

Whole Child NC: Policy ADVS-009 Recommendations

Dr. Michael Maher (Deputy Superintendent of Standards, Accountability, and Research)

Dr. Kristi Day (Director, Academic Standards)

Dr. Ellen Essick (Section Chief, NC Healthy Schools/Specialized Instructional Support)**

Susanne Schmal (School Health Partnerships & Policy Consultant)**

Whole Child NC

Established 9/3/2015 as an advisory committee to the State Board of Education.

Identifies and reviews the challenges of at-risk school-aged population such as poverty, safety, health and other non-academic barriers.

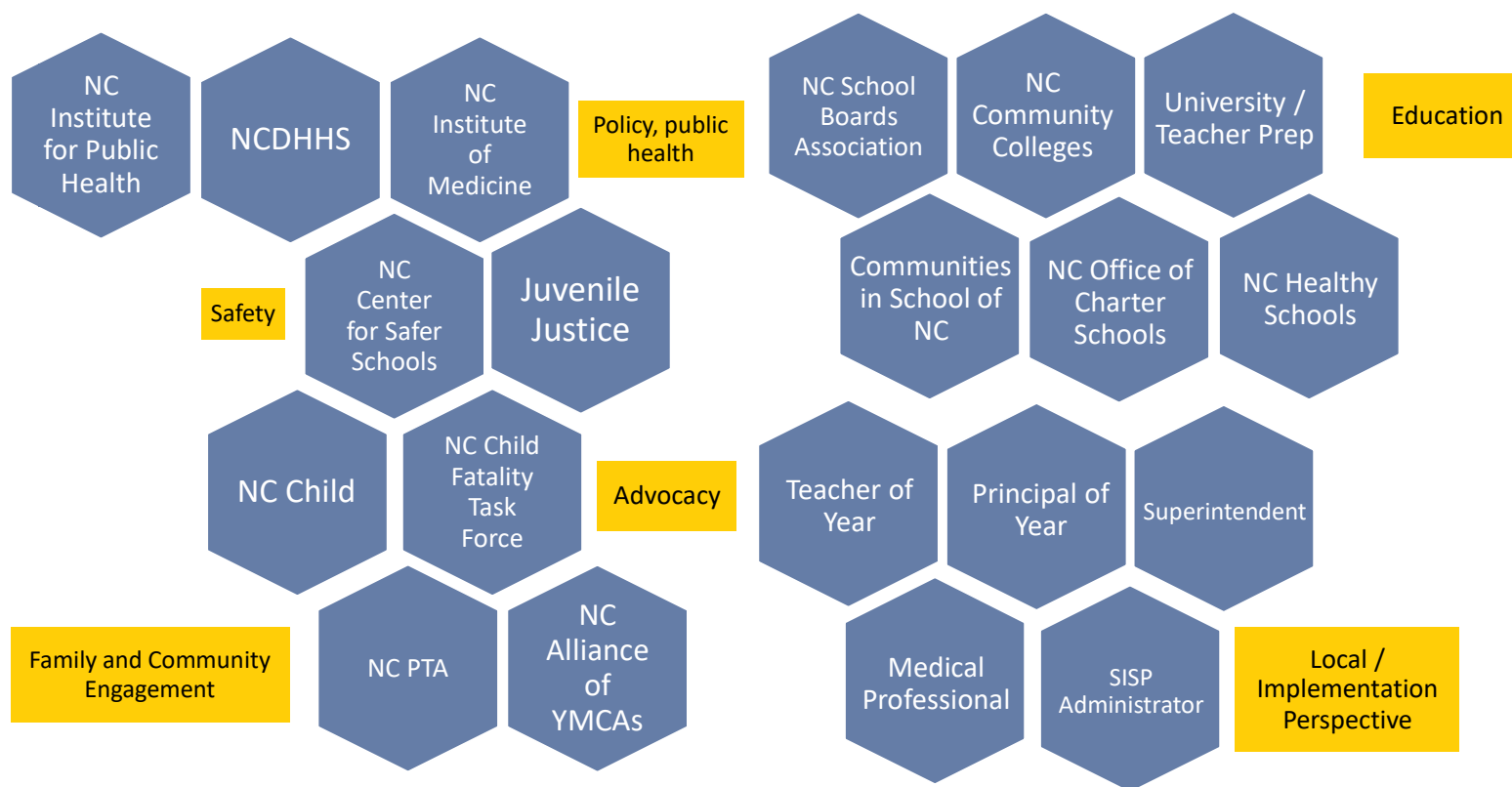
Makes recommendations to the State Board of Education, other state agencies and education stakeholder groups as to how best to facilitate access for all public school children to receive the opportunity for a sound basic education.

Whole Child North Carolina Vision

State agencies and partners will coordinate so that all children thrive in a nurturing environment and have the resources and supports they need, provided the way they need them, and when they need them.



WCNC Advisory Committee



2022 – 2023 Progress

- ECS Policy Academy Summer 2022
- Invited Advisory Committee Members Summer 2022
- Identified Chair and Co-Chairs
- Finalized Bylaws and Vision
- Updated Policy



Dr. Patrick Greene
NC SBE, GCS



Dr. Charlene Wong
NC DHHS



Kathleen Colville
NC IOM

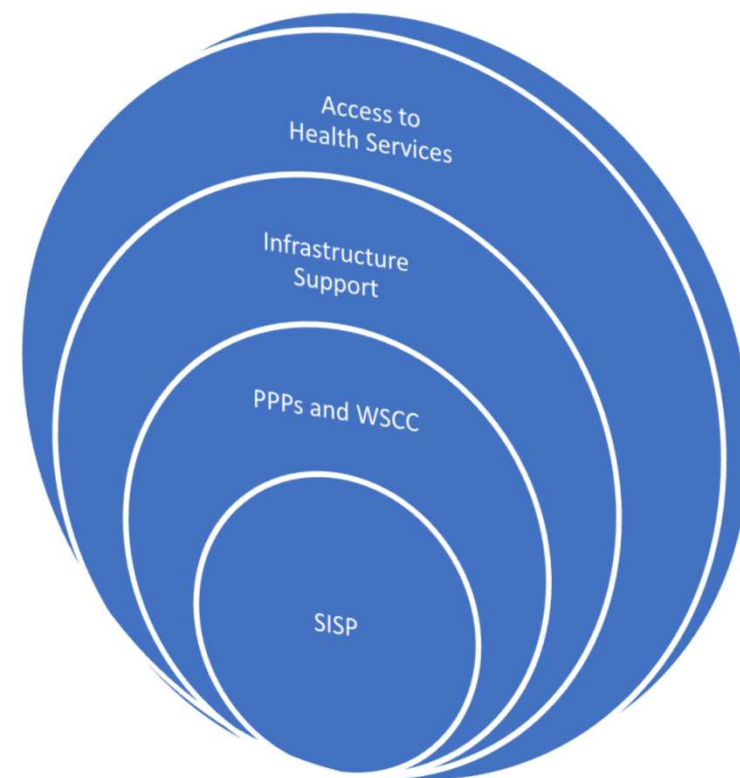
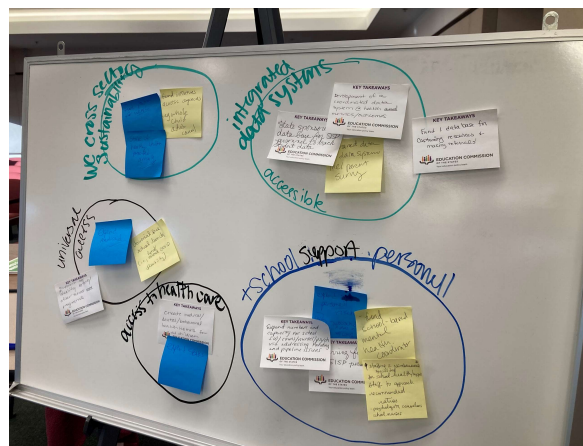
New Chair of WCNC: August 2023

