



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

# STRATEGIC PLAN

*Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities*

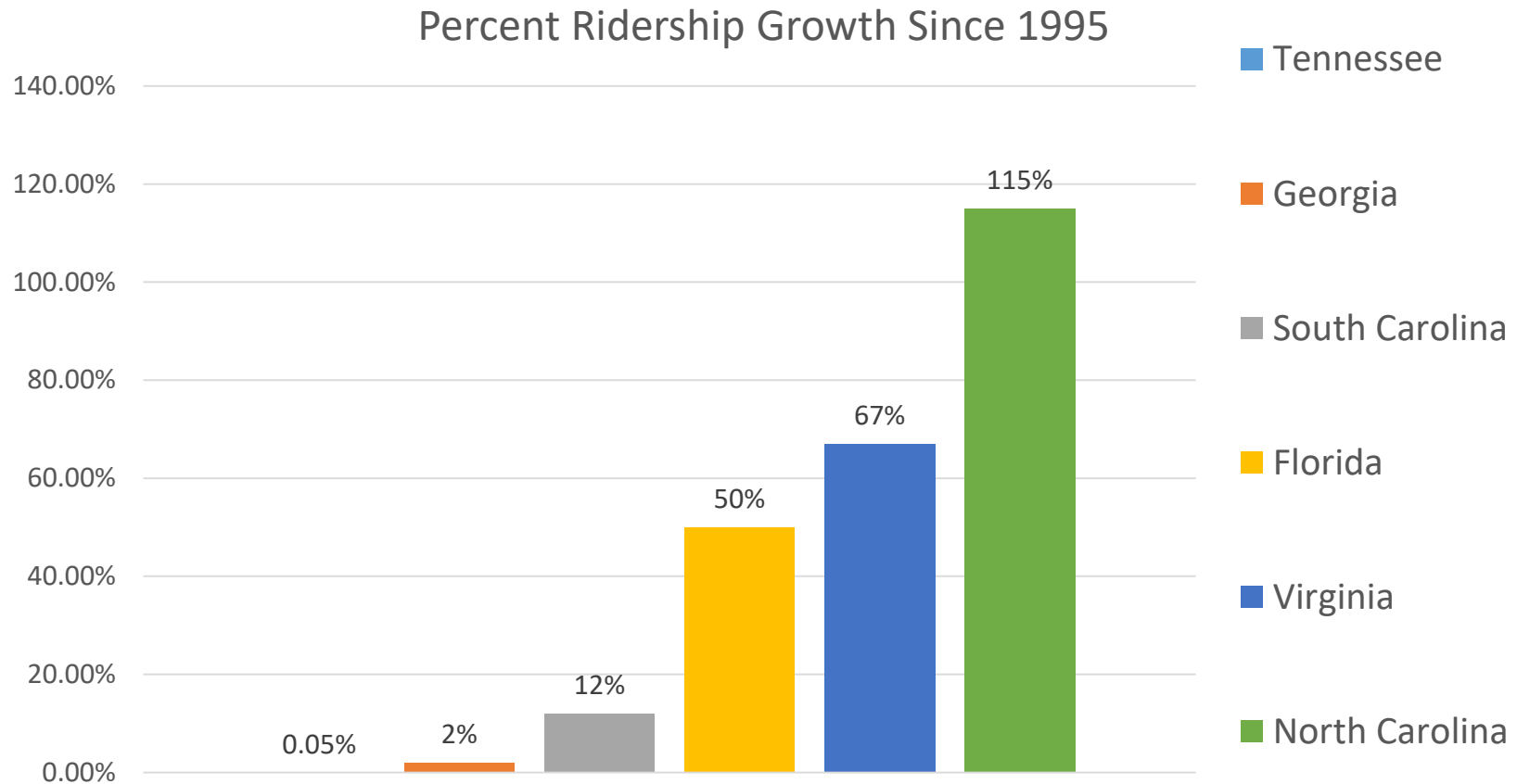


## Summit – Action Plan

Jim Ritchey – March 21, 2018

*Whitman Requardt  
Gresham Smith  
RLS  
Simon Resources  
Foursquare  
Renaissance Planning*

