Quick facts about North Carolina

Quick Facts and Information About North Carolina

North Carolina is a state in the southeastern United States, and it is bordered by Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia and the Atlantic Ocean. This page lists some basic, quick facts about North Carolina and provides links to other useful information.

Map excerpt showing North Carolina in red. Map of the United States with North Carolina highlighted, by TUBS, CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons.

Quick Facts

Date North Carolina became a state: November 21, 1789 (12th state)
State Capital: Raleigh (Wake County)
Governor: Roy Cooper
State Motto: Esse Quam Videri: To be rather than to seem
State Song: The Old North State
State Colors: Red and Blue
State Bird: Cardinal
State Flower: Dogwood
State Name Origin and Nicknames: Carolina, the Tar Heel State, the Old North State
Economy, Gross Domestic Product: $575,605,000,000 (2018, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis)
Population Estimate: 10,551,162 people (U.S. Census Bureau, 2021) (visit the U.S. Census Quick Facts for more information)
Population Rank: 9th largest state in the United States
Total Land Area: 48,617.91 square miles
Land Area Rank: 28th largest state in the United States by land area
Number of Counties: 100
Highest Point in North Carolina: Mount Mitchell (6,684 feet)
Distance Between Murphy (west) and Manteo (east): 546 miles (driving); 474.5 miles (direct, "as the crow flies")
Length by Width: North Carolina is 503 miles long by 150 miles wide
Seats in the U.S. House of Representatives: 13

Seats in the N.C. General Assembly: 120 members in the House; 50 members in the Senate. Find your state legislators at [https://www.ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators](https://www.ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators) [18]

Links to useful information

North Carolina State Constitution [19]

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Locate US Representatives [22] for North Carolina (U.S. House of Representatives website)

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