

THE NORTH CAROLINA FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM:  
A DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

BY  
SELSHI SISAYE  
AND  
LIONEL WILLIAMSON

PREPARED FOR 211(D) GRANT - RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND  
NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PROGRAM  
NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY  
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Seleshi Sisaye  
Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology and  
Research Associate of Rural Development  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, and  
211(d) Grant- Rural Development Project  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

and

Lionel Williamson  
Program Coordinator, Agriculture and Economics Specialist  
North Carolina Agricultural Extension Program  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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Introduction: Study Objectives

Although the need for a baseline study of the Farm Opportunities Program has been recognized, the opportunity to undertake such a study was not available until the Fall of 1979. A review of the research needs of the program indicated that the present research has two major objectives.

A first research objective concentrates on completing a policy-oriented research manual to serve as a blue-print for the A & T Agricultural Extension Program. The manual has been designed to provide agricultural extension agents with a ready source of information when they come in contact with other organizations involved in agricultural development programs. The manual outlines the objectives of the Farm

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Opportunities Program, and discusses the relationship of the program with county chairmen, district chairmen, extension agents and paraprofessionals, as well as their working relationships with program participants. It sets out general guidelines for planning, implementation and evaluation of the program. We hope that the use of the research manual would enable county chairmen and extension agents to collect data on the progress of those farmers participating in the program. Such data in turn would help to evaluate the socioeconomic impact of the program.

A second research objective focuses on the preparation of a demographic and socioeconomic profile of the Farm Opportunities Program Counties. This study attempts to provide a preliminary profile of the 21 North Carolina counties where the Farm Opportunities Program is presently administered. The profile will provide the basic demographic and socio-economic data needed by the county chairmen and extension agents to implement program objectives more effectively. It will detail relevant geographic information as it affects economic activities of the state, population distribution by sex and race, rural-urban population ratio, types of employment, farm and non-farm income, sources of farm income, major crops, livestock production and other economic data describing agricultural production.

However, before turning to the data for the Farm Opportunities Program counties, a general background outlining North Carolina's geography, economy, commerce and trade, employment and population distribution provides the statistical context for analysis of the Farm Opportunities Program.

## A Demographic and Economic Profile of North Carolina

### i. Geography of North Carolina

North Carolina has a total area of 52,712 square miles (approximately 33,755,500 acres (for details, see table 1)), of which 49,142 square miles is land area and 3,570 square miles is water area.<sup>1</sup> It is located between latitude 33° 27'37''-36°34'25''N and longitude 75°27'-84°20'W, with an average altitude of 700 feet.

The state is surrounded on the north by Virginia, on the east and southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by South Carolina and Georgia and on the west and north-west by Tennessee. It stretches from east to west about 503 miles and from north to south 187 miles.<sup>2</sup>

North Carolina is divided into three physiographic regions for administrative, climatic and crop and livestock reporting purposes. These are the coastal plain, the piedmont and the mountains. The coastal region is divided into the northern, central and southern coastal region; the piedmont into the northern, central and southern; and the mountain into the northern and western. The state has 100 counties<sup>3</sup>. The Farm Opportunities Program is administered in the 21 counties across the three regions of the state (see Map 1).

### ii. Principal Towns in the State

Most of the towns in North Carolina are not large. The expansion of industry in the 1900's contributed to the growth of some of the towns, particularly the Greensboro-Winston Salem-High point area. Raleigh is the State Capital.

The industry of North Carolina, predominantly a small farm state, reflects its agricultural base.

Table 1

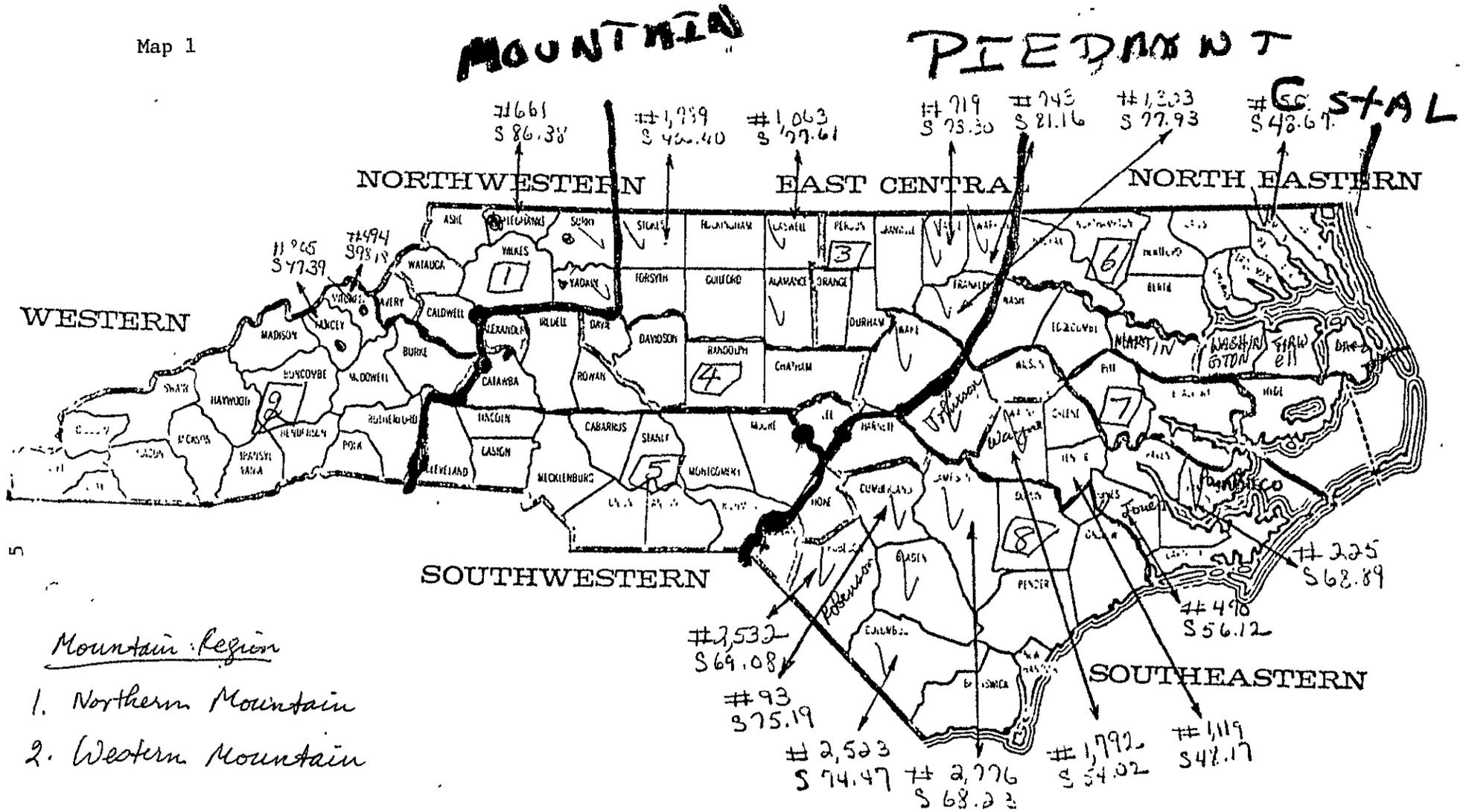
BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC DATA ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA, 1970

Total Size	=	33,755,500 acres
Population	=	5,082,059
Per capita income	=	\$3,208
Employment and Labor Force (Total)	=	2,090,000
Manufacturing	=	718,400
Non-Manufacturing	=	800,100
Public Administration	=	264,200
Agricultural	=	166,200
Other	=	239,200
Rates of Unemployment	=	4.3%
Average weekly earnings per worker	=	\$112.90
High School Graduates entering labor force	=	38%

Source: State of North Carolina, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: Department of Administration, Office of State Budget and Management, Research Development Section, Forth Edition, March 1975, pp. 2-3.

LOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS INCLUDED IN THE FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM  
 BY VALUE OF ANNUAL SALES BY COUNTY IN 1974  
 NORTH CAROLINA

Map 1



Mountain Region

1. Northern Mountain
2. Western Mountain

Piedmont Region

3. Northern Piedmont
4. Central Piedmont
5. Southern Piedmont

Coastal Region

6. Northern Coastal
7. Central Coastal
8. Southern Coastal

Charlotte, the largest city is noted for its diversified manufacturing and wholesale trade. Greensboro and High Point are famous for textiles, tobacco manufactures, and furniture. Winston-Salem and Durham are both noted for tobacco and textiles. Raleigh, the state capital, is the home of many educational institutions. Asheville is a center of tourist industry. Gastonia is a large producer of textiles.<sup>4</sup>

### iii. Economic Activities

Manufacturing accounts for approximately 80 percent of the value of goods produced in the state and employs over 70 percent of the labor force. The principal manufacturing industries are (a) textiles and related products, (2) tobacco products, and (3) chemicals and chemicals products.

North Carolina leads the United States and most nations of the world in textile production, including the production of household textiles, such as sheets and towels, nylon, polyester and rayon fiber. North Carolina is also the leading state in the production of tobacco products. The cigarette factories located at Durham, Greensboro, Reidsville, and Winston-Salem account for more than half of the nation's cigarette production. Charlotte, Greensboro, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem are leading centers in chemical production. Furniture ranks fourth in the state, with North Carolina leading the nation in the production of household furniture. High Point is the principal town for furniture production. Lumber production, primarily pine lumber<sup>5</sup> is a final important industry.

### iv. Economic Activities: Agriculture

Agriculture provides a sixth of the value of goods and services produced in the state and employs a significant proportion of the labor force. The state has the largest small farm population in the U.S. Approximately 50 percent of its population is farm and rural non-farm residents. Close to half of the state's land is in agricultural production.

Table 2 indicates that from 1965 to 1967, both acres of harvested and idle cropland grew from 6,201,310 to 6,313,885 and estimated farm income increased from \$1,388,513,573.00 to \$1,510,780,586.00. However, from 1967 to 1975, the number of acres harvested and idle cropland declined to 5,599,805. During that same period, estimated farm income increased to \$2,682,184,000.00, an increase of \$1,171,403,414.00, or 11.5 percent in eight years without accounting for inflation. The decline in number of acres farmed accompanied by increased agricultural productivity follows a national trend attributed to mechanization of farming and the increased use of fertilizers, hybrid high-yield plant varieties, yield increasing biological and chemical technologies.

Tobacco is the leading agricultural product in the state and in the U.S., accounting for 40 percent of the nation's crop. Although farmers in most parts of the state raise tobacco, the heart of the coastal plain is known as tobaccoland. Other important crops include soybeans, corn, peanuts, and sweet potatoes. Livestock, especially broiler production, is an important source of cash income. A more detailed analysis of crop and livestock production will be provided in a subsequent section which discusses the Farm Opportunities Program counties.

