

# SECTION 3: HEALTH DISPARITIES REPORT

This section focuses on the most significant populations and geographic areas identified as experiencing health disparities that needed to be addressed in order to improve the overall health of the communities.

## METHOD

A primary focus of this initiative is on reducing health disparities. The County Partners were asked to investigate available information and resources to help in identifying communities and subpopulations experiencing health disparities within each county, specific to the five CTG strategic directions.

As the County Partners identified disparate populations, they entered the data in a table schematic that emphasized the six most commonly listed populations. Each county was asked to identify at least three geographic locations within their county that they ascertained were experiencing the largest amounts of health disparities through data collection and analysis. County Partners selected these geographic locations primarily for reasons of lack of access to services and having a low socioeconomic population (e.g., education, income, employment). Additionally, low income communities were specifically identified by nine of the 13-counties as disparate populations.

Other disparate populations included racial/ethnic minorities. The Hispanic population was cited by eight of the 13-counties, including Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Morris, Somerset and Sussex Counties. The African American and/or Black population in Atlantic, Mercer and Morris Counties were also identified as populations at risk for experiencing health disparities within the five CTG strategic directions. Age also factored into the identification of disparate populations by county. Older adults were considered at risk by seven of the 13 counties, while youth were identified by five counties.

Atlantic and Mercer were the two counties within the focus area that cited all six of these characteristics as comprising their populations facing the most disparities.



Table 10: Summary of NJ CTG Partner's Health Disparity County Profiles, 2013

Target County	Geographic Location Identified	Low Income	Hispanic	Older Adults	Youth	African American
Atlantic	•	•	•	•	•	•
Burlington	•					
Cape May	•	•				
Cumberland	•	•	•			
Gloucester	•		•	•		
Hunterdon	•		•			
Mercer	•	•	•	•	•	•
Morris	•	•	•	•		•
Passaic	•	•		•	•	
Salem	•	•		•	•	
Somerset	•		•		•	
Sussex	•	•	•	•		
Warren	•	•				
Total	13	9	8	7	5	3

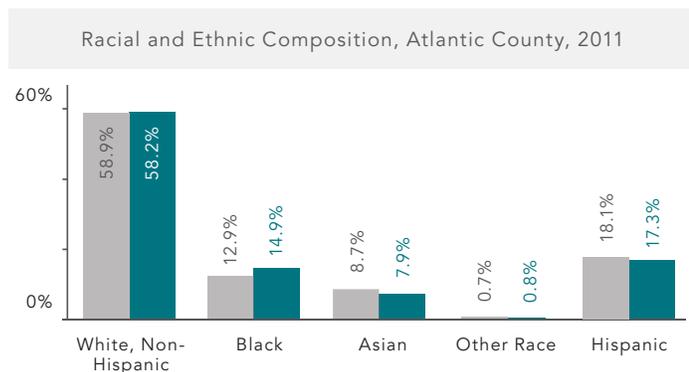
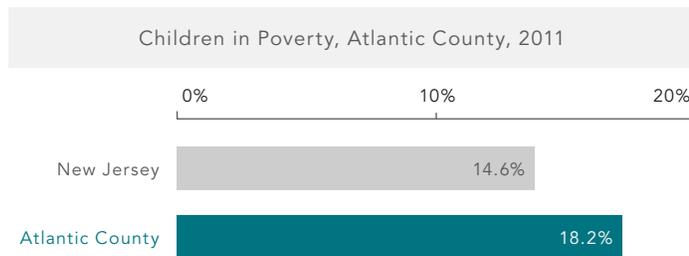
DATA SOURCE: Data culled from local County Partner Disparate Population Assessment Reports.

## Who Lives in Atlantic County?

**Atlantic County** is located in the southeastern part of New Jersey and has a total population of 274,338. The ten most populous cities in Atlantic County include Atlantic City, Brigantine, Egg Harbor Township, Galloway Township, Hamilton Township, Hammonton, Northfield, Pleasantville, Somers Point and Ventnor City.

- Nearly one in four of Atlantic County’s residents is under 18 years old. Seniors (65+) comprise 14.4% of the population.
- 40.9% of Atlantic County are non-White indicating that it is a relatively diverse county.
- 18.2% of Atlantic County children are in poverty.
- The median household income in Atlantic County is \$49,983 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Age Distribution, Atlantic County, 2011		
Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
<b>Atlantic County</b>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>



## Disparate Populations in Atlantic County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Atlantic County:

- **Western section of Atlantic County (the “forgotten” area)** - Defined geographically by the boundaries of Buena Vista Township, Buena Borough, and Hammonton. This geographic location has been identified as disparate primarily because of lack of access to services, low socioeconomic population, and the influx of migrant workers. These workers experience differing levels of disease, opportunities to achieve optimal health and violence than the general population.
- **Children and seniors residing in government subsidized affordable housing** – Although numerous services and programs exist in Atlantic County, the residents of subsidized housing are the most isolated from accessing these services. These sub-populations include students in subsidized lunch programs and seniors, who are at greater risk for social isolation due to limited mobility. Additionally, challenges have been further exacerbated for residents who were displaced by the floodwater of Hurricane Sandy.
- **Atlantic City Casino workers** - There are 12 casino/hotels operating in Atlantic City which employ approximately 40,000 people. The casinos are the only workplaces in NJ exempt from the Smoke Free Air Act. As such, this population is at higher risk for tobacco- and stress-related chronic illnesses.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Atlantic City
- Buena Vista Township
- Buena Borough
- Egg Harbor City
- Hammonton



## Who Lives in Burlington County?

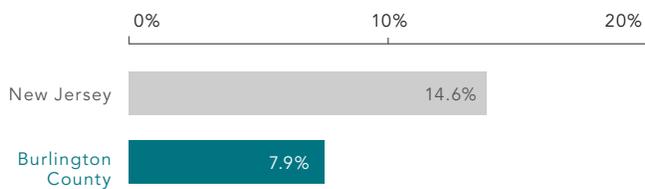
**Burlington County** is located in the western part of New Jersey and has a total population of 449,576. The ten most populous cities in Burlington County consist of Burlington, Cinnaminson, Delran, Evesham, Maple Shade, Medford, Moorestown, Mount Laurel, Pemberton and Willingboro.

