



Coastal  
Georgia  
Indicators  
Coalition



# Brief History of Indicators Coalition

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2007-2008  
Agreement between  
City of Savannah,  
Chatham County,  
United Way

2009- 2010  
ASU Feasibility  
Study,  
Community  
Survey

2012-2013  
Increased partners,  
Award from  
Healthcare Georgia  
Foundation,  
Launched  
embedded website  
with more than  
100 community  
level indicators.

2013-2014  
Hosted  
neighborhood  
forums,  
community  
summit with  
more than 100  
people engaged.

2014-2015  
CGIC stand alone entity,  
awarded contract with  
Chatham County for a  
community wide  
strategic plan known as  
The Chatham  
Community Blueprint



# Sponsors & Partners

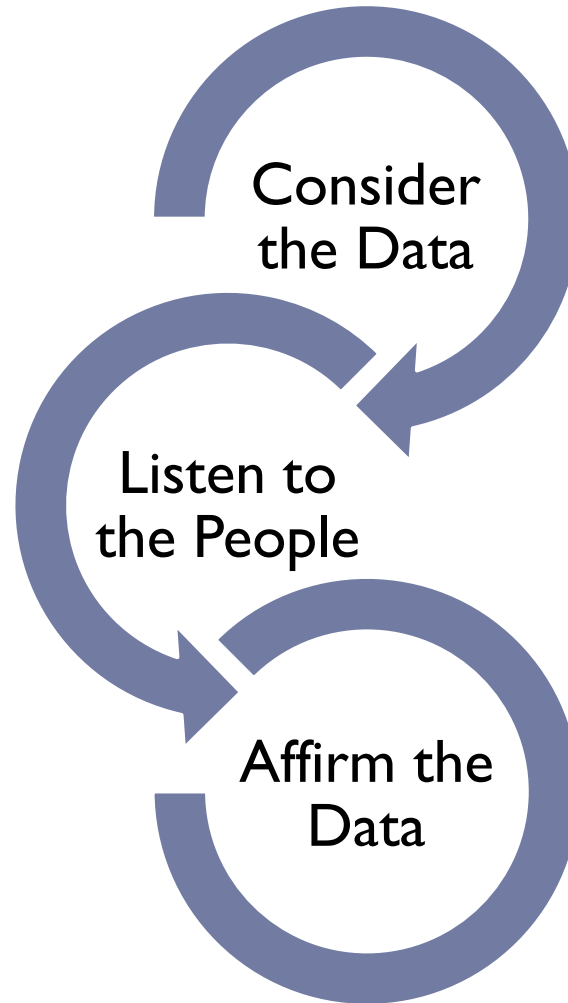
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- ▶ Armstrong State University
  - ▶ City of Savannah
  - ▶ Chatham County Commission
  - ▶ Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission
  - ▶ Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council
  - ▶ Coastal Health District
  - ▶ Effingham Chamber of Commerce
  - ▶ Effingham Family Connection
  - ▶ Georgia Regents University
  - ▶ Healthy Savannah
  - ▶ Housing Authority of Savannah
  - ▶ Memorial Health University Medical Center
  - ▶ Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce
  - ▶ Savannah Business Group
  - ▶ Savannah Chatham County Public School System
  - ▶ Savannah Chatham Youth Futures Authority
  - ▶ Savannah Economic Development Authority
  - ▶ Savannah State University
  - ▶ Savannah Technical College
  - ▶ St. Joseph's/Candler Health System
  - ▶ Step Up Savannah
  - ▶ United Way of the Coastal Empire
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# A Comprehensive Community Assessment

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# Document Scan Summary

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- ▶ 92 Documents Reviewed
- ▶ 331 Vision or Goal Statements Catalogued in 17 areas:
  - ▶ Land Use - 73
  - ▶ Economy – 70
  - ▶ Natural Resources – 62
  - ▶ Infrastructure (Public Works) – 48
  - ▶ Transportation & Mobility – 47
  - ▶ Public Services – 40
  - ▶ Human Services – 39
  - ▶ Housing – 35
  - ▶ Education – 32
  - ▶ Health – 29
  - ▶ Emergency Management – 26
  - ▶ History – 22
  - ▶ Public Safety – 21
  - ▶ Arts & Culture – 14
  - ▶ Civic Responsibility – 14
  - ▶ Diversity – 7
  - ▶ Criminal Justice System – 5



