

Education Systems

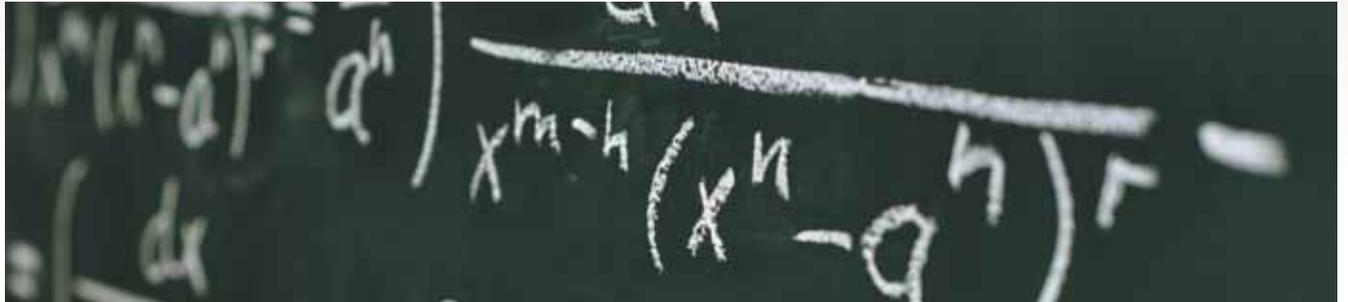


Hundreds of companies are doing research here,  
but they aren't the only ones discovering things.



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 — K-12

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

As of the 2012-2013 school year, North Carolina had more than 2,500 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	2,526
Elementary	1,834
Secondary	486
Combined	98
Charter	108
Number of students (includes charter schools)	1,492,793
Elementary	1,055,114
Secondary	438,581
Number of teachers	98,357*
Pupil/Teacher ratio	15.15/1*
Per-pupil expenditures	\$8,436

Data derived from 2011-2012 Facts & Figures by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.  
\*Common Core of Data, 2010-2011 school year, available at [www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov)



## Early Education

North Carolina recognizes the importance of early education and wants to help all children be ready for school. This commitment is recognized by the National Institute for Early Education Research which lists NC as one of the few states that achieves all 10 quality benchmarks.

### 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.

### NC Pre-K Program

The NC Pre-K Program is designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible four-year-olds. The program requirements are built on the premise that to be successful academically in school, children need to be prepared in all five of the developmental domains outlined by the National Education Goals Panel.

The five domains are:

- Approaches to learning
- Emotional and social development
- Health and physical development
- Language development and communication
- Cognitive development

# Quality Education Systems — K-12

## National Leader in Education Excellence

North Carolina is the leading state for National Board Certified Teachers, with 19,799 achieving the standard since the program's inception. That number accounts for more than 20 percent of the of the state's teachers and 20 percent of all the National Board Certified Teachers nationwide. In 2012, 636 NC teachers achieved National Board Certification. An independent study showed significant correlations between certification and improved student performance at the elementary level, particularly for younger and lower-income students.

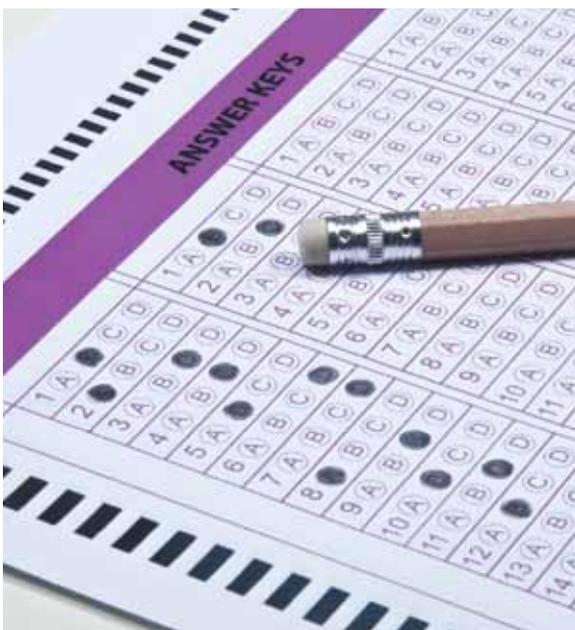
In 2013, SAT results showed North Carolina's average total SAT score improved while scores nationally remained the same. North Carolina ranks 18<sup>th</sup> among the 50 states and District of Columbia in terms of participation rate. In North Carolina, more than 68,000 students took the SAT in 2013.

In 2013, North Carolina students all started taking the ACT as High School Juniors to measure college readiness for all students. The initial year of this program, the average ACT score fell below the national average after being above the national average for five consecutive years.

