

NC's Shifting Population: Growth, Decline, and Rebound

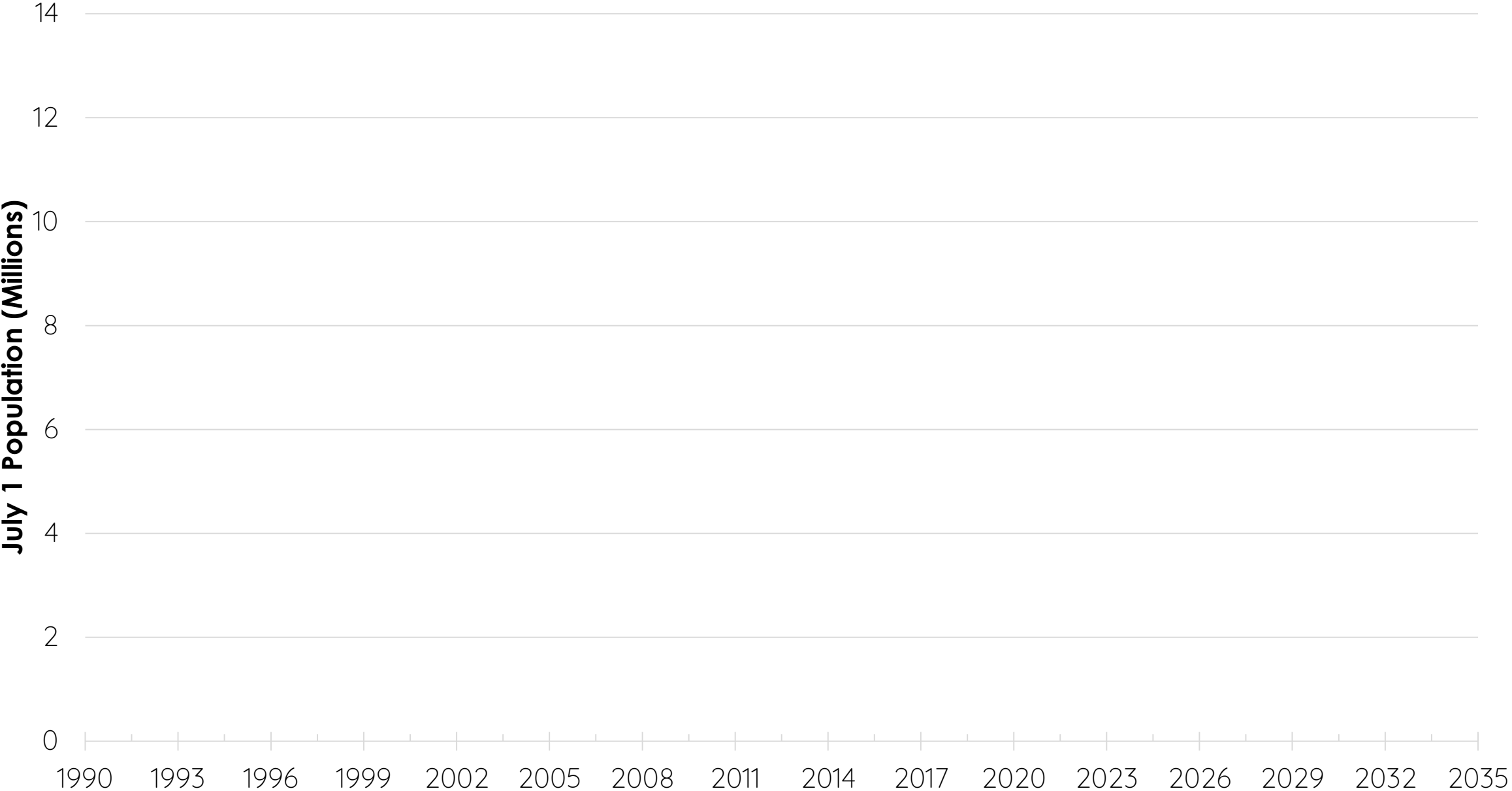
House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation
Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions

April 30, 2018

Rebecca Tippett, PhD
Director, Carolina Demography

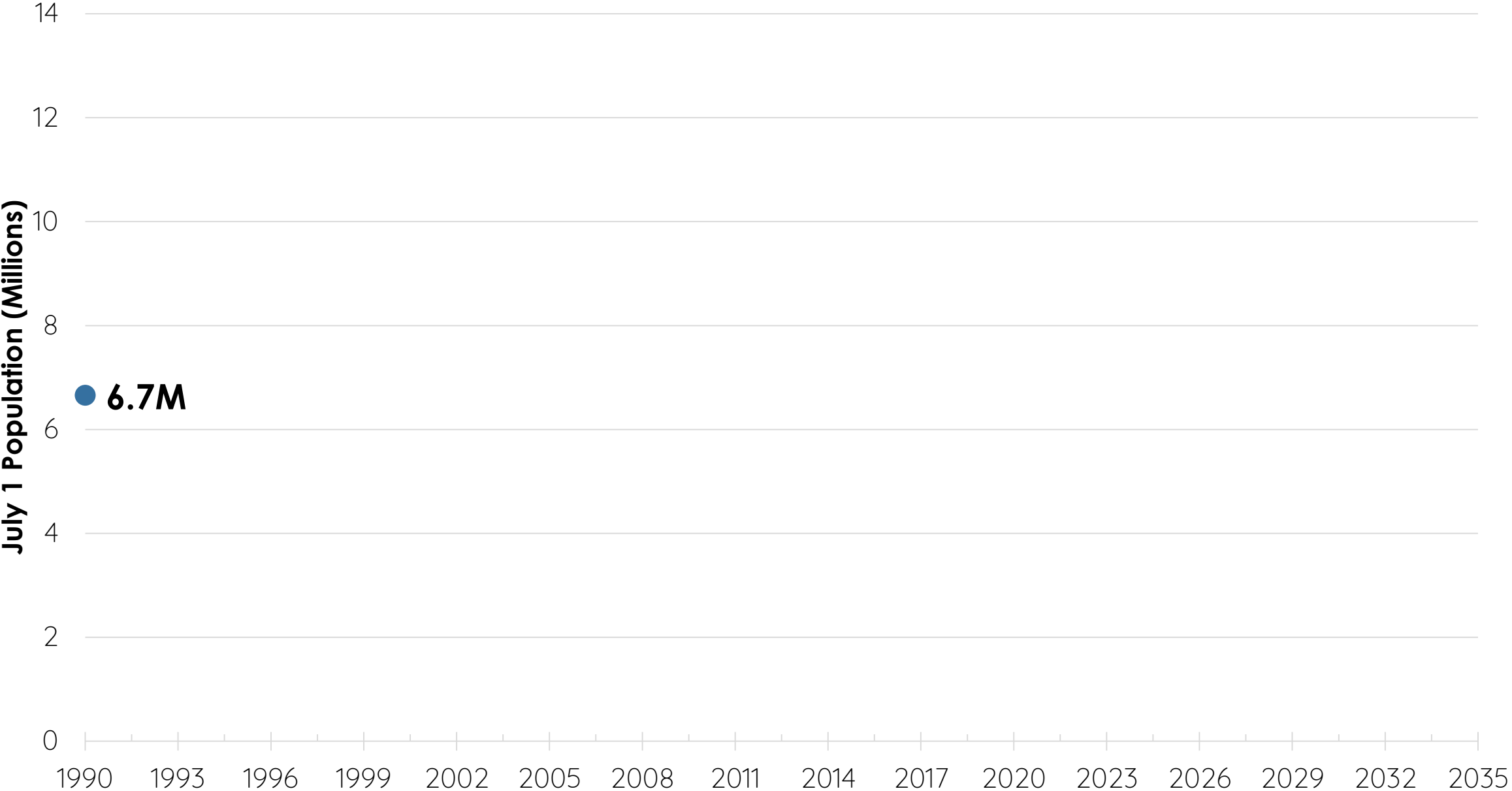
CAROLINA
DEMOGRAPHY

North Carolina's Total Population (July 1), 1990-2035



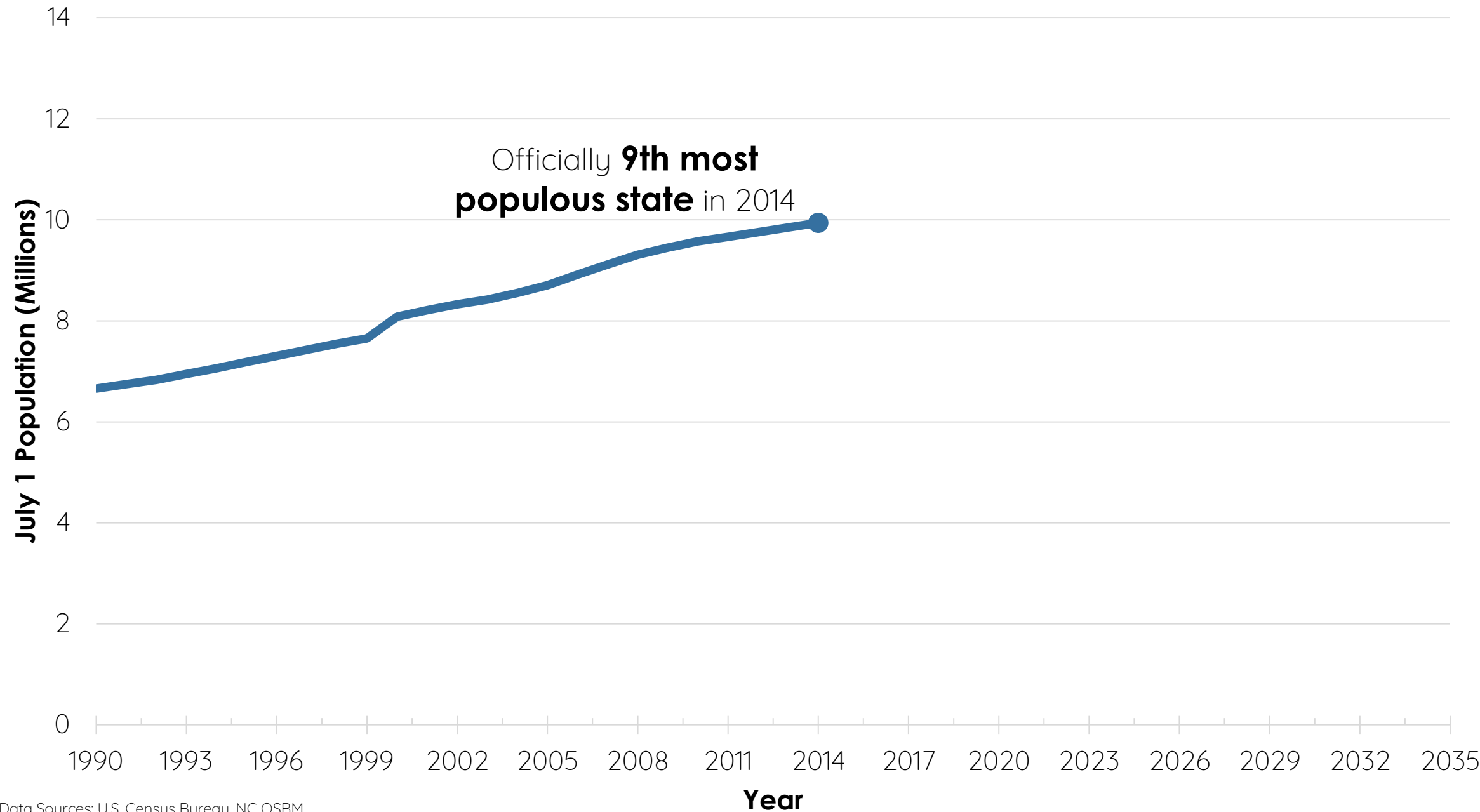
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NC OSBM

