

Spotlight on Kershaw . . .

Kershaw County was named for Joseph Kershaw (1727-1791), an early settler. The county seat is Camden, which is the oldest inland city in South Carolina. English traders and farmers, who moved inland from Charleston, settled this site around 1732. During the Revolutionary War, the British occupied Camden, from June 1780 to May 1781. Fourteen battles took place in this area, including the battle of Camden (August 16, 1780) and the battle of Hobkirk Hill (April 25, 1781). Kershaw County produced six Confederate generals: Joseph Brevard Kershaw (1822-1894), James Chesnut (1815-1885), James Cantey (1818-1873), Zack Cantey Deas (1819-1882), John Bordenave Villepigue (1830-1862), and John Doby Kennedy (1840-1896). Union troops under General Sherman burned parts of Camden in February 1865. Statesman and financier, Bernard M. Baruch (1870-1965) and labor leader Lane Kirkland were born in Kershaw County.

Camden Workforce Center

205 East DeKalb Street, P O Box 98
Camden, SC 29020
(803) 432-5153 / FAX: (803) 432-6540

Location & Climate

- Located in the north central area of the state
- Surrounded by Chesterfield, Darlington, Lee, Sumter, Richland, Fairfield, and Lancaster counties
- This region has an average temperature of 61.6 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 47.4 inches.

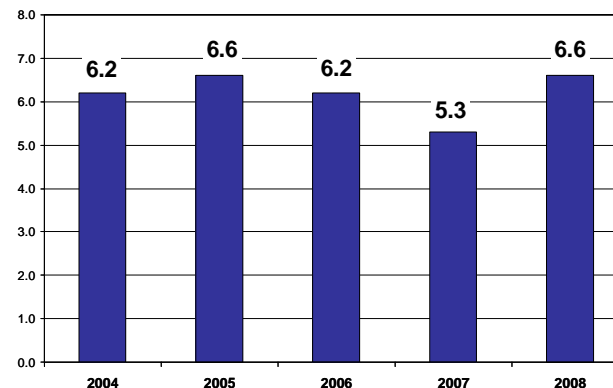
Population

- Was 58,140 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 64,040 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 72.3% White, 26.1% African-American, and 1.6% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 886 in 2000 to 1,409 in 2007, a 59.0% change.

Labor Force

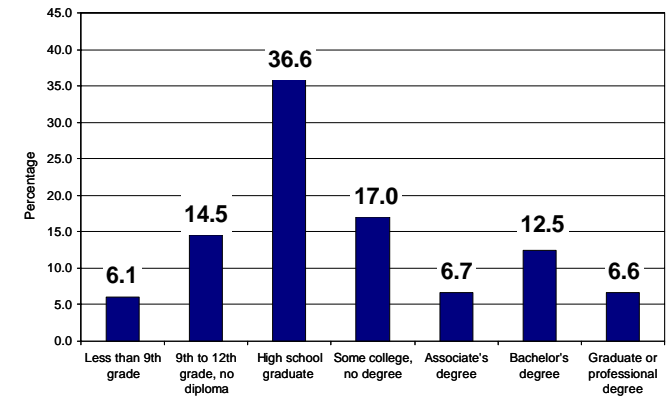
- Increased from 29,630 in 2007 to 30,100 in 2008
- Employment rose from 28,050 in 2007 to 28,100 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate climbed from 5.3% in 2007 to 6.6% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Kershaw County
2004 - 2008



Educational Attainment

Kershaw County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$31,830 for 2007.
- This was 102% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 82% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Camden Workforce Center, which serves Kershaw and Lee counties, paid \$8,791,505 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>