

SOUTH CAROLINA VITAL STATISTICS

AREA

Land: 31,113 square miles (40th)

Water: 1,896 square miles (21st)

Coast: 185 miles (11th)

Shoreline: 2,876 miles (11th)

DIMENSIONS

285 miles East to West

225 miles North to South

LOCATION

Between north latitude:

32° N to 35° 15' N

Between west longitude:

78° 30' W to 83° 30' W

BORDERING STATES

North Carolina

Georgia

TIME ZONE

Eastern Time Zone

AVERAGE ELEVATION

350 feet above sea level

HIGHEST POINT

Sassafras Mountain, 3,554 feet (29th)

LOWEST POINT

Atlantic coastline, sea level (3rd)

HIGHEST TEMPERATURE

111°, Fahrenheit, June 28, 1954,

at Camden

LOWEST TEMPERATURE

-19°, Fahrenheit, January 21, 1985,

at Caesar's Head

ADMITTED TO UNION

May 23, 1788 (8th)

NICKNAME

Palmetto State

CAPITAL

Columbia

POPULATION (2019 EST.)

5,148,714 (23rd)

LARGEST CITIES (2019 EST.)

Charleston (137,566), Columbia (131,674),
Mount Pleasant (91,684), Rock Hill (75,048),
Greenville (70,635), Summerville (52,549),
Hilton Head Island (39,861), Sumter (39,642),
Florence (38,531)

OLDEST TOWN

Charleston, 1670

GEOGRAPHIC CENTER

Richland County, 13 miles southeast
of Columbia

NUMBER OF COUNTIES

46

LARGEST COUNTY

Horry County, 1,133 square miles

SMALLEST COUNTY

McCormick County, 360 square miles

MOST POPULOUS COUNTY (2019 EST.)

Greenville County, 523,542

LEAST POPULOUS COUNTY (2019 EST.)

McCormick County, 9,463

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SYMBOLS



AMPHIBIAN

Spotted salamander (1999)

ANIMAL

White-tailed deer (1972)

BEVERAGE

Milk (1984)

BIRD

Carolina wren (1948)

BOTANICAL GARDEN

South Carolina Botanical
Garden (1992)

BUTTERFLY

Eastern tiger swallowtail
(1994)

DANCE

The shag (1984)

DOG

Boykin spaniel
(1985)

FISH

Striped bass (1972)

FLOWER

Carolina (yellow) Jessamine
(1924)

FOLK DANCE

Square dance (1994)

FRUIT

Peach (1984)

GAME BIRD

Wild turkey (1976)

GEMSTONE

Amethyst (1969)

GRASS

Indian grass (2001)

HOSPITALITY BEVERAGE

Tea (1995)

INSECT

Carolina mantis (1988)

MOTTO

Dum Spiro Spero
("While I Breathe, I Hope");
Animis Opibusque Parati
("Prepared in Mind and
Resources")

MUSIC

Spiritual (1999)

NICKNAME

The Palmetto State

OPERA

"Porgy and Bess"
(2001)

POPULAR MUSIC

Beach music (2001)

REPTILE

Loggerhead turtle
(1988)

SHELL

Lettered olive
(1984)

SONGS

"Carolina" (1911) and
"South Carolina on My Mind"
(1984)

SPIDER

Carolina wolf spider
(2000)

STONE

Blue granite (1969)

TREE

Palmetto (1939)

WILDFLOWER

Goldenrod (2003)



SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

County	Year Founded	2019 (Est.) Population	County Seat	Named For
Abbeville	1785	24,527	Abbeville	Abbeville, France
Aiken	1871	170,872	Aiken	William Aiken, president of the South Carolina Railroad
Allendale	1919	8,688	Allendale	Allen family, original settlers
Anderson	1826	202,558	Anderson	Col. Robert Anderson, Revolutionary War soldier
Bamberg	1897	14,066	Bamberg	Bamberg family, original settlers
Barnwell	1800	20,866	Barnwell	Gen. John Barnwell, Revolutionary War soldier
Beaufort	1769	192,122	Beaufort	Henry, Duke of Beaufort, one of the Lords Proprietors
Berkeley	1682	227,907	Moncks Corner	John, Lord Berkeley, one of the Lords Proprietors
Calhoun	1908	14,553	St. Matthews	John C. Calhoun, statesman
Charleston	1769	411,406	Charleston	King Charles II of England
Cherokee	1897	57,300	Gaffney	Cherokee Indians
Chester	1785	32,244	Chester	Chester, Pennsylvania
Chesterfield	1785	45,650	Chesterfield	Chesterfield, Pennsylvania
Clarendon	1785	33,745	Manning	Earl of Clarendon, one of the Lords Proprietors
Colleton	1682	37,677	Walterboro	Sir John Colleton, one of the Lords Proprietors
Darlington	1785	66,618	Darlington	Uncertain
Dillon	1910	30,479	Dillon	Dillon family, original settlers
Dorchester	1897	162,809	St. George	Dorchester, Massachusetts
Edgefield	1785	27,260	Edgefield	Fanciful
Fairfield	1785	22,347	Winnsboro	Fanciful
Florence	1888	138,293	Florence	Florence Harllee, daughter of General W. W. Harllee

