

RESILIENT COASTAL GEORGIA

2026

County-Level PACEs Data
Profiles from Resilient
Coastal Georgia



Resilient Coastal Georgia is a regional collaboration of partner organizations working together in Chatham, Effingham, and Bryan counties to build resilient and trauma-informed communities for children, youth, and families. The initiative brings together schools, faith leaders, community agencies, healthcare providers, and other local stakeholders to address the impacts of childhood trauma and strengthen systems that support well-being. Through a collective impact approach, partners work to increase understanding of trauma and adverse childhood experiences, test strategies that support children and young adults affected by trauma, and improve the systems they rely on for care and support. The coalition focuses on building regional capacity for trauma-informed responses, strengthening community knowledge and skills, and advancing coordinated efforts that promote resilience across the Coastal Georgia region.

Bryan, Chatham,
Effingham

- ✓ Goal 1: Increase awareness of mental and behavioral health resources
- ✓ Goal 2: Expand trauma-informed training and practices
- ✓ Goal 3: Improve coordination and alignment among behavioral health providers and partners.
- ✓ Goal 4: Strengthen cross-sector collaboration and partnerships
- ✓ Goal 5: Strengthen trauma-informed practices among judicial and first responder systems

The initiative focuses on regional collaboration across Chatham, Effingham, and Bryan counties to build trauma-informed and resilient communities for children, youth, and families. Through a collective impact approach, the coalition convenes partners from schools, community agencies, faith organizations, and other local stakeholders to strengthen understanding of trauma and adverse childhood experiences, test strategies that support young people affected by trauma, and improve the systems that promote well-being across the Coastal Georgia region.

- Increase awareness of mental and behavioral health resources
- Expand trauma-informed training and practices
- Strengthen collaboration and community engagement

These data profiles have been developed in collaboration with Georgia Essentials for Childhood: Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences Through Data to Action. All data listed in this profile is pulled from the most recently available years on their PACES data mapping tool. Most recent data is between 2023-2024 unless otherwise indicated. Years are indicated within the profile.

What Are ACEs and How Are They Measured In Georgia?

ACEs Data for counties in DFCS Region 12

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. These events can have lasting impacts on individual health, well-being, and opportunity.

In Georgia, ACEs data is collected and compiled through the Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (GA-BRFSS) survey and is broken down by DFCS Region.

Resilient Coastal Georgia is a part of DFCS Region #12, which includes Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh counties.

	R12		R12
Lived/Living with individual with depression, mental illness, or suicidality	19%	Violence Between Parents	21%
Lived/Living with individual with alcoholism	25%	Physical Abuse	30%
Lived/Living with someone who used drugs	12%	Emotional Abuse	37%
Lived/Living with someone who had been to prison	5%	Touched by someone 5+ years older	13%
Parents divorced	28%	Made to touch someone 5+ years older	8%
		Forced to have sex with someone 5+ years older	5%

Data source: BRFSS Survey conducted by DPH every two years. DFCS Region level currently available on the IPRCE/DPH data tools for 2023

What About PCEs?

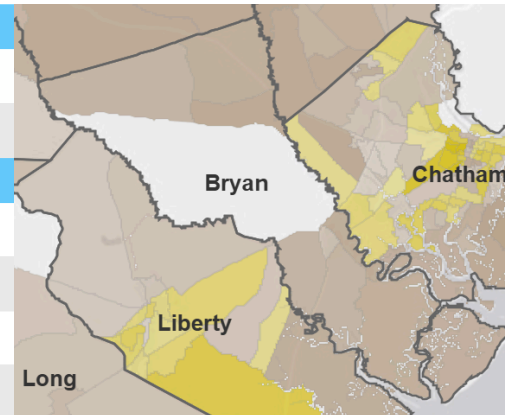
Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) are positive experiences that occur in childhood and encourage positive brain and social-emotional development. PCEs are protective factors that can help protect against increased risk for negative long-term health impacts from adverse childhood experiences.

- ✓ Enjoyed community traditions
- ✓ Felt supported by friends
- ✓ Felt sense of belonging in high school
- ✓ Adult made you feel safe and protected
- ✓ Felt able to talk to family
- ✓ Felt family stood by you
- ✓ At least two non-parent adults took an interest

BRYAN COUNTY

County-Level PACEs Data Profile

Demographics	County	Georgia
Total Population	51,105	11,302,748
Population under 18	28%	23%
Population by Race/Ethnicity	County	Georgia
White	76%	58%
Black	16%	33%
Hispanic	9%	12%
Asian	3%	5%



Population Data Source: U.S. Census (2024)

- White alone, not Hispanic or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino
- Black or African American alone, not Hispanic or Latino

Social Vulnerability in Bryan County

12

Bryan County's social vulnerability is at the 12th percentile within Georgia.

1

There was one mental health provider per 820 people registered in Bryan County, Georgia.

Access to mental health providers

Social vulnerability percentiles show how at-risk a county is compared to others. When a community has a higher percentile, it faces greater challenges in preparing for, withstanding, or recovering from disasters like floods, hurricanes, or public health emergencies. A lower percentile means the community is more resilient, with better infrastructure, resources, and systems in place to manage risk. This percentile shows the vulnerability ranking compared to other Georgia counties.

High risk for vulnerability is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau's Community Resilience Estimates as having 3 or more of the following risk factors: Income to Poverty ratio; Single or Zero caregiver household; Crowding; Communication barriers; Households without full-time, year-round, employment; Disability; No health insurance; Age 65 years or older; No vehicle access; or no broadband internet access.

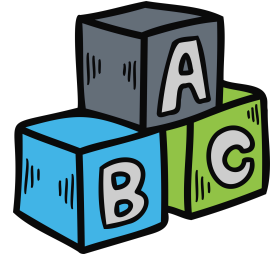
Data Source: National Risk Index (2023)

Access to Mental Health Providers is sourced by County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (2025)

