

Sumter County Profile

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WORKFORCE

Labor Force Activity

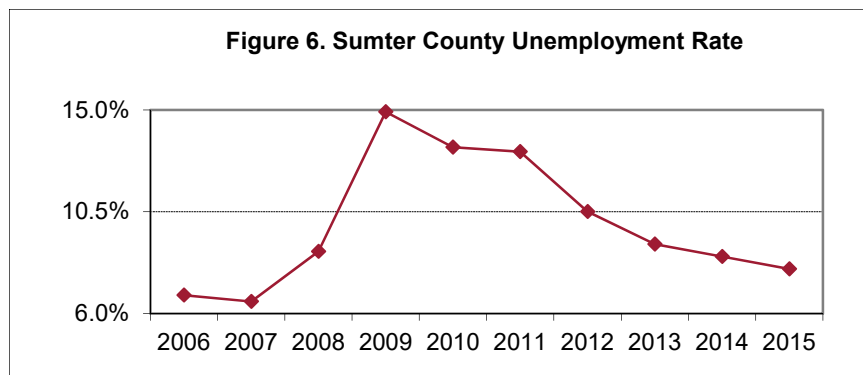
Sumter County's civilian labor force averaged 5,109 workers in 2015, down 4.9 percent from 2014 (Table 1). Employment fell slower as the county's economy is recovering, declining 4.4 percent to 4,702. From 2014 to 2015, county unemployment rate declined from 8.5 percent to 8.0 percent, as the number of employed residents fell more slowly than the labor force. The county's unemployment rate was higher than the average unemployment rate across the state and the country during the last year.

Table 1. Sumter County Labor Force Information

	Year 2014			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Sumter County	5,374	4,916	458	8.5%
Alabama	2,161,313	2,014,284	147,029	6.8%
United States	155,922,000	146,305,000	9,617,000	6.2%
	Year 2015			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Sumter County	5,109	4,702	407	8.0%
Alabama	2,146,157	2,015,189	130,968	6.1%
United States	157,130,000	148,834,000	8,296,000	5.3%

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 2015 average unemployment rate in Sumter County was still higher than the levels seen 10 years ago in 2006. The lowest level of county's unemployment rate for the past decade was 6.5 percent in 2007. The unemployment rate increased modestly due to the last recession, reaching a peak of 14.9 percent in 2009, but started to decline afterwards.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Employment and Wages

The Educational Services industry sector was the leading employer in Sumter County with 840 jobs in the second quarter of 2015, followed by Health Care and Social Assistance with 330 jobs (Table 2). Rounding out the top five industries by employment were Retail Trade; Manufacturing; and Public Administration. These five industries provided 2,067 jobs, 69 percent of the county total employment.

The average monthly wage across all industries in the county was \$2,815. Two of the top five industries—Educational Services and Manufacturing—paid more than this average. Overall, the highest average monthly wages were in Construction (\$4,428); Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (\$3,982); and Educational Services (\$3,806). Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation paid the least at \$614 per month.

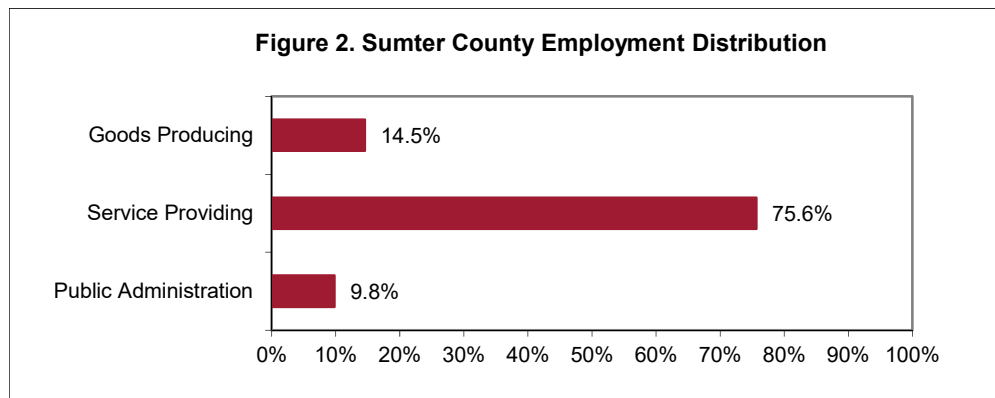
Table 2. Sumter County Employment and Wages (2nd Quarter 2015)

