Major Social and Economic Trends in the Cape Fear Region

Milan Dluhy
Andrea Carden
Keeley Wikle
• Size of 8 County Region---621,138 (2000); 841,910 (2020).
• Growth Rate—20.5% (1990-20); 35.5% (2000-20).
• Orientation Toward Growth
• One hour or 60 mile driving time
• Core area for bus, entertainment, health care, etc.
• Media signals and communication.
• Work in Progress (http://www.uncw.edu/pls/).
• Good News and Bad News.
• Oregon Model of Bench Marking / Visioning.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region Counties</th>
<th>Pop 2000</th>
<th>Growth Rate 1990-2000</th>
<th>% of Black</th>
<th>% of Hispanic</th>
<th>Total % Minorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bladen</td>
<td>32,278</td>
<td>12.60%</td>
<td>39.1%(1990); 37.9%(2000)</td>
<td>0.5%(1990); 3.7%(2000)</td>
<td>39.6%(1990); 41.6%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>73,143</td>
<td>43.50%</td>
<td>18.1%(1990); 14.4%(2000)</td>
<td>0.6%(1990); 2.6%(2000)</td>
<td>18.7%(1990); 17.0%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>54,749</td>
<td>10.40%</td>
<td>18.1%(1990); 14.4%(2000)</td>
<td>0.5%(1990); 2.3%(2000)</td>
<td>18.6%(1990); 16.7%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplin</td>
<td>49,063</td>
<td>22.70%</td>
<td>33.2%(1990); 28.9%(2000)</td>
<td>2.5%(1990); 15.1%(2000)</td>
<td>35.7%(1990); 44.0%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hanover</td>
<td>160,307</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
<td>20.0%(1990); 17.0%(2000)</td>
<td>0.8%(1990); 2.0%(2000)</td>
<td>20.8%(1990); 19.0%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onslow</td>
<td>150,355</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
<td>19.9%(1990); 18.5%(2000)</td>
<td>5.4%(1990); 7.2%(2000)</td>
<td>25.3%(1990); 25.7%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pender</td>
<td>41,082</td>
<td>42.40%</td>
<td>30.4%(1990); 23.6%(2000)</td>
<td>0.9%(1990); 3.6%(2000)</td>
<td>31.3%(1990); 27.2%(2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson</td>
<td>60,161</td>
<td>27.20%</td>
<td>33.2%(1990); 29.2%(2000)</td>
<td>1.5%(1990); 10.8%(2000)</td>
<td>34.7%(1990); 40.0%(2000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Regional Counties Profiles (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bladen</td>
<td>22.90%</td>
<td>7.00%</td>
<td>46.90%</td>
<td>3.90%</td>
<td>23.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>6.70%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>11.40%</td>
<td>1.60%</td>
<td>44.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>28.30%</td>
<td>9.10%</td>
<td>20.40%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>44.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplin</td>
<td>45.50%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>33.00%</td>
<td>17.30%</td>
<td>24.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hanover</td>
<td>4.30%</td>
<td>4.30%</td>
<td>10.20%</td>
<td>1.10%</td>
<td>52.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onslow</td>
<td>12.90%</td>
<td>4.20%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>0.80%</td>
<td>46.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pender</td>
<td>12.40%</td>
<td>5.70%</td>
<td>13.70%</td>
<td>8.10%</td>
<td>36.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson</td>
<td>44.80%</td>
<td>6.90%</td>
<td>20.30%</td>
<td>17.60%</td>
<td>30.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality of Life Defined

“Subjective well being...reflects the difference, the gap between the hopes and expectations of a person and their present experience”

“The degree to which a person’s happiness requirements are met”

“QOL is tied to perception of meaning”

“The degree to which a person enjoys the important possibilities of his/her life”
Percent of Population 65 and older

Percent 65 and Older

New_counties.shp

- 6.3
- 6.3 - 12.9
- 12.9 - 13.8
- 13.8 - 14.2
- 14.2 - 16.9
NC Per Capita Arts Spending

Source: NC Arts Council Grassroots Arts Grant Spending, allocated per capita
NC Per Capita Arts Spending
Urban Counties

Source: NC Arts Council Grassroots Arts Grant Spending, allocated per capita
Voter Turn Out Rate

Formula: Gubernatorial Voter Turnout / Number of Registered Voters; NC BOE
Voter Turn Out Rate
Urban Counties

Formula: Gubernatorial Voter Turnout / Number of Registered Voters; NC BOE
Prison Admissions
Urban Counties

