

# Brunswick County Government





**MARCH 9, 1764**

*Brunswick County Flag*

# History

- March 9, 1764, the Governor of North Carolina signed the legislative act that created Brunswick County out of New Hanover and Bladen counties.

- Brunswick County was named after the Town of Brunswick, which was named in honor of King George I, who was the Duke of Brunswick and Lunenberg.

*History Sources: "The History of Brunswick County" – Lawrence Lee  
North Carolina Encyclopedia  
Bicentennial Brunswick County Souvenir Booklet*



*Brunswick Crest*

- The County Seat was first located at Brunswick Town
- 1779 – County Seat was moved to Lockwood’s Folly
- 1808 – County Seat was moved to Smithville (Smithville’s name was changed to Southport in 1887)

*Old County Seal*



- On July 19, 1975 a referendum passed moving the County Seat from Southport to its present location just below the Town of Bolivia.



*The current County Seal, designating the four primary industries in Brunswick County, was adopted on December 15, 1975 by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.*

# County Highlights

- Brunswick County, North Carolina
  - Established in 1764
  - July 2015 Population of 121,581
  - Sixth-Largest County in NC by Land Area (846 sq. miles)
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Fastest-Growing County in N.C. and 30<sup>th</sup> Fastest Growing in the U.S.
  - Current G.O. Credit Ratings of **“Aa2/AA+/AA”**
  - Total FY 2015-16 Budget \$214.3 Million
  - Commission/Manager Form of Government
- 19 Incorporated Municipalities and 2 Sanitary Districts



# Brunswick County Government...

## Serving the community

### Vision Statement

To provide essential services to support the development of a sustainable and prosperous community with limited bureaucratic intrusion.

# Brunswick County Government...

## Shaping the future!



### Mission Statement

The government of Brunswick County, North Carolina exists to promote and sustain a superior quality of life. In partnership with our communities, we pledge to deliver cost effective services in a personal, responsive, respectful and innovative manner, to our residents and visitors alike.

# Brunswick County Core Values

- **Accountability**
- **Customer Service / Trust**
- **Dignity / Respect**
- **Diversity**
- **Environment**
- **Integrity is Paramount**
- **Professionalism**
- **Safety**
- **Stewardship of Public Resources**
- **Teamwork**

# Government Structure

In North Carolina, all counties use the council-manager form of government. The commissioners hire a professional manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the county government, while the commissioners focus on county policies.

Brunswick County's board of commissioners are elected by a vote of the people, one from each of the county's five districts, and each Commissioner serves a four-year staggered term.



