



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Prevent. Protect. Prepare.

Pat McCrory, Governor

Frank L. Perry, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

To: Agriculture and Forestry Awareness Study Commission

From: Frank L. Perry, Secretary, NC DPS
Gregory K. Baker, Commissioner of Law Enforcement, NC DPS
William Grey, Commander, NC State Highway Patrol

SUBJECT: Report on Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance

Date: January 15, 2015

Pursuant of Section 4 of Session Law 2014-103 please find the enclosed report from the Department of Public Safety on the State's participation in the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance North American Standard Inspection Program for roadside commercial vehicle safety inspections. This report includes (i) a history of when North Carolina joined the program; (ii) an explanation of how the program is currently being implemented; (iii) data on how many safety inspection decals are issued annually; and (iv) a geographic analysis of where safety inspection decals are issued within the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information and for your support of the safety of North Carolina. If there are any questions regarding this report, please contact the NC DPS Governmental Affairs office at 919-733-2126.

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North Carolina State Highway Patrol

North Carolina Department of Public Safety



Report on Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance

January 15, 2015

(i) **History of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA)**

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) is an international not-for-profit organization comprised of local, state, provincial, territorial and federal motor carrier safety officials and industry representatives from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. CVSA's mission is to promote commercial motor vehicle safety and security by providing leadership to enforcement, industry and policy makers. CVSA member jurisdictions are represented by various Departments of Transportation, Public Utility and Service Commissions, State Police, Highway Patrols and Ministries of Transport. In addition, CVSA has several hundred associate members who are committed to helping the Alliance achieve its goals; uniformity, compatibility and reciprocity of commercial vehicle inspections, and enforcement activities throughout North America by individuals dedicated to highway safety and security.

CVSA began as an informal gathering of State Agencies that had the responsibility for conducting commercial vehicle enforcement functions. The first meetings of the founding agencies were held in 1980. These meetings highlighted areas of common need and discussed ways in which uniform standards, procedures and methods could be utilized to greatest effectiveness. Early on there was recognition that commercial vehicle highway safety was virtually the same in all the different states. At the same time, it was also recognized that the various states were in large part using common criteria for regulation and inspection functions but there was not a system giving reciprocal credit for each other's work. Thus, the states were involved in a redundancy of work effort — a redundancy that wasted government resources as well as causing equipment/personnel time and monetary loss for the motor carrier industry.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed to establish uniformity and reciprocity of on-highway enforcement and improve the safe operation of commercial vehicles. The MOU was a working agreement which outlined the various minimum inspections and out of service criteria which parties to the agreement would follow. Most importantly, the MOU established that various state and provincial agencies would not only be uniform but would recognize each other's work in the inspecting of commercial vehicles, their drivers and cargo.

North Carolina first began participating in the CVSA in 1985.

North Carolina established an agreement with CVSA in 1985 which allowed the state to be in uniformity and reciprocity of highway enforcement on commercial vehicles. The original MOU was signed by the Deputy Commissioner of the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles on May 14, 1985. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicle Enforcement Section merged with the North Carolina State Highway Patrol in 2003 and the Highway Patrol assumed responsibility for the program at that time.

A North American Standard Level I inspection may result in issuance of a CVSA decal. In order to qualify for a CVSA decal, a vehicle must not have any Critical Vehicle Inspection Item violations as indicated by the North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria as follows:

CRITICAL VEHICLE INSPECTION ITEMS

- Brake Systems
- Cargo Securement
- Coupling Devices
- Driveline/Driveshaft
- Exhaust Systems
- Frames
- Fuel Systems
- Lighting Devices (Headlamps, Tail Lamps, Stop Lamps, Turn Signals and Lamps/Flags on Projecting Loads)
- Steering Mechanisms
- Suspensions
- Tires
- Van and Open-Top Trailer Bodies
- Wheels, Rims and Hubs
- Windshield Wipers
- Emergency Exits and/or Electrical Cables and Systems in Engine and Battery Compartments (Buses)

Inspections must be performed by and CVSA decals affixed by North American Standard Level I certified inspectors. The term "certified" as used in this section means the government employee performing inspections and/or affixing CVSA decals must have first successfully completed a training program approved by the Alliance. CVSA decals, when affixed, shall remain valid for a period not to exceed three consecutive months. In general, vehicles displaying a valid CVSA decal are not subject to re-inspection; however, if an obvious defect is noticed on a vehicle with a current CVSA decal, nothing prevents an inspector from re-inspecting that vehicle.