# Fastest Ridership Growth in the Southeast

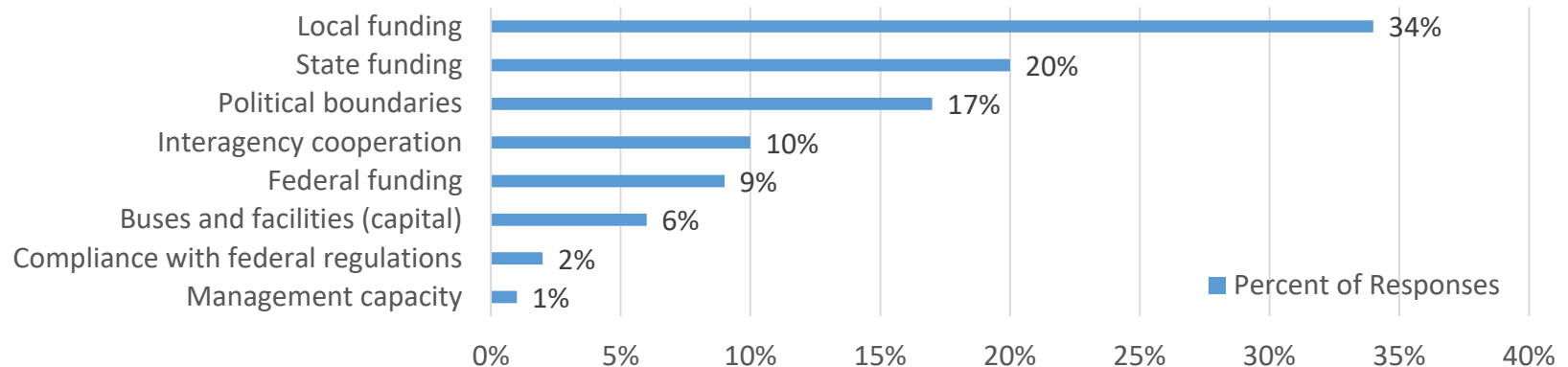


# Public Transportation Vision & Challenges

## Your Vision for Public Transportation in North Carolina

| Category                 | # Responses | Examples  |
|--------------------------|-------------|---|
| Extent of transit system | 37          | No-borders, Ubiquitous, Regional, Rural, Growing      |
| Service characteristic   | 37          | Frequent, Multi-modal, Fast, Innovative               |
| Connected / Opportunity  | 28          | Connected, Seamless, Coordinated, Options             |
| Customer experience      | 28          | Easy, Convenient, Useful, Liberating                  |
| Accessible / Inclusive   | 23          | Accessible, Inclusive, Critical, Lifeline             |
| System characteristic    | 21          | Effective, Efficient, Successful                      |
| Service specific         | 18          | Light Rail, High-Speed Rail, Commuter Rail, Greenways |
| Fares and affordability  | 9           | Affordable, Single pay, Free                          |
| Total responses          | 206         |   |

