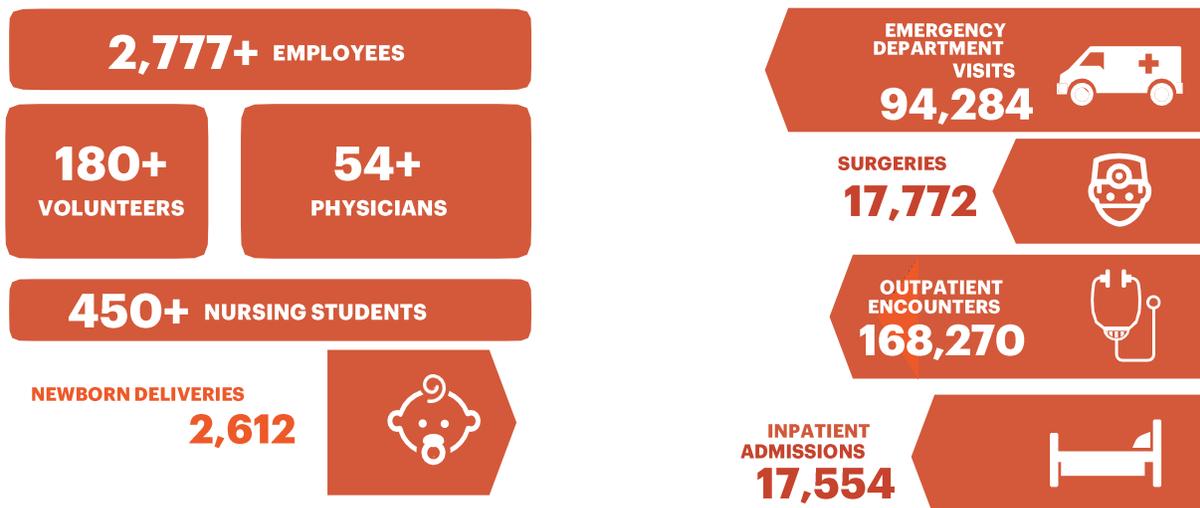


Community snapshot

- In 2017, approximately 198,647 people lived in Muscogee County and 97% lived in an urban area.
- That year, about 41% of all Muscogee County residents were white, 45% are African American, 8% are Hispanic or Latino, 2% are Asian and 4% were another race.
- In 2017, the median household income was \$43,239, which is lower than both state and national averages. African Americans specifically had a much lower median household income - \$31,907.
- The median age of people living within the county was 34. A quarter of the population were 18 or younger, 18% were over the age of 65 and the rest were in between. The population skewed slightly female.
- In 2017, an estimated 87% of county residents graduated high school, right on par with the state average of 86%.
- 60% of the population has at a minimum attended some college, and 26% has received their bachelors degree or higher.
- 36% of those living in poverty in the county did not graduate high school.
- Of the estimated 46,324 who were employed in 2017, most worked in educational services/health care/social assistance, retail and finance/insurance/real estate, in that order.
- There are about 20,891 veterans living in the county, with more than two-thirds having served in the Gulf War and 29% having served in Vietnam.
- 22% of those veterans currently live with a disability, and about 19% live below the poverty level.
- About 5% of households spoke a language other than English at home in 2017, with the majority of those households speaking Spanish. Only 2% of the population was considered linguistically isolated.
- Most people - about 52% percent - rented their home in 2017, a number much higher than the state average of 37%.

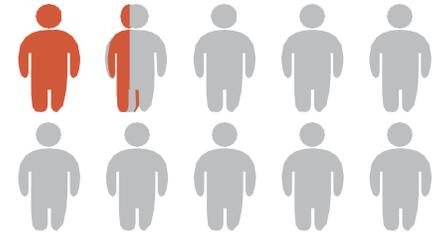
Key hospital stats

Founded in 1836, Piedmont Columbus Regional is a leading healthcare provider in west Georgia serving the Columbus, Ga. area with a network of health and medical services through its two hospital campuses. Piedmont Columbus Regional joined the Piedmont system on March 01, 2018.



Health factors

- People often die prematurely in Muscogee County, with a rate of 9,700 years of potential life lost, as compared to the state rate of 7,500.
- 18% of the population lived with at least one disability in 2017, which is significantly higher than the state average of 12%. Those age 18-64 comprised nearly 60% of total disabled.
- 74% of adults had a routine check-up within the previous year in 2015.
- Preventable hospital stays among Medicare enrollees significantly has decreased over the last few years (from 51 preventable stays per 1,000 enrollees in 2007 to 37 preventable stays in 2015).
- Community members have reported an average 4.3 and 4.0 poor physical and mental health days, respectively.
 - Both measures increased since our last CHNA, and poor mental days jumped by about a day, indicating a worsening situation.
- 22% of Muscogee residents reported their health as poor or fair. This is an increase from 17% since our last CHNA.
- Statewide, race matters when it comes to poor health status. Approximately 26% of Hispanics reported being in poor health in 2017, as compared to their white and African-American counterparts (18% and 19%, respectively). Information on other races was not available.
- Statewide, more than a fifth of all women and a third of all men report having no personal doctor or health home.
 - This is particularly true for minorities, whose rates of not having a doctor are double and triple that of their white counterparts.
- The infant mortality rate is twice as high in Muscogee County than the national average.
- During that same time, 11% of all babies born were at a low birth weight, with African American children more likely to be born at a low birth weight than their white, Asian and Hispanic or Latino counterparts.
- There were 54 dentists for every 100,000 people in 2015, a figure slightly better than the state average and significantly below the national rate.
- Air pollution in Muscogee County is relatively low, though it generally trends slightly higher than state averages.
- Long commutes are also much lower in Muscogee County than in the rest of the state. Only 16% drove more than 30 minutes in 2016 to get to work, as opposed to a 40% state average.
- There were four designated health professional shortage areas in the community in 2016, all of which are located just north of Columbus
 - This includes two primary care shortage areas, one mental health shortage area and a dental health shortage area



In Muscogee County, **14% of adults were uninsured in 2017**, and minorities comprise 90%.

People without insurance coverage have worse access to care than people who are insured. Statewide, one in five uninsured adults in 2017 went without needed medical care due to cost. Studies repeatedly demonstrate that the uninsured are less likely than those with insurance to receive preventive care and services for major health conditions and chronic diseases.

There is only one Federally Qualified Health Centers in Muscogee County, a figure below state and federal averages. This indicator is relevant because FQHCs are community assets that provide health care to vulnerable populations; they receive extra funding from the federal government to promote access to ambulatory care in areas designated as medically underserved. There are charitable clinics who treat low-income uninsured patients, including Mercy Med.

Access to community-based care is important for all populations, and this is especially true for low income patients, as these populations tend to have additional health issues brought on by social determinants of health, such as food and housing instability, and tend to suffer worse health outcomes.