

How North Carolina Compares



A Compendium of State Statistics

February 2015



Prepared by the
N.C. General Assembly
Program Evaluation Division



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Preface

The Program Evaluation Division of the North Carolina General Assembly was established in June 2007 to evaluate whether public services are delivered in an effective and efficient manner and in accordance with the law. As part of that mission, the Division is charged with developing quantitative indicators for measuring the activities performed and services provided by state agencies and the extent to which the activities and services are achieving desired results. *How North Carolina Compares* provides a framework on selected benchmarks for ranking North Carolina relative to other states and may be useful when evaluating ultimate outcomes of state government programs.

This fourth edition of the publication ranks North Carolina on areas including population, health, taxes, expenditures, and education. Data were extracted from the U.S. Census Bureau and other national databanks to assure uniformity of measurement across states.

This publication was designed as a quick reference that allows state comparisons across indicators, and we encourage feedback from members of the General Assembly on ways to improve its usefulness. We have provided a guide to reading the compendium on page iii, followed by a summary of how North Carolina ranks on each of the 23 indicators. As described in the reader's guide, the value states aspire to, when known, was ranked first. Otherwise, the highest value was ranked first.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Turcotte". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John W. Turcotte
Director
Program Evaluation Division

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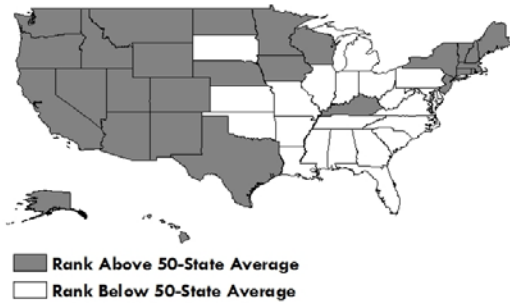
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An explanation of our methodology appears at the end of the compendium.

How to Read This Compendium

	Rank		Rate	
Rank above the 50-State Average	1	Utah	4.5	
	2	Minnesota	5.1	
	2	Washington	5.1	
	4	Massachusetts	5.2	
	4	New Jersey	5.2	
	6	California	5.3	
	6	Iowa	5.3	
	6	New Hampshire	5.3	
	9	Nebraska	5.6	
	10	Connecticut	5.8	
	10	Nevada	5.8	
	10	New York	5.8	
	13	Alaska	5.9	
	13	Oregon	5.9	
	15	North Dakota	6.0	
	16	Idaho	6.1	
	17	New Mexico	6.1	
	18	Colorado	6.4	
	20	Hawaii	6.5	
	20	Rhode Island	6.5	
	20	Vermont	6.5	
	24	Kentucky	6.6	
	24	Texas	6.6	
	24	Wisconsin	6.6	
	25	Wyoming	6.8	
	27	Arizona	6.9	
	27	Maine	6.9	
	28	Montana	7.0	
	50-State Average	7.0		
Rank below the 50-State Average	29	Florida	7.2	
	29	South Dakota	7.2	
	31	Maryland	7.3	
	31	Pennsylvania	7.3	
	33	Illinois	7.4	
	33	Kansas	7.4	
	35	Missouri	7.5	
	35	Virginia	7.5	
	37	Arkansas	7.9	
	37	Michigan	7.9	
	39	Indiana	8.0	
	40	Oklahoma	8.1	
	40	West Virginia	8.1	
	42	Georgia	8.2	
	43	Ohio	8.3	
	44	North Carolina	8.8	
	45	Tennessee	8.9	
46	Delaware	9.0		
47	Alabama	9.4		
47	South Carolina	9.4		
49	Louisiana	10.1		
50	Mississippi	11.4		

Map Showing Ranks



The map shows states ranked above the 50-State Average (according to the table to the left) in gray and states ranked below the 50-State Average in white. The table to the left is shaded to correspond to the shading of the map.

Bulleted information includes

- The value states aspire to for the indicator, when known. Otherwise, the bullet states that the highest value was ranked first.
- Information about the data in the table, including the time period of the data in the table.
- North Carolina's rank on the indicator the last time this compendium was published.
- Additional data on the topic, when available.
- Some pages include a comparison to the 12 southeastern states, which are defined as Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- A definition of the indicator, if necessary.

The source of information in the table and bullets is listed here.

Summary Table

Table		Measure	Rank
1	Population	9,848,060	10
2	Percent Change in Population	17.1%	6
3	Median Household Income	\$45,906	40
4	Unemployment Rate	8.0%	39
5	Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations	2.7%	18
6	Percentage of Population Living in Poverty	17.9%	40
7	Percentage of Population Without Health Insurance	18.1%	35
8	Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese	66.1%	33
9	Infant Mortality Rate	8.23	46
10	Per Capita State and Local Taxes	\$3,533	15
11	State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income	9.2%	16
12	Per Capita State Taxes	\$2,414	19
13	Per Capita State Expenditures	\$5,499	13
14	Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures	\$2,071	25
15	State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income	5.4%	33
16	Bond Ratings	AAA	1
17	Per Capita State and Local Debt	\$5,207	6
18	Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures	\$1,260	28
19	Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12	\$8,127	45
20	Percentage with High School Education or Less	62.9%	28
21	Average Annual In-State Tuition	\$6,677	10
22	State Government FTE Employment	1.5	18
23	Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State	74.8%	4

Highlights

- North Carolina and nine other states ranked 1st in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2014, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services.
- North Carolina ranked 4th in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2012 at 74.8%.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in population growth, increasing by 17.1% between 2003 and 2013.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$5,207. Forty-four other states had higher per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2014-15 at \$6,677. The 50-state average was \$9,012. Forty other states had higher tuition and fees.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in population in 2013 with 9,848,060 residents.
- North Carolina ranked 13th in per capita state expenditures in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$5,499. Thirty-seven other states had higher per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 15th in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$3,533. Thirty-five other states had higher per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina and two other states ranked 16th in state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income in 2012 at 9.2%.
- North Carolina and five other states ranked 18th in state government full-time equivalent (FTE) employment in 2012 at 1.5 positions per 100 persons.

Change in Rank

To determine change in rank, the rank for each indicator in this compendium was compared to that indicator's rank in the last edition of this compendium, which was published in 2013.

For both compendiums, the value states aspire to was ranked first, when known. Otherwise, the highest value was ranked first.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "improved" if its rank number decreased, and this change is indicated with a **↑**. For example, North Carolina's rank improved for per capita state expenditures because North Carolina ranked 12th on this indicator in this compendium and 15th in the last compendium.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "declined" if its rank number increased, and this change is indicated with a **↓**. For example, North Carolina's rank declined for unemployment rate because North Carolina ranked 45th on this indicator in this compendium and 44th in the last compendium.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "stayed the same" if its rank number did not change, and this lack of change is indicated with a **=**. For example, North Carolina's rank stayed the same for population because North Carolina ranked 10th on this indicator in this compendium and the last compendium.

The table below tallies how many times North Carolina's rank improved, declined, or stayed the same on the 23 indicators included in this compendium.

		Tally
↑	Rank improved	8
↓	Rank declined	8
=	Rank stayed the same	7

Change in Rank

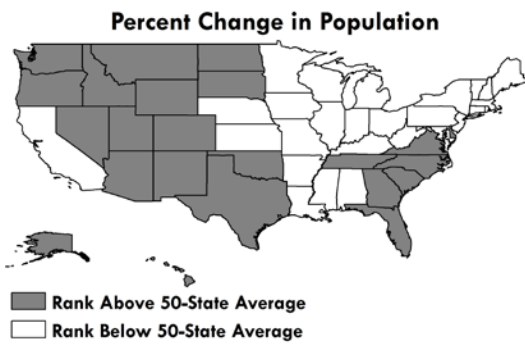
Table	Direction of Change	Number of Positions
1 Population	=	0
2 Percent Change in Population	=	0
3 Median Household Income	↓	1
4 Unemployment Rate	↑	6
5 Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations	=	0
6 Percentage of Population Living in Poverty	↓	2
7 Percentage of Population Without Health Insurance	=	0
8 Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese	↑	4
9 Infant Mortality Rate	↓	1
10 Per Capita State and Local Taxes	↑	2
11 State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income	↑	7
12 Per Capita State Taxes	↑	5
13 Per Capita State Expenditures	↓	1
14 Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures	↑	1
15 State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income	↓	1
16 Bond Ratings	=	0
17 Per Capita State and Local Debt	↑	2
18 Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures	↓	3
19 Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12	↓	5
20 Percentage with High School Education or Less	↓	1
21 Average Annual In-State Tuition	=	0
22 State Government FTE Employment	↑	6
23 Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State	=	0

