



NC TOWER

A PRODUCT OF COMMON FOLLOW-UP SYSTEM

**Telling Data Stories
with NC TOWER**



North Carolina Common Follow-up System (CFS)

CFS is one of the largest (over 11 million unique individuals) and longest (since 1992) operating State Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) in the U.S.

<https://analytics.ncommerce.com/cfs>

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS)

University of North Carolina System (UNCS)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- Division of Services for the Blind (DSB)
- Division of Social Services (DSS)
- Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities (EIPD)
- Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disability, and Substance Abuse (DMHDDSA)
- Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS)

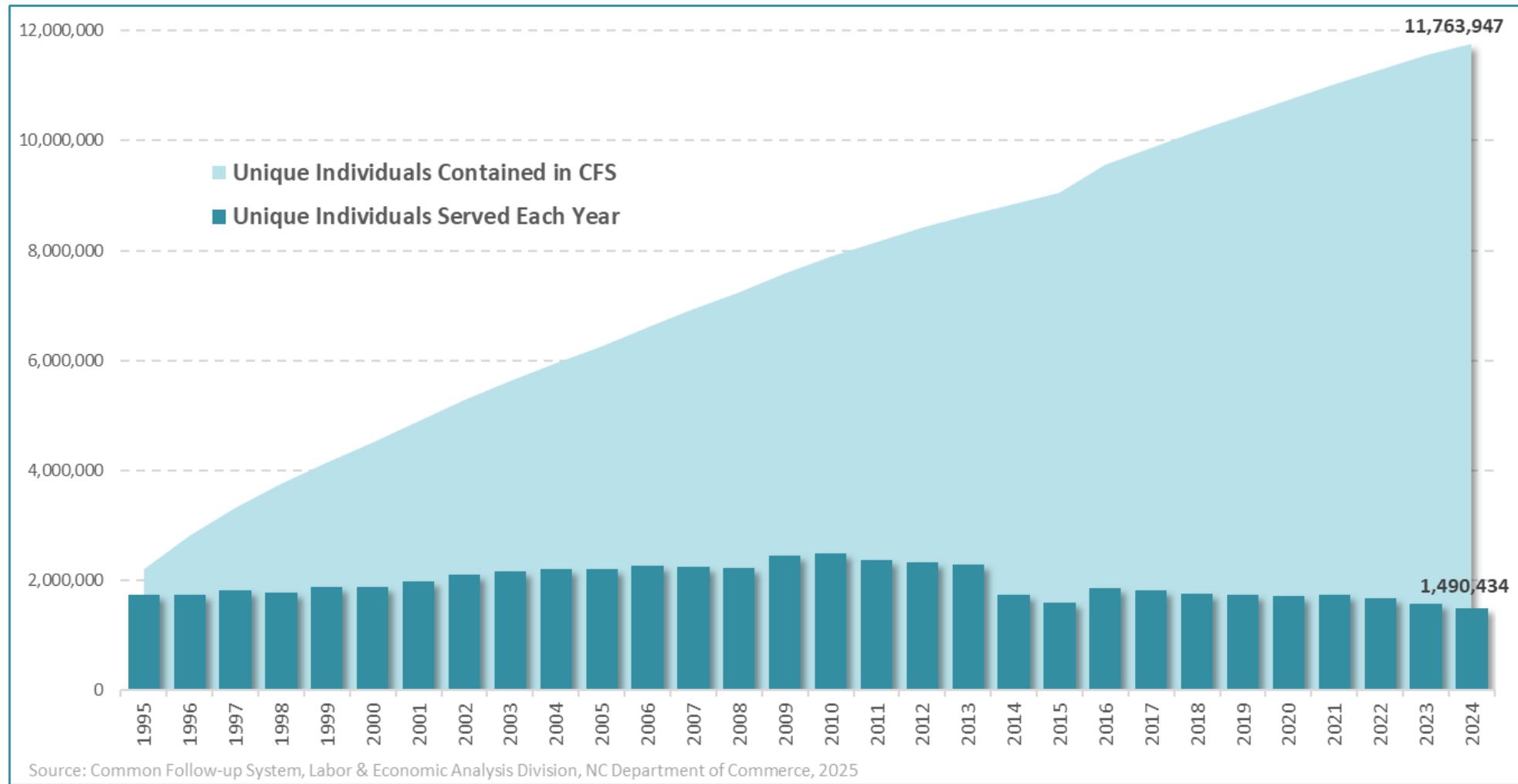
North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (DAC)

North Carolina Department of Commerce

- Division of Workforce Solutions (DWS)
- Division of Employment Security (DES)
- Labor & Economic Analysis Division (LEAD)



North Carolina Common Follow-up System (CFS)



Tool for Online Workforce and Education Reporting

<https://tower.nc.gov/>

Provides aggregated information on more than 1.9 million students who graduated from public universities, community colleges, and high schools in North Carolina over two decades:

- Employment Outcomes
- Average and Median Wage Earnings
- Industries of Employment
- Further Enrollment in Post-Secondary Education

Data can be broken down by:

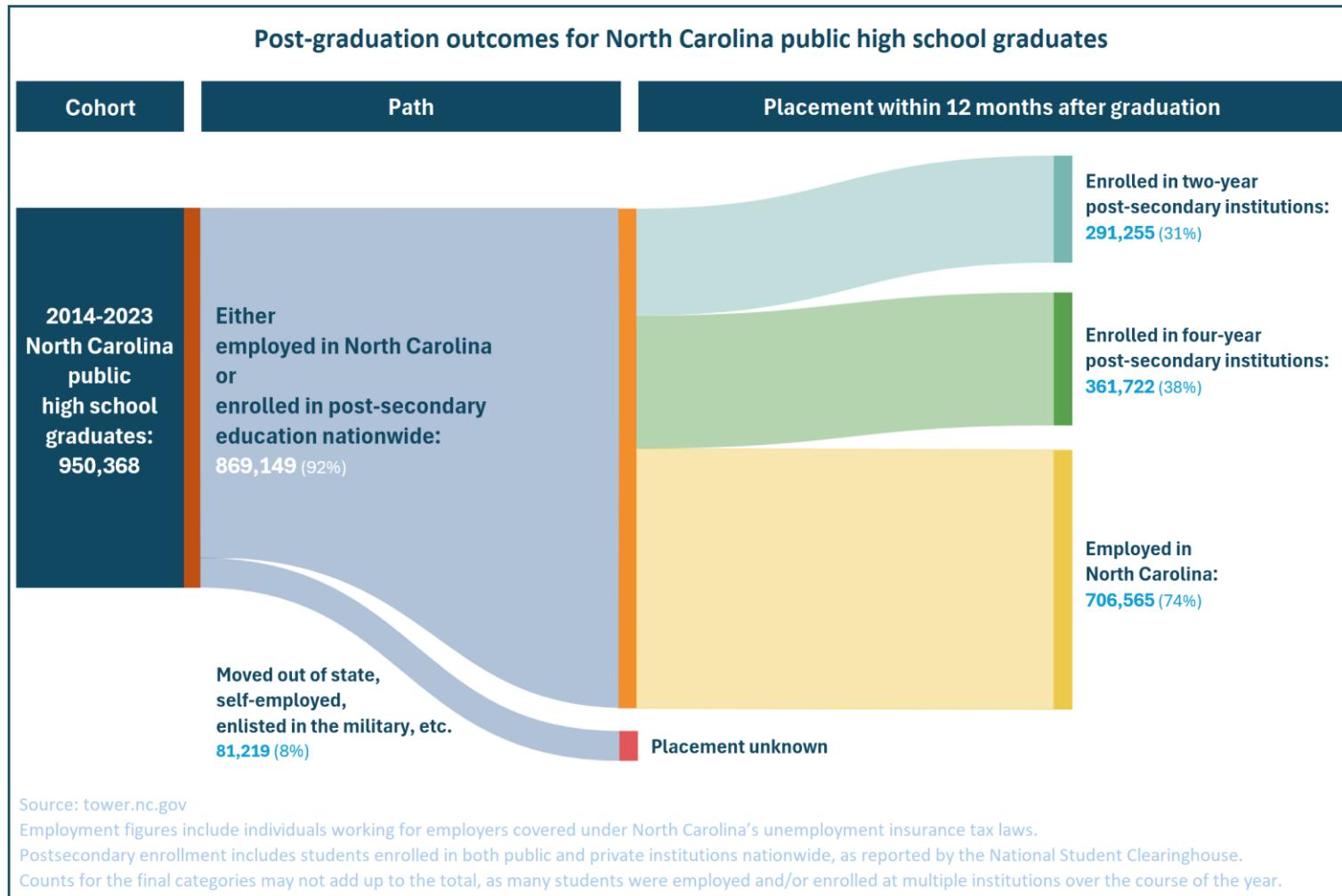
- Program of Study
- Degree Awarded
- Race and Sex



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What Comes After the Cap and Gown?

