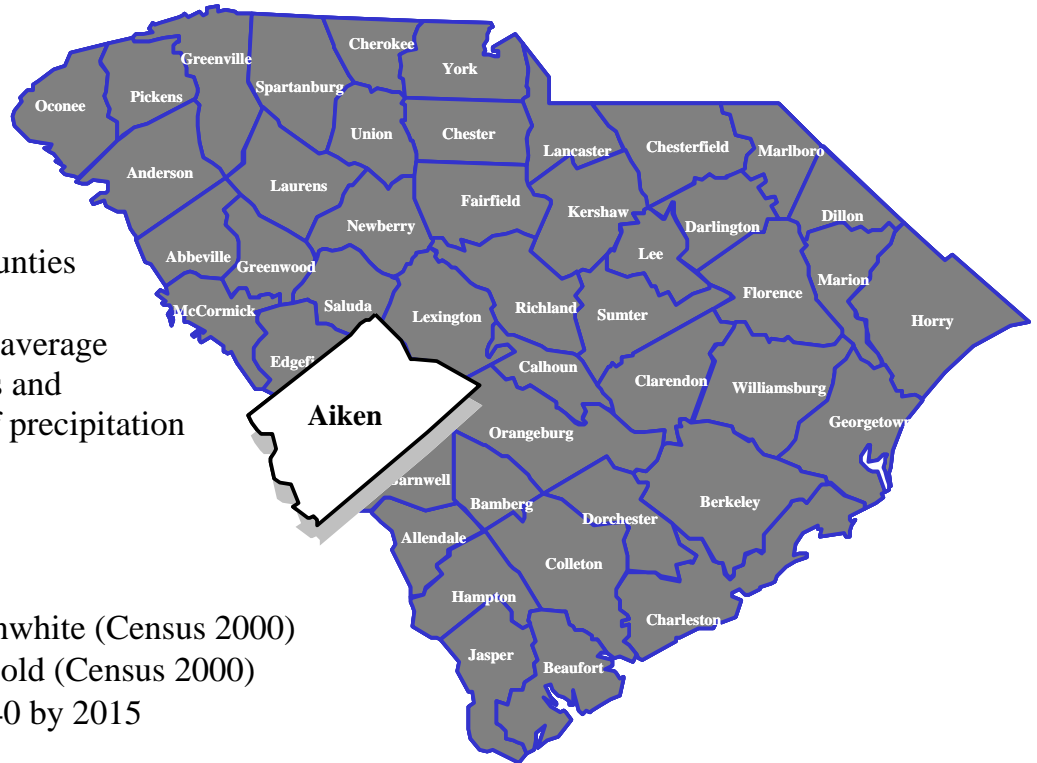


Spotlight on Aiken County...

Location & Climate

- Located in the western area of the state
- Surrounded by Barnwell, Edgefield, Lexington, Orangeburg, and Saluda counties and Georgia
- This climatic region has an average temperature of 63.9 degrees and experiences 49.19 inches of precipitation annually



Population

- 148,960 in 2004
- 71.4% white and 28.6% nonwhite (Census 2000)
- Median age was 36.4 years old (Census 2000)
- Estimated growth of 170,940 by 2015

Labor Force

- Increased from 65,540 in 2003 to 73,342 in 2004
- Unemployment rate rose from 5.3% in 2003 to 5.8% in 2004

Employment

- Average monthly employment for the county was 69,118 in 2004, compared to 61,652 in 2003

Per Capita Income

- Per capita income for the county was \$27,350 in 2003
- It was 105% of the state's PCI of \$26,144

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Aiken Workforce Center, serving Aiken County, paid \$9,777,261 in regular U.I. benefits during calendar year 2004.

Aiken Workforce Center

1571 Richland Ave., E., P.O. Box 2418
Aiken, SC 29802
(803) 641-7640/FAX: 641-7644

South Carolina Employment Security Commission - Labor Market Information
P.O. Box 995 Columbia, S.C. 29202
(803) 737-2660/Fax 737-2838
(800) 205-9290 (outside of the Columbia area)
(<http://www.sces.org/lmi>)