1. Population

Rank		Population
1	California	38,332,521
2	Texas	26,448,193
3	New York	19,651,127
4	Florida	19,552,860
5	Illinois	12,882,135
6	Pennsylvania	12,773,801
7	Ohio	11,570,808
8	Georgia	9,992,167
9	Michigan	9,895,622
10	North Carolina	9,848,060
11	New Jersey	8,899,339
12	Virginia	8,260,405
13	Washington	6,971,406
14	Massachusetts	6,692,824
15	Arizona	6,626,624
16	Indiana	6,570,902
17	Tennessee	6,495,978
	50-State Average	6,309,648
18	Missouri	6,044,171
19	Maryland	5,928,814
20	Wisconsin	5,742,713
21	Minnesota	5,420,380
22	Colorado	5,268,367
23	Alabama	4,833,722
24	South Carolina	4,774,839
25	Louisiana	4,625,470
26	Kentucky	4,395,295
27	Oregon	3,930,065
28	Oklahoma	3,850,568
29	Connecticut	3,596,080
30	Iowa	3,090,416
31	Mississippi	2,991,207
32	Arkansas	2,959,373
33	Utah	2,900,872
34	Kansas	2,893,957
35	Nevada	2,790,136
36	New Mexico	2,085,287
37	Nebraska	1,868,516
38	West Virginia	1,854,304
39	Idaho	1,612,136
40	Hawaii	1,404,054
41	Maine	1,328,302
42	New Hampshire	1,323,459
43	Rhode Island	1,051,511
44	Montana	1,015,165
45	Delaware	925,749
46	South Dakota	844,877
47	Alaska	735,132
48	North Dakota	723,393
49	Vermont	626,630
50	Wyoming	582,658

2. Percent Change in Population

Rank		Percent
1	Nevada	24.5
2	Utah	23.4
3	Texas	19.6
4	Arizona	18.7
5	Idaho	18.0
6	North Carolina	17.1
7	Wyoming	16.2
8	Colorado	15.8
9	South Carolina	15.1
10	Georgia	15.1
11	Florida	14.9
12	North Dakota	14.1
13	Washington	13.7
14	Alaska	13.3
15	Delaware	13.2
16	Virginia	11.8
17	Hawaii	11.6
18	New Mexico	11.2
19	Tennessee	11.2
20	Montana	10.6
21	South Dakota	10.5
22	Oregon	10.4
23	Oklahoma	9.7
	50-State Average	9.0
24	Arkansas	8.6
25	California	8.0
26	Maryland	7.6
27	Nebraska	7.4
28	Alabama	7.4
29	Minnesota	7.1
30	Kentucky	6.7
31	Kansas	6.3
32	Indiana	6.1
33	Missouri	6.0
34	Iowa	5.0
35	Wisconsin	4.9
36	Massachusetts	4.0
37	Mississippi	3.8
38	Pennsylvania	3.3
39	Connecticut	3.2
40	New Jersey	3.0
41	Louisiana	2.9
42	New Hampshire	2.8
43	West Virginia	2.4
44	New York	2.4
45	Illinois	1.8
46	Maine	1.7
47	Vermont	1.2
48	Ohio	1.2
49	Michigan	-1.8
50	Rhode Island	-2.3



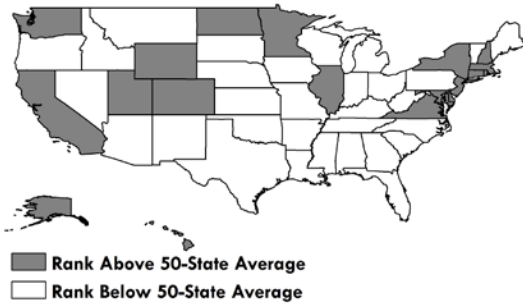
- States aspire to have population growth.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in population growth, increasing by 17.1% between 2003 and 2013. The 50-state average was 9%. In 2012, North Carolina ranked 6th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's population increased from 8,407,248 residents in 2003 to 9,848,060 in 2013, an increase of over 1.4 million people.
- Based on population estimates, the number of foreign-born residents in North Carolina increased by 18.5% between 2008 and 2013. The 50-state average was 8.6%.
- Based on population estimates, the number of North Carolinians over the age of 65 increased by 21.6% between 2008 and 2013. The 50-state average was 13.4%.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2003, 2013); American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2008, 2013).

3. Median Household Income

Rank		Income in \$
1	Maryland	72,483
2	Alaska	72,237
3	New Jersey	70,165
4	Hawaii	68,020
5	Connecticut	67,098
6	Massachusetts	66,768
7	New Hampshire	64,230
8	Virginia	62,666
9	Minnesota	60,702
10	California	60,190
11	Utah	59,770
12	Colorado	58,823
13	Wyoming	58,752
14	Washington	58,405
15	Delaware	57,846
16	New York	57,369
17	Illinois	56,210
18	Rhode Island	55,902
19	North Dakota	55,759
	50-State Average	52,884
20	Vermont	52,578
21	Iowa	52,229
22	Pennsylvania	52,007
23	Texas	51,704
24	Wisconsin	51,467
25	Nebraska	51,440
26	Nevada	51,230
27	Kansas	50,972
28	Oregon	50,251
29	South Dakota	48,947
30	Arizona	48,510
31	Michigan	48,273
32	Ohio	48,081
33	Georgia	47,829
34	Indiana	47,529
35	Maine	46,974
36	Montana	46,972
37	Missouri	46,931
38	Idaho	46,783
39	Florida	46,036
40	North Carolina	45,906
41	Oklahoma	45,690
42	Tennessee	44,297
43	Louisiana	44,164
44	South Carolina	44,163
45	New Mexico	43,872
46	Kentucky	43,399
47	Alabama	42,849
48	West Virginia	41,253
49	Arkansas	40,511
50	Mississippi	37,963

Median Household Income



- States aspire to a high median household income.
- North Carolina ranked 40th in median household income in 2013 at \$45,906. The 50-state average was \$52,884. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 39th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's median household income increased by 4.5% (\$1,990) from 2011 to 2013. Only two states' median household income decreased.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, all but Virginia ranked below the 50-state average.
- Median household income is the middle income of all households—half of the households earn more and half earn less.

Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2011, 2013).

4. Unemployment Rate

Rank		Rate
1	North Dakota	2.9
2	South Dakota	3.8
3	Nebraska	3.9
4	Utah	4.4
4	Vermont	4.4
6	Iowa	4.6
6	Wyoming	4.6
8	Hawaii	4.8
9	Minnesota	5.1
10	New Hampshire	5.3
11	Kansas	5.4
11	Oklahoma	5.4
13	Virginia	5.5
14	Montana	5.6
15	Idaho	6.2
15	Louisiana	6.2
17	Texas	6.3
18	Alabama	6.5
18	Alaska	6.5
18	Missouri	6.5
18	West Virginia	6.5
22	Maryland	6.6
23	Delaware	6.7
23	Maine	6.7
23	Wisconsin	6.7
	50-State Average	6.7
27	Colorado	6.8
28	New Mexico	6.9
29	Washington	7.0
30	Massachusetts	7.1
31	Florida	7.2
32	Ohio	7.4
32	Pennsylvania	7.4
34	Arkansas	7.5
34	Indiana	7.5
35	South Carolina	7.6
36	New York	7.7
36	Oregon	7.7
38	Connecticut	7.8
39	Arizona	8.0
39	North Carolina	8.0
41	Georgia	8.2
41	New Jersey	8.2
41	Tennessee	8.2
44	Kentucky	8.3
45	Mississippi	8.6
46	Michigan	8.8
47	California	8.9
48	Illinois	9.2
49	Rhode Island	9.5
50	Nevada	9.8

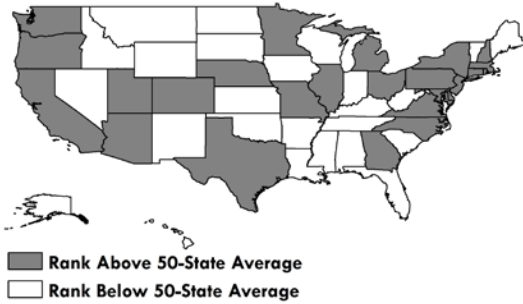


- States aspire to a low rate of unemployment.
- North Carolina ranked 39th in annual unemployment rate in 2013 at 8%. The 50-state average was 6.7%. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 45th on this indicator with a 10.5% unemployment rate.
- The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed and actively looking for work divided by the labor force.

5. Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations

Rank		Percent
1	Virginia	5.5
2	Washington	5.0
3	Maryland	4.5
4	Massachusetts	4.1
5	Colorado	4.0
6	New Jersey	3.4
7	California	3.3
8	Minnesota	3.1
8	Delaware	3.1
8	Arizona	3.1
11	Georgia	2.9
11	Utah	2.9
13	Texas	2.8
13	Missouri	2.8
13	Rhode Island	2.8
13	New Hampshire	2.8
13	Nebraska	2.8
18	Illinois	2.7
18	Connecticut	2.7
18	North Carolina	2.7
18	Oregon	2.7
22	Ohio	2.5
22	New York	2.5
22	Pennsylvania	2.5
22	Michigan	2.5
	50-State Average	2.4
26	Wisconsin	2.3
26	Kansas	2.3
28	Florida	2.2
28	Alabama	2.2
30	Vermont	2.1
30	Iowa	2.1
32	Idaho	1.9
33	New Mexico	1.8
33	Arkansas	1.8
33	South Carolina	1.8
36	Indiana	1.7
36	Tennessee	1.7
36	Maine	1.7
39	South Dakota	1.6
39	Oklahoma	1.6
39	Alaska	1.6
39	Kentucky	1.6
39	Montana	1.6
39	Hawaii	1.6
45	North Dakota	1.4
45	Nevada	1.4
47	West Virginia	1.3
48	Louisiana	1.0
48	Wyoming	1.0
48	Mississippi	1.0

Percentage in Computer or Math Occupations

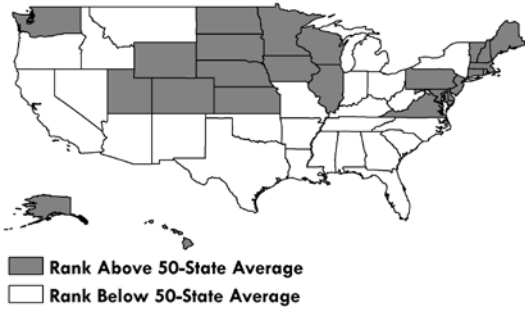


- States aspire to high employment in computer and math occupations; these positions typically offer high salaries.
- North Carolina ranked 18th in percentage employed in computer or math occupations in 2013 at 2.7%. The 50-state average was 2.4%. North Carolina also ranked 18th on this indicator in 2011.
- In North Carolina, the 2013 average annual salary for computer and math occupations was \$79,150, whereas the average annual salary for all occupations was \$42,420.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Virginia and Georgia had a higher percentage employed in computer or math occupations than North Carolina.
- Percentage employed in computer or math occupations measures the number of people employed in computer or math occupations in comparison to the total number of people employed in the state.

6. Percentage of Population Living in Poverty

Rank		Percent
1	New Hampshire	8.7
2	Alaska	9.3
3	Maryland	10.1
4	Connecticut	10.7
5	Hawaii	10.8
6	Wyoming	10.9
7	Minnesota	11.2
8	New Jersey	11.4
9	Virginia	11.7
10	North Dakota	11.8
11	Massachusetts	11.9
12	Vermont	12.3
13	Delaware	12.4
14	Utah	12.7
14	Iowa	12.7
16	Colorado	13.0
17	Nebraska	13.2
18	Wisconsin	13.5
19	Pennsylvania	13.7
20	Maine	14.0
20	Kansas	14.0
22	Washington	14.1
23	South Dakota	14.2
24	Rhode Island	14.3
25	Illinois	14.7
	50-state average	15.1
26	Idaho	15.6
27	Nevada	15.8
28	Missouri	15.9
28	Indiana	15.9
30	New York	16.0
30	Ohio	16.0
32	Montana	16.5
33	Oregon	16.7
34	Oklahoma	16.8
34	California	16.8
36	Florida	17.0
36	Michigan	17.0
38	Texas	17.5
39	Tennessee	17.8
	40 North Carolina	17.9
41	West Virginia	18.5
42	South Carolina	18.6
42	Arizona	18.6
44	Alabama	18.7
45	Kentucky	18.8
46	Georgia	19.0
47	Arkansas	19.7
48	Louisiana	19.8
49	New Mexico	21.9
50	Mississippi	24.0

Percentage of Population Living in Poverty



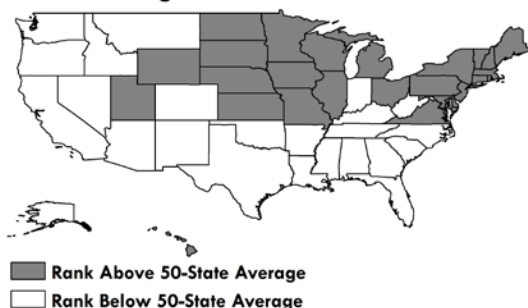
- States aspire to a low percentage of population living in poverty.
- North Carolina ranked 40th in percentage of population in poverty in 2013 at 17.9%. The 50-state average was 15.1%. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 38th on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians living in poverty in 2013 was 1,715,397.
- The U.S. Census Bureau uses thresholds to estimate the number of Americans living in poverty. These thresholds are updated annually; the 2013 poverty threshold was \$23,624 for a family of four with two children. The poverty thresholds used by the U.S. Census Bureau are different from the poverty guidelines used by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to determine financial eligibility for certain programs such as Medicaid.
- The percentage of North Carolinians living below 200% of the federal poverty threshold in 2013 (\$47,248 for a family of four with two children) was 38.7%. The 50-state average was 33.8%.
- In 2013, the number of children (under age 18) in North Carolina living in poverty was 565,996, or 25.2% of the youth population. The 50-state average was 20.7%.

Sources: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2013); U.S. Census Bureau (2013).

7. Percentage of Population Under Age 65 Without Health Insurance

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	4.3
2	Hawaii	7.8
3	Vermont	8.6
4	Minnesota	9.4
5	Iowa	9.5
6	Wisconsin	10.6
6	Delaware	10.6
8	Connecticut	10.9
9	Pennsylvania	11.5
9	Maryland	11.5
11	North Dakota	12.0
12	New York	12.3
13	New Hampshire	12.6
14	Michigan	12.8
15	Ohio	12.9
16	Nebraska	13.0
17	South Dakota	13.1
18	Maine	13.5
19	Rhode Island	13.6
20	Virginia	14.0
21	Kansas	14.2
22	Illinois	14.5
23	New Jersey	15.1
24	Missouri	15.2
25	Utah	15.4
25	Wyoming	15.4
	50-State Average	15.4
27	Alabama	15.8
28	Colorado	16.0
29	Washington	16.1
29	Indiana	16.1
29	Tennessee	16.1
32	Kentucky	16.6
33	West Virginia	16.8
34	Oregon	17.2
35	North Carolina	18.1
36	South Carolina	18.5
37	Idaho	18.6
38	Arkansas	18.8
39	Louisiana	18.9
40	California	19.4
41	Montana	19.5
42	Mississippi	19.8
43	Arizona	20.1
44	Alaska	20.3
45	Oklahoma	20.4
46	Georgia	21.2
47	New Mexico	21.6
48	Nevada	23.6
49	Florida	24.2
50	Texas	24.6

Percentage Without Health Insurance



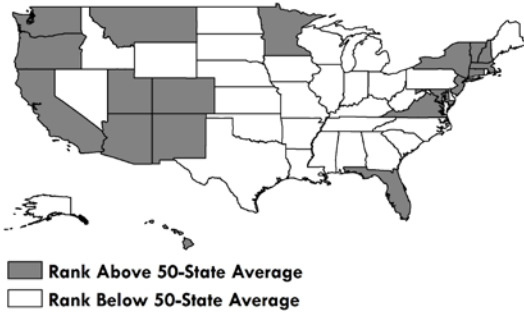
- States aspire to a low percentage of population without health insurance.
- North Carolina ranked 35th in percentage of population under age 65 without health insurance in 2013 at 18.1%. The 50-state average was 15.4%. In 2011, North Carolina also ranked 35th on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance in 2013 was approximately 1.5 million people.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance decreased by 2.5% between 2011 and 2013, a decrease of 38,773 persons.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Virginia's percentage of population under age 65 without health insurance ranked better than the 50-state average.
- Health insurance coverage is defined broadly and may be provided through private or government-sponsored sources. Government sources for those under age 65 include Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, state-specific plans, and the Indian Health Service.

Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2013).

8. Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese

Rank		Percent
1	Hawaii	55.4
2	Colorado	56.4
3	Massachusetts	58.0
4	Utah	59.2
5	Oregon	59.9
6	California	60.1
7	Minnesota	61.1
8	New York	61.3
9	Montana	61.4
9	Washington	61.4
11	New Hampshire	61.8
11	Arizona	61.8
13	Vermont	61.9
14	Connecticut	62.6
15	New Mexico	62.7
16	Florida	62.8
16	New Jersey	62.8
18	Virginia	64.0
19	Maryland	64.2
	50-State Average	64.3
20	Wyoming	64.4
21	Pennsylvania	64.5
22	Rhode Island	64.6
22	Delaware	64.6
24	Illinois	64.7
25	Maine	64.8
26	Nevada	64.9
26	Idaho	64.9
28	Ohio	65.1
29	Kansas	65.3
30	Nebraska	65.5
30	Missouri	65.5
32	Georgia	65.7
33	Alaska	66.1
33	North Carolina	66.1
33	Texas	66.1
36	Michigan	66.2
37	South Carolina	66.5
37	Wisconsin	66.5
39	South Dakota	67.0
39	Iowa	67.0
41	Indiana	67.3
41	Kentucky	67.3
43	Louisiana	67.4
44	North Dakota	67.6
45	Oklahoma	67.9
46	Alabama	68.2
47	Tennessee	68.4
48	West Virginia	68.8
49	Mississippi	69.3
50	Arkansas	69.9

Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese



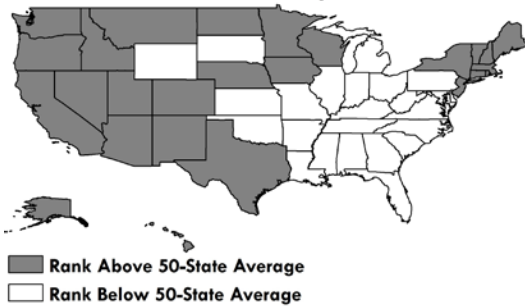
- States aspire to a low percentage of people who are overweight, obese, or diagnosed with diseases related to obesity.
- North Carolina ranked 33rd in percentage of adults classified as overweight or obese in 2013 at 66.1%. The 50-state average was 64.3%. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 37th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 29th in percentage of children (age 10 to 17) classified as overweight or obese in 2011 at 31.4%. The 50-state average was 30.7%.
- North Carolina ranked 43rd in percentage of adults diagnosed with diabetes in 2013 at 11.4%. The 50-state average was 9.8%.
- Overweight and obese are labels for ranges of weight that are greater than what is generally considered healthy for a given height. The terms also identify ranges of weight that have been shown to increase the likelihood of certain diseases and other health problems.

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation data on adult overweight/obesity rate (2013) and overweight/obese children (2011); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2013).

9. Infant Mortality Rate

Rank		Rate
1	New Hampshire	4.8
2	Utah	5.0
2	Massachusetts	5.0
4	California	5.1
4	Washington	5.1
6	Oregon	5.2
7	Iowa	5.3
7	New Jersey	5.3
7	Vermont	5.3
10	Minnesota	5.4
11	New York	5.5
12	New Mexico	5.7
13	Nevada	5.8
14	Maine	5.9
14	Nebraska	5.9
16	Idaho	6.0
17	Connecticut	6.1
17	Hawaii	6.1
19	Texas	6.2
19	Colorado	6.2
21	Rhode Island	6.4
21	Arizona	6.4
21	Wisconsin	6.4
24	Alaska	6.5
25	Montana	6.6
25	North Dakota	6.6
	50-State Average	6.7
27	Wyoming	6.8
27	Kentucky	6.8
29	Illinois	7.0
30	Florida	7.1
30	South Dakota	7.1
32	Missouri	7.2
33	Virginia	7.3
33	Pennsylvania	7.3
35	Indiana	7.4
36	Kansas	7.5
37	West Virginia	7.6
37	Arkansas	7.6
39	Michigan	7.7
39	Ohio	7.7
39	Maryland	7.7
42	Georgia	7.8
42	Oklahoma	7.8
44	South Carolina	7.9
45	Delaware	8.0
46	Tennessee	8.2
	46 North Carolina	8.2
48	Louisiana	9.0
49	Alabama	9.2
50	Mississippi	10.0

Infant Mortality Rate



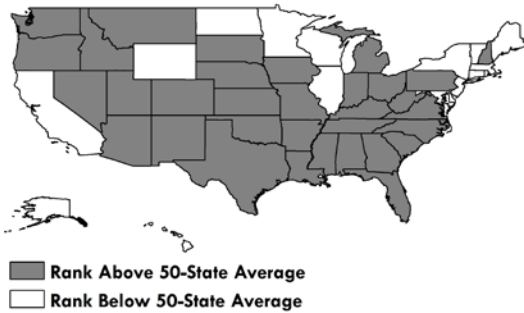
- States aspire to a low infant mortality rate and a low rate of low birthweight babies.
- North Carolina ranked 46th in infant mortality rate at 8.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2009. The 50-state average was 6.7. In 2008, North Carolina ranked 45th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's infant mortality rate for African-Americans was 12.5 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2013—more than twice the rate for white infants (5.5).
- The state's infant mortality rate has decreased more than 44% since 1988 when North Carolina had the highest infant mortality rate in the nation.

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation data on infant death rate (2009); N.C. State Center for Health Statistics data on infant mortality statistics (1988, 2013).

10. Per Capita State and Local Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Alabama	2,948
2	South Carolina	3,020
3	Idaho	3,043
4	Tennessee	3,094
5	Mississippi	3,254
6	Georgia	3,257
7	Florida	3,345
8	Utah	3,347
9	Arizona	3,386
10	Missouri	3,389
11	Kentucky	3,431
12	South Dakota	3,474
13	Oklahoma	3,481
14	Arkansas	3,524
15	North Carolina	3,533
16	Montana	3,603
17	New Mexico	3,622
18	Michigan	3,666
19	Louisiana	3,684
20	Indiana	3,750
21	Texas	3,751
22	Oregon	3,790
23	West Virginia	3,806
24	Nevada	3,849
25	New Hampshire	3,991
26	Virginia	4,053
27	Ohio	4,056
28	Colorado	4,084
29	Washington	4,268
30	Kansas	4,334
31	Nebraska	4,379
32	Iowa	4,412
33	Pennsylvania	4,469
	50-State Average	4,501
34	Delaware	4,575
35	Maine	4,617
36	Wisconsin	4,627
37	California	4,828
38	Rhode Island	4,978
39	Maryland	5,133
40	Vermont	5,136
41	Illinois	5,163
42	Minnesota	5,226
43	Hawaii	5,323
44	Massachusetts	5,573
45	New Jersey	6,075
46	Wyoming	6,672
47	Connecticut	6,953
48	New York	7,753
49	North Dakota	9,472
50	Alaska	11,851

Per Capita State and Local Taxes



- States aspire to have low per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 15th in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$3,533. The 50-state average was \$4,501. In Fiscal Year 2009-10, North Carolina ranked 17th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state and local taxes than Louisiana, Virginia, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2012.
- North Carolina ranked 12th in per capita local taxes in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$1,204. The 50-state average was \$1,658.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2012) and population estimates (2012).

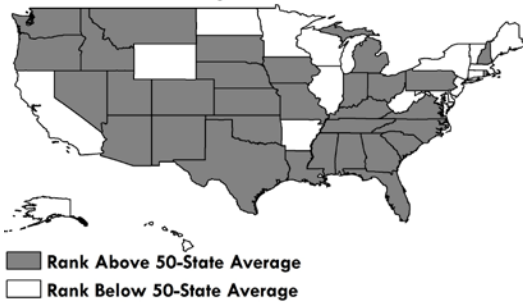
11. State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income

Rank		Percent
1	South Dakota	7.6
2	Tennessee	7.9
3	New Hampshire	8.0
4	Florida	8.1
5	Alabama	8.2
6	Virginia	8.3
7	Oklahoma	8.4
8	Missouri	8.5
8	South Carolina	8.5
10	Idaho	8.7
10	Texas	8.7
12	Georgia	8.8
12	Colorado	8.8
14	Louisiana	9.1
14	Washington	9.1
16	North Carolina	9.2
16	Montana	9.2
16	Arizona	9.2
19	Utah	9.3
20	Michigan	9.5
20	Nebraska	9.5
22	Maryland	9.6
22	Kentucky	9.6
24	Oregon	9.7
24	Arkansas	9.7
24	Mississippi	9.7
27	Pennsylvania	9.8
27	Massachusetts	9.8
27	Nevada	9.8
27	Indiana	9.8
31	Kansas	10.0
31	Iowa	10.0
33	Ohio	10.1
33	New Mexico	10.1
35	California	10.2
	50-State Average	10.2
36	Delaware	10.4
37	Rhode Island	10.8
37	West Virginia	10.8
39	Wisconsin	10.9
40	Minnesota	11.0
41	New Jersey	11.1
42	Illinois	11.2
43	Connecticut	11.5
44	Vermont	11.6
44	Maine	11.6
46	Hawaii	12.0
47	Wyoming	12.7
48	New York	14.3
49	North Dakota	16.8
50	Alaska	23.8

