

NORTH CAROLINA

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Alleghany County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Alleghany County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Cumberland Knob Recreation Area, Little Glade Mill Pond, Mahogany Rock Overlook (annual raptor counts), Doughton Park Recreation Area, Brinegar Cabin, Alligator Back, Grassy Gap(Forest Gump filming), Bluff Mountain trails, New River National Heritage River

Description of the County:

3.8% of the county is under federal management.

57.2% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, an increase of 14.3% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits: 8.2%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Alleghany	10,677	17.9%	11.3%	13.4%	11.4%	51.6	45.7

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	22	35	32	11
% Employment (1999)	16	35	39	9
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	20	36	30	-14
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	45	45	109	55
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	4	18	79	33

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Alleghany	2.1%	3.8%	2.9%	20.5%

Questions for Allegheny County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

It is interesting that the percentage of farmland is increasing even as the population increases; especially since the projected density is among the lowest of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

What accounts for the projected increase in employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector? Although the number of employees in the government sector (GOV) decreased between 1990 and 1999, the county has the largest projected employment in the government sector of any of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What types of activities are included in the C&M sector (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing)?

What accounts for the increase in the GOV sector?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The percentage of recreational housing in the county is among the highest for the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

What activities account for the high percentage of recreational sales and employment?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Ashe County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Ashe County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Activities in the County: Northwest Trading Post, headwaters of New River National Heritage River, Mt. Jefferson & overlook

Description of the County:

.07% of the county is under federal management.

38.5% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 7.8% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits: 5.2%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Ashe	24,384	13.5%	9.8%	13.5%	9.2%	64.9	48.3

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	16	40	32	12
% Employment (1999)	16	33	42	10
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	19	2	26	22
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	36	39	62	58
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	1	18	35	40

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Ashe	0.6%	0.0%	0.2%	14.9%

Questions for Ashe County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Although the percentage of farmland in the county has decreased and the number of building permits has increased, the projected population growth in the county is among the lowest of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The earnings in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase by 36% even though the percentage farmland has decreased and the projected increase in employment is only 1%. The economy in the county appears to be growing across the board.

Of the “A&N” activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

Relatively high percentage of the total housing is recreational. Are these homes seasonal or part of the second home market?

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Avery County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Avery County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Activities in the County: Linn Cove Viaduct, Linn Cove Visitor Center, Grandfather Mountain International Biosphere Reserve, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

18.8% of the county is under federal management.

17.2% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 29.8% increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits: -0.8%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Avery	17,167	17.5%	15.5%	12.9%	19.1%	78.5	45.7

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	17	24	46	14
% Employment (1999)	12	19	59	11
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	44	19	28	25
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	63	21	83	60
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	23	3	47	40

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Avery	1.3%	6.1%	3.2%	39.9%

Questions for Avery County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

It is interesting that the percentage of farmland is increasing even as the population increases; especially since the projected density is among the lowest of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The projected population change for 2000 to 2020 (12.9%) is less than the population growth experienced in the county between 1990 and 2000 (12.5%) when the number of building permits actually decreased. Still the projected employment in the construction and manufacturing sector is projected to increase by 3% and earnings to increase by 21%. All sectors of the economy in the county are projected to grow between 2000 and 2020.

Of the “A&N” activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The total percentage of recreational housing in the county is among the highest for the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Buncombe County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Buncombe County: 71%

Parkway Activities in the County: Craggy Gardens Recreation Area, CCC picnic shelter and picnic area, Folk Arts Center, North Carolina Arboretum, Pisgah Recreation Area-hiking trails, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

8.1% of the county is under federal management.

20.8% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 15.9% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

2 - Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents.

Change in building permits: 6.8%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Buncombe	206,330	20.5%	18.0%	28.9%	28.2%	406.6	43.8

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	2	24	58	16
% Employment (1999)	2	21	65	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	14	-1	36	13
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	46	27	73	34
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	8	6	44	20

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Buncombe	1.4%	1.1%	1.4%	2.2%

Questions for Buncombe County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Buncombe County has the highest population and projected density of any county in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Where are people moving from?

