

# How North Carolina Compares



## A Compendium of State Statistics

**March 2017**



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

## 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 fifth edition of this 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 ii, 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 prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

John W. Turcotte  
Director  
Program Evaluation Division

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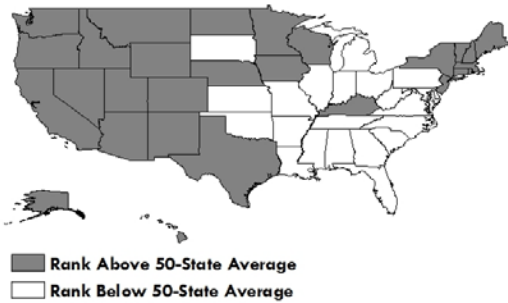
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An explanation of our methodology appears at the end of the compendium.

## 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	
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>7.0</b>		
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	
	<b>44</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>8.8</b>	
	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

<b>Table</b>		<b>Measure</b>	<b>Rank</b>
1	Population	10,146,788	9
2	Percentage Change in Population	14.6%	8
3	Median Household Income	\$47,830	41
4	Unemployment Rate	5.7%	34
5	Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations	2.8%	18
6	Percentage of Population Living in Poverty	16.4%	39
7	Percentage of Population Without Health Insurance	13.1%	40
8	Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese	65.8%	26
9	Infant Mortality Rate	7.1	42
10	Per Capita State and Local Taxes	\$3,625	13
11	State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income	9.2%	16
12	Per Capita State Taxes	\$2,497	19
13	Per Capita State Expenditures	\$5,145	8
14	Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures	\$2,037	23
15	State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income	5.2%	31
16	Bond Ratings	AAA	1
17	Per Capita State and Local Debt	\$5,040	5
18	Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures	\$1,344	19
19	Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12	\$8,287	44
20	Percentage with High School Education or Less	61.3%	25
21	Average Annual In-State Tuition	\$7,203	9
22	State Government FTE Employment	1.4	14
23	Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State	74.8%	4

## Highlights

- North Carolina and 10 other states ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2016, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services.
- North Carolina ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2014 at 74.8%.
- North Carolina ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$5,040. Forty-five other states had higher per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in population growth, increasing by 14.6% between 2006 and 2016.
- North Carolina ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in per capita state expenditures in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$5,145. Forty-two other states had higher per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2016-17 at \$7,203. The 50-state average was \$9,581. Forty-one other states had higher tuition and fees.
- North Carolina ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in population in 2016 with 10,146,788 residents.
- North Carolina ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$3,625. Thirty-seven other states had higher per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina and four other states ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in state government full-time equivalent (FTE) employment in 2014 at 1.4 positions per 100 persons.
- North Carolina and one other state ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at 9.2%.

## Change in Rank

To determine change in rank, the rank for each indicator was compared to that indicator's rank in the last edition of this compendium, which was published in 2015.

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 8<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in this compendium and 13<sup>th</sup> 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 percentage of population without health insurance because North Carolina ranked 40<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in this compendium and 35<sup>th</sup> 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 per capita state taxes because North Carolina ranked 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

		<b>Tally</b>
<b>↑</b>	Rank improved	15
<b>↓</b>	Rank declined	3
<b>=</b>	Rank stayed the same	5



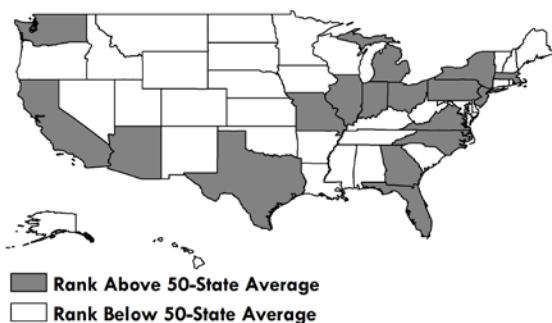
## Change in Rank

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

# 1. Population

Rank		Population
1	California	39,250,017
2	Texas	27,862,596
3	Florida	20,612,439
4	New York	19,745,289
5	Illinois	12,801,539
6	Pennsylvania	12,784,227
7	Ohio	11,614,373
8	Georgia	10,310,371
<b>9</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>10,146,788</b>
10	Michigan	9,928,300
11	New Jersey	8,944,469
12	Virginia	8,411,808
13	Washington	7,288,000
14	Arizona	6,931,071
15	Massachusetts	6,811,779
16	Indiana	6,651,194
17	Missouri	6,633,053
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>6,448,927</b>
18	Tennessee	6,093,000
19	Maryland	6,016,447
20	Wisconsin	5,778,708
21	Colorado	5,540,545
22	Minnesota	5,519,952
23	South Carolina	4,961,119
24	Alabama	4,863,300
25	Louisiana	4,681,666
26	Kentucky	4,436,974
27	Oregon	4,093,465
28	Oklahoma	3,923,561
29	Connecticut	3,576,452
30	Iowa	3,134,693
31	Utah	3,051,217
32	Mississippi	2,988,726
33	Arkansas	2,988,248
34	Nevada	2,940,058
35	Kansas	2,907,289
36	New Mexico	2,081,015
37	Nebraska	1,907,116
38	West Virginia	1,831,102
39	Idaho	1,683,140
40	Hawaii	1,428,557
41	New Hampshire	1,334,795
42	Maine	1,331,479
43	Rhode Island	1,056,426
44	Montana	1,042,520
45	Delaware	952,065
46	South Dakota	865,454
47	North Dakota	757,952
48	Alaska	741,894
49	Vermont	624,594
50	Wyoming	585,501

## Population

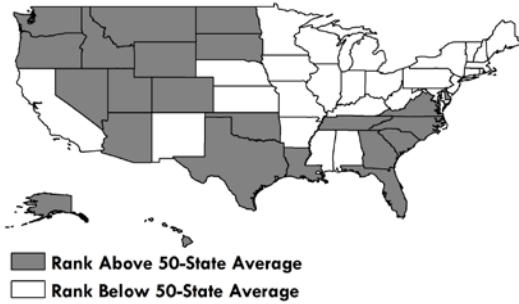


- This indicator was ranked from the highest value to the lowest value.
- North Carolina ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in population in 2016 with 10,146,788 residents. The 50-state average was 6,448,927. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 10<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina and three other states (Florida, Georgia, and Virginia) were above the 50-state average.

## 2. Percentage Change in Population

Rank		Percent
1	Utah	19.7
2	North Dakota	19.2
3	Texas	18.5
4	Nevada	17.8
5	Colorado	16.6
6	South Carolina	14.8
6	Idaho	14.8
<b>8</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>14.6</b>
9	Washington	13.9
9	Florida	13.9
11	Wyoming	13.7
12	Arizona	12.4
13	Delaware	11.6
14	Hawaii	11.1
15	Alaska	10.7
15	South Dakota	10.7
17	Oregon	10.6
18	Montana	10.4
19	Tennessee	10.1
19	Georgia	10.1
19	Virginia	10.1
22	Oklahoma	9.6
23	Louisiana	9.2
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>8.0</b>
24	Nebraska	7.8
25	California	7.7
26	Maryland	7.1
27	Minnesota	6.8
28	New Mexico	6.5
29	Arkansas	6.3
30	Massachusetts	5.8
31	Alabama	5.7
32	Kentucky	5.5
33	Kansas	5.2
34	Iowa	5.1
34	Indiana	5.1
36	Missouri	4.3
37	Wisconsin	4.0
38	Pennsylvania	2.8
39	Mississippi	2.7
39	New Jersey	2.5
41	New York	2.3
42	Connecticut	2.0
43	New Hampshire	1.5
44	Ohio	1.2
45	Maine	0.7
45	West Virginia	0.7
47	Vermont	0.1
48	Illinois	-0.2
49	Rhode Island	-1.0
50	Michigan	-1.7