## Greatest Challenge Facing Public Transportation in North Carolina

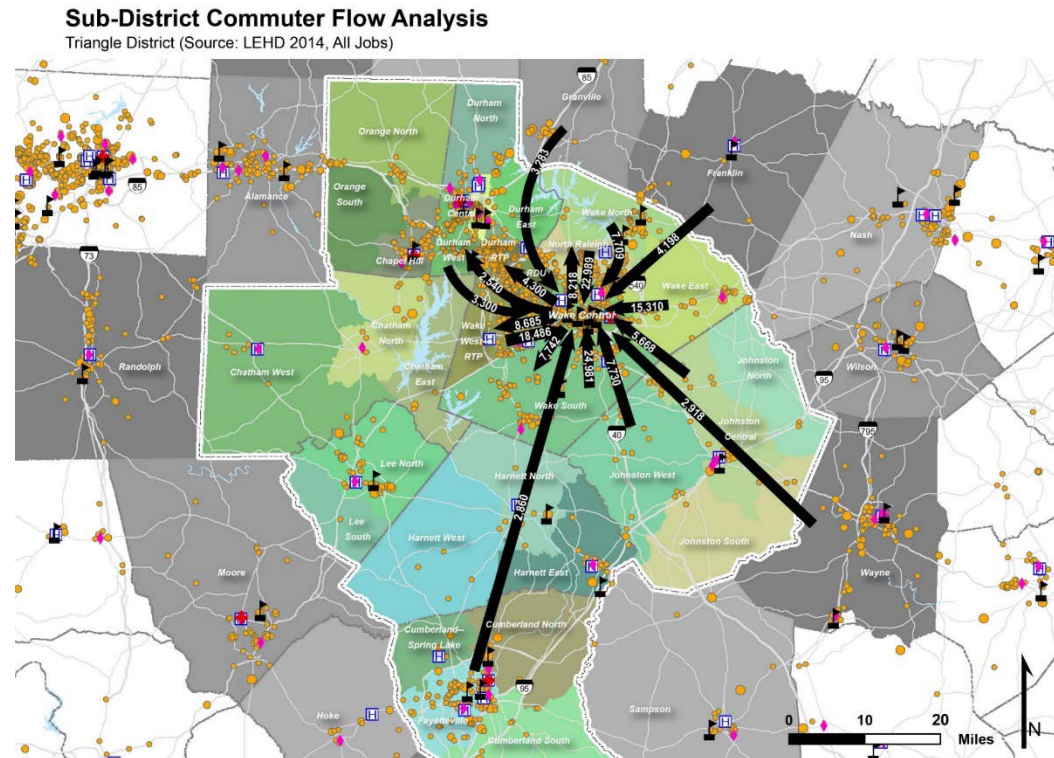


# Travel Market Analysis

# Travel Market Observations

- Travel patterns are regional for work, education and services
- Longer distance commuting markets exist in many regions
- Access to healthcare and community colleges requires longer distance trips
- Service area boundaries create barriers to opportunities

## Weekday Commuter Flows Central Wake County





# Statewide Mobility & Access to Opportunity



# Why is Transit Needed?

- Aging Population
- Low Income Population
- Households without Access to an Automobile
- Persons with a Disability
- North Carolinians without a Driver's License
- Increasing Traffic Congestion and Longer Commuting Distances
- Central City Population Growth
- Support Economic Development through Access to Jobs and Workforce Development

