

2006

Greene County

Community Health Assessment



Greene County Health Department
227 Kingold Boulevard, Suite B
Snow Hill, NC 28580
Phone 252.747.8183
Fax 252.747.4040

Linda Sewall - Health Director
Joy Brock - Health Educator II

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Summary	4
Top 5 Health Concerns	
Greene County Board of Health Members	6
Greene County Board of Commissioners	6
Healthy Greene Advisory Board Members	6
History of Greene County	7
General Information	8
Population & Demographics	
Households & Housing	
Income	
Poverty	
Labor Force	
Education & Schools	
Child Welfare	
Health Data - North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics	15
Pregnancies & Live Births Data	
Mortality Data	
Health Resources Data	
Community Health Assessment Survey - Results	18
Characteristics of Survey Participants	
Survey Questions & Results	
Focus Group - Hispanic residents	
Plans for Developing the Community Health Action Plans	40
Resources	41
Websites	

Greene County Community Health Assessment 2006

Introduction

The purpose of this Community Health Assessment was to learn about the health status and quality of life concerns of Greene County residents and develop strategies to address those concerns. This document is the result of collaboration between Greene County Health Department, Healthy Greene, and Greene County citizens. The Community Health Assessment utilized both primary and secondary data to identify and examine the health concerns of Greene County.

The 2006 Community Health Assessment outlines the community's current health status. Based upon findings, strategies have been developed to implement interventions as well as community resources to address these health issues.

A Community Health Assessment is conducted every four years and it serves to inform and empower Greene County citizens and provide a basis for future health assessments and subsequent interventions. During the three interim years, the Health Department will issue a State-of-the-County Health Report that will provide updated information about priority health issues specific to Greene County.

Summary

During the months of October through December 2006, a community-wide survey was conducted in order to give residents an opportunity to express their opinion about the quality of life in Greene County. Greene County's self-administered survey included questions about a variety of health issues. Surveys were administered throughout the county in an effort to reach a wide variety of the population. Three hundred fifty surveys were printed, and 292 surveys were completed and included in the final analysis. In addition to the surveys, community opinions were collected from a focus group of Hispanic residents.

Based on findings from the community survey, the top twelve health concerns for Greene County are as follows:

1. Alcohol Abuse/Drug Addiction
2. Diabetes
3. Obesity/Overweight
4. Cancer
5. HIV/AIDS
6. High Blood Pressure/Stroke
7. Heart Disease
8. Asthma
9. Teen Pregnancy
10. Mental Illness/Depression
11. Domestic Violence
12. Dementia/Alzheimer's

In January 2007, members from Healthy Greene, Greene County Board of Health, and Greene County Board of Commissioners participated in rating the top 5 out of 12 health concerns using a prioritization worksheet. The worksheet asked that the 12 health concerns be ranked according to the following criteria: magnitude of the problem, seriousness of the consequences, and feasibility of correcting the problem.

Results of these worksheets were calculated to come up with the top five health concerns, which are as follows:

1. Obesity/Overweight
2. Heart Disease
3. Diabetes
4. High Blood Pressure/Stroke
5. Cancer

Here's how the other health concerns ranked...

6. *Alcohol Abuse/Drug Addiction*
7. *Teen Pregnancy*
8. *Mental Illness/Depression*
9. *HIV/AIDS*
10. *Domestic Violence*
11. *Asthma*
12. *Dementia/Alzheimer's*

Greene County Board of Health

Chair - Ivey Smith, Veterinarian

Vice Chair - Linda Dunn, Public Member

Denny Garner - County Commissioner

Peggy Greene - Public Member

Vanessa Hardy - Registered Nurse

Lyn Lane - Public Member

Norman Lewis - Pharmacist

Laura O'Brien - Public Member

Gwenoese Smith - (ILO) Physician

Greene County Board of Commissioners

Bennie Heath - Chairman

Jesse Tyndall - Vice Chairman

Jack Edmonson

Denny Garner

James Shackelford

Healthy Greene Advisory Board

Chair - Shenile Ford, NC Cooperative Extension - Greene County

Joy Brock - Greene County Health Department

Don Davis - Town of Snow Hill

Helen Hill - Student Health Services

Cathy Howell - Greene County Health Care, Inc.

Linda Sewall - Greene County Health Department

Velvet Waters - Safe Kids, Lenoir Memorial Hospital

History of Greene County

Greene County, being a part of land grant by King Charles II of England in 1663, was first settled around 1710 by immigrants from Maryland, Virginia, and parts of North Carolina. Upon arrival of these new settlers, great numbers of settlers were killed, driven off, or tortured by the Tuscarora Indians. However, on March 20-23, 1713, a fighting force of South Carolinians and Yemassee Indians, under Colonel Maurice Moore, defeated the Tuscarora, under the leadership of Chief Hancock. With the "demise" of the Indian threat, County settlers advanced in their various economic pursuits.

In 1758, the area now recognized as Greene and Lenoir Counties was separated from Johnston and named Dobbs for the Royal Governor. This section was bisected to form Glasgow County, for James Glasgow - North Carolina Secretary of State from 1777 to 1798. In 1799, after Glasgow's involvement in military land grant frauds had forced him to resign and leave the state, Glasgow County was renamed Greene County - in honor of Nathaniel Greene, one of General Washington's right-hand men.

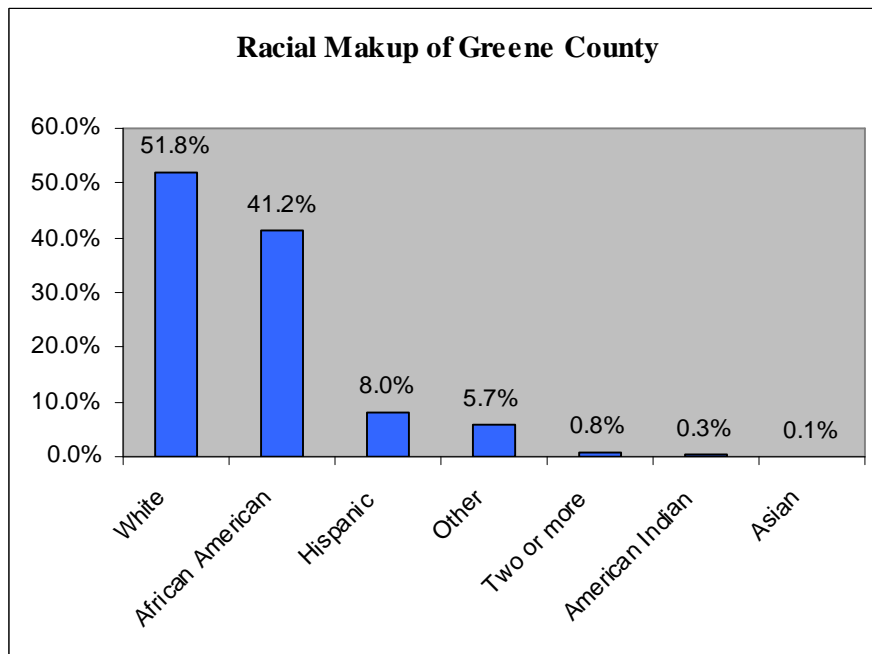
General Information

Quaint. Friendly. Good Location. Growth. Farmland. Beautiful Contentnea Creek. Words or phrases used by many when describing Greene County, North Carolina.