Kella Hatcher, JD
Executive Director,
NC Child Fatality Task Force



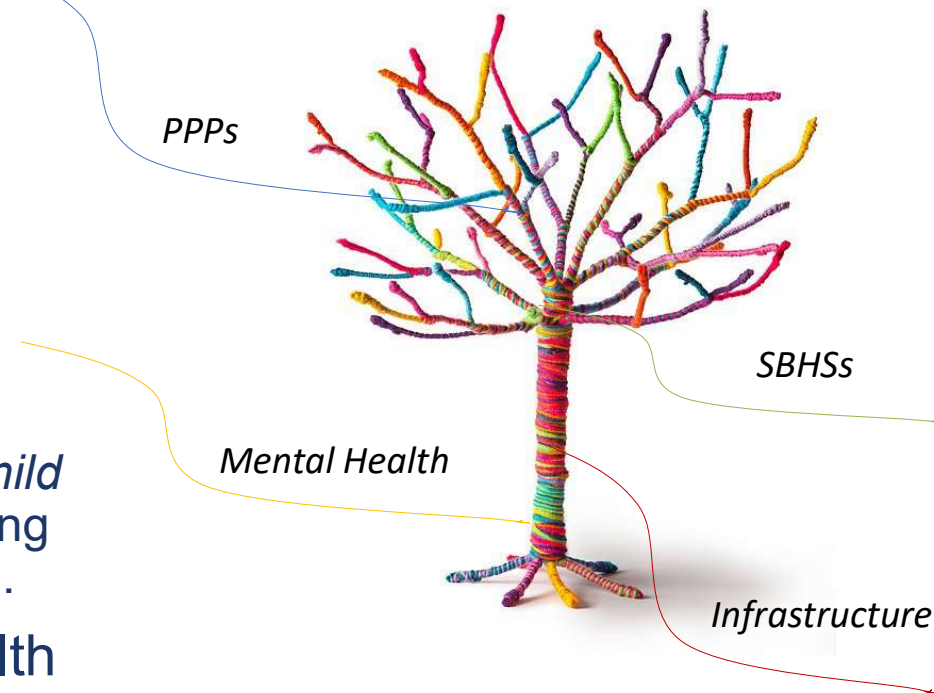
2022 – 2023 Progress

- Meetings To Date:
 - September and November 2022
 - February, April and August 2023
- Identified Priorities for Year and Beyond

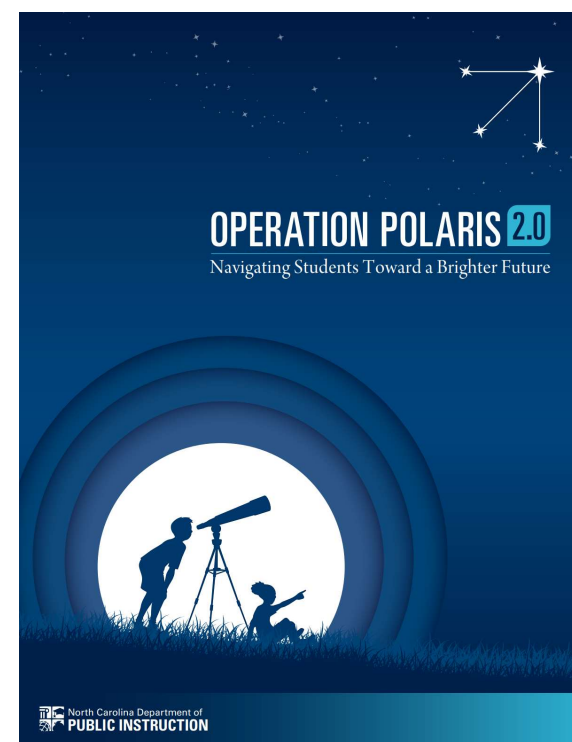
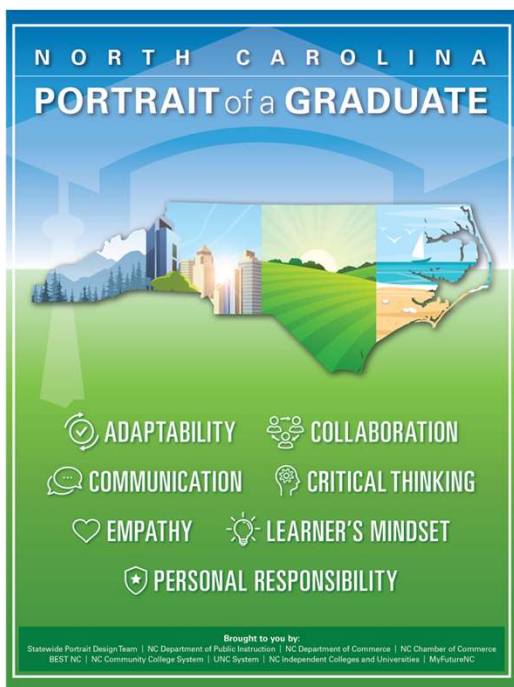


WCNC Priorities:

