

SECTION 2: QUANTITATIVE DATA KEY FINDINGS

Quantitative data is an important part of discovering the needs of a community. Demographics reveal the population distribution and what the effects of the current policies, practices and lifestyle choices are in the population.

Racial and Ethnic Diversity

The 13-county target area is comprised of the counties with populations under 500,000, which are more rural and suburban than the larger urban counties. They are surprisingly similar in total to the entire state's racial and ethnic diversity. However when view separately, the unique nature of each county become clear. Overall, the non-White population in New Jersey is 41.1% indicating that it is a diverse state. This diversity varies across the 13-county focus area. For example, Sussex (88.5%) and Hunterdon (87.3%) Counties have the largest proportion of their populations identifying as White, non-

Hispanic; Mercer (19.5%) and Cumberland (18.7%) Counties have the largest proportion identifying as Black; while Passaic (37.7%) and Cumberland (27.6%) are the Counties in the 13-county region that have the largest Hispanic population. Meanwhile, Somerset (14.8%) and Morris (9.4%) Counties have the largest proportion of the population identifying as Asian. Figure 5 depicts the racial population comparison of the CTG 13-counties with New Jersey by percent.

Table 2: Racial/Ethnic Composition, 2011

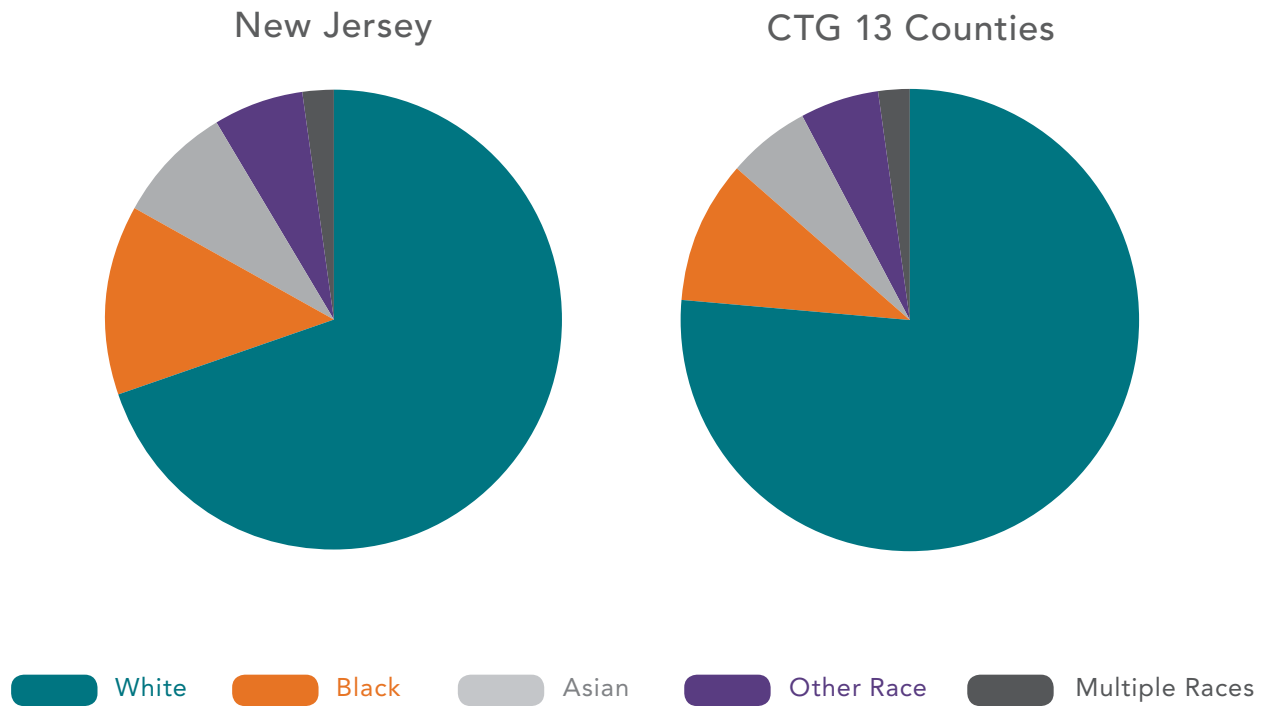
Geography	White, Non-hispanic	Black	Asian	Other	Hispanic
New Jersey	58.9%	12.9%	8.7%	0.7%	18.1%
Atlantic	58.2%	14.9%	7.9%	0.8%	17.3%
Burlington	70.3%	16.1%	4.6%	0.4%	6.7%
Cape May	86.6%	4.5%	1.0%	0.4%	6.4%
Cumberland	49.9%	18.7%	1.4%	1.6%	27.6%
Gloucester	80.7%	9.9%	2.8%	0.3%	5.0%
Hunterdon	87.3%	2.7%	3.5%	0.2%	5.5%
Mercer	54.1%	19.5%	9.3%	0.8%	15.5%
Morris	74.4%	3.0%	9.4%	0.3%	11.8%
Passaic	44.8%	11.1%	5.4%	1.6%	37.7%
Salem	76.2%	13.8%	0.9%	0.5%	7.1%
Somerset	61.7%	8.7%	14.8%	0.4%	13.3%
Sussex	88.5%	1.7%	1.9%	0.2%	6.7%
Warren	85.1%	3.6%	2.7%	0.3%	7.4%

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates 2011, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.



