# North Carolina Total Retirement Plans 4Q 2024 Board of Trustees Report

#### On: February 20, 2025 As of: December 31, 2024

Report contains information up through the last business day of the period end.



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525334-01 NC 401(K) PLAN 525334-02 NC 457 PLAN



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#### Historical Plan Statistics – Plans Combined Thirteen Month Snapshot

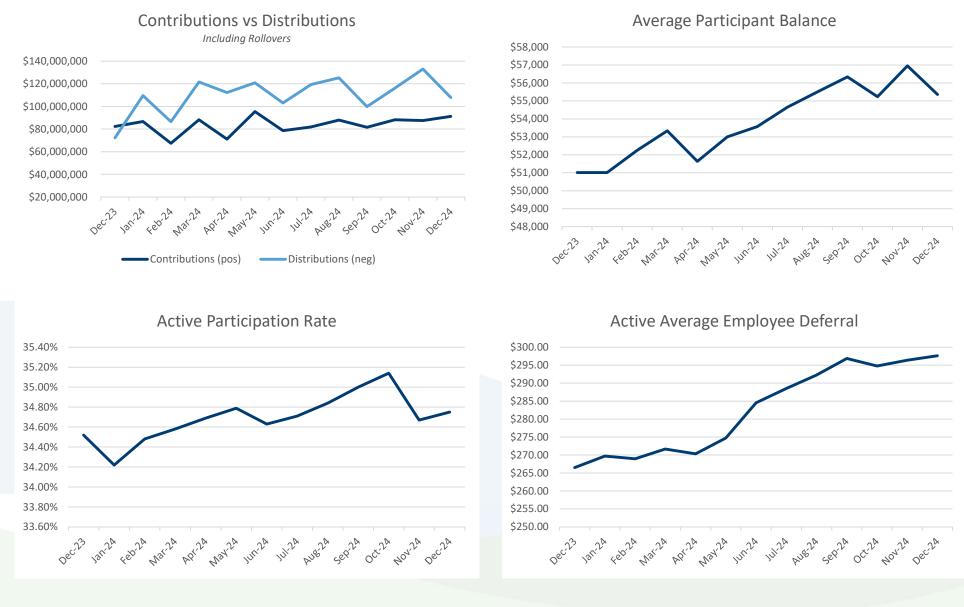
	12/31/2023	1/31/2024	2/29/2024	3/31/2024	4/30/2024	5/31/2024	6/30/2024	7/31/2024	8/31/2024	9/30/2024	10/31/2024	11/30/2024	12/31/2024
Total Participants Balances	\$16,042,078,201	\$16,041,269,952	\$16,448,192,526	\$16,822,899,058	\$16,250,134,995	\$16,732,773,710	\$16,936,830,206	\$17,265,004,480	\$17,581,418,343	\$17,890,887,884	\$17,552,218,147	\$18,145,735,483	\$17,673,093,805
Contributions*	\$82,257,147	\$86,752,649	\$67,455,752	\$88,205,976	\$71,146,122	\$95,517,663	\$78,631,476	\$81,764,618	\$88,047,645	\$81,566,600	\$88,267,701	\$87,568,097	\$91,309,061
Distributions*	(\$72,243,231)	(\$109,657,963)	(\$86,414,136)	(\$121,585,645)	(\$112,216,835)	(\$120,983,166)	(\$103,030,867)	(\$119,341,139)	(\$125,300,884)	(\$99,826,002)	(\$116,087,244)	(\$133,034,142)	(\$107,785,955)
Cash Flow	\$10,013,916	(\$22,905,314)	(\$18,958,385)	(\$33,379,670)	(\$41,070,714)	(\$25,465,503)	(\$24,399,391)	(\$37,576,521)	(\$37,253,239)	(\$18,259,402)	(\$27,819,543)	(\$45,466,045)	(\$16,476,894)
Account Balances	•												
Average Participant Balance	\$51,012	\$51,010	\$52,254	\$53,342	\$51,630	\$52,999	\$53,573	\$54,640	\$55,506	\$56,343	\$55,240	\$56,955	\$55,360
Participation / Deferrals													
Active Participation Rate	34.52%	34.22%	34.48%	34.58%	34.69%	34.79%	34.63%	34.71%	34.84%	35.00%	35.14%	34.67%	34.75%
Active Average Employee Deferral	\$266.47	\$269.72	\$268.94	\$271.67	\$270.31	\$274.72	\$284.54	\$288.52	\$292.22	\$296.86	\$294.75	\$296.41	\$297.62
Total Unique Participants with a Balance	314,475	314,383	314,776	315,379	314,742	315,718	316,144	315,976	316,747	317,537	317,747	318,599	319,239
Total Enrollments	1,765	2,584	1,510	2,226	2,178	2,504	1,925	2,436	2,620	2,200	2,300	2,058	1,924
Asset Allocation													
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	15.07%	14.94%	14.33%	13.77%	13.94%	13.48%	13.27%	12.98%	12.75%	12.55%	12.79%	12.27%	12.53%
% of Plan Assets for GoalMaker Participants	50.47%	50.54%	49.98%	49.64%	50.02%	50.17%	50.01%	50.21%	50.45%	50.65%	50.24%	49.77%	49.93%
GoalMaker Participation Rate in All Members	72.60%	73.77%	81.01%	72.88%	73.54%	74.35%	72.93%	74.54%	74.61%	74.75%	74.84%	75.11%	74.98%
GoalMaker Participation Rate in New Members	94.39%	91.23%	71.85%	83.51%	80.62%	83.31%	84.21%	81.73%	84.69%	84.00%	84.31%	80.01%	79.99%
Number of Participants in GoalMaker	253,834	254,384	255,015	257,171	255,152	258,773	259,523	259,705	260,624	261,771	262,228	263,884	263,951
Number of Participants in One Fund	29,526	29,245	29,230	29,028	28,758	28,587	28,502	28,275	28,144	28,141	27,900	27,832	27,786
Number of Participants in Four or More Funds	286,347	286,765	292,115	293,706	293,769	295,656	296,635	297,228	298,378	298,521	300,696	302,706	303,080
Contributions													
Total Amount of Contributions	\$82,257,147	\$86,752,649	\$67,455,752	\$88,205,976	\$71,146,122	\$95,517,663	\$78,631,476	\$81,764,618	\$88,047,645	\$81,566,600	\$88,267,701	\$87,568,097	\$91,309,061
% of Assets Contributed*	0.51%	0.54%	0.41%	0.52%	0.44%	0.57%	0.46%	0.47%	0.50%	0.46%	0.50%	0.48%	0.52%
Participant Contributions	\$46,551,401	\$47,692,194	\$27,952,231	\$52,130,075	\$38,114,008	\$57,273,571	\$44,855,156	\$44,795,756	\$48, 142, 107	\$46,100,978	\$48,417,740	\$50,335,202	\$49,949,228
Rollovers In	\$8,023,255	\$8,294,124	\$15,537,227	\$6,186,941	\$6,639,698	\$7,483,100	\$6,711,802	\$7,421,475	\$8,472,439	\$7,288,896	\$7,960,664	\$6,482,775	\$9,569,672
Employer Contributions	\$27,682,491	\$30,766,330	\$23,966,294	\$29,888,959	\$26,392,415	\$30,760,992	\$27,064,518	\$29,547,387	\$31,433,099	\$28,176,725	\$31,889,297	\$30,750,120	\$31,790,162
Distributions													
Total Number of All Withdrawals*	5,842	7,474	5,150	6,029	7,094	7,379	6,760	8,010	7,871	6,698	7,749	11,813	7,309
Total Amount of Distributions	\$72,243,231	\$109,657,963	\$86,414,136	\$121,585,645	\$112,216,835	\$120,983,166	\$103,030,867	\$119,341,139	\$125,300,884	\$99,826,002	\$116,087,244	\$133,034,142	\$107,785,955
% of Assets Distributed*	0.45%	0.68%	0.53%	0.72%	0.69%	0.72%	0.61%	0.69%	0.71%	0.56%	0.66%	0.73%	0.61%
Termination	\$17,184,808	\$37,021,109	\$13,109,444	\$17,595,090	\$34,378,262	\$32,693,802	\$27,914,232	\$35,778,391	\$31,919,241	\$27,871,427	\$27,012,505	\$23,963,516	\$25,078,672
Hardship	\$1,712,039	\$1,474,481	\$1,063,712	\$1,003,712	\$1,623,802	\$1,775,962	\$1,496,813	\$2,344,454	\$1,976,383	\$1,536,867	\$1,934,367	\$1,310,792	\$1,832,049
In Service	\$2,935,477	\$5,531,976	\$364,104	\$231,560	\$5,311,672	\$5,126,992	\$3,733,369	\$5,039,212	\$5,089,820	\$3,970,707	\$4,008,504	\$3,630,998	\$3,295,718
Internal Rollover**	\$2,297,205	\$2,247,741	\$965,473	\$1,319,461	\$1,736,630	\$1,078,949	\$309,947	\$1,798,081	\$976,951	\$236,961	\$2,770,066	\$824,652	\$3,369,780
External Rollover	\$42,230,745	\$53,552,288	\$48,101,603	\$70,274,790	\$52,235,879	\$60,015,260	\$52,588,605	\$53,072,330	\$68,595,780	\$49,946,917	\$56,727,419	\$53,998,444	\$51,580,050
Loans													
Number of New Loans	1,045	1,301	1,077	1,254	1,512	1,480	1,402	1,654	1,564	1,379	1,391	1,232	1,235
Number of Outstanding Active Loans	41,127	41,344	45,969	46,204	46,697	47,035	47,372	47,829	48,275	48,599	48,932	49,199	49,386
Average Loan Balance	\$6,716	\$6,714	\$6,472	\$6,484	\$6,514	\$6,515	\$6,544	\$6,574	\$6,606	\$6,627	\$6,605	\$6,594	\$6,587

\*Includes Rollovers

'Full details on all Distribution types can be found in each Plan's section of the report.

\*\*Regardless of distribution type, Internal Rollovers refer to the distribution of money to another account within Empower. For example from the NC 401(k) Plan to the NC 457 Plan.

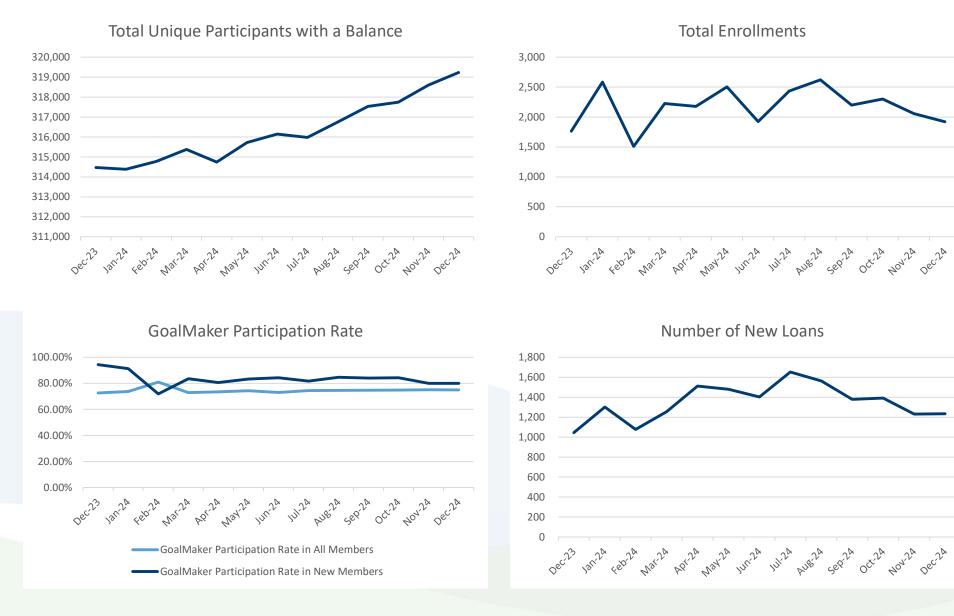
#### Historical Plan Statistics – Plans Combined *Thirteen Month Snapshot*



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#### **Our Mission: Retirement Readiness**

56.66% of all active NC public servants are "retirement ready." 67.98% of all active NC public servants with a NC 401(k) Plan and/or a NC 457 Plan are "retirement ready." Retirement readiness is defined as the ability to replace 80% of pre-retirement income, beginning at age 62 and continuing throughout 30 years of retirement.

#### NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan Combined Summary Goals:

Sub Goal	As of 12/31/2024	Stretch Goal	% to Stretch Goal	Contractual Goal	% to Contractual Goal
Average Monthly Contributions	\$297.62	\$195.00	152.63%	\$187.48	158.75%
Active Participation Rate	34.75%	30.50%	113.93%	30.31%	114.65%
GoalMaker Utilization Among New Members	79.99%	93%	N/A	80%	N/A
GoalMaker Utilization Among All Members, Non-Unique	74.98%	57%	131.54%	N/A	N/A

5 Employers adopted the NC 401(k) Plan from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

10 Employers adopted the NC 457 Plan from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

5 Employers adopted Auto Escalation from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

34 Employers added, changed or enhanced their Employer Contribution from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

	As of 12/31/2024
Consolidated Total Plan Assets	\$17,673,093,805
Consolidated Unique Participant Count	319,239

### Asset Allocation By Fund – Combined NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan

				# Participants Utilizing			# Participants Utilizing			# Participants Utilizing
Investment Option	Asset Class	12/31/2022	%	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	%	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	%	12/31/2024
North Carolina Stable Value Fund	Stable Value	\$2,468,262,537	17.81%	174,467	\$2,417,047,977	15.07%	175,836	\$2,214,129,918	12.53%	152,435
North Carolina Fixed Income Fund	Fixed Income	\$2,057,045,940	14.84%	271,932	\$2,331,303,195	14.53%	282,752	\$2,362,064,979	13.37%	299,082
North Carolina Fixed Income Index Fund	Fixed Income	\$81,201,177	0.59%	24,119	\$91,706,992	0.57%	22,981	\$95,880,598	0.54%	16,592
North Carolina Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Fixed Income	\$351,517,860	2.54%	86,564	\$380,969,269	2.37%	90,619	\$313,298,432	1.77%	72,171
North Carolina Large Cap Core Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$1,840,501,612	13.28%	67,281	\$2,258,910,202	14.08%	64,445	\$2,520,686,003	14.26%	53,747
North Carolina Large Cap Index Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$3,173,368,336	22.90%	296,018	\$3,913,642,891	24.40%	306,835	\$4,776,087,346	27.02%	323,666
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Core Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$934,340,934	6.74%	264,925	\$1,125,759,378	7.02%	276,212	\$1,278,201,293	7.23%	293,156
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Index Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$347,436,381	2.51%	22,346	\$402,546,357	2.51%	21,933	\$441,409,665	2.50%	21,313
North Carolina International Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$2,024,301,808	14.61%	269,586	\$2,447,509,697	15.26%	280,683	\$2,873,571,022	16.26%	297,165
North Carolina International Index Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$90,133,415	0.65%	7,780	\$111,524,465	0.70%	7,989	\$119,441,636	0.68%	7,910
North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund	Specialty	\$492,085,720	3.55%	250,803	\$561,157,779	3.50%	262,461	\$678,322,912	3.84%	279,925
Total Plan Assets		\$13,860,195,720	100.00%		\$16,042,078,201	100.00%		\$17,673,093,805	100.00%	

The total number of unique participants across the NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan combined as of December 31, 2024 was 319,239 The average monthly employee deferral from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was \$297.62 for the Combined NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan. The average active participation rate from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was 34.75% for the Combined NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan. The GoalMaker utilization among new members as of December 31, 2024 was 79.99% for the Combined NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan. The GoalMaker utilization among members as of December 31, 2024 was 74.98% for the Combined NC 401(k) Plan and NC 457 Plan.

# Asset Allocation By Fund – NC 401(k) Plan

				# Participants Utilizing			# Participants Utilizing			# Participants Utilizing
Investment Option	Asset Class	12/31/2022	%	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	%	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	%	12/31/2024
North Carolina Stable Value Fund	Stable Value	\$2,075,681,627	17.03%	142,654	\$2,047,657,123	14.47%	143,991	\$1,873,844,007	12.01%	125,137
North Carolina Fixed Income Fund	Fixed Income	\$1,855,989,756	15.22%	226,401	\$2,106,103,175	14.89%	236,390	\$2,130,395,582	13.65%	251,516
North Carolina Fixed Income Index Fund	Fixed Income	\$64,923,481	0.53%	22,137	\$72,763,085	0.51%	21,095	\$77,367,924	0.50%	15,255
North Carolina Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Fixed Income	\$313,676,386	2.57%	70,763	\$339,678,577	2.40%	74,055	\$276,250,067	1.77%	59,246
North Carolina Large Cap Core Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$1,593,546,980	13.07%	58,798	\$1,954,748,802	13.82%	56,337	\$2,181,809,937	13.98%	46,242
North Carolina Large Cap Index Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$2,838,781,415	23.29%	248,335	\$3,495,940,654	24.71%	258,111	\$4,255,564,883	27.27%	273,453
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Core Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$782,043,419	6.41%	217,845	\$951,705,764	6.73%	228,337	\$1,091,065,350	6.99%	244,111
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Index Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$307,549,546	2.52%	20,196	\$354,735,124	2.51%	19,750	\$388,492,948	2.49%	19,034
North Carolina International Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$1,837,748,198	15.07%	222,612	\$2,221,335,710	15.70%	232,891	\$2,612,718,857	16.74%	248,237
North Carolina International Index Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$72,143,143	0.59%	6,398	\$90,232,870	0.64%	6,555	\$96,435,224	0.62%	6,425
North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund	Specialty	\$448,847,518	3.68%	208,371	\$511,957,159	3.62%	219,060	\$619,733,299	3.97%	235,160
Total Plan Assets		\$12,190,931,469	100.00%		\$14,146,858,044	100.00%		\$15,603,678,076	100.00%	

The total number of unique participants in the NC 401(k) Plan as of December 31, 2024 was 294,625.

The average monthly employee deferral from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was \$270.12 for the NC 401(k) Plan.

The average active participation rate from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was 31.67% for the NC 401(k) Plan.

The GoalMaker utilization among new members as of December 31, 2024 was 82.93% for the NC 401(k) Plan.

The GoalMaker utilization among members as of December 31, 2024 was 75.17% for the NC 401(k) Plan.

## Asset Allocation By Fund – NC 457 Plan

			# Participants Utilizing				# Participants Utilizing			# Participants Utilizing
Investment Option	Asset Class	12/31/2022	%	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	%	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	%	12/31/2024
North Carolina Stable Value Fund	Stable Value	\$392,580,910	23.52%	31,813	\$369,390,854	19.49%	31,845	\$340,285,911	16.44%	27,298
North Carolina Fixed Income Fund	Fixed Income	\$201,056,184	12.04%	45,531	\$225,200,020	11.88%	46,362	\$231,669,397	11.19%	47,566
North Carolina Fixed Income Index Fund	Fixed Income	\$16,277,697	0.98%	1,982	\$18,943,907	1.00%	1,886	\$18,512,674	0.89%	1,337
North Carolina Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Fixed Income	\$37,841,474	2.27%	15,801	\$41,290,691	2.18%	16,564	\$37,048,365	1.79%	12,925
North Carolina Large Cap Core Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$246,954,632	14.79%	8,483	\$304,161,400	16.05%	8,108	\$338,876,067	16.38%	7,505
North Carolina Large Cap Index Fund	Large-Cap Stock	\$334,586,921	20.04%	47,683	\$417,702,237	22.04%	48,724	\$520,522,463	25.15%	50,213
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Core Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$152,297,514	9.12%	47,080	\$174,053,613	9.18%	47,875	\$187,135,943	9.04%	49,045
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Index Fund	Small-Cap Stock	\$39,886,835	2.39%	2,150	\$47,811,233	2.52%	2,183	\$52,916,717	2.56%	2,279
North Carolina International Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$186,553,610	11.18%	46,974	\$226,173,988	11.93%	47,792	\$260,852,165	12.61%	48,928
North Carolina International Index Fund	Global/Intl Stock	\$17,990,272	1.08%	1,382	\$21,291,595	1.12%	1,434	\$23,006,412	1.11%	1,485
North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund	Specialty	\$43,238,203	2.59%	42,432	\$49,200,620	2.60%	43,401	\$58,589,613	2.83%	44,765
Total Plan Assets		\$1,669,264,251	100.00%		\$1,895,220,158	100.00%		\$2,069,415,728	100.00%	

The total number of unique participants in the NC 457 Plan as of December 31, 2024 was 57,413.

The average monthly employee deferral from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was \$252.24 for the NC 457 Plan.

The average active participation rate from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 was 9.22% for the NC 457 Plan.

The GoalMaker utilization among new members as of December 31, 2024 was 64.86% for the NC 457 Plan.

The GoalMaker utilization among members as of December 31, 2024 was 74.01% for the NC 457 Plan.

# NC 401(k) Plan

	NC 401(k) Plan Percentage Gain										
Assets (12/31/2023) Contributions Distributions Earnings Assets (12/31/2024) Percent											
N	IC 401(k) Plan	\$14,146,858,044	\$887,147,056	\$1,114,041,866	\$1,582,074,322	\$15,603,678,076	12.10%				

NC 401(k) Plan									
4Q 2023 4Q 2024 Difference # Difference %									
Members with an Account Balance	289,453	294,625	5,172	1.79%					
Average Account Balance	\$48,874	\$52,961	\$4,087	8.36%					
Median Account Balance	\$13,305	\$14,326	\$1,021	7.68%					

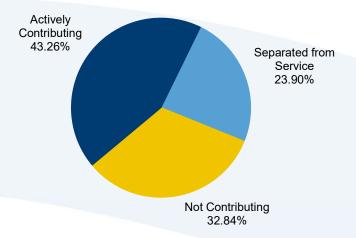


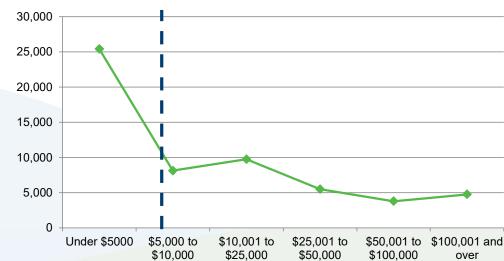


### NC 457 Plan

	NC 457 Plan Percentage Gain									
Assets (12/31/2023) Contributions Distributions Earnings Assets (12/31/2024) Percent										
NC 457 Plan	\$1,895,220,158	\$110,648,354	\$150,365,392	\$213,912,609	\$2,069,415,728	11.53%				

NC 457 Plan									
4Q 2023 4Q 2024 Difference # Difference %									
Members with an Account Balance	57,218	57,413	195	0.34%					
Average Account Balance	\$33,123	\$36,044	\$2,922	8.82%					
Median Account Balance	\$5,995	\$6,655	\$660	11.00%					





