

Adult Literacy and Numeracy Snapshot

NORTH CAROLINA



U.S. PIAAC Skills Map: State and County Indicators of Adult Literacy and Numeracy

The Skills Map provides the most comprehensive snapshot of key workforce skills in every state and county in the United States. Users can easily access information about the literacy and numeracy proficiency of adults aged 16-74 and compare performance between individual states and counties. Results are reported as the state or county average score on a scale of 0-500 and as the percentage of adults at the lowest levels of proficiency (at or below Level 1), medium proficiency (at Level 2), and the highest levels of proficiency (at or above Level 3).

The data in the tool are generated by a technique called small area estimation. The statistical models used to calculate the state and county estimates relied on combined data from the 2012, 2014, and 2017 Program of the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) in conjunction with 2013-2017 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) to produce reliable estimates. The estimates are predictions of how the adults in a given state or county would have performed had they taken the PIAAC assessments. For more information on the tool, please visit the PIAAC State and County Estimates page: nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/state-county-estimates.asp

Literacy

Average scale score:

National
264

North Carolina
265
■ (same as national average)

North Carolina proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1
(Below 226)
21%

Level 2
(226-275)
33%

At or above Level 3
(Above 275)
46%

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

States sorted by average literacy scale score:

New Hampshire	279	Connecticut	271	Oklahoma	263
Minnesota	279	Kansas	271	South Carolina	263
Vermont	277	South Dakota	271	Arizona	262
District of Columbia	277	Michigan	271	Kentucky	261
Alaska	277	Hawaii	270	Georgia	260
North Dakota	276	Virginia	270	Tennessee	260
Washington	275	Idaho	270	West Virginia	260
Utah	274	Ohio	268	New York	260
Iowa	273	Maryland	268	Florida	259
Oregon	273	Indiana	266	Alabama	259
Maine	273	Pennsylvania	266	Arkansas	259
Wisconsin	273	Rhode Island	266	California	257
Massachusetts	273	Missouri	266	Nevada	255
Montana	273	Illinois	266	Texas	254
Wyoming	272	North Carolina	265	Mississippi	252
Colorado	272	New Jersey	264	New Mexico	252
Nebraska	271	Delaware	264	Louisiana	252

Counties sorted by average literacy scale score:

Orange	283	Perquimans	260	Warren	244
Wake	281	Yancey	260	Hertford	243
Dare	277	Stanly	260	Greene	241
New Hanover	276	Franklin	259	Washington	239
Buncombe	275	McDowell	259	Anson	239
Carteret	274	Rowan	259	Vance	239
Union	274	Rutherford	258	Duplin	239
Polk	274	Gates	258	Edgecombe	239
Henderson	274	Lee	258	Northampton	239
Moore	273	Burke	258	Halifax	238
Watauga	273	Alexander	258	Bertie	238
Chatham	271	Beaufort	258	Tyrrell	231
Currituck	271	Avery	257		
Mecklenburg	271	Caldwell	257		
Cabarrus	271	Surry	257		
Onslow	270	Alleghany	257		
Iredell	270	Granville	257		
Haywood	270	Cleveland	257		
Brunswick	269	Stokes	257		
Durham	269	Hoke	257		
Transylvania	269	Pasquotank	257		
Davie	267	Wilkes	256		
Camden	267	Randolph	256		
Craven	267	Person	255		
Guilford	267	Yadkin	255		
Jackson	266	Nash	255		
Clay	265	Jones	255		
Forsyth	265	Wayne	255		
Cumberland	265	Rockingham	254		
Pender	265	Graham	252		
Lincoln	265	Swain	252		
Pitt	264	Martin	250		
Macon	264	Chowan	250		
Catawba	264	Columbus	249		
Madison	263	Montgomery	248		
Pamlico	263	Lenoir	248		
Johnston	262	Wilson	248		
Cherokee	262	Caswell	248		
Mitchell	262	Bladen	247		
Ashe	262	Richmond	247		
Alamance	261	Hyde	246		
Gaston	261	Scotland	245		
Harnett	261	Robeson	245		
Davidson	261	Sampson	244		

Numeracy

Average scale score:

National
249North Carolina
249
 (same as national average)

North Carolina proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1
(Below 226)
33%Level 2
(226-275)
32%At or above Level 3
(Above 275)
35%*Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*

States sorted by average numeracy scale score:

New Hampshire	268	South Dakota	259	Arizona	247
Minnesota	268	Hawaii	259	Oklahoma	247
Vermont	265	Kansas	258	Kentucky	247
North Dakota	264	Connecticut	258	South Carolina	246
Alaska	264	Virginia	257	New York	245
Washington	262	Idaho	256	West Virginia	245
Utah	262	Michigan	256	Tennessee	245
Iowa	261	Maryland	255	California	244
Massachusetts	261	Ohio	254	Georgia	243
Oregon	260	Rhode Island	253	Florida	243
Maine	260	Pennsylvania	252	Arkansas	243
Montana	260	Missouri	252	Alabama	242
District of Columbia	260	Illinois	252	Nevada	240
Colorado	260	Indiana	252	Texas	238
Wyoming	260	New Jersey	250	New Mexico	235
Nebraska	259	North Carolina	249	Mississippi	234
Wisconsin	259	Delaware	249	Louisiana	233

Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score:

Orange	270	Camden	254	Cherokee	247
Wake	268	Mecklenburg	254	Forsyth	247
Dare	264	Transylvania	254	Pamlico	247
Buncombe	261	Brunswick	254	Johnston	247
Polk	260	Onslow	254	Macon	246
Carteret	260	Davie	253	Ashe	246
Henderson	260	Durham	252	Cumberland	246
New Hanover	260	Craven	251	Davidson	245
Union	259	Lincoln	250	Gaston	245
Moore	259	Jackson	250	Yancey	245
Currituck	258	Clay	249	Pitt	244
Watauga	257	Catawba	249	Alamance	244
Chatham	257	Guilford	249	Stanly	244
Cabarrus	256	Madison	249	McDowell	244
Haywood	255	Pender	249	Harnett	243
Iredell	255	Mitchell	248	Caldwell	243

Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score (continued):

Avery	243	Washington	218
Surry	243	Vance	218
Burke	243	Anson	217
Perquimans	243	Edgecombe	216
Rutherford	243	Bertie	216
Alexander	243	Northampton	216
Franklin	242	Halifax	216
Rowan	242	Tyrrell	208
Alleghany	242		
Stokes	241		
Wilkes	241		
Gates	241		
Lee	241		
Randolph	241		
Yadkin	240		
Granville	240		
Beaufort	239		
Cleveland	239		
Pasquotank	237		
Person	237		
Rockingham	237		
Hoke	237		
Nash	236		
Wayne	236		
Graham	236		
Jones	236		
Swain	234		
Montgomery	230		
Martin	230		
Caswell	229		
Chowan	229		
Columbus	229		
Wilson	228		
Bladen	227		
Lenoir	227		
Hyde	226		
Richmond	226		
Robeson	224		
Sampson	224		
Scotland	224		
Warren	222		
Hertford	221		
Greene	221		
Duplin	219		