District 1  
**Randy Thompson**



District 2  
**Marty Cooke**



District 3  
**Pat Sykes,**  
Vice Chair



District 4  
**Scott Phillips,**  
Chairman

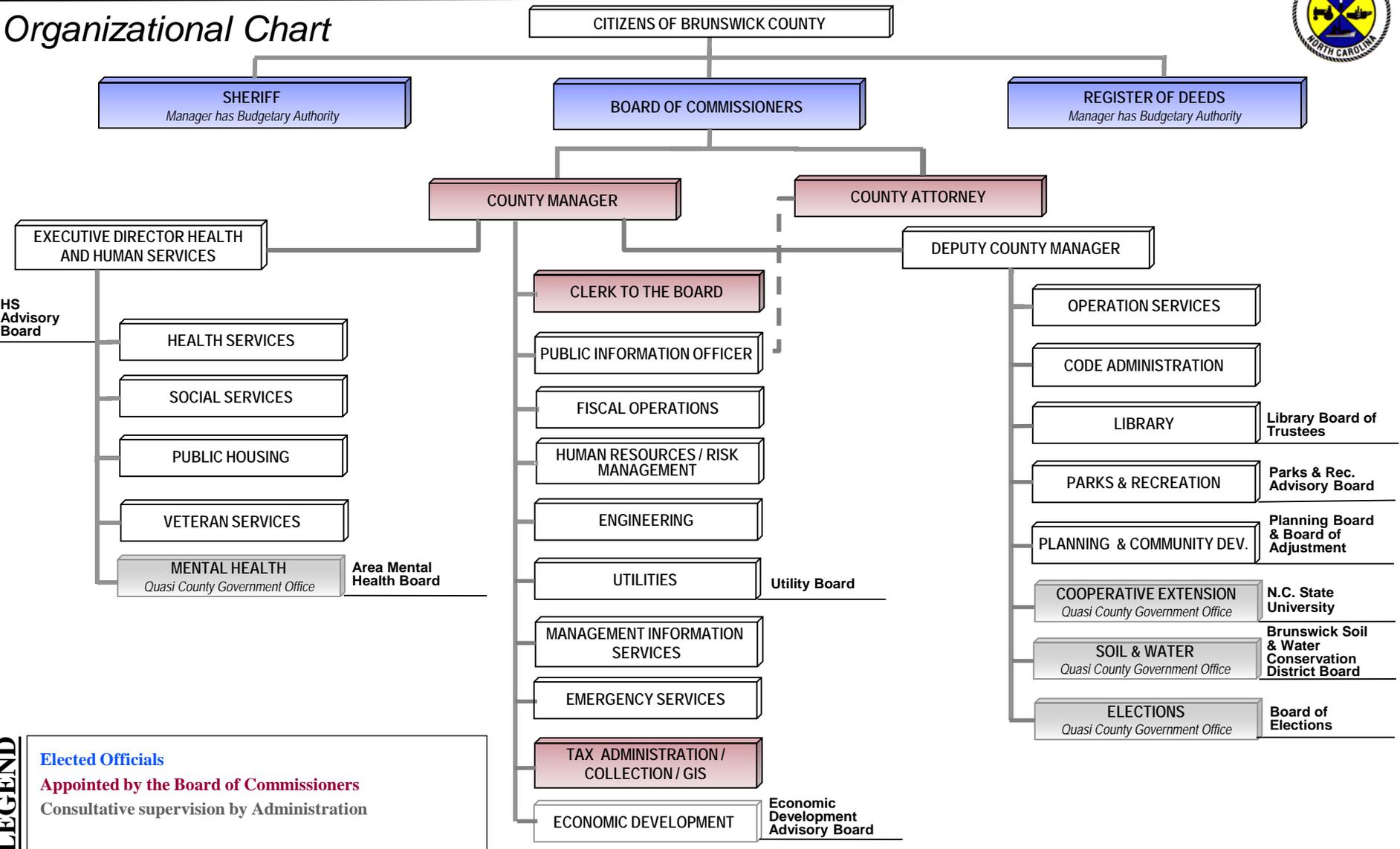


District 5  
**Frank Williams**

# Brunswick County



## Organizational Chart



**LEGEND**

- Elected Officials
- Appointed by the Board of Commissioners
- Consultative supervision by Administration

# Long and Short Term Goals and Major Focus Areas

- **Economic Development**

1. Collaborate with the Brunswick County Small Business Advisory Commission, Brunswick Community College Workforce Development Initiatives, Economic Development Commission, the four Chambers of Commerce and the Tourism Development Authority to develop a friendly and positive business environment, employ an effective business expansion and retention effort, develop a targeted business/industry recruitment strategy and grow the tourism and hospitality industry while protecting our residential neighborhoods.

- **Education**

1. Review the multi-year local funding agreement with the Brunswick County Board of Education to provide for a quality education that prepares our children for college or the workforce.

- **Financial Stewardship**

1. Adopt a County Budget for the (revenue-neutral) property tax rate, and maintain one of the lowest rates among counties in North Carolina with a population over 100,000.
2. Employ a conservative budgetary philosophy and make strategic decisions on all fiscal matters in order to maintain the positive financial position and credit strength of the county; begin adopting a zero-based budgeting mentality wherever appropriate and feasible.

- **Environmental Stewardship**

1. Encourage and incentivize green development and construction to minimize the impact on natural resources while respecting and protecting private property rights.

# Long and Short Term Goals and Major Focus Areas

- **Transportation**

1. Continue the supplemental financial support for the Brunswick Connector transit service provided by the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority.
2. Support BTS in continued development of rural transportation services, providing access to services and employment for rural residents.
3. Support the efforts of the NCACC to oppose any transfer of responsibility for transportation funding from the state to counties.

- **Organizational Improvement/Development**

1. Embed a focus on exceptional customer service where it becomes part of the organizational culture.
2. Provide all services in a way that recognizes and values diversity.
3. Recognize that businesses are customers of the county and review the Unified Development Ordinance to develop small business assistance by providing local rules that are clear, simple, easy to understand, that are predictable, reasonable and appropriate for Brunswick County.
4. Revise and implement policies, processes, procedures, programs focused on ensuring a high performing workforce.
5. Encourage participation in the Employee Wellness Program to improve upon individual health of employees, improve productivity and reduce medical costs.
6. Provide supervisory skill building and leadership training opportunities for all supervisory personnel and those with supervisory potential.

# Long and Short Term Goals and Major Focus Areas

- **Infrastructure Development/Expansion**

1. Develop strategies for continued growth in the number of water and sewer customers by determining methods to increase the number of SAD projects, prioritizing County funded water and sewer mains and acquiring or merging existing private and/or public water and sewer systems.
2. Enter into an agreement with Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority to obtain the raw water capacity to position the county for design and expansion of the Northwest Water Treatment Plant.
3. Improve communication between the County and its wholesale water customers and utilities that contribute flow to the regional wastewater treatment plants.
4. Explore methods to work with surrounding utilities to reduce operational costs.

- **Public/Mental Health**

1. Provide education to the public about preventable health issues and disease and improve Brunswick County's health ranking in the state.
2. Support the Trillium LME/MCO to operate a program for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services as they transition to one of the four state entities.
3. Continue to advocate for sufficient state/federal funding to adequately address MH/DD/SAS needs of our residents.

