

Rutherford County North Carolina Chamber of Commerce

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

July 2009 - 2010



*Distributed as a public service by
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2009-2010 Rutherford County Demographic Information

Contents

Rutherford County's Largest Employers.....	2
Rutherford County - Overview.....	3
Population.....	4-5
Retail Sales.....	6
Labor Statistics.....	7
Miscellaneous Facts.....	8
Health Professionals.....	9
Rutherford County Taxes.....	10
Education.....	11 - 12
County Tourism Revenues.....	13
Climate.....	14
Agricultural Statistics.....	15
Forestry Facts.....	16
Data Sources.....	17 - 18

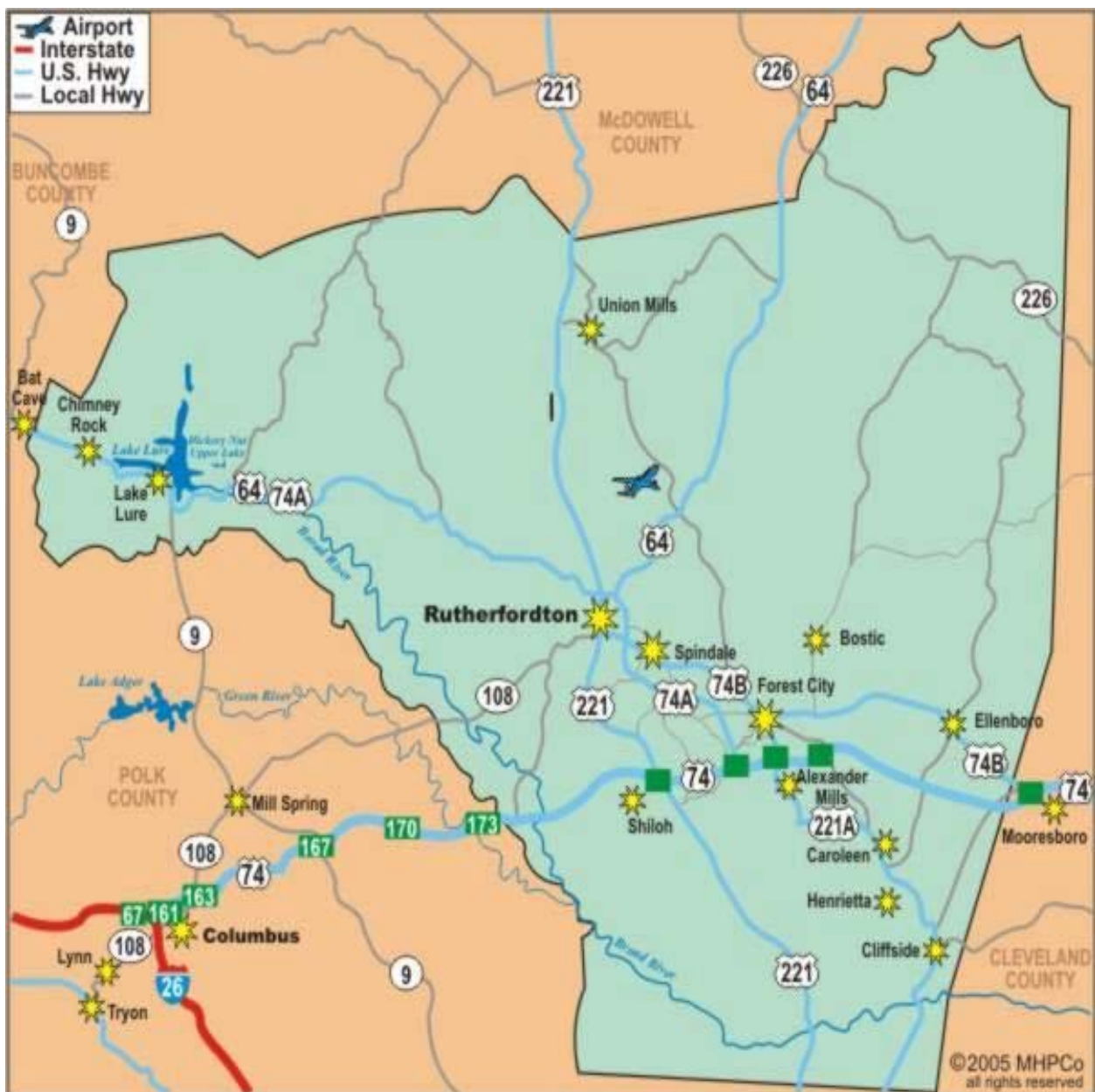
Rutherford County's Largest Employers

Rank	Company Name	Industry	Employment Range
1	Rutherford County Schools	Education & Health Services	1,000+
2	Wal-Mart Associates Inc	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,000+
3	Rutherford Hospital Inc	Education & Health Services	500-999
4	County Of Rutherford	Public Administration	500-999
5	AGI In Store	Information	250-499
6	Isothermal Community College	Education & Health Services	250-499
7	Watts Regulator Company (A Corp)	Manufacturing	250-499
8	The Timken Company	Manufacturing	250-499
9	Heritage Healthcare Inc	Education & Health Services	100-249
10	Ingles Markets Inc	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	100-249
11	Parker Hannifin Corporation	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	100-249
12	Trelleborg	Manufacturing	100-249
13	Willow Ridge Of NC LLC	Education & Health Services	100-249
14	Eaton Corp	Manufacturing	100-249
15	First Choice Armor and Equipment	Manufacturing	100-249
16	Rutherford Management Corp	Leisure & Hospitality	100-249
17	Town Of Forest City	Public Administration	100-249
18	United Southern Industries Inc	Manufacturing	100-249
19	Tanner Companies Limited	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	100-249
20	Rutherford Polk McDowell District	Public Administration	100-249
21	Rumbling Bald Resort	Leisure & Hospitality	100-249
