

# ORANGE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF GOVERNMENTS

## JOINT MEETING AGENDA

Assembly of Governments Joint Meeting  
January 23, 2024  
Meeting – 7:00 p.m.  
Southern Human Services Center  
2501 Homestead Road  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Members of the public will be able to view and listen to the meeting via live streaming video at [orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos](https://orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos) and on Orange County Gov-TV on channels 1301 or 97.6 (Spectrum Cable).

*(Please note that the times listed below are only estimates.)*

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| (7:00 – 7:20) | Call To Order, Welcome and Opening Comments (BOCC Chair and Mayors)                |
|               | Introductions – Hillsborough Mayor Mark Bell                                       |
| (7:20 – 7:50) | 1. One Orange Racial Equity Update – Mayor Jess Anderson and Mayor Barbara Foushee |
| (7:50 – 8:20) | 2. Behavioral Health Diversion Facility Update – BOCC Chair Jamezetta Bedford      |
| (8:20 – 8:30) | Wrap-up & Adjournment (BOCC Chair and Mayors)                                      |

Orange County Board of Commissioners' meetings and work sessions are available via live streaming video at [orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos](https://orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos) and Orange County Gov-TV on channels 1301 or 97.6 (Spectrum Cable).

**ORANGE COUNTY  
ASSEMBLY OF GOVERNMENTS  
MEETING**

**AGENDA ITEMS ABSTRACT**  
**Meeting Date:** January 23, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Assembly of Governments Meeting Discussion Items

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**DEPARTMENT:** County Manager/Town  
Managers

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**  
As noted in "Background" section

**INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Bonnie Hammersley, 245-2300; Chris Blue,  
968-2743; Eric Peterson, 732-1270; Marie  
Parker, 918-7315; Shameka Fairbanks,  
245-2487; Anita Jones-McNair, 918-7381;  
Shenekia Weeks, 968-2831; Haley Thore,  
296-9442; Travis Myren, 245-2300; Cait  
Fenhagen, 245-2303

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**PURPOSE:** To discuss topics of mutual interest between the governing boards of Hillsborough, Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Orange County.

**BACKGROUND:**

**1. One Orange Racial Equity Update**

The One Orange Racial Equity Jurisdictional Team (Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough, and Orange County) continues to collaborate to advance racial equity throughout Orange County. In addition to highlighting some of the work that has previously been done, the team will present updates on the racial equity framework, data dashboard and racialized history project.

One Orange was formed in 2020 to coordinate efforts around racial equity. The One Orange team engaged internal and external stakeholders and developed the One Orange Countywide Racial Equity Framework, which was approved in 2022. The purpose of this framework is to outline the county's overall strategy for change and to provide an overarching framework from which the jurisdictions can develop their respective racial equity plans. The framework details the five pillars that guide the county's racial equity efforts. A copy of the framework can be found at the following link: <https://www.orangecountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/20443/One-Orange-Countywide-Racial-Equity-Framework?bidId=>

Once the framework was complete, the next significant focus for the One Orange team was the data index. The team will provide more information about the dashboard, ways

that the index can be used, and future enhancements. The data dashboard can be found at the following link:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/2b39cf29bcc644a7898f1474c053fb0e/page/Project/>

Staff will provide any other information at the meeting, and the governing boards can discuss issues and provide feedback to staff related to this item as necessary.

*Attachment 1 – One Orange Countywide Update*

## **2. Behavioral Health Diversion Facility Update**

In April 2019, more than 30 community stakeholders from the criminal justice system, healthcare, behavioral health system, and housing came together to participate in an Orange County Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) Workshop facilitated by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The SIM process is designed to inform and address community-based responses to the involvement of individuals with behavioral health issues and intercepts with the criminal justice system.

