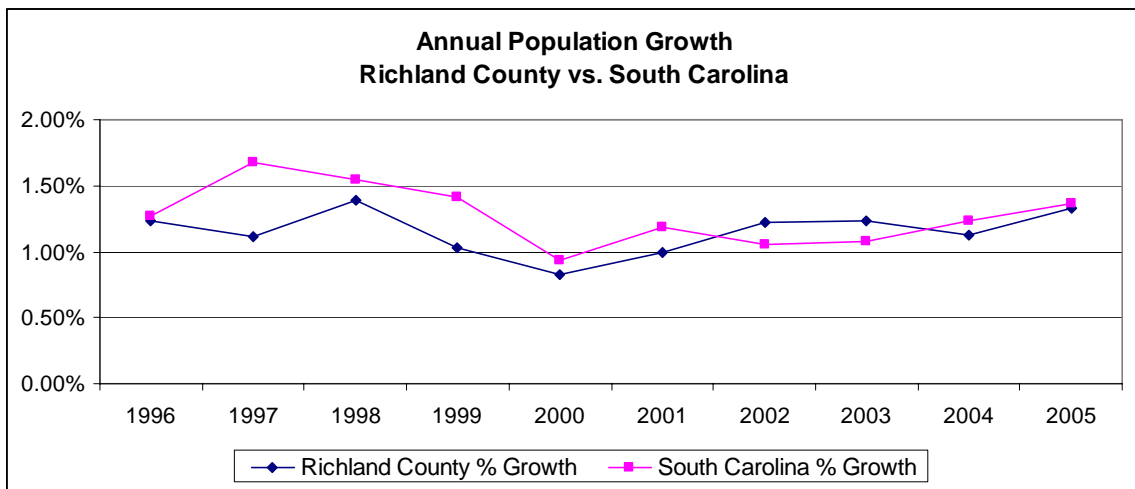
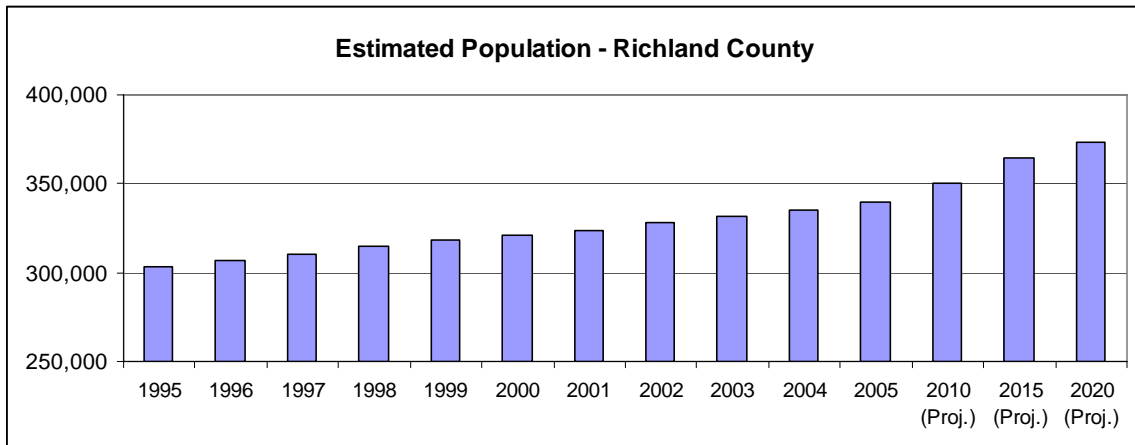


Appendix “D” Statistical Section – Economic Outlook

Population

Richland County has experienced a steady growth in population throughout the past ten years, with an average growth rate of 1.15 percent per year.

In the 2000 U.S. Census, Richland County’s population was recorded at 320,677. In 2005, the Census Bureau estimated that 340,078 people lived in Richland County. Current estimates show Richland County is continuing to have consistent growth and is projected to be home to 350,670 by 2010.

