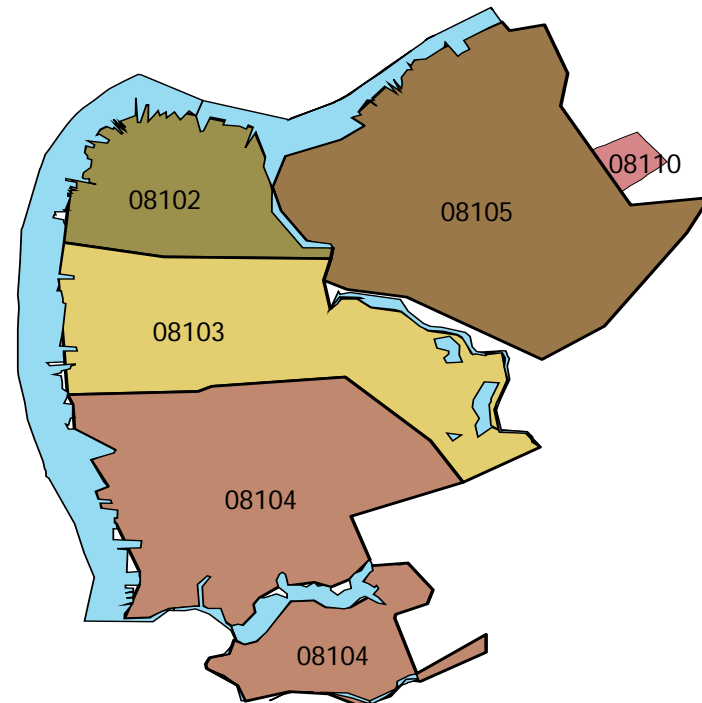


# Economics

- 89% of the labor force in 2006 was employed.
- Unemployment in Camden appears to have declined since 2003. The unemployment rate decreased from 16.3% in 2003 to 10.7% in 2006.
- In 2003, 67% of all businesses in the city employed 9 workers or fewer.
- In 2004, 54% of filed tax returns received the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), compared to 12% in New Jersey.
- In 2004, 37% of tax refunds were paid using refund anticipation loans, compared to 6% in New Jersey.

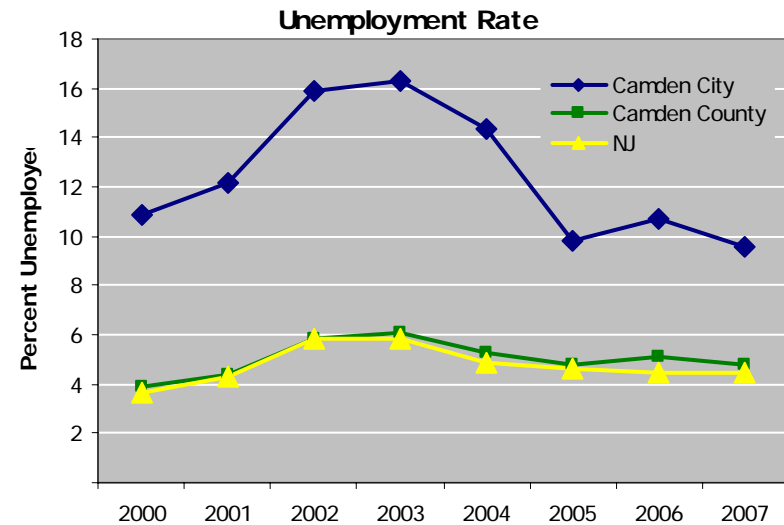
For more information:  
**CAMConnect**, Camden Reports: Employment  
(2004)

Zip Code Boundaries



# Economics: Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (%)
Camden City	2003	28,026	23,450	4,575	16.3
	2004	27,960	23,937	4,022	14.4
	2005	26,969	24,321	2,648	9.8
	2006	27,653	24,700	2,953	10.7
	2007	27,586	25,150	2,436	8.8
Camden County	2003	258,730	243,072	15,658	6.1
	2004	261,886	248,121	13,765	5.3
	2005	266,483	253,710	12,773	4.8
	2006	271,638	257,665	13,973	5.1
	2007	274,581	262,361	12,220	4.5
New Jersey	2003	4,383,834	4,127,000	256,834	5.9
	2004	4,395,129	4,178,171	216,959	4.9
	2005	4,498,662	4,289,716	208,946	4.6
	2006	4,436,112	4,236,894	199,218	4.5
	2007	4,521,018	4,334,985	186,033	4.1



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics via NJ Dept of Labor and Workforce Development

Note: 2007 data are from December 2007. All other years are annual averages.

**Labor Force** - All members of the civilian population age 16 and older who have a job or are actively looking for one.

