



## Macon County Public Health

Macon County strives to enhance the lives of its citizens through knowledge and better health. In the Macon County Community Health Assessment process the community has established four health priorities. In collaboration with [WNC Healthy Impact](#) and other community partners, Macon County will continue to work together to impact the health of its community with positive action and education.

The 2021 Macon County Community Health Assessment priorities are:

- Access to Care
- Obesity
- Substance Abuse
- Affordable Housing

The following Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Scorecard was created and submitted by September 12th, 2022, to meet the Macon County Community Health Improvement Plan requirements.

A key to navigating this scorecard:

- CA** Community Health Assessment
- R** Result – A condition of well-being for an entire population.
- I** Indicator – A measure that helps quantify the achievement of a population result.
- S** Strategy – A collection of actions that have a reasoned chance of improving results.
- PM** Performance Measure – A measure of how well a program is working, the quality of a program or whether clients or customers of the program are better off.
- SR** SOTCH Report – An annual report and update on the Community Health Improvement Plan.

The following resources were used/reviewed to complete this scorecard:

- [WNC Healthy Impact](#)
- [WNC Healthy Impact Data Workbook](#)
- [NC DHHS County Health Data Book](#)
- [NC DHHS/ DPH CHA Data Tools](#)
- [Clear Impact Results-Based Accountability](#)
- [Healthy People 2030](#)
- [Healthy North Carolina 2030](#)

### Community Health Assessment 2021-2024

#### CA Community Health Assessment 2021-2024

Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
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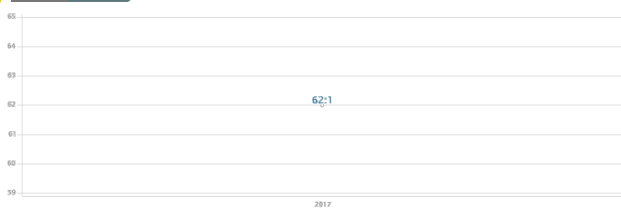
#### Access to Care

#### R All people in Macon County have easy access to primary and secondary care.

Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
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##### I FHLI-NC HNC2030 Ratio of full-time equivalent primary care clinicians to county population

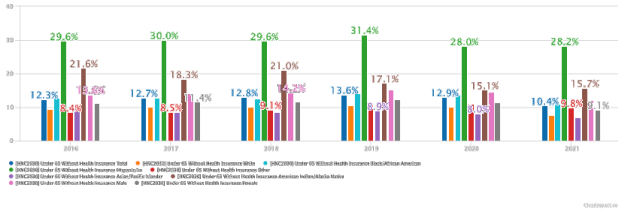
2017	62:1	→ 0	0% →
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Why Is This Important?

Access to primary care can encourage preventive health care and improve health outcomes. Many rural areas of North Carolina lack adequate access to medical professionals, including those providing primary care. HNC2030

**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Under 65 Without Health Insurance Total

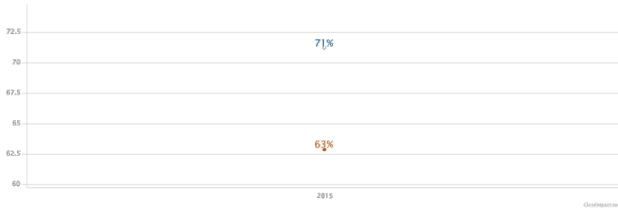


Year	Value	Trend	Change
2021	10.4%	↘2	-15% ↘
2020	12.9%	↘1	5% ↗
2019	13.6%	↗3	11% ↗
2018	12.8%	↗2	4% ↗
2017	12.7%	↗1	3% ↗
2016	12.3%	→0	0% →

Why Is This Important?

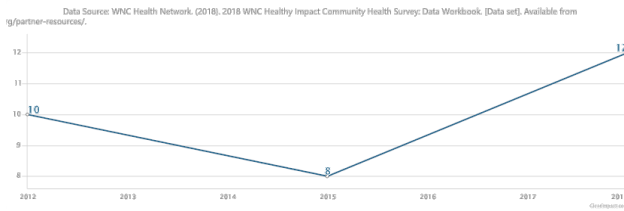
For most people, access to affordable health care services is dependent upon whether they have health insurance coverage. Although uninsured rates in North Carolina decreased between 2013 and 2016, they have started to rise again. Policy options available to state lawmakers have the potential to greatly reduce the number of people who are uninsured in North Carolina. HNC2030 pg. 74

**I** % of women having live births who had adequate prenatal care as defined by Kessner Index



Year	Value	Trend	Change
2015	71%	→0	0% →

**I** Adults who are unable to obtain needed mental health services (in the past year).

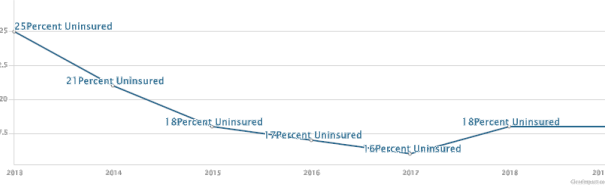


Year	Value	Trend	Change
2018	12	↗1	20% ↗
2015	8	↘1	-20% ↘
2012	10	→0	0% →

**P** Promote recruitment and retention of additional medical personnel.

**PM** Percent of persons with health insurance

Data Source: Community Health Rankings



Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
2019	18Percent Uninsured	→1	-18% ↘
2018	18Percent Uninsured	↗1	-18% ↘
2017	16Percent Uninsured	↘5	-27% ↘
2016	17Percent Uninsured	↘4	-23% ↘
2015	18Percent Uninsured	↘3	-18% ↘
2014	21Percent Uninsured	↘2	-5% ↘
2013	25Percent Uninsured	↘1	14% ↗
2012	26Percent Uninsured	↗1	18% ↗
2011	24Percent Uninsured	↘1	9% ↗

Story Behind the Measure

Uninsured is the percentage of the population under age 65 without health insurance coverage. A person is uninsured if they are currently not covered by insurance through a current/former employer or union, purchased from an insurance company, Medicare, Medicaid, Medical Assistance, any kind of government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or disability, TRICARE or other military health care, Indian Health Services, VA, or any other health insurance or health coverage plan. Uninsured measure is based on one year of survey data and is created using complex statistical modeling by The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. Modeling generates more stable estimates for places with small numbers of residents or populations.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

What's Helping What We Do?

