

Family and Youth

Family and youth indicators allow for assessing risk in a community, family, and school environments. These metrics can increase awareness of factors that predict unwanted outcomes for the largest sectors of the community.

Family Income

Income is generally used as a measure of the economic well-being of a community and a measure of how well residents of the community are living. Income is measured variously to capture subtle but important differences.

Overall, Greenwood County poverty rates have increased since 2012 with 24.2% of the total population living below the federal poverty level (FPL) and nearly 40% of children under 18 were in poverty in 2016.

Female household, no husband present households was the only group not have an increase in the poverty rate 2012 to 2016²⁶.

Greenwood County Poverty Data 2016						
		Number Below Poverty	Percent Below Poverty	<i>Percent Below Poverty, 2012</i>	South Carolina	United States
All Residents		16,282	24.2%	23.2%	15.3%	14.0%
	<i>Children under age 18</i>	6,015	38.6%	36.1%	23.0%	19.5%
Families			19.1%	17.1%	10.8%	10.0%
	<i>Married Couples</i>		8.1%	6.6%	4.6%	5.1%
	<i>Female Householder, no husband present</i>		44.9%	44.8%	29.4%	27.3%
Households below FPL that receive food stamps		2,918	61.2%	60.5%	50.2%	47.7%

²⁶ United States Census Bureau, American FactFinder

Median household income has slightly increased from 2012 while the per capita income and median family income have decreased from 2012 to 2016²⁷.

Family Household and Income Statistics				
2016				
	Greenwood County	Greenwood County 2012	South Carolina	United States
Average Household Size	2.46	2.56	2.57	2.65
Average Family Size	2.97	3.12	3.19	3.27
Per Capita Income (in 2016 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)	\$ 21,887	\$21,026	\$ 27,016	\$ 31,128
Median Household Income	\$ 37,631	\$37,911	\$ 49,501	\$ 57,617
Median Family Income	\$ 48,520	\$47,481	\$ 61,535	\$ 71,062

Teen Birth Rate

Teen pregnancy has substantial implications for educational and socioeconomic outcomes for the teen mother. Parenthood is the leading reason that teen girls drop out of school. More than 50% of teen mothers never graduate from high school; approximately 90% of women who do not give birth during their teenage years will graduate from high school²⁸. Additionally, less than 2% of teen moms earn a college degree by age 30²⁹.

The five-year trend in Greenwood County shows a decrease in the teen birth rate across several measures. However, the overall teen birth rate for teens ages 15-19 has been consistently higher than the state rate, and in 2016, the rate was 27.5 (state rate: 23.8 in 2016).

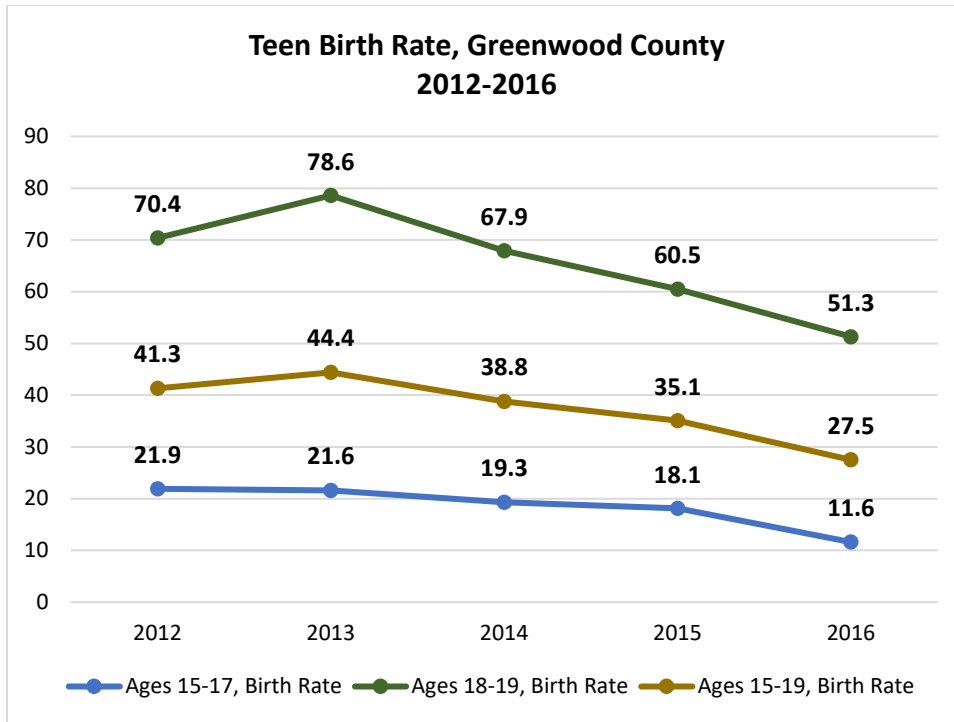
Update: Unable to compare to the 2014 report due to change in reporting. 2014 report included teen pregnancy rates while the data below is teen birth rates.

