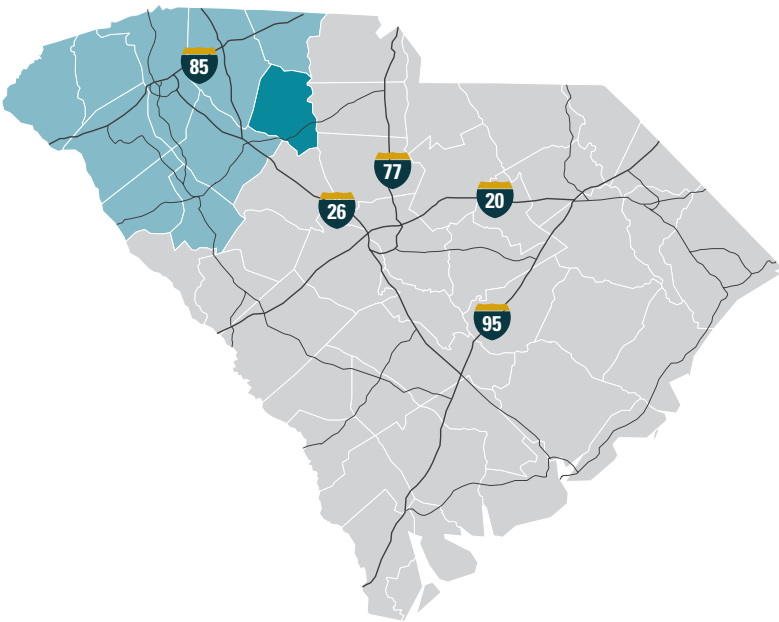# Union
COUNTY

Organized in 1785, Union County has a long history as a pioneer in the textile industry. Although textile manufacturing still flourishes there today, the county has experienced a surge in other sectors, including automotive manufacturing, distribution, and bioscience. Located just minutes away from I-77, I-85, and I-26, Union County 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. Residents enjoy small town friendliness close to the attractions of the cities of Charlotte, Greenville, Spartanburg, and Columbia. The Union County workforce is bolstered by numerous institutions of higher education located either in Union or a neighboring county. The University of South Carolina (USC) and Spartanburg Community College both have satellite campuses located in Union, and Converse College, Spartanburg Methodist College, USC Upstate, and Wofford College are within an easy commute.

TOTAL POPULATION

	2018	2020	2023	Population Growth 2018-2023
Union County	27,327	27,244	26.629	-2.6%
Upstate SC	1,480,312	1,511,905	1,590,636	7.5%
South Carolina	5,091,702	5,118,425	5,373,555	5.5%

Source: US Census Bureau (2020 Decennial Census and 2018 & 2023 Population Estimates Program data)

DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION *by Age*

	2018	2020	2023
Under 5	5.8%	5.1%	4.9%
5 to 9	5.7%	5.8%	5.9%
10 to 14	5.9%	6.6%	6.0%
15 to 24	11.4%	11.0%	11.1%
25 to 34	11.2%	10.7%	12.1%
35 to 44	11.0%	10.6%	10.8%
45 to 54	13.8%	13.4%	12.5%
55 to 64	15.0%	15.5%	14.5%
65+	20.1%	21.2%	22.2%
MEDIAN AGE	**44.1**	**45.1**	**44.3**

35.4% of the 2023 population is prime working age

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

	2018	2020	2023
Union County	$39,928	$37,403	$45,412
South Carolina	$50,748	$53,366	$60,025
United States	$58,100	$62,203	$72,603

POPULATION *by Race & Ethnicity*

	2018	2020	2023
White	65.3%	63.8%	66.1%
Black	32.1%	31.1%	30.4%
American Indian / Alaska Native	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
Asian	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Some Other Race	n/a	0.7%	n/a
Two or More Races	1.9%	3.8%	2.5%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	1.7%	1.6%	2.2%

HOUSEHOLDS & FAMILIES

	2018	2020	2023
Total Households	11,574	11,622	11,513
Total Families	7,702	7,330	7,500
Average Household Size	2.39	2.31	2.29
Owner Occupied	57.1%	60.0%	60.6%
Renter Occupied	25.1%	26.4%	25.3%
Vacant	17.9%	13.6%	14.1%

EDUCATION

2023 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AGE 25+

- 4.4% Graduate / Professional Degree
- 10.9% Bachelor's Degree
- 11.8% Associate Degree
- 18.5% Some College, No Degree
- 32.3% High School Diploma
- 7.4% GED / Alternative Credential
- 10.7% 9th-12th Grade, No Diploma
- 4.1% Less than 9th Grade

