HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON METRO AREA\(^1\)

Enrollment

- The white and black shares of enrollment decreased, while the Asian and Latino shares of enrollment increased from 1989 to 2010.
- The largest growth was the Latino share of enrollment, which increased to 11\% by 2010, and the largest decline was in the white share of enrollment, which decreased to 73\%.
- The metro’s overall enrollment increased from 36,368 in 1989 to 56,498 in 2010.

Figure 1

*Public School Enrollment by Race, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

Note: American Indian is less than 1\% of total enrollment. Total CBSA enrollment in 1989 was 36,368. In 2010, total enrollment was 56,498.


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\(^1\) We use the term “Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro” to refer to the Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton metropolitan statistical area. In this report our data includes only the districts in this metropolitan area that are located in the state of North Carolina. The 2010 MSA boundaries included Alexander County, Burke County, Caldwell County, and Catawba County.
In both urban and suburban schools, the share of white students decreased during both decades, the share of black and Asian students increased from 1989 to 1999 but then decreased from 1999 to 2010, and the share of Latino students increased during both decades with significant growth in urban schools.

In 2010, white students accounted for the largest share of enrollment in both urban and suburban schools—almost three-fourths of the suburban enrollment and more than half of the urban enrollment.

Latino student enrollment has surpassed black student enrollment in both urban and suburban schools.

Table 1
Public School Enrollment by Race in Urban and Suburban Schools, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

| Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro | Urban Schools | | | | | | Suburban Schools | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | White | Black | Asian | Latino | Other | White | Black | Asian | Latino | Other | White | Black | Asian | Latino | Other |
| 1989-1990 | 77.5% | 20.9% | 1.1% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 92.3% | 6.0% | 1.4% | 0.3% | 0.0% |
| 1999-2000 | 67.3% | 22.8% | 4.5% | 5.3% | 0.1% | 84.1% | 6.8% | 5.9% | 3.1% | 0.1% |
| 2010-2011 | 55.9% | 16.4% | 2.6% | 19.2% | 5.9% | 74.4% | 5.8% | 4.7% | 10.9% | 4.2% |

Note: Urban schools refer to those inside an urbanized area and a principal city. Suburban schools refer to those inside an urbanized area but outside a principal city. Other includes American Indian students and students who identify with two or more races. Data comprises schools open 1989-2010, 1989-1999-2010, 1999-2010, and only 2010. We apply 2010 boundary codes to all years.

Concentration

- The share of multiracial schools has grown significantly over the last two decades.
- There were no majority minority schools in 1989, but by 2010 majority minority schools accounted for 14.2% of the metro’s schools. There were no intensely segregated or apartheid schools in 2010.

Table 2
Multiracial and Minority Segregated Schools, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Schools</th>
<th>% of Multiracial Schools</th>
<th>% of 50-100% Minority Schools</th>
<th>% of 90-100% Minority Schools</th>
<th>% of 99-100% Minority Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hickory-Lenoir-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morganton Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Minority school represents black, Latino, American Indian, and Asian students. Multiracial schools are those with any three races representing 10% or more of the total student enrollment. Blank cells represent no schools.

- The share of low-income students increased during the last decade and accounted for more than half of the metro’s students (53.4%) in 2010.
- Between 1999 and 2010, the share of low-income students in multiracial schools increased and remained stable in majority-minority schools.

Table 3
Students Who Are Low-Income in Multiracial and Minority Segregated Schools, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall % Low-Income in Metro</th>
<th>% Low-Income in Multiracial Schools</th>
<th>% Low-Income in 50-100% Minority Schools</th>
<th>% Low-Income in 90-100% Minority Schools</th>
<th>% Low-Income in 99-100% Minority Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hickory-Lenoir-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morganton Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
<td>70.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
<td>63.0%</td>
<td>70.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Minority school represents black, Latino, American Indian, and Asian students. Multiracial schools are those with any three races representing 10% or more of the total student enrollment. Blank cells represent no schools.
• The share of black students attending majority minority schools more than doubled between 1999 and 2010.

