

# FACTS & FIGURES ON OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## GREENVILLE COUNTY AND SOUTH CAROLINA

- *SOURCES* -

APRIL 2019

A project of



**Public Education Partners**

Greenville County

# 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**

Table 1A "Allocated Teacher Positions," Greenville County Schools "Educator Supply and Demand Survey" submission to the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention & Advancement (CERRA).

## **Number of schools and centers**

"Greenville County Schools - Schools Home Page," Greenville County Schools, <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Schools/main.asp?titleid=schoolshome>

## **School district size ranking**

Table 215.30, "Enrollment, poverty, and federal funds for the 120 largest school districts, by enrollment size in 2015: Selected years, 2014-15 through 2017," National Center for Education Statistics: [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current\\_tables.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp)

# EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

## **Education drives economic prosperity**

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>

Carnevale, Anthony P., et al. "Three Educational Pathways to Good Jobs: High School, Middle Skills, and Bachelor's Degree," Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2018: <https://cew.georgetown.edu/cew-reports/3pathways/>.

## **Our per capita income is 89% of the nation's.**

Table "CAINC1 Personal Income Summary: Personal Income, Population, Per Capita Personal Income," Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce: <https://www.bea.gov/>.

Table "SAINC1 – 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**

Table S2301 "Employment Status," Population 25 to 64 years, Greenville County, 2013-17 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, 2013-17 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, American Fact Finder, U.S. Census Bureau: <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

In\$ite, South Carolina State Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/in-ite/>.

County Records Manager, Greenville County Detention Center

"Cost per Inmate," Statistical Reports – Budgets and Expenditures, South Carolina Dept. of Corrections: <http://www.doc.sc.gov/research/statistics.jsp>.

"Saving Futures, Saving Dollars: The Impact of Education on Crime Reduction and Earnings," September 2013, Alliance for Excellent Education, p. 2: <https://all4ed.org/reports-factsheets/saving-futures-saving-dollars-the-impact-of-education-on-crime-reduction-and-earnings-2/>.

"Well and Well-Off: Decreasing Medicaid and Health-Care Costs by Increasing Educational Attainment," July 2013, Alliance for Excellent Education, p. 4: <https://all4ed.org/reports-factsheets/well-and-well-off-decreasing-medicare-and-health-care-costs-by-increasing-educational-attainment/>.

"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](http://stateofthesouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/MDC_StateOfTheSouth_web.pdf).

# PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

## **The number of college graduates eligible for teacher certification is declining.**

“Key Teacher Data from the 2018-19 SC Educator Supply and Demand Report,” Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement: <https://www.cerra.org/supply-and-demand.html>.

“Actual and Projected School Age Population by School Type,” South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ>.

“South Carolina Annual Educator Supply & Demand Report,” multiple years, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement: <https://www.cerra.org/supply-and-demand.html>.

## **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 & Guidelines,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/certification-legislation-and-policy/certification-regulations/>.

“Certification,” Greenville County Schools: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/employees/classification/certified-employees/certification?authuser=0>.

“Teacher Evaluation – ADEPT/PAS-T,” Greenville County Schools: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/employees/classification/certified-employees/certification/teacher-evaluation-adeptpas-t?authuser=0>.

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

“Professional Certificate Renewal,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/maintaining-certification/renewal/#Requirements>

“Certification Regulations & Guidelines,” South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/certification-legislation-and-policy/certification-regulations/>.

“Certification,” Greenville County Schools: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/employees/classification/certified-employees/certification?authuser=0>.

“Professional Certificate Renewal,” Greenville County Schools: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/employees/classification/certified-employees/certification/professional-certificate-renewal?authuser=0>.

**Teachers in South Carolina do not belong to unions and do not receive tenure.** Multiple sources.

## **The average salary in the state is below the Southeast’s; our school district’s is above.**

“Southeastern Teacher Salary Average,” South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ>.

