



COLUMBUS COUNTY PROFILE: 2009-10

Population Statistics

Total Projected 2010 Population.....56,584¹
 Population Growth, 2000 to 2009...2.8%¹ Percentage Municipal Population.....27%²

What is the impact of poverty in the 34 counties served by the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina? A higher infant mortality rate, children who can't learn in school because they are hungry, adults who die before their time because they eat cheaper, high fat foods instead of healthier, often more costly options, and frail elders who make do with a can of beans because they can't afford their medication and food, too.

Federal poverty guidelines do not cover today's cost of living; they simply provide a baseline means of existence with a very real risk of hunger. A single person with an income of \$10,000 or less or a family of four with an income of \$21,000 or less annually meet the criteria for poverty. On these incomes, hunger becomes more than a risk...it often becomes a reality. The Food Bank helps these folks, who are at risk of hunger every day.

THE NEED:

POVERTY

No. People Living at/Below Poverty Level: 12,335³

Percentage of Population Living in Poverty: 21.8%⁴

Individuals >65 Living in Poverty: 2,060⁵

Individuals 18 to 64 Living in Poverty: 5,982⁵

Children 0 to 17 Living in Poverty: 4,293⁵

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty: 34.8%

**HUNGER⁶
No. Children Receiving Free/Reduced Lunches:** 6,410

Percentage of Children Receiving Reduced/Free Lunches: 71.1%

**UNEMPLOYMENT⁶
Percentage Sept. 2010 Unemployment:** 11.8%

**FOOD STAMP PARTICIPATION⁸
Number Served July 2009: 11,180
Number Served July 2010: 12,565
Percent of Eligible Served Sept. 2009: 74%**

ADDRESSING NEEDS:

Total Pounds Of Food Distributed Annually in our counties: 40.1 mil. Lbs.

Total Pounds Of Food Distributed in Columbus County: 748,901 lbs.

Pounds Per Person Distributed: 61 lbs.

Per-Pound Cost of Distributing Food in County: 23¢

Total Cost of Distributing Food in County: \$171,584

Value of Food Distributed: \$1,198,242

Columbus Households Served: 16,510⁹
Columbus Individuals Served: 47,430

For Every Dollar Donated, How Much is Spent on Food Distribution: 97¢

Major Local Food Donors: Wholesalers, retailers, and grocery chains such as Food Lion, Harris-Teeter, Lowe's Foods, Kroger Stores, Walmart, Mt. Olive Pickles, Bruce Foods Corp., Reser's Fine Foods, Bimbo Bakeries, Nash Produce, & Society of St. Andrew

Our Partner Agencies are listed on the reverse side

¹Projected 2009 NC population by County, NC Office of State Budget & Management; ²2008 County Municipal Totals, NC Office of State Management & Budget; ³Total Projected 2009 Population x Percentage of Population Living in Poverty; ⁴US Census 2006 American Community Survey (SF-1, SF-3); ⁵Total of Individuals >65, Individuals 18-64 & Children 0-17 Living in Poverty, 2004, 2006 American Community Survey; ⁶Free & reduced Lunch Application Data by Site, Child Nutrition Services, NC Department of Public Instruction; ⁷2008, 2009 Civilian Labor Force Estimates for NC Counties, NC Employment Security Commission; ⁸NC Food & Nutrition Services Participation Report, DSS Performance Management Reporting & Evaluation Management, NC Department of Health & Human Services; ⁹Households/individuals served 1 or more times as reported by partner agencies

Columbus Community Partner Agencies

**Believers Home Fellowship
Cherry Grove Baptist Church
Creative Inc.**

Farmers Union Developmental Daycare

First Presbyterian Church

Harvest Table

Help Mission/Whiteville

Jesus Tabernacle

Kids Cafe - Farmers Union CDC