Georgetown	1769	62,680	Georgetown	King George II
Greenville	1786	523,542	Greenville	Isaac Green, mill owner in Reedy River
Greenwood	1897	70,811	Greenwood	Fanciful
Hampton	1878	19,222	Hampton	General Wade Hampton, soldier, statesman, governor, U.S. senator
Horry	1801	354,081	Conway	Colonel Peter Horry, Revolutionary War soldier
Jasper	1912	30,073	Ridgeland	Sergeant William Jasper, Revolutionary War soldier
Kershaw	1791	66,551	Camden	Colonel Joseph Kershaw, Revolutionary War soldier
Lancaster	1785	98,012	Lancaster	Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Laurens	1785	67,493	Laurens	Henry Laurens, statesman
Lee	1902	16,828	Bishopville	General Robert E. Lee
Lexington	1804	298,750	Lexington	Battle of Lexington, Massachusetts
McCormick	1916	9,463	McCormick	Cyrus H. McCormick, inventor of the reaper
Marion	1800	30,657	Marion	General Francis Marion, Revolutionary War soldier
Marlboro	1785	26,118	Bennettsville	John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough
Newberry	1785	38,440	Newberry	An early settler
Oconee	1868	79,546	Walhalla	Indian name of a mountain
Orangeburg	1769	86,175	Orangeburg	Prince of Orange, husband of Princess Anne, daughter of George II
Pickens	1826	126,884	Pickens	General Andrew Pickens, Revolutionary War soldier
Richland	1785	415,759	Columbia	Descriptive
Saluda	1895	20,473	Saluda	Saluda River
Spartanburg	1785	319,785	Spartanburg	Early settlers called the area "Spartan Country"
Sumter	1800	106,721	Sumter	General Thomas Sumter, Revolutionary War soldier
Union	1785	27,316	Union	An old church by that name
Williamsburg	1785	30,368	Kingstree	Prince William, son of George II
York	1785	280,979	York	York, Pennsylvania

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNORS

PROPRIETARY GOVERNORS

Governor	Term of Office
William Sayle	1670-1671
Joseph West	1671-1672
Sir John Yeamans	1672-1674
Joseph West	1674-1682
Joseph Morton	1682-1684
Sir Richard Kyrle	1684
Joseph West	1684-1685
Robert Quarry	1685
Joseph Morton	1685-1686
James Colleton	1686-1690
Seth Sothell	1690-1692
Philip Ludwell	1692-1693
Thomas Smith	1693-1694
Joseph Blake	1694-1695
John Archdale	1695-1696
Joseph Blake	1696-1700
James Moore	1700-1703
Sir Nathaniel Johnson	1703-1709

Edward Tynte	1709-1710
Robert Gibbes	1710-1711
Charles Craven	1711-1717
Robert Johnson	1717-1719

ROYAL GOVERNORS

Governor	Term of Office
James Moore	1719-1721
Francis Nicholson	1721-1729
Robert Johnson	1729-1735
Thomas Broughton (Lt. Gov.)	1735-1737
William Bull (Lt. Gov.)	1737-1738
James Glen	1738-1756
William H. Lyttelton	1756-1760
Thomas Boone	1761-1764
William Bull II	1764-1766
Lord Charles Granville Montague	1766-1773
William Bull II	1773-1775
Lord William Campbell	1775

STATE GOVERNORS

Governor	Term of Office	Political Party
John Rutledge (President of State)	1776-1778	
Rawlins Lowndes (President of State)	1778-1779	
John Rutledge	1779-1782	
John Mathews	1782-1783	
Benjamin Guerard	1783-1785	
William Moultrie	1785-1787	Federalist
Thomas Pinckney	1787-1789	Federalist
Charles Pinckney	1789-1792	Federalist
William Moultrie	1792-1794	Federalist

