



# **Quality of Life Report Card**

**Rowan County**

**2009**

## INTRODUCTION

---

### Healthy Rowan! Task Force

Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention  
Cornerstone Church  
Healthy Baby Coalition of Rowan County  
Hispanic Coalition of Salisbury-Rowan  
Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare  
Rowan County Department of Social Services  
Rowan County EMS  
Rowan County Health Department

Rowan County Sheriff's Department  
Rowan County United Way  
Rowan Partnership for Community Health  
Rowan Regional Medical Center  
Rowan-Salisbury Schools  
Smart Start Rowan  
Smoke Free Rowan  
Youth-In-Action Against Tobacco Council

---

The Healthy Rowan! Task Force, our community's state-certified Healthy Carolinians Task Force, is pleased to present the 2009 Quality of Life Report for Rowan County. Prepared annually, the Report Card serves to:

- Heighten awareness about quality of life measures relevant Rowan County and North Carolina
- Bring attention to areas where policy development and enactment, environmental changes, partnering initiatives and resources would contribute to a healthier, stronger community
- Describe local efforts that impact community health problems and quality of life concerns
- Summarize recent progress toward impacting health priorities identified through the *2006 Rowan County Health and Human Services Needs Assessment*
- Identify common ground for joining together to solve community health problems

Similar to previous editions, the 2009 Quality of Life Report Card delivers information in a format that is concise, readable and current. More importantly, data selected for inclusion in the report must be accurate, reliable, measured periodically over time, available at the county and state level for comparison purposes, universally accepted dimensions of community health and well-being, and relevant to the general public, policymakers, nonprofit and government agencies, community based organizations, civic organizations and the business community.

Although the document is a report card, Healthy Rowan! has chosen not to assign a letter grade to each quality of life measure. Rather, the reader may compare Rowan County data against state-level data and determine for themselves where our community's health and well-being is doing better, the same or worse than the state overall. Over the years, it has become evident that improvements are observed where investments, both financial and political, are made.

### HEALTHY ROWAN! PARTNERS

Several coalitions comprised of private and public sector representatives have affiliated themselves with Healthy Rowan! for the purpose of creating and implementing solutions for some of Rowan County's most pressing problems. Coalitions and their respective health priority focus area:

- Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention aims to prevent licit and illicit drug abuse among children, youth and young adults.

- Healthy Baby Coalition of Rowan County endeavors to reduce infant death rates and attain health parity among children birth through 5 years.
- Hispanic Coalition of Salisbury-Rowan engages the Hispanic and greater community in strengthening mutual appreciation, understanding and trust between different cultures.
- Rowan Partnership for Community Health supports healthy eating and active living to help elementary school children achieve or maintain a healthy weight.
- Smoke Free Rowan encourages businesses, organizations and schools to voluntarily adopt indoor smoke free policies to protect families from harm caused by secondhand smoke and create an environment that reduces tobacco use initiation while helping current tobacco users to quit.
- Youth-In-Action Against Tobacco Council, comprised of middle and high school students, strives to reduce the prevalence of teen tobacco use.

## **HEALTHY ROWAN! ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The Health Department, Healthy Rowan and partnering coalitions, through concerted and collaborative efforts, attained the following outcomes during FY 08-09:

- Completed the 2008 Healthy Rowan! Quality of Life Report Card which is available to the community through the Health Department website.
- Began the 2009 Community Health Assessment, which is a requirement of Health Carolinians and the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Advisory Board.
- Secured more than \$445,000 in grant funds for community health initiatives.
- Helped to create/sustain ten school-based tobacco prevention clubs and one community-based tobacco prevention club
- Over 2,500 tobacco free pledge forms were signed by local students in the Rowan-Salisbury School System.
- Thirty youth led tobacco-free activities were held in the schools and/or community.
- Thirty letters were sent to local merchants educating them on the Red Flag Campaign.
- Thirty local merchants were visited to assess whether or not they were obeying NC tobacco sell laws.
- Partnered with the J.F. Hurley YMCA to host a competitive walking program among five local elementary school
- Hosted Health Risk Appraisals for over 750 county employees as part of the Rowan County Wellness Program
- Provided over 199,000 servings of fresh fruit and vegetables to students at North Rowan and Hanford-Dole Elementary Schools through a USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program.
- Only 1% of Health Link experienced an unplanned pregnancy.
- 100% of the families receiving intensive family support through our Health Link Program spaced their babies at least 2 years or more
- 97% of families enrolled in Health Link reported adopting SIDS prevention practices
- 67% of women enrolled in Health Link initiated breastfeeding
- Provided over 400 transportation rides for health care and WIC services
- Installed over 40 car seats for Health Link clients
- For the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, hosted La Fiesta de Rowan, Rowan County's largest multi-cultural community event for families. Over 400 family members attended the day long celebration.
- Increased the proportion of restaurants offering a smoke-free environment from 41 % to 44%. The number of businesses, organizations, and schools reporting that they were smoke free rose from 195 to 237 with 156 joining the Smoke Free Rowan campaign.

