

Committee on Access to Healthcare in Rural NC

February 15, 2018

**ECU School of Dental Medicine:
Addressing Oral Health Challenges in
Rural North Carolina**

“You are not healthy without good oral health”

[Dr. C. Everett Koop, Former US Surgeon General]



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Demographic Challenges for NC

- 5th fastest growing state - will be the 7th largest (12+M) by 2030
- 80 rural counties and 20 urban counties
- 26 NC counties have fewer than 2 dentists/10K population
- NC ranks 47th in the number of providers/10K population



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Our Challenges

..... Especially in rural areas

- \approx 30% of population experience barriers to access traditional dental care delivery system
- In rural areas... Change the conversation
 - Prevention
 - Partnering with other primary care providers
 - Community engagement
- Acknowledging oral health as essential to health, support Dental Medicaid and assistance for those living below the poverty level

ECU Health Sciences Division, including SoDM Share Common Mission

- Focusing on Rural Communities.....
- Transforming health care, promoting wellness and reducing health disparities
- SoDM Dual Mission: Education and Care Delivery

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Brunswick County



Ahoskie



Elizabeth City



Robeson County

Ross Hall



Hospital Dentistry



Spruce Pine



Sylva



Davidson County



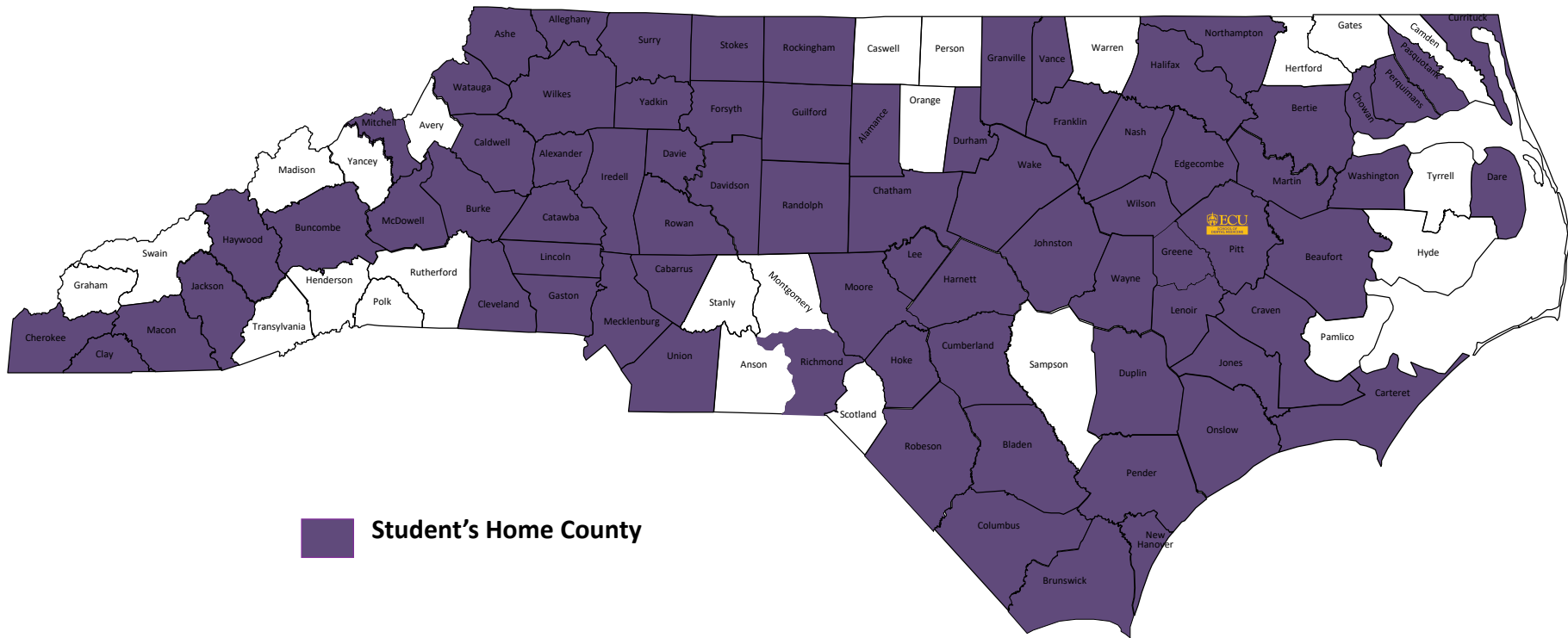
Lillington



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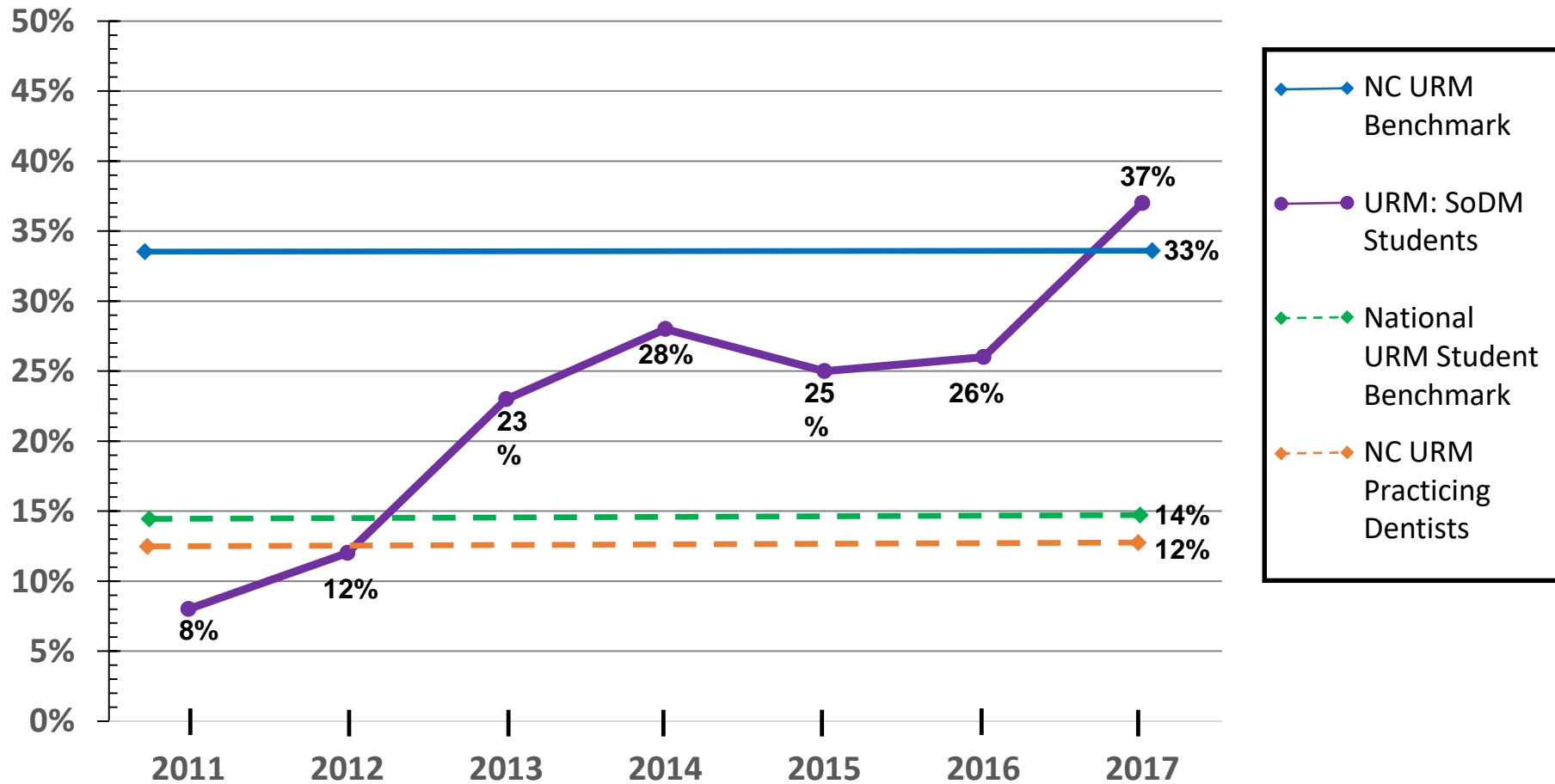
Our Students Represent 76 North Carolina Counties