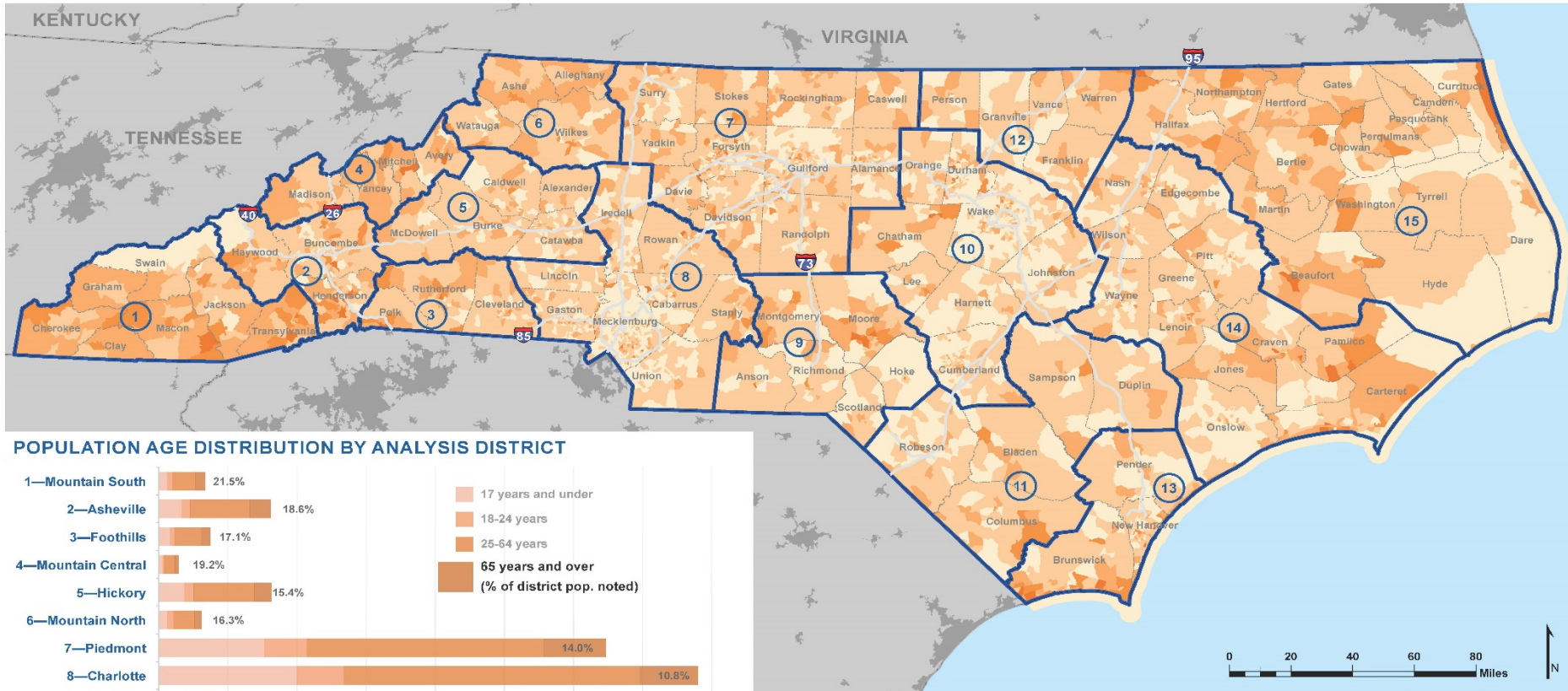


# NEED FOR TRANSIT

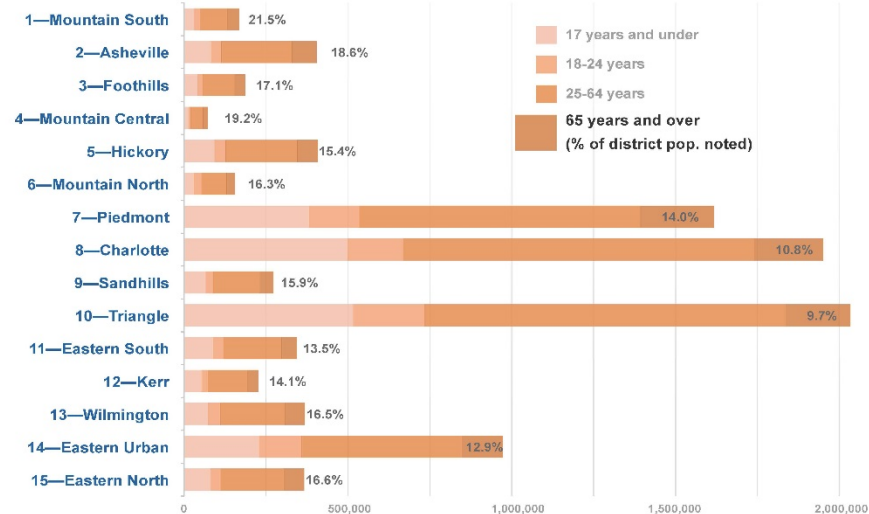
## Population 65 Years and Over



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POPULATION AGE DISTRIBUTION BY ANALYSIS DISTRICT



Legend

- Analysis Districts
- NC Counties
- Urbanized Area (Outside NC)

Percent of Population 65 Years and Over (by block group)

- Less than 10 %
- 10.1 - 20 %
- 20.1 - 30 %
- 30.1 - 40 %
- Greater than 40 %

# Population Change by Age Group 2016 to 2036

- By 2036, North Carolina's population of persons older than age 65 will grow by a million persons or 64.5 percent.

| North Carolina Population by Age Group 2016 to 2036<br>in millions |      |      |      |          |
|--|------|------|------|----------|
| Age Group  | 2016 | 2026 | 2036 | % Change |
| < 18   | 2.3  | 2.4  | 2.6  | +10.5%   |
| 18 - 24  | 1.0  | 1.1  | 1.1  | +8.2%    |
| 24 - 64  | 5.3  | 5.6  | 6.1  | +14.8%   |
| 64+  | 1.6  | 2.1  | 2.6  | +64.5%   |

Source: NC Office of Management and Budget, 2017  
[https://www.osbm.nc.gov/demog/countytotals\\_standardagegroups](https://www.osbm.nc.gov/demog/countytotals_standardagegroups)

