



**WILMINGTON**  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



**We Welcome Your  
Business**



**Welcome to Wilmington** .....

**Location Advantages** .....

**Quality of Life**

*New Hanover County* .....

*Pender County*.....

**Weather**.....

**Transportation** .....

*Highway System*.....

*Seaport & Foreign Trade Zone* .....

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**Largest Employers in the Greater Wilmington Area**.....

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## Welcomes Your Business To the Greater Wilmington Area



Wilmington Business Development, (WBD) is a private, not-for-profit organization designed to assist and make company's expansion/re-location efforts seamless. WBD serves the Greater Wilmington North Carolina region—New Hanover and Pender Counties, and the City of Wilmington. A sampling of our turnkey site selection assistance includes confidential assistance with industrial expansion and relocation. We act as a business, government and utility liaison providing demographic and economic data as well as site selection assistance.

Our region has today become a regional leader in commerce and industry. Home to a diverse economy, New Hanover and Pender counties contain a variety of industry. From fiber optics and aircraft engines to pharmaceutical testing and plastics, Wilmington Business Development offers an industrial base that is geared for the future.

The International Port of Wilmington, Wilmington International Airport, the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and Cape Fear Community College combine to create a pro-active business climate. This along with a strong work force, a responsive public education system, and an abundance of industrial sites make Greater Wilmington a prime business location.

The quality of life here is second to none. Historic downtown, sunlit beaches, championship golf courses, and a vibrant cultural community create an elegant backdrop for fine living. State-of-the-art medical care and refined residential communities make Greater Wilmington the number one choice for relocation.

Wilmington Business Development welcomes Your Company to the region. We invite you to meet our business and community leaders, experience our hospitality and prosper by locating here.

Please review the enclosed information and evaluate our region's assets for your needs. If we can be of further assistance in helping with your decision, contact our office at 1-910-763-8414. Thank you for considering the Greater Wilmington area.

## The Best Reasons for Locating in the Greater Wilmington Area

### ⊕ **Large and Productive Labor Force**

*Our workforce of over 210,000 provides a large labor pool for new and expanding industry.*

### ⊕ **Work Force Training and Exceptional Educational Facilities**

*Cape Fear Community College, part of North Carolina's nationally acclaimed community college system, offers **free**, customized skills training to new and expanding industries. U.S. News & World Report ranked the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) UNCW among the nation's top public national universities for the past six years. UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University are the other two UNC Systems schools on the Top 100 list.*

### ⊕ **Excellent Labor Environment**

*North Carolina is a right-to-work state, with a unionization rate that is among the lowest in the nation. North Carolina offers low workers' compensation insurance rates, while providing some of the highest benefits.*

### ⊕ **Low Energy and Construction Costs**

*Utility services are competitive efficient, and economical. Electric rates for industrial, commercial and residential customers are below the national average.*

### ⊕ **Unequaled Proximity to Major Markets**

*Wilmington Business Development's central East Coast location puts it within a 700-mile radius of more than 150 million U.S. and Canadian consumers.*

### ⊕ **Comprehensive Transportation Network**

*Home to an extensive highway system, Wilmington International Airport, a sophisticated rail network and the Port of Wilmington, Wilmington Business Development offers many transportation options for business and industry.*

### ⊕ **A Great Place to Live**

*Our mild Sunbelt climate allows year-round outdoor recreation at over 150 regional golf courses, 30 marinas, numerous county and state parks.*

### ⊕ **Low Tax Burden**

*North Carolina's per capita state and local tax rates are low, ranking 22nd among the 50 states.*

### ⊕ **A Government That Works for Business**

*State, county, and city governments enforce sound fiscal policy with a pro-business attitude.*

### ⊕ **Professional Development Assistance**

*Wilmington Business Development provides personalized assistance in all phases of a prospective company's relocation or expansion process.*



## Location Advantages

Greater Wilmington is located in the southeastern corner of North Carolina. At 38 feet above sea level, the Atlantic Ocean on the east and Interstate 40 to the west border it. The average temperature in January is 44 degrees F and in July is 79 degrees F.

The Wilmington region is bisected by East/West **Interstate 40**, which provides an expressway from the **International deep-water seaport** in Wilmington to Southern California. Interstate 40 offers a connection to North/South **Interstate 95** within one-hour drive in Benson, NC. **Interstate 73/74**, already in construction, will connect the region with Detroit and the Midwest and is within a 30-minute drive via Interstate 40.

By locating in the region, companies enjoy an **excellent infrastructure**; transportation access by highway, rail, seaport and air; **superb quality of life**; and a **pro-business attitude** second to none.

The state's largest river, the Cape Fear, bisects the region on its way to the coast. The predominantly flat topography of this region - **which often makes construction less complicated and much less expensive** - gradually gives way to the gentle rise and fall that eventually becomes our state's spectacular Blue Ridge Mountains.

The Wilmington region is home to the internationally acclaimed **University of North Carolina at Wilmington** (UNCW) with its Center for Marine Science. **UNCW is ranked among the top 10 public universities in the South according to U.S. News and World Report (2022)**. **Cape Fear Community College** offers **free**, customized skills training to new and expanding industries.

The Wilmington region is a blend of urban and rural areas. The distinct personalities of our city and the quality of the region's down-home hospitality draw people here from across the nation.

Wilmington, long known for its **quiet beaches and busy port**, has been discovered in recent years by business and industry, retirees, families - and **Hollywood**. Since 1983, the Wilmington region has continued to be one of the most productive and cost-effective filmmaking destinations in the world. To date, the Wilmington area has hosted over 350 features, mini-series, movies of the week and 6 TV series along with numerous commercials and music videos. Wilmington is also the home of **Screen Gems Studios**, one of the largest production studios East of Hollywood.

Just over the state line, within an hour's drive, is the Myrtle Beach coast - a **Mecca for golf, shopping and night life**. Our proximity to South Carolina offers additional recreational opportunities, and gives Wilmington Industrial Development a **much larger labor pool** from which to draw.

## Quality of Life - New Hanover County



The Cape Fear Coast is a world of history, sports, island beaches and incredible natural beauty-just waiting to be discovered.

Along the Cape Fear Coast you'll find endless enjoyment and adventure, whether you're an avid golfer, a beachcomber, a shopper, a history buff, a naturalist, or all of the above.

The historic port city of Wilmington affords all the unique opportunity to enjoy an exciting area rich in shopping, dining, culture and the arts, while being only minutes away from white sandy beaches.