North Carolina's Total Population (July 1), 1990-2035

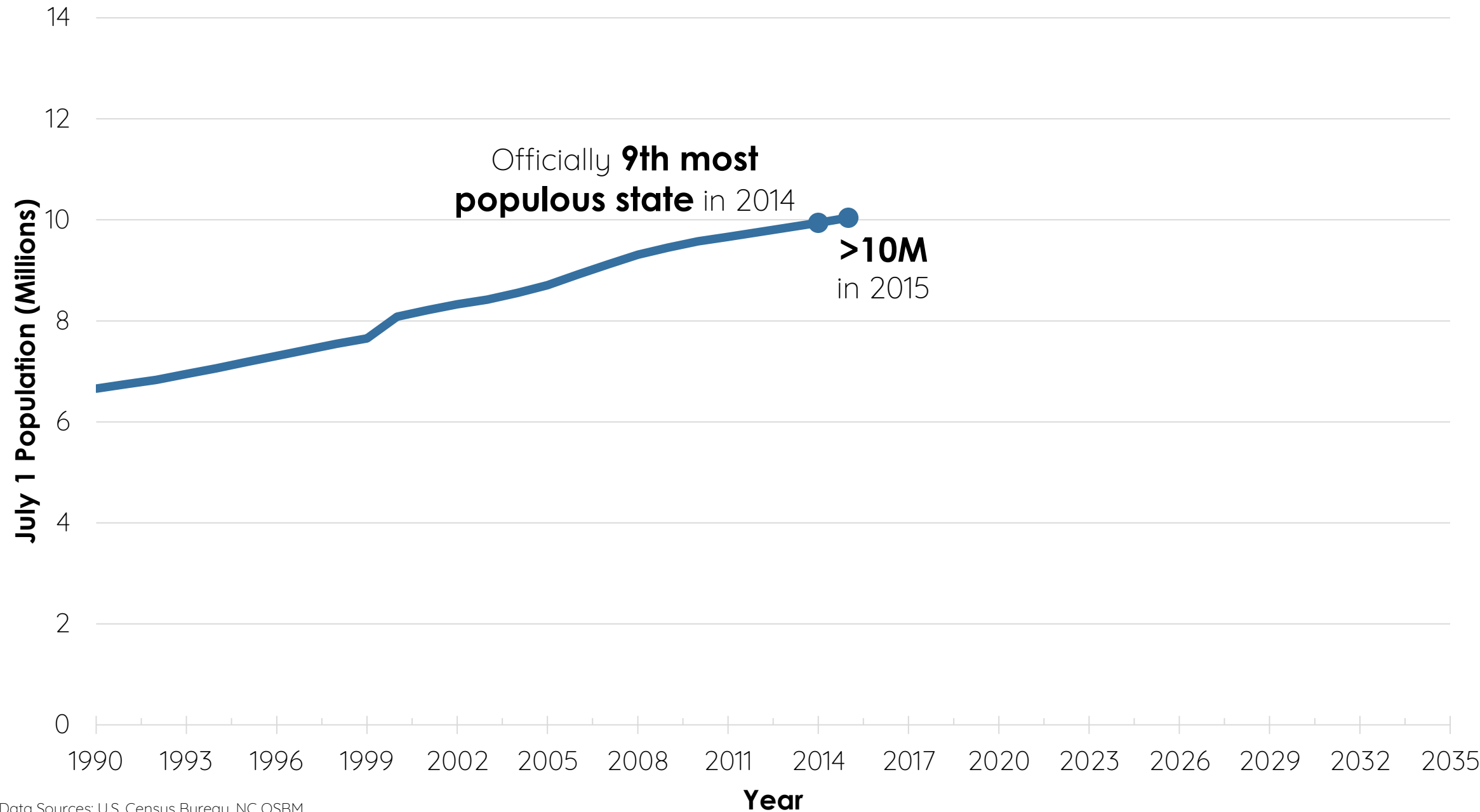


Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NC OSBM

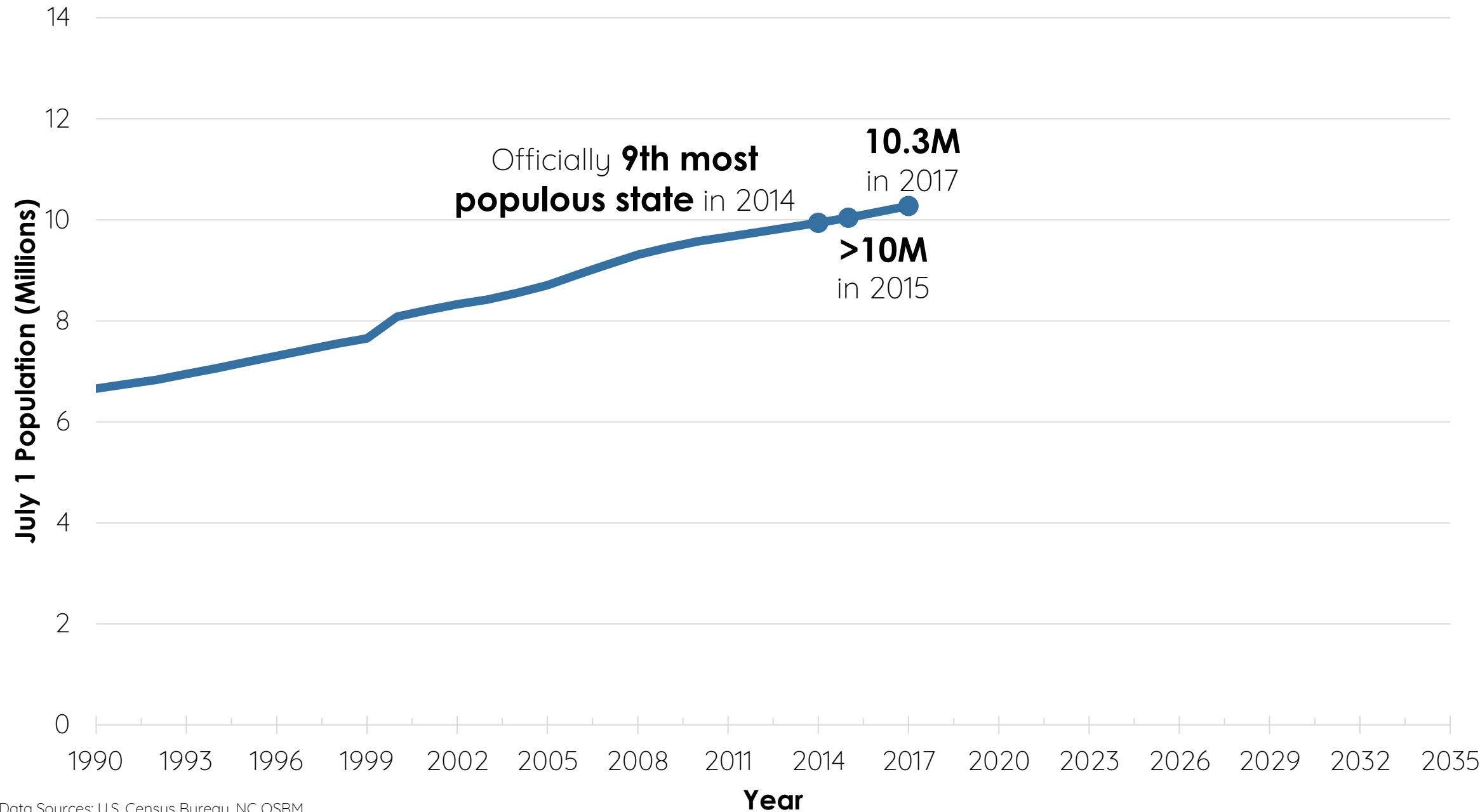
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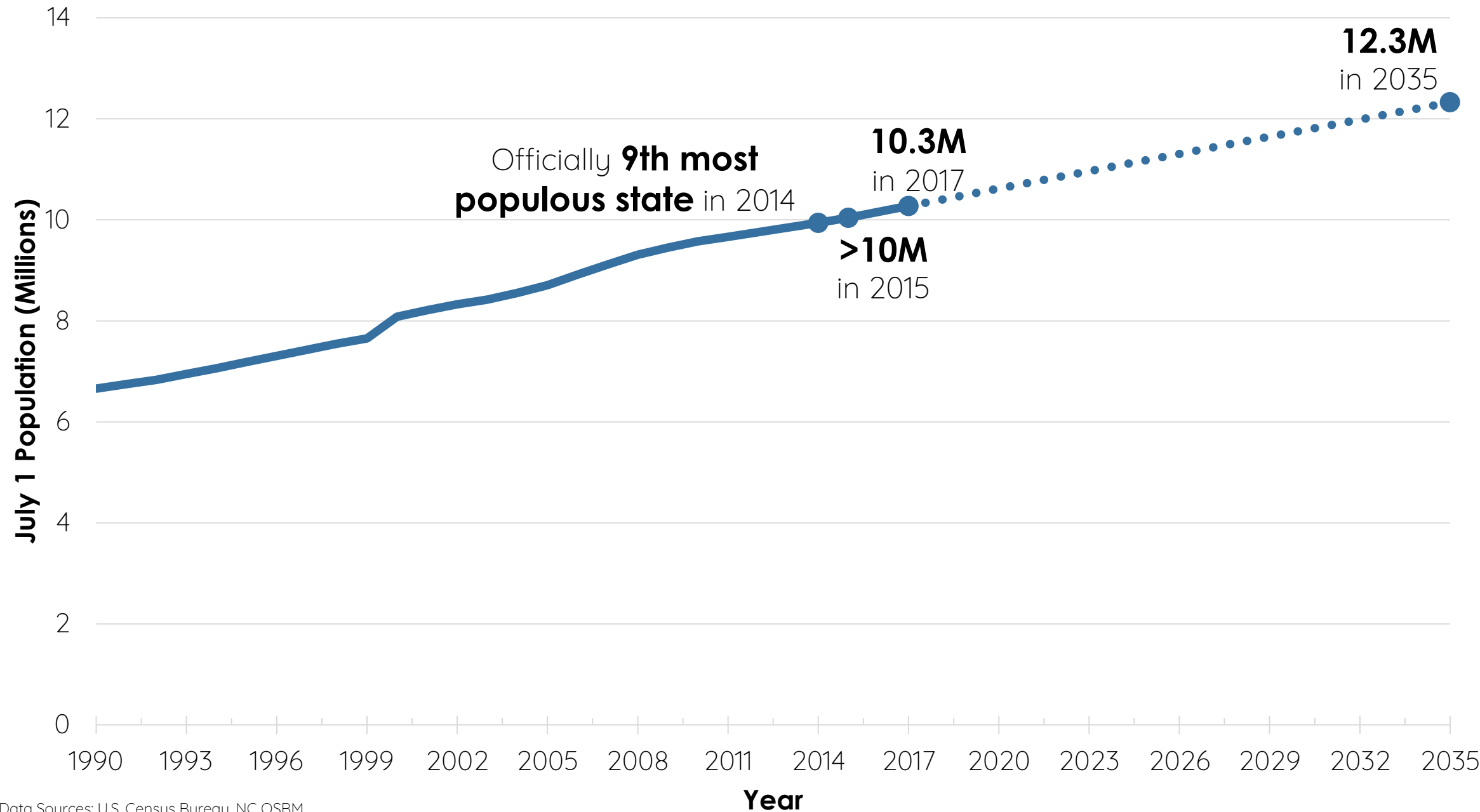


North Carolina's Total Population (July 1), 1990-2035



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NC OSBM

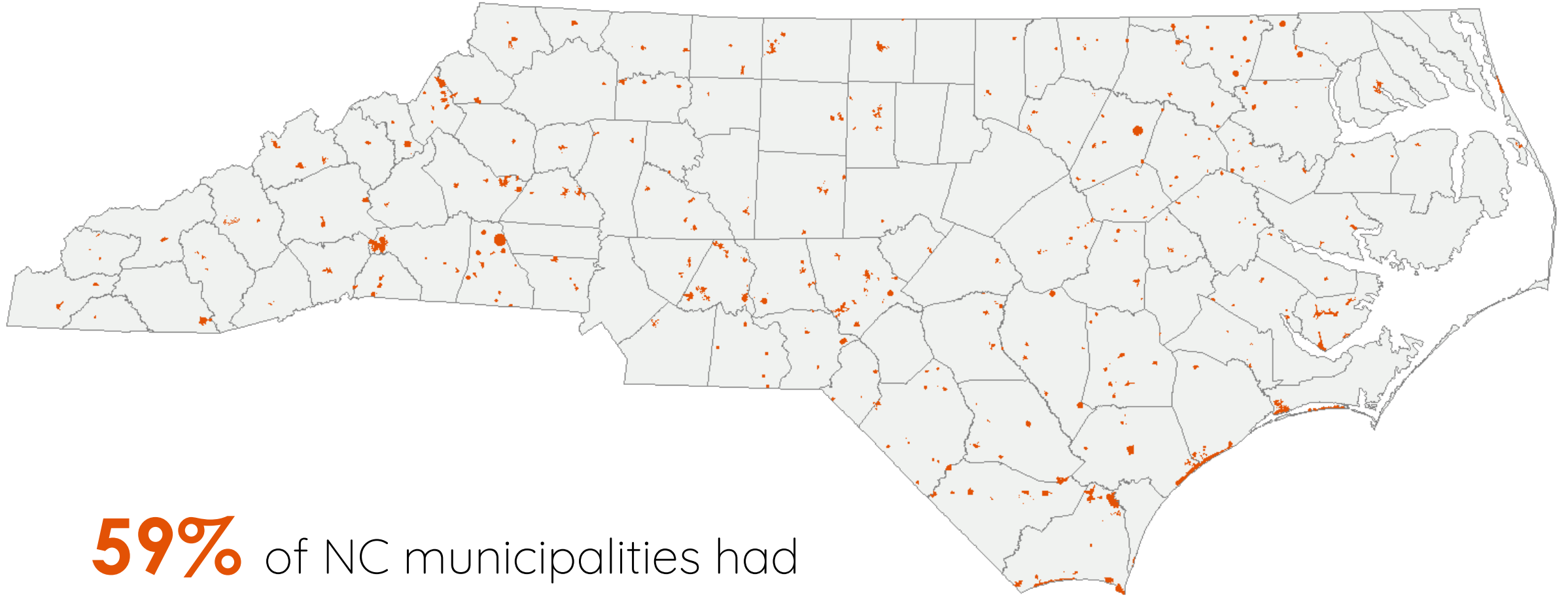
North Carolina's Total Population (July 1), 1990-2035



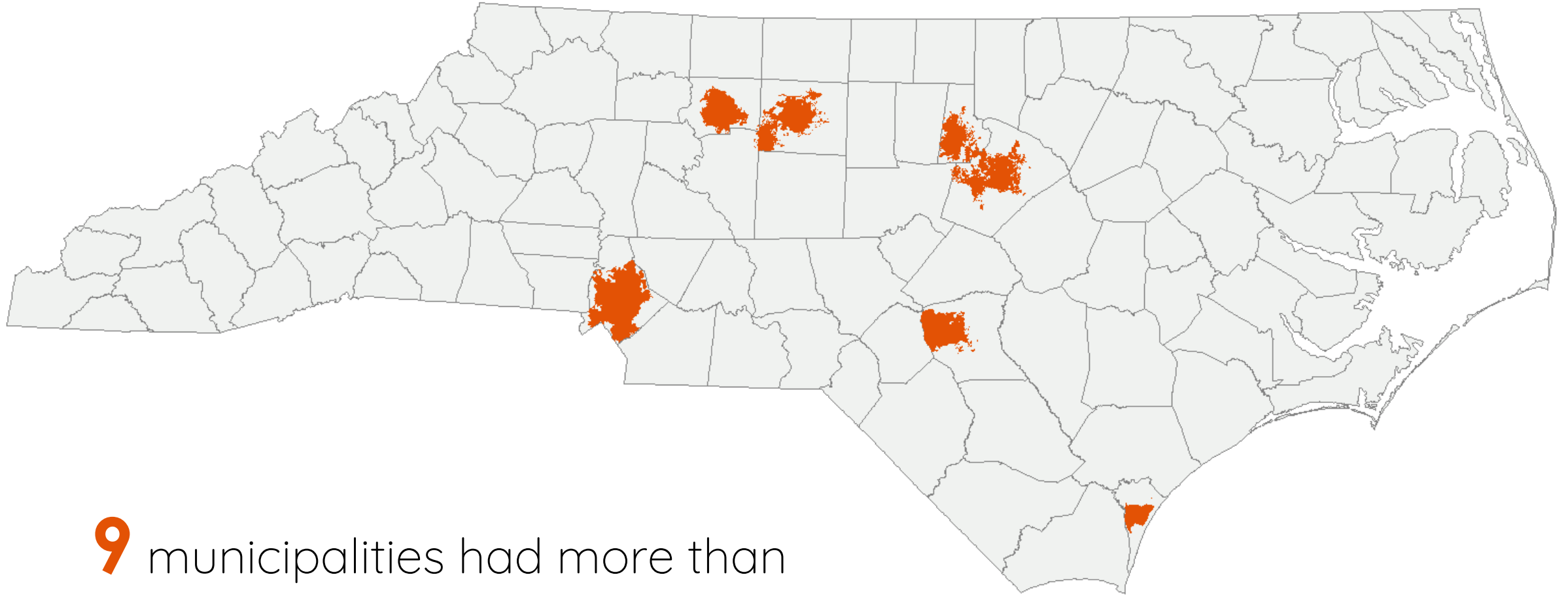
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NC OSBM