**Leonard L. Wood, MS, MPH**  
**Director**

Quality of Life Measure	Rowan County	North Carolina	Time Period
<b>Health</b>			
Teen pregnancy rate for 15-17 year olds (1a)	41.5	34.8	2007
Teen pregnancy rate for 15-19 year olds (1b)	70.4	63.0	2007
Repeat teen pregnancies for 15-19 year olds (1c) (percent)	28.3%	29.4%	2007
Teen birth rate for 15-19 year olds (2)	56.8	47.9	2005-2007
Live births classified as low birthweight (percent) (3)	10%	9.1%	2003-2007
Pre-Pregnant Women Underweight (percent) (4)	13.9%	11.2%	2007
Pre-Pregnant Women Overweight (percent) (5)	45.5%	47.2%	2006
Mother smoked during pregnancy (percent) (6)	16.8%	11.9%	2003-2007
Mother received late or no prenatal care (percent) (7)	23.4%	17.3%	2005-2007
Infant death rate (8)	8.2	8.4	2003-2007
Infant death disparity between Whites and Blacks (9)	1.54 times higher rate for Blacks	2.53 times higher rate for Blacks	2003-2007
Fetal death rate (10)	7.5	6.8	2003-2007
Neonatal death rate (11)	5.4	5.8	2003-2007
Post-neonatal death rate (12)	2.8	2.7	2003-2007
Youth death rate (race, gender, age adjusted rates per 100,000 population) (13)	65.6	75	2002-2006
Deaths-all causes (race, gender, age adjusted rates per 100,000 population) (14)	903.8	875.3	2003-2007
Death disparity between White and minority men (15)	1.08 times higher rate for minority men	1.26 times higher rate for minority men	2003-2007
Death disparity between White and minority women (16)	1.17 times higher rate for minority women	1.19 times higher rate for minority women	2003-2007
Heart disease death rate (17)	240.4	210.7	2003-2007
Diabetes mellitus death rate (18)	31.6	26.4	2003-2007
Stroke death rate (19)	56.5	57.6	2003-2007
Cancer death rate (20)	195.2	194.9	2003-2007
Colon cancer death rate (21)	16.6	17.8	2003-2007
Lung cancer death rate (22)	61.5	59.6	2003-2007
Breast cancer death rate (23)	23.9	25.5	2003-2007
Prostate cancer death rate (24)	25.9	28.3	2003-2007
Suicide rate (25)	16.0	11.7	2003-2007
Homicide rate (26)	6.0	7.1	2003-2007
Motor vehicle injury death rate (27)	19.6	19.1	2003-2007
All other unintentional injury death rate (28)	32.9	27.8	2003-2007
Alzheimer's disease death rate (29)	32.1	28.3	2003-2007
Female breast cancer incidence rate (30)	136.8	147.2	2002-2006
Prostate cancer incidence rate (31)	92.8	153.2	2002-2006
Overweight children (32)	14.3%	17.3%	2007
Percent of kindergartners cavity-free (33)	63%	63%	SY 08-09
Percent of kindergartners with untreated dental decay (34)	23%	17%	SY 08-09
Percent of 5 <sup>th</sup> graders cavity-free (35)	81%	74%	SY 08-09
Percent of 5 <sup>th</sup> graders with untreated dental decay (36)	6%	4%	SY 08-09
Percent of 5 <sup>th</sup> graders with dental sealants (37)	46%	44%	SY 08-09
Number of physicians per 10,000 population (38)	12.5	20.9	2007
Number of primary care physicians per 10,000 population (39)	5.9	8.9	2007
Number of dentists per 10,000 population (40)	3.7	4.3	2007
Number of registered nurses per 10,000 population (41)	77.8	93.5	2007
Number of pharmacists per 10,000 population (42)	8.5	9.0	2007