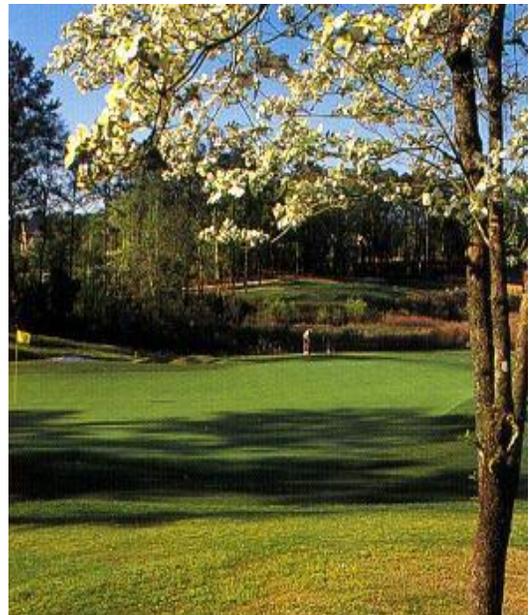
An architecturally unique historic district highlights the downtown area with a scenic riverfront park overlooking the Battleship North Carolina. Numerous museums, galleries, historic sites and plantation homes and gardens lie nearby. Meeting facilities for large and small groups accommodate conferences from 10 to 1000.

Wrightsville Beach, 12 miles east of Wilmington, is a year-round island resort. Wide uncrowned beaches, over 30 marinas, and a variety of accommodations are complimented by excellent seafood restaurants, specialty shops and a touch of nightlife.

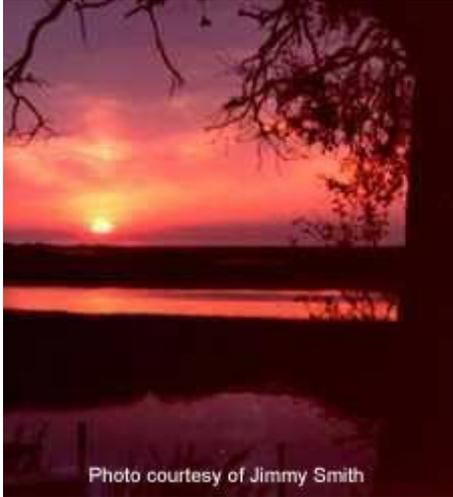
Carolina Beach and Kure Beach, just south of Wrightsville, offer pier fishing, charter boat cruises, amusements, fine restaurants, festivals and beautiful beaches. Relive the Civil War at historic Fort Fisher, or visit the North Carolina Aquarium shark tank and sea turtle exhibits.

Midway between New York City and Miami, the Cape Fear Coast enjoys four distinct yet mild seasons. The area offers year-round golf on nearly 150 golf courses within 90 minutes of Wilmington.

Just over the state line, within an hour's drive, is the Myrtle Beach coast - a Mecca for golf, shopping and night life.



## Quality of Life - Pender County



Pender County was formed in 1875 and named in honor of General William Pender of Edgecombe, a Confederate soldier who was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. It is the fifth largest county in North Carolina, with a land area consisting of 870.76 miles. The county is located in the southeastern coastal plains section of North Carolina approximately 25 minutes north of the port of Wilmington and 25 minutes from the Atlantic Ocean.

Currently, Pender is one of the fastest growing counties in North Carolina and has a population of 64,950. Citizens enjoy a relatively temperate climate here, where the average temperature is 62.3 degrees. The average annual rainfall is 53.04 inches.

Pender County is home to I-40. Additional connections are 75 minutes to I-95 and 60 minutes to proposed I-74. Primary roads include NC 11, 53, 210, US 17, US 117 and US 421.

The county seat is Burgaw. The Wallace Municipal Airport is located two miles south of Wallace and 14 miles north of Burgaw and services local industrial flights. The airport has a 4,000-foot lighted, paved runway and can accommodate any corporate jet. Wilmington International Airport or Jacksonville Airport are strategically located just 15 minutes away for commercial air travel.

Pender County is host to three industrial parks and two industrial corridors, which are strategically located for new and expanding industry. Cape Fear Community College provides work force training tailored to meet industry demands. Other nearby colleges include Campbell University, Fayetteville State University, Methodist College, Mount Olive College, University of North Carolina-Pembroke and University of North Carolina-Wilmington.

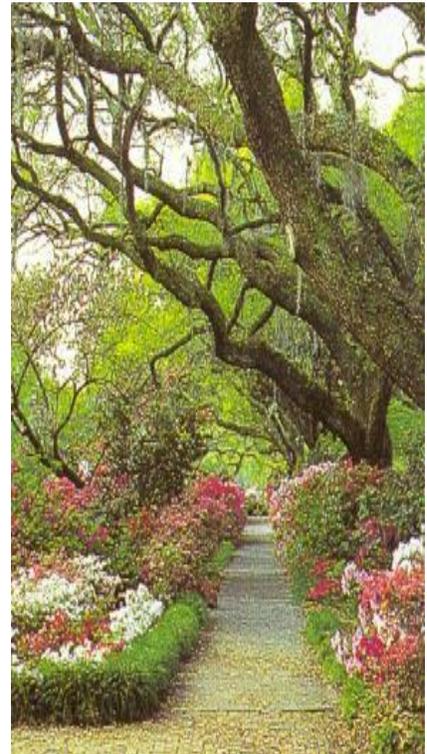
Local health care facilities include Pender Memorial Hospital, an 86-bed primary care facility. Other nearby regional facilities include short commutes to New Hanover Regional Medical Center / Novant Health (25 minutes) and Onslow Memorial Hospital (30 minutes). There are three rivers in Pender County, which offer recreational fun including boating, camping, canoeing, fishing, swimming and water skiing. Also, 15 miles of pristine sandy beaches offer additional fun. Citizens enjoy an abundance of outdoor recreational opportunities including Moore's Creek Battleground, four golf courses and festivals.

## Weather

Wilmington Business Development's Sunbelt climate allows year-round outdoor recreation at over 150 regional golf courses, 30 marinas, numerous county and state parks. Midway between New York City and Miami, the Cape Fear Coast enjoys four distinct yet mild seasons.

