

# **Chapter 1: A Review and Analysis of Demographic Change by Counties with High Minority Populations**

## **Introduction**

A clear understanding of the causes of population change and the impact such change brings cannot be understated. Individuals and families are motivated for various reasons to live in the communities where they live. These individual decisions, while important to the individuals making them, can have long-term impact on the stability of communities in general, and collectively impact the overall economic and social well-being of children and the state of South Carolina.

It is the intent of this chapter to analyze the impact of demographic shifts in populations and how such shifts, coupled with family and child poverty, unemployment, household income, population growth and decline, and other socio-economic indicators, contribute to exacerbating the problem of poor student achievement and socioeconomic deprivation. This chapter provides an analysis of demographic change in the population of South Carolina for selected years since 2000. The data analysis will not only have a statewide focus, but will also focus on counties and communities where families live, particularly those families who have children in the early years of education, ages 0 to 5.

The data and subsequent analysis in this chapter is presented in narrative, tables/charts, and in graphic format. The data and analysis seeks to balance a comprehensive set of information relevant to the overall population on a county basis, as well as intertwining specific information sought and obtained from other state agencies that made data readily available in various forms for this report.<sup>1, 2, 3, 4</sup>

Chapter 1 is organized along six areas within the context of poverty and deprivation. These are:

- Statistical Data on Overall Economic Well-Being in South Carolina
- Statistics on South Carolina's Minority Population
- Components of Population Change: County Population Growth or Decline
- Economic Indicators of Poverty Deprivation and Potential Impacts on Populations Change Components
- Preliminary Findings on Demographic Shifts in South Carolina: Implications for Investment in Early Education for Children under Age 5
- Recommendations

## **Statistical Data on Overall Economic Well-Being in South Carolina<sup>5</sup>**

Table 1 provides social and economic measures of overall well-being along with respective percentages or rates. Table 1 specifically ranks South Carolina counties using multiple indicators that ultimately determined the county ranking.<sup>6</sup>

An examination of Table 1 reveals striking statistics based on the latest data available.<sup>7</sup> In particular,

- In regards to the latest poverty rates, 31 of the state's 46 counties have poverty rates above the state average of 15.6% and 39 counties above the national average of 13.2%.
- Poverty is entrenched within families. Among the top twenty counties with the highest poverty indicators, one of every five families lives in poverty, with 2008 median household incomes below the poverty level. Poverty rates for families with children ages 5 to 17 range from a high of 44.8% (Allendale County) to 24.9% (Sumter County) or from nearly one of every two, to one of every four families.
- Annual average unemployment rates for 2008 for counties in South Carolina paint an equally dismal picture. Thirty-three (33) of the 46 counties had twelve-month employment rates above the state average.<sup>8</sup>
- Median household incomes are continuing to remain stagnant within South Carolina. Median household incomes within the poorest counties of South Carolina range from 56.6% (Allendale) to 84.2% (Sumter) of the state average. The state's median income persistently remains below the national average of \$52,029, or 85.9% of the U.S. average<sup>9</sup>. *This means that for every \$1 of U.S. median household income earned, that the top 20 poorest counties have median household income earnings ranging from approximately \$0.48 to \$0.77 of every \$1 of U.S median household income.*

These dismal statistics alone paint a picture of families in crisis, where children ages 0-5 are directly impacted by family poverty prevalent across South Carolina. It is systemic family and child poverty that impacts the overall well-being of many families and contributes to less than acceptable educational achievement for children across the state.

### **Statistics on South Carolina's Minority Population**

In terms of the composition of the minority population, South Carolina is a diverse state racially, ethnically, and culturally. Table 2 provides the latest Census Bureau estimates and percentage statistics on the minority population by county in South Carolina. Chart 2 provides percentage statistics for all minority populations in the state<sup>10</sup>. Chart 3 provides three-year rankings of the percent population change in the Hispanic population since 2004. An examination of Table 2, Charts 2 and 3 reveal:

- African-Americans represent the largest minority group in South Carolina regardless of county.
- South Carolina has a Native-American presence in most counties. Additionally, like African-Americans in the state, the Native-American population has been undercounted during previous census counts, including the 2000 census. This undercount has serious repercussions on the state's ability to adequately serve each population, and has a

negative impact on education achievement, particularly if eligible children ages 0 to 5 are not properly counted.

**Table 1 – Statistical Indicators of Economic Well Being for South Carolina Counties**

<b>County</b>	<b>2008 Census Population Estimate</b>	<b>2008 Median Household Income</b>	<b>2008 Annual Average Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Estimate All Ages</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Percent All Ages</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Estimate Ages 5 to 17</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Percent Ages 5 to 17</b>	<b>County Ranking of Poverty Indicators</b>
Allendale	10,447	\$25,329	17.0	3,380	36.8	803	44.8	1
Marlboro	28,704	\$30,832	14.0	6,596	26.0	2,134	36.4	2
McCormick	10,093	\$30,749	12.9	1,702	19.6	1,458	32.6	3
Chester	32,618	\$35,886	12.3	6,457	20.1	1,275	22.6	4
Lancaster	75,913	\$39,898	11.8	12,752	17.9	2,498	19.4	5
Bamberg	15,307	\$30,305	11.7	4,015	27.4	785	33.1	6
Barnwell	22,872	\$35,460	11.2	4,946	21.8	1,134	27.8	7
Marion	33,843	\$37,676	11.1	8,128	24.3	311	28.4	8
Union	27,672	\$34,915	11.1	4,861	17.7	1,063	23.9	9
Fairfield	23,435	\$35,880	10.8	4,082	17.8	1,019	25.5	10
Williamsburg	35,090	\$28,902	10.7	12,128	36.3	2,346	41.0	11
Dillon	30,698	\$30,935	10.7	8,400	27.7	1,879	31.7	12
Orangeburg	90,336	\$32,694	10.5	20,107	23.2	4,041	27.1	13
Clarendon	33,149	\$32,725	10.0	7,394	23.7	1,618	31.3	14
Lee	19,891	\$30,876	9.6	4,754	26.2	1,010	31.8	15
Hampton	21,075	\$36,003	9.3	4,138	21.3	986	27.3	16
Cherokee	54,394	\$37,436	9.3	8,953	16.8	2,098	21.6	17
Chesterfield	42,882	\$34,492	9.2	8,871	21.0	1,878	25.0	18
Darlington	67,031	\$37,650	8.6	12,267	18.7	3,699	31.2	19
Sumter	104,148	\$38,167	8.6	18,669	18.5	4,798	24.9	20
Colleton	39,019	\$34,136	8.4	8,386	21.7	2,020	29.0	21
Abbeville	25,404	\$36,041	8.3	4,301	17.4	849	20.3	22
Greenwood	68,549	\$39,628	7.9	9,908	15.0	2,492	21.4	23
Calhoun	14,583	\$38,803	7.7	2,544	17.4	518	21.8	24
Georgetown	60,731	\$48,132	7.6	10,620	17.7	2,494	25.6	25
Oconee	71,274	\$42,668	7.5	9,740	13.9	2,213	20.6	26
Laurens	69,681	\$40,432	7.4	13,567	20.2	2,577	22.5	27

**Table 1 – Statistical Indicators of Economic Well Being for South Carolina Counties**

<b>County</b>	<b>2008 Census Population Estimate</b>	<b>2008 Median Household Income</b>	<b>2008 Annual Average Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Estimate All Ages</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Percent All Ages</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Estimate Ages 5 to 17</b>	<b>2008 Poverty Percent Ages 5 to 17</b>	<b>County Ranking of Poverty Indicators</b>
<b>Newberry</b>	37,823	\$43,570	7.2	6,132	16.7	1,286	21.2	28
<b>Horry</b>	257,380	\$42,515	7.2	34,708	14.0	7,970	21.1	29
<b>York</b>	217,448	\$51,636	7.2	24,809	12.1	4,943	13.0	30
<b>Florence</b>	132,800	\$40,997	7.1	22,839	17.8	5,163	22.6	31
<b>Spartanburg</b>	280,738	\$45,000	6.9	36,851	13.7	8,595	18.1	32
<b>Anderson</b>	182,825	\$44,747	6.9	24,512	13.8	5,501	17.8	33
<b>Edgefield</b>	25,546	\$42,422	6.8	4,203	18.7	820	20.9	34
<b>Kershaw</b>	58,901	\$44,446	6.6	8,171	14.2	1,856	18.3	35
<b>Berkeley</b>	169,327	\$49,414	6.2	16,664	10.6	5,750	18.7	36
<b>Jasper</b>	22,330	\$38,778	6.1	4,273	20.8	1,079	27.8	37
<b>Richland</b>	364,001	\$49,653	6.1	41,618	12.7	9,945	16.7	38
<b>Pickens</b>	116,915	\$41,577	6.1	17,997	16.4	2,759	15.9	39
<b>Saluda</b>	18,625	\$40,295	5.9	3,099	16.8	662	22.6	40
<b>Aiken</b>	154,071	\$43,895	5.9	23,183	15.4	5,719	22.1	41
<b>Dorchester</b>	127,133	\$60,254	5.7	12,982	10.7	2,848	12.3	42
<b>Greenville</b>	438,119	\$48,147	5.6	50,966	12.2	11,973	16.1	43
<b>Charleston</b>	348,046	\$50,213	5.3	50,505	15.2	10,723	19.4	44
<b>Beaufort</b>	150,415	\$55,897	5.3	14,709	10.4	4,011	16.5	45
<b>Lexington</b>	248,518	\$52,515	4.9	26,175	10.9	5,584	12.8	46
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>4,479,800</b>	<b>\$44,695</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>646,061</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>147,183</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>---</b>

