



## Table Highlights

### Table 1

Minority optometrists (ODs) represent **3.1%** of the total number of optometrists polled in 2007.

### Table 2

To reach population parity, the number of:

- African American optometrists needs to increase from **18 to 204**.
- Native American and Hispanic/Latino optometrists needs to increase from **8 to 11** and from **4 to 67**, respectively.

### Table 3

The largest gap between practitioner and population exists among Hispanics/Latinos with a ratio of **1 Hispanic/Latino optometrist for every 159,611 Hispanics/Latinos**.

### Table 4

**91** of North Carolina's **100** counties were without optometrists of color in 2007.

Source: 2007 Census, General Population Characteristics, North Carolina and Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, UNC



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## In Practice: North Carolina's Optometrists

	Total	White/Other		African American		Native American		Hispanic/Latino	
<b>2007</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>96.9%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
2001	821*	805	98.0%	11	1.3%	1	0.1%	2	0.2%
1998	794	766	96.5%	12	1.5%	1	0.1%	2	0.3%
1996	749	728	97.2%	10	1.4%	1	0.1%	2	0.3%
1994	719	685	95.3%	10	1.4%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
1992	672	663	98.7%	8	1.2%	1	0.1%	--	--
1990	645	636	98.6%	8	1.2%	1	0.1%	--	--

Table 1

\*Total includes unknown; 2001 (N=2)

## 2007 Population Census Data compared to 2007 Practicing Optometrists

Ethnic Group	Population	Percentage	Optometrists	Percentage
White/Other	6,384,294	70.46%	923	96.85%
African American	1,935,228	21.36%	18	1.89%
Native American	103,066	1.14%	8	0.84%
Hispanic/Latino	638,444	7.05%	4	0.42%
<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	<b>9,061,032</b>		<b>953</b>	
<b>TOTAL MINORITY</b>	<b>2,676,738</b>	<b>29.54%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3.15%</b>

Table 2

## 2007 Practitioner to Population Ratio

1 optometrst for every	6,917	White/Other Americans
1 optometrist for every	156,664	African Americans
1 optometrist for every	12,883	Native Americans
1 optometrist for every	189,482	Hispanics/Latinos
<b>1 optometrist for every</b>	<b>89,225</b>	<b>persons of color in North Carolina</b>

