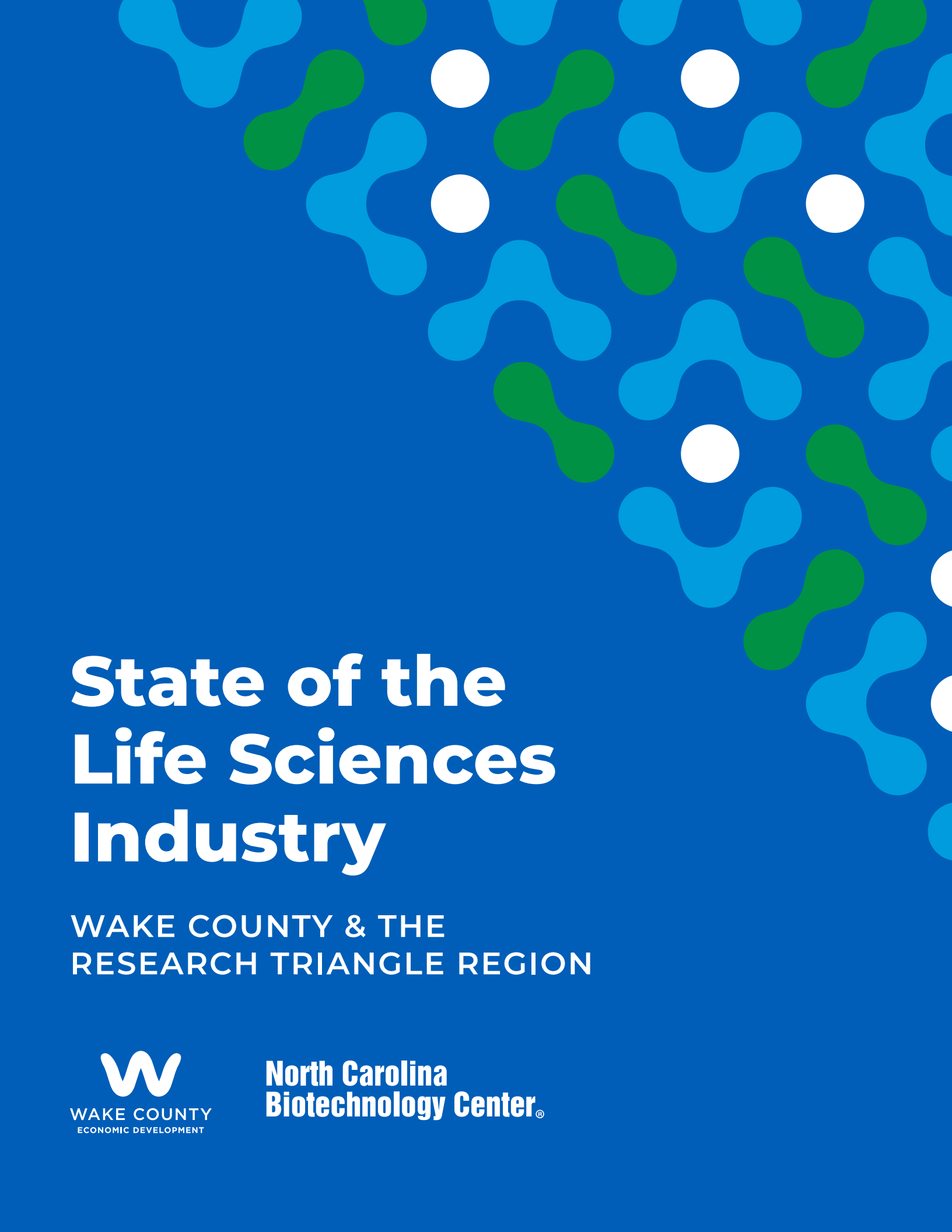




State of the Life Sciences Industry

WAKE COUNTY & THE
RESEARCH TRIANGLE REGION



North Carolina
Biotechnology Center®



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Research Triangle has been one of the fastest growing regional economies in the United States over the past decade. Since 2021, there has been an uptick in job announcements, private and public capital investment, and in-migration. The Life Sciences industry has been a large contributor to this industrial growth & overall economic success in the region.. This report highlights recent industry activity, diving into the transformational impacts on the broader region and how economic growth is translating to community improvements across the Triangle. This economic momentum is bolstered by industry innovation and recent capital announcements. It is imperative that the region's policies continue to support the foundational assets that make the market a global Life Sciences hub.

"Wake County's Life Sciences industry continues to stand as one of our greatest economic engines—where world-class talent, cutting-edge research, and a thriving innovation ecosystem come together to create opportunity, resilience, and long-term prosperity for our entire region."



- Michael Haley, Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development

Key Findings



653 Life Sciences companies in the region (14-county Research Triangle Regional Partnership), employing more than **58,000 individuals** across the region



With a diverse innovation and company ecosystem, the region has leading global clusters in contract research organizations (CROs), cell and gene therapy, biomanufacturing (including contract and development manufacturing organizations) and other human health-focused therapeutics.



Holly Springs is a clear case study of the life sciences industry's transformational impact. Since 2021, the town has attracted six projects totaling more than **\$5.6 billion** in capital investment, driving a **39%** increase in the total operating budget. This is largely due to an **8%** growth in the commercial share of the tax base from 2023 to 2024.



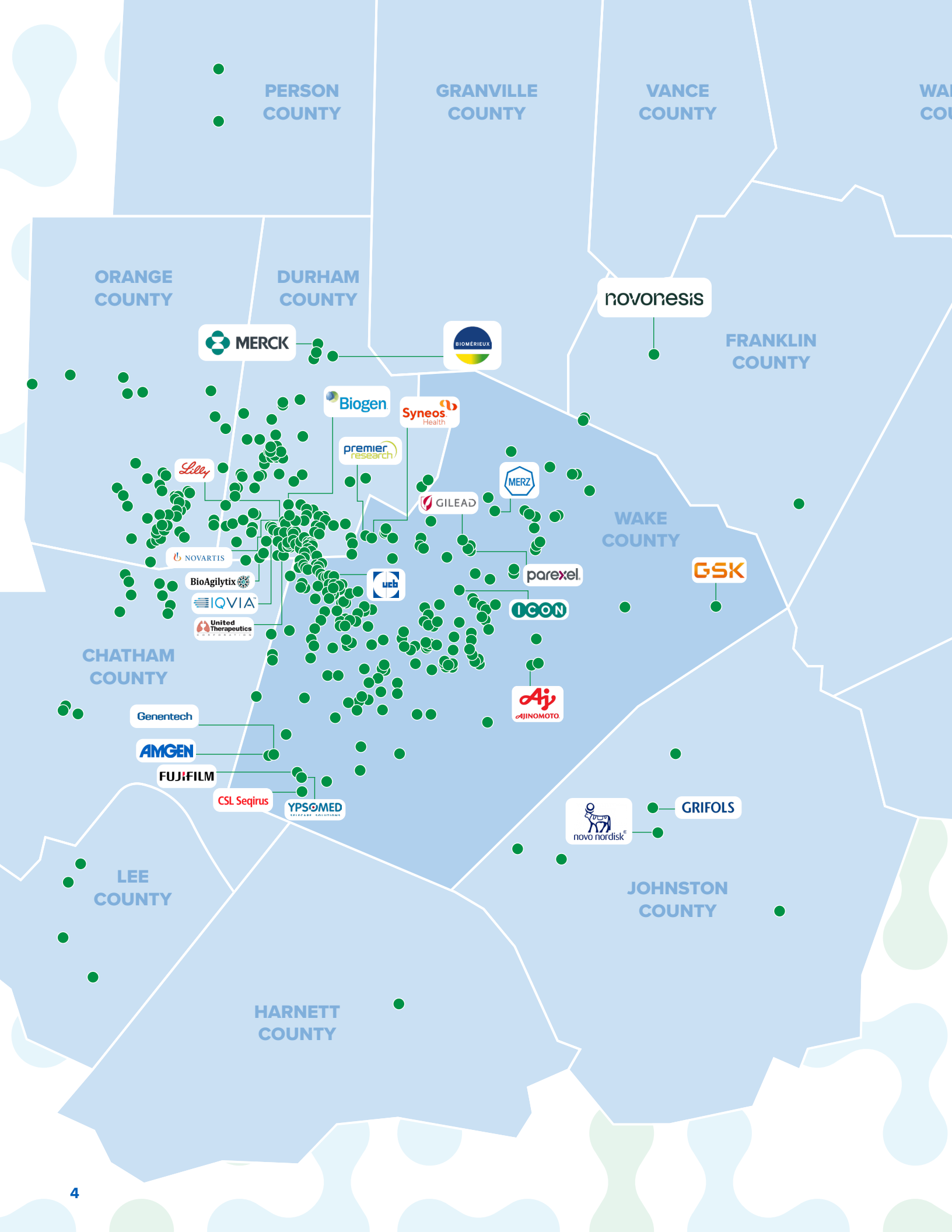
From 2021 through 2025, **79 Life Sciences-related economic development projects** announced in the region, promising to invest more than **\$17 billion** in the local economy and create more than **8,800 new jobs**.