#### NC 457 Plan Member Breakdown

# NC 401(k) Plan – Quarterly

NC 4	NC 401(k) Plan Quarterly Enrollments & Contribution Changes											
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 % of Change	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 % of Change	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 % of Change					
Enrollments	6,240	5,567	-12.09%	6,582	18.23%	5,328	-19.05%					
% of New Hires Enrolled in Plan	63.65%	56.56%	-12.54%	68.73%	21.52%	63.93%	-6.99%					
GoalMaker Elections	5,875	5,210	-12.76%	6,147	17.98%	4,497	-26.84%					
Contribution Changes		1			- <b>·</b> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
Deferral Decreases	2,922	3,265	10.51%	3,482	6.65%	2,509	-27.94%					
Deferral Increases	7,334	4,889	-50.01%	7,075	44.71%	6,246	-11.72%					
Pre-tax Participation Rate	22.45%	22.14%	-1.43%	22.37%	1.05%	22.01%	-1.59%					
Roth Participation Rate	9.88%	9.90%	0.25%	9.92%	0.17%	10.11%	1.85%					
Voluntary (Employee & Roth) Participation Rate	29.17%	28.77%	-1.40%	28.90%	0.44%	28.71%	-0.64%					

NC 401(k) Plan Quarterly Enrollments Method									
4Q 2021         4Q 2022         4Q 2023         4Q 2024									
Method of Enrollment									
Paper Form	57.11%	59.19%	64.63%	30.45%					
Pseudo Enrollment	29.90%	28.28%	21.27%	41.56%					
Internet	12.99%	12.52%	14.10%	27.99%					

## NC 401(k) Plan – Year to Date

NC 401(k) Plan YTD Enrollments & Contribution Changes									
	2021	2022	2022 % of Change	2023	2023 % of Change	2024	2024 % of Change		
Enrollments	19,046	22,145	13.99%	23,112	4.37%	22,431	-2.95%		
% of New Hires Enrolled in Plan	49.11%	48.52%	-1.23%	48.72%	0.41%	50.50%	3.67%		
GoalMaker Elections	17,992	21,095	14.71%	22,061	4.58%	19,339	-12.34%		
Contribution Changes	-	1					-		
Deferral Decreases	10,576	13,739	23.02%	12,340	-10.18%	11,114	-9.94%		
Deferral Increases	30,955	24,581	-25.93%	28,225	14.82%	27,354	-3.09%		
Pre-tax Participation Rate	24.62%	24.55%	-0.30%	24.40%	-0.59%	24.67%	1.09%		
Roth Participation Rate	10.82%	11.04%	2.02%	10.79%	-2.33%	11.18%	3.70%		
Voluntary (Employee & Roth) Participation Rate	31.71%	31.65%	-0.19%	31.25%	-1.26%	31.67%	1.32%		

NC 401(k) Plan YTD Enrollments Method								
2021         2022         2023         2024								
Method of Enrollment								
Paper Form	59.23%	59.23%	62.77%	29.58%				
Pseudo Enrollment	30.09%	31.43%	26.15%	44.16%				
Internet	10.68%	9.35%	11.08%	26.26%				

# NC 457 Plan – Quarterly

NC 457 Plan Quarterly Enrollments & Contribution Changes									
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 % of Change	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 % of Change	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 % of Change		
Enrollments	1,296	1,022	-21.14%	1,245	21.82%	954	-23.37%		
% of New Hires Enrolled in Plan	17.79%	14.18%	-20.27%	16.97%	19.66%	14.89%	-12.29%		
GoalMaker Elections	1,190	945	-20.59%	1,140	20.63%	633	-44.47%		
Contribution Changes	•						-		
Deferral Decreases	752	805	7.05%	852	5.84%	623	-26.88%		
Deferral Increases	1,479	1,009	-31.78%	1,624	60.95%	1,160	-28.57%		
Pre-tax Participation Rate	8.26%	7.49%	-9.40%	7.11%	-5.01%	6.86%	-3.52%		
Roth Participation Rate	2.55%	2.38%	-6.71%	2.41%	1.29%	2.56%	6.09%		
Voluntary (Employee & Roth) Participation Rate	9.61%	8.81%	-8.31%	8.44%	-4.20%	8.33%	-1.36%		

NC 457 Plan Quarterly Enrollments Method									
4Q 2021         4Q 2022         4Q 2023         4Q 2024									
Method of Enrollment									
Paper Form	56.91%	71.16%	66.43%	41.42%					
Pseudo Enrollment	25.10%	4.79%	5.14%	2.58%					
Internet	17.99%	24.05%	28.43%	56.00%					

### NC 457 Plan – Year to Date

NC 457 Plan YTD Enrollments & Contribution Changes									
	2021	2022	2022 % of Change	2023	2023 % of Change	2024	2024 % of Change		
Enrollments	3,913	4,064	3.86%	4,749	16.86%	4,034	-15.06%		
% of New Hires Enrolled in Plan	13.71%	11.82%	-13.74%	13.04%	10.31%	11.75%	-9.91%		
GoalMaker Elections	3,557	3,765	5.85%	4,390	16.60%	2,766	-36.99%		
Contribution Changes									
Deferral Decreases	2,534	3,144	24.07%	2,824	-10.18%	2,448	-13.31%		
Deferral Increases	5,722	4,745	-17.07%	5,414	14.10%	4,814	-11.08%		
Pre-tax Participation Rate	10.54%	8.34%	-20.86%	7.71%	-7.53%	7.68%	-0.42%		
Roth Participation Rate	2.83%	2.66%	-6.09%	2.62%	-1.31%	2.85%	8.65%		
Voluntary (Employee & Roth) Participation Rate	10.54%	9.77%	-7.26%	9.12%	-6.66%	9.22%	1.14%		

NC 457 Plan YTD Enrollments Method									
2021         2022         2023         2024									
Method of Enrollment									
Paper Form	68.51%	71.84%	66.91%	38.90%					
Pseudo Enrollment	12.82%	7.05%	11.05%	5.40%					
Internet	18.67%	21.11%	22.04%	55.70%					

# NC 401(k) Plan

NC 401(k) Plan Contributions								
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 Change %	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 Change %	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 Change %	
Employee Contributions	\$77,257,782	\$76,152,731	-1.43%	\$88,943,076	16.80%	\$90,709,435	1.99%	
Roth	\$22,904,248	\$24,205,501	5.68%	\$28,472,550	17.63%	\$33,011,906	15.94%	
Total Employee Contributions	\$100,162,030	\$100,358,232	0.20%	\$117,415,626	17.00%	\$123,721,340	5.37%	
Employer Contributions	\$66,172,769	\$71,097,093	7.44%	\$80,812,873	13.67%	\$92,619,090	14.61%	
QNEC	\$4,536	\$14,936	229.25%	\$33,316	123.05%	\$9,527	-71.40%	
Rollovers	\$18,480,564	\$10,914,002	-40.94%	\$16,669,434	52.73%	\$19,726,229	18.34%	
Total Contributions	\$184,819,900	\$182,384,263	-1.32%	\$214,931,249	17.85%	\$236,076,187	9.84%	
Average Voluntary Contributions	\$256	\$256	0.12%	\$292	13.85%	\$301	3.21%	
Average Roth Contributions	\$176	\$185	4.61%	\$215	16.46%	\$232	8.09%	
Average Employee Contributions	\$256	\$260	1.58%	\$299	14.96%	\$312	4.28%	

NC 401(k) Plan Contributions									
	2021	2022	2022 Change %	2023	2023 Change %	2024	2024 Change %		
Employee Contributions	\$292,127,558	\$302,346,407	3.50%	\$321,056,185	6.19%	\$350,440,535	82.38%		
Roth	\$83,782,190	\$93,027,207	11.03%	\$101,776,854	9.41%	\$120,627,784	18.52%		
Total Employee Contributions	\$375,909,748	\$395,373,614	5.18%	\$422,833,038	6.95%	\$471,068,318	11.41%		
Employer Contributions	\$246,601,509	\$271,265,577	10.00%	\$305,838,560	12.75%	\$345,475,629	12.96%		
QNEC	\$52,946	\$32,716	-38.21%	\$88,347	170.04%	\$46,670	-47.17%		
Rollovers	\$65,796,272	\$68,550,719	4.19%	\$61,853,195	-9.77%	\$70,556,438	14.07%		
Total Contributions	\$688,360,475	\$735,222,627	6.81%	\$790,613,140	7.53%	\$887,147,056	12.21%		
Average Voluntary Contributions	\$215	\$224	3.97%	\$237	5.86%	\$259	9.17%		
Average Roth Contributions	\$145	\$158	8.51%	\$175	11.29%	\$195	11.24%		
Average Employee Contributions	\$216	\$228	5.52%	\$245	7.46%	\$270	10.12%		

Average contributions for YTD and the quarter are based on the population actively contributing for the time-period reported. As a result, the average contribution amounts will vary.

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525334-02 NC 457 PLAN

#### NC 457 Plan

NC 457 Plan Contributions								
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 Change %	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 Change %	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 Change %	
Employee Contributions	\$16,812,272	\$16,013,002	-4.75%	\$19,653,275	22.73%	\$18,207,470	-7.36%	
Roth	\$4,006,533	\$4,375,180	9.20%	\$5,497,930	25.66%	\$6,773,360	23.20%	
Total Employee Contributions	\$20,818,805	\$20,388,182	-2.07%	\$25,151,205	23.36%	\$24,980,829	-0.68%	
Employer Contributions	\$1,281,601	\$1,319,446	2.95%	\$1,525,875	15.65%	\$1,800,962	18.03%	
QNEC	\$2,543	\$0	-100.00%	\$87,129	100.00%	\$0	-100.00%	
Rollovers	\$2,843,005	\$996,424	-64.95%	\$1,806,207	81.27%	\$2,253,779	24.78%	
Total Contributions	\$24,945,954	\$22,704,053	-8.99%	\$28,570,416	25.84%	\$29,035,571	1.63%	
Average Voluntary Contributions	\$200	\$204	2.19%	\$257	25.81%	\$254	-1.21%	
Average Roth Contributions	\$188	\$197	5.20%	\$237	20.01%	\$236	-0.55%	
Average Employee Contributions	\$213	\$220	3.42%	\$277	25.48%	\$274	-0.99%	

NC 457 Plan Contributions									
	2021	2022	2022 Change %	2023	2023 Change %	2024	2024 Change %		
Employee Contributions	\$64,016,901	\$65,563,203	2.42%	\$66,665,697	1.68%	\$73,395,327	10.09%		
Roth	\$14,524,948	\$16,734,199	15.21%	\$18,307,624	9.40%	\$23,285,638	27.19%		
Total Employee Contributions	\$78,541,848	\$82,297,402	4.78%	\$84,973,321	3.25%	\$96,680,964	13.78%		
Employer Contributions	\$4,538,468	\$5,148,785	13.45%	\$5,902,200	14.63%	\$7,004,251	18.67%		
QNEC	\$32,319	\$3,707	-88.53%	\$99,548	2585.55%	\$34	-99.97%		
Rollovers	\$10,056,136	\$8,992,362	-10.58%	\$6,210,170	-30.94%	\$6,963,105	12.12%		
Total Contributions	\$93,168,771	\$96,442,255	3.51%	\$97,185,240	0.77%	\$110,648,354	13.85%		
Average Voluntary Contributions	\$146	\$183	25.70%	\$197	7.43%	\$233	18.64%		
Average Roth Contributions	\$149	\$167	12.69%	\$174	4.17%	\$204	17.22%		
Average Employee Contributions	\$180	\$197	9.51%	\$212	7.43%	\$252	18.97%		

Average contributions for YTD and the quarter are based on the population actively contributing for the time-period reported. As a result, the average contribution amounts will vary.