BRYAN COUNTY

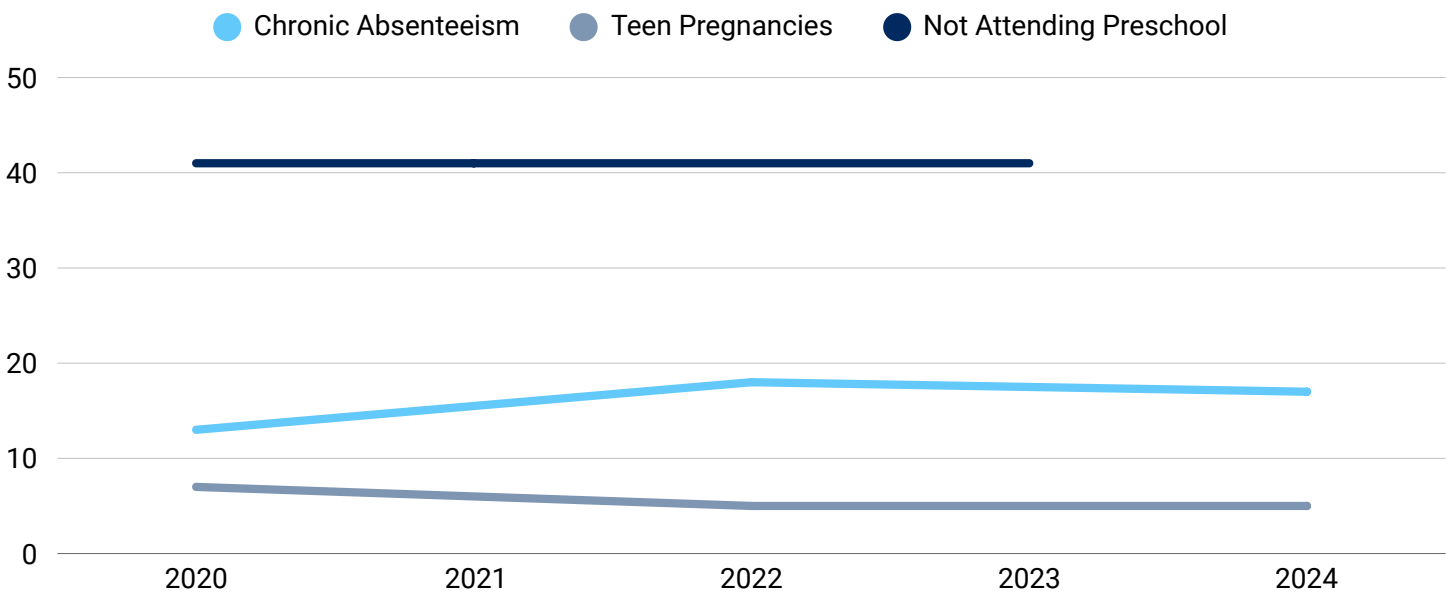
CDC Strategy: Ensure a strong start for children

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Equitable Access to Early Prevention and Treatment



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Chronic Absenteeism	23%	17%
Teen Pregnancies, ages 15-17 (per 1000)	10%	5%
Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool	52%	41%

4-Year Trend



Data Source: Kids Count Data Center (2024) (Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool is an average of 2019-2023)
Chronic Absenteeism: Governor's Office of Student Achievement. The data is available on the GOSA Georgia Report Card dashboard and on the DPH/IPRCE PACEs data tools (2024).

BRYAN COUNTY

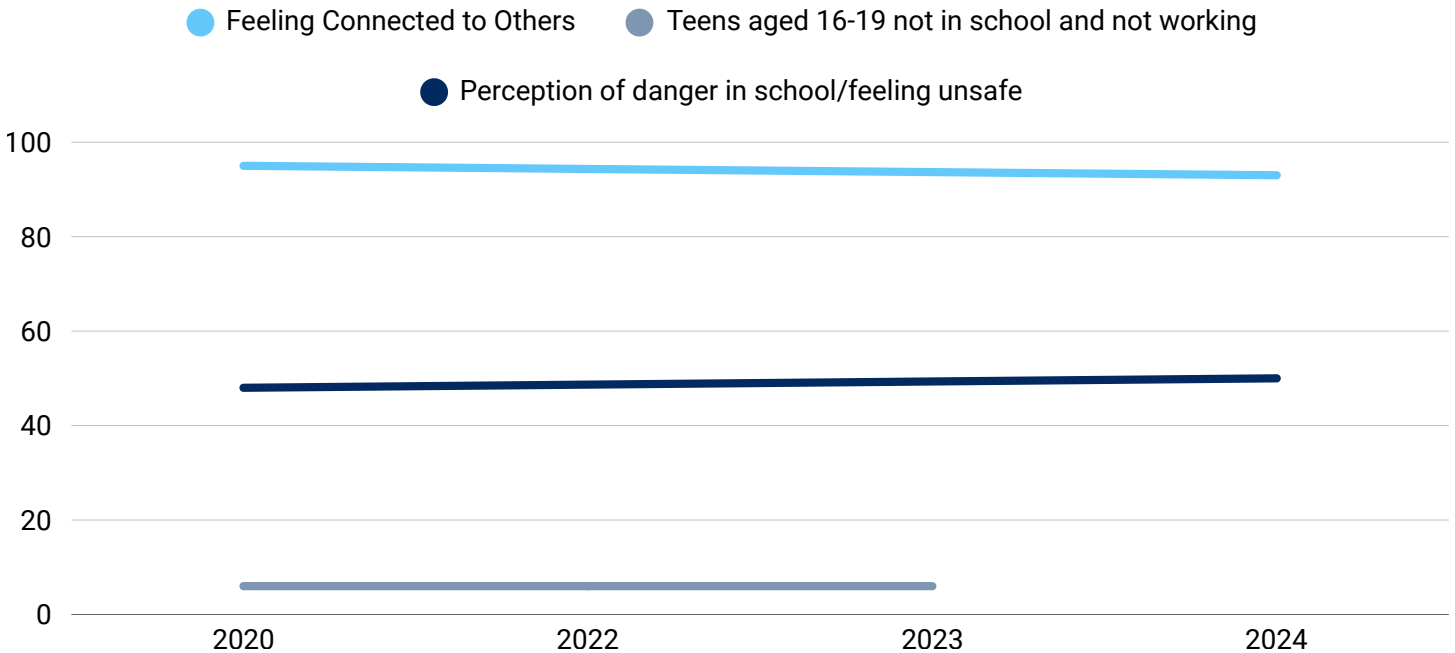
CDC Strategy: Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Awareness and a Common Language



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Feeling connected to others at school	93%	93%
Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working	6%	6%
Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe	52%	50%

4-Year Trend



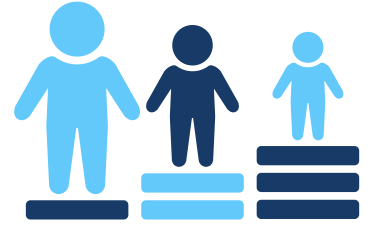
Feeling connected to others at school and Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe is sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working is sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

BRYAN COUNTY

CDC Strategy: Strengthening Economic Supports to Families

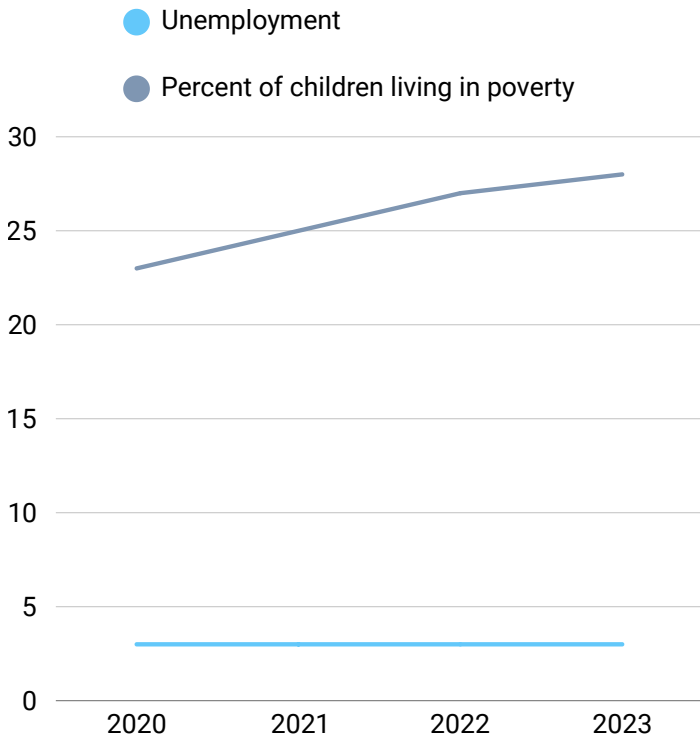
Alignment with RG Strategy: Address Health Equity Across All Populations That Experience Health Disparities