# Ensuring the Community Has a Voice

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## ▶ Community Engagement

- ▶ Neighborhood Forums
  - ▶ 14 events, with at least 1 in each of 8 County Districts
- ▶ Focus Groups
  - ▶ 6 events, 2 with Municipal Leaders, 2 with Youth, 2 outlying county
- ▶ Community Conversations
  - ▶ 12 events, 7 different topics
- ▶ Public Opinion Survey
  - ▶ 30K households in Chatham County have been randomly selected
  - ▶ 1900+ Returned
- ▶ Community Wide Meetings
  - ▶ 200 people average attendance



# Survey Highlights

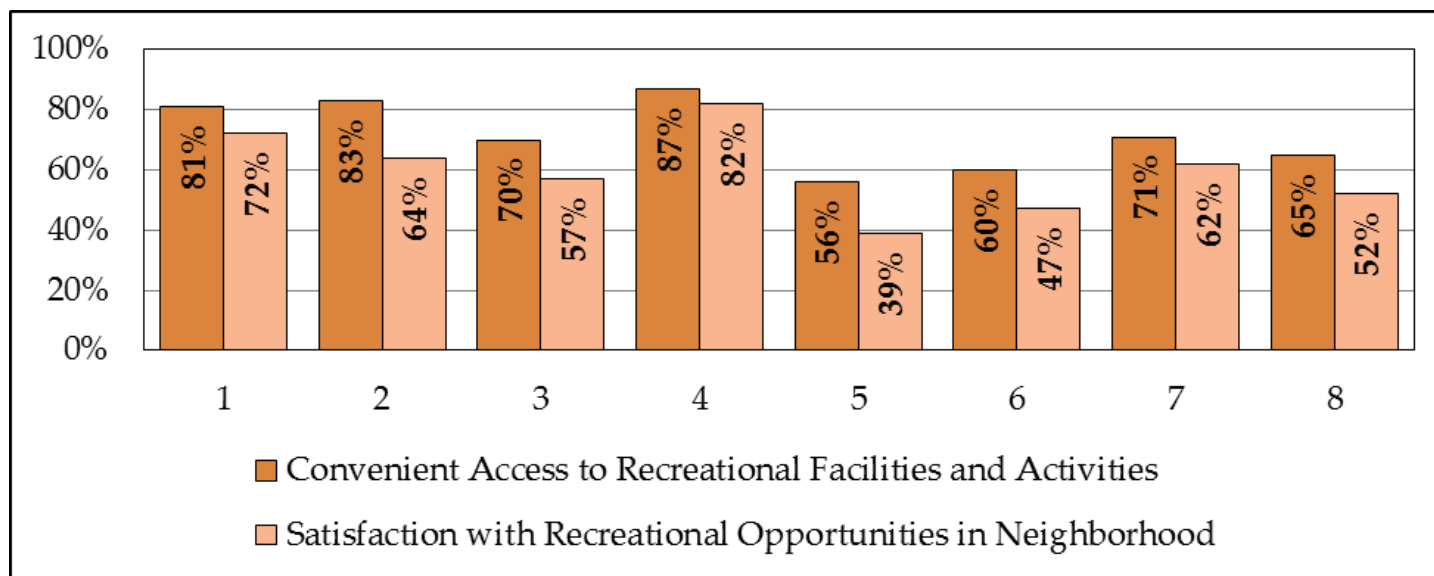
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- ▶ Public opinion survey with 1900+ responses
- ▶ Top 3 “most important future improvement needs”
- ▶ Top 3 “view on planning through the year 2035”
  - ▶ Reduce Crime,
  - ▶ Increase Educational Attainment/Job Training,
  - ▶ Effective, Efficient Local Government
- ▶ Place, Race & Income matters!



