

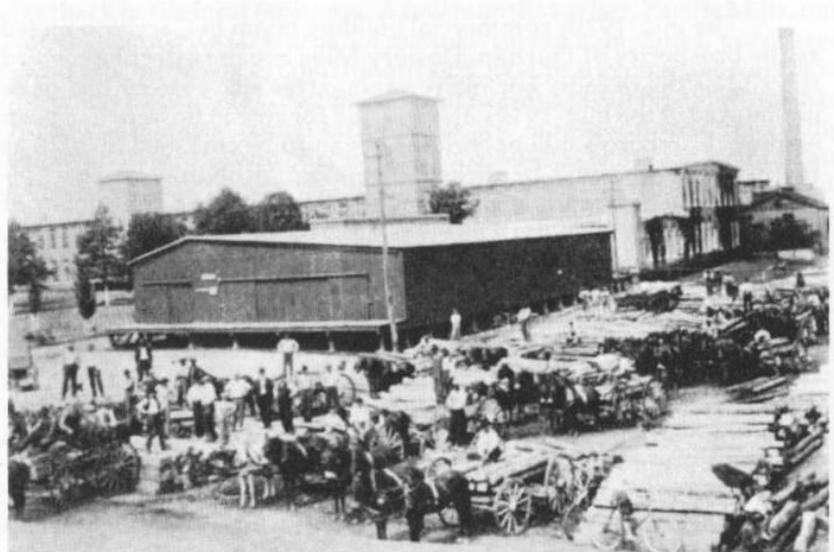
ABOUT THE TOWN OF CARRBORO

Carrboro's roots began in 1882 when a branch of the North Carolina Railroad extended south to the edge of Chapel Hill, and the first local textile mill opened nearby. Informally known as West End and Lloydville, in 1911, the community incorporated as a town named Venable, for chemistry professor and University of North Carolina president Francis Preston Venable.

Two years later, the state legislature renamed the town Carrboro at the request of Julian S. Carr, a post-Civil War business leader. He was also an active and influential participant in Jim Crow era efforts to create a system of racial segregation. Although the town continues to bear his name, the values and actions of Carr do not represent Carrboro today.

In the 1970s, a group of Carrboro residents joined together to change the town's power structure and advocate for a community that fully included all residents. Thanks to their commitment, today Carrboro honors its working-class roots while reaching toward the goals of social equity, environmental harmony, and fiscal responsibility. For the first fifty years after its incorporation, Carrboro remained a small mill town with a slow, steady pace of growth. In 1960, approximately 2,000 people lived in the town.

In the late 1960s, the town's population began to increase stemming from the growth occurring at UNC-Chapel Hill and growth in the Research Triangle Park. Enrollment at the University has increased 5.1%, from 30,092 in 2020 to 31,641 in 2021.



Circa 1920 view of the cross tie market on East Main Street, in front of Durham Hosiery Mill No. 4. The frame cotton warehouse and the upper stories of the brick towers have been removed, and the east end of the mill has been extended with a brick addition. From copy in North Carolina Collection, UNC Library, Chapel Hill.

The Town of Carrboro is a small local government entity overseen by a Mayor and six Council Members, and professionally managed by a Town Manager under the Council-Manager form of government. The Town is located within Orange County in the north central portion of North Carolina. The area's topography is characterized by rolling hills. The Town is situated next to the Town of Chapel Hill home to the University of North Carolina and is near the Research Triangle Park.



The American Community Survey (ACS) provides detailed information on population, housing occupancy and ownership, educational attainment, employment, and travel. The ACS, a method of continuously collecting data on these characteristics by sampling three million households each year, has been underway since 2005. Aggregated estimates for the period 2016 to 2020 for smaller communities, including Carrboro, are used in this section. More frequent data collection is considered a viable method of providing more up-to-date information about the US population, particularly at the local community level.

POPULATION

Carrboro’s population in 2020 was 21,295. Since the last census in 2010, the population has grown by 1,713, or 8.7%. These residents constitute approximately 14.3 percent of the Orange County population of 148,696.