One of the gaps that was identified through this analysis was the need for a Crisis/Diversion facility to divert individuals in behavioral health crisis from the criminal justice system and the Emergency Departments at UNC Hospitals to a more appropriate and less expensive setting. Later in 2019, a Crisis Diversion Facility Subcommittee was formed and tasked with developing recommendations and a plan for a dedicated facility.

In December 2022, the Orange County Board of Commissioners approved a contract with CPL Architects and RHA Health for \$172,325 to provide preliminary/advanced planning services necessary for the development of a Crisis Diversion Facility serving Orange County residents. The scope of work included a review of existing planning and development information, and the development of programming documents, a preliminary/schematic design, site requirements and budget estimates. The culmination of this work was presented to stakeholders during two engagement sessions in April 2023.

The preliminary conceptual design represented a 29,000 square foot facility designed to offer Behavioral Health Urgent Care services for assessment, stabilization, treatment, peer support and discharge planning for patients experiencing a Behavioral Health crisis, such as for mental illness and substance use disorders. Behavioral Health Urgent Care Services are intended to be available for patients 4 years old and older. The facility is also designed to provide Facility Based Crisis services for adults for up to two weeks and will include security required for some patients and for justice-involved individuals. The facility will provide Behavioral Health crisis services to walk-in patients on a 24/7/365 basis and offer associated urgent, but non-critical, medical care if necessary. Finally, the facility will include a peer living room, a resource information center and will provide space for partner agencies that support housing, social services, food insecurity, harm reduction, domestic violence and sexual assault survivors and many other critical determinants of health and well-being.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners approved \$2,047,155 for design services in FY2023-24. The County's Capital Investment Plan anticipates a total construction budget

of \$22,952,845. The County is currently conducting due diligence on a potential site located in the Town of Hillsborough and has begun working with Town staff on the appropriate entitlement process. The County is also working with subject matter experts, including Alliance Health, on calculating the cost of ongoing operations. Behavioral Health Urgent Care Services are not fully billable services on public or private health care plans, so an operating subsidy will likely be necessary without changes to those health care plans. That subsidy is currently estimated to be approximately \$2.8 million annually.

Additional information is available at <https://orangecountync.gov/3168/Crisis-Diversion-Facility>.

Staff will provide any other information at the meeting, and the governing boards can discuss issues and provide feedback to staff related to this item as necessary.

*No Attachments*

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** There is no direct financial impact associated with the discussion of these topics. There are no action items requiring formal decisions.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPACT:** There is no direct Orange County Social Justice Goal impact associated with the discussion of these topics.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** There is no direct Orange County Environmental Responsibility Goal impact associated with discussion of these topics.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** The Managers recommend the governing boards discuss the topics noted above and provide appropriate direction to the respective staffs.

Attachment 1



# Countywide Update

Assembly of Governments  
January 23, 2024



# Background

- In August 2020, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough and Orange County formed a multi-jurisdictional team to implement the **Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE)** methodology and co-design a process moving our community towards increased equity. GARE is a national network of government agencies working to advance racial equity.
- In early 2022, the **One Orange Countywide Racial Equity Framework: Catalyst for Moving Forward** was presented and approved as a commitment to uncovering and addressing implicit biases in our jurisdictions to ensure that race no longer can be used to predict life outcomes in the Orange County community.
- Continuous collaboration