Industry by 2-digit NAICS Code	Total Employment	Share	Rank	Average Monthly Wage	Average Monthly New Hire Wages
11 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	79	2.67%	9	\$2,605	\$2,313
21 Mining	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
22 Utilities	16	0.54%	16	\$3,179	n.a.
23 Construction	58	1.96%	11	\$4,428	\$2,423
31-33 Manufacturing	293	9.91%	4	\$3,110	\$2,947
42 Wholesale Trade	78	2.64%	10	\$2,811	\$3,325
44-45 Retail Trade	314	10.62%	3	\$1,572	\$1,089
48-49 Transportation and Warehousing	113	3.82%	7	\$3,307	\$3,545
51 Information	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	\$2,167	n.a.
52 Finance and Insurance	47	1.59%	12	\$3,469	\$1,701
53 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	19	0.64%	15	\$3,314	n.a.
54 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	47	1.59%	12	\$3,723	\$1,857
55 Management of Companies and Enterprises	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	\$3,103	n.a.
56 Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	109	3.69%	8	\$3,982	\$3,728
61 Educational Services	840	28.42%	1	\$3,806	\$1,616
62 Health Care and Social Assistance	330	11.16%	2	\$2,289	\$2,740
71 Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8	0.27%	17	\$614	\$685
72 Accommodation and Food Services	286	9.68%	6	\$887	\$846
81 Other Services (except Public Administration)	29	0.98%	14	\$2,365	\$2,074
92 Public Administration	290	9.81%	5	\$2,406	\$3,435
ALL INDUSTRIES	2,992	100%		\$2,815	\$2,090

Note: Employment and wage data include both full-time and part-time employees. Average monthly new hire earnings could include earnings for less than a full month of employment. n.a. - data not available.

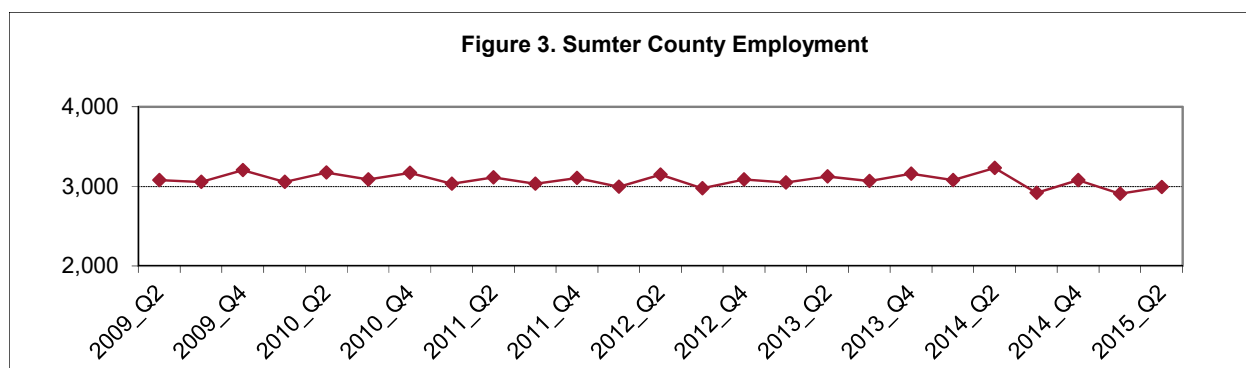
Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

Based on broad industry classification, service providing industries accounted for 75.6 percent of all jobs in Sumter County in the second quarter of 2015. Goods producing industries contributed 14.5 percent and 9.8 percent of all jobs were in public administration (Figure 2).



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

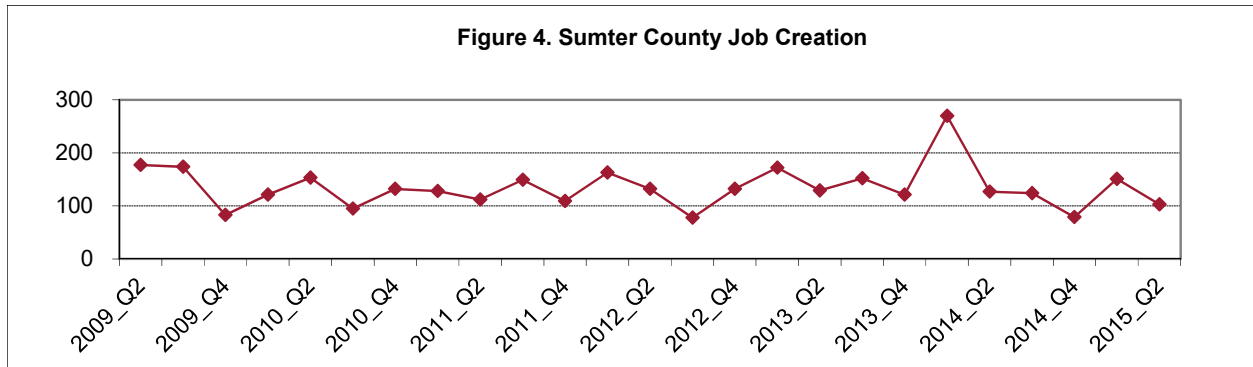
Employment in Sumter County averaged 3,076 quarterly from the second quarter of 2009 through the second quarter of 2015 (Figure 3). Over the past six years, the number of quarterly jobs varied from a high of 3,229 in the second quarter of 2014 to a low of 2,907 in the first quarter of 2015.



