
SECTION 2.
COMMUNITY PROFILES

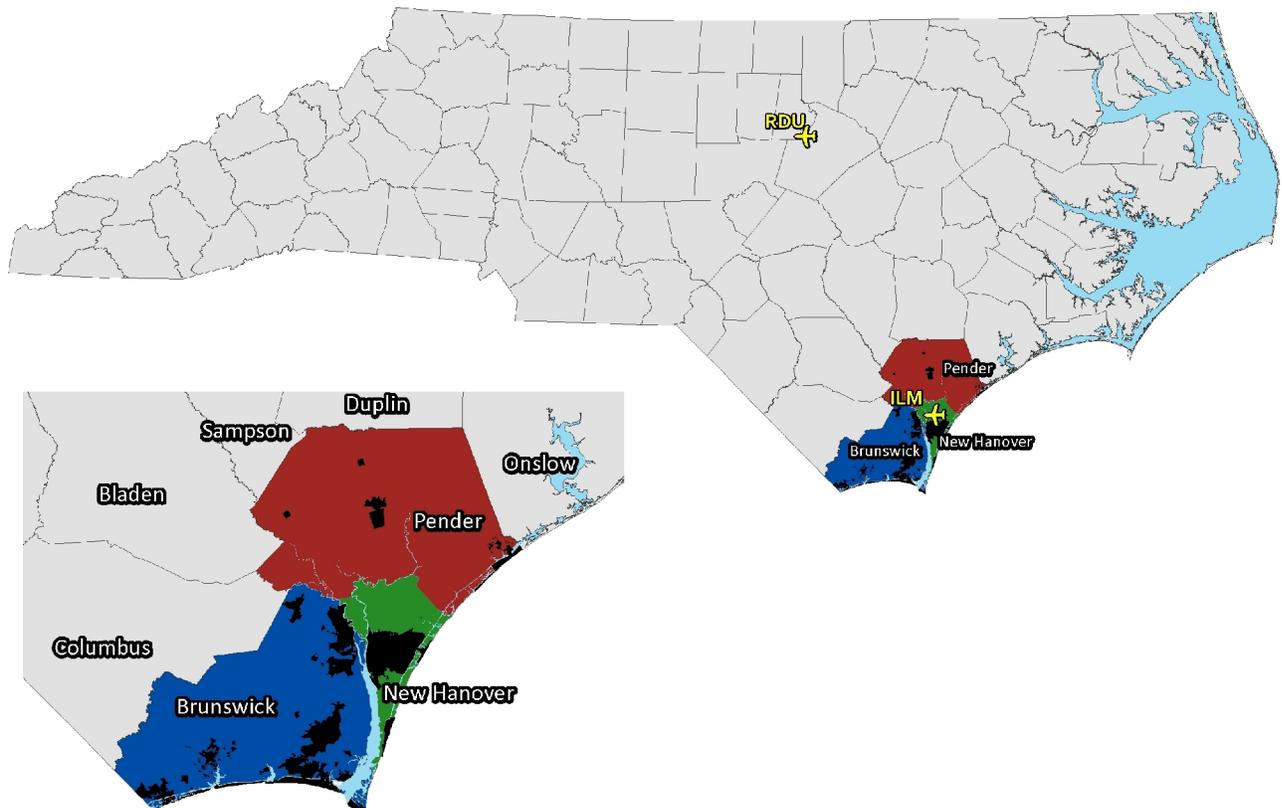
INTRODUCTION

General information for the Southeastern NC Region as a whole such as location, topography/geology, and climate have been combined in this section. Following the region's introductory information is a summary for each county, containing pertinent information regarding history, and demographics including population, housing, and economic characteristics. This information provides a snapshot of basic factors impacting day-to-day decision-making and economic growth.

Location

The Southeastern NC Region is located in the Southeastern Coastal Plain of North Carolina. Key transportation routes through the Region include US 421 running north-south through Pender/New Hanover Counties, Interstate 40 running north-south from Wilmington to Raleigh, and US 76 extending from western North Carolina to Wilmington. The primary north-south route through the counties is US Highway 17. CSX Transportation provides service running north-south from Raleigh and east-west from Charlotte to the Wilmington terminus. The CSX western route connects to the federal rail line serving the Sunny Point Ocean Terminal in Brunswick County. The Wilmington International Airport (ILM) or the Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) are the primary providers of air transportation service. The following provides the general location of these facilities, as well as the three-county region.

Figure 1. Regional Location



Topography/Geology

As previously noted, the Southeastern NC Region is located within the Southeastern Coastal Plain of North Carolina. Elevations throughout the three counties range from approximately sea level to roughly 75 feet above sea level within the northern and western portions of the region. The land surfaces throughout the region are nearly level to gently sloping; however, some steep slopes exist along stream banks and river courses. Drainage throughout the majority of the region flows to the Cape Fear River. Western Brunswick County drains to the Waccamaw River while the western portions of Pender County drain to the Black River. The Black River is one of only two rivers in the Nation considered pollution-free.

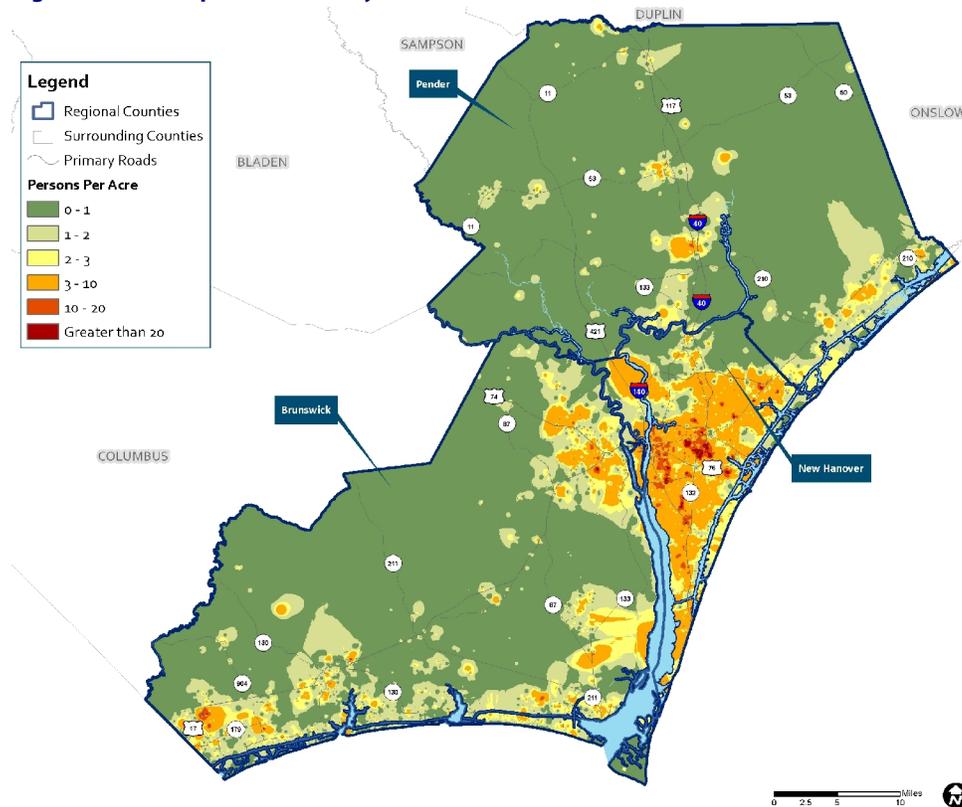
Climate

The Southeastern NC Region gets an average of 55 inches of precipitation per year. Snowfall average is less than 2 inches for the region. On average, there are 215 sunny days per year in the Region. The July high temperature is around 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The January low temperature is 33 degrees Fahrenheit.