ETHNIC COMPOSITION

The chart below shows the changes in Carrboro’s ethnic composition since the 2010 Census.

Race and Ethnicity, 1990 to Present					
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (decennial censuses)					
Year	Asian	Black	Hispanic *	White	All Other
2010	1592	1933	2706	12794	557
2020	1891	2142	2723	13238	1301
Year	% Asian	% Black	% Hispanic	White	% Other
2010	8%	10%	14%	65%	3%
2020	9%	10%	13%	62%	6%

* Any Race

AGE COMPOSITION

The age group of ages 18-64 accounts for 63.9% of the Town’s population, which is the only age group above the national average for Carrboro.

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Carrboro Population</u>	<u>% of Town</u>	<u>USA %</u>
Under 5 years	809	3.8%	6.0%
Under 18 years	4,408	20.7%	22.3%
Age 18-64	13,608	63.9%	55.2%
Age 65 and over	2,470	11.6%	16.5%

Source: census.gov/quickfacts

HOUSING

Carrboro continues to be mostly a community consisting of rental units as 57.4 percent of the housing stock is renter occupied with a median gross rent of \$1,152 per month. Owner-occupied housing is at 42.6 percent and the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit in Carrboro in 2020 was \$386,900, which is a 25.8 percent increase from \$307,600 in 2010.

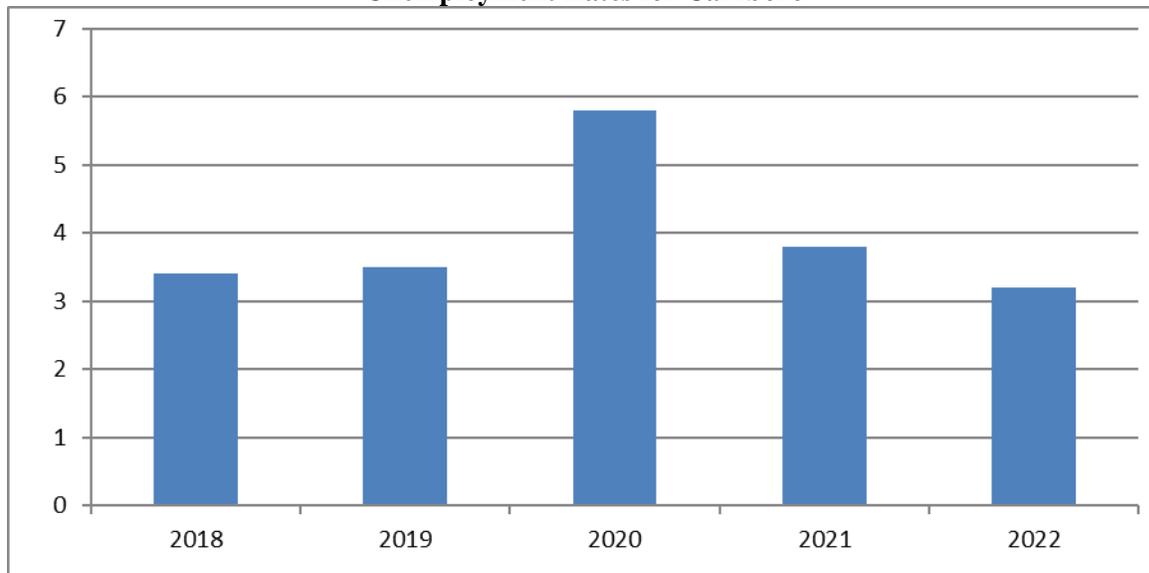
INCOME

The 2020 median household income is \$67,469. Per capita income for 2020 was \$39,464 while 14.1% of the population were below the poverty level of income.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment levels in Carrboro reflect a slight decrease in the unemployment rate from 3.7% in June 2021 to 3.2% in June 2022.