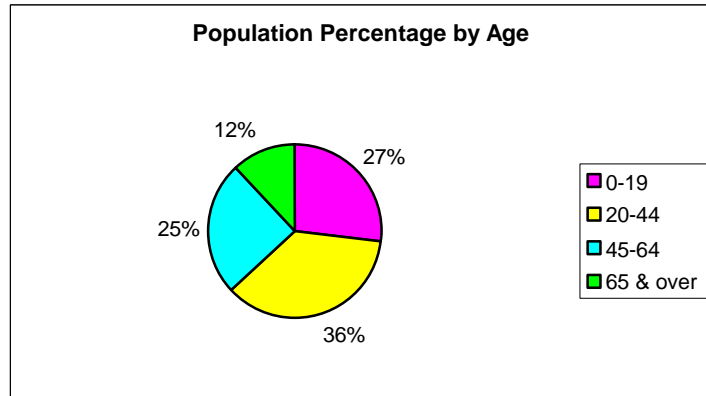
Located in beautiful eastern North Carolina in the middle of the coastal plain, Greene County is bordered by Lenoir, Pitt, Wayne and Wilson counties. Greene County has a total land area of 265.4 square miles at a density of 75.4 people per square mile. Snow Hill is the county seat and largest town. It is also the major commercial center in the county. The town draws its name from the historic white sandy banks of nearby Contentnea Creek. Among the towns and communities in Greene County are Hookerton, Maury, and Walstonburg.

Population & Demographics

In 2005, North Carolina's total population was 8,682,066 - an increase of 7.9 percent since 2000. The total population of Greene County was 20,173 - a 6.3 percent increase from 2000. Of that number, the population can be broken down in the following percentages: 51.8 percent are White, 41.2 percent are African American, 8.0 percent are Hispanic (of any race), 5.7 percent are other, 0.8 percent are two or more races, 0.3 percent are American Indian, and 0.1 percent are Asian. Fifty-two percent of Greene County's population is male and 48 percent is female. The median age of the population is 36, compared to the North Carolina average that is 35.



Twenty-seven percent of Greene County's population is 19 and under, and 12 percent is 65 and over.



Households & Housing

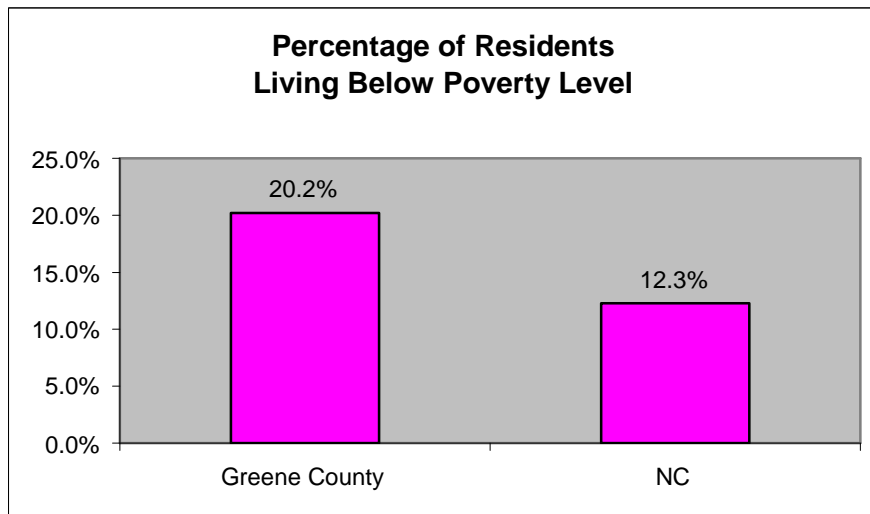
In 2000, there were 6,696 households in Greene County. Of those, 5,001 were owner-occupied housing units and 1,695 were renter-occupied housing units. The average household size is 2.65 people and the average family size is 3.09 people. The median housing value in Greene County was \$63,822 in 2000, compared to the North Carolina average of \$108,300 for the same year.

Income

In 2003, Greene County's median household income was \$32,817. In 2004, the county's per capita personal income was \$21,993 - ranking it 85 out of 100 counties; North Carolina's per capita personal income in 2005 was \$30,553.

Poverty

In 2000, the percentage of residents living below poverty level in Greene County was 20.2 percent - the state was at 12.3 percent.



Labor Force

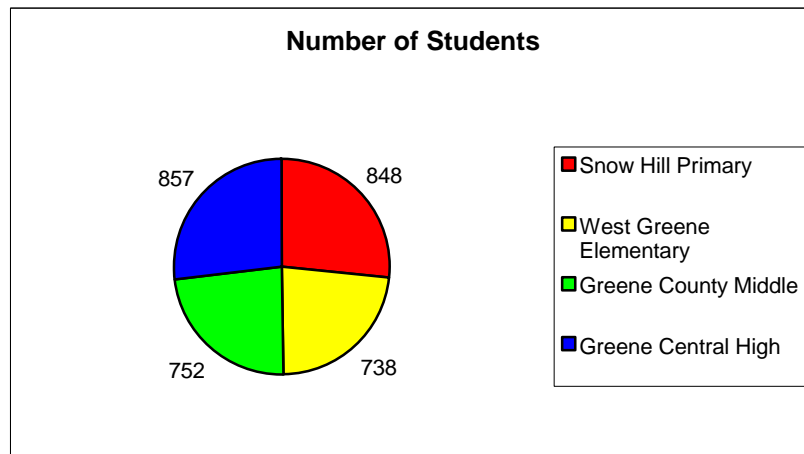
According to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina - Labor Market Information Division, Greene County's top ten largest employers in order are State of North Carolina, Greene County Public Schools, County of Greene, Britthaven Inc., Greene County Health Care Inc., Associated Materials Inc., LL Murphrey Company, NWL Capacitors Snow Hill Division, Lenoir Community College, and Ambleside Inc.

Of the 9,627 residents considered part of the work force, 9,114 were employed and 513 were unemployed. This data placed the county's unemployment rate at 5.3 percent in December 2006. The average annual unemployment rate for Greene County in 2006 was 5.3 percent, down from 6.0 percent in 2005.

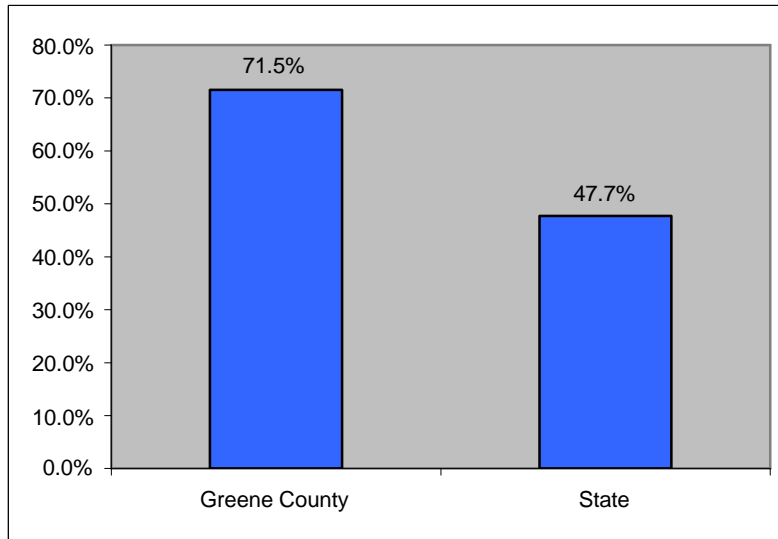
Education & Schools

In 2000, residents 25 years and over totaled 12,380. Of that segment of the population, 34.7 percent were high school graduates or had completed high school equivalency exams (State - 28.4 percent); 17.1 percent had completed some college but no degree (State - 20.5 percent); 5.5 percent had an associate's degree (State - 6.8 percent); 5.1 percent had a bachelor's degree (State - 15.3 percent); and 3.1 percent had a graduate or professional degree (State - 7.2 percent).