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Unemployment	4%	3%
Percent of children living in poverty	19%	28%
Housing Costs	25%	18%

**Housing costs are defined by the percent of individuals whose monthly mortgage is 1/3 or more of their monthly income; 'Unemployment' is presented as an average between 2019-2023

4-Year Trend



Data source: American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

ALICE

ALICE refers to people who are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford the basics where they live. Learn more at [United Way for ALICE](#)

34% Of households in Bryan County fall below the ALICE Threshold, making less than the basic cost of living for the county

90% Of Single Female headed Households with children are ALICE Households

28% Of Single Male headed Households with children are ALICE Households

Data Source: Georgia United For ALICE (2023)

BRYAN COUNTY

CDC Strategy: Teach Skills; Connect Youth to Caring Adults and Activities

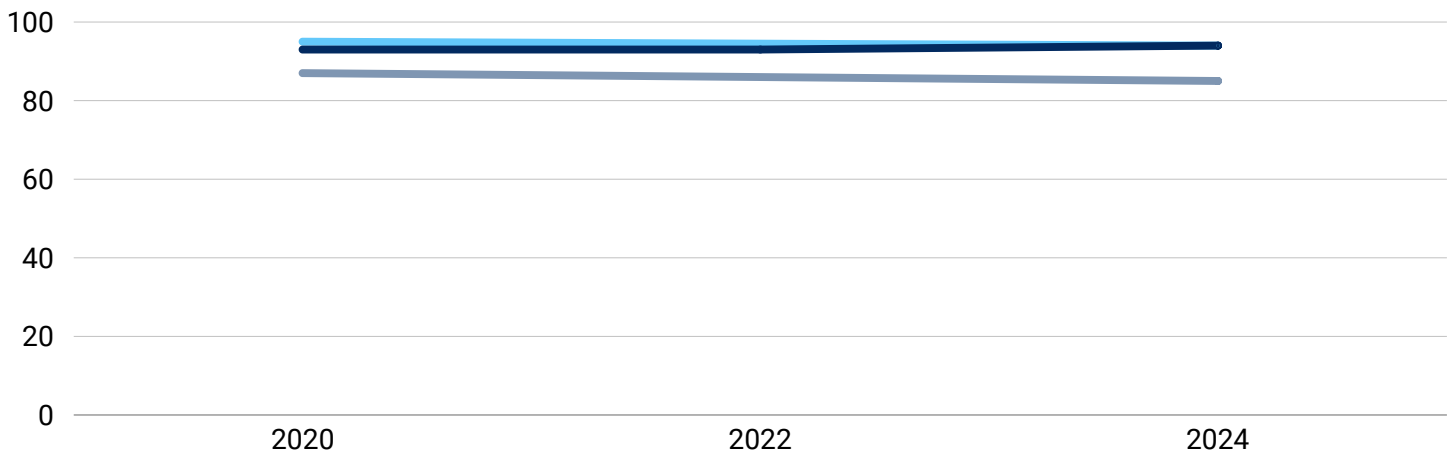
Alignment with RG Strategy: Advance Workforce through Recruitment, Retention, Education, and Development



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help	92%	94%
Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help	87%	85%
Percent of high school students who graduated on time	84%	94%
Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher	34%	35%

4-Year Trend

- Students have a trusted Peer they can talk to if they need help
- Students have an adult they can talk to if they need help
- Percent of high school students who graduated on time

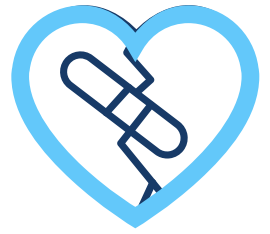


Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help, Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help, and Percent of 6th-12th grade students who reported they feel connected to others are sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Percent of high school students who graduated on time, and Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher are sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

BRYAN COUNTY

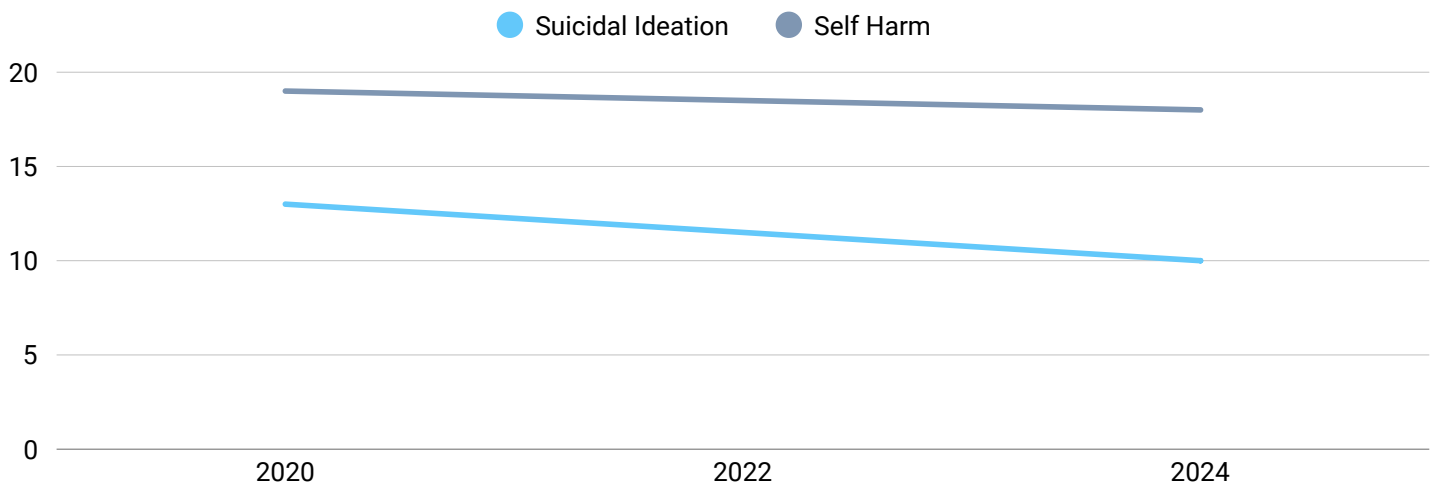
CDC Strategy: Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms



Alignment with RG Strategy: Develop and Implement Coordinated Trauma-Informed Practices Across Systems

Indicator	State Average	County Average
Children Subjected to Maltreatment Investigations per 10,000 children	11	7
Suicidal ideation on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	10%
Considered Self harm on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	18%

4-Year Trend



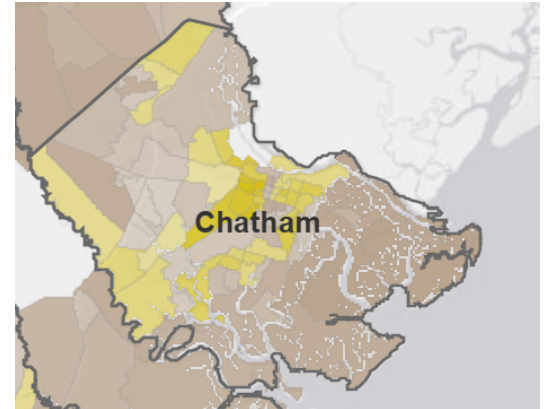
Data sources: Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Child Maltreatment Investigations is sourced from the DFCS reports and the data are obtained from Fostering Court Improvement (2020-2021)

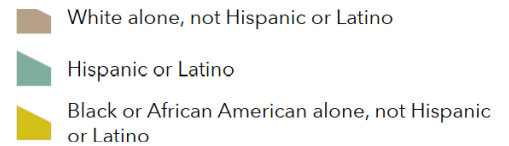
CHATHAM COUNTY

County-Level PACEs Data Profile

Demographics	County	Georgia
Total Population	307,336	11,302,748
Population under 18	20%	23%
Population by Race/Ethnicity	County	Georgia
White	53%	58%
Black	41%	33%
Hispanic	9%	12%
Asian	4%	5%



Population Data Source: U.S. Census (2024)



Social Vulnerability in Chatham County

34

Chatham County's social vulnerability is at the 34th percentile within Georgia.

