

STUDENTS

KEY ISSUES

North Carolina's student population is increasingly diverse and growing, leaving policymakers and school administrators with the challenge of meeting a new variety of unique needs in every classroom.

POPULATION GROWTH IN NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina is one of the nation's fastest-growing states ranking 9th in population in 2015 with an estimated 10,042,802 residents.¹ Between 2000 and 2010, North Carolina ranked 6th in population growth with a population increase of 18.5%, which was almost double the national rate of 9.7%.² Between 2010 and 2015 North Carolina's population grew at a rate of 5.3% compared to a national rate of 4.1%.³

North Carolina is projected to gain approximately one million residents in each decade through 2040; however, population growth is not consistent across all counties. Urban areas such as Raleigh and Charlotte have experienced significantly more growth since 2000 and are the main causes of the state's population growth. Seven counties concentrated in the northeast and central coast portions of the state decreased in population from 2000 to 2010, and thirty-eight counties are projected to lose population between 2010 and 2020.⁴

In North Carolina, the number of children in public schools is tracked by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NC DPI) as Average Daily Membership, often referred to as ADM.

AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP (ADM) BY SCHOOL DISTRICT (2004-05 AND 2014-15)

School District	2004-05 ADM	2014-15 ADM	School District	2004-05 ADM	2014-15 ADM
Alamance-Burlington Schools	21,435	22,604	Mooresville Graded School District	4,476	5,924
Alexander County Schools	5,650	5,120	Jackson County Schools	3,569	3,676
Alleghany County Schools	1,489	1,387	Johnston County Schools	26,075	34,137
Anson County Schools	4,305	3,490	Jones County Schools	1,349	1,117
Ashe County Schools	3,176	3,096	Lee County Schools	9,056	9,936
Avery County Schools	2,258	2,098	Lenoir County Schools	9,788	8,962
Beaufort County Schools	7,127	6,937	Lincoln County Schools	11,441	11,581
Bertie County Schools	3,307	2,416	Macon County Schools	4,120	4,355
Bladen County Schools	5,636	4,670	Madison County Schools	2,597	2,434
Brunswick County Schools	10,788	12,332	Martin County Schools	4,400	3,301
Buncombe County Schools	24,942	24,761	McDowell County Schools	6,364	6,255

¹ U.S. Census North Carolina Quick Facts. Available at <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37000.html>.

² Carolina Demography, *Population Growth & Population Aging in North Carolina Counties*. Available at <http://demography.cpc.unc.edu/2013/10/14/population-growth-population-aging-in-north-carolina-counties/>.

³ U.S. Census Population Estimates. Available at <http://www.census.gov/popest/data/state/totals/2015/>.

⁴ Carolina Demography, *Population Growth & Population Aging in North Carolina Counties*.