Greene County Schools (2005 - 2006) 3,195 students - schools include Snow Hill Primary School (K - 2), West Greene Elementary School (3 - 5), Greene County Middle School (6 - 8), and Greene Central High School (9 - 12).



School Children Enrolled in Free/Reduced Price School Meals (2005)



Average Class Size - The average number of students enrolled in “typical” K-8 classrooms.

Snow Hill Primary School (2005-06)

	K	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade
Snow Hill Primary	20	17	20
State	19	19	19

West Greene Elementary School (2005-06)

	3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade
West Greene Elementary	21	27	24
State	19	21	21

Greene County Middle School (2005-06)

	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Greene County Middle	24	23	21
State	21	21	20

Percentage of Students' Scores At or Above Grade Level

West Greene Elementary School (2005-06)

	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Overall	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
West Greene Elementary	70.8	40.3	77.7	44.0	83.7	40.9	77.3	41.8
State	82.9	67.8	83.4	65.0	88.4	63.1	84.9	63.4

Greene County Middle School (2005-06)

	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Overall	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
Greene County Middle	70.6	31.3	82.1	36.8	76.6	39.8	76.3	36.0
State	81.5	61.9	86.4	61.8	86.9	60.7	84.9	63.4

SAT Scores - Greene Central High School

	2003		2004		2005	
	Greene County	NC	Greene County	NC	Greene County	NC
Number Tested	79	48,893	59	50,042	68	53,314
Percent Tested	42.5	68	34.1	70	39.8	74
Math Score	474	506	475	507	492	511
Verbal Score	447	495	455	499	479	499
Total	921	1001	930	1006	971	1010

Average percentage of students who attend school daily (2005-06)

Greene Central High School	State
94.0	95.0

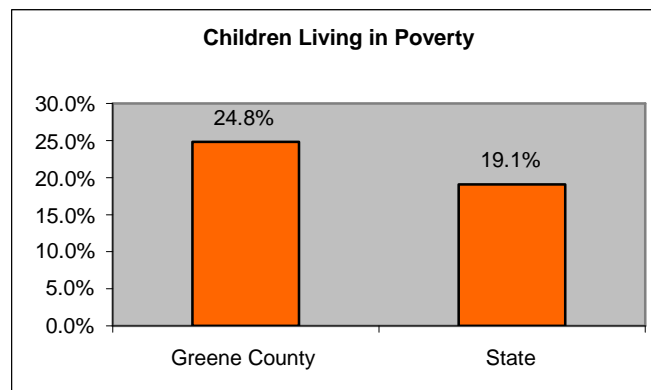
Dropout Rates in Grades 9 through 12, excluding expulsions

	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
Greene County	71	7.58	60	6.36	62	6.32
State	20,035	4.86	20,175	4.74	22,180	5.04

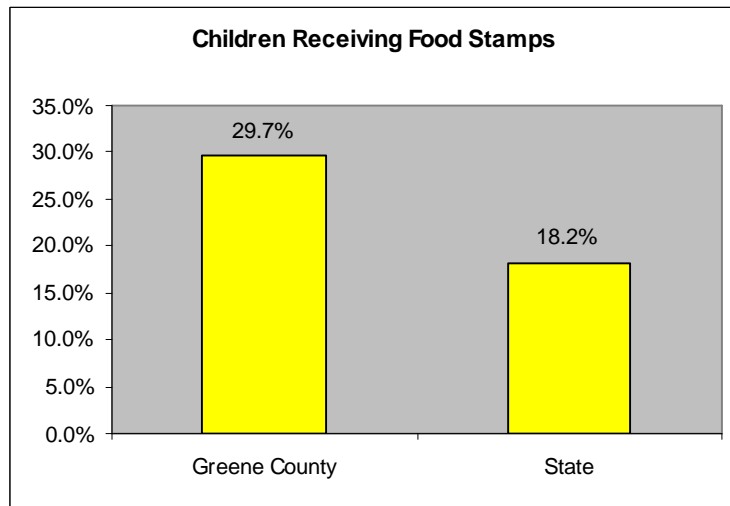
The number of acts of crime or violence reported includes all acts occurring in school, at a bus stop, on a school bus, on school grounds, or during off-campus, school-sponsored activities. Out of 857 students at Greene Central High School, there were a total of 16 acts of crime or violence. Out of 752 students at Greene County Middle School, there were a total of 6 acts of crime or violence. Out of 738 students at West Greene Elementary School, there were a total of 4 acts of crime or violence. Out of 848 students at Snow Hill Primary School, there were no acts of crime or violence.

Child Welfare

In 2004, the child population of Greene County was 4,860. Of that number, 24.8 percent were living under the national poverty level (\$20,000 for family of 4).



In 2004, the percentage of Greene County children receiving food stamps was 29.7 percent.



In 2005, 29.6 percent of Greene County children ages 0-5 were in regulated childcare, and 32.9 percent of them received subsidies.

In 2005, child maltreatment reports for Greene County are as follows: maltreatment reports investigated were 60.1 per 1,000 (State - 53.6) and maltreatment reports substantiated were 12.7 per 1,000 (State - 9.8).

In 2004, the number of complaints against juveniles in Greene County was 80. The number of juveniles with complaints was 47, of which 21 were approved for court. Twenty-three juveniles were sentenced and two were placed in youth development centers.

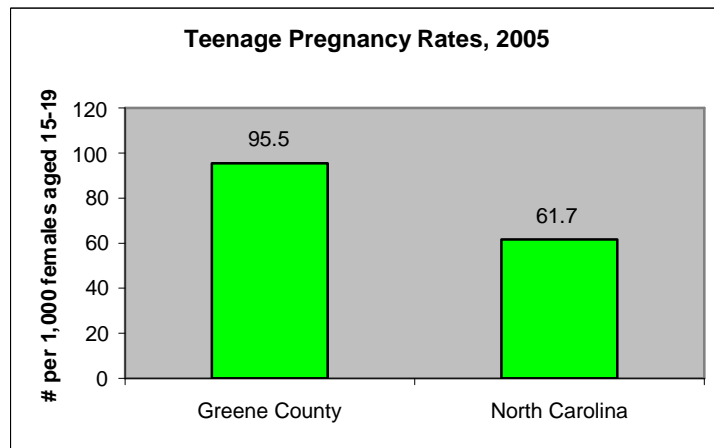
Health Data - North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