# Long and Short Term Goals and Major Focus Areas

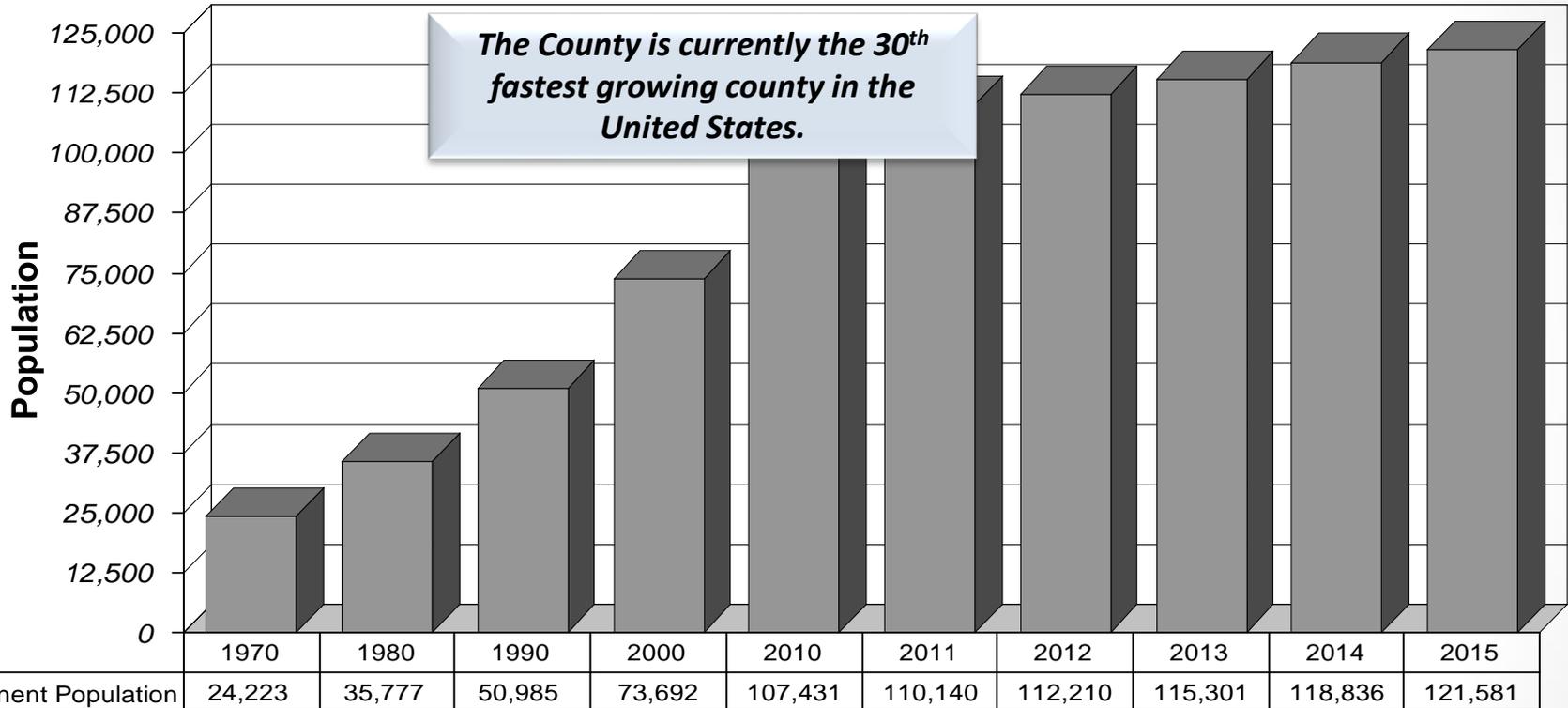
- **Community Development**

1. Investigate additional policy amendments and enhancements to provide tangible incentives to encourage the development of affordable single- and multi-family housing opportunities.
2. Enhance community appearance and protect property values through responsible zoning and code enforcement while recognizing the diversity of our county and respecting private property rights.

- **Technology**

1. Implement the results of the comprehensive in-house evaluation and assessment of the County's technological resources and operations and identify opportunities for departments to improve efficiency and service delivery through the implementation of proven technology applications.

# Population



Permanent Population	24,223	35,777	50,985	73,692	107,431	110,140	112,210	115,301	118,836	121,581
----------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

47.7%    42.5%    44.5%    45.8%    (%) Increase by decade

■ Permanent Population

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, North Carolina State Data Center, Brunswick County

# Population Trends

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Under 5 yrs</b>	5,838	5,683	5,504	5,382	5,312
<b>5 to 13 yrs</b>	9,988	10,236	10,358	10,521	10,975
<b>14 to 17 yrs</b>	4,402	4,369	4,313	4,446	4,729
<b>18 to 24 yrs</b>	6,636	6,782	6,920	7,070	6,971
<b>25 to 44 yrs</b>	23,733	23,692	23,490	23,692	25,385
<b>45 to 64 yrs</b>	34,138	34,504	34,288	34,546	33,119
<b>65 yrs &amp; over</b>	23,348	24,949	27,265	29,605	31,361
<b>85 yrs &amp; over</b>	1,738	1,879	2,008	2,192	2,138

Our senior/retired population has much to offer. They have valuable skills to share and time to share them. Many organizations would find it hard to function without their senior volunteers. Our seniors/retirees are caregivers; they provide transportation, deliver meals, run errands; they offer companionship, invaluable experience and wisdom. They serve on committees and boards and contribute much to their communities and to the county.

