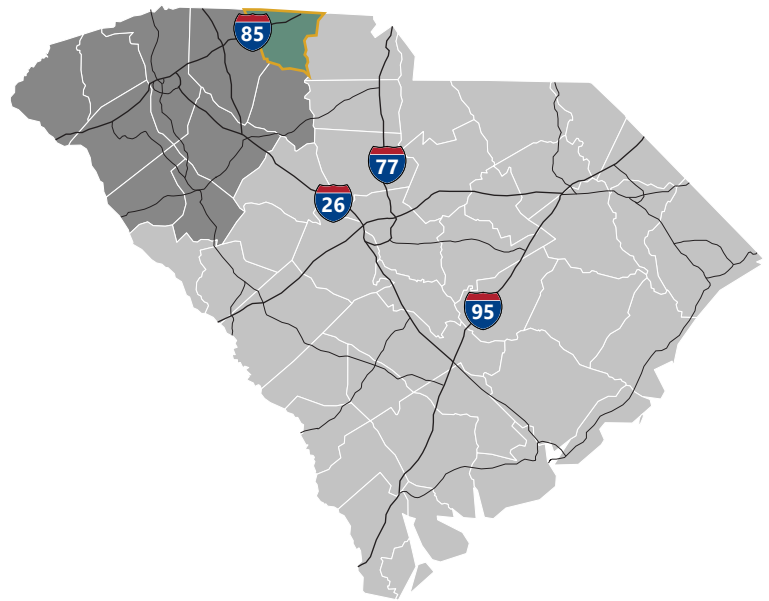


### About Cherokee

The county was named for the Cherokee Indians who once made it their home. It was formed in 1897, and the county seat is Gaffney. Iron mining was such an important activity in this region before the Civil War, it is sometimes called the Old Iron District. Today, Cherokee County enjoys a thriving and profitable local economy and an abundance of natural and manufactured resources. Cherokee County sits in a prime location just off I-85 between Charlotte, NC and Greenville/Spartanburg, SC. Charlotte's Douglas International Airport and the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport are both within 45 miles and the mainline of Norfolk Southern Railroad runs through Cherokee County. The Port of Charleston is easily accessible via major highways. Cherokee County offers an unbeatable combination of such factors as an abundant and educated work force with customized training by South Carolina Special Schools, a diversified industrial base, a high standard of living and quality of life, pro-business local governments, and easy access to transportation routes.



### Total Population

	2010	2017	2022
Cherokee County	55,342	57,037	58,035
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	6.7%	6.2%	5.9%
5 to 9	6.7%	6.5%	6.2%
10 to 14	6.9%	6.3%	6.6%
15 to 24	13.8%	12.1%	11.5%
25 to 34	11.5%	12.9%	11.6%
35 to 44	13.9%	12.4%	12.4%
45 to 54	14.2%	13.7%	13.1%
55 to 64	12.8%	13.4%	13.6%
65+	13.4%	16.5%	19.1%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

### Population by Sex

	2010	2017	2022
Female	28,482	29,212	29,612
Male	26,860	27,820	28,423

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

### Population by Race

	2010	2017	2022
White	75.0%	74.2%	73.4%
Black	20.4%	20.2%	20.0%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
Asian	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%
Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some Other Race	2.2%	2.6%	3.0%
Two or More Races	1.4%	1.8%	2.2%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	3.7%	4.3%	4.9%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

### Households & Families

	2010	2017	2022
Total Households	21,519	21,931	22,228
Total Families	14,941	15,037	15,157
Average HH Size	2.54	2.56	2.57
Renter Occupied	27.9%	28.2%	28.2%
Owner Occupied	61.8%	61.3%	61.2%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

## Education Attainment, Age 25+

	2017
Less than 9th Grade	7.0%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	13.9%
High School Graduate	29.3%
GED/ Alternative Credential	7.3%
Some College, No Degree	17.9%
Associate Degree	8.1%
Bachelor's Degree	11.3%
Graduate/ Professional Degree	5.1%

