just under the state average of 10%. However, by race:

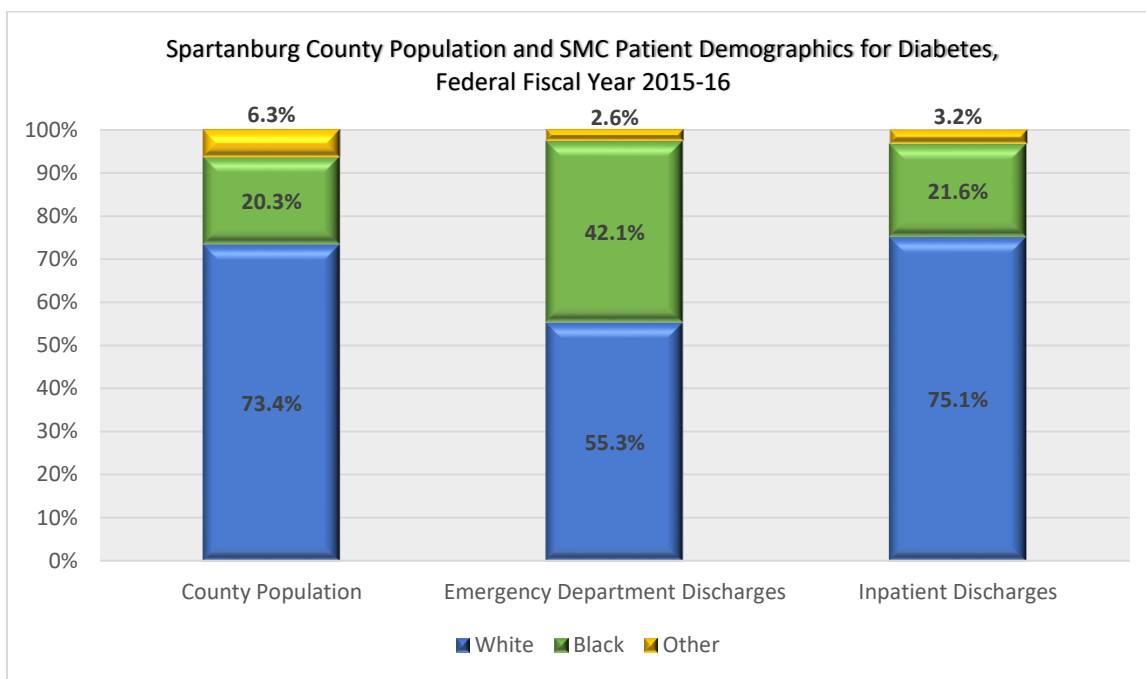
- 8% of white babies had low birth weight
- 14% of black babies had low birth weight
- 7% of Hispanic babies (any race) had low birth weight

Diabetes

In 2015, 30.3 million Americans, or 9.4% of the population, had diabetes. Each year 1.5 million Americans are diagnosed with diabetes, and the disease is the 7th leading cause of death in the U.S. Moreover, diabetes costs billions in medical care, chronic disability and lost productivity. South Carolina had the 7th highest prevalence of diabetes among adults in the nation in 2014 - one in eight adults in the state has diabetes.⁵³

There are racial inequities in diagnosis (incidence) and in people living with diabetes (prevalence). In South Carolina, one in six black adults has diabetes, compared to one in nine white adults.⁵³ In Spartanburg County, hospital data also reflect inequities in diabetes. Blacks constituted 20.3% of Spartanburg County

population in 2016 but accounted for 42.1% of Emergency Department (ED) visits for any diagnosis of diabetes. Conversely, whites constituted 73.4% of Spartanburg County population in 2016 but accounted for 55.3% of ED visits.⁵⁴ Beyond differences in incidence, these data likely reflect inequities in accessing routine care for diabetes, with a disproportionate share of blacks accessing care through the ED. Further, there is an equitable distribution by race for inpatient diabetes care at Spartanburg Medical Center, with a greater proportion of whites being admitted for treatment, even though diabetes prevalence is significantly higher in blacks.



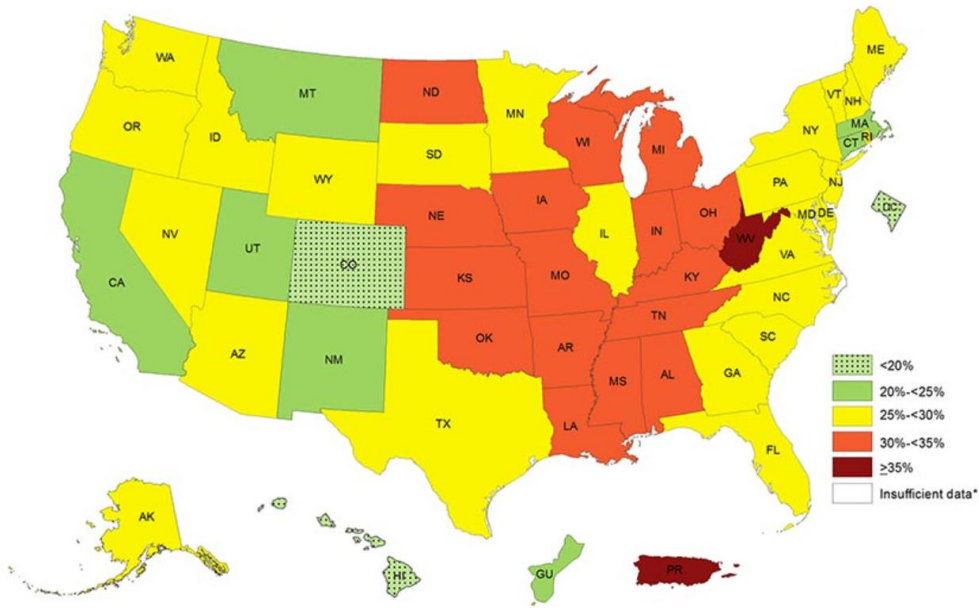
Source: Community Health Improvement, SRHC

Obesity

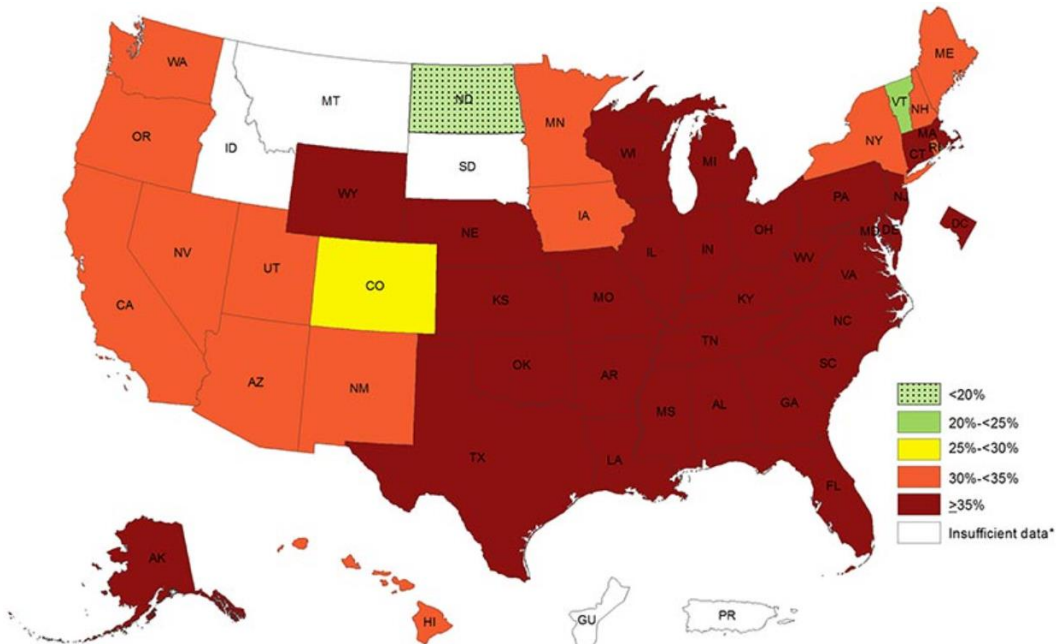
Obesity is a leading cause of chronic health problems. It is considered a “double burden” of ill health since it is typically a coexistence of under-nutrition and overweight. Nationally, 2014-2016 self-reported obesity prevalence is much higher in non-Hispanic blacks (38.3%), followed by Hispanics (32.5%) and non-Hispanic whites (28.1%). Obesity is highly correlated with socioeconomic status. The CDC reports that the prevalence of obesity decreases with increasing level of education of the head of household head among children and adolescents aged 2-19 years,⁵⁵ and low income neighborhoods are generally associated with higher obesity rates.⁵⁶ When disaggregated by race, however, the relationship between low income and obesity diminishes – there is a higher correlation between race and obesity than income and obesity. CDC data⁵⁷ 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, 2014-2016*