#### v. Commerce and Trade

North Carolina has increased her export of manufactured goods in recent years. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce,

North Carolina's export of manufactured goods totalled \$2,202 million in 1976, 212 percent above the 1972 level. By contrast, output of manufactures in the state increased only 48 percent. The state was the leading U.S. exporter of both tobacco products and textile mill products.<sup>6</sup>

One out of every \$3.00 of North Carolina's farm sales came from exports. The increase in exports of manufactured products has added jobs to the North

TABLE 2 (continued)

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

	Ad to Families With Dependent Children	Ad to the Aged	Ad to the Disabled	Ad to the Blind
1966	100,219	41,980	22,272	NA
1967	108,145	39,500	22,718	4,693
1968	108,523	39,222	23,466	4,621
1969	110,685	37,623	24,461	4,714
1970	126,393	37,893	26,013	4,520
1971	153,587	36,428	29,188	4,690
1972	167,819	35,202	32,212	4,564
1973	158,686	30,949	32,273	4,602
1974	152,291	NA	NA	NA
1975	176,792	79,778	58,034	4,111
1976	191,225	79,901	68,110	4,008

CORRECTIONS

	Prison Admissions	Adult Parole Population	Youth Development School Admissions
1968	10,834	2,719	2,007
1969	10,183	2,585	2,084
1970	10,858	2,801	2,159
1971	10,814	2,972	1,740
1972	10,098	3,236	1,513
1973	9,988	2,842	NA
1974	10,039	3,460	1,487
1975	10,828	5,582	1,136
1976	11,387	5,866	1,090

LABOR FORCE

	Total Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate of Unemployment
1970	2,184,000	2,090,000	94,000	4.3%
1971	2,222,000	2,116,000	106,000	4.8
1972	2,321,000	2,228,000	93,000	4.0
1973	2,385,000	2,302,000	83,000	3.5
1974	2,448,000	2,337,000	111,000	4.5
1975	2,511,000	2,294,000	217,000	8.6

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

	Total Industrial Employment	Manufacturing	Other Industrial Employment
1970	1,782,700	718,400	1,064,300
1971	1,818,400	722,100	1,096,300
1972	1,924,100	763,800	1,160,300
1973	2,014,600	799,800	1,214,800
1974	2,047,400	795,200	1,252,200
1975	1,935,200	707,900	1,227,300

SALES & USE TAX GROSS COLLECTIONS AND GROSS RETAIL SALES

A. Total			B. By Business Groups				
Fiscal	Sales & Use Tax	Retail Sales	Sales & Use Tax		Retail Sales		
			Fiscal 1970-71	Fiscal 1975-76	Fiscal 1970-71	Fiscal 1975-76	
1965-66	\$193,470,413	\$ 8,548,507,666	1% Retail Sales	\$ 4,052,249.82	\$ 7,376,353.40	\$ 417,221,794	\$ 758,928,447
1966-67	208,806,689	9,126,250,732	2% Auto, Planes & Boats	22,859,236.37	36,629,276.76	1,175,887,680	1,883,726,082
1967-68	222,636,022	9,780,612,276	Apparel	10,655,949.15	15,430,019.40	377,430,158	557,179,647
1968-69	248,078,668	10,938,485,772	Automotive	24,204,749.32	36,121,231.29	2,164,758,279	3,807,754,993
1969-70	273,161,758	11,731,451,765	Food	77,269,913.55	136,507,208.06	2,820,755,903	5,126,397,223
1970-71	294,676,686	12,653,965,346	Furniture	14,418,873.12	22,204,343.89	580,072,129	908,990,354
1971-72	335,537,544	14,479,818,839	General Merchandise	56,420,819.34	89,198,865.19	2,453,427,695	4,070,987,211
1972-73	380,620,726	16,456,868,306	Building Materials	28,407,190.36	42,584,853.15	1,163,588,442	1,859,969,783
1973-74	420,987,113	18,526,287,481	Unclassified Group	28,790,441.83	50,149,257.56	1,500,823,266	2,848,891,010
1974-75	436,636,181	19,357,429,530	Use Tax 1% & 3%	26,006,067.34	43,966,872.51	-	-
1975-76	481,664,572	21,822,824,750	Use Tax 2%	1,399,196.02	2,207,098.28	-	-
			Licenses Wholesale & Reg.	192,000.00	189,192.00	-	-

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HEALTH INDICATORS

	Primary Care Physicians	Hospitals Beds	Infant Deaths
1965	NA	30,572	2,972
1966	NA	31,204	2,685
1967	NA	31,054	2,469
1968	NA	31,361	2,433
1969	NA	32,045	2,329
1970	NA	32,611	2,371
1971	NA	32,737	2,097
1972	2,247	33,390	2,007
1973	NA	32,579	1,864
1974	2,339	33,464	1,636
1975	NA	34,441	1,498
1976	2,715	31,501	NA

TABLE 2 (continued)

INDUSTRY-NEW AND EXPANDED		Investment (in 000's)		Employees	
Cumulative Total For the Years		New	Expanded	New	Expanded
1960 thru 1964	\$ 723,908	\$ 806,810	83,936	68,210	
1965 thru 1969	1,491,969	1,523,401	85,672	75,953	
1970 thru 1974	1,461,114	2,118,186	63,638	51,543	
1975 thru 1976	592,932	1,114,847	16,304	21,952	

AGRICULTURE		
	Acres of Harvested & Idle Cropland	Estimated Farm Income
1965	6,201,310	\$1,388,513,573
1966	6,284,508	1,481,498,195
1967	6,313,885	1,510,780,586
1968	6,089,953	1,471,791,154
1969	6,007,789	1,712,781,656
1970	6,081,745	1,585,419,000
1971	5,955,074	1,541,367,000
1972	5,810,092	1,699,073,000
1973	5,617,492	2,369,922,000
1974	5,273,003	2,581,113,000
1975	5,599,805	2,682,184,000

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Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties, Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977, pp. 29-23.

Carolina economy. For example,

An estimated 32,000 jobs were directly related to producing manufactured exports. About 29,800 additional jobs were required to produce materials and parts for incorporation in products exported from 50 states. Thus 62,000 jobs in North Carolina were dependent on exports of manufactured goods- about 1 of every 12 manufacturing jobs in the state.<sup>7</sup>

Export related employment accounted for 4.4 percent of the total manufacturing employment in 1976 (see table 3). The manufacturing of nonelectric machinery, tobacco products and textile mill products accounted for almost 60 percent of the workers producing for exports. While the states "\$2,202 million worth of manufactured exports provided direct employment for an estimated 32,000 workers in 1976," "farm employment related to exports in 1977" "amounted to 59,000 or about one out of every three farmers."<sup>8</sup>

Table 3 provides estimated exports and export related employment by industry group for 1976. Table 4 demonstrates the growth in manufactured exports and employment between 1960-1976. Table 5 shows an increase in agricultural exports between 1964-1972. According to table 6, North Carolina ranked as the eighth largest agricultural exporting state in 1977. The value of the state's exports increased from \$321 million in 1964 to \$964 million in 1977, an increase of 200 percent in 13 years.(see also table 7 for comparative purposes).

#### vi. Employment and Distribution of the Labor Force

In 1967, North Carolina's labor force consisted of approximately 2,000,000 persons distributed as follows:

manufacturing, 31; agriculture, 14; wholesale and retail trade, 14; federal, state, and local government, 10; service and miscellaneous 9; transportation, communications, and public

Table 3

NORTH CAROLINA: MANUFACTURED EXPORTS, PRODUCTION, AND EMPLOYMENT, 1976

Industry Group	Production (million dollars)	Estimated exports	Exports as % of Production	Est. Employ Related to export (thousands)	Employment Related to Exports as % of total Employment
Total	35,819	2,202	6.1	32.2	4.4
Machinery, except electric	2,098	504	24.0	5.2	15.9
Tobacco manufactures	4,171	484	11.6	4.4	18.0
Textile mill products	10,078	420	4.2	8.9	3.5
Electric and electronic equipment	1,766	223	12.6	3.9	10.7
Chemicals and allied products	3,028	159	5.2	1.4	4.9
Paper and allied products	1,319	70	5.3	0.9	5.5
Apparel and textile products	1,589	48	3.1	1.4	2.0
Lumber and wood products	1,208	45	3.7	0.7	2.2
Transportation equipment	434	42	9.6	1.0	10.5
Fabricated metal products	1,109	40	3.6	0.8	3.8
Furniture and fixtures	2,101	32	1.5	1.2	1.7
Rubber and plastic products	1,008	32	3.2	0.6	3.2
Instruments and related products	365	32	8.7	0.7	9.7
Stone, clay, and glass products	674	29	4.3	0.6	3.8
Food and kindred products	3,376	25	0.7	0.2	0.6
Misc. manufacturing industries	216	8	3.5	0.2	3.2
Primary metal industries	513	6	1.1	0.1	0.9
Leather and leather products	130	3	2.3	(')	NA
Printing and publishing	504	1	0.1	(')	NA
Petroleum and coal products	131	1	0.4	(')	NA

(') Less than 50 employees.

- North Carolina's leading manufactured exports were nonelectric machinery, tobacco products, and textiles.
- These three industries accounted for 64 percent of North Carolina's total exports of manufactures.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade Administration, State Export Service, November 1978, Table 1, p. 4.

Table 4

NORTH CAROLINA: GROWTH IN MANUFACTURED EXPORTS

Industry Group	Export values in millions of \$					Percent increase from 1972 to 1976 Pro- Exports ductions		Exports increase as percent of pro- duction increase 1972-76
	1960	1966	1969	1972	1976	Exports	ductions	
Total	408	560	739	705	2,202	212	48	13
Machinery, except electric	14	35	53	181	504	178	71	37
Tobacco manufactures	205	283	362	234	484	107	45	19
Textile mill products	86	91	118	(')	420	NA	NA	NA
Electric and electronic equipment	(')	22	30	52	223	331	49	30
Chemicals and allied products	12	26	25-50	54	159	195	86	8
Paper and allied products	16	10-25	10-25	31	70	127	76	7
Apparel & textile products	6	5-10	10-25	(')	48	NA	NA	NA
Lumber and wood products	6	10-25	10-25	(')	45	NA	NA	NA
Transportation equipment	(')	4	8	12	42	251	35	27
Fabricated metal products	7	8	13	17	40	135	75	5
Rubber and plastic products	(')	1-5	1-5	12	32	160	91	4
Furnitures and fixtures	4	1-5	5-10	(')	32	NA	NA	NA
Instruments and related products	4	6	10	16	32	99	50	13
Stone, clay and glass products	(')	1-5	1-5	(')	29	NA	NA	NA
Food and kindred products	10	22	10-25	27	25	-7	67	NA
Misc. Manufacturing industries	4	5	5-10	(')	8	NA	NA	NA
Primary metal Industries	(')	3	5-10	(')	6	NA	NA	NA
Leather and leather products	(')	0-1	0-1	(')	3	NA	NA	NA
Printing and publishing	(')	1-5	1-5	(')	1	NA	NA	NA
Petro. & coal pro.	(')	(')	(')	(')	1	NA	NA	NA

(') Not available separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade Administration, State Export Services, November 1978, Table 2, p. 5.

Table 5.

NORTH CAROLINA: AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

Produce	FY1964	FY1968	FY1972	FY1977	Percent increase 1972 to 1977
		(millions of dollars)			
Total	321	366	420	964	129
Tobacco, unmanufactured	231	266	302	550	82
Feed grains	13	19	19	124	555
Soybeans	10	21	27	80	202
Poultry products	7	6	6	23	280
Peanuts	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	21	NA
Protein meal	1	1	7	17	132
Meats and products	1	1	3	13	333
Cotton	15	3	7	10	54
Wheat and flour	7	7	8	10	29
Soybean oil	1	(2)	4	8	79
Vegetables and preparations	2	2	1	5	315
Lard and tallow	2	1	2	5	138
Fruits and preparations		2	1	3	220
Nuts and preparations	2	5	(2)	2	400
Hides and skins	(2)	1	1	3	160
Cottonseed oil	1	( <sup>1</sup> )	1	1	38
Dairy products	(2)	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	NA
Other products	26	32	31	88	180

(<sup>1</sup>) Not available.

(2) Less than \$500,000

- . In fiscal 1977, North Carolina's share of U.S. agricultural exports totaled \$964 million, over twice the 1972 value.
- . Tobacco was the leading farm export from the state.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade Administration, State Export Services, November 1978, Table 4, p. 10.

Table 6.

