

2005 2006




Together
for Beaufort

Our COUNTY. Our FUTURE.



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- Beaufort County
www.bcgov.net
- Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
www.cf-lowcountry.org
- United Way of Beaufort County
www.uwofbc.org

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Letter to the Community

Together for Beaufort...began as an effort by the leadership of the public, private and nonprofit sectors in Beaufort County to bring our community together around clear and compelling goals that can unify us as a people. Community, by its very nature, is an elaborate network in which everything and everyone is connected. We share a plot of earth, by birth or by choice, and together we must make choices about how we share this place for the good of all.

Together we build an economy... Together we must be concerned about building an economy that provides needed jobs with livable wages, affordable housing, affordable child care, public transportation and roads to connect us, clean water and air, quality schools, and essential health care systems. An economy that is sustainable and where possible unique to this place and our people.

Together we share an environment... Together we must find a means to live together in this place and ensure that our "ecological footprint" will not adversely effect future generations. If our community is to prosper over the long-term, our actions today will require stewardship of our land, air and water in covenant with our children and grandchildren.

Together we share a human bond... Together we must be concerned about equity of all within our community. One measure of community is how we care for one another. In such a community, everyone benefits regardless of race, income, gender, age or disability. Together we support the needs of fragile newborns and the elderly, we care that our young people are prepared for a global economy, that basic services are provided for our children, elderly and working poor.

It is our desire that this community-wide effort to establish goals and ways to benchmark progress will be the catalyst for organizations to build initiatives for action, for government to focus their policies, for communities of faith to respond with service and for individuals to question what can one person do. Together we can make a difference.

Matt Petrofes

Chairman,
Leadership Council, Beaufort County Alliance for Human Services

*Our County.
Our Future.*



Executive Summary

Together for Beaufort is an intensive community-wide process to identify issues confronting the citizens of Beaufort County. It further develops a series of indicators that will allow us, together, to monitor progress as we address these issues.

This report will provide a valuable resource for the entire community, influencing development decisions, assisting organizations in their planning, and encouraging dialogue among citizens to bring about community change.

The "Together for Beaufort" process is a community-wide effort to prepare a better future for our citizens. Over the past year, the public, private and nonprofit agencies, along with interested citizens from through-

out the county, teamed up to implement a process to establish clear goals by which progress can be measured. The resulting goals describe aspirational qualities for Beaufort County's people and families, the communities and the place we share. Progress toward each of the goals will be measured by a total of 16 community indicators.

The purpose of "Together for Beaufort" is to help our citizens, communities, public officials, agencies and organizations come together as one community to address these important goals. Progress requires the collective efforts of the public (government), private (business), nonprofit (organizations) and faith community sectors to join together in broad collaborations that address the pressing needs of our community.

Methodology

Public input drawn from interviews served as a starting point to creating consensus on the most pressing issues facing Beaufort County. These interviews began a community dialogue to determine the issues that affect the quality of life in our county. The data collected around these issues was based on the input received from key experts who took part in the focus groups and assisted in the collection of information.

Many local, state, and national agencies accumulate and report the quantitative data necessary for benchmarking in the Community Indicators. Rates per population and percentages are often used to compare county data to state and national data. When calculating rates per population, U.S. Census Bureau population estimates were used. When the data collection method does not allow for direct comparison, state and national information is noted in the text. Primary sources include the Bureau of Economic Analysis, South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina Department of Education, U.S. Administration on Aging and the Centers for Disease Control and Clemson University. The source for each indicator is noted in the text.

The four Focus Groups representing individuals from across Beaufort County, reviewed issues concerning people, families, communities and place. The groups were comprised of representatives from the public, private, nonprofit and faith sectors who have significant roles as professionals or volunteers within each focus area. In a series of meetings, the groups suggested data available to further the benchmarking process and discussed community-wide goals for review by the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee was comprised of leadership from across the county. In a series of three meetings, the group reviewed available data and the input from the Focus Groups and debated Focus Group drafts to arrive at goals and community indicators to benchmark progress. As a group, the Steering Committee members were unanimous in recommending that collaborations be pursued among agencies capable of leading a community-wide effort to bring about an improved level of understanding, leverage community investment and directly address these goals.

The Focus Groups' criteria for selecting the indicators stated that each must be:

- An accurate measurement of the goal.
- Reliable.
- Scientifically defensible.
- Understood and accepted by the community.
- Readily available and easily obtainable.
- Relatively unambiguous in its interpretation.

In setting the community-wide goals, the Steering Committee used the following criteria:

- Accomplishing this goal will significantly impact the quality of life in Beaufort County.
- Accomplishing this goal is possible, given the culture, resources and politics of our community.
- Our community will care about this goal.
- It is possible to impact this goal significantly within 5-10 years.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Together for Beaufort provides information about the status of our community and points to a range of strategic issues that, if addressed, could greatly improve our county. By sharing this information we hope to provide a common ground for public, private, and nonprofit leaders to engage the public in a dialogue about how we can work together to address these and other related issues. The first step is to share this information and ask ourselves the hard questions about what causes conditions in our county to get better or worse.

We, as individuals, can educate ourselves through this publication. Through our individual and collective research and armed with knowledge, we can become advocates for community change.



There are several factors about the Community Indicators that should be kept in mind as you study them:

- The indicators are designed to compare the community to itself over time, not to evaluate the community against progress of other communities.
- The indicators provide quantitative data from publicly-accessible sources. Some important dimensions to some issues are not included because data is not readily available.
- The indicators should be an accurate, reliable measurement of the goals that can be understood and accepted by the community.
- The indicators alone are mere pieces of a much larger picture. They do not, by themselves, explain why trends move as they do or what we should do as a community. They do provide the information we need to begin dialogue and take action throughout the community.

As we move toward implementation, we must encourage public, private, nonprofit and faith organizations and agencies to form collaborations that will address these challenges. Together we can address gaps in the systems, build efficiencies, gain understanding and address our collective responsibilities to the community we share.

Community Input

Focus Group Participants

Debbie Andoga
Jackie Antley
Phyllis Atkins
Libby Barnes
Sierra Beale
Luis Bell
Rudy Bishop
Morris Campbell
Shauw Chin Capps
Dru Clements
Cindy Coburn-Smith
Karen Darsey
Bill Evans
Rochelle Ferguson
Constance Gardner
Teresa Gloor
Beth Grace
Bob Guinn
Jenny Haney
Capt. Hank Harwell
Harriett Hilton
Peggy Hitchcox
Rev. Manuel Holland
Debra Huggins
Patrick Jacobs
Ross Jones
Ginnie Kozak
Bill Krewin
Elizabeth Lamkin
Beryl LaMotte
Ina Rae Levy
Fred Leyda
Anne Mecherle
Susan Milne
Dr. Lynn Mulkey
Michael Murray
Carlos Negron
Luanne O'Shea
Marcy Pike

Nancy Pinckney
Dr. Howard Radest
Tina Rumph
Lee Shaffer
Dr. Cynthia Smith
Kim Statler
Cathy Sweeney
Barbara Thomas
Mary Trzasko
Mitzi Wagner
Peggy Warnke
Dr. Alan Warren
Bert Washington
John Wells
Shirley Wilkins
Nancy Williams

Interviewees

Andrea Allen
Luis Bell
Sara Borton
Bud Boyne
David Brown
Laura Bush
Morris Campbell
Angela Childers
Shauw Chin Capps
Dr. Cheryl Clements
Cindy Coburn-Smith
Edna Crews
Betsy Doughtie
Rochelle Ferguson
Delores Frazier
Brandon Gaffney
Dianne Garnett
Kinney Gause
Leroy Gilliard
Carolyn Grant
Bob Guinn
Starletta Hairston

Trish Heichel
Harriet Hilton
Peggy Hitchcox
John Holloway
Dr. Larry Holman
Gary Kubic
Elizabeth Lamkin
Bonnie Lawrance
Fred Leyda
William McBride
Dr. Anne McNutt
Robert Merchant
Dean Moss
Dr. Lynn Mulkey
Joan Mustard
Ramon Norris
Teri Norris
Luanne O'Shea
Matt Petrofes
John Phillips
Dr. Howard Radest
Robert Reames
Susan Reid
Rev. Randy Roberts
Charles Sampson
Mark Senn
Narendra Sharma
Heather Simmons-Jones
Frank Soule
Kim Statler
Dick Steward
Stan Stolarcyk
Mitzi Wagner
Clarece Walker
Mike Walsh
Ben Washington
Fred Washington, Jr.
Stuart Wilbourne
Nancy Williams
Dick Vallandingham

Kick Off Attendees

Andrea Allen
Bob Andoga
Hillary Barnwell
Sierra Beale
Luis Bell
Wade Bishop
Dr. Frank Bowen
Morris Campbell
Shauw Chin Capps
Cindy Coburn-Smith
Edna Crews
Betsy Doughtie
Brandon Gaffney
Dianne Garnett
Jenny Haney
Joan Hillman
Peggy Hitchcox
Rev. Manuel Holland
Phil McDormick
Dr. Lynn Mulkey
Tina Rumph
Lee Shaffer
Brad Smith
Cindy Smith
Stan Stolarcyk
Cathy Sweeney
Mary Trzasko
Mitzi Wagner
Peggy Warnke

Steering Committee

Ted Allenbach
Thomas Barnwell, Jr
Luis Bell
Sara Borton
David Brown
Emory Campbell
Edna Crews

Dr. Clarence Edmondson
Eric Esquivel
Roland Gardner
Dianne Garnett
Trish Heichel
Ken Heitzke
Larry Holman
Brian Hook
Gary Kubic
Elizabeth Lamkin
Marie Lewis
Queen Marquette
Dr. Chris Marsh
Emmett McCracken
James Mitchell
Rev. James Moore
Dean Moss
Mayor Sam Murray
Hon. Weston Newton
Peter Parrott, Jr.
Matt Petrofes
John Phillips
Kyle Poplin
Mayor Bill Rauch
Rev. Randy Roberts
Dr. Harry Rowland
Dr. Helen Ryan
Darrell Snyder
Dick Stewart
Sheriff P.J. Tanner
Clarece Walker
Allen Ward
Fred Washington, Jr.
Rev. Horace Williams
Bernie Wright

