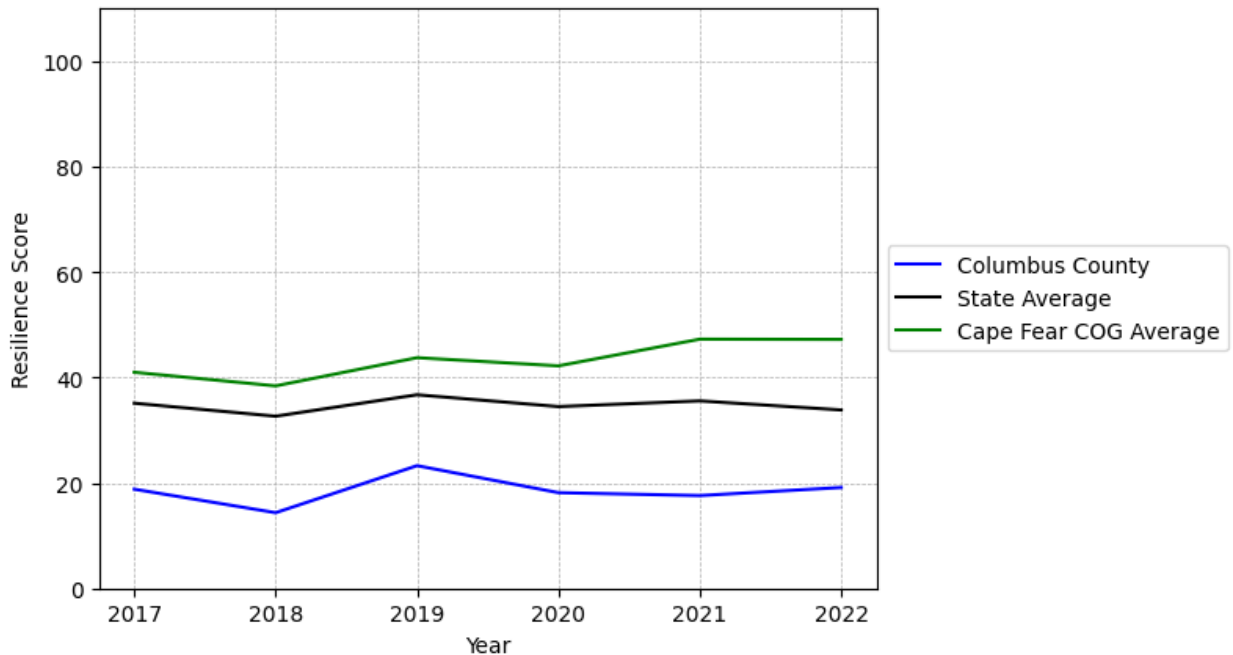


Columbus County Summary

Resilience Score: 19.13

In 2022, Columbus County achieved a Resilience Score of 19.13, which is fairly weak as compared to the North Carolina State average.

**Columbus County's Resilience Score Over Time
As Compared to the Region and State Averages**



Note: Resilience Scores are normalized from 1 to 100 with the most resilient county scoring 100. The Resilience Score is determined based on a county's performance relative to NC's other 99 counties.

Columbus County's Resilience Score is comprised of 9 distinct dimensions of resilience. Below are Columbus County's scores for 2022 on those 9 dimensions, and their rank relative to other North Carolina counties.

Business Community Health: 3.6

This component examines the strength and diversity of the local business community, including factors such as the number of businesses, employment levels, and industry diversity. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is fairly weak when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 97th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Ratio of Available Child Care Slots to Number of Children under Five	0.61	0.59
2nd Strongest	Total Employment Level	16,823	45,758
Bottom 10 in NC	Average Weekly Wages	\$825	\$951
Bottom 10 in NC	Percentage of Companies in Science, Engineering, & Technology Industries	2.42%	6.13%
Weakest	Science, Engineering, & Technology Industries Employment Percentage	N/A	1.79%

