

BIRTHRATE LEVELS OFF IN NORTH CAROLINA AFTER MANY YEARS OF GRADUAL DECREASE

	1969 Births	1969 Rate
Statewide	93,882	18.7
White	66,528	17.6
Colored	27,354	22.3
Lenoir White	601	15.0
Lenoir Colored	423	17.8
Jones White	67	11.8
Jones Colored	71	13.3

Looking over the 1969 vital statistics for North Carolina one can find amazing differences in the birthrates across the state; with rates ranging from the high of 25.3 per thousand population in Cumberland County down to just 11 per thousand in Currituck County.

Statewide the 1969 birthrate came to 18.7 per thousand, which is exactly the same as 1968's, both of which are the lowest birthrates of record for the state.

The all-time recorded high was in 1921 when the overall state birthrate soared to 33.4 births per thousand of population.

By rate the breakdown is also interesting if not very illuminating. In '69 the white birthrate statewide was 17.6 births per thousand and the colored birthrate was 22.3 per thousand.

This is the lowest colored birthrate of record, but the white birthrate was marginally lower in both '67 (17.3) and '68 (17.4).

Racially there were some wide variations.

Mountain air proved far more fertile than sea breezes insofar as colored birthrates were concerned with the 90 colored citizens of Yancey County last year coming up with six babies for an amazing birthrate of .66.7 per thousand.

While the lowest colored birthrate of the state was logged in coastal Camden County where last year its 2673 colored citizens reported just 30 new babes, for a birthrate of 11.2 per thousand. Neighboring Currituck County

had the lowest combined birthrate of just 11.0 births per thousand and as it 6,971 population only could boast of 77 births during the past year.

Craven County ranked close behind Cumberland in total birthrate with 1189 births in '69 for a rate of 23.8 births per thousand and population, indicating that the military life is not so sterile as some have claimed.

Warren County had the lowest white birthrate of any county in the state at just 8.9 births per thousand, since its 6,051 white citizens only produced 54 new babies last year.

Cumberland also had one of the highest divorce rates in the state for '68 with 622 couples getting unhitched compared to 1344 getting hitched.

Lenoir County reported 520 marriages and 135 divorces. Jones County had 87 marriages and just 12 divorces.

Apparently the safest place for a marriage in the state was Yancey County which hitched 660 couples and only unhitched six.

One might expect the state's largest county, Mecklenburg, to suffer the most divorces but it was edged out by Guilford County, which was the only county in the state in which over a thousand agreed to officially disagree. Guilford logged 1054 unhitchings last year to just 979 in Mecklenburg. Guilford also had the biggest number of marriages: 2,866.

For some strange reason sparsely populated Allegheny County reported 1490 marriages and only 14 divorces.

In the marrying department there were 49,177 last year and among these there were 77 involving persons who were entering the sea of matrimony for the fourth or more time; 8395

trying it for the second round and 760 three-time losers (or, is it winners?).

The favorite marrying age was between 20 and 24 and 23,893 of the 49,177 marriages involved persons in that age grouping.

As might be expected June was the marryingest month with 6960 knots being tied in that month against just 2811 for the low marrying month of January.

Divorces happened more frequently in September than any other month, with 1234 of the 12,795 last year being consummated in September against the low divorce month of January in which just 833 were granted.

Most marriages involved North Carolinians, of course but Virginia led all others in providing brides and grooms in Tar Heelia with 5,038 grooms and 5,044 brides being married in North Carolina who claimed the Old Dominion as home.

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Carolina for \$1337, Duke for \$3182? Questions Quickly Answers Itself

There is a growing effort to divert public funds to underwrite private schools at every level, from kindergarten through the graduate schools, and one of the forces behind this is the continuing decline in enrollment of private schools while public schools continue to grow.

The problem dollar-wise is most keenly felt at the college and university levels where the cost spread automatically separates the haves and have-nots.

As the most recent survey of college costs shows a North Carolina student may attend Carolina for \$1337 per year while nearby Duke has a going-in price tag of \$3128, more than twice as much.

This, of course, does not indicate that the plant operating costs at Duke is over twice that at Chapel Hill, it only indicates that at Duke the student, or his parents, have to foot the vast majority of the cost of the student's education while at Carolina the difference is made up by an appropriation from the state to bridge the gap.

This year the tax payer is contributing \$1506 for each stu-

dent at Carolina, which pushes the total cost per student to \$2843, which is just \$349 less than the cost per student at Duke, which has no subsidy in the millions such as Carolina to make up the difference.

This year's state allocation to Carolina for operating expenses is \$22,907,820. The total Carolina operating budget for the year is \$33,954,082, indicating that the students pay \$11,046,262 of that total operating cost.

On the one side the argument runs that the state is going to have to build and build and build to accommodate all the students it ultimately will have in its colleges and universities if it does not do something to help the private schools tuition-wise and other-wise.

