

## **Duplin County** <sup>[1]</sup>

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Duplin County



<sup>[2]</sup>

### **DUPLIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT:**

<https://www.duplincountync.com/> <sup>[2]</sup>

**COUNTY SEAT:** Kenansville

**FORMED:** 1750

**FORMED FROM:** New Hanover

**LAND AREA:** 816.22 square miles

**2018 POPULATION ESTIMATE:** 58,856

White: 70.3%

Black/African American: 25.5%

American Indian: 1.4%

Asian: 0.8%

Pacific Islander: 0.4%

Two or more races: 1.6%

Hispanic/Latino: 22.7% (of any race)

From *State & County QuickFacts*, US Census Bureau, 2018. <sup>[3]</sup>

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:** 7TH

**BIOGRAPHIES FOR**  <sup>[4]</sup>

## GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

**REGION:** [Coastal Plain](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

**RIVER BASIN:** [Cape Fear](#) <sup>[7]</sup>, [Map](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

**NEIGHBORING COUNTIES:** [Jones](#) <sup>[9]</sup>, [Lenoir](#) <sup>[10]</sup>, [Onslow](#) <sup>[11]</sup>, [Pender](#) <sup>[12]</sup>, [Sampson](#) <sup>[13]</sup>, [Wayne](#) <sup>[14]</sup>



See also: [North Carolina Counties](#) <sup>[15]</sup> (to access links to NCPedia articles for all 100 counties); [State Veterans Day Parade](#), [Town of Warsaw](#) <sup>[16]</sup>; [Scuppernong Grape](#) <sup>[17]</sup>.

by Jay Mazzocchi, 2006

Duplin County, located in the [Coastal Plain](#) <sup>[6]</sup> region of North Carolina, was formed in 1750 from [New Hanover County](#) <sup>[18]</sup> and named for Thomas Hay, Lord Duplin, a member of the English [Board of Trade](#) <sup>[19]</sup> and Plantations. Early inhabitants of the area included the [Tuscarora](#) <sup>[20]</sup> and [Siouan Indians](#) <sup>[21]</sup>, followed by English, [Swiss](#) <sup>[22]</sup>, [Scotch-Irish](#) <sup>[23]</sup>, and [German](#) <sup>[24]</sup> settlers. [Kenansville](#) <sup>[25]</sup>, the county seat, was incorporated in 1852 and named for [James Kenan](#) <sup>[26]</sup>, one of the town's founders. Other communities in the county include [Beulaville](#), Calypso, Magnolia, Rose Hill, Wallace, and Warsaw. Notable physical features of the county include the Northeast [Cape Fear River](#) <sup>[27]</sup>, Muddy Creek, Bear Swamp, Maxwell Mill Pond, and Picadilly Bay.

Duplin County boasts several historic attractions, among them the Kenansville Historic District, with notable examples of Greek Revival architecture, and the Dickson Farm, dating from the early nineteenth century. Kenansville is the site of Liberty Hall Plantation, ancestral home of the Kenan family. County cultural institutions include the Cowan Museum (a collection of unusual American artifacts), the William Rand Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre, and the Tar Heel Fine Arts Society. The Duplin Winery is the oldest winery in North Carolina, established in the 1960s. The county also hosts many annual festivals and events, such as the Warsaw Veterans Day Celebration (the nation's oldest continuously celebrated Veterans Day event), the North Carolina Pickle Festival, the North Carolina Poultry Jubilee, and Beach Music at the Winery.

Agriculture is a key part of the Duplin County economy, and goods produced include [tobacco](#) <sup>[28]</sup>, cotton, cucumbers, strawberries, corn, soybeans, wheat, barley, sweet potatoes, Christmas trees, turkeys and other [poultry](#) <sup>[29]</sup>, [hogs](#) <sup>[30]</sup>, and beef and dairy cattle. Manufactured products include textiles, pickles, apparel, and frozen foods. Duplin County's population was estimated to be 51,500 in 2004.

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## Annotated history of Duplin County's formation:

For an annotated history of the county's formation, with the laws affecting the county, boundary lines and changes, and other origin information, visit these references in *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties* (Corbitt, 2000), available online at North Carolina Digital Collections (note, there may be additional items of interest for the county not listed here):

County formation history: <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll9/id/289864> <sup>[31]</sup>

Index entry for the county: <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll9/id/290080> <sup>[32]</sup>

### References:

Leon H. Sikes, *Duplin County Places, Past and Present: A Guide to Duplin County, North Carolina* (1984).

### Additional resources:

Corbitt, David Leroy. 2000. *The formation of the North Carolina counties, 1663-1943*. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/collection/p16062coll9/id/290103> <sup>[33]</sup> (accessed June 20, 2017).

Duplin County Government: <https://www.duplincountync.com/> <sup>[2]</sup>

Duplin County Economic Development Commission: <https://www.duplinedc.com/> <sup>[34]</sup>

DigitalNC, Duplin County: <https://www.digitalnc.org/counties/duplin-county/> <sup>[35]</sup>

North Carolina Digital Collections (explore by place, time period, format): <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/> <sup>[36]</sup>

### Image credits:

Rudersdorf, Amy. 2010. "NC County Maps." Government & Heritage Library, State Library of North Carolina.

### Subjects:

[Counties](#) <sup>[37]</sup>

[UNC Press](#) <sup>[38]</sup>

### From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

### Authors:

[Mazzocchi, Jay](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

### Origin - location:

[Duplin County](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

1 January 2006 | Mazzocchi, Jay

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Source URL: <https://ncpedia.org/geography/duplin>

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- [4] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/duplin-county/biography>
- [5] <https://ncpedia.org/wildlife/coastal-plain>
- [6] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/region/coastal-plain>
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- [10] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/lenoir>
- [11] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/onslow>
- [12] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/pender>
- [13] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/sampson>
- [14] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/wayne>
- [15] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/counties>
- [16] <https://ncpedia.org/north-carolina-state-veterans-day>
- [17] <https://ncpedia.org/scuppernong-grape>
- [18] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/new-hanover>
- [19] <https://ncpedia.org/board-trade>
- [20] <https://ncpedia.org/american-indians/tuscarora>
- [21] <https://ncpedia.org/american-indians/european-contact>
- [22] <https://ncpedia.org/swiss-and-palatine-settlers>
- [23] <https://ncpedia.org/scottish-settlers>
- [24] <https://ncpedia.org/german-settlers>
- [25] <http://www.kenansville.org/>
- [26] <https://ncpedia.org/biography/kenan-james>
- [27] <https://ncpedia.org/rivers/cape-fear>
- [28] <https://ncpedia.org/tobacco>
- [29] <https://ncpedia.org/poultry>
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- [38] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/unc-press>
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- [40] <https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/mazzocchi-jay>
- [41] <https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/coastal--9>