Table 3

County <sup>1</sup>	Total Population <sup>2</sup>	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/LAT		
		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio	
Alamance	145,360	102,147	18	1:5,675	26,923	0	0:26,923	467	0	0:467	15,823	0	0:15,823
Alexander	36,396	32,922	1-4*	1:13,169	2,220	0	0:2,220	69	0	0:69	1,185	0	0:1,185
Alleghany	10,915	9,814	1-4*	1:3,926	157	0	0:157	18	0	0:18	926	0	0:926
Anson	25,202	12,587	1-4*	1:5,035	12,126	0	0:12,126	136	0	0:136	353	0	0:353
Ashe	25,531	24,363	1-4*	1:9,745	227	0	0:227	42	0	0:42	899	0	0:899
Avery	17,776	16,126	1-4*	1:6,450	939	0	0:939	43	0	0:43	668	0	0:668
Beaufort	45,771	31,190	7	1:4,456	12,586	0	0:12,586	74	0	0:74	1,921	0	0:1,921
Bertie	18,601	6,845	1-4*	1:2,738	11,417	0	0:11,417	71	0	0:71	268	0	0:268
Bladen	32,301	18,156	1-4*	1:7,262	11,599	0	0:11,599	677	0	0:677	1,869	0	0:1,869
Brunswick	99,214	82,889	11	1:7,894	11,992	0	0:11,992	621	0	0:621	3,712	0	0:3,712
Buncombe	226,771	199,941	34	1:5,881	16,308	0	0:16,308	869	0	0:869	9,653	0	0:9,653
Burke	88,975	78,255	1-4*	1:31,302	5,902	0	0:5,902	266	0	0:266	4,552	0	0:4,552
Cabarrus	163,262	125,098	13	1:9,623	23,677	1-4*	1:9,471	518	0	0:518	13,969	1-4*	1:5,588
Caldwell	79,454	71,989	1-4*	1:28,796	4,253	0	0:4,253	174	0	0:174	3,038	0	0:3,038
Camden	9,490	7,732	0	0:7,732	1,561	0	0:1,561	30	0	0:30	167	0	0:167
Carteret	63,238	56,864	9	1:6,318	4,564	0	0:4,564	327	0	0:327	1,483	0	0:1,483
Caswell	23,261	14,781	1-4*	1:5,912	7,876	0	0:7,876	41	0	0:41	563	0	0:563
Catawba	155,646	128,842	14	1:9,203	12,939	1-4*	1:5,176	384	0	0:384	13,481	0	0:13,481
Chatham	61,455	45,175	1-4*	1:18,070	8,281	0	0:8,281	188	0	0:188	7,811	0	0:7,811
Cherokee	26,499	25,210	1-4*	1:10,084	522	0	0:522	402	0	0:402	365	0	0:365
Chowan	14,635	9,085	1-4*	1:3,634	5,238	0	0:5,238	38	0	0:38	274	0	0:274
Clay	10,238	9,888	1-4*	1:3,955	125	0	0:125	44	0	0:44	181	0	0:181
Cleveland	98,453	75,997	9	1:8,444	20,380	0	0:20,380	168	0	0:168	1,908	0	0:1,908
Columbus	54,046	34,216	1-4*	1:13,686	16,455	0	0:16,455	1,747	0	0:1,747	1,628	0	0:1,628
Craven	96,746	69,758	17	1:4,103	22,995	0	0:22,995	410	0	0:410	3,583	0	0:3,583
Cumberland	306,518	172,237	32	1:5,468	111,081	1-4*	1:44,432	4,459	1-4*	1:1,784	18,741	0	0:18,741
Currituck	23,960	21,556	0	0:21,556	1,821	0	0:1,821	75	0	0:75	508	0	0:508
Dare	33,776	31,483	1-4*	1:12,593	1,053	0	0:1,053	95	0	0:95	1,145	0	0:1,145
Davidson	156,530	132,215	11	1:12,020	14,754	0	0:14,754	508	0	0:508	9,053	0	0:9,053
Davie	40,516	35,155	6	1:5,859	2,769	0	0:2,769	85	0	0:85	2,507	0	0:2,507
Duplin	52,979	27,871	8	1:3,484	13,792	0	0:13,792	115	0	0:115	11,201	0	0:11,201
Durham	256,500	130,307	28	1:4,738	95,098	0	0:95,098	667	0	0:667	30,428	0	0:30,428
Edgecombe	52,647	20,786	1-4*	1:8,314	29,652	0	0:29,652	130	0	0:130	2,079	0	0:2,079
Forsyth	338,774	217,465	51	1:4,264	85,393	0	0:85,393	1,042	0	0:1,042	34,874	0	0:34,874
Franklin	57,222	37,514	1-4*	1:15,006	15,509	0	0:15,509	218	0	0:218	3,981	0	0:3,981
Gaston	202,535	161,741	24	1:6,739	29,228	1-4*	1:11,691	549	1-4*	1:220	11,017	1-4*	1:4,407

Table 4 (con't.)