White Non-Hispanics



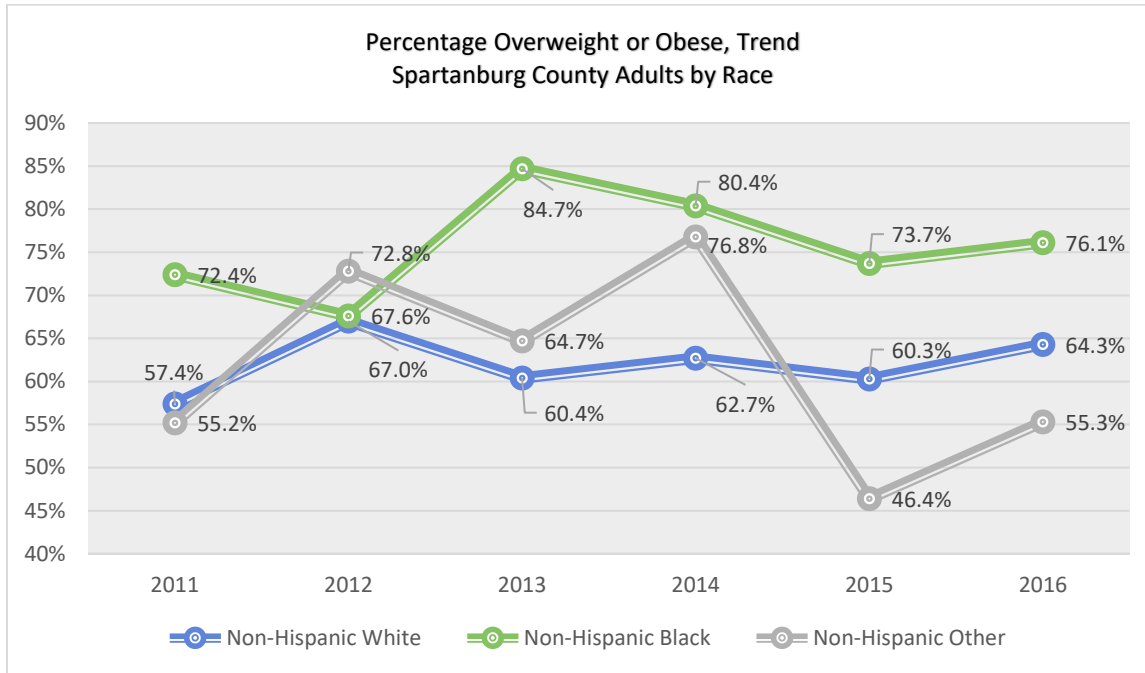
Black Non-Hispanics



Source: BRFSS

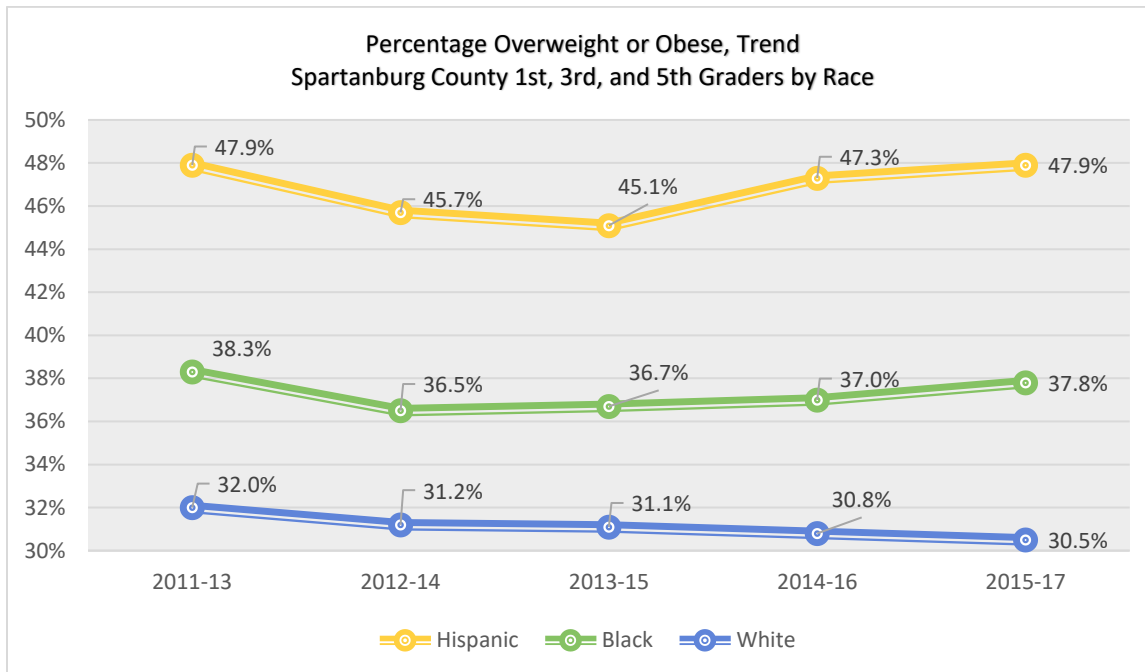
*Due to methodological changes cannot be compared to BRFSS prevalence estimates before 2011

In Spartanburg County, prevalence of obesity reflects the national data with blacks having much higher rates of obesity, compared to whites.



Source: SC BRFSS

Inequities in obesity prevalence by race are also clear for children in Spartanburg County, with Hispanic and black children having consistently higher rates compared to white children.



Source: Spartanburg DHEC and Road to Better Health

Cancer

Spartanburg County ranks 11th among the state’s 46 counties for all-cancer incidence rates, but it ranks 27th for all-cancer mortality rates. This is likely due to greater access to care in Spartanburg, 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. Moreover, cancers with low incidence numbers will not provide meaningful comparative data, especially when disaggregated by race.

The following data from the S.C. Central Cancer Registry⁵⁸ show, that for all cancers combined, Spartanburg has lower incidence for blacks than for whites. However, blacks have a much higher mortality rate than whites. In other words, cancer in Spartanburg is diagnosed at a higher rate in whites, but blacks in Spartanburg die of cancer at a much higher rate than whites. In fact, blacks in Spartanburg County rank 8th in the state for cancer mortality.

All Cancer Incidence 2009-2013 5-year Averages					All Cancer Mortality 2009-2013 5-year Averages				
	S.C.	Spartanburg County				S.C.	Spartanburg County		
	Rate**	Rate**	New Cases	SC Rank		Rate**	Rate**	Deaths	SC Rank
All*	460	467	1,515	19	All*	179	181	578	28
White	458	471	1,240	17	White	171	174	459	25
Black	464	464	253	24	Black	207	227	113	8

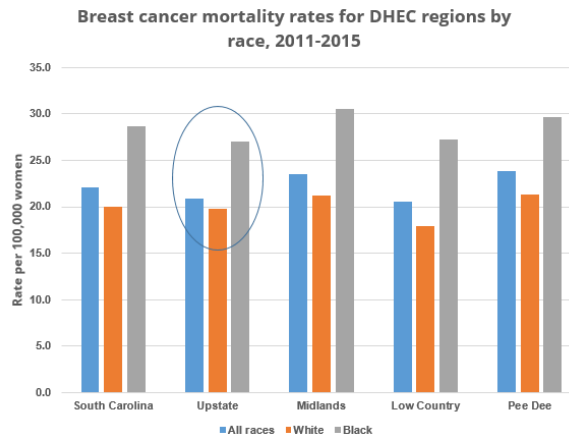
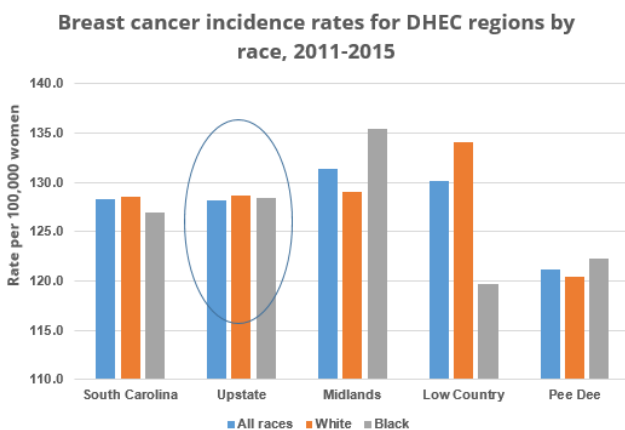
Source: SC DHEC, SC Central Cancer Registry

*Includes other races and unknown races

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

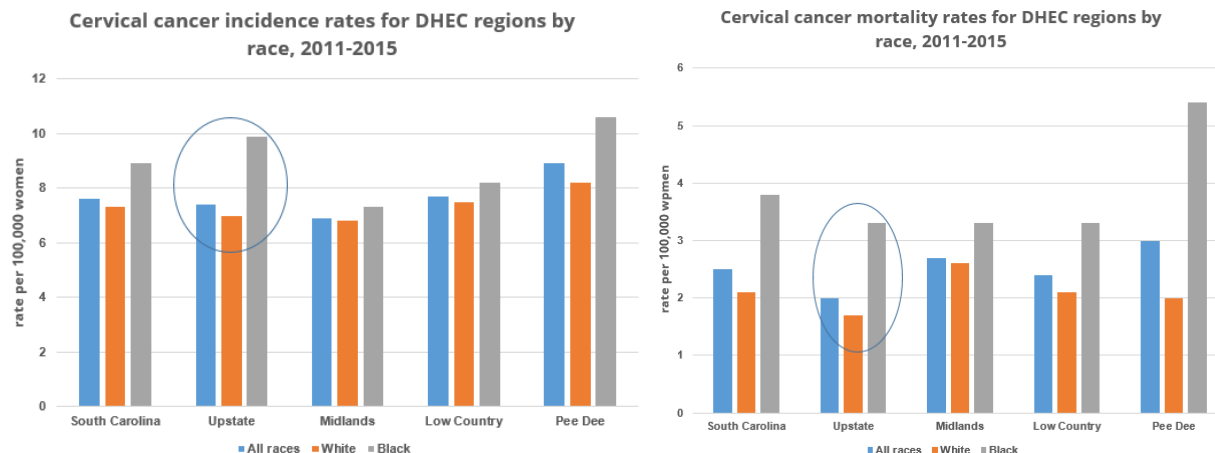
Statistics do not include in situ cancers, except for bladder

The following data, specific to cancer types, are provided by S.C. DHEC for the Upstate region and illustrate clear cancer inequities by race. Breast cancer incidence in the Upstate is only 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, and mortality is almost double (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 conducted by state through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACEs questions started to be included in BRFSS in 2009, and 32 states and the District of Columbia 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.

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

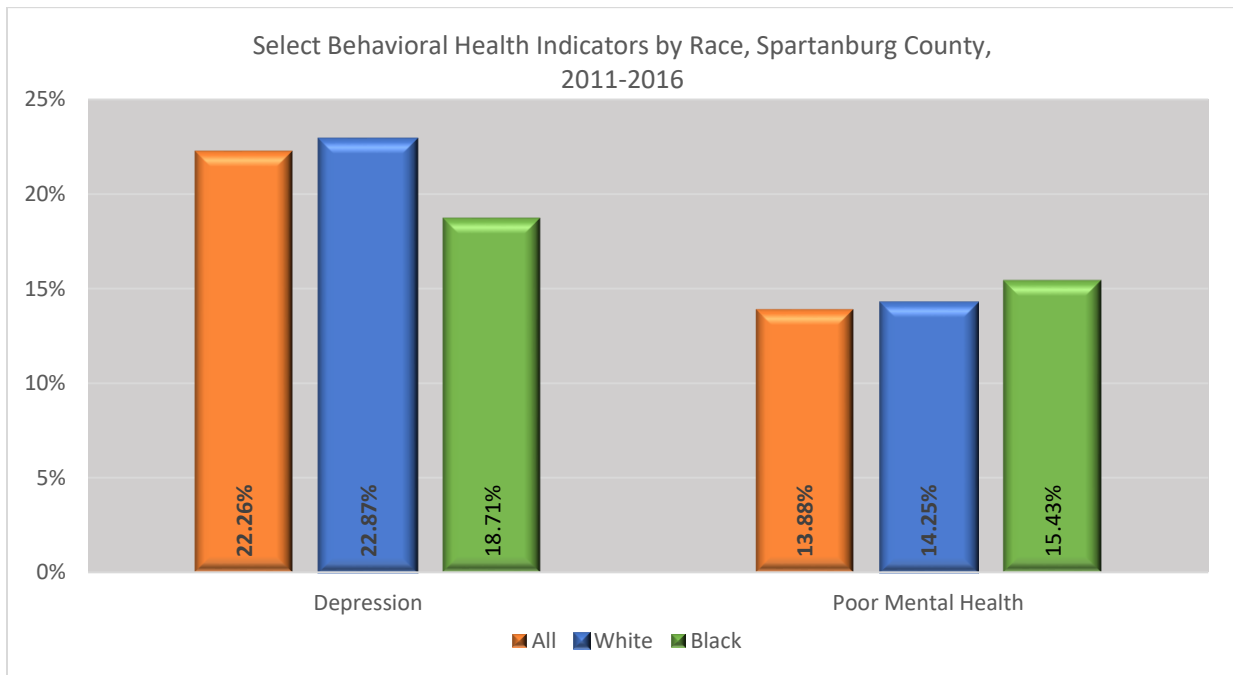
SC DHEC Region 1* ACEs Responses, 2014-2015				
	% of Survey	No ACEs	1 or More ACEs	4 or More ACEs
All	100%	40%	60%	17%
White Non-Hispanic	76%	43%	57%	16%
Black Non-Hispanic	16%	27%	73%	18%
Hispanic Any Race	5%	25%	75%	18%

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

*Spartanburg, Greenville, Cherokee, Union, Pickens Counties

Mental Health / Depression

When asked on the BRFSS about “your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?”, the graph below shows responses by race for those whose answer was 14 or more days. It also shows responses to the BRFSS question “Have you ever been told you that you have a depressive disorder, including depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression?”. Responses show that blacks in Spartanburg County report having depression at lower rates than whites, but they report having poor mental health at about the same rate as whites.



