

# **Facts & Figures on our Public Schools**

## ***Sources***



**Public Education Partners**

Greenville County

# Education and Economic Prosperity

## Education drives economic prosperity

### *Average annual earnings*

- Table PINC-04 “Educational Attainment – People 18 Years Old and Over, by Total Money Earnings, Work Experience, Age, Race, Hispanic Origin and Sex,” Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau:  
<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-pinc/pinc-04.html>.

### *Increasing the graduation rate to 90%*

- “The Graduation Effect: Increasing National High School Graduation Rate Key to Job Creation and Economic Growth, New Alliance Analysis Finds,” Alliance for Excellent Education:  
<http://all4ed.org/articles/the-graduation-effect-increasing-national-high-school-graduation-rate-key-to-job-creation-and-economic-growth-new-alliance-analysis-finds/>.

### *99% of jobs added*

- “America’s Divided Recovery, College Haves and Have-Nots, 2016,” Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce: <https://cew.georgetown.edu/cew-reports/americas-divided-recovery/>.

## Our per capita income is 90% of the national average

### *Per capita income – county*

- “CA1 Personal Income Summary: Personal Income, Population, Per Capita Personal Income,” Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce: <https://www.bea.gov/>.

### *Per capita income – state and national*

- “SA1 – Personal Income Summary: Personal Income, Population, Per Capita Personal Income,” Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce: <https://www.bea.gov/>.
- “BEARFACTS,” Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
<http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/>.

## Failure to Educate carries huge social costs

### *Likely to be unemployed...likely to live in poverty*

- Table S2301 “Employment Status,” Population 25 to 64 years, Greenville County, 2011-15 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, American Fact Finder, U.S. Census Bureau:  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov>.
- Table S1501 “Educational Attainment,” Population 25 years and over, Greenville County, 2011-15 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, American Fact Finder, U.S. Census Bureau:  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

### *Percent incarcerated who are high school dropouts*

- “Saving Futures, Saving Dollars: The Impact of Education on Crime Reduction and Earnings,” September 2013, Alliance for Excellent Education.

- “Crime doesn’t Pay—Investing in Education Does: As State and Local Spending on Corrections Escalates Rapidly, Reports Call for Investments in Education,” Vol. 16, No. 14, July, 12, 2016, Alliance for Excellent Education.  
<http://all4ed.org/articles/crime-doesnt-pay-investing-in-education-does-as-state-and-local-spending-on-corrections-escalates-rapidly-reports-call-for-investments-in-education/>.

***Schools and Prisons***

- Per Pupil Spending - In\$ite, South Carolina State Dept. of Education  
<http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/>.
- Inmate Spending – County: County Records Manager, Greenville County Detention Center.
- Inmate Spending – State: “Cost per Inmate,” South Carolina Dept. of Corrections:  
<http://www.doc.sc.gov/research/statistics.jsp>.

***Live six to nine years longer***

- “Well and Well-Off: Decreasing Medicaid and Health-Care Costs by Increasing Educational Attainment,” July 2013, Alliance for Excellent Education.

***Over a lifetime, the average dropout will cost taxpayers***

- “The Consequences of Dropping out of High School,” October 2009, Center for Labor Market Studies, Northeastern University.

**Upward mobility in Greenville is low versus the nation and in the South**

- “Building an Infrastructure of Opportunity for the next generation,” State of the South report, October 2014, MDC.

# Public School Teachers

## ***Number of college graduates eligible for teacher certification is declining***

- “A Report on the Fall 2016 Supply and Demand Survey,” January 2017, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA): <https://www.cerra.org/research.html>.
- “Students Graduating with a Bachelor's Degree Eligible for Teacher Certification,” South Carolina Commission on Higher Education: <http://www.che.sc.gov/DataPublications>.
- “135-Day Active Headcount,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/other/student-counts/active-student-headcounts/>.
- “135-Day Average Daily Membership Student Count Report,” South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ/revperpupil>.

## ***First year teachers are on probationary status for three years***

- “Certification,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/>.
- “Initial Certification,” Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Employees/main.asp?titleid=certinitial>.
- “Teacher Evaluation – ADEPT/PAS-T,” Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Employees/main.asp?titleid=teacheval>.

## ***All teachers must participate in ongoing training and education***

- “Renew a Professional Certificate,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/maintaining-certification/renewal/>.
- “Professional Certificate Renewal,” Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Employees/main.asp?titleid=certrenew>.