Regional Population

As an overview, in 2010, the Southeastern NC Region had a total population of 370,139. The regional population density is delineated on Figure 2. It is estimated that approximately 33,630 people, or 9% of the region's total population reside within a flood hazard area (refer to Maps 2-14, 16-19, and 21-27 in Appendix A for delineation of flood hazard areas).

Figure 2. 2013 Population Density



BRUNSWICK COUNTY*History*

Brunswick County is located on the southeastern coast of North Carolina. It is bordered by New Hanover, Columbus, Pender, and Horry (South Carolina) counties, and by the Atlantic Ocean. It is one of the larger North Carolina counties with an area of 856.51 square miles. It also boasts 47 miles of coastline. The County was formed from sections of New Hanover and Bladen counties. Brunswick County is named after the Town of Brunswick, which was located near present day Southport at the mouth of the Cape Fear River. Brunswick town was named in honor of King George I, Duke of Brunswick, and was established in 1745. It was made into a County in 1764. It was then, and still is for the most part, a mainly rural County.

Brunswick Town was the first County Seat of the newly formed Brunswick County. It remained so until 1779, well after the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. In 1779, Lockwood Folly was established as the County Seat, and the Court was convened at the house of John Bell until the courthouse was built in 1786. On November 28, 1808, the County Seat was moved to Smithville, a town established in 1792 at the mouth of the Cape Fear River. Smithville was later named Southport, and the County Seat remained there until 1975, when it was moved to Bolivia, the current County Seat.

Brunswick County was divided into several districts since inception, but in 1812 these were stabilized into six: Northwest, Town Creek, Smithville, Shallotte, Lockwood Folly, and Waccamaw - all of which are current townships.

The Town of Bolivia was established in the 1890s and was incorporated in 1911. In 1975, the County Seat was moved from Southport to Bolivia because Bolivia was closer to the center of the County and could provide better service to the population.

Population

The Brunswick County total population (including municipalities) increased by 43.5% from 1990 to 2000 and by 50.8% from 2000 to 2013 (see Table 2-1).

Table 2-1. Brunswick County/Municipalities Population 1990-2013

Jurisdiction	Total Population				Percent Change			
	1990	2000	2010	2013 Est.	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'13	'90-'13
Bald Head Island	78	173	158	132	121.8%	-8.7%	-16.5%	69.2%
Belville	46	285	1,936	2,323	519.6%	579.3%	20.0%	495.0%
Boiling Spring Lakes	1,672	2,972	5,372	5,440	77.8%	80.7%	1.3%	225.4%
Bolivia	226	148	143	173	-34.5%	-3.4%	21.0%	-23.5%
Calabash	1,189	711	1,786	1,829	-40.2%	151.2%	2.4%	53.8%
Carolina Shores	—*	1,482	3,048	3,352	—*	105.7%	10.0%	126.2%**
Caswell Beach	155	370	398	503	138.7%	7.6%	26.4%	224.5%

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Jurisdiction	Total Population				Percent Change			
	1990	2000	2010	2013 Est.	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'13	'90-'13
Holden Beach	642	787	575	871	22.6%	-26.9%	51.5%	35.7%
Leland	1,785	1,938	13,527	14,499	8.6%	598.0%	7.2%	712.3%
Navassa	433	479	1,505	1,670	10.6%	214.2%	11.0%	285.7%
Northwest	—*	671	735	868	—*	9.5%	18.1%	29.4%**
Oak Island	—*	6,571	6,783	6,970	—*	3.2%	2.8%	6.1%**
Ocean Isle Beach	534	426	550	821	-20.2%	29.1%	49.3%	53.7%
Sandy Creek	271	246	260	379	-9.2%	5.7%	45.8%	39.9%
Shalotte	976	1,381	3,675	3,595	41.5%	404.9%	-2.2%	268.3%
Southport	2,349	2,351	2,833	2,953	-0.3%	20.5%	4.2%	25.2%
St. James	—*	804	3,165	3,442	—*	293.7%	8.6%	328.1%**
Sunset Beach	321	1,824	3,572	3,629	468.2%	95.8%	1.6%	1030.5%
Varnamtown	434	481	541	600	10.8%	12.5%	10.9%	38.2%
<i>Subtotal - All Municipalities</i>	11,121	24,100	50,562	54,049	116.7%	109.8%	6.9%	386.0%
Unincorporated Areas	39,864	49,043	56,869	56,275	23.0%	16.0%	-1.0%	41.2%
Brunswick County (Total)	50,985	73,143	107,431	110,324	43.5%	46.9%	2.7%	116.4%

*Municipality was incorporated after 1990. Incorporation years are as follows: Carolina Shores, 1998; Northwest, 1998; Oak Island, 1999; St. James, 1999.

**For municipalities incorporated after 1990, overall percent change was calculated from 2000-2013, not 1990-2013.

Source: US Census Bureau; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Between 1990 and 2013, the County's unincorporated areas and almost all of Brunswick County's municipalities experienced population growth. Bald Head Island experienced population declines from 2000 to 2010 and from 2010 to 2013. Bolivia experienced a significant decline from 1990 to 2000 and lesser declines between 2000 to 2010. Holden Beach also experienced a decline from 2000 to 2010. From 1990 to 2013, Bolivia was the only municipality experiencing a decline for the entire 23-year period. The North Carolina Office of State Planning forecasts an overall increase in the County's population.

Housing

The number of occupied housing units for the County in the 2013 American Community Survey was 47,600 units, or 60.9% of the total housing units. Vacant housing units accounted for 30,559 units, or 39.1% of the total housing inventory. Table 2-2 summarizes the County's and municipalities' dwelling units by tenure. In the oceanfront beach communities, the vacant units (mainly seasonal) ranged from a high of 93.2% in Bald Head Island to a low of 60% in Oak Island. The non-beach municipalities' vacancy rate ranged from a high of 39.4% in Calabash to a low of 5.8% in Sandy Creek.