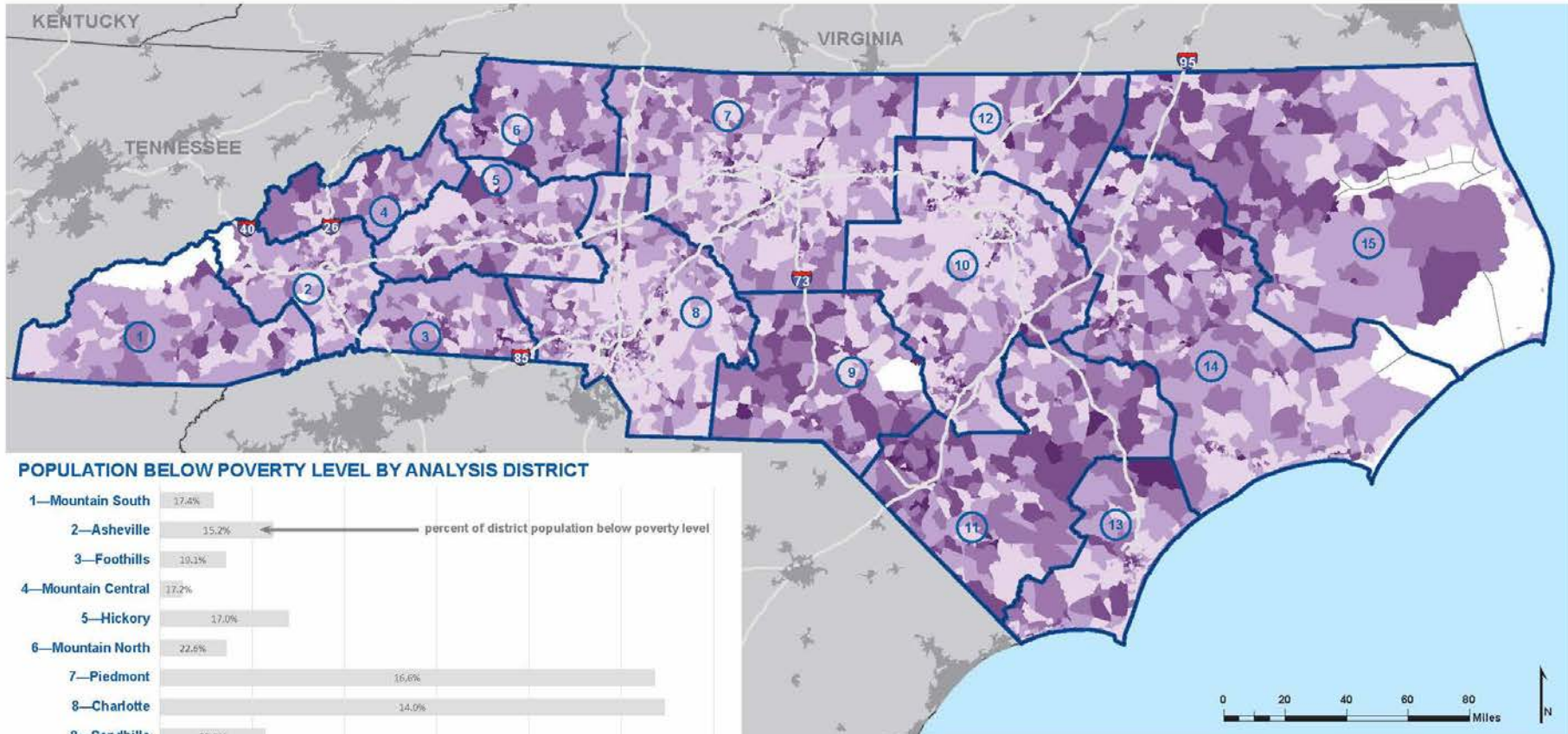


# NEED FOR TRANSIT

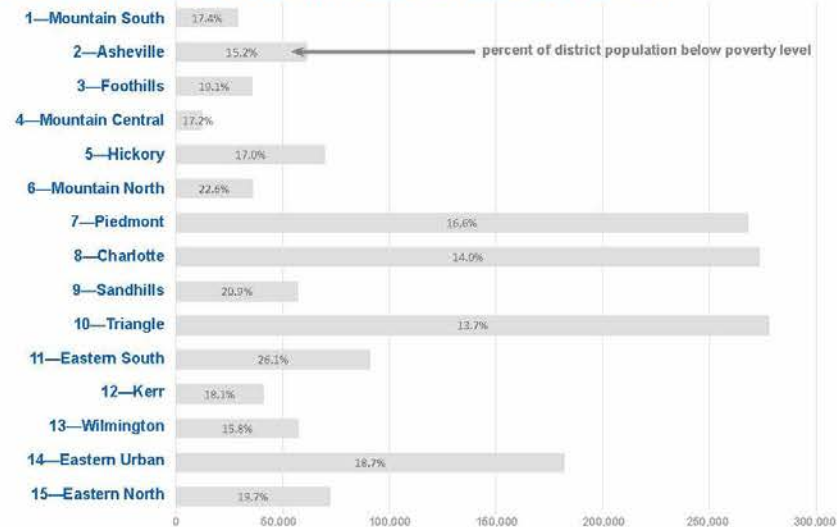
## Population Below Poverty Level



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POPULATION BELOW POVERTY LEVEL BY ANALYSIS DISTRICT



### Legend



# Strategic Plan Elements



# Vision

Connecting North Carolinians to  
Opportunities

# Mission

Improve North Carolinian's quality of life by:

