



*Research from the Gaston County EDC*

# ***Economic Indicators***

***2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2010***

**Economic Indicators  
Employment**

	Gaston County				Charlotte MSA				North Carolina			
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
January	84,501	86,898	93,037	92,576	746,055	760,991	791,496	787,742	4,035,898	4,111,353	4,272,980	4,257,028
February	84,545	85,921	92,973	93,041	746,352	752,122	790,819	790,983	4,038,559	4,094,182	4,255,847	4,268,075
March	86,021	85,341	93,466	93,904	758,662	746,753	795,984	798,384	4,056,953	4,060,871	4,280,356	4,302,311
April	87,040	86,351	93,945	93,648	768,029	755,609	799,919	796,279	4,079,873	4,088,271	4,302,076	4,291,769
May	87,195	85,773	93,835	94,127	769,072	752,255	799,659	800,599	4,095,438	4,060,124	4,297,274	4,312,805
June	86,681	85,516	93,855	93,990	764,848	747,682	800,544	799,710	4,089,199	4,052,943	4,316,413	4,336,243
July		85,702	94,774	93,793		748,885	807,439	797,297		4,033,903	4,344,800	4,333,862
August		85,702	93,376	94,104		753,849	795,767	799,548		4,032,601	4,280,113	4,314,578
September		86,238	93,252	94,393		753,504	795,102	801,708		4,041,114	4,271,774	4,330,984
October		86,745	93,095	94,537		756,479	799,916	803,420		4,034,708	4,285,345	4,329,258
November		86,470	91,788	94,379		753,956	783,428	802,642		4,047,720	4,205,375	4,330,248
December		85,484	89,500	93,621		745,584	764,728	796,443		4,016,382	4,148,975	4,296,326
% Change YTD	0.05%				-1.17%				-0.42%			
Annual Average *			<u>% Change</u>			<u>% Change</u>				<u>% Change</u>		
2009	86,012		-8.21%		752,306		-5.51%		4,056,181		-5.32%	
2008	93,075		-0.83%		793,733		-0.52%		4,271,777		-0.86%	
2007	93,843		0.92%		797,896		1.22%		4,308,624		1.40%	
2006	92,979		2.44%		788,161		4.65%		4,248,490		3.14%	
2005	90,711		0.59%		751,477		2.68%		4,114,893		1.94%	
2004	90,175		-0.91%		731,325		1.13%		4,035,204		1.38%	
2003	90,993		-1.70%		723,058		0.56%		3,979,635		1.23%	
2002	92,543		-1.08%		719,012		0.66%		3,930,736		0.02%	
2001	93,545		-0.99%		714,287		0.69%		3,929,977		-1.00%	
2000	94,470		-3.93%		709,332		2.12%		3,969,235		1.21%	
1999	98,180		100.00%		694,294		100.00%		3,921,244		100.00%	

\*Averages are the latest revised figures that may not match with historical monthly figures.  
For example, 2006 & 2007 were benchmarked in 2008; 2002 - 2005 were benchmarked in 2007  
Note: Historically these numbers are revised three times before a final number is available.

Source: NC Employment Security Commission

## Economic Indicators Unemployment Rate

	Gaston County				Charlotte MSA				North Carolina			
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
January	14.4	13.1	6.1	5.5	12.8	10.5	5.4	4.8	11.1	9.7	5.3	5.0
February	14.5	15.2	6.2	5.3	12.8	11.7	5.4	4.7	11.2	10.7	5.4	4.9
March	13.4	14.7	6.2	4.8	11.9	11.6	5.2	4.3	11.1	10.8	5.2	4.4
April	11.9	14.8	6.1	4.9	11.2	11.4	5.2	4.4	10.8	10.7	5.1	4.4
May	11.7	14.8	6.7	6.0	11.1	12.0	5.9	4.6	10.4	11.1	5.8	4.6
June	11.6	15.0	7.9	5.7	11.1	12.5	6.3	4.9	10.0	11.0	6.2	4.8
July		14.4	8.0	6.1		12.4	6.9	5.1		10.9	6.9	5.0
August		13.9	7.8	5.7		11.8	7.1	4.8		10.8	6.8	4.7
September		13.3	7.7	5.4		11.8	6.9	4.6		10.8	6.6	4.4
October		13.3	9.2	5.3		12.0	7.2	4.6		10.9	6.7	4.5
November		13.3	10.0	6.0		11.9	8.1	4.8		10.7	7.8	4.6
December		13.9	11.4	5.5		12.1	8.9	4.8		11.2	8.5	4.7
<b>% Change Last Year</b>	<b>149.2%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>107.3%</b>		<b>116.7%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>85.4%</b>		<b>101.9%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>80.9%</b>	
<b>Annual Average *</b>												
2009		14.2				11.1				10.2		
2008		7.8				6.5				6.4		
2007		5.5				4.7				4.7		
2006		5.5				4.8				4.7		
2005		6.1				4.9				5.3		
2004		6.4				5.1				5.5		
2003		7.3				5.8				6.5		
2002		7.7				5.8				6.6		
2001		7.7				4.4				5.6		
2000		5.5				3.0				3.7		
1999		3.7				2.1				3.3		

