



# Board Bulletin

August 19, 2022

## Tourism Spending Improves in 2021

According to statistics released earlier this week by the NC Dept. of Commerce, tourism spending in Stanly County generated an estimated economic impact of \$92.45 million in 2021. The report includes direct visitor spending estimates for all 100 North Carolina counties, as well as estimates for travel and tourism related employment and tax revenues.

The \$92.45 million economic impact represented a 43% increase over the prior year. The 43% increase is fairly consistent with the statewide increase of 45%. Please note, Stanly County’s estimated visitor spending increased \$3.1 million (3.5%) over the pre-COVID 2019 total.

Stanly County ranked 53rd in travel and tourism impact among North Carolina’s 100 counties. The report suggests travel and tourism generated \$21.5 million in payroll within Stanly County in 2021.

Further, approximately 587 jobs were directly or indirectly attributable to travel and tourism spending. Direct and indirect employment associated with tourism increased by 11% over the past year.

According to the report, food and beverage purchases represent \$32.54 million of the total \$92.45 million (35%).

Below please find a chart illustrating the economic impact of travel and tourism in Stanly County as compared to counties of similar size population in North Carolina.

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Economic Impact (\$ millions)</b>
Carteret	\$643.38
Haywood	\$323.33
Rutherford	\$272.96
Lenoir	\$101.82
<b>Stanly</b>	<b>\$92.45</b>
Chatham	\$68.03
Columbus	\$61.36
Sampson	\$56.76
Granville	\$50.03
Franklin	\$35.02

## Summer Reading Participation Soars

The Library’s summer reading program for children saw a huge increase in participation during the summer of 2022 as compared to the summer of 2021. Below please find a comparison:

<b>Summer 2021</b>		<b>Summer 2022</b>	
<b>Total registered</b>	77	<b>Total registered</b>	604
<b>Total materials circulated</b>	6,184	<b>Total materials circulated</b>	10,418

The total, collective count of participants that attended at least one (1) summer reading program was 2,377. Many of these children attended multiple programs.

## Partners Behavioral Health Update

Stanly County transitioned its mental/behavioral health managed care to a new organization (Partners Health Management) in September 2021. Below please find an update of clients served, referral sources and the types of services accessed.

During the time period from September 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022 a total of 760 unduplicated adults and children received services coordinated by Partners.

The primary referral sources for children were either a school (45%) or family & friends (15%). The primary referral sources for adults were self-referrals (45%), the criminal justice system (15%) and the hospital (11%).

The majority of adults received either mental health consultation (55%) or substance abuse related services (39%). Whereas only 23% of children received services for substance abuse. The majority of children (78%) received mental health consultation.