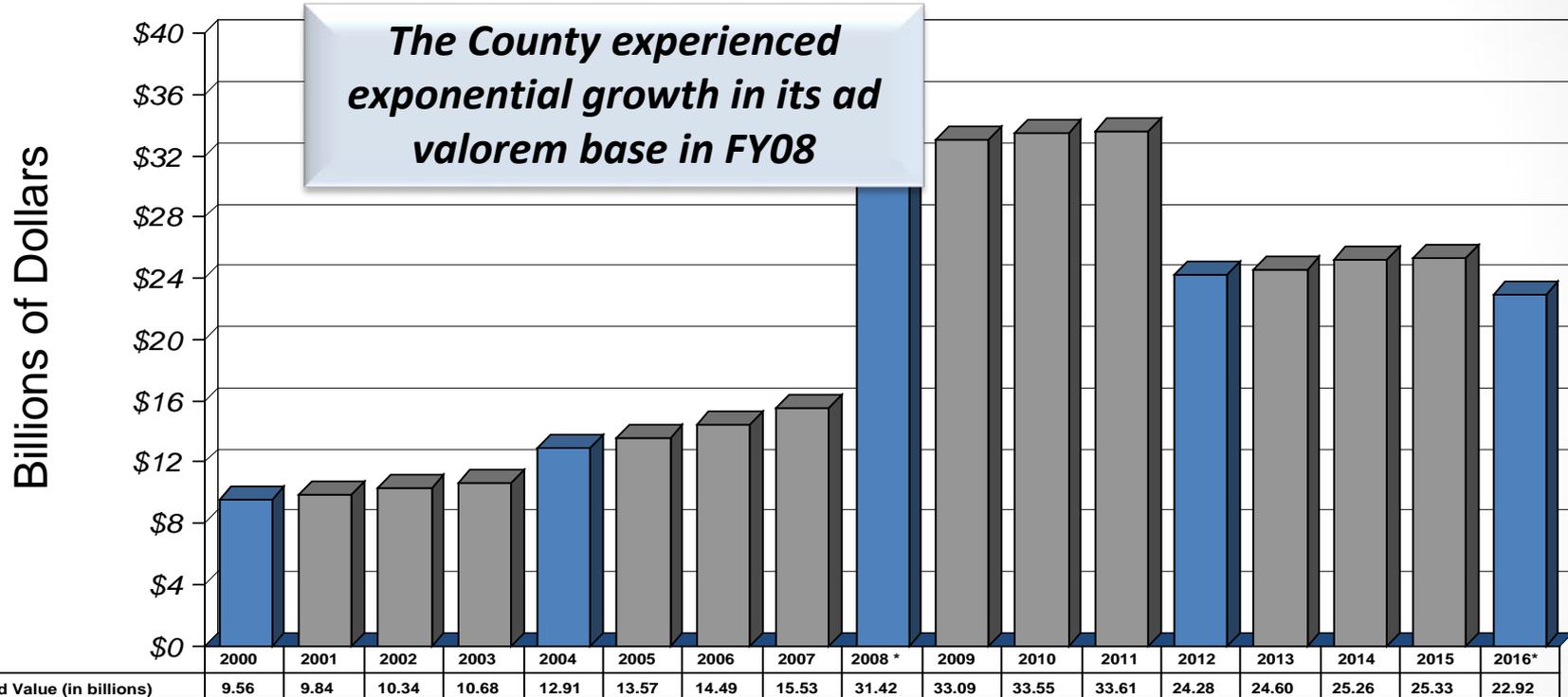
# Total Voter Registration

<b>Year</b>	<b># of Registered Voters</b>
2000	51,974
2001	49,513
2002	52,518
2003	54,788
2004	60,420
2005	60,228
2006	64,584
2007	66,636
2008	75,778
2009	76,398
2010	77,071
2011	78,010
2012	83,393
2013	81,954
2014	86,952
2015	84,788

# Economic Overview: Major Area Employers (As of the End of FY 2014)

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Service or Product</b>	<b>Employees</b>
Brunswick County Board of Education	Education	1,947
Brunswick County	Local Government	1,035
Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.	Retail Chain	932
Duke Energy	Power Generation Utility	850
Brunswick Novant Medical	Medical Care Facility	700
Food Lion LLC	Grocery Chain	520
Brunswick Community College	Education	481
Lowes Food	Grocery Chain	409
Dosher Memorial Hospital	Medical Care Facility	364
McAnderson's Inc.	Restaurant Chain	350