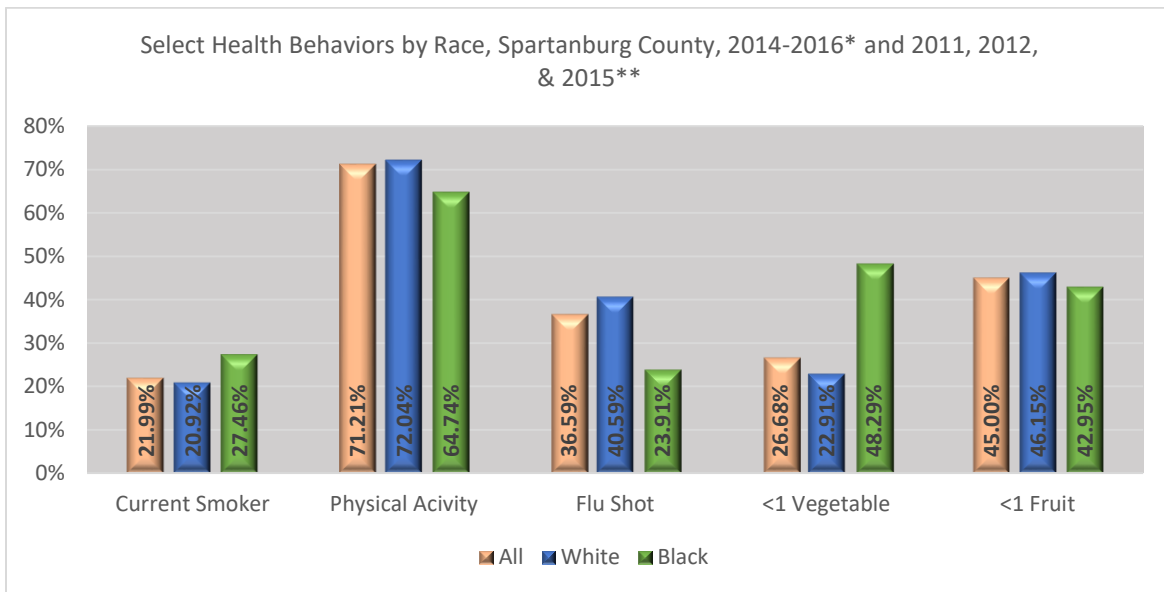
Source: SC BRFSS

Although there is no indication from the self-report BRFSS data that there are racial inequities in depression and poor mental health in Spartanburg County, 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.”⁵⁹ Of addition concern is new national research (data are not available for Spartanburg 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).⁶⁰

Health Behaviors

Since health behaviors, in the aggregate, account for approximately 30% of health outcomes, it is essential to evaluate and promote healthy living strategies. In Spartanburg County, black residents are much less likely than white residents to have received a flu shot in the last year, less likely to have engaged in leisure time physical activity in the last 30 days, much more likely to have low vegetable consumption, and more likely to smoke currently. However, blacks are slightly more likely than whites to consume fruits.

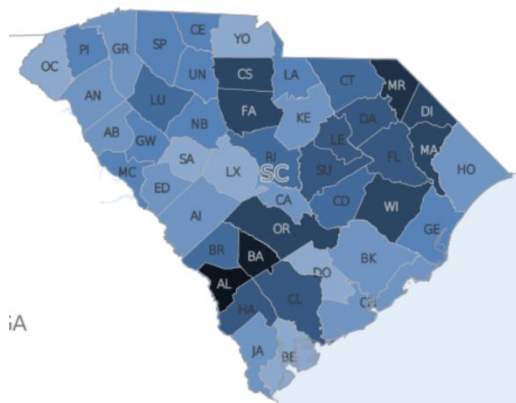


Source: SC BRFSS

*aggregated average for smoking, physical activity, and flu shot

**aggregated average for fruit and vegetable consumption

Food environment



The Food Environment Index, reported annually by the County Health Rankings,⁴⁷ 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.

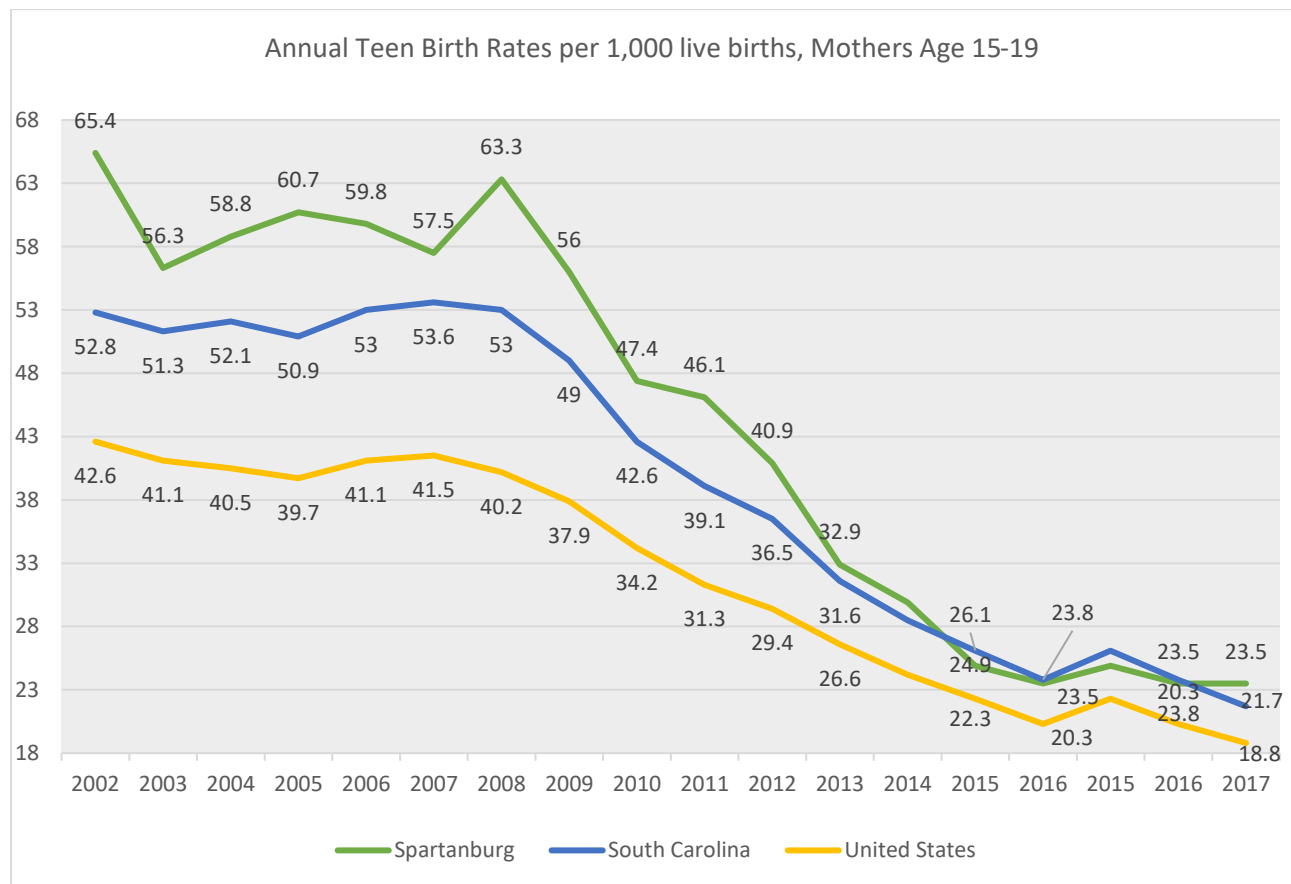
BEST WORST

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. Spartanburg’s food environment index rating is 7.0, where 4% of residents are food insecure and 14% lack access to healthy foods.

Teen birth

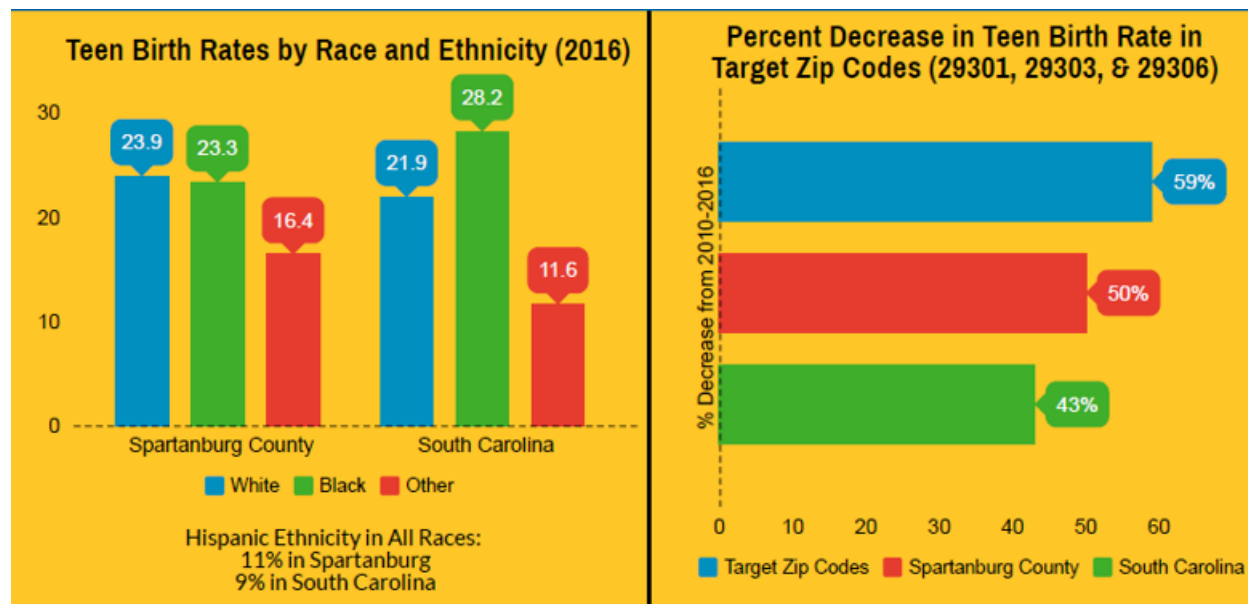
According to the SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy,⁶¹ more than two decades of investments in prevention programs and services have led to significant declines in unplanned pregnancies and birth rates among teens in South Carolina. After considerable attention and resources have been dedicated to reducing the teen birth rate over the last decade in Spartanburg County, outcomes have been held up as models across the state and the nation. The graph below demonstrates the consistent decrease in teen births in Spartanburg County using single year data. In 2016, the teen birth rate in Spartanburg County (23.5) dropped below the state average (23.8) for the first time since rates have been recorded. The recently released 2017 data (still preliminary) show that, although Spartanburg County’s rate held at 23.5 per 1,000 babies born, the state rate dropped to 21.7.



Source: SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy & CDC

In 2017, for all age groups combined, the U.S. saw the lowest number of births in 30 years. The provisional birth rate for teenagers in the U.S. in 2017⁶² was 18.8 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19, down 7% from 2016 and a record low for this age group. The rate has declined by 55%, or nearly 8% per year, since 2007, the most recent period of continued decline, and 70%, or 4% per year, since 1991, the most recent peak.

Racial inequities in teen births have also decreased to the point in Spartanburg County that there was no difference between black and white teens in teen birth rates in 2016. Further, zip codes that were targeted for their high teen birth rates have shown significantly greater improvement from 2010-2016.



