

NCCHCA Annual Primary Care Conference: Moving Health Forward

State of the Child NC: The Role of School-Based Health Centers

June 4–5, 2026 • Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club (Durham, NC)



NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children

Welcome

Today's goals

- Set the tone for the conference
- Orient attendees to flow, tracks, and key logistics
- Highlight the theme and what's new this year

Housekeeping

- Wi-Fi: [network] / [password] (will be added by May 22)
- App: [name/link] (will be added by May 22)
- Help desk: NCCHCA Registration Desk

Conference quick facts

- Registration hours: **7:00 am – 4:00 pm**
- Exhibit hours: **9:00 am – 4:00 pm**
- Meal locations: **President's ballroom**



Northwest AHEC designates this activity for up to 12.0 Contact Hours

Credit Breakdown:

- June 4: 6.75 Contact Hours
- June 5: 5.25 Contact Hours

Participants must attend approved sessions and complete required evaluations. Certificates are issued electronically after verification.



Agenda at a Glance

Day 1 Thursday, June 4

- Opening Plenary
- Concurrent sessions
- Lunch plenary
- Closing panel
- Awards/ Welcome reception

Day 2 Friday, June 5

- Morning plenary
- Concurrent sessions
- Lunch
- Closing Plenary
- Adjourn



Speaker Spotlight



Kaitlyn Richards, J.D.

Health Policy Manager

Kaitlyn has dedicated her career to advancing policies that support children and families across the Carolinas. She earned a B.A. in Communication Studies & Sociology from UNC-Chapel Hill and her J.D. from Penn State Dickinson Law School.