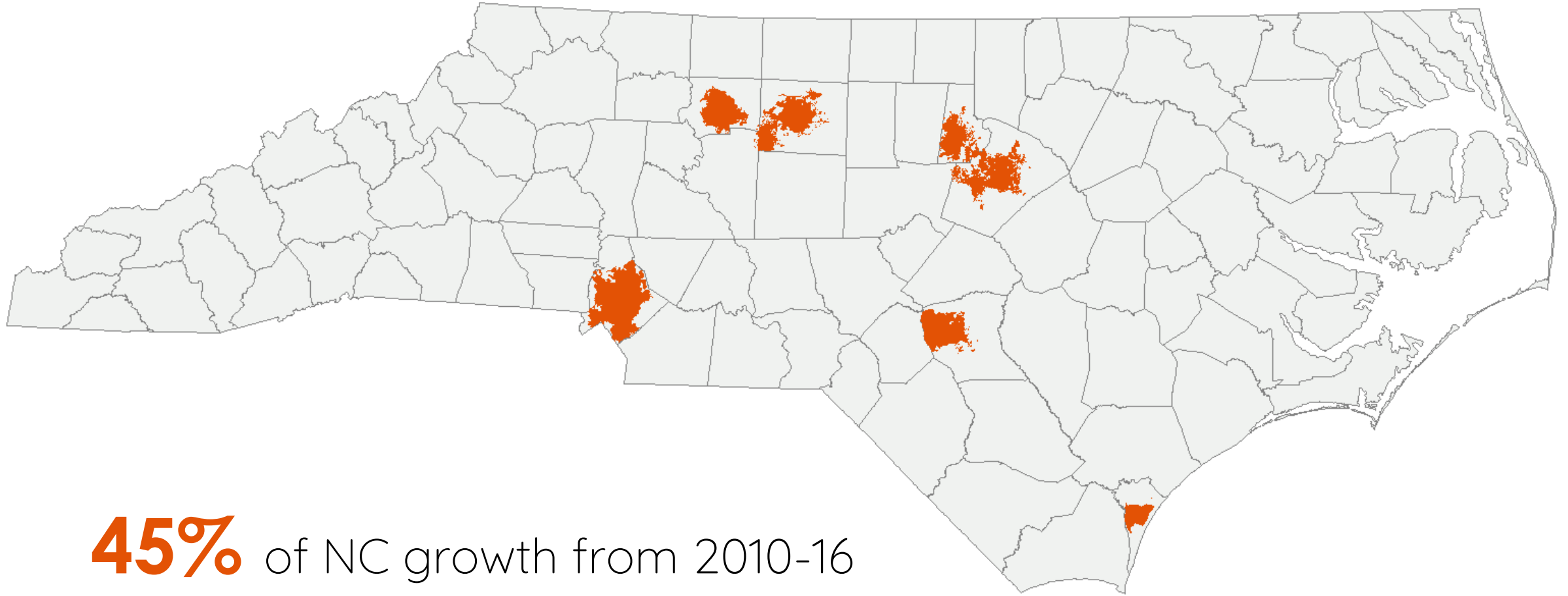
Image Source: Wayne Hsieh



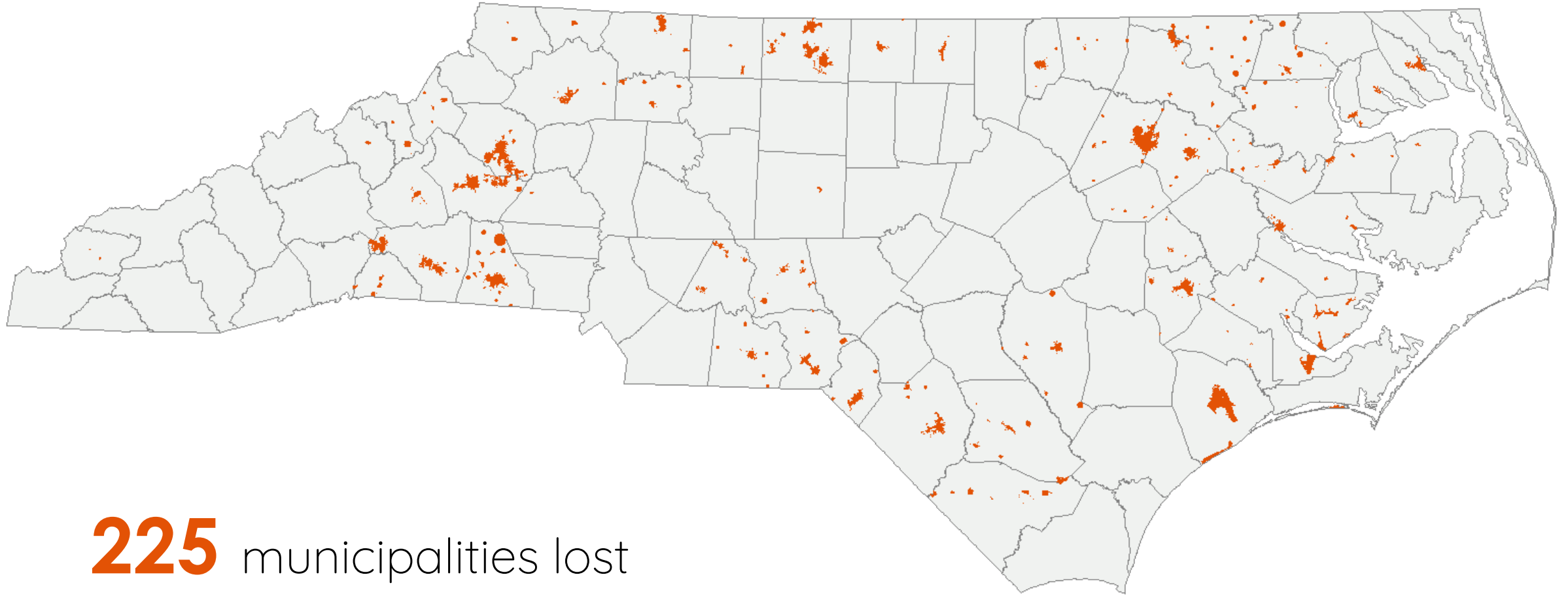
59% of NC municipalities had
less than 2,500 residents in 2016



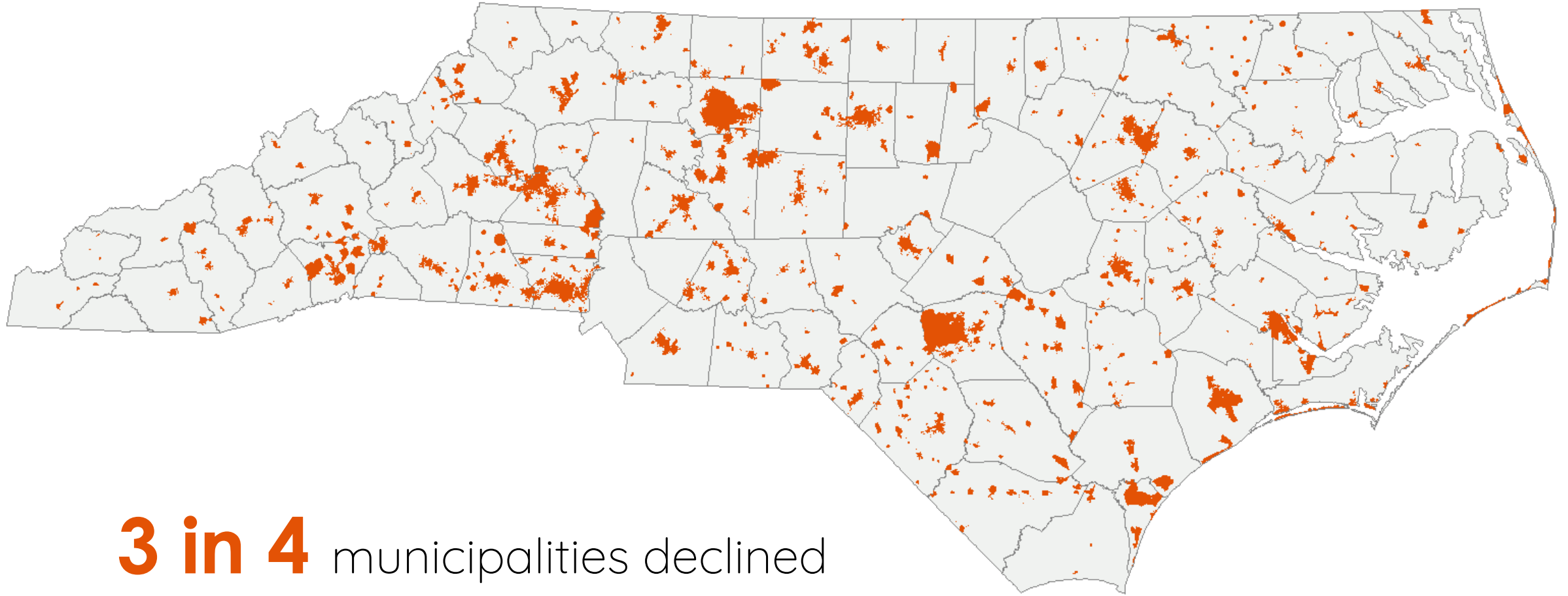
9 municipalities had more than
100,000 residents in 2016



