



**LET'S
TALK!**
2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment



← → ↻ 🔍 Chatham County Public Health Department

2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

Chatham County Board of Commissioners - 08.29.2022



What is the Community Assessment?



← → 🔍 2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

What is the Community Assessment?

- Collaborative effort between the Chatham Health Alliance, the Chatham County Public Health Department (CCPHD), and Chatham Hospital, in addition to community members throughout the county
- Understanding the needs of the community
- Identifying factors that affect health and well-being in Chatham County
- Determining the availability of resources within the community to support optimal health for all

Chatham County Community Assessment 2021





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources



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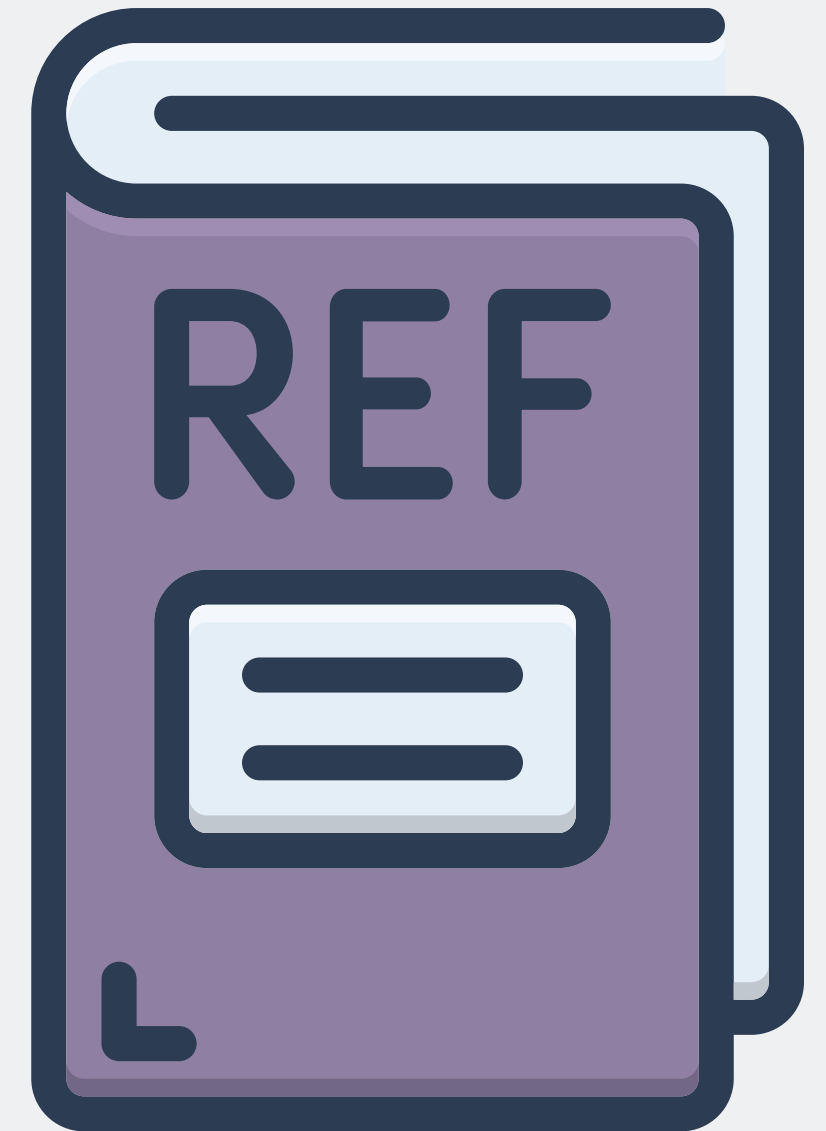
Data Sources

Primary Data

- *Chatham County Community Survey (2021)*
- Supplemental community survey (2021)
- Story Circles--qualitative (2021)

Secondary Data

- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2019)
- American Community Survey - U.S. Census Bureau (2020)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
- N.C. Center for State Health Statistics
- Local government agencies, including county and city government, schools
- National, state and local nonprofits





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Key Findings
and Themes



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Key Findings and Themes

- Historic and continued systemic racism persists in driving health inequities across nearly all facets of health and well-being in Chatham County.
- The COVID-19 pandemic affected nearly every area of health and wellbeing of Chatham County, mostly in a negative way.
- Priorities identified in the previous Community Assessment remain concerns, including access to health care, healthy eating and active living, and economic resilience.
- New topics also emerged as priorities, including mental health and substance use, transportation, and employment.
- Growth and development in Chatham County present both opportunities and challenges for the future.



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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

Community
Voices



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Chatham County adults selected the following as their top 10 areas for the county to focus on in order to improve health and quality of life in the community.



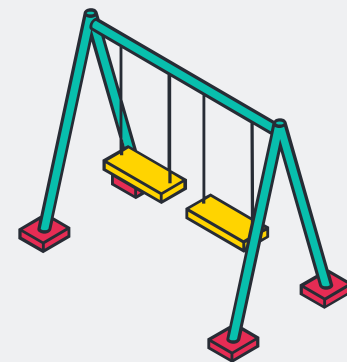
**Water
quality**



**Internet
access**



**Parks and
recreation**



- 4. More places to buy groceries
- 5. Higher paying employment
- 6. Healthy aging/aging in place
- 7. More affordable childcare
- 8. Affordable housing
- 9. Affordable healthy food
- 10. Sidewalks/bike lanes



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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