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Achieving Student Diversity

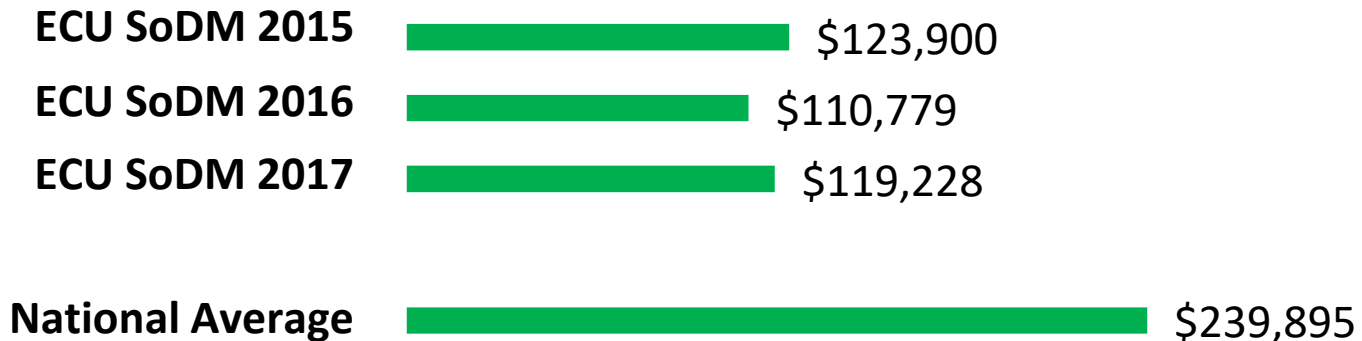


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Keeping Student Debt Low

Graduating Dental Student Debt



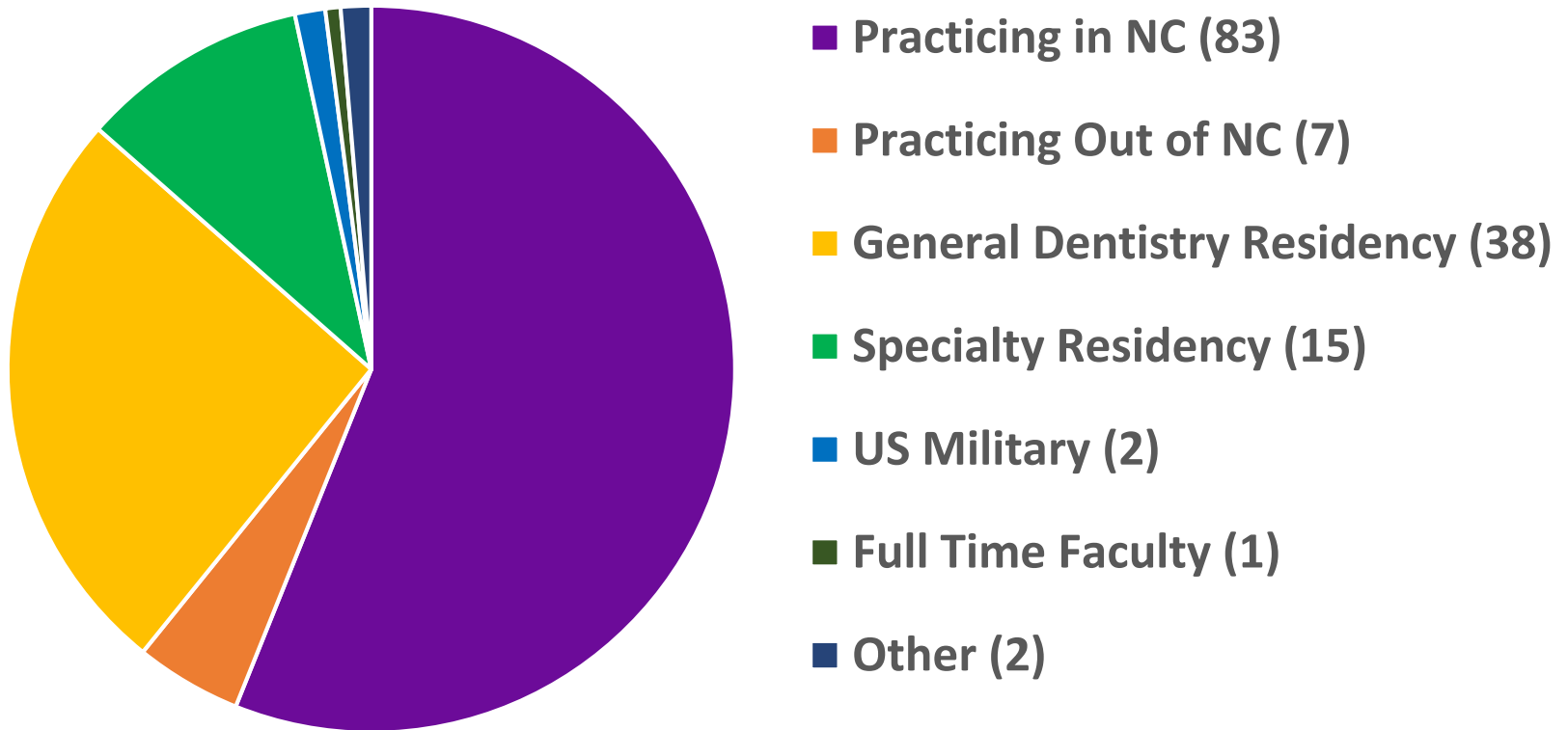
On average, the class of 2017 received \$39,071 per student in grants and scholarships.

