

## Poverty- Part 1: Introduction <sup>[1]</sup>

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## Poverty

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[Poverty- Part 2: Public Charity in the Colonial Era through the Nineteenth Century](#)<sup>[2]</sup>

[Poverty- Part 3: Statewide Public Welfare Initiatives and the Modern Division of Social Services](#)<sup>[3]</sup>

### Part 1: Introduction

Programs and initiatives to alleviate poverty and aid the needy have been undertaken in North Carolina since colonial<sup>[4]</sup> times. In addition to private organizations and churches, government at various levels has attempted to address poverty issues, with mixed results. There is a direct correlation between poverty and poor health, reduced access to cultural and recreational opportunities, increased crime victimization, and below-average academic achievement. Even with the state's overall economic prosperity, poverty remains a persistent and disturbing feature of North Carolina's landscape, particularly in the rural [Coastal Plain](#)<sup>[5]</sup>. According to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#)<sup>[6]</sup>, in 2005, 23 North Carolina counties-19 of which were located in the east-experienced poverty rates of over 18 percent. Twenty of these poorer counties had held similarly high rates since data collection began in 1960. More than half a million rural North Carolinians were living in poverty, with children and minority groups suffering disproportionately higher rates.

Keep reading >> [Part 2: Public Charity in the Colonial Era through the Nineteenth Century](#)<sup>[2]</sup>  <sup>[2]</sup>

### References:

A. Laurance Aydtlett, "The North Carolina State Board of Public Welfare," *NCHR* 24 (January 1947).

Guion G. Johnson, *Ante-Bellum North Carolina: A Social History* (1937).

Robert S. Rankin, *The Government and Administration of North Carolina* (1955).

### Additional Resources:

Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity, UNC School of Law: <http://www.law.unc.edu/centers/poverty/default.aspx><sup>[7]</sup>

North Carolina Fact, U.S. Census Bureau: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37000.html><sup>[8]</sup>

Poverty Grows, North Carolina Justice Center: <http://www.ncjustice.org/?q=node/969><sup>[9]</sup>

### Subjects:

[Economics and Economic Development](#)<sup>[10]</sup>

[Public service](#)<sup>[11]</sup>

[UNC Press](#)<sup>[12]</sup>

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[Williams, Wiley J.](#)<sup>[16]</sup>

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[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#)<sup>[17]</sup>

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- [4] <https://ncpedia.org/history/colonial>
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