

Health Equity & Digital Divide in North Carolina

In North Carolina, health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities and rural populations are prevalent, resulting in significant health and financial costs to the state. This document provides a snapshot of the state of health and health disparities in North Carolina, highlighting the challenges and opportunities for advancing health equity.

POPULATION: About 10.5 Million

3% Asian | 22% Black | 4% Other | 71% White



21% live in a rural area

Ethnicity:

10% Hispanic

NORTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS

North Carolina Health Disparities

DIABETES BY POPULATION¹

12.5%

General Population

Hispanic

9.2%

Non-Hispanic

12.2%

White

15.9%

Black

National Average
10.9%

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE BY POPULATION²

Per 100K Live Births

60

40

20

0

White

Black

Hispanic

HYPERTENSION

35% of all adults have hypertension³



13% Living in poverty



11% Living without health insurance

12% Black/African Americans Living Without Health Insurance



215,000 Living Within the Medicaid Coverage Gap



108 Medically Underserved Areas



69 Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas



6% Zero car households

The Digital Divide

Digital health tools provide primary care clinicians with opportunities to address the social determinants of health. However, many North Carolinians lack access to internet and needed technology at home.

Households without access to the internet

18%



Households without access to broadband

24%

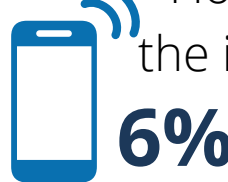


Households without any type of computer

13%



Households that access the internet only through a smartphone



6%

1 United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings (Diabetes prevalence, 2019). Available at: <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/>.

2 United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings (Maternal mortality, 2019). Available at: <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/>.

3 United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings (High blood pressure, 2019). Available at: <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/>.