

Update on Federal Government Shutdown Impacts to Guilford County

Objectives

- Provide an update on staff approach to monitoring
- Provide an update on impacted programs
- Discuss funding options for WIC after 11/30

Federal Shutdown

What is a shutdown?

A government shutdown happens when Congress fails to pass funding bills or a continuing resolution to authorize federal spending. Without that funding, many agencies must suspend nonessential operations.

How is Guilford County Government Impacted?

The County is responsible for administering federally-funded health and human services programs. Reimbursement for those services may be impacted or delayed.

The County continues to work with the State and our local community partners to understand fiscal and operational implications.

Staff hold a weekly meeting to walk through impacts by department and are tracking state guidance in a central location.

How are Guilford County Residents Impacted?

Participants in the following programs are experiencing impacts:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known as Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) in North Carolina, and
- The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

This presentation will provide an update on these programs.

Food and Nutrition Services

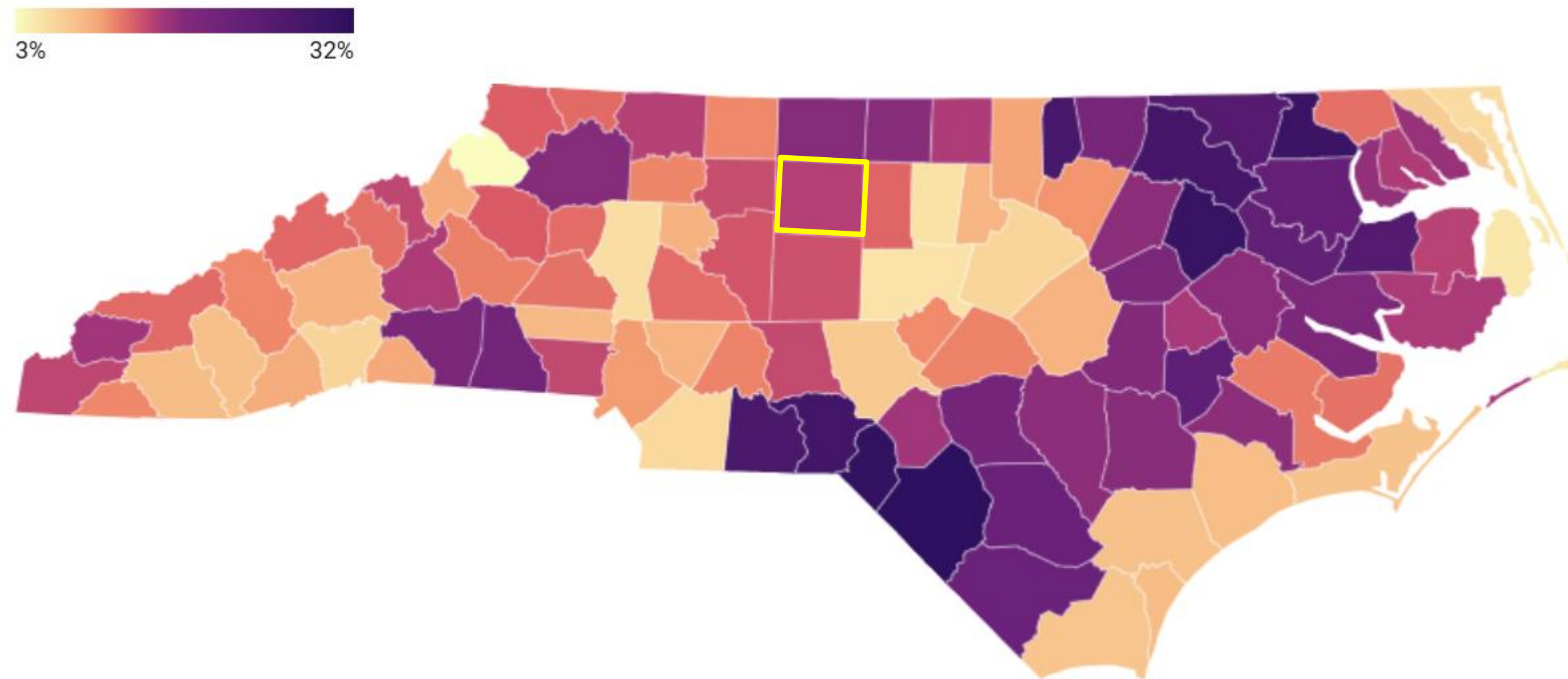
Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

- SNAP, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, is a federal program that provides low-income households with monthly benefits to buy groceries. These benefits are provided on an EBT card, which can be used at stores that accept them for eligible food items.
- Eligibility is based on factors like household size and income.
- The United States Department of Agriculture has issued a revised table of FNS benefits amount, **reducing November benefits to households by 50%.**
- Issuance and availability of prior month issuances will not be impacted.