## Percentage Change in Population



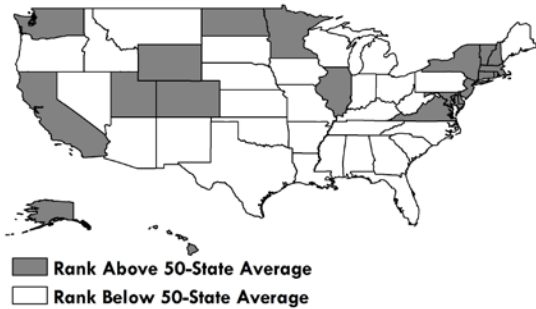
- States aspire to have population growth.
- North Carolina ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in population growth, increasing by 14.6% between 2006 and 2016. The 50-state average was 8%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 6<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina's population increased from 8,856,505 residents in 2006 to 10,146,788 in 2016, an increase of almost 1.3 million people.
- Based on population estimates, the number of foreign-born residents in North Carolina increased by 10.5% between 2010 and 2015. The 50-state average was 11.7%.
- Based on population estimates, the number of North Carolinians over the age of 65 increased by 22.2% between 2010 and 2015. The 49-state average was 17.9% (Alaska did not report 2010 data for this indicator).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2006, 2016); American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2010, 2015).

### 3. Median Household Income

Rank		Income in \$
1	Maryland	75,847
2	Hawaii	73,486
3	Alaska	73,355
4	New Jersey	72,222
5	Connecticut	71,346
6	Massachusetts	70,628
7	New Hampshire	70,303
8	Virginia	66,262
9	California	64,500
10	Washington	64,129
11	Colorado	63,909
12	Minnesota	63,488
13	Utah	62,912
14	Delaware	61,255
15	New York	60,850
16	North Dakota	60,557
17	Wyoming	60,214
18	Illinois	59,588
19	Rhode Island	58,073
20	Vermont	56,990
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>56,022</b>
21	Pennsylvania	55,702
22	Texas	55,653
23	Wisconsin	55,638
24	Nebraska	54,996
25	Iowa	54,736
26	Oregon	54,148
27	Kansas	53,906
28	South Dakota	53,017
29	Nevada	52,431
30	Maine	51,494
31	Arizona	51,492
32	Georgia	51,244
33	Michigan	51,084
34	Ohio	51,075
35	Indiana	50,532
36	Missouri	50,238
37	Montana	49,509
38	Florida	49,426
39	Oklahoma	48,568
40	Idaho	48,275
<b>41</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>47,830</b>
42	Tennessee	47,275
43	South Carolina	47,238
44	Louisiana	45,727
45	New Mexico	45,382
46	Kentucky	45,215
47	Alabama	44,765
48	West Virginia	42,019
49	Arkansas	41,995
50	Mississippi	40,593

## Median Household Income



- States aspire to a high median household income.
- North Carolina ranked 41<sup>st</sup> in median household income in 2015 at \$47,830. The 50-state average was \$56,022. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 40<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina's median household income increased by 4.2% (\$1,924) from 2013 to 2015.
- 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.

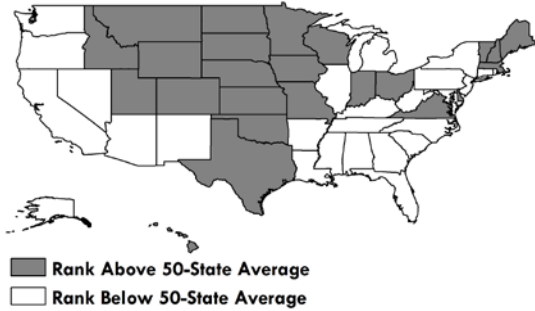
Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2013, 2015).

## 4. Unemployment Rate

Rank		Rate
1	North Dakota	2.7
2	Nebraska	3.0
3	South Dakota	3.1
4	New Hampshire	3.4
5	Utah	3.5
6	Hawaii	3.6
7	Iowa	3.7
7	Minnesota	3.7
7	Vermont	3.7
10	Colorado	3.9
11	Idaho	4.1
11	Montana	4.1
13	Kansas	4.2
13	Oklahoma	4.2
13	Wyoming	4.2
16	Maine	4.4
16	Virginia	4.4
18	Texas	4.5
19	Wisconsin	4.6
20	Indiana	4.8
21	Delaware	4.9
21	Ohio	4.9
23	Massachusetts	5.0
23	Missouri	5.0
<b>50-State Average</b>		<b>5.0</b>
25	Pennsylvania	5.1
26	Arkansas	5.2
26	Maryland	5.2
28	New York	5.3
29	Florida	5.4
29	Kentucky	5.4
29	Michigan	5.4
32	Connecticut	5.6
32	New Jersey	5.6
<b>34</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5.7</b>
34	Oregon	5.7
34	Washington	5.7
37	Tennessee	5.8
38	Georgia	5.9
38	Illinois	5.9
40	Rhode Island	6.0
40	South Carolina	6.0
42	Alabama	6.1
42	Arizona	6.1
44	California	6.2
45	Louisiana	6.3
46	Alaska	6.5
46	Mississippi	6.5
48	New Mexico	6.6
49	Nevada	6.7
49	West Virginia	6.7



## Unemployment Rate



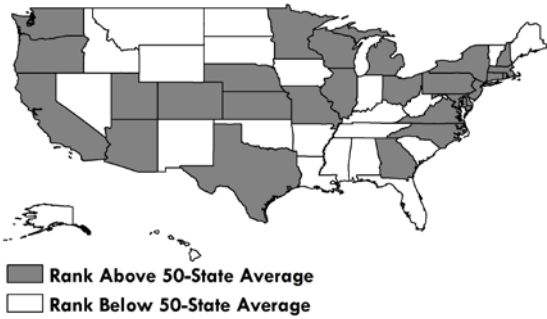
- States aspire to a low rate of unemployment.
- North Carolina ranked 34<sup>th</sup> in annual unemployment rate in 2015 at 5.7%. The 50-state average was 5%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 39<sup>th</sup> on this indicator with an 8% unemployment rate.
- The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed and actively looking for work divided by the labor force.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2013, 2015).

## 5. Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations

Rank		Percent
1	Virginia	5.3
2	Washington	4.8
3	Maryland	4.6
4	Colorado	4.0
4	Massachusetts	4.0
6	California	3.5
6	New Jersey	3.5
6	Delaware	3.5
9	Arizona	3.4
9	Minnesota	3.4
11	Georgia	3.2
12	Utah	3.1
12	Texas	3.1
14	Rhode Island	2.9
14	Illinois	2.9
14	New Hampshire	2.9
14	Missouri	2.9
18	Connecticut	2.8
<b>18</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>2.8</b>
18	Oregon	2.8
18	Nebraska	2.8
22	New York	2.7
23	Pennsylvania	2.6
23	Kansas	2.6
23	Ohio	2.6
26	Wisconsin	2.5
26	Michigan	2.5
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>2.5</b>
28	Florida	2.3
29	Vermont	2.2
30	Idaho	2.1
30	Iowa	2.1
32	Alabama	2.0
33	Arkansas	1.9
33	South Carolina	1.9
33	Oklahoma	1.9
36	New Mexico	1.8
36	Maine	1.8
36	Indiana	1.8
36	Montana	1.8
40	South Dakota	1.7
40	Tennessee	1.7
40	Kentucky	1.7
43	Alaska	1.6
44	Hawaii	1.5
45	North Dakota	1.4
45	Nevada	1.4
45	West Virginia	1.4
48	Louisiana	1.1
49	Mississippi	1.0
50	Wyoming	0.9

