



Location

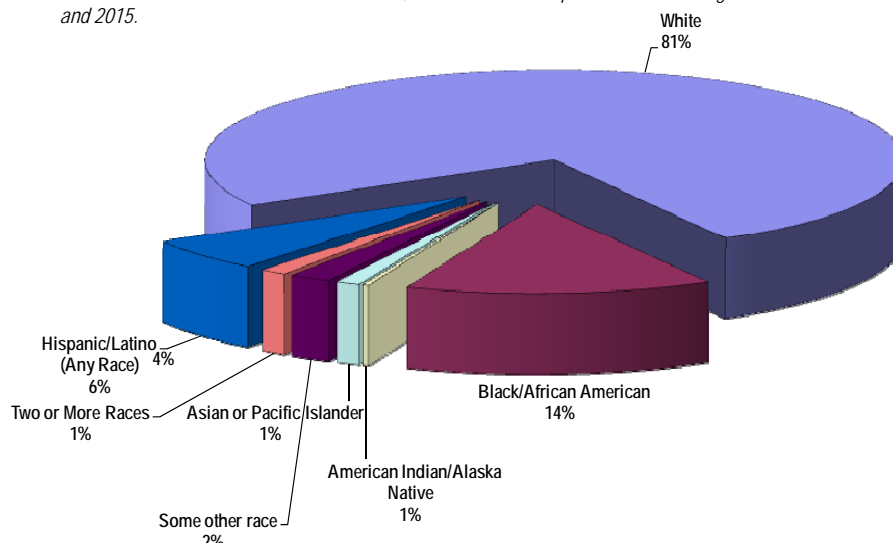


Population

2010 Population
 by Race and Origin

	North Carolina	Gaston County	Gastonia
Total Population	9,552,054	210,477	75,771
One Race	8,759,234	207,714	74,634
White	6,638,678	168,171	50,993
Black/African American	2,044,140	31,782	19,927
American Indian/Alaska Native	114,625	631	152
Asian or Pacific Islander	191,041	2,525	985
Some other race	382,082	4,420	2,576
Two or More Races	171,937	2,763	1,137
Hispanic/Latino (Any Race)	792,820	13,470	7,804

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing. ESRI forecasts for 2010 and 2015.



Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000 Redistricting Data (PL 94-171) Summary File, Table PL1.

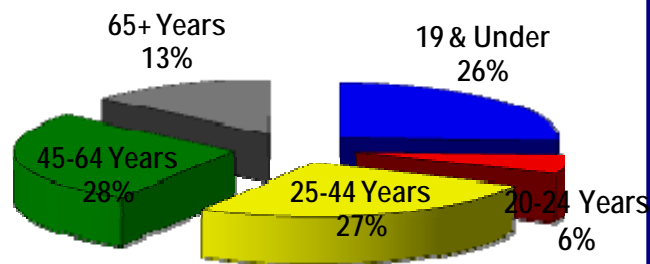
Population

2010 Municipal Population Estimates

	2010	2000 Census
Gaston County	210,477	190,365
Belmont	9,779	8,705
Bessemer City	5,309	5,119
Cherryville	5,669	5,361
Cramerton	4,068	2,976
Dallas	3,915	3,402
Gastonia	75,771	66,355
High Shoals (Part)	844	729
Kings Mountain (Part)	9,904	590
Lowell	3,136	2,662
McAdenville	726	619
Mount Holly	11,471	9,617
Ranlo	2,220	2,198
Spencer Mountain	67	51
Stanley	3,327	3,053

Source: ESRI, 2010.

Persons by Age Groups



Source: Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing. ESRI forecasts for 2010 and 2015.

Population Projections Overview

	2015	2020	2025	2030
Gaston County	220,250	231,064	241,880	252,694

Source: The State Demographer's Office, 6/2010.