(ii) How is the CVSA Program Currently Implemented in North Carolina?

The CVSA program is currently implemented by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety's State Highway Patrol's Motor Carrier Enforcement Section. The Highway Patrol's Motor Carrier Enforcement Section's North American Standard Level 1 "certified" members may stop, enter upon and perform safety inspections of motor carriers' vehicles in operation to determine compliance with CVSA standards and may conduct any investigations and tests it finds necessary to promote the safety of equipment and the safe operation on the highway of these vehicles.

Weight Enforcement checks on commercial vehicles are **not** part of the CVSA program. Commercial motor vehicles can be screened if the trooper suspects the vehicle is overweight.

(iii) **Data on how many Safety Inspection decals are issued with the State**

CVSA Decals Issued Per County By the NC Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Enforcement Section Upon Completion of a Level 1 Inspection with No Violations (2012-2014)				
County	Calendar 2012	Calendar 2013	Calendar 2014	Grand Total
Alamance	80	39	38	157
Alexander	7	3	10	20
Alleghany	5	2	1	8
Anson	14	7	5	26
Avery	16	19	10	45
Beaufort	26	27	30	83
Bertie	21	16	3	40
Bladen	12	22	35	69
Brunswick	104	147	103	354
Buncombe	241	246	268	755
Burke	38	52	38	128
Cabarrus	47	39	44	130
Caldwell	83	85	52	220
Camden	14	26	37	77
Carteret	31	83	41	155
Caswell	2	2	2	6
Catawba	54	93	71	218
Chatham	57	59	35	151
Cherokee	72	96	39	207
Chowan	8	5	5	18
Clay	29	41	19	89
Cleveland	120	120	109	349
Columbus	60	44	42	146
Craven	51	27	24	102
Cumberland	30	47	20	97
Currituck	1	3	3	7
Dare	1	5	1	7
Davidson	120	133	104	357
Davie	27	46	46	119
Duplin	20	46	28	94
Durham	17	42	30	89
Edgecombe	0	1	0	1