Annual Rainfall, inches 54  
Annual Snowfall, inches 2  
Average Annual Temperature, F 61  
Average Annual High Temperature, F 73  
Average Annual Low Temperature, F 51

SOURCE:  
North Carolina Dept. of Commerce

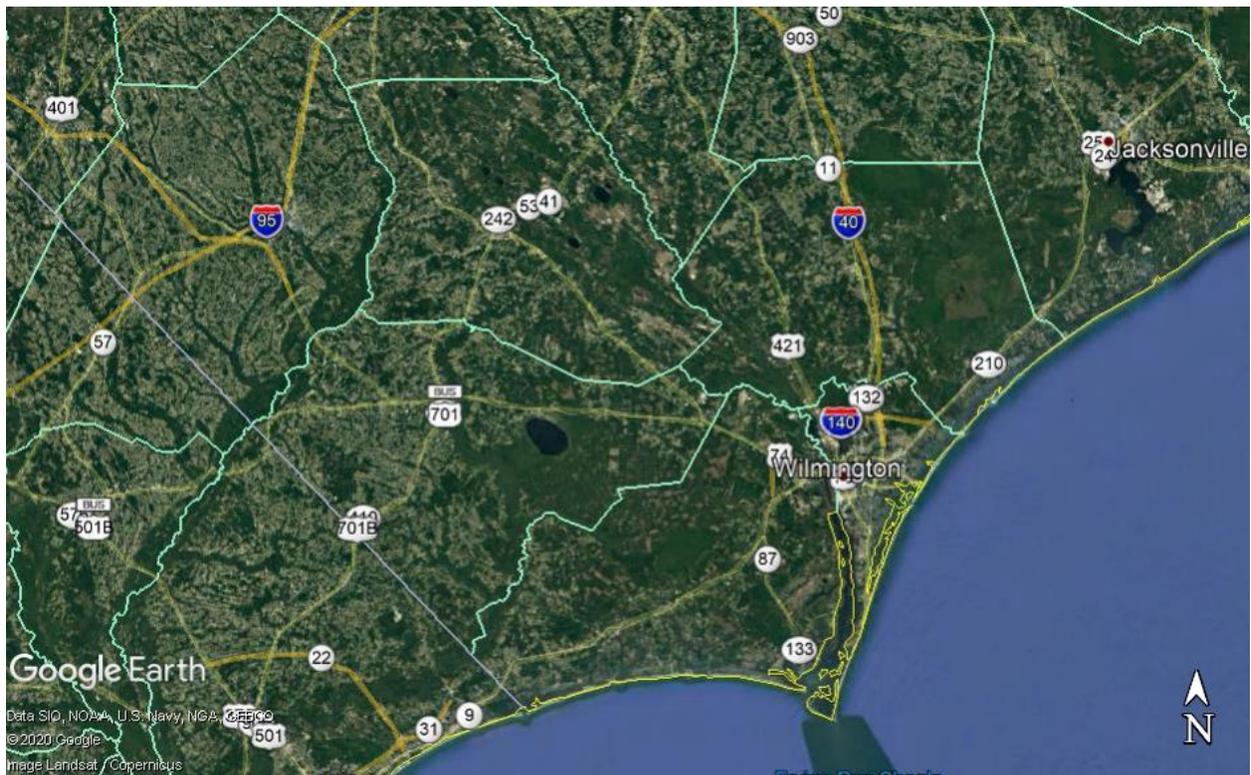


**Children fishing on North Carolina coast**

## Transportation

### Highway System

North Carolina—"The Good Roads State"—has in place the largest and one of the highest-rated state highway systems in the nation, which includes five interstate highways across its 78,000-mile network. Interstate 40 east to west runs through the Greater Wilmington Region offering a connection within an hour to Interstate 95 north to south. Already in construction, the federally approved Interstates 73/74 will also pass within a half-hour drive of Wilmington providing convenient access to Detroit, Michigan, the North Carolina coast, and the Port of Wilmington. Excellent four-lane highways link the region to all major markets and distribution outlets.



### Truck Service

There are many different trucking services available in the area that can pick up and deliver at any frequency. What follows is an example of the over 75 local trucking companies in the area...

ABF Freight System Inc.	910-251-9384
MCO Transport Incorporated	910-343-8372
Old Dominion Freight Line	910-763-3653
Roadway Express	910-791-7754
Robin Hood Container Express	910-371-6938
Sea Lane Express	910-791-2822

### **Seaport**

The Greater Wilmington Region is conducive to globalization through its growing communications networks, its Foreign Trade Zone, and ten shipping lines operating out of one of the nation's finest ports—the Port of Wilmington. This port, 26 miles from open sea and within 700 miles of more than 150 million American and Canadian consumers, offers rates lower than larger ports, flexible customer contracts, and reduced transportation costs through inland terminals at Charlotte and Greensboro. In addition, unique state income tax credit advantages allow North Carolina shippers to save up to 50% of their total NC state tax liability each year.

### **Wilmington Port highlights:**

- Handles containerized, bulk, break-bulk and RO / RO cargo
- New 42' channel depth
- Expanded Turning Basin to accommodate multiple post-Panamax container ships
- Container served in China, Asia, Northern Europe, and Central America
- Bulk, Bulk Break, and RO / RO served Globally
- On Site Cold Storage Facility
- Queen City Express (Direct Rail Service to Charlotte)



## Foreign Trade Zones

Foreign trade zones (FTZ), sometimes known as free trade zones, are geographically designated and secured areas that for legal purposes are considered outside of U.S. Customs territory. FTZs offer several economic advantages for companies involved in international trade. North Carolina has four general-purpose FTZs and eighteen active subzones approved for use by individual companies. In addition, three of the zones have successfully transitioned to the Alternative Site Framework (ASF), which greatly simplifies service to users. An ASF has a large, preapproved service area in which the organization in charge of the FTZ, the grantee, can propose new sites. Within this broad service area, which incorporates several counties, the grantee can work with interested companies to establish sites intended for either an individual company's use or the use of several companies.

Foreign or domestic merchandise may enter an FTZ without a formal customs entry document or payment of customs duties or government excise taxes. If the final product is exported from the United States, no customs duty is levied. If the final product is imported into the U.S., duty and excise taxes are due at the time of transfer from the FTZ and formal entry is made into the United States. Duty is paid on the product itself or its imported parts, whichever is lower.

Generally, merchandise is exempt from payment of duty even if it is:

- Manipulated;
- Used in a manufacturing process;
- Inspected;
- Combined with other domestic or foreign materials;
- Displayed for sale, or
- Re-exported.

Spoiled or damaged goods or waste materials may be destroyed, discarded or re-exported duty-free.

State and local governments generally do not impose sales and use taxes on items in an FTZ. For this reason, a company operating in such a zone can realize savings on such taxes as well as on interest, labor and shipping costs.

New capital investment by companies that might otherwise have located in foreign countries is another important advantage. This new investment activity spurs development of support industries.

**Zone #214 includes the Port of Wilmington, Port of Morehead City and the NC Global TransPark. Zone #214 is administered by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.**

## **About Foreign-Trade Zone #214**

Foreign-Trade Zone #214 is located in Southeastern North Carolina (SENC) and offers individuals and businesses in 22 counties the opportunity to import foreign goods into a duty-free zone. The N.C. Department of Transportation is the Grantee and oversees FTZ #214 SENC.

## **What is a Foreign-Trade Zone?**

A Foreign-Trade Zone, or FTZ, is like a “duty-free” zone for businesses. FTZs are geographical areas at or near a U.S. Port of Entry where commercial merchandise is treated by U.S. Customs as if it were “outside the commerce of the United States.” The U.S. FTZ Board licenses designated sites within an FTZ to have this special status.

