## Workforce Development and Public Libraries

## Highlights from North Carolina FY2013-2014

Across North Carolina, public libraries are contributing to workforce development by providing employment resources, one-on-one instruction and online job application assistance, classes on job skills, employment listings, job fairs, and collaborating with local partners on workforce development projects. Below is just a small sample of what NC public libraries accomplished during FY 2013-14.

Collaboration

NC public libraries collaborate with a variety of organizations such as NC Works, community colleges, local small businesses and workforce development organizations to offer career and technology skill building programs.





public libraries. **56,587** North Carolinians

attended a career or technology workshop at their public library.

programs were offered at NC

**84%** of NC public libraries

offer technology classes.

2,764 career related

100%



**77%** of Americans ages 16 and older say free access to computers and the internet is a very important service offered by libraries.<sup>1</sup>

**47%** of job seekers say help form the library finding or applying for a job is very important to them and their families.<sup>2</sup>



NC Library staff answered just under 2 million job and technology related questions. That's a question from 2 out of 10 NC residents or 2x the attendance of the NC State Fair.

## References

1. Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study, http://www.ala.org/research/plftas/2011\_2012

2. Zickuhr, K. et al. "How Americans Value Public Libraries in Their Communities." Pew Research Center, Washington, D.C. (2013). http://libraries.pewinterent.org/2013/ 12/11/libraries-in-communities/

All other data comes from the NC Annual Public Library Survey. http://statelibrary. ncdcr.gov/ld/aboutlibrries/statistics.html

**100%** of NC libraries provide access to job databases and other job opportunity resources.