Source: NC Employment Security Commission

**Economic Indicators  
Total Residential Units**

	Single Family			Multi Family			Total Units		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
January	40	22	82	0	-	1	40	22	83
February	37	30	70	0	-	-	37	30	70
March	62	34	78	4	-	2	66	34	80
April	41	56	82	1	-	-	42	56	82
May	32	45	73	0	-	2	32	45	75
June	44	55	77	0	5	-	44	60	77
July		52	81		-	5		52	86
August		47	68		-	6		47	74
September		75	59			-		75	59
October		23	50			-		23	50
November		58	29		7	1		65	30
December		35	14		-	1		35	15
Totals	256	532	763	5	12	18	261	544	781
YTD Comparison:	256	532	763	5	12	18	261	544	781
% Change YTD:	-51.88%			-58.33%			-52.02%		

Total		<u>% Change</u>		<u>% Change</u>		<u>% Change</u>
2009	532	-30.28%	12	-33.33%	544	-30.35%
2008	763	-47.49%	18	20.00%	781	-46.80%
2007	1,453	4.38%	15	66.67%	1,468	4.78%
2006	1,392	5.78%	9	-85.71%	1,401	1.60%
2005	1,316	18.45%	63	96.88%	1,379	20.65%
2004	1,111	-2.80%	32	220.00%	1,143	-0.87%
2003	1,143	7.42%	10	-41.18%	1,153	6.66%
2002	1,064	12.00%	17	-63.04%	1,081	8.53%
2001	950		46		996	

Source: Gaston County and City of Gastonia Permitting Records

## Economic Indicators Building Permits

	Residential Building Permits			Non-Residential Building Permits			Total Units Building Permits		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
January	108	96	169	20	35	24	128	131	193
February	109	128	169	28	28	23	137	156	192
March	173	122	207	26	26	23	199	148	230
April	140	167	199	25	39	31	165	206	230
May	127	137	199	24	46	42	151	183	241
June	153	185	190	22	49	31	175	234	221
July		169	207		46	46		215	254
August		156	177		28	41		184	218
September		180	175		30	31		210	206
October		124	151		23	26		147	177
November		130	128		27	10		157	138
December		101	91		28	31		129	122
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>2,062</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,422</b>
<b>YTD Comparison</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>2,062</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,422</b>
<b>% Change YTD:</b>	<b>-52.21%</b>			<b>-64.20%</b>			<b>-54.52%</b>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>% Change</b>			<b>% Change</b>			<b>% Change</b>	
<b>2009</b>	1,695	-17.80%		405	12.81%		2,100	-13.29%	
<b>2008</b>	2,062	-22.89%		359	13.97%		2,422	-19.51%	
<b>2007</b>	2,674	11.00%		315	17.98%		3,009	12.44%	
<b>2006</b>	2,409	-4.25%		267	-15.24%		2,676	-5.48%	
<b>2005</b>	2,516	17.52%		315	-48.28%		2,831	2.95%	
<b>2004</b>	2,141	-20.41%		609	30.13%		2,750	-12.92%	
<b>2003</b>	2,690	12.88%		468	-8.77%		3,158	9.05%	
<b>2002</b>	2,383	-5.32%		513	-2.66%		2,896	-4.86%	
<b>2001</b>	2,517			527			3,044		