22	Foothills Rebar Inc	Construction	100-249
23	Zaxbys	Leisure & Hospitality	100-249

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
www.ncesc.com (Updated 4/2009)

Rutherford County Overview

Forest City is Rutherford County's largest town and Rutherfordton is the county seat. Rutherford County has a total area of 565.27 square miles with 563.16 square miles of land area. The county's average maximum temperature is 70.5 degrees F and the average minimum temperature is 45.2 degrees F. The average rainfall is 50.34 inches. The county's lowest elevation is 806 ft., the highest is Sugar Loaf Mountain, 3965 ft.



Rutherford County Population

Total Population	62,899	American Indian & Alaska Native	125
White	54,592	Asian or Pacific Islander	206
Black or African American	7,066	Other	443
Hispanic or Latino	1,136	Two or More Races	467

Information is based on 2000 Census.

Bostic	
Total Population	328
Total Households	136
Average Household Size	2.41
Total Families	94
Average Family Size	2.95
Median Age	36.3

Chimney Rock	
Total Population	175
Total Households	74
Average Household Size	2.36
Total Families	51
Average Family Size	2.80
Median Age	38.3

Ellenboro	
Total Population	479
Total Households	222
Average Household Size	2.16
Total Families	126
Average Family Size	2.85
Median Age	38.4

Forest City	
Total Population	7,549
Total Households	3,245
Average Household Size	2.28
Total Families	2,028
Average Family Size	2.90
Median Age	37.8



Lake Lure	
Total Population	1,027
Total Households	495
Average Household Size	2.07
Total Families	360
Average Family Size	2.39
Median Age	58.6

Ruth	
Total Population	329
Total Households	137
Average Household Size	2.40
Total Families	97
Average Family Size	2.87
Median Age	38.9

Rutherfordton	
Total Population	4,131
Total Households	1,602
Average Household Size	2.33
Total Families	1,048
Average Family Size	2.91
Median Age	40.3

Spindale	
Total Population	4,022
Total Households	1,662
Average Household Size	2.29
Total Families	1,065
Average Family Size	2.87
Median Age	38.4