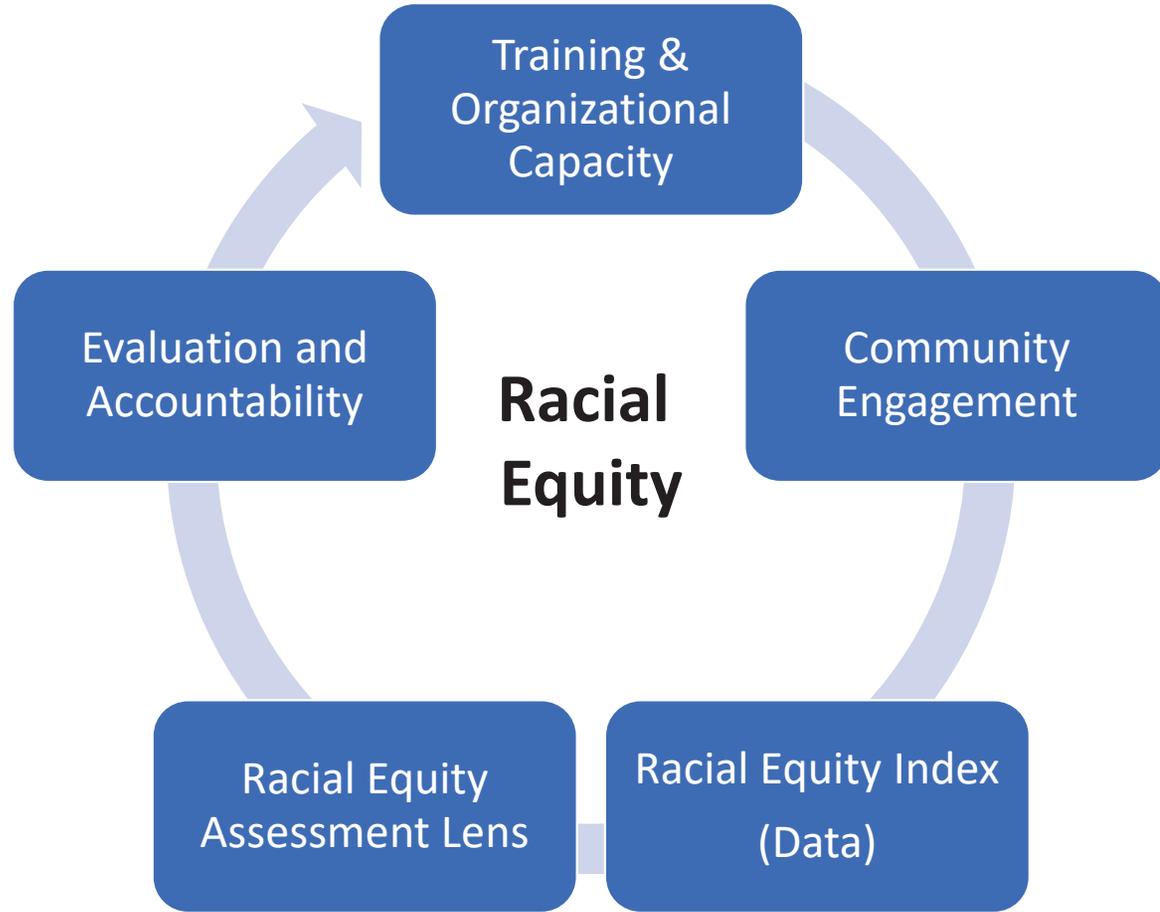
# GARE Partnership

- Networking, tools and other resources
- Elected Officials and Non-Profit Organizations training
- Inaugural Innovation Community
- Proposal to Host Governing for Racial Justice, the GARE Southern Regional Meeting
- Invited to Governing for Racial Justice, the GARE Southern Regional Meeting Planning Committee
- Training module and website

# Agenda

- Introduction and Background
- Racial Equity Framework
- Data Index
- Racialized History
- Updates

# Racial Equity as the Catalyst for Change





# Data Index Update

## Data Index Dashboard

- Public Health
- Education
- Economic Opportunity
- Neighborhood & Government
- Data Sources

### Dashboard Uses

- Community
- Government
- Non-Profit

# Data Index Dashboard Tutorial



Project
Public Health
Education
Economic Opportunity
Neighborhood and Government
Data Sources

Explore the Racial Equity Index themes using the menu buttons above. Each section displays Racial Equity Index thematic data via an interactive dashboard. View the Racial Equity Index Indicators, Rationale for including the indicator, and the Disparity Ratio that is used as a metric to compare degrees of inequality across population segments. Mouse-over indicators, charts and maps, and click the icon that appears in the top right corner of the section to go fullscreen.

