

2023

*How Well Do We Know Our
Community?
Identifying Social and Health Inequities in
Martinsville Henry County*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report examines Martinsville and Henry County at the census tract level to identify what and where the highest needs are within the community with respect to addressing social and health inequities. Education, economic wellbeing, housing, transportation and food access, and health are explored to better understand the range of experiences of area residents and incidence of concentrated disadvantage within the community.

FINDINGS:

Education: Preschool enrollment rates vary widely across the area, with seven tracts having less than .01% of children ages 3-4 years old enrolled in preschool. These tracts are Henry County Tracts 102, 103, 108, and 112 and Martinsville Tracts 2, 3, and 4. Henry County Tract 103 is also the only tract in which a portion of teens, age 15-17 years old, are out of school.

Economics: The local average unemployment rate of 6% matches the national average, though this rate varies between tracts. Likewise, the median household income varies widely across the area, ranging from \$23,698 in Martinsville Tract 2 up to \$58,125 in Martinsville Tract 5.

In five local census tracts, at least one in four residents are living below the poverty level, with approximately half of the population in Martinsville Tract 2 are below the poverty level. In this same tract, nine out of ten children are living below the poverty level. Tract 2 also has the highest rate of single parent households (22%) in the area. Poverty rates within tracts also vary among racial and ethnic groups, most often with residents of color experiencing poverty at higher rates.

Housing: Fortunately, overcrowded housing is not common in the area; however, several tracts experience high rates of substandard rental housing. Notably, two-thirds of renter-occupied housing units in Henry County Tract 111 are considered substandard, which is three-times the rate of substandard housing for owner-occupied units in the same tract.

Transportation and Food Access: One out of four residents in Martinsville Tracts 2 and 3 do not have access to a vehicle. Meanwhile, nine tracts score “very low” on a Food Accessibility Indicator that measures low-income residents’ access to food within their community. One of these low food accessibility tracts is Martinsville Tract 3, in which 25% of residents do not have a vehicle.

Health: Life expectancy varies between tracts, ranging from 69.6 years up to 81.8 years. Tracts with lower estimated life expectancy tend to have higher incidence of poverty, lower levels of education, and lower income. When looking at health behaviors and conditions, there are two tracts – Henry County Tract 108 and Martinsville Tract 2- that may warrant attention for community-partnered health intervention as residents in these tracts have higher rates of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and hypertension as well as higher rates of behaviors like smoking and physical inactivity.

INTRODUCTION

This report examines Martinsville and Henry County at the census tract level to identify what and where the highest needs are within the community with respect to addressing social and health inequities. Education, economic wellbeing, housing, transportation and food access, and health are explored to capture how these aspects of life are experienced differentially across the area and the incidence of concentrated disadvantage whereby a tract experiences multiple inequalities.

Throughout the report, census tracts will be referred to by their census designated numbers, and H refers to a tract in Henry County and M to a tract in Martinsville. Below is a map showing the 14 tracts within Henry County and 5 tracts within Martinsville. More detailed and interactive maps may be found on the Harvest Foundation’s page report page: <https://theharvestfoundation.org/mhc-health-equity-report/>