If all projects succeed, they would support an estimated **80,900 jobs** (direct, indirect, and induced) through both the construction and operations phases and would generate over **\$22.9 billion** in economic impact for the 14-county RTRP region.



The region is making continued investment in workforce and infrastructure to support future growth.

More than **\$600 million** in spending at regional community colleges to support life science and adjacent industries training facilities.





METHODOLOGY & CLUSTER MAP

653

Life Sciences Companies

58,000+

Employees

METHODOLOGY

For the purposes of this report, the Research Triangle geography is defined by the Research Triangle Regional Partnership counties, including:

Chatham	Johnston	Vance
Harnett	Nash	Warren
Lee	Person	Wake
Durham	Franklin	Wilson
Orange	Granville	

This report is produced with research support from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center (NCBiotech). NCBiotech's mission is to create North Carolina's competitive advantage in the life sciences by engaging partners, maximizing opportunities, and delivering solutions to accelerate innovation, investment, and job creation.

This report uses the following parameters as defined by the North Carolina Biotechnology Center.

- **Life Sciences Industry** – In this report the Life Sciences Industry is defined by 25 6-digit NAICS codes. Derived from TEconomy's & NCBiotech's industry classifications. *Note: TEconomy applies a proprietary percentage to a portion of those NAICS codes in order not to overstate estimates. For this report, the proprietary percentage is not applied and therefore represents an approximate estimation based on available data.*
- **Life Sciences Programs** – In this report, Life Sciences-related Programs (degrees/certificates) are defined by 186 6-digit CIP codes. Provided by NCBiotech, these are possible CIP codes that could be used for a recruitment project, depending on the type of life sciences company and their planned activity at the proposed site. Some programs have a more direct pipeline to the Life Sciences Industry where some programs are broader and may feed into multiple industries.

#2

TOP BIOMANUFACTURING
MARKET IN THE U.S.
(RALEIGH-DURHAM, NC)

JLL | September 2025

INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

The Triangle has over 653 Life Sciences companies that employ more than 58,000 individuals across the region, with an industry employment concentration more than 2.5 times the national average, enabling companies to scale across research, clinical development, and manufacturing. Employment is anchored in pharmaceutical and biotechnology manufacturing, clinical research, and life sciences R&D, with complementary strength in medical devices and testing labs.

The workforce is led by management and scientific occupations, supported by production, technology, and business roles. A strong mid-career talent base, near-parity gender representation, and sustained hiring demand—15,000+ postings in 2025—reinforce the region’s long-term competitiveness.

“We are proud of our longstanding commitment to manufacturing innovation, investment, and collaboration in Research Triangle Park. For more than 30 years our manufacturing operations in North Carolina have played a critical role in Biogen’s success, and in advancing the treatments that are making an impact for patients around the world. Our additional investment announced in 2025 will modernize and expand our manufacturing capabilities to advance our pipeline and provide resilient patient supply, while continuing to support the skilled and dedicated community of life sciences talent in North Carolina.”

- Melissa Porazzo, Vice President and GM, RTP Bio Site Operations, Biogen



653

Life Sciences Companies
(14-county RTP region)
(2025)

58,000+

Workers Employed in the
Life Sciences Industry
(2025)

2.64X

national average
industry concentration
(2025)

15,000+

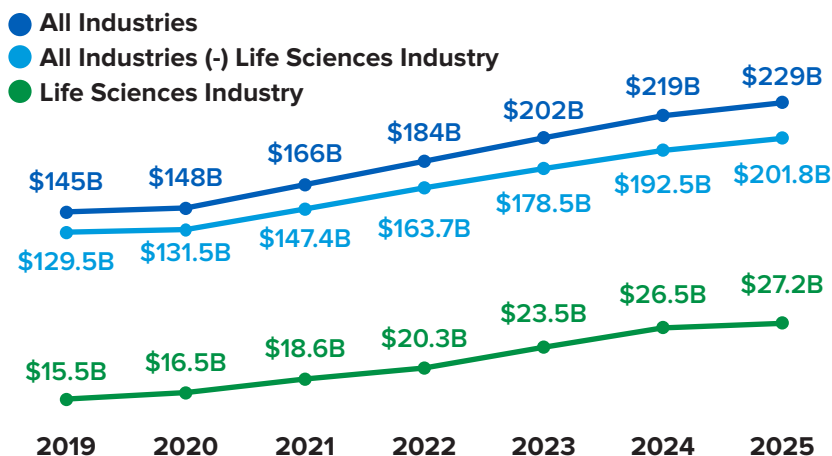
Job Postings
(2025)

\$27.2B

GRP Contributed
(2025)

GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

In 2025, the Life Sciences industry accounted for over \$27.2 billion in gross regional product, underscoring its substantial economic impact. Between 2019 and 2025, the Life Sciences Industry’s GRP contribution to the Triangle increased by more than 75%, growing exponentially faster than the regional economy overall (58%). This sustained outperformance highlights the sector’s increasing contribution to economic output and its growing influence within the broader market.



Source: Lightcast; 2025

INDUSTRY SUBSECTORS

Contract Research Organizations (CROs)

Provide end-to-end research, clinical development, and trial management services that accelerate drug and device development.



CROs span discovery through clinical

Cell & Gene Therapy

Develop advanced therapies that modify cells or genetic material to deliver targeted, often one-time treatments for complex diseases.



Cell & Gene Therapy concentrated in development/clinical

Contract Development & Manufacturing Organizations (CDMOs)

Bridge development and commercialization by offering integrated process development, scale-up, and regulated manufacturing services.



CDMOs bridge development to commercialization

Biomanufacturing

Supports large-scale production of biologics and advanced therapies using living systems and complex manufacturing platforms.



Biomanufacturing anchors large-scale production

JOB MARKET

The Triangle's Life Sciences job market remains active and resilient, supported by sustained demand across research, clinical, manufacturing, and commercialization functions, and reinforced by a strong education and training pipeline supplying talent across scientific, technical, and production roles.

Demand is concentrated in scientific, technical, and production occupations, with employers seeking talent equipped employees for advanced therapies, regulated manufacturing, and data-driven research environments. The close alignment between employer needs and regional degree and credential completions reinforces the Triangle's position as a mature, full-spectrum Life Sciences labor market.

Location Quotient and Job Postings



The Triangle stands out as a major Life Sciences hub, with an employment concentration (location quotient) nearly three times the national average (LQ – 2.64,) with job supply and job postings (demand) far exceeding national averages.

While compensation runs slightly higher than the national average (well below the other domestic Life Science hubs of Boston, San Francisco, and San Diego), the region's lower cost of living provides greater value to residents, strengthening its ability to attract and retain talent across income levels.