- Building healthy communities
- Supporting job creation and economic development
- Providing equal opportunities so all people can thrive

# Strategy #1 - Building Thriving, Healthy Communities

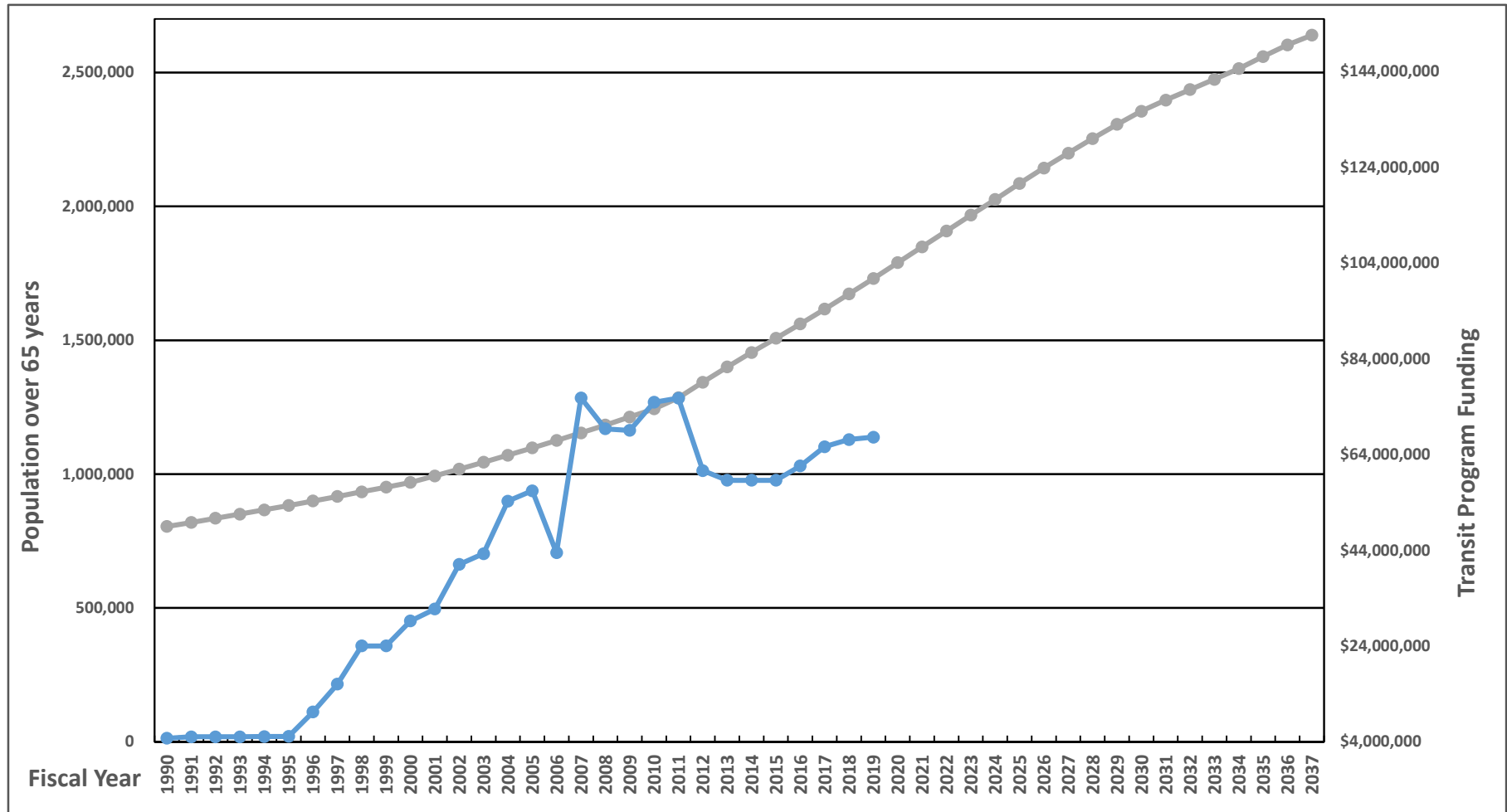
Partner for a Successful Future

## *Tactics*

- a. Partner with local organizations, community colleges, state agencies, business community and customers to focus transit services so people thrive
- b. Provide enhanced access for seniors, veterans and persons with disabilities
- c. Build quality transit stops and safe pedestrian crossings
- d. Support transit-friendly land use



