



N.C. Department of Health
and Human Services

NC Division of Social Services **Food Access in North Carolina**



DHHS Programs

- **Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)**
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)**
- **Food and Nutrition Services Outreach Program**
- **Food Banks**
- **Farmers Markets**

FNS Program

- **100% Federally funded food assistance program**
- **Helps eligible low-income households purchase food**
- **FNS benefits issued via Electronic Benefit Transfer cards (EBT cards)**
- **End hunger and improve nutrition and health**
- **Food and Nutrition Services is an entitlement program**
- **Households must be below the federal income poverty level of 130%**

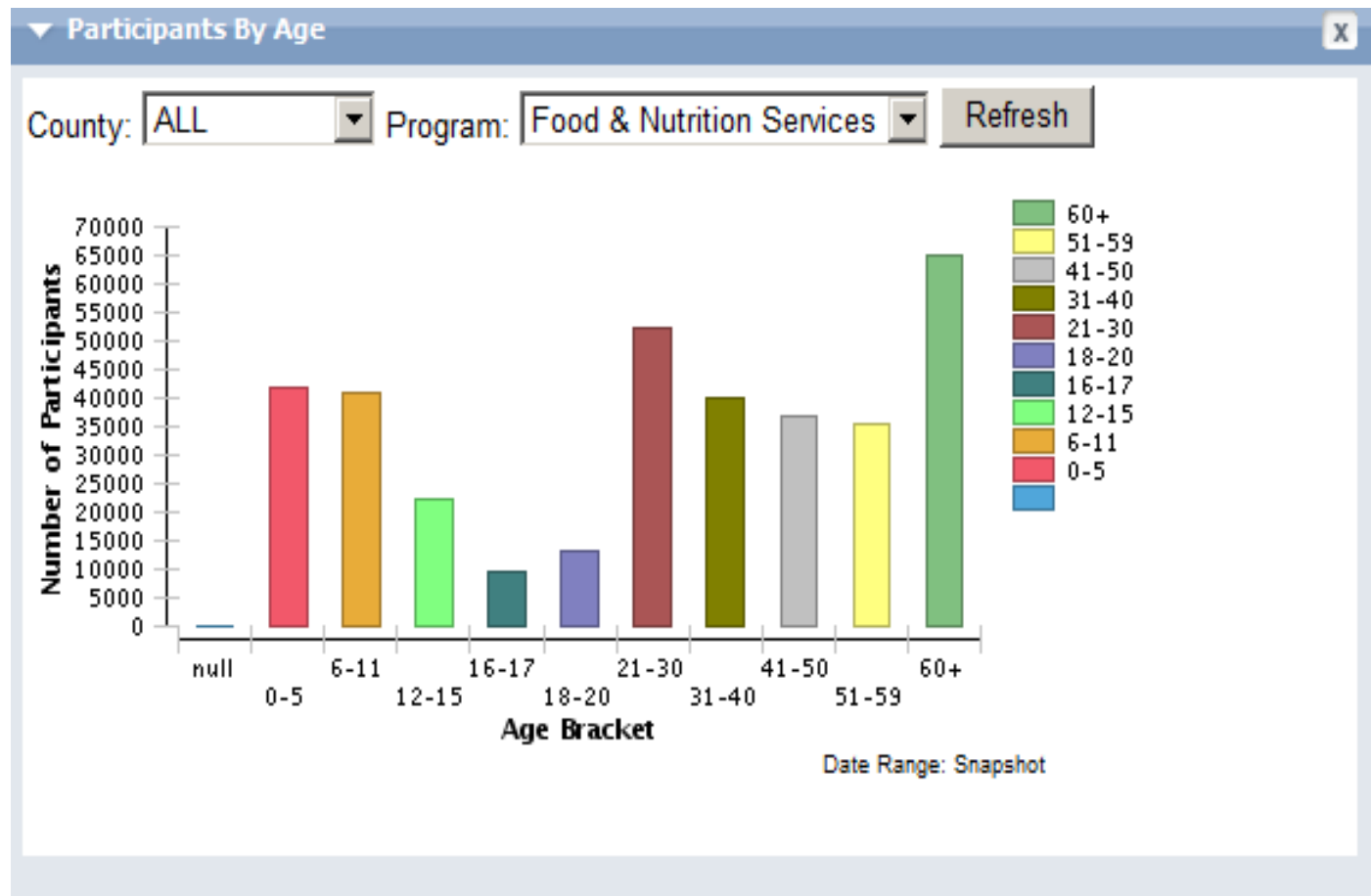
Income Limits Chart

FNSU SIZE	130% MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME LIMIT	MAXIMUM BENEFIT ALLOTMENT
1	\$1,245	\$189
2	\$1,681	\$347
3	\$2,116	\$497
4	\$2,552	\$632
5	\$2,987	\$750
6	\$3,423	\$900
7	\$3,858	\$995
8	\$4,294	\$1,137
Each Additional Member	(+436)	(+142)

FNS Participation in North Carolina

- **779,461 active FNS cases with 1,601,177 participants**
- **~\$2 Billion Annually issued in NC**
- **5,741 households gained from September 2013 to December 2013**
- **16.2% participation rate**

Participants by Age



Additional Benefits of Receiving FNS

- **School-aged children in FNS households eligible for free or reduced lunch**
- **Department of Instruction (DPI) receives daily e-files of households receiving FNS**
- **Lifeline Telephone Discount**

SNAP Education

Program goal:

Improve healthy food choices for households eligible for SNAP on a limited budget * and encourage choosing physically active lifestyles that are consistent with Dietary Guidelines for Americans and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidance.