85.3% high school diploma or higher

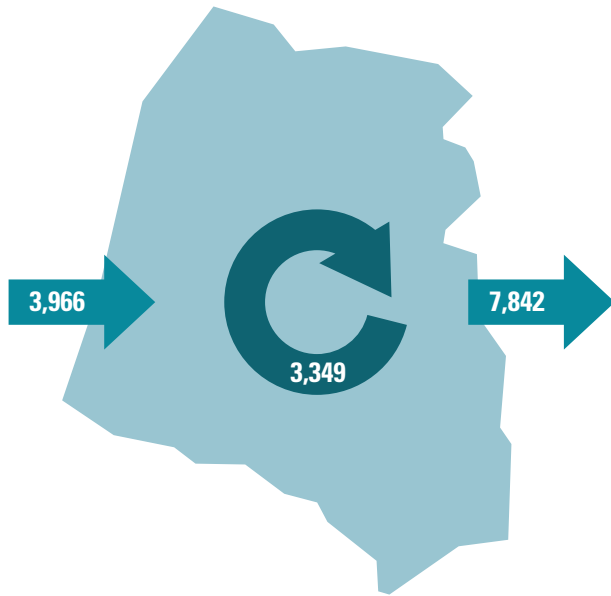**15.3%** bachelor's degree or higher

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

	2022-23
K-12 Schools	3,788
2-Year Schools	46
4-Year and Graduate Schools	1,098

DEGREE COMPLETIONS

	2022-23
Associates Degrees	118
Bachelor's Degrees	0
Graduate/Professional Degrees	0

COMMUTING PATTERNS

WORKER INFLOW & OUTFLOW

3,966 →

3,349

7,842 →

Live and work in Union County	3,349
Commute into Union County	3,966
Commute out of Union County	7,842

TRAVEL DISTANCE TO WORK

Less than 10 miles	39.1%
10-24 miles	21.8%
25-50 miles	20.6%
50 miles or more	18.4%

60.9%
of workers travel less than 25 miles

WHERE DO WORKERS LIVE?
Union County

Union County	45.8%
Spartanburg County	14.7%
Greenville County	4.2%
Cherokee County	3.9%
Laurens County	3.0%
Richland County	2.7%
York County	2.4%
Newberry County	2.3%
Lexington County	2.0%
Anderson County	1.7%

In 2023, the Union County labor force totaled 11,455 workers and unemployment was at 4.1%.

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

2023 EMPLOYMENT
by Industry

Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	25.7%	1,874
Manufacturing	25.7%	1,872
Government	24.6%	1,789
Leisure & Hospitality	7.9%	577
Education & Health Services	4.2%	309
Professional & Business Services	3.9%	285
Financial Activities	2.6%	189
Construction	2.0%	147
Other Services (except Government)	2.0%	146
Information	0.7%	54
Natural Resources & Mining	0.6%	42
		7,285

2023 BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS
by Industry

141 Trade, Transportation and Utilities	**48** Financial Activities	**44** Professional and Business Services
42 Education and Health Services	**41** Other Services (except Government)	**40** Leisure and Hospitality
29 Construction	**27** Manufacturing	**5** Information

GROSS RETAIL SALES
by Fiscal Year

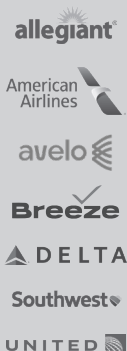|	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Union County	$425,963,984	$410,999,557	$596,229,958	$692,839,895	$701,937,551

TOP 10 MAJOR EMPLOYERS

COMPANY	PRIMARY PRODUCT(S) / INDUSTRY	EMPLOYEES
Gestamp	Stamped automotive products	501 to 1,000
Dollar General Distribution	Distribution	501 to 1,000
Union County Schools	Public education (K-12)	501 to 1,000
Union Medical Center	Healthcare	251 to 500
MycoWorks	Mushroom leather	251 to 500
The Timken Company (SC) - Tyger River	Anti-friction roller bearings	251 to 500
Union County	Local government	251 to 500
Milliken & Company - Cedar Hill Plant - Jonesville	Woven fabrics	251 to 500
State of South Carolina - Union County	State government	101 to 250
CSL Plasma (Formerly Haemonetics Corp.)	Medical devices	101 to 250

AIRPORT

GREENVILLE-SPARTANBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- **50** non-stop daily departures
- **24** major cities & **27** airports
- **2.6 million** passengers flown in 2023
- **78,715 tons** of air cargo moved in 2023

allegiant
American Airlines
avelo
Breeze
DELTA
Southwest
UNITED

UNION COUNTY/SHELTON FIELD

PORT

INLAND PORT GREER

- **45 miles** from the City of Union
- **175,873** rail lifts in 2023

PORT OF CHARLESTON

- **181 miles** from the City of Union
- **2.5 million** TEUs handled in 2023

HIGHWAY

INTERSTATES

5 miles to

26

HIGHWAYS

176 72 215

RAIL

MAJOR PROVIDERS

CSX
NS NORFOLK SOUTHERN

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

UCDB — Union County Development Board

UNION COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE — Where business comes together.

Catawba Regional Council of Governments

UNION COUNTY — Gear Up!

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SC PARKS

SCIWAY

UpstateSCAlliance

Upstate SC Alliance
John Lummus, President / CEO
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