

## Demographic and Work Force Data for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County

REQUEST DATE: Friday, April 15, 2016

### REQUEST:

Information was requested on Winston-Salem/Forsyth county demographics and work force.

The request was particularly interested in information on the following:

- | Educational Attainment by Race
- | Unemployment Levels by Race
- | Drop Out Rates by Race
- | Average Salary/Household Income by Race
- | Other high-level employment and workforce data broken out by race for the city/county

**ASSIGNED FORSYTH FUTURES STAFF MEMBER(S):** Elizabeth Lees, Director of Data and Research with assistance from Adam Hill, Megan Grigg, Adrienne Cherry, and Wesley Morris

REQUEST RESPONSE DATE: Monday, April 18, 2016

### RESEARCH METHOD:

Preliminary data from the current Forsyth Futures study on poverty in addition to some preliminary data from The Forsyth Promise were pulled to fill this informational request. Educational Attainment by Race, Unemployment levels by Race, and Household Income by Race information was retrieved from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and analyzed for statistically significant differences between sub-groups at the 95% confidence level using the statistical method described by the Census Bureau in *A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know* (<http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2008/acs/ACSGeneralHandbook.pdf>). Drop out level by race data was pulled from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school system and differences between sub-groups are not a metric Forsyth Futures currently tracks and have not yet been tested for statistical significance. Peer counties and cities were selected for Forsyth Futures' upcoming poverty study using a computer algorithm to select the city/county pairs that are the most similar to Winston-Salem/Forsyth County across several demographic factors.

Data Sources:

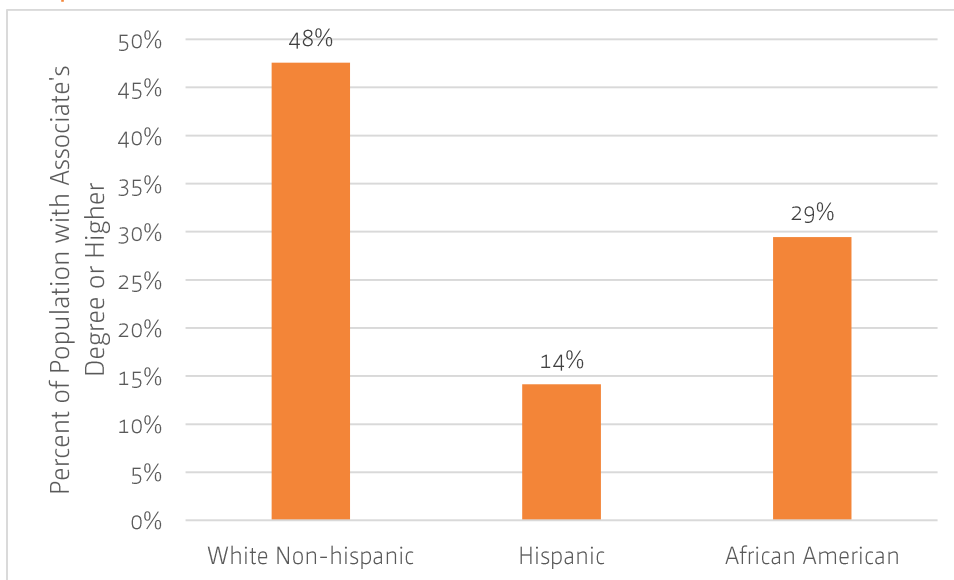
- | **Educational Attainment by Race:** U.S. Department of Commerce United States Census Bureau (2015). *Sex by Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over (Black or African American Alone; White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino; and Hispanic or Latino [Tables B15002B, B15002H, B15002I]. 1-Year Estimates 2014.* [Data files]. Retrieved from <http://factfinder.census.gov>
- | **Unemployment by Race:** U.S. Department of Commerce United States Census Bureau. (2015). *Employment Status [Table S2301]. 5-Year Estimates 2010-2014.* [Data files]. Retrieved from <http://factfinder.census.gov>
- | **Dropout Rates by Race:** Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, Dropout Prevention, Dropout Reports (<http://wsfcs.k12.nc.us/Page/1048>)
- | **Median Income by Race:** U.S. Department of Commerce United States Census Bureau. (2015). *Median Income in the Past 12 Months [Table S1903]. 5-Year Estimates 2010-2014.* [Data files]. Retrieved from <http://factfinder.census.gov>

RESULTS:

**Educational Attainment by Race**

- | As shown in Figure 1, a measurably higher percentage of White, Non-Hispanic residents have an Associate’s degree or higher than African-American and Hispanic/Latino residents.
- | White, Non-Hispanic residents are almost four times as likely to have an associate’s degree or higher as Hispanic/Latino residents and the gap between White, Non-Hispanic residents and African American residents with an Associate’s degree or higher is almost twenty percentage points.