According to 2010 U.S. Census, New Jersey is the most densely populated and one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse states in the U.S. It has the largest population of Cubans outside Florida; the fourth highest Asian population (2010); and, the third highest Italian population by percentage. In 2010, illegal immigrants constituted about 6.2% of the population, the fourth highest in the country according to the Pew Research Hispanic Trends Project. According to the Modern Language Association, New Jersey has enclaves of different non-English-speaking communities, including those speaking: Spanish, Polish, Gujarati, Hindi, Tagalog, and Mandarin Chinese.

Figure 5: Total Population by Race Alone, State and CTG 13-County Comparison, Percent 2011



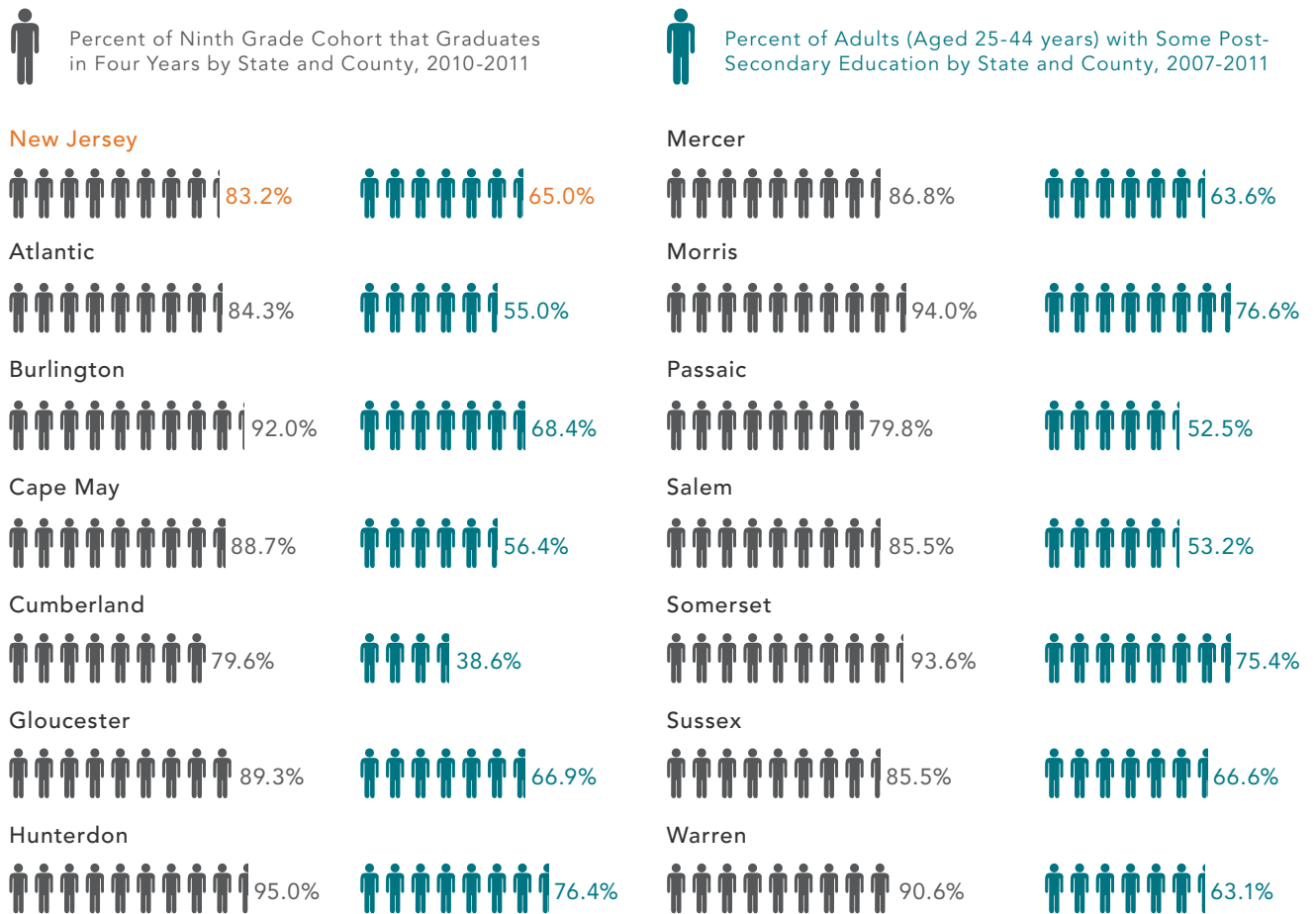
DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey: 2007-11, as cited by CommunityCommons.org, 2013.