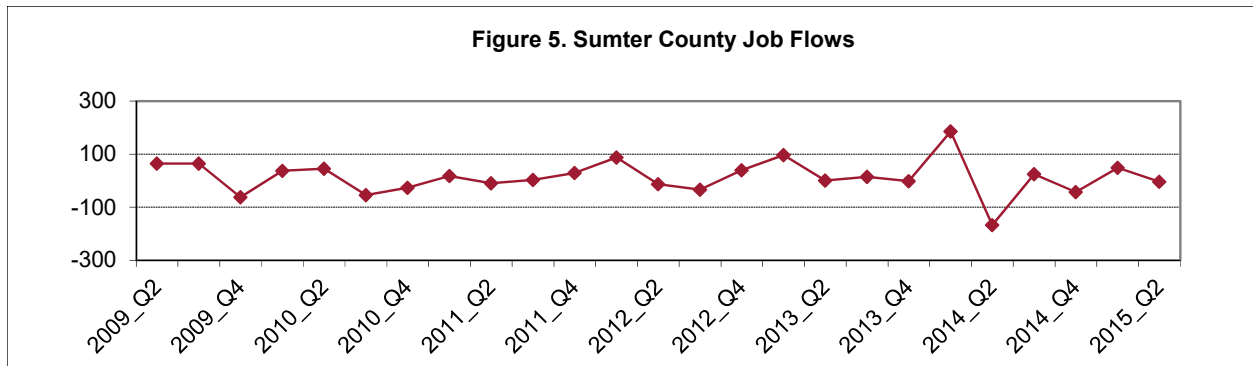
Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

Job Creation and Net Job Flows

On average, 135 new jobs were created per quarter in Sumter County from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2015. The number of new jobs reported were created either by new area businesses or through the expansion of existing firms. Figure 4 shows that job creation has slowed during this time period, reaching 103 jobs in the second quarter of 2015. Quarterly net job flows, or the difference between employment in the current and prior quarter at all businesses, averaged 13 over the last six years (Figure 5). During this time period, net job flows in Sumter County have ranged from a quarterly loss of 168 in the second quarter of 2014 to a quarterly gain of 186 in the first quarter of 2014.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

Underemployment and Available Labor

Sumter County had an underemployment rate of 16.7 percent in 2015. Applying this rate to March 2016 labor force data means that 770 employed residents were underemployed (Table 3). Adding the unemployed gives a total available labor pool of 1,165 for the county. This pool is 3.0 times the number of unemployed.

Table 3. Sumter County Available Labor

Labor force	5,016
Employed	4,621
Underemployment rate	16.7%
Underemployed workers	770
Unemployed	395
Available labor pool	1,165

Note: Rounding errors may be present. Based on March 2016 labor force data and 2015 underemployment rates.

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and Alabama Department of Labor.

Commuting Patterns

In 2014, there were 972 fewer in-commuters than out-commuters in Sumter County (Table 4). The one-way commute in 2015 took less than 20 minutes for 53.7 percent of workers, but more than 40 minutes for 2.4 percent. About 31.7 percent of all workers spent 20 to 60 minutes, down from 41.5 percent in 2014. The 2015 commute was less than 10 miles for 45.7 percent of workers, while 42.9 percent traveled 10 to 25 miles. About 11.4 percent of workers traveled more than 25 miles one-way, with .0 percent exceeding 45 miles. The 54.3 percent traveling at least 10 miles one-way in 2015 was down from 57.9 percent in 2014.