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County <sup>1</sup>	Total Population <sup>2</sup>	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/		
		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio	
Gates	11,737	7,403	0	0:7,403	4,150	0	0:4,150	49	0	0:49	135	0	0:135
Graham	7,858	7,120	0	0:7,120	40	0	0:40	605	0	0:605	93	0	0:93
Granville	55,045	32,998	1-4*	1:13,199	18,384	0	0:18,384	235	0	0:235	3,428	0	0:3,428
Greene	20,405	9,843	1-4*	1:3,937	8,077	0	0:8,077	59	0	0:59	2,426	0	0:2,426
Guilford	465,931	291,159	49	1:6,003	144,655	1-4*	1:57,862	2,191	0	0:2,191	27,926	0	0:27,926
Halifax	55,060	23,170	5	1:4,634	29,404	0	0:29,404	1,833	0	0:1,833	653	0	0:653
Harnett	108,721	74,943	8	1:9,368	24,005	0	0:24,005	861	0	0:861	8,912	0	0:8,912
Haywood	56,430	54,186	5	1:10,837	844	0	0:844	318	0	0:318	1,082	0	0:1,082
Henderson	100,810	88,884	7	1:12,698	3,185	0	0:3,185	242	0	0:242	8,499	0	0:8,499
Hertford	23,206	8,436	1-4*	1:3,374	14,050	0	0:14,050	275	0	0:275	445	0	0:445
Hoke	42,422	19,428	1-4*	1:7,771	14,665	0	0:14,665	3,894	0	0:3,894	4,435	0	0:4,435
Hyde	5,172	3,180	0	0:3,180	1,822	0	0:1,822	21	0	0:21	149	0	0:149
Iredell	151,445	124,155	16	1:7,760	18,645	0	0:18,645	380	0	0:380	8,265	0	0:8,265
Jackson	36,751	31,511	1-4*	1:12,604	876	0	0:876	3,587	0	0:3,587	777	0	0:777
Johnston	157,437	115,056	13	1:8,850	24,695	0	0:24,695	572	0	0:572	17,114	0	0:17,114
Jones	10,127	6,334	0	0:6,334	3,382	0	0:3,382	35	0	0:35	376	0	0:376
Lee	57,973	36,879	6	1:6,147	11,575	0	0:11,575	237	0	0:237	9,282	0	0:9,282
Lenoir	56,761	30,907	6	1:5,151	23,073	0	0:23,073	107	0	0:107	2,674	0	0:2,674
Lincoln	73,106	62,059	8	1:7,757	4,566	0	0:4,566	189	0	0:189	6,292	0	0:6,292
Macon	32,608	31,084	1-4*	1:12,434	508	0	0:508	101	0	0:101	915	0	0:915
Madison	20,309	19,649	1-4*	1:7,860	250	0	0:250	53	0	0:53	357	0	0:357
Martin	23,598	12,436	1-4*	1:4,974	10,399	0	0:10,399	72	0	0:72	691	0	0:691
McDowell	43,537	39,781	1-4*	1:15,912	1,724	0	0:1,724	124	0	0:124	1,908	0	0:1,908
Mecklenburg	867,067	521,695	88	1:5,962	253,546	7	1:36,221	3,278	1-4*	1:1,311	88,548	1-4*	1:35,419
Mitchell	15,786	15,132	1-4*	1:6,053	98	0	0:98	36	0	0:36	520	0	0:520
Montgomery	27,451	17,782	1-4*	1:7,113	5,368	0	0:5,368	87	0	0:87	4,214	0	0:4,214
Moore	84,435	66,879	13	1:5,145	12,195	0	0:12,195	610	0	0:610	4,751	0	0:4,751
Nash	92,949	54,215	10	1:5,422	34,247	0	0:34,247	399	0	0:399	4,088	0	0:4,088
New Hanover	190,432	153,606	34	1:4,518	29,766	0	0:29,766	732	0	0:732	6,328	0	0:6,328
Northampton	20,830	8,484	0	0:8,484	12,053	0	0:12,053	67	0	0:67	226	0	0:226
Onslow	162,745	123,879	14	1:8,849	27,238	0	0:27,238	962	0	0:962	10,666	0	0:10,666
Orange	124,313	100,000	14	1:7,143	16,435	0	0:16,435	468	1-4*	1:187	7,410	0	0:7,410
Pamlico	12,577	9,462	0	0:9,462	2,855	0	0:2,855	75	0	0:75	185	0	0:185
Pasquotank	40,543	24,065	1-4*	1:9,626	15,469	0	0:15,469	134	0	0:134	875	0	0:875
Pender	49,865	37,616	1-4*	1:15,046	9,611	0	0:9,611	201	0	0:201	2,437	0	0:2,437
Perquimans	12,498	9,182	0	0:9,182	3,141	0	0:3,141	25	0	0:25	150	0	0:150

