



Number of Counties in Region: 8

■ 2002 ACTIVE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS* ■

Physicians

Non-Federal Physicians	2,835
Primary Care Physicians	1,206
<i>Family Practice</i>	376
<i>General Practice</i>	17
<i>Internal Medicine</i>	415
<i>Obstetrics/Gynecology</i>	175
<i>Pediatrics</i>	223
Other Specialties	1,629
Physicians per 10,000 Population	19.5
Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 Population	8.3
Federal Physicians**	15

Dentists and Dental Hygienists

Dentists	658
Dental Hygienists	825

Nurses

Registered Nurses	13,353
<i>Nurse Practitioners</i>	287
<i>Certified Nurse Midwives</i>	34
Licensed Practical Nurses	2,296

Other Health Professionals

Chiropractors	260
Optometrists	147
Pharmacists	1,204
Physical Therapists	531
Physical Therapist Assistants	339
Physician Assistants	318
Podiatrists	41
Practicing Psychologists	220
Psychological Associates	149

■ DEMOGRAPHICS ■

Projected Population 2002

	Total	Ages 0-19	Ages 20-6	Ages 65+
White	1,092,105	287,691	680,342	124,072
Nonwhite	360,380	123,595	214,326	22,459
Total	1,452,485	411,286	894,668	146,531
% of Pop.	100.0%	28.3%	61.6%	10.1%

Employment and Income Data

Labor Force 2002	780,928
Employed 2002	728,290
Unemployed 2002	52,638
Unemployment Rate 2002 (%)	6.7
Per Capita Income 2001	\$31,704
Medicaid Eligibles 2001 (unduplicated count)	213,640

■ HEALTH-RELATED STATISTICS ■

Vital Statistics 2001

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Resident Births	22,317	Total Pregnancies	27,558	Total Pregnancy Rate	85.1
Resident Deaths	10,838	Teen Pregnancies (ages 15-19)	3,088	Teen Pregnancy Rate (ages 15-19)	68.3
% Births <2500 gms	8.6				

Infant Mortality Rates 1997-2001

(Rates are per 1,000 population)

Total	8.1	White	5.3	Nonwhite	15.9
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Hospital/Facility Data

General Hospital Discharges 2001 [†]	149,507	General Hospital Beds 2002 ^{††}	3,648	Nursing Facility Beds 2002	6,609
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[†] In 1998, Rutherford County was reassigned from Charlotte AHEC to Mountain AHEC.

*Numbers reported include those who are active within the profession and those with unknown activity status who were newly licensed in 2002; 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.