- Nearly one in four of Burlington County’s residents is under 18 years old. Seniors (65+) comprise 14.1% of the population.
- Burlington County is predominantly White (70.3%) with 16.1% of residents identifying as Black and nearly 7% identifying as Hispanic.
- .9% of Burlington County children are in poverty, nearly half the rate seen statewide.
- The median household income in Burlington County is \$72,594 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

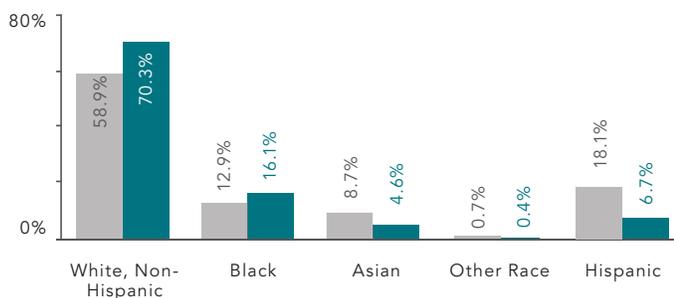
Age Distribution, Burlington County, 2011

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Burlington County	22.8%	14.1%

Children in Poverty, Burlington County, 2011



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Burlington County, 2011



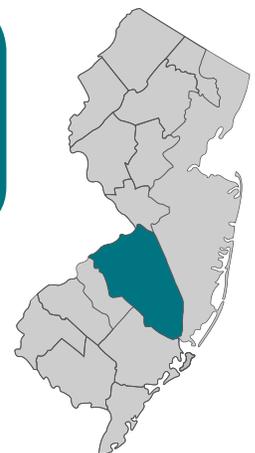
## Disparate Populations in Burlington County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Burlington County:

- **Burlington City** – This municipality has been identified as experiencing disparities due to three reasons: 1) the lack of access to fresh healthy foods, since the nearest grocery store is 7 miles away and the predominance of fast food establishments; 2) a high crime rate, including street gang activity that has resulted in open air drug dealing and 3) a lack of activities for youth as there is no community center or local organized sports teams.
- **Riverside Township** – Similar to Burlington City, there is also a dearth of healthy food outlets and open space for parks and recreation. While formerly an industrial town, the economic downturn has caused Riverside to lose several of its local businesses. The community does not have a medical facility, consequently its residents face barriers to accessing care.
- **Beverly City** – Beverly does not have a grocery store nearby. Also, heavy traffic on the only major road in the community makes walking dangerous. While there is a small school and two small playground areas, one of which is known as a high crime area where drugs are sold openly. Local businesses have closed in the city due to the economic downturn. Similar to Riverside, there is no local clinic or medical facility within the municipality.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Beverly City
- Burlington City
- Riverside Township

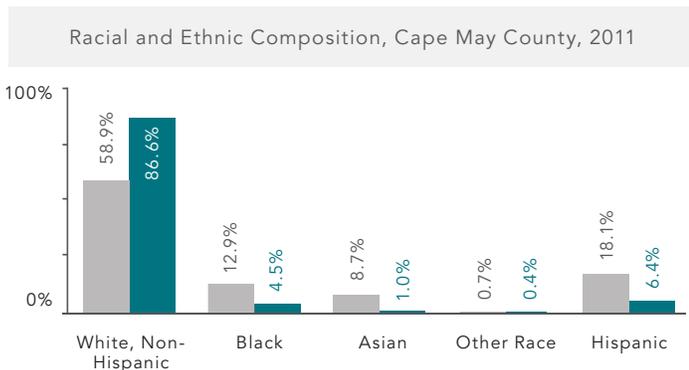
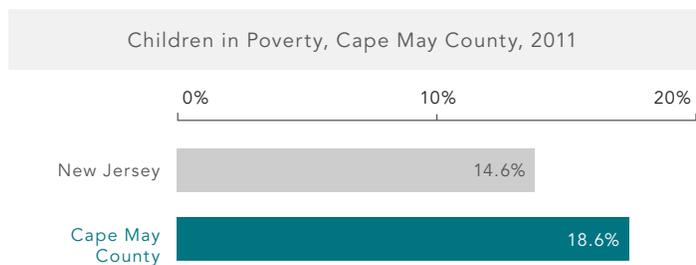


### Who Lives in Cape May County?

**Cape May County** is located in the southeastern most tip of New Jersey and has a total population of 96,601. The ten most populous cities in Cape May County are Cape May City, Dennis, Lower, Middle, North Wildwood, Ocean City, Upper, Wildwood, Wildwood Crest and Woodbine.