Table 2-2. Brunswick County/Municipalities Summary of Housing Units by Tenure, 2013

	Number of Units	% of Total
<i>Bald Head Island</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	68	6.8%
Renter-Occupied Units	0	0.0%
Vacant Units	931	93.2%
Total Housing Units - Bald Head Island	999	100.0%
<i>Belville</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	716	81.4%
Renter-Occupied Units	104	11.8%
Vacant Units	60	6.8%
Total Housing Units - Belville	880	100.0%
<i>Boiling Spring Lakes</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	2,031	72.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	358	12.8%
Vacant Units	406	14.5%
Total Housing Units - Boiling Spring Lakes	2,795	100.0%
<i>Bolivia</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	35	63.6%
Renter-Occupied Units	15	27.3%
Vacant Units	5	9.1%
Total Housing Units - Bolivia	55	100.0%
<i>Calabash</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	643	44.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	228	15.9%
Vacant Units	567	39.4%
Total Housing Units - Calabash	1,438	100.0%
<i>Carolina Shores</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	1,586	68.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	181	7.9%
Vacant Units	541	23.4%
Total Housing Units - Carolina Shores	2,308	100.0%
<i>Caswell Beach</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	222	29.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	22	2.9%
Vacant Units	504	67.4%
Total Housing Units - Caswell Beach	748	100.0%

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	Number of Units	% of Total
Holden Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	396	16.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	32	1.4%
Vacant Units	1,939	81.9%
Total Housing Units - Holden Beach	2,367	100.0%
Leland		
Owner-Occupied Units	4,711	67.2%
Renter-Occupied Units	1,538	21.9%
Vacant Units	765	10.9%
Total Housing Units - Leland	7,014	100.0%
Navassa		
Owner-Occupied Units	455	67.0%
Renter-Occupied Units	137	20.2%
Vacant Units	87	12.8%
Total Housing Units - Navassa	679	100.0%
Northwest		
Owner-Occupied Units	291	70.1%
Renter-Occupied Units	56	13.5%
Vacant Units	68	16.4%
Total Housing Units - Northwest	415	100.0%
Oak Island		
Owner-Occupied Units	2,426	27.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	1,027	11.7%
Vacant Units	5,315	60.6%
Total Housing Units - Oak Island	8,768	100.0%
Ocean Isle Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	341	10.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	73	2.3%
Vacant Units	2,763	87.0%
Total Housing Units - Ocean Isle Beach	3,177	100.0%
Sandy Creek		
Owner-Occupied Units	95	69.4%
Renter-Occupied Units	34	24.8%
Vacant Units	8	5.8%
Total Housing Units - Sandy Creek	137	100.0%

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	Number of Units	% of Total
Shallotte		
Owner-Occupied Units	852	48.2%
Renter-Occupied Units	594	33.6%
Vacant Units	322	18.2%
Total Housing Units - Shallotte	1,768	100.0%
Southport		
Owner-Occupied Units	887	47.6%
Renter-Occupied Units	490	26.3%
Vacant Units	486	26.1%
Total Housing Units - Southport	1,863	100.0%
St. James		
Owner-Occupied Units	1,560	63.9%
Renter-Occupied Units	178	7.3%
Vacant Units	704	28.8%
Total Housing Units - St. James	2,442	100.0%
Sunset Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	1,697	33.9%
Renter-Occupied Units	135	2.7%
Vacant Units	3,178	63.4%
Total Housing Units - Sunset Beach	5,010	100.0%
Varnamtown		
Owner-Occupied Units	190	59.0%
Renter-Occupied Units	36	11.2%
Vacant Units	96	29.8%
Total Housing Units - Varnamtown	322	100.0%
Brunswick County		
Owner-Occupied Units	36,363	46.5%
Renter-Occupied Units	11,237	14.4%
Vacant Units	30,559	39.1%
Total Housing Units - County	78,159	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Over 71% of the County's housing units have been built during or after 1970. Table 2-3 provides the years housing units were constructed by municipality and the County as a whole.

Table 2-3. Brunswick County/Municipalities Housing Units by Year Structure Built, 2013

Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Bald Head Island			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	430	43.0%	<i>Largest % of Bald Head Island's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	309	30.9%	
1980 to 1989	224	22.4%	
1970 to 1979	32	3.2%	
1960 to 1969	1	0.1%	
1950 to 1959	0	0.0%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	3	0.3%	
Total Structures	999	100.0%	
Belville			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	367	41.7%	<i>Largest % of Belville's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	296	33.6%	
1980 to 1989	80	9.1%	
1970 to 1979	109	12.4%	
1960 to 1969	7	0.8%	
1950 to 1959	15	1.7%	
1940 to 1949	3	0.3%	
1939 or earlier	3	0.3%	
Total Structures	880	100.0%	
Boiling Spring Lakes			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	1,222	43.7%	<i>Largest % of Boiling Spg. Lakes' housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	869	31.1%	
1980 to 1989	354	12.7%	
1970 to 1979	186	6.7%	
1960 to 1969	104	3.7%	
1950 to 1959	51	1.8%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	9	0.3%	
Total Structures	2,795	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Bolivia			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	11	20.0%	
1990 to 1999	9	16.4%	
1980 to 1989	2	3.6%	
1970 to 1979	15	27.3%	<i>Largest % of Bolivia's housing units built in 1970s</i>
1960 to 1969	4	7.3%	
1950 to 1959	3	5.5%	
1940 to 1949	2	3.6%	
1939 or earlier	9	16.4%	
Total Structures	55	100.0%	
Calabash			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	217	15.1%	
1990 to 1999	517	36.0%	<i>Largest % of Calabash's housing units built in 1990s</i>
1980 to 1989	486	33.8%	
1970 to 1979	135	9.4%	
1960 to 1969	0	0.0%	
1950 to 1959	65	4.5%	
1940 to 1949	14	1.0%	
1939 or earlier	4	0.3%	
Total Structures	1,438	100.0%	
Carolina Shores			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	979	42.4%	<i>Largest % of Carolina Shores' housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	586	25.4%	
1980 to 1989	563	24.4%	
1970 to 1979	102	4.4%	
01960 to 1969	0	0.0%	
1950 to 1959	62	2.7%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	16	0.7%	
Total Structures	2,308	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Caswell Beach			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	143	19.1%	
1990 to 1999	163	21.8%	
1980 to 1989	315	42.1%	<i>Largest % of Caswell Beach's housing units built in 1980s</i>
1970 to 1979	66	8.8%	
1960 to 1969	34	4.5%	
1950 to 1959	18	2.4%	
1940 to 1949	5	0.7%	
1939 or earlier	4	0.5%	
Total Structures	748	100.0%	
Holden Beach			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	430	18.2%	
1990 to 1999	600	25.3%	<i>Largest % of Holden Beach's housing units built in 1980s/90s</i>
1980 to 1989	619	26.2%	
1970 to 1979	347	14.7%	
1960 to 1969	311	13.1%	
1950 to 1959	58	2.5%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	2	0.1%	
Total Structures	2,367	100.0%	
Leland			
2010 or later	320	4.6%	
2000 to 2009	5,156	73.5%	<i>Largest % of Leland's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	366	5.2%	
1980 to 1989	308	4.4%	
1970 to 1979	345	4.9%	
1960 to 1969	198	2.8%	
1950 to 1959	128	1.8%	
1940 to 1949	51	0.7%	
1939 or earlier	142	2.0%	
Total Structures	7,014	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Navassa			
2010 or later	5	0.7%	
2000 to 2009	189	27.8%	<i>Largest % of Navassa's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	136	20.0%	
1980 to 1989	119	17.5%	
1970 to 1979	75	11.0%	
1960 to 1969	59	8.7%	
1950 to 1959	22	3.2%	
1940 to 1949	44	6.5%	
1939 or earlier	30	4.4%	
Total Structures	679	100.0%	
Northwest			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	83	20.0%	
1990 to 1999	108	26.0%	<i>Largest % of Northwest's housing units built in 1990s</i>
1980 to 1989	71	17.1%	
1970 to 1979	63	15.2%	
1960 to 1969	50	12.0%	
1950 to 1959	21	5.1%	
1940 to 1949	7	1.7%	
1939 or earlier	12	2.9%	
Total Structures	415	100.0%	
Oak Island			
2010 or later	27	0.3%	
2000 to 2009	2,517	28.7%	<i>Largest % of Oak Island's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	1,528	17.4%	
1980 to 1989	2,066	23.6%	
1970 to 1979	1,100	12.5%	
1960 to 1969	1,007	11.5%	
1950 to 1959	376	4.3%	
1940 to 1949	53	0.6%	
1939 or earlier	94	1.1%	
Total Structures	8,768	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Ocean Isle Beach			
2010 or later	6	0.2%	
2000 to 2009	632	19.9%	
1990 to 1999	716	22.5%	
1980 to 1989	1,163	36.6%	<i>Largest % of Ocean Isle Beach's housing units built in 1980s</i>
1970 to 1979	479	15.1%	
1960 to 1969	139	4.4%	
1950 to 1959	39	1.2%	
1940 to 1949	3	0.1%	
1939 or earlier	0	0.0%	
Total Structures	3,177	100.0%	
Sandy Creek			
2010 or later	8	5.8%	
2000 to 2009	24	17.5%	
1990 to 1999	47	34.3%	<i>Largest % of Sandy Creek's housing units built in 1980s/90s</i>
1980 to 1989	47	34.3%	
1970 to 1979	9	6.6%	
1960 to 1969	0	0.0%	
1950 to 1959	2	1.5%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	0	0.0%	
Total Structures	137	100.0%	
Shallotte			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	1,037	58.7%	<i>Largest % of Shallotte's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	275	15.6%	
1980 to 1989	346	19.6%	
1970 to 1979	54	3.1%	
1960 to 1969	7	0.4%	
1950 to 1959	25	1.4%	
1940 to 1949	10	0.6%	
1939 or earlier	14	0.8%	
Total Structures	1,768	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Southport			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	630	33.8%	<i>Largest % of Southport's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	208	11.2%	
1980 to 1989	324	17.4%	
1970 to 1979	239	12.8%	
1960 to 1969	116	6.2%	
1950 to 1959	105	5.6%	
1940 to 1949	20	1.1%	
1939 or earlier	221	11.9%	
Total Structures	1,863	100.0%	
St. James			
2010 or later	81	3.3%	
2000 to 2009	1,513	62.0%	<i>Largest % of St. James's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	779	31.9%	
1980 to 1989	69	2.8%	
1970 to 1979	0	0.0%	
1960 to 1969	0	0.0%	
1950 to 1959	0	0.0%	
1940 to 1949	0	0.0%	
1939 or earlier	0	0.0%	
Total Structures	2,442	100.0%	
Sunset Beach			
2010 or later	36	0.7%	
2000 to 2009	2,024	40.4%	<i>Largest % of Sunset Beach's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	971	19.4%	
1980 to 1989	1,505	30.0%	
1970 to 1979	287	5.7%	
1960 to 1969	96	1.9%	
1950 to 1959	29	0.6%	
1940 to 1949	46	0.9%	
1939 or earlier	16	0.3%	
Total Structures	5,010	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Varnamtown			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	40	12.4%	
1990 to 1999	94	29.2%	<i>Largest % of Varnamtown's housing units built in 1990s</i>
1980 to 1989	57	17.7%	
1970 to 1979	38	11.8%	
1960 to 1969	63	19.6%	
1950 to 1959	15	4.7%	
1940 to 1949	7	2.2%	
1939 or earlier	8	2.8%	
Total Structures	322	100.0%	
Brunswick County			
2010 or later	735	0.9%	
2000 to 2009	28,024	35.9%	<i>Largest % of Brunswick County's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	17,894	22.9%	
1980 to 1989	15,729	20.1%	
1970 to 1979	7,926	10.1%	
1960 to 1969	4,136	5.3%	
1950 to 1959	1,982	2.5%	
1940 to 1949	705	0.9%	
1939 or earlier	1,028	1.3%	
Total Structures	78,159	100.0%	

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Economy

In 2013, there was a total of 42,755 employed persons in Brunswick County. Table 2-4 provides the County's and municipalities' unemployment rates for the civilian labor force for selected years. The overall unemployment rate for the County increased by 32.1% between 2000 and 2013. The unemployment rates increased for all of the County's municipalities. However, the unemployment rate for Caswell Beach increased only 0.3% from 4.3% in 2000 to 4.6% in 2013. In 2013, other municipal unemployment rates ranged from 7.8% in Southport to 31.9% in Bolivia.

Table 2-4. Brunswick County/Municipalities Civilian Unemployment Rate, 16 years and over			
	2000	2013	% Change
Bald Head Island			
Civilian Labor Force	85	35	-58.8%
Number Employed	80	32	-60.0%
Number Unemployed	5	3	-40.0%
Bald Head Island Unemployment Rate	5.9%	8.6%	45.8%

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	2000	2013	% Change
Belville			
Civilian Labor Force	170	1,217	615.9%
Number Employed	170	1,120	558.8%
Number Unemployed	0	97	--
Belville Unemployment Rate	0.0%	8.0%	--
Boiling Spring Lakes			
Civilian Labor Force	1,380	2,884	109.0%
Number Employed	1,337	2,528	89.1%
Number Unemployed	43	356	727.9%
Boiling Spring Lakes Unemployment Rate	3.1%	12.3%	296.8%
Bolivia			
Civilian Labor Force	51	72	41.2%
Number Employed	46	49	6.5%
Number Unemployed	5	23	3.6%
Bolivia Unemployment Rate	9.8%	31.9%	225.5%
Calabash			
Civilian Labor Force	355	816	129.9%
Number Employed	338	693	105.0%
Number Unemployed	17	123	623.5%
Calabash Unemployment Rate	4.8%	15.1%	214.6%
Carolina Shores			
Civilian Labor Force	487	1,170	140.2%
Number Employed	465	1,050	125.8%
Number Unemployed	22	120	445.5%
Carolina Shores Unemployment Rate	4.5%	10.3%	128.9%
Caswell Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	138	216	56.5%
Number Employed	132	206	56.1%
Number Unemployed	6	10	66.7%
Caswell Beach Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.6%	7.0%
Holden Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	320	343	7.2%
Number Employed	314	304	-3.2%
Number Unemployed	6	39	550.0%
Holden Beach Unemployment Rate	1.9%	11.4%	500.0%
Leland			
Civilian Labor Force	942	7,282	673.0%
Number Employed	888	6,667	650.8%
Number Unemployed	54	615	1038.9%
Leland Unemployment Rate	5.7%	8.4%	47.4%
Navassa			
Civilian Labor Force	186	824	343.0%
Number Employed	164	695	323.8%
Number Unemployed	22	129	486.4%
Navassa Unemployment Rate	11.8%	15.7%	33.1%

