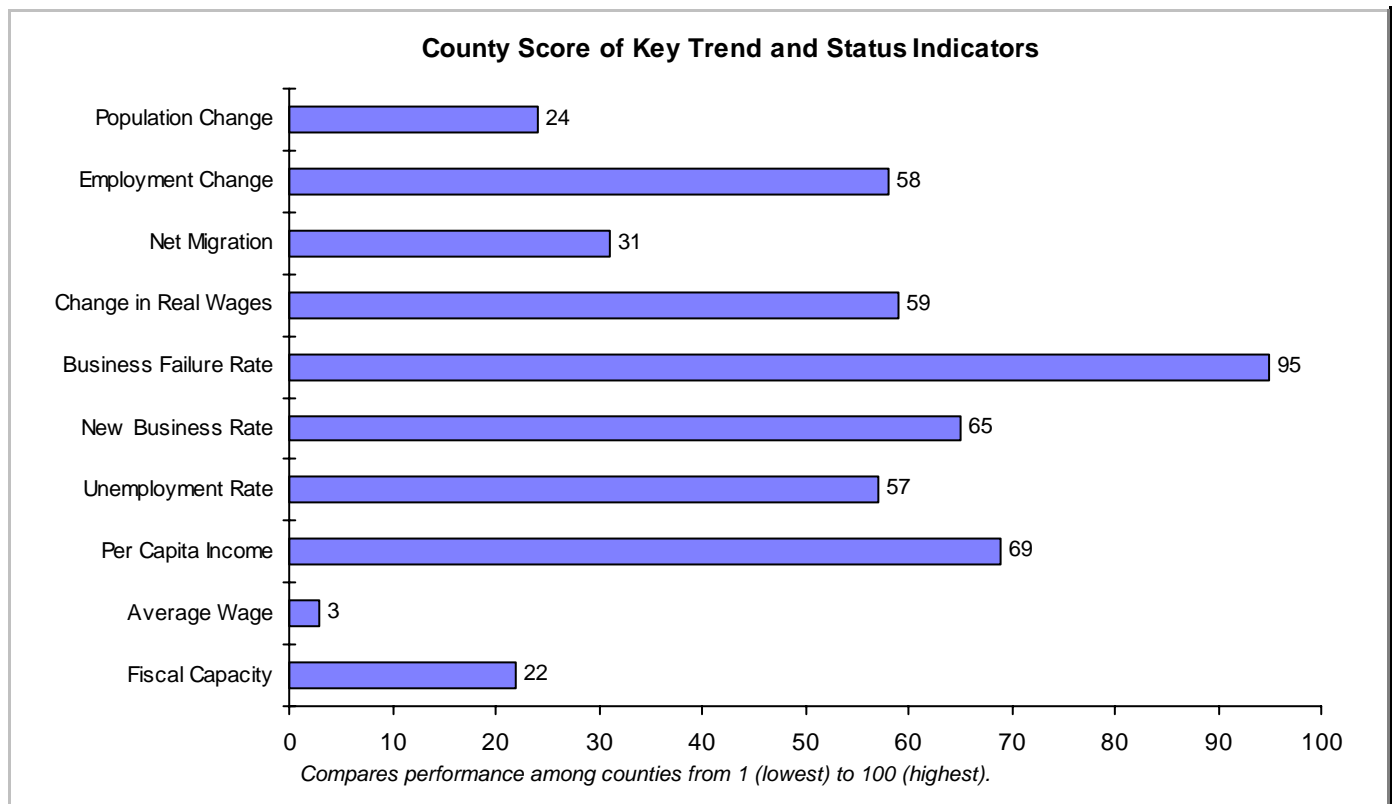


Avery County

I. Key Trend and Status Indicators

Indicator	Years	Avery County	North Carolina
Population Change	1990-99	5.7	15.3%
Employment Change	1998-99	2.7%	2.2%
Net Migration	1990-99	3.8	9.5%
Real Wages Change	1998-99	1.9%	6.2%
Business Failure Rate	1999	8.9%	7.0%
New Business Rate	1999	11.4%	11.6%
Unemployment Rate	1999	3.4%	3.2%
Poverty Rate	1995	16	13.1%
Per Capita Income	1998	\$22,328	\$25,181
Average Annual Wage	1999	\$19,226	\$29,321
Fiscal Capacity (<=100)	2000	8.14	NA



