

Quick Facts

- Over 55,000 of our neighbors in Greenville County are living in poverty. Poverty is concentrated in communities of color with 19% of black residents and 24% of Hispanic residents living in poverty, compared to 9% of white residents.^{1,5}
- Over 87 percent of all adults over the age of 25 have a high school diploma or higher, yet median real household income across Greenville County has decreased by nearly 9 percent since 1990.²
- Thirty six percent of households in Greenville County spend 25 percent or more of their income on rental costs (up from 23 percent in 1990).²
- Over 62,000 people under the age of 65 do not have health insurance.¹
- During the 2017-2018 school year, nearly 1,100 Greenville County students were homeless — a number that has increased 113 percent since 2012.³
- Nearly 40% of households do not have three months of expenses in savings.⁴
- Approximately 16% of Greenville County children are food insecure.⁴
- Black household income is 56% of white household income. This is worse than the state and U.S. averages, and the trend is not improving. The gap is even wider in the City of Greenville.⁵
- There is a persistent gender-based and race-based pay gap in Greenville County, with black males earning 51% of white males. Earned income for top earners has increased over the past 30 years, while earned income for lower- and middle-class workers has declined.⁵
- The infant mortality rate for black babies is twice as high as the rate for white babies. A black woman with an advanced degree is more likely to lose her baby within the first year than a white woman with less than an eighth-grade education.⁶
- Currently, over half of all Greenville County eighth-graders test below state standards in math, reading and ELA.⁶

¹ US Census Bureau Data, 2018

² Furman/United Way Study, Phase 2, 2017

³ Greenville Journal, 1 Aug 2018

⁴ Prosperity Now Scorecard 2019

⁵ Greenville County Racial Equity Index, 2020

⁶ Greenville County Community Needs Assessment, 2020