# Economic Overview: Assessed Valuation

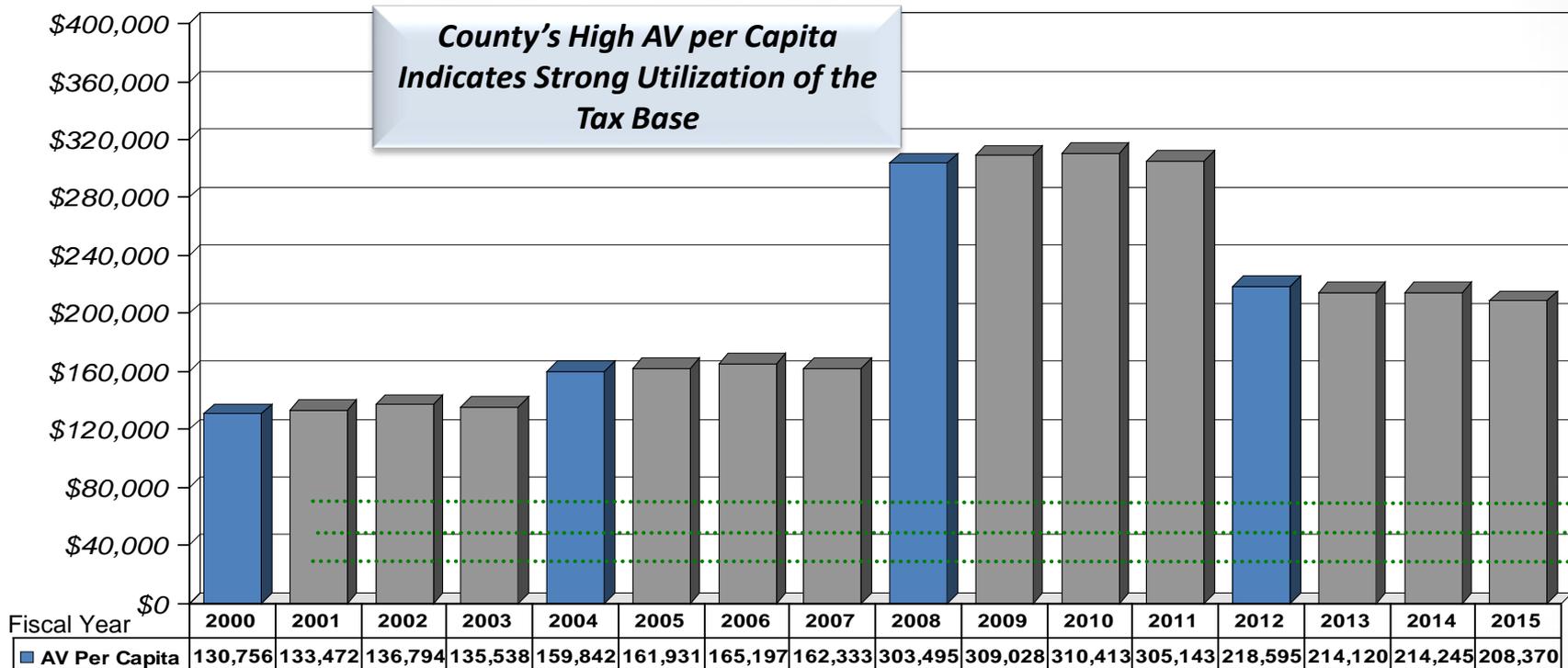


■ Revaluation Year

\*Budget

**NOTE:** Revaluation of taxable property is required by NC State statutes at least every eight years. The County's reassessment occurs every four years. Revaluation occurred at January 1, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015 and is reflected in the property values for the years ended June 30, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016.

# Economic Overview: Assessed Valuation



■ Revaluation Year

**NOTE:** Revaluation of taxable property is required by NC State statutes at least every eight years. The County's reassessment occurs every four years. Revaluation occurred at January 1, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015 and is reflected in the property values for the years ended June 30, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016.

**Benchmarks provided as a general guide and compiled from several sources**

Source: Brunswick County

High  
Moderate  
Low

# Economic Overview: Top Ten Property Tax Payers (As % of Assessed Value in FY 2014)

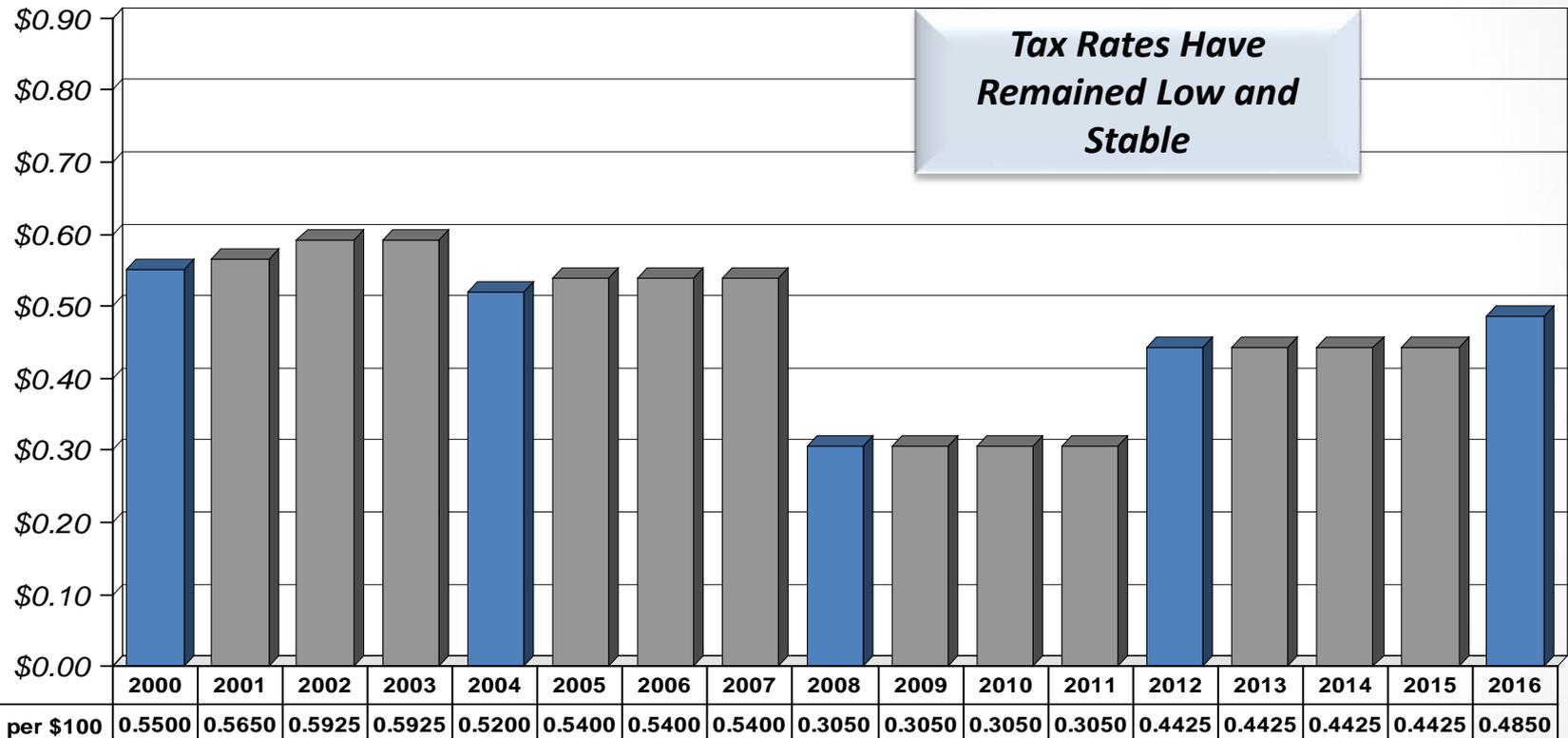
Duke Energy	Utility	\$ 876,925,784	3.48%
N.C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency	Utility	\$ 184,248,689	0.73%
Brunswick Electric Membership Corp	Utility	\$ 169,316,583	0.67%
DAK of Americas, LLC	Chemicals	\$ 155,887,277	0.62%
Archer Daniels Midland Company	Chemicals	\$ 120,110,674	0.48%
Bald Head Island Ltd.	Developer	\$ 99,730,838	0.40%
Funston Land & Timber LLC	Timber	\$ 76,667,019	0.30%
Red Mountain Timber Co. LLC	Forestry	\$ 70,774,132	0.28%
Andrew Bolnick Trustee	Developer	\$ 51,183,297	0.20%
WalMart Real Estate Business Trust	Retail	\$ 41,076,857	0.16%
		<b>\$ 1,846,121,150</b>	<b>7.32%</b>
			<b>Taxpayer Base</b>