Rutherford County Population (continued)

General Demographic Characteristics	
Total population	62,963
Male	29,786
Female	33,177
Median Age	40.1
Under 5 years	3,841
5 years and over	12,341
20 years and over	36,323
65 years and over	10,326
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 America Community Survey	

Projected State & County Density		
	Rutherford County	North Carolina
Land Area (Sq. Mile)	564.24	48,618.55
July 2010	115.19	196.89
July 2015	121.74	214.51
July 2020	128.30	231.87
July 2025	134.85	249.02
July 2029	140.09	262.65
Information based on 2000 Census		

Urban/Rural Representation		
Urban - inside Urbanized Area	0	0.0%
Urban - inside Urbanized Clusters	23,242	37.0%
Rural - Farm	836	1.3%
Rural - Nonfarm	38,821	61.7%
Information based on 2000 Census		

Projected Population	
July 2007	63,847
July 2008	64,155
July 2009	64,483
July 2010	64,792
July 2011	65,002

Retail Sales 2007-2008

County & Major Business Group	Gross Collections *	Taxable Sales **
RUTHERFORD	16,191,564	382,867,026
1% Tax	226	1,262
2% and 3% Tax	17,828	768,586
Apparel	440,501	10,334,195
Automotive	1,279,182	29,939,647
Food	4,538,307	106,100,971
Furniture	434,031	9,979,487
General Merchandise	4,964,599	116,465,344
Lumber & Building Material	2,203,339	51,748,990
Unclassified	2,313,551	57,528,544

* Gross collections reported during the period July 1 through June 30 including collections of penalties, interest, and sales and use tax.

** Amounts shown are total taxable sales reported on sales and use tax returns filed during the period July 1 through June 30. The returns received reflect sales for the period June 1 through May 31.

Monthly Retail Sales

Month	Gross Collection	Taxable Sales
April 2009	1,398,588	31,167,169
March 2009	1,236,729	27,472,291
February 2009	1,328,207	29,573,554
January 2009	1,872,532	41,726,819
December 2008	1,237,459	27,298,824

Labor Statistics

Commuting Patterns		Current Industry Structure		
Commuting Out of Rutherford County		(Qtr Ending 12/08)	Number of Units	Employment
Destination County	Number of Workers			
Cleveland County	1,988	Total, All Industries	1,373	22,745
Mecklenburg County	412	Natural Resources & Mining	13	84
McDowell County	348	Construction	184	1,165
Spartanburg County	883	Manufacturing	74	3,832
Cherokee, SC	312	Trade, Transportation & Utilities	315	4,244
Commuting Into Rutherford County		Information	14	801
Origin County	Number of Workers	Financial Activities	125	486
Cleveland County	980	Professional & Business Services	155	2,884
Polk County	645	Education & Health Services	159	5,690
McDowell County	276	Leisure & Hospitality	139	1,906
Spartanburg, SC	266	Other Services	74	267
Henderson	159	Public Administration	30	1,325
Based on 2000 census		Unclassified	94	61

Rutherford County Civilian Labor Force Estimates						
	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	June 09
LaborForce	30846	31148	31057	31940	31732	31971
Employed	26244	26196	26207	26829	26846	27062
Unemployed	4602	4952	4820	5111	4883	4909
Rate%	14.9	15.9	15.6	16.	15.4	15.4

Average Weekly Wage (Qtr Ending 12/08)	Rutherford County	North Carolina
	\$565	\$793

Miscellaneous Facts

Income & Poverty		
Median Household Income 2008	In-	\$38,402
Per Capita Income 2008		\$19,989
Median Family Income 2008		\$46,383
Persons Below Poverty		17.3%
2009 N.C. Tier Designation		1

Land and Water Area in Square Miles	
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	564.1
Water area, 2000 (square miles)	1.8
Total Area	565.9

