

Education Systems

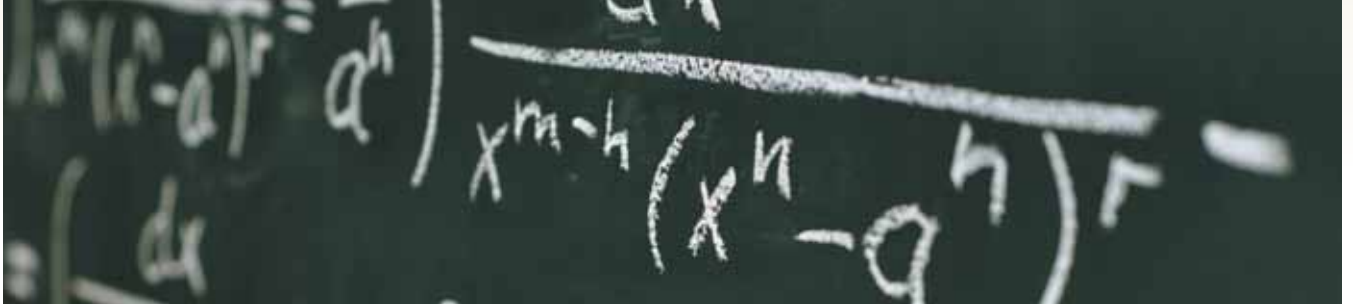


Hundreds of companies are doing research here,
but they aren't the only ones discovering things.



T H R I V E
in **NORTH
CAROLINA™**

Quality Education Systems



North Carolina has consistently made significant investments in education. With the state's leadership in early education, especially pre-kindergarten, the state has been recognized as a national model being replicated across America.

North Carolina leads the country in the number of National Board Certified teachers and has cultivated increasingly accountable public schools in which students are performing above southeastern and national averages.

Perhaps the state's strongest educational asset is its higher education system. Nearly 120 institutions, including 16 public universities, 36 private colleges and universities and 58 community and technical colleges educate more than 300,000 students every year.

North Carolina's community college system is prized for pioneering customized workforce training programs and is widely regarded as having the nation's most comprehensive and advanced program of vocational and technical education.

From classrooms to lectures online, North Carolina schools are excelling both in traditional and innovative teaching methods.



Quality Education Systems — Early Education

North Carolina is a leader in early education, ranking among the top four states nationally for state pre-k quality standards, according to the National Institute for Early Education Research.

Smart Start

Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally recognized, award-winning early childhood initiative designed to ensure young children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Children participating in Smart Start programs have better language skills and fewer behavioral problems when entering kindergarten than those who did not participate.

Smart Start works through more than 80 local partnerships to provide infrastructure for early care and education that best fits the needs of individual communities. Offering broad-based support, the program makes available health education and screening, works to improve child care facilities and provides subsidies to working families for high-quality child care.



More at Four

The More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program works to improve the educational potential of children in all North Carolina counties who will be entering kindergarten the following year and are at risk for poor school outcomes. Children who participate in More at Four exhibit substantial growth in key skill areas, including language, literacy, math and social skills, from the beginning of the pre-k year through the end of kindergarten.

Through the program, children attend a full-school-day, full-school-year program that meets high-quality state standards, is integrated with other early childhood programs in the community and administered at the county level. Well-educated teachers with specialized training guide small classes through comprehensive curricula and strive to focus on the whole child and family. Children engage in active learning to enhance school readiness by addressing approaches to learning and communication as well as emotional, social, physical, language and cognitive development.

North Carolina is one of only two states that have met all ten quality standards of the National Institute for Early Education Research.



Quality Education Systems — K-12

North Carolina's investment in education continues through increasingly accountable public schools.

As of 2008-2009, North Carolina had more than 2,400 public schools, including charter schools, serving students from pre-k through grade 12. More than 1.4 million students are enrolled in the state's public schools.