# Place, Race & Income Matter

Figure 2.3. Access to Recreational Facilities/Activities/Satisfaction Levels by District

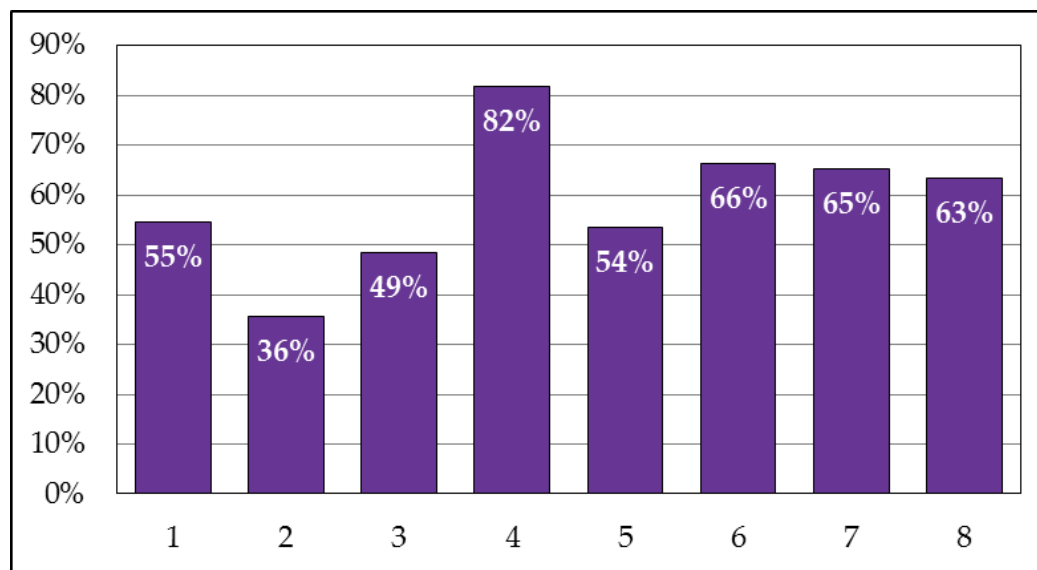




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# Place, Race & Income Matter

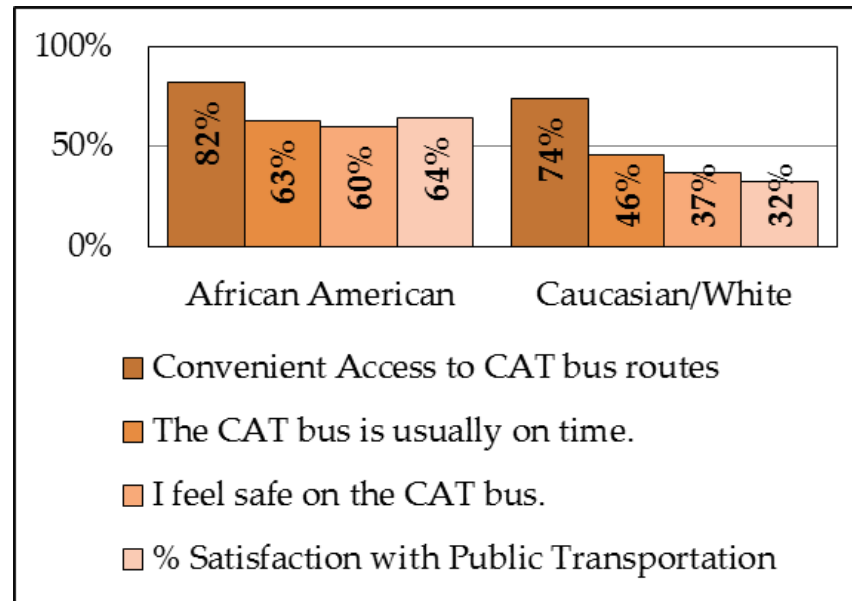
**Figure 3.3. Percent Very Satisfied/Satisfied with Public Safety in Neighborhoods: District Comparisons**



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# Place, **Race** & Income Matter

**Figure 2.6. Access to Public Transportation and Satisfaction Levels by Race**



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## Place, Race & **Income** Matter