Rutherfordton, the county seat, is located:	
1.7 Miles from Spindale	
5.7 Miles from Forest City	
6.8 Miles from Bostic	
11.5 Miles from Ellenboro	
14.6 Miles from Lake Lure	
17 Miles from Chimney Rock	
Rutherford County is located:	
62 Miles from Charlotte, NC	
52 Miles from Asheville, NC	
42 Miles from Greenville, SC	
32 Miles from Spartanburg, SC	

Housing	
Median Housing Value	\$77,600
Median Gross Rent	\$404
Average Mortgage (2003)	\$92,178
Median Monthly Housing Cost Owning	\$897
Persons Per Household (2008)	2.44

Highway Accessibility		
Route	Distance	Direction
US 74	Local	East & West
US 64	Local	East & West
Hwy 221	Local	North & South
I - 26	20 Miles	East & West
I - 40	21 Miles	East & West
I - 85	26 Miles	North & South

Crime Statistics		
	2006	2007
Violent Crime	150	131
Murder/ Manslaughter	3	0
Rape	19	11
Robbery	17	18
Aggravated Assault	111	102
Property Crime	874	1,212
Burglary	383	440
Larceny - Theft	401	690
Motor Vehicle Theft	90	82
Population Coverage	48,402	48,343

2007 Active Health Professionals

<i>Physicians</i>	
Non-Federal Physicians	84
Primary Care Physicians	48
<i>Family Practice</i>	18
<i>General Practice</i>	1
<i>Internal Medicine</i>	16
<i>Obstetrics/ Gynecology</i>	5
<i>Pediatrics</i>	8
Other Specialties	36
Physicians per 10,000 Population	13.3
Primary Care Physicians Per 10,000 Population	7.6

<i>Dentists and Dental Hygienists</i>	
Dentists	15
Dental Hygienists	40

<i>Nurses</i>	
Registered Nurses	432
<i>Nurse Practitioners</i>	15
<i>Certified</i>	
<i>Nurse Midwives</i>	1
Licensed Practical Nurses	211

<i>Other Health Professionals</i>	
Chiropractors	7
Occupational Therapists	6
Occupational Therapy Assistant	8
Optometrists	6
Pharmacists	47
Physical Therapists	15
Physical Therapist Assistants	19
Physician Assistants	10
Podiatrists	1
Practicing Psychologists	4
Psychological Associates	7
Respiratory Therapists	25

Rutherford County Taxes

Assessed Value of Taxable Property For the last five fiscal years (In thousands)				
Fiscal Year Ended June 30	Real Property	Personal Property	Public Service Companies	Total
2005	\$2,955,234	\$752,427	\$244,833	\$3,952,494
2004	\$2,879,335	\$768,594	\$252,769	\$3,900,698
2003	\$2,824,379	\$862,859	\$242,451	\$3,929,689
2002	\$2,181,264	\$844,710	\$185,699	\$3,211,673
2001	\$2,099,696	\$828,745	\$205,748	\$3,134,189

Rutherford County Tax Rate 2007*

Tax Rate is Per \$100 valuation

Rutherford County	\$0.53
Bostic	\$0.25
Chimney Rock Village	\$0.075
Ellenboro	\$0.22
Forest City	\$0.29
Lake Lure	\$0.21
Ruth	\$0.26
Rutherfordton	\$0.52
Spindale	\$0.56

All real and personal property is taxed in Rutherford County and must be listed in January. Contact the Rutherford County Tax Supervisor at 287-6180 for more information. 2007 is the latest revaluation of county taxes

Fire District Tax Rate

County Contracted	\$0.02
Bills Creek Fire	\$0.08
Bostic Fire	\$0.06
Cherry Mountain Fire	\$0.09
Chimney Rock Fire	\$0.05
Cliffside Fire	\$0.07
Cliffside Sanitary	0.08
Ellenboro Fire	\$0.06
Green Hill Fire	\$0.07
Hollis Fire	\$0.03
Hudlow Fire	\$0.08
Sandy Mush Fire	\$0.05
SDO Fire	\$0.05
Shingle Hollow	\$0.10
Rutherfordton Fire	\$0.08
Union Mills Fire	\$0.05

Fees

Solid Waste Fee (SWW)	\$100.00
Solid Waste Fee (SWH)	\$ 25.00
Ellenboro Waste Tax (WF3)	\$ 50.00
Ruth Waste Fee (WF6)	\$ 25.00
Chimney Rock WF (WF9)	\$100.00

Rutherford County Schools (School year 07 - 08)

Rutherford County Schools

John Kinlaw, Superintendent
382 West Main Street
Forest City, NC 28043
(828) 245-0252

District Profile

School Size - The average number of students in an elementary (K-5), middle (6-8), and high (9-12) school in this district and the state.