Quality of Life Measure	Rowan County	North Carolina	Time Period
<b>Crime</b>			
Index crime rate per 100,000 residents (43)	3,601	4,659	2007
Violent crime rate per 100,000 residents (44)	412	480	2007
Property crime rate per 100,000 residents (45)	3,189	4,179	2007
Acts of violence per 1,000 students (elementary, middle, and high school) (46)	6.64	7.85	2007-2008
Juveniles before district courts for the 1 <sup>st</sup> time per 1,000 children ages 10-17 (47)	13	16	2008
Juvenile arrests per 1,000 children ages 10-17 (48)	67	72	2006
<b>Economy</b>			
Unemployment rate (percent) (49)	13.1%	11.2%	June 2009
Per capita income (50)	\$29,407	\$33,735	2007
Median household money income (51)	\$54,400	\$55,000	2008
Home ownership rate (52)	73.6 (2000)	70.3	2007
Retail sales per capita (53)	\$7,110	\$10,686	2002
Percent of residents enrolled in Work First (54)	0.51%	0.49%	2009
Percent of residents receiving Food Stamps (55)	12%	11%	2009
Percent of children receiving Food Stamps (56)	20%	20%	2009
Persons below poverty (percent) (57)	12.3%	14.3%	2007
Percent of children enrolled in NC Health Choice (percent) (58)	5.4%	5.5%	2009
Number and percent of children in poverty (percent) (59)	5,471, 17.1%	426,000, 20%	2007
Number and percent of population (0-17 years) without health insurance (60a)	5,000; 13.7%	345,000; 11.3%	2006-2007
Number and percent of population (age 18 to 64) without health insurance (60b)	18,000; 20.6%	1,232,000; 19.5%	2006-2007
Number and percent of population (age 0 to 64 years) without health insurance (60c)	23,000; 18.5%	1,578,000; 19.5%	2006-2007
<b>Social Well-Being</b>			
Children subject of a Child Protective Services Assessment per 1,000 children (birth to 17 years) (61)	92	59.5	2007-2008
Children found substantiated for child abuse, neglect or in need of services per 1,000 children (birth to 17 years) (62)	14.2	18.3	2007-2008
Rate of children in Department of Social Services custody per 1,000 children (birth to 17 years) (63)	4.8	7.0, FY 07-08	FY 2008-09
<b>Education</b>			
Grade 3 End of Grade Reading Mean Score (64)	337.2	338.6	SY 2008
Grade 3 End of Grade Math Mean Score (65)	343.3	344.8	SY 2008
Grade 5 End of Grade Reading Mean Score (66)	347.7	350.0	SY 2008
Grade 5 End of Grade Math Mean Score (67)	352.8	355.4	SY 2008
Grade 8 End of Grade Reading Mean Score (68)	356.8	358.4	SY 2008
Grade 8 End of Grade Math Mean Score (69)	359.1	361.2	SY 2008
SAT Average Score (70)	1434	1489	2008
Four Year Completion Rate (71)	70.9	70.3	2008
Per pupil appropriations (72)	\$1,933	\$2,075	2008
Free and Reduced-Price School Meals (percent) (73)	53.9	54.6	June 2009
<b>Civic Participation</b>			
Eligible residents registered to vote (percent) (74)	83.7%	83.1%	2006
Eligible residents participating in the Presidential election of 2004 (percent) (75)	63%	63%	2004
Eligible residents participating in the Presidential election of 2008 (percent) (76)	71%	72%	2008

