

State of Black Asheville

Statistics compiled from the State of Black Asheville website and Dr. Mullen's Presentation to Buncombe County Commissioners on February 21st, 2017.

Education

Reading Comprehension

- In Grades 3 through 8, 35% of Black students and 71% of White students reached proficient or advanced reading levels (2015-2016 School Year, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, combined Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools).

Mathematical Proficiency

- In Grades 3 through 8, 32% of Black students and 67% of White students reached proficient or advanced reading levels (2015-2016 School Year, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, combined Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools).

Healthcare

Women and Children

- In 2015, Black babies were two times more likely to be born prematurely and four times more likely to have a very low birthweight than White babies (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2015).

Disease Related Risk Factors

- In an aggregate of 2011 - 2015 data, the cancer mortality rate per 100,000 in Buncombe County was 218.9 for Blacks and 155.1 for Whites (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2011-2015, calculated per 100,000).
- Blacks die 6 years earlier than Whites (North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, 2013-2015)

Housing

Home Ownership

- 58% of Black families rent their homes and 42% own their homes (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates).
- 35% of White families rent their homes and 65% own their homes (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates).
- The median sale price for a home in Asheville as of June, 2018 is \$325,000 (Asheville Citizen-Times 07/25/2018).

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Criminal Justice

Traffic Stops

- In 2018, 24% of drivers stopped by APD were Black; 47% of drivers searched after a traffic stop were Black (NC Department of Justice via Open Data Policing).

Detention Facility Population

- Blacks (16 yrs +) are 5.6% of Buncombe County population yet make up 28% of those jailed (Buncombe County Detention Facility Average Daily Population 2015, State Pretrial Inmates. Population: North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, ages 16 and over.)

Economics

Household Income

- Black households represent 44% of those making under \$20K per year and 19% of those making over \$50K per year. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates)
- White households represent 19% of those making under \$20K per year and 47% of those making over \$50K per year. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates)
- The average per-capita income in Buncombe County is \$15,535 for Blacks and \$28,480 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates, Poverty Level 2015 for comparison)
- The median household income in Buncombe County is \$26,065 for Blacks and \$46,805 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 five-year estimates, Poverty Level 2015 for comparison).

Employment

- In Buncombe County, the average monthly earnings are \$2,324 for Blacks and \$3,459 for Whites. For new hires, the average monthly earnings are \$1,690 for Blacks and \$2,133 for Whites. (US Census Bureau, unadjusted for inflation)
- In Buncombe County, the United States Census identified 858 Black-owned firms and 26,122 White-owned firms. The percentage of the population that owns a business is 7.2% for Blacks and 14.2% for Whites. (US Census Bureau, 2012)
- In Buncombe County, the Black-owned businesses average \$40K in annual sales, compared to \$400K for White-owned businesses. (US Census Bureau, 2012)