Industry and Employment

It is interesting that earnings and employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase even as the percentage of farmland is decreasing.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

Recreation related establishments, revenues, employment, and housing are among the lowest along the parkway for counties in North Carolina.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Burke County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Burke County: 54.4%

Parkway Activities in the County: Linville Falls Recreation Area-campground, hiking trails, river, double falls, fishing, Visitor Center, access to wilderness area

Description of the County:

14.9% of the county is under federal management.

9.1% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 15.7% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

2 - Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents

Change in building permits: 2.5%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Burke	89,148	25.5%	17.7%	15.1%	23.0%	203.1	37.1

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	3	44	31	21
% Employment (1999)	2	38	42	18
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	20	-12	30	13
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	70	16	62	21
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	20	-4	33	8

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Burke	0.7%	0.2%	0.4%	1.6%

Questions for Burke County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The population in the county is increasing and although the projected density is among the highest along the parkway the county has also lost a significant amount of farmland.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The projected employment and earnings are projected to increase significantly (20% and 70 respectively) in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector even as the farmland is decreasing.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Although though the population of the county increased by 17.7% between 1990 and 2000 and the number of building permits issued increased by 2.5%; employment in the C&M sector decreased by 12% for the same period. Employment in this sector is expected to decrease by 4% although earnings are projected to increase by 16% between 2000 and 2020.

Of the C&M activities in you county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Burke County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

Recreation related establishments, sales, and employment are all less than 1% of the totals for these sectors. Recreation related housing is slightly higher at 1.6%.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Caldwell County, NC

Urban Population (2000):

Caldwell County: 61.7%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: 3 panoramic overlooks

Description of the County:

16.4% of the county is under federal management.

12.3% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 5.4 increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

2 - Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents.

Change in building permits (1990 - 2000): 4.2%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Caldwell	77,415	24.7%	9.5%	16.1%	14.3%	190.8	41.6

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	3	52	34	11
% Employment (1999)	2	45	43	10
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	21	0	33	19
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	36	28	50	55
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	12	5	26	38

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Caldwell	1.1%	0.3%	0.6%	2.4%

Questions for Caldwell County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

It is interesting that although the population and the number of building permits are increasing so is the percentage of designated farmland in the county. 61.7% of the population in the county is living in an urban area and the projected population density, 190.8 people per square mile, is among the highest for the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Although employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector did not increase between 1990 and 2000 it was the strongest sector of the local economy. Employment in this sector is projected to increase between 2000 and 2020 even though the percentage of farmland has also increased. The projected earnings and employment for all sectors is projected to increase between 2000 and 2020.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The total percentage of sales and employment related to recreational activities seems low (0.3% and 0.6% respectively) given the total percentage of recreational establishments and housing (1.1% and 2.4% respectively).

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Haywood County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Pisgah Recreation Area trails, Campground, views to Cold Mountain, Graveyard Fields Parking Area-2 waterfalls, trails, backcountry camping & entrance to Shining Rock Wilderness, Middle Prong Wilderness, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

36.5% of the county is under federal management.

18.4% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 18.1% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 4.7%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Haywood	54,033	12.5%	15.1%	20.8%	16.2%	118.2	47.4

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	4	32	45	20
% Employment (1999)	5	22	57	15
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	-5	-11	36	36
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	47	11	69	27
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	1	-1	42	13

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Haywood	1.5%	0.8%	2.4%	8.7%

Questions for Haywood County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The population in the county has increased rapidly and is projected to increase by another 20.8% between 2000 and 2020. Farmland in the county is decreasing faster than the density is increasing and the building permits in the county increased 4.7% in the last year.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The percentage of the population employed in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) and construction and manufacturing (C&M) sectors of the county decreased between 1990 and 2000 while employment in both sales and service (S&S) and government (GOV) increased significantly during the same time period. However, the earnings in the A&N and C&M sectors are projected to increase (47% and 11% respectively) even as employment is projected to remain nearly flat or decrease between 2000 and 2020.

Of the “A&N” activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Haywood County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

The percentage of total establishments, sales, employment, and housing related to recreation is relatively high for counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Henderson County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Pisgah Recreation Area-trails, Buck Springs Lodge-remnants, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

7.3% of the county is under federal management.

