

## Spotlight on Chesterfield . . .

*Chesterfield County was named for the English statesman Lord Chesterfield (1694-1773). The county seat is the town of Chesterfield, but the oldest town in the county is Cheraw, which was settled around 1748. The county was formed in 1785, but until 1800, it was part of the larger Cheraw District. Welsh settlers from Pennsylvania and Delaware moved into this region in the mid-eighteenth century and they were later joined by the Scotch-Irish and English. Cheraw was a center for transportation along the Great Pee Dee River, but most of the county is now agricultural. General Sherman's troops passed through this area during the Civil War, briefly occupying the towns of Cheraw and Chesterfield. Cheraw State Park, founded in 1934, is the oldest of the state parks. Jazz musician Dizzy Gillespie (1917-1993) was a native of Chesterfield County.*

### Bennettsville Workforce Center

460 Highway 9, West, P O Drawer 798  
Bennettsville, SC 29512  
(843) 479-4081 / FAX: (843) 479-9811

### Location & Climate

- Located in the northern area of the state
- Surrounded by Marlboro, Darlington, Lee, Kershaw, and Lancaster counties, with North Carolina to the north
- This region has an average temperature of 61.8 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 47.5 inches.

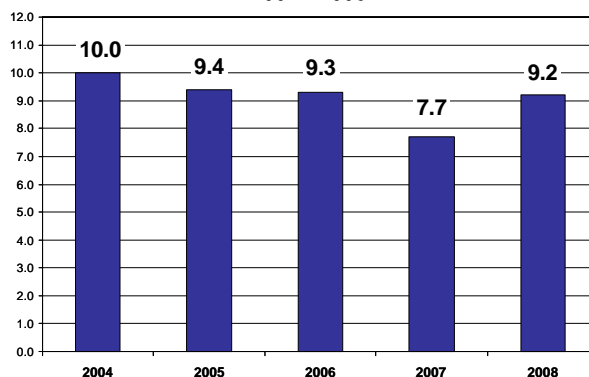
### Population

- Was 42,770 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 44,670 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 64.7% White, 33.6% African-American, and 1.6% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population increased from 971 in 2000 to 1,374 in 2007, a 41.5% change.

### Labor Force

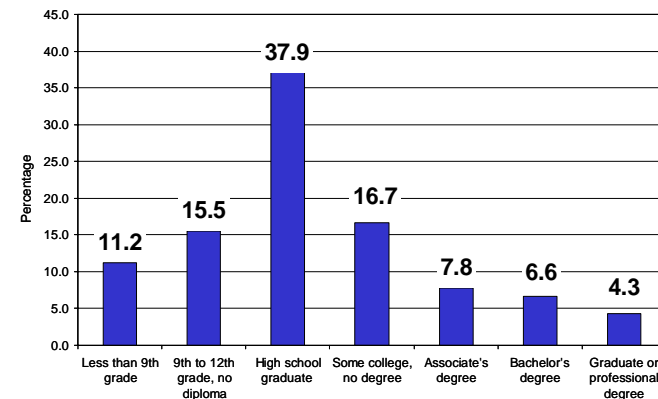
- Increased from 18,510 in 2007 to 18,610 in 2008
- Employment dropped from 17,090 in 2007 to 16,890 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate rose from 7.7% in 2007 to 9.2% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Chesterfield County  
2004 - 2008



### Educational Attainment

Chesterfield County 2007



### Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$24,530 for 2007.
- This was 79% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 64% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

### Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Bennettsville Workforce Center, serving Chesterfield and Marlboro counties, paid \$7,362,237 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>