Funding Partners

Benefactor

Beaufort County

Community Foundation of the Lowcountry

United Way of Beaufort County

Patron

Beaufort County School District

Beaufort Gazette

Beaufort Memorial Hospital

Coastal Community Foundation of SC

Hilton Head Regional Medical Center

Island Packet

Palmetto Electric Cooperative

SC DHEC Region 8

Town of Bluffton

Town of Hilton Head Island

Sustainer

Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health

Beaufort-Jasper Water Sewer Authority

Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Chamber of Commerce

John and Ruth Phillips

RBC Centura

Contributor

Beaufort County Department of Social Services

Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce

City of Beaufort

Larry and Trish Heichel

Love House Ministries

Dr. Howard Radest

Volunteers in Medicine



Alliance for Human Services

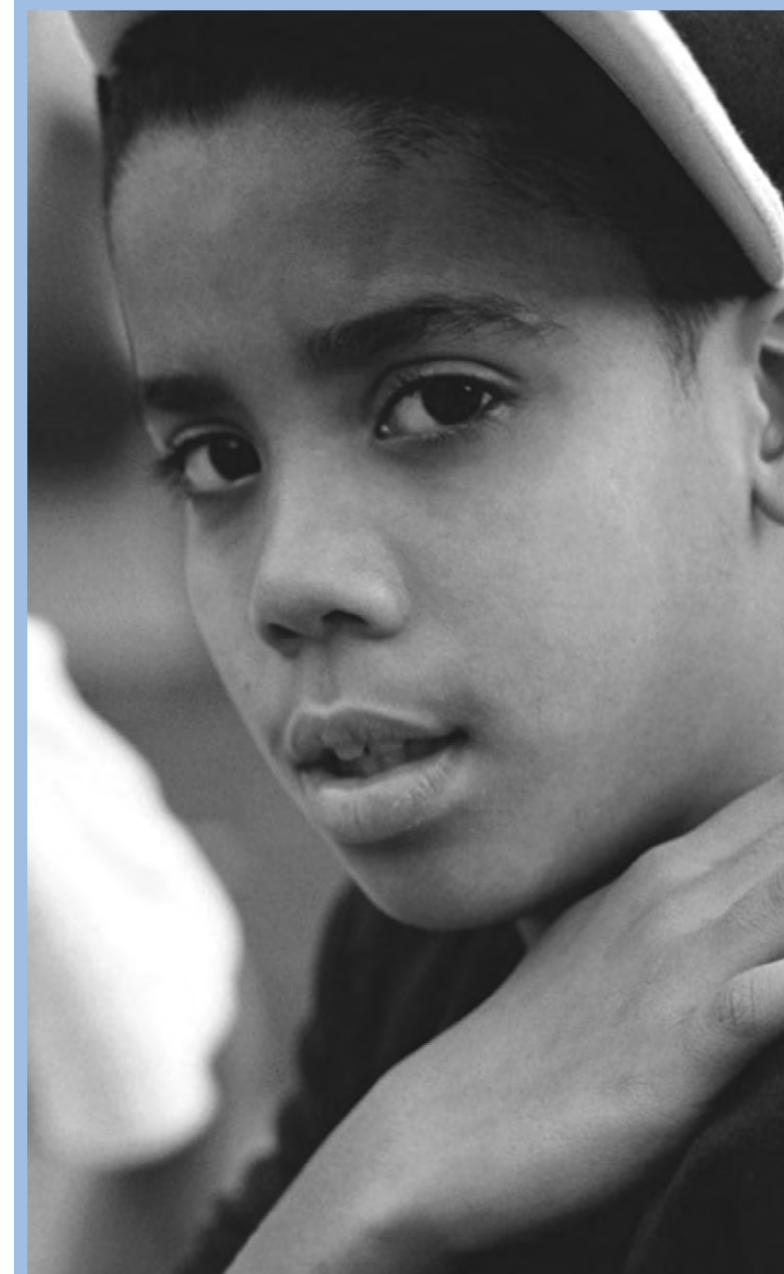
Alliance Leadership Council

Beaufort County Council
 Beaufort County Department of Social Services
 Beaufort County School District
 Beaufort Memorial Hospital
 Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Svcs.
 City of Beaufort
 Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
 Trish Heichel, Community Volunteer
 Hilton Head Island - Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
 Hilton Head Regional Medical Center
 Rev. Manuel Holland, Faith Community
 League of Women Voters
 Howard Radest, PhD, Chair Bioethics Committee HHRMC
 Rev. Randy Roberts, Faith Community
 SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
 Technical College of the Lowcountry
 Town of Bluffton
 Town of Hilton Head
 Town of Port Royal
 U.S. Naval Hospital - Beaufort
 United Way of Beaufort County
 University of South Carolina Beaufort
 Volunteers in Medicine

Alliance Members

ACCESS Network	Head Start
All Saints Episcopal Church	Healthy Families America
Alzheimers Respite and Resource	HELP of Beaufort
American Red Cross - Palmetto Chapter	Hilton Head Island Recreation Association
Baptist Church of Beaufort	Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity
Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Services	Hilton Head Regional Medical Center
Beaufort County Black Chamber of Commerce	Hope Haven of the Lowcountry
Beaufort County Council	Hospice Care of the Lowcountry
Beaufort County Disabilities and Special Needs	Latin American Council of South Carolina
Beaufort County Department of Social Services	Life Skills Counseling
Beaufort County Detention Center	Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry
Beaufort County Drug and Alcohol	Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Beaufort County Library	Love House Ministries
Beaufort County School District	Lowcountry Community Development Corporation
Beaufort County Veteran's Affairs	Lowcountry Council of Governments
Beaufort Housing Authority	Lowcountry Habitat for Humanity
Beaufort Memorial Hospital	Lowcountry Presbyterian Church
Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District	Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority
Beaufort Water Search and Rescue	Meals on Wheels Hilton Head/Bluffton
Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission	Mental Health Association
Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Services	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
Bluffton Self Help	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry	Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association
Child Abuse Prevention Association	Naval Hospital
Church of the Palms	Okatie Presbyterian Church
Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse	Penn Center
Clemson University Extension	Riverside at Belfair Independent Senior Community
Collaborative Organization of Services for Youth	Salvation Army
Coastal Empire Mental Health	SC Vocational Rehabilitation
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry	Second Helpings
Deep Well Project	Senior Services of Beaufort County
Financial Freedom Corporation	Sheldon Township Community Support Partnership
First Baptist Church of Bluffton	St. Gregory the Great Church
First Steps	St. Luke United Methodist Church
Franciscan Center	Starbase, MCAS Beaufort
Friends of Caroline Hospice	Technical College of the Lowcountry
Girl Scouts of Carolina Low Country	Thumbs Up, Inc.
Goodwill Industries of Lower South Carolina	Town of Bluffton
Growing Home Therapeutic Homes	UCCD
	United Way of Beaufort County
	University of South Carolina Beaufort

Community Indicators



Community-wide Goals Criteria:

- Accomplishing this goal will significantly impact the quality of life in Beaufort County.
- Accomplishing this goal is possible, given the culture, resources, and politics of our community.
- Our community will care about this goal.
- It is possible to impact this goal within five years.
- It is possible to impact this goal significantly within ten years.

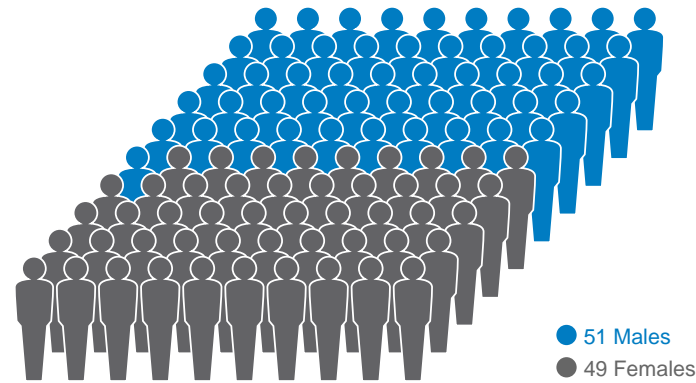
Community Indicator Criteria:

- An accurate measurement of the goal
- Reliable
- Scientifically defensible
- Understandable and accepted by the community
- Readily available and easily obtainable
- Relatively unambiguous in its interpretation

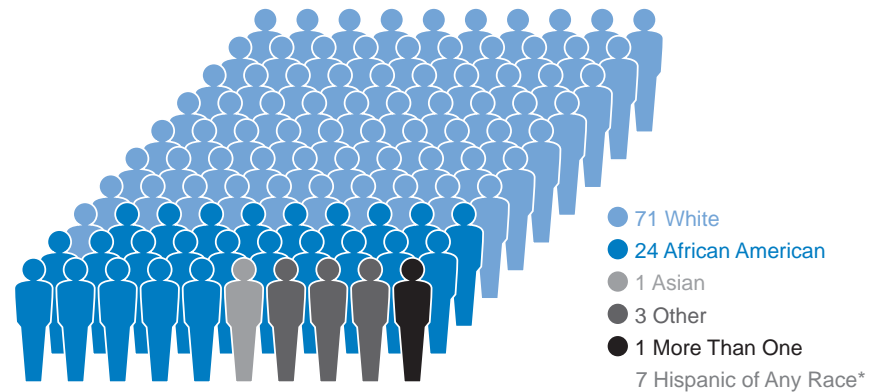
Village of 100

If we could shrink Beaufort County's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following;

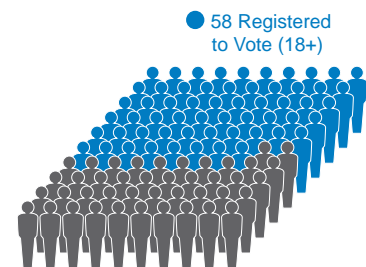
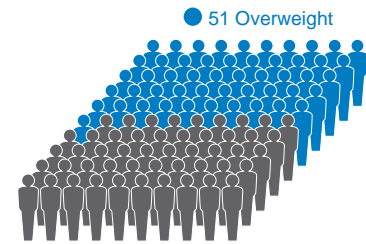
Male vs. Female:



Ethnicity:

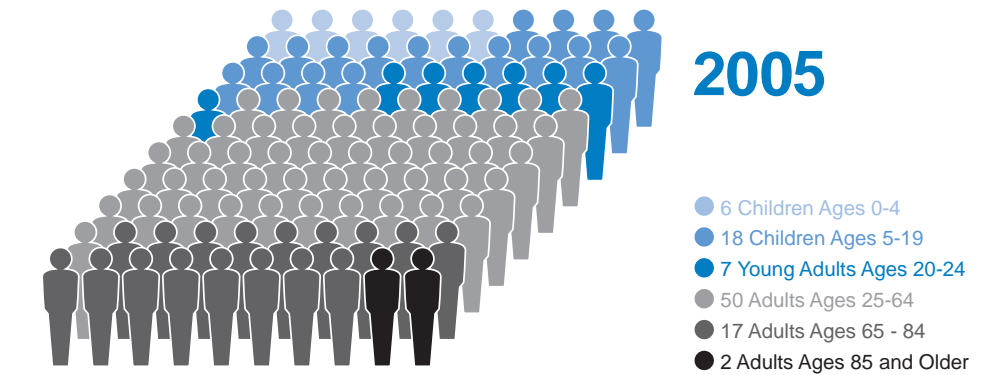


*'Race Alone' categories: White alone, Black or African-American alone, American Indian or Alaska Native alone, Asian alone, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander alone, Some other race alone? *People who identify with the terms "Hispanic" or "Latino" are those who classify themselves in one of the specific Spanish, Hispanic or Latino origin. Origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

