

# 2025 OUTLOOK FOR TECH

2025 PREDICTIONS STATE OF THE INDUSTRY TECH TRENDS 2113-1412025 UNIVERSITY HILTON CHARLOTTE, NC





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**CISCO** 

# About Economic Leadership

- Founded in 2013
- Working in 27 states for 60 Clients
- Statewide & Regional Competitiveness Strategies
- Locational Analysis
- Leadership +
  Communications
- Trendspotting & Strategy





## Place-Based Competitiveness



ECONOMIC

### **Business Climate**

Taxes Regulatory Climate Legal Climate Politicians

# Risk

Weather Crime Fiscal Stability Political Stability Out-migration Geo-economics Workforce

In-migration Education Productivity Costs Skills QOL

R&D Automation Patents Advanced Industries Start-up Ecosystem

Innovation

Water Transportation Broadband Power Housing Childcare Infrastructure

#### North Carolina is growing faster than the nation...



#### The Best Ranked States for Business and Best Metro Performance



The most competitive metros are in the most competitive states

Source: Economic Leadership MSA indexes and compilation of 3rd party rankings



### North Carolina continues to gain from state-to-state migration...





#### States By Average Ranks by US News, CNBC, and Chief Executive

US News Business Environment released 5/15/24; CNBC released 7/11/24; Chief Executive released 4/24/24

#### **Plotted Against**

Actual Performance for Job Growth, Wage Growth and Growth in GDP 3 years 2020-2023 Jobs & Wages: BLS QCEW annual; GDP: BEA



# WWW.NCSTIR.COM



#### Tech industry has played important role in the state economy...

Net Job Change in North Carolina by Industry, 2018-2023







#### North Carolina Job Multiplier by Industry, 2023







# Measuring the Tech Sector Methodology

- Data from Lightcast, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
- 86 separate 6-digit NAICS code sectors to characterize the Total Technology Sector
- Total Technology Sector further broken down into four sub-categories:
  - Energy Technology
  - Environmental Technology
  - Life Sciences
  - IT, Telecomms, Hardware, and Software (Tech Core)
- **85 distinct 5-digit SOC** codes grouped to form Tech Occupations







# North Carolina Tech Industry Summary Statistics

Indicator	Technology Industry	State Total	State Total Percentage
Employees	323,199	4,830,118	6.7%
Establishments	34,342	374,302	9.2%
Wages (millions)	\$41,981	\$350,146	12.0%

11 Years Ago, There were 220,698 Tech Industry Workers







#### North Carolina Tech Industry Top Establishment Change, 2007-2023



#### Tech's Contribution to North Carolina's Economy - 22%





## North Carolina Tech Industry by Sub-Categories

Technology Categories	Employment, 2023	Employment Change, 2022- 2023	Employment Change, 2018- 2023	
Energy Tech	14,705	3.8%	7.3%	
Enviro Tech	23,254	6.2%	-5.8%	
Life Sciences	110,356	3.4%	27.0%	
IT	174,884	3.3%	19.2%	
TOTAL TECH	323,199	3.6%	18.8%	



## North Carolina Tech Industry by Output Groups

Output Group	Employment, 2023	Employment Change, 2022- 2023	Employment Change, 2018- 2023	
Tech Services	257,021	4.1%	24.4%	
Tech Manufacturing	66,178	1.6%	1.2%	
TOTAL TECH	323,199	3.6%	18.8%	

11 Years Ago, There were 64,585 Tech Manufacturing Workers



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## North Carolina Average Annual Earnings by Subgroups

Sub-Categories	North Carolina	North Carolina (Purchasing Power)	National Average	
Energy Tech	\$148,900	\$158,100	\$175,600	
Environmental Tech	\$84,900	\$90,100	\$96,600	
Life Sciences	\$138,200	\$146,700	\$153,500	
IT	\$149,000 \$158,200		\$187,600	
Output Group	North Carolina	North Carolina (Purchasing Power)	National Average	
Tech Services	\$140,300	\$149,000	\$169,800	
Tech Manufacturing	\$142,100	\$150,900	\$165,900	
TOTAL TECH INDUSTRY	\$140,700	\$149,300	\$169,200	

Source: EL calculations based on Lightcast 2024.4 and BEA (2024)



### Tech Industry Super Sub-Industries

Sub-Industries	2023 Employment	Employment Change (2018-2023)	Concentration
Software	103,778	42%	1.06
Internet, Social Media, & Telecom	44,015	-8%	0.92
Engineering, Environmental, & Clean Tech	43,643	13%	0.95
R&D and Testing	42,068	35%	1.07
Life Sciences Manufacturing	34,230	13%	1.46
Electronics Hardware	27,091	5%	0.95
Other Energy and Power Generation	13,825	5%	0.45
Remediation and Waste Management	13,669	18%	0.86
Renewable Energy	880	78%	0.88
TOTAL TECH SECTOR	323,199	19%	0.98





