



# Alamance County Public Libraries

## GROWTH TRENDS & FACILITY SERVICE AREA REPORT

February 2025

**BENCHMARK**

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## Overview

The following report provides information on the current development and population growth trends in relationship to the existing Alamance County Public Library facilities. The report considered existing data from a variety of sources including the U.S. Census Bureau, the State of North Carolina, and Alamance County. The analysis of the data in the report provides an overview of the observed growth trends within the County to help decision-makers with the identification of potential areas of the County for the location of future library facilities and changes in services provided to library users.

## Population Growth Trends

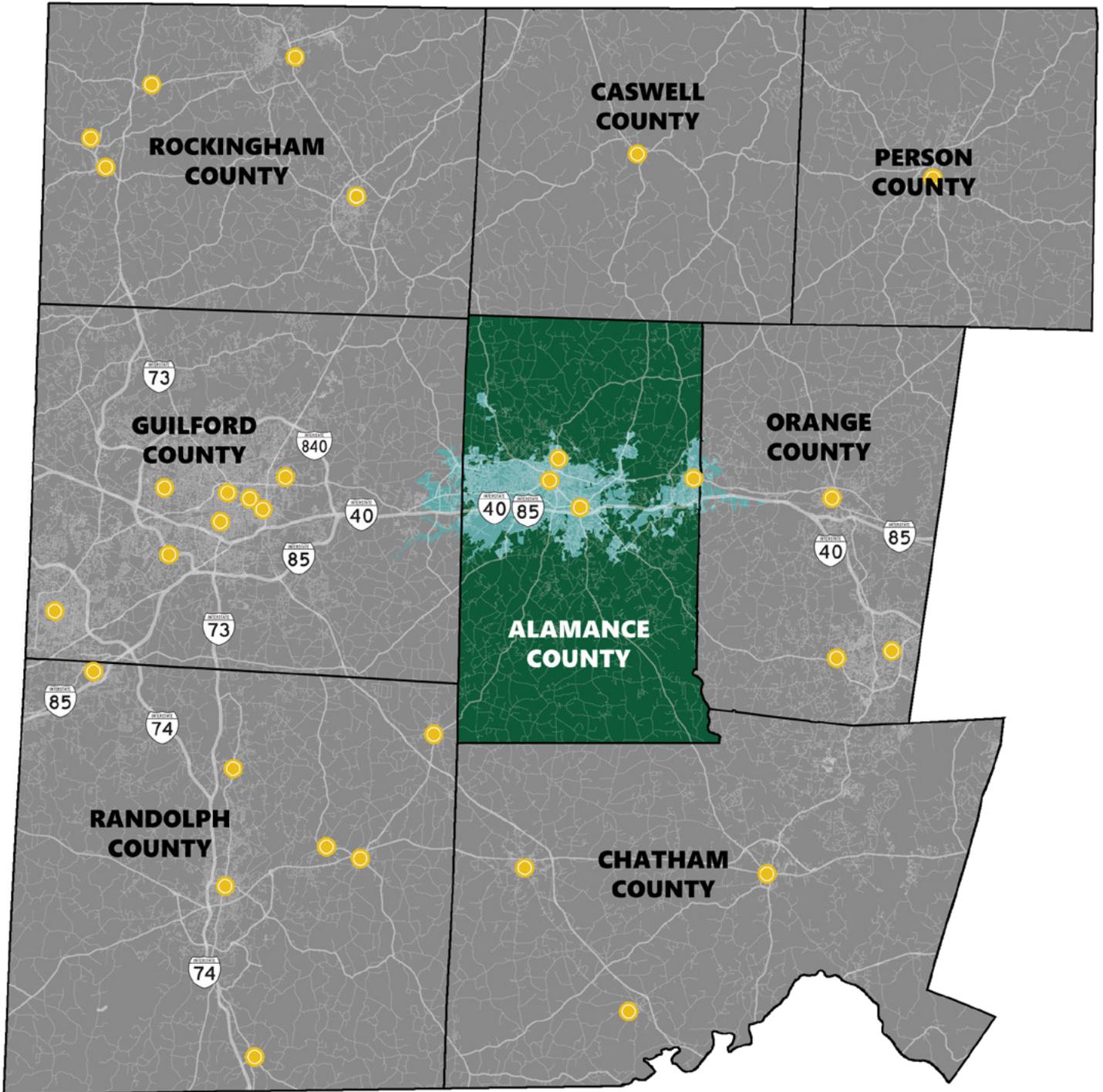
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Alamance County has continuously grown, since at least 1960. Today, the County is home to over 171,000 residents and has grown by almost 20,000 residents since 2010. Both of its east and west neighboring counties, Guilford and Orange, have grown at similar rates, averaging a rate of growth between 25% and 30% between 2000 and 2020. Counties to the north have grown at much lower rates or not at all, while Chatham County has grown at an exponential rate, increasing its population by almost 55% since 2000. Within Alamance County, some areas have grown while others have lost population in recent years. Generally speaking, much of the recent growth (2011 - 2019) has been directly around Interstate 40 and the County's municipalities. Meanwhile, pockets of the County have seen a decrease in population in recent years, with the greatest concentration of lost population being along the County's northern boundaries. There also appears to have been significant subdivision development just south of the County's municipalities.

### ▼ POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS FOR ALAMANCE COUNTY AND THE REGION

COUNTY	2000	2010	2020	2040 (Projected)	Total Projected Growth (2000-2040)
Alamance	130,800	151,131	171,415	218,714	87,914
Caswell	23,501	23,719	22,736	20,401	- 3,100
Chatham	49,329	63,505	76,285	103,547	54,218
Guilford	421,048	488,406	541,299	626,975	205,927
Orange	118,227	133,801	148,696	175,040	56,813
Person	35,623	39,464	39,097	39,633	4,010
Randolph	130,454	141,752	144,171	156,588	26,134
Rockingham	91,928	93,643	91,096	91,570	- 358

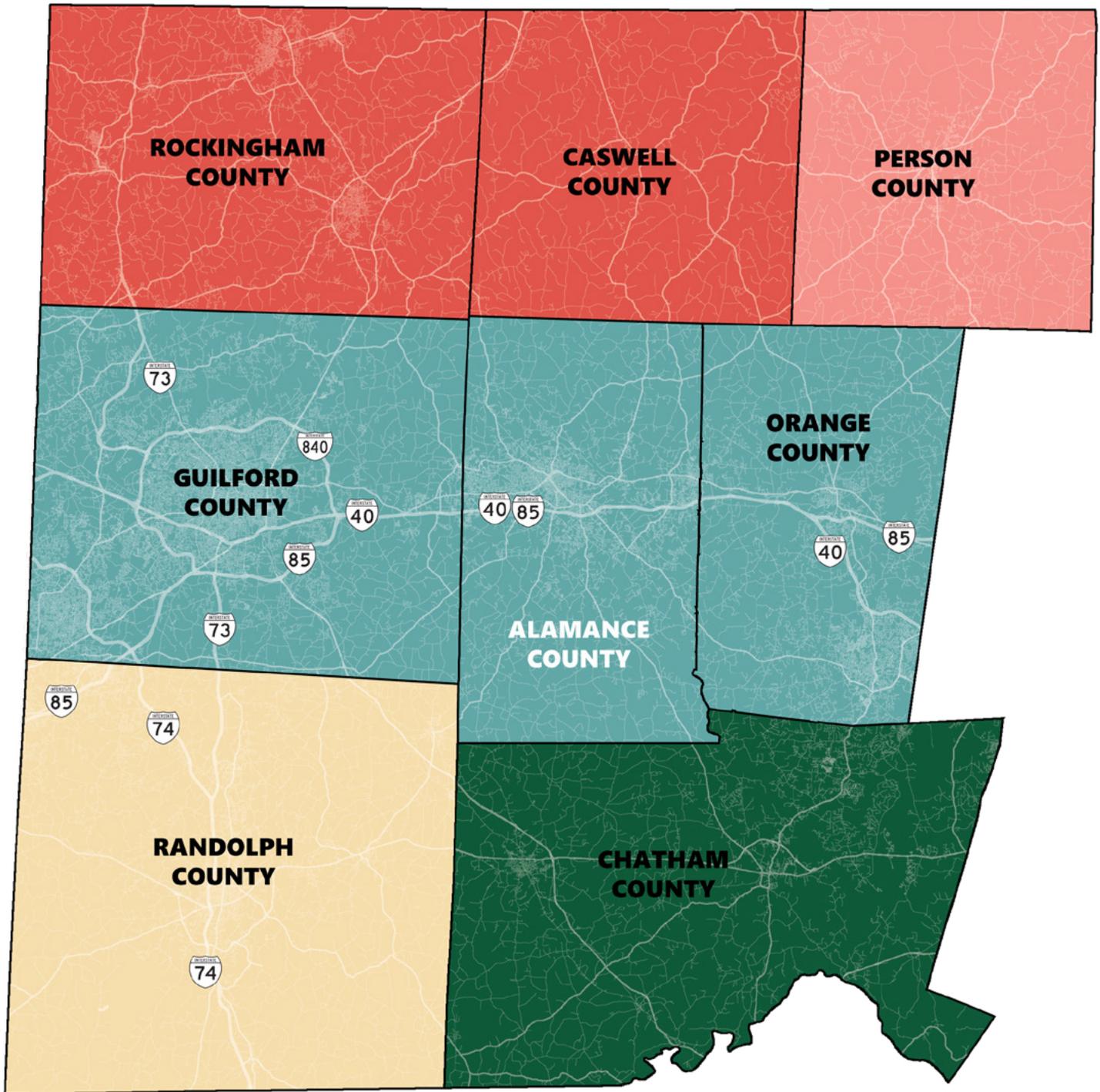
SOURCE: United States Census (2000, 2010, 2020), North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management (2040 Projection)

▼ ALAMANCE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES



- |  |                 |   |                  |
|--|-----------------|---|------------------|
|  | Alamance County |  | Major Roads      |
|  | Other Counties  |  | Local Roads      |
|  | Municipalities  |  | Public Libraries |

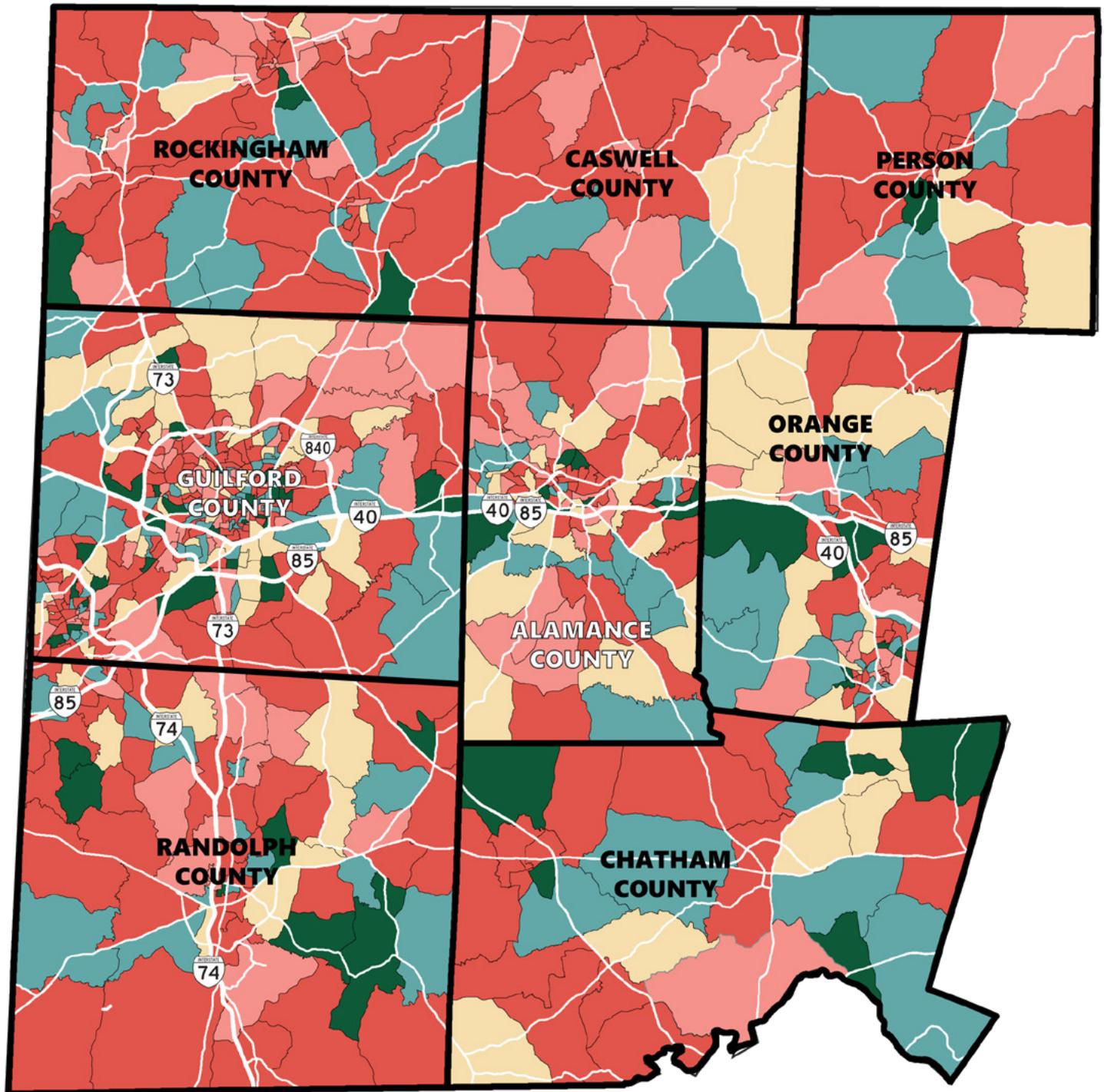
▼ GROWTH IN THE REGION BY COUNTY (2000 - 2020)



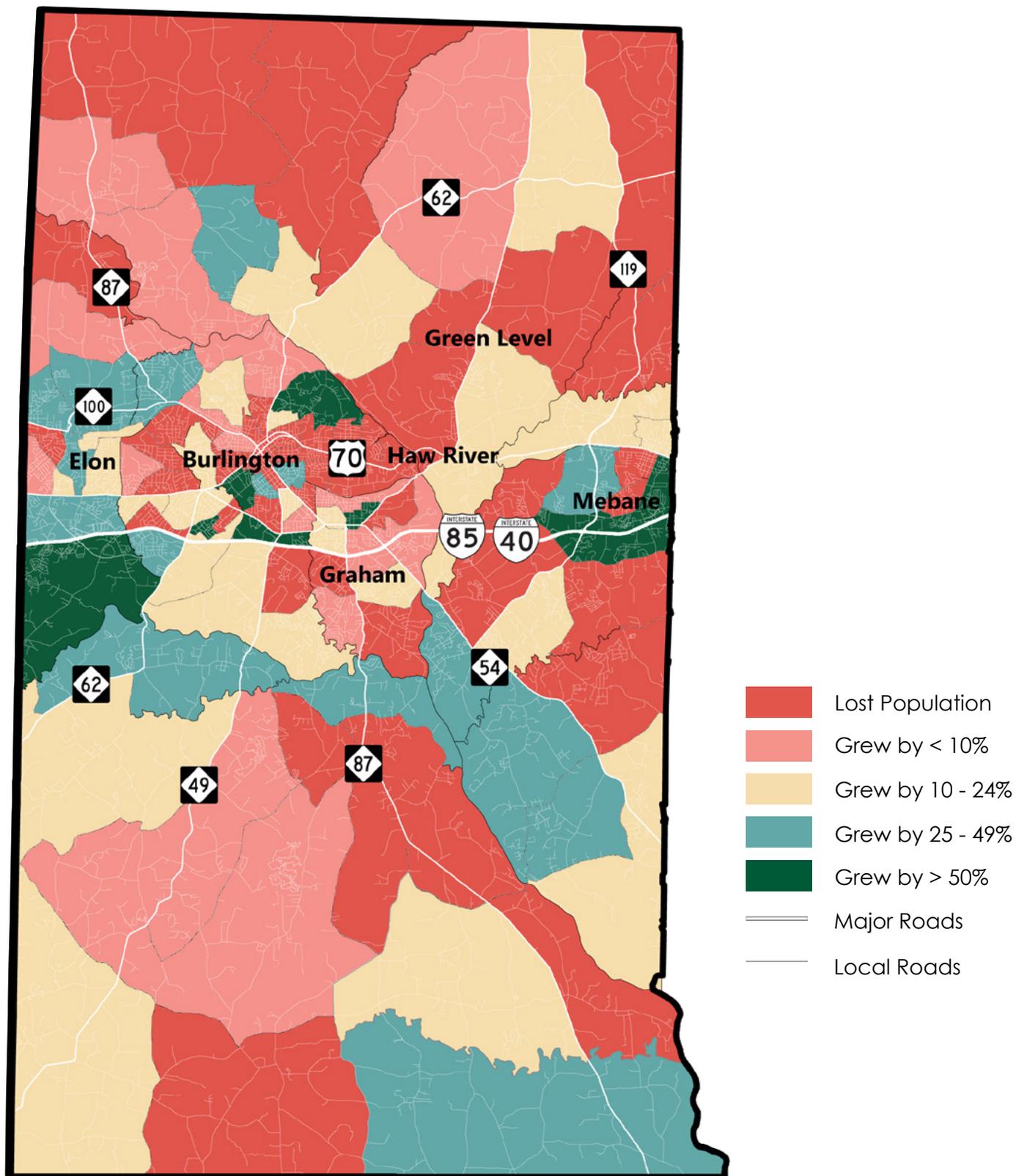
- Lost Population
  - Grew by < 10%
  - Grew by 10 - 24%
  - Grew by 25 - 49%
  - Grew by > 50%
- Major Roads
  - Local Roads