- Affordable Care Act
- Labor shortage and more positions offering health benefits

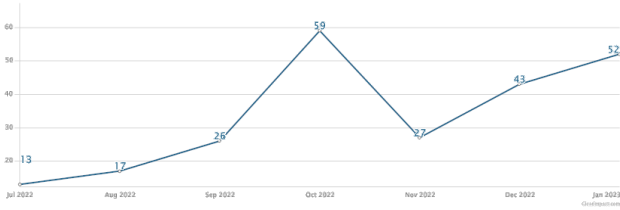
- Possible MEDICAID expansion in North Carolina. On February 16, 2023, North Carolina's House passed legislation that would direct the state to expand Medicaid by January 2024.

**What's Hurting What We Do? .**

- Coverge not affordable
- Rising health care costs
- Lost employment
- Not eligible for coverage
- Signing up difficult and confusing
- Low wage service sector employments without health benefits



Percent of persons who use MCPH as their primary care provider



Jan 2023	52	↗ 2	100% ↗
Dec 2022	43	↗ 1	65% ↗
Nov 2022	27	↘ 1	4% ↗
Oct 2022	59	↗ 3	127% ↗
Sep 2022	26	↗ 2	0% →
Aug 2022	17	↗ 1	-35% ↘
Jul 2022	13	↘ 1	-50% ↘
Jun 2022	40	↗ 1	54% ↗
May 2022	20	↘ 1	-23% ↘

Story Behind the Measure

Macon County Public Health began offering primary care services two years ago due to lack of primary care physicians in the area. These services were need to fill a gap due to physicians not accepting new patients, regardless of insurance status, and to help fill a need in the community.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?**

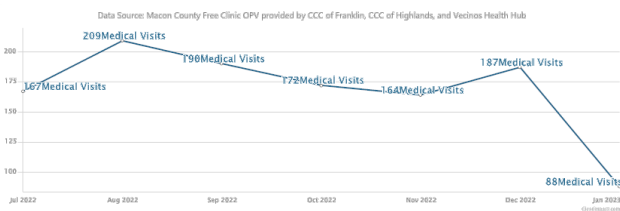
- Increase availability of appointments following easing of COVID restrictions
- Planned new Vecinos clinic location in Macon County projected 2024 to expand available primary care visits in the community
- New Angel Medical Center hospital and active recruitment on new providers.

**What's Hurting What We Do? .**

- Rising health care costs
- Transportation issues for clients
- Affordable housing for new providers moving to the area
- Employment opportunities for new providers family medicine
- Lack of local Labor and Delivery services for young providers



Number of Medical Visits at Free Clinics



Jan 2023	88 Medical Visits	↘ 1	-25% ↘
Dec 2022	187 Medical Visits	↗ 1	60% ↗
Nov 2022	164 Medical Visits	↘ 3	40% ↗
Oct 2022	172 Medical Visits	↘ 2	47% ↗
Sep 2022	190 Medical Visits	↘ 1	62% ↗
Aug 2022	209 Medical Visits	↗ 1	79% ↗
Jul 2022	167 Medical Visits	↘ 1	43% ↗
Jun 2022	198 Medical Visits	↗ 2	69% ↗
May 2022	191 Medical Visits	↗ 1	63% ↗

Story Behind the Measure

Number of Medical Visits provided at the three Community Care Free Clinics serving Macon County. Data is voluntarily provided on a monthly bases. Free clinic services is limited to income qualified,, uninsured residents of Macon County and helps increase access to care for uninsured people.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

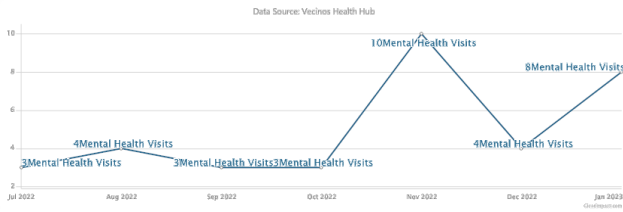
**What's Helping What We Do?**

- Highlands Community Care Clinic
- Franklin Community Care Clinic
- Vecinos Health Clinic
- Increase availability of appointments following easing of COVID restrictions
- Planned new Vecinos clinic location in Macon County projected 2024

**What's Hurting What We Do? .**

- Limited availability of volunteer providers and staff
- Competition for limited financial resources
- Rising health care costs
- Transportation issues for clients
- Rising housing costs
- Inflation

**PM** Number of Mental Health Visits at Free Clinics



Month	Number of Visits	Change	Percentage Change
Jan 2023	8	↑1	300% ↑
Dec 2022	4	↓1	100% ↑
Nov 2022	10	↑1	400% ↑
Oct 2022	3	→1	50% ↑
Sep 2022	3	↓1	50% ↑
Aug 2022	4	↑2	100% ↑
Jul 2022	3	↑1	50% ↑
Jun 2022	2	↓2	0% →
May 2022	4	↓1	100% ↑

Story Behind the Measure

Number of Mental Health visits provided by Vecinos Health Clinic to Macon County residence. Vecinos services are limited to income qualified, uninsured patients.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?**