45% of NC growth from 2010-16
occurred in these 9 places

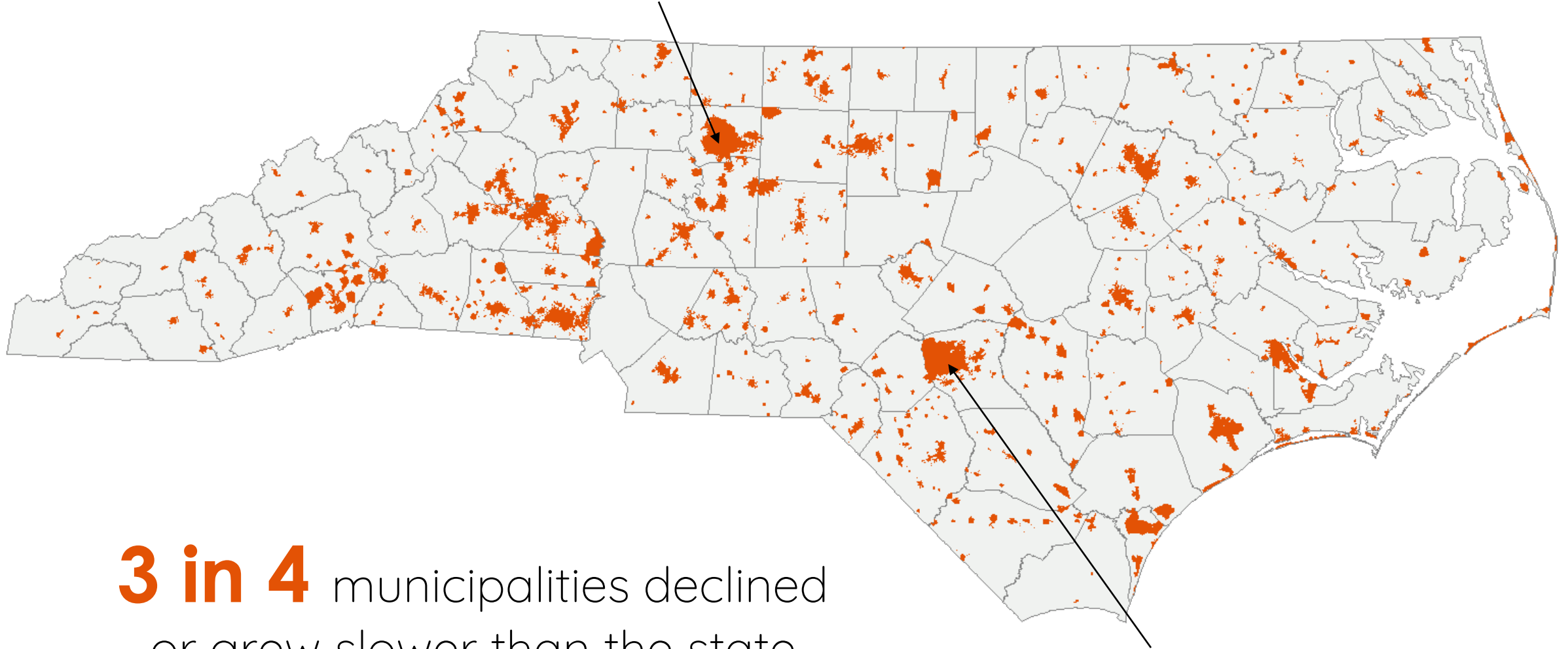


225 municipalities lost
population from 2010-16



3 in 4 municipalities declined
or grew slower than the state
average of 6.4%

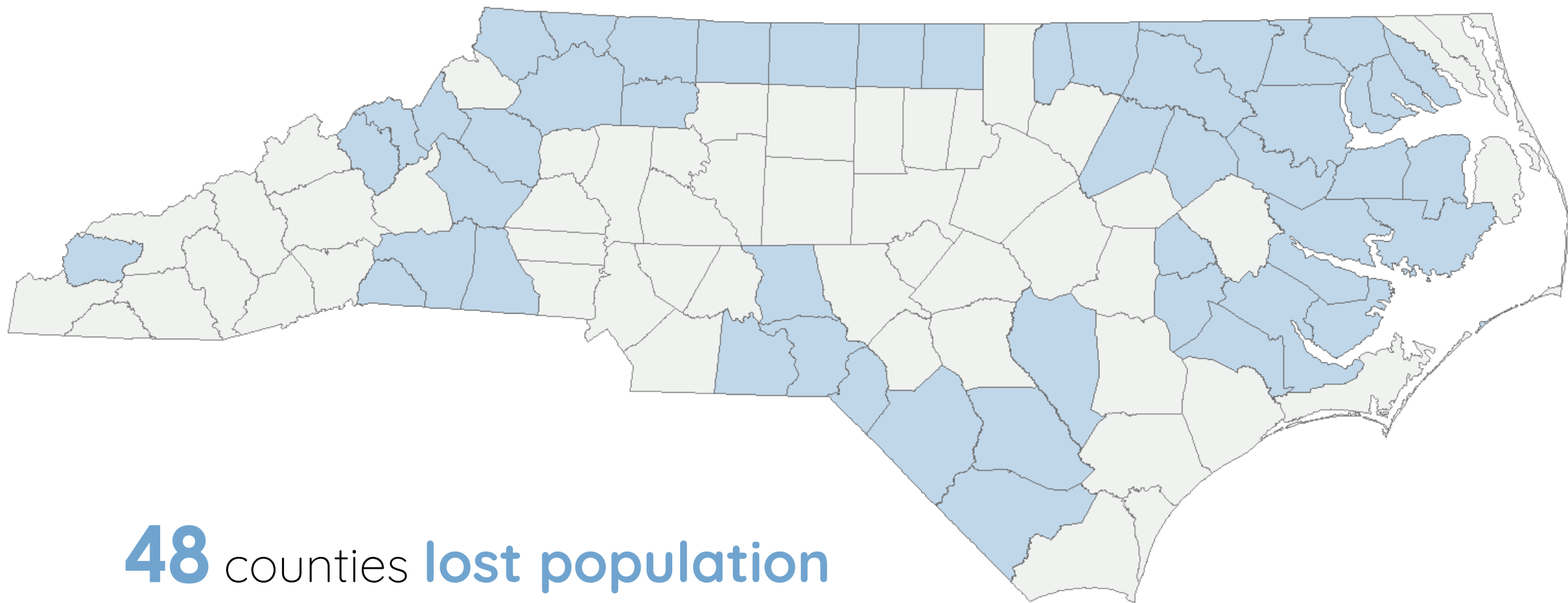
Winston-Salem



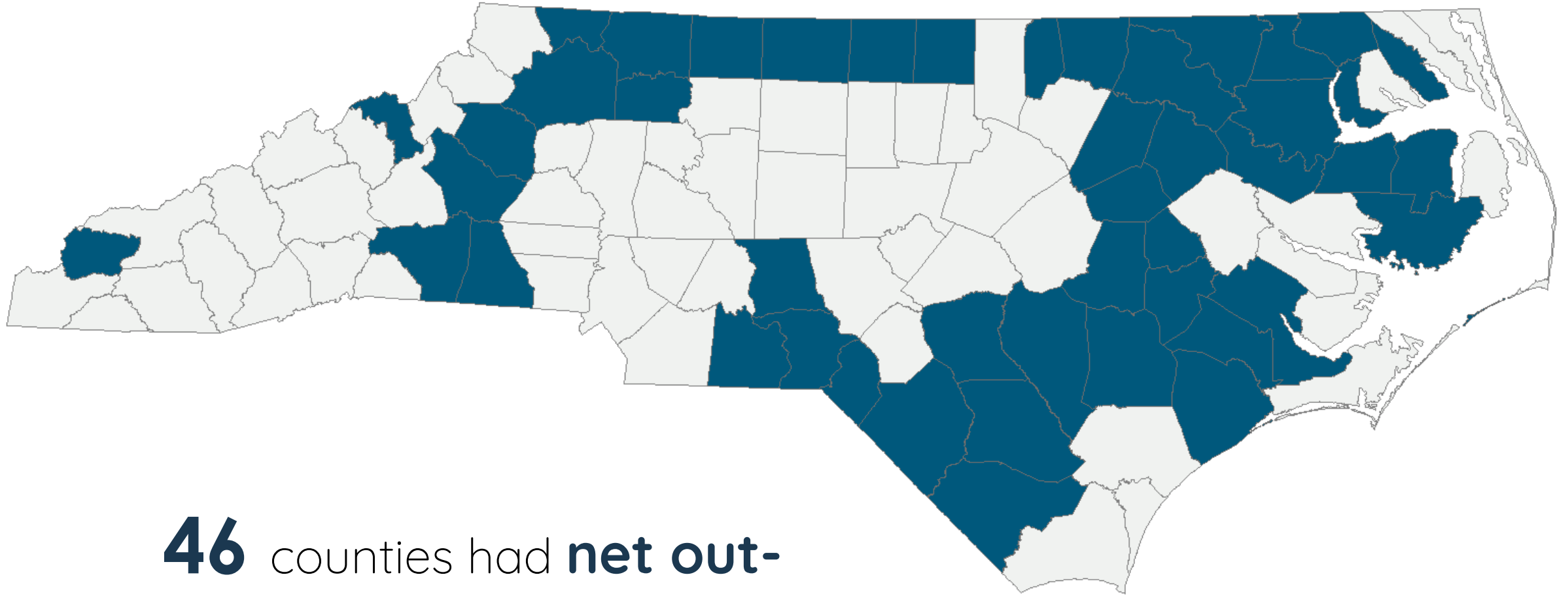
Fayetteville*

3 in 4 municipalities declined
or grew slower than the state
average of 6.4%

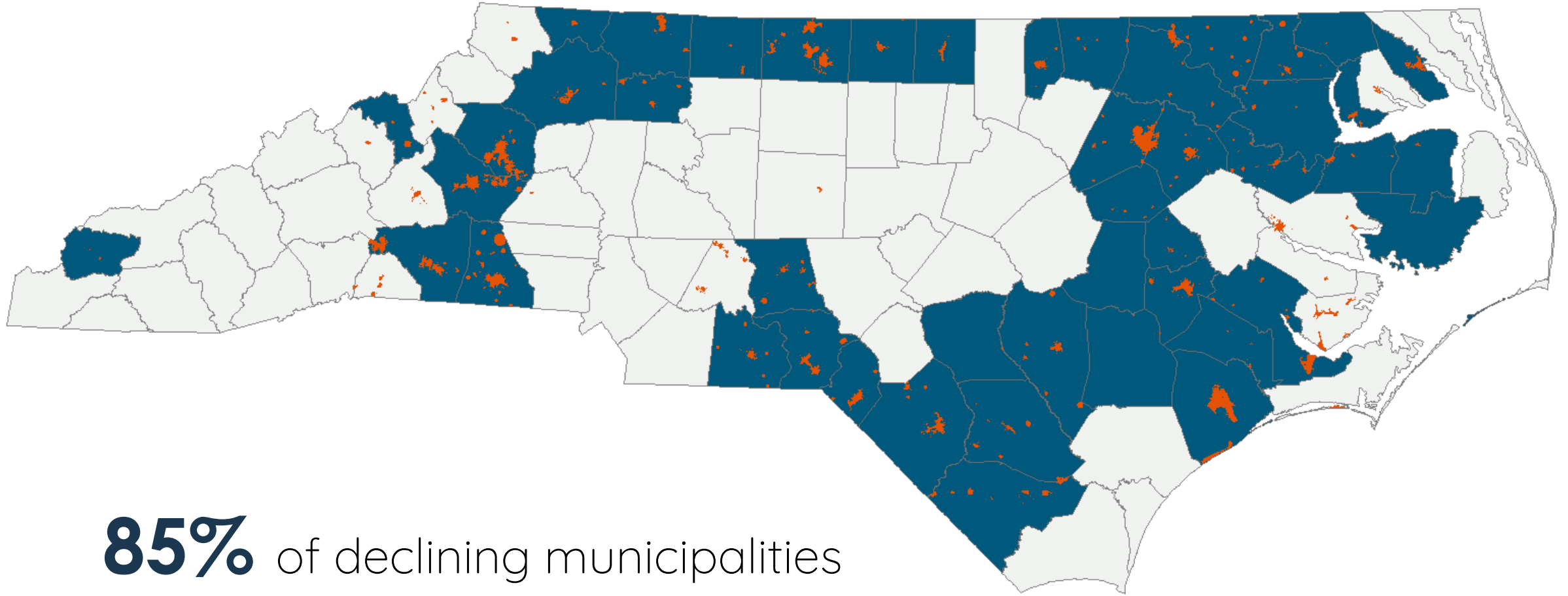




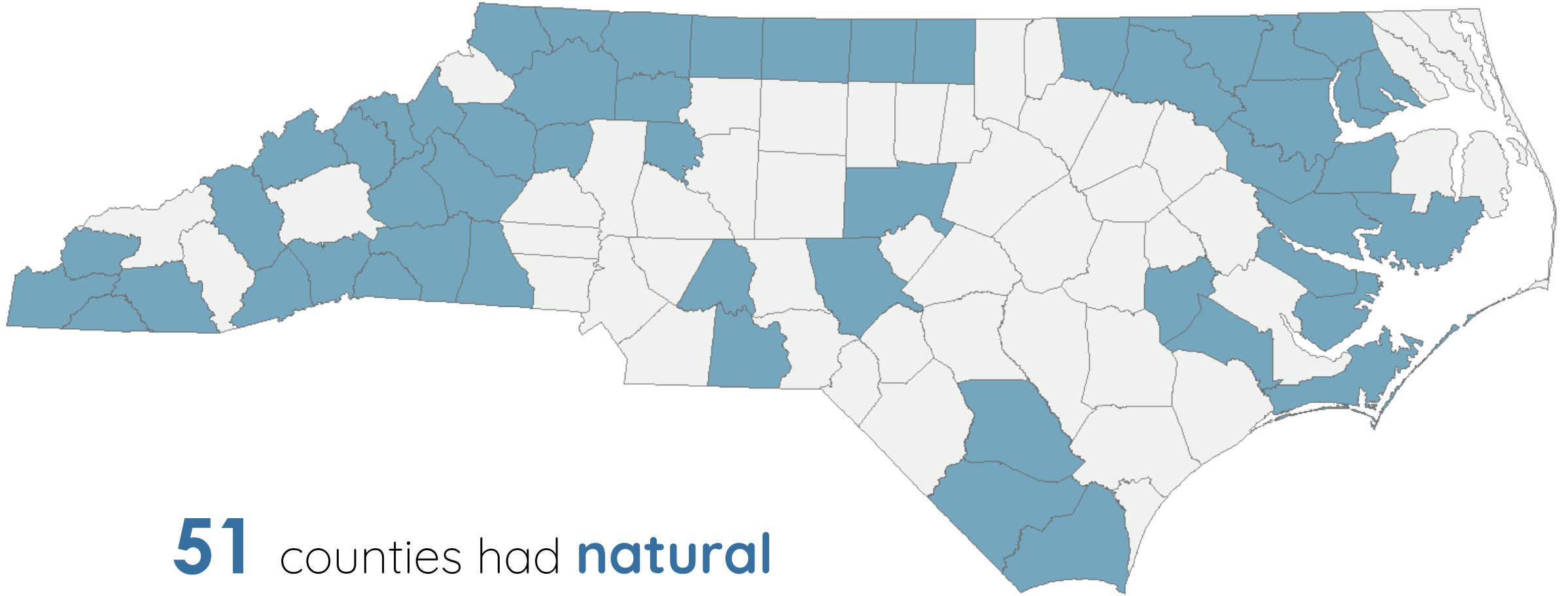
48 counties **lost population**
from 2010 to 2016



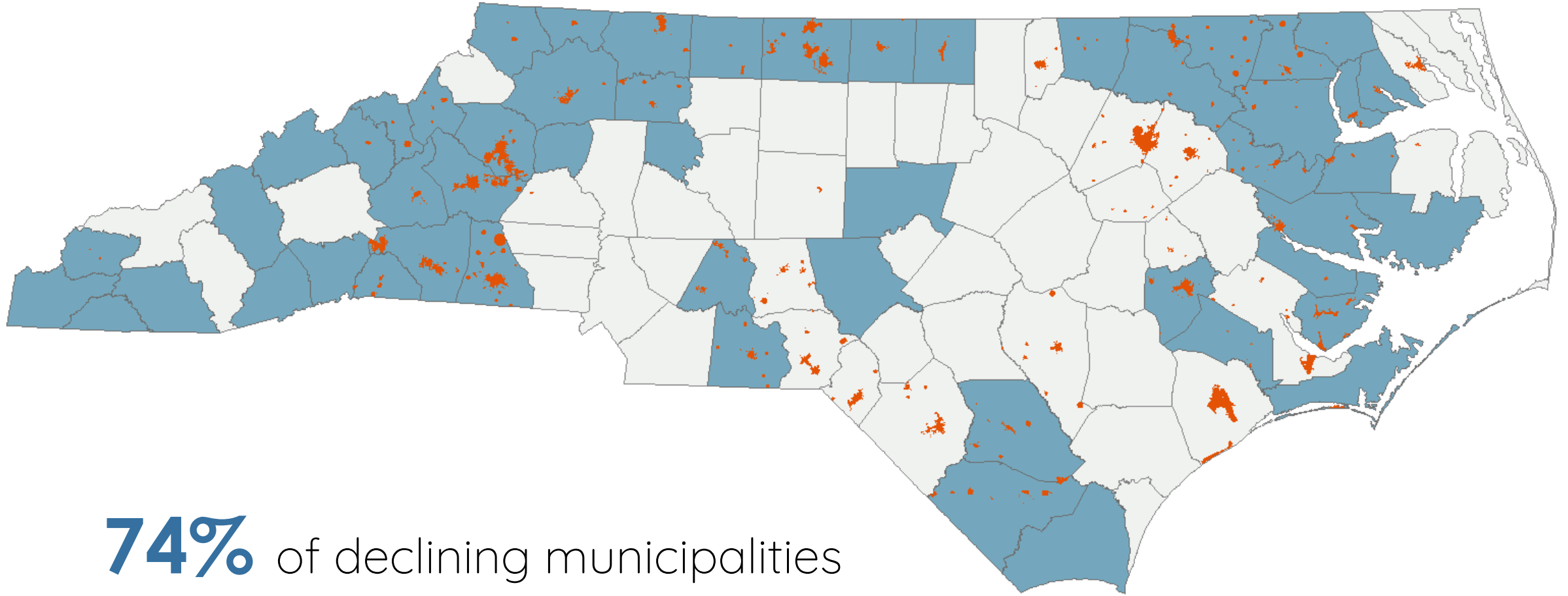
46 counties had **net out-**
migration from 2010 to 2016