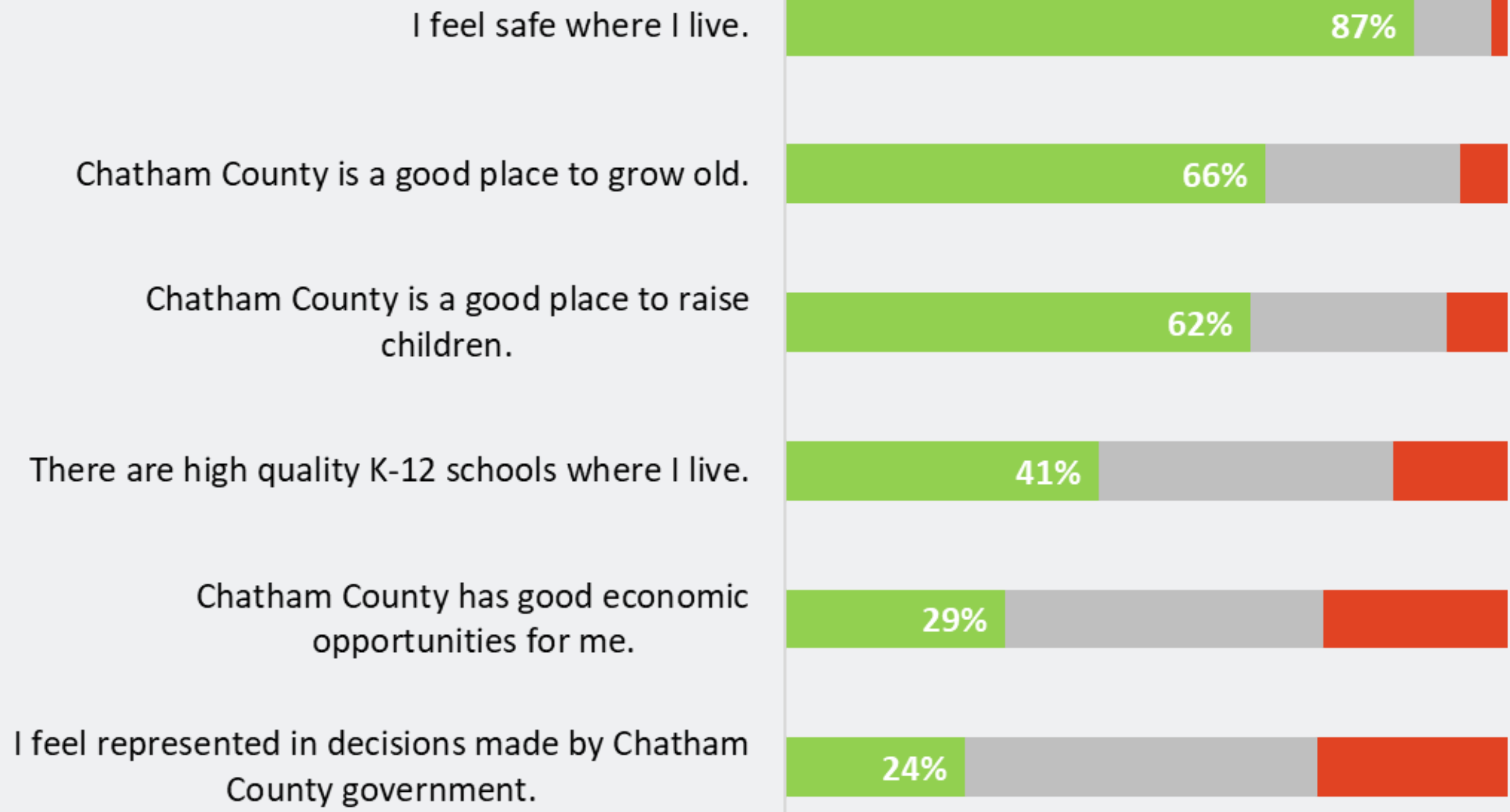
Community
Voices



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On average, Chatham County residents feel...

Agree/Strongly Agree Neutral Disagree/Strongly Disagree



Source: CCCS 2021, note: not all totals equal 100%



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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

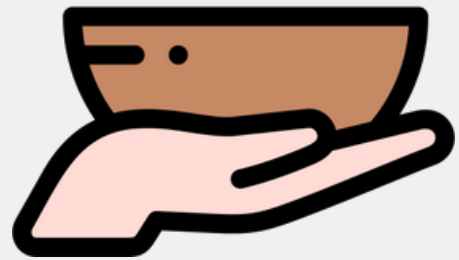
Priorities &
Focus Areas



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**Access to
Comprehensive
Health Services**

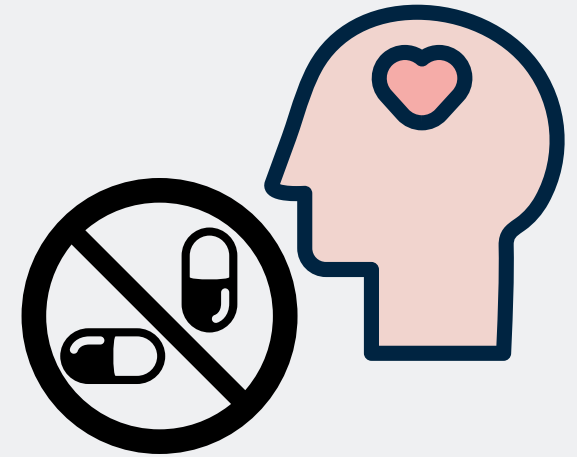


**Economic
Resilience**



**Healthy Eating,
Active Living**

**Mental Health and
Substance Use**



**Employment/
Income**



Transportation





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

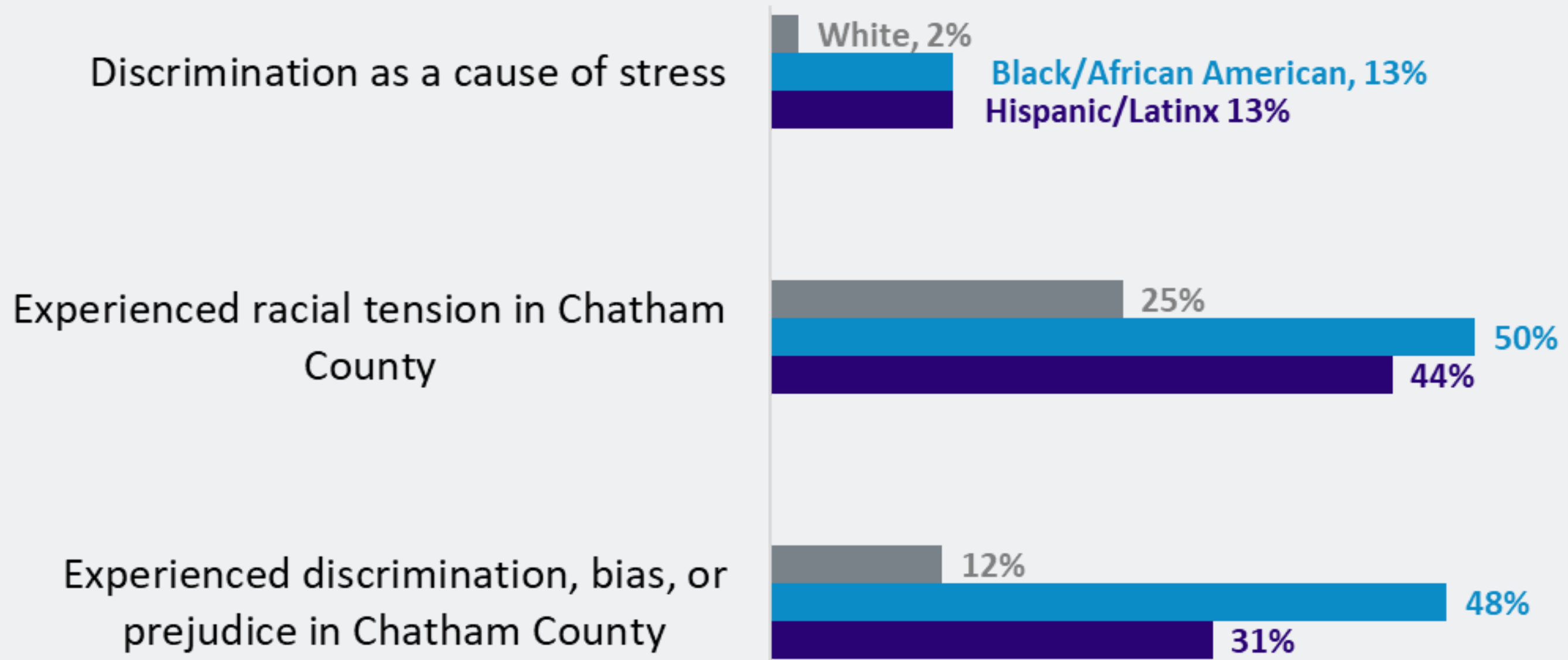
Spotlight on Equity



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Historic and continued systemic racism and other forms of marginalization persist in driving health inequities across nearly all facets of health and well-being in Chatham County.

