**BARNWELL COUNTY**

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

### 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 Cap 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:**
  - **Local Option**: 1.0%
- **Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016**: $2,548
- **Capital Projects**: 1.0%
- **County Base Millage Rate 2017**: .14700
- **School District**: Transportation
- **Value of One Mil 2017**: $56,852
- **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
- **Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016**: $920
- **Total Expenditures FY 2016**: $20,807,400
- **Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201**: $673
- **General Fund Budget FY 2018**: $15,234,489
- **Total Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018**: $125
- **Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017**: $3,150,904
- **Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:**
  - **Moody’s**: Standard and Poor’s
- **Payroll FY 2018**: $5,778,493
- **Full-Time Employees FY 2018**: 149
- **Fitch**
- **Part-Time Employees FY 2018**: 74
- **Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents**: 6.6

### 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).

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*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.*