1

There was one mental health provider per 440 people registered in Chatham County, Georgia.

Access to mental health providers

Social vulnerability percentiles show how at-risk a county is compared to others. When a community has a higher percentile, it faces greater challenges in preparing for, withstanding, or recovering from disasters like floods, hurricanes, or public health emergencies. A lower percentile means the community is more resilient, with better infrastructure, resources, and systems in place to manage risk. This percentile shows the vulnerability ranking compared to other Georgia counties.

High risk for vulnerability is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau's Community Resilience Estimates as having 3 or more of the following risk factors: Income to Poverty ratio; Single or Zero caregiver household; Crowding; Communication barriers; Households without full-time, year-round, employment; Disability; No health insurance; Age 65 years or older; No vehicle access; or no broadband internet access.

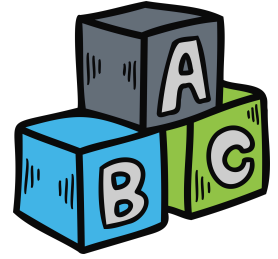
Data Source: National Risk Index (2023)

Access to Mental Health Providers is sourced by County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (2025)

CHATHAM COUNTY

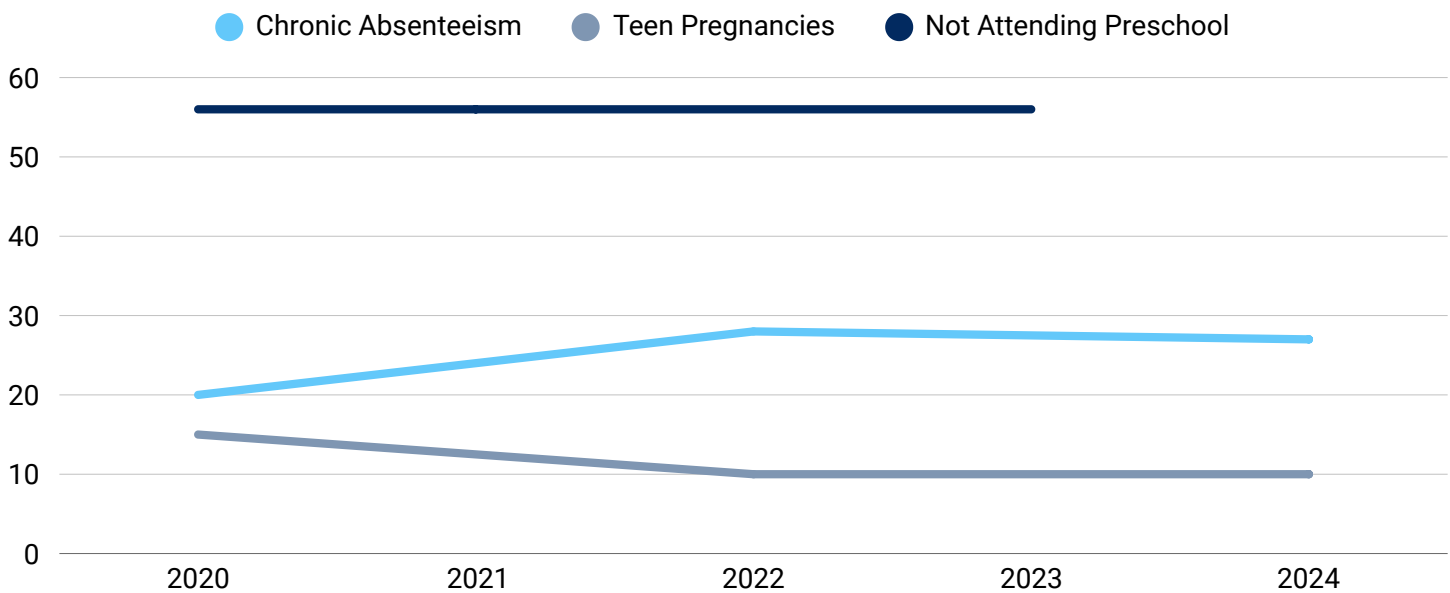
CDC Strategy: Ensure a strong start for children

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Equitable Access to Early Prevention and Treatment



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Chronic Absenteeism	23%	27%
Teen Pregnancies, ages 15-17 (per 1000)	10%	10%
Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool	52%	56%

4-Year Trend



Data Source: Kids Count Data Center (2024) (Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool is an average of 2019-2023)
Chronic Absenteeism: Governor's Office of Student Achievement. The data is available on the GOSA Georgia Report Card dashboard and on the DPH/IPRCE PACEs data tools (2024).

CHATHAM COUNTY

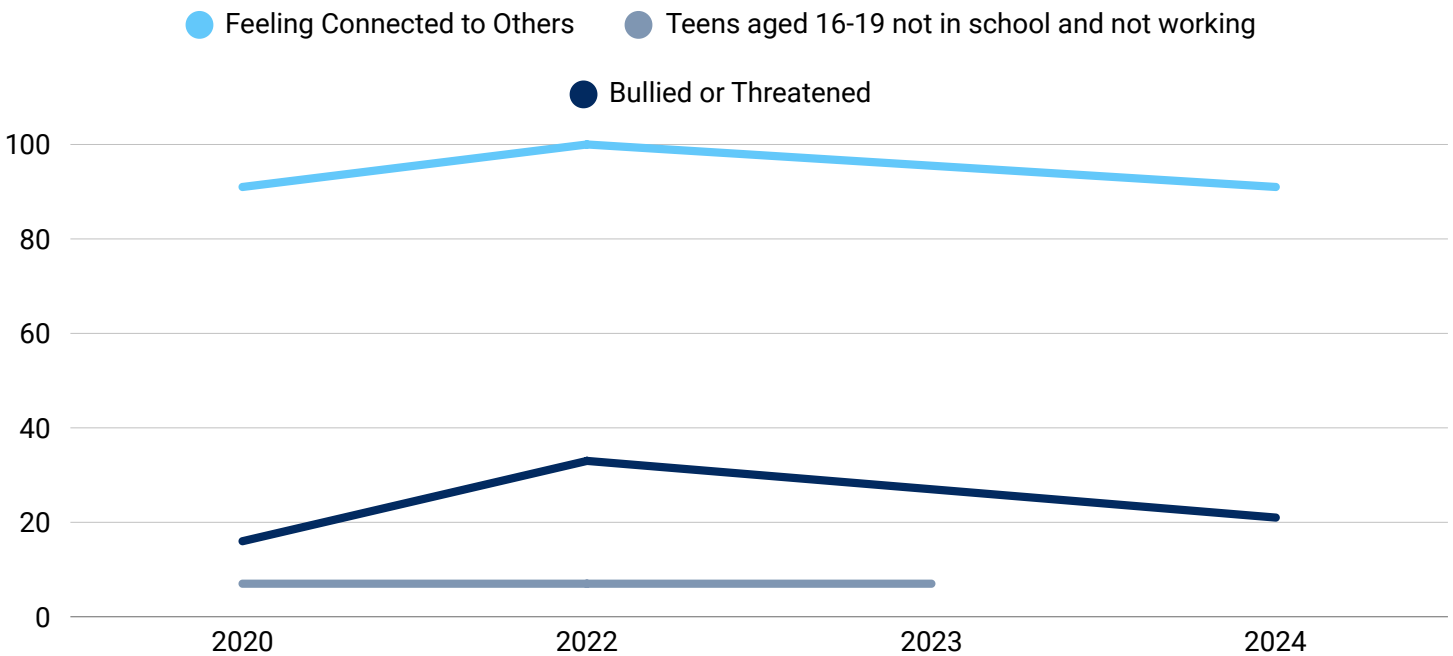
CDC Strategy: Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Awareness and a Common Language