	District	State
Elementary	439	513
Middle	731	662
High	721	854

Average Class Size

The average number of students enrolled in "typical" K-8 classrooms.

	District	State
Kinder-garten	20	19
Grade 1	20	19
Grade 2	19	19
Grade 3	19	19
Grade 4	19	20
Grade 5	21	21
Grade 6	21	21
Grade 7	21	21
Grade 8	21	20

Financial Support

Source of Funds (Amount per Student) - Public schools in North Carolina operate with funding from local, state and federal sources. The financial support reflected in these numbers includes all expenses concerned with operating schools, including teacher and administrator salaries, textbooks and other educational supplies and materials. Facilities costs are not included.

Local		State		Federal	
District	State Avg.	District	State Avg.	District	State Avg.
\$1,621	\$2,075	\$5,982	\$5,616	\$851	\$830

Use of Funds - Education is a labor-intensive enterprise, as reflected in the accompanying chart. Salaries for teachers, principals and other educators are usually the largest expense in school districts. State and federal funds are generally allotted for specific purposes, services or programs.

Salaries	66%
Benefits	18%
Supplies & Materials	9%
Purchased Services	7%
Equipment	0%
Other	0%

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Results

North Carolina sets target goals that schools must meet to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the federal No child Left Behind Act.

This district met 39 out of 54 AYP targets

School that made AYP	Elementary	Middle	High School
District	50%	0%	25%
State	39%	10%	27%

High Student Performance

Overall performance of Students in Grade 3 - 8 on ABCs End-of-Grade Tests
Percentage of Students' Scores At or Above

	Reading	Math
District	52.5	68.0
State	55.6	69.4

Years of Teaching Experience - The percentage of teachers who have taught for 0 - 3 years, 4 - 10 years or over 10 years

	Elementary School			Middle School			High School		
	0-3 Yrs	4-10 Yrs	10+ Yrs	0-3 Yrs	4-10 Yrs	10+ Yrs	0-3 Yrs	4-10 Yrs	10+ Yrs
Dis-trict	15%	30%	55%	14%	25%	61%	16%	22%	62%
State	24%	29%	47%	24%	30%	46%	23%	26%	52%

Rutherford County Charter Schools

**Thomas Jefferson
Classical Academy**
2527 Highway US 221 A
Mooresboro, NC 28114
(828) 657-9998
www.tjca.org
Grade K - 12

Financial Support - Charter schools in NC operate with funding from local, state and federal sources. These percentages reflect all expenses concerned with operating a charter school, including teacher and administrator salaries, textbooks and other educational supplies and materials.

Local		State		Federal	
Charter	State	Charter	State	Charter	State
\$1,784	\$2,075	\$5,483	\$5,616	\$135	\$830

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy (TJCA) is the only public charter school in Rutherford County. The school's college-preparatory curriculum offers logic, dialectic and rhetorical skills in the "classical" education tradition. An emphasis is placed on subjects not taught directly in county schools, such as rhetoric and logic, Greek and Latin. TJCA serves grades six through twelve. As a public charter school, there is no tuition charge for students. Students are required to wear uniforms which must be purchased by the parent or guardian. The school schedule is a traditional year schedule with most classes meeting for 55 minutes.