Black/African American and **Hispanic/Latinx residents** in Chatham County disproportionately experience discrimination, bias, and prejudice compared to **White** residents.





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

Focus Areas

Access to
Comprehensive
Health Services



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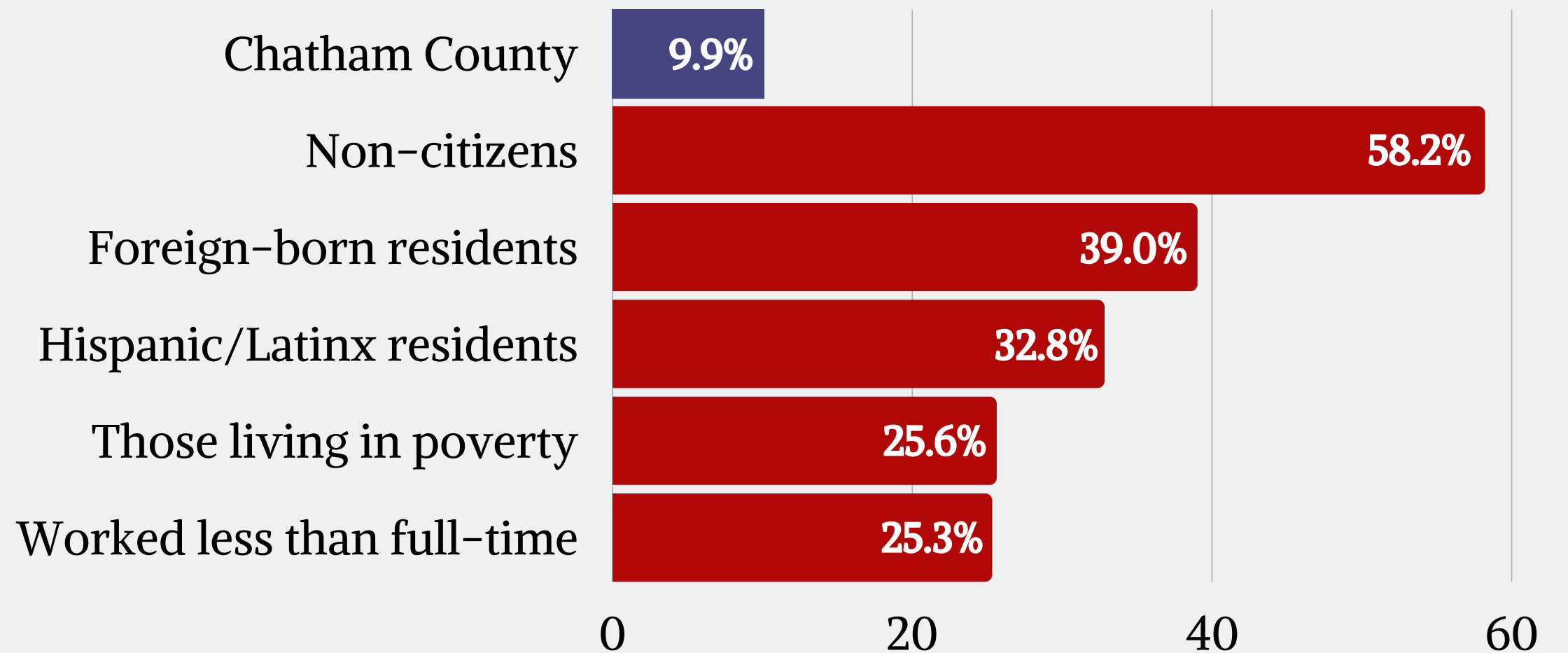
Access to Comprehensive Health Services



Approximately **1 in 10** Chatham County residents (**9.9%**) do not have health insurance.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Percent of residents that do not have health insurance, by demographic



Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

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Focus Areas

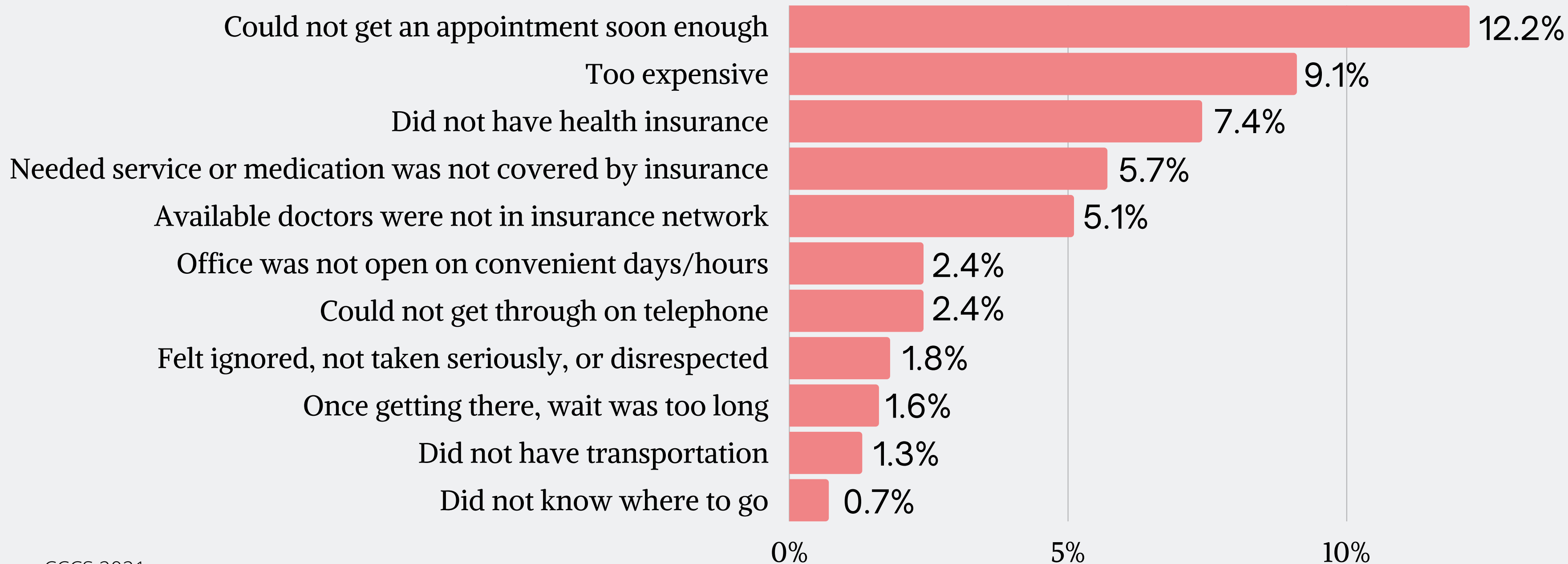
Access to Comprehensive Health Services



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Not being able to get an appointment soon enough and cost are top barriers to accessing health care among Chatham County adults.





