

# 2013 CATAWBA COUNTY CHILD DATA SNAPSHOT

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population

- **154,339** total population<sup>1</sup>

Age Range	Children <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>1</sup>
Under 5 years	9,106	5.9%
5 to 9 years	10,032	6.5%
10 to 14 years	10,495	6.8%
15 to 19 years	10,186	6.6%

<sup>1</sup>as of 2012

<sup>2</sup>Source: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservicesodType=table>

### Race/Ethnicity (total population)

Race/Ethnicity	Percent <sup>1</sup>
Caucasian	85.3%
African-American	8.7%
Other/Mixed Race	1.6%
Asian	3.7%
Hispanic/Latino	8.5%

<sup>1</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2012) [www.factfinder2.census.gov](http://www.factfinder2.census.gov)  
Note: Individuals who identify as Hispanic may be of any race.

### Living Arrangements

Child under 18 years living with: (23.2% of total population or 35,877) <sup>2</sup>	Percent <sup>1</sup> 2008-2012	Children 2008-012
Parent(s)	88%	32,225
Grandparent/relative	8.8%	3,115
Foster/non-relative	1.6%	537

<sup>1</sup>Source: [Factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages)

<sup>2</sup>Source: Catawba County Public Health State of the County Health Report 2013

## POVERTY & ECONOMIC WELLBEING

### Poverty

- In **2013, 14.3%** of Catawba County families were **living below poverty** \* compared to 13.4% in North Carolina<sup>1</sup>
- In **2013, 4.8%**<sup>1</sup> of all households (59,291<sup>3</sup>) in Catawba County **2,845 households had no vehicle** available for personal use<sup>1</sup>

\*2014 - A family with 2 minor children is considered below poverty if their earnings were **less than \$23,850 per year**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: 2013 State of the County Health Report, Catawba County Public Health

<sup>2</sup>Source: [www.ncchild.org](http://www.ncchild.org)

<sup>3</sup>Source: [factfinder2.census.gov](http://factfinder2.census.gov)

### Food Assistance

- Between 2004-05 and 2011-12, Catawba County saw an **86%** increase (18,495 to 34,384) in Food Assistance to families.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2012, 39.3% (12,017) of Food Assistance recipients were under age 18.

Source: Catawba County DSS Annual Report 2013

### Child Support

- In 2012-13, Catawba County Social Services collected **\$11.96 million** in child support for **over 6,872 child support cases**
- The average child support payment in 2013 was **\$259.83** per month
- Child Support Enforcement collects **69.6%** of the amount owed compared to 65.7% statewide

Source: North Carolina Child Support database

### Housing

- In 2010, **42%** of Catawba County renters were unable to afford a 2 bedroom apartment (compared with 44% of N.C. renters)<sup>1</sup>
- In 2010, **35%** of renters and **26%** of home owners in Catawba County had housing costs that exceeded 35% of their income<sup>2</sup>
- Between 2000 and 2011, Catawba County foreclosures decreased **17%** (from 284 to 236)<sup>1</sup>
- As of April, 2013, in Catawba County, a minimum wage earner (\$7.25/hour) must work **84 hours/week** to afford the fair market rent for a 2 bedroom apartment<sup>2</sup>
- In a 2013 point in time count, **40 children** were identified as homeless of the **260** homeless individuals surveyed in our county<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: North Carolina Justice Center as cited in the Hickory Daily Record

<sup>2</sup>Source: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development [www.huduser.org](http://www.huduser.org)

<sup>3</sup>Source: Catawba County Community Health Assessment 2011

<sup>4</sup>Housing Visions Point in time Count 1/2012—Point in Time Count is a one day count of homeless in the Hickory area

### Employment

- As of December, 2013, the unemployment rate in Catawba County was **7.3%** compared to NC rate of 6.9 and national rate of 6.7. <sup>1</sup>
- Of the workforce 25 years old and older in 2013, **16%** had not completed high school, **31%** had a high school diploma or equivalent, **21%** attended some college, **9%** had an Associate Degree, **13%** had a Bachelor Degree and **8%** had a Graduate Degree<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: NC Employment Security Commission [www.ncesc1.com](http://www.ncesc1.com)