SOURCE: United States Census (2000, 2020)

▼ POPULATION CHANGE BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP IN REGION (2011 - 2019)



SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2011, 2019)



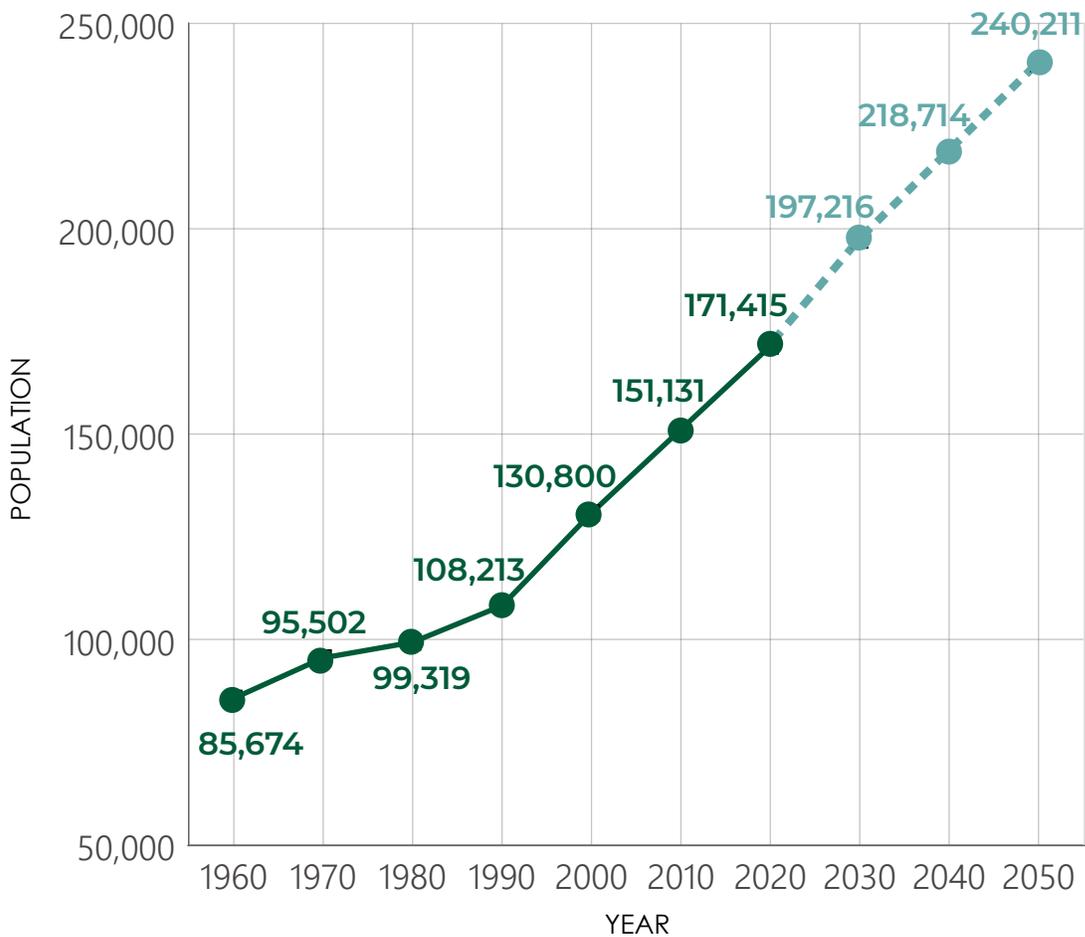
SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2011, 2019)

## Population Projection

As mentioned previously, Alamance County has continuously grown since at least 1960. Since 1990, it has grown more rapidly, adding over 20,000 new residents each decade. Given this recent pace of growth, as well as the County's proximity to major growing regions (Greensboro - Winston-Salem and Raleigh - Durham), the State of North Carolina projects that Alamance County will continue to grow pretty rapidly over the next thirty years.

While the County's population in 2020 totaled over 170,000; the State projects it to grow to almost 200,000 by 2030. The State then projects the County to grow to almost 220,000 residents by 2040 and over 240,000 residents by 2050. The historic population counts per the decennial census (1960 - 2020) and the State's projections through 2050 are shown on the graph below.

### ▼ POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR ALAMANCE COUNTY



SOURCE: United States Census (2000, 2010, 2020), North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management (2040 Projection)

## Population Density and Residential Addresses

While knowing the overall population and how the County is growing is important when considering public services such as a library; a key factor is understanding where the greatest concentrations of people live and work.

### POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE IN CENSUS BLOCK GROUPS

Areas along the interstate and in the municipalities are the most dense portions of Alamance County. Specifically, pockets of Elon and Burlington are home to more than 5,000 residents per square mile. The majority of these municipalities, as well as Mebane and Graham, average over 1,000 residents per square mile. As you move away from the interstate, populations generally live in less dense settings, with the least density being on the most southern and northern boundaries of the County. The map on the following page illustrates the population per square mile by census block group in the County. This data was obtained via the American Community Survey in 2021.

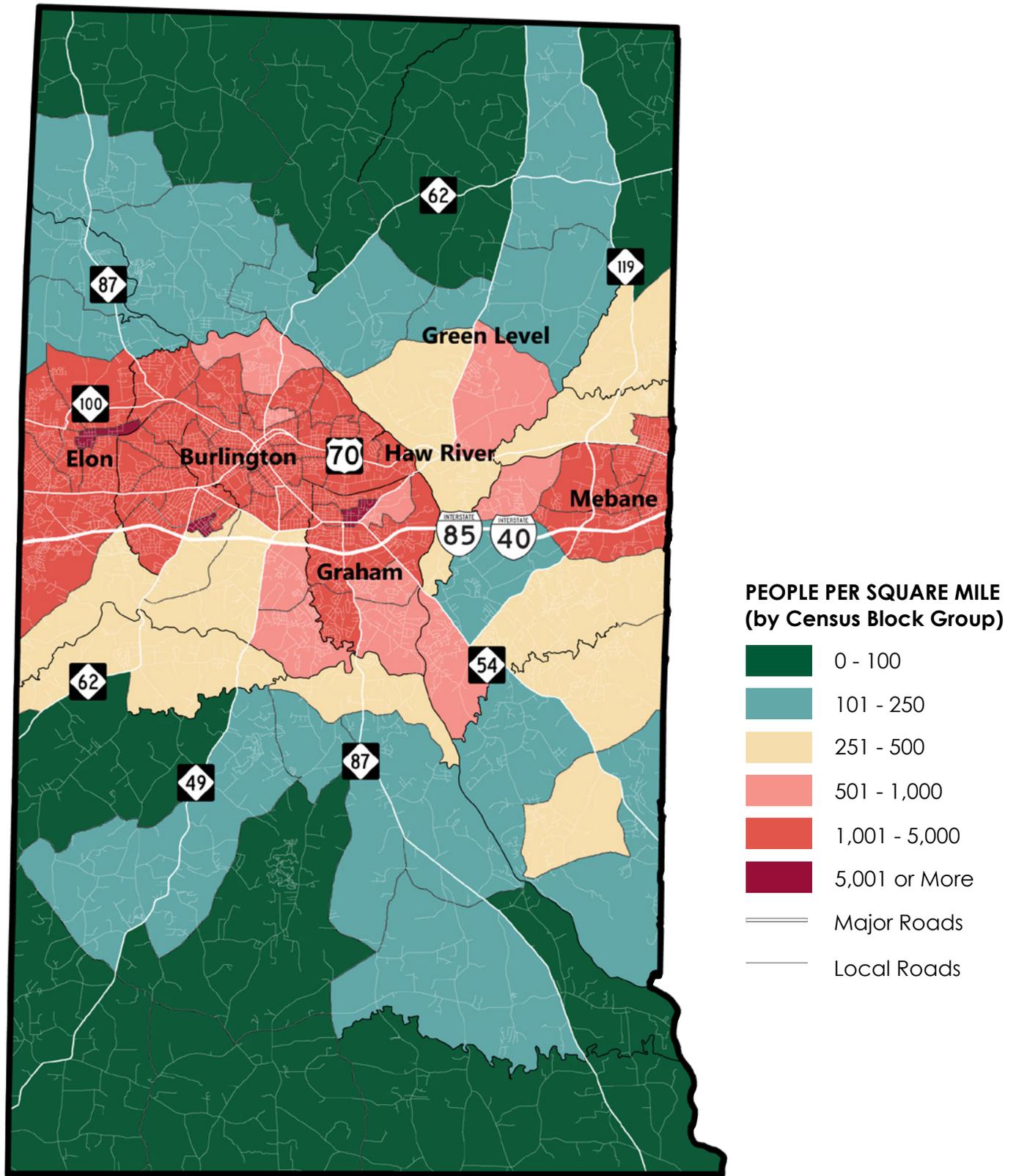
### RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES

Another way to look at densities is by looking at residential addresses. The County maintains a GIS layer with addresses and the majority of these (89%) are classified as residential addresses. While there are residential addresses located throughout the County, there are of course concentrations of addresses in the more dense areas: primarily in the municipalities. The residential addresses map displays a heat map with the areas of high concentrated residential addresses. The most significant concentrations are in Elon, Burlington, and Mebane. Given the concentration of addresses throughout the municipalities which are concentrated along the interstate, the “mean center” of all residential addresses is in Burlington, just north of I-40/85 and Graham. The mean center is essentially the average “middle” between all residential addresses. Interestingly enough, the mean center of all residential addresses is proximate to the Graham Public Library.

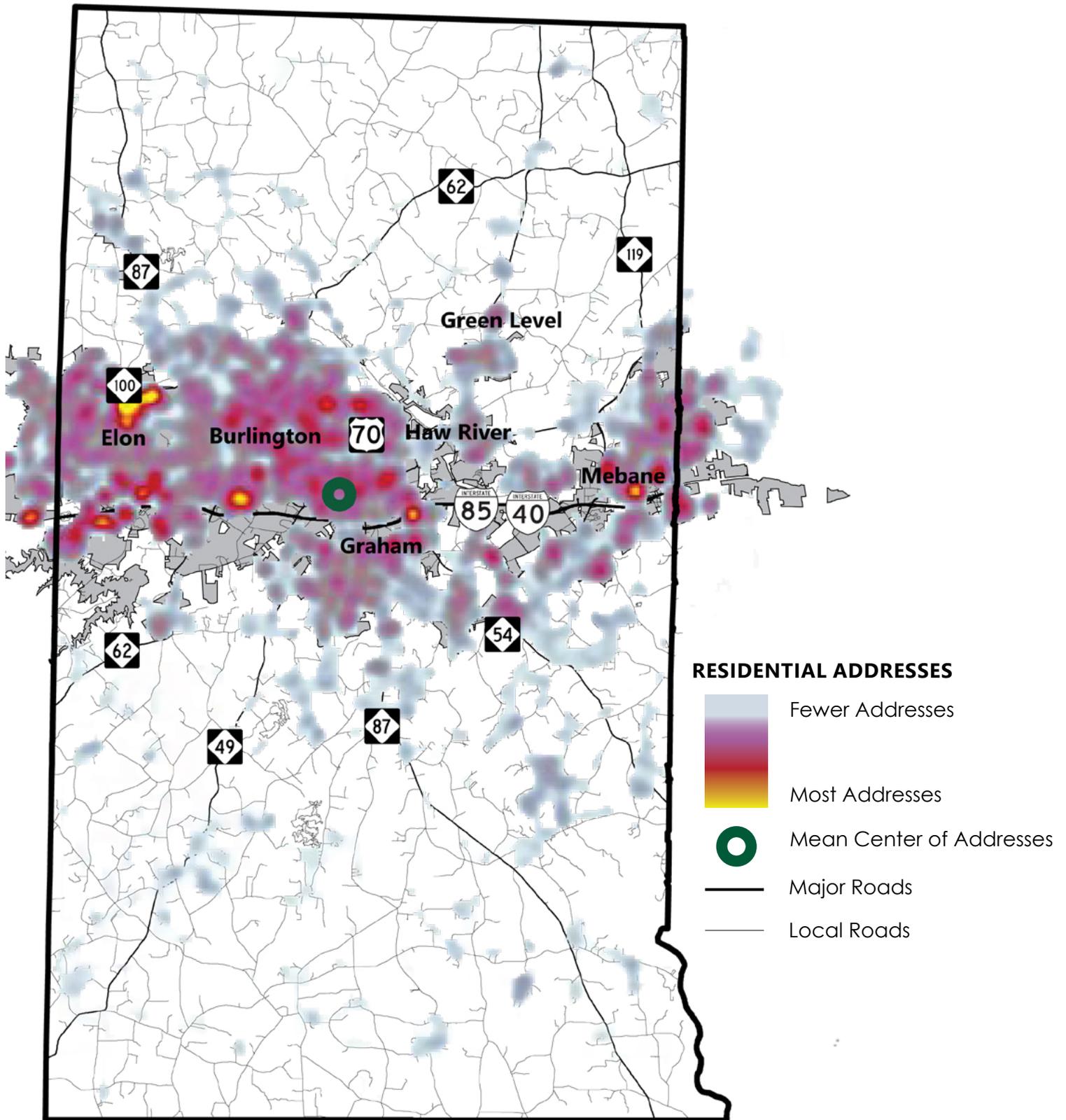
### WORK LOCATIONS

According to the United States Census Bureau's employment data from 2022, the greatest concentration of Alamance County's residents who are employed work in these same areas where most people live - along Interstate 40/85 in Elon, Burlington, Graham, and Mebane. Of course, residents commute throughout the region and many travel via the interstate to jobs in Guilford, Orange, Randolph, Durham, and Wake Counties. The greatest range of travel is east-west, with fewer residents commuting north and south for employment opportunities.

