UNC | INNOVATE CAROLINA



INNOVATION & ECONOMIC IMPACT BRIEF

Fiscal Year 2025

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development and Chief Innovation Officer

innovate.unc.edu

FY25 UNC Innovation and Economic Impact

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>> Technology Commercialization



UNC IP-BASED STARTUP GROWTH

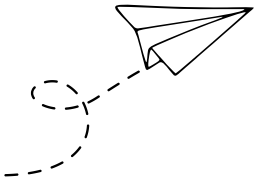
197
Startups Based on UNC Intellectual Property Launched Since 1950
Cumulative



42 Research-Based Products on Market
Since 2006

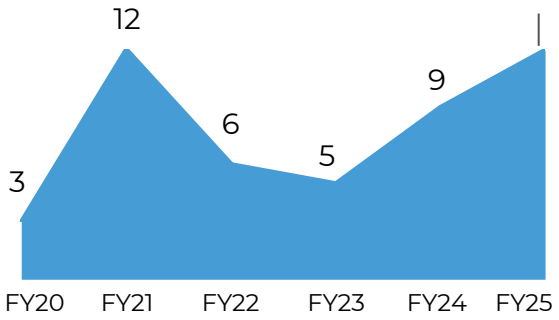


$145.9M
Licensing Revenue
Cumulative



RECORD YEAR FOR NEW IP-BASED STARTUPS

12





1,426 Issued U.S. Patents
Cumulative



+32 SPOTS Record-Setting Rise in National Academy of Inventors Global Rankings
2025

>> Entrepreneurial Education and Talent



4,000+ Faculty and Student Innovators Trained
Through workshops, training programs, fellowships and internships
Cumulative



100+
Courses encompassing innovation or entrepreneurship
FY25

74 UNC NSF I-Corps Teams
7 National
67 Regional
>>> $7.3M Non-Dilutive Funding Raised



75+ Faculty and Student Innovation Fellows
Cumulative



469 Student Pitch Teams Supported
Since 2017

FY25 UNC Innovation and Economic Impact

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>> UNC Startups

TOTAL STARTUPS: WORLDWIDE

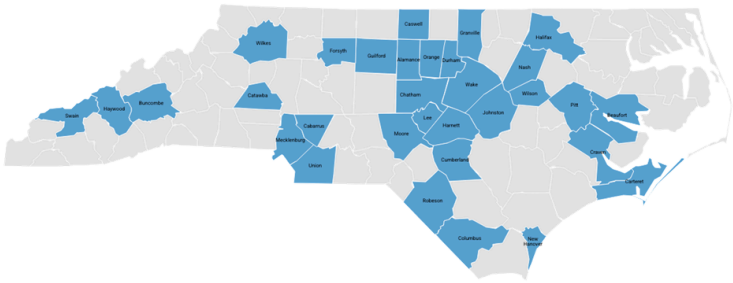
1,273	$22.6B	131K	$48.9B
UNC Startups Founded (since 1950)	Annual Revenue (FY25)	People Employed (since 1950)	Total Capital Raised (FY25)

IP-BASED VENTURES

197	$475M	3,280	$14.6B
IP-Based Startups (Since 1950)	Annual Revenue (FY25)	People Employed (FY25)	Total Capital Raised (Since 1950)

TOP FIVE SECTORS: IP-BASED STARTUPS

- **40%** Therapeutics
- **15%** Med Devices, Biomarkers & Diagnostics
- **12%** Research Tools
- **12%** Software & IT
- **5%** Imaging



UNC STARTUPS IN NORTH CAROLINA

537 Active UNC Startups in **32** NC Counties

$18.4B Annual Revenue

14,530 People Employed

FY25

UNC STARTUPS ECOSYSTEM: FY25 ECONOMIC IMPACT IN NORTH CAROLINA

- **$4.29B** Value Contributed to NC GDP
- **$7.96B** Total Economic Activity
- **33,643** Total Jobs Supported
- **$273.88M** State & Local Gov't Revenues

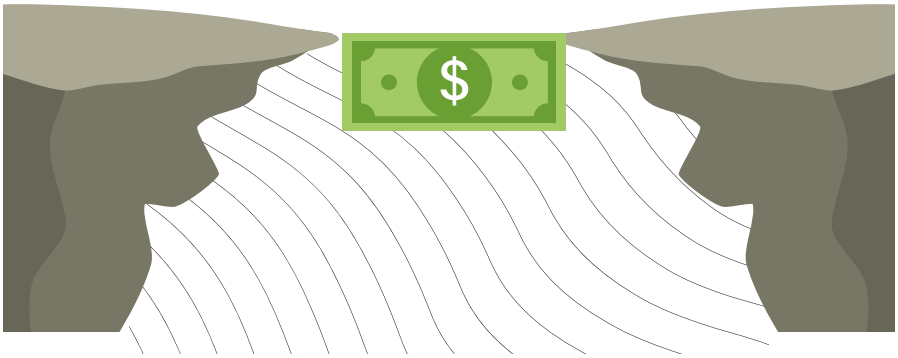
FY25 UNC Innovation and Economic Impact

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>> UNC Innovation Gap Funding

