**Fast Facts**

**NCDOT**

- More than 13,000 people work for NCDOT in a variety of positions, ranging from transportation workers and engineers to archeologists and ferry captains.

- The N.C. Board of Transportation is made up of 19 men and women from across the state appointed by the governor to represent either a specific transportation division or an at-large area of interest. Members work with NCDOT staff to make decisions about transportation.

**Aviation**

- North Carolina has 72 publicly owned airports and more than 300 privately owned airports, heliports and other landing areas.

- Nine airports have regularly scheduled commercial airline service and two offer international service to Europe, Canada and Mexico.

- Nearly 8,000 registered private, corporate and government aircraft are based in the state, along with 15,000 licensed pilots.

- More than 50 million passengers fly into or out of North Carolina each year, and companies export more than 800 million pounds of freight annually.

- Commercial and general aviation traffic accounts for revenues of about $26 billion each year and are responsible for creating approximately 108,850 jobs in North Carolina.

**Beautification**

- The N.C. Wildflower Program maintains 1,500 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 10,000 miles of state-maintained roadsides have been adopted by approximately 5,000 volunteer groups, saving taxpayers $4 million in annual clean-up costs.

- Fifty-five designated scenic byways, including one All-American byway and three National byways, run throughout the state and cover more than 2,200 miles. These routes give motorists excellent opportunities 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 provides matching grants to encourage cities to develop comprehensive systems of bicycle and pedestrian paths.
Since 2004, $3.6 million has been awarded to 135 communities that took advantage of the planning grant program.

- Since 1987, the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation has completed a broad range of projects, such as designing and constructing multi-use paths and rail trails; enhancing roads with bike lanes and bicycle 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 22 ferries on seven routes. It has served residents and visitors to North Carolina since the mid-1940s.
- Each year, the ferries transport nearly 2.2 million passengers and 1 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.
- North Carolina maintains 13,638 bridges across North Carolina.
- The state’s first High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes are now in place along Interstate 77 in Charlotte.
- The state highway system includes four tunnels: three in Haywood County and one in Buncombe County.
- Between 2010 and 2011, NCDOT has prevented 782,400 tons of material from entering landfills through its 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) program. These materials include grass and other vegetation, glass, coal-combustion fly ash, plastic particles, highway signs and asphalt.
- About 650 live traffic cameras and 200 speed sensors are connected to the department’s Traveler Information Management System, giving drivers a real-time look at how traffic is flowing along major routes across the state.

DMV

- The DMV License and Theft Bureau is the oldest law enforcement agency in the state, founded in 1921.
- North Carolina has approximately 6 million licensed drivers and more than 8.7 million vehicles registered.
- There are about 395,000 state-licensed motorcycle drivers in North Carolina.
• More than 400 insurance companies are licensed and actively write auto policies in North Carolina.

• North Carolina produces about 200 styles of specialty license plates, which often generate funds for public causes.

Public Transportation

• Approximately 77 million one-way trips are made annually by riders using North Carolina public transportation systems.

• State and federal grant programs administered through this division help pay for public transportation options in all 100 counties.

• North Carolina has a total of 99 public transportation systems including:
  ▪ 66 Community (rural) systems
  ▪ 15 Urban single-city systems
  ▪ 6 Regional community systems
  ▪ 5 Consolidated urban-community systems
  ▪ 2 Fixed route in small cities systems
  ▪ 2 Human-service only systems
  ▪ 2 Regional urban systems
  ▪ 1 Consolidated small city-community

• A statewide commuter matching website, www.sharetheridenc.org, has been established to encourage ride sharing.

• The division supports intercity bus service operated by Horizon Coachlines provides long-distance transportation between North Carolina cities, as well as connections to the national intercity bus system.

• A transportation Demand Management program works to slow the growth of vehicle miles traveled in urban areas by promoting public transportation.

Rail

• Railroads in North Carolina operate more than 3,000 miles of track.

• There are 3,868 at-grade public crossings state-wide. Approximately 70% of the crossings have automatic warning devices, such as gates and/or flashing lights.

• Since 1993, the Rail Division Engineering and Safety Unit permanently closed 190 public and 38 private rail crossings in North Carolina that were deemed unneeded or unsafe.

• Two Class I railroads and 19 short lines operate in North Carolina, transporting more than 1.3 million carloads of freight each year.

Amtrak

• North Carolina’s Amtrak runs six trains throughout the state, providing service to Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and nine other North Carolina cities.