12. Per Capita State Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Florida	1,769
2	Georgia	1,781
3	New Hampshire	1,791
4	South Dakota	1,815
5	South Carolina	1,827
6	Missouri	1,843
7	Tennessee	1,904
8	Alabama	1,917
9	Texas	1,955
10	Louisiana	1,994
11	Arizona	2,033
12	Colorado	2,135
13	Utah	2,182
14	Idaho	2,220
15	Oklahoma	2,309
16	Virginia	2,323
17	Oregon	2,331
18	Ohio	2,362
19	North Carolina	2,414
20	Kentucky	2,461
21	Mississippi	2,475
22	New Mexico	2,494
23	Nevada	2,518
24	Nebraska	2,526
25	Michigan	2,535
26	Indiana	2,577
27	Montana	2,605
28	Kansas	2,633
29	Pennsylvania	2,659
30	Washington	2,678
31	Iowa	2,710
32	Rhode Island	2,796
	50-State Average	2,865
33	Wisconsin	2,877
34	West Virginia	2,900
35	Arkansas	2,901
36	Maine	2,924
37	Illinois	3,005
38	Maryland	3,056
39	New Jersey	3,267
40	California	3,474
41	Massachusetts	3,571
42	Delaware	3,615
43	New York	3,749
44	Wyoming	3,752
45	Minnesota	3,880
46	Hawaii	4,340
47	Connecticut	4,487
48	Vermont	4,594
49	Alaska	6,982
50	North Dakota	7,325

Per Capita State Taxes

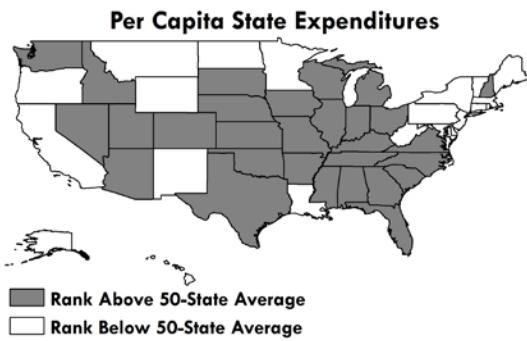


- States aspire to have low per capita state taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 19th in per capita state taxes in 2013 at \$2,414. The 50-state average was \$2,865. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 24th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state taxes than Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and West Virginia in 2013.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government tax collections and population estimates (2013).

13. Per Capita State Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Florida	4,115
2	Georgia	4,511
3	Arizona	4,766
4	Texas	4,817
5	Tennessee	4,879
6	Nevada	4,885
7	Nebraska	5,134
8	Idaho	5,202
9	Missouri	5,208
10	South Dakota	5,309
11	Colorado	5,443
12	Indiana	5,481
13	North Carolina	5,499
14	New Hampshire	5,621
15	Illinois	5,640
16	Virginia	5,712
17	Alabama	5,751
18	Kansas	5,803
19	South Carolina	5,883
20	Oklahoma	5,924
21	Utah	5,992
22	Michigan	6,246
23	Wisconsin	6,365
24	Washington	6,597
25	Ohio	6,629
26	Iowa	6,638
27	Arkansas	6,652
28	Kentucky	6,700
29	Mississippi	6,718
	50-State Average	6,765
30	Maine	6,807
31	Pennsylvania	6,843
32	Louisiana	6,885
33	Oregon	6,889
34	Maryland	6,973
35	California	7,019
36	Montana	7,027
37	West Virginia	7,127
38	Minnesota	7,178
39	New Jersey	7,685
40	Connecticut	7,902
41	Rhode Island	7,927
42	New Mexico	8,160
43	Hawaii	8,307
44	Massachusetts	8,499
45	North Dakota	9,027
46	Delaware	9,067
47	New York	9,260
48	Vermont	9,519
49	Wyoming	10,016
50	Alaska	16,036



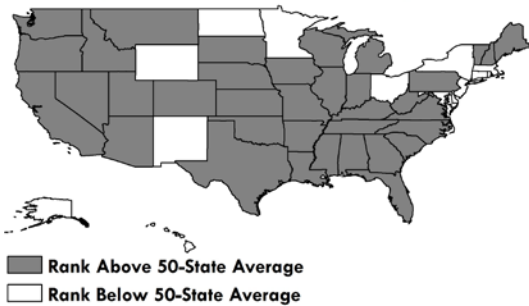
- States aspire to have low per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 13th in per capita state expenditures in 2012 at \$5,499. The 50-state average was \$6,765. In 2010, North Carolina ranked 12th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee had lower per capita state expenditures than North Carolina in 2012.
- Per capita state expenditures is a commonly used measure that allows comparisons across states regarding how much is spent per person in a state. This measure does not describe how state expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government finance (2012) and population estimates (2012).

14. Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Michigan	872
2	New Hampshire	969
3	Nevada	1,110
4	South Carolina	1,168
5	Florida	1,193
6	Arizona	1,284
7	Missouri	1,318
8	Colorado	1,409
9	Vermont	1,420
10	South Dakota	1,458
11	Mississippi	1,506
12	Alabama	1,508
13	Arkansas	1,554
14	Idaho	1,570
15	Utah	1,661
16	Texas	1,684
17	Oklahoma	1,702
18	Georgia	1,738
19	Montana	1,755
20	Oregon	1,776
21	Tennessee	1,810
22	Louisiana	1,813
23	Nebraska	1,857
24	Iowa	1,955
25	North Carolina	2,071
26	Virginia	2,075
27	Indiana	2,077
28	Kansas	2,113
29	Pennsylvania	2,118
30	Kentucky	2,131
31	Washington	2,215
32	West Virginia	2,233
33	California	2,271
34	Illinois	2,272
35	Maine	2,322
36	Wisconsin	2,337
	50-State Average	2,349
37	Maryland	2,541
38	New Mexico	2,605
39	Ohio	2,689
40	New York	2,886
41	Rhode Island	2,961
42	North Dakota	3,176
43	Minnesota	3,298
44	New Jersey	3,416
45	Massachusetts	3,613
46	Delaware	3,917
47	Hawaii	3,958
48	Wyoming	4,708
49	Connecticut	5,231
50	Alaska	10,117

Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures



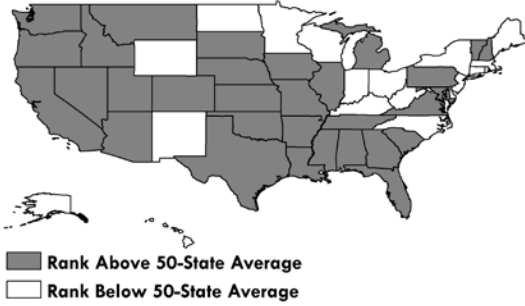
- States aspire to have low per capita state General Fund expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 25th in per capita state General Fund expenditures in Fiscal Year 2011-12 at \$2,071. The 50-state average was \$2,349. In Fiscal Year 2009-10, North Carolina ranked 26th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state General Fund expenditures than Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2011-12.
- Per capita state General Fund expenditures and state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how state General Fund expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Sources: Fiscal Year 2011-12 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2012, Fall); U.S. Census Bureau data on population estimates (2012).

