

Facts & Figures on our Public Schools

Sources



Public Education Partners
Greenville County

Greenville County Schools Quick Facts

Number of students

45-day Active Headcount (2017-18), South Carolina Dept. of Education:
<https://ed.sc.gov/data/other/student-counts/active-student-headcounts/>.

Number of teachers

Greenville County Schools State Report Card, South Carolina Dept. of Education:
<https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>.

Number of schools and centers

“Schools,” Greenville County Schools website: <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/>.

School district size ranking

Greenville County Schools State Report Card, South Carolina Dept. of Education:
<https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>.

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>.

Increased economic activity

- Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin metro area, Class of 2015, The Graduation Effect, Alliance for Excellent Education: <http://impact.all4ed.org/>.

Jobs added since great recession

- “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, Nation

- “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, 2012-16 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, 2012-16 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: <https://all4ed.org/reports-factsheets/saving-futures-saving-dollars-the-impact-of-education-on-crime-reduction-and-earnings-2/>.
- “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 chart

- Per pupil spending - InSite, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/in-ite/>.
- Per inmate spending, County - County Records Manager, Greenville County Detention Center.
- Per inmate spending, State - “Cost per Inmate,” Statistical Reports – Budgets and Expenditures, 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: <https://all4ed.org/reports-factsheets/well-and-well-off-decreasing-medicaid-and-health-care-costs-by-increasing-educational-attainment/>.

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: http://stateofthesouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/MDC_StateOfTheSouth_web.pdf.

Public School Teachers

Number of college graduates eligible for teacher certification is declining.

- “South Carolina Annual Educator Supply and Demand Report,” January 2018, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement: <https://www.cerra.org/research.html>.
- “Students Graduating with a Bachelor's Degree Eligible for Teacher Certification,” Data and Publications - CHE Document Catalog Search, 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.

- Maintaining an Initial Certificate, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/maintaining-certification/maintaining-an-initial-certificate/>.
- Certification Regulations, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/certification-legislation-and-policy/certification-regulations/>.
- 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.

- Maintaining Certification – Renewal, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/maintaining-certification/renewal/#Requirements>.
- Certification Regulations, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/certification-legislation-and-policy/certification-regulations/>.
- Certification, Greenville County Schools: <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Employees/main.asp?titleid=certification>.
- 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.

Average 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/>.

State minimum salaries rank low in the Southeast.

- “State Teacher Minimum Salary Schedule,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/historical-data/teacher-salary-schedules/>.
- See Appendix for sources for minimum salaries for other southeastern states.

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>.

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: <https://www.cerra.org/research.html>.

Public School Spending

Our district spends....

- In\$ite, South Carolina Department of Education website: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/>
- Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: https://www.bls.gov/regions/west/data/consumerpriceindex_us_table.pdf.

71% of operating dollars are spent on instruction.

- In\$ite, South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/>.

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

- “Financial Analysis of the School District’s Funds,” “Financial,” “Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2017,” Greenville County Schools, p. 21: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.
- Office of Management and Budget, City of Greenville.
- “Comprehensive Annual Financial Report,” Greenville County: <http://www.greenvillegov.org/FinanceDivision/FinancialReport16.aspx>.

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 (“with disabilities” percentage): <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>.
- SC Ready test scores (percent limited English proficient): <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/sc-ready/2017/>.
- Miscellaneous sources.

Public School Funding

Percent of funding to operate our school district that comes from the state.

- "Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances," Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2017, 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" and "Expenditures by Functional Group," Historical Analyses, November 30, 2017, 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, 2017, South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.

Including all sources of funding, total per pupil operating revenue...

- "Revenue Per Pupil Report by School District," November 6, 2017, South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ/revperpupil>.
- GDP Implicit Price Deflator, Third Quarter, 2009=100; March 2018, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce; Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED), Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/GDPDEF>.
- Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor:
https://www.bls.gov/regions/west/data/consumerpriceindex_us_table.pdf.
- "A Punishing Decade for School Funding," November 29, 2017, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/a-punishing-decade-for-school-funding>.

The total school tax rate is relatively low.

- "Assessed Valuation and Millage Rates, FY ending June 30, 2016," South Carolina Dept. of Education:
<http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/historical-data/assessed-valuation-and-millage-rates/>.

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

- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- Greenville County Tax Notice, 2017.

The State limits the ability of school boards to raise local millage.

- Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.
- Point-of-Sale bill passed in the 2011 session of the General Assembly.
- South Carolina Constitution, Article X, Section 14, Item 7(a):
<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/scconstitution/scconst.php>.