Life Sciences Workforce

	Employed in Life Sciences Industry	% Job Growth (2021-2025)	Average Wage
Total Life Science Occupations	30,651	10%	\$83,304
Life, Physical, and Social Science	9,090	22%	\$88,644
Production	6,928	3%	\$47,503
Computer & Mathematical	5,900	9%	\$115,327
Architecture & Engineering	5,216	15%	\$99,302
Healthcare Practioners & Technical	2,789	10%	\$98,715
Healthcare Support	728	13%	\$39,572
Total Non-Life Science Occupations	27,625	8%	\$72,176
Management	9,297	30%	\$137,227
Business & Financial Operations	6,061	23%	\$92,757
Office & Administrative Support	4,521	-2%	\$47,987
Sales & Marketing	3,671	16%	\$58,595
Transportation and Material Moving	2,407	9%	\$42,674
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1,668	12%	\$57,924

Life Sciences employment in the region has expanded at a strong pace over the past five years, growing by 21% between 2020 and 2025 — outpacing national benchmarks for similarly sized regions. This growth is deeply anchored by pharmaceutical manufacturing, and includes sustained investments in scientific research and development, and related engineering and technical occupations, reinforcing the region’s position as a deep and diverse talent market.

Looking ahead, employment is projected to grow an additional 8% by 2030. While this represents a moderation from the recent surge, it signals continued expansion rather than contraction, as the market transitions from rapid scale-up to a more normalized growth phase. The region’s workforce base is expected to remain well above the national average, supporting long-term industry stability and future business attraction.

2020-2025
JOB GROWTH

21%
RTP 14-County Region

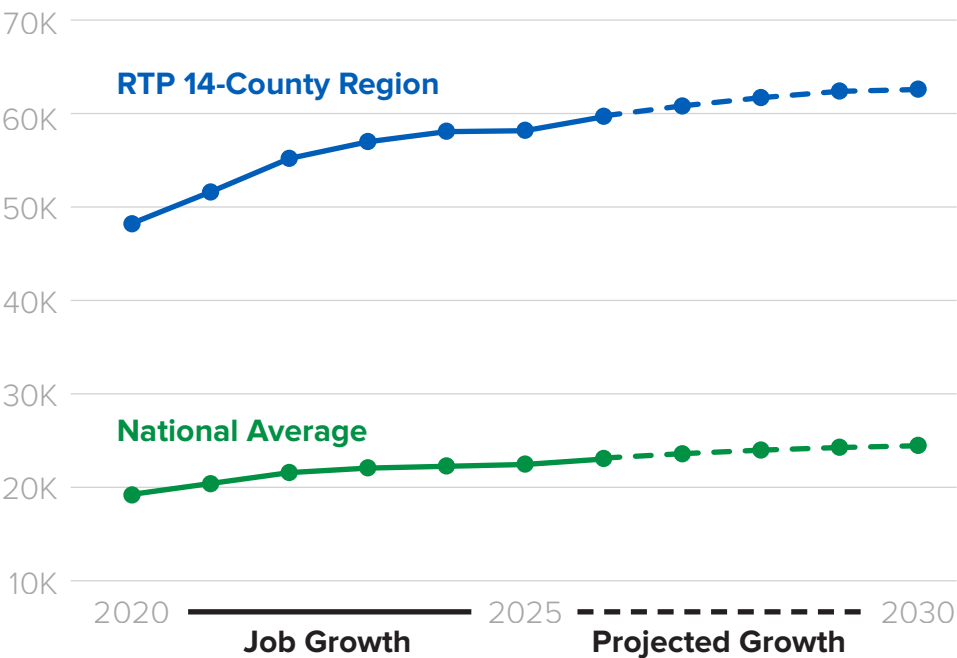
17%
National Average

“The Triangle is well positioned as a destination for advanced manufacturing and recent growth momentum shows it. King Street is proud to offer purpose-built facilities such as our Pathway platform, which accelerates time to occupancy and supports the growth of companies that are transforming global healthcare and breakthroughs right here in the Triangle.”

- Sarah McTyeire, Managing Director, King Street Properties



JOB GROWTH



Source: Lightcast; 2025; *National average values are derived by taking the national value for your industries and scaling it down to account for the difference in overall workforce size between the nation and your area. In other words, the values represent the national average adjusted for region size.

WORKFORCE & TALENT PIPELINE

The region is supported by a strong and diverse higher education ecosystem that plays a central role in sustaining its Life Sciences workforce. Across the 14-county region, 186 Life Sciences-related academic programs produce over 4,500 graduates annually, contributing to a steady and reliable talent pipeline. This pipeline comes from an ecosystem that includes eight community colleges and ten four-year institutions, all offering degrees that develop the skills for the industry. With over 31% growth in degree completions since 2014, the region ranks as the #3 top U.S. market for year over year growth in Life Sciences degrees (CBRE Research | June 2025).

In 2024, regional institutions generated more than 19,800 annual completions in STEM, spanning disciplines such as biology, biomedical and chemical engineering, computer science, data analytics, and management. This output is anchored by nationally recognized research universities, including North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Duke University, which together account for a significant share of total completions and research-driven talent production.

This scale and consistency of annual graduates reinforce the region's ability to meet current workforce needs while supporting long-term industry growth, innovation, and business expansion across the life sciences sector.

Though the higher education system serves as a foundation for the talent pipeline, the area has seen tremendous population growth. **Currently, the region's population is growing by 117 people each day, with 96 moving to the region every day.**

25-29 Median Age of New Residents

People ages 25+ who have an **associates degree or higher**

78% of people moving here **76%** of total population

People ages 25+ who have a **bachelor's degree or higher**

58% of people moving here **53%** of total population

Total Completions in Life Sciences-related Programs (Degrees & Certificates)

4,464

Total Bachelor's Degree or Higher Completions

4,519

Total Degree Completions

4,739

Total Completions in Life Science-related Programs (Degrees & Certificates)

220
Certificates

55
Associate's

2,965
Bachelor's

980
Master's

519
Doctor's

WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

NC State

NC State University is a leading research institution with strengths in engineering, biotechnology, and life sciences. Through programs such as BTEC and interdisciplinary partnerships, NC State advances workforce training, applied research, and innovation to support the growth of the biopharmaceutical industry.



North Carolina Central University

North Carolina Central University is a historically Black university with a strong focus on STEM and life sciences education. Through programs like BRITE, NCCU provides hands-on training in biomanufacturing, analytical technologies, and quality systems to prepare a diverse, industry-ready workforce.



(BTEC) Golden LEAF Biomanufacturing Training & Education Center

BTEC operates training and cGMP pilot plant facilities at N.C. State University's Centennial Campus under the auspices of the university's College of Engineering. Students and working professionals go to BTEC for hands-on learning with the latest biomanufacturing technologies.



(BRITE) Biomanufacturing Research Institute & Technology Enterprise

Housed at North Carolina Central University, BRITE offers students hands-on training in process analytical technology and development, quality assurance and quality control.



College of
Veterinary Medicine

NC State College of Veterinary Medicine

The NC State College of Veterinary Medicine is a nationally recognized leader in biomedical research, veterinary education, and clinical care. The college contributes to life sciences innovation through translational research, comparative medicine, and partnerships that advance animal and human health.



DukeHealth

Duke University & Duke University Hospital

Duke University and Duke University Hospital are global leaders in biomedical research, clinical care, and medical education. Together, they drive innovation in areas such as genomics, precision medicine, and clinical trials, supporting the development and commercialization of life sciences technologies.



UNC & UNC University Hospital

UNC and UNC Hospitals are renowned for their contributions to research, healthcare, and public health. The institutions play a critical role in advancing pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and translational medicine through cutting-edge research and a robust clinical infrastructure.



College of Pharmacy
& Health Sciences

Campbell University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

Campbell University's College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences provides interdisciplinary education and training in pharmacy, clinical research, and health sciences. The college supports workforce development for the life sciences sector through hands-on learning and industry partnerships.



BioWork

The BioWork certificate program prepares students for entry-level careers as process technicians in biotechnology, pharmaceutical, or chemical manufacturing. The program covers a broad range of topics including industry fundamentals, workplace safety, Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP), chemistry, process equipment, quality control, aseptic processing, and fermentation.

North Carolina Biotechnology Center

NC Biotechnology Center

NCBiotech drives Life Sciences economic development in North Carolina, advancing ideas from research to market. The organization transforms businesses, technologies, and sectors by supporting innovation, commercialization, education, and growth to help make North Carolina a global life science leader.