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

**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/>.

“National Board Certification Incentive,” Proviso 1A.72, H.4950 - General Appropriations Bill, Fiscal Year 2018-19, South Carolina Legislature: [https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess122\\_2017-2018/appropriations2018/gab4950.php](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess122_2017-2018/appropriations2018/gab4950.php).

**State minimum salaries rank low or in the middle 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.**

Teri Brinkman, Executive Director of Strategic Communications and Engagement, Greenville County Schools.

“Teacher Salary Schedule,” Greenville County Schools: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/employees/resources/payroll/salaries-and-pay-schedules?authuser=0>.

**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 \$9,650 per pupil.**

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

## **72% of operating dollars are spent on instruction.**

In\$ite, South Carolina State 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," *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2017*, Greenville County Schools, p. 21: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/Departments/main.asp?titleid=finance>.

Kai Nelson, Office of Management and Budget, City of Greenville.

"South Carolina Notes to the Financial Statements," *Greenville County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*, <http://www.greenvillecounty.org/FinanceDivision/FinancialReport16.aspx>.

## **Our state ranks below the middle on per pupil expenditures.**

*Ranking of the States 2018 and Estimates of School Statistics 2019*, National Education Association: <http://www.nea.org/home/44479.htm>.

"2016 Public Elementary-Secondary Education Finance Data," U.S. Census Bureau: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2016/econ/school-finances/secondary-education-finance.html>.

"Per-pupil expenditures adjusted for regional cost differences (2015)," School Finance table, *Quality Counts 2018*, Education Week: <https://www.edweek.org/ew/collections/quality-counts-2018-state-finance/state-grades-on-school-finance-map-and.html>.

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

Miscellaneous sources.

# PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

## **63% of the funds to operate our school district comes from the state.**

"Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances," *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2018*, 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*, December 31, 2018, 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*, December 31, 2018, South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.

## **Accounting for inflation, total per pupil operating revenue now exceeds the 2008 level; however, state funding still lags.**

"Revenue Per Pupil Report by School District," South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/educ/revperpupil>.

Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor: <https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUUR0000SA0>.

## **Our school district's total school tax rate is relatively low.**

"Assessed Valuation and Millage Rates, FY ending June 30, 2017," South Carolina Dept. of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/finance/financial-data/historical-data/assessed-valuation-and-millage-rates/>.

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

Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.

Greenville County Tax Notice, 2017.

Jeff Knotts, Executive Director of Finance, Greenville County Schools.

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

Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.

South Carolina Constitution, Article X, Section 14, Item 7(a): <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/scconstitution/scconst.php>.

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

General Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2018-19, Ratified Version, Part 1B, Section 1 – Dept. of Education, South Carolina Legislature: [https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess122\\_2017-2018/appropriations2018/tab18ndx.php](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess122_2017-2018/appropriations2018/tab18ndx.php).

South Carolina Public Charter School District.

# ISSUES WITH STATE FUNDING

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

Education Finance Act of 1977.

Budget bills, South Carolina Legislature: <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/budget.php>.

Education Improvement Act of 1984.

Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.

## **The Education Finance Act (EFA)–the base student cost–is rarely fully funded.**

“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 eight years.**

Education Improvement Act of 1984.

“General Fund Revenue Forecast,” South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/econ/reports/forecast>.

## **Property tax relief has reduced state and local funds available for public education.**

Act 388, State of South Carolina, 2006.

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

Jeff Knotts, Executive Director of Finance, 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).

South Carolina’s most flammable school buses are finally off the road,” *The Post and Courier*, 2 Jan. 2019: [https://www.postandcourier.com/news/south-carolina-s-most-flammable-school-buses-are-finally-off/article\\_ad7ba788-fd64-11e8-a030-fbb6d095e7a6.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/news/south-carolina-s-most-flammable-school-buses-are-finally-off/article_ad7ba788-fd64-11e8-a030-fbb6d095e7a6.html).