Educational Attainment

Quantitative results show that in the 2010-2011 school year the State of New Jersey graduated 83.2% of its high school seniors (Figure 6). However, graduation rates varied considerably by county. Hunterdon County has the highest graduation rate (95.0%) of high school seniors among all 21 New Jersey counties, followed by Morris with 94.0%. Conversely, one out of every five high school students do not graduate in Cumberland and Passaic counties.

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census, 65.0% of adults aged 25-44 years in the State of New Jersey reported having some post-secondary education, such as enrollment at vocational/technical schools, junior colleges, or four-year colleges (Figure 6). Again these attainment rates varied by county, with Morris (76.6%) and Hunterdon (76.4%) Counties having the highest percentage of adults who pursued post-secondary education. Among the 13-county focus area, Cumberland County (38.6%) had a notably lower percentage of adults with post-secondary education.

Figure 6: Educational Attainment



DATA SOURCE: State of New Jersey, Department of Education, 2011 Report Card Data Downloads, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

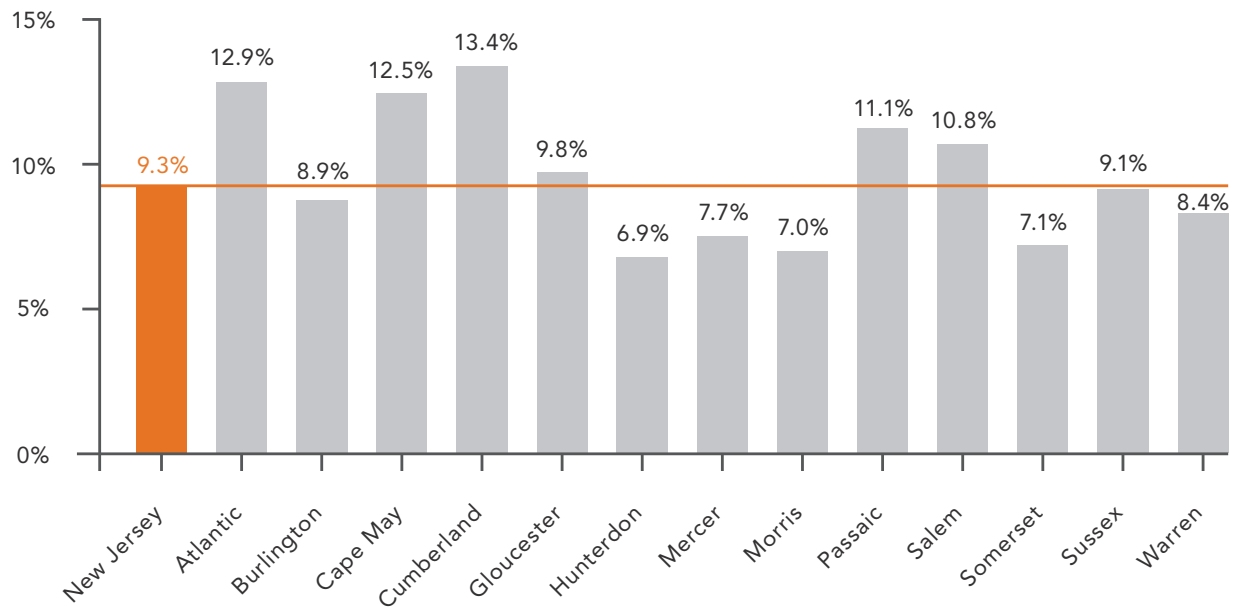
DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

Income, Poverty, and Employment

As illustrated in Figure 7, in 2011, 9.3% of New Jersey residents aged 16 and older were unemployed and seeking work. Hunterdon (6.9%), Morris (7.0%) and Somerset (7.1%) Counties had the lowest unemployment rates of the 13-county focus area while Cumberland (13.4%), Atlantic (12.9%), and Cape May (12.5%) Counties had the highest.

According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) County Health Rankings, though adverse health effects associated with poverty are present at all ages, children in poverty experience greater morbidity and mortality than adults due to increased risk of accidental injury and lack of health care access. Further, data regarding children in poverty are highly correlated with data regarding overall poverty within a given community.