- Available Mental Health service to uninsured patients
- Proposed opening of a new Vecinos Health Clinic in Macon County in 2024

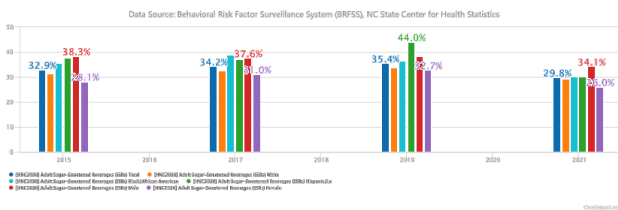
**What's Hurting What We Do?**

- General lack of Mental Health Services in WNC
- Transportation issues for patients
- Services are currently located in Jackson County

**Obesity**

**R** All people in Macon County have the resources and ability to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. 📄

**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Adult Sugar-Sweetened Beverages (SSBs) Total

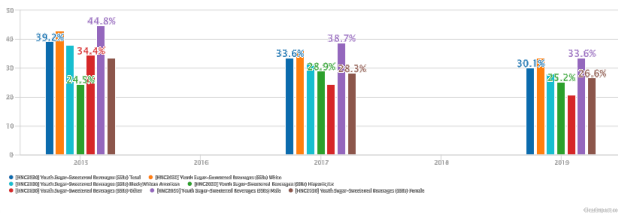


Why Is This Important?

Obesity continues to be a concern in North Carolina. Sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB) are the leading source of calories and added sugars in the American diet. HNC2030 pg. 72

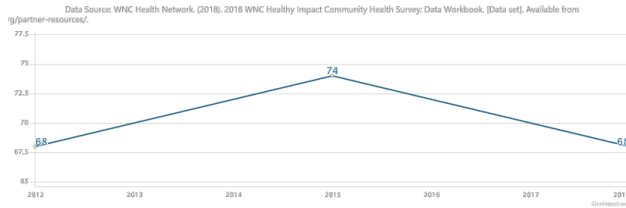
**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Youth Sugar-Sweetened Beverages (SSBs) Total

Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
2021	29.8%	↓1	-9% ↓
2019	35.4%	↑2	8% ↑
2017	34.2%	↑1	4% ↑
2015	32.9%	→0	0% →
2019	30.1%	↓2	-23% ↓



2017	33.6%	↓1	-14% ↓
2015	39.2%	→0	0% →

### I Adults who are overweight or obese.



2018	68	↓1	0% →
2015	74	↑1	9% ↑
2012	68	→0	0% →

#### Story Behind the Indicator

The "Story Behind the Curve" helps us understand why the data on overweight and obesity is the way that it is in our community. When we understand the root causes of our community problems, we have a better chance of finding the right solutions, together. We asked community stakeholders and a planning group of representatives from local gyms, library, hospital, and others to help us understand the story behind overweight and obesity in Macon County.

**What's Helping?** *These are the positive forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- Social opportunities in groups and activities where an individual(s) can meet like people and develop friendships.
- Encouragement in the community to live a healthy lifestyle; this can also establish an accountability support.
- Programs around healthy eating and physical activity already exist in the community- a few examples are: the Master Gardner Program through NC Cooperative Extension, Diabetes Prevention Program at the health department, and the Silver Striders program at the Senior Center,
- Free activity opportunities such as the greenways, athletic parks, dog park, and hiking trails.
- Groups in the community like the Nantahala Hiking Club and the community garden.
- There is a want for change because individuals are aware that overweight and obesity is a problem.

**What's Hurting?** *These are the negative forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- Everyday routines often negate healthy habits which result in sedentary lifestyles and convenient/ unhealthy food choices.
- Individuals struggle with finding resources with information they need to begin their lifestyle change.
- Individuals have a desire for instant gratification and "quick fix" programs.
- There is a cultural association with food in this region- i.e. food is love, a reward, or a thank you.
- Perceptions that healthy choices are expensive, difficult, and unavailable.
- An overwhelming feeling of change in addition to lack of self- confidence often prohibits individuals from making healthy lifestyle choices; starting is the hardest part.
- There is a lack of understanding of the consequences of poor health.
- Employers do not have a worksite wellness programs.
- Food insecurity; affordability and transportation are some factors.

#### Partners with a Role to Play

##### Partners in our Community Health Improvement Process:

- Angel Medical Center
- Franklin Health and Fitness
- Legacy Fitness/ U Turn America
- Macon County Public Health
- Macon County Public Library
- MountainWise
- Nantahala Hiking Club
- North Carolina Cooperative Extension
- [WNC Healthy Impact](#)

##### Partners with a Role in Helping Our Community Do Better on This Issue:

- Businesses

- CareNet
- Child Care Centers
- Churches
- Community Leagues
- Elected Officials and County Leaders
- Farmer's Markets
- Food Banks
- FROGS
- Grocery Stores
- Gyms
- Macon Program for Progress
- Manna Food Bank
- Parks and Recreation
- Primary Care Providers
- Rotary Club
- Schools
- Senior Center
- Shoe Stores

What Works to Do Better (Population)?

The following actions have been identified by our task force and community members as ideas for what can work for our community to make a difference on overweight and obesity.

**Actions and Approaches Identified by Our Partners** *These are actions and approaches that our partners think can make a difference on overweight and obesity.*

- Build and improve worksite wellness programs throughout the community.
- Conduct a community- wide event to promote health.
- Connect individuals with programs; get the word out.
- Reach individuals on a personal level.

