

# Chapter 15

## “A Work in Progress”



### Chapter Preview

**Terms:** millennium, NAFTA, biotechnology, agribusiness, organic farming, ecosystem, municipality, city council, sheriff, county commission, budget, bill, constituent, council of state, district court, superior court, court of appeals, supreme court

**People:** John Hope Franklin, Hmong

**Places:** Joyce Kilmer Forest, Cary

**Above:** Gleaming glass towers dominate the skyline of Winston-Salem in the twenty-first century.

**Opposite page, above:** Dr. John Hope Franklin of Durham is one of the nation’s most respected historians. **Right:** The House of Representatives chamber in the General Assembly building borrows the pyramidal roof form found in Indian council houses of the 1500s.

**J**ohn Hope Franklin has long been fascinated by “the North Carolina conundrum.” As scholars like Dr. Franklin know, a *conundrum* is something that seems to be both good and bad at the same time, where contradictions cannot be easily explained. In this case, the Old North State “was both a challenge and source of wonder” throughout his career as a historian. Dr. Franklin knew this firsthand, for he was one of the first African Americans to study the South during the age of segregation.

When, in 1937, he came to Raleigh to study “free people of color,” there was no “colored” research table in the State Archives. He had “to wait several days until they provided a separate place” for him to work. Although he was suffering discrimination, he found that at the same time the “North Carolinians I encountered were charming in their segregationist practices.” How could people be so nice while they were being so mean?

North Carolina’s contradictions hardly held back John Hope Franklin. As he has recalled, one could turn “the puzzlement” into “a challenge.” For more than fifty years, he taught at St. Augustine College, North Carolina



College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University), and, later, Duke University. He came to value the good things about “the soul of the state.” He was married to Aurelia Whittington of Goldsboro for more than fifty years. She helped convince him that North Carolina “is a wonderful place to call home.”

Retired at age ninety, living in Durham, tending orchids, John Hope Franklin is evidence that North Carolina can change. Black men once did not receive the Order of the Long Leaf Pine—the state’s highest honor for its citizens. Nor were they honored with the North Caroliniana Society Award—given to those who help North Carolinians understand themselves better. As Dr. Franklin suggested when accepting the award, North Carolina has become “not so much a conundrum” as “a work in progress.”

Indeed, there is much left to do in North Carolina in the twenty-first century, and many ways to go about it.





# SIGNS OF THE TIMES

## POPULATION

8.7 million people lived in the state in 2005. The state's rate of growth was almost 9 percent, far above the national average. A half million people moved into the state in the years just after 2000. In 2005, some 80,000 moved just to the Charlotte area.

## TECHNOLOGY

Epic Games, a maker of electronic entertainment products, moved from Canada to Raleigh to take advantage of the Research Triangle Park.

## EDUCATION

There were ninety-two charter schools spread across the state. Only 60 percent of ninth graders graduate from high school in four years. More than 70,000 students were being home schooled.

## SPORTS

Appalachian State University won two national football titles in two years, 2005-2006, the first college team to do so in state history. Independence High School in Charlotte set a national football win-streak record with more than one hundred consecutive victories.

## RELIGION

Since 2000, mosques (places for Islamic worship) have been in operation in cities like Raleigh, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, and Fayetteville.

## FADS

For the first time in a century, the rate of smoking in the state fell to the national average, 20 percent.

## SCIENCE

NC State University's Anne-Marie Stomp helped to develop insulin for diabetics from duckweed, an algae found on farm ponds across the state.

### Figure 32 Timeline: 2000–2005



**2001**  
Cape Hatteras lighthouse moved

**2003**  
Pillowtex plant closed;  
Merger of Wachovia and First Union

**2005**  
Plans for North Carolina  
Research Campus unveiled

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

**2003**  
Space shuttle *Columbia*  
exploded upon re-entry

**2001**  
Terrorists struck New York,  
Washington

**2004**  
Rovers landed on  
Mars

**2005**  
Condoleezza Rice was first African American  
woman to become secretary of state

# TARGET READING SKILL

## Reading Charts and Tables

### Defining the Skill

You can obtain information from charts and tables more quickly than by reading a written account that details the same information in your textbook. Data that may take many pages in a textbook to explain can be categorized and displayed on a chart or table in a page or less.

When you examine a chart, you should

- read the title to determine the subject.
- read the column headings and labels.
- read the columns from top to bottom.
- read the rows from left to right.
- draw conclusions from the data.
- try to identify trends.

### Practicing the Skill

Use the information on the chart to answer the questions that follow.

1. What is the title of the chart?
2. What are the names of the branches of government in North Carolina and the United States?
3. How many more members are there in the U.S. Senate?
4. How are terms of office in the North Carolina state senate and the U.S. Senate different?
5. At what age can a person run for governor?
6. How are the justices on the North Carolina supreme court and the U.S. Supreme Court different?

**Figure 33 Comparison of North Carolina and U.S. Government**

Branches of Government	North Carolina Government	U.S. Government
<b>Executive</b>	Headed by a governor	Headed by a president
	Elected to a 4-year term	Elected to a 4-year term
	Must be 30 years old to run	Must be 35 years old to run
	Must be U.S. citizen for 5 years	Must be natural-born U.S. citizen
	Must be state resident for 2 years	Must be resident within U.S. for 14 years to run
<b>Legislative</b>	General Assembly	Congress
	House of 120 members	House of 435 members
	Elected to 2-year term	Elected to 2-year term
	Must be qualified voter and resident of district where elected	Must be 25 years old, a U.S. citizen for 7 years, and a resident of state from which elected
	Senate of 50 members	Senate of 100 members
	Elected to 2-year term	Elected to 6-year term
<b>Judicial</b>	Must be 25 years old and resident of district where elected to run	Must be 30 years old, a U.S. citizen for 9 years, and resident of state from which elected to run
	Supreme court has one chief justice and six associate justices	Supreme Court has one chief justice and eight associate justices
	Justices elected	Justices appointed