Profile of North Carolina Public Schools

Number of school districts	115
Number of schools	2,496
Elementary	1,811
Secondary	479
Combined	109
Charter	97
Number of students (includes charter schools)	1,476,566
Elementary	1,045,201
Secondary	431,365
Number of teachers	112,304*
Pupil/Teacher ratio	12.9/1*
Per-pupil expenditures	\$8,522

Data derived from 2008-2009 Facts & Figures by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.
*Common Core of Data, 2006-2007 school year, available at www.nces.ed.gov



North Carolina Public Schools

In 2009, North Carolina received the 21st Century Skills Practice of the Year Award for its new Writing Instruction System Pilot project. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) developed and piloted the initiative in the fall of 2008 to replace the 4th and 7th grade writing assessments with a more comprehensive K-12 writing system.

North Carolina was among seven states to receive the national award from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. This organization brings together the business community, education leaders and policymakers to define a powerful vision for 21st century education to ensure every child's success as a citizen and worker in the 21st century.

Each school day, approximately 14,063 buses travel an average of 73 miles on North Carolina's highways and byways, transporting more than 730,000 students.

Quality Education Systems — K-12

National Leader in Education Excellence

North Carolina is the leading state for National Board Certified Teachers, with 14,200 achieving the standard since the program's inception. That number accounts for over one-fifth of the nation's total and 14 percent of the state's teachers, library media coordinators and guidance counselors. In 2008, 1,451 state teachers achieved National Board Certification, which was the second largest state total in the nation. An independent study showed significant correlations between certification and improved student performance at the elementary level, particularly for younger and lower-income students.

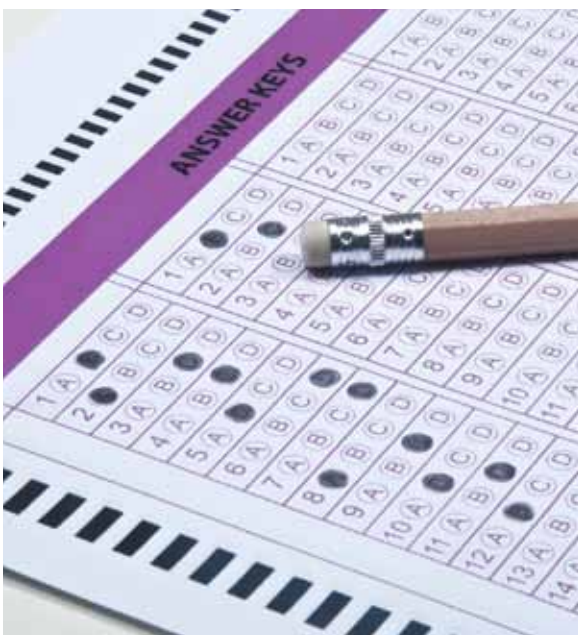
In 2009, SAT results showed North Carolina's average total SAT score exceeded the Southeast's average. North Carolina ranks 14th among the 50 states and District of Columbia in terms of participation rate. In North Carolina, more than 56,000 students took the SAT.

In 2009, North Carolina students scored higher than the national average on the ACT. The average score in North Carolina also increased 0.3 points, a change that is considered significant by ACT standards, from 2008 to 2009.

The number of North Carolina's public school students taking Advanced Placement exams increased by 4.6 percent in 2009, and these students posted a 6.2 percent increase in the number of scores that qualified them for college credit at participating colleges and universities from the previous year.

Strong Accountability Measures

To help measure the state's progress in education, North Carolina issues an annual school report card online. The N.C. School Report Card includes key information about student performance, class size, school safety and teacher quality. The report card helps to keep parents and others informed, empowered and involved in North Carolina's schools.



North Carolina ranks in the top 14 of all states in SAT participation and the state's average total scores exceed the Southeast's average.

Quality Education Systems — K–12



National Association of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Often called the nation’s report card, NAEP is the only measure of student achievement in the U.S. where the performance of students in one state can be compared with the performance of students across the nation or in other states. North Carolina is at or above the national average in 4th and 8th grade math, and 4th grade science.

