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# Primary Source: Wealth and Education by the Numbers, North Carolina 1900

These tables of data appeared at the front of a 1903 State Board of Education report on the State Colored Normal Schools. They compare the wealth of black and white North Carolinians and provide information on the colored schools, the state's free public schools for African Americans, for the time period.

1. Value of property in North Carolina, 1903				
	Amount	Percent of Total		
White property	\$332,978,471.00	76.8%		
Colored property	\$14,852,811.00	3.4%		
Railroads, etc.	\$85,856,527.00	19.8%		
Total	\$433,687,809.50	100.0%		

2. North Carolina population, 1870-1900					
	1870	1880	1890	1900	
Total Population	1,071,361	1,399,750	1,617,947	1,893,810	
White	687,470	867,242	1,055,382	1,263,603	
Colored	392,891	532,508	562,565	630,207	
Percent total population, white	63.33%	61.69%	65.23%	66.7%	
Percent total population, colored	36.67%	38.04%	34.77%	33.3%	

3. Facts about colored public schools, 1904–05				
	Rural	City	Total	
Colored school population	192,720	34,256	226,976	
School enrollment	132,363	16,458	148,821	
Average daily attendance	73,958	9,432	83,390	
Percentage of enrollment in daily attendance	56%	57%	56%	

	Rural	City	Total
Percentage of school population enrolled	68%	48%	55%
Average number of children enrolled with each teacher	54	61	55
Teachers employed	2,413	269	2,682
Percentage of teachers women	60.9%	72.9%	62.1%
School term in days	80	159	82
Average monthly salary of teachers	\$22.20	\$31.40	\$25.62
Average annual amount paid each teacher	\$89.08	\$248.85	\$105.10
Salary per school day	\$1.11	\$1.57	\$1.28
Salary per week while employed	\$5.55	\$7.85	\$6.41
Salary per week (52 weeks)	\$2.41	\$6.57	\$2.85
Total amount paid teachers	\$214,951.91	\$66,940.69	\$281,892.60
Total amount spent for buildings	\$17,825.64	\$4,677.58	\$22,503.22
Total <u>expenditures [2]</u> for colored schools	\$232,777.55	\$71,618.27	\$304,395.82
Percentage of total expenditures spent for colored schools	16.3%	13.5%	15.5%
Percentage of total school population colored	31.7%	38.3%	32.5%
Spent for each child enrolled	\$1.76	\$4.35	\$2.05
Spent for each child in daily attendance	\$3.14	\$7.59	\$3.65
Number of schools	2,284	52	2,336
Schools having only one teacher	2,168	2	2,170
Schools having two or more teachers	116	50	166
Average area covered by each rural school			21.3 sq. m.

	Rural	City	Total
School-houses	2,198	63	2,261
Log houses	293		293
Value of school property	\$273,368.00	\$197,438.00	\$470,806.00
Average value of each house	\$124.37	\$3,133.93	\$208.23

## 4. Increase in property values by races, 1891–1904

Year	Total Assessed Value of all Property	Railroads, Telegraph, etc	White Property	Colored Property
1891	\$262,796,816	\$16,668,802	\$234,109,568	\$8,018,446
1901	\$342,222,009	\$58,780,200	\$271,981,493	\$11,460,316
Increase ten years	\$79,425,193	\$42,111,398	\$37,871,925	\$3,441,870
Percentage increase ten years	30.2%	252.6%	16.1%	42.9%
1904	\$442,418,677	\$87,022,746	\$339,969,769	\$15,426,162
Increase three years	\$100,196,668	\$28,242,546	\$67,988,276	\$3,965,846
Percentage increase three years	29.2%	48.0%	24.9%	34.6%
1903	\$433,687,809	\$85,856,527	\$332,978,471	\$14,852,811
Increase one year	\$8,730,868	\$1,166,219	\$6,991,298	\$573,351
Percentage increase one year	2.0%	1.3%	2.1%	3.8%

# **Primary Source Citation:**

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