SECTION 2. COMMUNITY PROFILES

	2000	2013	% Change
Northwest			
Civilian Labor Force	308	400	29.9%
Number Employed	286	333	16.4%
Number Unemployed	22	67	204.5%
Northwest Unemployment Rate	7.1%	16.8%	136.6%
Oak Island			
Civilian Labor Force	3,145	3,313	5.3%
Number Employed	3,038	2,871	-5.5%
Number Unemployed	107	442	313.1%
Oak Island Unemployment Rate	3.4%	13.3%	291.2%
Ocean Isle Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	194	428	120.6%
Number Employed	190	364	91.6%
Number Unemployed	4	64	1500.0%
Ocean Isle Beach Unemployment Rate	2.1%	15.0%	614.3%
Sandy Creek			
Civilian Labor Force	128	171	33.6%
Number Employed	124	154	24.2%
Number Unemployed	4	17	325.0%
Sandy Creek Unemployment Rate	3.1%	9.9%	219.4%
Shallotte			
Civilian Labor Force	541	1,785	229.9%
Number Employed	522	1,529	194.8%
Number Unemployed	19	256	124.7%
Shallotte Unemployment Rate	3.5%	14.3%	308.6%
Southport			
Civilian Labor Force	1,089	1,406	29.1%
Number Employed	1,035	1,296	25.2%
Number Unemployed	54	110	103.7%
Southport Unemployment Rate	5.0%	7.8%	56.0%
St. James			
Civilian Labor Force	250	704	181.6%
Number Employed	230	625	171.7%
Number Unemployed	20	79	295.0%
St. James Unemployment Rate	8.0%	11.2%	40.0%
Sunset Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	658	1,292	96.4%
Number Employed	620	1,143	84.4%
Number Unemployed	38	149	292.1%
Sunset Beach Unemployment Rate	5.8%	11.5%	98.3%
Varnamtown			
Civilian Labor Force	217	283	30.4%
Number Employed	206	240	16.5%
Number Unemployed	11	43	290.9%
Varnamtown Unemployment Rate	5.1%	15.2%	198.0%

SECTION 2. COMMUNITY PROFILES

	2000	2013	% Change
Brunswick County			
Civilian Labor Force	33,922	49,745	46.6%
Number Employed	32,355	42,753	32.1%
Number Unemployed	1,567	6,992	346.2%
Brunswick County Unemployment Rate	4.6%	14.1%	206.5%
North Carolina Unemployment Rate	5.3%	11.1%	109.4%

Source: 2000 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Brunswick County's civilian employment is heavily concentrated in the education/health/social service and retail trade sectors. The largest single employment category is the Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance sector, which constitutes 19.6% of all those employed who are 16 years of age and older. Retail Trade accounts for the second largest category with 14.7%. Of the County's total 2013 employed labor force, 11.3% were employed in the Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, and Accommodation and Food Services sector, 10.7% in the Construction sector, and 10.5% in the Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services sector. Table 2-5 provides a summary of Brunswick County's employment by industry.

Categories	Total Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	349	0.8%
Construction	4,589	10.7%
Manufacturing	3,320	7.8%
Wholesale trade	550	1.3%
Retail trade	6,276	14.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	2,478	5.8%
Information	821	1.9%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	2,711	6.3%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	4,506	10.5%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	8,395	19.6%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	4,841	11.3%
Other services (except public administration)	1,813	4.2%
Public administration	2,104	4.9%
Total	42,753	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Normally, per capita income is considered a good indicator of an area's income producing capability or strength. Table 2-6 provides a comparison of per capita incomes for Brunswick County, its municipalities, and North Carolina.

Table 2-6. Brunswick County and North Carolina Per Capita Income, 2000, 2010, and 2013			
	2000 Census	2010 Census	2013 Estimate
Bald Head Island	\$45,585	\$93,711	\$63,819
Belville	\$22,482	\$31,875	\$25,198
Boiling Spring Lakes	\$18,079	\$23,381	\$22,058
Bolivia	\$12,973	\$18,585	\$13,934
Calabash	\$22,975	\$21,519	\$22,508
Carolina Shores	\$27,093	\$27,734	\$28,716
Caswell Beach	\$41,731	\$71,586	\$52,740
Holden Beach	\$35,114	\$55,871	\$41,912
Leland	\$18,462	\$27,878	\$32,228
Navassa	\$11,328	\$18,881	\$16,026
Northwest	\$16,419	\$18,758	\$19,161
Oak Island	\$23,964	\$28,764	\$30,208
Ocean Isle Beach	\$42,605	\$47,334	\$50,092
Sandy Creek	\$14,296	\$25,373	\$17,801
Shalotte	\$21,168	\$23,397	\$23,899
Southport	\$23,059	\$33,532	\$26,583
St. James	\$50,567	\$54,413	\$67,955
Sunset Beach	\$36,181	\$40,700	\$42,655
Varnamtown	\$18,394	\$20,950	\$21,577
Brunswick County	\$19,857	\$26,315	\$26,839
North Carolina	\$20,307	\$24,745	\$25,284

Source: 2000 US Census; 2010 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

The Town of Bolivia had the lowest and St. James had the highest per capita income of all of the County's municipalities for 2013. The Town of Bolivia also had the lowest and Bald Head Island had the highest per capita income for 2010. Overall, the County's per capita income increased from 2000 to 2013 by \$6,982, or 34.4%.

NEW HANOVER COUNTY



History

New Hanover County is located on the southeastern coast of North Carolina. It is bordered by Brunswick and Pender counties, and by the Atlantic Ocean. It is the second-smallest county in North Carolina by land area (328 square miles). The County was formed in 1729 as New Hanover Precinct of Bath County, from Craven Precinct. It was named for the House of Hanover, which was then ruling Great Britain. In 1734, parts of New Hanover Precinct became Bladen Precinct and Onslow Precinct. With the abolition of Bath County in 1739, all of its constituents became counties.

In 1750, the northern part of New Hanover County became Duplin County. In 1764, another part of New Hanover County was combined with part of Bladen County to form Brunswick County. Finally, in 1875, the separation of northern New Hanover County to form Pender County reduced it to its present dimensions.

New Hanover's county seat was once called New Carthage. However, when the town was incorporated in 1739, it became known as Wilmington, in honor of the Earl of Wilmington, Spencer Compton. Though New Hanover County is the second smallest in area, it is one of the most populous as its county seat is one of the state's largest cities.