Arnoldus Vander Horst	1794-1796	Federalist
Charles Pinckney	1796-1798	Federalist
Edward Rutledge	1798-1800	Federalist
John Drayton	1800-1802	Democratic-Republican
James Burchill Richardson	1802-1804	Democratic-Republican
Paul Hamilton	1804-1806	Democratic-Republican
Charles Pinckney	1806-1808	Democratic-Republican
John Drayton	1808-1810	Democratic-Republican
Henry Middleton	1810-1812	Democratic-Republican
Joseph Alston	1812-1814	Democratic-Republican
David Rogerson Williams	1814-1816	Democratic-Republican
Andrew Pickens	1816-1818	Democratic-Republican
John Geddes	1818-1820	Democratic-Republican
Thomas Bennett Jr.	1820-1822	Democratic-Republican
John Lyde Wilson	1822-1824	States' Rights Democrat
Richard Irvine Manning	1824-1826	Democratic-Republican
John Taylor	1826-1828	Democratic-Republican
Stephen Decatur Miller	1828-1830	Democratic-Republican
James Hamilton Jr.	1830-1832	Nullification Democrat
Robert Young Hayne	1832-1834	Nullification Democrat
George McDuffie	1834-1836	Nullification Democrat
Pierce Mason Butler	1836-1838	Democrat
Patrick Noble	1838-1840	States' Rights Democrat
Barnabus Kelet Henagan	1840	Democrat
John Peter Richardson II	1840-1842	Democrat
James Henry Hammond	1842-1844	States' Rights Democrat
William Aiken	1844-1846	States' Rights Democrat
David Johnson	1846-1848	Democrat
Whitemarsh Benjamin Seabrook	1848-1850	Democrat
John Hugh Means	1850-1852	States' Rights Democrat
John Lawrence Manning	1852-1854	States' Rights Democrat
James Hopkins Adams	1854-1856	Democrat
Robert Francis Withers Allston	1856-1858	Democrat
William Henry Gist	1858-1860	States' Rights Democrat
Francis Wilkinson Pickens	1860-1862	States' Rights Democrat
Milledge Luke Bonham	1862-1864	Confederate Democrat
Andrew Gordon Magrath	1864-1865	Confederate Democrat
Benjamin Franklin Perry	1865	Provisional Governor
James Lawrence Orr	1865-1868	Provisional Governor
Robert Kingston Scott	1868-1872	Republican
Franklin J. Moses Jr.	1872-1874	Republican
Daniel Henry Chamberlain	1874-1877	Republican

Wade Hampton III	1877-1879	Conservative Democrat
William Dunlap Simpson	1879-1880	Democrat
Thomas Bothwell Jeter	1880	Democrat
Johnson Hagood	1880-1882	Democrat
Hugh Smith Thompson	1882-1886	Democrat
John Calhoun Sheppard	1886	Democrat
John Peter Richardson III	1886-1890	Democrat
Benjamin Ryan Tillman	1890-1894	Democrat
John Gary Evans	1894-1897	Democrat
William Haselden Ellerbe	1897-1899	Democrat
Miles Benjamin McSweeney	1899-1903	Democrat
Duncan Clinch Heyward	1903-1907	Democrat
Martin Frederick Ansel	1907-1911	Democrat
Coleman Livingston Blease	1911-1915	Democrat
Charles Aurelius Smith	1915	Democrat
Richard Irvine Manning III	1915-1919	Democrat
Robert Archer Cooper	1919-1922	Democrat
Wilson Godfrey Harvey	1922-1923	Democrat
Thomas Gordon McLeod	1923-1927	Democrat
John Gardiner Richards	1927-1931	Democrat
Ibra Charles Blackwood	1931-1935	Democrat
Olin Dewitt Talmadge Johnston	1935-1939	Democrat
Burnett Rhett Maybank	1939-1941	Democrat
Joseph Emile Harley	1941-1942	Democrat
Richard Manning Jefferies	1942-1943	Democrat
Olin Dewitt Talmadge Johnston	1943-1945	Democrat
Ransome Judson Williams	1945-1947	Democrat
James Strom Thurmond	1947-1951	Democrat
James Francis Byrnes	1951-1955	Democrat
George Bell Timmerman	1955-1959	Democrat
Ernest Frederick Hollings	1959-1963	Democrat
Donald Stuart Russell	1963-1965	Democrat
Robert Evander McNair	1965-1971	Democrat
John Carl West	1971-1975	Democrat
James Burrows Edwards	1975-1979	Republican
Richard Wilson Riley	1979-1987	Democrat
Carroll Ashmore Campbell Jr.	1987-1995	Republican
David Muldrow Beasley	1995-1999	Republican
James H. Hodges	1999-2003	Democrat
Mark Sanford	2003-2011	Republican
Nimrata "Nikki" Randhawa Haley	2011-2017	Republican
Henry McMaster	2017-	Republican

SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

School	Founded	City	Type
Aiken Technical College	1972	Aiken	Public, Graduate
Allen University	1870	Columbia	Private, 4 year
Anderson University	1911	Anderson	Private, 4 year
Benedict College	1870	Columbia	Private, 4 year
Bob Jones University	1927	Greenville	Private, 4 year
Central Carolina Technical College	1963	Sumter	Public, 2 year
Charleston Southern University	1964	Charleston	Private, 4 year
Claffin University	1869	Orangeburg	Private, 4 year
Clemson University	1889	Clemson	Public, 4 year
Coastal Carolina University	1954	Conway	Public, 4 year
Coker University	1908	Hartsville	Private, 4 year
College of Charleston	1790	Charleston	Public, 4 year
Columbia Biblical Seminary	1936	Columbia	Seminary
Columbia College	1854	Columbia	Private, 4 year
Columbia International University	1923	Columbia	Private, 4 year
Converse College	1889	Spartanburg	Private, 4 year
Denmark Technical College	1969	Denmark	Public, 2 year
Erskine College	1839	Due West	Private, 4 year
Erskine Theological Seminary	1837	Due West	Seminary
Florence-Darlington Technical College	1964	Florence	Public, 2 year
Fortis College in Columbia	2010	Columbia	Private, 2 year

Francis Marion University	1970	Florence	Public, 4 year
Furman University	1826	Greenville	Private, 4 year
Greenville Technical College	1962	Greenville	Public, 2 year
	1996	Simpsonville	
	1996	Greer	
Horry-Georgetown Technical College	1966	Conway	Public, 2 year
	1966	Georgetown	
	1966	Myrtle Beach	
Lander University	1872	Greenwood	Public, 4 year
Limestone College	1845	Gaffney	Private, 4 year
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary	1830	Columbia	Seminary
Medical University of South Carolina	1824	Charleston	Public, Graduate
Midlands Technical College	1973	Columbia	Public, 2 year
	1963	Beltline	
Morris College	1908	Sumter	Private, 4 year
Newberry College	1856	Newberry	Private, 4 year
North Greenville University	1892	Tigerville	Private, 4 year
Northeastern Technical College	1968	Cheraw	Public, 2 year
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College	1968	Orangeburg	Public, 2 year
Piedmont Technical College	1966	Greenwood	Public, 2 year
Presbyterian College	1880	Clinton	Private, 4 year
Sherman College of Chiropractic	1973	Spartanburg	Private, Graduate
South Carolina State University	1896	Orangeburg	Public, 4 year
Southern Wesleyan University	1906	Central	Private, 4 year
Spartanburg Methodist College	1911	Spartanburg	Private, 2 year
Spartanburg Community College	1963	Spartanburg	Public, 2 year
Technical College of the Lowcountry	1968	Beaufort	Public, 2 year
The Citadel	1842	Charleston	Public, 4 year
Tri-County Technical College	1963	Pendleton	Public, 2 year
Trident Technical College	1962	North Charleston	Public, 2 year

	1982	Moncks Corner	
	1973	Charleston	
University of South Carolina	1801	Columbia	Public, 4 year
School of Law	1866	Columbia	Public, Graduate
School of Medicine	1977	Columbia	Public, Graduate
USC Aiken	1961	Aiken	Public, 4 year
USC Beaufort	1959	Beaufort	Public, 2 year
USC Lancaster	1959	Lancaster	Public, 2 year
USC Salkehatchie	1965	Allendale	Public, 2 year
		Walterboro	
USC Sumter	1966	Sumter	Public, 2 year
USC Union	1965	Union	Public, 2 year
USC Upstate	1967	Spartanburg	Public, 4 year
Voorhees College	1897	Denmark	Private, 4 year
Webster University	1915	St. Louis, Missouri	Private
Charleston Campus		North Charleston	Graduate
Columbia Campus		Columbia	Graduate
Fort Jackson		Columbia	Graduate
Greenville Campus		Greenville	Graduate
Myrtle Beach Campus		Myrtle Beach	Graduate
Shaw Air Force Base		Sumter	Graduate
Williamsburg Technical College	1971	Kingstree	Public, 2 year
Winthrop University	1886	Rock Hill	Public, 4 year
Wofford College	1854	Spartanburg	Private, 4 year
York Technical College	1964	Rock Hill	Public, 2 year