

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Date Formed	1897	Form of Government	Council-Administrator
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	393	Council Members	7
Council of Government	Appalachian	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Gaffney	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Blacksburg		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	57,105	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	380
Population Estimate 2016	56,725	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	0.7%
Census Population 2010	55,342	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	1,763
Census Population 2000	52,537	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	0.5%
Census Population 1990	44,506	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	10,836
Persons Per Square Mile	140.82	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	1.2%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	20,461	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$1,700,836
Jobs 2015	20,190	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$30,026
Jobs 2010	18,902	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	61.0%
Jobs 2000	22,994	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$35,456
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	-1.8%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	66.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	1.3%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	4.9%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$199,615,059	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$3,607	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.09220	Capital Projects	
Value of One Mil 2017	\$172,678	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$452,093,093	Transportation	
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$130,852	Education Capital Improvement	1.0%
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$158,802		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$30,595,280	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$553
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$26,053,708	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$471
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$19,515,726	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$353
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$9,550,000	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$158
Payroll FY 2018	\$7,386,047	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	263	Moody's	
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	49	Standard and Poor's	
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	4.8	Fitch	

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.

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.