

CHARLESTON COUNTY

Date Formed	1769	Form of Government	Council-Administrator
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	919	Council Members	9
Council of Government	Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Charleston	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Awendaw, Folly Beach, Hollywood, Isle of Palms, Kiawah Island, Lincolnville, McClellanville, Meggett, Mount Pleasant, Summerville, North Charleston, Ravenel, Seabrook Island, Sullivan's Island		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	401,438	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	4,868
Population Estimate 2016	396,570	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	1.2%
Census Population 2010	350,209	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	51,229
Census Population 2000	309,969	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	2.1%
Census Population 1990	295,039	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	55,170
Persons Per Square Mile	381.08	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	0.9%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	270,601	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$21,121,645
Jobs 2015	264,097	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$53,272
Jobs 2010	230,845	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	108.2%
Jobs 2000	215,368	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$47,092
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	0.7%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	88.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	2.5%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	3.5%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$3,725,590,579	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$10,638	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.05980	Capital Projects	
Value of One Mil 2017	\$3,557,460	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$8,228,225,361	Transportation	1.0%
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$6,233,130	Education Capital Improvement	1.0%
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$15,351,139		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$624,024,070	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$1,782
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$482,839,842	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$1,379
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$235,629,317	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$673
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$265,426,667	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$732
Payroll FY 2018	\$139,594,499	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	2,658	Moody's	Aaa
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	217	Standard and Poor's	AAA
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	7.6	Fitch	AAA

County History

Charleston County and the city of Charleston are the most historic locations in the state. English settlers arrived in the colony of Carolina in 1670 and established a town at Albemarle Point on the west bank of the Ashley River. The settlement, named Charles Town in honor of King Charles II of England, was subsequently moved a few miles away to a peninsula between the Ashley and Cooper rivers. Charles Towne (renamed Charleston in 1783) was the political, social, and economic center of the state throughout the colonial and antebellum periods, and it served as the capital until 1790. Charleston District was formed in 1769, but portions were later split off to form Colleton (1800) and Berkeley (1882) counties. During the Revolutionary War, the American forces defeated the attacking British fleet at Charleston in June 1776. At another Charleston fort, Fort Sumter, federal troops were fired on by Confederate forces in April 1861, signaling the start of the Civil War. Charleston County has had many famous residents, including three signers of the United States Constitution: Charles Pinckney (1757-1824), Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (1746-1825), and John Rutledge (1739-1800).

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.