

# **Greer, SC – Did You Know?**

## **History**

- Greer area known as Cherokee Indian Territory prior to 1772.
- City developed as railway stop in 1876.
- Community developed into marketplace for agricultural products and other goods & services.
- 4 textile mills dominated industrial development during early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Over 40 downtown buildings on the National Historic Register.

## **Demographics**

- Between 1990 & 2000 population grew by 63 percent (16,843) – fastest growing City in SC.
- The City of Greer population is projected to be over 20,000 in 2004 and reach more 29,000 by 2015. The municipality is the third largest in Greenville & Spartanburg Counties and 17<sup>th</sup> largest in SC.
- Within a 20 minute drive time of downtown Greer the 2005 population is projected to be over 245,305 and climb to more than 261,500 by 2010.
- Within the 20 minute drive time the 2005 median household income is estimated at \$49,573 and the per capita income is \$27,335.
- Low median age (33.7) and increasing Hispanic population (Over 1,300).

## **Business Climate**

- Major employers include BMW Mfg, Mitsubishi Polyester Film, Honeywell, Allen Bennett Hospital, and Ryan's Family Steakhouse Headquarters.
- Strong presence of international companies – over 187 located in Greenville/Spartanburg Counties.
- Unemployment rates consistently below state & national averages and a large available labor pool in metro area – over 26,000.
- Predominate industry sectors include manufacturing, health care, service, and trade.
- Lowest unionized membership rate in the nation.

## **Infrastructure**

- GSP International Airport located in Greer with 15 carriers offering over 65 daily departures.
- Greer located on I-85 Corridor between Atlanta, GA and Charlotte, NC.
- Direct access to Port of Charleston via I-26. SC has third largest port on eastern seaboard.

## **Quality of Life**

- Low cost of living – 93.4 ACCRA composite index, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2004.
- Over 17 parks and recreational facilities including three lakes in the City of Greer. Close proximity to state & national forests and parks.
- Local amenities include art & history museum, theaters, festivals, symphony & ballet, golf, fishing, boating, hiking, biking, and drag way.
- Over 125 residential subdivisions planned or under development representing over 11,000 units within a 12 mile radius of downtown Greer. Over the next 5 to 7 years this is a potential increase in population of over 25,000.
- Median Home Prices in Greer, SC – 2002 = \$141,250 2003 = \$136,485 2004 = \$139,800
- Over 15 award winning public schools in Greer area and 16 institutions of higher education in the Upstate region with over 64,000 students enrolled annually.
- Healthcare service providers include Greenville Hospital System, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare, Mary Black Memorial Hospital, and St. Francis Community Hospital.
- Both Greenville Hospital System and Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System are building new Greer medical campuses. GHS has plans for a \$100 million, 130 acre Greer Medical Campus, and SRHS is planning a 140 acre health and wellness complex in Greer.
- The Greer Police Department has been Internationally Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 1996.

## **Greer, South Carolina**

*the center of it all*

**For more information contact the Greer Development Corporation at (864)416-0125 or visit [www.greerdevelopment.com](http://www.greerdevelopment.com)**

Updated 3/21/2006