

State of Black Asheville

Statistics compiled from the State of Black Asheville website and Dr. Mullen's Presentation to Buncombe County Commissioners on February 21st, 2017.

Education

Asheville City Schools Demographics

- **White:** 63.1% **Black:** 20.3% **Hispanic:** 8.2% **American Indian:** 0.1% **Asian:** 1.0%
- (NC Department of public instruction 2018)

Early Childhood Education

- During the 2011 - 12 school year, Asheville City Schools provided preschool education to 140 students, of which 58.6% were Black, 9.3% were Hispanic, and 30.7% were White (U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights).

Reading Comprehension

- In Grades 3 through 8 in Asheville City Schools, 35% of Black students and 71% of White students reached proficient or advanced reading levels (2015-2016 School Year, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, combined Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools).

Mathematical Proficiency

- In Grades 3 through 8 in Asheville City Schools, 32% of Black students and 67% of White students reached proficient or advanced reading levels (2015-2016 School Year, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, combined Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools).

Retention

- Black students accounted for 57.1% of retained students as opposed to 17.1% for White students, 9.5% for Hispanic students, and 14.3% for students identified as being mixed race (2011 Survey, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights).

Suspensions and Expulsions

- Of students without disabilities that received more than one out-of-school suspension in the school year, 70.7% were Black, 4.0% were Hispanic, 9.3% were mixed race, and 14.7% were White (2011 Survey, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights).

Cohort Graduation Rate

- Asheville High's cohort graduation rate for the 2012 - 13 school year was 72.6% for Black students, 90.8% for White students, and 58.3% for Hispanic students (NCSchoolReportCard.org).

- The state of North Carolina's cohort graduation rate for the 2012 - 13 school year was 70.1% for Black students, 86.2% for White students, and 75.2% for Hispanic students (NCSchoolReportCard.org).

Healthcare

Women and Children

- In 2015, Black babies were two times more likely to be born prematurely and four times more likely to have a very low birthweight than White babies (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2015).
- In 2012, Black mothers were three times more likely to deliver a stillborn fetus than White mothers (Buncombe County Report Card).

Transportation

- 29% of Black households have no access to a vehicle, whereas only 7% of White households have no access to a vehicle (2010 American Community Survey).
- In North Carolina, 21.5% of the total population is Black, yet: 40% of pedestrian crash victims are Black, 32.3% of pedestrian fatalities are Black, and 50% of child pedestrian crash victims are Black (2010 American Community Survey).

Disease Related Risk Factors

- Blacks die 6 years earlier than Whites (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2013-2015)
- In an aggregate of 2011 - 2015 data, the cancer mortality rate per 100,000 in Buncombe County was 218.9 for Blacks and 155.1 for Whites (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2011-2015, calculated per 100,000).

Health Care Coverage and Providers

- In 2009 there were 2,374 physicians in hospitals, of which 2,098 were White and 276 were minorities. There were also 20 physicians who did not practice in the hospital. Of those 19 were White and one was a minority (Spires, Samuels, Graham, Cistola, 2014).
- In 2012, 23.1% of Blacks in Buncombe County had no health insurance coverage.
- 15.7% of White adults stated that they were in fair or poor health, while 21.6% of Black adults gave the same statement (Spires, Samuels, Graham, Cistola, 2014).

Housing

Home Ownership

- 58% of Black families rent their homes, and 42% own their homes (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates).

- 35% of White families rent their homes, and 65% own their homes (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates).
- The median sale price for a home in Asheville as of June, 2018 is \$325,000 (Asheville Citizen-Times 07/25/2018).

Public Housing

- There are ten public housing communities with 3,100 residents; 71.8% of these residents are Black.
- 1,350 families receive funding from Housing

Criminal Justice

Detention Facility Population

- Blacks (16 yrs +) are 5.6% of BC population yet make up 28% of those jailed (Buncombe County Detention Facility Average Daily Population 2015, State Pretrial Inmates. Population: North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, ages 16 and over.)

Juvenile Offenders

- In 2008 - 09, 1 in every 179 White youths and 1 in every 34 Black youths were charged with a crime (NC Department of Justice).
- The average age for of first offense for Black males is 13.63 years old, while the average age for White males is 14.35.

Death Row

- Buncombe County convicted nine individuals to death row in 2009. One third of these individuals were Black, even though Blacks comprised just 7.1% of Buncombe County's population at the time (NC Department of Corrections and 2010 United States Census).
- In 2010, 82 of 159 individuals on North Carolina's death row were black. 22% named Buncombe County as their county of residence. Black men comprised less than 4% of the county's population (NC Department of Corrections and 2010 United States Census).

Traffic Stops

- In 2018, 24% of drivers stopped by APD were Black; 47% of drivers searched after a traffic stop were Black (NC Department of Justice via Open Data Policing).

Economics

Household Income

- Black households represent 44% of those making under \$20K per year and 19% of those making over \$50K per year. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates)

- White households represent 19% of those making under \$20K per year and 47% of those making over \$50K per year. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates)
- The average per-capita income in Buncombe County is \$15,535 for Blacks and \$28,480 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates, Poverty Level 2015 for comparison)
- The median household income in Buncombe County is \$26,065 for Blacks and \$46,805 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates, Poverty Level 2015 for comparison).

Employment

- In Buncombe County, the average monthly earnings are \$2,324 for Blacks and \$3,459 for Whites. For new hires, the average monthly earnings are \$1,690 for Blacks and \$2,133 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, unadjusted for inflation)
- In Buncombe County, the United States Census identified 858 Black-owned firms and 26,122 White-owned firms. The percentage of the population that owns a business is 7.2% for Blacks and 14.2% for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2012)
- In Buncombe County, the Black-owned businesses average \$40K in annual sales, compared to \$400K for White-owned businesses. (US Census Bureau, 2012)