18.6% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 24.9% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 5.5%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Henderson	89,173	61.9%	28.7%	29.5%	52.2%	310.2	47.4

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	7	35	45	12
% Employment (1999)	5	28	57	11
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	12	17	36	21
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	41	51	66	46
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	6	25	37	28

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Henderson	1.3%	1.6%	2.0%	6.3%

Questions for Henderson County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The population of the county has increased dramatically since 1970 and is projected to increase another 29.5% between 2000 and 2020. Even though the percentage of designated farmland has decreased by 24.9%, almost 53% of the county population lives in an urban area. Indeed the population density per square mile has increased by 52.2% with a projected density of 310 people per square mile by 2020, the second highest projected density in the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The employment and earnings are projected to increase in all sectors of the local economy. This is true even in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) where the designated farmland decreased by 24.9%, the largest decrease for any county along the parkway.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

Although not the highest, the percentage of the recreation establishments, sales, employment and housing seems healthy.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Jackson County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Mountains to Sea State Trail, Richland/Balsam Parking area-highest point on Parkway, 30+ panorama views

Description of the County:

25.4% of the county is under federal management.

6.0% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 4.5% increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

8 - Not adjacent to a metro area and contains all or part of its own town of 2,500 to 9,999 residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 14.4%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Jackson	33,121	24.3%	23.4%	44.7%	28.3%	98.1	41.3

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	5	15	51	28
% Employment (1999)	4	12	62	22
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	27	-11	80	11
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	47	41	106	34
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	8	22	67	17

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Jackson	1.2%	1.6%	1.1%	23.9%

Questions for Jackson County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The county has the second highest projected change in population of any of the counties along the parkway between 2000 and 2020. Although the population density had increased over 28% by 2000, the projected population density in 2020 is only 98 people per square mile. Building permits in the county have increased by 14.4% in the last year and the percentage of designated farmland in the county, although low, has increased 4.5%. This is a tremendous amount of growth for any county to absorb and still increase their designated farmland.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Although only 6% of the county was designed farmland in 1997, employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector of the economy increased by 27% between 1990 and 2000. Earnings in this sector are projected to increase by 47% between 2000 and 2020.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Even though there was a 14.4% increase in building permits issued between 1990 and 2000, there was an 11% decrease in employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector. However, between 2000 and 2020 both earnings and employment are projected to increase by 41% and 22% respectively.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

There is an even greater projected increase in the sales and service (S&S) sector with 106% and 67% respectively.

Of the S&S activities in your county (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate? Typically, how big are these businesses?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Jackson County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

The total percentage of recreational housing is among the highest of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway while the percentage of total establishments, sales, and employment is relatively low.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

McDowell County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Chestoa View, Bear Den Overlook and 20 other great panorama views, Alta Pass Orchard, Over Mountain Victory National Historic Trail Crossing, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

24.1% of the county is under federal management.

7.3% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 10.9% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 3.3%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
McDowell	42,151	16.4%	18.1%	18.5%	20.0%	113.5	29.9

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	5	56	27	12
% Employment (1999)	2	48	38	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	17	6	33	36
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	42	29	58	62
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	6	6	30	44

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
McDowell	1.1%	0.3%	0.4%	3.1%

Questions for McDowell County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Although the population growth in the county has been more moderate, compared to other counties in North Carolina along the parkway, the population is expected to increase almost 20% between 2000 and 2020. Building permits increased by 3.3% in the last year.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The designated farmland in the county had already decreased by 10.9% to just 7.3% of the land in the county in 1997, among the lowest percentages of farmland for the counties in North Carolina along the Parkway. Still the change in employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector between 1990 and 1999 increased by 17% and is projected to increase by 6% between 2000 and 2020. The earnings in the A&N sector are projected to increase by 42% for the same period.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

There is over a 20% difference between the projected earnings and employment for construction and manufacturing (C&M), sales and service (S&S) and the government (GOV) sectors. It is interesting that the projected increase in earnings is greater for the GOV sector which is unusual.

Of the S&S activities in your county (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate? Typically, how big are these businesses?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

What is causing the increase in the GOV sector?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for McDowell County: (cont)

Recreation

The percentage of total establishments, sales, employment, and total residences related to recreation is among the lowest for counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Mitchell County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Alta Pass Historic Orchard, Minerals Museum, Over Mountain Victory National Historic Trail Crossing

Description of the County:

13.5% of the county is under federal management.