**Table 2 – 2008 Population, Poverty Estimates and Percent of the Minority Population for South Carolina Counties**

County	2008 Census Population Estimate	Poverty Estimate All Ages	Poverty Percent All Ages	Percent White	Percent of All Minorities	Percent African-American	Percent Native American	Percent Asian	Percent Hispanic or Latino
Allendale	10,447	3,380	36.8	27.2	74.9	72.3	0.1	0.2	2.3
Williamsburg	35,090	12,128	36.3	32.3	68.4	67.2	0.2	0.2	0.8
Dillon	30,698	8,400	27.7	50.9	51.2	45.8	2.5	0.3	2.6
Bamberg	15,307	4,015	27.4	37.1	63.9	62.3	0.2	0.3	1.1
Lee	19,891	4,754	26.2	36.2	66.4	63.4	0.1	0.2	2.7
Marlboro	28,704	6,596	26.0	43.8	56.2	51.6	3.4	0.4	0.8
Marion	33,843	8,128	24.3	43.0	59.2	56.2	0.2	0.4	2.4
Clarendon	33,149	7,394	23.7	48.1	52.5	51.0	0.2	0.2	1.1
Orangeburg	90,336	20,107	23.2	35.5	65.0	62.9	0.4	0.5	1.2
Barnwell	22,872	4,946	21.8	56.0	45.1	42.8	0.3	0.5	1.5
Colleton	39,019	8,386	21.7	57.6	43.9	41.1	0.6	0.3	1.9
Hampton	21,075	4,138	21.3	43.5	59.3	55.9	0.3	0.2	2.9
Chesterfield	42,882	8,871	21.0	65.1	36.4	33.6	0.6	0.3	1.9
Jasper	22,330	4,273	20.8	48.2	61.6	50.6	0.4	0.6	10.0
Laurens	69,681	13,567	20.2	72.9	29.5	25.8	0.5	0.2	3.0
Chester	32,618	6,457	20.1	60.8	41.0	38.2	0.3	0.3	2.2
McCormick	10,093	1,702	19.6	48.0	52.8	51.4	0.0	0.4	1.0
Darlington	67,031	12,267	18.7	57.2	43.5	42.0	0.2	0.2	1.1
Edgefield	25,546	4,203	18.7	57.9	44.2	41.0	0.4	0.4	2.4
Sumter	104,148	18,669	18.5	50.0	50.8	47.5	0.3	1.0	2.0
Lancaster	75,913	12,752	17.9	72.0	30.3	26.9	0.2	0.4	2.8
Fairfield	23,435	4,082	17.8	41.5	59.7	57.7	0.1	0.4	1.5
Florence	132,800	22,839	17.8	57.7	43.0	40.5	0.3	0.9	1.3
Georgetown	60,731	10,620	17.7	64.2	37.7	34.9	0.2	0.4	2.2
Union	27,672	4,861	17.7	67.6	32.8	31.6	0.2	0.2	0.8
Abbeville	25,404	4,301	17.4	69.7	31.0	29.6	0.0	0.3	1.1
Calhoun	14,583	2,544	17.4	53.9	48.9	45.4	0.2	0.5	2.8
Cherokee	54,394	8,953	16.8	78.1	24.2	20.5	0.3	0.4	3.0
Saluda	18,625	3,099	16.8	71.1	40.8	28.1	0.2	0.0	12.5
Newberry	37,823	6,132	16.7	67.1	39.2	31.8	0.3	0.3	6.8
Pickens	116,915	17,997	16.4	90.8	10.8	6.7	0.2	1.6	2.3
Aiken	154,071	23,183	15.4	71.8	30.1	25.9	0.4	0.8	3.0
Charleston	348,046	50,505	15.2	64.5	34.3	32.7	0.4	0.3	0.9
Greenwood	68,549	9,908	15.0	66.1	37.5	32.1	0.3	1.0	4.1
Kershaw	58,901	8,171	14.2	72.7	29.1	26.0	0.3	0.4	2.4
Horry	257,380	34,708	14.0	82.7	19.9	15.0	0.4	0.9	3.6
Oconee	71,274	9,740	13.9	90.6	12.0	8.2	0.2	0.4	3.2
Anderson	182,825	24,512	13.8	81.5	19.3	16.9	0.2	0.6	1.6
Spartanburg	280,738	36,851	13.7	76.2	27.1	20.9	0.3	1.7	4.2
Richland	364,001	41,618	12.7	49.7	52.0	46.6	0.3	2.1	3.0
Greenville	438,119	50,966	12.2	78.5	26.0	18.5	0.2	1.6	5.7
York	217,448	24,809	12.1	77.9	24.2	19.4	0.8	1.1	2.9
Lexington	248,518	26,175	10.9	83.3	18.8	14.3	0.4	1.1	3.0
Dorchester	127,133	12,982	10.7	71.4	29.7	25.2	0.7	1.3	2.5
Berkeley	169,327	16,664	10.6	68.2	33.2	27.6	0.5	2.0	3.1
Beaufort	150,415	14,709	10.4	75.7	30.8	21.9	0.3	0.0	8.6
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>4,479,800</b>	<b>646,061</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>68.4</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>

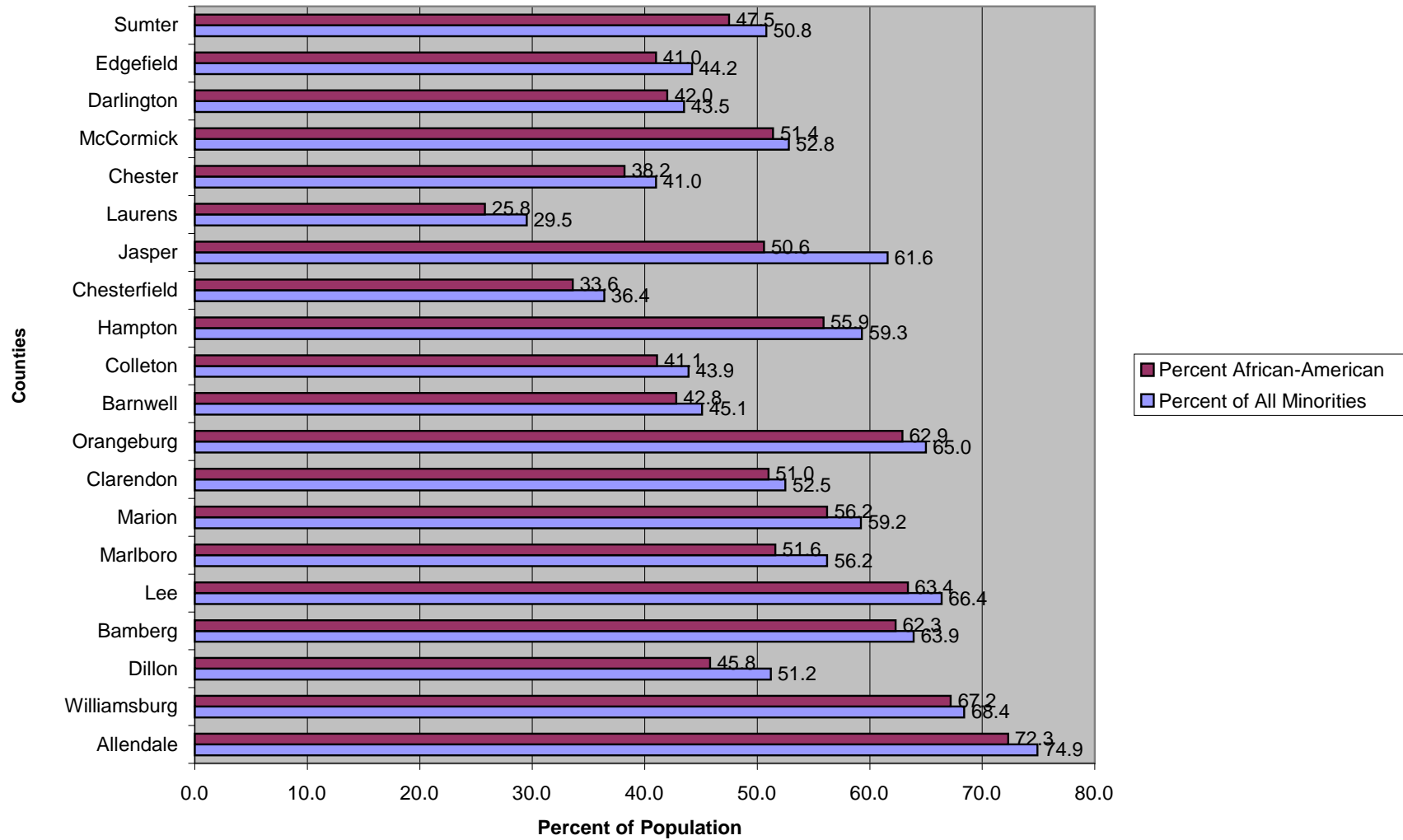
According to the mini-chart below, Allendale and Laurens County possess lower percentages of other minority populations (Native-American, Asian, and Hispanic-Latino), as well as the White population. For example, considering the White population, Allendale has the lowest percent of White population, while Laurens has the highest when considering the top twenty poorest counties for Table 1.

Conversely, Allendale, Marlboro, Jasper, and Sumter have the highest estimated percentages of specific minority populations, Native-American (Marlboro), Hispanic-Latino (Jasper), and African-American population. These percentages are provided to illustrate the point that while most individuals may view the state’s minority population as only consisting of African-Americans, a closer look reveals that several counties have seen an influx of other racial and ethnic groups.<sup>11</sup>

In conclusion, South Carolina has a very diverse population. Early childhood education programs and interventions must be provided across the state to ensure that the needs of children ages 0-5 are met, regardless of race, ethnicity or cultural experiences.

