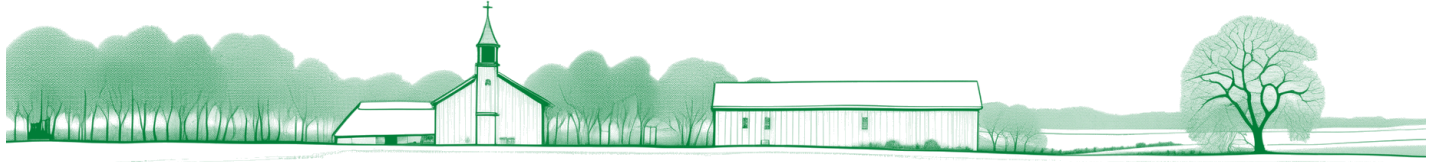




THINKING ABOUT TYRRELL COUNTY?

Tyrrell County: 10 Questions Buyers Ask

Straight answers to the questions people ask most about buying a home in Tyrrell County, NC.



The full Tyrrell County guide. Scan for the neighborhoods, prices, financing and history behind these answers on columbiancbuyersbrief.com.

Questions? Call or text Travis at (252) 202-4945.

1. Where can I find crime statistics for Columbia, NC?

Crime figures for Tyrrell County come from the state, and this handout does not rate them. The NC Justice Data Portal, run by the NC Department of Public Safety's Criminal Justice Analysis Center, publishes county-level crime dashboards built from incident reports that law enforcement agencies send to the NC State Bureau of Investigation, refreshed every quarter in January, April, July and October. For a question about a specific road or address, call the Tyrrell County Sheriff's Office at (252) 796-2251 during office hours.

Source: ncdps.gov; tyrrellcounty.org · as of October 25, 2026 · check: ncdps.gov

2. How far is Columbia NC from the Outer Banks and Raleigh?

Tyrrell County describes itself as about 150 miles east of the Triangle (Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill) and about 100 miles south of Tidewater Virginia. Its eastern edge is the Alligator River, with Dare County and the Outer Banks on the other side, and US 64 crosses that river on the Lindsay C. Warren Bridge, which NCDOT calls the main route to the Outer Banks from the west. The bridge's swing span occasionally fails and forces a 99-mile detour, and NCDOT has a fixed-span replacement under construction. Census figures put the average commute for working residents at 34.2 minutes (2020-2024).

Source: census.gov; ncdot.gov; tyrrellcounty.org · as of October 25, 2026 · check: ncdot.gov

3. What schools serve Tyrrell County?

Public schools in the county are run by Tyrrell County Schools, which lists three schools: Tyrrell Elementary School, Columbia Middle School and Columbia High School. For test results, academic growth and other data on each school, use the NC School Report Cards published by the NC Department of Public Instruction. This handout does not rate schools.

Source: dpi.nc.gov; tyrrell.k12.nc.us



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4. What is the property tax rate in Tyrrell County?

Tyrrell County's rate for fiscal year 2026-27 is \$0.87 per \$100 of assessed value, or \$870 a year for each \$100,000 of value. Inside the Town of Columbia, the county's only town, the town adds its own rate: \$0.54 per \$100 in the state's fiscal year 2025-26 table, for a combined \$1.41. The state lists no special tax districts in the county. The county last revalued property in 2025 and the next revaluation is scheduled for 2033.

Source: ncdor.gov; tyrrellcounty.org · as of October 25, 2026 · check: ncdor.gov

5. How many people live in Tyrrell County?

The Census Bureau estimates 3,537 people lived in Tyrrell County on July 1, 2025, up from 3,245 at the 2020 census. North Carolina's own certified 2025 estimate is 3,444, the smallest of the state's 100 counties. The county covers about 390.8 square miles of land, and the county government counts about 210 square miles of water on top of that. Columbia is the only incorporated town.

Source: census.gov; osbm.nc.gov; tyrrellcounty.org · as of October 25, 2026 · check: census.gov

6. Who provides water in Tyrrell County? Will I need a well and septic?

Tyrrell County Utilities runs the county water system, which draws groundwater from wells across the system and also buys water from the Town of Columbia; inside Columbia, the town bills its own water and sewer. A home without a public water line or sewer relies on a private well or a septic system, and the Environmental Health Division of Martin-Tyrrell-Washington District Health handles both on-site wastewater (septic) and private water supplies. Ask which applies to a home before you make an offer.

Source: dl.agd.cc; mtwdistricthealth.org; townofcolumbianc.com

7. What are home prices like in Tyrrell County?

The Census Bureau's survey puts the median value of owner-occupied homes in Tyrrell County at \$164,500 (2020-2024). The median gross rent was \$644 a month, and the median monthly cost for owners with a mortgage was \$1,369. These are medians across every home in the county over five years, not current asking prices, so check today's listings for what is actually for sale.

Source: census.gov · as of October 25, 2026 · check: census.gov

8. What is there to do in Tyrrell County?

Much of what draws visitors is public land and water. Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge covers about 110,106 acres of Washington, Hyde and Tyrrell counties; in Columbia, its Walter B. Jones, Sr. Center for the Sounds has exhibits beside the Scuppernong River Boardwalk, and the refuge runs Red Wolf Center programs. The county also points visitors to Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, Buckridge Coastal Reserve and Palmetto-Peartree Preserve.

Source: fws.gov; tyrrellcounty.org

9. Is there a hospital in Tyrrell County?

No. The NC Department of Health and Human Services list of licensed hospitals by county, current as of October 2026, has no hospital in Tyrrell County. The closest hospitals on that list are in neighboring counties: Washington Regional Medical Center in Plymouth, ECU Health Chowan Hospital in Edenton and The Outer Banks Hospital in Nags Head. Ask your doctor which one fits your care before you buy.

Source: info.ncdhhs.gov · as of October 1, 2026 · check: info.ncdhhs.gov



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10. Does Columbia NC flood?

It can: the National Weather Service gauge on the Scuppernong River at Columbia lists minor flooding from 2.5 feet, when Main Street begins to flood up to Elm Street. Its highest recorded crest is 5.06 feet on August 27, 2011, a level at which the Weather Service expects most streets in downtown Columbia to flood, and Hurricane Matthew pushed it to 3.8 feet on October 9, 2016. Check any address on FEMA's flood maps: a Special Flood Hazard Area is where FEMA's mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement applies.

Source: api.water.noaa.gov; fema.gov; msc.fema.gov · as of October 25, 2026 · check: water.noaa.gov

More on Tyrrell County at columbiancbuyersbrief.com. Questions while you work through this? Call or text Travis at **(252) 202-4945**, or the office at **(252) 632-8681**.

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