<sup>2</sup>Source: 2010 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>

### Work First

- As of February, 2014, **161** families received a cash payment of **\$206.96** per month through the Federal Work First Program (*a federal program providing Cash and Employment Services for families meeting established criteria*)
- **133** of these were “child only cases” (guardian, usually a grandparent, receives a check for a dependent child)
- In January, 2014, **68%** of the children in Work First caseloads had a valid child support order

Source: North Carolina Department of Social Services Eligibility Information System

# EARLY CHILDHOOD & PRESCHOOL

## Childcare in Catawba County

- In 2013, **40%** (4,265 of 10,723) of Catawba County children birth-5 years old attended a childcare facility compared to 31% (4,265 in 2011)<sup>1</sup>
- In 2013, **73%** of children in childcare were in a **4 or 5** star center (of 5 stars) compared with approximately 76% in 2011.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2013, the average cost of childcare for an infant was **\$143/week** and for a preschooler was **\$123/week**<sup>1</sup>
- In 2012, **60%** of children under 6 years of age who lived in single parent households had a working mother<sup>1</sup>
- In 2013, **1,635 eligible families** received financial assistance (daycare subsidy) to pay for child care<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: Children's Resource Center

## Licensed Childcare (2013)

- **47** childcare centers<sup>1</sup>
- **16** family childcare homes (home-based care)<sup>1</sup>
- **16** public pre-kindergartens<sup>1</sup>
- **27** school-age programs (before and after school care)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: Children's Resource Center

# EDUCATION K-12

## Student Population and Graduation Rates

District	Total Student Population <sup>1</sup> (12-13)	Percent to Graduate (12-13) <sup>2</sup>
Catawba County Schools (CCS)	16,984	91.3%
Newton-Conover City Schools (NCCS)	2,952	87.4%
Hickory Public Schools (HPS)	4,305	82.8%
North Carolina (NC) <sup>2</sup>	1,476,257	82.5%

Population count is based on average daily attendance

<sup>1</sup>Source: NC Dept. of Public Instruction

<sup>2</sup>Source: <http://ncschoolreportcard.org>

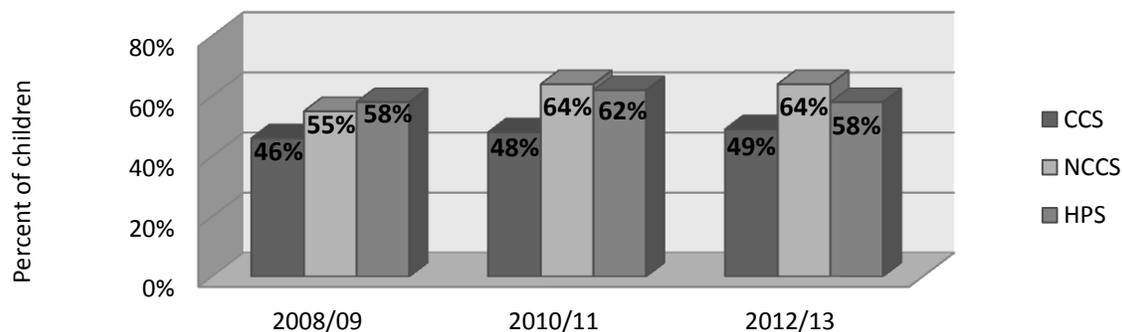
## Performance on End of Grade Tests, Grades 3-8

(Percentage of Students' Scores at or Above Grade Level)

	2012-2013	
	Reading	Math
CCS	42.7%	41.5%
NCCS	39.5%	40.9%
HPS	43.7%	42.1%
NC	43.9%	42.3%

Source: [www.ncschoolreportcard.org](http://www.ncschoolreportcard.org)

## Free or Reduced Lunch by District



<sup>1</sup>Source: Kids Count Data; [http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/Map.aspx?state=NC&loct=10&map\\_colors=Solid&dtm=4682&ind=2239&tf=909](http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/Map.aspx?state=NC&loct=10&map_colors=Solid&dtm=4682&ind=2239&tf=909)

<sup>2</sup>Source: Catawba County Schools, Newton Conover City Schools and Hickory Public Schools

## Achievement Gap

Percent of Students Who Passed Both Reading & Math End of Grade Tests (2010-2011)

System	Economically Disadvantaged	White	Black	Hispanic
CCS	17.9	35.4	11.4	15.4
NCCS	21.6	38.3	14.4	21.1
HPS	17.7	47.9	11.4	19.9
NC	17.4	43.5	14.2	19.3