Income

BEA Estimates of Per Capita Income: 1997-2010

Year	Gaston County	NC	US
2010	\$23,407	\$25,349	\$26,739
2009	\$23,897	\$25,989	\$27,277
2008	\$32,727	\$34,453	\$39,138
2007	\$31,585	\$33,735	\$38,615
2006	\$30,892	\$32,247	\$36,714
2005	\$29,856	\$30,713	\$34,757
2004	\$28,961	\$29,322	\$33,050
2003	\$27,685	\$27,859	\$31,484
2002	\$27,108	\$27,510	\$30,810
2001	\$26,759	\$27,493	\$30,574
2000	\$26,357	\$27,068	\$29,845
1999	\$25,255	\$25,560	\$27,939
1998	\$24,218	\$24,743	\$26,883
1997	\$22,630	\$23,530	\$25,334

Source: ESRI 2010

Median Household Income

	2010	2015 Projections
Gaston County	\$50,335	\$56,666
North Carolina	\$50,887	\$53,634
United States	n/a	n/a

Source: ESRI 2010

Retail Sales Comparison

2010	\$1,439,412,163
2009	\$1,366,403,802
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

Source: North Carolina Department of Revenue, Monthly Retail Sales Report.

**Major Employers
(Non-manufacturing)**

<u>Company</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Type</u>
1. Gaston County Schools	1,000 & over	Education & Health
2. Caromont Health	1,000 & over	Education & Health
3. Walmart Associates, Inc.	1,000 & over	Trade, Trans & Utilities
4. County of Gaston	1,000 & over	Public Administration
5. City of Gastonia	500-999	Public Administration
6. Gaston College	500-999	Education & Health
7. Food Lion LLC	250-499	Trade, Trans & Utilities
8. NC Advance Stores	250-499	Trade, Trans & Utilities
9. Integrated Staffing Solutions	250-499	Professional Services
10. Bi-Lo LLC	250-499	Trade, Trans & Utilities
11. Gaston County YMCA	250-499	Other Services
12. Quality Business Solutions	250-499	Professional Services
13. Lowe's Home Centers Inc.	250-499	Trade, Trans & Utilities
14. U.S. Postal Service	250-499	Trade, Trans & Utilities
15. Census-UCFE #910	250-499	Public Administration

Top Manufacturing Employers

Pharr Yarns	1,000 & over
American & Efirid, Inc.	1,000 & over
Freightliner (2 locations)	1,000 & over
Dole Fresh Foods	500-999
Wix Filtration Group	500-999
Danaher Tool Group	250-499
FMC Corporation	250-499

Industry Announcements

- Burlan Industries
- Roechling Engineered Plastics
- Koops Woodworks
- Century Building Products
- Lukjan Metal Products
- Wren Flex Building
- R&R Powder Coating
- LAVA USA
- DSM-Dyneema
- Dole Fresh Foods
- Mountain Khakis
- Ava Designs
- Peak Resources
- National Gypsum
- Parker Hannifin
- Hapco
- Wachs Technical Services
- R-Anell Homes
- Dellinger Enterprises
- IGA
- FMC Lithium
- Titan Fabrication
- IMACC Corporation
- Wilbert Plastic Services
- Jo-Mar Spinning
- Image Mark
- Lanxess
- REPI

**Closings & Layoffs
(By effective year/primarily industrial)**
Jobs Lost:

Job losses, 1999	3,099
Job losses, 2000	2,682
Job losses, 2001	2,403
Job losses, 2002	1,585
Job losses, 2003	746
Job losses, 2004	554
Job losses, 2005	1,116
Job losses, 2006	256
Job losses, 2007	1,342
Job losses, 2008	1,268
Job losses, 2009	1,694
Job losses, 2010	205

Establishments that Closed:

No. of affected establishments, 1997	5
No. of affected establishments, 1998	7
No. of affected establishments, 1999	17
No. of affected establishments, 2000	10
No. of affected establishments, 2001	16
No. of affected establishments, 2002	10
No. of affected establishments, 2003	5
No. of affected establishments, 2004	4
No. of affected establishments, 2005	4
No. of affected establishments, 2006	3
No. of affected establishments, 2007	4
No. of affected establishments, 2008	3
No. of affected establishments, 2009	22
No. of affected establishments, 2010	21

Civilian Labor Force

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2000	1990	1980	1970
Civilian Labor Force	96,103	98,708	100,064	97,543	98,382	99,985	96,024	93,500	69,370
Employment Total	85,843	84,926	92,303	91,894	92,979	94,470	92,082	88,120	67,010
Unemployment Total	10,260	13,782	7,761	5,559	5,403	5,515	3,942	5,380	2,360
Unemployment Rate	10.7%	14.0%	7.80%	5.70%	5.50%	5.50%	4.10%	5.80%	3.40%

