

East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine

**ECU Board of Visitors
January 10, 2025**



Mission

Improving the Oral Health of the People of North Carolina

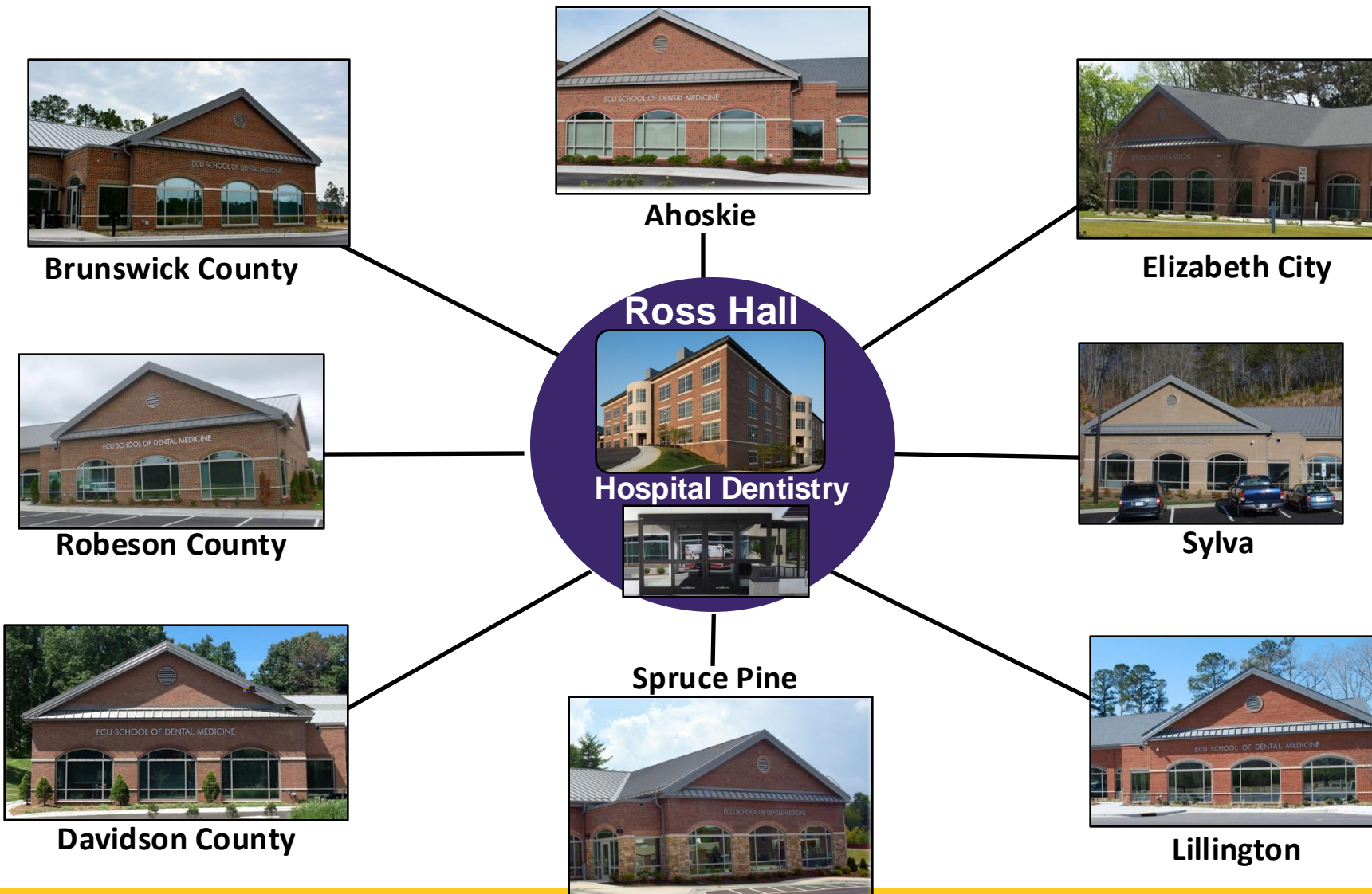
- **Educating** the next generation of leaders/dentists
- **Providing care** in rural/under-resourced areas of North Carolina
- Influencing future practice/education through **Research**

Meeting the Challenge by...

- Preparing **leaders** with a passion to serve
- Focusing on Primary Care
- Fostering a welcoming learning environment