	Household Income < \$50,000	Household Income > \$50,000
Live Paycheck to Paycheck	59%	31%
Have Full-time Job	42%	70%
Homeowners	31%	65%
Spend >33% of budget on housing (all)	78%	54%
Spend >33% of budget on housing (renters)	91%	78%
Spend >33% of budget on housing (owners)	67%	48%

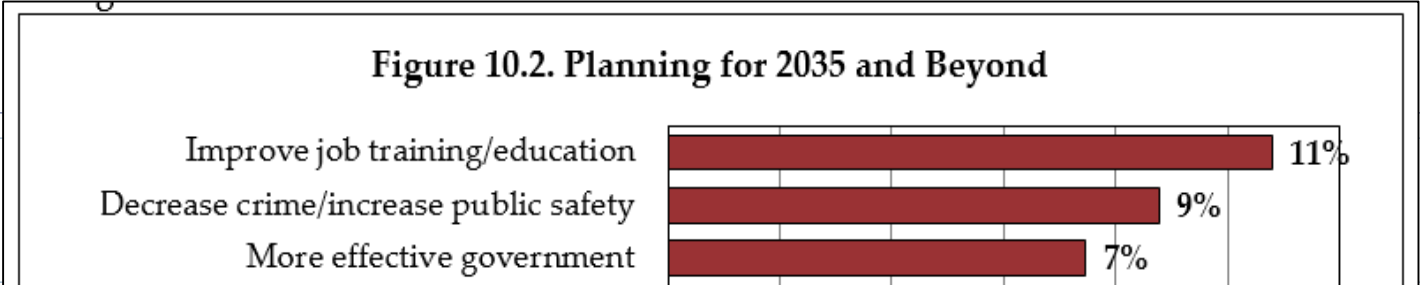
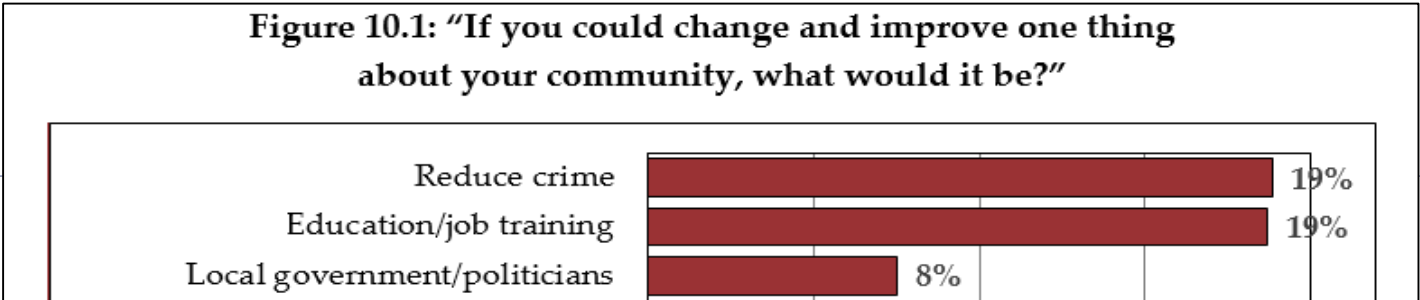
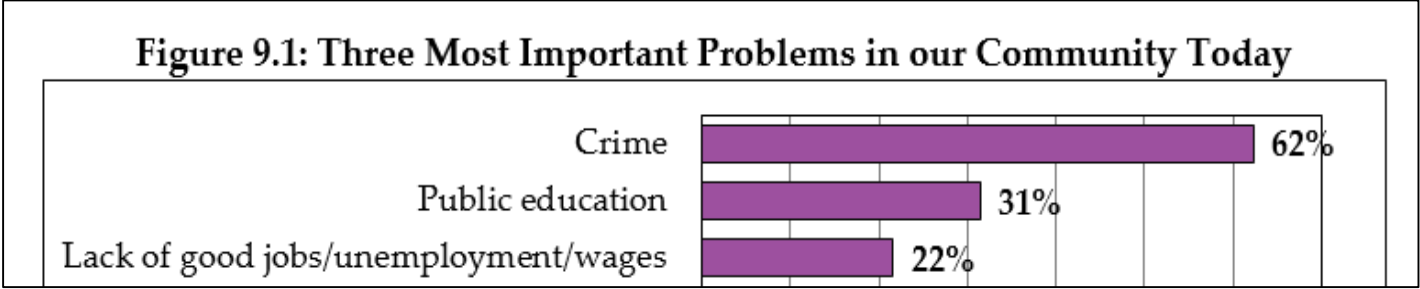