SNAP Education

North Carolina Partners:

- **NC State University**
- **UNC-Chapel Hill**
- **UNC-Greensboro**
- **Alice Aycock Poe Center**
- **Durham County Health Department**
- **Surry County Cooperative Extension**

100% federally funded budget of \$2,375,363

FNS Outreach Program

- **Corrects SNAP myths/misperceptions**
- **Enables potentially eligible people to make informed decision to participate**
- **Raises awareness of SNAP * eligibility rules * & how to apply**
- **Current fed fiscal year 2013-14:
Reached 7,000 people via distributed materials & application assistance**

FNS Outreach Program

North Carolina Partners:

- **NC State University**
- **Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC**
- **MANNA Food Bank * Council on Aging of Buncombe County**
- **Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County ***
- **Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest**
- **The NC Association of Feeding America**
- **Food Bank of the Albemarle**
- **AARP**

50% federally funded & 50% match from the contractor = \$1,198,935 budget

Food Banks

- **Fight hunger & poverty in NC**
- **Commitment to provide:**
 - **Direct assistance**
 - **Support**
 - **Services**
 - **Advocacy**
 - **Education**
- **Serve without regard to race * color * creed * national origin * religious affiliation * gender * sexual orientation * or mental/physical disability**

DHHS Food Bank Partnerships

- **Food Bank of the Albemarle**
- **Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC**
- **Second Harvest Food Bank Southeast**
- **Second Harvest Northwest**
- **Second Harvest of Metrolina**
- **MANNA Food Bank**

Each Food Bank was awarded \$533,001 with a total award of \$3,198,006

Farmers Markets

- **The purpose of the Farmers Market program is to encourage & increase consumption of fresh fruits & vegetables**
- **USDA contract awarded to National Association of Farmers Market Nutrition Program to ID direct-marketing & non-SNAP authorized markets to assist in becoming SNAP-authorized**
- **NC has \$80,000 to invest by Sept. 2014**

EBT Cards

34 NC Farmers Markets accept EBT Cards through the wireless vender FIS:

- **Stanley Commons FM**
- **Conover FM**
- **4 Sons Farm**
- **Bountiful Cities**
- **Catawba County PH FM**
- **City Market**
- **City Market 1**
- **Cobblestone FM**
- **Davidson FM**
- **Edenton FM**
- **Feast Down East**
- **Foothill FM-Kings Mountain**
- **Friendship Gardens**
Mobile Market
- **Greensboro FM**
- **Kessler Candy Store**
- **Kessler Candy Store 2**
- **Lee's Produce & More 1 & 2**
- **Lenoir Downtown FM**
- **Lincoln County FM**
- **Lincoln County FM**
Denver & DSS
- **Moore County FM**
- **Mount Peace Farm Stand**
- **Old Salem Cobblestone FM**
- **Sawmills FM**
- **South Durham FM**
- **Tart Farms**
- **Transplanting Traditions**
- **W T Family Farms 1 & 2**
- **Watson's Fish on Wheels**
- **Wilson FM**

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N.C. Department of Health
and Human Services

Healthy Food Access for North Carolinians

Division of Aging & Adult Services

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Division of Aging & Adult Services

- **Senior Nutrition Program**
- **NC Aging Demographics**
- **Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program**

Division of Aging & Adult Services

16 Area Agencies on Aging



NC Senior Nutrition Program Facts

Home Delivered Meals Program

- **Targets age ≥ 60 w physical/mental limitations**
- **FY13 – 19,236 participants**
- **~90% at moderate/high risk malnutrition**
- **51% at or below poverty**

Our meal provides 1/2 or more of the daily food intake for almost half of the home-delivered meal recipients.

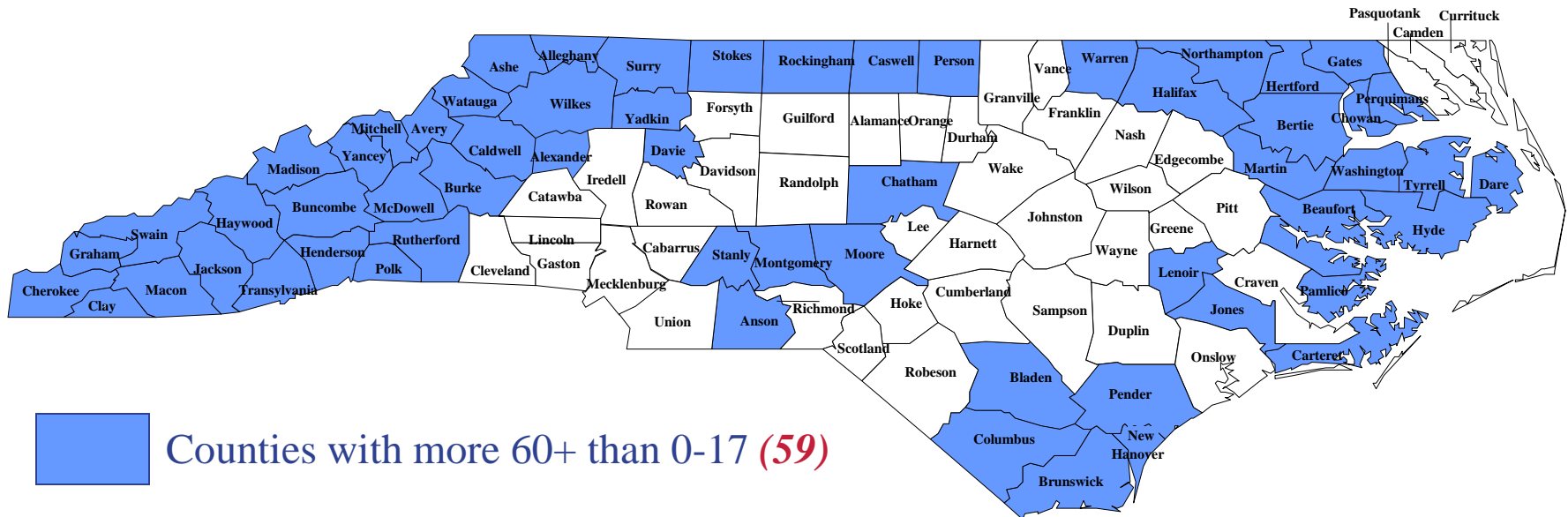
Congregate Nutrition Program

- **Targeted population: low income ≥ 60 y/o**
- **FY13 – 26,593 participants**
- **331 sites statewide 7/12**
- **~43% at moderate/high risk malnutrition**
- **39% at/below poverty**