State of the Child NC: The Role of School Based Health Centers |
9:50-10:45 am

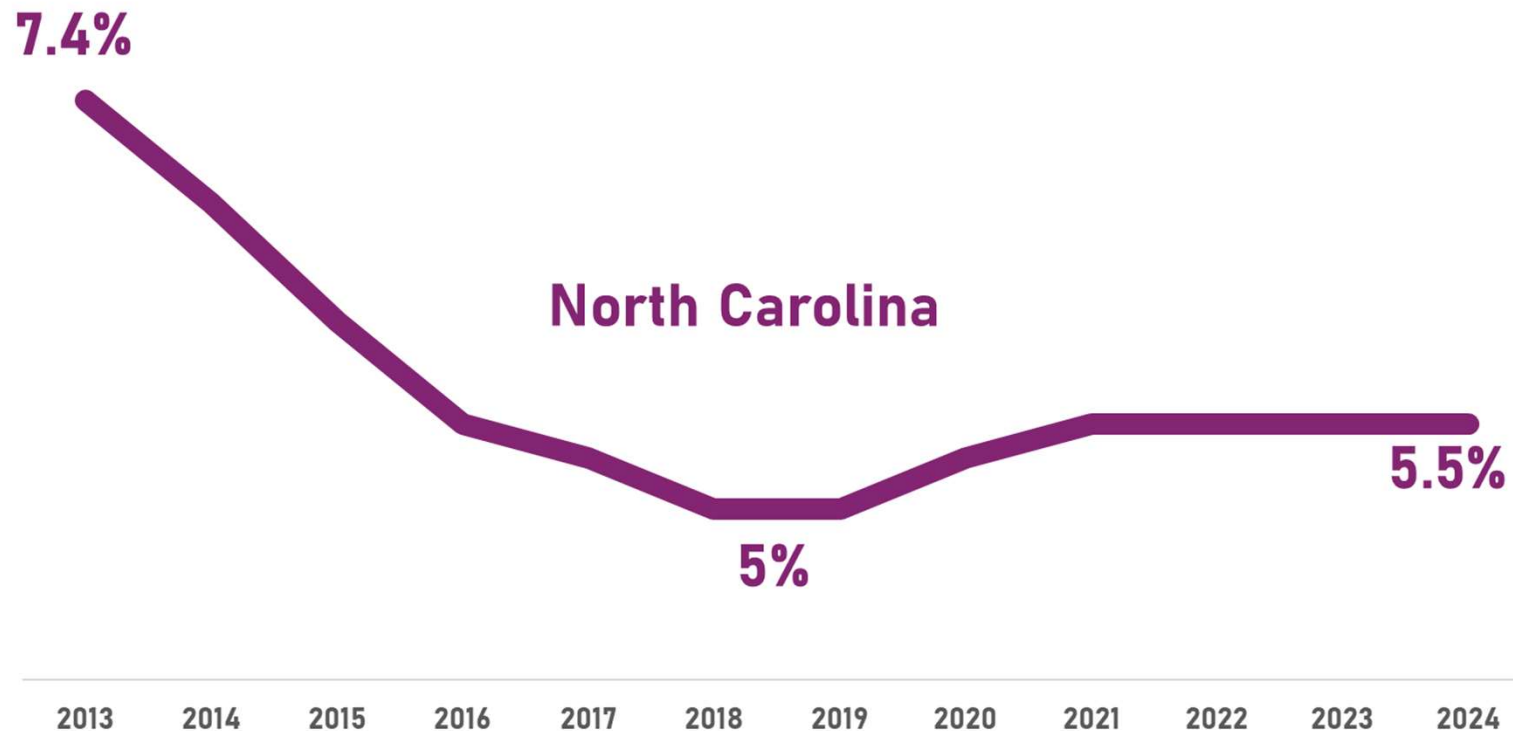
Key takeaways

- School-based health centers have wide reaching benefits on children's health and well-being, and their academic performance.
- Sustainable, braided funding streams are the key to long-term success.



Improvements in North Carolina child uninsurance rates

Percentage of children under 19 lacking health insurance in North Carolina, 2013-24



SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2013-2024

NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Moving Health Forward

4 out of 10

North Carolina high schoolers reported feelings
of persistent sadness or hopelessness in 2023



SOURCE: NC DPI Youth Risk Behavior Survey

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

Moving Health Forward

Between 2016-2023, the number of children with anxiety and depression has more than doubled in North Carolina



SOURCE: HRSA, National Survey of Children's Health

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

Moving Health Forward

54%



of North Carolina children who need mental health care have difficulty or cannot access services

SOURCE: National Survey of Children's Health

NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Moving Health Forward

NC School Districts sit above recommended counselor ratio

Number of students per school counselor in North Carolina, SY 2024-25



SOURCE: NC DPI

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Ratios of students to psychologists, social workers even higher

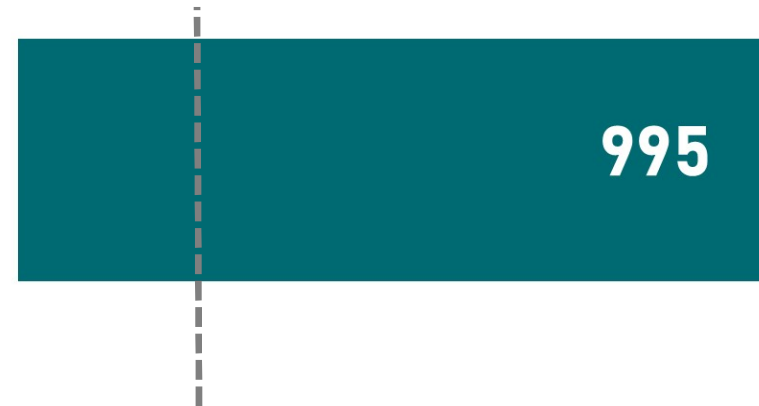
Number of students per school psychologist and social worker in North Carolina, SY 2024-25