Source: Brunswick County

**Large, Diverse Tax Base**



# Brunswick County Historical Ad Valorem Tax Rate



*Tax Rates Have Remained Low and Stable*

■ Revaluation Year

**NOTE:** Revaluation of taxable property is required by NC State statutes at least every eight years. The County’s reassessment occurs every four years. Revaluation occurred at January 1, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015 and is reflected in the property values for the years ended June 30, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016.

Source: Brunswick County

# 2014-2015 N.C. County Tax Rates\*

## 15 Lowest

Macon	\$0.2790
Jackson	\$0.2800
Carteret	\$0.3000
Watauga	\$0.3130
Clay	\$0.3600
Swain	\$0.3600
Ashe	\$0.4000
Dare	\$0.4300
Perquimans	\$0.4400
<b>Brunswick</b>	<b>\$0.4425</b>
Transylvania	\$0.4499
Graham	\$0.4600
Moore	\$0.4650
Craven	\$0.4675
Alleghany	\$0.4700

## 15 Highest

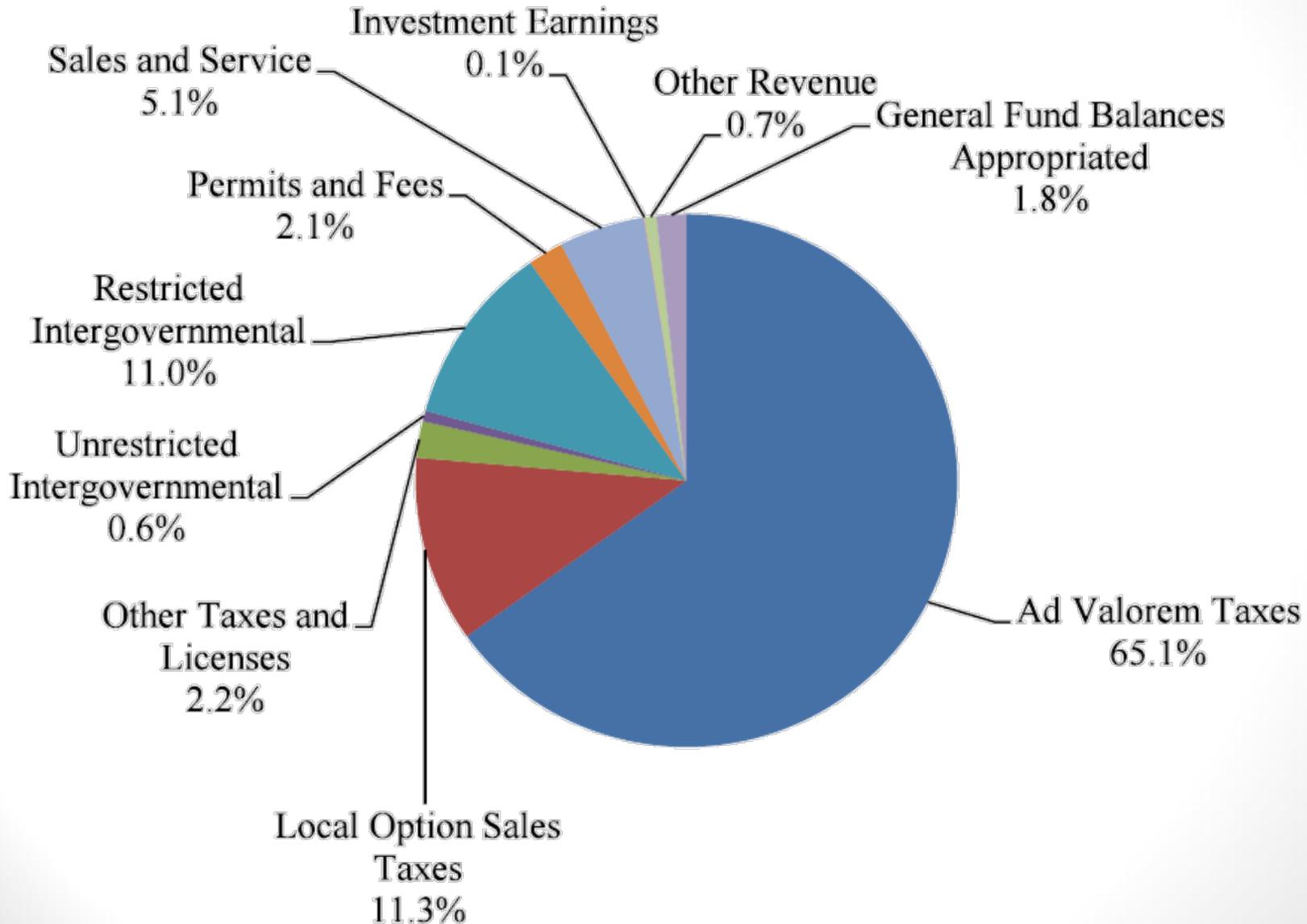
Scotland	\$1.0300
Northampton	\$0.9200
Edgecombe	\$0.8950
Orange	\$0.8780
Franklin	\$0.8725
Gaston	\$0.8700
Hertford	\$0.8400
Bertie	\$0.8400
Lenoir	\$0.8350
Sampson	\$0.8300
Granville	\$0.8300
Mecklenburg	\$0.8157
Richmond	\$0.8100
Columbus	\$0.8050
Durham	\$0.7931