The Graying of North Carolina

Counties with more people 60+ than 0-17

2012

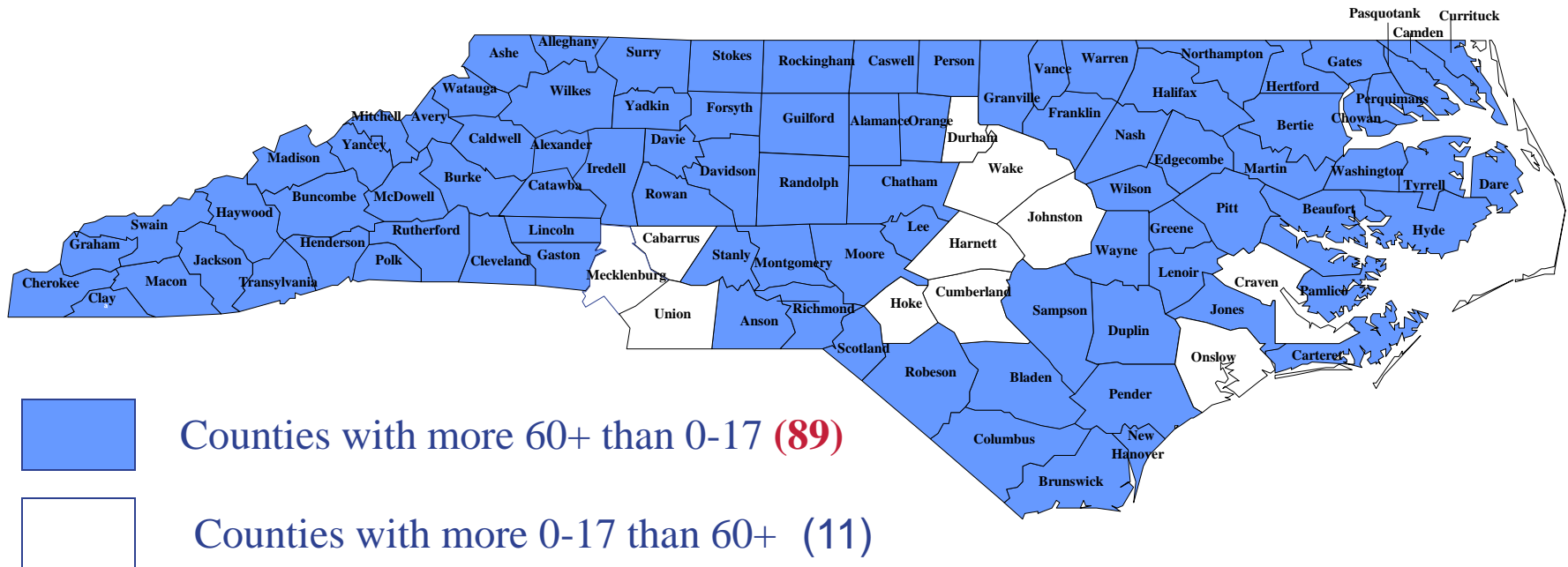


Counties with more 60+ than 0-17 (59)

Counties with more 0-17 than 60+ (41)

