

BARNWELL COUNTY

Date Formed	1800	Form of Government	Council
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	548	Council Members	7
Council of Government	Lower Savannah	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Barnwell	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Blackville, Elko, Hilda, Kline, Snelling, Williston		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	21,345	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	-246
Population Estimate 2016	21,591	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	-1.1%
Census Population 2010	22,621	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	-1,276
Census Population 2000	23,478	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	-0.8%
Census Population 1990	20,293	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	2,328
Persons Per Square Mile	41.28	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	0.6%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	5,532	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$611,352
Jobs 2015	5,698	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$28,457
Jobs 2010	6,032	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	57.8%
Jobs 2000	9,513	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$32,914
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	-3.7%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	61.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	-2.9%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	6.0%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$57,647,527	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$2,548	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.14700	Capital Projects	1.0%
Value of One Mil 2017	\$56,852	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$108,038,796	Transportation	
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$10,446	Education Capital Improvement	
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$22,793		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$16,542,884	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$731
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$20,807,400	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$920
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$15,234,489	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$673
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$3,150,904	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$125
Payroll FY 2018	\$5,778,493	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	149	Moody's	
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	74	Standard and Poor's	
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	6.6	Fitch	

County History

Barnwell County and its county seat were named for Revolutionary War leader John Barnwell (1748-1800). The county was originally part of Orangeburg District, and in 1785 it was named Winton County. It was given its current name in 1800. Barnwell County has decreased in size over the years as new counties were created within its boundaries (Aiken in 1871, Bamberg in 1897, and Allendale in 1919). The South Carolina Railroad, which connected Charleston to Hamburg on the Savannah River, was built through this area, creating the towns of Blackville and Williston in the mid-nineteenth century. In more recent years, the county was the home of several powerful state politicians, known collectively as the "Barnwell Ring." Included were state Senator Edgar A. Brown (1888-1975), Speaker of the House Solomon Blatt (1895-1986), and Governor Joseph E. Harley (1880-1942).

County histories obtained from the S.C. State Library Reference Room at www.statelibrary.sc.gov/sc-counties. All other sources listed in the county comparison tables in the appendix.