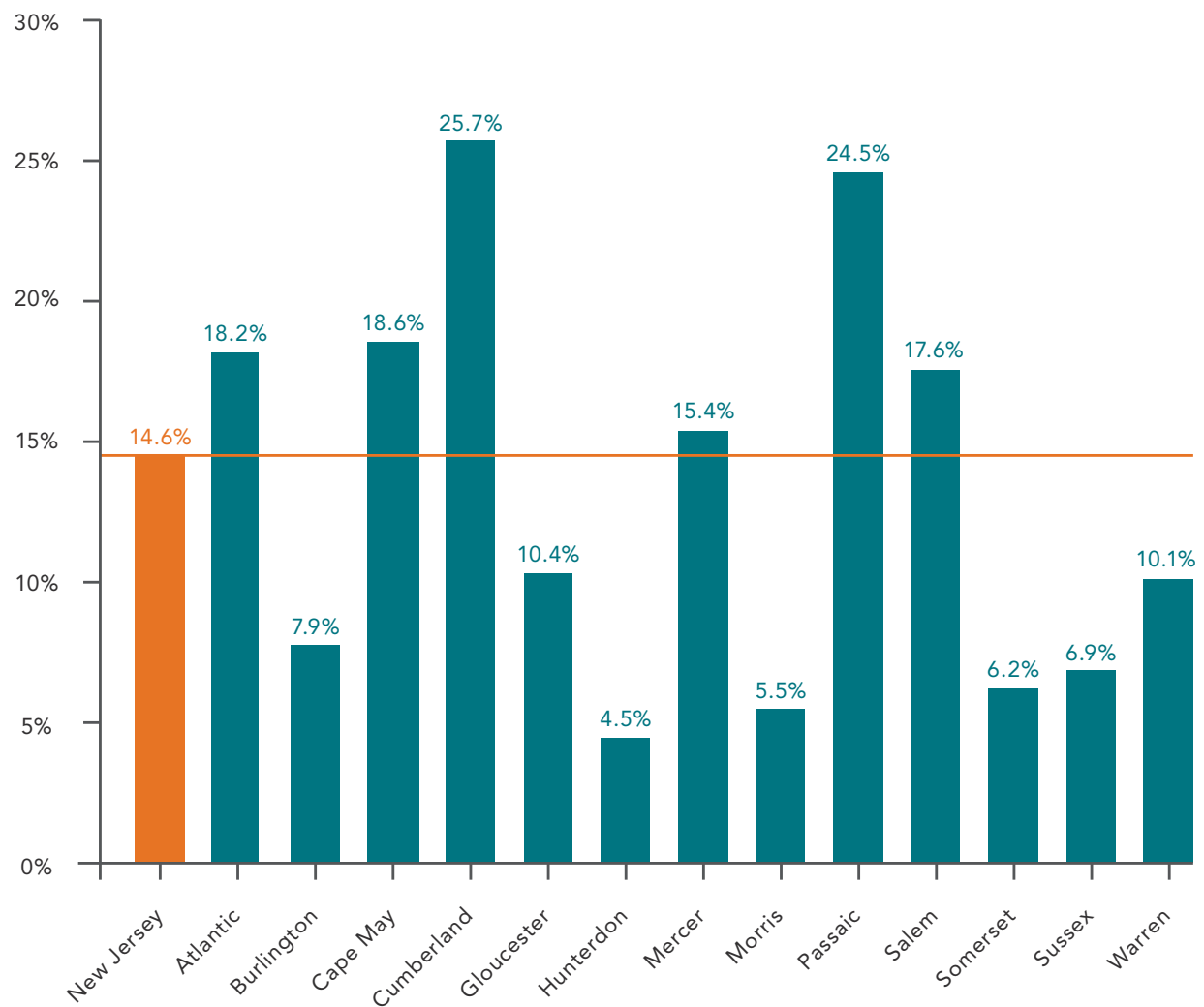
Figure 7: Percent of Population (Aged 16+) Unemployed but Seeking Work, 2011



DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, 2011, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

Quantitative data suggest that in 2011, 14.6% of children under age 18 in New Jersey were living below the Federal Poverty Line. When stratified by county, Figure 8 illustrates substantial variation in rates for children in poverty. For example, Cumberland (25.7%) and Passaic (24.5%) had the highest percentage of children living in poverty, while Hunterdon (4.5%) and Morris (5.5%) had the lowest.