Source: [www.ncschoolreportcard.org](http://www.ncschoolreportcard.org)

## English as a Second Language (2012)

School System	Total Student Population*	Home language other than English	Limited English Proficiency (LEP)	Percent Student with LEP
CCS	17,087	3,233	1,199	7.0%
NCCS	3,022	695	333	11%
HPS	4,375	920	473	11%

Limited English Proficiency is determined by scoring a lower than the set standard score on an English fluency test

\* Population count is point in time count

Source: Catawba County Schools, Newton Conover City Schools and Hickory Public Schools

## HEALTH & WELLBEING

### Child Abuse & Neglect

- In the FY 2012- 2013, Catawba County DSS received 3,122 Child Protective Service reports on 6,200 children.<sup>1</sup>
- 4188 children met the state's criteria for investigative or family assessments in the FY 2012-2013.<sup>1</sup>
- **313** children were served in foster care in the FY 2012-2013. Of these, 97 found permanent placement.<sup>1</sup>
- FY 2012-13, 408 families (743 children) received CPS In-Home treatment services.

Source: <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/anreport/anreport.pdf>

### Infant Mortality

- In 2013, the infant mortality rate in Catawba County was **5.1** compared to state rate of 7.8.<sup>1</sup>
- **9.0%** of live births in Catawba County were considered low birth weight below (5.5 lbs.) in 2013.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2012, 11.2% of live births to 15-19 years olds were considered low birth weight. (*Low birth weight is considered below 5lbs 8 oz.*)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: NC Dept of Health & Human Services [www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/births/babybook/2012/catawba.pdf](http://www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/births/babybook/2012/catawba.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>Source: State of the County's Health Report 2013, Catawba County Public Health

### Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- As of June, 2012 preliminary reports indicate that for a **six month period**, approximately **33%** of reported cases (**391**) were to teenagers age 10-19.
- **282** cases were to teens aged 10-19 in **2011**.

Source: North Carolina health info <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/stds/figures/vol12no2.pdf>

### Childhood Obesity

- In 2012, **38%** of 2-18 year olds in Catawba County were considered **overweight/obese** based on their Body Mass Index<sup>1</sup>
- **31.7% of 2-4 year olds, 30.5% of 5-11 year olds and 49.5% of 12-18 year olds** in Catawba County are considered to be **overweight/obese**.<sup>1</sup>
- Childhood overweight and obesity among 2- to 4-year-olds in Catawba County has nearly doubled since 2006 to 31.7<sup>2</sup>
- Nationally, the prevalence of childhood obesity has tripled in the last 40 years and is the second leading cause of preventable death<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: Catawba County Health Partners

<sup>2</sup>Source: Catawba County Community Health Assessment 2011(latest available)

### Immunizations

- In 2013, **82%** of Catawba County's children ages 24-35 months received their recommended vaccines compared to **68%** of children in North Carolina<sup>1</sup>
- For the 2011-2012 school year, **96.7%** of kindergartners were up-to-date on immunizations<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: N.C. Immunization Branch

### Teen Pregnancy

- In 2012 there was **1** pregnancy to **10-14** year olds the same as in 2011.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2012, there were 240 pregnancies among **15-19 year olds** in Catawba County, which is a 5% decrease from 2011.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2012, **23.3%** of the pregnancies to 15-19 year olds were **repeat pregnancies** compared to 25.7% in 2011.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2012, Catawba County had a teen pregnancy rate of **50.0** per 1000 15-19 year olds compared to the state rate of **39.6**. The Catawba County rate represents a decrease from 51.4 in 2011.

<sup>1</sup>Source: <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/data/pregnancies/2012>

### Access to Health Care

- In 2012, **14.7%** of North Carolina's non-elderly residents (0-64) were uninsured.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2012, **7.9% of children (0-18) in Catawba County** were uninsured.<sup>3</sup>
- As of December, 2013, 12,139 children in Catawba County were enrolled in Medicaid.<sup>1</sup>
- As of December 2013, **2,856 children** (6-18 years old) in Catawba County were eligible for NC Health Choice<sup>2</sup>. 1830 were enrolled.