- Buncombe County
- Cumberland County
- Durham County
- Forsyth County
- Gaston County
- Guilford County
- Mecklenburg County
- New Hanover County
- Wake County
Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect

- Bladen County
- Brunswick County
- Columbus County
- Duplin County
- New Hanover County
- Onslow County
- Pender County
- Sampson County
Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect in Urban Counties

- Buncombe County
- Cumberland County
- Durham County
- Forsyth County
- Gaston County
- Guilford County
- Mecklenburg County
- New Hanover County
- Wake County

The graph shows the trend of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect from 1985 to 2004 for the specified counties.
Air Nitrogen Oxide Emissions

- Bladen County
- Brunswick County
- Columbus County
- Duplin County
- New Hanover County
- Onslow County
- Pender County
- Sampson County
Percentage of College Graduates
Urban Counties

[Graph showing the percentage of college graduates in urban counties from 1990 to 2000 for Buncombe, Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, and Wake counties.]
2005 United Way Per Capita Grants and Allocations

Cape Fear Area United Way
Asheville-Buncombe County
United Way of Forsyth County-Winston-Salem
Triangle United Way: Durham, Orange, and Wake
United Way of Cumberland County-Fayetteville
United Way of Gaston County-Gastonia
United Way of Central Carolinas: Anson, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg (Charlotte), Mooresville, Union
United Way of Greater Greensboro
Percentage of Population Uninsured

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bladen County</th>
<th>Brunswick County</th>
<th>Columbus County</th>
<th>Duplin County</th>
<th>New Hanover County</th>
<th>Onslow County</th>
<th>Pender County</th>
<th>Sampson County</th>
<th>NC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>2000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Percentage of Population Uninsured
Urban Counties

![Graph showing percentage of population uninsured in urban counties from 1995 to 2005. The y-axis represents the percentage, ranging from 0 to 20. The x-axis represents the years 1995, 2000, and 2005. The graph includes lines for Buncombe, Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, and Wake counties, with each county represented by a different color or symbol. The graph shows an increase in the percentage of uninsured population over the years for all counties.]

- Buncombe
- Cumberland
- Durham
- Forsyth
- Gaston
- Guilford
- Mecklenburg
- New Hanover
- Wake
Alcohol-Related Fatalities per 100,000 Population

2000 2005
New Hanover Onslow Pender Sampson Brunswick Bladen Duplin Columbus
Alcohol-Related Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Urban Counties

- Buncombe
- Cumberland
- Durham
- Forsyth
- Gaston
- Guilford
- Mecklenburg
- New Hanover
- Wake
Air Sulfur Dioxide Emissions

- Bladen County
- Brunswick County
- Columbus County
- Duplin County
- New Hanover County
- Onslow County
- Pender County
- Sampson County

Tons
Air Sulfur Dioxide Emissions
Urban Counties

- Buncombe County
- Cumberland County
- Durham County
- Forsyth County
- Gaston County
- Guilford County
- Mecklenburg County
- New Hanover County
- Wake County

Tons

- 1985
- 1990
- 1995
- 2002
Good News:
- NC Per Capita Arts Spending
- Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect

Mixed News:
- Percentage of Population Uninsured
- Percentage of College Graduates
- Voter Turn Out Rate
- Air Nitrogen Oxide Emissions
- Prison Admissions

Bad News:
- 2005 United Way Per Capita Grants and Allocations
- Alcohol-Related Fatalities per 100,000 Population
- Air Sulfur Dioxide Emissions
Percent of Homes Affordable for Families with Median Family Income

**Formula:** Median Income ($) / Median value for specified owner-occupied housing units ($)

- 25.0%
- 30.0%
- 35.0%
- 40.0%
- 45.0%
- 50.0%

1990 2000

Sampson
Bladen
Duplin
Onslow
Columbus
Pender
New Hanover
Brunswick
Counties with Affordable Homes for Families with Median Family Income

1. Sampson
2. Bladen
3. Duplin
4. Onslow
5. Columbus
6. Pender
7. New Hanover
8. Brunswick
### Percent of Homes Affordable for Families with Median Family Income

#### Urban Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formula</th>
<th>Median Income ($) / Median value for specified owner-occupied housing units ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Graph:

- **Gaston**
- **Forsyth**
- **Guilford**
- **Mecklenburg**
- **Wake**
- **Durham**
- **Buncombe**
- **New Hanover**

**Formula:** Median Income ($) / Median value for specified owner-occupied housing units ($)
Urban Counties with Affordable Homes for Families with Median Family Income