On average, the class of 2016 received \$50,371 per student in grants and scholarships.

On average, the class of 2015 received \$47,255 per student in grants and scholarships.

Average debt for private schools \$341,190; average debt of all \$287,331

Where Our Graduates Practice (Classes of 2015, 2016 & 2017)



*As of May 2017

Community Service Learning Centers...

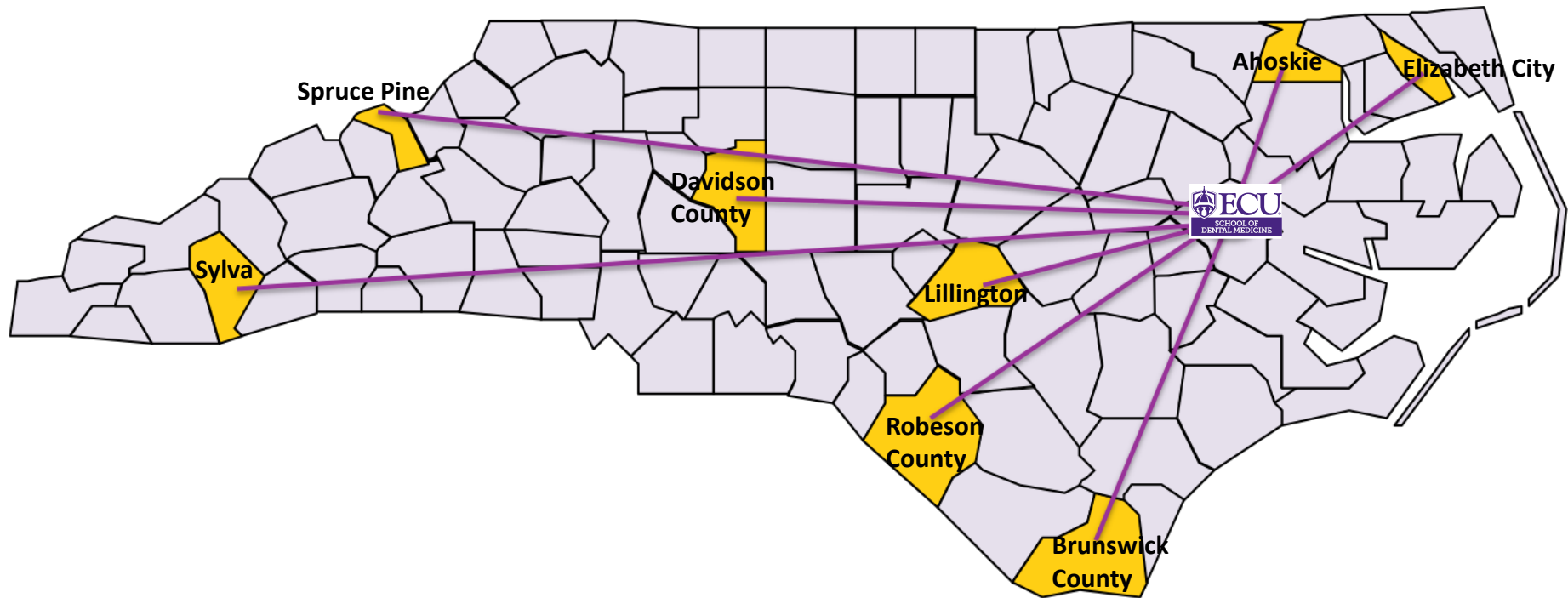
.....A Critical Component in Achieving our Mission