**What is Currently Working in Our Community** *These are actions and approaches that are currently in place in our community to make a difference on overweight and obesity.*

- Diabetes Prevention Program at Macon County Public Health.
- Angel Medical Center has a Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation program to help individuals decrease their risk for heart disease.
- There are physical activity activities or groups that individuals can join- hiking club, yoga.
- Different types of classes are, like canning 101 and Meds Instead of Meds, are offered through Macon County's NC Cooperative Extension.
- Macon County Public Library offers free resources (activities, books, movies) related to health.
- There are businesses interested in or that have a worksite wellness program.

**Evidence-Based Strategies** *These are actions and approaches that have been shown to make a difference on overweight and obesity.*

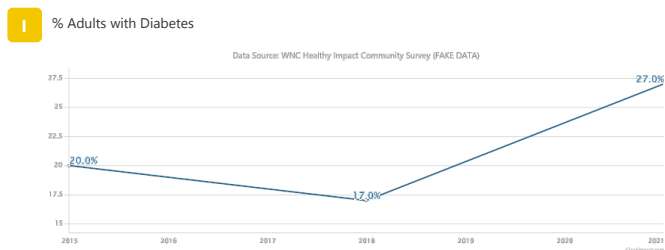
Name of Strategy Reviewed	Level of Intervention
Structured Assessment and Counseling Tool- A New Leaf Choices for Healthy Living	Individual
Preventing Diabetes with Clinical and Community- Based Evidence- Prevent Diabetes STAT	Community
Activity Programs for Older Adults- Project Enhance	Individual, Community
Support for Breastfeeding in the Workplace- NC Breastfeeding Friendly Business and Workplace Awards	Individual, Policy

**What Community Members Most Affected by Overweight and Obesity Say** *These are the actions and approaches recommended by members of our community who are most affected by overweight and obesity.*

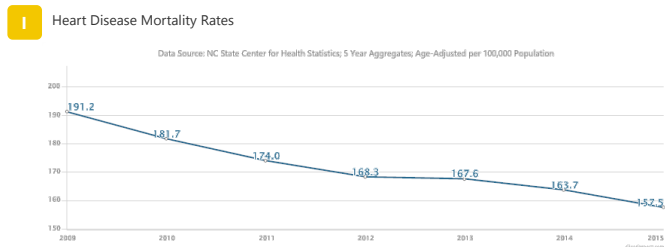
- Create opportunities for movement beyond athletics.
- Offer beginner level activities and groups.
- Have a hub for health information, activities, and events, etc.

**Process for Selecting Priority Strategies**

Strategies were selected by considering the feasibility of implementation based on resources available and community will. Community needs, such as a starting place, were also weighed in conversations around feasibility. The task force identified that it was important for our strategies to relate to individuals- beginning with building a sense of community. The leverage and impact in which the strategies and actions would have on individuals and families was another consideration. The task force agreed that the goal is to have a significant impact on the community, ideally, with moderate efforts.



2021	27.0%	↗1	80% ↗
2018	17.0%	↘1	13% ↗
2015	20.0%	↗1	33% ↗
2012	15.0%	→0	0% →



2015	157.5	↘6	-20% ↘
2014	163.7	↘5	-17% ↘
2013	167.6	↘4	-15% ↘
2012	168.3	↘3	-15% ↘
2011	174.0	↘2	-12% ↘
2010	181.7	↘1	-8% ↘
2009	191.2	↗1	-3% ↘
2008	190.5	↘2	-3% ↘
2007	195.4	↘1	-1% ↘

**Chronic Disease Management and other health education classes within Macon County**

**PM** Number of students enrolled in class

Story Behind the Measure

No data yet for this particular performance measure.

Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions classes will begin in June 2023. The first class will be an 6 week workshop (meeting once per week for 2 hours) and will be limited to 10 students.

This class was chosen due to the high rate of people in Macon county living with a chronic condition, which can limit one's activity and increase chances of obesity. Our goal is to educate people on how to manage their chronic conditions and increase their health and wellness.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?**

- Mountainwise currently conducts Diabetes Prevention Classes within Macon County
- MCPH will begin conducting health classes at the local library in June 2023, which will be free to the public.
- MCPH received a Duke Endowment grant to assist with developing equitable access to healthy food opportunities.
- Availability of low cost and free fitness and educational classes around the county continues to increase.
- Use of the Greenway trail and outdoor activities remains popular.

**What's Hurting What We Do?**

- Inflation has caused healthy food prices to increase dramatically, while junk food prices remain relatively stable.
- People do not exercise as much in the winter months.
- Cost of local gyms and personal training
- Lack of insurance that covers the cost of items mentioned above.
- Continued rise in the cost of food prices.

**PM** Percentage of students who stick with a healthy living plan after finishing the class

Story Behind the Measure

There is currently no data for this performance measure. Data will be collected monthly to check on students' progress after they have taken the 8 week workshop.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?** These are the positive forces at work in our strategy/ program that influence how much we do or how well we do it.

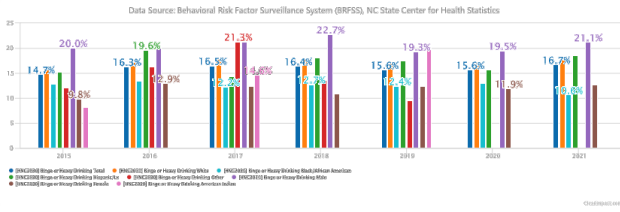
- Staying in contact with students after they have completed the 8 week workshop
- Offering tips and motivation for them to keep improving

**What's Hurting What We Do?** These are the negative forces at work in our strategy/program that influence how much we do or how well we do it.