NC Life Sciences Apprenticeship Consortium

The NCLSAC leverages apprenticeships to recruit, train, and retain a competitive workforce. With administrative support from NCBiotech, this forum provides support for member companies to establish Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP), scholarships for BioWork pre-apprenticeships, and collective marketing and community engagement.



NCBioImpact

NCBioImpact is a public/private partnership that combines resources to create world-class biopharma manufacturing training programs. Partners include NCLifeSci, NCBiotech, the UNC System, and the North Carolina Community College System, all focused on providing students with hands-on training and industry-relevant experience.



BioNetwork Capstone

Located on NC State's Centennial Campus the center provides industry-grade tools and a certified cleanroom suite that can be found in the company's leading manufacturing facility. Students learn about aseptic manufacturing, high-performance liquid chromatography, industrial microbiology and more skills to prepare them for careers.



NCLifeSci

NCLifeSci is the trade organization that provides advocacy to support and foster the growth of industry throughout the state. The organization provides policy and advocacy for the industry's most pressing needs. Workforce programs have been a cornerstone for the industry, and the organization is helping to advance training programs.

"The Research Triangle region, and the state of North Carolina continue to leverage strategic investments and collaborations in the Life Sciences to transform lives near and far. The groundbreaking therapies, agtech advancements, and worldclass training in this community, fuel investment, job growth, and innovation."

- Dr. Laura Rowley, Vice President Life Sciences Economic Development, North Carolina Biotechnology Center



#6

TOP U.S. MARKET FOR LIFE SCIENCES R&D TALENT (RALEIGH-DURHAM, NC)

CBRE Research | June 2025

INVESTING IN WORKFORCE TRAINING

The higher education system in the region remains committed to current and future talent development throughout the region. In total, across the eight community colleges, over **\$617 million** is planned for training programs and facilities for Life Science and/or adjacent industries (advanced manufacturing, health care, and more).



CENTRAL CAROLINA CC

Investment: \$72,000,000

E. Eugene Moore Manufacturing and Biotech

Solutions Center: The college will turn the center into a workforce hub that trains students, supports industry and attracts new investment to the state and region.

Central Carolina Community College is transforming a \$72M center into a state-of-the-art biotech and manufacturing hub for students and industry.



DURHAM TECH CC

Investment: \$135,000,000

Health Sciences Building: A three-story, 80,000-square-foot facility on the main campus designed for Nursing, Medical Assisting, Surgical Technology, and more. It will feature 21 labs, simulation settings, and 1,600 sq ft for student collaboration.

Novo Nordisk Life Sciences Center: Built in partnership with Novo Nordisk, this 35,000-square-foot-facility will support Biotechnology and BioWork programs to meet industry demands.

Orange County Campus Expansion: A 14,000 to 18,000-square-foot expansion to accommodate growing student populations in Orange County, featuring new labs, classrooms, and offices for EMS and skilled trades.

Durham Technical Community College is expanding with \$135M in new Health Sciences and biotech facilities, featuring advanced labs and simulation spaces.

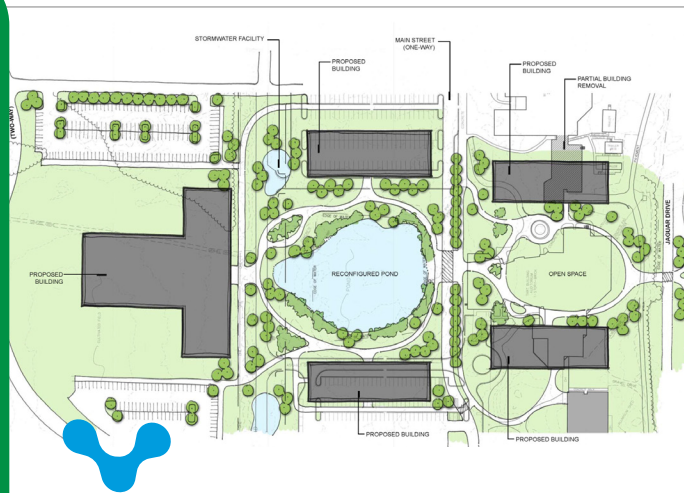
JOHNSTON CC

Investment: \$40,000,000

Advanced Manufacturing Training Facility: highlighted by the opening of a 67,000-square-foot Advanced Manufacturing Training Facility. This \$40 million, state-of-the-art center supports industrial growth by training workers in welding and machining.

Healthcare Program Expansion: In 2024, JCC received \$900,000 in funding to launch new Surgical Technology and Central Sterile Processing Technology programs, while expanding its Nurse Aide training.

Bio Blend 2.0 Project: Supported by the National Science Foundation, this initiative expands biotechnology training, including embedded DeltaV distributed control system training to support the local biopharma industry.



Johnston Community College is opening a 67,000-square-foot Advanced Manufacturing Facility, boosting workforce training in welding, machining, and healthcare programs.



Nash Community College is constructing a new Health Sciences building and 14-acre training facilities to support workforce growth across multiple industries.

NASH CC

Investment: \$22,000,000

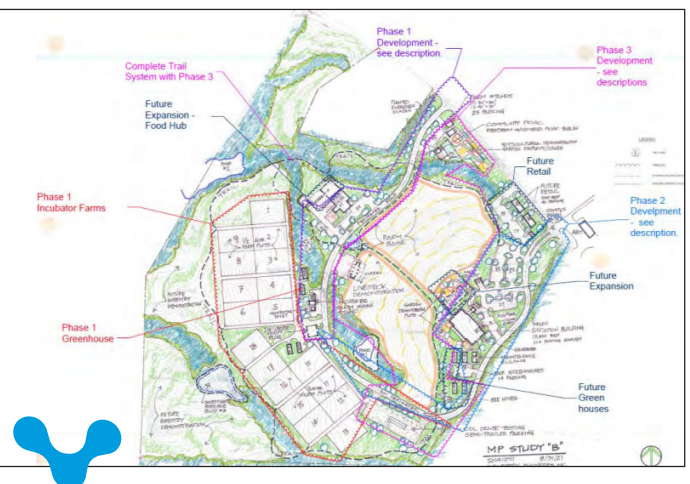
NCC is undergoing several expansion and development projects as of early 2026, focused on strengthening workforce training and academic infrastructure. Key initiatives include a \$22 million health sciences building, a new 14-acre CDL/first responder training facility, and, as of early 2024, the relocation of CITI High School to the main campus.

PIEDMONT CC

Investment: \$45,200,000

CHATT (Center for Health, Advanced Technology and Trades): Piedmont Community College (PCC) is investing approximately \$13 million over five years, a strategic initiative to build a 90,000-sf modern training facility for manufacturing, automation, and advanced technology to support industry needs.

CEAD (Center for Educational and Agricultural Development): Phase 1 is underway in Pelham, featuring a Food Hub partnership, incubator farm plots for Agribusiness students, and agricultural resources. Phase 1-3 = approximately \$32.2 Million



Piedmont Community College is developing the CHATT and CEAD centers to advance manufacturing, technology, and agricultural training for students and local businesses.

WAKE TECH CC

Investment: \$154,000,000

Wake Tech is undergoing major expansion, fueled by the 2022 Workforce Forward bond, to enhance health sciences and biotech training in Wake County.

Simulation Hospital at Perry Health Sciences

Campus in Raleigh: a 100,000 SF, \$105M simulation hospital at the Perry Health Sciences Campus in Raleigh (opening 2025/2026); in partnership with WakeMed

Conlon Western Wake Campus (Apex/Veridea): a new \$115M Conlon Western Wake Campus in Apex (opening 2029) to support life sciences and IT.

- **New Location:** A 34-acre site in Apex is replacing the current leased facility in Cary.
- **Fujifilm Biotechnologies Hall:** The first 125,000-sf building, focusing on biotech, IT, and specialized manufacturing, is scheduled to open in 2029.
- **Focus Areas:** Training for the biotech/biopharma industry, gaming development and entrepreneurship.