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

What is the
Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

Focus Areas

Maternal & Child
Health Disparities

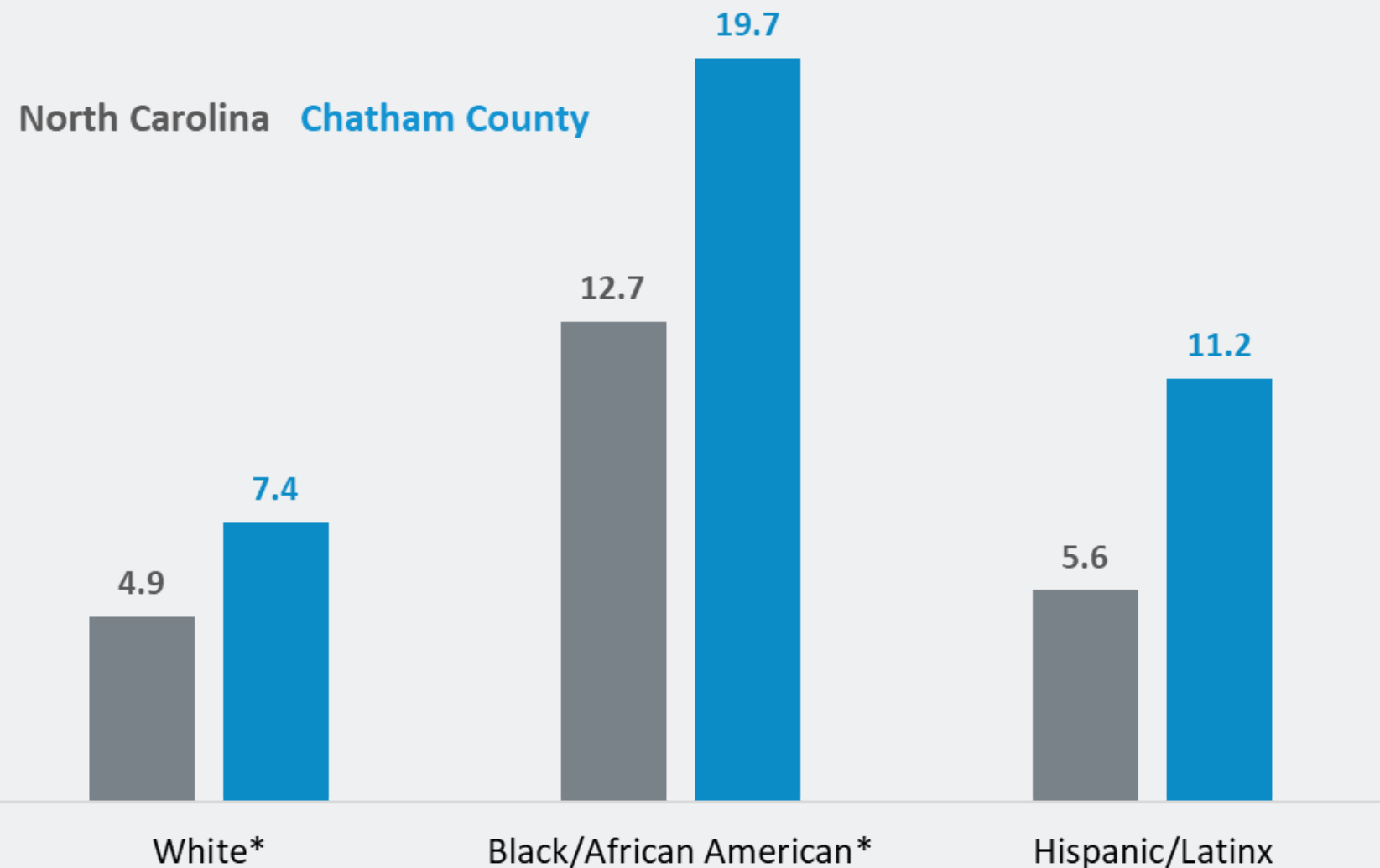


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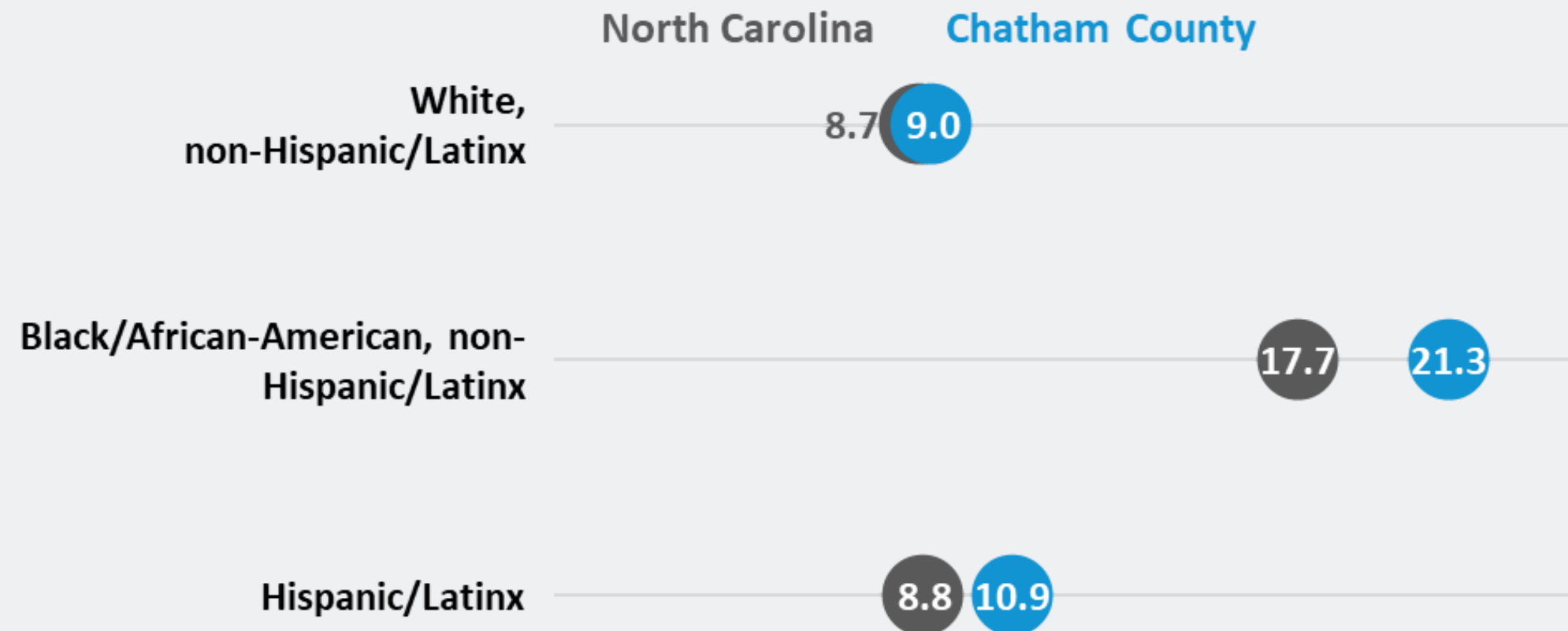


Birth Outcomes in Chatham County, 2016-2020

Infant mortality is higher in **Chatham County** compared to the state overall across demographic groups.