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

In some NC counties, nearly 1 in 3 residents uses SNAP to access healthy food

SNAP (food stamp) participants as a share of total county population, 2025



Map: NC Budget & Tax Center • Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

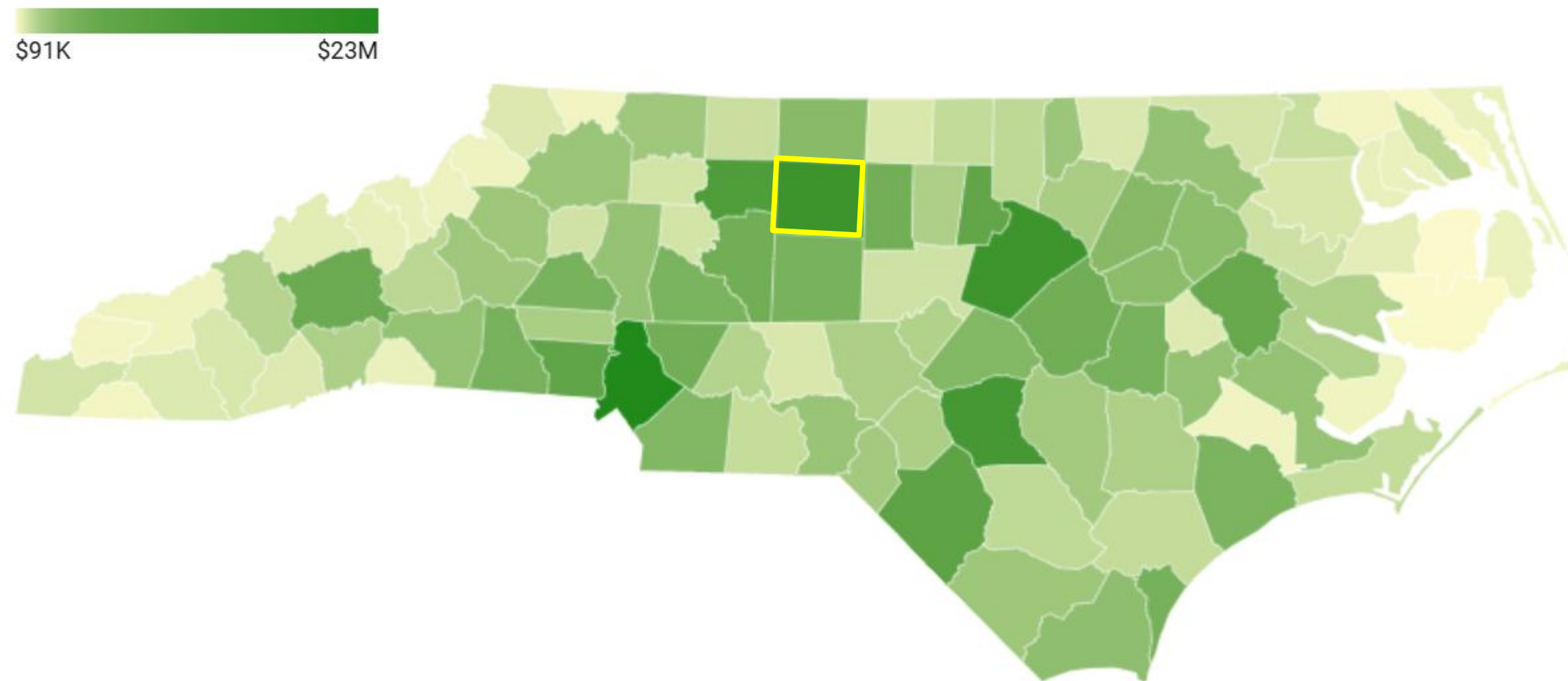
Key Takeaway:

- In the past six months in Guilford County, there was an average of **41,845** households receiving SNAP benefits, which represents
- **85,355** residents with an average household composition of **2** participants per household.