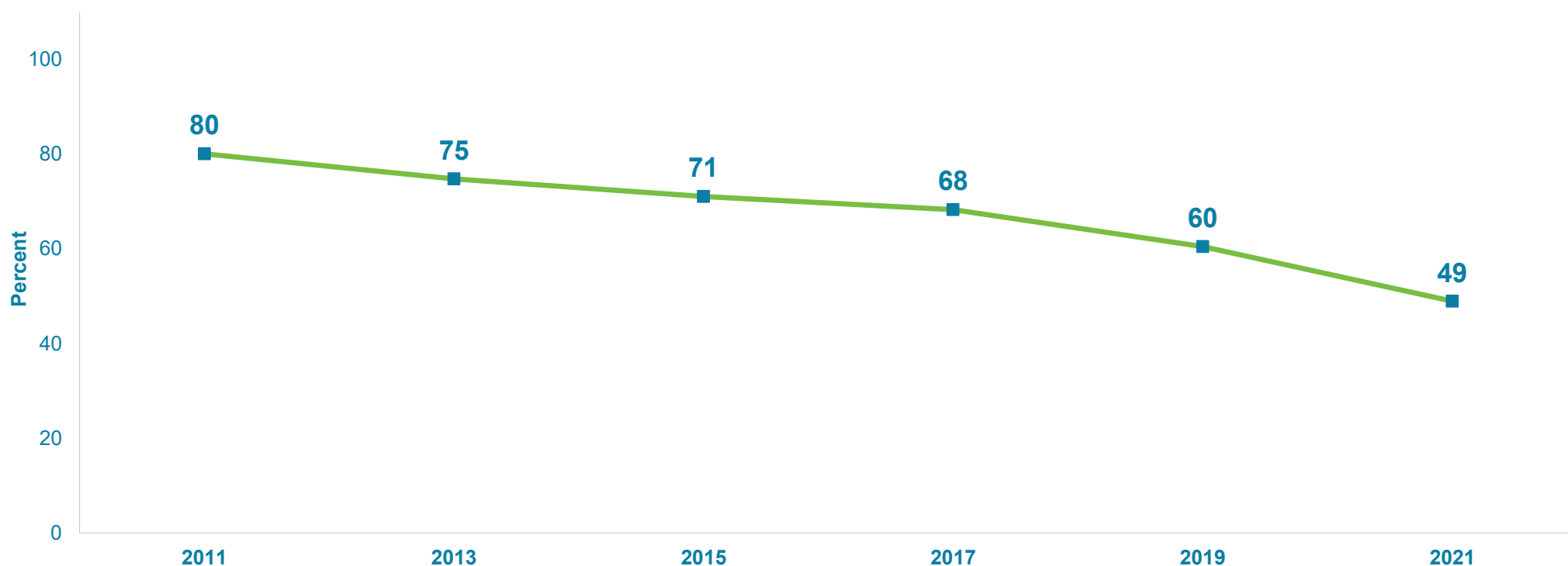
1. Endorsing funding request for SISP.
2. Policy Recommendations:
 - a) Fund position for Whole Child NC / WSCC.
 - b) Principal Preparation Programs to include program approval requirements and communications that will focus educator preparation programs for principals on the *Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child* (WSCC) model and its relationship to enabling students' access to a sound basic education.
3. Expanding School-based Access to Health Services.



Alignment with SBE and DPI Plans



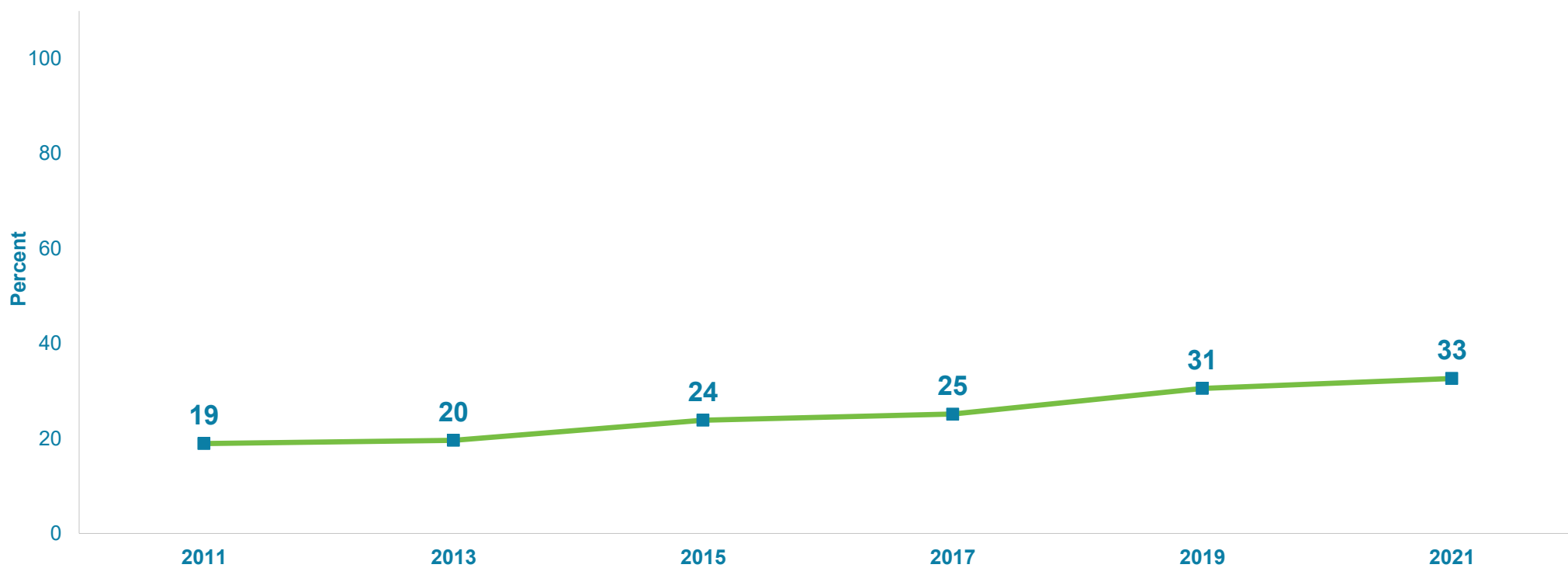
Percentage of High School Students Who Strongly Agree or Agree That They Feel Good About Themselves



*Decreased 2011-2021 [Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using logistic regression models controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade ($p < 0.05$). Significant linear trends (if present) across all available years are described first followed by linear changes in each segment of significant quadratic trends (if present).]