- Friends and family members who are not supportive of lifestyle changes
- Cultural issues pertaining to food, health and physical activity

**R** All people in Macon County help to reduce instances of addiction and over dose deaths. 📄

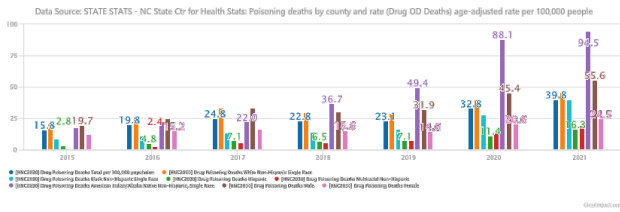
**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Binge or Heavy Drinking Total



Why Is This Important?

Excessive drinking, a major cause of morbidity and mortality across the United States, significantly impacts individuals, families, communities, and state and local economies. Alcohol is the third leading cause of preventable deaths in North Carolina. HNC2030 pg. 70

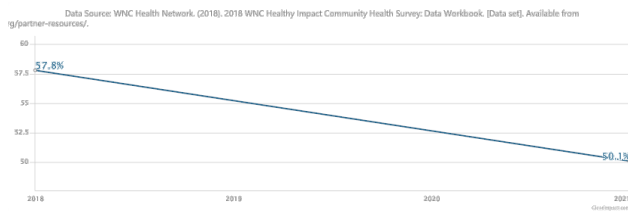
**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Drug Poisoning Deaths Total per 100,000 population



Why Is This Important?

As in other states, North Carolina has experienced a sharp increase in the number of drug overdose deaths over the last decade, largely due to the opioid epidemic. Substance Use Disorder has devastating impacts on the life of the people who experience it, their families, and their communities. HNC2030 pg. 66

**I** Adults that report their life has been negatively affected by substance use (by self or someone else).



Story Behind the Indicator

The "Story Behind the Curve" helps us understand why the data on the negative affect of substance use on the people of Macon County is the way that it is. When we understand the root causes of our community problems, we have a better chance of finding the right solutions, together. Those in recovery, local initiatives like No Wrong Door, and a planning group with community stakeholders contributed to the following story data.

**What's Helping?** *These are the positive forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- Public recognition of the issue of substance use & engaged community stakeholders
- Support, including: peers, family, and agencies
- Access to care providers in the community, several organizations working on the issue
- Job opportunities for substance users in recovery
- Creative collaboration amongst agencies working on the issue

**What's Hurting?** *These are the negative forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- Lack of transportation to jobs, care services, etc.
- Cost of services
- Stigma attitudes and language affect the how substance users access care.
- Lack of ability to recruit health care professionals to work in the area.
- Lack of affordable housing for those in recovery
- Perception of agency shortcomings observed by those in recovery
- Unclear of how to get to the youth populaitaen before they are exposed to risk factors that could influence later substance abuse

Partners with a Role to Play

**Partners in our Community Health Improvement Process:**

- Appalachian Community Services
- Community Representatives and Peer Support Counselors
- County Commissioner
- County Manager

Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
2021	16.7%	↗1	14% ↗
2020	15.6%	→1	6% ↗
2019	15.6%	↘2	6% ↗
2018	16.4%	↘1	12% ↗
2017	16.5%	↗2	12% ↗
2016	16.3%	↗1	11% ↗
2015	14.7%	→0	0% →

2021	39.8	↗3	188% ↗
2020	32.8	↗2	138% ↗
2019	23.1	↗1	67% ↗
2018	22.8	↘1	65% ↗
2017	24.8	↗3	80% ↗
2016	19.8	↗2	43% ↗
2015	15.8	↗1	14% ↗
2014	13.8	→0	0% →

2021	50.1%	↘1	-13% ↘
2018	57.8%	→0	0% →



- Macon County Public Health
- Macon County School System
- Macon County Sheriff Office
- Meridian Behavioral Health
- No Wrong Door
- WNC Healthy Impact

**Partners with a Role in Helping Our Community Do Better on This Issue:**

- Community Care Clinic
- Full Circle Recovery
- NAMI
- Pharmacies
- Senior Services
- VA
- Vaya Health
- WNCAP

What Works to Do Better (Population)?

The following actions have been identified by our team and community members as ideas for what can work for our community to make a difference on substance use and mental health.

**Actions and Approaches Identified by Our Partners** *These are actions and approaches that our partners think can make a difference on substance use and mental health.*

- Acquirement of "old" hospital.
- Accessible and affordable housing options.
- Looking into social determinants of health.
- A place for users to turn in illegal drugs when these individuals want to make a lifestyle change.

**What is Currently Working in Our Community** *These are actions and approaches that are currently in place in our community to make a difference on substance use and mental health.*

- Needle Exchange Program.
- Peer Support Specialist or counselors through various partners.
- Crisis Intervention Training through NAMI.
- Medication Drop Off Locations.
- Post Overdose Program through EMS.
- Free clinic through Community Care Clinic.
- Needle disposal boxes through the county and Macon County Public Health.
- Social media campaign through Substance Use Task Force.
- Mental Health Task Force.

**Evidence-Based Strategies** *These are actions and approaches that have been shown to make a difference on substance use and mental health.*