The other side of the coin is separation of public funds from private funds. If public funds can be used to underwrite even the most needed private college, why not any other vitally needed private business enterprise?

This is the kind of problem that gives legislators, judges and college administrators bleeding ulcers.

'Take The Pill, Bill' It Calms the Restless, Stimulates the Lazy, Helps Dandruff and Enrichens Pharmacists

A government investigator told congress Monday that as many as 30 per cent of the children in some elementary schools may be receiving drugs to quiet them down.

The testimony came from Dr. Leo Hollister, a medical investigator for the Veterans Administration.

His testimony was for a Senate subcommittee beginning four days of hearings on government drug-buying practices.

He said large numbers of children are being given stimulants, which are believed to be bene-

ficial in treating hyperactive children.

Dr. Hollister said the drug used is usually Methylphenidate.

He said the defense department has been buying large supplies of the drug.

He said these purchases undoubtedly reflect a major use in dependent children.

The Senate subcommittee is trying to determine whether the government is spending millions of dollars for expensive drugs when it could buy cheaper products which are at least as effective.

Jones County Youth Is Morehead Nominee

Murray W. Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Beasley Jones of Pink Hill, Rt. 1, and senior at Jones Senior High School has been notified by the Jones County Morehead ward Selection Committee that he is to represent the Jones County Schools at The District Morehead Meeting in January.

Jones is an outstanding student scholastically and leadershipwise. He attended the Summer Demonstration for Gifted Students at Western Carolina University during the summers of 1965 and 1968. He holds the record for having the highest mathematics score on the SAT in the history of his school.

At present he is serving as President of the Student Council, drives a school bus and is a member of the Senior Advisory Council. He has served as President of the Sophomore Class, a marshal, member of the Inter-School Leadership Committee, school band, Combo Group, annual staff and Bus Driver's Club. He is active in church and community affairs and The Jones County Chapter of the DeMolay.

Jones plans to continue studies after high school graduation in business or mathematics.

William Smith Back From Iceland Cruise

Petty Officer Second Class William H. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Smith Jr. of Maysville has returned to Patuxent River, Md., after three months at Keflavik, Iceland.

The squadron successfully completed the first operational deployment with the "Orion" aircraft and its related modern anti-submarine weapons system, utilizing that system in rigorous daily operations in the torturous weather conditions of the North Atlantic.

Jones is a 1967 graduate of Jones Central High School.

Heart Disease Biggest Killer Locally As Nationally 1969 Statistics Reveal

Last year 534 Lenoir Countians died, and Jones County lost 59 of its citizens during the year and in both counties as in the state and nation the principle cause of death was heart disease.

In Lenoir County 211 of those 534 deaths were attributed to heart disease and in Jones County 17 deaths came from that defect. In the state 16,169 out of a total of 44,864 deaths were blamed on heart disease.

Cerebro-vascular diseases claimed 73 Lenoir Countians and five Jones Countians, and in the state 5524 deaths were attributed to "stroke."

Cancer, leukemia and Hodgkin's disease together were blamed for 82 deaths in Lenoir County, 12 in Jones County and 6185 in the state as a whole.

Influenza and pneumonia kill-

ed 20 Lenoir Countians, four Jones Countians and 1790 in the entire state.

The next biggest killer in Lenoir County was accidents — other than auto accidents — in which 17 person died. In Jones County auto accidents claimed seven lives and non-traffic accidents claimed only two lives, while in Lenoir 13 died in traffic accidents.

Statewide 1971 died in traffic accidents and 1528 died in other kinds of accidents.

Homicide ranked next in Lenoir County with 10 persons being killed by another person during the year, with seven others committing suicide. In Jones County there was one death classed as homicide and one as suicide.

Statewide in '69 there were 640 homicides and 554 suicides.

For '69 Lenoir County reported two deaths from tuberculosis, Jones County none and across the state TB claimed 128 lives.

Diabetes killed five Lenoir Countians, no Jones Countians, and a total of 921 in the entire state.

Cold Winter Ahead?

Tuesday's frigid 20-degree temperature backed by a 15 mile an hour breeze fresh off the North Pole seemed to support a long-range forecast that the eastern half of the nation would again this year suffer a much colder winter than usual. The same forecast guesses that the central section of the nation will have about a normal winter and that the western side of the country will have a much warmer than usual winter.

Marine Beaten and Robbed

Camp Lejeune Marine James R. Dunn reported to Kinston authorities Friday night that he was beaten and robbed of \$275 in cash and money orders while on a bus coming from Jacksonville to Kinston. No arrest has been made in connection with this act of piracy on the "high roads" which has been taking place so frequently around Jacksonville that military police have been ordered to ride busses. Last week one of those was shot twice by a Negro marine who said after his arrest that he was just trying to scare the MP.

KORNEGAY IN CALIFORNIA

Air Force Technical Sergeant Milton T. Kornegay, son of Mrs. Eula M. Kornegay of Kinston, has arrived for duty at Travis AFB, Calif.