

DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

There are thirteen counties in the service area of the NC Triangle Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation: Caswell, Chatham, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Orange, Person, Vance and Wake counties (see Table 1 and Table 2).

Some demographics of note for the service area:

- Total population: ~ 1.6 million
- Number of women over age 40: ~ 350,000
- Households with income less than \$30,000 a year: 27%
- Proportion of adult population with no more than a high school degree: ~25%

Relative to state figures, the total population of our service area has:

- A slightly higher percentage of African Americans and Asians
- A smaller proportion of residents at or below poverty level (11.7% vs. 15.2% statewide)

A broad-based demographic assessment of the service area is of limited use. **The area includes metropolitan areas, suburbs, small towns, and very poor rural communities, and is diverse demographically and geographically.** Some notable figures when comparing the 13 counties:

- There is great variation in **population size** across counties, ranging from ~23,000 (Caswell) to ~690,000 (Wake).
- Wake and Durham are fairly **metropolitan** and densely populated (804 and 752 people per square mile, respectively), and Caswell and Chatham are largely **rural** and thinly populated (55 and 72 people per square mile, respectively).
- **African Americans** are a majority in both Edgecombe (57.6%) and Vance (48.7%).
- The percentage of **Hispanics** ranges from 2.0% in Caswell to 10.7% in Chatham. Although the percentage of Hispanics has increased across all counties since the 2002 Community Profile, it is likely the actual number of Hispanics is underestimated due to undocumented status.
- Counties with the most **Native Americans** are Harnett (0.8%) and Person (0.6%).
- **Median household income** ranges from \$30,230 in Vance to \$56,945 in Wake.
- In Edgecombe, 19.9% of residents are at or below **poverty level**, compared with only 8.7% of Wake residents.
- **Educational attainment** ranges from 42.2% of adults with some or less than a high school education in Vance to 64.9% of adults with some college education in Orange.

In addition to the variation among affiliate area counties, sometimes vast differences exist within different regions of a county (see Demographic Maps in Appendices B–N); these

differences can have a potentially significant impact on the types of programs and services that are needed and will be successful. For example:

- Relatively small overall percentages of Native Americans conceal areas in which the numbers are much higher: in northwest Person there are areas where close to 100% of the population is Native American.
- The median income in Wake is \$56,945 overall, but the range is \$11,308 to \$117,690 when smaller areas are examined.

Table 1: Population, Race, Ethnicity and Age for NC Triangle Affiliate service area counties

COUNTY	POPULATION (TOTAL) ²	RACE/ETHNICITY					AGE
		% Caucasian ²	% African American ²	% Hispanic ²	% Asian ²	% Native American ²	# females, age 40+ ²
Caswell	23,677	61.0	35.8	2.0	0.2	0.2	5,919
Chatham	51,149	71.1	16.3	10.7	0.7	0.3	13,320
Durham	224,099	45.9	40.1	8.7	3.5	0.3	46,791
Edgecombe	55,249	38.4	57.6	3.2	0.1	0.2	13,994
Franklin	49,224	64.2	29.4	4.9	0.3	0.4	11,245
Granville	49,932	59.3	34.3	4.4	0.4	0.4	11,329
Harnett	95,635	68.2	22.5	6.4	0.7	0.8	19,732
Johnston	129,568	74.7	15.5	8.4	0.3	0.4	27,695
Nash	88,693	60.0	34.3	3.7	0.6	0.4	21,749
Orange	122,311	75.3	13.5	4.9	4.3	0.3	24,352
Person	36,520	68.0	28.0	2.3	0.2	0.6	9,435
Vance	43,591	44.9	48.7	5.2	0.4	0.2	10,672
Wake	689,747	69.7	19.3	5.9	3.4	0.3	135,616
NC Triangle Service Area	1,636,308	64.1	25.7	6.1	2.4	0.3	347,395
NC ³	8,270,028	72.6	21.1	6.1	1.7	1.0	nd

Table 2: Income and education data for NC Triangle Affiliate service area counties

COUNTY	INCOME			EDUCATION		
	% At or below poverty level* (all ages) ¹	% Income < \$30,000 ²	Median Household Income (\$) ¹	% less than HS education or some HS** ¹	% HS degree** ¹	% some college or college degree(s)** ¹
Caswell	14.8	41.0	33,973	26.1	31.3	23.5
Chatham	9.6	28.3	44,089	18.1	29.4	41.5
Durham	14.2	27.3	43,095	20.7	21.9	57.4
Edgecombe	19.9	51.0	31,432	40.4	33.9	25.7
Franklin	12.8	32.1	39,512	36.4	33.5	30.2
Granville	13.6	32.0	38,499	35.8	31.4	32.8
Harnett	15.2	37.0	35,668	35.4	34.0	30.6
Johnston	12.6	36.4	42,999	33.6	33.1	33.4
Nash	14.2	37.7	37,396	34.8	31.4	33.9
Orange	11.6	29.0	45,292	16.3	19.0	64.9
Person	12.5	36.3	37,282	36.3	35.0	28.6

Vance	19.3	46.2	30,230	42.2	30.8	27.1
Wake	8.7	18.0	56,945	15.7	22.6	61.7
NC Triangle Service Area	11.7 (est.)	27.2	nd	23.9	25.8	50.3
NC³	15.2	nd	44,684	nd	nd	nd

*2003 poverty level (U.S. Census): \$18,810 income for family of four

**Adults, age 25+

SOURCE

1. U.S. Census Bureau. 2003. Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saie/saie.html>.
2. U.S. Census. 2002.
3. U.S. Census. 2004. FactFinder Fact Sheet – American Community Survey data. Retrieved from <http://factfinder.census.gov>