## Percentage in Computer or Math Occupations

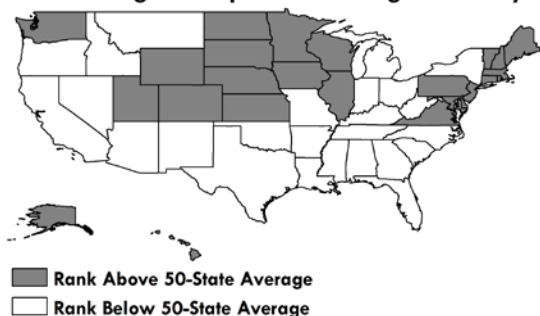


- States aspire to high employment in computer and math occupations; these positions typically offer high salaries.
- North Carolina ranked 18<sup>th</sup> in percentage employed in computer or math occupations in 2015 at 2.8%. The 50-state average was 2.5%. North Carolina also ranked 18<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in 2013.
- In North Carolina, the 2015 average annual salary for computer and math occupations was \$82,770, whereas the average annual salary for all occupations was \$44,170.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Georgia and Virginia 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	8.2
2	Maryland	9.7
3	Minnesota	10.2
3	Vermont	10.2
5	Alaska	10.3
6	Connecticut	10.5
7	Hawaii	10.6
8	New Jersey	10.8
9	North Dakota	11.0
10	Wyoming	11.1
11	Virginia	11.2
12	Utah	11.3
13	Massachusetts	11.5
13	Colorado	11.5
15	Wisconsin	12.1
16	Iowa	12.2
16	Washington	12.2
18	Delaware	12.4
19	Nebraska	12.6
20	Kansas	13.0
21	Pennsylvania	13.2
22	Maine	13.4
23	Illinois	13.6
24	South Dakota	13.7
25	Rhode Island	13.9
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>14.2</b>
26	Indiana	14.5
27	Montana	14.6
28	Nevada	14.7
29	Ohio	14.8
29	Missouri	14.8
31	Idaho	15.1
32	California	15.3
33	Oregon	15.4
33	New York	15.4
35	Florida	15.7
36	Michigan	15.8
37	Texas	15.9
38	Oklahoma	16.1
<b>39</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>16.4</b>
40	South Carolina	16.6
41	Tennessee	16.7
42	Georgia	17.0
43	Arizona	17.4
44	West Virginia	17.9
45	Alabama	18.5
45	Kentucky	18.5
47	Arkansas	19.1
48	Louisiana	19.6
49	New Mexico	20.4
50	Mississippi	22.0

## Percentage of Population Living in Poverty



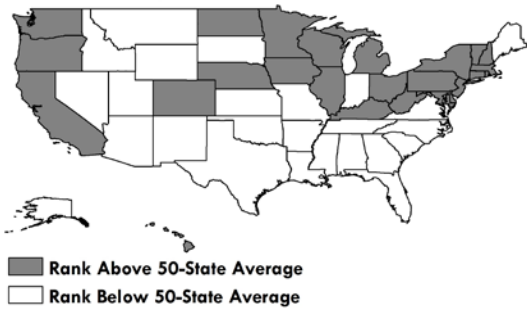
- States aspire to a low percentage of population living in poverty.
- North Carolina ranked 39<sup>th</sup> in percentage of population in poverty in 2015 at 16.4%. The 50-state average was 14.2%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 40<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians living in poverty in 2015 was 1,607,835.
- The U.S. Census Bureau uses thresholds to estimate the number of Americans living in poverty. These thresholds are updated annually; the 2015 poverty threshold was \$24,036 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 2015 (\$48,072 for a family of four with two children) was 37.3%. The 50-state average was 32.1%.
- In 2015, the number of children (under age 18) in North Carolina living in poverty was 529,635, or 23.5% of the youth population. The 50-state average was 19.5%.

Sources: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2015); U.S. Census Bureau (2015).

## 7. Percentage of Population Under Age 65 Without Health Insurance

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	3.3
2	Vermont	4.6
3	Hawaii	4.7
4	Minnesota	5.2
5	Iowa	5.9
6	Wisconsin	6.6
7	Rhode Island	6.7
8	Delaware	6.8
9	Connecticut	6.9
10	Kentucky	7.0
11	Michigan	7.1
12	West Virginia	7.2
13	Maryland	7.5
13	New Hampshire	7.5
13	Pennsylvania	7.5
16	Washington	7.6
16	Ohio	7.6
18	Illinois	8.1
18	New York	8.1
20	Oregon	8.3
21	North Dakota	8.9
22	Colorado	9.2
23	Nebraska	9.5
24	California	9.7
25	New Jersey	10.0
<b>50-State Average</b>		<b>10.2</b>
26	Maine	10.3
27	Virginia	10.5
28	Kansas	10.6
29	Arkansas	11.1
30	Indiana	11.2
31	Missouri	11.4
32	Utah	11.5
33	Alabama	11.9
34	South Dakota	12.0
34	Tennessee	12.0
36	Arizona	12.8
36	New Mexico	12.8
38	South Carolina	12.9
38	Idaho	12.9
<b>40</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>13.1</b>
41	Wyoming	13.4
42	Louisiana	13.8
43	Nevada	14.0
43	Montana	14.0
45	Mississippi	14.8
46	Georgia	15.7
47	Oklahoma	16.2
47	Florida	16.2
49	Alaska	16.4
50	Texas	19.1

## Percentage Without Health Insurance



- States aspire to a low percentage of population without health insurance.
- North Carolina ranked 40<sup>th</sup> in percentage of population under age 65 without health insurance in 2015 at 13.1%. The 50-state average was 10.2%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 35<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance in 2015 was approximately 1.1 million people.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance decreased by 27% between 2013 and 2015, a decrease of 405,296 persons.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Kentucky and West Virginia's percentages 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 Healthcare.gov, Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, state-specific plans, and the Indian Health Service.

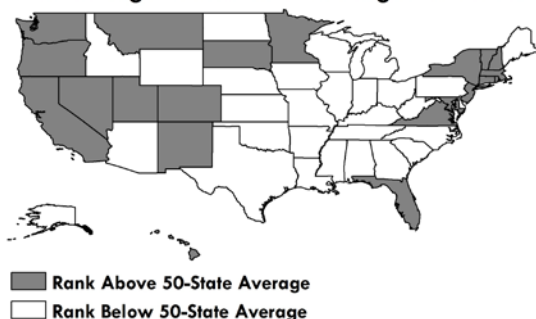
Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2015).

## 8. Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese

Rank		Percent
1	Colorado	56.6
2	Hawaii	57.0
3	New York	59.5
4	Massachusetts	59.7
4	Utah	59.7
6	Vermont	59.9
7	California	60.4
8	Montana	61.0
9	Connecticut	61.6
10	Washington	62.5
11	Rhode Island	62.7
12	Minnesota	62.9
13	New Jersey	63.4
14	New Hampshire	63.6
15	Florida	64.1
15	Virginia	64.1
17	New Mexico	64.5
17	Oregon	64.5
17	South Dakota	64.5
20	Nevada	64.7
21	Maryland	65.0
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>65.0</b>
22	Idaho	65.2
23	Arizona	65.3
24	Wyoming	65.4
25	Georgia	65.5
<b>26</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>65.8</b>
27	Wisconsin	66.0
28	Illinois	66.2
28	Michigan	66.2
28	Pennsylvania	66.2
28	South Carolina	66.2
32	Missouri	66.3
33	Indiana	66.5
33	Maine	66.5
33	Ohio	66.5
36	Iowa	66.7
37	Delaware	66.8
38	Nebraska	67.0
38	North Dakota	67.0
40	Alaska	67.2
40	Kentucky	67.2
42	Kansas	68.0
43	Alabama	68.7
43	Tennessee	68.7
43	Texas	68.7
46	Oklahoma	68.9
47	Louisiana	69.2
48	Arkansas	69.5
49	Mississippi	70.1
50	West Virginia	71.1



## Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese



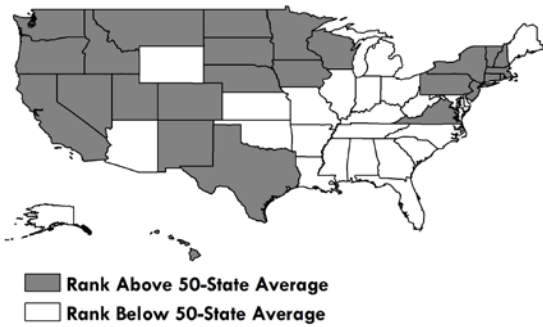
- States aspire to a low percentage of people who are overweight, obese, or diagnosed with diseases related to obesity.
- North Carolina ranked 26<sup>th</sup> in percentage of adults classified as overweight or obese in 2015 at 65.8%. The 50-state average was 65%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 31<sup>st</sup> in percentage of adults diagnosed with diabetes in 2015 at 10.7%. The 50-state average was 10.2%.
- 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 (2015); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015).

## 9. Infant Mortality Rate

Rank		Rate
1	California	4.3
1	New Hampshire	4.3
3	Massachusetts	4.4
3	New Jersey	4.4
3	Rhode Island	4.4
6	Hawaii	4.5
6	Washington	4.5
8	Vermont	4.6
9	New York	4.7
10	Colorado	4.8
10	Iowa	4.8
12	Connecticut	4.9
12	Utah	4.9
14	North Dakota	5.0
14	Minnesota	5.0
16	Nebraska	5.1
16	Oregon	5.1
18	New Mexico	5.4
19	Idaho	5.5
19	Montana	5.5
19	Nevada	5.5
22	Wisconsin	5.7
23	Virginia	5.8
24	Texas	5.9
24	South Dakota	5.9
24	Pennsylvania	5.9
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>5.9</b>
27	Florida	6.1
27	Missouri	6.1
29	Arizona	6.2
30	Kansas	6.3
31	Wyoming	6.4
32	South Carolina	6.5
32	Maryland	6.5
32	Michigan	6.5
35	Alaska	6.6
35	Illinois	6.6
37	Maine	6.7
37	Delaware	6.7
39	Ohio	6.9
39	Tennessee	6.9
41	West Virginia	7.0
42	Indiana	7.1
	<b>42 North Carolina</b>	<b>7.1</b>
42	Kentucky	7.1
45	Georgia	7.5
45	Louisiana	7.5
45	Arkansas	7.5
48	Oklahoma	8.1
49	Mississippi	8.2
50	Alabama	8.7

## Infant Mortality Rate



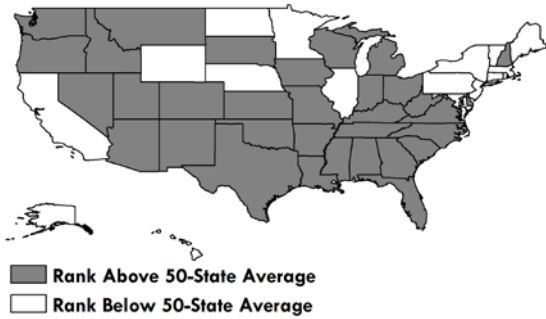
- States aspire to a low infant mortality rate and a low rate of low birthweight babies.
- North Carolina ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in infant mortality rate at 7.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014. The 50-state average was 5.9. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 46<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina's infant mortality rate for African-Americans was 12.1 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014—more than twice the rate for white infants (5.4).
- 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 (2014); N.C. State Center for Health Statistics data on infant mortality statistics (1988, 2014).

## 10. Per Capita State and Local Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Alabama	3,004
2	Tennessee	3,093
3	South Carolina	3,221
4	Idaho	3,237
5	Florida	3,325
6	Arizona	3,350
7	Georgia	3,380
8	Missouri	3,475
9	Mississippi	3,503
10	Utah	3,506
11	Oklahoma	3,567
12	Kentucky	3,607
<b>13</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>3,625</b>
14	South Dakota	3,687
15	Indiana	3,749
16	Arkansas	3,756
17	Michigan	3,774
18	Montana	3,841
19	Nevada	3,882
20	Louisiana	3,890
21	West Virginia	3,957
22	New Mexico	3,972
23	Texas	4,050
24	Oregon	4,103
25	Ohio	4,208
26	Virginia	4,209
27	New Hampshire	4,325
28	Colorado	4,370
29	Kansas	4,382
30	Delaware	4,412
31	Iowa	4,426
32	Washington	4,563
33	Wisconsin	4,584
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>4,610</b>
34	Pennsylvania	4,708
35	Maine	4,805
36	Nebraska	4,883
37	Rhode Island	5,172
38	California	5,464
39	Illinois	5,504
40	Vermont	5,540
41	Maryland	5,609
42	Minnesota	5,645
43	Hawaii	5,721
44	Wyoming	5,950
45	Massachusetts	6,018
46	New Jersey	6,458
47	Connecticut	7,255
48	Alaska	7,559
49	New York	8,423
50	North Dakota	9,747

## Per Capita State and Local Taxes



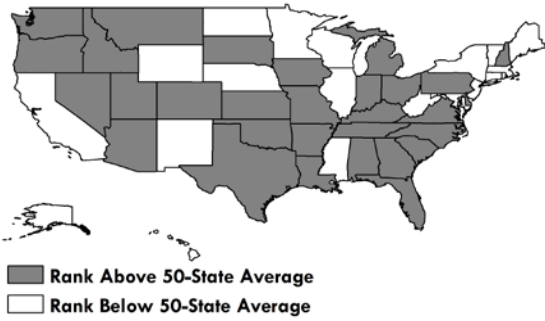
- States aspire to have low per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$3,625. The 50-state average was \$4,610. In Fiscal Year 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 15<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state and local taxes than Arkansas, Louisiana, Virginia, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2013-14.
- North Carolina ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in per capita local taxes in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$1,262. The 50-state average was \$1,740.
- 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 (2013-14) and population estimates (2014).

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

Rank		Percent
1	Tennessee	7.7
1	Florida	7.7
3	Oklahoma	7.9
4	South Dakota	8.0
5	New Hampshire	8.1
5	Alabama	8.1
7	Virginia	8.4
7	Missouri	8.4
9	Georgia	8.7
9	Idaho	8.7
9	South Carolina	8.7
12	Colorado	8.8
12	Arizona	8.8
12	Texas	8.8
15	Washington	9.0
<b>16</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>9.2</b>
16	Michigan	9.2
18	Indiana	9.3
18	Louisiana	9.3
18	Utah	9.3
21	Kansas	9.4
22	Montana	9.5
23	Nevada	9.6
24	Delaware	9.7
24	Kentucky	9.7
26	Pennsylvania	9.8
26	Oregon	9.8
28	Iowa	10.0
28	Ohio	10.0
28	Arkansas	10.0
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>10.0</b>
31	Massachusetts	10.1
31	Nebraska	10.1
33	Mississippi	10.3
33	Wisconsin	10.3
35	Maryland	10.4
36	Wyoming	10.6
37	California	10.7
38	Rhode Island	10.8
38	New Mexico	10.8
40	Connecticut	10.9
41	West Virginia	11.1
42	New Jersey	11.2
43	Illinois	11.3
44	Minnesota	11.5
45	Maine	11.7
46	Vermont	11.8
47	Hawaii	12.3
48	Alaska	13.8
49	New York	14.8
50	North Dakota	16.8

## State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Income



- States aspire to have low state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income.
- North Carolina ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at 9.2%. The 50-state average was 10%. North Carolina also ranked 16<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in Fiscal Year 2011-12.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income than Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2013-14.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. These measures do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

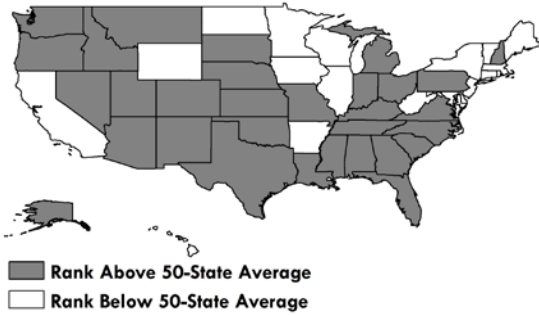
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2013-14); U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on personal income (2014).