## **What are the Benefits of Operating in a Foreign-Trade Zone?**

The growth in global trade and the need to level the competitive playing field on import taxes, called "duties," has accelerated the use of trade zones. The FTZ program allows U.S.-based companies to defer, reduce or even eliminate Customs duties on products admitted to the zone, providing important benefits to businesses and industries. Some of the benefits include:

- Duty deferral
- Duty elimination
- Duty reduction
- Federal and state tax savings
- Transfers between zones with no duties
- Reduced paperwork
- Destruction of damaged or substandard goods without paying duties

## **What are the Advantages of FTZ #214 SENC?**

- FTZ service area encompassing a 22-county region midpoint between Maine and Florida
- Air cargo facility at Kinston Regional Jetport, which can accommodate the world’s largest aircraft
- Located along two major interstate highways with international trucking facilities
- Encompasses rail and aviation facilities at Wilmington International Airport (ILM) and Kinston Regional Jetport (ISO), as well as two sea ports in Wilmington and Morehead City, N.C.
- Skilled workforce, with customized training programs through North Carolina’s Community College System
- Home to three industrial parks in the FTZ magnet sites, Global TransPark, Craven County Industrial Park and Wilmington International Airport, serving businesses in manufacturing and assembly, research, fulfillment centers, and warehousing and distribution, among others.

### **What is a Magnet Site?**

Magnet sites are essentially the same as the current general-purpose zone sites. A magnet site can be used by many importers.

Current FTZ #214 Magnet sites include:

**N.C. State Port at Morehead City**

**N.C. State Port at Wilmington**

### **What is a Usage-Driven Site?**

“Usage-Driven” sites are managed by individual companies that commit to operating within the inventory and reporting requirements of U.S. Customs, after recommendation from FTZ #214 and approval by the U.S. FTZ Board. “Usage-driven” sites are able to be approved in approximately 60 days.

For questions or more details please contact

**ZONE #214:**

Emily Jones Wiley,  
Director of Data Projects  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
919.707.2819  
[ejwiley@ncdot.gov](mailto:ejwiley@ncdot.gov)

### [Air Service](#)

**The Wilmington International Airport** is one of the most dynamic, hospitable, progressive international airports in the Carolinas. Our Wilmington, NC airport offers non-stop flights to 14 major cities including: New York (LGA), Atlanta (ATL), Philadelphia (PHL), Washington (DCA, IAD), Charlotte (CLT), Boston (BOS), Chicago (ORD), Dallas Fort Worth (DFW), Tweed- New Haven (HVN), Fort Lauderdale (FLL) & Baltimore – Washington (BWI) Minneapolis St Paul. They also offer connectivity to international airports through airline hubs. Service is provided by Delta, American, United, Avelo and Sun Country Airlines.

### [Rail Service](#)

CSX Transportation offers excellent high-quality rail service at affordable costs in virtually every corner of our region.

- Central Carolina Connector
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Hub

### [Public Transportation](#)

**Wave Transit** provides fixed route bus service and complementary ADA van service to the City of Wilmington, New Hanover County, Carolina Beach and Northern Brunswick County. Most routes operate 7 days a week.

#### **Rack N Ride**

Bike racks are located on the front of all Wave Transit vehicles, accommodate up to two bicycles, and your bike rides free.

#### **The Seahawk Shuttle**

Students and employees of UNCW are eligible to ride all Wave Transit fixed route buses for free by simply showing a valid student or employee UNCW ID card. All Wave Transit Passengers may ride UNCW Shuttles and pay regular fare.

#### **Paratransit Services**

Wave Transit is responsive to the mobility needs of citizens of the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County. We encourage individuals with disabilities to take advantage of the independence and flexibility that is provided by our transit system. Both seniors and individuals with disabilities can ride for a reduced fare, and please be aware that service animals are allowed on all Wave vehicles. We also have specialized transportation services for disabled individuals.

#### **Free Downtown Trolley**

The free Downtown Trolley serves City and County parking decks, City Hall, Thalian Hall, the New Hanover County Library, Cape Fear Community College and many shops and restaurants along Front and Market Streets.

## Largest Private Employers in the Greater Wilmington Area

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Number of Employees</u>
Thermo Fisher Scientific.....	1700
Mastec Service Co. ....	1000 +
GE Aircraft Division.....	1500
GE Nuclear .....	1300
Duke Energy, Brunswick Nuclear Plant.....	1200
Verizon Wireless.....	1500
Corning, Inc .....	1000
International Paper .....	900
nCino .....	700
Live Oak Bank .....	500
Castle Branch .....	400
alcami. ....	400
NC State Ports.....	300
LL Building Products .....	286
Duke Energy, Wilmington .....	250
Chloride Systems.....	200
Elementis Chromium.....	200