Pregnancies & Live Births Data

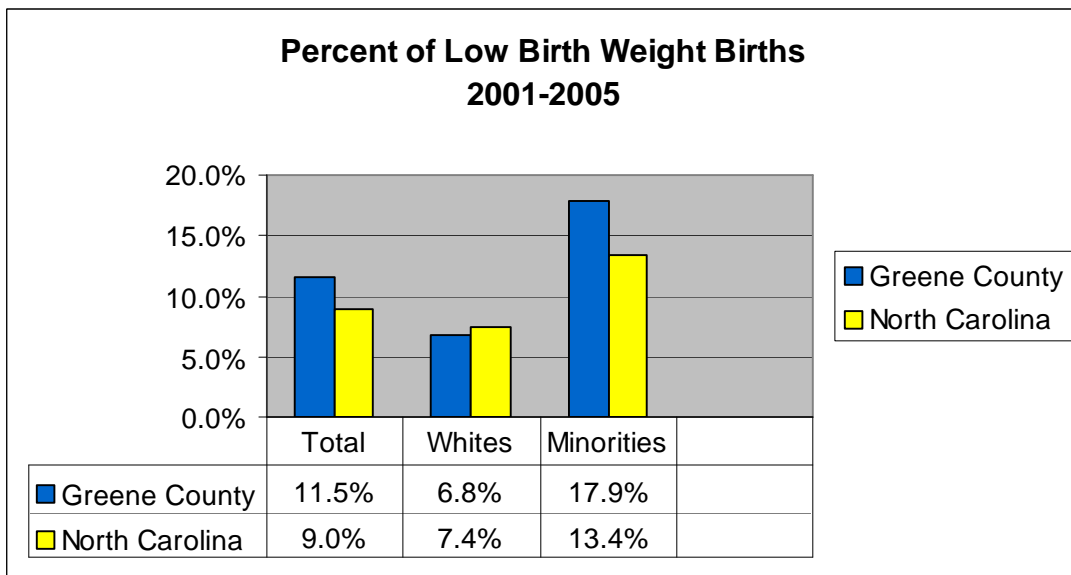
From 2001 - 2005, there were 1,249 live births in Greene County, with an overall live birth rate of 12.7 births per 1,000 population. The live birth rate in North Carolina during this period was 14.1 per 1,000.

In 2005, among Greene County women ages 15-44, there were 316 pregnancies - 269 live births, 42 induced abortions, and 5 fetal deaths.

In 2005, Greene County's teenage pregnancy rate was 95.5 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-19; compared to the state rate of 61.7.

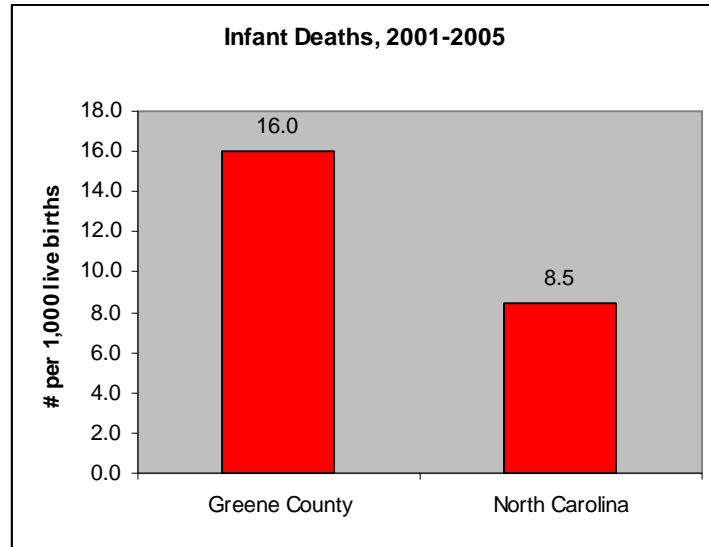


From 2001-2005, 11.5 percent of the babies born in Greene County had low birth weights (<2,500 grams). Eighteen percent of minority babies were born with low birth weights compared to 6.8 percent of white babies.



Mortality Data

Over the five-year period of 2001-2005, Greene County had a rate of 16.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, nearly twice the state rate of 8.5.



The six leading causes of death in Greene County from 2001-2005 and the number of deaths they caused were:

1. Heart Disease - 202 deaths
2. Cancer - 196 deaths
3. Stroke - 66 deaths
4. Diabetes - 47 deaths
5. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases - 38 deaths
6. Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries - 33 deaths

Of the 908 deaths that occurred in Greene County during the five-year period 2001-2005, 51 percent were caused by heart disease, cancer, and stroke.

Listed below are the five leading causes of death for men and women in Greene County from 2001-2005:

Men

1. Cancer
2. Heart Disease
3. Stroke
4. Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries*
5. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases*

(* 20 deaths each)

Women

1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. Stroke
4. Diabetes
5. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases

Listed below are the five leading causes of death for whites and minorities in Greene County from 2001-2005:

Whites

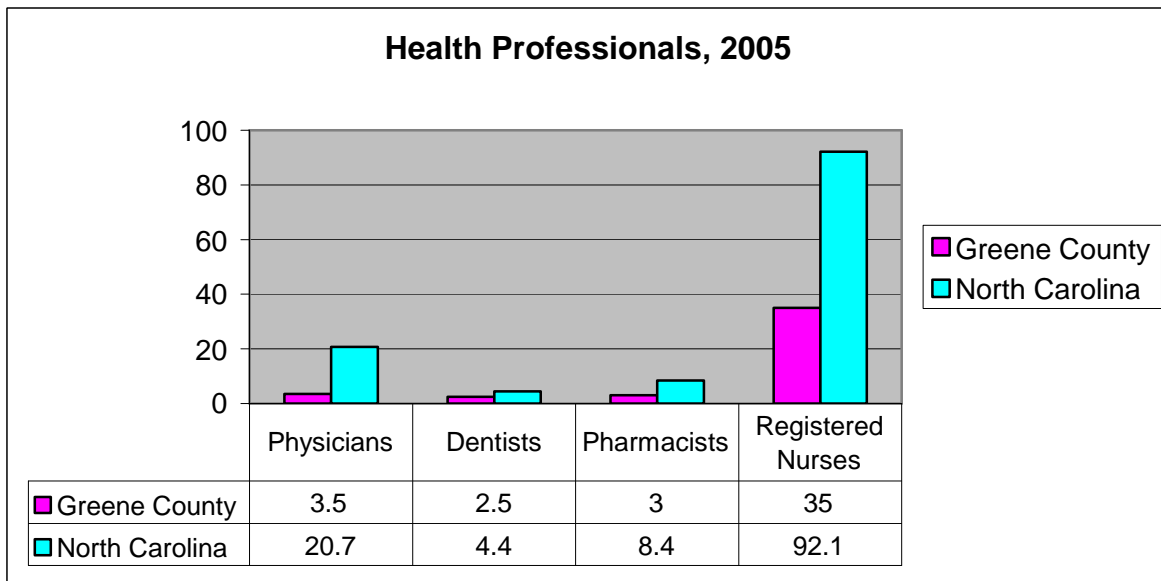
1. Heart Disease*
2. Cancer*
(* 130 deaths each)
3. Stroke
4. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases
5. Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries

Minorities

1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. Stroke
4. Diabetes
5. Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries

Health Resources Data

According to 2005 data from the University of North Carolina’s Sheps Center for Health Services Research, for every 10,000 Greene County residents, there are 3.5 physicians, 2.5 dentists, 3 pharmacists, and 35 registered nurses.



Community Health Assessment Survey - Results

During the months of October through December 2006, a community-wide survey was conducted in order to give residents an opportunity to express their opinion about the quality of life in Greene County. Greene County's self-administered survey included questions about a variety of health issues. Surveys were administered throughout the county in an effort to reach a wide variety of the population. Three hundred fifty surveys were printed, and 292 surveys were completed and included in the final analysis.