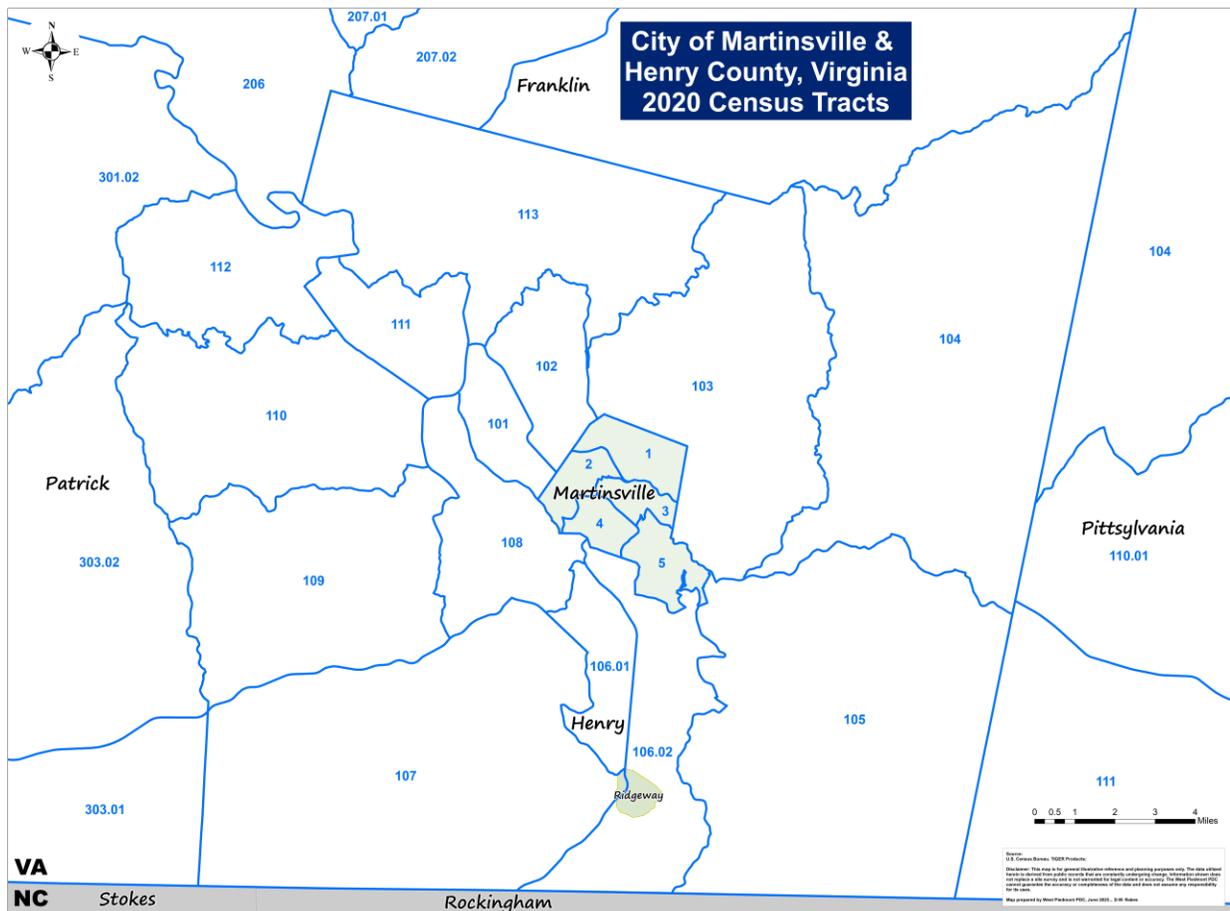


Figure 1. Map of Martinsville and Henry County Census Tracts

Unless noted otherwise, the data referenced in this report is from the American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-year estimates

In addition to drawing comparisons across census tracts, certain demographic characteristics are also incorporated into the discussion of findings, highlighting instances when disadvantage is experienced disproportionately by certain groups. This analysis is intended to provide a roadmap for local service providers to properly identify the constituents who are most in need and can most benefit from their particular services. The comparisons drawn between tracts and demographic groups are not intended to assert value judgments or to minimize the unique lived experiences of any individual. Rather, it is the intention that data may guide action and connect community members with all of the resources available.

EDUCATION

Table 1. Education Characteristics by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Pre-school Enrollment | Teens Out of School | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or Higher | Bachelor's Degree or Higher | Some College, No Degree | Limited English Proficiency |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| H 101 | 41% | 0% | 19% | 81% | 13% | 16% | 7% |
| H 102 | 0% | 0% | 12% | 88% | 28% | 17% | 5% |
| H 103 | 0% | 21% | 18% | 82% | 20% | 19% | 3% |
| H 104 | 64% | 0% | 18% | 82% | 14% | 16% | 2% |
| H 105 | 28% | 0% | 13% | 87% | 9% | 23% | 1% |
| H 106.01 | 31% | 0% | 17% | 83% | 16% | 18% | 7% |
| H 106.02 | 14% | 0% | 19% | 81% | 18% | 21% | 1% |
| H 107 | 36% | 0% | 18% | 82% | 14% | 26% | 0% |
| H 108 | 0% | 0% | 23% | 77% | 9% | 19% | 0% |
| H 109 | 13% | - | 27% | 73% | 14% | 18% | 1% |
| H 110 | 52% | 0% | 23% | 77% | 7% | 19% | 0% |
| H 111 | 85% | 0% | 27% | 73% | 16% | 24% | 1% |
| H 112 | 0% | 0% | 29% | 71% | 10% | 25% | 0% |
| H 113 | 40% | 0% | 14% | 86% | 17% | 24% | 2% |
| M 1 | 30% | 0% | 15% | 85% | 15% | 24% | 6% |
| M 2 | 0% | 0% | 24% | 76% | 12% | 14% | 3% |
| M 3 | 0% | 0% | 9% | 91% | 16% | 22% | 0% |
| M 4 | 0% | 0% | 13% | 88% | 17% | 16% | 4% |
| M 5 | 88% | 0% | 3% | 98% | 47% | 22% | 1% |

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The rate of preschool enrollment refers to the percentage of children ages 3 to 4 years old enrolled in preschool. Enrollment rates across Martinsville and Henry County vary widely, with several census tracts in the area coming in below the state average of 39%. Most pressing are the handful of tracts that have 0% of preschool age children enrolled, these are: H 102, H 103, H 108, H 112, M 2, M 3, and M 4.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Across Martinsville and Henry County, there is nearly complete school enrollment of teens (ages 15 to 17 years old), with the exception of H 103, in which one in five teens (21%) are out of school.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In all but two tracts, there is a higher share of residents who have *not* completed high school relative to the national and state averages (both 9%). In the following tracts, at least one in five adults (25 years or older) have not completed high school: H 108, H 109, H 110, H 111, H 112 and M 2.

Further, the local average for the percentage of adults who have a Bachelor's degree or higher is 17%, which is less than half of the national and state averages (37% and 40%, respectively). One local tract, M 5, does surpass these averages with 47% of adults having at least a Bachelor's degree. A handful of tracts had less than 10% of adults with a Bachelor's degree or higher: H 105, H 108, and H 110.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

The overall rates of residents with limited English proficiency, self-reported as speaking English less than "very well," are relatively low across Martinsville and Henry County. The highest rates are reported in Tract H 101 (7%), H 106.01 (7%), and M 1 (6%).

