

## QUALITY OF LIFE



### IN THIS SECTION

- 41** General Overview
- 42** Major Regional Health Care Facilities
- 43** Overview of Fayetteville and Wilmington-Metro Areas (MSAS)
- 43** Key Attractions
- 44** Tourism Visitation to Region
- 44** All-America Cities

# QUALITY OF LIFE

## General Overview

Quality of Life is exceptional in the Southeastern North Carolina region due to the following attributes:

### WEATHER

- Moderate four-season climate with average temperatures ranging from 44 degrees in January to 80 degrees in July.
- The mean average annual rainfall ranges between 47"-57".
- Pleasant weather accommodates numerous outdoor activities, many of them year-round.
- Occasional snowfalls allow for sledding and other winter recreation.
- Winter weather rarely interferes with business operations and rainfall provides ample water supplies.

### HEALTHCARE

- The region has 17 hospitals housing a total of 3,627 beds.
- Primary and specialty care facilities include cancer treatment and cardio-vascular disease treatment.
- 432 long-term care beds in the region.
- Area hospitals maintain strong alliances with medical institutions throughout the state and continuously seek ways to improve overall health care offerings.

### CULTURAL & HISTORICAL ATTRACTIONS

- Larger cities and small towns alike offer opportunities for entertainment and enrichment in the realm of art, heritage, military, science and many other areas.
- Festivals and events are held throughout the year, some based on geography, sports, holidays, industry or culture. All offer the opportunity for fun, food, and fellowship.
- Entertainment and conference complexes host events that include sports, equestrian competitions, home shows, craft festivals, business expos, antique shows, beauty pageants, musical and dramatic performances.
- Many of the colleges and universities in the region have performing arts and seminars that feature performers and speakers of national and international renown.
- Several cities also have regional theaters, symphonies, local arts councils and an abundance of local festivals and events throughout the year.

## OCEAN AND BEACH ACTIVITIES

- The coast along southeastern North Carolina offers miles and miles of shoreline for the water enthusiast and is home to many natural barrier islands as well.
- Swimming and other water related activities are available, including power boating, sail boating, jet skiing, waterskiing, parasailing and surfing.
- For the boating enthusiasts there are many boating access areas for fresh water access and an ample supply of commercial marinas for access to the Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean. For those who enjoy water-related recreation, the area has deep sea fishing available along the coast.

## SPORTS AND RECREATION

- For the golf enthusiast, more than 100 championship golf courses are located in close proximity to the region, bordered by Pinehurst to the northwest and Myrtle Beach's Grand Strand to the southeast.
- The region is home to many professional and collegiate athletic events, including indoor and outdoor football, baseball, basketball, motor sports, hockey and soccer.
- Given its temperate climate and many miles of coastline, the Southeast Region is ideal for water-related activities such as boating, water skiing, jet skiing, parasailing, surfing, and deep-sea or freshwater fishing.
- Tennis enthusiasts will find abundant public and private courts.
- Parks, pools and recreation centers can be found throughout the region, and the Southeast's coastal counties boast a number of boating marinas along with free boating access areas not only along the coast but the inland rivers as well.
- The mountains of North Carolina are a half-day's drive away and the NC Zoological Park is also nearby.
- Other activities—canoeing, camping, hiking, jogging, swimming and nature walks, for instance—can be found in the state parks, recreation areas or natural preserves in the region and nearby.
- Hunting activities are also available in the numerous hunting preserves in the region.
- Most towns have trails or walks for the enjoyment of hikers, runners or just the pleasure walker. The region boasts seven state parks, recreation areas and natural preserves.

# QUALITY OF LIFE

## Major Health Care Facilities in the Southeastern Region

County	Hospital	Type: Private/Public	# Licensed Beds	Long Term Care Facility
<b>Bladen</b>	Bladen County Hospital, Part of Cape Fear Valley Health System (Elizabethtown)	Public General Acute Care	58	10 Beds
<b>Brunswick</b>	Brunswick Community Hospital, Affiliate of Novant Health (Supply)	Private, Not-for Profit General Acute Care	74	No
	Dosher Memorial Hospital (Southport)	Public Acute Care and Skilled Nursing	100	64 Beds
<b>Columbus</b>	Columbus Regional Health Care System (Whiteville)	Private General Acute Care	154	No
<b>Cumberland</b>	Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, Part of Cape Fear Valley Health System (Fayetteville)	Private General Acute Care	200	Yes
	Highsmith-Rainey Memorial Hospital, Part of Cape Fear Valley Health System (Fayetteville)	Private General Acute Care	112	Yes
	Behavioral Healthcare, Part of Cape Fear Valley Health System (Fayetteville)	Private Psychiatric	139	No
	Veterans Medical Center (Fayetteville)	Federal Medical & Surgery	219	69 Beds
	Womack Army Medical Center (Fort Bragg)	Federal	500	No
<b>New Hanover</b>	New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Part of New Hanover Health Network (Wilmington)	Public General Acute Care	636	No
	Cape Fear Hospital, Part of New Hanover Health Network (Wilmington)	Public General Acute Care	133	No
<b>Pender</b>	Pender Memorial Hospital, Part of New Hanover Health Network (Burgaw)	Public General Acute Care & Skilled Nursing	86	43 Beds
<b>Richmond</b>	FirstHealth Richmond Memorial Hospital (Rockingham)	Private General Acute Care	99	51 Beds
	Sandhills Regional Medical Center (Hamlet)	Private General Acute Care	64	No
<b>Robeson</b>	Southeastern Regional Medical Center (Lumberton)	Private General Acute Care	337	115 Beds
<b>Sampson</b>	Sampson Regional Medical Center (Clinton)	Non-Profit Corp.	146	30 Beds
<b>Scotland</b>	Scotland Memorial Hospital, Part of Scotland Health Care System (Laurinburg)	Private General Acute Care	154	50 Beds
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>3,211</b>	<b>432</b>

Source: North Carolina Hospital Association Membership Organizations, Telephone Survey and Internet Search, Regional Center for Economic, Community & Professional Development at UNC-Pembroke, March 2011 | HYPERLINK "<http://www.ncha.org>" [www.ncha.org](http://www.ncha.org)].