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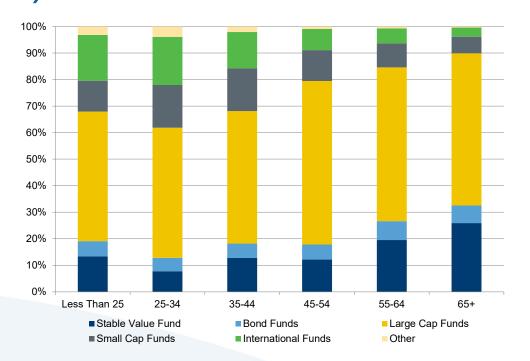
## NC 401(k) Plan GoalMaker Participation

	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024
Total Plan Assets in GoalMaker	\$7,272,648,403	\$6,255,324,254	\$7,408,240,863	\$8,071,144,502
Total # of Participants in GoalMaker	191,720	201,039	211,719	221,457
Total Participation Rate	69.87%	71.46%	73.14%	75.17%
Total % of Assets	50.52%	51.31%	52.37%	51.73%

Participant Age Range	Conservative	Moderate	Aggressive	Total
Less than 25	1,066	8,003	1,335	10,404
Age 25-34	7,514	30,139	9,709	47,362
Age 35-44	9,518	30,449	13,559	53,526
Age 45-54	9,462	30,061	12,570	52,093
Age 55-64	9,603	23,583	7,496	40,682
Age 65+	5,952	8,934	2,504	17,390
Total	43,115	131,169	47,173	221,457

Participant Age Range	Conservative	Moderate	Aggressive	Total
Less than 25	\$5,028,322	\$25,769,647	\$8,843,892	\$39,641,861
Age 25-34	\$82,606,171	\$293,366,470	\$197,272,471	\$573,245,111
Age 35-44	\$196,296,011	\$665,394,339	\$642,782,505	\$1,504,472,856
Age 45-54	\$334,036,313	\$1,155,642,748	\$969,446,229	\$2,459,125,290
Age 55-64	\$472,434,480	\$1,187,952,292	\$603,936,155	\$2,264,322,927
Age 65+	\$389,584,963	\$603,291,277	\$237,460,217	\$1,230,336,457
Total	\$1,479,986,260	\$3,931,416,773	\$2,659,741,469	\$8,071,144,502

#### NC 401(k) Plan Asset Allocation by Age Group – Assets for Participants Not in GoalMaker As of December 31, 2024



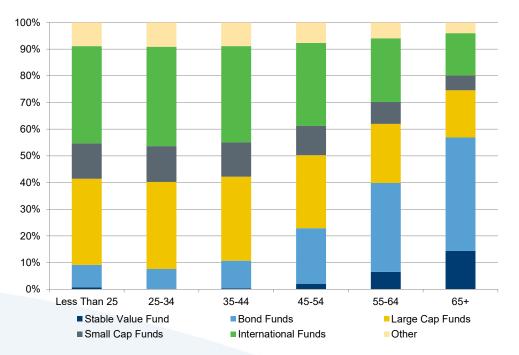
Asset Class	Less Than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Stable Value Fund	\$613,216	\$5,697,740	\$46,203,734	\$216,315,200	\$466,118,871	\$757,702,425	\$1,492,651,187
Bond Funds	\$265,867	\$3,739,115	\$19,570,240	\$101,856,372	\$169,219,261	\$194,639,471	\$489,290,325
Large Cap Funds	\$2,252,809	\$36,160,866	\$180,406,763	\$1,096,935,957	\$1,382,062,267	\$1,677,291,275	\$4,375,109,938
Small Cap Funds	\$536,057	\$11,834,660	\$58,363,104	\$207,640,244	\$217,180,720	\$183,341,048	\$678,895,833
International Funds	\$795,847	\$13,367,647	\$49,067,101	\$141,945,101	\$134,415,513	\$99,681,398	\$439,272,607
Other	\$146,783	\$2,889,236	\$7,714,633	\$16,429,017	\$17,583,455	\$12,550,560	\$57,313,684
Total Assets	\$4,610,578	\$73,689,264	\$361,325,575	<b>\$1,781,121,892</b>	\$2,386,580,087	\$2,925,206,178	\$7,532,533,574
% Assets	0.06%	0.98%	4.80%	23.65%	31.68%	38.83%	100.00%
Total Participants	31	2,012	6,093	19,287	22,339	23,406	73,168
Average Account Balance	\$148,728	\$36,625	\$59,302	\$92,348	\$106,835	\$124,977	\$102,948

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# NC 401(k) Plan Asset Allocation by Age Group – Assets for Participants in GoalMaker

As of December 31, 2024

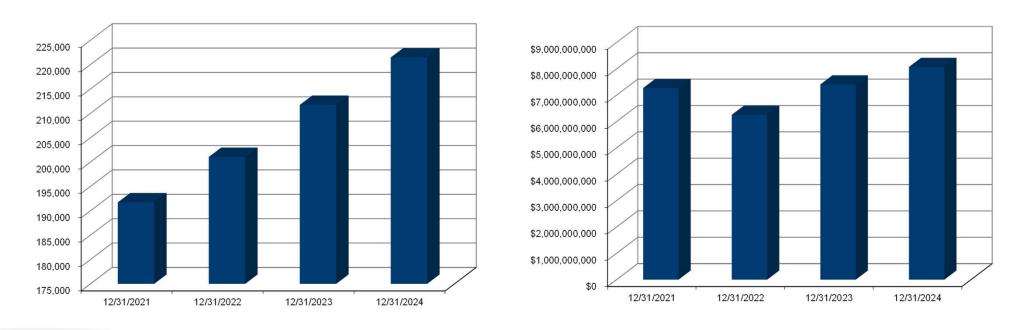


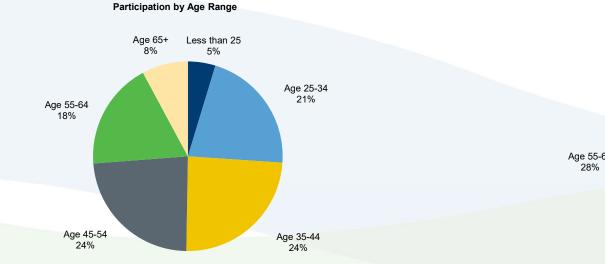
Asset Class	Less Than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Stable Value Fund	\$290,339	\$215,722	\$4,576,054	\$50,834,779	\$148,446,170	\$176,829,756	\$381,192,820
Bond Funds	\$3,344,902	\$43,257,236	\$156,940,063	\$513,035,011	\$754,665,825	\$523,480,211	\$1,994,723,247
Large Cap Funds	\$12,783,358	\$187,356,294	\$473,205,638	\$670,760,748	\$500,448,632	\$217,710,211	\$2,062,264,882
Small Cap Funds	\$5,256,888	\$76,888,878	\$193,788,244	\$269,988,898	\$186,444,167	\$68,295,391	\$800,662,465
International Funds	\$14,456,726	\$213,263,167	\$542,370,152	\$765,298,131	\$539,947,897	\$194,545,400	\$2,269,881,474
Other	\$3,509,647	\$52,263,813	\$133,592,706	\$189,207,724	\$134,370,237	\$49,475,488	\$562,419,615
Total Assets	\$39,641,861	\$573,245,111	\$1,504,472,856	\$2,459,125,290	\$2,264,322,927	\$1,230,336,457	\$8,071,144,502
% Assets	0.49%	7.10%	18.64%	30.47%	28.05%	15.24%	100.00%
Total Participants	10,404	47,362	53,526	52,093	40,682	17,390	221,457
Average Account Balance	\$3,810	\$12,103	\$28,107	\$47,206	\$55,659	\$70,750	\$36,446

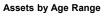
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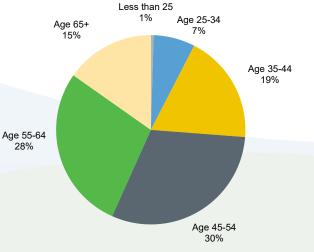
525334-01 NC 401(K) PLAN 525334-02 NC 457 PLAN

### NC 401(k) Plan GoalMaker Participation









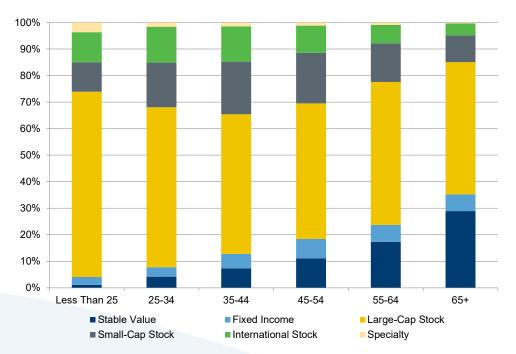
### **NC 457 Plan GoalMaker Participation**

	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024
Total Plan Assets in GoalMaker	\$661,667,317	\$581,310,667	\$688,545,345	\$753,072,258
Total # of Participants in GoalMaker	40,760	41,107	42,115	42,494
Total Participation Rate	71.86%	72.45%	73.60%	74.01%
Total % of Assets	33.68%	34.82%	36.33%	36.39%

Participant Age Range	Conservative	Moderate	Aggressive	Total
Less than 25	98	593	181	872
Age 25-34	1,171	4,203	1,972	7,346
Age 35-44	2,115	5,906	3,204	11,225
Age 45-54	2,375	6,216	2,936	11,527
Age 55-64	2,388	4,550	1,649	8,587
Age 65+	1,095	1,422	420	2,937
Total	9,242	22,890	10,362	42,494

Participant Age Range	Conservative	Moderate	Aggressive	Total
Less than 25	\$241,776	\$1,444,016	\$743,878	\$2,429,670
Age 25-34	\$4,604,531	\$19,781,343	\$16,880,401	\$41,266,275
Age 35-44	\$12,198,543	\$55,696,595	\$53,356,685	\$121,251,823
Age 45-54	\$25,928,658	\$99,897,208	\$79,080,837	\$204,906,703
Age 55-64	\$47,457,424	\$109,120,673	\$61,644,857	\$218,222,953
Age 65+	\$53,234,923	\$78,719,065	\$33,040,847	\$164,994,834
Total	\$143,665,855	\$364,658,899	\$244,747,504	\$753,072,258

#### NC 457 Plan Asset Allocation by Age Group – Assets for Participants Not in GoalMaker As of December 31, 2024



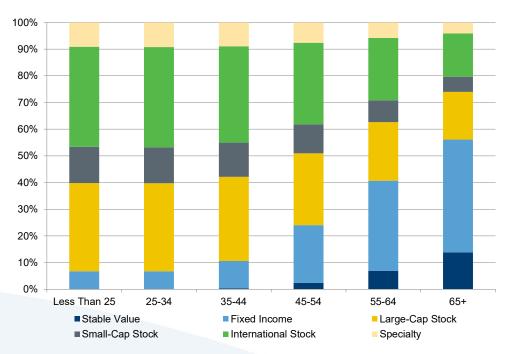
Asset Class	Less Than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Stable Value	\$4,709	\$379,607	\$3,611,461	\$19,635,490	\$59,533,522	\$213,787,912	\$296,952,701
Fixed Income	\$12,339	\$313,945	\$2,642,762	\$12,838,034	\$21,862,797	\$46,348,446	\$84,018,324
Large-Cap Stock	\$291,097	\$5,401,506	\$25,768,915	\$89,998,257	\$185,006,869	\$367,816,741	\$674,283,386
Small-Cap Stock	\$46,077	\$1,504,238	\$9,723,447	\$33,544,563	\$50,054,219	\$74,436,305	\$169,308,849
International Stock	\$47,213	\$1,208,970	\$6,494,043	\$18,115,062	\$23,580,997	\$33,624,856	\$83,071,140
Specialty	\$15,423	\$147,393	\$737,350	\$2,110,298	\$3,314,292	\$2,384,313	\$8,709,070
Total Assets	\$416,857	\$8,955,659	\$48,977,978	\$176,241,705	\$343,352,698	\$738,398,573	\$1,316,343,470
% Assets	0.03%	0.68%	3.72%	13.39%	26.08%	56.09%	100.00%
Total Participants	75	566	1,557	3,304	4,209	5,208	14,919
Average Account Balance	\$5,558	\$15,823	\$31,457	\$53,342	\$81,576	\$141,782	\$88,233