In Tract H 101, 10% of the population is foreign-born, three-quarters of whom speak Spanish. In Tract H 106.01, 5% of the population is foreign-born, 94% of whom speak Spanish. Finally in Tract M 1, 4% of the population is foreign-born, and 42% of this population speaks Spanish and the remaining 58% speak a language other than Spanish, Indo-European languages, or Asian and Pacific Island languages.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Table 2. Economic Characteristics by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Unemployment | Labor Participation | Median Household Income | Poverty | Child Poverty | Single Parent Household | Public Assistance Income |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| H 101 | 16% | 57% | \$35,775 | 18% | 28% | 14% | 1% |
| H 102 | 4% | 61% | \$45,334 | 9% | 9% | 12% | 7% |
| H 103 | 3% | 58% | \$53,448 | 7% | 7% | 4% | 0% |
| H 104 | 5% | 58% | \$52,925 | 13% | 19% | 10% | 5% |
| H 105 | 7% | 52% | \$36,687 | 13% | 21% | 9% | 1% |
| H 106.01 | 9% | 55% | \$50,192 | 11% | 3% | 11% | 7% |
| H 106.02 | 3% | 53% | \$50,705 | 18% | 18% | 8% | 8% |
| H 107 | 5% | 51% | \$48,042 | 14% | 17% | 8% | 1% |
| H 108 | 0% | 40% | \$35,346 | 25% | 56% | 8% | 6% |
| H 109 | 9% | 48% | \$39,717 | 20% | 20% | 7% | 9% |
| H 110 | 6% | 40% | \$34,047 | 14% | 17% | 1% | 6% |
| H 111 | 8% | 43% | \$38,411 | 20% | 32% | 9% | 3% |
| H 112 | 7% | 45% | \$26,458 | 24% | 35% | 4% | 3% |
| H 113 | 6% | 53% | \$46,101 | 15% | 31% | 2% | 6% |
| M 1 | 9% | 54% | \$31,117 | 25% | 35% | 11% | 6% |
| M 2 | 3% | 54% | \$23,698 | 49% | 91% | 22% | 3% |
| M 3 | 1% | 68% | \$41,818 | 16% | 18% | 5% | 4% |
| M 4 | 7% | 49% | \$34,091 | 32% | 48% | 20% | 3% |
| M 5 | 8% | 58% | \$58,125 | 13% | 30% | 3% | 3% |

LABOR PARTICIPATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The local average unemployment rate of 6% matches the national average (also 6%), but it is slightly higher than the state average (5%). While several tracts exceed the local average, Tract H 101 sharply stands out with an unemployment rate of 16%. This markedly higher rate in Tract H 101 appears to be driven by a higher unemployment rate among tract residents ages 65 to 74, 47% of whom identify as part of the labor force but do not have jobs. This age bracket in the other local tracts carries much lower unemployment rates.

The local average labor force participation rate is 52%, which is lower than the national and state averages (64% and 66%, respectively). Within the area, participation rates range from 40% (Tracts H 108 and H 110) up to 68% (Tract M 3).

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The median household income across Martinsville and Henry County varies widely, with the highest median values more than doubling the median income on the low end of the range. Specifically, the highest median incomes are reported in Tracts M 5 (\$58,125) and H 103 (\$53,448); the lowest

median incomes are reported in M 2 (\$23,698) and H 112 (\$26,458). The local average of median household income is just under \$42,000.

POVERTY RATE

The poverty rate varies widely between local census tracts, but together these percentages reflect nearly 11,000 residents in Martinsville and Henry County who are living below the poverty level. While a handful of tracts fall below the national poverty rate of 13% (H 102, H 103, H 104, H 106.01), one tract experiences a staggering rate of one out of every two residents living below the poverty level (M 2). The local overall poverty rate is 22%, and Tracts H 108, H 112, M 1, M 2, and M 4 all exceed that rate with a higher share of residents experiencing poverty.