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

SNAP benefits provide a boost to local economies

Estimated SNAP (food stamp) dollars received by county each month



Key Takeaway:

- In the past six months in Guilford County, the average monthly benefits issued = \$15.4 million per month

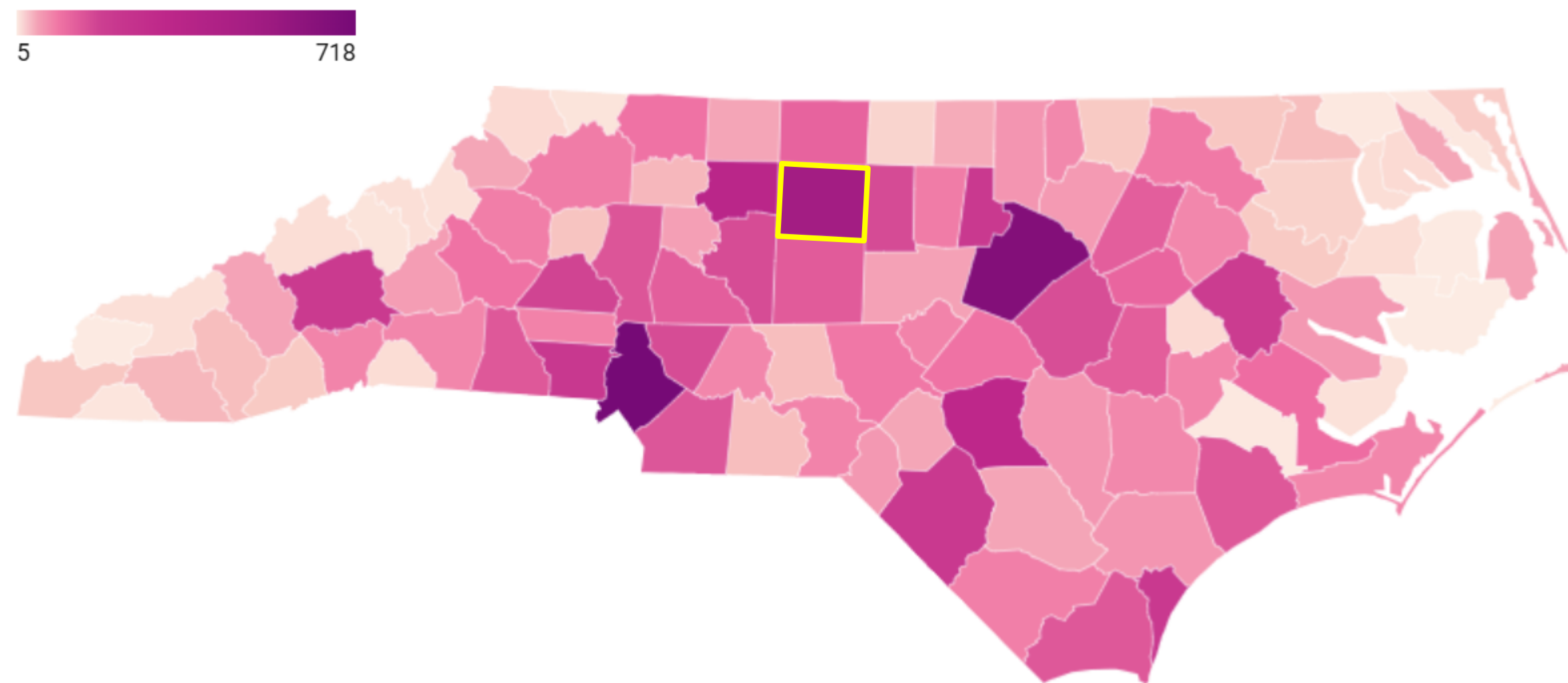
Estimates based on SNAP participants in September 2025 and average monthly benefits in May 2025

Map: NC Budget & Tax Center • Source: [United States Department of Agriculture](#) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

SNAP dollars support thousands of food retailers in counties across North Carolina

Number of retailers that accept SNAP (food stamp) benefits by county, April 2025



Key Takeaway:

- Over 500 local retailers benefit from the economic impact.

Map: NC Budget & Tax Center • Source: [Center on American Progress](#) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

- The County staff supporting this program are 50% reimbursed through federal/state funding.
- Counties must continue normal operations for SNAP application processing, including expedited service, and complete recertifications during the shutdown.