- In Cape May, the senior (65+) population (22.0%) comprises a larger percentage of total residents than the youth (under 18) population (18.5%).
- Cape May County is less diverse than the state overall, with 86.6% of residents identifying as White, while 6.4% identify as Hispanic and 4.5% as Black.
- 18.6% of Cape May County children live in poverty, a higher percentage than New Jersey overall.
- The median household income is \$52,312 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Cape May County	18.5%	22.0%



### Disparate Populations in Cape May County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Cape May County:

- **Wildwood Township** – The Cape Atlantic Bridge Regional Coalition identified Wildwood as an area of concern in their needs assessment due to higher levels of need and lower levels of resources. Members of the Cape May County Healthy Community Coalition's office have extensive knowledge of local concerns in Wildwood as it is located in its heart and have the support of key stakeholders allowing them to take action. The Coalition has strong working relationships with local government and police. Together, they can collaborate to improve Wildwood residents' health and wellness.
- **Erma and Villas Townships** – Both Erma and Villas are Census Designated Places (CDPs) located in Lower Township. As with Wildwood, Cape Atlantic Bridge Regional Coalition identified Erma and Villas as areas of concern. The township is home to many schools (i.e., Memorial School, Carl T. Mitnick School, Maud T. Abrams School, and Charles W. Sandman Consolidated School, Richard M. Teitelman School, and Lower Cape May Regional High School). These two areas were identified as key areas for action due to the strong relationships that the Coalition has fostered with the school system, as well as the Mayor and Councilmen's willingness to take on the challenges of making Lower Township a better place to live and raise families.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Erma
- Villas
- Wildwood

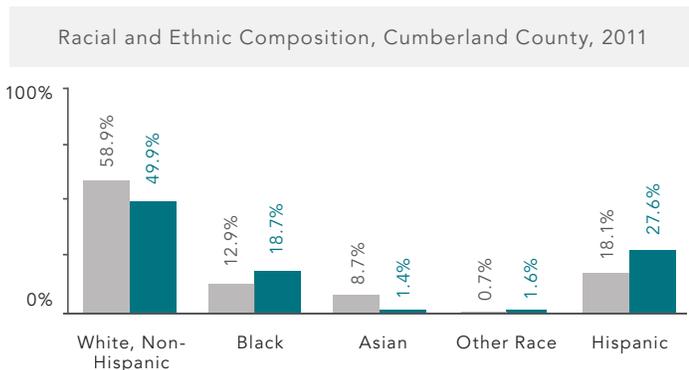
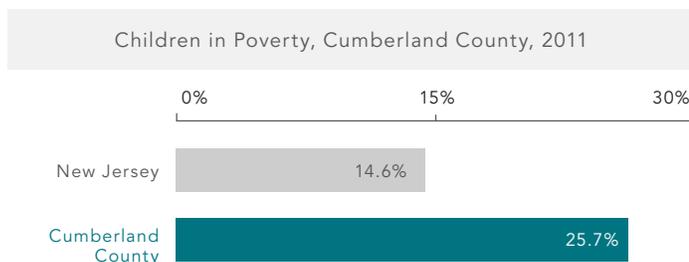


## Who Lives in Cumberland County?

**Cumberland County** is located in southern New Jersey with a total population of 157,095. The ten most populous cities in Cumberland County include Deerfield, Bridgeton, Commercial, Fairfield, Hopewell, Lawrence, Maurice River, Millville, Upper Deerfield and Vineland.

- Nearly one in four of Cumberland County’s residents is under 18 years old. Seniors (65+) comprise 12.8% of the population.
- The non-White population comprises half of Cumberland County residents, with over one in four residents identifying as Hispanic and nearly one in five identifying as Black.
- 25.7% of Cumberland County children live in poverty, higher than the 14.6% across the state.
- The median household income is \$49,465 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Age Distribution, Cumberland County, 2011		
Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Cumberland County	24.0%	12.8%



## Disparate Populations in Cumberland County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Cumberland County:

- **Working middle class population** – This population was identified as disparate because of the economic constraints coupled with ineligibility for subsidized services.
- **Homeless population** – This “hidden” population is transitory, often resulting in difficulties with assessing health status.
- **Under-educated population** – Lower educational attainment rates encountered by this population contribute to limited income potential.
- **Undocumented population** – The undocumented population in Cumberland County was identified as disparate due to fear regarding deportation.
- **Underinsured population** – Due to economic and insurance constraints, the underinsured population of Cumberland County faces barriers to receiving health care services.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Bridgeton
- Fortesque
- Port Norris
- Southeast Vineland

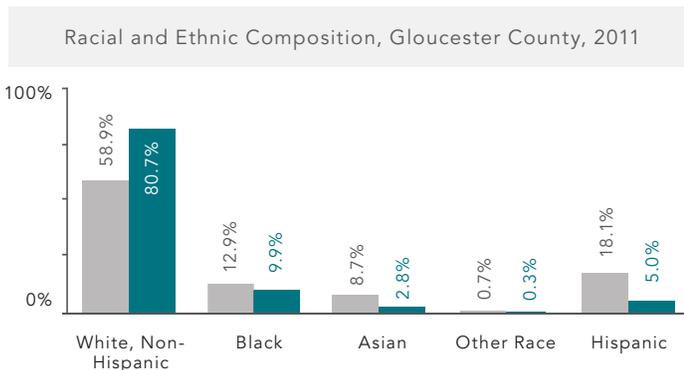


### Who Lives in Gloucester County?

**Gloucester County** is located in southwest New Jersey and has a total population of 289,104. The ten most populous cities in Gloucester County include Deptford, Franklin, Glassboro, Harrison, Mantua, Monroe, Washington, West Deptford, Woodbury and Woolwich.