\*These numbers represent the latest estimates\*

# CORNING



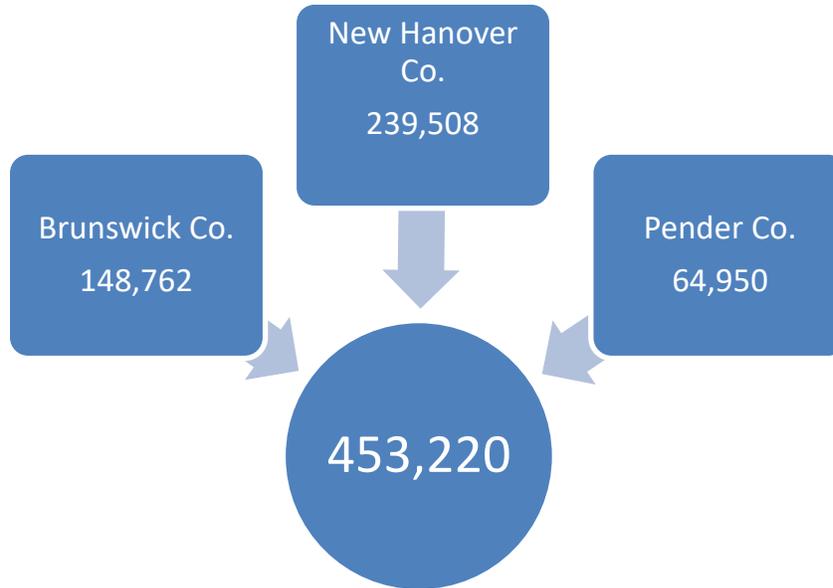
Wilmington



LiveOakBank®

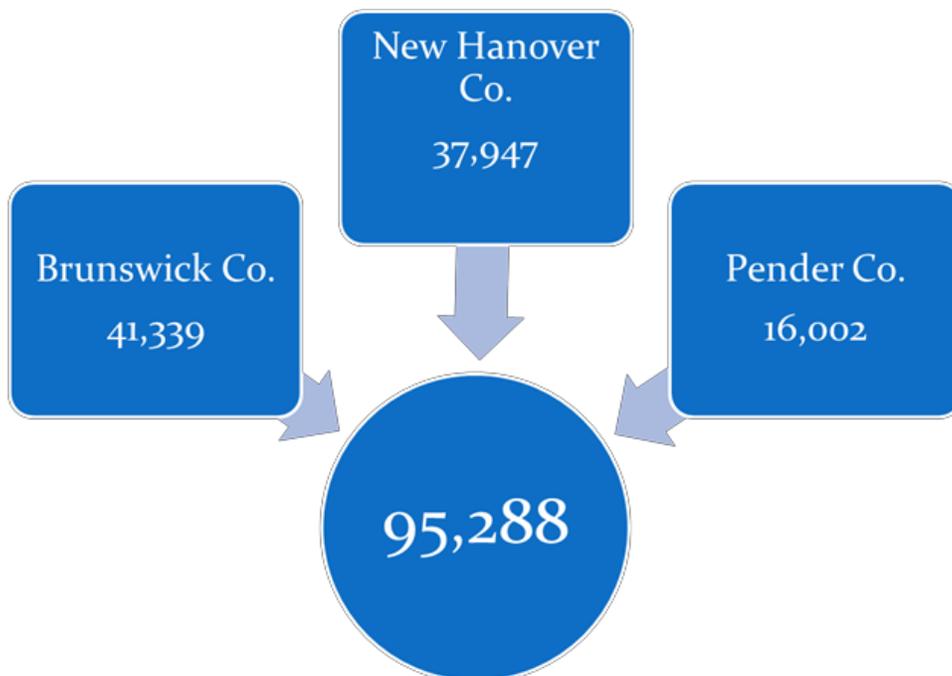


## Regional Population



SOURCE:  
US Census

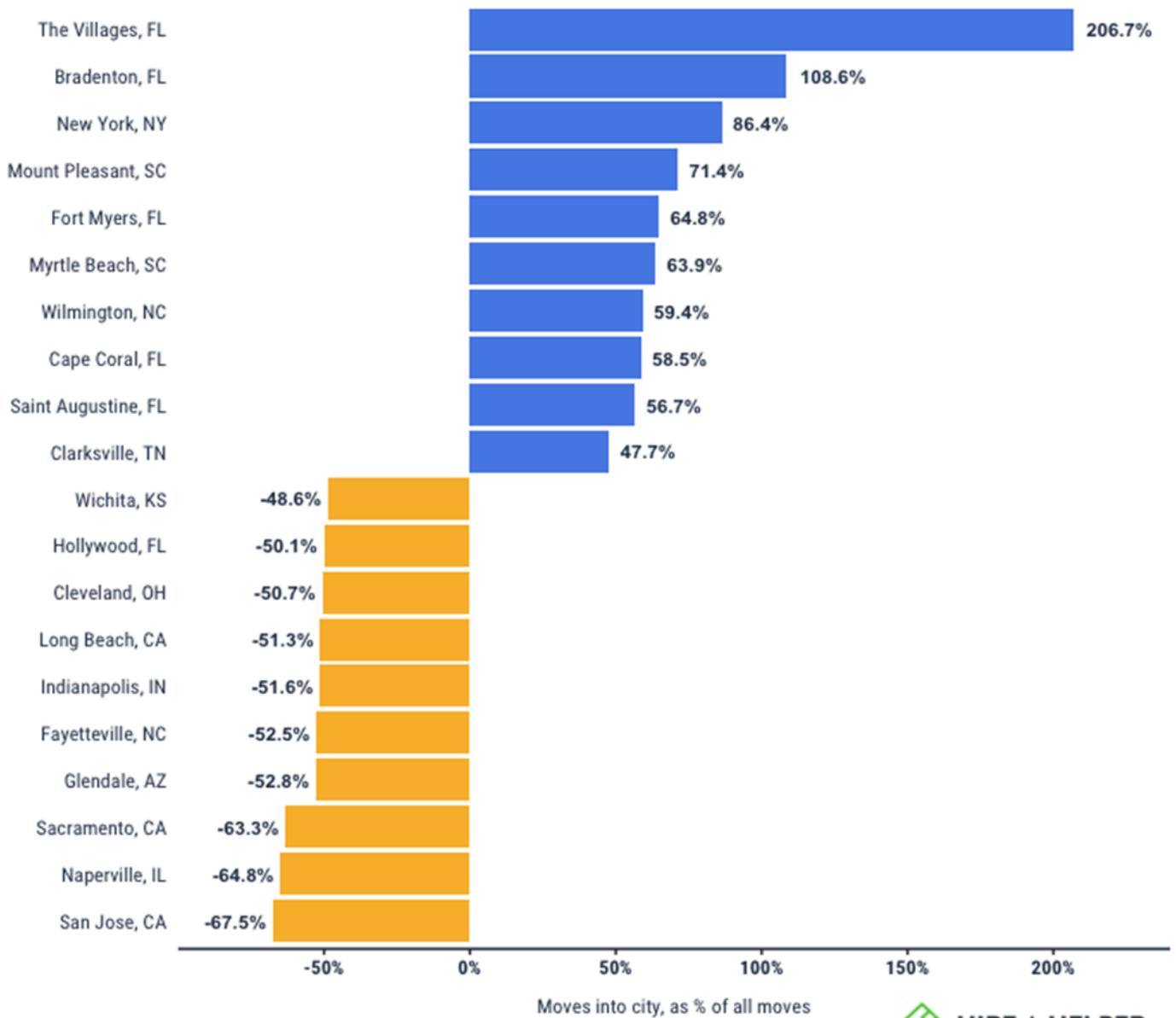
## Projected Additional Regional Growth 2020 – 2030



## 2021 Migration Trends

Wilmington NC  
59.4% Gain

**Cities with the Biggest Net Moving Gains and Losses**



## Labor Force

2023 Current

New Hanover, Pender, & Brunswick Counties



## Average Private Sector Annual Wages



## Housing

### Diverse Housing Opportunities

There are many options for housing in the Greater Wilmington region including...

- Waterfront homes on the beach or the river
- Gated golf communities
- Downtown historic homes , apartments or town homes
- Planned urban development's with shopping and schools are nearby
- Workforce housing
- Rural settings

Single-Family homes average \$325,000-\$475,000, depending on the community



## Schools

### Exemplary School System

#### Public Schools

- New Hanover Co. has an exemplary public school system
- Average SAT scores 1128 (NC Average=1091 US Average = 1051)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Largest school system in NC.

#### Private / Charter Schools

- The community has a wide range of parochial, private, and charter schools from which to choose from.

