Data Sources for Grant Writing
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This guide catalogues data sources that have been, and most likely will continue to be, useful for grant writing projects. You are welcome to widely distribute and share this document; we strive to support grant writing activity in North Carolina specifically, and nationwide generally. We occasionally list new data sources in our newsletter; visit the Grant*Prose* website to sign up for free email delivery. (We never sell or share our email list.)

Sources are organized into the following categories:
- General & Demographic
- Workforce & Economic
- Education
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)
- Children & Youth
- Agriculture, Nutrition & Health
- Crime
- Transportation & Energy

GENERAL & DEMOGRAPHIC

FedStats
http://fedstats.sites.usa.gov
Provides access to statistics and data produced by more than 100 agencies of the federal government. Users need not know which federal agency produces a particular statistic; simply perform keyword and phrase searches on topics including population, crime, education, energy, farm production, etc., etc.

U.S. Census Bureau
http://www.census.gov
Demographic information on the population of the United States: numbers, distribution, income, education, race, age, poverty, families, and more. Tools include American FactFinder (an interactive app), QuickFacts (answers to Census FAQs), Census Explorer (an interactive map series), and the American Community Survey.

American Community Survey
http://www.census.gov/acs/www/
The main Census is conducted every 10 years; the American Community Survey collects data annually. Demographic data are available by city, county, and/or state, and as 1-, 3-, or 5-year estimates. To get started, click on "Guidance for Data Users."

WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor
http://www.bls.gov
The federal government's principal fact-finding agency for labor economics and statistics. Areas include employment and unemployment, inflation and prices (e.g., the Consumer Price Index), pay and benefits, productivity and much, much more.

> *Local Area Unemployment Statistics*
> http://www.bls.gov/lau/
> Most recent unemployment, employment, and labor force data (monthly and annually) by state, county, city, and other Census divisions. Users can search databases and view/create maps and graphs.

> *Links to other statistical sites, U.S. and international*
> http://www.bls.gov/bls/other.htm

StatsAmerica
http://www.statsamerica.org/Default.aspx
National economic development data curated by Indiana University and partners, with support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, from federal and state agencies, as well as commercial and private sources. Drill down to states, districts, and counties with data profiles (what was the median household income in Wayne County, NC in 2012?), maps (what is the human capital index for Franklin, VA?), and tools (in what county is Montgomery, AL located?).

> *Measuring Distress*
> http://www.statsamerica.org/distress/distress.aspx
> Allows users to calculate whether a county, region, or neighborhood meets grant thresholds for unemployment and income.

> *Innovation in American Regions*
> http://www.statsamerica.org/innovation/
> Allows users to explore regional innovation performance and capacity.

Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce
http://www.bea.gov/itable/index.cfm
The bureau's interactive data application provides access to various statistics: national (GDP), regional, international, and industry. Features include exporting, chart making, and data sharing.

National Low Income Housing Coalition
Out of Reach
http://nlihc.org/oor
Yearly report on affordable housing. The disparity between wages and rents are documented at the national, state, and local levels. Data include the housing wage (hourly wage needed to participate in the housing market), housing costs, area median income, and statistics on renter households.

North Carolina Department of Commerce
http://www.nccommerce.com
Research, reports, and data on North Carolina's economic and workforce development.

Labor and Economic Data and Analysis (LEAD)
http://www.nccommerce.com/lead
Reports, newsletters, fact sheets, data, and tools on labor market information and current economic issues in North Carolina, including monthly reviews of the state's labor market conditions (with comparative data from the U.S. and other Southern states), county profiles, labor market overviews and statistics, and industry and occupational projections.

Demand Driven Data Delivery System (D4)
http://esesc23.esc.state.nc.us/d4/Default.aspx
Application to access labor market data, including local area unemployment statistics, current employment statistics, occupational employment and wages, and more. Users can view, print, and download data for the state as a whole or smaller areas (e.g., counties, cities, workforce development areas), in table or graph format.

AccessNC
http://accessnc.commerce.state.nc.us/EDIS/page1.html
Economic data and comprehensive demographic profiles by county, region, and state: population and growth, urban vs. rural populations, housing, income, and more. Users can also run reports of comparisons with other states on such data as taxes, income, education, and business costs.

