

Gaston



MSA county designation: Metropolitan

AHEC Region: Charlotte

■ 2003 ACTIVE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS*■

Physicians

Non-Federal Physicians	330
Primary Care Physicians	146
<i>Family Practice</i>	58
<i>General Practice</i>	3
<i>Internal Medicine</i>	46
<i>Obstetrics/Gynecology</i>	16
<i>Pediatrics</i>	23
Other Specialties	184
Physicians per 10,000 Population	17.0
Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 Population	7.5
Federal Physicians**	5

Dentists and Dental Hygienists

Dentists	66
Dental Hygienists	94

Nurses

Registered Nurses	1,355
<i>Nurse Practitioners</i>	36
<i>Certified Nurse Midwives</i>	14
Licensed Practical Nurses	317

Other Health Professionals

Chiropractors	27
Optometrists	23
Pharmacists	152
Physical Therapists	49
Physical Therapist Assistants	45
Physician Assistants	52
Podiatrists	6
Practicing Psychologists	13
Psychological Associates	12

■ DEMOGRAPHICS ■

Projected Population 2003

	Total	Ages 0-19	Ages 20-64	Ages 65+
White	162,525	40,977	99,513	22,035
Nonwhite	31,569	11,134	17,988	2,447
Total	194,094	52,111	117,501	24,482
% of Pop.	100.0%	26.8%	60.5%	12.6%

Employment and Income Data

Labor Force 2003	103,478
Employed 2003	95,709
Unemployed 2003	7,769
Unemployment Rate 2003 (%)	7.5
Per Capita Income 2002	\$27,173
Medicaid Eligibles 2002 <i>(unduplicated count)</i>	36,661

■ HEALTH-RELATED STATISTICS ■

Vital Statistics 2002

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Resident Births	2,586	Total Pregnancies	3,075	Total Pregnancy Rate	68.4
Resident Deaths	1,920	Teen Pregnancies <i>(ages 15-19)</i>	454	Teen Pregnancy Rate <i>(ages 15-19)</i>	74.8
% Births <2500 gms	8.4				

Infant Mortality Rates 2002

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Total	6.2	White	6.5	Nonwhite	4.7
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Hospital/Facility Data

General Hospital Discharges 2002 [†]	23,031	General Hospital Beds 2003 ^{††}	372	Nursing Facility Beds 2003	972
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*Numbers reported include those who are active within the profession and those with unknown activity status who were newly licensed in 2003; inactive are excluded.

**Includes NC Medical Board licensed federal physicians in the armed services, US Public Health Service, Indian Health Service, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

†Counts are for discharges of county residents from acute-care, short-stay hospitals; numbers exclude normal newborns.

††Counts of hospital beds in acute care short stay hospitals in county.