Black/African American residents experience a higher percentage of low and very low birth weights in the county and the state. This is slightly higher for Hispanic/Latinx residents in the county as well.



*non-Hispanic/Latinx

Source: NC Center for State Health Statistics, 2016-2020

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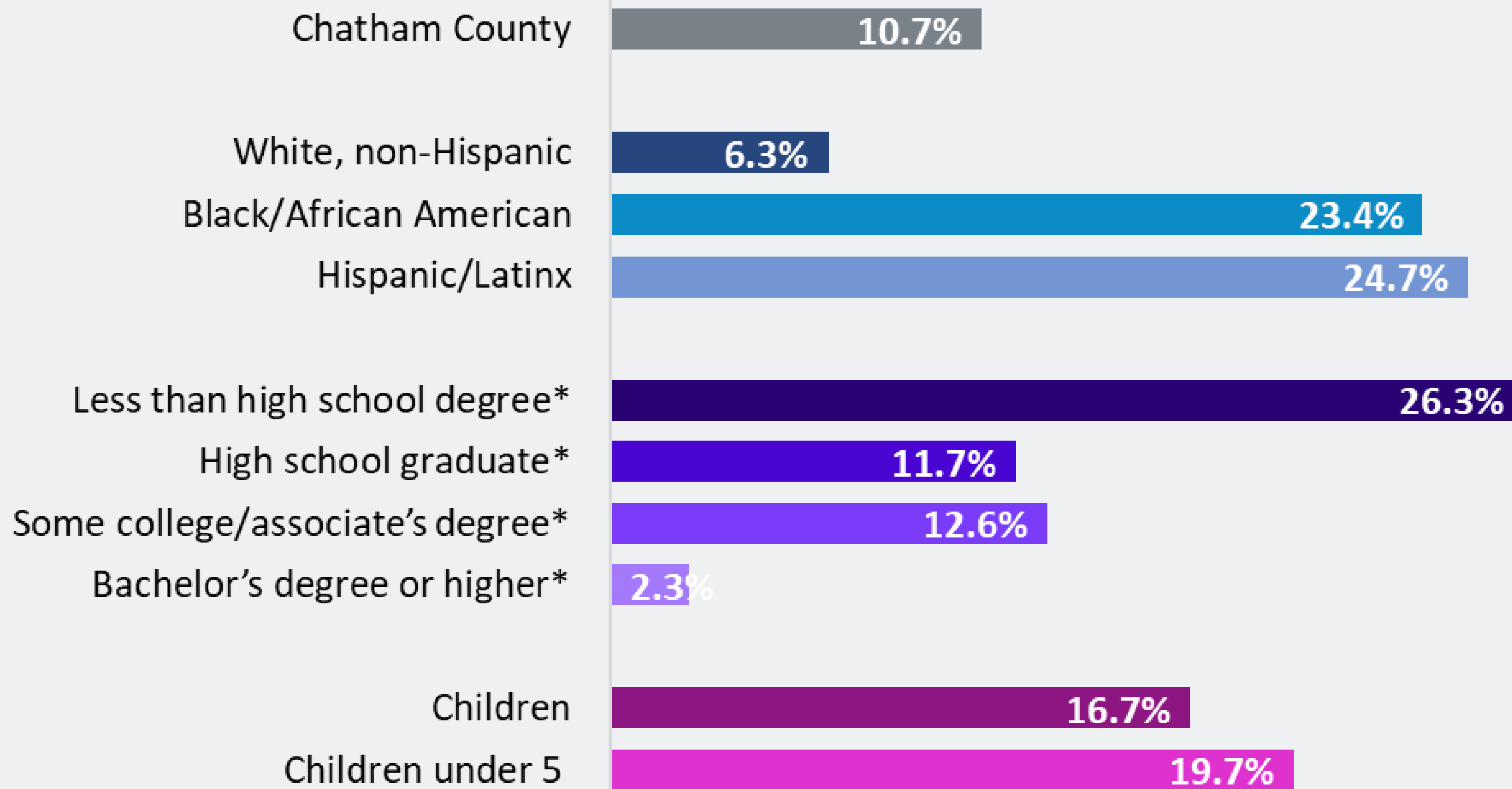
Focus Areas

Economic Resilience



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Poverty rates are disproportionately high among several groups in Chatham County.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

What is the Community Assessment?

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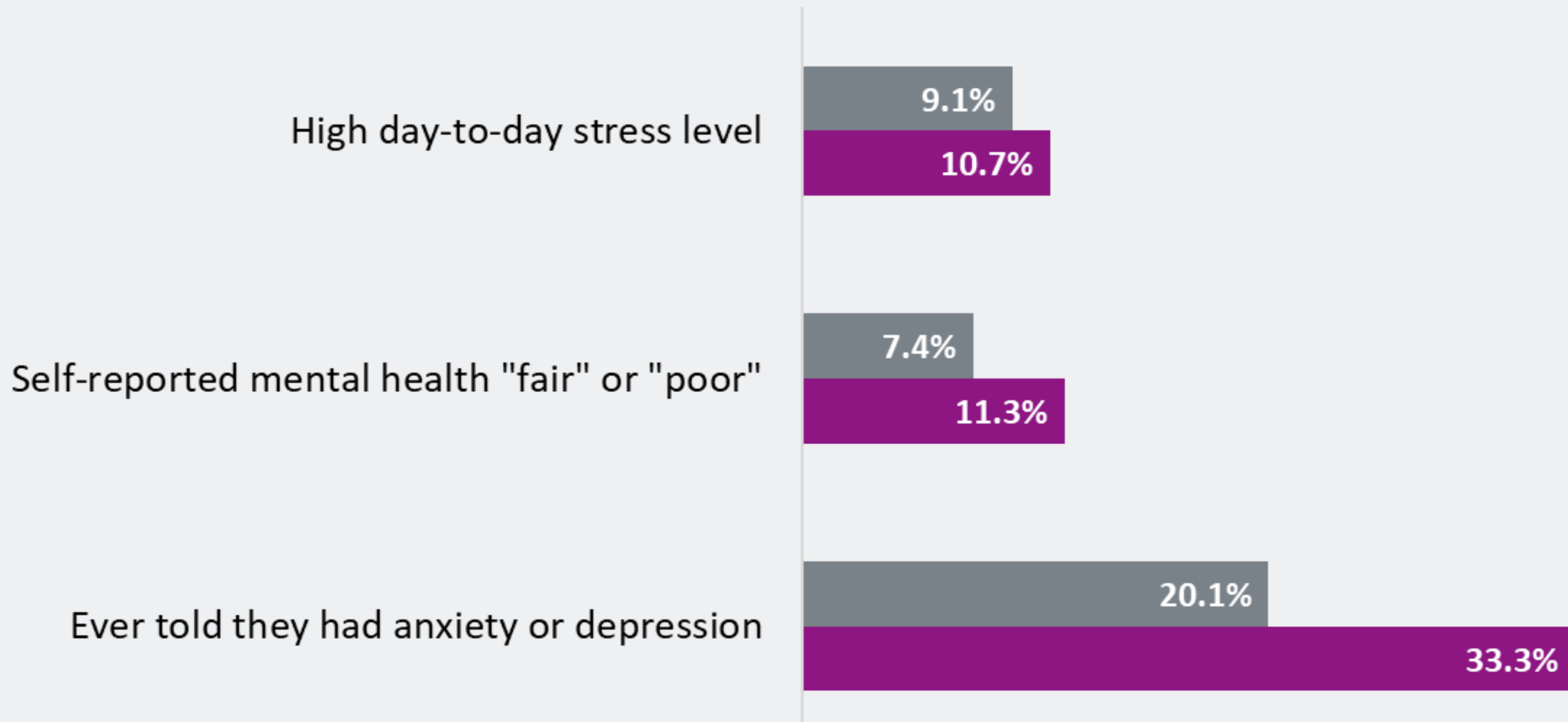
Focus Areas