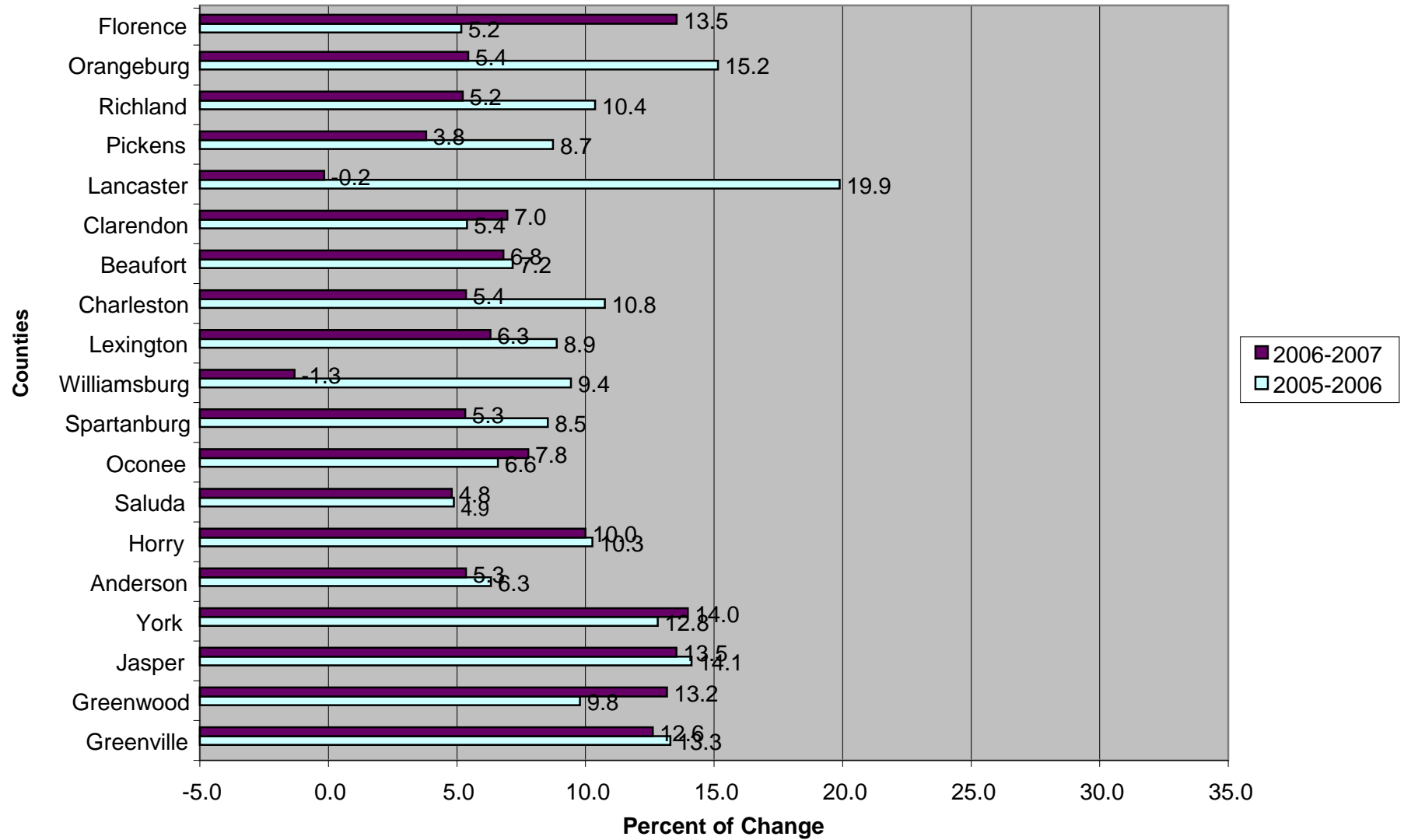
<b>Race/Ethnicity Group</b>	<b>Race and Ethnicity by Selected Counties</b>			
	<b>County Name</b>		<b>Percentages</b>	
	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Highest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Highest</b>
White	Allendale	Laurens	27.2%	72.9%
African-American	Laurens	Allendale	25.8%	72.3%
Native American	Allendale	Marlboro	0.1%	3.4%
Hispanic-Latino	Allendale	Jasper	0.8%	10.0%
Asian	Clarendon Darlington Laurens Lee Marian Williamsburg	Sumter	0.2%	1.0%
All Minorities	Laurens	Allendale	25.8%	72.3%

**Chart 2: Population Percentage 2008: All Minorities and African American Population**





**Chart 3: Percent Population Change in Hispanic Population: 2004 - 2007**



## **Components of Population Change: County Population Growth or Decline**

To gain a clear understanding of demographic change, it is important to examine what has happened in regards to each component of population change. Charts 4 through 7 provide total and percentage statistics by county for those with the highest poverty rates. Information is provided as follows:

- **(Chart 4) Net Population Change By County**
- **(Chart 5) Percent Population Growth (Decline) Amongst the Top 20 Counties with the Highest Poverty Rates.**
- **(Chart 6) Components of Population Change: Natural Increase And Net Migration Rates: 2001**
- **(Chart 7) Components of Population Change: Net Increase And Net Migration Rates: 2009**

In general, population change can result from one of four reasons:

- (1) The total number of births within the county or place**
- (2) The total number of deaths within the county or place**
- (3) In-migration of the population into a county or place**
- (4) Out-migration of the population from a county or place**

Chart 4 reveals that as of 2004, net population change in counties with high rates of poverty has been very low to negative. Specifically, fourteen of the 20 counties experienced negative population growth in at least one period (2004 or 2008), based on the latest estimates of net population change. These trends are reinforced throughout the other trend data.

Chart 5 provides information on the percent of population growth (decline) for two census periods: 2004-2005 and 2008-2009.<sup>12</sup> An examination of the top twenty poorest counties reveals that in both periods, 2004-2005 and 2008-2009, all counties experienced either small overall net population decline or very low net population growth. Positive population growth was seen in only three of the twenty counties: Lee (0.90%), Dillon (0.19%) and Sumter (0.39%) in 2004-2005 and in five counties in 2008-2009: Dillon (0.04%), Sumter (0.11%), Laurens (0.15%), Chester (0.17%), and McCormick (0.21%).