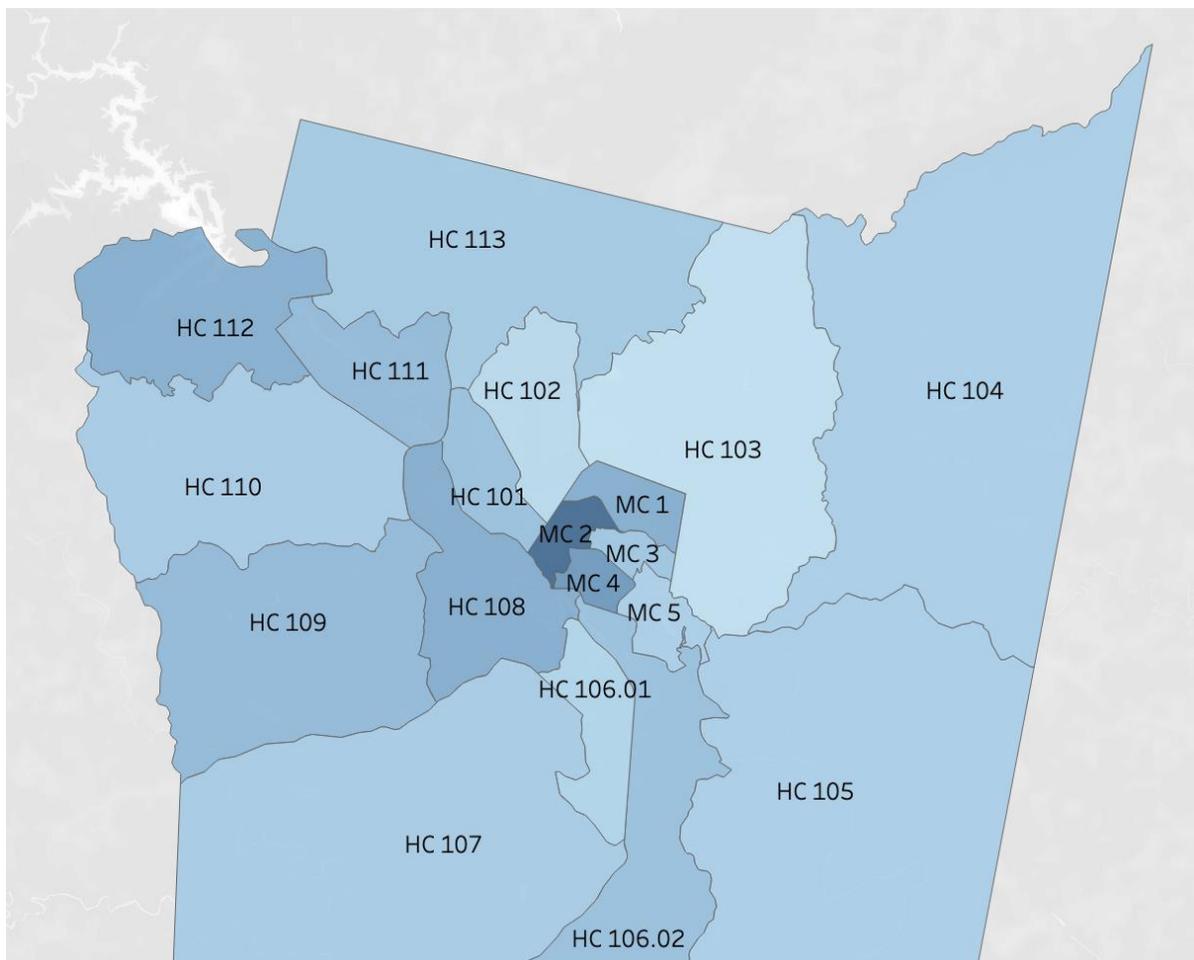


Figure 2. Poverty Rates by Census Tract. Data Source: American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-year estimates

Demographic Differences in Poverty Rate

Table 3. Poverty Rate by Race and Ethnicity by Census Tract

| Census Tract | White | Black | Asian | Some other race | Two or more races | Hispanic or Latinx origin |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| H 101 | 14% | 24% | - | 12% | 40% | 14% |
| H 102 | 7% | 20% | 0% | 17% | 16% | 7% |
| H 103 | 9% | 7% | 0% | - | 3% | 9% |
| H 104 | 11% | 14% | - | 58% | 0% | 11% |
| H 105 | 17% | 4% | - | - | 0% | - |
| H 106.01 | 8% | 22% | - | 0% | 100% | 7% |
| H 106.02 | 16% | 20% | 59% | 100% | 14% | 16% |
| H 107 | 17% | 7% | 0% | - | 0% | 0% |
| H 108 | 18% | 31% | 0% | - | - | 0% |
| H 109 | 26% | 8% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| H 110 | 14% | 16% | - | - | - | 0% |
| H 111 | 18% | 41% | - | 0% | 100% | 0% |
| H 112 | 21% | 55% | - | - | 100% | 0% |
| H 113 | 9% | 8% | - | 100% | 54% | 67% |
| M 1 | 29% | 26% | - | - | 9% | 3% |
| M 2 | 32% | 48% | 100% | 84% | - | 93% |
| M 3 | 14% | 15% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 0% |
| M 4 | 32% | 39% | 0% | 34% | 30% | 13% |
| M 5 | 10% | 29% | - | 0% | 41% | 0% |

Table 4. Poverty Rate by Sex and Age by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Sex | | Age | |
|--------------|------|--------|----------|-----|
| | Male | Female | 18 to 64 | 65+ |
| H 101 | 12% | 23% | 17% | 9% |
| H 102 | 6% | 11% | 8% | 10% |
| H 103 | 7% | 8% | 8% | 7% |
| H 104 | 8% | 18% | 11% | 12% |
| H 105 | 12% | 15% | 15% | 2% |
| H 106.01 | 13% | 9% | 14% | 10% |
| H 106.02 | 16% | 20% | 21% | 10% |
| H 107 | 13% | 15% | 14% | 12% |
| H 108 | 23% | 27% | 16% | 16% |
| H 109 | 15% | 24% | 22% | 16% |
| H 110 | 13% | 14% | 15% | 10% |
| H 111 | 19% | 20% | 17% | 13% |
| H 112 | 26% | 21% | 26% | 13% |
| H 113 | 14% | 16% | 12% | 9% |
| M 1 | 21% | 28% | 20% | 26% |
| M 2 | 49% | 49% | 37% | 24% |
| M 3 | 15% | 16% | 15% | 16% |
| M 4 | 40% | 26% | 30% | 7% |
| M 5 | 10% | 16% | 9% | 5% |

Demographic differences emerge when poverty rate is examined by certain subgroups within tracts. For example, in Tract M 2 where the overall rate is 49%, we see this is experienced disproportionately by certain racial groups. In this tract, less than one-third of white residents (32%) live below the poverty level, yet approximately half of the black and African American residents (48%), 93% of the Hispanic and Latinx residents, *all* of the Asian residents, and 85% of the residents identifying with another race are living below the poverty level. This trend of differential rates by racial groups is recurrent across the area. In Tract H 113, where the overall poverty rate is relatively lower at 15%, this is not equally experienced across groups. Less than 10% of each white and black residents in Tract H 113 live below the poverty level, yet over half of the multiracial residents (54%), two-thirds of Hispanic and Latinx residents (67%), and all of the residents identifying with another race are living below the poverty level.

