Hey there, Sandhills (South Central) Region!

NC Prosperity Zones Map:

Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland Counties*

Ranked 5 on IEI’s FutureWork Disruption Index for North Carolina (1 = highest vulnerability, 8 = lowest vulnerability)

4 out of the 10 counties in the region are among NC’s top 20 most vulnerable counties.

Projected to potentially lose 23% of its existing total wages

Only 28% have Associates Degree or higher**

Total potential wage losses: $2 Billion

*For county-specific data, view the FutureWork Disruption Index at emergingissues.org/disruptionindex

**By 2020, 65% of all jobs in the economy will require post-secondary credentials
The FutureWork Prosperity Tour responds to regional requests for data, themes and resources from the 2016 Emerging Issues Forum, FutureWork, where more than 1,100 state business, education and policy leaders gathered to consider: As technology advances and demography shifts, how can North Carolina prepare today to create enough good jobs for tomorrow?

The Changing Economy:

Technology-induced job losses for the state could total 1.2 million due to automation alone, with as many as 1.1 million more lost to tech-fueled offshoring.

By 2020, 65% of all jobs will require a post-secondary credential. NC will fall nearly 20 percentage points short of that number.

Nearly 8 in 10 middle-skill jobs in today’s workforce require digital skills, representing 32% of all labor market demand in the nation.

Demography:

By the year 2022, North Carolina’s public schools will graduate their first class that is solidly majority minority. The state’s total population is predicted to cross this threshold in the early 2040s.

In NC, women outpace men by 13.4% in college enrollment.

Seventy-four North Carolina counties have high dependency ratios (more than 70 dependents of non-working age per 100 workers).

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