UNITED STATES: AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS BY STATE

State	Rank as	Exports value in millions of \$				% change	Exports as
	Exporter	FY1964	FY1968	FY1972	FY1977	FY1972 to FY1977	percent of Farm sales FY1977
U.S. Total	NA	6,076	6,315	8,050	24,013	198	25.5
Illinois	1	504	585	758	2,539	235	44.6
Iowa	2	331	392	620	2,042	230	28.9
California	3	421	413	592	1,774	200	19.2
Texas	4	484	551	456	1,761	286	26.9
Indiana	5	251	252	384	1,319	243	40.8
Kansas	6	337	296	365	998	174	26.8
Nebraska	7	205	230	283	988	249	26.8
North Carolina	8	321	366	420	964	129	35.8
Ohio	9	201	194	262	957	265	34.1
Minnesota	10	222	226	347	918	164	23.7
Arkansas	11	207	255	352	907	158	37.7
Missouri	12	193	174	317	766	142	28.5
Mississippi	13	157	164	230	648	182	38.4
North Dakota	14	194	166	250	554	122	34.5
Louisiana	15	100	155	191	543	184	41.6
Georgia	16	114	132	173	476	175	21.9
Kentucky	17	65	69	132	473	258	27.4
Washington	18	147	152	163	414	154	23.0
Oklahoma	19	133	115	108	410	281	21.1
Florida	20	96	101	148	390	164	15.3
Tennessee	21	102	102	143	390	172	28.7
Alabama	22	70	56	102	332	225	22.4
Montana	23	128	107	101	322	218	33.4
Michigan	24	116	92	107	318	198	18.3
South Carolina	25	94	107	135	312	132	38.4
Arizona	26	65	61	70	285	307	23.7
Wisconsin	27	78	59	104	263	153	8.7
Idaho	28	73	66	91	262	187	22.0
Colorado	29	54	63	98	239	144	11.9
Virginia	30	68	80	92	225	145	22.4
South Dakota	31	77	95	124	210	69	13.5
Oregon	32	69	49	65	182	182	17.5
Pennsylvania	33	71	65	42	137	225	7.3
Maryland	34	34	35	41	136	231	20.1
New York	35	78	63	44	109	150	6.4
New Mexico	36	25	24	28	82	195	11.1
Hawaii	37	(3)	16	17	59	241	18.0
Utah	38	18	14	19	55	186	15.5
Delaware	39	13	15	14	53	280	19.5
Alaska	40	-	-	-	38	NA	NA
New Jersey	41	21	19	11	38	235	10.6
Wyoming	42	8	8	16	38	139	8.5
Maine	43	10	6	5	28	502	6.5
Connecticut	44	5	8	12	22	72	9.2
Massachusetts	45	4	5	6	12	87	5.4
West Virginia	46	5	6	4	11	166	7.5
Nevada	47	1	2	4	10	129	7.0
Vermont	48	2	2	4	3	-18	1.2
New Hampshire	49	1	1	1	2	171	2.4
Rhode Island	50	(3)	(3)	(3)	1	800	3.4

Table 6

UNITED STATES: AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS BY STATE (continued)

- . Exports accounted for one-fourth of total U.S. farm sales in FY 1977 and for more than 25 percent of sales from 17 of the states.
- . Illinois, Iowa, California, Texas, and Indiana each exported more than \$1 billion of farm products.

(3) Less than \$500,000.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports. Washington, D.C.:  
U. S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade  
Administration, State Export Services, November, 1978, Table 5, p. 11.

Table 7  
UNITED STATES: MANUFACTURED EXPORTS BY STATE

State	Exports value in millions of dollars					% of changes from 1972 to 1976	Estimated exports as % of State productions	Employment related to exports as % of state employment
	Rank as exports in 1976	1966	1969	1972	1976			
U.S., total	-	21,299	29,210	36,608	83,098	127	7.0	6.3
California	1	1,786	2,721	2,809	8,072	187	7.9	7.7
Michigan	2	1,568	2,613	3,522	6,888	96	8.6	7.0
Illinois	3	1,869	2,343	2,902	6,660	129	8.1	6.9
Ohio	4	1,670	2,338	3,054	5,794	90	6.9	6.8
New York	5	1,838	2,296	2,795	5,320	90	7.0	5.8
Texas	6	1,100	1,468	1,982	5,201	162	6.7	7.2
Pennsylvania	7	1,542	1,902	2,351	4,706	100	6.5	6.3
Washington	8	602	954	1,781	3,235	82	17.2	12.5
Indiana	9	661	998	1,404	2,828	101	6.3	5.9
New Jersey	10	980	1,114	1,328	2,660	100	5.8	4.7
Massachusetts	11	600	818	920	2,502	172	9.3	8.2
Wisconsin	12	620	785	916	2,209	141	6.2	6.2
NORTH CAROLINA	13	560	739	705	2,202	212	6.1	4.4
Connecticut	14	489	659	848	1,958	131	10.7	9.0
Missouri	15	369	634	577	1,622	181	5.9	5.3
Minnesota	16	326	492	654	1,567	140	7.7	7.2
Virginia	17	499	581	716	1,545	116	7.5	5.7
Iowa	18	337	412	590	1,500	154	7.2	8.6
Louisiana	19	319	396	541	1,383	156	5.5	5.0
Georgia	20	354	428	580	1,364	135	4.8	4.5
Florida	21	310	426	567	1,363	140	7.5	6.0
Tennessee	22	340	472	679	1,253	85	5.1	3.9
Kentucky	23	300	345	451	1,137	152	5.6	4.4
South Carolina	24	180	254	312	935	200	5.6	4.4
Alabama	25	186	318	287	832	190	4.6	3.8
Oregon	26	143	240	237	824	248	6.7	6.9
Mississippi	27	137	181	236	698	196	6.4	4.5
Arkansas	28	134	204	320	651	103	6.1	3.8
Maryland	29	236	362	314	641	104	4.3	4.3
Arizona	30	106	157	266	639	140	10.3	11.6
Kansas	31	152	241	283	635	124	4.3	6.1
Colorado	32	94	157	245	616	151	6.5	6.6
Oklahoma	33	117	158	252	579	130	5.7	5.7
West Virginia	34	206	235	295	447	52	5.6	3.8
Nebraska	35	62	100	134	309	131	3.5	4.2
New Hampshire	36	52	74	103	291	183	8.3	7.4
Rhode Island	37	92	110	107	268	150	5.9	5.0
Maine	38	49	77	83	255	207	5.8	4.2
Alaska	39	31-46	33-48		183	NA	9.9	11.2
Utah	40	58	48	127	224	76	4.8	5.2
Vermont	41	43	52	52	200	285	9.7	8.5
Delaware	42	58	124	128	188	47	3.7	2.9
Hawaii	43	10-25	10-25		183	NA	9.9	11.2
Idaho	44	27	35	27	169	526	4.9	4.0
North Dakota	45	4	7	14	85	507	6.8	9.9
New Mexico	46	23	16	18	69	283	4.5	2.6
South Dakota	47	8	13		68	NA	4.2	4.8
Montana	48	16	14		44	NA	1.7	1.8
Nevada	49	5-10	10-25	7	27	286	3.8	2.2
Wyoming	50	1-5	1-5		10	NA	1.2	NA

Table 7

UNITED STATES: MANUFACTURED EXPORTS BY STATE (continued)

- California, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and New York continued to be the top five exporters of manufactures in 1976.
- Manufactured exports totaled one billion dollars or more for almost half of the fifty states.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports. Washington, D. C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade Administration, State Export Services, November 1978, Table 6, p. 12.

utilities, 4; contract construction, 4; finance, insurance, and real estate, 2; mining, 0.2; unemployed, 3.4. About 80,000 persons, consisting over 5 percent of the labor force, were employed in professional and semiprofessional occupations. Most of the labor force is unorganized. In 1964, union membership totaled only 89,000, or 6.7 percent of the industrial workers.<sup>9</sup>

In 1970, the level of employment reached 2,090,000, an increase of 4.5 percent in 3 years. Table 8 indicates that between 1970-1974, the employed labor force amounted to 2,337,000, an increase of 11.3 percent in 4 years. Perhaps due to the 1974-75 recession, the employed labor force declined in 1975 by 1.3 percent from 1974 levels. Industrial employment accounted for 85.3 percent of the total employed labor force in 1970's, increasing to 87.6 percent by 1974, declining to 84.4 percent in 1975. The manufacturing sector employed less than half of the total industrial employment. There has been, however, an increase from 59.7 to 63.4 percent in other industrial employment between 1970-75, an increase caused by the expansion of the service sector.

In 1970, the rate of unemployment reached 4.3 percent, an increase of 0.9 percent over 1969. The rate of unemployment remained relatively constant between 1970-1974, reaching 8.6 percent in 1975 (for details, see table 8).

Since 1970, there has been an increase in the female labor force. According to the North Carolina State Data Center,

In 1970, 61 percent of North Carolinians 16 years old and over were in the labor force; by 1978 this figure had risen to 67 percent. For females in North Carolina, the labor force participation rate had climbed to 53 percent from 47 percent in 1970. The most significant change occurred for females aged 25 through 34 years old, as their rate climbed from 57 percent in 1970 to 67 percent in 1978. North Carolina female labor force participation rates have consistently exceeded national female participation rates. Traditionally, male labor force participation rates in North Carolina have been similar to national rates; however, since 1970 National rates have declined slightly, while North Carolina's participation rates for females 16 years old and over have continued to climb to 80 percent in 1978, up from 77 percent in 1970.<sup>10</sup>

Table 8

EMPLOYMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1970-1975

Year	LABOR FORCE					INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT					
	Total Labor Force	Employed	Percent	Unemployed	Rate of unemployment (%)	Total Industrial Employment	% Employed	Manufacturing	% Industrial Employment	Other Industrial Employment	Industrial Employment %
1970	2,184,000	2,090,000	95.7	94,000	4.3	1,782,700	85.3	718,400	40.3	1,064,300	59.7
1971	2,222,000	2,116,000	95.2	106,000	4.8	1,818,400	86.0	722,100	39.7	1,096,300	60.3
1972	2,321,000	2,228,000	96.0	93,000	4.0	1,924,100	86.4	763,800	39.7	1,160,300	60.3
1973	2,385,000	2,302,000	96.5	83,000	3.5	2,014,600	87.5	799,800	39.7	1,214,800	60.3
1974	2,448,000	2,337,000	95.5	111,000	4.5	2,047,400	87.6	795,200	38.8	1,252,200	61.2
1975	2,511,000	2,294,000	91.4	217,000	8.6	1,935,200	84.4	707,900	36.6	1,227,300	63.4

Source: North Carolina State Government; Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh; North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977, p. 23.

Table 9 shows the total employment and job needs for selected occupational groupings for 1978. While clerical workers, crafts and kindred, and operatives, account for 54 percent of the labor force, there is a need (54.2 percent) for greater numbers of those workers. The need for non-farm laborers, farmers and farm workers has sharply declined.<sup>11</sup> The data reveal that there will be a continuous decline in the number of farm laborers in the state.

#### vii. Distribution of Income

North Carolina has the lowest per capita income in the nation.

Although per capita income increased from \$255 in 1930 to \$2,277 in 1966, North Carolina still ranked among the lowest fourth of the states. But these figures are misleading, since many North Carolinians live on small farms and produce vegetables, meat, dairy products, chickens, eggs, and other commodities which do not appear in income statistics. Another reason for the low per capita income is the large percentage of persons, under 21 and over 65 years of age.<sup>12</sup>

In 1970, the state per capita income increased to \$3,208, an increase of 29 percent in four years without adjusting for inflation. By 1974, it reached \$4,616, an increase of 44 percent in four years. On the other hand,

Median family income in North Carolina has increased from \$7,774 in 1969 to \$14,624 in 1977. After adjusting for inflation using the National Consumer Price Index, the median family income in North Carolina has experienced nearly a 14 percent increase in real growth. This increase is significant when compared with National real growth of only 1 percent. Despite North Carolina's rapid gains, median family income in the state in 1977 still lagged 9 percent behind the National level of \$16,010.

When considering 14 year-olds-and-over year round full time workers, males in North Carolina had a median income of \$11,063 in 1977 while the median income for females was \$7,900. Both of these figures were below the National median incomes for the comparable groups. However, females in North Carolina lagged behind their National counterparts in median income by 10 percent, versus North Carolina males 25 percent below national figures.<sup>13</sup>

These figures indicate not only a low median income for the state as a whole but also demonstrate substantial income differentials between male and female workers.

Table 9

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND JOB NEEDS FOR MAJOR  
OCCUPATIONAL GROUPINGS IN NORTH CAROLINA FOR 1978

<u>Occupational Grouping</u>	<u>Total Employment</u>		<u>Total Job Needs</u>	
	<u>Percent</u>		<u>Percent</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
Total, All Groupings	2,503,090	100.0	119,139	100.0
Professional, Technical and Kindred	263,750	10.5	14,118	11.9
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors	241,250	9.6	12,703	10.7
Sales Workers	137,080	5.5	7,679	6.4
Clerical Workers	363,830	14.5	21,973	18.4
Crafts & Kindred	371,140	14.8	16,762	14.1
Operatives	618,760	24.7	25,850	21.7
Service Workers	265,400	10.6	15,574	13.0
Nonfarm Laborers	139,560	5.6	4,687	3.9
Farmers and Farm Workers	102,320	4.2	-107	-0.1

Source: Bureau of Employment Security Research, Labor Supply and Demand in North Carolina for 1978. Raleigh, N.C.: Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, Bureau of Employment Security Research, February 1978, p.6.