▼ POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP (2021)

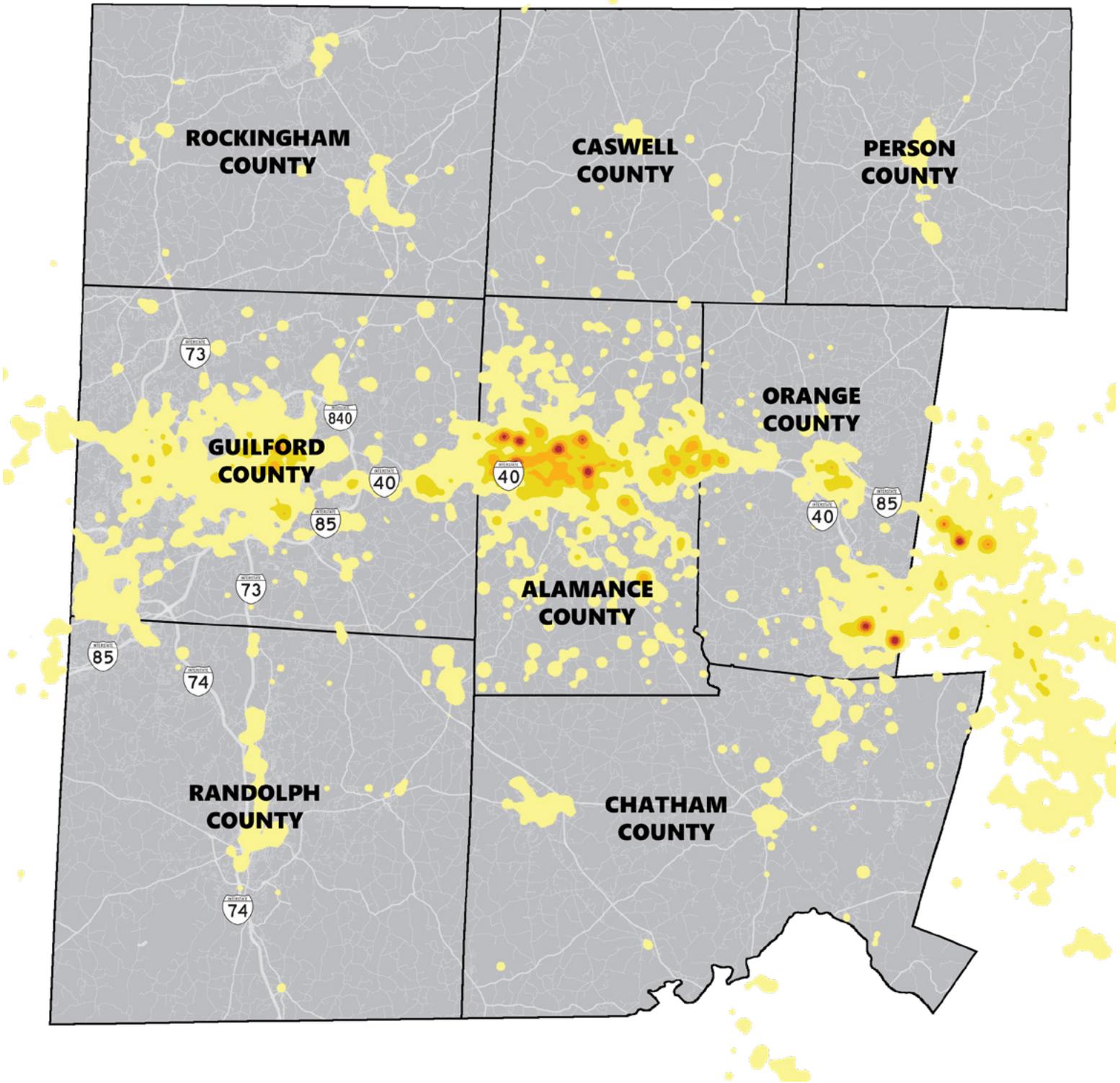


SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2021)



SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Residential Addresses, Obtained 12-3-2024

▼ WORK LOCATIONS OF ALAMANCE COUNTY RESIDENTS (2022)



**WORK LOCATIONS**



- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Counties

SOURCE: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LEHD - LODES Employment Data (2022)

## Population Characteristics

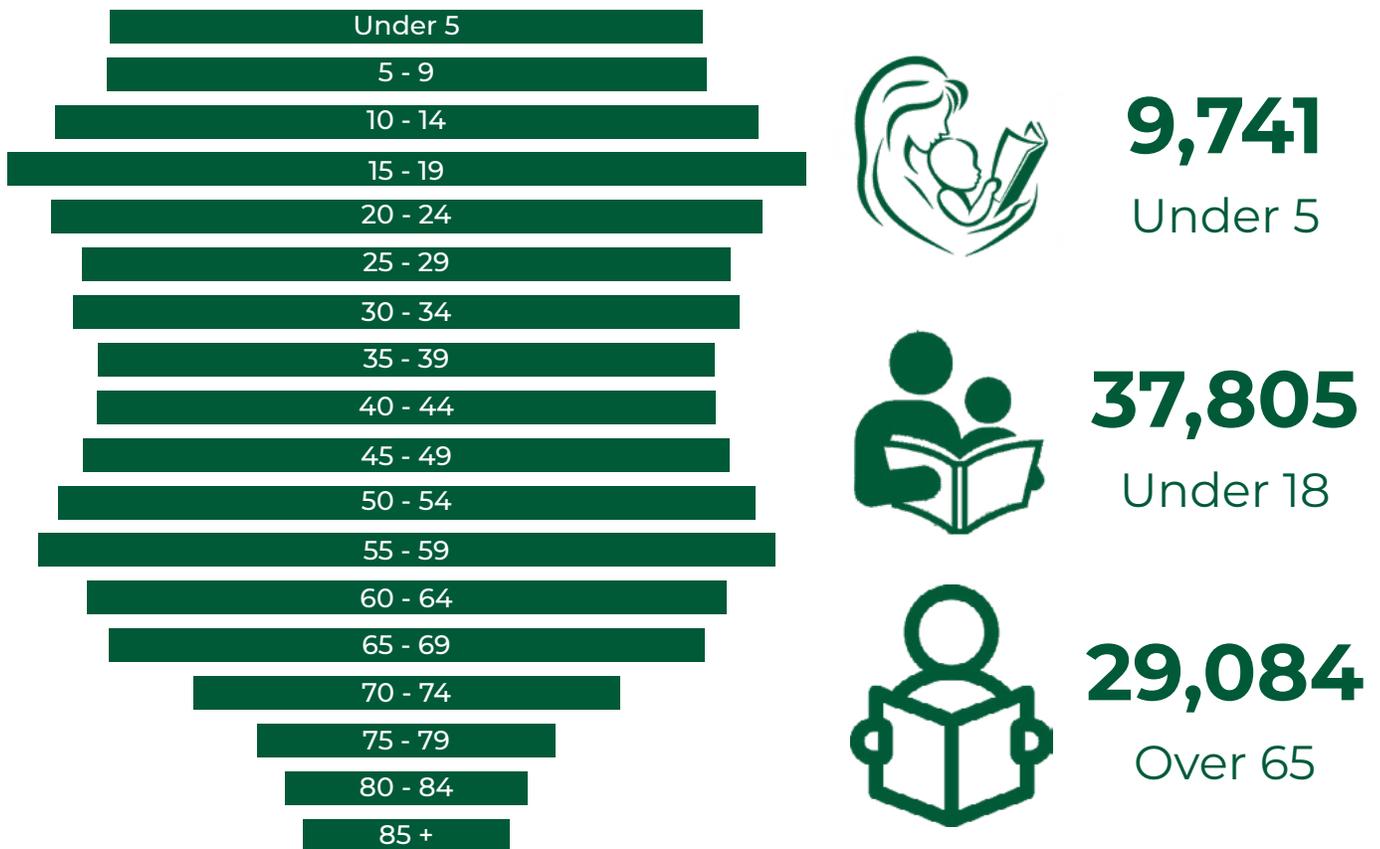
Understanding the demographics of a community is an important step in determining how to best serve residents. The following section details various demographic characteristics of Alamance County residents.

### AGE

The median age of Alamance County is average, at 39.1. In fact, this is the same as the State and just one half year older than the national median age. The population pyramid below illustrates the age cohorts of residents and many of the bars for age groups below 70 are relatively similar in size. There are slightly larger groups of teenagers (aged 15 - 19, as well as 10 - 14), young adults (aged 20 -24), and those aged 55 - 59.

Almost 6% of the County's population (about 10,000 residents) are under the age of 5 and 22% (almost 40,000 residents) are children under the age of 18. Young children (under 5) are most concentrated in Burlington and in southern Alamance off NC-87. Children in general, as a portion of total residents, are most concentrated in the municipalities along the interstate. About 17% of the population, or just over 29,000 residents are over the age of 65 years old. These residents are concentrated in various census block groups throughout the County.

#### ▼ POPULATION PYRAMID - AGE GROUPS OF ALAMANCE COUNTY RESIDENTS



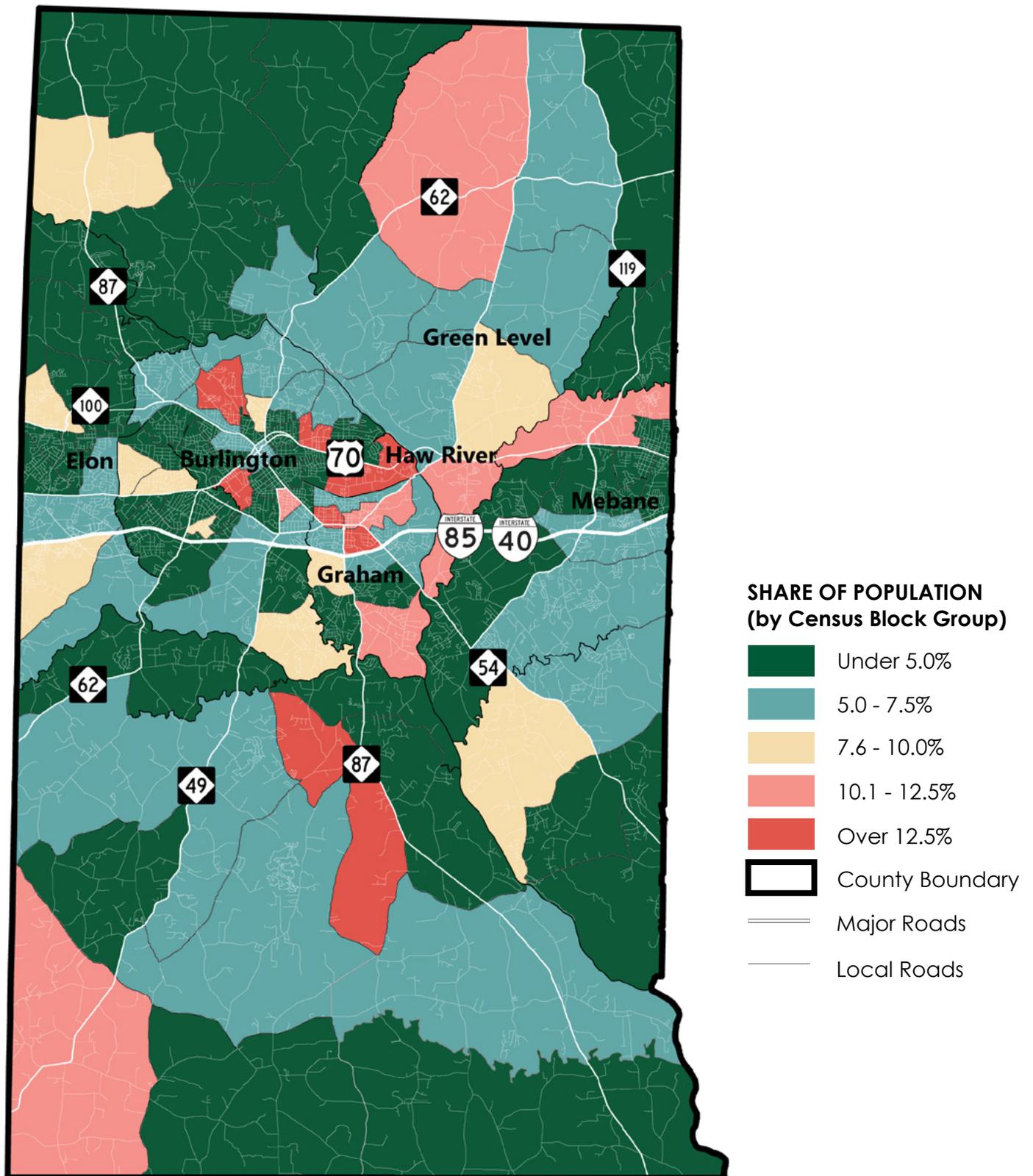
SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

▼ AGE COHORTS BY GENDER IN ALAMANCE COUNTY

AGE COHORT	NUMBER OF MALES	NUMBER OF FEMALES
Under 5 Years Old	4,973	4,768
5 - 9 Years Old	5,003	4,862
10 - 14 Years Old	5,955	5,627
15 - 19 Years Old	6,441	6,712
20 - 24 Years Old	5,644	6,050
25 - 29 Years Old	5,122	5,551
30 - 34 Years Old	5,376	5,589
35 - 39 Years Old	4,654	5,495
40 - 44 Years Old	5,090	5,089
45 - 49 Years Old	5,167	5,468
50 - 54 Years Old	5,628	5,821
55 - 59 Years Old	5,888	6,199
60 - 64 Years Old	4,960	5,563
65 - 69 Years Old	4,555	5,248
70 - 74 Years Old	3,094	3,908
75 - 79 Years Old	2,058	2,845
80 - 84 Years Old	1,616	2,372
85 + Years Old	1,104	2,284

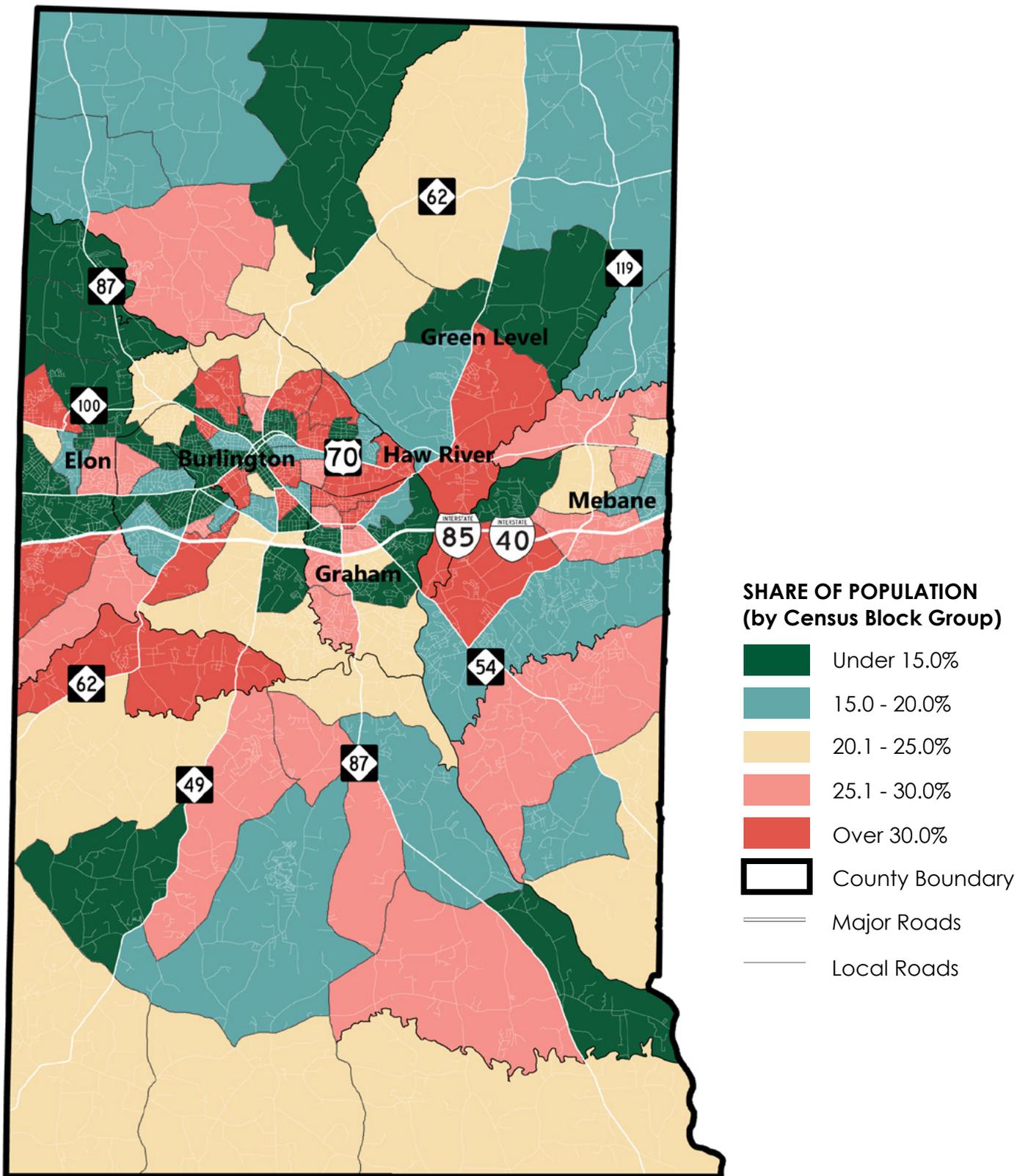
SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

▼ SHARE OF POPULATION UNDER 5 YEARS OLD (2021)



