

## **NCDOT Fast Facts**

*(As of Feb. 1, 2016)*

- The N.C. Department of Transportation is responsible for all modes of transportation in North Carolina – highways, rail, aviation, ferries, public transit and bicycle and pedestrian transportation – as well as the state's Division of Motor Vehicles, Turnpike Authority and the Governor's Highway Safety Program. NCDOT also oversees and helps expand economic opportunities through the N.C. State Ports and N.C. Global TransPark.
- NCDOT is a performance-based organization with a strategic, data-driven decision-making process that is transparent and accountable. This approach ensures that politics do not determine transportation priorities and aligns the Department's operations with its overall mission and goals.
- With 12,000 employees, the N.C. Department of Transportation is one of North Carolina's largest state government agencies. The NCDOT team ranges from transportation workers and engineers to archeologists and ferry captains.
- The Department's operations are led by the Secretary of Transportation. The 19-member Board of Transportation is NCDOT's governing board and is responsible for overseeing the transportation policy-making process and monitoring the department's performance.

### **Aviation**

- North Carolina has 72 publicly owned airports and more than 300 privately owned airports, heliports and other landing areas.
- Ten airports have regularly scheduled commercial airline service, and two (Raleigh-Durham International and Charlotte Douglas International Airport) offer international service to Europe, Canada and Mexico.
- Nearly 7,000 registered private, corporate and government aircraft and 14,700 licensed pilots are based in North Carolina.
- More than 50 million passengers fly into or out of North Carolina each year, and companies transport more than 1.3 billion pounds of cargo into and out of these airports.
- Commercial and general aviation airports account for more than \$31 billion each year in economic impact and are responsible for creating approximately 120,000 jobs in North Carolina.

## **Beautification**

- The N.C Wildflower Program maintains 1,500 acres of wildflowers along North Carolina's roadsides.
- Through North Carolina's Adopt-A-Highway Program, about 4,750 volunteer groups have adopted more than 11,000 miles of state-maintained roadsides that they help clean, saving taxpayers approximately \$5 million annually in cleanup 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**

- The NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative provides financial assistance to local governments to plan for future bicycle and pedestrian networks. Since 2004, more than \$4 million has been awarded to help more than 164 communities develop comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plans.
- North Carolina has more than 5,000 lane miles of signed on-road bicycle routes, mostly as part of the state bicycle route system as shown on [www.ncbikeways.com](http://www.ncbikeways.com).
- The NCDOT and the N.C. Division of Public Health partnership, called Active Routes to School, has noted a rapid increase in school participation in both international Walk to School and national Bike to School Day. In 2012, North Carolina event registrations totaled 76. In 2014, event registrations totaled 198.

## **Ferry**

- With 21 ferries on seven routes, the NCDOT Ferry Division operates the second largest state-owned ferry system in the nation and the largest on the East Coast. It has served residents and visitors to North Carolina since the mid-1940s.
- Each year, the ferries transport approximately 2 million passengers and 850,000 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 one of the largest highway systems in the nation with nearly 80,000 miles of highway statewide – the equivalent of circling the Earth three times – including 15,000 miles of primary highways (interstate, U.S. and N.C. routes) and nearly 65,000 miles of secondary roads.
- NCDOT is responsible for more than 13,500 bridges, plus an additional 4,500 culverts and pipes that are 20 feet or longer, fitting the federal definition of a bridge.
- The state highway system includes four tunnels: three in Haywood County and one in Buncombe County.
- On highways across the state, 539 live traffic cameras allow NCDOT to monitor traffic conditions to quickly respond to incidents and alert other motorists through 274 Dynamic Message Signs and other efforts.
- The NCDOT State Farm Safety Patrol in 2015 made nearly 63,000 stops, expediting incident clearance, removing debris, assisting motorists and managing traffic.
- The NC 511 phone system in 2015 handled nearly 500,000 calls for traveler information as well as Amber Alert and Silver Alert information.

## NC DMV

- The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles has 114 driver license offices and 130 license plate agencies and registration offices that serve the state's 7.3 million licensed drivers and owners of the 9 million vehicles registered in the state.
- NCDMV issued nearly 4.4 million driver licenses, permits and identification cards in 2015.
- NCDMV processed more than 2.6 million vehicle titles and issued more than 8 million license plates and registration stickers.
- NCDMV's License and Theft Bureau is the oldest law enforcement agency in the state, founded in 1921. In 2015, it recovered 915 stolen vehicle valued at more than \$7.8 million.
- Five mobile units take NCDMV license services to rural communities.

## **Public Transportation**

- North Carolina's 99 public transportation systems serve all 100 counties. In 2015, systems provided more than 78 million passenger trips.
- North Carolina's public transportation systems include:
  - 66 community (rural) systems
  - 15 urban single-city systems
  - Six regional community systems
  - Five consolidated urban-community systems
  - Two fixed route in small cities systems
  - Two human-service only systems
  - Two regional urban systems
  - One consolidated small city-community
- State and federal grant programs administered through the Division of Public Transportation help pay for public transportation options in all 100 counties.
- A statewide commuter matching website, [ShareTheRideNC.org](http://ShareTheRideNC.org), encourages ride-sharing.
- The Public Transportation Division supports intercity bus service to provide long-distance transportation between North Carolina cities as well as connections to the national intercity bus system.
- A transportation Demand Management program promotes public transportation in an effort to slow the growth of vehicle miles traveled in urban areas.

## **Rail**

- North Carolina has nearly 3,300 miles of mainline railroad track and approximately 5,000 crossings.
- There are 3,820 at-grade public crossings statewide. More than 70 percent of them have automatic warning devices, such as gates and/or flashing lights.
- Since 1993, the Rail Division Engineering and Safety Unit has permanently closed 223 public and 45 private rail crossings in North Carolina that have been deemed unneeded or unsafe.
- Two Class I railroads and 23 short lines operate in North Carolina, transporting more than 1.3 million carloads of freight each year.

## **NC By Train**

- The *Piedmont* and *Carolinian* services provide three daily round trips to Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and nine other North Carolina cities. In 2015, nearly 466,000 passengers relied on the service to get them to their destinations, and the *Piedmont* is a national leader in customer satisfaction.
- Our other trains also run throughout the state, providing service to those cities as well.