Table 4. Sumter County Commuting Patterns

Inflow, 2014		Outflow, 2014					
Number	Percent	Number	Percent				
1,646	100.0	2,618	100.0				
Average commute time (one-way)		Percent of workers					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Less than 20 minutes		54.0	54.0	46.3	53.7	46.3	53.7
20 to 40 minutes		34.0	26.0	29.6	24.4	36.6	29.3
40 minutes to an hour		10.0	12.0	13.0	17.1	4.9	2.4
More than an hour		0.0	6.0	3.7	4.9	4.9	0.0
Average commute distance (one-way)		Percent of workers					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Less than 10 miles		38.8	40.8	39.2	43.9	42.1	45.7
10 to 25 miles		32.7	32.7	29.4	26.8	34.2	42.9
25 to 45 miles		18.4	16.3	19.6	19.5	15.8	11.4
More than 45 miles		10.2	10.2	7.8	9.8	7.9	0.0

Note: Rounding errors may be present. Respondents that did not indicate their travel time are not included.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

Workforce Report Link

The workforce report for the county is available at:

<http://www2.labor.alabama.gov/workforcedev/WorkforceReports>

GDP & EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS

CBER forecasts improvement in nonfarm employment in Sumter County with a 1.5 percent increase for 2016. County inflation-adjusted (real) gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to rise by 2.1 percent this year. In comparison, statewide nonfarm employment and real GDP are forecasted to increase by 1.7 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively.

Table 5. Sumter County GDP and Nonfarm Employment Forecasts, 2016

	Nonfarm Employment Forecast, Percent	Real GDP Forecast, Percent	Rank, Employment Forecast	Rank, Real GDP Forecast
Sumter County	1.5	2.1	29	56
Alabama	1.7	2.3	--	--

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Alabama Department of Labor, and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, February 2016.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

Population Characteristics and Projections

The county population estimate of 13,103 for 2015 is 4.8 percent less than was recorded in the 2010 census (Table 6). Sumter County's population is projected to decline 8.5 percent in this decade to 12,588 by 2020. The 2015 population was 26.0 percent white and 72.2 percent black. About 1.1 percent of county population were of Hispanic origin.

Table 6. Sumter County Population

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2015 Estimate	2010-2015 Change	2020 Projection	2010-2020 Change
Sumter County	14,798	13,763	13,103	-4.8%	12,588	-8.5%
Alabama	4,447,100	4,779,736	4,858,979	1.7%	4,940,438	3.4%
United States	281,424,600	308,745,538	318,857,056	3.3%	334,503,000	8.3%

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 7. Sumter County Population by Race and Hispanic Origin

	2010 Census	2011 Estimate	2012 Estimate	2013 Estimate	2014 Estimate	2015 Estimate
Population	13,763	13,494	13,411	13,345	13,166	13,103
White alone	3,349	3,331	3,370	3,390	3,351	3,401
Black alone	10,320	10,047	9,916	9,820	9,677	9,456
Hispanic	86	111	133	132	140	143
Population, percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
White alone, percent	24.3%	24.7%	25.1%	25.4%	25.5%	26.0%
Black alone, percent	75.0%	74.5%	73.9%	73.6%	73.5%	72.2%
Hispanic, percent	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

Housing

Housing units in Sumter County totaled 6,740 in 2015, of which 17.0 percent, or 1,149 units, were vacant. The number of occupied housing units declined by 42 (-0.8 percent) between 2010 and 2015. Home ownership in the county was 70.2 percent and the median value of owner-occupied housing units was \$72,500, according to the 2010-2014 estimates (Table 8).

Table 8. Sumter County Selected Housing Data

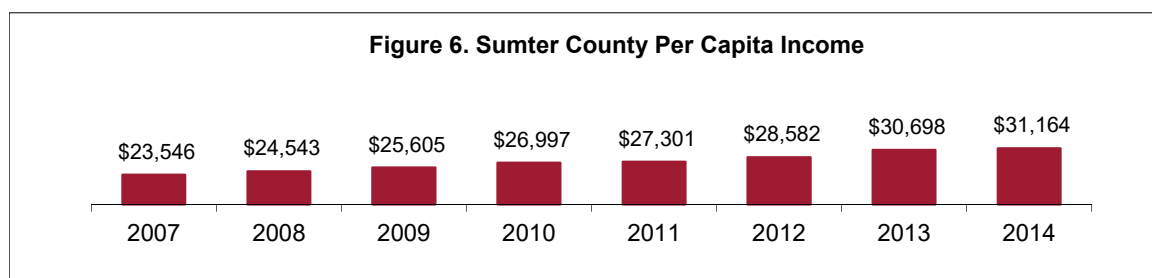
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total housing units	6,791	6,780	6,770	6,757	6,748	6,740
Occupied	5,633	5,624	5,616	5,605	5,597	5,591
Change		-9	-8	-11	-7	-7
Percent change		-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.1%
Vacant	1,158	1,156	1,154	1,152	1,151	1,149
Units in multi-unit structures*						17.7%
Home ownership rate*						70.2%
Owner-occupied, median value*						\$72,500