"As the regional Life Sciences sector has boomed, Wake Tech has scaled our nationally recognized biotechnology programs to fuel the talent pipeline. Over the past five years, biotechnology program enrollments at Wake Tech have increased 400% and Wake Tech has invested \$67 million towards infrastructure, programming, and personnel to support four education/training 'BioHubs' across our county. We're proud of our progress and excited about the future of life science opportunities in Wake County and the Research Triangle region."

*- Dr. Scott Ralls, President,
Wake Technical Community College*



Wake Technical Community College is building a Simulation Hospital and a new Apex campus to expand biotech, health sciences, and IT education for the region.



Vance-Granville Community College is launching a 35,000-square-foot Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Applied Technology, offering hands-on training in electronics, HVAC, mechatronics, and welding.

VANCE-GREENVILLE CC

Investment: \$14,500,000

VGCC is launching a major expansion with a new 35,000-square-foot Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Applied Technology (CAMAT) in the Triangle North Granville business park. Supported by an \$11.5 million state budget allocation, this facility will consolidate training for electronics, HVAC, mechatronics, and welding, with construction finishing in 2027 and opening in 2028. That brings the total to \$14.5 million.

WILSON CC

Investment: \$53,000,000

WCC is heavily expanding its industrial training infrastructure, highlighted by a new ~29,600-sq-ft Biomanufacturing Education and Skills Training (BEST) Center opening in early 2027 to support the regional life sciences sector. This \$53M+ project is funded by the state and Golden LEAF Foundation to train workers for firms like Johnson & Johnson.



Wilson Community College is opening the BEST Center to prepare students for careers in biomanufacturing and the life sciences, supporting local industry needs.

UNIVERSITY INNOVATION

The Triangle region's Life Sciences innovation is anchored by the research and commercialization power of its major universities and a growing venture capital ecosystem. Duke University, UNC Chapel Hill, and NC State collectively invested more than \$1.6 billion in Life Sciences research in 2024, reflecting steady growth over the past four years.

These investments have translated into groundbreaking innovation. In FY25, UNC Chapel Hill inventors were issued 62 U.S. patents, bringing the university's cumulative total to 1,426, with the majority—73%—focused in life sciences. Duke University added 92 patents, while NC State contributed 58, continuing the long history of intellectual property generation with over 2,500 patents issued to date.

This robust research activity fuels university spin-offs and attracts venture capital, reinforcing the Triangle as a hub for Life Sciences startups. The combination of high research expenditures, a strong patent pipeline, and active venture funding creates an environment where academic discoveries can be rapidly translated into innovative therapies, technologies, and businesses that strengthen the region's economy and national standing in Life Sciences.

University-driven commercialization plays a critical role in North Carolina's Life Sciences economy. More than 180 bioscience companies currently operating across the state were founded on technologies originally developed within North Carolina universities. These companies span biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and advanced therapeutics, demonstrating the effectiveness of academic research translation into viable commercial enterprises.

The strong pipeline of university-originated companies highlights the depth of research talent, availability of venture support, and established technology-transfer infrastructure within the state. This environment fosters innovation, accelerates product development, and strengthens North Carolina's reputation as a national leader in bioscience entrepreneurship.

"NC State brings together university researchers, private industry and government agencies to turn university-driven discoveries into real-world impact for North Carolina's economy. Home to more than 70 partner organizations from biotechnology to advanced manufacturing, data analytics, clean energy and many other sectors, NC State's Centennial Campus is a leading example of public-private collaboration — providing companies with cutting-edge resources to solve the world's most pressing challenges."

- Mark Schmidt, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor, Partnerships, NC State University



TRIANGLE R&D SPEND BY UNIVERSITY

Duke

92 **2,193** **11**
Patents (2025) Patents (Historical) Start-Ups (2025)

Precision Biosciences, Xilis

Examples of Start-Ups

\$856+ M

R&D Expenditures in
Life Sciences (2024)

\$623+ M

NIH Funding
(2025)

62 **1,426** **12**
Patents (2025) Patents (Historical) Start-Ups (2025)

AskBio, G1 Therapeutics, Liquidia

Examples of Start-Ups

\$696+ M

R&D Expenditures in
Life Sciences (2024)

\$514+ M

NIH Funding
(2025)

NC STATE

58 **2,500** **14**
Patents (2025) Patents (Historical) Start-Ups (2025)

Locus Biosciences, TreeCo, Sinnovatek

Examples of Start-Ups

\$102+ M

R&D Expenditures in
Life Sciences (2024)

\$45+ M

NIH Funding
(2025)

Source: nces.nsf.gov; ncsu.edu; unc.edu; duke.edu; bizjournals.com/triangles-largest-nih-funding-recipients

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

Venture Capital

North Carolina's Life Sciences sector benefits from a strong mix of innovation technical support, university commercialization resources, and private venture capital. This diverse funding environment enables continued innovation, company formation, and long-term industry growth across biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medical technologies.

With over \$2.49 billion in funding activity for 2025, the Triangle region and North Carolina had a record-breaking year, seeing \$1.3 billion in venture funding for the Life Sciences industry - this is a 145% growth in year-over-year growth for the industry (*Center for Entrepreneurial Development*).

#4

**TOP LIFE SCIENCES
CLUSTER IN THE U.S.
(RALEIGH-DURHAM, NC)**

JLL | September 2025

2021

North Carolina

\$1.1B **\$4.62B**
Life Sciences Total

Triangle

\$3.97B
Total

2022

North Carolina

\$8.34M **\$4.22B**
Life Sciences Total

Triangle

\$3.56B
Total

2023

North Carolina

\$554.9M **\$1.64B**
Life Sciences Total

Triangle

\$1.19B
Total

2024

North Carolina

\$543.9M **\$3.2B**
Life Sciences Total

Triangle

\$2.17B
Total

2025

North Carolina

\$1.3B **\$3.4B**
Life Sciences Total

Triangle

\$2.49B
Total

MAJOR EXPANSIONS

2025 was another banner year for the region for industry announcements and expansions. In addition to seeing companies like Biogen with a long-standing history in the Triangle, the region also welcomed some new technologies and facilities to the region – including Ypsomed a manufacturer of self-injectable drug delivery products and Novartis is constructing a Small Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient manufacturing facility, a growing production technology in the region.

2025 LIFE SCIENCE-RELATED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS ACROSS 14 COUNTIES

952

Jobs

\$3.6+B

Investment

7

Announcements



6

New

1

Expanding

5

Manufacturing

2

R&D/Lab



ChromaGenix

New Jobs: 40

Capital Investment: \$4,500,000

Wake County

ChromaGenix has picked Centennial Campus at North Carolina State University for a new research and development and manufacturing facility. The company develops novel products to help biopharmaceutical manufacturers purify complex biologics more efficiently, with improved yields.

Genentech

New Jobs: 420

Capital Investment: \$700,000,000

Wake County

Genentech, one of the world's premiere biotechnology companies, selected CaMP Helix in Holly Springs to establish a new 700,000-sf high-volume fill-finish operation to support its existing product portfolio as well as its future pipeline, allowing the company to meet growing demand for its medicines.

*"... We are thrilled to establish this relationship with the city of Holly Springs, where we will create new manufacturing and construction jobs while making a broader positive impact on the local economy and community for many years to come," **said Genentech CEO Ashley Magargee.** "Our new facility will serve as an important new setting within our manufacturing network to help deliver on the promise of our company's life-changing science and industry-leading pipeline."*

Source: WCED Press Release



Capital Investment: \$2,000,000,000

Wake County

One of North Carolina's largest life sciences companies, Biogen Inc., celebrated its 30th anniversary in the state by announcing plans to invest an additional \$2 billion at its two existing Research Triangle Park (RTP) campuses.



New Jobs: 50

Capital Investment: \$10,812,720

Durham County

Coriolis Pharma, a German contract research, development and manufacturing organization, announced plans to invest \$10.8 million and add 50 new jobs over the next five years in Durham. The company will lease lab space to provide services including drug product development, analytical methods, and manufacturing of biologics.