- Similar to New Jersey's age distribution, 23.9% of Gloucester County's residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 12.7% of the population.
- Less diverse than the state, one in ten Gloucester County residents is Black, while 8 in 10 are White.
- 10.4% of Gloucester County children live in poverty.
- The median household income is \$70,618 compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Age Distribution, Gloucester County, 2011		
Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
<b>Gloucester County</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>



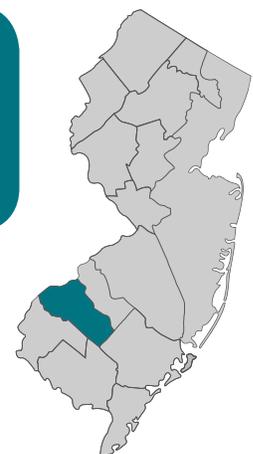
### Disparate Populations in Gloucester County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Gloucester County:

- **Paulsboro, Glassboro, and Woodbury** – These three municipalities were identified as the disparate populations in Gloucester County. Specifically, Gloucester County residents most at-risk for experiencing health disparities were found to be spread out over the most rural areas of the county, resulting in challenges to accessing services.
- **Aging population** – Defined as age 65 years and older, this population was identified as being at-risk for diabetes and asthma, conditions attributed to poor nutrition and high smoking rates. Older adults in Gloucester County had higher emergency department admissions than their counterparts statewide, indicating that they are population in need of additional services in Gloucester County.
- **Affluent young adults abusing substances** – Though substance abuse (related to tobacco use, alcohol consumption, marijuana use and prescription medication use) was a health issue afflicting residents of all ages in Gloucester County. Affluent young adults were identified as being particularly at-risk for addiction to prescription medications. Residents attributed the situation to the ease of access to prescription medications in Gloucester County, coupled with the financial means to purchase them.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Glassboro
- Paulsboro
- Woodbury



## Who Lives in Hunterdon County?

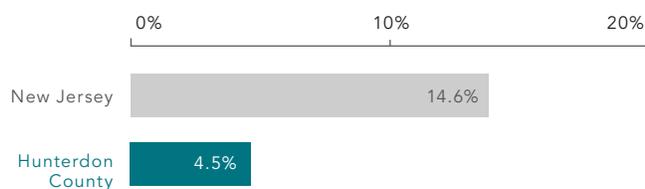
**Hunterdon County** is located in central west New Jersey with a total population of 128,038. Hunterdon County's ten most populous cities are Alexandria, Clinton, Delaware, Flemington, Holland, Lebanon, Raritan, Readington, Tewksbury and Union.

- Similar to statewide statistics, 22.7% of Hunterdon County's residents are under 18 years old. Seniors (65+) comprise 13.4% of the population.
- Hunterdon County is less diverse than the state overall, with nearly nine in ten Hunterdon County residents identifying as white.
- 4.5% of Hunterdon County children live in poverty, notably less than the 14.6% across the state.
- The median household income is \$99,216 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

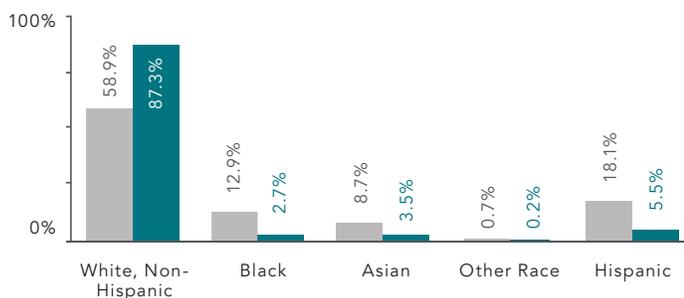
Age Distribution, Hunterdon County, 2011

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Hunterdon County	22.7%	13.4%

Children in Poverty, Hunterdon County, 2011



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Hunterdon County, 2011



## Disparate Populations in Hunterdon County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Hunterdon County:

- **Aging population** – A need has been identified to increase awareness and utilization of services for seniors and their caregivers in Hunterdon County. One challenging area for the aging has been access to and utilization of services for preventive care. The aging population also has unique needs regarding improved awareness of advanced directives and end of life care.
- **Undocumented Hispanic population** – There is a growing undocumented Hispanic population in the county among whom numerous health issues have been identified. These issues include: high obesity; low rates of health insurance; limited access to healthcare due to language barriers; lack of adequate dental care and preventive health screenings; high rates of tobacco and alcohol use; and low consumption of fruits and vegetables.
- **Overweight and obese residents** – Similar to the national trend, Hunterdon County residents have an increasing overweight and obesity rates. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data show that 55% of residents are identified as overweight or obese.
- **Residents abusing substances** – Hunterdon County has the highest rate of alcohol use and binge drinking of all New Jersey counties. Further, it has the 4th highest rate of illicit drug use and is ranked 5th highest in residential treatment admissions for adults.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Bloomsbury
- Flemington
- Frenchtown
- High Bridge
- Lambertville