---

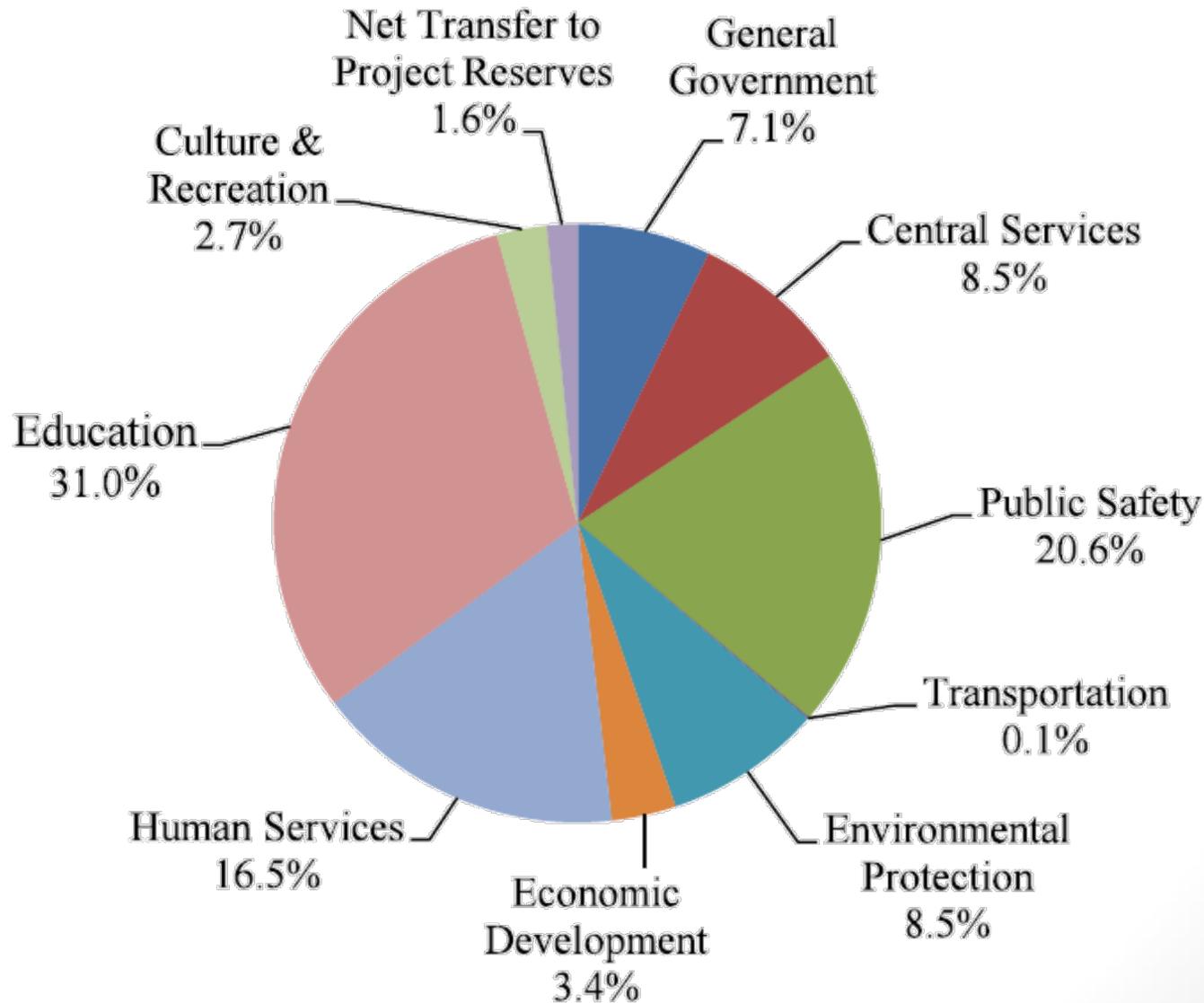
\*From N.C. Department of Revenue Preliminary Report, Dec. 2014

