

## Granville County <sup>[1]</sup>



Average: 3.7 (61 votes)

Granville County



<sup>[2]</sup>

### **GRANVILLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT:**

<https://www.granvillecounty.org/> <sup>[2]</sup>

**COUNTY SEAT:** Oxford

**FORMED:** 1746

**FORMED FROM:** Edgecombe

**LAND AREA:** 531.57 square miles

**2020 POPULATION ESTIMATE:** 60,992

White: 64.5%

Black/African American: 31.9%

American Indian: 0.9%

Asian: 0.7%

Pacific Islander: 0.1%

Two or more races: 1.9%

Hispanic/Latino: 8.5% (of any race)

From *State & County QuickFacts*, US Census Bureau, 2020. <sup>[3]</sup>

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:** 1ST

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

[Granville County](#) <sup>[4]</sup>



<sup>[5]</sup> **WILDLIFE PROFILES FOR**

[Piedmont region](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

### **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

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

**RIVER BASIN:** [Neuse](#) <sup>[7]</sup>, [Roanoke](#) <sup>[8]</sup>, [Tar-Pamlico](#) <sup>[9]</sup>, [Map](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

**NEIGHBORING COUNTIES:** [Durham](#) <sup>[11]</sup>, [Franklin](#) <sup>[12]</sup>, [Person](#) <sup>[13]</sup>, [Vance](#) <sup>[14]</sup>, [Wake](#) <sup>[15]</sup>



Granville County, North Carolina

See also: [North Carolina Counties](#) <sup>[16]</sup> (to access links to NCpedia articles for all 100 counties)

by Allyson C. Criner, 2006

Granville County, located in the [Piedmont](#) <sup>[6]</sup> region of north central North Carolina and partially bordered by the state of Virginia, was formed in 1746 from [Edgecombe County](#) <sup>[17]</sup>. It was named for John Lord Carteret, second Earl Granville, who was granted the land of the [Granville District](#) <sup>[18]</sup> by King George II. The county reached its present dimensions after being divided in 1752, 1764, and 1881 to form parts of [Orange](#) <sup>[19]</sup>, Bute (no longer extant), and Vance Counties, respectively. Oxford is the county seat, having succeeded Granville Court House in that capacity in 1811. Other communities in Granville County include [Butner](#) <sup>[20]</sup>, [Creedmoor](#) <sup>[21]</sup>, Stem, and Stovall.

[Tuscarora](#) <sup>[22]</sup> and [Saponi](#) <sup>[23]</sup> Indians dominated the many tribes that once inhabited Granville County. Settlers, mostly from Virginia, began to occupy the area after the Tuscarora War of 1711-13. Agriculture, particularly the production of [tobacco](#) <sup>[24]</sup> using slave labor, drove the early economy of Granville County, which, during slavery's peak in the mid-nineteenth century, was one of a handful of North Carolina counties with as many as 10,000 slaves. The county also had a sizable community of free blacks, including dozens of craftsmen such as the masons who helped build the homes of some of the county's more affluent families. The development in the 1850s of bright leaf tobacco, which could be cultivated in the sandy soil of the Piedmont, kept tobacco production strong in the county following the elimination of a slave-based plantation economy.

Granville County is still one of the largest tobacco-producing areas in the state, but with the introduction of manufacturing industries, the county's economy is no longer primarily agricultural. Manufactured products include apparel, tires, telecommunications equipment, cosmetics, and china. [Camp Butner](#) <sup>[25]</sup>, a major World War II military installation, was converted for other uses, including a federal prison and state mental hospital. In 2004 the population of Granville County was estimated to be 53,000.

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## Annotated history of Granville 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: <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-ca...> <sup>[26]</sup>

Index entry for the county: <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-ca...> <sup>[27]</sup>

### References:

Lewis Bowling, *Granville County Revisited* (2003).

### Additional resources:

Corbitt, David Leroy. 2000. *The formation of the North Carolina counties, 1663-1943*. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/the-formation-of-the-north-carolina-counties-1663-1943/3692099?item=4553233> <sup>[28]</sup> (accessed June 20, 2017).

Granville County Government: <https://www.granvillecounty.org/government/> <sup>[29]</sup>

Granville County Chamber of Commerce: <https://granville-chamber.com/> <sup>[30]</sup>

DigitalNC, Granville County: <https://www.digitalnc.org/counties/granville-county/> <sup>[31]</sup>

**Image credits:**

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

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Counties [33]

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Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.[34]

**Authors:**

Criner, Allyson C. [35]

**Origin - location:**

Granville County [36]

1 January 2006 | Criner, Allyson C.

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**Source URL:**<https://ncpedia.org/geography/granville?page=0>

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