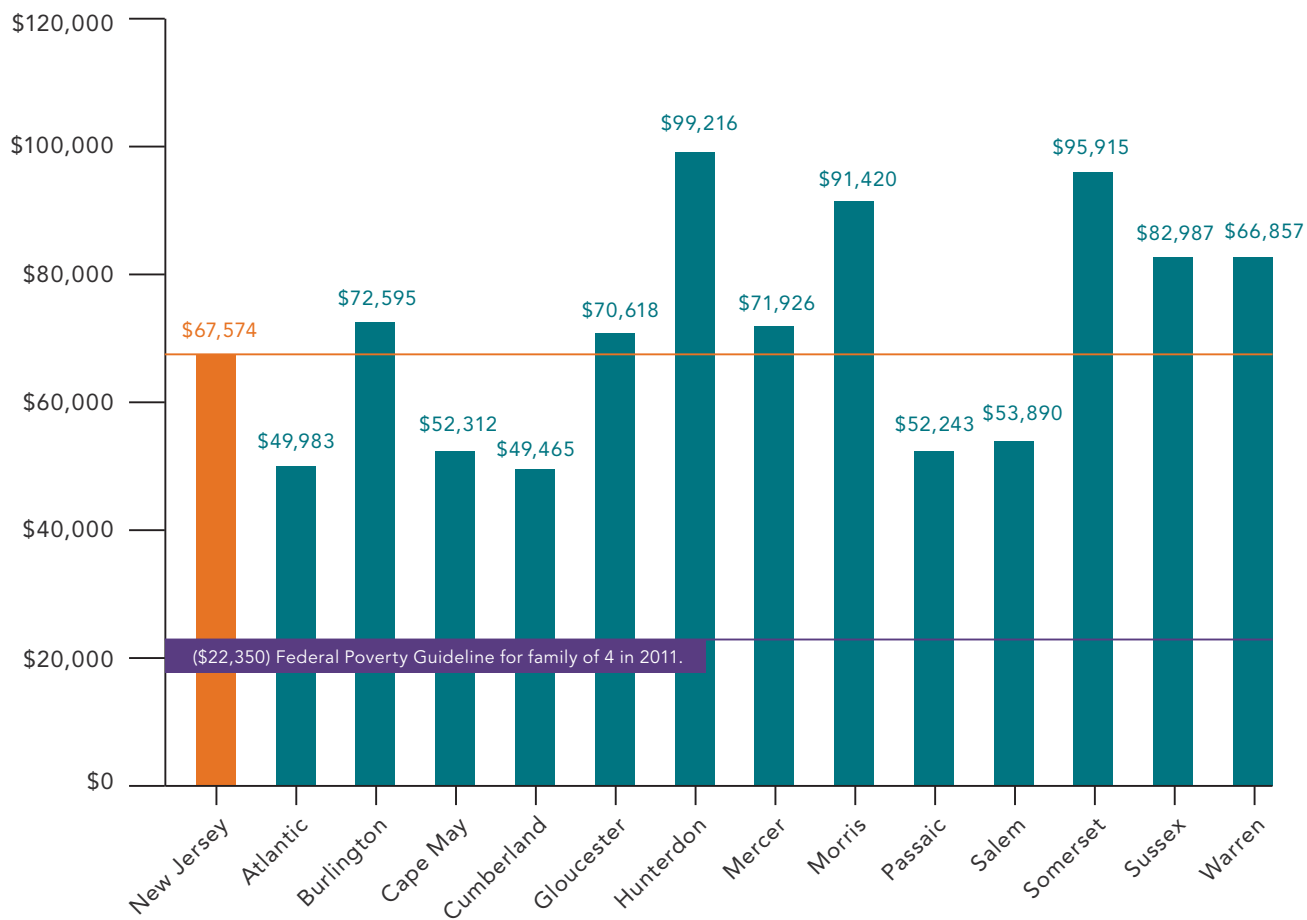
Figure 8: Percent of Children (Under Age 18) in Poverty, 2011



DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2011, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

The median household income for the State of New Jersey in 2011 was \$67,574 (Figure 9) compared with \$75,150 in the 13-county focus area. Among these 13-counties, the county with the lowest median household income was less than half of the highest median household income. Data also shows that more than one in six households live below the federal poverty line in Cumberland and Passaic Counties. Further, according to Kids Count Data Center, over 80% of students in Cumberland, Passaic and Salem Counties are eligible for free school lunches.