Tech Industry Jobs as a Percentage of Total Jobs, 2023







#### Tech Industry Employment Change, 2018 - 2023





## North Carolina Tech Industry State Rankings

Metric	Value	Rank
Total Tech Industry Employment Concentration (2023)	0.98	17
Total Tech Industry Job Change (2018-2023)	18.8%	8
Expected Total Tech Industry Job Change (2024-2029)	10.5%	8
Avg Earnings for Total Tech Industry with Purchasing Power (2023)	\$149,346	15
Percentage of Women in the Total Tech Industry Workforce (2023)	37.7%	1
Total Tech Industry Diversity Index (2023)	80.4	20



#### North Carolina State Rankings for Tech Industries and Occupations

Percentage of Women in the Total Tech Industry Tech Occupations Job Change Expected Energy Tech Job Change **Expected Tech Services Job Change** Tech Services Job Change **Tech Occupations Earnings** Expected Total Tech Industry Job Change Total Tech Industry Job Change Tech Manufacturing Earnings Energy Tech Job Change Life Sciences Job Change **Expected Tech Occupations Job Change** IT Job Change Tech Manufacturing Employment Concentration Life Sciences Employment Concentration Expected IT Job Change IT Employment Concentration Life Sciences Earnings Total Tech Industry Earnings Tech Occupations Employment Concentration Expected Environmental Tech Job Change IT Earnings Total Tech Industry Employment Concentration **Tech Services Employment Concentration** Expected Life Sciences Job Change Total Tech Industry Diversity Index Tech Services Earnings Expected Tech Manufacturing Job Change **Enivronmental Tech Earnings** Environmental Tech Employment Concentration Tech Manufacturing Job Change Energy Tech Employment Concentration Energy Tech Earnings Environmental Tech Job Change



### Staffing Patterns of Tech Industries and Tech Occupations



**35%** of tech occupation jobs are employed in tech industries.





#### Tech Occupations as a Percentage of Total Jobs, 2023



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#### North Carolina's Top Industries Employing Tech Occupations, 2023

## **Top Tech Occupations**

Occupation	2023 Employment	Employment Change (2018-2023)	Median Annual Wage
Software Developers	58,210	+70%	\$130,620
Market Research Analysts	27,920	+57%	\$74,900
Computer Systems Analysts	25,700	+1%	\$105,770
Computer User Support Specialists	22,280	+2%	\$56,990
Management Analysts	21,680	+18%	\$100,570
Computer and Information Systems Managers	21,455	+79%	\$164,220
Financial and Investment Analysts	10,530	+31%	\$99,990
Industrial Engineers	10,130	+12%	\$94,040
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	9,960	-11%	\$94,120
Computer Network Architects	8,170	+66%	\$120,660



### **Top Top Occupations by Growth**

Top Five in Net Job Growth		Top Five in Growth Percentage	
Software Developers	+23,910	Electro-Mechanical Technicians	+215%
Market Research Analysts	+10,110	Life Scientists	+184%
Computer and Information Systems Managers	+9,460	Database Architects	+151%
Data Scientists	+3,845	Data Scientists	+142%
Management Analysts	+3,290	Food Science Technicians	+107%



### **Demographic Representation in Tech Occupations**

Demographic	Tech Occupations	NC Population	Index
Women	37%	51%	72.6
Men	63%	49%	128.7
Demographic	Tech Occupations	NC Population	Index
White	67%	61%	110.2
Black or African American	15%	21%	73.3
Asian	11%	4%	299.9
Hispanic or Latino	5%	11%	39.7
Two or More Races	2%	2%	93.7
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.3%	1.0%	33.7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	88.4









Tech Occupations Employment Change, 2018 - 2023




#### Median Annual Earnings for Tech Occupations Adjusted for Purchasing Power, 2023





## Source: EL calculations based on Lightcast 2024.4











#### Percent Change in STEM Education Program Completions (2018-2023)

Source: EL calculations based on Lightcast 2024.4

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## **Start-Ups from Universities (2023)**



#### Total R&D as a Percentage of GDP (2021)





#### **Business Performed R&D as a Percentage of Private Industry Output (2021)**

Source: EL calculations based on NSF (2024)

ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP



Source: Zillow (2024)



#### Share of Housing Burdened Households (2023)



Source: US Census Bureau (2024)

Geoeconomics and Geopolitics are rapidly changing, but also becoming more important, not less.







#### FDI Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment (2021)

Source: EL calculations based on BEA (2024)

#### North Carolina State Rankings for Tech Infrastructure Indicators







Source: EL calculations based on Lightcast 2024.4



## **NC Job Postings in Emerging Tech Markets**



# **NC Job Postings in Emerging Tech Markets**



Source: EL calculations based on Lightcast 2024.4







# Thank you!





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