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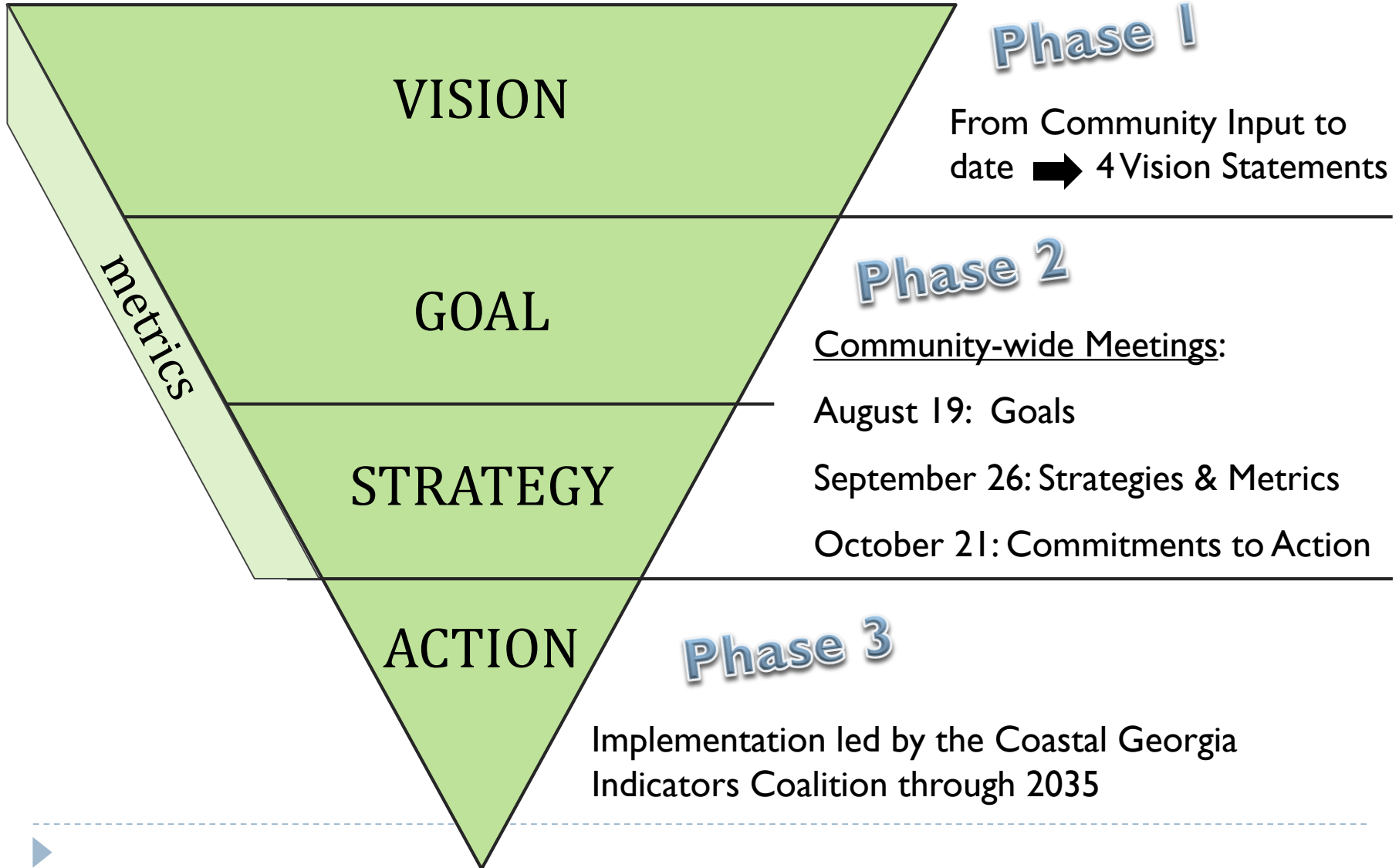
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# Process



# ECONOMY

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Chatham County anchors a **thriving, business-friendly, regional economy** in which all workers are prepared for **quality jobs**, and **residents feel empowered** to attain a high quality of life.