These increases in income have been accompanied by declines in the poverty level. In 1969, the poverty level dropped by 43 percent.

In 1977 12 percent of North Carolinians were living in poverty versus 22 percent in 1969. The percentage of population living in poverty in the United States also dropped to 12 percent in 1977, versus 14 percent in 1969.<sup>14</sup>

#### viii. Demographic Details

In 1960, North Carolina had a total population of 4,556,155. By 1970, it reached 5,034,411, an increase of 11.6 percent in ten years (for details, see table 10). Table 11 shows the distribution of total population by race and sex for 1960 and 1970. While the white population increased its share of the total population from 74.6 percent in 1960 to 76.3 percent in 1970, the non-white population declined from 25.4 percent to 23.2 percent. Female population has increased slightly compared to the male population. For both the white and non-white populations, the proportion of female population is slightly higher than the male population.<sup>15</sup>

Although population figures vary from one source to another, the state's population has increased, mainly due to national increases. Table 10 indicates that between 1950 to 1960 there was a natural increase of 20.2 percent (the period of the baby-boom), accompanied by an 8.1 percent out-migration. From 1960 to 1970, the rate of population increase declined, with the state's population increasing by 13.2 percent and 1.5 percent migrating. While there had been substantial out-migration between 1950-1970, in-migration from 1970-1975 reached 2.7 percent while natural population increase accounted for 4.5 percent of the population change.<sup>16</sup>

The decline in the rate of natural increase has also contributed to the decline in household size. According to the March 1978 Current Population Survey (CPS),

Table 10

BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR NORTH CAROLINA, 1960, 1970, AND 1976

1960 Total Population	=	4,556,155
1970 Total Population	=	5,084,411
Percent Increase (1960-70)	=	11.6%
1976 Estimate total Population	=	5,469,081
Percent Increase (1970-76)	=	7.6%
Percent Increase (1960-76)	=	20.0%

Source: North Carolina State Government, Statistical Abstract. Raleigh: Research and Planning Services, Division of State Budget and Management, Fourth Edition, 1979, Section 1, Population and Housing, p.4.

The average household size in North Carolina had decreased from 3.66 persons per household in 1960 to 3.24 persons in 1970. According to the 1978 CPS, the North Carolina average household size has declined further to 2.89 persons per household, approaching the national average of 2.81.<sup>17</sup>

While household size has decreased, there has been an increase in "non-family" households from 11 percent in 1960 to 25 percent in 1978. While the state's trend in household size and non-family households conform to the national pattern, there are some differences between North Carolina and the U.S. in number of family households without children and percent of married couples with children. Twenty-two percent of family households in North Carolina have no children compared to 30 percent for the U.S. The percentage of North Carolina married couples with children is 43 percent compared with 32 percent for the U.S. The proportion of single parent families with children in North Carolina is higher than the national averages with 12 percent of the state's families having a single parent compared to 7 percent for the U.S.

Other family households, such as sibling-sibling or grandparent-grandchildren, constitute remaining households with 3 percent and 5 percent respectively in North Carolina and the United States.<sup>18</sup>

These figures indicate substantial changes in the demographic characteristics of the state's household composition. These changes include a decrease in the average household size, an increase in the percentage of "non-family" or primary individual households.

#### ix. Political Affiliation

The majority of the population in the state are affiliated with the democratic party. Out of a total voter registration of 2,553,717 people in October 1979; 1,840,827 (or 72 percent) are registered democrats; with 601,897 (or 24 percent) registered republicans.<sup>19</sup>

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x. Education

Table 12 shows educational attainment by race for age 25 years and older for 1970 population. The table points out substantial differences in educational attainment between the white and non-white population. While 32 percent of the white population has an elementary level of education, the corresponding figure for the non-white population is 50 percent. The percent of white population completing 4 years of high school and above is 19 percent, with the comparable figure for non-whites at 8 percent. The data reveals inequities in the level of education attainment between white and non-white population, the whites clustered at the high school and above level while the non-white population clusters at the elementary level of education. Such disproportion in education contributes to the continuing income inequities between the two population groups.

Although such inequities remain, in general, the minimum level of educational attainment for North Carolina has increased since the 1970's.

In 1978, 20 percent of all males and 12 percent of all females nationally had completed at least 4 years of college, reflecting a rise of 4 percentage points for both groups. Traditionally North Carolina has lagged behind the United States in the percentage of residents who have completed 4 years of college or more. According to the 1978 CPS, this remains true for males 25 years old and older, with 16 percent having completed at least 4 years of college, up from 10 percent in 1970. Females in North Carolina have closed the gap with the nation, with 12 percent of North Carolina females having completed 4 years of college or more, up from 7 percent in 1970.<sup>20</sup>

These figures indicate that a rising proportion females attended 4 years of college or more during the 1970's compared to the 1960's.

Table 2 shows the education enrollment from 1965-66 to 1975-76. Public school enrollment increased between 1965-66 to 1970-71, declining thereafter. In 1975-76, public school enrollment fell below that of 1965-66. However, enrollment at community colleges and public higher educational undergraduate programs increased during the sametime period. Enrollment

Table 12

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY RACE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1970 POPULATION - AGE 25 YEARS AND OLDER

	PERCENT (%)	
	White	Non-White
No School	1	4
Elementary	32	50
High School	48	38
4 yrs of College	16	6
Above 4 yrs of College	3	2

Source: North Carolina State Government, Statistical Abstract. Raleigh: Research and Planning Services, Division of State Budget and Management, Fourth Edition, 1979, Section 5, Education, p. 101.

at private higher educational undergraduate programs fluctuated over the years, increasing between 1973-74 to 1975-76 (for details, see table 2).

#### xi. Health Services

Table 2 indicates that in 1972, the state had 2,247 primary care physicians. By 1976, the state had 2,715 primary care physicians, an increase of 20.8 percent over a 4 year period. The primary care physician population ratio for 1976 was approximately one physician per 2,000 people (1:2,000).

The number of hospital beds increased since the 1960's. Table 2 shows that the number of hospital beds increased from 30,572 in 1965 to 33,390 in 1972 and then declined until it reached 31,501 in 1976. The number of hospital beds/population ratio for 1976 was approximately a hospital bed per 170 people (1:170).

According to table 2, the increase in both the quantity and quality of medical services has contributed to the decline of infant mortality. From 1965 to 1975, the number of infant deaths in absolute number has declined from 2,972 to 1,498, a decline of 49.6 percent in ten years.

#### Summary

A summary of the demographic characteristics of North Carolina indicates rapid population growth due to natural increase during the baby-boom years of 1950 to 1965. During the 1970's, there has been a decline in natural births and an increase in in-migration caused by industrial expansion in the state. There have been increases in the number of educated women employed in the labor force and an increase in households headed by women.

The quality of life indicators for the state reveal an increase in per capita income, an increase in the number of primary care physicians and a decline in infant mortality. Although the state is among the poorest

in the nation, it has shown a greater percentage increase in income, improved employment opportunities, expansion of service-oriented economy and industries and other quality life indicators when compared to other states.

An overview of the North Carolina economy shows that it is largely dependent on agricultural production, and agro-based industries, specifically tobacco and textile production. It is useful to note that most of this production takes place on small farms.

North Carolina has the largest concentration of small farmers in the nation. These farmers are distributed throughout the state. The Farm Opportunities Program, one of the five extension programs at A & T State University in cooperation with the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture is operating in 21 counties across the state to increase agricultural production among limited resource farmers, thereby improving their quality of lives.

In this study, we will examine the demographic, economic and social aspects of the 21 counties where the Farm Opportunities Program is being administered. The intent of this study is to provide background information on population composition and distribution, employment, sources of income, major crops, livestock production and other economic data pertaining agricultural production to facilitate the design of extension program services oriented to the particular needs of each of the 21 counties.

### Farm Opportunities Program Counties in North Carolina

#### i. Introduction: Geographical Location

As described above, North Carolina is divided into three physiographic regions-- the mountain region, piedmont region and the coastal region, with

each region further subdivided. The western coastal plain is one of the state's better farming regions while the major cities are located in the Piedmont plateau.

The western coastal plain (about 7,000,000 acres) contains much fertile land, predominantly sandy and silt loams, and is the largest and best-farming region.... The piedmont plateau embraces about two-fifths of the state's area.... The piedmont is the area of cities, with extensive power development, and diversified farming.<sup>21</sup>

The Farm Opportunities Program operates in 21 counties distributed across the major three regions. There are five counties in the mountain region: Allegheny, Surry and Yadkin located in Northern Mountain; and Mitchell and Yancey in Western Mountain. The Piedmont region claims seven counties: Alamance, Caswell, Franklin, Stokes, Vance and Warren located in Northern Piedmont; and Wake in Central Piedmont. Finally, nine counties in the Coastal region participate in the program: Camden located in Northern Coastal; Johnston, Jones, Pamlico and Wayne in Central Coastal; and Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland and Robeson in Southern Coastal.

Table 13 provides information on the county seats and elevation in feet of the Farm Opportunities Program counties. Because the counties are located in the three different regions of the state, their elevation ranges from 9 feet, Pamlico in Central Coastal Region to 2,939 feet, Allegheny in the Mountain Region. These differences in elevation mean that the climates of the counties vary considerably, accounting for significant differences in cropping patterns and other types of agricultural production.

#### ii. Patterns of Land Use

The counties included in the Farm Opportunities Program range in size from 172,200 acres (Vance county) to 610,000 acres (Columbus county). With the exceptions of Pamlico and Camden counties which are 41.4 and

Table 13

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES SEATS

County	County Seats	Elevation in ft.
I A. 1. Alleghany	Sparta	2,939 ft.
2. Surry	Dobson	1,265
3. Yadkin	Yadkinville	960
B. 1. Mitchell	Bakersville	2,550
2. Yancey	Burnsville	2,817
II A. 1. Alamance	Graham	656
2. Caswell	Yanceyville	619
3. Franklin	Louisburg	280
4. Stokes	Danbury	825
5. Vance	Henderson	513
6. Warren	Warrentown	451
B. 1. Wake	Raleigh	363
III A. 1. Camden	Camden	10
B. 1. Johnston	Smithfield	155
2. Jones	Trenton	28
3. Pamlico	Bayboro	9
4. Wayne	Goldsboro	111
C. 1. Bladen	Elizabethtown	121
2. Columbus	Whiteville	59
3. Cumberland	Fayetteville	107
4. Robeson	Lumberton	137

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp. 24-223.

Table 13

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES SEATS (continued)

<u>Explanations:</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>District</u>
I	Mountain	A. Northern Mountain B. Western Mountain
II	Piedmont	A. Northern Piedmont B. Central Piedmont
III.	Coastal	A. Northern Coastal B. Central Coastal C. Southern Coastal

Note: These abbreviations have been used in most of the tables.

24.7 percent water including lakes, rivers and etc., more than 90 percent of the counties is land (for details, see table 14). More than 50 percent of the land (except Yadkin, Alamance, Johnston and Wayne) is covered with forest. More than 40 percent of the land in Allegheny, Yadkin, Johnston, Wayne and Robeson is suited for cropland and pastures. Except for Wake, the counties are primarily rural, with less than 5 percent of their land in urban and built up uses (see table 14).

Table 15 provides information on number of acres harvested and idle cropland. The estimated county farm income ranges from \$9,287,000.00 to \$105,003,000.00. The average estimated farm income per acre ranges from \$269.15 in Cumberland county to \$850.14 in Yancey county. Yancey, Allegheny and Surry counties have a higher estimated farm income per acre than the remainder of the program counties. In general, the mountain region average estimated farm income per acre is higher compared to the other two regions. However, the coastal plain has a higher total estimated farm income than the other regions (for details, see table 16).