New Jobs: 62

Capital Investment: \$195,400,000

Wake County

Ypsomed, the leading developer and manufacturer of injection systems for the self-administration of liquid medicine, announced plans to invest \$195.4 million in its first North American manufacturing facility. Ypsomed's plans initially call for 62 new jobs, with the intention to grow significantly in the coming years. Ypsomed has selected THE YIELD Holly Springs, a purpose-built life science campus developed by Crescent Communities.



New Jobs: 280

Capital Investment: \$540,000,000

Durham County

Building on an already strong presence, Novartis plans to initially invest \$540M and create 280 new jobs in Durham, with a plan for additional investment and hundreds more jobs by the end of 2030. The facilities will include advanced biologics manufacturing, as well as filling and packaging capabilities for biologics.

New Jobs: 100

Capital Investment: \$231,000,000

Wake County

In Wake County, the company will initially invest over \$231 M and create over 100 high paying jobs in Morrisville, with a plan for additional investment and hundreds more jobs by the end of 2030. This operation will expand national capabilities in the production of small production of solid dosage tablets and capsules, including packaging for key life saving medicines.

*"North Carolina has been a home to Novartis for two decades, enabling our groundbreaking work to manufacture life-changing gene therapies. We are excited to deepen our ties to this local community that has had a key role in helping bring our innovation to patients in the US and around the world," said **Vas Narasimhan, CEO of Novartis**. "By building a full, end-to-end manufacturing presence in North Carolina for our broader portfolio, we are expanding our capacity to deliver medical breakthroughs, securing a more resilient US supply chain, and investing in the local communities that make our mission possible."*

Source: WCED Press Release

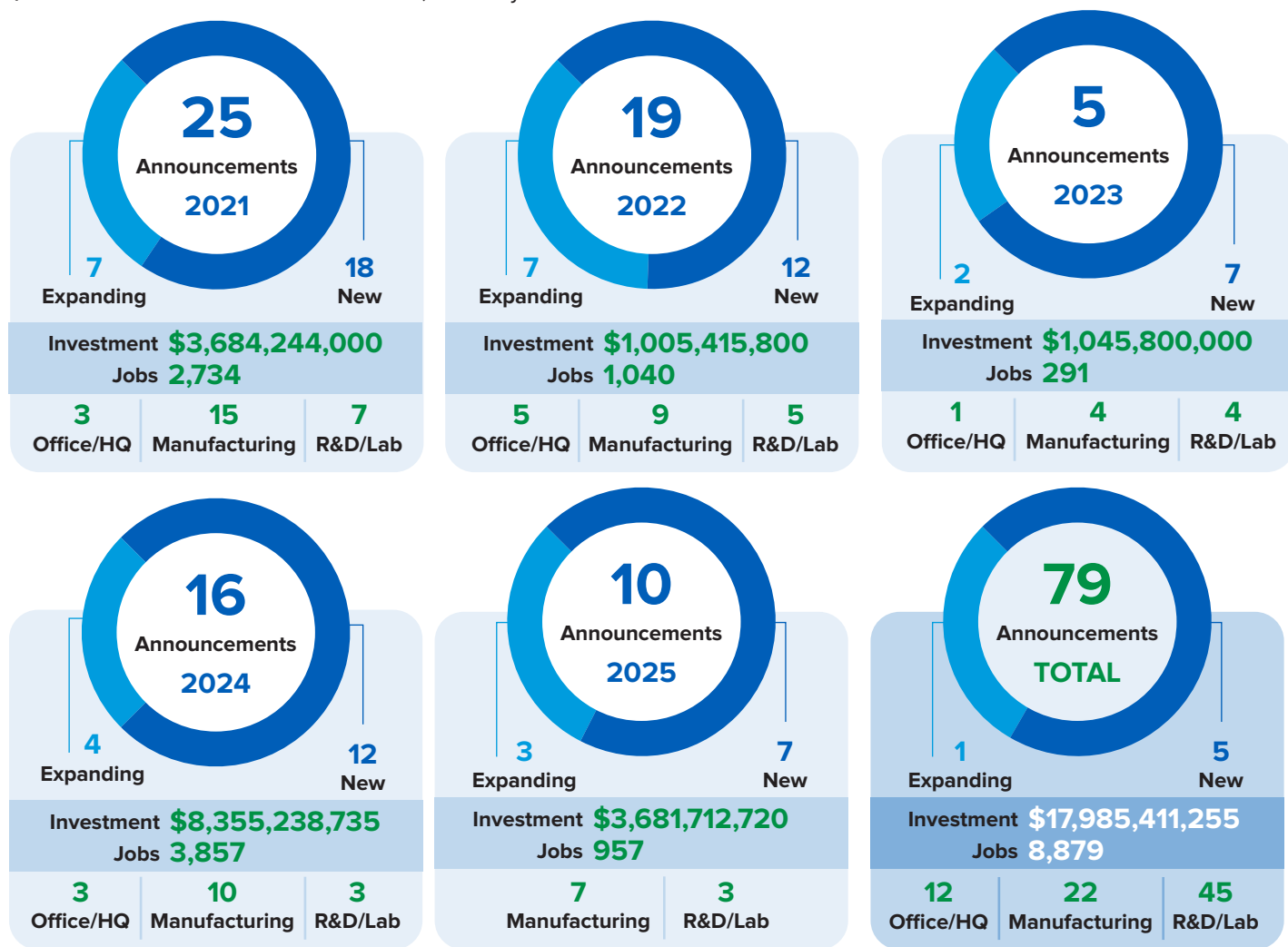
ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Research Triangle region has been the epicenter of North Carolina's Life Sciences boom. From 2021 through 2025 the region had **79 announcements** in the industry, totaling more than **\$17 billion in total investment** and resulting in over **8,800 new jobs**.

These impacts are felt throughout the state as we examine the announcement's total economic impact.

Over the course of the construction phases, the **79 projects'** combined construction investments generate over **\$9.6 billion** in added value (GDP) and support an estimated **65,968** direct, indirect and induced jobs earning **\$5.3 billion** in labor income, resulting in an economic impact (Output) of **\$17.9 billion** for the 14-county RTRP region. The construction investments generate more than **\$277 million** in tax revenue for the state.

On an annual basis, the **79 projects'** combined operations phases generate over **\$2.7 billion** in added value (GDP) and support an estimated **15,002** direct, indirect and induced jobs earning **\$1.2 billion** in labor income, resulting in an economic impact (Output) of **\$4.9 billion** for the 14-county RTRP Region. The operations phases generate more than **\$76 million** in tax revenue for the state, annually.



IMPLAN Economic Impact

In this IMPLAN Economic Impact Analysis we analyzed (79) life science project announcements in the 14-county RTRP region from 2021 to 2025 YTD. This estimate was modeled using IMPLAN, a software for economic impact modeling. IMPLAN is an input-output model, which estimates the economic impact on a local, county, regional, and state level. The analysis was run for the 14-County RTRP Region. These figures are reported in 2026 dollar year.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The regional growth of the industry impacts the entire state. One mechanism the State of North Carolina uses to equitably distribute the benefits from areas that are economically growing, to regions of the state that are considered economically distressed is the State's Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) and Industrial Development Fund (IDF – Utility Account). 10% and 25% of the eligible JDIG payments announced in Tier 2 and Tier 3 counties respectively are transferred to the IDF-Utility Account to support public infrastructure projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties. In fact, from 2021 thru 2025, more than \$28 million has been distributed through the IDF – Utility Account *Note: The IDF - Utility account distribution includes JDIG support from projects outside of the Research Triangle region and life science specific projects.*

LIFE SCIENCE PROJECTS ANNOUNCED IN TIER 2 & TIER 3 COUNTIES IN THE REGION (2021-2025)

\$15,276,222,520

Announced Investment

7,260

Announced
Jobs

41

Project Announcements
Receiving State Support

3

Projects Currently Contributing to
Rural Infrastructure Fund

\$405,800

\$ to Rural
Infrastructure Fund

"Amgen's investment in Holly Springs reflects the strength of the region's innovation ecosystem and highly skilled workforce. We are proud to be growing our presence in North Carolina, building a strong local team, and supporting talent development across the market. The Holly Springs site is an important part of Amgen's broader manufacturing network and helps advance our mission to serve patients."