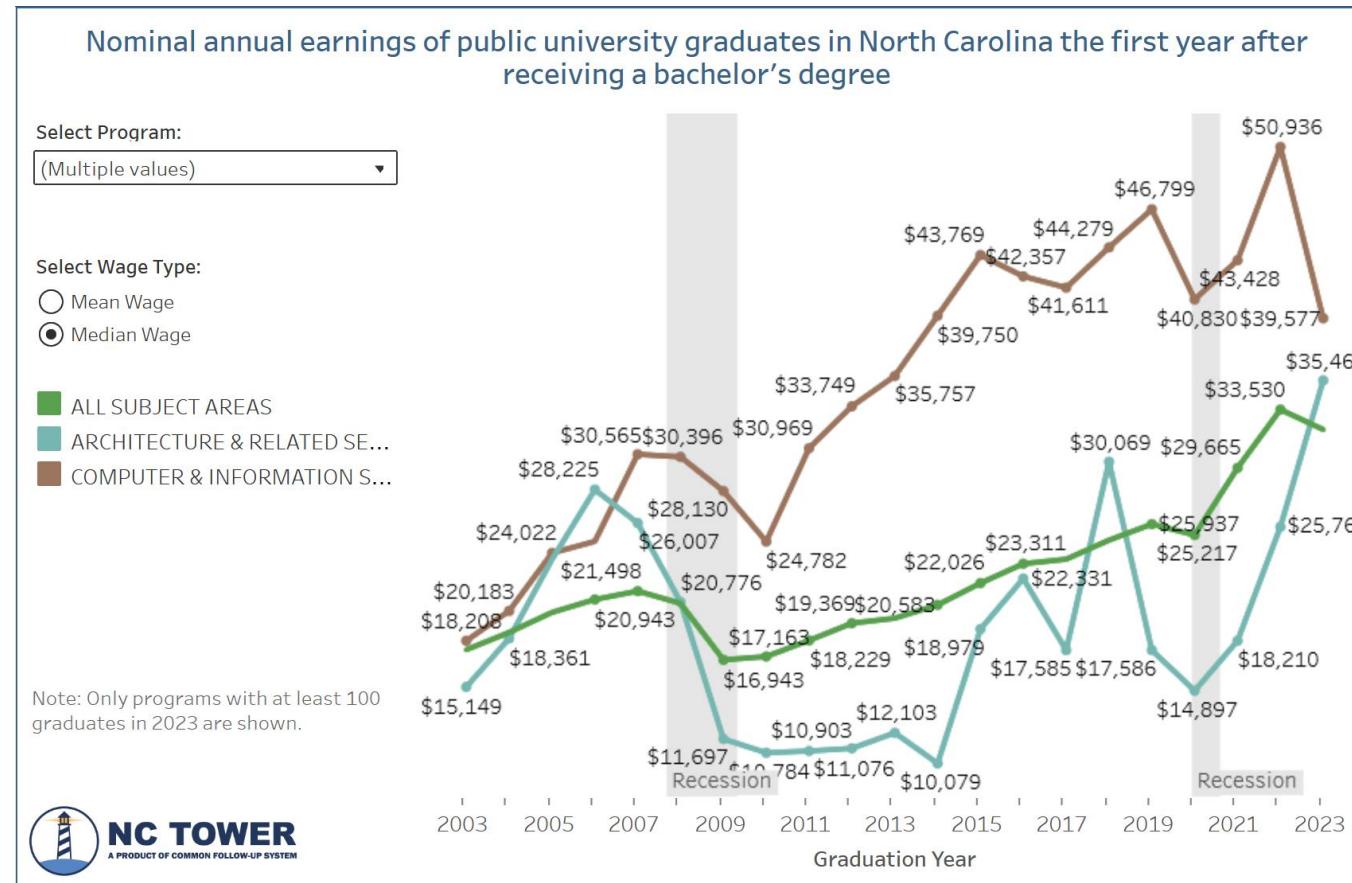
Following graduates of NC public schools (2014–2023) as they move to postsecondary education and the workforce.



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/what-comes-after-cap-and-gown>

The Labor Market for Recent College Graduates

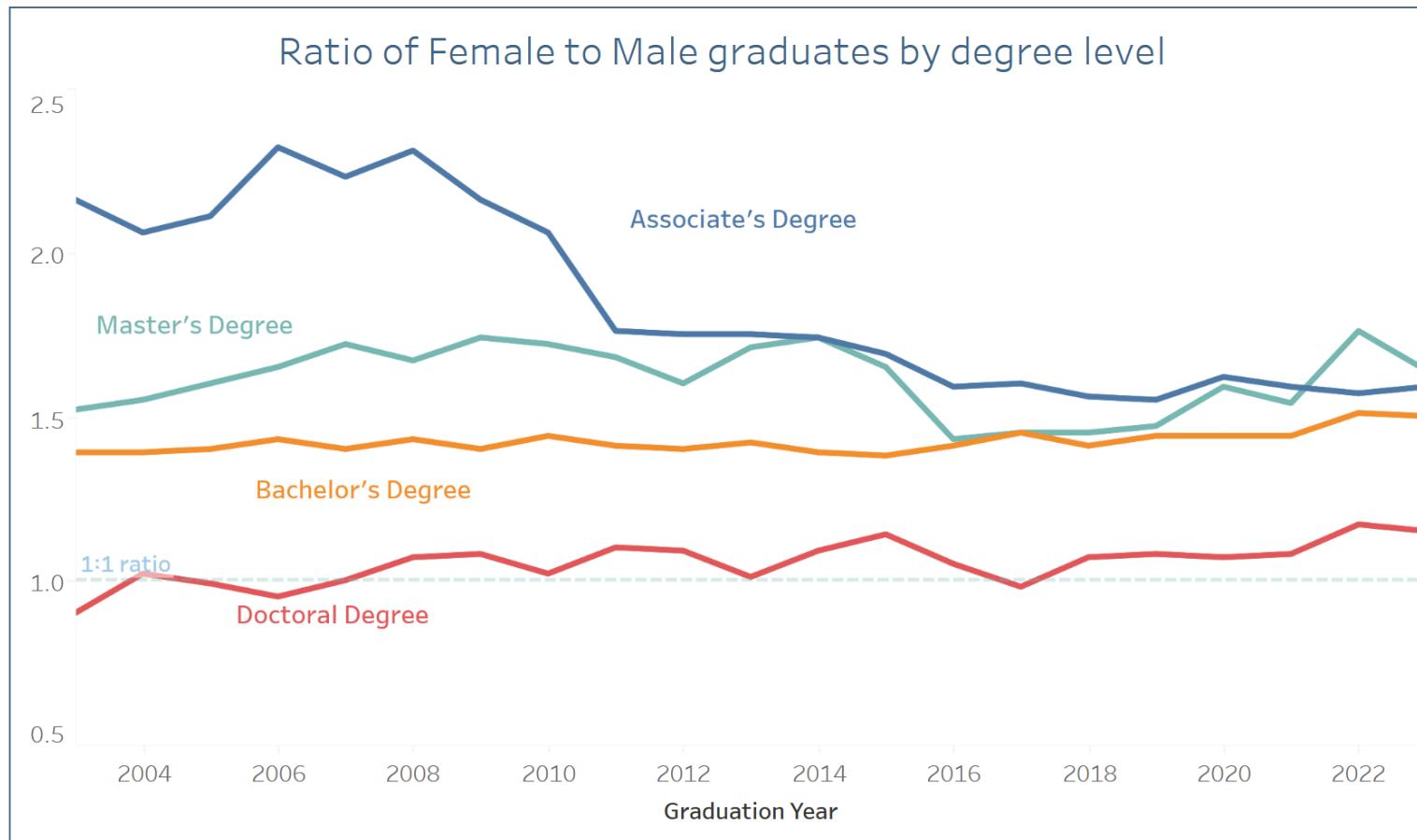
The Class of 2023 experienced a somewhat unexpected decline in first-year post-college wage earnings. Does this trend hold true across all fields of study?



