

FCCC Data Template for Grant Proposals

Fairfield County

Land Mass, Recreation, Organizations, and Institutions

Fairfield County, South Carolina, is in the Midlands region 26 miles north of the capital city, Columbia, South Carolina and 75 miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina by highway I-77. It is a 2-hour trip east to the Atlantic coast and 2 hours west to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

In the northeastern portion of the county is Lake Wateree and Lake Wateree State Park. In the southwestern portion of the county is Lake Monticello. Both lakes offer over 20,000 surface acres of recreation, fishing and camping. Wild turkey and white-tailed deer are major game attracting hunters every year. Lakes stocked with a variety of fish offer both tournament and private fishing. There are 15 public parks within the county.

Organized in 1785, Fairfield County has three incorporated towns: Ridgeway with a population of 350 people with zip code 29130; Jenkinsville, with a population of 40 people with zip code 29065; and Winnsboro, the county seat, with a population of 3600 people with zip code 29180. There are, however, two other areas with different zip codes in the county: Blair (29015) and Blackstock (29014). Unincorporated communities in Fairfield County include Greenbriar, Monticello, White Oak, and Rion.

Fairfield County is a member of the Olde English Tourism District (OED) who promotes sites and events within a seven-county area in the northern Midlands. Their web site is <https://www.oldeenglishdistrict.com/>

Residents experience the four seasons, which occasionally, but rarely, include snow. The average rainfall is 45-50 inches per year. The average temperatures for Winnsboro are:

- January: High 52, low 31
- April: High 71, low 48
- July: High 91, low 71
- October: High, 74 low 49

Fairfield County is the home of over 100 churches and congregations, some dating back over 200 years. Many social and civic organizations, such as Lions, Rotary, General Federation of Women's Clubs are here, as well as Boy and Girl Scouts, Historical Society, Friends of the Museum and Library, bridge, garden, book and music study clubs

Fairfield County has one public school district with 9 public schools, 1 charter school, and 2 private schools. The public school district has a board of trustees made up of seven members, each elected from a single-member district every two years. The district has five elementary schools, one high school, one middle school, one alternative school, and one career center.

Midlands STEM is a new charter school that opened Fall 2014. The school services kindergarten through grade 7 (as of 2018) and adds a grade every year through grade 12.

Richard Winn Academy is a college-preparatory private institution for students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. It is accredited by the South Carolina Independent School Association. The Barclay School at Ridgeway is a private K-12 special education school whose mission is to serve students with learning disabilities in the areas of reading, writing, and math in addition to attention, sensory, and social challenges.

Finally, Midlands Technical College has a satellite site located in Winnsboro.

Population and Sociodemographics

According to the 2010 Census, Fairfield County is home to approximately 23,956 South Carolinians. The population by gender reflects the state demographics with more females (52.1%) than males (47.9%). The majority of residents are African American (59.1%), with 38.6% identifying as White, 1.1% identifying as two or more races, 0.8% identifying as other, and less than 1% identifying as Asian. Only 1.6% residents are Hispanic or Latino. The population age median is 42.4 years, with most residents under the age of 65 years old. According to the 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 82.1% of residents in Fairfield County have at least a High School Diploma, and 17.4% have a bachelor's degree or higher. The average income per household in Fairfield County is \$33,798. Nearly one-fifth (19%) of the population does not possess health insurance. Almost one-quarter (24.5%) of residents are below poverty level.

Last updated:05.18.20

Health Data

Fairfield County is designated by Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) as a Medically Underserved Area (MUA). MUAs are those having too few primary care providers, high infant mortality, high poverty, or a high elderly population. Fairfield County is also a HRSA designed Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for primary care, dental health, and mental health.

According to the 2018 County Health Rankings, Fairfield County is ranked 34 out of 46 in South Carolina for health outcomes, moving up 4 places from 2017. The leading causes of death among people under age 75 in Fairfield County are: cancer, heart disease, accidents, diabetes, and chronic lower respiratory disease. The prevalence of diabetes is higher in the county than in the state (17% vs 13%). Adult smoking in the county is comparable to the state (19% vs. 20%), as is low birthweight (12% vs. 10%). Excessive drinking is lower in Fairfield County than in the state (14% vs. 18%), whereas adult obesity (39% vs. 32%), physical inactivity (29% vs. 25%), alcohol-impaired driving deaths (45% vs. 37%), motor vehicle crash deaths (34 vs. 18), sexually transmitted infections (648.5 vs. 569.9), HIV prevalence (483 vs. 395), and teen births (37 vs. 33) are higher than state estimates. Access to healthy food and physical activity is a challenge for many residents. Only 23% of residents have access to exercise opportunities (vs. 54% in the state), and 21% of residents are food insecure (vs. 15% in the state). Relative to the state, there are fewer primary care physicians, dentists, and mental health providers per resident. Additional current disease-specific data for the Fairfield County are available from DHEC at <https://gis.dhec.sc.gov/chp/>.

Fairfield Forward

Fairfield Community Coordinating Council (FCCC) AKA Fairfield Forward, was formed in 1996 by the merger of the Fairfield Community Coordinating Council and the Fairfield County Interagency Council. In January 2015, Fairfield Community Coordinating Council welcomed the merger and new partnership of Fairfield Community Health Partners. In 2019, FCCC became a 501C3. Its expanded vision is creating a community coalition addressing all aspects of "Healthy Community" and now includes, but is not limited to, greater Food Access, Community Educational Opportunities, Access to greater Economic Opportunity. Connecting all aspects of community together for greater community enhancement on all levels. In January 2020, the name was officially changed to Fairfield Forward. Visit: www.fairfieldforward.org

The mission of Fairfield Forward to "provide local resources and opportunities for building a healthy community" and the vision is "a Healthy Fairfield County." The purpose is to promote collaboration among the members and the civic community; enhance the exchange of information and ideas on health and human services programs; educational opportunities; economic opportunities; identify needed services/gaps and heighten awareness and accessibility of those services; increase awareness of legislation, policies, and procedures that affect service delivery to the community; and solicit, allocate and coordinate program funding for service delivery.

Fairfield Forward meetings are held at 2:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at Midlands Technical College Fairfield Campus. Membership is open to any agency or individual who is interested in the goals of the organization. A complete copy of the Bylaws and archived meeting minutes are available upon request.

Websites

Fairfield Forward: <http://www.fairfieldforward.org>

Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.fairfieldchambersc.com>

Fairfield County: <http://www.fairfieldsc.com/>

Ridgeway: <http://ridgewaysc.org/>

Winnsboro: <http://www.townofwinnsboro.com/>

Data Sources

2018 County Health Rankings. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

Last updated:05.18.20

Fairfield Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.fairfieldchambersc.com>

Health Resources & Services Administration: <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/shortage-designation>

South Carolina Economic Developers' Association: <https://www.sceda.org/>

United States Census, 2010. American Fact Finder:

https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

United States Census Bureau: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/>