## 12. Per Capita State Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Alaska	1,171
2	Florida	1,838
3	New Hampshire	1,870
4	Tennessee	1,925
5	Georgia	1,934
6	South Dakota	1,951
7	Missouri	1,968
7	South Carolina	1,968
9	Texas	2,008
10	Alabama	2,010
11	Arizona	2,066
12	Louisiana	2,082
13	Utah	2,241
14	Colorado	2,351
15	Idaho	2,405
16	Oklahoma	2,408
17	Ohio	2,438
18	Virginia	2,454
<b>19</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>2,497</b>
20	Nevada	2,612
21	Kentucky	2,621
22	Oregon	2,628
23	Indiana	2,631
24	Mississippi	2,645
25	Nebraska	2,686
26	Kansas	2,712
27	Michigan	2,718
28	Montana	2,755
29	Pennsylvania	2,823
30	Washington	2,883
31	New Mexico	2,889
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>2,914</b>
32	Iowa	2,943
33	Wisconsin	2,951
34	West Virginia	3,023
35	Rhode Island	3,028
36	Maine	3,057
37	Illinois	3,060
38	Arkansas	3,086
39	Maryland	3,311
40	New Jersey	3,533
41	Delaware	3,722
42	California	3,877
43	New York	3,962
44	Massachusetts	3,982
45	Wyoming	4,017
46	Minnesota	4,458
47	Connecticut	4,528
48	Hawaii	4,551
49	Vermont	4,861
50	North Dakota	7,584



## Per Capita State Taxes



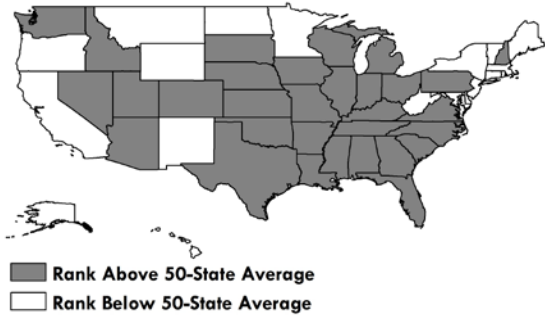
- States aspire to have low per capita state taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in per capita state taxes in 2015 at \$2,497. The 50-state average was \$2,914. North Carolina also ranked 19<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in 2013.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state taxes than Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and West Virginia in 2015.
- 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 (2015).

## 13. Per Capita State Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Florida	4,187
2	Georgia	4,506
3	Tennessee	4,663
4	Nevada	4,666
5	Texas	4,846
6	Arizona	4,945
7	Missouri	5,025
<b>8</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5,145</b>
9	Idaho	5,172
10	South Dakota	5,303
11	Nebraska	5,341
12	Indiana	5,457
13	New Hampshire	5,528
14	Colorado	5,729
15	Utah	5,792
16	Virginia	5,794
17	Alabama	5,808
18	Kansas	5,836
19	South Carolina	5,986
20	Illinois	6,009
21	Oklahoma	6,029
22	Michigan	6,440
23	Mississippi	6,688
24	Wisconsin	6,700
25	Kentucky	6,784
26	Washington	6,800
27	Pennsylvania	6,801
28	Iowa	6,826
29	Ohio	6,834
30	Louisiana	6,843
31	Arkansas	6,879
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>6,917</b>
32	Maryland	6,923
33	Maine	6,957
34	Montana	7,057
35	West Virginia	7,163
36	California	7,357
37	Oregon	7,412
38	Minnesota	7,674
39	New Jersey	7,740
40	Rhode Island	7,904
41	Connecticut	8,160
42	New Mexico	8,507
43	Massachusetts	8,638
44	Hawaii	8,740
45	New York	9,044
46	Delaware	9,398
47	Vermont	10,052
48	Wyoming	10,100
49	North Dakota	10,118
50	Alaska	17,538

## Per Capita State Expenditures



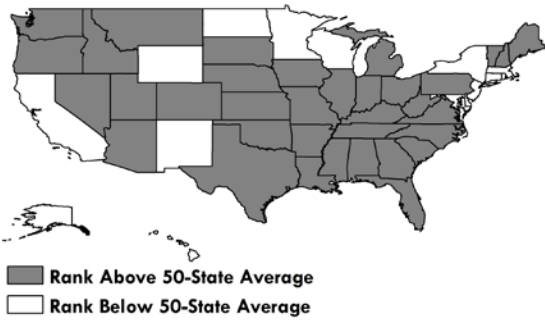
- States aspire to have low per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in per capita state expenditures in 2014 at \$5,145. The 50-state average was \$6,917. In 2012, North Carolina ranked 13<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee had lower per capita state expenditures than North Carolina in 2014.
- 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 (2014) and population estimates (2014).

## 14. Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	New Hampshire	940
2	Michigan	957
3	Nevada	1,103
4	South Carolina	1,311
5	Arizona	1,317
6	Florida	1,323
7	Missouri	1,378
8	Alabama	1,614
9	Arkansas	1,655
10	South Dakota	1,674
11	Mississippi	1,679
12	Colorado	1,691
13	Idaho	1,694
14	Texas	1,736
15	Oklahoma	1,769
16	Utah	1,830
17	Louisiana	1,843
18	Georgia	1,868
19	Tennessee	1,961
20	Montana	1,995
21	Oregon	1,998
22	Nebraska	2,016
<b>23</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>2,037</b>
24	Kansas	2,064
25	Iowa	2,112
26	Virginia	2,170
27	Kentucky	2,199
28	Illinois	2,206
29	Indiana	2,207
30	Pennsylvania	2,220
30	Vermont	2,220
32	Washington	2,279
33	West Virginia	2,302
34	Maine	2,366
35	Ohio	2,493
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>2,498</b>
36	Wisconsin	2,541
37	California	2,585
38	Maryland	2,615
39	New Mexico	2,837
40	New York	3,106
41	Rhode Island	3,164
42	New Jersey	3,485
43	Minnesota	3,548
44	Delaware	4,058
45	Massachusetts	4,227
46	North Dakota	4,375
47	Hawaii	4,430
48	Connecticut	4,727
49	Wyoming	5,159
50	Alaska	9,809

## Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures



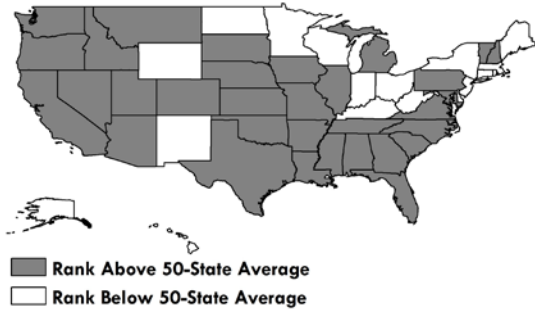
- States aspire to have low per capita state General Fund expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in per capita state General Fund expenditures in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$2,037. The 50-state average was \$2,498. In Fiscal Year 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 25<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state General Fund expenditures than Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2013-14.
- 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 2013-15 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2015); U.S. Census Bureau data on population estimates (2014).