Employment by Place of Work

Industry	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Insured Employment	62,815	62,497	70,226	69,184	69,728	69,616
Goods Producing	13,212	13,519	17,679	19,004	19,546	*
Construction & Mining	2,582	2,925	3,480	3,762	3,609	*
Manufacturing	10,600	10,594	14,200	15,242	16,937	16,843
Food & Beverage	172	220	221	224	211	*
Textiles	2,835	2,749	3,688	3,959	4,206	4,958
Apparel	11	16	16	24	23	32
Wood Products	30	74	99	130	131	959
Furniture & Fixtures	658	657	787	1,026	880	*
Paper/Allied Products	105	111	*	149	186	285
Printing	185	182	193	185	165	167
Chemicals	568	425	457	571	517	568
Rubber/Plastics	439	402	534	571	543	532
Nonmetallic Minerals	130	170	200	177	181	*
Metals	*	1,871	2,333	2,275	2,092	2,011
Industrial Machinery	664	705	1,007	490	493	1,114
Electrical Eq.	69	55	84	98	108	99
Transportation Eq.	2,380	2,379	3,797	4,284	4,709	4,934
Miscellaneous Mfg.	427	450	505	488	478	348
Other Manufacturing ¹	397	351	490	*	*	*
Service Producing	49,603	49,978	50,317	52,607	50,771	49,097
TCU	2,176	*	2,394	2,258	2,855	2,760
Trade	10,995	11,064	11,978	17,377	16,543	16,675
FIRE	*	*	*	2,124	2,187	2,169
Service/Misc.	26,604		25,662	26,956	24,763	23,727
Public Administration	3,695	3,743	3,648	3,527	3,466	3,481
Management of Co.	302	383	370	365	357	285
Government	10,009	9,039	8,809	8,193	9,013	8,757
All Other Non-Ag. ³	*	117	168	270	261	*

Educational Attainment

Education Level	2010 Census
Grade K - 8	10,482
Grade 9 - 12	19,528
High school graduate	44,081
Some college, no degree	32,020
Associate degree	12,492
Bachelor's degree	17,661
Graduate degree	7,466

Total 143,586

Source: EDIS, NC Department of Commerce

Job Applicants Profile

Number of Registered Job Applicants

	Registered
Total	11,235
Male	6,390
Female	4,895

Major Occupation Class

Experience	No. of Applicants
0-6 Months	1,257
7-24 Months	2,211
Over 24 Months	7,281

Current Employment Statistics

July 2011
 Employed 84,969
 Unemployment Rate 11.6%

July 2010
 Employed 86,297
 Unemployment Rate 11.1%

North Carolina Taxes

General Fund Taxes

- Alcoholic Beverage Tax
- Cigarette/Tobacco Tax
- Corporate Income Tax
- Franchise Tax
- Freight Car Tax
- Gift Tax (repealed effective 1/09)
- Individual Income Tax
- Inheritance/Estate Tax
- Insurance Tax
- Privilege License Tax
- Sales/Use Tax

For a complete North Carolina Tax Guide or additional information regarding State or local taxes, please contact the EDC office.

Sales Tax

The combined sales tax for Gaston County, North Carolina, is 7.75 percent. The State of North Carolina receives 5.75 percent and the County of Gaston receives 2 percent.

Local Business Property Tax

Business property is taxed locally according to the rates listed below. This tax applies to all machinery and equipment, furniture & fixtures, supplies, expensed items, vehicles, leased and other equipment. However, inventories are not taxed in the State of North Carolina. Property such as raw materials, goods-in-process, finished products, or products held for sale are considered inventory.

Local Real Estate Tax

Local real estate taxes depend on the physical location of the property. If a property lies within corporate limits of any municipality, taxes are due to both the municipality and the County of Gaston according to the schedule below. However, if a property lies outside corporate limits, taxes are due to the County of Gaston and the fire district serving the area.