Characteristics of Survey Participants

A. Total Household Income

	Number	Percent
Under \$10,000	56	20.0
\$10,000 - \$19,999	29	10.4
\$20,000 - \$29,999	33	11.8
\$30,000 - \$39,999	28	10.0
\$40,000 - \$49,999	23	8.2
\$50,000 - \$59,999	33	11.8
\$60,000 - \$69,999	21	7.5
Over \$70,000	57	20.4

B. Highest Level of Schooling Completed

	Number	Percent
Less than 12 th Grade, no diploma or equivalent	41	14.3
High School Graduate or equivalent (i.e. GED)	49	17.1
Some college but no degree	56	19.5
Technical Certificate/Vocational Training	11	3.8
Associate degree in college (i.e. AA)	24	8.4
Bachelors degree in college (i.e. BS, BA)	63	22.0
Advanced degree in college (i.e. Masters, Doctorate)	43	15.0

C. Race/Ethnicity

	Number	Percent
White/Caucasian	186	64.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	1.4
Hispanic/Latino	16	5.5
Black/African American	79	27.3
Native American	1	0.3
Other	3	1.0

D. Gender

	Number	Percent
Male	91	31.3
Female	200	68.7

E. Age

	Number	Percent
18 - 24 years	26	9.0
25 - 34 years	60	20.8
35 - 44 years	50	17.3
45 - 54 years	67	23.2
55 - 64 years	59	20.4
65 - 74 years	20	6.9
75 or older	7	2.4

F. Current Marital Status

	Number	Percent
Single, never married	75	26.3
Separated	15	5.3
Widowed	12	4.2
Married	154	54.0
Divorced	29	10.2

Survey Questions & Answers

1. Health Concerns -- *the top 12 health concerns for the county are highlighted*

	Number Responding Yes	Percent
Alcohol Abuse/Drug Addiction	164	56.2
Asthma	91	31.2
Cancer	126	43.2
Dementia/Alzheimer's	71	24.3
Dental Health	21	7.2
Diabetes	132	45.2
Domestic Violence	72	24.7
Emphysema	12	4.1
Heart Disease	108	37.0
High Blood Pressure/Stroke	113	38.7
HIV/AIDS	125	42.8
Infant Mortality	37	12.7
Low birth weight/premature babies	29	9.9
Lung Disease	30	10.3
Mental Illness/Depression	73	25.0
Motor Vehicle Injuries	46	15.8
Obesity/Overweight	131	44.9
Osteoporosis	7	2.4
Pneumonia/Flu	12	4.1
Pollution (air, water)	17	5.8
Sexual assault/rape	37	12.7
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	66	22.6
Sickness from animals (Rabies, West Nile Virus, Bird Flu)	19	6.5
Suicide, suicide attempts, self-injury	14	4.8
Teen Pregnancy	90	30.8
Unintentional Injuries (Drowning, Burns)	4	1.4
Violence (including gang activity)	66	22.6

2. Unhealthy Behaviors -- *the top 6 unhealthy behaviors for the county are highlighted*

	Number Responding Yes	Percent
Alcohol Abuse	121	41.4
Child Abuse/neglect	78	26.7
Domestic violence	51	17.5
Drinking & driving	42	14.4
Drug use	99	33.9
Elder abuse	21	7.2
Lack of exercise	116	39.7
Not asking for help for personal problems	21	7.2
Not getting doctor checkups	51	17.5
Not getting immunizations	7	2.4
Not using child safety seats	15	5.1
Not using seatbelts	9	3.1
Poor eating habits	87	29.8
Reckless driving	6	2.1
Tobacco use	58	19.9
Unsafe sex	53	18.2
Violent behavior	28	9.6
Youth violence	26	8.9

3. What specific things do you think can be done to improve health in Greene County?

- A recreation center with minimum or no fee to use; mental health professionals in the county; public transportation; another grocery store (competition to lower prices on healthy foods); good paying jobs; more industry; more fruit farms - i.e. Farmer's Market; adult recreation teams - i.e. volleyball, softball, soccer
- Affordable healthcare for adults - legal and illegal citizens
- Affordable recreation
- Attitude change of the residents of Greene County
- Availability of nutrition info and how it relates to diet and overall health. Info should be accessible in areas other than health facilities
- Awareness
- Awareness clinics on health, safe sex, violence
- Awareness workshops, booths, pamphlets

- Ban tobacco use in all public places, hire some mental health professionals to practice in the county
- Be aware of issues
- Better doctors
- Better mental health counseling and follow through; more child neglect cases investigated with follow up to see if conditions are involving from agency making referral
- Better screening for health, better recreation programs, better awareness
- Check on child's home life; more housing
- Combine effort by churches, schools, and communities
- Community exercise center available for all; free doctor checkups; educate teenagers about alcohol addiction
- Continually educate
- Continue on public education
- Continued education to all populations
- County-wide educational program to encourage regular exercise and good eating habits
- Do more education on different things at workshops
- Don't know because there is a lot of help if people would use it.
- Easy help for those with drug addiction
- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Educate children at a young age on the importance of regular check-ups and on tips for staying healthy
- Educate more on proper food portions - how to provide healthy tasty menus
- Educate the public
- Educating people about the consequences of their actions. Show how improving their spiritual condition will improve the rest of their lives.
- Education
- Education in schools
- Education in schools beginning with kindergarten
- Education on letting folks know how important it is.
- Education, education, education
- Education, parental example, more physical exercise options
- Emphasize poor eating
- Ensure that citizens receive care regardless of cost or racial disparity
- Exercise offered free of charge Nutrition Workshops
- Exercise programs
- Focus on drug and alcohol abuse
- Free clinics
- Getting people interested
- Getting to your health problem and keeping your doctor's appointment
- Go to tobacco free in all public places, raise fines to levels that hurt
- Gym
- Have more programs to involve the community

- Have nutritionist come to your home.
- Health classes
- Health Education, Health Fairs, Public Awareness
- Health fairs by age groups; Leaflets in public places
- Hold more health seminars. Offer discounts for gym for good health.
- Implement programs so people will know when and where to go to get information and help
- Improve recreational options-parks/greenways
- Improve the economic base, social programs are needed, if you reduce the poverty - you'll see an improvement in health
- Improve the overall educational level of its citizens
- Insurance
- Keep having health fairs to advertise different programs that can assist residents of Greene County.
- Keep your doctor's appointment
- Mental health services, mental health services, mental health services
- More "No Smoking" in public buildings, such as the building with the public library (where children are!!). Better food establishments that offer healthy options.
- More awareness classes on above list (health concerns and unhealthy behaviors)
- More awareness; workshops; trainings; more events such as this one (health fair)
- More caring parents
- More caring people to work with clients; people that are willing to call and remind of an appointment; helping hands
- More community meetings
- More doctors per citizen
- More education
- More education on the issue
- More exercise
- More exercise opportunities, better sex education to warn about STDs-abstinence is always best
- More exercise, better eating habits
- More food stores
- More free/inexpensive health services
- More health facilities; build a hospital
- More information about health care; people that can't afford insurance - what programs are available for them
- More jobs, less taxes, and government officials who care about people and not themselves
- More nutritious foods
- More nutritious foods in fast food restaurants
- More physical activities in the school
- More places that we can work out that are safer than the places most people go and not so expensive

- More prevention training to students from grades 5th - 12th. Support group for alcohol abuse, unsafe sex practices, domestic violence
- More public awareness
- More recreational activities and education
- More restaurants and stores that are smoke-free; parks and marked walking trails; continue having health fairs for the citizens of Greene County
- More stores
- More studies on health
- More training or education at school
- Need a good mental health clinic
- No smoking in public buildings; require people that are on Food Stamps to work if they are able to work
- Not telling a young girl who comes in for help that she needs to get pregnant before you can help her. Going out into the community and just making your services known and available.
- Nutritional foods
- Offering free clinics - such as AA, continuing education in schools on abstinence, and more ways to get people active
- Opportunities for exercise; mental health access
- Outdoor recreation facilities for youth and adult
- Parental support
- Parents should make sure they get regular check-ups
- Parents taking more responsibilities
- Pay people to go to some of these classes (related to health concerns/behaviors)
- People eat more fruits; exercise
- People need more physical activity
- Prayer
- Promoting exercise and nutrition programs. Exercise is crucial for good health and mental health as well.
- Provide screenings for BP, cholesterol, sugar
- Provision of rides/transportation to the necessary health designee
- Put people to work and off of social programs
- Recreation opportunities for all citizens
- Residents need to exercise more and eat healthier.
- Start better health information sessions in schools
- Start with school behavior
- Stiff penalties for drinking while impaired; safe area for walking or exercise; affordable and easy to access medical care
- Teaching childcare in high school. Encouraging people to get check ups.
- Teaching healthier eating habits. Support families - parenting.
- Transportation to help people get to doctor appointments
- Volunteer
- Walk a thons
- Walking trails, bike trails, education for good eating, more smoke-free