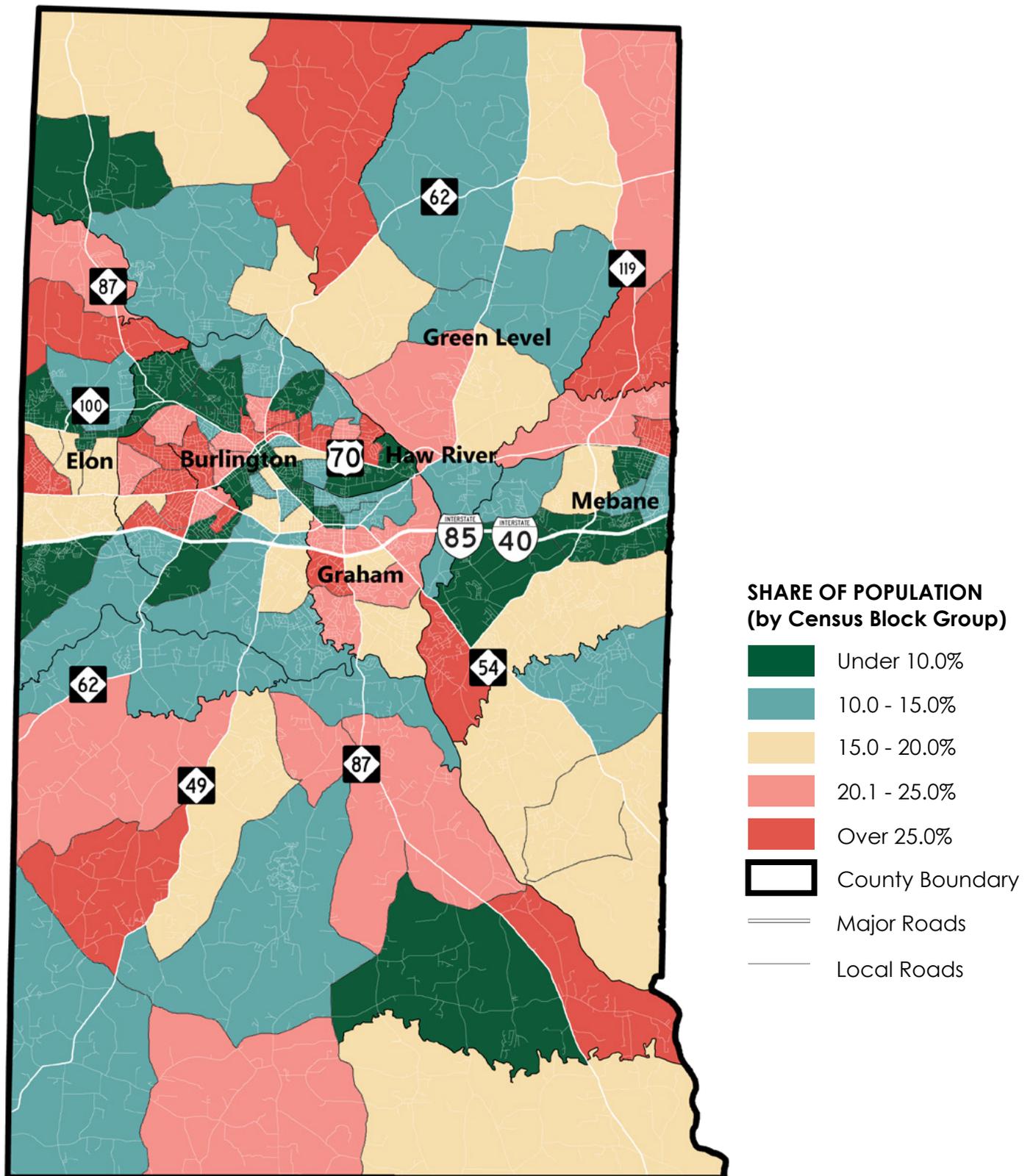
SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2021)

▼ SHARE OF POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS OLD (2021)



SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2021)

▼ SHARE OF POPULATION OVER 65 YEARS OLD (2021)



SOURCE: United States Census TIGER Shapefiles, American Community Survey (2021)

## HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

Almost two-thirds of all households in Alamance County are considered to be family households. While the average household size in the County is 2.48 people, the average family size is 3.10. This is because over one-quarter of households include children and almost one-third of households include at least one person under the age of 18. Almost one-third of households also include at least one person over the age of 65. About 30% of householders live alone and 12.8% of householders are people over the age of 65 who live alone. Approximately 6.3% of households, or 4,282 families, are single parent households.

**67,370**

Total  
Households

**46,209**

Family  
Households

**19,540**

Households with  
Children

## INCOME AND POVERTY

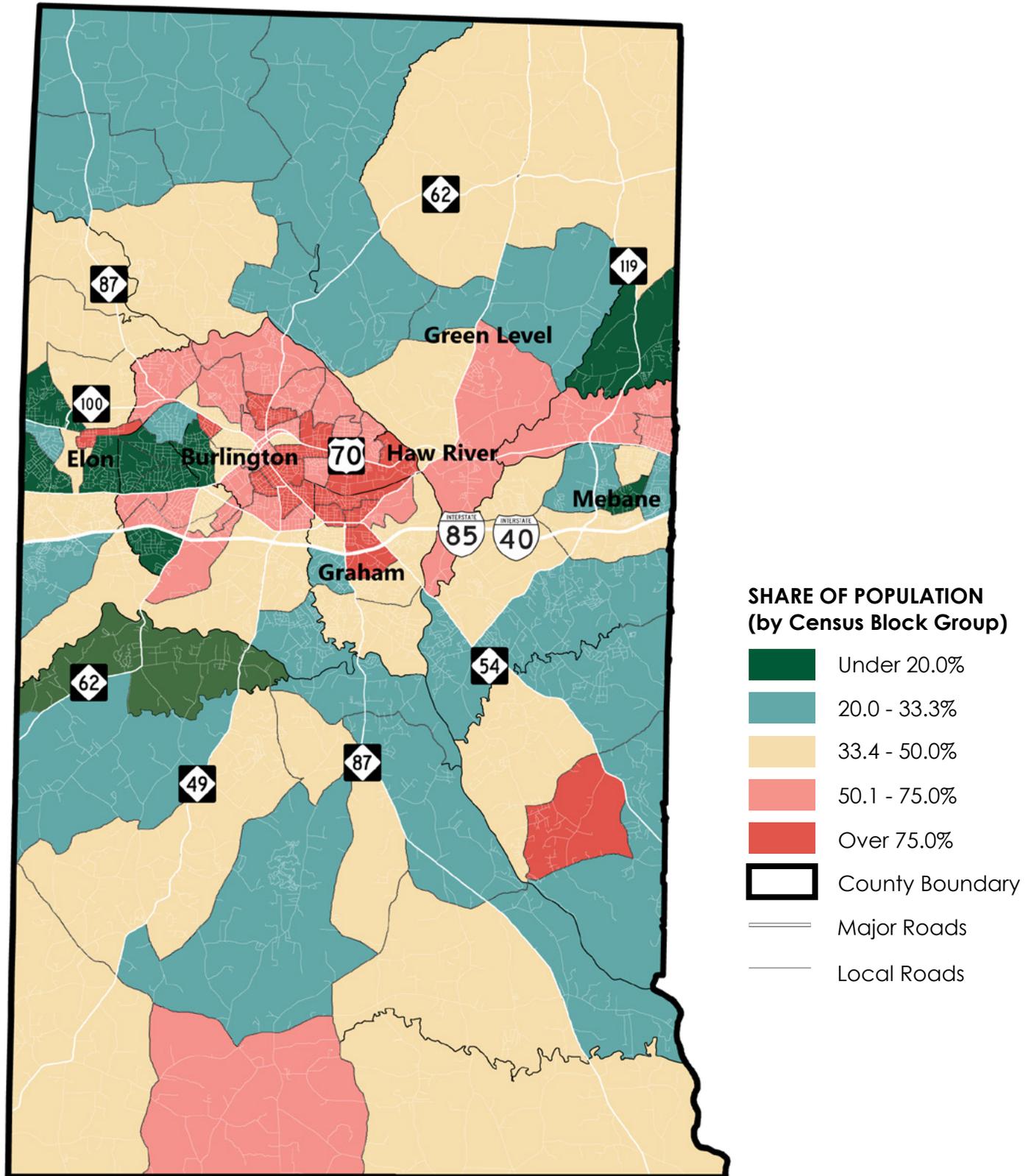
The County's median household income is \$60,866, while the median per capita income is \$32,105 and the median family income is \$78,033. This is a bit lower than the State's median incomes which are \$66,186 for households, \$82,890 for families, and \$37,641 per capita.

According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 23,763 individuals, or 14% of the population, in Alamance County were determined to be living below the poverty line. More than 7,000 children who live in Alamance County are living below the poverty line; the majority of these are between the ages of 5 and 17.

The map on the following page displays the share of the population by census block group that has a low to moderate income. This data was obtained from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, which identifies Census Block Groups where 51% or more of the households earn less than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) as being low- and moderate-income persons. In this case, those block groups which are shown in shades of pink would be considered to have low- to moderate-incomes. These are primarily concentrated in Burlington, with a few outlying block groups in the southern portion of the County.

SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

▼ LOW TO MODERATE INCOME POPULATIONS (LESS THAN 80% AMI)



SOURCE: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development GIS Helpdesk (2024)

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Almost 12% of Alamance County residents over the age of 25 have not completed high school. This is relatively average for the State and region. Orange County is the highest educated county in the region, and many of the more rural counties have lower levels of educational attainment on average. Almost one-third of Alamance County residents over 25 have completed high school, and another third have attended some college or obtained an associates degree. About 20% of Alamance County residents have completed a Bachelors degree and over 8% have obtained a graduate or professional degree.

## HOUSEHOLD COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS

The majority of Alamance County households have internet (86.1%) and home computer (93%) access. This is comparable to State and regional trends. Data from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) also shows broad internet access across the County, although the quality of internet services tends to be lower in rural areas.

## HOUSEHOLD VEHICLE ACCESS

In Alamance County, the majority of households (95%) have access to one or more motor vehicles. High rates of vehicle access is common across the region and State, with most counties having a significant majority of households having access to at least one vehicle.

## DISABILITY STATUS

Of the non-institutionalized population in Alamance County, 12.8% are considered to have a disability. The largest demographic with disabilities are those over the age of 75. In fact, almost half of the County's residents over 75 are considered to have a disability. More than 200 children (aged 5 - 17), and 6,200 adults have a hearing difficulty, Approximately 130 children and 2,800 adults have vision difficulties. Lastly, over 1,000 children and more than 6,000 adults have cognitive difficulties.

### ▼ EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT COMPARISONS (POPULATION OVER 25)

COUNTY / STATE	NO HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATES DEGREE	BACHELORS DEGREE	GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
Alamance	11.7%	27.9%	33.1%	19.0%	8.4%
Caswell	16.3%	37.1%	31.2%	9.9%	5.6%
Chatham	10.6%	18.2%	24.7%	24.7%	21.8%
Guilford	9.9%	22.7%	29.5%	23.9%	14.0%
Orange	6.6%	12.7%	19.1%	27.6%	34.1%
Person	11.5%	35.3%	35.6%	12.7%	4.9%
Randolph	16.0%	35.1%	32.1%	11.9%	4.9%
Rockingham	16.3%	35.0%	33.2%	10.6%	4.9%
North Carolina	10.6%	25.2%	30.4%	21.4%	12.5%

SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

▼ COMPUTER, INTERNET, AND VEHICLE ACCESS BY HOUSEHOLDS

COUNTY / STATE	HAS ONE OR MORE COMPUTER	HAS ONE OR MORE SMARTPHONE	HAS INTERNET ACCESS	ONE OR MORE VEHICLES AVAILABLE
Alamance	93.0%	86.8%	86.1%	95.0%
Caswell	88.5%	78.2%	77.1%	95.3%
Chatham	93.3%	85.5%	84.9%	96.9%
Guilford	92.9%	87.2%	87.3%	93.7%
Orange	96.7%	91.9%	92.6%	95.3%
Person	91.7%	82.9%	84.9%	94.8%
Randolph	91.6%	86.0%	85.6%	96.3%
Rockingham	85.0%	76.3%	77.3%	93.0%
North Carolina	93.1%	87.4%	87.1%	94.6%

▼ DISABILITY STATUS IN ALAMANCE COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP	PERCENT WITH A DISABILITY
Under 5 Years Old	0.0%
5 - 17 Years Old	4.9%
18 - 34 Years Old	5.6%
35 - 64 Years Old	12.2%
65 - 74 Years Old	27.2%
75 Years and Over	48.6%

▼ DISABILITY TYPE IN ALAMANCE COUNTY

DISABILITY TYPE	AGE GROUP	NUMBER WITH A DISABILITY
Hearing Difficulty	Under 18 Years Old	210
	18 - 64 Years Old	1,842
	65 Years and Over	4,366
Vision Difficulty	Under 18 Years Old	130
	18 - 64 Years Old	1,553
	65 Years and Over	1,164
Cognitive Difficulty	Under 18 Years Old	1,044
	18 - 64 Years Old	4,240
	65 Years and Over	2,168
Ambulatory Difficulty	Under 18 Years Old	98
	18 - 64 Years Old	5,309
	65 Years and Over	5,850
Self Care Difficulty	Under 18 Years Old	187
	18 - 64 Years Old	1,714
	65 Years and Over	1,685

SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

The majority of Alamance County residents (86%) speak only English at home. However, a large portion of the population (11.5%) speak Spanish at home. A small portion of the County's population speaks other languages at home; with about 1.3% speaking other Indo-European languages, about 0.9% speaking Asian and Pacific Island languages, and approximately 0.4% of residents speaking other languages at home. This is similar to the language characteristics of Chatham and Randolph Counties. It is also not too far off from the average North Carolina language diversity.

Interestingly, the largest demographic group that only speaks Spanish at home is adults (aged 18 to 64 years old). Over 15,500 residents in this age range speak only Spanish in their home. Comparatively, almost 6,000 children over the age of 5 speak Spanish and just over 1,200 older adults (over 65 years old) speak Spanish at home.

## FOREIGN BORN RESIDENTS AND MIGRATION

Most of Alamance County's residents (91.1%) were born in the United States. About 9% of residents were born elsewhere, and just under half of these residents (3.6%) are naturalized U.S. Citizens. Approximately 5.3% of the County's population is not a U.S. Citizen.

While the majority of residents (87.1%) live in the same home that they did one year ago, about 12.9% moved into the County from elsewhere last year (2021). Approximately 9,500 residents moved into a new home from within the County, while about almost 12,000 moved from outside Alamance County. Of these, about 7,251 moved from other places in North Carolina, about 4,515 moved from other states in the Country, and more than 700 residents moved into Alamance County from abroad.

Of the approximately 14,500 residents of Alamance County who were born in a foreign country, the majority (10,020) came from Latin America). Almost 1,000 County residents were born in Europe, more than 2,000 residents were born in Asia, almost 1,000 residents were born in Africa, and almost 350 residents were born in Northern America outside of the United State.

*SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)*

▼ LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (POPULATION OVER 5 YEARS OLD)

COUNTY / STATE	PERCENT OF POPULATION OVER 5 WHO SPEAK....				
	ONLY ENGLISH	SPANISH	INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES	ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLAND LANGUAGES	OTHER LANGUAGES
Alamance	86.0%	11.5%	1.3%	0.9%	0.4%
Caswell	94.8%	3.6%	0.7%	0.8%	0.0%
Chatham	85.8%	11.3%	1.5%	1.1%	0.3%
Guilford	85.7%	6.4%	3.0%	3.1%	1.9%
Orange	83.9%	6.8%	3.7%	4.7%	0.9%
Person	95.1%	3.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%
Randolph	87.5%	11.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.1%
Rockingham	93.7%	5.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%
North Carolina	87.7%	7.8%	2.0%	1.8%	0.7%

▼ LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME BY AGE IN ALAMANCE COUNTY (OVER 5 YEARS OLD)

DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP	NUMBER THAT SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE
5 - 17 Years Old	5,929
18 - 64 Years Old	15,559
65 Years and Over	1,233

▼ NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS (POPULATION OVER 5 YEARS OLD)

COUNTY / STATE	NATIVE	FOREIGN BORN	NATURALIZED US CITIZEN	NOT A US CITIZEN
Alamance	91.1%	8.9%	3.6%	5.3%
Caswell	97.0%	3.0%	1.0%	2.0%
Chatham	89.6%	10.4%	3.8%	6.6%
Guilford	88.2%	11.8%	5.3%	6.5%
Orange	87.3%	12.8%	6.3%	6.5%
Person	97.3%	2.7%	1.5%	1.2%
Randolph	93.8%	6.2%	1.5%	4.7%
Rockingham	96.0%	4.0%	1.2%	2.8%
North Carolina	91.3%	8.7%	3.7%	5.0%

SOURCE: United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2022)

## Land Subdivision Patterns

The majority of land subdivision in Alamance County has taken place in the municipalities, along the interstate corridor, and along other major transportation routes. The smallest parcels (less than one acre) are most concentrated along the northwestern edge of I-40/85, in Burlington and Elon. Though, there is also a significant concentration of small lots in Mebane, and along NC-87, south of the interstate corridor. Generally speaking, parcel sizes get larger as you move away from the municipalities and major roadways.