- Paul Lewus, Vice President, Site Operations, Amgen



HOLLY SPRINGS CASE STUDY

There is no better community to highlight the transformational impacts of the industry's growth than the Town of Holly Springs. Prior to 2020, the community was a growing suburban town of the greater Raleigh metro area, with many of its residents commuting to employment in regional business hubs. The Town was no stranger to the Life Sciences industry, as CSL Seqirus, now the world's largest cell-based influenza manufacturer, has had an operation in the town since the 2000's. However, in 2021, FUJIFILM Biotechnologies announced a \$2 billion and 725 job end-to-end manufacturing plant, that at the time was the single largest life science announcement in North Carolina. Since then, the town has seen 6 large life sciences announcements, totaling more than \$5.6 billion in investment and more than 2,612 new jobs announced (2021-2025).

These initial announcement numbers tell part of the picture of the full impact of the industry on the town and the region. The Town has been preparing for this successful growth for decades and is seeing the benefits through increases in tax revenues, spending on infrastructure, and small business growth.

FUJIFILM

FUJIFILM Biotechnologies
March 18, 2021

Capital Investment:
\$2,000,000,000

New Jobs: 725

2021

AMGEN

Amgen
August 3, 2021

Capital Investment:
\$550,000,000

New Jobs: 355

2022

2023

2024

FUJIFILM

FUJIFILM Biotechnologies
April 11, 2024

Capital Investment:
\$1,200,000,000

New Jobs: 680

AMGEN

Amgen
December 5, 2024

Capital Investment:
\$1,018,000,000

New Jobs: 370

Genentech

Genentech
May 12, 2025

Capital Investment:
\$700,000,000

New Jobs: 420

2025

YPSOMED SELF CARE SOLUTIONS

Ypsomed
October 9, 2025

Capital Investment:
\$195,400,000

New Jobs: 62

Total Economic Impact Numbers



Construction Phases | Economic Impact

Over the course of the construction phases, the six Holly Spring Life Science projects' combined construction investments generate over \$3.2 billion in added value (GDP) and support an estimated 20,615 direct, indirect and induced jobs earning \$1.8 billion in labor income, resulting in an economic impact (Output) of \$5.8 billion for Wake County. The construction investments generate more than \$82 million in tax revenue for the state.

Operations Phases | Economic Impact

On an annual basis, the six Holly Springs Life Science projects' combined operations phases generate over \$1 billion in added value (GDP) and support an estimated 4,514 direct, indirect and induced jobs earning \$454 million in labor income, resulting in an economic impact (Output) of \$1.7 billion for Wake County. The operations phases generate more than \$24.7 million in tax revenue for the state, annually.

**Models run in IMPLAN*

FUJIFILM

"FUJIFILM Biotechnologies

is proud to call the Research Triangle

home. We chose the

region for its high

quality of life and access

to top-tier talent. We are

committed to being good stewards of the

community, supporting local businesses,

and developing the workforce of

tomorrow."

- Sarah Gaskill, Head of External Relations for North Carolina, FUJIFILM Biotechnologies

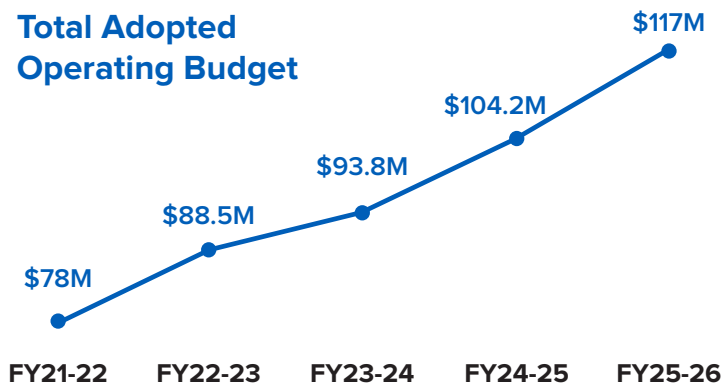


HOLLY SPRINGS CONTINUED

Today, the three largest private payers of property tax in Holly Springs are CSL Seqirus, FUJIFILM Biotechnologies, and Amgen. This is before the full tax benefit of FUJIFILM Biotechnologies and Amgen are being realized – due to the construction of those facilities – and before Genentech’s facility is on the County’s and Town’s tax roll. Tax revenue is key to supporting critical services for a town’s residents and improving the quality of life. When we examine Holly Springs budget, we see a 39% increase in total budget since 2021, which is partly due to the expansion of life science industry. The Holly Springs is reinvesting these benefits in new parks, public safety, and more.

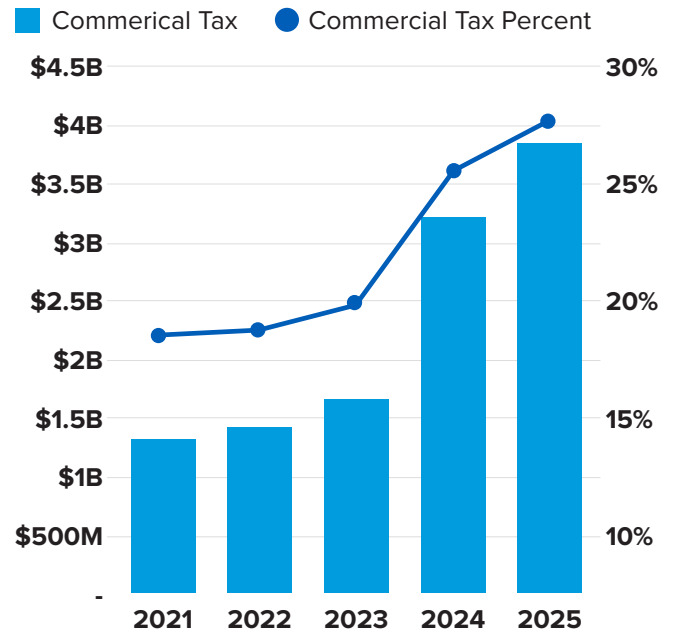
Holly Springs commercial property tax base has grown steadily from 2021 to 2025, with particularly strong gains between 2023 and 2024, when valuation jumps sharply from roughly \$1.6B to over \$3.0B. At the same time, the commercial share of the overall tax base increases from about 20% to nearly 28%, indicating not just growth in dollar value but a strengthening role of commercial development in the town’s tax structure. Residential property consistently makes up the majority of the tax base, but commercial valuation also rises notably over time, suggesting diversification alongside residential expansion.

Total Adopted Operating Budget

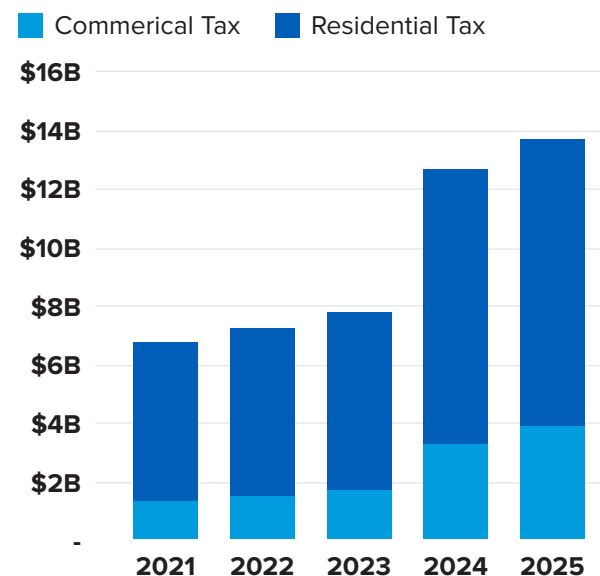


This transformational growth does not happen by accident, and the Town has been meticulously planning this growth through smart planning, with a focus on securing the necessary infrastructure to support these large life science operations. The Town, in partnership with Wake County and the state of North Carolina, continues to focus on investing and supporting crucial infrastructure projects that span water, roads, schools, and more.