Chart 4: Net Population Change by County: Top Twenty Counties

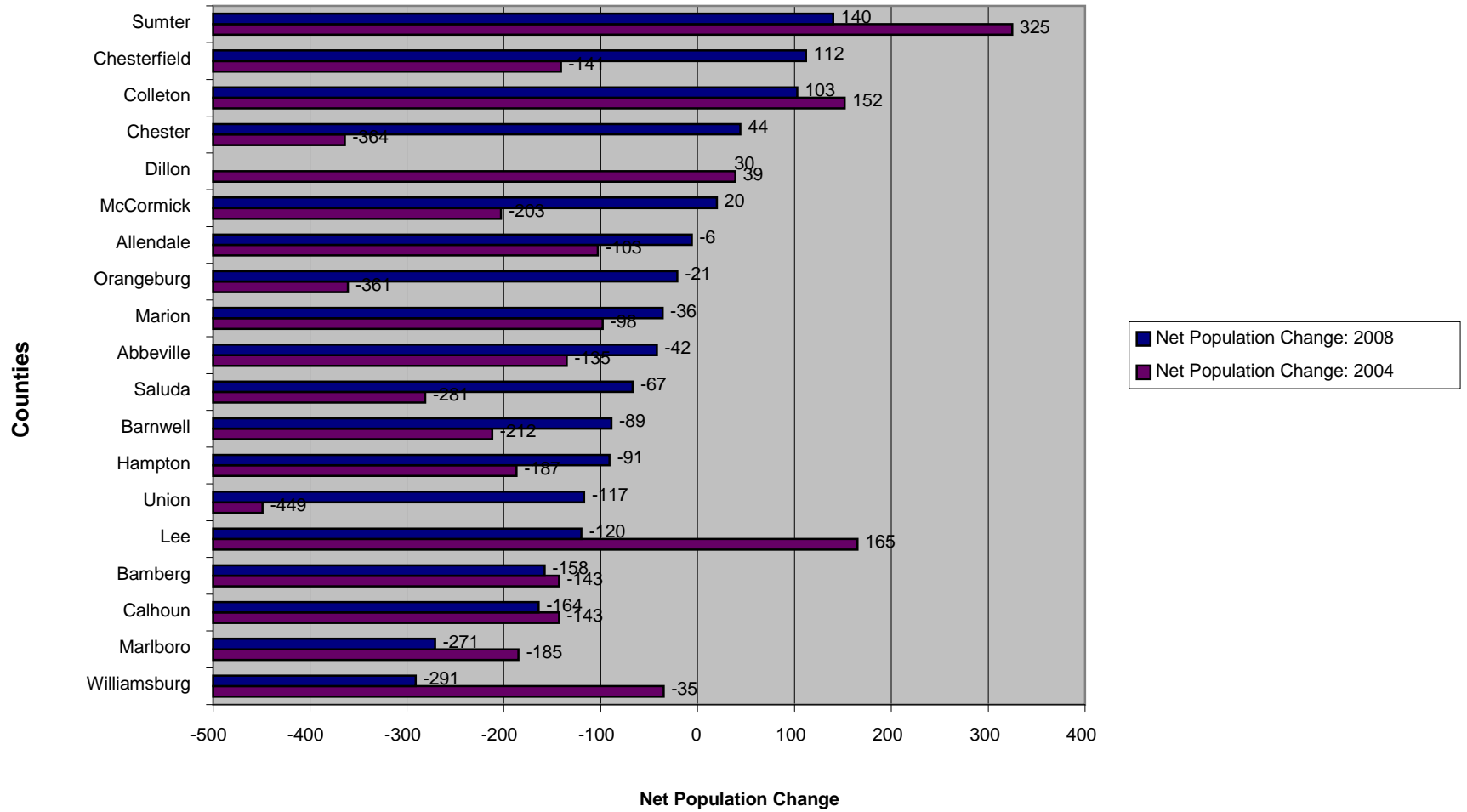
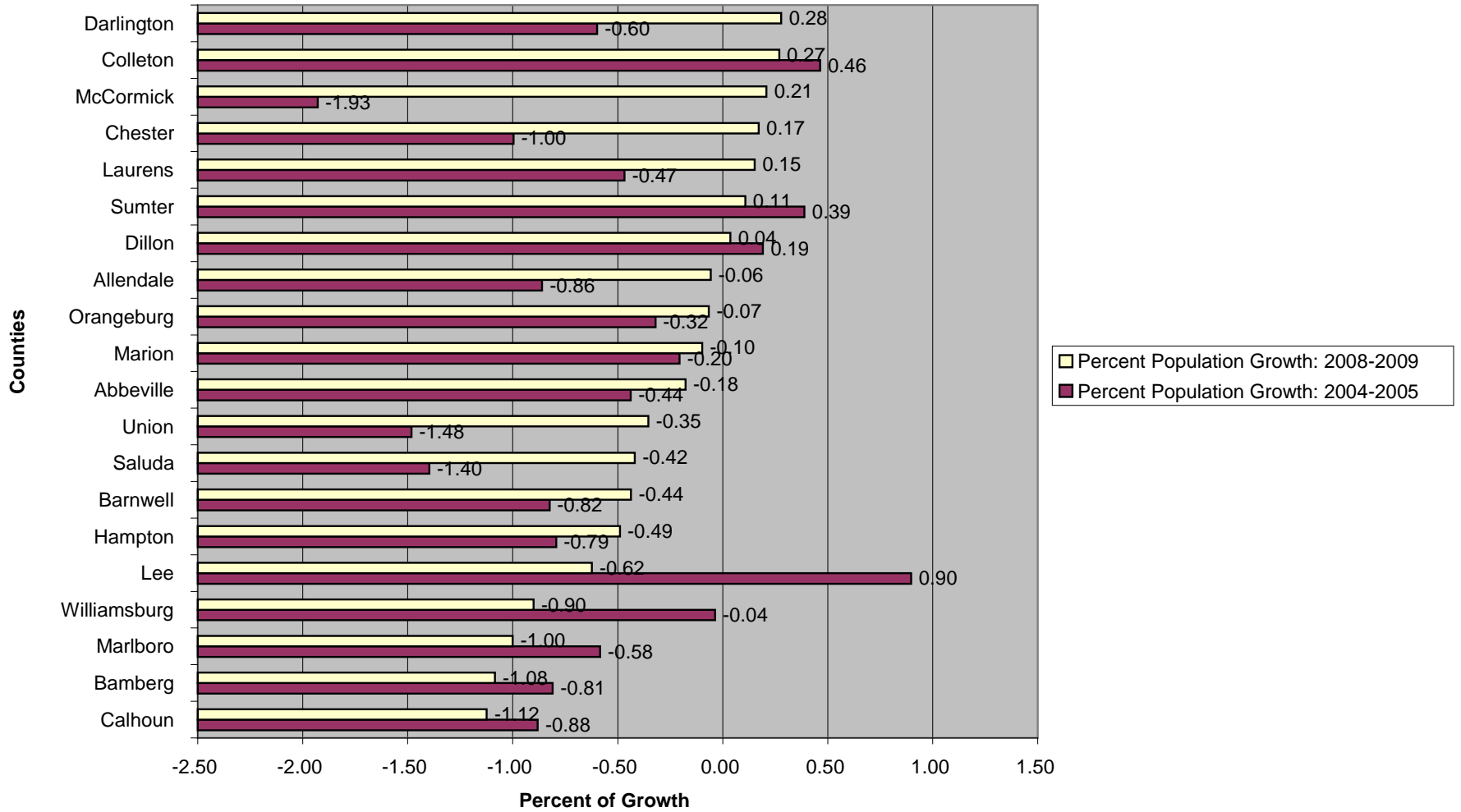


Chart 5: Population Growth by County: Top Twenty Counties



It is very important to understand which of the four reasons for population change best explains why population growth (or decline) occurred, not only in high poverty, high distressed counties but also in counties with higher overall population and/or higher household or family income. This is partially explained demographically in Charts 6 and 7.

Chart 6 provides natural increase rates (total percentage of births minus the total percentage of deaths) within the top twenty poorest counties. An examination of these counties based on net rates of natural population increase reveals that at the beginning of the decade (2000-2001), urbanized MSA counties or rural counties with lower minority population percentages experienced higher rates of net natural increase in population.<sup>13</sup> These counties include Anderson, Union, York, Aiken, Beaufort, Horry, and Charleston. Lower positive rates of natural population increase were experienced in rural counties with traditionally higher minority population percentages. These counties include Darlington, Lee, Barnwell, Clarendon, and Marlboro County.

Equally important to understanding population change components is to look at the rate of net population migration. In general, if net migration rates are positive (negative), this can be due to large in-migration (out-migration) rates of new families and individuals relative to individuals and families who may move out of a particular county or place.

Chart 6 indicates among the top twenty poorest counties in 2000-2001, that seventeen of the twenty counties had begun to experience net out-migration of the population. **Net out-migration rates were high in both urban and rural counties alike.** Highest county out-migration rates for 2000-2001 were in Anderson (-27.16%), York (-16.15%), Barnwell (-15.99%), Marlboro (-12.23%), Union (-11.80%), and Williamsburg Counties (-10.94%).

Chart 6: Components of Population Change: Natural Increase and Net Migration Rates 2001

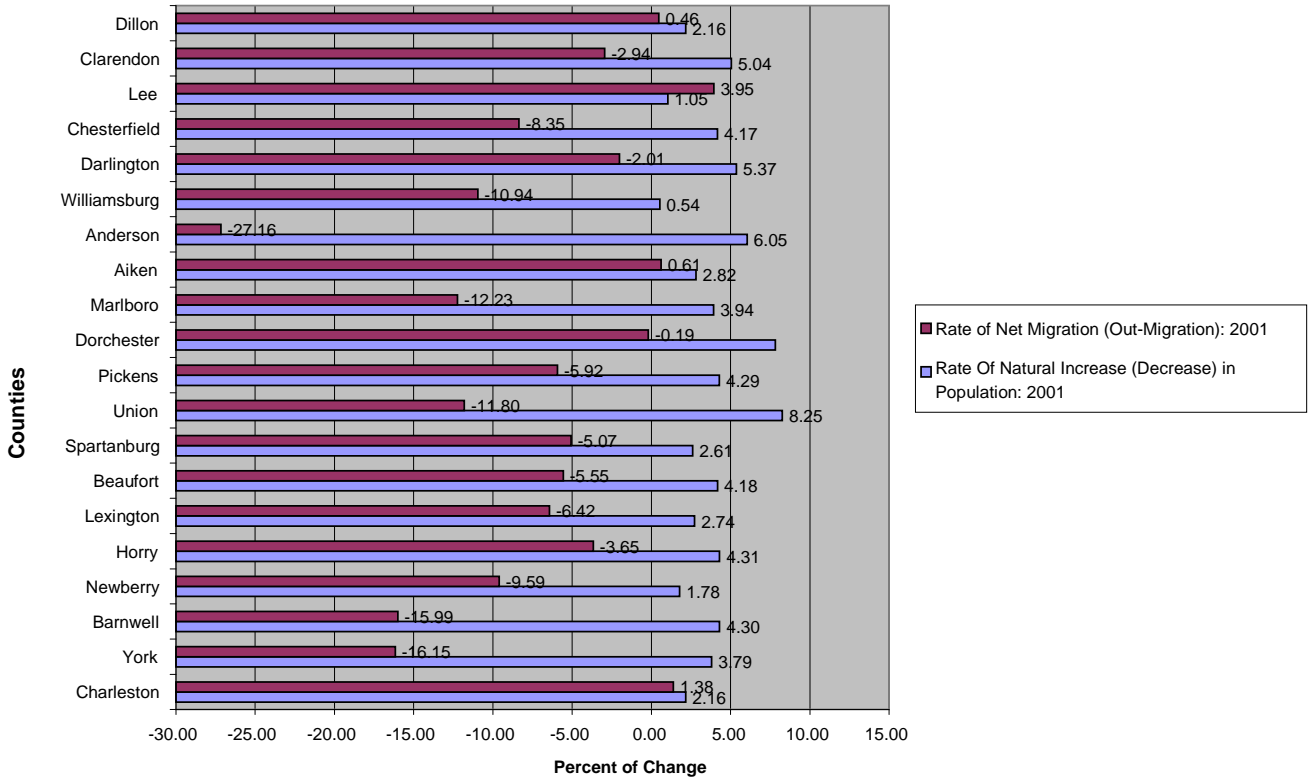
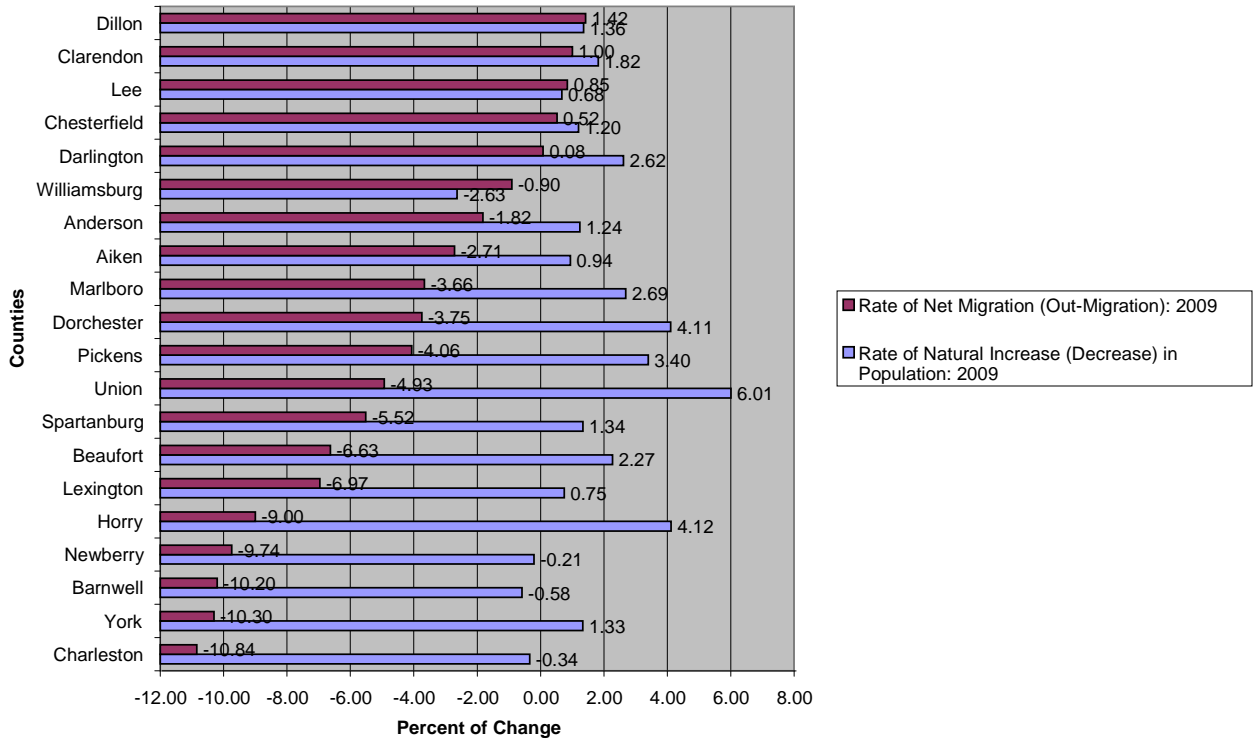