Psychologists



Recommended ratio: 500 to 1

Social Workers



Recommended ratio: 250 to 1

SOURCE: NC DPI

NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

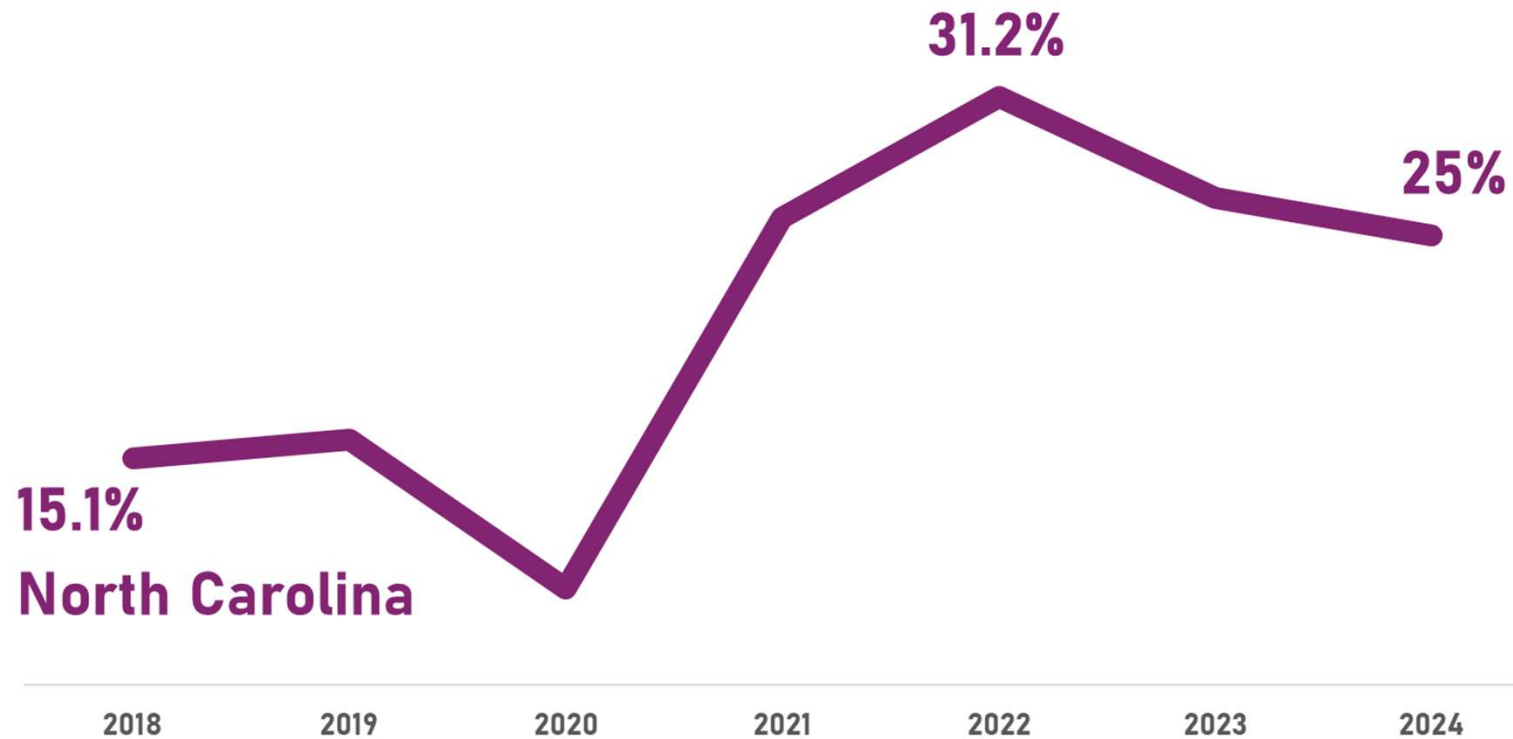
NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Moving Health Forward

1 in 4 Students are chronically absent

The percentage of K-12 students in North Carolina who missed 10% or more instructional days, SY 2018-24