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/labor-market-for-recent-college-graduates>

Women Are Winning the Higher Ed Race

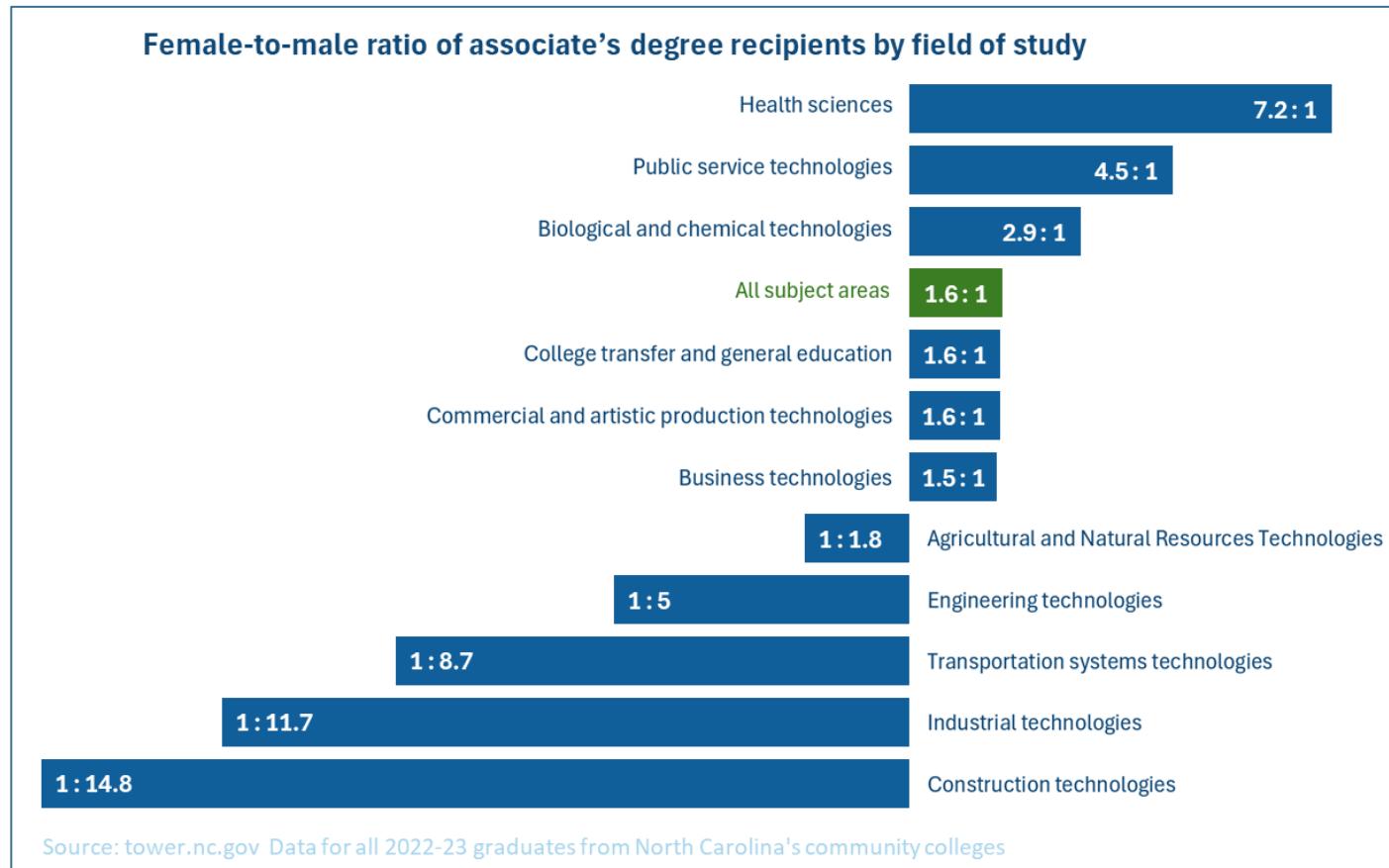
For years, women have been outpacing men in earning college degrees across every level of higher education. But the dynamics are showing signs of shifting.



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/women-winning-higher-ed-race>

Do College Majors Reinforce the Gender Pay Gap?

By following traditional gender paths into fields like education or engineering, students may unknowingly reinforce the gender pay gap before their careers even begin.