**Business Ownership**



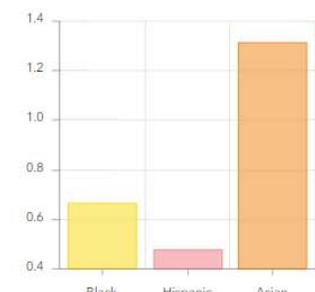
Percentage of adults age 25-64 who are self-employed.

White 14.4  
Hispanic 15.2  
Asian 7.2

Chart

Wages are the main source of income for most people, and higher income typically allows for greater opportunity and provides a foundation for longer-term financial security.

**Median Hourly Income Disparity Ratio**



Disparity Ratio

**Family-sustaining Wage**

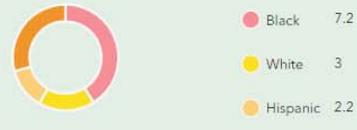


Percentage of heads of households making 300% of the poverty threshold, a family-sustaining wage.

Black 40.9  
White 72.6  
Hispanic 41.1  
Asian 78.8

Chart

**Unemployment**



Percentage of adults age 25-64 who are unemployed.

Black 7.2  
White 3  
Hispanic 2.2

Chart Rationale Disparity Ratio

**Working Poverty**



Percentages of adults aged 25-64 currently employed 30+ hours per week and living at or below 200% of the poverty threshold.

Black \$25.7/hr.  
White \$8.3/hr.  
Hispanic \$47.4/hr.  
Asian \$6.8/hr.

Chart

**Child Poverty**



Percent of children (< 18 yrs.) living at or below 100% of the poverty threshold.

Black \$9/hr.  
White \$4.1/hr.  
Hispanic \$19.9/hr.  
Asian \$13.3/hr.

Chart

**Median Household Income**



Median annual household incomes.

Black \$40k/yr.  
White \$89.5k/yr.  
Hispanic \$60k/yr.  
Asian \$103k/yr.

Chart

**Labor Force Non-Participation**

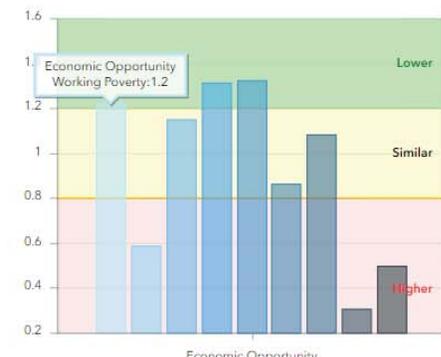


Percentage of adults age 25-64 who are not in the labor force.