Chart 7 further examines population change components for the 2008-2009 census years. End-of-the-decade rates indicate a dichotomy of population change between urban versus rural county designation. In particular, rates of natural increase (percentage of births minus the percentage of deaths) were highest in urban areas of Anderson, Horry, Dorchester, Pickens and Beaufort Counties. Positive rates of natural increase were experienced in rural counties, but these rates were of smaller magnitude, with the exception of Union County. Examples include Marlboro, Darlington, Clarendon, Dillon, and Chesterfield counties. Net population gains through rates of natural increase have been offset by a continued rate of negative or out-migration of the population. An inspection of Chart 7 reveals that fifteen of the twenty counties experienced negative rates of population migration. This means that in percentage terms, a higher percentage of the population is choosing to leave each county relative to the rate of persons choosing to locate in a particular county.

**Chart 7: Components of Population Change: Natural Increase and Net Migration Rates 2009**



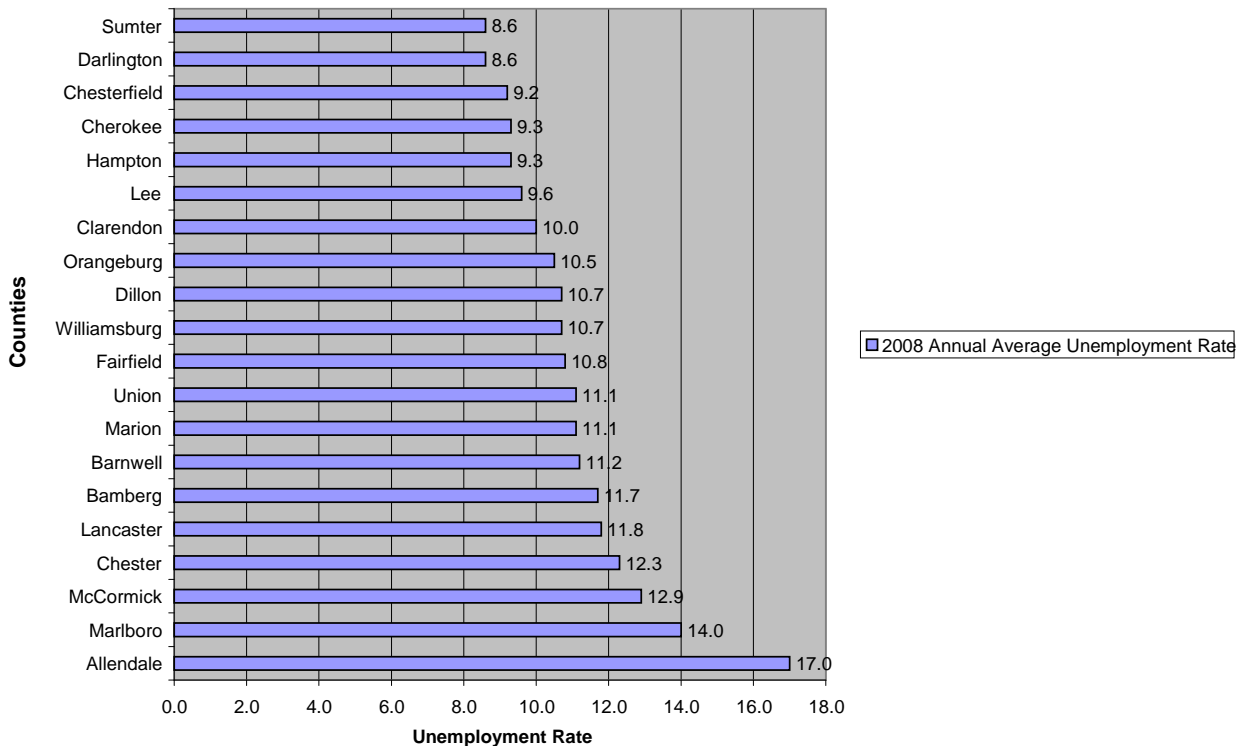
In conclusion, an examination of the demographic changes in population can have a real consequence for families and children left in counties with declining population and increasing out migration. If the people migrating out are those with higher educational attainment and income potential, then it has the effect of leaving a community behind with less skill and employment potential. This has the potential to further exacerbate family and child poverty as job opportunities (employers) leave the community as the skilled workforce dwindles.

**Economic Indicators of Poverty Deprivation and Potential  
Impacts on Population Change Components**

The previous four charts provide a two-period snap shot of population growth, net population change, and components of population change at the county level. Emphasis was placed on the top twenty counties, and how the particular change component influenced growth or the decline in population. The next four charts provide statistics on economic indicators and their potential impact on the components of population change. [Specifically] Charts 8 through 11 respectively, give the latest estimates on 2008 annual average employment rates, the 2008 poverty estimates by county, the poverty rates for all ages, and for children ages 5 to 17.

Chart 8 provides 2008 Annual Average Unemployment Rates for the top twenty counties with high rates of unemployment. With the exception of Sumter County, all nineteen remaining counties with high unemployment rates are rural counties. Many of these counties have experienced the loss of major companies, primarily within the manufacturing sector. Other sectors with heavy job losses include the service sector, wholesale trade, retail trade, accommodations and food services, and other services<sup>14</sup>. Throughout the years of 2008 and 2009, South Carolina ranked in the top six nationally in the rate of unemployment. The annual average and monthly unemployment rates persisted above ten percent in fourteen counties during this same period.

Chart 8: 2008 Annual Average Unemployment Rate





Charts 9 and 10 provide respectively the total estimate of the persons living below the poverty level (Chart 9) and total persons ages 5 to 17 living in poverty (Chart 10). Among the top twenty counties, 2008 poverty rates for all persons range from one of every five persons regardless of age, to one of every three persons.

Chart 11 provides percentage total estimates by county for individuals ages 5 to 17 who live in households with incomes below the poverty level<sup>15</sup>. It is important to recognize how entrenched poverty is among families who live in the state, in particular rural counties of South Carolina where job losses have been most severe. Specifically, when the loss of jobs within the manufacturing, services and even the seasonal tourism and construction sectors is considered, this helps to partially explain the difficulty that many families have climbing out of poverty. Chart 11 shows that among the top twenty counties, poverty rates for children ages 5 to 17 range from 39.4% (Lancaster) to 44.8% (Allendale). Seven counties: Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Lee, McCormick, Bamberg and Marlboro had poverty rates above thirty percent, while two counties, Williamsburg and Allendale, have poverty rates above forty percent.

In conclusion, the income level of parents/guardians can be a determinant also of student success. One's inability to provide educational resources, for example, books, internet, technology, etc.; lack of income for transportation to obtain educational services for a child; and a general lack of disposable income to provide educational enhancements for a child in the early years, birth to four, can have a direct impact on student achievement and performance in the classroom. Therefore, job creation and skills training for parents/guardians are critical to improving student performance in South Carolina. Communities with few employment opportunities face an uphill battle. Therefore, to improve student outcomes, we must improve economic opportunities for parents.

