

## Education

County Expenditures	Per Pupil	Total Per Pupil	Fund balance
Rutherford	\$1,508	\$8,688	.93m
Polk	\$3,313	\$11,061	1.90m
McDowell	\$1,475	\$8,659	5.96m
Cleveland	\$2,145	\$9,052	11.57m
Henderson	\$1,838	\$8,115	1.56m
Buncombe	\$2,209	\$8,380	13.50m

**Per Pupil Explanation:** County per pupil educational expenditures (include salaries, employee benefits, purchased services, supplies and materials and instructional equipment)

**Total Per Pupil Explanation:** Educational expenditures (includes salaries, employee benefits, purchased services, supplies and materials, and instructional equipment) from county, state and federal funding sources

**Fund Balance Explanation:** Funding reserves for each local educational agency (LEA)

	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	Charter Schools
Rutherford	78.60%	3.4	2
Polk	82.90%	2.55	0
McDowell	77.00%	3.55	0
Cleveland	85.00%	2.69	1
Henderson	89.50%	1.75	1
Buncombe	83.20%	2.75	5

**Graduation Rate Explanation:** Percentage of ninth graders who graduated from high school four years later.

**Dropout Rate Explanation:** Dropout Rate is calculated at (100 x Number of 2013-14 Dropouts) divided by (20th Day Membership 2013-14 + Number of 2013-14 Dropouts)

**Charter Schools Explanation:** Number of charter schools in each county

### Community College Enrollment

Rutherford	3,153
Polk	597
McDowell	1,929
Cleveland	4,235
Henderson	3,130
Buncombe	9,056

**Community College Enrollment Explanation:** North Carolina students enrolled in the community college system by home county

## Demographics

	Population Change 2008-2014	Population Ratio 18 & 65
Rutherford	1.51%	.1x
Polk	3.98%	.4x
McDowell	1.28%	.1x
Cleveland	0.97%	.3x
Henderson	6.55%	4.7x
Buncombe	7.93%	3.6x

**Population Change Explanation:** A county's population change from 2008 to 2014 expressed as a percentage

**Population Ratio Explanation:** Size of a county's under-18 population compared to its 65-and-over population, expressed as a ratio. A county with a figure of 0.0 would have equally large under-18 and 65-and-over populations. A county with a figure of 2.0 would have an under-18 population 2x as large as its 65-and-over population. A negative number indicates a larger 65-and-over population.

	Foreign Born	Urbanization	Veterans Projected 2015
Rutherford	1.50%	minus.4x	5,427
Polk	2.90%	minus.9x	1,989
McDowell	1.28%	minus.7x	1,631
Cleveland	0.97%	minus.2x	7,374
Henderson	4.70%	1.0x	11,309
Buncombe	3.60%	2.1x	19,638

**Foreign Born Explanation:** Foreign - born residents in the county who are not U.S. citizens as percentage of total county population

**Urbanization Explanation:** Size of the county's urban population compared to its rural population, expressed as a ratio. A county with a 0.0 figure would have equally large urban and rural populations. A county with a figure of 2.0 would have an urban population 2x as large as its rural population. A negative number indicates a larger rural population

## Health & Human Services

	County Health Rankings	Poverty & Hunger	Food Stamps
<b>Rutherford</b>	72	7,221	\$3,925
Polk	17	1,270	\$4,359
McDowell	75	4,862	\$4,572
Cleveland	86	12,045	\$5,905
Henderson	13	6,238	\$4,365
Buncombe	14	20,006	\$4,773

**County Health Rankings Explanation:** county rankings of health outcomes-weighted equally between quality and length of life - with added measure of county populations

**Poverty & Hunger Explanation:** Number of county residents enrolled in Food and Nutrition Services

**Food Stamps Explanation:** Average Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) transfer per SNAP recipient household

	Food Insecurity Rates	Students on Free Lunch
<b>Rutherford</b>	19	73
Polk	14.1	63.3
McDowell	17.2	72.1
Cleveland	18.7	65.5
Henderson	13.9	55.1
Buncombe	15.4	56.2