While there are some exceptions, females are generally experiencing poverty at higher rates than their male neighbors. For example, in Tracts H 101 and H 104, female residents are experiencing poverty at approximately twice the rate as males in the same tract. When it comes to age, adults between 18 and 64 years old are often experiencing poverty at higher rates than their neighbors ages 65 and older; this is most pronounced in Tracts M 4 and H 105 in which the poverty rate for adults 18-64 years old is more than four-times the rate experienced by adults 65 years and older.

Child Poverty Rate

We see similar patterns with the range of incidence of child poverty across Martinsville and Henry County. The local average is 37%, which is more than double the national rate (17%). Tracts H 102, H 103, H 106.01 all fall *below* the national average. Conversely, Tracts H 108, M 2, and M 4 are higher than even the local average. Of pressing attention is Tract M 2 in which 91% of children are living below the poverty level.

Two of these three tracts also have the relative highest rates of single parent households. In each M 2 and M 4, approximately one in five households are led by single parents.

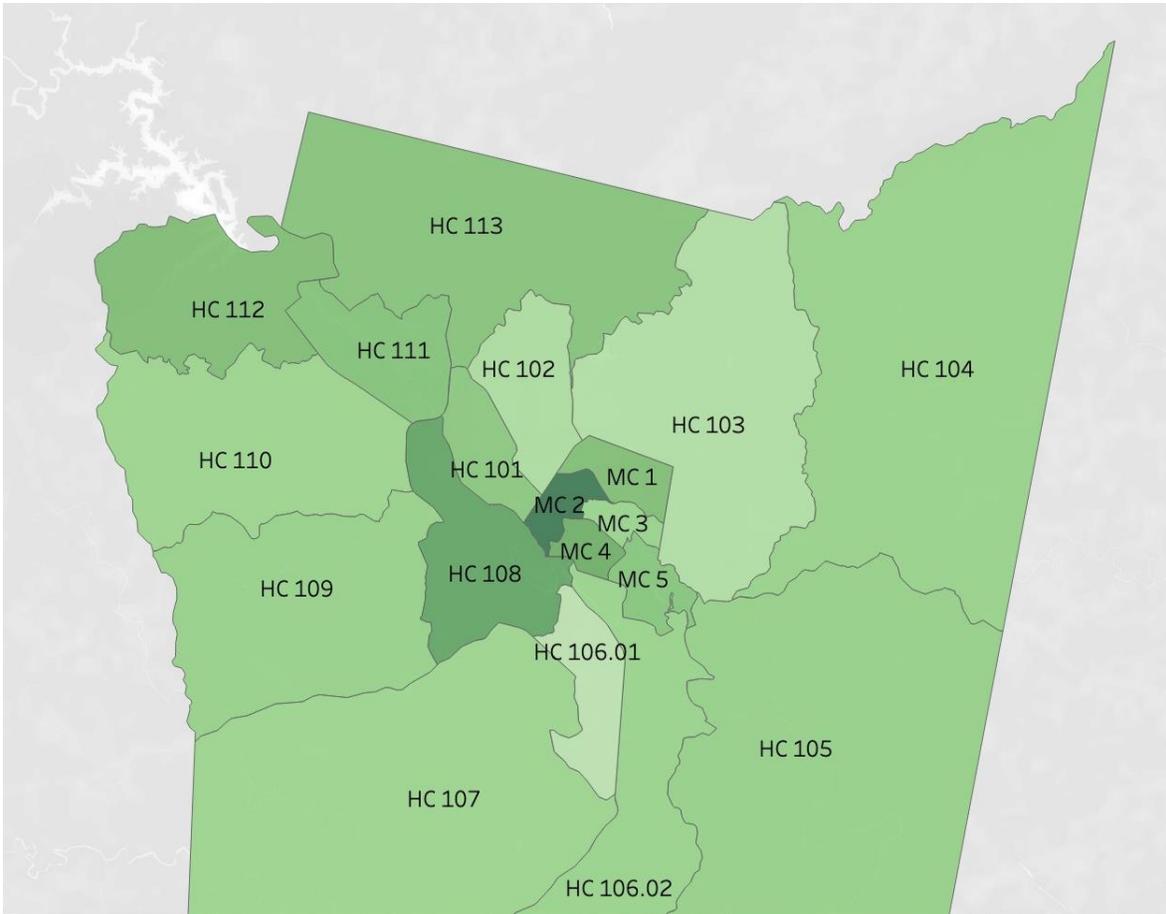


Figure 3. Child Poverty Rates by Census Tract. Data Source: American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-year estimates

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

The average percent of households receiving public assistance income in Martinsville Henry County is 4%, which while modest is twice the state average (2%) and 50% higher than the national average (3%). The tracts that report higher rates of receiving public assistance income, above the local average, are H 102, HC104, H 106.01, H 106.02, H 109, H 110, H 113, and M 1. The highest of these is Tract H 109 in which 9% of households receive public assistance income.