4. Is there anything else about Greene County's health that you would like to comment on?

- Continue to put out more flyers - notice in school, churches, community affair
- County has protection for the teenager if they need it; and transportation back and forth to the doctor.
- Eating habits of teenagers - too much fast food and not enough exercise; too much t.v. and game boards
- Ensure that all medical/dental providers work together
- Food service establishments should not allow smoking
- Getting the information to the people
- Glad to see more medical facility coming to the area which such improve our access to health care and education on healthy behavior
- Great job done by health professionals
- Greene County Advocate is doing a good job
- Health Department needs a weekly article/announcement in Standard Laconic (newspaper)
- Health inspections at local food places ("greasy spoon" restaurants)
- Help with old people
- How you are concerned about the community and able to get out and talk to the people
- I am very concerned about the fast food eating and thus the overweight population
- I see a lot of overweight children and adults
- I think all health organizations are doing a great job.
- I truly enjoy the Community Health Advocate.
- Lack of access to mental health service
- Lack of mental health
- More help with your prescription, if you cannot afford the medical plan the government has. Do you buy food or medicines, not a great place to find yourself
- Most people, especially elderly, can't afford enough for a healthy or halfway decent meal and they don't exercise enough. An aesthetically pleasing garden/walking park would be nice.
- Need a campaign to get young and old active, through schools, etc. Steer kids from sex as entertainment to other activities. Special effort for poor/minority kids.
- Need better healthy choices in restaurants
- Not enough specific type doctors
- People need to stop some of the fast foods
- Pollution in well water in homes from farm run-off
- Poor health habits are on display all over the county. County, school, church, parents are the problem - set a good example
- Poverty contributes to many health deficiency diseases. Poor wages, low expectations, and lack of education are indirect causes of poor health.
- Smoking in public facilities and restaurants in 2006!
- Teen smoking is still huge
- Thanks for getting the information out

- Today was an eye opener for many of the residents. Hopefully this event will help to convince people how important their health is.
- We need more outreach to let the community know what services are available to the public
- We need more resources for counseling - very limited coping strategies identified and available
- Wellness program needed in all schools
- You make it easy for women to get the health they need

5. Do you have any kind of health insurance plan?

Yes - 84.5% No - 15.5%

If yes, what type of coverage do you have?

Medicaid - 11.3%
 Medicare - 13.0%
 Private Insurance - 56.8%
 Other - 9.6%

6. Do you have insurance to cover the cost (or some of the cost) of prescription medications?

Yes - 82.7% No - 17.3%

7. Was there a time during the last 12 months when you needed to see a doctor but did not?

Yes - 29.1% No - 70.9%

If yes, what the main reason you did not?

- I could not afford to go to the doctor - 45.8%
- I had no transportation - 12.0%
- I was afraid/I don't like to go to the doctor - 13.3%
- The office was not open when I could get there - 14.5%
- Other - 14.5% (responses given - no time, didn't take time to go, mother/full-time job/wife - too busy, work/responsibilities, busy)

8. What county do you go to most often when you are sick or need medical care?

Greene - 34.0%
 Lenoir - 11.7%
 Pitt - 39.5%
 Wayne - 10.0%
 Wilson - 4.1%
 Other - 0.7%

9. If you are getting health care in another county, would you prefer to go to a provider in Greene County?

Yes - 14.1%

No - 52.1%

I already get care in Greene County - 33.8%

If yes, what type of provider?

- Dermatology
- Family Practice
- Family Practice & referral to Pitt Memorial
- Family Practice, OBGYN
- General care physician
- General Doctor
- General Practice
- Gynecologist
- Health and dental
- Medical
- Medical - cardiologist
- Need a female GYN
- Need mammogram machine in Greene County so residents don't need to go to Lenoir County
- OBGYN
- One with PCMH privileges
- Pitt County OBGYN
- Primary care - I don't like the ones that are currently here

10. When you need to get to the doctor, clinic or pharmacy, do you usually...?

Drive yourself - 82.4%

Have relatives or friends drive you - 9.3%

Walk - 0

Greene County Transportation Van - 8.3%

11. In meeting your basic housing, nutrition, and healthcare needs are you...?

Comfortable in meeting these needs - 62.7%

Always struggling to meet these needs - 26.0%

Choosing between filling one of these needs and not others - 17.5%

Using credit cards to meet these needs - 6.5%

12. How often do you use seat belts when you drive or ride in a car?

Always - 89.7%

Sometimes - 10.3%

Never - 0

13. If you have children under 5, do they ride in a car seat?
 Always - 29.4%
 Sometimes - 2.1%
 Never - 0.7%
 Don't have a child under 5 - 67.8%
14. Does your child wear a helmet when riding bikes, skates, skateboards, etc?
 Always - 14.0%
 Sometimes - 15.8%
 Never - 14.0%
 Don't have a child - 56.1%
15. Do you have one or more working smoke detectors in your home?
 Yes - 89.7%
 No - 7.9%
 I don't know - 2.4%
16. Do you have a fire extinguisher in your home?
 Yes - 60.0%
 No - 39.0%
 I don't know - 1.0%
17. Do you have a gun in your home?
 Yes - 50.5% No - 49.5%
- If yes, do you keep the gun and ammunition locked up?
 Yes - 69.0% No - 31.0%
18. If you have a child under age two, have they received all of their shots?
 Yes - 14.9%
 No - 5.9%
 Don't have a child under age 2 - 79.2%
19. Do you smoke cigarettes, cigars or use smokeless tobacco?
 Yes - 16.6% No - 83.4%
- If yes, would you like to quit?
 Yes - 58.7% No - 41.3%
20. Do you allow anyone to smoke inside your home?
 Yes - 22.1% No - 77.9%
21. Would you like to see more smoke-free restaurants in Greene County?
 Yes - 74.4% No - 25.6%

22. Do you drink alcoholic beverages?
Yes - 31.3% No - 68.7%

23. Do you ever drive after drinking alcoholic beverages, or ride with a driver that has been drinking?
Yes - 7.6% No - 92.4%

24. How would you rate your own personal health?
Excellent - 12.1%
Good - 60.9%
Fair - 24.6%
Poor - 2.4%

25. How many days a week do you get at least 30-60 minutes of physical activity?
None - 16.9%
1 day - 15.2%
2 days - 26.2%
3 days - 22.4%
4 days - 7.2%
5 or more days - 12.1%

26. Are there enough opportunities for physical activity near your home?
Yes - 63.2% No - 36.8%

If no, what would you like to see?