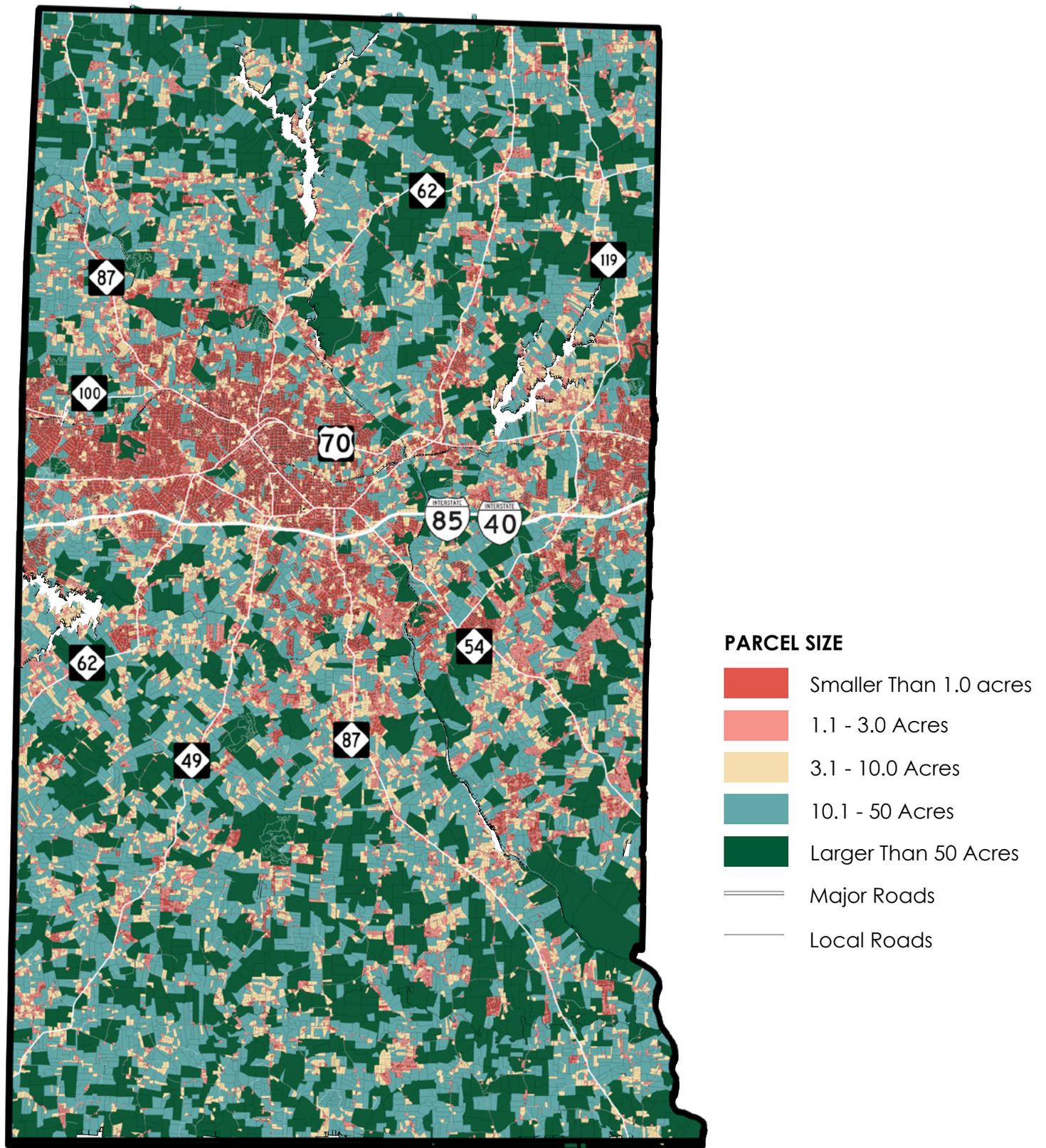
Larger lot subdivisions, with parcels averaging between three and ten acres in size, have been developed along many of the lakes in the County. These larger lots account for almost 9% of the parcels in the County and just over 14% of the total land area.

Today, only about 1.2% of all parcels in the County are larger than 50 acres in size. However, given their large sizes, they account for just over one-third of the total land area in Alamance County. These large parcels are spread throughout the County, with notable concentrations along the County's northern and southern borders.

### ▼ PARCEL SIZE DISTRIBUTION

Parcel Size	# of Parcels		Total Area	
	Value	% of Total	Value	% of Total
0.0 - 1.0 Acres	51,469	67.1%	19,368.0	7.4%
1.1 - 3.0 Acres	13,029	17.0%	21,716.4	8.3%
3.1 - 10.0 Acres	6,790	8.8%	37,595.7	14.4%
10.0 - 50.0 Acres	4,504	5.9%	94,291.3	36.0%
50.0 Acres or Larger	944	1.2%	88,949.9	34.0%

SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Parcel Layer, Obtained 12-3-2024



SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Parcel Layer, Obtained 12-3-2024

## Housing Growth Trends

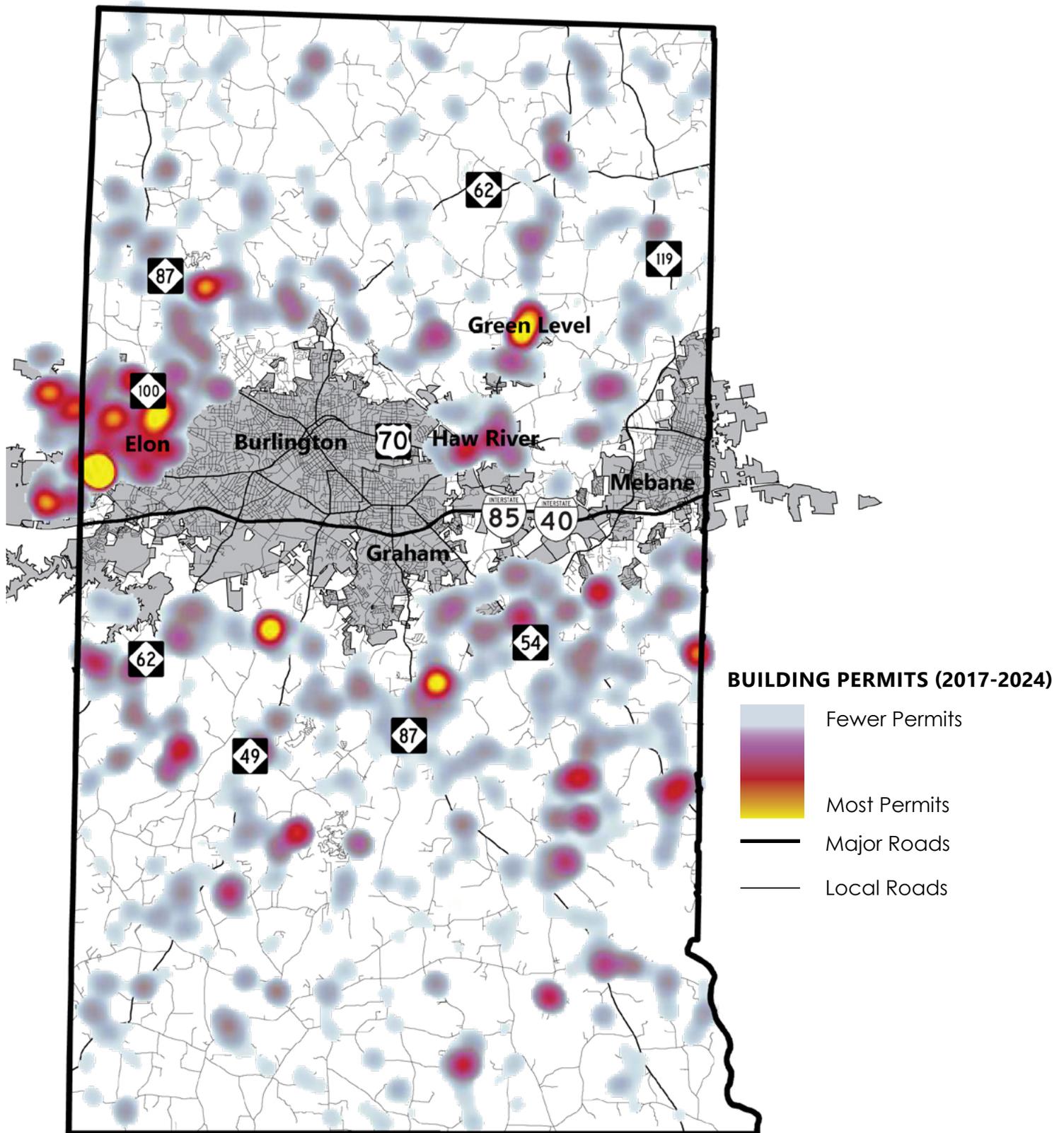
According to the building permit data obtained from the County's open source data portal in December of 2024, there have been 4,560 residential building permits (including manufactured and modular homes) obtained in the County between January 2018 and September 2024. Additionally, many of the municipalities conduct their own building permits, so the majority of municipal building permit data is not included in this analysis.

However, the data does identify “hot spots” where significant development, and residential development in particular, has taken place over the past eight years. As shown on the following pages, there has been a concentration of development in and around Elon, Haw River, Green Level, and just south of the municipalities. Looking specifically at residential development, the greatest amount of activity has taken place in and around Elon, in Green Level, and just south of the municipalities.

### ▼ RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS IN ALAMANCE COUNTY

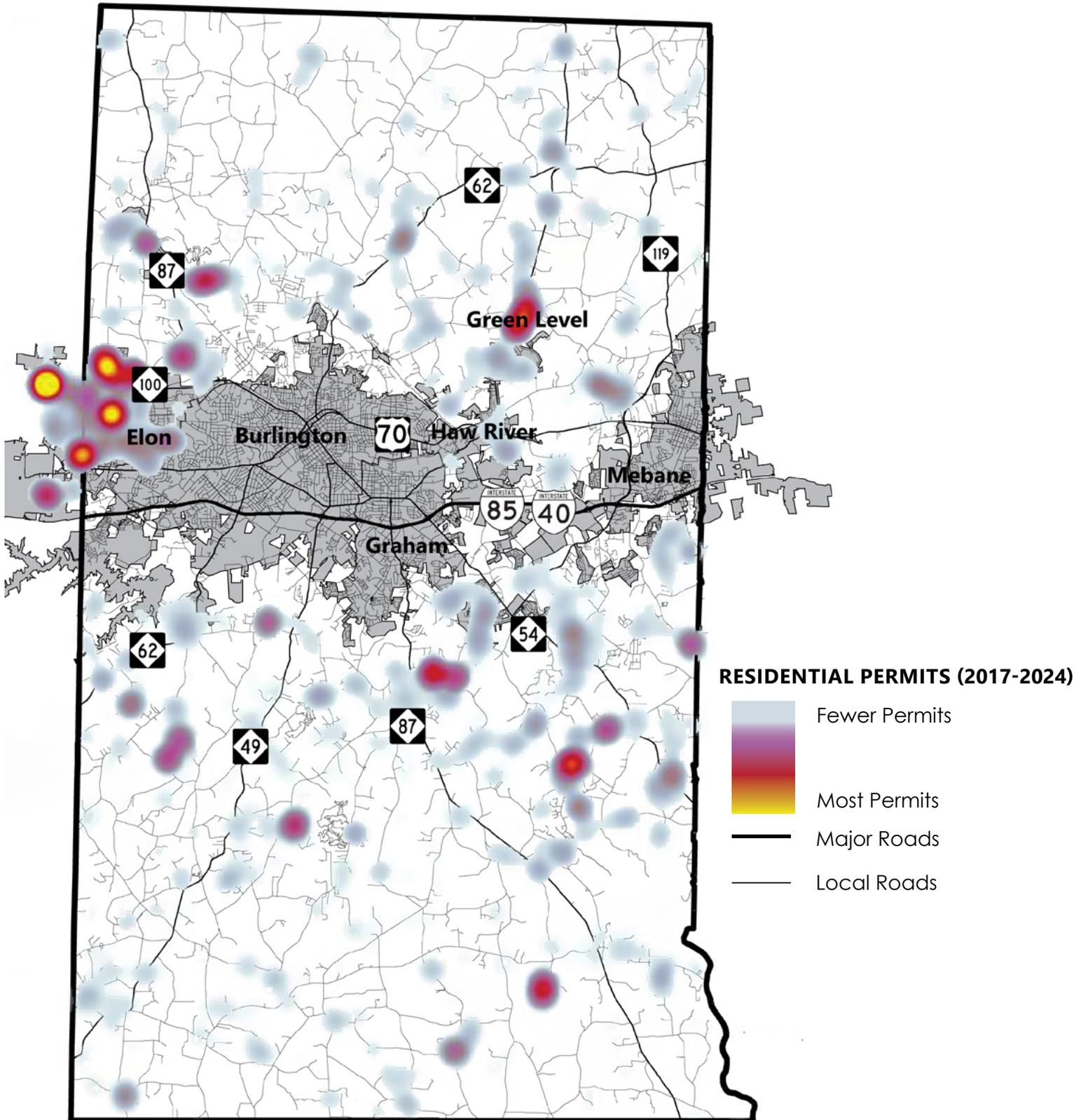
YEAR	BUILDING PERMIT TYPES			
	Residential	Manufactured Home	Modular Home	Total
2018	121	31	7	159
2019	527	87	24	638
2020	647	93	28	768
2021	591	95	34	720
2022	622	205	27	854
2023	561	99	19	679
2024 (to Sep.)	645	71	24	740

SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Building Permits by Type, Obtained 12-3-2024



SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Building Permits by Type, Obtained 12-3-2024

▼ RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS (JAN. 2018 - SEP. 2024)



SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Building Permits by Type, Obtained 12-3-2024

## Library Facilities and Service Areas

In and in close proximity to Alamance County are seven public libraries. These facilities and their service areas are described below.

### ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

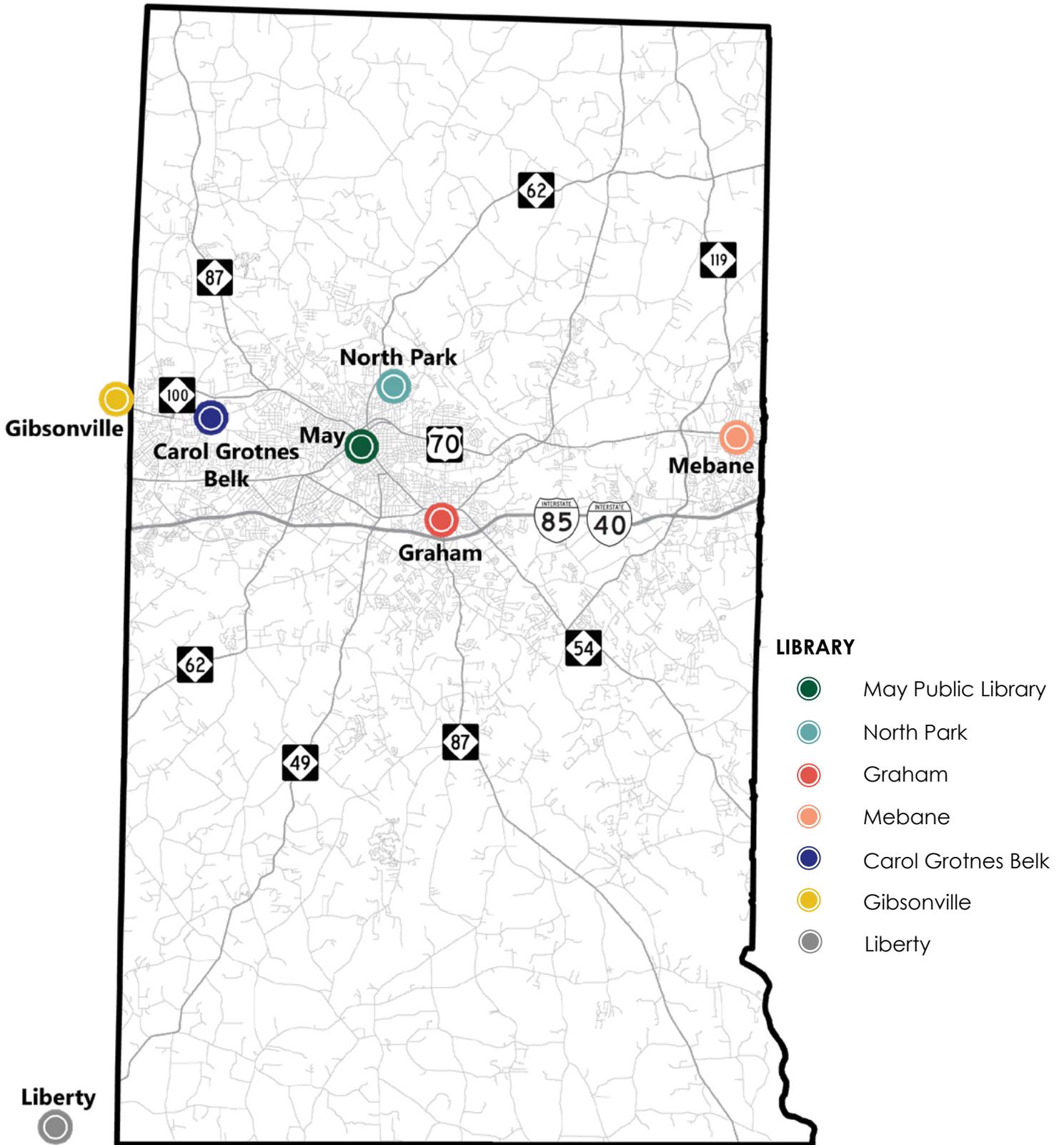
**May Memorial Library** is the headquarters of Alamance County Public Libraries. It's located on South Spring Street in Burlington and has been there since 1938. The building has grown significantly since its opening, expanding its footprint and then connecting to an adjacent building. **Graham Public Library** is located on South Main Street in Graham. While the library was initially opened out of Graham's Town Hall; a new structure, three times the size, was built in 1995. The **Mebane Public Library** is located on South First Street in Mebane. It too has been relocated and renovated over the years. **North Park Library** is located in the North Park Community Center on Sharpe Road in Burlington. This library has undergone multiple renovations and expansions over the years.