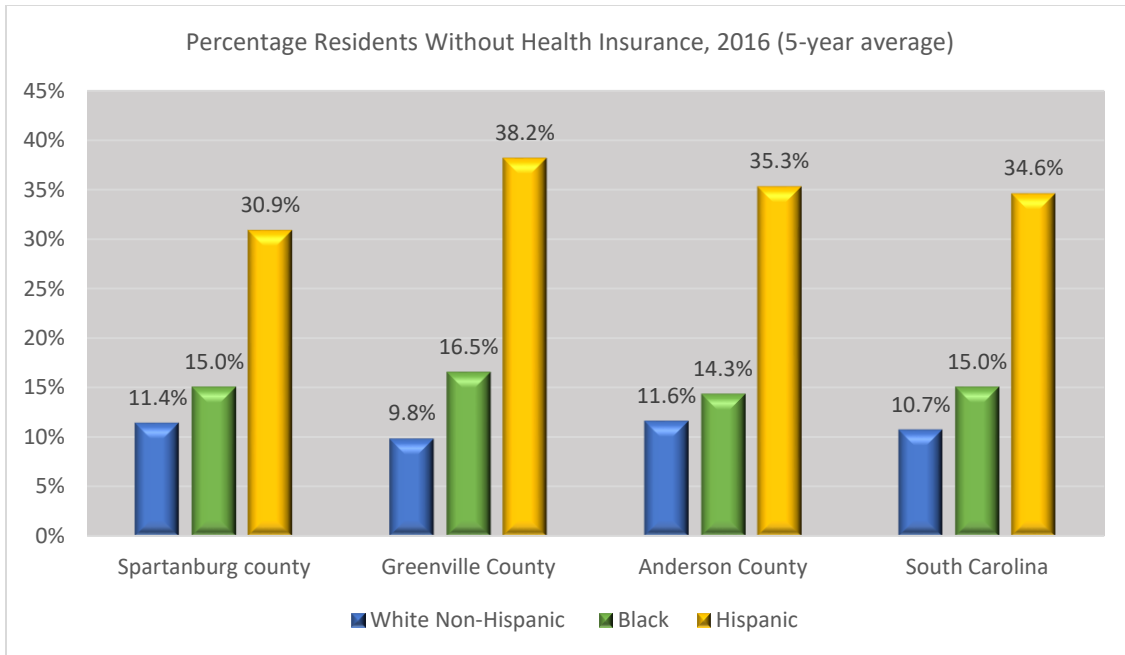
Source: Mary Black Foundation⁶³

Access to Care

Health Insurance Coverage

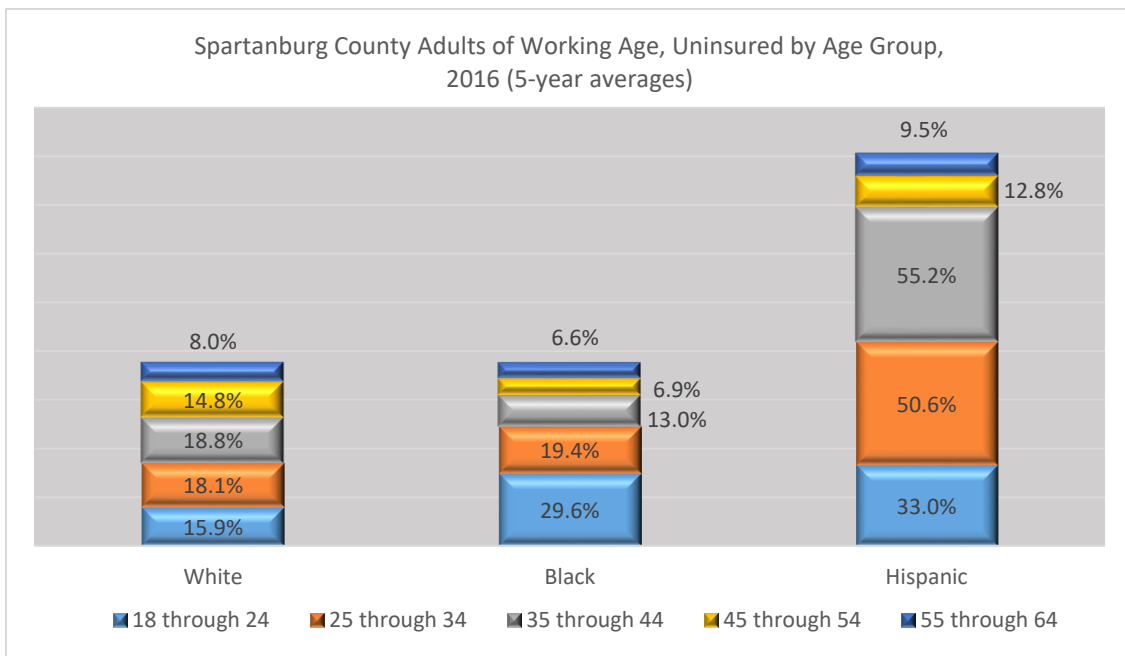
Health insurance coverage is a strong indicator of access to health care and the likelihood of receiving quality care. Rates of health insurance coverage in a community speak not only to the health status of that community, but also to the economic status of the community and the distribution of well-paying 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 table shows uninsured rates (for any typed of insurance, public or private) in Spartanburg County and other comparative geographies. Blacks are more likely than whites to be uninsured, and Hispanics are much more likely to be uninsured.



Source: U.S. Census

Children living in poverty and individuals of Social Security age are eligible for publically funded health insurance through Medicaid and Medicare. Thus, individuals of working age are at higher risk of being uninsured. Overall, almost 20% of working age residents of Spartanburg County are uninsured. The graph below shows that Hispanics in Spartanburg County have much greater uninsured rates, compared to blacks and whites. Younger age blacks (18 through 24) have much higher uninsured rates compared to whites. Whites age 35 through 44 have higher uninsured rates, compared to blacks.



Source: US Census

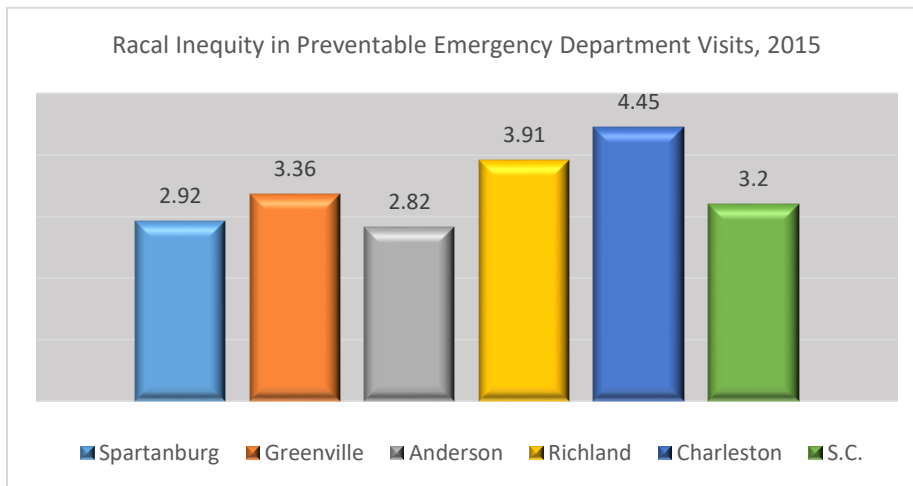
In addition to the percentage of uninsured residents, it is instructive when planning interventions to understand the numbers of uninsured residents. The table below expands upon the previous graphic by providing frequencies of uninsured residents of Spartanburg County for all ages, by age group.

Number of Spartanburg County Residents Without Health Insurance by Age and Race and Hispanic Ethnicity, 2016 (5 year averages)						
Age	White		Black		Hispanic	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Under 6	533	3.7	142	3.0	133	5.7
6 - 17	2,363	7.0	345	3.5	336	6.2
18 - 24	2,993	15.9	1,950	29.6	824	33.0
25 - 34	4,907	18.1	1,816	19.4	1,409	50.6
35 - 44	4,972	18.8	953	13.0	1,853	55.2
45 - 54	4,511	14.8	550	6.9	196	12.8
55 - 64	2,321	8.0	476	6.6	76	9.5
65 - 74	20	.09	0	0	0	0
75 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: US Census

Healthcare Utilization

The Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina⁶⁴ has adopted a goal of *reducing the existing “Racial Disparity Gap” in preventable emergency department (ED) visits from the current (2015) statewide average of 3.02 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 3.02 means that blacks sought care in EDs 3.02 times more than whites for primary care preventable conditions such as diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and hypertension.



Spartanburg’s 2015 Racial Disparity Gap is 2.92 for preventable ED usage. This reflects a lesser inequity than peer counties Greenville, Richland, and Charleston, but a slightly higher inequity than Anderson.

Both Spartanburg and Anderson Counties have a smaller gap than the state average.

Source: Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina

A 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.

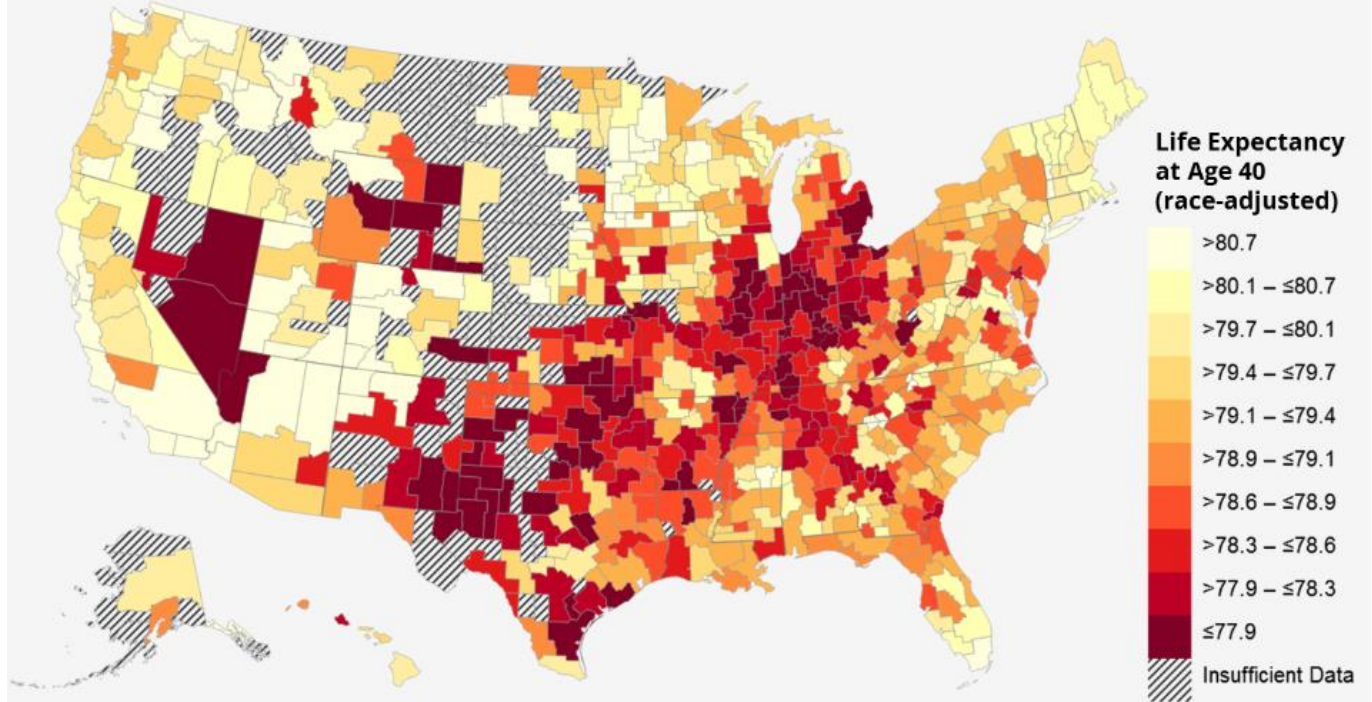
<https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/pop-health-program-reduced-ed-use-inpatient-hospitalizations/520619/>

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.⁶⁵

Clearly, people of color bear a greater burden of low income and poverty; thus, these data align closely with racial inequity. The following graphic demonstrates the differences life expectancy at the county level for people, at age 40, in the lowest income quartile, 2001-2014.

