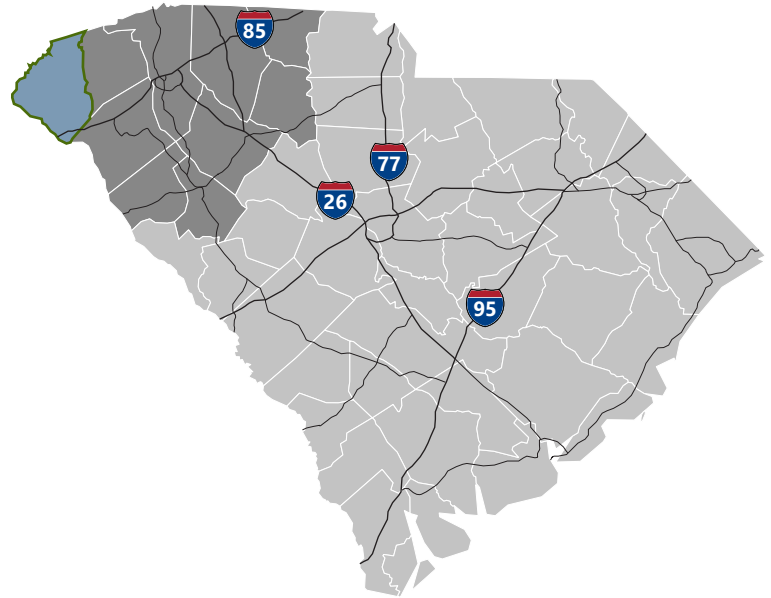# Oconee County, SC
FACT SHEET

About Oconee

The county was formed in 1868, and the county seat is Walhalla. This area was home to the Cherokees, but the Indians gave up their lands in treaties signed in 1777 and 1816. After the American Revolution, settlers from other parts of the state began moving in, including Germans from Charleston who founded Walhalla in 1850. Oconee County is in the foothills of the beautiful Appalachian Mountains and encompasses rivers, lakes, and forests. As one of South Carolina's most scenic and economically stimulating counties, Oconee County is situated in the northwestern corner of the state and is part of one of the nation's fastest growing areas, the I-85 corridor. With a diversified economic base, Oconee offers a wide variety of occupational and recreational opportunities. The towns of Oconee County are also located on the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor that extends from the Upstate to Charleston.

Total Population

	2010	2017	2022
Oconee County	74,273	76,972	79,189
Upstate SC	1,362,073	1,460,785	1,533,257
South Carolina	4,625,364	5,037,131	5,348,199

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Population by Age

	2010	2017	2022
Under 5	5.6%	5.1%	4.9%
5 to 9	5.7%	5.4%	5.2%
10 to 14	6.1%	5.6%	5.7%
15 to 24	1.2%	11.4%	10.9%
25 to 34	10.4%	10.9%	10.1%
35 to 44	12.1%	11.0%	11.0%
45 to 54	14.3%	12.9%	12.1%
55 to 64	14.7%	15.3%	14.9%
65+	19.0%	22.5%	25.2%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Population by Race

	2010	2017	2022
White	87.8%	86.9%	86.0%
Black	7.6%	7.5%	7.4%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Asian	0.6%	0.9%	1.2%
Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some Other Race	2.3%	2.6%	2.9%
Two or More Races	1.6%	1.8%	2.1%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	4.5%	5.1%	5.8%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Households & Families

	2010	2017	2022
Total Households	30,676	31,729	32,619
Total Families	21,118	21,567	22,049
Average HH Size	2.40	2.40	2.40
Renter Occupied	19.7%	19.8%	19.7%
Owner Occupied	59.4%	58.2%	57.7%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Population by Sex

	2010	2017	2022
Female	37,591	38,760	39,723
Male	36,682	38,212	39,466

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Education Attainment, Age 25+