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# NC 457 Plan Asset Allocation by Age Group – Assets for Participants in GoalMaker

As of December 31, 2024

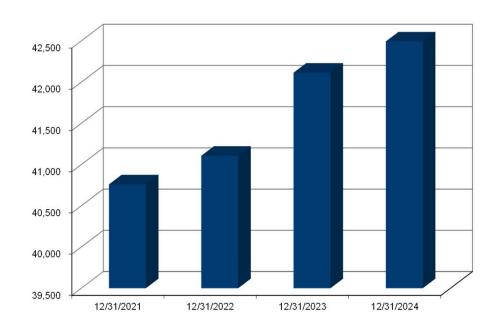


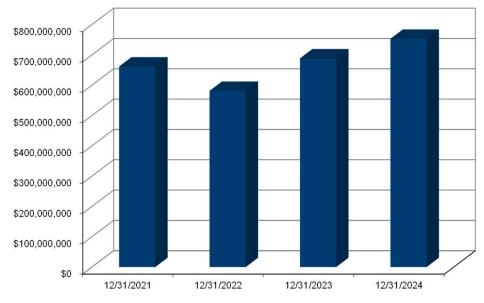
Asset Class	Less Than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Stable Value	\$2,523	\$8,857	\$406,705	\$4,871,858	\$15,187,599	\$22,855,668	\$43,333,210
Fixed Income	\$161,405	\$2,788,052	\$12,482,084	\$44,466,893	\$73,604,120	\$69,709,559	\$203,212,112
Large-Cap Stock	\$803,826	\$13,599,817	\$38,184,303	\$55,120,096	\$47,916,176	\$29,490,925	\$185,115,144
Small-Cap Stock	\$330,262	\$5,562,966	\$15,594,993	\$22,115,188	\$17,755,819	\$9,384,584	\$70,743,812
International Stock	\$910,180	\$15,500,986	\$43,784,391	\$62,797,421	\$51,033,768	\$26,760,692	\$200,787,437
Specialty	\$221,474	\$3,805,597	\$10,799,346	\$15,535,248	\$12,725,471	\$6,793,407	\$49,880,543
Total Assets	\$2,429,670	\$41,266,275	\$121,251,823	\$204,906,703	\$218,222,953	\$164,994,834	\$753,072,258
% Assets	0.32%	5.48%	16.10%	27.21%	28.98%	21.91%	100.00%
Total Participants	872	7,346	11,225	11,527	8,587	2,937	42,494
Average Account Balance	\$2,786	\$5,618	\$10,802	\$17,776	\$25,413	\$56,178	\$17,722

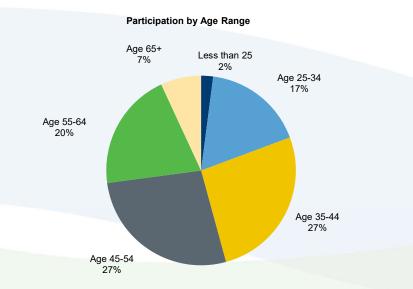
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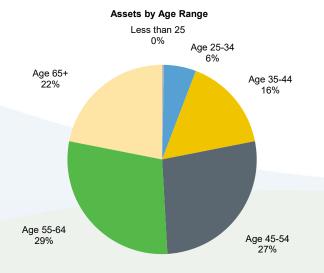
525334-01 NC 401(K) PLAN 525334-02 NC 457 PLAN

### **NC 457 Plan GoalMaker Participation**









#### NC 401(k) Plan Participation Single Investment As of December 31, 2024

NC 401(	k) Plan Partici	pation Single In	vestment Non-	TDF	
Investment Option	<30	30-44	45-59	60+	Total Participants
North Carolina Stable Value Fund	157	1,842	6,556	10,562	19,117
North Carolina Fixed Income Fund	10	54	162	168	394
North Carolina Fixed Income Index Fund	3	12	16	22	53
North Carolina Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	8	27	26	27	88
North Carolina Large Cap Core Fund	18	70	515	516	1,119
North Carolina Large Cap Index Fund	132	374	705	486	1,697
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Core Fund	1	18	38	27	84
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Index Fund	3	21	145	108	277
North Carolina International Fund	3	12	45	24	84
North Carolina International Index Fund	1	7	15	4	27
North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund	2	7	6	5	20
Total	338	2,444	8,229	11,949	22,960

#### NC 457 Plan Participation Single Investment As of December 31, 2024

NC 457 Plan Participation Single Investment Non-TDF									
Investment Option	<30	30-44	45-59	60+	Total Participants				
North Carolina Stable Value Fund	12	356	1,188	2,416	3,972				
North Carolina Fixed Income Fund	0	8	15	22	45				
North Carolina Fixed Income Index Fund	0	7	5	4	16				
North Carolina Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	0	5	5	9	19				
North Carolina Large Cap Core Fund	1	20	86	71	178				
North Carolina Large Cap Index Fund	31	151	184	121	487				
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Core Fund	0	12	15	10	37				
North Carolina Small/Mid Cap Index Fund	2	5	16	16	39				
North Carolina International Fund	1	3	8	5	17				
North Carolina International Index Fund	0	4	5	3	12				
North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund	0	2	2	0	4				
Total	47	573	1,529	2,677	4,826				

### **Loan Information**

NC 401(k) Plan YTD Loans										
	2021	2022	2023	2024	Change %					
% of Members in Plan with a Loan	19.05%	18.06%	17.79%	20.86%	17.27%					
# of Outstanding Loans	37,481	35,798	35,943	43,047	19.76%					
# of New Loans 4Q	2,962	2,849	3,071	3,375	9.90%					
# of New Loans YTD	11,686	12,381	13,226	14,478	9.47%					
Average Loan Balance	\$6,890	\$6,951	\$7,107	\$6,961	-2.06%					
Total Outstanding Loan Balance	\$258,246,072	\$248,839,337	\$255,458,605	\$299,639,746	17.29%					

NC 457 Plan YTD Loans									
	2021	2022	2023	2024	Change %				
% of Members in Plan with a Loan	13.82%	13.20%	13.15%	16.00%	21.71%				
# of Outstanding Loans	5,615	5,222	5,184	6,339	22.28%				
# of New Loans 4Q	471	426	447	521	16.55%				
# of New Loans YTD	1,881	1,827	2,003	2,168	8.24%				
Average Loan Balance	\$3,709	\$3,817	\$4,003	\$4,048	1.13%				
Total Outstanding Loan Balance	\$20,826,839	\$19,931,531	\$20,749,155	\$25,658,235	23.66%				

## NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements – Quarterly

NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements										
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 Change %	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 Change %	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 Change %			
Term - Lump Sum	\$174,793,748	\$165,737,840	-5.18%	\$175,449,394	5.86%	\$245,456,176	39.90%			
In-Service	\$16,518,683	\$15,432,836	-6.57%	\$22,839,124	47.99%	\$9,732,097	-57.39%			
State Retirement System	\$4,673,393	\$1,966,594	-57.92%	\$2,559,809	30.16%	\$1,021,679	-60.09%			
Hardship	\$4,923,366	\$3,324,815	-32.47%	\$4,135,976	24.40%	\$16,080,355	288.79%			
Systematic	\$3,971,098	\$4,120,767	3.77%	\$4,368,409	6.01%	\$14,651,704	235.40%			
Deemed Distributions	\$1,099,419	\$1,395,086	26.89%	\$1,328,669	-4.76%	\$0	n/a			
Loan Defaults/Offsets	\$4,223,080	\$3,645,398	-13.68%	\$3,260,730	-10.55%	\$4,444,902	36.32%			
Total Disbursements	\$210,202,787	\$195,623,336	-6.94%	\$213,942,111	9.36%	\$291,386,913	36.20%			

Post migration Deemed Distributions are now included in Loan Defaults/Offsets.

	NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements										
	4Q 2021 4Q 2022 4Q 2022 4Q 2023 4Q 2023 4Q 2023 4Q 2024 4Q 202										
Term – Lump Sum	13,043	13,888	6.48%	13,856	-0.23%	16,287	17.54%				
In-Service	1,414	1,503	6.29%	1,807	20.23%	2,230	23.41%				
State Retirement System	111	55	-50.45%	65	18.18%	23	-64.62%				
Hardship	966	983	1.76%	1,190	21.06%	3,444	189.41%				
Systematic	3,912	3,948	0.92%	3,949	0.03%	6,799	72.17%				
Total Disbursements	19,446	20,377	4.79%	20,867	2.40%	28,783	37.94%				

### NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements – Year to Date

	NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements										
	2021	2022	2022 Change %	2023	2023 Change %	2024	2024 Change %				
Term - Lump Sum	\$623,660,749	\$652,120,990	4.56%	\$672,486,743	3.12%	\$992,747,377	47.62%				
In-Service	\$68,477,983	\$78,949,326	15.29%	\$83,072,199	5.22%	\$50,429,671	-39.29%				
State Retirement System	\$21,143,927	\$11,107,089	-47.47%	\$8,553,457	-22.99%	\$2,362,618	-72.38%				
Hardship	\$17,848,829	\$14,528,971	-18.60%	\$17,149,580	18.04%	\$29,828,581	73.93%				
Systematic	\$15,466,204	\$16,527,359	6.86%	\$16,909,861	2.31%	\$38,673,619	128.70%				
Deemed Distributions	\$5,111,082	\$4,339,911	-15.09%	\$4,496,064	3.60%	\$330,504	-92.65%				
Loan Defaults/Offsets	\$15,551,936	\$16,299,777	4.81%	\$13,341,126	-18.15%	\$14,289,835	7.11%				
Total Disbursements	\$767,260,709	\$793,873,423	3.47%	\$816,009,030	2.79%	\$1,128,662,205	38.31%				

2024 year to date Deemed Distributions are for January 2024 only. Post migration Deemed Distributions are now included in Loan Defaults/Offsets.

NC 401(k) Plan Disbursements										
2021         2022         2022         2023         2023         2024           Change %         Change %										
Term – Lump Sum	33,926	38,438	13.30%	38,014	-1.10%	52,883	39.11%			
In-Service	5,437	6,360	16.98%	7,313	14.98%	9,003	23.11%			
State Retirement System	492	282	-42.68%	207	-26.60%	62	-70.05%			
Hardship	3,570	3,870	8.40%	4,498	16.23%	8,488	88.71%			
Systematic	15,411	15,809	2.58%	15,774	-0.22%	23,014	45.90%			
Total Disbursements	58,836	64,759	10.07%	65,806	1.62%	93,450	42.01%			

### NC 457 Plan Disbursements – Quarterly

NC 457 Plans Disbursements										
	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	4Q 2022 Change %	4Q 2023	4Q 2023 Change %	4Q 2024	4Q 2024 Change %			
Term - Lump Sum	\$36,175,079	\$32,967,718	-8.87%	\$30,903,171	-6.26%	\$35,584,550	15.15%			
In-Service	\$2,469,464	\$1,809,742	-26.72%	\$3,203,183	77.00%	\$1,203,122	-62.44%			
State Retirement System	\$208,621	\$230,866	10.66%	\$60,453	-73.81%	\$658,000	988.45%			
Hardship	\$159,416	\$116,596	-26.86%	\$131,720	12.97%	\$701,596	432.64%			
Systematic	\$1,511,087	\$1,307,997	-13.44%	\$1,326,513	1.42%	\$4,900,720	269.44%			
Deemed Distributions	\$160,205	\$133,163	-16.88%	\$245,990	84.73%	n/a	n/a			
Loan Defaults/Offsets	\$331,566	\$392,955	18.51%	\$401,991	2.30%	\$437,212	8.76%			
Total Disbursements	\$41,015,437	\$36,959,036	-9.89%	\$36,273,020	-1.86%	\$43,485,200	19.88%			

Post migration Deemed Distributions are now included in Loan Defaults/Offsets.