Avery County

II. Economic and Demographic Data

Population

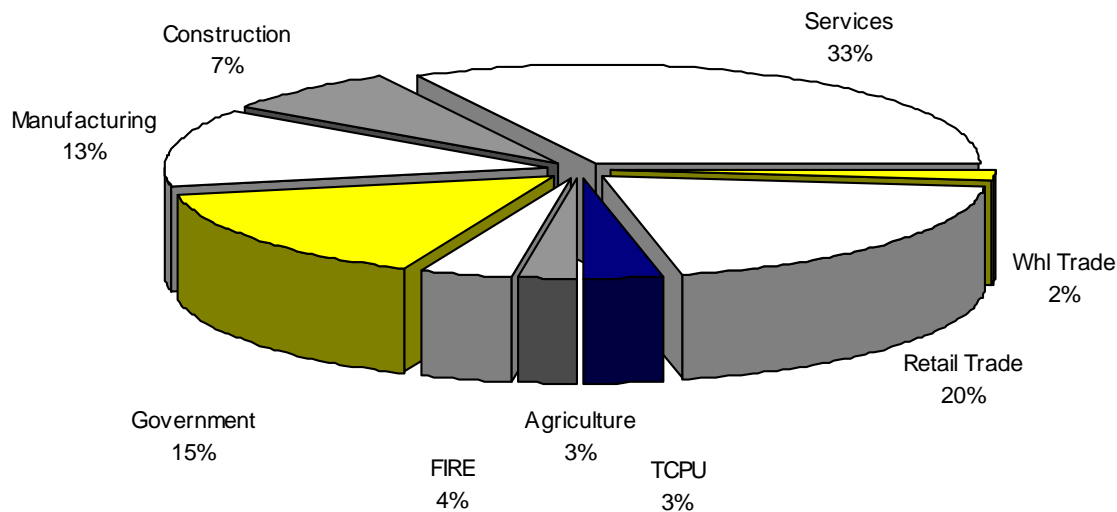
Indicator	Years	Avery	North Carolina	County Score
Population	1999	15,844	7,650,789	15
Projected Population	2008	15,935	8,493,432	15
Projected Annual Growth Rate	1999-2008	0.2%	1.2%	17
Labor Force	1999	7,650	3,874,500	17
% Population in Labor Force	1999	47.9%	48.4%	NA
% Population Non-White	1999	1.2%	24.1%	NA
% Adults w/HS Education	1990	62.2%	70.0%	48
% Adults w/College Education	1990	12.4%	17.4%	66

County Score: Compares performance among counties from 1 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

Employment and Wages

Sector	1999 Employment	% of Cnty Emp	% of NC Emp	98-99 % Chg Cnty Emp	98-99% Chg NC Emp	99 Annual Avg Wage	% of NC Avg Wage
Agriculture	177	2.5%	1.4%	-0.6%	3.7%	\$18,280	91.4%
Construction	520	7.4%	5.8%	21.2%	5.9%	\$18,840	64.2%
Finan/Ins/Real Est	274	3.9%	4.7%	0.0%	3.8%	\$23,501	53.3%
Government	1,087	15.4%	15.7%	10.7%	1.8%	\$24,064	80.5%
Manufacturing	912	12.9%	21.3%	-3.5%	-3.1%	\$19,951	57.6%
Services	2,307	32.7%	23.5%	0.6%	5.5%	\$19,024	68.6%
Wholesale Trade	118	1.7%	5.0%	0.9%	3.3%	\$22,022	56.3%
Retail Trade	1,422	20.2%	18.0%	0.9%	3.1%	\$13,213	78.7%
Trans/Com/Pub Util	222	3.2%	4.6%	-1.3%	2.6%	\$27,359	69.5%
Total	7,045	100.0%	100.0%	2.7%	2.2%	\$19,226	65.2%