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Feeling connected to others at school	93%	91%
Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working	6%	7%
Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe	52%	21%

4-Year Trend



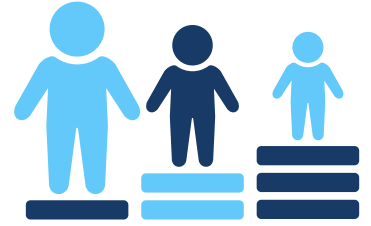
Feeling connected to others at school and Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe is sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working is sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

CHATHAM COUNTY

CDC Strategy: Strengthening Economic Supports to Families

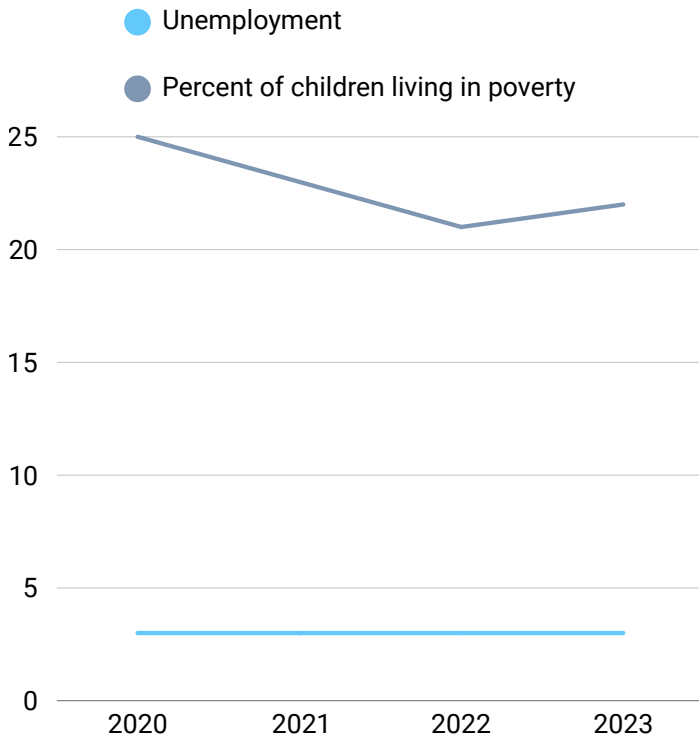
Alignment with RG Strategy: Address Health Equity Across All Populations That Experience Health Disparities



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Unemployment	4%	3%
Percent of children living in poverty	19%	22%
Housing Costs	25%	31%

**Housing costs are defined by the percent of individuals whose monthly mortgage is 1/3 or more of their monthly income; 'Unemployment' is presented as an average between 2019-2023

4-Year Trend



Data source: American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

ALICE

ALICE refers to people who are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford the basics where they live. Learn more at [United Way for ALICE](#)

44%

Of households in Chatham County fall below the ALICE Threshold, making less than the basic cost of living for the county

81%

Of Single Female Headed Households with children are ALICE Households



57%

Of Single Male headed Households with children are ALICE Households

Data Source: Georgia United For ALICE (2023)

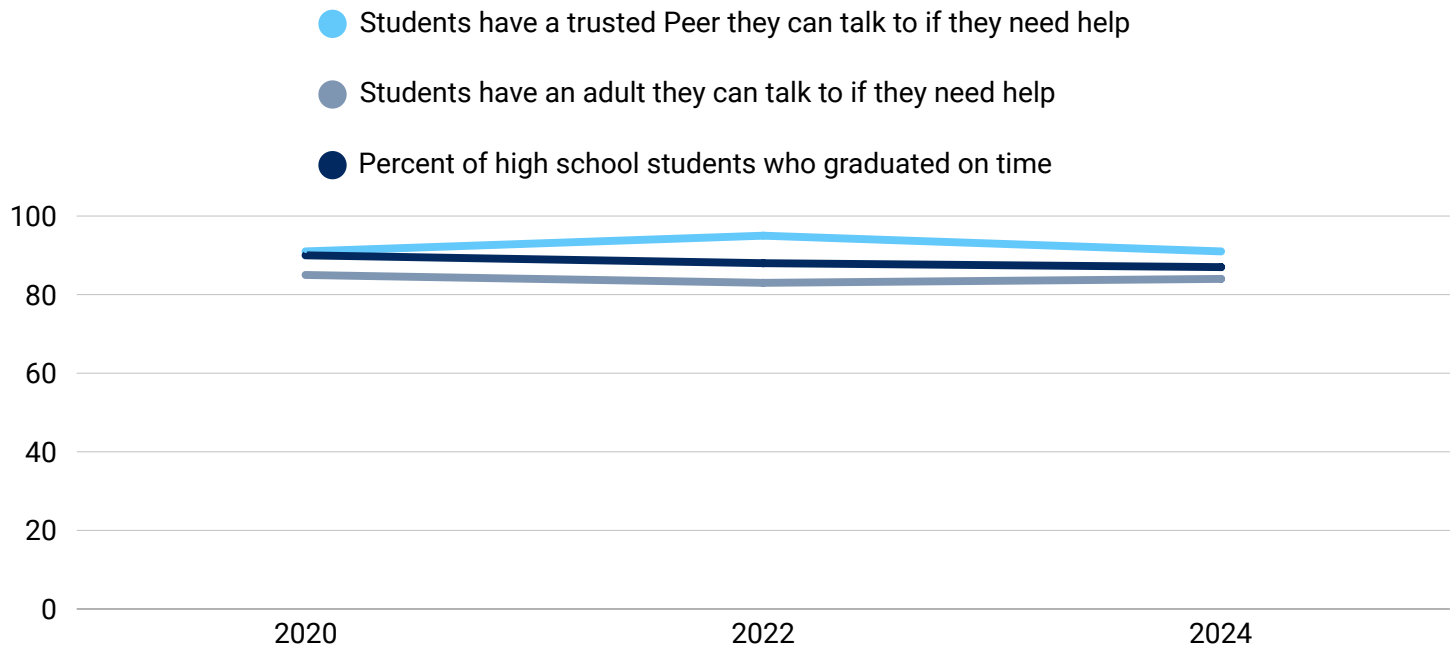
CDC Strategy: Teach Skills; Connect Youth to Caring Adults and Activities