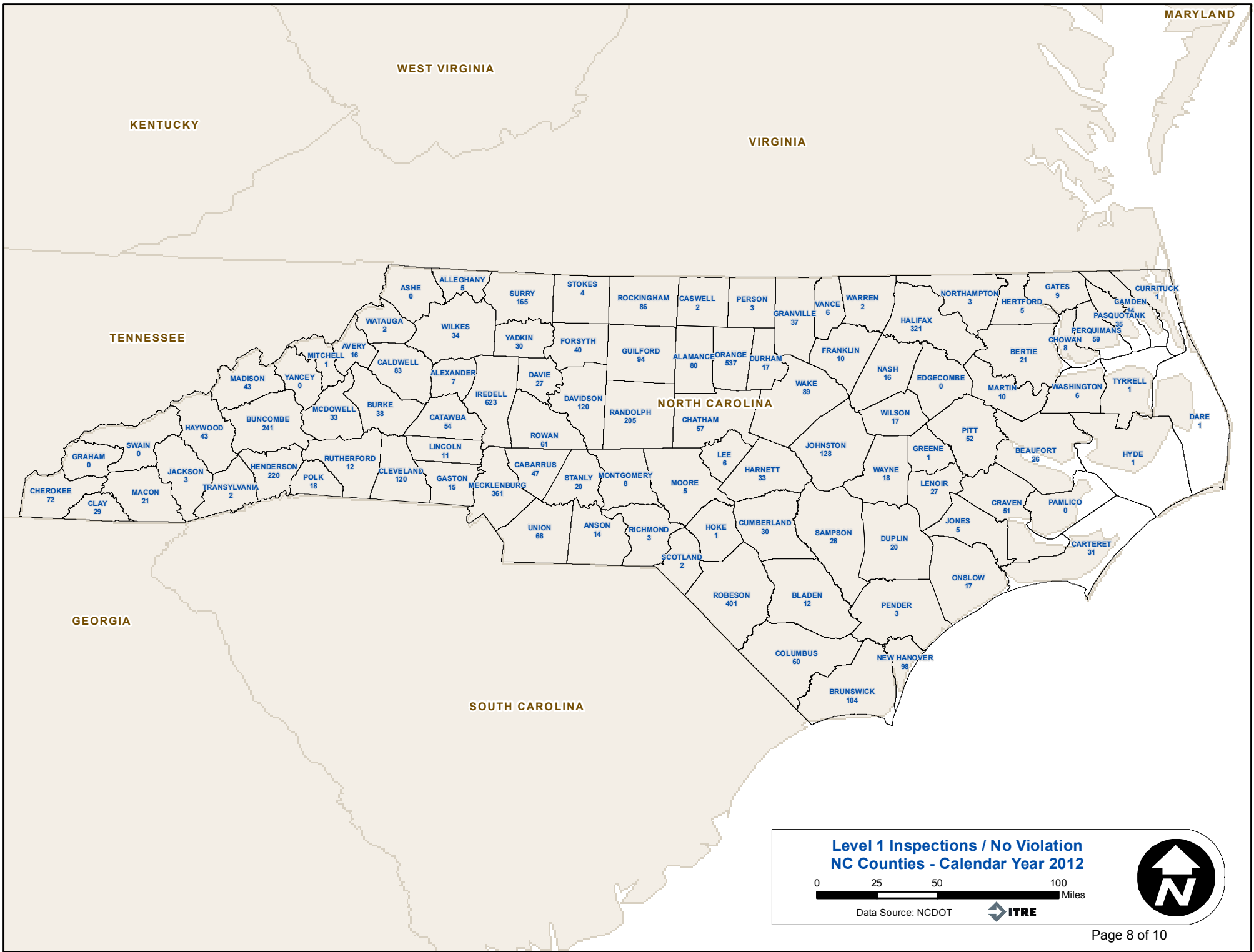
County	Calendar 2012	Calendar 2013	Calendar 2014	Grand Total
Forsyth	40	60	61	161
Franklin	10	26	10	46
Gaston	15	23	23	61
Gates	9	7	6	22
Granville	37	100	96	233
Greene	1	0	0	1
Guilford	94	154	113	361
Halifax	321	398	345	1064
Harnett	33	68	24	125
Haywood	43	66	76	185
Henderson	220	319	320	859
Hertford	5	3	5	13
Hoke	1	13	3	17
Hyde	1	0	0	1
Iredell	623	574	602	1799
Jackson	3	7	8	18
Johnston	128	91	108	327
Jones	5	8	1	14
Lee	6	8	14	28
Lenoir	27	19	17	63
Lincoln	11	6	6	23
Macon	21	21	20	62
Madison	43	65	49	157
Martin	10	3	4	17
McDowell	33	33	61	127
Mecklenburg	361	332	261	954
Mitchell	1	3	1	5
Montgomery	8	18	20	46
Moore	5	9	1	15
Nash	16	62	38	116
New Hanover	98	105	70	273
Northampton	3	9	10	22
Onslow	17	21	20	58
Orange	537	452	427	1416
Pamlico	0	1	1	2
Pasquotank	35	51	25	111

County	Calendar 2012	Calendar 2013	Calendar 2014	Grand Total
Pender	3	3	16	22
Perquimans	59	55	28	142
Person	3	6	6	15
Pitt	52	91	71	214
Polk	18	54	34	106
Randolph	205	142	116	463
Richmond	3	6	0	9
Robeson	401	434	338	1173
Rockingham	86	83	69	238
Rowan	61	37	28	126
Rutherford	12	12	7	31
Sampson	26	23	23	72
Scotland	2	3	0	5
Stanly	20	28	30	78
Stokes	4	14	11	29
Surry	165	159	123	447
Swain	0	0	1	1
Transylvania	2	0	6	8
Tyrrell	1	0	0	1
Union	66	65	54	185
Vance	6	8	6	20
Wake	89	94	77	260
Warren	2	5	6	13
Washington	6	5	6	17
Watauga	2	4	9	15
Wayne	18	21	22	61
Wilkes	34	35	36	105
Wilson	17	28	37	82
Yadkin	30	11	18	59
Grand Total	5622	6184	5317	17123