Population

The population of New Hanover County increased by 33.3% from 1990 to 2000, and by 28.8% from 2000 to 2013. Table 2-7 provides a summary of New Hanover County's population figures, including the municipalities.

	Total Population				Percent Change			
	1990	2000	2010	2013 Est.	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'13	'90-13
Carolina Beach	3,631	4,701	5,706	5,817	29.5%	21.4%	1.9%	60.2%
Kure Beach	618	1,507	2,012	1,961	144.0%	33.5%	-2.5%	217.3%
Wilmington	55,530	75,838	106,476	108,530	36.6%	40.4%	1.9%	95.4%
Wrightsville Beach	2,797	2,593	2,477	2,511	-7.3%	-4.5%	1.4%	-10.2%
<i>Subtotal - All Municipalities</i>	62,576	84,639	116,671	118,819	35.3%	37.8%	1.8%	89.9%
Unincorporated Areas	57,708	75,668	85,996	87,584	31.1%	13.6%	1.8%	51.8%
New Hanover County (Total)	120,284	160,307	202,667	206,403	33.3%	26.4%	1.8%	71.6%

Source: US Census Bureau; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

All municipalities in New Hanover County experienced an increase in population from 1990 to 2013, except for Wrightsville Beach which declined by 286 people. Wilmington has the largest population of the County's municipalities. The NC Office of State Planning predicts a continuing increasing trend for New Hanover County's overall population.

Housing

The number of occupied housing units for the County, as reported in the 2013 American Community Survey, was 86,010, or 84.3% of the total number of housing units. Vacant housing units (16,069) comprised 15.7% of the total number of units. Table 2-8 summarizes the County's and municipalities' dwelling units by tenure. Wrightsville Beach has the highest number of vacant housing units of New Hanover County's municipalities (attributable to seasonal housing), at 59.4%, while Wilmington has the highest percentage of rental units, at 46.3%. Overall, the County's occupancy rate is highest at 84.3%.

Table 2-8. New Hanover County/Municipalities Summary of Housing Units by Tenure, 2013		
	Number of Units	% of Total
Carolina Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	1,204	23.1%
Renter-Occupied Units	1,210	23.3%
Vacant Units	2,790	53.6%
Total Housing Units - Carolina Beach	5,204	100.0%
Kure Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	732	35.4%
Renter-Occupied Units	198	9.6%
Vacant Units	1,137	55.0%
Total Housing Units - Kure Beach	2,067	100.0%
Wilmington		
Owner-Occupied Units	21,953	40.6%
Renter-Occupied Units	25,050	46.3%
Vacant Units	7,109	13.1%
Total Housing Units - Wilmington	54,112	100.0%
Wrightsville Beach		
Owner-Occupied Units	627	23.2%
Renter-Occupied Units	469	17.4%
Vacant Units	1,605	59.4%
Total Housing Units - Wrightsville Beach	2,701	100.0%
New Hanover County		
Owner-Occupied Units	50,681	49.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	35,329	34.6%
Vacant Units	16,069	15.7%
Total Housing Units - County	102,079	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

The majority of the County's housing units (75.8%) were built after 1970. Table 2-9 presents housing units for the County and its municipalities by year the structures were built.

Table 2-9. New Hanover County/Municipalities Housing Units by Year Structure Built, 2013

Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Carolina Beach			
2010 or later	8	0.2%	
2000 to 2009	1,376	26.4%	
1990 to 1999	515	9.9%	
1980 to 1989	1,825	35.1%	<i>Largest % of Carolina Beach's housing units built in 1980s</i>
1970 to 1979	566	10.9%	
1960 to 1969	275	5.3%	
1950 to 1959	352	6.8%	
1940 to 1949	239	4.6%	
1939 or earlier	48	9.0%	
Total Structures	5,204	100.0%	
Kure Beach			
2010 or later	6	0.3%	
2000 to 2009	750	36.3%	<i>Largest % of Kure Beach's housing units built 2000-09</i>
1990 to 1999	459	22.2%	
1980 to 1989	401	19.4%	
1970 to 1979	59	2.9%	
1960 to 1969	98	4.7%	
1950 to 1959	116	5.6%	
1940 to 1949	133	6.4%	
1939 or earlier	45	2.2%	
Total Structures	2,067	100.0%	
Wilmington			
2010 or later	259	0.5%	
2000 to 2009	8,570	15.8%	
1990 to 1999	12,099	22.4%	<i>Largest % of Wilmington's housing units built in 1990s</i>
1980 to 1989	8,512	15.7%	
1970 to 1979	5,929	11.0%	
1960 to 1969	5,102	9.4%	
1950 to 1959	4,030	7.4%	
1940 to 1949	4,001	7.4%	
1939 or earlier	5,610	10.4%	
Total Structures	54,112	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Wrightsville Beach			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	260	9.6%	
1990 to 1999	342	12.7%	
1980 to 1989	662	24.5%	<i>Largest % of Wr. Bch's housing units built in 1970s & 1980s</i>
1970 to 1979	654	24.2%	
1960 to 1969	309	11.4%	
1950 to 1959	239	8.8%	
1940 to 1949	118	4.4%	
1939 or earlier	117	4.3%	
Total Structures	2,701	100.0%	
New Hanover County			
2010 or later	608	0.6%	
2000 to 2009	22,779	22.3%	
1990 to 1999	24,725	24.2%	<i>Largest % of New Han. County's housing units built in 1990s</i>
1980 to 1989	16,618	16.3%	
1970 to 1979	12,659	12.4%	
1960 to 1969	8,014	7.9%	
1950 to 1959	5,580	5.5%	
1940 to 1949	4,889	4.8%	
1939 or earlier	6,207	6.1%	
Total Structures	102,079	100.0%	

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Economy

In 2013, there was a total of 11,690 employed persons in New Hanover County. Table 2-10 provides the County's and municipalities' unemployment rates for the civilian labor force for selected years. The overall unemployment rate increased for the County from 5.7% in 2000 to 10.4% in 2013. The unemployment rates also increased substantially for all of the County's municipalities.

Table 2-10. New Hanover County/Municipalities Civilian Unemployment Rate, 16 years and over

	2000	2013	% Change
Carolina Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	2,799	3,511	25.4%
Number Employed	2,712	3,121	15.1%
Number Unemployed	87	390	348.3%
Carolina Beach Unemployment Rate	3.1%	11.1%	251.1%

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	2000	2013	% Change
Kure Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	802	977	21.8%
Number Employed	760	878	15.5%
Number Unemployed	42	99	135.8%
Kure Beach Unemployment Rate	5.2%	10.1%	94.2%
Wilmington			
Civilian Labor Force	40,031	59,293	48.1%
Number Employed	36,629	52,308	42.8%
Number Unemployed	3,402	6,985	105.3%
Wilmington Unemployment Rate	8.5%	11.8%	38.8%
Wrightsville Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	1,609	1,453	-9.7%
Number Employed	1,577	1,336	-15.3%
Number Unemployed	32	117	265.6%
Wrightsville Beach Unemployment Rate	2.0%	8.1%	305.0%
New Hanover County			
Civilian Labor Force	86,174	112,023	30.0%
Number Employed	81,238	100,333	23.5%
Number Unemployed	4,936	11,690	136.8%
New Hanover County Unemployment Rate	5.7%	10.4%	82.5%
North Carolina Unemployment Rate	5.3%	11.1%	109.4%

Source: 2000 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

New Hanover County’s civilian employment is heavily concentrated in the education/health/social service and arts/accommodation/food services sectors. The largest single employment category is the Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance sector, which constitutes 24.2% of all those employed who are 16 years of age and older. The Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, and Accommodation and Food Services sector accounts for the second largest category at 13.9%. Of the County’s total 2013 employed labor force, 12.0% were employed in the Retail Trade sector, 11.8% in the Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services sector, and 7.5% in the Construction industry. Table 2-11 provides a summary of New Hanover County’s employment by industry.