North Carolina - YRBS, 2011-2021 - QN109

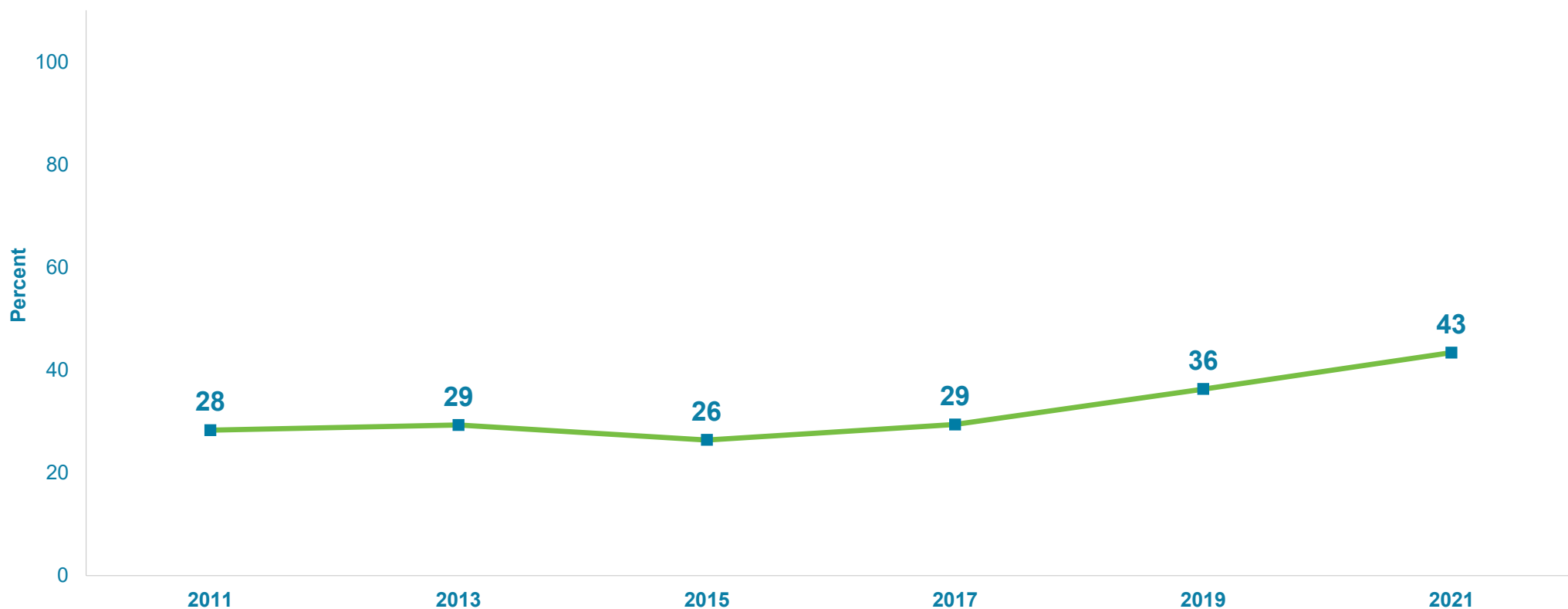
Percentage of High School Students Who Agree or Strongly Agree That They Feel Alone in Their Life



*Increased 2011-2021 [Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using logistic regression models controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade ($p < 0.05$). Significant linear trends (if present) across all available years are described first followed by linear changes in each segment of significant quadratic trends (if present).]

North Carolina - YRBS, 2011-2021 - QN110

Percentage of High School Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless

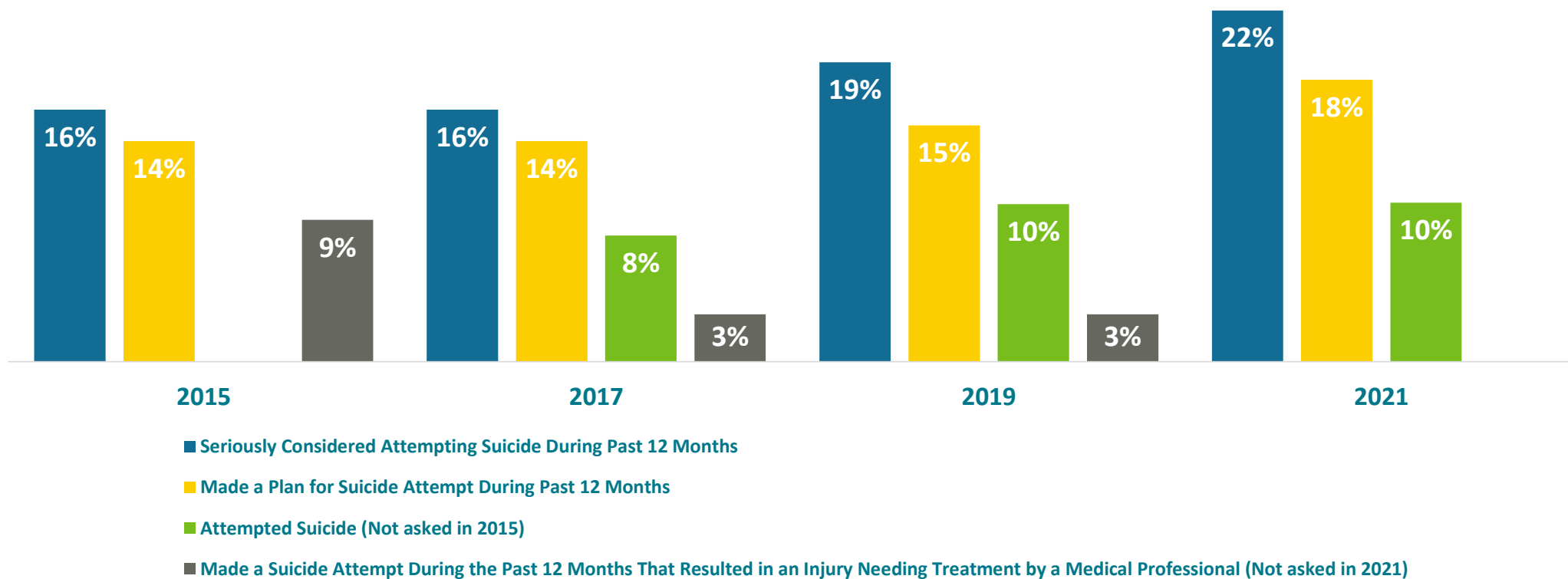


*Almost every day for ≥ 2 weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities, ever during the 12 months before the survey

†Increased 2001-2021, no change 2001-2015, increased 2015-2021 [Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using logistic regression models controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade ($p < 0.05$). Significant linear trends (if present) across all available years are described first followed by linear changes in each segment of significant quadratic trends (if present).]