Figure 9: Median Household Income, 2011

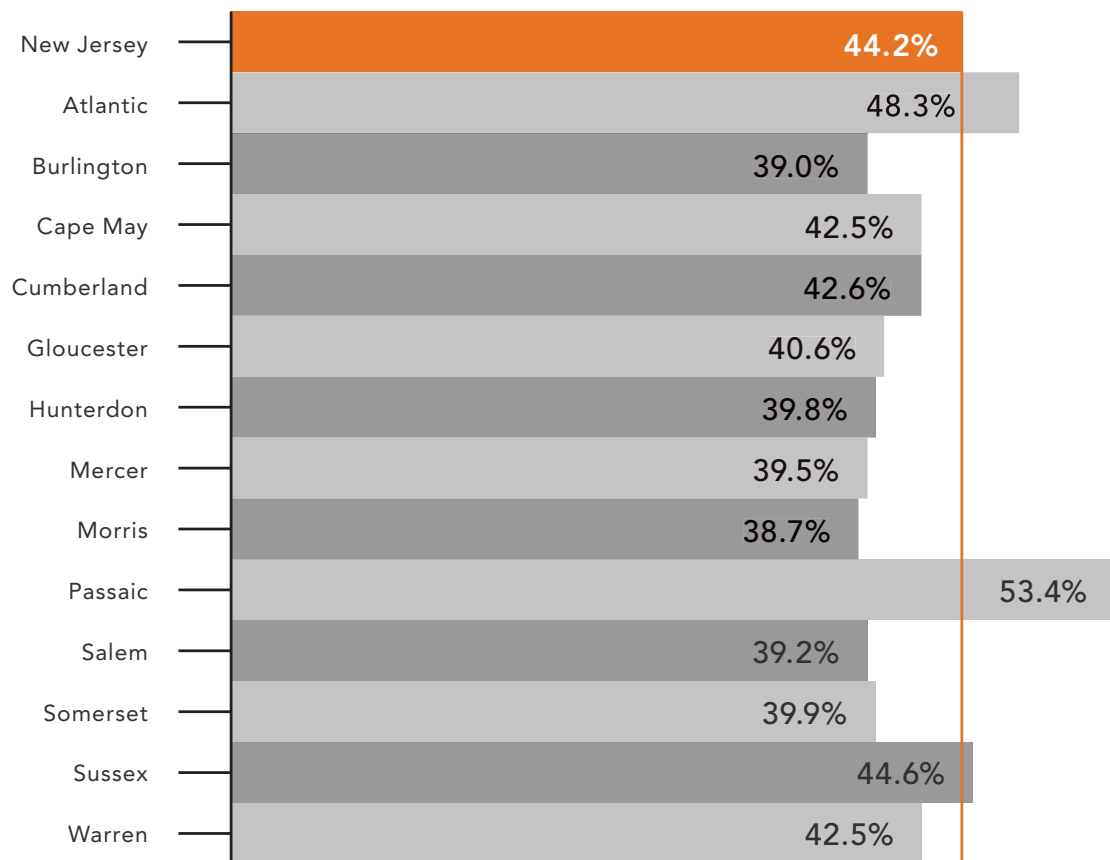


DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2011, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

Housing

According to the American Community Survey, between the years of 2007 and 2011, 44.2% of New Jersey residents had housing costs that were 30% or more of their household income (Figure 10). While most of the counties in the focus area had similar percentages as those reported statewide, Passaic County (53.4%) had a notably higher percentage of residents with housing costs that were 30% or more of their household income.

Figure 10: Percent of Residents Whose Housing Costs are 30% or More of Household Income, 2007-2011