17.8% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 1.8% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 9.0%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Mitchell	15,687	7.3%	8.7%	6.7%	8.7%	75.5	45.4

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	13	30	39	18
% Employment (1999)	11	27	46	16
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	18	-13	33	16
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	56	18	61	67
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	26	-1	31	47

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Mitchell	1.8%	0.0%	1.2%	6.0%

Questions for Mitchell County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The population growth in the county is the lowest for counties in North Carolina along the parkway. The designated farmland in the county has decreased by 1.8% but the building permits have increased by 9%.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Although the annual building permits issued increased 9% between 1990 and 2000 employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased by 13%. Employment in C&M is projected to decrease between 2000 and 2020 by 1% even though earnings for the same period are expected to increase by 18%.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

The earnings and employment for the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase between 2000 and 2020 by 56% and 26% respectively. These are significant increases in this even as the percentage of designated farmland in decreasing and building permits are increasing.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Mitchell County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

It is interesting that the county received no revenue from recreation related sales tax even though there are there are some recreation related activities and employment.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Surry County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Cumberland Knob trails, Fox Hunter's Paradise Overlook and ethnographic site

Description of the County:

0.3% of the county is under federal management.

37.8% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 2.5% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 4.0%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Surry	71,219	20%	15.4%	20.6%	19.8%	160.5	38.8

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	8	44	36	12
% Employment (1999)	6	40	45	10
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	4	-3	32	26
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	37	28	60	54
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-3	7	37	34

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Surry	1.0%	0.3%	0.5%	1.1%

Questions for Surry County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The population in the county has been increasing steadily and is projected to continue at about the same rate.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The percentage of designated farmland has decreased by 2.5% and the number of building permits issued has increased by 4% but even as the number of building permits was increasing the actual employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) decreased by 3%.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Total employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector was 6% in 1999 and is projected to decrease by 3% between 2000 and 2020. However, the projected earnings are projected to increase by 37% for the same period.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

The projected earnings in the sales and service (S&S) sector and the government (GOV) sector are projected to increase at least 20% more than percentage employment between 2000 and 2020.

Of the S&S activities in your county (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Typically, how big are these businesses?

Why is the GOV sector increasing?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Surry County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

The total recreation establishments, sales, employment, and housing are relatively low for counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Swain County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Heintooga Spur road to Great Smoky Mountains NP campgrounds

Description of the County:

71.0% of the county is under federal management.

2.0% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 8.7% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 12.6%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Swain	12,968	43.3%	15.1%	36.6%	26.1%	33.5	39.3

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	1	10	65	24
% Employment (1999)	3	12	69	16
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	44	-40	31	15
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	33	13	82	29
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	4	-2	50	18

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Swain	4.7%	34.2%	34.0%	18.0%

Questions for Swain County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

It appears that the population of the county was small because even though the population has grown very quickly the projected density is still the lowest of the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The designated farmland in the county has decreased by 8.7% and the building permits issued have increased by 12.6%. The agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector is the second largest in the county with earnings projected to increase 33% between 2000 and 2020 even though only 2% of the county is designated farmland.

Of the “A&N” activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

The employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased by 40% between 1990 and 1999 and is projected to decrease another 2% between 2000 and 2020. However, earnings in the C&M sector are projected to increase 13% in the same time period.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors and sales and service with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Swain County, NC: (cont)

Recreation

The total percentage of recreation related sales and employment is the highest for any county along the parkway. The county has a significant amount of recreational housing as well.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Transylvania County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Pisgah Recreation Area-year round lodge and dining, Cradle of Forestry, Looking Glass Rock, Devil's Courthouse Parking Area-climbing, trails, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

36.8% of the county is under federal management.

5.2% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 11.5% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 3.4%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Transylvania	29,334	29.5%	14.9%	27.6%	25.3%	99.2	49.6

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	3	44	41	11
% Employment (1999)	4	30	56	10
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	32	-7	28	12
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	38	22	47	35
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	9	2	11	20

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Transylvania	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	14.9%

Questions for Transylvania County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The projected population growth in the county between 2000 and 2020, 27.6%, is almost double the average population growth between 1970 and 2000, 14.3%. The population density in the county increased by 25% between 1980 and 2000 while the percentage of designated farmland decreased by 11.5% and building permits issued increased by 3.4%.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Even while the percentage of building permits issues was increasing by 3.4%, employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased by 7% between 1990 and 1999. Employment in this sector is projected to increase by 2% between 2000 and 2020 but the earnings are projected to increase by 22%.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector between 1990 and 1999 was increasing while the percentage of designated farmland in the county was decreasing. Both A&N employment and earning are projected to increase between 2000 and 2020.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Transylvania County: (cont)

Recreation

The total percentage of recreational housing is high compared to the total recreational establishments, sales and employment.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Watauga County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Deep Gap, Boone's Trace, Thunder Hill Overlook and activity area, Moses Cone Estate, Simms Pond, Julian Price Park, Mountains to Sea Trail, Price Lake, Mountains to Sea State Trail

Description of the County:

4.6% of the county is under federal management.