ECU School of Dental Medicine

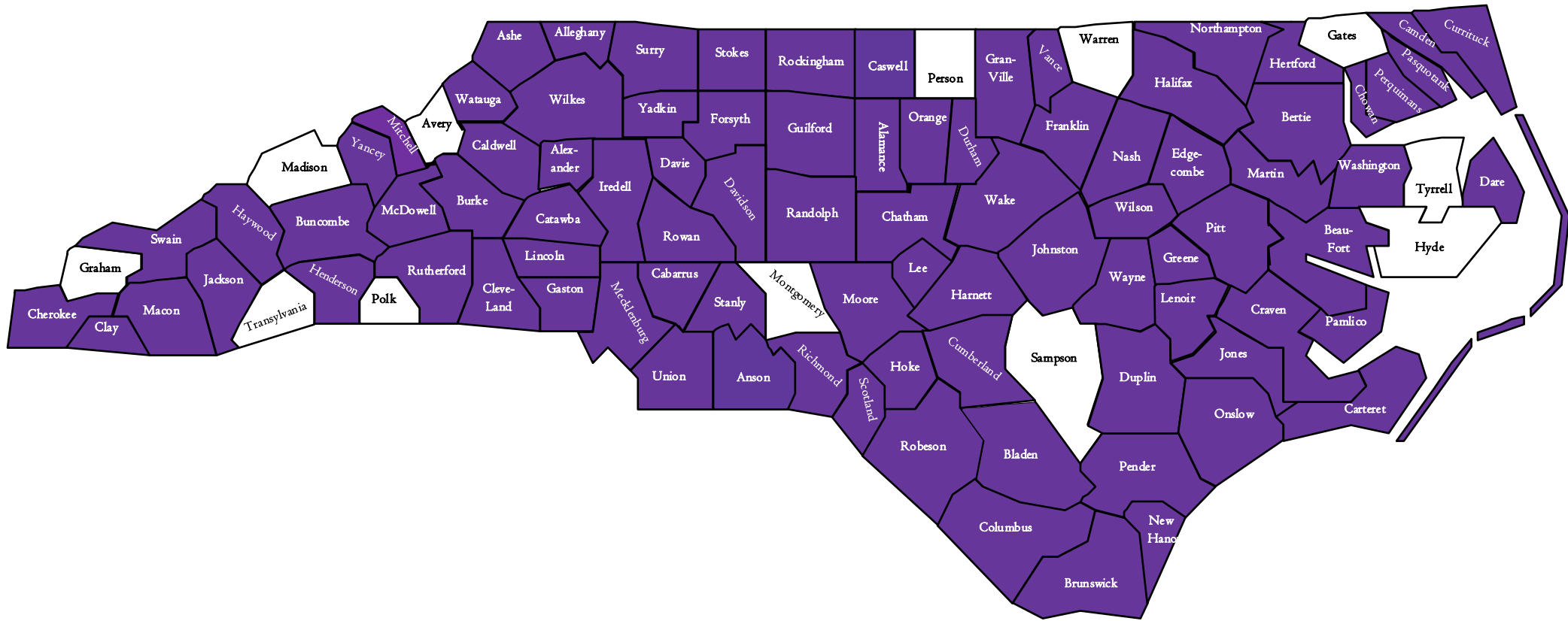


Demographic Challenges

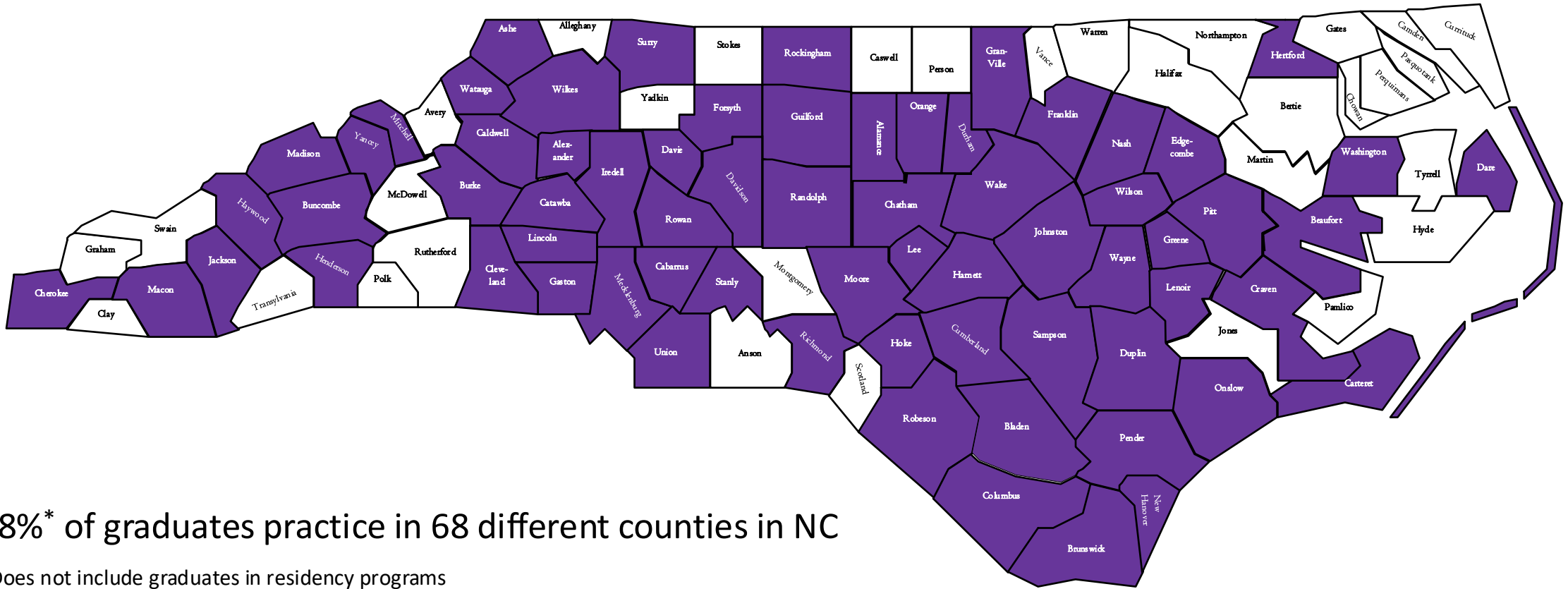
- 5th fastest growing state - will be the 7th largest (12+M) by 2030
- 78 rural counties and 22 urban counties
- 26 NC counties have fewer than 2 dentists/10K population
- NC ranks in the mid-30s in the number of providers/10K population – 4 counties have no dentist (Gates, Hyde, Jones & Tyrrell)