85% of declining municipalities
are in a county that had **net out-**
migration

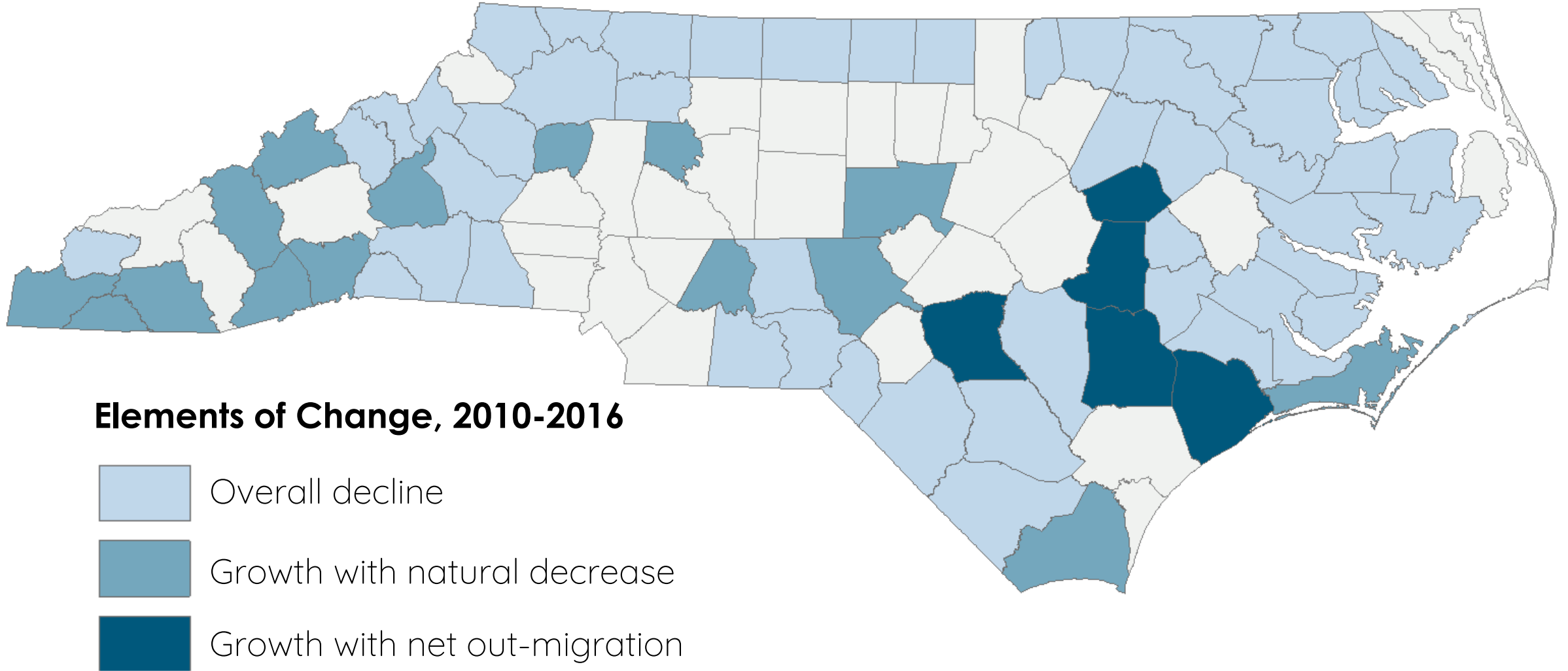


51 counties had **natural decrease** from 2010 to 2016



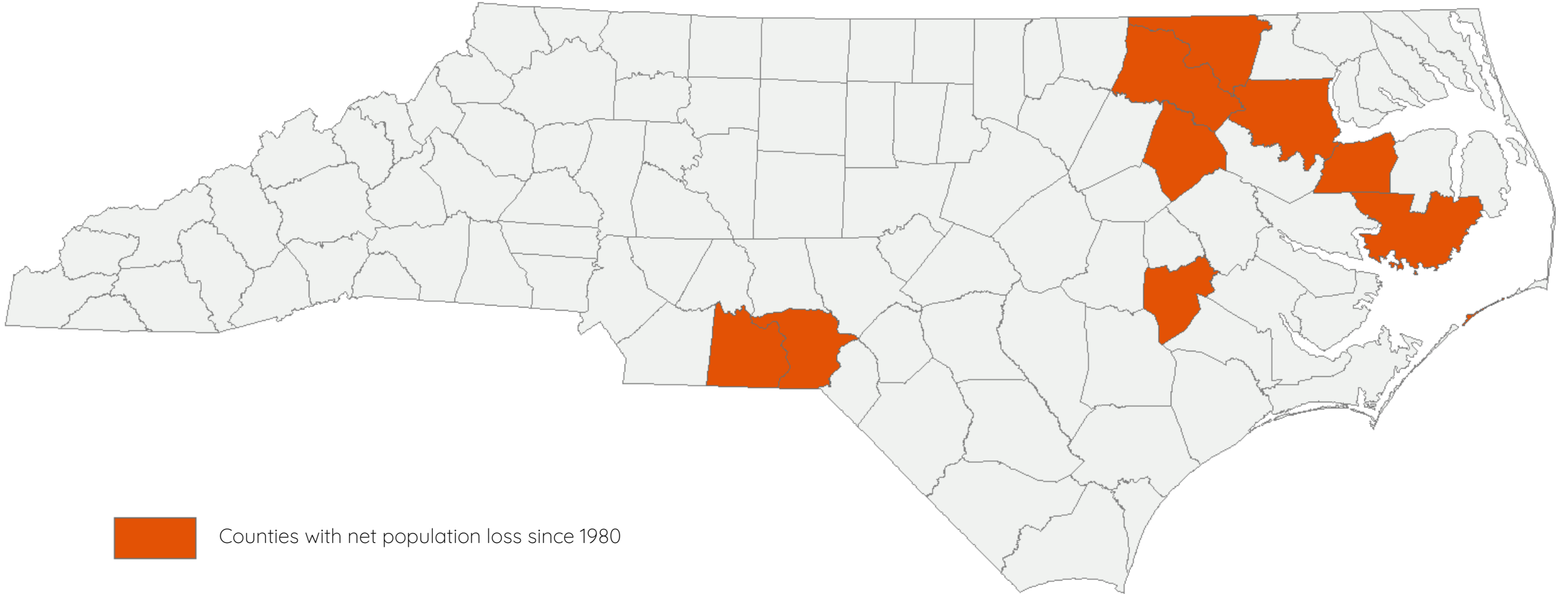
74% of declining municipalities
are in a county experiencing
natural decrease

68 counties with at least one driver of population decline



Entrenched Decline

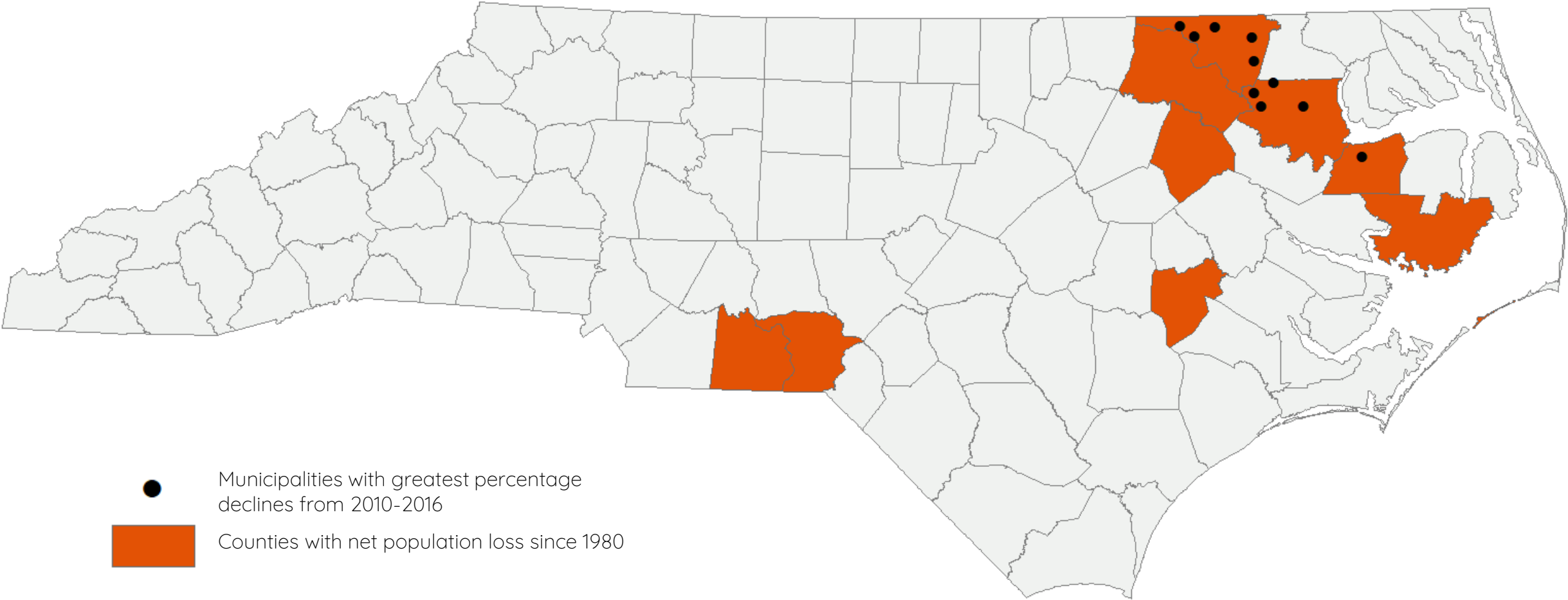
9 counties have fewer residents today than in 1980



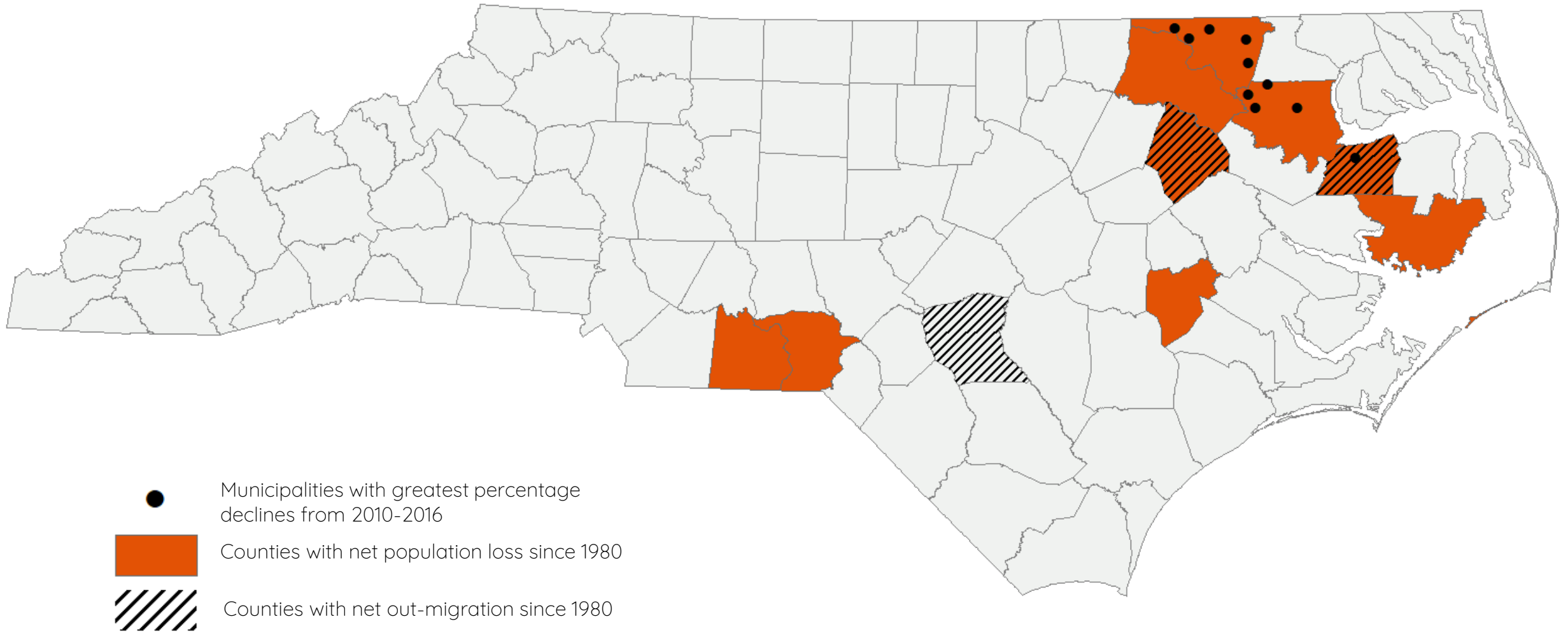
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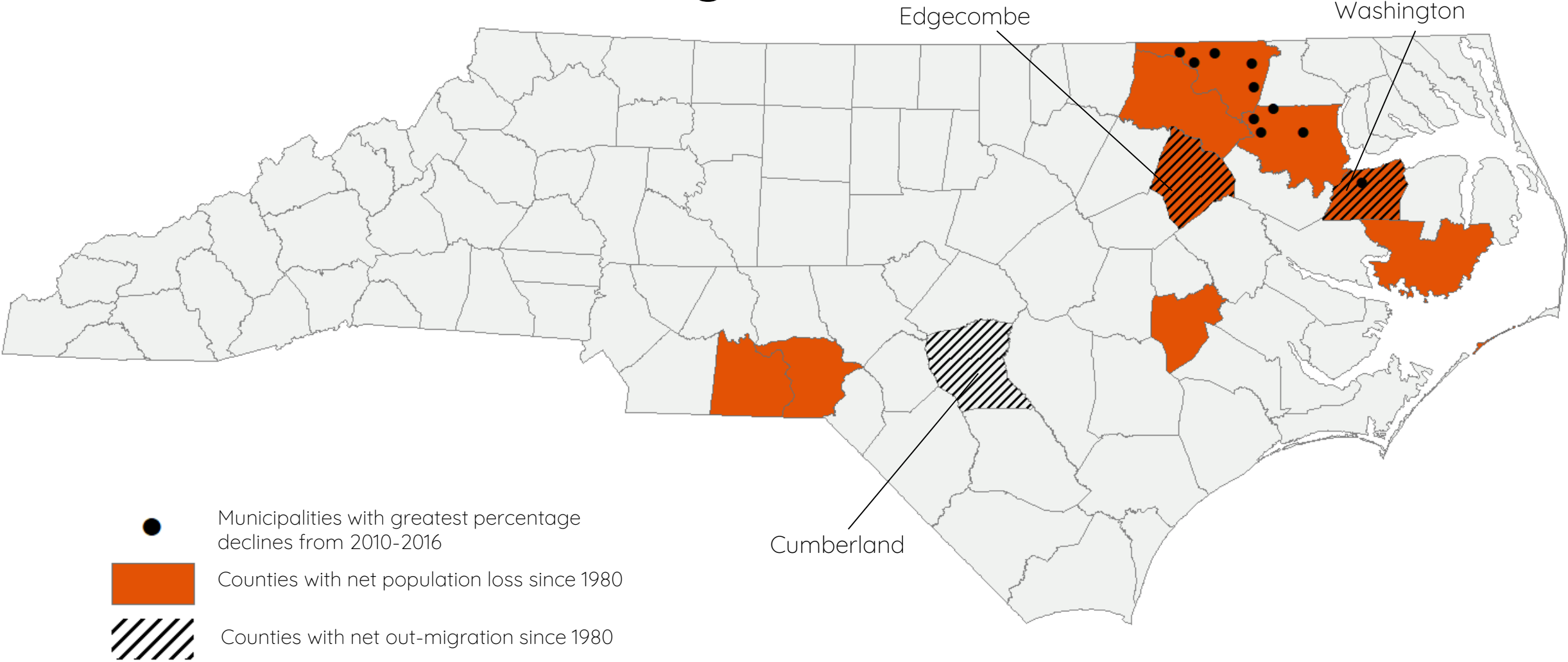
10 municipalities with greatest decline are in these counties



