

Spotlight on Barnwell . . .

Barnwell County and its county seat of Barnwell were named for Revolutionary War leader John Barnwell (1748-1800). The county was originally part of the Orangeburg District, and in 1785, it was named Winton County. It was given its current name in 1800. The South Carolina Railroad, which connected Charleston to Hamburg on the Savannah River, was built through this area, creating the towns of Blackville and Williston in the mid-nineteenth century. In more recent years, the county was the home of several powerful state politicians, known collectively as the "Barnwell Ring." Included were state Senator Edgar A. Brown (1888-1975), Speaker of the House Solomon Blatt (1895-1986), and Governor Joseph E. Harley (1880-1942).

Barnwell Workforce Center

248 Wall Street., P O Drawer 1259
Barnwell, SC 29812
(803) 259-7116 / FAX: (803) 259-0445

Location & Climate

- Located in the southwestern area of the state
- Surrounded by Aiken, Orangeburg, Bamberg, and Allendale counties, with Georgia to the west
- This region has an average temperature of 63.4 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 46.0 inches.

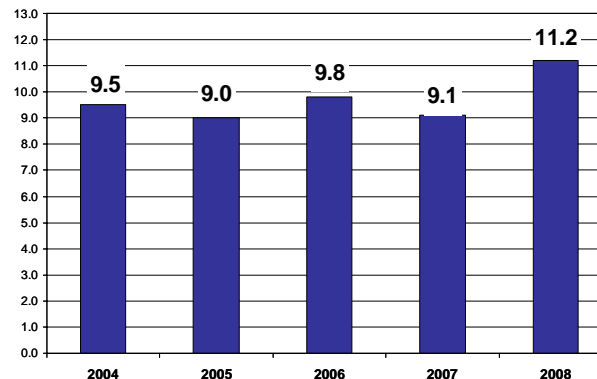
Population

- Was 22,960 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 24,530 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 54.7% White, 43.3% African-American, and 2.0% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population increased from 327 in 2000 to 407 in 2007, a 24.5% change.

Labor Force

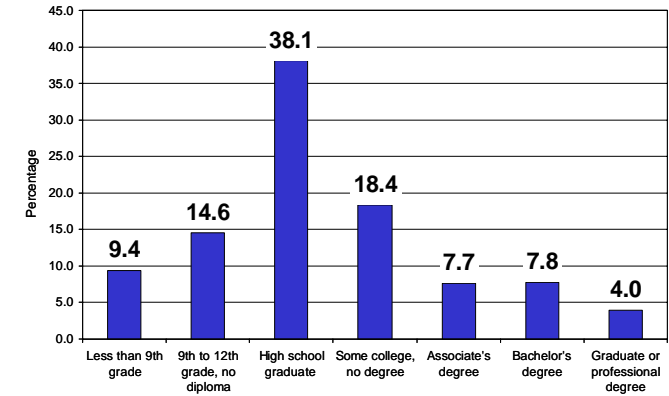
- Increased from 8,830 in 2007 to 8,920 in 2008
- Employment dropped from 8,030 in 2007 to 7,920 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate rose from 9.1% in 2007 to 11.2% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Barnwell County
2004 - 2008



Educational Attainment

Barnwell County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$22,480 for 2007.
- This was 72% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 58% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Barnwell Workforce Center, which serves Allendale and Barnwell counties paid \$6,735,650 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838
(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

<http://www.sces.org/lmi>