Our Students (Past & Present) Represent 88 North Carolina Counties



2015-2024 Graduates Practice Counties



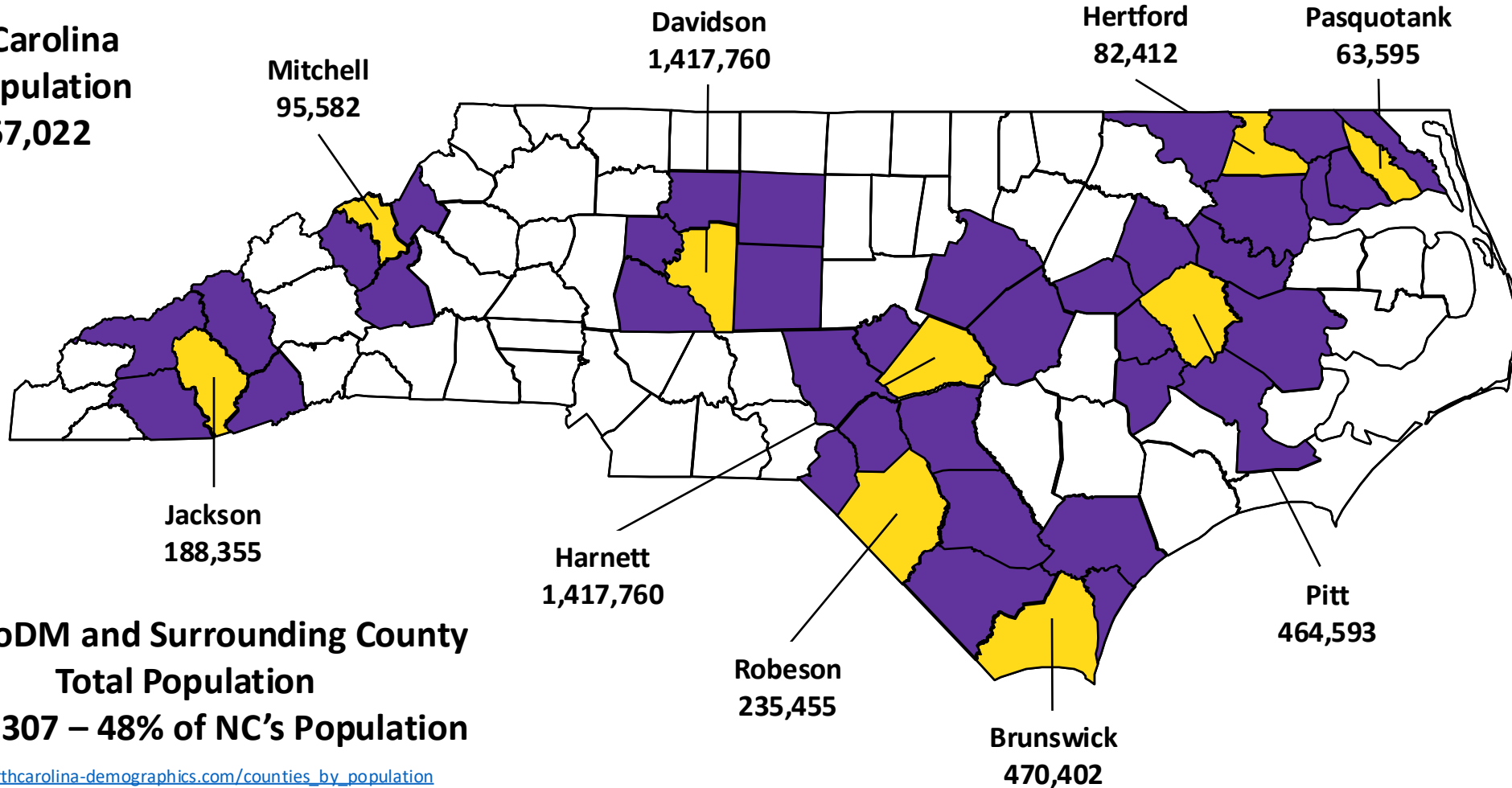
88%* of graduates practice in 68 different counties in NC