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/do-college-majors-reinforce-gender-pay-gap>

Do College Majors Reinforce the Gender Pay Gap?

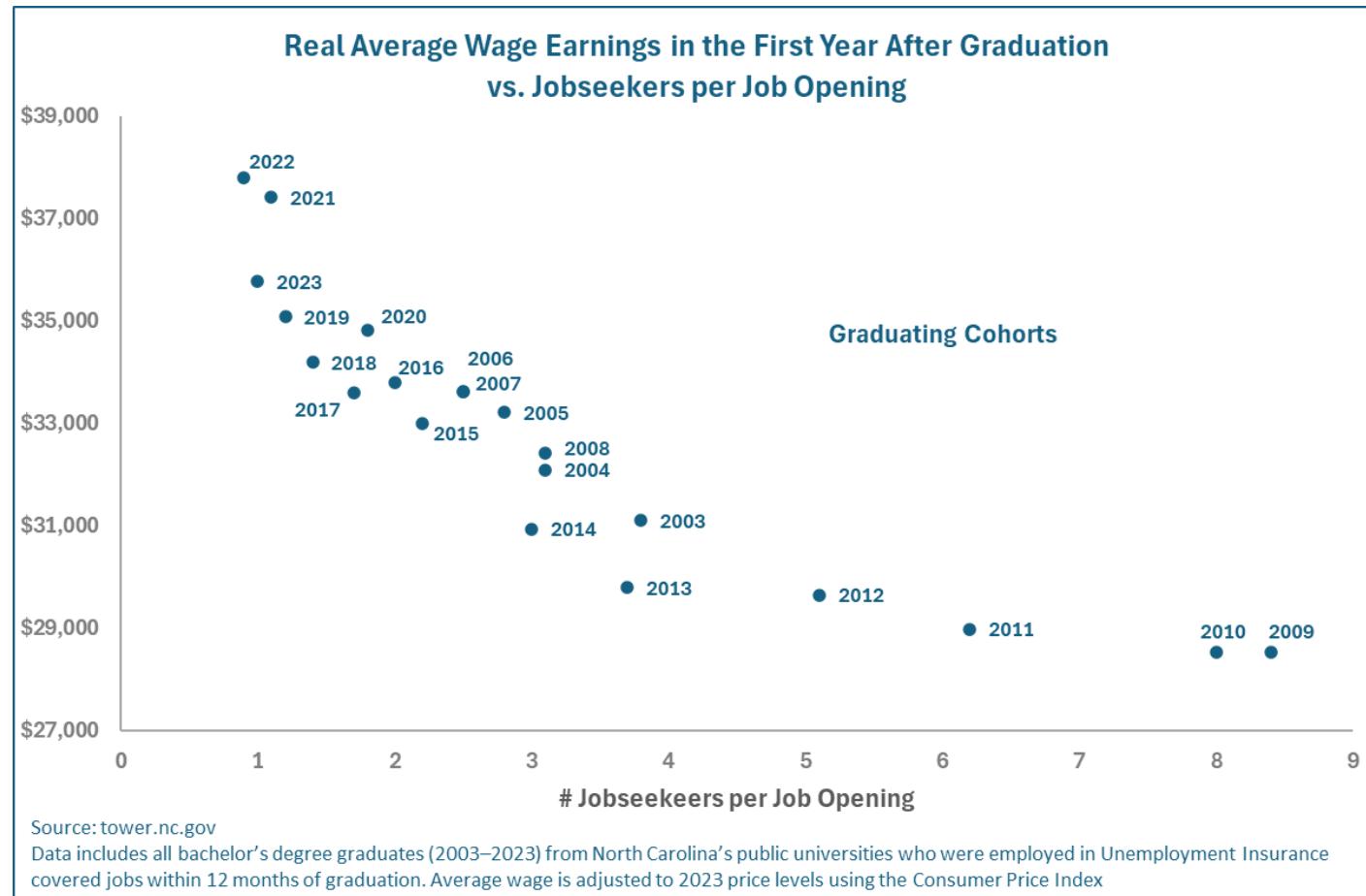
Female-to-male ratio of bachelor's degree recipients by field of study



Source: tower.nc.gov Data for all 2022-23 graduates from North Carolina's public universities

Graduating in a Recession vs. a Boom

Graduating during a recession can leave more than just a temporary dent in your wallet.