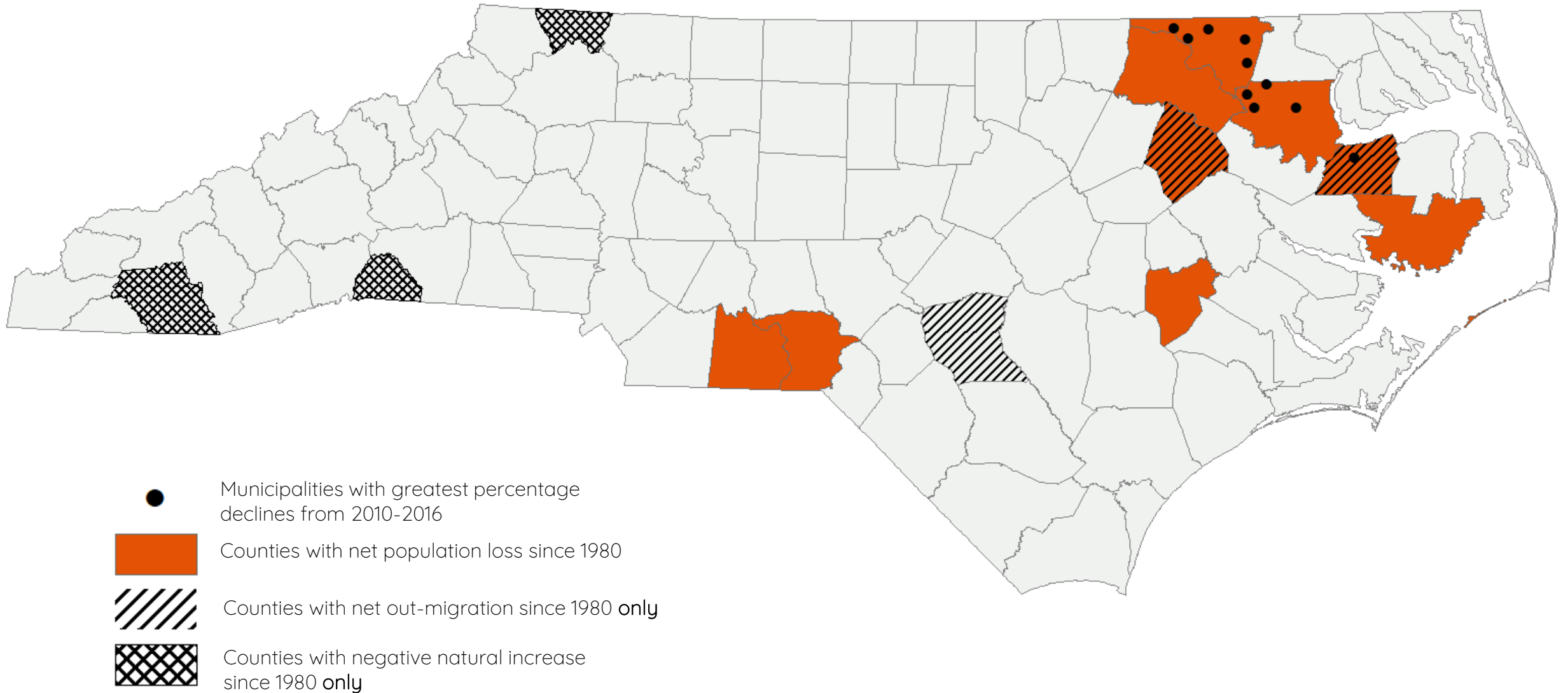
3 counties with net out-migration each decade since 1980



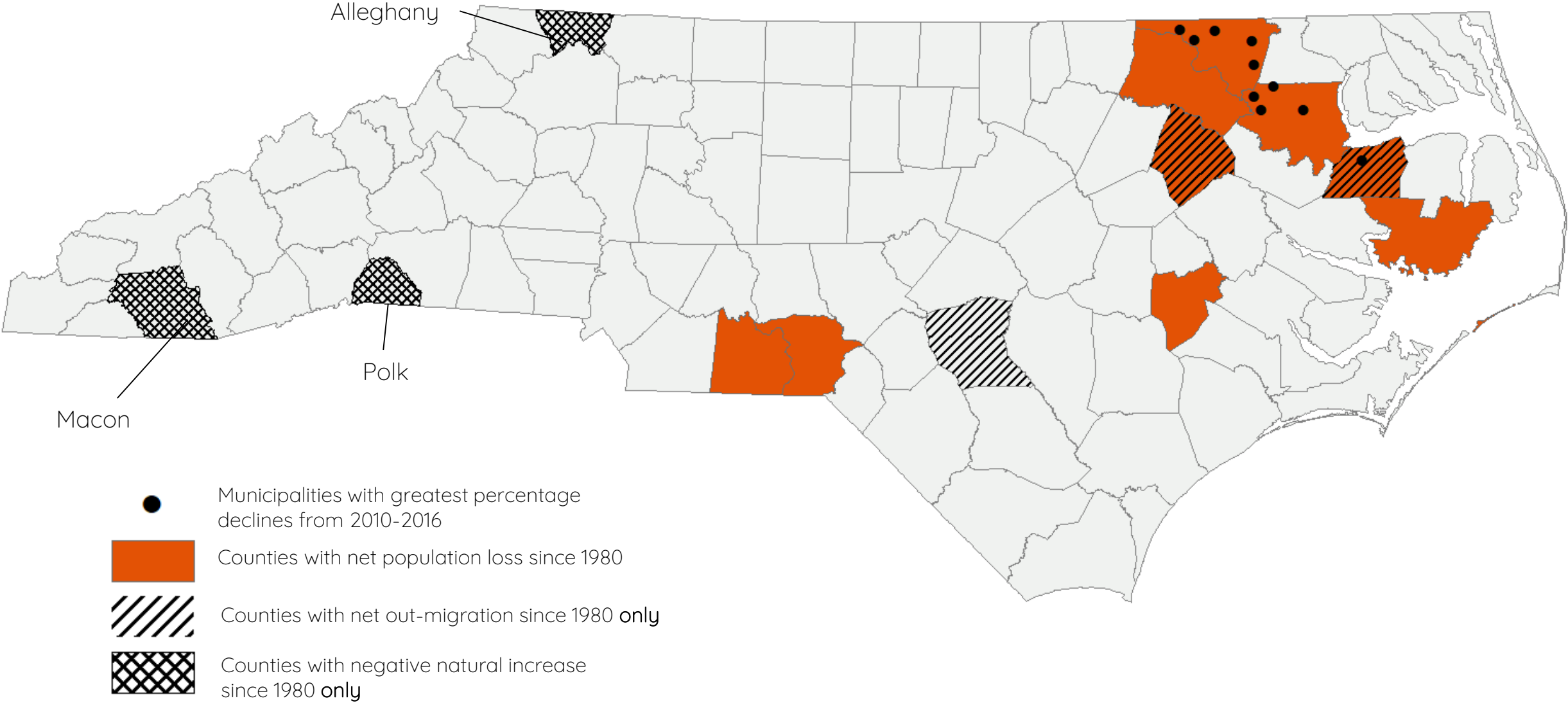
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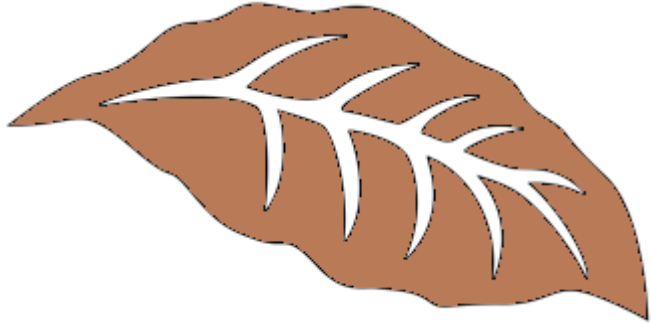
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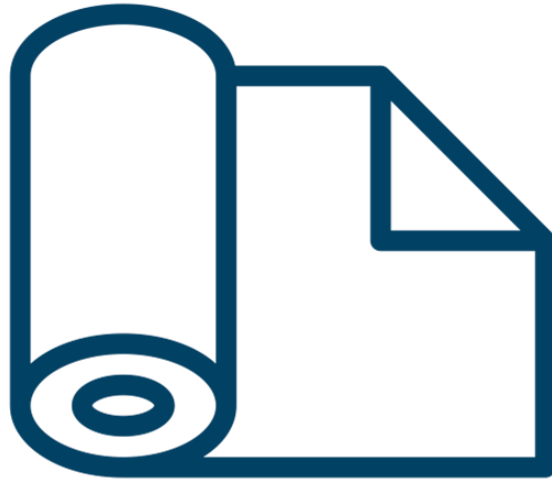
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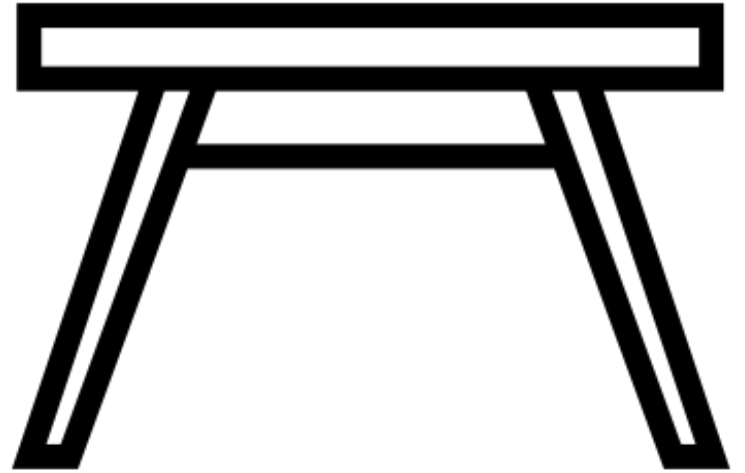
Decline of the “Big Three” industries