Live birth rate is the percentage of all cycles that lead to live birth and is the pregnancy rate adjusted for miscarriages and stillbirths.

²⁷ United States Census Bureau, American FactFinder

²⁸ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, About Teen Pregnancy

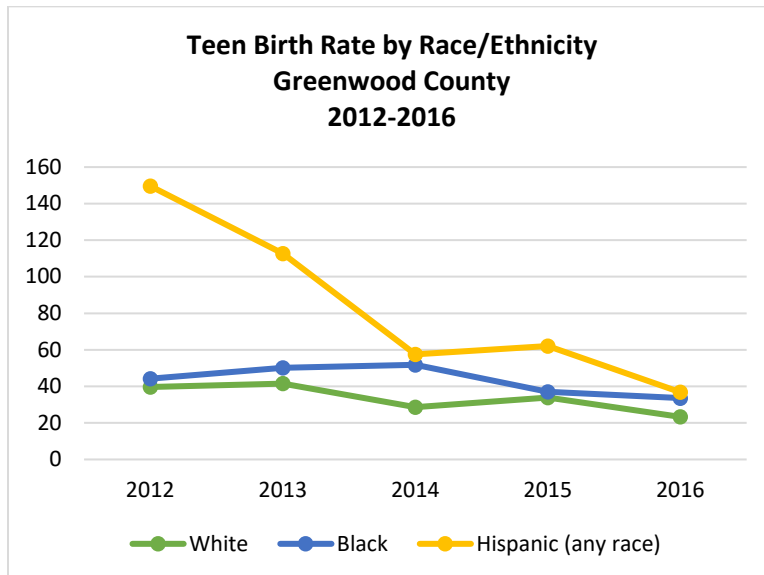
²⁹ DoSomething.org, 11 Facts about Teen Pregnancy, <https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-teen-pregnancy>



* Rate per 1,000 population

Disparities by race and ethnicity exist in the county as well. Teenagers who are black have higher birth rates than their counterparts do³⁰.

Caution should be used when interpreting the teen birth rates for Hispanic teens. Because this is a smaller population, significant variances are more prevalent and single year changes are often more prominent.



³⁰ South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

The percent of births to mothers under the age of 18 and the percent of teen girls ages 14-17 who became pregnant have both decreased in the county since 2012³¹.

Percent of Births to Mothers Under Age 18 Greenwood County				
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
3.8%	3.9%	3.6%	3.4%	2.5%

Percent of Teen Girls Ages 14-17 Who Became Pregnant Greenwood County				
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	1.8%	1.3%

³¹ Annie E. Casey Kids Count Data Center

Domestic Violence

South Carolina has long had one of the highest rates of domestic violence and homicide by domestic violence in the country. The most recent year data available for county level domestic violence rates is 2012.

Because this data is from 2012, caution should be used when informing practices as rates and/or state rankings may have changed. Additionally, recently the way domestic violence charges are classified has changed and has affected rates.

In 2012, Greenwood County had the highest rate of several of the domestic violence categories in the State of South Carolina among the 46 counties and is ranked 13th in the state for total domestic violence (count). Since 2008, the county has had an increase in the victimization rate (180.0 in 2008), family violence (60.7 in 2008), violence in romantic relationships (64.8 in 2008), and marital violence (51.4 in 2008)³².

SC Domestic Violence Statistics Greenwood County 2012 (most recent year available)		
	Number	Rank* Among 46 Counties
Domestic violence victimization total	1,475	13
Rate**		
Domestic violence victimization rate	211.5	1
Domestic homicide	0.14	23
Domestic sexual violence	3.9	10
Domestic aggravated assault	53.9	1
Domestic simple assault	129.7	2
Domestic intimidation	23.5	5
Criminal domestic violence proxy	60.8	1
Ex-spouse violence victimization	3.2	10
Family violence victimization	76.6	1
Marital violence victimization	57.9	1
Romantic relationship violent victimization	75.8	4

*Rank: 1=highest rate of incidents, 46=lowest rate of incidents

**Rate per 10,000 population

In 2015, South Carolina was ranked 5th in the country for females murdered by males in single victim/single offender homicides. The homicide rate among females murdered by males in 2015 in South Carolina was 1.83 per 100,000³³.

