

# Southern Coalition for Social Justice

## Census 2010 Factsheet: Edgecombe County

How has Edgecombe County changed since the last census?

	2000 Census	2010 Projection
<i>Total population</i>	55,606	51,531, a 7.3% decrease
<i>Percent African-American</i>	57.5%	56.4%
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	2.8%	no data

These projections come from NC's Office of State Budget and Management, in conjunction with data from the US Census American Community Survey (ACS 2006-2008). The NC OSBM projections are based on Census 2000 data, so they're only as accurate as the census itself!

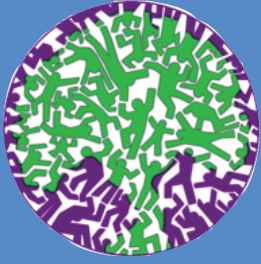
Also, the ACS is a three-year average of phone survey data, and for privacy reasons data is not released for populations less than 20,000. In rural parts of NC, that means small-area data on race, ethnicity, poverty, transportation, health coverage, etc. will be either infrequently released or not available at all. In many counties of NC, timely data on the Hispanic population is simply not available.

What do population shifts mean for political representation?

- Edgecombe County is losing population significantly relative to the state as a whole (which is projected to have a 18.9% increase). Edgecombe is split between State House Districts 23 (63% white) and 24 (54.5% African-American). The racial makeup of these districts isn't likely to change significantly after Census 2010, but their geographical boundaries may expand with redistricting, leaving Edgecombe with less representation. An additional undercount on top of this population loss would have significant consequences. Census outreach work to minimize the undercount is essential!
- Edgecombe County is in State Senate District 3, which was 82% white as of 2000.
- US Congress – Edgecombe is in the 1st Congressional District. The 1st District (represented by G.K. Butterfield) was a majority-minority district as of the 2000 Census, with 48.1% of the voting age population African-American, and 2.8% Hispanic. This district will likely stay majority-minority, but with a slimmer margin, so it's important that census outreach efforts ensure an accurate count, especially of African-Americans and Hispanic/Latino folk in the district.

How would an accurate count impact federal funding?

- Medicaid: As of January 2010, **16,120** Edgecombe County residents were enrolled in Medicaid. An accurate count for NC in 2000 would have resulted in **\$57 million** increased funding statewide **in 2008 alone**.
- Title I: Edgecombe County received **\$2,175,409** in federal Title I allotments in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Those were distributed between 7 Title I eligible schools, serving 4225 students (see following list). Twenty percent of the total Title I funds also went to district-wide purposes like busing.



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### Edgecombe County: Title I Schools

School	% from low-income families	Total students
Coker-Wimberly Elementary School	80.97%	494
G. W. Bulluck Elementary	61.91%	911
G. W. Carver Elementary	61.35%	828
Phillips Middle School	73.24%	213
Princeville Montessori	82.14%	448
Stocks Elementary	68.86%	819
W. A. Pattillo A+ Elementary School	66.41%	512

### Which parts of Edgecombe County are Hard-to-Count?

The US Census Bureau tracks these and other neighborhood characteristics through its Hard-to-Count (HTC) index. Areas with an HTC index above 60 are considered ‘hard-to-count’ – see the accompanying map for a detail of HTC areas in Edgecombe County. Of course, the Census index relies on 2000 data, and in many cases neighborhood-level characteristics have changed so much since 2000 that your knowledge as a local organizer will be more useful for targeting census outreach than the HTC data.

“Hard-to-Count” areas in Edgecombe County include downtown Rocky Mount, Princeville, and the entire area north of 64 between the two.