



Table Highlights

Table 1

Registered Nurses (RNs) of color represent **11.4%** of practicing RNs in North Carolina.

Table 2

To reach population parity, the number of:

- African American registered nurses needs to increase from **8,351 to 18,118**.
- Native American and Hispanic/Latino registered nurses needs to increase from **660 to 967**, and from **670 to 5,980**, respectively.

Table 3

The largest gap between practitioner and population exists among Hispanics/Latinos with a ratio of **1** Hispanic/Latino registered nurses for every **953** Hispanics/Latinos.

Table 4

3 of North Carolina's **100** counties were without registered nurses 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 Registered Nurses

	Total	White/Other		African American		Native American		Hispanic/Latino	
2007	84,820*	74,696	88.1%	8,351	9.8%	660	0.8%	670	0.8%
2001	74,790*	66,843	89.4%	6,644	8.9%	475	0.6%	416	0.6%
1998	68,050	58,310	85.7%	5,273	7.7%	38	0.6%	256	0.4%
1996	63,240	54,033	85.4%	4,705	7.4%	296	0.5%	200	0.3%
1994	57,897	50,902	88.0%	4,308	7.4%	253	0.4%	151	0.3%
1992	52,167	48,209	92.4%	3,665	7.0%	184	0.4%	109	0.2%
1990	NO DATA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 1

*Total includes unknown; 2007 (N=443); 2001 (N=412)

2007 Population Census Data compared to 2007 Practicing Registered Nurses

Ethnic Group	Population	Percentage	Registered Nurses	Percentage
White/Other	6,384,294	70.46%	74,696	88.06%
African American	1,935,228	21.36%	8,351	9.85%
Native American	103,066	1.14%	660	0.78%
Hispanic/Latino	638,444	7.05%	670	0.79%
TOTAL POPULATION*	9,061,032		84,820*	
TOTAL MINORITY	2,676,738	29.54%	9,681	11.41%

Table 2

*Total includes unknown; 2007 (N=443)

2007 Practitioner to Population Ratio

1 registered nurse for every	85	White/Other Americans
1 registered nurse for every	232	African Americans
1 registered nurse for every	156	Native Americans
1 registered nurse for every	953	Hispanics/Latinos
1 registered nurse for every	107	persons of color in North Carolina