* 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

Per Capita Income

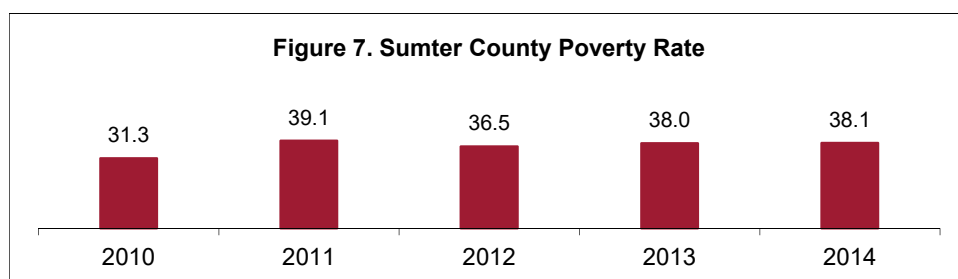
Sumter County per capita income (PCI) was \$31,164 in 2014, up about 32.4 percent from 2007 (Figure 6). This PCI was \$6,348 less than Alabama's average PCI of \$37,512, or 16.9 percent lower.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

Poverty

Most current estimates indicated that 38.1 percent of the county's population lives in poverty, which is higher than 2010 poverty estimates of 31.3 percent. Sumter County poverty rate is higher than the statewide rate of 19.2 percent.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program.

Education

Looking at educational attainment, 77.1 percent of Sumter County's 25 and over population had at least a high school education compared to the state's 83.7 percent, according to the 2010-2014 estimates. Among county residents aged 25 and over, 15.0 percent held a bachelor's or higher degree, below the 23.1 percent statewide average.

Table 9. Sumter County Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over

Total	8,268		
High school graduate or higher	6,373	Bachelor's degree or higher	1,242
High school graduate or higher, rate	77.1%	Bachelor's degree or higher, rate	15.0%
No schooling completed	61	High school graduate/equivalent	3,321
Nursery to 4th grade	184	Some college, less than 1 year	254
5th and 6th grade	207	Some college, 1+ years, no degree	1,101
7th and 8th grade	314	Associate degree	455
9th grade	124	Bachelor's degree	719
10th grade	356	Master's degree	438
11th grade	373	Professional school degree	27
12th grade, no diploma	276	Doctorate degree	58

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-2014 5-year estimates.

Colleges and Universities

Sumter County has one four-year public university.

Table 10. Sumter County Colleges and Universities

Four-year public institutions
University of West Alabama
Community colleges
None approved or recognized by ACHE
Private colleges and universities
None approved or recognized by ACHE

Source: Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE).

<http://www.ache.state.al.us/Content/CollegesUniversities/Directory.aspx>

OCCUPATIONS

High-Demand Occupations

Table 11 shows the top 40 occupations ranked by projected demand for jobs. The top five high-demand occupations are Childcare Workers; Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand; Nursing Assistants; Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education; and Registered Nurses. Overall, 2 of the high-demand occupations are also fast-growing.

Table 11. Region 6† Selected High-Demand Occupations (Base 2012 and Projected 2022)

Occupation	Average Annual Job Openings		
	Total	Due to Growth	Due to Separations
Childcare Workers*	25	10	15
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	25	5	20
Nursing Assistants	20	5	10
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	15	5	10
Registered Nurses	15	5	10
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	15	5	10
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	15	5	10
General and Operations Managers	10	5	5
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	10	5	10
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	10	0	10
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	10	0	5
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	10	0	10
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	10	5	10
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	10	5	5
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	10	0	10
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	5	0	5
Managers, All Other	5	0	0
Accountants and Auditors	5	0	5
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors*	5	5	0
Home Health Aides	5	0	0
Medical Assistants	5	0	0
Firefighters	5	0	5
Correctional Officers and Jailers	5	0	5
First-Line Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	5	0	0
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufact., Except Tech. and Sci. Products	5	0	5
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	5	0	5
Receptionists and Information Clerks	5	0	5
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	5	0	0
Medical Secretaries	5	0	0
Logging Equipment Operators	5	0	5
Carpenters	5	0	0
Construction Laborers	5	0	5
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	5	0	0
Highway Maintenance Workers	5	0	0
First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	5	0	5
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	5	0	5
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	5	0	0
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	5	0	5
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	5	0	5
Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood	5	0	0

Note: Occupations are growth- and wages-weighted and data are rounded to the nearest 5. Occupations in bold are also high-earning.