North Carolina - YRBS, 2011-2021

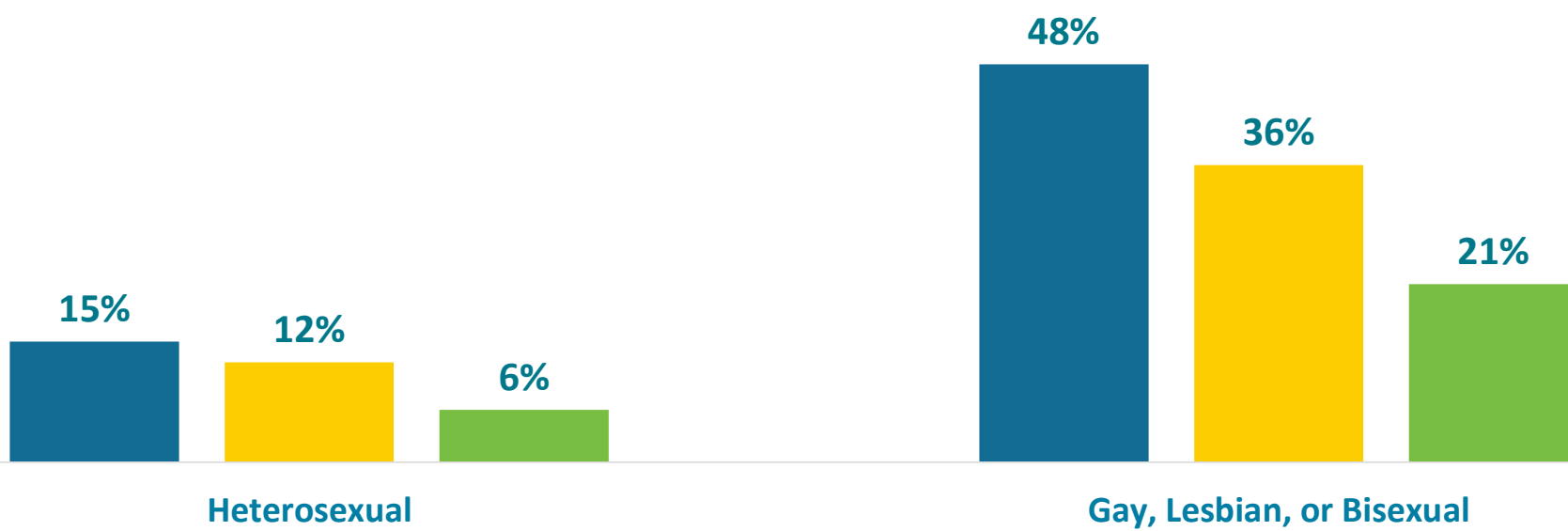
Suicidal Behaviors 2015-2021 NC High School Students



Source: NC High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Suicidal Behaviors

2021 NC High School Students



- Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide During Past 12 Months
- Made a Plan for Suicide Attempt During Past 12 Months
- Attempted Suicide During the Past 12 Months

Source: NC High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Seriously Considered Suicide

2011-2021 NC High School Students



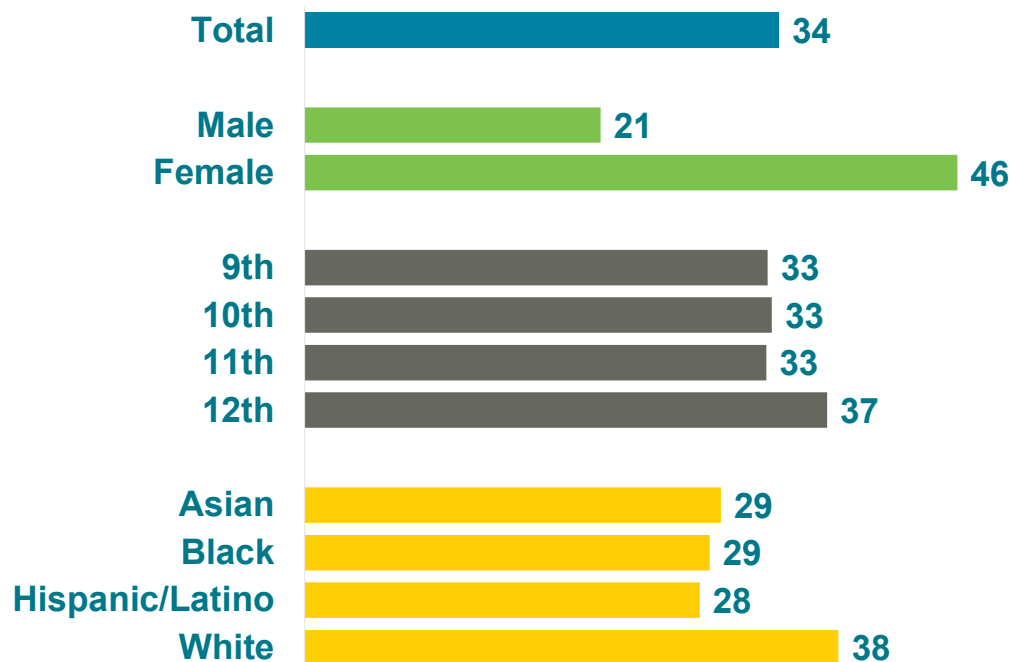
	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
■ Female	15%	22%	21%	21%	23%	30%
■ Male	14%	12%	11%	11%	15%	14%

■ Female

■ Male

Source: NC High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Percentage of High School Students Who Reported That Their Mental Health Was Most of the Time or Always Not Good,* by Sex,[†] Grade, and Race/Ethnicity, 2021



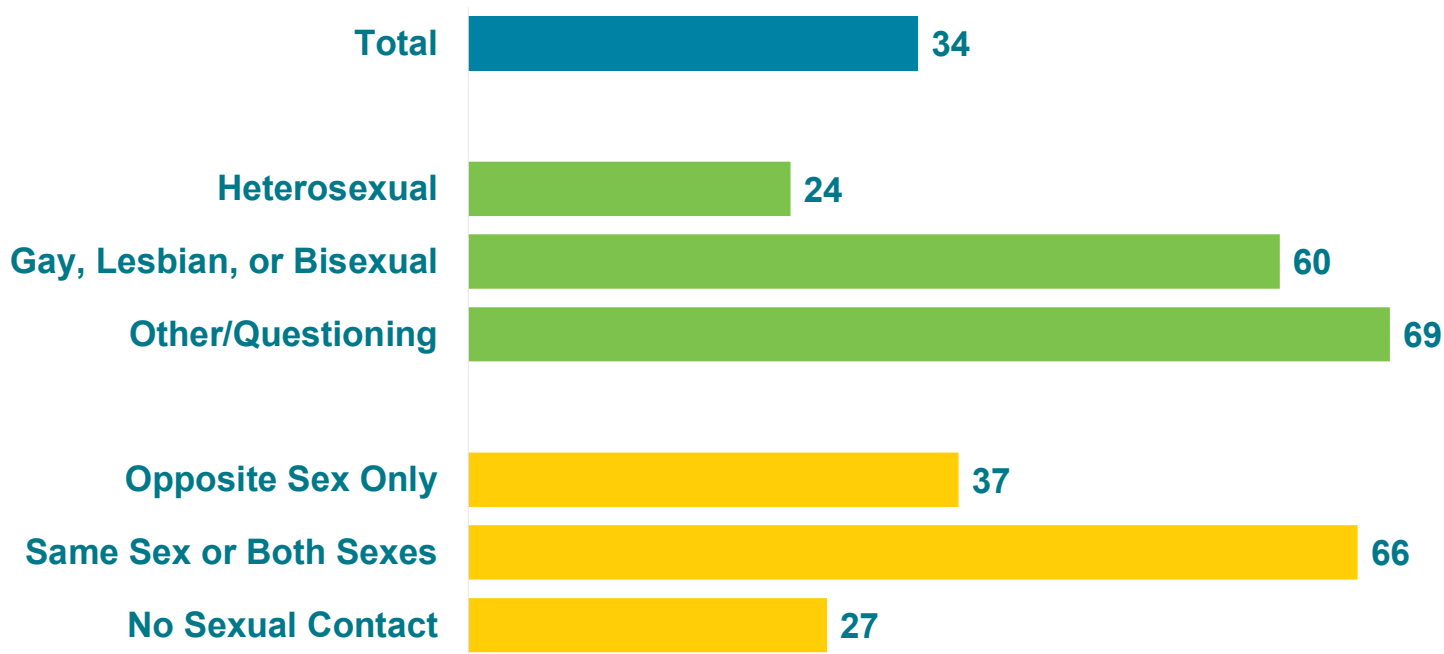
*Including stress, anxiety, and depression, during the 30 days before the survey

[†]F > M (Based on t-test analysis, $p < 0.05$.)