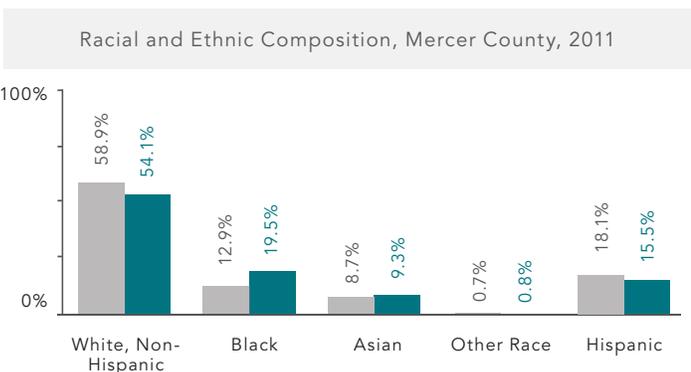
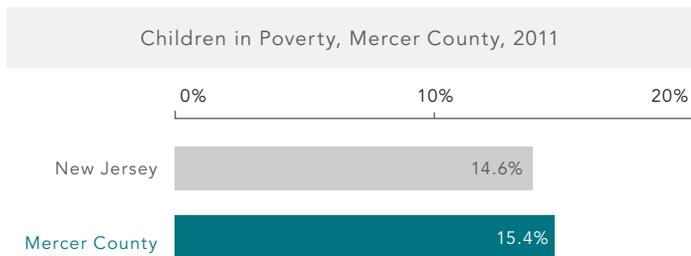


### Who Lives in Mercer County?

**Mercer County** is located in central New Jersey and has a total population of 367,063. The ten most populous cities in Mercer County include Hamilton, Trenton, Ewing, Lawrence, East Windsor, West Windsor, Hopewell Township, Princeton, Robbinsville and Hightstown.

- 22.4% of Mercer County’s residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 12.9% of the population, similar to New Jersey percentages.
- A diverse region, nearly half of the population is non-White, with 19.5% of residents identifying as Black, 15.5% as Hispanic, and 9.3% as Asian.
- 15.4% of Mercer County children live in poverty. Slightly greater than the 14.6% in the state.
- The median household income is \$71,926 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Age Distribution, Mercer County, 2011		
Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Mercer County	22.4%	12.9%



### Disparate Populations in Mercer County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Mercer County:

- **Aging population (65+ years of age)** – The growth of the senior population in Mercer County (5.0%) is outpacing that of the general population (4.5%). As this population continues its growth, issues of isolation, access to transportation, navigating available health services, receiving adequate nutrition, and accessing affordable housing alternatives become ever more pressing to address.
- **Youth population (12 to 25 years of age)** – There are pockets of disparate youth populations throughout Mercer County. Disparities exist by race/ethnicity in regards to overweight and obese youth. In Trenton being overweight and obese are prevalent across all racial/ethnic groups. This situation is largely being attributed to the lack of access to healthy food outlets. In wealthier communities, youth face issues of stress associated with the pressure to succeed and the rise in bullying. Area parents have expressed concern about youth suicide and drug abuse.
- **Low-income population** – While most communities in Mercer County have lower poverty rates than the state, almost one quarter of Trenton’s residents live in poverty. Low-income populations often face additional barriers to accessing community and health care resources such as a lack of adequate health insurance and healthy and affordable housing.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Ewing
- Hightstown
- Trenton



### Who Lives in Morris County?

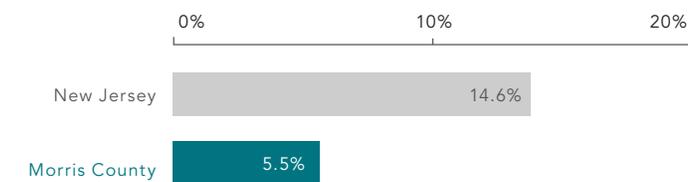
**Morris County** is located in northern New Jersey and has a total population of 494,976. The ten most populous cities in Morris County include Jefferson, Montville, Morris, Morristown, Mount Olive, Parsippany-Troy Hills, Randolph, Rockaway, Roxbury and Washington.

- 23.3% of Morris County's residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 14.2% of the population, similar percentages to New Jersey.
- Morris County residents are predominantly White (74.4%), although 11.8% identify as Hispanic and 9.4% as Asian.
- 5.5% of Morris County children live in poverty, nearly three times less than the 14.6% seen statewide.
- The median household income is \$91,420 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

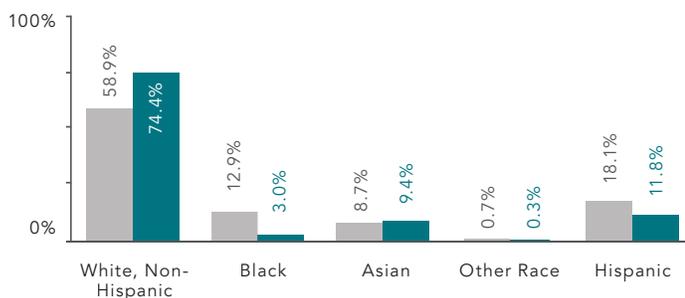
Age Distribution, Morris County, 2011

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
<b>Morris County</b>	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>14.2%</b>

Children in Poverty, Morris County, 2011



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Morris County, 2011



### Disparate Populations in Morris County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Morris County:

- **Households with less than \$60,000 annual income** – The prosperity reflected in Morris County's median household income obscures the large number of households experiencing serious economic struggles. These lower income families face limited access to healthy and affordable food, physical activity outlets, adequate housing and affordable health care.
- **Ageing population** – Several of Morris County's aging population have been identified as either physically disabled or having a self-care disability that prevents them from going outside of their home. These are people who need to access healthcare services and are already experience higher incidence rates for heart disease, cancer, and stroke. Further, the aging population in Morris County has identified the financial burden of health care as one of their primary concerns.
- **Hispanic population** – The Hispanic population, particularly those that are low income or have a low level of educational attainment, has been identified as a disparate population in Morris County. Their needs are further exacerbated by higher levels of poverty.
- **Black/African American population** – The Black/African American population in Morris County experiences lower levels of educational attainment and higher poverty rates. Areas of focus for this population are Morristown, Dover, Morris, Mount Olive and Parsippany-Troy Hills.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Dover
- Morristown
- Morris Township