### iii. Employment and Income Distribution

The majority of the employed labor force in the Farm Opportunities Program counties is employed in the industrial sector. Table 17 provides information on industrial labor force employment for 1975. It indicates that with the exception of Yancey, 45.86 percent; Caswell, 31.39 percent; Franklin, 47.74 percent; Camden, 18.10 percent; Jones, 29.97 percent; and Pamlico, 47.48 percent; more than 50 percent of the total employed labor force works in the industrial sector. Although the state has the largest concentration of small farmers in the U.S., in the program counties, the farm population comprises an insignificant number of the total employed labor force. The unemployment rate ranges from 5.3 percent to 16.2 percent,

TABLE 14

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM COUNTIES: DISTRIBUTION OF LAND, WATER,  
FORESTRY, CROPLAND AND PASTURES, AND URBAN AND BUILT  
UP; AND WATER IN THOUSANDS OF ACRES

County	Total Area	Major Categories of Land*									
		Total Land		Forestry		Cropland & Pastures		Urban & Built-Up		Water	
		Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
I A 1. Alleghany	147.2	146.7	99.7	67.4	45.8	67.2	45.8	4.5	3.1	.5	.3
2. Surry	343.7	342.3	99.6	189.3	55.3	123.6	36.1	15.8	4.6	1.4	.4
3. Yadkin	215.7	213.3	98.9	97.7	45.8	94.7	44.4	10.3	4.8	2.9	1.1
B 1. Mitchell	140.8	139.9	99.4	89.5	64.0	29.1	20.8	2.6	1.9	.9	.6
2. Yancey	199.0	198.4	99.7	120.7	60.8	37.0	18.7	4.4	2.2	.6	.3
II A 1. Alamance	277.5	273.2	98.5	128.9	47.2	107.8	39.5	18.9	6.9	4.3	1.5
2. Caswell	278.2	277.3	99.7	179.0	64.6	84.2	30.4	5.6	2.0	.9	.3
3. Franklin	316.2	314.5	99.5	183.1	58.2	109.4	34.8	12.0	3.8	1.7	.5
4. Stokes	293.8	292.7	99.6	176.1	60.2	91.3	31.2	8.9	3.0	1.0	.4
5. Vance	172.2	158.4	92.0	85.6	54.0	50.1	31.6	7.6	4.8	13.8	8.0
6. Warren	286.4	273.8	95.6	188.3	68.8	66.6	24.3	8.9	3.3	12.6	4.4
B 1. Wake	553.7	550.3	99.4	322.7	58.6	134.2	24.4	68.9	12.5	3.4	.6
III A 1. Camden	202.4	152.5	75.3	107.3	70.4	39.0	25.6	1.9	1.3	49.9	24.7
B 1. Johnston	508.8	505.4	99.3	249.2	49.3	222.5	44.0	17.2	3.4	3.4	.7
2. Jones	299.3	298.0	99.6	208.0	69.8	46.3	15.5	1.2	.4	1.3	.4
3. Pamlico	364.4	213.4	58.6	157.6	73.9	33.5	15.7	2.9	1.4	151.0	41.4
4. Wayne	355.0	354.2	99.8	159.4	45.0	156.1	44.1	14.2	4.0	.8	.2
C 1. Bladen	568.3	560.6	98.7	452.8	80.8	88.5	15.8	10.1	1.8	7.7	1.3
2. Columbus	610.3	599.9	98.3	420.3	70.1	156.9	26.2	5.2	.9	10.4	1.7
3. Cumberland	423.8	420.1	99.1	224.5	53.4	105.6	25.1	34.0	8.1	3.7	.9
4. Robeson	605.1	602.5	99.6	317.3	52.7	242.5	40.3	29.5	4.9	2.6	.4

\* Forestry, cropland and pastures, and urban and built-up do not add up to total land.

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp.24-223.

TABLE 15

North Carolina County Rankings for Selected Socioeconomic and Demographic Indicators  
for 1975

COUNTY RANKINGS (in alphabetical order)																
County	Population Density (per sq. mi.)	Rank	Migration Rate	Rank	Per Capita Income	Rank	Rate of Unemploy- ment	Rank	% of Land in Harvested and Idle Cropland	Rank	Physicians per 10,000 Population	Rank	Infant Death Rate	Rank	Automobile Accidents per 1,000 Population	Rank
NORTH CAROLINA	111.9		2.7%		\$4616		8.6		18.0%		5.0		18.5		23.6	
Alamance *	232.8	11	-0.2	77	4836	9	9.2	46	22.0	35	4.3	32	18.8	54	21.1	49
Alexander	85.7	44	6.9	23	3942	65	10.0	34	11.1	66	3.2	61	12.2	18	19.7	63
Alleghany*	38.0	81	5.4	27	3563	80	7.0	82	8.1	74	4.6	29	32.5	94	18.4	78
Anson	45.3	73	-1.4	85	3527	82	10.2	30	14.3	61	1.7	88	10.4	13	21.3	47
Asha	47.3	70	0.5	69	3464	85	14.7	3	8.1	74	4.0	41	15.3	30	21.0	50
Avery	57.4	61	7.8	17	3187	96	13.0	9	3.0	92	5.0	24	5.2	6	24.3	20
Beaufort	45.7	72	2.3	54	4054	56	6.2	91	23.3	30	3.4	55	29.1	87	21.8	40
Bertie	30.4	89	-0.1	76	4104	54	8.4	54	21.1	39	1.9	87	37.7	97	19.7	63
Bladen *	32.5	87	4.2	35	3310	90	13.8	6	14.4	60	3.2	61	18.2	46	18.4	78
Brunswick	37.5	83	27.6	3	3302	91	9.4	44	-	-	1.5	89	14.2	24	20.8	52
Buncombe	235.3	10	2.2	56	4810	10	10.1	32	10.0	71	6.0	14	15.6	34	26.8	8
Burke	128.3	26	2.5	51	4561	16	9.9	36	4.5	86	5.1	23	20.3	59	22.2	34
Cabarrus	220.4	12	2.5	51	4461	27	7.3	78	24.5	25	3.8	44	13.7	23	21.9	38
Caldwell	127.8	27	1.3	63	4297	42	11.2	18	7.3	78	3.5	52	21.8	70	26.4	11
Camden *	23.9	94	2.0	57	4537	20	6.4	89	27.4	19	7.0	6	0.0	1	20.7	54
Carteret	67.6	53	8.8	14	3937	66	7.2	80	3.3	89	3.6	47	20.5	60	22.9	28
Caswell*	45.0	74	-0.9	83	3321	88	8.4	54	19.5	45	0.5	97	44.4	100	23.8	26
Carawba	253.4	9	4.9	32	4989	7	11.4	17	19.8	44	5.5	19	16.3	38	28.8	5
Chatham	43.0	77	0.0	75	4397	32	7.0	82	7.9	76	2.0	86	26.7	84	21.8	40
Cherokee	37.7	82	1.7	60	3359	87	12.9	10	2.8	93	5.3	21	18.4	48	14.1	98
Chowan	63.0	56	1.9	58	4035	57	7.8	66	32.9	12	7.1	5	39.2	99	15.7	89
Clay	26.4	91	6.1	25	3147	98	11.0	20	5.5	83	3.6	47	0.0	1	17.7	83
Cleveland	168.1	16	3.0	46	4340	37	10.9	22	21.6	37	4.2	37	19.2	56	22.4	31
Columbus*	53.7	65	3.2	44	3689	76	10.8	23	20.5	42	2.4	82	18.6	52	20.1	57
Craven	94.9	39	0.5	69	4400	31	6.4	89	13.8	62	4.3	32	22.6	72	20.2	56
Cumberland *	354.8	7	0.1	73	4467	26	6.8	87	23.4	29	3.3	58	16.4	39	22.3	33
Currituck	37.2	85	41.6	1	3780	69	7.6	69	22.6	31	0.0	98	32.0	93	23.5	27
Dare	23.6	95	27.7	2	4111	52	5.5	96	0.1	98	6.6	8	18.3	47	26.5	10
Davidson	186.4	13	1.0	66	4660	13	9.1	48	18.5	48	3.2	61	11.9	16	22.7	29
Davie	79.8	47	7.2	20	4250	47	8.1	59	22.1	33	2.9	71	16.4	39	15.6	91
Duplin	49.3	69	2.6	49	4299	41	8.9	51	27.7	18	2.5	80	12.9	19	20.1	57
Durham	474.1	4	2.4	53	5040	6	5.5	96	9.8	72	17.2	2	16.0	36	31.0	1
Edgecombe	105.9	33	-0.8	81	4778	11	9.6	41	37.7	5	3.3	58	18.5	51	19.1	70
Forsyth	537.6	2	1.4	62	5928	2	7.4	76	13.7	63	8.6	3	20.8	63	26.2	12
Franklin*	57.8	60	3.8	40	3651	78	10.7	25	23.8	28	2.5	80	23.5	75	14.8	95
Gaston	442.1	6	0.3	71	4355	33	11.5	16	17.1	51	3.1	66	15.1	28	21.4	46
Gates	24.2	93	-4.0	96	4270	43	4.1	100	18.5	48	0.0	98	9.8	12	19.7	68
Graham	22.5	96	-4.3	97	3226	94	11.1	19	0.9	97	4.6	29	8.9	10	14.9	94
Granville	61.2	58	-2.2	89	3871	68	7.7	67	17.0	52	3.6	47	18.6	52	19.6	66
Greene	56.8	62	-1.6	86	4262	45	7.7	67	45.3	1	0.7	95	29.9	88	16.6	88
Gulford	466.6	5	0.2	72	5857	3	7.1	81	19.9	43	5.3	21	17.0	42	29.1	4
Halifax	77.5	49	-2.3	91	3690	75	11.7	25	27.3	20	3.3	58	21.5	67	21.0	50
Harnett	89.4	41	3.4	42	3558	81	7.5	71	26.9	21	2.8	74	18.8	54	20.8	52
Haywood	81.1	46	2.3	54	4004	60	12.5	27	3.5	87	4.8	25	13.1	21	19.1	70
Heaven	129.2	25	13.4	4	4413	8	7.5	71	11.6	65	6.7	7	25.6	47	24.4	18

TABLE 15 (continued)