- Using accurate and reliable data, link current and projected needs of employers through the development of apprenticeship and vocational programs for the placement of individuals with quality employment leading to self-sufficiency.
  - Facilitate lifting individuals out of poverty by providing by reducing barriers and creating opportunities for quality employment for young adults, the working poor, ex-offenders, and those struggling with mental illness.
  - Guide entrepreneurial growth through the enhanced presence of small business support resources, and facilitate collaboration among local businesses to promote innovation.
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# ECONOMY Key Indicators

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- Unemployment Workers in Civilian Labor Force
  - According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Chatham County unemployment rate was 5.7% as August 2015
- Per Capita Income
  - The median per capita income was \$25,093 for Chatham County as of 2013; reported January 2015 from American Community Survey.
- People Living Below Poverty Level
  - American Community Survey reported the Chatham County poverty rate was 19.1% as of 2013 (reported January 2015).
- Severe Housing Problems
  - Chatham County had 18.9% of residents living in conditions with an increased exposure to mold, mildew growth, pest infestation, and other environmental hazards.






# EDUCATION

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From **early childhood education** through **post-secondary achievement**, Chatham County's **innovative** and **inclusive** educational systems are a **model of academic excellence** that enable students to have the **knowledge, skills and abilities** to succeed at **chosen pathways**.

- Ensure that financial skills, social skills, and conflict resolution skills are being offered to parents and taught to all students through the use of technology, community partnerships, and counseling for parents and children.
  - Implement mentorship programs between employers and students; while increasing leadership development programs between community organizations and public schools to prepare students for employment and promote upward mobility.
  - Incentivize and promote parental involvement in schools by teaching parents to advocate for their child(ren), facilitating better communication between parents and school leadership, and eliminating barriers to parent engagement.
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# EDUCATION Key Indicators


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- Engaging Student's Parents and the Community
  - SCCPSS measures the level of interaction with parents and members of community through a rubric that are reflective of engagement activities. As of school year (SY) 2010-2011 the district-wide score was 23 points.
- Reading on Grade Level
  - As of the SY 2014-15 49% of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 60% of 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 58% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade had reached proficiency levels.
- Student-to-Teacher Ratio
  - According to the National Center for Education Statistics, SCCPSS was at 14.7 ratio for SY 2013-2014. This indicator shows the average number of public school students per teacher in the region. It does not measure class size.
- School Discipline
  - The SCCPSS District Accountability System (DAS) indicates there were 12.4% of students referred in SY 2014-2015 for In-School Suspension (ISS), Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), and expulsion.

# HEALTH

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Chatham has a **culture of health** including **equal access** to **quality** and **affordable healthcare**, chronic disease **prevention**, **health inclusive policies** and **environmental design**.

- Effectively address mental illness by educating the public and reducing stigma, increasing early intervention programs, removing gaps and barriers, and increasing access to treatment; particularly as it impacts incarcerated individuals, children, and adolescents.
  - Ensure access to and invest in community-based health resources equipping citizens to increase health equality while optimizing their health and wellness, with preventive health care services, health education and strategies to motivate individuals and families to adopt healthy lifestyle behaviors.
  - Instill healthy practices in schools by providing comprehensive health education, nutrient-rich foods, opportunities for physical activity, and prevention education including but not limited to violence prevention.
  - Increase access to healthy food for populations that are most likely to be food-insecure such as older adults, children, those in poverty, and those that live in food deserts.
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# HEALTH Key Indicators