	NC 457 Plan Disbursements										
4Q 2021         4Q 2022         4Q 2022         4Q 2023         4Q 2023         4Q 2023         4Q 2024         4Q 2024 <t< th=""></t<>											
Term – Lump Sum	2,851	2,953	3.58%	2,788	-5.59%	2,904	4.16%				
In-Service	171	191	11.70%	244	27.75%	306	25.41%				
State Retirement System	13	7	-46.15%	5	-28.57%	7	40.00%				
Hardship	74	89	20.27%	117	31.46%	251	114.53%				
Systematic	1,178	1,154	-2.04%	1,129	-2.17%	1,701	50.66%				
Total Disbursements	4,287	4,394	2.50%	4,283	-2.53%	5,169	20.69%				

#### NC 457 Plan Disbursements – Year to Date

NC 457 Plan Disbursements										
	2021	2022	2022 Change %	2023	2023 Change %	2024	2024 Change %			
Term - Lump Sum	\$102,126,190	\$99,821,919	-2.26%	\$106,310,985	6.50%	\$131,886,241	24.06%			
In-Service	\$9,646,369	\$9,690,706	0.46%	\$13,627,894	40.63%	\$5,159,704	-62.14%			
State Retirement System	\$2,959,427	\$1,004,959	-66.04%	\$330,890	-67.07%	\$829,168	150.59%			
Hardship	\$385,183	\$436,892	13.42%	\$561,168	28.45%	\$1,249,558	122.67%			
Systematic	\$5,260,108	\$5,197,510	-1.19%	\$5,034,513	-3.14%	\$11,240,721	123.27%			
Deemed Distributions	\$508,481	\$668,778	31.52%	\$1,044,462	56.17%	\$24,434	-97.66%			
Loan Defaults/Offsets	\$1,421,697	\$2,486,390	74.89%	\$1,352,847	-45.59%	\$1,606,179	18.73%			
Total Disbursements	\$122,307,456	\$119,307,154	-2.45%	\$128,262,759	7.51%	\$151,996,004	18.50%			

2024 year to date Deemed Distributions are for January 2024 only. Post migration Deemed Distributions are now included in Loan Defaults/Offsets.

	NC 457 Plan Disbursements										
2021         2022         2022         2023         2023         2024         2024           Change %         Chan											
Term – Lump Sum	7,015	7,509	7.04%	7,339	-2.26%	8,857	20.68%				
In-Service	545	734	34.68%	933	27.11%	1,074	15.11%				
State Retirement System	49	18	-63.27%	16	-11.11%	14	-12.50%				
Hardship	290	344	18.62%	429	24.71%	685	59.67%				
Systematic	4,634	4,654	0.43%	4,511	-3.07%	5,719	26.78%				
Total Disbursements	12,533	13,259	5.79%	13,228	-0.23%	16,349	23.59%				

#### NC 401(k) Plan Asset Allocation/Net Cash Flow October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Impact on Balances	10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024	11/1/2024 - 11/30/2024	12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024
Beginning balance	\$15,795,443,834	\$15,496,310,885	\$16,020,431,199
Contributions	\$78,716,635	\$78,075,702	\$81,329,293
Disbursements	(\$87,670,096)	(\$104,754,177)	(\$84,014,129)
Fees	(\$1,826,631)	\$6	\$31
Loans issued	(\$11,547,827)	(\$10,586,417)	(\$10,933,235)
Loan payments	\$11,077,056	\$10,716,135	\$10,952,252
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in value	(\$288,037,720)	\$550,669,065	(\$414,087,335)
Ending Balance	\$15,496,155,251	\$16,020,431,199	\$15,603,678,076

Fees may include but are not limited to: transactional and plan administrative fees.

Other includes 'Transfer In', 'Transfer Out', 'Adjustments'

#### NC 401(k) Plan Asset Allocation/Net Cash Flow January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Impact on Balances	1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024	2/1/2024 - 2/29/2024	3/1/2024 - 3/31/2024	4/1/2024 - 4/30/2024	5/1/2024 - 5/31/2024	6/1/2024 - 6/30/2024	7/1/2024 - 7/31/2024	8/1/2024 - 8/31/2024	9/1/2024 - 9/30/2024	10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024	11/1/2024 - 11/30/2024	12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024
Beginning balance	\$14,146,858,044	\$0	\$14,504,631,390	\$14,834,249,962	\$14,330,234,373	\$14,757,393,244	\$14,940,806,565	\$15,235,515,623	\$15,517,506,755	\$15,795,443,834	\$15,496,310,885	\$16,020,431,199
Contributions	\$70,027,705	\$60,401,679	\$78,127,360	\$64,590,226	\$84,151,071	\$69,873,720	\$73,701,419	\$78,606,966	\$72,634,123	\$78,716,635	\$78,075,702	\$81,329,293
Disbursements	(\$95,562,257)	(\$69,689,442)	(\$97,182,301)	(\$86,569,900)	(\$94,485,121)	(\$76,508,590)	(\$88,944,302)	(\$97,848,356)	(\$75,453,751)	(\$87,670,096)	(\$104,754,177)	(\$84,014,129)
Fees	n/a	(\$2,266)	(\$3,911)	(\$1,815,500)	(\$5)	\$0	(\$1,814,499)	\$0	\$0	(\$1,826,631)	\$6	\$31
Loans issued	n/a	(\$9,292,408)	(\$11,861,869)	(\$13,759,274)	(\$13,429,484)	(\$12,237,014)	(\$14,208,938)	(\$14,105,144)	(\$12,405,391)	(\$11,547,827)	(\$10,586,417)	(\$10,933,235)
Loan payments	n/a	\$9,148,408	\$10,463,426	\$9,746,724	\$11,739,395	\$9,809,950	\$10,283,249	\$10,832,482	\$10,113,870	\$11,077,056	\$10,716,135	\$10,952,252
Other	n/a	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$592,631	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in value	n/a	\$246,941,879	\$350,075,867	(\$476,207,864)	\$439,150,960	\$192,416,387	\$315,692,129	\$303,899,685	\$282,632,324	(\$288,037,720)	\$550,669,065	(\$414,087,335)
Ending Balance	\$14,147,566,923	\$14,504,631,390	\$14,834,249,962	\$14,330,234,373	\$14,757,361,190	\$14,940,747,698	\$15,235,515,623	\$15,517,493,888	\$15,795,027,932	\$15,496,155,251	\$16,020,431,199	\$15,603,678,076

Beginning balance as of February 1, 2024 reflects transition of recordkeeping systems

Fees may include but are not limited to: transactional and plan administrative fees.

Other includes 'Transfer In', 'Transfer Out', 'Adjustments'

#### NC 457 Plan Asset Allocation/Net Cash Flow October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Impact on Balances	10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024	11/1/2024 - 11/30/2024	12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024
Beginning balance	\$2,095,859,953	\$2,056,062,896	\$2,125,304,284
Contributions	\$9,551,066	\$9,492,395	\$9,979,768
Disbursements	(\$15,757,870)	(\$17,007,870)	(\$10,502,969)
Fees	(\$356,732)	\$6	\$0
Loans issued	(\$1,222,216)	(\$766,594)	(\$1,241,157)
Loan payments	\$847,276	\$937,084	\$906,810
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in value	(\$32,858,580)	\$76,586,367	(\$55,031,008)
Ending Balance	\$2,056,062,896	\$2,125,304,284	\$2,069,415,728

Fees may include but are not limited to: transactional and plan administrative fees.

Other includes 'Transfer In', 'Transfer Out', 'Adjustments'

#### NC 457 Plan Asset Allocation/Net Cash Flow January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Impact on Balances	1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024	2/1/2024 - 2/29/2024	3/1/2024 - 3/31/2024	4/1/2024 - 4/30/2024	5/1/2024 - 5/31/2024	6/1/2024 - 6/30/2024	7/1/2024 - 7/31/2024	8/1/2024 - 8/31/2024	9/1/2024 - 9/30/2024	10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024	11/1/2024 - 11/30/2024	12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024
Beginning balance	\$1,895,220,158	\$0	\$1,943,561,136	\$1,988,649,097	\$1,919,900,621	\$1,975,412,520	\$1,996,082,508	\$2,029,488,857	\$2,063,924,455	\$2,095,859,953	\$2,056,062,896	\$2,125,304,284
Contributions	\$8,430,820	\$7,054,073	\$10,078,616	\$6,555,896	\$11,366,591	\$8,757,756	\$8,063,199	\$9,440,678	\$8,932,476	\$9,551,066	\$9,492,395	\$9,979,768
Disbursements	(\$14,095,706)	(\$6,563,702)	(\$11,790,686)	(\$10,481,524)	(\$11,853,939)	(\$13,223,773)	(\$14,659,096)	(\$11,827,312)	(\$10,748,335)	(\$15,757,870)	(\$17,007,870)	(\$10,502,969)
Fees	n/a	(\$514)	(\$744)	(\$356,767)	\$0	\$0	(\$355,329)	\$6	\$0	(\$356,732)	\$6	\$0
Loans issued	n/a	(\$817,795)	(\$837,516)	(\$1,350,414)	(\$1,153,672)	(\$1,062,125)	(\$1,420,872)	(\$1,282,483)	(\$1,185,154)	(\$1,222,216)	(\$766,594)	(\$1,241,157)
Loan payments	n/a	\$772,480	\$818,733	\$536,524	\$1,190,205	\$895,425	\$876,582	\$913,148	\$905,034	\$847,276	\$937,084	\$906,810
Other	n/a	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$69,772	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in value	n/a	\$33,741,540	\$46,819,558	(\$63,652,189)	\$55,962,713	\$25,302,704	\$40,901,864	\$37,121,789	\$34,031,476	(\$32,858,580)	\$76,586,367	(\$55,031,008)
Ending Balance	\$1,893,703,029	\$1,943,561,136	\$1,988,649,097	\$1,919,900,621	\$1,975,412,520	\$1,996,082,508	\$2,029,488,857	\$2,063,924,455	\$2,095,859,953	\$2,056,062,896	\$2,125,304,284	\$2,069,415,728

Beginning balance as of February 1, 2024 reflects transition of recordk eeping systems

Fees may include but are not limited to: transactional and plan administrative fees.

Other includes 'Transfer In', 'Transfer Out', 'Adjustments'

#### Total Assets Saved and Percent of Assets Saved – Rollover History Rolling 12 Month & Current Quarter

Year	Total Plan Assets*	Total Plan Assets for all Participants in Terminated or Retired status*	% of Assets for all Participants in Terminated or Retired Status	Total Assets Eligible to Rollover Out**	Total Assets Distributed for Period Shown	Total Rollovers Out for Period Shown	Total Cash Distributions For Period Shown	Total \$ Assets Saved	Total % Assets Saved
1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$17,673,093,804.55	\$7,292,590,743.17	41.26%	\$6,315,914,713.84	\$1,330,493,703.26	\$688,324,058.71	\$642,169,644.55	\$4,985,421,010.58	78.93%
10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$17,673,093,804.55	\$7,292,590,743.17	41.26%	\$7,191,513,850.12	\$356,907,341.66	\$169,270,412.10	\$187,636,929.56	\$6,834,606,508.46	95.04%

\*As of end of period shown.

\*\*As of the day before the start of the period shown.