## Overview of Fayetteville and Wilmington-Metro Areas (MSAs)

### FAYETTEVILLE FAST FACTS

- The sixth-largest city in North Carolina (pop. 200,564), Fayetteville has numerous historic sites, seven museums, three colleges and universities, multiple entertainment venues, a historic downtown and award-winning golf courses.
- Fayetteville is one of the highest ranked cities in the country for job creation, according to a 2010 quarterly survey of employer expectations by Manpower, Inc.
- Fayetteville is tied for third in the nation with Amarillo, Texas and Sioux Falls, S.D. for having an anticipated 11 percent increase in the job market.
- Parks and recreation centers offer individuals the chance to experience the outdoors.
- Fayetteville Regional Airport and Interstate 95 provide access to many destination options.
- Fayetteville is ranked one of the top five cities in the country for best places to sell a house, according to research on real estate Web site Zillow.com.

### WILMINGTON FAST FACTS

- A coastal city (pop. 106,476) located in the southeastern corner of North Carolina between the Cape Fear River and the Atlantic Ocean.
- Although not just a tourist town, Wilmington has many attractions such as the Battleship North Carolina, Airlie Gardens and Screen Gem Studios where TV shows such as Dawson's Creek and One Tree Hill were filmed.
- A popular destination because of its moderate, four-season climate, historic preservation district, annual events such as Wilmington Riverfest and the Azalea Festival and numerous championship golf courses.
- Excellent Shopping and some of the best restaurants in the country.
- Wrightsville, Carolina and Kure Beaches are a mecca for boaters, surfers, sunbathers, beachcombers and seafood.
- Some of the best schools in the nation. The primary schools consistently rate high on all national educational standards.

- Many Colleges and Universities provide advanced education opportunities including the UNC Wilmington with the fifth best Marine Biology Program in the world.
- I-40 begins its 2,400 mile journey to Barstow California from Wilmington.
- Other highway infrastructure include I-74, US Hwy 17, 76 and NC Hwy 421.

### Key Regional Attractions

- Beaches
- More than 100 golf courses
- Camping
- Boating
- Festivals
- U.S.S. Battleship North Carolina
- Moore's Creek National Battlefield
- Lumber River State Park
- Airborne & Special Operations Museum
- Museum of the Cape Fear
- Fort Fisher State Park
- Lake Waccamaw State Park
- National Transportation Museum
- Jones Lake State Park
- Chalk Banks State Park
- NC Aquarium
- Carver Creek State Park
- Bladen Lakes State Forest
- Museum of the Native American Resource Center
- JFK Special Warfare Museum
- Cameron Museum of Art
- Rockingham Motor Speedway
- NC Museum of Forestry
- Brunswick Town Historic Site

# QUALITY OF LIFE

## Tourism Visitation to Region (2008)

County	Expenditures (\$ Millions)	Payrolls (\$ Millions)	Employment	State Tax Revenues (\$ Millions)	Local Tax Revenues (\$ Millions)
<b>Bladen</b>	32.2	3.7	200	1.8	1.0
<b>Brunswick</b>	392.8	78.9	4,880	18.2	25.7
<b>Columbus</b>	47.3	6.0	310	2.6	1.4
<b>Cumberland</b>	391.1	80.4	4,160	20.5	8.7
<b>Hoke</b>	8.4	1.1	70	0.4	0.1
<b>New Hanover</b>	422.6	99.7	5,510	20.5	16.7
<b>Pender</b>	67.9	12.2	70	3.1	4.9
<b>Richmond</b>	41.4	7.9	40	2.2	0.8
<b>Robeson</b>	113.7	18.1	1,080	6.3	2.2
<b>Sampson</b>	43.0	5.9	300	2.3	1.5
<b>Scotland</b>	35.3	6.1	360	1.9	0.7
<b>NC Southeast</b>	1,595.9	320.0	18,000	79.8	63.6
<b>Fayetteville MSA</b>	391.1	80.4	4,160	20.5	8.7
<b>Wilmington MSA</b>	883.4	190.9	11,080	41.8	47.3

Source: NC Department of Commerce.

## All-America Cities in Southeastern NC

County	City	Year(s)
Cumberland	<b>Fayetteville</b>	1984-1985 and 2001
New Hanover	<b>Wilmington</b>	1965
Richmond	<b>Hamlet</b>	1990
Richmond	<b>Rockingham</b>	1979-1980
Robeson	<b>Lumberton</b>	1970 and 1995
Sampson	<b>Clinton</b>	2007
Scotland	<b>Laurinburg</b>	1956, 1967 and 2003

Source: All American City Award, March 2011 [www.allamericacityaward.com]