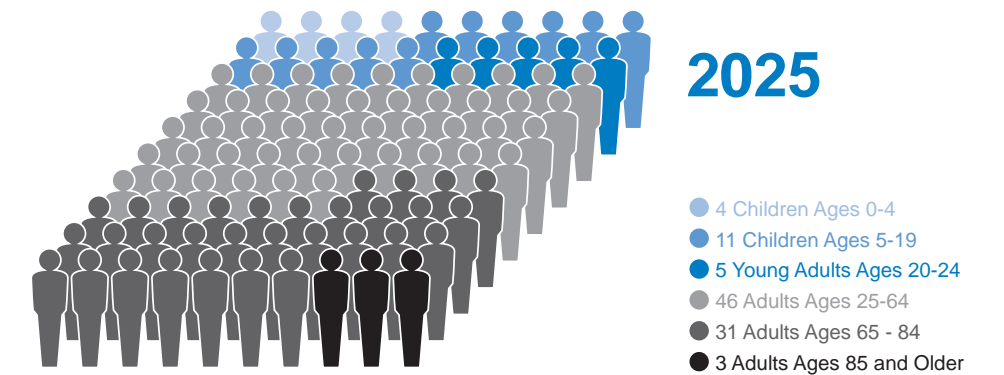


Sources: US Census, SCDHEC, SC Office of Research and Statistics, SC State Election Commission

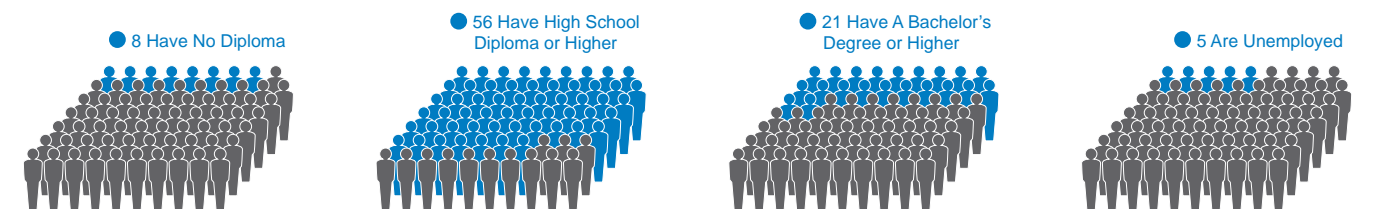
Age Levels in 2005:



Projected Age Levels in 2025:



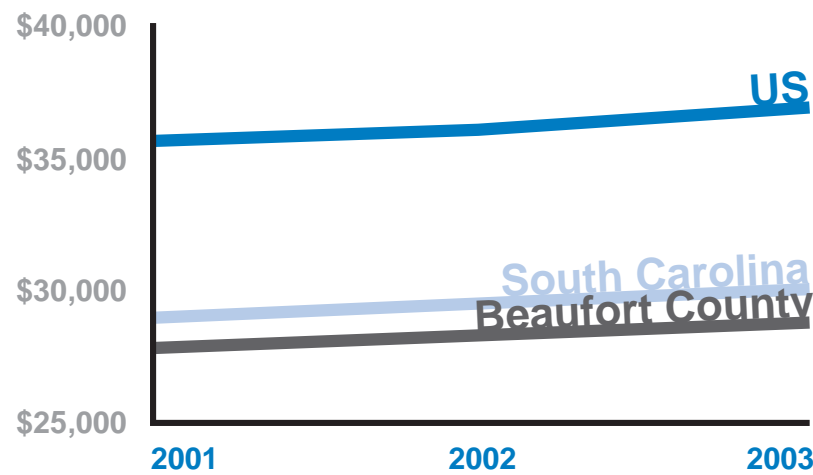
Of the 69 Adults Who Are 25 and Older in 2005:



Sources: US Census, SCDHEC, SC Office of Research and Statistics, SC State Election Commission

Objective *By 2012, the average wage in Beaufort County will equal, or exceed, South Carolina's average wage.*

Average Wage Per Job



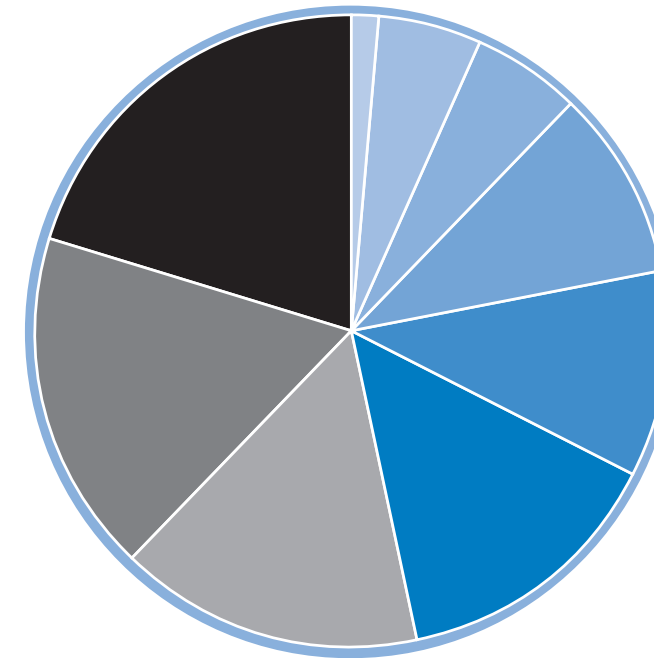
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

The average wage per job is wage and salary disbursements divided by the number of wage and salary jobs (total wage and salary employment) as reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Wage and salary disbursements consists of the monetary remuneration of employees, including the compensation of corporate officers; commissions, tips, and bonuses; and receipts in kind, or pay-in-kind, such as the meals furnished to the employees of restaurants. It reflects the amount of payments disbursed, but not necessarily earned during the year. The chart shows the average wage per job in Beaufort County, SC and the US from 2001, 2002, and 2003.

Why is this important?

Beaufort County's average wage (\$28,671) is 5.3% lower than the state (\$30,280) and 29.5% lower than the nation (\$37,130). Policy makers often rely on per capita or median income levels as indicators rather than average wage in determining a community's need for local, state or federal assistance for services and initiatives. This leaves Beaufort County at a disadvantage because the per capita income is higher than that of the state and the nation.

2004 Average Monthly Non-Agricultural Employment



- Manufacturing 1.71%
- Public Administration 5.61%
- Financial Activities 5.96%
- Professional Business Services 10.28%
- Construction 11.23%
- Other 15.16%
- Education/Health Services 16.40%
- Trade/Transportation/Utilities 18.55%
- Leisure/Hospitality 21.52%

Reported in 2003 from the military bases, there were 11,359 military jobs in Beaufort County that would not be included in the chart, and 1,091 civilian jobs that would be included in the chart.

Why is this important?

Many aspects of a community's economic development like education, employment rates, workforce development and wages are linked to the industries that employ its residents. A diversified economic base provides more employment opportunities for citizens.



The pie chart shows the percent of all non-agricultural employment in Beaufort County by industry for 2004. The Leisure and Hospitality industry employed the largest percent of the labor force. The monthly average was 58,918 jobs. It was reported in 2003 that there were 11,359 military jobs in Beaufort County that would not be included in these numbers and 1,091 civilian jobs on the bases that would be included in these numbers.

Sources:
South Carolina Employment Security Commission

Living Wages and Expenses

Monthly Expenses	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	2 Adults	2 Adults, 1 Child	1 Adults, 2 Children
Food	\$156	\$273	\$335	\$425	\$570
Child Care*	\$0	\$324	\$0	\$324	\$647
Medical	\$80	\$260	\$260	\$301	\$343
Housing	\$446	\$630	\$547	\$630	\$630
Transportation	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180
Other	\$203	\$304	\$297	\$364	\$404
Monthly Income Required	\$1,065	\$1,970	\$1,619	\$2,251	\$2,773
Living Wage	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$11.22	\$15.60	\$19.22

Source: <http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/> *This is an estimated cost of child care for this study. Actual child care costs are examined in the Average Cost for Child Care in Beaufort County indicator.

The chart shows the living wage estimate for families living and working in Beaufort County, according to Penn State's Living Wage Estimator. This chart shows monthly expenses according to family size, and a gross Living Wage, an hourly rate calculated for a full-time job with the provider working 2080 hours per year. All components have been inflated to 2004 values using the Consumer Price Index.

Sources:
http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/browse_state.php
 South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics,
 County Rankings
 South Carolina Employment Security Commission

Why is this important?

Effective buying income is essential for individuals to meet basic needs and have enough money left to enhance their quality of life. Policy makers often rely on unemployment rates, poverty rates and per capita or median income levels as indicators for a community's economic health. In Beaufort County, the unemployment rate is stable and fairly low. Poverty as a percent of the population is among the lowest in South Carolina, and per capita and median household income levels are the highest in the state. This would assume that people have jobs, that they are earning a livable wage, and that their income allows residents to meet the basic needs of their families without crisis or dependence on government assistance. The Living Wage numbers are a new way of examining the financial realities of living and working in Beaufort County.

Living and Actual Wage Comparisons

Job	Average Weekly Wage	Hourly Wage	Living Wage: 1 Adult	Living Wage: 1 Adult, 1 Child	Living Wage: 2 Adults, 2 Children
Construction	\$744	\$18.60	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
Manufacturing	\$813	\$20.33	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
General Merchandise Store	\$373	\$9.33	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
Personal & Laundry Services	\$330	\$8.25	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
Educational Services	\$496	\$12.40	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
Accommodation & Food Services	\$324	\$8.10	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22
Administrative & Support Services	\$452	\$11.30	\$7.38	\$13.66	\$19.22

Source: SC Employment Security Commission

The chart compares three of the living wage estimates to actual gross wages from seven industries as reported by the Employment Security Commission for the fourth quarter of 2004. The industries shown are construction, manufacturing, general merchandise store (retail), personal and laundry services, educational service, accommodation and food services, and administrative support services.

Sources:
http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/browse_state.php
 South Carolina Employment Security Commission

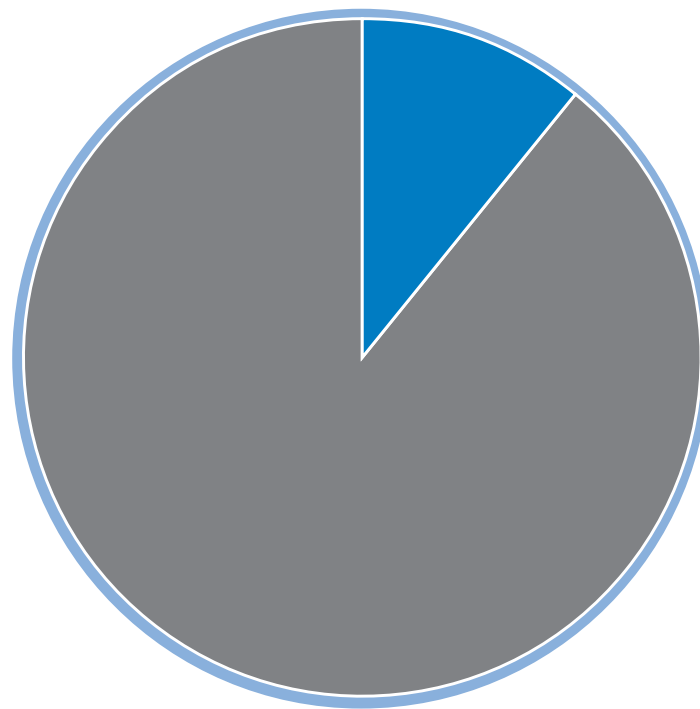
Why is this important?