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- Individuals with Health Insurance
    - In 2013 Chatham County had 73.7% of adults, ages 18-64 with any type of health insurance as reported by the Small Area Health Insurance Estimator. At the same time children under the age of 19 were at 90.3%.
  - Food Insecurity Rate
    - Feeding America shows 19.2% of residents in Chatham County are food insecure as of 2013 (reported April 2015). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods or uncertain ability to acquire these foods in socially acceptable ways.
  - Poor Mental Health Days
    - Chatham County residents averaged 2.8 days that adults reported their mental health was not good in the past 30 days as noted in the County Health Rankings as of April 2015.
  - Access to Exercise Opportunities
    - County Health Ranking shows Chatham County at 85.7% of individuals who live reasonably close to a park or recreational facility as of April 2014. This does not take into consideration utilization of such parks or facilities, nor does it define public versus private facilities such as those which require membership fees.
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# QUALITY OF LIFE

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Chatham County citizens achieves a superior quality of life within a **safe, active and healthy** environment inclusive of the area's history, **natural resources, public mobility** and **efficient government**.

- Reduce crime, particularly abuse and violence, by building trust between law enforcement and residents, focusing enforcement in high crime areas, and expanding the visibility of police to ensure all residents feel safe.
  - Promote and provide neighborhood connectivity and build environments that encourage active and healthy lifestyle through the strategic placement of bicycle and pedestrian pathways and public parks, enforcement of road regulations, and education about the health benefits.
  - Develop local and regional collaboration among similar organizations to improve the delivery of social services and to expand the continuum of services.
  - Provide effective and efficient government services while ensuring that processes and procedures are planned and executed with transparency.
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# QUALITY OF LIFE Key Indicators

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- Violent Crime Rate
    - Chatham County had 389.7 violent crime rate per 100,000 population in 2013 (9.6%) as reported by the Georgia Statistics System in October 2015. Violent crimes include murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assaults.
  - Workers Commuting By Public Transportation
    - American Community Survey reported 2.2% of Chatham County's workers aged 16 years and older who commute to work by public transportation in 2013 (reported January 2015).
  - Miles of Safe, Pedestrian Friendly Transportation
    - Savannah Bicycle Campaign, League of American Bicyclist application indicates that there are 689 miles of streets within City of Savannah and only 9.1 have bike lanes as of 2013.
  - Recidivism Rate for Juvenile and Adult Offenders
    - Chatham County Juvenile Court had 947 individuals referred as delinquent cases in 2014. There were 474 individuals with a case in 2014 as well as a delinquent case within the past three (3) years.
    - In 2014 Chatham County Sheriff's Office jail booker 17,235 individuals; 68% of those individuals had a prior arrest in Chatham County.
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# Transparent Process



## Coastal Georgia INDICATORS COALITION

LIGHTING THE WAY TO A BETTER COMMUNITY

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING

# COMMUNITY MEETING

*Click to download flyer with dates, times, and locations for these*

# I Commit Cards

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- ▶ 80+ Individuals, Organizations & Institutions have made a commitment to action.
  - ▶ Meeting Space
  - ▶ Leadership of specific initiatives
  - ▶ Provide funding to support activities of the Blueprint
  - ▶ Serve as an advocate for a specific goal or strategy.





# CGIC Next Steps

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- ▶ Encouraging “I Commit” Cards
- ▶ Continue to provide monthly electronic newsletters and increase awareness through use of social media.
- ▶ Solicit support from all Chatham County Municipalities and other local planning groups.
- ▶ Begin Implementing a Vision
  - ▶ Convene Project Teams
    - ▶ Outline an Implementation Plan
    - ▶ Define Measureable Outcomes
    - ▶ Align Programming with Strategies and Action Steps



# Recommendations

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- ▶ Promote the **Chatham Community Blueprint** along with community partners as a strategic plan to serve as a guideline for current and future planning, development and budget considerations;
- ▶ Review, update policies, procedures, and ordinances at least annually to ensure alignment;
- ▶ Remain attentive to the need for on-going revisions and updates at least every three years;
- ▶ Make a commitment to responsibility once the implementation plan is completed;
  - ▶ Expanded County Department Head Meeting (December 14, 2015)
  - ▶ BOC Workshop (January 2016)
- ▶ Include Blueprint updates in the annual State of Chatham.
- ▶ More than just a “strategic” plan, think of this as a “*conscience*” plan.



# For More Information

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[www.coastalgaindicators](http://www.coastalgaindicators)