³² South Carolina Department of Public Safety, Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs, *The Rule of Thumb: A Five Year Overview of Domestic Violence in South Carolina, 2008-2012*

³³ Violence Policy Center, *When Men Murder Women*

Family Structure

Family structures, including marital status of the parents at the time of birth and during childhood, are strong predictors of the outcomes for youth. Children who live in single parent households have more negative outcomes than their counterparts who are raised by both biological parents.

Greenwood County has had a higher percentage of births to single mothers than Laurens County and the state from 2012 to 2016 but has been lower than Darlington County³⁴.

Births to Single Mothers (Including Paternity-Acknowledged) 2012-2016					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Greenwood County	58.2%	57.9%	61.4%	55.9%	56.2%
Darlington County	62.2%	62.8%	64.9%	66.3%	63.6%
Laurens County	57.0%	60.2%	56.3%	56.6%	53.3%
South Carolina	47.8%	47.1%	47.3%	46.4%	45.1%

The composition of households in Greenwood County with children under the age of 18 shows that 47.8% of all households with children were married-couple households. This percentage has fallen since 2011 when 54.7% of all households with children were married-couple households³⁵.

Composition of Households with Own Children Under 18 2012 & 2016				
	Married-Couple		Female Householder, no Husband Present	
	2012	2016	2012	2016
Greenwood County	54.7%	47.8%	35.2%	39.7%
Darlington County	59.3%	57.5%	32.6%	37.7%
Laurens County	54.2%	54.7%	32.9%	33.2%
South Carolina	60.8%	62.9%	31.6%	29.2%
United States	66.7%	67.6%	25.3%	24.2%

³⁴ Annie E. Casey Kids Count Data Center

³⁵ United States Census Bureau, American FactFinder

Crime and Safety

To implement proactive strategies to keep the community safe, it is imperative that accurate, timely, and complete crime data be available.

Violent and Nonviolent Crimes

Crime data are collected consistently throughout South Carolina in accordance with the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). There are eight offense categories: murder, sexual battery (rape), robbery, aggravated assault, breaking and entering, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson. These are typically categorized as violent crimes (murder, sexual battery, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crimes (breaking and entering, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) to provide basic measure of crime. *Arson is not considered a property crime through state reporting documents.*

Since only those crimes that are reported are counted, there is no way of determining the actual number of crimes committed.

The legal definition of sexual battery (previously rape) changed in 2012 to include additional crimes that were not part of the previous definition. Rates prior to 2012 cannot be compared to those from 2012 to current. The change in definition resulted in increases in sexual battery rates for all counties and the state.

The findings for Greenwood County’s violent crime rates are mixed when compared to the peer counties and the state. The county had a higher total violent crime rate, sexual battery rate, robbery rate, and aggravated assault rate in 2015 than the state rate. While these rates are higher than the state rate, all these rates are lower than the 2012 rates for the county.

The murder rate was lower than all the comparison groups except Darlington County in 2015. Rates highlighted in red on the chart below represent 2015 rates in Greenwood County that were higher than the 2015 state rate.



Update: Violent and nonviolent crime rates have, generally, improved in the county even though they are higher than the state rates in 2015.

Violent Crimes by County 2012 and 2015											
		Violent Crime Total		Sexual Battery		Murder		Robbery		Aggravated Assault	
		#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
Greenwood County	2012	835	119.7	78	11.2	7	1	75	10.8	675	96.8
	2015	486	69.2	62	8.9	4	0.6	58	8.3	326	51.8
Darlington County	2012	522	76.6	33	4.8	10	1.47	69	10.1	410	60.2
	2015	169	25	8	1.2	0	0	27	4	134	19.8
Laurens County	2012	487	73.5	42	6.3	13	1.64	49	7.4	390	58.9
	2015	376	56.45	31	4.7	4	0.6	29	4.4	312	46.8
South Carolina	2012		55.9		5.09		0.72		9.6		42
	2015		49.5		5		0.8		8.1		35.6

Rate per 10,000 population

The county's property crime rates have fallen in all the categories from 2012 to 2015. However, three of the rates continue to be higher than the state rate and most of the rates observed in the peer counties. The only 2015 rate that is not the highest among the comparison groups in Greenwood County is motor vehicle theft (11.3)³⁶.

Rates highlighted in red on the chart below represent 2015 rates in Greenwood County that were higher than the 2015 state rate.