*Does not include graduates in residency programs



Reaching Across the State

North Carolina
Total Population
10,367,022

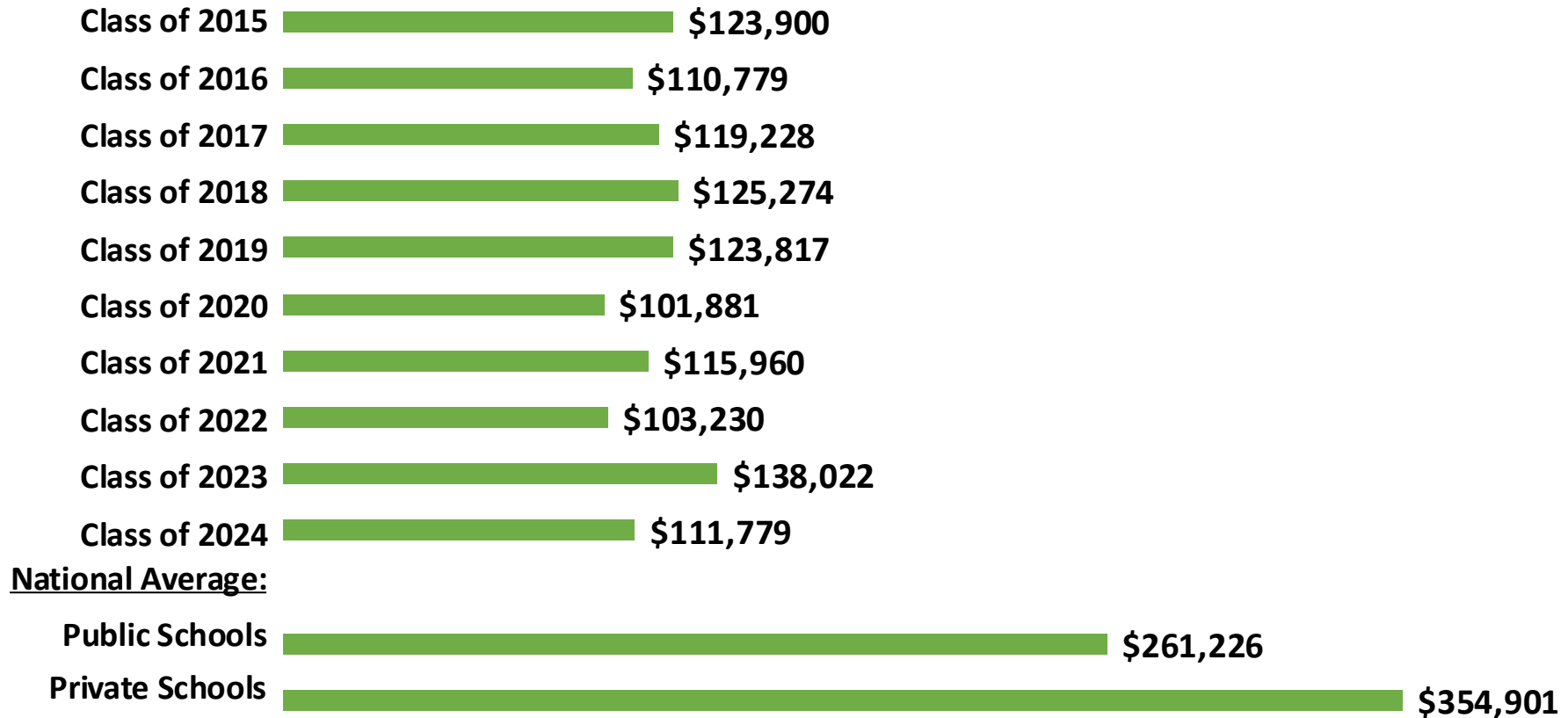


ECU SoDM and Surrounding County
Total Population
4,970,307 – 48% of NC's Population

Source Data: https://www.northcarolina-demographics.com/counties_by_population



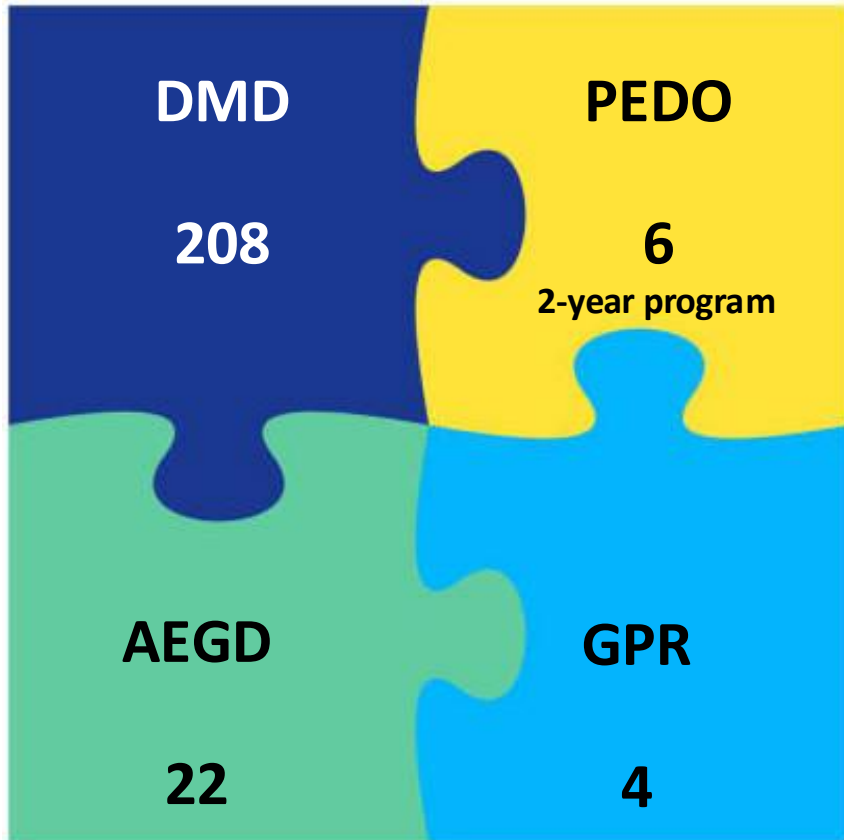
Keeping Student Debt Low: SODM Graduate Dental School Debt