Figure 2

Black Students in Minority Segregated Schools, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

Note: Minority school represents black, Latino, American Indian, and Asian students.


• The share of Latino students attending majority minority schools doubled between 1999 and 2010.

Figure 3

Latino Students in Minority Segregated Schools, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

Note: Minority school represents black, Latino, American Indian, and Asian students.

The share of students in each racial group attending multiracial schools has increased substantially over the last two decades.

Approximately 60% of black students and nearly half (49%) of Latino students attended multiracial schools in 2010. More than a third of Asian students attended multiracial schools in 2010, while white students had the lowest percentage of students attending such schools (21.6%).

Figure 4

*Students in Multiracial Schools by Race, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

*Note:* Multiracial schools are those with any three races representing 10% or more of the total student enrollment.

Exposure

- At all three time points, the typical white student attended a school with a larger share of white students than the overall share of the white enrollment.
- The size of the gap between the share of white students in the metro’s enrollment compared to the share of white students in the typical white student’s school gradually increased over the last two decades.
- At all three time points, the typical black student attended a school with a smaller share of white students than the overall share of the white enrollment.
- In 2010, the typical Latino student attended a school with a smaller share of white students than the overall white share of the metro’s enrollment.

Figure 5
White Students in School Attended by Typical Student of Each Race, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro

Note: Less than 5% proportional enrollment for Latino students in 1989-1990 and 1999-2000 so data are excluded.
At all three time points, the typical black student attended a school that was majority white.

The typical black student attended a school that was substantially less white in 2010 than in 1989, despite still attending schools that were majority white. In 2010, the typical black student also had a significant share of Latino classmates.

Figure 6

*Racial Composition of School Attended by Typical Black Student, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>80.3</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>69.7</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>61.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* Less than 5% proportional enrollment for Latino students in 1989-1990 and 1999-2000 so data are excluded; less than 5% proportional enrollment for Asian students in 1989-1990, 1999-2000, and 2010-2011 so data are excluded.

In 2010, the typical white student attended a school in which the racial composition most closely resembled the racial enrollment of the metro.

The typical student of each race attended a school with a disproportionately large share of same-race peers in 2010.

Figure 7
*Racial Composition of School Attended by Typical Student by Race, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

*Note:* Other includes American Indian students and students identifying with two or more races.

- The typical white student attended a school with a slightly smaller share of low-income students (52%) than the metro’s overall share of low-income students (53.4%) in 2010.
- The typical black and typical Latino students attended schools with larger shares of low-income students (58.4%; 58.8%) than the metro’s overall enrollment of low-income students (53.4%) in 2010.

Figure 8
*Exposure to Low-Income Students by Race, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

Evenness

- The level of unevenness has decreased over the last two decades.
- In 2010, the average school in Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir was 10% less diverse than the metro’s overall enrollment, a level that is considered to be moderate, bordering on low.
- The majority of unevenness is due to segregation within rather than between districts.
- The level of unevenness within districts has decreased over the last two decades.
- The level of unevenness between districts increased from 1989 to 1999 and then decreased between 1999 and 2010.

Table 4
*Entropy Index Values, Overall and Within and Between School Districts, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>H Within Districts</th>
<th>H Between Districts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* H = Multi-Group Entropy Index or Theil’s H. HW = the degree of un/evenness (H) that is within (W) districts. HB = the degree of un/evenness (H) that is between (B) districts.


- The uneven distribution of white and black students slightly increased over each of the last two decades and in 2010 was at a level that is considered moderately uneven.
- In 2010, the uneven distribution of white and Latino students as well as black and Latino students was moderate, bordering on being considered low.
- In 2010, white and black students were most segregated from each other while black and Latino students were least segregated from each other.

Table 5
*Differential Distribution (Evenness) of Two Racial Groups Across Public Schools*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>White Black</th>
<th>White Asian</th>
<th>White Latino</th>
<th>Black Asian</th>
<th>Black Latino</th>
<th>Asian Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.37</td>
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<td>0.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>0.31</td>
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</table>

*Note:* Blank cells represent less than one-twentieth of a racial enrollment.