Categories	Total Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	230	0.2%
Construction	7,527	7.5%
Manufacturing	6,697	6.7%
Wholesale trade	2,941	2.9%
Retail trade	12,009	12.0%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	3,820	3.8%
Information	2,579	2.6%

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Categories	Total Employment	% of Total
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	5,531	5.5%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	11,828	11.8%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	24,231	24.2%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	13,912	13.9%
Other services (except public administration)	5,571	5.6%
Public administration	3,457	3.4%
Total	100,333	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.

Normally, per capita income is considered a good indicator of an area's income producing capability or strength. Table 2-12 provides a comparison of per capita incomes for New Hanover County, its municipalities, and North Carolina.

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2013 Estimate
Carolina Beach	\$24,128	\$31,878	\$34,110
Kure Beach	\$26,759	\$45,364	\$43,780
Wilmington	\$21,503	\$26,662	\$29,017
Wrightsville Beach	\$36,575	\$80,427	\$48,382
New Hanover County	\$23,123	\$29,363	\$29,679
North Carolina	\$20,307	\$24,745	\$25,284

Source: 2000 US Census; 2010 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

The City of Wilmington had the lowest and Wrightsville Beach had the highest per capita income of all of the County's municipalities for both 2000 and 2010. Overall, the County's per capita income increased from 2000 to 2010 by \$4,977, or 24.5%.

PENDER COUNTY



History

In 1524, explorers to what is now called Pender County reported on the numerous varieties of game, particularly wild turkeys, found in the area. A century later in 1663, the Barbados Commissioners, attempting to settle the Lower Cape Fear, explored the northeast branch of the Cape Fear River. The commissioners named the community "Rocky Point," the name which it retains today.

Although the County was settled in 1725, it was not formed from New Hanover County until 150 years later. The Lord's Proprietors laid out a tract to the north of New Brunswick for Welsh settlers. They came seeking good bottom land and tidal/river transportation. Thriving commercial success followed and large plantations were built during this period of prosperity. Pender's residents were ardent patriots during the Revolutionary War, and it was at Moore's Creek that they defeated the Scottish Highlanders sent from Fayetteville by Flora McDonald, the Scottish heroine.

In the War Between the States, the area sent nearly 4,000 troops to battle and gave the Confederacy its youngest general, William D. Pender, from whom the County was named. Still a part of New Hanover County after the war, Pender's prosperous plantation system was obliterated during the Reconstruction years. However, the County was born in 1875 out of Reconstruction policies. The County was created with the City of Watha as the first county seat. Burgaw, the present County seat, was chartered in 1879 and received its name from a local tribe of Indians.

Population

The population of Pender County increased by 42.4% from 1990 to 2000, and by 30.0% from 2000 to 2013. Table 2-13 provides a summary of Pender County's population figures by municipality.

	Total Population				Percent Change			
	1990	2000	2010	2013 Est.	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'13	'90-'13
Atkinson	275	236	299	355	-14.2%	26.7%	18.7%	29.1%
Burgaw	2,099	3,337	3,872	3,949	59.0%	16.0%	2.0%	88.1%
St. Helena	321	395	389	440	23.1%	-1.5%	13.1%	37.1%
Surf City	970	1,393	1,853	2,330	43.6%	33.0%	25.7%	140.2%
Topsail Beach	346	471	368	433	36.1%	-21.9%	17.7%	25.1%
Watha	154	151	190	271	-1.9%	25.8%	42.6%	76.0%
<i>Subtotal - All Municipalities</i>	4,165	5,983	6,971	7,778	43.6%	16.5%	11.6%	86.7%
Unincorporated Areas	24,690	35,099	45,246	45,634	42.2%	28.9%	0.9%	84.8%
Pender County (Total)	28,855	41,082	52,217	53,412	42.4%	27.1%	2.3%	85.1%

Source: US Census Bureau; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

All municipalities experienced increases in population from 1990 to 2013. Burgaw has the largest population of the County's municipalities. The NC Office of State Planning predicts a continuing increasing trend for Pender County's overall population.

Housing

The number of occupied housing units for the County, as reported in the 2013 American Community Survey, was 20,254, or 75.9% of the total number of housing units. Vacant housing units (6,427) comprised 24.1% of the total number of units. Table 2-14 summarizes the County's and municipalities' dwelling units by tenure. Surf City and Topsail Beach has the highest percentage of vacant housing units (attributable to seasonal housing) of Pender County's municipalities. Overall, the County's occupancy rate is high at 75.9%.

Table 2-14. Pender County/Municipalities Summary of Housing Units by Tenure, 2013		
	Number of Units	% of Total
<i>Atkinson</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	161	79.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	11	5.4%
Vacant Units	30	14.9%
Total Housing Units - Atkinson	202	100.0%
<i>Burgaw</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	571	37.6%
Renter-Occupied Units	604	39.7%
Vacant Units	345	22.7%
Total Housing Units - Burgaw	1,520	100.0%
<i>St. Helena</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	127	59.1%
Renter-Occupied Units	63	29.3%
Vacant Units	25	11.6%
Total Housing Units - St. Helena	215	100.0%
<i>Surf City</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	735	22.1%
Renter-Occupied Units	429	12.9%
Vacant Units	2,161	65.0%
Total Housing Units - Surf City	3,325	100.0%
<i>Topsail Beach</i>		
Owner-Occupied Units	186	14.4%
Renter-Occupied Units	41	3.2%
Vacant Units	1,065	82.4%
Total Housing Units - Topsail Beach	1,292	100.0%

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	Number of Units	% of Total
Watha		
Owner-Occupied Units	84	62.2%
Renter-Occupied Units	33	24.5%
Vacant Units	18	13.3%
Total Housing Units - Watha	135	100.0%
Pender County		
Owner-Occupied Units	15,656	58.7%
Renter-Occupied Units	4,598	17.2%
Vacant Units	6,427	24.1%
Total Housing Units - County	26,681	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

The majority of the County's housing units (81.9%) were built during or after 1970. Table 2-15 presents housing units for the County and its municipalities by year the structures were built.