(iv) **Geographical Analysis of where safety inspection decals are issued within the State**

(See attached NC Maps, divided by Individual County for the years of 2012, 2013 and 2014, indicating the number of CVSA decals issued as a result of a commercial motor vehicle Level 1 inspection in each county with no violations)

Note In order to receive a Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) Decal following a Level 1, North American Standard (Vehicle/Driver) inspection on a commercial motor vehicle, there may be no “critical inspection item violations” indicated on the inspection report completed by the certified NAS inspector. If a Level 1 inspection is completed and there is a “critical inspection item violation” indicated, a CVSA Decal will not be issued.

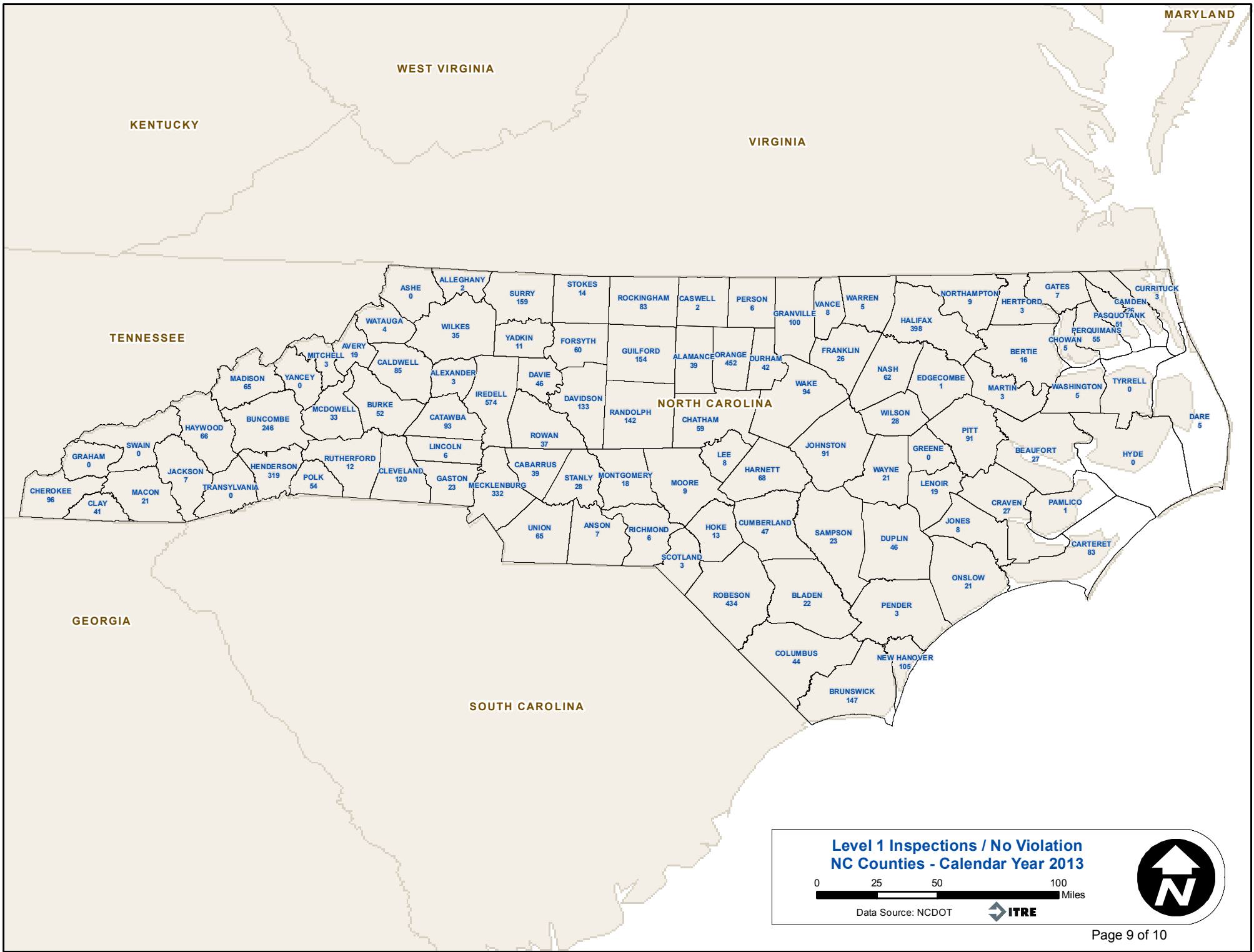


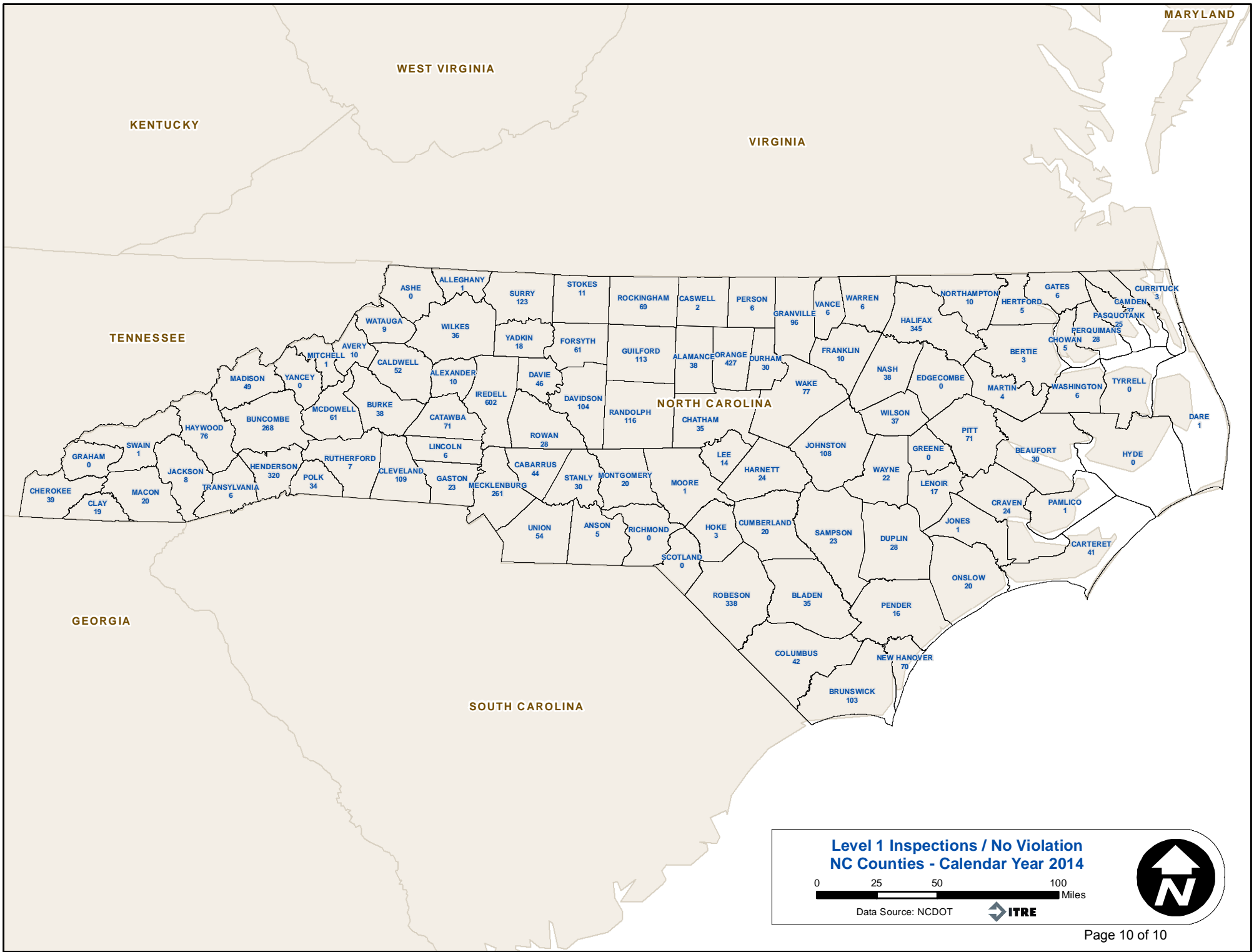
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