NC TOWER

What is NC TOWER?

NC TOWER is North Carolina's Tool for Online Workforce and Education Reporting. It's a new online reporting tool with in-depth information on post-graduation employment and wages of graduates from the North Carolina Community College System and from the University of North Carolina system. NC TOWER is a product of the North Carolina Common Follow-up System.
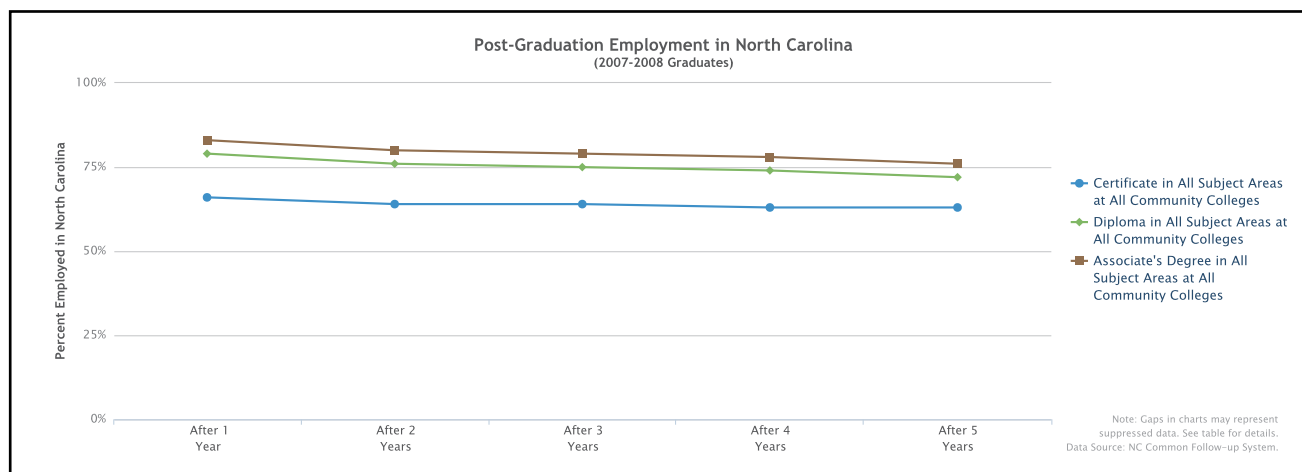
Who will NC TOWER Benefit?

NC TOWER is intended to benefit anyone with an interest in understanding the post-graduation outcomes of students in North Carolina's public institutions of higher education. This includes students, prospective students, parents, program administrators, state agency staff, researchers, and policymakers.

What Information is Available in NC TOWER?

NC TOWER provides the following types of aggregate data for every cohort of graduates, starting one year after graduation and extending up to ten years after graduation:

- Percent employed in North Carolina
- Mean Wages
- Percentile Wages (25th Percentile, Median, and 75th Percentile)
- Percent enrolled in further public higher education in North Carolina
- Percent either enrolled or employed in North Carolina

Post-Graduation Employment in North Carolina
(2007-2008 Graduates)

Legend:
- Certificate in All Subject Areas at All Community Colleges
- Diploma in All Subject Areas at All Community Colleges
- Associate's Degree in All Subject Areas at All Community Colleges

Note: Gaps in charts may represent suppressed data. See table for details.
Data Source: NC Common Follow-up System.

What are the Data Limitations of NC TOWER?