Mental Health



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Several key mental health indicators worsened among adults in Chatham County from 2018 to 2021.



Source: CCCS 2018 & 2021



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2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

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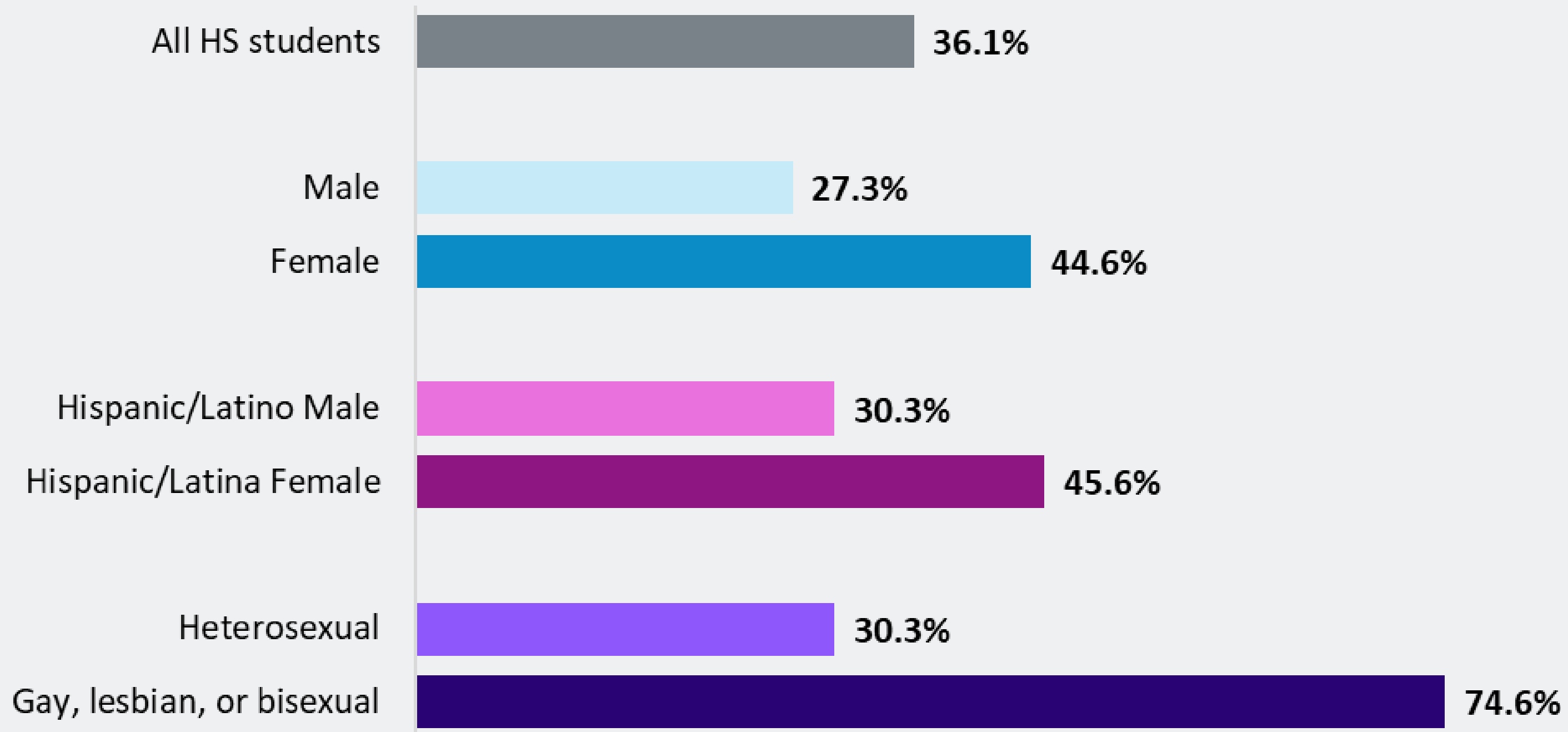
Focus Areas

Mental Health



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More than one third of Chatham HS students reported experiencing depression in the past year (2019).



Source: YRBS 2019



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2021 Chatham County Community Assessment