Geography of Life Expectancy in the Bottom Income Quartile



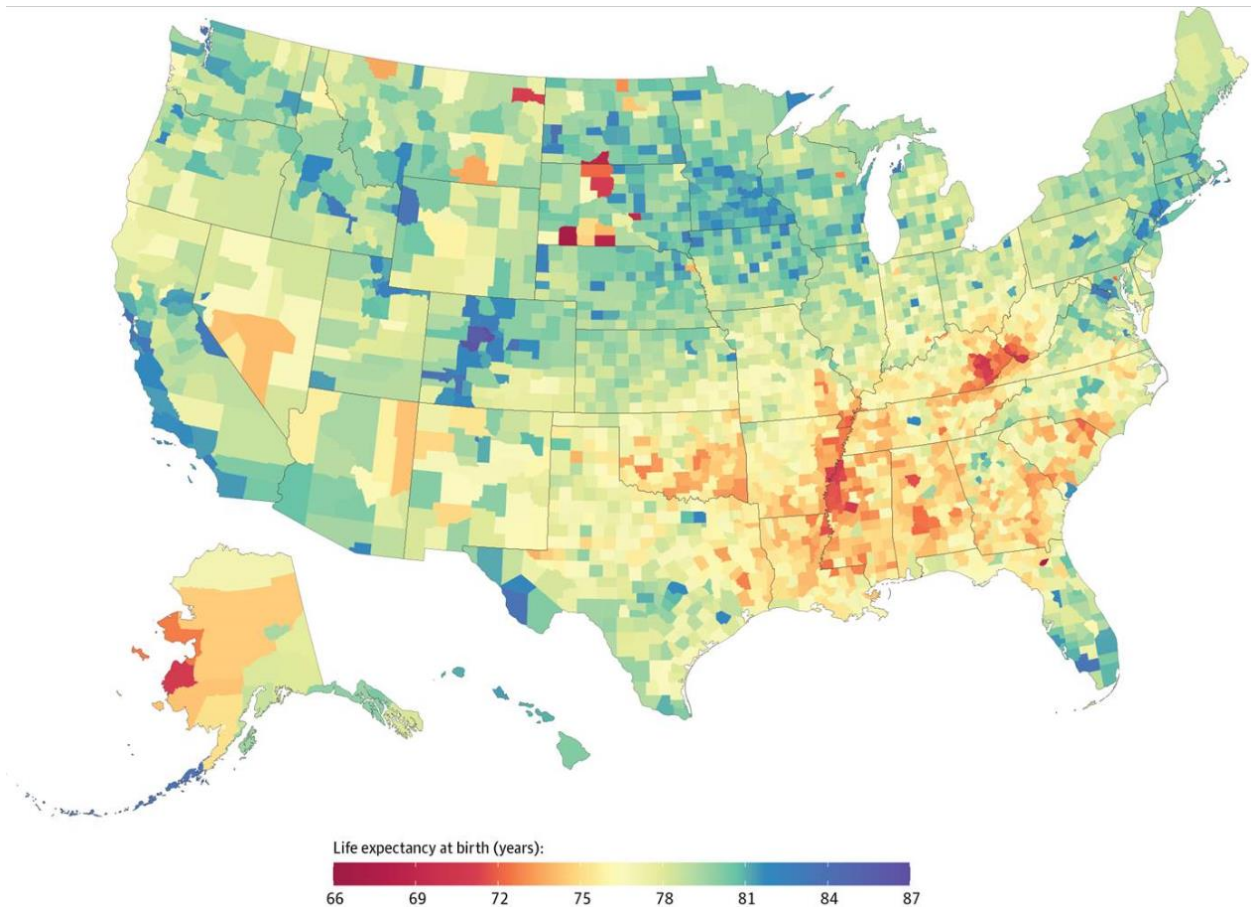
Top 5 Cities: New York City NY, Santa Barbara CA, San Jose CA, Miami FL, Los Angeles CA

Bottom 5 Cities: Tulsa OK, Indianapolis IN, Oklahoma City OK, Las Vegas NV, Gary IN

Source: Chetty et. al.⁶⁵

Current life expectancy in the US is 75.6 years for males and 80.7 years for females (the U.S. is ranked 42nd in the world for life expectancy).⁶⁶ 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.⁶⁵ South Carolina ranks 42nd of 51 states and the District of Columbia for life expectancy - 74.0 years for males and 79.8 years for females. Although life expectancy by zip code is available for some geographies, it is not available for zip codes in Spartanburg County. As a county, life expectancy in Spartanburg is 73.0 years for males and 78.3 years for females – below the state average.

Life Expectancy at Birth for U.S. Counties, 2014



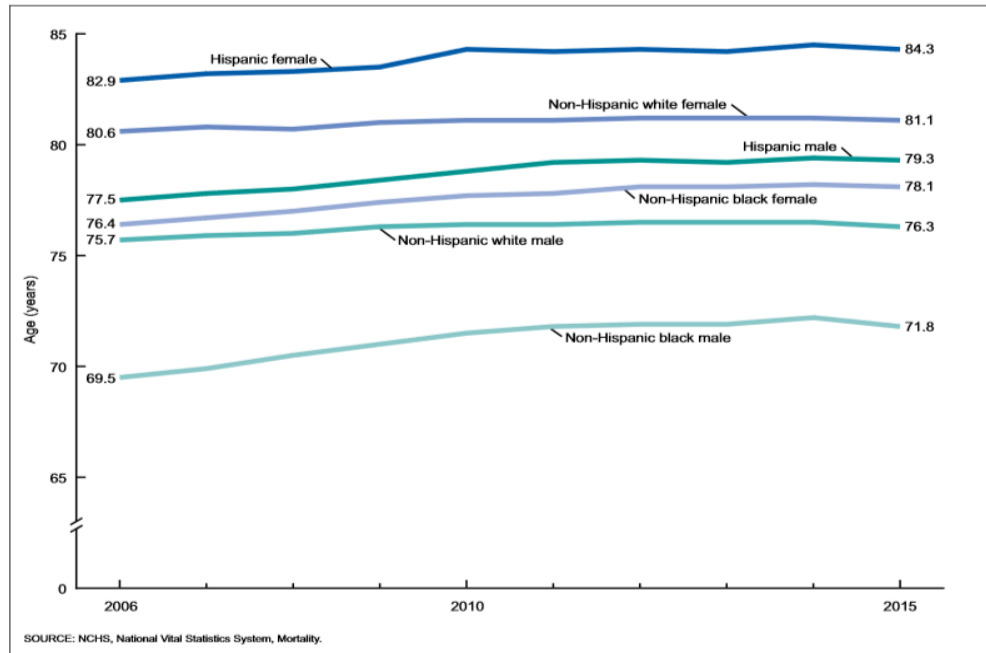
Source: *nbcnews.com* 2014

Best Practice

This summer, the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) will release life expectancy at birth for nearly every census tract in the nation. The United States Small-Area Life Expectancy Project (USALEEP) is the first public health outcome measure available nationwide at the census tract level.

Life expectancy by race is not available for Spartanburg County; however, for the U.S., Hispanic and white females have the longest life expectancy, followed by Hispanic males. Non-Hispanic black females, white males, and black males have the lowest life expectancy as demonstrated in the following graph.⁶⁷

Life Expectancy by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Sex 2006-2015

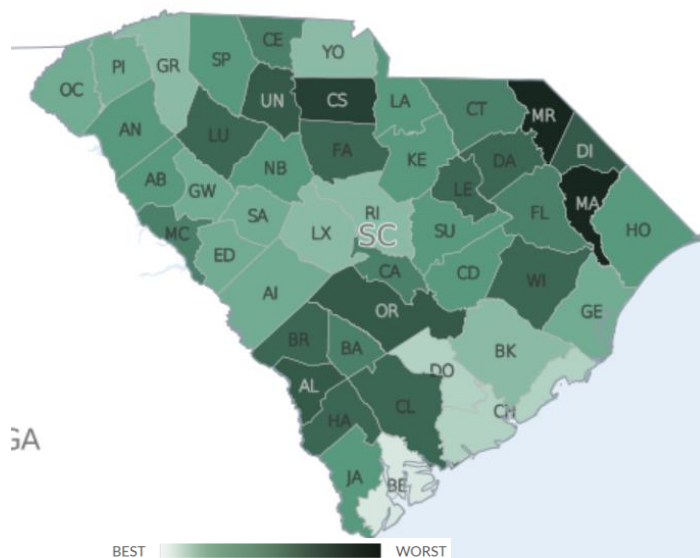


Source: National Vital Statistics Service

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.

Years of Potential Life Lost 2012-2016



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 2012-2016, Spartanburg County ranks 17th in South Carolina (1 is best) for YPLL. Measuring YPLL allows communities to target resources to high-risk areas and to target causes of premature death.

Source: County Health Rankings



Credit: iso.500PX.com

Environment

Why is this important?

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.

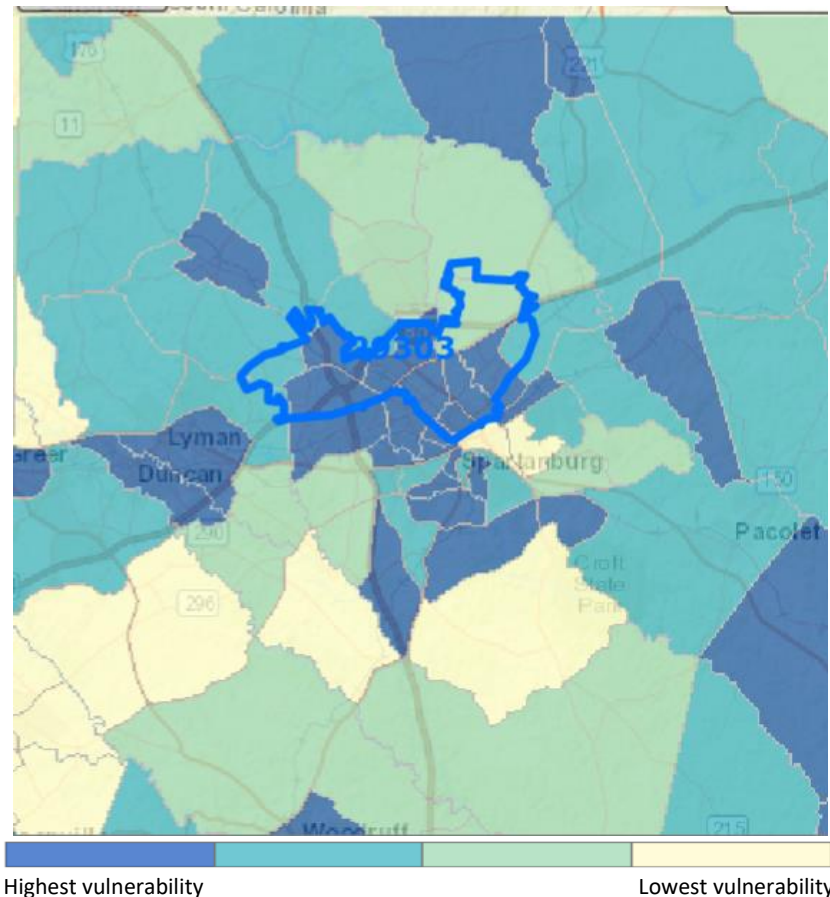
How is Spartanburg doing?

As in most other communities, low income and minority residents in Spartanburg 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. However, data do not exist comprehensively across indicators to provide a complete picture of race-based inequities.

Social Vulnerability

The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI),⁶⁸ 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 below demonstrates levels of social vulnerability by census tract in the City of Spartanburg and in contiguous parts of Spartanburg County. Areas of highest vulnerability are also areas of high social and health inequity, typically areas with high minority populations.