Holly Springs Commercial Property Tax Base Valuation



Holly Springs Property Tax Base Valuation

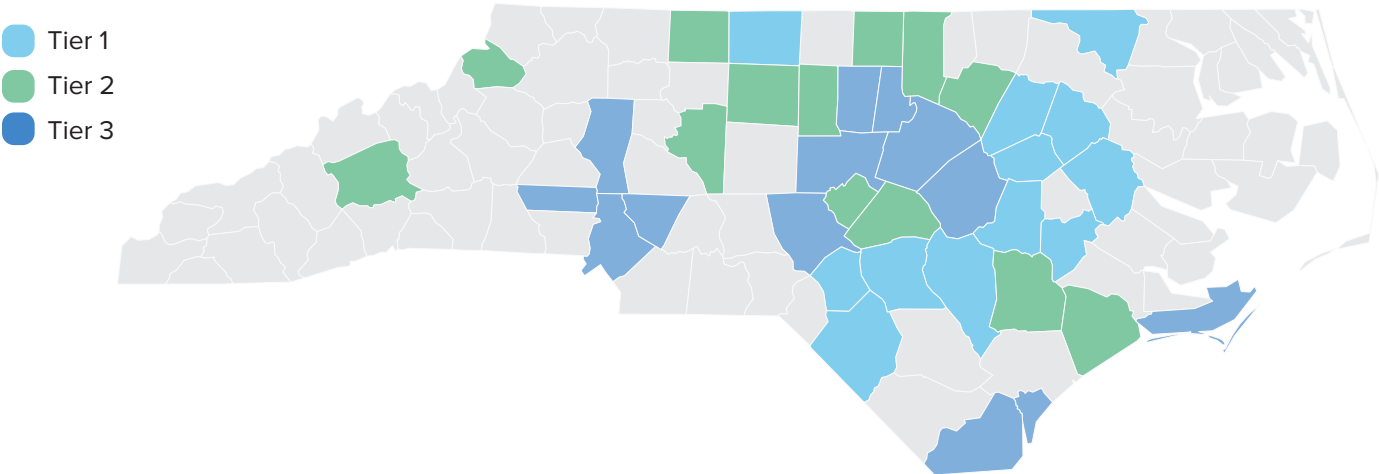


Looking beyond local impacts, the growth in Holly Springs has had state-wide impacts. As noted, earlier projects announced in Wake County (Tier 3) result in state funding for the IDF-Utility account. These six announcements will begin supporting rural infrastructure growth once their respective JDIG payments begin.

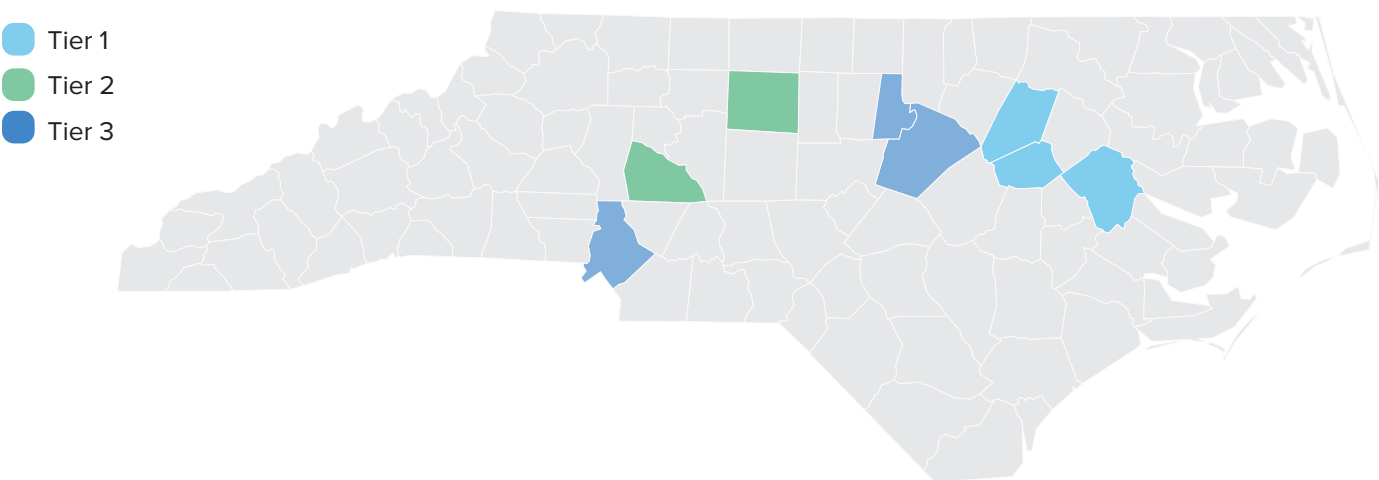
These large companies’ networks of both employees and the companies expand beyond Wake County and the region. Holly Springs is now becoming a major business center for both Town residents and North Carolinians from across the state. The maps below shows the Life Sciences industry in Holly Springs is attracting employees from 38 counties in the state. These commuters not only benefit Holly Springs by supporting local businesses, but also benefiting the home communities they reside in.

Large manufacturing facilities, like the ones that CSL Seqirus, Amgen, FUJIFILM Biotechnologies, and Genentech operate and are constructing in Holly Springs require a complex network of specialized construction companies and suppliers. An example of this, is the construction of FUJIFILM Biotechnologies facility that requires more than 180 different supplier and sub-contract companies. In total, more than 37 are based in North Carolina, and eight of these companies reside in Tier 1 or 2 counties in the state.

COMMUTING PATTERNS FOR LIFE SCIENCE COMPANIES IN HOLLY SPRINGS



CONTRACTORS & SUBCONTRACTORS FOR LIFE SCIENCE COMPANIES IN HOLLY SPRINGS



ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Wake County and the Research Triangle Region prioritize ensuring that economic success translates to economic prosperity for all. The Life Sciences Industry has provided a unique opportunity to further economic mobility by providing career pathways for individuals with a diverse set of educational backgrounds. Industry is working side-by-side with workforce partners and industry support groups to both expand outreach to historically underserved communities and establish networks to ensure employment success. NCBIotech leads to impactful grants expanding the reach of the industry; Accelerate NC Life Sciences and MOVE Grants program.

ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES:

North Carolina Biotechnology Center.

Accelerate NC Life Sciences Manufacturing has leveraged a U.S. EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge Phase II grant to increase awareness of and access to Life Sciences manufacturing training across the state. The coalition is achieving this through community engagement such as the creation of the NC Life Sciences Apprenticeship Consortium, expanding entry-level manufacturing training across 10 community colleges, and working with Historical Black Colleges and Universities and Historically American Indian University to expand biomanufacturing training programs.



MOVE - Military Outreach and Veterans Engagement Boot to Biotech initiative supports transitioning service members, veterans, and military spouses to find training and careers in the industry. North Carolina has one of the largest military installations in the country; MOVE serves to connect and align the state's military and Life Sciences communities to both provide fulfilling civilian careers for veterans and expand access to talent for employers.



A pillar of economic mobility in the region is the strength and reach of the community college program. A large portion of announcements include production level jobs and requiring highly skilled technicians that are often trained at local community colleges. Individuals with little background in the industry can take the 136-hour BioWork certificate program to prepare for entry levels production roles. In fact, in 2025 there were more than 1,500 individuals enrolled across the Research Triangle Region in the BioWork program. BioWork allows for entry into an industry, with competitive benefits and clear career promotion. For example all the Life Sciences projects that landed in Wake County in 2025 have announced average wages exceeding the 2025 county average wage of \$76,643.

CONCLUSION

The Research Triangle has captured a significant amount of the recent Life Sciences industry growth over the past five years. This success is due to years of strategic planning and the foundational assets that exist throughout the region. Looking forward both public and private support is focused on securing North Carolina and the Research Triangle as a global Life Sciences hub.

EDGE 7 INVESTORS

WCED is funded through investment from the private and public sectors through the Raleigh Chamber's EDGE program.

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Dewberry
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Fidelity Bank
First Bank
First Horizon Bank
Foundry Commercial
FUJIFILM Biotechnologies
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Implement Consulting Group
JLL
King Street Properties
Lincoln Property Company
Little Diversified Architectural Consulting
Mack Real Estate
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www.raleigh-wake.org