HOUSING

Table 5. Housing Characteristics by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Crowded Housing | Homes Built Before 1950 | Owner-occupied Housing | Renter-occupied Housing | Median Gross Rent | Substandard Rental Housing |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| H 101 | 5% | 5% | 46% | 54% | \$637 | 50% |
| H 102 | 1% | 11% | 56% | 44% | \$689 | 29% |
| H 103 | 0% | 7% | 82% | 18% | \$596 | 22% |
| H 104 | 0% | 5% | 86% | 14% | \$702 | 23% |
| H 105 | 3% | 9% | 77% | 23% | \$686 | 40% |
| H 106.01 | 0% | 6% | 72% | 28% | \$507 | 33% |
| H 106.02 | 0% | 7% | 73% | 27% | \$664 | 49% |
| H 107 | 2% | 20% | 77% | 23% | \$611 | 27% |
| H 108 | 0% | 22% | 80% | 20% | \$686 | 59% |
| H 109 | 3% | 12% | 76% | 24% | \$630 | 45% |
| H 110 | 4% | 15% | 85% | 15% | \$623 | 44% |
| H 111 | 1% | 18% | 70% | 30% | \$629 | 66% |
| H 112 | 0% | 6% | 71% | 29% | \$298 | 40% |
| H 113 | 2% | 9% | 86% | 14% | \$519 | 25% |
| M 1 | 0% | 17% | 51% | 49% | \$711 | 41% |
| M 2 | 0% | 22% | 54% | 46% | \$591 | 42% |
| M 3 | 0% | 44% | 41% | 59% | \$665 | 43% |
| M 4 | 0% | 34% | 50% | 50% | \$747 | 38% |
| M 5 | 0% | 14% | 87% | 13% | \$720 | 43% |

HOUSEHOLD CROWDING

The local average rate of household crowding (1%) is lower than both the national and state averages (3% and 2% respectively). Many tracts have 0 reported incidence of crowded housing, and no tracts have double-digit percentages of households with crowding. The tracts with the highest rates are H 101 with 5% and H 110 with 4%.

HOMES BUILT BEFORE 1950

There are a handful of tracts in which at least one in five occupied housing units were built before 1950: H 107, H 108, M 2, M 3, and M 4. Of note, two out of five housing units in Tract M 3 were built before 1950.

RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSING

The local average of 29% renter-occupied housing units is just slightly below the state (31%) and national (33%) averages. A handful of local tracts have substantially higher rates of renters: M 1, M 2, M 3, M 4, H 102, and H 101. In both M 3 and H 101, over half of the housing units are occupied by renters.

Median Rent

The local average median gross rent, which is the monthly housing costs for renter-occupied units, is \$637 per month. The tract with the lowest monthly housing cost for renters is H 112 with \$298, and the highest is M 4 with \$747.

Substandard Rental Housing

Substandard housing refers to housing with incomplete plumbing or kitchen facilities, overcrowding, or cost burdens in excess of 30% of one’s income. The local average is 40% of rental substandard housing units. The following tracts have higher rates of substandard rental housing above the local average: H 101, H 106.02, H 108, H 109, H 110, H 111, M 1, M 2, M 3 and M 5. The highest of these is Tract H 111, in which two-thirds of rental housing units are substandard, which is three-times the rate of substandard housing for owner-occupied units in the same tract.

HOME OWNERSHIP

As an inverse to the rates of renter-occupied housing, the tracts with the highest percentages of owner-occupied housing units are H 103, H 104, H 108, H 110, H 113 and M 5, all of which have more than 80% of housing units occupied by owners.

TRANSPORTATION AND FOOD ACCESS

Table 6. Transportation and Food Access Characteristics by Census Tract

| Census Tract | No Vehicle | Commute to Work by Car, Truck, or Van | Food Accessibility Indicator | Food Stamps/SNAP recipients |
|--------------|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| H 101 | 2% | 97% | Very Low | 15% |
| H 102 | 10% | 98% | Very Low | 20% |
| H 103 | 2% | 91% | Average | 4% |
| H 104 | 3% | 97% | Average | 9% |
| H 105 | 2% | 87% | Average | 12% |
| H 106.01 | 13% | 97% | Average | 13% |
| H 106.02 | 6% | 92% | Very Low | 12% |
| H 107 | 5% | 97% | Average | 14% |
| H 108 | 1% | 98% | Very Low | 26% |
| H 109 | 12% | 94% | Average | 22% |
| H 110 | 8% | 96% | Average | 15% |
| H 111 | 13% | 92% | Very Low | 15% |
| H 112 | 8% | 92% | Very Low | 25% |
| H 113 | 6% | 93% | Average | 6% |
| M 1 | 12% | 89% | Very Low | 25% |
| M 2 | 25% | 93% | Average | 20% |
| M 3 | 25% | 84% | Very Low | 17% |
| M 4 | 4% | 89% | Very Low | 25% |
| M 5 | 3% | 86% | High | 8% |

VEHICLE ACCESS

There is high relative variation in the percentage of residents in each tract that do not have access to a vehicle. While some tracts are in the low single digits, there are a handful that are 10% and great: H 102, H 106.01, H 109, H 111, M 1, M 2, and M 3. Of note, for both M 2 and M 3, approximately one in four residents do not have access to a vehicle.

COMMUTE TO WORK

Across tracts, the rate of commuting to work by car, truck or van is very high, with an average across tracts of 93%.

FOOD ACCESS

The Food Accessibility Indicator¹ is a measure of access to food within a community by members with low income. Specifically, it measures the proportion of the low income community that has a large grocery store within 1 mile in urban areas or 10 miles in rural areas. Between tracts in Martinsville and Henry County, levels vary along the food accessibility indicator with Tract M 5 as the lone tract scoring “high” on the indicator. Several tracts score “very low,” including Tracts H 102, H 111, M 1, and M 3, which each have more than 10% of residents without personal vehicle access.

The percentage of households that have received Food Stamps or SNAP benefits in the last 12 months varies widely across the area, ranging from 4% to 26%. The tracts that have the highest share of households, at least one in five, receiving these benefits are H 102, H 108, H 109, H 112, M 1, M 2 and M 4.

