



APPENDIX E

COMMISSIONED DATA SOURCES

As part of the process described in **Appendix A**, myFutureNC commissioned several partners and subject matter experts to develop multiple data sources to inform the Commission's work, including policy briefs, surveys, and a statewide listening tour. This appendix provides a brief overview of each data source.

POLICY BRIEFS

A series of policy briefs and fact sheets were written to provide information and data about topics relevant to the myFutureNC Commission's work. These briefs cover five broad categories: 1) the North Carolina context and the talent pipeline; 2) preschool, elementary, and secondary achievement; 3) transitions to and across postsecondary opportunities; 4) student debt; and 5) workforce talent development. Each of these policy briefs provides an overview of the topic, as well as North Carolina-specific data and trends, an alignment of the topic to postsecondary attainment, key findings, and recommendations for policy or system changes. A summary of each brief is included in **Appendix F**.

GALLUP SURVEY

To better understand current perceptions regarding the state of education opportunity in North Carolina, myFutureNC partnered with Gallup to conduct a study of the state's adult population. The survey of nearly 3,500 North Carolina



residents measured opinions and perceptions about all levels of education in North Carolina, from early childhood to K-12 schools, and from two-year community colleges to four-year public and private colleges and universities. Written and published by Gallup, this survey provides a holistic view of the current state of public opinion about education in North Carolina and where the public believes efforts needed to be focused in order to improve educational opportunities in the state. The results of the survey are available on the myFutureNC website.⁴⁹

EDUCATIONNC REACH NC VOICES SURVEY

Concurrent with the listening tour (described below), EducationNC and Reach NC Voices administered a survey to different constituencies in order to include the voices of more North Carolinians. The survey was distributed from late April to early June of 2018. During that time, 1,033 respondents completed the survey, and a total of 46,014 total data points were collected. The survey was distributed via EdNC.org, EdNC email lists and newsletters, social media, the Reach NC Voices membership group, and via in-person sessions across the state. Data collected through the survey included information regarding quality of life, employment status and local job opportunities, desired education and actual educational attainment, local P-12 school quality and ratings, perceptions of the impact of education and of supports needed for education, and transitions across education sectors. A summary of the survey results is included in **Appendix G**.

LISTENING TOUR

During the spring of 2018, the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at North Carolina State University organized a listening tour to gather feedback from stakeholders across the state about the Commission's emerging Call to Action and its components. In each of the state's eight prosperity zones, tour staff convened stakeholders at a central location and conducted focus groups and panels related to the theme of attainment. At many of the stops, staff also led focus groups at local schools or colleges, as well as at local businesses, in

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order to collect information from teachers, students, employees, and others who otherwise would not have been able to participate in the events. Over the course of the tour, nearly 400 event participants and over 170 on-site student, teacher, and employee participants provided input in the following locations: Asheboro, Cherokee, Elizabeth City, Greensboro, Jacksonville, Kannapolis, Lenoir, Pinehurst, and eastern Wake County (Figure H1). In addition to the daytime events, EducationNC hosted evening gatherings in surrounding communities, allowing for even greater participation from community members who were unable to attend the daytime meetings. Six documents created by The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation summarize the challenges and barriers identified during the listening tour (one for each of the different themes), and a seventh document summarizes listening tour participant recommendations for how to move the work forward. A summary of the listening tour findings is included in **Appendix H**.

FIGURE E1. MYFUTURENC LISTENING TOUR STOPS