Counties with more people 60+ than 0-17

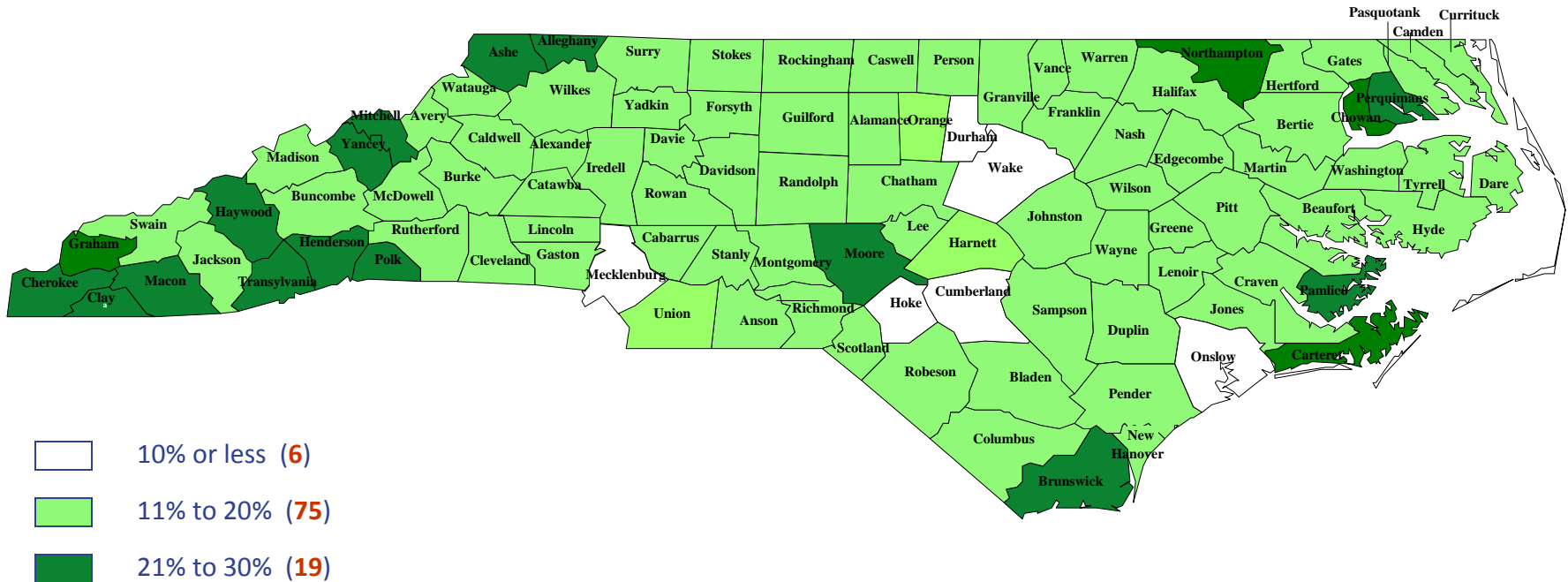
2025



Source: NC State Data Center, 10/1/2013

% of population 65 and over

2012



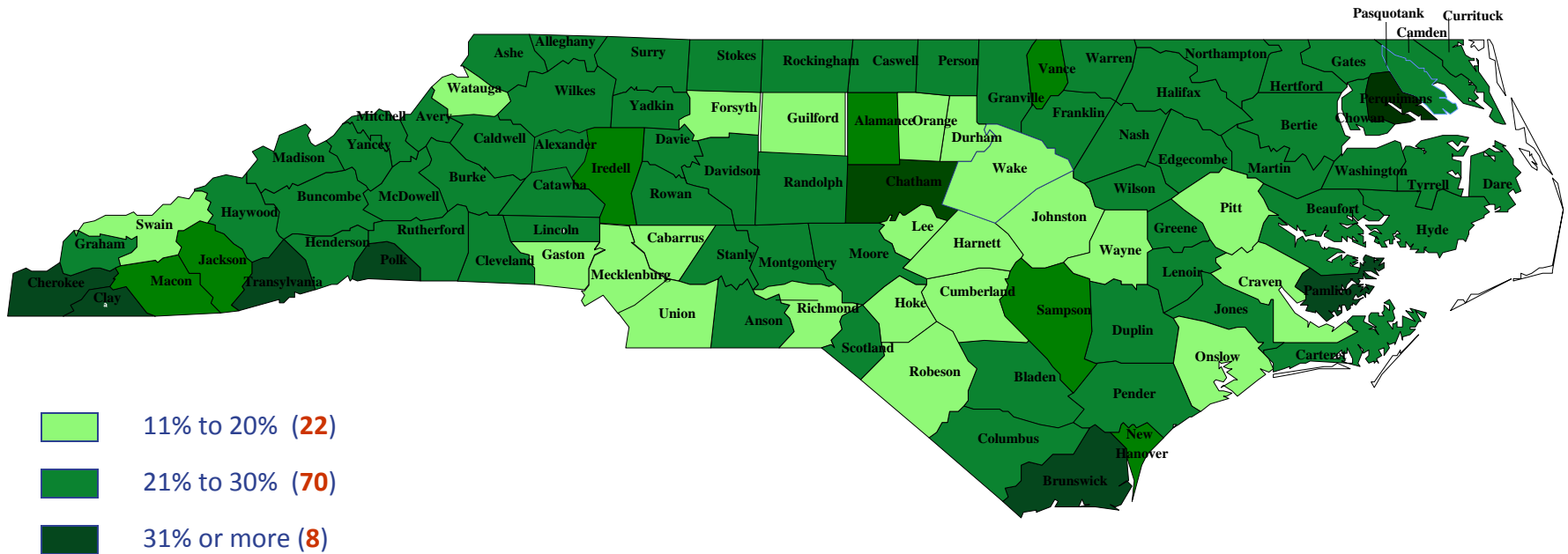
North Carolina – 14%

Range: 7.8%-27.7%

*Number of counties in parenthesis

% of population 65 and over

2032

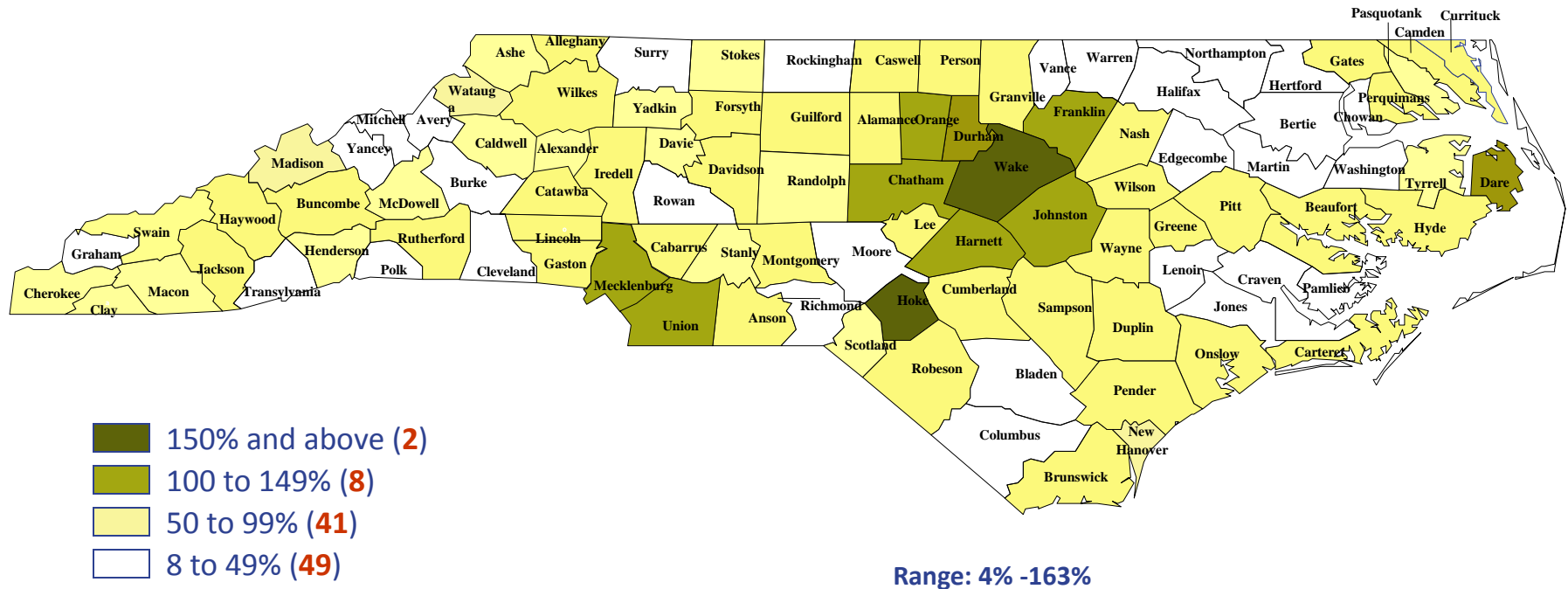


North Carolina – 20%

Range: 10.6%-32.6%

Projected Population Growth: 65 & Over

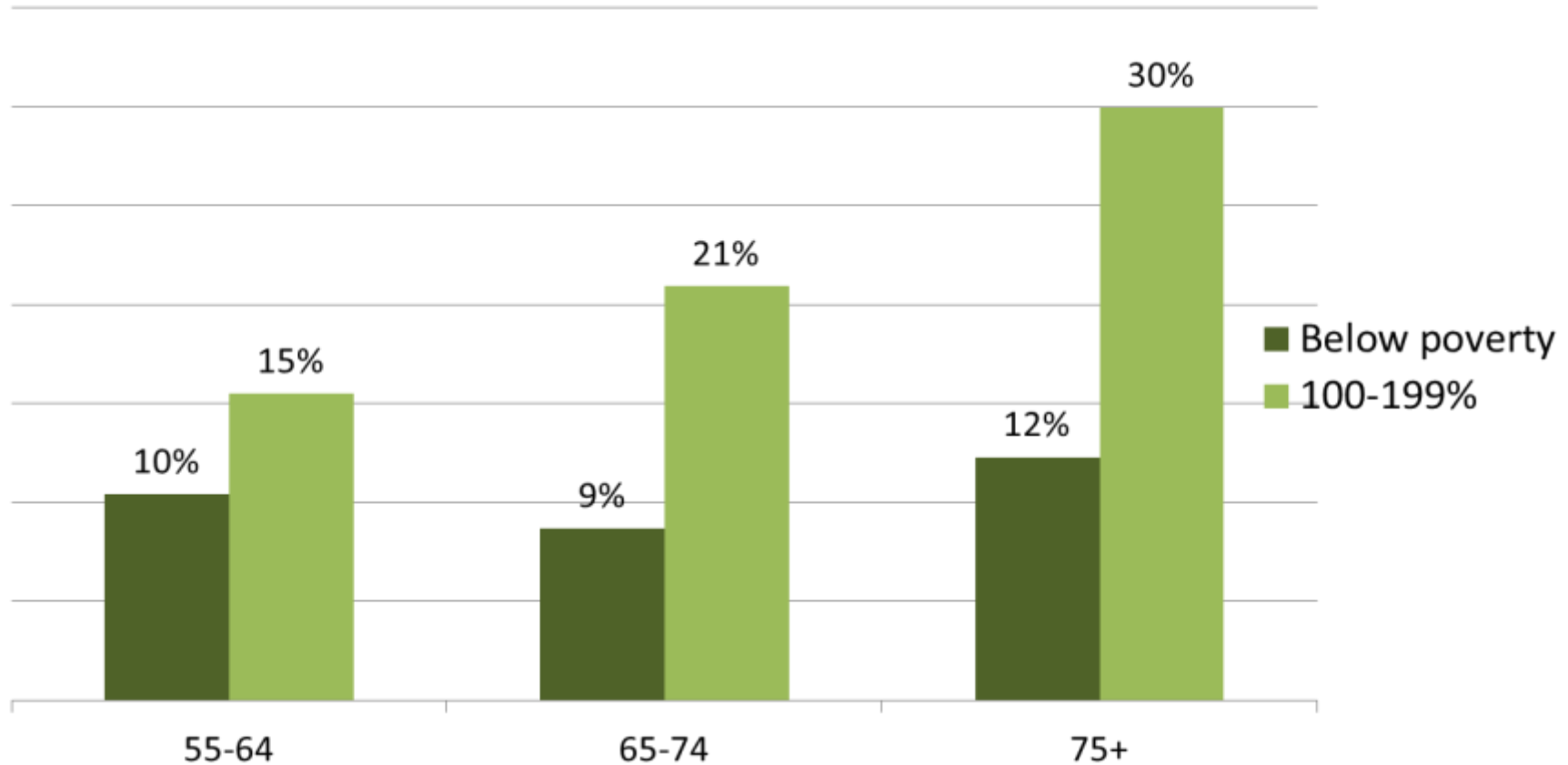
2012 to 2032



*Number of counties in parenthesis



NC Poverty rate increases in older age



- **Unmarried women** have higher poverty rates

- People living in poverty are at risk of having **inadequate resources** for housing, food, health care and other needs

Partnerships/Collaborations

- **SNAP Outreach: DSS, AARP, NCSU, Food Banks & Cooperative Ext.**

- NC Participation Rate including all ages.....**74%**
- NC Participation Rate 55y/o+.....**43%**
- NC monthly allotment average 55y/o+.....**\$96**
- Henderson Co 55+ Participation Rate.....**31%**
- Henderson Co monthly allotment average.....**\$100**

DSS Jan 2012

- ***SNAP-Nutrition Education - NCSU Cooperative Ext.***
- ***Faith based groups: NCBAM – Serving Hope***
- ***Community gardens at senior centers***
- ***Food Banks/food pantries/commodity foods***
- ***Low Income Energy Assistance Program***
- ***Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program***

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Established in 1999 as a pilot, the purposes of the program are to:

1. Provide fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits & vegetables from farmers markets to low-income seniors,
2. Increase domestic consumption of ag commodities by expanding or aiding expansion of domestic farmers markets, and
3. Develop or aid development of new and additional farmers markets, roadside stands, & community supported ag programs.

