



The Formation of Precincts, then Counties of North Carolina

1600s

Date	Event / Change
1664	Albemarle and Clarendon counties formed as original counties
1667	Clarendon county settlements abandoned and county discontinued
1670	Berkeley, Currituck, Pasquotank, Shaftesbury Precincts in Albemarle county
1681	Berkeley Precinct changes name to Perquimans Precinct
1685	Shaftesbury Precinct changes name to Chowan Precinct
1689	Albemarle county ceases to function as governmental unit; Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank and Perquimans Precincts continue
1696	Bath county formed as Carolina Province original county

1700s

Date	Event / Change
1705	Bath county divided into Archdale, Pamtecough and Wickham Precincts
1710	Carolina Province divided into North Carolina and South Carolina
1712	Pamtecough renamed Beaufort, Archdale to Craven, Wickham to Hyde
1722	Bertie Precinct from Chowan; Carteret from Craven
1729	New Hanover from Craven; Tyrell from Bertie, Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank
1734	Bladen & Onslow from New Hanover
1739	All NC precincts designated as counties
1741	Edgecombe & Northampton from Bertie
1745	Hyde gains from Currituck
1746	Granville from Edgecombe; Johnston from Craven
1750	Anson from Bladen; Duplin from New Hanover
1752	Orange from Bladen, Granville & Johnston
1753	Rowan from Anson

1754	Cumberland from Bladen
1757	Beaufort gains from Craven
1758	Dobbs from Johnston; Halifax from Edgecombe
1759	Hertford from Bertie, Chowan & Northampton
1760	Pitt from Beaufort
1762	Mecklenburg from Anson
1764	Brunswick from Bladen & New Hanover; Bute from Granville
1768	Tryon from Mecklenburg
1770	Chatham from Orange; Guilford from Rowan & Orange; Surry from Rowan; Wake from Cumberland, Johnston & Orange; Carteret annexes Ocracoke
1773	Surry gains from Rowan
1774	Martin from Halifax & Tyrell
1776	District of Washington formed from Western Frontier (later Tennessee, 1796)
1777	Burke from Rowan; Camden from Pasquotank; Caswell from Orange; Nash from Edgecombe; Wilkes from Surry; Washington County from District of Washington
1778	Jones from Craven; Randolph from Guilford; Gates from Chowan, Hertford & Perquimans; Montgomery from Anson
1779	Wayne from Dobbs; Bute abolished → Warren & Franklin; Tryon abolished → Lincoln & Rutherford; Richmond from Anson; Sullivan from Washington
1779–1780	Virginia's western border extended by survey
1782	Lincoln gains from Burke
1783	Davidson & Greene from Washington
1784	Moore from Cumberland; Sampson from Duplin; Tyrell & Hyde boundary
1784	Provisional State of Franklin created (from Greene, Sullivan & Washington)
1785	Rockingham from Guilford
1785	Franklin creates Caswell, Sevier, Spencer, Wayne (various from Greene, Sullivan, Washington, Wilkes & Cherokee Lands)
1786	Franklin creates Blount (Cherokee Lands, capital Jonesborough)
1786	Robeson from Bladen
1786	NC reasserts authority over Washington, Sullivan & Greene (parallel with Franklin)
1787	Hawkins from Sullivan; Sumner from Davidson; Rutherford gains from Burke
1788	Iredell from Rowan
1788	Tennessee County from Davidson
1788	Franklin ceases to function

1789	Stokes from Surry
1790	NC cedes Franklin counties → Federal Govt, Territory South of the Ohio River
1791	Buncombe from Burke & Rutherford; Person from Caswell; Glasgow & Lenoir from Dobbs (Dobbs abolished)
1792	Cabarrus from Mecklenburg; Surry gains from Wilkes; Wilkes gains from former Washington; Cumberland gains from Robeson
1793	Iredell gains from Burke & Wilkes; Wayne gains from Glasgow
1795	Sampson gains from New Hanover
1796	Surry gains from Stokes
1798	Lenoir gains from Craven
1799	Ashe from Wilkes; Glasgow renamed Greene; Washington from Tyrell

1800s

Date	Event / Change
1801	Greene gains from Craven; Edgecombe gains from Pitt
1803	Georgia establishes Walton County (Cherokee Lands, undefined boundaries)
1804	Lenoir gains from Craven & Jones
1805	Martin gains from Pitt
1808	Columbus from Bladen & Brunswick; Haywood from Buncombe
1811	Columbus gains from Brunswick
1812	Georgia's Walton County abolished
1815	Wilkes gains from Iredell
1819	Duplin gains from Lenoir; Lenoir from Craven; Beaufort from Hyde
1821	Columbus gains from Bladen
1822	Davidson from Rowan; Haywood gains from Cherokee Lands
1823	Hyde gains from Currituck
1828	Macon from Haywood
1833	Yancey from Buncombe & Burke
1836	Davie from Rowan
1838	Henderson from Buncombe; Macon gains from Cherokee Lands
1839	Cherokee from Macon
1841	Caldwell from Burke & Wilkes; Cleveland from Lincoln & Rutherford; Stanly from Montgomery

1842	Catawba from Lincoln; McDowell from Burke & Rutherford; Union from Anson & Mecklenburg
1844	Henderson & McDowell gain from Rutherford
1845	Hyde gains from Carteret
1846	Gaston from Lincoln
1847	Alexander from Caldwell, Iredell & Wilkes; Polk from Henderson & Rutherford; Sampson gains from New Hanover
1848	Polk abolished (lands returned to Henderson & Rutherford)
1849	Alamance from Orange; Forsyth from Stokes; Watauga from Ashe, Caldwell, Wilkes & Yancey; Buncombe gains from Yancey
1850	Yadkin from Surry
1851	Jackson from Haywood & Macon; Madison from Buncombe & Yancey; Alexander gains from Wilkes
1855	Harnett from Cumberland; Polk from Henderson & Rutherford; Wilson from Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash & Wayne
1859	Alleghany from Ashe
1861	Clay from Cherokee; Mitchell from Watauga & Yancey; Transylvania from Henderson & Jackson; Jackson gains from Macon
1869	Alleghany gains from Surry
1870	Dare from Currituck, Hyde & Tyrell; Sampson gains from New Hanover
1871	Swain from Jackson & Macon; Nash gains from Edgecombe
1872	Graham from Cherokee; Pamlico from Beaufort & Craven; Sampson gains from New Hanover; Clay gains from Macon; Mitchell gains from Yancey
1873	Bladen exchanges land with Columbus
1874	Cumberland gains from Bladen
1875	Pender from New Hanover; Franklin gains from Granville
1877	Columbus gains from Brunswick
1881	Durham from Orange & Wake; Vance from Franklin, Granville & Warren
1883	Wilson gains from Edgecombe
1889	Alleghany gains from Ashe; Forsyth exchanges with Davidson
1890	Tyrell gains from Hyde (validated 1921)
1891	Alleghany gains from Wilkes; Beaufort gains from Pamlico
1895	Pitt gains from Greene
1897	Alamance gains from Chatham (survey)
1899	Scotland from Richmond; Ashe gains from Alleghany

1900s–Present

Date	Event / Change
1907	Lee from Chatham & Moore
1911	Avery from Caldwell, Mitchell & Watauga; Hoke from Cumberland & Robeson; Durham gains from Wake; Harnett gains from Cumberland
1921	Cleveland gains from Gaston; Forsyth gains from Davidson; Tyrell & Hyde agreement validated
1925	Buncombe gains from McDowell
1927	Forsyth gains from Yadkin
1965	Moore gains from Hoke