County Facts: Charleston County, SC
Population 401,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Charleston County 4.3%, SC 4.1%, United States 3.5%
- Poverty rate: Charleston County 14.5%, SC 15.1%, United States 16%
- Median family income (000s): Charleston County $58, SC $49, United States $49
- Population growth 2000-2017: Charleston County 30%, SC 16%, United States 7%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Charleston County 13%, SC 10%, United States 7%
- Farming share of workforce: Charleston County 1.7%, SC 0.7%, United States 1.1%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Charleston County 5.5%, SC 5.0%, United States 4.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Charleston County 45%, SC 46%, United States 43%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Charleston County 15%, SC 14%, United States 15%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Charleston County 6%, SC 5%, United States 6%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Charleston County 24%, SC 20%, United States 20%
- Percent landing in jail: Charleston County 1.9%, SC 1.5%, United States 1.5%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Charleston County $5.3, SC $5.4, United States $5.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- College Of Charleston (public)
  - Low-income share of students: 4.2%
  - Low-income student success rate: 49.0%

- South Carolina 4-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 8.2%
  - Low-income student success rate: 51.3%

- U.S. 4-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 9.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 48.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Trident Tech College (public)
  - Low-income share of students: 16.8%
  - Low-income student success rate: 25.5%

- South Carolina 2-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 19.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 22.7%

- U.S. 2-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 22.7%
  - Low-income student success rate: 15.6%

*: Data refers to the full college system, not just this campus. †: In nearby county

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Charleston County, SC = 27%; United States = 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Charleston County, SC = 5%; United States = 5%
- Percent over age 65: Charleston County, SC = 17%; United States = 3%
- Percent college grad: Charleston County, SC = 28%; United States = 21%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Charleston County, SC = 112; United States = 82
- Life expectancy (years): Charleston County, SC = 83.5; United States = 83.2
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10K residents): Charleston County, SC = 17; United States = 15

Charleston County, SC | SC | United States
Definitions and Sources

The Local Economy
- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- Manufacturing share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Farming share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (BLS LAUS)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out
- Percent graduating any college (2-yr or 4-yr, Tax Data 2, N/A for some counties)
- Percent reaching upper middle-class (top 20% of the U.S. income distribution, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent achieving American Dream (share of local low-income kids—i.e. those with 25th-income-percentile parents—who reach the top 20% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent (of local female kids) giving birth as a teen (Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent landing in jail (percent of local kids in jail on 1 April 2010, Tax Data 1 and 2010 Census, N/A for some counties)
- Local school expenditure per student (in public schools, NCES, N/A for some counties)

Local Colleges and Upward Mobility
- Low-income share of students (share of age-18-22 students with bottom-20% parents, Tax Data 2)
- Low-income student success rate (share of low-income age-18-22 students who reach the top 40% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 2)

Local Demographics
- Percent Black (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent Hispanic (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent over age 65 (2010 Census)
- Percent college grad (4-yr college, 2012-2016 ACS)
- Crime rate (serious violent and property arrests per 10,000 residents, FBI Uniform Crime Reports, N/A for some counties)
- Life expectancy (at age 40, Tax Data 3, N/A for some counties)
- Opioid deaths (per 10,000 residents in 2017, CDC, N/A for some counties and some counties report population weighted commuting zone average)

Sources Legend
- ACS: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2012-2016
- CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database.
- Census: U.S. Census Bureau