#### **NC Plans Rollovers Out**

Time Period	401(k) Plan	457 Plan	Total
1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$604.4 M	\$83.8M	\$688.3 M
10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$146.2 M	\$22.9 M	\$169.2 M

#### **NC Plans Cash Distributions**

Time Period	401(k) Plan	457 Plan	Total
1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$568.10	\$73.9 M	\$642.1 M
10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$163.0 M	\$24.6M	\$187.6 M

#### **NC Plans Total Distributions**

Time Period	401(k) Plan	457 Plan	Total
1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$1.17 B	\$157.8 M	\$1.33 B
10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$309.3 M	\$47.5 M	\$356.9 M

10/1/2024-12/31/2024 Rollover Payee	% of Total Rollovers	Participants	Sum of Rollovers	1/1/2024-12/31/2024 Rollover Payee	% of Total Rollovers	Participants	Sum of Rollovers
FIDELITY	14.91%	325	\$25,233,584.75	EDWARD JONES	14.19%	1179	\$97,693,003.38
EDWARD JONES	13.59%	260	\$23,001,987.95	FIDELITY	13.67%	1237	\$94,119,245.83
CHARLES SCHWAB	11.74%	195	\$19,868,488.13	CHARLES SCHWAB	10.60%	796	\$72,930,461.81
PERSHING LLC	6.17%	132	\$10,435,895.00	PERSHING LLC	7.77%	636	\$53,502,330.10
VANGUARD	5.67%	70	\$9,589,818.84	VANGUARD	4.93%	309	\$33,942,593.40
LPL FINANCIAL	4.71%	64	\$7,978,465.43	NFS	3.77%	262	\$25,957,380.07
NFS	4.32%	70	\$7,305,888.44	LPL FINANCIAL	3.70%	261	\$25,445,543.04
EMPOWER TRUST COMPANY, LLC	4.11%	132	\$6,964,498.25	WELLS FARGO	3.63%	210	\$25,002,822.83
AMERIPRISE	3.76%	40	\$6,367,118.88	MERRILL LYNCH	3.09%	216	\$21,267,899.74
WELLS FARGO	3.42%	46	\$5,794,122.62	AMERIPRISE	2.75%	151	\$18,957,922.71

### **Call Center Statistics**

NC 401(k) Plan & NC 457 Plan Quarterly Call Center Statistics								
4Q 2021 4Q 2022 4Q 2023 4Q 2024								
Service Center Calls	34,397	33,093	32,906	30,736				
Service Percentage (calls answered within 20 sec.)	49%	93%	83%	84%				
Average Speed to Answer (seconds)	87 sec	7 sec	37 sec	20 sec				
Abandon Percentage	3.3%	0.2%	1.7%	0.8%				

NC 401(k) Plan & NC 457 Plan YTD Call Center Statistics								
2021 2022 2023 2024								
Service Center Calls	142,504	140,497	138,899	156,690				
Service Percentage (calls answered within 20 sec.)	74%	80%	89%	67.1%				
Average Speed to Answer (seconds)	46 sec	64 sec	17 sec	119 sec				
Abandon Percentage	1.9%	2.7%	0.7%	6.5%				

2024 Service Percentage, Average Speed to Answer, and Abandon Percentage do not include January 2024 data.

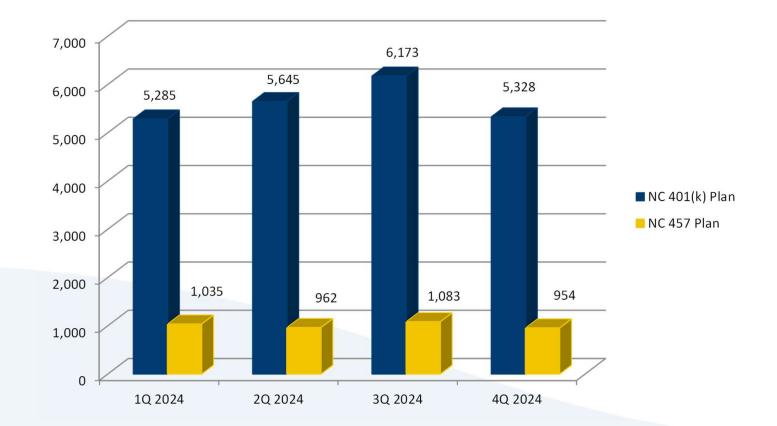
### **Participant Engagement Information**

NC 401(k) Plan & NC 457 Plan Quarterly Participant Engagement Team Activity							
Meeting Activity	October 2024	October 2024 November 2024		4Q 2024			
Group Meetings - Number of Meetings	229	148	128	505			
Group Meetings - Number of Attendees	9,642	2,843	2,132	14,617			
Individual Meetings - Number of Meetings	2,237	1,761	1,152	5,150			
Employer Meetings	301	234	260	795			
Total On-Site Visits	179	78	66	323			
Total Meeting Attendees	11,879	4,604	3,284	19,767			

NC 401(k) Plan & NC 457 Plan YTD Participant Engagement Team Activity								
Meeting Activity	1Q 2024	2Q 2024	3Q 2024	4Q 2024	YTD 2024			
Group Meetings - Number of Meetings	529	529	526	505	2,089			
Group Meetings - Number of Attendees	13,212	15,840	15,619	14,617	59,288			
Individual Meetings - Number of Meetings	6,548	6,346	6,317	5,150	24,361			
Employer Meetings	1,627	896	946	795	4,264			
Total On-Site Visits	183	316	329	323	1,151			
Total Meeting Attendees	19,760	22,186	21,936	19,767	83,649			

### Call Center & Participant Engagement Activity

### Participant Engagement Information – Enrollment Activity by Quarter



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### Employers Adopting the NC 401(k) Plan in 2024

Other

Haywood County Tourism Development Authority Monroe-Union County Economic Development Commission Stokes Municipal ABC Board Washington Housing Authority **State** State Bureau of Investigation

### **Employers Adopting the NC 457 Plan in 2024**

**Municipalities** City of Fayetteville City of Mt Airy Town of Four Oaks Town of Stanfield **State** State Bureau of Investigation

> **County** Hertford County

**Other** Guil Rand Fire Department Marshville ABC Stokes Municipal ABC Board Washington Housing Authority

### **Employers Adopting Auto Escalation in 2024**

**County** Stanly County - NC 401(k) Plan **Municipalities** Town of Maggie Valley

Other

Guil Rand Fire Department - NC 401(k) Plan, then NC 457 Plan Stokes Municipal ABC Board - NC 401(k) Plan & NC 457 Plan

### NC 401(k) Plan Employers Making Changes in 2024

NC 401(k) Plan Employers Increasing their Employer Contribution or Employer Match Anson County has increased from 3% to 3.5% Employer Contribution Across the Board. City of Brevard increased their Employer Match from 3% to 4%. Currituck County has increased from 5.69% to 6.39% Employer Contribution Across the Board. Davie Soil & Water Conservation District has increased from 1% to 3% Employer Contribution Across the Board. Granville County increased their Employer Match from 2% to 3%. Richmond County increased their Employer Match from 2% to 2.5%. Town of Cameron has increased from 5% to 6% Employer Contribution Across the Board. Town of Maiden has increased their Employer Match from 2.5% to 5%. Town of Selma increased their Employer Contribution Across the Board from 3% to 4%. Town of Smithfield has increased their Employer Match from 3% to 5%. Vance County ABC Board has increased from 2% to 5% Employer Contribution Across the Board.

### NC 401(k) Plan Employers Adding An Employer Contribution and/or Employer Match

City of Albemarle added an Employer Match up to 1%. Guil-Rand Fire Department added an Employer Match up to 1%. Monroe-Union County Economic Development Commission added a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution and a 2% Employer Match. Public Works Commission of Fayetteville added an Employer Match up to 3%. Smithfield Housing Authority added an Employer Match of \$100 per pay period. Stokes Municipal ABC Board added an Employer Match up to 5%. Town of Maysville added a 5% Across the Board Employer Contribution. Town of Sharpsburg added a 5% Across the Board Employer Contribution. Village of Flat Rock added an Employer Match up to 5%.

### NC 401(k) Plan Employers Making Changes in 2024

### NC 401(k) Plan Employers Changing their Employer Contribution and/or Employer Match

City of Kannapolis adding a 2% Employer Contribution Across the Board to the existing 3% Employer Match. Orange County changed from an Employer Match to a \$100 Across the Board Employer Contribution. Piedmont Triad Regional Council adding a 2.5% Employer Match to the existing 2.5% Employer Contribution Across the Board.

Town of Stanfield added a 2% Employer Match to their existing 5% Across the Board Employer Contribution. Wilmington Airport Authority has changed from a 5% Employer Match to a 3% Employer Match and a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution.

City of Greenville changed their existing \$40 Across the Board Employer Contribution to a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution.

Greenville Utilities Commission changed their existing \$40 Across the Board Employer Contribution to a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution.

Pitt-Greenville Convention changed their existing \$40 Across the Board Employer Contribution to a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution.

Sheppard Memorial Library changed their existing \$40 Across the Board Employer Contribution to a 3% Across the Board Employer Contribution.

### NC 457 Plan Employers Making Changes in 2024

### NC 457 Plan Employers Adding An Employer Contribution and/or Employer Match

Inlivian added a match up to 5%. Marshville ABC added a 5% Employer Contribution Across the Board. Town of Harrisburg added a 6% Employer Contribution Across the Board.

### NC 457 Plan Employers Increasing Employer Contribution or Match

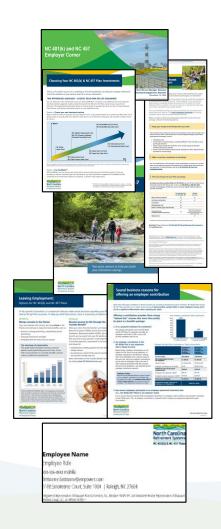
Northeast Carolina Prep School increased their Employer Match from 3% to 4%. Rowan-Salisbury CVB increased their Employer Contribution from 6% to 7% across the board.

### **Communication Accomplishments 4Q 2024**

### **Communication Accomplishments 4Q '24**

### **Content Creation and Maintenance**

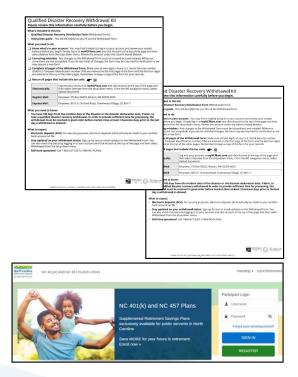
- New
  - Q4 Employer Corner Presentation
  - Multi-topic Presentation
  - Q3 Budget
- Rebrand, Eligibility & Contribution Limits Updates
  - Nearing Retirement Email
  - Investments Flyer
  - Plan Comparison Brochure
  - Termination Flyer
  - Employer Contribution Benefits Flyer
  - 457 Plan Highlights
  - 401(k) Plan Highlights
  - RPC business cards



### **Communication Accomplishments 4Q '24**

### **Hurricane Response**

- 401(k) Qualified Disaster Relief Distribution Form
- 457 Qualified Disaster Relief Distribution Form
- Website messaging



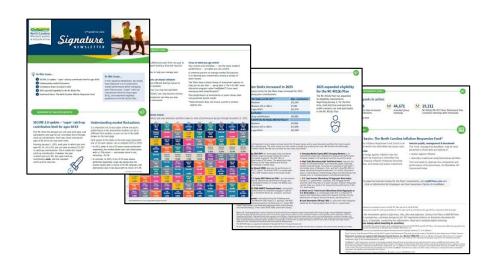
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### **Communication Accomplishments 4Q '24**

### **Quarterly Signature Newsletter**

• 91,187 mailed





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### Signature Newsletter 4Q 2024



4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER 2024





### -👾 In this issue...

SECURE 2.0 update – 'super' catch-up contribution limit for ages 60-63

- 2 Understanding market fluctuations
  - Contribution limits increased in 2025
- 4 2025 expanded eligibility for the NC 401(k) Plan
- 5 Investment basics: The North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund

### In this issue...

In this *Signature Newsletter*, we review how important it is to understand market performance when managing your Plan account, "super" catch-up contribution limits for those ages 60-63, and expanded eligibility guidelines for the NC 401(k) Plan.

