

COVID-19 IMPACT STUDY

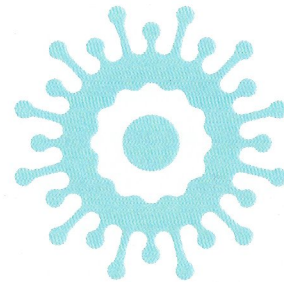
HEALTH | EQUITY | DATA IN NORTH CAROLINA

Since March 2020 North Carolina has seen more than **3.5 million confirmed COVID-19 cases** and almost **30,000 deaths**. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted severe health disparities in historically marginalized communities. Hispanic, African-American, and other minority groups made up the majority of severe cases and deaths. People with disabilities faced higher unemployment rates and were six times more likely to die from COVID-19 than others. The **HBCU Health Equity Data Consortium** conducted the **COVID-19 Impact Survey** to evaluate how COVID-19 affected the health, economic, and social well-being of North Carolina residents based on race, ethnicity, and disability.



Who took the survey?

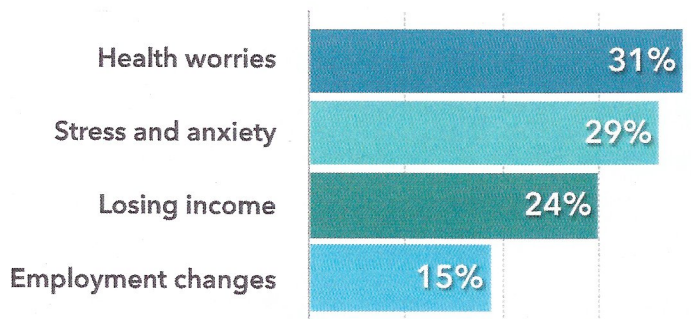
In total **3,333 responses** were collected from households in regions, 2, 3 and 6 in North Carolina between January and July 2023. In a later phase data was collected from all of NC. **52%** of respondents identified as Non-Hispanic Black and **6%** as Hispanic or Latino/a/x.



COVID-19 Illness

Nearly 40% of surveyed households reported a COVID-19 illness. Severe infection requiring hospitalization accounted for 2.6%, and 0.5% resulted in death. Households with members who had disabilities, families with children and negative wealth showed higher rates of COVID-19 illness.

Common COVID-19 Impacts



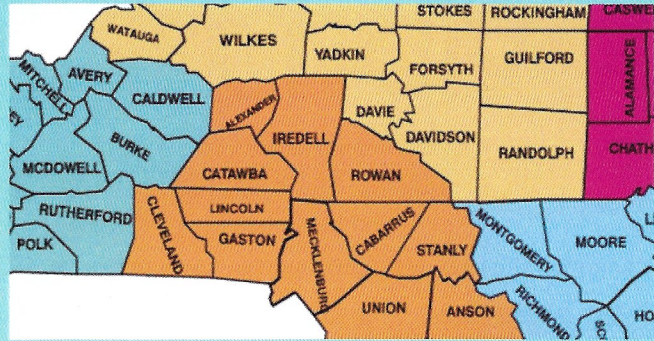
Disparities

Hispanic respondents were most likely to report COVID-19 illness and was significantly more likely to have lost income (37%) or experience changes in employment (31%). Black households were more likely to report a negative wealth which could lead to more COVID-19 illness and were more likely to have experienced the loss of a loved one (20%).



Survey methods

The survey was conducted in two phases. Phase 1, running from January to July 2023, gathered responses from participants across Medicaid Regions 2, 3, and 6. Phase 2, conducted October 2023 to March 2024 extended the efforts to include all of NC. The survey reached participants through postcards, phone calls, hardcopy mailings, and in-person community events, ensuring a broad and inclusive data collection approach.



More impact from COVID-19 in region 3

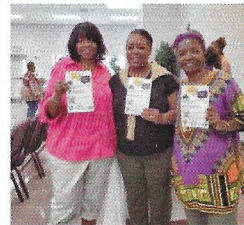
Region 3 (including urban areas like Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties) was disproportionately affected by COVID-19 impacts. Respondents in region 3 had significant lower vaccination rates. Only 50% of households had received the primary vaccinations, which could contribute to more COVID-19 related impacts. Furthermore 13% of region 3 households did not have health insurance which could limit access to healthcare resources and preventive measures. Region 3 also has a larger Hispanic population and younger population which experienced more COVID-19 illness and more impacts.

Learn more

For more information, visit our homepage:



Complete a survey to provide feedback on the information from the COVID-19 study:



Who are we?

Johnson C. Smith University led the data collection in region 3 in NC. We are part of the the HBCU Health Equity Data Consortium funded by NC DHHS and established to address these issues by improving data collection methods and ensuring equitable public health responses. The study was conducted in collaboration with NC A&T, Elizabeth City State University, Winston-Salem State University, Shaw University, UNC Chapel Hill and Charlotte Area Fund, From One to Some, Poor No More, Lionel Lee Jr Center for Wellness, Historic West End Neighborhood Association and Grooming for Greatness.



Johnson C. Smith University



Health Equity Data Consortium