# NC Population 65 and Over vs State Local Transit Program\*



\*State Local Transit Program spending does not include the Blue Line \$25m per year or the special event funding

## Strategy #2 - Improving Access to Jobs and Economic Development

### Support Local Transit Systems

#### ***Tactics***

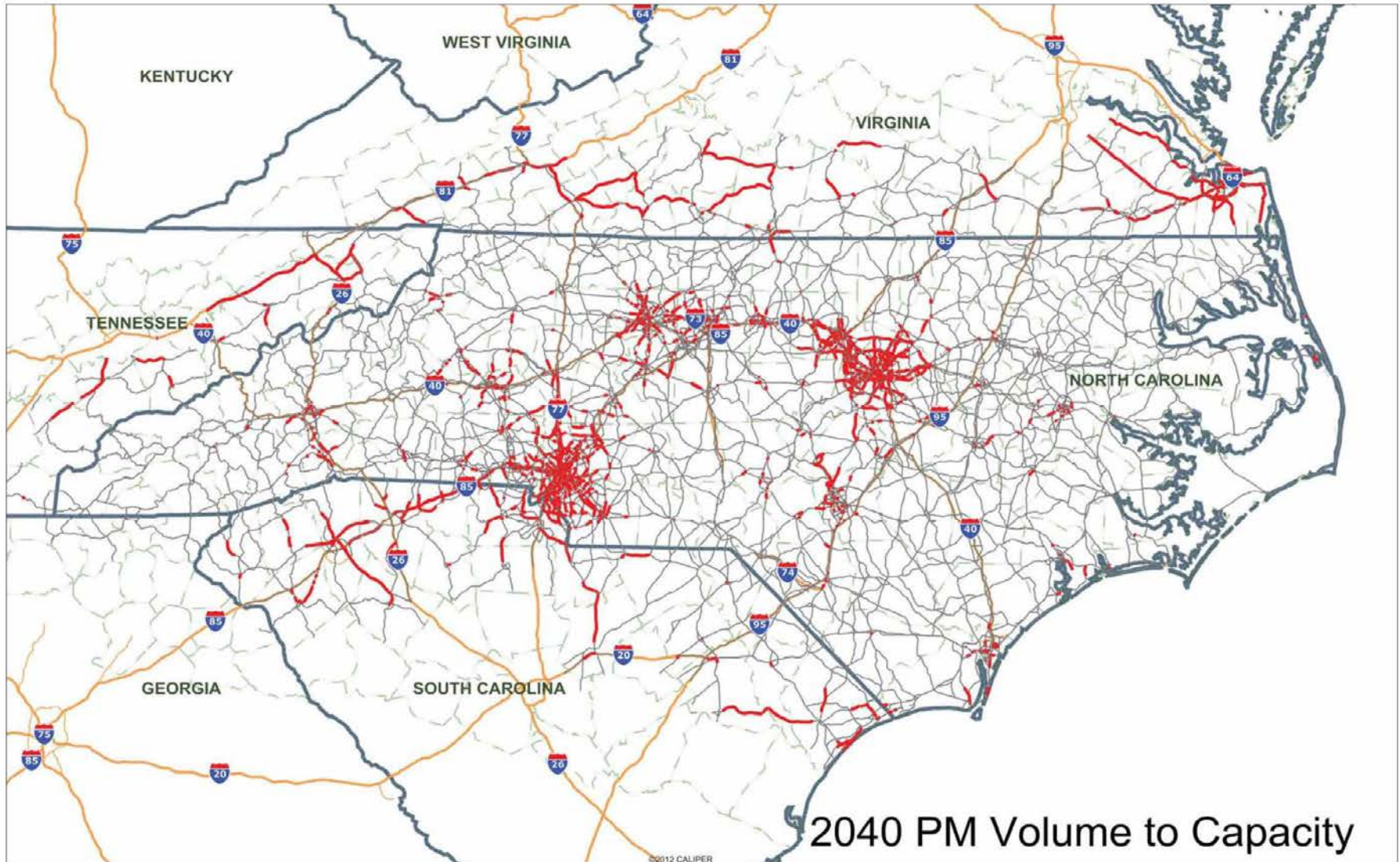
- a. Provide enhanced local services in response to changing demographics
- b. Establish regional multi-county commuter services
- c. Enable new local services
- d. Engage the business community in strengthening job creation and economic development
- e. Push planning beyond local boundaries
- f. Utilize employer-based carpooling, vanpooling and telework programs to provide regional transportation choices