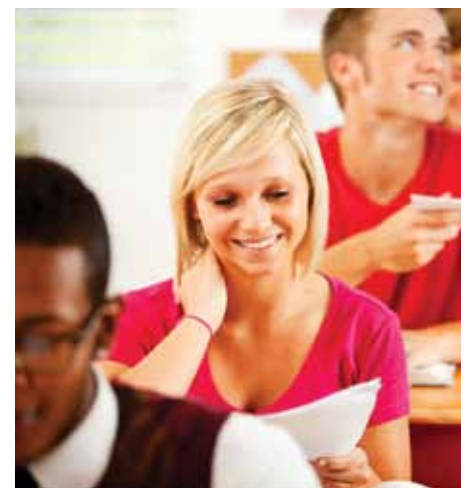
State	2009 4 th Grade Math	2009 8 th Grade Math	2007 4 th Grade Reading	2007 8 th Grade Reading	2005 4 th Grade Science	2005 8 th Grade Science	2007 8 th Grade Writing
Alabama	228	269	216	252	142	138	148
Georgia	236	278	219	259	148	144	153
Mississippi	227	265	208	250	133	132	142
North Carolina	244	284	218	259	149	144	153
South Carolina	236	280	214	257	148	145	148
Tennessee	232	275	216	259	150	145	156
National Average	239	282	220	261	149	147	156

New Schools Project

Backed by an \$11 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the North Carolina New Schools Project award grants funds and provides support to create up to 100 new small high schools across the state. These smaller, more personalized high schools are firmly connected to workplace knowledge and skills, while simultaneously preparing all students for higher education.

Learn and Earn Early College

Learn and Earn gives students the option of a five-year high school/college program through which students earn a high school diploma and a community college associate degree or two years of university credit toward a four-year degree. Learn and Earn is designed to provide an incentive for high school students to remain in school and prepare for high-skilled, better-paying jobs in new and emerging industries. The program is implemented in 40 counties across the state and is expected to boost high school graduation rates, the volume of students going on to four-year institutions and students’ preparedness to be successful in the new economy.



More than 25% of the nations early college high schools are located in North Carolina

There are also a number of non-traditional educational options available in the state, including high-quality private elementary and secondary schools, home school situations, boarding schools and charter schools.

Quality Education Systems — Community Colleges

North Carolina's community college system is widely regarded as the nation's most comprehensive and advanced program of vocational and technical education. Comprised of 58 colleges across the state, it is the third largest community college system in the country. The system is recognized nationally for its customized workforce training programs and offers a wide variety of occupational certification and continuing education programs.

The sophisticated system provides high-quality, accessible training and services that drive a world-class workforce and a competitive advantage for North Carolina businesses and industries. More than 280 ongoing curriculum programs prepare thousands of North Carolinians to work in business and industry. Each year, about 800,000 students enroll in the state's community colleges, which are within a 30-minute drive of 99 percent of the state's population.

Basic Skills Programs:

- Adult High School
- General Educational Development
- Adult Basic Education
- English as a Second Language
- Compensatory Education

Curriculum Programs:

- Certificate
- Diploma
- Associate in Applied Science
- College Transfer (Associate in Arts, Fine Arts and Science)
- Associate in General Education
- Developmental Education
- College Tech Prep
- Cooperative Programs (Huskins Bill/Concurrent Enrollment)

Continuing Education Programs:

- Workforce Continuing Education
- Community Service

Economic and Workforce Development Programs:

- Focused Industrial Training
- Customized Training Program
- Small Business Center Network
- JobLink Career Centers
- Learning Laboratory
- Apprenticeship
- Cooperative Education
- Learning Centers



Certificate, Diploma and Associate Degrees in Applied Science Programs

- Agricultural and Natural Resources Technologies
- Biological and Chemical Technologies
- Business Technologies
- Commercial and Artistic Production Technologies
- Construction Technologies
- Engineering Technologies
- Health Sciences
- Industrial Technologies
- Public Service Technologies
- Transport Systems Technologies

North Carolina's 58-school community college system is the third largest in the country.

Quality Education Systems — Colleges and Universities

North Carolina is home to the nation's first public university and has built on that tradition of excellence to offer one of the finest systems of higher education in the nation.