An economically healthy community will provide jobs with livable wages for anyone who wants work. Identifying wages by sector helps us to learn how well our local economy sustains our citizens. A living wage allows families to meet their basic needs without resorting to public assistance and provides them some ability to deal with emergencies and plan ahead.



Objective *By 2012, the commercial tax base will be doubled.*

Beaufort County Tax Base



- Commercial Tax Base 11%
- Residential Tax Base 89%

Source: Beaufort County Management Information Systems Operations

The pie chart shows the Beaufort County Tax Base according to values assessed for 2005. A "tax base" is the total of all assessed values in a county or in an incorporated municipality, special tax district, or school district.

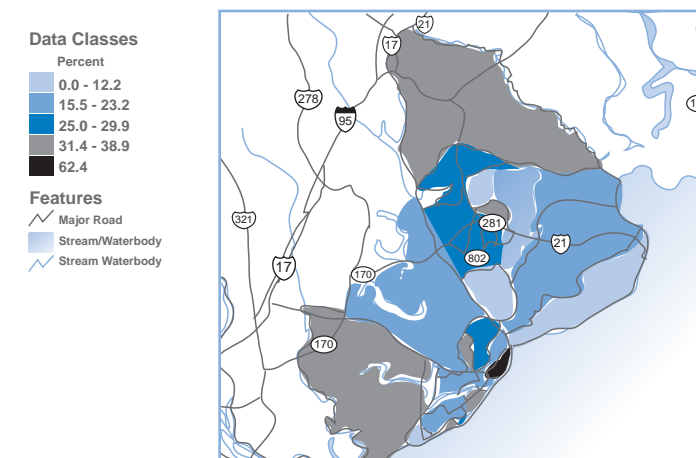
Sources:
Beaufort County Assessor
Beaufort County Management Information Systems Operations

Why is this important?

It is critical that Beaufort County increase its commercial tax base, as a means of diversification of the overall tax bases. The growth of a commercial tax base will develop infrastructure that will spur residential development, while growing the sales tax base. An increased commercial base will spread the tax loads and therefore aid residential taxpayers. In addition to providing employment opportunities that build a greater tax base.

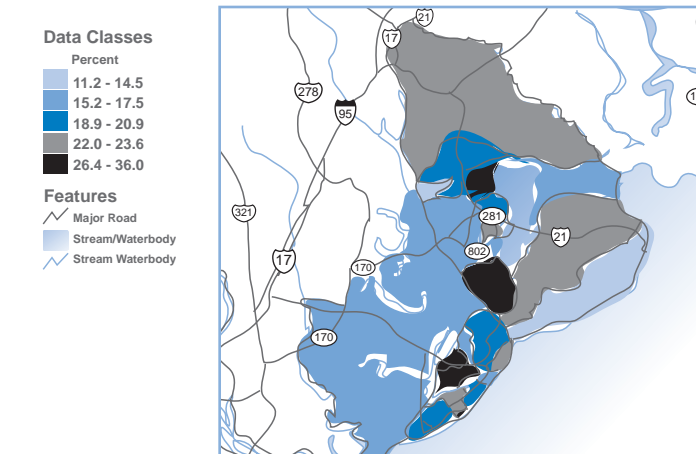
Objective *By 2012, housing costs for owners and renters in Beaufort County will not exceed 35% of household income.*

Percent of Renters with Housing Costs More Than 35% of Household Income



This indicator shows by census tract the percentage of renters who pay more than 35% of their income to housing costs in Beaufort County.

Percent of Owners with Housing Costs More Than 35% of Household Income



This indicator shows by census tract the percentage of homeowners who pay more than 35% of their income to housing costs in Beaufort County.

Housing affordability is generally calculated by lending institutions to be approximately 30% of household income for gross housing expenses.

Source:
U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Why is this important?

Families need affordable housing. This indicator measures the ratio between median family income and the costs of single-family housing. In Beaufort County in 1999, more than half of renters made less than \$35,000. Of these renters, 44% paid more than 35% of their annual income for housing. Nearly a quarter of home-owners made less than \$35,000, 48% of which had housing costs over 35% of their annual income.

Objective *By 2012, the cost of childcare will not exceed 25% of a working families' income.*

Average Weekly Charge for Full-Time Childcare in Beaufort County

Age Group	Childcare Centers (13+ Children)	Family Childcare Homes (Up to 6 Children)
0-11 Months	\$107	\$118
1 Year	\$102	\$118
2 Years	\$97	\$115
3-4 Years	\$97	\$112
5-10 Years	\$53 (Part-time)	\$60 (Part-time)

Source: Trident United Way Childcare Resource and Referral in partnership with United Way of Beaufort County



The Trident United Way's Quality-Assured program of the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies serves 12 counties: Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, and Jasper. Using a Child Care Resource and Referral Provider Questionnaire to all the providers listed with Department of Social Services, childcare providers are asked to provide their rates. Providers are asked to update any rate change information as it occurs. The chart is a 'snapshot' of average weekly costs for childcare centers and family childcare homes.

Living Wages and Childcare Expenses as a Percent of Income

Job	Average Weekly Wage	(FT) Childcare Average	1 Adult 1 Child	1 Adult 2 Children
Construction	\$744	\$107.50	14%	29%
Manufacturing	\$813	\$107.50	13%	26%
General Merchandise Store	\$373	\$107.50	29%	58%
Personal & Laundry Services	\$330	\$107.50	33%	65%
Educational Services	\$496	\$107.50	22%	43%
Accommodation & Food Services	\$324	\$107.50	33%	66%
Administrative & Support Services	\$452	\$107.50	24%	48%

Source: SC Employment Security Commission

Why is this important?

Childcare costs have an impact on families' cost of living. For a single working parent, it is a necessary factor, and can often throw off the balance of wages and living expenses. Beaufort County has higher averages than the other 11 counties that the Childcare Resource & Referral agency serves.



This chart compares the average full-time childcare costs from the rate chart to the average weekly wages, and then examines what percent of one adult's income would be spent on childcare.

Strategic Goal Two

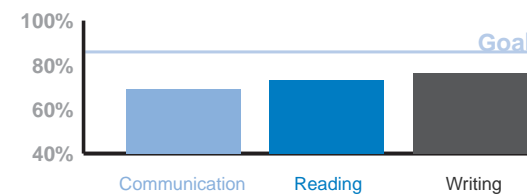
Together We will break the cycle of illiteracy by **exceeding** national educational standards.



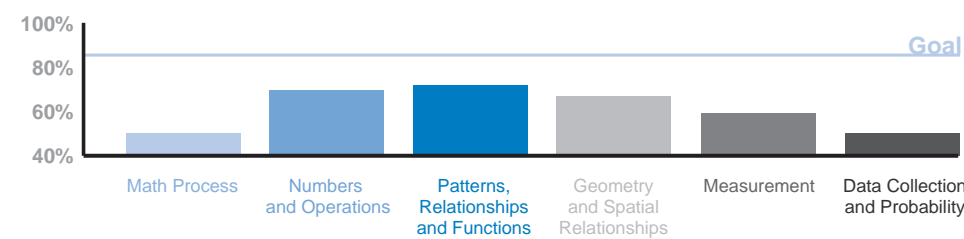
Objective By 2012, 85% of entering 1st graders will be prepared to achieve at grade level.

South Carolina Readiness Assessment 2004-2005 Kindergarten Students

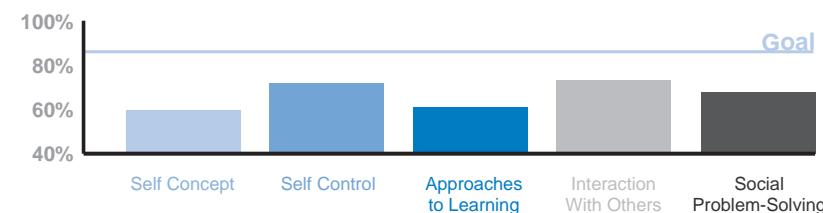
English and Language Arts



Math



Personal and Social Development



Source: South Carolina Department of Education, 2006

The South Carolina Readiness Assessment is a performance assessment for kindergarten and first grade students in public schools to determine their readiness for the next grade. Children are evaluated by their teachers using actual classroom experiences and activities, rather than a test. Students are rated on their performance in English Language Arts, Math and Personal and Social Development.

The rating periods occur in the winter and at the end of the school year, and three ratings are used: Rarely or Never Demonstrates, Sometimes Demonstrates, and Consistently Demonstrates.

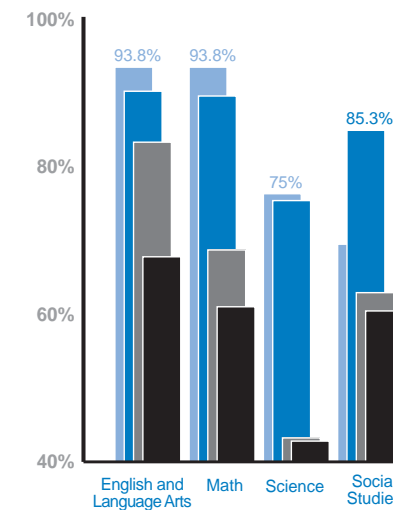
The chart shows the percentage of Beaufort County kindergarten students rated as 'consistently demonstrating' different skills needed for 1st grade.

Objective By 2012, students will exceed South Carolina averages in PACT and SAT scores.