Source: Gaston County and City of Gastonia Permitting Records

**Economic Indicators  
Construction Permit Value**

	Residential Construction Value (Dollars)			Non-Residential Construction Value (Dollars)			Total Construction Value (Dollars)		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
January	10,712,742	7,045,910	22,727,418	2,642,615	1,631,698	17,044,984	13,355,357	8,677,608	39,772,402
February	8,790,925	7,703,835	17,395,667	3,105,554	1,477,249	6,594,680	11,896,479	9,181,084	23,990,347
March	16,018,800	9,869,008	19,827,303	670,980	4,715,669	13,795,335	16,689,780	14,584,677	33,622,638
April	13,321,667	14,977,995	25,066,583	5,469,435	12,882,074	8,701,421	18,791,102	27,860,069	33,768,004
May	8,967,841	11,613,085	22,464,760	4,979,685	4,309,770	6,051,929	13,947,526	15,922,855	28,516,689
June	12,000,763	25,442,060	19,909,315	10,361,357	29,174,154	5,702,173	22,362,120	54,616,214	25,611,488
July		12,589,725	23,303,225		3,049,399	15,054,974		15,639,124	38,358,199
August		12,506,309	25,515,993		4,736,685	11,761,473		17,242,994	37,277,466
September		20,073,001	15,753,621		1,792,668	4,538,382		21,865,669	20,292,003
October		7,498,538	13,822,747		7,498,538	6,014,823		14,997,076	19,837,570
November		16,028,649	6,826,586		4,028,482	10,603,743		20,057,131	17,430,329
December		8,656,895	6,063,375		4,830,180	4,083,013		13,487,075	10,146,388
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,812,738</b>	<b>154,005,010</b>	<b>218,676,593</b>	<b>27,229,626</b>	<b>80,126,566</b>	<b>109,946,930</b>	<b>97,042,364</b>	<b>234,131,576</b>	<b>328,623,523</b>
<b>YTD Comparison</b>	<b>69,812,738</b>	<b>154,005,010</b>	<b>218,676,593</b>	<b>27,229,626</b>	<b>80,126,566</b>	<b>109,946,930</b>	<b>97,042,364</b>	<b>234,131,576</b>	<b>328,623,523</b>
<b>% Change YTD:</b>	<b>-54.67%</b>	<b>-29.57%</b>		<b>-66.02%</b>	<b>-27.12%</b>		<b>-58.55%</b>	<b>-28.75%</b>	
<b>Annual Average *</b>		<b>% Change</b>			<b>% Change</b>			<b>% Change</b>	
2009	154,005,010	-29.57%		80,126,566	-27.12%		234,131,576	-28.75%	
2008	218,676,593	-39.11%		109,946,930	-26.08%		328,623,523	-35.29%	
2007	359,114,329	4.58%		148,741,411	-13.76%		507,855,740	-1.55%	
2006	343,392,767	31.27%		172,477,038	86.46%		515,869,805	45.69%	
2005	261,592,094	91.51%		92,502,396	24.21%		354,094,490	67.77%	
2004	136,591,728	-2.68%		74,472,847	2.63%		211,064,575	-0.87%	
2003	140,355,271	-12.89%		72,561,729	-45.80%		212,917,000	-27.83%	
2002	161,117,011	-6.54%		133,888,096	8.62%		295,005,107	-0.22%	
2001	172,389,029			123,261,240			295,650,269		

Source: Gaston County and City of Gastonia Permitting Records

## Economic Indicators Gross Retail Sales

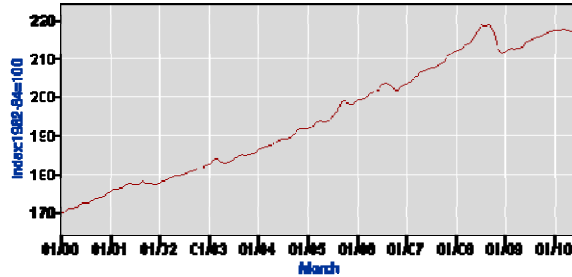
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
January	171,049,464	139,006,049	135,990,580	101,927,328	181,186,432
February	105,073,689	103,692,894	137,264,921	114,255,989	184,593,651
March	104,999,568	144,475,779	126,369,917	105,219,660	205,142,173
April	110,005,308	124,589,996	121,921,606	128,683,913	197,375,295
May	110,731,599	123,124,953	117,781,043	93,218,636	191,774,385
June	109,570,131	139,398,903	128,426,523	125,870,395	110,671,998
July	112,189,368	117,349,851	94,994,718	134,843,485	106,753,329
August	101,731,241	112,971,932	136,868,754	112,195,296	108,523,826
September	104,332,064	126,826,495	88,792,104	88,807,289	101,939,295
October	109,684,590	100,927,822	115,343,383	126,551,252	119,921,489
November		94,950,696	134,799,690	115,473,455	91,751,664
December		171,049,464	137,825,802	146,117,189	181,714,701
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,139,367,022</b>	<b>1,498,364,834</b>	<b>1,476,379,041</b>	<b>1,393,163,887</b>	<b>1,781,348,238</b>
<b>YTD Comparison</b>	<b>1,139,367,022</b>	<b>1,131,436,852</b>	<b>1,088,410,166</b>	<b>1,005,021,991</b>	<b>1,387,960,384</b>
<b>% Change YTD:</b>	<b>0.70%</b>	<b>3.95%</b>	<b>8.30%</b>	<b>-27.59%</b>	
2009	1,139,367,022				
2008	1,131,436,852				
2007	1,476,379,041				
2006	1,393,163,887				
2005	1,781,348,238				
2004	2,259,848,351				
2003	2,156,437,181				
2002	2,149,669,189				
2001	2,019,683,592				
2000	2,189,412,729				