Tobacco



Textiles



Furniture
manufacturing

Rise of North Carolina's new industries



Information Technology



Food Production



Banks and Finance



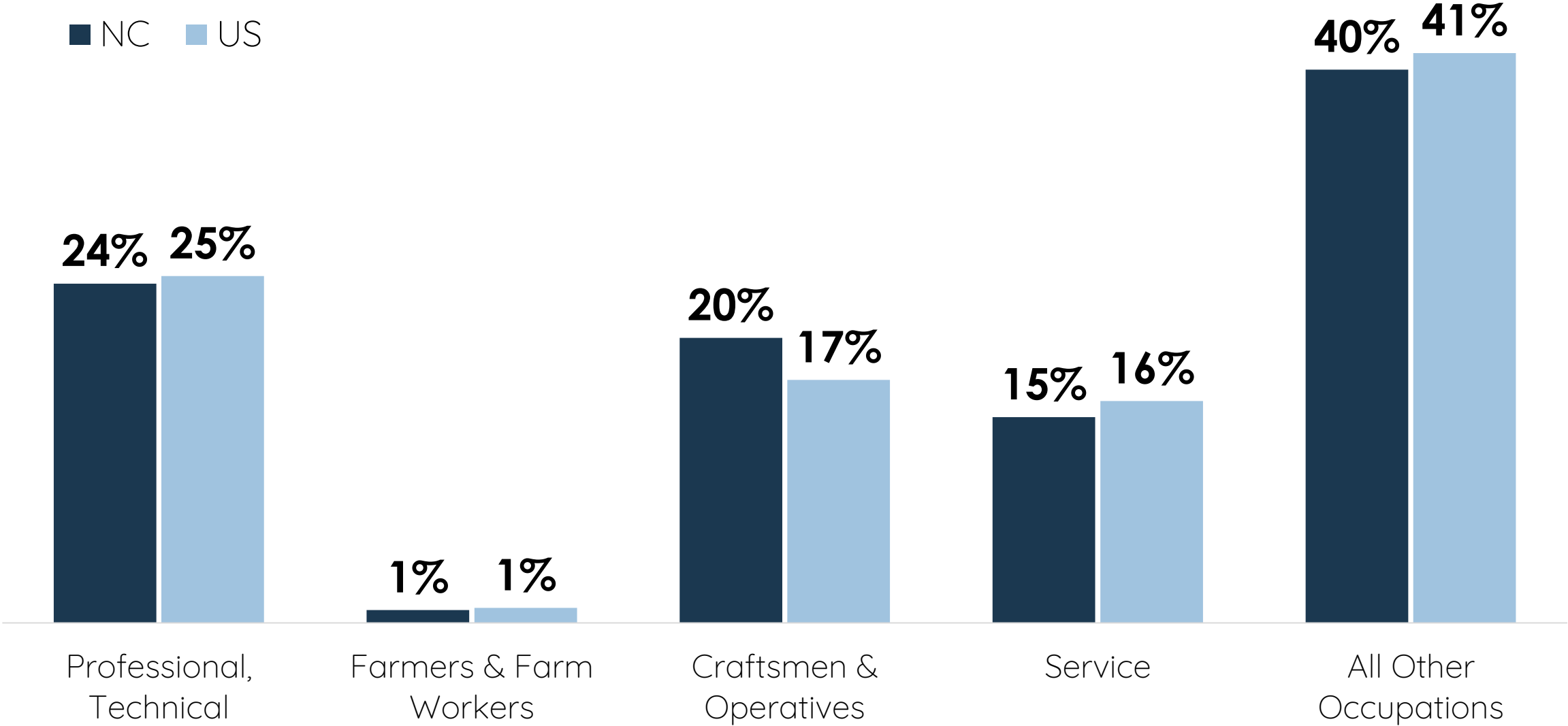
Biotechnology

Occupational Shifts

1850-2015

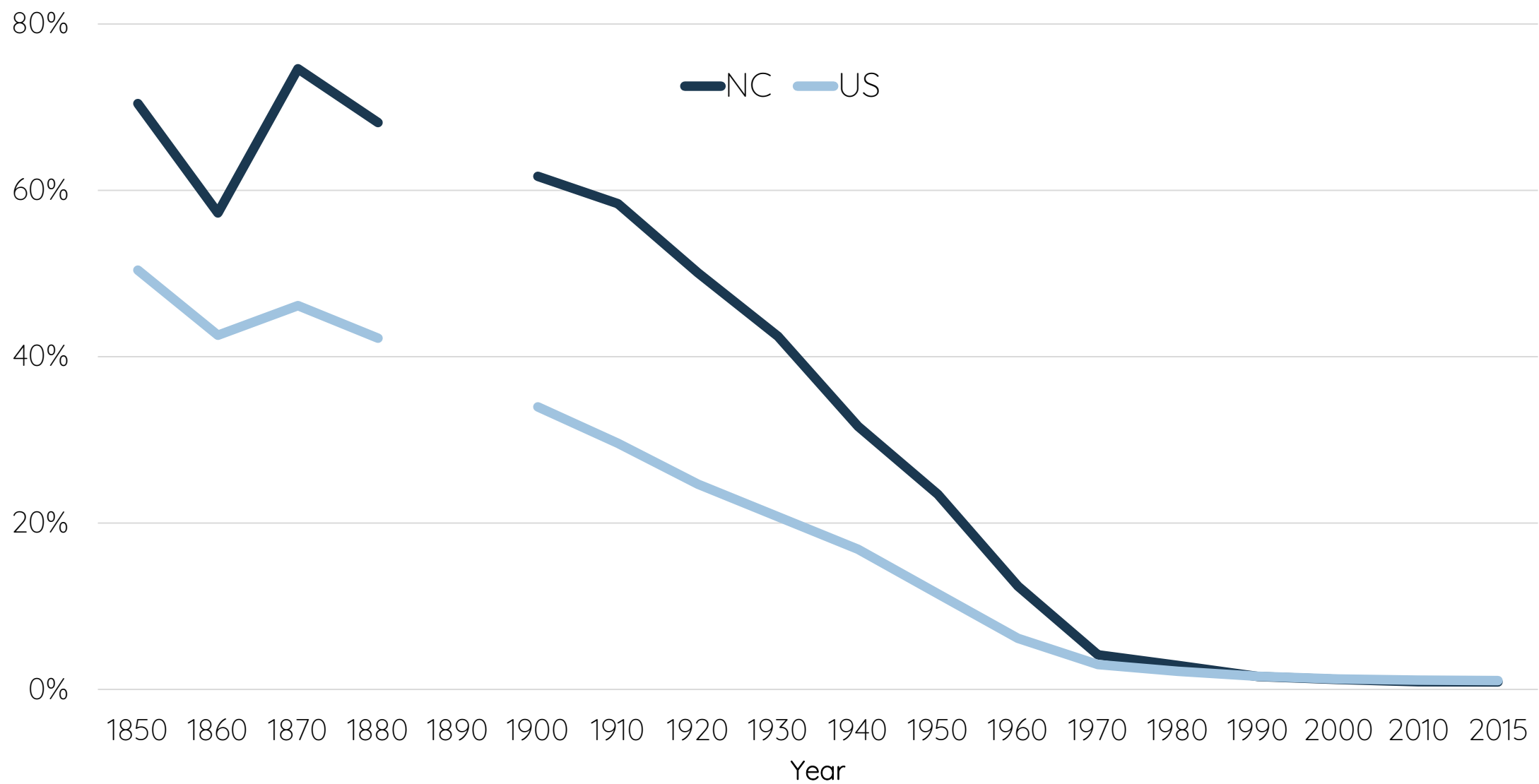
NC occupational mix mirrors U.S.

Occupational classification of labor force, NC vs. U.S., 2015 ACS



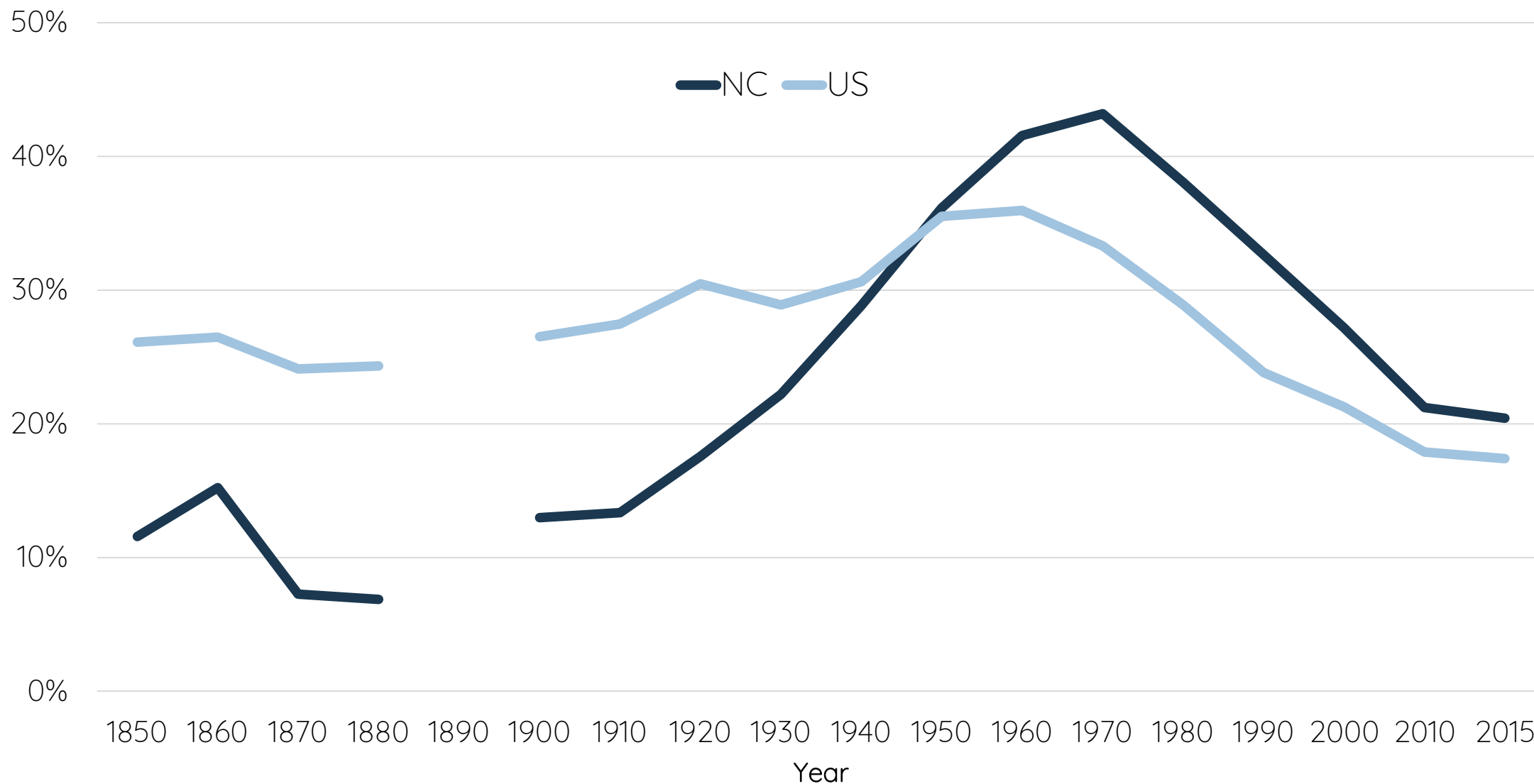
Few individuals employed as farmers

Share of farmers and farm laborers in labor force, NC vs. U.S., 1850-2015



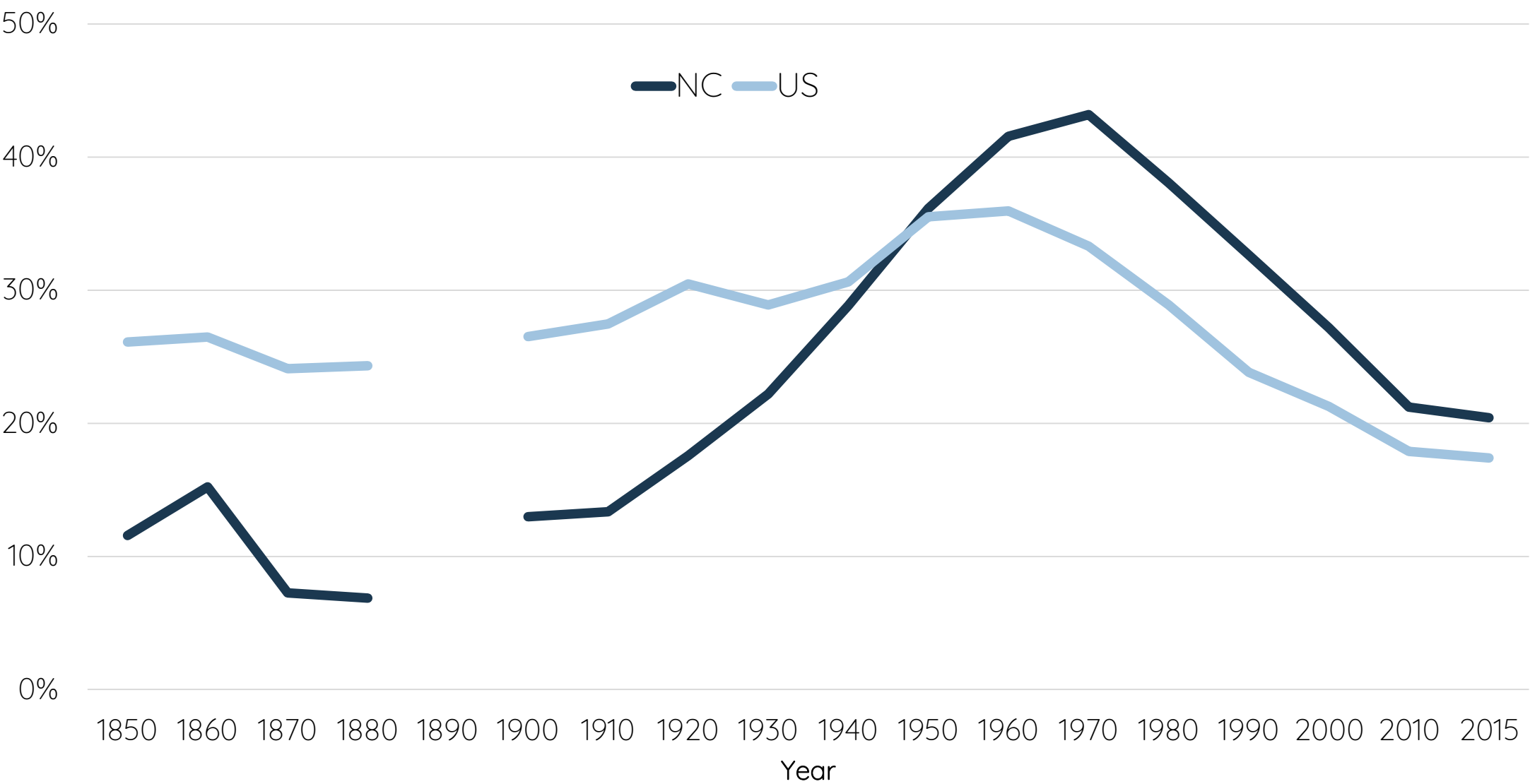
Manufacturing employment peaked in 1980

Share of craftsmen and operatives in labor force, NC vs. U.S., 1850-2015



Steady growth of professional occupations

Share of professional and technical workers in labor force, NC vs. U.S., 1850-2015



Emerging Trends

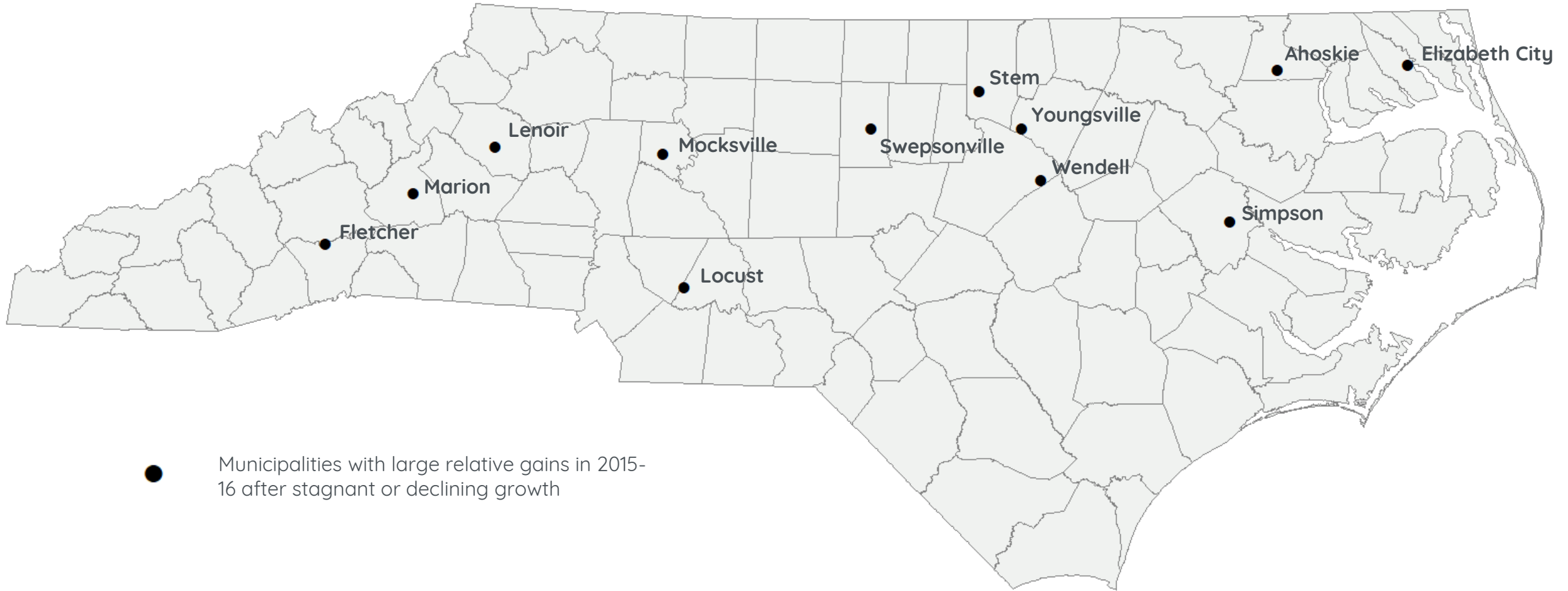
Near Future

124

NC municipalities had
largest single year of
growth since 2010 in 2015-16

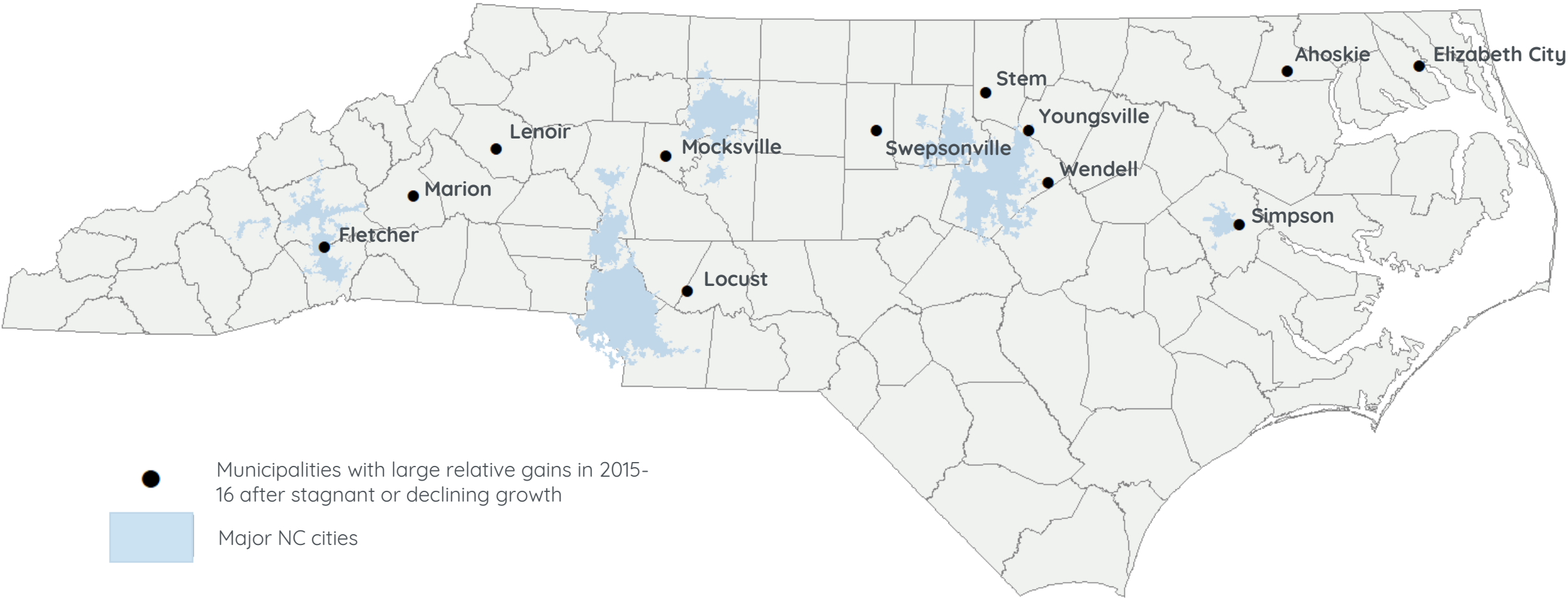
Rebounding municipalities in many areas across NC