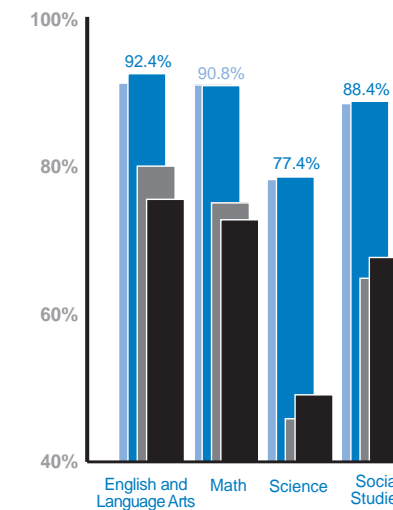
2005 3rd Grade PACT Scores

Percent of Students Meeting Standard by Demographic

Beaufort County



South Carolina



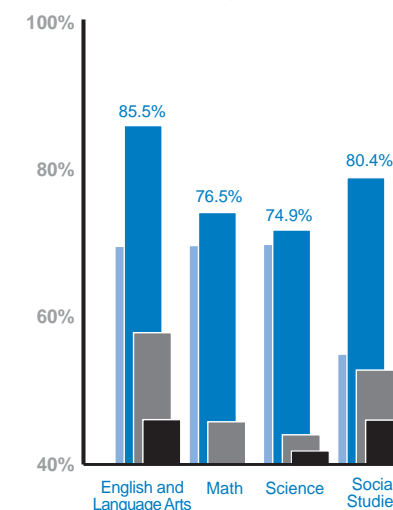
Legend:
 ● Asian/Pacific Island
 ● White
 ● African-American
 ● Hispanic

The Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) is a state test first administered in 1999 for grades 3 through 8 in math and language arts. In 2003 science and social studies were added. This indicator shows the percentage of students meeting the standard in Beaufort County and South Carolina by demographic.

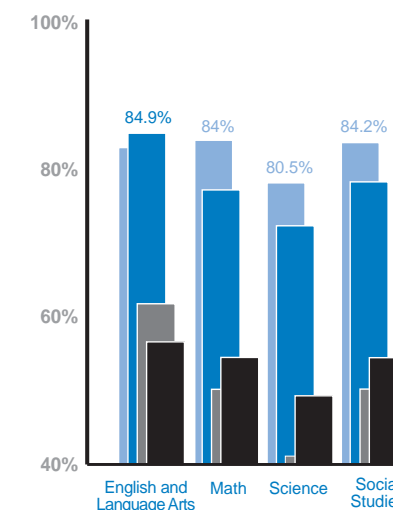
2005 8th Grade PACT Scores

Percent of Students Meeting Standard by Demographic

Beaufort County



South Carolina



Sources: South Carolina Department of Education, 2005

Why is this important?

Success in school begins before a child enters a classroom. Early childhood programs emphasize that children will not enter school ready to learn unless families, schools and the community support healthy development of infants, toddlers and preschool children. The SCRA ratings allow kindergarten and first grade teachers to keep track of whether curriculum goals are being addressed, and which individual children are successfully achieving their goals. In Beaufort County in 2004-2005, between 49% and 73% were consistently demonstrating these readiness skills.

Why is this important?

This 3rd grade achievement test measures how well students perform at grade level and how well they compare to standard achievement levels statewide. This chart allows examination of 3rd graders meeting the standard and the differences in demographics.

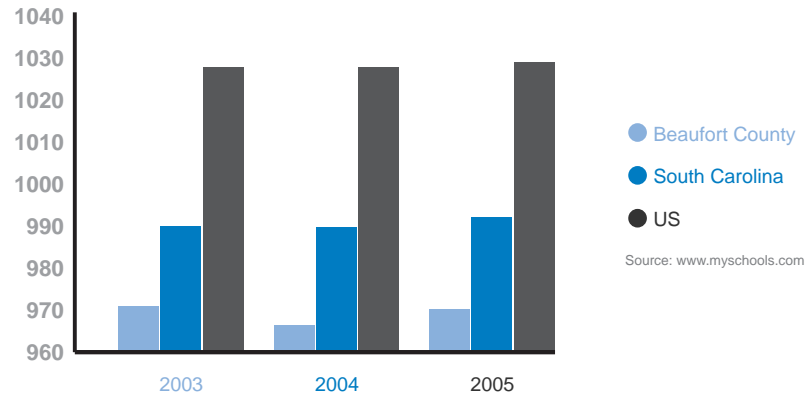
8th grade testing is the final assessment testing before high school and assesses the skills learned in elementary and middle grade education. This chart allows examination of 8th graders meeting the standard and the differences in demographics.

Strategic Goal Two

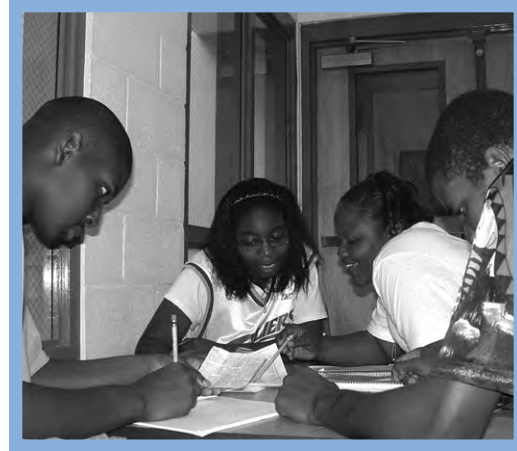
Together We will break the cycle of illiteracy by **exceeding** national educational standards.



SAT Scores



The Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), administered by The College Board, measures verbal and mathematical reasoning. Like all aptitude tests, it uses a medium within which to measure intellectual ability. For the SAT, that medium is Math and English. This indicator compares SAT scores in the Beaufort County School District as well as the state and nation. In 2005, the average score in Beaufort County was 971, in South Carolina 993, and in the nation 1028. The test is scored on a range from 400 to 1600. In Beaufort County in 2004, 61% of graduating seniors took the SAT, in SC it was 48%, and in the US it was 48%. In 2005, 64% of Beaufort County graduating seniors were tested, in SC it was 50%, and in the nation it was 49%.



Sources:
South Carolina Department of Education, 2004
College Board Public Affairs Office

Why is this important?

The average SAT test scores provide one of the best indicators of broad, advanced skills and knowledge near high school graduation.

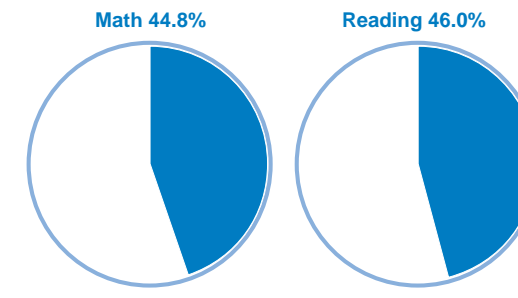


Photography by Anne

Objective By 2012, at least 85% of students will meet their individual Measuring Academic Progress (MAP) target.

Measuring Academic Progress (MAP)

Percent of Students Meeting Growth Targets



MAP is a computerized assessment test developed by the Northwest Evaluation Association administered to Beaufort County students since 2004. Approximately 75% of South Carolina school districts use this test. MAP Tests currently cover reading, language usage, math and science and rank student achievement and indicate grade level performance, and may help educators identify the skills and concepts a student knows and what they need to learn next in order to keep growing, irrespective of grade level. This chart shows the percentage of Beaufort County students in grades 3-12 who are meeting their Growth Target.

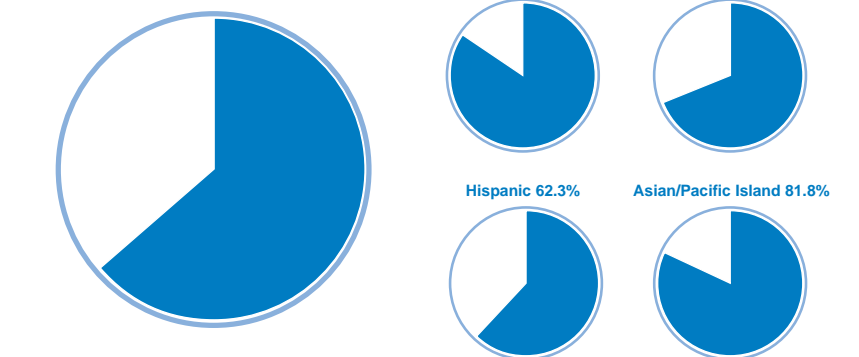
Sources:
South Carolina Department of Education, 2004
College Board Public Affairs Office

Why is this important?

MAP results are nationally norm-referenced, and can be used to compare Beaufort County students to other students in South Carolina or the nation.

Graduation Rates

Beaufort County Total 63.8%



This indicator shows a four-year graduation rate, and it reflects the percent of students who entered ninth grade for the first time four years earlier who received State diplomas. This percentage is considered the retention rate by the U.S. Department of Education; however, it does not allow for migration, transfers, or early graduation numbers.

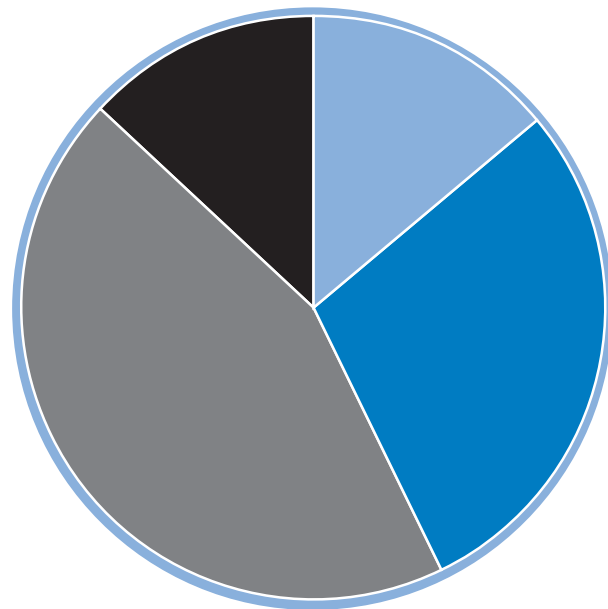
Sources:
South Carolina Department of Education, 2005
U.S. Department of Commerce, 2003

Why is this important?

High school graduation is an indicator of eventual success in a competitive environment. Effective preparation for higher education and/or employment is an important measure of student success. Communities with a better-educated adult population tend to have stronger economies and a higher standard of living. In dollars and cents, research from the U.S. Department of Commerce indicates that the average life-time earnings for a dropout without a high school diploma are typically around \$600,000. When the dropout earns a high school credential, the lifetime earnings increase by \$200,000.

Objective *By 2012, the functional English literacy level of the adult population will be equal to or greater than the national average.*

National Adult Literacy Levels



- Below Basic 14%
- Basic 29%
- Intermediate 44%
- Proficient 13%

Source: 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy

This chart is based on information reported by the 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy, designed to measure functional English literacy in the US. The assessment measures how adults use printed and written information to adequately function at home, in the workplace and in the community. Adults are defined as people 16 years of age and older living in households or prisons. Adults who could not be interviewed due to language spoken or cognitive or mental disabilities are excluded from this figure. The definition of levels for prose (news, brochures, instructional materials) literacy are as follows: Below Basic - no more than the most simple and concrete literacy skills; Basic - can perform simple and everyday literacy activities; Intermediate - can perform moderately challenging literacy activities; Proficient - can perform complex and challenging literacy activities. Approximately 5% of adults surveyed were considered non-literate in English due to language barriers. Data from the 2003 survey at the county level should soon be available for comparison.

The National Adult Literacy Survey from 1993 reported 22% of adults in Beaufort County were ranked at what was then the lowest literacy level, Level 1. In South Carolina 25% of adults, and 17.7% of US adults were Level 1.