A total of 50,374 students took 93,911 AP exams from North Carolina's high school Class of 2013. Almost 60% of those tests taken received a score of 3 or better to earn college credit. The percentage of students taking AP exams in North Carolina has continued to grow in recent years.

## 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.



All of North Carolina's High School Juniors take the ACT exam fee of charge as a part of the state's college readiness assessment.

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading.

State	2013 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	2013 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	20113 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading	2013 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading	2011 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science
Alabama	233	269	219	257	140
Georgia	240	279	222	265	151
Mississippi	231	271	209	253	137
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>148</b>
South Carolina	237	280	214	261	149
Tennessee	240	278	220	265	150
National Average	241	284	221	266	151

## New Schools Project

Backed by an \$11 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the N.C. 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.

## Career & College Promise

Career & College Promise prepares eligible high school students for life after high school – that means college credit for some, job training for others. The program offers three pathways for students:

College Transfer – Earn tuition-free course credits toward a four-year degree through N.C.’s community colleges. All N.C. public colleges and universities are participating and many independent institutions have also signed on.

Technical Careers – Earn tuition-free course credits at an N.C. Community College toward an entry-level job credential, certificate or diploma in a technical career.

Cooperative Innovative High Schools (limited availability) – Begin earning tuition-free college credits as early as freshman year by attending a Cooperative Innovative High School, such as an Early College High School.

Students who participate will be on a focused, directed path. Each course or credit they earn will move them forward toward a degree, diploma or credential. Students who complete the program will have a jump on their post-high school work.

# 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.

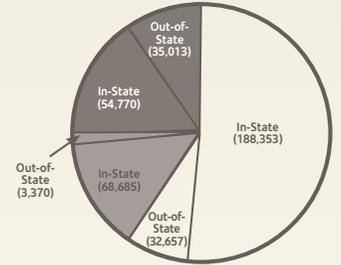
## Public Universities

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 220,000 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 89,000 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 2012)

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

In-State	Median \$
UNC	5,847
Community College	2,279
Private Sr.*	25,459
Private Jr.	14,944

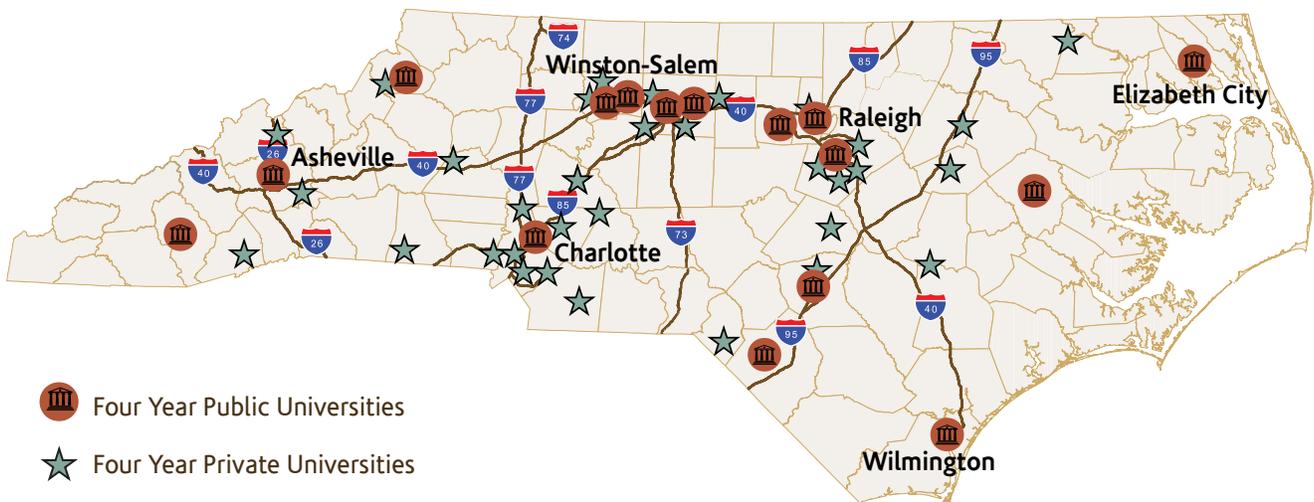
Out-of-State	Median \$
UNC	18,079
Community College**	8,344
Private Sr.*	25,459
Private Jr.	14,944

UNC-GA IRA/Abs.GR048.1/09Aug13

\*Excludes theological seminary and bible colleges.