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

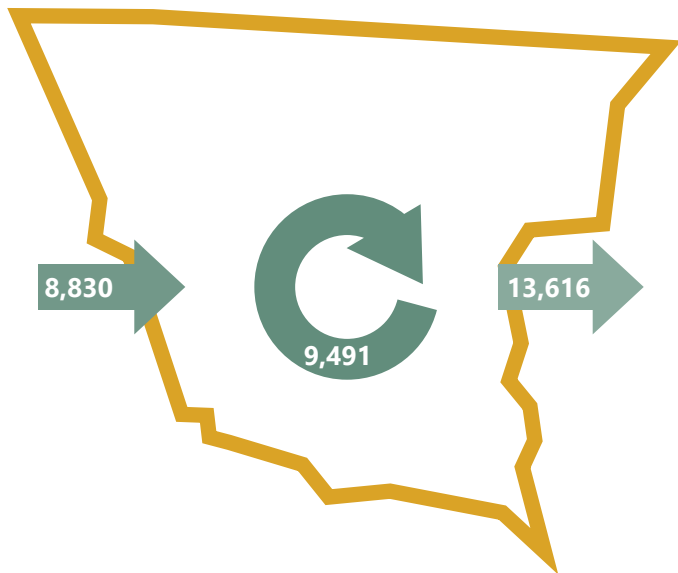


## COMMUTING PATTERNS

### Travel Distance to Work

Less than 10 miles	⋮	39.2%
10-24 miles	⋮	24.5%
25-50 miles	⋮	18.1%
50 miles or more	⋮	18.2%

### Worker Inflow/Outflow



Live and Work in Cherokee County	⋮	9,491
Commute into Cherokee County	⋮	8,830
Commute Out of Cherokee County	⋮	13,616

## Median Household Income

	2017	2022
Cherokee County	\$35,368	\$37,408
South Carolina	\$48,678	\$54,740
United States	\$56,124	\$62,316

Source: ESRI Business Analyst; US Census Bureau

## Per Capita Income

	2017	2022
Cherokee County	\$19,021	\$20,269
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	Cherokee County
2011 - 2012	\$1,237,291
2012 - 2013	\$1,307,897
2013 - 2014	\$1,590,094
2014 - 2015	\$1,401,585
2015 - 2016	\$1,527,210
2016 - 2017	\$1,696,061

Source: South Carolina Department of Revenue and Taxation

## Employment by Industry





Agriculture/Mining	0.5%
Construction	5.6%
Manufacturing	27.3%
Wholesale Trade	2.8%
Retail Trade	12.4%
Transportation/Utilities	7.1%
Information	1.0%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	2.7%
Services	38.2%
Public Administration	2.4%
Total	22,839

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

## Top 5 Manufacturing Employers

Company	Employees	Primary Product(s)
Nestlé USA - Prepared Foods Division	1,350	Frozen prepared foods
Milliken & Co. (Allen, Limestone & Magnolia Plants)	989	Broadwoven fabrics, fabric dyeing & finishing, chemicals
Freightliner Custom Chassis	909	Motor home chassis
The Timken Company	600	Ball & roller bearings
Hamrick Mills, Inc. (Hamrick & Musgrove Plants)	450	Print cloth, shade cloth & sheeting

Source: South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments and Cherokee County Development Board

Airport Access	Port Access	Interstate Access	Rail Access
 <p>Greenville Spartanburg International</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allegiant Air</li> <li>- American Airlines</li> <li>- Delta</li> <li>- Southwest Airlines</li> <li>- United Airlines</li> </ul> <p>Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport</p> <p>Shelby-Cleveland County Regional Airport (Shelby, NC)</p>	 <p>Inland Port Greer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 40 Miles from the City of Gaffney</li> <li>- 253,728 Rail Lifts in 2016</li> <li>- 1.9% Growth from 2015</li> </ul> <p>Port of Charleston</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 202 Miles from the City of Gaffney</li> <li>- 1,996,275 Rail Lifts in 2016</li> <li>- 1.2% Growth from 2015</li> </ul>	 <p>Interstates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I-85</li> </ul>	 <p>Rail Providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Norfolk-Southern</li> <li>- CSX</li> </ul>

## Economic Development Contacts

### Cherokee County Development Board

Jim Cook, Executive Director

864.206.2804

[www.cherokeecountydevelopmentboard.com](http://www.cherokeecountydevelopmentboard.com)

### Upstate SC Alliance

John Lummus, President/CEO

864.283.2300

[www.upstatescalliance.com](http://www.upstatescalliance.com)

## Additional Resources

[www.cherokeecountysc.gov](http://www.cherokeecountysc.gov)

[www.cherokeecountylibrary.org](http://www.cherokeecountylibrary.org)

[www.cherokeechamber.org](http://www.cherokeechamber.org)

[www.southcarolinaparks.com](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com)

[www.sciway.net](http://www.sciway.net)



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