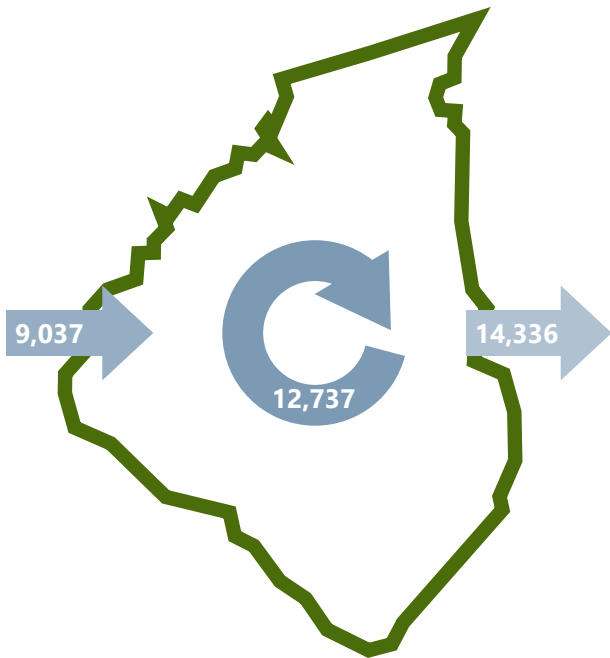|	2017
Less than 9th Grade	5.4%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	10.1%
High School Graduate	24.7%
GED/ Alternative Credential	6.6%
Some College, No Degree	19.1%
Associate Degree	9.95
Bachelor's Degree	14.9%
Graduate/ Professional Degree	9.3%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

COMMUTING PATTERNS

Travel Distance to Work

Less than 10 miles	41.6%
10-24 miles	22.4%
25-50 miles	19.4%
50 miles or more	16.7%

Worker Inflow/Outflow

9,037

14,336

12,737

Live and Work in Oconee County	12,737
Commute into Oconee County	9,037
Commute Out of Oconee County	14,336

Median Household Income

	2017	2022
Oconee County	$41,589	$45,297
South Carolina	$48,678	$54,740
United States	$56,124	$62,316

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Per Capita Income

	2017	2022
Oconee County	$25,267	$26,837
South Carolina	$26,262	$29,962
United States	$30,820	$34,828

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

Gross Retail Sales (x$1,000)

Fiscal Year	Oconee County
2011 - 2012	$1,172,295
2012 - 2013	$1,201,802
2013 - 2014	$1,262,946
2014 - 2015	$1,252,601
2015 - 2016	$1,783,177
2016 - 2017	$2,132,152

Source: South Carolina Department of Revenue and Taxation

Employment by Industry

Agriculture/Mining	2.1%
Construction	6.0%
Manufacturing	22.0%
Wholesale Trade	1.6%
Retail Trade	9.7%
Transportation/Utilities	5.3%
Information	0.7%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	4.7%
Services	46.0%
Public Administration	1.9%
Total	30,730

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau; US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top 5 Manufacturing Employers

Company	Employees	Primary Product(s)
Duke Energy	3,038	Power Generation
BorgWarner	828	Transfer cases, electric vehicle charging stations
Itron	780	Electronic measuring devices
JTEKT/Koyo Bearings	600	Automotive bearings
US Engine Valve Corporation	383	Engine valves

Source: South Carolina Appalchian Council of Governments and Oconee Economic Alliance

Airport Access

Greenville Spartanburg International
- Allegiant Air
- American Airlines
- Delta
- Southwest Airlines
- United Airlines

Clemson-Oconee Airport

Port Access

Inland Port Greer
- 55 Miles from the City of Seneca
- 253,728 Rail Lifts in 2016
- 1.9% Growth from 2015

Port of Charleston
- 243 Miles from the City of Seneca
- 1,996,275 Rail Lifts in 2016
- 1.2% Growth from 2015

Interstate Access

Interstates
- I-85

Rail Access

Rail Providers
- Norfolk-Southern

Economic Development Contacts

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Additional Resources

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