Rutherford County Private Schools

Liberty Christian Academy
821 Webb Road
Ellenboro, NC 28040
828-453-0999
www.libertypulpit.com

Established 2009
Enrolling K – 8th Grade

Educating Minds, Shaping Lives, Building Futures on Solid Biblical Principles

Trinity School
299 Deter Street
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
(828) 286-3900
www.trinityschoolnc.com

Established: 1974 Enrollment: 159
Mission: To "Educate and develop the whole person for the glory of God." The school, which has been in existence for over 30 yrs, is a Christian non-denominational school with a strong academic focus. Annual Tuition: Grades K - 8

Trinity is accredited by Christian Schools International and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Acceptance to the school is based on entrance testing, disciplinary status and past academic performance. Trinity strives to prepare students academically, socially and spiritually for the years ahead by providing a well- rounded, developmentally appropriate education in a caring, Christian environment. Emphasis is placed on language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Students also receive instruction in art, computer skills, Spanish and P.E. Middle school students receive additional instruction in Bible and health education.

Rutherford County Tourism Revenues

(\$ Millions)

- ◆ Domestic tourism in Rutherford County generated an economic impact of \$135.06 million in 2007. This was a 2.58 % change from 2006.
- ◆ In 2007, Rutherford County ranked 26 in travel impact among North Carolina's 100 Counties.

Year	Revenues \$(Millions)	Change from Previous Year
1991	\$44.56	4.53%
1992	\$46.39	4.11%
1993	\$48.71	5.00%
1994	\$53.50	9.83%
1995	\$59.25	10.75%
1996	\$69.97	18.09%
1997	\$74.25	6.12%
1998	\$82.96	11.73%
1999	\$86.43	4.18%
2000	\$92.86	7.44%
2001	\$90.38	-2.67%
2002	\$94.62	4.69%
2003	\$99.18	4.82%
2004	\$106.71	7.59%
2005	\$118.23	10.80%
2006	\$131.66	11.36%
2007	\$135.06	2.58%



- ◆ More than 1,210 jobs in Rutherford were directly attributable to travel and tourism.
- ◆ Travel generated a \$20.26 million payroll in 2007.
- ◆ State and local tax revenues from travel to Rutherford County amounted to \$11.86 million.
- ◆ County attractions include Chimney Rock Park, the State's newest, Hickory Nut Falls, The Bottomless Pools, Lake Lure, The Rutherford County Farm Museum, Bennett's Classic Car Museum, and many Revolutionary and Civil war historical sites. Visit Washburn's Store, one of the state's oldest still in the family of the original owners. Drive the Cherry Bounce Trail and trace the county's history and development. Relax along the way in a collection of the most enjoyable small towns and villages in the state.



Climate Summary

Climate Summary Period: August 2008 - June 2009

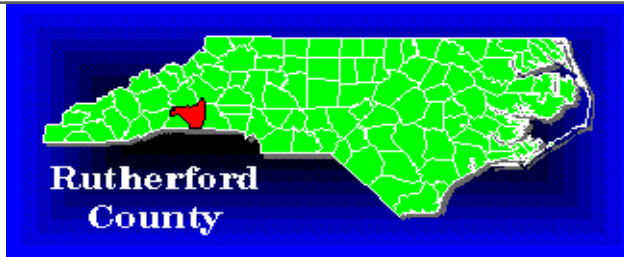
	Air Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)											
	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	
Maximum Temp.	93.2	80.2	69.4	62	51.4	49.6	54.3	61	71.7	77.7	85.7	
Minimum Temp.	71.6	63.4	48	38.6	36.2	30.7	32.9	40.6	48.9	60.4	66.5	
Average Temp.	82.1	71.8	58.9	50.9	43.8	40.3	44.1	50.9	60.8	68.7	76	
	Precipitation (inches)											
	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	
Avg. Mo. Totals	0.03	1.78	1.27	0.33	0.58	2.55	1.03	1.99	2.13	4.29	2.47	
	Relative Humidity (percent)											
	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	
Average	64	75	71	61	68	60	49	59	58	76	74	
	Wind Speed (mph)											
	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	
Monthly Avg.	2.1	3.1	2.6	2.9	2.5	3.5	4.8	4	4.9	3.5	2.6	