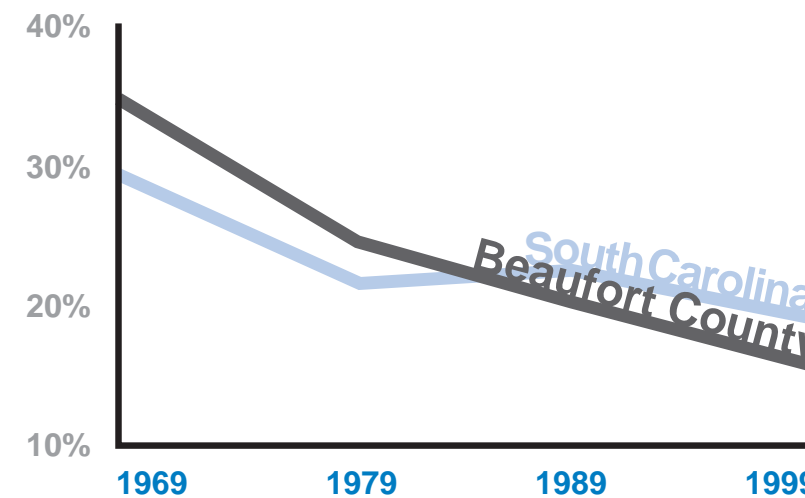
Sources:
 U.S. Department of Education
 Institute of Education Sciences
 National Center for Education Statistics
 1992 National Adult Literacy Survey
 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy

Why is this important?

Literacy is defined as an individual's ability to read, write, speak English, compute and solve problems in order to be self-sufficient and successful in one's life roles. Adult literacy is essential to workforce and economic development; the physical, social, and civic "health" of a community; and the educational success of future generations.

Objective *By 2012, the number of children living in poverty will be reduced to the national average.*

Percent of Children Living in Poverty



Source: SC Kids Count

This indicator shows trend lines for the percentage of children under 18 in Beaufort County and South Carolina living below the poverty level. The poverty level is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau based on 1999 income. According to the 2000 Census, South Carolina had seen an improvement, with this rate decreasing from 1969, but based on Census Bureau surveys Kids Count estimates an increase to 19% in 2004. Nationally, 16.6% of children under 18 lived in poverty in 1999, and the trend has steadily increased to 18% in 2004.

Why is this important?

Children living in poverty are more likely to die in infancy, have low birth weight, lack health care, housing and adequate food, and score lower in math and reading. Poverty creates for them an unfair disadvantage for future opportunities.

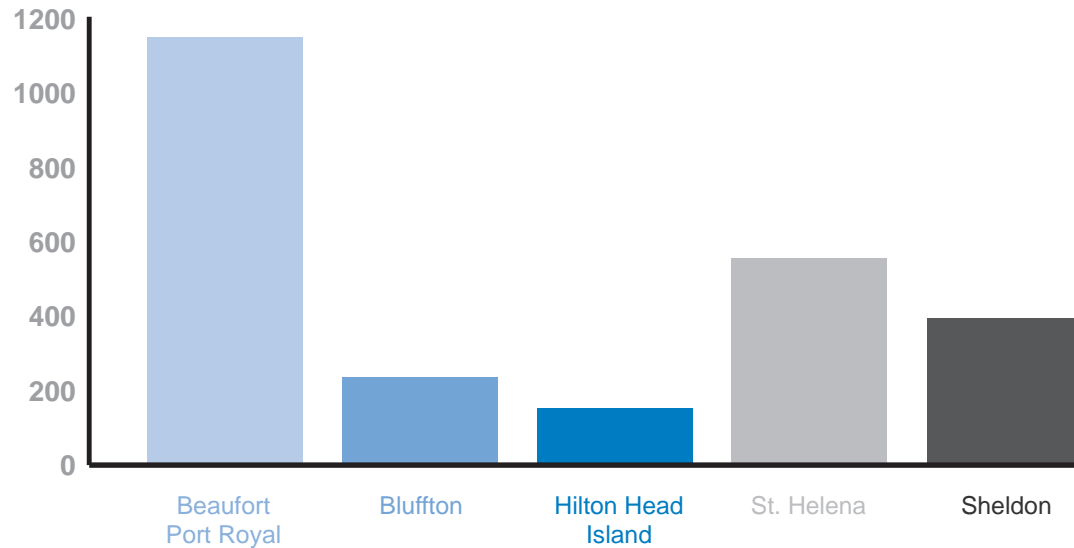


Photography by Anne

Sources:
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
 Kids Count, 2005
 Children's Defense Fund, "Poverty and Why It Matters for Children" 2004

Children Living in Poverty in Single Parent Families

The chart shows the numbers of children in single-parent families with female heads of household that have income levels below the poverty threshold for Beaufort County, divided by census county subdivisions.



Sources:
 South Carolina Kids Count, 2005
 U.S. Census Bureau 2000
 Children's Defense Fund, "Poverty and Why It Matters for Children" 2004

Source: US Census 2000

Why is this important?

Single mothers with dependent children have the highest rate of poverty across all demographic groups. Children growing up with only one parent are more likely to drop out of school, bear children out of wedlock and have trouble keeping jobs as young adults. Parental involvement in the lives of their children is often compromised by economic necessity. Other consequences include risks to psychological development and social behavior. Children living in poverty are more likely to die in infancy, have low birth weight, lack health care, housing and adequate food, and score lower in math and reading. Poverty creates for them an unfair disadvantage for future opportunities. Knowing where these families are may help focus services geographically.

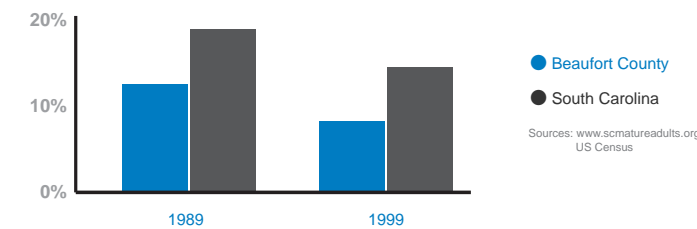


Photography by Anne

Objective *By 2012, Beaufort County will provide access to expanded services to its elderly citizens, to help alleviate issues surrounding those in poverty.*

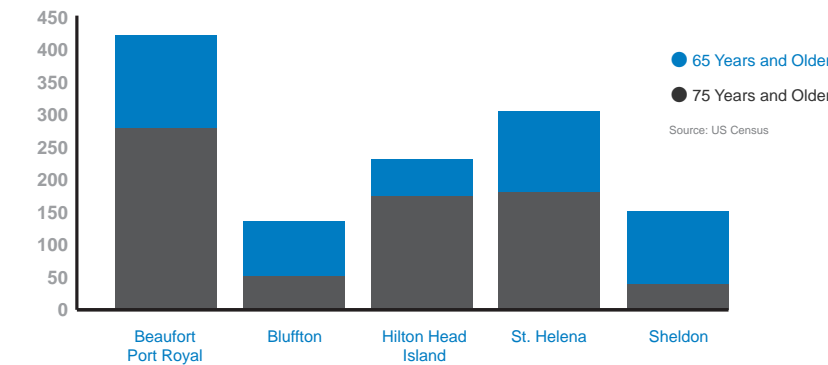
Seniors Living in Poverty

Seniors 65 and Older Living in Poverty



This indicator shows the percentage of Beaufort County's 65 and older population living below the poverty level in 1989 and 1999.

Seniors Living in Poverty by Census Subdivision



The blue bars show the number of people 65 years or older living below the poverty level in each County Subdivision in 1999. The gray shading are those in that number who are 75 or older. In 1999, the poverty threshold for one person 65 years and older was \$7,990. For two people, householders 65 years and over, the threshold was \$10,075. As the age of the elderly population rises, income levels typically decrease causing more elderly citizens to live below the poverty level.

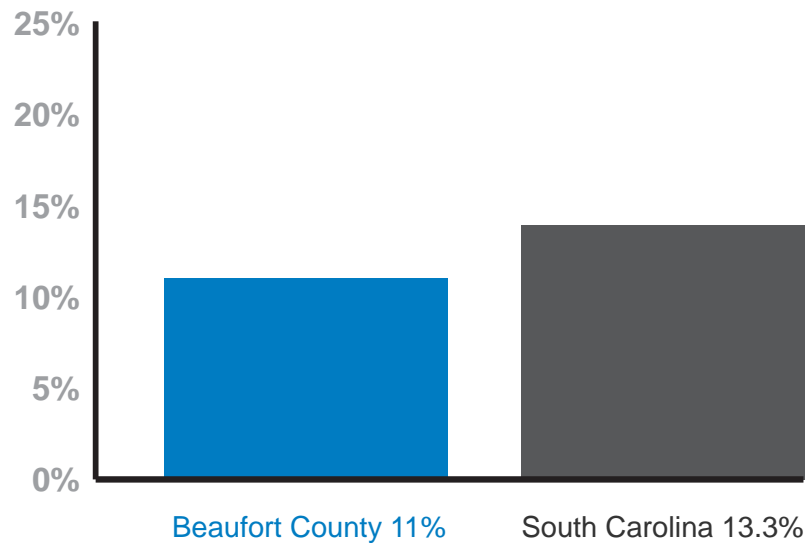
Sources:
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
 South Carolina State Budget and Control Board
www.seniorjournal.com

Why is this important?

It is commonly acknowledged that poverty is at the root of most health and human service needs. Mature adults may experience problems performing basic living activities, requiring special assistance from others. Family, private and government support helps to provide opportunities to sustain independent living. As the age of the elderly population rises, income levels typically decrease causing more elderly citizens to live below the poverty level. The greatest need for unmet services for the elderly are in the middle economic levels, those not eligible for Medicaid. Knowing where these seniors are may help focus services geographically.