* Qualify as both high-demand and fast-growing occupations.

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

† Workforce Development Region 6 consists of Dallas, Marengo, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox counties.

Fast-Growing Occupations

The 17 fastest growing occupations ranked by projected growth of employment are listed in Table 12. The top five fast-growing occupations are Social and Human Service Assistants; Optometrists; Opticians, Dispensing; Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Workers, All Other; and Pourers and Casters, Metal.

Table 12. Region 6† Selected Fast-Growing Occupations (Base 2012 and Projected 2022)

Occupation	Employment		Percent Change	Annual Growth (Percent)	Average Annual Job Openings
	2012	2022			
Social and Human Service Assistants	10	20	36	7.18	0
Optometrists	NA	NA	29	7.18	0
Opticians, Dispensing	NA	NA	31	7.18	0
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Workers, All Other	NA	NA	42	7.18	0
Pourers and Casters, Metal	10	20	100	7.18	0
Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	NA	NA	30	4.14	0
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	NA	NA	39	3.42	5
Management Analysts	30	40	28	2.92	0
Nurse Practitioners	30	40	40	2.92	0
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	30	40	25	2.92	0
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	NA	NA	24	2.54	5
Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	NA	NA	29	2.54	5
Personal Care Aides	NA	NA	21	2.54	0
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors*	120	150	27	2.26	5
Painters, Construction and Maintenance	40	50	24	2.26	0
Childcare Workers*	470	580	25	2.13	25
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	60	70	21	1.55	0

Note: Employment data are rounded to the nearest 10 and job openings are rounded to the nearest 5. Occupations in bold are also high-earning.

* Qualify as both high-demand and fast-growing occupations. NA – Not available.

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

† Workforce Development Region 6 consists of Dallas, Marengo, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox counties.

High-Earning Occupations

Table 13 shows the 50 selected highest earning occupations in the region. Many of these occupations are in management, health, business, and finance fields. Seven of the top 10 listed are management occupations. The selected high-earning occupations are generally not fast-growing or in high-demand.

Table 13. Region 6† Selected High-Earning Occupations (Base 2012 and Projected 2022)

Occupation	Mean Annual Salary (\$)
Chief Executives	182,339
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	160,284
Pharmacists	122,684
Architectural and Engineering Managers	118,984
Industrial Production Managers	104,433
Medical and Health Services Managers	95,636
Financial Managers	93,722
General and Operations Managers*	92,418
Industrial Engineers	82,831
Computer and Information Systems Managers	81,234
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	77,099
Loan Officers	75,853
Human Resources Managers	74,903
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	71,745
Managers, All Other*	71,462
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School*	71,279
Lawyers	68,891
Nurse Practitioners	67,601
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	65,519
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers*	64,576
Logisticians	63,889
First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers*	63,133
Accountants and Auditors*	63,094
Food Service Managers	63,070
Postmasters and Mail Superintendents	62,390
Social and Community Service Managers	62,132
Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates	61,056
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay	60,832
Construction Managers	60,801
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	60,103
Civil Engineers	58,708
First-Line Supervisors of Non-Retail Sales Workers	58,655
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	57,140
Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School	55,045
Registered Nurses*	54,580
Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	53,912
First-Line Supervisors of Correctional Officers	53,652
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	53,631
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	52,881
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	52,801
Dietitians and Nutritionists	52,676
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers*	51,953
First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, and Material Movers, Hand	51,784
Database Administrators	51,276
Appraisers and Assessors of Real Estate	50,821
Human Resources Specialists	50,642
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	49,774
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	48,920
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers*	48,398
First-Line Supervisors of Fire Fighting and Prevention Workers	48,314