County & Local Property Tax Rates - 2010

Taxing Authorities	\$ Per \$100 Valuation
Gaston County	\$ 0.8350
City of Belmont	\$ 0.4750
City of Bessemer City	\$ 0.4300
City of Cherryville	\$ 0.4600
Town of Cramerton	\$ 0.4750
Town of Dallas	\$ 0.3800
City of Gastonia	\$ 0.5300
City of Gastonia/York Chester	\$ 0.5300
City of Gastonia Svc. District*	\$ 0.2000
City of High Shoals (+FD)	\$ 0.4000
City of Kings Mountain	\$ 0.4000
City of Lowell	\$ 0.4000
Town of McAdenville	\$ 0.3000
City of Mount Holly**	\$ 0.5300
Town of Ranlo (+FD)	\$ 0.3700
Town of Spencer Mtn.**	\$ 0.1300
Town of Stanley	\$ 0.5400

**City Collects City Taxes

Fire District Taxes for Locations Outside Municipal Limits: 2010

Fire Districts	Rate/\$100 Valuation	Fire Districts	Rate/\$100 Valuation
Agriculture Center	\$0.0600	Lucia Riverbend	\$0.1050
Alexis Fire	\$0.0850	New Hope	\$0.0700
Chapel Grove	\$0.0750	Ranlo Fire	\$0.0790
Chestnut Ridge	\$0.0730	South Gastonia Fire	\$0.0750
Community	\$0.0930	South Point	\$0.0540
Crouse Fire	\$0.0740	Spencer Mountain	\$0.0700
East Gaston	\$0.0740	Tryonata	\$0.0730
High Shoals	\$0.0970	Union Road	\$0.0670
Hugh's Pond	\$0.1010	Waco Fire	\$0.0730
Long Shoals	\$0.0970		
Lowell Fire	\$0.0500		

State Incentives

- Credits for Growing Businesses (Article 3J Credits)
 - Credits for Jobs Created
 - Credits for Business Property Investment
- Research & Development Tax Credit (Article 3F Credits)
- Industrial Development Fund
- Industrial Revenue Bonds
- One NC Fund
- Job Development Investment Grant Program (JDIG)

Local Incentives

Local Investment Grant Program

The following industrial grants are available in Gaston County as well as Gastonia, Bessemer City, Belmont, Cherryville, Dallas and Stanley.

- Industrial Grant I — A five-year property tax grant beginning at 90%, decreasing 10% each year.
- Industrial Grant II — A nine-year grant beginning at 90%, decreasing 10% each year. .
- Industrial Grant III — A ten-year grant beginning at 90%, decreasing 5% each year.
- Industrial Grant IV— A ten-year grant beginning at 85% for five years and decreases to 70% for the last five years.
- Retail Grant — A five-year property tax grant beginning at 90%, decreasing 10% each year.

The City of Kings Mountain has an individual investment grant program available for locations within its municipal limits.



GASTON
COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Specializing in industry recruitment and retention for over 25 years...
Call 704-825-4046



Trucking

More than 50 trucking companies provide freight services to Gaston County businesses. Carolina Western Express, Frederickson Motor Express Corporation, CF Motor Freight, GSI Transportation, Interstate Air Freight Systems Corporation and Yellow Freight are only a few.

Highways

- Three interstate highways intersect Gaston County: Interstates 40, 85 & 77.
- Major US highways run through Gaston County: US Highways 29, 74, & 321.
- Major state highways run through Gaston County: NC Highways 7, 16, 27, 161, 273, 274, 275 & 279.

Rail

Gaston County is served by three rail companies: Norfolk & Southern Railway, CSX Transportation, and Amtrak.

Airport

- Charlotte-Douglas International Airport is located just minutes east of Gaston County in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Charlotte-Douglas International Airport is served by 6 major and 4 commuter airlines with 517 scheduled commercial departures daily and 8.4 million passenger boardings a year. US Airways provides direct international flights to Germany, Canada, France and Mexico, England, as well as Caribbean destinations.
- Gastonia Municipal Airport is located in Gaston County providing commuter access to Gaston County. The facility has one lighted runway of 3,500 feet and one unlighted runway of 2,500 feet.

Ports

- North Carolina has two modern, deep-water ports.
- North Carolina has an intermodal terminal network.
- North Carolina offers inland ports to reduce total shipment costs by consolidating individual truckloads.
- Foreign Trade Zones are in operation at both North Carolina ports, as well as Charlotte and Research Triangle Park.
- Gaston County Ports: Wilmington, NC, Morehead City, NC, and Charleston, SC.