The Alamance County Library has a Mobile Library, which travels all over the County, providing the same services as its physical locations. Residents can put items on hold, have them delivered, and pick them up the next time the Mobile Library comes to their area. At certain stops, they offer story times and other programming. The County Library System also has BookMARK, which is a smaller bookmobile that visits day cares, retirement communities, parks, neighborhoods, and more. Patrons can check out books, take one of their free giveaway books, and access free WiFi. May Memorial Public Library also provides home delivery services for home-bound patrons throughout the County.

### NEIGHBORING LIBRARIES

Within the County, there is a public library on Elon University's Campus. **Carol Grotnes Belk Library** is located toward the center of the campus and is geared toward students needs; however, it is open to the public daily between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. Just outside of the County's western limits is **Gibsonville Public Library**. The library serves residents of Guilford and Alamance County, or all who live within 20 miles of the library. Southwest of Alamance County, in the Town of Liberty, is an additional public library available to County residents. **Liberty Public Library** allows residents of North Carolina to become a free cardholder.

▼ LIBRARIES IN AND NEAR ALAMANCE COUNTY



## LIBRARY SERVICE AREAS

When considering an average drive time of ten minutes, much of the central portion of Alamance County is within an existing library service area. In fact, many portions of Burlington, Graham, and Elon are within multiple library service areas. The map on the following page illustrates the service areas for all libraries (excluding Elon University's library) and the overlapping of Gibsonville, North Park, May, and Graham's service areas is evident.

When considering the 96,000 residential addresses in Alamance County, the approximate number of residents within each service area can be calculated, and these are shown below. The average household size of 2.48 was utilized to calculate the approximate number of residents per household. Over 85,000 residents live within a ten minute drive of the May Memorial Public Library and over 87,000 residents live within a ten minute drive of the Graham Public Library. Over 70,000 residents also live within ten minutes of the North Park Public Library and Mebane serves almost 33,000 residents in Alamance County. Though outside of the Alamance County Library System, Gibsonville Library is within a ten minute drive for over 42,000 County residents. On the southwestern edge of the County, Liberty's public library is within a ten minute drive of over 1,000 Alamance County residents.

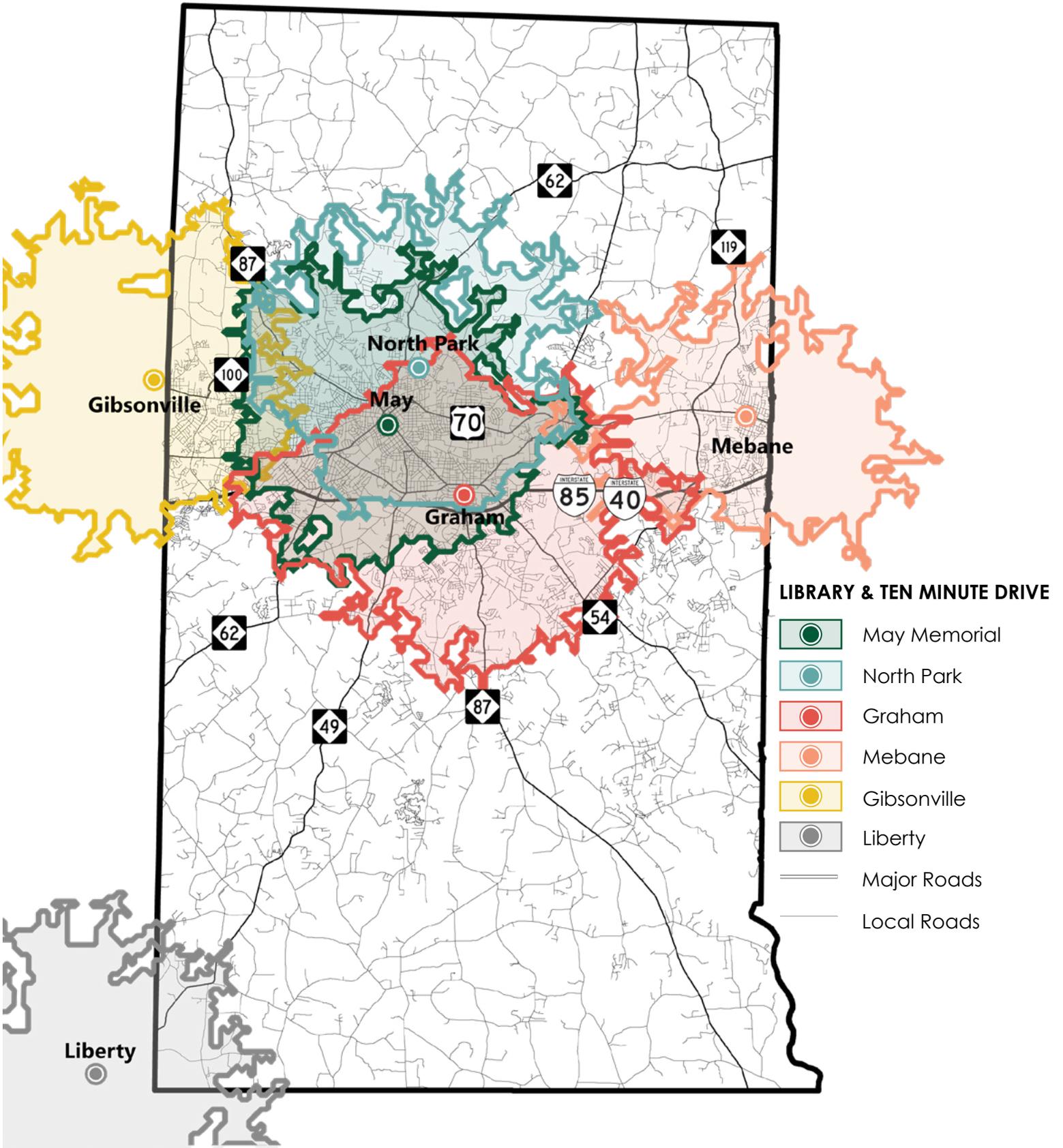
Another way to consider library service areas is homes within a 15 minute walk of libraries. These service areas are considerably smaller, with no overlap, and are shown on a map two pages from here. More than 3,200 residents can walk to the May Memorial Library, and around 2,500 residents can walk to the Graham and Mebane Public Libraries. North Park Library is walkable for almost 1,500 residents. Gibsonville is proximate enough to the County's boundary that it's library also serves almost 2,000 County residents. However, the Liberty Library is not walkable for Alamance County residents.

### ▼ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES WITHIN LIBRARY SERVICE AREAS

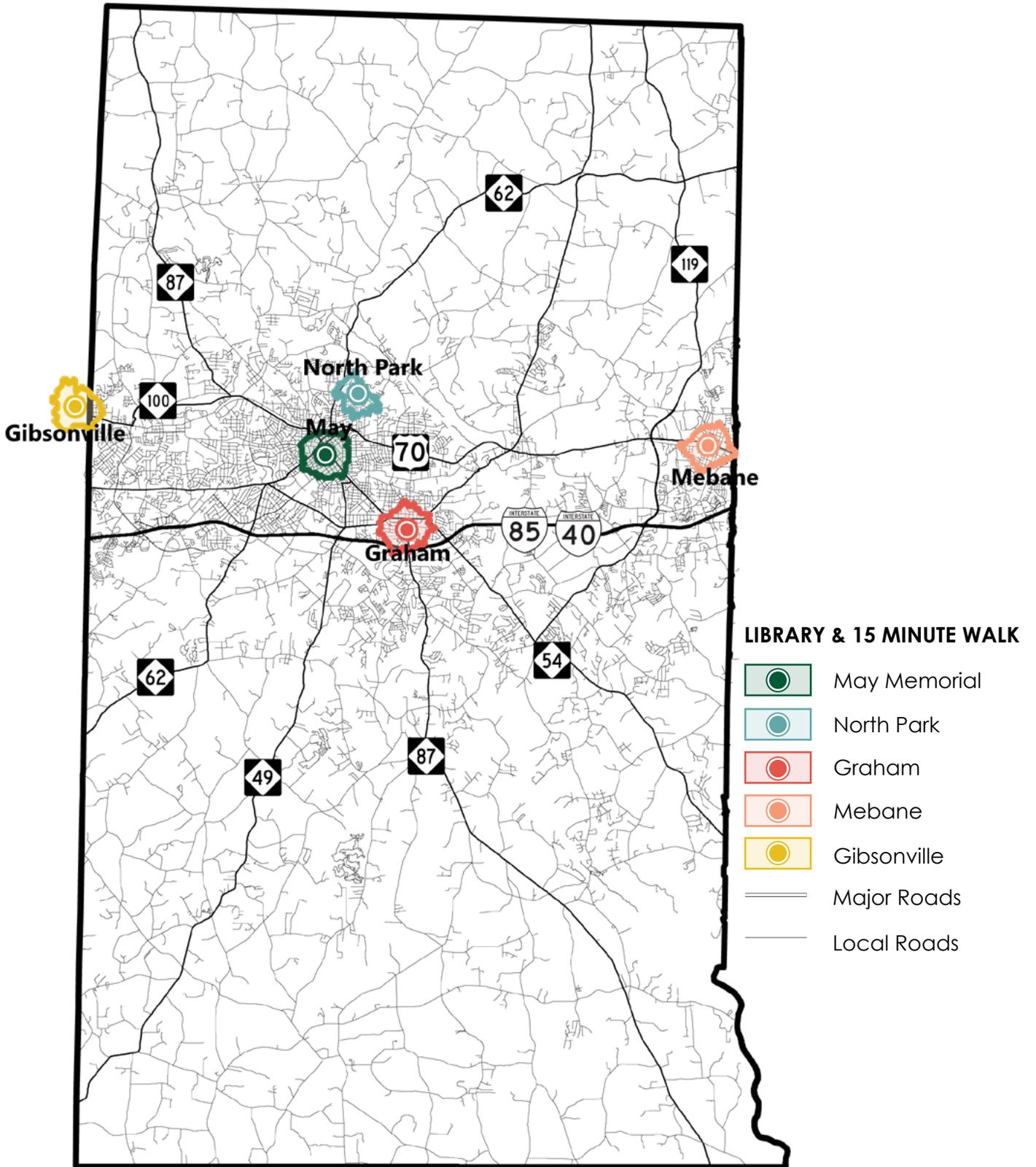
LIBRARY	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF ADDRESSES & RESIDENTS SERVED			
	10 Minute Drive		15 Minute Walk	
	Addresses	Approximate Residents	Addresses	Approximate Residents
May Memorial	34,394	85,297	1,296	3,214
North Park	28,235	70,022	591	1,465
Graham	35,341	87,645	1,036	2,569
Mebane	13,182	32,691	993	2,462
Gibsonville	17,006	42,174	784	1,944
Liberty	407	1,009	-	

SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Addresses, Obtained 12-3-2024

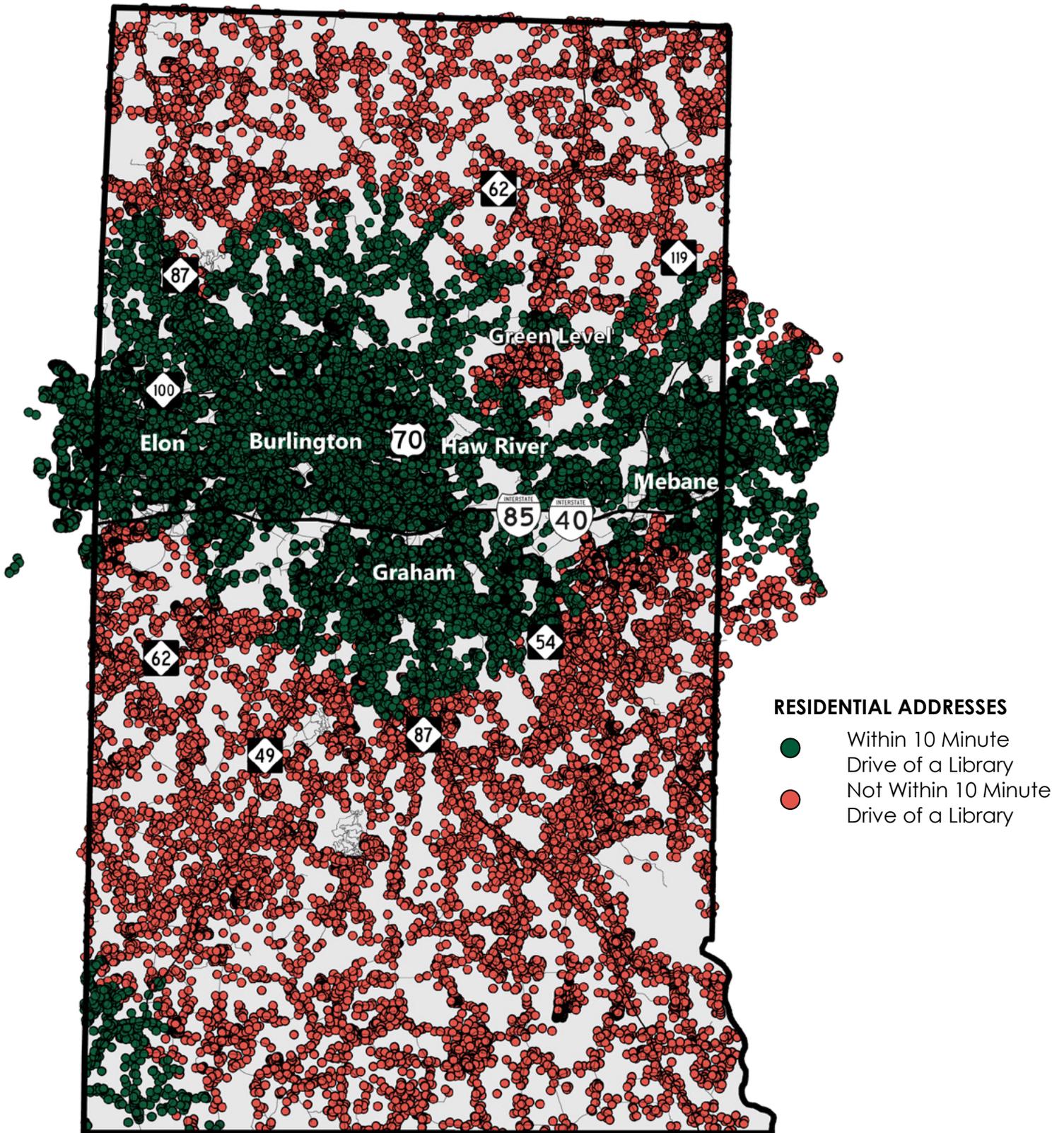
▼ LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICE AREAS (10 MINUTE DRIVE)



▼ LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICE AREAS (15 MINUTE WALK)



▼ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES WITHIN A TEN MINUTE DRIVE OF A LIBRARY