¹ This measure and data are from the Virginia Health Opportunity Index, a dashboard created and maintained by the Virginia Department of Health – Office Health Equity. [Virginia Health Opportunity Index – Health Matters, Place Matters](#)

HEALTH OUTCOMES, BEHAVIORS AND INSURANCE COVERAGE

LIFE EXPECTANCY²

Table 7. Life Expectancy by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Life Expectancy at Birth |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| H 101 | 75.1 |
| H 102 | 78.1 |
| H 103 | 73.6 |
| H 104 | 73.3 |
| H 105 | 72.6 |
| H 106.01 | 75.6 |
| H 106.02 | 73.2 |
| H 107 | 76.5 |
| H 108 | 71.8 |
| H 109 | 75.3 |
| H 110 | 76.0 |
| H 111 | 74.6 |
| H 112 | 71.4 |
| H 113 | 74.9 |
| M 1 | - |
| M 2 | 70.0 |
| M 3 | 73.6 |
| M 4 | 69.6 |
| M 5 | 81.8 |

Life expectancy at birth refers to the average age one can expect to live based on where they are born. Across Martinsville and Henry County, life expectancy varies between 69.6 and 81.8 years. The local tracts with the lowest life expectancy are M 4, M 2, H 112, and H 108, all of which have a life expectancy of 72 years or less. The tracts with the highest life expectancy are M 5 and H 102, which are 82 and 78 years, respectively. The average for the area is approximately 74 years.

The tracts with lower life expectancy differ in certain ways from those with higher life expectancy. A larger share of residents in the higher life expectancy tracts have attained their high school degree. Further, approximately one-quarter of households in the lower life expectancy tracts have median income below 200% the Federal Poverty Level, compared to one-tenth of households in the higher life expectancy tracts. Racial representation also varies between these sets of tracts, with slightly higher representation of Black and African American residents and Hispanic/Latinx residents in the lower life expectancy tracts.

Table 8. Life Expectancy by Select Characteristics

| Population Characteristics | Lower Life Expectancy (69 to 72 years) | Higher Life Expectancy (78 to 82 years) |
|--|--|---|
| Black or African American | 29% | 21% |
| Hispanic or Latinx | 9% | 6% |
| High school degree or higher | 58% | 70% |
| Median household income below 200% FPL | 26% | 10% |

² Life expectancy estimates were published by the National Center for Health Statistics (2020), and combine mortality data based on death certificates with population estimates from the American Community Survey, for the 2010-2015 period. Citation: Tejada-Vera B, Bastian B, Arias E, Escobedo LA., Salant B, Life Expectancy Estimates by U.S. Census Tract, 2010-2015. National Center for Health Statistics. 2020.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Table 9. Insurance Coverage Overall and by Race by Census Tract

| Census Tract | Private insurance | Uninsured, overall | White, uninsured | Black or African American, uninsured | Asian, uninsured | Some other race uninsured | Multiracial, uninsured | Hispanic or Latinx, uninsured |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| H 101 | 40% | 15% | 14% | 23% | - | 8% | 16% | 27% |
| H 102 | 63% | 6% | 7% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 17% | 0% |
| H 103 | 67% | 8% | 6% | 12% | 0% | - | 12% | 21% |
| H 104 | 53% | 7% | 9% | 3% | - | 100% | 0% | 31% |
| H 105 | 54% | 5% | 5% | 3% | - | - | 0% | - |
| H 106.01 | 55% | 18% | 16% | 8% | - | 100% | 0% | 37% |
| H 106.02 | 60% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 12% | 0% | 29% | 7% |
| H 107 | 45% | 6% | 5% | 7% | 0% | - | 15% | 18% |
| H 108 | 38% | 6% | 8% | 3% | 0% | - | - | 0% |
| H 109 | 42% | 9% | 11% | 4% | 0% | 0% | 31% | 9% |
| H 110 | 46% | 11% | 13% | 7% | - | - | - | 61% |
| H 111 | 57% | 8% | 5% | 29% | - | 43% | 0% | 33% |
| H 112 | 49% | 10% | 9% | 15% | - | - | 0% | 0% |
| H 113 | 55% | 13% | 4% | 25% | - | 100% | 35% | 51% |
| M 1 | 47% | 8% | 6% | 10% | - | - | 11% | 0% |
| M 2 | 34% | 9% | 54% | 9% | 0% | 6% | - | 2% |
| M 3 | 54% | 9% | 5% | 13% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| M 4 | 39% | 17% | 25% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 30% | 10% |
| M 5 | 71% | 6% | 5% | 17% | - | 0% | 0% | 0% |

While the local average uninsured rate (9%) is comparable to the state and national rates (8% and 9% respectively), there is high variation in uninsured rates between local census tracts. A handful of tracts have around just 5% uninsured, whereas at the high end, there are tracts with three times that rate or higher, including H 101 (15%), H 106.01 (18%) and M 4 (17%).

Unlike the uninsured rate, the local average rate of residents with private insurance (52%) deviates markedly from the national (68%) and state averages (75%). Across local census tracts, there is again wide variation in rates. At the lowest end, Tract M 2 has 34% of residents with private insurance, followed by H 108 with 38% and M 4 with 39%. At the high end, Tract M 5 has a private insured rate of 71%, H 103 has a rate of 67%, and H 102 with 63%.

