

Australia's relationship with

NORTH CAROLINA



KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 10.27 million (9th most populous state), 2017 estimate
- **Major Cities:** Raleigh (Capital), Durham, Charlotte, Greensboro, Asheville
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$488.6 billion (2017)
- **GDP Growth:** 2.4% (2017)
- **% College Educated:** 40%
- **Median Household Income:** \$48,256 (2017)
- **Key Industries:** Agriculture, Tobacco, Textiles, Energy, STEM-Related Industries
- **Known for:**
 - “North Carolinians”, “Tar Heel State”
 - “First in Flight”: Wright brothers’ first successful flight in 1903
 - Knowledge-based economy (Research Triangle Park)
 - Andrew Johnson, James Polk, Floyd Patterson, Thelonious Monk, Roberta Flack

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

Priority sectors for the Australia-North Carolina economic relationship: Agribusiness, Biotechnology, Life Sciences, Smart Energy, Data Analytics, Road Freight.

- **Two-Way Trade (goods only):** \$509 million (2019)
- **Australia’s Exports to North Carolina (goods only):** \$88 million (2019)
- **North Carolina’s Exports to Australia (goods only):** \$421 million (2019)
 - Telecoms Equipment, Earthmoving Equipment, Pharmaceuticals, Aircraft Parts

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

In 2013, Australian tourists spent \$157 million dollars in North Carolina.

- **Sister Cities:**
 - Beaufort NC – Beaufort VIC
- **Representation:** Australia’s relationship with North Carolina is managed by the **Consulate General in Washington DC**

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australians Living in North Carolina:**
 - Kenny Habul (Australian NASCAR driver, President and CEO of SunEnergy1)
 - Dr Warwick Arden (Executive Vice President and Provost at North Carolina State University)
- **Australian Sporting Clubs:**
 - North Carolina Tigers in Raleigh (Australian Football Club)
 - University of Carolina AFL Club (oldest college AFL club in the U.S.)

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Ray Cooper (D), next election in 2020
- **2016 Presidential Outcome:** Trump 50.5%
- **Senators:** Richard Burr (R), Tom Tillis (R)
- **House:** 10 Republicans, 3 Democrats

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

33 industries in North Carolina have Australian presence, employing over 5,500 people in North Carolina. Notable examples of Australian companies in North Carolina include:

- **Era Polymers Corporation:** Australian manufacturer specialising in polyurethane chemistry opened its first industrial facility in the U.S. and plans on investing \$9.2 million in Stanley.
- **Nufarm Americas Inc:** With U.S. headquarters in Morrisville, the Melbourne-based agribusiness company specialises in crop protection products and operates a large R&D facility in triangle Park.
- **Ancor Pharmaceutical Packaging USA:** Australian company Amcor plc is a global packaging company. It develops and produces flexible packaging, rigid containers, specialty cartons, closures and services for food, beverage, pharmaceutical, medical-device, home and personal-care, and other products. Amcor has US headquarters in Asheville
- **Lendlease U.S. Construction Inc.:** Australian company Lendlease is a leading property developer with headquarters in Durham.
- **Boral Medical Technologies Inc.:** Australian company Boral Limited is a multinational company manufacturing and supplying building and construction materials with US headquarters in Monroe, North Carolina.
- **Boron Molecular Inc.:** Boron Molecular provides boronic acids and has Headquarters in Raleigh, North Carolina.
- **Orica USA Inc.:** Australian company Orica is the world's largest providers of commercial explosives and blasting systems to the mining, quarrying, oil and gas industries with headquarters in Gold Hill, North Carolina.
- **Zambrero:** Australian Mexican restaurant Zambrero opened up its first restaurant in the United States in Durham, North Carolina in 2019.
- **SIMS Metal Management:** Australian company SIMS Metal management is the leading metals and electronic recycling company in the world with a branch office in New Bern, North Carolina.

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Charlotte is the third largest banking centre in the U.S. after New York and San Francisco.

- **Bank of America Corp.:** Financial services
- **Lowe's:** Retail
- **Duke Energy:** Electric power holding company
- **Nucor:** Steel producer
- **Reynolds American:** Tobacco

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

North Carolina is home to a number of nationally ranked universities, including Duke University #8, Wake Forest University #27, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill #30, North Carolina State University #92. Notable partnerships between universities in North Carolina and Australia include:

- **PharmAlliance:** Research, education and practice partnership between three of the world's most highly-regarded schools of pharmacy: Monash University, University College London and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- **University Global Partnership Network:** North Carolina State University and the University of Wollongong are members of the network, which aims to develop sustainable world-class research, education and knowledge transfer through an active international network of selected universities.
- **Exchange:** University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill and University of Queensland have an exchange program.
- **International Affairs at North Carolina State University:** A program that teams up with like-minded global institutions to pursue world-class collaborative research, education and outreach. Australian members include University of Western Australia, University of Adelaide, University of Sunshine Coast, University of New South Wales, University of Wollongong, RMIT University and Monash University.



MAJOR EVENTS

- Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
- John Coltrane International Jazz and Blues Festival
- Big Rock Blue Marlin Fishing Tournament
- CED Life Science & Tech Venture Conference
- North Carolina Energy Conference

SCIENCE & INNOVATION

- **Entrepreneurship Ranking:** 20th (based on new firm births as a share of total businesses in the state, rank out of 51)
 - **Tech Jobs Ranking:** 22nd (based on share of engineers and computer scientists in the workforce, rank out of 51)
 - **BERD Intensity Ranking:** 16th (based on business expenditure on R&D per dollar of state output, rank out of 51)
 - **New Economy Index Ranking:** 22nd (based on composite index that reports on the innovation-driven economy, rank out of 51)
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