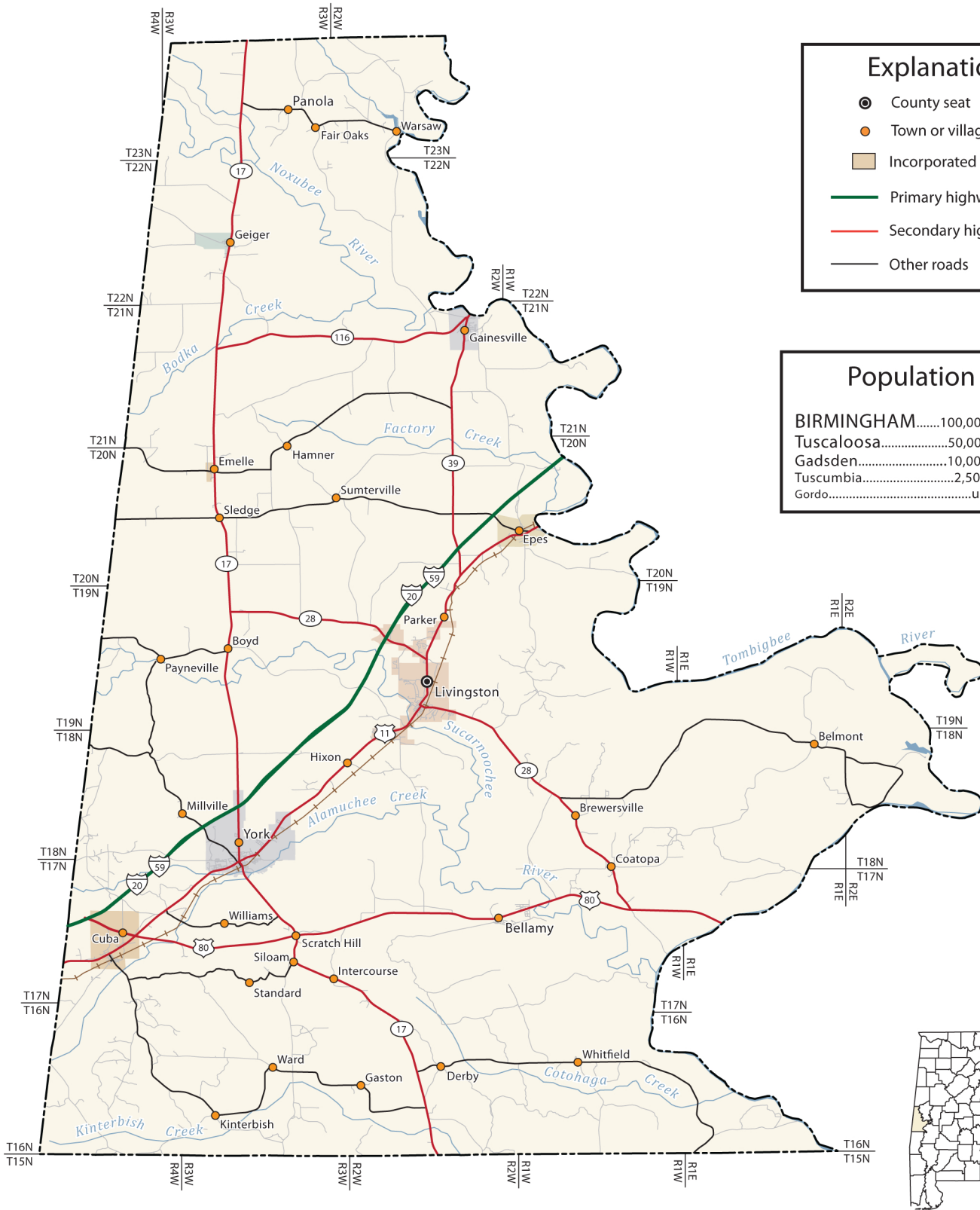
Note: Employment data are rounded to the nearest 10; openings to the nearest 5. The salary data provided are based on the May 2014 release of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) combined employment and wage file. Estimates for specific occupations may include imputed data. Occupations in bold are also fast-growing.

* Qualify as both high-earning and high-demand occupations.

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and Alabama Department of Labor.

† Workforce Development Region 6 consists of Dallas, Marengo, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox counties.