Unemployment Rates for Carrboro



Source: homefacts.com

Durham-Chapel Hill Employment by Industry Sector, May 2021

Occupation Type	Percent of Total Employment
All Occupations	
Management Occupations	7.6%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	8%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	7%
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	1.8%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	3.1%
Community and Social Service Occupations	1.2%
Legal Occupations	0.7%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	11.7%
Healthcare Support Occupations	4%
Protective Service Occupations	1.7%
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	6%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2.6%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	1.2%
Sales and Related Occupations	7.6%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	10.9%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0.1%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	2.3%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	2.8%
Production Occupations	3.6%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	5.8%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Specific Data for Carrboro not available

The major employers within Orange County in 2021 (those with 500 or more employees) reflect the dominance of the professional services sector.

Employer	# of Employees
UNC Chapel Hill	13,029
UNC-Health Care System	12,078
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools	2,000
Orange County Schools	1,272
Orange County Government	1,220
Town of Chapel Hill	857
Industrial Connections & Solutions ABB (formerly G.E.)	685

Key Intergovernmental Relationships

The Town of Carrboro has many relationships with surrounding communities, State, and regional organizations that affect the services provided to the community. A summary of these relationships follows:

State of North Carolina

- Established the Town by granting a municipal charter
- Grants and imposes powers to the Town
- Constructs and maintains a road network within the Town limits
- Considered the conduit for transportation improvement funds used to maintain roads
- Collects and distributes certain revenues to the Town (sales taxes, beer, and wine taxes, etc.)

Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG)

- Provides planning and other services to towns that are members of this voluntary organization that represents a region of municipal and county governments, including Carrboro
- Includes one delegate and one alternate to its board of delegates

City of Durham

- Provides staff for the Durham/Chapel Hill/Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (Transportation Advisory Committee)

Chatham County

- Meets with town staff via Orange-Chatham Work Group on occasion to review development issues. Development at the border affects each community.

University of North Carolina

- Has mutual aid agreement for police services and emergencies
- Involves town in planning for Carolina North
- Allows use of easement for Libba Cotten bikeway

Orange Water and Sewer Authority

- Provides a mutual aid agreement for emergency response
- Extends water and sewer services in Carrboro zoning jurisdiction in accordance with policies of the Town Council
- Maintains fire hydrants used by the Carrboro Fire Department

Orange County

- Provides mutual aid agreement for police services
- Provides recycling services to Carrboro
- Participates in Joint Planning Agreement
- Plans jointly with Town for use of Housing and Urban Development Funds (HUD) and receives local contribution from Town toward affordable housing initiatives

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE

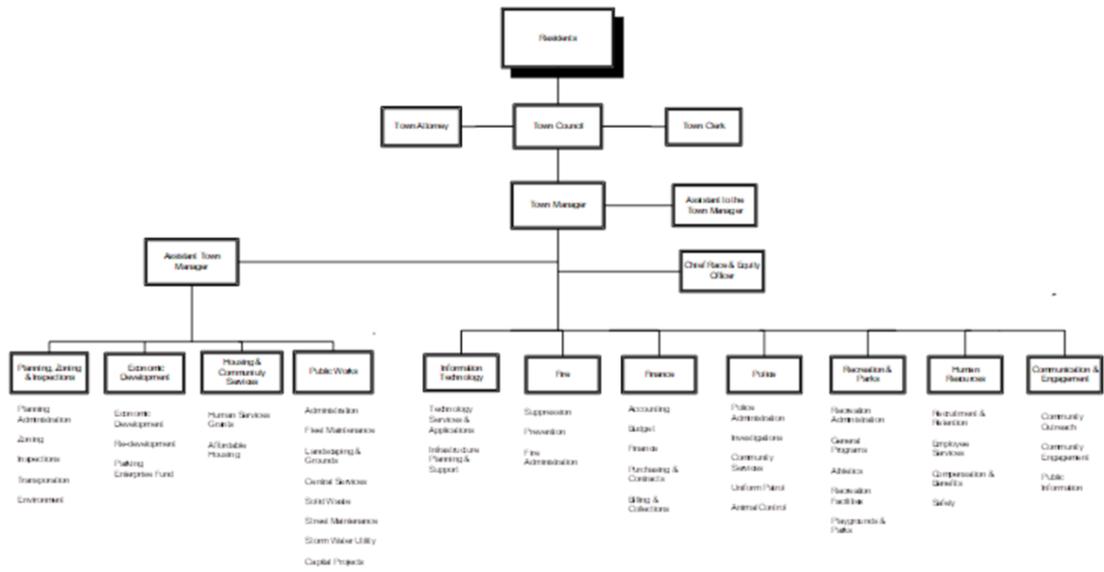
The Town of Carrboro has a council/manager form of municipal government. Under the council/manager form of government, the Town Council performs the legislative functions of the town: establishing laws and policies. The Town Council is an elected body by the residents of Carrboro which consists of a mayor and six council members. The mayor and the council members are elected by the voters of the entire town. The mayor is elected to serve a term of two years and the council members are elected to serve staggered terms of four years. The mayor acts as the official head of town government and presides at council meetings. The mayor is a voting member of the council. He or she also appoints council members to advisory boards and committees.