Chart 9: 2008 Poverty Percent All Ages

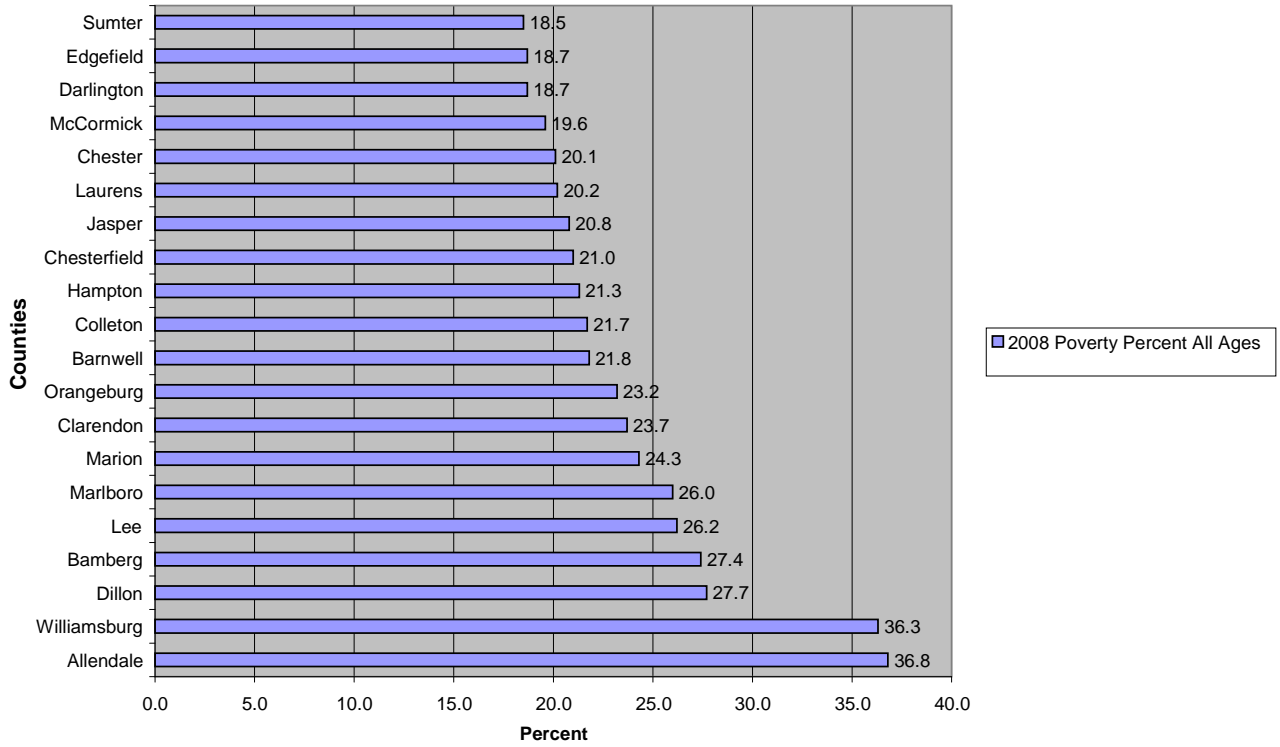


Chart 10: 2008 Poverty Estimate Ages 5 to 17

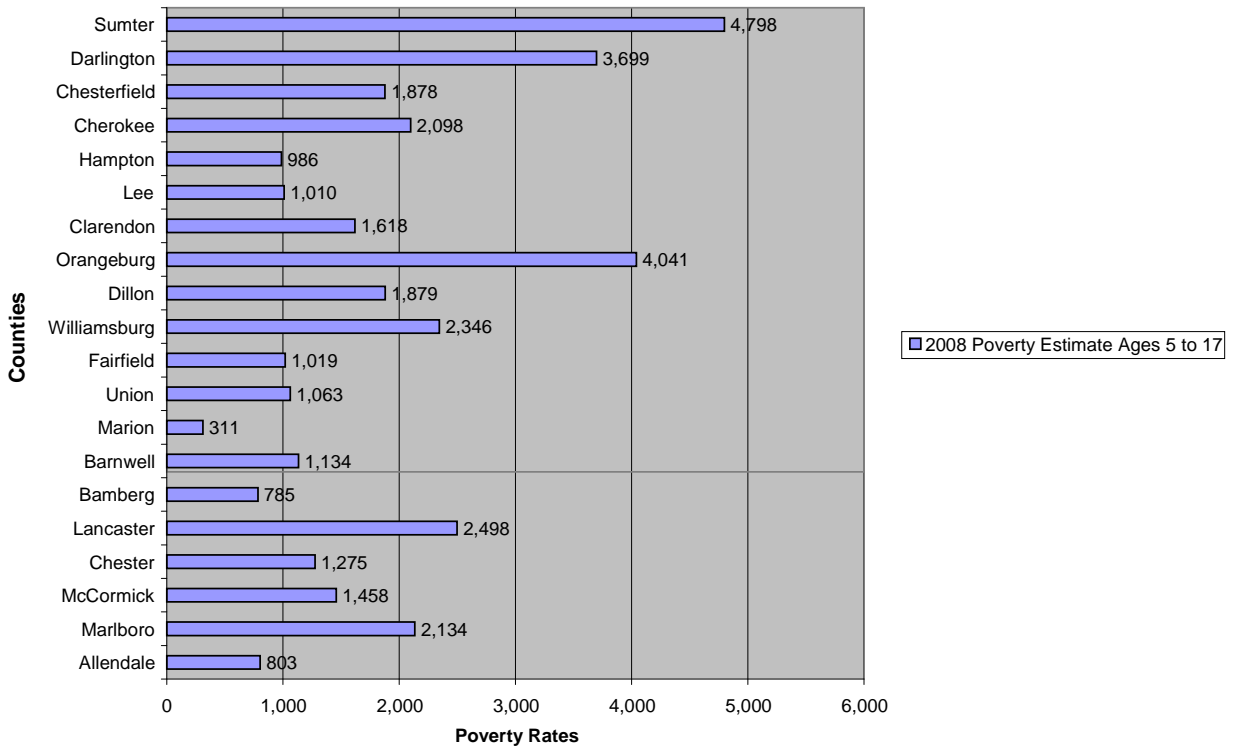
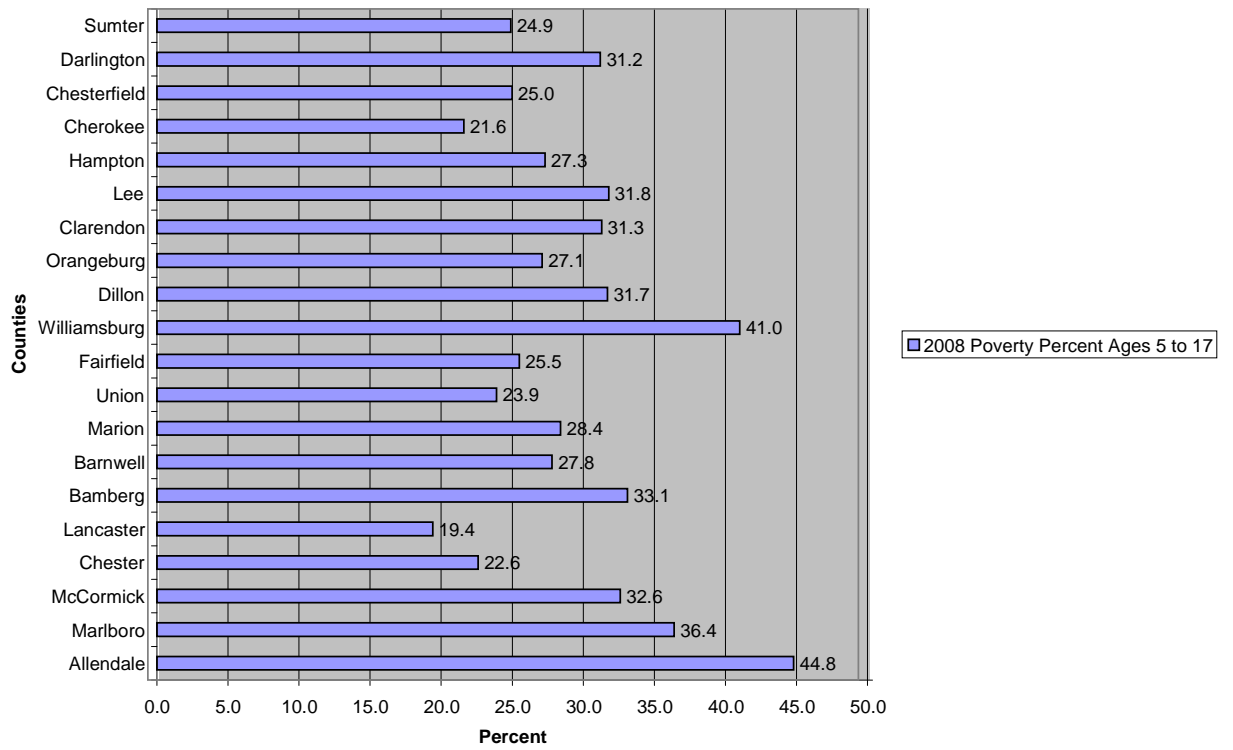


Chart 11: 2008 Poverty Percent Ages 5 to 17



## **Preliminary Findings on Demographic Shifts in South Carolina: Implications for Investment in Early Education for Children under Age 5**

The previous sections highlighted statistical findings regarding the components of population change, as well as economic indicators for South Carolina. This section provides a brief synopsis of projected population growth of the four-year-old population by county in South Carolina.<sup>16</sup>

Table 3 provides estimates and projections for the total number of four year olds by county. In interpreting Table 3, each year represents the number of four year olds within a county who are potentially eligible to attend four-year-old kindergarten or Pre-K for four year olds. The last column in Table 3 provides the projected percentage increase (decrease) over the five year period for the total number of four year olds. In examining Table 3, twelve of the 46 counties are projected to experience a decrease in the total number of four year olds within the county of less than five percent, while twenty counties are projected to experience an increase in the number of four year olds of five percent or more.