**Employed** - During the survey week:

- All persons who did any work for pay or profit,
- All persons who did at least 15 hours of unpaid work in a family-operated enterprise, and
- All persons who were temporary absent from their regular jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, industrial dispute, or various personal reasons.

**Unemployed** - During the survey week:

- All persons not classified as employed who made specific efforts to find a job during the prior four weeks, and
- All persons who were not working and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been temporarily laid off.

**Not in the Labor Force** - All others who have no job and are considered by the government to not be actively looking for one. This population includes, but is not limited to students, retirees, the mentally or physically disabled whose conditions prevent participation in the labor force. The population who is not in the labor force is not considered as part of the unemployment rate and is not included in the data on this page. According to the 2000 Census, the population over 16 not in the labor force is roughly equivalent to the population over 16 that is in the labor force for Camden City.

# Economics: Business Patterns

<b>Business Establishments 2003</b>			
	Camden City	Camden County	New Jersey
Commercial banks	6	129	2,385
Convenience stores	7	117	1,610
Dentist offices	7	207	4,431
Drug stores	13	92	1,457
Dry cleaners/laundries	13	82	1,972
Administration, support, waste management	46	694	12,828
Information, financial, professional services	196	3,680	71,815
Management of companies or enterprises	13	80	1,425
Transportation, construction, utilities	68	1,574	31,439
Accommodation and food services	86	927	18,083
Arts, entertainment, recreation	11	158	3,360
Construction	36	1,266	23,981
Educational services	23	146	2,837
Finance and insurance	31	689	13,453
Health care and social assistance	155	1,373	23,791
Manufacturing	79	562	10,281
Utilities	1	18	325
Wholesale trade	82	813	16,709
Retail trade	162	1,957	34,782
Full-service restaurants	12	268	5,937
Grocery and supermarket stores	33	127	2,419
Physicians' offices	36	446	8,395
Social assistance service	18	71	1,124

Source: US Census Bureau, County and Zip Code Business Patterns via [www.dataplace.org](http://www.dataplace.org)

<b>Establishments by Number of Employees</b>	
Employees	2003
1 to 9	66.9%
10 to 49	26.5%
50 to 99	3.3%
100 to 499	2.7%
500+	0.6%

Source: US Census Bureau via [www.dataplace.org](http://www.dataplace.org)

<b>Total Number of Establishments by Zip Code</b>					
Zip code	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
08102	165	166	175	179	184
08103	282	273	282	296	279
08104	247	236	240	254	245
08105	245	241	224	248	238

# Economics: Tax Returns

	Year	Total Returns Filed	% Returns Receiving EITC	EITC Amount	% Returns Using Refund Anticipation Loans	% Returns Receiving Child Tax Credit
Camden City	2000	28,290	51.1%	\$27,811,011	38.8%	28.1%
	2001	27,792	52.7%	\$28,419,032	41.2%	27.8%
	2002	27,215	62.4%	\$33,601,972	42.4%	35.6%
	2003	26,656	54.1%	\$29,549,428	37.9%	28.3%
	2004	27,444	54.0%	\$31,205,031	37.1%	29.1%
Camden County	2000	235,128	14.5%	\$57,782,390	10.8%	21.4%
	2001	234,343	14.6%	\$58,944,460	12.1%	21.6%
	2002	233,027	15.6%	\$64,076,160	11.1%	21.5%
	2003	233,727	15.9%	\$66,058,198	11.4%	21.5%
	2004	236,023	15.8%	\$68,767,556	9.0%	21.6%
New Jersey	2000	3,967,422	10.9%	\$688,592,010	7.5%	18.8%
	2001	3,962,974	10.9%	\$707,498,984	8.1%	19.0%
	2002	3,950,832	11.9%	\$788,136,789	8.0%	18.9%
	2003	3,957,775	12.1%	\$813,531,767	8.1%	19.0%
	2004	3,998,031	12.0%	\$838,429,242	6.0%	19.0%

Source: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), via The Brookings Institution

**The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**, approved by Congress in 1975, is designed to alleviate the burden of payroll taxes on lower wage workers.

- An average of \$2,100 was paid to each of the 14,813 returns filed to receive the EITC in 2004.
- In 2004, EITC funds made up 39% of all money paid through tax return refunds in Camden compared to only 9.5% statewide.
- A significant portion of EITC funds are diverted from EITC recipients and used to fund the tax preparation process. National efforts have attempted to provide low-income tax filers access to free tax preparation services. Among EITC eligible returns in Camden in 2004, fewer than 10% of the 14,813 returns were filed with volunteer tax preparers.