Source: https://www.adea.org/godental/money_matters/educational_debt.aspx



Educational Programs



- **General Practice Model**
- **10th DMD class graduated in May**
- **DMD program accepts Only NC Residents**
- **Focusing on primary care for rural areas of North Carolina**



Providing Care Across the State

As of December 31, 2024

108,144

Approximately 30% are Dental Medicaid patients

Total Unique Patients Seen in Ross Hall, 8 CSLCs and Hospital Dentistry since July 2011



Community Service Learning Centers...

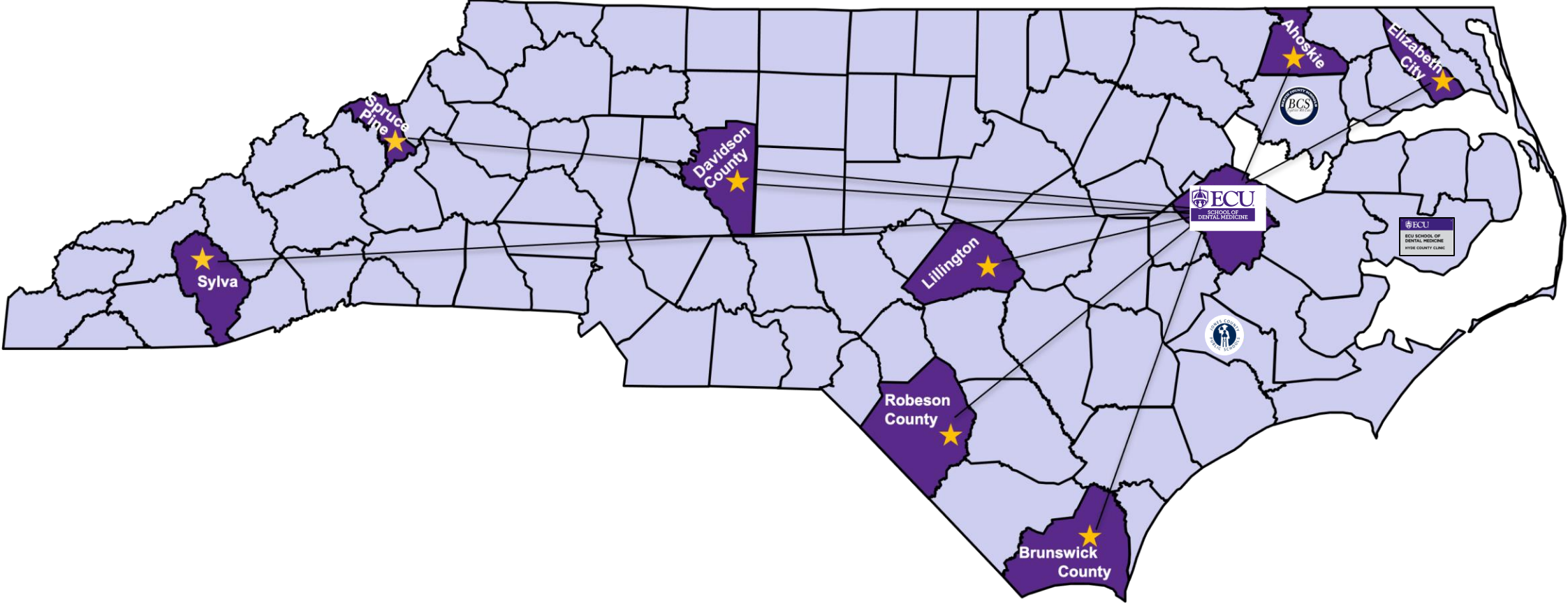
Education ♦ Access ♦ Sustainable



.....A Critical Component to Achieving our Mission



ECU School of Dental Medicine Extending Our Reach Across the State



Developing Partnerships with Community Health Centers, Public Health Departments and Hospitals Across NC

