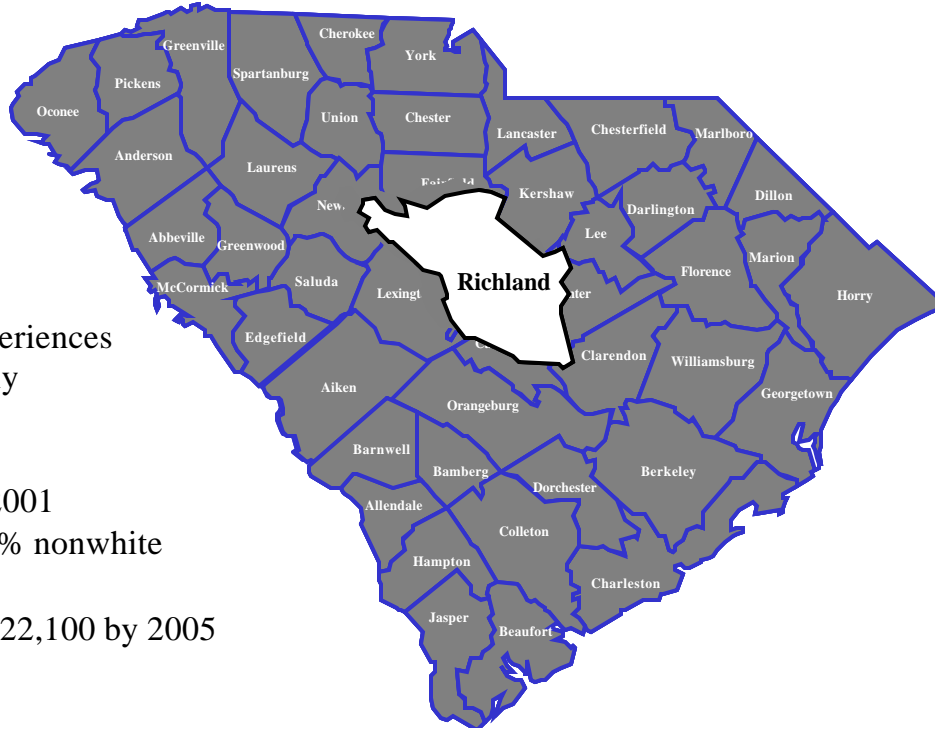


Spotlight on Richland County...

Location & Climate

- Located in the Central area of the state
- Surrounded by Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Newberry, and Sumter Counties
- This climatic region has an average temperature of 64.8 degrees and experiences 45.29 inches of precipitation annually



Population

- Equaled approximately 323,303 in 2001
- Comprised of 50.3% white and 49.7% nonwhite
- Median age was 32.6 years old
- Has exceeded estimated growth of 322,100 by 2005

Labor Force

- Increased from 155,340 in 2001 to 162,090 in 2002
- Unemployment rate rose from 3.5% in 2001 to 3.9% in 2002

Employment

- Average monthly employment for the County was 155,810 in 2002

Per Capita Income

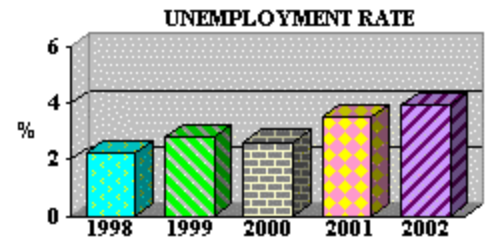
- Per capita income for the County was \$29,211 in 2001
- It was 118% of the state's PCI of \$24,840

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Columbia Workforce Center, serving Richland County, paid \$27,881,526 in regular U.I. benefits during calendar year 2002.

Columbia Workforce Center

700 Taylor Street, P.O. Box 567
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 737-5627 /FAX: 737-2756



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>)