**Food Insecurity Rate Explanation:** Food insecurity is defined by the USDA's measure, which includes reports of reduced quality, variety and/or desirability of diet, with reduced food intake

**Students on Free Lunch Explanation:** Final average daily membership (ADM) divided by the local educational agency's (LEA) number of free and reduced meal applications

	Population in Poverty	Children in Poverty	Children in Foster Care
<b>Rutherford</b>	23.90%	34.40%	85
Polk	14.70%	26.40%	35
McDowell	21.90%	31.30%	79
Cleveland	19.50%	31%	197
Henderson	15.50%	23.90%	136
Buncombe	15.70%	22%	299

**Population in Poverty Explanation:** Percentage of total number of people in the county living in poverty

**Children in Poverty Explanation:** Percentage of children under the age of 18 in the county in families living in poverty

**Children in Foster Care Explanation:** Rounded annual average of the number of children open for foster care services in the county (and not tallied as adopted children)

## Health & Human Services (continued)

	Children in Single Parent Household %	Teen Pregnancy Rates (15 to 19)
<b>Rutherford</b>	35%	52
Polk	35%	30
McDowell	34%	51
Cleveland	40%	53
Henderson	28%	48
Buncombe	33%	38

**Children in Single Parent Household Explanation:** Percentage of children who live in a household headed by a single parent (male or female head of household with no spouse present)

**Teen Pregnancy Rates Explanation:** Average rate of teen pregnancies (ages 15 - 19) per 1,000 female residents on the county between 2009 and 2013 (values were rounded to nearest whole number)

	Adults Reporting Fair or Poor Health	Uninsured Adults	Adult Obesity Rates	Adult Smoking Rates
<b>Rutherford</b>	24%	23%	27%	26.50%
Polk	11%	25%	25%	18.90%
McDowell	29%	21.90%	31%	23.10%
Cleveland	19%	20.70%	29%	24.30%
Henderson	17%	24.60%	22%	17.40%
Buncombe	14%	24.40%	24%	20%

**Adults Reporting Fair or Poor Health Explanation:** Percentage of adults who rated their health as "fair" or "poor"

**Uninsured Adults Explanation:** Percentage of uninsured county residents ages 18 - 64

**Adult Obesity Rates Explanation:** Percentage of adults that reported a BMI of 30 or more

**Adult Smoking Rates Explanation:** Percentage of adults in the county that reported currently smoking

	Cost Barriers to Health Care	Doctors Per Capita	Dentists Per Capita	Mental Health Providers
<b>Rutherford</b>	23%	1,924	4,195	744
Polk	15%	1,843	2,551	464
McDowell	20%	2,178	4,740	878
Cleveland	19%	1,989	2,696	802
Henderson	15%	1,244	2,062	571
Buncombe	15%	796	1,493	216

**Cost Carriers to Health Care Explanation:** Percentage of adults who could not see a doctor in the past 12 months due to cost

**Doctors Per Capita Explanation:** Ratio of county residents per primary care physician

**Dentists Per Capita Explanation:** Ratio of county residents per dentist

**Mental Health Providers Explanation:** Ratio of county residents per mental health provider

## Justice and Public Safety

	Property Crimes	Violent Crimes
Rutherford	2,692	173
Polk	1,444	86
McDowell	3,300	135
Cleveland	2,268	175
Henderson	2,050	163
Buncombe	3,181	242

**Property Crimes Explanation:** Rate of property crimes (including burglary, larceny, motor vehicle, theft and Arson) per 100,000 people in the county (values were rounded to nearest whole number)

**Violent Crimes Explanation:** Rate of violent crimes (including murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) per 100,000 people in the county (values were rounded to nearest whole number)

## Economic Development

	Per Capita Personal Income	Full & Part Time Jobs	Average Weekly Wage	Unemploy- ment Rate
<b>Rutherford</b>	\$28,283	26,468	\$593	8.10%
Polk	\$41,372	8,297	\$551	5.40%
McDowell	\$28,459	19,120	\$556	5.80%
Cleveland	\$33,690	44,674	\$688	6.50%
Henderson	\$38,611	49,522	\$676	4.80%
Buncombe	\$37,440	164,442	\$716	4.50%

