

ATSDR Public Health Investment

North Carolina

CDC/ATSDR support helps North Carolina reduce exposures to hazardous substances in the environment

North Carolina is one of 25 states using ATSDR cooperative agreement funds to help build their capacity to assess and respond to site-specific issues involving human exposure to hazardous substances in the environment.

Public Health in Action

Providing safe drinking water to residents near a former mine site — North Carolina Division of Public Health (NCDPH) alerted EPA to potentially hazardous levels of manganese and cadmium in residents' drinking water near the Ore Knob Mine site in Ashe County. EPA expanded well water sampling and provided residents with whole-house water treatment systems. The DPH recommended connecting homes to a municipal water supply as a long term solution. EPA is working with local authorities to extend a municipal water line to the community.

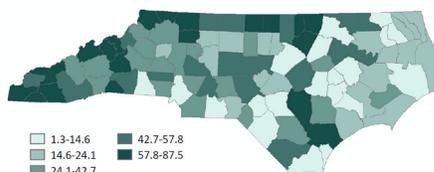
Key projects

- **Ward Transformer** — Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) contaminated nearly 30 miles of streams and lakes at this site. NC DPH is partnering with local officials and universities to explain fish advisories and potential health risks to the community. ATSDR provides technical assistance and guidance in evaluating impacts of harmful chemical exposures.
- **Kerr-McGee, Navassa** — This wood-treatment facility contaminated soil, marshes, and creeks with creosote, creating a 300-acre site. NC DPH is evaluating the health impacts of eating fish and shellfish near this site and working with a local university to address community concerns and promote health. ATSDR provides scientific and technical expertise during the health assessment process.
- **Hemphill Road TCE** — Groundwater at this site is contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE). NC DPH is evaluating possible public health impacts from exposure to contaminated groundwater and indoor air (via vapor intrusion). ATSDR works with states to recommend actions to protect the public's health.

State Priorities

- **Safe Drinking Water** — Testing and evaluating private well water near hazardous waste sites and throughout the state for contaminants harmful to health.
- **Indoor Air Quality** — Evaluating indoor air issues (vapor intrusion) at residences and businesses near hazardous waste sites and dry-cleaning facilities.
- **Community Health** — Protecting the health of communities and bringing resources to communities to benefit future health.

Percent of residents on well water, by county
(Using 2005 USGS water data for numerator of each county and 2005 census data for denominator for each county)



North Carolina

Award amount:

\$320,128 per year

Term: 3 years

Grantee since: 2006

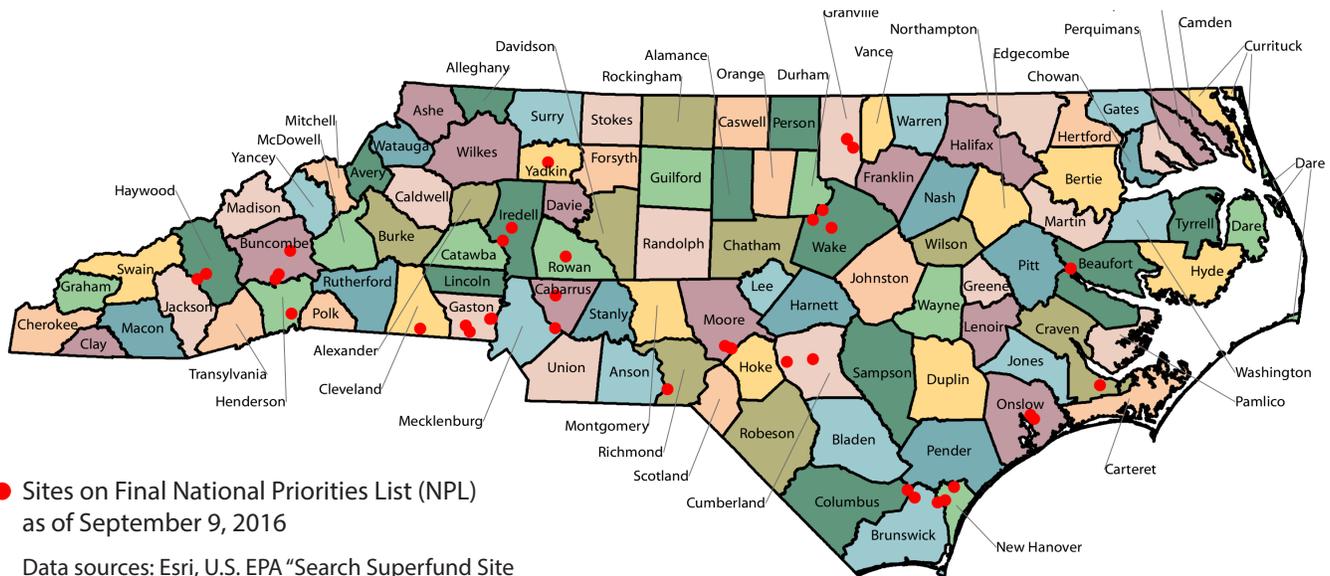
About ATSDR

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), based in Atlanta, Georgia along with 10 regional offices, is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR serves the public by using the best science, taking responsive public health actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and diseases related to toxic substances.

"[Health Assessment, Consultation & Education Program] support has proven invaluable in addressing community health concerns and providing an independent resource - to the citizens of North Carolina." - Don Rigger, U.S. EPA Region 4 Superfund Division Chief

Did You Know?

- Over 4,400 sites in North Carolina are included in either North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality or the U.S. EPA environmental remediation program.
- From 2014–2016, the Health Assessment, Consultation & Education (HACE) program prevented or eliminated potentially harmful exposures for over 397,000 North Carolinians, at a cost of less than \$2 per person.
- North Carolina has the third largest percentage of people using private drinking water wells in the nation: 35% of the population or about 3.3 million people.



- Sites on Final National Priorities List (NPL) as of September 9, 2016

Data sources: Esri, U.S. EPA "Search Superfund Site Information" query (2016), U.S. EPA SEMS (2016), U.S. EPA Facility Registry Service (2016).

Learn more

Follow these links to learn more about programs protecting public health in North Carolina:

ATSDR — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>

Division of Community Health Investigations (DCHI) — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/index.html>

Public Health Assessments and Consultations for North Carolina — <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/pha/HCPHA.asp?State=NC>

Well Water and Health — <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oeo/programs/wellwater.html>

Indoor Environmental Quality — <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oeo/programs/iaq.html>

ATSDR – The most trusted Agency protecting American communities from environmental health threats through application of state of the art science.

Last updated 10/01/2017