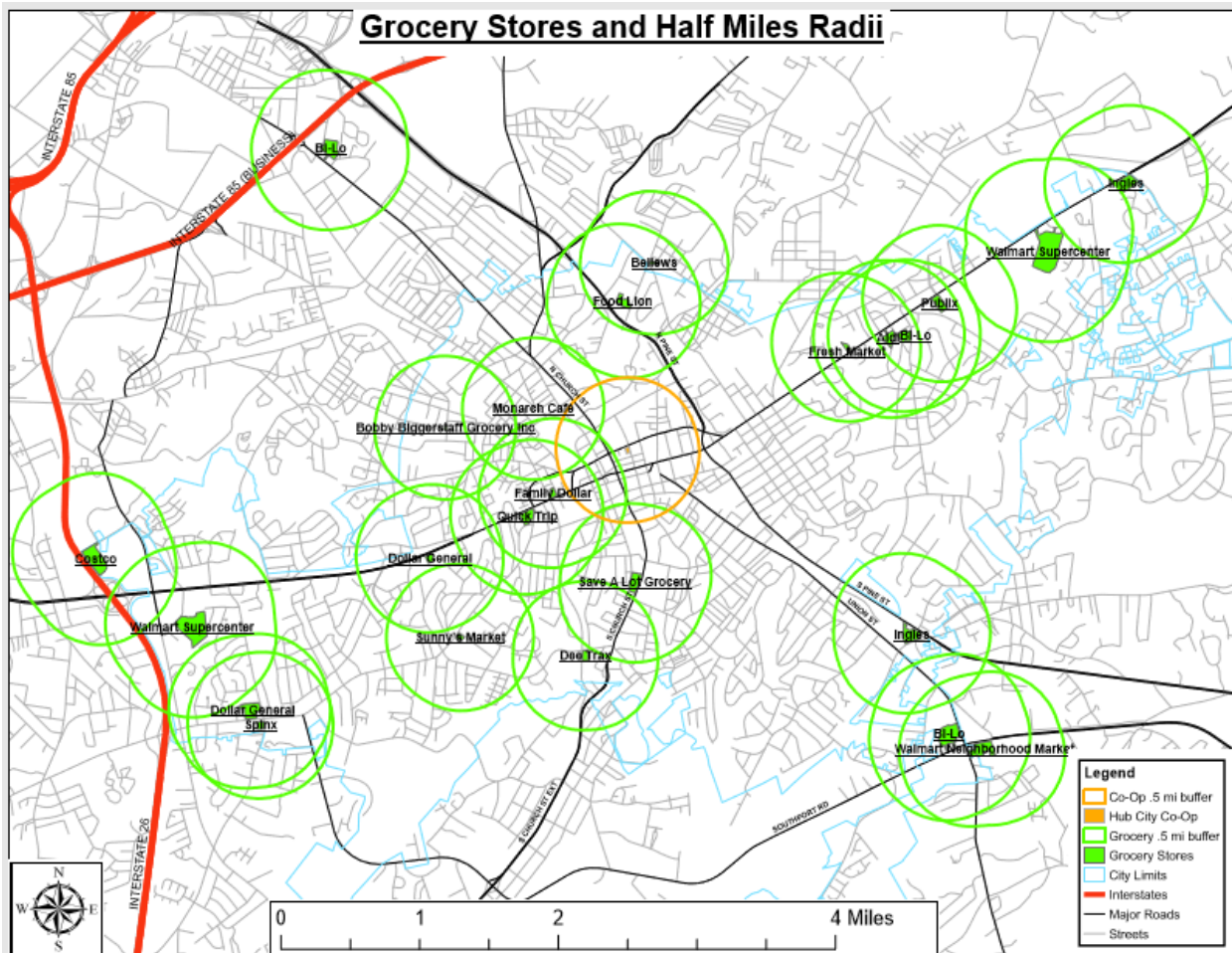
Source: Social Vulnerability Index

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 outlets⁶⁹ and that the provision of health-related facilities is often inversely associated with population need.⁷⁰ 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. In recent years, leaders in Spartanburg have made concerted efforts to provide access to fresh and healthy foods for residents of the City of Spartanburg. New grocery outlets and farmers markets have opened in under-served neighborhoods. The following graphic demonstrates the location of grocery stores in the City of Spartanburg and their half-mile radii.



Source: Partners for Active Living & City of Spartanburg

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 Spartanburg County, 30.5% of white non-Hispanic workers age 16 and over rely on public transportation (excluding taxi) to get to work. For blacks, 52.8% rely on public transportation, and for Hispanics, 10.2% rely on public transportation. In outlying areas of the county, public transportation is not available.

Pollution

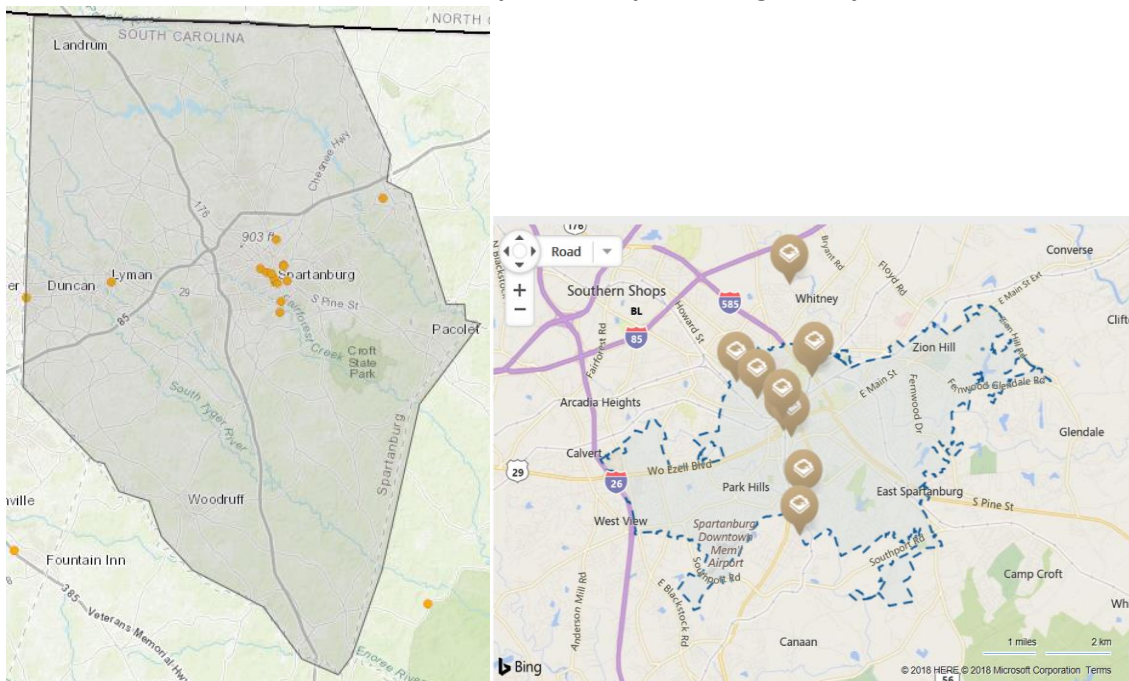
In the 1980s, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began to publically recognize that a disproportionate number of polluting industries, power plants, and waste disposal areas are sited near low-income or minority communities, compromising the health of community residents. This awareness 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 poses a risk to human health and/or the environment. Real property, expansion, or reuse of land may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance pollutant, or contaminant. Generally, the federal government is not involved in Brownfields clean-up, although the state plays a significant role.

The following maps show the Brownfields sites in Spartanburg County, most of which are located in, or contiguous to, low-income neighborhoods.

Brownfields Properties in Spartanburg County



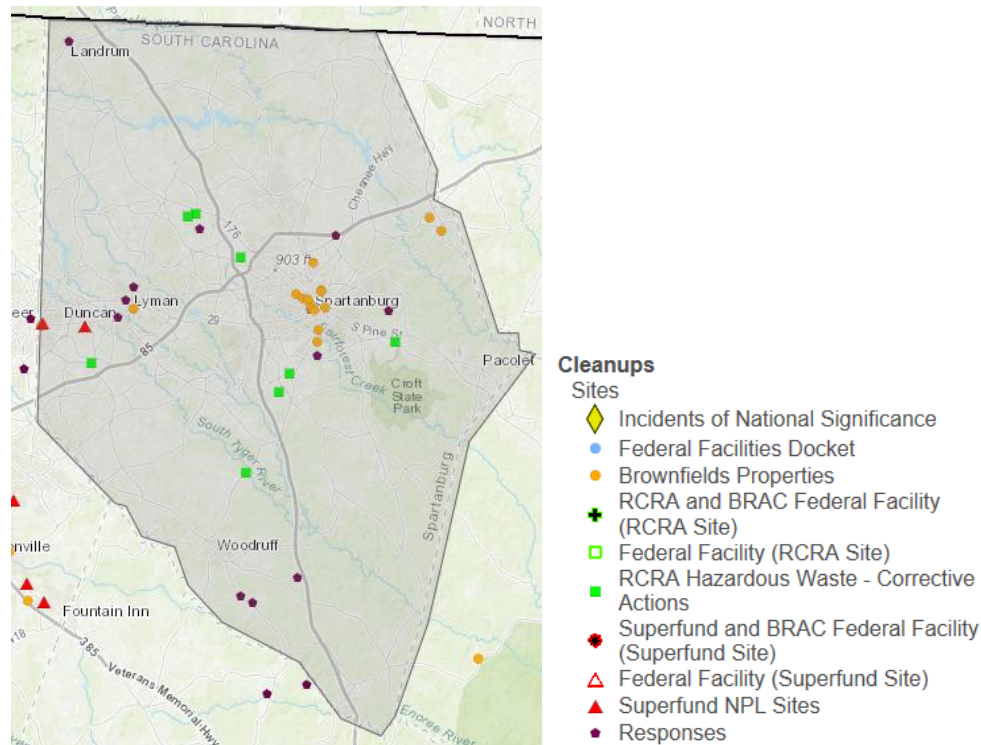
Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

Superfunds

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.

In South Carolina there are 280 “active” superfund sites; 28 of these are in Spartanburg County.⁷¹ There are two superfund sites in Spartanburg County still in final NPL status. The rest are non-NPL status. Both sites have completed physical clean-up activities. The two sites are Aqua-Tech Environmental (Groce Labs) in Greer and Elmore Waste Disposal in Greer.

Superfund Sites in Spartanburg County



Best Practice: ReGenesis

The Arkwright and Forrest Park communities in the City of Spartanburg are predominately low-income and African American. In the late 1990s Harold Mitchell (later elected state Representative) began an effort to clean up the environmental hazards in these communities that had long been contaminating the soil and groundwater. Sited among six brownfields sites, two hazardous waste sites and an active chemical

manufacturing plant, these communities experienced long-standing and extreme environmental and health issues, and the economic base had eroded over time.

Mitchell founded ReGenesis, a nonprofit group that spearheaded environmental cleanup of the two primary polluters - a closed fertilizer plant and a closed municipal landfill that had accepted medical and automotive waste since the 1950s. This began the momentum for community recovery. By advancing environmental justice, collaborative problem solving, and better neighborhood planning, public and private sectors invested in revitalization efforts. Mitchell was successful in leveraging an initial grant of \$20,000 from the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice into \$270 million worth of community investment. Arkwright and Forest Park are now much cleaner, safer communities. No longer is it acceptable for city residents to be subjected to unhealthy conditions due to limited zoning restrictions and land use controls.

The South Carolina Environmental Justice Advisory Committee was established, based on the success of ReGenesis, to make recommendations to the state legislature on how to replicate the success of the project in other communities in South Carolina.