Alignment with RG Strategy: Advance Workforce through Recruitment, Retention, Education, and Development



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help	92%	91%
Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help	87%	84%
Percent of high school students who graduated on time	84%	87%
Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher	34%	37%

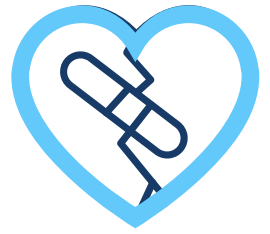
4-Year Trend



Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help, Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help, and Percent of 6th-12th grade students who reported they feel connected to others are sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Percent of high school students who graduated on time, and Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher are sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

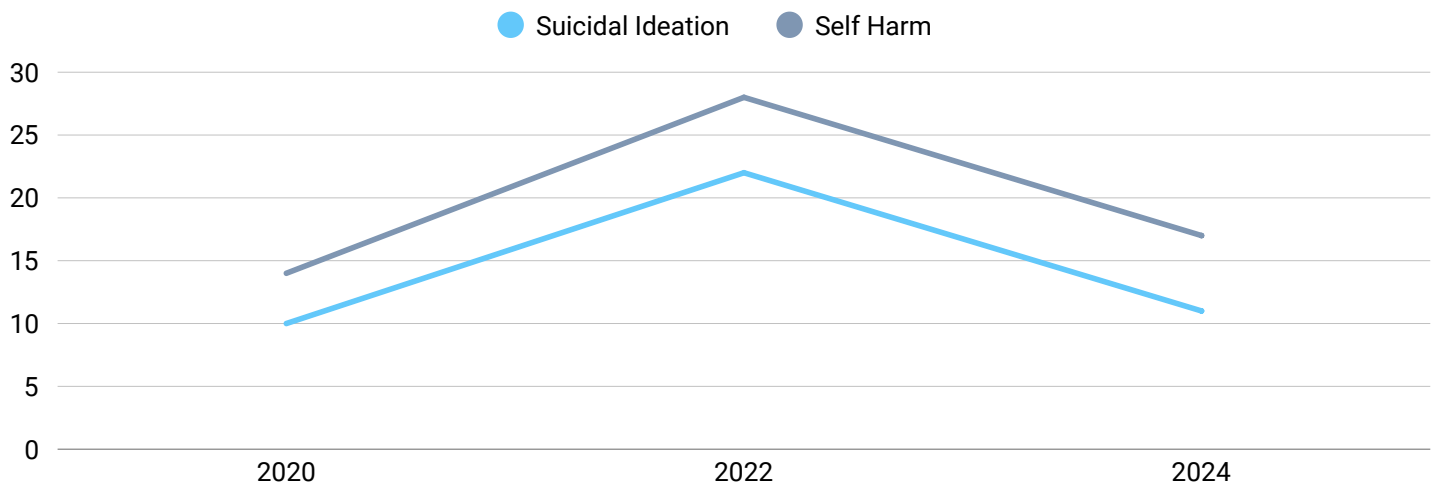
CDC Strategy: Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms



Alignment with RG Strategy: Develop and Implement Coordinated Trauma-Informed Practices Across Systems

Indicator	State Average	County Average
Children Subjected to Maltreatment Investigations per 10,000 children	11	12
Suicidal ideation on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	11%
Considered Self harm on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	17%

4-Year Trend



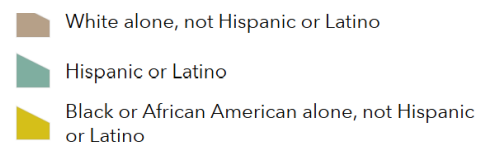
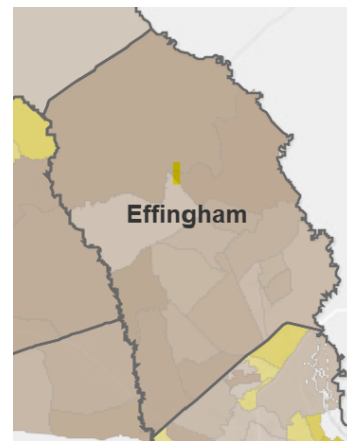
Data sources: Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Child Maltreatment Investigations is sourced from the DFCS reports and the data are obtained from Fostering Court Improvement (2020-2021)

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

County-Level PACEs Data Profile

Demographics	County	Georgia
Total Population	73,148	11,302,748
Population under 18	26%	23%
Population by Race/Ethnicity	County	Georgia
White	79%	58%
Black	17%	33%
Hispanic	8%	12%
Asian	<1%	5%



Population Data Source: U.S. Census (2024)

Social Vulnerability in Effingham County

14

Effingham County's social vulnerability is at the 14th percentile within Georgia.

1

There was one mental health provider per 1,430 people registered in Effingham County, Georgia.

Access to mental health providers

Social vulnerability percentiles show how at-risk a county is compared to others. When a community has a higher percentile, it faces greater challenges in preparing for, withstanding, or recovering from disasters like floods, hurricanes, or public health emergencies. A lower percentile means the community is more resilient, with better infrastructure, resources, and systems in place to manage risk. This percentile shows the vulnerability ranking compared to other Georgia counties.

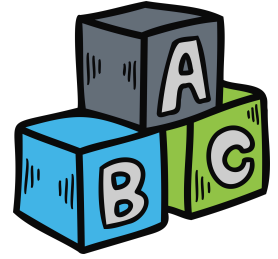
High risk for vulnerability is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau's Community Resilience Estimates as having 3 or more of the following risk factors: Income to Poverty ratio; Single or Zero caregiver household; Crowding; Communication barriers; Households without full-time, year-round, employment; Disability; No health insurance; Age 65 years or older; No vehicle access; or no broadband internet access.
Data Source: National Risk Index (2023)

Access to Mental Health Providers is sourced by County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (2025)