**Competitive athletic programs are offered throughout the school system**

### Higher Education

#### University of North Carolina Wilmington

- 18,000 + students
- 2,479 faculty and staff

#### Cape Fear Community College

- 24,000 students all campuses including continuing education
- 503 full time, 600 part time faculty and staff

#### Just two hours away from:

- **Duke University**
- **UNC-Chapel Hill**
- **NC State University**
- **East Carolina University**



## The University of North Carolina at Wilmington



For students willing to dive in intellectually, the University of North Carolina Wilmington offers a perfect environment for learning and living, one that is dynamic, demanding and engaging. Approximately three-fourths of freshmen surveyed said UNCW was their first choice.

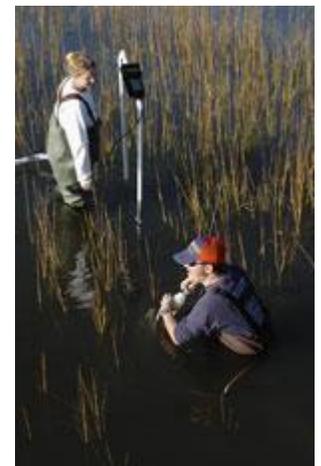


At UNCW, passionate and engaged teaching, learning and research matter. Students consistently praise the quality of their interactions with faculty and express satisfaction with their overall educational experience. The faculty culture emphasizes teaching and mentoring, incorporating research as an important component of the undergraduate learning experience and a service to the state. [International experiences](#) are encouraged through study abroad programs and language and culture studies on campus.

A public institution with over 18,000 students, UNCW offers a full range of baccalaureate- and graduate-level programs, as well as doctoral degrees in educational leadership, marine biology, nursing practice and psychology; and many distance learning options, including clinical research, an accelerated RN-to-BSN program, an Executive M.B.A. program structured for working professionals, and the nation's only bachelor's degree program focused on coastal engineering.

The U.S. News & World Report's rankings of colleges and universities, ranked UNCW 103<sup>rd</sup> among **Top Public National Universities** on the publication's list of Best Colleges 2022. The university also ranked 8th nationally on the U.S. News list of Best Online Bachelor's Programs.

UNCW's strength in the natural sciences, especially [biological sciences](#), [chemistry](#) and other disciplines that form the core of our internationally respected niche in the marine sciences, is the result of decades of intentional focus and investment. In the area of arts and literature, UNCW's highest profile programs are in film studies and [creative writing](#). The [Department of Film Studies](#) is a popular very major. The [Master of Fine Arts in creative writing](#) has become one of the most respected on the East Coast.



Enrollment	
Total Enrollment, Fall 2022	17,843
Undergraduate, Fall 2022	14,294
Graduate, Fall 2022	3,549
Freshman Class	
Enrollment, Fall 2022	2,370
SAT Average	1298
Average ACT	27
ACT Composite Range	24-28
Average High School GPA	4.04
Female	64%
Male	36%
Ethnic Diversity	17%
Out of state	20%
North Carolina	80%
SE North Carolina - (New Hanover, Pender, Brunswick, Columbus, Bladen, Sampson, Duplin, Onslow counties)	12%
International	18 countries

Degrees Offered	
Bachelor	59
Bachelor's/Master's Combo	16
Master's Dual Degrees	4
Master	37
Doctoral	5
Student Success	
Fall 2016 cohort for the 6-year graduation rate	83.9%
Retention Rate	82.6%

Budget FY22	
Annual Budget	\$378,756,347
State appropriation	\$181,222,251
University endowments	\$149,845,776
UNCW Foundation endowments	\$6,400,901
Source: UNCW Business Affairs	
Estimated Student Expenses*	
In-State	
Tuition & Fees	\$7,195
Room & Board	\$11,346
Out-of-State	
Tuition & Fees	\$21,303
Room & Board	\$11,346
Faculty and Staff (Source: IRP, Fall 2022)	
Faculty	1,125
Staff	1,463



## Cape Fear Community College



With over 24,000 students enrolling in classes every year, Cape Fear Community College is a major economic development partner in southeastern North Carolina. CFCC is dedicated to providing world-class workforce training and quality higher education for the citizens of New Hanover and Pender counties.

Students can train for a new career in one of CFCC's technical programs or earn a two-year college transfer degree to continue their education at a four-year institution. CFCC also offers a wide variety of adult education and continuing education classes for lifelong learning.

CFCC offers customized employee training opportunities for businesses and industries planning to expand or relocate to the greater Wilmington area. Most recent training partnerships included such companies as Verizon Wireless and GE Hitachi.

For students seeking a new career, CFCC has over 60 technical degree programs in a wide range of areas which offer hands-on training guided by a team of experienced instructors. The local job market for CFCC graduates is excellent.

Many of CFCC's technical programs have won state and regional recognition for student achievements in a wide variety of areas. Many of CFCC's health care programs have garnered an outstanding reputation among the local health care community by earning a stunning 100% pass rate on their respective certification exams year after year.

In CFCC's very popular college transfer program, students can earn the first two years of a bachelor's degree at a fraction of the cost of attending a four-year college or university. Classes at CFCC are small compared to large four-year colleges, which gives faculty more time to focus on individual students. After successfully completing their two-year degree, CFCC graduates can transfer to most four-year colleges or universities in North Carolina.

CFCC also offers hundreds of continuing education courses as well. Free programs include basic skills, adult literacy, GED preparation, job skills preparation, adult high school and English as a second language. In the college's Center for Business, Industry and Government, low-cost classes are offered in computer training, construction, foreign languages, leadership and management. CFCC's Small Business Center offers scores of free seminars for entrepreneurs and small businesses as well as free business counseling services.

CFCC's main campus is located in historic downtown Wilmington, North Carolina on the banks of the Cape Fear River and a North Campus in northern New Hanover County. The College also offers classes for Pender County residents in Burgaw and Surf City. Day and evening classes are offered at all campuses. CFCC also offers a large number of online classes through an expanding distance education program.

***CFCC's Customized Training and Workforce Development** services are designed to expand your employees' skills to keep your business at the forefront of your industry. Browse the categories below to see how we can help your business grow.*

**\*\*State-Funded Customized Training\*\***

**State-Funded Customized Training Programs** provide education, training and support services for new, expanding and existing businesses in North Carolina. Our goal is to keep your company strong, profitable and most importantly... in North Carolina.

**Customized Training Programs** are designed to make a difference in your bottom line, whether your organization is creating jobs, investing in new machinery and equipment, or streamlining processes for efficiency.

***Job Skills Training***

Want to add a new tools to your professional toolbox? Need a license or certification for your current job? We offer a variety of choices year-round to meet your needs.

