

Located less than one hour northwest of Charlotte, Catawba County possesses a diverse economy specialized in manufacturing with extensive retail and residential development. Catawba County's largest city, Hickory, is the commercial and retail center of the Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton MSA, the only MSA contiguous to the Charlotte MSA. The Hickory MSA is currently ranked as #1 for lowest business costs in the US by Forbes.com and provides excellent transportation access being bisected by Interstate 40 and U.S. Highway 321 and less than 30 minutes to Interstates 77 and 85.



2018 TOTAL POPULATION  
**159,483**

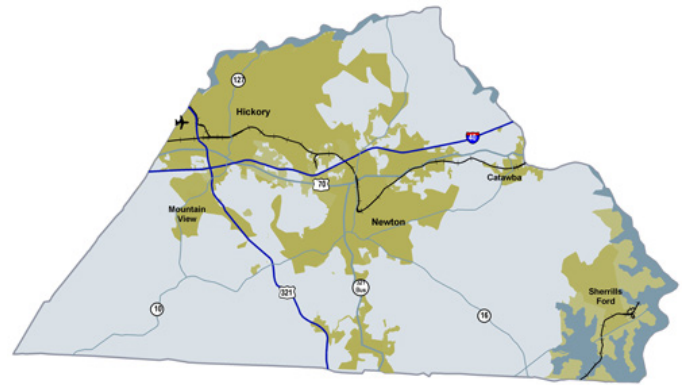
2023 PROJECTED POPULATION  
**163,434**



2018 TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS  
**62,504**

MEDIAN AGE  
**41.5**

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME  
**\$48,440**



## COUNTY INFORMATION

### Sales Tax, General

State .....	4.75%
Local .....	2.25%

### Accessibility

Nearest Major City .....	Charlotte
Distance to Nearest Major City .....	50 miles
Nearest Commercial Airport .....	CLT
Runway Length .....	10,000 ft
Distance to Nearest Airport .....	44 miles
Nearest Interstate .....	I-40
Distance to Nearest Interstate .....	0 miles
Nearest Deepwater Port .....	Port of Charleston
Distance to Nearest Deepwater Port .....	255 miles
Foreign Trade Zone Accessibility .....	Yes
Employment within 60 mile radius, 2018 .....	1,912,411

### Development Capacity

Wastewater Treatment Capacity Available .....	Yes
Natural Gas Available .....	Yes



## EDUCATION

### Educational Attainment, 2018

Population 25 and Older .....	112,008
High School Diploma .....	24%
Some College .....	21%
Associate's Degree .....	11%
Bachelor's Degree .....	16%
Graduate or Professional Degree .....	8%



PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

**48**

PRIVATE  
SCHOOLS

**11**

COLLEGES &  
UNIVERSITIES

**2**



## EMPLOYMENT, INCOME, & WAGES

### Employment by Industry, 2018

Manufacturing  
**28%**

Health Care  
**11%**

Retail Trade  
**12%**

Accommodation & Food  
**8%**

Total Employment, 16+ ..... 93,775



### ANNOUNCED JOBS & INVESTMENTS 2017-18

Jobs announced ..... 987  
Investments announced ..... \$1.28B

### Labor Force, 2018

Labor Force ..... 79,012  
Unemployment Rate ..... 3.5%

**3X** AS SPECIALIZED IN  
**MANUFACTURING**  
COMPARED TO THE  
NATIONAL AVERAGE

Source: JobsEQ, 2018; ESRI, 2018

### Major Employers (non government/retail)



**CATAWBA VALLEY  
MEDICAL CENTER**  
Education & Health Services  
1,000+

**CORNING**  
Manufacturing  
1,000+



**GKN Driveline**  
Manufacturing  
1,000+

**COMMSCOPE®**  
Manufacturing  
1,000+

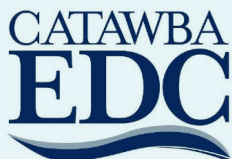
**TARGET**  
Trade, Transportation, &  
Utilities  
500-999

### Income, 2018

Median Household Income: \$48,440    Per Capita Income: \$26,628

### Average Annual Wages, 2018

Accommodation & Food Services.....	\$15,563
Administrative and Waste Services.....	\$26,918
Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing.....	\$30,432
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation.....	\$19,381
Construction.....	\$45,141
Educational Services.....	\$36,271
Finance & Insurance.....	\$60,984
Health Care & Social Assistance.....	\$53,746
Information.....	\$46,157
Management.....	\$92,634
Manufacturing.....	\$48,664
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services.....	\$58,661
Public Administration.....	\$43,159
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing.....	\$41,883
Retail Trade.....	\$30,610
Transportation & Warehousing.....	\$44,785
Utilities.....	\$89,226
Wholesale Trade.....	\$60,116
<b>AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE.....</b>	<b>\$42,436</b>



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