**Per Capita Personal Income Explanation:** Measure of income calculated as the total personal income of an area's residents divided by the population of the area

**Full and Part Time Jobs Explanation:** Estimates of the number of full-time plus part-time jobs, counted at equal weight

**Average Weekly Wage Explanation:** Average weekly wage in the county, averaged over the year

**Unemployment Rate Explanation:** Ratio of unemployed to the civilian labor force expressed as a percent

	Hourly Living Wage (must have)	Change in Unemployment	Job Growth 2013- 2014	Economic Recovery (Pre vs Post)
<b>Rutherford</b>	\$10.28	-0.3	1.2	No
Polk	\$10.06	0	0.4	No
McDowell	\$9.96	-0.7	0.9	No
Cleveland	\$10.23	-0.7	0.4	No
Henderson	\$9.69	-0.2	1.2	No
Buncombe	\$9.69	-0.2	1.2	Yes

**Hourly Living Wage Explanation:** Living wage that an individual must earn to support him or herself in the county, given that they are working full-time

**Change in Unemployment Explanation:** 12-month net change in unemployment rate from May 2014 to May 2015

**Job Growth Explanation:** Year-over-year total jobs growth rate, representing both full-andpart-time jobs. Total jobs, not employed people, are counted

**Economic Recovery Explanation:** Has the county recovered to its pre-Recession level of jobs by 2014? Total jobs, not employed people, are counted

## Economic Development (continued)

	Where Residents Work (ratio)	High School Graduates	College Graduates (25 & older)
<b>Rutherford</b>	2.35x	81.60%	17%
Polk	1.04x	87%	26.90%
McDowell	1.92x	80.80%	13.90%
Cleveland	1.65x	82%	16.30%
Henderson	1.18x	85.70%	27.70%
Buncombe	8.63x	89%	33.80%

**Where Residents Work Explanation:** Ratio of the county's residents who work in their county of residence, versus those who work in another county. A figure of 0.0 indicates that the numbers of both groups are the same size. For example: a county with a figure of 2.0 would have 2x as many of its residents working in county as it has residents working in another county. A negative number indicates that more residents work in another county.

**High School Graduates Explanation:** Percentage of the county's population ages 25 and older who have graduated high school

**College Graduates Explanation:** Percentage of the county's population ages 25 and older who have a bachelor's degree

	Residential Building Permits	Median Home Value	Subsidized Housing	Homeowner ship
<b>Rutherford</b>	90	\$108,600	8	71.40%
Polk	67	\$170,200	4	74.20%
McDowell	106	\$101,200	4	71.50%
Cleveland	77	\$108,100	10	68%
Henderson	339	\$185,500	4	74.30%
Buncombe	931	\$191,200	19	64.50%

**Residential Building Permits Explanation:** Number of new housing units authorized by building permits

**Median Home Value Explanation:** Median respondent homeowner's estimate of how much their property would sell for if it were for sale

**Subsidized Housing Explanation:** Number of federally subsidized housing developments listed by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Homeownership Explanation:** Homeownership rate is calculated by dividing the number of owner-occupied housing units by the number of occupied housing units or households

## Economic Development (continued)

	GDP	Tourism Expenditure	Agricultural Cash Receipts & Ranking
<b>Rutherford</b>	\$2,200 m	\$150.5 m	\$24,473,567 (78th)
Polk	\$.589 m	\$23.3 m	\$5,423,961 (95th)
McDowell	\$2,000 m	\$50.8 m	\$25,844,340 (77th)
Cleveland	\$4,100 m	\$92.0 m	\$96,340,863 (39th)
Henderson	\$3,600 m	\$233.3 m	\$101,725,985 (37th)
Buncombe	\$12,800 m	\$901.3 m	\$20,857,731 (84th)

**GDP Explanation:** Total value of the goods and services produced by the county's economy

**Tourism Expenditures Explanation:** Travel expenditures by county. Travel expenditures are defined as the goods and services the traveler purchases as part of his/her trip

**Agricultural Cash Receipts & Ranking Explanation:** Total cash receipts in the county (including receipts from livestock, dairy and poultry, crops and government payments) with county rankings by cash receipt totals.