1. Gaston
2. Forsyth
3. Guilford
4. Mecklenburg
5. Wake
6. Durham
7. Buncombe
8. New Hanover
## Average Annual Wage Per Employee 1990 & 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>New Hanover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,904</td>
<td>$33,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hanover</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$19,344</td>
<td>$29,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Sampson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$17,784</td>
<td>$28,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplin</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,548</td>
<td>$27,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladen</td>
<td>Duplin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,496</td>
<td>$26,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson</td>
<td>Bladen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,392</td>
<td>$25,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onslow</td>
<td>Pender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$14,612</td>
<td>$25,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pender</td>
<td>Onslow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$13,988</td>
<td>$24,808</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Average Annual Wage Per Employee, 1990 & 2005
Urban Counties

- **1990**
  - Durham..$26,572
  - Mecklenburg..$25,168
  - Forsyth..$23,608
  - Wake...$22,412
  - Guilford...$21,996
  - Gaston..$19,344
  - New Hanover..$19,344
  - Buncombe..$19,344

- **2005**
  - Durham..$52,572
  - Mecklenburg..$49,140
  - Wake..$40,560
  - Forsyth..$38,324
  - Guilford..$36,660
  - New Hanover..$33,072
  - Buncombe..$31,772
  - Gaston..$31,564
Changes in Employment Sectors 1990 and 2005, New Hanover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Wage</th>
<th>Change 1990-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$58,760 (05) Decreased 8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and Technical</td>
<td>$51,844 (05) Increased 2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Ins.</td>
<td>$50,960 (05) Increased .1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>$43,316 (05) Decreased .7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>$37,908 (05) Increased 4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Adm.</td>
<td>$38,428 (05) Decreased .3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Changes in Employment Sectors 1990 and 2005, Brunswick

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Average Wage</th>
<th>Change 1990-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>$45,812 (05)</td>
<td>Increased 1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Ins</td>
<td>$42,016 (05)</td>
<td>Increased .2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Adm.</td>
<td>$36,660 (05)</td>
<td>Increased .4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$36,348 (05)</td>
<td>Increased 2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and Technical</td>
<td>$34,632 (05)</td>
<td>Increased 1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$33,644 (05)</td>
<td>Decreased 10.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Changes in Employment Sectors 1990 and 2005, Pender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sectors</th>
<th>Average Wage</th>
<th>Change 1990-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Ins</td>
<td>$41,132</td>
<td>Increased .6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>$34,268</td>
<td>Increased .3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$32,916</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$30,784</td>
<td>Decreased 7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale T.</td>
<td>$30,316</td>
<td>Increased 7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Adm.</td>
<td>$29,484</td>
<td>Increased .3%</td>
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</table>
Changes in Employment Sectors 1990 and 2005, Columbus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Average Wage</th>
<th>Change 1990-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$43,888</td>
<td>Decreased 17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>$31,824</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$31,668</td>
<td>Increased 1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Ins</td>
<td>$31,356</td>
<td>Increased 1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale T</td>
<td>$28,652</td>
<td>Decreased .5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$27,924</td>
<td>Decreased .8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
North Carolina International Port Economic Engine or Nightmare?

Major Claims by the proponents of the Port

It is hard to oppose the creation of new jobs and the stimulation of new economic activity in the State

- 600 acre tract, $30 M, investment, 9.5 miles from Ocean
- 2000 direct jobs; 3500 indirect jobs in Region
- 50,000 jobs statewide and $50 M in state and local taxes
- $1.6 B investment over next 10 years
- World class container terminal
- Competitive with other Ports in Va., S.C., Ga., Alabama
- Make N.C. a competitor in international shipping
Secondary Consequences to Monitor During the Development of the Port

- No data available on the Average Annual Wage of new jobs generated, *Value Added by new employment??*
- Road system which is already under-funded will be pushed to the limit (ie., $87,133,211,421,17$)
- The estimated new people coming to the area is estimated at 9,000—13,000 and they will need services of all kinds
- Brunswick County is the worst location to find affordable housing in the Region
- Dredging and blasting will create environmental repercussions
- Shipping activity will negatively impact leisure and tourism activity
Recommendation

- Either voluntarily or by the State Legislature, A Regional Planning Advisory Board (4 counties and cities in region) should be set up and funded to monitor development and plan for infrastructure needs such as:
  - Roads
  - Water and Sewers
  - Environmental impacts and preservation of green space
  - Schools and Affordable Housing
  - Other Municipal Services
  - Job training for new jobs