Property Crime by County 2012 and 2015									
		Property Crime Total		Breaking and Entering		Larceny		Motor Vehicle Theft	
		#	Rate*	#	Rate*	#	Rate*	#	Rate*
Greenwood County	2012	3,695	529.7	982	140.8	2,590	371.3	123	17.6
	2015	3,135	448.9	590	84.5	2,455	351.5	79	11.3
Darlington County	2012	3,865	567.2	1,178	172.9	2,470	362.5	217	31.8
	2015	1,354	200.5	160	23.7	1,148	170	45	6.7
Laurens County	2012	2,414	364.5	726	109.6	1,571	237.2	117	17.7
	2015	2,081	312.4	536	80.5	1,375	206.4	156	23.4
South Carolina	2012		382.2		95.4		258		28.8
	2015		336.9		71.3		236.7		27.5

Rate per 10,000 population

Juvenile Crime

Negative indicators in a community such as poverty and unemployment are factors that, when coupled with other triggers, may contribute to juvenile crime rates, and may lead to future illegal activities and adversely affect a person's lifelong health and well-being.

Greenwood County had a decline in the rate of juveniles detained and committed from the FY 2012/2013 to FY 2016/2017. This differs from the rates in Darlington County which had an increase³⁷.

Update: Unable to compare to the 2014 report due to change in reporting.

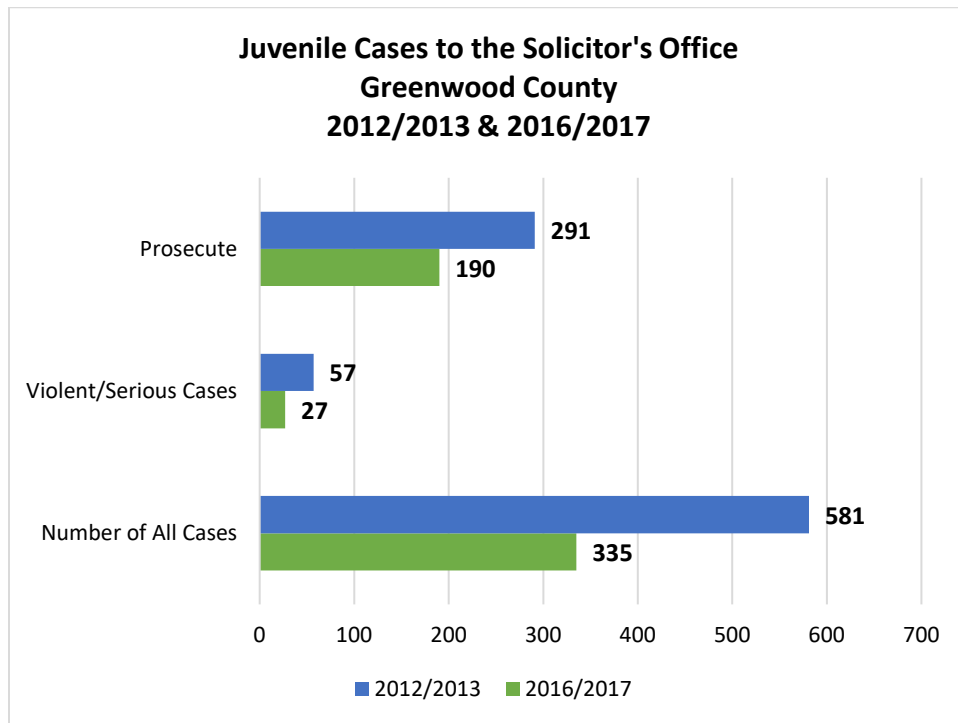
Rate of Juveniles Detained and Committed to DJJ Facilities FY 2012-2013 and 2015-2016				
	Rate* Detained		Rate* Committed	
	2012-2013	2016-2017	2012-2013	2016-2017
Greenwood County	9	5	6	4
Darlington County	5	9	2	4
Laurens County	12	8	3	4

Rate per 1,000 population

³⁶ South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina Book

³⁷ South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, Annual Statistical Reports

In addition to the rate of juveniles detained and committed to DJJ facilities from 2012/2013 to 2016/2017, the number of cases referred to the solicitor's office, the number of cases prosecuted, and the number that were violent/serious crimes have fallen from 2012/2013 to 2016/2017.