There is high variation in uninsured rates between racial groups *within* tracts. For example, in Tract H 113 where the overall rate is 13%, just 4% of white residents in the tract are uninsured while 25% of black and African American residents are uninsured, 25% of multiracial residents, 51% of Hispanic/Latinx residents, and 100% of residents identifying with another race are uninsured. In Tract M 2, where the overall rate is 9%, just 2% of Hispanic/Latinx residents are uninsured, 6% of residents of another race, 0% of Asian residents, and 9% of black and African residents are uninsured, but 54% of white residents in the tract do not have insurance coverage.

Nearly all residents age 65 years and older have health insurance coverage as do children. When there are gaps in coverage by age, they are primarily experienced by adults age 19 to 64 years old. While rates of coverage between males and females do not differ dramatically, female residents tend to have insurance coverage at relatively higher rates.

HEALTH BEHAVIORS

Table 10. Health Characteristics by Census Tract³

| Census Tract | Smoking | Obesity | Heart Disease | Diabetes | Hyper-tension | Physical Inactivity |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------------|----------|---------------|---------------------|
| H 101 | 21% | 41% | 8% | 14% | 38% | 30% |
| H 102 | 19% | 39% | 8% | 14% | 40% | 30% |
| H 103 | 18% | 41% | 8% | 15% | 42% | 28% |
| H 104 | 23% | 45% | 8% | 17% | 43% | 33% |
| H 105 | 26% | 46% | 9% | 17% | 44% | 35% |
| H 106.01 | 19% | 40% | 7% | 14% | 39% | 28% |
| H 106.02 | 22% | 42% | 8% | 14% | 40% | 29% |
| H 107 | 23% | 44% | 9% | 17% | 44% | 32% |
| H 108 | 28% | 50% | 11% | 23% | 51% | 40% |
| H 109 | 25% | 44% | 9% | 17% | 43% | 34% |
| H 110 | 24% | 43% | 8% | 16% | 41% | 32% |
| H 111 | 20% | 40% | 9% | 16% | 42% | 30% |
| H 112 | 26% | 44% | 9% | 16% | 41% | 34% |
| H 113 | 20% | 41% | 8% | 15% | 42% | 29% |
| M 1 | 22% | 44% | 9% | 18% | 47% | 34% |
| M 2 | 27% | 52% | 10% | 26% | 56% | 42% |
| M 3 | 18% | 40% | 6% | 12% | 38% | 26% |
| M 4 | 25% | 46% | 8% | 17% | 44% | 35% |
| M 5 | 13% | 36% | 7% | 12% | 40% | 22% |

Smoking

Smoking rates are somewhat consistent across tracts, with most in the high teen and low twenty-

³ The figures in this table are compiled from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data platform PLACES, which aggregates Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Census, and American Community Survey (ACS) data. [PLACES: Local Data for Better Health | CDC](#)

percent ranges. The highest rates of smoking are reported in Tracts H 108, M 2, H 105, H 112, H 109 and M 4. In all of these tracts, at least one in four adults currently smokes.

Obesity

Like smoking, obesity rates are fairly consistent across the area, with most hovering in the low forty-percent range; however in two tracts, half of the population experiences obesity: H 108 and M 2.

Heart Disease

Local rates of heart disease are similar to the state average. Though, Tracts H 108 and M 2 have the highest local rates with 11% and 10%, respectively, of residents living with heart disease.

Diabetes

Local rates of diabetes are higher than the state average (10%). The highest local rates are in Tracts H 108 and M 2, in which approximately one in four adults has diabetes.

Hypertension

Hypertension rates vary more widely across tracts, ranging from 38% to 56%. Tracts H 108 and M 2 again have the highest local rates of the condition, with at least half of adults in each tract living with hypertension.

Physical Inactivity

Rates of physical inactivity range from 22% on the low end up to 42%. The highest rates of physical inactivity are reported in Tracts H 108 and M 2.

Teen Birth Rate⁴

Looking at the teen birth rate at the locality level, the estimated birth rate in Henry County is 17.1 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years old. The rate is relatively higher in Martinsville with an estimated birth rate of 54.2 per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years old. The state average birth rate is 13.1, and the national birth rate is 15.4

CONCLUSIONS

When considering how best to serve the Martinsville and Henry County community, it is critical to understand the wide variation in experience and need across census tracts and at times, between

⁴ These rates are based on the 2020 estimates provided by the Centers for Disease Control.

different demographic groups even within the same tract. In looking ahead to address the most pressing community needs, several study findings bear repeating.

In terms of educational support, there are seven census tracts in which less than .01% of children age 3-4 years old are enrolled in preschool. These are H 102, H 103, H 108, H 112, M 2, M 3, and M 4. Further, Tract H 103 is the only tract in which a portion (21%) of teens, age 15-17, are out of school.

Regarding economic distress, there are five tracts in which at least one in four residents are living below the poverty level, with approximately half below the poverty level in Tract M 2. In this same tract, nine out of ten children are living below the poverty level. M 2 also has the highest rate of single parent households (22%).

Turning to issues of physical access, one out of four residents in Tracts M 2 and M 3 do not have a vehicle. Nine tracts score "very low" on a Food Accessibility Indicator the measures access to food within a community among low-income residents. These tracts are H 101, H 102, H 106.01, H 108, H 111, H112, M 1, M3, and M 4.

Life expectancy varies between tracts, ranging from 69.6 up to 81.8 years. Tracts M 2, M 4, H 108, and H 112 have the relative lowest estimated life expectancy in the area. Two of these tracts – M 2 and H 108 – also have higher rates of health conditions like obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and hypertension as well as higher rates of behaviors like smoking and physical inactivity. Local health advocates may consider how best to partner with residents in these tracts to support their health outcomes going forward.

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