15. State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income

Rank		Percent
1	New Hampshire	1.9
2	Michigan	2.3
3	Nevada	2.8
4	Florida	2.9
5	Colorado	3.0
6	South Dakota	3.2
6	Vermont	3.2
8	Missouri	3.3
8	South Carolina	3.3
10	Arizona	3.5
11	Texas	3.9
12	Nebraska	4.0
13	Oklahoma	4.1
14	Alabama	4.2
15	Virginia	4.3
15	Arkansas	4.3
17	Iowa	4.4
18	Louisiana	4.5
18	Idaho	4.5
18	Montana	4.5
18	Mississippi	4.5
18	Oregon	4.5
23	Utah	4.6
23	Tennessee	4.6
23	Pennsylvania	4.6
26	Georgia	4.7
26	Washington	4.7
26	Maryland	4.7
29	California	4.8
30	Kansas	4.9
30	Illinois	4.9
	50-State Average	5.3
32	New York	5.3
33	North Carolina	5.4
33	Indiana	5.4
35	Wisconsin	5.5
36	North Dakota	5.6
37	Maine	5.8
38	Kentucky	5.9
39	New Jersey	6.2
40	West Virginia	6.4
40	Massachusetts	6.4
40	Rhode Island	6.4
43	Ohio	6.7
44	Minnesota	7.0
45	New Mexico	7.3
46	Connecticut	8.7
47	Hawaii	8.9
47	Delaware	8.9
49	Wyoming	9.0
50	Alaska	20.3

General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Income

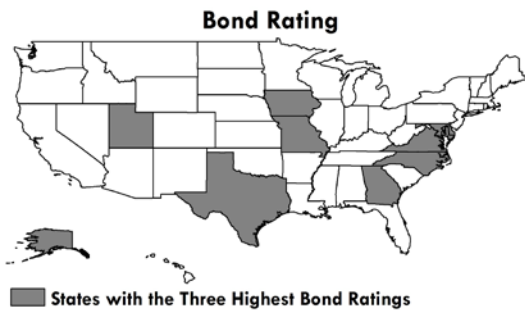


- States aspire to have low state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income.
- North Carolina ranked 33rd in state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2011-12 at 5.4%. The 50-state average was 5.3%. In Fiscal Year 2009-10, North Carolina ranked 32nd on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income than Kentucky and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2011-12.
- Per capita state General Fund expenditures and state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. These measures do not describe how state General Fund expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Sources: Fiscal Year 2011-12 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2012, Fall); U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on personal income (2012).

16. Bond Ratings

	Moody's	S&P	Fitch
Iowa	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Delaware	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Georgia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Maryland	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Missouri	Aaa	AAA	AAA
North Carolina	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Utah	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Virginia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Texas	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Alaska	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Wyoming	--	AAA	--
Florida	Aa1	AAA	AAA
South Carolina	Aaa	AA+	AAA
Tennessee	Aaa	AA+	AAA
Vermont	Aaa	AA+	AAA
Indiana	Aaa	AAA	AA+
New Mexico	Aaa	AA+	--
North Dakota	Aa1	AAA	--
Massachusetts	Aa1	AA+	AA+
Minnesota	Aa1	AA+	AA+
Ohio	Aa1	AA+	AA+
Oregon	Aa1	AA+	AA+
Washington	Aa1	AA+	AA+
Nebraska	Aa2	AAA	--
Oklahoma	Aa2	AA+	AA+
Alabama	Aa1	AA	AA+
Montana	Aa1	AA	AA+
New Hampshire	Aa1	AA	AA+
West Virginia	Aa1	AA	AA+
Idaho	Aa1	AA+	AA
New York	Aa1	AA+	AA
Colorado	Aa1	AA	--
Arkansas	Aa1	AA	--
Mississippi	Aa2	AA	AA+
Nevada	Aa2	AA	AA+
South Dakota	Aa2	AA+	AA
Kansas	Aa2	AA	--
Maine	Aa2	AA	AA
Hawaii	Aa2	AA	AA
Louisiana	Aa2	AA	AA
Rhode Island	Aa2	AA	AA
Wisconsin	Aa2	AA	AA
Connecticut	Aa3	AA	AA
Michigan	Aa2	AA	AA
Pennsylvania	Aa3	AA-	AA-
Kentucky	Aa2	AA-	A+
Arizona	Aa3	AA-	--
California	Aa3	A+	A
New Jersey	A1	A	A
Illinois	A3	A-	A-



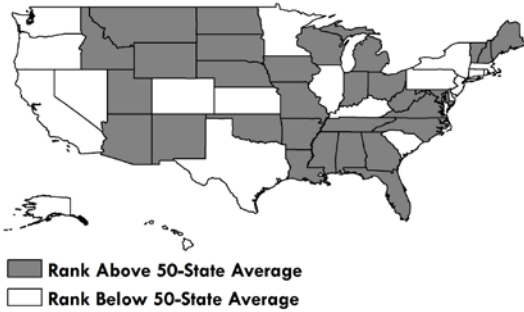
- States aspire to have high bond ratings from the three rating services (Moody's Investor Services, Standard & Poor's Corporation, and Fitch Ratings).
- North Carolina and nine other states ranked 1st in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2014, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services. In November 2012, North Carolina and seven other states ranked 1st on this indicator.
- States are ranked by the average value of their bond rating on a 10-point scale with a AAA rating equal to 10 points.
- State bond ratings affect the interest rates paid when state governments issue general obligation bonds. General obligation bonds are issued for funding permanent capital improvements such as buildings and roads. These bonds are repaid by levying taxes, and voter approval is required by the North Carolina Constitution.

Source: N.C. Department of the State Treasurer (2012, November).

17. Per Capita State and Local Debt

Rank		Debt in \$
1	Idaho	3,915
2	Wyoming	4,159
3	Arkansas	4,734
4	Mississippi	4,886
5	Oklahoma	4,925
6	North Carolina	5,207
7	Georgia	5,623
8	Montana	5,725
9	Tennessee	5,738
10	West Virginia	5,887
11	Iowa	5,911
12	Alabama	6,111
13	Maine	6,499
14	North Dakota	6,781
15	Utah	6,907
16	South Dakota	7,028
17	Ohio	7,037
18	Vermont	7,307
19	Arizona	7,487
20	Indiana	7,582
21	Florida	7,606
22	Wisconsin	7,614
23	Missouri	7,686
24	Michigan	7,725
25	Louisiana	7,811
26	Maryland	7,835
27	New Mexico	7,915
28	Virginia	7,981
29	Nebraska	8,139
30	New Hampshire	8,154
	50-State Average	8,328
31	South Carolina	8,551
32	Oregon	8,866
33	Delaware	8,978
34	Minnesota	9,006
35	Kansas	9,247
36	Kentucky	9,700
37	Colorado	9,907
38	Hawaii	10,073
39	Pennsylvania	10,140
40	Texas	10,389
41	Nevada	10,529
42	Washington	10,960
43	California	11,034
44	Illinois	11,358
45	Rhode Island	11,362
46	New Jersey	11,606
47	Connecticut	11,928
48	Alaska	12,984
49	Massachusetts	14,473
50	New York	17,378

Per Capita State and Local Debt



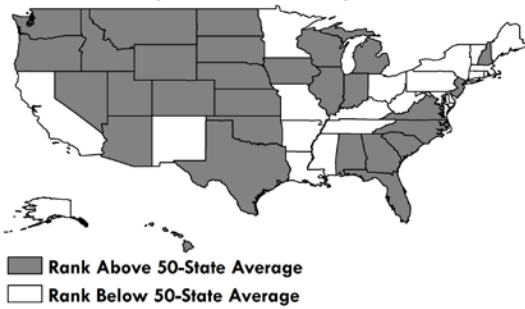
- States aspire to have low per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$5,207. The 50-state average was \$8,328. In Fiscal Year 2009-10, North Carolina ranked 8th on this indicator.
- In regards to state debt, North Carolina ranked 8th in per capita state debt in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$1,876. The 50-state average was \$3,836.
- Per capita state and local debt is a commonly used measure that allows easy comparisons across states. This measure does not describe how state and local debt might differ, for example, by the types of debt instruments available to state and local governments.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2012) and population estimates (2012).

18. Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Nevada	631
2	Utah	667
3	Virginia	844
4	Georgia	860
5	New Hampshire	898
5	South Dakota	898
7	Idaho	910
7	Colorado	910
9	Wyoming	917
10	Kansas	924
11	Florida	927
12	Nebraska	928
13	Montana	967
14	South Carolina	1,026
15	Illinois	1,041
16	Alabama	1,043
17	North Dakota	1,061
18	Hawaii	1,074
19	Texas	1,085
20	Washington	1,096
21	Iowa	1,137
22	Indiana	1,145
23	New Jersey	1,172
24	Oregon	1,176
25	Arizona	1,207
26	Oklahoma	1,217
27	Wisconsin	1,240
28	North Carolina	1,260
29	Michigan	1,261
	50-State Average	1,287
30	Kentucky	1,302
31	Maryland	1,306
32	California	1,320
33	Tennessee	1,363
34	Arkansas	1,410
35	Ohio	1,415
36	Missouri	1,449
37	Mississippi	1,495
38	West Virginia	1,502
39	Pennsylvania	1,598
40	Louisiana	1,599
41	Delaware	1,619
41	New Mexico	1,646
43	Minnesota	1,653
44	Rhode Island	1,767
45	Maine	1,816
46	Alaska	1,846
47	Connecticut	1,882
48	Massachusetts	1,945
49	Vermont	2,162
50	New York	2,723

Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures



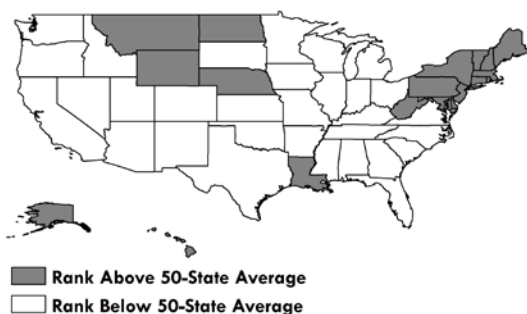
- States aspire to have low per capita Medicaid expenditures and low Medicaid enrollment.
- North Carolina ranked 28th in per capita Medicaid expenditures in Fiscal Year 2012 at \$1,260. The 50-state average was \$1,287. In Fiscal Year 2010, North Carolina ranked 25th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 27st in Medicaid enrollment as a percentage of population in Fiscal Year 2011 at 20.2%. The 50-state average was 20.3%.
- Total Medicaid expenditures include state and federal expenditures for benefit payments and disproportionate share hospital payments. Administrative costs and accounting adjustments are not included.

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation data on total Medicaid spending (2012) and total Medicaid enrollment as a percentage of total state population (2011).

19. Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12

Rank		Spending in \$
1	Alaska	26,255
2	New York	18,567
3	Wyoming	16,841
4	New Jersey	16,113
5	Connecticut	15,721
6	Rhode Island	14,303
7	New Hampshire	13,576
8	Massachusetts	13,358
9	Maryland	12,810
10	Nebraska	12,647
11	North Dakota	12,597
12	Vermont	12,541
13	Montana	12,452
14	Delaware	12,223
15	Hawaii	12,054
16	Maine	11,795
17	Pennsylvania	11,520
18	West Virginia	11,251
19	Louisiana	11,104
	50-State Average	10,934
20	Wisconsin	10,847
21	Kansas	10,662
22	Illinois	10,318
23	New Mexico	10,300
24	Nevada	10,098
25	Virginia	9,859
26	Minnesota	9,844
27	Oregon	9,787
28	Washington	9,717
29	Ohio	9,481
30	Iowa	9,339
31	Colorado	9,157
32	South Carolina	9,153
33	Georgia	9,099
34	Kentucky	9,030
35	Indiana	8,998
36	Michigan	8,940
37	Arkansas	8,938
38	Missouri	8,910
39	South Dakota	8,807
40	Texas	8,803
41	California	8,662
42	Florida	8,464
43	Mississippi	8,414
44	Alabama	8,399
45	North Carolina	8,127
46	Oklahoma	8,088
47	Tennessee	7,838
48	Arizona	7,654
49	Idaho	6,975
50	Utah	6,252

Expenditures Per Pupil, K–12



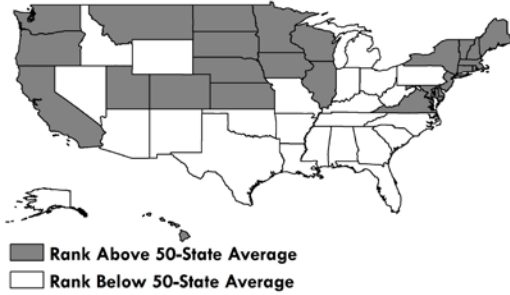
- States aspire to high spending per pupil in K–12 education.
- North Carolina ranked 45th in total spending (all sources) per pupil at \$8,127 in Fiscal Year 2012. The 50-state average was \$10,934. In 2010, North Carolina ranked 40th on this indicator.
- In previous editions, the Program Evaluation Division used state funding (revenues) per pupil instead of total expenditures (spending) per pupil. Because many states rely more heavily on local property taxes than North Carolina, reporting only state funding understates funding available in other states. The revised measure is uniform nationally and is adjusted for inflation to allow comparability across years.
- Although funding per pupil is not as useful of an indicator as spending per pupil, North Carolina ranked 47th in total revenues per pupil at \$8,562 in Fiscal Year 2012. The 50-state average was \$12,592. Revenue includes all federal, state, and local funding. North Carolina's reported total spending was lower than total revenues because spending refers only to current spending and does not include revenue used for financing and application of funds for long-term debt.

Source: Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education (2012).

20. Percentage of Adults with a High School Education or Less

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	52.0
2	Colorado	53.9
3	Connecticut	55.3
4	Minnesota	55.8
5	New Hampshire	56.0
6	Vermont	56.1
7	Maryland	56.3
8	Virginia	56.6
9	New Jersey	57.0
10	New York	57.3
11	Washington	57.7
12	Hawaii	58.4
13	North Dakota	59.1
13	Utah	59.1
15	Rhode Island	59.3
16	Illinois	60.3
17	Nebraska	60.8
17	Oregon	60.8
19	California	61.1
19	Kansas	61.1
21	South Dakota	62.0
22	Maine	62.2
23	Wisconsin	62.3
24	Iowa	62.5
25	Montana	62.6
25	Delaware	62.6
	50-State Average	62.7
27	Wyoming	62.7
	28 North Carolina	62.9
29	Florida	63.3
30	Pennsylvania	63.5
31	Alaska	63.7
32	Arizona	64.0
33	Michigan	64.2
34	Georgia	64.3
35	Idaho	64.7
36	South Carolina	65.0
37	Missouri	65.5
38	Ohio	65.7
39	New Mexico	65.8
40	Texas	65.9
41	Indiana	68.0
42	Alabama	68.5
43	Tennessee	68.6
44	Oklahoma	69.0
45	Nevada	69.3
46	Kentucky	69.8
47	Mississippi	71.2
48	Louisiana	72.0
49	Arkansas	73.3
50	West Virginia	74.3

Percentage with a High School Education or Less



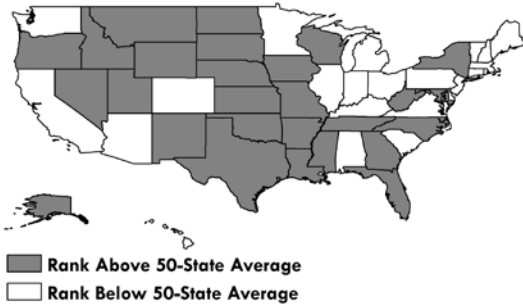
- States aspire to a low percentage of adults with a high school education or less and a high percentage of adults with a college degree.
- North Carolina ranked 28th in percentage of adults age 25 and over with a high school education or less in 2013 at 62.9%. The 50-state average was 62.7%. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 27th on this indicator.
- In North Carolina, 14.3% of adults have less than a high school education and 26.5% have no more than a high school diploma or equivalent. An additional 22% have a high school education and have attended some college, but do not have a college degree.
- North Carolina's high school graduation rate in 2014 was 83.9%.
- North Carolina ranked 28th in percentage of population age 25 and over with a college degree in 2013 at 37.1%. The 50-state average was 37.3%.
- The percentage of adults with a high school education or less measures the number of adults age 25 and over whose highest educational attainment is a high school diploma, an equivalent, or less. This measure includes adults that have attended college, but do not have a college degree.

Sources: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2013); N.C. Department of Public Instruction data on graduation rate (2014).