Utilities

Major Utility Providers

- Electricity.....Duke Power Company
www.dukepower.com
- Sewer.....City of Gastonia
www.cityofgastonia.com
- Gas.....PSNC Energy
www.scan.com/psnc/default.html
- Telephone.....AT&T
- Fiber Optics.....AT&T

For additional information regarding utilities and utility rates, please contact Marc Bolick or Darlene Ritter at 704.867.4771 or via e-mail at mbolick@co.gaston.nc.us and dritter@co.gaston.nc.us respectively. You may also visit each company's website as noted above.

Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ's)

A foreign-trade zone is a site within the United States where foreign and domestic merchandise is generally considered by the U. S. government as being outside the U. S. Customs territory in international commerce. Foreign or domestic merchandise may enter this enclave without a formal customs entry or the payment of customs duties or government excise taxes, and without a thorough examination.

If the final product is exported from the United States, no U. S. Customs duty or excise tax is levied. If the final product is import into the U. S., customs duty and excise taxes are due only at a time of transfer from the foreign-trade zone and formal entry into the U. S. on the product itself or its imported parts, whichever is lower. Spoiled, damaged or waste goods may be disposed of or re-exported without payment of duty.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Zone #57 – Charlotte
Piedmont Distribution Centers
Post Office Box 7123
Charlotte, NC 28217
704-588-3277
704-588-2867
TMX: 810-621-0465 | Zone #93 – Durham
Triangle J
Post Office Box 12276
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
919-549-0551
919-549-9390 |
|---|--|

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Zone #67 – Morehead City
NC State Ports Authority
P. O. Box 9002
Wilmington, NC 28402
919-763-1621
TWX: 510-937-0330 | Zone #66 – Wilmington |
|---|-----------------------|



Gaston County EDC

The Gaston County Economic Development Commission (GCEDC) is dedicated to attracting and retaining desirable employers to continue improving and diversifying economic opportunities in the County. The GCEDC's main functions are:

- Attracting new, quality industry and commerce;
- Helping existing industry and businesses grow;
- Stimulating development of appropriate land and buildings;
- Improving area infrastructure;
- Improving the general business climate, including conditions for new industry; and
- Informing citizenry of the advantages of economic development

The elected Gaston County Board of Commissioners appoints members to the GCEDC Board, one appointee representing each major township, to serve three-year staggered terms. The following full-time EDC staff members handle daily operations:

Executive Director
 Gary D. Hicks, Jr., CEcD, CCIM
 dhicks@co.gaston.nc.us

New Industry Consultant
 Marc Bolick
 mbolick@co.gaston.nc.us

Marketing Director
 Steve Nye, CEcD
 snye@co.gaston.nc.us

Existing Industry Consultant
 Darlene Ritter
 dritter@co.gaston.nc.us

Project Coordinator
 Matt Blackwell
 mblackwell@co.gaston.nc.us

Research Specialist
 Malissa Gordon
 mgordon@co.gaston.nc.us

Economic Development Specialist
 Donna Buff
 dbuff@co.gaston.nc.us

About this Publication & Gaston County, NC

This publication was prepared by the Gaston County Economic Development Commission (GCEDC) to provide basic demography on Gaston County, primarily for business decision-makers and developers considering locating or expanding a business Gaston County.

As the second-largest county in the Charlotte Region, Gaston County has a great deal to offer businesses and residents. Located just across the Catawba River from Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Gaston's closeness to the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, its penetration by Interstate 85 and rail lines, and its access to other major arteries, gives Gaston's businesses major transportation advantages. Its long heritage as a hard-working manufacturing center has been enhanced in recent years with a steady growth in service-related firms and a rapid expansion of retail stores and shopping centers.

Gaston County offers a business-smart combination of economical real estate, dedicated employees, transportation advantages, and a quality of life that translates into superior value for many companies.

If, while making your decision about Gaston County, you need any information not found in this publication, please do not hesitate to contact the Gaston County Economic Development Commission.

Gaston County Economic Development Commission

Post Office Box 2339
 Gastonia, NC 28053-2339
 704.825.4046
 Fax: 704.825.4066
 www.gaston.org