- 1a. Teen Pregnancy Rate for 15-17 year olds: Number teens 15 to 17 pregnant per 1,000 girls age 15 to 17. State Center for Health Statistics.
- 1b. Teen Pregnancy Rate for 15-19 year olds: Number teens 15 to 19 pregnant per 1,000 girls age 15 to 19. State Center for Health Statistics.
- 1c. Repeat Teen Pregnancies for 15-19 year olds. Percent of total pregnancies among teens 15 to 19 that are repeat pregnancies. State Center for Health Statistics.
2. Teen Birth Rate. Number of girls between 15 and 19 years giving birth per 1,000 girls age 15 to 19. State Center for Health Statistics.
3. Live births classified as low birth weight. Weight of less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces (2,500 grams) at birth. State Center for Health Statistics.
4. Pre-Pregnant Women Underweight: Women with a BMI (body mass index) of < 19.8. NC Dept of Public Health Nutrition Services Branch.
5. Pre-Pregnant Women Overweight/Obese: Women with a BMI >26.0. NC Dept of Public Health Nutrition Services Branch.
6. Mothers Smoked During Pregnancy: Percent of mothers who smoked while pregnant. State Center for Health Statistics.
7. Mother Received Late or No Prenatal Care. Mothers who either did not start prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy or did not receive any prenatal care. State Center for Health Statistics
8. Infant Death Rate: Number of babies dying before their first birthday per 1,000 live births. State Center for Health Statistics.
9. Infant Death Disparity Between Whites and Blacks: While the overall infant mortality rate is at a record low, Black babies continue experience higher death rates than White babies. State Center for Health Statistics.
10. Fetal Death Rate: Stillbirths of 20+ weeks gestation per 1,000 live births. State Center for Health Statistics.
11. Neonatal Death Rate: Deaths of babies < 28 days old per 1,000 live births. State Center for Health Statistics.
12. Post-neonatal Death Rate: Deaths of babies 28 days old to 1 year per 1,000 live births. State Center for Health Statistics.
13. Youth Death Rate: Number of deaths among youth 0 to 17 years per 100,000. State Center for Health Statistics.
14. Deaths-All Causes: Number of deaths per 100,000 population due to the following causes: heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes mellitus, pneumonia and influenza, chronic lower respiratory diseases, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, septicemia, kidney disease, unintentional motor vehicle injuries, other unintentional injuries, suicide, homicide, and HIV. State Center for Health Statistics.
15. Death Disparity Between White and Minority Men: Historically, minority (mainly Black) men have experienced a greater burden of death than White men. State Center for Health Statistics.
16. Death Disparity Between White and Minority Women: Historically, minority (mostly Black) women have experienced a greater burden of death than White women. State Center for Health Statistics.
17. Heart Disease Death Rate: Number of deaths resulting from heart disease per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
18. Diabetes Mellitus Death Rate: Number of deaths resulting from diabetes mellitus per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
19. Stroke Death Rate: Number of deaths due to stroke per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
20. Cancer Death Rate: Number of deaths due to cancer per 100,000. This includes cancer of lip, oral cavity and pharynx; stomach; colon, rectum, and anus; liver; pancreas, larynx; trachea, bronchus and lung; sinuses, pleura, and all other respiratory sites; malignant melanoma of the skin; breast; cervix and uterus; ovary; prostate; bladder; brain; non-Hodgkins Lymphoma; and leukemia. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
21. Colon Cancer Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
22. Lung Cancer Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
23. Breast Cancer Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
24. Prostate Cancer Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted rate. State Center for Health Statistics.