NC Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

The program strives to improve the nutrition of low income older adults & increase business for local farmers.

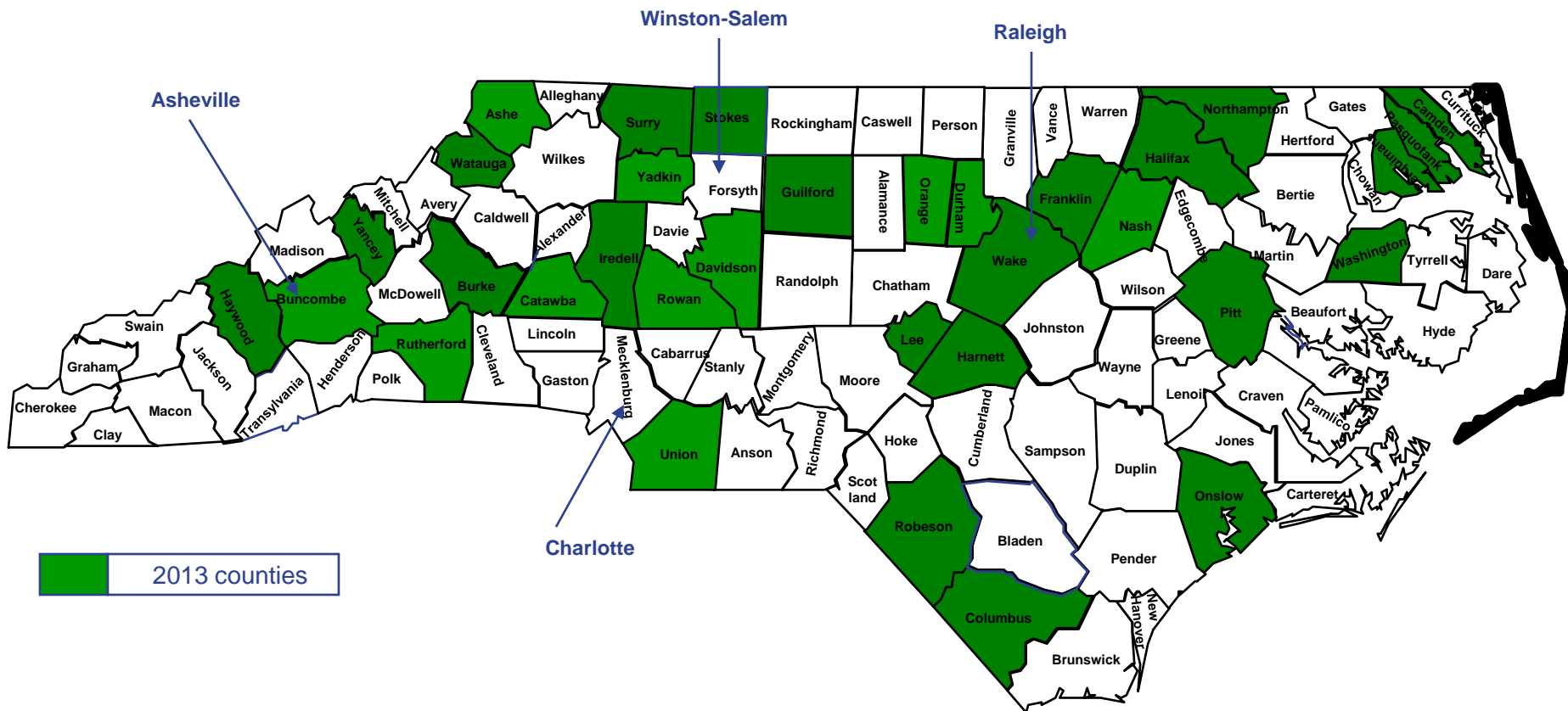
•Participant and Farmers Market Eligibility

- Low-income Congregate Nutrition Program participants
- NCDA&CS certified farmers markets and farmers - locally grown produce by a local farmer

•In 2013,

- USDA funding: \$83,257
- 33 participating counties
- allocated \$21/participant; about 3,800 participants (60+)
- 89% coupon redemption rate

2013 NC Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program 33 Counties



Note: Issuance sites (congregate nutrition program sites) are located in each counties highlighted.

2013 North Carolina SFMNP Participant Survey Results

3,800 total participants, 1256 responses (33% response rate)

	Yes	No	Not sure
Because of the farmers market coupon program, I or my family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ate more fresh fruits and vegetables this summer than usual? •will continue to shop at farmers' markets, even without coupons to spend there? 	81% 77%	10% 8%	9% 15%
While you were at the farmers market, did you spend any money or food stamps in addition to your coupons?	65%	35%	
If yes: Money 75% Food Stamps 11% Money/Food Stamps 14%			
After you spent all of your farmers market coupons, have you gone back to shop at the farmers market?	63%	37%	
If no, why? Top three responses: Need more coupons, lack transportation, need more markets/vendors			

Nationally SFMNP funding distributed inequitably

- NC receives **3rd lowest portion of funding among all 52** SFMNP state agencies & recognized Indian Tribal governments.
- NC **ranks 9th** among states with persons age 65 & older.
- NC received **\$83,257** for FY2013 **out of \$21.1 million**.
- **Alabama's share** of the funds (> \$1.6 million) is nearly **20 times the amount that NC receives**.
- **NC has not obtained additional funding from USDA since 2002**, although our coupon redemption has been at least 83% each year (a very favorable comparative rate).
- Funds for SFMNP are in the 2008-2012 Farm Bill.