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

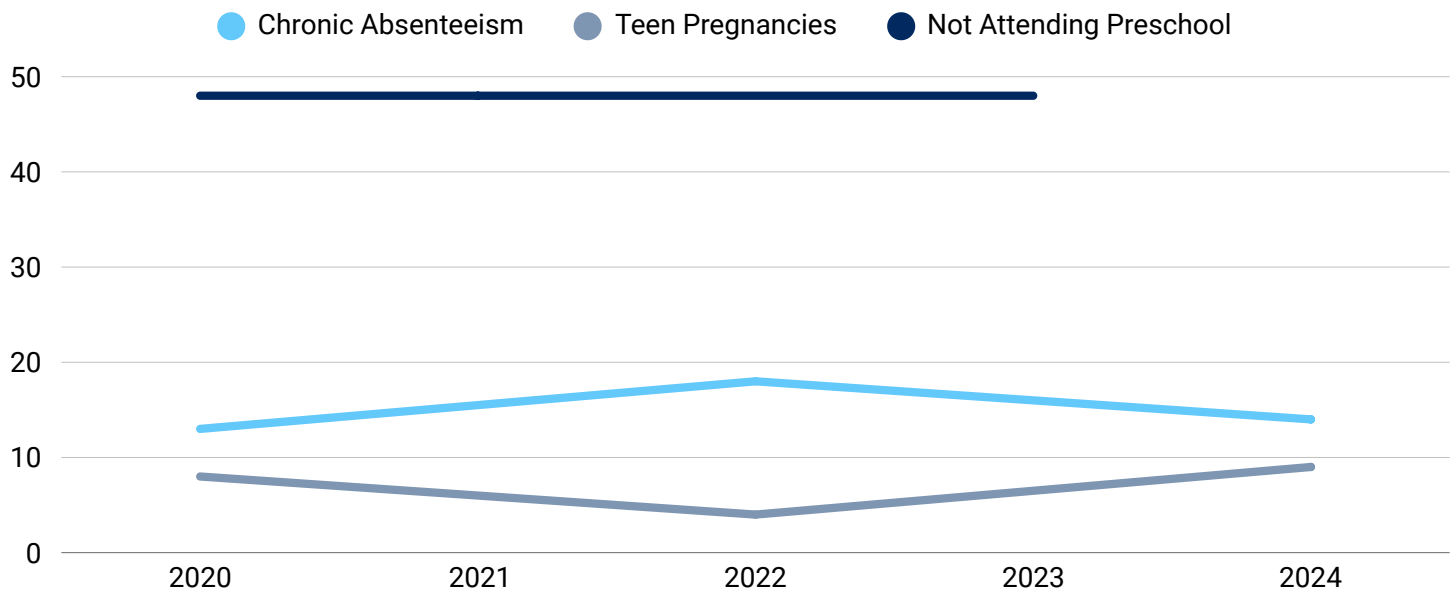
CDC Strategy: Ensure a strong start for children

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Equitable Access to Early Prevention and Treatment



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Chronic Absenteeism	23%	14%
Teen Pregnancies, ages 15-17 (per 1000)	10%	9%
Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool	52%	48%

4-Year Trend



Data Source: Kids Count Data Center (2024) (Children aged 3-4 years not attending Preschool is an average of 2019-2023)
 Chronic Absenteeism: Governor's Office of Student Achievement. The data is available on the GOSA Georgia Report Card dashboard and on the DPH/IPRCE PACEs data tools (2024).

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

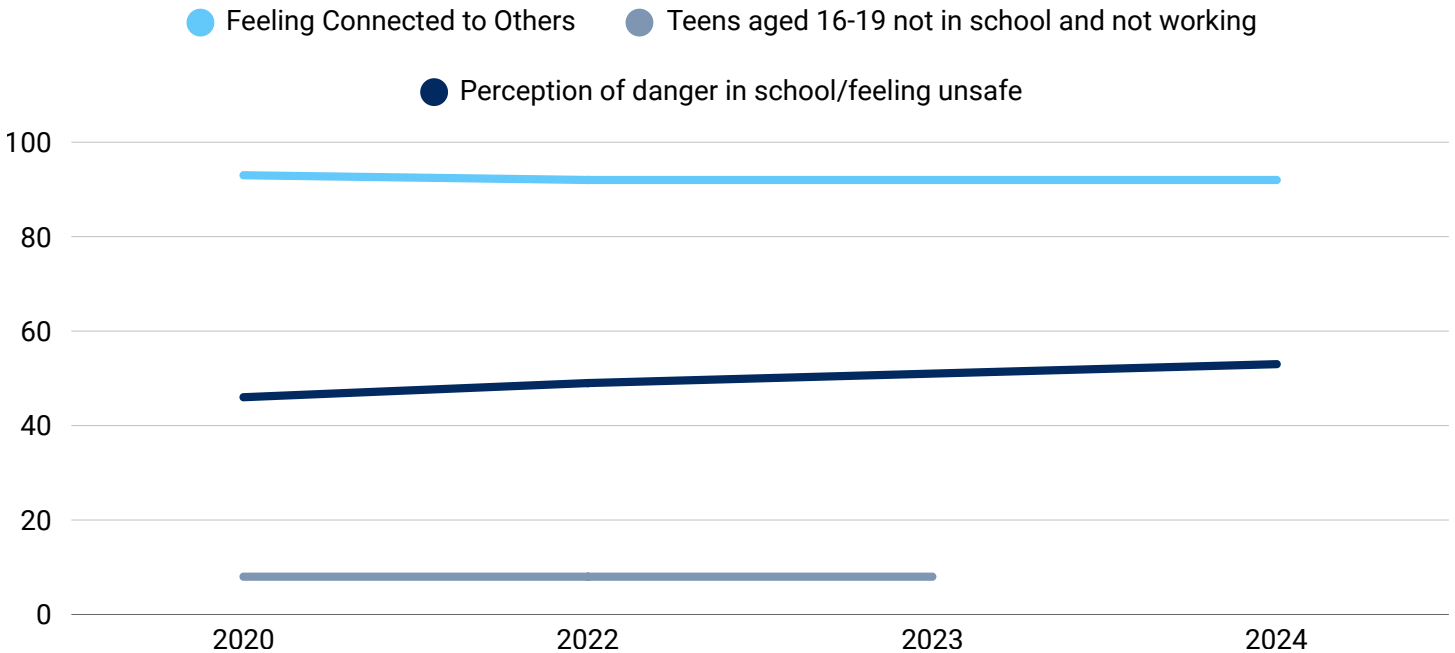
CDC Strategy: Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity

Alignment with RG Strategy: Build Awareness and a Common Language



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Feeling connected to others at school	93%	92%
Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working	6%	8%
Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe	52%	53%

4-Year Trend



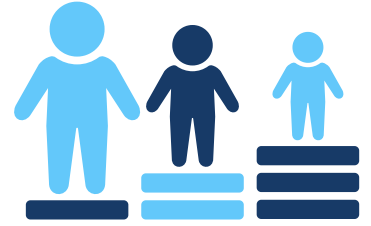
Feeling connected to others at school and Perception of danger in school/feeling unsafe is sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Teens ages 16-19 not in school and not working is sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CDC Strategy: Strengthening Economic Supports to Families

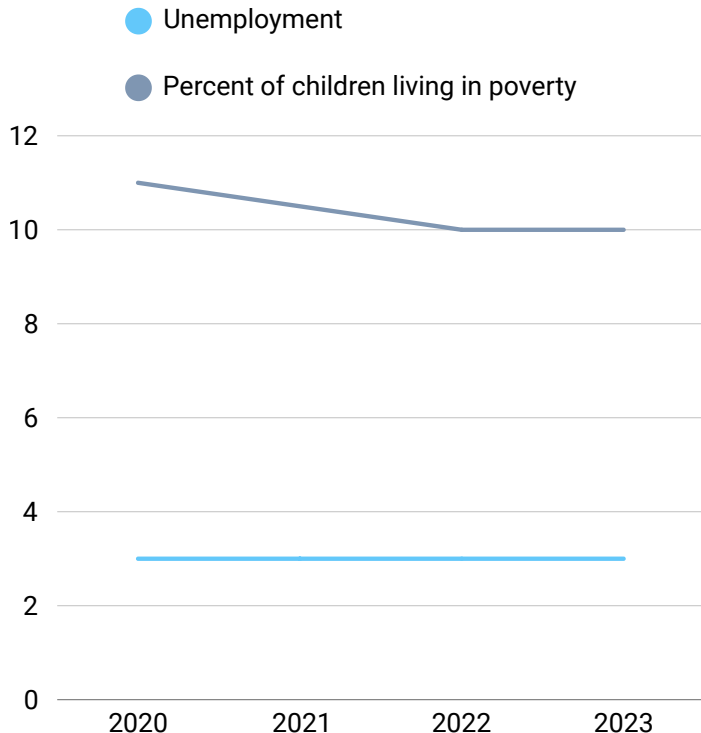
Alignment with RG Strategy: Address Health Equity Across All Populations That Experience Health Disparities



