

Union County, SC

Fact Sheet

The seat of the county was organized in 1785 and both were named after the Union Church. Union County has a long history as a pioneer in the textile industry, and textiles still flourish there. Union County has drawn attention for its surge in economic growth in manufacturing, which began in 1994. Located just minutes away from I-77, I-85, and I-26, Union is at the center of a river of commerce running through the Upstate region. Businesses enjoy ready access to the nearby markets of large metropolitan areas and the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport. Union County residents enjoy small town friendliness close to the attractions of Charlotte, NC, Greenville, the state capital in Columbia, and Spartanburg. The University of South Carolina has a satellite campus located in Union, and Spartanburg Technical College and Greenville Technical College are convenient to residents. Other schools within easy daily commuting distance include Wofford College, Converse College, and Spartanburg Methodist College.

POPULATION

Total Population, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Union	29,881	28,961	27,465
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	67.8%	66.6%	66.1%
Black	31.0%	31.3%	31.9%
Am. Indian / Alaska Native	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%
Asian	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Some Other Race	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Two or More Races	0.6%	1.2%	1.1%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	0.7%	1.0%	1.5%

Population by Age, 2000, 2010 and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Under Age 5	6.3%	6.2%	5.9%
Age 5 to 9	6.7%	6.3%	6.1%
Age 10 to 14	6.7%	6.6%	6.6%
Age 15 to 19	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%
Age 20 to 34	18.5%	16.1%	15.6%
Age 35 to 44	15.1%	13.2%	12.4%
Age 45 to 54	14.1%	15.0%	13.9%
Age 55 to 64	10.3%	13.6%	14.6%
Age 65+	15.6%	16.4%	18.4%

Highest Educational Attainment, Age 25+, 2010

Less than 9th Grade	9.6%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	14.3%
High School Graduate Only	41.8%
Some College, No Degree	15.1%
Associate Degree Only	7.8%
Bachelor's Degree Only	7.4%
Graduate/Professional Degree	4.0%

HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSING

Households Families, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
# of Households	12,087	11,974	11,455
# of Families	8,495	8,095	7,791

Households Families, 2000, 2010, and 2015 Estimate

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>
Ave HH Size:	2.44	2.38	2.36
Owner-Occupied:	9,267	8,958	8,777
Renter-Occupied:	2,820	2,745	2,678
Median Age:	38.5	41.1	42.6

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
Union	\$31,652	\$39,875	\$45,808	Union	15,877	19,922	21,538
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
Milliken (5 Plants)	790	Fabrics
Timken USA	500	Anti-friction roller bearings
Carlisle Finishing	200	Finishing cotton fabric
GE Stamp	135	Metal stampings
Haemonetics	117	Medical Device and Flexible Packaging

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	101
Construction	126
Manufacturing	923
Wholesale Trade	97
Retail Trade	893
Transportation and Warehousing	34
Utilities	57
Information	42
Financial Activities	260
Professional and Business Services	346
Education and Health Services	360
Leisure and Hospitality	526
Other Services	165
Total Government	1969

RETAIL SALES

Gross Retail Sales (Millions) by Fiscal Year

FY 2002-03	\$259,604
FY 2003-04	\$208,403
FY 2004-05	\$274,105
FY 2005-06	\$297,678
FY 2006-07	\$280,010
FY 2007-08	\$284,048
FY 2008-09	\$281,042
FY 2009-10	\$275,750
FY 2010-11	\$301,022

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-26	Nearest Civil Airport	Union County/Shelton Field
Nearest Commercial Airline	Greenville-Spartanburg International	Port Access	Port of Charleston, 179 miles from City of Union
Airlines	Northwest, Continental, United Express, Delta, US Airways, American Eagle	Rail Providers	CSX, NSR, L&C

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Development Board of Union County Andrena Powell-Baker, Director	(864) 319-1097 www.unioncountydevelopment.com
Union County Chamber of Commerce Torrance Inman, Executive Director	(864) 427-9039 www.unionsc.com
Upstate Alliance Hal Johnson, President/CEO	(864) 283-2300 www.upstatealliance.com

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

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

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