The state's major research universities conduct more than one billion dollars in sponsored research annually.

Along with four medical schools, three engineering schools, one veterinary school and one dental school, some of the nation's leading graduate programs are offered through the state's universities and colleges.

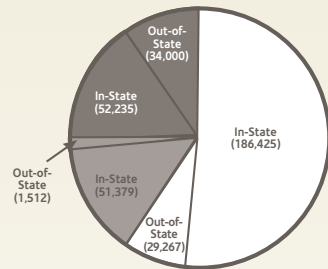
Public Universities

The UNC System receives strong financial support from the state, making it among the least expensive public educations in the country, with tuition below the national average. It educates more than 175,000 students a year and offers more than 1,200 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Independent Colleges and Universities

There are 36 non-profit, private colleges and universities accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. These institutions are affiliated with 14 different religious denominations and enroll more than 78,000 students. They also confer nearly one-third of the bachelor's degrees awarded in the state each year and more than half of the state's degrees in law and medicine.

Student Enrollment in N.C. Colleges and Universities by Residence Status



UNC System Community Colleges
Private Institutions
(Fall 2009)

Tuition and Required Fees Charged to Undergraduate Students in N.C. Colleges and Universities

In-State	Median \$
UNC	4,122
Community College	1,422
Private Sr.*	21,232
Private Jr.	13,235

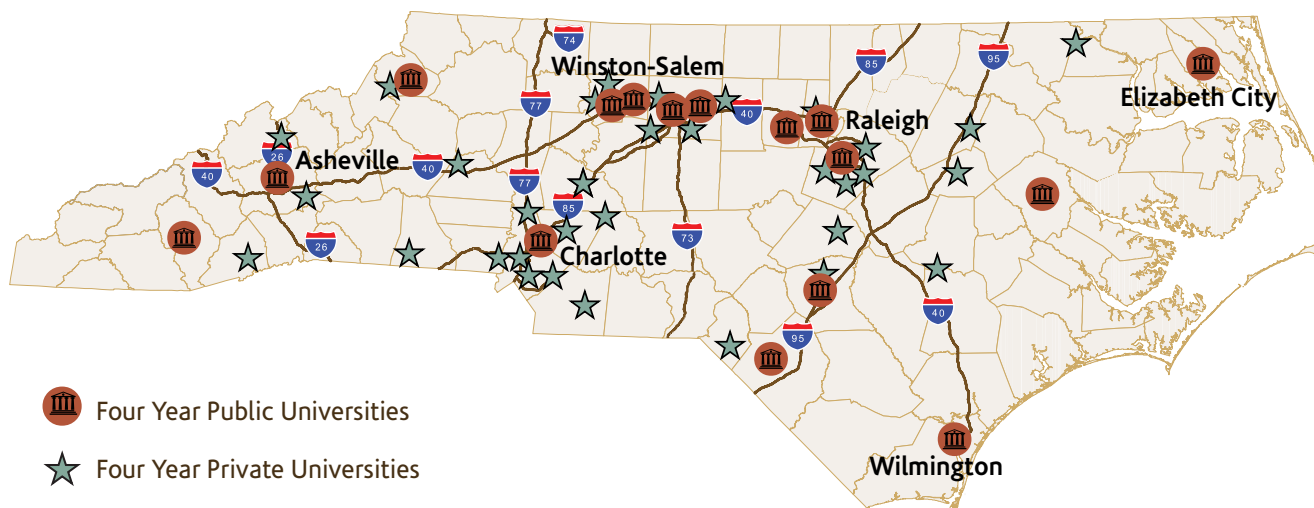
Out-of-State	Median \$
UNC	14,805
Community College**	7,544
Private Sr.*	21,232
Private Jr.	13,325

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*Excludes theological seminary and bible colleges.