- A garden/walking park like they have in the city of Lenoir up in the mountains.
- A good safe walking track closer to my home
- A place to walk without being bothered with dogs.
- An activity for stroke victims
- Community exercise center available for all
- Curves
- Curves return; Community based exercise center
- Exercise Areas
- Exercise class
- Facilities that don't cost so much
- Fitness Center for women
- Free aerobic and yoga classes
- Free tennis courts, public swimming pool, running track, park
- Free walking well lighted safe park
- Gym
- Gym closer by
- Gyms, pools, tennis courts
- Heated indoor pool
- Ice skating rink
- Indoor pool

- LCC sponsored exercise classes throughout the county
- Marked walking trails, parks
- More aerobic activities
- More bike lanes and sidewalks to walk around town
- More exercise programs like yoga classes - something other than machines
- More fitness centers in Snow Hill or fitness park for walking, riding, sports
- More free or low cost exercise places that offer a variety of physical activity - i.e. pilates, weights, aerobics, etc.
- More gyms
- More places to walk
- More places to workout
- More walking tracks, parks, gyms
- Nice park with nature trails
- Nice parks, no gangs
- Parents cut off the tv and computer - you are responsible for you and your family; walk; help the elderly
- Park with swing, place to play ball
- Parks
- Parks with lights, tracks, public tennis, volleyball, basketball courts in a central location
- Parks/Greenways
- Playgrounds, sidewalks, bike trails
- Recreation center with weights, walking trail
- Safe and affordable places
- Stantonsburg - gym would be closer
- Training center
- Walking facilities
- Walking lanes on the side of the street
- Walking tracks available during day hours
- Walking trail
- Walking trails, biking trails, swimming pool
- Water recreation - boating, swimming
- We need an inside pool for seniors

27. How many servings of fruits and vegetables do you usually eat per day?

- None - 2.1%
- 1 serving - 19.2%
- 2 servings - 30.6%
- 3 servings - 30.2%
- 4 servings - 10.3%
- 5 or more servings - 7.6%

28. On average, how many times per week do you eat at a fast food restaurant?
 Less than 1 - 18.6%
 1 time - 18.9%
 2 times - 28.5%
 3 times - 22.3%
 4 times - 5.8%
 5 or more times - 5.8%
29. Have you had a flu shot in the past year?
 Yes - 58.8% No - 41.2%
30. If you are over age 55, have you ever had a pneumonia shot?
 Yes - 16.3%
 No - 18.0%
 I am not over age 55 - 65.7%
31. Does anyone living in your home have asthma?
 Yes - 23.8% No - 76.2%
32. Do you think Greene County students in grades K-12 receive a quality education?
 Yes - 82.0% No - 18.0%
33. How do you cope with everyday life stresses?
 Attend church - 52.4%
 Attend civic clubs - 8.9%
 Exercise - 34.2%
 Do hobbies - 28.4%
 Get a massage - 5.5%
 Meditate - 16.1%
 Pray - 57.9%
 Take medicines - 12.0%
 Talk with a counselor - 2.4%
 Talk to family - 34.9%
 Talk to friends - 46.9%
 Talk to minister/pastor - 17.1%
 Talk with a physician - 11.0%
 Do nothing - 10.6%
 Other - 5.8% (responses given - drink beer, eat, go shopping, play piano, rest and relax, sex, shop, smoke, write)

34. Women Only...

- a) Have you had a pap smear in the past 3 years?
Yes - 82.0% No - 18.0%
- b) Do you perform monthly self-breast exams?
Yes - 66.0% No - 34.0%
- c) Have you had a mammogram in the past 3 years?
Yes - 52.0% No - 48.0%

35. Men Only...

- a) Have you ever had a prostate exam or PSA test?
Yes - 70.8% No - 29.2%
- b) Do you perform monthly self-testicular exams?
Yes - 42.0% No - 58.0%

36. If you currently a diabetic, what measures are you taking at this time to lower your blood sugar level?

- Medication - 9.6%
- Diet changes - 6.2%
- Exercise - 7.2%
- None - 1.4%
- I am not a diabetic - 83.2%

If no control measures are being taken, why not?

- Family not supportive of nutrition changes - 0.3%
- Lack of education - 0
- Inability to purchase better nutritional choices (i.e. low sugar foods) - 0.7%
- Medication too expensive - 1.0%
- Lack of understanding on how to prepare better nutritional meals - 0

37. Of the following factors, choose the three that you feel are the most important to consider when having a baby.

- Age - 55.8%
- Availability of childcare - 7.2%
- Career Options - 11.3%
- Current Employment - 23.3%
- Education - high school graduate - 11.0%
- Financial Stability - 56.2%
- Health Issues - 30.5%
- Marriage - 36.0%
- Stable family/home environment - 57.5%

38. Sexuality education for students in the public schools should include...?

- Abstinence - 84.2%
- Birth control methods - 60.6%
- Expected body changes - 44.2%
- Pregnancy - 48.6%
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS - 82.5%
- Skills for dating - 53.8%
- Skills for refusing sex - 74.0%

39. At what grade level, do you think this should begin?

- 5th grade - 41.6%
- 6th grade - 29.4%
- 7th grade - 17.5%
- 8th grade - 4.2%
- 9th grade - 3.5%
- 10th grade - 0.3%
- 11th grade - 0.7%
- 12th grade - 2.8%

40. Teenage pregnancy rates in Greene County remain high. What do you think are the reasons we continue to have such high teenage pregnancy rates?

- Absentee parents - no supervision
- Apathy - alot of parents don't seem to care enough to get involved.
- Bad family situations
- Because they learn from others around them
- Boredom - nothing for kids to do; liberal attitudes by teens and adults; no concept of consequences (i.e. public assistance use as a fallback when teens do have a baby); lack of true religious teachings; lack of opportunities/jobs in county; economic gap; low self-esteem among teenage girls (need more counseling)
- Children have too much time
- Continued acceptance by the youth
- Culture, and it goes from generation to generation
- Don't think and understand consequences
- Education
- Education, parental control
- Everyone seems to accept the idea of teen pregnancy - in other words, 'it's no big deal to get pregnant'
- Exposure to movies; parents not talking with child; lack of religious teaching
- Family expectations and too lax moral values
- Family morals; lack of education of parents part teaching their children
- Hopelessness, low self-esteem, family repeated cycle
- Ignorance
- It is too easy to get gov't subsidies and no one explains the consequences or has to deal with the consequences
- It's easy money to the mother. It's no longer a social disgrace. Morals declining

- It's the norm. Programs "reward" pregnancy.
- Lack of activity between 3 - 9 p.m.
- Lack of after school supervision, too much free time for youth
- Lack of appropriate activities for young people
- Lack of birth control
- Lack of concern
- Lack of education
- Lack of education - birth control and skills for refusing sex
- Lack of Education - parents and children
- Lack of education and peer pressure
- Lack of education for teaching dating skills as well as refusing sex, don't understand the risk of unprotected sex
- Lack of education, family values
- Lack of education, high school dropouts, poverty
- Lack of education, income level
- Lack of education; Poor parental controls
- Lack of good parenting, no Boys and Girls Club, too many adults looking the other way, they know social services will "pay" there way
- Lack of guidance from families
- Lack of home education from family
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of knowledge from the home
- Lack of morals and values
- Lack of parental guidance, and low moral and ethical standards
- Lack of parental supervision
- Lack of parental supervision or parents that care
- Lack of parental/adult supervision
- Lack of parenting abilities and decline in moral values
- Lack of promoting abstinence
- Lack of recreational activities and knowledge
- Lack of responsibility; For some it must be a status symbol; Work or educate more in middle school and high school responsibilities of being parents and show videos of how hard it is
- Lack of stable home environment or family unit, which leads to low self-esteem. Along with proper education, I think we would see a decrease in teenage pregnancy.
- Lack of understanding by teens. Lack of parental influence. Peer Pressure. Lack of education about STDs.
- Lots of unconcerned parents and too young to care
- Low IQ
- Low or no values
- Low self-esteem; lack of parental supervision
- Low sexuality education
- Lower education in school system
- Money for number of babies