Table 4 provides estimates and projections of the total number of four year olds within the county who live in poverty level households. Of particular importance in Table 4 is the Poverty Index within each county. The Poverty Index provides an estimate of the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price lunch programs or who are Medicaid eligible<sup>17</sup>. An examination of Table 4 shows that regardless of the county, the Poverty Index remains relatively stable throughout the five year period for the four-year-old population. The last column in Table 4 is also important to comprehend. In particular, thirteen (13) of the counties are anticipated to experience an overall decrease of 5% or more in the total (percentage) of four year olds in poverty, while fifteen (15) counties are anticipated to see an increase of 5% or more of the total number of four year olds who come from poverty level families. A closer inspection of counties with higher than average projected percentage increases in the number of four year olds in poverty reveals that Lancaster (25.1%), Berkeley (20.1%), York (13.1%), Greenville (10.4%), and York (10.3%) have rates ranging from two to four times the average used specifically for comparison in (this) Table 4. A final point is worthy of note, as Tables 3 and 4 are summarized: Both tables' percentages mask differences in public school districts with severely high numbers of families or households who live below the poverty level within rural areas, as well as those households concentrated within certain areas of [sub-]urban counties.

In conclusion, when considering future funding scenarios for early childhood education, we must answer the following questions:

- (1) How much additional funding will need to be invested in an increasing number of counties and school districts, which have experienced severe economic losses due to plant closings and job layoffs?
- (2) How do counties and school districts with declining population bases and population out-migration generate the tax revenues needed to fund early education, particularly when

those who can afford to leave to provide better opportunities for their children, actually do so?

**Table 3 Estimates and Projections of Total Numbers of 4-Year-Olds:  
2008-09 to 2011-12 by County**

County Name	Estimated Total # 4 y. o. in 2008- 09	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008 to 2009	Projected Total # 4 y. o. in 2009- 2010	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2009 to 2010	Projected Total # 4 y. o. in 2010- 2011	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2010 to 2011	Projected Total # 4 y.o. in 2011- 2012	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2011 to 2012	Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008- 09 to 2011- 2012	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008-09 to 2011-2012
Abbeville County*	291	0.0	291	0.0	291	0.0	291	0.0	0	0.0
Aiken County	1948	2.8	2001	2.7	2054	2.7	2107	2.6	159	8.2
Allendale County*	132	-10.2	117	-11.4	102	-12.8	87	-14.7	-45	-34.1
Anderson County	2401	2.8	2466	2.7	2531	2.6	2596	2.6	195	8.1
Bamberg County*	179	-0.6	178	-0.6	177	-0.6	176	-0.6	-3	-1.7
Barnwell County*	313	-4.9	297	-5.1	281	-5.4	265	-5.7	-48	-15.3
Beaufort County	2292	1.5	2325	1.4	2358	1.4	2391	1.4	99	4.3
Berkeley County*	2531	7.7	2711	7.1	2891	6.6	3071	6.2	540	21.3
Calhoun County	161	-3.0	156	-3.1	151	-3.2	146	-3.3	-15	-9.3
Charleston County	4850	2.4	4962	2.3	5074	2.3	5186	2.2	336	6.9
Cherokee County	680	-0.9	674	-0.9	668	-0.9	662	-0.9	-18	-2.7
Chester County	418	1.7	425	1.7	432	1.7	439	1.6	21	5.0
Chesterfield County*	543	1.9	553	1.8	563	1.8	573	1.8	30	5.5
Clarendon County*	406	-1.5	400	-1.5	394	-1.5	388	-1.5	-18	-4.4
Colleton County	526	1.4	533	1.3	540	1.3	547	1.3	21	4.0
Darlington County	839	-1.8	824	-1.8	809	-1.8	794	-1.9	-45	-5.4
Dillon County*	462	-2.5	450	-2.6	438	-2.7	426	-2.7	-36	-7.8
Dorchester County	1838	3.9	1907	3.8	1976	3.6	2045	3.5	207	11.3
Edgefield County	258	-3.0	250	-3.1	242	-3.2	234	-3.3	-24	-9.3
Fairfield County	291	-3.0	282	-3.1	273	-3.2	264	-3.3	-27	-9.3
Florence County*	1949	-0.9	1932	-0.9	1915	-0.9	1898	-0.9	-51	-2.6
Georgetown County	735	-1.6	723	-1.6	711	-1.7	699	-1.7	-36	-4.9
Greenville County	6313	4.1	6560	3.9	6807	3.8	7054	3.6	741	11.7
Greenwood County	888	1.6	902	1.6	916	1.6	930	1.5	42	4.7
Hampton County*	286	-1.7	281	-1.8	276	-1.8	271	-1.8	-15	-5.2
Horry County	3302	4.1	3433	4.0	3564	3.8	3695	3.7	393	11.9

County Name	Estimated Total # 4 y. o. in 2008-09	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008 to 2009	Projected Total # 4 y. o. in 2009-2010	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2009 to 2010	Projected Total # 4 y. o. in 2010-2011	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2010 to 2011	Projected Total # 4 y.o. in 2011-2012	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2011 to 2012	Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008-09 to 2011-2012	Pct. Change in Total # 4 y.o. 2008-09 to 2011-2012
Jasper County*	349	2.1	356	2.0	363	2.0	370	1.9	21	6.0
Kershaw County	805	2.0	821	2.0	837	2.0	853	1.9	48	6.0
Lancaster County	948	9.6	1031	8.8	1114	8.1	1197	7.5	249	26.3
Laurens County*	814	1.8	828	1.7	842	1.7	856	1.7	42	5.2
Lee County*	242	-4.4	231	-4.6	220	-4.8	209	-5.0	-33	-13.6
Lexington County*	3426	2.2	3500	2.2	3574	2.1	3648	2.1	222	6.5
Marion County*	449	-4.1	430	-4.2	411	-4.4	392	-4.6	-57	-12.7
Marlboro County*	329	-2.4	321	-2.4	313	-2.5	305	-2.6	-24	-7.3
McCormick County*	78	-1.3	77	-1.3	76	-1.3	75	-1.3	-3	-3.9
Newberry County	523	2.6	536	2.5	549	2.4	562	2.4	39	7.5
Oconee County	848	2.3	867	2.2	886	2.2	905	2.1	57	6.7
Orangeburg County*	1274	-2.2	1246	-2.2	1218	-2.3	1190	-2.3	-84	-6.6
Pickens County	1349	4.3	1405	4.2	1461	4.0	1517	3.8	168	12.5
Richland County	4955	1.6	5033	1.6	5111	1.6	5189	1.5	234	4.7
Saluda County*	244	1.7	248	1.6	252	1.6	256	1.6	12	4.9
Spartanburg County	3757	3.4	3880	3.3	4003	3.2	4126	3.1	369	9.8
Sumter County	1587	-0.4	1580	-0.4	1573	-0.4	1566	-0.5	-21	-1.3
Union County	317	0.6	319	0.6	321	0.6	323	0.6	6	1.9
Williamsburg County*	433	-4.2	414	-4.4	395	-4.6	376	-4.8	-57	-13.2
York County	3046	5.1	3193	4.8	3340	4.6	3487	4.4	441	14.5
State Totals	60605	2.3	61949	2.2	63293	2.2	64637	2.1	4032	6.7
County has decrease of 5% or more										
County has increase of 5% or more										
* County contains one or more of 37 Plaintiff school districts.										

\* County contains one or more of 37 Plaintiff school districts.

Data Source: US Census population estimates, 2000-2009, Office of Research and Statistics, SC Budget and Control Board.



**Table 4 Estimates and Projections of 4 year-olds in Poverty 2008-09 to 2011-12, By County**

County Name	Poverty Index 2008-09	Estimated # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09	Projected Poverty Index 2009-10	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2009-10	Projected Poverty Index 2010-11	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2010-11	Projected Poverty Index 2011-12	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2011-12	Change in # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09 to 2011-12	Pct.Change in # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09 to 2011-12
Abbeville County*	75.92	221	75.09	218	75.09	219	75.51	220	-1	-0.5
Aiken County	66.76	1300	65.84	1317	65.74	1350	66.25	1396	96	7.4
Allendale County*	96.47	127	95.76	112	95.40	97	95.94	83	-44	-34.6
Anderson County	61.38	1474	60.05	1481	59.86	1515	60.62	1574	100	6.8
Bamberg County*	81.16	145	81.84	146	81.31	144	81.24	143	-2	-1.4
Barnwell County*	79.24	248	78.13	232	78.50	221	78.87	209	-39	-15.7
Beaufort County	62.41	1430	61.61	1432	61.80	1457	62.10	1485	55	3.8
Berkeley County*	68.11	1724	66.53	1804	66.73	1929	67.42	2070	346	20.1
Calhoun County	91.16	147	91.15	142	91.18	138	91.17	133	-14	-9.5
Charleston County	63.15	3063	63.11	3131	63.05	3199	63.10	3272	209	6.8
Cherokee County	74.85	509	72.56	489	72.52	484	73.68	488	-21	-4.1
Chester County	75.72	317	74.83	318	75.01	324	75.36	331	14	4.4
Chesterfield County*	77.47	421	76.09	421	76.02	428	76.75	440	19	4.5
Clarendon County*	85.09	345	84.60	338	84.08	331	84.59	328	-17	-4.9
Colleton County	87.86	462	87.14	464	86.94	469	87.40	478	16	3.5
Darlington County	79.90	670	79.27	653	78.95	639	79.42	631	-39	-5.8
Dillon County*	88.34	408	87.30	393	87.64	384	87.99	375	-33	-8.1
Dorchester County	56.23	1034	54.61	1041	54.38	1074	55.30	1131	97	9.4
Edgefield County	69.77	180	69.50	174	69.37	168	69.57	163	-17	-9.4
Fairfield County	92.15	268	91.91	259	91.59	250	91.87	243	-25	-9.3
Florence County*	74.79	1458	74.45	1438	74.14	1420	74.46	1413	-45	-3.1
Georgetown County	72.51	533	72.28	523	72.70	517	72.61	508	-25	-4.7
Greenville County	56.01	3536	54.57	3579	54.64	3719	55.32	3903	367	10.4
Greenwood County	69.43	617	67.90	612	67.68	620	68.56	638	21	3.4
Hampton County*	83.19	238	81.95	230	82.10	227	82.64	224	-14	-5.9
Horry County	70.20	2318	68.48	2351	68.23	2432	69.22	2557	239	10.3
Jasper County*	91.88	321	92.42	329	92.59	336	92.23	341	20	6.2