Table 3

County ¹	Total Population ²	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/LAT		
		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio	
Alamance	145,360	102,147	820	1:125	26,923	77	1:350	467	5	1:93	15,823	8	1:1,978
Alexander	36,396	32,922	123	1:269	2,220	1-4*	1:888	69	1-4*	1:28	1,185	1-4*	1:474
Alleghany	10,915	9,814	54	1:183	157	0	0:157	18	0	0:18	926	0	0:926
Anson	25,202	12,587	115	1:109	12,126	24	1:505	136	0	0:136	353	0	0:353
Ashe	25,531	24,363	127	1:192	227	0	0:227	42	0	0:42	899	1-4*	1:360
Avery	17,776	16,126	130	1:125	939	0	0:939	43	0	0:43	668	1-4*	1:267
Beaufort	45,771	31,190	390	1:80	12,586	19	1:662	74	1-4*	1:30	1,921	1-4*	1:768
Bertie	18,601	6,845	83	1:83	11,417	27	1:423	71	0	0:71	268	0	0:268
Bladen	32,301	18,156	146	1:125	11,599	18	1:644	677	1-4*	1:271	1,869	1-4*	1:748
Brunswick	99,214	82,889	448	1:185	11,992	18	1:666	621	1-4*	1:248	3,712	0	0:3,712
Buncombe	226,771	199,941	3717	1:54	16,308	62	1:263	869	7	1:124	9,653	19	1:508
Burke	88,975	78,255	929	1:84	5,902	20	1:295	266	1-4*	1:106	4,552	1-4*	1:1,821
Cabarrus	163,262	125,098	1556	1:80	23,677	100	1:237	518	6	1:86	13,969	16	1:873
Caldwell	79,454	71,989	389	1:185	4,253	6	1:709	174	1-4*	1:70	3,038	1-4*	1:1,215
Camden	9,490	7,732	16	1:499	1,561	1-4*	1:624	30	0	0:30	167	1-4*	1:67
Carteret	63,238	56,864	477	1:119	4,564	11	1:415	327	1-4*	1:131	1,483	8	1:185
Caswell	23,261	14,781	35	1:428	7,876	10	1:788	41	0	0:41	563	0	0:563
Catawba	155,646	128,842	1684	1:77	12,939	35	1:370	384	1-4*	1:154	13,481	5	1:2,696
Chatham	61,455	45,175	217	1:208	8,281	17	1:487	188	1-4*	1:75	7,811	1-4*	1:3,124
Cherokee	26,499	25,210	210	1:120	522	1-4*	1:209	402	1-4*	1:161	365	1-4*	1:146
Chowan	14,635	9,085	144	1:63	5,238	10	1:524	38	0	0:38	274	1-4*	1:110
Clay	10,238	9,888	41	1:241	125	0	0:125	44	0	0:44	181	0	0:181
Cleveland	98,453	75,997	817	1:93	20,380	56	1:364	168	1-4*	1:67	1,908	0	0:1,908
Columbus	54,046	34,216	415	1:83	16,455	31	1:531	1,747	6	1:291	1,628	1-4*	1:651
Craven	96,746	69,758	873	1:80	22,995	88	1:261	410	10	1:41	3,583	10	1:358
Cumberland	306,518	172,237	1787	1:96	111,081	479	1:232	4,459	34	1:131	18,741	59	1:318
Currituck	23,960	21,556	58	1:375	1,821	1-4*	1:728	75	0	0:75	508	0	0:508
Dare	33,776	31,483	229	1:137	1,053	1-4*	1:421	95	1-4*	1:38	1,145	0	0:1,145
Davidson	156,530	132,215	693	1:191	14,754	40	1:369	508	0	0:508	9,053	1-4*	1:3,621
Davie	40,516	35,155	148	1:238	2,769	1-4*	1:1,108	85	0	0:85	2,507	0	0:2,507
Duplin	52,979	27,871	243	1:115	13,792	25	1:552	115	1-4*	1:46	11,201	1-4*	1:4,480
Durham	256,500	130,307	4351	1:30	95,098	920	1:103	667	18	1:37	30,428	46	1:661
Edgecombe	52,647	20,786	265	1:78	29,652	45	1:659	130	1-4*	1:52	2,079	1-4*	1:832
Forsyth	338,774	217,465	4881	1:45	85,393	722	1:118	1,042	17	1:61	34,874	35	1:996
Franklin	57,222	37,514	186	1:202	15,509	24	1:646	218	1-4*	1:87	3,981	1-4*	1:1,592
Gaston	202,535	161,741	1355	1:119	29,228	118	1:248	549	1-4*	1:220	11,017	12	1:918

Table 4 (con't.)