Hyde	8.7	100	2.2	89	3414	74	6.1	93	15.6	58	6.6	98	6.6	7	11.3	100
Iredell	137.1	20	4.7	33	4214	49	10.1	32	20.6	41	4.8	26	15.3	30	22.5	30
Jackson	49.6	68	10.4	12	3187	96	8.1	59	2.4	95	4.1	39	37.8	98	18.6	75
Jeanston*	83.1	45	3.3	43	4347	36	8.7	53	35.6	9	3.2	61	15.0	27	21.2	48
Jones*	20.4	97	-6.0	98	3736	72	7.5	71	16.3	53	3.2	61	20.7	62	22.0	37
Lee	133.9	24	7.0	22	4404	30	11.9	12	15.2	57	5.9	16	12.0	17	25.8	13
Lenoir	150.3	19	0.7	67	4158	51	6.8	87	39.9	3	4.3	32	18.6	48	26.6	9
Lincoln	124.6	28	9.3	13	4257	46	13.6	7	25.1	24	4.0	41	14.9	26	18.5	77
McDowell	76.5	50	5.4	27	3979	62	9.4	44	3.4	88	2.7	75	27.4	86	24.4	18
Macon	35.3	86	13.9	7	3466	84	10.2	30	2.5	94	4.4	31	20.5	60	14.5	96
Madison	37.3	84	4.2	35	2926	100	9.7	38	6.4	82	4.1	39	21.3	65	14.2	97
Martin	51.6	66	-3.4	95	4508	24	9.6	41	25.7	23	3.6	47	21.7	69	22.1	35
Mecklenburg	719.0	1	0.6	68	6023	1	7.3	78	12.1	64	5.4	20	18.1	45	29.9	2
Mitchell*	64.5	55	2.8	47	3603	79	10.0	34	7.0	79	3.5	52	6.5	7	19.1	70
Montgomery	40.9	79	-0.2	77	4199	50	8.9	51	7.0	79	3.0	67	21.6	68	18.4	78
Moore	60.7	59	6.2	24	4558	17	11.9	12	10.4	68	5.6	18	24.1	78	19.9	59
Nash	117.7	31	5.9	26	4449	29	7.9	63	32.3	14	4.0	41	23.2	74	23.9	24
New Hanover	496.3	3	10.8	10	4533	21	8.1	59	4.7	85	6.0	14	18.4	48	29.4	3
Northampton	43.7	76	-2.5	92	3504	83	7.4	76	32.8	13	3.0	67	33.6	95	18.6	75
Onslow	134.3	23	-13.3	100	5076	5	7.0	82	10.2	69	3.0	67	16.8	41	22.4	31
Orange	173.0	15	14.3	6	4351	35	4.4	99	15.5	55	31.3	1	23.7	76	20.6	55
Pamlico *	28.2	90	-2.7	93	3737	71	10.4	28	-	-	1.1	94	0.0	1	17.3	85
Pasquotank	120.9	29	0.1	73	4524	23	6.9	86	34.9	10	6.2	11	30.8	90	23.9	24
Pender	24.3	92	10.9	9	3292	92	12.8	11	9.6	73	1.4	91	13.1	21	19.8	60
Perquimans	32.3	88	-0.3	79	4337	38	6.1	93	34.7	11	1.2	93	20.0	58	16.9	87
Person	68.2	52	-0.7	80	4108	53	15.6	2	21.3	38	2.6	78	21.1	64	24.2	22
Pitt	119.9	30	1.9	58	4355	33	6.2	91	37.1	7	6.1	12	22.9	73	25.2	14
Polk	54.5	64	8.0	16	4729	12	6.0	95	7.7	77	6.3	9	21.3	65	24.3	20
Randolph	102.9	35	3.5	41	4553	18	9.7	38	15.4	56	2.3	85	11.2	14	18.7	73
Richmond	86.0	43	-1.2	84	3758	70	13.4	8	10.2	69	2.9	71	17.2	43	19.7	63
Robeson*	99.5	36	2.7	48	3717	73	16.2	1	37.6	6	3.7	45	19.6	57	22.1	35
Rockingham	136.6	21	3.2	44	4655	14	9.9	36	19.5	45	3.4	55	27.0	85	21.7	43
Rowan	185.9	14	1.3	63	4505	25	7.6	69	24.2	27	4.3	32	14.8	25	21.5	45
Rutherford	89.0	42	2.6	49	3960	63	10.4	28	10.5	67	3.4	55	24.4	80	21.7	43
Sampson	50.1	67	4.0	38	3872	67	8.4	54	29.2	16	2.7	75	25.1	81	18.3	81
Scotland	95.0	38	5.0	30	3949	64	9.1	48	26.2	22	5.0	24	15.4	33	15.7	89
Stanly	112.9	32	1.7	60	4527	22	9.2	46	24.5	25	4.7	28	24.0	77	19.2	68
Stokes *	62.8	57	15.9	5	4015	58	9.1	48	21.9	36	1.4	91	26.1	83	18.1	82
Surry *	103.6	34	3.9	39	4454	28	11.9	12	17.6	50	3.6	47	15.3	30	24.7	16
Swain	18.1	98	4.4	34	3321	88	14.4	4	1.0	96	4.2	37	37.0	96	21.8	40
Transylvania	56.4	63	4.2	35	3982	61	7.9	63	3.1	91	6.1	12	6.6	8	19.4	67
Tyrrell	10.3	99	7.8	17	4541	19	10.8	23	16.2	54	2.4	82	0.0	1	15.6	91
Union	97.8	37	8.6	15	4304	40	8.4	54	28.4	17	2.4	82	8.3	9	17.5	84
Vance *	134.9	22	-2.0	88	4321	39	11.0	20	21.1	39	2.7	75	22.2	71	19.8	60
Wake *	306.8	8	10.5	11	5366	4	5.3	98	19.0	47	5.7	17	15.7	35	28.5	6
Warren	38.8	80	7.1	21	2945	99	14.4	4	14.7	59	0.6	96	9.3	11	13.6	99
Washington	42.3	78	-3.0	94	4058	55	7.5	71	36.8	8	3.5	52	31.0	91	19.8	60
Watauga	90.4	40	19.3	4	3389	86	9.7	38	6.5	81	6.3	9	12.9	19	24.5	17
Wayne	162.2	17	-0.8	81	4267	44	8.3	58	41.6	2	3.7	45	17.3	44	25.2	14
Wilkes	71.5	51	5.1	29	4067	59	8.1	59	5.3	84	2.6	78	16.1	37	21.9	38
Wilson	161.5	18	1.1	65	4608	15	7.5	71	39.8	4	4.3	32	24.3	79	27.6	7
Yadkin *	79.8	47	5.0	30	4247	48	7.9	63	35.5	15	1.5	89	11.7	15	15.0	93
Yancey *	44.8	75	7.6	19	3237	93	9.5	43	3.2	90	7.2	4	15.2	29	17.3	85

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh, North Carolina Dept. of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research & Planning Services, 5th ed., 1972. PC 70

TABLE 17

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA: LABOR FORCE, 1975

County	Total Labor Force	Employed	Un-Employed	(%) Rate of Un-employed	Total Indust. Employment	% Industrial Employment
I A 1. Alleghany	3,740	3,480	260	7.0	2,450	70.40
2. Surry	25,890	22,820	3,070	11.9	22,050	96.63
3. Yadkin	13,250	12,210	1,040	7.9	NA	-
B 1. Mitchell	5,710	5,140	570	10.0	4,150	72.68
2. Yancey	5,470	4,950	520	9.5	2,270	45.86
II A 1. Alamance	49,490	44,920	4,570	9.2	40,620	90.43
2. Caswell	7,300	6,690	610	8.4	2,100	31.39
3. Franklin	12,360	11,040	1,320	10.7	5,270	47.74
4. Stokes	14,000	12,720	1,280	9.1	NA	-
5. Vance	17,140	15,269	1,880	11.0	13,600	89.12
6. Warren	5,630	4,820	810	14.4	2,580	53.53
B 1. Wake	132,760	125,720	7,040	5.3	NA	-
III A 1. Camden	2,360	2,210	150	5.4	400	18.10
B 1. Johnston	30,360	27,730	2,630	8.7	15,910	57.37
2. Jones	3,860	3,570	290	7.5	1,070	29.97
3. Pamlico	3,550	3,180	370	10.4	1,510	47.48
4. Wayne	35,900	32,920	2,980	8.3	27,460	83.41
C 1. Bladen	11,970	10,320	1,650	13.8	5,790	56.11
2. Columbus	22,290	19,890	2,400	10.8	12,610	63.40
3. Cumberland	165,940	61,450	4,490	6.8	59,820	97.35
4. Robeson	39,370	33,010	6,360	16.2	22,770	68.98

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp. 24-223.

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higher than the state's unemployment rate, which averaged 8.6 percent for 1975. Eight of the counties have unemployment rates lower than the state's average: Allegheny (7.0 percent), Yadkin (7.9 percent), Caswell (8.4 percent), Wake (5.3 percent), Camden (6.4 percent) and Cumberland (6.8 percent). The unemployment rate in the remaining thirteen counties is higher than the state average.

The average per capita income for North Carolina in 1974 was \$4,616.00. With the exception of Alamance with a per capita income of \$4,836.00, the program counties had a lower per capita income than the state average. (see table 18). The data indicate that the Farm Opportunities Program counties are relatively poorer than the other counties in the state (for details, see table 15). It is the purpose of the Farm Opportunities Program to target public funds and resources for these counties to improve both income levels and quality of life.

#### iv. Demographic Aspects

Table 19 provides information on population distribution by race in the Farm Opportunities Program counties for 1970. While more than 90 percent of the population in the mountain regions is white, the other two regions have higher percentage of non-white population. The northern piedmont counties have a significant percentage of non-white population, accounting for 48 percent in Caswell and 62.7 percent in Warren. This concentration may be attributed to better employment opportunities in the Piedmont region, the locus of the major urban centers of the state. The coastal region has the second highest concentration of non-white population. Since this region is one of the better farming regions in the state, there is a constant demand for farm and farm related labor.

Table 18

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM IN NORTH CAROLINA - SELECTED  
DEMOGRAPHIC AND INCOME INDICATORS FOR 1975

County	Total Population	Migration (%)	Natural Increase (%)	Per Capita Income \$1974
I A. 1. Alleghany	8,700	5.0	2.5	\$ 3,563
2. Surry	55,400	3.9	3.9	4,454
3. Yadkin	26,600	4.9	3.3	4,247
B. 1. Mitchell	14,100	2.7	2.2	3,603
2. Yancey	13,900	7.3	2.4	3,237
II A. 1. Alamance	99,400	-0.2	3.2	4,836
2. Caswell	19,500	-0.7	3.7	3,321
3. Franklin	28,400	3.7	1.9	3,651
4. Stokes	28,700	15.7	5.0	4,015
5. Vance	33,400	-2.0	4.3	4,321
6. Warren	16,600	7.4	1.3	2,945
B. 1. Wake	263,800	10.5	4.7	5,366
III A.1. Camden	5,700	1.7	1.8	4,537
B. 1. Johnston	65,600	3.3	2.9	4,347
2. Jones	9,500	-5.8	3.1	3,736
3. Pamlico	9,400	-2.8	2.1	3,737
4. Wayne	89,860	-0.8	5.9	4,267
C. 1. Bladen	28,500	4.2	3.4	3,310
2. Columbus	50,300	3.1	4.0	3,689
3. Cumberland	232,900	-	9.8	4,467
4. Robeson	93,700	2.6	7.8	3,717

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp. 24-223.

Table 19

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY POPULATION BY RACE, 1970

Region	District	County	Total Population	% Change 1960-1970	White		Non-White		
					NO	%	NO	%	
I. Mountain	A. Northern Mountain	1. Alleghany	8,134	5.2	7,895	97.1	239	2.9	
		2. Surry	51,415	6.7	48,829	95.0	2,586	5.0	
		3. Yadkin	24,599	7.9	23,335	95.0	1,264	5.0	
	B. Western Mountain	1. Mitchell	13,447	-3.3	13,406	99.7	41	0.3	
		2. Yancey	12,629	-9.8	12,449	98.6	180	1.4	
	II. Piedmont	A. Northern Piedmont	1. Alamance	96,502	12.6	79,264	82.1	17,265	17.9
2. Caswell			19,055	-4.3	9,899	52.0	9,156	48.0	
3. Franklin			26,820	-6.7	15,608	58.2	11,212	41.8	
4. Stokes			23,782	6.6	21,584	90.8	2,198	9.2	
5. Vance			32,691	2.2	18,848	57.7	13,843	42.3	
6. Warren			15,340	-21.9	5,747	37.3	9,593	52.7	
B. Central Piedmont		1. Wake	229,006	35.5	177,352	77.4	51,654	22.6	
III. Coastal		A. Northern Coastal	1. Camden	5,453	-2.6	3,428		2,025	
			B. Central Coastal	1. Johnston	61,737	-1.9	48,621	78.9	13,116
				2. Jones	9,779	-11.1	5,369	54.9	4,410
	3. Pamlico			9,467	-3.9	6,320	66.8	3,147	33.2
	4. Wayne			85,408	4.1	56,837	66.6	28,571	33.4
	C. Southern Coastal			1. Bladen	26,477	-8.3	16,037	60.6	10,440
			2. Columbus	46,937	-4.2	32,019	68.2	14,918	31.8
			3. Cumberland	212,042	42.9	156,674	73.9	55,368	26.1
4. Robeson			84,842	-4.8	36,356	42.9	48,486	57.1	

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Source: North Carolina State Government, Statistical Abstract. Raleigh: Research and Planning Services, Division of State Budget and Management, Fourth Edition, 1979, Section I, Population and Housing, pp. 6-7, 10-11 and 14-15.

Between 1960-1970, the northern mountain showed population gains whereas the coastal regions had lost population. Only Cumberland county in the southern coastal region had gained 42.9 percent between 1960-1970. Since the coastal regions are primarily agricultural, the loss may have been caused by the outmigration of farm laborers and small farmers as a result of increased mechanization of agriculture. The piedmont region counties had no clear population trend.

The 1970 census indicates the majority of the population in the Farm Opportunities Program is rural. According table 20, the population in the mountain region, with the exception of Surry county (75 percent) are 100 percent rural. Between 70 to 100 percent of the coastal region population lives in rural areas, with the exception of Cumberland (23.9) percent and Wayne (53.2 percent) counties. Likewise, most of the Piedmont region's population was classified as rural, with only Alamance (45.2 percent) and Wake (48.9 percent) demonstrating a higher proportion of urban population. The piedmont region has a relatively higher proportion of urban population compared to other regions. The rural population increased from 1960-1970 in the mountain region. Yancey was the only mountain region county experiencing a decline of 9.8 percent. The rural population declined in all the coastal region counties, as did the rural population in the piedmont counties, with the exceptions of Alamance (4.4 percent), Stokes (6.6 percent), and Wake (11.5 percent). In general, the rural population declined in the Farm Opportunities Program counties from 1960-1970, a trend which can be explained by out-migration from the state.