NC Division of Workforce Solutions
http://www.nccommerce.com/workforce/about-us/plans-policies-reports-initiatives
Houses the State of the Workforce reports, with projections on the state's labor market demand and supply for the next decade.

ThriveNC.com
http://www.thrivenc.com
Online face of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, which fosters public/private collaborations, helps companies expand or relocate to North Carolina, supports existing North Carolina companies, and encourages new businesses. The intended audience is business and industry, but if you want to know which communities in North Carolina have airports, which companies have recently chosen to relocate here, or quick business facts about the state, the Location Tools & Data Overview page
(http://www.thrivenc.com/locationtools/overview) can help.

EDUCATION

U.S. Department of Education
http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/landing.jhtml?src=pn

Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
http://nces.ed.gov

Primary federal entity that collects and analyzes education data. Resources include searchable datasets, data tools, publications, annual reports on education, surveys, fast facts, and school searches. Houses data on a wide range of topics: early literacy, achievement data, homeschooling, dropout rates, bullying, technology, etc.

NCES Datalab
http://nces.ed.gov/datalab/
Access and create quick tables on a range of education data, such as policies on teacher recruitment and compensation, how much college students are borrowing per credit earned, and how the percentage of autistic children among children with disabilities has changed over time.

Regional Educational Laboratory Program
http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/
Regional educational labs work with school districts and state departments of education toward using data and research to improve academic outcomes for students. Reports and studies address such topics as improved outcomes for students repeating Algebra I, college persistence, and effects of increased learning time.

National Assessment on Educational Progress
http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/
http://www.nationsreportcard.gov
The nation's report card on U.S. students' knowledge and skills and other factors: subject-matter achievement, school environment, instructional experiences, etc., for student populations and subgroups.

Title II Data Tools
https://title2.ed.gov/Public/DataTools/Tables.aspx
Statistics on teacher-preparation enrollments (data collected as part of Title II of the Higher Education Act). Data are available as spreadsheet downloads, organized by state, program type, gender, race/ethnicity, completions, teacher credentials, pass rates, etc.

Community College Research Center (CCRC), Columbia University
http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/our-research.html
Research reports, working papers, and other publications concerning student success in two-year colleges, on such topics as the transition from high school to college, financial aid, student employment, support services, online education, instructional technology, and more.

National Center for Postsecondary Research, funded by the Institute of Education Sciences
http://www.postsecondaryresearch.org
Housed at CCRC, and operated with partners, the center measures the effectiveness of programs designed to help students make the transition to college and master the necessary skills to earn a degree. Topics include dual enrollment, postsecondary remediation, learning communities, and financial aid.

Center for Analysis of Postsecondary Education and Employment, funded by the Institute of Education Sciences
http://capseecenter.org

CAPSEE conducts research in partnership with five states, on the connections between postsecondary education pathways and employment and earnings benefits.

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/resources/data/
Main webpage for data and reports available from NC DPI on North Carolina's elementary and secondary schools. Statistical profiles provide data on students, personnel, and finances, broken down by school district and charter school: enrollment numbers by grade, average daily class membership, numbers of teachers and administrators, high school graduate intentions, etc. Other data include annual expenditures by school district, school budgets, schools and ethnic distributions, teacher qualifications, free and reduced meal applications, SAT scores, and more.

Statistical Profile
http://apps.schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=1:1:0
Application that allows users to access statistical data on public school students, personnel, and finances. Dropdown menus lead to tables (some interactive) on such topics as highest degree held by classroom teachers, impact of summer school on non-promotion rates, and enrollment in courses by year, academic level, ethnicity, and gender.

NC School Report Cards
http://www.ncreportcards.org/src/
Demographics, grades, and test scores by school year and school, district, or county, as well as state-level data. Users can download PDFs of data, which include school sizes, average class sizes, course enrollments, source and use of funds, student performance, cohort graduation rates, school safety and attendance, digital and online learning, school health, and teacher education qualifications, licensing, and experience.

Accountability and Testing Results
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/reporting/
School performance and growth results, in the form of spreadsheet downloads on 4-year cohort graduation rates, end-of-course and end-of-grade assessments, SAT and AP results, and other academic indicators.