## NEWSWORTHY AND NOTEWORTHY

## SECURE 2.0 update – 'super' catch-up contribution limit for ages 60-63

The IRS limits the amount you can save each year, and participants over age 50 can contribute more through catch-up contributions. And now, those turning the ages of 60 to 63 can save even more.

Starting January 1, 2025, each year in which you turn ages 60, 61, 62 or 63, you can save an extra \$11,250 in catch-up contributions. This is called the "super" catch-up contribution. However, the year in which you turn 64, the super catch-up contribution **ends**, and the standard catch-up limit resumes.



It is important not to lose sight of how one year's performance in the investment markets can be so different from another, as you can see in the table shown on the next page. Each square in the table on the next page represents one of 10 asset classes. Let us compare 2022 to 2023:

- In 2022, when 9 out of 10 asset classes performed negatively, the market leader was cash alternatives with a 1.5% return — real estate came in last, returning –25.1%
- In contrast, in 2023, 0 out of 10 asset classes performed negatively. Large-cap equity was the market leader with a return of 26.3%, whereas cash alternatives was in last place with its return of 5.3%

continued on next page

### NEWSWORTHY AND NOTEWORTHY (CONT

### continued.

Recognizing that these differences exist from one year to another can help you avoid having a knee-jerk reaction to market swings.

Here are some reminders to help you manage your Plan account.

### How stock market returns can impact mindsets

It is normal to experience different feelings based on market fluctuations. For example:

• When the market is "up," you may feel optimistic

• When the market is "down," you may become anxious *Keeping all of this in perspective* can help you stay the course in saving for retirement.

### Focus on what you can control

Your actions and emotions — not the stock market's performance — are what you can control.

A common practice to manage market fluctuations is to diversify your investments among a variety of asset classes.

The Plans have a robust lineup of investment options to help you do just that — along with a "Do It for Me" asset allocation program called GoalMaker<sup>®</sup> if you need assistance with diversification.\*

Past performance of investments or asset classes does not guarantee future results.

\* Diversification does not ensure a profit or protect against loss.

### Contribution limits increased in 2025

The IRS contribution limits for the Plans have increased for 2025. Consider increasing your contributions.

For each Plan: NC4 1(k) and NC45712	Max. contribution		
Standard contributions	\$23,500		
Catch-up contributions (50 or older)	\$7,500		
Super catch-up ages 60-63	\$11,250		
NC 457 Plan specifically <sup>2</sup>			
Three-year catch-up contributions	\$47,000		
Participating in BOTH the NC4 1(k) AND 457 Plans <sup>1,2</sup>			
Standard contributions	\$47,000		
Catch-up contributions (50 or older)	\$15,000		
Super catch-up ages 60-63	\$22,500		

### 2025 expanded eligibility for the NC 401(k) Plan

The NC 401(k) Plan has expanded its eligibility requirements. Beginning January 1, for the first time, both full-time *and* part-time public servants can now participate in the NC 401(k) Plan.



Emerging Market Equity (MSCI Emerging Markets) is an

international index that is designed to measure the performance of equity markets in 24 emerging countries around the world.

High Yield (Bloomberg High Yield Bond Index) measures the

market of USD-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate,

taxable corporate bonds. Securities are classified as high vield if

the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or

moodys.com, or standardandpoors.com/aboutcreditratings.

includes U.S. government, corporate, and mortgage-backed

U.S. Fixed Income (Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index)

securities with maturities of at least one year. Investors frequently

use the index as a stand-in for measuring the performance of the

Global ex-U.S. Fixed Income (Bloomberg Global Aggregate)

ex U.S. Bond Index) is an unmanaged index that is comprised of

several other Bloomberg indices that measure the fixed income

**Cash Alternatives (90-day T-bill)** is a short-term debt obligation

performance of regions around the world, excluding the U.S.

backed by the Treasury Department of the U.S. government.

below, excluding emerging market debt. For further information

about a rating agency's methodology, please visit fitchratings.com,

### Periodic table of investment returns

Annual returns for key indices and asset allocation portfolio ranked in order of performance by year through December 31, 2023.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1	Small-cap equity	Real estate	Large-cap equity	Small-cap equity	Emerging market equity	Cash alternatives	Large-cap equity	Small-cap equity	Large-cap equity	Cash alternatives	Large-cap equity
	38.82%	15.02%	1.38%	21.31%	37.28%	1.87%	31.49%	19.96%	28.71%	1.50%	26.29%
2	Large-cap equity	Large-cap equity	Moderate composite	High yield	Dev ex-U.S. equity	U.S. fixed income	Small-cap equity	Large-cap equity	Real estate	High yield	Dev ex-U.S. equity
	32.39%	13.69%	0.87%	17.13%	24.21%	0.01%	25.52%	18.40%	26.09%	-11.19%	17.94%
3	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Moderate composite	U.S. fixed income	Large-cap equity	Large-cap equity2	High yield	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Emerging market equity	Small-cap equity	U.S. fixed income	Small-cap equity
	21.02%	7.29%	0.55%	11.96%	21.83%	-2.08%	22.49%	18.31%	14.82%	-13.01%	16.93%
4	Moderate composite	U.S. fixed income	Cash alternatives	Emerging market equity	Small-cap equity	Glbl ex- U.S. fixed	Real estate	Moderate composite	Moderate composite	Moderate composite	Moderate composite
	15.93%	5.97%	0.05%	11.19%	14.65%	-2.15%	21.91%	11.83%	12.95%	-14.11%	15.79%
5	High yield	Small-cap equity	Real estate	Moderate composite	Moderate composite	Moderate composite	Moderate composite	GIbI ex- U.S. fixed	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Dev ex-U.S. equity	High yield
	7.44%	4.89%	-0.79%	7.03%	13.28%	-4.10%	19.42%	10.11%	12.62%	-14.29%	13.45%
6	Real estate	High yield	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Real estate	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Large-cap equity	Emerging market equity	Dev ex-U.S. equity	High yield	Large-cap equity	Emerging market equity
	3.67%	2.45%	-3.04%	4.06%	10.51%	-4.38%	18.44%	7.59%	5.28%	-18.11%	9.83%
7	Cash alternatives	Cash alternatives	Small-cap equity	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Real estate	Real estate	High yield	U.S. fixed income	Cash alternatives	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Real estate
	0.07%	0.03%	-4.41%	2.75%	10.36%	-5.63%	14.32%	7.51%	0.05%	-18.70%	9.67%
8	U.S. fixed income	Emerging market equity	High yield	U.S. fixed income	High yield	Small-cap equity	U.S. fixed income	High yield	U.S. fixed income	Emerging market equity	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed
	-2.02%	-2.19%	-4.47%	2.65%	7.50%	-11.01%	8.72%	7.11%	-1.54%	-20.09%	5.72%
9	Emerging market equity	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	U.S. fixed income	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Cash alternatives	Emerging market equity	Small-cap equity	U.S. fixed income
	-2.60%	-3.09%	-6.02%	1.49%	3.54%	-14.09%	5.09%	0.58%	-2.54%	-20.44%	5.53%
10	Gibl ex- U.S. fixed	Dev ex-U.S. equity	Emerging market equity	Cash alternatives	Cash alternatives	Emerging market equity	Cash alternatives	Real estate	Glbl ex- U.S. fixed	Real estate	Cash alternatives
	-3.08%	-4.32%	-14.92%	0.33%	0.86%	-14.57%	2.28%	-9.04%	-7.05%	-25.09%	5.26%

The periodic table of investment returns depicts annual returns for 10 asset dasses and an asset allocation portfolio from best to worst performance for each calendar year. The asset dasses are color coded to enable easy tracking over time. We describe the well-known, industry standard market indices that we use as proxies for each asset dass below.

Large-Cap Equity (S&P 500<sup>®</sup>) An unmanaged index considered indicative of the domestic large-cap equity market and used as a proxy for the stock market in general. The S&P 500 is a market-value-weighted index of 500 stocks. The weightings make each company's influence on the Index performance directly proportional to that company's market value.

 Small-Cap Equity (Russell 2000) measures the performance of small-capitalization U.S. stocks. The Russell 2000 is a market-value weighted index of the 2,000 smallest stocks in the broad-market Russell 3000 Index.

Developed ex-U.S. Equity (MSCI World ex USA) is an international index that is designed to measure the performance of large- and mid-cap equities in developed markets in Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific region, and Canada.

 Real Estate (FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index) is designed to measure the stock performance of companies engaged in specific real estate activities in the North American, European, and Asian real estate markets.

■ Moderate Composite is allocated among the following asset dasses over time: the Wilshire S000 Index (U.S. equities); the MSCI EAFE® Index (international equities); the DowJones U.S. Select REIT Index<sup>®</sup> (real estate); the Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index (bonds); and the Bloomberg 1-3 Year Credit Bond Index (short+erm bonds).

and the Bloomberg 1-3 Year Credit Bond Index (short-term bonds). About risk: Stocks may define in value. Securities of small and mid-size companies may be more volatile than those of larger, more established companies. Bond prices generally fall when interest rates rise (and vice versa) and are subject to risks, including changes in credit quality, market valuations, inflation, liquidity, and default. High-yield bonds have a greater risk of default. Foreign securities involve risks, such as currency fluctuations, economic changes, and political developments. These risks may be heightened in emerging markets, which may also experience liquidity risk. Real estate securities and trusts involve risks, including declining property values, changes in zoning laws, or losses from casualty. Real estate securities that invest in foreign real estate involve additional risks, including currency fluctuations and political developments.

U.S. bond market.

The S&P 500 Index is a registered trademark of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.

An index is not actively managed, does not have a defined investment objective, and does not incur fees or expenses. You cannot invest directly in an index.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

## PIA: Participants in action



participants have increased their contributions

\*YTD data as of 9/30/2024.

**DEFINING TERMS** 



attended group meetings



NC 401(k)/NC 457 Plans' Retirement Plan Counselor meetings with individuals

# Investment basics: The North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund<sup>3</sup>

The North Carolina Inflation Responsive Fund (Fund) is an investment option within the diversified real assets class.

### Investment objective

assets, including Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS), commodities, and Global real estate investment medium to long term by investing in diversified real The Fund seeks to hedge against inflation over the trusts (REITs)

## Investor profile, management & benchmark

|| : ||| :|||||

This Fund, managed by BlackRock, may be most attractive to those who are looking to:

- protect against inflation
- diversify a traditional stock/bond-based portfolio

performance of its benchmark, the BlackRock SCF The Fund seeks to replicate the composition and Customized Index.

To view the fund fact sheets for the Plans' investments, visit myNCPlans.com and click on Information for Employees and then Investment Options & GoalMaker.

# It is possible to lose money when investing in securities.

Empower Retirement, LLC provides the communications and recordkeeping services for the NC 401(k) and NC 457 Plans. The investments offered to you within the NC 401(k) and NC 457 Plans. The investments offered to you within the NC 401(k) and NC 457 Plans are not offered by or affiliated with Empower Retirement, LLC.

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GoalMaker's model allocations are based on generally accepted financial theories that take into account the historic returns of different asset classes. Past performance of any investment does not guarantee future results. Participants should consider their other assets, income and investments (e.g., equity in a home, Social Security benefits, individual retirement plan investments, etc.) in addition to their interest in the plan, to the extent those items are not taken into account in the model. Participants should also periodically reassess their GoalMaker investments to make sure their model continues to correspond to their investment objectives, risk tolerance and retirement time horizon.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Employer contributions reduce the contribution limits in the NC 457 Plan, but not in the NC 401(k).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NC 457 Plan participants may not use age 50+ catch-up contributions or the super catch-up contributions for ages 60-63 in conjunction with three-year catch-up contributions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Carefully consider the investment option's objectives, risks, fees and expenses. Contact the Plans at 866-NCPlans (866-627-5267) for a prospectus, summary prospectus for SEC-registered products or disclosure document for unregistered products, if available, containing this information. Read each carefully before investing.