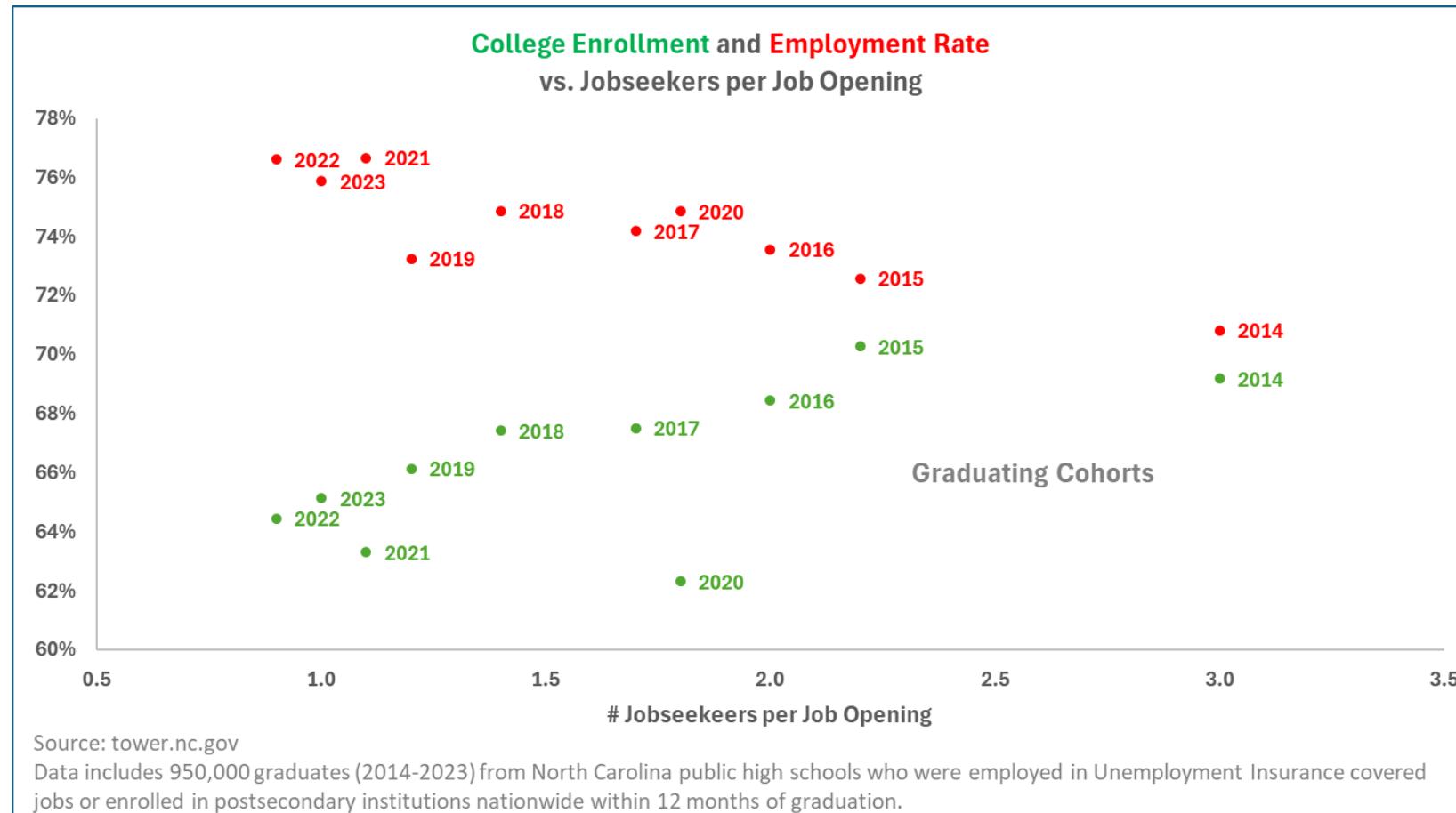


<https://analytics.nccommerce.com/NC-Labor-Supply-Demand/>

<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/graduating-recession-vs-boom-why-timing-matters-your-first-paycheck>