21. Average Annual In-State Tuition at Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

Rank		Tuition and Fees in \$
1	Wyoming	\$4,646
2	Alaska	\$6,138
3	Utah	\$6,177
4	New Mexico	\$6,190
5	Montana	\$6,279
6	Florida	\$6,351
7	Nevada	\$6,418
8	Idaho	\$6,602
9	West Virginia	\$6,661
10	North Carolina	\$6,677
11	Mississippi	\$6,861
12	Oklahoma	\$6,895
13	New York	\$7,292
14	Louisiana	\$7,314
15	Nebraska	\$7,404
16	North Dakota	\$7,513
17	Arkansas	\$7,567
18	South Dakota	\$7,653
19	Iowa	\$7,857
20	Kansas	\$8,086
21	Georgia	\$8,094
22	Missouri	\$8,383
23	Tennessee	\$8,541
24	Maryland	\$8,724
25	Wisconsin	\$8,781
26	Texas	\$8,830
27	Oregon	\$8,932
	50-State Average	\$9,012
28	Indiana	\$9,023
29	California	\$9,173
30	Kentucky	\$9,188
31	Maine	\$9,422
32	Alabama	\$9,470
33	Colorado	\$9,487
34	Hawaii	\$9,740
35	Ohio	\$10,100
36	Arizona	\$10,398
37	Minnesota	\$10,527
38	Connecticut	\$10,620
39	Washington	\$10,846
40	Virginia	\$10,899
41	Rhode Island	\$10,934
42	Massachusetts	\$10,951
43	Delaware	\$11,448
44	South Carolina	\$11,449
45	Michigan	\$11,909
46	Illinois	\$12,770
47	New Jersey	\$13,002
48	Pennsylvania	\$13,246
49	Vermont	\$14,419
50	New Hampshire	\$14,712

Average Annual In-State Tuition

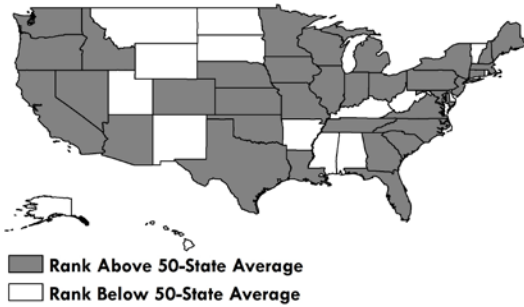


- States aspire to have low average annual in-state tuition at public four-year and two-year colleges and universities.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2014-15 at \$6,677. The 50-state average was \$9,012. North Carolina also ranked 10th on this indicator in 2012-13.
- With regards to two-year institutions, North Carolina ranked 4th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public two-year institutions in 2014-15 at \$2,305. The 50-state average was \$3,825.

22. State Government FTE Employment per 100 Persons

Rank		Employees
1	Florida	0.9
2	Nevada	1.0
2	Illinois	1.0
2	California	1.0
5	Arizona	1.1
6	Ohio	1.2
6	Texas	1.2
6	Wisconsin	1.2
9	New York	1.2
9	Pennsylvania	1.2
12	Georgia	1.3
12	Tennessee	1.3
14	Idaho	1.4
14	Indiana	1.4
14	New Hampshire	1.4
14	Colorado	1.4
14	Missouri	1.4
18	Massachusetts	1.5
18	Maryland	1.5
18	Michigan	1.5
18	Minnesota	1.5
18	North Carolina	1.5
18	Virginia	1.5
23	Iowa	1.6
23	Maine	1.6
23	Washington	1.6
23	New Jersey	1.6
28	South Carolina	1.7
28	Kansas	1.7
28	Oregon	1.7
28	Oklahoma	1.7
28	Connecticut	1.7
28	Louisiana	1.7
28	Nebraska	1.7
	50-State Average	1.7
35	South Dakota	1.8
35	Alabama	1.8
35	Rhode Island	1.8
38	Utah	1.9
38	Mississippi	1.9
38	Kentucky	1.9
41	Montana	2.0
42	Arkansas	2.2
42	New Mexico	2.2
42	West Virginia	2.2
45	Wyoming	2.4
45	Vermont	2.4
47	North Dakota	2.7
48	Delaware	2.9
49	Alaska	3.7
50	Hawaii	4.1

State Government FTE Employment



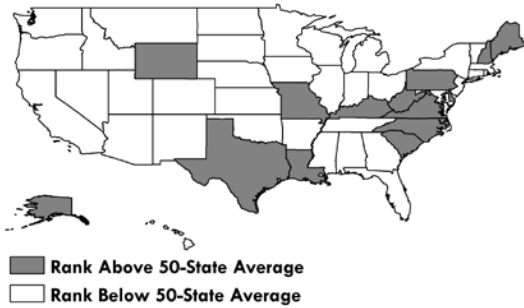
- States aspire to have low state government employment.
- North Carolina ranked 18th in state government full-time equivalent (FTE) employment in 2012 at 1.5 positions per 100 persons. The 50-state average was 1.7. In 2011, North Carolina ranked 24th on this indicator.
- The average salary for North Carolina state employees (not including employees in public schools, community colleges, or the University of North Carolina System) was \$44,591 in Fiscal Year 2013-14.
- In terms of state and local government FTE employment, North Carolina ranked 37th in 2012 at 5.8 positions per 100 residents. The 50-state average was 5.5.
- FTE represents the number of full-time employees that could have been employed if all part-time hours had been worked by full-time employees.
- States vary as to whether certain major functions are provided by state or local government. The U.S. Census Bureau data on state government FTE does not consider public school teachers and administrators in North Carolina to be state employees.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government employment and payroll (2012) and population estimates (2012); Fiscal Research Division (2014, December).

23. Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State

Rank		Percent
1	West Virginia	89.3
2	Delaware	84.3
3	Virginia	78.2
4	North Carolina	74.8
5	South Carolina	62.5
6	Maine	36.6
7	Kentucky	34.8
8	Alaska	34.4
9	Pennsylvania	33.2
10	Louisiana	27.2
11	Missouri	25.7
12	Texas	25.6
13	New Hampshire	24.4
14	Wyoming	24.1
	50-State Average	21.8
15	Hawaii	21.5
16	Vermont	18.3
17	New Mexico	17.5
18	Connecticut	17.4
19	Rhode Island	17.0
20	Arkansas	16.4
21	Maryland	15.9
22	Ohio	15.6
23	Montana	14.7
24	Tennessee	14.5
24	Mississippi	14.5
26	Georgia	14.3
27	Nevada	13.7
28	New York	13.1
28	Oregon	12.9
30	Utah	12.8
31	Indiana	11.3
32	Illinois	11.1
33	Oklahoma	10.9
33	Alabama	10.7
35	Nebraska	10.6
36	Arizona	10.3
36	Idaho	10.3
38	Colorado	10.2
38	Wisconsin	10.2
40	Florida	9.9
41	South Dakota	9.5
41	California	8.6
43	Minnesota	8.5
43	North Dakota	8.5
45	Washington	8.4
46	Massachusetts	8.3
47	Michigan	7.9
47	Iowa	7.8
49	Kansas	7.3
50	New Jersey	5.9

Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State



- This indicator was ranked from the highest value to the lowest value.
- North Carolina ranked 4th in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2012 at 74.8%. The 50-state average was 21.8%. In 2009, North Carolina also ranked 4th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 16th in miles of roads maintained by the state in 2012 with 106,063 miles. The 50-state average was 81,825 miles.
- North Carolina was the first state in the country to create and maintain a statewide highway system. North Carolina state government also is responsible for all non-municipal roads within county boundaries.
- Roads not maintained by state government are maintained by local government (county, municipality, or other jurisdictions) or a federal agency.

Sources: Highway Statistics, Federal Highway Administration (2012); Our State, Our Money: A Citizen's Guide to the North Carolina Budget (2003).

Methodology

The data in this compendium represent the most current information available for all 50 states (data on the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico were not included) as of December 2014. The Program Evaluation Division identified the best source of data for each table. When necessary, calculations were done to provide the information in the most useful format.

As shown in the source notes for each indicator, the majority of data are from the U.S. Census Bureau or other federal agencies such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Data on several of the health tables were obtained from the Kaiser Family Foundation, a leader in collecting health-related data for the U.S. For more detailed information on sources, please contact the Program Evaluation Division.

The data tables display values for each state in whole numbers or to one decimal point. Each state was then ranked according to these data. If two or more states had the same value, they were given the same ranking and listed in alphabetical order.

The data tables also display the 50-state average, allowing the reader to compare North Carolina to the average of other states. This average was calculated by summing each state's value and dividing by 50. This number differs from national averages, which are typically weighted and include the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Each map indicates the states that rank at or above the 50-state average (in gray) and below the 50-state average (in white).

Tables 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, and 18 present per capita information. For each table, the data were collected and divided by the total population for the year the data were reported.

Tables 11 and 15 present information as a percentage of personal income. The calculation for these tables is similar to per capita, but instead of dividing by state population, the data were divided by each state's total personal income.

The information in Table 22, State Government FTE Employment per 100 Persons, was calculated by dividing each state's full-time equivalent employment by the state's population and multiplying the result by 100.

For more information on this compendium, please contact the lead for this project, Josh Love, at josh.love@ncleg.net or 919-301-1392.

Staff members who made key contributions to this compendium include Jeff Grimes, Chuck Hefren, and Jim Horne. John W. Turcotte is the director of the Program Evaluation Division.