**Includes only associate degree students (AA, AFA, AS) (2008-2009)

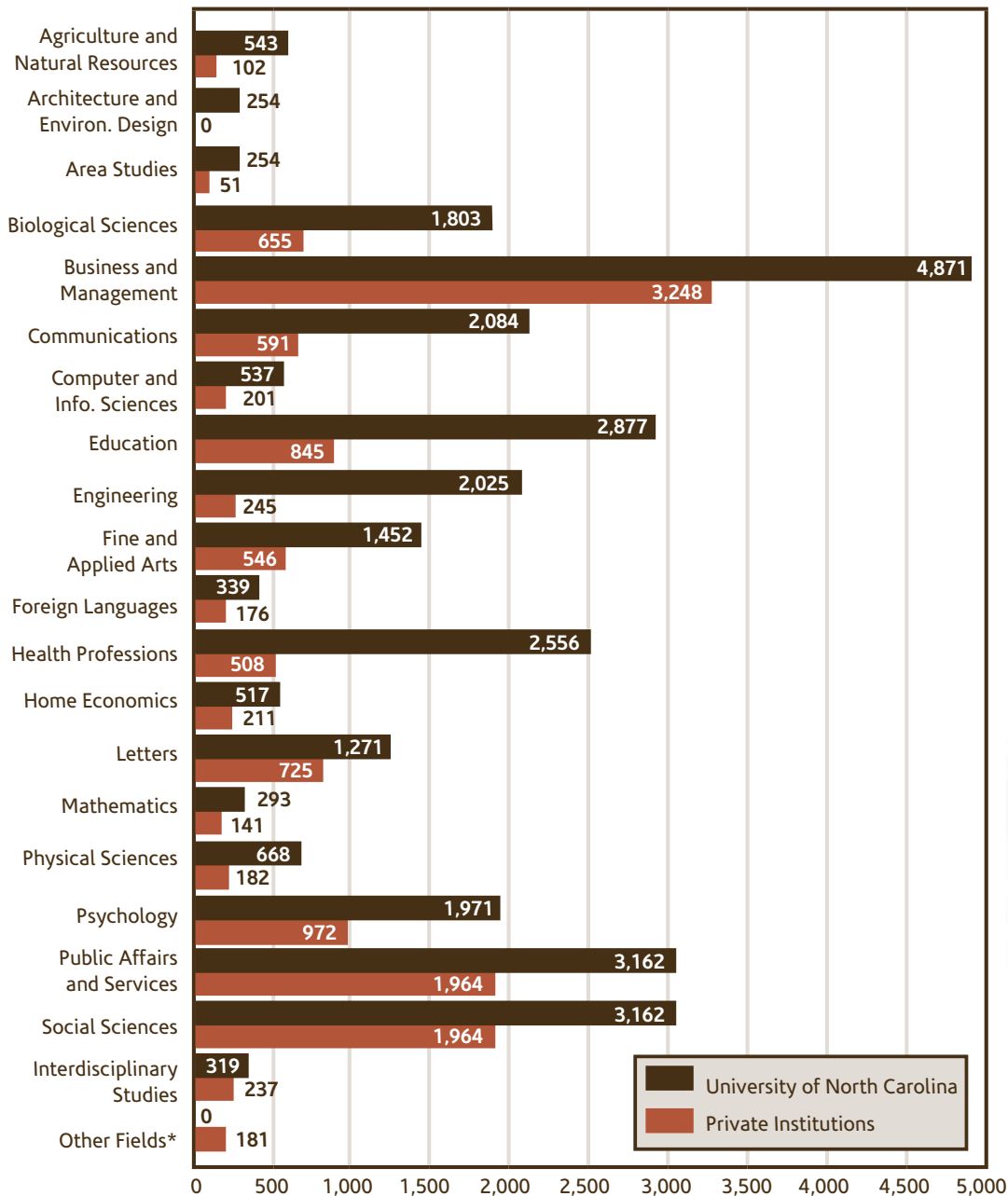
N.C. Public and Private Universities



Quality Education Systems — Colleges and Universities



Bachelor's Degrees Conferred by North Carolina Colleges and Universities by Field of Study



UNC-GA IRA/Abs.AG013.I/6-30-09
 *Includes Law and Theology
 2007-08



The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was chartered in 1789 and enjoys distinction as the first public university in the U.S. as well as the only one to graduate students in the 18th century.