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

Rank		Percent
1	New Hampshire	1.8
2	Michigan	2.3
3	Nevada	2.7
4	Florida	3.1
5	Missouri	3.3
6	Colorado	3.5
6	Arizona	3.5
8	South Carolina	3.6
9	South Dakota	3.7
10	Texas	3.8
11	Oklahoma	4.1
12	Nebraska	4.2
13	Alabama	4.3
13	Virginia	4.3
15	Arkansas	4.4
15	Louisiana	4.4
17	Kansas	4.6
17	Washington	4.6
17	Idaho	4.6
17	Illinois	4.6
21	Pennsylvania	4.7
21	Iowa	4.7
23	Vermont	4.8
23	Georgia	4.8
23	Maryland	4.8
23	Tennessee	4.8
23	Oregon	4.8
28	Utah	4.9
28	Mississippi	4.9
30	Montana	5.0
31	California	5.2
<b>31</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5.2</b>
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>5.4</b>
33	Indiana	5.6
33	New York	5.6
35	Wisconsin	5.8
35	Maine	5.8
37	Kentucky	5.9
37	Ohio	5.9
39	New Jersey	6.0
40	West Virginia	6.4
41	Rhode Island	6.5
42	Massachusetts	7.2
42	Minnesota	7.2
44	Connecticut	7.3
45	New Mexico	7.6
46	North Dakota	7.8
47	Delaware	8.7
48	Wyoming	9.4
49	Hawaii	9.6
50	Alaska	18.2

## 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 31<sup>st</sup> in state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at 5.2%. The 50-state average was 5.4%. In Fiscal Year 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> 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 2013-14.
- 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.

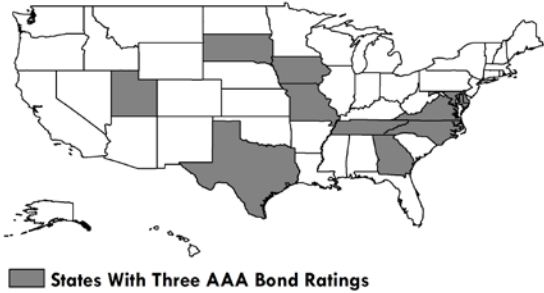
Sources: Fiscal Year 2013-15 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2015); U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on personal income (2014).

## 16. Bond Ratings

	Moody's	S&P	Fitch
Delaware	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Georgia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Iowa	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Maryland	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Missouri	Aaa	AAA	AAA
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>Aaa</b>	<b>AAA</b>	<b>AAA</b>
South Dakota	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Tennessee	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Texas	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Utah	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Virginia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Nebraska	--	--	AAA
Wyoming	--	--	AAA
Florida	AAA	Aa1	AAA
Indiana	AA-plus	Aaa	AAA
South Carolina	AAA	Aaa	AA-plus
Vermont	AAA	Aaa	AA-plus
Idaho	AA-plus	Aa1	AA-plus
Massachusetts	AA-plus	Aa1	AA-plus
Minnesota	AAA	Aa1	AA-plus
New York	AA+	Aa1	AA-plus
North Dakota	--	Aa1	AA-plus
Ohio	AA-plus	Aa1	AA-plus
Oregon	AA-plus	Aa1	AA-plus
Washington	AA-plus	Aa1	AA-plus
Alabama	AA-plus	Aa1	AA
Alaska	AA-plus	Aa2	AA-plus
Hawaii	AA	Aa1	AA-plus
Mississippi	AAA	Aa2	AA
Montana	AA-plus	Aa1	AA
New Hampshire	AA-plus	Aa1	AA
Oklahoma	AA-plus	Aa2	AA-plus
Arkansas	--	Aa1	AA
Colorado	--	Aa1	AA
New Mexico	--	Aa1	AA
Nevada	AA-plus	Aa2	AA
Arizona		Aa2	AA
Maine	AA	Aa2	AA
Michigan	AA	Aa1	AA-minus
Rhode Island	AA	Aa2	AA
West Virginia	AA	Aa1	AA-minus
Wisconsin	AA	Aa2	AA
Kansas	--	Aa2	AA-minus
Louisiana	AA-minus	Aa3	AA
California	AA-minus	Aa3	AA-minus
Connecticut	AA-minus	Aa3	AA-minus
Kentucky	AA-minus	Aa2	A-plus
Pennsylvania	AA-minus	Aa3	AA-minus
New Jersey	A	A2	A-minus
Illinois	BBB-plus	Baa2	BBB



## Bond Rating

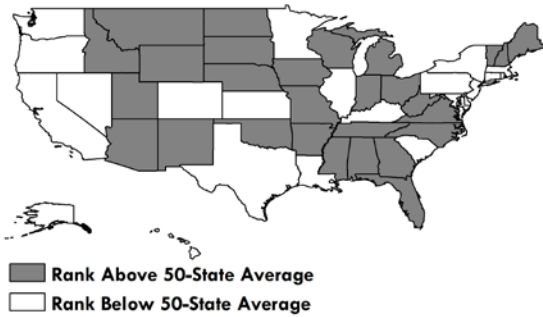


- States aspire to have high bond ratings from the three rating services (Moody's Investor Services, Standard & Poor's Corporation, and Fitch Ratings).
- North Carolina and 10 other states ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2016, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services. In November 2014, North Carolina and nine other states ranked 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## 17. Per Capita State and Local Debt

Rank		Debt in \$
1	Wyoming	3,389
2	Idaho	3,814
3	Mississippi	4,760
4	Oklahoma	4,809
<b>5</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5,040</b>
6	Montana	5,229
7	Tennessee	5,313
8	Arkansas	5,392
9	Georgia	5,637
10	Iowa	6,059
11	West Virginia	6,215
12	Maine	6,349
13	Alabama	6,416
14	South Dakota	6,677
15	Utah	6,892
16	North Dakota	7,149
17	Arizona	7,252
18	Vermont	7,271
19	Ohio	7,406
20	Indiana	7,442
21	Wisconsin	7,485
22	New Mexico	7,540
23	Missouri	7,661
24	Michigan	7,732
25	Florida	7,800
26	Virginia	7,874
27	Nebraska	8,040
28	New Hampshire	8,073
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>8,255</b>
29	Maryland	8,374
30	Delaware	8,418
31	Louisiana	8,586
32	South Carolina	8,888
33	Kansas	8,950
34	Minnesota	8,985
35	Oregon	9,006
36	Kentucky	9,109
37	Nevada	9,253
38	Texas	9,976
39	Pennsylvania	9,995
40	Hawaii	10,094
41	Colorado	10,108
42	California	11,010
43	New Jersey	11,127
44	Washington	11,368
45	Rhode Island	11,442
46	Illinois	11,599
47	Alaska	12,286
48	Connecticut	12,423
49	Massachusetts	13,541
50	New York	17,492

## Per Capita State and Local Debt



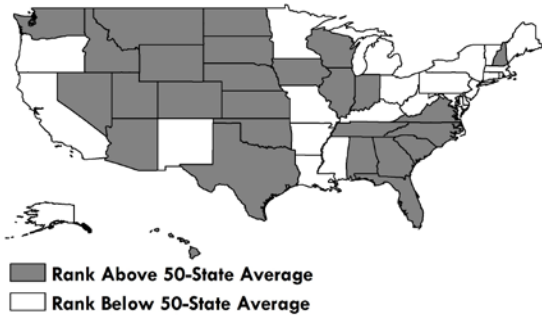
- States aspire to have low per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$5,040. The 50-state average was \$8,255. In Fiscal Year 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 6<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- In regards to state debt, North Carolina ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in per capita state debt in Fiscal Year 2013-14 at \$1,797. The 50-state average was \$3,768.
- 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 (2013-14) and population estimates (2014).