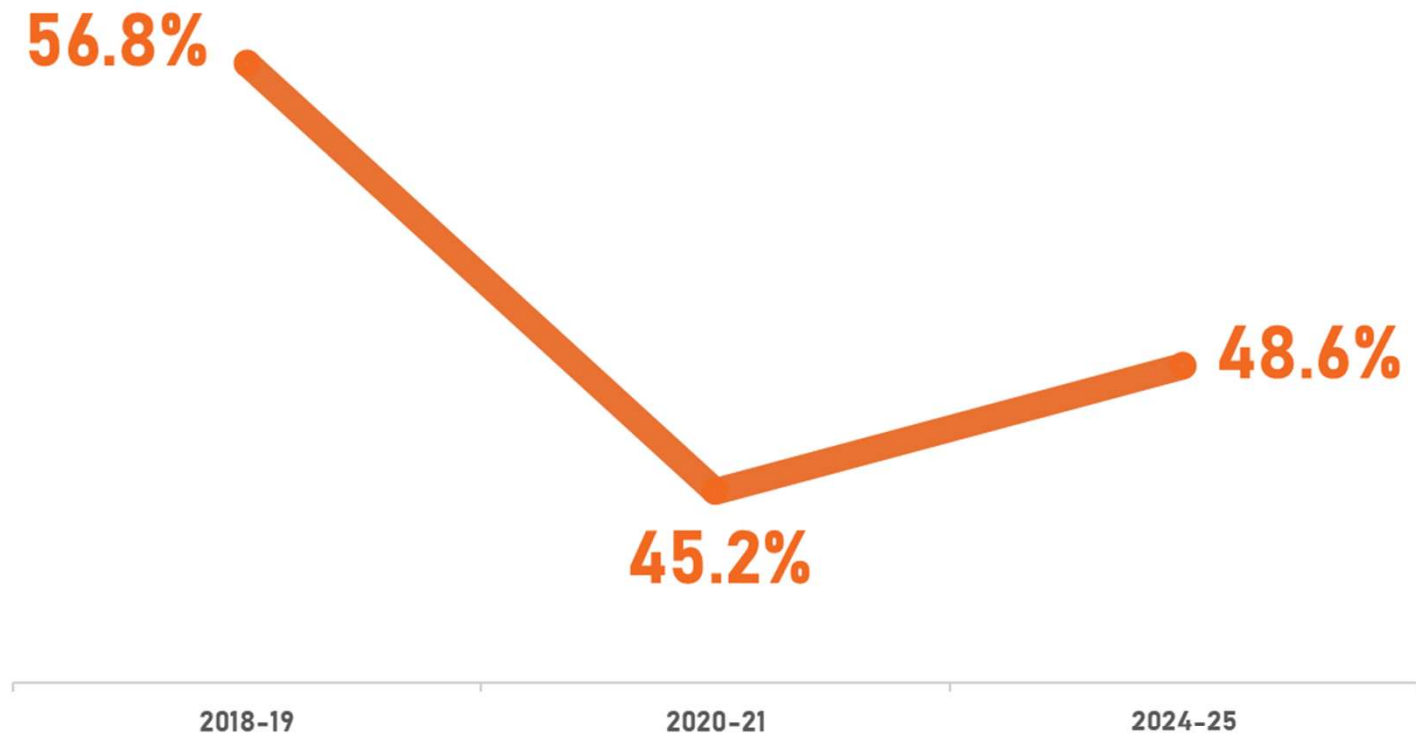
SOURCE: NC DPI

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



North Carolina 3rd grade reading still well below pre-covid

Percent of third graders scoring proficient or higher in reading test, 2018-19, 2020-21, and 2024-25 school years