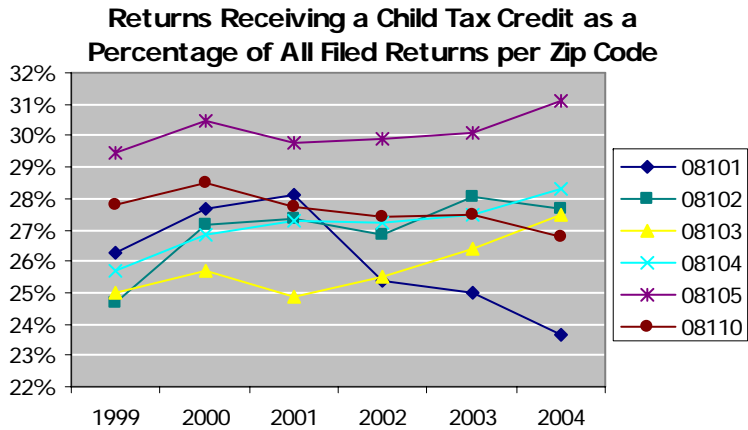
**The Significance of Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs)** - Nationally, recipients of the EITC are more likely to receive refunds via refund anticipation loans (RAL). RAL are short-term cash advances against a tax filer expected refund. The tax preparation process, including the use of an RAL, can cost up to 10% of the EITC amount received by EITC eligible tax filers.\* For 2004, assuming that each of Camden City's 7,346 EITC-eligible, RAL-utilizing returns (receiving EITC amounts valued at an average of \$2,100 each), were processed by a commercial tax preparation establishment at the 10% premium, an estimate of \$1.5 million was diverted from filers.

\* Source: The Bookings Institution and The Progressive Policy Institute, *The Price of Paying Taxes: How Tax Preparation and Refund Loan Fees Erode the Benefits of the EITC*, May 2002

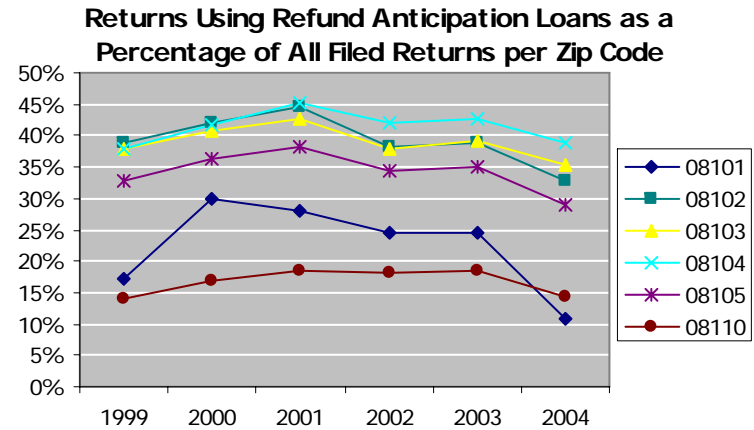
# Economics: Tax Returns

Percentage of Returns Receiving Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Using Refund Anticipation Loans (RAL)										
Zip	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
	% CTC	%RAL	% CTC	%RAL	% CTC	%RAL	% CTC	%RAL	% CTC	%RAL
08101	27.7%	30.0%	28.1%	28.1%	25.4%	24.6%	25.0%	24.5%	23.6%	11.0%
08102	27.2%	42.0%	27.4%	44.5%	26.8%	38.3%	28.0%	38.7%	27.7%	32.9%
08103	25.7%	40.9%	24.9%	42.7%	25.5%	37.8%	26.4%	39.0%	27.5%	35.5%
08104	26.8%	41.7%	27.3%	45.2%	27.2%	41.9%	27.5%	42.7%	28.3%	38.8%
08105	30.5%	36.5%	29.8%	38.2%	29.9%	34.5%	30.1%	35.1%	31.1%	28.8%
08110	28.5%	16.8%	27.7%	18.5%	27.4%	18.2%	27.5%	18.4%	26.8%	14.4%
Camden City	28.1%	38.8%	27.8%	41.2%	35.6%	42.4%	28.3%	37.9%	29.1%	37.1%

Note: CTC and RAL percentages are a portion of all filed returns in an individual zip code, not a portion of all returns filed in Camden City.



In 2004, 7,986 returns were eligible for the child tax credit. Zip code 08105 produced the largest number of returns eligible for the child tax credit with 3,291 returns receiving the credit for a total of \$2,735,925.



In 2004, 10,190 return refunds were paid through RAL. This represents 37.1% of all filed returns and 40.0% of all returns eligible for refunds. Zip code 08104 had the highest percentage of returns being paid via RAL.

Source: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), via The Brookings Institution