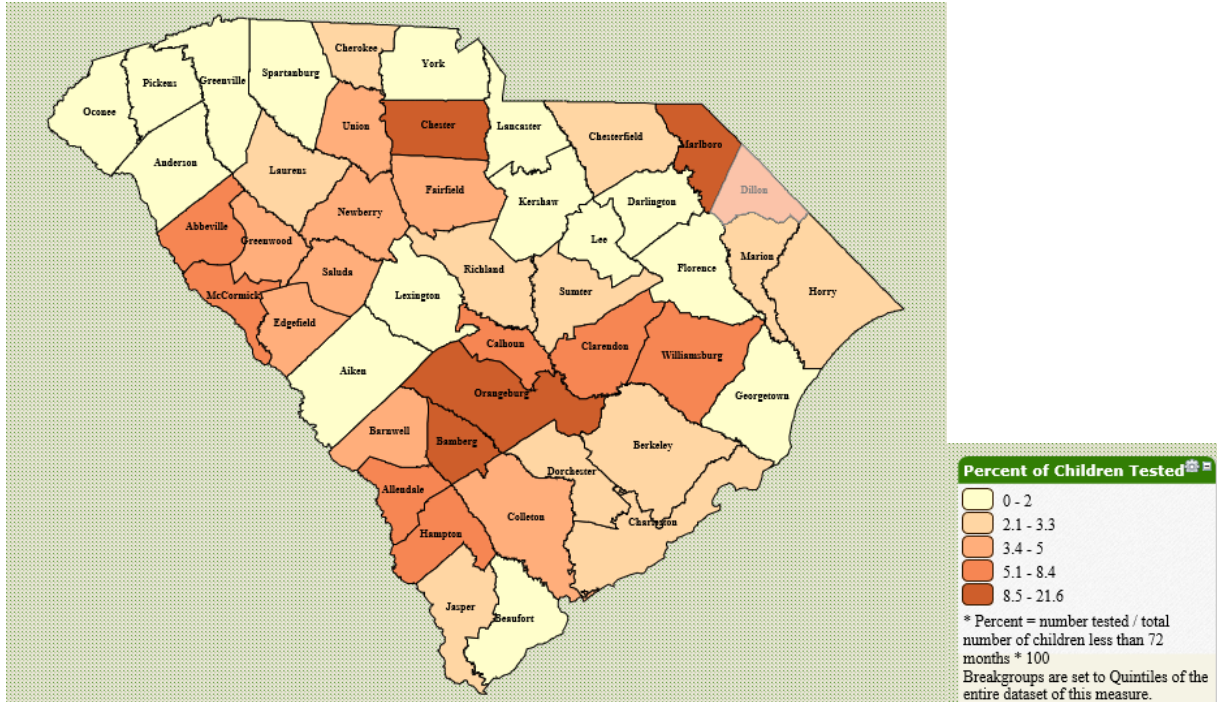
Lead

Children who grow up in low income and minority communities are at significantly higher health risk 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 health problems such as asthma and injury.

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 ($> 5\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). 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 comas, seizures, and death.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends testing more lead-exposed children and fewer children without 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. By law, all blood lead testing results are reported to SC DHEC from doctors' offices and labs when a test is done. In Spartanburg County 1.8% of children aged between 36 and 72 months were tested for lead exposure in 2015.

Percent of Children Tested for Lead Exposure, 2015



Source: SC DHEC

Houses built before 1978 were routinely painted with lead-based paint. The older the house is, the more risk there is of deteriorating lead paint that can be ingested or inhaled by children. As of 2015, SC DHEC reports that there are 14,034 houses in Spartanburg County that were built prior to 1950.



Credit: flickr.com

Education

Why is this important?

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 Institute⁵ 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.

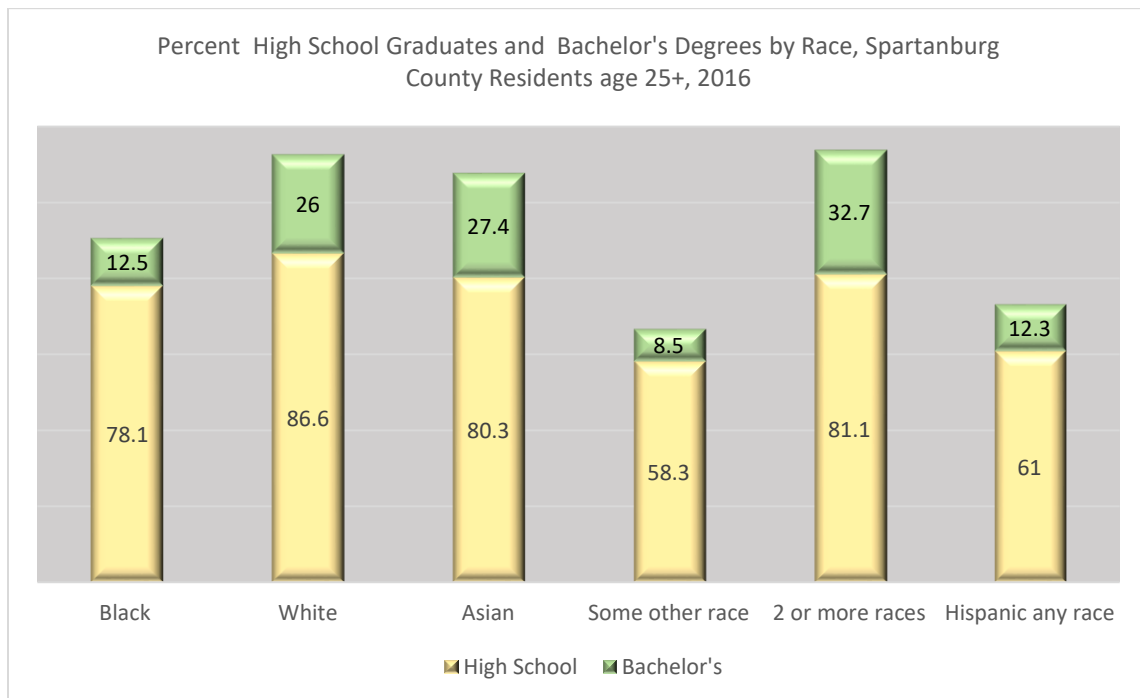
Historically, black children did not have equal opportunity to education and educational amenities until the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. Even after that ruling, it took years to enforce integration. To this day, the nation's schools are highly segregated, due in large 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.

There are significant racial inequities in Spartanburg County in school readiness, on one end of the education spectrum, and in educational attainment on the other end of the education spectrum. The future demands higher educational attainment of the local workforce if Spartanburg is to be economically competitive. Close examination of Spartanburg Academic Movement’s EDI data, especially at the census tract level, would inform interventions that promote school readiness and would ultimately lead to a better educated populous. 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.

Educational Attainment

Nationally by 2020, 43.1% of all jobs will require an Associate’s 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.²

In Spartanburg County, as in other geographies, there are marked racial inequities in educational attainment. The graph below demonstrates that whites graduate from high school at the highest rates, and residents who are two or more races graduate from college at the highest rates. “Other race” residents have extremely low educational attainment, and blacks and Hispanics graduate from college at less than half the rate of whites, Asians, and residents of 2 or more races.



Source: US Census

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.⁴

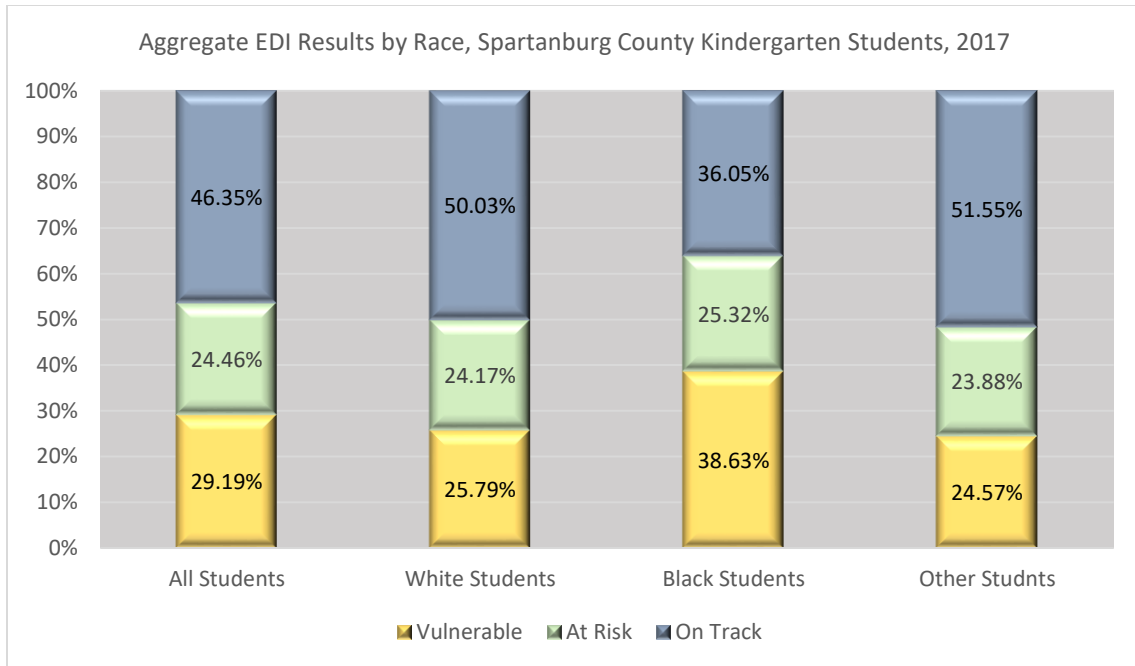
School Readiness

Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM)⁷² recently released kindergarten readiness data obtained through assessments completed by kindergarten teachers in all seven Spartanburg County school districts after observing their students for three months in the classroom environment. This Early Development Instrument (EDI) assessed vulnerability across the five developmental domains listed below and multiple sub-domains critical to success in kindergarten:

- Physical Health and Well-Being
- Social Competence
- Emotional Maturity
- Language and Cognitive Development
- Communication Skills and General Knowledge

The resulting data, geo-mapped by census tract, predicts kindergarteners' success in transitioning to first grade. The "vulnerable" designation means the student scored below the 10th percentile from the nationally normed data set; that is "vulnerable" for school failure by not being ready for kindergarten. The "at risk" designation means they are at risk of being vulnerable, scoring below the 25th percentile but above the 10th percentile. The "on track" designation means on track for school success by being ready for kindergarten, scoring above the 25th percentile. "On track" is the designation considered "ready for school". The other two – "at risk" and "vulnerable" are considered "not ready" for school.

Spartanburg EDI data show significant inequities in school readiness between white children and black children, with 50% of white children "on track" for first grade, but only 36% of black children on track. When examining these data in the following graph, it is instructive to realize how many individuals are included at each designation level.



	All Students		White		Black		All Others	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,535	100	1,547	61.02	699	27.57	289	11.4
Vulnerable	740	29.19	399	25.79	270	38.63	71	24.57
At Risk	620	24.46	374	24.17	177	25.32	69	23.88
On Track	1,175	46.35	774	50.03	252	36.05	149	51.55

Source: Spartanburg Academic Movement

Best Practice: Early Development Instrument (EDI)

Collection, analysis and application of the EDI results is an example of a national best practice being used locally. The data are available for county census tracts and by the five developmental domains. Collected and analyzed in partnership with researchers at the University of California, these data are rich and follow strict protocols for validity and reliability. The EDI data can be helpful to a variety of different users, as it informs the investment of community action and interventions for young children before they ever reach the classroom. The EDI also provides the means for assessing the impact of interventions on later learning.