Objective *By 2012, the number of births to teenagers will be reduced to 8% of all births.*

Teen Pregnancy



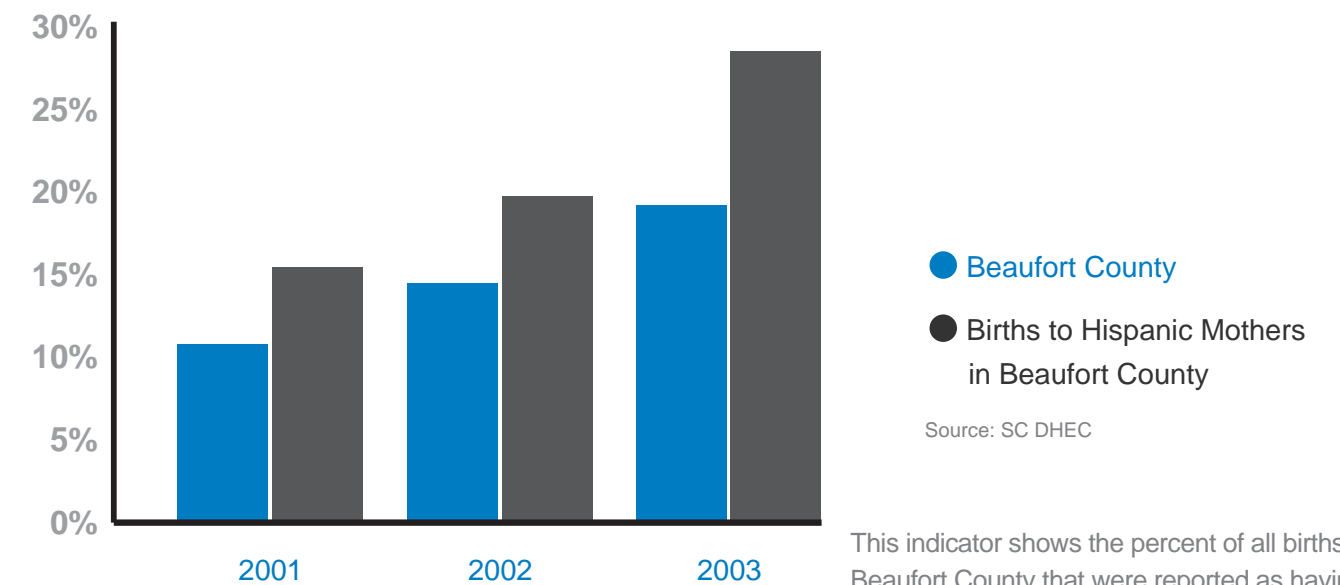
This indicator shows the percent of all live births in 2003 to mothers between the ages of 10 to 19, in Beaufort County and South Carolina.

Sources:
 South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, SCAN, 2005
www.teenpregnancy.org

Objective *By 2012, the percent of births reported as having received adequate prenatal care will be increased to more than 85%.*

Inadequate Prenatal Care

As a Percent of All Births



Source: SC DHEC

This indicator shows the percent of all births in Beaufort County that were reported as having inadequate prenatal care for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, and the percent of all births to Hispanic mothers that were reported as having inadequate prenatal care. There is an increasing trend of babies born with late or no prenatal care.

Inadequate prenatal care includes those births characterized as inadequate according the Kessner Index. The Kessner index is based on number of visits for prenatal care per weeks of gestation, and in accordance with recommendations of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the World Health Organization.

Sources:
 South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2005
 National Center for Health Statistics
 March of Dimes

Why is this important?

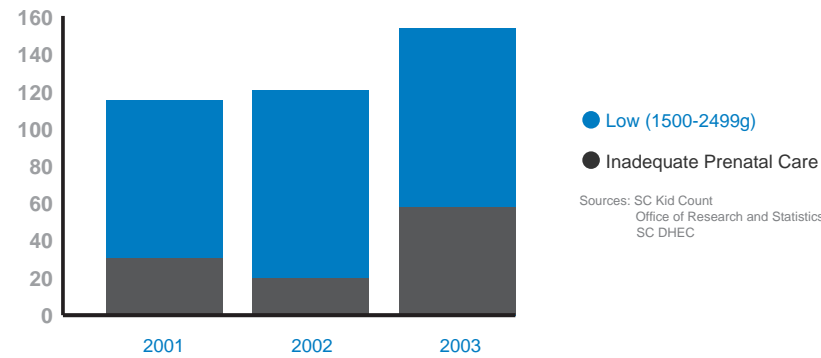
Teen pregnancy is closely linked to a host of other critical social issues (e.g., overall child well-being, school failure, welfare dependency, and workforce development). Simply put, when children are born to parents who are ready and able to care for them as opposed to parents who are still children themselves, we notice significant reductions in social problems afflicting children, families and society as a whole. This indicator demonstrates that while teen pregnancy is a serious, expensive, multi-generational issue, it is clearly not a hopeless one. When proven effective approaches are applied, progress occurs.



Why is this important?

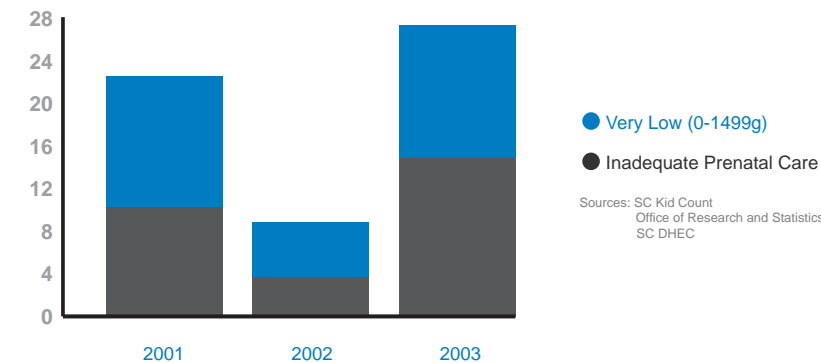
On a national level, the percentage of babies born with late or no prenatal care has been decreasing each year, even among Hispanic mothers. However, Beaufort County's percentages continue to increase. Women who see a health care provider regularly during pregnancy have healthier babies, are less likely to deliver prematurely, and are less likely to have other serious problems related to pregnancy.

Low Weight Births With Inadequate Prenatal Care



This indicator shows the number of low weight births in Beaufort County, and the number of low weight births that were reported as having inadequate prenatal care. Low birth weight is defined as weight at birth less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces), regardless of the period of gestation. Beaufort County and South Carolina rates are very similar and follow a national trend. The National Center for Health statistics reports that incidences of low birth weight in the U.S. has increased since the mid-1980s: in 2001, 7.7% of all births were low weight; in 2002, the number increased to 7.8%, and in 2003 it rose again to 7.9%.

Very Low Weight Births With Inadequate Prenatal Care



This indicator shows very low birth weight numbers which include total number of births with weight less than 1,500 grams (3 pounds, 4 ounces), regardless of the period of gestation. It also shows the number of very low weight births that were reported as having inadequate prenatal care.

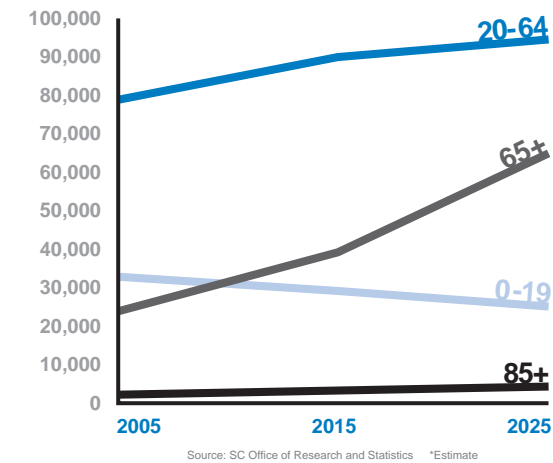
Sources:
 South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2005
 South Carolina Kids Count, 2005
 National Center for Health Statistics, 2004

Why is this important?

The cost of hospitalization for each low birth weight baby in Beaufort County for the period 1999-2001 was \$7,437 compared to the \$1,482 average cost of a normal delivery. Low birth weight may be a result of delayed or incomplete prenatal care and may indicate limited access to care. The National Center for Health Statistics attributes the rise of low birth weight babies to the increase in mothers' ages and mothers giving birth to multiple babies, who weigh less.

The cost of hospitalization for each very low birth weight baby in Beaufort County for the period of 1999-2001 was \$54,791 compared to the \$1,482 average cost of a normal delivery. Very low birth weight may be a result of delayed or incomplete prenatal care and may indicate limited access to care.

Population Projections by Age*



The population growth trend in Beaufort County, by age group, as projected by the South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics. It estimates that Beaufort County's elderly population will greatly increase, while its youth population will shrink.

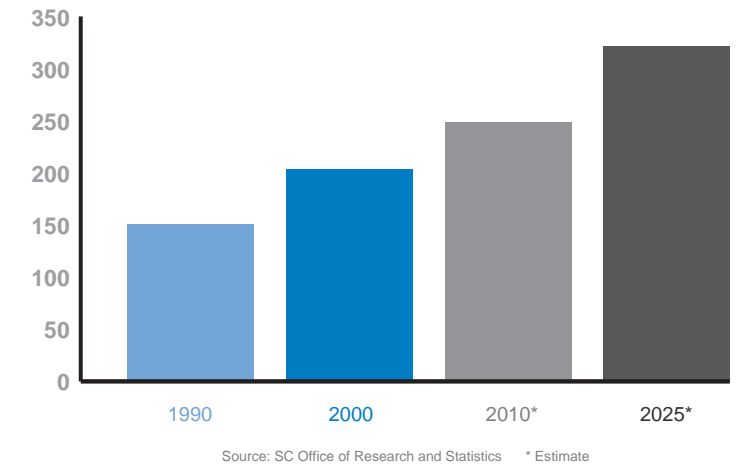
Source:
 South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics, 2005

Why is this important?

Beaufort County's population is growing older and living longer. The warm climate and retirement-centered developments attract retirees from other parts of the country. The decreasing numbers of youth and working-age residents is significant of the high costs of living, lack of affordable housing and higher paying jobs. These trends impact adult care services, case management and skilled long-term services. It may also require human service agencies and government programs to further support the needs of an aging citizenry, with a smaller labor pool to serve them.

Population Density

Persons per Square Mile



This indicator shows the population density estimates in Beaufort County from 1990 to 2025.

Sources:
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
 South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics

Why is this important?

Population size and composition impact the quality of life, economics, environmental and health status of the county and its need for a variety of services. Population data also provides the denominators used to calculate rates for most health and social indicators. Public service costs tend to increase with growth and population density.



Objective By 2012, we will reduce the percentage of overweight/obese residents and therefore the percentage of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke.

Overweight & Obesity

It is estimated that 51% of Beaufort County residents are overweight. According to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey from 2003, 60.3% of the population of South Carolina is overweight or obese. In the United States, obesity has risen at an epidemic rate during the past 20 years. Research indicates that the situation is worsening rather than improving. The terms “overweight” and “obesity” differ:

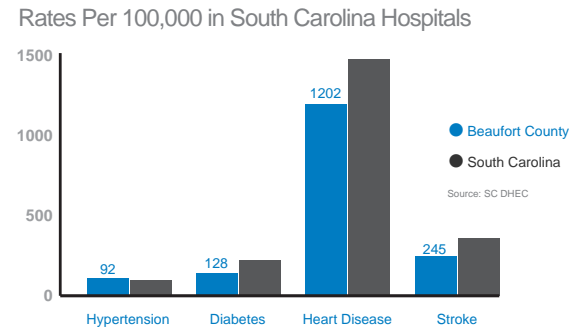
- **Overweight** refers to increased body weight in relation to height, when compared to some standard of acceptable or desirable weight. Being overweight may or may not be due to increases in body fat. It may also be due to an increase in lean muscle.
- **Obesity** is defined as an excessively high amount of body fat or adipose tissue in relation to lean body mass. The amount of body fat (or adiposity) includes concern for both the distribution of fat throughout the body and the size of the adipose tissue deposits.