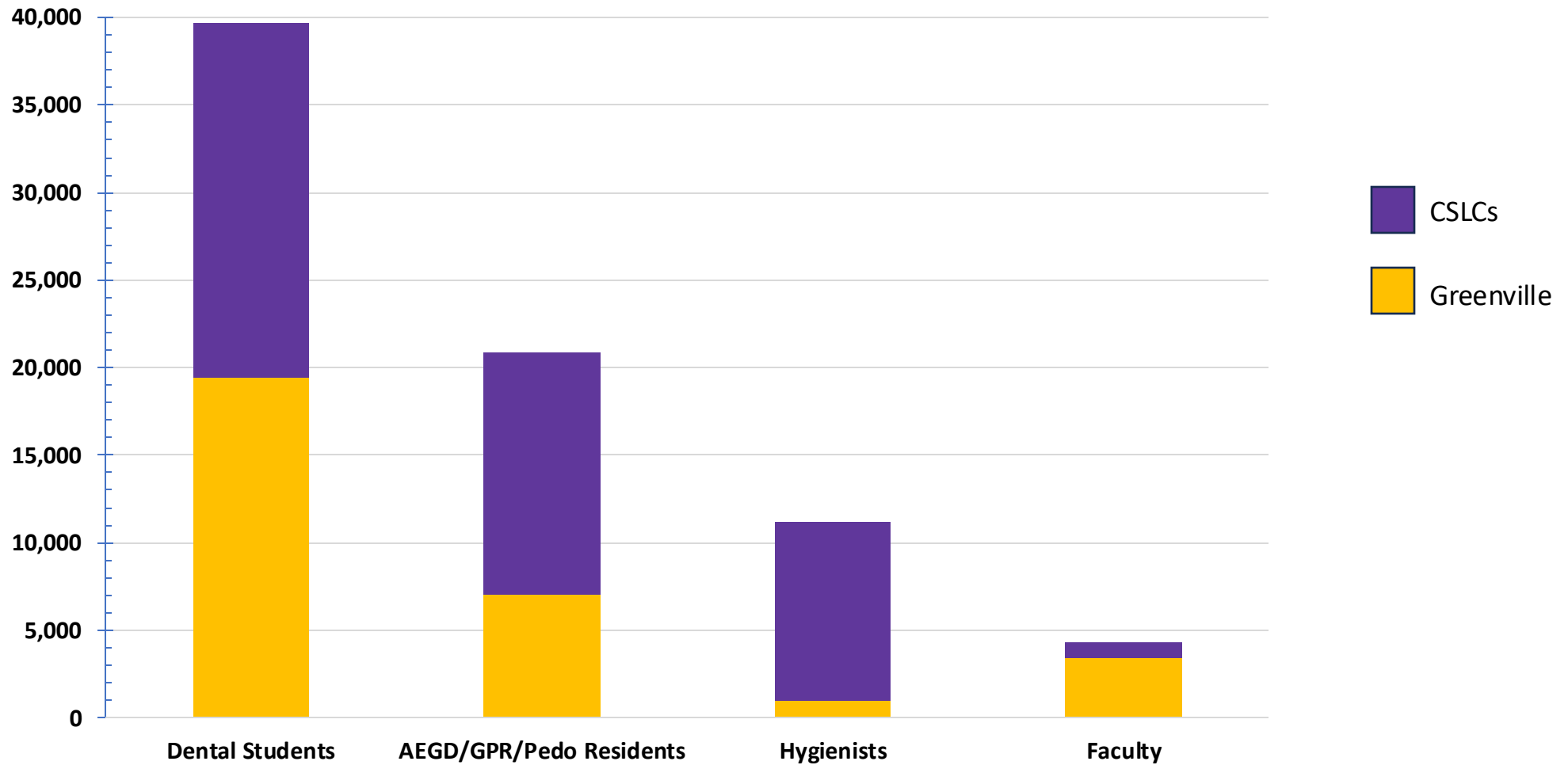


**CSLC - Ahoskie Partners with
Roanoke-Chowan Community Health Center**

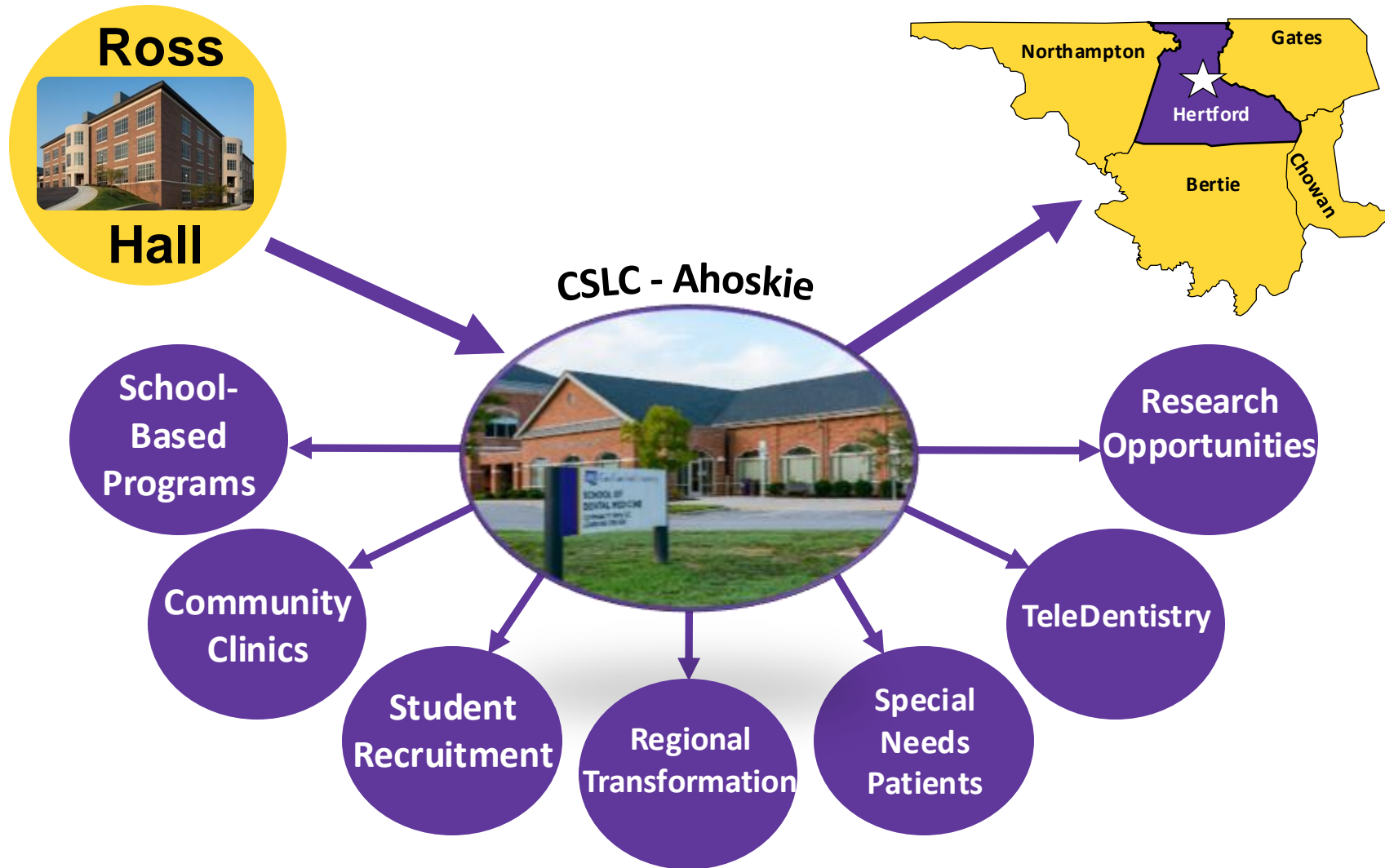


Patients Treated by Provider

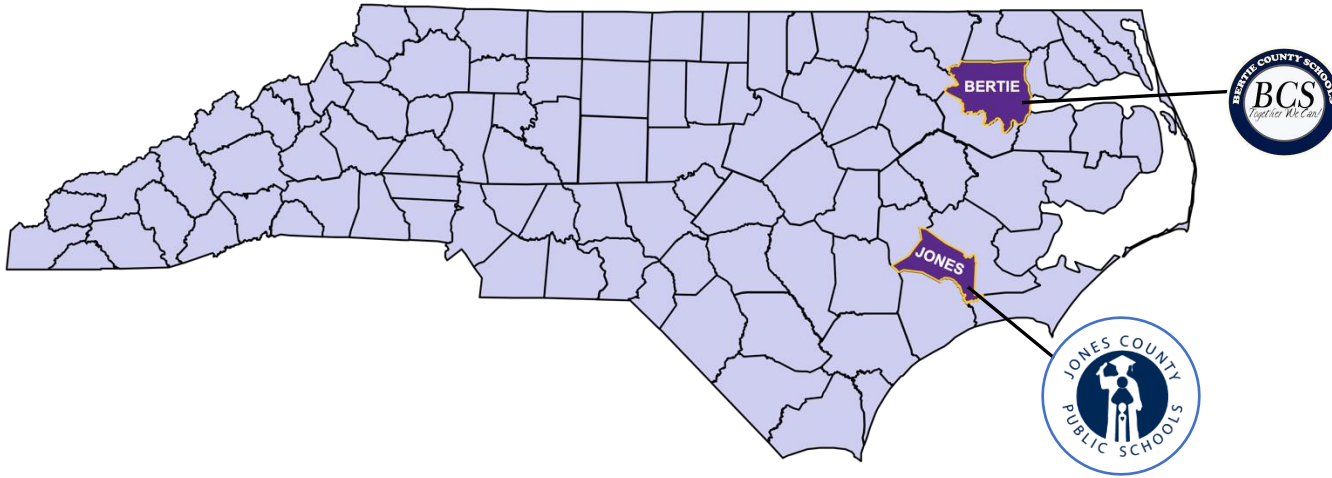
January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024



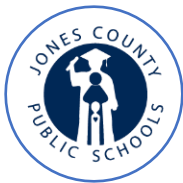
Next Steps: Expanding into the Community



Bertie & Jones Counties K-12 School-based Programs



- **Bertie:** Provided care for **1037** unique school-age children since Jan 2020
- **Jones:** Provide care for **272** unique school-age children since Feb 2023



