

## Spotlight on Greenwood...

Greenwood County takes its name from its county seat. Greenwood County was formed in 1897, from parts of Abbeville and Edgefield counties. This part of the backcountry was not settled until the mid-eighteenth century. The town of Ninety Six was established as a frontier trading post around 1730, and it was the site, in November 1775, of one of the first South Carolina battles of the American Revolution. In May 1781, American forces besieged the British and held Star Fort, at Ninety Six, for over a month, but were forced to withdraw when British reinforcements approached. The arrival of the railroad in 1852, stimulated cotton growing and textile manufacturing in this area. U.S. Congressman Preston Smith Brooks (1819-1857) and educator Benjamin Mays (1894-1984) were residents of Greenwood County.

### Greenwood Workforce Center

519 Monument Street, P O Box 1427  
Greenwood, SC 29648  
(864) 223-1681 / FAX: (864) 223-4523

### Location & Climate

- Located in the western area of the state
- Surrounded by Abbeville, Laurens, Newberry, Saluda, Edgefield, and McCormick counties
- This region has an average temperature of 61.3 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 46.9 inches.

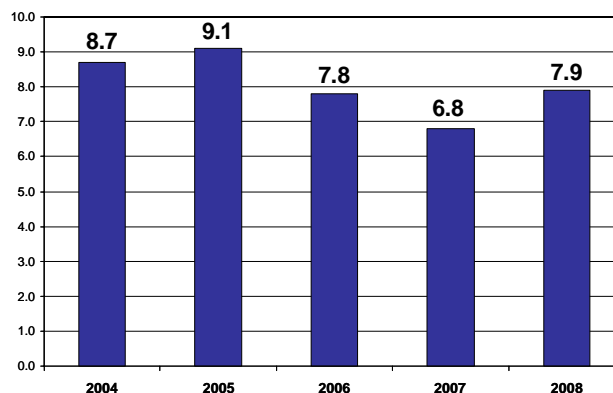
### Population

- Was 68,170 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 72,300 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 65.8% White, 31.8% African-American, and 2.4% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 1,902 in 2000 to 3,117 in 2007, a 63.9% change.

### Labor Force

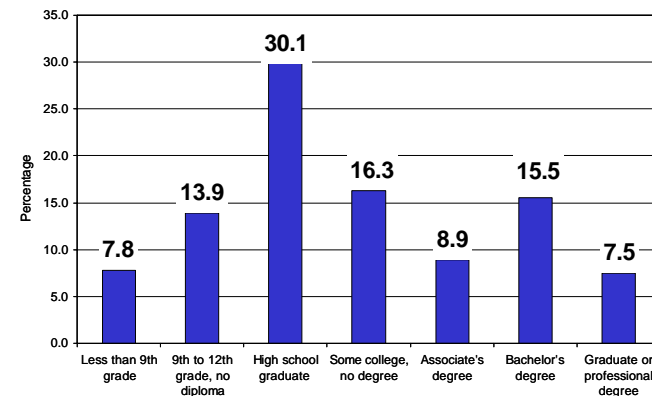
- Decreased from 31,040 in 2007 to 30,410 in 2008
- Employment fell from 28,910 in 2007 to 28,010 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate climbed from 6.8% in 2007 to 7.9% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Greenwood County 2004 - 2008



### Educational Attainment

Greenwood County 2007



### Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$27,300 for 2007.
- This was 88% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 71% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

### Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Greenwood Workforce Center, which serves Edgefield and Greenwood counties, paid \$9,027,761 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission  
Labor Market Information

P O Box 995  
Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838  
(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

<http://www.sces.org/lmi>