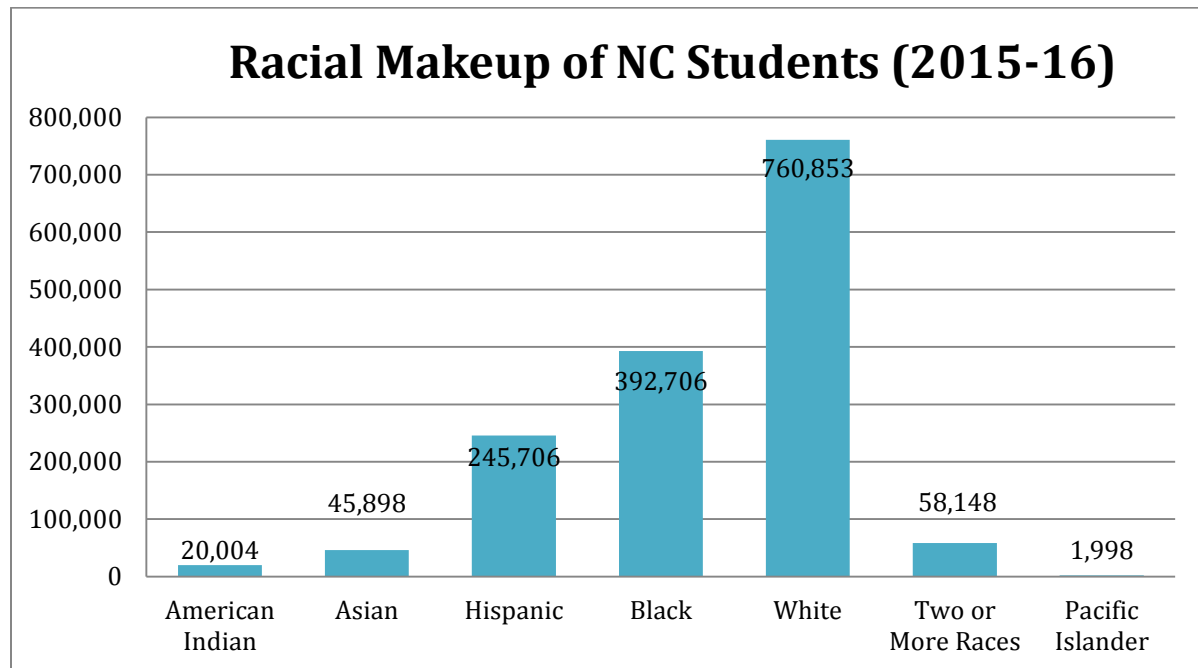
Asheville City Schools	3,789	4,295	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	117,179	144,497
Burke County Schools	14,392	12,504	Mitchell County Schools	2,252	1,930
Cabarrus County Schools	22,279	30,630	Montgomery County Schools	4,459	4,008
Kannapolis City Schools	4,593	5,378	Moore County Schools	11,598	12,802
Caldwell County Schools	12,850	11,918	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	17,932	15,703
Camden County Schools	1,662	1,863	New Hanover County Schools	23,020	25,667
Carteret County Schools	8,103	8,336	Northampton County Schools	3,158	1,992
Caswell County Schools	3,281	2,716	Onslow County Schools	21,947	25,314
Catawba County Schools	16,803	16,579	Orange County Schools	6,619	7,454
Hickory City Schools	4,372	4,356	Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools	10,705	12,076
Newton Conover City Schools	2,790	3,125	Pamlico County Schools	1,626	1,273
Chatham County Schools	7,374	8,330	Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Schools	5,884	5,744
Cherokee County Schools	3,606	3,271	Pender County Schools	7,065	8,808
Edenton-Chowan Schools	2,432	2,176	Perquimans County Schools	1,706	1,718
Clay County Schools	1,266	1,278	Person County Schools	5,759	4,584
Cleveland County Schools	17,035	15,010	Pitt County Schools	21,374	23,613
Columbus County Schools	6,830	5,960	Polk County Schools	2,396	2,247
Whiteville City Schools	2,662	2,217	Randolph County Schools	18,073	17,766
Craven County Schools	14,377	14,105	Asheboro City Schools	4,477	4,744
Cumberland County Schools	51,663	50,258	Richmond County Schools	8,146	7,494
Currituck County Schools	3,854	3,853	Robeson County Schools	23,843	23,320
Dare County Schools	4,830	4,921	Rockingham County Schools	14,392	12,807
Davidson County Schools	19,520	19,459	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	20,531	19,788
Lexington City Schools	2,998	3,022	Rutherford County Schools	9,882	8,301
Thomasville City Schools	2,522	2,375	Sampson County Schools	8,138	8,465
Davie County Schools	6,234	6,295	Clinton City Schools	2,789	3,046
Duplin County Schools	8,759	9,703	Scotland County Schools	6,732	5,924
Durham Public Schools	30,307	33,314	Stanly County Schools	9,601	8,592
Edgecombe County Schools	7,495	5,854	Stokes County Schools	7,236	6,334
Winston Salem/Forsyth County Schools	47,800	53,648	Surry County Schools	8,622	8,218
Franklin County Schools	7,870	8,582	Elkin City Schools	1,205	1,219
Gaston County Schools	31,289	31,182	Mount Airy City Schools	1,809	1,612
Gates County Schools	1,959	1,633	Swain County Schools	1,762	1,950
Graham County Schools	1,196	1,185	Transylvania County Schools	3,752	3,466
Granville County Schools	8,580	7,988	Tyrrell County Schools	615	573

Greene County Schools	3,139	3,134	Union County Schools	28,535	41,296
Guilford County Schools	66,367	71,502	Vance County Schools	7,972	6,449
Halifax County Schools	5,053	2,939	Wake County Schools	113,547	153,488
Roanoke Rapids City Schools	2,948	2,907	Warren County Schools	3,035	2,300
Weldon City Schools	1,038	936	Washington County Schools	2,104	1,589
Harnett County Schools	16,783	20,099	Watauga County Schools	4,537	4,298
Haywood County Schools	7,746	7,280	Wayne County Schools	18,994	18,773
Henderson County Schools	12,292	13,537	Wilkes County Schools	9,898	9,777
Hertford County Schools	3,500	2,932	Wilson County Schools	12,344	12,216
Hoke County Schools	6,708	8,260	Yadkin County Schools	6,020	5,378
Hyde County Schools	640	571	Yancey County Schools	2,514	2,215
Iredell-Statesville Schools	19,291	20,759	Total	1,332,009	1,433,592

NC DPI ADM 2004-05 and ADM 2014-15. Available at <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/fbs/accounting/data/>.

