

Watauga



MSA county designation: Nonmetropolitan

AHEC Region: Northwest AHEC

■ 2008 ACTIVE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS*■

Physicians

Non-Federal Physicians	113
Primary Care Physicians	44
<i>Family Practice</i>	19
<i>General Practice</i>	1
<i>Internal Medicine</i>	10
<i>Obstetrics/Gynecology</i>	6
<i>Pediatrics</i>	8
Other Specialties	69
Physicians per 10,000 Population	24.9
Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 Population	9.7
Federal Physicians**	1

Dentists and Dental Hygienists

Dentists	26
Dental Hygienists	21

Nurses

Registered Nurses	374
<i>Nurse Practitioners</i>	19
<i>Certified Nurse Midwives</i>	1
Licensed Practical Nurses	57

Other Health Professionals

Chiropractors	8
Occupational Therapists	10
Occupational Therapy Assistants	5
Optometrists	4
Pharmacists	44
Physical Therapists	25
Physical Therapist Assistants	17
Physician Assistants	8
Podiatrists	2
Practicing Psychologists	28
Psychological Associates	15
Respiratory Therapists	22

■ DEMOGRAPHICS ■

Projected Population 2008

	Total	Ages 0-19	Ages 20-64	Ages 65+
White	44,028	10,472	27,835	5,721
Nonwhite	1,297	375	834	88
Total	45,325	10,847	28,669	5,809
% of Pop.	100.0%	23.9%	63.3%	12.8%

Employment and Income Data

Labor Force 2008	23,614
Employed 2008	22,518
Unemployed 2008	1,096
Unemployment Rate 2008 (%)	4.6
Per Capita Income 2007	\$30,568
Medicaid Eligibles 2008	3,277

■ HEALTH-RELATED STATISTICS ■

Vital Statistics 2007

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Resident Births	404	Total Pregnancies	515	Total Pregnancy Rate	46.2
Resident Deaths	278	Teen Pregnancies	51	Teen Pregnancy Rate	19.5
% Births <2500 gms	7.2	(ages 15-19)		(ages 15-19)	

Infant Mortality Rates 2007

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Total	14.9	White	15.2	Nonwhite	0.0
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Hospital/Facility Data

General Hospital Discharges 2008 ⁺	3,675	General Hospital Beds 2008 ⁺⁺	145	Nursing Facility Beds 2008	124
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* Numbers reported include those active within the profession and those newly licensed in 2008 with unknown activity status; inactives 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.