


## BERKELEY COUNTY

|                                  |  |   |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Date Formed:</b>              | 1682   |  |
| <b>Land Area (square miles):</b> | 1,098  |   |
| <b>Form of Government:</b>       | Council-Supervisor   |   |
| <b>Council Members:</b>          | 9  |   |
| <b>Method of Election:</b>       | Single Member  |   |
| <b>Term Length:</b>              | 4 yrs.   |   |
| <b>Council of Government:</b>    | Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester   |   |
| <b>County Seat:</b>              | Moncks Corner  |   |
| <b>Other Cities and Towns:</b>   | Bonneau, Charleston, Goose Creek, Hanahan, North Charleston, Jamestown, St. Stephen, Summerville |   |

### Population Trends

|                                 |         |                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| <b>2020 Census</b>              | 229,861 | <b>2023 Pop. Estimate</b>       | 255,217 |
| <b>2010 Census</b>              | 177,843 | <b>2020 Pop. Estimate</b>       | 231,568 |
| <b>2000 Census</b>              | 142,651 | <b>Numeric Change 2020-2023</b> | 23,649  |
| <b>Numeric Change 2000-2020</b> | 52,018  | <b>Percent Change 2020-2023</b> | 10.21%  |
| <b>Persons Per Square Mile</b>  | 209.3   |                                 |         |

### Economic Data

|   |        |   |          |
|---|--------|---|----------|
| <b>2023 Jobs</b>                        | 63,988 | <b>Avg. Wage Per Job, 2023</b>                    | \$64,938 |
| <b>2020 Jobs</b>                        | 55,015 | <b>Avg. Wage, % of U.S., 2023</b>                 | 89.7%    |
| <b>2010 Jobs</b>                        | 42,067 | <b>Per Capita Personal Income, 2022</b>           | \$50,686 |
| <b>Percent Change 2020-2023</b>         | 14.0%  | <b>Per Capita Personal Income % of U.S., 2022</b> | 77.4     |
| <b>Avg. Ann. Growth Rate, 2010-2020</b> | 2.4%   | <b>Per Capita Personal Income % of S.C., 2022</b> | 94.5     |
| <b>Avg. Annual % Unemployed, 2023</b>   | 3.6    |   |          |

### Tax Data

|   |                 |   |      |
|---|-----------------|---|------|
| <b>Total Assessed Property, 2022</b>      | \$1,736,602,652 | <b>Local Sales Tax Rate, if applicable:</b> |      |
| <b>Per Capita Assessed Property, 2022</b> | \$7,555         | <b>Local Option</b>                         | 1.0% |
| <b>County Millage Rate, 2023</b>          | 0.0485          | <b>Capital Projects</b>                     | *    |
| <b>Value of a County Mil, 2023</b>        | \$1,400,000     | <b>School District</b>                      | *    |
| <b>State Accommodations Tax, FY 2022</b>  | \$1,698,847     | <b>Transportation</b>                       | 1.0% |
| <b>State Admissions Tax, FY 2022</b>      | \$1,926,374     | <b>Edu. Capital Improvement</b>             | 1.0% |
|   |                 | <b>County Green Space</b>                   | *    |

### County Finance & Employment Data

|   |               |                                       |         |
|---|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Total Revenues FY 2022</b>                   | \$346,821,788 | <b>Per Capita Revenues</b>            | \$1,509 |
| <b>Total Expenditures FY 2022</b>               | \$159,517,132 | <b>Per Capita Expenditures</b>        | \$694   |
| <b>General Fund Budget FY 2024</b>              | \$124,906,001 | <b>Per Capita General Fund Budget</b> | \$543   |
| <b>Total Debt Outstanding FY 2023</b>           | \$131,968,482 | <b>Per Capita Total Debt FY 2023</b>  | \$505   |
| <b>Payroll FY 2024</b>                          | \$48,433,248  | <b>County Credit Ratings:</b>         |         |
| <b>Full-Time Employment FY 2024</b>             | 1415          | <b>Fitch FY 2023</b>                  | *       |
| <b>Full-Time Employment Per 1,000 Residents</b> | 6             | <b>Moody's FY 2023</b>                | Aa1     |
| <b>Part-Time Employment FY 2024</b>             | 132           | <b>S&amp;P FY 2023</b>                | AA+     |

### County History

Berkeley County was named for two of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, Lord John Berkeley (d. 1678) and Sir William Berkeley (d. 1677). The county was originally named in 1682, and at one time it included the parishes of St. John Berkeley, St. James Goose Creek, St. James Santee, St. Stephen, St. Thomas, and St. Denis. In 1769 this area became part of Charleston District, and it did not become a separate county again until 1882. The county seat was Mount Pleasant from 1882 until 1895, when it was moved to Moncks Corner. This area was settled in the late seventeenth century by English and French Huguenot planters and their African slaves. Many of the old rice plantations are now covered by the waters of Lake Moultrie, which was built in the 1940s as part of the Santee-Cooper hydroelectric project. Two famous Revolutionary War generals were residents of the area: William Moultrie (1730-1805) and Francis Marion (1732-1795), known as the Swamp Fox. Henry Laurens (1724-1792), president of the Continental Congress, resided at Mepkin Plantation, which many years later was purchased by publisher Henry Luce (1898-1967).