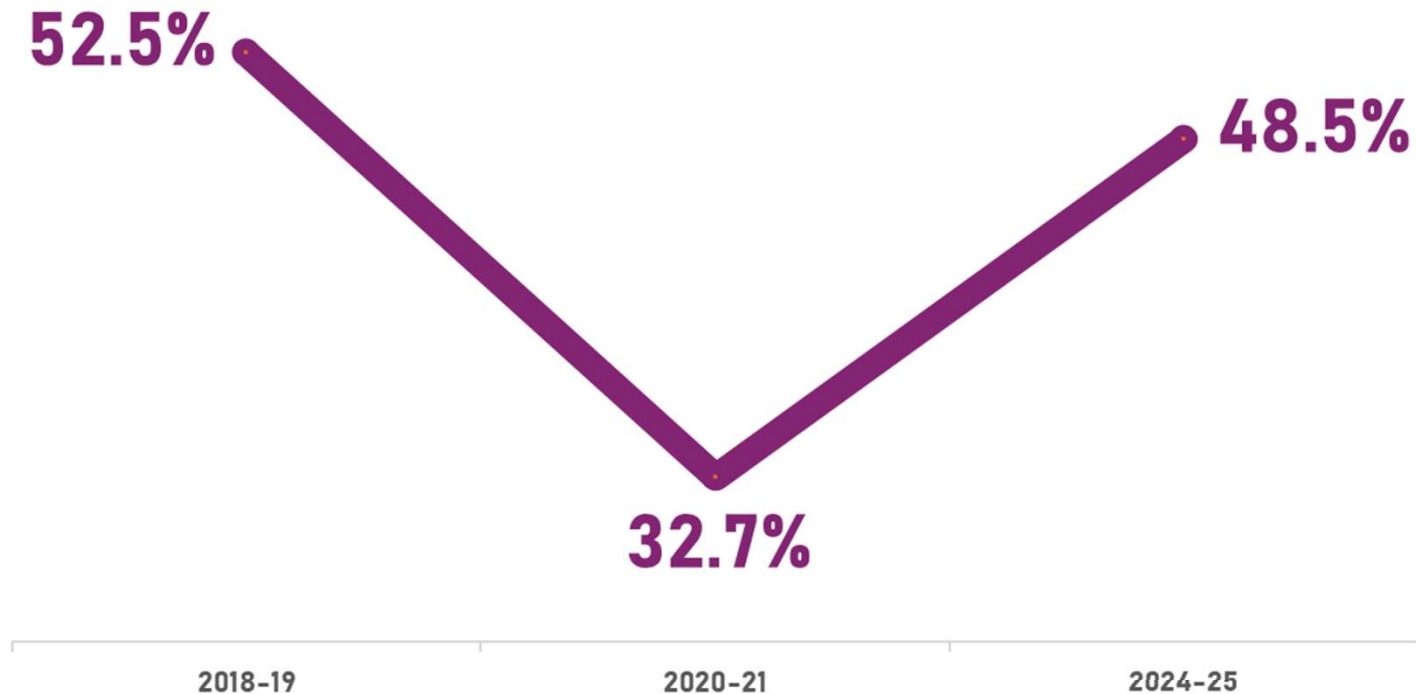
SOURCE: NC DPI

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Less than half of NC 8th graders are proficient in math

Percent of eighth graders scoring proficient or higher in math test, 2018-19, 2020-21, and 2024-25 school years



SOURCE: NC DPI

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



ADDITIONAL CHILD HEALTH & WELL-BEING INSIGHTS ON NC CHILD DATA CENTER

The screenshot shows the NC Child Data Center website. At the top, the text "Data Center" is written in a large, white, cursive font over a background image of a child's hands. Below this, a subtitle reads: "Research and data is one of NC Child's core strategies to support children and families". A white filter bar is positioned in the center, containing the text "Select how you would like to view the data" and three radio button options: "Statewide" (selected), "By County", and "By Legislative District". To the right of these options are two dropdown menus: "Select a county" and "Child Welfare". Below the filter bar, the main content area has a teal background. On the left, it says "Statewide Data" and "North Carolina". On the right, it says "Child Welfare". A small icon of a person is visible in the bottom right corner of the teal area.

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



OR THROUGH OUR COUNTY DATA CARDS

NORTH CAROLINA

2025 NC DATA CARD

Child population: 2,322,823
Percent under age six: 25.8%
Number of live births: 120,065



*Percentage is not reported if it is greater than 95% or less than 5%
For complete data notes and sources, visit ncchild.org.
Contact Neil Harrington at neil@ncchild.org.

NC Pathways to Grade-Level Reading Measures of Success. Learn more at: buildthefoundation.org/pathways

 **NC Child**
The Voice for North Carolina's Children

DURHAM COUNTY

2025 NC DATA CARD

NORTH CAROLINA
Child population: 2,322,823
Percent under age five: 25.8%
Number of live births: 120,065

DURHAM
Child population: 66,350
Percent under age five: 29.9%
Number of live births: 4,068



*Percentage is not reported if it is greater than 95% or less than 5%
For complete data notes and sources, visit ncchild.org.
Contact Neil Harrington at neil@ncchild.org with any questions.

