

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Date Formed:	1897
Land Area (square miles):	393
Form of Government:	Council-Administrator
Council Members:	7
Method of Election:	Single Member
Term Length:	4 yrs.
Council of Government:	Appalachian
County Seat:	Gaffney
Other Cities and Towns:	Blacksburg



Population Trends

2020 Census	56,216	2021 Pop. Estimate	56,052
2010 Census	55,342	2020 Pop. Estimate	56,179
2000 Census	52,537	Numeric Change 2020-2021	-127
Numeric Change 2000-2020	874	Percent Change 2020-2021	-0.23%
Persons Per Square Mile	143.0		

Economic Data

2021 Jobs	20,211	Avg. Wage Per Job, 2021	\$39,996
2020 Jobs	19,510	Avg. Wage, % of U.S., 2021	58.1%
2010 Jobs	18,902	Per Capita Personal Income, 2020	\$36,567
Percent Change 2020-2021	3.5%	Per Capita Personal Income % of U.S., 2020	61.4
Avg. Ann. Growth Rate, 2010-2020	0.3%	Per Capita Personal Income % of S.C., 2020	76.1
Avg. Annual % Unemployed, 2021	5.1		

Tax Data

Total Assessed Property, 2020	\$225,901,132	Local Sales Tax Rate, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Property, 2020	\$4,018	Local Option	1.0%
County Millage Rate, 2021	0.0984	Capital Projects	*
Value of a County Mil, 2021	\$189,936	School District	Ended 3-15
State Accommodations Tax, FY 2021	\$137,859	Transportation	*
State Admissions Tax, FY 2021	\$71,444	Edu. Capital Improvement	1.0%

County Finance & Employment Data

Total Revenues FY 2020	\$32,026,245	Per Capita Revenues	\$570
Total Expenditures FY 2020	\$30,496,682	Per Capita Expenditures	\$542
General Fund Budget FY 2022	\$27,768,666	Per Capita General Fund Budget	\$494
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2021	\$4,186,000	Per Capita Total Debt FY 2021	\$72
Payroll FY 2022	\$12,255,946	County Credit Ratings:	
Full-Time Employment FY 2022	302	Fitch FY 2021	*
Full-Time Employment Per 1,000 Residents	5	Moody's FY 2021	Aa3
Part-Time Employment FY 2022	27	S&P FY 2021	*

County History

Cherokee County was named for the Cherokee Indians who once made it their home. It was formed in 1897 from parts of Spartanburg, Union, and York counties, and the county seat is Gaffney. During the Revolutionary War at the battle of Cowpens, an important victory for the revolutionary forces took place there on January 17, 1781. Iron mining was an important activity in this region up to the time of the Civil War, and it is sometimes called the Old Iron District. In the mid-nineteenth century, the resort at Limestone Springs was a popular retreat for lowcountry planters. Writer Wilbur Joseph Cash (1901-1941) was a native of Cherokee County, as is actress Andie MacDowell.