Black 31.3  
White 16.4  
Hispanic 12.7  
Asian 19

Chart

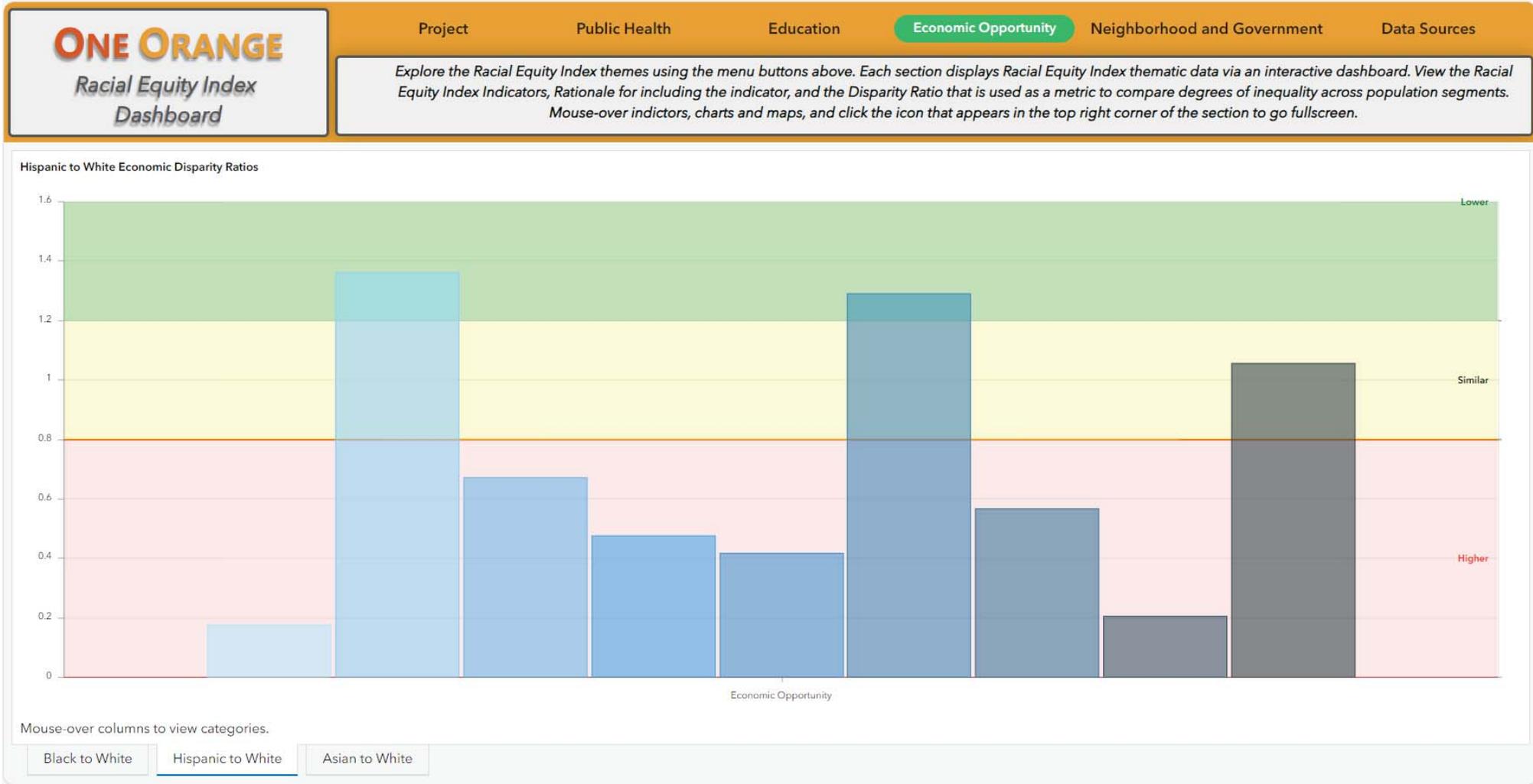
**Asian to White Economic Disparity Ratios**