All Hispanic students are included in the Hispanic category. All other races are non-Hispanic. This graph contains weighted results.

North Carolina - YRBS, 2021 - QN85

Percentage of High School Students Who Reported That Their Mental Health Was Most of the Time or Always Not Good,* by Sexual Identity and Sex of Sexual Contacts, 2021



*Including stress, anxiety, and depression, during the 30 days before the survey
This graph contains weighted results.

North Carolina - YRBS, 2021 - QN85

National Emergency: Adolescent Mental Health



American Academy
of Pediatrics



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PSYCHIATRY

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CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

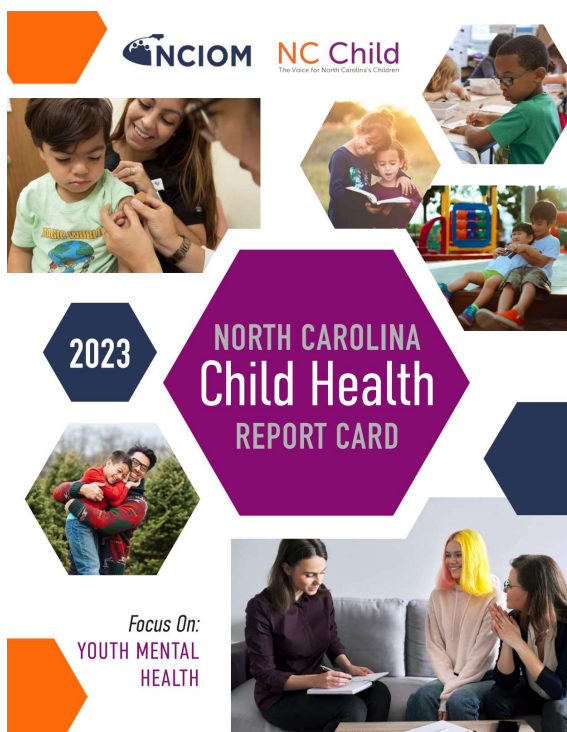
National Emergency: Adolescent Mental Health



Surgeon General Vivek Murthy speaks about equitable health care during the COVID-19 pandemic, Nov. 22, 2021, in Washington, D.C. (OLIVIER DOULIERY/AFP/GETTY IMAGES)

Surgeon General Advisory Raises Alarm on Youth Mental Health

And in North Carolina...



NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children

2023

**NORTH CAROLINA
Child Health
REPORT CARD**

Focus On:
YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

GRADE	INDICATOR	DATA YEARS	CURRENT	BASE	% CHANGE
F	School Health				
	School nurse ratio	2019-2020, 2018 -2019	1:1,007	1:1,021	-1.4%
	School counselor ratio	2021-2022, 2018-2019	1:316	1:354	12.0%

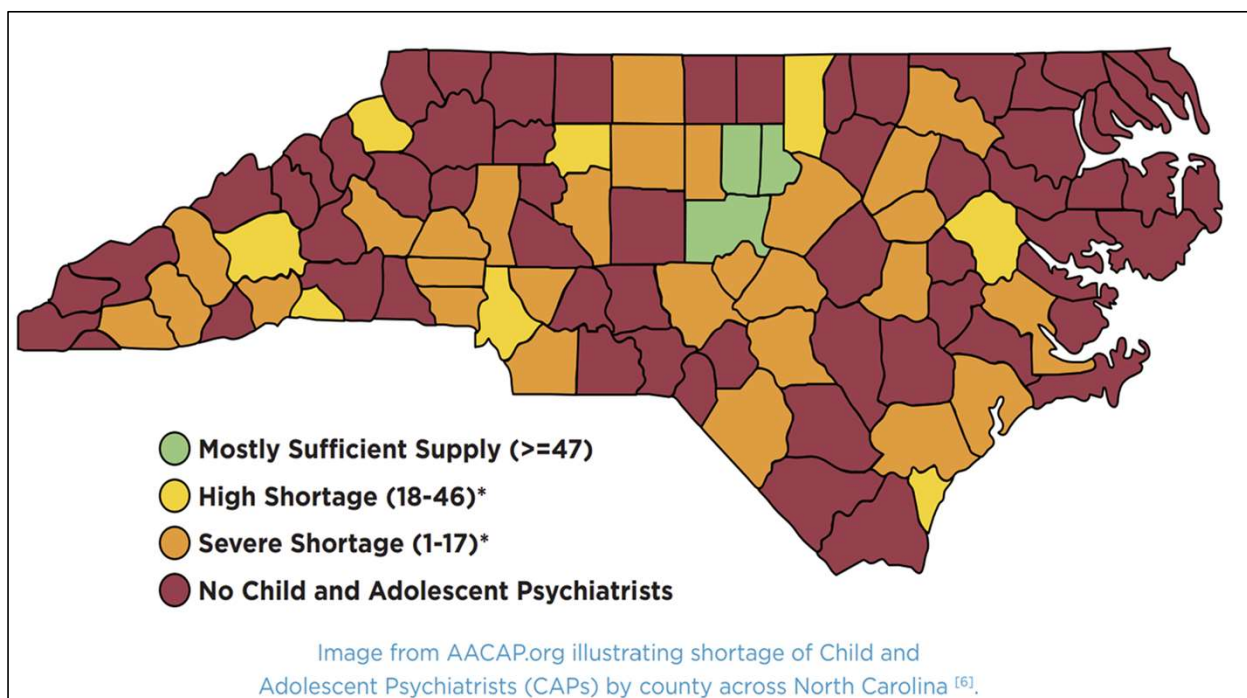
GRADE	INDICATOR	DATA YEARS	CURRENT	BASE	% CHANGE	AFRICAN AMERICAN or BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN	HISPANIC or LATINX	OTHER	WHITE
F	Mental Health										
	High school students who attempted suicide in the past year	2021, 2017	10.1%	8.2%	23.2%	11.5%		13.7%	10.6%		8.3%
	Past-year major depressive episode among adolescents aged 12-17	2018-2019, 2017-2018	15.1.0%	12.0%	25.8%	11.4%					
	Percent of adolescents aged 12-17 with major depressive episode who received treatment for depression	2019, 2018	43.3%	41.4%	4.6%	35.6%					

And in North Carolina...