## ***Teachers in South Carolina do not belong to unions***

- Multiple sources.

## ***Teacher salaries are below the Southeast average***

- “South Carolina Average Teacher Salary by District,” Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA): <https://www.cerra.org/research.html>.
- “Southeastern Teacher Salary Average,” South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ>.

## ***Minimum salary levels and increases for teachers are set by the state***

- “State Teacher Minimum Salary Schedule,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/historical-data/teacher-salary-schedules/>.

## ***Greenville County Schools pay teachers above the state minimums***

- “Teacher Salary Schedule,” Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Employees/main.asp?titleid=salaries>.

## ***Greenville County Schools employs more than 4,600 teachers***

- Table 16 – “Full-Time Equivalent School District Employees by Function,” Statistical section, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.
- Enrollment, Greenville County Schools 2016 State Report Card: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>.

## ***Teacher turnover in our district is among the lowest in the state.***

- “South Carolina Teacher Turnover Rates, By District,” Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA): <https://www.cerra.org/research.html>.

# Public School Spending

## **Our district spends less than....**

- “Dollars spent per pupil,” “Opportunities” section, State Report Card, Greenville County Schools, South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards/2016/>.
- InSite, South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/>.

## **70% of operating dollars are spent on instruction**

- InSite, South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/>.

## **Our district’s policy is an operating reserve equal to one month’s expenses**

- “Financial Analysis of the School District’s Funds,” Financial section, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.
- Kai Nelson, Office of Management and Budget, City of Greenville.
- “Undesignated fund balance,” Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Greenville County: [http://www.greenvillecounty.org/Finance\\_Division/Financial\\_Report\\_16.asp](http://www.greenvillecounty.org/Finance_Division/Financial_Report_16.asp).

## **State rank in per pupil expenditures**

- “Per-pupil expenditures adjusted for regional cost differences,” School Finance table, Quality Counts 2017, Education Week: <http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2017/01/04/>.

## **There are several reasons why most private schools spend less per pupil...**

- South Carolina State Report Cards.
- Miscellaneous sources.

# Public School Funding

## ***[percentage] funding to operate our school district comes from the state***

- "Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance," Financial section, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.

## ***K-12 education accounts for the largest share of the state General Fund budget***

- "K-12 Public Education Appropriations & Expenditures" (Dept. of Ed. General Fund Expenditures) and "Expenditures by Functional Group" (General Funds Total), Historical Analyses, November 30, 2016, South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.

## ***The Education Lottery provides a small amount of funding for K-12 education***

- "Education Lottery Appropriations," "K-12 Education Appropriations & Expenditures," "Supplemental Appropriations to the State Department of Education," "Capital Reserve Fund Appropriations to the State Department of Education," Historical Analyses, November 30, 2016, South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.

## ***Including all sources of funding and accounting for inflation, total per pupil operating revenue...***

- "Revenue Per Pupil Report by School District," October 3, 2016, SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ>.
- "Gross Domestic Product Implicit Price Deflator," Third Quarter, 2009=100; February 2017, Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED), Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/GDPDEF>.
- "After Nearly a Decade, School Investments Still Way Down in Some States," October 20, 2016, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: <http://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/after-nearly-a-decade-school-investments-still-way-down-in-some-states>.

## ***Tax rates are relatively low.***

- "Supportive Information for FY Ending June 30, 2015, Assessed Valuation and Mills Levied as of December 31, 2014," South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/historical-data/assessed-valuation-and-millage-rates/>.
- "Taxes in South Carolina," Tax Foundation, <http://taxfoundation.org/state-tax-climate/south-carolina>.

## ***Property taxes on your home do not pay for school operations.***

- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- Greenville County Tax Notice, 2012.

## ***The State limits the ability of school boards to raise local revenue***

- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- Point-of-Sale bill passed in the 2011 session of the General Assembly.
- "Property Tax and Millage Information" and "2015-2016 Projected General Fund Revenue Budget," Greenville County Schools FY16 General Fund Budget: <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.
- "2016-2017 General Fund Projected Revenue Budget," Greenville County Schools FY17 General Fund Budget: <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.

## ***Building money cannot be spent for operations.***

- Jeff Knotts, Chief Financial Officer, Greenville County Schools.