Education ♦ Access ♦ Sustainable

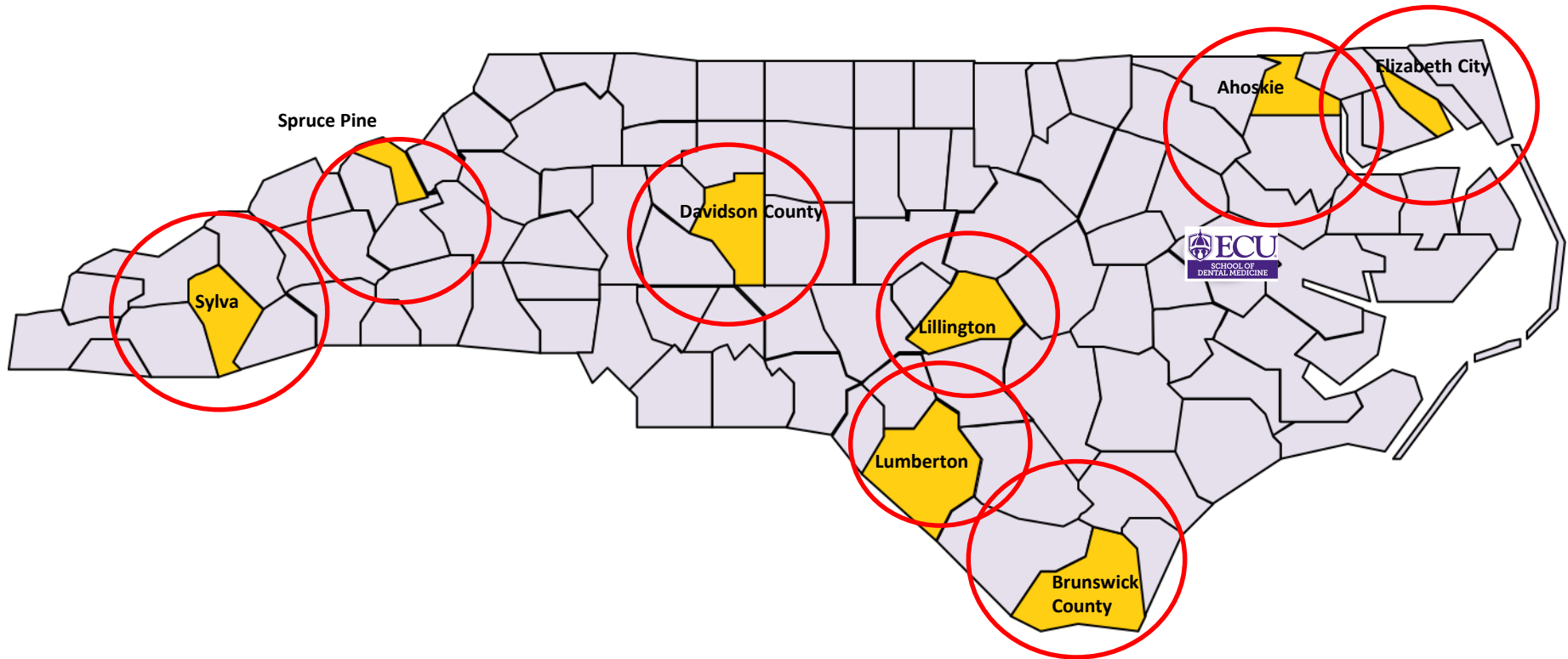
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Extending Our Reach Across the State