NC is 47th in
per pupil
spending

NC is 42nd
in the
Nation in
meeting
mental
health
needs of
youth

Critical Shortage of Mental Health Providers



And in North Carolina...



1 in 5 adolescents have seriously considered attempting suicide



1 in 10 adolescents have made a suicide attempt

1 in 10 children aged 3-17 has a diagnosis of anxiety or depression

NC Resources

NEED
SOMEONE
TO TALK
TO?

Call, text,
or chat 24/7

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

988lifeline.org

Scan for
more info

NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES



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NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES



Specialized Instructional Support Ratios



School Counselors	2021	1:335	Recommended	1:250
	2022	1:361		
School Nurses	2021	1:890	Recommended	1 per school
	2022	1:833		
School Social Workers	2021	1:1,025	Recommended	1:250
	2022	1:1,033		
School Psychologists	2021	1:1,815	Recommended	1:500
	2022	1:1,979		

SCHOOL COUNSELORS



Ratio in NC 1:361 Students
Recommended Ratio 1:250

SCHOOL NURSES



Ratio in NC 1:833 Students
Recommended Ratio 1 Per School

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS



Ratio in NC 1:1,033 Students
Recommended Ratio 1:250

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS



Ratio in NC 1:1,979 Students
Recommended Ratio 1:500

Types of Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SISP)

School Counselors

- Provide individual and group counseling.
- Facilitate classroom success.
- Provide career and college readiness guidance.



School Nurses

- Assess needs, complete, and oversee health care plans.
- Promote healthy school environments and provide health education.
- Screen for potential emotional and mental health concerns.

School Social Workers

- Facilitate access to resources and services for students and their families.
- Reduce barriers to learning using interventions to improve overall student functioning.
- Provide students and parents with community linkages and resources to support successful school and work transitions.

School Psychologists

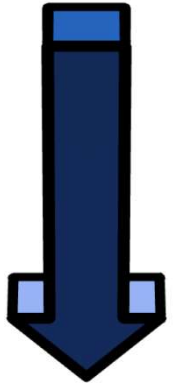
- Assess student needs in learning & behavior.
- Perform suicide and threat assessments.
- Provide targeted behavioral health services to individuals/groups of identified students to develop skills and behaviors critical to academic success.

SISP Benefits: A School-based Solution

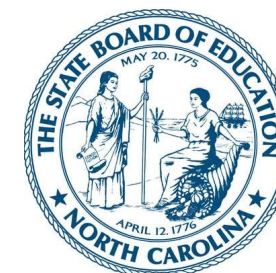
- Graduation Rates
- Time Teachers Spend on Instruction
- Reading and Math Achievement
- School Safety
- Access to Medical and Mental Health Services



- Chronic Absenteeism
- Physical Aggression
- Substance Use
- Teacher Turnover



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Investing in the Future: Support for Increased SISP and Adequate Funding

**Child Fatality
Task Force**



*Our Children, Our Future,
Our RESPONSIBILITY*



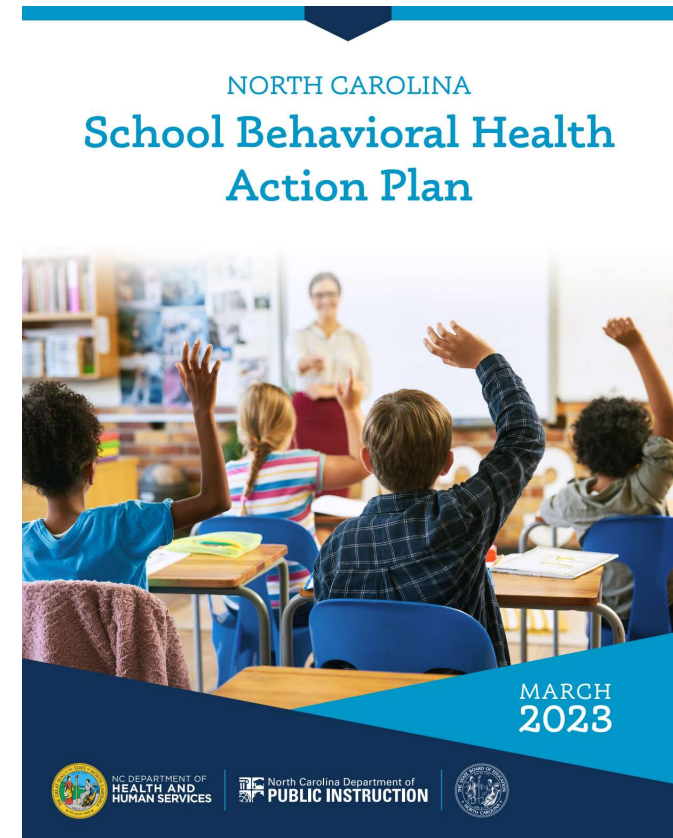
North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



Center for
SAFER SCHOOLS
NC Department of Public Instruction

Funding

- SBE Requested for \$100 million in 2023 – 2025 budget for more school nurses and social workers.
- Governor’s Budget - \$1 billion plan schools to expand mental health services statewide, including for additional SISPs.



Recommendations for SBE:

Continue to advocate for funding support for SISP

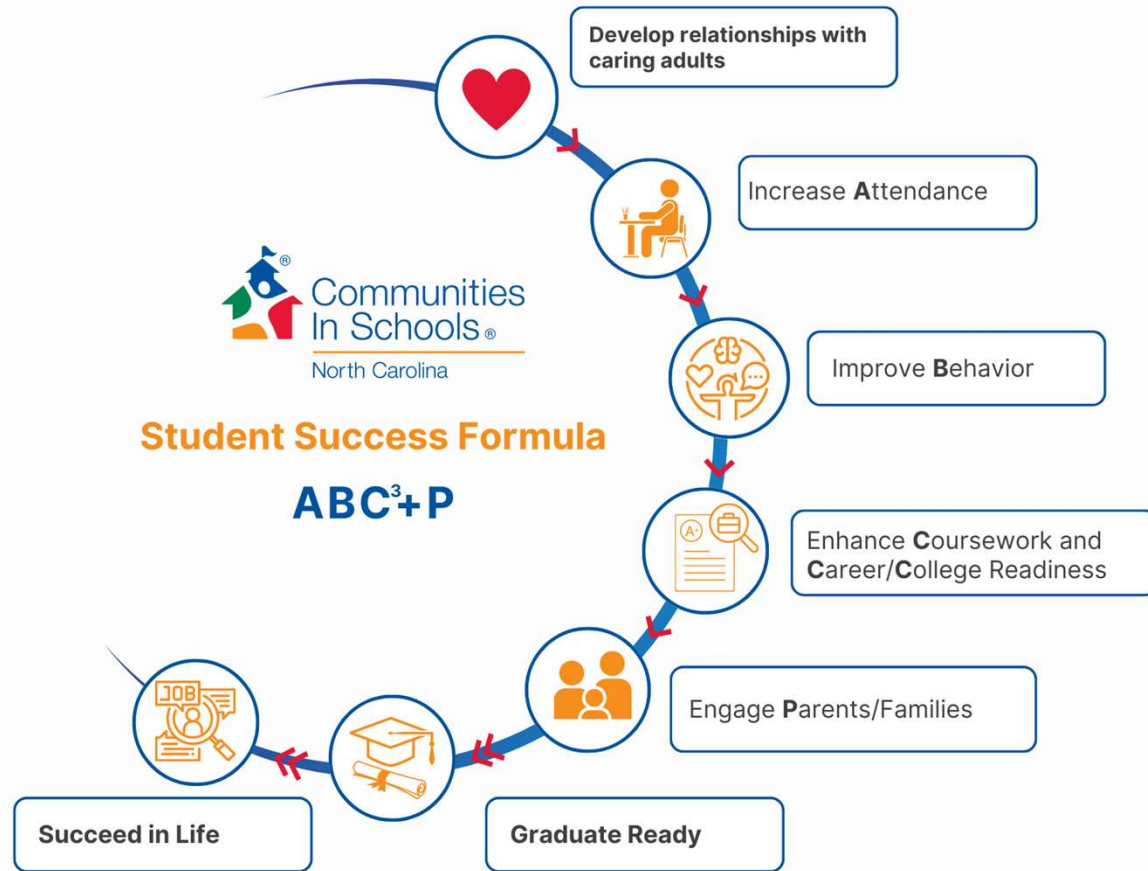
- Address competitive salary needs to enhance capacity building.
- Recommend flexibility for districts to hire for needed positions within SISP roles.



WCNC Advisory Committee Members



Communities In Schools Student/Youth Success Framework



STUDENT SERVICES



 **GREENE CENTRAL**
HIGH SCHOOL

WCNC Advisory Committee Members

“North Carolina Parent Teacher Association (NCPTA) wholeheartedly supports the collaborative work and priorities of Whole Child NC (WCNC).

*NCPTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality and acknowledges that this is best accomplished when students have a nurturing environment full of the resources, supports, and opportunities they need. Like WCNC, NCPTA's advocacy priorities include enhanced funding for mental health and wellness in schools and communities that can result in more Specialized Instructional Support Personnel, additional positions aligned with the WCNC infrastructure, and the expansion of school-based health services. **When these priorities are met, we will produce students who are healthier and more equipped to navigate our complex society.”***

*Dr. Shaneeka Moore-Lawrence
NCPTA President
23-Year NC Public School Educator for all citizens in North Carolina*



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WCNC Advisory Committee Members

*“At our YMCAs day in and day out, we see the need for the kinds of services that could be provided with the proper resources dedicated to **Specialized Instructional Support Personnel**. Especially coming out of the pandemic, we are seeing a marked increase in the need for social and emotional supports for children and youth of all ages.”*

*Sherée Thaxton Vodicka, CEO
NC Alliance of YMCAs*



WCNC Advisory Committee Members

*“So many times during my own childhood, and with my children, **I have turned to a school counselor, social worker or nurse for help and support.** One of the most valuable ways they have helped us is **spotting concerns early**, so we can take action to help our kids before things get really tough. Children in North Carolina are facing a challenging world, and it’s never a wrong move to do what we can to surround them with caring, trained adults who have their best interests at heart and the tools to act.”*

*Kathy Colville, PhD
President and CEO
NC Institute of Medicine*



WCNC Advisory Committee Members

*“The pandemic ripped off the band-aid and raised our awareness of the youth mental health crisis. **We need structures such as the Whole Child NC Advisory to help us systematically look at the infrastructures and resources available to support our students. Resources such as Specialized Instructional Support Personnel to identify, link, and provide students with the health and mental health services they need, when they need them.**”*

*D. Natasha Scott, EdD, MSW
Executive Director, Student Services
Cumberland County Schools*



WCNC Advisory Committee Members

*“The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the mental health crisis for children and youth. Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SISP) are subject matter experts in addressing mental health issues in schools to support the whole child using the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model. Providing **adequate funding** to increase SISP helps to ensure the physical, emotional, and social needs of students are met.”*

Anne Odusanya, DrPH, MPH

Assistant Director, Division of Child and Family Well-Being, Whole Child Health Section

North Carolina Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Director

NC Department of Health and Human Services



NCDHHS

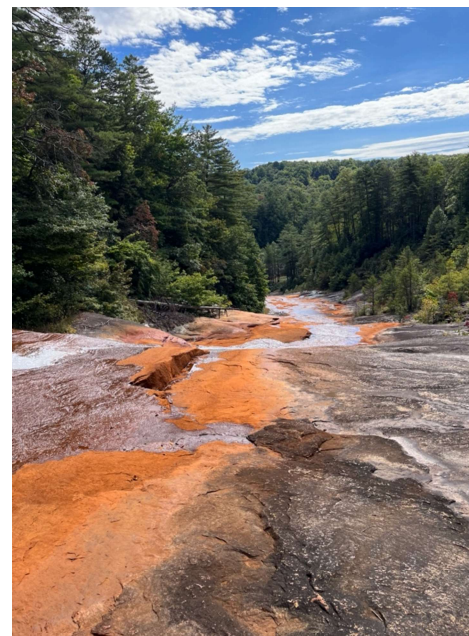
WCNC Advisory Committee Members

*“As a member of the Whole Child NC committee, I feel like this quote provides a great visual for what we strive to do. Instead of responding to children with poor health status, **the WCNC committee strives to “go upstream”, identify, and address the root causes of the problems** and facilitate the help necessary for North Carolinians to enjoy lifetime of good health.*

*The work of the WCNC committee is especially important to me as I **prepare future North Carolina Health Educators** at Western Carolina University. Health Educators strive to provide all North Carolina children with a “map” of the river and the skills to keep them from falling in.*

We are challenged with enhancing both the physical and mental health of ALL North Carolina children. Health Educators are part of the WCNC mission supporting enhanced health and wellness for all citizens in North Carolina.”

Amy Stringer, PhD
 Health and Physical Education Program
 The School of Teaching and Learning
 Western Carolina University



“There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they’re falling in.”
 — Desmond Tutu

This Moment

“If we seize this moment, step up for our children and their families in their moment of need, and lead with inclusion, kindness, and respect, we can lay the foundation for a healthier, more resilient, and more fulfilled nation.”

—Dr. Vivek H. Murthy
Surgeon General of the United States



Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child



Healthy Children Learn Better