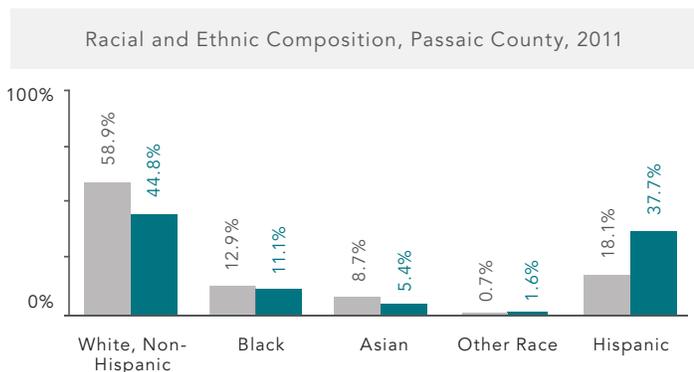
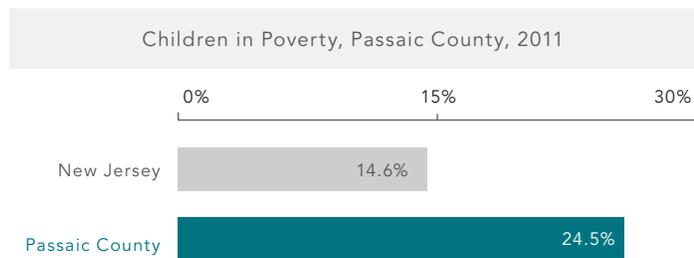


## Who Lives in Passaic County?

**Passaic County** is located in northern New Jersey and has a total population of 502,007. The ten most populous cities in Passaic County include Clifton, Hawthorne, Little Falls, Passaic City, Paterson, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood, Wayne, West Milford and Woodland Park.

- One in four of Passaic County's residents is under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 12.3% of the population.
- 55.8% of Passaic County recognize themselves as non-White indicating that it is a relatively diverse region. Nearly four in ten residents identify themselves as Hispanic.
- 24.5% of Passaic County children are in poverty, greater than the 14.6% seen across the state.
- The median household income is \$52,243 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Age Distribution, Passaic County, 2011		
Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Passaic County	24.6%	12.3%



## Disparate Populations in Passaic County

Certain environmental conditions in Passaic County were identified as contributing to poor health outcomes. These included limited access to health services, healthy food retail, and sites for being physically active. The health conditions most prevalent in the County were chronic diseases (i.e., diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and cancer) and communicable diseases (i.e., Hepatitis C, Lyme disease, and sexually transmitted infections). Populations most at-risk for experiencing these barriers and outcomes in Passaic County were:

- **Limited income population** – This population was identified as particularly at-risk for not accessing needed health services to meet health and human service needs.
- **Ageing population** – Residents aged 65 and older were identified as experiencing barriers to health and medical care, specifically related to limited health insurance and poor care/case management.
- **Youth population** – In both rural and urban areas in Passaic County, the youth population was identified as likely to live in environments which were less than supportive of healthy living (i.e., high-calorie food options or few options for physical activity due to high crime, limited recreational facilities, etc.)
- **Persons with low English proficiency** – Passaic County residents with limited English skills, many of whom have the greatest need for services, encounter significant language barriers which hinder their ability to access services.
- **Persons with inadequate transportation** – This population was identified as disparate because those who lack transportation have barriers to accessing the places, goods and services that foster healthy living, such as venues for healthy eating, gyms, parks, trails and medical services.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Clifton
- City of Passaic
- City of Paterson



## Who Lives in Salem County?

**Salem County** is located in southern New Jersey with a total population of 65,902. The ten most populous cities in Salem County include Alloway, Carneys Point, Penns Grove, Pennsville, Pilesgrove, Pittsgrove, Quinton, Salem City, Upper Pittsgrove and Woodstown.

- 23.1% of Salem County's residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 15.1% of the population.
- Salem County is predominantly White (76.2%), and 13.8% of residents identify as Black and 7.1% as Hispanic.
- 17.6% of Salem County children live in poverty, slightly greater than the 14.6% across the state.
- The median household income is \$53,890 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

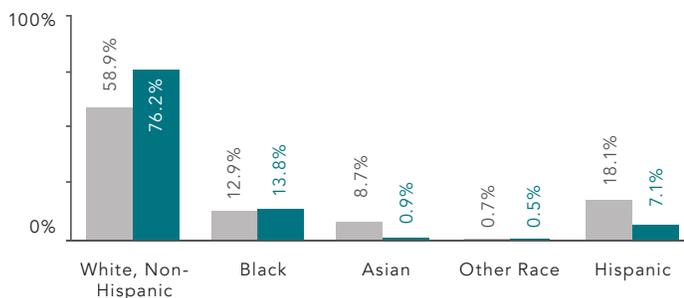
Age Distribution, Salem County, 2011

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Salem County	23.1%	15.1%

Children in Poverty, Salem County, 2011



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Salem County, 2011



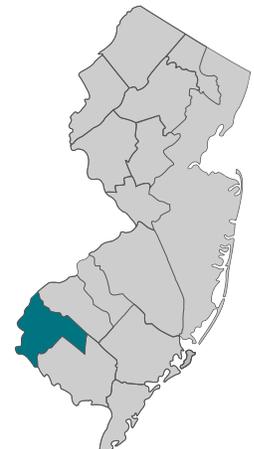
## Disparate Populations in Salem County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Salem County:

- **Behavioral health service consumers** – Behavioral health was defined as including substance abuse, mental, and emotional health. Consumers of these services were identified as a disparate population due to the limited availability of such services locally.
- **Adolescents to young adults** – This population, defined as age 13-25 years, experiences disparities due to the lack of activities and community engagement targeting them. Limited understanding of their potential, particularly among adolescent girls who believe that young motherhood is their only option, was identified as a pressing concern.
- **Undocumented/hidden/homeless populations** – These at-risk populations do not necessarily have a stable address or government-issued identification, which exacerbates their challenges to accessing the health care system. It is difficult to define these populations and target services to them. Undocumented immigrants, fearful of deportation, are inhibited from addressing their health needs.
- **Veterans** – Though receiving quality care while deployed, this population was identified as disparate due to the lack of services available to them once back home.
- **Senior citizens** – The complexity of the medical issues facing the aging population was identified as a primary concern in Salem County. The fear of facing declining health was cited as a barrier to accessing medical services.
- **Middle to low-income families with no safety net** – This population was identified as disparate due to economic constraints coupled with ineligibility for subsidized services.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Alloway
- Pennsgrove
- Salem City

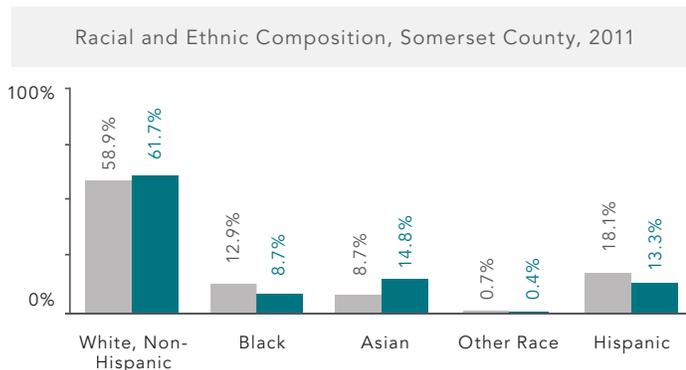


## Who Lives in Somerset County?

**Somerset County** is located in northern New Jersey and has a total population of 324,893. The ten most populous cities in Somerset County include Bernards, Bound Brook, Branchburg, Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Montgomery, North Plainfield, Somerville and Warren Township.

- Somerset County is a young area with one in four residents under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 12.6% of the population.
- Nearly four in ten residents are considered non-White in Somerset County, with 14.8% identifying as Asian, 13.3% as Hispanic, and 8.7% as Black.
- Somerset is a wealthier county, with a child poverty rate half that of the state.
- The median household income is \$95,915 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
<b>Somerset County</b>	<b>24.5%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>



## Disparate Populations in Somerset County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Somerset County:

- **South East Asian population** – Comprised largely of Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, and Sri Lankans and with a specific focus in Hillsborough Township, the South East Asian population is the fastest growing in New Jersey. South East Asians have a high incidence of, and are disproportionately at risk for, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Further, lack of awareness around cultural norms by physicians and medical staff acts as a barrier to accessing healthcare for this population.
- **High school students** – Data show that 9th -12th grade students are increasingly engaging in sexual activity in Somerset County. This behavior spans geographic, gender, racial, and ethnic groups. More education regarding the outcomes of unprotected sex and the transmission of STDs was identified as being needed for teens and parents. In some municipalities, more support services for pregnant teens and teen moms were considered important to avoid low birth weight infants and to support continuing education efforts.
- **Hispanic population** – This population, which comprises 13.3% of Somerset residents, was identified as disparate due to its large size and being disproportionately at-risk for certain chronic diseases such as cancer. A particular geographic focus was identified as North Plainfield and the Borough of Bound Brook because these two municipalities have large concentrations of Hispanic residents.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Borough of North Plainfield
- Borough of Bound Brook
- Township of Hillsborough



## Who Lives in Sussex County?

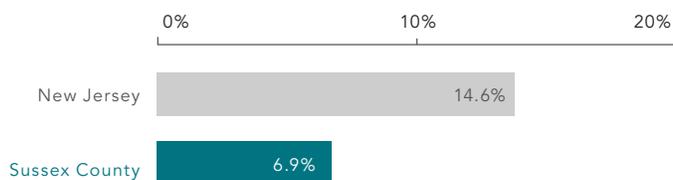
**Sussex County** is in northern New Jersey with a total population of 148,517. The ten most populous cities in Sussex County include Andover, Byram, Frankford, Hampton, Hardyston, Hopatcong, Newton, Sparta, Vernon and Wantage.

- Similar to rates statewide, 23.2% of Sussex County's residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 12.5% of the population.
- Less diverse than the state, nearly nine in ten residents in Sussex County identify as White.
- Sussex County's child poverty rate is less than half of New Jersey's.
- The median household income is \$82,987 as compared to \$67,574 statewide.

