

NORTH CAROLINA

ELIGIBLE POPULATIONS

North Carolina has a population of 9,458,888 (2010), including 1,752,677 people with incomes meeting the LSC's means test for civil legal assistance; 1,695,013 people who qualify for assistance for the elderly; 100,071 American Indians and Alaska Natives; and 735,481 veterans (2009).

3.1%	of the total U.S. population	2010
3.3%	of the total U.S. LSC eligible population	2009
3.1%	of the total U.S. elderly population	2009
4.1%	of the total U.S. American Indian and Alaska Native population	2009
3.3%	of the total U.S. veteran population	2009
2.0%	of the total U.S. homeless population	2009
3.3%	of the total U.S. population over the age of 5 with any type of disability	2009
1.7%	of the total U.S. foreign-born population	2009
3.1%	of the total U.S. population living with a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS	2008

FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

2.8%	of total LSC funds	\$10,460,887	2010
2.4%	of total state legislative appropriations, court fees, and fines that fund legal services	\$5,478,000	2009

COORDINATING CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

- North Carolina has an Equal Access to Justice Commission, which was mandated by the Supreme Court in 2005.
- North Carolina's IOLTA funds are administered by the North Carolina State Bar.

DELIVERING CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

How services are delivered	For the indigent	For other groups
Staffed legal aid offices	Y	Y (elderly, people with disabilities)
Organized civil pro bono programs	Y	Y (elderly)
Legal advice hotlines	N	Y (elderly)
Legal information hotlines	N	Y (elderly)
		For any group
Judicare		Y
High-volume law school clinical programs		N
Courthouse lawyer-of-the-day programs		Y

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	Superior courts	Other courts
Court-based self-help computer kiosks	Y	Y (county)
Court-based staffed <i>pro se</i> assistance centers	Y	Y (family)
		Y (type of form or court) or N
Court forms and legal documents available on the Web		Y (civil, criminal, estate, juvenile, small claims)
Information about the state courts available on the Web		Y (district, drug, family, small claims, superior)

ACCESSING CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Internet access and literacy

69.1%	of the state population in households with internet access	2009
14.0%	of the state population 16 or older lacking basic English prose literacy skills	2003

How people can connect with services	For the indigent	For other groups
State-wide legal aid intake hotlines	Y	Y (American Indians, elderly, veterans)
Court-based legal aid intake	N	N
		For any group (type of co-location)
Web-based legal aid intake		N
Legal aid co-location with other services		Y (medical-legal partnership)

REGULATING LEGAL SERVICES

- There are 20,226 resident and active lawyers in the state of North Carolina. This represents 1.7% of the total number of active lawyers in the U.S. (2010).
- North Carolina does not specifically regulate legal services provided by independent paralegals or legal document assistants; instead the state has adopted ABA Model Rule 5.3, which requires that lawyers have direct supervising authority over and responsibility for the conduct of nonlawyers employed by or associated with lawyers.
- North Carolina RPC 1.2(c) is similar to ABA Model Rule 1.2(c), and allows limited scope representation.
- North Carolina RPC 6.5 is similar to ABA Model Rule 6.5, and exempts non-profit or court-appointed limited scope attorneys from some rules governing conflicts of interest and duties to former clients under certain circumstances.