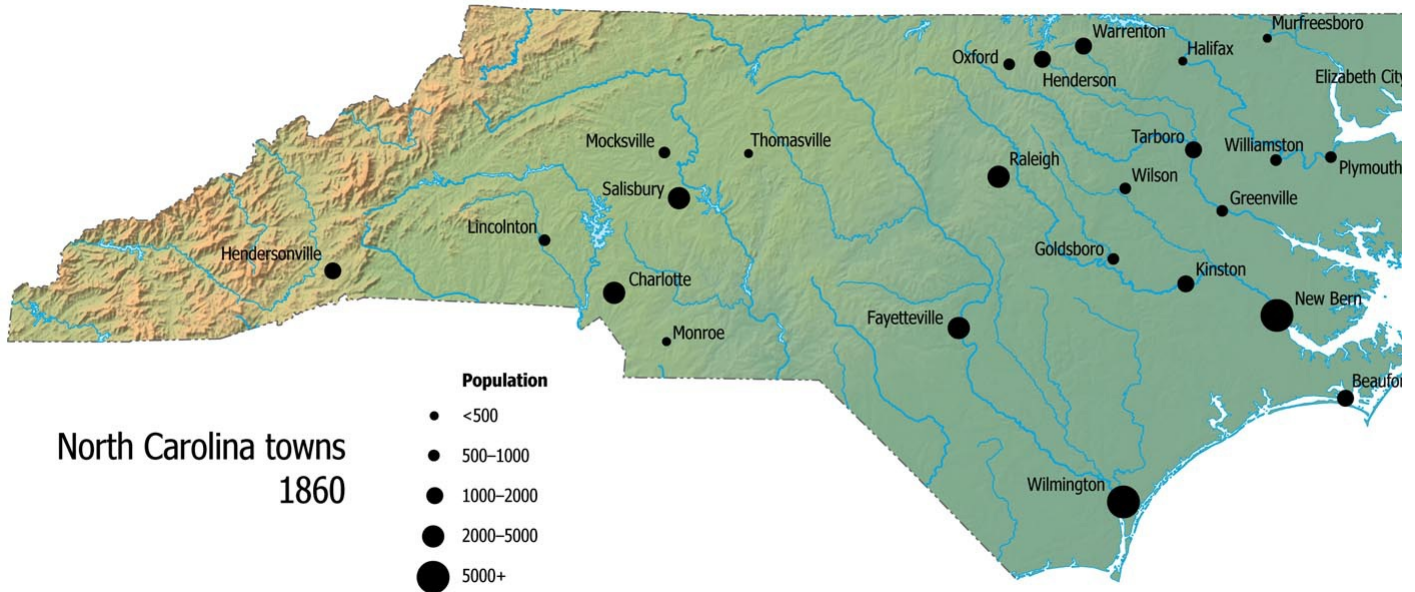


## Towns and Villages <sup>[1]</sup>

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North Carolina had a number of towns in the antebellum period -- though a "town" then was far smaller than it would be today. Only two, Wilmington and New Bern, had more than 5,000 people; Raleigh and Fayetteville were the only others with more than 2,500. Today, Charlotte is the largest city in North Carolina, with more than 500,000 people, and the state has 56 cities with populations over 15,000 -- bigger than the largest town in 1860.



Map of North Carolina towns with population as listed in the 1860 census. Click for a larger version.

<sup>[2]</sup>

The map above and the table below show the towns listed on the Census of 1860. In addition to these towns, every county had a county seat, where court was held, and there were numerous small villages -- clusters of homes and businesses around crossroads or along rivers.

### Compare this with a present-day map of North Carolina.

*Where were the biggest towns in 1860?*

*What factors do you think led them to be the biggest towns in 1860?*

*Where are the biggest cities today?*

*What cities do we consider important today that weren't even on the map in 1860?*

*Which of the towns listed here have comparatively faded in importance, and which have continued to grow?*

Population of North Carolina towns, 1860

Town	County	Population				
		Free	Colored		Slave	Total
		White	Colored	Total	Total	
<a href="#">Beaufort</a>	Carteret	972	59	1031	579	1610
<a href="#">Charlotte</a>	Mecklenburg	1366	74	1440	825	2265
<a href="#">Elizabeth City</a>	Pasquotank	952	217	1169	626	1798
<a href="#">Fayetteville</a>	Cumberland	2806	465	3271	1519	4790
<a href="#">Goldsboro</a>	Wayne	512	25	5337	348	885
<a href="#">Greenville</a>	Pitt	304	14	318	510	828
<a href="#">Halifax</a>	Halifax	146	46	192	?	?
<a href="#">Henderson</a>	Granville	714	22	736	1225	1961
<a href="#">Hendersonville</a>	Henderson	353	5	358	1382	1740
<a href="#">Kingston</a>	Lenoir	662	36	698	635	1333
<a href="#">Lincolnton</a>	Lincoln	482	14	496	352	848
<a href="#">Mockville</a>	Davie	200	20	310	400	710
<a href="#">Monroe</a>	Union	232	7	239	?	?
<a href="#">Murfreesboro</a>	Hertford	394	72	466	?	?
<a href="#">Newbern</a>	Craven	2360	689	3049	2383	5432
<a href="#">Oxford</a>	Granville	364	62	426	452	878
<a href="#">Plymouth</a>	Washington	409	62	471	401	872
<a href="#">Raleigh</a>	Wake	2693	466	3159	4621	4780
<a href="#">Salisbury</a>	Rowan	1267	80	1347	1073	2420
<a href="#">Tarboro</a>	Edgecomb	453	65	518	530	1048
<a href="#">Thomasville</a>	Davidson	220	0	220	88	308
<a href="#">Warrenton</a>	Warren	719	81	800	720	1520
<a href="#">Williamston</a>	Martin	242	10	252	364	616
<a href="#">Wilmington</a>	New Hanover	5202	573	5775	3777	9552
<a href="#">Wilson</a>	Wilson	527	33	560	400	960

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