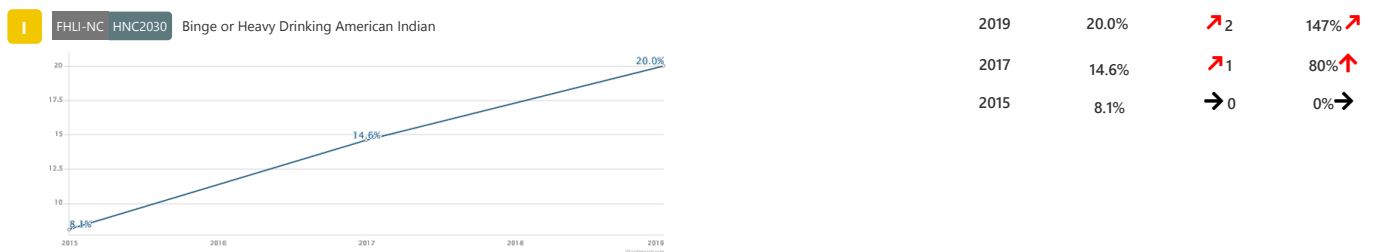
Name of Strategy Reviewed	Level of Intervention
Behavioral Health Primary Care Intergration (County Health Rankings, 2019)	Interpersonal, Organizational
Media campaign to initiate an inclusive public conversation about mental health	Community
Telehealth (Rural Health Information Hub, 2019)	Interpersonal, Organizational
Peer-Based Recovery Support Model/Peer Specialist for SUD (Rural Health Information Hub, 2019)	Interpersonal, Organizational
School-based Health Centers (County Health Rankings, 2019)	Organizational, Policy

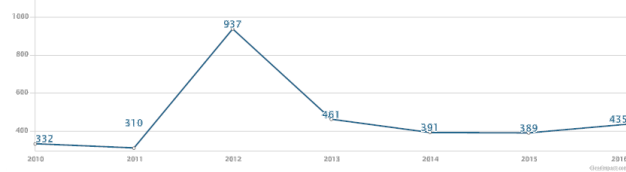
**What Community Members in Recovery Say** *These are the actions and approaches recommended by members of our community who participated in a listening session facilitated by Full Circle Recovery on June 6, 2019 and represent those that are most affected by substance use and mental health.*

- Conversation about substance use and willingness from others to listen.
- Being in settings where people are still struggling and remembering own experiences with substance use.
- Service work and sharing the message.

**Process for Selecting Priority Strategies**

Strategies selected were based on various community efforts that address substance use and mental health with the idea that these efforts would have more impact and leverage if they were non-duplicative. This aligns with community values and the continuous work that has been done so far around substance use and mental health. Strategies for this priority were also selected based on wanting to track the progress of a new program, School Based Health, in the county.





2015	389	↓3	-3%↓
2014	391	↓2	-3%↓
2013	461	↓1	15%↑
2012	937	↑1	133%↑
2011	310	↓2	-23%↓
2010	332	↓1	-17%↓
2009	1,052	↑2	162%↑
2008	435	↑1	8%↑

#### Story Behind the Indicator

The "Story Behind the Curve" helps us understand why the data on the number of domestic violence clients is the way that it is in our community. When we understand the root causes of our community problems, we have a better chance of finding the right solutions, together.

**What's Helping?** *These are the positive forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- There are prevention efforts in the schools, i.e. REACH, as well as other early interentions throughout the community.
- Some agencies have protocols on how to address domestic violence situations, i.e. hospital.
- Law enforcement has a system on how to categorize violence and how to appropriately house inmates.
- There is a national awareness of the issue and conversation around realted court rulings.
- The community cares about this issue and demands respect; this results in things like conversations around healthy relationships.

**What's Hurting?** *These are the negative forces at work in our community and beyond that influence this issue in our community.*

- Knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes contributes to risky behavior, non-consent, and the idea that domestic violence is okay.
- Family structures are complicated parent skills and youth "without boundaries."
- The consequences of domestic violence are percieved as "no big deal."
- Other determinants of health, like loss of employment or substance use, may contribute to domestic violence.
- There is no forensic nurse in Macon County or surrounding area.

#### Partners with a Role to Play

##### Partners in our Community Health Improvement Process:

- Macon County Public Health
- REACH of Macon County
- [WNC Healthy Impact](#)

##### Partners with a Role in Helping Our Community Do Better on This Issue:

- Church of Incarnation
- Department of Social Services
- District Attorney's Office and other judicial branches
- Emergency Services
- Franklin and Highlands Police Department
- Hospital system
- Kid's Place
- Macon County School System
- Macon County Sheriff's Office
- Macon Program for Progress

#### What Works to Do Better (Population)?

The following actions have been identified by our response coalition and community members as ideas for what can work for our community to make a difference on domestic violence.

**Actions and Approaches Identified by Our Partners** *These are actions and approaches that our partners think can make a difference on domestic violence.*

- Develop streamlined protocol for referrals and assessments of victims in a formalized document for all agencies using best practices.
- Offer resource information- especially to those at risk.
- Job skills training for youth.
- Campaigns "Normalize the Conversation" campaign in schools, work settings, businesses, etc. (ex. domestic violence and sexual assault is not okay).

**What is Currently Working in Our Community** *These are actions and approaches that are currently in place in our community to make a difference on domestic violence.*

- Trainings in community agencies to recognize signs and symptoms of domestic violence in patiets and clients.
- There is more awareness and trainings around human trafficking.
- REACH events and fundraisers- i.e. movie night, Brew and Do (Good) Festival.
- Women's self- defense class.

**Evidence-Based Strategies** *These are actions and approaches that have been shown to make a difference on domestic violence.*

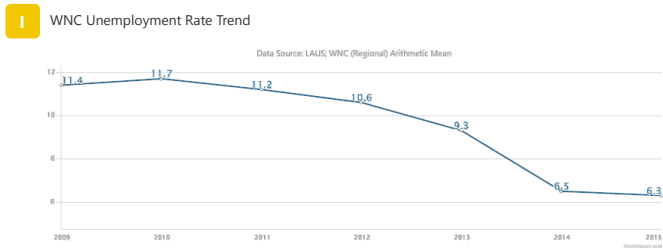
Name of Strategy Reviewed	Level of Intervention
Improving Community Responses for Families Experiencing Domestic Violence ( <b>Child Welfare Information Gateway</b> )	Interpersonal, Community
Motivational Interviewing ( <b>Evidence-Based Practices for Children Exposed to Violence: A Selection from Federal Databases</b> )	Interpersonal
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) ( <b>Evidence-Based Practices for Children Exposed to Violence: A Selection from Federal Databases</b> )	Individual, Community
Domestic Violence Home Visitation ( <b>Evidence-Based Practices for Children Exposed to Violence: A Selection from Federal Databases</b> )	Organizational, Policy

**What Community Members Most Affected by Domestic Violence Say** *These are the actions and approaches recommended by members of our community who are most affected by domestic violence.*

- Advocacy efforts need to continue.

