

# Union County, SC

## Fact Sheet

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 Technical 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.

### POPULATION

#### Total Population, 1990, 2000, and 2008 Estimates

	1990	2000	2008
Union	30,337	29,881	27,672
Upstate Region*	1,059,891	1,220,542	1,335,571
South Carolina	3,486,310	4,012,012	4,479,800

\*10 County Upstate South Carolina Region

#### Population Estimates by Age, 2007

Under Age 5	1,575	19.6%
Age 5 to 19	5,431	19.6%
Age 20 to 34	4,542	16.4%
Age 35 to 59	9,993	36.0%
Age 60 to 74	4,010	14.4%
Age 75+	2,219	8.0%

#### Population Estimates by Race, 2007

White	18,745	67.5%
Black	8,730	31.4%
Am. Indian / Alaska Native	47	0.2%
Asian	66	0.0%
Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	10	0.0%
Two or More Races	172	0.6%
Hispanic (all races included)	248	0.9%

Source of Population Data: US Census Bureau

#### Highest Educational Attainment, Age 25+, 2007

Less than 9th Grade	2,359	12.1%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	3,485	17.9%
High School Graduate Only	6,627	34.1%
Some College, No Degree	3,045	15.7%
Associate Degree Only	1,770	9.1%
Bachelor's Degree Only	1,553	8.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	596	3.1%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007 Comm. Survey

### HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSING

#### Households by Type, 2005 - 2007, 3-yr. Estimate

Total No. of Households:	11,286
HH's with Individuals Under 18	4,337
HH's with Individuals 65+	3,099
Average Household Size	2.37
Average Family Size	2.88

Source: 2007 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau

#### Housing Occupance and Tenure, 2005-2007 3-Yr. Es

Total No. of Housing Units	13,521
Occupied Housing Units	11,286
Owner-Occupied Housing Units	8,261
Renter-Occupied Housing Units	3,025
Rental Vacancy Rate (percent)	8.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007 Comm. Survey

**2007 Estimated Number of Housing Units** 13,513

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007 Comm. Survey

# Union County, SC Fact Sheet

## INCOME

### Median Household Income, 2005 - 2007, 3-yr. Estimate

*In 2007 inflation-adjusted dollars*

Union County	\$34,368.00
South Carolina	\$42,405.00

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007 Amer. Comm. Survey

### Per Capita Income, 2005 - 2007, 3-yr. Estimates

*In 2007 inflation-adjusted dollars*

Union County	\$17,338.00
South Carolina	\$22,560.00

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007 Amer. Comm. Survey

## TOP 5 MANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS

Company	No. of Employees	Major Product
Milliken (5 Plants)	790	Fabrics
Timken USA	600	Anti-friction roller bearings
Carlisle Finishing	400	Finishing cotton fabric
Union Daily Times	218	Publishes and prints newspapers
Disney Distribution Center	175	Distribution for catalog marketing

Source: SC Appalachian Council of Governments and County Economic Development Office

## LABOR FORCE

### County Average Monthly Employment by Industry Group, 2007(Annual Average)

Natural Resources and Mining	115
Construction	209
Manufacturing	1,949
Wholesale Trade	106
Retail Trade	831
Transportation and Warehousing	42
Utilities	56
Information	42
Financial Activities	292
Professional and Business Services	459
Education and Health Services	370
Leisure and Hospitality	597
Other Services	148
Total Government	2017

## RETAIL SALES

### Gross Retail Sales (Millions)

2000	\$273,723
2001	\$259,744
2002	\$245,653
2003	\$252,679
2004	\$253,297
2005	\$277,420
2006	\$292,892
2007	\$277,986
2008	\$285,186

# Union County, SC Fact Sheet

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## TRANSPORTATION

<b>Interstate Access</b>	I-26	<b>Nearest Civil Airport</b>	Union County/Shelton Field
<b>Nearest Commercial Airline</b>	Greenville-Spartanburg International	<b>Port Access</b>	Port of Charleston, 179 miles from City of Union
<b>Airlines</b>	Northwest, Continental, United Express, Delta, US Airways, American Eagle	<b>Rail Providers</b>	CSX, NSR, L&C

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

<b>Development Board of Union County</b> Andrena Powell-Baker, Director	(864) 319-1097 www.unioncountydevelopment.com
<b>Union County Chamber of Commerce</b> Torrance Inman, Executive Director	(864) 427-9039 www.unionsc.com
<b>Upstate Alliance</b> Hal Johnson, President/CEO	(864) 283-2300 www.upstatealliance.com

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## ADDITIONAL SOURCES

www.unionsc.com  
www.southcarolinaparks.com  
www.sciway.net  
www.upstateforever.org

## PRODUCED BY

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