Population density in the Farm Opportunities Program counties is generally lower than that of the state. In 1975, population density for North Carolina was 112 per sq. mi. Only Alamance at 233, Cumberland at 355, Wake at 307, and Wayne at 162 per 1,00 surpassed the state average.

Table 20

## FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY POPULATION BY URBAN AND RURAL DISTRIBUTION, 1970

Region	District	County	Total Population	Pop. Density	Urban Population		Rural Population*	
					% of County	% Change from 1960	% of County	% Change from 1960
I. Mountain	A. Northern Mountain	1. Alleghany	8,134	36	-	-	100.0	5.2
		2. Surry	51,415	96	25.0	29.6	75.0	0.7
		3. Yadkin	24,599	73	-	-	100.0	7.9
	B. Western Mountain	1. Mitchell	13,447	63	-	-100.0	100.0	17.9
		2. Yancey	12,629	40	-	-	100.0	-9.8
II. Piedmont	A. Northern Piedmont	1. Alamance	96,502	225	54.8	20.6	45.2	4.4
		2. Caswell	19,055	45	-	-	100.0	-4.3
		3. Franklin	26,820	55	11.0	-	89.0	-7.8
		4. Stokes	23,782	52	-	-	100.0	6.6
		5. Vance	32,691	131	42.5	9.1	57.5	-2.4
		6. Warren	15,340	37	-	-	100.0	-21.9
	B. Central Piedmont	1. Wake	229,006	267	69.6	48.9	30.4	11.5
III. Coastal	A. Northern Coastal	1. Camden	5,453	23	-	-	100.0	-2.6
	B. Central Coastal	1. Johnston	61,737	77	22.9	12.9	77.1	-5.6
		2. Jones	9,779	21	-	-	100.0	-11.1
		3. Pamlico	9,467	28	-	-	100.0	-3.9
		4. Wayne	85,408	153	46.8	12.6	53.2	-6.5
	C. Southern Coastal	1. Bladen	26,477	30	-	-	100.0	-8.3
		2. Columbus	46,937	50	8.9	-10.4	91.1	-3.5
		3. Cumberland	212,042	324	76.1	129.9	23.9	-35.2
		4. Robeson	84,842	89	27.3	28.2	72.7	-13.2

\*Rural population combines non-farm and population

Source: North Carolina State Government, Statistical Abstract, Raleigh: Research and Planning Services, Division of State Budget and Management, Fourth Edition, 1979, Section 1, Population and Housing, pp. 13-5.

Several counties have very low population density: examples are Camden (24), Jones (20), and Pamlico (29). Since the Farm Opportunities Program counties are primarily rural and agricultural, the population density is very low.

However, among the three regions, the Piedmont is relatively densely populated, followed by the mountain and coastal regions. Since most of the major cities are located in the piedmont region, it is expected that the Farm Opportunities Program counties in that region would have a relatively higher population density. The coastal region, one of the better farming regions in the state, also has a slightly higher population density than the mountain region. In general, the data indicates that the Farm Opportunities Program counties are sparsely populated compared to the state average. It is expected that they will attract more people in the future as population density increases in the other counties in the state.

Table 18 shows increases in population attributed to migration and natural increase for 1975. The table indicates that the 1975 population increase was primarily due to migration rather than natural increase. The mountain counties gained the most from migration while the coastal region increase was primarily natural increase. Except for Stokes and Warren counties, population increase in the piedmont region was natural increase. The data indicate that with the exception of mountain region, the Farm Opportunities Program counties do not attract many migrants compared to other counties in the state. This may be explained by the limited economic opportunities present in the program counties.

#### v. Political Affiliation

The majority registered voters in North Carolina are Democrats. Table 21 provides information on voter registration derived from the North Carolina State Board of Elections for 1975. Voter registration in the

TABLE 21

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA:  
VOTER REGISTRATION FOR 1975

County	TOTAL		DEMOCRAT		REPUBLICAN		OTHER	
	No.	% of Total Pop.	No.	% Registered Voters	No.	% Registered Voters	No.	% Registered Voters*
I A 1. Alleghany	5,725	65.8	4,060	70.9	1,524	26.6	141	2.5
2. Surry	27,233	49.1	17,733	65.1	8,638	31.7	862	3.2
3. Yadkin	14,519	54.6	5,781	39.8	7,994	55.1	744	5.1
B 1. Mitchell	9,811	69.6	2,741	27.9	6,919	70.5	151	1.5
2. Yancey	9,079	65.3	5,400	59.5	3,338	36.8	341	3.8
II A 1. Alamance	44,114	44.4	32,322	73.3	8,720	19.8	3,072	7.0
2. Caswell	8,202	42.1	7,546	92.0	533	6.5	123	1.5
3. Franklin	13,640	48.0	12,587	92.3	956	7.0	97	.7
4. Stokes	18,608	64.8	10,621	57.1	7,493	40.3	494	2.7
5. Vance	14,786	44.3	13,363	90.4	1,167	7.9	256	1.7
6. Warren	7,658	46.1	6,885	89.9	694	9.1	79	1.0
B 1. Wake	132,131	50.1	96,509	73.0	27,397	20.7	8,225	6.2
III A 1. Camden	2,637	46.3	2,516	95.4	101	3.8	20	.8
B 1. Johnston	33,037	50.4	25,089	79.0	5,982	18.1	966	2.9
2. Jones	5,074	53.4	4,668	92.0	325	7.0	81	1.6
3. Pamlico	4,736	50.4	4,163	87.9	502	10.6	71	1.5
4. Wayne	30,067	33.8	24,561	81.7	4,771	15.9	735	2.4
C 1. Bladen	13,638	47.9	12,629	92.6	857	6.3	152	1.1
2. Columbus	24,831	49.4	22,377	90.1	2,147	8.7	307	1.2
3. Cumberland	57,936	24.9	44,536	76.9	8,938	15.4	4,462	7.7
4. Robeson	48,340	51.6	45,300	93.7	2,357	4.9	683	1.4

\*Percent may not add up to 100 due to rounding

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp. 24-223.

mountain counties is higher compared to the other regions. The coastal region had the lowest proportion of its population registered to vote in 1975. In general, voter registration is not low with the exception of Wayne and Cumberland counties. The majority of those registered as Democrats. Only Yadkin and Mitchell counties in the mountain region reported 55.1 and 70.5 percent, respectively, of registered voters as Republicans.

#### vi. Health Indicators

Because of the lack of available health data, hospital beds and infant deaths are used as health indicators. The Farm Opportunities Program counties have in general a lower number of hospital beds, which contributes to higher hospital bed/population ratio. Table 22 indicates that these counties also have the lowest number of physicians per 10,000 population ratio. The infant mortality rate is relatively higher than the other counties.

These figures indicate that access to health services in the Farm Opportunities Program counties are generally limited compared to other counties. Among them, the mountain region counties have lower infant mortality rates, hospital bed/population ratio and physicians per 10,000 population followed by the coastal region. The piedmont region is relatively worse off compared to the other regions.

#### vi. Agricultural Production

North Carolina is famous for tobacco, leading the nation in tobacco production. It also produces a variety of other crops, including soybeans, grain, wheat, peanuts and sweet potatoes. There is some limited livestock production, especially broilers.

Table 22

FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA -  
HEALTH INDICATORS FOR 1975

County	Hospital Beds	Hospital Beds Pop. Ratio	Infant Deaths Per 1,000
I A 1. Alleghany	49	1:178	4
2. Surry	253	1:219	12
3. Yadkin	70	1:380	4
B 1. Mitchell	51	1:277	1
2. Yancey	24	1:579	3
II A 1. Alamance	328	1:303	22
2. Caswell	0	-	12
3. Franklin	73	1:389	8
4. Stokes	29	1:990	11
5. Vance	100	1:334	11
6. Warren	37	1:449	2
B 1. Wake	905	1:292	56
III A 1. Camden	0	-	0
B 1. Johnston	172	1:381	14
2. Jones	0	-	3
3. Pamlico	0	-	0
4. Wayne	344	1:261	28
C 1. Bladen	62	1:460	8
2. Columbus	145	1:347	15
3. Cumberland	498	1:468	83
4. Robeson	360	1:260	37

Source: North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile North Carolina Counties. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977. Adapted from pp. 24-223.

Since the Farm Opportunities Program counties are located across the three physiographic regions of the state, they produce different crops and livestock.

Table 23 provides information on counties leading in production of selected crops for 1976 and 1977. The table indicates that the Farm Opportunities Program are among the leading producers of grain, tobacco and sweet potatoes. Wayne, Robeson, Sampson and Johnston counties ranked third, fourth, fifth and ninth respectively in the production of Corn for grain; Robeson, Columbus, Wayne and Johnston ranked first, fifth, sixth and ninth in the production of soybeans; and Johnston, Robeson, Columbus and Wake ranked first, third, fourth and fifth in the production of tobacco in the state in 1977. In 1976, Johnston, Columbus, Cumberland, Robeson and Wayne ranked first, third, sixth, ninth and tenth in the production of sweet potatoes; with Pamlico and Camden ranking second and fifth respectively in irish potatoes; Allegheny ranked fourth in the production of all hay (for details, see table 23).

Table 24 provides detailed information on the ranking of selected crops for 1976 by yield per acre. It indicates that except for Allegheny, Surry and Yadkin counties of the Northern Mountain Region, the program counties are among the leading producers of corn, soybeans, wheat, sorghum, barley and sweet potatoes in the state. The southern coastal counties are noted for peanuts and sweet potatoes; the northern coastal region for cotton; and the northern piedmont for corn (for details, see table 24). The data indicate that the Farm Opportunities Program counties in the mountain and northern coastal regions are the state's primary crop production areas.

Table 25 contains information on types 11, 12, 13 and 31 tobacco production yield per acre. Tobacco production varies according to the ecology of the region; i.e., type 11 is grown in northern mountain and

Table 23

## CROPS: COUNTIES LEADING IN PRODUCTION OF SELECTED CROPS, 1977

Corn for grain		Soybeans		Tobacco		Peanuts	
County	Bushels	County	Bushels	County	Pounds	County	Pounds
Duplin	3,768,000	Robeson*	1,743,000	Johnston*	38,750,000	Northampton	83,491,000
Beaufort	3,633,000	Beaufort	1,438,000	Pitt	33,972,000	Halifax	67,939,000
Wayne*	3,595,000	Duplin	1,137,000	Robeson*	31,075,000	Bertie	61,308,000
Robeson*	3,589,000	Sampson	1,064,000	Columbus*	31,003,000	Martin	48,593,000
Sampson*	3,436,000	Columbus*	936,000	Wake*	29,784,000	Edgecombe	39,528,000
Pitt	3,328,000	Wayne*	903,000	Nash	29,041,000	Hertford	37,284,000
Bertie	3,020,000	Perquimans	896,000	Wilson	26,860,000	Gates	22,607,000
Hyde	2,876,000	Union	884,000	Harnett	25,449,000	Chowan	18,313,000
Johnston*	2,786,000	Johnston*	880,000	Sampson	24,191,000	Pitt	15,672,000
Edgecombe	2,638,000	Washington	864,000	Duplin	24,072,000	Bladen*	11,778,000

\*Farm opportunities program counties

## CROPS: COUNTIES LEADING IN PRODUCTION OF SELECTED CROPS, 1976

Wheat		Cotton		Sorghum Grains		Barley	
County	Bushels	County	480-Pound Net Weight Bales	County	Bushels	County	Bushels
Rowan	359,000	Scotland	17,150	Union	1,698,000	Stanly	261,000
Randolph	291,000	Robeson	13,950	Stanly	589,000	Rowan	232,000
Pasquotank	245,000	Northampton	9,800	Anson	513,000	Davidson	136,500
Union	241,000	Halifax	7,850	Cleveland	117,000	Lincoln	132,500
Stanly	237,500	Hoke	5,020	Cabarrus	91,200	Catawba	118,000
Camden*	228,000	Edgecombe	4,780	Randolph	89,800	Cleveland	96,600
Person	204,500	Sampson	3,500	Davidson	86,100	Iredell	88,200
Yadkin*	199,000	Cleveland	2,430	Pasquotank	83,600	Randolph	76,000
Wake*	197,000	Cumberland*	1,210	Franklin*	74,400	Gaston	70,300
Franklin*	190,500	Anson	925	Rowan	74,300	Organe	66,300

\*Farm opportunities program counties

Oats		Sweet Potatoes		Irish Potatoes		All Hay	
County	Bushels	County	Hundred Weight	County	Hundred Weight	County	Tons
Rowan	202,500	Johnston*	1,548,000	Pasquotank	476,000	Ashe	24,000
Stanly	200,500	Sampson	715,000	Pamlico*	342,000	Iredell	19,750
Iredell	190,000	Columbus*	412,500	Beaufort	280,500	Buncombe	18,300
Randolph	132,00	Nash	377,000	Tyrrell	271,500	Alleghany*	16,500
Guilford	130,000	Harnett	247,000	Camden*	154,000	Wilkes	16,000
Wake*	129,000	Cumberland*	145,000	Carteret	101,500	Caldwell	13,650
Cabarrus	120,000	Wilson	143,500	Currituck	101,000	Rowan	11,550
Union	115,500	Duplin	117,000	Buncombe	62,100	Chatham	11,350
Lincoln	107,500	Robeson*	55,100	Ashe	56,000	Haywood	11,200
Alamance*	101,000	Wayne*	54,000	Caldwell	42,000	Randolph	11,050

\*Farm opportunities program counties

Source: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, North Carolina Agricultural Statistics. (Raleigh: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, Number 137, September 1978, p.9.