School Bus Purchase Appropriations,” *Historical Analyses*, December 31, 2018, SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office: <http://rfa.sc.gov/budget>.

South Carolina Dept. of Education.

Transportation Dept., Greenville County Schools.



# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

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

"The Nation's Report Card," (Snapshot Reports), 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 - meet or exceed expectations...**

South Carolina State Report Card data files, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://screportcards.com/> (Scores are for students who have been continuously enrolled from the 45th day of school through the first day of testing—the scores used in the state report card.)

## **31% of high school juniors and seniors enrolled in AP or IB programs.**

Jeff McCoy, Associate Superintendent for Academics, Greenville County Schools

"Assessment Results - Placement Exams," Greenville County Schools state report card, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/college-career-readiness/placement-exams/?q=eT0yMDE4JnQ9RCZzaWQ9MjMwMTAwMA>.

## **Silver or above on Ready to Work assessment...**

"Assessment Results - Career Readiness Assessments," Greenville County Schools state report card, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/college-career-readiness/career-readiness-assessments/?q=eT0yMDE4JnQ9RCZzaWQ9MjMwMTAwMA>.

## **High school graduation rate...**

"Graduation Rate," Greenville County Schools state report card, South Carolina Dept. of Education: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/graduation-rate/?q=eT0yMDE4JnQ9RCZzaWQ9MjMwMTAwMA>.

"50-State Comparison: High School Graduation Requirements," Education Commission of the States, <http://ecs.force.com/mbdata/mbprofall?Rep=HS01>.

Dr. Jason McCreary, Director of Accountability and Quality Assurance, Greenville County Schools.

## **2016-17 was the last year high school juniors were required to take the ACT.**

"South Carolina Public School District Distribution, Mean ACT Scores for 2018 Graduating Seniors with Mean Composite Score Comparison to 2017," South Carolina Department of Education: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/act/>.

"2018 State Percent of ACT-Tested High School Graduates, Average Composite Score, and Percent Meeting Benchmarks by Subject," *The Condition of College and Career Readiness, National 2018*, ACT: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/research/reports/act-publications/condition-of-college-and-career-readiness-2018.html>.

## **Greenville and SAT scores are above the national average.**

"South Carolina Public School District Distribution, Mean SAT Scores for 2018 Graduating Seniors," South Carolina Department of Education: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/sat/>.

"The North Carolina SAT and AP Reports," Public Schools of North Carolina: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/reporting/sat/>.

## APPENDIX

### Sources - State Minimum Teacher Salaries

Alabama: "FY 2019 Foundation Program, State Minimum Salary Schedule, Classroom Teachers," Alabama State Dept. of Education: <https://www.alsde.edu/sec/leafa/Pages/home.aspx>.

Arkansas: Arkansas Code, Title 6 Education, Section 6-17-2403: <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/legal/legal-links>.

Georgia: "State Salary Schedule," Georgia Dept. of Education: <http://www.gadoe.org/Finance-and-BusinessOperations/Budget-Services/Pages/default.aspx>.

Kentucky: "Kentucky's Historical Minimum Salary Schedule," Kentucky Dept. of Education: <https://education.ky.gov/districts/FinRept/Pages/School%20District%20Personnel%20Information.aspx>.

Mississippi: "FY2018-19 MAEP Salary Schedule," Mississippi Dept. of Education: <http://www.mdek12.org/OSF/TeacherSalarySchedule>.

North Carolina: "Fiscal Year 2018-19 North Carolina Public School Salary Schedules," North Carolina Dept. of Public Instruction: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/finance/salary/>.

Tennessee: "State Salary Schedule, Licensed Instructional Personnel," Tennessee Dept. of Education: [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](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: "Teachers' State Minimum Salary Schedule, State Total Salary (Basic plus Equity)," West Virginia Dept. of Education: <https://wvde.us/finance-and-administration/school-finance/data/2018-2019/>.