table continued on next page

County ¹	Total Population ²	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/		
		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio	
Gates	11,737	7,403	21	1:353	4,150	5	1:830	49	1-4*	1:20	135	0	0:135
Graham	7,858	7,120	29	1:246	40	0	0:40	605	1-4*	1:242	93	0	0:93
Granville	55,045	32,998	366	1:90	18,384	156	1:118	235	1-4*	1:94	3,428	1-4*	1:1,371
Greene	20,405	9,843	71	1:139	8,077	20	1:404	59	0	0:59	2,426	0	0:2,426
Guilford	465,931	291,159	4362	1:67	144,655	805	1:180	2,191	17	1:129	27,926	28	1:997
Halifax	55,060	23,170	348	1:67	29,404	62	1:474	1,833	1-4*	1:733	653	1-4*	1:261
Harnett	108,721	74,943	326	1:230	24,005	29	1:828	861	7	1:123	8,912	1-4*	1:3,565
Haywood	56,430	54,186	425	1:128	844	1-4*	1:338	318	1-4*	1:127	1,082	1-4*	1:433
Henderson	100,810	88,884	960	1:93	3,185	7	1:455	242	5	1:48	8,499	7	1:1,214
Hertford	23,206	8,436	232	1:36	14,050	38	1:370	275	1-4*	1:110	445	0	0:445
Hoke	42,422	19,428	85	1:229	14,665	24	1:611	3,894	8	1:487	4,435	1-4*	1:1,774
Hyde	5,172	3,180	25	1:127	1,822	1-4*	1:729	21	0	0:21	149	0	0:149
Iredell	151,445	124,155	1520	1:82	18,645	70	1:266	380	5	1:76	8,265	11	1:751
Jackson	36,751	31,511	326	1:97	876	1-4*	1:350	3,587	1-4*	1:1,435	777	0	0:777
Johnston	157,437	115,056	578	1:199	24,695	34	1:726	572	1-4*	1:229	17,114	7	1:2,445
Jones	10,127	6,334	43	1:147	3,382	1-4*	1:1,353	35	1-4*	1:14	376	1-4*	1:150
Lee	57,973	36,879	329	1:112	11,575	29	1:399	237	1-4*	1:95	9,282	0	0:9,282
Lenoir	56,761	30,907	527	1:59	23,073	78	1:296	107	1-4*	1:43	2,674	1-4*	1:1,070
Lincoln	73,106	62,059	313	1:199	4,566	5	1:913	189	1-4*	1:76	6,292	1-4*	1:2,517
Macon	32,608	31,084	181	1:172	508	1-4*	1:203	101	1-4*	1:40	915	0	0:915
Madison	20,309	19,649	67	1:295	250	0	0:250	53	0	0:53	357	0	0:357
Martin	23,598	12,436	125	1:100	10,399	21	1:495	72	0	0:72	691	0	0:691
McDowell	43,537	39,781	249	1:160	1,724	1-4*	1:690	124	0	0:124	1,908	1-4*	1:763
Mecklenburg	867,067	521,695	7950	1:66	253,546	1262	1:201	3,278	28	1:117	88,548	98	1:904
Mitchell	15,786	15,132	150	1:101	98	1-4*	1:39	36	0	0:36	520	0	0:520
Montgomery	27,451	17,782	93	1:192	5,368	5	1:1,074	87	1-4*	1:35	4,214	1-4*	1:1,686
Moore	84,435	66,879	1038	1:64	12,195	54	1:226	610	7	1:87	4,751	7	1:679
Nash	92,949	54,215	818	1:66	34,247	148	1:231	399	8	1:50	4,088	1-4*	1:1,635
New Hanover	190,432	153,606	2490	1:62	29,766	123	1:242	732	13	1:56	6,328	15	1:422
Northampton	20,830	8,484	52	1:165	12,053	14	1:861	67	0	0:67	226	0	0:226
Onslow	162,745	123,879	694	1:179	27,238	66	1:413	962	1-4*	1:385	10,666	19	1:561
Orange	124,313	100,000	2431	1:41	16,435	239	1:69	468	8	1:59	7,410	29	1:256
Pamlico	12,577	9,462	39	1:243	2,855	1-4*	1:1,142	75	1-4*	1:30	185	0	0:185
Pasquotank	40,543	24,065	390	1:62	15,469	50	1:309	134	1-4*	1:54	875	1-4*	1:350
Pender	49,865	37,616	158	1:239	9,611	16	1:601	201	0	0:201	2,437	1-4*	1:975
Perquimans	12,498	9,182	26	1:353	3,141	1-4*	1:1,256	25	0	0:25	150	0	0:150