FIGURE 1. Percent of Population Over 25 with an Associate’s Degree or Higher, by Race, Forsyth County, 2014



## Unemployment Levels by Race

### Winston-Salem

- | As seen in Table 1 and Figure 2, African-American residents have measurably higher rates of unemployment in Winston-Salem than Hispanic/Latino residents and White, Non-Hispanic residents, and Hispanic/Latino residents have measurably higher rates of unemployment than White, Non-Hispanic residents.
- | The unemployment rate in Winston-Salem for Hispanic/Latino residents is not measurably different than that of the United States, North Carolina, or Winston-Salem’s peer cities.
- | Unemployment rates for African-American residents in Winston-Salem are measurably higher than those of the United States and all of Winston-Salem’s peer cities.
- | The unemployment rate for White, Non-Hispanic residents in Winston-Salem is measurably higher than that of North Carolina and some of Winston-Salem’s peer cities.

TABLE 1. Unemployment Rate by City and Race, 2010-2014

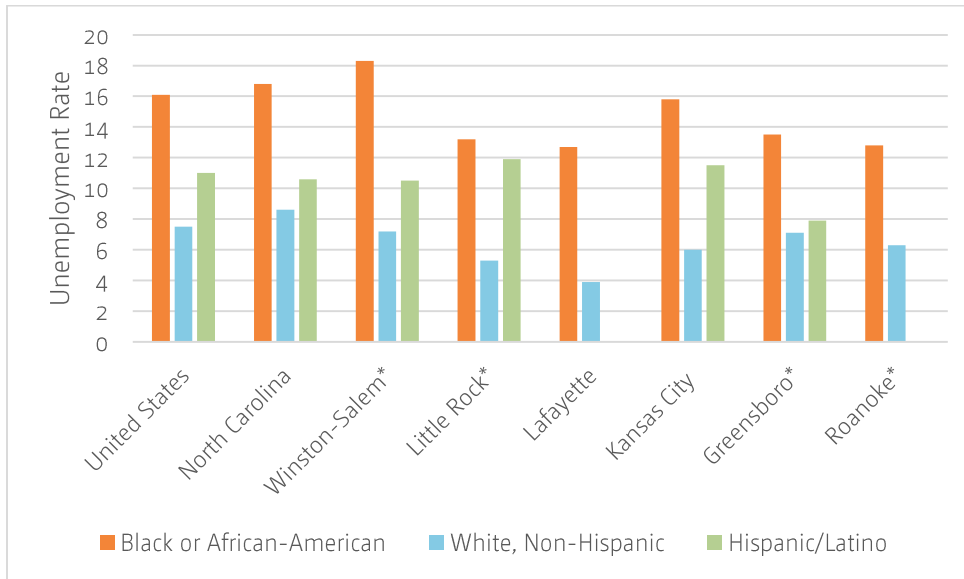
	African-American	White, Non-Hispanic	Hispanic/Latino
United States	16.1	7.5	11
North Carolina	16.8	8.6	10.6
Winston-Salem	18.3	7.2	10.5*
Little Rock	13.2	5.3	11.9*
Lafayette	12.7	3.9	
Kansas City	15.8	6	11.5
Greensboro	13.5	7.1	7.9*
Roanoke	12.8*	6.3	

\*Indicates that estimate may be unreliable for some purposes (CV12-30)

Less reliable data has been omitted (CV>30)

Green highlighting indicates that unemployment rate is measurably lower than that of Winston-Salem

FIGURE 2. Unemployment Rate by City and Race, 2010-2014



\*Indicates that estimate may be unreliable for some purposes (CV12-30)  
 Less reliable data has been omitted (CV>30)

### Forsyth County

- | As seen in Table 2 and Figure 3, African-American residents have measurably higher rates of unemployment in Forsyth County than Hispanic/Latino residents and White, Non-Hispanic residents, and Hispanic/Latino residents have measurably higher rates of unemployment than White, Non-Hispanic residents.
- | The unemployment rate in Forsyth County for Hispanic/Latino residents is not measurably different than that of the United States, North Carolina, or Forsyth County’s peer counties.
- | Unemployment rates for African-American residents in Forsyth County are measurably higher than those of most of Forsyth County’s peer counties.
- | And, the unemployment rate for White, Non-Hispanic residents in Forsyth County is measurably higher than that of the United States and North Carolina and most of Forsyth County’s peer counties.

