

Spotlight on Lancaster . . .

Lancaster County and its county seat were named for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The county was formed in 1785, and was originally part of the Camden District. Scotch-Irish settlers from Pennsylvania began moving into the upstate region in the 1750s. The Waxhaws settlement on the border with North Carolina was the birthplace of President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845). During the Revolutionary War, British Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton earned his nickname of "Bloody" Tarleton by massacring American troops in this area in May of 1780. Although Lancaster County has been primarily agricultural, gold mining began there in the 1820s and textile manufacturing sprang up following the Civil War. Governor and U.S. Senator Stephen Decatur Miller (1787-1838), surgeon J. Marion Sims (1813-1883), industrialist Elliott White Springs (1896-1959), and astronaut Charles M. Duke, Jr. were all Lancaster County residents.

Lancaster Workforce Center

705 N. White Street, P O Box 1779
Lancaster, SC 29720
(803) 285-6966 / FAX: (803) 285-1241

Location & Climate

- Located in the northern area of the state
- Surrounded by Chesterfield, Kershaw, Fairfield, Chester, and York counties, with North Carolina to the north
- This region has an average temperature of 61.7 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 45.4 inches.

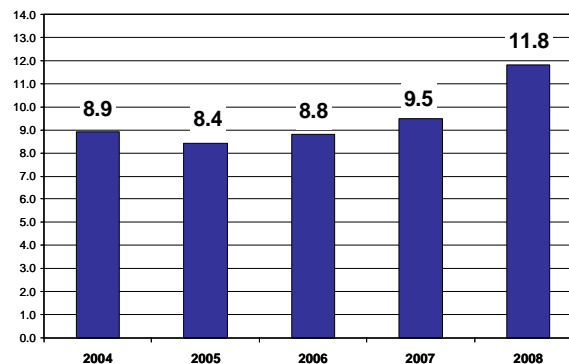
Population

- Was 73,540 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 77,150 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 72.2% White, 26.5% African-American, and 1.3% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 978 in 2000 to 2,479 in 2007, a 153.5% change.

Labor Force

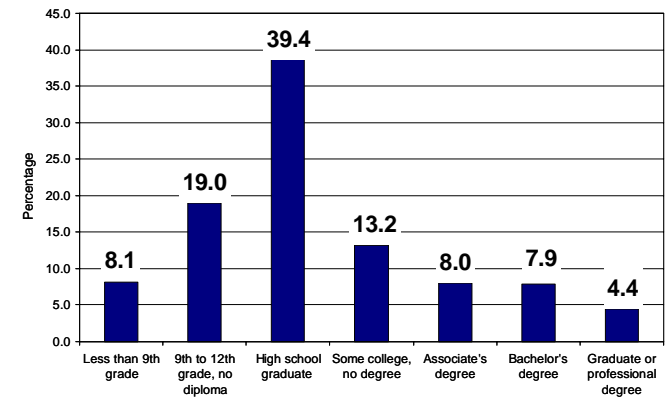
- Decreased from 29,830 in 2007 to 29,490 in 2008
- Employment fell from 27,010 in 2007 to 26,020 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate rose from 9.5% in 2007 to 11.8% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Lancaster County
2004 - 2008



Educational Attainment

Lancaster County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$22,080 for 2007.
- This was 71% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 57% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Lancaster Workforce Center paid \$11,152,342 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission
Labor Market Information

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

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