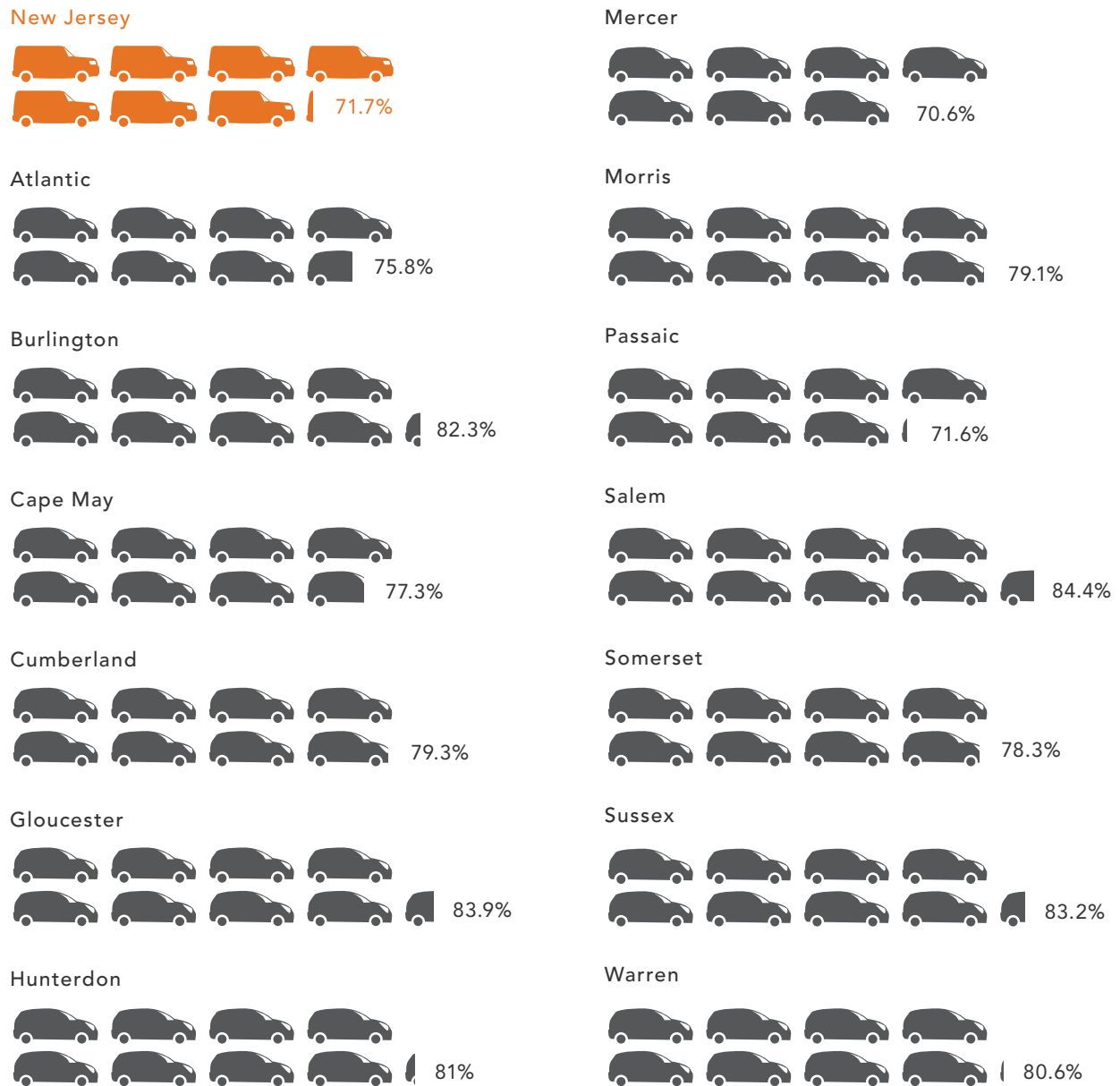


DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

Transportation

Between the years of 2007 and 2011, 71.7% of New Jersey residents reported driving to work alone, indicating that New Jersey is largely a car-dependent state (Figure 11). Ten of the 13-counties in the focus area had greater percentages of commuters that drove alone to work than that reported statewide. Salem County had the highest percentage of sole driving commuters (84.4%), while Mercer County had the lowest (70.6%).