*\*Starting with the December 2001 report, monthly sales and use tax reports are not comparable to previous monthly reports. Effective October 16, 2001, the general state sales and use tax rate increased from 4% to 4.5% requiring changes to the return. Prior to the change, use taxes were separately stated and taxable sales were not calculated for use taxes. The new return combines sales and use taxes, and the taxable sales are computed on the total. Therefore, gross collections reflect the 1/2% tax rate increase, and gross retail sales reflect taxable sales computed on the combined total of sales and use taxes.*

*\*\*Monthly sales and use tax reports are not comparable to monthly reports for periods prior to July 2005. In Fiscal Year 2005-2006 the Streamlined Sales Tax Agreement required a change in the Sales & Use Tax return so that not all taxpayers report Gross Retail Sales. Beginning with the report for July 2005, we report only Gross collections and Taxable Sales.*

*\*\*\*Beginning with the November Sales and Use Tax report, the Department of Revenue no longer receives Sales and Use Tax Form E-543. Therefore, in order to prepare monthly Sales and Use Tax reports we now rely on a different form for the necessary information. Switching to this new form has required reprogramming, in the course of which we have encountered unforeseen issues. As a result we still do not have the information needed to produce monthly reports. We are working to correct the issues and anticipate beginning to receive correct information soon. At that point we will resume publication beginning with the November 2009 report and expect to publish one report about every three weeks until we have caught up. We sincerely regret the delay in the publication of the reports and apologize for any problems this delay may have caused. Source: NC Department of Commerce*

**Economic Indicators**  
**Consumer Price Index: 2000 - 2010**  
**U. S. City Average - All Urban Consumers**  
**Base Period: 1982 - 84= 100**



Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	HALF1	HALF2
2000	168.8	169.8	171.2	171.3	171.5	172.4	172.8	172.8	173.7	174	174.1	174	172.2	170.8	173.6
2001	175.1	175.8	176.2	176.9	177.7	178	177.5	177.5	178.3	177.7	177.4	176.7	177.1	176.6	177.5
2002	177.1	177.8	178.8	179.8	179.8	179.9	180.1	180.7	181	181.3	181.3	180.9	179.9	178.9	180.9
2003	181.7	183.1	184.2	183.8	183.5	183.7	183.9	184.6	185.2	185	184.5	184.3	184	183.3	184.6
2004	185.2	186.2	187.4	188	189.1	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191	190.3	188.9	187.6	190.2
2005	190.7	191.8	193.3	194.6	194.4	194.5	195.4	196.4	198.8	199.2	197.6	196.8	195.3	193.2	197.4
2006	198.3	198.7	199.8	201.5	202.5	202.9	203.5	203.9	202.9	201.8	201.5	201.8	201.6	200.6	202.6
2007	202.416	203.499	205.352	206.686	207.949	208.352	208.299	207.917	208.49	208.936	210.177	210.036	207.342	205.709	208.976
2008	211.08	211.693	213.528	214.823	216.632	218.815	219.964	219.086	218.783	216.573	212.425	210.228	215.303	214.429	216.177
2009	211.143	212.193	212.709	213.24	213.856	215.693	215.351	215.834	215.969	216.177	216.33	215.949	214.537	213.139	215.935
2010	216.687	216.741	217.631	217.579	217.224	216.929									

**% Increase from 11/07: -100.00%**

Source: Bureau of Labor Statics

**ACCRA Cost of Living Index**

City/Town	State	2008 Population	100% Composite Index
Dolhan	AL	65,447	86.4
Gastonia	NC	68,956	93.3
Johnson City	TN	61,028	87.6
Decatur	AL	55,741	89.4
Jackson	TN	63,196	90.0
Tuscaloosa	AL	88,722	94.2
Charleston	WV	50,478	92.7
Roanoke	VA	92,600	95.3
Murfreesboro	TN	98,406	89.6
Marietta	GA	67,021	93.6
Asheville	NC	73,875	101.9
Charleston	SC	110,015	99.4
Greenville	NC	76,058	97.4
Wilmington	NC	99,623	97.1
Wilmington	DE	72,868	105.9
Miami Beach	FL	85,036	109.8
Sarasota	FL	52,488	102.1