# Where It All Comes Together

Union County

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 Community 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.
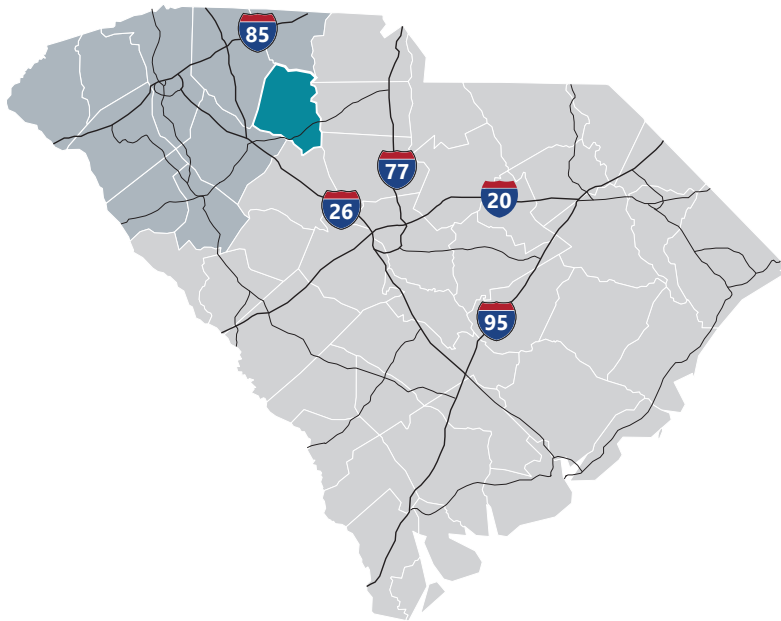
Total Population

	2010	2019	2024	Growth Rate[1]
Union County	28,961	28,128	27,618	-0.4%
Upstate SC	1,362,073	1,507,423	1,588,080	1.08%
South Carolina	4,625,364	5,195,563	5,526,057	1.25%

[1]Projected Annual Growth Rate 2019-2024

Population by Age

	2010	2019	2024
Under 5	5.8%	5.2%	5.0%
5 to 9	6.0%	5.7%	5.4%
10 to 14	6.7%	5.9%	6.0%
15 to 24	12.2%	10.7%	10.4%
25 to 34	10.6%	12.1%	10.9%
35 to 44	12.9%	11.4%	11.5%
45 to 54	15.5%	13.4%	12.5%
55 to 64	14.0%	15.1%	14.7%
65+	16.5%	20.7%	23.5%
Median Age	41.9	44.2	45.7

36.9% of the 2019 population is of prime working age

Households & Families

	2010	2019	2024
Total Households	11,974	11,582	11,352
Total Families	8,095	7,714	7,521
Average HH Size	2.4	2.4	2.4
Renter Occupied*	28.2%	32.7%	32.5%
Owner Occupied*	71.8%	67.3%	67.5%

*Housing tenure data is a percentage of total occupied housing units

Median Household Income

	2019	2024
Union County	$36,147	$39,744
South Carolina	$51,389	$57,210
United States	$60,548	$69,180

Population by Race & Ethnicity

	2010	2019	2024
White	66.6%	66.1%	65.6%
Black	31.3%	30.8%	30.5%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Asian	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some Other Race	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%
Two or More Races	1.2%	1.9%	2.5%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	1.0%	1.6%	2.1%

Per Capita Income

	2019	2024
Union County	$19,921	$22,689
South Carolina	$28,244	$32,417
United States	$33,028	$37,585

2019 Highest Education Attainment, Age 25+

Graduate/ Professional Degree 5.1%

Bachelor's Degree 8.4%
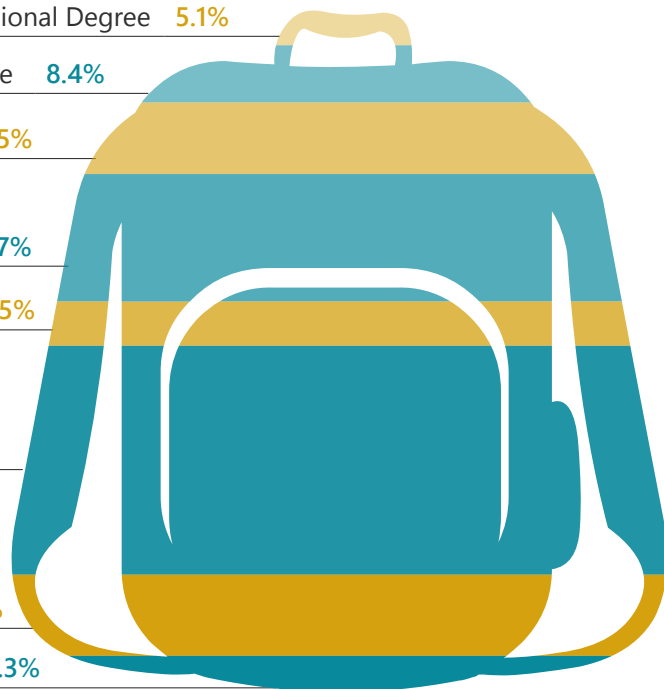
Associate's Degree 10.5%