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Data Sources

Focus Areas

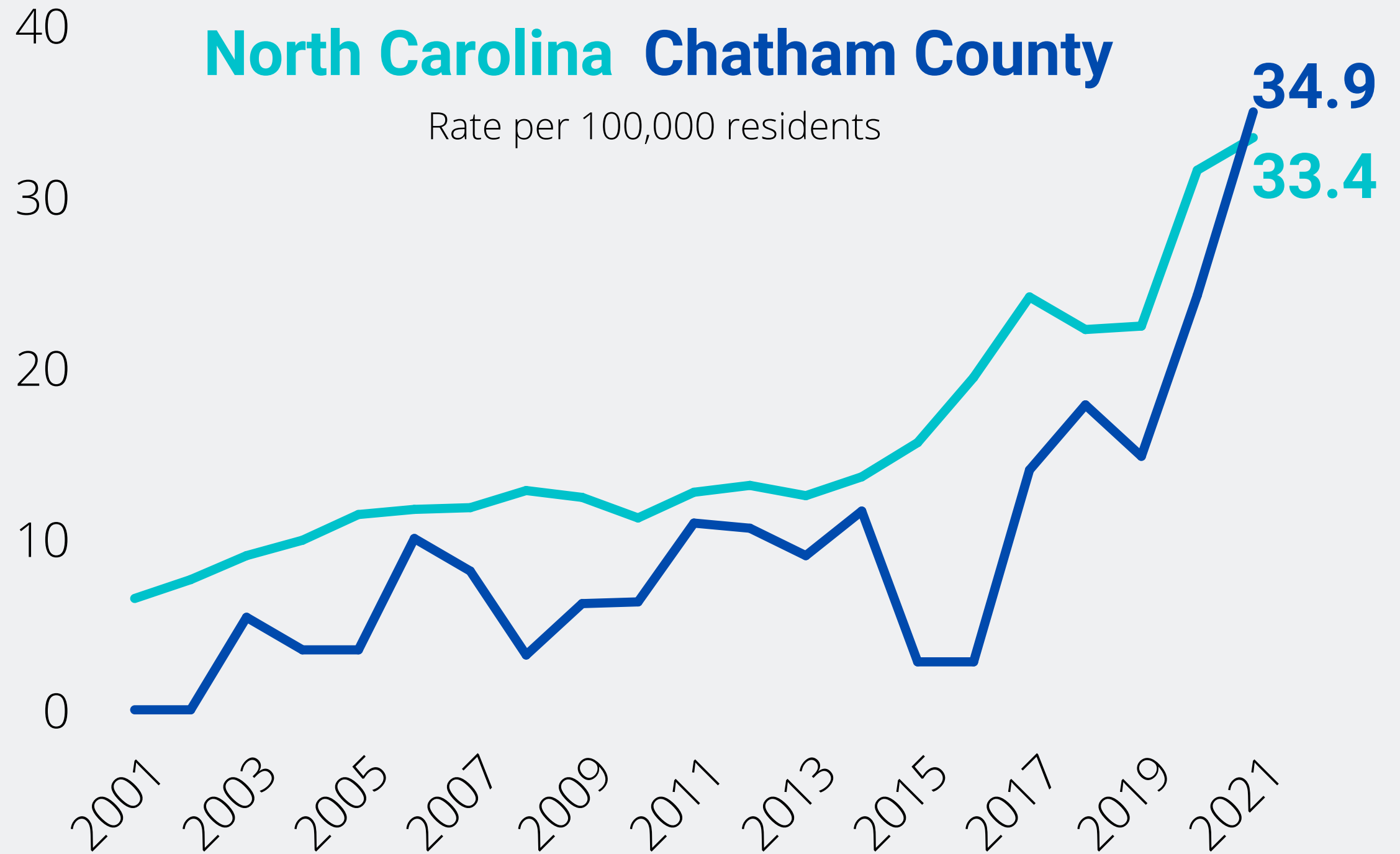
Substance Use



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In 2021, for the first time, the rate of drug overdose deaths in Chatham County surpassed the state rate.

The rate of drug overdose deaths (including deaths from opioids, stimulants, benzodiazepines, and other drugs) has been steadily climbing in Chatham County since 2016 and reached an all-time high in 2021, surpassing the state rate of 33.4 deaths per 100,000. After years of fluctuation, Chatham's drug overdose count increased by **1,200%** from 2 in 2016 to 26 in 2021.





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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Community
Assessment?

Data
Sources

Focus Areas

Transportation

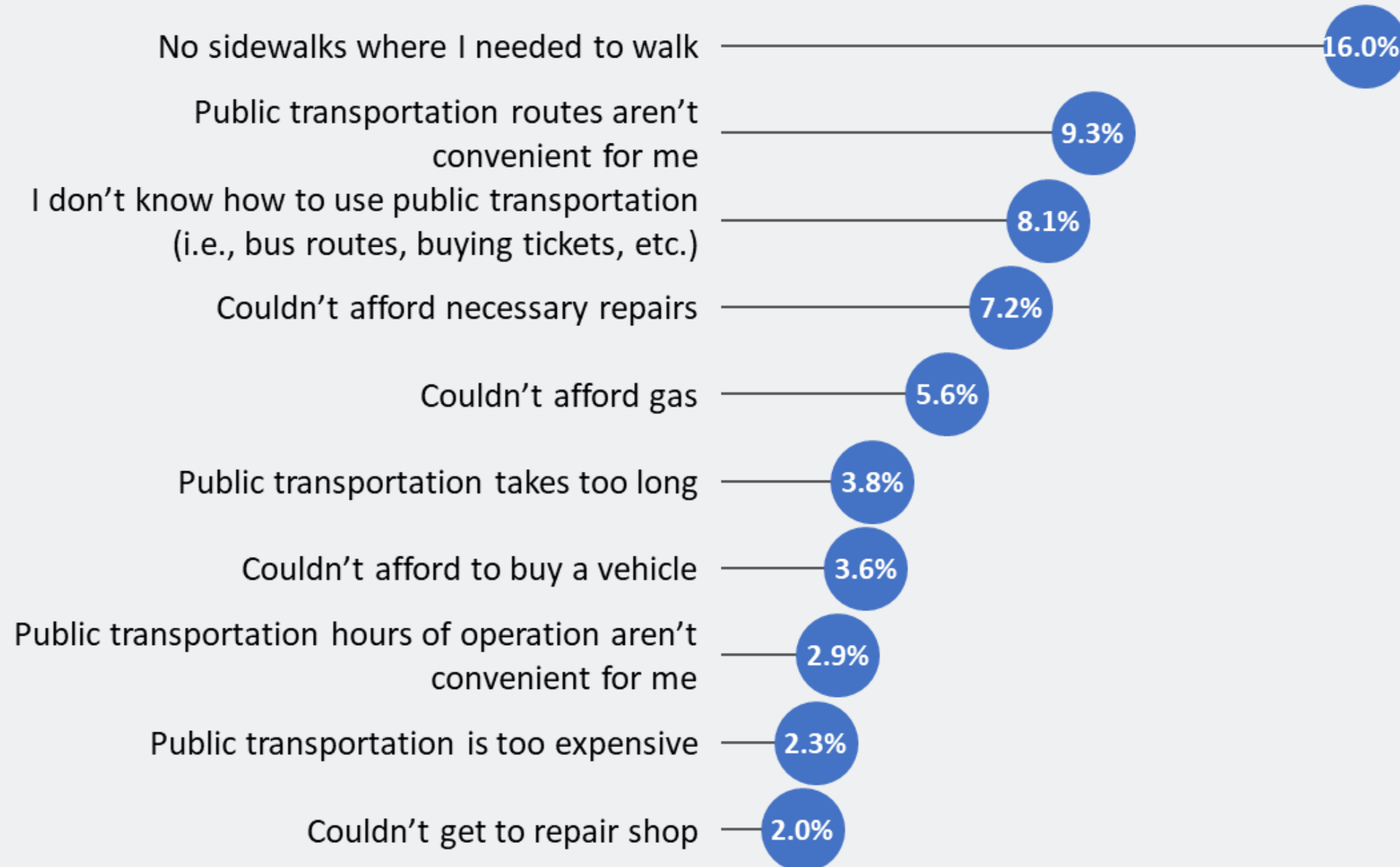


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Not having sidewalks where they needed to walk was the top transportation barrier reported among Chatham County adults.

