

KERSHAW COUNTY

Date Formed:	1791
Land Area (square miles):	726
Form of Government:	Council-Administrator
Council Members:	7
Method of Election:	Single Member/ Chair at-Large
Term Length:	4 yrs.
Council of Government:	Santee Lynches
County Seat:	Camden
Other Cities and Towns:	Bethune, Elgin



Population Trends

2020 Census	65,403	2023 Pop. Estimate	69,905
2010 Census	61,697	2020 Pop. Estimate	65,536
2000 Census	52,647	Numeric Change 2020-2023	4,369
Numeric Change 2000-2020	3,706	Percent Change 2020-2023	6.67%
Persons Per Square Mile	90.1		

Economic Data

2023 Jobs	18,414	Avg. Wage Per Job, 2023	\$45,985
2020 Jobs	16,806	Avg. Wage, % of U.S., 2023	63.6%
2010 Jobs	17,436	Per Capita Personal Income, 2022	\$52,782
Percent Change 2020-2023	8.7%	Per Capita Personal Income % of U.S., 2022	80.6
Avg. Ann. Growth Rate, 2010-2020	-0.4%	Per Capita Personal Income % of S.C., 2022	98.4
Avg. Annual % Unemployed, 2023	3.7		

Tax Data

Total Assessed Property, 2022	\$325,732,029	Local Sales Tax Rate, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Property, 2022	\$4,980	Local Option	1.0%
County Millage Rate, 2023	0.0875	Capital Projects	*
Value of a County Mil, 2023	\$302,000	School District	*
State Accommodations Tax, FY 2022	\$268,123	Transportation	*
State Admissions Tax, FY 2022	\$49,785	Edu. Capital Improvement	1.0%
		County Green Space	*

County Finance & Employment Data

Total Revenues FY 2022	\$82,619,036	Per Capita Revenues	\$1,263
Total Expenditures FY 2022	\$68,565,644	Per Capita Expenditures	\$1,048
General Fund Budget FY 2024	\$34,746,306	Per Capita General Fund Budget	\$531
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2023	\$22,043,112	Per Capita Total Debt FY 2023	\$314
Payroll FY 2024	\$7,125,983	County Credit Ratings:	
Full-Time Employment FY 2024	385	Fitch FY 2023	AA
Full-Time Employment Per 1,000 Residents	6	Moody's FY 2023	Aa2
Part-Time Employment FY 2024	125	S&P FY 2023	*

County History

Kershaw County was named for Joseph Kershaw (1727-1791), an early settler. Originally part of Camden District, Kershaw County was formed in 1791 from parts of Claremont, Lancaster, Fairfield, and Richland counties. The county seat is Camden, which is the oldest inland city in South Carolina. This site was settled around 1732 by English traders and farmers who moved inland from Charleston. During the Revolutionary War, the British occupied Camden from June 1780 to May 1781. Fourteen battles took place in the area, including the Battle of Camden (August 16, 1780) and the Battle of Hobkirk Hill (April 25, 1781). Kershaw County later produced six Confederate generals: Joseph Brevard Kershaw (1822-1894), James Chesnut (1815-1885), James Cantey (1818-1873), Zack Cantey Deas (1819-1882), John Bordenave Villepigue (1830-1862), and John Doby Kennedy (1840-1896). Union troops under General Sherman burned parts of Camden in February 1865. Statesman and financier Bernard M. Baruch (1870-1965) and labor leader Lane Kirkland were born in Kershaw County.