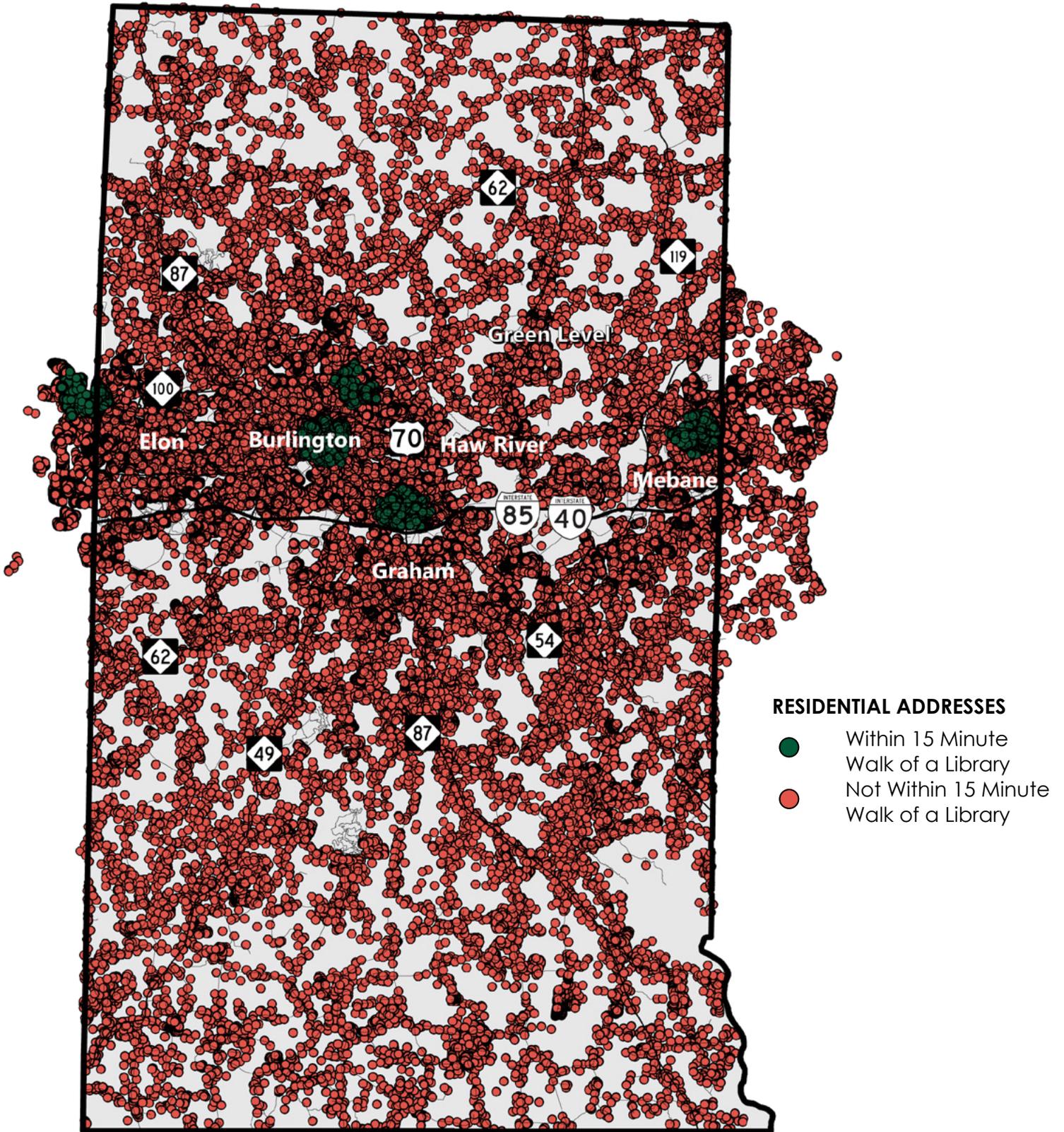


## SERVED POPULATION

Combining all of the library service areas in the County, 72,905 addresses, or 76% of the County's residential addresses are within a ten minute drive of a public library. In comparison, just 4,700 residential addresses, or 5% of the County's population, is within walking distance of a public library. Generally, the most dense areas of the County, and the municipal residents are most served in terms of proximity to public libraries. The map on the previous page illustrates the residential addresses that are and are not served by the public libraries, while the map on the following page illustrates those which are or are not within walking distance of a library.

In terms of geographic area, the total area within a ten minute drive of public libraries is almost 80,000 acres (solely within Alamance County). This comprises approximately 28.7% of the County's total area. The total area within a fifteen minute walk is just over 3,000 acres, or about 0.1% of the County's total area.

▼ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES WITHIN A FIFTEEN MINUTE WALK OF A LIBRARY



## Potential Future Library Locations

Over the years there have been community discussions about future branch libraries in Elon, Saxapahaw, and Snow Camp. This section identifies the approximate service areas that these three potential branches would serve.

### BEN SCHMIDT (TOWN OF ELON)

The potential Ben Schmidt Library is located in the Town of Elon, in close proximity to Elon University's library, Carol Grotnes Belk. Given its proximity to the other public libraries, it does not significantly expand the population served by driving distances. However, it does provide the opportunity for more residents to walk to a public library. In terms of drive times, the potential Ben Schmidt library would increase access to 1,810 residential addresses, or around 4,506 additional residents. It would also increase walking access to 455 new residential addresses, or around 1,128 additional residents.

### SAXAPAHAW

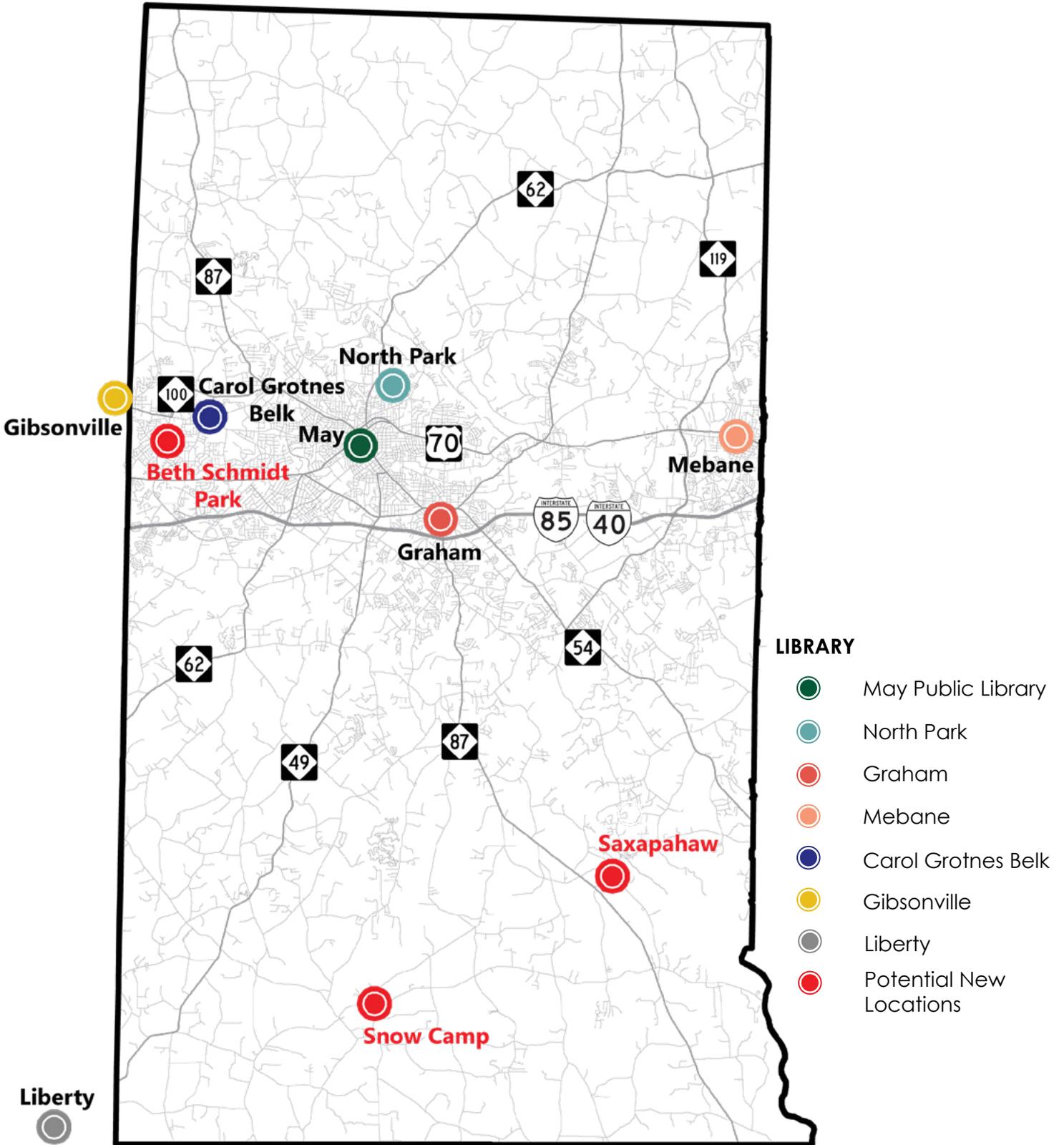
A potential Saxapahaw Library would be located in southeastern Alamance County, just off NC-87. This area is not currently served by the Public Library System, though there is some level of density in terms of residents. As it is a generally rural area, only ten minute drive times are being considered as part of its service area. If a new library were developed here, a population of approximately 11,619 (primarily new) residents would be served. There is a slight overlap between this service area and the existing service area to the north, but it is marginal - 3 addresses. Given its proximity in the southern portion of the County, the potential service area of Saxapahaw would overlap slightly with Snow Camp as well (if they were both constructed). In total, 783 addresses are within both the Saxapahaw and Snow Camp service areas.

### SNOW CAMP

The potential Snow Camp Library is located in southern Alamance County, in an area that is currently unserved by the Public Library System. As it is a rural area, only ten minute drive times are being considered as part of its service area. Given the lack of a public library south of I-40 / I-85, this new library location would serve a portion of the population that is currently not within driving distance to a library. However, its service area does overlap slightly with Liberty's. In total, Snow Camp would increase access to 3,373 residential addresses, or around 8,365 residents who cannot currently drive to a public library. Given its location in Southern Alamance County, the potential service area for Snow Camp would overlap slightly with Saxapahaw as well (if they were both constructed). In total, 783 addresses are within both the Saxapahaw and Snow Camp service areas.

*SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Addresses, Obtained 12-3-2024*

▼ EXISTING AND POTENTIAL NEW LIBRARY LOCATIONS



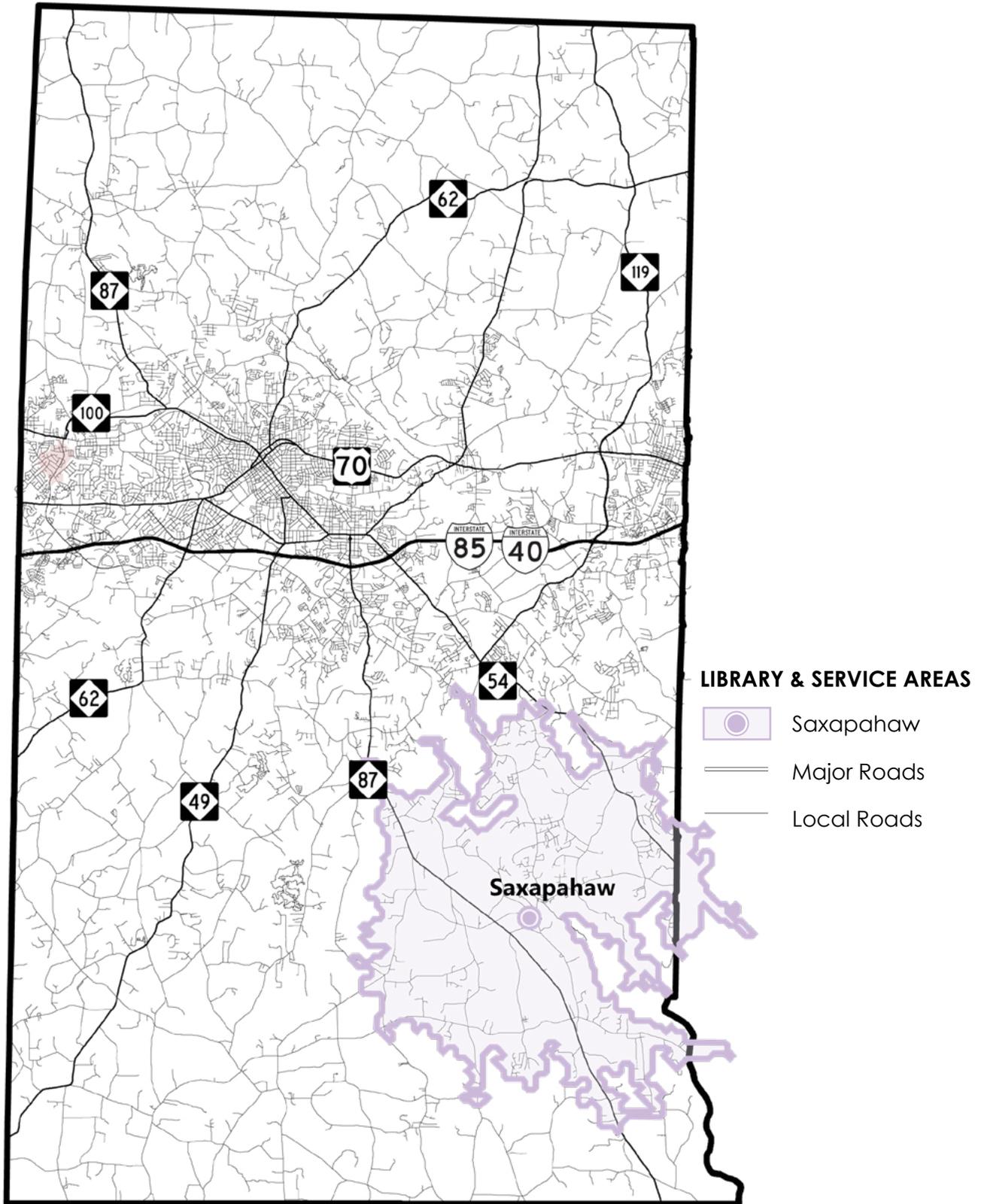
The maps on the following pages illustrate the potential new service areas for these three library locations, as well as their impacts on the residential population served by the public library system. The potential residents served by each potential new location is also detailed in the table below. It should be noted that these total addresses do not consider overlapping service areas, however, those are detailed in the text descriptions in the previous section.

▼ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES WITHIN LIBRARY SERVICE AREAS

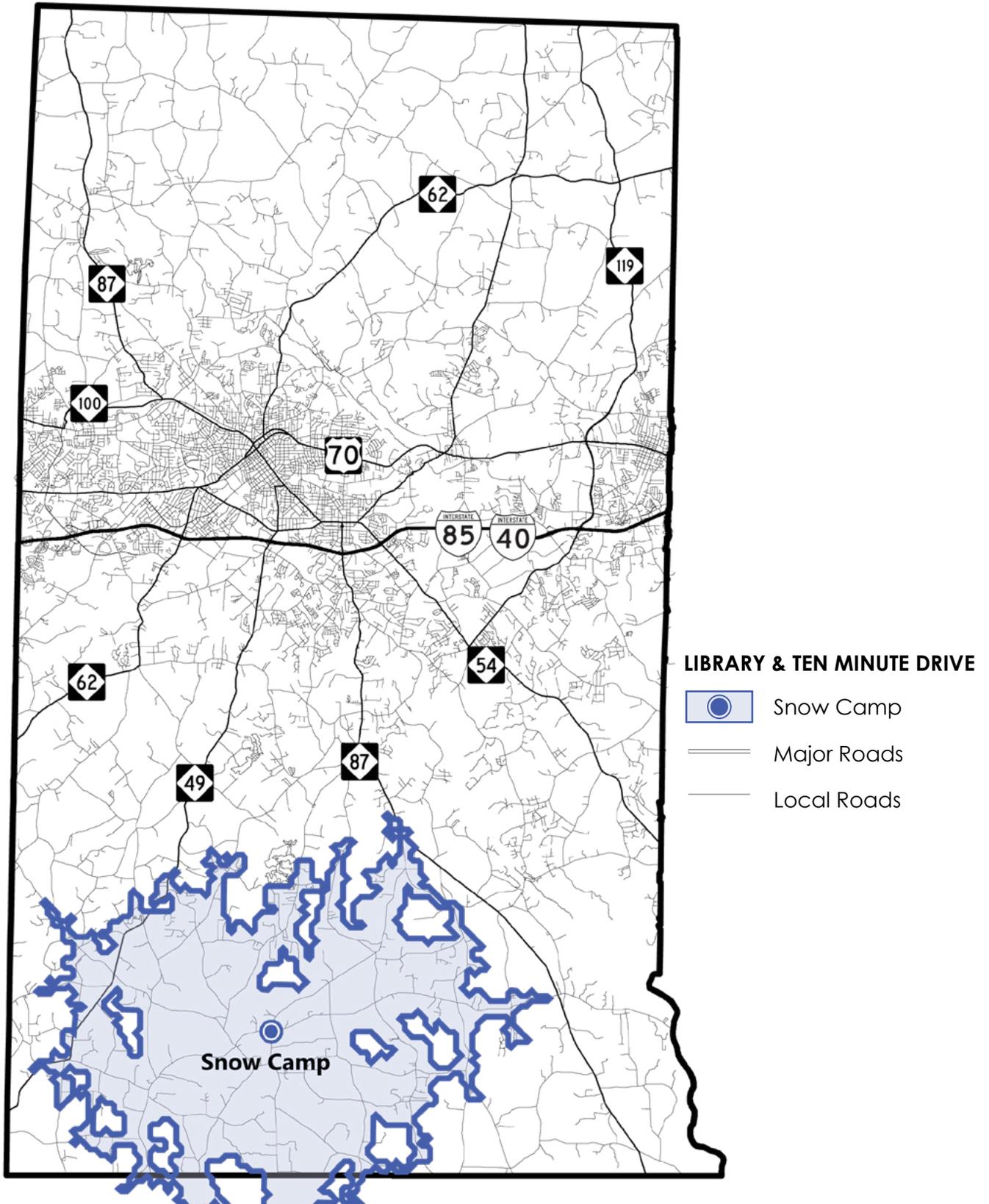
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Mebane	13,182	32,691	993	2,462
Gibsonville	17,006	42,174	784	1,944
Liberty	407	1,009	-	
POTENTIAL NEW LIBRARIES				
Ben Schmidt	25,858	64,172	455	1,128
Saxapahaw	4,685	11,619	-	
Snow Camp	3,476	8,620	-	

