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*Timely, accessible,  
and credible  
analysis of  
state and local  
budget and tax  
issues*

## Employment, Income & Poverty, 2006: Harnett County

### Labor Force

- Harnett County's labor force, including employed and unemployed workers seeking employment, totaled 46,958 in 2006.
- The county's labor force grew by 11.1% between 2000 and 2006.

### Unemployment

- Harnett County's unemployment rate averaged 4.9% in 2006, compared to a statewide figure of 4.8%.
- Harnett County's unemployment rate was higher in 2006 than it was in 2000.
- Some 2,231 people were unemployed and actively seeking work in Harnett County in 2006, up from 1,613 people in 2000.

### Income & Poverty

- Median household income in Harnett County equaled \$40,943 in 2006 – an amount equivalent to 96.1% of the statewide figure.
- The county's per capita income of \$18,146 was \$4,799 less than the statewide level.
- The county's poverty rate of 17.0% was higher than the statewide level of 14.7 percent.
- All together, 40.8% of the county's residents had incomes less than twice the federal poverty level (\$41,228 for a family of four).

### Job Projections

- The Harnett County area is expected to add 29,690 jobs between 2004 and 2014.
- Most of the jobs expected to add the most positions (e.g. cashiers, retail salespersons) offer low wages, few benefits and little upward mobility.
- The jobs expected to grow the most in percentage terms, like those in health fields, typically pay good wages but require workers with some type of postsecondary credential.
- Some 75% of the county's adults possessed no more than a high school degree in 2005.

### Living Income Standard

- A working family with children needs to earn, on average, a total of \$15.95/hour to cover basic living expenses in Harnett County.