Sources:
Centers for Disease Control, 2005
South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2005

Why is this important?

The effects of obesity in terms of death, disability and morbidity are devastating. The impact of type 2 diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, stroke and other conditions caused by obesity are rising. Despite these alarming facts, obesity and its related illnesses do not receive the attention they deserve from government, the health care profession, or the insurance industry. Additional data about this indicator is needed for all age groups. Halting and reversing the upward trend of the obesity epidemic will require effective collaboration among government, voluntary and private sectors, as well as a commitment to action by individuals and communities across the nation.

2003 Standard Rate of Hospitalization



This indicator shows the rate or number of cases from Beaufort County treated in South Carolina hospitals per 100,000 of population, in the year 2003. Beaufort County's rates of hospitalization for hypertension are higher than that of the state, the rest are all lower than the state rates.

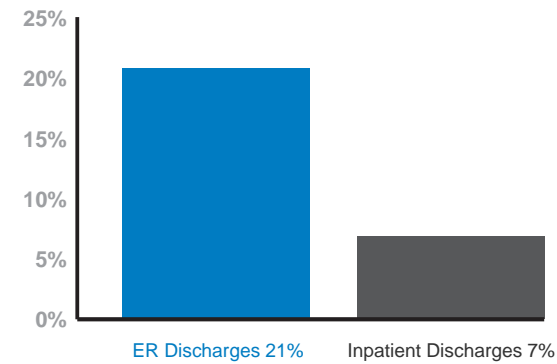
Sources:
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2005

Why is this important?

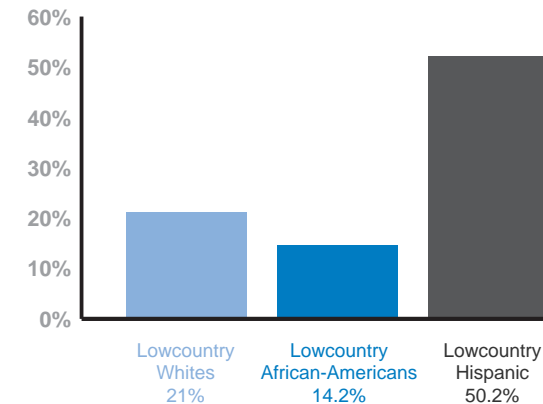
These illnesses are among the most frequent causes of hospitalization. Hospital costs averaged \$16,261 for strokes; \$26,040 for heart disease; \$12,025 for hypertension and \$14,806 for diabetes in Beaufort County. A primary reason for hospitalization for any medical condition is the severity of that condition when the patient first seeks treatment. Improved access to primary care and to prevention programs have been shown to reduce hospitalization rates.

Objective By 2012, we will reduce the percentage of residents without health insurance to 10% of the population.

2003 Uninsured in Beaufort County



This indicator shows the percent of the population in Beaufort County seeking health care who were without health insurance in 2003. These are patients from Beaufort County in any South Carolina hospital. The blue bar shows the percent of inpatient discharges that were self pay or indigent. The gray bar shows the number of emergency room discharges that were self pay or indigent.



This indicator reflects demographic information based on answers from state-wide household survey. There were only 75 respondents to the survey from Beaufort County, not enough to be reflective of the entire county, so regional percentages are used.

Sources: SC Office of Research and Statistics
SC Household Insurance Survey, SC Department of Insurance

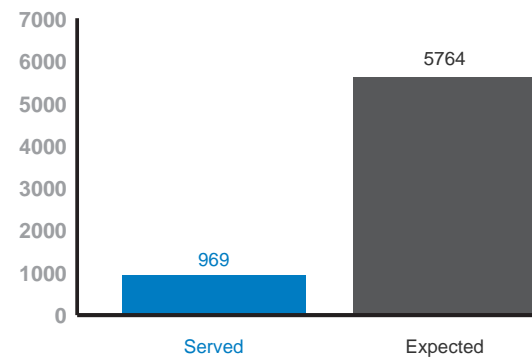
Sources:
South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics
Cover the Uninsured, South Carolina Household Insurance Survey from the SC Department of Insurance

Why is this important?

People without health insurance receive less preventive care, are diagnosed at more advanced disease stages, and once diagnosed, tend to receive less therapeutic care (drugs and surgical interventions). Sick or hurt people have trouble performing daily functions, so sick children don't learn, sick adults don't work, and without treatment it is more difficult for them to recover. The average cost of inpatient discharges from Beaufort County were \$15,804, and the average costs of emergency room discharges from Beaufort County were \$1,447.

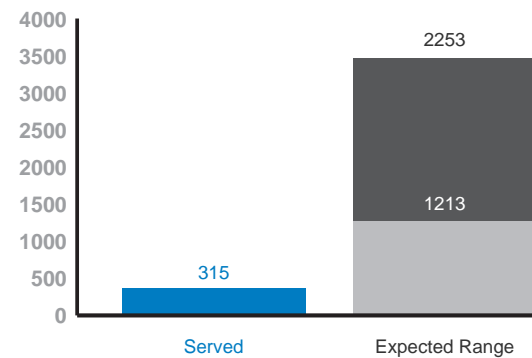
Objective By 2012, we will increase access to community mental health services for adults and children.

Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center Penetration Numbers for Seriously Mentally Ill Adults in Beaufort County



This chart shows the 2004 penetration numbers for Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center (CECMHC) service to Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) adults in Beaufort County. The gray bar shows that 5764 adults were estimated to have a Serious Mental Illness, and the blue bar indicates that only 969 were served.

Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center Penetration Numbers for Seriously Emotionally Disturbed Children in Beaufort County



This chart shows the 2004 penetration numbers for Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center (CECMHC) service to Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) children between the ages of 9 and 17 in Beaufort County. The gray bar shows the expected range of SED children, based on US Census population estimates and the National Institute of Mental Health's prevalence numbers of mental health disorders. It was expected that between 1213 and 2253 children would be SED. The blue bar shows the number served in Beaufort County, 315.

Sources: CECHC
SC Department of Mental Health

Why is this important?

Medical professionals emphasize a clear connection between mental and physical health, and they stress the fundamental importance of mental health to overall health and well-being. Mental disorders, affecting nearly one in five Americans in any given year, are real illnesses, and when left untreated, they can be just as serious and disabling as physical diseases such as cancer and stroke. While CECMHC provides outreach and awareness within the community, many families don't seek treatment due to stigma and lack of awareness. Lack of insurance for private practitioners and budgeting constraints impact the accessibility to mental health services and Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center's inability to reach and serve the population in need.

Sources:
Coastal Empire Mental Health Center, 2004
National Institute of Mental Health
South Carolina Department of Mental Health

Objective We will be good stewards of our natural resources by protecting and monitoring water quality.

Salkehatchie Basin Sites Listed 'Impaired'



Salkehatchie Water Basin

Waterbody Name/ Number of Sites	Water Quality Indicator	Undesirable Trends
Coosawhatchie River/3	DO, pH	Decreasing DO
Sanders Branch/3	Fecal Coliform	
Bees Creek/1	DO, pH, FC	Decreasing DO
Cypress Creek/1	Fecal Coliform	
Pocotaligo River/1	Turbidity, FC	
Broad River/1	DO	Decreasing DO
Chechessee River/1	DO	Decreasing DO
Beaufort River/4	DO	Decreasing DO
Whale Branch/1	DO	
New River/1	pH, FC	Increasing FC
Great Swamp/1	FC	

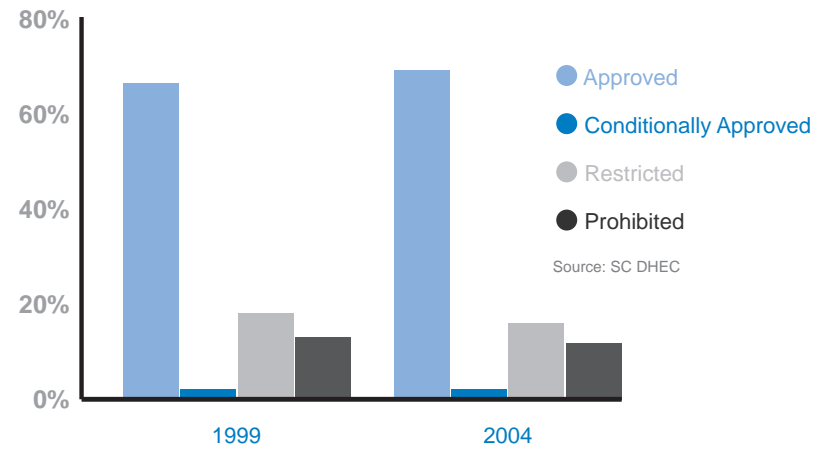
Why is this important?

Water quality standards are used to compare concentrations of potentially toxic pollutants and bacteria that effect aquatic life and recreational usage. Bacteria levels are an indicator of the possible presence of fecal coliform and of pathogens found in runoff or in inadequately treated sewage, which can lead to a variety of human illnesses. Decreasing levels of dissolved oxygen can impair the growth of necessary bacteria, plant and animal life.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control collects water quality data at several sites for the Salkehatchie Basin watershed. An assessment of the measurements is reported every five years, the last report was October 2003. If water quality standards are met, aquatic life and/or recreational use at that site is considered "fully supported"; if levels do not comply with standards, a site is considered "impaired."

Source:
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2005

Shellfish Harvest Classifications



Why is this important?

DHEC tests the waters for bacteria to ensure the oysters, clams, and mussels collected meet health standards and are safe to eat. DHEC will close a shellfish bed if the health standards are not met or if conditions have changed to make the shellfish unsafe. A closed shellfish bed means that it is not only unsafe to eat what you might find, but it is also illegal to gather shellfish in that area. It should be noted that heavy rainfall can increase contamination and periodically after heavy rainfall SCDHEC will temporarily close beds in order to conduct bacteriological sampling.



The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's (SCDHEC) Shellfish Sanitation Program is responsible for ensuring that shellfish and the areas from which they are harvested meet the health and environmental quality standards provided by federal guidelines and state regulations. The secondary goal of the program is to promote water quality restoration of state waters designated for the harvest of shellfish. Beaufort County falls under the Lowcountry Shellfish Management area. The conditions and time periods are based upon established standards specified in a management plan. All actual and potential shellfish growing areas are given a classification, which are as follows:

Approved - waters that have been approved for harvesting shellfish for direct marketing or human consumption; **Conditionally Approved** - waters that meet Approved Area criteria under specified environmental conditions and time periods established by SCDHEC; **Restricted** - waters that have been classified as restricted and where harvesting for direct marketing is not allowed. (Shellfish may be harvested from restricted areas only by special permit); **Prohibited** - waters that have been classified as prohibited for the harvesting of shellfish for any purpose related to human consumption. A Prohibited Area is a Closed Area. Administrative closures are implemented adjacent to permitted wastewater discharges and marina facilities.

Source:
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2005





Together
for Beaufort

Our COUNTY. Our FUTURE.

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