Table 4

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County <sup>1</sup>	Total Population <sup>2</sup>	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/LAT		
		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio		ODs	Ratio	
Person	37,356	25,592	1-4*	1:10,237	10,457	0	0:10,457	216	0	0:216	1,091	0	0:1,091
Pitt	152,068	94,022	20	1:4,822	50,821	0	0:50,821	437	0	0:437	6,788	0	0:6,788
Polk	19,036	17,163	1-4*	1:6,865	1,045	0	0:1,045	48	0	0:48	780	0	0:780
Randolph	140,145	117,344	11	1:10,668	7,959	0	0:7,959	606	0	0:606	14,236	0	0:14,236
Richmond	45,985	29,134	1-4*	1:11,654	14,104	0	0:14,104	832	0	0:832	1,915	0	0:1,915
Robeson	128,149	39,514	12	1:3,293	31,155	0	0:31,155	47,041	1-4*	1:18,816	10,439	0	0:10,439
Rockingham	92,421	69,989	9	1:8,234	17,638	0	0:17,638	255	0	0:255	4,539	0	0:4,539
Rowan	137,383	107,152	21	1:5,102	21,135	0	0:21,135	414	0	0:414	8,682	0	0:8,682
Rutherford	63,012	54,613	6	1:9,102	6,938	0	0:6,938	120	0	0:120	1,341	0	0:1,341
Sampson	63,641	34,705	5	1:6,941	17,949	0	0:17,949	1,103	0	0:1,103	9,884	0	0:9,884
Scotland	36,364	18,672	1-4*	1:7,469	13,825	0	0:13,825	3,414	0	0:3,414	453	0	0:453
Stanly	59,195	50,150	5	1:10,030	6,943	0	0:6,943	151	0	0:151	1,951	0	0:1,951
Stokes	46,072	42,715	1-4*	1:17,086	2,191	0	0:2,191	115	0	0:115	1,051	0	0:1,051
Surry	72,380	62,825	10	1:6,283	2,851	0	0:2,851	172	0	0:172	6,532	0	0:6,532
Swain	13,643	9,582	1-4*	1:3,833	299	0	0:299	3,471	0	0:3,471	291	0	0:291
Transylvania	29,984	28,050	1-4*	1:11,220	1,432	0	0:1,432	91	0	0:91	411	0	0:411
Tyrrell	4,121	2,142	0	0:2,142	1,656	0	0:1,656	9	0	0:9	314	0	0:314
Union	184,675	144,082	10	1:14,408	22,164	0	0:22,164	568	0	0:568	17,861	0	0:17,861
Vance	42,992	19,190	6	1:3,198	21,046	0	0:21,046	99	0	0:99	2,657	0	0:2,657
Wake	832,970	591,208	111	1:5,350	168,330	1-4*	1:67,332	3,154	1-4*	1:1,262	70,278	1-4*	1:28,111
Warren	19,410	7,625	0	0:7,625	10,373	0	0:10,373	954	0	0:954	458	0	0:458
Washington	12,915	6,068	1-4*	1:2,427	6,441	0	0:6,441	7	0	0:7	399	0	0:399
Watauga	44,541	42,572	1-4*	1:17,029	955	0	0:955	113	0	0:113	901	0	0:901
Wayne	113,590	68,464	10	1:6,846	36,975	0	0:36,975	421	0	0:421	7,730	0	0:7,730
Wilkes	66,844	60,396	5	1:12,079	2,774	0	0:2,774	97	0	0:97	3,577	0	0:3,577
Wilson	76,754	40,095	10	1:4,010	29,875	0	0:29,875	172	0	0:172	6,612	0	0:6,612
Yadkin	37,797	33,150	1-4*	1:13,260	1,301	0	0:1,301	63	0	0:63	3,283	0	0:3,283
Yancey	18,456	17,282	1-4*	1:6,913	188	0	0:188	42	0	0:42	944	0	0:944

Table 4 (cont.)

\* Represents a cell size greater than zero and less than five. For analysis purposes, a conservative estimate of 2.5 was used.

ODs = Optometrists (Doctors of Optometry)

AA = African American

NA = Native American

HIS/LAT = Hispanic/Latino (of any race)

Data include all active, in-state ODs in North Carolina as of October 31, 2007. Race is self-reported by the ODs at time of initial application or subsequent renewals.

<sup>1</sup>County population figures for the four races and ethnicities listed in the light gray regions include White/Other (includes Asian or Pacific Islander and those persons whom the Census Bureau classifies as Other race), Black (African American), American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut (Native American), and Hispanic/Latino (of any race). <sup>2</sup>Total county population figures (dark gray region) may differ due to a 1% margin of error.