When Good Economies Keep Students Out of College

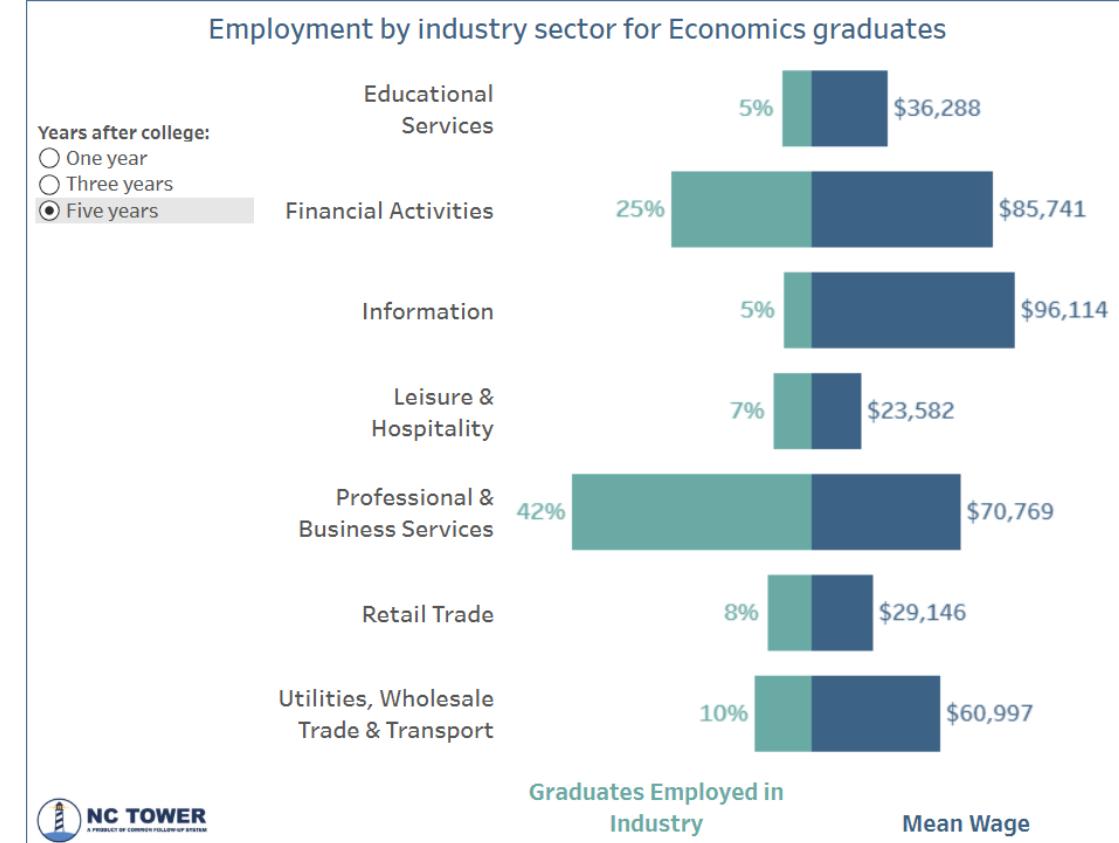
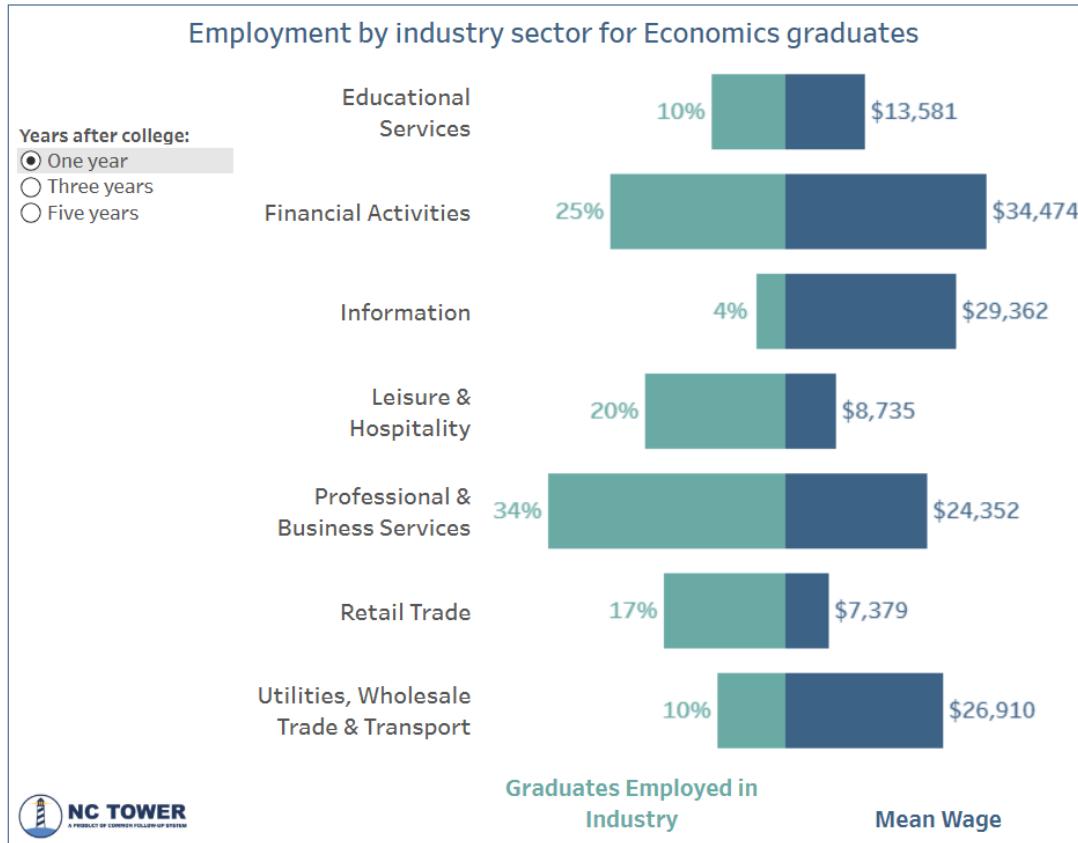
Economic booms increase the opportunity cost of Higher Ed. Why sit in a classroom when you can earn a paycheck right now?



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news-the-lead-feed/boom-paradox-when-good-economies-keep-students-out-college>

What Can You Do with an Economics Degree?