28.2% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 4.3% increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

7 - Not adjacent to a metro area and contains all or part of its own city of 10,000 or more residents

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 12.8%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Watauga	42,695	57.9%	15.5%	26.1%	34.8%	172.8	40.6

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	3	15	54	27
% Employment (1999)	4	12	65	19
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	6	22	41	15
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	51	25	74	63
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	6	7	42	42

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Watauga	2.5%	3.8%	5.5%	22.0%

Questions for Watauga County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The county population more than doubled between 1970 and 1990 and grew by another 15.5% between 1990 and 2000 while the percentage of designated farmland also increased by 4.3% and the percentage of building permits issued increased by 12.8%.

This is an unusual pattern.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The difference between the earnings in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) in 1999 and the projected earnings between 2000 and 2020 is significant – even with the increase in designated farmland in the county.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

There has been a 12.8 % increase in the number of building permits issued but projected earnings and employment for 2000 to 2020 in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector seems comparatively small.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Watauga County: (cont)

Recreation

These indicators are uniformly high in the county. The percentage total for recreational establishments, sales, and employment are the highest for any county in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Wilkes County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Doughton Park Trails, The Lump, Betsey's Rock Falls, JeffressPark (e.g., Thompkin's Knob, Cascades Area and trails to cabins, church)

Description of the County:

2.0% of the county is under federal management.

26.3% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, an increase of 13.8% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

8 - Not adjacent to a metro area and contains all or part of its own town of 2,500 to 9,999 residents.

Change in building permits 91990 – 2000): 10.2%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Wilkes	65,632	19.9%	10.5%	18.1%	11.9%	102.6	40.9

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	8	30	48	14
% Employment (1999)	6	30	51	13
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	2	-8	35	15
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	27	26	50	48
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-4	4	33	29

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Wilkes	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	1.9%

Questions for Wilkes County, NC:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Even though the population has grown steadily there has also been a large increase (13.8%) in the designated farmland in the county.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Employment in the agriculture and natural resources sector (A&N) is projected to decrease 4% between 2000 and 2020 although earnings for the same period are projected to increase 27%.

Of the “A&N” activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Although the number of building permits issued between 1990 and 2000 increased by 10.2%; employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased by 8% for the same period.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors of the county economy with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The total percentage of recreation related establishments, sales, employment, and housing is among the lowest for the counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?

Yancy County, NC

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Crabtree Meadows Recreation Area, Mt. Mitchell State Park

Description of the County:

19.5% of the county is under federal management.

20.1% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 3.0% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization (1997):

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990 – 2000): 148.4%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Yancy	17,774	22.1%	15.3%	17.5%	19.0%	66.8	47.0

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	14	36	33	17
% Employment (1999)	14	29	45	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	-2	-19	57	20
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	48	31	51	48
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	3	12	26	32

Recreation:

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Yancy	1.2%	0.0%	1.6%	12.6%

Questions for Yancy County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The county population has been increasing steadily at about the same rate since 1970. The increase in building permits issued seems higher than the population increase and is, in fact, the highest for all counties along the parkway at 148.4%. But the county has no urban population and the projected population density is among the lowest for counties in North Carolina along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The increase in building permits in the county is the highest for all counties along the parkway between 1990 and 1999 but employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased by 19% over the same period. Employment in C&M is projected to increase by 12% between 2000 and 2020.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Earnings in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase 48% between 2000 and 2020 even though the designated farmland in the county has decreased by 3%.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Yancy County: (cont)

Recreation

There are no revenues attributed to recreational sales even though there is both recreation related establishments and employment within the county. This is especially surprising because the total percentage of recreational housing is 12.6%.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?