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Extending Our Reach Around Our CSLCs



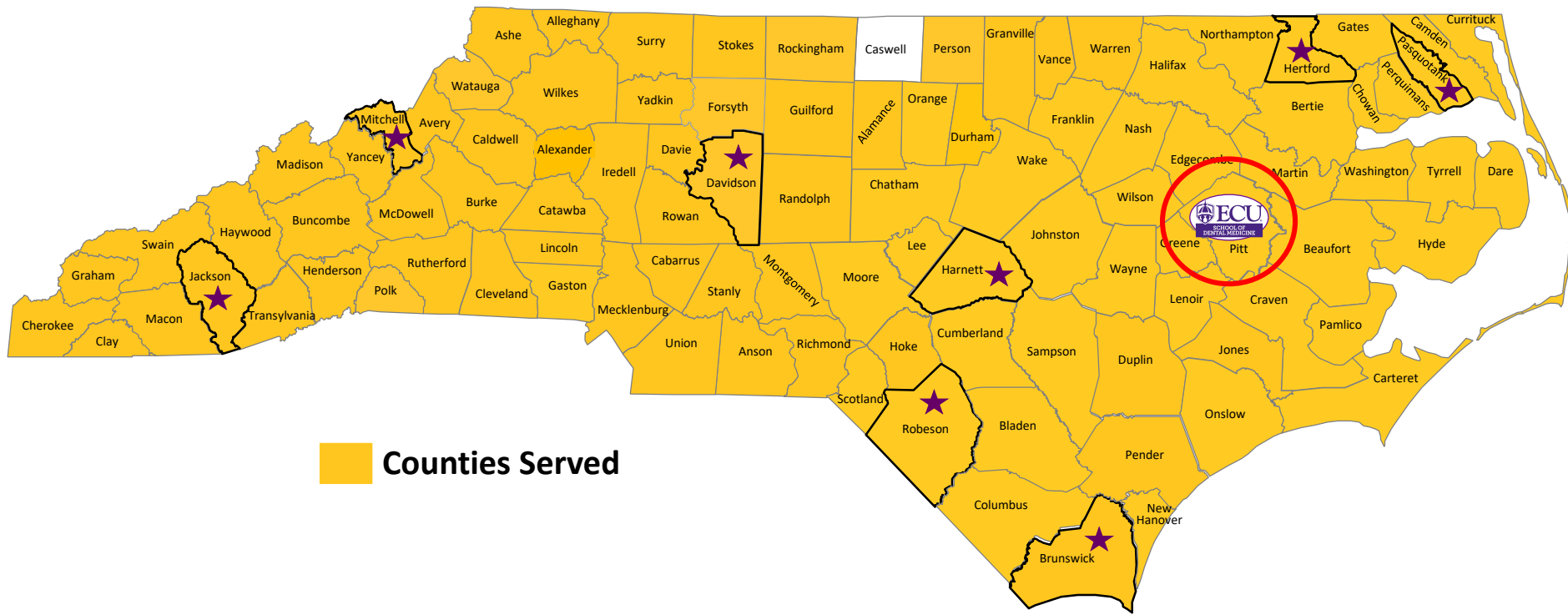
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Our Patients