Transportation





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2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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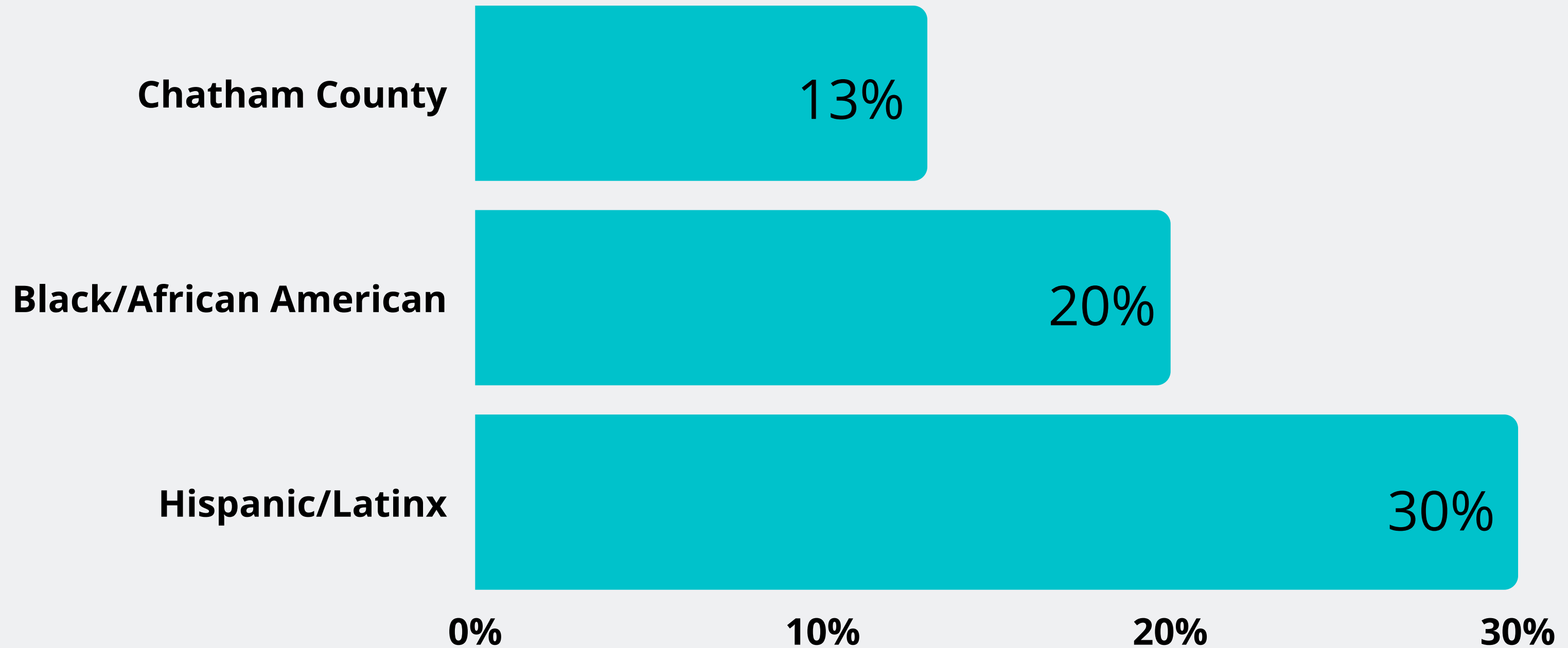
Focus Areas

Healthy Eating,
Active Living



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Worry about running out of food before there was money to buy more in past year





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TALK!**
2021 Chatham County
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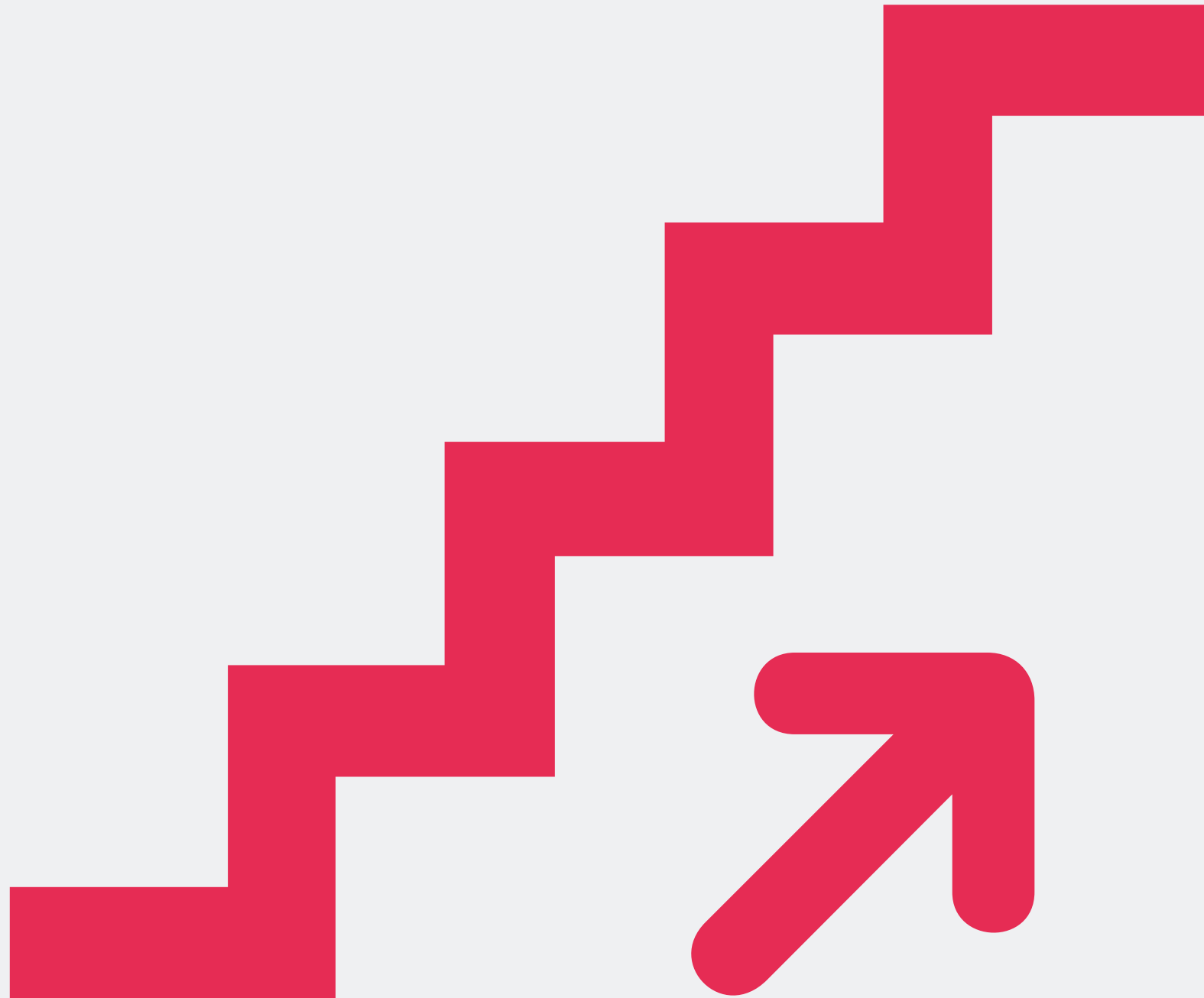
Data
Sources

Focus Areas

Next
Steps



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Next Steps

- Data and findings will be shared with community members and organizations throughout the county.
- The Chatham Health Alliance will lead the development of Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs) which outline strategies for addressing the priority topics that emerged from this assessment. These plans will be completed in Fall 2022.
- CCPHD, Chatham Hospital, and other organizations will also use these findings to inform their strategic plans.



LET'S
TALK!
2021 Chatham County
Community Assessment

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Community
Assessment?

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Sources

Focus Areas

QUESTIONS?



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