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

SNAP benefits are paid out via Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) based on the last digit of the recipient's Social Security number (SSN). EBT is an electronic system that replaced paper food stamp coupons with a card that is like a credit or bank card. North Carolina Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) recipients use EBT cards to access FNS benefits. Benefits are available on the same day each month for participants.

If the social security number ends in:	Benefits are available after 6:00am on the:
1	3 rd of the month
2	5 th of the month
3	7 th of the month
4	9 th of the month
5	11 th of the month
6	13 th of the month
7	15 th of the month
8	17 th of the month
9	19 th of the month
0	21 st of the month

Food and Nutrition Services (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP))

- Currently there is sufficient budget authority and cash flow to continue operations until a delayed reimbursement is received.
- No budget action needed at this time.

OneGuilford: Supporting Our Pantries



Coordinating with Key Food Security Partners

Coordinating with key food security partners to assess needs, capacity, and resource gaps.



Supporting Local Food Assistance Efforts

Raising Awareness on opportunities for the County to support food network partners in maintaining adequate supplies.



Data Collection and Analysis

Gathering and analyzing data from Second Harvest and other partners to inform data-driven decisions and resource allocation.



Resource Awareness

Publicizing the Greater Guilford Food Finder App to help residents locate nearby food pantries and meal resources.



Community Information and Transparency

Informing residents through guilfordcountync.gov, social media, and news outlets, including sharing ways residents can access resources through the Greater Guilford Food Finder App and how residents can donate to local pantries.

For More Information

Visit www.GuilfordCountyNC.gov/FindFood
or the Second Harvest Food Bank of
Northwest NC
www.SecondHarvestnWNC.org/



Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)

Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)

- The WIC program provides healthy foods, breastfeeding support, and nutrition education to 13,670 pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age five (5).
- The monthly WIC benefits received by residents in Guilford County total approximately \$1.2 million.
- Sufficient state funds to continue WIC operations through November 30.
- Additional funding would be needed beyond November 30

Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)

- The County staff supporting this program are 100% reimbursed through federal/state funding. There are \$0 in County funds supporting this program.
- Supports 34.75 full-time positions with a monthly operational budget of ~\$225,000.
- \$400,000 in additional federal Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) funding has been identified that could be used to support WIC positions for 6 weeks.
- Staff will bring an item back to the BoCC to allocate the additional \$400,000 if funding is not secured beyond November 30.

WIC Positions

Impacted Positions		
Position	Number of Staff to Be Reassigned	Number of Staff to Remain on WIC
Nutrition Program Director	1	
Nutritionist III	1	
Administrative Officer	1	
Breastfeeding Coordinator	1	
QI & Training Coordinator	1	
Nutritionist II	6	2
Nutritionist I	3	
WIC Eligibility Caseworker	10	2
Vendor Manager	1	
Infant Care Counselor	3	
Nurse Aide	1	
Medical Lab Assistant	1	
Total	30	4

Other Programs

Adult Day Care and In-Home Aid Services

- The State portion of funding will be unaffected. Currently, PTRC has advised that there is no delay in federal reimbursement for Adult Day Care and In-Home Aid Services.
- Supports 7 full-time case managers (\$36,000 per month) and delivers ~\$184,000 per month in direct client services.
- Currently there is sufficient budget authority and cash flow to continue operations if reimbursement is delayed.
- No budget action needed at this time.

Medicaid Administration

- Operations will continue during the lapse in appropriations. Sufficient funding has been allocated for Medicaid through December 31, 2025.
- No budget or cash flow impact identified at this time.

Adult and Child Protective Services

- Operations will continue during the lapse in appropriations. Sufficient funding has been allocated for Adult and Child Protective Services for awards prior to 10/1/25.
- No budget or cash flow impact identified at this time.

Scope of Program Impacts

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Program	Monthly Reimbursement from Federal/State Funds	Associated Filled Positions	Residents Served	Total Monthly Resident Redemption Amount	Funding Timeline/Expiration
Adult Day Care and In-Home Aid Services	\$222,000	7	186	N/A	Delayed Reimbursement
Food and Nutrition Services Administration (SNAP)	\$460,000	105	85,335	\$15.5 million	Around 50% of November issuance amounts
Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)	\$225,000	34.75	13,670	\$1.2 million	November 30
Total	\$905,000	146.75	99,191	\$16.7m	