County Government Fiscal Strength: 22.61

This component looks at the financial health of local governments, including their ability to generate revenue, manage debt, and maintain adequate reserves to weather economic downturns. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is fairly weak when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 84th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Debt Service Ratio of County Government	0.05	0.07
2nd Strongest	Solvency Ratio of County Government	44.32	46.7
Bottom 10 in NC, Weakest	Operations Ratio of County Government	0.99	1.11

Communication: 50.82

This component assesses the availability and quality of communication infrastructure, such as broadband internet access, which is crucial for businesses and residents to stay connected and resilient during disruptions. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is average when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 46th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Broadband Availability	0.75	0.6
2nd Strongest	Local High-Speed Mobile Data Availability	0.67	0.66
Weakest	Percentage of Population without Smartphones	20.61%	17.22%

Housing & Transportation: 39.49

This component evaluates the accessibility and affordability of housing, as well as the availability of reliable transportation options, which are essential for a resilient workforce and economy. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is weak when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 83rd in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Ratio of Average Estimated Home Value to Median Income	6.24	13.67
2nd Strongest	Percentage of Households with More Residents than Rooms	1.98%	2.1%
Bottom 10 in NC, Weakest	Percentage of People Driving Alone to Work	90.7%	86.36%

Healthcare: 27.21

The healthcare component examines the availability and quality of healthcare facilities, services, and professionals, which are critical for maintaining a healthy and productive workforce. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is average when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 46th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Nursing Home Beds per 1,000 Residents of Age 65+	31.35	27.53
2nd Strongest	Nurses per 10,000 Residents	224.32	262.64
Weakest	Mental Health Professionals per 10,000 Residents	4.2	6.6

Community Cohesion: 61.09

This component looks at the strength of social networks, community engagement, and the ability of residents to work together to address challenges and support one another during times of adversity. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is average when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 42nd in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Nonprofits Organizations per 1,000 Residents	3.94	3.17
2nd Strongest	Violent Crimes per 10,000 Residents	1.76	3.07
Weakest	Percentage of Inactive Voters	12.32%	11.3%

Socioeconomics: 18.11

This component considers factors such as income levels, poverty rates, and inequality, which can impact a community's ability to withstand and recover from economic shocks. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is weak when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 87th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Unemployment Rate (Q4)	3.9%	3.9%
2nd Strongest	Percentage of Population	10.15%	9.05%

	without a High School Diploma		
Bottom 10 in NC	Population 25+ with at least a Bachelor's Degree	14.53%	24.4%
Bottom 10 in NC	Median Household Income	\$54,1	\$70,088
Bottom 10 in NC, Weakest	Total Percentage of Population Below 150% Poverty Line	35.86%	25.93%

Education: 37.92

This component evaluates the quality of educational institutions and the educational attainment levels of the local population, which play a crucial role in developing a skilled and adaptable workforce. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is average when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 67th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Postsecondary Enrollment Percentage	26.16%	25.48%
2nd Strongest	Student to Teacher Ratio	14	14
Bottom 10 in NC, Weakest	Local LEA Financial Resources (per ADM)	\$4,276	\$8,683

