

Chapel Hill Fact Sheet

Chapel Hill at a Glance

- Founded in 1819 and chartered in 1851
- Council-Manager form of government
- 8 Council members, one of whom serves a two-year term as Mayor Pro Tem as chosen by Council
- Mayor serves a two-year term of office
- Council Members serve staggered four-year terms
- Elections are at-large every two years

Town organization

- 14 departments
- Approximately 700 employees
- The town maintains
 - 165.3 miles of roads
 - 45.6 miles of sidewalks
 - 13.2 miles of on-street bicycle facilities
 - 350 acres of parks
 - 14.8 miles of greenways

Property tax rates

(per \$100 of assessed value; Town of Chapel Hill Business Management Department; Orange County Tax Administration Department, Revenue & Collections Division)

- Town of Chapel Hill: 52.4¢ (2014)
- Orange County: 87.8¢ (2014)
- Chapel Hill-Carrboro Special District School Tax: 20.8¢ (2014)

Three factors influence the amount of property taxes you pay:

- **Town Property tax rate** - set by the Town Council every year when it approves the budget.
- **Assessed value of property** - determined by Orange County or Durham County, depending on location.
- **Special District School Tax Rate** - set by Orange County.
- **County Property Tax Rate** - determined by Orange County or Durham County, depending on location.

The Town of Chapel Hill property tax rate for the 2014-15 service year is 52.4 cents per \$100 of taxable value. If you own a home in Orange County within the Chapel Hill town limits that is valued at \$350,000, your Town property taxes total \$1,834. In addition, you will pay Orange County taxes of \$3,073, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Special School District Taxes of \$728 and a recycling fee of \$67 for a total of \$5,702. If you own a home in Durham County within the Chapel Hill town limits, your property taxes in 2014-15 will total \$4,609.50. These taxes are divided as follows: Chapel Hill \$1,834; Durham County \$2,775.50.



History

Chapel Hill's name was taken from New Hope Chapel, located at a main intersection near the University (the current site of the Carolina Inn). The Town was first organized by a committee appointed by the University of North Carolina's Board of Trustees. The first lots in what would become Chapel Hill were auctioned in 1793, and the town's first residents arrived in 1795.

The town's original map covered 72 acres, which increased to 820 acres by the time of the Town's first charter in 1851. Its first directly elected Mayor, John H. Watson, took office in 1895. The Town's borders stayed roughly the same for more than a century until the first modern annexation in 1950, and since then, Chapel Hill has steadily expanded to more than 21 square miles.

Lovely in springtime with woodland wildflowers, greenways and trails, dazzling gardens with azaleas blooming in multicolor, Chapel Hill clearly has a thing for nature. Its love affair with trees dates back to 1889, when cutting down a tree in town was punishable as a misdemeanor and carried a \$20 fine. Popularly referred to as "the southern part of heaven," the town is adopting an additional description that embraces its principles of sustainability – "A Town within a Park."



Population

(2010 U.S. Census - 2013 Estimates)

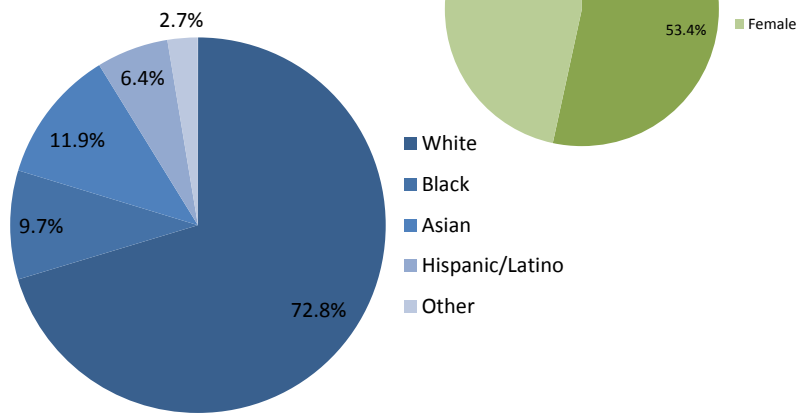
- Town of Chapel Hill: 59,653
- Orange County: 140,352
- North Carolina: 9,848,060

#DidYouKnow: The Town of Chapel Hill's population includes UNC-Chapel Hill students who live within the Town.

Population characteristics

(2010 U.S. Census)

- Total households: 20,564
- Households with children under 18 years: 5,383 (26.2% of total households)
- Median age: 25.8
- Population 19 years of age or below: 28.1%
- Population 24 years of age or below: 51.1%
- Land area: 20.9 sq. mi.
- Population density: 4.28/acre



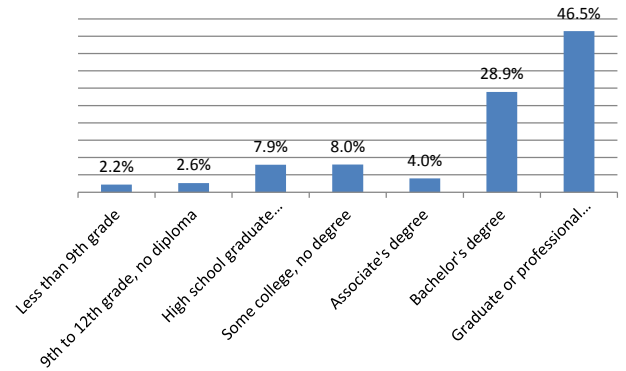
Households and Housing

(2010 U.S. Census)

- Average household size: 2.22 persons
- Households with individuals under 18 years: 27.0%
- Households with individuals 65 years and over: 18.2%
- Households with only one individual: 30.6%
- Total housing units: 22,254
- Occupied housing units: 92.4% (20,564 units)
- Median housing value for owner-occupied homes: \$348,800
- Of occupied homes,
 - o 52.4% are renter-occupied
 - o 47.6% are owner-occupied

Educational attainment in population 25 years and over

(2010 U.S. Census)



- Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools high school graduation rate: 89%
- Average SAT score: 1179
- Average SAT score ranking among North Carolina public school districts: 1

Economic Data

(2009-13 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates)

- Median household income: \$60,802 (adjusted for inflation in 2013 dollars)
- December 2014 unemployment rate (Orange County): 3.9%

Commuting Data

(2009-13 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates)

- Average travel time to work for Chapel Hill residents: 19.3 minutes