NC Pathways to Grade-Level Reading Measures of Success. Learn more at: buildthefoundation.org/pathways

 **NC Child**
The Voice for North Carolina's Children

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Key Barriers Facing NC Families:

Transportation Gaps

Cost & Insurance

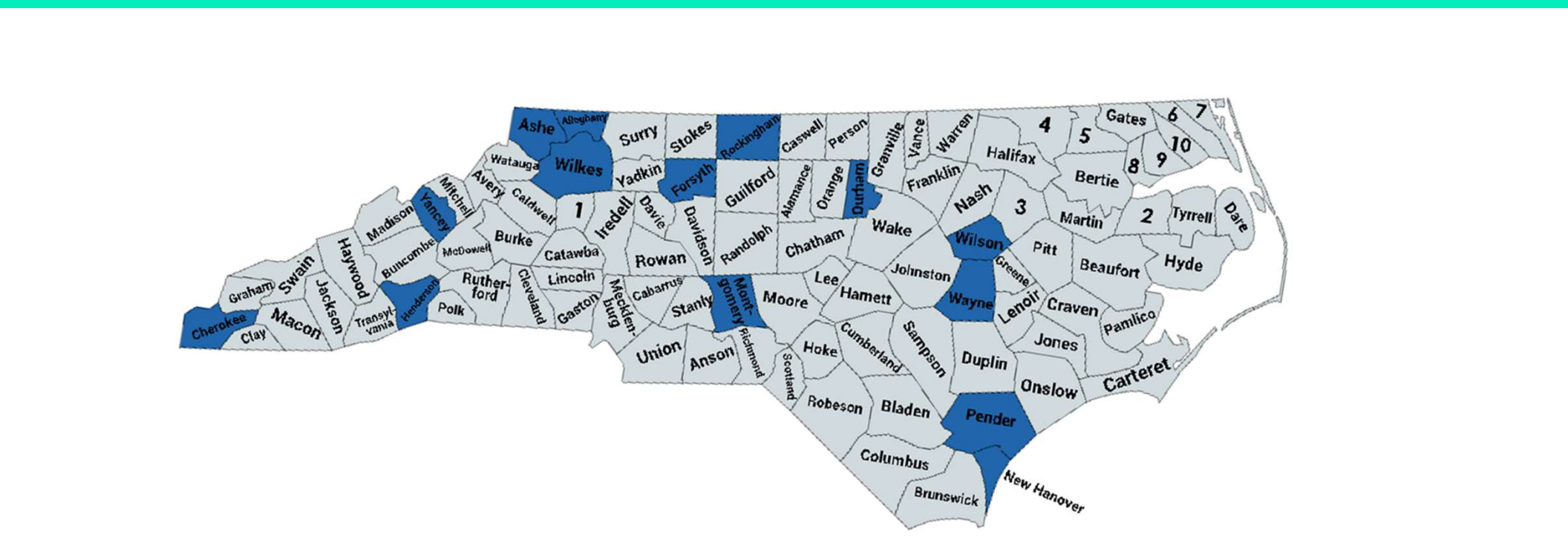
Workforce Shortages

Parental Work Conflicts

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



As of January 2026, NC had 30 state-funded school-based health centers across 14 counties



NC Dept. of Health and Human Services [NC State-Funded School Health Centers \(FY 2025-2026\)](#)

NCCHCA • Annual Primary Care Conference

NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Moving Health Forward

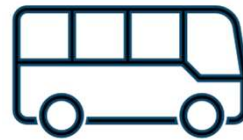
In total, NC has 90+ school-based health centers serving over 30,000 students – Roughly only 2% of all enrolled students



Traditional



Linked



Mobile Units



Telehealth

Research Shows that School-Based Health Centers can...

Reduce emergency department visits & hospitalizations

Increase vaccination & preventative screening rates

Improve school attendance rates and academic performance

Increase access and use of mental health care



Georgia's Funding Breakdown

Total: \$125 million (2022-2026); \$1 million allocated per school

Planning & Assessments: \$10,000

Community needs assessments and stakeholder engagement with parents, school administration, and the local medical community