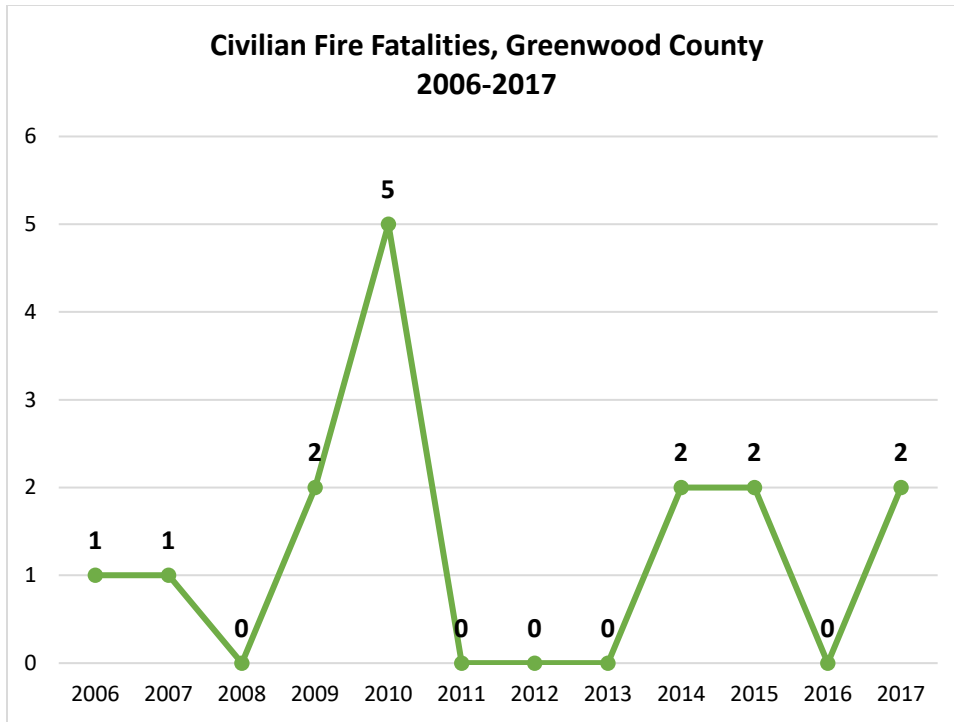
[Fire Safety](#)

The South Carolina Office of the State Fire Marshall, Division of Fire and Life Safety has the statutory authority to collect, analyze, and disseminate fire data provided by fire departments in South Carolina. In 1983, South Carolina adopted the National Fire Incident Reporting System (SCFIRS) to collect consistent data on emergency responses by local fire departments.

Greenwood County has had small variances in the number of fire fatalities in the past 5 years. The peer counties and state have had similar variances. When looking at the past 12 years in the county, the small variance still holds with an exception of an increase in 2010³⁸.

Civilian Fire Fatalities Trend by County and State Total 2013-2017					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Greenwood County	0	2	2	0	2
Darlington County	7	7	1	2	2
Laurens County	0	2	1	0	0
South Carolina	71	96	78	77	102

³⁸ South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Division of Fire and Life Safety



Highway and Traffic Safety

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety analyzes all motor vehicle collision reports and produces an annual *Traffic Collision Fact Book* with statewide and local data. Traffic collisions are responsible for billions of dollars in economic loss in the state each year. In 2015 (latest year data available), there were 979 traffic fatalities in the State of South Carolina, an increase of 19% from 2014. In 2015, there were 58,604 reported traffic injuries. There was an increase of the death rate per mile driven to 1.89 deaths per hundred million vehicle miles traveled. Traffic collisions cost an economic loss of \$4.12 billion dollars in 2015.

Greenwood County motor vehicle traffic collision ranking, fatal collision ranking, and injury collision ranking has been steady for the past 5 years and is consistently ranked in the middle of the counties for the state in each of the categories (*rank: 1=highest rate, 46=lowest rate*). However, the county has had an increase in the number of non-fatal collisions involving a DUI since 2012³⁹.

³⁹ South Carolina Department of Public Safety, Highway Safety & Justice Programs, Traffic Collision Fact Book

Greenwood County Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision Trends
Greenwood County
2012-2016

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total collisions ranking by county <i>(out of 46 counties)</i>	17	17	17	18	18
Fatal collisions ranking by county <i>(out of 46 counties)</i>	28	31	32	29	26
Injury collisions ranking by county <i>(out of 46 counties)</i>	17	17	19	18	17
Number of SC drivers licenses	49,207	49,398	49,705	50,258	50,229
Number of SC vehicle registrations	58,866	59,791	59,721	60,329	60,892
Motor vehicle death rate per 100,000	14.3	8.6	10.1	15.7	17.1
Economic loss <i>(rounded to \$100,000)</i>	\$39,471,200	\$ 35,718,000	\$ 35,052,800	\$ 59,087,800	\$ 59,744,000
Number of fatalities involving an alcohol impaired drive <i>(BAC >.08)</i>	5	2	4	6	3
Number of non-fatal collisions involved DUI	87	85	92	118	115