

2022 STATE OF THE COUNTY'S HEALTH

Ashe County, North Carolina



26,711

Population
(Census 2021)

Leading Causes of Death

- 1 Cancer
- 2 Diseases of the Heart
- 3 Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases

Median Household Income

North Carolina
\$61,972



Ashe
\$43,938

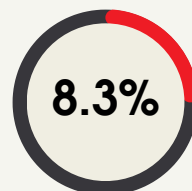
HEALTH PRIORITIES

The Ashe Health Alliance selected the health priorities in July 2021. These priorities were chosen based on the 2020 Ashe County Community Health Assessment. Highlights to the priorities are below and additional detail can be found in the full report ([view full report on AppHealthCare's website](#)).

MENTAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



In 2021, 11.4% of Ashe High School students said in the past 12 months they have seriously considered attempting suicide.



In 2021, 8.3% of Ashe High School students said in the past 12 months they have made a plan to attempt suicide.

- The Ashe School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) focuses on efforts to prioritize and improve students' health and well-being and helps disseminate the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.
- AppHealthCare's School Based Health Center reaches all middle school students in Ashe County and has an on-site Behavioral Health Clinician to work with youth. The Assessment, Support, & Counseling (ASC) Center is a valuable program that supports Ashe County School students in mental and behavioral health. As the school mental health program, the ASC Center works closely with schools and local partners to prevent suicide.

SUBSTANCE USE & MISUSE PREVENTION



Ashe County government is set to receive **\$2,181,261** in **Opioid Settlement Funds** over an 18-year period. Request for Proposals were issued to fund eligible organizations to implement evidence-based, high-impact strategies to address the opioid epidemic.

591
individuals

served by NC Peer Support
Specialists across Alleghany,
Ashe & Watauga Counties

33,294 syringes
returned



2,040 naloxone kits
distributed



131 justice-
involved persons
served



EMERGING ISSUES

Family & Social Supports



Family Connects staff have been recruiting at Ashe Memorial Hospital since October of 2021 when staff resumed home visits. As of October 2022, the Family Connects program was reaching **68%** of all eligible births in its service area and **100%** of all post-visit referrals were being completed.

In 2022, **20** Triple P (positive parenting program) interventions were delivered to families and **30 children** were served. By the end of 2022, **14 practitioners** had been trained to deliver Triple P services in Ashe.



Food Access



Dr. Stroud at the AppHealthCare Dental Clinic is working with a community member on a community garden that produces fresh produce to distribute at a food pantry for WIC recipients and the Migrant Farmworker population.