NC TOWER only counts students with a valid SSN listed in the Common Follow-up System. Counts of students and graduates may therefore differ slightly from agency reports. NC TOWER can only track graduates who work in jobs covered by North Carolina unemployment insurance laws (estimated to represent more than 90% of the State's employment) or enroll in North Carolina's public institutions of higher education. NC TOWER does not contain data on the occupations in which students work or the physical location of their employment. For a description of other limitations, please see the "About the Data" page on the site.
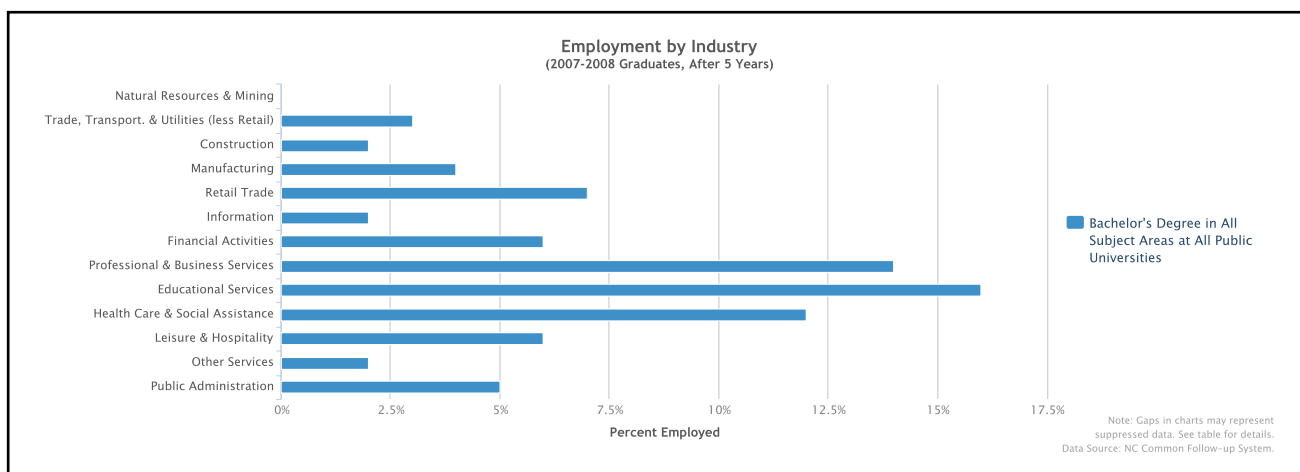
What Programs are Available in NC TOWER?

NC TOWER currently contains data on graduates from all curriculum programs in the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina System. Users may select cohorts from programs as general as "Bachelor's Degree in All Subjects at All Public Universities" or as specific as "Associate's Degree in Accounting at Wake Technical Community College" when searching for outcome measures. Users may choose up to five programs at a time to make visual comparisons in the TOWER tool.

How Detailed Does NC TOWER Data Get?

In addition to knowing whether graduates are finding jobs or furthering their education, NC TOWER can also answer more detailed questions, such as "Are students finding jobs in industries related to their degree?" or "Are graduates going on to pursue a higher academic credential after finishing their studies?".

In NC TOWER, employment and wage data can be broken out by industrial sector of employment (e.g., "Manufacturing" or "Health Care and Social Assistance"). Enrollment data can be broken out by type of enrollment (e.g., "Bachelor's" or "Graduate").

Employment by Industry
(2007-2008 Graduates, After 5 Years)

Natural Resources & Mining
Trade, Transport. & Utilities (less Retail)
Construction
Manufacturing
Retail Trade
Information
Financial Activities
Professional & Business Services
Educational Services
Health Care & Social Assistance
Leisure & Hospitality
Other Services
Public Administration

0% 2.5% 5% 7.5% 10% 12.5% 15% 17.5%

Percent Employed

■ Bachelor's Degree in All Subject Areas at All Public Universities

Note: Gaps in charts may represent suppressed data. See table for details.
Data Source: NC Common Follow-up System.

How Do I Get Started Using NC TOWER?

To get started, simply go to www.nctower.com and follow the steps below:

- Select "Community Colleges" or "Public Universities" from the menu to begin the search
- Use the Program Finder to select a program or multiple programs (up to five)
- Click "View Outcomes" to view the output page
- On the output page, click any data point in the "Employment," "Mean Wage," or "Enrollment" graph to see the data broken down by industrial sector or type of enrollment

Who Can I Contact with Questions about NC TOWER?

NC TOWER is a product of the NC Common Follow-up System, which resides at the Labor & Economic Analysis Division in the North Carolina Department of Commerce. NC TOWER staff can be reached at nctower@nccommerce.com. You can also call the Labor & Economic Analysis Division at (919) 707-1500.

NC Tower | A Product of the NC Common Follow-up System
North Carolina Department of Commerce | Labor & Economic Analysis Division

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