- “2017-2018 Projected General Fund Revenue Budget, Second Reading” Greenville County Schools, <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.

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

Specific Issues 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.
- Budget Bills, South Carolina Legislature: <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/budget.php>.

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

- “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 over the last seven years.

- “General Fund Revenue Forecast,” SC Board of Economic Advisors, SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/reports/forecast>.

Property tax relief has reduced state and local funding available for public education.

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

The state does not meet its 15-year bus replacement cycle law.

- 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.
- South Carolina Dept. of Education (*age of Greenville County Schools bus fleet*).
- Transportation Dept., Greenville County Schools (*breakdowns or failures to start data*).

Academic Achievement

NAEP: Only true state-to-state comparison.

- The Nation's Report Card, Data Tools – State Profiles, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES):
<https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/profiles/stateprofile?chort=1&sub=MAT&sj=&sfj=NP&st=MN&year=2017R3>.

Third-grade reading.

- "2017 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessments (SC READY) Test Scores," South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/sc-ready/2017/>.

Enrolled in AP or IB programs and successful.

- Greenville County Schools State Report Card, South Carolina Department of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards/2017/>.

Percent Silver or above certificates, ACT WorkKeys.

- "ACT WorkKeys Test Scores," South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/act-workkeys-test-scores/>.
- "South Carolina Department of Education Releases Results of Career Readiness Assessment," South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/news-releases/south-carolina-department-of-education-releases-results-of-career-readiness-assessment/>.
- "Test Results 2015-16," Presentation by Dr. Jason McCreary of Greenville County Schools to the School Board, February 2017.
- "Stand up for a Skilled Workforce," ACT:
http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/NCRC_Employer_Brochure.pdf.

High school graduation rate.

- Greenville County Schools State Report Card, South Carolina Department of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards/2017/>.
- "Individual State Profile – Standard High School Graduation Requirements (50-state)," Education Commission of the States, <http://ecs.force.com/mbdata/mbprofall?Rep=HS01>.
- Dr. Jason McCreary, Accountability and Quality Assurance Dept., Greenville County Schools.

ACT scores.

- "South Carolina Public School District Distribution, 2017 Mean ACT Scores for Graduating Seniors with Mean Composite Score Comparison to 2016," South Carolina Department of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/act/>.
- "2017 State Percent of ACT-Tested High School Graduates, Average Composite Score, and Percent Meeting Benchmarks by Subject," "The Condition of College and Career Readiness, 2017, National," pp. 14-15, ACT:
https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/cccr2017/CCCR_National_2017.pdf.
- "Average ACT Scores by State, Graduating Class 2017," The Condition of College and Career Readiness, 2017, ACT: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/research/condition-of-college-and-career-readiness-2017.html>.

- “The ACT Profile Report – State, Graduating Class 2017, South Carolina,” ACT: https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/cccr2017/P_41_419999_S_S_N00_A_CT-GCPR_South_Carolina.pdf.
- “Class of 2017 Shows Progress on Annual ACT Readiness Report,” Sept. 7, 2017, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/news-releases/class-of-2017-shows-progress-on-annual-act-readiness-report/>.

SAT scores.

- “South Carolina Public School District Distribution, Mean SAT Scores for 2017 Graduating Seniors,” South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/sat/>.
- “South Carolina Students Outpace Nation on SAT and AP Scores,” Sept. 26, 2017, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/news-releases/south-carolina-students-outpace-nation-on-sat-and-ap-scores/>.

APPENDIX

Sources – State Minimum Teacher Salaries

State	Source
Alabama	https://www.alsde.edu/sec/leafa/Pages/home.aspx https://www.alsde.edu/sec/leafa/Pages/salary-all.aspx?navtext=Salary%20Schedules
Arkansas	http://arkansased.gov/ (Arkansas Code, Title 6 Education, Section 6-17-2403) http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/fiscal-and-administrative-services/human-resources
Georgia	http://www.gadoe.org/Finance-and-Business-Operations/Budget-Services/Pages/default.aspx
Kentucky	https://education.ky.gov/districts/FinRept/Pages/School%20District%20Personnel%20Information.aspx
Mississippi	http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OSFS/TSS
North Carolina	http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/finance/salary/
Tennessee	https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/meetingfiles/5-24-17 IV A State Minimum Salary Schedule FY 2017-18 Attachment 1.pdf
West Virginia	https://wvde.us/finance-and-administration/school-finance/data/2017-2018/