25. Suicide Rate: Number of suicides per 100,000. Age adjusted. State Center for Health Statistics.
26. Homicide Rate: Number of homicides per 100,000. Age adjusted. State Center for Health Statistics.
27. Motor Vehicle Injury Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted. State Center for Health Statistics.
28. All Other Unintentional Injury Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted. State Center for Health Statistics.
29. Alzheimer's Death Rate: Number of deaths per 100,000. Age adjusted. State Center for Health Statistics.
30. Female Breast Cancer: Number of new cases of female breast cancer per 100,000. Age adjusted. NC Central Cancer Registry.
31. Prostate Cancer: Number of new cases of prostate cancer per 100,000. Age adjusted. NC Central Cancer Registry.
32. Overweight children: Prevalence of overweight children 2 through 18 years of age. NC-Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System.
33. Percent of Kindergartners Cavity Free: Percent of screened children who have never had a cavity of filling in a baby tooth. NC Calibrated Dental Screening Data, NC Oral Health Section.
34. Percent of Kindergartners with Untreated Dental Decay: NC Calibrated Dental Screening Data, NC Oral Health Section.
35. Percent of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Cavity Free: Percent of children screened who have never had a cavity or filling in a permanent tooth. NC Calibrated Dental Screening Data, NC Oral Health Section.
36. Percent of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders with Untreated Dental Decay: NC Calibrated Dental Screening Data, NC Oral Health Section.
37. Percent of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders with Dental Sealants: Dental sealants are a plastic material applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth-premolars and molars. This plastic resin bonds into the depressions and grooves (pits and fissures) of teeth and prevents tooth decay by protecting tooth enamel from plaque and food. NC Calibrated Dental Screening Data, NC Oral Health Section.
38. Number Physicians per 10,000 population. NC Health Professions 2007 Data System. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.
39. Number of Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 population. Primary care physicians are those who report their primary specialty as family practice, general practice, internal medicine, pediatrics or obstetrics/ gynecology. NC Health Professions 2007 Data System. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.
40. Number of Dentist per 10,000 population. NC Health Professions 2007 Data System. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.
41. Number of Registered Nurses per 10,000 population. NC Health Professions 2007 Data System. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.
42. Number of Pharmacists per 10,000 population. NC Health Professions 2007 DataSystem. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.
43. Index Crime Rate: Includes the total number of murders, rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, larcenies and motor vehicle thefts per 100,000 persons. State Bureau of Investigation.
44. Violent Crime Rate Per 100,000 Residents: Total number of violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) per 100,000 persons. State Bureau of Investigation.
45. Property Crime Rate Per 100,000 Residents: Total number of property crimes (burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft and arson) per 100,000. State Bureau of Investigation.
46. Acts of Violence Per 1,000 Students (elementary, middle, high school): Acts of violence: possession of weapon, controlled substance or alcoholic beverage, assault on school personnel, assault resulting in serious injury, sexual assault or sexual offence, assault involving use of weapon, possession of firearm, robbery with/without a dangerous weapon, taking indecent liberties with a minor, rape, kidnapping, bomb threat, burning of school building, and death by other than natural causes. Public Schools of NC, State Board of Education, NC Department of Public Instruction.

