

## Fast Facts

### NCDOT

- More than 14,000 people work for NCDOT in a **variety of positions**, which range from transportation workers and engineers to archaeologists and ferry captains.
- Nineteen men and women from across the state make up the **N.C. Board of Transportation**. Each member is appointed by the governor to represent a specific Transportation Division or at-large area of interest, and works with NCDOT staff members to make decisions about transportation priorities.

### Aviation

- North Carolina has 74 publicly owned **airports** and more than 300 privately owned airports, heliports and other landing areas.
- Nine airports have regularly scheduled airline service and two offer international service to Europe, Canada and Mexico.
- There are 8,223 registered private, corporate and government aircraft based in the state, which are flown by 13,993 **certified pilots and instructors**.
- Approximately 47.6 million passengers fly to and from North Carolina, and more than 1.7 billion pounds of freight are exported annually.
- Commercial and general aviation account for about \$11.8 billion in **revenue** each year and are responsible for creating more than 88,400 jobs in North Carolina.

### Beautification Programs

- The **N.C. Wildflower Program** maintains more than 2,500 acres of wildflowers along North Carolina's roadsides.
- North Carolina's **Adopt-A-Highway Program** is one of the largest of its kind in the nation. More than 12,000 miles of state-maintained roadsides have been adopted by 6,000 volunteer groups, saving taxpayers approximately \$5 million in annual clean-up costs.
- Fifty-two designated **scenic byways** throughout the state cover more than 1,900 miles. These routes give motorists an opportunity to experience the state's rich history, culture and scenery.

### Bicycle and Pedestrian

- An **NCDOT study** shows 46 percent of North Carolina households own bicycles. Eighty percent of households with four or more members own bikes.
- The **Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative** is an annual matching grant program that encourages municipalities to develop a comprehensive system of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Since 2004, 80 municipalities have been awarded a total of more than \$1.9 million through this planning grant program.
- Since 1987, the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation has successfully completed a **broad range of projects**, including the design and construction of multi-use paths and rail trails; provision of on-road improvements such as bike lanes and bicycle-safe bridges; and mapping and signing more than 5,000 miles of local, regional and cross-state bicycle route systems.

### Ferry

- The NCDOT Ferry Division operates the second largest ferry system in the nation and the largest on the East Coast, with 21 ferries on seven routes. It has served residents and visitors to North Carolina since the mid 1940s.
- Each year, the ferry system transports nearly 2.5 million passengers and 1.3 million vehicles.
- Seven routes link Cherry Branch to Minnesott Beach, Currituck to Knotts Island, Aurora to Bayview, Cedar Island to Ocracoke, Ocracoke to Swan Quarter, Ocracoke to Hatteras Island and Southport to Fort Fisher.

## Highways

- NCDOT maintains about 80,000 miles of highway statewide. Texas is the only other state in the country that maintains more mileage.
- North Carolina maintains 12,712 **bridges** across North Carolina, ranking our state as 13th in the nation for the highest number of state-maintained bridges.
- The state's first **High Occupancy Vehicle** (HOV) lanes are located in Mecklenburg County along I-77 in Charlotte.
- The state highway system includes four tunnels— three in Haywood County and one in Buncombe County.
- NCDOT recycled 653,987 tons of material such as oil, plastic, highway signs and asphalt from 2006-2007 in connection with its **3R Program**.
- About 250 live traffic cameras and 80 speed sensors are connected to the department's **Traveler Information Management System** to give you a real-time look at how traffic is flowing along major routes across the state.

## N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles

- The DMV **License & Theft Bureau** is the oldest state law enforcement agency, founded in 1921.
- There are approximately 6.5 million **licensed drivers** and more than 8.5 million **vehicles registered** in North Carolina.

## Public Transportation

- There are 22 publicly owned urban and small urban transit systems and two regional transit systems operating in North Carolina.
- Vanpool services are available for commuters in the Charlotte, Triad and Triangle areas and their surrounding counties.
- Rural public transportation annually serves more than 6.6 million passengers across the state.
- A statewide online **rideshare matching database** connects commuters interested in carpooling. An estimated 1,784 carpools were formed using the database resource during 2007 alone.
- All 100 North Carolina counties receive funding to serve the special transportation needs of elderly and disabled citizens.

## Rail

- Railroads in North Carolina operate more than 3,300 miles of track.
- There are 4025 at-grade **public crossings** statewide. Sixty-six percent have signal warning devices (gates and/or flashing lights).
- Since 1993, the Rail Division Engineering & Safety Unit has **permanently closed** 131 redundant or unsafe public crossings in North Carolina.
- Two Class I and 21 shortline railroads operate in North Carolina, transporting more than 1.6 million carloads of freight each year.

## North Carolina's Amtrak Train Service

- State-supported **North Carolina's Amtrak** is a fleet of two trains, the Piedmont and Carolinian, which offer daily service to Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte, nine other North Carolina cities and cities in the northeast. Amtrak is the state's operating partner.
- Four additional **national trains**, including the Crescent, Silver Star, Silver Meteor and Palmetto, make station stops in North Carolina on their way to New York, New Orleans, Savannah and Miami.
- Last year, nearly 580,000 passengers rode trains in North Carolina.
- Twelve of the state's 16 train stations have been historically renovated or newly built. In 2007, the Rail Division's Station **Renovation Program** was awarded the National Trust for Historic Preservation John H. Chavee Award for Outstanding Achievement in Public Policy.

- Members of North Carolina's **Volunteer Train Hosts** ride each day on the Piedmont and Carolinian assisting passengers, answering travel questions and pointing out local landmarks and attractions. Made up of 125 dedicated volunteers, this association was the first of its kind in the nation, and similar programs have been implemented in other states.

