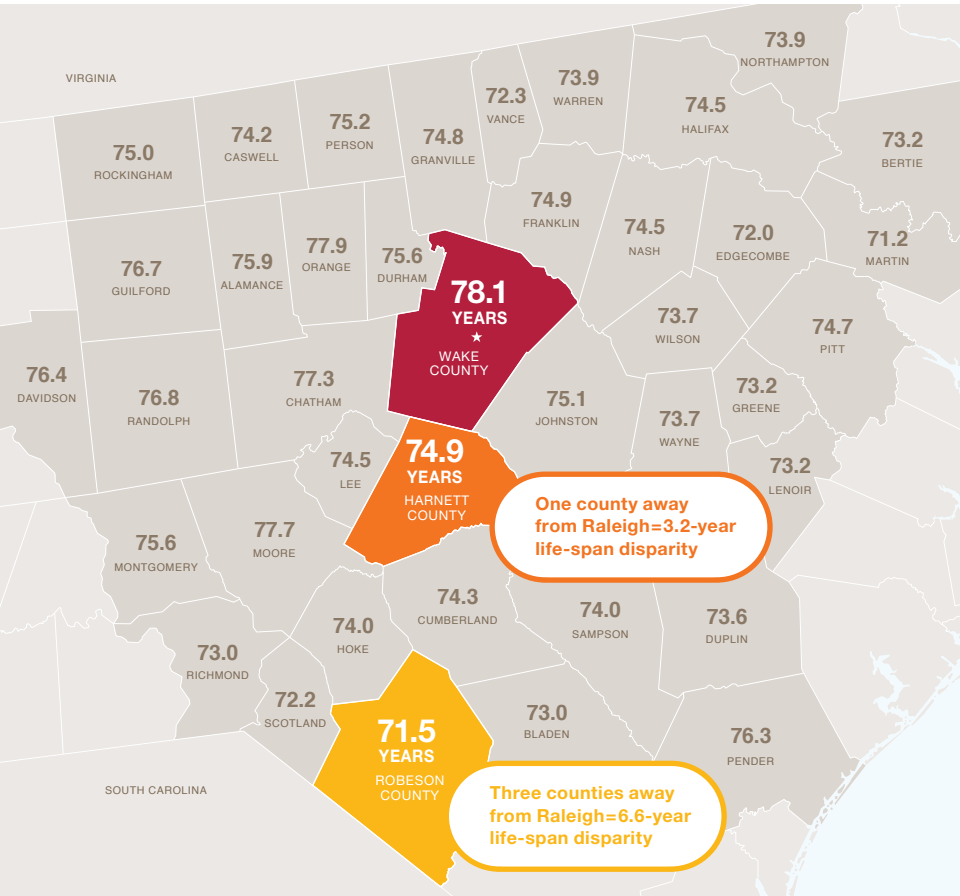




ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION
Commission to Build a Healthier America



Life Expectancy: Where You Live Matters

In Wake County, home to the state capital of Raleigh, N.C., the average life expectancy is 78.1 years. In Harnett County—just one county away—people can expect lives that are 3.2 years shorter. That difference doubles in Robeson County, where life expectancy is 6.6 years less than in Wake County. But early childhood development programs in North Carolina are increasing the chances of living longer and healthier lives.



The Road to a Long and Healthy Life Starts Early

Social and economic conditions such as family income, education and neighborhood resources affect health at every stage of life. Many of the factors that determine life expectancy are linked with experiences in the earliest years of life.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation launched the *Commission to Build a Healthier America*—a national, independent, nonpartisan group of leaders—to look at factors outside the health care system that affect America's health.

Why North Carolina?

North Carolina is a leader in early childhood development, which has been shown to strongly affect health in adulthood. The Commission is holding its first field hearing in Raleigh, N.C. to learn about some of the state's most promising programs.

The Commission Wants to Hear from You

In 2009, the Commission will recommend specific, feasible steps that foundations, corporations and governments at every level can take to improve the health of all Americans.

Visit ideas.commissiononhealth.org to tell the Commission about early childhood interventions or other promising policies or programs.

Find out more at commissiononhealth.org.