47. Juveniles Before District Courts for the 1<sup>st</sup> Time per 1,000 children ages 10-17: The number of juveniles who appear before the court for the first time during the fiscal year. A juvenile is defined as one who has not reached his or her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and "is not married, emancipated, or a member of the armed services of the United States." State Agency Data: Judicial Branch.
48. Juvenile Arrests: The total of all persons under the age of 18 who were arrested, cited, or summoned for committing a criminal offense, per 1,000 persons under age 18. NC Department of Justice.
49. Unemployment Rate: Calculated by dividing the number unemployed by the civilian labor force. State Agency Data: Dept. of Commerce.
50. Per Capita Income: Total personal income of residents of an area divided by the resident population of the area. Total personal income includes earnings (wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, and proprietors' income), dividends, interest, rent, and transfer payments. Federal Agency Data, Bureau of Economic Analysis.
51. Median Household Money Income: 50 percent of households have incomes exceeding and 50 percent have incomes less than stated amount. Household income is the sum of money income received in the previous calendar year by all household members 15 years old and over, including household members not related to the householder., people living alone, and others in non-family households. The median household income reported here were produced through statistical modeling. Federal Data: Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.
52. Home Ownership Rate: Computed by dividing the number of owner-occupied housing units by the number of occupied housing units or households. A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit, even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. U.S. Census Bureau-US Statistical Abstract.
53. Retail Sales Per Capita: Total dollar value of sales divided by the number of residents living in the area. Sales include merchandise sold for cash or credit at retail and wholesale by establishments primarily engaged in retail trade; amounts received from customers for layaway purchases; receipts from rental of vehicles, equipment, instruments, tools, etc.; receipts for delivery, installation, maintenance, repair, alteration, storage and other services; the total value of service contracts; and gasoline, liquor, tobacco, and other excise taxes which are paid by the manufacturer or wholesaler and passed on to the retailer. U.S. Census Bureau.
54. Percent of Residents Enrolled in Work First: Work First, which began in July 1995, is North Carolina's plan to help families stay off welfare or move off welfare and into jobs. Work is required for families on welfare. Work First is based on the premise that parents have a responsibility to support themselves and their children. Through Work First, parents can get short-term training and families can get childcare assistance and other services to help them become self-sufficient, but ultimately the responsibility is theirs. Most families have 2 years to move off welfare. NC Division of Social Services.
55. Percent of Residents Receiving Food Stamps: The Food Stamp Program is a Federal program that provides a monthly allotment of Food Stamp benefits that may be used to purchase most foods at participating stores. They may not be used to purchase tobacco, pet food, paper and soap products, or alcoholic beverages. The Food Stamp Program is an entitlement program; so all eligible individuals and households can receive assistance. NC Division of Social Services and Rowan Department of Social Services (DSS).
56. Percent of Children Receiving Food Stamps (< 18 years). NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, Rowan County Department of Social Services (DSS).
57. Persons Below Poverty: Families and persons are classified as below poverty level if their total family income or unrelated individual income was less than the poverty threshold specified for the applicable family size, age of householder and number of related children under 18 present. The State and County estimates were produced through statistical modeling. U.S. Census Bureau.
58. Percent of Children Enrolled in NC Health Choice. Percent of Children utilizing NC Health Choice Insurance Rowan County Department of Social Services (DSS).
59. Percent of Children Below Poverty: Estimated percent of children under age 18 years age whose family's income or unrelated individual income was less than the poverty threshold specified for the applicable family size, age of householder and number of related children under 18 present. Bureau of Economic Analysis regional data, 2005
- 60 a, b, c: Percent of Population Without Health Insurance: County-level Estimates of the Non-Elderly Uninsured in NC: 2006-2007. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, UNC Chapel Hill.
61. Children Subject of a Child Protective Services Assessment per 1,000 children (birth to 17): The number of unique children subject to an investigative assessment for abuse, neglect or in need of services divided by the total child population. Unique child: if same child is subject of more than one investigative assessment, he/she is counted only once. NC Division of Social Services and Rowan County DSS.
62. Children Found Substantiated for Child Abuse, Neglect or In Need of Services per 1,000 children (birth to 17): Number of children with substantiated abuse, neglect or in need of services divided by total child population. NC Division of Social Services and Rowan County DSS.
63. Rate of Children in Department of Social Services Custody per 1,000 Children (birth to 17 years). Number of children placed in Department of Social Services (DSS) custody divided by the total child population. Custody is defined as the court awarding DSS temporary responsibility for the care and placement of the child. NC Division of Social Services and Rowan County DSS.
- 64-69. End of Grade Mean Score: End of Grade tests are designed to measure student performance objectives and grade-level competencies specified in the NC Standard Course of Study. Raw test results are converted to developmental scale scores with a higher number reflecting a higher score. The data reported are average scores compiled from all children (grades 3, 5 and 8) taking EOG tests during the 2006 school year. 2006-07 NC State Testing Results. NC Department of Public Instruction.
70. SAT Average Score: NC SAT scores (math and critical reading scores combined) were averaged among NC students. The NC 2006-2008 SAT Report. NC Department of Public Instruction.
71. Four Year Completion Rate: Ratio of high school graduates at the end of the current school year to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade final enrollment four years earlier. Closest rate reported by the Dept of Public Instruction (DPI) to the measure recommended by the National Governors Association and the federal government. NC Department of Public Instruction, Financial & Business Services, School Business Division, 2008.
72. Per Pupil Appropriations: The annual amount spent per pupil by the local school system. It is calculated by dividing the overall operating expenditures by the number of children listed as the school system's average daily membership. 2008 NC Department of Public Instruction.
73. Free and Reduced-Price School Meals: School children enrolled in free/reduced-price school meals divided by average daily membership at lunch. 2009 NC Department of Public Instruction.
74. Percent of Eligible Residents Registered to Vote: Percent of eligible residents (U.S. citizens 18 years age and older) who are registered to vote. 2006 State Board of Elections.
75. Percent of Eligible Residents Participating in the General Election 2004: Calculated by dividing the number of votes for president by the number of registered voters. (U.S. citizens 18 years of age and older). Rowan County Board of Elections.
76. Percent of Eligible Residents Voting for President in the General 2008 Election: Calculated by dividing the number of votes for President in the 2008 election by number of residents eligible to vote. (US Citizens 18 years of age and older). State Board of Elections.