University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill
Freshman Measures
http://www.northcarolina.edu/ira/ir/analytics/fresh.htm
Applications and acceptance rates of students from NC high schools and school districts by UNC campus, school year, race, ethnicity, and gender. Users can download search results in PDF and spreadsheet formats.

National Institute for Early Education Research
http://www.nieer.org
Conducts and communicates research to support effective early childhood education for young children. Research is presented in reports, policy briefs, journal articles, working papers, online videos, and newsletters. A topical index is provided.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

National Science Foundation

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/
Statistical data on the science and engineering workforce, research and development, the condition and progress of STEM education, and U.S. competitiveness in STEM fields.

Science and Engineering Indicators
http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind14/index.cfm/home
This set of publications is rich in data on STEM subjects, nationally and internationally, including STEM education, science and engineering labor force, the global marketplace, and more.

STEM Education Data
http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/sei/edTool/
Interactive charts and maps focusing on various topics of STEM education and the STEM workforce.

Evaluation Resource Center for Advanced Technological Education
http://evalu-ate.org/
Technically not a data repository, the center houses webinars, reports, white papers, newsletters, workshops, and resource materials on evaluation, for the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education program. Evaluation principles easily apply to many other education programs. The resource library contains recordings of past webinars.

Program in Education, Afterschool & Resiliency
Assessment Tools in Informal Science
http://www.pearweb.org/atis/dashboard/index
Searchable database of assessment tools for informal science learning. Assessment tools are rated and can be searched by age, domain, assessment type, or custom criteria.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

U.S. Department of Justice
The Socioeconomic Mapping and Resource Topography (SMART) System for Kids
http://www.smartgis.info/smart/About.aspx
Geographic Information System (GIS)–based issues management system, developed to allow users to locate resources and incidents of crime and delinquency and other social indicators. Data are drawn from several sources, including the U.S. Census Bureau, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Statistical Briefing Book, Helping America's Youth, and the Office of Justice Program's grants management system. After registering (for free), users can search by address or city. Most reports generate maps.

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Kids Count Data Center
http://datacenter.kidscount.org/
Data on child and family well-being, within and across states, down to the community level. Users can download data and create reports and graphics on various topics: demographics, economic well-being, education, family and community, health, and safety and risky behaviors.

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION & HEALTH

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Economic Research Service
http://www.ers.usda.gov
Source for economic information and research concerning agriculture, food, the environment, and rural development. Includes reports, market analyses, economic briefs, and databases. Users can research statistics on states' cotton acreage, food consumption (adults eat more leafy greens than children), and rural poverty, among many other topics.

National Agricultural Statistics Services
http://www.nass.usda.gov
Surveys and reports on U.S. agriculture, including food products, prices, farm labor and wage, chemical use, demographics of U.S. producers, and much more. Some statistics are available for every state and county in the U.S. Users can access CropScape, an interactive map of crops grown in the U.S., and the Census of Agriculture, a comprehensive survey conducted every 5 years for every county.

Food Access Research Atlas
http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas.aspx
Interactive map of food access indicators for low-income, Census-tract, and other populations. Users can create maps by Census tract using different measures and indicators of grocery-store accessibility.

National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/index.htm
Statistics and data on the health of the American people. Topics include diseases, emergencies, environmental health, injuries, workplace safety, and more. Search for topics and data with alphabetical index and search function. FastStats (http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/) provides quick access to public health statistics; links to other data products are on the home page.

CRIME

Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice
http://www.bjs.gov
Numerous data collections on wide-ranging topics, including corrections data, crime victimization, law enforcement, juvenile crime, and much more.

TRANSPORTATION & ENERGY

Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation
http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/data_and_statistics/index.html
Statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation, which gathers and analyzes data and issues reports on transportation in the U.S. Organized by transportation mode, region, and topics that include safety, passenger, and geospatial. Includes several searchable databases.

U.S. Energy Information Administration
http://www.eia.gov
Provides information and data on energy production, stocks, demand, imports and exports, and prices. Searchable database of reports and publications, and numerous data tools and models.

Keywords
Grant writing, grant proposals, data, statistics, databases, data tools, data applications, indicators

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