# NEED FOR TRANSIT

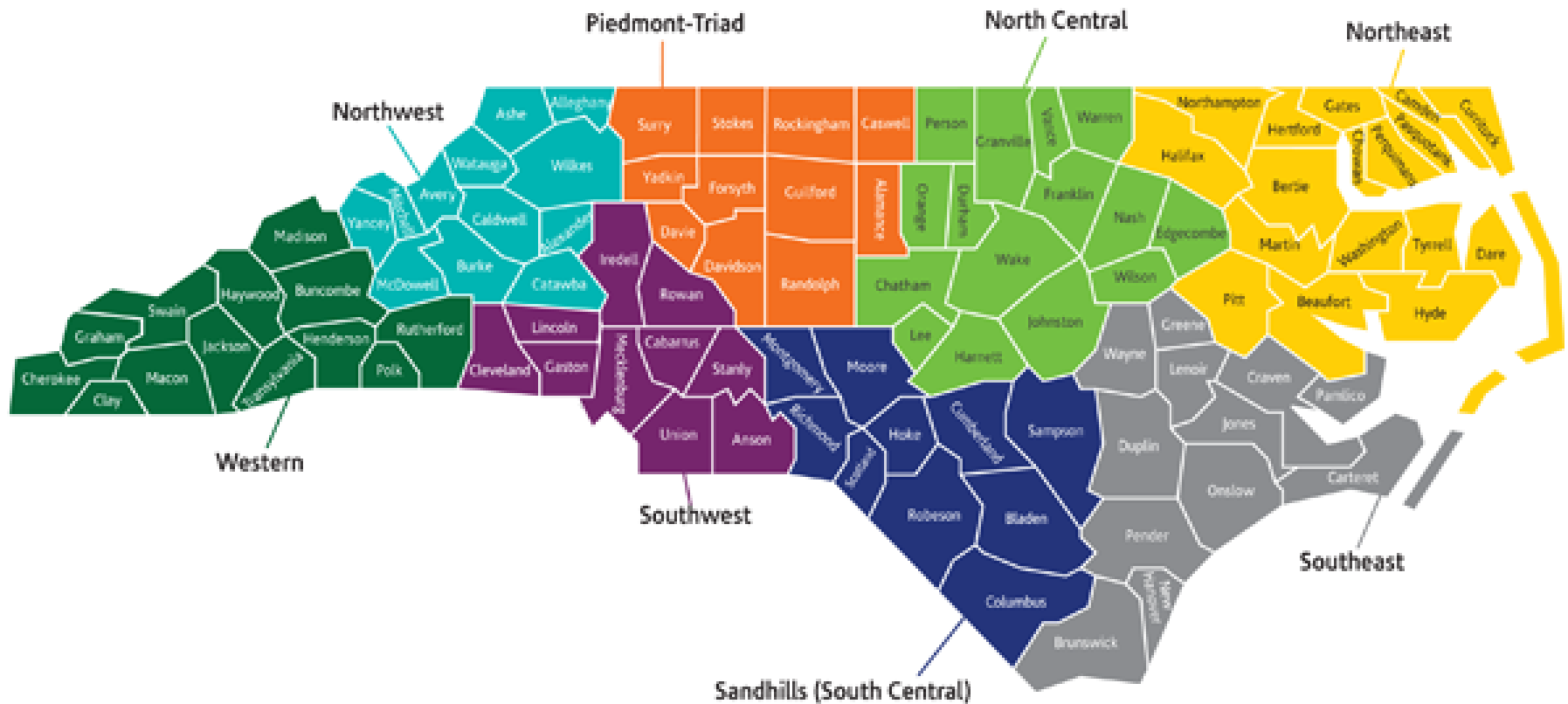
## Traffic Congestion



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# Commerce Prosperity Zones





# Strategy #3 - Connecting Communities to Opportunities

Build A Connected Statewide Network

## *Tactics*

- a. Build The Connected Statewide Network
- b. Utilize technology to foster transit system integration, innovation and operating efficiency
- c. Extend the public transportation network's reach
- d. Improve transit travel times through implementing operating innovations
- e. Support and enable greater flexibility in funding transit investments



# Reports and Deliverables

- Strategic Plan Brochure
  - Summarizes the vision, need for transit and strategies
- Executive Report
  - Action oriented and engaging to communicate the Plan's recommendations
- Strategic Plan
  - Resource document that provides detailed information and planning process records



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<https://www.ncdot.gov/nctransit/strategicplan>