12 municipalities with large increase in 2016 after stagnant or declining growth from 2010-15



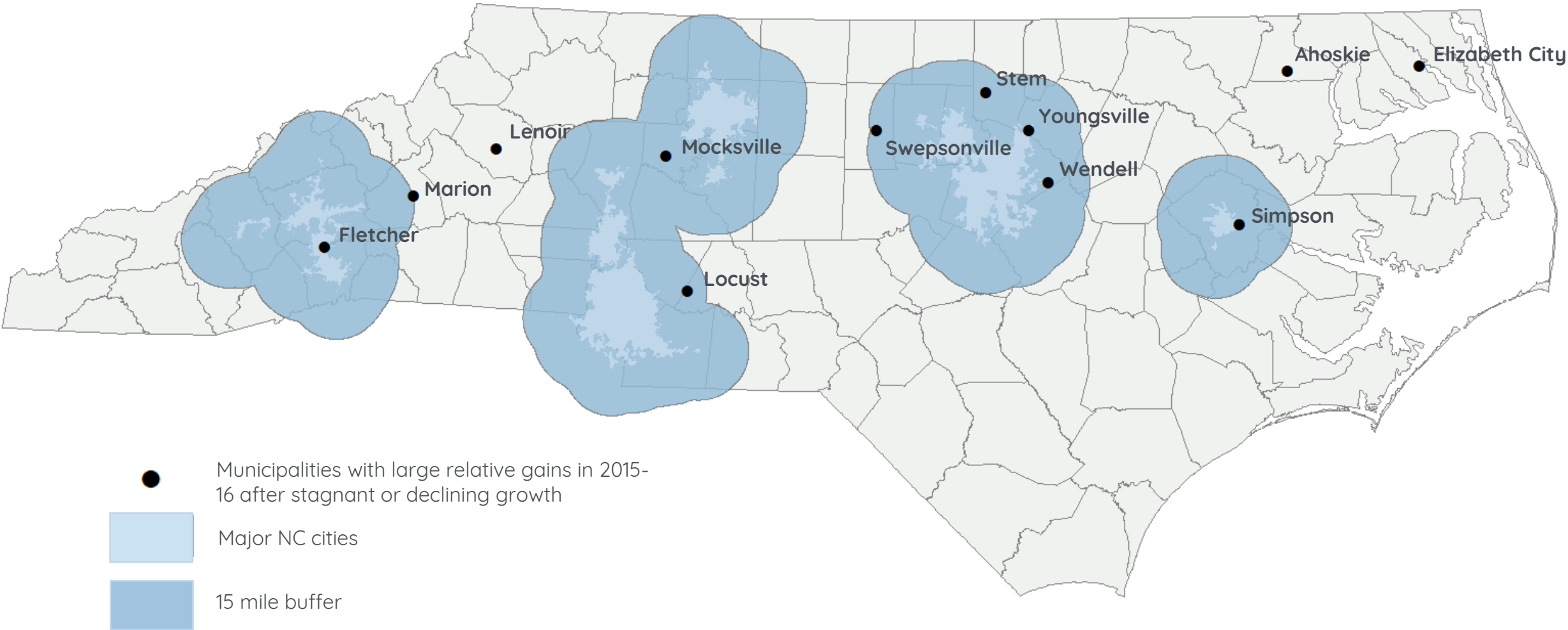
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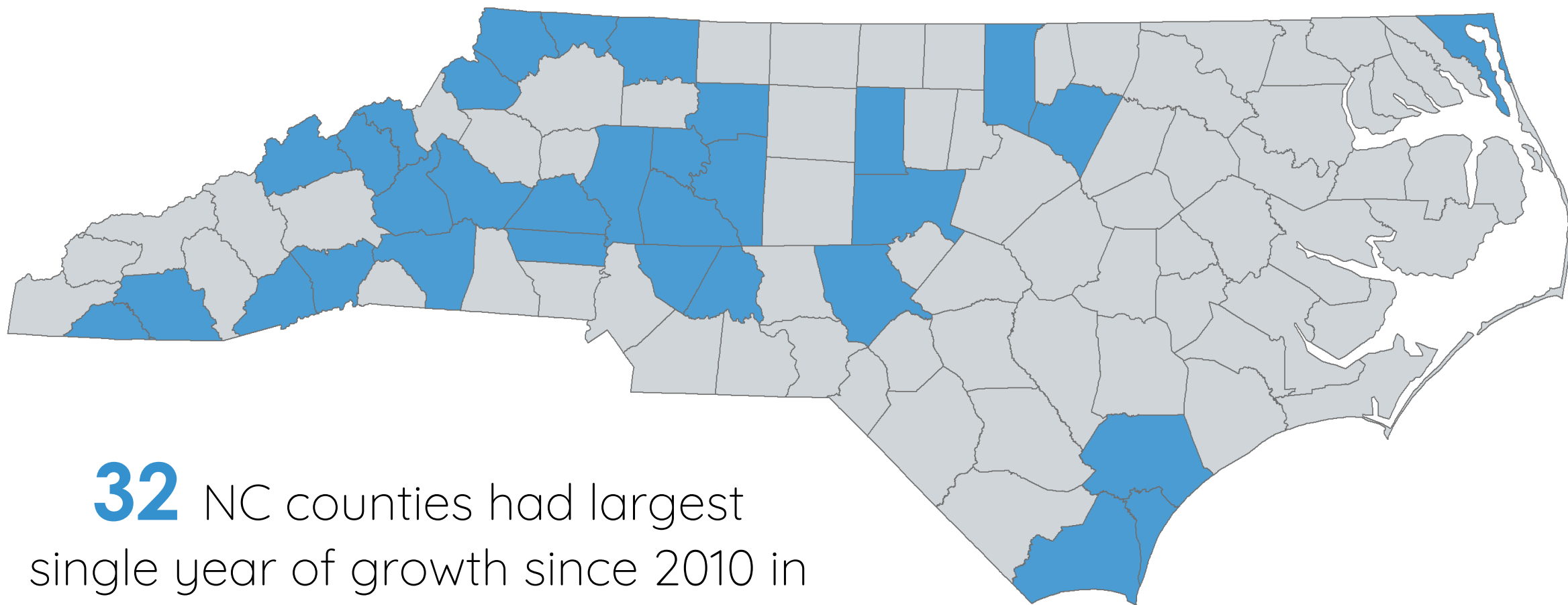
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Rebounding places offer easy commute to major cities

12 municipalities with large increase in 2016 after stagnant or declining growth from 2010-15



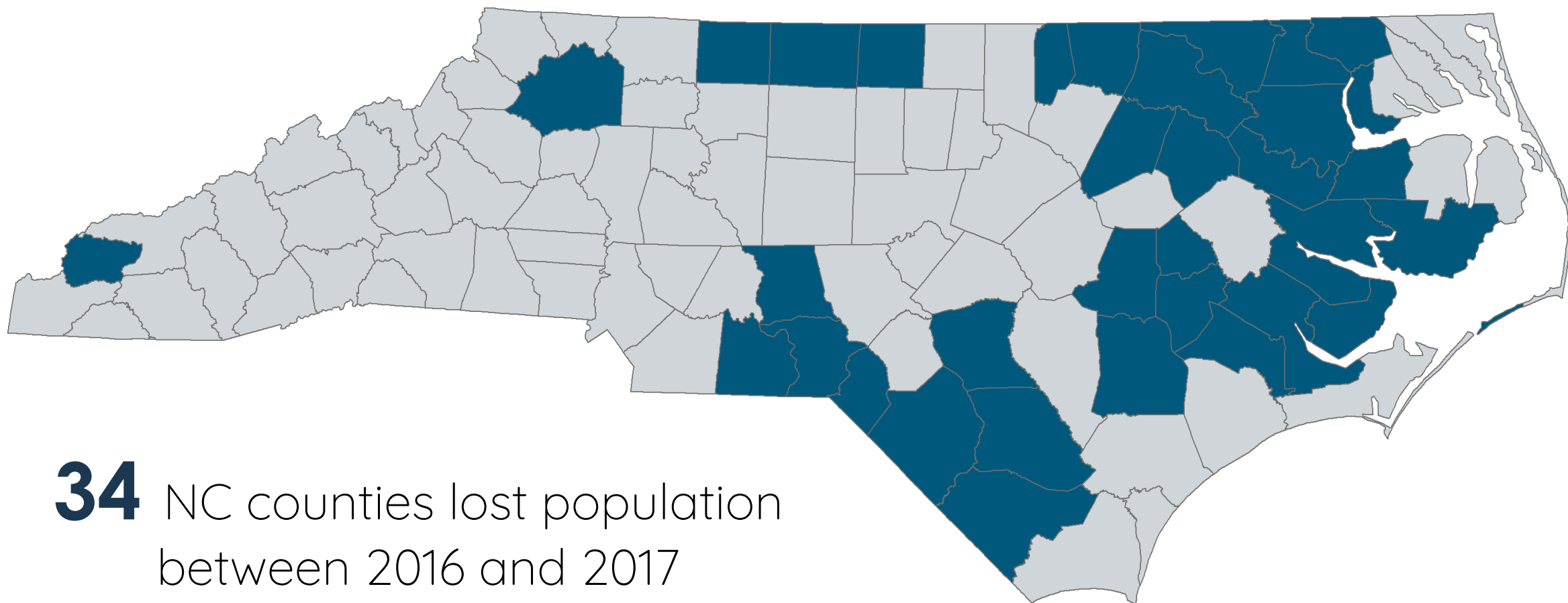


32 NC counties had largest
single year of growth since 2010 in
2016-17

Lumberton October 2016



Image Source: Chuck Burton (AP) via NY Times



On the horizon?

Potential longer-term impacts on growth patterns

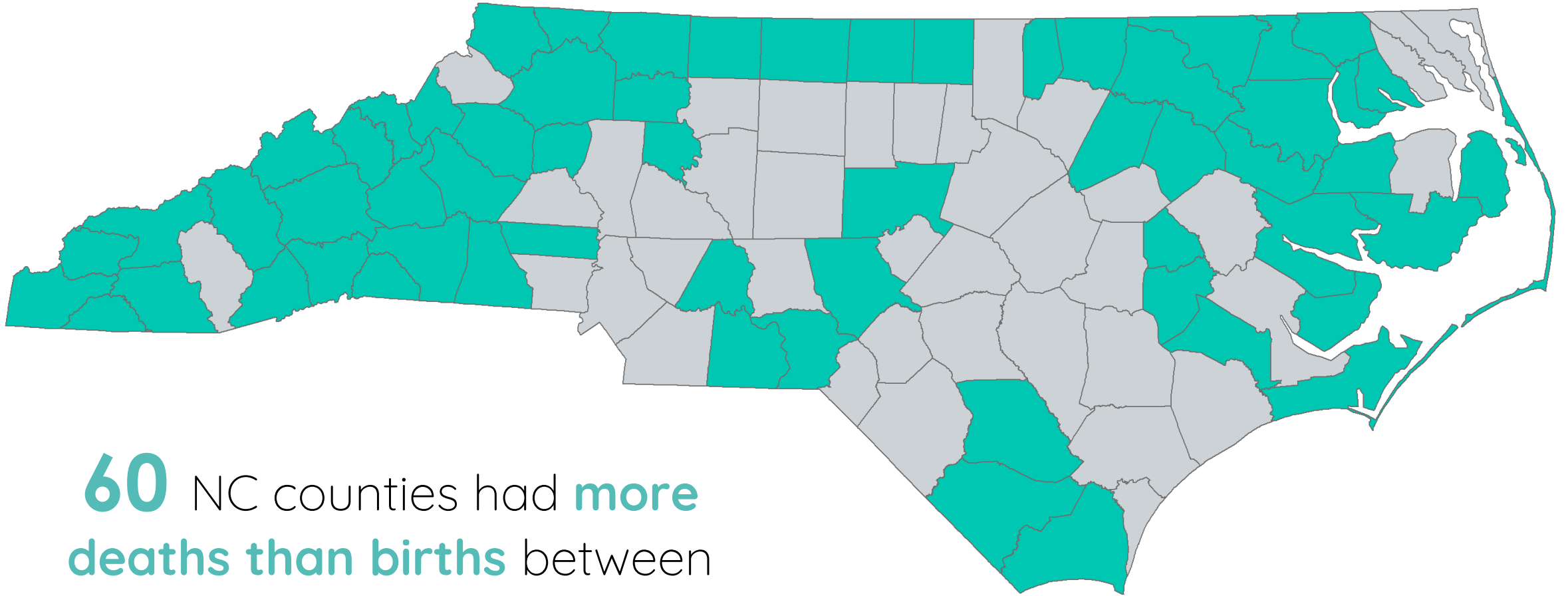
I THOUGHT I'D TRY
HUNTING FROM HOME,
BUT IT'S HARDER THAN
I EXPECTED.



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Driverless Future?



60 NC counties had **more deaths than births** between 2016 and 2017

**What does this
mean for you?**

Contact

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