

PICKENS COUNTY

Date Formed	1826	Form of Government	Council-Administrator
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	497	Council Members	6
Council of Government	Appalachian	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Pickens	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Central, Clemson, Easley, Liberty, Norris, Six Mile		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	123,479	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	540
Population Estimate 2016	122,939	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	0.4%
Census Population 2010	119,224	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	4,255
Census Population 2000	110,757	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	0.5%
Census Population 1990	93,894	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	25,330
Persons Per Square Mile	239.89	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	1.3%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	38,151	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$4,279,897
Jobs 2015	37,655	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$34,835
Jobs 2010	37,334	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	70.7%
Jobs 2000	41,478	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$39,011
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	-1.0%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	73.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	1.3%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	7.1%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$481,841,000	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$4,041	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.05930	Capital Projects	
Value of One Mil 2017	\$481,567	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$1,020,516,903	Transportation	
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$1,472,940	Education Capital Improvement	
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$468,932		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$65,219,740	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$547
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$76,447,535	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$641
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$43,000,544	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$361
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$8,452,119	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$64
Payroll FY 2018	\$25,712,684	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	529	Moody's	Aa2
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	169	Standard and Poor's	AA
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	4.4	Fitch	

County History

Pickens County was named for Revolutionary War hero Andrew Pickens (1739-1817). This area in the northwestern corner of the state was Indian territory until 1777. It subsequently became part of Pendleton District (at one time called Washington District). In 1826, Pendleton was divided into two counties, Pickens and Anderson; the western portion of Pickens County was later split off to form Oconee County (1868). The earliest European settlers in this region were Indian traders. The British built Fort Prince George around 1753 as protection against the Indians, and the fort was the site of several battles in the Cherokee War of 1756. The Cherokee town of Old Seneca was later destroyed by American troops in 1776. John C. Calhoun (1782-1850), U.S. Vice President, Senator, and cabinet member, made his home at Fort Hill plantation in Pickens County. His son-in-law, Thomas Green Clemson (1807-1888), bequeathed the plantation to the state for use as an agricultural college, which led to the founding of Clemson University.

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.