**99 North Carolina Counties are Served by Ross Hall
& our 8 Community Service Learning Centers**

Ross Hall Serves 78 Counties

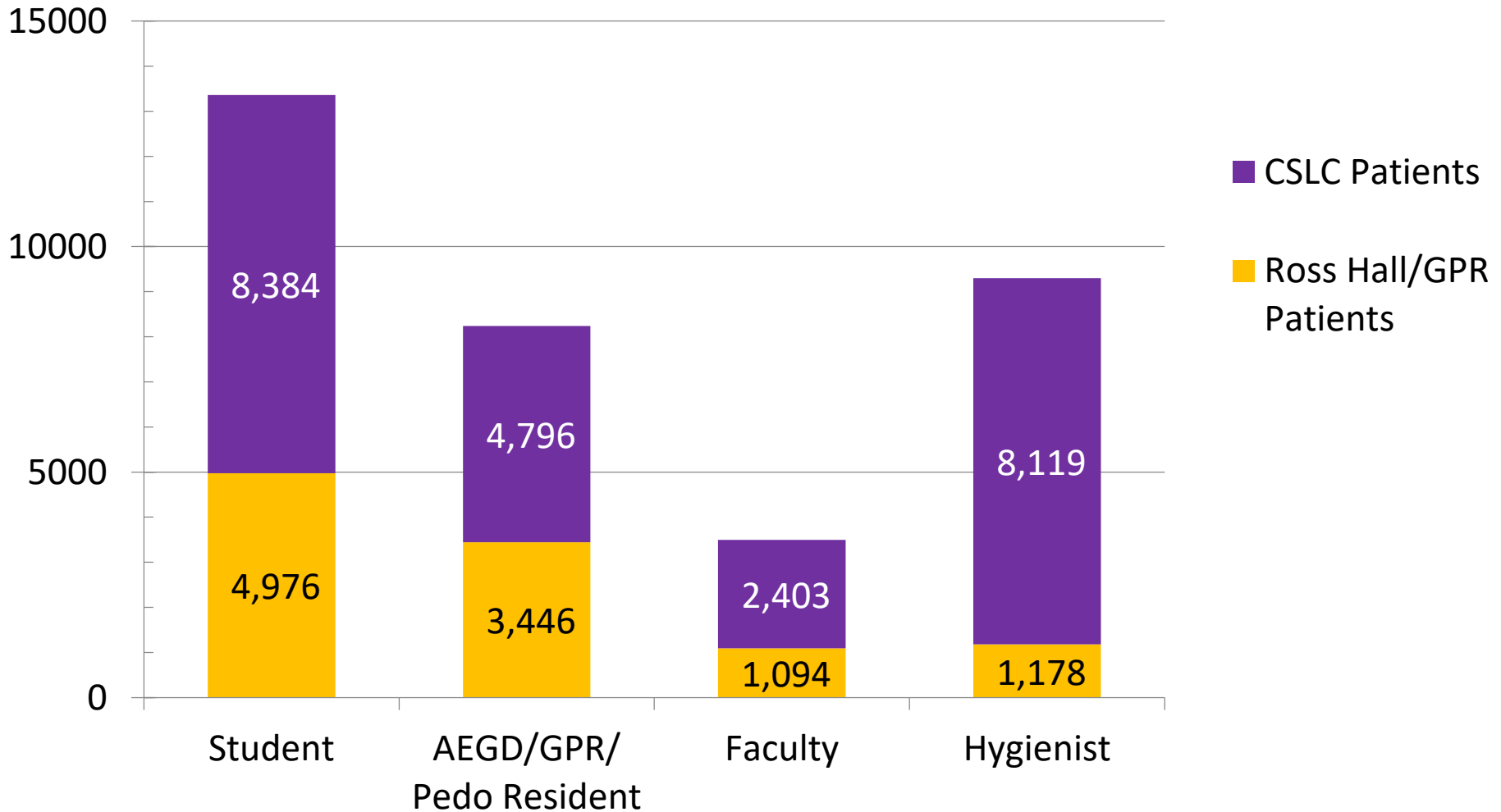


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Patients Treated by Provider

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017



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As of January 31, 2018

51,235

15,565 are Dental Medicaid patients

Total Patients Seen in Ross Hall, 8 CSLCs and Hospital Dentistry since July 2012

Summary - ECU School of Dental Medicine

- An educational model that is a statewide resource
- Fulfilling our Promises
 - Focusing on primary care in rural and underserved areas of NC
 - Educating next generation of dentists (including pediatric dentistry and advanced general dentistry)
 - Providing much needed care in rural areas, accepting Medicaid, reduced fees, payment plans etc.
- Reducing the barriers to oral health in rural areas (financial, location, poor oral health literacy, lack of an oral health home, fear, etc.)
- Changing the conversation to one of prevention and health
- Community Engagement (local advisory boards, developing pilot for school-based preventive/restorative program, ready for CDHCs, collaborative practice)



ROSS HALL