



Patient Population

The Vidant Health system serves the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina, totaling over 1.4 million residents and representing 14% of the entire population of North Carolina. The 8 hospitals within the Vidant Health system possess the opportunity to reach this patient population through research.

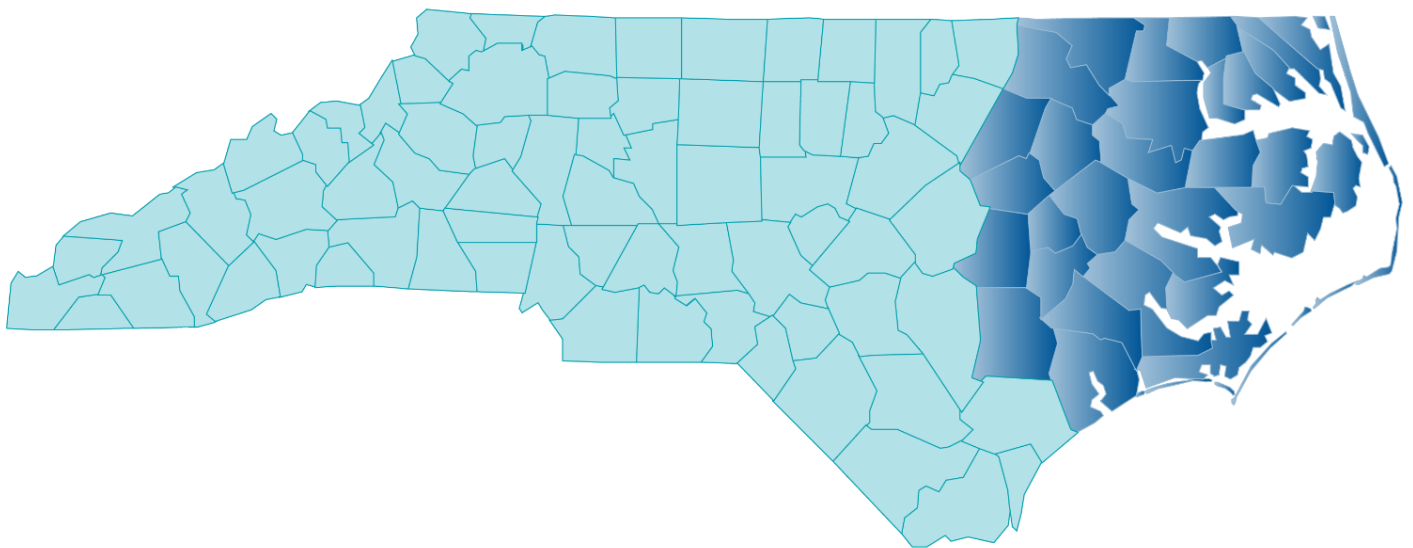


Figure 1. The dark blue shading represents the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina served by Vidant Health, the primary health care delivery system in the region.

Historically, the East has been an area that lacked health care services in many communities; 80% of the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina have been designated as medically underserved by the federal government. Health disparities between the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina and the state of North Carolina effect the overall health of the region.

The patient population in the East also differs from the state of North Carolina as a whole. The 2016 Census data demonstrates that Eastern North Carolina has a higher percentage of African American (32%) compared to the state of North Carolina (23%) and a lower percentage of Whites (65%) compared to the state (72%). Research and clinical trials conducted at Vidant Health obtain the ability to reach marginalized groups in Eastern North Carolina.

Table 1. Breakdown of Gender, Race and Ethnicity of Eastern North Carolina us. the State of North Carolina (2016 Census Data)

<i>Demographic</i>	<i>Eastern NC</i>	<i>State of NC</i>
Gender		
Female	51%	50%
Male	49%	50%
Race		
African American	32%	23%
White	65%	72%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	3%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	8%	9%
Non-Hispanic	92%	91%