RACIAL MAKEUP OF NORTH CAROLINA STUDENTS

North Carolina's student population is becoming increasingly diverse. In the 2015-16 school year, 1.3% of public school students were American Indian, 3.0% were Asian, 16.1% were Hispanic, 25.7% were black, 49.9% were white, 3.8% were two or more races, and 0.1% were Pacific Islander.⁵ These numbers include both traditional public school and charter school students.



Source: NC DPI 2015-16 Grade, Race, Sex Data.

⁵ NC DPI 2015-16 Grade, Race, Sex Data. Available at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/accounting/data/>.

RACIAL MAKEUP OF N.C. STUDENTS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT (2015-16)

School District	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Black	White	Two or More Races	Pacific Islander
Alamance-Burlington Schools	102	316	5,657	5,018	10,683	974	27
Alexander County Schools	4	93	459	203	4,028	194	3
Alleghany County Schools	6	4	291	10	1,067	27	0
Anson County Schools	14	57	136	1,975	1,161	91	0
Ashe County Schools	2	17	306	18	2,726	30	0
Avery County Schools	6	13	229	8	1,798	34	2
Beaufort County Schools	9	22	1,070	2,295	3,246	257	5
Bertie County Schools	11	9	57	1,887	330	33	0
Bladen County Schools	83	15	836	1,738	1,779	198	0
Brunswick County Schools	110	85	1,556	1,870	8,330	521	13
Buncombe County Schools	97	318	3,867	1,650	17,553	996	82
Asheville City Schools	6	52	354	1,010	2,706	286	9
Burke County Schools	24	784	1,670	615	8,707	593	27
Cabarrus County Schools	167	1,140	4,868	6,198	17,663	1,209	55
Kannapolis City Schools	21	75	1,507	1,515	1,915	286	3
Caldwell County Schools	11	83	1,182	639	9,644	513	2
Camden County Schools	4	21	53	191	1,447	96	5
Carteret County Public Schools	37	86	708	549	6,510	474	16
Caswell County Schools	9	6	189	1,000	1,410	97	0
Catawba County Schools	17	1,082	2,469	891	11,283	700	10
Hickory City Schools	4	179	1,007	888	1,908	314	2
Newton Conover City Schools	4	183	771	382	1,564	198	1
Chatham County Schools	21	93	2,569	1,011	4,403	362	1
Cherokee County Schools	50	25	179	53	2,960	100	1
Edenton-Chowan Schools	3	11	125	899	967	72	1
Clay County Schools	7	5	79	12	1,184	22	1
Cleveland County Schools	14	112	829	3,993	9,358	727	3
Columbus County Schools	315	7	589	1,874	3,082	99	3
Whiteville City Schools	23	12	233	951	916	113	0
Craven County Schools	39	591	1,357	4,098	7,301	716	39
Cumberland County Schools	919	884	6,174	22,941	15,556	3,774	237
Currituck County Schools	6	19	204	221	3,238	308	3
Dare County Schools	10	44	704	127	3,896	196	7
Davidson County Schools	63	244	1,602	672	16,321	455	9
Lexington City Schools	14	145	1,012	912	775	199	5
Thomasville City Schools	9	16	735	903	564	161	2
Davie County Schools	16	55	817	392	4,749	292	2
Duplin County Schools	77	29	3,912	2,265	3,287	176	14
Durham Public Schools	109	801	9,543	15,933	6,127	959	30
Edgecombe County Public Schools	7	6	587	3,391	1,843	124	2