## 18. Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Utah	734
2	South Dakota	948
3	Georgia	956
4	Wyoming	966
5	Virginia	968
6	Nebraska	997
7	Kansas	1,046
8	Idaho	1,047
9	Florida	1,061
10	Nevada	1,085
11	Alabama	1,091
12	North Dakota	1,105
13	Montana	1,114
14	South Carolina	1,218
15	Oklahoma	1,279
16	New Hampshire	1,302
17	Texas	1,305
18	Illinois	1,327
<b>19</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,344</b>
20	Colorado	1,350
21	Wisconsin	1,383
22	Tennessee	1,387
23	Indiana	1,411
24	Hawaii	1,412
25	Iowa	1,462
26	Washington	1,483
27	Arizona	1,561
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>1,577</b>
28	Missouri	1,581
29	New Jersey	1,593
29	Maryland	1,593
31	Michigan	1,608
32	Mississippi	1,725
33	Louisiana	1,726
34	Pennsylvania	1,829
35	Arkansas	1,859
36	Ohio	1,861
37	Alaska	1,927
38	Maine	1,941
39	Delaware	1,972
40	Minnesota	1,995
41	West Virginia	1,996
42	Oregon	2,004
43	Kentucky	2,147
44	Connecticut	2,191
45	California	2,193
46	Massachusetts	2,294
47	New Mexico	2,372
48	Rhode Island	2,462
49	Vermont	2,611
50	New York	3,029

## Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures



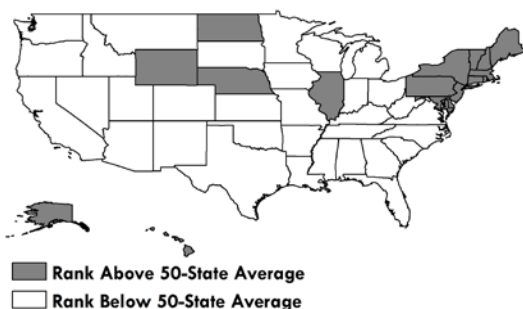
- States aspire to have low per capita Medicaid expenditures and low Medicaid enrollment.
- North Carolina ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in per capita Medicaid expenditures in Fiscal Year 2014-15 at \$1,344. The 50-state average was \$1,577. In Fiscal Year 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 28<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> in Medicaid enrollment as a percentage of population in Fiscal Year 2014-15 at 19.8%. The 50-state average was 21%.
- 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 (2014-15) and total Medicaid enrollment as a percentage of total state population (2014-15).

## 19. Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12

Rank		Spending in \$
1	New York	20,156
2	New Jersey	18,780
3	Alaska	18,466
4	Connecticut	18,401
5	Vermont	18,066
6	Wyoming	15,903
7	Massachusetts	15,886
8	Rhode Island	15,372
9	New Hampshire	14,601
10	Maryland	14,217
11	Pennsylvania	13,824
12	Delaware	13,793
13	Maine	13,267
14	Illinois	13,213
15	Hawaii	12,400
16	North Dakota	12,032
17	Nebraska	11,877
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>11,470</b>
18	Ohio	11,434
19	Minnesota	11,427
20	West Virginia	11,371
21	Wisconsin	11,345
22	Virginia	10,955
23	Montana	10,941
24	Louisiana	10,853
25	Michigan	10,649
26	Iowa	10,647
27	Washington	10,305
28	Kansas	10,240
29	Oregon	9,959
30	Missouri	9,938
31	Arkansas	9,752
32	California	9,671
33	South Carolina	9,608
34	Kentucky	9,411
35	New Mexico	9,403
36	Indiana	9,396
37	Georgia	9,236
38	Alabama	9,036
38	Colorado	9,036
38	South Dakota	9,036
41	Florida	8,955
42	Tennessee	8,662
43	Texas	8,602
<b>44</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>8,287</b>
45	Nevada	8,275
46	Mississippi	8,265
47	Oklahoma	7,995
48	Arizona	7,457
49	Idaho	6,577
50	Utah	6,546

## Expenditures Per Pupil, K-12



- States aspire to high spending per pupil in K-12 education.
- North Carolina ranked 44<sup>th</sup> in total spending (all sources) per pupil at \$8,287 in Fiscal Year 2013-14. The 50-state average was \$11,470. In 2011-12, North Carolina ranked 45<sup>th</sup> 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 48<sup>th</sup> in total revenues per pupil at \$8,573 in Fiscal Year 2013-14. The 50-state average was \$12,901. 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.

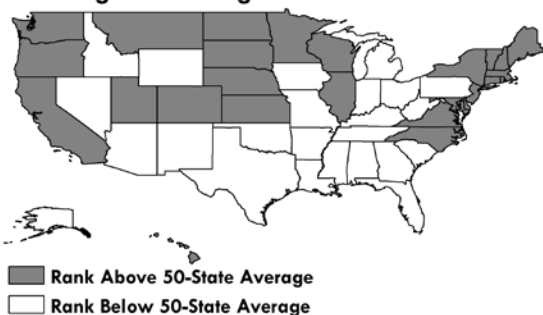
Source: Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education (2014).

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

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	50.8
2	Colorado	52.6
3	Connecticut	54.1
3	Minnesota	54.1
5	Vermont	54.4
6	New Hampshire	54.6
7	Maryland	54.7
8	Virginia	55.5
9	New Jersey	56.0
10	Washington	56.2
11	New York	56.5
12	North Dakota	57.8
13	Hawaii	57.9
13	Rhode Island	58.8
15	Utah	59.0
15	Illinois	59.0
17	Oregon	59.1
18	Nebraska	59.7
19	Kansas	59.9
20	California	60.1
21	Maine	60.2
22	Montana	60.8
23	Delaware	61.0
24	Wisconsin	61.1
<b>25</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>61.3</b>
26	South Dakota	61.4
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>61.5</b>
27	Iowa	61.8
28	Florida	62.0
28	Pennsylvania	62.0
30	Alaska	62.2
31	Georgia	62.7
32	Wyoming	62.9
33	Michigan	63.0
34	South Carolina	63.8
35	Arizona	63.9
36	Missouri	64.4
36	Idaho	64.4
38	Ohio	64.6
39	Texas	64.7
40	New Mexico	65.8
41	Indiana	66.7
42	Tennessee	67.6
43	Alabama	67.7
44	Oklahoma	68.0
45	Nevada	68.3
46	Kentucky	68.8
47	Mississippi	70.0
48	Louisiana	70.7
49	Arkansas	71.4
50	West Virginia	73.5



## Percentage with a High School Education or Less



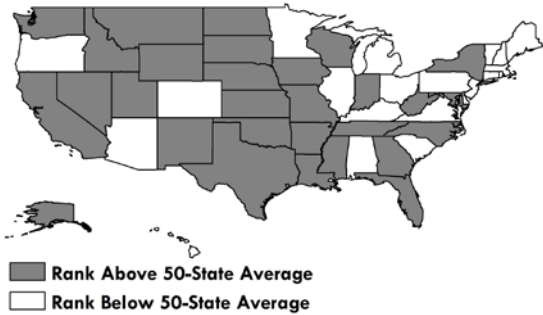
- States aspire to a low percentage of adults with a high school education or less and a high percentage of adults with a college degree.
- North Carolina ranked 25<sup>th</sup> in percentage of adults age 25 and over with a high school education or less in 2015 at 61.3%. The 50-state average was 61.5%. In 2013, North Carolina ranked 28<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- In North Carolina, 13.4% of adults have less than a high school education and 26.4% have no more than a high school diploma or equivalent. An additional 21.5% 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 2016 was 85.8%.
- North Carolina ranked 25<sup>th</sup> in percentage of population age 25 and over with a college degree in 2015 at 38.7%. The 50-state average was 38.5%.
- 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 (2015); N.C. Department of Public Instruction data on graduation rate (2016).