Table 2-15. Pender County/Municipalities Housing Units by Year Structure Built, 2013			
Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Atkinson			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	15	7.4%	
1990 to 1999	42	20.8%	
1980 to 1989	18	8.9%	
1970 to 1979	23	11.4%	
1960 to 1969	11	5.4%	
1950 to 1959	21	10.4%	
1940 to 1949	18	8.9%	
1939 or earlier	54	26.7%	<i>Largest % of Atkinson's housing units built pre-1940</i>
Total Structures	202	100.0%	
Burgaw			
2010 or later	34	2.2%	
2000 to 2009	285	18.8%	
1990 to 1999	186	12.2%	
1980 to 1989	171	11.3%	
1970 to 1979	309	20.3%	<i>Largest % of Burgaw's housing units built post-1970</i>
1960 to 1969	218	14.3%	
1950 to 1959	76	5.0%	
1940 to 1949	99	6.5%	
1939 or earlier	142	9.3%	
Total Structures	1,520	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
St. Helena			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	28	13.0%	
1990 to 1999	26	12.1%	
1980 to 1989	18	8.4%	
1970 to 1979	75	34.9%	<i>Largest % of St. Helena's housing units built in 1970s</i>
1960 to 1969	42	19.5%	
1950 to 1959	10	4.7%	
1940 to 1949	2	0.9%	
1939 or earlier	14	6.5%	
Total Structures	215	100.0%	
Surf City			
2010 or later	58	1.7%	
2000 to 2009	1,138	34.2%	<i>Largest % of Surf City's housing units built 2000-2009</i>
1990 to 1999	648	19.5%	
1980 to 1989	731	22.0%	
1970 to 1979	261	7.8%	
1960 to 1969	180	5.4%	
1950 to 1959	282	8.5%	
1940 to 1949	22	0.7%	
1939 or earlier	5	0.2%	
Total Structures	3,325	100.0%	
Topsail Beach			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	145	11.2%	
1990 to 1999	236	18.3%	
1980 to 1989	246	19.0%	
1970 to 1979	345	26.7%	<i>Largest % of Topsail Beach's housing units built in 1970s</i>
1960 to 1969	145	11.2%	
1950 to 1959	146	11.3%	
1940 to 1949	18	1.4%	
1939 or earlier	11	0.9%	
Total Structures	1,292	100.0%	

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Year	# of Structures	% of Total	
Watha			
2010 or later	0	0.0%	
2000 to 2009	5	3.7%	
1990 to 1999	30	22.2%	
1980 to 1989	25	18.5%	
1970 to 1979	12	8.9%	
1960 to 1969	6	4.4%	
1950 to 1959	0	0.0%	
1940 to 1949	2	1.5%	
1939 or earlier	55	40.7%	<i>Largest % of Watha's housing units built pre-1940</i>
Total Structures	135	100.0%	
Pender County			
2010 or later	388	1.5%	
2000 to 2009	6,643	24.9%	
1990 to 1999	6,855	25.7%	<i>Largest % of Pender County's housing units built post-1990</i>
1980 to 1989	4,915	18.4%	
1970 to 1979	3,039	11.4%	
1960 to 1969	1,633	6.1%	
1950 to 1959	1,384	5.2%	
1940 to 1949	687	2.6%	
1939 or earlier	1,137	4.3%	
Total Structures	26,681	100.0%	

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Economy

In 2013, there was a total of 22,453 employed persons in Pender County. Table 2-16 provides the County's and municipalities' unemployment rates for the civilian labor force for selected years. The overall unemployment rate increased for the County from 5.7% in 2000 to 11.0% in 2013. The unemployment rates also increased for all of the County's municipalities.

Table 2-16. Pender County/Municipalities Civilian Unemployment Rate, 16 years and over

	2000	2013	% Change
Atkinson			
Civilian Labor Force	104	174	67.3%
Number Employed	104	168	61.5%
Number Unemployed	0	6	-
Atkinson Unemployment Rate	0.0%	3.4%	-

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	2000	2013	% Change
Burgaw			
Civilian Labor Force	1,045	1,063	0.7%
Number Employed	966	848	-12.2%
Number Unemployed	79	215	172.2%
Burgaw Unemployment Rate	7.6%	20.2%	165.8%
St. Helena			
Civilian Labor Force	218	246	12.8%
Number Employed	208	224	7.7%
Number Unemployed	10	22	120.0%
St. Helena Unemployment Rate	4.6%	8.9%	93.5%
Surf City			
Civilian Labor Force	698	1,130	61.9%
Number Employed	671	1,028	53.2%
Number Unemployed	27	102	277.8%
Surf City Unemployment Rate	3.9%	9.0%	130.8%
Topsail Beach			
Civilian Labor Force	209	253	21.1%
Number Employed	208	232	11.5%
Number Unemployed	1	21	200.0%
Topsail Beach Unemployment Rate	0.5%	8.3%	156.0%
Watha			
Civilian Labor Force	74	137	85.1%
Number Employed	63	114	81.0%
Number Unemployed	11	23	109.1%
Watha Unemployment Rate	14.9%	16.8%	12.8%
Pender County			
Civilian Labor Force	18,972	25,242	33.0%
Number Employed	17,896	22,453	25.5%
Number Unemployed	1,076	2,789	159.2%
Pender County Unemployment Rate	5.7%	11.0%	93.0%
North Carolina Unemployment Rate	5.3%	11.1%	109.4%

Source: 2000 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Pender County's civilian employment is heavily concentrated in the education/health/social service, retail trade, and construction sectors. The largest single employment category is the Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance sector which constitutes 19.2% of all those employed who are 16 years of age and older. The Retail Trade sector accounts for the second largest category with 14.5%. Of the County's total 2013 employed labor force, 11.1% were employed in the Construction industry and 10.3% in the Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services sector. Table 2-17 provides a summary of Pender County's employment by industry.

Table 2-17. Pender County Employment by Industry, 2013

Categories	Total Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	607	2.7%
Construction	2,490	11.1%
Manufacturing	2,200	9.8%
Wholesale trade	576	2.6%
Retail trade	3,245	14.5%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1,157	5.2%
Information	178	0.8%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	981	4.4%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	2,311	10.3%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	4,314	19.2%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	1,777	7.9%
Other services (except public administration)	1,233	5.5%
Public administration	1,384	6.2%
Total	22,453	100.0%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Normally, per capita income is considered a good indicator of an area's income producing capability or strength. Table 2-18 provides a comparison of per capita incomes for Pender County, its municipalities, and North Carolina.

Table 2-18. Pender County and North Carolina Per Capita Income, 2000, 2010, and 2013

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2013 Estimate
Atkinson	\$18,135	\$21,747	\$25,861
Burgaw	\$13,831	\$16,870	\$15,471
St. Helena	\$18,040	\$23,605	\$22,629
Surf City	\$25,242	\$33,120	\$37,003
Topsail Beach	\$35,838	\$35,126	\$36,935
Watha	\$15,654	\$16,547	\$16,793
Pender County	\$17,882	\$22,872	\$23,526
North Carolina	\$20,307	\$24,745	\$25,284

Source: 2000 US Census; 2010 US Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.