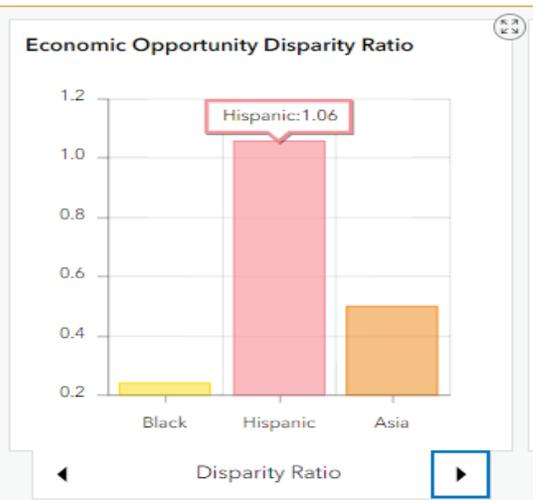
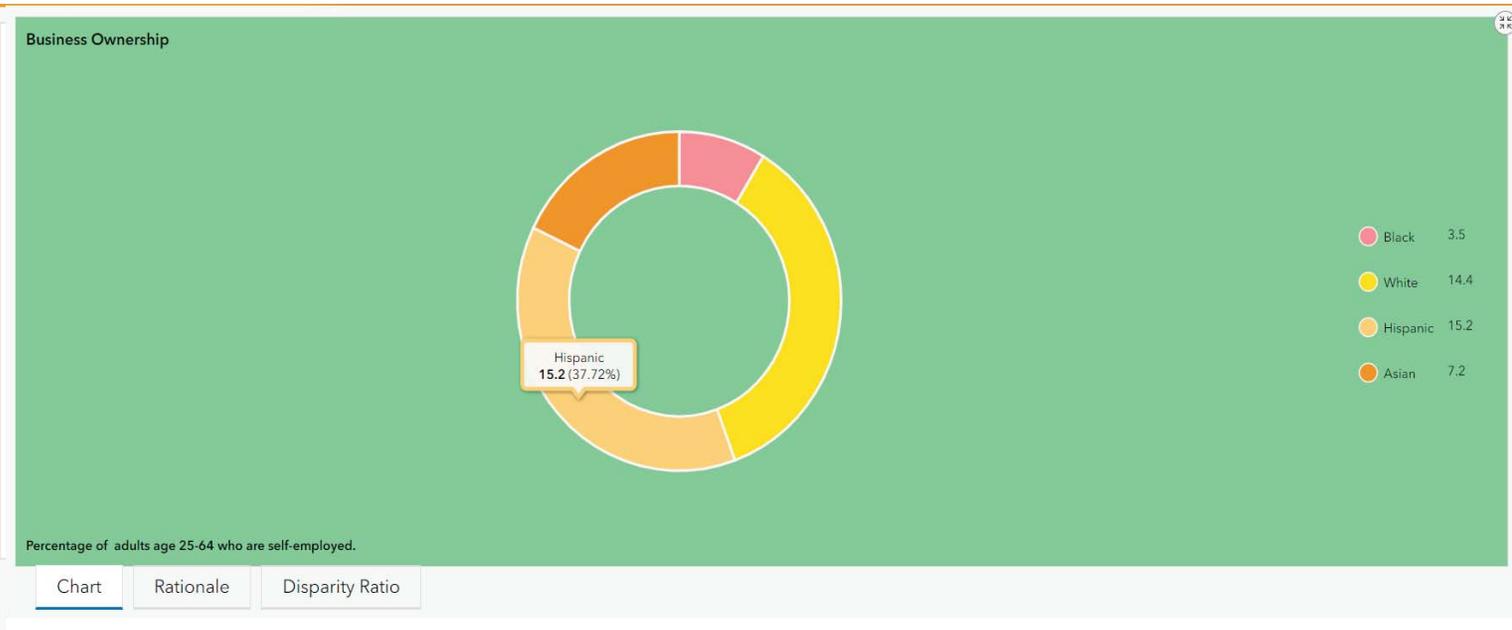


Mouse-over columns to view categories.