Winston Salem/Forsyth County Schools	119	1,348	13,298	15,453	21,851	2,157	52
Franklin County Schools	40	45	1,428	2,607	4,054	290	6
Gaston County Schools	73	454	3,659	6,766	19,271	1,310	22
Gates County Schools	8	1	28	560	960	67	1
Graham County Schools	187	3	41	3	931	8	0
Granville County Schools	23	50	1,243	2,669	3,637	293	3
Greene County Schools	8	4	979	1,194	943	46	0
Guilford County Schools	326	4,258	10,278	29,303	24,589	2,814	113
Halifax County Schools	152	4	101	2,311	120	45	6
Roanoke Rapids City Schools	10	62	159	757	1,794	79	2
Weldon City Schools	3	1	8	835	31	13	0
Harnett County Schools	201	152	3,949	5,028	9,984	1,169	60
Haywood County Schools	53	39	573	74	6,279	149	6
Henderson County Schools	19	168	3,184	562	9,156	543	66
Hertford County Schools	22	21	102	2,323	430	48	2
Hoke County Schools	815	71	1,746	3,002	2,246	515	16
Hyde County Schools	0	0	115	140	315	20	0
Iredell-Statesville Schools	32	565	2,563	2,988	13,968	609	18
Mooresville Graded School District	10	116	637	928	4,055	284	10
Jackson County Schools	294	52	468	57	2,748	99	6
Johnston County Schools	134	245	7,624	5,519	19,951	1,099	24
Jones County Schools	1	4	111	434	506	37	0
Lee County Schools	71	83	3,380	2,164	4,040	318	5
Lenoir County Public Schools	17	58	1,151	4,234	3,284	203	6
Lincoln County Schools	16	85	1,254	710	9,016	406	7
Macon County Schools	19	42	756	36	3,424	96	4
Madison County Schools	3	9	87	9	2,284	24	1
Martin County Schools	2	24	235	1,704	1,214	80	0
McDowell County Schools	29	64	778	182	4,989	199	4
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	678	8,794	32,046	57,884	42,915	3,468	167
Mitchell County Schools	2	14	163	5	1,690	21	1
Montgomery County Schools	3	75	1,337	792	1,694	113	5
Moore County Schools	158	145	1,598	2,169	8,323	425	12
Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	84	110	1,860	8,105	5,002	482	14
New Hanover County Schools	85	399	3,153	5,361	16,077	979	33
Northampton County Schools	7	6	77	1,419	289	58	1
Onslow County Schools	140	339	3,473	4,982	14,937	2,014	95
Orange County Schools	23	87	1,490	1,156	4,484	288	6
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools	41	1,790	1,876	1,323	6,198	751	3
Pamlico County Schools	5	9	99	293	821	68	0
Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools	17	50	400	2,539	2,510	263	7
Pender County Schools	46	48	1,155	1,347	6,089	294	6

Perquimans County Schools	4	6	54	464	1,122	58	0
Person County Schools	25	13	398	1,597	2,356	213	2
Pitt County Schools	49	348	2,609	11,315	8,326	816	11
Polk County Schools	5	5	260	122	1,696	88	0
Randolph County Schools	87	238	2,933	661	13,102	601	9
Asheboro City Schools	6	83	2,093	671	1,658	202	0
Richmond County Schools	272	49	800	2,682	3,321	299	8
Public Schools of Robeson County	9,902	134	3,476	5,775	3,223	908	27
Rockingham County Schools	39	80	1,642	2,427	7,889	647	9
Rowan-Salisbury Schools	60	225	3,068	3,667	12,013	674	20
Rutherford County Schools	26	37	568	998	6,110	544	2
Sampson County Schools	68	18	3,035	1,638	3,403	282	8
Clinton City Schools	87	24	811	1,169	867	106	1
Scotland County Schools	936	55	168	2,688	1,770	248	6
Stanly County Schools	24	289	716	1,100	6,074	372	7
Stokes County Schools	17	19	286	185	5,488	184	5
Surry County Schools	9	31	1,844	195	5,959	176	1
Elkin City Schools	0	8	234	47	865	45	0
Mount Airy City Schools	1	19	291	140	1,091	63	0
Swain County Schools	457	10	95	15	1,277	82	1
Transylvania County Schools	11	20	233	173	2,838	183	9
Tyrrell County Schools	1	19	101	198	214	43	1
Union County Public Schools	102	1,247	6,924	5,377	27,084	1,206	14
Vance County Schools	10	56	880	3,984	1,303	182	6
Wake County Schools	446	11,910	26,414	37,206	74,651	5,829	188
Warren County Schools	145	6	166	1,477	397	46	2
Washington County Schools	2	7	121	1,110	283	28	0
Watauga County Schools	8	54	352	48	3,727	119	4
Wayne County Public Schools	36	239	3,912	6,527	7,238	734	27
Wilkes County Schools	25	46	1,321	376	7,540	346	2
Wilson County Schools	28	148	2,255	5,536	3,881	346	6
Yadkin County Schools	16	23	1,252	158	3,807	118	10
Yancey County Schools	7	2	281	15	1,875	26	0

NC DPI Grade, Race, Sex, 2015-16