Figure 11: Percent of the Workforce that Drives Alone to Work, 2007-2011

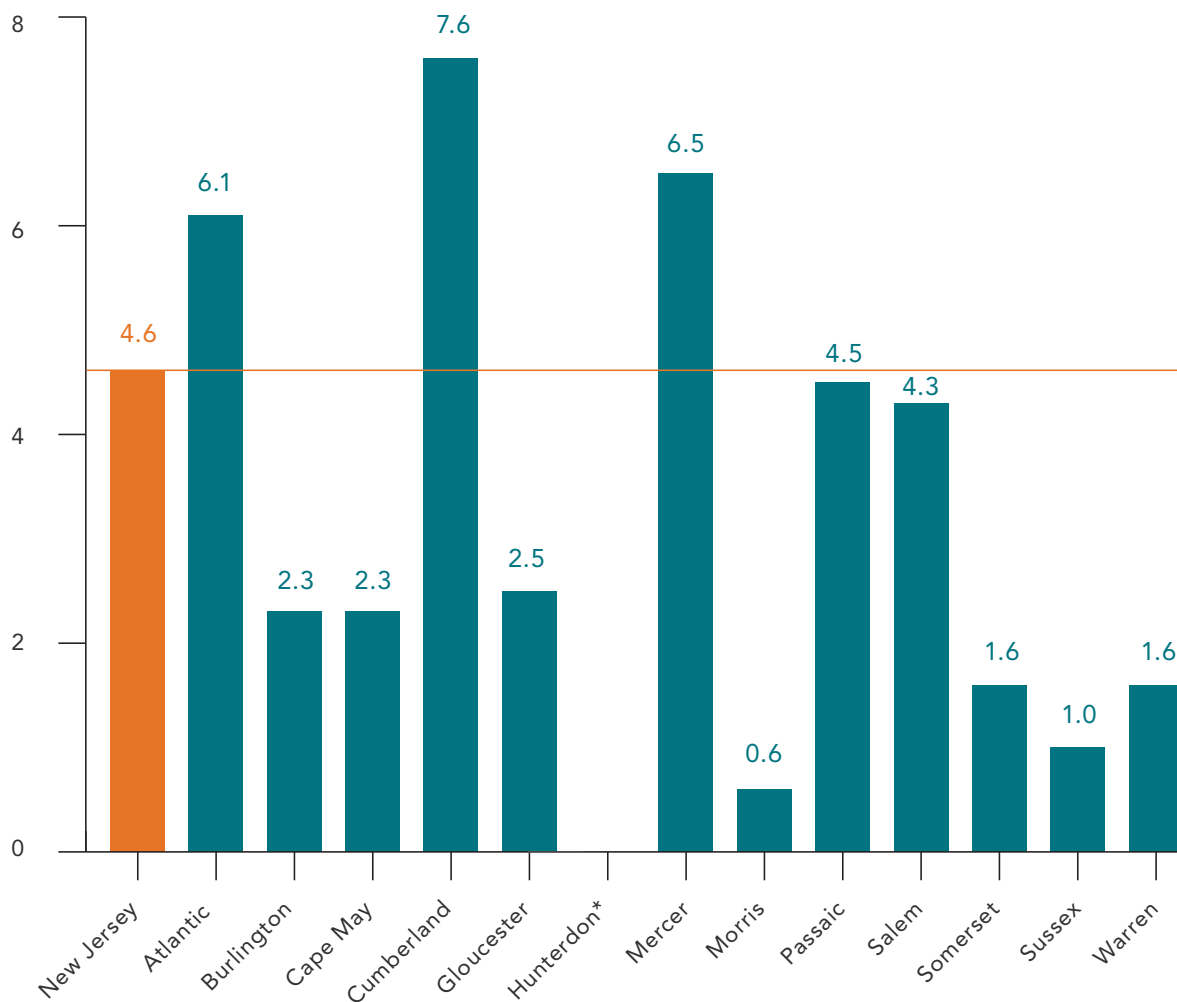


DATA SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

Crime and Violence

Homicide rates are often used as an indicator of violent crime in a given community. From 2004-2010, the statewide homicide rate averaged 4.6 per 100,000 population (Figure 12). Among the 13-county focus area, Cumberland County had by far the highest homicide rate (7.6 per 100,000 population), while Morris County had the lowest (0.6 per 100,000 population).

Figure 12: Rate of Deaths due to Homicide per 100,000 Population, 2004-2010



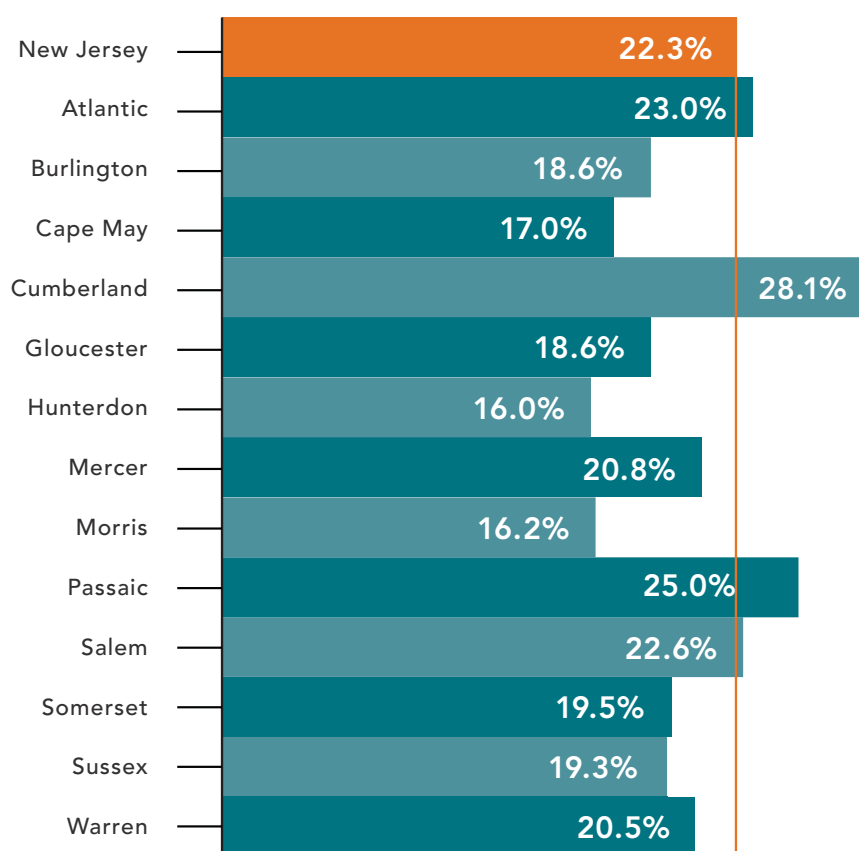
DATA SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), 2004-2010, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.
*NOTE: There were no data reported for Hunterdon County by the 2013 County Health Rankings.

Social Support and Cohesion

According to the RWJF County Health Rankings, inadequate social support (e.g., poor family support, minimal contact with others, and limited involvement in community life) is associated with increased morbidity and mortality. Social support networks have been identified as powerful predictors of health behaviors, suggesting that individuals without a strong social network are less likely to make healthy lifestyle choices than those with a strong network.

In response to a Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey question that reads, “How often do you get the social and emotional support you need,” 22.3% of New Jersey residents responded “never,” “rarely,” or “sometimes” (Figure 13). While the 13-county focus area was largely consistent with the state overall, Cumberland County (28.1%) had a particularly high percentage of adults who reported receiving inadequate social support, while Hunterdon County (16.2%) had the lowest percentage.

Figure 13: Percent of Adults without Social and Emotional Support, 2005-2010



DATA SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Data. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2005-2010, as cited by County Health Rankings, 2013.

NOTE: The social and emotional support measure is based on responses to the question: “How often do you get the social and emotional support you need?” The County Health Rankings reports the percent of the adult population that responds that they “never,” “rarely,” or “sometimes” get the support they need.