Asian to White

# Economic Opportunity Hispanic to White Disparity Overview





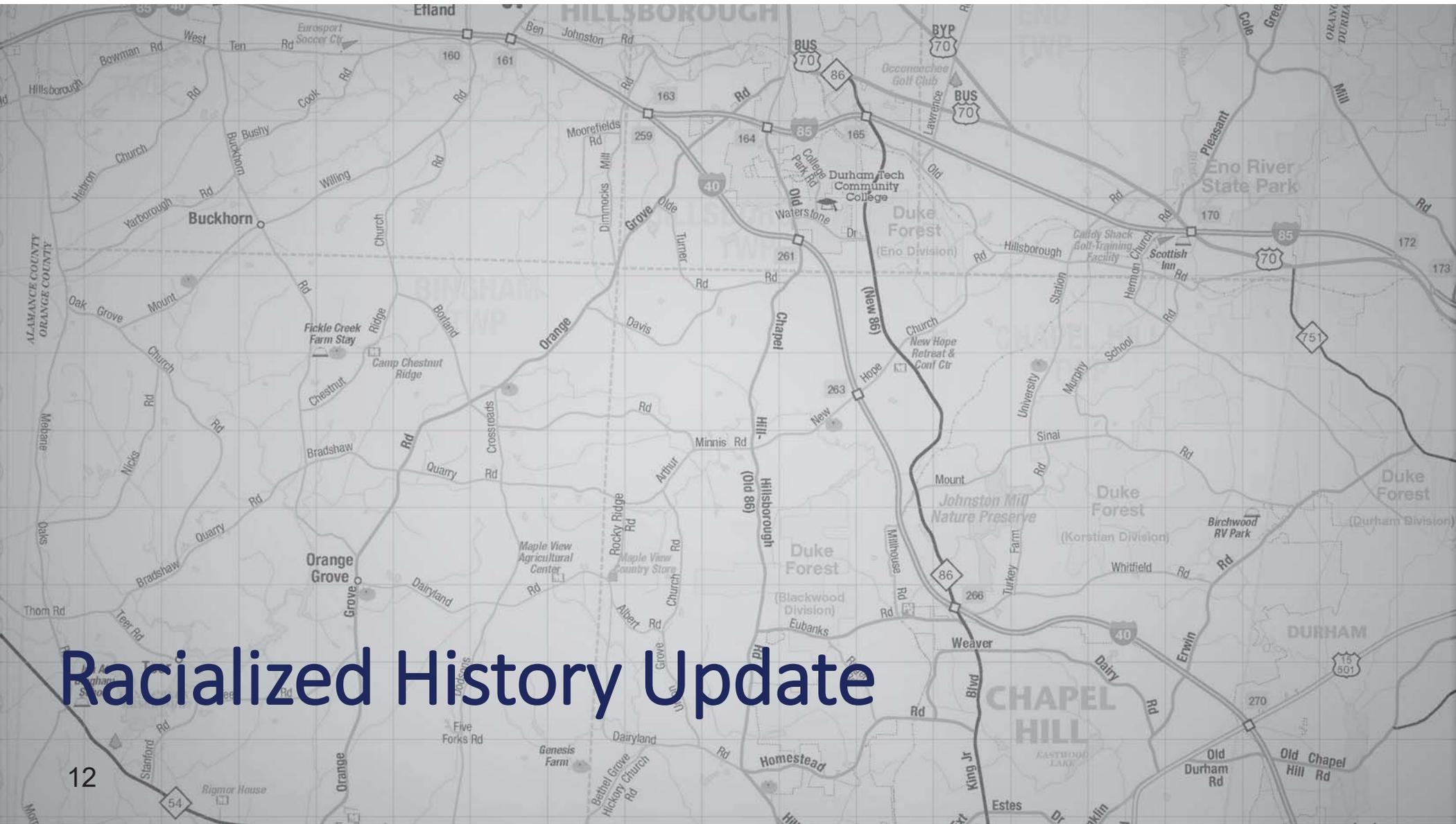
Business ownership provides opportunities for residents to overcome barriers to the traditional labor force and increase their earnings. Personal wealth, access to capital, entrepreneurial skills, and educational attainment may be factors that limit success in this indicator.

