

Snapshot of health system climate
vulnerability and performance in...

North Carolina

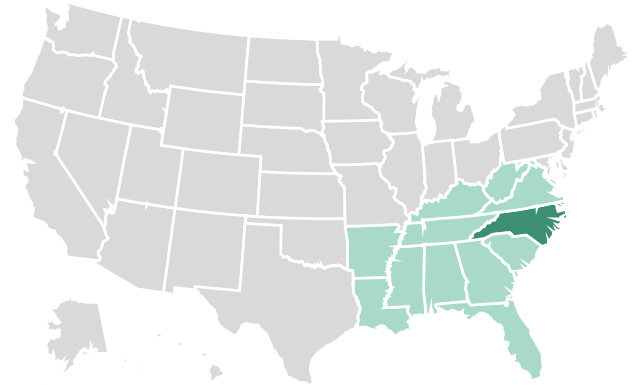


The
Commonwealth
Fund

North Carolina ranks #17 overall.

	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	25 of 51	9 of 12
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	6	2
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	27	4
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	24	2
State Energy Efficiency Policy	25	2
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	14	3
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	7	2
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	43	5

North Carolina ranks #1 in the Southeast region.



*Note: Southeast region includes AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV.

How North Carolina Compares to All States

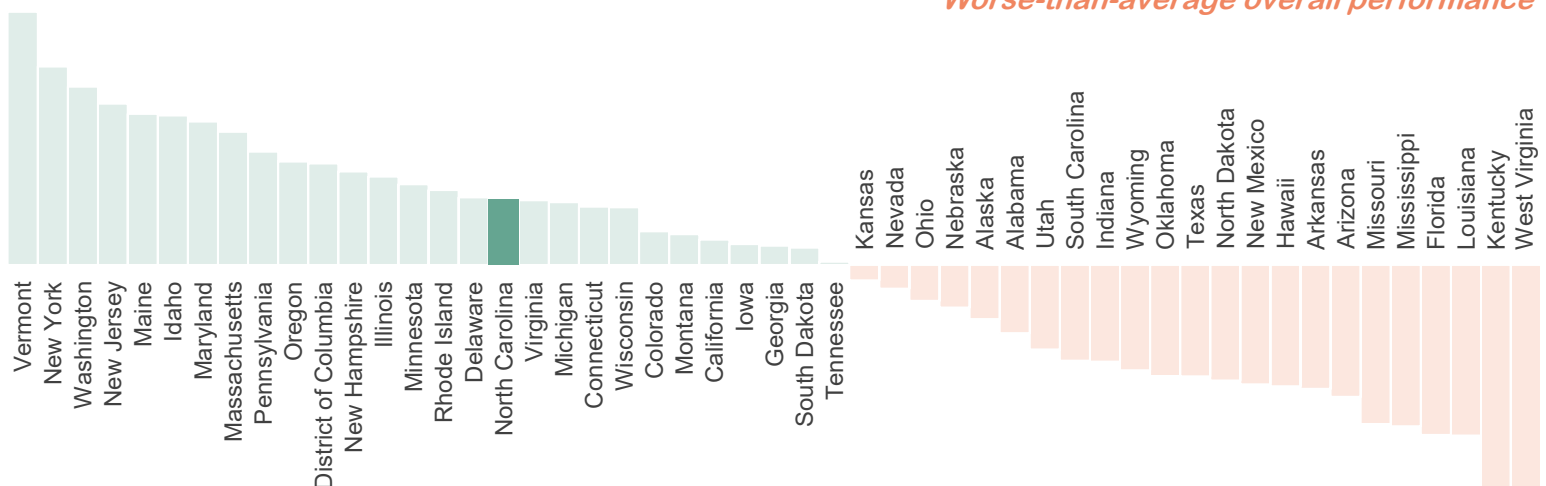


Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance


Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	40	42	25
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.41	0.51	6
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	52	54	27
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	1.3%	2.5%	24
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	14.5	17	25
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.330	0.464	14
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,036	1,362	7
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	2,496	2,169	43



North Carolina ranked best on:

Health Risk from Extreme Heat

People in North Carolina are less likely to experience negative health impacts from extreme heat than residents of other states. This indicator covers sociodemographic and environmental factors in addition to historical heat exposure, given that people don't experience extreme heat equally.



North Carolina ranked worst on:

Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions

On average, health care facilities in North Carolina have higher annual commuting emissions per employee than in other states. Health care facilities in the state are more often located in lower-density areas with limited access to public transit or pedestrian infrastructure, requiring longer trips.

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.