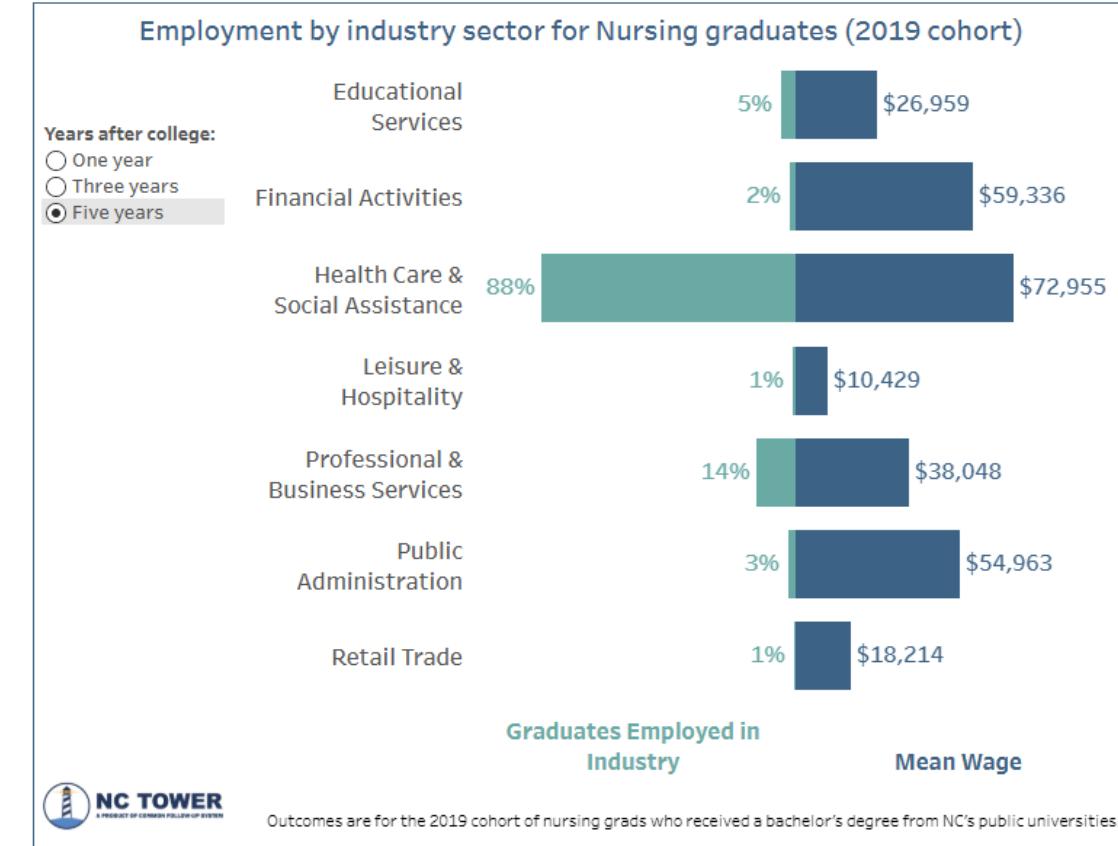
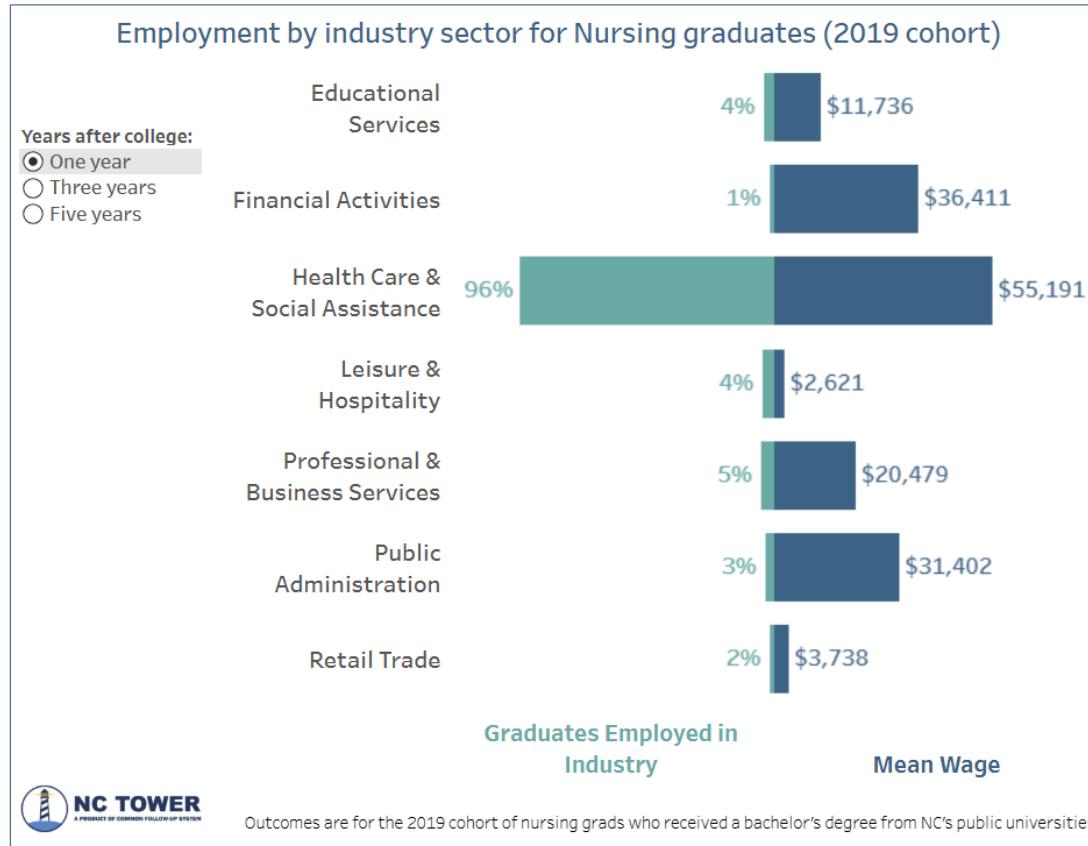
NC TOWER data provides insight into what the next step might look like for Economics graduates.



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/what-can-you-do-with-an-economics-degree>

NC Nursing Graduates Launch High-Earning Careers

Nursing graduates have high employment rates and high wage earnings after graduation.



<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/the-lead-feed/how-nc-nursing-graduates-launch-high-earning-careers>

Thank you!

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