



- Mission:** To provide value to members by facilitating improvement of quality and delivery of healthcare and achievement of operational efficiencies through collaborative efforts.
- Vision:** To be the preeminent hospital network characterized by collaboration, stellar member performance, commitment to mutual success, and a focus on local and regional healthcare issues.

### **Participating Member Hospitals**

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Bladen County Hospital	Pender Memorial Hospital
Columbus Regional Healthcare System	Sampson Regional Medical Center
J. Arthur Doshier Memorial Hospital	Scotland Health Care System
Loris Healthcare System	Southeastern Regional Medical Center
New Hanover Regional Medical Center	

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## **Community Needs Assessment Contributors**

Special thanks are offered to all who helped in the creation of this comprehensive assessment.

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## **Introduction**

The majority of counties in southeastern North Carolina and northeastern South Carolina comprise a region that consists of an increased percentage of ethnic minorities, high unemployment rates and poverty levels, and high risk of life threatening diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, stroke, and hypertension. As a result, there exists a greater need for healthcare. With the exception of a few coastal cities, the communities are very small, rural areas that lack access to many of the resources needed to support the health care needs of their members. Therefore, many health disparities exist throughout the region.

A community health assessment is conducted periodically through the Coastal Carolinas Health Alliance with the help of its Community Health Improvement Team members and other community members and organizations. It allows for identification of the current health status of a community, the resources currently in place, the health care needs to the community that are not currently being met and the capacity for improvement. This assessment is a compilation of both primary data obtained from local residents via surveys, interview, and health forums within the community and secondary data obtained from data bases such as North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The inclusion of primary data provides qualitative data that allows each assessment to be unique in focusing on what the residents view as strengths, weaknesses, and major health issues within the community. It also helps to set priorities for improving the health of the communities according to the members' concerns. The use of secondary data provides quantitative data used to assess disease prevalence within a particular county and allows for comparison to other counties within the region and to the states of North and South Carolina. This comparison allows for detection of the commonalities of disease disparities within an area and focuses attention on those concerns that require a greater amount of resources for improvement.

The community health assessment focuses on eliminating health disparities, considering who is affected (race, age, gender), how poor the community is (unemployment rates, poverty levels, use of food stamps, education) and where the highest health risk areas are. By identification of these factors, communities can focus their efforts on educating the community in prevention of the diseases, as well as how and where to get the health care necessary to treat the diseases. In order to achieve these goals, the community must have adequate funding to support such efforts. This funding is made possible through conducting community assessments and outlining the findings within applications for specific grants and endowments. The findings reflect the existence of disparities, the extent of the disparities and the measurer necessary to correct them. This data compilation and analysis will increase the chances of obtaining adequate funding where appropriate to improve the general health of the communities.

## **Geographic service area**

This assessment covers a total of nine counties in North and South Carolina. Eight of the counties are in North Carolina:

- Bladen County
- Brunswick County
- Columbus County
- New Hanover County
- Pender County
- Robeson County
- Sampson County
- Scotland County

One county is included from South Carolina:

\*\*Limited health and statistical information was available for Horry County.

- Horry County

## Bladen County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Bladen County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	32,921	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	32,723	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	32,278	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	2.0%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	13.8%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	14.2%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	51.8%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	51.9%	51.0%
Households, 2000	12,897	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.45	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$28,803	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$26,877	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	20.2%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	21.0%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Brunswick County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Brunswick County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	94,945	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	81,592	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	73,143	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	29.8%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	18.0%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	16.9%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	50.7%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	50.8%	51.0%
Households, 2000	30,438	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.38	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$39,379	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$35,888	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	13.2%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	12.6%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Columbus County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Columbus County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	54,637	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	54,518	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	54,749	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	-0.2%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	14.6%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	13.8%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	52.2%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	51.9%	51.0%
Households, 2000	21,308	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.50	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$28,652	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$26,805	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	21.1%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	22.7%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## New Hanover County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>New Hanover County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	182,591	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	168,088	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	160,307	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	13.9%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	13.2%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	12.8%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	51.4%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	51.7%	51.0%
Households, 2000	61,183	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.29	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$41,579	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$40,172	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	13.9%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	13.1%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Pender County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Pender County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	48,630	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	43,527	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	41,082	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	18.4%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	14.4%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	14.1%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	49.9%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	49.7%	51.0%
Households, 2000	16,054	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.49	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$37,394	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$35,902	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	14.2%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	13.6%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Robeson County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Robeson County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	129,021	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	125,756	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	123,339	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	4.7%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	10.1%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	10.0%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	50.9%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	51.4%	51.0%
Households, 2000	43,677	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.75	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$27,241	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$28,202	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	23.8%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	22.8%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Sampson County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Sampson County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	63,561	8,856,505
Population, 2003 estimate	62,037	8,407,248
Population, 2000 estimate	60,161	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	5.7%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	12.8%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	12.8%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	50.3%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	50.5%	51.0%
Households, 2000	22,273	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.64	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$33,824	\$40,863
Median household income, 2000	\$31,793	\$39,184
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	17.5%	13.8%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	17.6%	12.3%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

### Scotland County Demographics:

<u>People QuickFacts</u>	<u>Scotland County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>
Population, 2006 estimate	37,094	8,856,505
Population, 2000 estimate	35,998	8,049,313
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	3.0%	10.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	11.3%	12.1%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	11.3%	12.0%
Female persons, percent, 2005	51.5%	50.8%
Female persons, percent, 2000	53.1%	51.0%
Households, 2000	13,339	3,132,013
Persons per household, 2000	2.61	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$30,100	\$40,863
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	20.5%	13.8%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts

## Horry County Demographics:

<b>People QuickFacts</b>	<b>Horry County</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
Population, 2006 estimate	238,493	4,321,249
Population, 2003 estimate	210,757	4,147,152
Population, 2000 estimate	196,629	4,012,012
Population, percent change, 04/2000 to 07/2006	21.3%	7.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2005	15.9%	12.6%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	15.0%	12.1%
Female persons, percent, 2005	50.8%	51.3%
Female persons, percent, 2000	50.9%	51.4%
Households, 2000	81,800	1,533,854
Persons per household, 2000	2.37	2.53
Median household income, 2004	\$36,857	\$39,454
Median household income, 2000	\$36,470	\$37,082
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	13.9%	15.0%
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	12.0%	14.1%

Source: US Census Bureau: North Carolina Quick Facts