Capital Improvement & Development: \$308,000

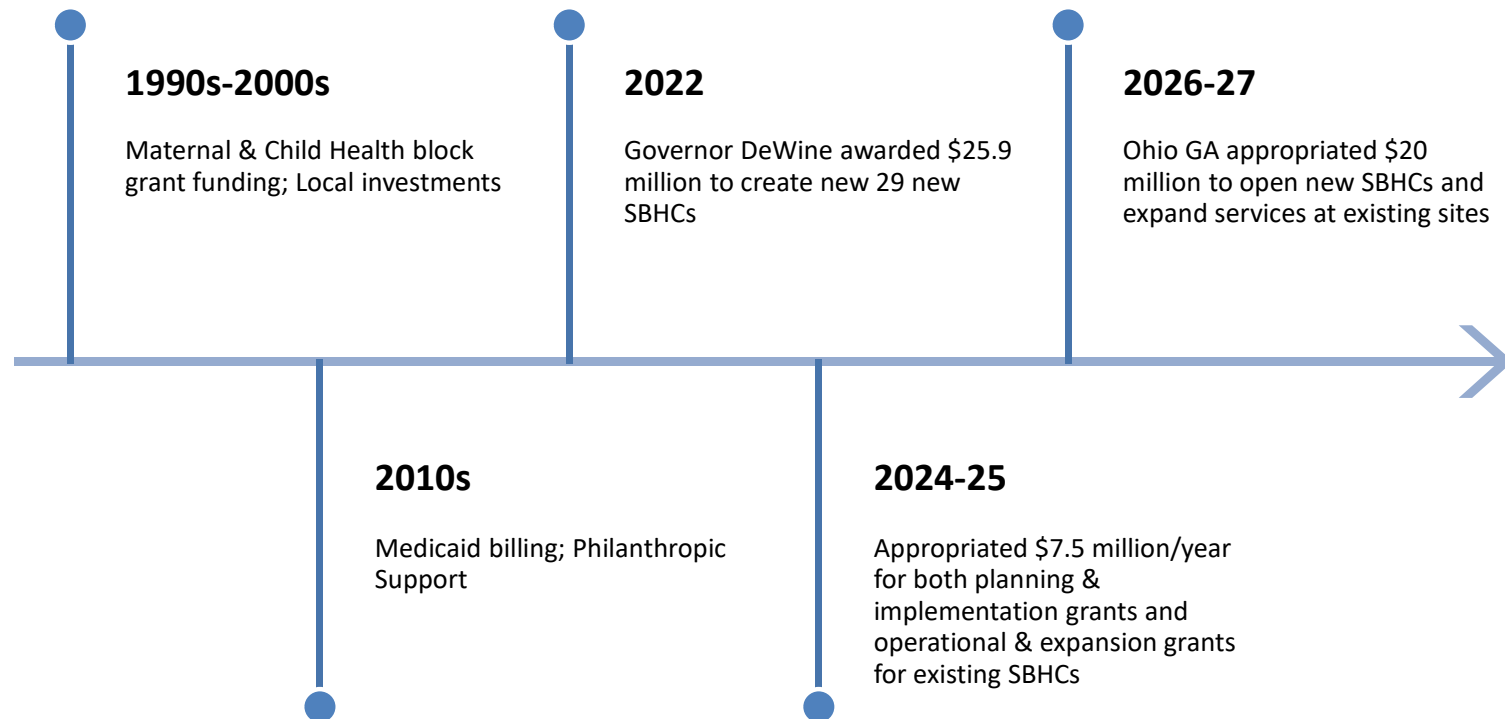
Either repurposing existing space within the school or for the purchase & placement of a modular unit on school grounds

Staffing & Equipment: \$682,000

Staffing for pediatricians, PNP/PA, LCSW, Medical assistants, and/or clinic receptionists. Could include dentists and dental hygienist and a community liaison. Also covered medical and office equipment and supplies



Sustainable State Funding Stream in Ohio



NC Child
The Voice for North Carolina's Children



Lessons from Other States:

- **Sustainable, Braided Funding**
- **Patience & Partnerships are Key**
- **Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care**
- **Broad Telehealth Access**
- **Reduced Administrative Burden on Families, Schools, and Providers**



Slide 23

NH1

can you add slides with examples from other states? particularly georgia (how their funding was allocated, what it paid for and ohio's legislative appropriations in support of SBHCs)

Neil Harrington, 2026-05-28T13:42:13.445

Thank You!

Thanks for joining us.

We're glad you're here—let's keep moving health forward.