***Small Business Center***

Cape Fear Community College's Small Business Center (SBC) is part of a statewide network designed to support the development and growth of small businesses. Millions of Americans choose to pursue the dream of being their own boss. Just look around our community and you will see strong evidence that the free enterprise system is alive and well in New Hanover and Pender County's. However, turning the dream of small business ownership into reality is no easy task. It often requires intensive planning and research, creative problem solving, strong determination to succeed, and the savvy to navigate countless regulatory agencies and resource options.

Your Small Business Center can help, and we are right here in your local community!

***Skilled Trade Programs***

CFCC offers training and test prep courses for contractors, journeymen, and apprentices.

***Online Training***

Cape Fear Community College offers a variety of non-credit, instructor-led classes over the Internet through a partnership with Ed2Go. Topics include: Accounting & Finance, Language & Arts, Business, Law & Legal, College Prep, Personal Development, Computer Skills, Teaching & Education, Design & Composition, Technology, Healthcare & Medical, Writing & Publishing

**For additional information about customized training, please contact**

**Jan R. Yokeley MBA, CFCC Director of Customized Training**  
**Office: (910) 362-7187     |Mobile: (336) 401-1544**  
**Email: [jyokeley@cfcc.edu](mailto:jyokeley@cfcc.edu)**

## Medical Centers

### **Novant Health / NHRMC**

- 636 beds
- 4,800 employees
- Level II Trauma care
- Neonatal intensive care
- Woman's & Children's hospital
- Cancer Center
- Cardiology Specialist

### **New Orthopedic Tower @NHRMC**

- 108 beds / 134,000 SF
- \$86.9 million State of the Art facility



### **Novant Health /NHRMC Orthopedic Hospital**

- 133 beds
- 568 employees
- Emergency department
- Orthopedic specialty center

### **Novant Health /Pender Memorial**

- 86 Beds
- 290 Employees
- Emergency department
- Surgery & Endoscopy
- Acute Care
- Skilled Nursing facility



### **Novant Health /NHRMC Rehabilitation Hospital**

- 60-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital
- 3,000 square foot therapy gym

### **Novant Health /Behavioral Health Hospital**

- Psychiatric crisis stabilization hospital
- Inpatient psychiatric programs for adults with mental health disorders, older adults and those with co-occurring substance abuse disorders

## Unemployment Insurance and Workers' Compensation

### *Unemployment Insurance Tax*

North Carolina ranks among the top states in the United States in the fiscal soundness of its unemployment insurance program and has one of the lowest minimum Unemployment Insurance tax rates in the nation. Under the state's experience rating system, reductions of the standard tax rate are permitted as an incentive to employers who provide steady work for their employees. An employer's experience rating is based on the relationship between the contributions credited to the employer's account and the benefits charged against it.

Employers subject to North Carolina unemployment tax pay quarterly tax on a percentage of their payroll. Most newly liable employers will use the standard beginning tax rate as shown below. Employers are notified of their official tax rate by letter if determined liable for unemployment insurance tax.

Year	Standard Beginning Tax Rate	Taxable Wage Base
2018	1.000% (.01000)	\$23,500
2019	1.000% (.01000)	\$24,300
2020	1.000% (.01000)	\$25,200
2021	1.000% (.01000)	\$26,000
2022	1.000% (.01000)	\$28,000

SOURCE: North Carolina Division Employment Security <https://des.nc.gov/employers/tax-rate-information>

### *Workers' Compensation Rates*

North Carolina workers' compensation legislation and insurance rates are generally more fiscally responsible and cost employers less money than in other states. The **maximum weekly benefit for 2022 is \$ 1,184.00**. Workers' compensation in North Carolina includes the following provision that could contribute substantially to labor cost savings for employers:

- Self-insurance is permitted.
- Insurance rates lower than the standard industry rates are permitted for firms that qualify.
- Clear-cut accident on the job is a condition for benefit compensation.
- Free accident-prevention workshops designed for each product manufactured are offered.

**For additional information, contact the following agency:**

NC Industrial Commission / <http://www.ic.nc.gov/>

(800) 688-8349, (919) 807-2501, or [infospec@ic.nc.gov](mailto:infospec@ic.nc.gov)



USS North Carolina Battleship at Wilmington

## Taxation

### North Carolina & Local Taxes and Rates

TAX TYPE	RATE
Corporate Tax	2.5%
State Property Tax on Inventory	Exempt
State Franchise Tax	\$1.50 per \$1,000
Retail Sales & Use Tax	NHC =7% Pender Co. = 6.75%
Highway Use Tax on Automobiles	3% State; Minimum of \$40 & Maximum of \$1,500
Property Tax—New Hanover County	\$0.4750/\$100 of assessed value
Property Tax—City of Wilmington	\$0.4984/\$100 of assessed value
Property Tax—Pender County	\$0.6450/\$100 of assessed value
Property Tax—Town of Burgaw	\$0.4400/\$100 of assessed value

**SOURCE:**

North Carolina Department of Revenue.  
County Tax Departments, 2022

### Personal Income Tax

**For Tax Year 2022, the North Carolina individual income tax rate is 4.99% (0.0499).**

North Carolina taxable income is the same as the figure calculated for federal income tax purposes with certain adjustments

**SOURCE:**

North Carolina Department of Revenue <http://www.dor.state.nc.us/taxes/individual/rates.html>

## Cost of Living in Wilmington, North Carolina

Our cost of living indices are based on a US average of 100. An amount below 100 means Wilmington is cheaper than the US average. A cost of living index above 100 means Wilmington, North Carolina is more expensive.

### Wilmington cost of living is 96.5

COST OF LIVING	Wilmington	North Carolina	USA
Overall	96.5	91	100
Grocery	99.9	96.5	100
Health	118.7	107.2	100
Housing	98.8	83.1	100
Median Home Cost	\$288,100	\$242,300	\$291,700
Utilities	97.2	99.2	100
Transportation	77.9	83.9	100
Miscellaneous	110.4	89.2	100

100=National Average

## Economic Development Incentive Policy

In the past the Board of Commissioners have provided industrial development grants for projects that provide the County with a high return on investment. Factors to be considered in awarding incentive grants include total capital investment; number, type and quality of jobs created; wage levels; potential for future expansions and increased unemployment, site specific issues such as those that will stimulate further economic development and other factors deemed relevant by the Board of Commissioners.

Use of incentive funds may be for one or more of the following: site acquisition, site preparation, site infrastructure, and other site improvements, job training costs not otherwise provided or reimbursed by the Community College System or State, or other purposes which leave value in the community as determined by the Board.