County Name	Poverty Index 2008-09	Estimated # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09	Projected Poverty Index 2009-10	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2009-10	Projected Poverty Index 2010-11	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2010-11	Projected Poverty Index 2011-12	Projected # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2011-12	Change in # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09 to 2011-12	Pct.Change in # 4 y.o. in Poverty 2008-09 to 2011-12
Kershaw County	64.61	520	63.36	520	63.06	528	63.84	545	25	4.8
Lancaster County	64.23	609	63.40	654	63.16	704	63.69	762	153	25.1
Laurens County*	77.16	628	75.95	629	75.85	639	76.50	655	27	4.3
Lee County*	96.30	233	96.59	223	96.18	212	96.24	201	-32	-13.7
Lexington County*	50.89	1743	49.78	1742	49.84	1781	50.36	1837	94	5.4
Marion County*	91.30	410	90.77	390	90.80	373	91.05	357	-53	-12.9
Marlboro County*	91.74	302	91.65	294	91.36	286	91.55	279	-23	-7.6
McCormick County*	89.72	70	89.36	69	89.40	68	89.56	67	-3	-4.3
Newberry County	73.99	387	72.94	391	72.96	401	73.48	413	26	6.7
Oconee County	67.21	570	65.69	570	65.73	582	66.47	602	32	5.6
Orangeburg County*	88.43	1127	87.89	1095	87.72	1068	88.07	1048	-79	-7.0
Pickens County	58.62	791	56.99	801	57.17	835	57.89	878	87	11.0
Richland County	65.71	3256	65.10	3276	65.04	3324	65.37	3392	136	4.2
Saluda County*	75.91	185	75.53	187	75.49	190	75.70	194	9	4.9
Spartanburg County	64.65	2429	63.17	2451	63.06	2524	63.86	2635	206	8.5
Sumter County	78.35	1243	77.43	1223	77.41	1218	77.88	1220	-23	-1.9
Union County	77.08	244	75.65	241	75.36	242	76.22	246	2	0.8
Williamsburg County*	95.93	415	95.47	395	95.44	377	95.68	360	-55	-13.3
York County	48.48	1477	47.49	1516	47.34	1581	47.91	1671	194	13.1
State Totals		40153		40294		41024		42139	1986	4.9
County has decrease of 5% or more										
County has increase of 5% or more										
Poverty Index=Percentage of students eligible for Federal free- or reduced-price lunch program and/or eligible for Medicaid.										

\* County contains one or more of 37 Plaintiff districts.

## **Summary**

This chapter has provided an initial summary of demographic shifts which have occurred within and across the counties of South Carolina. Specifically, the chapter has highlighted the major demographic, social and economic variables which serve as predictors of the causes of demographic change and persistent poverty. These same variables, namely high chronic unemployment, job layoffs and plant closings, and net [out-] migration of the population, can either alone, or in combination with each other, exacerbate the level of poverty within counties, communities, and school districts. All of these can impact student achievement and contribute to systemic school failure across large segments of the population.

## **Recommendations Based on a Review and Analysis of Demographic Change by Counties with High Minority Populations**

- Pass legislation requiring transparent data sharing among the following state agencies to further study and address systemic poverty and its impact on early childhood education as a means to help close the achievement gap. In particular, the study committee shall exist to make recommendations to successive Governors and members of the General Assembly with a timeframe to address eliminating poverty by 2050. Participating agencies should include, but not be limited to:
  1. SC Commission for Minority Affairs
  2. SC Department of Social Services
  3. SC Department of Commerce
  4. SC Department of Education
  5. Education Oversight Committee
  6. SC Department of Health and Human Services
  7. SC Employment Security Commission
  8. University of South Carolina
  9. Clemson University
  10. SC State University
  11. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
  12. SC Head Start Collaboration Office

### **13. SC Department of Mental Health**

### **14. SC Office of First Steps**

- Fund state level efforts to examine the impact of plant closings, high unemployment and other key variables and how these variables perpetuate poverty among families and communities.
- Commission a review of state taxation policies to fiscally address fully funding early childhood education for the population age 0 to five.
- Commission an examination into employment, workforce development and economic development to comprehensively address the impact of chronic unemployment and underemployment, particularly in urban and rural communities experiencing economic distress.
- Develop and implement a balanced economic development strategy for urban and rural South Carolina.

## **Chapter 1 End Notes**

<sup>1</sup>We present a disclaimer here. Not all state agencies provided information or the data requested for the analysis work for this chapter, as well as in other chapters in the Report. The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs has made every attempt to obtain all statistical information from relevant state agencies responsible for maintaining data based on current state and federal regulations. Thus, all subsequent data and analysis is based on the most current and available data sources. Each data source will be cited and all information can be made available upon request.

<sup>2</sup>South Carolina operates a state data warehouse or data clearinghouse managed through the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board. The Commission for Minority Affairs has worked closely with numerous staff persons, who were instrumental in providing various data not available from the Office of Research and Statistical Services website. We are grateful for this direct assistance.

<sup>3</sup>The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs has also worked diligently to link to other data publicly available on the websites of state agencies. However, recent state budget cuts have severely curtailed the agency's ability to obtain this data and link electronically to other state agencies' websites. In addition, staff turnover and reductions at other state agencies has also made it difficult to expand data collection and joint information dissemination efforts. The Commission recommends that more funding be allocated to state agencies to ensure that adequate provision of data sharing among agencies can reasonably occur. This is critical to the development of sound public policy for children ages 0 to 5 and their families.

<sup>4</sup>Current statutory regulations do not require state agencies to share data with each other, including the SC Commission for Minority Affairs. However, many state agencies do have Memoranda of Understanding or Memoranda of Agreements with each other. The Data Warehouse initiative seeks to correct this situation while maintaining confidentiality of personal identifying data. The Commission recommends that cross sharing of information for decision making, as well as to link the minority populations to essential services, be required of all direct service state agencies. This will better enable the Commission to disseminate timely information to each constituent minority population it is charged to serve.

<sup>5</sup>In most cases, for this chapter, county level data is sorted from lowest to highest indicator to highlight various statistical measures of poverty (and deprivation). This is not done to show the state in a negative light, but to point out the reality of where the state or county stands on a particular statistical indicator.

<sup>6</sup>Bar charts and graphs will indicate only the top twenty (20) counties. More detailed data and additional charts are available upon request.

<sup>7</sup>Sources of the data for Table 1 are as follows:

- 2008 Census Population Estimate – US Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).
- 2008 Median Household Income – US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, [www.census.gov/SAIPE](http://www.census.gov/SAIPE).

- 2008 Annual Average Unemployment Rates – US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).
- 2008 Poverty Estimates – US Census Bureau, Small Area Income, and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE, [www.census.gov/SAIPE](http://www.census.gov/SAIPE)).

<sup>8</sup>US Bureau of Labor Statistics; [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

<sup>9</sup>US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, [www.census.gov/SAIPE](http://www.census.gov/SAIPE)

<sup>10</sup>The two columns containing the poverty estimates for all ages and the percent of the poverty population for all ages are included in the table as separate data. The race and ethnicity percentages are based on the 2008 population estimate in the first column and should not be interpreted to mean that the entire percentage of that racial or ethnic group lives below the poverty level.

<sup>11</sup>Explanations for the demographic changes vary, but include federal policies such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as contributing to the growth of the Hispanic-Latino population, as well as the population undercount of all minority populations.

<sup>12</sup>Tables and charts with data for all forty-six counties can be made available upon request. All tables will be provided in a separate appendix of statistic data tables.

<sup>13</sup>This can also be due in part to the undercount of minority population in the last census period.

<sup>14</sup>Data was obtained on plant closings and layoffs from the SC Department of Commerce. Attempts to link the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) code data to obtain average wage and salary data at the time of the compilation of this report was unsuccessful. Data will be provided upon request at a future date and on the Commission for Minority Affairs' Website.

<sup>15</sup>Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), [www.census.gov/SAIPE](http://www.census.gov/SAIPE). The Census Bureau does not provide poverty rates at the county level for children under age 5. The Bureau does provide a state level poverty rate for persons under age five who live in families with incomes below the poverty level.

<sup>16</sup>Tables 2 and 3 are provided by the Education Oversight Committee, and are explicitly included in the 2008-2009 Implementation and Expansion of the Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP) as Tables 7 and 8.

For clarity, we make the distinction between a population estimate and a population projection. [The] population estimate is derived from a beginning (base) population total. Population totals during the census period are based on the 2000 census. From the base population, an estimate for a particular census year is obtained. A specific population methodology is applied to the population estimate for a particular year in order to determine future population. (Typically, the components of population change methodology are used to develop future population

projections). This future number is called a population projection, which in this case is only for the four year old population.

<sup>17</sup>The federal income criteria for Free and Reduced Lunch and Medicaid are based on different percentages of the poverty level and family size. This will be covered in Chapter 3 of this Report.