<sup>\*</sup>North Carolina Health Choice is a free or reduced cost comprehensive health care program for children. If a family makes too much money to qualify for Medicaid but too little to afford rising health insurance premiums, children may qualify for NCHC.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: NC Dept of Health & Human Services [www.ncdhhs.gov/dmo/elig](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dmo/elig)

<sup>2</sup>Source: NC Medicaid Database, Medicaid Eligibility Data

<sup>3</sup>Source: <http://www.catawbacountyhealthpartners.org>

### Oral Health

- In 2012, **15%** of kindergarten students had untreated tooth decay compared to 17% statewide<sup>1</sup>
- In 2013, **63.0%** of children who were Medicaid eligible, were receiving oral health care.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Source: NC Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section

<sup>2</sup>Source: NC Medicaid Paid Claims Data

# RISK TAKING BEHAVIOR

## Juvenile Crime Rates

- In 2011, the rate of **undisciplined\*** juveniles in Catawba County per 1000 youth ages 6 to 17 years old is **5.48** per compared to the state average of 2.34
- In 2011, the rate of **delinquent\*** juveniles in Catawba County per 1000 youth ages 6 to 15 years old is **29.07** which is down from 34.88 in the previous year
- In 2011, **52** juveniles in Catawba County were **admitted to detention** compared to 69 in the previous year
- In 2011, the rate of commitment to Youth Development Centers in Catawba County was **.18 (38 youth)**, below the state average of .30
- In 2011, there was a **29% decrease** in youth served by the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council in Catawba County from **424** in 2010 to **301** in 2011

\*Undisciplined generally refers to youth ages 6 - 16 years who are regularly truant from school, disobedient to parents/guardians, runaway or generally found in places where it is unlawful to be

\*Delinquent refers to children ages 6 - 16 years who commit crimes or infractions, including violation of motor vehicle laws

<sup>1</sup> Source: Division of Juvenile Justice. (2012). County Databooks. <http://www.ncdjjdp.org/statistics/databook.html>

<sup>2</sup> Source: Dept of Public Instruction [www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2011-12](http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2011-12)



The **Child Data Snapshot** was developed and compiled by the Children's Agenda Planning Committee, appointed by the Catawba County Board of Commissioners in February, 2009. The committee's vision is to ensure a safe community where all children are engaged, enriched, and equipped to reach their full potential. Their mission was to develop a **Children's Agenda**, outlining the current state of children in Catawba County and identifying overarching children's issues needing more attention (listed below). The Child Data Snapshot was first developed in October 2009 and is updated annually by Catawba County United Way. A summary of the Children's Agenda and an electronic version of the Snapshot are available by scrolling down to the bottom right of the Catawba County Social Services webpage at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/>.

## Total Number of Reportable Acts by School District

(2011-2012 for all grades)

Selected Charged Offense	CCS	HPS	NCS
Possession of Alcohol	3	0	1
Possession of Controlled Substance	52	10	3
Possession of a Weapon	33	9	12
Possession of a Firearm	1	0	2
Assault involving Weapon	1	0	0
Assault on School Personnel	1	4	2
Bomb Threat	1	0	0
Sexual Offense	0	0	2
Robbery with a dangerous weapon	2	0	2
<b>Totals (for all offenses)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Total # of Acts per 1000 students</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.9</b>

Source: NC Department of Public Instruction Consolidated Data Reports <http://dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2010-12/crimeviolence-c5.pdf>



## Catawba County Children's Agenda Priorities

### Family Functioning and Self Sufficiency

1. Reduce impact of poverty on all children
2. Assure parents have parenting skills to prevent abuse and neglect
3. Assure access to appropriate activities with adequate supervision

### Education

1. Assure access to quality pre-kindergarten experiences
2. Assure on grade level reading by 3rd grade
3. Assure high school completion
4. Assure parent involvement in education
5. Promote partnering of schools and community agencies

### Physical Health

1. Assure children have primary medical/dental homes
2. Assure access to preventive screenings and treatment
3. Reduce child overweight and obesity

### Social/Emotional/Mental Health

1. Assure access to mental health and disability services
2. Assure access to substance abuse support and treatment
3. Prevent teen pregnancy

### Safe Environment

1. Prevent and report child abuse and neglect
2. Assure safe driving practices
3. Assure neighborhood safety for all children

### Social Capital/Community Support

1. Encourage youth involvement in civic life
2. Promote respect for diversity and appreciation of civil behavior
3. Assure families are connected to and supported within the community