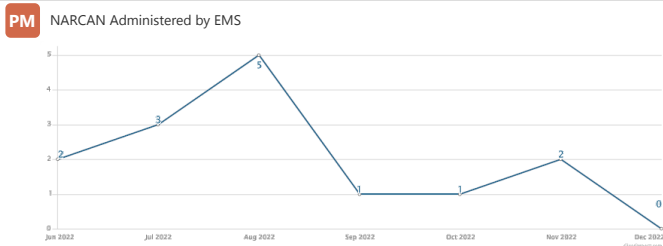
**Process for Selecting Priority Strategies**

Strategies for this priority are aligned with REACH's goals and grant objectives. REACH is a local domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy organization who focuses on prevention, intervention, and educational services. REACH is also the lead for the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Response Coalition. The Coalition is continuing to develop a domestic violence manual that includes instructions, protocols, and state statutes for participating agencies to reference and cross-reference in domestic violence cases.



2015	6.3	↓5	26% ↑
2014	6.5	↓4	30% ↑
2013	9.3	↓3	86% ↑
2012	10.6	↓2	112% ↑
2011	11.2	↓1	124% ↑
2010	11.7	↑3	134% ↑
2009	11.4	↑2	128% ↑
2008	6.9	↑1	38% ↑

**Supporting aligned activities of community partners and systems.**



Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
Dec 2022	0	↓1	-50% ↓
Nov 2022	2	↑1	0% →
Oct 2022	1	→1	-50% ↓
Sep 2022	1	↓1	-50% ↓
Aug 2022	5	↑2	150% ↑
Jul 2022	3	↑1	50% ↑
Jun 2022	2	↓1	0% →
May 2022	3	↑3	50% ↑
Apr 2022	2	↑2	0% →

Story Behind the Measure

Monthly data provided by Macon County Emergency Management Services on NARCAN administered by EMS personnel when responding to calls in the field.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?**

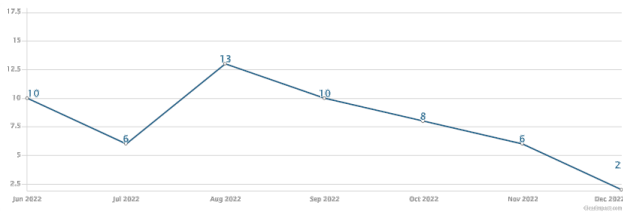
- Increased public awareness of possible overdose symptoms
- Increased availability of NARCAN kits for EMS and First Responders
- Increased training opportunities on proper use on NARCAN kits

**What's Hurting What We Do?**

- Continued public stigma of substance abuse
- Geographic challenges in EMS response times
- Vaping products being laced with illegal drugs
- Illegal drugs being laced with fentanyl contributing to accidental drug overdoses

**Number of Overdoses EMS Responded**

Dec 2022	2	↓4	-67% ↓
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Nov 2022	6	↓3	0% →
Oct 2022	8	↓2	33% ↑
Sep 2022	10	↓1	67% ↑
Aug 2022	13	↑1	117% ↑
Jul 2022	6	↓2	0% →
Jun 2022	10	↓1	67% ↑
May 2022	17	↑3	183% ↑
Apr 2022	11	↑2	83% ↑

#### Story Behind the Measure

Monthly data provided by Macon County Emergency Management Services on number of overdose responses by EMS personnel.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

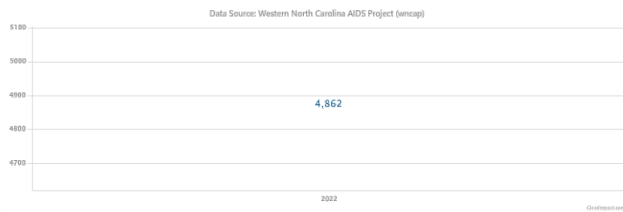
#### What's Helping What We Do?

- Increased public awareness of possible overdose symptoms
- Increased availability of NARCAN Kits

#### What's Hurting What We Do?

- Continued public stigma of substance abuse
- Geographic challenges in EMS response times
- Vaping products being laced with illegal drugs
- Illegal drugs being laced with fentanyl contributing to accidental drug overdoses

<b>PM</b> Number of adults with substance abuse who receive treatment	2022	4,862	→ 0	0% →
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#### Story Behind the Measure

This is the first year we received data from the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (wncap) concerning the number of program visits. The purpose of their program is harm reduction. WNCAP offers case management, runs a needle exchange program and provides overdose reversal kits throughout the community.

WNCAP is one of several entities within Macon County that is working to resolve the substance abuse issue.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

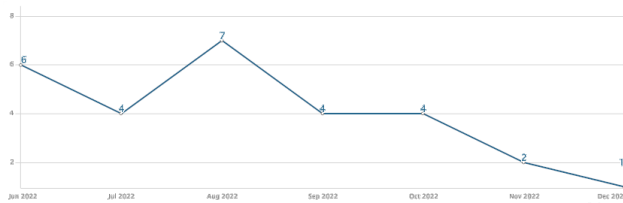
#### What's Helping What We Do?

