### Economic Vitality and Education in the South (EVES)
#### The South’s Pre-Pandemic Position
Mississippi, 2019

#### Poverty and Food Insecurity
- **Children eligible for free or reduced price lunch**: 74%
- **Children living in poverty**:
  - All: 20%
  - Children Under 18: 28%
  - Children Under 5: 30%
  - Black: 31%
  - Hispanic: 31%
  - White: 12%
- **Children living in food insecure households**: 16%

#### Median Household Income
- **On average, people of color were paid less than White people.**
  - Black: $31,067
  - Hispanic: $37,372
  - White: $57,553

#### Childcare and Early Childhood Education
- **Children under 6 with all caretakers in the workforce**: 70%
- **Families who lived in childcare deserts**: 48%
- **Four-year-olds enrolled in a public ECE program in 2020**: 30%

#### Annual childcare expenses should cost just 7%* of a family's income, but **infant care for one child cost**
- **17%** of the average Black household's income
- **15%** of the average Hispanic household's income
- **9%** of the average White household's income

If infant care cost 7% of the region's median income, just 29 of every 100 families could afford it.

*according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

#### Performance on NAEP*
**Below the Proficient Level in 4th Grade**
- **Reading**: Black - 81%, Hispanic - 66%, White - 57%, Low-Income - 74%
- **Math**: Black - 78%, Hispanic - 58%, White - 45%

**Below the Proficient Level in 8th Grade**
- **Reading**: Black - 88%, Hispanic - 69%, White - 63%, Low-Income - 81%
- **Math**: Black - 89%, Hispanic - 77%, White - 62%

*National Assessment of Educational Progress
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Attainment and the Workforce

Adults 25+ with a high school diploma or less
- Black: 52%
- Hispanic: 64%
- White: 40%

Adults 25+ with a Bachelor’s degree or more
- Black: 16%
- Hispanic: 12%
- White: 26%

Adults 25-64 facing unemployment
- Black: 10.3%
- Hispanic: 5.3%
- White: 4.4%

Adults 25-64 with higher attainment have a higher employment-to-population ratio — they are more likely to be in the labor force.

- No high school credential: 44%
- High school or equivalent: 61%
- Some college or associate degree: 73%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 82%

Adults 25+ with lower attainment earn less.

- No high school credential: $20,764
- High school or equivalent: $27,158
- Some college or associate degree: $31,459
- Bachelor’s degree: $44,148
- Graduate or professional degree: $56,208

Adults 25+ living in poverty

- No high school credential: 30%
- High school or equivalent: 19%
- Some college or associate degree: 13%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 6%

Adults 25-64 facing unemployment

- No high school credential: 12.6%
- High school or equivalent: 6.0%
- Some college or associate degree: 4.3%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 2.9%

2017-2018 School Discipline

Students who were suspended, by race:

- In-school suspension:
  - Black: 15%
  - Hispanic: 8%
  - White: 8%

- Out-of-school suspension:
  - Black: 16%
  - Hispanic: 5%
  - White: 5%

School enrollments in the school year:

- 49% were Black
- 4% were Hispanic
- 44% were White

Of those who were referred to law enforcement,

- 64% were Black
- 2% were Hispanic
- 31% were White

Of the students who had a school-related arrest,

- 63% were Black
- 1% were Hispanic
- 34% were White

The SEF Region includes AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, MO, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV

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