◆ Located in the Isothermal Belt, there are 200 frost-free days in the growing season



Agricultural Statistics



Total Area in County (Acres) 361,101
Census of Agriculture—2002

	2002	2007
Number of Farms	653	705
Total Land in Farms, Acres	67,856	65,898
Average Farm Size, Acres	104	93
Harvested Cropland, Acres	15,238	-
Average Age of Farmers	58	57
Average Value of Farm and Buildings	\$258,688	-
Average Market Value of Machinery & Equipment	\$35,195	-
Average Farm Production Expenses	\$24,439	-

2007 Crops Harvested			
Crop	Acres	Yield	Production
Hay, All: Tons	14,400	.85	12,300
Soybeans: Bu	800	19	15,200
Livestock			
Cattle (Jan. 1, 2008)		9,200	
Beef Cows (Jan 1, 2008)		5,000	
Broilers Produced (2007)		1,500,000	

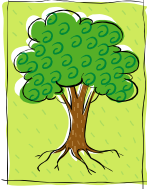
Cash Receipts (2007)	
Livestock	\$7,938,000
Crops	\$124,000
Government Payments	\$312,000
Total	\$10,374,000

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, publishes annual county statistics for selected crops, livestock, poultry, dairy, and cash receipts. Census of Agriculture statistics are published every five years.

Rutherford County Forestry Facts

County Ranger -

Assistant County Ranger - Doug Thompson



Location



The Rutherford County office is located on Airport Road. Take Highway 64 East out of Rutherfordton to Oscar Justice Road. Follow Oscar Justice Road to Airport Road.

Contact Information

Mail: County Ranger - Doug Thompson
519 Airport Road
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Phone: Voice: 828-286-9201
Fax: 828-286-1174

E-mail: rutherford.dfr@ncmail.net

Web: www.dfr.state.nc.us/contacts/rutherford.htm



Rutherford County Forestry Facts

Total acres in county: 361,110*	Total forest land in county: 235,100*
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* Forest Statistics for North Carolina, 2002

Area of Timberland by Ownership Class * (Acres)					
All Ownership	Federal Gov.	State Gov.	County & Municipal	Forest Industry	Private Ownership
235,100	0	12,900	0	6,500	215,700

Data Resources

POPULATION

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC
www.census.gov

North Carolina State Data Center, Raleigh, NC: www.census.state.nc.us

RETAIL SALES

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Washington, DC
www.bea.doc.gov

North Carolina State Data Center, Raleigh, NC : www.census.state.nc.us

EDUCATION

NC Statistical Profile – State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC: www.ncpublicschools.org

ECONOMIC & TOURISM

State Sales and Use Tax Statistics – NC Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Division: www.dor.state.nc.us

Economic Impact/Tourism Research – NC Department of Commerce, Division of Tourism: www.nccommerce.com

Employment Security Commission of NC, Labor Market Information Division, Raleigh, NC: www.ncesc.com

North Carolina Department of Revenue, Raleigh NC: www.dor.state.nc

LAND CLASSIFICATION & USAGE

Forest Statistics for North Carolina – USDA, Forest Service, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, NC: www.fs.fed.us

Data Resources

PROPERTY TAX RATES

Property Tax Rates – Rutherford County Tax Office,
Rutherfordton, NC. 828-287-6180

<http://www.rutherfordcountync.gov/>

CLIMATE

National Weather Service; www.erh.noaa.gov
State Climate Office NC; www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu/cronos

FORESTRY & AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Division of Forest Resources
www.dfr.state.nc.us
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
www.ncagr.com

BUSINESS PATTERNS

County Business Patterns, North Carolina, *Bureau of the Census*
www.census.gov

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Active Health Professionals, The Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research
www.shepscenter.unc.edu

COUNTY PROFILE

County Profile, Economic Development Information System - A Service of the North
Carolina Dept. of Commerce
<http://cmedis.commerce.state.nc.us>

Crime Statistics

Bureau of Justice Statistics
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/