Establish Equity among states in the distribution of funds for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program



N.C. Department of Health
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NC Division of Public Health

Increasing Healthy Food Access for North Carolinians

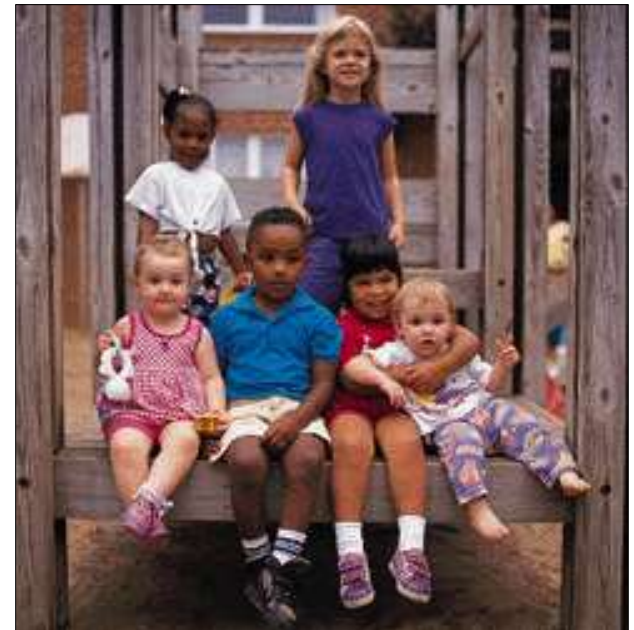


NC Division of Public Health

- Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- NC Farmers Market Nutrition Program Integration Pilot
- NC Farmers Market Promotion Program Project
- NC Community Transformation Grant Project
 - Farmers Market
 - Convenience Stores

The NC WIC Program serves...

- **About 260,000 per month**
 - **pregnant, postpartum & breastfeeding women**
 - **infants and children under 5**
- **In all 100 counties**
- **From 2,064 grocery stores**
 - **1,110 large chain stores**
 - **476 convenience stores**
 - **478 mid-size stores & pharmacies**



NC WIC Program benefits include...

Healthy foods such as:

- **Low-fat milk**
- **Whole grain cereal & bread**
- **Eggs**
- **Fruits & vegetables**
- **Infant formula & foods**

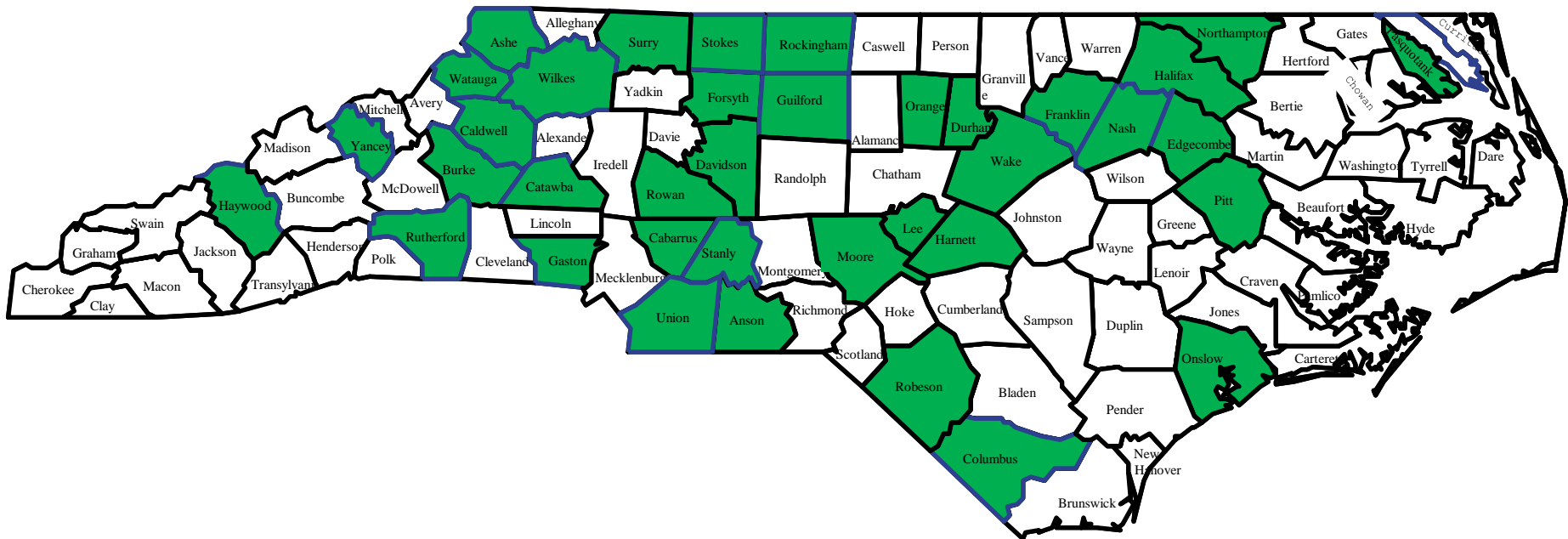
Nutrition counseling & breastfeeding promotion

Referrals as needed

NC WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Serves ~9,700 women & children in 34 counties