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

Rank		Tuition and Fees in \$
1	Wyoming	5,055
2	Florida	6,356
3	Montana	6,409
4	Utah	6,581
5	New Mexico	6,618
6	Nevada	6,907
7	Idaho	7,010
8	Alaska	7,130
<b>9</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>7,203</b>
10	Mississippi	7,409
11	West Virginia	7,488
12	New York	7,707
13	Nebraska	7,883
14	North Dakota	7,884
15	Oklahoma	8,026
16	South Dakota	8,138
17	Arkansas	8,247
18	Iowa	8,271
19	Georgia	8,453
20	Missouri	8,632
21	Louisiana	8,900
22	Kansas	8,917
23	Wisconsin	8,928
24	Indiana	9,201
25	Washington	9,265
26	California	9,346
27	Maryland	9,366
28	Tennessee	9,518
29	Texas	9,566
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>9,581</b>
30	Maine	9,687
31	Oregon	9,693
32	Kentucky	9,953
33	Alabama	10,040
34	Colorado	10,257
35	Ohio	10,266
36	Hawaii	10,671
37	Minnesota	10,952
38	Arizona	10,957
39	Rhode Island	11,407
40	Connecticut	11,734
41	Delaware	11,935
42	South Carolina	12,192
43	Massachusetts	12,276
44	Virginia	12,323
45	Michigan	12,464
46	Illinois	13,278
47	New Jersey	13,560
48	Pennsylvania	13,884
49	Vermont	15,446
50	New Hampshire	15,650

## Average Annual In-State Tuition

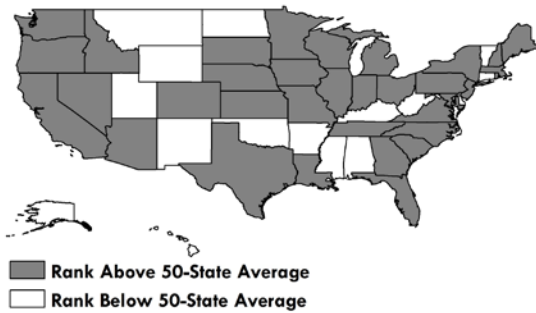


- States aspire to have low average annual in-state tuition at public four-year and two-year colleges and universities.
- North Carolina ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2016-17 at \$7,203. The 50-state average was \$9,581. North Carolina ranked 10<sup>th</sup> on this indicator in 2014-15.
- With regards to two-year institutions, North Carolina ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public two-year institutions in 2016-17 at \$2,425. The 49-state average was \$4,069 (Alaska did not report data for this indicator).

## 22. State Government FTE Employment per 100 Persons

Rank		Employees
1	Florida	0.9
2	Illinois	1.0
2	Nevada	1.0
2	California	1.0
5	Texas	1.1
6	Arizona	1.2
6	Tennessee	1.2
6	Ohio	1.2
6	New York	1.2
10	Georgia	1.3
10	Pennsylvania	1.3
10	Wisconsin	1.3
10	Indiana	1.3
<b>14</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1.4</b>
14	Idaho	1.4
14	New Hampshire	1.4
14	Michigan	1.4
14	Missouri	1.4
19	Maryland	1.5
19	Colorado	1.5
19	Minnesota	1.5
19	Massachusetts	1.5
19	Virginia	1.5
24	New Jersey	1.6
24	Maine	1.6
24	Louisiana	1.6
24	Iowa	1.6
24	South Carolina	1.6
29	Oregon	1.7
29	South Dakota	1.7
29	Nebraska	1.7
29	Washington	1.7
29	Kansas	1.7
29	Rhode Island	1.7
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>1.7</b>
35	Oklahoma	1.8
35	Connecticut	1.8
35	Alabama	1.8
38	Utah	1.9
38	Mississippi	1.9
38	Kentucky	1.9
41	Montana	2.0
42	Arkansas	2.1
43	West Virginia	2.2
43	New Mexico	2.2
45	Wyoming	2.3
45	Vermont	2.3
47	North Dakota	2.6
48	Delaware	2.8
49	Alaska	3.6
50	Hawaii	4.1

## State Government FTE Employment



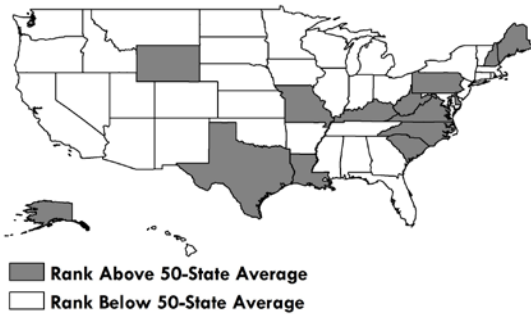
- States aspire to have low state government employment.
- North Carolina ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in state government full-time equivalent (FTE) employment in 2015 at 1.4 positions per 100 persons. The 50-state average was 1.7. In 2012, North Carolina ranked 18<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- The average salary for North Carolina state employees (not including employees in public schools, community colleges, or the University of North Carolina System) was \$46,784 in Fiscal Year 2015-16.
- In terms of state and local government FTE employment, North Carolina ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> in 2014 at 5.5 positions per 100 residents. The 50-state average was 5.4.
- 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 (2014, 2015) and population estimates (2014, 2015); Fiscal Research Division (2016, December).

## 23. Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State

Rank		Percent
1	West Virginia	88.7
2	Delaware	84.2
3	Virginia	78.1
<b>4</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>74.8</b>
5	South Carolina	54.2
6	Maine	36.5
7	Alaska	34.8
8	Kentucky	34.6
9	Pennsylvania	33.1
10	Louisiana	27.2
11	Missouri	25.7
12	Texas	25.6
13	New Hampshire	24.2
14	Wyoming	23.2
	<b>50-State Average</b>	<b>21.5</b>
15	Hawaii	21.2
16	Vermont	18.4
17	Rhode Island	18.0
18	New Mexico	17.3
18	Connecticut	17.3
20	Maryland	16.1
21	Arkansas	16.0
22	Ohio	15.6
23	Montana	14.7
24	Tennessee	14.5
25	Mississippi	14.2
26	Georgia	14.0
27	New York	13.2
28	Utah	12.7
29	Nevada	12.3
30	Indiana	11.6
31	Illinois	10.9
31	Oklahoma	10.9
33	Alabama	10.7
34	Nebraska	10.5
35	Oregon	10.4
36	Arizona	10.3
37	Colorado	10.2
37	Wisconsin	10.2
39	Florida	9.9
40	Idaho	9.8
41	South Dakota	9.4
42	Washington	8.8
43	Minnesota	8.5
43	North Dakota	8.5
45	Massachusetts	8.1
46	Michigan	7.9
47	Iowa	7.8
48	California	7.7
49	Kansas	7.3
50	New Jersey	6.0

## Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State



- This indicator was ranked from the highest value to the lowest value.
- North Carolina ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2015 at 74.8%. The 50-state average was 21.5%. In 2012, North Carolina also ranked 4<sup>th</sup> on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in miles of roads maintained by the state in 2015 with 106,334 miles. The 50-state average was 83,064 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 (2015); 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 2016. 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. States with the same ranking are presented in the order they would have been ranked had values been displayed to two decimal points.

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. 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](mailto:josh.love@ncleg.net) or 919-301-1392.

John W. Turcotte is the director of the Program Evaluation Division.