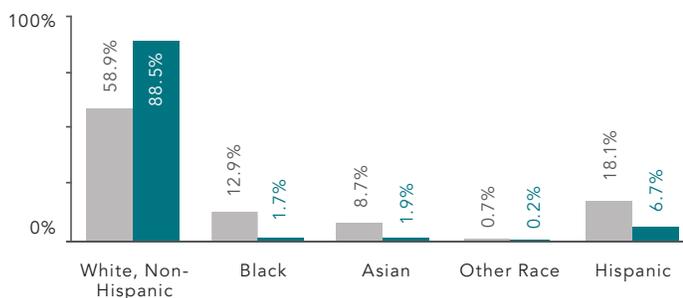
Age Distribution, Sussex County, 2011

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Sussex County	23.2%	12.5%

Children in Poverty, Sussex County, 2011



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Sussex County, 2011



## Disparate Populations in Sussex County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Sussex County:

- **Undocumented population** – The Spanish-speaking population in Sussex County was identified as being at greater risk of experiencing poor health outcomes due to the large numbers of this population who are undocumented. These outcomes were specifically related to lack of access to healthcare, poverty, high rates of smoking, poor nutrition, lack of access to education for adults, community isolation, and obesity.
- **Population identifying as GLBTQ** – The GLBTQ (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer) community has always been hidden due to widespread prejudice and non-acceptance. However, this does appear to be slowly changing as a result of the efforts by the Upper Delaware GLBT center. This population continues to face issues regarding access to appropriate healthcare, high rates of smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, community isolation and depression.
- **People with disabilities and their families/caregivers** – There is a dearth of local respite care and other social support services available to family members who care for a disabled person and a similar lack of organized recreation for disabled children and adults. Further, few physicians are accepting Medicaid for people who are disabled. As a result, undue stress and anxiety befalls the population with disabilities and their families/caregivers.
- **Aging population** – Since there are only four senior nutrition centers throughout Sussex County, most of the senior population does not have access to the socialization, education, health-related services and meals that are offered at the senior centers. The limited transportation options provided by the Sussex County Transit bus add to the isolation experienced by seniors.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Borough of Franklin
- Borough of Sussex
- Newton

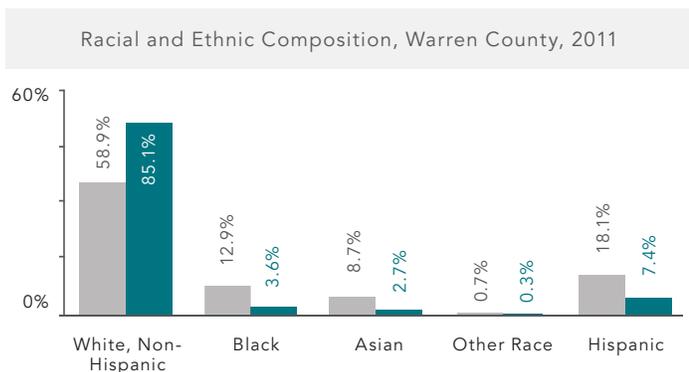
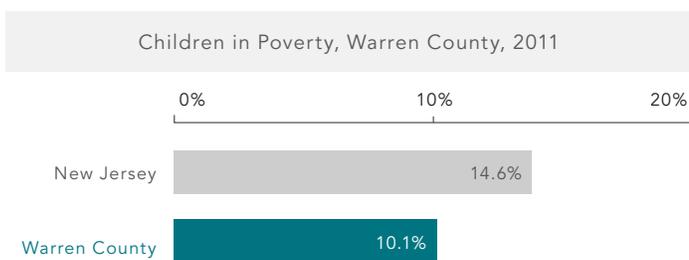


### Who Lives in Warren County?

**Warren County** is located in northwest New Jersey and has a total population of 108,339. The ten most populous cities in Warren County include Blairstown, Greenwich, Hackettstown, Independence, Lopatcong, Mansfield, Phillipsburg, Washington Borough, Washington Township and White Township.

- 22.9% of Warren County residents are under 18 years old, while seniors (65+) comprise 14.4% of the population.
- Less diverse than the state, 85.1% of Warren County residents are White, while 7.4% identify as Hispanic and 3.6% as Black.
- One in ten Warren County children live in poverty, a lower percentage than statewide.
- The median household income is \$66,857, similar to the median in New Jersey (\$67,574).

Geography	Under 18	65 and over
New Jersey	23.2%	13.7%
Warren County	22.9%	14.4%



### Disparate Populations in Warren County

The following populations have been identified as experiencing health disparities in Warren County:

- **Phillipsburg, Hackettstown, and Washington Borough** – In Warren County the disparate populations were identified as three geographical locations: Phillipsburg, Hackettstown, and Washington Borough. These towns were comprised of a high concentration of individuals living in poverty with large numbers of public school students in free and reduced lunch programs. In addition, a high percentage of residents in Warren County who do not have access to an automobile reside in Phillipsburg. This fact, coupled with Warren County's lack of a large fixed route transportation system, creates a significant problem for those who must routinely access employment, educational opportunities, social services agencies, and childcare outside the Phillipsburg and Hackettstown areas. Countywide, issues of substance abuse related particularly to alcohol consumption and tobacco use among adults and youth were identified as issues of concern. In addition, residents' behaviors around lack of physical activity and poor eating habits exacerbated chronic disease rates (e.g., adult obesity). These three large towns are disproportionately affected by these issues, a major reason for identifying these residents as disparate populations.

The top communities experiencing health disparities:

- Hackettstown
- Phillipsburg
- Washington