Share of County Employment, 1999



Avery County

II. Economic and Demographic Data (continued)

Income by Major Source, 1998

Category	Cnty Per Capita	State Per Capita	% of Cnty Total	% of State Total
Net Labor Earnings	\$13,511	\$17,117	60.5%	68.0%
Income Maintenance Benefits	\$376	\$331	1.7%	1.3%
Unemployment Insurance Payments	\$60	\$58	0.3%	0.2%
Govt Retirement/Disability Payments	\$4,103	\$3,074	18.4%	12.2%
Dividends/Interest/Rent Earnings	\$4,277	\$4,601	19.2%	18.3%
Total Personal Income	\$22,328	\$25,181	100.0%	100.0%

Cash Receipts from Agriculture, 1998

Category	Cnty Per Capita	State Per Capita	% of Cnty Total	% of State Total
Crops, Total	\$2,253	\$430	98.7%	44.5%
Tobacco	\$26	\$132	1.1%	13.7%
Other Crops	\$2,227	\$298	97.5%	30.9%
Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry	\$30	\$519	1.3%	53.7%
Government Payments	\$1	\$17	0.0%	1.8%
Total Farm Income	\$2,284	\$966	100.0%	100.0%

Travel and Tourism, 1999

Indicator	Year	Total	Per Capita	County Score
Travel Spending	1999	\$73,280,000	\$4,590	99
Travel Wages	1999	\$20,700,000	\$1,297	98
Travel Employment	1999	1,290	80.8 (per thousand people)	99
Seasonal Dwelling Units	1990	2,640	177.6 (per thousand people)	96

County Score: Compares per capita spending, wages, and per thousand employment and dwellings among counties from 1 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

Announced Investment and Employment in Manufacturing Plants, 1999

Type of Investment	1999 Investment	County Score Investment	1999 Employment	County Score Employment
New Plants		1		1
Expansions	\$1,955,643	33	35	37

County Score: Compares investment and employment among counties from 1 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

Avery County

III. Development Capacity, Accessibility, Infrastructure and Resources

Development Capacity Checklist

Indicator	Yes	No
County Development Program		✓
Local Development Corporation	✓	
Chamber of Commerce	✓	
Economic Development Plan		✓
80% of population within 10 miles of a 4-lane road		✓
Commercial Airport within 50 miles	✓	
Interstate Highway within 10 miles		✓
Wastewater Treatment Capacity Available	✓	
Natural Gas Available		✓
100,000+ sq ft of Industrial Space Available	✓	
Industrial Sites Available		✓

Accessibility

Nearest Major City (100,000+ population)	Winston-Salem
Distance to Nearest Major City (miles)	80
Nearest Commercial Airport	Hickory Regional
Runway Length (feet)	6,400
Distance to Nearest Airport (miles)	50
Nearest Interstate(s)	I-40
Distance to Nearest Interstate (miles)	50
% Population within 10 miles of 4-lane road	0%

Industrial Property

Indicator	Area	County Score
Available Space in Industrial Buildings (in sq.ft.)	113,667	42
Available Acreage in Industrial Sites	0.0	1

County Score: Compares available industrial space among counties from 1 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

Municipal Wastewater Treatment

Indicator	Total in gal/day	Per Capita	County Score
Existing Wastewater Treatment Capacity	1,090,000	69.5	32
Surplus Wastewater Treatment Capacity	618,867	39.5	49

County Score: Compares per capita wastewater capacity among counties from 1 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

Number of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants: 4