Population - 2022 Census

Bertie: 16,954

Jones: 9,091

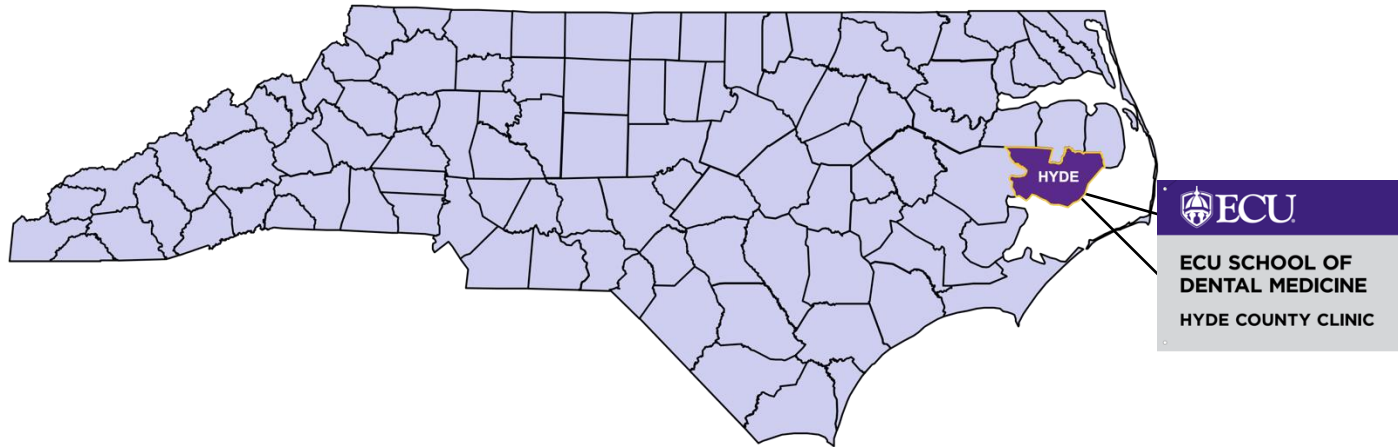
County Dentists

Bertie: 1

Jones: 0



Hyde County Clinic



Population - 2022 Census

4,593

County Dentists

0

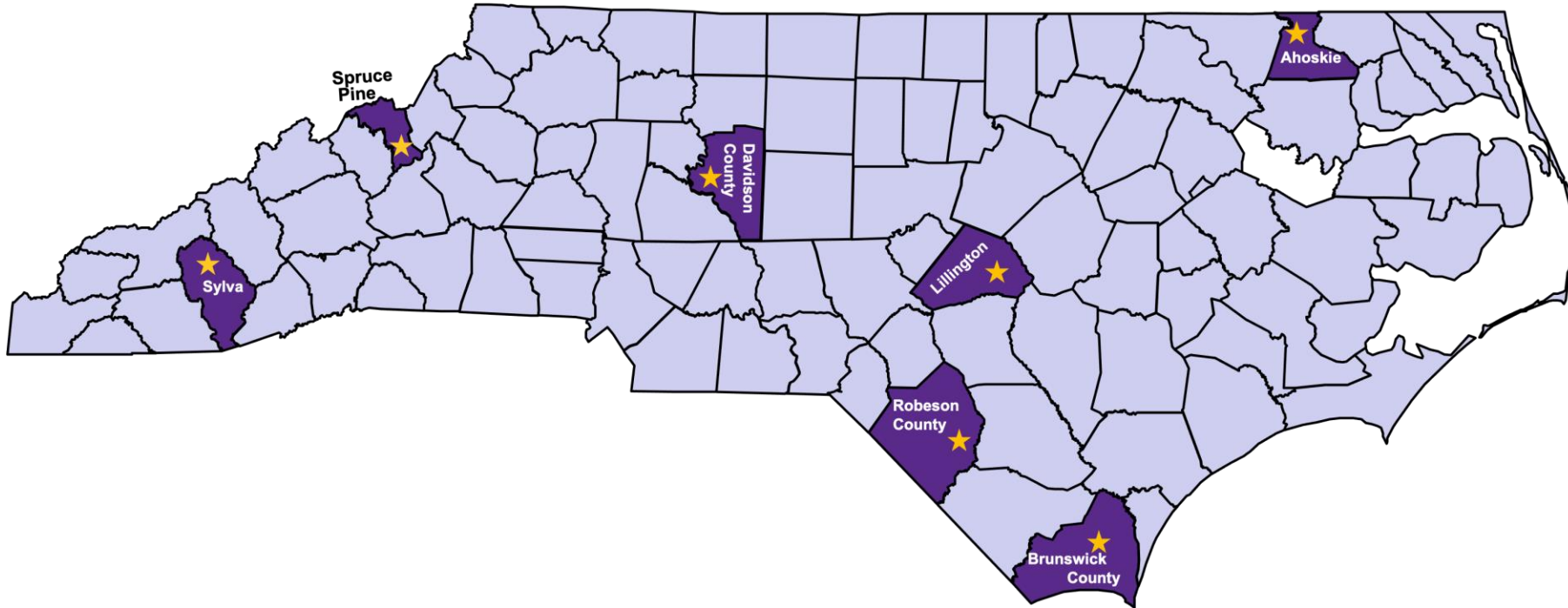
Clinic Open 1st Friday of the Month

- Established April 2022. Space provided by the Hyde County Health Dept
- Provided care for **165** Unique Patients Seen



ECU Smiles for Veterans

Over **370** Veterans have received free dental care at CSLC-Sylva, CSLC-Lillington, CSLC-Brunswick County, CSLC-Spruce Pine, CSLC-Robeson County, CSLC-Ahoskie, CSLC-Davidson County and Ross Hall totaling over **\$214K** care provided



Making the Case for Special Needs

- Approximately 13-14% of North Carolinians have Special Needs
 - Utilization is less in the Special Needs Population — with education/ experience our graduates could provide a majority of the care in their offices
- We have a successful model (E, A, R) that we can build on
 - Starting in Greenville — as a regional hub
 - Extending across the state
 - Focusing on rural and underserved areas
 - Fewer dentists — more highly trained
- We know we can... and must do more
 - Making the case and getting people to listen
 - Planning process -- \$1M in legislative funding



ECONOMIC IMPACT

Each CSLC provides in excess of **\$1.5M+**
in economic impact per site, per year.



DE. ROSS HALL