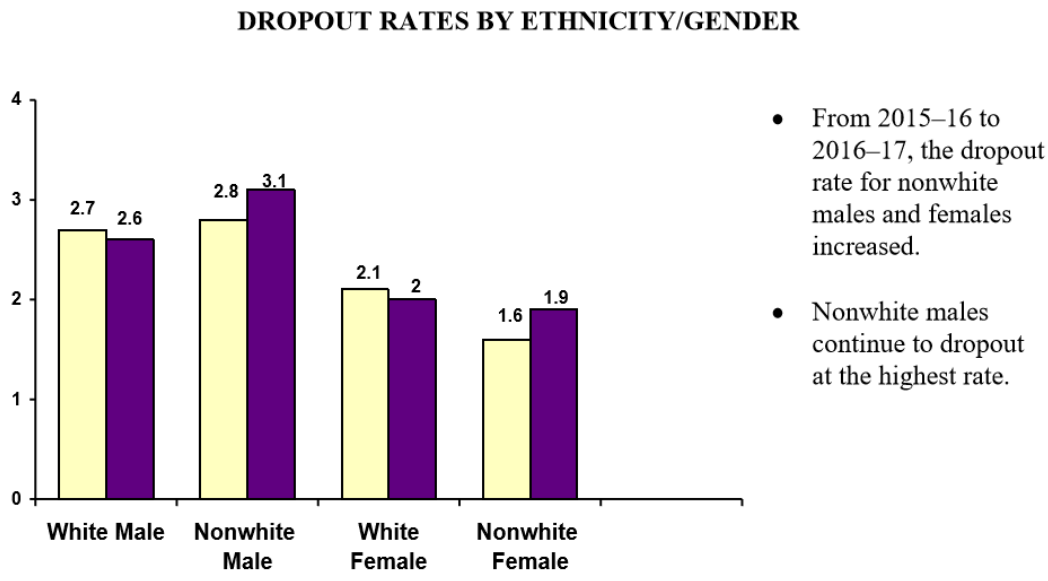
Educators and school representatives can use EDI results to help identify the strengths and needs of the children within their communities. These data allow for creating targeted programs that affect the areas identified as the greatest need. Local groups can also use the data to better advocate for changes to policies and funding.

Government can use EDI data to plan early childhood investment, inform policy and program development decisions, or evaluate programs. The use of EDI maps can help focus investments and identify the areas with the highest needs.

Researchers can use EDI data to address important questions and create new research programs to help better understand the genetic, biological, and social determinants of children’s health, well-being and development. This research can help inform policy and program development.

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.⁷³ In the following graphic taken from the *2016-2017 Dropout Report*,⁷³ 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.



Source: SC DOE

Social Mobility

The 2017 Social Mobility Index (SMI) produced by CollegeNET⁷⁴ 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, there are a number of traditional ranking variables that 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 2017, the 1,363 4-year higher education institutions were ranked for social and economic mobility. In South Carolina, 4 institutions rank in the highest quartile for social mobility for their graduates. One, USC Upstate, is located in Spartanburg, and ranks 304th of the 1,363 institutions for economic mobility.

2017 Social Mobility Index Rankings for SC Four Year Colleges and Universities (of 1,363 US Institutions)						
Rank	University / College	City	Tuition	% Low Income	% Grad Rate	Median early career salary
189	Francis Marion	Florence	\$10,100	57.5	41.9	\$40,500
239	SC State	Orangeburg	\$10,088	56.9	36	\$42,000
304	USC Upstate	Spartanburg	\$10,818	43.2	40	\$43,500
313	Newberry College	Newberry	\$25,000	87	39.1	\$40,600
361	Lander	Greenwood	\$10,752	38.3	45.7	\$40,900
366	Winthrop	Rock Hill	\$14,456	34	55.1	\$41,600
427	Voorhees	Denmark	\$12,630	79.4	33.6	\$36,400
449	Erskine	Due West	\$33,315	40.1	62	\$43,300
474	Morris	Sumter	\$12,649	88.3	33.6	\$34,100
533	Citadel	Charleston	\$11,364	9.8	67.4	\$56,100
559	Wesleyan	Central	\$23,620	42.1	50	\$41,600
607	Limestone	Gaffney	\$23,900	51.5	39	\$42,700
646	USC Aiken	Aiken	\$6,878	31.5	43.2	\$39,100
660	Converse	Spartanburg	\$16,500	36.2	53.5	\$37,200
675	College of Charleston	Charleston	\$11,322	13.4	68	\$44,100
723	Presbyterian	Clinton	\$36,130	23.2	69.5	\$46,000
763	USC	Columbia	\$11,482	13.3	72.4	\$46,900
790	Clemson	Clemson	\$14,272	9.8	80.9	\$54,300
907	Wofford	Spartanburg	\$38,705	16	80.8	\$47,200
929	Coastal Carolina	Conway	\$10,530	21.7	42.6	\$41,900
965	Benedict College	Columbia	\$18,288	82.6	26.7	\$35,700
1015	Columbia International	Columbia	\$20,430	33.6	54.1	\$35,200
1077	Charleston Southern	Charleston	\$23,440	35.1	39.1	\$41,300
1088	Coker College	Hartsville	\$26,568	36.2	51.7	\$36,100
1137	Columbia College	Columbia	\$28,100	30.8	50	\$38,700
1297	Furman	Greenville	\$46,012	12.3	82.9	\$48,100
1305	Claflin	Orangeburg	\$15,520	89.7	15.6	\$35,100
1321	Anderson	Anderson	\$24,860	19.3	48.8	\$38,100
	Highest quartile for social mobility of all 1,363 4-year institutions					

Source: CollegeNET

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

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.

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74. CollegeNET Social Mobility Index: <http://www.socialmobilityindex.org/>

Equity Indicators by Census Tract for Spartanburg County, 2016 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
203.01	2,505	35.2%	14.1%	25,205	3,195	45.0	86.2	11.8	7.5
204	1,415	46.4	19.7%	27,256	14,484	41.6	71.6	29.0	1.3
205	1,445	50.4	17.4	31,625	22,115	36.6	72.8	16.5	15.7
206.01	3,243	61.6	7.1	45,389	22,713	19.4	41.8	15.7	12.0
206.02	1,939	69.7	0.9	50,153	25,484	18.2	36.9	15.8	21.4
206.03	2,172	59.9	8.9	37,500	27,021	17.0	31.7	8.8	23.5
207.01	3,464	63.3	14.2	21,818	19,730	49.2	71.6	19.1	6.0
207.02	2,026	60.8	18.3	37,632	24,784	19.1	24.6	17.9	8.5
208	1,288	58.0	24.8	9,895	10,234	73.1	95.0	22.7	0.5
209	1,364	61.8	14.1	29,926	29,714	17.4	29.7	13.3	32.8
210.01	2,460	43.5	9.6	19,539	19,118	31.3	48.4	10.3	6.2
211	3,447	54.0	12.4	37,887	28,340	16.1	23.9	8.6	27.4
212	3,158	70.0	4.2	59,318	26,475	2.8	10.4	8.6	60.9
213.01	2,404	56.2	7.1	35,269	24,531	20.1	42.4	10.8	23.9
213.02	2,457	63.5	2.0	76,908	41,719	0.0	0.0	3.3	77.4
213.03	5,065	56.7	8.1	45,408	26,855	7.2	18.4	6.9	48.6
214.01	1,557	51.3	4.3	46,927	24,545	4.9	0.0	10.1	22.9
214.02	3,342	60.0	9.3	60,616	36,832	8.4	13.4	9.9	23.6
214.03	3,698	63.9	7.8	31,923	25,423	15.2	29.8	16.0	9.3
215	3,233	60.9	19.6	26,709	20,449	20.8	26.5	21.2	9.0
216	3,113	47.7	12.6	33,571	17,981	18.5	53.1	16.0	6.0
217	4,317	62.1	10.8	24,234	15,926	33.5	67.2	23.2	6.2
218.02	5,997	51.3	11.3	19,013	9,388	49.7	67.4	19.3	11.9
218.03	6,865	67.8	7.8	51,168	26,359	6.1	7.1	13.6	26.8
218.04	2,229	57.1	11.7	29,261	22,056	33.1	56.0	29.4	4.2
219.01	6,740	68.2	7.0	27,873	21,271	16.8	33.3	25.0	11.9
219.02	8,248	74.3	3.1	55,481	34,351	3.4	8.3	12.1	42.9
220.03	4,047	58.2	8.8	46,007	29,863	17.4	39.7	7.2	27.8

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
220.04	2,562	61.1	6.0	41,086	26,859	18.5	28.9	10.8	13.9
220.05	5,195	68.7	3.0	68,141	36,916	2.5	3.8	9.3	39.2
220.06	4,386	67.7	7.5	36,680	24,623	15.6	35.8	20.3	19.7
220.07	3,233	70.9	7.4	50,938	29,513	10.5	27.1	14.2	25.8
221.01	3,424	62.4	4.6	56,875	36,628	9.2	19.8	6.7	48.6
221.02	2,079	55.2	4.9	50,815	30,779	12.9	43.6	9.3	37.4
222.01	4,690	59.5	11.4	46,966	29,750	11.7	19.3	19.0	25.8
222.02	3,620	56.5	11.9	26,766	20,157	18.1	29.1	20.5	10.0
223.02	5,396	59.0	12.1	48,663	32,002	12.8	30.3	15.5	16.2
223.03	1,722	45.2	10.0	29,241	28,924	26.8	53.7	17.2	8.8
223.04	4,205	56.8	6.2	39,296	22,354	20.4	41.5	13.1	11.4
224.01	5,823	55.1	4.5	54,330	32,480	7.1	8.7	13.4	14.7
224.03	8,312	63.8	10.3	54,589	31,321	9.0	15.7	11.0	17.4
224.04	5,675	63.1	6.2	63,458	33,117	9.6	22.9	7.7	20.5
224.05	4,024	67.1	3.4	61,875	31,292	2.4	2.6	13.6	28.4
224.06	6,636	63.2	6.0	54,967	35,316	2.5	8.1	14.3	31.7
225	3,944	56.6	9.8	36,970	28,886	13.0	20.3	11.2	23.5
226	3,293	54.2	7.3	41,775	26,938	17.5	27.7	15.2	22.0
227	6,511	61.8	4.6	56,327	30,063	6.4	16.3	8.5	20.9
228.01	6,888	61.9	5.3	65,529	35,938	4.6	19.2	6.5	25.3
228.02	7,091	64.3	1.8	51,177	28,167	15.0	19.8	12.7	22.8
229	6,689	52.8	3.0	37,388	27,744	16.7	31.3	16.7	14.1
230.01	8,369	63.6	5.9	55,776	29,115	4.4	3.7	14.2	17.3
230.02	3,289	63.4	7.2	52,447	31,352	7.9	37.0	13.2	14.6
321.01	5,117	63.9	6.2	34,657	25,593	21.9	32.1	17.2	17.3
231.02	6,746	61.0	11.3	36,688	22,716	13.1	25.0	15.3	13.4
232.01	3,772	61.1	7.0	52,923	34,750	0.4	0.0	11.6	29.6
232.02	3,553	65.7	15.0	45,081	22,418	16.0	32.6	15.8	13.9
233.01	1,861	61.8	7.6	51,964	33,924	12.1	27.5	15.7	23.7
233.02	4,651	61.0	6.1	27,317	21,684	30.4	54.4	24.9	12.9

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
234.01	2,341	70.7	6.9	63,824	34,199	3.1	6.9	10.7	25.1
234.02	4,436	65.7	5.3	70,026	38,977	2.8	5.1	6.1	36.8
234.03	6,667	75.8	5.1	82,649	41,840	4.1	12.1	7.3	47.8
234.04	7,006	70.8	5.8	69,922	37,770	11.5	13.4	13.4	30.7
234.05	5,302	64.1	3.5	66,947	32,081	3.4	9.1	14.0	34.7
235	5,165	61.9	8.3	48,954	26,147	12.7	29.2	11.5	18.9
236	6,395	47.2	12.7	37,689	26,665	18.6	38.0	15.8	13.9
237	4,518	58.0	7.5	33,841	25,273	11.2	16.4	11.4	6.9
238.01	6,020	64.5	6.9	62,039	33,930	5.8	17.0	10.2	33.6
238.02	5,722	49.6	5.9	65,341	35,792	5.3	2.3	10.1	18.6
239	4,643	58.8	11.5	38,240	26,021	13.1	27.9	11.9	11.7
S.C.	4,834,605	60.8	8.4	46,898	27,769	12.8	25.3	13.3	26.5
			Worse than SC average						