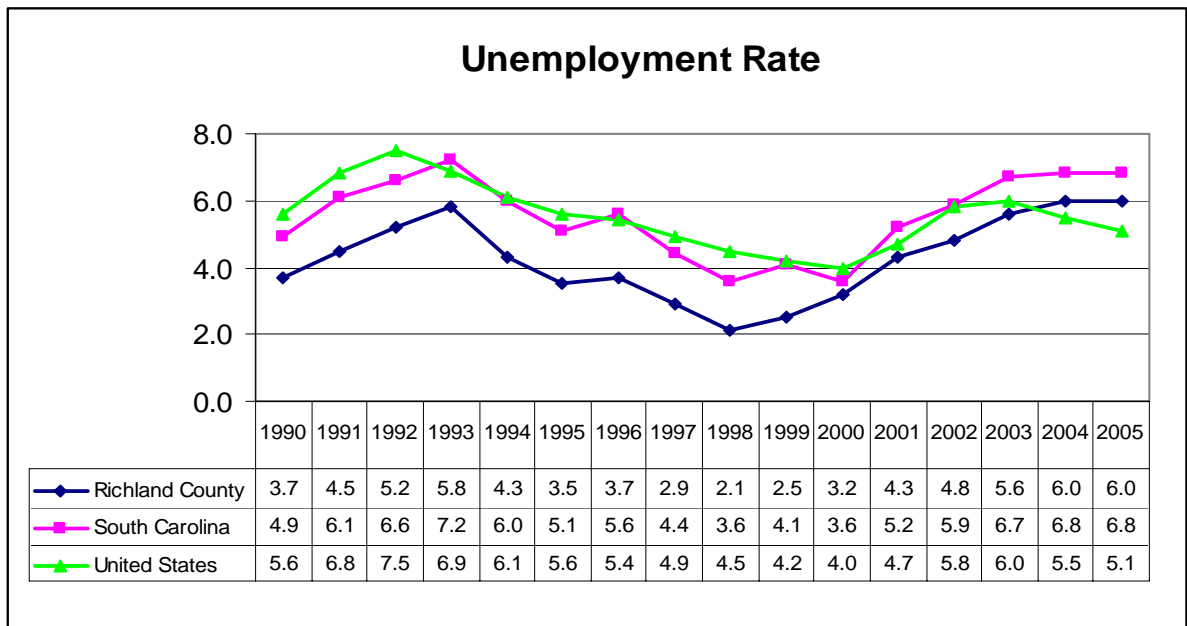


Appendix “D” Statistical Section – Economic Outlook

Employment Status

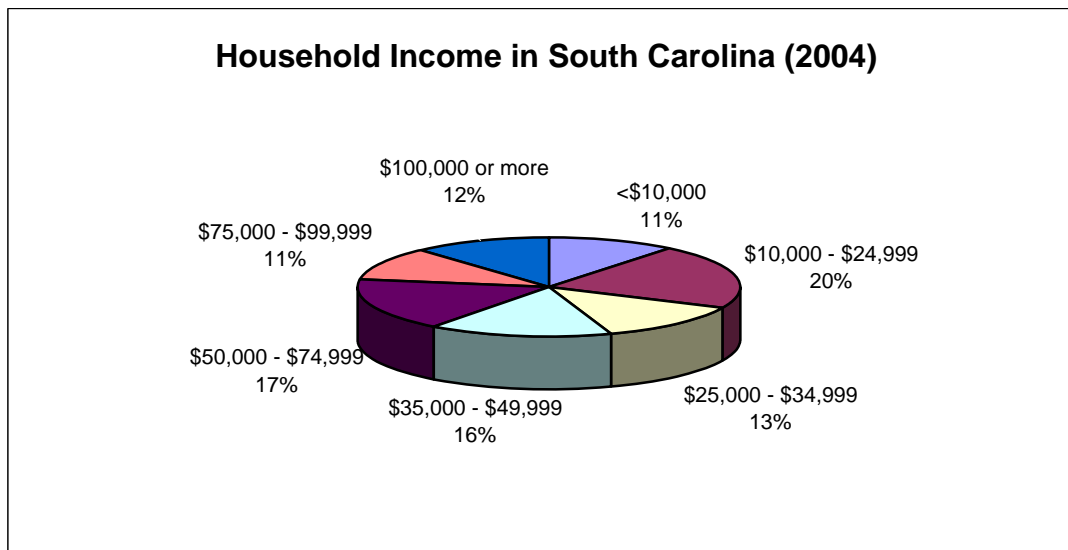
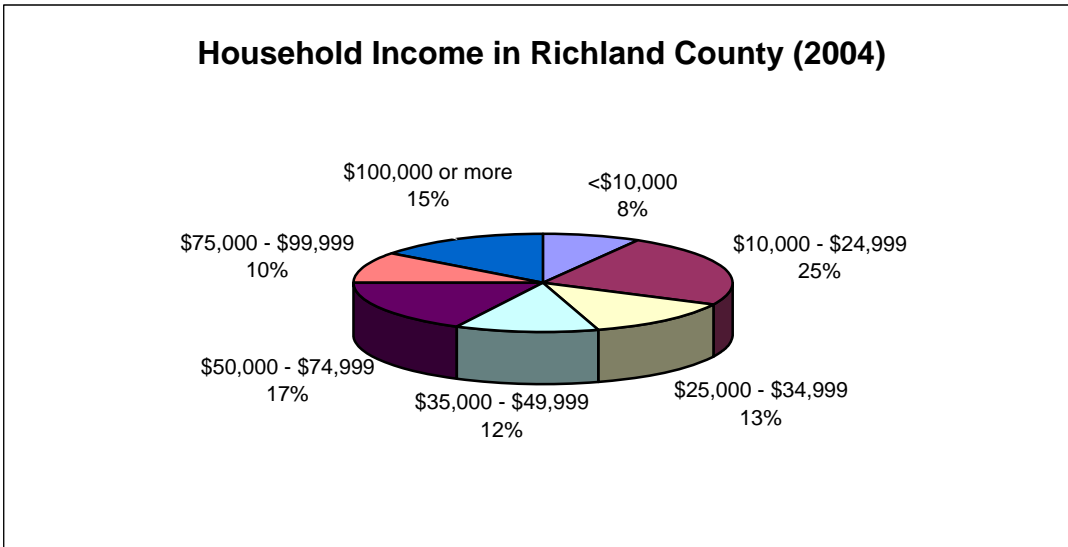
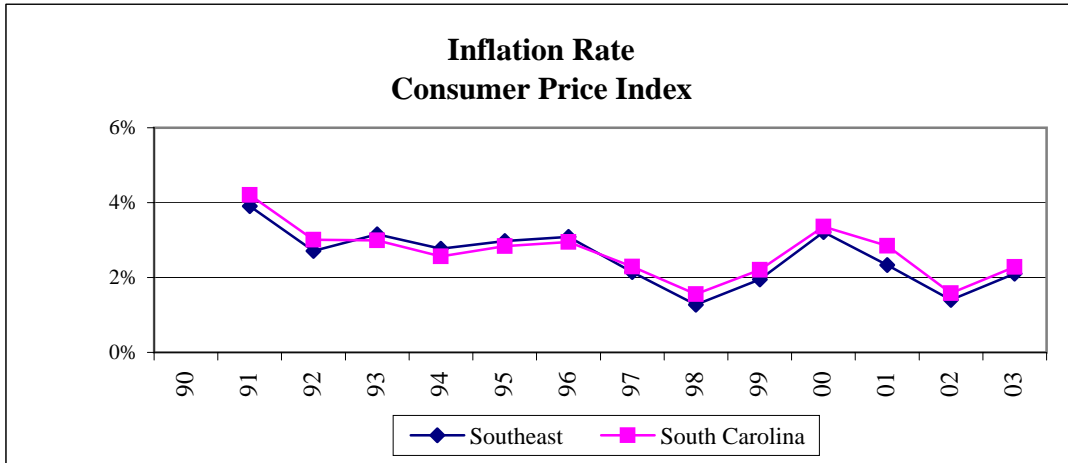
While the unemployment rate in South Carolina tracks closely to the national average, Richland County tends to linger about 2 points below the state average. This is due largely to the significant number of government jobs located within the county.

In recent years, the unemployment rate in Richland County has hovered around 6.0%. In the first four months of 2006, the unemployment rate ranged from 5.5 to 5.9%.



Appendix "D"

Statistical Section - Economic Indicators



source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 estimates