

RICHLAND COUNTY

Date Formed	1785	Form of Government	Council-Administrator
Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	756	Council Members	11
Council of Government	Central Midlands	Term Length	4 years
County Seat	Columbia	Method of Election	Single Member
Other Municipalities	Arcadia Lakes, Blythewood, Eastover, Forest Acres, Irmo		



Population Trends

Population Estimate 2017	411,592	Numeric Change 2016 - 2017	2,488
Population Estimate 2016	409,104	Percent Change 2016 - 2017	0.6%
Census Population 2010	384,504	Numeric Change 2010 - 2017	27,088
Census Population 2000	320,677	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 2010 - 2017	1.0%
Census Population 1990	285,720	Numeric Change 1990 - 2010	98,784
Persons Per Square Mile	508.60	Avg. Annual Growth Rate 1990 - 2010	1.7%

Economic Data

Jobs 2016	239,380	Personal Income 2016, in thousands	\$17,301,307
Jobs 2015	235,766	Per Capital Personal Income 2016	\$42,245
Jobs 2010	224,103	Per Cap Personal Income 2016, % of U.S.	85.8%
Jobs 2000	240,579	Average Wage Per Job 2016	\$45,282
Jobs 2000 - 2010, Ann. Avg. Growth Rate	-0.7%	Average Wage Per Job 2016, % of U.S.	84.0%
Jobs 2015 - 2016, Percent Change	1.5%	Unemployment Rate, Ann. Avg. 2017	4.1%

Tax Data

Assessed Property 2016	\$1,606,696,849	Additional Sales Tax, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Propert Tax 2016	\$4,179	Local Option	1.0%
County Base Millage Rate 2017	.12590	Capital Projects	
Value of One Mil 2017	\$1,520,000	School District	
Net Taxable Sales FY 2016	\$5,126,740,073	Transportation	1.0%
State Admissions Tax Collected FY 2016	\$3,651,573	Education Capital Improvement	
State Accommod. Tax Collected FY 2016	\$3,370,312		

County Finance and Employment

Total Revenues FY 2016	\$384,751,552	Per Capita Revenues FY 2016	\$1,001
Total Expenditures FY 2016	\$376,416,824	Per Capita Expenditures FY 2016	\$979
General Fund Budget FY 2018	\$166,100,000	Per Capita General Fund Budget FY 201	\$432
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2017	\$149,289,806	Per Capita Debt Outstanding FY 2018	\$383
Payroll FY 2018	\$74,300,000	Credit Ratings FY 2018, if applicable:	
Full-Time Employees FY 2018	2,161	Moody's	Aaa
Part-Time Employees FY 2018	0	Standard and Poor's	AAA
Full-Time Employees/1,000 Residents	5.6	Fitch	

County History

Richland County was probably named for its "rich land." The county was formed in 1785 as part of the large Camden District. A small part of Richland later went to Kershaw County (1791). In 1786, the state legislature decided to move the capital from Charleston to a more central location. A site was chosen in Richland County, which is in the geographic center of the state, and a new town was laid out. Columbia subsequently became not only the center of government, but an important trade and manufacturing center. Cotton from the surrounding plantations was shipped through Columbia and later manufactured into textiles there. Columbia is also known for its educational institutions, particularly the University of South Carolina, which was founded in 1802. General William T. Sherman captured Columbia during the Civil War, and his troops burned the town on February 17, 1865. The U.S. Army returned on more friendly terms in 1917, when Fort Jackson was established. Confederate General, South Carolina Governor, and U.S. Senator Wade Hampton (1818-1902) was a resident of Richland County, and President Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) lived in Columbia 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.