

Poverty Mitigation

Summary:

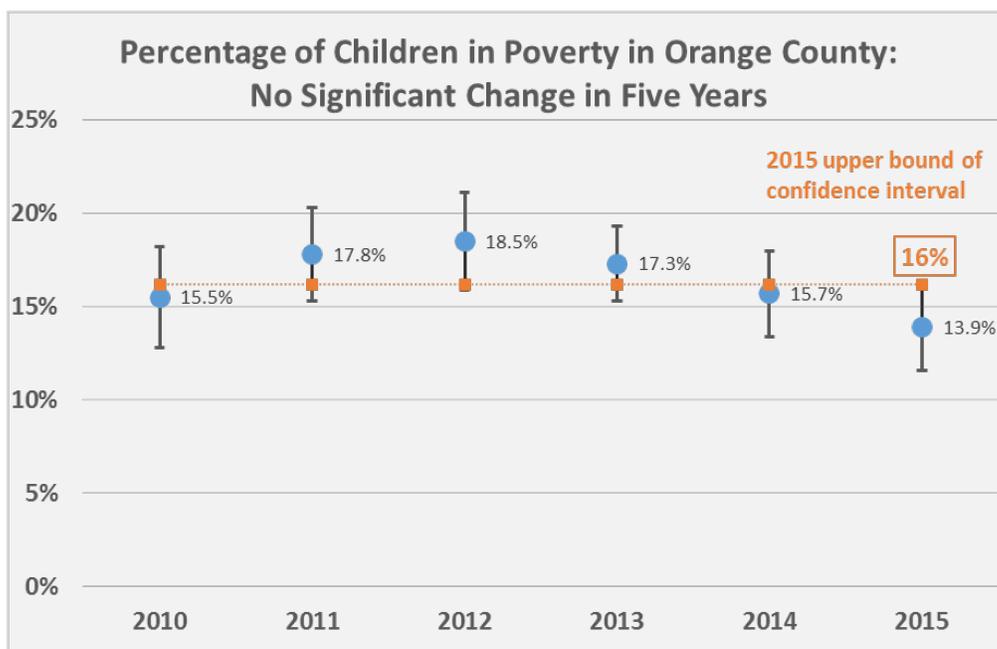
Orange County has the highest Gini Coefficient of Income Inequality of all counties in NC with a population larger than 60,000 people (0.53). This means our county experiences high income dispersion, where fewer people hold a lot of wealth and many people hold little wealth. While the median income for households in Orange County is more than \$59,000, **16% of residents are living in poverty**, including **14% of children**. Food insecurity and affordable housing are key areas of emphasis for mitigating the effects of poverty in Orange County. According to Feeding America, **the percentage of the population that is food insecure (15%) stayed the same** from 2013 to 2014. Orange County saw a decline in the percent of renters paying 30% or more of their income on rent, the definition of unaffordable housing. However, **nearly half of Orange County renters still pay unaffordable rates for housing.**

- Performing better than four or more benchmarks
 - ▲ Performing better than two or three benchmarks
 - ◆ Performing better than one or no benchmarks
 - ▲▲ Positive trend
 - ▲▼ Negative trend
 - ▲▲ SAME No trend
 - Trend cannot be assessed
 - Significant change from previous that is positive, negative, or indeterminable (grey)
- Benchmarks include Target, Previous, Peer, NC, and US*

Social and Economic Determinants of Health	Progress Icon	Orange County		Trend		Compare to		
		Current	Target	Previous	Progress	Peer	NC	US
% Population living in Poverty	▲	16%	13%	17%	SAME	16%	17%	16%
% Children <18 living in Poverty	●	14%	NA	16%	SAME	22%	25%	22%
% Households on SNAP benefits	●	7%	NA	8%	SAME	12%	14%	13%
% Unemployed	●	6%	NA	8%	SAME	7%	9%	6%
% Population that is Food Insecure	◆	15%	6%	15%	SAME	14%	18%	15%
% Children Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch	●	35%	NA	34%	SAME	56%	52%	48%
% Renters paying >30% Income on Rent	▲	46%	36%	53%	▼	47%	46%	48%
4 year Graduation Rate (%)	●	89%	95%	88%	SAME	86%	86%	83%
Gini Coefficient of Income Inequality (0= most equal, 1.0 = least equal)	◆	0.53	NA	0.52	SAME	0.45	0.47	0.48

Data Notes: See the **Public Health Dashboard FAQ Document** for more on data methodology.

Sources: ACS (2014-15), Feeding America (2013-14), NC Public Schools (2014-15, 2015-16), NCES (2013-15). Data points are the most current measures from multiple sources (more information available on request).



The percentage of children living in poverty in Orange County has not changed significantly in the past five years.

While survey estimates show a variation in percentages from 2010-2015, the confidence intervals for all six years overlap and the upper bounds of 2015 estimates (16.2%) is within the confidence intervals of past five years of estimates, as illustrated by this graph of ACS estimates from 2010-15.