285x
MORE FUNDING RAISED

$117M
UNC Innovation Gap Funding



$33B
Total Funding Raised

1,925
Translational Projects & Ventures Funded

1,041
Startups Receiving UNC Gap Funding and/or In-Kind Support

Cumulative data

CAROLINA ANGEL NETWORK



233
Investors

$10.4M
Capital Returned

34
Portfolio Companies

7
Company Exits

$31.7M
Invested

$629M
Total Funding Raised

20x
MORE FUNDING RAISED
by CAN Portfolio Companies Than CAN Investments Received

CAN data since 2017

>> Innovation Services and Support

$358M
Funding Raised by 476 UNC Accelerator Portfolio Companies

FY25: 234 Active Firms | 5,942 Jobs | $163M Annual Revenue

$1.9B
Total Capital Raised by Ventures Supported by Innovate Carolina Services Center

KICKSTART VENTURE SERVICES

188
Startups Supported

$6.4B
Total Capital Raised

1,900x
More Raised vs. KickStart Grants

65%
SBIR/STTR Success Rate (Grant Writing Support)

6x
Higher SBIR/STTR Success vs. No Support

135+ Entrepreneurial Mentors and Advisors

250+ Innovation Resources Mapped for Online Navigation

560+ Meetings and Touchpoints with Investors and Industry

FY25 UNC Innovation and Economic Impact

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>> Innovation Hubs and Communities



INNOVATION & COWORKING HUB

INNOVATE CAROLINA JUNCTION

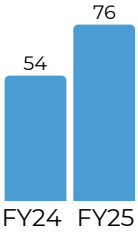
Growth FY25 vs. FY24

110
Membership Subscriptions



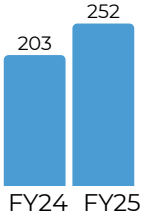
+18%

76
Companies Represented



+41%

252
Total Individual Members



+19%

1,100+
People Attending Downtown Events for Entrepreneurial Skill-Building
FY25

836
Entrepreneurial Mentor Office-Hour Sessions Offered to Community
FY25

700+
Members of New UNC AI Community
FY25

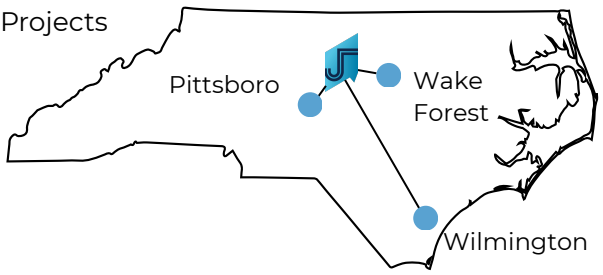
New in FY25: KPMG Partnership

10 Companies Selected, 50% AI-Focused Startups

launch Chapel Hill
Powered by KPMG

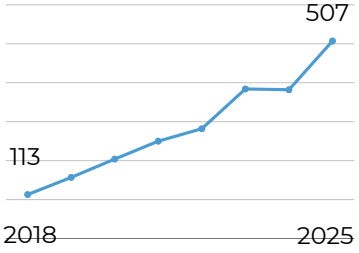
Regional Hub Engagement

3 Entrepreneurial Hub Projects



STUDENT INNOVATION COMMUNITY

500+
Active Members of 1789 Student Innovation Community



850
Students Connected to 190+ Startups for Career Development
Since 2021

FY25 UNC Innovation and Economic Impact

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>> Innovation Gap Funding

$117 MILLION UNC Innovation Gap Funding Provided (Cumulative)

1,925 Startups and Translational Projects Funded (Cumulative)

$33 BILLION Total Funding Raised by Startups Receiving UNC Gap Funding and/or In-Kind Support

1,041 Startups Received UNC Gap Funding and/or In-Kind Program Support

285x MORE FUNDING RAISED

By UNC-Funded and/or Supported Startups vs. $117 UNC Gap Funding Provided

CAROLINA ANGEL NETWORK



233 Investors

$10.4M Capital Returned

34 Portfolio Companies

7 Company Exits

$31.7M Invested

$629M Total Funding Raised

>> Innovation Services and Support

$358M Funding Raised by 476 UNC Accelerator Portfolio Companies

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$1.9B Total Capital Raised by Ventures Supported by Innovate Carolina Services Center

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