- More emphasis should be put on abstinence and moral issues
- Most parents were young when they had children, so their children are following in their parent's footsteps
- Mothers should stay home
- Mothers working long hours - not having time for their children; children staying out later - unsupervised
- Need to talk to teenagers
- No activities for young people in Greene County
- No activity, recreation available; family values; low self-esteem
- No birth control methods used
- No family support. Teens are following other(s) examples, want to be apart of a group or click.
- No guidance
- No low cost safe activities
- No supervision
- Nobody caring what children are doing or who they are with or where they are
- Not being educated about sex and protection
- Not educated, drop-outs, inactive parents
- Not enough education and open communication
- Not enough education on sex and parents knowing where their children are and what they are doing
- Not enough family time and guidance this day and time
- Not enough healthy teen activities for our youth
- Not enough information
- Not Enough Recreational Activities
- Our culture does not consider this taboo anymore - it's just a way of life
- Parent values
- Parenting skills, no activities/clubs for youth, to many abandoned trailers and homes for teens to have sex in - clean up the town!
- Parents are not involved with children and let them run free to do as they please
- Parents are not involved with their children; lack good morals
- Parents do not show enough love and interest in their children; the kids go elsewhere to find this love and attention
- Parents do not supervise and try to educate our children; kids also think they know more than the parents and do what they want with no parental supervision
- Parents do not take time or do not know how to discuss it with their children.
- Parents do not talk to their children about sex; not enough education taught in school about sex; kids getting the wrong information from other peers
- Parents don't care
- Parents not controlling what their children watch on tv or not setting the example by teaching them how to act or behave around the opposite sex
- Parents not getting involved with child
- Parents not knowing what their children are doing
- Parents not taking time with their teenagers, not attending church

- Parents should talk to their children
- Parents talk to your child
- Parents working long hours
- Poor and lack of information given by parents - kids are left to learn by peers
- Poor family background/without loving parents who are happily married and who model healthy and moral relationships; Not choosing before dating - to refuse to have sex before marriage and rationale for refusing sex and how to deal with sexual pressure
- Poor family home life - peer pressure
- Poor family situations - parents do not know alot of times what their children are doing
- Poor parenting and supervision
- Poor parenting for generations, morals are at zero in many cases, no self control, make both male and female sterile after two kids
- Poor parenting of at-risk teenagers; poor self-esteem of teens
- Poor self-esteem and kids are rewarded for having babies
- Poor social opportunities such as bowling, theater, etc.
- Poverty level, educational ignorance
- Poverty level, socio-economic status, stupidity, and ignorance
- Poverty, lack of education, socio-economic standards are low
- Problem in home; not enough education program
- Religious beliefs, cultural habits
- Several factors, such as poverty, parents who have poor coping skills themselves, no programs or activities to offer teenagers options
- Single parents
- Socio-economic
- Socioeconomic and Medicaid issues
- Some kids just don't care; some still believe it won't happen to them
- Some teens are afraid to talk to their parents
- Talk to teenager about sex and pregnancy
- Teenage dates too soon
- Teenagers and parents not educated enough
- Teens having unsafe sex
- Teens in this county especially from low income families have no real outlet for extra curricular activities; transportation or no money effect; children home alone - latch key kids; peer pressure; media
- Testosterone levels are too high
- The kids do not have activities that are free for them to do or close to home. Boys and Girls Club etc.
- They follow their parents' examples and think its okay to have a lot of children and can't provide for them.
- They see others having babies at an early age and they think it's all right. (No home raising)
- Unattended children; lack of activities for involvement

- Unconcerned parents
 - Uneducated
 - Unfit parents
 - Unfortunately many parents are not excellent role models for their children and yet their behaviors are hard to counter
 - Unstable home environment
 - Unsupervised teens
 - Working parents, too many hours at work
 - Young parents
41. I currently have a formal plan to deal with a disaster (i.e. hurricane) or terrorist attack.
- Strongly Agree - 18.1%
 - Agree - 46.7%
 - Undecided - 21.3%
 - Disagree - 10.1%
 - Strongly Disagree - 3.8%
42. I have a designated out of town contact to call in case of a disaster.
- Strongly Agree - 18.9%
 - Agree - 48.3%
 - Undecided - 18.9%
 - Disagree - 9.4%
 - Strongly Disagree - 4.5%
43. In the event of a disaster, I would know how to find the nearest shelter.
- Strongly Agree - 30.1%
 - Agree - 51.0%
 - Undecided - 11.2%
 - Disagree - 4.2%
 - Strongly Disagree - 3.5%
44. If I were asked to evacuate my residence, I know what to take with me.
- Strongly Agree - 30.0%
 - Agree - 52.3%
 - Undecided - 12.5%
 - Disagree - 2.4%
 - Strongly Agree - 2.8%
45. If I was told to evacuate, I would...
- Go to a public shelter - 30.7%
 - Go stay with family or friends - 48.8%
 - Go to a hotel - 10.8%
 - Stay home - 8.4%
 - Other - 1.4%

46. If you chose the response 'stay home' for Question # 45, why wouldn't you evacuate?
- No transportation - 1.7%
 - Want to take care of my property - 2.7%
 - Nowhere to go - 3.8%
 - Need to care for my livestock and/or pets - 2.7%
 - Other - 1 response given (need to work at shelter in county)

Focus Group (11/5/06) - Hispanic Residents

34 participants: 20 females, 14 males

The following questions were asked of the participants:

1. What do you like most about living in Greene County?
2. What do you see as the major health problems/concerns in Greene County?
3. What keeps people in Greene County from being healthy?
4. What are some health services people need that are not currently being offered?
5. What makes it hard for people to get health information and health care?

Participant Responses...

1. What do you like most about living in Greene County?
 - Quiet
 - Good clinics
 - Good schools
 - Good education
 - Teachers take time with the children
2. What do you see as the major health problems/concerns in Greene County?
 - Breast cancer
 - Cancer
 - Dental problems
 - Women living alone
3. What keeps people in Greene County from being healthy?
 - Don't know where to go for care
 - Don't know the cost for services
 - Scared
 - Bills
 - No money for prescriptions
 - Clinics asking for papers - legal status
 - Can't pay
4. What are some health services people need that are not currently being offered?
 - Vision, eye care
 - Low-cost or free medical care (i.e. physical exam)

5. What makes it hard for people to get health information and health care?
- Don't know where to go for health information
 - Don't know what medical services are available
 - No money: want to work so they can afford medical care but have no working papers
 - Language barrier

Plans for Developing the Community Health Action Plans

Greene County Health Department and Healthy Greene will continue to work on developing the community health action plan for each of the selected health concerns. In order to avoid duplication of efforts, we will invite representatives from school and community organizations already involved in addressing the five health concerns to help develop the action plans. We will continue to integrate community survey data with public health statistics.

Resources - websites

Action for Children, North Carolina -- www.ncchild.org

Department of Public Instruction - Public Schools of North Carolina --
www.dpi.state.nc.us

Economic Development Information System - a service of the North Carolina
Department of Commerce -- <http://cmedis.commerce.state.nc.us>

Employment Security Commission of North Carolina -- www.ncesc.com

Greene County -- www.co.greene.nc.us

North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics -- www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS

UNC - Sheps Center for Health Services Research -- www.shepscenter.unc.edu

US Census Bureau -- www.census.gov