SUMTER COUNTY

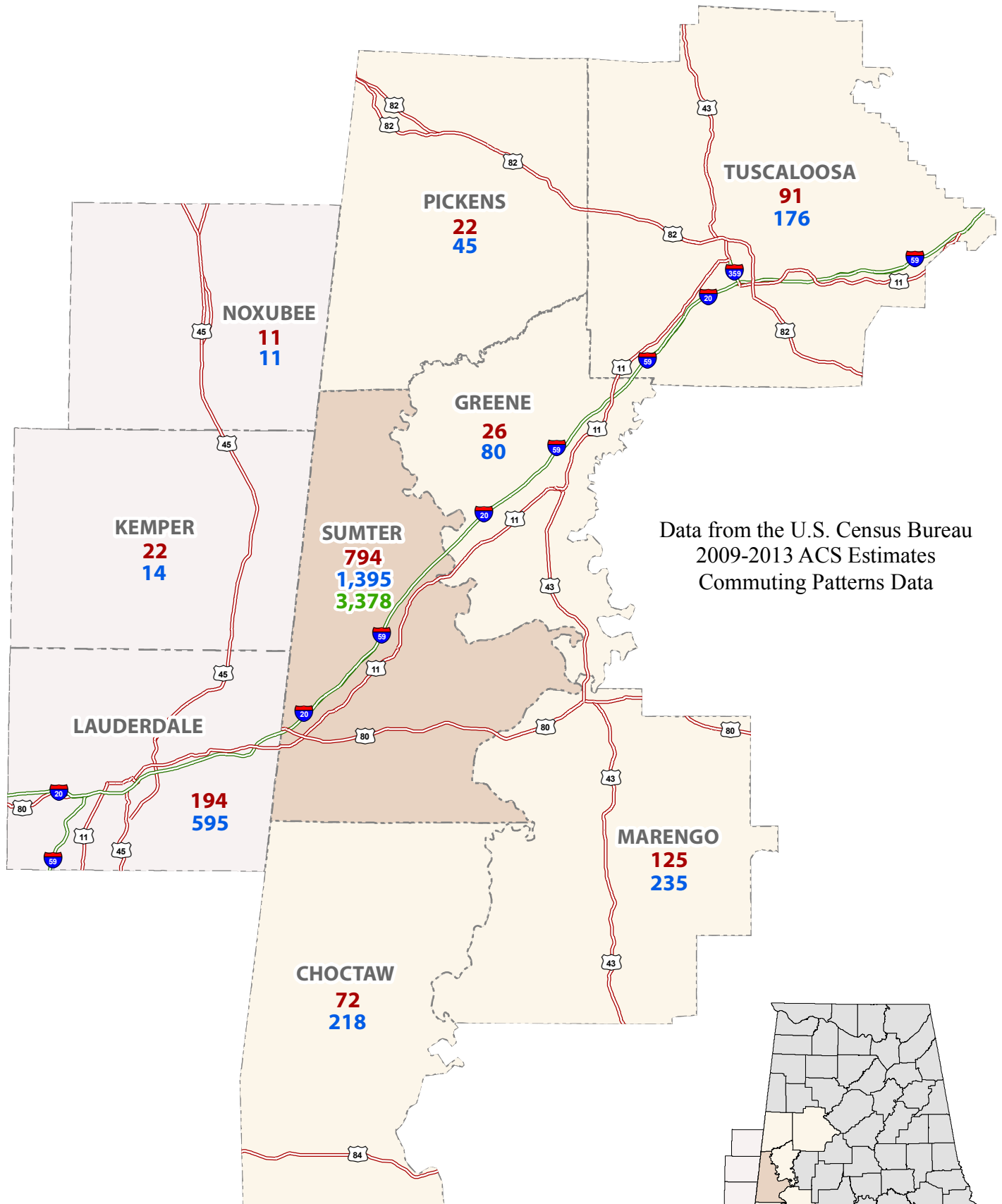


Explanation

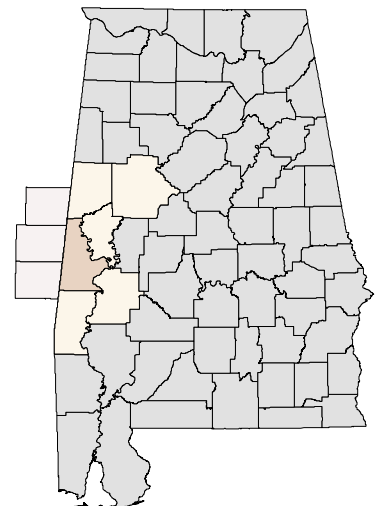
- County seat
- Town or village
- Incorporated place
- Primary highway
- Secondary highway
- Other roads

Population Key

BIRMINGHAM.....	100,000	to	250,000
Tuscaloosa.....	50,000	to	100,000
Gadsden.....	10,000	to	50,000
Tuscumbia.....	2,500	to	10,000
Gordo.....	up to		2,500



Data from the U.S. Census Bureau
2009-2013 ACS Estimates
Commuting Patterns Data



Workers Commuting to Sumter County
Workers Commuting out of Sumter County
Workers Living and Working in Sumter County