TABLE 2. Unemployment Rate by County and Race, 2010-2014

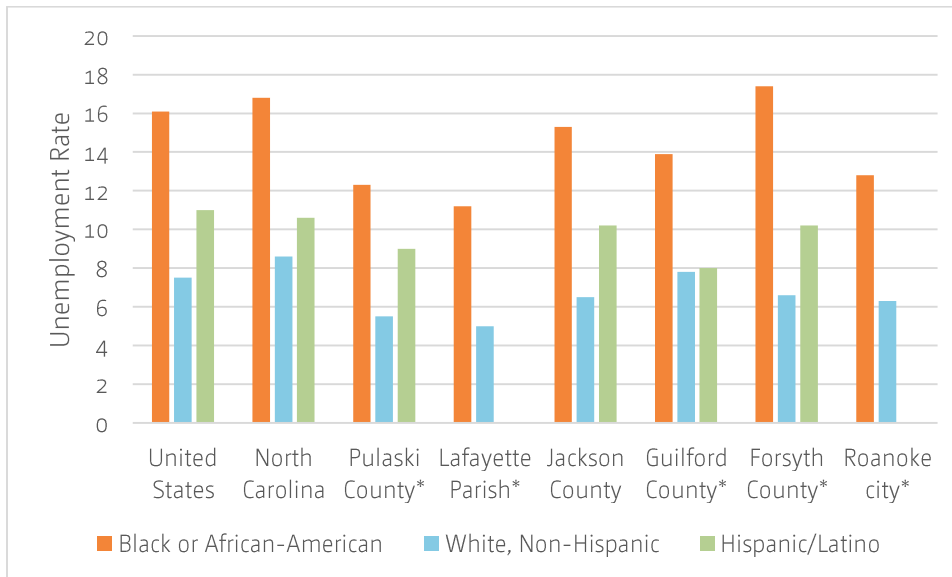
	Black or African-American	White, Non-Hispanic	Hispanic/Latino
United States	16.1	7.5	11
North Carolina	16.8	8.6	10.6
Pulaski County	12.3	5.5	9*
Lafayette Parish*	11.2	5	
Jackson County	15.3	6.5	10.2
Guilford County*	13.9	7.8	8*
Forsyth County*	17.4	6.6	10.2*
Roanoke city*	12.8	6.3	

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Less reliable data has been omitted (CV>30)

Green highlighting indicates that unemployment rate is measurably lower than that of Winston-Salem

FIGURE 3. Unemployment Rate by County and Race, 2010-2014



\*Indicates that estimate may be unreliable for some purposes (CV12-30)

Less reliable data has been omitted (CV>30)

Green highlighting indicates that unemployment rate is measurably lower than that of Winston-Salem

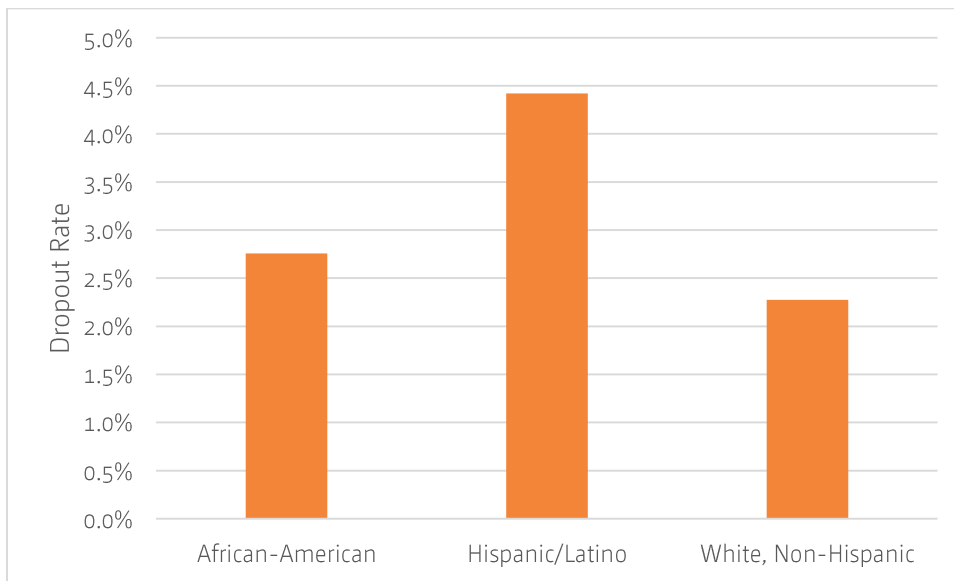
### Dropout Rate by Race

- Table 3 and Figure 4 show that a preliminary analysis of dropout rates for students in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school system indicates that Hispanic/Latino students may have a higher dropout rate than African-American and White, Non-Hispanic students.

TABLE 3. Dropout Rate of High School Students in Forsyth County by Race 2012-2013

	African-American	Hispanic/Latino	White, Non-Hispanic
Dropout Rate	2.8%	4.4%	2.3%

FIGURE 4. Dropout Rate of High School Students in Forsyth County by Race 2012-2013



### Household Income by Race

- Households headed by African-American and Hispanic/Latino householders have measurably lower median incomes than those headed by Asian-American and White, Non-Hispanic householders as seen in Figure 5.
- The median income of households headed by Asian-American householders is more than twice as high as those headed by African-American and Hispanic/Latino householders.

FIGURE 5. Median Household Income by Race of Householder in Winston-Salem, 2010-2014

