

# North Carolina's Northeast REGIONAL PROFILE

*Serving The  
Counties Of*

**Beaufort**

**Bertie**

**Camden**

**Chowan**

**Currituck**

**Dare**

**Gates**

**Halifax**

**Hertford**

**Hyde**

**Martin**

**Northampton**

**Pasquotank**

**Perquimans**

**Tyrrell**

**Washington**

## LOCATION

North Carolina's Northeast is located centrally between New York and Florida. The Region is bounded on the west by Interstate 95 and the east by the Atlantic Ocean. Over one-third of the nation's markets are within a day's drive of North Carolina's Northeast Region, meaning easy access to business and industrial centers across the country. Close proximity of our region to the Raleigh-Durham, NC and Richmond and Hampton Roads, VA areas guarantees access to world markets.



## AREA & TOPOGRAPHY

The Northeast Region consists of a total of 9,394 square miles, which is approximately the size of the state of Massachusetts. The topography of the Region is level to gently rolling.

## CLIMATE

Average Temperatures: Summer, 77°; Winter, 39°; Average rainfall: 47 inches; Average snowfall 7 inches.

## POPULATION

Year	Population
2000	336,470
2007	363,854
2012 estimate	386,130

## POPULATION BY AGE

Age Group	% of Population
Under 20	27%
20-44	33%
45-64	25%
65+	15%

## HIGHWAY DISTANCES

	Miles	Kilometers
Raleigh, NC	132	212
Charlotte, NC	306	492
Baltimore, MD	281	452
Boston, MA	680	1,095
Chicago, IL	931	1,500
Norfolk, VA	76	122
New York, NY	482	776
Washington, DC	240	386
Pittsburgh, PA	478	770
Miami, FL	917	1,476

Distances are calculated from midpoint of region.

## MUNICIPAL POPULATION

City	Population
Elizabeth City, NC	19,056
Roanoke Rapids, NC	16,505
Washington, NC	10,060
Kill Devil Hills, NC	6,614
Williamston, NC	5,583
Edenton, NC	4,989
Ahoskie, NC	4,313
Plymouth, NC	3,957



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## LABOR

An estimated 24,000 persons commute outside the region for employment that would welcome the opportunity to work closer to home. Wage rates for production level employment are extremely competitive. The average unionization rate for the region is less than 1%.

Employers in North Carolina's Northeast have characterized the regional workforce as one with relatively low employee turnover and absenteeism. Highly educated and skilled workers are attracted to the area's superior quality-of-life.

## EMPLOYMENT & WAGES BY INDUSTRY

	2003	2007	2012
Civilian Labor Force	160,869	174,312	186,171
Employment	150,202	164,874	
Unemployment	10,667	8,916	
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	5.1%	

Source: NC Department of Commerce

## TRANSPORTATION

North Carolina's Northeast can provide same-day trucking access to over half the consumer and industrial markets in the nation. The Intercoastal Waterway links the region to cities throughout the entire Eastern Seaboard. Barge services are available on major waterways throughout the region. The second largest and fastest growing port complex is within 30 miles in the Hampton Roads Area of Virginia.

## PRIMARY HIGHWAYS

The primary highways that traverse the Northeast Region include Interstate 95, US Highways 17, 64, 158, 264, 301. Interstate 85 is easily accessible via I-95 and US Highways 64/70 and 158.

## MOTOR FREIGHT CARRIERS

There are a number of certified motor freight carriers which provide service to all parts of the nation at competitive rates.

## RAILROADS

CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern, Chesapeake Albemarle Railroad and Raitex serve the Northeast Region, providing easy access and efficient shipping along the Region's network of rail lines.

## AIR

North Carolina's Northeast Region is accessible to four international airports—Raleigh-Durham International, Norfolk International, Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport and Richmond International Airport. Regional airports are within easy driving distance of all areas of the Northeast Region.

## PORTS

State operated, deep water bulk cargo and container facilities are within a 45 minute to 2 1/2 hours' drive from any area in North Carolina's Northeast (Port of Morehead City, NC and Port of Norfolk, VA).

## UTILITIES

Electrical service is provided by Progress Energy, Dominion NC Power, Electricities, and the North Carolina Electric Membership Cooperatives. Rates are very competitive and lower in the Northeast Region than in many other locations in the United States.

## REGIONAL CLUSTERS

### Automotive

- NC Center for Automotive Research
- Construction to begin September 3, 2008

### Aviation

- Private contract work at US Coast Guard Base
- Airports are developing into business hubs

### Plant Biotechnology

- Commercialization partner for new products
- Pilot Extraction Facility in planning stages

### Marine

- Multiple marine sites within the region
- Maintaining existing boat building businesses

### Inner Banks

- Golf course and waterfront living readily available

### Tourism

- Hub and Spoke tourism with travel to locations
- Group tour itineraries available

## NATURAL GAS

Natural gas service is provided by Piedmont Natural Gas.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Embarq is the primary telecommunications service provider in the Northeast Region. Fiber connected central offices, fiber ring diversity, digital switching, B8ZS framing and dual feeds are available throughout the region. The North Carolina Rural Internet Access Authority is currently working to provide broadband Internet access to all of North Carolina.

## EDUCATION

The citizens of North Carolina's Northeast place great emphasis on education. Our communities' schools offer a wide range of programs to meet the needs of children from kindergarten through high school. Our community colleges offer college transfer, technical and vocational curricula as well as continuing education, adult basic education and industrial training. Elizabeth City State University offers degree programs in basic arts and sciences, pharmacy and aviation science programs, as well as pre-professional programs. Advanced degrees are available through ECSU's master's degree program. Chowan University is also located here.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

The quality of life in North Carolina's Northeast is rich and varied, providing an attractive mix of rural communities, suburban-style neighborhoods, open countryside and waterfront landscapes. Cultural activities abound and our temperate year-round climate and abundance of water offer unlimited recreational opportunities. World-class golf is available as well as abundant shopping. The low cost of quality housing and wide open spaces are appealing to companies locating in our Region. North Carolina's Northeast is home to one of the most popular vacation destinations in the country, the Outer Banks of North Carolina, with thousands of rental homes, great restaurants, sports and activities, and shopping. Tourism plays an important role in the regional economy, much of it based on the rich historical legacy and unique natural resources.

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS

A diverse group of businesses have found North Carolina's Northeast Region an excellent place to do business.

*Nucor-Hertford County*

*Lowe's Home Centers, Inc.*

*Berry Plastics*

*Kennametal*

*Blackwater USA*

*AirBoss*

*DRS Technologies*

*NC Center for Automotive Research (NCCAR)*

*PCB Piezotronics*

*Flanders Filters, Inc.*

*Domtar, Inc.*

*Georgia Pacific Corporation*

*Safelite Auto Glass Corporation*

*Impressions Marketing Group*

*Regulator Marine*

*PCS Phosphate*

*Reser's Fine Foods*

*Fountain Power Boats*

*Perdue Farms, Inc.*

*Kapstone Paper*

*Syfan*

*Microcell*

*Severn Peanut Company*

*Penco Products, Inc.*

*US Coast Guard*

*TCOM*

## LOCATION ASSISTANCE

For additional information and confidential site selection assistance, please contact:

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