SOURCE: Alamance County GIS Open Data, Addresses, Obtained 12-3-2024

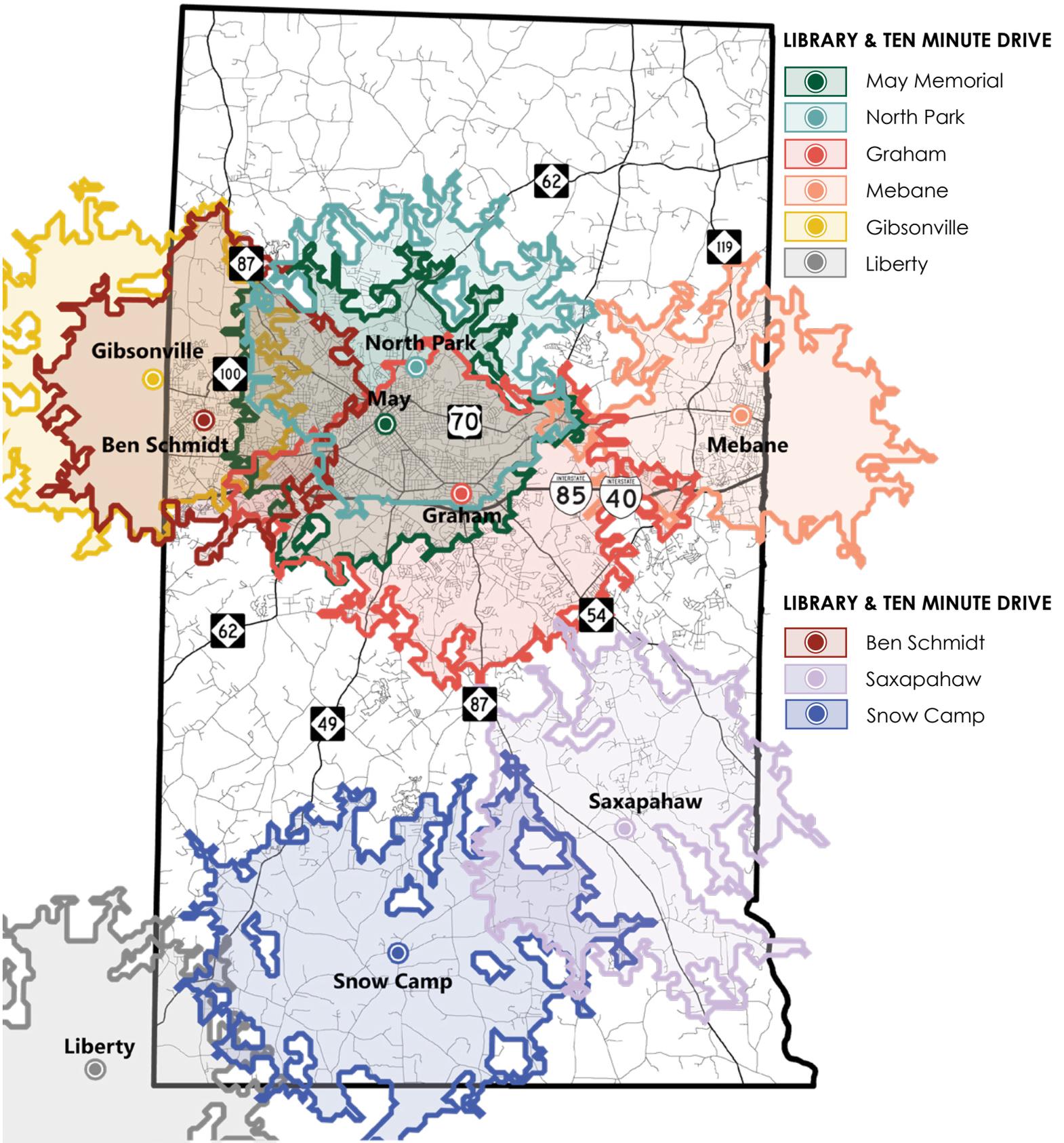




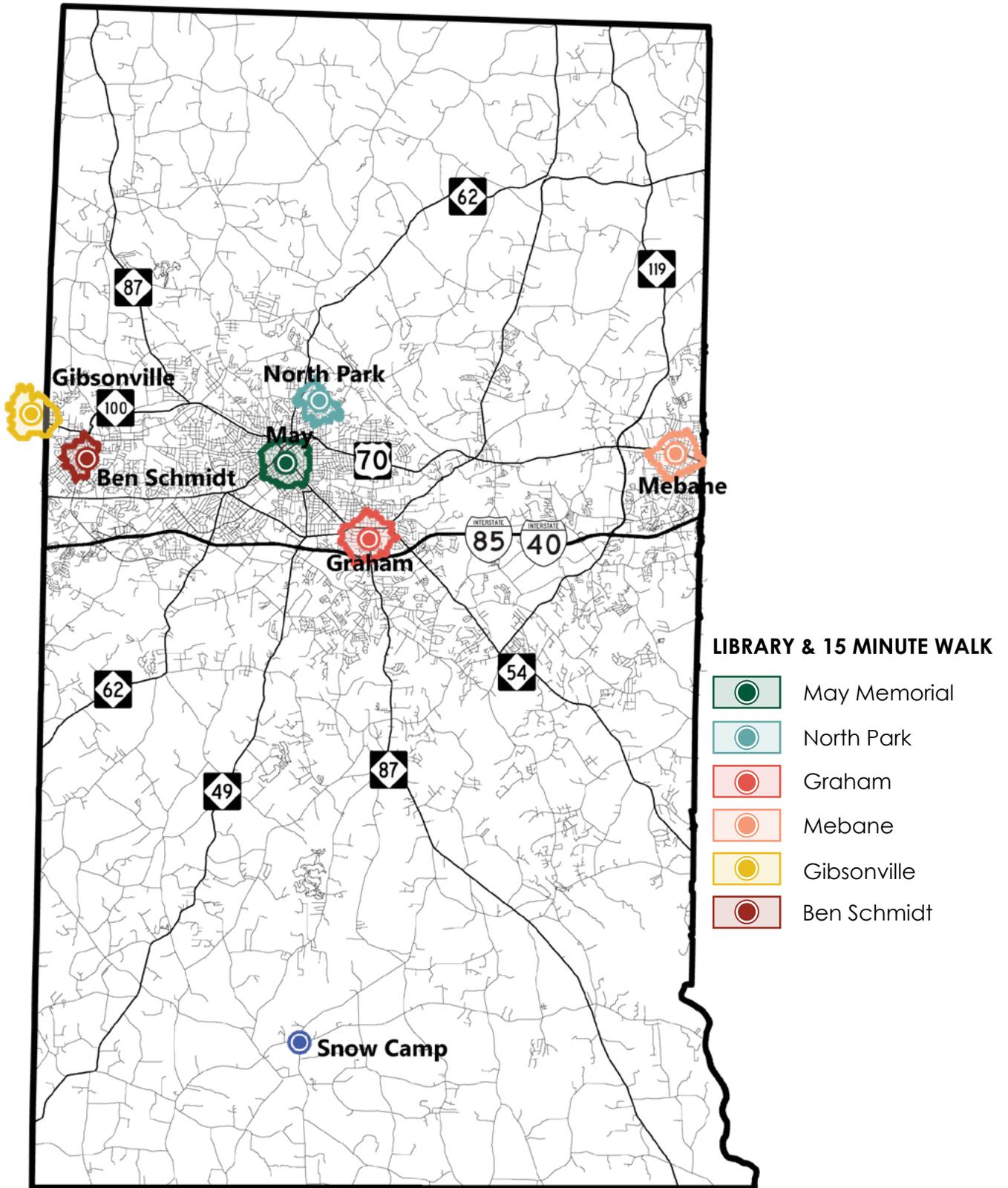
▼ SNOW CAMP SERVICE AREA

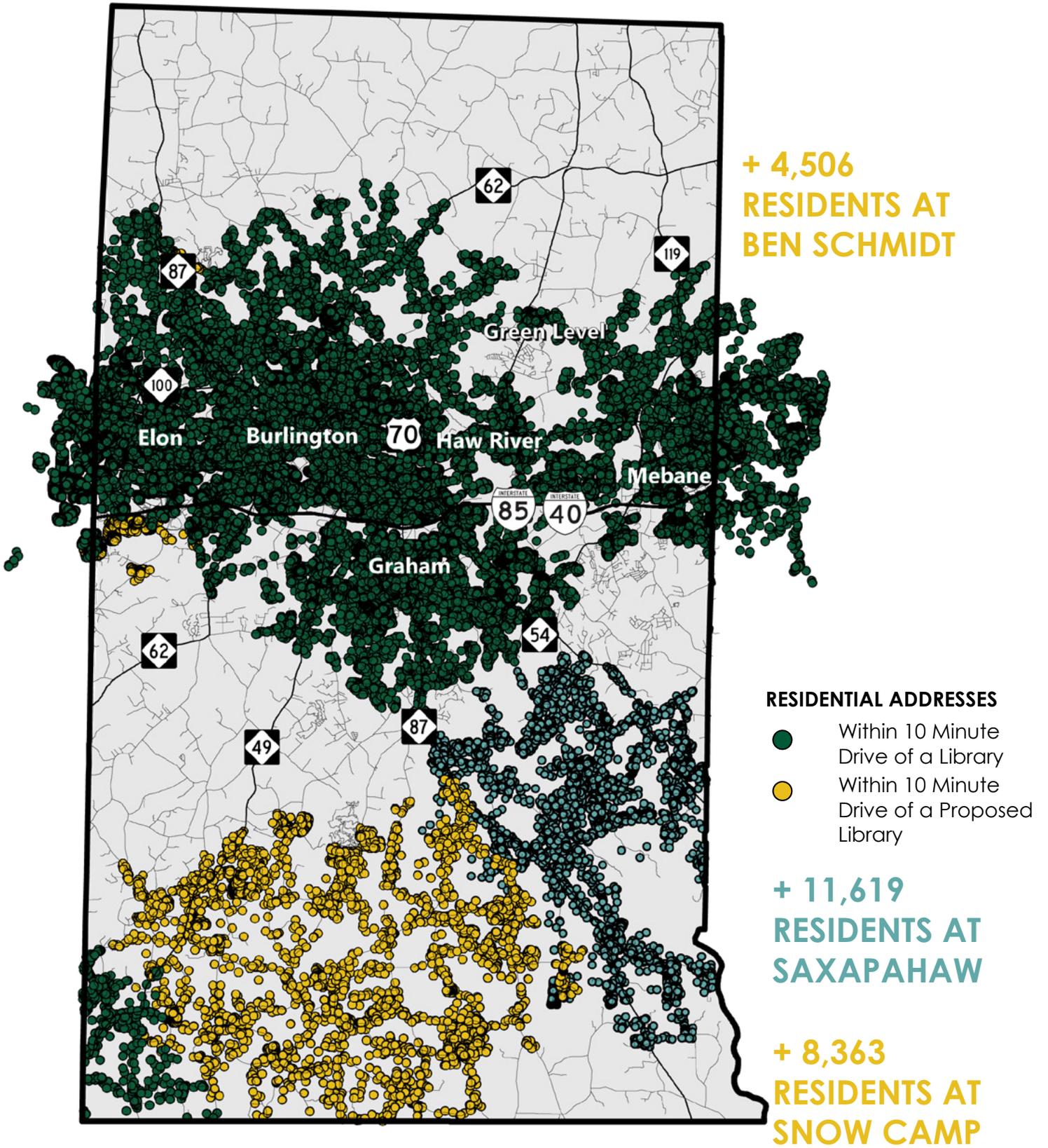


▼ LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICE AREAS (10 MINUTE DRIVE)

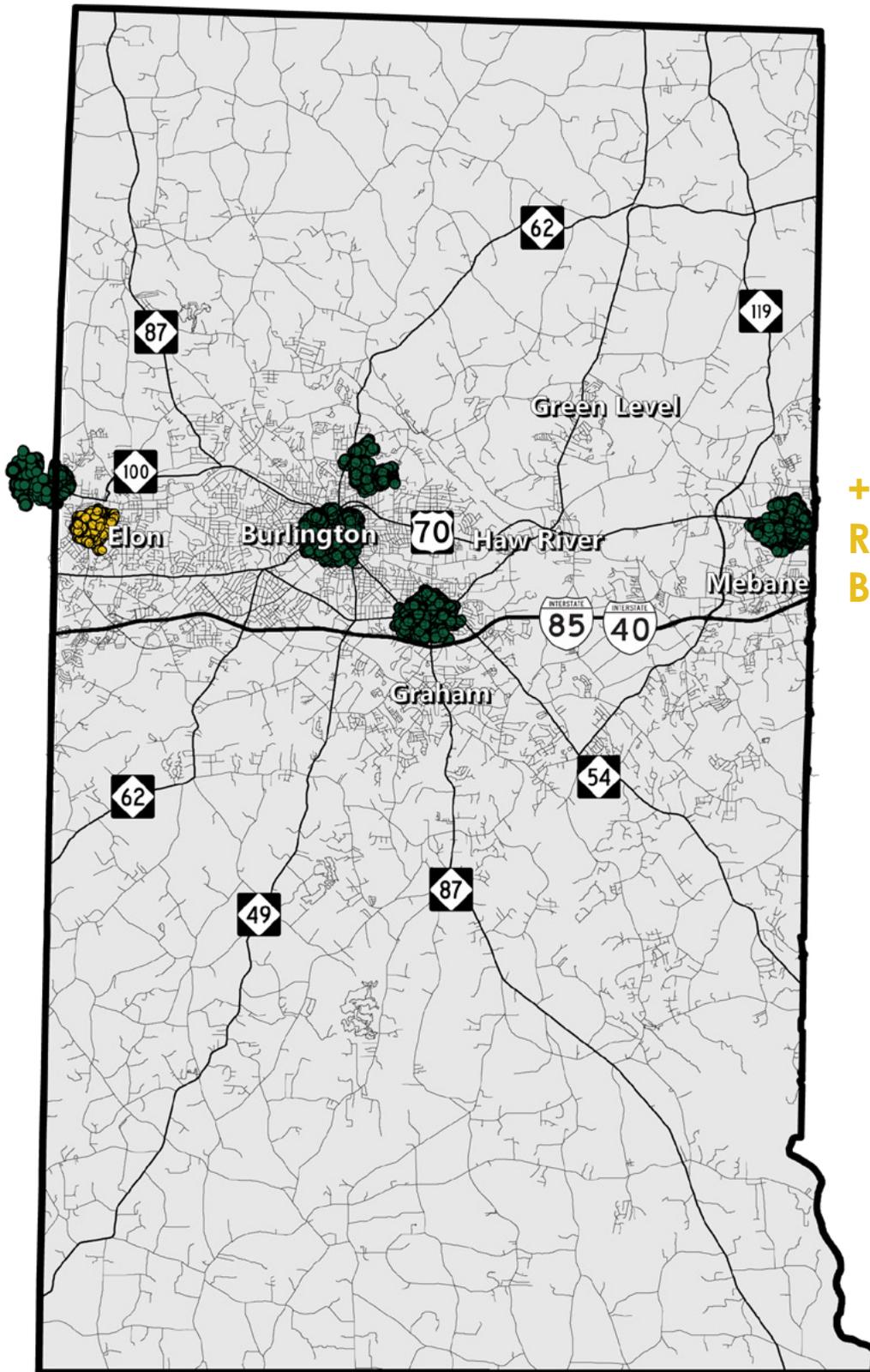


▼ LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICE AREAS (15 MINUTE WALK)





▼ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES WITHIN A FIFTEEN MINUTE WALK OF A LIBRARY



**+ 1,125  
RESIDENTS AT  
BEN SCHMIDT**

- RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES**
- Within 15 Minute Walk of a Library
  - Within 15 Minute Walk of a Proposed Library

# BENCHMARK

400 CLARICE AVE STE 130

CHARLOTTE, NC 28204

[benchmarkplanning.com](http://benchmarkplanning.com)