

Laurens County, SC

Fact Sheet

The county and its county seat were named for Revolutionary War leader Henry Laurens (1724-1792). From humble beginnings as a textile manufacturer to the diverse industry mix of today, Laurens County has always enjoyed a climate conducive to business and economic growth. Laurens County is located in the northwest quadrant of South Carolina between the Columbia MSA and the Greenville/Spartanburg MSA - two of the Southeast's most rapidly growing metropolitan areas. Laurens lies about 170 miles inland from the port city of Charleston and about 50 miles southeast of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Laurens County offers historic charm, the pastoral landscape of the Upstate, quality education and health care, abundant outdoor recreation, and cultural diversity. Additionally, Laurens County offers plenty of activities close to home to relieve stress and cultivate relaxation.

POPULATION

Total Population, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Laurens	69,567	66,537	71,675
Upstate Region*	1,220,542	1,362,073	1,464,635
South Carolina	4,012,012	4,625,364	5,016,816

*10 County Upstate South Carolina Region

Population by Race, 2000, 2010 and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
White	71.6%	70.4%	69.3%
Black	26.2%	25.4%	26.2%
Am. Indian / Alaska Native	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
Asian	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Some Other Race	1.0%	2.3%	2.2%
Two or More Races	0.8%	1.3%	1.5%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	1.9%	4.1%	4.7%

Population by Age, 2000, 2010 and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Under Age 5	6.6%	6.6%	6.3%
Age 5 to 9	7.1%	6.5%	6.4%
Age 10 to 14	7.4%	6.5%	6.5%
Age 15 to 19	7.3%	6.9%	6.6%
Age 20 to 34	19.8%	17.8%	17.7%
Age 35 to 44	14.9%	13.7%	12.4%
Age 45 to 54	13.8%	14.6%	14.0%
Age 55 to 64	10.0%	13.0%	13.6%
Age 65+	13.1%	14.5%	16.3%

Highest Educational Attainment, Age 25+, 2010

Less than 9th Grade	9.0%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	14.3%
High School Graduate Only	40.0%
Some College, No Degree	15.3%
Associate Degree Only	8.9%
Bachelor's Degree Only	8.8%
Graduate/Professional Degree	4.8%

HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSING

Households Families, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
# of Households	26,290	25,525	27,185
# of Families	18,870	17,707	18,914

Households Families, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Ave HH Size:	2.55	2.54	2.54
Owner-Occupied:	20,372	20,831	21,029
Renter-Occupied:	5,918	6,126	6,156
Median Age:	36.2	39.9	40.4

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 and 2010 Census of Population and Housing. ESRI forecasts for 2015 (unless otherwise stated)

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INCOME

Median Household Income, 2000, 2010, 2015 Est.				Per Capita Income, 2000, 2010, 2015 Estimates			
	2000	2010	2015		2000	2010	2015
Laurens	\$33,980	\$41,783	\$41,606	Laurens	15,761	19,173	20,526
South Carolina	\$37,137	\$47,704	\$53,665	South Carolina	18,795	23,283	25,493

TOP 5 MANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS

Company	No. of Employees	Major Product
Sterilite Corporation	800	Plastic Products
Dispoz-O-Products, Inc	670	Disposable Plastic Items
Faurecia	650	Automotive Interiors
Country Fresh	400	Food preparation
BF Shaw Inc	362	Pipe Fabrication

Source: SC Appalachian Council of Governments and County Economic Development Office

LABOR FORCE

County Average Monthly Employment by Industry Group, 2010 (Annual Average)

Natural Resources and Mining	110
Construction	413
Manufacturing	4527
Wholesale Trade	221
Retail Trade	1538
Transportation and Warehousing	1126
Information	297
Financial Activities	314
Professional and Business Services	809
Education and Health Services	1774
Leisure and Hospitality	1247
Other Services	432
Total Government	3916

RETAIL SALES

Gross Retail Sales (Millions) by Fiscal Year

FY 2002-03	\$650,069
FY 2003-04	\$583,291
FY 2004-05	\$736,214
FY 2005-06	\$757,832
FY 2006-07	\$809,001
FY 2007-08	\$865,367
FY 2008-09	\$815,229
FY 2009-10	\$839,650
FY 2010-11	\$857,833

Source: SC Department of Revenue and Taxation

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 and 2010 Census of Population and Housing. ESRI forecasts for 2015 (unless otherwise stated)

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TRANSPORTATION

Interstate Access	I-85, I-26	Nearest Civil Airport	Laurens County Airport
Nearest Commercial Airline	Greenville-Spartanburg International	Port Access	Port of Charleston, 172 miles from City of Laurens
Airlines	Northwest, Continental, United Express, Delta, US Airways, American Eagle	Rail Providers	CSX, NSR

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Laurens County Chamber of Commerce Marvin Moss, Executive Director	(864) 833-2716 www.laurenscounty/ed.org
Upstate Alliance Hal Johnson, President/CEO	(864) 283-2300 www.upstatealliance.com

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

www.laurenscounty.org
www.upstateforever.org
www.sciway.net
www.southcarolinaparks.com

PRODUCED BY

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