**Note:** FY 2015 - 2016 Revaluation occurred Brunswick County approved the Revenue Neutral Rate of .4850

# Total General Fund Revenues FY16 Budget



# Total General Fund Expenditures FY16 Budget



# Current Tax Rate

FY 16 budget estimated value of 1 cent

0.4850

\$ 2,182,443

	FY15 Approved (in millions)	Cents On Tax Rate
Brunswick County Schools Operating	\$ 34.5	15.81
Trash Collection	12.2	5.61
Sheriff's Office	11.0	5.06
Health and Human Services	9.6	4.39
Detention Center	7.0	3.22
BC Schools General Obligation Debt Service	6.1	2.80
Emergency Services	4.9	2.24
Brunswick Community College Operating	3.6	1.67
BCC General Obligation Debt Service	3.1	1.43
Parks and Recreation	2.5	1.15
Central Communications (911)	2.2	1.00
County Debt	2.1	0.95
Brunswick Senior Resources	1.6	0.74
Sheriff Animal Protective Services	0.8	0.38
Other	4.5	2.04
Total	105.8	48.50

# Water System Overview

- County Receives Raw Water Supply From Cape Fear River and Castle Hayne Aquifer
  - ⇒ Water From Cape Fear River Purchased From Lower Cape Fear Water & Sewer Authority (“LCFWSA”)
  - ⇒ LCFWSA Cape Fear River Facility Has Pumping Capability of 60 MGD; Permitted to Withdraw 45 MGD (County has allocated capacity of 24 MGD)
  - ⇒ LCFWSA Has Contracted With County to Operate and Maintain Facility
- County Owns Two Water Treatment Plants With Combined Rated Capacity of 30 MGD
- County Provides Service to Majority of Brunswick County
  - ⇒ Wholesale Service Provided to Bald Head Island, Caswell Beach, Holden Beach, Navassa, Northwest, Oak Island, Ocean Isle Beach, Shallotte, Southport, Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer and Leland
  - ⇒ Retail Service Provided to Bolivia, Calabash, Carolina Shores, St. James, Sunset Beach, Varnamtown, Sandy Creek and Boiling Spring Lakes
  - ⇒ Demand (*Approx.*): Industrial = 20%, Wholesale = 35%, Retail = 45 %

# Distribution System

- 9.25-MG ground storage tanks at NW WTP
- One 4-MG ground storage tank
- 10 elevated tanks with 5.0 MGD capacity
- 1,100 miles of water main 2" – 42"
- 1.25-MG ground storage tanks at NC 211 WTP

# Customer Base

- 4 major industrial customers
- 11 wholesale municipal customers
- 37,112 retail customers
- Includes customers in 6 municipalities

# Wastewater System Overview

- County Owns and Operates 6 Treatment Facilities With Capabilities of 0.1 to 6.0 MGD
  - ⇒ Northeast Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility (“NBRWRF”) Has Rated Treatment Capacity of 2.475 MGD
    - Serves the Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer, the City of Northwest and the Town of Sandy Creek
  - ⇒ West Brunswick Regional Water Reclamation Facility (“WBRWRF”) Has Rated Treatment Capacity of 6.0 MGD
    - Serves the Town of Holden Beach, Town of Shallotte, Town of Oak Island, City of Southport, Town of St. James, Winding River Development and Unincorporated Areas of Brunswick County
- County Also Operates the Shallotte WWTP (Permitted Capacity of 0.5 MGD), Sea Trail WWTP (0.3 MGD), Carolina Shores WWTP (0.565MGD) and Ocean Isle Beach WWTP (1.05 MGD)
- Collection System Consists of 539 Miles of Gravity and Force Main Pipeline (2” to 24”) & Pump Stations Supported by Direct Backup Power or Trailer-Mounted Generators

# Sewer System Overview

## SEVEN WASTEWATER PLANTS

West Brunswick WRF	6.000 MGD
Northeast Brunswick WWTP	2.475 MGD
Carolina Shores WWTP	0.565 MGD
Shallotte WWTP	0.500 MGD
Sea Trail WWTP	0.300 MGD
Ocean Isle Beach WWTP	<u>1.050 MGD</u>
	10.890 MGD

# Customer Base

- 14,514 Retail Customers
- Collection System has grown at a rate of 17% per year over the past ten years

# Newcomers

New Residents may find information about the county and its services by visiting our website: [www.brunswickcountync.gov](http://www.brunswickcountync.gov). There is also a section for new residents under the “Stay Informed” tab. Here you will find direct links to information and services such as:

- Roads
- Curbside Garbage Pickup
- Curbside Recycling Collection
- Water & Sewer Service
- History of Brunswick County
- County Government
- Your Commissioners
- Municipalities

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Chambers of Commerce websites:

Brunswick Islands Chamber <http://www.ncbrunswick.com/>

North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce <http://www.nbchamberofcommerce.com/>

Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce <http://www.southport-oakisland.com/>

Or the local newspapers:

Brunswick Beacon <http://www.brunswickbeacon.com/>

State Port Pilot <http://stateportpilot.com/>

# Questions and Answers

**This concludes the presentation.  
Thank you for your attention.**

Brunswick County Administration  
David R. Sandifer County Administration Building  
30 Government Center Drive NE  
PO Box 249  
Bolivia, North Carolina 28422  
910-253-2000 / 800-442-7033  
[www.brunswickcountync.gov](http://www.brunswickcountync.gov)  
Email: [administration@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:administration@brunswickcountync.gov)