Provides \$24 coupon for fruits/veggies at farmers markets



NC Farmers Markets Nutrition Programs Integration Pilot Project

January 2010 – October 2012

- Helps qualified households maximize USDA benefits
- Integrates the NC programs that are USDA-affiliated:
 - WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
 - Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
 - 21st Century Farmers Market Program
- Seven counties: Columbus, Davidson, Onslow, Orange, Rowan, Watauga, & Yancey



NC Farmers Markets Food Desert Project

COMING APRIL
2014
CAMP LEJEUNE
FARMERS
MARKET

Onslow County



Gaston County



Guilford County



New Hanover County

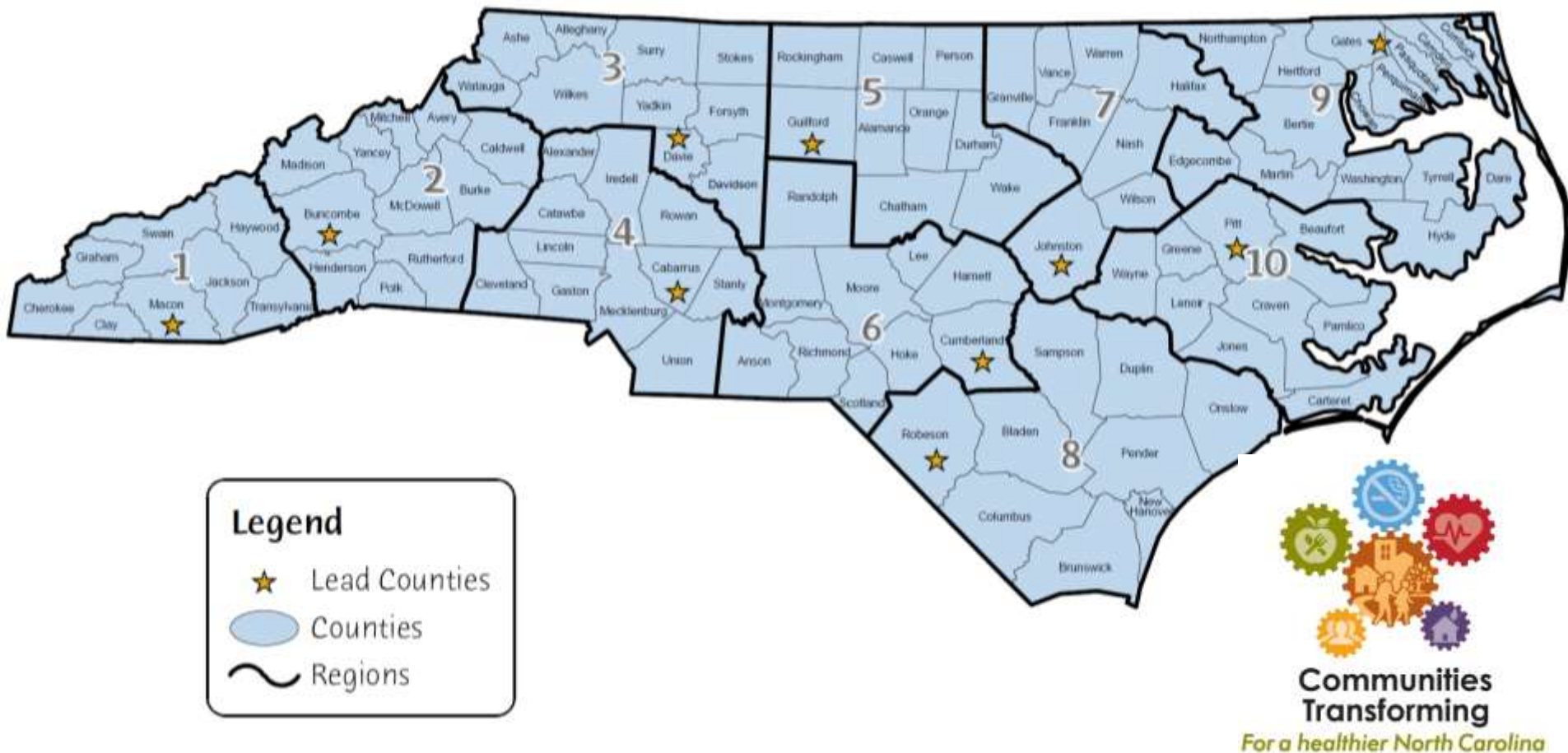


Davidson County

NC Farmers Markets Food Desert Project

- **USDA grant to enhance/create farmers markets in low-income census tracts: October 2011 – August 2013**
- **Counties: Davidson, Guilford, Gaston, New Hanover & Onslow**
- **Enhanced 2 farmers markets**
- **Created 3 new markets**
- **Created local momentum for continued expansion**

NC Community Transformation Collaboratives



Community Transformation Grant Project: Farmers Market Strategy 2012–2016

- **Increase mobile markets, farm stands and Community Supported Agriculture programs (CSAs)**
- **Enhance existing markets in low-income communities**
- **Provide resources, training and technical assistance to CTG regions**

Community Transformation Grant Project: Farmers Market Strategy 2012–2016 cont.

**CTG Regions have started 30 new markets &
Enhanced 72 farmers markets**

Enhancements include:

- **Structural improvements**
- **Increased transportation options to markets**
- **Securing land use protections in support farmers markets**
- **implementation of SNAP/EBT programs.**

***Nutrition education and promotion are required components.**

NC CTG's Healthy Small Food Retail Store Strategy 2012–2016

Goal: Increase number of small food retail stores offering healthy food and beverage options with promotion of healthy items

Focus: small stores located in food desert areas

- Provide resources, training & tech assistance to CTG regions
- 6 of 10 regions starting healthy corner store strategy
 - 4 stores in rural communities
 - 8 stores in non-rural communities