

Investigating Housing and Employment as Social Determinants of Health in Grifton, NC

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INTRODUCTION

- Grifton, NC is a small town located at the Southwest edge of Pitt County.
- For the purposes of our project, we focused on two social determinants of health: housing and employment.

Housing



Employment



METHODS

- 1. Research
- a. Gather historical data on Grifton
- 2. Windshield Tour
- a. Document infrastructure in downtown Grifton
- b. Speak with town citizens to better understand public opinion
- 3. Determine areas of need
- a. Discuss potential interventions

RESULTS

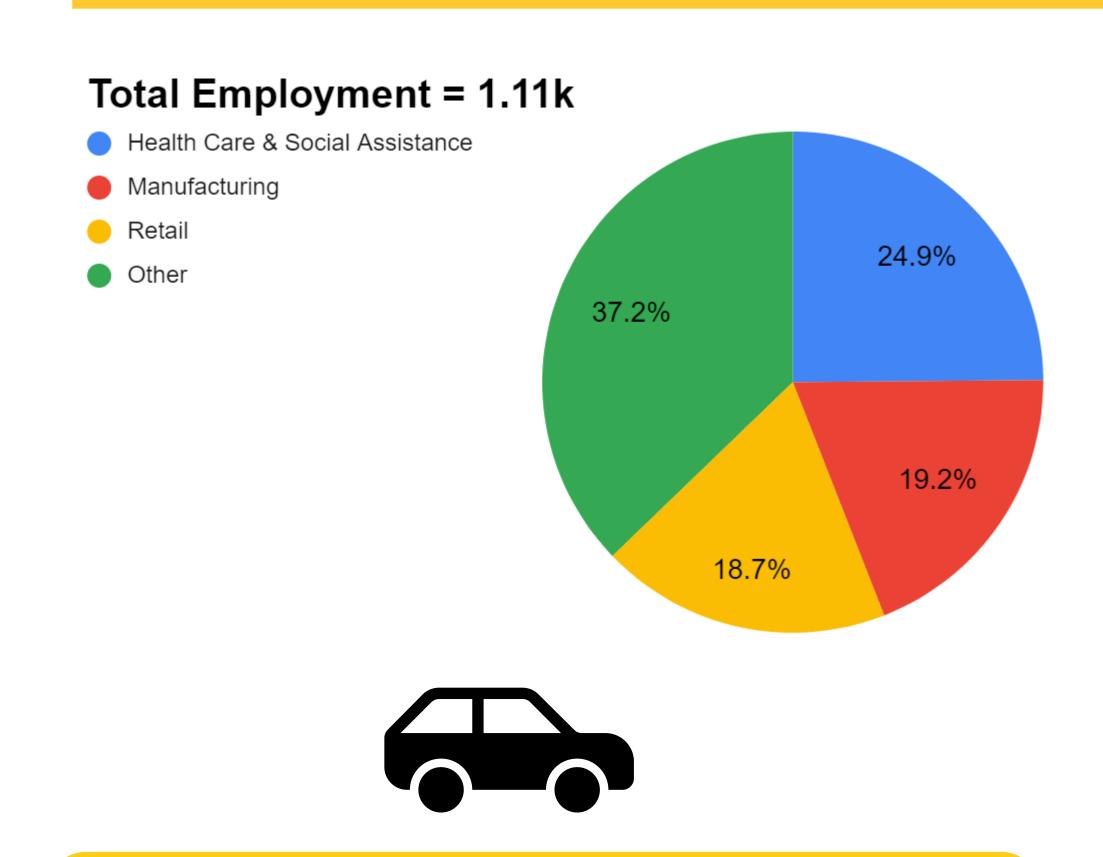




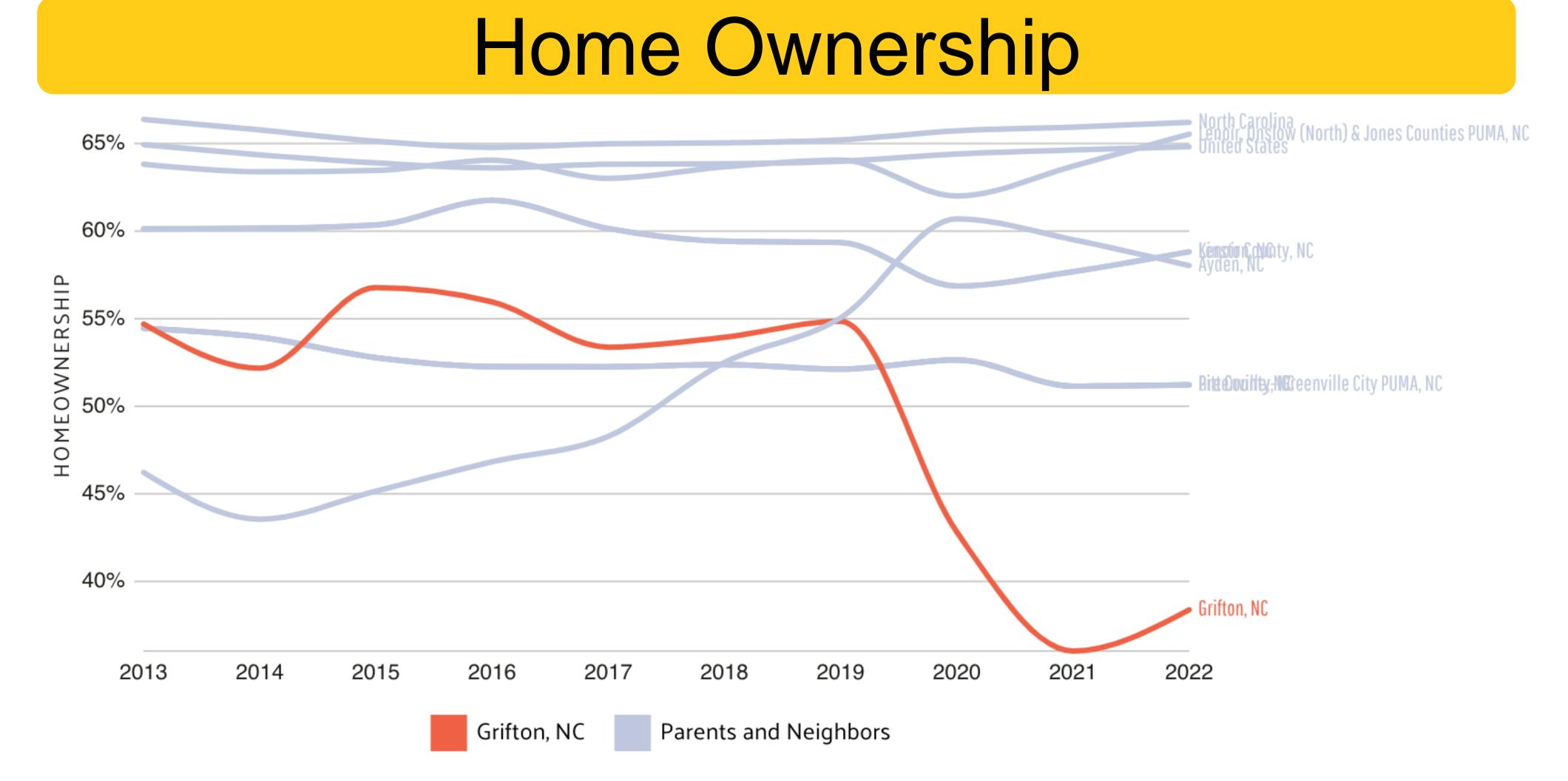




Historical Data



Average commute = 28.4 minutes



NEEDS

Affordable Housing

- Sharp decline in home ownership
- Anecdotal evidence of predatory leasing practices
- Median home price remains low compared to national average, needs further investigation

Transportation

- Lengthy average commute
- Anecdotal evidence of transportation deficits
- Grocery instability, potential for food desert
- Little social service accessibility within walking distance

DISCUSSION

Employment

- Unemployment rate cannot be accurately measured due to lack of town-based data.
- Transportation is the most significant barrier to employment.
 - Due to the lack of job opportunities and nonexistence of public transportation within Grifton, most citizens must travel out-of-town by car.
 - Citizens are unaware of how to access ECU Health transportation services.

Housing

- Home ownership in Grifton <40%
- Sharp decline in 2020, previously ~55%

Future directions

- Investigative barriers to home ownership
- Explore transportation initiatives
- Public or subsidized offerings
- Examine access to physician care
- One medical office in town (pediatrics)
- Is an ECU Health community center feasible?
- Determine uninsured status of citizens

REFERENCES

- 1. Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.
- 2. Grifton, NC | Data USA. https://datausa.io/profile/geo/grifton-nc#health.