Household Characteristics: 42.87

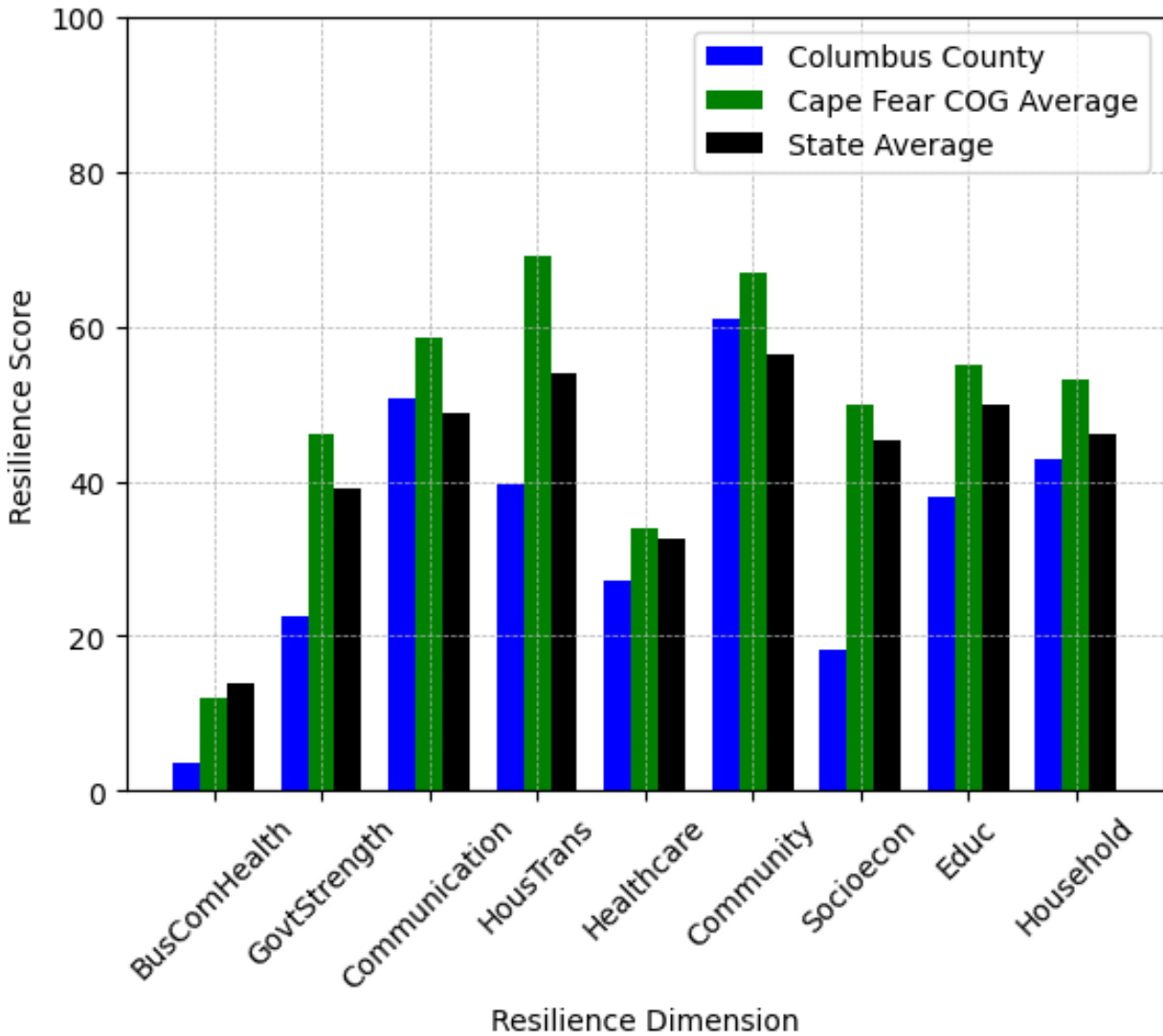
This component examines factors such as the proportion of single-parent households, age distribution, and the proportion of individuals with disabilities, as these elements can influence a community's resilience and ability to recover from economic disruptions. Columbus County's performance on this dimension is average when compared to other North Carolina counties, ranking 60th in the state.

Notable variables for Columbus County within this dimension include:

VARIABLE STRENGTH	FACTOR	COLUMBUS COUNTY VALUE	NC COUNTY AVERAGE VALUE
Strongest	Percentage of Population 65 and Older	20.06%	20.53%
2nd Strongest	Percentage of Population with Limited English Proficiency	1.163%	1.454%

Weakest	Percentage of Single Parent Households	37.908%	36.132%
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Columbus County's Resilience Dimension Scores Over Time As Compared to the Region and State Averages



Note: Resilience Scores are normalized from 1 to 100 with the most resilient county scoring 100. The Resilience Score is determined based on a county's performance relative to NC's other 99 counties.

