

Jones County ^[1]



Average: 3.4 (18 votes)

Jones County



^[2]

JONES COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

www.jonescountync.gov ^[3]

COUNTY SEAT: Trenton

FORMED: 1779

FORMED FROM: Craven

LAND AREA: 470.71 square miles

2020 POPULATION ESTIMATE: 9,172

White: 67.1%

Black/African American: 29.3%

American Indian: 1.1%

Asian: 0.6%

Pacific Islander: <0.1%

Two or more races: 1.9%

Hispanic/Latino: 5.1% (of any race)

From *State & County QuickFacts*, US Census Bureau, 2020. ^[4]

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 3RD

BIOGRAPHIES FOR



^[5]

[Jones County](#) ^[5]



^[6]

WILDLIFE PROFILES FOR

[Coastal Plain](#) ^[6]

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REGION: [Coastal Plain](#) ^[7]

RIVER BASIN: [Neuse](#) ^[8], [White Oak](#) ^[9], [Map](#) ^[10]

NEIGHBORING COUNTIES: [Carteret](#) ^[11], [Craven](#) ^[12], [Duplin](#) ^[13], [Lenoir](#) ^[14], [Onslow](#) ^[15]



See also: [North Carolina Counties](#) ^[16] (to access links to NCPedia articles for all 100 counties)

by Robert Blair Vocci, 2006

Jones County, located in North Carolina's [Coastal Plain](#) ^[7] region, was formed from [Craven County](#) ^[12] in 1779, taking its name from radical Revolutionary War leader and Anti-Federalist [Willie Jones](#) ^[17]. Trenton (originally known as Trent Bridge) was established as the county seat in 1784. Other Jones County communities include Maysville, Pollacksville, Comfort, Pleasant Hill, and Wyse Fork. Large portions of the county are part of the Great Dover Swamp, White Oak Pocosin, [Croatan National Forest](#) ^[18], and Hofmann Forest, the nation's largest forest laboratory.

Originally inhabited by [Tuscarora Indians](#) ^[19], the area of modern Jones County was first settled by Europeans in the early eighteenth century; but the early communities formed by [German](#) ^[20] and [Swiss](#) ^[21] immigrants were soon disturbed by [Cary's Rebellion](#) ^[22] and the Tuscarora War (1711-13). Nevertheless, in the wake of the Tuscarora War a thriving agricultural economy soon developed, with the Trent River serving as a source of irrigation and the primary means of transportation. During the following century and a half, the burgeoning county became dominated by plantation life, and on the eve of the Civil War the abundance of slaves and fertile farmland had made Jones County one of the most prosperous in the nation. The devastation of the war and the end of slavery brought the county's prominence to an end, however. Through the end of the twentieth century the economy of the county remained heavily dependent upon crops (principally [tobacco](#) ^[23]) from its farms and lumber from its extensive forest lands. In 2004 the estimated population of Jones County was slightly more than 10,000.

Annotated history of Jones County's formation:

For an annotated history of the county's formation, with the laws affecting the county, boundary lines and changes, and other origin information, visit these references in *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties* (Corbitt, 2000), available online at North Carolina Digital Collections (note, there may be additional items of interest for the county not listed here):

County formation history: <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-ca...> ^[24]

Index entry for the county: <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-ca...> ^[25]

References:

Julia Pollack Harriett, *History and Genealogy of Jones County, North Carolina* (1987).

Additional resources:

Corbitt, David Leroy. 2000. *The formation of the North Carolina counties, 1663-1943*. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-carolina-counties-1663-1943/3692099?item=4553233> ^[26] (accessed June 20, 2017).

Jones County Government: <https://jonescountync.gov/> ^[3]

DigitalNC, Jones County: <https://www.digitalnc.org/counties/jones-county/> ^[27]

North Carolina Digital Collections (explore by place, time period, format): <https://digital.ncdcr.gov> ^[28]

Image credits:

Rudersdorf, Amy. 2010. "NC County Maps." Government & Heritage Library, State Library of North Carolina.

Subjects:

Counties ^[29]

From:

Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.^[30]

Authors:

Vocci, Robert Blair ^[31]

Origin - location:

Jones County ^[32]

1 January 2006 | Vocci, Robert Blair

Source URL:<https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/jones>

Links

[1] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/jones> [2] <http://www.co.jones.nc.us/> [3] <https://jonescountync.gov/> [4] <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/jonescountynorthcarolina/POP010220> [5] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/jones-county/biography> [6] <https://www.ncpedia.org/wildlife/coastal-plain> [7] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/region/coastal-plain> [8] <https://files.nc.gov/deqee/documents/files/neuse.pdf> [9] <https://files.nc.gov/deqee/documents/files/white-oak.pdf> [10] <https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/PublicInformation/index.html?appid=f82f583438e74bf29adcc76247381eee> [11] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/carteret> [12] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/craven> [13] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/duplin> [14] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/lenoir> [15] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/onslow> [16] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/counties> [17] <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/jones-willie> [18] <https://www.ncpedia.org/croatan-national-forest> [19] <https://www.ncpedia.org/american-indians/tuscarora> [20] <https://www.ncpedia.org/german-settlers> [21] <https://www.ncpedia.org/swiss-and-palatine-settlers> [22] <https://www.ncpedia.org/cary-rebellion> [23] <https://www.ncpedia.org/tobacco> [24] <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-carolina-counties-1663-1943/3692099?item=4553398> [25] <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-carolina-counties-1663-1943/3692099?item=4553594> [26] <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-carolina-counties-1663-1943/3692099?item=4553233> [27] <https://www.digitalnc.org/counties/jones-county/> [28] <https://digital.ncdcr.gov> [29] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/counties> [30] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia-> [31] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/authors/vocci-robert-blair> [32] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/coastal-14>