### ***Charter Schools are publicly-funded schools***

- Part 1B, Section 1 – Dept. of Education, General Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2016-17, Ratified Version, South Carolina General Assembly: [http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121\\_2015-2016/appropriations2016/tab16ndx.php](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121_2015-2016/appropriations2016/tab16ndx.php).
- South Carolina Public Charter School District.

## Specific Problems with State Funding for Public Education

### ***State funding for K-12 education is complicated and not reliable***

- Education Finance Act of 1977.
- Education Improvement Act of 1984.
- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- “History of EFA Base Student Cost and Inflation Factor,” SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office.
- “General Fund Revenue Forecast,” SC Board of Economic Advisors, SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/reports/forecast>.

### ***The Education Finance Act (EFA), the “base student cost,” is rarely fully funded by the state***

- Education Finance Act of 1977.
- “Education Finance Act Inflation Factor and Base Student Cost,” South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ>.

### ***Education Improvement Act (EIA) revenue has grown steadily...***

- Education Improvement Act of 1984.
- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- State legislative act in 2007 that eliminated the remainder of the sales tax on groceries.
- “General Fund Revenue Forecast,” South Carolina Board of Economic Advisors, South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/reports/forecast>.

### ***Property tax relief has reduced state and local funding available...***

- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- “General Fund Revenue Forecast,” South Carolina Board of Economic Advisors, South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/reports/forecast>.
- Jeff Knotts, Chief Financial Officer, Greenville County Schools.

### ***South Carolina has the oldest school bus fleet in the nation***

- South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 59-67-580(A) .
- “School Bus Purchase Appropriations,” Historical Analyses, SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.
- “SC buys old school buses from Kentucky for \$328,903,” Greenville Online, May 25, 2010.
- Transportation Dept., Greenville County Schools.
- South Carolina Dept. of Education.

# Academic Achievement

## **NAEP: Only true state-to-state comparison**

- “The Nation’s Report Card State Snapshot Reports,” South Carolina, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>.

## **Third-grade reading...**

- “Test Results 2015-16, Greenville County Schools, February 2017,” Presentation by Dr. Jason McCreary, February 14, 2017 School Board Committee of the Whole, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.boarddocs.com/sc/greenville/Board.nsf/Public>.
- “2016 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessments (SC READY) Test Scores,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/sc-ready/2016/>.

## **...enrolled in AP or IB programs**

- “Enrolled in an AP/IB Program” and “Successful in an AP/IB Program,” “Opportunities” section, State Report Card, Greenville County Schools, South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards/2016/>.

## **Silver or above certificates on ACT WorkKeys**

- “Test Results 2015-16, Greenville County Schools, February 2017,” Presentation by Dr. Jason McCreary, February 14, 2017 School Board Committee of the Whole, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.boarddocs.com/sc/greenville/Board.nsf/Public>.
- “ACT WorkKeys Test Scores,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/act-workkeys-test-scores/>.
- “Stand up for a Skilled Workforce,” ACT: [http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/NCRC\\_Employer\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/NCRC_Employer_Brochure.pdf).

## **High school graduation rate**

- “Greenville County Schools 2016 Graduation Rate, January 2017,” Presentation by Dr. Jason McCreary, February 14, 2017, School Board Committee of the Whole, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.boarddocs.com/sc/greenville/Board.nsf/Public>

## **All high school juniors take the ACT**

- “Test Results 2015-16, Greenville County Schools, February 2017,” Presentation by Dr. Jason McCreary, February 14, 2017 School Board Committee of the Whole, Greenville County Schools: <http://www.boarddocs.com/sc/greenville/Board.nsf/Public>.
- “South Carolina Public School District Distribution, 2016 Mean ACT Scores for Graduating Seniors with Mean Composite Score Comparison to 2015,” South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/sat/>.
- “2016 State Percent of High School Graduates Tested, Average Composite Score, and Percent Meeting Benchmarks by Subject,” The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2016 National, ACT: [http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/CCCR\\_National\\_2016.pdf](http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/CCCR_National_2016.pdf).

## **Greenville SAT scores...**

- “South Carolina Public School District Distribution, 2016 Mean SAT Scores for Graduating Seniors with Score Comparisons to 2015 Results,” South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/sat/>.
- “Public Schools Table 3: Mean SAT Critical Reading, Mathematics and Writing Scores by State with Changes for Selected Years,” The College Board.