Some College, No Degree 18.7%

GED/ Alternative Credential 6.5%

High School Graduate 33.6%

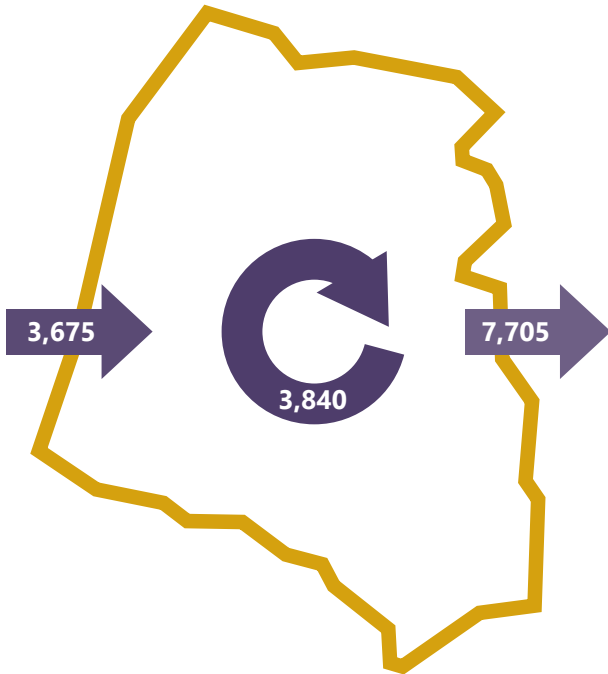9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma 11.9%

Less than 9th Grade 5.3%

High School Diploma or Higher
82.8%

Bachelor's Degree or Higher
13.5%

2017 Commuting Patterns

Travel Distance to Work

Less than 10 miles	27.6%
10-24 miles	22.7%
25-50 miles	28.7%
50 miles or more	21.0%

50.3% of workers travel less than 25 miles

Worker Inflow/Outflow

3,675 → 3,840 → 7,705

Live and Work in Union County	3,840
Commute into Union County	3,675
Commute Out of Union County	7,705

Where Do Union County Workers Live?

Union County	51.1%
Spartanburg County	13.9%
Cherokee County	4.3%
Greenville County	3.6%
Chester County	2.6%
Laurens County	2.5%
Richland County	2.5%
York County	1.8%
Newberry County	1.6%
Anderson County	1.2%

2019 Employment by Industry

Agriculture/Mining	0.6%	73
Construction	6.3%	744
Manufacturing	23.5%	2,796
Wholesale Trade	2.1%	248
Retail Trade	14.4%	1,708
Transportation/Utilities	4.9%	580
Information	1.6%	192
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1.9%	229
Services	40.0%	4,756
Public Administration	4.8%	569
Total	100%	11,895

2019 Civilian Population in Labor Force (16+)

Employed	95.7%
Unemployed	4.3%

Gross Retail Sales By Fiscal Year

	'14-'15	'15-'16	'16-'17	'17-'18	'18-'19
600 M					
500 M					
400 M					
300 M					
200 M					

2019 Business Establishments by Industry
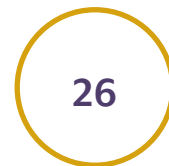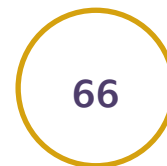
26 Manufacturing		**131** Retail
	66 Hospitality	
122 Professional Services		**14** Transportation and Warehousing

Top 5 Manufacturing Employers

Company	Employees	Primary Product(s)
Gestamp South Carolina, LLC	800	Stamped automotive products
Milliken & Company	324	Woven fabrics
Timken	241	Anti-friction roller bearings
Haemonetics	234	Medical devices
Standard Textile Carolina	160	Fabric finishing

Top 5 Non-Manufacturing Employers

Company	Employees	Industry
Dollar General Distribution Center	610	Distribution
Belk E-commerce	575	Distribution
Union County School District	544	Public Education, K-12
Union Medical Center	390	Health Services
Union County	170	Local Government

Airport Access

Greenville Spartanburg International
- 50 non-stop daily departures
- 16 major cities and 19 major airports across the US
  - Allegiant Air
  - American Airlines
  - Delta
  - Frontier Airlines
  - Southwest Airlines
  - United Airlines

Union County/Shelton Field

Port Access

Inland Port Greer
- 45 miles from the City of Union
- 121,600 rail lifts in 2018
- 6.4% growth from 2017

Port of Charleston
- 181 miles from the City of Union
- 2.3 M TEUs handled in 2018
- 6.4% growth from 2017

Highway Access

Interstates
- 5 miles to I-26

Highways
- US-176
- SC-72
- SC-215

Rail Access

Rail Providers
- CSX
- Norfolk-Southern

Upstate SC Alliance
John Lummus, *President/CEO*
864.283.2300
www.upstatescalliance.com

Appalachian Council of Governments
30 Century Circle, Greenville, SC 29607
864.242.9733
www.scacog.org

Additional Resources

www.uniondevelopmentboard.com
www.countyofunion.org

www.catawbacog.org
www.unionsc.com

www.southcarolinaparks.com
www.sciway.net