\*\*Includes only associate degree students (AA, AFA, AS) (2012-13)

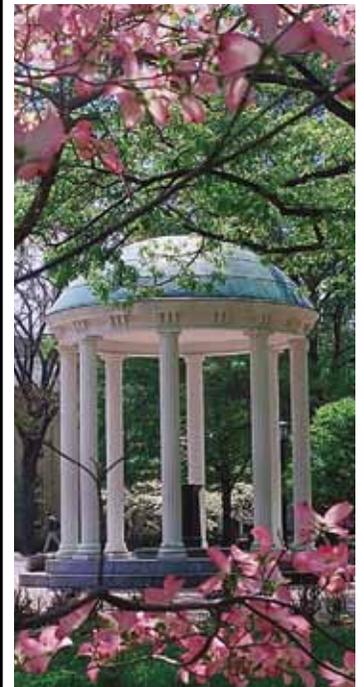
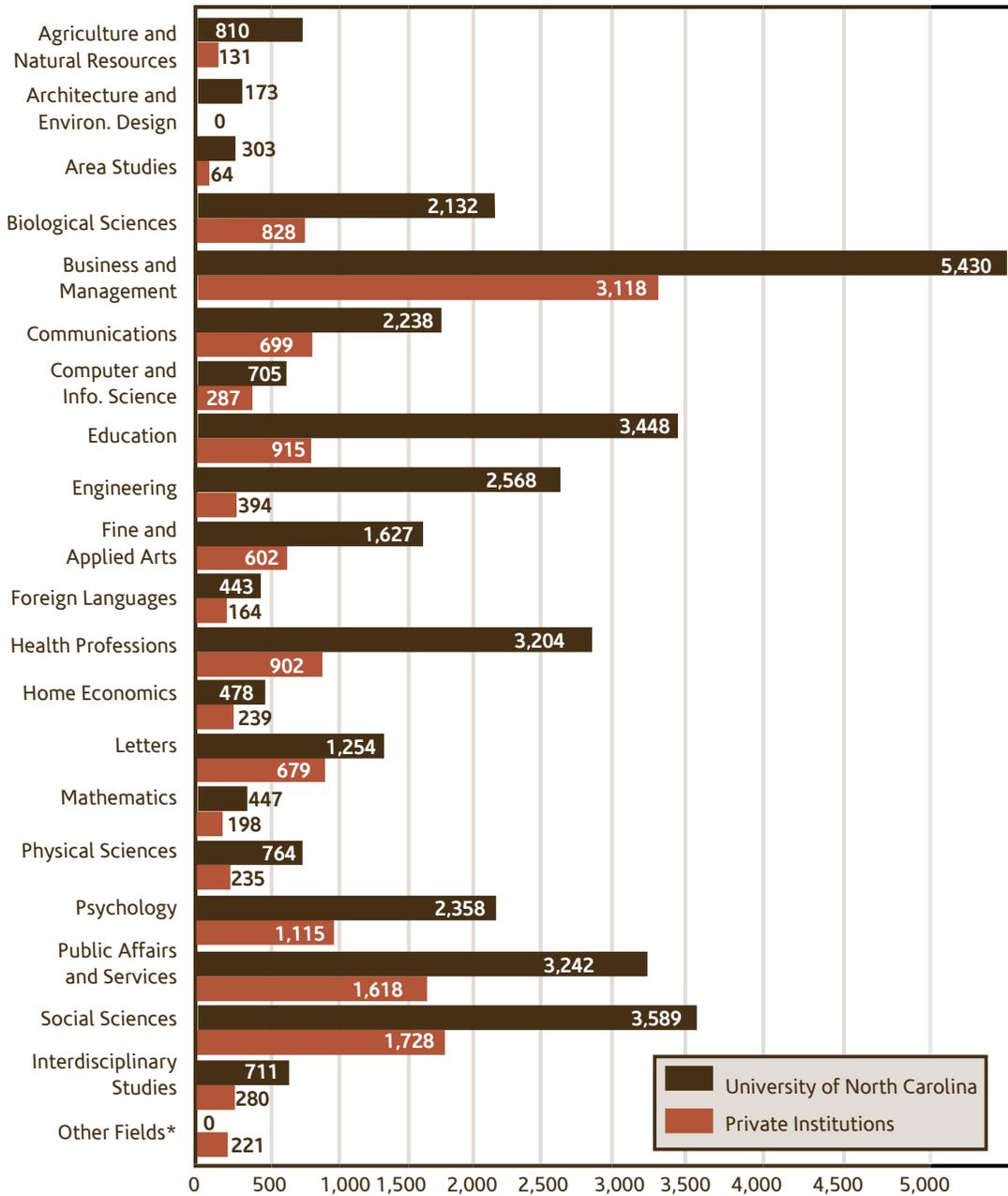
## N.C. Public and Private Universities



# Quality Education Systems — Colleges and Universities



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



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 18<sup>th</sup> century.

UNC-GA IRA/Abs.AG013.I/7-9-13  
 \*Includes Law and Theology  
 2011-12