The Town Council also appoints a Town Manager who carries out the laws and policies enacted by the council. The Town Manager is responsible for managing the town's employees, finances, and resources. The Town has 175 permanent, full-time and part-time, employees with all departments reporting to the Town Manager (see chart below). The Town Council also appoints a Town Clerk to maintain official town records; and an attorney, who represents the town administration and Town Council in all legal matters.

Local governments in North Carolina exist to provide a wide range of basic services on which we all depend, including police and fire protection; public works (garbage collection, street resurfacing, fleet maintenance, landscaping and building and grounds); planning; inspections and zoning; economic and community development; and parks and recreation programming. The major services provided by the Town include all the services above but exclude water and sewer services and tax collections. Certain large costs assumed by the Town reflect key services that are contracted with other governmental jurisdictions such as transit services, recycling, and landfill fees. The town also has administrative support units (human resources, technology, finance, budget, purchasing, town clerk, communications etc.) that provide both direct services as well as indirect support services.

The General Fund is the primary operating budget for the Town. The Town has a Special Revenue Fund and Capital Projects Fund. These are multi-year funds and dedicated to specific programs/activities/projects. The Town's Stormwater Utility Enterprise Fund includes an operating and capital budget for stormwater related revenues and expenditures. The Parking Enterprise Fund includes operating expenses related to parking facilities.

The budget for the Town is largely supported by property and local sales taxes. The Town, facing growth in the Northern Transition Area, envisions the potential increase in the town's population to 24,000. The Town, in an effort to reduce the tax burden on residential property owners, is exploring ways to increase its commercial tax base as a percentage of its tax base.



TOWN COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The Town Council has not undertaken a formal strategic planning process. However, the Town Council has adopted and annually reviews strategic priorities for the Town with the ultimate goal of creating and maintaining Carrboro as a sustainable community that is a highly desirable place to live.

The current Town Council priorities (in bold) and departmental goals and work plans (in italics) are listed below:

A. Diversify revenue stream to maintain ethnic and economic diversity

1. *Maximize use and revenue at recreation facilities. (Recreation & Parks)*
2. *Diversify and expand the commercial the tax base, to create more high paying jobs in town, and to promote the town's image as a place for businesses. (Economic and Community Development)*
3. *Create public/private partnerships for various special programs to maximize revenue and the marketing potential of the programming while minimizing program costs. (Recreation & Parks)*
4. *Offer diversified programs reflective of resident needs and promotes sensitivity to cultural diversity. (Recreation & Parks)*

B. Protect historic neighborhoods and maintain Carrboro's unique identity

1. *Evaluate and schedule completion of Comprehensive LUO review/update and evaluate need for strategic or comprehensive planning/update. (Planning)*

C. Improve walkability and public transportation

1. *Improve Quality of public transportation service. (Transportation)*
2. *Improve level of public transportation service. (Transportation)*
3. *Work with Chapel Hill Transit to manage current level of public transportation service more effectively in Carrboro, to extend service into areas of Carrboro not served by fixed route service, and evaluate the shared-ride service in Carrboro (number of participants). (Transportation)*
4. *Improve access to public transportation. (Transportation)*