- Meeting regularly with behavioral health organizations to coordinate efforts to bring better services to Macon County
- Providing NARCAN to residents to use in emergency overdose situations

#### What's Hurting What We Do?

- Newly elected officials do not believe this a problem that needs to be addressed and (briefly) canceled the Behavioral Health Task Force, which was the regular meeting with local partners for coordination purposes.
- Lack of communication from county commissioners.
- Lack of information on use of Opioid Settlement Funds

<b>PM</b> NARCAN Administered by Non-EMS	Dec 2022	1	↓2	-50% ↓
	Nov 2022	2	↓1	0% →
	Oct 2022	4	→1	100% ↑
	Sep 2022	4	↓1	100% ↑
	Aug 2022	7	↑1	250% ↑
	Jul 2022	4	↓2	100% ↑
	Jun 2022	6	↓1	200% ↑
	May 2022	8	↑3	300% ↑
	Apr 2022	6	↑2	200% ↑



#### Story Behind the Measure

Monthly data provided by Macon County Emergency Management Services on NARCAN administered by Non-EMS personnel reported to EMS personnel when responding to calls in the field.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

#### What's Helping What We Do?

- Increased public awareness of possible overdose symptoms
- Coordination between organizations to help reach rural areas

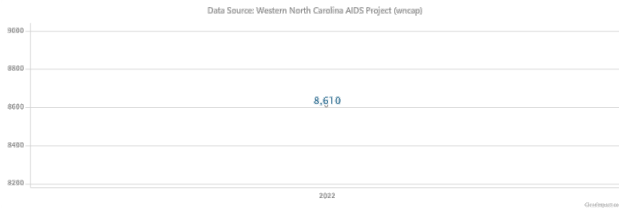
#### What's Hurting What We Do?

- Continued public stigma of substance abuse

- Vaping products being laced with illegal drugs
- Illegal drugs being laced with fentanyl and xylazine

**PM** Distribution of Overdose Reversal Kits

2022 8,610 → 0 0% →



Story Behind the Measure

This is the first year we received data from the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (wncap) concerning the number of overdose reversal kits distributed. The purpose of their program is harm reduction. WNCAP offers case management, runs a needle exchange program and provides overdose reversal kits throughout the community.

WNCAP is one of several entities within Macon County that is working to resolve the substance abuse issue.

What Works to Do Better (Performance)?

**What's Helping What We Do?**

- Meeting regularly with behavioral health organizations to coordinate efforts to bring better services to Macon County
- Providing overdose reversal kits to residents to use in emergency overdose situations

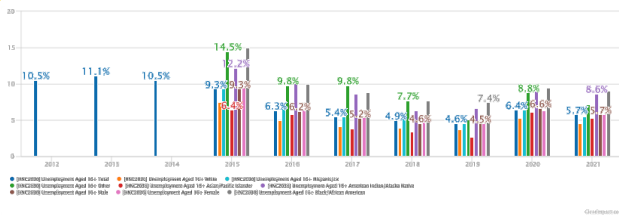
**What's Hurting What We Do?**

- Newly elected officials do not believe this a problem that needs to be addressed and (briefly) canceled the Behavioral Health Task Force, which was the regular meeting with local partners for coordination purposes.
- Lack of communication from county commissioners.
- Lack of information on use of Opioid Settlement Funds

**Affordable Housing (In Progress)**

**R** All people in Macon County have access to affordable long term rental units. 📄

**I** FHLI-NC HNC2030 Unemployment Aged 16+ Total

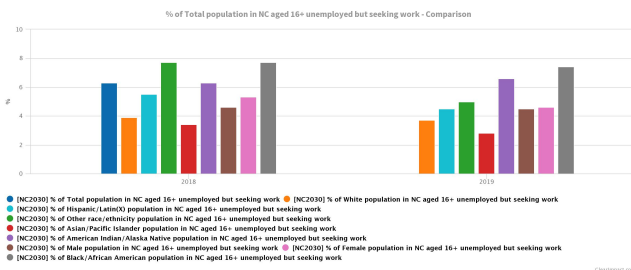


Most Recent Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
2021	5.7%	↓1	-35% ↓
2020	6.4%	↑1	-27% ↓
2019	4.6%	↓6	-48% ↓
2018	4.9%	↓5	-44% ↓
2017	5.4%	↓4	-39% ↓
2016	6.3%	↓3	-28% ↓
2015	9.3%	↓2	6% ↑
2014	10.5%	↓1	19% ↑
2013	11.1%	↑3	26% ↑

Why Is This Important?

Employment opportunities are vital to providing income and, for many, health insurance. While the state's unemployment rate is at an all-time low overall, communities and populations still face challenges finding employment opportunities. HNC2030 pg. 38

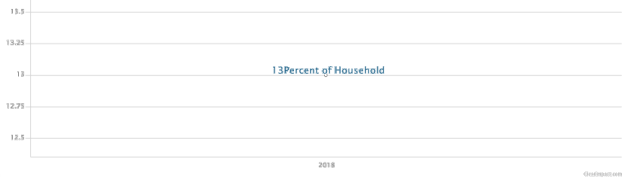
Health Equity/Disparity Comparison Data



**I** Severe Housing Problems

2018 13Percent of Household → 0 0% →

Data Source: Community Health Rankings



#### Partners with a Role to Play

Partners in our Community Health Improvement Process:

- International Friendship Center, Highlands, NC
- Other Non-Profits in the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau area.
- WNC Healthy Impact

**P** [Committee to Address Affordable Housing Issues](#) 📄

Most Recent  
Period

Current Actual  
Value

Current Trend

Baseline %  
Change

### State of the County Health Reports (SOTCHs)

**S** [2022 SOTCH Report](#) 📄

Most Recent  
Period

Current Actual  
Value

Current Trend

Baseline %  
Change