Bright Minds. Smart Growth. Brilliant Location.

North Carolina's Research Triangle Region
WITH DELTA, INNOVATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY.

Raleigh-Durham is on the rise.

With some of the world’s top universities and most forward-thinking companies, this region is a growing center for global innovation. That’s why Delta is proud to be the official airline for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership, and we make it our priority to connect you to every opportunity.

As RDU’s #1 airline, Delta offers nearly 80 flights per day to over 29 nonstop destinations connecting you to the world. Since 2010, we’ve more than doubled our annual seat offering in RDU—from 1.2 million in 2010 to 2.5 million in 2019. Plus, one-stop access to more than 120 destinations in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and India via our partners means you’re never too far from the next big break.

What’s more, Delta and our partners Air France and KLM are committed to supporting small- to medium-sized businesses on their journey to success. It’s why we offer our industry-leading corporate loyalty programs, SkyBonus for U.S. based companies and BlueBiz for U.K. based companies. Learn more about the benefits at www.skybonus.delta.com and www.bluebiz.com.

Together, we’ll share Raleigh-Durham’s greatest ideas with the world. Thanks for flying with us.
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Located in the heart of North Carolina, the Research Triangle Region gets its name from Research Triangle Park and three Tier 1 research universities—Duke University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill—located only minutes apart.

Comprised of 12 member counties, our region is home to some of the fastest growing companies and communities in the world. Innovation, education, and a collaborative culture are key drivers of the area’s success.

**NC’s Research Triangle Region**
Raleigh - Durham - Chapel Hill

1. **#1 Best State for Business (Forbes) Three Years Running**
2. **2.5% Lowest Corporate Tax Rate in the U.S.**
3. **#1 Best State for Business Facilities and Site Selection, 2020**

Data Source: U.S. Census, Emsi
Located halfway between New York City and Miami, North Carolina’s Research Triangle Region is easily accessible via the Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU), our eight regional airports, NC’s two ports, and multiple interstates that span from border to border and coast to coast.

**Demographics**

### Regional Population Growth, 1980-2030

- Median Age: 37
- Female 50.04%
- Male 49.95%
- 73% Population Between the Ages of 18 – 64
- 64 People Move to the Region Every Day

### Connectivity

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#### Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU)

- Ranked Top 5 Best Large Airport in the US by J.D. Power
- 14.2 Million Passengers in 2019
- 400+ Daily Flights*
- Over 65 nonstop destinations
- 7 international destinations
- 11 major airlines
- *pre-COVID

#### Rail

CSX, Norfolk Southern, and North Carolina Railroad Company

#### Access

Located in between New York and Miami
- Interstates: I-40, I-95, I-85
- Less than three hours to two deep water ports
Talent

With 12 colleges and universities and 8 community colleges producing more than 42,000 annual graduates, the Research Triangle Region is well-equipped to meet the needs of its growing industries.

Duke University

16,766
Total Students

1.2B
Research Expenditures in 2020

Data Source: Duke University, U.S. News & World Report, May 2021

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

30,151
Total Students

#1
School of Public Health in the U.S. Among Public Universities

Data Source: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, U.S. News & World Report, May 2021
Colleges & Universities

- Barton College
- Campbell University
- Louisburg College
- Meredith College
- North Carolina Central University
- Saint Augustine's University
- Shaw University
- Wesleyan
- William Peace University

Community Colleges

- Central Carolina Community College
- Durham Tech
- Johnston Community College
- Nash Community College
- PCC
- Vance-Granville Community College
- Wake Tech Community College
- Wilson Community College

**NC State University**

**36,304**
Total Students

**#3**
In Startups Launched Among Public Universities Without a Medical School

Data Source: NC State University, May 2021

**151,744**
Total Students Enrolled in Higher Education

**4th**
Highest Concentration of PhDs in the Country

**$2.9B**
Annual R&D Expenditures by Duke, NCSU, & UNC (NSF HERD Survey, 2019)

**47%**
Of the Population Has a Bachelor's Degree or Higher

Data Source: NC State University, May 2021

Photo Credit: Becky Kirkland/NC State University
Target Industries

Advanced Manufacturing
$2.2 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 196 companies
- 12,570 employees
- $86,000 average salary

Cleantech
$4.6 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 2,105 companies
- 26,950 employees
- $113,000 average salary

Life Sciences
$9.8 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 569 companies
- 24,150 employees
- $142,000 average salary
- Gene & Cell Therapy (sub-industry)

Technology
$14.6 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 4,907 companies
- 59,900 employees
- $121,000 average salary
- Cybersecurity, Financial Tech (Fintech) and AI & Machine Learning (sub-industries)

Agtech
$1.2 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 100+ companies
- 7,140 employees
- $134,000 average salary

Advanced Manufacturing
$2.2 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 196 companies
- 12,570 employees
- $86,000 average salary

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Agtech
$1.2 Billion
Contributed to gross regional product
- 100+ companies
- 7,140 employees
- $134,000 average salary
Startup Ecosystem

Business, academia and government converge in the Research Triangle Region to create an innovative environment and hub for entrepreneurs. The region’s low cost of living combined with its co-working spaces, startup incubators, networking opportunities and local tech expertise fosters an innovative startup ecosystem.

Our Region’s strong concentration of universities, contract research organizations (CROs), and tech companies creates a thriving ecosystem for startups and entrepreneurs that attract investments from both local and global Venture Capital firms.

Venture Capital

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$3.4B
Last Year, North Carolina Entrepreneurs Raised $3.4B in Equity Funding

79.6%
of NC's Total Funding Occurred in the Triangle Region

67%
of the Deals Made in NC Occurred in the Triangle Region

Equity Raised in NC in 2020

- Tech: $2,694,951,675
- Life Science: $523,120,189
- Advanced Manufacturing & Materials: $136,494,758
- Makers: $57,851,307
- Cleantech: $19,895,557

31,519 Total Patents Awarded in the Research Triangle Since 2013
Regional Comparisons

Cost of Living Index

Data Source: ACCRA COLI Survey, 2018 Annual Averages

Average Commute

Data Source: American Community Survey 2014-18
Average Home Price

Data Source: Realtor.com, June 2021

Average Apartment Rental Rates (1 Bedroom)

Data Source: Zumper Report, 2020

Class A Office Space Rental Rates

Cost of Doing Business Index

Data Source: Yardi Systems, 2020

The Research Triangle Regional Partnership (RTRP) is your direct connection to the Research Triangle Region in central North Carolina. We serve as a connector between businesses looking to expand or relocate, and the economic development offices, government agencies, and business organizations that support private sector growth.