Notable Trends in Resilience Indicators, 2017-2022

NOTE: The key trends in the this section are identified based on change rates of at least .15 standard deviations over at least 5 years. Variables are positively oriented such that a positive trend indicates improved performance (e.g., 'improvement' in property crime is a lower crime rate, while 'decline' in property crime indicates a higher crime rate).

Trends in the Business Community Health dimension:

Total Employment Level: **1,569** (5-year change rate = **10.29%**, from 15,254 to 16,823)

↑ Change in rank from 54 to 50 in NC

Average Weekly Wages: **138 dollars** (5-year change rate = **20.09%**, from 687 to 825)

↓ Change in rank from 73 to 91 in NC

Real GDP in Current Dollars: **-57,860 dollars** (5-year change rate = **-3.84%**, from 1,506,775 to 1,448,915)

↓ Change in rank from 57 to 61 in NC

Trends in the County Government Fiscal Strength dimension:

Adjusted Tax Base: **16,196 dollars** (5-year change rate = **24.24%**, from 66,813 to 83,009)

↑ Change in rank from 88 to 82 in NC

County Sales Tax: **3,416,577 dollars** (5-year change rate = **42.28%**, from 8,081,624 to 11,498,201)

↓ Change in rank from 59 to 63 in NC

Trends in the Housing & Transportation dimension:

Ratio of Average Estimated Home Value to Median Income : **2.45** (5-year change rate = **64.63%**, from 3.79 to 6.24)

↓ Change in rank from 32 to 41 in NC

Average Available Rent Money less the Average HUD Fair Market Rent: **91.9 dollars** (5-year change rate = **19.2%**, from 478.6 to 570.5)

↓ Change in rank from 59 to 78 in NC

Trends in the Healthcare dimension:

Opioid Deaths per 100,000 Residents: **9.2** (5-year change rate = **36.8%**, from 25 to 34.2)

↑ Change in rank from 53 to 41 in NC

Nurses per 10,000 Residents: **-2.08** (5-year change rate = **-0.92%**, from 226.4 to 224.32)

↑ Change in rank from 39 to 35 in NC

Physicians per 10,000 Residents: **-1.18** (5-year change rate = **-8.45%**, from 13.97 to 12.79)

↓ Change in rank from 45 to 49 in NC

Trends in the Community Cohesion dimension:

Violent Crimes per 10,000 Residents: **-2.42** (4-year change rate = **-57.91%**, from 4.18 to 1.76)

↑ Change in rank from 80 to 31 in NC

Property Crimes per 10,000 Residents: **-15.73** (4-year change rate = **-56.18%**, from 28 to 12.27)

↑ Change in rank from 77 to 34 in NC

Nonprofits Organizations per 1,000 Residents: **0.57** (5-year change rate = **17.06%**, from 3.37 to 3.94)

↑ Change in rank from 29 to 27 in NC

Trends in the Socioeconomics dimension:

Unemployment Rate (Q4): **-1.2 percent** (5-year change rate = **-23.38%**, from 5.1 to 3.9)

↑ Change in rank from 76 to 67 in NC

Median Household Income: **7,700 dollars** (5-year change rate = **16.59%**, from 46,400 to 54,100)

↓ Change in rank from 77 to 91 in NC

Trends in the Education dimension:

Graduation Percentage: **1.95 percent** (5-year change rate = **2.33%**, from 83.6 to 85.55)

↓ Change in rank from 78 to 81 in NC

Student to Teacher Ratio: **-1** (4-year change rate = **-8%**, from 15 to 14)

↑ Change in rank from 70 to 48 in NC

3rd Grade Reading Proficiency: **-8.32 percent** (5-year change rate = **-17.39%**, from 47.83 to 39.51)

↑ Change in rank from 79 to 66 in NC

Data Advisements:

- Science, Engineering, & Technology Industries Employment Percentage is not available for 2022 and was excluded from calculating this county's dimension and resilience score.
- Availability of Broadband Services is not available for 2022 and was excluded from calculating this county's dimension and resilience score.
- Adoption Rate of Broadband Services is not available for 2022 and was excluded from calculating this county's dimension and resilience score.