### **Potential State Incentives**

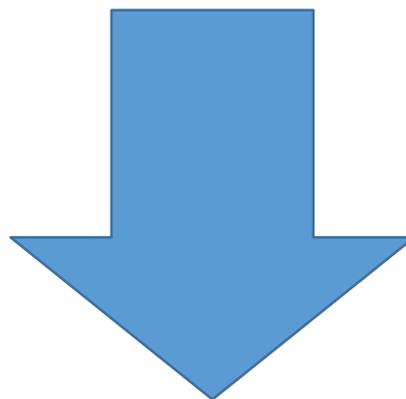
WBD will coordinate through NC Department of Commerce for potential state incentives.

## Unions

### A Right-to-Work State

North Carolina is an “at-will” employment state and one of 23 states with a “right-to-work” law. Closed shops and union shops are not permitted. An employer may not require an employee to join a union, nor may an employer require an employee to refrain from joining a union.

**In 2022 North Carolina had the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest Union Rate in the Country at 3.1 %**

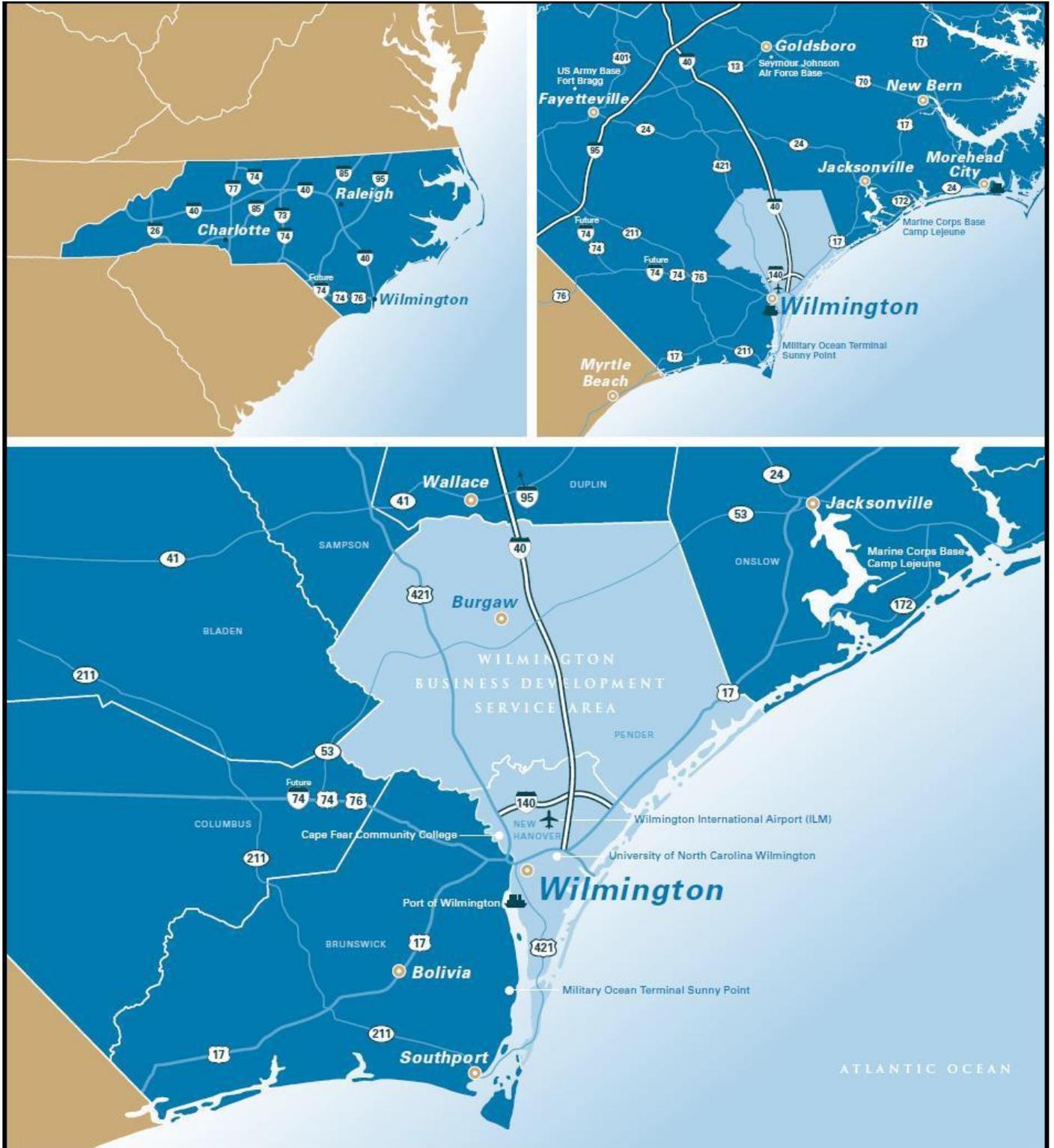


## Wilmington Business Development Services

*A sampling of our turnkey site selection assistance includes:*

- ✓ **Autonomy and confidentiality**—*WBD is a private, non-government entity.*
- ✓ **Building and/or site selection**—*based on your company's needs, we can assist with finding the best location for your new facility.*
- ✓ **Data compilation**—*much data is needed to make the decision to expand and/or relocate. WBD strives to provide value-added information that is crucial and concise. We will provide data the most current data relevant to livability*
  - Population and demographics*
  - Workforce statistics*
  - Economic indicators*
  - Education and training*
  - Tax advantages*
  - Transportation and infrastructure*
  - Climate*
  - Taxes*
- ✓ **Construction**—*we can provide construction cost estimates, financing options, etc.*
- ✓ **Utility liaison**—*based on your energy consumption, WBD can work to secure utility rates that will be economically attractive to your company.*
- ✓ **Infrastructure enhancement**—*depending on your needs and location of building/site, WBD can assist in obtaining essential utilities including electric, water, sewer, and natural gas.*
- ✓ **Worker training**—*once you have decided to locate in the Greater Wilmington region, WBD will work to secure customized training for your workforce.*
- ✓ **Housing**—*WBD can assist locating both short-term/temporary to permanent housing needs.*
- ✓ **Permitting**—*WBD understands the headaches associated with permitting. It will be our responsibility to work with local and state officials to make this process less cumbersome.*
- ✓ **Financial Assistance**—*WBD can provide help in all parameters of facility financing including Industrial Revenue Bonds as well as contact with appropriate financial institutions.*
- ✓ **Community Development Block Grants**—*WBD has helped realize growth in our existing industries through Community Development Block Grants. We look forward to working with your company in this area.*

## Transportation Map





**For customer oriented service,**

**Contact**

**Scott Satterfield**

*Chief Executive Officer*

**Wilmington Business Development**

PO Box 1698 Wilmington, NC 28402

Phone: 910-763-8414 Fax: 910-763-0106

Web Address: [www.wilmingtonbusinessdevelopment.com](http://www.wilmingtonbusinessdevelopment.com)

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