

# Charlotte Urban Institute: A Year to Remember



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## Year in Review



## 2024: A Year to Remember

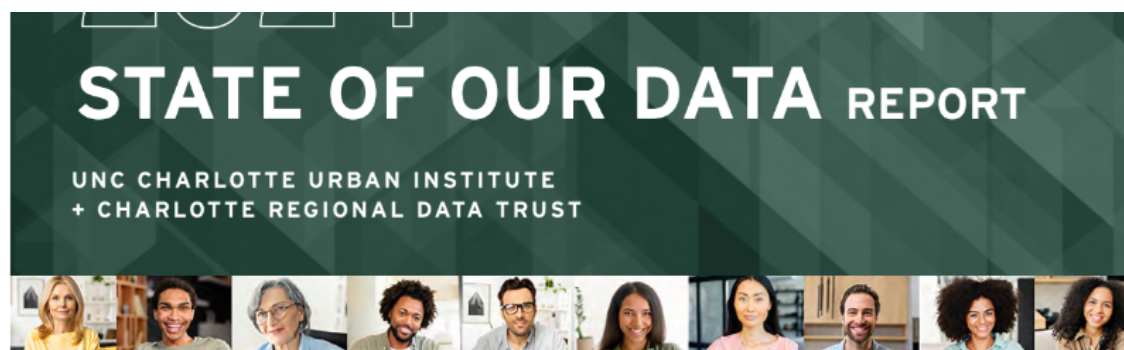
Lori Thomas, Ph.D.

Last week, the Institute + Data Trust celebrated the end of a successful investment campaign to support the development of an enduring community data infrastructure. The campaign was the first in the Data Trust's 20-year history as a nonprofit organization. The celebration and demonstration of our new web portal mark a transition from an intensive period of infrastructure development to a future of broader and strategic community use of our data resources.

As we prepare ourselves for the new year and new opportunities afforded by the investments of our community partners, here's a brief look at Institute + Data Trust highlights from 2024. [\[RELIVE THE YEAR\]](#)

## Annual Report





## The State of *Our* Data

### **Charlotte Urban Institute + Data Trust**

The Charlotte Urban Institute (Institute) + Charlotte Regional Data Trust (Data Trust) have studied the growth and challenges of our 14-county region for decades, working closely with community partners and other diverse stakeholders on issues ranging from homelessness to preserving our environmental resources. We exist to equip changemakers in our communities and region with data and information that kindles community transformation and makes a difference in people's lives.

Ultimately, as a nonpartisan, applied research and community outreach center, we not only seek solutions to the social, economic and environmental challenges facing our communities, we also work to help people in the community understand our findings through data-driven insights.

This year, we are proud to share more about who we are, our work and our partners, the data we hold in trust today, and our vision for the future through our inaugural State of *Our* Data report. [\[READ THE REPORT\]](#)

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### **Research News**



## New Research Shows Stable Housing May Lead to Positive Educational Outcomes

**Eric Moore, Ph.D.**

North Carolina public schools reported 35,282 students experienced some type of "inadequate" living situation during the 2022-23 school year. Of the students in these living situations, ranging from residing in an overcrowded dwelling to being homeless, 4,815 were students of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS).

Given the increasing number of students identified as McKinney-Vento in the last few years, Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region partnered with the Charlotte Urban Institute to study the potential implications of homeownership

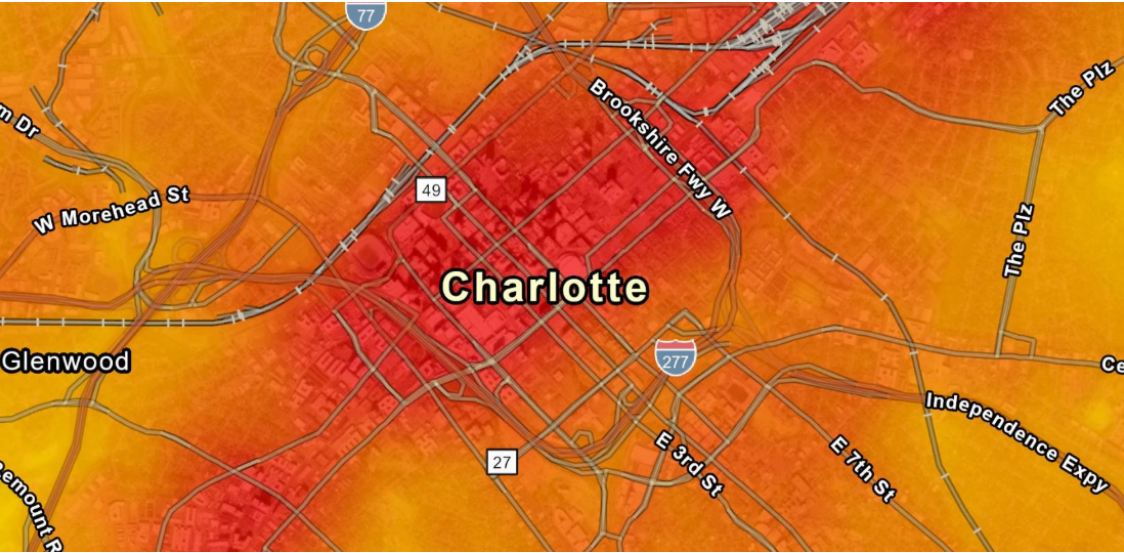


on childhood well-being. [\[HERE'S WHAT THE DATA SHOW\]](#)

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Community Partner News

*Each month, the Charlotte Urban Institute is proud to share insights from community partners who are aligned with our mission to provide a better quality of life for everyone in the Charlotte region.*



[Charlotte is Hot. Literally.](#)

Katherine Idziorek, Ph.D., Matthew Eastin, Ph.D., Michelle Zuñiga, Ph.D., Joe Wiswell

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), extreme heat is--and continues to be--the top weather-related cause of death in the United States. This summer, the Charlotte Heat Mappers, a group of community scientists comprised of nonprofits and government entities led by UNC Charlotte's Department of Earth, Environmental and Geographical Sciences, took to the streets of Charlotte to measure and map urban heat across the city as part of the NOAA's urban heat island campaign.

Primarily, the initiative was intended to identify areas in 14 communities and four international cities where people are most at risk during extreme heat waves.

The case for Charlotte? The city is hot -- with the highest heat indexes recorded in the urban corridor stretching along South Boulevard, through Uptown, and into the North Davidson (NoDa) neighborhood along North Tryon Street. [\[READ MORE FROM THE HEAT MAPPERS\]](#)

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Read more from the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

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