D. Encourage development that is compact, dense, and appeals to diverse lifestyles and incomes

1. *Increase the number of affordable energy efficient housing units in the Town. (Economic and Community Development)*

E. Enhance and sustain quality of life/place issues for everyone.

1. *Reduce the number of known drug houses and street-level drug sales locations. (Police)*
2. *Maintain index crime clearance rates at or above the national average for comparable towns. (Police)*
3. *Ensure the safety of all employees and residents on town property. (Police)*

4. *Provide fire suppression, light duty rescue, and emergency medical technician services on a 24-hour basis covering the Town of Carrboro and the South Orange Fire District. (Fire-Rescue)*
5. *Provide fire education for schools, day care centers, and special interest groups. (Fire-Rescue)*
6. *Achieve a well-balanced public infrastructure. (Planning)*
7. *Help residents develop a human environment that promotes trust, mutual respect, acceptance, happiness, and well-being. (Planning)*
8. *Develop innovative approaches to support the community, particularly with regard to housing, transportation, energy production and consumption, and ecological restoration and protection. (Planning)*
9. *Provide timely, cost-effective maintenance of public streets, bike paths, storm drainage system and right-of-way. (Public Works)*
10. *Provide cost effective, reliable solid waste collection and disposal. (Public Works)*
11. *Provide park facility and ball field maintenance. (Public Works)*
12. *Provide classes, workshops, trips, camps, and other general recreational activities to meet the varied leisure interests and needs of the community. (Recreation & Parks)*
13. *Operates 10 parks and 1 indoor community facility. (Recreation & Parks)*

Budgeting in Carrboro has become a year-round event. After adoption of the operating budget in June, work on the CIP begins in October. Much of the work presented in the annual operating budget draws from the CIP, reports and assessments, community needs identified by residents, advisory boards, staff, and the Town Council.

Departmental budgets are prepared and justified using two components - a continuation budget with proposed change and/or expansion budget. In recognition that some costs incurred by the Town reflect increases beyond normal inflation, the continuation budget includes those costs, as well as expenditures where the Town or Council has made a legal or budgetary commitment. The inclusion of these costs in the continuation budget will allow the Town to maintain the same high levels of service provided in the current year with similar operating funds. These costs include projects and infrastructure expenditures reflected in the annual Capital Improvements Plan which includes street resurfacing costs, vehicles, equipment, various specific capital projects and debt service payments for capital commitments. Other ongoing annual costs in the continuation budget includes any pay adjustments for employees, and dependent and retiree health insurance, and numerous operating costs needed to provide daily services.

All other requests are categorized in a manner such that the Town Council and residents can understand the various dynamics involved in making funding decisions. Dynamics include improved service levels, and capital outlay – recurring capital outlay that does not meet the capital thresholds for consideration in the CIP. Justifications for proposed changes are based on the Town Council’s adopted goals as well as individual departmental goals and objectives.

Budget Development Calendar

Operating Budget Development Schedule for FY 2023-24 Revised

Tasks	Target Date
Town Council Strategic Planning Retreat	January 21, 2023
Management Team Retreat (Strategic Planning)	January 25, 2023
Preliminary Revenue Estimate by Finance	February 28, 2023
FY24 Budget Instructions Distribution	March 1, 2023
<i>Good Friday Holiday</i>	<i>April 7, 2023</i>
Department Directors submit Budget Requests to Finance	April 10, 2023
Department Directors present budget to Town Manager & Finance Officer	April 18-24, 2023
Town Council Budget Work Session on FY24 Budget	May 9, 2023
Notice of Required Public Hearing	May 9, 2023
Manager Presents FY 2023-24 Recommended Budget to Town Council	June 6, 2023
<i>Memorial Day Holiday</i>	<i>May 29, 2023</i>
Public Hearing on Recommended Budget	June 13, 2023
<i>Juneteenth Holiday</i>	<i>June 19, 2023</i>
Town Council Adopts FY 2023-24 Budget	June 20, 2023