Chart Rationale Disparity Ratio

# Dashboard Next Steps

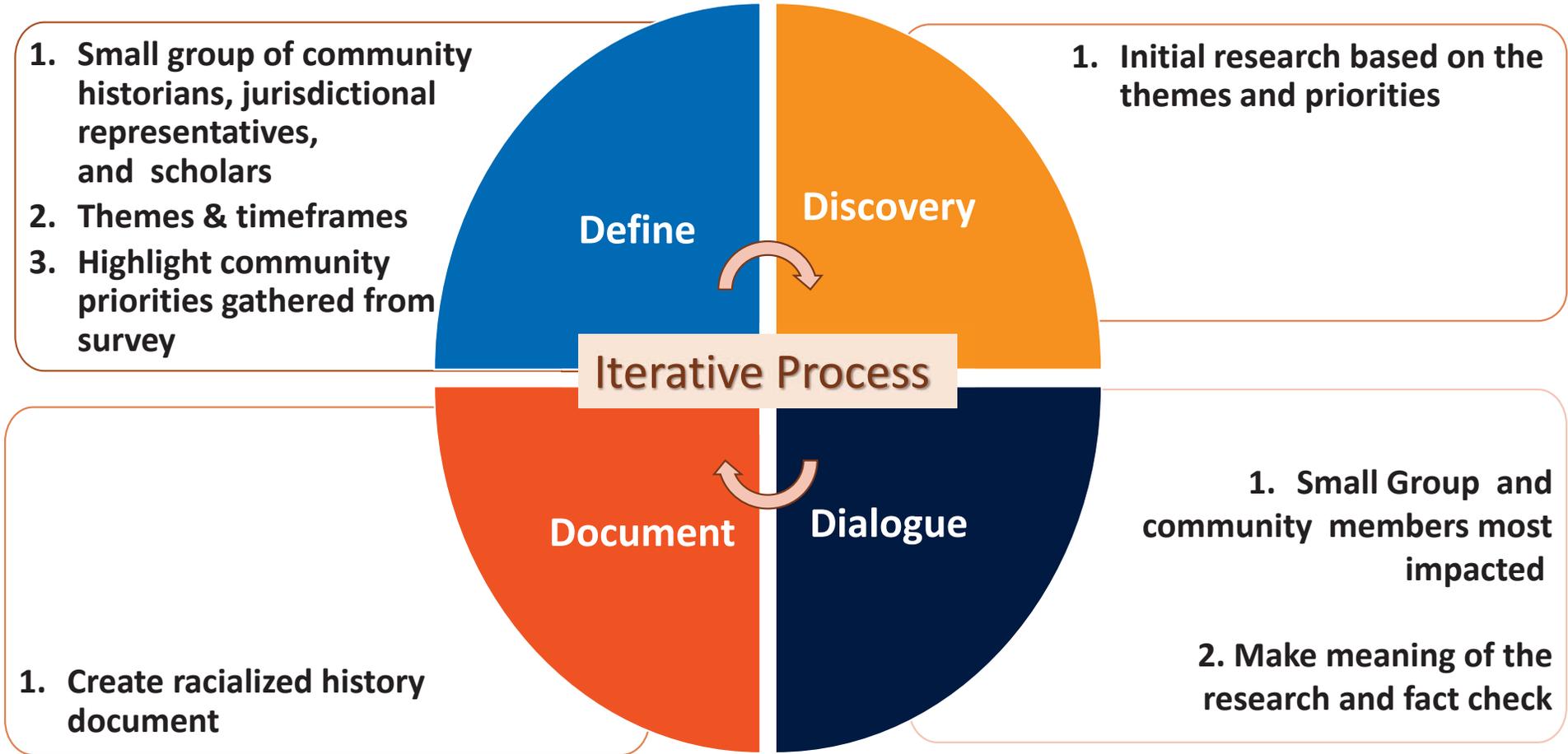
## Phase 2

- Improvements to the dashboard
  - Accessibility
  - Data visualization
  - Mobile-friendly
- Define disparity ratio and other terms to clarify language for audiences
- Establish a data library that is updated regularly
- Develop individual dashboards to ensure that the data is conveyed to audiences optimally



# Racialized History Update

# Draft Process



# Next Steps

Highlights

Questions

Feedback

Suggestions

Final jurisdictional items

Do you have any short-term  
priority initiatives?

Are we headed in the right direction  
with the Racialized History project?

What data would you like highlighted  
in phase 2 of the Racial Equity Index?