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### Report: N.C. making some progress, but lagging in other areas

9/27/2005 10:52 AM

By: Associated Press

(RALEIGH) - Quality-of-life in North Carolina has improved in some areas and faltered in others.

That's according to an interim report on whether the state is approaching goals set in 2001.

The North Carolina Progress Board says the state has already attained targets set for 2020 in about a dozen of 84 areas being monitored. They include violent crime reduction, an attractive business climate and student proficiency in math and science.

But little progress has been made on health care, poverty and high school graduation rates that drag behind the rest of the country.

The report says there's lots of room for improvement in these areas.

The mixed results aren't surprising, the report says, because of the state's fiscal challenges of the past four years and natural disasters. There's also been an economic downturn during which at least 163,000 manufacturing jobs were eliminated or moved out of North Carolina.

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[N.C. Progress Board and 20/20 Update Report](#)