

CHESTER COUNTY

Date Formed	1785	Form of Government	Council-Supervisor
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	581	Council Members	7
Council of Government	Catawba	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Chester	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Fort Lawn, Great Falls, Lowrys, Richburg		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	32,301	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	21
Population Estimate 2016	32,280	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	0.1%
Census Population 2010	33,140	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	-839
Census Population 2000	34,068	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	-0.4%
Census Population 1990	32,170	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	970
Persons Per Square Mile	57.04	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	0.2%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	9,110	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$1,000,702
Jobs 2015	9,098	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$31,096
Jobs 2010	8,457	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	63.1%
Jobs 2000	13,785	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$40,017
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	-3.9%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	75.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	0.1%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	6.0%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$114,888,799	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$3,467	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.17220	Capital Projects	1.0%
Value of One Mil 2017	\$95,867	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$152,780,508	Transportation	
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$32,447	Education Capital Improvement	
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$87,755		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$38,539,361	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$1,163
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$37,482,269	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$1,131
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$19,156,254	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$578
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$5,229,000	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$152
Payroll FY 2018	\$9,317,961	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	296	Moody's	
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	102	Standard and Poor's	
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	8.9	Fitch	

County History

Chester County and its county seat were named for Chester County, Pennsylvania. The county was formed in 1785 as part of the larger Camden District but was later transferred to Pinckney District (1791-1800); it became a separate district in 1800. Scotch-Irish settlers from Pennsylvania and Virginia moved into this upstate region beginning about 1755. During the Revolutionary War, American forces under General Thomas Sumter were defeated here at the battle of Fishing Creek in August 1780; the Americans were victorious at Fishdam Ford in November of the same year. The Landsford Canal was built in 1823 to allow boats and barges to bypass rapids on the Catawba River; this canal is now open as a state park. In later years, the availability of hydroelectric power encouraged the establishment of textile mills in the area. Governor, U.S. Senator, and Judge Donald S. Russell (1906-1997) lived in Chester as a boy.

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.