Table 24

RANKING SOME OF THE IMPORTANT CROPS CULTIVATED IN NORTH CAROLINA--  
YIELD PER ACRE, 1976

County	Corn		Soybeans		Irish Potatoes		Peanuts		Wheat		Cotton		Sorghum		Barley		Oats		Sweet Potatoes	
	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank	Yield	Rank
I A1. Alleghany	77	1	*		#		-		*		-		*		*		50	2	#	
2. Surry	63	6	22	2	150	1	-		35	4	-		40	2	47	2	45	3	105	1
3. Yadkin	62	7	17	3	135	5	-		36	2	-		41	1	42	3	42	6	#	
B1. Mitchell	63	8	*		155	2	-		*		-		*		*		*		#	
2. Yancey	70	5	*		105	13	-		*		-		*		*		*		#	
II A1. Alamance	44	9	19	1	80	7	-		24	8	-		44	6	33	8	44	6	90	5
2. Caswell	45	7	17	3	#		-		23	10	-		40	11	36	3	43	7	#	
3. Franklin	42	10	13	12	#		-		25	5	-		43	7	32	9	48	5	90	5
4. Stokes	51	1	13	12	90	6	-		32	1	-		46	5	*		37	11	75	9
5. Vance	51	1	15	7	#		-		23	10	-		41	10	36	3	40	8	120	1
6. Warren	46	5	19	1	135	1	1920	6	22	13	255	1	42	9	32	9	37	11	90	5
B1. Wake	40	10	16	6	130	1	-		27	10	255	1	44	3	35	10	38	9	120	1
II A1. Camden	115	3	30	6	140	4	-		36	2	-		48	1	44	2	68	1	#	
B1. Johnston	48	12	17	11	105	7	1585	5	28	7	330	4	44	3	33	4	42	11	135	1
2. Jones	94	5	21	9	#		-		30	5	487	2	*		*		*		#	
3. Pamlico	100	3	27	2	155	1	-		32	4	556	1	*		*		64	1	#	
4. Wayne	83	10	23	6	140	2	1255	8	23	12	-		35	9	34	2	50	5	120	5
C1. Bladen	80	6	24	2	110		2825	2	20	12	-		36	11	*		40	10	135	4
2. Columbus	89	2	23	4	120		3355	1	26	4	-		36	11	*		45	8	125	10
3. Cumberland	73	11	19	10	100		2260	4	22	10	515	3	49	1	35	1	49	4	145	2
4. Robeson	91	1	19	10	#		1900	7	21	11	505	5	40	6	26	7	45	8	145	2
State Total	80		220		140		2265		29		489		51		39		47		130	

Table 24

RANKING SOME OF THE IMPORTANT CROPS CULTIVATED IN NORTH CAROLINA-  
YIELD PER ACRE, 1976 (Continued)

\* Not published for counties with less than 50 acres of harvested land.

-Each dot=1,000 acres of peanuts

-Each dot= 500 acres of cotton

# Counties with less than 20 acres not published

Source: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, North Carolina Agricultural Statistics (Raleigh: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, Number 137, September 1978), pp. 12-13, 16-18, and 20-33).

Table 25

TOBACCO: 1976 PRODUCTION YIELD PER ACRE BY COUNTIES AND BY TYPES

County	Middle Belts Yield	Type 11 Rank	Eastern Belt Yield	Type 12 Rank	Border Belt Yield	Type 13 Rank	Burley Belt	Type 31
I. A. 1. Alleghany 2. Surry 3. Yadkin	1,895 1,820						2,240	
B. 1. Mitchell 2. Yancey							2,330 2,200	
II A. 1. Alamance 2. Caswell 3. Franklin 4. Stokes 5. Vance 6. Warren	1,985 1,790 1,860 1,660 1,945 2,000							
53 B. 1. Wake	1,895							
III A. 1. Camden			*					
B. 1. Johnston 2. Jones 3. Pamlico 4. Wayne			2,065 2,015 1,980 2,295					
C. 1. Bladen 2. Columbus 3. Cumberland 4. Robeson					2,070 2,260 2,170 2,175			
Total	1,830		2,140		2,012		2,200	

\* Each Asterisk = 500 acres

State total - All Types = 2,015

Source: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, North Carolina Agricultural Statistics (Raleigh: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, Number 137, September 1978), pp. 36-7.

piedmont regions; type 12 in the northern coastal region, type 13 in the southern coastal region, type 13 in the southern coastal region and type 31 in the mountain region. Due to different varieties of tobacco grown according to region, it is not possible to rank counties by production.

Table 26 provides data on livestock production. The northern mountain region counties show a greater degree of livestock production, specifically for the all cattle, milk and beef cows and heifers that have calved categories than the other program counties.

The southern coastal region raises more cattle, milk cows and heifers that have calved than other types of livestock production. The piedmont region has lower level of livestock production (for details, see table 26).

Tables 24 and 26 indicate that agricultural yield in Farm Opportunities Program counties is lower compared to non-program counties. It reveals that the level of agricultural productivity in most of the program counties is lower than the state average.

On the basis of these figures, it is recommended that the Agricultural Extension Program at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University focus its efforts on increasing agricultural productivity in the Farm Opportunities Program counties.

### Summary

The Farm Opportunities Program operates in 21 counties distributed among the three regions of North Carolina. A statistical overview indicates that the 21 counties are primarily rural, yet have the majority of their labor force employed in industry. The more rural counties lost population through out-migration from 1960-1970. The Program counties, while encompassing some of North Carolina's better agricultural soils, demonstrate some of the state's

Table 26

## RANKING LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IN NORTH CAROLINA FARM OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM FOR 1976

County	ALL CATTLE		MILK COWS & HEIFERS THAT HAVE CALVED		BEEF COWS & HEIFERS THAT HAVE CALVED		ALL HOGS		ALL CHICKENS	
	Number on Farms	Rank	Number on Farms	Rank	Number on Farms	Rank	Number on Farms	Rank	Number on Farms	Rank
I A.1. Alleghany	24,800	3	4,400	1	7,800	4	1,500	5	100,00	5
2. Surry	24,000	4	2,300	3	9,100	3	9,500	1	648,000	2
3. Yadkin	20,700	5	3,600	2	7,400	5	5,000	2	517,000	3
B.1. Mitchell	5,600	11	400	13	2,400	7	*		#	
2. Yancey	8,400	6	1,800	4	3,200	5	*		6,000	12
II.A.1. Alamance	22,600	2	6,100	1	6,900	3	6,200	8	344,000	1
2. Caswell	11,400	9	1,200	7	4,900	8	3,800	9	19,000	11
3. Franklin	12,000	8	200	13	5,100	7	38,000	1	271,000	3
4. Stokes	12,300	7	700	8	6,100	4	3,400	11	115,000	7
5. Vance	5,900		300	12	2,400		8,000	6	#	
6. Warren	9,800	10	400	11	4,700	10	9,000	4	5,000	12
B.1. Wake	17,500	8	5,500	4	5,700	8	18,000	3	373,000	3
III A.1. Camden	2,100	11	@		1,000	11	35,000	4	#	
B.1. Johnston	21,800	1	600	6	9,200	1	124,600	1	242,000	3
2. Jones	2,500	10	200	9	1,400	8	10,400	9	#	
3. Pamlico	1,000	12	300	8	/		3,400	11	65,000	6
4. Wayne	11,300	4	1,000	2	4,500	3	71,500	2	485,000	2
C.1. Bladen	10,400	2	2,000	1	3,200	7	43,300	6	65,000	
2. Columbus	9,300	6	600	5	3,700	6	46,000	4	210,000	
3. Cumberland	9,800	5	900	4	4,100	4	25,000	9	226,000	
4. Robeson	6,300	8	500	6	2,700	8	55,500	3		
State Total	1,170,000		146,000		464,000		1,900,000			

/-/ Counties with less than 5,000 bords not published

@ Counties with less than 200 milk cows not published.

# Counties with less than 500 beef cows not published

\* Counties with less than 1,000 head not published

Source: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, North Carolina Agricultural Statistics  
(Raleigh: North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, Number 137, September 1978),  
pp. 47-52

lower agricultural productivity levels. Income levels in most of the Program counties fall below the state's average, with health care indicators also below the state average.

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Climates of the States (Detroit: Book Tower, Gale Research Company, 1978, Volume 2), p. 725. Of the 31,190,400 of acres of land, 18,355,500 (or 58.8 percent) is covered with forests; 8,197,700 (or 26.3 percent) is cropland and pastures and 1,461,700 (or 4.7 percent) is urban and built up. See North Carolina State Government, Department of Administration, Profile of North Carolina Counties (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services, Fifth Edition, 1977), p. 22.

<sup>2</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana International (Danbury, Connecticut: American Corporation, 1978), pp. 432a.

<sup>3</sup>For details of the administrative divisions of the state, see North Carolina Manual 1979-1980, edited by John L. Cheney, Jr., Director, Publications Division (Raleigh: 1979). The manual contains information on the history of the state, its constitutional development, political parties- Democratic and Republican, the North Carolina State Government- Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches; and the N.C. Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Councils and on Election Returns and Voter Registration Statistics.

<sup>4</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana International, p. 433c.

<sup>5</sup>For details, see Field Enterprise Educational Corporation, The World Book Encyclopedia, Volume 14 (Chicago: Field Enterprise Educational Corporation, 1977), pp. 382a-382b.

<sup>6</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, North Carolina Exports (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, A Publication of the Industry and Trade Administration, State Export Series, November 1978), p. 2.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 14.

<sup>9</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana International, p. 434.

<sup>10</sup>North Carolina State Data Center, Volume 1, Number 2, November 1978, p. 1. "The 1977 Census of Manufacturers: North Carolina shows that 763,900 people were employed in the states 9,939 manufacturing establishments in 1977. Textiles mills, furniture and fixtures, apparel, and electric equipment manufacturing accounted for 60 % of the states manufacturing employment which is 2 % less than in 1972." Ibid., p. 2.

<sup>11</sup>For details, see Bureau of Employment Security Research, Labor Supply and Demand in North Carolina for 1978 (Raleigh; N.C.: Employment Security

Research, February 1978). The report discusses in detail the demand (job needs) and the supply (current employment in the state). It projects which occupations will face excess supply and shortage and discusses the extent of unemployment problem in the state.

<sup>12</sup>The Encyclopedia American International, p. 434.

<sup>13</sup>North Carolina State Data Center, November 1978, p. 1.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid.

<sup>15</sup>Details are provided in North Carolina State Government, Statistical Abstract (Raleigh: Research and Planning Services, Division of the State Budget and Management, Fourth Edition, 1979, Section 1, Population and Housing).

<sup>16</sup>North Carolina State Government, Profile North Carolina Counties, p. 22.

<sup>17</sup>North Carolina State Data Center, November 1979, p. 1.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid.

<sup>19</sup>North Carolina State Government, Profile North Carolina Counties, Op. Cit.

<sup>20</sup>North Carolina State Data Center, p. 1.

<sup>21</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana International, p. 432a. Details on topography and climatic regions are provided in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Climates of the States, "North Carolina Section," pp. 725-747.