Table 4

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County ¹	Total Population ²	White/Other			AA			NA			HIS/LAT		
		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio		RNs	Ratio	
Person	37,356	25,592	153	1:168	10,457	15	1:697	216	0	0:216	1,091	1-4*	1:436
Pitt	152,068	94,022	2531	1:37	50,821	316	1:161	437	14	1:31	6,788	26	1:261
Polk	19,036	17,163	154	1:111	1,045	1-4*	1:418	48	0	0:48	780	1-4*	1:312
Randolph	140,145	117,344	532	1:221	7,959	26	1:306	606	1-4*	1:242	14,236	1-4*	1:5,694
Richmond	45,985	29,134	340	1:86	14,104	32	1:441	832	7	1:119	1,915	1-4*	1:766
Robeson	128,149	39,514	556	1:71	31,155	66	1:472	47,041	221	1:213	10,439	1-4*	1:4,176
Rockingham	92,421	69,989	424	1:165	17,638	42	1:420	255	1-4*	1:102	4,539	1-4*	1:1,816
Rowan	137,383	107,152	950	1:113	21,135	102	1:207	414	1-4*	1:166	8,682	1-4*	1:3,473
Rutherford	63,012	54,613	410	1:133	6,938	13	1:534	120	1-4*	1:48	1,341	1-4*	1:536
Sampson	63,641	34,705	289	1:120	17,949	37	1:485	1,103	9	1:123	9,884	1-4*	1:3,954
Scotland	36,364	18,672	228	1:82	13,825	37	1:374	3,414	56	1:61	453	0	0:453
Stanly	59,195	50,150	403	1:125	6,943	5	1:1,389	151	0	0:151	1,951	1-4*	1:780
Stokes	46,072	42,715	129	1:332	2,191	1-4*	1:876	115	0	0:115	1,051	0	0:1,051
Surry	72,380	62,825	607	1:104	2,851	5	1:570	172	1-4*	1:69	6,532	1-4*	1:2,613
Swain	13,643	9,582	95	1:101	299	1-4*	1:120	3,471	24	1:145	291	1-4*	1:116
Transylvania	29,984	28,050	231	1:121	1,432	0	0:1,432	91	0	0:91	411	1-4*	1:164
Tyrrell	4,121	2,142	12	1:179	1,656	1-4*	1:662	9	0	0:9	314	0	0:314
Union	184,675	144,082	721	1:200	22,164	42	1:528	568	1-4*	1:227	17,861	11	1:1,624
Vance	42,992	19,190	237	1:81	21,046	46	1:458	99	1-4*	1:40	2,657	1-4*	1:1,063
Wake	832,970	591,208	7271	1:81	168,330	906	1:186	3,154	23	1:137	70,278	90	1:781
Warren	19,410	7,625	28	1:272	10,373	9	1:1,153	954	1-4*	1:382	458	0	0:458
Washington	12,915	6,068	51	1:119	6,441	7	1:920	7	0	0:7	399	0	0:399
Watauga	44,541	42,572	383	1:111	955	1-4*	1:382	113	1-4*	1:45	901	1-4*	1:360
Wayne	113,590	68,464	852	1:80	36,975	156	1:237	421	1-4*	1:168	7,730	6	1:1,288
Wilkes	66,844	60,396	418	1:144	2,774	9	1:308	97	1-4*	1:39	3,577	1-4*	1:1,431
Wilson	76,754	40,095	589	1:68	29,875	74	1:404	172	1-4*	1:69	6,612	1-4*	1:2,645
Yadkin	37,797	33,150	121	1:274	1,301	0	0:1,301	63	0	0:63	3,283	0	0:3,283
Yancey	18,456	17,282	66	1:262	188	1-4*	1:75	42	1-4*	1:17	944	1-4*	1:378

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.

RN = Registered Nurses

AA = African American

NA = Native American

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

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

¹County 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). ²Total county population figures (dark gray region) may differ due to a 1% margin of error.