

LEE COUNTY

Date Formed:	1902
Land Area (square miles):	410
Form of Government:	Council-Administrator
Council Members:	7
Method of Election:	Single Member
Term Length:	4 yrs.
Council of Government:	Santee Lynches
County Seat:	Bishopville
Other Cities and Towns:	Lynchburg



Population Trends

2020 Census	16,531	2023 Pop. Estimate	15,967
2010 Census	19,220	2020 Pop. Estimate	16,458
2000 Census	20,119	Numeric Change 2020-2023	-491
Numeric Change 2000-2020	-2,689	Percent Change 2020-2023	-2.98%
Persons Per Square Mile	40.3		

Economic Data

2023 Jobs	3,857	Avg. Wage Per Job, 2023	\$46,868
2020 Jobs	3,721	Avg. Wage, % of U.S., 2023	64.8%
2010 Jobs	4,000	Per Capita Personal Income, 2022	\$40,995
Percent Change 2020-2023	3.5%	Per Capita Personal Income % of U.S., 2022	62.6
Avg. Ann. Growth Rate, 2010-2020	-0.7%	Per Capita Personal Income % of S.C., 2022	76.4
Avg. Annual % Unemployed, 2023	5.6		

Tax Data

Total Assessed Property, 2022	\$38,137,061	Local Sales Tax Rate, if applicable:	
Per Capita Assessed Property, 2022	\$2,307	Local Option	1.0%
County Millage Rate, 2023	0.1794	Capital Projects	1.0%
Value of a County Mil, 2023	\$42,000	School District	*
State Accommodations Tax, FY 2022	\$17,946	Transportation	*
State Admissions Tax, FY 2022	\$47,729	Edu. Capital Improvement	*
		County Green Space	*

County Finance & Employment Data

Total Revenues FY 2022	\$26,155,765	Per Capita Revenues	\$1,582
Total Expenditures FY 2022	\$16,603,867	Per Capita Expenditures	\$1,004
General Fund Budget FY 2024	\$15,260,299	Per Capita General Fund Budget	\$923
Total Debt Outstanding FY 2023	\$5,793,272	Per Capita Total Debt FY 2023	\$375
Payroll FY 2024	\$6,626,117	County Credit Ratings:	
Full-Time Employment FY 2024	132	Fitch FY 2023	*
Full-Time Employment Per 1,000 Residents	8	Moody's FY 2023	*
Part-Time Employment FY 2024	55	S&P FY 2023	*

County History

Lee County was named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee (1807-1870). The county was formed in 1902 from parts of Darlington, Kershaw, and Sumter counties. A Revolutionary War skirmish took place in 1781 at Ratcliff's Bridge, and during the Civil War Confederate and Union troops skirmished at Mount Elon and Spring Hill in 1865. Lee County was also the site in 1880 of the last fatal duel fought in South Carolina. Cotton farming has long been associated with this area. U.S. Senator Ellison Durant Smith (1864-1944), a native of Lee County, was nicknamed "Cotton Ed" because of his support for cotton farmers.