



Assessing the Social Determinants of Health in Chocowinity, NC

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BACKGROUND

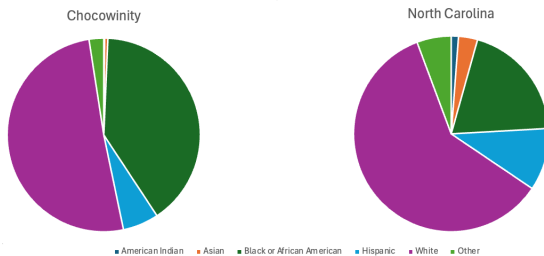
- Chocowinity, NC is a rural town roughly 19 miles from Greenville, NC
- Rural communities not only face more inequalities but are also more vulnerable to the social determinants of health (SDOH).¹
- It is important for medical education to incorporate the SDOH in its curriculum to meet the goals of the Quintuple Aim, specifically Population Health and Health Equity.²
- We traveled to Chocowinity, NC and spoke to community members to understand the physical, social, and economic components that make up the town.

PURPOSE

- A windshield tour was conducted to assess the impacts of the social determinants of health on the citizens of Chocowinity, North Carolina. There was a targeted focus on the social determinants of education and health care access.

DEMOGRAPHICS

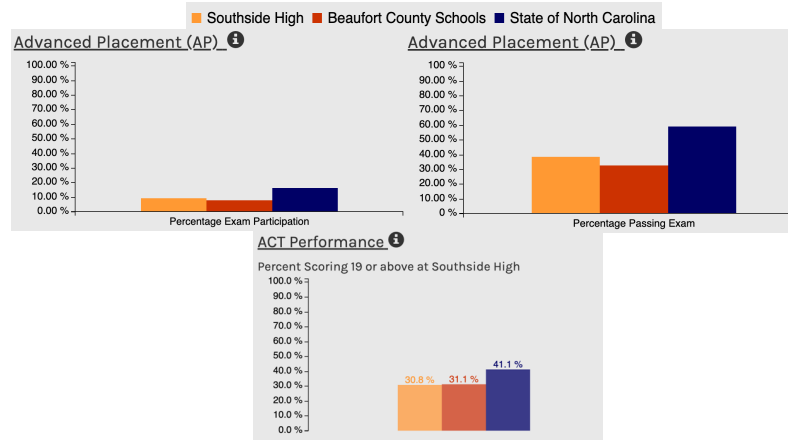
- Population: 749 (2023, US Census Bureau)



RESULTS

- Southside High School (96 graduates)³
 - 4-year college/university: 32%
 - Community College: 48%
 - Military: 13%
 - Workforce: 7%
- College Prep⁴
 - 3 AP classes offered
 - 9.2% AP exam participation, 38.5% with passing score of 3 or higher
 - 30.8% with ACT score of 19 or higher

Education



Health Care

- 1 ECU Health FM clinic, 1 pharmacy, and 1 dental office
- 1 EMS station
 - Transport ~1000 patients/yearly to appointments
 - Recent budget cuts have had major impact on EMS service



KEY INTERVIEW TAKEAWAYS

- Student perspective
 - Southside counselors are very helpful and supportive
 - The school offers ACT prep classes
 - Wishes the school had more art focused extracurricular activities
 - Overall enjoys school
- EMS perspective
 - Many people rely on EMS for transportation to medical appointments
 - Recent budget cuts with major impacts
 - 1 EMS truck cut
 - 9 full-time positions cut

DISCUSSION

- SDOH can affect up to 50% of health outcomes⁵
- It is important for organizations such as ECU Health to invest resources
- ECU could offer tutoring services, especially for preparation of AP exams and the ACT and offer mentorships for students who wish to pursue a college education
- ECU Health could help to fill in gaps in transportation caused by the EMS budget cuts
- Further research should be conducted to identify strategies to decrease the SDOH affecting Chocowinity, NC

REFERENCES

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