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Unemployment	4%	3%
Percent of children living in poverty	19%	10%
Housing Costs	25%	24%

**Housing costs are defined by the percent of individuals whose monthly mortgage is 1/3 or more of their monthly income; 'Unemployment' is presented as an average between 2019-2023

4-Year Trend



Data source: American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

ALICE

ALICE refers to people who are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford the basics where they live. Learn more at [United Way for ALICE](#)

38%

Of households in Effingham County fall below the ALICE Threshold, making less than the basic cost of living for the county

64%

Of Single Female Headed Households with children are ALICE Households



48%

Of Single Male headed Households with children are ALICE Households

Data Source: Georgia United For ALICE (2023)

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CDC Strategy: Teach Skills; Connect Youth to Caring Adults and Activities

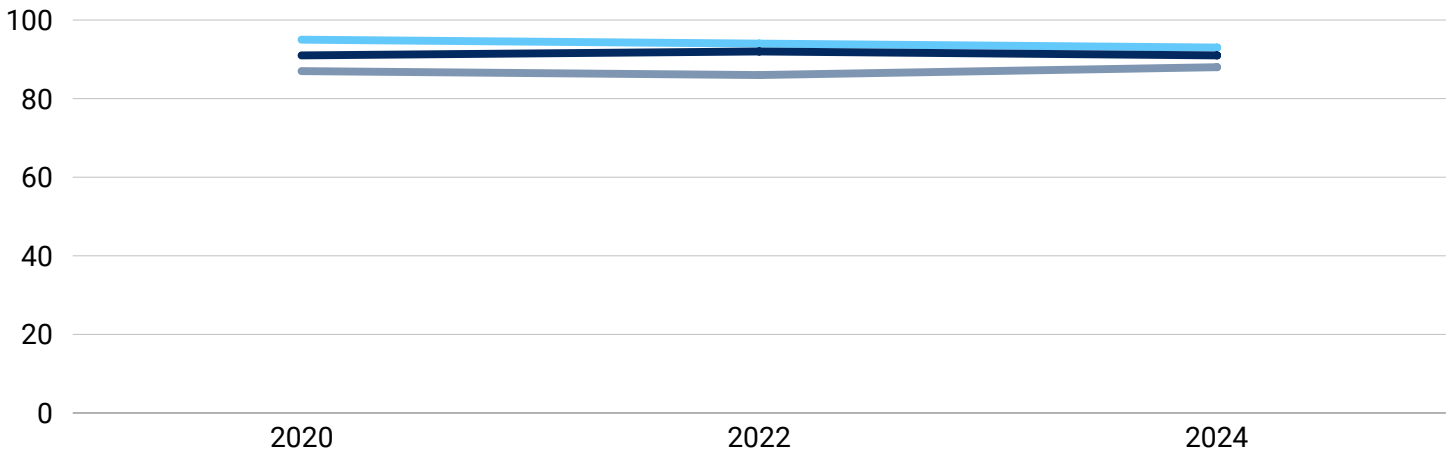
Alignment with RG Strategy: Advance Workforce through Recruitment, Retention, Education, and Development



Indicator	State Average	County Average
Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help	92%	93%
Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help	87%	88%
Percent of high school students who graduated on time	84%	91%
Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher	34%	27%

4-Year Trend

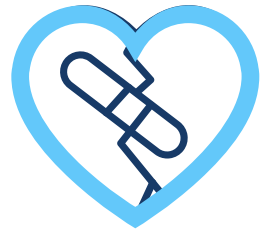
- Students have a trusted Peer they can talk to if they need help
- Students have an adult they can talk to if they need help
- Percent of high school students who graduated on time



Students have a peer they can talk to if they need help, Students have a trusted adult they can talk to if they need help, and Percent of 6th-12th grade students who reported they feel connected to others are sourced by the Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Percent of high school students who graduated on time, and Population 25 years and over whose highest education completed is bachelor's degree or higher are sourced by the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau (2023)

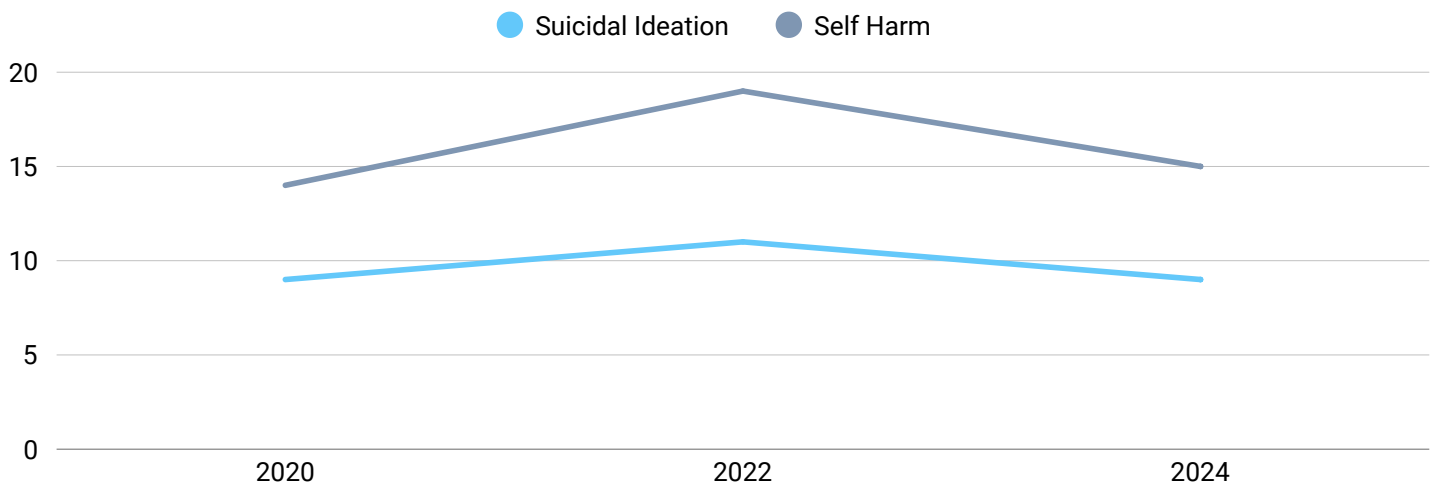
CDC Strategy: Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms



Alignment with RG Strategy: Develop and Implement Coordinated Trauma-Informed Practices Across Systems

Indicator	State Average	County Average
Children Subjected to Maltreatment Investigations per 10,000 children	11	6
Suicidal ideation on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	9%
Considered Self harm on 1 or more occasions in past 30 days	11%	15%

4-Year Trend



Data sources: Georgia Student Health Survey (2024)

Child Maltreatment Investigations is sourced from the DFCS reports and the data are obtained from Fostering Court Improvement (2020-2021)